REPORT OF THE
BROOKS BIRD CLUB
FORAY

LOST RIVER STATE PARK
WEST VIRGINIA
JUNE 14-21, 1941
REPORT OF SECOND ANNUAL FORAY

LOST RIVER STATE PARK

June 14-21, 1941

As in 1940, this report of the Brooks Bird Club Annual Foray is dedicated to the West Virginia Conservation Commission and particularly to the Division of State Parks for its contribution in making the Foray a success. The members are especially grateful to Mr. George Flouer, Park Ranger and to Mr. Andrew Eye, Park Supt., who repeated their excellent services and cooperation of last year. It was a big help to have the cabins prepared in advance to accommodate our group and to find everything in readiness for our comfort and convenience.

Lost River State Park is located in Hardy County, W. Va., with an area of 3,500 acres. It is in its natural wild state with an abundance of wild life in its great forests and thickets of smaller trees and shrubs. It is the ideal place to study and enjoy the out of doors. In the heart of this mountain wilderness is the camp area with its comfortable cabins and winding roadways.

Radiating from the camp area in all directions are the nature trails and bridle trails of the Park. Here the Foray members lost themselves in the pure enjoyment of virgin wilderness. To some, riding over the trails and through the forests on horseback provided new delight and a still greater enjoyment. The fine swimming pool offered cooling relaxation to others on warm afternoons. In all, Lost River State Park provided the ideal vacation. It brought peace and relaxation to tired nerves and gave all the group an opportunity to renew acquaintance with nature in its most perfect setting.

As in 1940, the 1941 Foray program did not include formal classes but provided ample opportunity for individual study. Group discussions and nature walks led by experienced leaders were another means of assisting members of the group to learn about the habitat areas of the Park.

Since the 1940 Foray report contains a complete list of the birds, flowering plants, trees, herptiles and mammals found at Lost River State Park and listed by members of the Brooks Bird Club last year, the 1941 report will merely supplement the 1940 report with the addition of new species and varieties found. However, it will be noted that the group devoted special attention to the ecological development and made a particular study of the area from that angle in 1941. The Brooks Bird Club feels that this study is of real value to the State Conservation Commission and that this and other activities of the Foray continues to bring deserved publicity to our fine state park system.

The Brooks Bird Club
Friday, June 13, 1941

Friday evening was spent by the active members in receiving out of town Forey guests and in making last minute preparation for transportation. Dwight Koon and Don Keyser, George Devinney and Bert Cromes left for Lost River this evening. They drove over the mountain in the rain and dark. On the park side of the mountain they found a sign reading "Leaving Lost River State Park". They decided to stop and retreat. At approximately 10 P.M., the "advance guard" pulled into the park.

Saturday, June 14

Three carloads of Brooks Bird club members left Wheeling at varying times this morning enroute to Lost River State Park for the second annual Forey there.

Director Conrad drove around by Buckhannon to try to contact Maxine Thacker but she was in Washington, D. C. Chuck stopped enroute to stock up on plenty of victuals so the Forey would start off with a bang -- a hot supper prepared by Chef Cromes (Bert himself)

Club members were greeted upon arrival by the "advance guard" who came in Friday and by Chet Schafer, Polly Handlan, Virginia Thayer, who had arrived early this morning. The three Flowers: George, Jackie and Marge were also on the welcoming committee.

Conrad (Mr. and Mrs.,) and George Flouer, the park Ranger, went to Harrisonburg, Va., for more supplies. In the meantime, the Gomberts from Cleveland, landed safely. They had some difficulty finding the key to their cabin, but Don Keyser came to the rescue and finally found it hanging above the door. The last arrival was Adele Harpold, county 4-H club agent from Gilmore County. She was a stranger to the group -- but not for long!

Before turning in, all members gathered around the fire in Cabin 14-A (same as last year) for an informal chat and sing.

(Confession: Chuck had set his electric alarm clock to ring at quarter to four. He awoke early only because people called him by throwing pebbles at the windows and -- found the alarm turned off. "I checked it three times last night and know absolutely that it was ready to ring.")

Sunday, June 15

Breakfast was at 8:30 -- then walks were led by Flouer and Chuck. Highlight of the walk was the capture of a young Pileated Woodpecker on the trail behind the Flouer's cabin by Polly H. Campers snapped pictures of it after lunch and then it was released. Pete scheduled interest groups to be led by various Forey members.

