



# The Redstart

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been my observation that when a new president takes office in an organization such as ours, it is customary for him to exhibit great enthusiasm and ambition by establishing a series of "reforms" aimed at making the club bigger and better.

Not wishing to break with precedent, and desiring above all to prove worthy of the confidence in me that my colleagues have indicated, I have examined the facets of our club with the determined eye of a fault-finder.

I have come to this conclusion; Either I am blind to the pressing needs of our organization; or, the Brooks Bird Club is a darn good club just as it is. If there are great reforms awaiting a champion I have failed to find them.

Don't misunderstand me. There are some miscellaneous ideas that might be presented to the membership as thoughts for the betterment of the club, but they are hardly basic reforms.

For example, THE REDSTART, our quarterly publication, has been a worry to its successive editors for years. The worry stems usually from the fact that members fail to contribute articles of interest and the publication often suffers from a lack of material.

It seems to me that this condition might be rectified if we were to broaden our coverage in THE REDSTART. There is nothing compelling us to make this a periodical devoted exclusively to bird study. Indeed, the varied interests of our members (which we acknowledge readily in our annual Foray Reports) might cause us to take stock of our situation and admit that THE REDSTART would serve a larger majority of those who receive it if we were to include articles on botany, herpetology, mammalogy, ecology and general conservation.

While the WILSON BULLETIN and THE AUK are devoted to ornithology, AUDUBON MAGAZINE and the MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON BULLETIN are broad in their coverage. Our own magazine, covering a very limited area, is hardly in the same favorable position to solicit manuscripts as the above publications which are international in scope.

Another idea that is not new but which has never reached the "action" stage is the publication of a book entitled WHERE TO FIND BIRDS IN WEST VIRGINIA. Cost of publication has been a factor in the delay, but I think we should investigate more thoroughly the possibility of a modest financial outlay. With our many Foray Reports plus the knowledge of members from all parts of the State, we, as a club, are certainly in a position to assemble a wealth of material for such a book.

With the 1959 Foray at Mountain Lake, Virginia, we have broken a policy of holding all of our Forays in West Virginia. I think it would be a good idea to establish some sort of long-range plan in this regard. Do we, or do we not, want to continue to seek Foray sites out of our own state? Would we do a more worthwhile job by greater coverage in our Forays, or, have we still much work to do in West Virginia? An added consideration...Would we enjoy going farther afield? Let us formulate a plan. There is always the danger of getting into a

rut, even in our field trips. Variety might add spice. Then again, old familiar places may be best. But we should give it thought.

We have made a modest beginning in the field of education. A film and slide library has been started and extensive plans are now underway to enlarge and broaden this field considerably. This, as most of you know, is one of my greatest interests in the Brooks Bird Club. As time goes on, I hope to devote more and more effort to the accumulation of an outstanding library of natural history films for the club. In this regard, I solicit the help of every member, not financial, but in the gathering together of hundreds of living specimens to be included in natural color motion pictures of birds, herps, ferns, flowers, trees, mammals, etc.

I am sure that there are other miscellaneous ideas that might be offered for the improvement of the club. Send me the ones that come to your mind. But I am sure that all of you will agree with my opening statement, that, basically, the Brooks Bird Club is a mighty fine organization. I never knew a more friendly group; a more closely-knit gathering of people from all walks of life. Let's keep it that way.

Hal H. Harrison  
President

#### THE SUMMER SEASON IN OUR YARD

By Wilda and Dick Jennings

A most interesting representation of birds nested in our yard this season. It might well be termed a "concentration" of birds. In an area of approximately 200 ft. x 200 ft., which makes up our immediate yard there were 24 pairs of birds nesting representing 16 different species, four more species than last year.

The yard, which makes up part of our approximately 5 acres, is on a hillside which slopes northward to and somewhat beyond a lake and westward to a tiny brook, the outlet of the lake, and beyond it up a sharp, wooded bank. Some of this is mowed occasionally, and about one and one-half acres is in lawn. The 200 ft. x 200 ft. area where we have watched carefully for nesting birds is part of the portion in lawn. The house itself is near the middle of the east end of this part. Near it is a small open shelter for the well. There is a tool house at the southwest corner of the nesting area. These are the only buildings in the yard.

