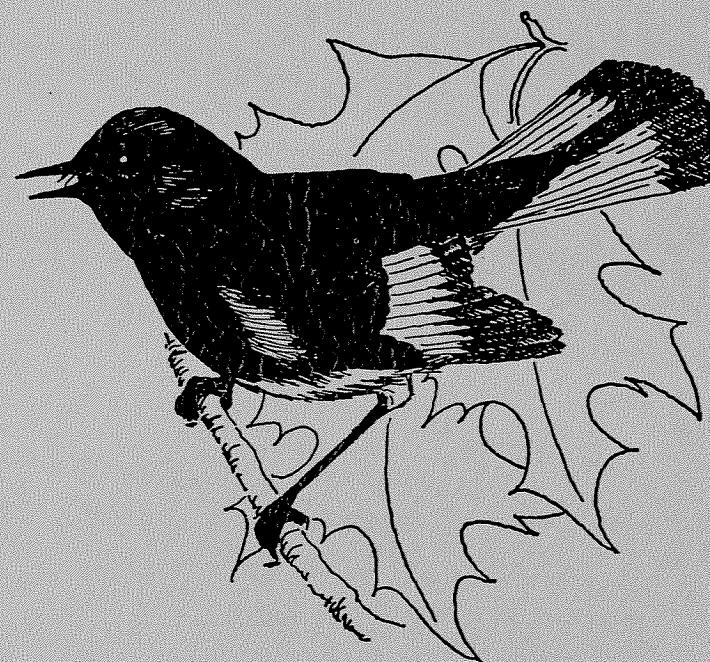


The REDSTART

VOLUME 38—NUMBER 1

JANUARY, 1971



PUBLISHED BY THE BROOKS BIRD CLUB

THE BROOKS BIRD CLUB, INC.

FOUNDED SEPTEMBER 1932

Named in honor of A. B. Brooks, Naturalist

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THE REDSTART is published quarterly in January, April, July and October by Harless Printing Company, St. Albans, West Virginia. The official organ of the Brooks Bird Club, it is mailed to all members in good standing. Non-member subscription price is \$2.50. Individual copies cost \$0.50 except the Foray issue which is \$1.00. Changes of address and inquiries concerning back issues should be mailed to club headquarters, 707 Warwood Avenue, Wheeling, West Virginia. All articles for publications and books for review should be mailed to the Editor.

The List of West Virginia Birds

George A. Hall

The most recent listing of the bird species known to have occurred in West Virginia was made over 25 years ago (Brooks, 1944) and is now out-of-print and unavailable to most of the present-day bird students. A list of additions and corrections to the 1944 list has been made recently (Hall, 1969) but it has seemed advisable to publish the list in full at this time.

A fully annotated list which discusses in detail matters of distribution and abundance cannot be prepared at this time. Much work, both in the field, and in the study remains to be done before such a list can be published. The present list contains the names of the various species, and some very brief annotations. In many cases these annotations are so brief as to be of minimal use. In particular no mention is made of the abundances of the various species. It is hoped, however, that the publication of this preliminary list will be justified if it serves as a stimulus to further work, and if it results in communications with the author to correct the inevitable errors.

Criteria for acceptability—A strict standard would admit to a state list only those species for which a specimen has been taken in the state, but in 1970 it seems to be a better course to realize that specimen records are not always possible for some species. It thus becomes necessary to evaluate sight records from numerous sources and from many people. This is a task that can never be accomplished to everyone's satisfaction, and indeed, I venture to say that it can never really be accomplished at all. For the purposes of this list I have adopted the following set of rather arbitrary rules. These are not completely satisfactory but they do represent a middle ground of severity. Some compilers would use a more stringent code and others a more lenient one.

A species is accepted for the regular list if:

(1) A specimen has at sometime been collected in the state and has been examined by a competent ornithologist. Some of these specimens are apparently no longer in existence. All species for which no specimen has been taken are so designated.

(2) A recognizable photograph has been taken of the bird in the state and has been examined by a competent ornithologist.

(3) The bird has been handled by a bander and released, if the bander or his associates have been judged competent to identify the species. At present only one species has been admitted to the list on this basis.

(4) One or more sight records, each of which involve at least three persons having previous experience with the species, have been made in the state.

(5) There have been repeated sight records over the years made by persons having previous experience with the species, but for which fewer than three persons were involved in each sighting.

In the cases of Rules (4) and (5) full details must have been published in some available source.

Species which do not meet one of these criteria have been designated as "Hypothetical".

Annotations—The following designations have been used to define the status of each species.

Widespread—A species occurring throughout most of the state.

Local—A species occurring only in a restricted part of the state, although the area involved may be large. For example, many of the birds designated as "Local Summer Residents" are those species breeding only at the higher elevations in the mountains.

Accidental—Those species for which there are fewer than four or five records.

Casual—Those species which have been recorded more frequently than the "Accidentals" but which cannot be expected every year or even in a period of several years.

Permanent Resident—A species in which individual birds are to be found at a given place throughout the year. Not applied to those species for which different individuals are present in summer than in winter.

Summer Resident—A species found throughout the summer, usually on established territories, but for which the same individuals are not present during the winter. Such species are understood to migrate into and out of the state, and may be much more abundant during the migration seasons.

Summer Visitant—A species found in the summer but not known to establish territories. Difficult to separate from some migrants.

Migrant—A species to be found in the state only during the migration seasons. Occasional individuals may remain in the state after the migration season is over.

Winter Visitant—A species that nests elsewhere but spends all or part of the winter in the state.

Species which are known to have nested at least once in the state are identified by the word "Breeds". Species referred to as "Presumed Breeder" have been found repeatedly in the summer but to my knowledge no definite nesting record has been reported. It is to be hoped that observers might make special efforts to establish definite breeding records of these species.

Classification and Nomenclature—The usually accepted standard for classification and nomenclature is the Fifth Edition of the A.O.U. Check-list (1957), but this list is out-of-date in many respects. The forthcoming Sixth Edition will show numerous changes, particularly at the generic and familial levels. In the following list I have made no changes in the generic or family classifications but have made certain modifications in the specific classifications and in some of the common names. All of these deviations from the Fifth Edition of the Check-list have been proposed in the recent literature, and these changes, as well as some comments on possible changes in generic classification, are explained in a series of footnotes.

Footnotes—There are two series of footnotes appended to this list. The first series, designated by lower case letters, i.e. (d), gives additional information about certain of the species, and in particular gives details about some of the hypothetical species. The second series of footnotes, designated by a number, i.e. (6), explains the deviations from the Fifth Edition of the A.O.U. Check-list or gives other information about classification or nomenclature.

Documentation—At this time I have not attempted to give full documentation

for all the records discussed. Such references are available to interested persons upon request. The recent paper on additions to the list (Hall, 1969) gives full documentation for all additions since 1944.

Summary of The List—The following list includes 240 regularly occurring species, 29 accidentals, and 23 casual species, three extirpated or extinct species for a total of 295 species on the accepted list. There are also nine additional species on the hypothetical list. There is thus some deviation from the 1969 listing (Hall, 1969).

LIST OF SPECIES

Family Gaviidae

Common Loon (*Gavia immer*)—Widespread migrant, occasional winter visitant.
Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*)—Local migrant.

Family Podicipedidae

Red-necked Grebe (*Podiceps grisegena*)—Casual local migrant.
Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*)—Widespread migrant.
Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*)—Widespread migrant; local summer resident; Breeds.

Family Pelecanidae

White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*)—Accidental. Possibly four records.

Family Phalacrocoracidae

Great Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*)—Accidental; one record, 1914.
Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*)—Local migrant.

