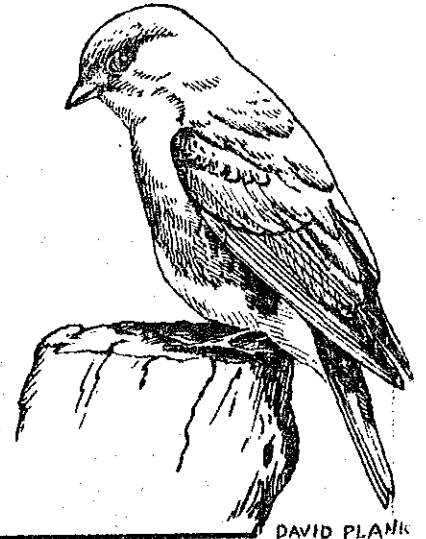


# The Bluebird



DAVID PLANK

THE AUDUBON SOCIETY OF MISSOURI

---

Vol. 42, No. 1

## VIEWS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Paul E. Bauer

About two dozen warmly dressed birders enjoyed a day of excellent birding on the first of our monthly field trips or, as I choose to call them, Nature Adventures. Richard Anderson was our excellent leader. A number of the birders added three or more life birds to their lists. Details on future trips are presented in this issue. For some of the trips in winter a card expressing your interest has been requested. You may feel reluctant to send a card which might commit you to attend when bad weather or sickness could alter any plans. Let me explain that sending a card expressing interest does not commit you to attend, but sending that card does commit us to inform you if plans or dates must be changed. So keep the cards or letters coming.

I have just submitted my dues to our treasurer, Mrs. Sidney Wade, for the years 1975, 1976, and 1977. This action will make me eligible to obtain a free Audubon Society of Missouri decal for my car which will help advertise our society. Dues payment for three years is one of the several ways in which you also can obtain a free decal, as explained in the last issue of The Bluebird. The treasurer will mail them out to the eligible persons soon after they are obtained. Above all else send in your dues for 1975 now, and invite a friend to join your society.

Many exciting plans are being made for the joint Spring Meeting with the Nature Conservancy at the School of the Ozarks near Branson (in S. W. Missouri) on 19 and 20 April. The program sounds excellent and the birding in southern Missouri during late April will also be great. The details are given in a separate article inside. Be sure and mark your calendar, and plan now to attend.

By now many of us in Missouri may have heard of the courageous conservation efforts by a small group in Imperial to save a special piece of land from being misused by the Missouri State Highway Commission. Yes, I am referring to the Mastodon Park Committee. The details are summarized inside. I believe this is a very worthwhile project to protect some unique Missouri heritage, and I would personally encourage all members to support their appeal. Your officers and directors will also consider this appeal and a pledge of Society funds.

.....♂...♂...♂.....

## CONSERVATION COMMENTS

Reported by James P. Jackson, Conservation Editor

For the past three years our membership has voted to maintain affiliation with the Conservation Federation of Missouri. This means that fifty-cents of your annual dues to the Society goes to support the work of the Federation, and it also provides you representation on its board of directors; it is, in my opinion, worth every cent. All conservation organizations in the state, in order to take active part in this forum, should affiliate. The fact that the Federation includes such diversity as hunting, fishing, camping and nature groups should be no deterrent. In spite of honest differences, the splinter groups are all glued together into a pretty solid board. We provide a forum for our differences, and through our capable executive director, Ed Stenger, we have a strong lobbying force in Jefferson City for environmental sanity.

This year's Annual Convention of the Conservation Federation of Missouri will take place at the Ramada Inn, Jefferson City, during the weekend of March 21, 22, and 23. As your official delegate, I will be especially active this year in the non-game committee and would welcome any suggestions you might have regarding this. As in recent years, one of the hottest issues to arise will be that of the Meramec Dam; our votes will be cast in opposition, in accordance with our Society's resolutions of recent years.

Since my column this month deals with State matters, I would like to comment on a couple of bills recently introduced into the 78th General Assembly:

Senate Bill 124 - This would remove from the Missouri University Board of Curators the power to sell parcels of land in excess of 5,000 acres. Ostensibly, this is intended to prevent the Curators from selling the Weldon Spring Tract to developers. It is not a good bill. Not only would it possibly hamstring the Curators in other situations, but it would in effect place the Weldon Spring Tract in the hands of the Legislature, and there is no guessing what politics would do with it.

