This report is intended to provide as complete a list of the birds of the Lower Ohio River Valley in West Virginia as possible and to indicate their seasonal status and relative abundance based on current knowledge. This is the third comprehensive treatment of the birds of this particular region, and we have drawn heavily upon the previous reports by Seeber and Edeburn (1951) and Edeburn et al. (1960), the comprehensive state summary by Hall (1983), as well as our own field work and that of various associates, in compiling the present list.

Although this paper is an attempt to summarize the existing information on the status and distribution of birds in southwestern West Virginia, we hope that it will serve as a stimulus for future studies, especially by pointing out some of the more conspicuous gaps in our knowledge of the birds of this area. This report includes records through the end of 1985.

Geographical Scope

The region covered by this report is essentially that portion of the Lower Ohio River Valley between the Great Kanawha and Big Sandy Rivers (Fig. 1). It includes the parts of Mason, Cabell, and Wayne Counties in West Virginia which form the Ohio River Valley and the adjoining hills, as well as the river itself. In the more northern portions of Mason County we have considered only a narrow strip less than a mile in width, but in Cabell County, where there has been more ornithological activity, the area of coverage extends as much as 10 miles from the Ohio River. The Wayne County portion includes the newly created Beech Fork State Park, the Pritchard-Fort Gay area, and East Lynn Lake State Park, although the latter area has been poorly investigated. In addition, we have included many observations from the Ohio side of the river at Kyger Creek and Cheshire, both north of Point Pleasant, and from the Point Pleasant side of the Great Kanawha River, especially from the McClintic Wildlife Station. Observations, especially of waterfowl, made on the Ohio side of the river are also included.

Within these boundaries, the most important specific birding localities are as follows:

Birds of the Lower Ohio River Valley in West Virginia

Lloyd Kiff, Thomas D. Igou, Harry E. Slack III, and Leon Wilson
Ashton (McCullough's) Ponds: These three ponds are located in Mason County one half mile from State Route 2 on the north side of the Ashton-Upland Road. (This is about 23 miles north-east of Huntington). These ponds were once one of the most interesting areas ornithologically in southern West Virginia (Edeburn 1947), but since the spot was first "discovered" by Wetmore (1937), it has undergone extreme ecological changes, all deleterious to birdlife. The ponds are evidently a portion of an old winding streambed, and up until the late 1950's the first two ponds were surrounded by a dense stand of willows, alders, and buttonbushes, which attracted many migrant passerines and provided nesting cover for various species of waterbirds (Gilbert et al. 1942, Edeburn 1947). Subsequently, this vegetation was repeatedly removed, and the area was bulldozed by the land owner in an apparent effort to increase the extent of his arable acreage. Finally, wholesale dredging was undertaken at this site in 1983, rendering the first pond, formerly the most important, virtually unsuitable for birds. Vegetation surrounding the second pond, which also attracted many migrants and nesting species, including Hooded Mergansers, King Rails (once), and Blue Grosbeaks, has also been removed recently. The third pond has remained relatively undisturbed and is located approximately one half mile north of the second, and it is ringed by large deciduous trees and is fenced off from cattle. This is an excellent place to observe migrating passerines, and both Wood Ducks and Hooded Mergansers have nested here. The first two ponds are easily accessible from the road, while permission is required to visit the third pond, which is located on the far side of two cattle enclosures.

Beech Fork State Park and Beech Fork Lake complex: There are two main areas at this Wayne County park, the Bowen Campground and the dam area. The campground can be reached by exiting State Route 10 on either the Green Valley Road or the Hughes Branch Road. The Bowen Campground is on the right when entering the park, and it has four nature trails which are excellent for observing migrants and nesting passerines. The lake itself affords views of migrating waterfowl and shorebirds. Nesting Canada Geese, Blue-winged Teals, Spotted Sandpipers, Cliff Swallows, and possibly Ospreys make this area important to birders. The dam area at the other end of the lake can be reached via State Route 152 at Lavalette, and there is a parking area at the end of a four-mile drive. The Tri-State Audubon Society maintains a Bluebird Trail to the right of the dam entrance, and there is a single nature trail that leads from the left side of the dam into deciduous woods. This is an excellent place for Red-headed Woodpeckers and wintering Hermit Thrushes. Rough-winged Swallows nest in the overflow area to the right of the dam, and Canada Geese nest at the base of the dam. This area is also good for observing migrating waterfowl and shorebirds, as well as passerines.

Glenwood Swamp: Located between State Route 2 and the Ohio River approximately 18 miles north of Huntington in Cabell County, this area consists of a fresh water swamp about a city block wide and one mile long adjacent to extensive open fields, which are alternately cultivated or left fallow, surrounded by strips of deciduous woodland. This is an excellent area for
waterfowl, shorebird, and passerine migration, as well as an important refueling locality for various species favoring well watered areas, including Red-tailed Hawks, Willow Flycatchers, Tree Swallows, and Prothonotary Warblers. Permission to bird at this locality may be obtained from the caretaker at the old "General Jenkins House". Since there is a good chance that the swamp and surrounding acreage will soon be acquired by a governmental agency, purportedly for a managed hunting and fishing facility, further observations on the birds here are highly desirable. Such data may be useful in influencing future management directions at this interesting and important site.

**Kyger Creek Power Plant/Cheshire Ponds:** The Kyger Creek Power Plant is located about seven miles north of Gallipolis, Ohio along State Route 7. This facility was constructed in the mid-1960's, and its full impact on local waterfowl and shorebird numbers can be appreciated by reading the details of Slack's (1978 and in press) six-and-a-half year study. Clearly, by default, Kyger Creek has performed the function intended for McClintic Wildlife Station in an era of ecological changes at the latter site. Although Canada Geese and Mallards are the only waterfowl known to nest at Kyger Creek, the area is critically important as a migration stopover site and wintering locality for numerous species of shorebirds. Permission to walk on the dikes surrounding the large overflow pond on the west side of the road may be obtained at the visitor's center at the main plant. There are two other sizable ponds also located in this area. There are several other smaller ponds in the area, including one at the adjacent Gavin Power Plant, which have recently been discovered by birders, and their relative importance to birdlife has not yet been determined. The Cheshire Ponds are located one-and-a-half miles north of the Kyger Creek facility and may be reached by turning west at the only stoplight in Cheshire, driving three-fourths of a mile, then turning onto a small residential road. The ponds are located behind a fenced-in area on the left, and during migration they generally offer an interesting variety of migrating shorebirds and waterfowl.

**McClintic Wildlife Station (MWS):** During the 1950's and 1960's man-made MWS was the most important single locality for water birds within our area, a region remarkably depauperate in natural wetlands habitats. The 2500-acre facility is a portion of a World War II TNT plant located 7 miles north of Point Pleasant, Mason County, and about a mile south of the Ohio River. Following the transfer of the property from the federal government to the state, a number of marshes were created at MWS, and the response to this habitat by waterfowl was immediate (Appel 1957). It has been operated by the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources (now the Department of Commerce) primarily as a hunting facility with secondary consideration given to other forms of passive use, including fishing and birding. A program of waterfowl banding was initiated by the state in February 1953 (Appel 1957) and has continued until the present. Ecological changes, primarily the reduction of open water habitat, that have occurred at MWS in the past two decades have given rise to the following changes observed in the numbers and variety of waterfowl and shorebirds there. During the 1950's, for example, it was not uncommon to encounter flocks of up to 5,000 waterfowl (Appel 1957), but such concentrations are now a thing of the past at MWS. However, as some habitats have been lost at MWS, others have been emerged and the area is now probably much better for various swamp species, including moorhens (Igou 1984).

**Mercer's Bottom:** Located along State Route 2 just north of Ashton in Mason County, this former marshy area once attracted significant numbers of shorebirds in migration. The marsh was mostly drained years ago, and few waterbirds occur there presently.

**Miller's Fork:** This new hot spot for local birders is located 8 miles south of Beech Fork Dam in the area where Miller's Fork enters Beech Fork Lake. It can be reached via State Route 152 and Wilson's Creek Road. At Miller's Fork an old road goes north towards the dam, and there are paths on both sides of the lake. Much of the area remains unexplored ornithologically, but 127 bird species were recorded here during 1995, including Wild Turkey, King Rail, Sharp-tailed Sparrows and nesting Tree Swallows and Prothonotary Warblers.

**Ohio River:** Perhaps reflecting the general decline in waterfowl populations in the eastern United States in recent decades, as well as increased levels of barge traffic and other disruptive factors, the Ohio River no longer supports the large concentrations of migrating and wintering waterbirds that were characteristic there as recently as the 1950's. However, the river is still the dominant physical feature in our area, and it provides the principal natural route for waterfowl and other species, e.g., Bald Eagles and Ospreys, passing through the region. Furthermore, the Ohio River Valley contains the most extensive bottomland habitat preferred by such species as Red-tailed and Rough-legged Hawks, Horned Larks, American Pipits, and numerous sparrow species.

**Ona:** Although not particularly distinctive in an ecological sense, this Cabell County locality has yielded a disproportionate number of important distributional records because several of the most active birders in the region lived there. A banding station has been operated on "Bloomin' Hill" since 1961, first by Lloyd Kiff, then by Maxine Kiff, and during the past decade by Leon Wilson. A Christmas Count has been conducted at Ona since 1955, and it has traditionally ranked among the largest in the state in number of species reported.

Localities mentioned in the species accounts

**West Virginia:***

- **Mason County:**
  - Barboursville
  - Beech Fork State Park
  - Chief Cornstalk
  - Green Acres
  - Wayne County:
    - Chief Cornstalk
    - Cabwaylingo State
  - Apple Grove
  - Cass Fork State Park
  - Beech Fork Lake
  - Cabwaylingo State

Among the earliest bird observations of any significance in our region were those of George Washington, who mentioned seeing turkeys and waterfowl on the Ohio and Great Kanawha Rivers (fide Hall 1983). Along the Ohio River at a point about 10 miles above the mouth of the Kanawha River, Washington's party landed on 30 October 1770 and proceeded some distance from the river. Here they found numerous shallow ponds and "a couple of birds in size between a Swan and a Goose; and in colour somewhat between the two; being darker than the young Swan and of a more sulty colour; the cry of these was as unusual as the Bird itself, as I never heard any noise resembling it before." (Christy 1930). It is quite likely that these birds were Sandhill Cranes.

Although various prominent 19th Century ornithologists, including Alexander Wilson and John James Audubon, passed through the area, they left little record of their ornithological observations in southwestern West Virginia. Audubon (1831) did record the occurrence of the Carolina Parakeet (Conuropsis carolinensis) on the Great Kanawha River (presumably near Point Pleasant), the only record for this now-extinct species in our area. Wilson reported seeing vast flocks of Passenger Pigeons in Mason County in 1810 (fide Handley 1976).

The first formal ornithological investigations in southwestern West Virginia appear to have been those of a party of collectors from the Smithsonian Institution in 1936 under the direction of Alexander Wetmore (1937). The Smithsonian field team collected specimens and made formal observations in our area of coverage between 19 April to 4 May and 25 October to 5 November. Specific localities visited by this party included Barboursville, Point Pleasant, Ben Lomond, Mercer's Bottom, Ashton, and along the Ohio River near Huntington.

Karl Haller (1940) conducted an important study of the birds of Mason, Cabell, Jackson, and Putnam Counties between 1936 to 1940, concentrating his personal efforts in the former two counties. His list, which included 232 species and subspecies, represented the first compilation of its kind for southwestern West Virginia.

The comprehensive check-list of West Virginia birds by Brooks (1944) included the most important records of birds from the Lower Ohio River Valley to that date. However, the southwestern portion of the state was still poorly investigated ornithologically at that time, at least relative to more northern areas where there were more observers. It should be noted that all or most of the "Great Kanawha River" records by the Morgan brothers were cited by Brooks were presumably made in the region of Poca and Winfield, Putnam County, and therefore fall outside the area covered by this report.

Beginning in the early 1940's, Dr. N. Bayard Green, of Marshall University (then Marshall College), began compiling significant bird observations, primarily migration dates, which were reported to him by students, Huntington Bird Study Club members, and other local birding enthusiasts. This task was assumed by the late Dr. Ralph Edburn, also of the Marshall Department of Biological Sciences, in 1945, and he continued this practice until his retirement in 1970. Based partly on these files and also upon his own field work, one of Edburn's graduate students, Edward Seeber, produced the first version of the present list as his master's thesis (Seeber and Edeburn 1952), thus laying the groundwork for future investigators.