Family Ardeidae

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*)—Widespread migrant; local summer visitant (a).
Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.
Little Blue Heron (*Florida caerulea*)—Local summer visitant.
Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)—Casual visitant.
Common Egret (*Casmerodium albus*)—Local summer visitant.
Snowy Egret (*Leucophoyx thula*)—Casual summer visitant. Very few records.
Black-crowned Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)—Widespread migrant;
local winter visitant; local summer visitant. (b)
Yellow-crowned Night Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*)—Local summer visitant.
Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*)—Local summer resident. Breeds.
American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*)—Widespread migrant; local summer resident. Presumed breeder.

Family Ciconiidae

Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*) (1)—Accidental. Two or three records.

Family Anatidae (c)

Whistling Swan (*Olor columbianus*)—Local migrant.
Trumpeter Swan (*Olor buccinator*)—Accidental, one record, 1875.
Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) (2) Widespread migrant. (d)
Brant (*Branta bernicla*)—Casual migrant. No specimen. Photograph.
White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*)—Accidental, one record, 1893.
Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) (3)—Local migrant, local winter visitant.
Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*)—Widespread migrant; local winter visitant,

local summer resident. Breeds.

Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*) (4)—Widespread migrant; widespread winter visitant; local summer resident. Breeds.
Gadwall (*Anas strepera*)—Widespread migrant.
Pintail (*Anas acuta*)—Widespread migrant.
Green-winged Teal (*Anas crecca*) (5)—Widespread migrant. Casual winter visitant
Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer visitant.
Breeds.

European Widgeon (*Mareca penelope*)—Casual migrant. No specimen.
American Widgeon (*Mareca americana*)—Widespread migrant.
Shoveler (*Spatula clypeata*)—Local migrant.
Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds. Local winter visitant.
Redhead (*Aythya americana*)—Widespread migrant.
Canvasback (*Aythya valisneria*)—Widespread migrant.
Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*)—Widespread migrant.
Greater Scaup (*Aythya marila*)—Local migrant. Uncommon.
Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*)—Widespread migrant.
Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*)—Widespread migrant, widespread winter visitant.
Bufflehead (*Bucephala albeola*)—Widespread migrant.
Oldsquaw (*Clangula hyemalis*)—Local migrant, local winter visitant.
King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*)—Accidental, one record, 1953.
White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta deglandi*)—Local migrant.
Surf Scoter (*Melanitta perspicillata*)—Casual local migrant. No specimen.
Common Scoter (*Oidemia nigra*)—Local migrant.
Ruddy Duck (*Oxyura jamaicensis*)—Widespread migrant.
Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*)—Widespread migrant, local summer resident. Breeds.
Common Merganser (*Mergus merganser*)—Widespread migrant and winter visitant.
Red-breasted Merganser (*Mergus serrator*)—Widespread migrant.

Family Cathartidae

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*)—Widespread summer resident, local winter visitant. Breeds.
Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*)—Local summer visitant. Local winter visitant. Presumed breeder (e).

Family Accipitridae

Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*)—Accidental, one record, 1908.
Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*)—Local migrant and winter visitant (f).
Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter striatus*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.
Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperii*)—Widespread permanent resident. Breeds.
Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*)—Widespread summer resident; local winter visitant. Breeds.
Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Broad-winged Hawk (*Buteo platypterus*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*)—Local fall migrant. Local winter visitant.

Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*)—Local migrant. Very local summer resident. Presumed Breeder (g).

Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)—Widespread visitant at all seasons.

Marsh Hawk (*Circus cyaneus*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Family Pandionidae
Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Family Falconidae
Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*)—Local migrant, and winter visitant. Formerly bred (h).

Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius*)—Local migrant. Casual in winter.

Sparrow Hawk (*Falco sparverius*)—Widespread summer resident. More common in late winter. Breeds.

Family Tetraonidae
Ruffed Grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*)—Widespread permanent resident. Breeds.

Family Phasianidae
Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*)—Widespread permanent resident. Breeds.

Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*)—Local permanent resident. Breeds.

Family Meleagridae
Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*)—Local permanent resident. Breeds.

Family Gruidae
Sandhill Crane (*Grus canadensis*)—Casual fall visitant.

Family Rallidae
King Rail (*Rallus elegans*)—Local summer resident. Casual in winter. Breeds.

Clapper Rail (*Rallus longirostris*) (6)—Accidental. One record.

Virginia Rail (*Rallus limicola*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Sora (*Porzana carolina*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Presumed breeder.

Yellow Rail (*Coturnicops noveboracensis*)—Casual migrant. Three or four records, but may be more plentiful.

Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrrula martinica*)—Casual migrant.

Common Gallinule (*Gallinula chloropus*)—Local summer resident. Breeds.

American Coot (*Fulica americana*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Presumed breeder.

Family Charadriidae
Semipalmated Plover (*Charadrius semipalmatus*) (7)—widespread migrant. (i)

Piping Plover (*Charadrius melanotos*)—Accidental. Two records.

Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

American Golden Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*)—Casual migrant. Less than a dozen records.

Black-bellied Plover (*Squatarola squatarola*)—Local migrant.

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*)—Hypothetical (j).

Family Scolopacidae
American Woodcock (*Philohela minor*)—Local summer resident. Breeds.

Common Snipe (*Capella gallinago*)—Widespread migrant, local summer resident, local winter visitant. Breeds.

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*)—Accidental. Two records.

Upland Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*) (8)—Local summer resident. Breeds.

Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*)—Widespread migrant.

Willet (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*)—Accidental. Two records.

Greater Yellowlegs (*Totanus melanoleucus*)—Widespread migrant.

Lesser Yellowlegs (*Totanus flavipes*)—Widespread migrant.

Pectoral Sandpiper (*Erolia melanotos*)—Widespread migrant.

White-rumped Sandpiper (*Erolia fuscicollis*)—Casual migrant.

Baird's Sandpiper (*Erolia bairdii*)—Casual local migrant.

Least Sandpiper (*Erolia minutilla*)—Widespread migrant.

Dunlin (*Erolia alpina*)—Casual migrant.

Short-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus*)—(9) Local migrant. No specimen.

Stilt Sandpiper (*Micropalama himantopus*)—Casual migrant.

Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Ereunetes pusillus*)—Widespread migrant.

Western Sandpiper (*Ereunetes mauri*)—Casual migrant.

Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa haemastica*)—Accidental. One record, 1967.

Sanderling (*Crocethia alba*)—Casual migrant. Possibly no specimen.

Family Phalaropodidae
Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*)—Accidental. Two records.

Wilson's Phalarope (*Steganopus tricolor*)—Casual migrant.

Northern Phalarope (*Lobipes lobatus*)—Casual migrant.

Family Stercorariidae
Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*)—Accidental. One record, 1963.

Family Laridae
Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*)—Hypothetical (k).

Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*)—Widespread migrant. Occasional in winter.

Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*)—Widespread migrant.

Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*)—Casual. Four or five records.

Bonaparte's Gull (*Larus philadelphicus*)—Local migrant.

Black-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*)—Accidental. Two records.

Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*)—Accidental. Three records. No specimen.

Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*)—Widespread migrant.

Sooty Tern (*Sterna fuscata*)—Accidental. Two records. Bird banded but no specimen.

Least Tern (*Sterna albifrons*)—Accidental. One record.

Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*)—Casual migrant.

Black Tern (*Chlidonias nigra*)—Widespread migrant.

Family Columbidae
Rock Dove (*Columba livia*)—Widespread permanent resident. Breeds.

Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*)—Widespread summer resident. Local winter visitant. Breeds.

Passenger Pigeon (*Ectopistes migratorius*)—Extinct. Formerly widespread. Formerly bred.

Family Psittacidae
Carolina Paroquet (*Conuropsis carolinensis*)—Extinct. Former status uncertain.

Family Cuculidae
Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Family Tytonidae (l)
Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*)—Widespread permanent resident. Breeds.

Family Strigidae
Screech Owl (*Otus asio*)—Widespread permanent resident. Breeds.

Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*)—Widespread permanent resident. Breeds.

