

# The Raven

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA SOCIETY OF ORNITHOLOGY

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Edited by  
Teta Kain, Chairman of the *Raven* Recovery Team  
under the direction of  
The Virginia Society of Ornithology  
Board of Directors

*Raven* Recovery Team Members:  
YuLee Lerner  
F.R. Scott  
Walter P. Smith



The Virginia Society of Ornithology, Inc. exists to encourage the systematic study of birds in Virginia, to stimulate interest in birds, and to assist the conservation of wildlife and other natural resources. All persons interested in those objectives are welcome as members. Present membership includes every level of interest, from professional scientific ornithologists to enthusiastic amateurs.

Activities undertaken by the Society include the following:

1. An annual meeting (usually in the spring), held in a different part of the state each year, featuring talks on ornithological subjects and field trips to nearby areas.
2. Other forays or field trips lasting a day or more and scheduled throughout the year so as to include all seasons and to cover the major physiographic regions of the state.
3. A journal, *The Raven*, published yearly, containing articles about Virginia ornithology, as well as news of the activities of the Society and its chapters.
4. A newsletter, published quarterly, containing current news items of interest to members and information about upcoming events and pertinent conservation issues.
5. Study projects (nesting studies, winter bird population surveys, etc.) aimed at making genuine contributions to ornithological knowledge.

In addition, local chapters of the Society, located in some of the larger cities and towns of Virginia conduct their own programs of meetings, field trips, and other projects.

Those wishing to participate in any of the above activities or to cooperate in advancing the objectives of the Society are cordially invited to join. Annual dues are \$5.00 for active members, \$7.50 for sustaining members, \$15.00 or more for contributing members, \$150.00 for life members, and \$9.00 for family members (limited to husband, wife and their dependent children).

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*Raven Editor:* F.R. Scott, 115 Kennondale Lane, Richmond, Virginia 23226

*Newsletter Editor:* Allen Hale, Route 1, Box 242, Shipman, Virginia 22971

*Assistant Editors for the Raven:*

*Book Reviews:* Richard H. Peake, Jr.

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## THE RESULTS OF THE 1986 TAZEVELL COUNTY FORAY

RICHARD H. PEAKE

The eighteenth of the breeding bird forays sponsored by the Research Committee of the Virginia Society of Ornithology was held in Tazewell County 17 through 21 June 1986 with headquarters at Fincastle Motor Inn and John's Motel. Directed by Richard H. Peake, the foray profited from the kind help of Sarah Cromer, Madeline Hurt, Ed Kinser, and members of the Clinch Valley Bird Club.

An attempt was made to cover the same area that was studied in 1972 so that the area covered included most of Tazewell County. Special emphasis was given to Burkes Garden and its surrounding ring of mountains in the southeastern part of the county. Adjacent sections of Bland and Smyth Counties also received some attention, but no work was done on Russell Beartown and only one visit (after the foray was officially over) was made to Laurel Bed Lake. The field work revealed that some significant changes in the birdlife of the region had occurred since the earlier foray.

Because F. R. Scott (1973) gave a thorough physiographic description of the study area for the previous foray, I will not attempt to repeat the information in full here, but will provide a summary for the benefit of those who do not have access to his account. Some of the stream valleys in the area range as low as 1700 feet, but the majority of the area is above 2000 feet. Most of the valleys range between 2000 and 2600 feet, but the floor of Burkes Garden ranges from 3050 to 3200 feet. The mountain ridges surrounding the Garden form one of the higher mountain ranges in Virginia. On the north are Garden (3800 feet) and Round (3950 feet) Mountains. To the south and east is Garden Mountain (4000 feet). Chestnut Ridge and Tazewell Beartown Mountain reach 4400 feet and 4700 feet to the west. This high ridge extends south 28 miles to another very high peak, Russell Beartown (4689 feet), at the foot of which is Laurel Bed Lake, a 1.6-mile-long, man-made lake (3550 feet) created from a spruce bog. Another interesting mountain ridge not connected to those previously mentioned, East River Mountain, lies northwest of Tazewell; its heights range from 3600 feet to 4363 feet at Wilson Knob; the Cove Creek area lies at the foot of this mountain. Another spot frequently mentioned in the account is the Sportsman's Club, which lies just outside of Burkes Garden at an elevation of 3000 feet.

A special effort was made to work Tazewell Beartown adequately, and this effort proved worthwhile, as the repeated working of the small area around the summit and bog produced considerable breeding evidence. Kinzie and Pancake worked the area on 17 and 18 June; Markley and Peake on 18 June; Mellinger, Ridd, and Smith on 19 June; and Kinser, the Parrises, and Peake on 20 June. In addition, several persons who did not officially register for the foray worked on the Beartown.

As perusal of this report will reveal, this foray definitely shows the effects of the atlas which the VSO has been conducting. Forayers were obviously more adept at spotting breeding behavior than has been true on past forays. Thus, a wealth of breeding evidence was amassed.

Two species reported were thought to have insufficient documentation—Cliff Swallow and Nashville Warbler—but are included here for future reference.

Some birds that were present in 1972, but not found in 1986, are the Pied-billed Grebe (which was present at the Sportsman's Club and Laurel Bed Lake), Greater Scaup (one at Laurel Bed Lake), Spotted Sandpiper (two at Laurel Bed Lake), Whip-poor-will (uncommon in 1972), Bewick's Wren (two records), Red Crossbill (single bird on Tazewell Beartown), and White-throated Sparrow (one in Burkes Garden). The lack of Whip-poor-will and Bewick's Wren probably represent a loss of breeding species.

Species not reported in 1972, but found on this foray are Great Egret, Cooper's Hawk, Great Horned Owl, Rock Dove, Alder Flycatcher, Black-capped Chickadee, Brown Creeper, Hermit Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Blue-winged Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Pine Warbler, and Swainson's Warbler.

The 32 registered participants in the foray were Mary Arginteanu, Pette Clark, Sarah Cromer, John Dillard, Annella Greever, Virginia Hank, Charles and Melva Hansrote, Jim Bob and Madeline Hurt, Helen Irving, Ed Kinser, Barry Kinzie, Betty Lipsmeyer, Mary Ann Madison, Ken Markley, Clair Mellinger, John Pancake, Richard Peake, Art and Lois Pieper, Mike Purdy, Sue Ridd, Larry Robinson, Peggy Rommen, Betty and Fred Scott, Bonnie Sexton, Mike Smith, Leonard Teuber, Becky White, and Jo Wood.

I wish to offer a hearty thanks to YuLee Larner, who did the lion's share of the laborious work of totaling field cards for this report. Unless one has performed this procedure, the difficulty of the task cannot be fully appreciated.

For the purpose of this report, a list means a list of birds for any given day in the same area by the same party. Observers have been noted by name when parties of two or less made the observation. When observations were made by groups of three or larger, often the last name of one observer has been used, followed by "*et al.*"

The following annotated checklist is compiled from 70 field lists and some additional materials submitted by foray participants. The list totals 126 species plus one hybrid.

*Great Blue Heron.* The four records for this species suggest an increase since 1972, when only one was noted. Kinzie and Pancake found one in Burkes Garden 17 June; the Hansrotes and Wood located two elsewhere on 19 June; Hank *et al.* found two in Burkes Garden on 20 June, and Arginteanu and Robinson found a single bird in the Pounding Mill quadrangle southeast (SE). It is likely there is a breeding population.

*Great Egret.* Arginteanu and Robinson reported four in the southeast block of Pounding Mill quadrangle on 18 June. They suspected that a pair was present, but it is probable that these birds were wanderers.

*Green-backed Heron.* There were nine reports with a high of three noted by White *et al.* in the Amonate area. Territorial behavior was reported from the Amonate quadrangle SE.

*Wood Duck.* Among twelve reports scattered through the area, Purdy noted a high of 20 in Burkes Garden. Arginteanu and Robinson observed a family group of eight in the Pounding Mill quadrangle SE on 18 June. Kinzie and Pancake found a female with six young at the mill pond in Burkes Garden (20 June). Dillard, Scott, and Peake located a family group at Witten's Mill, and Arginteanu and Robinson another on rt. 650 (21 June). Young birds were also noted in Hutchinson Rock quadrangle central east (CE) (adult with seven young, Hansrotes and Wood, 19 June). The same date, the Hansrotes and Wood observed an adult with nine young giving a distraction display on rt. 651.

*Mallard.* Apparently little changed from 1972, this species appeared on seven reports. A pair was found at the bog on Beartown by Kinser, Peake, and the Parrises on 20 June; the same day White, Hank, and Lipsmeyer noted an adult with young at Burkes Garden. The Hansrotes and Wood flushed a male and two females on rt. 650 on 21 June.

*Black Vulture.* Uncommon, but less so than in 1972, this species was reported by 12 groups; the high was five by the Hansrotes and Wood on 19 June.

*Turkey Vulture.* This species was listed by 38 groups with a high of 23 in Burkes Garden on 20 June (White *et al.*).

*Sharp-shinned Hawk.* Three reports of single birds: Piepers and Clark (Amonate, 20 June), the Hansrotes and Wood (20 June, bird carrying a rodent in its beak), and Decker (Sportsman's Club, 21 June).

*Cooper's Hawk.* Dillard, Peake, and Scott reported this species from Witten's Mill-Falls Mill Road area, as well as an unidentified *Accipiter*, possibly of this species, in the Maxwell area (Peake).

*Red-shouldered Hawk.* Teuber *et al.* turned in the only report (a single bird) of this species from the Mud Fork area.

*Broad-winged Hawk.* The 12 reports with two counts of three birds indicate that this species is somewhat less scarce than in 1972, when it was recorded only twice. Mellinger and Smith located an adult with fledged young at Cove Creek on 20 June, and Dillard, Peake, and Scott observed an immature on Witten's Mill Road the next day. A fledgling was reported from Garden Mountain quadrangle CE on 22 June.

*Red-tailed Hawk.* Sixteen groups listed this species, Kinzie and Pancake listing a high of five in Burkes Garden on 17 June, when they discovered a nest containing two immatures.

*American Kestrel.* Listed by 12 groups, this species did not appear as scarce as in 1972. Arginteanu and Robinson noted a pair in the Pounding Mill quadrangle SE on 18 June.

*Ruffed Grouse.* Kinzie and Pancake noted the high (4) of ten reports, almost all of which were from elevations well over 3000 feet. There is excellent grouse habitat at lower altitudes where less work was done on foot, so that there may have been a bias in favor of the high altitudes. An adult with several small young was found by Mike Purdy on rt. 623 in Burkes Garden on 20 June.

*Wild Turkey.* Three reports—Kinser *et al.* found what appeared to be turkey tracks at the Beartown bog. Tony Decker located two family groups on rt. 222 from the junction with rt. 16 to the top of Clinch Mountain in Bland County near the Tazewell-Bland County line on 21 June, one on Roaring Fork (two hens, 20+ poults) and the other on Lick Creek (two hens, 15+ poults). Peake note four, probably a family group, at Laurel Bed Lake on 30 June.

*Northern Bobwhite.* There were ten reports of this species, which was less common than in 1972. The high count of six was made by the Hansrotes and Wood on 21 June in the Clear Creek area.

*Killdeer.* This species was listed by 26 groups, the peak count being nine made by Madison, Rommen, and Irving in Abbs Valley. Territorial behavior was noted in the Hutchinson Rock quadrangle CE and in Tiptop quadrangle SE.

*American Woodcock.* Two reports were submitted, one by Mellinger and Smith from Cove Creek (20 June) and the other by Arginteanu and Robinson from an alder swamp on rt. 650 (21 June).

*Rock Dove.* There were two peak counts of 25 from 17 lists. Kinzie and Pancake found an adult on a nest holding one young and two eggs on rt. 625 in Burkes Garden 20 June. Dillard, Peake, and Scott noted an adult with fledged young at Witten's Mill the next day.

*Mourning Dove.* Listed even as high as the slopes of Beartown by 3 groups with a peak of 14—Teuber *et al.* found an immature on rt. 608 at Cove Creek on 17 June.

*Black-billed Cuckoo.* Both cuckoos were scarce, and only three reports were of this species, two single birds from Beartown (18 June, two groups) and one from rt. 608 on East River Mountain (Peake *et al.*).

*Yellow-billed Cuckoo.* Much less common than in 1972—only seven groups listed this species, with a high of two in the Pounding Mill quadrangle SE (18 June, Arginteanu and Robinson).

*Eastern Screech-Owl.* Five reports, two of a bird calling at Whitley Branch on 18 and 20 June (territorial behavior) by the Hurts and Peake. Another was heard on Rich Mountain (Peake and Sexton, 19 June) and a third by the Hansrotes and Wood at the Sportsman's Club (19 June). The same date Melva Hansrote heard a fourth on rt. 61.

*Great Horned Owl.* One report—the Hansrotes and Wood found a bird at the Sportsman's Club (19 June).

*Barred Owl.* There were six reports the majority of which came from the Sportsman's Club, where territorial behavior was noted. Single birds were heard on Tazewell Beartown (18 June, Kinzie and Pancake) and Rich Mountain (19 June, Peake and Sexton). Mellinger and Smith on 18 June made the high count of three on the Sportsman's Club trail. In the Tiptop quadrangle SE, territorial behavior was also reported.

*Northern Saw-whet Owl.* On the foray in 1972, the Dalmases found a Saw-whet Owl beside rt. 16 on Brushy Mountain, so it was not totally unexpected when one was heard calling in a spruce stand on Beartown on 20 June by Kinser, the Parrises, and Peake, who listened to the bird make an assortment of typical calls for over five minutes. Efforts to flush the owl were unsuccessful.

*Chimney Swift.* A peak count of 22 by the Hansrotes and Wood on 20 June was the high of 31 field lists. Arginteanu, Ridd, and Robinson listed three birds and observed territorial behavior on East River Mountain in the Tiptop quadrangle SE on 20 June. Territorial behavior was also noted in Amonate quadrangle SE and Hutchinson Rock quadrangle CE.

*Ruby-throated Hummingbird.* Found at all elevations, the species was noted on 19 lists. A pair was observed by Dillard, Peake, and Scott on the Witten's Mill Road (21 June). Territorial behavior was noted also in the Hutchinson Rock quadrangle CE and Tazewell North quadrangle CE.

*Belted Kingfisher.* Not as common as in 1972, kingfishers were on thirteen field lists with two high counts of three. A pair was found in the Pounding Mill quadrangle SE on 18 June by Arginteanu and Robinson. Territorial behavior was also reported from Amonate quadrangle SE.

*Red-headed Woodpecker.* Two reports — Clark and Piepers found one in Burkes Garden on 18 June. At the junction of rts. 623 and 666 on 20 June, Kinzie and Pancake observed an adult fly to a cavity in a dead snag. After it poked its head in the hole several times, another adult emerged and the first bird entered the nest.

*Red-bellied Woodpecker.* Four reports, all from relatively low elevations, three of single birds — Dillard and Scott found two in the Amonate quadrangle SE on 20 June. Territorial behavior was reported from Amonate quadrangle SE.

*Downy Woodpecker.* Of 25 field lists, the peak count was seven from the Witten's Mill area on 21 June (Scott *et al.*). A bird carrying food was seen in the Garden Mountain quadrangle northeast (NE) on 18 June. An adult carrying food at the Sportsman's Club was reported by Kinzie *et al.* on 19 June, and a pair was observed by Dillard *et al.* on the Witten's Mill Road 21 June.

*Hairy Woodpecker.* Only two groups of the eleven that reported this species recorded as many as three. Territorial behavior was noted in Hutchinson Rock quadrangle CE, and a pair was reported from the Amonate quadrangle SE.

*Northern Flicker.* For 30 field lists from all elevations, the peak count was eight on 20 June (Hansrotes and Wood). A fledgling was found on 18 June on the Sportsman's Club trail (Mellinger and Smith).

*Pileated Woodpecker.* Uncommon—the nine reports were primarily from elevations below 3000 feet. The peak count of three was made on 19 June by Irving *et al.* on East River Mountain.

*Eastern Wood-Pewee.* Common—reported from all elevations—the peak count of 15 was made at the Sportsman's Club on 19 June by Peake and Sexton. Decker observed territorial behavior, one adult chasing another, in Burkes Garden on 20 June. Territorial behavior was also reported from Amonate quadrangle SE, and a bird carrying food was reported from Tazewell North quadrangle CE on 18 June. A nest was found the same day on rt. 601 (Hansrotes and Wood).

*Acadian Flycatcher.* Common below 3000 feet but largely absent from the higher elevations, this species appeared on 33 field lists. Scott *et al.* made the peak count of thirteen in the Witten's Mill area (21 June). Territorial behavior was noted in the Hutchinson Rock quadrangle CE and the Amonate quadrangle SE.

*Alder Flycatcher.* Territorial behavior was observed at the Beartown bog where three singing males were found by Kinzie and Pancake and eight singing males by Markley and Peake on 18 June. On 19 June, Mellinger, Ridd, and Smith noted five singing males. Finally, on 20 June, Kinser, the Parrises, and Peake made a count of 11 singing males.

*Willow Flycatcher.* Probably more common than in 1972, this species seems to have increased at lower elevations and on the floor of Burkes Garden, where it reaches its upper limits. Of the 16 reports, the larger counts were made in the valleys northeast of Tazewell, where Dillard, Scott, and Peake found 30 singing males between Witten's Mill and Bluefield on 21 June. Territorial behavior was noted in the Hutchinson Rock quadrangle NE.

*Least Flycatcher.* More common and more widespread than in 1972, this species has not increased in Burkes Garden but has increased in the area to the northeast and west of Tazewell. Many of the 15 reports were of birds at the Sportsman's Club, but a high count of 11 was made between Witten's Mill and Bluefield on 21 June by Dillard, Peake, and Scott. Territorial behavior was noted in Hutchinson Rock quadrangle NE. An empidonax was observed on 20 June gathering nesting material from a fence in Burkes Garden by Decker. Although he could make no species identification, the location with open woods nearby suggests this species.

*Eastern Phoebe.* Common—the 48 reports were from all elevations including the Beartown bog. As in 1972 the heaviest population was northeast of Tazewell, where Scott *et al.* made a peak count of 20 between Witten's Mill and Bluefield on 20 June. Arginteanu and Robinson noted a bird carrying food in Burkes Garden 21 June, and Peake and the Hurts observed another on rt. 651 a day earlier. Ridd *et al.* found a bird on the nest at Amonate quadrangle SE 18 June, and Arginteanu and Robinson observed a fledgling at Cove Creek on 21 June. A fledgling was reported from Tazewell North quadrangle CE on 18 June, and the Hansrotes and Wood reported a nest with three young on rt. 16 and a nest on rt. 91.

*Great Crested Flycatcher.* Fairly common, this species ranged up to 4000 feet on the slopes of Beartown and appeared on 35 lists with a peak count of five by

the Hansrotes and Wood on 20 June. Territorial behavior was noted in the Hutchinson Rock quadrangle CE and NE and in the Garden Mountain quadrangle NE.

*Eastern Kingbird.* This species appeared on 28 lists with a peak count of eight made on 18 June by the Hansrotes and Wood, who found two adults feeding young on 18 June. The same day a fledgling was found at Pounding Mill by Sue Ridd, and a bird carrying food was reported from Tazewell South quadrangle CE. Dillard, Scott, and Peake noted an adult feeding two young on the Witten's Mill Road 21 June.

*Horned Lark.* As in 1972, the reports (3) all came from the floor of Burkes Garden. An agitated adult carrying food was observed by Kinzie and Pancake on rt. 666, Burkes Garden, 20 June, when they made the peak count of six.

*Purple Martin.* Only one report—Dillard and Scott found a single bird in Burkes Garden on 18 June.

*Tree Swallow.* The distribution of the seven reports suggests that this species' status has not changed appreciably since 1972, except that it is more common at Laurel Bed Lake. Lipsmeyer *et al.* made a peak count of 11 in Burkes Garden on 20 June. Many groups observed the nest box in Burkes Garden, and a bird was found on the nest on 19 June. White *et al.* and Kinzie *et al.* examined the nest in the box on 20 June. On 30 June, Peake found great numbers of adults and immatures (70) around nest boxes at Laurel Bed Lake. There were a number of adults carrying food to young still in the nest.

*Northern Rough-winged Swallow.* The 12 reports were widely scattered, one coming from Beartown. The peak count of 15+ was made by Arginteanu and Robinson on 21 June in the Pounding Mill quadrangle SE.

*Barn Swallow.* The peak count of 67 was made on 19 June by the Hansrotes and Wood, who noted an adult feeding young on rt. 604 (18 June) and two more feeding young the following day on rt. 623. There were many breeding records in the 40 reports of this common species. Mellinger and Smith discovered a fledgling at the Sportsman's Club, and Sue Ridd *et al.* observed a bird on the nest at Pounding Mill quadrangle SE, as did Arginteanu and Robinson on 18 June. Kinzie and Smith located a nest at the Sportsman's Club on 19 June. On 20 June, an immature was noted at the Beartown bog (Kinser *et al.*); twelve nests were found in a barn, half with eggs, half with young on rt. 625 in Burkes Garden (Kinzie and Pancake); and two family groups were noted elsewhere in Burkes Garden (Hank *et al.*). A bird carrying food was reported from Amonate quadrangle SE on 20 June. Arginteanu and Robinson found a bird on the nest in Burkes Garden on 21 June. On 30 June, Peake found a number of Barn Swallows (20) with the Tree Swallows at nest boxes beside Laurel Bed Lake.