Seeber was followed in the Huntington area by the two Land brothers, Hugh and Holwell, who rapidly became absolute tyrants at finding birds new to the area. The Land brothers were the first local birders to concentrate on the waterfowl and waders to be found on or along the Ohio River and at McClintic Wildlife Station, and the records they compiled between 1951 and 1956 have left us with a valuable picture of what conditions were like during that period. A revision (Edeburn et al. 1960) of the original list of the birds of the Lower Ohio River Valley by Seeber and Edeburn (1951) was based largely upon the new data obtained by the Land brothers.
During the late 1950's a group of eager young birders formed a loose association which they called (somewhat tongue-in-cheek) the "Ona Ornithological Society". The nucleus of this group included Wendell "Sonny" Argabrite, Orman Hall, Tom Igou, Lloyd Kiff, Harry Slack, and Charles Viers, and the slightly more senior Maxine Kiff and Leon Wilson. Over the past three decades some of the "OOS" have been among the most active bird students in the Cabell-Mason-Wayne County region, conducting Christmas Counts, Century Days, Breeding Bird Surveys, maintaining banding stations, and engaging in other field activities. The present report is based in large part upon the collective field work and impressions of the "OOS" with valuable additions by several newer Huntington birders, especially Jonathan Igou, Gary Rankin, and Ed Smith.

**Format**

We have followed in large part the system suggested by Hall (1983) in describing abundance (numbers in parentheses indicate the number of individuals which can be seen by a single observer in a full day's work in the field in a suitable habitat):

- **Very abundant**: 1000+
- **Abundant**: 201 to 1000
- **Very common**: 51 to 200
- **Common**: 21 to 50
- **Fairly common**: 7 to 20
- **Uncommon**: 1 to 6
- **Rare**: 1 to 6 per season, but is found in every appropriate season.
- **Casual**: Inclusion based on two or a few records, not sufficient to constitute regular occurrence, but for which subsequent records are not improbable (AOU 1983).
- **Accidental**: Inclusion based on one or two records; unlikely to occur again (AOU 1983).

We believe that these categories work successfully with passerine species, but they are less satisfactory for certain larger birds, especially predators. Their absolute numbers may always be expected to be lower than those of their prey species, even when they are regarded as common. For such species, we have applied a more arbitrary scale of abundance, but one which we hope reflects a general consensus among local birders.

The following categories are used to describe the status of each species:

- **Resident**: Usually present at all times within a given season.
- **Migrant**: Occurs along an established migration route, generally at a predictable time of the year.
- **Visitant**: Not always present at all times within a given season.

We have followed the criteria given by Hall (1971, 1983) in establishing the species list. Those species that do not meet one of his five criteria for acceptance to the West Virginia list are classified as "hypothetical", and their names are enclosed in brackets.

Nomenclature and sequence of species follow the Sixth Edition of the American Ornithologists' Union Check List of North American Birds (1983). Because certain of the vernacular name changes in this work are relatively still new to many birders, we have given the former names (AOU 1957) in parentheses where a major change has occurred.

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We acknowledge a particular debt to Dr. George Hall, whose excellent and long-needed "West Virginia Birds" (1983) has proved to be invaluable in the compilation of this list. The manuscript was read critically by Dr. Hall, George Hurley, Maxine Kiff, and Dr. Gary Rankin. Dr. Rankin also prepared the map. Dr. N.B. Green and Dr. Michael Seidel assisted in locating specimens in the Marshall University collection. We thank Dr. Jay Buckelew for his encouragement and cooperation throughout the preparation of the manuscript.
Principal observers

Observers cited more than once in the following species accounts are indicated by initials, as follows: Wendell Argabrite (WA), Steve Bolar (SB), Mike Griffith (MG), George Hurley (GH), Jonathan Igou (JI), Tom Igou (TI), Phil Jackson (PJ), Julie Kiff (JK), Lloyd Kiff (LK), Maxine Kiff (MK), Robert Kletzly (RK), Holwell K. Land (HKL), Hugh C. Land (HCL), Gary Rankin (GR), Janis Rankin (JR), Ed Smith (ES), John Smith (JS), Harry Slack (HS), Holwell K. Land (HKL), Hugh C. Land (HCL), Gary Rankin (GR), Janis Rankin (JR), Ed Smith (ES), John Smith (JS), Harry Slack (HS), Huntington Tri-State Audubon Society (TSAS), Charles Viers (CV), Claude Wellman (CW), Leon Wilson (LW).

Species Accounts

RED-THROATED LOON (Gavia stellata). Casual spring and fall migrant on the Ohio River. The only spring record was by HC & HKL on the Ohio River in Mason County on 14 March 1953 (Edeburn et al. 1960), and they also saw 1 in the same area on 22 November 1952. One was present at Kyger Creek from 26 October to 9 November 1970 (HS), and another was found there on 26 October 1975 (HS). Casual winter visitant. The only winter records are single birds on 29 December 1963 on the Ohio River near Crown City (TI) and on 2 January 1967 on the Ohio River across from Glenwood Swamp (TI).

COMMON LOON (Gavia immer). Rare spring migrant. A number of single Common Loons have been seen in late May or early June, often remaining for several days at the same spot. It is probable that such individuals are non-breeding sub-adults which do not complete the northward migration to the usual breeding grounds. Rare fall migrant and a rare winter resident.

PIED-BILLED GREBE (Podilymbus podiceps). Fairly common spring migrant. Rare summer resident. Young birds of the year were found at MWS in 1972 (Hall 1983), 2 adults and 1 young were seen on a pond at Milton on 18 June 1981 (TI), and 2 adults and 3 young were discovered on a pond at Apple Grove on 27 July 1983 (TI). Fairly common fall migrant and uncommon winter resident.

RED-NECKED GREBE (Podiceps grisegena). Casual visitant. One was found on the Ohio River on 3 November 1951 (HCL & HKL) (Edeburn et al. 1960). Single individuals were seen on the Ohio River at Huntington on 1 and 15 December 1982 (TI) and on 13 February 1982 (G&JR). Spring records include 1 at Kyger Creek on 22 March 1976 (HS), and 1 on 24 May 1925 from the Ohio River in Cabell County by William Waldron (Haller 1940).

HORNED GREBE (Podiceps auritus). Uncommon fall migrant. A flock of 293 seen on the Ohio River on 24 November 1960 (TI, LK) was noteworthy. Rare winter resident. Uncommon spring migrant, usually seen in greatest numbers in April (Slack 1978).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN (Pelecanus erythrorhynchos). Accidental. One was found by WA on 1 November 1963 on the Ohio River near East Huntington, where it was seen by several observers (Kiff 1965).

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT (Phalacrocorax auritus). Rare spring and fall migrant. This species is usually seen from early March to early May, most frequently in mid-April. Mid-October to late November is the most likely period to find cormorants in the fall. Virtually all local records are from the Ohio River or Kyger Creek. Rare winter visitor with 3 records, including 4 seen on 31 December 1973 and 1 seen on 29 December 1974, all at Kyger Creek (WA, HS), and 2 on the Ohio River at 12-Pole Creek between 27 December 1985 to at least February 1986 (TI).

AMERICAN BITTERN (Botaurus lentiginosus). Rare spring and fall migrant. Hall (1983) correctly noted that American Bitterns are observed "regularly [in summer] at Ashton and the McClintic Wildlife Station in Mason County …", and there are other summer records from Wayne County (Green 1949b). However, specific nesting records are still lacking. Casual winter visitant. One was seen on 22 December 1974 on the Ona Christmas Count (WA), and another was recorded on 20 December 1969 (HS) at Ashton. It is probable this secretive species is more common at all seasons than the existing records indicate.

LEAST BITTERN (Ixobrychus exilis). Rare spring migrant, usually seen between early April to late May. Rare summer resident. Hall (1983) stated that "it nests, probably every year at the McClintic Wildlife Station and perhaps in a few other marshy areas of Mason County." Nests were recorded at MWS in 1957 (Appel 1957), on 18 May 1969 (HS), and an adult was seen feeding 2 young in a nest there on 26 June 1985 (TI). Presumably a rare fall migrant, although seldom recorded. A dead bird was found in Huntington on 7 September 1957 (Edeburn et al. 1960).

GREAT BLUE HERON (Ardea herodias). Fairly common spring migrant. Rare summer resident; most birds seen at this season are probably sub-adults. The only local nesting record was in 1972 near East Lynn Lake (Hall 1983), although the species seems to occur in our area throughout the year. Fairly common fall migrant and fairly common winter resident.

GREAT EGRET (Casmerodius albus). Rare spring and summer visitant, usually seen in late March to mid-May. There are records from every month except for December and January. The earliest report is one found on 27 February 1976 on the Ohio River near Ashton (RH). Single individuals were seen at Kyger Creek on 9 July 1972 (HS), at Milton on 30 July 1972 (HS), at Huntington on 16 July 1981, at Ona on 14 August 1975 (HS), and at
Huntington on 18 August 1981 (JI, CW). Summer birds here are presumably post-breeding wanderers, probably from more southern localities. Casual in fall with only 3 records during that season.

SNOWY EGRET (Egretta thula). Casual spring visitant. Specific records include 1 seen in Cabell County on 2 May 1948 (Edeburn et al. 1960; record "uncertain"), 1 at MWS by Handley on 13 May 1959 (Handley 1978), 1 photographed at Barboursville on 17 April 1974 (HS), 1 at Kyger Creek on 14 May 1978 (HS), and 1 seen at the Chesapeake Airport on 11 May 1983 (ES). The latter bird was seen on the following two days by other observers (J&TI, GR, JH). One was found at MWS on 25 April 1984 (Smith 1984).

LITTLE BLUE HERON (Egretta caerulea). Casual spring and summer visitant. One was seen at MWS on 26 June 1965 (JS) (Handley 1976), 1 seen on 25-26 June 1969 near Wayne (HS), 1 at MWS on 23 April 1974 by J. Stewart (Hall 1983), and an adult was seen on 18 May 1983 near Fort Gay (J&TI, CW). Although specific records seem to be lacking, this species probably occurs here regularly in late summer and fall.

CATTLE EGRET (Bubulcus ibis). Casual visitant, but to be expected at any time during the warmer parts of the year. The first reports of this species in our area were single individuals seen near Point Pleasant on 12 May 1970 (HS) and 1 seen in Wayne County by S.C. Church on 1 May 1971 (Hall 1983).

GREEN-BACKED (GREEN) HERON (Butorides striatus). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in early April. Fairly common summer resident. Fairly common fall migrant, most frequently seen in late September or early October. There are only 2 winter records, single individuals on 27 December 1981 (JI, CW, ES) and on 21 December 1985 (TI), both north of Crown City on the bank of the Ohio River.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON (Nycticorax nycticorax). Rare spring migrant, occasionally seen in late April and early May. Rare summer resident (?), but definite breeding records lacking from our area. An adult was seen on 26 July 1981 (TI), 11 were seen on 18 August 1981 (JI, CW), and 6 on 21 August 1981 (J&TI, CW), all in trees between the Ohio River and the Chesapeake Airport. Rare fall migrant. Casual during winter, single birds having been reported on the Huntington Christmas Count on 26 December 1949 and 21 December 1952. One was found along the Ohio River at Gallipolis Dam on 16 January 1971 (HS).

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON (Nycticorax violaceus). Casual spring and summer visitant. Although this species was not listed by Edeburn et al. (1960), there have been 5 records for it in recent years. The first local record was one seen at MWS on 16 April 1966 (GH) (Handley 1983). Three were seen on 13 June 1980 (JI, CW) near the Chesapeake Airport, and 1 still remained on the following day (TI). One was seen on 16 August 1981 (JI, CW) and another on 9 September that same locality. One was found at MWS on 5 May 1984 (TI). Although Handley (1976) suggested that this species may breed in Kanawha County, there are no specific nesting records for West Virginia (Hall 1983).

TUNDRA (WHISTLING) SWAN (Cygnus columbianus). Casual winter visitor. Six were seen on the Ohio River at Huntington on 1 November 1951 (HC&HKL), and 1 remained until 3 November 1951 (Edeburn et al. 1960). Another turned up on the Ohio River in Mason County on 30 November 1956 (Handley 1976). One was found on the Ona Christmas Count on 31 December 1967 (WA), and another was found on Ona from 18 December 1972 to 31 December 1972 (WA, HS, LW). The 1967 bird was on the Ohio River, and the one in 1972 was found on a small pond in Ona. Recently, 1 was found at Kyger Creek on 10 November 1985 (TI) and remained until 14 December 1985 (MG).