House Bill 349 - This would require the use of returnable bottles, having refund values of either two or five cents, for beer, soft drinks, and certain other beverages. This has been introduced before, with hardly a ripple. Maybe it is time we all get behind such a bill and prove that the Show-Me State can take a worthy cue from the State of Oregon.

Now for a matter of national importance: let us not permit President Ford to cop out again on a strong bill for controlling the evils of strip-mining. Congress should be urged to take action quickly, not merely to prevent a pocket veto, but to override any kind of veto. Our economy can well survive with some kind of national restraint on the mining of coal.

....♂...♂...♂...♂...

## HELP WANTED!

Over 7,100 brown-headed cowbirds were banded and color-marked in west-central Kansas during 1974 as an aid in studying their movements, and hopefully to determine their place of origin. Birds were marked with red, yellow, or green plastic leg streamers. Fall and winter observations revealed 27 individuals from ten locations in Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and Mexico. However, data from spring and summer movements are needed. Observers should report: location, date of sighting, sex of bird and color of leg streamer to Richard A. Hill, Department of Biology, Fort Hays Kansas State College, Hays, Kansas, 67601.

....♂...♂...♂...♂...;

## MONTHLY NATURE ADVENTURES - SPRING 1975

by Paul Bauer

As explained in the last issue of The Bluebird, we are starting efforts to have monthly field trips--nature adventures--to the best areas of the state. These trips will be lead by local experts and permit exposure to unique combinations of habitat. We encourage all members to consider taking part in several to find out what the opposite side of the state has to offer. I believe Missouri has many exceptional areas of interest to birders and nature enthusiasts.

P.S. I am looking for someone to help with the planning and organizing of these trips; please volunteer. I need help.

## MARCH -- Saturday, 22 March

Ruffed Grouse Mating Displays -- Near Columbia, Mo.

Limited to 15 or 20 people -- openings remain.

May be a chance for unusual nature photographs

Details will be sent to those sending a card to:

Paul Bauer

4 Club Grounds South Drive

Florissant, Mo. 63033

Telephone: (314) 921-3972

## APRIL -- Saturday, 12 April, Sunday, 13 April.

Greater Prairie Chicken Mating Displays and

Large numbers of migrating waterfowl

Both near El Dorado Springs in S.W. Missouri

Limited to 20 people -- openings remain.

Photographic possibilities are good

Details will be sent to those informing

Paul Bauer of interest -- see above for address.

## MAY -- Saturday, 17 May; Sunday, 18 May

Squaw Creek Wildlife Refuge -- Near Mound City (NW of St. Joseph)

Outstanding time for shorebirds in full breeding plumage

Leader: Dr. David A. Easterla

Meet at Refuge Headquarters at 8:00 A.M.

Numerous Motels exist in nearby St. Joseph

Tent and Trailer camping is available at

Big Lake State Park (less than 10 miles west of Mound City).

If you have questions, send a card to Paul Bauer.

## JUNE -- Saturday 14 June; Sunday, 15 June.

Big Oak Tree State Park -- near Sikeston (deep in S.E. Missouri)

Many giant trees and several unique birding treats--Nesting Swainson's

and hooded warblers "guaranteed"; several Mississippi kites.

Visits to heronry and Towosahgy State Archaeological site.

All this is possible, and if time permits a visit to fabulous and wild

Reelfoot Lake, just a ferry ride away across the Mississippi River into Tennessee.

Meet at State Park Picnic Grounds at 8:00 A.M.

Rather primitive camping is permitted in the State Park

Numerous motels exist in nearby Charleston and Sikeston (20 and 30 miles away)

If you have questions send a card to Paul Bauer (address above).