*Blue Jay.* Of the 34 reports from all elevations, the high count was 20 made by Teuber *et al.* on 18 June. Dillard, Peake, and Scott discovered two young on rt. 656 on 21 June, and M. Hurt and Peake saw a bob-tailed young bird at Cove Creek the same day. A bird carrying a fecal sac was reported from Amonate quadrangle SE 18 June.

*American Crow.* Common with a peak count of 35 (Hansrotes and Wood, 19 June)—two young were found on rt. 636 on 17 June by Teuber *et al.* An adult carrying food was found by Kinser *et al.* on 20 June at the Tazewell Beartown bog. A fledgling was noted at the Sportsman's Club on 21 June by Arginteanu and Robinson. Ridd *et al.* watched a bird carrying a fecal sac and noted a fledgling in Amonate quadrangle SE on 18 June.

*Common Raven.* There were 17 reports with a high of four in Burkes Garden on 18 June. Markley and Peake saw an adult with two fledged young at the Beartown bog on 18 June, and Peake *et al.* watched an adult carrying food at the summit of Beartown. A fledgling was noted by Ridd *et al.* at Amonate on 18 June.

*Black-capped Chickadee.* In 1972 parties searched on Beartown for this species but the evidence was not conclusive. During this foray, all of the chickadees found on top of the Beartown were apparently of this species with a high count of five by Kinzie and Pancake on 18 June, when Markley and Peake also heard a bird giving a low-pitched, two-note call at the Beartown bog. On 19 June Mellinger, Ridd, and Smith found two birds on Tazewell Beartown and noted the carrying of food. Another single bird was found on Beartown on 20 June, and a bird giving a Black-cap song was at a low altitude at Maxwell on 21 June (Peake). Arginteanu and Robinson reported two birds on Chestnut Ridge. Below the dam at Laurel Bed Lake, Peake watched a bird gathering nesting material on 30 June. It appears that on Clinch Mountain, as at Mt. Rogers, this species is maintaining a population in the spruce and northern hardwood.

*Carolina Chickadee.* Of the 19 reports, a peak count of 13 was made by the Hansrotes and Wood on 20 June; they observed one family group. This species seemed fairly common below 3000 feet but did not range much above the floor of Burkes Garden. On 18 June, Ridd *et al.* observed a bird carrying food at Amonate quadrangle SE.

*Tufted Titmouse.* There were 35 reports ranging even to the slopes of Beartown, though it was much more common at the lower elevations, where a high count of 10 was made on 20 June by the Hansrotes and Wood. Dillard and Scott noted an adult feeding a fledgling at Amonate quadrangle SE on 20 June. White *et al.* found adults with two young in the same area on 21 June.

*Red-breasted Nuthatch.* There were three reports from the spruce forest on Beartown, where Kinzie and Pancake made a peak count of seven on 18 June.

*White-breasted Nuthatch.* There were 26 reports with a high count of 11 at the Sportsman's Club (19 June, Kinzie *et al.*). Four young were found in the Hutchinson Rock quadrangle NE. M. Hurt and Peake watched a family group of four at Cove Creek on 21 June; the same day the Hansrotes and Wood observed a pair in courtship on rt. 61. On 19 June they saw a pair feeding young at the Sportsman's Club.

*Brown Creeper.* One report from Beartown bog: Markley and Peake found a single bird on 18 June.

*Carolina Wren.* Of 31 reports from all elevations (including Tazewell Beartown bog), the high was 12 from the Mud Valley area (Teuber *et al.*). On 21 June, a bird

on the nest was found by Arginteanu and Robinson in Burkes Garden; and Dillard *et al.* located an immature at Witten's Mill. On 17 June, Teuber *et al.* found an agitated adult on territory and young birds on rt. 636. Kinzie and Pancake noted a nest at the Sportsman's Club on 19 June.

*House Wren.* Fairly common in settled areas — of 36 reports, Ridd *et al.* made the high count of 18 in the Mud Valley area on 18 June. The Hurts reported an adult with young in Tazewell on 16 June, and Tony Decker discovered an adult carrying food to a nest at the Sportsman's Club on 20 June. A bird was reported on nest in a bird box in Tazewell North quadrangle CE on 18 June (Hansrotes and Wood).

*Winter Wren.* All reports were from Beartown, where Kinzie and Pancake counted a high of four, including a fledgling; and Markley and Peake watched a pair and saw an adult carrying food at the Beartown summit (both 18 June).

*Golden-crowned Kinglet.* Five of the six reports were from Beartown, where Kinzie and Pancake counted a high of nine on 18 June. Territorial behavior was observed on Beartown in Hutchinson Rock quadrangle CE. A lower altitude report was from the Sportsman's Club on 18 June (Mellinger and Smith).

*Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.* There was a report from Beartown (Markley and Peake), but almost all the 20 reports were from lower elevations, including the peak count of six by Wood and the Hansrotes on 20 June. Territorial behavior was observed in Hutchinson Rock quadrangle CE and the Amonate quadrangle SE. An agitated bird was reported from Tazewell North quadrangle CE.

*Eastern Bluebird.* Of 35 reports, the peak count of 23 by Madison *et al.* was made in Burkes Garden on 18 June. Teuber *et al.* listed a pair at Amonate quadrangle SE (17 June). On 18 June, two parties reported a pair feeding young at the Beartown bog and a pair at the summit of the Beartown. On the same day Mellinger and Smith found a bird on the nest at the Sportsman's Club and a fledgling was reported in the Tazewell South quadrangle SE. Young were being fed on Beartown again on 19 June. The same day the Hansrotes and Wood found adults with three young on rt. 666. Tony Decker saw two at a nest box in Burkes Garden on 20 June. Dillard, Peake, and Scott found pairs at Maxwell and Witten's Mill on 21 June. The same day Arginteanu and Robinson saw a bird carrying food and noted a fledgling at the Sportsman's Club.

*Veery.* More common at lower elevations (as low as 3000 feet) than in 1972, the peak count of 25 was made on 19 June by Peake and Sexton on rt. 623 in Burkes Garden and thence, over the ridge into Bland County. On 21 June Arginteanu and Robinson listed eight and noted a bird carrying food at the Sportsman's Club. A bird carrying food was also reported from the Garden Mountain quadrangle CE (19 June, Hansrotes and Wood).

*Swainson's Thrush.* Territorial behavior was noted in Hutchinson Rock quadrangle CE. Kinser, the Parrises, and Peake heard one on 20 June. Although not registered for the foray, Charles "Mo" Stevens informed them that he had heard two Swainsons' singing in the same area the day before.

*Hermit Thrush.* Territorial behavior was noted in Hutchinson Rock quadrangle CE. Singing birds were recorded on Tazewell Beartown on three different days, the high count being four on 20 June (Kinser, the Parrises, and Peake).

*Wood Thrush.* Of 44 field lists, the peak count was 20 on East River Mountain 21 June by Arginteanu and Robinson. Mellinger and Smith observed territorial behavior at Cove Creek on 20 June, and territorial behavior was reported from Hutchinson Rock quadrangle NE and Amonate quadrangle SE.

*American Robin.* On 48 field lists, the peak count of 90 was made in Abbs Valley by Irving *et al.* on 20 June. Teuber *et al.* found an immature at Cove Creek on 17 June. Hurt *et al.* noted a fledgling at Amonate quadrangle SE on 18 June, and Kinzie and Pancake observed one on Beartown. A bird was seen carrying food in the Pounding Mill quadrangle SE and the Tazewell South quadrangle CE on 18 June and in the Garden Mountain quadrangle northwest (NW) on 19 June. On 20 June, Decker saw two carrying food in Burkes Garden; Mellinger and Smith observed a fledgling in the Cove Creek area; and Purdy discovered a nest containing three young in Burkes Garden. A fledgling was noted at the Sportsman's Club and a female was seen carrying food near Witten's Mill by Scott *et al.* on 21 June.

*Gray Catbird.* On 44 reports, the peak count of 22 was made by Scott *et al.* on 21 June. M. Hurt and Peake saw a bird carrying food at Cove Creek on 17 June. On 18 June, Ridd *et al.* discovered a bird on the nest at Amonate quadrangle SE; Mellinger and Smith found a pair at the Sportsman's Club where Peake and Sexton noted an adult carrying food the next day. Also on 18 June, a bird carrying food was reported in Tazewell North quadrangle CE. Mellinger and Smith observed an adult carrying food at Cove Creek on 20 June, and Decker located two adults carrying food in Burkes Garden the same day. The following day Peake found a fledgling at Maxwell, and Arginteanu and Robinson another at the Sportsman's Club.

*Northern Mockingbird.* There were seven reports, none of more than two birds, primarily from lower elevations, but one bird was found on the slopes of Beartown on 18 June (Markley and Peake).

*Brown Thrasher.* Of 26 reports from all elevations, the peak count of 15 was made on 18 June in Burkes Garden by Dillard and Scott, who noted a bird carrying food. Ridd *et al.* found a fledgling at Amonate quadrangle SE on 18 June. A bird carrying food was reported from the Garden Mountain quadrangle CE on 19 June. Another fledgling was found by Kinzie and Pancake on 20 June at Brown's Trout Farm in the Garden, and the same day Decker observed a bird carrying food in Burkes Garden. Scott *et al.* saw a bird carrying food on rt. 656, and Peake found a pair at Maxwell on 21 June.

*Cedar Waxwing.* The 34 reports were from all elevations with a high count of 14 on Beartown (19 June, Mellinger *et al.*). Arginteanu, Ridd, and Robinson listed four birds and noted territorial behavior on rt. 61 in the Tiptop quadrangle SE on 20 June. On 18 June, Hurt *et al.* noted nest building at Amonate quadrangle SE, and the next day Kinzie and Pancake observed more nest building at the Sportsman's Club. A bird on nest 50 feet high in a sycamore was reported from the Tazewell North quadrangle CE on 18 June (Hansrotes and Wood).

*European Starling.* Of 40 reports from all elevations, the peak count of 200 was made by the Hurts and Peake on rt. 651 on 20 June. Two nests and two young out of the nest were found by Markley *et al.* at Cove Creek on 17 June. On 18 June, Ridd *et al.* noted a bird on the nest at Amonate quadrangle SE, and Purdy saw a bird carrying food into an attic in Tazewell. Arginteanu and Robinson noted many birds carrying food in Pounding Mill quadrangle SE. Dillard *et al.* observed a bird carrying food at Witten's Mill, and Arginteanu and Robinson another near Cove Creek. The latter party found a fledgling at the Sportsman's Club on 21 June. A fledgling was also reported from the Garden Mountain quadrangle CE on 21 June, and a bird carrying food was listed in the Tazewell South quadrangle CE on 18 June.

*White-eyed Vireo.* Fairly common at the lower elevations—of 17 reports, the peak count of 36 was made by Dillard, Peake and Scott between Witten's Mill and Bluefield on 21 June. Territorial behavior was reported from Amonate quadrangle SE.

*Solitary Vireo.* On East River Mountain (21 June), Arginteanu and Robinson made the peak count (11) of 24 reports. It was common above 3500 feet on the slopes of Beartown. Territorial behavior was noted in Hutchinson Rock quadrangle CE and northeast (NE).

*Yellow-throated Vireo.* Of 19 reports, primarily from elevations below 3100 feet, the high count of 10 was made by Dillard, Peake, and Scott near Witten's Mill on 21 June. Territorial behavior was noted in Hutchinson Rock quadrangle NE.

*Warbling Vireo.* Less scarce than in 1972 when this species was reported only once—a single singing male in Burkes Garden—there were five reports, three of single birds (probably the same one) in Pounding Mill quadrangle SE (Teuber *et al.*, 17 June; Hansrotes and Wood, 18 June; and Arginteanu and Robinson, 21 June). Ridd *et al.* found a high of three birds in the Mud Fork area on 18 June, and Dillard, Peake, and Scott listed two in the Witten's Mill area on 21 June.

*Red-eyed Vireo.* Common and represented on 54 lists from all elevations, this species' peak count of 86 was made by Dillard and Scott northwest of Tazewell on 19 June. Territorial behavior was noted in Hutchinson Rock quadrangle CE and NE and in Garden Mountain quadrangle NE. Nest building was reported from Amonate quadrangle SE on 18 June. A bird carrying food was reported from Tazewell North quadrangle CE.

*Blue-winged Warbler.* Although this species was not reported on the 1972 foray, a Brewster's Warbler was found at Cove Creek. It is not surprising therefore that there were, on this foray, five reports of Blue-wings, all of single birds: Amonate area, .3 mile up rt. 636, 17 June, Teuber *et al.*; Markley and Peake noted the bird again on 19 June establishing territorial behavior; Burkes Garden, 19 June, Arginteanu and Robinson; Amonate area, 19 June, Clark and Piepers; Sportsman's Club, 20 June, Clark and Piepers.

*Golden-winged Warbler.* Much diminished from 1972 when 23 birds were reported by nine parties. This time eight birds were reported by six parties: Amonate quadrangle SE (Teuber *et al.*, 17 June; Dillard and Scott, 20 June;

Hansrotes and Wood, 20 June). The other five birds were found on 21 June when Dillard, Peake, and Scott noted four birds between Witten's Mill and Bluefield and Peake noted another at Maxwell. Territorial behavior was reported from Amonate quadrangle SE.

*Brewster's Warbler.* On 17 June, the group working in the Amonate area found both a Blue-wing and a Golden-wing .3 mile up rt. 636. There was a third bird that sang a Blue-winged Warbler song. Only Peake had a good view of the bird, which proved to be a Brewster's type hybrid with the black eyeline and chin mark of the Golden-wing and a thin white wing bar instead of a large golden bar. Overall the bird was pale. Ed Kinser showed me a spot on the slope of Tazewell Beartown where a Brewster's Warbler had been found the previous season, so there is a considerable body of evidence of hybridization. This does not bode well for the Golden-winged population.

*Northern Parula.* Fairly common up to 3000 feet where suitable habitat is present and found even in the Tazewell Beartown bog, this species appeared on 27 field lists with a high of eight noted by Arginteanu and Robinson at the Sportsman's Club on 21 June. Decker found a female carrying food at the Sportsman's Club on 20 June.

*Yellow Warbler.* Fairly common below 3200 feet and found above 4000 feet. The high count of 10 was made by Irving *et al.* in Burkes Garden on 18 June. Arginteanu and Robinson witnessed a bird carrying food in Pounding Mill quadrangle SE on 18 June, and Teuber *et al.* found a bird carrying food there the same day. White *et al.* saw another in Burkes Garden on 20 June. The same day Peake and the Hurts watched a pair carrying food on rt. 651.

*Chestnut-sided Warbler.* Common at high elevations, locally abundant at least down to 2500 feet in the valleys northwest of Tazewell, and found as low as 2200 feet in the Amonate quadrangle SE with a high count of 16 from Tazewell Beartown above 4000 feet (Kinzie and Pancake, 17 June) and 17 between Witten's Mill and Bluefield (Dillard, Peake, and Scott, 21 June). Territorial behavior was noted in Hutchinson Rock quadrangle CE, Garden Mountain quadrangle NE, and Amonate quadrangle SE.

*Magnolia Warbler.* Found only on the top of Tazewell Beartown and reported by three groups on two days, the high count of seven being made by Kinzie and Pancake on 18 June. Territorial behavior was noted on Beartown.

*Black-throated Blue Warbler.* Highs of six from East River Mountain, 10 from Beartown, and 11 from Laurel Bed Lake on 30 June indicate that the population is common at the higher elevations, but it ranges in good numbers where suitable habitat is present down to 2500 feet northwest of Tazewell, where Dillard, Peake, and Scott listed 13 between Witten's Mill and Bluefield (21 June). Territorial behavior was noted in Hutchinson Rock quadrangle NE.

*Black-throated Green Warbler.* Apparently less common than in 1972 and certainly very local, this species was listed by seven groups. Counts of four were made at Beartown (18 June, Kinzie and Pancake) and the Amonate area (20 June,

Hansrotes and Wood); and a count of three was made at Laurel Bed Lake (30 June, Peake). Territorial behavior was noted at Beartown.

*Blackburnian Warbler.* More scarce than in 1972 when there were five reports, this species was noted only twice: single birds on 21 June by Dillard, Peake, and Scott at Witten's Mill and at East River Mountain by Arginteanu and Robinson.

*Yellow-throated Warbler.* Two reports—a singing male was found in Whitley Branch on 18 and 20 June by the Hurts and Peake, thus establishing territorial behavior.

*Pine Warbler.* One report, a single bird, came from Arginteanu and Robinson, who found it .7 mile west of rt. 52 in Bland County on 21 June.

*Prairie Warbler.* Of nine reports, a peak count of six was made by the Hansrotes and Wood on 20 June in the Pounding Mill area. Territorial behavior was reported from Amonate quadrangle SE.

*Blackpoll Warbler.* One report of a bird in Burkes Garden (Irving *et al.*) was undoubtedly a late migrant. This species was found in Bland County by the Dulaney on the 1972 foray.

*Cerulean Warbler.* Uncommon—there were two high counts of two among six reports. Territorial behavior was reported from Amonate quadrangle SE. Dillard, Peake, and Scott found a pair on rt. 656 northeast of Tazewell on 21 June.

*Black-and-white Warbler.* Listed by 23 parties with a high count of 16 on East River Mountain on 21 June by Arginteanu and Robinson, this species was fairly common below 3500 feet. Dillard, Peake, and Scott observed a young bird begging for food near Witten's Mill on 21 June.

*American Redstart.* Fairly common at all elevations: of 23 reports, the peak count of 14 was made in Abbs Valley by Irving *et al.* on 20 June. On 19 June, Peake and Sexton found a pair on rt. 623 a few miles across the county line in Bland County. Dillard, Peake, and Scott noted one female carrying food and a pair carrying food at another spot on the Witten's Mill Road on 21 June. A fledgling was reported from the Garden Mountain quadrangle CE on 19 June.

*Worm-eating Warbler.* Much scarcer than in 1972 when it was uncommon—eight reports, most from East River Mountain but one from Burkes Garden (rt. 623, Peake and Sexton, 19 June) with a high of four on East River Mountain on 21 June (Arginteanu and Robinson).

*Swainson's Warbler.* Elevations in the area are generally high for this species, which is common to the west in the Breaks—two reports, both from the Cove Creek area at the foot of East River Mountain: Irving *et al.* on 29 June and M. Hurt and Peake on 21 June.

*Ovenbird.* Less common than in 1972—the high count (21) of 36 reports was made by Arginteanu and Robinson at East River Mountain (21 June). Territorial behavior was observed in the Hutchinson Rock quadrangle CE by the Beartown parties, in the Hutchinson Rock quadrangle NE, and in Amonate quadrangle SE. Mellinger and Smith noted territorial behavior in the Cove Creek area on 20 June.

*Louisiana Waterthrush.* Fairly common to 3000 feet but not reported from higher elevations—Arginteanu and Robinson noted two birds which displayed agitated behavior at the Sportsman's Club on 21 June.

*Kentucky Warbler.* Though fairly common up to 3000 feet with two high counts of seven, there were no reports from Burkes Garden or the higher elevations. A pair carrying food was noted by Dillard, Peake, and Scott on rt. 656 on 21 June.

*Common Yellowthroat.* Common at all elevations with a high count of 35 by Scott *et al.* between Witten's Mill and Bluefield (21 June)—Mellinger and Smith found a pair at the Sportsman's Club on 18 June. Arginteanu and Robinson noted another in Burkes Garden on 21 June. Territorial behavior was reported from Amonate quadrangle SE.

*Hooded Warbler.* Common to about 4000 feet, it was found on the slopes of Beartown but not on the top. A high count of 20 was made by Dillard *et al.* between Witten's Mill and Bluefield on 21 June. A female carrying food was observed on rt. 623 in Bland County, a few miles beyond the Tazewell line, on 21 June by Peake and Sexton, who also found a pair showing extreme agitation on Round Mountain the same day. A bird carrying food was reported from the Garden Mountain quadrangle CE.

*Canada Warbler.* Common at high elevations and fairly common down to 3000 feet in Burkes Garden and at the Sportsman's Club—Kinzie and Pancake made the high count of eight on Beartown on 18 June. A bird was observed carrying food at the Sportsman's Club by Mellinger and Smith.

*Yellow-breasted Chat.* Common at the lower elevations and present even on the slopes of Tazewell Beartown above 4000 feet. Two high counts of seven were made in the Amonate quadrangle SE (Ridd *et al.*). Territorial behavior was reported from Whitley Branch (18 and 20 June, the Hurts and Peake) and Amonate quadrangle SE.

*Summer Tanager.* Scarce, as in 1972—there were three reports, all from below 2800 feet. It was reported from Amonate quadrangle SE (two, Teuber *et al.*, 17 June), Pounding Mill quadrangle SE (one, Hansrotes and Wood), and Abbs Valley (one, Irving *et al.*).

