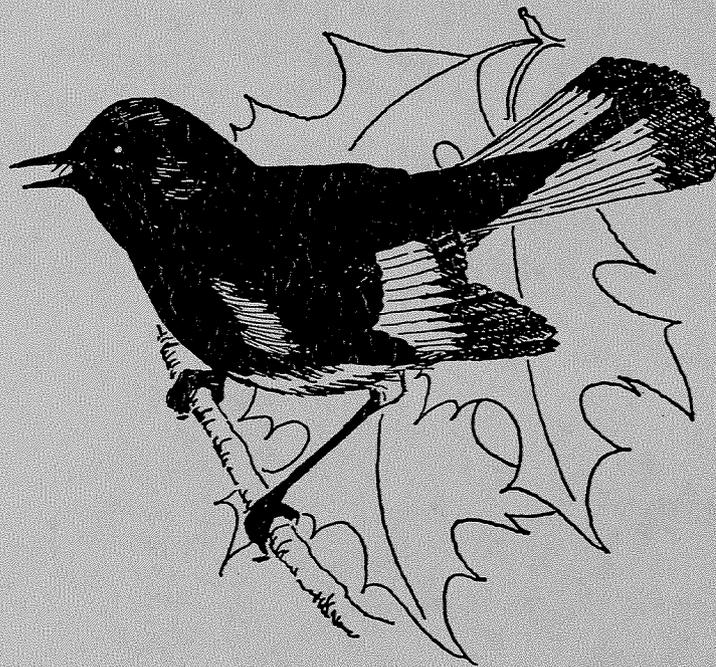


The REDSTART

VOLUME 40, NUMBER 3

JULY, 1973



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Founded September 1932
 Named in honor of A.B. Brooks, Naturalist

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Birds of North Bend State Park

Preliminary Study of the Birds of North Bend State Park

Glen Phillips

In order to update and record the knowledge of the birds of North Bend State Park, it was decided that studies be made there during the summer of 1972, all available records be consolidated and the results be offered for publication. Mrs. R. W. Murphy agreed to furnish her list of the birds of the Park and write a brief history of the compilation of this record. George Breiding submitted the bird lists that he had accumulated during his visits. George Koch joined the author for the week of May 27 to June 2 when two singing male census plots were studied and general observations were made throughout the Park.

It is hoped that the following record can be used by park personnel for visitors to the park and by the Brooks Bird Club for reference during the 1974 Foray which will be held nearby.

The reader should bear in mind that these records span only a short period of time and that there are several species in the adjacent area that will eventually be found in the park.

History of Bird List of North Bend State Park

Pat Murphy

My personal list of the birds of North Bend State Park began modestly, on a quiet October weekend in 1966. Bob's company had been on strike for several weeks, and at last he had a period of time to spend with his family. This was different enough; but we wanted "something to do"; the recently opened state park was little more than an hour away, and the lodge was open. We lost little time taking off for new territory.

On that brief weekend I carded the birds we saw, little mindful that I would be doing this on an extended basis over a period of years. There followed several family outings at North Bend, all including bird walks on the extensive trails. We walked the dry oak-pine trails; the lower river trails with their hemlock associations. I soon found that North Bend was the closest place to home in Washington County, Ohio where I could find a breeding Parula Warbler.

Then, in 1969 began the "Nature Wonder Weekends", sponsored by the Little Kanawha Regional Council, under the tutelage of Miss Edelene Wood. One month would be for wild flowers, one for birds, etc. I was asked to participate on the birding weekends, giving a slide program and leading a bird walk. This took place in May 1969 and 1970 and in June 1971. Edelene prepared a check list of the North Bend birds based on all the species I had found over those several years, including game birds and owls observed by Cordie Hudkins, then the park Supervisor.

For three years, during the featured weekend of wild foods expert, Euell Gibbons, in September, I led the Sunday morning bird walk. Each trip to North Bend, especially in the Fall, seemed to net something new for the park bird list, till in September, 1971, we went over the "century" mark, with a Red-headed Woodpecker.

Over the past three years, North Bend has become a favorite place for my bird

class, sponsored by the Marietta Betsey Mills Club, to visit, Spring and Fall. Some of them have helped the list to grow, adding species which had been missed inadvertently, due to infrequent visits. Last Fall we added the Sharp-tailed Sparrow to the list.

On Friday, November 3, (1972), begging just one more chance from Glen Phillips, who was in a hurry to receive this "history", I took the bird class to North Bend. This Fall had been promising "more than an average bird winter" to birders, in an "off" year of Northern finches.

In a "Day of 1000 Birds", we scored the Red-breasted Nuthatch, both Red and White-winged Crossbills (120++ in less than 45 minutes), Purple Finch (all new) together with hundreds of Robins and Cedar Waxwings. We were in for a "wild" bird winter!

In retrospect, I must mention the singing Brown Creeper I found on June 21, 1971, while taking a government-type breeding bird survey on one of those Wonder Weekends. It typically flew underneath hanging bark on a dead elm tree. It may have been a breeding bird.

Also, on the same survey, I heard a Golden-winged Warbler song in an area which was inaccessible to explore at the time. The presence of both species of "wings" must be explored in the future. (The Blue-winged Warbler is a conspicuous breeding bird.)

This last survey of North Bend State Park, on November 3, 1972 has brought my list of park birds, over a few rather isolated visits (about 14, over a six-year period) to 113 species.

Star Route, Reno, Ohio 45773

Maturing Oak-Hickory Forest

Location: North Bend State Park, 2.5 miles east of Cairo, Ritchie County, West Virginia. 39° 13' 08"N, 81° 06' 53"W, Harrisville Quadrangle, U.S.G.S. Starts 500 feet from county road 14 and extends west along the Nature Trail.

Size: 15 acres (rectangular, 110 x 660 yards, measured longitudinally).

Topography: Starts at elevation 1040 feet and follows the crest of a narrow ridge up to 1100 then down to 1060 feet. The sides of the plot are as much as 30 feet lower than the centerline.

Description: 60% Oak, dominated by Chestnut Oak (*Quercus prinus*), but containing some White Oak (*Q. alba*) and Red Oak (*Q. rubra*), 25% Hickory (*Carya* sp.), and 10% Scrub Pine (*Pinus virginiana*). There is also some Tulip Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), White Ash (*Fraxinus americana*), and Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*). The canopy is about 90% complete varying from 50 to 75 feet in height with the trees up to 24 inches DBH. A telephone right-of-way causes an opening of about an acre in the canopy. In the understory are Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*), Flowering Dogwood (*Cornus florida*), Maple-leaved Viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*), Wild Grape (*Vitis* sp.), Sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*), and Blackberry (*Rubus* sp.), plus seedlings of the canopy trees. The ground cover includes Christmas Fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*), Early Saxifrage (*Saxifraga virginiana*), Violets (*Viola* sp.), Blueberry (*Vaccinium vacillans*), Tick-trefoil (*Desmodium* sp.), Greenbrier (*Smilax* sp.), and Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*). The ground cover and understory is dense only at the canopy openings.