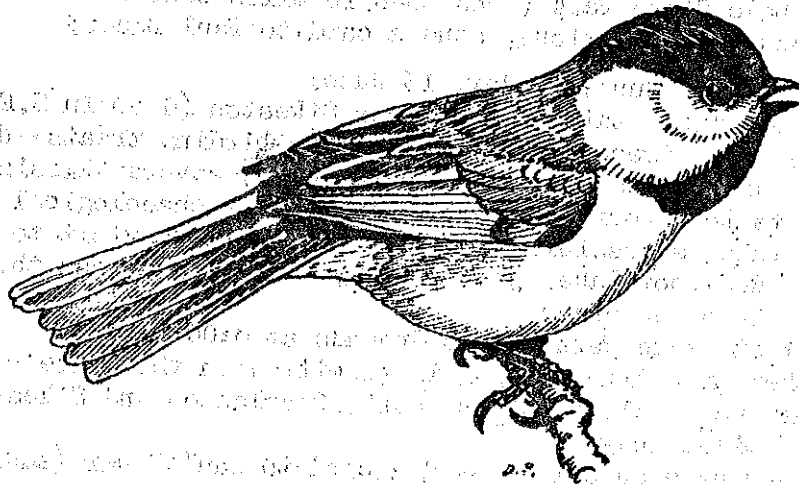
## LONG-TAILED JAEGER AT MARYVILLE

by Mark Robbins

The morning of 12 September, 1974, was cloudy with rain. The temperature dropped almost twenty-five degrees from mid-morning to late in the evening. The wind was out of the north. Most migrating birds were grounded due to the weather conditions.

I drove out to the Maryville sewage lagoons at 5:30 P.M. Upon approaching the middle pool I immediately noticed a brown and white bird sitting on the water. I could see without the aid of my binoculars that the bird was an adult jaeger! I quickly put the scope on the bird. It had a very distinctive black cap. The underparts were white, as was the entire neck. The bird's back, wings, and tail were brown. I soon noted two long tail feathers extending at least seven inches beyond the other tail feathers. The jaeger appeared slim compared to parasitic jaegers I have observed in California. I could barely believe my eyes--the bird was an adult long tailed jaeger!!! After twenty to thirty seconds of watching the bird, it rose from the water and flew a short distance landing on the water again. The jaeger's legs were dark in color. The feet were webbed. It was observed feeding on some unknown substance in the pool. White in the primaries was visible when the bird was in flight. The white in the primaries was more evident on the underside of the wings. Three Franklin's gulls were present in the same pool. The jaeger appeared slimmer and had longer wings than the gulls. After studying the bird for approximately five minutes I rushed into town and located Dave Esterla. We quickly returned, Dave still in suit and tie, and to our amazement the bird was still present. We kept it under our scrutiny until it became too dark to see. It appeared the jaeger would spend the night due to the weather conditions. However, to the dismay of four birders the next morning, the sky had cleared during the night and the bird had moved on.

There are two previous records of this species for Missouri. Both are from the Kansas City area. One was shot by a hunter during the spring of 1910. The second record was of two individuals observed on 3 October, 1916.



## ALONG THE MASTODON TRAIL

by Frances Bauer

At the turn of the century, an area near Kimmswick, Missouri, was discovered which contained one of the largest deposits of mastodon bones in the world. F. A. Lucas described this area as "the most noteworthy of all deposits." He cited the bones and teeth excavated there as having come from as many as 200 animals--a fantastically rich source of archeological treasure--more so because the actual area excavated was relatively small. Great salt marshes and bogs once surrounded the Kimmswick, Imperial, Barnhart and Sulphur Springs area. Many animals came to forage, lick salt, and to drink. Some fell into quicksand and were buried alive. Now many milleniums later progress has filled in, graded over and paved the valleys where the mastodons came.

The salt and sulphur springs were still flowing 50 years ago until they were filled during the 1920's to create US Highway 61-67. In the 1960's man again wiped out great areas of the swamps, springs and bogs as I-55 was rammed through the greatest deposits of mastodon remains in the entire world. The precious site of mastodon bones, including 429 acres of timber, was purchased by the Missouri State Highway Commission in 1966 to build I-55. A series of delaying actions by local citizens managed to stop development and to get state consideration of alternate plans. This short summary cannot do justice to the long and trying efforts that these people have faced. The critical showdown came during the summer of 1974.

The Missouri State Park Board has stated in writing that they will accept, develop, and maintain the 429 acre site, of which the mastodon burial area is only a fragment, if it is donated to them. This the Mastodon Park Committee seeks to do, but they were given only 18 months to raise the funds. All concerned citizens and organizations of the state are being asked to help save this unique open space. By writing to the address below, you will obtain additional information on the best way to help!

Write: Mastodon Park Fund  
P. O. Box 112  
Imperial, Missouri 63052

....♣...♣...♣....

## KELSO BIRD SANCTUARY - IDEAL FOR WILDLIFE

by Daryl Wagoner

Only four miles north of downtown Cape Girardeau lies 57 acres which a Southeast Missouri University biologist has called "one of the best examples around here of a forest community that has been relatively undisturbed." The name of this natural oasis is the I. R. Kelso Bird Sanctuary.