Snowy Owl (*Nyctea scandiaca*)—Casual winter visitant.

Barred Owl (*Strix varia*)—Widespread permanent resident. Breeds.

Long-eared Owl (*Asio otus*)—Local permanent resident. Breeds.

Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*)—local migrant and winter visitant.

Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*)—Very local permanent resident. Local migrant and winter visitant. Breeds.

Family Caprimulgidae
Chuck-will's-widow (*Caprimulgus carolinensis*)—Accidental. Two records.

Whip-poor-will (*Caprimulgus vociferus*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Family Apodidae
Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelasgica*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Family Trochilidae
Ruby-throated Hummingbird (*Archilochus colubris*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Family Alcedinidae
Belted Kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*)—Widespread summer resident. Local winter visitant. Breeds.

Family Picidae
Common Flicker (*Colaptes auratus*) (10)—Widespread summer resident. Local winter visitant. Breeds.

Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*)—Widespread permanent resident. Breeds.

Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Centurus carolinus*)—Widespread permanent resident, except at higher elevations. Breeds.

Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*)—Local permanent resident. Local migrant. Breeds.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*)—Widespread migrant. Local winter visitant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Hairy Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos villosus*)—Widespread permanent resident.

Breeds.

Downy Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos pubescens*)—Widespread permanent resident. Breeds.

Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*)—Hypothetical (m).

Ivory-billed Woodpecker (*Campephilus principalis*)—Hypothetical (n).

Family Tyrannidae
Eastern Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*)—Hypothetical (o).

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Muscivora forficata*)—Hypothetical (p).

Great Crested Flycatcher (*Myiarchus crinitus*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*)—Widespread summer resident. Casual winter visitant. Breeds.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*)—Local migrant. Possibly more widespread than has been reported. Most common in fall.

Acadian Flycatcher (*Empidonax virescens*)—Widespread (except at high elevations) summer resident. Breeds.

Traill's Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*) (11)—Local summer resident. Breeds.

Least Flycatcher (*Empidonax minimus*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Eastern Wood Pewee (*Contopus virens*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Nuttallornis borealis*)—Local summer resident. Local migrant. Breeds (at least formerly).

Family Alaudidae
Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris*)—Widespread permanent resident. Breeds.

Family Hirundinidae
Tree Swallow (*Iridoprocne bicolor*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Rough-winged Swallow (*Stelgidopteryx ruficollis*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*)—Local summer resident. Breeds.

Purple Martin. (*Progne subis*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Family Corvidae
Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*).—Local permanent resident. Widespread migrant. Breeds.

Black-billed Magpie (*Pica pica*)—Local introduced permanent resident. Extirpated? Bred (at least once) (q).

Common Raven (*Corvus corax*)—Local permanent resident. Breeds.

Common Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*)—Widespread permanent resident. Breeds.

Fish Crow (*Corvus ossifragus*)—Local permanent resident. No specimen. Presumed breeder.

Family Paridae

Black-capped Chickadee (*Parus atricapillus*)—Local permanent resident. Breeds. Widespread winter visitant.
Carolina Chickadee (*Parus carolinensis*)—Widespread (except at high elevations) permanent resident. Breeds.
Boreal Chickadee (*Parus hudsonicus*)—Accidental. No specimen. Three birds banded and photographed (1969).
Tufted Titmouse (*Parus bicolor*)—Widespread permanent resident. Breeds.

Family Sittidae

White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta carolinensis*)—Widespread permanent resident. Breeds.
Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*)—Widespread migrant and winter visitant. Local summer resident. Breeds (r).

Family Certhiidae

Brown Creeper (*Certhia familiaris*)—Widespread migrant and winter visitant. Local permanent resident. Breeds (r).

Family Troglodytidae

House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.
Winter Wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*)—Widespread migrant and winter visitant. Local summer resident. Breeds (r).
Bewick's Wren (*Thryomanes bewickii*)—Widespread summer resident. Casual in winter. Breeds.
Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*)—Widespread (except at high elevations) permanent resident. Breeds.
Long-billed Marsh Wren (*Telmatodytes palustris*)—Local summer resident. Presumed Breeder.
Short-billed Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*)—Local summer resident. Local migrant. Presumed breeder.

Family Mimidae

Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*)—Local permanent resident. Widespread winter visitant. Currently expanding breeding range. Breeds.

Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*)—Widespread summer resident. Casual winter visitant. Breeds.

Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*)—Widespread summer resident. Casual winter visitant. Breeds.

Family Turdidae (12).

Robin (*Turdus migratorius*)—Widespread summer resident. Widespread winter visitant. Breeds.
Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.
Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttata*) (13)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Local winter visitant. Breeds.
Swainson's Thrush (*Catharus ustulata*) (13)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.
Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Catharus minimus*) (13)—Widespread migrant. (More common in fall).

Veery (*Catharus fuscescens*) (13)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Eastern Bluebird (*Sialia sialis*)—Widespread summer resident. Local winter visitant. Breeds.

Family Sylviidae (12).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila caerulea*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.
Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*)—Widespread migrant and winter visitant. Local summer resident. Breeds (r).
Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus calendula*)—Widespread migrant. Casual winter visitant.

Family Motacillidae

Water Pipit (*Anthus spinoletta*)—Local migrant.

Family Bombycillidae

Bohemian Waxwing (*Bombycilla garrulus*)—Casual winter visitant. No specimen.
Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*)—Widespread but erratic in all seasons. Breeds.

Family Laniidae

Northern Shrike (*Lanius excubitor*)—Hypothetical (s).
Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*) (14)—Local permanent resident. Breeds.

Family Sturnidae

Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*)—Widespread permanent resident. Breeds.

Family Vireonidae

White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo griseus*)—Widespread (except at high elevations) summer resident. Breeds.

Yellow-throated Vireo (*Vireo flavifrons*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.
Solitary Vireo (*Vireo solitarius*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Philadelphia Vireo (*Vireo philadelphicus*)—Local migrant, more common in fall.
Warbling Vireo (*Vireo gilvus*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Family Parulidae

Black and White Warbler (*Mniotilla varia*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.
Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*)—Local summer resident. Breeds.
Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*)—Local summer resident. Breeds.
Worm-eating Warbler (*Helmitheros vermivorus*)—Local summer resident. Breeds.
Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) (15)—Local summer resident. Breeds.

Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora pinus*) (15)—Local summer resident. Breeds.

Tennessee Warbler (*Vermivora peregrina*)—Widespread migrant.

Orange-crowned Warbler (*Vermivora celata*)—Local migrant.

Nashville Warbler (*Vermivora ruficapilla*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Parula Warbler (*Parula americana*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Magnolia Warbler (*Dendroica magnolia*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Cape May Warbler (*Dendroica tigrina*)—Widespread migrant.

Black-throated Blue Warbler (*Dendroica caerulescens*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Myrtle Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*)—Widespread migrant. Local winter visitant.

Black-throated Green Warbler (*Dendroica virens*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Blackburnian Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Yellow-throated Warbler (*Dendroica dominica*)—Local summer resident. Breeds.

Sutton's Warbler (*Dendroica potomac*) (16)—Local summer visitant.

Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Dendroica pensylvanica*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*)—Widespread migrant.

Blackpoll Warbler (*Dendroica striata*)—Widespread migrant.

Kirtland's Warbler (*Dendroica kirtlandii*)—Hypothetical (t).

Pine Warbler (*Dendroica pinus*)—Local summer resident. Casual in winter. Breeds.

Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Palm Warbler (*Dendroica palmarum*)—Widespread migrant.

Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapillus*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Northern Waterthrush (*Seiurus noveboracensis*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Louisiana Waterthrush (*Seiurus motacilla*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*) (17)—Widespread (except at high elevations, summer resident. Breeds.

Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*)—Local migrant. More common in fall.

Mourning Warbler (*Oporornis philadelphicus*)—Local summer resident. Breeds.

Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*) (18)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia citrina*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Wilson's Warbler (*Wilsonia pusilla*)—Widespread migrant.

Canada Warbler (*Wilsonia canadensis*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Family Ploceidae

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)—Widespread permanent resident. Breeds.

Family Icteridae

Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*)—Widespread summer resident. Local winter resident. Breeds.

Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*)—Accidental. Possibly three records. No specimen.

Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*)—Hypothetical (u).

Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*)—Widespread summer resident. Local winter visitant. Breeds.

Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*)—Widespread migrant. Casual in winter.

Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*)—Hypothetical (v).

Common Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula*)—Widespread summer resident, currently expanding breeding range. Local winter visitant. Breeds.

Brown-headed Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*)—Widespread summer resident. Local winter visitant. Breeds.

Family Thraupidae

Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga olivacea*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*)—Local summer resident. Breeds.

Family Fringillidae (19)

Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) (20)—Widespread permanent resident. Breeds.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Blue Grosbeak (*Guiraca caerulea*)—Local summer resident. Breeds.

Indigo Bunting (*Passerina cyanea*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*)—Local migrant and summer resident. Breeds.

Evening Grosbeak (*Hesperiphona vespertina*)—Widespread but erratic winter visitant. Status much changed in last 20 years.

Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident, and local winter visitant. Breeds. (w).

Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator*)—Casual winter visitant.

Common Redpoll (*Acanthis flammea*)—Casual winter visitant. No specimen. (x).

Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*)—Widespread migrant and winter visitant. Has been reported in summer and may breed.

American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*)—Widespread summer resident. Local winter visitant. Breeds.

Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*)—Widespread winter visitant. Local summer resident. Presumed breeder.

White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*)—Widespread casual winter visitant. A few summer records in the high mountains.

Green-tailed Towhee (*Chlorura chlorura*)—Accidental. One record, 1957-58. No specimen.

Rufous-sided Towhee (*Pipilo erythrrophthalmus*)—Widespread summer resident. Widespread winter visitant. Breeds.

Brown Towhee (*Pipilo fuscus*)—Hypothetical (y).

Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*)—Casual winter visitant.

Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident, and local winter visitant. Breeds.

Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*)—Widespread summer resident. Breeds.

Le Conte's Sparrow (*Passerherbulus caudacutus*)—Accidental. Two records.

Henslow's Sparrow (*Passerculus henslowii*)—Local summer resident. Breeds.

Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Ammospiza caudacuta*)—Accidental. Most records in fall.

Vesper Sparrow (*Pooecetes gramineus*)—Widespread summer resident. Casual winter visitant. Breeds.

Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*)—Local summer resident. Formerly more widespread. Breeds.

Bachman's Sparrow (*Aimophila aestivalis*)—Local summer resident. Breeds.

Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*) (21)—Widespread winter visitant and migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Tree Sparrow (*Spizella arborea*)—Widespread winter visitant, and migrant.

Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*)—Widespread summer resident. Casual winter visitant. Breeds.

Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*)—Widespread summer resident. Local winter visitant. Breeds.

Harris Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*)—Casual winter visitant. No specimen.

White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys*)—Widespread migrant. Local winter visitant.

White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*)—Widespread migrant and winter visitant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Fox Sparrow (*Passerella iliaca*)—Widespread migrant. Local winter visitant.

Lincoln's Sparrow (*Melospiza lincolni*)—Local migrant.

Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*)—Widespread migrant. Local summer resident. Breeds.

Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*)—Widespread permanent resident. More common during migration seasons. Breeds.

Lapland Longspur (*Calcarius lapponicus*)—Casual winter visitant.

Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis*)—Casual, local winter visitant.

Exotic Species

The following species which have been recorded in the state represent unsuccessful introductions or escaped cage birds.

Mute Swan (*Cygnus olor*) (z); Sharp-tailed Grouse (*Pediocetes phasianellus*); Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*); Chukar Partridge (*Alectoris chukar*); Brazilian Cardinal (*Paroaria coronata*), and whydah (*Vidua* sp.?)

Footnotes (letters)

- a. It is possible that there are undiscovered breeding colonies of small size in the state.
- b. The number of records of immature Black-crowned Night Herons indicates the strong possibility that there are undiscovered nesting colonies in the state, perhaps along the Potomac or Shenandoah Rivers.
- c. A few individuals of nearly all species of duck have been observed in the summer or in the winter in the state. Such individuals are probably in poor condition, and such records are not considered further here.
- d. The Department of Natural Resources has established a breeding colony of captive geese at the McClintic Wildlife Station, and some free-living wild geese may

- have also nested in this colony.
- e. As far as I know no actual nesting has been found, but the species very probably does nest in the Eastern Panhandle or in Greenbrier or Monroe Counties.
 - f. There are many reports of Goshawks present in the state during the summer and even of possible nesting, but none of these have been satisfactorily confirmed.
 - g. There is much evidence that Golden Eagles bred in the state years ago (Brooks, 1944) and the repeated presence of individuals, including immatures, at all seasons in the Tucker, Grant, Pendleton Counties area in recent years suggests that this breeding population still persists.
 - h. The Peregrine once nested in several places in the mountain counties, but the population in the entire eastern United States has now been completely extirpated, presumably because of pesticide contamination of the environment piled on top of the activities of falconers and egg collectors as well as the usual persecution of raptors.
 - i. Since suitable habitat for shorebirds is very limited in West Virginia even those species which occur throughout the state and are designated as being "widespread", are really quite local in occurrence.
 - j. There are perhaps only three records, two in the Huntington area, and one in the Eastern Panhandle, but none of these qualify under the rules set out above.
 - k. The Great Black-backed Gull has been reported on one occasion from Cheat Lake, near Morgantown, by M. Brooks. Such a record does not qualify under the rules.
 - l. The true status of most species of owl at the present time is quite unknown. This presents a worthwhile research project for someone who would rather do his birding in the night than in the early hours of the morning. The use of the playback of recorded calls technique would be a highly desirable study.
 - m. One sight record, 1962, by one observer (E. Chandler).
 - n. This species is included on the basis of a specimen collected by Alexander Wilson, and upon the occurrence of woodpecker bills in an prehistoric burial mound, but since it cannot be certain that either record was indeed of a West Virginia bird the species is carried on the hypothetical list.
 - o. There are several sight records for this species but none meet the criteria of acceptability given above.
 - p. There was a sight record of this species near Charleston in the spring of 1970 by several observers without previous experience with the species.
 - q. The full details of what is known about the population of magpies that was present in the Canaan valley about ten years ago are given by Burns (1961).
 - r. It is not known whether the breeding population of these species in the mountain areas does indeed also spend the winter at those places, and so qualify as a true permanent resident, or whether the individuals present in the winter are migrants from farther north.
 - s. There are a few sight records for this species, but in view of the difficulty of distinguishing it from the following, and since none of these records qualify under the rules the species is considered hypothetical.
 - t. There are three sight records made at various times by I. B. Boggs, M. Brooks, and G. A. Hall. The species might qualify for a place on the list according to rule 5, but at the time the records were made none of the observers had had previous

- experience with the species, and so the species remains on the hypothetical list.
- u. The sight record for this species from Brooke County by George M. Sutton and a 1964 sight record from Kanawha County fail to qualify under Rule 4.
 - v. There are a number of sight records for this species, the most reliable being one seen in Morgantown at a feeding station by M. Brooks in 1970, but none of these records qualify under the rules. Further reports are to be expected.
 - w. The House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) has been reported as close to the state as Chambersburg, Pa., and certainly is to be expected in the state within a few years.
 - x. It is entirely possible that a few individuals of the Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemannii*) were among the large flocks of Common Redpolls which invaded the state in the winter of 1969-70.
 - y. In the fall of 1969 M. and R. Brooks saw a Brown Towhee at their feeding station in Morgantown, but this record fails to qualify under the rules.
 - z. Brooks (1944) had carried this species on the state list, largely on the basis of a flock seen and a specimen collected on the Ohio River, but Hicks (1935) presented good evidence that this flock was one that had been liberated in nearby Ohio, and so does not represent truly feral birds.