*Scarlet Tanager.* Of 38 reports from all elevations the high count of 20 was made between Witten's Mill and Bluefield on 21 June (Scott *et al.*). Arginteanu and Robinson found a pair at the Sportsman's Club on 21 June. Territorial behavior was reported from Amonate quadrangle SE, and a bird carrying food was reported from Tazewell North quadrangle central west (CW) on 18 June (Hansrotes and Wood).

*Northern Cardinal.* Common below 3000 feet but scarce above, with no records from the high elevations. The high count of 17 was made by Dillard and Scott northwest of Tazewell on 19 June. Teuber *et al.* found a pair with three young and another agitated bird on rt. 608 at Cove Creek on 17 June. Arginteanu and Robinson saw a bird carrying food in Pounding Mill quadrangle SE on 18 June. On 20 June the Hansrotes and Wood saw a female with food on rt. 631.

*Rose-breasted Grosbeak.* Found at all elevations but more common above 3000 feet with a high count of 10 in Burkes Garden and on Chestnut Ridge by Arginteanu and Robinson (19 June). On 20 June Kinser, Peake, and the Parrises saw a female feeding a young bird on the Moore Ranch, on the slope of Beartown.

*Blue Grosbeak.* Scarce, but more widely reported than in 1972, when three birds were reported—the high count of five was made in Pounding Mill quadrangle SE on 21 June by Arginteanu and Robinson. The majority of the other six reports was of single birds.

*Indigo Bunting.* Appearing on 56 lists from all elevations, this species was common at all elevations and very common below 3500 feet. The high count of 51 was made by the Hansrotes and Wood southwest of Tazewell on 20 June. Territorial behavior was noted in the Hutchinson Rock quadrangle NE and Amonate quadrangle SE as well as at Whitley Branch (18 and 20 June, the Hurts and Peake). Decker found a pair at Roaring Fork near the Bland County line 21 June.

*Rufous-sided Towhee.* Common at all elevations, but more common below 3500 feet. The peak count of 45 was made by Dillard *et al.* between Witten's Mill and Bluefield on 21 June. A towhee was carrying food in the Hutchinson Rock quadrangle NE on 19 June. Arginteanu and Robinson found a fledgling at the Sportsman's Club on 21 June. The Hansrotes and Wood noted adults feeding young on 19 June (Sportsman's Club) and 20 June (rt. 612).

*Chipping Sparrow.* Common to 3200 feet (40 field lists) but few above—the peak count of 25 was made southwest of Tazewell by the Hansrotes and Wood (19 June). Hurt *et al.* found an adult with two young on rt. 636 on 17 June, and Teuber *et al.* located a fledgling at Amonate quadrangle SE the next day. Decker located two fledglings in Burkes Garden and saw a bird carrying food just over the line in Bland County at Lick Creek on 2 June. A bird was seen carrying food in the Hutchinson Rock quadrangle NE and Garden Mountain quadrangle NE on 19 June. Arginteanu and Robinson observed nest building and a fledgling at the Sportsman's Club on 21 June.

*Field Sparrow.* Noted on 38 field lists from all elevations—the high count of 33 was made by Dillard *et al.* between Witten's Mill and Bluefield on 21 June. Teuber *et al.* saw an immature at Amonate on 17 June, and Ridd *et al.* noted a bird carrying food at Pounding Mill on 18 June. The Hurts and Peake observed a bird carrying food on rt. 651 on 20 June. Dillard, Peake, and Scott found an adult with three young and another young bird at a second spot near Witten's Mill on 21 June.

*Vesper Sparrow.* Common in Burkes Garden but only one report outside—Kinzie and Pancake made the peak count of 14 on the floor of Burkes Garden (20 June). Ridd *et al.* found two on the slopes of Beartown on 19 June. The only report outside the Garden was a single bird from Pounding Mill quadrangle SE (Arginteanu and Robinson, 18 June).

*Savannah Sparrow.* Definitely increased since 1972, especially in Burkes Garden, where Kinzie and Pancake made a high count of seven on 20 June—there were twelve reports, some from outside the Garden: Abbs Valley northwest of

Tazewell (Irving *et al.*) and the Pounding Mill area southwest of Tazewell (two groups).

*Grasshopper Sparrow.* Hugely declined since 1972, when Scott listed it as common below 3000 feet. There were only seven reports, the high being four in the Cove Creek area on 17 June (Teuber *et al.*).

*Song Sparrow.* Common at elevations below 3500 feet and fairly common even at the highest elevations with a peak count of 75 between Witten's Mill and Bluefield on 21 June (Dillard *et al.*). Ridd *et al.* found an immature at Amonate quadrangle SE on 17 June. The next day Teuber *et al.* noted a bird on the nest in that area. The Hurts and Peake observed a bird carrying food on rt. 651 on 20 June, and Dillard, Peake, and Scott found a young bird at Witten's Mill on 21 June. The same day Arginteanu and Robinson located another near Cove Creek and noted birds carrying food at the Sportsman's Club and in Burkes Garden.

*Dark-eyed Junco.* Common above 3000 feet but local and scarce elsewhere — listed by 22 parties with a high count of 13 on East River Mountain by Arginteanu and Robinson (21 June) Mellinger, Ridd, and Smith reported a fledgling and an adult carrying food from Tazewell Beartown on 19 June. Kinser, the Parrises, and Peake found a pair at the Moore Ranch on the slope of Tazewell Beartown on 20 June. The same day Arginteanu, Ridd, and Robinson noted a bird carrying food in Burkes Garden.

*Bobolink.* Eleven reports, all from Burkes Garden, with a high count of 19 by Kinzie and Pancake, on 20 June — adults with a partially fledged bird were found in Burkes Garden in the field across from the Tree Swallow nest box by Kinser, the Parrises, and Peake on 20 June.

*Red-winged Blackbird.* Abundant at lower elevations and on the floor of Burkes Garden with a peak count of 210 by the Hansrotes and Wood (19 June). An adult with young on rt. 637 and an immature at Amonate quadrangle SE were spotted by Teuber *et al.* on 17 June. Ridd *et al.* found another fledgling at Amonate quadrangle SE the next day. A fledgling was seen in Garden Mountain quadrangle NW on 19 June. On 21 June, Arginteanu and Robinson discovered nest building at the Sportsman's Club and saw a fledgling in Burkes Garden.

*Eastern Meadowlark.* Very common at the lower elevations and on the floor of Burkes Garden, where it ranges up to 4000 feet. A high count of 83 was made in the Garden on 18 June by Dillard and Scott, who saw a bird carrying food. Kinzie and Pancake found a second on rt. 666 and Decker a third in Burkes Garden on 20 June. Decker also noted four fledglings in the Garden the same day.

*Common Grackle.* Common in the lower elevations and on the floor of Burkes Garden, where it ranged up the slopes to 4000 feet. The high count of 63 was made in the Garden on 18 June by Irving *et al.* White *et al.* noted a bird carrying food in Burkes Garden on 20 June, and Decker observed another. Dillard *et al.* found an immature on rt. 656 on 21 June. A bird carrying food was listed in the Tazewell South quadrangle CE on 18 June, and a fledgling was noted in the Garden Mountain quadrangle northwest (NW) on 19 June.

*Brown-headed Cowbird.* Fairly common at all elevations with two peak counts of 17 on the 25 lists submitted—territorial behavior was observed in the Hutchinson Rock quadrangle CE.

*Orchard Oriole.* Scarce—a total of 20 birds on seven field lists from elevations below 2800 feet with a high count of five in the Pounding Mill quadrangle SE on 20 June (Arginteanu and Robinson). Arginteanu and Robinson witnessed courtship in Pounding Mill quadrangle SE on 18 June, and a fledgling was reported from the Tazewell South quadrangle CE on 18 June.

*Northern Oriole.* Scarce—much less common than in 1972 when Scott termed it common in the lowlands—there were eight reports with a total of 11 birds and three high counts of two birds. There were only two reports from Burkes Garden. The Hansrotes and Wood found what appeared to be nests of the year at rt. 651 (20 June) and rt. 61 (21 June).

*House Finch.* This species has moved into the area since 1972 and was reported on three lists: one from East River Mountain (Irving *et al.*, 19 June), two from north of Tazewell (Pancake and Purdy, 19 June), and two from Burkes Garden (Kinzie and Pancake, 20 June).

*American Goldfinch.* Common at all elevations but there was little evidence that many birds had separated into pairs for breeding. The peak count of 114 was made in Burkes Garden on 20 June (White *et al.*). Territorial behavior was noted in the Hutchinson Rock quadrangle CE. A number of pairs were noted in Burkes Garden by Decker on 20 June, and Peake found a pair at Maxwell on 21 June.

*House Sparrow.* Common at the lower elevations and on the floor of Burkes Garden (a single bird was found at about 3400 feet on the slope of Tazewell Beartown) with a high count of 35 northwest of Tazewell on 19 June by Dillard and Scott. Ridd *et al.* found a fledgling at Amonate quadrangle SE on 18 June. Kinzie and Pancake found a nest in a Barn Swallow nest on rt. 625 in Burkes Garden on 20 June.

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Box 103, Clinch Valley College, Wise, Virginia 24293

## BIRD POPULATION STUDY IN VIRGINIA PIEDMONT: A PRELIMINARY REPORT

MELVA HANSROTE and CHARLES HANSROTE

### INTRODUCTION

Historically, little work has been done to develop techniques for the year-round censusing of avian populations. A summary report from a 1980 conference "Estimating Numbers of Terrestrial Birds," written to identify future research needs in the field of avian population studies (Verner 1981), proposed increasing efforts to begin work to "expand our research to include the whole year." Our efforts were in response to Verner's statement.

The initial objective of this study was to develop a technique to census bird species year-round on a transect in the Virginia Piedmont. A second objective was to apply the census techniques over a period of years to the same transect. Two progress reports (1985, 1986) were made at the scientific paper session of the Virginia Society of Ornithology annual meeting. This paper will report the results from five years of continuous census work on the same transect.

### STUDY AREA

A section of state route 662, a light-duty road, in Bedford County, Virginia was selected as a permanent census transect. The transect starts at a "T" junction with state route 663 and proceeds in a direction 45 degrees east of north along a ridgeline approximately 1.85 miles to a low-water ford across Ivy Creek. The elevation along the transect varies between 880 feet at the highest point to a low of 700 feet at the ford. In addition, a dead-end paved road, 0.15 miles long and headed in a northwest direction, is located about 0.35 miles from the "T" junction. It was included in the transect study.

### STUDY METHOD

An unlimited-distance count, strip-transect method as defined by Ralph (1981) was used to census the transect. The census technique, developed during the initial year of work was to record bird species and number of individual birds while driving and walking 1.5 miles of the transect. The remaining 0.5 mile was censused by driving through a residential area. All identifiable birds (called "contacts") within a volume of space bounded by the limit of binoculars and hearing, were recorded as the observers traveled the transect. Unidentifiable birds were not recorded. Care was taken to record an identified bird only one time. The time and day chosen for the census was varied. The two principal investigators served as the observers who carried out the census. The initial and final temperature, the time required to conduct the census, as well as general weather conditions at the time of the census were recorded for most census dates.

Avian nomenclature is in accordance with the sixth edition of the *A. O. U. Check-list of North American Birds* (1983).

## RESULTS

A permanent 2.0 mile transect monitored, at least once each month for a period of sixty months (five years), involved 332 separate observation dates and 633.46 hours observation. As a result, 62,648 contacts were documented, leading to identification of 137 bird species. Table 1 includes a summary of data obtained for the period from 1 July 1982 to 30 June 1987.

TABLE 1. *Summary for Period: 1 July 1982 - 30 June 1987*

M = Months	12M	12M	12M	12M	12M	Total
Number of Observations	29	59	81	95	68	332
Number of Hours Observed	53.89	120.97	158.59	181.59	118.42	633.46
Number of Species Recorded	96	110	104	118	120	137*
* = total species seen over the five year period of study						

## DISCUSSION

### A. Census method - Selection plus advantages and disadvantages.

The selection of the method used in this study was guided by a comment by Frazzeb (1981) who suggested that transect methods of variable, as well as fixed-width strips, are advantageous in that they embrace all individuals, not just breeding birds, and can be utilized during any season of the year. Robbins (1978) commented that another advantage is that a relatively large area can be sampled in a short time. He cited the chief disadvantage of the method is that a single coverage of a transect does not permit a good estimate of the number of birds missed. In addition, he indicates the results of the transect method are less accurate outside the breeding season.

### B. Census technique - Development, effects on, and evaluation of.

#### 1. Establishment of baseline population.

The initial 12-month period was used to accumulate baseline data on the year-round bird population on the transect.

#### 2. Effect of counting-bird-twice error.

One of the major errors cited by earlier workers doing bird population studies has been the difficulty of counting each bird only one time. Ultimately, in order to reduce this error, sketch maps of the transect were used and positions of identified birds located on them.

#### 3. Effect of season on detection style.

The observers made adjustments in their detecting style as the habitat surrounding the transect changed with the seasons. For example, summer foliage caused a greater reliance on hearing while the lack of winter foliage shifted the emphasis to the use of eyes and binoculars. This adjustment in detection style is not required in many population studies because there are no seasonal changes over the investigation period.

#### 4. Effect of choice of day and of time on observation.

The time of day chosen for the observation was initially varied in order to discover all bird species present on the transect. It was felt a ratio of early morning and late evening observation times should offer an advantage when used during year-round censusing. Certain species, vultures, hawks, etc., were not as frequently encountered in the early morning hours. Robbins (1978, 1981) discussed the effect of time of day on population studies and concluded early morning coverage embraces the period of greatest bird activity. Gradually, mostly morning observation times were used. Eighty percent of the observations (Table 2) were carried out in the morning hours.

Table 2. *Observation Times*

Observation	12M	12M	12M	12M	12M	Total
AM	15	44	57	85	65	266
PM	14	15	24	10	3	66

#### 5. Effect of observer bias

##### a. use of same observers.

Originally the same two individuals were to be used on the transect for each observations date. Observer-bias (Faanes 1981) that other investigators reported when different observers were used during a population study would be eliminated.

##### b. Advantages of two observers.

Hutto (1981) used two observers at the same time to census a transect. The following advantages were reported: increased detection of birds at the extreme limits of the transect; increased detection of rarer species of birds, and increase in detection of the number of individuals for the majority of bird species present. Our experience supports these findings.

##### c. Actual practice.

We were unable to use two individuals for all observations. Seventy-three percent of the total observations (Table 3) were carried out with the same two observers. Additional observers were present on four occasions.

Table 3. *Observers on Transect*

Number of Observers	12M	12M	12M	12M	12M	Total (60M)
One	10	13	35	23	10	91
Two	19	46	46	72	58	241

#### 6. Effect of weather.

Weather conditions that influenced bird activity and subsequent detection of birds were noted during the initial twelve-month period. Days with extremely high or low temperatures, gusty or strong steady winds, and heavy downpours of

rain lowered bird activity and effected census work. For the remaining four years, days with these weather conditions were avoided as observation dates. Our observations of weather effects on census work are in agreement with Robbins (1981).

#### 7. Effect of rate of movement of observers.

The walking speed of the observer along a transect (Colquhoun 1940) has been suggested as an influence on the detection of bird species. 1.91 hours per observation (Table 4) was the average rate of movement of the observers on the transect over the five year period.

Table 4. *Rate of Movement of Observers on Transect*

Rate	12M	12M	12M	12M	12M	Total (60M)
Hours/Observation	1.86	2.05	1.96	1.91	1.74	1.91
Difference from Average	.05	.14	.05	.00	.17	

The five 12-month periods of census work show minor variation in the rate of observer movement along the transect. A difference of .05 represents three minutes, while a difference of 0.20 equals 12 minutes from the average value. Seasonal effects offer the major explanation for the differences in 12-month periods. Longer periods of time were spent on transect by the observers during the migration months, while shorter time periods were required during winter months. Also, a single observer took longer to conduct a census than two observers working together. Another effect on the rate was the combination of walking and riding in a car while conducting the census. Familiarity of the observers with the locations of birds along the transect probably contributed to the decrease in the rate shown in the last 12-month period.

#### 8. Transect habitat.

Inclusion of some habitat description of the study area is strongly recommended by current workers in the field. Dr. Gwynn Ramsey of the Lynchburg College biology department walked the transect and qualitatively identified common species of trees and plants found along the sides of the transect. Lists of these plants, etc., are found in Tables 10 and 11. This list can be useful for identification of food and shelter sources available to the bird species identified on the transect.

#### 9. Evaluation methods.

##### a. Comparison with permanent bird species.

A method to evaluate the success of the census technique was needed. However, no long-term bird population study in the Virginia Piedmont was available for comparison purposes. In 1986 the assumption was made that some measure of the general effectiveness of the census technique could be obtained if the permanent (an abundance term) bird species listed by Freer (1973) were compared with the species detected on the transect. The weakness in this comparison was the unknown effect of the large total area and diverse habitat covered in Freer's work in contrast to the area and habitat covered by the transect. Thirty-eight of Freer's 43 permanent bird species have been detected in the

five-year period since census work began. Eighty-nine percent of the traditionally accepted permanent bird species of the Amherst, Bedford, and Campbell County area have been identified on the transect.

b. Percent of annual total detected population.

A new approach was developed to evaluate the progress of the project. Each 12-month period was examined separately. Contacts for all detected bird species were mathematically treated using several methods. These methods included calculation of two different indexes as well as a percent value for each species. A useful relationship was discovered when the species were ranked in descending order based upon percentage of total annual detected bird population.

The annual percentage figure for each species was obtained by dividing the number of contacts for an individual bird species by the total number of contacts of all bird species and then converting to percentage.

e.g. for any 12-month period:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{\% of bird species "A"} \\ \text{detected} \\ \text{in one year} \end{array} = \frac{\text{number of contacts of species "A"}}{\text{total number of contacts of all bird species detected in one year}} \times 100$$

This annual percentage figure was expressed as a whole number by rounding off the calculated value. This calculated percentage figure should reflect some measure of the conspicuousness as well as abundance for a species. The number of bird species comprising approximately 90 percent of the annual population for each 12-month is listed in Table 5. The third 12-month period shows 102 percent. This high value is caused by mathematical rounding up percentages between 0.51 to 0.99 to 1 percent.

c. Annual bird population on transect

Table 5. *Number of Species Comprising 90% of the Annual Population*

	12M	12M	12M	12M	12M
Total Species	37	36	42	41	31
Total Percent	92	95	102	93	93

The 90 percent annual population values in Table 6 show the number of species detected each 12-month period listed by percent detected. Based upon five years (60 months) data, 31 to 42 birds species make up approximately 90 percent of the total annual bird population on the transect. Twenty-seven of these species were detected each of five years. These results suggest the transect has a base-line bird population each year. This base-line population may or may not be detected in a given month. Yet any species in the annual base-line population should be detectable to the extent of one percent of the annual total population sometime during a twelve month period. Furthermore, the data show this base-line population exhibits changes in number and type of bird species present within a 12-month period. This change may be the result of flocking, irruptive species, in addition to

normal seasonal effects. The data also suggests there are species present on the transect that exhibited flocking or irruptive behavior.

The Common Grackle with the largest one year variation of 29 percent detection accounted for roughly one third of the 90 percent annual population in the fifth year. This large effect explained the low number of bird species (see Table 5) that made up the remainder of the 90 percent annual population for 1986-1987. Some investigators subtracted flocking effects contacts from total contacts before making calculations to avoid the problem.

Table 6. *Number of Bird Species Ranked by Percentage Detected.*  
(90 % of total annual population)

Percentage	12M	12M	12M	12M	12M
30					
29					1
—					
—					
13					
12	1	2			
11					
10					
9			2	2	
8	1	1			
7	1		1		1
6	1			1	2
5		2	3		1
4	2		1	2	
3	6	6	8	10	4
2	8	10	7	5	8
1	17	15	20	21	14

d. Groupings of species within annual population.

Further examination of the data permits the separation of bird species listed in Table 6 into several groupings A, B, and C (see Tables 7, 8, and 9). Species in Group A and B were detected during each of the five years of study. All Group A and B bird species were observed at one percent or higher of the total annual population. Group C species detectability varied widely but was below one percent level during at least one of the five years.

Table 7. *Group A*

Group A	(Percentage detected)				
	12M	12M	12M	12M	12M
Blue Jay ( <i>Cyanocitta cristata</i> )	12	5	5	6	6
American Crow ( <i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i> )	8	12	9	9	7
White-throated Sparrow ( <i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i> )	7	2	5	2	3
Carolina Chickadee ( <i>Parus carolinensis</i> )	6	5	4	3	2
American Robin ( <i>Turdus migratorius</i> )	4	12	9	3	5
European Starling ( <i>Sturnus vulgaris</i> )	3	3	7	3	6
Cedar Waxwing ( <i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i> )	1	1	5	1	3
Common Grackle ( <i>Quiscalus quiscula</i> )	1	8	3	9	29

Group A bird species (8) are conspicuous and abundant when they are on the transect. These eight species were detected in the 90 percent annual population each year of the study. They are species that exhibited a sudden large detection variation from one year to another. A common trait exhibited by these species is seasonal flocking. Flocks of Blue Jays, American Robins, Common Grackles, and European Starlings were detected on the transect. Cedar Waxwings and White-throated Sparrows flocked during the winter months. It is possible the Carolina Chickadee does not belong in this group. Why this species continued to decrease in percentage on the transect over the five-year period is unknown.