TRUMPETER SWAN (Cygnus buccinator). One was shot at Letart Island on the Ohio River in Mason County on 30 November 1875 (Edeburn et al. 1960). Hall (1983) noted that the species "undoubtedly migrated over parts of West Virginia in the early days." [MUTE SWAN (Cygnus olor).] Individuals of this introduced species occasionally turn up on local ponds and lakes and even on the Ohio River. For example, 6 were found on the Ohio River at the Gallipolis Dam on 28 January 1984 (GR). The source of such birds is unknown.

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE (Anser albirostris). Casual spring visitor. The first local record was of 6 seen at Kyger Creek on 31 March 1971 (Anderson and Hurley 1974), and there have been 4 other spring and/or late winter records since then. Casual fall visitant (2 records).

SNOW GOOSE (Chen caerulescens). Rare spring migrant, usually occurring between late March to late April. Rare fall migrant, but more common then than in spring. An unusually large flight of this species descended on southern West Virginia, including Cabell County, in the fall of 1949, and Charles Handley, Sr. found 1500 birds of this species near Point Pleasant in neighboring Putnam County on 26 October 1949 (Brooks 1950). Casual winter visitor, a few blue-phased birds and an occasional white-phase wintered at MWS during 1960-61, and a few have wintered on the Ohio River in Cabell County (Hall 1983).

CANADA GOOSE (Branta canadensis). Very common spring migrant. Common summer resident. Canada Geese were introduced at MWS in 1954 (Donnelly 1962) and Glenwood Swamp in 1979 (Dotson 1982) and now breed successfully there and in many other localities in our region. Abundant fall migrant and common winter resident. From 1980 to the present several observations of B. canadensis hutchinsii (Cackling Goose), a very small subspecies, have been made. Along with the Wood Duck this is the only species of waterfowl that is more common locally now than in past eras.

[RUDDY SHELDUCK (Tadorna ferruginea).] An individual of this species was found on 6 November 1985 at Kyger Creek and remained there until at least March 1986 (MG, TI). Previous reports of this Eurasian species have been the continental subspecies that has been regarded as escapes from captivity (AOU 1983), and it is likely that this was the case with the Kyger Creek bird.
WOOD DUCK (Aix sponsa). Common spring migrant, arriving in mid- to late March. This is the only common breeding duck in our area, and nesting pairs can be found along any sizable stream or body of water in the region. Fall migration commences in early September and most individuals are gone by November (Donnelly 1967). However, 1 or 2 have been recorded annually on both the Ohio and Huntington Christmas Counts since 1980, so a few may winter, or at least remain in the area very late.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL (Anas crecca). Common in the fall, usually seen from mid-October to mid-November (Donnelly 1967). Several wintered during 1981, 1982, and 1983, but this species should be considered a rare winter visitant. Fairly common spring migrant, generally seen from mid-March to early May.

AMERICAN BLACK DUCK (Anas rubripes). Fairly common to common migrant. Casual summer resident. Nesting was documented in Cabell County in 1967 (LK) and is suspected for Mason County. This species was formerly more abundant than the Mallard here, but it has declined dramatically throughout its range in recent years. It no longer occurs in our area in the large numbers typical as recently as the early 1960's.

MALLARD (Anas platyrhynchos). Abundant spring migrant between mid-February to early March. Uncommon summer resident, nesting in Mason County (mainly at MWS) where it was introduced in 1954 (Appel 1957) and at several localities in Wayne County. Abundant fall migrant. Common winter resident. 40 percent of the Mallards banded at MWS up until 1967 were caught between November to January (Donnelly 1967).

NORTHERN PINTAIL (Anas acuta). Fairly common fall migrant, peaking in November (Donnelly 1967). Rare winter resident, although sightings have increased in the 1980's. Fairly common spring migrant seen mostly from late February to early May (Donnelly 1967).

BLUE-WINGED TEAL (Anas discors). Common spring migrant with the peak occurring in April (Donnelly 1967). Uncommon summer resident with recent records from all three counties, although nesting has been documented only at Beech Fork State Park (SB). Common fall migrant, occurring from late August through mid-October, peaking in mid-September (Donnelly 1967). Casual winter visitant, having been reported on only 2 local Christmas Counts. Possibly such birds are late fall stragglers, rather than wintering individuals.

NORTHERN SHOVELER (Anas clypeata). Uncommon spring migrant, mostly seen in March and April. Rare fall migrant, occurring mostly in mid-October, although an unusually early individuals were found by TI at MWS in August in 2 different years (Edeburn et al. 1960). The only winter record is of an incapacitated bird found at MWS on 23 December 1961 on the Mason County Christmas Count.

GADWALL (Anas strepera). Fairly common fall migrant, occurring between late September to late November (Donnelly 1967).

RARE WINTER RESIDENT. Fairly common spring migrant with most MWS records falling between late February through mid-April (Donnelly 1967).

Eurasian Wigeon (Anas penelope). Casual migrant. The 4 spring records include 1 seen on the Ohio River at Huntington on 8 and 13 March 1952 by E. Seeber (Seeber and Edeburn 1951), 1 seen on 1 April 1953 by O. Moore on the Ohio River near HCHCS (Edeburn et al. 1960), 1 found at MWS by RK on 1 April 1960 (Edeburn et al. 1960), and 2 seen by GH near Kyger Creek on 18 March 1967 (Handley 1976). There is only one fall record, an adult male spotted at Cheshire Pond on 10 November 1985 (Igou in press).

AMERICAN WIGEON (Anas americana). Common spring migrant seen mostly from early March to mid-May at MWS (Donnelly 1967). Fairly common fall migrant, occurring primarily from late October to mid-December (Slack 1978). Uncommon winter visitant.

CANVASBACK (Aythya valisineria). Rare fall migrant, usually appearing in mid-October (Donnelly 1967). Numbers increase later in the season, and the species is a rare winter resident, usually seen in late December to mid-January. Uncommon spring migrant seen from late February to early April (Slack 1978). During the 1980's Canvasback populations have been low, and the species has been placed on the National Audubon Society "Blue List". Hall (1983) stated that "it is now a great rarity to see a large flock in this state."

REDHEAD (Aythya americana). Uncommon fall migrant, usually appearing in mid-October. Uncommon winter visitant, most often occurring in late December. Fairly common spring migrant. Two hundred and eighty-two were banded at MWS in March 1959 (Hall 1967), but numbers declined subsequently (Donnelly 1967). Numbers of Redheads have declined here even further in the 1980's, but not as much as those of the Canvasback.

RING-NECKED DUCK (Aythya collaris). Fairly common fall migrant, most common between late October to late November. Uncommon spring migrant. Most common in mid-March; 80 percent of the individuals at MWS were caught in March (Donnelly 1967).

GREATER SCAUP (Aythya marila). Rare fall migrant, usually seen in October and November. Rare spring migrant, occurring in March and April. Hall (1983) is probably correct in stating that this species is much less common in West Virginia than the literature and observer reports would indicate, owing to confusion with the very similar, but much more abundant Lesser Scaup. Very few individuals of this species have been banded at MWS (Donnelly 1967), perhaps the most reliable indicator of the true status of this species here.

LESSER SCAUP (Aythya affinis). Common fall migrant. Fairly common winter resident. Common spring migrant seen in greatest numbers in late March and early April; 80 percent of the individuals banded at MWS were caught in the latter month (Donnelly 1967).
KING EIDER (Somateria spectabilis). Accidental. An immature male was shot by T. Milewski and F. Fitch on the Ohio River at Huntington on 28 November 1953 (Edeburn 1954), and the specimen is now in the Marshall University collection.

OLDQUEAN (Clangula hyemalis). Casual winter visitor. The reports include 1 seen on the Ohio River at Gallipolis by HXL on 30 January 1954 (Edeburn et al. 1960), 1 on the Ohio River on the Ona Christmas Count on 29 December 1963 (HCL), 1 at Kyger Creek on 25 December 1967 (WA), 1 on 5 January 1968 on the Ohio River north of Huntington (TI), 1 on 9 November 1969 at MWS (HS), 1 on 20 December 1969 (HS), 1 on 2 January 1982 on the Ohio River north of Huntington (J&GR), and 2 were found on the Ohio River near Glenwood Swamp on 17 December 1983 (TI).

BLACK SCOTER (Melanitta nigra). Accidental. Dr. Roy Bird Cook saw 1 in the Huntington area in 1954 (Brooks 1944), and 4 were seen on the Ohio River across from Huntington on 7 April 1982 (J&TI).

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER (Melanitta fusca). Rare winter and spring visitor. There are now at least 20 local records between early January to mid-May, nearly all on the Ohio River. Evidently, this species moves south into our area rather late, as none have been recorded on a local Christmas Count.

COMMON GOLDENEYE (Bucephala clangula). Fairly common fall migrant, usually seen in mid-November. Generally an uncommon winter visitor, although it has been common during some winters. Common spring migrant, occurring mainly from mid-February to mid-April (Donnelly 1967).

BUFFLEHEAD (Bucephala albeola). Fairly common fall migrant. Uncommon winter resident, usually seen between mid-December and late January. Fairly common spring migrant, seen mostly in March and April.

HOODED MERGANSER (Lophodytes cucullatus). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in April. Casual summer resident. This species nested at MWS from 1956-62 (Handley 1976). Since 1962 no broods have been reported from there, however (Hall 1983). On 3 May 1981 a female and 7 young were observed at Ashton (J&TI, CW), and they were still present on 21 May 1981. Fairly common fall migrant, generally passing through between October to December. Uncommon winter visitor along the Ohio River.

COMMON MERGANSER (Mergus merganser). Fairly common fall migrant, but usually not appearing until December. Uncommon winter visitor. All local records are from the Ohio River and Kyger Creek. Fairly common spring migrant from February to early April (Slack 1978).

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER (Mergus serrator). Uncommon fall migrant, usually seen between late October to early January. Rare winter resident. Fairly common spring migrant seen mostly from late February to late May.

RUDDY DUCK (Oxyura jamaicensis). Fairly common fall migrant, arriving from early November to early December. Twenty-eight were seen on the Ohio River on 25 November 1960 (TI, HCL) (Edeburn et al. 1960), but no aggregations of this size have been seen subsequently. Rare winter visitor. Uncommon spring migrant, arriving between mid-March to late April.

BLACK VULTURE (Coragyps atratus). Rare spring migrant. This species was completely unknown or undetected in our area until 15-16 May 1948, when it was found at Cabwaylingo State Park (Seeber and Edeburn 1951). It has now been recorded in our area for the past 16 springs in Wayne County (TI), but no more than 3 at one time have been seen. Black Vultures are scarcer or absent from the Ohio River Valley, although Hall (1983) mentioned 1 seen near Point Pleasant in March, 1968. Black Vultures usually appear between mid-April to mid-May. There is no evidence that the species remains in our area through the summer, although one was seen near Ona in the Howell's Mill-Nud River area on 18 July 1984 (HS, LW). There is apparently only a single fall record, 2 seen on 9 October 1978 at Beech Fork State Park (TI). There are no winter records for our area.

TURKEY VULTURE (Cathartes aura). Common spring migrant, arriving between mid-February and early March. Breeding has been confirmed in Cabell County, and the species undoubtedly nests regularly, if uncommonly, throughout our area. Fairly common fall migrant, usually seen in greatest numbers between late September to mid-October. Casual winter visitor.

OSPREY (Pandion halaetus). Uncommon spring migrant, arriving between mid-April to mid-May. A nesting pair was found at East Lynn Lake in 1973 (Hogg 1976), and the species formerly nested at Cabwaylingo State Forest (Seeber and Edeburn 1951). There are no current nesting localities, although this species has been seen at Beech Fork State Park (SB). Uncommon fall migrant, generally seen between early September to mid-October. There are only 2 winter records, 1 seen along the Ohio River on the Ona Christmas Count on 26 December 1965 (TI), and another on the Huntington Christmas Count on 27 December 1980 by D. Booth and others.

BALD EAGLE (Haliaeetus leucocephalus). Casual visitor apt to occur at any time of the year. Our earliest local record is apparently an immature that was killed in Mason County in November, 1951 and later placed in the Marshall University collection. The MU collection also contains a bird shot at Leage on 2 June 1953. An immature was seen near Glenwood Swamp on 2 February 1964 (LIW), and another was sighted over Ona on 10 September 1971 (LIW, L&MK). An adult was seen on 31 December 1972 (J&TI, CW) on the Ohio River and an immature was seen in the same area on 17 December 1983 (TI). Most recently, a subadult Bald Eagle remained at MWS to 21 February 1985 at the junction of the Ohio River and Twelve Pole Creek (MG), and an adult was seen at Leage on 10-11 February 1985 (HS, LW). The increased frequency of records in recent years reflects the ongoing recovery of this species from the effects of DDT.