In the afternoon, horse back riding, a new interest, was very popular with special rates and privileges for Forey members. Breiding explored to his heart's content -- wanting to see all and know all before going to the army.

Dinner was at 6, followed by campfire at 8:30 in the picnic shelter since it was too cool for comfort outside. Firelighter George Breiding, started the
blaze before the group arrived, to allay the chill. John Handlan, the leader, read greetings from absent members. Chet Shafer told a new ghost story which required extreme stage properties. He caused great concern among the campers by beating the fire down to mere glowing coals. Saufley Friddle from Moorefield, corresponding Bird Club member, was a guest at campfire.

**Monday, June 16**

18 persons were present for the early morning bird hike at 6:00 which was led by Breiding and Flouer. During the walk the phrase "Let George do it!" was noted and turned out to be a camp slogan for after all there were four "Georges".

Several of the group went horse back riding this morning to the Cranny Crow Lookout. On the way down Don killed a thirty inch copperhead on the Big Ridge Road. Of course, the party was late for lunch, the real reason being Keyser's difficulty in figuring out how to tie the girth strap on Kay's mount.

After lunch Pete laid plans for future "seminars" for the ecological aspect of plant and animal relationships as found in the park.

In the afternoon Mabel had great difficulties with "herp" specimens she had collected. In place of a collecting bag, she used first her hand and changed to the following object as they were found: a paper napkin, canvas glove, and finally an old paper cement bag.

At supper tonight a touching ceremony told of what great respect some people have for genuine blueblood. Pappy DeVinney had no sooner seated himself at the table in his brand new 98¢ sneakers and shining new Foray suit than a long procession of "waiters" wearing white caps and with white towels over their arms filed in from the kitchen, each bearing an individual dish of victuals for Lord Chesterfield DeVinney whom they served with proper flourishes. It must be said that George "the First" showed himself a gentleman born, for he accepted the service as one who knew which end of the dish towel to tuck in his collar. Furthermore, following the repast, the cup-bearers returned with scrub-brush, soapflakes in a can, a muffin tin-de-luxe finger bowl -- one for each finger -- which were all used with due care and calm diffidence.

Even at this early date there have been numerous and hearty praises for Bert's delicious chow. The young man is making a name for himself (among the Greenhorns) -- we KNOW!

Campfire at 8:30 was led by Chuck. Fireman Charley Doepken, whose close attention to his duties merited two special "how how's", one at the start of the program and (in the 'light' of Chet's memory) one at the close. Observations were in order clear around the circle. The singing -- good! An actual radio script was read by Chuck, Mary K., and Arner -- one which had been put on in Wheeling as a 4-H program over WVWA. Explained the recent project of the Brooks Bird club for the Brooke county 4-H clubs, a highly successful Junior Nature club for bird study.

Chuck led a bird game as part of the campfire program. After taps, there was square dancing.

Campfires this week will be opened with the song of the campfire written for the 1940 Reunion by John Handlan to the tune of "Cielito Lindo"--"We Gather Here".
Tuesday, June 17

The early walk was led by Pete, with 13 present, along the Sawdust Trail. After breakfast the plant group took a walk on a trail along the foot of the hill past the big picnic shelter to collect specimens of trees and ferns for identification. A sudden shower drove the dozen walkers into the picnic shelter to escape a wetting. Chandler's fire was slow to draw and a lively Cokey Cokey session succeeded in warming up the dancers. For monkey shines, Arner and Chuck are "Tops". They entertained from the rafters in the peak of the roof. Rain didn't let up until lunch time.

Singing after lunch was absolutely "pipe-organish" according to George Arner. "Wagon Wheels" was especially mellow.

An hour's talk by Chuck was the class session of Ornithology, stressing points for beginners in bird study, information which was well received by new people. Several groups went bird-nest hunting all afternoon.

Campfire led tonight by Russ West with George DeVinney as fireman.

Wednesday, June 18

Up at 6:30 A.M. for a walk, 13 persons traveled up Laurel Trail and down Razor Ridge, then back to Breakfast at 8:30 -- pancakes! Those interested in plants met on the lawn at cabin 14 and under the leadership of Pauline Brandmiller, went out to see what they could see. Some -- Mary Jones, Adele, and Dorothy Neuhard -- went riding (horses) and found a rattlesnake at the stable, where the man in charge pinned it down with a pitchfork until Adele could fetch Pappy DeVinney and his snakestick. The reptile was taken to Cabin 14 for execution, snapshots, and then cold storage until Science could take over.