Judge and Mrs. I. R. Kelso established the sanctuary between 1937 and 1944 by giving tracts of land totalling 27 acres to the Audubon Society of Missouri. A clause in the deed guarantees that the tract be used for educational purposes. Later the Kelso heirs donated an additional 30 adjoining acres to the original site, requesting that the present name replace the original one, Springdale Bird Sanctuary.

Because the Audubon Society was not eligible to receive tax deductible gifts in 1964, the additional acreage was deeded to SEMO University with the same stipulation that the land be used only for educational purposes. The sanctuary's total 57 acres are now managed by a committee of seven SEMO University faculty members headed by Paul Heye, associate professor of biology.

The committee intends to keep the sanctuary as undeveloped and undisturbed and

natural as possible, feeling that's where its value lies. Field trips, individual student and class projects are undertaken at the sanctuary by students participating in university courses dealing with ornithology, ecology, geology, botany and other biology-related fields. Studies conducted by students in the past have taken a scientific look at such things as the water uptake of trees, the utilization of nesting houses by wood ducks, and long-range changes in plant life.

The sanctuary is an ideal location for field study. One half of the area, the north-facing community, is relatively cool and dry compared to the remaining half, a south-facing slope which is relatively dry and warm. The northern community consists of an American beech-yellow poplar climax forest, while the southern community (under cultivation until the late 1930's) is a typical forest successional area.

"A climax forest is one in which the species composition remains constant, in which big poplar trees are replaced by little ones," professor Heye explained. "Successional communities are characterized by changing species; sassafras and persimmon give way to post oaks and black jack." The southern slope of the sanctuary is also partially covered by an oak-hickory climax forest typical of those found in the Ozarks. A one-third acre farm pond is included on the property.

In addition to lush plant life, the I. R. Kelso Bird Sanctuary abounds with animals, among them squirrels, deer, wood ducks, pileated woodpeckers, woodchucks, and foxes. Access to the sanctuary is restricted to foot travel along several paths which cut through the area.

Condensed from an article in the  
Cape Girardeau Bulletin-Journal  
January 26, 1975

#### BREEDING BIRD SURVEY REPORT

from Keith E. Evans, State Coordinator  
1-26 Agriculture Building, UMC  
Columbia, Missouri 65201

A special thanks to the Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) cooperators! The BBS program has been active in Missouri since 1967. Twenty-eight of the thirty-seven routes were run in 1974--this is more than any other year. Last year's cooperators will be receiving notices within a few weeks to determine if they can run one or more routes in 1975. If you plan to participate please send in your reply slips promptly. If you feel that you will be unable to run the route(s) you ran last year please drop me a card so I can find a replacement. We always need new cooperators. If you would like to participate in this statewide project, please contact me. Many of the cooperators would like to have others along for time-keeping, recording, etc. Let me know if you would like to learn the procedures. Keep watching The Bluebird for reports on this worthwhile project.

#### ANNOUNCING THE 1975 MISSOURI CONSERVATION LEGISLATIVE REPORT

This weekly report, published by the Conservation Federation of Missouri, is designed to keep the concerned conservationist abreast of what's happening in the Missouri General Assembly. It is mailed every Thursday first class so you receive it in time to act on matters of interest to you.

It features (1) synopses of all environmental, park and recreation, fish and wildlife and natural resource legislation, (2) analyses of major bills, (3) legislative rosters, (4) committee assignments, (5) bill assignments, (6) weekly hearing schedules (7) voting records on key issues, (8) status of legislation, (9) practical aids such as how to write your legislators, etc., (10) alerts on federal issues.

You may subscribe by sending \$3.00 (actually less than cost of publication) to Conservation Legislative Report Service, Conservation Federation of Missouri, 312 East Capitol, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101. Give your name, address and zip.

