



The Redstart

Published Since 1932 by the Brooks Bird Club, Inc.
Wheeling West Virginia

VOL. XVII, No. 1 December, 1949, Issue Pages 1-15

W. R. DeGarmo
Editor

C O N T E N T S

	Page
A List of Summer Birds Recorded in Southern Ohio George H. Breiding	1
The President Reports James H. Olsen	7
Constitution and By-Laws of the Brooks Bird Club, Inc.	8
1950 Program Brooks Bird Club, Inc. Polly Handlan	12
Announcing Mid-Winter Meeting	13
Headquarters Chapter Reorganizes	13
Field Notes	
A Winter Record for the Palm Warbler in Central Ohio George H. Breiding	14
Tappan Dam Report Charles L. Conrad	14
Old Nest Serves Dual Use George H. Breiding	14
Broad-winged Hawk Migration in the Allegheny Mountains Elizabeth DeGarmo	15

A LIST OF SUMMER BIRDS RECORDED IN SOUTHERN OHIO

By George H. Breiding

Introduction - From the third week of June, 1946, to the last week of August of the same year, the writer made some casual observations of the birds in a typical agricultural section in southern Ohio.

The species commented on below were observed while the writer was conducting a study of the bob-white (Colinus virginianus) in the vicinity of Russell, Union Township, Highland County, Ohio. Hillsboro, six miles southeast of the study area, is 50 miles east of Cincinnati, Ohio. Brown and Adams Counties, along the southern boundary of Highland County, reach the Ohio River and are opposite the Kentucky border.

The Area - Union Township is on the northwest edge of Highland County, and the approximate elevation is 1,020 feet to 1,060 feet above sea level. The study area itself is located along the eastern side of the township. Due to glaciation, the general topography in most sections can be considered flat. On the east boundary of the study area, more resistant rock is responsible for a gentle sloping and a somewhat hilly condition. Unofficial reports classify the soils as Clermont silty loam on the flats; Adamsburg silty loam where the land is gently tilted; and Rossmoyne silty loam on the steep slopes. Farm lands on the area lack sufficient natural drainage. Artificial drainage is considered prohibitive due to an impervious layer occurring at a depth of one to three feet. Tenant farmers have come and gone, and abandoned farms and land in poor condition are characteristic of the general region.

The study area as it was layed out is almost square, and is cut diagonally by a section of railroad. One small stream, Dodson Creek, traverses the area in a north to south direction. Most of its course channels through the middle of the area. The area, then, could be roughly separated into four units with the stream and the railroad acting as the dividers.

The woodlots at the time of the study were of a mixed nature; some almost pure stands of hickory, some mixed oaks, some chiefly elm-ash-soft maple. The degree of succession and the land use were responsible for these patterns. Small willows grew along most of the streams, but occasionally there were clumps of relatively large cottonwoods and sycamores.

The agriculture was divided into dairy farming and a three crop rotation of corn, wheat, and clover. The pattern of land use on the 2000-acre study area can be approximately divided: pasture 20%; corn 20%; wheat 16%, hay and seed crops 20%; soybean and buckwheat 8%; orchard 2%; woods (practically all grazed) 5%; homes and dwellings 4%. Red clover is the chief hay crop, while both red clover and timothy are harvested for seed.

Weather Conditions - From information gathered prior to the investigation, it was learned that heavy and frequent rains occurred during the month of May. March and April were claimed by the residents to have been unseasonable with lower than usual temperatures prevailing. In mid-June, some of the area was still water-soaked and washed out. Some places were swampy and mucky. The

summer period, however, can be considered one of drought. From June 18 to August 28, the rainfall was light. Only on the mornings of August 13 and 16 and all day on August 15 could the precipitation be called a "good soaking rain." Other showers, most of which were slight and of short duration occurred on June 19, 26, 27, July 15, August 5 and 9. There were many overcast and cloudy days when rain threatened, but relief never appeared. The temperature ranged from 46° F. at 6:00 a.m. on August 12 to 92° F. at 2:00 p.m. on July 9. These recordings were taken in the shade at Russell in the center of the study area.