NORTHERN HARRIER (MARSH HAWK) (Circus cyaneus). Uncommon spring and fall migrant. This species summers regularly at MWS
un until about 1955 and apparently nested (Handley 1976). However, habitat changes there and a greater human presence evidently made the area unsuitable for the species. Rare to uncommon winter resident.

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK (Accipiter striatus). Uncommon permanent resident, but more common than the next species at all seasons since the 1950's. The most abundant during April and May when the resident population is augmented by migrants. A bird banded 31 December 1963 at Ona was recovered in North Carolina during the following April (LK). Nesting has been confirmed in Cabell County and probably occurs elsewhere, especially in Wayne County.

COOPER'S HAWK (Accipiter cooperi). Uncommon permanent resident. Nests have been found in both Cabell and Wayne Counties. Hall (1983) felt that there has been a population decline in this species in the past twenty years and that it should be considered almost endangered in our region. However, our data, including Christmas Count totals, indicate little apparent change in local numbers (albeit always low) of this species over past three decades. Regrettably, this species and other birds of prey, especially the buteos, still suffer from persistent shooting in our area.

NORTHERN GOHAWK (Accipiter gentilis). Casual winter visitant. Seasonally, the earliest record is 3 November 1951 when 1 was seen at Huntington following a severe storm in the North (Edeburn et al. 1960). The only recent records are 18 December 1958 in East Huntington (TI), and a bird seen on 18 January 1985 along Route 2 near Green Acres (HS). Casual spring visitant. One was seen at Ona on 1 April 1962 (LW) and another at the Chesapeake Airport on 10 April 1963 (CV, L&J, TI).

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK (Buteo lineatus). Fairly common permanent resident. This species seems to suffer less from direct persecution than other local raptors, probably because it is almost entirely a forest bird.

BROAD-WINGED HAWK (Buteo platypterus). Fairly common spring migrant, arrive in mid-April to mid-May. Uncommon summer resident, less numerous here than in other parts of the state (Hall 1983). Nesting has been confirmed in Wayne and Cabell Counties. Fairly common fall migrant, seen mostly in September. Broad-wings occasionally occur in large flocks in fall migration, although our region is well off the usual hawk migration routes. Despite the number of reports (5) on the Huntington Christmas Count, this species probably does not winter here at all.

RED-TAILED HAWK (Buteo jamaicensis). Fairly common permanent resident, probably more common during spring and fall when the resident population is augmented by migrants. Of all the local raptors, this species probably suffers most from indiscriminate shooting.

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK (Buteo lagopus). Uncommon fall migrant. Uncommon winter resident. In our area, rough-legs are almost completely confined to the bottomlands of the Ohio River Valley, particularly in the Glenwood Swamp area. Rare spring migrant.

GOLDEN EAGLE (Aquila chrysaetos). Casual spring and fall visitant. GH and others saw 1 at MWS on 18 August 1958 (Handley 1976), 2 were found near the Gallipolis Dam on 23 April 1980 (TI), and 1 was seen flying down the Ohio River at Glenwood Swamp on 1 May 1982 (J&TI, G&JR, ES). A. Wetmore (1937) reported 1 from "east of Huntington" on 27 October 1936.

AMERICAN KESTREL (Falco sparverius). Very common permanent resident. This species is particularly abundant in the Ohio River Valley, and an average of 1.2 birds per mile were seen along Route 2 between Huntington and Point Pleasant during a two-year census (HS). Numbers are greatest during migration seasons when birds from other breeding populations are passing through.

MERLIN (PIGEON HAWK) (Falco columbarius). Casual fall migrant with most records between mid-September to mid-November. There is a single recent winter record from Beech Fork State Park on 15 January 1981 (TI). Casual spring migrant, usually seen between mid-April to early May. At least one individual has been seen in the area during the each of the past 6 years (TI).

PEREGRINE FALCON (Falco peregrinus). Rare visitant. Although there are a number of reports of this species between the late 1950's and late 1970's in our area, particularly in the vicinity of the Gallipolis Dam, many, perhaps most, of them must be in error since this species was presumed to be extinct in the eastern U.S. in recent years, subsequent to the reintroduction program conducted by The Peregrine Fund, peregrines were seen on 27 July 1982 at Huntington (HS) and on 1 October 1983 at Beech Fork State Park (TSAS).

RING-NECKED PHEASANT (Phasianus colchicus). This species has doubtless been introduced repeatedly in our region, but no population appears to have become successfully established. Birds introduced at MWS in the 1950's subsequently bred there (Hall 1983), but they have now disappeared.

RUFFED GROUSE (Bonasa umbellus). Fairly common resident. Although grouse populations are subject to cyclic fluctuations, this species appears to be steadily increasing in numbers throughout our area, particularly in Wayne County.

WILD TURKEY (Meleagris gallopavo). Rare permanent resident. Turkeys have recently been released by the West Virginia Department of Commerce in several local areas, including Chief Cornstalk Hunting Area, MWS, and Miller's Fork, and some of the birds are still present at this time.

NORTHERN BOBWHITE (Colinus virginianus). Rare to uncommon permanent resident. Although this is another species subject to cyclic population changes, observers agree that quail populations have suffered a major decline in our area during the past few decades, possibly as a result of habitat changes. An average of 33.5 bobwhites were seen on local Christmas Counts during the 1950's. By the 1970's the average had declined to 7.8 birds/count, and it has been only 2.9 birds/count during the 1980's.
One was reported by T. Milewski from a pond near the Boy Scout Camp at Ona on 8 September 1955 (Edeburn et al. 1960). However, the observer was a novice at the time, and the record seems unlikely, based on other knowledge of this secretive species. According to Hall (1983), there is only one sight record for the state.

**KING RAIL** (*Rallus elegans*). Casual summer visitor. This species was found nesting in 1948 at Lavalette (Green 1949b) and at Ashton on 21 June 1963, where photos were taken of a nest containing 1 egg (IL, TI). The species was present and probably nesting at MWS on 6 June 1951 (Handley 1976). There have been no subsequent breeding records, but I was seen as recently as 5 May 1984 at MWS (TI), and I was found between 21 June to 10 August 1985 at Miller's Fork (TI). Hall (1983) alluded to fall records at MWS, but we have no specific ones.

**VIRGINIA RAIL** (*Rallus limicola*). Rare spring migrant. At least one has been recorded at Glenwood Swamp annually between 1982 to 1985 (TI). There are old nesting records from Ashton and MWS (TI), but no recent reports of summer birds at either locality. Rare fall migrant. Handley (1976) stated that a few wintered at MWS, but we know of no specific records from there. However, one was found at Ashton on 13 December 1970 (HS). As with the King Rail, suitable habitat for this species is very limited in our area and constantly decreasing.

**SORA** (*Porzana carolina*). Rare spring migrant. Rare summer resident. No nesting has actually been reported in our area. There is a late summer/early fall record from Dickson (Hall 1983). The paucity of fall records suggest that this species is a rare or uncommon migrant at that season, although it is doubtless one that is often overlooked.

**PURPLE GALLINULE** (*Porphyryla martinica*). Casual visitant. C.E. Severance saw 1 in Cabell County "about the first of June" in 1952 (Edeburn et al. 1960). RK found one at MWS on 12 May 1960 (Handley 1976), and I was collected at there in the summer of 1962 (Hall 1983). One was seen at a swamp near Proctorville, Ohio on 28 April 1963 (CV, TI).

**COMMON MOORHEN** (*Gallinula chloropus*). Rare spring and fall migrant. The first local report, I seen by HCL on 30 January 1954 at the mouth of a creek emptying into the Ohio River at Eureka, Ohio (Edeburn et al. 1960; given as "Cabinet County, West Virginia" in Hall 1983), is also the only winter record for the area. Since then there have been at least 12 local records (Igou 1984, Smith 1984). This species could be more common in our area than these limited data suggest, and it is likely that some may nest at MWS or at other suitable localities. This species has nested in nearby Putnam County (Hall 1983).

**AMERICAN COOT** (*Fulica americana*). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in late March to mid-May. Coots were found nesting at MWS on 26 June 1952 (Handley 1976) and/or 29 June 1953 (Hall 1983), and this species could nest elsewhere in our area. Common fall migrant, but no longer in the numbers reported in 1950 when they "covered the entire river" in an aggregation probably containing hundreds of thousands of individuals (Edeburn et al. 1960). Uncommon winter visitor; numbers appear to be down in the past 30 years.

**SANDHILL CRANE** (*Grus canadensis*). Casual visitant. The 4 local records are as follows: Brooks (1944) stated that I was taken near Pt. Pleasant in September 1934. One was seen in 1940 near the Great Falls of Mud River at Ona (MK), but there were no further reports until T.K. Pauley (1974) found 1 at a swamp 2 miles west of Milton on 9 February 1972 (this record is given in Hall 1983 as "near Huntington"). Two were seen flying near Barboursville in October 1973 (LM).

**BLACK-BELLED PLOVER** (*Pluvialis squatarola*). Rare spring migrant seen from mid- to late May. Uncommon fall migrant seen from late September to mid-November (Slack 1978). All recent records have been from Kyger Creek or from Beech Fork State Park.

**LESHER GOLDEN-PLOVER** (*Pluvialis dominica*). Casual spring visitor. One was seen at the Chesapeake Airport on 6-7 April 1983 (ES, J&TI, GR). Rare fall migrant. A flock of 75 was seen in a newly plowed field at the Gallipolis Locks on 1 November 1985 (ES, MTI, GR). A flock of 25 remained until 9 November, the latest local record. Other fall records include 1 near Barboursville on 16 October 1974 (HS), and 5 at Kyger Creek on 19 October 1975 (HS).

**SEMIPALMATED PLOVER** (*Charadrius semipalmatus*). Uncommon spring migrant, occurring from late April to late May. Rare fall visitor. This species occurs in our area mainly at Kyger Creek.

**PIPING PLOVER** (*Charadrius melodus*). Accidental. Two were seen on 15 August 1971 at Kyger Creek. (Slack 1978).

**KILLDEER** (*Charadrius vociferus*). Very common spring migrant, common summer resident, very common fall migrant, and uncommon winter resident. Peaks in migrant numbers occur in March and in late October (Slack 1978).

**AMERICAN AVOCET** (*Recurvirostra americana*). Accidental. One was photographed on 27 August 1972 at Kyger Creek (Slack 1978).

**GREATER YELLOWLEGS** (*Tringa melanoleuca*). Fairly common spring migrant, usually seen from late April to mid-May. Fairly common fall migrant, occurring primarily between late August to late October. One was at Kyger Creek on 11 November 1985 (MG), and Handley (1976) included a record of 17 November (year?) at MWS.

**LESHER YELLOWLEGS** (*Tringa flavipes*). Common spring migrant seen from mid-April to early May. Common fall migrant seen from mid-August to early October. This species arrives and leaves earlier in both spring and fall than the less common Greater Yellowlegs (Slack in press).

**SOLITARY SANDPIPER** (*Tringa solitaria*). Common spring migrant, occurring from late April to late May. Rare fall visitor. This species occurs in our area mainly at Kyger Creek.

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HUNTINGTON. The only record is 1 (presumably the same bird) seen between 3 to 5 May 1983 (ES, JI, CW, TI) at the 12th Street boat dock in Huntington.

SPOTTED SANDPIPER (Actitis macularia). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in early April. Uncommon summer resident, present in our area between early April to August. Fairly common fall migrant. Local breeding populations of this species have declined in recent years.

UPLAND SANDPIPER (Upland Plover) (Bartramia longicauda). Rare spring migrant. This little understood species has been observed annually in spring between 1981 to 1985 at the Chesapeake Airport, Glenwood Swamp, and Ashton. Two were found on 10 May 1968 at Ona (LK), the only local record outside of the Ohio River Valley. Casual summer resident. An adult with 1 downy young was seen near Lakin in 1960 by RK (Edeburn et al. 1960). Rare fall migrant with August and September records from MWS.

RUDDY TURNSTONE (Arenaria interpres). Casual spring and fall migrant. Two were seen at Mercer’s Bottom on 19 May 1956 (HC&HKL, TI), and 1 was there when they returned on 27 May 1956 (Edeburn et al. 1960). One was seen at the same locality on 28 October 1967 (TI), 1 at Kyger Creek on 31 May 1970 (HS), 1 at Kyger Creek on 25 July 1976 (HS), 1 at the Cheshire Ponds on 30 August 1983 (TI), and another at that locality on 15 October 1983 (TSAS).