## ANNOUNCING!

SPRING MEETING  
 AUDUBON SOCIETY OF MISSOURI  
 NATURE CONSERVANCY - MO CHAPTER  
 Lyta Davis Good Memorial Union Building  
 School of the Ozarks  
 Point Lookout, Missouri  
 April 18 - 20, 1975

THEME: Missouri Conservation Topics

## April 18, Friday:

- 4:00-10:30 Registration - Main Dining Area. (There is a \$1.00 registration fee for non-students to help defray speaker expense.)  
 8:00-10:30 Folk-Blue Grass Sing - Main Dining Area  
 Featuring Woody Bledsoe, Tom Aley, Charles McRaven and others

## April 19, Saturday:

- 8:00 Registration - Main Dining Area (See note above.)  
 Welcome and Coffee - Auditorium (theater)  
 8:30-12:30 Field Trips\*  
 12:00-1:30 Lunch - Main Dining Area  
 1:30-5:00 Field Trips\* and Speakers\*\* - Auditorium (theater)  
 5:00-6:30 Dinner - Main Dining Area (with speaker\*\*)  
 7:00-10:30 Speakers\*\* and Slides - Auditorium (theater)  
 Audubon Board Meeting - meeting room, second floor

## April 20, Sunday:

- 6:30-8:00 Breakfast  
 7:30-10:30 Field Trips\*\*, Nature Walk  
 Nature Conservancy Board Meeting - meeting room - second floor  
 11:00-12:00 Church Services - Williams Memorial Chapel  
 12:00 Lunch

\*Field Trips scheduled to Skaggs Ranch Preserve, Drury Wildlife Refuge, Cedar Glade and Carr-Lane Prairie

## \*\*Speakers include:

Dr. Alice Nightingale, School of the Ozarks, "Names of Plants"  
 Tom Tony, Prairie Manager, Mo. Dept. of Conservation,  
 "Prairie Management"  
 Ken Babcock, Waterfowl biologist, Mo. Dept. of Conservation,  
 Talk and "Wild Chorus" movie  
 Leonard Hall, "Scenic Rivers of the Ozarks"  
 Dr. Peter Ravens, Director of Missouri Botanical Gardens, St. Louis, Mo.  
 Gene Poirot, Farmer-conservationist, Golden City, Mo.

## POSSUMHAW FRACAS

by Homer R. Bolen

An incessant series of skirmishes takes place in this well defended spot. A southern gentleman in gray uniform with white shoulder patches has declared the area to be his personal territory, and day to day warns trespassers to stay clear. Perched on a high branch he keeps guard over his store of red berries, only occasionally dropping down for a sip of water or a tempting morsel at the feeder.

Starlings and house sparrows, though numerous, present no real problems. If any venture near, a mere gesture dispels the intruders. But the redcoats are another matter. They are large, with heavy beaks. If given the slightest chance they might stake claim to this treasure of winter provisions and be difficult to dislodge. So, at a cardinal's approach the defender sallies forth to attack. The action is sufficient. The cardinal turns aside as though he has no interest in the crimson fruits.

Life would truly be easy were it not for the bluecoats. These noisy raiders allow the dignified gray colonel no peace of mind. It is not clear whether they really want the red berries or seek to torment the self-styled owner of the premises. A jay swoops into the deciduous holly tree. The owner immediately attacks. The blue jay circles to a branch on the other side of the tree. The pursuit continues to the topmost limb, to the north side, to a thicket of interior branches, to a telephone wire, to the lowest perch, to a neighboring mulberry. A second blue jay invades the possum haw and the first returns. Flashes of blue and gray twinkle among the scarlet boughs as the frenzy continues. Then all is tranquil again as the bluecoats depart, grinning from ear to ear. The mockingbird mounts to the highest perch where all may see that he is still master of the possum haw domain.

....♂...♂...♂....

"THERE AIN'T NO SUCH ANIMAL"

On August 28th an extremely rare ruff was located on a mud flat in St. Charles County. The ruff gave several lucky birders an opportunity to study it. Earl Comfort gave this report in the St. Louis Audubon Society's Bulletin.

"You actually have to see a ruff in breeding plumage to believe it. You may agree with the little boy who saw a giraffe for the first time and told his parents, 'There ain't no such animal.' As far as our area is concerned it produces no gaudy ruffs like the ones pictured in the bird books. Would you believe a ruff in its breeding plumage shows vivid colors ranging from pure white neck ruffs to a black one? And some are two-toned. Picture a turkey gobbler in display and you have a ruff in display at the other end of his body. But the ruff is far more fantastic.

"Our August ruff in its nondescript plumage somewhat resembled a lesser yellow-legs. But there's more almost unbelievable history relating to the ruff. Not satisfied with its two distinctly different plumages (breeding and non-breeding males), this species insists on having two names, ruff for the male and reeve for his mate, which is always dressed plainly. Back in the days when you could buy something with one nickel and a two-cent stamp would send a first class letter all over the country, the ornithologists believed a ruff and a reeve were two distinct species. And who could blame them?