The south edge of the yard is bordered by a woods made up largely of wild cherry, ash, locust, maples, sumac, elm, haw and dogwood with an undergrowth of seedling wild cherry and ash, blackberry, grape, ferns and wild flowers. The lot uphill to the east of us is kept mowed. To the north is an unmowed field, slanting down to two spring fed lakes. The lower lake which is nearest the house covers about three-fourths of an acre. Grass grows to the edge of the lakes, with occasional cattails. The eastern end of the lower lake is marshy, with cattails and willows. Here, too, is a planting of multi-flora rose.

Close to the house are several big, old locust trees, much loved by our birds, and also numerous hemlocks and spruces. Along the woods to the south we have planted hemlocks, rhododendrons, flame azaleas, mountain laurel and holly. The east end of the lot is bordered with 30 hemlocks. To the north between the yard and unmowed field is a row of Andorra junipers. Just inside this row is another row of pin oaks. West of the house and surrounding area, plantings include dogwood, English hawthorn, weigela, forsythia, cutleaf stag-horn sumac, red leaf plum, flowering crab, Norway maples, mountain ash, Royal Anne and Montmorency cherries, weeping birch, concolor fir, yews, Austrian pine, mugho pine, red pine, scotch pine, pfitzer and other junipers, and English ivy. At the base of several of our locust trees we have transplanted virginia creeper, the fruit of which attracts many migrating birds.

It is in this limited area that we have watched many kinds of birds nesting. The list includes: 2 pairs of Cardinals, 2 pairs of Catbirds, 3 pairs of Song Sparrows, 3 pairs Chipping Sparrows, 2 pairs Cedar Waxwings, 1 pair of Carolina Wrens, 1 pair of House Wrens, 1 pair of Red-winged Blackbirds, 1 pair of Field Sparrows, 1 pair of Brown Thrashers, 1 pair of Towhees, 1 pair of Baltimore Orioles, 2 pair of Robins, 1 pair of Mourning Doves, 1 pair of Flickers, and 1 pair of Red-eyed Vireos.

It was a surprise to see the Towhees, which normally nest on the ground in dense woods, build within twenty feet of our house and two and a half feet feet above the ground in a young hemlock. In the same area, in a hemlock nine feet east of the house was a Field Sparrow. Brown Thrashers nested about 30 feet east of the house on the ground under a small scotch pine.

In another section of the yard, also in close order, were the Cardinal, Chipping Sparrow, Catbird and Oriole. The Cardinal and Chipping Sparrow nested about two feet apart in a spruce tree while the Mourning Doves waited patiently for them to vacate so they could move in. The doves have since had a second nest in the same spruce. (The doves nested in this same tree last year.)

The Carolina Wrens and House Wrens both had three nests in our yard. During one nesting period, their nests were within 35 feet of each other. The Carolina Wrens first nested in a meter box on our tool shed. The second nest was in a tin can which was overhead in our pump shelter, and the third was in a nesting box under the eaves of our house. The nest in the tin can presented an excellent opportunity to make day-by-day observations of the young and also to snap a picture or two.

The Flickers nested (both last year and this) in a nesting box which we had provided for their convenience. Song Sparrows and Chipping Sparrows were "scattered all over the yard, most of them having their second and third nests within this described area. They have nested in the weigela, pin oaks, locusts, hemlocks, spruces and others.

In addition to these birds nesting near the house, there are others nesting very nearby. In the woods a few feet beyond our southern boundary nested the Yellow-breasted Chat, Indigo Bunting, Yellow-throat and Kentucky Warbler. In all, so far this year, 86 different species have been identified as they visited our yard. Included were such interesting water birds as the Black-crowned Night Heron (March 16) which spent several days with us - sleeping by day, fishing by night, and the Osprey (May 3) which stopped for an afternoon

of fishing at our little lake. The Green Heron spends the entire season with us; the Great Blue Heron "comes and goes" from March thru September. American Bittern, Black Tern, Mallard, Wood duck, Pied-billed Grebe, mergansers, Scaup - all have been seen in the course of the season.