In addition to the birds of the area, 17 species of mammals and 12 species of amphibians and reptiles were recorded. The avian species are listed below with brief notes on their status:

1. Great blue heron (Ardea herodias) - One was flushed along Dodson Creek July 17.
2. Green heron (Butorides virescens) - Flushed along small streams and commonly seen flying over the area.
3. Black-crowned night heron (Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli) - Flushed one adult bird along Dodson Creek on July 25.
4. Wood duck (Aix sponsa) - An immature bird was flushed along Dodson Creek on August 28.
5. Turkey vulture (Cathartes aura) - As many as 8 to 10 of these birds could be seen circling the area. As a rule, 2 or 3 were seen each trip afield.
6. Cooper's hawk (Accipiter cooperii) - Seen 6 or 8 times, chiefly in and near thickets along the railroad track which was frequented by squirrels, groundhogs, chipmunks, rabbits, young quail and other small birds and mammals.
7. Red-tailed hawk (Buteo jamaicensis) - Commonly seen hunting in the east section of the area. No evidence of nesting.
8. Marsh hawk (Circus cyaneus hudsonius) - Frequently observed from June 18 to August 28. Whether this species nested nearby is difficult to say.
9. Sparrow hawk (Falco sparverius) - Probably 3 or 4 pairs nested on the area.
10. Bob-white (Colinus virginianus)(and C. v. texanus?) - This species was the chief reason for study on the area. Thirty-five adult birds were accounted for. Twenty of these were mated pairs. Ten broods of young were located and at least 103 young birds were noted.
11. Ring-necked pheasant (Phasianus colchicus) - Two cocks were heard crowing. Two dead hens were found, and one hen was flushed. One of the dead was a stocked bird. Mr. Oliver Doty flushed six young while combining wheat on July 16.
12. Killdeer (Charadrius vociferus) - Commonly observed. Small flocks noted, beginning July 11.

13. American woodcock (Philohela minor) - Dr. Floyd Chapman reported observing this species in the woodlot on the State property. Mr. Albert Briggs said that he saw several in his woodlot in the fall of 1945.
14. Upland plover (Bartramia longicauda) - Recorded occasionally. On two occasions, individuals were seen that appeared to be immature birds.
15. Solitary sandpiper (Tringa solitaria) - One was seen feeding at the edge of the newly constructed farm pond on the State property on August 27.
16. Mourning dove (Zenaidura macroura) - Common; as many as 36 of these birds were recorded in a day's time.
17. Yellow-billed cuckoo (Coccyzus americanus) - Scattered. Frequently observed.
18. Black-billed cuckoo (Coccyzus erythrophthalmus) - Whether this species or the preceding was more common was difficult to estimate. Both seemed to be of about equal abundance.
19. Screech owl (Otus asio) - Heard calling in the evenings and during the night.
20. Great horned owl (Bubo virginianus) - One bird was flushed in some tall trees along Dodson Creek on the morning of July 3. It was heard calling at intervals thereafter.
21. Barred owl (Strix varia) - Flushed several times in three of the woodlots. Heard frequently during the early evenings and occasionally during the night.
22. Short-eared owl (Asio flammeus) - Four of these birds were observed on June 20. Three were flushed together from a small thicket. Individuals and pairs were noted frequently in the southwest section of the area. On the evening of July 17, Dr. Daniel Leedy and I saw an adult and an immature bird in adjacent fields. If the birds bred in the immediate vicinity this would be a new county record for Ohio.
23. Whip-poor-will (Caprimulgus vociferus) - Mrs. Oliver Doty said that she consistently heard this species until mid-June. I never recorded it.
24. Nighthawk (Chordeiles minor) - The first example of this species was seen when a lone bird flew over on the evening of August 22. On August 26, 66 of these birds were seen in scattered flocks ranging from a pair to as many as 20 birds. All flew from a south to north and from a southwest to northeast direction.
25. Chimney swift (Chaetura pelagica) - Commonly observed.
26. Ruby-throated hummingbird (Archilocus colubris) - Scattered and fairly common.
27. Belted kingfisher (Megaceryle alcyon) - Seen and heard along Dodson Creek.
28. Flicker (Colaptes auratus) - Common. Young birds were seen in a fence post along Horner Hill Road on June 18.