Edge: The forest continues on all sides.

Coverage: May 27-30, 1972. Ten trips between daylight and 9:00 a.m. and six trips in the late evening. Total man-hours, 13.

Species	CENSUS	
	Territorial Males	Males per 100 acres
Cerulean Warbler	9	60
Ovenbird	5	33
Wood Thrush	4	27
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	3	20
Red-eyed Vireo	3	20
Pine Warbler	3	20
E. Wood Pewee	2.5	17
Hooded Warbler	2.5	17
Black-and-white Warbler	2	13
E. Rufous-sided Towhee	2	13
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1.5	10
Black-billed Cuckoo	1	7
Tufted Titmouse	1	7
Robin	1	7
Yellow-throated Vireo	1	7
Worm-eating Warbler	1	7
Summer Tanager	1	7
Hairy Woodpecker	0.5	3
Great Crested Flycatcher	0.5	3
White-breasted Nuthatch	0.5	3
Scarlet Tanager	0.5	3
Cardinal	0.5	3
Ruffed Grouse	+	+
Whip-poor-will	+	+
Pileated Woodpecker	+	+
Red-bellied Woodpecker	+	+
Acadian Flycatcher	+	+
Blue Jay	+	+
Kentucky Warbler	+	+
Brown-headed Cowbird	+	+
TOTAL: 30 Species	46	307

Visitors: Yellow-shafted Flicker, Common Crow, Cedar Waxwing, Louisiana Waterthrush, Am. Goldfinch.

Remarks: Typical of several square miles of this section of West Virginia. The populations of Cerulean Warblers in the oaks and Pine Warblers in the pines were very high. Future studies that we plan may tell us if this is unusual for this region.—George Koch

Uneven Aged Park Woodland

Location: Part of the nature trails system of North Bend State Park, three miles northeast of Cairo, Ritchie County, West Virginia. The portion studied here lies between roadway number 5 and the rear of the service building—81° 07' 00" W. and 39° 13' 12" N. Harrisville Quadrangle U.S.G.S.

Size: Fifteen Acres (6 hectares), rectangular 110 x 660 yards, measured longitudinally and estimated laterally.

Edge: Bounded on all sides by similar habitat.

Topography: The centerline lies approximately north-south across a low ridge that

separates roadway 5 from the north fork of the Hughes River. Most of the plot has a 30 degree slope. Elevation 800 to 900 feet.

Species	CENSUS	
	Territorial Males	Males per 100 acres
Acadian Flycatcher	6	40
Ovenbird	6	40
Red-eyed Vireo	5	33
Wood Thrush	4	27
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	4	27
Cerulean Warbler	3	20
Pine Warbler	3	20
Redstart	3	20
Cardinal	3	20
Scarlet Tanager	2	13
Rufous-sided Towhee	2	13
Hairy Woodpecker	1	7
Wood Pewee	1	7
Carolina Chickadee	1	7
Tufted Titmouse	1	7
White-breasted Nuthatch	1	7
Yellow-throated Vireo	1	7
Black-and-white Warbler	1	7
Parula Warbler	1	7
Louisiana Waterthrush	1	7
Hooded Warbler	1	7
Whip-poor-will	0.5	3
Great Crested Flycatcher	0.5	3
Kentucky Warbler	0.5	3
Ruffed Grouse	+	+
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	+	+
Yellow-shafted Flicker	+	+
Pileated Woodpecker	+	+
Red-bellied Woodpecker	+	+
Blue Jay	+	+
Common Crow	+	+
Brown-headed Cowbird	+	+
TOTAL: 32 species	53.5	356

Visitors: Black-billed Cuckoo, Chimney Swift, Downy Woodpecker, Robin, Cedar Waxwing, Summer Tanager, Indigo Bunting and American Goldfinch.

Description of Area: Approximately 50% of the plot is an oak-beech-linden association, 55-80 ft. canopy with trees varying up to 28 inches D.B.H. The remainder has been more recently timbered and is principally a pine-hickory-poplar association with trees having a canopy of 35 to 80 ft. and trunks up to 20 inches D.B.H. Overall the canopy is composed of approximately: Hickory (*Carya ovata*, *C. glabra*, *C. tomentosa*) to 24 inches—30%; Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) to 20 inches; 20% Virginia Pine (*Pinus virginiana*) to 18 inches—14% Oak (*Quercus rubra*, *Q. velutina*) to 26 inches 10%; Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*) to 28 inches 9%; the remainder contains White Pine (*Pinus strobus*), Linden (*Tilia americana*), Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*) and Buckeye (*Aesculus octandra*). Among the understory is: Wild Grape (*Vitis* sp.), Dogwood (*Cornus florida*), Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*), Pawpaw (*Asimina triloba*), Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*), and Redbud (*Cercin canadensis*),

Ground cover plants included: Ground Pine (*Lycopodium obscurum*), Broad Beech Fern (*Dryopteris hexagonoptera*), Marginal Shield Fern (*Dryopteris marginalis*), Interrupted Fern (*Osmunda claytoniana*), Maidenhair Fern (*Asplenium trichomanes*), Silvery Spleenwort (*Athyrium thelypteroides*), Wild Ginger (*Asarum canadense*), Black Cohosh (*Cimicifuga racemosa*), Stone Crop (*Penthorum sedoides*), Sedum (*Sedum ternatum*), Striped Wintergreen (*Chimaphila maculata*), Partridgeberry (*Mitchella repens*), Wild Yam (*Dioscoreaceae villosa*), Solomon's Seal (*Polygonatum biflorum*), White Snakeroot (*Eupatorium rugosum*), Sweet Anise (*Osmorhiza claytonia*), Hepatica (*Hepatica americana*), Alum Root (*Heuchera americana*), Bedstraw (*Galium* sp.), Cut-leaf Toothwort (*Dentaria laciniata*), Spring Beauty (*Claytonia virginica*), Violets (*Viola* sp.), Golden Ragwort (*Senecio aureus*), Rue Anemone (*Anemonella thalictroides*), May Apple (*Podophyllum peltatum*), Blue Phlox (*Phlox Divaricata*), and Bluets (*Houstonia caerulea*).