Table 8. *Group B*

Group B	(Percentage detected)				
	12M	12M	12M	12M	12M
Rufous-sided Towhee ( <i>Pipilo chlorurus</i> )	4	3	3	3	2
Tufted Titmouse ( <i>Parus bicolor</i> )	3	3	3	3	3
Indigo Bunting ( <i>Passerina cyanea</i> )	3	2	2	3	2
Mourning Dove ( <i>Zenaidura macroura</i> )	3	3	3	2	1
Northern Cardinal ( <i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i> )	3	2	3	4	3
Northern Bobwhite ( <i>Colinus virginianus</i> )	3	1	1	1	1
Red-bellied Woodpecker ( <i>Melanerpes carolinus</i> )	2	2	2	1	2
Carolina Wren ( <i>Thryothorus ludovicianus</i> )	2	2	2	3	2
American Goldfinch ( <i>Carduelis tristis</i> )	2	3	3	4	2
Downy Woodpecker ( <i>Picoides pubescens</i> )	2	1	1	1	1
Field Sparrow ( <i>Spizella pusilla</i> )	2	2	3	3	2
Eastern Bluebird ( <i>Sialia sialis</i> )	2	3	2	2	1
Yellow-rumped Warbler ( <i>Dendroica coronata</i> )	1	1	2	1	2
Eastern Mockingbird ( <i>Mimus polyglottos</i> )	1	1	1	1	1
Northern Flicker ( <i>Colaptes auratus</i> )	1	2	1	1	1
Red-eyed Vireo ( <i>Vireo olivaceus</i> )	1	1	1	2	1
Eastern Wood-Pewee ( <i>Contopus virens</i> )	1	1	1	1	1
Wood Thrush ( <i>Hylocichla mustelina</i> )	1	1	1	1	1
Dark-eyed Junco ( <i>Junco hyemalis</i> )	1	2	3	3	1

Group B bird species (19) are always visible and conspicuous on the transect. Their abundance is lower than those species in Group A. These 19 species were always detected within the annual 90 percent population. The year-to-year change in percentage detectable is plus or minus one. Stability in the population of this group on the transect for the five-year study period is demonstrated.

It is difficult to explain why species that are known to flock (e.g. American Goldfinch) were not found in Group A. Possibly no observation took place at a time or date when these species exhibited flocking.

The current technique being used on the transect is judged effective as a censusing tool because the bird species in Group B showed no appreciable change in percent detected over the five-year study period. Additional study is needed to verify this concept.

Table 9. Group C

Group C	(Percentage detected)				
	12M	12M	12M	12M	12M
Turkey Vulture ( <i>Cathartes aura</i> )	2	2	1	...	...
Yellow-breasted Chat ( <i>Icteria virens</i> )	2	1	1	1	...
Chipping Sparrow ( <i>Spizella passerina</i> )	1	...	1	1	...
Prairie Warbler ( <i>Dendroica discolor</i> )	1	1	...	...	...
White-breasted Nuthatch ( <i>Sitta carolinensis</i> )	1	1	1	1	...
Eastern Meadowlark ( <i>Sturnella magna</i> )	1	...	1	3	...
Pileated Woodpecker ( <i>Dryocopus pileatus</i> )	1	1	1	1	...
Chimney Swift ( <i>Chaetura pelagica</i> )	1	1	1	...	...
Gray Catbird ( <i>Dumetella carolinensis</i> )	1	...	...	...	...
Yellow-billed Cuckoo ( <i>Coccyzus americanus</i> )	1	...	...	...	...
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher ( <i>Poliophtila caerulea</i> )	...	1	1	1	1
Wild Turkey ( <i>Meleagris gallopavo</i> )	...	...	1	...	...
Common Nighthawk ( <i>Chordeiles minor</i> )	...	...	1	...	...
Rock Dove ( <i>Columbia livia</i> )	...	2	2	2	...
Golden-crowned Kinglet ( <i>Regulus satrapa</i> )	...	...	...	...	1
Scarlet Tanager ( <i>Piranga olivacea</i> )	...	...	...	1	...
Brown-headed Cowbird ( <i>Molothrus ater</i> )	...	...	1	1	1
Great Crested Flycatcher ( <i>Myiarchus crinitus</i> )	...	...	...	1	...
House Finch ( <i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i> )	...	...	2	...	...
White-eyed Vireo ( <i>Vireo griseus</i> )	...	...	1	1	1
Killdeer ( <i>Charadrius vociferus</i> )	...	1	1	1	...
Red-winged Blackbird ( <i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i> )	...	...	...	1	...

Group C bird species (22) are less abundant and conspicuous. Their detection, even at the one percent level of the population, can be attributed to several effects: season (Eastern Meadowlark, White-eyed Vireo), migrational

(Common Nighthawk), time of day censused (Turkey Vulture), irruptive (Golden-crowned Kinglet), nesting site near the transect (Scarlet Tanager, Great Crested Flycatcher), feeding site near transect (Killdeer), roost near transect (Rock Dove, Red-winged Blackbird), etc.

10. Current state of census work.

This analysis of the bird population on a transect in Bedford County was based primarily upon annual considerations. The effect of seasonal changes on the base-line population is currently being evaluated for publication. Meanwhile census work has continued into the seventh year.

### SUMMARY

1. A census technique was developed employing a method called an unlimited distance-count along a strip transect.
2. The year-round census technique has been applied for five years.
3. In 60 months (five years), 322 observation dates involving 366 hours of observation yielded 62,648 sightings (contacts).
4. One hundred thirty-seven bird species have been detected on a permanent two-mile transect in Bedford County, Virginia.
5. A new technique was developed to qualitatively evaluate the census method.
6. Analysis of the effect of seasons on bird population on the transect is in progress.
7. Census work on the transect continues.

*(See next page for a complete list of  
plants, trees, etc. found in the transect.  
Tables 10 and 11.)*

Table 10. *Habitat Description of Trees*

Black Walnut ( <i>Juglana nigra</i> )	Box Elder ( <i>Acer negundo</i> )
Sassafras ( <i>Sassafras albidum</i> )	Post Oak ( <i>Quercus falcata</i> )
Black Haw ( <i>Viburnum prunifolium</i> )	White Oak, ( <i>Quercus alba</i> )
Red Maple ( <i>Acer rubrum</i> )	Tree-of-Heaven ( <i>Ailanthus altissima</i> )
Virginia Scrub Pine ( <i>Pinus virginiana</i> )	Black Locust ( <i>Robinia pseudo-acacia</i> )
Mockernut Hickory ( <i>Carya tomentosa</i> )	Sycamore ( <i>Platanus occidentalis</i> )
Short Leaf Pine ( <i>Pinus echinata</i> )	Flowering Dogwood ( <i>Comus florida</i> )
Black Gum ( <i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> )	Black Oak ( <i>Quercus velutina</i> )
Red Mulberry ( <i>Morus rubra</i> )	Norway Spruce ( <i>Picea abies</i> )
Ironwood ( <i>Carpinus caroliniana</i> )	Hemlock ( <i>Tsuga canadensis</i> )
Alder Bush ( <i>Alnus serrulata</i> )	Black Cherry ( <i>Prunus serotina</i> )
Spanish Oak ( <i>Quercus falcata</i> )	Apple ( <i>Malus pumila</i> )
Japanese Chestnut ( <i>Castanea mollissima</i> )	Black Willow ( <i>Salix nigra</i> )
Red Oak ( <i>Quercus rubra</i> )	Tulip Poplar ( <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> )
Hackberry ( <i>Celtis occidentalis</i> )	Black Gum ( <i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> )

Table 11. *Habitat Description of Plants and Grasses*

Wild Sunflower ( <i>Heliantus</i> spp.)	Partridge Pea ( <i>Cassia fasciculata</i> )
Soapwort ( <i>Saponaria officinalis</i> )	Joe Pye ( <i>Eupatorium fistulosum</i> )
Bottle Brush Grass ( <i>Hystrix patula</i> )	Blackberry Brambles ( <i>Rubus</i> spp.)
Vervain ( <i>Verbena simplex</i> )	Queen Anne's Lace ( <i>Daucus carota</i> )
Day Flower ( <i>Commelina communis</i> )	Winged Sumac ( <i>Rhus typhina</i> )
Ragweed ( <i>Ambrosia artemisiifolia</i> )	Raspberry Bush ( <i>Rubus occidentalis</i> )
Poison Ivy ( <i>Rhus radicaus</i> )	Spurge ( <i>Eurphorbia</i> spp.)
Wild Grape ( <i>Vitis</i> spp.)	Empress Tree ( <i>Paulownia tomentosa</i> )
Phlox ( <i>Phlox</i> spp.)	Burdock Plant ( <i>Arctium</i> spp.)
Evening Primrose ( <i>Oenothera biennis</i> )	Multiflora Rose ( <i>Rosa multiflora</i> )
Yellow Sweet Clover ( <i>Melilotus officinalis</i> )	Wingstem ( <i>Actinomeris alternifolia</i> )
Japanese Honeysuckle ( <i>Lonicera japonica</i> )	Crown-beard ( <i>Verbesina occidentalis</i> )
Sour Grass ( <i>Oxalis stricta</i> )	Wild Lettuce ( <i>Lactuca canadensis</i> )
Turkey Berry ( <i>Symphoricarpos orbiculatus</i> )	Common Blue Aster ( <i>Aster cordifolius</i> )
Gama Grass ( <i>Tripsacum dactyloides</i> )	Milkweed ( <i>Asclepias</i> spp.)
Christmas Fern ( <i>Polystichum acrosticoides</i> )	Orchard Grass ( <i>Dactylis glomerata</i> )
Chickory ( <i>Cichorium intybus</i> )	Crown Vetch ( <i>Coronilla varia</i> )
Goldenrod ( <i>Solidago</i> spp.)	American Holly ( <i>Ilex opaca</i> )
Bugbane ( <i>Cimicifuga racemosa</i> )	Thistle ( <i>Cirsium</i> spp.)
Spice Bush ( <i>Lindera benzoin</i> )	Escaped Wheat ( <i>Triticum aestivum</i> )
Wooly Mullein ( <i>Verbascum thapsus</i> )	Privet ( <i>Ligustrum vulgare</i> )
Yarrow ( <i>Achillea millefolium</i> )	Jimson Weed ( <i>Datura stramonium</i> )
Carpenter Weed ( <i>Prunella vulgaris</i> )	Asparagus ( <i>Asparagus officinale</i> )
Beggar Lice ( <i>Desmodium</i> spp.)	Wild Onion ( <i>Allium cernuum</i> )
Thimble Weed ( <i>Anemone virginiana</i> )	Dock ( <i>Rumex</i> spp.)
Morning Glory ( <i>Ipomoea purpurea</i> )	Red Clover ( <i>Trifolium pratense</i> )
White Sweet Clover ( <i>Melilotus alba</i> )	Pepper Grass ( <i>Lepidium</i> spp.)
Scotch Broom ( <i>Cytisus scoparius</i> )	Wood Vetch ( <i>Vicia caroliniana</i> )
Touch-Me-Not ( <i>Impatiens capensis</i> )	Dandelion ( <i>Taraxacum officinale</i> )
Pokeweed ( <i>Phytolacca americana</i> )	New York Ironweed ( <i>Vernonia noveboracensis</i> )

### Acknowledgements

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## AN OLD ANHINGA RECORD FROM THE VIRGINIA PIEDMONT

PHILIP C. SHELTON

(Editor's Note: The above record was submitted to the VSO Rarities Committee for review in January 1987 and was accepted).

At present, there are numerous records of Anhingas (*Anhinga anhinga*) occurring in the state of Virginia with the earliest recorded sightings at Lake Drummond in Dismal Swamp August 1935 and at Run Sanctuary near Alexandria in August 1936. The only other early record is a probable sighting of a single bird in Amelia County, 25 July 1939.

Herein is recorded another on 7 or 8 August 1939, from the Virginia Piedmont near Stuart, Patrick County. My father, C. B. Shelton, and Harold Absher found this bird swimming on the reservoir then owned by the Virginia East Coast Power Company, on the Mayo River about two miles east southeast of Stuart (altitude approximately 1120 feet). The bird submerged frequently and its long neck and habit of swimming partly submerged gave it a snake-like appearance. The bird was shot, photographed, and discarded. I became aware of it through a photograph in the family collection. Enough detail can be seen in the photograph to identify the bird as a first or second year bird.

Perhaps the most significant aspect of this record is its location, in the western Piedmont, 240 miles from the coast, and 120 miles west of the possible 1939 Amelia County record.

The clustering of Virginia records in the 1935-39 period is interesting in light of the comment by Pearson, *et al.* (1959) for North Carolina: "Evidently there was a general northern movement of Water Turkeys about 1931, for records of their occurrence in North Carolina began to multiply."

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## GULL-BILLED TERN SIGHTED IN BEDFORD COUNTY

CHARLES HANSROTE

*(Editor's Note: This record has been accepted by the rarities committee and becomes the first record of this species for the Piedmont region of Virginia.)*

On 12 May 1984, Melva and Charles Hansrote, Taylor Piephoff and Samuel Gamble were driving west in the Hansrote's car on rt. 460 toward Bedford, Virginia to take part in the "Big Spring Day" at Peaks of Otter. The day was cool and partly cloudy. As we turned right off rt. 460 onto rt. 803, Melva Hansrote exclaimed, "What is that white bird flying over there?" We stopped and all four of us quickly got out of the car with binoculars in hand. We all reached immediate agreement—a tern! The time was 7:20 a.m.

The bird flew by us and went on; then it circled and passed us again. It was about 120 to 200 feet in the air (when compared with a silo at a nearby farm). After a third flight past us, the tern disappeared behind some trees in the distance. One of the party, Taylor Piephoff, heard its call, "Kay-wah!" A quick check revealed that all four of us had noted the following:

- A bird the size of a small crow which was mainly white underneath
- An adult with a full black cap (not an immature or bird in winter plumage)
- A black bill
- A tail shaped with a very small wedge, but with no deep fork

Peterson's 1980 *Field Guide to the Birds East of the Rockies* was consulted and general agreement was reached; however, questions about the color of the back and legs were raised.

Just then, someone in the group shouted, "It's coming back!" This time we checked the missing details and again noted that the tern was very white underneath, its bill and legs were black. No dark gray was noted on the back or top of the wings. This time we noticed that as the tern flew by with a gull-like motion, it appeared to be feeding on air-borne insects. An attempt was made to photograph the bird before it vanished in the distance behind trees.

We got into the car and drove about a quarter of a mile (the time was then 7:30 a.m.) while we talked about what we had seen. Once again everyone shouted, "There's the tern ahead, flying toward us!" We all got out of the car and looked again.

This time there was agreement on the identification marks and details outlined earlier in this report; we all felt certain that it was a Gull-billed Tern (*Sterna nilotica*). The bird flew off again. We checked the time and noted that we had been observing the bird over a 10 to 15-minute period.

We continued on to the Peaks of Otter and took part in the "Big Spring Day." Our find was reported at the tally-up, but could not be included because it was outside the count area.

## WESTERN GREBE IDENTIFIED IN FAIRFAX COUNTY

VALERIE KITCHENS

*(Editor's Note: In the 35th Supplement to the AOU Check-list of North American Birds (Auk 102: 680-686, 1985), the Clark's Grebe (Aechmophorus clarkii) was split from the Western Grebe (A. occidentalis). Until March 1986, only seven records of Western Grebe (A. occidentalis) had been accepted for the state of Virginia—four in the Coastal Plains region, two in the Piedmont section of the state, and one in the Mountains and Valleys region of Virginia. None of these sightings sufficiently described the birds to allow differentiation between the two species. The report below is the first to describe the head pattern sufficiently to establish a definite species determination. The record was reviewed and accepted by the VSO Rarities Committee in January 1987.)*

On Thursday morning, 27 March 1986, nine observers on a regularly scheduled Northern Virginia Chapter field trip at Pohick Bay Regional Park saw a lone bird floating on the water in Pohick Bay. The bird was quickly identified as a Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*). It was on calm water when first observed at about 10 a.m.; the water was choppy when it was last seen—about 12:50 p.m. The bird had a long, dagger-like yellow bill, longer than its head. The head was almost cobra-like in shape, especially when contrasted with the long, slender, swan-like neck. The head was black on the crown and to a line below the eye (which appeared dark as it did not stand out from the black part of the head). The cheeks, throat, and front of the breast to the water line were white. The bird's back, as well as the dorsal portion of the head and neck, were black; the sides near the water line appeared streaked or spotted with white when the bird was preening.

The grebe was observed at a distance of approximately 700-1300 feet. I was using a Bausch and Lomb 30-50 power and Leitz 7x42 power binoculars. I have observed this bird in the West as had several others in our group, including Erika Wilson, Maggie Hawk, and Diane Touret. The other chapter members participating in this field trip were Danny Crookston, Stan Russell, Rosemary Schelling, Gwen Petitjean, and Melvin Little. Stan Russell photographed the bird with a 400 mm lens although the long distance rendered the bird rather indistinct in the slide.

A few observers reportedly relocated the bird in the same area the next day. However, on Saturday, 29 March, many boaters were in the bay, and the bird could not be found. It was not reported again.

5013 North 25th Road, Arlington, Virginia 22207

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### SAY'S PHOEBE IN HIGHLAND COUNTY J. BRIAN PATTESON

On 17 January 1986 at approximately 9:40 a.m., I was driving on rt. 640 in Highland County about two miles northeast of Hightown when I noticed a medium sized flycatcher sitting on a wire in front of a house right beside the road. When I noticed that the bird had a rusty belly and was flicking its tail, I did a double-take and quickly stopped the car to investigate.

I got out of my car and walked up to a vantage point from which I could see the bird and began to take notes on the plumage and behavior.

The bird in question was grayish brown above with two buffy wing bars. The upper breast was light gray and the head a darker grayish brown, with the area between the eye and bill being the darkest—an almost charcoal color. The lores were darker than the rest of the head but not as dark as the area between the eye and the bill. The bill was black, similar in size and shape to that of an Eastern Phoebe (*Sayornis phoebe*). The lower breast to the undertail was a dull orange or rusty color similar to that found on the breast of an American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) being most brilliant at the undertail coverts. The tail was black, as were the legs. I determined that the bird was a Say's Phoebe (*Sayornis saya*).

In the time that I observed the bird, it frequently wagged its tail. The motions were fairly short and direct. It also vocalized, using a call that sound like "peer," at the rate of about five or six times every three or four seconds, usually one series each minute. It also uttered a short guttural trill about three times during the duration of my observation which lasted approximately 15 minutes. The bird was seen feeding around a warm chimney to which it would frequently fly from it perch and presumably catch insects that were active because of the warmth of the flue.

I observed the Say's Phoebe from 9:40 to 9:55 a.m. The sky was overcast and the sun was directly behind my back during the observation. There was a light wind out of the southeast and the temperature was approximately 35° F. My binoculars were 8.5x44 Swifts and I also watched the bird through a 15x60 spotting scope at 15-20 yards. I was accompanied by my mother, Myrna Patteson, who concurred with the identification.

(Editor's note. This bird was subsequently seen by many over the next three-month period until 10 April 1986, the date it was last observed. A number of photographs were taken of the bird and the record was accepted by the Rarities Committee, making it the second confirmed sighting of this species in Virginia.)

Route 2, Box 15, Amherst, Virginia 23421

## WHITE-WINGED DOVE AT CHINCOTEAGUE

ROBERT CURRY

(Editor's note: This sighting was accepted as a hypothetical record for Virginia by the Rarities Committee.)

I spent the week of 4-11 August 1984 with my family on vacation at Chincoteague NWR. On several early mornings or in mid-to-late afternoons, I birded the various Chincoteague sites. On the afternoon of 8 August, I saw a Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*) on the grassy flats at the west end of Swan Cove. On Friday morning, 10 August, I decided to see if I could find the bird from the south cross-dike of Snow Goose Pool rather than walk out where I had originally found the bird. As the distances were considerable, I switched eyepieces on my telescope from 20x to 30x.

As I walked along the dike at approximately 8 a.m., a bird flew past me from left to right (east to west). I realized almost immediately that it was a White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*). I estimated the bird's flight path to be approximately 80-100 feet from me. It flew past me directly and purposefully, obviously on the move and quickly passing through the area. When it landed in a mixed deciduous and evergreen clump of bushes about 100 yards distant, it remained alert and did not change its perch at all after it settled onto a branch. I trained my scope on it, but after three or four minutes, it took off, gained a little in altitude, and flew rapidly and directly westward out of sight.