In other years the Blue Grosbeak and Rose-breasted Grosbeak have been our guests and we have frequent visits from the Pileated Woodpecker. For three years a Mockingbird came daily for peanut butter and raisins at a window feeder. It was first attracted to our yard by a suet feeder near the window. A pair of Goldfinchs wintered with us last year and each evening could be seen going to roost in our holly tree. Blue Jays which are almost a rarity in this vicinity generally pay us a call several times a season. Thirty-three Cedar Waxwings feasted throughout the winter on the ripened fruit of the multi-flora rose and mountain ash.

The natural setting - away from noisy highways and surrounded by woods and open fields - was already inviting to birds before we built our home here, six years ago. However, many years before we built, we were planning and planting and have done our best to provide more food and shelter to lure birds near our home. We have three bird baths, all in woody settings. The favorite of the birds is a drip bath which we have made in a natural setting, piping the water underground from our well. A hole was drilled lengthwise through a small piece of locust and copper tubing inserted through which the water drips. Many interesting happenings have been observed at this drip bath, the most recent being a female Redstart and a Ruby-crowned Kinglet each determined to be "first."

We have a number of bird houses throughout the yard including Bludbird, Purple Martin, Flicker, Carolina and House Wren. Until two years ago we had Bluebirds in our boxes but at that time we lost both adult birds and the nest of young. We believe they were victims of insecticides being used in the community. Since then other Bluebirds come and go but have not nested.

Our three feeding stations consist of a window feeder, which is forty inches long and ten inches wide, with glass sides and roof; a hopper type feeder made with a gallon jar to hold and dispense the seed, and a double-deck "smorgasbord" which is made of marine plywood cut in a semi-circle and fastened around a large locust tree about six feet from our house. The upper deck acts as a protection to the lower during bad weather but otherwise serves as a much needed feeding shelf. We also have two suet feeders. From spring till fall a hummingbird birder has an over-flow of customers. We start the fall season well stocked with 100 pounds of mixed nuts (shelled), 100 pounds of Kellogg's Elite seed mixture, a bushel of corn on the cob, a goodly supply of peanut butter and a standing order at the butchers for choice suet.

We have put forth much time and effort in trying to make our yard one that the birds might find hard to pass up - we believe that we've succeeded.

Washington Pike  
Wellsburg, W. Va.

## THE LESSON OF JOE GROM

By Hal H. Harrison

In this jet age of speed and travel, bird watchers, more than ever before, are prone to eye distant fields as best for their efforts. It is common for us all to scorn the acres around our homes with the notion that there is nothing new to be encountered in these familiar grounds.

Joe Grom, a new member of the Brooks Bird Club, and the author of the following article, is an example of how wrong we can be.

Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, with Pittsburgh as its hub, is one of the most densely populated and highly industrial counties in the United States. I daresay it is one of the last places that a bird watcher would choose in his attempts to further our knowledge of migrating and breeding birds.

If the abundance of people and places did not stop an investigator the knowledge that the area had been worked heavily for decades (by such noted ornithologists as W. E. Clyde Todd, of Carnegie Museum) certainly would be the deterring factor.

Joe Grom, single, a graduate of St. Vincent's College, is a resident instructor at Maxada Woodlands, a private school for elementary and Junior High School students, located on busy Babcock Blvd., near North Park. The school is just a good hike from Pittsburgh's city limits.

With his pupils, or with the writer, or alone much of the time, Mr. Grom has spent untold hours watching and studying the birds immediately around his school and his home. The results are contained in the accompanying article.

On these quiet walks, Mr. Grom has been able to write some new pages in the ornithology of Allegheny County, a feat rarely equalled in modern bird watching. The moral is certainly evident for us all. If Mr. Grom can do it in the Pittsburgh area, why can't we do it in the area where we live? We can. It just takes some confidence and determination.

Tarentum, Pa.

## BIRDS OF THE NORTH PARK AREA

By Joseph A. Grom

Some fifteen miles north of Pittsburgh, Pa., between Routes 8 & 19 lies 1700-acre North Park, an Allegheny County recreational area. Historic Pine Creek here has been enlarged into two lakes of about 100 acres. Two small streams, Montour and Irwin Runs, empty into the famous Creek and lake. These two parallel streams, about a mile apart, and the adjacent lands are as full of ornithological surprises as any comparable area could be.

Composed mostly of second-growth woodlands, old orchards, abandoned farmlands with brushy fields and pastures, wet bottomlands and dry hillsides -- all within walking distance of one another -- this area has yielded, since 1952, 209 species of birds with 94 known to nest. Some interesting and unusual records have added spice to an already rich diet of the more ordinary birding experiences.