Coverage: Eighteen trips were made to the plot from May 27 to June 1, 1972 concentrated in early morning and late evening. Approximately 16 party hours.

Remarks: This study is one of two undertaken by members of the Brooks Bird Club to document the breeding birds of North Bend State Park and prepare for more extensive studies in the area in 1974. The plot reported here is the site of many guided excursions by visitors to the park and is a showplace for spring wildflowers. Since the park has a very diversified habitat and no extensive areas of homogeneous stands, it was decided that we would record the areas as people would find them on their visits. This accounts for the mixed cover. The mixed cover accounts for the large number of species and the relatively high density of territorial males. Of the two dominant species, the Acadian Flycatchers were largely confined to the lower, more mature, damp woods while the Ovenbirds occupied the higher, drier, less mature portion. No great effort was made to locate nests, so only two were found—Towhee and Crow.

Census Participants: Dorothy and Carolyn Conrad, Edna Gregg, Elinor Soja, Juanita Delancey, Ann Pyle, Marian Means, George Koch and Glen Phillips—compiler.

Preliminary List of Birds of North Bend State Park

- 1 Great Blue Heron. Included in Mrs. Murphy's list of birds 10/16/66.
- 2 Green Heron. Included in Mrs. Murphy's list of birds.
- 3 Canada Goose. Identified by Cordie Hudkins.
- 4 Black Duck. Identified by Cordie Hudkins.
- 5 Wood Duck. Included in Mrs. Murphy's list of birds.
- 6 *Turkey Vulture. Occasional—seen by all persons contributing to this list.
- 7 Red-tailed Hawk. Included in Mrs. Murphy's list of birds.
- 8 Broad-winged Hawk. Mrs. Murphy lists one sighting—5/12/72.
- 9 Sparrow Hawk. Included in Mrs. Murphy's list and seen at edge of park August 27/28 1967 by Breiding.
- 10 Ruffed Grouse. Occasional—Seen on both 1972 study plots.
- 11 Wild Turkey. Identified by Cordie Hudkins.
- 12 American Coot. Identified by Cordie Hudkins.
- 13 Woodcock. Seen by Murphy et-al June 16, 1972 back of service area.
- 14 Rock Dove. Murphy saw one bird November 3, 1972.

- 15 Mourning Dove. Included in Mrs. Murphy's list of birds.
- 16 *Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Fairly common.
- 17 *Black-billed Cuckoo. Occasional—Three records by Koch and Phillips.
- 18 Barn Owl. Identified by Cordie Hudkins.
- 19 Screech Owl. Found by Murphy et-al in 1971 on river trail near main campground.
- 20 Great Horned Owl. Identified by Cordie Hudkins.
- 21 Barred Owl. Identified by Cordie Hudkins.
- 22 *Whip-poor-will. Fairly common—Seen on both study plots and could be heard regularly.
- 23 *Chimney Swift. Fairly Common—Could usually be found in vicinity of lodge.
- 24 *Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Murphy lists it as uncommon. Koch and Phillips had one sight record.
- 25 Belted Kingfisher. Occasional—three sight records by K. & P.
- 26 *Yellow-shafted Flicker. Fairly common.
- 27 *Pileated Woodpecker. Fairly common—found on both study plots.
- 28 *Red-bellied Woodpecker. Fairly common.
- 29 Red-headed Woodpecker. One record by Murphy—September 19, 1971.
- 30 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. Fairly common migrant.
- 31 *Hairy Woodpecker. Fairly common.
- 32 *Downy Woodpecker. Fairly common.
- 33 *Great Crested Flycatcher. Common.
- 34 *Eastern Phoebe. Common—two nests by Koch and Phillips.
- 35 *Acadian Flycatcher. Abundant in suitable habitat.
- 36 Traill's Flycatcher. Listed 6/20/71 by Murphy on lower road near park entrance.
- 37 *Eastern Wood Pewee. Common.
- 38 Horned Lark. Listed once by Murphy—fall of 1966.
- 39 Barn Swallow. Murphy says that the bird may be found in the vicinity of the lodge on days when food is plentiful.
- 40 Purple Martin. Breiding lists it May 29/30, 1966.
- 41 *Blue Jay. Koch and Phillips found it only fairly common, but Murphy says that it is best assessed after nesting season.
- 42 *Common Crow. Common—one nest on lower study plot.
- 43 Black-capped Chickadee. Murphy lists as fall migrant, 9/17/71, 11/3/72.
- 44 *Carolina Chickadee. Fairly common to common.
- 45 *Tufted Titmouse. Common—seen and heard regularly in heavier lowland woods.
- 46 *White-breasted Nuthatch. Fairly common.
- 47 Red-breasted Nuthatch. Listed by Breiding 9/21/68, Murphy 11/3/72.
- 48 Brown Creeper. A singing bird was seen on a dying elm tree along the main road on North Fork of Hughes River above the campground June 20, 1971 by Murphy.
- 49 Winter Wren. Seen by Murphy and party 11/3/72.
- 50 *Carolina Wren. Seen and heard by Murphy usually near water. Koch and Phillips found this species near the intersection of the nature trail and roadway number 5.
- 51 *Mockingbird. One record by Koch near the lodge.