SANDERLING (Calidris alba). Casual spring and fall migrant. The records include single individuals in Mason County on 14 September and 10 October 1954 (HKL) and 30 August 1960 (TI, LK) (Edeburn et al. 1960), and 1 on 24 August 1961 (Handley 1976). The species was recorded at Kyger Creek on 25 May 1969, 24 September 1972 (2), 23 August 1975, and 27 August 1978 (HS), on 14 May 1982 at Ona (GR), on 15 May 1982 (TI) at Cheshire, 24 May 1984 at Glenwood Swamp (HS, LW), and on 5 September 1984 at West Huntington (GR).

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER (Calidris pusilla). Common spring migrant, most common between mid-April to mid-May. Fairly common fall migrant, usually seen between early August to mid-September.

WESTERN SANDPIPER (Calidris mauri). Uncommon spring migrant seen from mid- to late May (Slack 1978). A flock of 180 was seen at Mercer’s Bottom by HC&HKL on 29 May 1955 (Edeburn et al. 1960). Uncommon fall migrant, usually occurring from August to late September (HS).

LEAST SANDPIPER (Calidris minutilla). Fairly common spring migrant seen in late April through May. Fairly common fall migrant seen in late August and early September.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER (Calidris fuscicollis). Casual spring and fall migrant. Although this species probably occurs regularly in our area, there are only 3 records, including 1 seen at a small pond near Ona on 8 May 1982 (LK, LW, HS), 1 on the same date at Cheshire (J&TI, GR), and 1 seen at Mercer’s Bottom on 5 September 1954 (Edeburn et al. 1960).

BAIRD’S SANDPIPER (Calidris bairdii). Casual spring and fall migrant. The first report of this species in our area was on 27 September 1951 at Mercer’s Bottom (Edeburn et al. 1960). Subsequently, there were 9 additional sightings in the 1950’s, 3 in the 1960’s, 1 in the 1970’s, and a single more recent one, a bird seen on 15 May 1982 at Cheshire (J&TI, GR).

PECTORAL SANDPIPER (Calidris melanotos). Fairly common spring migrant seen from late March to early May (Slack in press). Fairly common fall migrant, usually seen from late July to mid-September. This species and the semipalmated are our two most common migrant sandpipers.

DUNLIN (Calidris alpina). Rare spring migrant with 6 records between 8 to 30 May. Fairly common fall migrant with the highest index of abundance of any sandpiper at this season at Kyger Creek (Slack 1978).

STILTSANDPIPER (Calidris himantopus). Casual fall migrant. Two were seen at Mercer’s Bottom on 13 August 1955 (HKL), and another was there on 17 August 1955 (Edeburn et al. 1960). One was seen by N. Gluck at MWS on 6 September 1972 (Hall 1983).

DOWITCHER (Limnodromus sp.). Casual spring and a rare fall migrant. Hall (1983) contended that the dowitchers (both Short- and Long-billed) occurring in West Virginia should be listed under the generic name only pending further study, but with the expectation that the Short-billed will prove to be the most common here. Slack felt that both species were present at MWS on 25 August 1974 (Hall 1983).

COMMON SNIPE (Gallinago gallinago). Fairly common fall migrant seen in late October and early November. Rare winter resident. Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in late march.

AMERICAN WOODCOCK (Scolopax minor). Common spring migrant. Woodcock can be seen and heard in our area in mid-February on suitable nesting grounds. Fairly common summer resident. Migrants pass through the area in mid-November, and a few have wintered. The species has been reported on 7 local Christmas Counts, although some of these birds may have been misidentified as Common Snipes.

WILSON’S PHALAROPE (Phalaropus tricolor). Casual fall migrant. There are 5 records: Two were seen by E. Seeber on 1 November 1951 (Seeber and Edeburn 1952; "record uncertain"), 2 at MWS on 30 August 1960 (TI, LK, WA) (Edeburn et al. 1960), 2 at Kyger Creek on 9 November 1970 (HS), 1 at Kyger Creek on 27 August 1978 (HS), and 1 at Glenwood Swamp on 17 September 1983 (TI).

RED-NECKED (NORTHERN) PHALAROPE (Phalaropus lobatus). Accidental. One was seen at a small marsh (now gone) in Huntington on 13 October 1957 (TI) (Edeburn et al. 1960).

RED PHALAROPE (Phalaropus fulicarius). Accidental. One was...
identified (somewhat tentatively) at close range at the mouth of Crab Creek by E. Seeber on 1 November 1951 (Seeber and Edeburn 1952).

PARASITIC JAEGER (Stercorarius parasiticus). Accidental. One was seen by C.W. Nelson at East Lynn Lake on 9 October 1973 (Hall 1983). Although this record seems unlikely, a bird of this species was collected at St. Albans earlier (Hall 1983).

BONAPARTE'S GULL (Larus philadelphia). Fairly common spring migrant seen from late March thru mid-May. A flock of 10-15 was seen on 24 April 1965 at Ona (LW), one of the few local records away from the Ohio River. An unusually large flock of 145 was seen at Kyger Creek on 2 April 1977 (HS). Uncommon fall migrant, usually seen between October and January. Casual winter visitor, having been reported on 5 local Christmas Counts.

RING-BILLED GULL (Larus delawarensis). Common spring and fall migrant. Most numerous during March and December (Slack 1978). Fairly common winter resident. A flock of 600 was seen at Kyger Creek on 15 March 1970 (HS). Occasional stragglers are found at Kyger Creek during the summer, as there are 4 June records and 1 from July (HS).

HERRING GULL (Larus argentatus). Common spring and fall migrant, most common from late March to mid-April and in November. A Herring Gull nest was found on 22 May 1971 at Kyger Creek, but it was destroyed on 28 May 1971 by rising water levels. There is no precedent for breeding by this or any other gull species in West Virginia, and the nearest inland breeding localities for Herring Gulls are in northern Ohio (AOU 1983). As with the preceding species, stragglers have been found at Kyger Creek on 4 occasions in June and 3 times in July (HS). Fairly common winter resident between December to early March.

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE (Rissa tridactyla). Accidental. On 25 October 1963 one was hit by a car near Dunlow and turned over to R.M. Edeburn (Edeburn 1964). The specimen is now in the Marshall University collection.

CASPIAN TERN (Sterna caspia). Casual spring and fall migrant. The first report was by E. Seeber, who saw 2 flying just above the Gallipolis Dam on 2 May 1952 (Edeburn et al. 1960). Since then there have been numerous spring records between April to June and 8 fall records from August to October. This species has been seen only on the Ohio River, at Kyger Creek, and at Beech Fork State Park.

COMMON TERN (Sterna hirundo). Rare spring migrant seen from mid-April to late May. Rare fall migrant seen from mid-August to mid-October (Slack 1978).

ROCK DOVE (Columba livia). A common permanent resident. Introduced.

MOURNING DOVE (Zenaida macroura). Very common spring and fall migrant. Common summer resident. Common winter resident. This species has increased significantly in numbers here since the 1940's. For example, the Huntington Christmas Counts in the 1940's averaged only one dove/count.

PASSENGER PIGEON (Ectopistes migratorius). Extinct. The only evidence of this once abundant species in our region is a passing remark by Alexander Wilson (fide Handley 1976) about encountering vast numbers of these birds in Mason County in 1810. A.S. Morgan shot 1 in nearby Putnam County in 1902 (Hall 1983), and the last probable record for West Virginia was from Upshur County in 1903 (Schorger 1955).

MONK PARAKEET (Myiopsitta monachus). An individual of this rapidly spreading species was observed on 30 June 1980 in Huntington (JI, CW), and 1 was seen on 4 August 1980 in Huntington (TI). This possibly involved the same bird, perhaps one that escaped from a local source.

CAROLINA PARAKEET (Conuropsis carolinensis). Extinct. The only evidence of its local occurrence was provided by Audubon (1831), who remarked that in the past the species had been known to occur as far up the Ohio as the mouth of the Great Kanawha.

BLACK TERN (Chlidonias niger). Casual spring migrant. Recent records include 14 May 1987 at Ona (LW), a flock of 21 at Kyger Creek on 14 May 1978 (HS), 1 seen at Huntington on 7 April 1982 (TI), and another at Huntington on 30 April 1983 (JI & CW). Casual fall migrant with 10 records during August and early September (HS, Edeburn et al. 1960, Handley 1976).

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO (Coccyzus erythropthalmus). Uncommon spring migrant, arriving in late April to early May. Rare summer resident. Uncommon fall migrant with some movement observed in late September.

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO (Coccyzus americanus). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in early to mid-May. Fairly common summer resident. Uncommon fall migrant, passing through in late September.

COMMON BARN-OWL (Tyto alba). Rare permanent resident. A stand of coniferous trees near Green Bottom, once the most dependable local spot to find a barn owl (Igou 1966), was eliminated by highway expansion, and we have rarely found the species subsequently. Haller (1940) reported a nesting for 2 years in a barn near Graham Station, Mason County. Another nest was reported at Kenova in 1980 (CW), but one adult and the young were shot by children. An adult was seen in the same area on 21 August 1982 (TI), but no subsequent nesting attempts have been documented.

EASTERN SCREECH-OWL (Otus asio). Fairly common permanent
resident. It is our impression that numbers have declined markedly in recent years.

GREAT HORNED OWL (Bubo virginianus). Common permanent resident. This species has probably increased in abundance during recent years in the same proportion that the Barred Owl has declined, although this may be a reflection of habitat changes rather than interactions between the species. It goes without saying that fewer owls of all species are detected than are actually present.

SNOWY OWL (Nyctea scandiaca). Casual winter visitant. Local records include 1 shot on 25 December 1949 by O. Price along Route 2 in Mason County near the Cabell County line (Edeburn et al. 1960), and 1 seen near the Gallipolis Dam on 5 January 1970 (TI). However, this species probably occurs more frequently in our area than the paucity of formal records indicate, since virtually every country resident can tell of at least one Snowy Owl that has been shot in his vicinity.

BARRED OWL (Strix varia). Fairly common permanent resident, but formerly more common. Our second most abundant owl species.

LONG-EARED OWL (Asio otus). Casual winter visitant. One was recorded by E. Seiber in Huntington on 30 December 1951 (Edeburn et al. 1960). Single owls believed to be of this scarce species were heard at Huntington on 30 December 1961 (observer?), at Ashton on 27 December 1962 and 29 December 1963 (TI), and at Rome, Ohio, on 27 December 1980 (J&TI) and 18 December 1982 (2 birds calling back and forth) (J&TI). Haller (1940) included mention of a possible nest of this species in Mason County. However, he did not visit the nest personally, and the details he included for this record could have applied equally well to the more common Barred Owl.

SHORT-EARED OWL (Asio flammeus). Casual winter visitant. Haller (1940) found 1 near Lakin on 14 November 1939 and included mention of 2 other birds probably of this species shot near New Haven, Mason County in the fall of 1938. Handley saw 1 near Leon on 14 November 1968 (Handley 1976). One was flushed at Ashton on 15 March 1958 by a Marshall University ornithology class (Edeburn et al. 1960), 1 was reported on the Ona Christmas Count on 15 December 1979, and nearly all from the same stand of conifers in Huntington. Subsequently, the species has been reported on 5 other local Christmas Counts. The status of the species at other times of the years is unclear. Two juveniles, obviously from a nearby nest, were found at Shoals on 23 May 1966 by Roy Slack and collected by R.M. Edeburn (Edeburn 1968). The specimens are in the Marshall University collection.

NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL (Aegolius acadicus). Casual winter visitant. Five records were reported by Edeburn et al. (1960), mostly from Huntington Christmas Counts, and nearly all from the same stand of conifers in Huntington. Subsequently, the species has been reported on 5 other local Christmas Counts. The status of the species at other times of the years is unclear. Two juveniles, obviously from a nearby nest, were found at Shoals on 23 May 1966 by Roy Slack and collected by R.M. Edeburn (Edeburn 1968). The specimens are in the Marshall University collection.

COMMON NIGHTHAWK (Chordeiles minor). Fairly common spring migrant. Fairly common summer resident. Abundant fall migrant with large flocks occurring in late August and early September.

This species has apparently declined in numbers here in recent years.