The parade of new nesting records for the County (Allegheny) began in 1952 with the discovery of the County's first three Canada Warbler nests along a branch of Montour Run at Maxada Woodlands, the home base for all these explorations, on May 24, 25, and June 14. Since that year at least two pairs, sometimes six or seven, have nested here each year.

A singing male Blue-winged Warbler, heard along Montour Run in early June 1952, led to the locating of three nests and nineteen singing males along Irwin and Montour Runs. Since Golden-wings had previously been discovered in about the same relative abundance, from that time all singing Golden-winged and Blue-winged Warblers have been checked with four resultant Brewster's recorded, two in 1958 and two in 1959. One of the Brewster's was under observation for two weeks but as yet no nests of hybrids have been found.

In the same year (1958), quite by accident, during a search for a White-eyed Vireo nest it was determined that one pair of Nashville Warblers nests on Irwin Road. This was another first for the County. Subsequently, on June 17 the White-eyed Vireo was added to the list of firsts for the County with the finding of a nestful of young. Two days later, on June 19, the nest of a Traill's Flycatcher was located along Montour Run. This was the fourth first nesting record for Allegheny County in 1958 -- all within the relatively small area of five miles along the two streams.

But this wasn't the end: on June 30 a pair of Saw-whet Owls were watched attempting to appropriate a box but being thwarted by the mass of debris left by the former occupants. As if this weren't enough it was ascertained that the Traill's Flycatchers nesting along Montour Run sing the "fitzbeu" song, while Traill's Flycatchers along Irwin Run give the northern race's "wee-be-o" rendition.

Along with the unusual breeding birds there have occurred some late nestings. Among these have been consistently the Scarlet Tanager and Red-eyed Vireo. Several middle to late July nests of both species have been found but the really late ones are an August 15 record for two-day fledgling tanagers and three nests of Red-eyed Vireos found about August 10 and one (1959) in which the young left the nest on August 21!

Just as the unusual breeding birds include northern as well as southern forms so do our migratory records in the area show the intermediate character of the region. Northern visitors have included both crossbills, Evening Grosbeaks, Redpolls, and the Goshawk, while from the South have come a Blue Grosbeak, Yellow-throated Warbler, and Summer Tanager. The last-named might yet prove to breed somewhere in the vicinity as there are four records, including one singing male observed for over two weeks in June 1953.

Besides the ornithological wonders there is always the possibility of turning up some other rarity of nature. Such were the finding of a water oak, a southern tree, the chancing upon an "albino" great blue lobelia, the dredging up of a 250 million-year old fern fossil out of Montour Run, or the capture of a white-hairstreak, an uncommon to rare semi-tropical butterfly.

What untold rarities or oddities of natural history remain to be found in the neighborhood only persistence, time, and luck will tell.

Maxada Woodlands  
Babcock Blvd.  
Gibsonia, Pennsylvania.

#### THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BROOKS BIRD CLUB, INC., 1959

The 1959 Annual Meeting of the Brooks Bird Club, Inc., was held on Sunday, September 6, 1959 at Camp Piedmont, Ohio. President David F. Baker presided.

Reports were submitted by the Treasurer, the Auditing Committee, the Executive Director, the REDSTART Editor, the MAILBAG Editor and representatives of the local chapters.

The Executive Committee presented a proposed change in Constitution - Article 2, Second 3 - (1st sentence should be changed to read as follows: "The annual dues of Corresponding, Active, Family and Sustaining memberships shall be established by the Executive Committee. The second and remaining sentences shall remain as shown in Constitution. This proposed change will be acted on at the February meeting.

The Secretary read a list of new applicants for membership received since the last meeting and these were duly elected.