The following description is from my notes written in the field without benefit of any field guides for reference:

The bird had landed on branch about 15 feet off the ground in a bush that was sparsely covered with leaves. It was medium-sized with white wing patches. Overall, it was about Mourning Dove-size, but stockier throughout, and with a relatively short, squarish tail. The most striking feature, when it was flying, was a crescent-shaped, white patch on each wing which I would identify as the greater coverts. This contrasted with the blackish primaries/secondaries and with the brown/buff median and lesser coverts. As the bird prepared to land in the bush, it spread its tail, showing a pattern of buff/brown base. The distal one-third was black or blackish in color, and a narrow white terminal band was apparent.

While perched, the wing patch showed as a white line along the lower edge of the folded wing. I also observed the small rounded dove-like head and the short bill. The legs could not be seen clearly, but appeared to be light in color.

When the bird took off, I was again impressed by the stockier, more rounded wings than those of a Mourning Dove. Too, although the Mourning Dove displays the same ground color, it has short narrow wings with no white in them, and it has a narrow, pointed tail. With normal wear at this time of year, it is possible that a little white would show up on the sides of the tail, but the basic shape (of the Mourning Dove's tail) will exist and there is no substantial black on its tail. The whole appearance of a Mourning Dove is more attenuated and slimmer than the bird I observed.

A Rock Dove (*Columba livia*) is much larger than this bird was and does not have the buff color throughout as this bird displayed. Although a Rock Dove has white wing patches, none, I believe, would have the exact pattern on the wing and tail as that of a White-winged Dove.

The duration of my observation was approximately three to four minutes. Equipment used to view the bird was 10x50 Bushnell Custom binoculars, and Bausch & Lomb spotting scope with a 30x eyepiece.

Illustrations in several field guides studied a few days after the sighting revealed that the central retrices of the White-winged Dove are dark at the tip. That I did not notice this break in the white across the tip of the tail reflects the short period of time it was visible—about a second or two as the dove prepared to land. I realized too, after looking at the guides, that I had failed to state in my field notes that the overall color of the bird was a warm buff/gray except for the parts I specifically described in my notes at the time. No other species of our native or introduced doves has exactly the shape overall and pattern of white on the wings which the Chincoteague bird displayed.

It may seem bizarre to mention it, but the Cockatiel (*Nymphicus hollandicus*), an exotic cage bird often found in the wild, has just about exactly the same upper wing pattern as found on a White-winged Dove. I mention this because a White-winged Dove was reported in Ontario which turned out to be a Cockatiel. And I saw a free-flying Cockatiel shortly after (the White-winged Dove sighting). The Cockatiel is a slim bird with a long, pointed tail. In addition, it is gray with a parrot bill.

I am somewhat familiar with the White-winged Dove, having observed the bird previously in Texas, California, and Central America.

92 Hostein Drive, Lancaster, Ontario L9G2S7

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#### NOTES ON THE BEHAVIOR OF A YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT IN LATE AUTUMN

CLYDE KESSLER

On 12 November 1987 I observed a Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*) from 9:31 to 9:41 a.m. and again from 9:45 to 9:47 a.m. on the opposite side of the street from my house on P. T. Travis Avenue in Radford, Virginia. There had been a light snow (less than one-half inch accumulation on 11 November).

The chat pecked bits of snow and ice from leaves of honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*) and used two limbs of a dead Virginia pine (*Pinus virginicus*) as perches approximately four and five feet, respectively, from the ground. The chat fed on small insects lying near the perches and pecked and ate a yellow-winged insect from a honeysuckle leaf. At 9:37 a.m. it plucked and tossed a yellow honeysuckle leaf into the air a short distance. About ten seconds later, the chat plucked a

second yellow leaf and tossed it. At 9:38 a.m. it pecked several honeysuckle berries; I could not tell whether it ate these berries whole or ate bits of them.

At 9:41 a.m. the chat flew about 12 feet in the air and dived at a winter-plumaged Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*) perched about ten feet above the ground in a small white oak (*Quercus alba*). The yellow-rump crouched against the limb and then flew away with the chat in pursuit.

At 9:45 a.m. the chat returned to the ground near the dead pine and walked around in an area where the snow had melted. From 9:45 to 9:47 a.m., it flew back and forth three times from the ground to the lower perch. At 9:47 a.m. it flew into a thick area of smilax and honeysuckle. I checked about every fifteen minutes for the next three hours, but did not see the bird again.

Post Office Box 3612, Radford, Virginia 24143

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#### PINE SISKIN NEST FOUND IN GILES COUNTY CHARLES ZIEGENFUS

(Editor's Note: The following is the first documented record of Pine Siskins attempting to nest in the state of Virginia).

In late June 1985, Val Nolan, Jr. saw a Pine Siskin (*Carduelis pinus*) with nesting material in its mouth the at the University of Virginia's biological station at Mountain Lake in Giles County. The next year on 9 June 1986, I observed siskins in the in the same area. On the 11th a siskin was seen with nesting material in its mouth which it dropped when flushed.

On 13 June a siskin was observed for five minutes pulling soft fibers from frayed nylon rope. It flew to a nest and carefully placed them, then sat on the nest as if to firm the fibers in place to form a cup. The nest was located in a red maple tree about 14 feet off the ground and eight feet away from the trunk. The nest appeared to be mainly constructed from leaves and grasses.

The bird was seen on the nest at four different intervals during 14 June from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. It assumed different positions on the nest and was observed turning 90° during one of my visits to the site. Frequent checks over the next three days revealed that the bird remained on the nest most of the time, even during a heavy, two-hour rainstorm on the 16th.

I left early the day of the 17th and upon my return to the station on 21 June, I did not see the bird on the nest, nor did I observe or hear any siskins in the area the next day. On 23 June the nest was gone.

Mathematics and Computer Science Department  
James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia 22807

## GULL-BILLED TERN IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY JERRY VIA

(Editor's note: The following account was reviewed and accepted by the Rarities Committee. It became the first authenticated record of this species in the Mountains and Valleys Region of the state.)

On 31 May 1984 around 4 p.m., I was driving with a friend out to the west end of Virginia Polytechnic Institute campus along Strouble's Creek near Blacksburg, Montgomery County, Virginia. About 300 yards away, I noticed a white bird flying in my direction. It's flight was low over the corn stubble in a large field.

I instantly realized, judging by the white color, pointed wings, flight profile and buoyant flight, that it was a tern. I did not have my binoculars handy but continued to watch as the bird approached.

The bird was flying due west and I was north of the bird when it passed within 30 feet of me. The lighting was excellent and bird was positioned so that there was a forest behind it which provided a good contrast. Due to the terrain, the bird passed by at eye-level.

I quickly recognized this as a Gull-billed Tern (*Sterna nilotica*). The very white back and wings were striking against the dark background. The bird was in complete breeding plumage with a black cap. The black bill was characteristic and was easily recognized. The bird continued to fly over the corn field much like the Gull-billed Terns which hawk the marshes. It then dropped down and followed Strouble's Creek through Draper's Meadow and out of sight.

While it is unusual to see any tern in Montgomery County, I feel confident of my identification. I do not think the bird was a Forster's Tern (*Sterna nilotica*) certainly not a winter bird because it lacked the black eye stripe. The bill was not that of a Forster's Tern and it did not have the long breeding tail feathers characteristic of that species.

Department of Biology  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061-0794

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## VIRGINIA CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS - 1986-87 SEASON

TETA KAIN

In many ways the 1986-87 Christmas counts in Virginia differed very little from the 1985-86 version. The only changes in the roster were the loss of the Lake Anna count and the addition of Banister River WMA in Halifax County to make a total of 36.

We are sorry to note the loss of the Sweet Briar count. It was one of the first six counts ever held in the state way back in 1929. Except for a hiatus during the 1940's, and sporadic activity during the 1950's, it was conducted every year from 1959 through 1985. Although it did not encompass the normal 15-mile-in-diameter circle required for inclusion in *American Birds* (it covered only the campus grounds of Sweet Briar College at Amherst), it was, nonetheless, an interesting and long-term documentation of that area's avifauna. It is hoped that the count will be resumed in the near future.

No new species were added to the cumulative list, although the Ash-throated Flycatcher on the Cape Charles Count was only the third time this species had been found on that count and only about the sixth record for the state. This excellent discovery was well documented by outstanding photographs. Equally remarkable was the Clay-colored Sparrow at Wachapreague. This is only the second time the Clay-colored has been recorded on a Virginia count—the first being two that were seen on the Newport News Count in 1978.

The total number of species on all counts was an even 200, plus three forms and one exotic. Cape Charles surpassed its last-year's total by six to chalk up a very impressive 171 species. Along with numbers, that count could boast quality (Osprey, Ash-throated Flycatcher, and Nashville Warbler—just to name a few!), making it one of the most interesting and lively counts on the mid-Atlantic seaboard. Nokesville and Lynchburg tied for the Piedmont high of 85, while Roanoke edged out Northern Shenandoah Valley with a total of 90 species. Rounding out Roanoke's surprising high were outstanding finds such as an Osprey, White Ibis, and Solitary Vireo, amazing species for that part of the state.

Entries in Table 12 which are underlined and appear in bold-faced type denote unusual species and/or high counts for that particular count. Counts 1-11 are on the Coastal Plain, 12-19 are in the Piedmont and the remaining 20-36 are in the Mountains and Valleys region.

(Summary continued on Page 62)

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Table 12. (following 22 pages). *The 1986-87 Christmas counts in Virginia. The bold, underlined figures indicate an unusual species and/or an unusual number of individuals for that particular count.*

	Date	Red-throated Loon	Common Loon	Pied-billed Grebe	Horned Grebe	Red-necked Grebe	Northern Gannet	Great Cormorant	Double-Crested Cormorant
1. Chincoteague	28 Dec	39	235	14	382	2	29	...	4
2. Wachapreague	21 Dec	8	17	6	4	...	...	...	2
3. Cape Charles	27 Dec	84	167	43	175	...	160	9	197
4. Little Creek	31 Dec	20	30	22	8	...	4410	14	1034
5. Back Bay	28 Dec	237	46	...	2	...	178	...	3
6. Newport News	20 Dec	<u>13</u>	8	24	31	...	<u>86</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>542</u>
7. Mathews	4 Jan	11	57	...	90	...	...	...	5
8. Williamsburg	21 Dec	...	1	29	...	...	...	...	106
9. Hopewell	20 Dec	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	<b>62</b>
10. Brooke	19 Dec	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
11. Fort Belvoir	3 Jan	...	1	19	2	<b>1</b>	...	...	...
12. Nokesville	28 Dec	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
13. Gordonsville	4 Jan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Charlottesville	21 Dec	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
15. Warren	28 Dec	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
16. Banister WMA	28 Dec	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
17. Lynchburg	20 Dec	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...
18. Danville	27 Dec	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
19. Philpott Reserv.	27 Dec	...	...	5	2	...	...	...	...
20. Calmes Neck	27 Dec	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. N. Shen. Valley	20 Dec	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
22. Shen. NP-Luray	21 Dec	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
23. Big Flat Mt.	4 Jan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Rockingham Co	20 Dec	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
25. Augusta Co.	20 Dec	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
26. Waynesboro	31 Dec	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
27. Lexington	26 Dec	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...
28. Peaks of Otter	23 Dec	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29. Clifton Forge	21 Dec	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30. Fincastle	21 Dec	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31. Roanoke	20 Dec	...	1	12	2	...	...	...	...
32. Blacksburg	20 Dec	...	...	<u>24</u>	...	...	...	...	...
33. Tazewell	30 Dec	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
34. Glade Spring	3 Jan	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
35. Nickelsville	28 Dec	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
36. Wise County	20 Dec	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...

[illegible]

	Snow Goose (Blue form)	Snow Goose (White form)	Brant	Canada Goose	Wood Duck	Green-winged Teal	American Black Duck	Mallard	Mallard hybrid
1. Chincoteague	15	10,763	12,530	2249	4	358	5143	820	...
2. Wachapreague	...	...	<u>3116</u>	633	14	36	551	262	...
3. Cape Charles	...	562	2195	2775	3	34	1324	639	...
4. Little Creek	...	1	1400	23	8	11	89	472	...
5. Back Bay	2	1939	...	316	3	4	727	741	...
6. Newport News	...	...	...	9	2	3	15	706	...
7. Mathews	...	...	<u>117</u>	442	...	...	30	77	...
8. Williamsburg	...	...	...	1699	10	3	66	487	...
9. Hopewell	<u>1080</u>	<u>203</u>	...	<u>21,132</u>	73	40	162	2759	...
10. Brooke	...	...	...	440	...	...	110	275	...
11. Fort Belvoir	...	1	...	1958	4	184	1313	<u>3594</u>	...
12. Nokesville	...	...	...	1371	3	...	77	540	...
13. Gordonsville	...	1	...	2414	...	1	...	50	...
14. Charlottesville	...	...	...	676	...	...	21	78	...
15. Warren	...	...	...	200	1	32	27	69	...
16. Banister WMA	...	...	...	48	2	...	...	27	...
17. Lynchburg	...	...	...	22	11	...	25	51	1
18. Danville	...	...	...	8	8	...	1	115	...
19. Philpott Reserv.	...	...	...	...	...	...	<u>5</u>	<u>103</u>	...
20. Calmes Neck	...	...	...	707	1	...	21	42	...
21. N. Shen. Valley	...	1	...	583	3	27	140	1223	...
22. Shen. NP-Luray	...	...	...	1	...	...	47	86	...
23. Big Flat Mt.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Rockingham Co	...	...	...	11	1	1	...	248	...
25. Augusta Co.	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	108	...
26. Waynesboro	...	...	...	151	...	...	2	49	...
27. Lexington	...	...	...	2	...	...	183	350	...
28. Peaks of Otter	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29. Clifton Forge	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
30. Fincastle	...	...	...	6	4	...	2	149	...
31. Roanoke	...	...	...	2	1	...	19	247	...
32. Blacksburg	...	...	...	51	...	...	24	514	...
33. Tazewell	...	...	...	103	...	8	2	96	...
34. Glade Spring	...	...	...	<u>70</u>	...	...	3	419	...
35. Nickelsville	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	6	...
36. Wise County	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...

[illegible]

[illegible][illegible]

	Sharp-shinned Hawk	Cooper's Hawk	Northern Goshawk	Accipiter, sp.	Red-shouldered Hawk	Red-tailed Hawk	Rough-legged Hawk	Golden Eagle	American Kestrel
1. Chincoteague	12	2	...	...	6	23	...	...	39
2. Wachapreague	11	5	...	...	3	27	...	1	58
3. Cape Charles	24	1	...	1	9	60	2	...	74
4. Little Creek	9	1	...	...	2	22	1	...	31
5. Back Bay	6	...	...	...	9	36	...	...	44
6. Newport News	16	1	...	...	6	19	...	...	22
7. Mathews	8	1	...	...	6	11	...	...	21
8. Williamsburg	4	...	...	...	14	20	...	...	20
9. Hopewell	5	1	...	...	15	35	...	...	24
10. Brooke	4	1	...	...	12	28	1	...	2
11. Fort Belvoir	11	2	...	...	31	64	...	...	8
12. Nokesville	4	2	...	...	10	33	...	...	51
13. Gordonsville	3	...	...	...	6	22	...	...	17
14. Charlottesville	8	1	...	...	1	22	...	...	10
15. Warren	5	3	...	...	2	20	...	...	16
16. Banister WMA	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...
17. Lynchburg	4	1	...	...	2	26	...	...	16
18. Danville	5	3	...	...	1	22	2	...	20
19. Philpott Reserv.	3	1	...	...	...	5	...	...	8
20. Calmes Neck	2	1	...	...	2	26	2	...	19
21. N. Shen. Valley	2	9	...	...	2	71	...	...	25
22. Shen. NP-Luray	12	4	...	...	1	57	1	...	36
23. Big Flat Mt.	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
24. Rockingham Co	...	3	...	...	...	20	...	...	21
25. Augusta Co.	4	1	...	...	...	36	2	...	43
26. Waynesboro	1	...	...	...	4	30	...	...	20
27. Lexington	5	...	...	1	1	16	...	1	9
28. Peaks of Otter	2	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...
29. Clifton Forge	2	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	5
30. Fincastle	1	1	1	...	...	24	...	...	30
31. Roanoke	7	3	...	...	2	30	...	...	24
32. Blacksburg	5	7	...	1	1	24	...	...	3
33. Tazewell	7	1	...	...	1	5	1	1	24
34. Glade Spring	3	...	...	...	...	10	1	...	25
35. Nickelsville	9	6	...	...	2	14	...	...	22
36. Wise County	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	3

Merlin	Peregrine Falcon	Ring-necked Pheasant	Japanese Green Pheasant	Ruffed Grouse	Wild Turkey	Northern Bobwhite	Clapper Rail	King Rail	Virginia Rail	Sora	Common Moorhen
1	2	...	...	...	...	135	5	...	...	...	...
1	2	...	4	...	...	54	27	...	1	...	...
1	6	3	...	...	...	116	49	...	3	1	3
2	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	73	...	5	1	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	9	8	...	1	...	...
2	...	...	...	...	1	51	2	...	...	...	...
...	...	3	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	1	9	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	1	64	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	19	54	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	1	96	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	3	4	43	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	19	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	1	...	4	...	16	...	...	...	...	...
...	1	...	...	2	...	60	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	2	...	15	6	53	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	9	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	11	16	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	70	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	9	...	12	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	3	...	12	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	3	1	31	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	2	1	8	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	4	15	51	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	3	6	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	2	5	13	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

	American Coot	Black-bellied Plover	Semipalmated Plover	Killdeer	American Oystercatcher	Greater Yellowlegs	Lesser Yellowlegs	Yellowlegs, sp.	Willet
1. Chincoteague	...	267	3	14	702	23	28	...	3
2. Wachapreague	...	237	8	1	17	80	7	...	4
3. Cape Charles	14	478	10	152	385	60	15	...	117
4. Little Creek	291	39	...	128	52	3	...	...	...
5. Back Bay	2	5	...	124	...	4	...	...	...
6. Newport News	47	14	8	113	...	9	...	...	...
7. Mathews	...	1	...	22	...	...	...	5	...
8. Williamsburg	...	...	...	32	...	21	...	...	...
9. Hopewell	1	...	...	303	...	...	...	...	...
10. Brooke	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Fort Belvoir	<u>3610</u>	...	...	110	...	...	...	...	...
12. Nokesville	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...
13. Gordonsville	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Charlottesville	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. Warren	...	...	...	46	...	...	...	...	...
16. Banister WMA	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Lynchburg	30	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...
18. Danville	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...
19. Philpott Reserv.	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
20. Calmes Neck	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
21. N. Shen. Valley	1	...	...	51	...	...	...	...	...
22. Shen. NP-Luray	...	...	...	58	...	...	...	...	...
23. Big Flat Mt.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Rockingham Co	3	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...
25. Augusta Co.	1	...	...	4	...	<u>1</u>	...	...	...
26. Waynesboro	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...
27. Lexington	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...
28. Peaks of Otter	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29. Clifton Forge	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30. Fincastle	1	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
31. Roanoke	2	...	...	59	...	...	...	...	...
32. Blacksburg	...	...	...	61	...	...	...	...	...
33. Tazewell	6	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...
34. Glade Spring	2	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...
35. Nickelsville	1	...	...	52	...	...	...	...	...
36. Wise County	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...