"The ruff-reeve is an eleven inch shorebird with legs that vary in color, the prevailing one being orange-yellow. Fall males and females are similar. There is an oval-shaped white spot on either side of the tail near the rump. As stated, the reeve is a plain job resembling a lesser yellowlegs. The male in breeding plumage has been described, albeit inadequately. You have to see a ruff in display to believe it. Not many of us have had this pleasure.



## MISSOURI'S CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT - 1975

compiled by James R. Comfort

Nearly 300 birdwatchers were listed as participants in the Christmas Bird Count taken in Missouri in 1974. Admittedly, several took part in more than one count, nevertheless, an impressive number of observers were in the field for this event.

Twenty-three censuses were reported. This included two new counts, Birch Tree and Eminence, and a revived one at Swan Lake. A total of 125 species were listed. This equals last year's total. One of the more significant features was an overall increase in hawks. For example, 748 red-tailed hawks were counted. This is by far the most ever found during a census period in the state, 493 being the previously recorded high. A snowy owl at Squaw Creek was perhaps the most exciting find, however many rarer birds made the list. The owl was one of several seen by the intrepid Esterla-Robbins duo in northwest Missouri. A barn owl was especially welcome. This bird has taken up residence in a barn on a farm owned by Lee Center of Eminence, and was reported on the Birch Tree list. Barn owls are seldom reported in Missouri.

We have compiled the following composite listing for all of Missouri. This gives an excellent picture of the relative population of birds during the count period. It should be noted that these counts have not been edited and are published exactly as sent in by the compilers, consequently they may differ from the National Audubon Society's printing in American Birds. The Regional Editors at National have the prerogative to strike out listings they deem questionable.

(ED. NOTE: A report from a new count circle at Branson was received too late to be included in the summary. Compiler Wayne Davis and ten other observers were out on December 26 and identified 55 species including an Eastern phoebe! That brings the Missouri species count to 126.)

COUNT NAME	COMPILER	NUMBER OF OBSERVERS	TEMPERATURE		PARTY HOURS	DATE
			low	high		
Big Oak	Jim Haw	3	33	40	20	12/27
Birch Tree	Lee Center	1	40	40	8	12/23
Busch Area	Jim Comfort	36	28	34	96	12/15
Columbia	Bill Goodge	24	36	48	66	12/29
Dexter	Bob Gaede	2	46	56	9	12/23
Eminence	Sadi Negaard	1	41	41	8	12/29
Gray Summit	Don Hays	3	32	41	11	12/29
Hannibal	Bill Dierker	9	34	38	25	12/28
K. C. North	Harry Gregory	22	34	41	66	12/29
K. C. Southeast	Harry Gregory	43	31	50	91	12/14
Maryville	Mark Robbins	6	?	?	?	12/15
New-Mac.	Norma Crews	19	35	40	?	12/29
Mineola	Rea Windsor	3	32	44	10	12/30
Mingo	Jim Haw	10	38	46	30	12/30
Montrose	John Belshe	33	32	42	66	12/15
Orchard Farm	Kurt Wesseling	18	37	40	38	12/28
St. Joseph	Floyd Lawhon	6	30	43	33	12/14
Salem	David Plank	1	39	39	9	?
Springfield	N. Irving Fay	33	29	50	88	12/21
Squaw Creek	Mark Robbins	5	?	?	?	12/22
Sullivan	Jim Irvine	20	35	42	57	12/28
Swan Lake	Jim Rathert	4	29	51	11	12/22
Trimble	Christopher Hobbs	?	41	49	?	12/22