At lunch a letter from Harold Bergner was read, the contents being so lengthy that Bert asked if it had come by express. Everyone wrote a few lines in reply in a Round Robin letter.

Riders on the foot trail on East Ridge found it too steep in spite of Chuck's brand new riding britches; and the riders had to help the horses down the rock steps in one place.

At supper the fellows made much talk of going into Mathias for the evening, since the girls were holding the campfire -- but a last minute report -- a formal written invitation -- saved the day and they all came.

Thursday, June 19

Adele left after breakfast (7:00 A.M.), delaying the 8:15 hike (or could it be, well, just slow to get started after visiting Bert?). However, 15 persons started up the east side of Big Ridge along an easy winding trail, with George Flouser leading with the snake stick. Birds were rather scarce, and Breiding observed, "Russ, I think we ought to go back to Wheeling and organize a Bird Club."

Lunch arrived at the picnic shelter on top of the Mountain by a picturesque pack train including two horses, Ray and Chuck, and a pony-burdened with a big box of food and a water bucket. The hikers made short work of the sandwiches, cookies, oranges and spring water. Miller's rocks were reached by 3:00. Russ collected two ferns, later identified as Hairy Lip Fern (from a ledge on the
north side) and Mountain Spleenwork (from crevices in the bare rocks at the end of the trail). The return was made by the Sawdust Trail to the road, and down to the card at the first bend of the road. Arner and Pauline Brandmiller enjoyed riding the horses to and from Miller's Rocks, but the Conrads rode them back down the mountain, and Dorothy Neuhard rode the pony -- which ran nearly all the way, scaring a White-tailed Deer in the woods and arriving at the stable fully 15 minutes ahead of the horses.

Everybody washed up for supper -- sissies! Mr. Sterling Smeltzer (Alka Seltzer) from Charleston was a supper guest, and later showed Park movies at the campfire.

Ish had a birthday today - 17th - and was "off" after lunch so Marge volunteered as head dishwasher, assisted by Jean Wilson, Kay, Mary Jones and Pauline B.

After a brief Ecology Seminar on the trip to Big Ridge where a Pine Warbler was reported, and a possible county record for ferns, we adjourned to the picnic shelter for the movies, in color, and showing scenes from many of the 12 State Parks. Scenes from Lost River State Park were greeted with tender enthusiasm. George Flouer led the campfire, with Don as firelighter. Visitors and campers introduced themselves giving names, occupations and home towns. Visitors included Lieut. and Mrs. Pugh, the Mays, Snyders, Muldoons, and Eyes. Campfire reports included a list of 56 birds for the park given by Polly Handlan; 60 trees reported by Jean Semansic, only 45 of them being on last year's report; 18 ferns including two additions to last year's list were reported by West.

Russ talked of the Bird Club history; songs were sung and then taps - after which there was square dancing. Mr. Muldoon danced Bingo like a veteran; the Pughs joined a Bingo and stayed for a Cokey Cokey. Jackie Flouer did a solo dance as figures were called.

Later at cabin 14, a cheese and cracker party didn't hamper the singing - much. Visitor Smeltzer, having a very fine solo voice, readily agreed to demonstrate with the "Road to Mandalay" (one verse and chorus) and "Beautiful Lady". Arner retold Chet's story about Little Orley and his Pink Pajamas. Its success prompted him to do the Turtle story. Then he had nerve enough to try one of Uppie's -- the Hat story. Looks like some folks will have to defend their titles come another Foray! More singing until 1:30. Sometime after the story telling, Mabel and a crew went on a night Herp collecting expedition, however, after much rock turning and log tearing, returned with a small catch -- very small!.

**Friday, June 20**

The day started off warm which is a record for the week. In the locality of Cabin 1, the Parula Warbler's nest found on Tuesday was identified -- have been all this time verifying the find.

Everyone was glad to see Maxine Thacker at breakfast -- she having just arrived this morning to finish out the week with us. Another welcome guest was Sterling Smeltzer who sang for us after breakfast. His program grew and grew! "O Sole Mio", "Toreador Song", "Vagabond King", "Road to Mandalay", "Ah Sweet Mystery of Life", and "My Wild Irish Rose". We could have gone on forever, but he had other groups to conquer.