WHIP-POOR-WILL (Caprimulgus vociferus). Fairly common summer resident. This species is most common in hilly areas and can be heard from mid-April to early September. Whip-poor-wills are remarkably unobtrusive in spring and fall migration, and actual migration dates are difficult to determine. Of the last several years, the Whip-poor-will seems to have suffered a significant decline in the last couple of decades, especially in Cabell County, where it now almost rare. CHIMNEY SWIFT (Chaetura pelagica). Abundant spring and fall migrant, arriving in mid-April and departing in mid-October. Common summer resident.

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD (Archilochus colubris). Fairly common spring and fall migrant. Fairly common summer resident in most parts of the area.

BELTED KINGFISHER (Ceryle alcyon). Fairly common spring and fall migrant. Migration peaks are somewhat obscured by the presence of resident individuals, but local numbers of kingfishers appear to increase during late September. Common summer resident. Uncommon winter resident.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER (Melanerpes erythrocephalus). Rare permanent resident; quite local. This species could be found regularly at Beech Fork State Park from 1969-78, but it has vanished from there, just as it has from almost all of its traditional haunts in southwestern West Virginia. Red-headeds have been seen regularly in recent years near Huntington (OR), near Ona (TI), and at Ashton (TSAS). The general consensus regarding the precipitous decline of this species in the East during recent decades holds that competition from European Starlings for nest sites is principally responsible for this woodpecker's disappearance. However, Hall (1983) has aptly pointed out that land use changes, especially the disappearance of dead or dying stands of chestnut trees may have also played a role in the decline of this species. In our area this species seems to be closely associated with stands of old beech trees, and many of these have been eliminated in recent decades. There has also been a temporal correlation, at least, between the northward spread of the Red-bellied Woodpecker and the virtual loss of the Red-headed Woodpecker in our area, although the possible competitive relationships between these two species have not been well studied to our knowledge. Haller (1940) regarded the red-headed as being more common than the next species. There is a barely perceptible migration of Red-headed Woodpeckers in late September through late October in some years.

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER (Melanerpes carolinus). Fairly common permanent resident. This species was scarce locally up until the 1950's (MK). It is still increasing in numbers in our area, as is apparently the case elsewhere in the northern portions of its range. However, starlings appropriate nest cavities of this species, also, and this could eventually lead to a decline in its population, at least in more urban areas.

YELLOW-BELLED SAPSUCKER (Sphyrapicus varius). Uncommon fall
migrant, occurring in greatest numbers between late September to late October. Uncommon winter resident. Uncommon spring migrant seen until late April.

**DOWNY WOODPECKER** (*Picoides pubescens*). Common permanent resident. Our most abundant woodpecker.

**HAIRY WOODPECKER** (*Picoides villosus*). Uncommon permanent resident.

**NORTHERN FLICKER** (*Colaptes auratus*). Common permanent resident. There is a substantial spring and fall migration of flickers through our area, but this is obscured by the presence of the large resident population.

**PILEATED WOODPECKER** (*Dryocopus pileatus*). Fairly common permanent resident. The local population of this species has increased tremendously over the past 20-30 years, as it was virtually unknown here as recently as the 1940's.

**OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER** (*Contopus borealis*). Casual late spring and early fall migrant, usually seen in late May and in August.

**EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE** (*Contopus virens*). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in late April. Fairly common summer resident. Uncommon fall migrant, departing from late September to mid-October.

**YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER** (*Empidonax flaviventris*). Casual spring and fall migrant. Although one was seen on 19 April 1968 at Huntington (TI), an inexplicably early record, this species probably ordinarily moves through our area in small numbers in late May. Fall records include 1 at Huntington on 13 August 1960 (TI) (Edeburn et al. 1960), and single birds banded at MWS on 20 August and 16 September 1961, 10 Sept. 1964, and 27 August 1965 (Handley 1976).

**ACADIAN FLYCATCHER** (*Empidonax virescens*). Common spring migrant, usually arriving in late April. Fairly common summer resident. Fairly common fall migrant, departing in mid- to late September.

**TRAILL’S FLYCATCHER** complex. The ALDER FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax alnorum*) and the WILLOW FLYCATCHER (*E. traillii*) are now considered a complex of two sibling species (AOU 1973). In the field the two forms are satisfactorily identified only by vocal differences (Hall 1983). In general, the Alder is rare and the Willow is uncommon in our area, but both migrate through in May, particularly during the last week of the month, judging from banding efforts. The Alder Flycatcher nests farther north in the state, but the Willow nests locally in all three counties in our area. Known breeding localities for the latter form include MWS (HS), Ashton (formerly) (Handley 1976), near the Gallipolis Dam (LW), a small swamp near Milton (LK), Glenwood Swamp (TI), Beach Fork Campground (HS), and an area north of Fort Gay (J&TI, CW). Judging from our limited banding data, fall migration of this complex occurs from mid- to late September.
BANK SWALLOW (Riparia riparia). Uncommon spring migrant seen in early April to early May. Rare summer resident. A small colony including 4 to 10 birds was found in Wayne County in a road cut between State Route 75 and I-64 from 1966-1972 (J&TI) and another was found nesting near Green Acres in 1979 (HS). Uncommon fall migrant, departing in mid-August.

CLIFF SWALLOW (Hirundo pyrrhonota). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in mid-April to early May. Rare summer resident, recently found nesting at Beech Fork State Park (Igou in press). Common fall migrant seen in flocks on electric wires from mid-August to mid-September.

BARN SWALLOW (Hirundo rustica). Common spring migrant seen from early April through mid-May. Common summer resident. As with the preceding species, the fall migration build-up is from mid-August to early September, and Barn Swallows are common fall migrants.

BLUE JAY (Cyanocitta cristata). Common permanent resident. In addition, large numbers of jays from more northern breeding populations migrate through our area. In spring, this occurs at about the same time that the resident birds are beginning to nest. Migratory movements in the fall occur mostly in September and October.

BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE (Pica pica). Brooks (1944) saw one of these birds in Huntington on 3 October 1935, and he assumed that it was an escape. One was collected on 20 February 1951 by R.M. Edeburn near Huntington. Another flock of 8 was found in the same area on 8 February 1951 (Edeburn et al. 1960). These birds were later found to have escaped from captivity.

AMERICAN CROW (Corvus brachyrhynchos). Common permanent resident, becoming more abundant in urban settings during the past 20 years.

COMMON RAVEN (Corvus corax). Casual fall visitant. Ravens were observed several times prior to 1960 at Cabwaylingo State Park, and 3 were seen at Spruce Creek in the same park by the Slack brothers on 9 December 1967 (Slack 1967). One was found at Beech Fork State Park on 1 October 1983 (TSAS).

BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE (Parus atricapillus). Casual winter visitant. Since this species can best be reliably separated from the next in the hand, inferences regarding its relative abundance are necessarily drawn mainly from banding efforts. Nine were banded between 11 November 1965 to 11 March 1966 at Ona (MK), and these represented about one-third of the 28 chickadees handled at the banding station during that period. A few individuals have been banded in other winters (HS, LK), but no formal attempt has been made to ascertain the true status of this northern species in our area. It is probable that this chickadee is more common in our area than usually assumed, especially during more severe winters.

CAROLINA CHICKADEE (Parus carolinensis). Common permanent resident.

TUFTED TITMousE (Parus bicolor). Common permanent resident.

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH (Sitta canadensis). Uncommon fall migrant seen in late September through October. Uncommon to fairly common winter resident. Uncommon spring migrant seen in early May.

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH (Sitta carolinensis). Fairly common permanent resident.

BROWN CREEPER (Certhia americana). Uncommon winter resident, arriving in mid-October and leaving in early to mid-April. Summer records from Mason County could indicate nesting there, according to Hall (1983), but so far none have been recorded.

CAROLINA WREN (Thryothorus ludovicianus). Common permanent resident. This species is quite susceptible to widespread mortality during cold weather and may be virtually absent in our area following a particularly severe winter.

BEWICK'S WREN (Thryomanes bewickii). Rare spring migrant. The cause of the decline of the Bewick's Wren in the northeastern part of its range has been a perennial topic of discussion in West Virginia ornithological literature for the past 50 years. Most observers agree that the spread of the House Wren was the most important factor in causing a decline of Bewick's Wrens (Hall 1983, Smith 1980). It was already considered rare in some parts of West Virginia by the 1930's (Wetmore 1937), although Haller termed the species still abundant in Point Pleasant as recently as 1940 (Brooks 1942). Brooks (1941) suggested that the Bewick's Wren tended to hold out longest in the more mountainous portions of its range, where House Wrens were less common. This species is now quite rare in fall migration with 1 or 2 being seen each year. Casual winter visitant, having been recorded on only 3 local Christmas Counts during the past 30 years.

HOUSE WREN (Troglodytes aedon). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in mid-April. Fairly common summer resident. Uncommon fall migrant, leaving the area between early to mid-October. Some have wintered, although doubtfully as often as Christmas Count reports would imply.

WINTER WREN (Troglodytes troglodytes). This easily overlooked species presumably comes south to our area in the fall, but there are few actual records for that season. One was banded at Ona on 16 October 1963 (LK), and perhaps this represents the usual arrival time for the species in our area. Uncommon winter resident, typically occurring along small streams in deciduous woodland. Departs from early to mid-April.

SEDGE (SHORT-BILLED MARSH) WREN (Cistothorus platensis). Casual fall migrant seen in early September. Wetmore (1937) collected 1 at Point Pleasant on 27 October 1936. Accidental winter visitant with 1 seen at Huntington on 28 December 1958 (TI). Casual spring migrant from late April to early May.

MARSH (LONG-BILLED MARSH) WREN (Cistothorus palustris). Rare
fall migrant from late August to early September, although Haller (1940) called it an "extremely common fall migrant in mid-September", and he took specimens at Lakin. Wetmore (1937) also collected one at Point Pleasant on 27 October 1936. Single individuals were banded at Ona on 16 and 17 October 1984 (LM). Casual winter visitant. One was seen at Apple Grove on 26 December 1985 (TI) (Handley 1976), 1 was found at MWS on 30 December 1968 (HS), and 1 wintered at Glenwood Swamp in 1979–80 (HS). Rare fall migrant, occurring from late April early May.

GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET (Regulus satrapa). Common winter resident, arriving in mid-October and departing in mid-April.

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET (Regulus calendula). Uncommon fall migrant with most birds passing through by late October to early November. Rare winter resident. Uncommon spring migrant, arriving in mid-April.

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER (Polioptila caerulea). Common spring migrant, arriving in early to mid-April. Common summer resident. Common fall migrant, departing in mid-August to early September. A very late individual was present on 27 November 1979 at Ona (LM).

EASTERN BLUEBIRD (Sialia sialis). Common spring migrant, but the presence of a nucleus of wintering birds makes the exact determination of migratory peaks difficult. Common summer resident. Locally, the breeding population has been enhanced by "Bluebird Trails" (strings of nest boxes) maintained by the TSAS at Beech Fork State Park and Fort Gay. Only a slight fall migration has been noted. Generally fairly common in winter.

VEERY (Catharus fuscescens). Rare spring migrant seen from early to mid-May. Rare fall migrant with all field observations and banding records between early to late September.

GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH (Catharus minimus). Rare spring migrant seen mostly in mid-May. Apparently more abundant, or at least less overlooked, in fall when it is an uncommon migrant. Most fall records are during September and early October.

SWAINSON'S THRUSH (Catharus ustulatus). Common spring migrant from late April to late May. Late May migrants are often very vocal. Common fall migrant seen from mid-September to early October.

HERMIT THRUSH (Catharus guttatus). Fairly common fall migrant, arriving from late September to mid-October. Fairly common winter resident, judging from recent results of playing tape recorded screech owl calls. Uncommon spring migrant seen from early to mid-May.

WOOD THRUSH (Catharus mustellina). Common spring migrant, arriving in mid- to late April. Common summer resident. Common fall migrant leaving from early to mid-September. A bird that appeared to be disoriented was filmed on 30 December 1967 in Huntington (HS, R. Slack).

AMERICAN ROBIN (Turdus migratorius). Abundant spring migrant, arriving in early February. Very common summer resident. Fall migration is noted from mid-September through early November, and the species is very common then, occasionally abundant. Locally common winter resident.

GRAY CATBIRD (Dumetella carolinensis). Very common spring migrant, arriving in late April. Common summer resident. Common fall migrant, leaving in early October. Rare winter visitant.

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD (Mimus polyglottos). Common permanent resident.

BROWN THRASHER (Toxostoma rufum). Common spring migrant, arriving in early April. Common summer resident. Common fall migrant, usually departing in late September. Rare winter visitant, although more frequent than Gray Catbirds at this season.