	Big Oak	Birch Tree	Busch Area	Columbia	Dexter	Eminence	Gray Summit	Hannibal	Kansas City North	Kansas City Southeast	Maryville	Mineola	Mingo
Common loon										1			3
Horned grebe													
Red-billed grebe			1	X						1			11
Cormorant, double cr.										1			
Weyon, great blue								2	1	1			6
" black-crown, night						X							
Goose, Canada	253		4100				3	6	1	153			6800
" snow (white)									1		28		1
" snow (blue)													
Mallard	575	2	639	6			10	1	10	855	20		1331
Black duck	21		5							2			7
Mallard X Black													1
Gadwall	6		215						19	64			98
Pintail	4		5								1		157
Green-winged teal			17							7			
Blue-winged teal													
American wigeon	11		178							4			22
Northern shoveler										5			81
Wood duck									1			X	3
Redhead duck								14		2			10
Ring-necked duck			15					2	3	3			120
Canvasback			36		X			16					66
Lesser scaup			20		17			11	3	113			20
Common goldeneye								20	2	24			24
Bufflehead										22			31
Old squaw										1			
Ruddy Duck										14			
Merganser, hooded		1								3			11
" , common							27	1		3	3		2
" , red-breasted										7			
Turkey vulture													24
Hawk, sharp-shinned			6						1			1	1
" , Cooper's			3	2					2			X	1
Accipiter (sp?)	1												
Hawk, red-tailed	14	4	38	54	1		4	4	69	99	4	5	25
Hawk, red-t. (Harlan's)									2				
" , red-shouldered			2							1			
" , broad-winged		4											
" , Swainson's													
" , rough-legged			5	2				1	2	1	1		
" , ferruginous													
Buteo (sp. ?)								1	3	2			
Bald eagle								8					28
Hawk, marsh	6		8	7	2			6	2	4		1	11
Merlin			1										
Kestrel	13		9	39	6	2	3	2	35	27	4	2	8
Greater Prairie Chicken													
Bobwhite			80	51				32	31	11	16	5	32
Ring-neck. pheasant			5	2									
Turkey												X	2
American Coot			74	1			1			75			128

Montrose	Newton-Macdonald	Orchard Farm	St. Joseph	Salem	Springfield	Squaw Creek	Sullivan	Swan Lake	Trimble	TOTAL	
					1					5	Common loon
					2					2	Horned grebe
					24					37	Pied-billed grebe
10					22		2			45	Cormorant, double-cr.
											Heron, great blue
											" , black-cr. night
3516	7				10	1900		40000	2010	58759	Goose, Canada
1500			57			7000		2000	2	10589	" , Snow (white)
1500	4		35		3	4000		1600	1	7143	" , Snow (blue)
3813	38	X			251	44200		4000	84	83835	Mallard
						2		1	1	39	Black duck
										1	Mallard X Black
94					126				3	625	Gadwall
25					1	2		21	1	217	Pintail
					1					25	Green-winged teal
5										5	Blue-winged teal
	1				82			1		299	American wigeon
					6					93	Northern shoveler
										4	Wood-duck
										26	Redhead duck
13	X									156	Ring-necked duck
	X				77					195	Canvasback
37	7				37					265	Lesser scaup
	4				19					93	Common golden-eye
					5					59	Bufflehead
										1	Old Squaw
15					49					14	Ruddy duck
20					10	1				73	Merganser, hooded
										64	" , common
										7	" , red-breasted
										24	Turkey vulture
					1					10	Hawk, sharp-shinned
							1			9	" , Coopers
										1	Accipiter (sp?)
217	14	13	9	3	51	32	14	22	55	748	Hawk, red-tailed
2					2				1	7	Hawk, red-t. (Harlants)
					1		2			11	Hawk, red-shouldered
1										2	Hawk, broad-winged
2									1	4	Hawk, Swainson's
17	3	5	X				4	3	1	45	Hawk, Rough-legged
1										1	Hawk, Ferruginous
									3	9	Buteo (sp?)
2			X			89	1	37		165	Bald eagle
138	5	9	X			57	1	2	2	261	Hawk, marsh
1										2	Merlin
27	19	17	7	3	32	3	11	3	31	303	Kestrel
2										2	Greater Prairie Chick,
59		4	20		61		30	24	61	513	Bobwhite
						4				15	Ring-necked pheasant
							12	7		21	Turkey
					90				2	371	American Coot