The Gomberts went on a walk up East Ridge with Arner and Brandmiller as guides. This was sort of an annual tradition since they enjoyed it last year.
The Sizemore twins, Houndog and Squinteye (Arner and Thayer) were plainly under the influence of the "Toreador Song" they staged a bull-fight scene on the lawn with Ginny's bright red play skirt.

Nest hunters, Chuck and Kay, Polly Handlan, George B., and Dorothy Neuhard covered the roadsides along the Park drive to the Mathias entrance. The total find -- 19 nests. Chuck took pictures of nests containing eggs and the young of the Least Flycatcher.

After supper -- which featured blueberry and raisin pies -- campfire was led by Pete proving very impressive. Everyone present was asked to give his or her impressions of the Foray. The one general feeling was that the Foray had been an even bigger success than last year. After campfire open house was held at 14A. Ham sandwiches, popcorn, etc. went fast. A 4:30 birdwalk was an easy follow through after the party. George B., Don, Maxine, George Flouer, Jean Semansic and Dorothy C. went.

Saturday, June 21

The Foray was concluded this morning with breakfast at eight. Most of the campers were out of the cabins and on their way by ten o'clock. However, one group stayed over to spend the week end with the Flouers. The group was composed of Jean Wilson, Jean Semansic, George Breiding, Polly Handlan, Dorothy Conrad, Chuck and Kay. A trio of riders: Polly, Chuck, and Kay gave the trails the final once over during the afternoon.

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ECOLOGICAL DISCUSSIONS

June 16 - ROADSIDES (discussion by Russell West)

In the valley where a new road has been built, the plants are those found as allies on all roadsides. A very fine stand of hawk weed was reported. Daisies and weeds thought of as being found in cultivated fields are found, introduces as weeds along the roadsides. Many native plants require rich soil, yet roadside plants live on poor soil and have poor drainage. (Definition of a weed - a plant which grows where it is not wanted.)

Near Piney Ridge Lookout where there is an outcropping of rock and very little top soil, the trees are principally short leaved pines and small oaks. The plants furnish very little undercover and the only food for animals are the pine seeds and oak acorns.

Many types of birds are found along the roadside, notably grasshopper sparrows, barn swallows, and cow birds. Indigo Buntings are also common along the telegraph wires.

June 17 - ORNITHOLOGY (discussion by Chuck Conrad)

The beginner who is going to make notes should use a small notebook, write down the name of the trip as a reminder, list the territory where the birds were found, and any data as to weather conditions. Birds are to be identified in two ways - by sight and by song. The beginner has to concentrate on listening to one bird at a time, even though others are singing. Tone quality, rhythm, singing pitch are things to watch and listen for. Never be afraid to ask
questions on the walks - even though you must ask it again and again.

Birds likely to be perching in shrubs are catbirds and brown thrashers. In small trees are to be found warblers; in higher trees - indigo buntings, cowbirds and king birds. Nests are usually found in inconspicuous places. Examples of locations - Red eyed vireos are found from 5 to 10 feet; Parula warblers, 40 to 60 feet.

Polly Handlan gave a discussion of the birds already listed and those to be listed; also on the nests to be found.

June 17 - After dinner discussion - STREAMS - (Pete Chandler)

In considering the streams along the picnic shelter - we find the earth at the sides damp, the woods thick and here a special type of plant - those found in shale. The depth of soil is deeper, much deeper than along the roadside, the plants there are typical of woodlands where moist. Examples are ferns, spring wild flowers, and near the stream, sedges and grasses. On the shale and rocks are found liverwort, and a dozen different lichens.

Fifteen ferns are to be found in the park - ten of which are near the picnic grounds. Christmas ferns are very plentiful, also marginal shield ferns. The situation is not typical for Christmas ferns because there is too much water.

June 17 - CAMFFIRE DISCUSSION - (Russell West)

Report of the finding of a Hooded Warbler's nest (in process of being built) above the barn near the road. The female came and worked while three people watched. Along the road, going out of the park, a female Acadian Flycatcher was found on the nest.

Snakes found during the day - a copperhead on Big Ridge.

Russell West gave a resume of the Bird Club History.

June 18 - TRIP TO BIG RIDGE AND EAST RIDGE

East Ridge - Starting at the top of east Ridge, the following were noted; a boulder covered with rocks and lichens; soil sandy; scrub pines and oaks growing; towhees and ovenbirds plentiful. The rapid descent stopped at rock where ferns were growing. Down the mountain, definite changes were noted - First, a veil of table mountain pine; down lower, ferns and mosses; closer to the bottom, were striped maple, ferns, mosses, damper soil and larger ferns. Although it was rocky, the top was a deposit of red sand. On the hilly slope in the middle section, there were many chestnut-sided warblers and indigo buntings.