WATER PIPIT (Anthus spinoletta). Uncommon spring migrant seen from early February through late May. Uncommon fall migrant seen from mid-September through late December. Rare winter visitant.

CEDAR WAXWING (Bombycilla cedrorum). An erratic, nomadic species, often common during migration. Flocks of migrating waxwings generally pass through our area in mid- to late April. Fairly common summer resident. Fall migration occurs from mid-September to early October. The species is rare (or even absent?) to common in winter.

NORTHERN SHRIKE (Lanius excubitor). Casual winter visitant. There are 2 records, 1 seen on 30 January 1954 by HKL and others in Lawrence County, Ohio (Edeburn et al. 1960), and another seen on 20 March 1987 at MWS (Hall 1983).

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE (Lanius ludovicianus). Rare at all seasons, although possibly more frequent in winter. Although there are summer records in our area, we know of no documented nesting attempts.

EUROPEAN STARLING (Sturnus vulgaris). Abundant permanent resident.


SOLITARY VIREO (Vireo solitarius). Uncommon spring migrant, arriving in late April to early May. There were a few nesting records at Cabwaylingo State Park prior to 1960, and two June 1983 observations at Fort Gay could indicate possible breeding (J&TI, CW). Uncommon fall migrant seen in early October.

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO (Vireo flavifrons). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in late April to mid-May. Fairly common summer resident. Uncommon fall migrant, departing in mid- to late September.
WARBLING VIREO (Vireo gilvus). Fairly common spring migrant arriving, in late April to early May. Uncommon summer resident. Uncommon fall migrant, leaving by mid-September.

PHILADELPHIA VIREO (Vireo philadelphicus). Rare spring migrant, arriving from late April to mid-May. Rare fall migrant. The 7 fall records are between early to late September. This species is doubtless overlooked to some extent.

RED-EYED VIREO (Vireo olivaceus). Very common spring migrant, arriving in late April to mid-May. Very common summer resident. Fairly common fall migrant, leaving in late September.

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER (Vermivora pinus). Common spring migrant, arriving in mid-April. Fairly common summer resident. Uncommon fall migrant with most of the local breeding population apparently departing by mid-July. Birds recorded in August and September are probably migrating from more northern breeding grounds.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER (Vermivora chrysoptera). Rare spring migrant, arriving in late April to early May. There is one summer record from Wayne County, but no actual breeding records. This species is evidently completely absent from our area in the fall. None have been banded here at any season.

TENNESSEE WARBLER (Vermivora peregrina). Very common spring migrant arriving in late April to mid-May. Abundant fall migrant seen from mid-September to mid-October.

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER (Vermivora celata). Casual spring migrant seen in May. One was banded at MWS on 30 May 1971 by J. Stewart (Handley 1976), but there are no other banding records for our area. Casual to rare fall migrant seen in late September to early October.

NASHVILLE WARBLER (Vermivora ruficapilla). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in late April to mid-May. Uncommon fall migrant seen in late September to mid-October. A very early juvenile was banded at MWS on 16 August 1963 (LK). Accidental winter visitor. One was banded on 16 January 1975 at Huntington (HS).

NORTHERN PARULA (Parula americana). Uncommon spring migrant, arriving from mid-April to early May. Rare summer resident with nesting documented in Wayne County and suspected elsewhere in our area. Uncommon fall migrant, departing in late September. None have been banded in our area.

YELLOW WARBLER (Dendroica patachia). Common spring migrant, arriving from early to mid-April. Common summer resident. Fairly common fall migrant, departing between late August to mid-September.

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER (Dendroica pensylvanica). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in early to mid-May. Common summer resident with nesting confirmed at Cabwaylingo State Park (Seeber and Edeburn 1952). Common fall migrant seen mostly from mid-September to early October.

MAGNOLIA WARBLER (Dendroica magnolia). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in early May. Fairly common fall migrant from mid-September to early October.

CAPE MAY WARBLER (Dendroica tigrina). Fairly common spring migrant, usually occurring from early to mid-May. Common fall migrant seen in early October. Accidental winter visitor. One was photographed at a feeder in Huntington, where it evidently had wintered, on 6 March 1944 (Edeburn et al. 1960).

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER (Dendroica caerulescens). Rare spring migrant, arriving in early May. Rare fall migrant seen from mid-September to mid-October. The scarcity of this species in our area is underscored by the fact that none have been banded here.

YELLOW-RUMPED (MYRTLE) WARBLER (Dendroica coronata). Common fall migrant, arriving from mid-September to mid-October. Rare to fairly common winter resident. Common spring migrant, departing from late April to early May.

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER (Dendroica virens). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in mid-April. Rare summer resident, nesting in pine-hemlock and pure hardwood areas at Cabwaylingo State Forest (Brooks 1944). Uncommon fall migrant seen from mid-September to early October.

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER (Dendroica fusca). Common spring migrant, arriving in mid-May. This species nests as close to our area as eastern Lincoln County (Hall 1983). Uncommon fall migrant seen from early to late September.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (Dendroica dominica). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving from mid-April to early May. Common summer resident along streams in Wayne County, but less common elsewhere in our area. Uncommon fall migrant with most leaving by early September. None have been banded in our area.

PINE WARBLER (Dendroica virens). Uncommon spring migrant, arriving in mid-April. Fairly common breeding species in appropriate habitat, i.e., on ridges in mature Short-leafed Pine (Pinus echinata). Uncommon fall migrant, departing from early September to mid-October. Rare winter visitor, occasionally remaining at feeding stations for some weeks. Certain birds may have an individual predisposition to winter. For example a Pine Warbler banded at Ona on 7 January 1967 was caught again at the same feeding station on 9 March 1969 and on 12 January 1970 (MK).

PRAIRIE WARBLER (Dendroica discolor). Common spring migrant, arriving in mid-April. Common summer resident. Fairly common fall migrant, departing from late September to early October.

PALM WARBLER (Dendroica palmarum). Uncommon spring migrant, arriving in mid-May. Common fall migrant seen from late September to late October. Casual winter visitor, having been recorded on 8 local Christmas Counts, often in the vicinity of...
were banded on 6 October 1963 at Ona (Kiff 1964) and at Hun­

ton in 1953 (Edeburn et al. 1960). The species was reported from Cab­

waylingo State Park by Sims and DeGarmo in 1951 (Hurley 1972). Rare fall migrant, with 1 April 1977 (HS) and 28 April 1982 and 1983 (J&TI) in Huntington. We know of no fall records for this species in our area, and none have been banded here.

BLACKBIRD (Sturnus vulcanus). Very common spring migrant, arriving in mid-April to early May. Very common summer resident. Uncommon fall migrant, departing by late September to mid-

October.

NORTHERN WATERTHrush (Seiurus noveboracensis). Rare spring migrant, seen from early April to mid-May. Rare fall migrant, usually seen from mid-September to mid-October, although one was banded at Ona on 24 August 1965 (MK).

LOUISIANA WATERTHrush (Seiurus motacilla). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in late March to mid-April. Fairly common summer resident. Uncommon fall migrant, usually departing in late July or early August, but with some stragglers recorded in late September to early October.

KENTUCKY WARBLER (Oporornis formosus). Common spring migrant, arriving in mid-April to early May. Fairly common summer resident. Uncommon fall migrant, departing in late August to early September.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER (Oporornis agilis). Rare spring migrant, arriving in late April to mid-May. Rare fall migrant seen from late August through mid-October. One was banded at MWS by R. Yunic on 21 September 1963 (Handley 1976), and another was banded at Ona on 27 September 1963 (LK). There were three seen at Hun­
ton in 20 October 1966 (TI).

MOURNING WARBLER (Oporornis philadelphia). Rare spring migrant, passing through in late April to (mostly) late May. One was banded at Ona on 28 May 1971, and another at Ona on 22 May 1978 (MK), and 1 was banded at MWS by C. Katholi on 27 May 1967 (Handley 1976). Rare fall migrant with only 4 records: 1 on 20 September 1981 at Huntington (HC&HKL) (Edeburn et al. 1960), 1 banded at Ona on 29 September 1962 (LK), 1 seen at Huntington on 9 October 1965 (TI), and 1 on 8 September 1970 at MWS (HS).

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT (Geothlypis trichas). Common spring migrant, arriving in late April. Common summer resident. Common fall migrant, departing by mid-October. An unusually late bird was found at Glenwood Swamp on 5 December 1979 (HS).

HOODED WARBLER (Wilsonia citrina). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in late April. Common summer resident. Common fall migrant, departing from mid- to late September.

WILSON'S WARBLER (Wilsonia pusilla). Rare spring migrant, passing through our area from early to late May; perhaps the latest of the migrant warblers. Uncommon fall migrant seen mostly in mid-September.

CANADA WARBLER (Wilsonia canadensis). Rare spring migrant,
arriving in mid-May. Uncommon fall migrant, arriving from early to mid-September.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT (Icteria virens). Common spring migrant, arriving in late April to mid-May. Fairly common summer resident. Uncommon fall migrant, departing from early to mid-October.

SUMMER TANAGER (Piranga rubra). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in late April to mid-May. Fairly common summer resident. Fairly common fall migrant, leaving in mid-October.

SCARLET TANAGER (Piranga olivacea). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in late April to mid-May. Fairly common summer resident. Fairly common fall migrant, departing in late September through early October. This species was formerly less common than the preceding one, but it has increased in numbers over the last two decades, possibly a response to habitat changes in the area.

NORTHERN CARDINAL (Cardinalis cardinalis). Very common permanent resident.

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK (Pheucticus ludovicianus). Uncommon spring migrant, arriving in late April to early May. Uncommon fall migrant seen from late September to mid-October. Casual winter visitant. An immature male was seen from 28 December 1979 through 19 January 1980 in Huntington (G&JR). One found on the Huntington Christmas Count on 27 December 1980 remained in the area until at least March, 1981.

BLUE GROSBEAK (Guiraca caerulea). Uncommon spring migrant, arriving in early May. Uncommon summer resident. Although there were scattered records for this species in our area previously, a notable influx of Blue Grosbeaks apparently occurred in the mid-1970's in Putnam and Mason Counties (Kiff et al. 1977). The first nest for Mason County was found on 15 July 1977 (LW), and the first for Cabell County was discovered at Beech Fork State Park on 8 July 1983 (TI). Singing male Blue Grosbeaks have been observed regularly in the Fort Gay area since 1979, and the first actual nest for Wayne County was found at Fort Gay on 9 July 1983 (J&TI, CW). (Edeburn et al. 1960) referred to nesting birds at Cabwaylingo State Park, but it is unclear from their account as to whether nests were found or not.) Apparently, this is a rare fall migrant, as 12 September 1983 (HS), 20 September 1980 (TI), and 2 (1 singing) at Ashton on 21 September 1985 (TI) are the only local records known to us.

INDIGO BUNTING (Passerina cyanea). Common spring migrant, arriving in late April. Abundant summer resident. Common fall migrant, departing in late September through early October.

DICKCISSEL (Spiza americana). Rare spring migrant seen in May. In June 1938 Haller (1939, 1940) found a nesting colony near Galipolis Ferry. On 27 May 1956 several nesting pairs were located near Mercer's Bottom (Edeburn et al. 1960). Since then there have been few sightings, although this species is probably overlooked in the alfalfa fields in Mason County. Rare fall migrant seen twice in October. One was banded on 27 September 1963 at Ona (lk). RK collected an immature at MWS on 13 November 1963 (Handley 1976).

GREEN-TAILED TOWHEE (Pipilo chlorurus). Accidental. One wintered at Ona at the Kiffs' feeding station between 19 December 1957 to April 1958, and it was seen by numerous local birders (Edeburn et al. 1960).

RUFIOUS-SIDED TOWHEE (Pipilo erythrophthalmus). Common permanent resident.

BACHMAN'S SPARROW (Ammodramus aestivalis). The present status of this enigmatic species in our area is unclear. Formerly quite common in some parts of West Virginia (Brooks 1938), it has been largely absent from the state since the 1950's (Hall 1983). In our area it appears to be a casual or rare spring migrant, most recently (1983-1985) seen in the Fort Gay area from late February to late March in 1983 (5), 1984 (7), and 1985 (3) (J&TI, CW). There are also fairly recent spring records from both Cabell and Mason Counties (Hall 1983). Nesting was documented in both Cabell and Wayne Counties (Brooks 1938). Formerly a rare fall migrant, but there are no recent records at that season. The species was recorded on the Huntington Christmas Count 4 times between 1948 to 1955.