29. Red-bellied woodpecker (Centurus carolinus) - Scattered; fairly common.
30. Red-headed woodpecker (Melanerpes erythrocephalus) - This species was noted chiefly in a grazed woodlot on the Joe Roush farm. Immature birds were seen.
31. Hairy woodpecker (Dendrocopus villosus) - Scattered, probably the least common of the woodpeckers on the area.
32. Downy woodpecker (Dendrocopus pubescens) - Scattered; fairly common.
33. Eastern kingbird (Tyrannus tyrannus) - Commonly observed. Young birds were seen on the wing.
34. Crested flycatcher (Myiarchus crinitus) - Common in the wooded areas.
35. Eastern phoebe (Sayornis phoebe) - Common. Two nests with eggs and young were located. A nest with six young was found on June 30.
36. Acadian flycatcher (Empidonax virescens) - Recorded only in the woodlot on the State property.
37. Wood pewee (Contopus virens) - This seemed to be the most common flycatcher on the area. Noted chiefly in the woodlots and along wooded stream banks.
38. Horned lark (Eremophila alpestris) - Scattered individuals and pairs observed.
39. Barn swallow (Hirundo rustica erythrogaster) - Fairly common. Two broods were known to be successfully reared in the B. A. Roush barn. There were 5 in the first brood, 4 in the second.
40. Purple martin (Progne subis) - Frequently heard and seen flying over.
41. Blue jay (Cyanocitta cristata) - Scattered and common.
42. Crow (Corvus brachyrhynchos) - Not especially common. About 10 or 12 individuals usually were recorded in a day's time.
43. Carolina chickadee (Parus carolinensis) - Common.
44. Tufted titmouse (Parus bicolor) - Common.
45. White-breasted nuthatch (Sitta carolinensis) - Often seen and heard in the woodlots and along wooded stream banks.
46. House wren (Troglodytes aedon) - Fairly common. Three or four broods of young observed. Fence posts and cavities in trees were the main nesting sites.
47. Bewick's wren (Thryomanes bewickii) - Scattered. Noted at about six different stations near dwellings and old buildings.
48. Carolina wren (Thryothorus ludovicianus) - Scattered; frequently recorded.

49. Mockingbird (Mimus polyglottos) - Observed at about 12 stations on the area. Full grown young seen in late July.
50. Catbird (Dumetella carolinensis) - Not nearly as conspicuous or common as the following species. Young birds noted.
51. Brown thrasher (Toxostoma rufum) - The most common of the Mimidae. Roadside thickets and those along the railroad afforded excellent habitat for this species.
52. Robin (Turdus migratorius) - Not as common as one might expect. Young birds seen.
53. Wood thrush (Hylocichla mustelina) - Scattered; not especially common.
54. Eastern bluebird (Sialia sialis) - Common. A nest with young in a fence post was seen on June 20. Other broods of young seen on the wing. Small flocks were observed on and after August 20.
55. Blue-gray gnatcatcher (Polioptila caerulea) - Fairly common in the wooded sections.
56. Cedar waxwing (Bombycilla cedrorum) - Small flocks were seen occasionally.
57. Shrike (Lanius ludovicianus) - Observed only three times.
58. Starling (Sturnus vulgaris) - Common.
59. Red-eyed vireo (Vireo olivaceus) - A common bird in the woodlots.
60. Warbling vireo (Vireo gilvus) - Males were heard singing at about five stations.
61. Black and white warbler (Mniotilta varia) - One was heard and seen along a wooded stream bank at Russell Station on June 25. Several were seen in the woodlot on the State property on August 23. All of these appeared to be adult males.
62. Oven-bird (Seiurus aurocapillus) - One was seen and heard giving a sharp call note in the woodlot on the State property on August 28.
63. Kentucky warbler (Oporornis formosus) - Three pairs were believed to have nested on the area; two of these in or near the woodlot on the State property.
64. Yellow-throat (Geothlypis trichas) - Common; young birds seen.
65. Yellow-breasted chat (Icteria virens) - Scattered. A nest with two eggs plus one of a cowbird was found. On July 10, the eggs were gone and the nest was packed with leaves, plant down and fibers; evidently the work of a white-footed mouse.
66. English sparrow (Passer domesticus) - Common about dwellings and farmyards.
67. Meadowlark (Sturnella magna) - Common. On August 5, sixty-three individuals were flushed in a stubble field.