June 19 - TRIP TO BIG RIDGE (elevation 3,250 ft.)

The first stop was at Craney Crow (3,000 ft.)

Pines were found on the north side of each ridge. Bird life on Big Ridge was much better than on the East Ridge. An open field and an old abandoned farm with an orchard is on Big Ridge. Also better foliage, lots of oak trees. Bird life included ten warblers, the black throated green being the most profuse.
more woodland plants were found on ascending Big Ridge. On top was found
typical pasture land. The forest floor was well drained and thickly leaved.
Ferns found were Ebony spleenwort and some fragile Bladderfern. More hickory
and wild cherry were found among the trees. The birds were well distributed.
Oven birds and Tanagers were found both on Big Ridge and in the valley. On top
were typical field birds.

On the way up to Big Ridge, we saw rocks with many lichens and some liverworts;
these the first of the successions. On top were found the last of the plant
successions. Plants grow in a series of successions. First, lichens, liver­
worts, and last, beech and maples. Oak and hickory were dominating everything.
Forty or fifty years from now we would find bare, loose rocks with maples and
beeches growing. For those who recall the forest floor in Wheeling, the one in
Lost River on Big Ridge will be the same in fifty years. The establishment of
the farm on Big Ridge shows the effect inhabitants will make on a territory.

June 20 - STREAM LIFE - (Pete Chandler)

The streams show many insect larvae typical of fast flowing streams such as
cadis fly larvae and water pennies. The plants are entirely ciga with liver­
worts along the side of the streams. The study of the water is important in the
subject of ecology. Dryness in a region has a lot to do with the vegetation
which will grow there.
SOME ADDITIONS TO THE LIST OF SUMMER BIRDS

OF HARDY COUNTY, W. VA.

Last year, 1940, during the week of June 15-22, some 30 members of the Brooks Bird Club conducted a general nature study "Foray". Most of the week was spent in the field with the study of birds being outstanding, since very little work, ornithologically speaking, had been done or published. As a result one hundred species were listed with 25 breeding records being established. A summary of the results of this field trip was prepared and published by Mr. Harold Olsen in The Redstart of August, 1940 (Vol. VII, No. 11, pp. 68-75).

The Brooks Bird Club sponsored a nature study Foray again this year (1941) and returned to Hardy County, W. Va. and as before, made headquarters at the Lost River State Park. The set-up was much the same as was the program except that we did have the records from the previous year to serve as a working base.

In reviewing Mr. Olsen's article, we find that 100 species had been recorded, but however, six of these were records from outside of Hardy County, made by campers on their way to or from camp. Of the 94 species (correct total for the county in 1940) no less than 75 were listed in Lost River State Park. Of the 25 breeding records established for the county, 23 were made in the Park.

In comparing the above records with those made by the 30 members who attended the 1941 Foray, much progress can be noted. Although the compiled list of 92 was two less than in 1940, it did however, include seven new species for Hardy County that were not included on the previous list. The additions were:

Black Vulture, Coragyps atratus. One individual was observed within the Park boundaries by Charles Conrad. The bird, with two Turkey Vultures "sailed" over being very low for this species. Two other examples of the species were noted first inside the county line on the road to Harrisonburg, Va.

Wild Turkey, Meleagris gallopavo. Listed in the Park on Big Ridge by Don Keyser.

Woodcock, Philohela minor. This bird was heard and seen by several members of the group. Mr. George Flouer, Park Ranger, reported seeing the Woodcock perform its sky dance numerous times in early spring.

Great Horned Owl, Bubo virginianus. Was heard several times during our stay at the Park.

Red-headed Woodpecker, Melanerpes erythrocephalus. A group on their way home just beyond the park limits on top of the mountain saw two "Red-heads."

Pine Warbler, Dendroica pinus. The Pine Warbler was listed for the first time by half the group.
Junco, *Junco hyemalis*. This bird was quite common, Big Ridge on the way to Miller's Rocks.

Another item that should be noted is the addition of eleven species to the Park list, namely: Black Vulture, Wild Turkey, Woodcock, Great Horned Owl, Nighthawk, Belted Kingfisher, Mockingbird, Bluebird, Pine Warbler, Yellowthroat and Junco. With the addition of these birds, the Lost River State Park compiled list stands at 86 species.