Footnotes, (numbers)

1. The name Wood Stork has been suggested as a replacement for Wood Ibis since the bird is indeed a stork.
2. Some authorities would consider the small forms of the Canada Goose, the so-called "Cackling" or "Richardson's" Goose to be a distinct species. There is a record, substantiated by a photograph, for this form in the state.
3. The Snow Goose (*Chen hyperborea*) and the Blue Goose (*C. caerulescens*) of the A.O.U. Check-list are now considered to be color phases of one species for which the name *caerulescens* has priority. The genus *Chen* may be merged into the genus *Anser*.
4. Some systematists would consider the Mallard and the Black Duck to be conspecific.
5. The American Green-winged Teal is now considered to be conspecific with the European Teal, and so the name *crecca* replaces *carolinensis* of the Check-list.
6. It has been suggested that the King Rail and the Clapper Rail are conspecific.
7. Authorities differ as to whether the Semipalmated Plover is or is not conspecific with the Ringed Plover (*C. hieticula*).
8. Upland Sandpiper is a better name for this species than the usual Upland Plover, since it more accurately designates the true relationship of the bird.
9. In the absence of a specimen it is not possible to say for certain which of the two species of dowitcher has occurred in the state. The probabilities favor *L. griseus* but it is entirely possible that the Long-billed Dowitcher (*L. scolopaceus*) has occurred in the state. The two forms are difficult to separate in the field except by call-note.
10. The Yellow-shafted Flicker and the Red-shafted Flicker (*C. cafer*) are now considered to be conspecific, and the name Common Flicker has been suggested

for the species as a whole.

11. The bird currently known as Traill's Flycatcher may indeed be a composite of two very similar species for which the names Alder Flycatcher (*E. alnorum*)—the bird that sings "waybeo", and Willow Flycatcher (*E. trailii*)—the "fitzbew" bird, have been suggested. Both forms occur in West Virginia. In addition to the taxonomic confusion there is also nomenclatorial confusion about which form should be called *trailii*.
12. Most current classifications consider the Thrushes (*Turdidae*) and the Old world Warblers (*Sylviidae*) to be subfamilies of the family Muscicapidae, a huge family containing over 1300 species.
13. These four species of spotted thrush are not now considered to be as closely related to the Wood Thrush as once thought, and are now placed in the genus *Catharus*.
14. Some taxonomists would consider *L. excubitor* and *L. ludovicianus* to be conspecific.
15. As is well known the Golden-winged Warbler and the Blue-winged Warbler hybridize frequently when their ranges overlap. The hybrid known as "Brewster's" Warbler is of fairly common occurrence in some parts of the state, and the "Lawrence's" Warbler has been reported twice.
16. Sutton's Warbler may indeed be a hybrid as the A.O.U. Check-list suggests, but little more is known about the status of this form than was outlined by Brooks (1944) and so it is still carried on the state list.
17. Recent classifications have combined the genera *Oporornis* and *Geothlypis* under the latter name.
18. At present no authority is willing to commit himself on the exact systematic position of the Yellow-breasted Chat, and so it is still carried with the wood warblers.
19. Many changes have been suggested in the classification of the "Fringillids" The most recent classification combines the first five species in the subfamily Cardinalinae, together with the species from the towhees to the end as the subfamily Emberizinae and the tanagers as the subfamily Thraupinae into a large family, Emberizidae. The species from the Evening Grosbeak to the crossbills would remain in the family Fringillidae, subfamily Carduelinae.
20. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature has officially validated the generic name *Cardinalis* to replace *Richmondena* for this species.
21. The forms known as the Slate-colored Junco, the Oregon Junco (*J. oreganus*), the Gray-headed Junco (*J. caniceps*), and the White-winged Junco (*J. aikeni*) are now considered to be conspecific, and the name Dark-eyed Junco has been suggested for the whole species. Besides two races of the "Slate-colored Junco" at least one race of the "Oregon Junco" has occurred in the state.

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FIELD NOTES

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MC 21, East Liverpool, Ohio

SUMMER SEASON
JUNE 1 THROUGH AUGUST 31

The Summer season was very nearly ideal, weatherwise, for successful nesting. No violent storms or prolonged rainy spells occurred during the period. The month of May, which was warm and dry, particularly favored early nestings and ground nesting birds.

The annual Foray of the Brooks Bird Club was held in Nicholas County, West Virginia, from June 13 to June 19, with headquarters at Summersville. Foray people participated in population studies, breeding bird surveys, and concentrated field study. A list of 102 species, all presumed to breed in the area, was compiled. A complete and concise record of the findings will be published in the Foray Report.

Information and comments from our regular contributors indicate a good nesting season. No extreme lows were mentioned for any species. Noteworthy records included in this report are: 5 known stations for Swainson's Warbler in Nicholas County, West Virginia; an extension of the known breeding range of the Yellow-throated Warbler in Ohio; the presence of White-throated Sparrows, in juvenile

plumage, in Preston County, West Virginia, and Red Crossbills in June at Clarksburg, Pa. and Wheeling, W. Va.

Waterfowl—Families of Wood Ducks were seen regularly during the Summer on streams in Columbiana County, Ohio (ERC&NL). They nested near West Liberty, W. Va. (BV). Numbers were good at McClintic Wildlife Station, Mason County, W. Va. and rafts of 20 to 30 were seen near St. Albans, W. Va. and on the New River near Hinton, W. Va. in early August (NG).

Hawks—Red-tailed Hawks were seen more frequently than any other hawk in Columbiana County, Ohio. They were listed several times in July at Cove Mountain, Monroe County, W. Va. (HC). Three families of Red-shouldered Hawks were observed in Kanawha State Forest, near Charleston, W. Va. in early Summer and a nest containing one young was found at McClintic Wildlife Station, Mason County, W. Va. in April (NG). Two nests, each containing well grown young, were found in Nicholas County, W. Va. June 11 (BBC). Broad-winged Hawks nested successfully in the Forest Hills section of Wheeling, W. Va. (BV) and in Thompson Park, East Liverpool, Ohio, (NL).

Galinaceous Birds—A good nesting season for Ruffed Grouse in the Tri-state area of Ohio, Western Pennsylvania and the northern panhandle of West Virginia, was indicated by the number of sightings of young birds (ERC&NL). An increase was also noted in Monroe County, W. Va. (HC). The Bobwhite population was increased in Coonskin Park, Charleston, W. Va. (NG) and they were listed the first time in three years in Monroe County, W. Va. Turkey was also found in Monroe County in July (HC).

Shorebirds—Killdeer populations appeared stable. Numbers of Upland Plovers figured in two widely separated locations. Bell counted 15, both young and old, in one field near Clarksville, Pa. June 29. This was an all time high for Greene County (RKB). They were reported at two locations in Grant County, W. Va. in July. Several individuals were seen about two miles west of Petersburg, early in July and two were seen there July 26. One was seen near Lahmansville early in July. These are the records of Alma Cowherd fide George Breiding, who noted that this is apparently one more county record in West Virginia for Upland Plovers during the breeding season. Spotted Sandpipers were found in Nicholas County, W. Va. (BBC), two were seen at McClintic Wildlife Station (NG), and they were listed frequently on the streams near East Liverpool, Ohio.