68. Red-wing (Agelaius phoeniceus) - Scattered. Noted about certain clover fields, particularly those near streams or moist places.
69. Orchard oriole (Icterus spurius) - Males could be heard singing almost at every farm house. Young birds were seen.
70. Bronzed grackle (Quiscalus versicolor) - Recorded occasionally.
71. Cowbird (Molothrus ater) - Common; young seen.
72. Summer tanager (Piranga rubra) - Nearly each woodlot with a fair-sized stand of timber contained at least one pair of these birds.
73. Cardinal (Richmondia cardinalis) - Fairly common. Two nests with eggs were located; young birds were seen.
74. Indigo bunting (Passerina cyanea) - Common. A nest with 4 eggs was found on July 2. The nest was empty on July 10.
75. Common goldfinch (Spinus tristis) - Commonly seen and heard.
76. Towhee (Pipilo erythrophthalmus) - Scattered. Commonly observed about thickets and brushy woodlots.
77. Grasshopper sparrow (Ammodrammus savannarum) - One of the most common species on the area. Three nests were found, one on June 26 contained 3 eggs. It was empty on July 1. From all indications a skunk was the predator. Another nest found on July 24 contained 3 young and one infertile egg. The birds left the nest July 31. One other empty nest was found. Young birds were seen very frequently.
78. Henslow's sparrow (Passerherbulus henslowii) - Very common. Observed in practically every hay and pasture field.
79. Vesper sparrow (Poocetes gramineus) - Commonly recorded. A nest with four young was found on July 15.
80. Chipping sparrow (Spizella passerina) - Common about dwellings and edge of open woodlots.
81. Field sparrow (Spizella pusilla) - The most common bird on the area. Eleven occupied nests were located.
82. Song sparrow (Melospiza melodia) - Common. One nest with 3 eggs was found on June 26; nest empty on July 4.

Elkins
West Virginia

THE PRESIDENT REPORTS . . .

A brief explanation of the reorganization of The Brooks Bird Club and what it means to each member and to other organizations.

Members of what is now the Headquarters Chapter of the Brooks Bird Club have long met on Tuesday evenings in the club rooms to discuss plans for our club, to mimeograph THE REDSTART and THE MAILBAG, and to keep the club's dues and other business properly in order.

To that group should go much of the credit for the foresight and unselfish planning that preceded the reorganization of our club. The work culminated on September 4, 1949, at the annual meeting of the original BBC and the first annual meeting of the new BEC. At that meeting the members in attendance voted to adopt a new constitution that would enable all members to take out an active membership, to be elected to office, and to vote on all matters brought before the club.

The members present elected the following named persons as the officers of the club for the fiscal year of 1949-50:

President -- James H. Olsen, Box 11, Worthington, Ohio
 1st Vice-President -- George Hall, Dept. Chemistry, Univ. Wisconsin,
 Madison 6, Wisconsin
 2nd Vice-President -- Maxine Thacker, DePont High School, Belle, W. Va.
 Secretary-Treasurer -- Eva H. Hays, 39 Dorman Road, Wheeling, W. Va.

Executive Committee (Elective Members)

Frederic Scott, P. O. Box 199, Hampden-Sydney, Virginia
 John Pattison, 179 E. Kanawha Avenue, Worthington, Ohio
 Howard Heimerdinger, 281 E. 2nd Street, Girard, Ohio

The new constitution provides for seven classes of membership, and lists the dues for each of the classes. All classes except one - the corresponding member class - are entitled to vote and to hold office.

It is also provided that the person elected as president of the Wheeling, or Headquarters Chapter, will automatically become Executive-Secretary of the newly-formed BBC. Charles L. Conrad was recently elected to this office, as reported elsewhere in this issue.

The Executive Committee (see Section 4, Article III for details) met on September 4 and this committee and the president appointed the persons listed below to the indicated offices:

Russell DeGarmo	Editor, THE REDSTART
Carolyn Conrad	Editor, THE MAILBAG
George A. Hall	Chairman, Membership Committee
Charles Conrad	Foray Director
Judge John Worley	Legal Advisor
Polly Handlan	Chairman, Program Committee
Harold Bergner	Trustee, Endowment Fund
Charles Conrad	Trustee, Endowment Fund
E. R. "Pete" Chandler	Trustee, Endowment Fund
John Handlan	Chairman, Publicity Committee

The members of the Executive Committee, as provided in the new constitution, are:

John W. Handlan, Charleston, W. Va.
 Russell West, Bridgeport, Ohio
 Harold Bergner, Wheeling, W. Va.
 George Breiding, Elkins, W. Va.
 Carolyn Conrad, Wheeling, W. Va.