As a matter of record some comment should be made on the bird life as compared with last year. It was the opinion of the group that bird life in general was about the same, with the exception of the Golden-winged Warbler, which was perhaps the outstanding bird in 1940 but was on the scarce side this year. For 1941, the Redstart, Chestnut-sided, Prairie and Parula Warblers, Wood Thrush, Least Flycatcher and Ovenbird were the "stand outs". Just as last year, were we particularly impressed by the numbers of the so-called "rare" birds that are known to most of us as migrants only. Bird study at Lost River Park really is ideal.

In the summary of the nests our records show that a total of 132 nests were found by the 1941 group. Of this total, 68 were located in the Park and the remaining 64 in Hardy County. Again referring to the total nests, 132, we find it represents 36 nesting species of birds with 28 different kinds found building nests in the Park and 11 outside its boundaries. We were fortunate in repeating the 1940 list with the exception of two species, Worm-eating and Golden-winged Warblers.

One of the most outstanding achievements, expressed by many campers, was the fact that 15 additional breeding records were established making a total of 28 for the Park and the grand total of 36 for the county. These 1941 additions include:

**Wild Turkey, Meleagris gallopavo.** The nest of the Wild Turkey was found by Don Keyser on Big Ridge. The adult and four young were noted.

**Mourning Dove, Zenaidura macroura.** A small nest apparently not built by a dove, but confiscated, was observed with the bird brooding. The nest built on the overhanging limb of a small elm growing in a bank along the side of the road was discovered by Virginia Thayer.

**Pileated Woodpecker, **Scientific Name**. A young example of this species was brought into camp by George Breiding. Several pairs were observed but no nests were located.

**Red-headed Woodpecker, Melanerpes erythrocephalus.** Adults of this species were seen going in and out a nest hole located in a dead chestnut tree.

**Downy Woodpecker, Dryobates pubescens.** A nest, containing young, built in a telephone pole was reported by Charles Conrad on the road to Mathias.

**Chickadee, *Penthestes sp.*** A nest was found at the barn which contained four young birds.
House Wren, *Troglydotes aedon*. A bird house erected by a farm boy was occupied by this species.

Cedar Waxwing, *Bombycilla cedrorum*. A nest about 75 feet off the ground was sighted by Chandler and West in a large pine tree below the playgrounds. Both adult Waxwings were observed about the nest.

Yellow Warbler, *Dendroica aestiva*. A small nest made of grasses located about 20 feet up in an apple tree was observed by the group. The male bird of this species sang in the territory.

English Sparrow, *Passer domesticus*. Nest located about 40 feet from the ground in crotch of big oak tree in Mathias with an adult on the nest.

Grasshopper Sparrow, *Amodramus savannarum*. West found the nest of this species containing young in an open field inside the Park.

Field Sparrow, *Spizella pusilla*. On the road to Mathias an occupied nest with three eggs and adults feeding young was reported by George Breiding and Charles Conrad.

Song Sparrow, *Melozone melodia*. A nest containing four young was found in a tree about five feet off the ground. Another nest was found in the bushes along the side of the road. Both were located between the Park and Mathias.

One other item of real importance, showing how thoroughly the work on nests was carried out, is the fact that accurate nesting data was kept on more than one hundred of the nests found. These notes and those of the 1940 Foray, along with other records on file will be used later to compile and publish a year-round list of the birds and breeding records for Hardy County.

In reading over the notes turned in for the 1941 nests, some comments worthy of publication should be made. For example: five nests of the Wood Thrush were found. Three of the nests were about normal, being built between six and ten feet above the ground. However, another was built between 25 and 30 feet in a gum tree and the remaining one, built on the limb of a white pine directly over the main park road some forty feet above the ground. The nest contained four young, one of which was an albino. Two weeks later, Nick Flouer, vacationing at Lost River State Park with his son, George, observed what appeared to be same albino some distance from where the nest was located. Apparently despite discoloration, it was thriving.

Again this year on several occasions adult Louisiana Waterthrushes were observed feeding young. During 1940 we observed young not yet able to fly but failed to find a single nest.

In 1940 only one nest of the Least Flycatcher was found and then identification was made only after the nest was under observation for several days. This year five nests were found with building heights ranging from seven to 40 feet. Identification in all cases was made through the adult males singing close by the nests.
This year, although great effort was put forth to locate the nest of the Golden-winged Warbler, we failed. During our stay in 1940, three nests of this species was found and considered one of our most common birds.