- 52 *Catbird. Murphy lists as fairly common, but K. & P. had only two records.
- 53 *Brown Thrasher. On Murphy lists as more than occasional. K. & P. had only two sightings, one near the lodge and one near the superintendent's residence.
- 54 *Robin. Common.
- 55 *Wood Thrush. Common in suitable habitat.
- 56 Hermit Thrush. Listed by Murphy in spring migration, May 1969.
- 57 *Swainson's Thrush. Migrant. Seen on nature trail east of roadway number 5 May 29, 1972 and listed by Murphy May 12, 1969.
- 58 *Eastern Bluebird. Fairly common around lodge area.
- 59 *Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. Common.
- 60 Golden-crowned Kinglet. Seen by Murphy during migration 10/15/66 and 11/3/72.
- 61 Ruby-crowned Kinglet. Seen by Murphy and party 11/3/72.
- 62 *Cedar Waxwing. Murphy lists as hard to assess breeding status. The birds seen by Koch and Phillips were in flocks of five and more and were thought to be migrating.
- 63 *Starling. Occasional. Found mostly in the vicinity of the lodge.
- 64 *White-eyed Vireo. Uncommon. Heard by K. & P. near the overflow campground and once near the service building.
- 65 *Yellow-throated Vireo. Fairly common—ratio of about 1 to 5 to Red-eyed Vireos.
- 66 *Red-eyed Vireo. Common to abundant.
- 67 Philadelphia Vireo. Listed as migrant by Murphy 5/12/69.
- 68 Warbling Vireo. Murphy lists as uncommon, but found by her at campground and near pond.
- 69 *Black-and-white Warbler. Uncommon. Found on both study plots, along river and in timbered areas.
- 70 *Worm-eating Warbler. Occasional. Murphy lists at entrance to campground. K. & P. found them in higher timbered areas.
- 71 Golden-winged Warbler. Hypothetical list (Murphy's nomenclature). She heard song 6/20/71 but was unable to see the bird.
- 72 *Blue-winged Warbler. Occasional. Heard on lower study plot, near pond and along river between main and overflow campgrounds.
- 73 Tennessee Warbler. Listed as migrant by Murphy.
- 74 *Parula Warbler. Fairly common in hemlocks.
- 75 *Yellow Warbler. Common.
- 76 Magnolia Warbler. Listed by Murphy as migrant.
- 77 Cape May Warbler. Listed by Murphy as a migrant.
- 78 Myrtle Warbler. Listed by Murphy as a migrant.
- 79 Black-throated Green Warbler. Listed by Murphy as a migrant.
- 80 *Cerulean Warbler. Abundant in predominately oak woods. Along with Acadian Flycatcher probably the most common bird species in the Park.
- 81 Yellow-throated Warbler. Murphy lists as fairly common in tall trees of both sycamore and pine woods. Breeding listed on June 23, 1971. K. & P. heard the song on more than one occasion but were unable to establish a sight record. Murphy saw one gathering nesting material on edge of pond at overflow campground, 5/12/72.

- 82 Bay-breasted Warbler. Listed by Murphy as a migrant.
- 83 *Pine Warbler. Common in the evergreens. Murphy sums up the situation nicely: "often heard singing along with the abundant Chipping Sparrows and with Worm-eating Warblers . . . A great birding experience to have all three singing at the same time."
- 84 Prairie Warbler. Murphy finds them in brushy areas, entrance to lodge campus, overflow campground, etc. Breeding lists on May 29/30/68.
- 85 Palm Warbler. Listed by Murphy as a migrant.
- 86 *Ovenbird. Abundant, heard almost anywhere there is a canopy of trees.
- 87 *Louisiana Waterthrush. Fairly common in suitable habitat. Seemed to be more plentiful here than in any area visited by the author this spring (1972).
- 88 *Kentucky Warbler. Fairly common to common in proper habitat.
- 89 *Yellowthroat. Occasional. Probably due to the fact that there is little habitat to it's liking.
- 90 *Yellow-breasted Chat. Occasional in the park at clearing edges and near the superintendent's residence. The song could be heard from picnic areas but the birds were across the river in the vicinity of the railroad.
- 91 *Hooded Warbler. Occasional in deeper woods.
- 92 *American Redstart. Common. Found on both study plots and in wooded areas.
- 93 *House Sparrow. Not common. Seen in vicinity of lodge.
- 94 Meadowlark. Murphy lists Fall record.
- 95 Red-winged Blackbird. Murphy lists Fall record and Breeding has record for May 29/30, 1968.
- 96 *Orchard Oriole. Murphy has spring record in addition to that of K. & P.
- 97 *Baltimore Oriole. Uncommon. Seen by K. & P. only along the river trail.
- 98 *Common Grackle. Uncommon. Seen only around the cleared areas.
- 99 *Brown-headed Cowbird. All too common.
- 100 Rusty Blackbird. Listed by Murphy and party 11/3/72.
- 101 *Scarlet Tanager. Common.
- 102 *Summer Tanager. Common. Probably as many in the Park as of the preceding species.
- 103 *Cardinal. Fairly common to common, even in wooded areas.
- 104 Rose-breasted Grosbeak. On Murphy's overall list of Park birds.
- 105 *Indigo Bunting. Only fairly common. They can be found but were not found in abundance by K. & P.
- 106 Purple Finch. Listed by Murphy and party November 3, 1972.
- 107 *American Goldfinch. Only occasional. Numbers do not compare to other areas visited this spring.
- 108 Red Crossbill. Seen in numbers by Murphy and Party 11/3/72.
- 109 White-winged Crossbill. Seen in numbers by Murphy and party 11/3/72.
- 110 *Rufous-sided Towhee. Common.
- 111 Evening Grosbeak. Listed by Cordie Hudkins—no date given.
- 112 Savannah Sparrow. Found by Murphy et-al 9/17/71 and 9/5/72.
- 113 Sharp-tailed Sparrow. About half a dozen with 15 or so Savannah Sparrows feeding near tennis court area 9/17/71. Perched frequently on chain link fence giving both "fore" and "aft" views at about 30 feet.
- 114 Slate-colored Junco. On Murphy's list of Park birds, probably a common

winter resident.

- 115 *Chipping Sparrow. Common to abundant—even on the edges of the woods.
- 116 *Field Sparrow. Two records by K. & P. near swimming pool.
- 117 White-throated Sparrow. On Murphy's list of Park birds. Probably a migrant or early winter resident.
- 118 *Song Sparrow. Occasional. Although it seems unusual, this species was heard only twice by K. & P., both times along the river trail.
*Found by Koch and Phillips during the nesting season.

Winter Bird Population Study, 1971

Nevada Laitsch

LOCATION: Northern portion of Thompson Park, East Liverpool, Ohio; 40 deg. 37'30"W, 80° 34'N. East Liverpool Quadrangle USGS.

SIZE: 20 Acres (rectangular, measured longitudinally and estimated laterally).

TOPOGRAPHY: Elevation, 1000 feet. The plot, situated on the north slope of a hillside, slopes gradually to a foot trail which follows the contour of the land. This trail was used as the centerline. A small stream formed the northern boundary of most of the plot.

EDGE: The study plot is bounded to the north by similar habitat. Homes are located to the east and west. To the south about 40 acres have been developed for picnicking and outdoor sports.

Species	CENSUS	
	Number of birds	Birds per 100 acres
Tufted Titmouse	6	30
Downy Woodpecker	4	20
White-Breasted Nuthatch	3	15
Golden-crowned Kinglet	3	15
Carolina Chickadee	2	10
Black-capped Chickadee	1	5
Hairy Woodpecker	1	5
Brown Creeper	1	5
Carolina Wren	1	5
Cooper's Hawk	+	
Ruffed Grouse	+	
Pileated Woodpecker	+	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	+	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	+	
Blue Jay	+	
Cardinal	+	
Slate-colored Junco	+	
Song Sparrow	+	

Average Total: 22 birds (density, 110 per 100 acres).