The Nominating Committee submitted its report and there being no further nominations from the floor the following slate of officers was elected unanimously:

President: Hal H. Harrison  
1st Vice President: Clark Miller  
2nd Vice President: George Hurley  
Secretary-Treasurer: Eva H. Hays  
Elected members of the  
Executive Committee  
(two year terms): Gladys Murray  
Orlo Masteller  
Dr. Harold Burt

On September 7, 1959 the Executive Committee met at Camp Piedmont and appointed the following officials:

Trustee (three year term): Dorothy Conrad  
Redstart Editor: George A. Hall  
Mailbag Editor: Nevada Laitsch  
Foray Director: Charles Conrad

Possible Foray sites were discussed and it was the opinion of those present that the 1960 Foray should be held at Davis, W. Va. Other sites to be investigated are the 4-H Camps at Parsons and Sharples, W. Va. The suggested dates are June 11-19, 1960.

Eva H. Hays, Secretary

#### BOOK REVIEW

Living Birds of the World - E. Thomas Gilliard. 1958. 400 pp., Doubleday & Co., Garden City, N. Y. \$10.50. -- A bird-lover or amateur ornithologist is a person who, by definition likes to look for or at birds, and when this activity is curtailed due to reasons beyond his control, he will settle for reading about them.

It is true that bird books of all kinds have been pouring from the printing presses in increasing numbers to satisfy this craving, but not all of them have had the faculty of being either informative or entertaining or both. Living Birds of the World is both to the nth degree. It is certain to stimulate your interest, open up new avenues of study, and possibly set you to looking for ways and means of visiting other parts of the world.

To quote from the Introduction, the author (who is Associate Curator of Birds at the American Museum of Natural History) says, "Interest in birds has long since spread from a small circle of professionals and dedicated amateurs to a great audience throughout the world. For such a wide audience a popular book on all groups of the birds of the world, incorporating detailed accounts of key species, has long been needed. Such a book can right the unbalanced picture of bird life that one can get from specialized treatises on families or even on individual species, or on birds of a particular region or niche; it is thus the primary object of this work to give a general overall view of each group of birds and its place in the hierarchy of the birds of the world".

In the Tri-State area in which most of the readers of this publication live it is possible to see about 200-300 species of birds in a year, by dint of a good deal of work. A good many of these will be seen only for a short time at a certain season. These are the birds with which we are more or less familiar, and the books and other publications we read are about them. All too often we forget about the rest of the world. It may take a trip to another part of the country to wake us up to the fact that there are other species and families of birds, but such trips may be too hurried or may be taken at the wrong season for us to see much. We may not have learned how these strange and somewhat exotic birds are related to our own birds at home. Mr. Gilliard's book will give the reader a leisurely ornithological trip around the world, and will also show us how our familiar home birds fit into the world wide distribution of the Class Aves.

After a short chapter on fossil and extinct species the present living birds of the world (some 8600 species) are presented and discussed by orders and sub-orders, families and the most representative or the most interesting species. It is true that severe compression was necessary as for example, the discussion

of the Wood Warbler family is confined to one and a quarter pages of print. However, the relationships of the various species, their ranges, and especially their behavioral habits are well described.

A few examples of strange (to us) behaviorisms may be taken at random from the book: The use of sonar by a South American bird in order to fly in pitch-dark caves; A coot that carries up to a half a ton of rocks to build an island for a nest; A frogmouth that mimics a flower and eats the insects that it attracts to itself; The shedding of feathers as an escape mechanism of trogons and pigeons; Mass fainting as a defense used by certain stilts; and a tropic-bird that paints its plumage with a pink pigment during the nuptial season.

Mr. Gilliard has participated in and led expeditions to South America and the South Pacific area, including Borneo. Besides his own observations he has drawn from reports by the world's leading ornithologist on all phases of bird-life including the latest reports on the nesting habits of the Emperor Penguin.

The text is illustrated by 217 colored and over 200 black and white photographs of outstanding calibers.

Altogether this is a book worthy of admission to the most discriminating bookshelf.

Howard O. Heimerdinger.

#### FIELD NOTES

1959

THE SUMMER SEASON

June 1 to August 31.

Reports for this season are too meager for any reasonable generalizations regarding population trends. In fact, this might be reported as the Walnut Beach episode since very few other areas reported. Bluebirds seem to be somewhat near normal again after the 1958 Winter and Spring debacle. We welcome Mrs. Lena McBee reporting from Wyatt, W. Va., near Clarksburg. This is an area which has not had much coverage in recent years and her notes will be most welcome. She has, apparently, just returned to a 225 acre farm after an absence of some years and finds both numbers and varieties of birds reduced from her earlier remembrances.