[illegible]

	Dowitcher, sp.	Common Snipe	American Woodcock	Laughing Gull	Bonaparte's Gull	Ring-billed Gull	Herring Gull	Lesser Black-backed Gull	Great Black-backed Gull
1. Chincoteague	12	20	13	1	...	1707	2989	...	201
2. Wachapreague	...	...	15	...	3	1437	1829	...	62
3. Cape Charles	6	15	39	...	<del>1088</del>	2861	2361	1	358
4. Little Creek	...	2	...	303	18	26,400	16,900	8	1990
5. Back Bay	1	9	2	2	3	7040	1166	...	244
6. Newport News	...	3	1	4	72	2782	981	...	<del>169</del>
7. Mathews	...	...	3	...	...	1482	<del>3465</del>	...	51
8. Williamsburg	...	4	1	...	81	996	65	...	15
9. Hopewell	...	4	1	...	...	<del>11,158</del>	322	...	86
10. Brooke	...	1	1	...	...	3000	400	...	128
11. Fort Belvoir	...	1	9	...	21	10,430	548	...	108
12. Nokesville	...	2	...	...	...	7113	1718	3	39
13. Gordonsville	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Charlottesville	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. Warren	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Banister WMA	...	...	...	...	...	52	...	...	...
17. Lynchburg	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
18. Danville	...	...	1	...	...	24	...	...	...
19. Philpott Reserv.	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Calmes Neck	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. N. Shen. Valley	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Shen. NP-Luray	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Big Flat Mt.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Rockingham Co	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Augusta Co.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
26. Waynesboro	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
27. Lexington	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
28. Peaks of Otter	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29. Clifton Forge	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
30. Fincastle	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31. Roanoke	...	4	...	...	1	401	1	...	...
32. Blacksburg	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
33. Tazewell	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
34. Glade Spring	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35. Nickelsville	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
36. Wise County	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Gull, sp.	Royal Tern	Forster's Tern	Black Skimmer	Rock Dove	Mourning Dove	Monk Parakeet	Common Barn-Owl	Eastern Screech-Owl	Great Horned Owl	Snowy Owl	Barred Owl
...	...	...	...	158	476	...	2	53	15	...	1
...	...	...	...	76	<del>1491</del>	...	...	12	6	...	...
...	...	94	...	661	409	...	1	26	35	...	...
...	3	111	8	1755	550	...	...	6	8	...	1
...	2	23	...	109	284	...	...	7	6	...	6
...	<del>6</del>	35	...	1066	1262	...	...	6	2	...	...
...	...	3	...	66	448	...	...	3	3	...	...
...	...	28	...	113	168	...	...	1	7	...	3
...	...	...	...	379	458	...	2	1	4	1	9
...	...	...	...	3	88	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	293	1003	1	...	3	10	...	5
...	...	...	...	176	612	...	5	2	43	...	7
...	...	...	...	46	71	...	...	2	3	...	1
...	...	...	...	121	299	...	...	2	4	...	...
...	...	...	...	140	555	...	...	6	13	...	1
...	...	...	...	...	14	...	...	...	1	...	...
...	...	...	...	800	389	...	...	34	6	...	2
...	...	...	...	528	352	...	...	3	1	...	2
...	...	...	...	73	<del>323</del>	...	...	<del>8</del>	<del>4</del>	...	2
...	...	...	...	361	218	...	...	2	1	...	1
...	...	...	...	1428	1338	...	...	13	11	...	2
...	...	...	...	460	1406	...	...	30	8	...	9
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	422	603	...	...	4	4	...	...
...	...	...	...	735	410	...	1	15	2	...	1
...	...	...	...	398	889	...	1	5	5	...	1
...	...	...	...	32	118	...	...	10	...	...	1
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	108	<del>93</del>	...	...	3	2	...	3
...	...	...	...	737	523	...	...	25	12	...	...
...	...	...	...	632	1207	...	4	16	7	...	1
...	...	...	...	689	733	...	...	1	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	107	42	...	...	5	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	262	175	...	...	11	4	...	...
...	...	...	...	10	255	...	...	2	3	...	1
...	...	...	...	87	93	...	...	3	1	...	1

	Short-eared Owl	Owl, sp.	Belted Kingfisher	Red-headed Woodpecker	Red-bellied Woodpecker	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Downy Woodpecker	Hairy Woodpecker	Northern Flicker
1. Chincoteague	2	...	34	...	49	4	95	17	145
2. Wachapreague	1	...	22	...	18	1	34	5	51
3. Cape Charles	2	...	44	2	49	8	83	8	259
4. Little Creek	...	...	49	1	61	4	46	11	124
5. Back Bay	...	...	6	...	33	1	34	1	64
6. Newport News	...	...	<u>71</u>	...	64	7	35	1	<u>190</u>
7. Mathews	...	...	33	1	44	11	37	1	78
8. Williamsburg	...	...	32	15	76	14	41	1	99
9. Hopewell	<u>3</u>	...	19	39	91	32	37	5	139
10. Brooke	...	...	13	...	25	2	30	5	32
11. Fort Belvoir	...	...	<u>54</u>	4	280	31	228	51	233
12. Nokesville	6	...	7	...	35	1	40	8	39
13. Gordonsville	...	...	4	...	28	5	15	3	25
14. Charlottesville	...	...	15	1	69	17	46	9	46
15. Warren	...	...	10	7	100	25	78	12	84
16. Banister WMA	...	...	...	3	7	6	4	...	10
17. Lynchburg	...	...	25	2	113	47	90	24	103
18. Danville	...	...	5	6	10	6	15	9	59
19. Philpott Reserv.	...	...	5	...	<u>14</u>	4	<u>31</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>27</u>
20. Calmes Neck	...	...	11	3	72	13	89	9	35
21. N. Shen. Valley	...	...	50	5	121	34	191	26	132
22. Shen. NP-Luray	...	...	24	...	56	18	88	17	52
23. Big Flat Mt.	...	...	1	...	15	6	31	14	18
24. Rockingham Co	...	...	12	8	28	3	40	5	5
25. Augusta Co.	2	...	13	1	46	2	48	9	12
26. Waynesboro	...	...	13	...	31	12	58	6	28
27. Lexington	...	...	17	...	29	4	24	6	20
28. Peaks of Otter	...	...	1	...	8	24	44	12	10
29. Clifton Forge	...	...	5	...	8	1	15	1	4
30. Fincastle	...	...	13	...	34	14	51	10	43
31. Roanoke	<u>1</u>	...	35	...	37	7	36	6	44
32. Blacksburg	...	...	18	...	19	1	55	8	22
33. Tazewell	...	...	7	...	...	...	24	1	4
34. Glade Spring	<u>1</u>	...	8	...	22	5	43	4	6
35. Nickelsville	...	...	20	...	11	8	45	6	26
36. Wise County	...	...	4	...	3	1	31	3	5

Pileated Woodpecker	Eastern Phoebe	Ash-throated Flycatcher	Western Kingbird	Horned Lark	Tree Swallow	Blue Jay	American Crow	Fish Crow	Crow, sp.	Common Raven	Black-capped Chickadee
14	10	...	CW*	39	23	37	189	12	6	...	...
1	1	...	...	...	...	24	337	5	38	...	...
4	9	<u>1</u>	...	<u>329</u>	...	36	1074	155	10	...	...
33	...	...	...	6	...	102	468	674	...	...	...
21	8	...	...	...	3	32	181	9	...	...	...
<u>23</u>	...	...	...	20	...	132	533	23	...	...	...
8	3	...	...	...	...	74	1072	42	...	...	...
24	4	...	...	...	...	79	210	3	45	...	...
21	21	...	...	1	...	134	631	6	...	...	...
12	5	...	...	...	...	120	600	5	...	...	...
59	2	...	...	...	...	365	<u>6537</u>	<u>1457</u>	...	...	...
9	...	...	...	<u>592</u>	...	102	590	294	...	...	...
9	1	...	...	...	...	157	687	...	...	...	...
28	5	...	...	15	...	206	861	17	...	7	...
34	11	...	...	...	...	406	1105	1	...	3	...
4	4	...	...	...	...	26	49	...	...	...	...
53	17	...	...	30	...	298	831	...	...	5	...
2	1	...	...	...	...	310	351	...	...	...	...
<u>22</u>	7	...	...	3	...	59	404	...	...	5	16
24	...	...	...	65	...	103	569	...	...	4	8
60	2	...	...	90	...	168	1175	3	...	2	114
34	3	...	...	40	...	216	2226	...	...	<u>115</u>	27
31	...	...	...	...	...	10	48	...	...	14	...
9	...	...	...	52	...	101	322	5	...	6	15
6	1	...	...	37	...	221	992	72	...	2	1
15	2	...	...	76	...	148	1210	560	...	12	6
16	14	...	...	...	...	163	645	...	...	7	16
18	6	...	...	...	...	36	101	...	...	1	6
<u>14</u>	1	...	...	...	...	56	317	...	...	10	2
18	4	...	...	...	...	286	1068	...	...	3	8
26	6	...	...	16	...	208	984	...	...	16	10
9	2	...	...	52	...	160	1295	...	...	2	21
2	...	...	...	36	...	28	839	...	...	11	...
4	7	...	...	...	...	103	418	...	...	...	...
19	6	...	...	...	...	93	619	...	...	1	...
7	1	...	...	2	...	59	116	...	...	2	1

\* Seen during count week, but not on count day. Not included in the total species count.

	Carolina Chickadee	Chickadee, sp.	Tufted Titmouse	Red-breasted Nuthatch	White-breasted Nuthatch	Brown-headed Nuthatch	Brown Creeper	Carolina Wren	House Wren
1. Chincoteague	204	...	50	14	2	59	35	221	7
2. Wachapreague	213	...	25	16	2	28	4	102	...
3. Cape Charles	418	...	43	22	2	2	15	407	14
4. Little Creek	181	...	68	4	16	29	14	152	1
5. Back Bay	152	...	17	...	10	16	5	104	5
6. Newport News	247	...	109	...	3	...	13	141	1
7. Mathews	209	...	45	10	4	14	9	138	...
8. Williamsburg	169	...	105	2	33	14	9	114	4
9. Hopewell	156	...	80	...	7	...	13	219	7
10. Brooke	130	...	46	4	5	...	9	50	...
11. Fort Belvoir	793	...	637	46	108	...	54	248	1
12. Nokesville	165	...	117	58	25	...	9	20	...
13. Gordonsville	24	...	17	...	14	...	1	23	...
14. Charlottesville	186	...	98	51	45	...	9	172	...
15. Warren	230	...	98	16	48	...	13	215	...
16. Banister WMA	18	...	18	1	2	...	5	15	...
17. Lynchburg	410	...	244	59	88	...	27	241	...
18. Danville	152	...	91	...	22	...	4	46	...
19. Philpott Reserv.	149	...	54	<b>35</b>	<b>26</b>	...	12	86	...
20. Calmes Neck	278	...	214	2	86	...	25	27	...
21. N. Shen. Valley	356	...	368	54	145	...	26	124	...
22. Shen. NP-Luray	205	...	180	5	87	...	21	92	...
23. Big Flat Mt.	64	...	40	16	12	...	5	19	...
24. Rockingham Co	71	...	87	4	26	...	4	29	...
25. Augusta Co.	114	...	98	1	41	...	4	71	...
26. Waynesboro	162	...	137	14	54	...	5	71	...
27. Lexington	98	32	89	20	37	...	2	66	...
28. Peaks of Otter	60	...	72	28	41	...	6	36	<b>3</b>
29. Clifton Forge	83	...	76	9	18	...	2	12	...
30. Fincastle	121	...	104	37	32	...	6	70	...
31. Roanoke	258	...	217	<b>152</b>	52	...	17	126	...
32. Blacksburg	138	96	175	5	78	...	8	105	...
33. Tazewell	118	...	75	2	33	...	1	35	...
34. Glade Spring	128	...	96	3	33	...	...	37	...
35. Nickelsville	157	...	97	...	66	...	4	73	1
36. Wise County	106	...	80	6	47	...	3	53	...

Winter Wren	Sedge Wren	Marsh Wren	Golden-crowned Kinglet	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Eastern Bluebird	Hermit Thrush	Cartharus, sp.	American Robin	Gray Catbird	Northern Mockingbird
7	5	4	99	25	...	126	37	...	146	21	46
4	...	5	19	3	...	71	7	...	61	6	69
22	6	3	53	82	<b>2</b>	42	54	...	114	15	107
13	2	1	79	61	...	8	7	...	304	1	77
3	4	5	46	57	...	36	2	...	527	4	41
...	...	3	15	23	...	6	2	...	17	2	207
2	1	...	23	24	...	453	7	...	263	10	114
8	...	2	42	49	<b>1</b>	139	2	...	36	...	39
13	...	...	92	62	<b>2</b>	111	16	...	542	5	78
8	...	...	12	2	...	163	3	...	47	...	75
10	...	1	165	35	...	106	26	1	105	5	147
2	...	...	20	9	...	118	...	...	72	...	69
...	...	...	5	...	...	95	...	...	128	...	48
4	...	...	85	21	...	126	24	...	239	...	126
10	...	...	71	28	...	175	11	...	295	...	92
2	...	...	2	5	...	29	4	...	75	...	10
29	...	...	103	58	...	225	29	...	69	...	135
2	...	...	56	9	...	249	3	...	57	...	50
16	...	...	<b>140</b>	12	...	<b>90</b>	20	...	7	...	12
...	...	...	30	...	...	156	1	...	136	...	151
4	...	...	71	2	...	386	11	...	160	...	305
13	...	...	72	15	...	354	7	...	207	...	150
7	...	...	26	3	...	...	13	...	14	...	...
3	...	...	18	1	...	50	...	...	27	...	92
1	...	...	27	4	...	144	2	...	52	...	184
5	...	...	50	5	...	104	5	...	5	...	101
3	...	...	46	5	...	<b>185</b>	5	...	184	...	53
...	...	...	46	11	...	56	18	...	19	...	5
2	...	...	39	7	...	14	3	...	32	...	10
5	...	...	68	8	...	193	18	...	48	...	78
8	...	...	115	13	...	15	13	...	5	...	103
6	...	...	38	2	...	117	...	...	1	...	125
2	...	...	21	2	...	51	1	...	21	...	5
4	...	...	41	2	...	60	2	...	<b>57</b>	1	36
2	...	...	21	4	...	266	2	...	216	...	17
5	...	...	32	16	...	32	13	...	183	...	11

[illegible]

	American Tree Sparrow	Chipping Sparrow	Clay-colored Sparrow	Field Sparrow	Vesper Sparrow	Savannah Sparrow	(Ipswich) Sparrow	Sharp-tailed Sparrow	Seaside Sparrow
1. Chincoteague	3	<b>83</b>	...	149	...	125	9	14	7
2. Wachapreague	1	1	1	167	...	20	11	12	5
3. Cape Charles	5	41	...	336	16	788	<b>37</b>	20	13
4. Little Creek	...	11	...	36	...	24	1	17	7
5. Back Bay	...	13	...	30	...	69	...	1	1
6. Newport News	...	1	...	86	...	15	...	3	1
7. Mathews	...	13	...	86	...	...	...	...	...
8. Williamsburg	...	1	...	89	...	71	...	...	...
9. Hopewell	...	1	...	60	...	175	...	...	...
10. Brooke	...	...	...	58	...	...	...	...	...
11. Fort Belvoir	2	2	...	97	...	3	...	...	...
12. Nokesville	...	<b>1</b>	...	60	...	5	...	...	...
13. Gordonsville	...	...	...	19	...	...	...	...	...
14. Charlottesville	1	...	...	181	1	3	...	...	...
15. Warren	...	4	...	310	...	3	...	...	...
16. Banister WMA	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
17. Lynchburg	...	2	...	113	...	5	...	...	...
18. Danville	1	35	...	151	...	...	...	...	...
19. Philpott Reserv.	...	...	...	98	1	...	...	...	...
20. Calmes Neck	24	...	...	50	...	10	...	...	...
21. N. Shen. Valley	42	...	...	65	...	7	...	...	...
22. Shen. NP-Luray	9	2	...	197	...	4	...	...	...
23. Big Flat Mt.	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
24. Rockingham Co	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...
25. Augusta Co.	4	...	...	40	...	2	...	...	...
26. Waynesboro	...	...	...	<b>260</b>	...	3	...	...	...
27. Lexington	2	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...
28. Peaks of Otter	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
29. Clifton Forge	1	...	...	2	...	<b>11</b>	...	...	...
30. Fincastle	...	...	...	92	...	1	...	...	...
31. Roanoke	...	...	...	37	...	5	...	...	...
32. Blacksburg	...	...	...	61	...	...	...	...	...
33. Tazewell	1	...	...	23	...	...	...	...	...
34. Glade Spring	4	3	...	30	...	...	...	...	...
35. Nickelsville	2	...	...	182	...	...	...	...	...
36. Wise County	...	...	...	33	...	...	...	...	...

Fox Sparrow	Song Sparrow	Lincoln's Sparrow	Swamp Sparrow	White-throated Sparrow	White-crowned Sparrow	Dark-eyed Junco	Lapland Longspur	Snow Bunting	Red-winged Blackbird	Eastern Meadowlark	Rusty Blackbird
5	625	...	371	960	1	231	...	...	1972	380	19
...	267	...	7	307	...	282	...	...	1315	33	...
20	1434	...	247	2427	6	100	1	75	16,251	260	21
2	252	...	9	819	3	588	...	...	438	20	210
1	59	...	42	244	...	193	...	...	2000	61	262
3	180	...	63	420	<b>1</b>	286	...	17	1403	80	...
...	115	...	7	217	...	793	...	...	3213	95	...
1	233	...	29	573	...	440	...	...	1604	93	12
1	278	...	16	883	1	458	...	...	862	155	...
2	...	...	...	550	...	385	...	...	375	13	1
2	398	...	29	843	4	1365	...	...	969	13	19
...	98	...	4	195	128	713	<b>1</b>	...	2492	100	63
...	53	...	...	277	10	277	...	...	20	39	...
4	269	...	12	805	74	756	...	...	12	65	...
1	479	...	17	924	63	936	...	<b>1</b>	4	92	...
...	3	...	3	113	...	253	...	...	...	...	...
2	252	...	9	819	3	588	...	...	10	52	...
...	101	...	25	250	2	600	...	...	14	160	...
...	93	...	1	144	21	730	...	...	...	10	...
1	66	2	...	211	102	508	...	40	30	25	...
1	209	...	15	259	110	1528	...	...	127	24	48
5	164	...	...	685	239	1454	...	...	56	116	11
...	2	...	...	121	...	156	...	<b>2</b>	...	...	...
...	64	...	...	231	49	208	...	...	...	14	...
...	200	...	1	208	38	501	...	...	8	8	...
...	216	...	8	266	127	607	...	...	458	30	1
4	69	...	1	421	21	390	...	...	23	2	...
1	16	...	...	56	...	217	...	...	...	...	...
...	17	...	...	55	3	270	...	...	...	22	...
...	143	...	...	399	211	602	...	...	...	57	...
2	214	...	1	351	21	283	...	...	15	80	...
1	314	...	2	226	<b>194</b>	209	...	...	1	36	8
...	143	...	2	39	3	159	...	...	...	82	5
...	96	...	2	181	43	181	...	...	1	26	...
5	157	...	...	109	39	558	...	...	4	67	4
...	145	...	4	20	...	104	...	...	...	2	...

	Boat-tailed Grackle	Common Grackle	Brown-headed Cowbird	Northern Oriole	Purple Finch	House Finch	<i>Carpodacus</i> , sp.	Red Crossbill	White-winged Crossbill
1. Chincoteague	293	3516	11	...	17	260	...	...	...
2. Wachapreague	57	185	9	...	34	345	50	...	...
3. Cape Charles	1674	14,434	3002	...	20	110	...	...	...
4. Little Creek	196	12,800	780	...	3	111	...	...	...
5. Back Bay	6	57	194	...	1	26	...	...	...
6. Newport News	...	<u>32,100</u>	55	...	5	186	...	...	...
7. Mathews	82	455	11	...	1	<u>326</u>	...	...	...
8. Williamsburg	...	3417	2	...	20	74	...	...	...
9. Hopewell	...	128	210	...	9	<u>608</u>	...	...	...
10. Brooke	...	...	17	...	68	165	...	...	...
11. Fort Belvoir	...	168	571	1	47	504	...	11	...
12. Nokesville	...	380	73	...	11	607	...	...	...
13. Gordonsville	...	<u>2015</u>	...	...	8	407	...	...	...
14. Charlottesville	...	1	...	...	29	519	...	...	...
15. Warren	...	4	2	...	116	1105	...	...	...
16. Banister WMA	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...
17. Lynchburg	...	3	6	...	126	508	...	...	...
18. Danville	...	...	105	...	103	256	...	3	...
19. Philpott Reserv.	...	1	...	...	23	3	...	...	...
20. Calmes Neck	...	7	6	...	32	468	...	...	...
21. N. Shen. Valley	...	5	355	...	83	1380	...	...	...
22. Shen. NP-Luray	...	42	630	...	77	743	...	...	...
23. Big Flat Mt.	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
24. Rockingham Co	...	1	92	...	20	352	...	...	...
25. Augusta Co.	...	1832	134	...	58	369	...	...	...
26. Waynesboro	...	4222	316	...	8	500	...	...	...
27. Lexington	...	25	2	...	81	<u>472</u>	...	...	...
28. Peaks of Otter	...	...	...	...	9	6	...	...	...
29. Clifton Forge	...	...	...	...	<u>42</u>	73	...	...	<u>9</u>
30. Fincastle	...	3	60	...	31	304	...	...	...
31. Roanoke	...	1	88	...	19	688	...	...	...
32. Blacksburg	...	1	20	...	41	206	30	...	...
33. Tazewell	...	5	...	...	3	38	...	...	...
34. Glade Spring	...	11	7	...	6	39	...	...	...
35. Nickelsville	...	1	2	...	52	591	...	...	...
36. Wise County	...	...	1	...	7	71	...	...	...