Doves, Cuckoos and Owls—Mourning Doves appeared to have had a very successful nesting season. Several reporters mentioned an improvement in Cuckoo populations. Outbreaks of tent caterpillars should have provided ample food. Barn Owls nested on Ralph Bell's farm at Clarksville, Pa. again this year. Two of the four eggs produced young. Screech Owls were heard throughout the Summer at Wheeling, W. Va. (BV) and East Liverpool, Ohio. Great Horned Owls were recorded several times in Nicholas County, W. Va. during the Foray (BBC). A pair nested again in Coonskin Park, Charleston, W. Va. (NG). The only owl listed in Monroe County, W. Va. during July was the Barred Owl (HC).

Goatsuckers and Hummingbirds—Whip-poor-wills were plentiful in Greene County, Pa. in areas where populations were not affected by car kill (RKB). Common Nighthawks were noted for the first time in the Woodsdale section of Wheel-

ing, W. Va. (BV). They began gathering in the region in mid August and a heavy migration was evident by the end of the month. Several reporters commented that the numbers of **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** were increased over last year.

Woodpeckers—This group seems to be doing quite well. Possibly the numbers of dead and dying trees is a contributing factor. More reporters mentioned the presence of **Pileated Woodpeckers** in their areas. **Red-headed Woodpeckers** were seen in two locations in Columbiana County, Ohio, during the Summer (NL). A juvenile was seen in the city park in Elkins, W. Va. July 28 (GHB).

Flycatchers—**Eastern Kingbirds** increased in Coonskin Park, Charleston, W. Va. where Gluck found four nests this year compared to two last year. **Great Crested Flycatchers** were quite abundant in Nicholas County, W. Va. June 7 to 13 (VO&NL). **Trail's Flycatchers** were considered plentiful, in suitable habitat, in Nicholas County, W. Va. Bell had eleven, which was an all time high, on his Breeding Bird Survey route in Greene County, Pa. Several stations for the **Least Flycatcher** were found in Nicholas County during the Foray.

Larks and Swallows—Two nests, containing eggs, of **Horned Lark** were found near the spillway of Summersville Lake in Nicholas County June 10 (VO). The presence of several other birds in the immediate area indicated a third nesting. A colony of **Bank Swallows** was found nesting in the bank of the Ohio River at East Liverpool, Ohio (NL). At least ten nests of **Rough-winged Swallows** were found on a cruise around Summersville Lake June 10, (VO). All reporters mentioning **Barn Swallows** considered them plentiful. Proof of nesting success of **Purple Martins** was the great roost in the west end of Charleston, W. Va. This roost built up to at least 15,000 birds by mid August. The majority was classified as young birds (NG). Bell reported an unusually good year for Martins in Greene County, Pa.

Creepers and Wrens—**Brown Creepers** were listed in July near East Liverpool, Ohio (NL). Although **House Wrens** were ignored in reports, your Editor was impressed by their abundance wherever I traveled in the region. Four families were fledged on our acre, the last leaving the nest August 15. A family of 4 or 5 **Bewick's Wrens** was observed near Clarksville, Pa. July 12 (RKB). **Carolina Wrens** were uncommon in Nicholas County, W. Va. They were plentiful in the Wheeling, W. Va. area (BV) and in Hancock County, W. Va. (ERC). Young left the nest at East Liverpool Ohio as late as July 22 (NL).

Mimics—**Mockingbirds** continue to extend their range in the region. Opinions differed as to populations of **Catbirds**. Habitat destruction may be involved.

Thrushes—**Robins** produced a banner crop of young throughout the region. Not many reporters commented on **Wood Thrush**. Numbers appeared down in East Liverpool, Ohio and Monroe County, W. Va. However they were considered plentiful in Hancock County, W. Va. A chorus, made up of 4 **Hermit Thrushes**, was heard at Cook Forest, Pa. August 14 (NL). The **Veery** population appeared good at Cook Forest and Mt. Davis, Pa.

Gnatcatchers, Kinglets and Waxwings—Eleven nests of **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** were found near East Liverpool, Ohio in two afternoons (NL). **Golden-crowned Kinglets** were found at Mt. Davis, Pa. June 15 and they were fairly common at Cook Forest, Pa. August 14 (NL). **Cedar Waxwings** were considered quite common in the Forest Hills section of Wheeling, W. Va. during the summer. Young out of the nest were seen there June 7 and 16 (BV). They were found nesting at Mt. Davis, Pa.

June 15 (NL).

Vireos—Bell listed more **White-eyed Vireos** this year on his Breeding Bird Survey route than any time in five years. This was a common and well distributed species in Nicholas County, W. Va. Several new stations were located in the East Liverpool, Ohio area. **Solitary Vireos** were recorded at two stations in Nicholas County during the Foray. They were still in good song at Cook Forest, Pa. August 14. Young birds, still begging for food, were observed at that time. The population of **Warbling Vireos** was high at Wheeling, W. Va. (BV). Increases were noted at Charleston, W. Va., Hancock County, W. Va., East Liverpool, Ohio and Clarksville, Pa. However this was a rare bird in Nicholas County, W. Va. during the Foray.

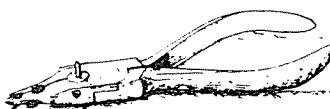
Warblers—A **Prothonotary Warbler** was recorded at Summersville Lake, Nicholas County, W. Va. June 11 (NL). Five Stations for the **Swainson's Warbler** were recorded in Nicholas County during the Foray (BBC). **Golden-winged Warblers** were common in Nicholas County during the Foray. **Parula Warblers** were also found in good numbers. Bell had a **Parula Warbler** on his Breeding Bird Survey route in Greene County, Pa. for the first time in five years. **Magnolia Warblers** were listed at Mt. Davis, Pa. June 15 and at Cook Forest, Pa. August 14. A young one, not long out of the nest, was seen at this time (NL). **Black-throated Green Warblers** were found sparingly at higher elevations in Nicholas County. Singing males of this species were found in two new locations in Columbiana County, Ohio, July 3 (NL&ERC). A singing male **Yellow-throated Warbler** appeared in Poland, Mahoning County, Ohio, May 10 and remained there for two weeks (L. D. Miller fide NL). A breeding record for this species was established in Belmont County, Ohio, when Mary Chapman and Mabel Edgerton found the nest on Rt. 148 SE of Barnesville. **Chestnut-sided Warblers** were found at higher elevations in Nicholas County, W. Va. A **Prairie Warbler** was noted singing from late May into July in the Forest Hills section of Wheeling, W. Va. An immature bird was observed there on August 22 (BV). They have not been known to nest in Ohio County.

Blackbirds and Tanagers—**Orchard Orioles** appear to be increasing and extending their range. Bell had five on his survey route in Greene County, Pa. for a five year high. They were listed throughout the Summer in Columbiana County, Ohio for the first time (NL). Numbers of **Baltimore Orioles** were considered good. **Scarlet Tanagers** appeared plentiful. **Summer Tanagers** were found in Nicholas County during the Foray but were not plentiful.

Grosbeaks, Finches and Sparrows—**Purple Finches** nested again at East Liverpool, Ohio and were heard in several new locations in the area. Four **Red Crossbills** were in Bell's yard at Clarksville, Pa. June 1. A small flock containing both males and females remained at Forest Hills, Wheeling, W. Va. through June 12 (BV). Most all reporters commented on the abundance of **Chipping** and **Field Sparrows**. Two or more **White-throated Sparrows**, in juvenile plumage, were seen at Mountain Top Vacationland in Preston County, W. Va. August 1 (GHB&BV). **Song Sparrows** shared in the sparrow population explosion with a successful season.

Contributors: (BBC) Brooks Bird Club, (RKB) Ralph K. Bell, (GHB) George H. Breiding, (HC) Helga Cernicek, (C&E) Mary Chapman and Mabel Edgerton, (ERC) Everett R. Chandler, (NG) Norris Gluck, (VO) Virginia Olsen, (GP) Glen Phillips, (BV) Betty Vossler—Mrs. Nevada Laitsch, MC 21, East Liverpool, Ohio

The Gathering Cage



Constance Katholi, Editor
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South Charleston, W. Va.