The weather was much drier than was the case in 1958. In fact, July and August were quite deficient in rainfall. It was also considerably warmer than last year, but still not excessively hot. The dry conditions favored ground nesting birds and the writer noted an increase in Song Sparrow and Bobwhite populations at St. Albans.

**GREAT BLUE HERON:** Four heronries were active in the Jefferson, Ohio area. They are prevalent in the area and are increasing (PHS). Abundant at Barnesville, Ohio (C&C).

**COMMON EGRET:** Smith saw one at Nitro on July 20. Three were seen at McClintic on August 15 (GFH). Four at Seneca Lake, O., on August 23 and 2 at Piedmont, O., on the 30th (C&C).

GREEN HERON: Common in Ashtabula County, Ohio (PHS) and at McClintic (GFH).

BLACK CROWNED NIGHT HERON: Numerous in the Great Lakes Region (Perkins fide PHS). Chapman saw one August 30 at Piedmont Lake, Ohio.

MALLARD and BLACK DUCK: Both were more plentiful than usual on Lake Erie (PHS). Several on ponds in the Nitro area in late June (Smith). Nested at Seneca Lake, O. (C&C).

GADWALL: Several seen at Walnut Beach, Ohio, during July (PHS).

PINTAIL: An August 13 record of 3 at Walnut Beach, Ohio. (PHS).

TEAL: A flock of BLUE WINGED at Walnut Beach from early July and increasing in numbers to about 21 by the end of August. One GREEN WINGED found with this flock on August 18 (PHS). Five BLUE WINGED at Seneca Lake, on August 23 (C&C). Three BLUE-WINGED at McClintic Refuge on August 15 (KA).

SCAUP: One GREATER with a number of LESSER on July 7 at Walnut Beach (PHS). Three LESSER at McClintic on August 15 (GFH).

HOODED MERGANSER: One found by Ahlquist at Walnut Beach, Ohio, on June 30, which is somewhat unusual for the area at that time of year.

HAWKS: SPARROW HAWKS, while more plentiful than in 1958, were less plentiful in Putnam and Mason Counties than normal (GFH). Savage found them more abundant in Ashtabula County, Ohio. A nest of a COOPER'S south of Ashtabula on June 1 (PHS).

BOBWHITE: Have been heard all summer in the writer's area of St. Albans. A covey of 20 was seen on August 9 in our back yard. This is a definite change from 1958 when no birds were seen or heard. Fair numbers were noted by McBee at Wyatt, W. Va. and in Ashtabula County, Ohio (Perkins fide PHS).

RAILS: Perkins observed both SORA and VIRGINIA near Conneaut, Ohio in late July. A young SORA reported at Ashtabula on August 24 (fide PHS). Numbers of SORA at McClintic Wildlife Station on August 15 (KA). Seen at Piedmont Lake, Ohio on August 30 (C&C).

SHOREBIRDS: The Walnut Beach area has developed into the major source of records for birds in our area. An expanding mud flat area behind a breakwater attracts many thousands of birds each Summer. Unless otherwise noted, the shorebird, observations, including Gulls and Terns are for the Walnut Beach area.

PIPING PLOVER: The one bird, which is par for the area, was seen earlier this year on, July 30. Generally, it is noted about mid-August (JA).

SEMIPALMATED PLOVER: Noted all Summer in numbers to a maximum of 22 on August 2 (PHS).