FOOD: Dead trees and snags provide a good supply of insects and grubs. Residents on the edge of the park maintain feeders. The acorn and beechnut crop was a total failure due to a late frost.

DESCRIPTION: The study area is a portion of about 70 acres of undisturbed woodland. The closed canopy consists of 20% White Oak (*Quercus alba*) up to 40 inches DBH; 20% Black Oak (*Q. velutina*) up to 28 inches DBH; 20% Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*) up to 30 inches DBH; 10% Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*), 5% Sugar Maple (*A. saccharum*) up to 35 inches DBH; 10% Black Birch (*Betula lenta*); 5% Slippery Elm (*Ulmus rubra*); 5% Wild Cherry (*Prunus serotina*) and 5% miscellaneous. The rather sparse understory is comprised of seedlings from canopy trees; Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*); Elderberry (*Sambucus*); Wild Grape vines (*Vitis* sp.) and a few Blackberry (*Rubus* sp.) The ground cover is made up of herbaceous plants in the spring. Christmas Fern (*Polystichum acrostichoides*) and Evergreen Woodfern (*Dryopteris intermedia*) are well distributed throughout the area.

WEATHER: Six trips were made under sunny skies; six trips under overcast and two trips in snow flurries. Temperature range was 10 deg. to 40 deg. F. Snow covered the ground on eight of the trips.

COVERAGE: January 14, 16, 23, 24; February 2, 6, 12, 1971. Total 14 trips, all between 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. averaging 50 minutes each.

REMARKS: Downy Woodpeckers and Tufted Titmouse were seen on all trips, Golden-crowned Kinglets on all but two trips. White-breasted Nuthatch and Brown Creeper on all but three trips. Carolina Wren was always found near the stream. Ruffed Grouse was seen twice but tracks on the snow were found on several trips. The assistance of E.R. Chandler in selecting and plotting the study area is gratefully acknowledged.—MC 21, East Liverpool, Ohio 43920

Fall Hawk Migration, 1972, Dolly Sods, Tucker County, W. Va.

William L. Wylie

"The wind is out of the west", another "bluebird day", pretty well sums up the fall hawk watch at Bear Rocks on Dolly Sods for 1972. While a westerly wind excites people at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in Pennsylvania, it spells doom for observers on Dolly Sods. Our best flights occur on days with no appreciable wind or when the wind is from the east.

We failed in our effort to have observers on the Rocks for the entire nine day period from September 16 through the 24th. No observations were made on Thursday or Friday, the 20th-21st. From the standpoint of observers, about 150 people were on Bear Rocks on Saturday, September 16—far more people than hawks observed.

I would like to express my gratitude to Mr. Howard Heimerdinger who arrived on the Sods on Monday, September 11 and maintained the vigil through Wednesday the 20th. He indicates that the weather from Monday through Thursday of that first week, was bad, the wind being 25 to 50 miles per hour from the west accompanied by fog, mist, and rain with temperatures in the 60's. The weather for the entire

observation period was unseasonably warm for this time of year. Except for those days previously mentioned, the only other fog and rain occurred on the 18th and 24th. The only "big day" occurred on Saturday, the 23rd, when the wind was out of the northeast. I made several trips to the Sods on weekends in October, but the weather was not conducive for good flights and virtually no time was spent at Bear Rocks. A day by day breakdown for the period is as follows:

Sept. 1972	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	TOTALS
Blk. Vult.				R		.			4	R	4
Sharp-shin.	2	4		A	1	3			43	A	53
Cooper's				I		1				I	1
Red-tail.				N		1			7	N	8
Red-shoul.									1		1
Brd-wing.	119	102	24	A	110	86			875	A	1316
Marsh.		1	3	N		1			1	N	6
Osprey.		1	1	D		1				D	5
Peregrine.						2					2
Kestrel.	1	5		F					1	F	7
Unident.	1	1		O	1	3				O	6
Totals	123	114	28	G	113	97			934	G	1409

Author's Comments

Dolly Sods has great appeal to many people, for various reasons, and indeed it should have. It is certainly one of the most unusual, even unique, pieces of real estate in the area. It is doubtful, however, that it is the consistently best spot in the state from which to observe the fall migration of hawks. Two facts quickly come to light. It is easy for even the casual observer on the Sods to note that the wind is generally from the west. It is also a fact that the best hawk flights on the Sods are on winds out of the east. There is an inconsistency here. A more ideal location for hawk flights would be a west facing slope and not one facing to the east as is the Allegheny Front.

About 70 miles northeast of Bear Rocks, the Allegheny Mountain merges with Backbone Mountain (Savage Mountain at that location) just west of the town of Madley, located on Pennsylvania State Route 96 in Bedford County. The two ridges separate at this point, Backbone Mountain forming the western edge, and Allegheny Mountain the eastern edge of a high broadening plateau to the southeast. It would appear to this author that migrating hawks "would make a decision" at the juncture of these two ridges. They would naturally choose Backbone Mountain on a westerly wind (the norm) or the Allegheny if the wind was out of the east. I would suggest that the two overlooks on Route 219, one six miles north of Thomas and the other about 8 miles south of Thomas, would be better for hawk migrations in this area on a westerly wind than would Dolly Sods. Since our winds are rather consistently out of the west, I propose that these areas on Backbone would be more productive in general than the Sods. I will endeavor to prove this hypothesis in the Fall of 1973. Yes, I will camp on the Sods; will see old and new friends; will visit the nets, the bogs, the beaver ponds; but I'll watch hawks from Backbone and compare data with those on Bear Rocks.

Forestry Center W.V.U., Morgantown, W. Va. 26506

Evening Grosbeak Mortality at Feeder

Robert C. Kletzly

Since practically all Brooks Bird Club members maintain bird feeders I thought the following might be of general interest.

On April 6, 1972 I received a call from an Elkins, W. Va. resident concerning children finding dead birds in her yard. Joe Rieffenberger and I investigated and found nearly 100 dead or dying Evening Grosbeaks in the area. On subsequent visits the mortality rate was lower but we always found several more dead birds. We contacted Mr. Owen Seelye, U.S. Game Management Agent in Charleston who sent some of the collected birds to the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center at Laurel, Maryland. The following report was received from Mr. E.H. Dustman, Director at the Center.