AMERICAN TREE SPARROW (Spizella arborea). Fairly common winter resident, arriving in early November. Numbers are variable from year to year. Banding and field observations show that spring migrants leave from early to mid-February through early March.

CHIPPING SPARROW (Spizella passerina). Common spring migrant, generally arriving in late March. Fairly common summer resident. Fairly common fall migrant, leaving from late September to mid-October. Casual winter visitant, having been reported on 11 local Christmas Counts (perhaps sometimes in error).

FIELD SPARROW (Spizella pusilla). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in early to mid-March. Common summer resident. Fairly common fall migrant. Uncommon to fairly common winter resident.

VESPER SPARROW (Pooecetes gramineus). Uncommon spring migrant, arriving in late March to early May. Rare summer resident with recent nesting reported from Wayne and Cabell Counties (Igou 1985). Rare fall migrant, usually seen in late October. Casual winter visitant. This species has been recorded on 15 local Christmas Counts, but it seems to have occurred more regularly at that season during the 1950's than presently.

LARK SPARROW (Chondestes grammacus). Casual visitant. This species was an abundant breeding bird in central West Virginia from 1910 to 1925 (Brooks 1944). However, following Waldron's record of 15 May 1925 from Cabell County (Edeburn et al. 1960), there were no additional reports for the area until 7 May 1950, when it was found near Ashton (HCL) (Edeburn et al. 1960). One was also seen by HCL at Ashton on 14 May 1952 (Edeburn et al. 1960). One was seen at Ashton on 18 July 1979 (TI), perhaps im-
SAVANNAH SPARROW (Passerculus sandwichensis). Fairly common fall migrant seen from late September through late October. Rare winter resident. Fairly common spring migrant, arriving from late March through mid-May. Haller collected a "breeding male" on 22 June 1927 on Ashton, but no nest was found, and this may have merely been a late straggler on its way north. According to Edeburn et al. (1960), the Lan brothers found "a nesting colony" at Mercer's Bottom, Mason County in 1956, but no further details were given. The latter record was assigned to Cabell County by Hall (1983).

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW (Ammodramus savannarum). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in late April to mid-May. Uncommon summer resident. Hall (pers. comm.) noted a "nesting colony" at Mercer's Bottom, Mason County in 1956, but no further details were given. The latter record was assigned to Cabell County by Hall (1983).

HENSLOW'S SPARROW (Ammodramus henslowii). Rare spring migrant, arriving in late April. The basis for the statement of Edeburn et al. (1960) that "Flocks of 30-40 birds have been seen from late March to late April" is unknown and is surely in error. The only summer record for our area was on 8 July 1979 at Ashton (TI). An earlier record from Mason County on 7 July 1938 (Kicks 1938) is not valid (Hall pers. comm.). Rare fall migrant with a few scattered records, the most recent being 3 birds seen on Nine-Mile Road, Wayne County on 16 September 1985 (TI). The scarcity of this species in our region is reflected by the complete lack of banding records for it.

SHARP-TAILED SPARROW (Ammodramus caudacutus). Casual fall migrant. One was seen at MWS on 10 November 1965 (Shreve 1966), 2 were seen on 23 September 1979 and 1 on 25 September 1979 at the Glenwood Swamp (HS). One was seen on 29 September 1984 at Ashton (Igou 1984), and another was found at Miller's Fork on 18 October 1985 (TI).

FOX SPARROW (Passerella iliaca). Uncommon fall migrant, appearing in late October to early November. Rare winter resident, but numbers fluctuate on a yearly basis. Uncommon spring migrant seen in late March through April.

SONG SPARROW (Melospiza melodia). Very common permanent resident. A substantial migration occurs through our area as well, and banding studies show that spring migratory activity typically occurs from early to mid-March (HS) and fall numbers are greatest from late October to mid-November (LK).

LINCOLN’S SPARROW (Melospiza lincolnii). Uncommon fall migrant seen from early September through late October. There are several winter records, mostly on Christmas Counts. Uncommon spring migrant, arriving from early March through early May.

SWAMP SPARROW (Melospiza georgiana). Fairly common fall migrant, arriving in October. Fairly common winter resident. Fairly common spring migrant in late April to early May.

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW (Zonotrichia albicollis). Common fall migrant, arriving in early to mid-October. Common winter resident. Spring migrants occur mostly from late March through early May.

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW (Zonotrichia leucophrys). Fairly common fall migrant, arriving from mid- to late October. Fairly common winter resident. Uncommon spring migrant seen from late April to early May with a few individuals lingering until late May.

HARRIS' SPARROW (Zonotrichia querula). Casual visitant. There are 6 records for this species, formerly regarded as an accidental: One was seen in Mason County in May 1949 by V. Cavendish (Edeburn et al. 1960), 1 was seen in Huntington on 20 November 1966 (TI), 1 near the Glenwood Swamp on 27 December 1970 (LK); 1 at Gallipolis Dam on 20 September 1980 (TI), 1 at Glenwood Swamp on 18 November 1981 (TI), and 2 at Huntington on 13 May 1983 (TI).

DARK-EYED JUNCO (Junco hyemalis). Very common fall migrant, arriving from early October to early November. Very common winter resident. Individuals of one or more Western races, "Oregon Juncos", have occasionally been reported on local Christmas Counts. Very common spring migrant with movement occurring from late March to early May.

LAPLAND LONGSPUR (Calcarius lapponicus). Casual spring visitor. There are 2 records for this species, 1 seen at MWS in the Spring of 1974 by a West Virginia University ornithology class (Hall 1983) and 2 seen at Glenwood Swamp on 21 March 1982 (J&TI, ES). Longspurs of this and possibly other species probably occur more frequently in our area than the paucity of records indicates.

[SNOW BUNTING (Plectrophenax nivalis).] Casual winter visitant. This species was recorded on 3 occasions at a feeder in Huntington during the late 1950's (Slack 1967).

BOBOLINK (Dolichonyx oryzivorus). Fairly common spring migrant seen from late April through mid-May. Uncommon fall migrant, appearing in late August to mid-October. Large flocks were found at MWS in October, 1960 (LW).

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD (Agelaius phoeniceus). Abundant spring migrant, with territorial males arriving in early March. Very common summer resident. Common fall migrant, leaving in early November. Uncommon to (occasionally) locally abundant winter
resident.

EASTERN MEADOWLARK (*Sturnella magna*). Common spring migrant seen in mid-March. Common summer resident. Apparently an uncommon fall migrant, although little is known about actual departure dates. Fairly common winter resident.

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*). Casual spring and fall visitor. There are 5 records, including 1 photographed at Huntington in June 1960 by R. Slack (photo on file at the National Photoduplicate File) (Hall 1983), 1 seen at MWS on 30 September 1962 (Hall 1983), 1 seen at Glenwood Swamp on 11 September 1982 (J&TI, ES), 1 seen at Ashton on 7 May 1983 (J&TI, GR), 1 at Glenwood Swamp on 4 April 1984 (TI), and 1 seen at Ona on 17 October 1984 (LN, HS).

RUSTY BLACKBIRD (*Euphagus carolinus*). Common fall migrant, arriving in early October. Fairly common winter resident, although numbers fluctuate from rare to common on a local basis. Common spring migrant seen from mid-March through mid-May. There is an inexplicable summer record of 1 July 1954 by HKL (Edeburn et al. 1960).

[REWS BLACKBIRD (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*)]. Casual visitor. One was seen on 1 November 1951 near Huntington by E. Seeberr and D. Piklenken (Seeberr and Edeburn 1952), 4 were seen in Mason County on 9 April 1952 (HCL) (Edeburn et al. 1960), and 2 were seen in Gallia County, Ohio on 12 January 1961 (HKL and G. Vickery, Edeburn et al. 1960). A flock of at least 80 (only males counted) was seen at Glenwood Swamp on 2 September 1985 among a large mixed-species flock of blackbirds (TI), following some severe storms.

COMMON GRACKLE (*Quiscalus quiscula*). Abundant spring migrant, arriving in early March. Common summer resident. Common fall migrant, departing in early October. Like other blackbirds, this species ranges from uncommon to abundant in winter, sometimes occurring in huge flocks at traditional roosts.

BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD (*Molothrus ater*). Common spring migrant, arriving in late March to early April. Common summer resident. Common fall migrant with most birds departing in early October. Uncommon winter resident, and the individuals occurring at that season are probably not the ones that breed here.

ORCHARD ORIOLE (*Icterus spurius*). Fairly common spring migrant, arriving in late April to early May. Fairly common summer resident. Rare fall migrant, departing in mid-August.

NORTHERN ORIOLE (*Icterus galbula*). Fairly common spring migrant arriving in late April to early May. Fairly common summer resident, now slightly more abundant than the preceding species. Fairly common fall migrant, departing by late August to early September. This species may occasionally winter, as suggested by a record by Rucker from Point Pleasant in February 1953 (Edeburn et al. 1960), 1 seen on the Huntington Christmas Count by Q. Martin on 29 December 1962, and another on the latter count on 18 December 1971 (present since 2 November 1971).

PURPLE FINCH (*Carpodacus purpureus*). Common fall migrant, arriving in late October to mid-November. Common winter resident, although there is a possibility that numbers at feeders may be declining as the next species becomes more common in our area. Common spring migrant, ordinarily present until late April. An extremely late immature (?) male was banded on 16 June 1980 at Ona (LN), and Hall (1983) mentioned a July record from Huntington (possibly the same record). There are also early June records for Wayne County (Slack 1967). As yet, there is no evidence that this species nests in our area, however.

HOUSE FINCH (*Carpodacus mexicanus*). Very common permanent resident. This species was first reported from our area on 5 February 1974 by J. Musser in Huntington (Hall 1983), and a few began turning up on local Christmas Counts in 1979. This species is more common at feeders from December through March, possibly indicating some migratory movement from the north.

RED CROSSBILL (*Loxia curvirostra*). Casual winter visitor. A flock found at Ona on 19 April 1964 contained individuals feeding young (LM, MK), presumably indicating breeding locally. The species was also seen at Ona on 9 June 1968 and 6 May 1973 (LN). Six were seen at Huntington on 19 May 1974 (HS), 16 seen near Ona on 27 December 1981 (LN), 4 were seen near Fort Gay on 28 February 1982 (J&TI, CW), and single individuals were banded at Ona on 20 and 24 April 1985, respectively (LN). Crossbills may turn up at any time of the year in our area.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL (*Loxia leucoptera*). Casual winter visitor. This species was extraordinarily common between December 1963 to early April 1964, occurring in small flocks throughout the area. A Marshall University班, classed some in Ritter Park, Huntington on 4 and 11 April 1967 (Slack 1967). Other records include 1 found dead at Ona on 10 December 1969 (MK; specimen at Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology), 7 found at Huntington on 15 March 1979 (J&TI, CW), and 3 seen at Fort Gay on 4 December 1982 (J&TI, CW). Like the preceding species, this crossbill may be expected at any season, although it is most likely in the colder months.

[COMMON REDPOLL (*Carduelis flammea*).] Casual winter visitor. The only unequivocal record is a flock of 8 seen at Ona on 1 February 1970 (HS). A record of 1 seen on 26 December 1965 at Ona (MK) is now regarded as tentative.

PINE SISKIN (*Carduelis pinus*). Rare to common winter resident. This species was first recorded here on 26 December 1949 (Edeburn et al. 1960), generally an "early winter" species, being completely absent or present in large numbers. It has been recorded on only 15 local Christmas Counts since 1940, but during 10 of the past 20 years. Siskins sometimes arrive as early as late October, and apparent migrants appear in spring in mid- to late March through early to mid-May.

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH (*Carduelis tristis*). Very common spring migrant, arriving in late April and mixing with winter residents. Common summer resident. Common fall migrant seen in mid- to late
October. Common winter resident. In some winter hundreds have been banded at Ona (LW).

EVENING GROSBEAK (Coccothraustes vespertina). This species was first reported from our area by the Ohio ornithologist, Lawrence Hicks, who found it near Huntington during the invasion winter of 1945-46 (Brooks 1946). However, prior to 1953-1954 Evening Grosbeaks were considered hypothetical in southwestern West Virginia. We now regard this species as a common to very common winter resident, sometimes arriving in mid- to late November, but with the greatest numbers usually being recorded later in the winter. Like other northern "invasion" species, their numbers fluctuate from being virtually absent in some winters to being the dominant species at local feeding stations in other years. LW has banded 410 at his Ona feeding station in the last decade. Evening Grosbeaks depart from mid-April to mid-May.

HOUSE SPARROW (Passer domesticus). Very common permanent resident and locally abundant. Still largely absent in "natural" habitats.

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