- GOLDEN PLOVER: One bird on August 27, somewhat early (JA).
- BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER: Earliest record is July 29 (Novotny fide PHS). Other records through mid-August.
- RUDDY TURNSTONE: August 17 and still in breeding plumage. Two on August 31 (PHS).
- WHIMBREL: Singles on July 6 and 11 by Newkirk and Ahlquist respectively. Considered rare.
- UPLAND PLOVER: Not reported very often during the season in Ashtabula County. One on July 26 (PHS).
- SPOTTED SANDPIPER: More abundant this year. Perkins reports a late migration date of August 17. Plentiful at Barnesville, O. (C&C).
- WILLET: Unusual June reports of 2 to 3 birds on the 19th, 27th and 29th (PHS).
- YELLOWLEGS: LESSER on July 4; GREATER on July 18. Both reports are early migrants (PHS).
- KNOT: Ahlquist saw 2 on August 18.
- PECTORAL SANDPIPER: Early date is July 8 with 26 on July 17 (JA). Twenty at Seneca Lake on July 18 (C&C).
- WHITE--RUMPED SANDPIPER: First date reported is August 9 by Ahlquist.
- BAIRD'S SANDPIPER: A record on July 20 is possibly 8 to 10 days early.
- LEAST SANDPIPER: Ahlquist listed the early date as July 3. Major migration flight on August 2 and 6 when 200 were seen each day.
- DOWITCHER: Appeared on July 6 which is normal time. Numbers abnormally high. 47 on July 18 (PHS) and 36 on July 17 (JA).
- STILT SANDPIPER: First record is July 12 (JA). Sighted frequently to August 20. Seven seen on August 8 (PHS). Rather uncommon.
- SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER: Regular records from July 1 through August with the peak of 200 during early August. A June 17 sighting could be a very late Spring or an early Fall migrant (PHS).
- WESTERN SANDPIPER: Unusually early record of this rare sandpiper in the area on July 7 (JA). Several also seen on the 14th and 16th and periodically until the end of August. Two at Seneca Lake, Ohio, on August 23 (C&C).
- SANDERLINGS: Several birds on July 14 with increasing numbers in August (PHS).

- WILSON'S PHALAROPE:** The second year in a row that this rare bird was observed. A female was seen by Laurel Kreig (fide PHS) on August 8. Observed several times until August 15 by Ahlquist and Savage. Prior to these two years, no records of these birds can be found for the last 20 years.
- GULLS:** An estimated 100 immature and 35 adult HERRINGS on July 19 among some 4000 RING BILLED. One rare LAUGHING GULL was seen by Ahlquist on June 13. Only 4 sightings previous to this have been made in the area and these happened in the last six years. Six adult BONAPARTE'S on July 30 (Perkins), and 200 mixed immatures and adults on August 9.
- TERNS:** Ahlquist saw one FORSTERS on August 13. An estimated 700 COMMON on July 18. Savage saw 6 BLACKS on July 12 and occasionals after that date. Seven CASPIANS by Ahlquist on July 16 while Perkins saw 12 on August 30. Chapman and Cain list a BLACK on July 19 at Seneca Lake, Ohio.
- NIGHTHAWK:** Flock of two dozen appeared for several days at the end of August in writer's backyard feeding within 5 feet of the ground. Ann Shreve reported about 500 during the same time in the hills of Charleston. In neither area do they appear during nesting season.
- CHIMNEY SWIFT:** McBee reports several nestings at Wyatt near Clarksburg. This writer had the usual nest in his chimney. Perkins reports them in good numbers over the Great Lakes.
- RED-HEADED WOODPECKER:** Chapman listed fewer this year at Barnesville, Ohio. About normal in St. Albans (GFH).
- KINGBIRD:** Plentiful at McClintic on August 15 (KA).
- CRESTED FLYCATCHER:** High population in Ashtabula County (PHS).
- TREE SWALLOW:** Several spent Summer in the Barnesville, Ohio area and presumably nested (C&C). They had not been known to stay in the area previously.
- BANK SWALLOW:** Savage reported an estimated 1000 at Walnut Beach during a 10 day period in mid-July settling in the dry sand in the morning. Perkins also reported several colonies in Northeastern Ohio.
- PURPLE MARTIN:** A huge concentration roosted on an island at the mouth of Elk River at Charleston nightly for several weeks in late August (Ann Shreve).
- BLUE JAY:** The normal high density of birds in the writer's neighborhood in St. Albans again this year.
- MOCKINGBIRD:** Gradually establishing itself in more northern areas as a breeding bird. Savage observes this in Trumbull County, Ohio. Several birds summered in St. Albans but it is not known if they nested.

BLUEBIRD: Several nests in writer's backyard where they seem back to normal. Savage indicates a more nearly normal population in Ashtabula County, Ohio.

BLUE GRAY Gnatcatcher: Still extending its territory northward where several were seen near Conneaut, Ohio in July by Perkins.

SOLITARY VIREO: Listed August 30 at Barnesville (C&C). Found at Holly River State Park on July 4 (GFH).