Of all the nests found during our week at the Park this year, the outstanding one was that of the Parula Warbler. Observations made at the last campfire will stand to confirm this. The nest was built near the top of a small hemlock, about 15 feet high growing from the bank of a small creek, along the main road in the park. Observations on the nest, which was in clear view, were made from a stone wall which placed the observer, one might say, on an even level with the nest and about 10 feet distant. Both parents were seen at the nest numerous times as they carried food for the young occupants. Neither male nor female Parula seemed too much disturbed over our presence, in fact, the male sang from his favorite perch over and over. This nest was observed by many of the group. Two other nests of the same species were found, compared with but one for last year.

In conclusion it can be said that our week of June 14-21, 1941 at Lost River State Park was enjoyed just as much, if not more, than in 1940. In addition, the records as written and compared in this article do show that the 1941 Brooks Bird Club Foray was a step of progress.

Polly Handlan and Charles Conrad

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FERNS

Ferns were studied, usually in connection with the study of other plants of the Park, with some effort by a few individuals to find a few new species to add to the list. Several persons showed much interest in learning the fern characteristics, and made considerable progress.

Last year, 16 species were listed for the Area. Two new species were added this year.

Asplenium montanum Mountain Spleenwort

Cheilanthes lanosa Hairy Lip Fern

Carolyn Conrad
FLOWERING PLANTS

A study of the flora and fauna of Lost River State Park would not be complete without the wild flowers and weeds. With this in mind, a partial list was made of the plants of the park. Every student will realize that it is impossible to name every plant on sight, so this list is still incomplete. However, a few new species have been added to last year's list and a few were not found again this year. The park was more thoroughly covered this year than last, so the list is fairly typical of what is to be found there.

It is hoped that the use of the scientific naming of families will serve to aid the serious student in noting family characteristics. Only those plants which were added to the list this year, are given here. (For the complete list, the Foray Report of 1940 should be referred to.)

LILIACEAE  Lily Family
Cakesia
False Spikenard
Canade Mayflower

URTICACEAE  Nettle Family
Clearweed

POLYONIACEAE  Buckwheat Family
Bitter Cock
Erect Knotweed

CHENOPODIACEAE  Goosefoot Family
Lamb's Quarters

ILLEGIRBRACEAE  Knotwort Family
Whitlow-wort

CARYOPHYLLACEAE  Pink Family
Chickweed
Common Mouse-ear Chickweed

RANUNCULACEAE  Crowfoot Family
Bristly Crowfoot
Black Snakeroot

CRUCIFERAE  Mustard Family
Water Cress

SAXIFRAGACEAE  Saxifrage Family
Gooseberry

ROSACEAE  Rose Family
Wild Strawberry
Hairy Agrimony
Sweet brier
Black Raspberry

LEGUMINOSAE  Purse Family
Yellow Sweet Clover

VIOLACEAE  Violet Family
Wooly Stemmed Violet

ARALIAEAE  Ginseng Family
Hercules' Club

ERICACEAE  Heath Family
Mountain Laurel

APOCYNACEAE  Dogbane Family
Spreading Dogbane

ASCLEPIADACEAE  Milkweed Family
Poly Milkweed

LABIATAE  Mint Family
Pennyroyal

RUBIACEAE  Madder Family
Rough Bedstraw

COMPOSITAE  Composite Family
Boneset
Early Golden rod
Early Fall Aster
Pussy toes
Begger Ticks
Bull Thistle

Pauline Brandmiller
REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

This year more of an attempt was made to collect some of the representative species of "herps" in Hardy County, particularly in Lost River State Park, and many persons in the Foray party helped hunt for these elusive (?) animals. On several of the daytime walks, rocks were overturned and the sides of streams scanned for signs of the presence of a salamander, snake, toad, or frog, and one night after campfire a group of us traveled over one of the mountain trails hunting for such forms as might be found then -- night time being the time of feeding for many forms and when they are most likely to be found out in the open. However, not much success was obtained, for salamanders and snakes seemed to be rare (?) for the time of year, and most species reported were represented by only one individual.

Again the ecological angle -- the weather was reported as being dryer for the time of year than before. So many forms of Amphibians burrow deep into the ground in search of dampness, so perhaps this accounted for the lack of specimens.

Following is a list of the species taken during the Foray. Those marked with a # were not taken the previous year.