Wheeling, W. Va. My most exciting recovery came on 4/10/70 when I trapped a Tree Sparrow which had been banded by Merrill Wood at State College on 12/18/68. The last Tree Sparrow wintering in my yard area which I had banded was taken on 3/3/70, so I presume that this sparrow must have wintered farther to the south. We had a most interesting winter in '70: I banded 33 Pine Siskins between 3/30/70 and 5/1/70 using Potter traps baited with Purina fine Chick Chow Corn. Red Crossbills were in Forest Hills in numbers (flocks of 24-50) from early March to June 11 when I saw two females. I was unable to trap any of them. They were always in the tops of the pines feeding, except on the day before Century Day when we saw them drinking water from a goldfish pond. I did get a few slides with my 300 mm telephoto lens. Sorry to have been remiss about reporting: I'm a great procrastinator about writing up my bird notes. Best regards in the year to come.—Betty Vossler

Columbus, Ohio. We have discovered a new variable in bird behavior,—topophilia (*topos*, place and *phileo*, like). The dictionaries have not caught up with us yet. They list topophobia (fear of a particular place), but topophilia is just the opposite,—an attachment to, or orientation toward a particular place, in this instance Columbus. In an analysis of 38,000 banded birds we find that Grackles are much more topophilic than Redwings, Cowbirds or Starlings. (1) Our Grackle population has proportionally many more returns (after 90 days) than the other three species. (2) Grackles do much more repeating in terms of population size than do the others. (3) The proportion of local recoveries (in Columbus) is much greater for the Grackles than for the others. This all points to a greater topophilia on the part of the Grackle species. We have no way to analyze this behavior into its more fundamental components but it presumably is an aspect of Grackle personality. To phrase it more dramatically (with tongue in cheek) in the anthology of bird song it was a Grackle that wrote "Home Sweet Home".—Harold E. Burtt

Clarksville, Pa. The year 1970 was a great one for Bluebirds. Evidence of this is showing up along the roads—not only in southwestern Pennsylvania, but in many parts of West Virginia as well. On my banding trips this fall to the Allegheny Front Station near the Red Creek Campgrounds I carefully checked the roadsides and open fields along the mountain road which extends from the south end of Jordon Run Road up to Dolly Sods. On each trip Bluebirds were seen, especially in the

areas where Bluebird boxes are located.

Prior to the 1969 nesting season, someone who is obviously interested in Bluebirds (I have not yet discovered his name) had erected three well-made boxes along the road in large open areas which once were farmed. The buildings are mostly gone with only stone chimneys remaining to mark the location of the old homestead. Since Bluebirds were evidently using these boxes, I added one of my own on June 21, 1969 as my son and I were enroute home from the Foray at Franklin, W. Va. This box was checked twelve days later by John and Kamille Morgan on their honeymoon to Blackwater Falls! It already contained two Bluebird eggs. On August 31 the box was cleaned out; the condition of the nesting material indicated a full set of eggs had been laid, and that the young had safely fledged.

This box was checked again on May 24, 1970 during the Wildflower Pilgrimage at Blackwater and the three young in it were banded. A later examination of the box indicated that these birds too had left the nest successfully. In 1970 a second box was attached to a utility pole farther down the road. Here also the nesting had resulted in a successful outcome. The utility lines and poles along this road were removed during the fall of 1970. The workmen on the project were kind enough to attach the boxes to nearby posts. This is commendable indeed, and makes one think more kindly of his fellow man.—Ralph K. Bell

Hudson, Maine

Until last spring I was unable to do much banding as we were living in an apartment. Then after reading Dr. Yunick's article in EBBA News on banding bank swallows, I started looking around for that species in this area. Kamille and I located three fair-sized colonies near Old Town. With the help of Kamille and some of my students, I was able to band about 800 in a two-week period. I have thought out a very good project on them which I hope to continue next summer.

After school was over in June I obtained a summer job working on woodcock for the Wildlife Department of the University of Maine. Most of my time was taken up with telemetry, but I was also involved with molt data collection. Of course, we were always trying to band as many woodcock as possible. It was all very interesting, and we learned quite a bit about woodcock behavior.

In the fall Kamille and I moved out to the country. We own about four acres, half of which is an old orchard that has not been used for thirty years. Woodcock used the orchard and surrounding fields this fall as a nocturnal roost. One night I counted eight coming in. I put up three nets and in about a week caught two woodcock and three Saw-whet owls. We went down to Bar Harbor last weekend (Dec. 6) to see the ocean for the last time this year. There were quite a few ducks around, over 100 eiders and lots of Old Squaw. It has been a most enjoyable year.

—John Morgan

Inwood, W. Va. Due to work schedules my Banding activities were rather sparse during the fall of 1970. On October the 18th I caught a Female Red-wing Blackbird that I had banded on July 31st, 1966. I was proud of this return as it is difficult to sex young Red-wings in July. The record shows that I marked it "unknown", then

scratched it out and changed it to female, and reported it as such. I was pleased when I caught it on the 18th that I had been right on the sex.

On November 7th I put out some traps at the disposal ponds for 'blackbirds' that were congregated there. I caught 164 on the 7th and 8th, of which 151 were Rusty Blackbirds. On Monday morning the mailman brought a report from the Banding Office of a Rusty Blackbird, banded on October 19, 1969, that was found in Newfoundland in July, 1970. A report of a bird that had been found is always welcome; it is one of the rewarding features of Banding.—Clark Miller

Summit Lake, Wisconsin. This fall brought a few surprises for me. I had 5 Harris Sparrows and managed to band 4 of them. I got 2 Gambel's White-crowns again, but no Eastern White-crowns. For some reason I always get the Gambel's here; one year I had six. Most exciting for me was banding my first Grey Jays! They seem especially numerous this year and finally came to my feeder. I learned the secret of attracting them: large quantities of suet. We bought a quarter of beef to put in the freezer, and I hung all the suet from it in wire baskets. Soon we had two Whiskey Jacks! They are compulsive food storers. Weather conditions perhaps set them off, but on certain days they spend all their time stuffing throat and mouth with suet, which they take into the woods and store. Very soon they are back for more. On these days they are so greedy that they are easy to catch, all it takes is a few nice pieces of suet in a potter trap.

I have never found their suet stores in the woods, but I have seen mushrooms which they placed in tree crotches and on fir boughs to dry. I haven't read that Grey Jays store mushrooms, but we believe that they do so. I am a wild mushroom forager myself, and find it hard to get any in the fall as they have mostly all been picked, and only stems, pieces, and old wormy specimens remain. I found a dried specimen in a poplar tree which I thought to be a poison Fly Amanita, and there was a large patch of these poisonous mushrooms growing nearby. I couldn't help but wonder if the Grey Jay intended to eat it, and if so, what it might do to him.

I was surprised when I captured my first Grey Jay at the size of the body. They appear to be the size of a Blue Jay, and have a long tail which is used in their gliding flight, but in the hand they seem to be mostly feathers, which are very fluffy too, like an owl. The first impression when picking one up is one of lightness, similar to that you may have had if you ever picked up a very sick bird which was thin and weak. The Grey Jay's body must have a great deal of fluff for insulation from the terrible cold of the north country. They give a very good account of themselves with that meathook of a bill which they use in tearing carrion apart. I lost a little blood in banding process.—Carol Rudy

South Charleston, W. Va. The official memo of the 1970 Accelerated Dove Banding Program has not yet been published, awaiting the "hunter-returns". In the meantime Mr. Seelye, the Agent in Charge of the District, forwarded a brief summary. West Virginia banders who participated in the program in either one, or both of the two years, 1969 and 1970, were Art Dunnell, Clark Miller, Charles Handley, Connie Katholi, Maxine Kiff, Owen Seelye, and the State Fish-and-Game personnel. Despite increased interest and effort fewer doves were banded in 1970 than in 1969: 152

compared to 189. It is impossible to read any meaning into this except to point out that Charley Handley's enforced inactivity this past season weighed the scales heavily. The 75 doves which were banded by him in 1969 were almost half of the year's total catch! The project concerns hatching year birds only (for a three-month period only) and it does not take into consideration the adults on which the banders uses his own bands. For instance, I took only 26 young birds, versus 38 adults spread over the longer period (April to September). No two years are ever alike, yet I am at a loss to explain why I trapped 15 doves in September of 1969 and none at all that month this year.