WARBLERS: Very few reports. BLACK and WHITE were plentiful at Holly River State Park in early July (GFH). The writer was gratified to find SWAINSON'S at Carbide Picnic Grounds in South Charleston on June 28. This is a new station and a very welcome one as it is not likely to be destroyed soon. The areas in Kanawha City where the bird was first found by Eleanor Sims are rapidly being developed for residential housing and may be lost as breeding areas for this warbler.

SPARROWS: SAVANNAH'S nested near Clarksburg (McBee). Chapman and Cain found HENSLOW'S at Barnesville in mid-July. SONGS had a very successful nesting season at St. Albans. Smith found a pair of GRASSHOPPERS in Mason County on June 13 and 3 pairs near Spencer. Two JUNCO nests with 4 eggs each were found at Cook's Forest, Pa., on August 1 by Conrad et. al.

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Contributions for the Autumn Season, September 1 to November 30, will be due on December 15. Contributions for the Winter Season, December 1 to February 29, will be due on March 15.

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- Audubon Magazine, National Audubon Society, 1130 Fifth Ave., New York 28, N.y.  
 Audubon Society of the District of Columbia, Inc. P.O. Box 202,  
 Benjamin Franklin Station, Washington 4, D.C.  
 Audubon Newsletter - Audubon Society of Western Pa., Carnegie Museum,  
 Pittsburgh 13, Pa.  
 Call Notes - Huntington Bird Club, Marshall College, Huntington, W. Va.  
 Carnegie Magazine, Carnegie Museum, Schenley Park, Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

- Cassinia - Delaware Valley Ornithological Sciences, 19th & Parkway,  
Philadelphia 3, Pa.
- Cleveland Audubon Society, 1191 East 80th St., Cleveland 3, Ohio
- Evening Grosbeak - 159 Elm St., Northampton, Mass.
- Forest Audubon Club, 202 Wilma Ave., Steubenville, Ohio
- Indiana Audubon Quarterly - Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana
- Indiana Audubon Year Book - 3604 Temple Ave., Indianapolis 18, Ind.
- Iowa Bird Life - Iowa Ornithologists Union, Corenll College, Mount Vernon, Iowa
- Kentucky Warbler - University of Louisville, Louisville, Ky.
- Lancaster County Bird Club Bulletin - 318 N. President Ave., Lancaster, Pa.
- Ledingham, Dr. George F., Editor - The Bluejay, Natural History Society  
2335 Athol St., Regina, Saskatchewan
- Library - Fish & Wildlife Service, Rm. 2258A South Interior Bldg. Washington, D.C.
- Maryland Bird Life - Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc. Cylburn Mansion,  
4915 Green Spring Ave., Baltimore 9, Md.
- Migrant - 1533 Burgie Place, Elizabethton, Tennessee
- Natural History - American Museum of Natural History, 79th St. at Central Park W.  
New York 24, N. Y.
- Nature Conservancy - 4200 22nd St., NE. Washington 18, D. C.
- Nebraska Bird Review - Nebraska Ornithologists Union Library, 101 Morrill Hall,  
University of Nebraska, Lincoln 8, Nebraska
- New Hampshire Bird News - Audubon Society of New Hampshire, Walpole, N. H.
- Oglebay Institute - Oglebay Park, Nature Museum, Wheeling, W. Va.
- Ohio Cardinal - 5795 Mill Creek Blvd., Youngstown 12, Ohio
- Ohio County Public Library, Wheeling, W. Va.
- Ohio State University, Curator of Natural History, Columbus, Ohio
- Owl - Ridgewood Audubon Society, 21 South Van Dien Ave., Ridgewood, N. J.
- Passenger Pigeon - Wisconsin Society of Ornithology, Inc., Adams, Wisconsin
- Prothonotary - Buffalo Ornithological Society, 115 Fairbanks Ave., Kenmore 17, N.Y.
- Raven - 6 Jordan Street, Lexington, Virginia
- Reading Public Museum & Art Gallery - 500 Museum Road, Reading, Pa.
- West Virginia Conservation Magazine - Dept of Education, Charleston, W. Va.
- West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. Va.
- Wharram Nature Club - 97 W. 44th St., Ashtabula, Ohio
- Wildlife Review - Patuxent Research Refuge, Laurel, Maryland
- Wilson Bulletin - Wilson Ornithology Club Library, Museum of Zooloby,  
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