"Dr. Locke has received a final identification of the bacterial isolates which he made from the grosbeaks which you submitted. The cultures were identified by Animal Health Laboratory, University of Maryland as *Salmonella typhimurium*, a serious pathogen of rodents, birds, and occasionally man and his domestic livestock.

Salmonella typhimurium has been getting a lot of recognition in recent years as a serious problem among birds concentrated at backyard bird-feeding stations; the bacterium has been responsible for losses among house sparrows and cowbirds at these sites. Recently Dr. Locke found *S. typhimurium* to be responsible for losses among goldfinches, pine siskins, and house sparrows at a bird-feeding establishment near Baltimore.

Dr. Locke believes that this infection was responsible for the die-off of evening grosbeaks which you observed. Why only certain groups of birds are so severely affected while others in the immediate area do not appear to be involved is as yet unknown."

The report calmed our fears that someone was deliberately poisoning the birds. It also indicates that sometimes even peoples' best intentions can be harmful to birds.

Game biologist, Dept. Natural Resources, W. Va.
Elkins, W. Va.



FIELD NOTES

Mrs. Nevada Laitsch, Editor
MC 21, East Liverpool, Ohio

WINTER SEASON

December 1, 1972 through February 28, 1973

The extremely mild winter produced poor birding in most of our region. Temperatures were well above normal, cold snaps were infrequent and of short duration and snowfall was at a minimum with scarcely more than two inches accumulation at any one time.

Fewer birds than usual patronized feeders and trapping failed to produce many interesting results. Most reporters commented that although the usual winter residents were around there was little in the way of oddities.

Abundance of only two migrating species seem noteworthy of mention. Pine Siskins were plentiful and well distributed over the region and White-crowned Sparrows were present in unprecedented numbers.

Loons, grebes and herons—Several **Common Loons** were at Seneca Lake, near Barnesville, O. during December and 5 were seen there Jan. 1 (C&E). Two were found on the Youngstown, O. Christmas count (HOH). **Great Blue Herons** were recorded at Lewisburg, W. Va. Dec. 2 (COH); at Pymatuning Lake, Pa. Dec. 28 (HOH); Poca River and Charleston, W. Va. last week of December (NG) and at Seneca Lake, O. Jan. 1 (C&E).

Waterfowl—Small numbers of **Whistling Swans** were seen on Mosquito Lake, near Youngstown, O. in December (HOH). The number of wintering **Canada Geese** was about normal at Pymatuning Lake, Pa. (HOH) and McClintic Wildlife Station, Mason County, W. Va. (NG). Two **Blue Geese** were seen at Pymatuning Lake Feb. 14 (HOH). Not more than a dribble of ducks were in the region during the winter and few had appeared before the end of the period.

Hawks and Eagles—The wintering population of hawks appeared a little better than usual. **Cooper's Hawks** were seen occasionally at Lewisburg, W. Va. and East Liverpool, O. **Red-tailed Hawks** were mentioned in most reports. **Red-shouldered Hawks** were active in the Charleston, W. Va. area by mid February and Gluck had located four nesting pairs before the end of the period. 3 **Rough-legged Hawks** were observed at Pymatuning Lake, Pa. Dec. 28 (HOH); one was seen on three occasions in northern Columbiana County, Ohio during January (NL) and one was seen in Brown County, O. Jan. 12 (WS). A juvenile **Golden Eagle** was seen at Pipestem State Park, Summers County, W. Va. in late December (fide OJ). 5 **Bald Eagles** wintered

at Pymatuning Lake, Pa. (Supt. Sickles field (HOH)). A pair of **Marsh Hawks** wintered at Lewisburg, W. Va. (COH). The population of **Sparrow Hawks** appeared about normal.

Shorebirds, gulls and doves—**Killdeers** were mentioned in several reports. Bell reported 99 on the Clarksville, Pa. Christmas count for an all time high there. A **Woodcock** was considered unusual on the Youngstown, O. Christmas count (HOH). A record number of 24 **Common Snipe** was found on the Clarksville, Pa. Christmas count (RKB). **Herring** and **Ring-billed Gulls** appeared sporadically in the region sometimes building up to good numbers. 65 **Bonaparte's Gulls** were included on the Youngstown, O. Christmas count. **Mourning Doves** appeared to be in excellent numbers with exception of Barnesville, O. where they were few in number (C&E).

Owls—As usual little comment on owls was found in reports. Are they really scarce as reports indicate or have our nocturnal habits been altered so much that we no longer hear them? **Screech Owls** were reported nesting in Wood Duck boxes at McClintic Wildlife Station (Matthews fide NG). A **Great Horned Owl** was found on the nest Jan. 25 in Coonskin Park, Charleston, W. Va. (NG). Two were heard calling in late afternoon near East Liverpool, O. Jan. 8 (ERC).

Kingfishers and woodpeckers—**Belted Kingfishers** were mentioned in several reports. A few **Flickers** were reported wintering but not nearly as many as expected during such a mild winter. 2 **Redheaded Woodpeckers** were seen near Lewisburg, W. Va. Dec. 29 and several wintered in a cut-over woodland to the south (COH). 2 were seen near Waynesburg, Pa. (RKB) and they were found at Barnesville, O. (C&E). The few reports of **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** probably indicates that fewer than usual remained in the region during the winter.

Flycatchers and corvids—Five **Phoebes** were included in the Pipestem area Christmas count and a like number on the Charleston count. One was seen at Lewisburg, W. Va. Feb. 9 (COH). **Blue Jays** continue to increase in our region. The population of **Common Crows** appeared stable in the Charleston area and more than usual wintered in the East Liverpool, O. area. However numbers were considered down in Greene County, Pa. (RKB).

Chickadees, nuthatches, creepers and wrens—**Black-capped Chickadees** were much fewer in numbers at Morgantown, W. Va. (GAH). None were found on the Clarksville, Pa. Christmas count or at Bell's feeders. Gluck also found numbers down at Charleston, W. Va. Hall considered **White-breasted Nuthatches** scarce at Morgantown, W. Va. Although **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were included in most reports, wintering numbers were much lower than the heavy fall migration promised. **Brown Creepers** also appeared lower than usual in numbers. **Winter Wrens** were listed in most reports. **Carolina Wrens** appear to be very plentiful and well distributed in their range.

Mimics and thrushes—**Mockingbirds** wintered in increased numbers in the southern portion of the region. A **Brown Thrasher** came to a feeder regularly at Fairmont, W. Va. (AC) and one wintered at East Liverpool, O. Their numbers were considered way down in the Charleston, W. Va. area (GFH). A fair number of **Robins** remained in the region. 3 **Hermit Thrush** were on the Charleston Christmas count and 2 on the Pipestem area count. Most reporters commented favorably on numbers of wintering **Bluebirds**.