In conclusion I will let you in on a secret. It is a tale which perhaps should not be told, but is really too funny not to be. The facts are these: Mr. Seelye will be the ONLY U.S. Game Management Agent in the whole Country to report a PILEATED WOODPECKER right in the middle of his "Doves-Only" schedule to the Banding Office. The "sub-permittee" who committed this outrage shall be nameless to protect his or her status (and face!)—but you are privileged to guess—anyhow, this bander grabbed the band off the wrong string in the kit under the stress and excitement of coping with the flailing beak and clutching claws of the agitated, oversized bird-in-the-hand, which naturally was vocalizing vociferously. All of you can imagine the sinking feeling as the bird flew away, and the realization of the mistake began to dawn . . . That pileated has not checked back in yet. A Very Happy New Year 1971.

—Connie Katholi

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DO-IT-YOURSELF-BANDING

On September 17, 1968 at the Red Creek Operation Recovery Station on top of Allegheny Front in West Virginia a Blackpoll Warbler was netted which was observed to be wearing on its left leg a "bracelet of wool", i.e. several strands of a gray, string-like material which had become twisted or spun together until they formed a closed circlet. Light-weight, loose-fitting, and in no way binding on the tarsus, yet it was strong enough to resist removal by the fingernail alone, and thus posed a considerable hazard should it become caught on a snag. The banders present speculated at length how this might have happened: was it nesting material peculiar to this species? Was it usnea moss? It was hard to judge from the smallness of the sample, but an analysis might have provided an answer.*

In recent months articles in *British Birds*, 61, pp. 257-263, and pp. 466-469, were brought to my attention. The substance of these reports is that birds (particularly oystercatchers and lapwings, but some other species, also) which breed on the Faero Islands and in those counties of Scotland and England where sheep are raised extensively, often become entangled in cast wool. Strands in varying amounts wrap around their legs and feet, shrink and tighten in wet weather and cause a loss of circulation. This leads to the severing of tendons and bones and eventually ends in the actual amputation of one or more (even three) toes. Mortality may ensue due to the severe handicapping of the individual in his normal foraging for food. Studies showed that birds in their first year were the primary victims. Other notes indicate that other fibers may offer similar hazards;—that cotton manufacturing districts offer dangers comparable to those of sheep regions to certain urban species (pigeons) from loose strands of thread.

This thoroughly interesting discussion may seem far removed from the Case of one North American Blackpoll Warbler, but it does suggest how this phenomena might have taken place.—Constance Katholi

*The material is still in my possession if there are any volunteers!

CORRECTIONS

A typographical error on page 101 in the October 1970 *Redstart* resulted in a statement that some of our lower elevation warblers were below normal in the spruce belt. It should have read, "The numbers of Ovenbirds, Kentucky Warblers, Louisiana Waterthrush, Yellowthroat and Hooded Warblers all seemed below normal. The breeding population of Mourning Warblers appeared normal in the spruce belt."

Also, in the same issue on page 114 the author attributes anthropomorphic qualities to birds at his feeder, but the birds themselves are not anthropomorphic. This mistake was the fault of your editor and not Mr. Gluck who authored the paper and used the word in its proper sense in the original manuscript.

—George Hurley

REDACTED EDITORIAL POLICY

Original papers in the field of natural history are published in the *Redstart*. Papers are judged on the basis of their contributions to original data, ideas, or interpretations. Scientific accuracy is most important and to this end an Advisory Board, selected by the Editorial Staff, will review submitted papers. Papers should be typewritten, double spaced and on one side of the paper only. Clarity and conciseness of presentation are very important.

SUGGESTIONS TO AUTHORS

TITLE. The title should be descriptive and concise, preferably containing not more than ten words. Avoid scientific names if possible.

REFERENCES. References should be listed alphabetically by author and referred to in the text by author and year.

TABLES. Keep tables simple and easy to follow so they may be understood without reference to the text.

ILLUSTRATIONS. Illustrations should be suitable for reproduction without retouching. Sharp, glossy prints with good contrast reproduce best. Attach to each a brief legend. Do not write on the back of photographs. Line drawings and diagrams reproduce best if in black ink.

REPRINTS. Authors may request reprints at the time papers are submitted. Cost of reprints will be paid by the author. The author is responsible for putting his paper in final form for production. This will include corrections suggested by the Advisory Editorial Board.

Authors should strive for continuity of thought and clarity of expression. Some papers may fit the following outline for presentation:

INTRODUCTION. Reasons for conducting the research as well as background material relating what others have done.

DATA. The actual results of the investigation along with the methods used for collecting the data.

CONCLUSION. Interpretation of the data.

FUTURE WORK. As a result of the investigation, what work remains to be done.

SUMMARY. For longer articles it is desirable to present a brief summary of the work.

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Many papers will not fit this type of presentation. Sometimes a simple sequence-of-events arrangement will serve.

BROOKS BIRD CLUB MEMBERSHIP

The Brooks Bird Club is a non-profit organization whose objective is to encourage the study and conservation of birds and other phases of natural history. Membership includes subscriptions to the *REDACTED* and *MAILBAG* and entitles one to all the privileges offered by the Club. Classes of membership are: Student, \$2.00; Active, \$5.00; Family, \$7.00; Sustaining, \$10.00; Life, \$100. Checks should be written payable to the Brooks Bird Club and mailed to 707 Warwood Avenue, Wheeling, West Virginia.

1971 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

23-31 Winter Bird Census All Local Groups

FEBRUARY

20-21 Annual Midwinter Meeting Wheeling, W. Va.

MARCH

19-21 Field Trip—Spring Hollow Columbus, Ohio

APRIL

16-18 Field Trip—Middle Mountain Wymer, W. Va.

MAY

8 or 9 Century Day Count All Local Groups

14-16 Field Trip—Sutton's Warbler Search . . . Harpers Ferry, W. Va.

JUNE

1-30 Statewide Breeding Bird Census Local Groups

5-12 Annual Foray (First Session) Anthony, W. Va.

JULY

3-10 Annual Foray (Second Session) Anthony, W. Va.

AUGUST

6-7 Field Trip—Lake Terra Alta Terra Alta, W. Va.

SEPTEMBER

3-6 Field Trip To be announced

4-27 Operation Bird Banding Red Creek (Dolly Sods) W. Va.

11-19 Week-long Hawk Count Allegheny Front

17-19 Weekend Hawk Count Allegheny Front

OCTOBER

22-24 Annual Meeting Cedar Lakes, Ripley, W. Va.

NOVEMBER

28 Feeder Bird Count Local Individuals

DECEMBER

21 Jan. 2, 1972 Winter Bird Counts All Local Groups

SEASONAL FIELD AND BANDING NOTES DUE

Fall (Sept., Oct., Nov.) . . . Jan. 1 Winter (Dec., Jan., Feb.) April 1

Spring (Mar., April, May) . . . July 1 Summer (June, July, Aug.) . . Oct. 1

Field Notes to Mrs. John Laitsch, MC21, East Liverpool, Ohio 43920.

Banding Notes to Mrs. Constance Katholi, 930 Woodland Ave., So. Charleston,
West Virginia 25303