	Common Redpoll	Pine Siskin	American Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis</i> , sp.	Evening Grosbeak	House Sparrow	Total Species	Total Individuals	Number of Observers	Total Party Hours
...	...	30	165	...	10	102	148	72,710	38	182.25
<u>1</u>	1	223	...	1	114	125	125	24,934	27	80.00
...	173	480	70	15	166	171	171	91,469	56	217.00
...	4	194	...	...	334	140	140	84,973	29	97.00
...	...	33	...	...	39	119	119	27,123	24	110.00
...	...	140	...	...	871	117	117	52,481	46	122.00
...	26	116	...	12	53	104	104	22,780	34	87.25
...	...	195	...	6	77	102	102	15,712	18	74.00
...	10	221	...	12	55	107	107	53,575	35	107.50
...	...	67	...	...	80	68	68	11,078	15	74.00
...	27	392	...	8	327	112	112	53,831	90	289.75
...	...	63	...	...	192	85	85	26,305	21	57.00
...	...	39	...	15	6	61	61	23,820	6	29.00
...	16	150	...	2	130	78	78	10,114	21	94.00
...	...	185	...	28	107	77	77	13,301	19	103.50
...	...	22	...	...	7	53	53	1,172	2	18.45
...	1	171	...	44	96	85	85	10,612	34	129.00
...	82	173	...	15	144	79	79	6,333	13	45.50
...	4	94	...	<u>38</u>	130	70	70	3,757	10	27.50
...	...	202	...	...	200	75	75	12,987	24	71.50
...	4	302	...	84	352	89	89	82,926	50	158.00
...	3	147	...	42	424	86	86	50,444	39	121.00
...	1	12	...	...	...	37	37	794	3	28.00
...	...	53	...	6	641	72	72	9,545	22	56.00
...	1	78	...	...	481	77	77	13,515	27	82.50
...	2	67	...	10	278	73	73	15,707	20	91.00
...	...	139	...	18	18	74	74	5,324	21	47.50
...	...	16	...	19	...	43	43	1,129	11	28.00
...	10	38	...	6	47	59	59	1,829	11	38.75
...	10	107	...	3	44	72	72	8,622	21	62.00
...	5	161	...	...	37	90	90	14,361	36	112.00
...	5	133	...	3	307	77	77	10,977	38	99.25
...	...	131	...	10	297	63	63	4,788	15	43.00
...	...	158	...	45	135	65	65	8,328	18	50.00
...	13	392	...	42	85	70	70	8,131	13	52.00
...	3	79	...	2	101	55	55	1,971	11	46.00

*(Christmas count summary, continued from page 37)*

Down from last year's total number of field observers. 718 individuals took part in 1986-87, with 141 participating in two or more counts, 45 in three or more, 11 in four or more, and 2 in 5 counts for a total of 917 for all counts combined. Fort Belvoir led with 90, followed by 56 at Cape Charles. The newly established Banister River WMA count had only two observers, but hopefully, interest will pick up as time goes by and more birders will be willing to take part in that count. It is an important addition to Virginia censuses since little work has been done in that area of the state.

Generally, the weather resembled last year's conditions, with only Shenandoah-Luray and Tazewell experiencing light snowfall during the morning hours. Temperatures ranged from 15° at Shenandoah and Clifton Forge to 52° at Augusta County and Nickelsville. Winds of 0 to 28 miles-per-hour were within expected limits for the time of year and for the most part came from the north or northwest. A tabulation of weather conditions and other count data can be found in Table 13 on pages 62-63. Abbreviations used in that table are listed below.

Abbreviations used in Table 13 on pages 62-63:

GN	=	Light snow
L	=	Skies cloudy
MO	=	Moving water open
N1	=	0-1 inch snow on the ground
N4	=	0-4 inches snow on the ground
O	=	All water open
PL	=	Skies partly cloudy
PR	=	Skies partly clear
R	=	Skies clear
SF	=	Still water frozen
SPF	=	Still water partly frozen
SPO	=	Still water partly open
V	=	Variable

### CHRISTMAS COUNT DESCRIPTIONS

1. CHINCOTEAGUE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE. 37°58'N 75°22'W  
*Center:* 2 miles north of center of Chincoteague.  
*Compilers:* Claudia Wilds (3331 N Street NW, Washington DC 20007) and F.R. Scott.
2. WACHAPREAGUE. 37°40'N 75°42'W  
*Center:* intersection rts. 789 and 715.  
*Compiler:* Irvin Ailes (RFD 1, Box 365-22, Chincoteague, VA 23336).
3. CAPE CHARLES. 37°12'N 75°56'W  
*Center:* 1.5 miles southeast of Capeville Post Office.  
*Compiler:* Henry Armistead (523 E. Durham St., Philadelphia, PA 19119).
4. LITTLE CREEK. 36°51'N 76°06'W  
*Center:* 3.8 miles northeast of Kempsville in Virginia Beach.  
*Compiler:* Paul Sykes, Jr. (1080 Forest Rd., Watkinsville, GA 30677).
5. BACK BAY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE. 36°39'N 76°00'W  
*Center:* 1.5 miles east of Back Bay.  
*Compiler:* Paul Sykes, Jr. (1080 Forest Rd., Watkinsville, GA 30677).
6. NEWPORT NEWS. 37°05'N 76°25'W  
*Center:* Northern corner of Magruder & Cmdr. Shepard Blvds.  
*Compiler:* Teta Kain (Rt. 5, Box 950, Gloucester, VA 23061).
7. MATHEWS. 37°25'N 76°18'W  
*Center:* 0.5 mile east of Beaverlett Post Office.  
*Compiler:* Mary Pulley (Redart, VA 23142).
8. WILLIAMSBURG. 37°17'N 76°42'W  
*Center:* Colonial Williamsburg Information Center.  
*Compiler:* Bill Williams (108 Deerwood Dr., Williamsburg, VA 23185).
9. HOPEWELL. 37°23'N 77°17'W  
*Center:* Curles Neck.  
*Compilers:* Larry Robinson (3320 Landria Dr., Richmond VA 23225) and Betsy Roszell (3419 Warner Rd., Richmond VA 23225).
10. BROOKE. 38°22'N 77°20'W  
*Center:* At road 3 miles east southeast of Brooke.  
*Compilers:* David Stewart (10715 Midsummer Dr., Reston, VA 22091) and E.T. McKnight.
11. FORT BELVOIR. 38°41'N 77°12'W  
*Center:* Pohick Church.  
*Compiler:* Jackson Abbott (8501 Doter Dr., Alexandria, VA 22308).

*(Christmas count descriptions continued on page 64.)*

Table 13. (following 2 pages). More Christmas count data. Abbreviations used in the table are explained on page 60. All party hours and mileages are round off to the nearest whole numbers.

	Date	Time in Field (A.M. to P.M.)	Temperatures (° Fahrenheit)	Wind Direction	Wind Speed (miles/hour)	Water/Snow Conditions	Skies (A.M.)	Skies (P.M.)
1. Chincoteague	28 Dec	3:45-5:15	37-48	NW	5-15	O	R	R
2. Wachapreague	21 Dec	5:30-5:00	45-27	NW	7-11	SPF, MO	PL	PL
3. Cape Charles	27 Dec	4:30-5:30	38-50	N-NE	10-20	O	R	R
4. Little Creek	31 Dec	4:30-5:30	34-45	N	0-25	O	R	R
5. Back Bay	28 Dec	5:15-5:30	40-45	N	15-25	O	PL	PL
6. Newport News	20 Dec	5:00-5:00	30-47	N-NE	5-15	O	PL	PL
7. Mathews	4 Jan	6:00-5:00	30-45	NE	10-15	SPO, MO	R	R
8. Williamsburg	21 Dec	5:00-4:30	28-42	NW	15-20	O	R	L
9. Hopewell	20 Dec	6:00-5:00	32-45	...	...	O	R	R
10. Brooke	19 Dec	7:00-4:30	36-48	NW	12-28	SPF, MO	R	R
11. Fort Belvoir	3 Jan	5:15-5:45	38-43	W	12-20	O	PL	PL
12. Nokesville	28 Dec	2:00-5:30	24-43	NW	0-14	O	PR	PR
13. Gordonsville	4 Jan	3:30-5:00	24-45	W	0-5	N1, SPF, MO	L	L
14. Charlottesville	21 Dec	6:00-5:15	17-42	N	0-18	O	PL	PL
15. Warren	28 Dec	6:00-6:00	21-45	W	0-8	O	PL	PL
16. Banister WMA	28 Dec	7:00-5:45	36-48	NW	12-28	SPF, MO	R	R
17. Lynchburg	20 Dec	5:00-5:30	30-47	NW	2-5	O	R	R
18. Danville	27 Dec	7:30-6:00	29-39	N	0-3	O	L	L
19. Philpott Reserv.	27 Dec	5:00-5:30	38-43	W	5	O	L	L
20. Calmes Neck	27 Dec	6:00-5:00	33-43	V	0-10	O	PL	PL
21. N. Shen. Valley	20 Dec	5:00-5:30	23-45	V	0-5	O	R	R
22. Shen. NP-Luray	21 Dec	4:45-6:15	15-44	NW	0-12	SPF, MO	L, GN	PL
23. Big Flat Mt.	4 Jan	6:30-5:30	22-44	NW	0-5	N4 WO	PL	PL
24. Rockingham Co	20 Dec	8:00-5:00	24-42	...	...	O	R	R
25. Augusta Co.	20 Dec	6:30-5:15	23-52	...	...	SPF, MO	R	R
26. Waynesboro	31 Dec	7:00-6:00	24-47	NW	0-15	SPF, MO	R	R
27. Lexington	26 Dec	5:00-5:00	31-50	...	...	O	R	R
28. Peaks of Otter	23 Dec	8:00-4:00	20-45	...	...	SF, MO	L	L
29. Clifton Forge	21 Dec	8:00-5:00	15-35	NW	0-5	SPO, MO	L	L
30. Fincastle	21 Dec	5:00-5:00	18-38	N	5	SPF, MO	PL	PL
31. Roanoke	20 Dec	3:00-5:30	26-50	N	5	SPF, MO	PL	PL
32. Blacksburg	20 Dec	5:45-5:30	20-47	SW	2	SPF, MO	R	R
33. Tazewell	30 Dec	7:00-6:00	26-35	NW	3-5	N1, O	L, GN	PR
34. Glade Spring	3 Jan	5:30-5:00	28-36	...	...	N1, SPF, MO	L	L
35. Nickelsville	28 Dec	7:00-5:30	28-52	SW	4-12	O	L	R
36. Wise County	20 Dec	6:15-5:45	21-48	SW	5	SPF, MO	PL	PL

Number of Field Observers	Number of Feeder Observers	Number of Field Parties (non-owling)	Total Hours (includes Owling/Feeder hours)	Hours on Foot	Hours by Car	Hours by Boat/Canoe	Hours Owling	Hours at Feeders	Total Miles (includes Owling /Feeder miles)	Miles on Foot	Miles by Car	Miles by Boat/Canoe	Miles Owling
38	?	19-24	190	138	39	5	6	2	375	102	221	14	38
27	1	12	83	39	40	1	2	1	364	34	315	10	5
56	...	10-29	223	183	29	5	6	...	478	153	292	18	15
29	...	11-16	101	69	28	...	4	...	433	54	358	...	21
24	...	12-17	114	91	16	3	4	...	360	56	259	12	53
46	1	14	132	55	67	...	5	5	487	46	421	...	20
34	1	9	90	48	39	...	2	1	402	32	358	...	12
18	2	8	83	48	26	...	4	5	392	37	348	...	7
35	...	15-17	113	83	20	4	6	...	363	64	260	30	9
15	...	9	64	43	31	...	...	...	192	31	161	...	...
90	2	49	311	238	52	...	16	5	727	207	479	...	41
21	1	8	66	18	39	...	6	3	438	18	360	...	60
6	...	4	32	18	11	...	3	...	200	8	152	...	40
21	...	13	98	85	9	...	4	...	234	76	139	...	19
19	...	12	107	92	11	...	4	...	220	97	110	...	13
2	1	2	27	15	4	...	2	6	120	12	58	...	20
34	7	14-18	151	92	37	...	13	9	512	72	398	...	42
13	1	7	50	26	19	...	...	5	272	28	244	...	...
10	...	4-5	30	9	19	...	2	...	180	10	170	...	40
24	...	12	72	11	59	...	2	...	494	18	476	...	?
50	1	20	187	75	83	14	7	8	976	74	877	18	7
39	8	18-21	142	70	47	4	8	13	557	68	432	9	48
3	...	3	29	28	...	...	1	...	42	40	...	...	2
22	...	9-12	60	25	31	...	4	...	384	24	345	...	15
27	1	12	91	34	49	...	2	5	543	26	503	...	14
20	2	12-13	104	60	31	...	3	10	443	58	351	...	34
21	1	9	52	33	14	...	2	3	264	24	226	...	14
11	...	5	28	8	20	...	...	...	65	11	54	...	...
11	1	7-8	43	28	11	...	1	3	150	15	131	...	4
21	...	11	74	30	32	...	12	...	384	18	284	...	82
36	...	15	126	61	42	9	14	...	604	29	468	6	101
38	6	15-16	118	59	40	...	1	18	374	65	307	...	2
15	1	7	49	10	33	...	...	6	297	17	280	...	...
18	1	6	55	19	31	...	2	2	328	18	295	...	15
13	...	1-3	53	3	49	...	1	...	320	6	313	...	1
11	...	6-7	47	31	15	...	1	...	235	29	176	...	30

*(Continued from page 61)*

12. NOKESVILLE. 38°37'N 77°33'W

*Center:* Fleetwood Dr. (rt. 611) at Cedar Run.

*Compiler:* Ken Bass (12604 Valley View Dr., Nokesville, VA 22123).

13. GORDONSVILLE. 38°09'N 78°12'W

*Center:* junctions rts. 15, 33 and 231 in Gordonsville.

*Compiler:* Jack Mozingo (PO Box 1043, Orange, VA 22960).

14. CHARLOTTESVILLE. 38°04'N 78°34'W

*Center:* near Ivy.

*Compiler:* Charles Stevens (615 Preston Pl., Charlottesville, VA 22903).

15. WARREN. 37°51'N 78°33'W

*Center:* at Keene.

*Compiler:* Charles Stevens (615 Preston Pl., Charlottesville, VA 22903).

16. BANISTER RIVER WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS. 36°43'N 78°48'W

*Center:* at Banister River WMAs.

*Compiler:* Jeffrey Blalock (103 Elizabeth Ct., South Boston, VA 24592).

17. LYNCHBURG. 37°24'N 79°11'W

*Center:* Lynchburg College.

*Compiler:* Myriam Moore (101 Columbia Ave., Lynchburg, VA 24503).

18. DANVILLE. 36°34'N 79°25'W

*Center:* Ballou Park.

*Compiler:* Penultima Wiseman (162 Howeland Cir., Danville, VA 24541).

19. PHILPOTT RESERVOIR. 36°53'N 80°03'W

*Center:* near intersection rts. 605 and 623.

*Compiler:* Clyde Kessler (F-67 Shawnee Apts., Blacksburg, VA 24060).

20. CALMES NECK. 39°07'N 77°54'W

*Center:* Castlemans Ferry Bridge, rt. 7 and the Shenandoah River.

*Compiler:* Gregory Justice (PO Box 226, Millwood, VA 22646) and Frances Endicott (Rt. 1, Box 448, Bluemont, VA 22012).

21. NORTHERN SHENANDOAH VALLEY. 39°03'N 78°10'W

*Center:* junction Crooked Run and rt. 606.

*Compiler:* Rob Simpson (Rt. 1, Box 154-B, Stephens City, VA 22655).

22. SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK--LURAY. 38°35'N 78°28'W

*Center:* Hershberger Hill.

*Compiler:* Warren Bielenberg (Rt. 1, Box 231-B1, Luray, VA 22835).

23. BIG FLAT MOUNTAIN. 38°11'N 78°43'W

*Center:* on Pasture Fence Mountain.

*Compiler:* Charles Stevens (615 Preston Pl., Charlottesville, VA 22903).

24. ROCKINGHAM COUNTY. 38°26'N 79°02'W

*Center:* Ottobine.

*Compiler:* Max Carpenter (Rt. 1, Box 396, Dayton, VA 22821).

## 25. AUGUSTA COUNTY. 38°12'N 78°59'W

*Center:* junctions rts. 780 and 781.

*Compiler:* John Mehner (Mary Baldwin College, Staunton, VA 24401).

## 26. WAYNESBORO. 37°59'N 78°57'W

*Center:* Sherando at intersection of rts. 610 and 664.

*Compiler:* Allen Hale (Rt. 1, Box 242, Shipman, VA 22971).

## 27. LEXINGTON. 37°51'N 79°29'W

*Center:* Big Spring Pond.

*Compiler:* Peter Bergstrom (15 Sellers Ave., Lexington, VA 24450) and Bob Paxton (460 Riverside Dr., #72, New York, NY 10027).

## 28. PEAKS OF OTTER. 37°27'N 79°36'W

*Center:* Peaks of Otter Visitor Center.

*Compiler:* Barry Kinzie (PO Box 446, Troutville, VA 24175).

## 29. CLIFTON FORGE. 37°49'N 79°46'W

*Center:* junction rts. 42 and 60.

*Compiler:* Allen Lehew (POD 602, 76 Allegeny, Clifton Forge, VA 24422).

## 30. FINCASTLE. 37°31'N 79°52'W

*Center:* north of Fincastle near intersection of rts. 220 and 679.

*Compiler:* Barry Kinzie (PO Box 446, Troutville, VA 24175).

## 31. ROANOKE. 37°18'N 79°56'W

*Center:* Oakland Blvd. and Williamson Rd.

*Compiler:* Barry Kinzie (PO Box 446, Troutville, VA 24175).

## 32. BLACKSBURG. 37°14'N 80°25'W

*Center:* intersection rts. 685 and 657.

*Compiler:* Clyde Kessler (F-67 Shawnee Apts., Blacksburg, VA 24060).

## 33. TAZEWEEL. 37°08'N 81°30'W

*Center:* Fourway.

*Compiler:* Sarah Cromer (Box 765, N. Tazewell, VA 24630).

## 34. GLADE SPRING. 36°47'N 81°47'W

*Center:* junction rts. 750 and 609.

*Compiler:* Chuck Byrd (PO Box 34, Emory, VA 24327).

## 35. NICKELSVILLE. 36°45'N 82°25'W

*Center:* Nickelsville.

*Compilers:* Robert Baker (PO Box 494, Blountville, TN 37617) and E.E. Scott (Rt. 1, Nickelsville, VA 24271).

## 36. WISE COUNTY 36°57'N 82°39'W

*Center:* at Dorchester.

*Compiler:* Richard Peake (Chinch Valley College, College Ave., Wise, VA 24293).

## THE 1987 VSO ANNUAL MEETING

TETA KAIN

The fifty-third Annual Meeting of the Virginia Society of Ornithology was opened in Millington Hall at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg at 7:35 p.m., 5 June 1987, by President Dr. Jerry Via. Bill Williams welcomed all attendees on behalf of the Williamsburg Bird Club and Dr. Via commended members of the Williamsburg club for their warm hospitality to VSO members and thanked them for hosting the meeting. One hundred forty-five people registered for the meeting and 157 signed up to attend the Saturday evening banquet.

During the business meeting, Thelma Dalmas read the following treasurer's report: currently, 1069 members belong to VSO and the total sum in all VSO accounts (excluding the Atlas Project fund) is \$22,664.15. This sum reflects the balance after typesetting costs for the "Bluebook" and a loan of \$1500 to the Atlas Project have been paid.

The 1987-88 slate of officers was presented to the general membership for approval as follows:

President: Bill Williams, Williamsburg

Vice President: John Bazuin, Jr., Annandale

Secretary: John Dillard, Richmond

Treasurer: Thelma Dalmas, Lynchburg

*Raven* Editor: Fred Scott, Richmond

*Newsletter* Editor: Allen Hale, Shipman

Board of Directors (three-year terms ending July 1990)

Mitchell Byrd, Williamsburg

John Fulton, Boynton

Teta Kain, Gloucester

Board of Directors (one-year term ending July 1988 to replace John Bazuin)

Sue Ridd, Fairfax

There were no nominations from the floor and the slate was approved unanimously by the general membership. Dr. Via recognized outgoing board members, James Ayers, Charles Hansrote, and Enoch Johnson.

On behalf of Valerie Kitchens, John Bazuin extended an invitation to all VSO members to attend the 1988 meeting at the Holiday Inn at Tyson's Corner in northern Virginia. Dr. Via reported that the newly instituted "Spring Fling", sponsored by VSO as an additional outing at Mountain Lake in Giles County, was attended by 10 individuals in May.

Teta Kain presented YuLee Larner with the first issue of the newly published *Virginia's Birdlife, an Annotated Checklist*, and thanked her for her help and support on both the "Redbook" and the "Bluebook". The audience gave Mrs. Larner a standing ovation. Mrs. Kain announced that the "Checklist" would be on sale for \$5.00 each in the exhibit hall at the conclusion of the evening's program. Dr. Via concluded the business meeting with the announcement that Atlas Project Director Sue Ridd was scheduling a meeting of Atlas regional coordinators immediately after the program.

Bill Williams opened the program portion of the evening introducing Teta Kain who gave a brief review of the function of the Rarities Committee, the process by which submitted records are reviewed, and why it is important for all members to submit records that they feel are significant. Dick Peake presented a brief sketch of why records are accepted or rejected by the Rarities Committee, and what details should be included in submitted reports to help committee members more fairly judge the authenticity of the sightings. Immediately following Peake's presentation, Cynthia Long entertained the audience with a light-hearted account of early birding in Williamsburg, along with a vivid description supported by various slides of "birds" specifically adapted to the Williamsburg area.