Polly Handlan, Chairman of the Program Committee, has in this issue of THE REDSTART a "Tentative Program" which outlines the program for the coming year and lists the meetings which will be of interest to the members. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be during the mid-winter meeting in the club rooms in Wheeling February 11, and 12. Members of the club and of the committee will receive a notice of this meeting.

All Committee Chairmen, and appointed officials are hereby asked to prepare an outline of tentative program covering the duties assigned them, to be presented for approval at the mid-winter meeting of the Executive Committee.

We have reproduced the new constitution in this issue so that you will have a copy; please read it carefully for YOU WILL FIND IT VERY INTERESTING.

Please focus your attention to Sections 2 and 3 of ARTICLE II on the first page of the Constitution. There you will find the seven classes of membership and the dues for each.

As you might know, there is a great deal of work connected with getting the new club underway, and you will assist all of us if you will:

Please sit down now -- send us a note indicating which type of membership you choose -- and enclose the check or money .

Last one in's a HOODED DODO!

 CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE BROOKS BIRD CLUB, INC.

ARTICLE I

- Sec. 1. The name of the organization is the Brooks Bird Club, a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of West Virginia, with headquarters in Wheeling, W. Va.
- Sec. 2. The object of the organization shall be to encourage the study of birds and other phases of natural history both as a hobby and a science, and to provide a medium for publication of information secured.

ARTICLE II

Membership

- Sec. 1. The membership of this club shall consist of seven classes: Corresponding Members, Active Members, Family Membership, Sustaining Members, Life Members, Patrons, and Honorary Members.

- Sec. 2. Applications for membership shall be made through the Secretary. Members shall be elected at the annual meeting by a majority of the members present. Applications presented in the interim between annual meetings shall be received and confirmed by the Secretary, subject to ratification at the next annual meeting.
- Sec. 3. The annual dues of Corresponding Members shall be two dollars (\$2.00); of Active Members, three dollars (\$3.00); of Family Memberships, five dollars (\$5.00); of Sustaining Members, ten dollars (\$10.00). Any member may become a Life Member, exempt from further dues, by making a payment into the endowment fund of the Club of fifty dollars (\$50.00). Any member may become a Patron, exempt from further dues, by making a payment into the endowment fund of the Club of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) or more. Upon the unanimous recommendation of the Executive Committee, Honorary Membership may be conferred by the Club by a three-fourths vote at any annual meeting.
- Sec. 4. All members, except Corresponding Members, shall be entitled to vote and to hold office. Family Memberships will be entitled to two votes.
- Sec. 5. All annual dues for the ensuing year shall be due on September 1. Any member in arrears for dues for one year shall be dropped from the roll of members, provided that two notices of delinquency, with an interval of two months between them, shall have been sent to such member. Publications of this organization will not be sent to any member 6 months in arrears for dues.

A R T I C L E I I I
Officers

- Sec. 1 (a). The officers of this Club shall be a President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Executive Secretary, a Secretary-Treasurer, and an Editor. The duties of these officers shall be those usually pertaining to those officers.
- (b). Duties of the Executive Secretary shall be to supervise all activities of the Brooks Bird Club, Inc., which are assigned to the Headquarters Chapter.
- Sec. 2 (a). All officers except the Editor and Executive Secretary shall be elected at the annual meeting by ballot of the members. The Editor shall be elected annually by the Executive Committee. The President of the Headquarters Chapter shall be the Executive Secretary.
- (b). The Secretary-Treasurer shall be required to be bonded. The amount of the bond shall be decided by the Executive Committee immediately following the Annual Meeting.
- Sec. 3. All officers except the Executive Secretary and Editor shall be elected for a term of one year, and will remain in office until the close of a meeting at which a successor has been elected. All officers are eligible for re-election. Term of office for all new officers shall begin at the close of the meeting at which they are elected.