Kinglets, waxwings and shrikes—More than usual **Golden-crowned Kinglets** were in East Liverpool, O. during the period and Gluck considered numbers normal at

Charleston, W. Va. There were few reports of **Ruby-crowned Kinglets**. Good numbers of **Cedar Waxwings** were seen at Greensburg, Pa. throughout the period (VO). 68 of this species were included on the Youngstown, O. Christmas count and a flock of 25-30 was seen daily at East Liverpool, O.

Warblers—Very few warblers elected to remain in the region despite the open winter. A **Cape May Warbler** was banded at Clarksville, Pa. Nov. 5 and was seen until Jan. 10 (RKB). Only 3 **Myrtle Warblers** were included on the Charleston Christmas count and 2 on the Pipestem area count. One was recorded at Barnesville, O. Jan. 1 (C&E).

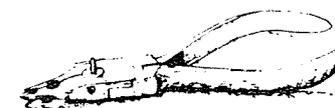
Blackbirds and Orioles—Three **Rusty Blackbirds** were seen on the Pipestem area Christmas count. A female **Baltimore Oriole** attempted to winter at the Conrad feeder in Triadelphia, W. Va. but disappeared in mid January.

Grosbeaks and finches—**Evening Grosbeaks** were selective in their wintering locations. More reports came from areas of higher elevations. Many reporters stated that they were scarce. On the other hand **Purple Finches** were well distributed over the area. They were mentioned in most reports in numbers ranging from a few to good sized flocks. They were especially plentiful near the end of the period. A male **House Finch** was seen at Greensburg, Pa. Feb. 23-24 (VO). We can expect more records of this species as it is rapidly spreading in the east. **Pine Siskins** staged the most extensive flight in recent years into our region. They were well distributed, came in droves to feeders and were still present in good numbers at the end of the period. The wintering population of **Goldfinches** was good but in many places they were out numbered by siskins. A few **Red Crossbills** were reported. A small flock was seen at Lewisburg, W. Va. Dec. 30 (COH) and a flock was seen near Charleston at the end of the period. Fewer than usual **Towhees** remained during the winter. Charleston, W. Va. reporters regarded their numbers as very disappointing.

Sparrows—Noteworthy was 2 **Vesper Sparrows** found in the Pipestem area on Christmas count. Numbers of **Dark-eyed Juncos** appeared normal. **Tree Sparrows** were undoubtedly down again this year. A **Chipping Sparrow** was included on the Pipestem area Christmas count. There were scattered reports of **Field Sparrows** but no flocks were reported. Good numbers of **White-crowned Sparrows**, mostly adults, wintered at Barnesville, O. **White-throated Sparrows** which have been increasing as a wintering species, remained throughout the period in unprecedented numbers. **Fox Sparrows** were frequent feeder visitors at Philippi, W. Va. (K&EB). Heimerdinger considered the number of **Song Sparrows** way down in the Youngstown, O. area and the Barnesville, O. ladies labeled them as "fewish". Numbers appeared normal at East Liverpool, O.

Contributors—**RKB**; Ralph K. Bell, **K&EB**; Kyle and Eleanor Bush, **ERC**; Everett R. Chandler, **C&E**; Mary Chapman and Mabel Edgerton, **AC**; Avanel Criss, **NG**; Norris Gluck, **GAH**; George A. Hall, **COH**; Charles O. Handley, Sr., **HOH**; Howard O. Heimerdinger, **GFH**; George F. Hurley, **OJ**; Oliver Johnson, **VO**; Virginia Olsen, **GP**; Glen Phillips, **MS**; Merit Skaggs, **DS**; David Smith, **WS**; William Smith—Mrs. Nevada Laitsch, MC 21, East Liverpool, Ohio 43920

The Gathering Cage



Constance Katholi, Editor
930 Woodland Avenue
South Charleston, W. Va.

Columbus, Ohio. This spring I have had the impression that I am banding fewer birds than in recent years. When I got around to checking this statistically I find that my impression is correct. The following table gives the cumulative total of birds banded by February 1, March 1, April 1, May 1, and May 15 for the years indicated. The totals are for all species banded, mostly Grackles, Red-Wings, Cowbirds and Starlings. The fifth column gives the average for the first four columns, i.e. for the first four years. The last column gives the cumulative totals for the present year.

CUMULATIVE TOTALS OF BIRDS BANDED

	1969	1970	1971	1972	Avg. 4 Yrs.	1973
Feb. 1	282	0	799	377	364	579
Mar. 1	1004	677	1526	979	1054	1461
Apr. 1	3201	1625	2357	2211	2348	1924
May 1	3640	3040	3738	2970	3347	2157
May 15	4087	3537	4390	3169	3796	2310

The total banded up to May 15 this year is only 2310 as compared with 3796 for the average of the four earlier years. This represents a drop of about 40 percent.

If curves are plotted using the data in the table, the totals for February 1, March 1 and April 1 do not show large differences through the years, but by May 1, 1973 there is a marked reduction; and by May 15 the reduction is still greater. This suggests that the present trend deals with migrants rather than winter residents.

The reason for all this is not clear. One possible variable is the ecology of the area. The decoy trap is located on the University Farm with a small woodlot directly to the west, some storage buildings not far to the south, and open fields north and east. In recent years some class-room buildings have been constructed about a quarter mile to the east with consequent reduction of farm crop areas where the birds might forage. However the annual totals of birds banded do not correlate at all clearly with the progress of the construction. In fact the totals peaked in 1969 and 1970 and dropped in 1971 and 1972. Still we cannot rule out ecology completely as a factor in the present spring trend.

The only other variable that appears pertinent is the weather. It has been very wet this spring and this may have had some effect on the migration. If things pick up later in the year it will tend to confirm this hypothesis. We shall have to wait.—Harold E. Burt

McClintic Refuge, Pt. Pleasant, W. Va.