Bill Williams concluded the program with a review of the weekend field trips planned to Newport News City Park, Craney Island, Grandview Beach, Hog Island, Jamestown Island, Cheatham Annex, and Suffolk County, with a recap of birds expected to be seen in each location. Sue Ridd announced Atlas block-busting activities were also lined up for anyone wishing to take part. The evening ended with a reception in the main foyer and inspection of the various displays and sales items.

On Saturday afternoon Vice President Bill Williams, presided over the papers session beginning at 2 p.m. Topics presented were:

1. *The Virginia Natural Heritage Program: Monitoring Rare Species and Exemplary Communities.* Christopher A. Clappitt and Michael L. Lipford discussed the scope of this program—a joint venture between the Nature Conservancy and the Commonwealth.

2. *Virginia's Nongame Program.* Karen Terwilliger of the Virginia Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries described the program in detail.

3. *Peregrine Falcons in the Virginia Mountains.* Dr. Mitchell Byrd reported on the status of nesting pairs that have been reintroduced in the mountains of Virginia in recent seasons and called on VSO chapters to help re-establish the bird as a breeder in the western and southwestern areas of the state. He also brought the audience up to date on the recent discovery of four Peregrine Falcon chicks that had been illegally removed from a heretofore unknown nesting site on one of the ships comprising the mothball fleet in the James River. Two of the chicks had been anonymously left on the steps of the Virginia Living Museum that morning, and Dr. Byrd was using every means possible to either return the chicks to the nesting site, or send them to Cornell University if it was not possible to rehabilitate them to the wild.

4. *Caching Behavior in Carolina Chickadees.* This behavior was demonstrated through slides and discussion by Lynn Walters, Department of Biology at the College of William and Mary, with emphasis on the study of effects of body weight in relation to caching behavior.

5. *Virginia Colonial Bird Surveys.* Bill Williams, representing his colleagues, Ruth Beck, Jerry Via, and Bill Akers, reviewed surveys that have been conducted on Virginia's barrier islands over the past 11 years. These studies have revealed a shift in gull nesting populations and a decline in some tern populations.

At the conclusion of the paper session, John Mehner announced that only one Breeding Bird Survey route is not covered this year and asked for a volunteer to cover the area. Bill Williams adjourned the session at 4:10 p.m.

The Williamsburg Fife and Drum Corps provided rousing music during the social hour held in the Campus Center preceding the banquet on Saturday evening. Charles Hacker led the invocation. At the conclusion of the meal, Taylor Seay accepted the 1987 VSO Conservation Award from Dr. Via in the absence of Henry W. Bashore. Mr. Bashore of Kilmarnock, received the award for his enthusiasm, leadership, and tireless efforts to establish conservation awareness and to preserve important wildlife habitat in the Northern Neck.

Charles Hansrote honored Dr. Via for his service as president of the organization, 1985-1987, and presented him with the sterling silver presidential pin. The 12 previous recipients of the James Eike Service awards were recognized and four members were presented the award for 1987. They were Jackson Abbott, John Dalmas, Charlie Hacker, and Grace Wiltshire.

Two VSO members, Jim Carter and Jackson Abbott, have recently been taken ill and Dr. Via mentioned that they would appreciate hearing from VSO members during their convalescence.

Dr. Via thanked Bill Opengari for the publishing the Local Chapters' Who's Who, Thelma Dalmas for compiling the 1987 Membership List and Teta Kain for publishing the 1987 edition of the VSO Speakers' Bureau. Dr. Via recognized *Virginia Wildlife Magazine* editor, Virginia Shepard, and said complimentary copies of the magazine were available in limited quantities.

Teta Kain announced that it had been discovered that some of the "Bluebooks" sold during the weekend had been improperly assembled. She said that anyone having a defective copy could receive an exchange at the field trip parking lot the following morning.

Scribner's Bookstore in downtown Williamsburg put up a special display of bird books to recognize the VSO annual meeting being held in the city and the audience was invited to drop by and see the display. Two items were up for raffle during the meeting weekend and the winners were announced: Cathy Rynhurst received a signed and numbered print of the Bald Eagle, and Kaye Johnson won an ice cream freezer.

Ruth Beck introduced banquet speaker, Judith McIntyre, nationally recognized expert on Common Loons. Ms. McIntyre revealed that approximately 4234 pairs of loons can be found in five northern states and she listed the problems this species is facing from loss of habitat and pollutants. She concluded her presentation with a 16-minute film. Following the program, doorprizes were awarded and Doris Smith of the Resolutions Committee saluted the Williamsburg Bird Club for a job well done of hosting the fifty-third annual meeting.

The President closed the session at 10 p.m.

### LOCAL CHAPTERS OF THE VSO

This list of local chapters, compiled by Bill Opengari, chairman of the Membership Committee, has been revised to May 1987. The number in parentheses after the chapter name is the approximate total number of members in that chapter.

1. Alleghany Highlands Bird Club (20), Clifton Forge
2. Augusta Bird Club (110), Staunton-Waynesboro
3. Bristol Bird Club (40), Bristol
4. Cape Henry Audubon Society (450), Norfolk
5. Charlottesville-Albemarle Bird Club (21), Charlottesville
6. Clinch Mountain Bird Club (12), Nickelsville
7. Clinch Valley Bird Club (25), Tazewell
8. Colonial Audubon Society (450), Hampton-Newport News-Yorktown
9. Cumberland Nature Club (8), Wise
10. Eastern Shore Bird Club (40), Accomac
11. Fairfax Audubon Society (1800), Vienna
12. Foothills Bird Club (Martinsville)
13. Hampton Roads Bird Club (180), Newport News-Hampton
14. Lynchburg Bird Club (300), Lynchburg
15. Marion Bird Club ((25), Marion
16. Monticello Bird Club (65), Charlottesville
17. Montpelier Bird Club (25), Gordonsville-Orange
18. New River Valley Bird Club (30), Blacksburg
19. Northern Neck of Virginia Audubon Society (260)  
Kilmarnock-White Stone
20. Northern Shenandoah Valley Audubon Society (300), Middletown
21. Northern Virginia Chapter (500), Arlington-Fairfax
22. Richmond Audubon Society (920), Richmond
23. Roanoke Valley Bird Club (180), Roanoke-Salem
24. Rockbridge Bird Club (10), Lexington
25. Rockingham Bird Club (100), Harrisonburg
26. Virginia Beach Audubon Society (300), Virginia Beach
27. Margaret H. Watson Bird Club (20), Darlington Heights
28. Westmoreland Bird Club (60), Montross
29. Williamsburg Bird Club (140), Williamsburg

**OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES OF THE VSO, 1987-1988**

*President:* Bill Williams, 108 Deerwood Drive, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

*Vice President:* John Bazuin, Jr., 7495 Little River Turnpike, Apartment 201  
Annandale, Virginia 22003

*Secretary:* John Dillard, 7803 Brentford Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23225

*Treasurer:* Thelma Dalmas, 520 Rainbow Forest Drive, Lynchburg, Virginia  
24502

*Raven Editor:* F.R. Scott, 115 Kennondale Lane, Richmond, Virginia 23226

*Newsletter Editor:* Allen Hale, Route 1, Box 242, Shipman, Virginia 22971

*Immediate Past President:* Jerry W. Via, Department of Biology, Virginia  
Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

*Elected Members of the Board of Directors:*

*Class of 1988*

Jackson Abbott, 8501 Doter Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22308

Sue Ridd, 10718 Almond Street, Fairfax, Virginia 22032

T. Paul Smith, Route 1, Box 124, Onancock, Virginia 23417

*Class of 1989*

Bettye Fields, 39 Culpeper Avenue, Newport News, Virginia 23606

Taylor Seay, Route 1, Box 1506, Kilmarnock, Virginia 22482

Charles Ziegenfus, 332 Franklin Street, Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801

*Class of 1990*

Mitchell Byrd, 115 Copse Way, Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

John Fulton, Post Office Box 3, Boynton, Virginia 23917

Teta Kain, Route 5, Box 950, Gloucester, Virginia 23061

*Committees:*

*Atlas Project:* Sue Ridd, 10718 Almond Street, Fairfax, Virginia 22032

*Circulation:* John Dillard, 7803 Brentford Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23225

*Conservation:* Taylor Seay, Route 1, Box 1506, Kilmarnock, Virginia 22482

*Education:* Josephine Wood, 318 Jefferson Drive, Lynchburg, Virginia 24503

*Field Trips:* Peggy Spiegel, 1588 Swimmer Lane, Salem, Virginia 24153-1824

*Kiptopeke Review:* Bill Williams, 108 Deerwood Drive, Williamsburg  
Virginia 23185

*Membership:* Jim Nix, Route 2, Box 341A, Crozet, Virginia 22932

*Murray Award:* Charles Ziegenfus, 332 Franklin Street, Harrisonburg,  
Virginia 22801

*Neotropical:* Allen Hale, Route 1, Box 242, Shipman, Virginia 22971

*Newsletter Assistant Editor:* John Dalmas, 520 Rainbow Forest Drive  
Lynchburg, Virginia 24502

*Publicity:* Paul Saunier, 1400 Rugby Road, Charlottesville, Virginia 22903

*Rarities:* John Dalmas, 520 Rainbow Forest Drive, Lynchburg, Virginia  
24502

*Raven Recovery:* Teta Kain, Route 5, Box 950, Gloucester, Virginia 23061

*Records Compiler:* Teta Kain, Route 5, Box 950, Gloucester, Virginia 23061

*Research:* F.R. Scott, 115 Kennondale Lane, Richmond, Virginia 23226

*Site Guide:* Richard H. Peake, Jr., Box 103, Clinch Valley College, Wise  
Virginia, 24293

## 1987 VIRGINIA BREEDING BIRD ATLAS PROJECT RESULTS

SUE RIDD

The fourth field season of the Virginia Breeding Bird Atlas Project (VAP) was the year of the "Atlas miniforays."

Eleven of twelve regions conducted Atlas miniforays where regional coordinators chose 6 to 12 ornithologically unexplored quadrangles in his/her region. On a specific weekend in June or July, each volunteer was asked by the regional coordinator to cover a specific priority block (an area of approximately 10 square miles or 25 square kilometers) by car or by foot. Atlas volunteers searched all possible habitats and usually found between 30 and 60 species depending on the variety of habitat.

With the miniforays, 272 quadrangles were atlased in 1987 compared to 289 in 1986. While slightly below the 1986 level, the 1987 quadrangles were at a greater distance from home base which possibly accounts for the decline. Interestingly enough, the number of covered blocks continued to increase, rising from 425 to 487. The total number of atlased blocks is currently 1,429 out of a possible 4,856. In other words, 29 percent of the entire state has some Atlas data coverage. This is amazing progress, considering that in July 1983, no one thought entire coverage of the state was possible using a ratio of 1:6. Granted, most of these additional blocks are centered around metropolitan areas but, in the next 20 years, growth of suburbs and cities will cover these blocks.

The miniforays involved 66 Atlas volunteers and helped increase the number of volunteers from 325 to 360 in 1987. With each year, the database increases on an average of 13,730 data points, and this year, data points rose from 40,000 to 54,206.

With the help of the miniforay in Woodstock, Regional Coordinator Julie Simpson reported that all priority blocks in Region 1 (Northern Shenandoah Valley) have been covered and each priority block contains at least 40 species per block.

In Region 2 (Northern Virginia) Jack Abbott reported two new nesting sites for Loggerhead Shrikes. During the miniforay, a pair of shrikes were seen feeding young in the Woodville quadrangle. Another family group was observed in the Lincoln quadrangle and two adult Upland Sandpipers were found with an immature near Lucketts.

In 1987 the total number of confirmed nesters reached 120 with the addition of five species: Turkey Vulture, Eastern Screech-Owl, Pine Warbler, Henslow's Sparrow, and Pine Siskin.

In the Storck quadrangle, an adult Turkey Vulture was perched on a dead tree with an immature bird. Three fledgling Eastern Screech-Owls were found in the Vienna quadrangle while an adult and immature were seen in the Washington West quadrangle. In the Orlean and Occoquan quadrangles, Pine Warblers were feeding young and nest building, respectively, on 5 and 6 July. While two pairs of Henslow's Sparrows have been observed for three years in the Occoquan quadrangle, this was the first year that breeding was confirmed by at least one fledgling.

The most unusual record is credited to a cat. A nestling was brought home by the cat to its owner who raised the young bird until it feathered out. It was identified by a VSO member to be a Pine Siskin and color photographs were taken by the cat's owner. It was later released at Mason Neck Park.

Region 3's (Central Mountains and Valleys) miniforay was centered around Warm Springs. YuLee Larner and Regional Coordinators Isabel Obenschain and Peter Bergstrom directed the Atlas volunteers in covering seven blocks with more than 75 hours spent confirming 43 of 91 total species. One interesting note was an observation of a Osprey, but not in breeding habitat.

Regional Coordinators Allen Hale, Bob Barbee, and Teresa Shaner centered Region 4's (Central Piedmont) miniforay in Buckingham and Appomattox counties covering eleven priority blocks. Spotted Sandpipers with young were confirmed breeding along the James River, producing the third breeding record of this species for the Piedmont. An immature Black Vulture was found behind a bureau in an upstairs bedroom of an old abandoned house while two downy Turkey Vultures were seen in a cave on "The Ridge." A Ruffed Grouse was crossing a road in the Glenmore quadrangle and pair of Solitary Vireos were found at Holiday Lake 4H Camp.

Lawrence Latane III, Region 5's coordinator (Middle and Northern Neck), reported a family of Orchard Orioles in a locust tree, several hen turkeys with young in a recently mowed hayfield, and a Great Crested Flycatcher poking out of a Wood Duck's nesting box. A probably breeder on the Warsaw quadrangle was a Yellow-throated Warbler, and a possible breeder was Bald Eagle seen flying over a tributary of the Rappahannock. Other notable records were a Whip-poor-will's nest in the Sparta quadrangle and a Least Tern colony on Middle Island in the New Point Comfort quadrangle. Although Least Terns have been suspected of nesting on this island, this was the first confirmed report.

Region 6 coordinators (Eastern Shore), Irving and Marilyn Ailes were assisted by Sue Ridd on this miniforay. Quadrangles covered were Jamestown, Parksley, and Accomac. In the Jamestown quadrangle, confirmed breeders included Canada Goose, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Barn Swallow, Pine Warbler, and Orchard Oriole. A probable breeder was Brown-headed Nuthatch and a possible breeder-the Cedar Waxwing. This region also added a new breeding species to the state list—Brown Pelican—where nests with eggs were discovered on Metomkin and Fisherman's Island.

Region 7 (Far Southwest) Coordinator Steve Hopp directed this region's miniforay at Mt. Rogers and White Top. Despite hard driving rains, the Atlas volunteers found fledgling Winter Wrens and Red Crossbills on the Haw Orchard side of Mt. Rogers towards Grayson Highlands. Vesper Sparrow fledglings were also found near Elk Garden, along with probable breeders that included Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Common Raven, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Veery, Hermit Thrush, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Canada Warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and Dark-eyed Junco. A Northern Saw-whet Owl was listed as a possible breeder.

In Region 8 (Southern Mountains and Valleys), Regional Coordinator Clyde Kessler reported hearing three different species of owls calling almost at the same time in August in the Radford South quadrangle. Vesper Sparrows were confirmed in quadrangles McDonalds Mill and Pilot, and a Red-tailed Hawk in the Eggleston quadrangle. A possible breeder-the Solitary Vireo-was found in the priority block of the Philpott Reservoir quadrangle. Regional Coordinator Tad Finnell had a super day during Region 8's miniforay when he confirmed 24 different species in the Covington quadrangle on 26 June. Some confirmed breeders of interest were a Sharp-shinned Hawk, Ovenbird, and Worm-eating Warbler. It was noted that a large population of Worm-eating Warblers was present in this area.

Regional Coordinators Thelma and John Dalmas centered their miniforay near Danville, covering 12 Atlas priority blocks. Region 9's (Southwest Piedmont) miniforay recorded a Solitary Vireo in the Alton quadrangle and Cedar Waxwings were confirmed in two of three blocks. Other highlights included families of Wild Turkeys and Brown-headed Nuthatches, and single records for Sharp-shinned Hawk, Barred Owl, Common Nighthawk, and Cliff Swallow. John noted that it was not unusual to miss Great Horned Owls at this time, but the absence of Chuck-will's-widow was most unexpected.

In Region 10 (Southeast Piedmont), the Atlas miniforay was centered around South Hill and covered most of Mecklenberg County. One species that Regional Coordinators Mary Arginteanu and Larry Robinson found interesting was the Summer Tanager. In rural southside Virginia, it appeared to be a very common species compared to its status of almost nonexistence in Richmond. While Bachman's Sparrows were not found during the miniforay, this species was observed earlier in appropriate breeding habitat.

While Regional Coordinator Bill Williams was conducting a VSO field trip for the annual meeting, he found nesting Tree Swallows and Brown-headed Nuthatches in the Williamsburg quadrangle and a Clapper Rail's nest with eggs in the Claybank quadrangle. One month later in the same area, he found Boat-tailed Grackles feeding young. During Region 11's (South Coastal Plain) miniforay, Yellow-throated and Prothonotary Warblers were observed in the cypress swamp of Dendron. An adult Red-tailed Hawk was seen carrying a snake to two recently fledged young.

The year of the "Atlas miniforay," 1987, was marked with amazing success throughout the state, thanks to our hard working regional coordinators.

Post Office Box 6837, Richmond, Virginia 23230

## 1987 BANDING RESULTS AT KIPTOPEKE BEACH

WALTER P. SMITH

The twenty-fifth consecutive year of operation of the Kiptopeke Beach Banding Station opened 29 August and ran continuously through 24 October, a total of 57 days. Of those 57 days, there was only one day during which the station was closed due to inclement weather.

The station, which overlooks the Chesapeake Bay at the southern tip of the Eastern Shore Peninsula, is operated by the Research Committee of the Virginia Society of Ornithology. There were 25 mist nets used for the passerine banding portion of the station, with an additional ten nets for the raptor banding portion. The station procedures were essentially similar to those of previous years.

During the 1987 season, 5,400 new birds of 99 species were banded in 10,053 net-hours. Other results included 13 returns of birds banded in previous years, 193 repeats of birds banded at the station this year and one foreign recovery of a bird banded elsewhere.

This proved to be another year in which there were few strong cold fronts. There were only three days on which bandings exceeded 300, yet the 99 species for the year was our highest since 1976.

The most commonly banded bird was, as usual, Yellow-rumped Warbler (1,111), followed by Common Yellowthroat (679), American Redstart (568), Gray Catbird (356), and Black-throated Blue Warbler (279). Outstanding numbers were as follows: Sharp-shinned Hawk (162), Cooper's Hawk (40), Merlin (29); Red-bellied Woodpecker (1), Eastern Wood-Pewee (17), House Wren (156), Prothonotary Warbler (1), Yellow-throated Warbler (1), Swamp Sparrow (77), Song Sparrow (86) and Peregrine Falcon (3).

Licensed banders who alternated in charge of the station were Don Schwab, Walter Smith, Fred Scott, John Buckalew, Charles Hacker, and Karen Terwilliger. As in the past, they were aided by many assistants whose help was greatly appreciated. Permission to use the private land on which the station is located was again kindly extended by John Maddox of Virginia Beach.

3009 Chesapeake Avenue, Hampton, Virginia 23661

NEWS AND NOTES  
YULEE LARNER and TETA KAIN

**HERMIT THRUSH NESTS IN HIGHLAND COUNTY.** Leonard Teuber heard a Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*) singing on 13 May 1987 in Highland County on Middle Mountain in the area of Straight Fork, (elevation 3000 feet). On 26 May he found a nest near the ground in a thicket of mountain laurel on a rocky bank. The nest contained four eggs. About ten days later, he looked at the nest again, only to find that all the eggs were gone — too soon for the young to have hatched — so he assumed they were taken by a predator. This is the fourth documented nest record for the Hermit Thrush in Virginia.

**CHUCK-WILL'S WIDOW NEST FOUND IN BOTETOURT COUNTY.** On 17 May 1986, Barry Kinzie found and photographed the nest of a Chuck-will's-widow (*Caprimulgus carolinensis*) near Fincastle in Botetourt County. An adult bird was sitting on two eggs in the leaves and pine needles with no real nest being defined. Identification was made by the presence of a buffy throat and by its size. It was also heard calling at dusk. When Kinzie returned to the site on 31 May, one small young was present and the adult was sitting on the remaining egg. The photograph and documentation were accepted by the Rarities Committee to become the first nesting record for the Mountain and Valleys region of the state.

**RECORD COUNT OF GREAT EGRETS IN HALIFAX COUNTY.** While driving on rt. 716, five miles northeast of South Boston in Halifax County, Jeffrey Blalock counted a total of 85 Great Egrets (*Casmerodius albus*) as they flew about 100 feet above the ground. This large aggregation was observed 27 September 1987 at 7:30 in the morning and was comprised of four separate flocks that passed overhead, one after another. This represents a peak count for the Piedmont area of Virginia.

1020 West Beverley Street, Staunton, Virginia 24401  
Route 5, Box 950, Gloucester, Virginia 23061

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