- Sec. 4. Executive Committee of the organization shall consist of all officers of the Club, all Past-Presidents of the Club, Presidents of Affiliated Chapters, and three additional members elected at the annual meeting by ballot of the Club members. The Executive Committee shall handle the business of the Club as outlined at the annual meeting, but shall have power to act on any matters considered too urgent to defer until the next annual meeting. Chairman of the Executive Committee shall call meetings of the Committee by written notice to all committee members one month in advance of meeting date, giving an outline of business to be handled. Any members unable to attend Executive Committee meetings may vote by proxy. Five members shall constitute a quorum.
- Sec. 5. The Executive Committee shall have power to make appointments to fill any vacancies in the staff of officers due to death, resignation, or otherwise. It is understood, however, in the event of a vacancy in the office of President that the First Vice-President will assume the duties of President.

A R T I C L E IV
Meetings

- Sec. 1. Date and place of meetings of the Club shall be set by the Executive Committee.
- Sec. 2. Twenty (20) voting members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

A R T I C L E V
Accounts

- Sec. 1. A committee of two shall be appointed annually by the President to audit the accounts of the Treasurer some time prior to the annual meeting.
- Sec. 2. The Board of Trustees shall consist of three members appointed by the President, one member for one year, one member for two years, and one member for three years. At the expiration of each term, a member shall be appointed for three years. Vacancies for any reason shall be filled by appointment of the President for the unexpired term. The Board of Trustees shall have charge of proper handling of the Endowment Fund.

A R T I C L E VI
Amendments

- Sec. 1. This constitution may be amended at any meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present. Before an amendment may be voted upon, however, it must have been proposed at the previous annual meeting, or have been recommended by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee, and a copy sent to every voting member of the Club at least one month prior to date of action.

A R T I C L E VII
Affiliated Chapters

- Sec. 1. The purpose of securing affiliated chapters is to enlist the cooperation of groups organized for the advancement of ornithology and other phases of natural history.
- Sec. 2. The requirements for an affiliated chapter shall be:
(a) A constitutionally organized club having an active membership; with established name; mailing address; recognized officers and committees; holding regular or annual meetings; and furnishing a report of same.
(b) Their President shall serve on the Executive Committee of the Brooks Bird Club.
- Sec. 3. A local chapter may be affiliated by two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee. Prior to action by the Executive Committee, an application should be presented to the committee with a brief resume of the organization's history, activities and purpose, a statement of the total membership, and a copy of latest journal or report of activities of the organization.
- Sec. 4. The Brooks Bird Club shall expect no dues from an affiliated chapter nor any monetary contributions. It does hope, however, that the affiliated chapter will encourage its members to join the Brooks Bird Club and to take an active interest in its affairs.
- Sec. 5. The Headquarters Chapter shall have charge of accumulation and care of the club library and club equipment. A committee shall be appointed from Headquarters Chapter for that purpose.

A R T I C L E VIII
By-Laws

- Sec. 1. By-Laws may be adopted or repealed at any annual meeting by a majority vote of the members present.

BY-LAWS

1. Notice of all meetings of the Club shall be sent to all members at least one month in advance of the date of the meeting.
2. The time and place of the business session shall be published prior to the opening session of the annual meeting.
3. A program committee, and a local committee on arrangements for the annual meeting shall be appointed by the President at least ninety days in advance of the meeting.
4. Election of officers, except the Editor and Executive Secretary, shall be by written ballot, but by the unanimous consent of the members, the Secretary may cast one ballot, representing the unanimous vote of the members present. A nominating committee shall be appointed by the President at the beginning or in advance of the

- annual meeting, which shall offer nominations of officers to serve the club during the ensuing year. Nominations may also be made by any member in good standing from the floor.
5. The Executive Committee shall have power to suspend until the next annual meeting any person or affiliated club found unworthy of membership in the Club. Final expulsion must be made by secret ballot requiring two-thirds majority of voting members present at a regular meeting of the Club.
 6. The official organs of the Club shall be THE REDSTART and BBC MAILBAG. They shall be sent to all members not more than six months in arrears for dues. A copy of the Foray Report shall be sent to all but Corresponding Members free of charge.
 7. Any member six months in arrears for dues shall be ineligible to vote or to hold elective office in the Club.
 8. The fiscal year of this Club shall begin September 1.