This concerns a "foreign recovery" for the grid named CHESHIRE, OHIO,—better known as McClintic Refuge! A Brown thrasher banded there as an adult on April 23, 1968 (hence hatched at least in 1967) was found dead in April 1972 (the actual date was not furnished by the finder) at Black Mt. North Carolina. This is ten miles east of Asheville; and 200 miles due south of McClintic. My letter of thanks to the finder elicited a nice reply which added considerable color to the cold computer-punched information. The bird had been found in desiccated condition on the floor of child's playhouse, where it was presumed the family cat had deposited it after carrying it from a nearby field. The bird had not been mutilated, possibly because it was already too dried out. On just such knife-edge chances hang receipt of recovery data! Most of the McClintic "recoveries" are really "repeats", i.e. birds recovered by fellow banders at later dates, although some of these are of interesting longevity. (See back issues of *The Gathering Cage*.) (One bird of mine, a towhee, was recovered by an outsider—a resident along the border of the refuge.) Because of the date it seems safe to assume that the thrasher was "on territory" at the time of banding. This April, however, was he enroute at the time of demise? Or was Black Mt. his wintering grounds? More likely the former; certain other thrasher recoveries tend to indicate that West Virginia thrashers spend the winter in Alabama and Louisiana.—Connie Katholi

South Charleston, W. Va.—Attendance at the EBBA Convention at Island Beach, N.J. in April 1973 brought a meeting with Jay Shepard of the Banding Lab, and his File Box of Recovery Cards of the latest batch. The procedure was, 1. to mention to him your permit number, 2. a running check through the file, and 3. a card or cards of recovery for the lucky winner. Bonanza for yours truly, a winner with two cards: 1. for a goldfinch (ASY-M on April '71 in South Charleston) found dead in November 1972 near Sissonville; and 2. for a Purple Finch recovered in the best way of all (Code 89)—"alive, released" by another bander, one who was, in fact, in attendance at the meeting, Charles Blake of Hillsborough, N.C. The finch was in brown plumage when banded in South Charleston, March 1969;—a rosy male when recaptured this spring in North Carolina.—Constance Katholi

McClintic Refuge, Pt. Pleasant, W. Va.—Jerie Stewart and Maxine Kiff continue with their coverage of the refuge on weekends whenever possible. Of considerable interest was the "recovery" (i.e. return) in April 1973 of a Cardinal originally banded there in March 1966 by Charley Handley. An item above tells of a Brown Thrasher from McClintic recovered in the mountains of North Carolina. These two pieces of data have brought to a head some loose ideas which have been floating around in my mind for some time: that a summary or write-up be made of the total banding effort at the refuge. For a beginning it would be of value to collect all available data on returns and recoveries from all the banders who have worked there. Many of the birds renetted on the area have run up outstanding longevity records which are worthwhile. The *Gathering Cage*, July 1972, p. 89, contained a brief discussion of several of these birds. It is true that this will require exertion on the part of each and every bander involved—among them, Charley Handley, Lloyd Kiff, Robert Yunick, Robert Kletzly, George and Ruth Ballentine, Anne Shreve, Maxine Kiff, Jerie

Stewart and Connie Katholi,—(I may not have listed them all); because I can think of no one magic button which can be punched to retrieve this information painlessly.

Additionally, a long-term goal would be a history of the operation at the "Barn" with a survey of **all** species banded, including break-downs on age, sex, and numbers of individuals. Some of you will remember that an attempt was once made to run an Operation Recovery Station during fall migration under the direction of George Ballentine in the manner then practiced by the coastal stations, and of-course, at Red Creek. However, the banders in the area then were too few to provide adequate coverage. All this material should be gathered and reviewed that the hours and energies which went into it not be lost. Maxine Kiff has mentioned that she has in her possession already a large portion of this data, and would, I believe, be willing to serve as a collector of it,—as will I. This is no more than a proposal at the present time, and it would be a pleasure to hear opinions from others of you. In conclusion a plea that you will, however, begin at once the research of your records.—Constance Katholi

Marietta, Ohio—Just at dark on May 5, 1973 I recaptured in my yard a House Wren which I had banded in June 1972 shortly after it had left the nest. In its juvenile plumage it had been normal as far as I could see. This year it has a pure white head with only a small blotch of black at the back of the head and on the back of the neck. The throat and breast are light gray, the eyes are black, the bill is white except at the very tip; the wings, tail, belly, etc., are in normal plumage. Not having a flash gun for my camera I held the wren overnight in order to take some pictures the morning; but we had trouble holding such a tiny bird and did not get all the pictures I'd have liked.

A Harris Sparrow appeared at our feeder in February, but the neighbor's cat kept it on its toes all the time and it didn't stay long in our vicinity. The one occasion that the bird stayed all morning was the day we had a blizzard and the cat was not outside. Twice when the weather was fair I had nets set in case the sparrow would show up, but the cat was out there too. I didn't have a chance. Some day I am going to make a list of the birds-I-didn't-catch—the ones which walked under the nets, or perched on top of the nets or poles. At home I must always leave some space beneath the nets so that the dogs can walk under. They follow the children to school (next door) and then come to my yard.

A Harris Sparrow in breeding plumage was here on April 26, just long enough to sing a song and to have his picture taken. Was it the same one?—Jerie Stewart

Clarksville, Pa.

There are Purple Martins in this area this year, but their numbers are **greatly** reduced. Because they are birds which prefer to nest in colonies, the survivors of last year's Hurricane Agnes seem to pick out one box in an area and call it "home". We saw our first Purple Martin this spring at 7:30 a.m. on March 28, and there were 3 here two mornings later. But none of these birds stayed very long. The result is that we have no martins nesting on the farm for the first time since we put our first box up in April 1949. On April 27 of that year the first 3 martins came and our colony was on its way. I believe 3 pairs eventually nested in the box that first year; they were probably all sub-adults as they are the ones that usually establish new colonies.

There has been a lot of extra interest in martins this year because of the publicity

they received in the local papers last summer when so many of them died. Because of this interest word gets around as to who has martins in each community. The population of most colonies ranges from 2 to 7 pairs, but one colony in Nineveh has an estimated 15 pairs. This has been the largest colony in the county for years, with several boxes containing rooms for over 200 pairs.

From conversations with a number of people I have concluded that there are somewhere between 15 to 20 boxes with nesting martins in this summer of 1973 in Greene County, Pa. (an area of 577 square miles.) When averaged out that would be probably 75 to 100 pairs of adults. These should raise about 350 young unless the summer is so exceptionally hot that many die from the heat. This will be a good start toward repopulating the area again. One major factor which helped their cause was the favorable weather conditions after their arrival in the spring. Adult mortality was almost nil because the cold spells were not prolonged. It rained a lot but the temperature remained high enough that there was some insect activity. We will be interested in the report from the Charleston group on the martin population at the big roost there in August. Let's hope the increase over last year will be quite noticeable.—Ralph K. Bell

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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.

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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.

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