Class Amphibia

- Triburus v. viridescens
- Gyrinophilus p. porphyriticus
- Eurycea b. bispilaneata
- Plethodon glutinosus
- Desmognathus f. fuscus
- Bufo a. americanus
- Bufo woodhousii fowleri
- # Uyla v. versicolor
- Rana pipiens

Class Reptilia

- Terrapena carolina
- Diadophis punctatus edwardsii
- Elaphe o. obsoleta
- # Natrix s. sipedon
- Thamnophis s. sirtalis
- Crotalus h. horridus
- # Agkistrodon m. mokasen

A Red-spotted Newt
A Purple Salamander
A Two-lined Salamander
A Slimy Salamander
A Dusky Salamander
A American Toad
A Fowler's Toad
A Common Tree Frog, or Rain Toad
A Leopard Frog
A Snapping Turtle (taken in Hardy Co. outside the park)
A Box Turtle
A Ring-neck Snake
A Pilot Black Snake
A Banded Water Snake
A Common Garter Snake
A Timber Rattlesnake
A Copperhead

No lizards were collected, although one member of the party came back with the tail of one which got away.

Mabel Hopwood
INSECTS

No regular class or field trip was conducted with insects as the main theme. However, a number of various species were collected by different persons -- but the time required to classify them as to genera, or even families, and the difficulty with which that could be done being so great, little attempt was made to do even that.

Any list of genera or species would be rather useless, unless years of time, and many collections were behind such a list, anyway.

Much emphasis being placed on ecological relationships, this year, brought about quite a discussion which included insects in these relationships. In the forested areas were found many gall producing insects and the evidence of their work on the oak trees was quite evident. Along the roadsides, where various smaller vegetation mingled with the trees, other types of insects could be found -- among them many of the leaf hoppers, and other leaf eating insects. Along the streams -- in the water, and on the plants near the water, were found still other types of insects, some recognized as distinctly water loving species, and others unclassified, but still probably those which found such a habitat suitable -- or, perhaps, found the types of plants growing in such a habitat more to their liking than those which might be found in other places. In the streams were found many of the insect larva which might be expected to be found in fresh water streams -- dragon fly larvae, water pennies, and others.

In any ecological discussion, we find insects entering in for they, too live where conditions are best suited to their requirements for life -- the amount of moisture, the type of soil, but above all the type of vegetation, for it furnishes in many cases their food and breeding places -- and as the vegetation changes over an area take place, so does the insect life change.

Mabel Hopwood

MAMMALS

Mammalogy is one branch of nature study which was not really studied, that is having classes and setting traps for good results. Therefore, the list is not large totaling seven species for the entire week's stay. In comparing this with last year's report, there are three less species, however, we did make two new finds over our previous list.

List to date includes:

Bat
Woodchuck or Ground Hog
Chipmunk
Squirrels
  Red
  Gray
  Fox
  Flying
White-footed Deer Mouse
Cottontail
Virginia Deer

Dorothy Conrad
MEMBERS OF THE BROOKS BIRD CLUB 1941 FORAY

WHEELING, W. VA.

George Breiding
Carolyn Conrad
Chuck Conrad
Dorothy Conrad
Kay Conrad (Mrs. C.)
Bert Cromes (Cook)
George DeVinney
Charley Doepken
Mrs. Chas Doepken
John Hendlan
Polly Hendlan (Mrs. John)
Don Keyser
Dwight Koon
Dorothy Neuhard
Jean Semansick
Mrs. Ida West
Russ West
Jean Wilson

Cleveland, Ohio

Julia Gombert
Katherine Gombert
Herriet Stansbury

Canfield, Ohio

Pauline Brandmiller

Girard, Ohio

Mary Jones

Charleston, W. VA.

Sterling Smeltzer
Virginia Thayer
Lynn Wilson

Benwood, W. VA.

Mabel Hopwood

Lost River State Park

Ish Eye
George Flouer
Marge Flouer (Mrs. Geo.)
Jackie Flouer

Buckhannon, W. VA.

Maxine Thacker

Ripley, W. VA.

Adele Harpold

Romney, W. VA.

Chet Schafer

Chester, W. VA.

Pete Chandler
George Arner
BROOKS BIRD CLUB 1941 FORAY

FINANCIAL REPORT

**INCOME**

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<td>Part-time campers</td>
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<td>Visitors - meals and cots</td>
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**EXPENSES**

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Net income returned to the Brooks Bird Club general fund $56.00