 1950 PROGRAM BROOKS BIRD CLUB, INC.
 (Tentative)

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| February 11-12 | - Mid-Winter Meeting - Chairman, James H. Olsen
To be held in the Wheeling Club Room |
| March 25-26 | - Outing at Youngstown, Ohio,- Chairman, Howard Heimerdinger |
| April 28-29-30 | - Wilson Club Meeting at Jackson's Mill |
| May 20-21 | - Columbus, Ohio, Chapter Outing to Hocking County |
| June 10-18 | - Annual Foray (Location to be announced later)
Chairman, Charles Conrad |
| September 1-2-3-4 | -Annual Meeting of the Brooks Bird Club, Inc. Labor Day
Meeting place to be announced later) Chairman, James
H. Olsen |
| October | - Elkins Field trip during fall hawk migration - Chairman
Russell DeGarmo |
| October | - Charleston Bird Club's annual picnic at Kanawha Forest
Chairman, Gladys Murrey |
| November | - Tour of Carnegie Museum and field trip in Fricke Park,
Pittsburgh - Chairman, LeRoy H. Black |

All missing dates will be decided upon and reported at the mid-winter meeting and published in a later issue of the REDSTART. Chairmen for each of these meetings have been chosen by the Committee, and it is suggested that they, in turn, appoint working committees to take charge of details.

Club Projects for each of the smaller groups should include:

1. Spring Migration records
2. Century Day
3. Nesting Records
4. Special study of any species in which individuals or group are interested,
5. Christmas Bird Count

Committee

Maxine Thacker

John Handlan

Gladys Murrey

Stacy Jennings

Charles O. Handley

Polly Handlan, Chairman

ANNOUNCING MID-WINTER MEETING

Dates for the Annual Mid-Winter Meeting of the Brooks Bird Club, Inc. are set for Saturday and Sunday, February 11 and 12. This is one of the special events of the club program that President James Olsen urges every member of the club to attend. Much has been accomplished since the annual meeting, but much remains to be done. Detailed information concerning the meeting will appear in the next issue of the Mailbag. A registration blank will be enclosed, which we urge you to return as soon as possible. We will expect to see you then, at the mid-winter meeting.

HEADQUARTERS CHAPTER REORGANIZES

On Friday, October 29, Brooks Bird Club members in the Wheeling territory were called together for a special meeting. An open discussion concerning the new set-up of the BBC Inc., was led by the chairman. Reference was made to the new constitution and particularly to the sections dealing with local chapters. As provided by the constitution, the Wheeling organization will now be known as Headquarters Chapter.

Because the regular annual meeting of Headquarters Chapter had been postponed from September, nominations and election of officers took place. The results of the election for the year 1949-50 were as follows: President, Charles Conrad; Vice-President, Carolyn Conrad; Secretary-Treasurer, Marian Freeman. By order of the Brooks Bird Club, Inc., constitution, the President of Headquarters Chapter automatically becomes Executive Chairman of the Brooks Bird Club.

A "Kick-off Dinner" at the clubroom on Friday, November 25, was the first meeting held under the new officers. It was attended by 32 interested persons, and signified an excellent beginning.

Committees are being organized, and a complete report will be made concerning them at a later date.

FIELD NOTES

A Winter Record for the Palm Warbler in Central Ohio - During the noon hour of January 7, 1947, I caught fleeting glimpses of a wood warbler in some shrubs on the north boundary of the Ohio State University campus. Further investigation was not permitted at the time. I thought the bird flicked its tail as it flitted out of view to some distant tree tops. Four days later, January 11, 1947, Jane Breiding and I again saw a wood warbler at the same location where the above observation was made. On several instances we were within ten feet of the bird. The yellow upper and under tail coverts were conspicuous. The bird constantly wagged its tail, and it was identified as a palm warbler (Dendroica palmarum). Because other distinguishing marks were not evident, more specific identification could not be made. The overall appearance of the bird was a dull, dirty, grayish-brown. It was possibly attracted to the spot by the fruits of the two shrubs: Jet bead (Rhodotypos) and late honeysuckle (Lonicera moaki). These plants, although devoid of foilage, afforded some cover. The berries were abundant enough to be well utilized as food. This species has been recorded before in winter in central Ohio. Trautman* in referring to Dr. Charles Walker's work records it for February 28, 1925, in the Buckeye Lake region and elsewhere in central Ohio throughout December, 1924, and one throughout the winter of 1926-27.

*Trautman, Milton B., 1940. The Birds of Buckeye Lake. University of Mich. Press, Ann Arbor.

George H. Breiding, Conservation Commission, Elkins, W. Va.

Tappan Dam Report - The B.B.C. annual field trip to Tappan Dam, near Cadiz, Ohio, was made on the first day of Spring; March 20, 1949. The Wheeling group left from down town at 1:30 p.m. and were joined at the lake meeting point by groups from Steubenville and Cadiz, Ohio. Altogether there were 37 interested observers, some carrying binoculars ranging as high as 12-power. Also on hand were several high powered telescopes. The day was just about perfect, with enough sun to give good lighting. The weather was moderate (44°), and a slight wind (10 miles p.h.) was constant. Compared to some years the ducks were scarce. Most of them were concentrated in one section of the lake on the opposite side from the road, which put the best observers to test for identification. Several members of the group went to the far shore and made certain of most species of birds listed. The following represents the compiled lists of birds observed; Mallard, black duck, baldpate, pintail, ring-necked duck, scaup, buffle-head, ruddy duck, sparrow hawk, coot, killdeer, herring gull, kingfisher, flicker, downy woodpecker, horned lark, crow, chickadee, titmouse, robin, bluebird, starling, English sparrow, meadowlark, cowbird, song sparrow. Total, 28 species. -Charles Conrad, Wheeling, W. Va.

Old Nest Serves Dual Use - At dusk on the evening of March 21, 1949, near Kenna, Jackson County, West Virginia, I saw a small bird fluttering near an old robin's (Turdus migratorius) nest about 15 feet high in the crotch of an apple tree. The bird's movement was not closely followed, but I thought that I saw tail feathers protruding from the edge of the nest. A few minutes later, I approached the tree and a bluebird (Sialia sialis) flushed from the nest, circled about and settled down in the nest again. Presumably, the bird used the

nest as a roosting place and spent the night there. The next morning I noticed two female English sparrows (Passer domesticus) in the apple tree. One flew to the edge of the same robin's nest and began to pick at and pull apart shreds of material used in the construction of the nest. A male English sparrow joined the female in her task and gathered some of the fibers in his bill. A few minutes later the three sparrows departed in the direction of a bird house that had been erected to attract purple martins. The sparrows were not seen again, but several days later, two starlings (Sturnus vulgaris) evidently had taken command of the house the sparrows intended to use. - George H. Breiding, Conservation Commission, Elkins, W. Va.

Broad-winged Hawk Migration in the Allegheny Mountains - It has long been recognized that there are heavy hawk migrations along the Allegheny Mountains of West Virginia. During the autumn of 1949 a great deal of time was spent in efforts to trace some of this migration. As was suspected, migration of broad-winged hawks (Buteo platypterus) made up the bulk of the movement during the month of September. The first broad-wings of the season were seen on September 11, the last on October 2. During this interval, the crest of the Allegheny Front was found to be the chief travel lane for the hawks on their southward journey. A total of 3,753 broad-winged hawks were counted between the two dates given; and of this number, 2650 were seen during a remarkable flight on September 17. Two days of heavy rain preceded rapidly clearing weather early on September 17. My husband and I hastened to the Allegheny Front, arriving at 11:45, where we found a heavy flight of broad-wings already in progress. The hawks were flying high and in very large flocks. Between 11:45 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. an estimated 2120 broad-wings came streaming down the mountain. Most of them were so high that the use of binoculars was necessary in making estimates of flocks which ran as high as 310. There undoubtedly were many which were not counted in addition to those which had passed before our arrival. Another fairly heavy flight was noted on September 21, when 759 broad-wings were seen. Although broad-wings made up the greatest number of hawks, practically all other species which could be expected in this region were represented in observations which were made as late as December 20. A more detailed report of these migrations will be published in the future.- Elizabeth DeGarmo, Elkins, West Virginia.