Montrose	Newton-Macd	Orchard Farm	St. Joseph	Jalem	Springfield	Squaw Creek	Sullivan	Swan Lake	Trimble	TOTAL	
3	10	X			5		4	1		124	Killdeer
					10				3	26	Common snipe
1		X			2					6	Herring gull
5		115			19			1		222	Ring-billed gull
15		212	420		187	4	35		13	3080	Rock dove
89	6	50	10		23	3	12	3	53	940	Mourning dove
						7				1	Barn owl
3			4		4			4	3	11	Screech owl
						1				35	Great horned owl
		2			2	1	2	2		1	Snowy owl
							1			15	Barred Owl
		11				3	1			5	Long-eared owl
1	5	4	2		28		30			18	Short-eared owl
										110	Belted kingfisher
64	42	42	48	4	26	18	29	14	38	693	Common Flicker (yellow-shafted)
1			19			1				23	(red-shafted)
1		2		2	6		15	1		79	Woodpecker, pileated
27	14	47		5	47	8	49	8	32	716	" , red-bellied
15	64	29		3	24		207	28	19	539	" , red-headed
			1		1		X		1	20	Sapsucker, yel.-bel.
2	10	2	7		7	2	23	3	5	148	Woodpecker, hairy
32	21	54	43	2	58	26	46	5	61	801	Woodpecker, downy
96		112		2	14	17	X	5	98	737	Horned lark
138	371	60	40	20	304	4	340	26	59	3319	Blue jay
194	48	236	1317	15	212	23	232	12	70	10058	Common crow
										1	Fish crow
108	23	100	100			44	15	14	94	2044	Chickadee, black-cap.
	9			9	185		84			666	Chickadee, Carolina
55	8	53	24	4	86	6	93	6	19	1108	Tufted titmouse
2	5	17	14		25	2	40	1	9	307	Nuthatch, white-br.
										8	" , red-breasted
1		8	5		2	2	4		2	81	Brown creeper
							1			1	House wren
		1	1		2	2			3	26	Winter wren
					3		1			5	Bewick's wren
3	9	37	5	4	34		29		3	322	Carolina wren
								1		1	Marsh wren (sp?)
65	28	7	1	3	94		49	1	20	541	Mocking bird
					4		1			16	Brown thrasher
2		22	1		3	2	21		2	429	Robin
										4	Hermit thrush
16	39	4	3	14	57		74	2	7	473	Eastern bluebird
1		5	6	5	5	3	2		6	177	Kinglet, golden cr.
					6		X		1	32	" , ruby-crowned
							9	2		40	Cedar waxwing
25	13	1	2	3	9	6	13	6	13	144	Loggerhead shrike
6570	285	1223	915	30	155000	669	568	47	1125	179606	Starling
			7		1		4	2		109	Warbler, yel.-rumped
835	526	1176	590	4	762	189	296	334	1504	13433	House sparrow
		61								61	European tree spar.

	Big Oak	Birch Tree	Busch Area	Columbia	Dexter	Eminence	Gray S Summit	Hannibal	Kans City Nc	Kansas City Southeast	Maryville	Mincola	Mingo
Meadowlark, East.	96	50	9	113	35	5	15	2	5	46		7	187
Meadowlark, West.				2					1		2		
Meadowlark, (sp?)									100	291	8		
Redwing blackbird	1900		67	675	300				181	211	1279		2100
Rusty blackbird									6		162		194
Brewer's blackbird	2								51				
Common grackle	975		16	7	8			131	5258	9	5	X	18240
Brown-headed cowbird	15		1					3	3402	11	18		6
Blackbird (sp?)									4	96			
Cardinal	111	200	406	523	24	11	44	119	336	605	62	27	187
Purple Finch	10		15	85	3	33			41	31		55	11
Fine Siskin													
Goldfinch, Amer.	42	100	257	752	5	3	21	8	466	399	12	10	191
Towhee, Rufous-sided	3		10	X	3	2			3			X	12
Savannah sparrow	1							1					2
LeConte's sparrow										1			
Vesper sparrow													
Dark-eyed junco (slate-colored) (Oregon)	87	300	1884	648	35	26	60	67	1220	1594	97	50	287
Tree Sparrow	37		320	469	5		35	151	864	705	69	37	209
Chipping sparrow													
Field Sparrow	74	50	21	1	4			54	1	3			39
Harris' sparrow				1				1	228	228	12		
White-crowned spar.	110		63	90	8			1	99	237			236
White-throated spar	97		31	23	16	1	9	9	10	9		3	40
Fox sparrow	10		13	7	X		6	1	3		2	X	3
Lincoln's sparrow													
Swamp sparrow	25		30	5	3			7	3	2	1	X	10
Song sparrow	71		144	40			2	49	64	78	15	13	6
Sparrow (sp?)									71				
Lapland longspur					1						141		
Longspur (sp?)									100	3			
Number of species	63	31	71	55	36	30	39	57	69	78	49	37	81
Additional races									3	3			
Number of individual individuals	7356	2009	10629	7110	1276	288	718	1996	19743	20374	3397	482	35583

One kinglet,  
 Crown of gold. A spark of sun  
 In the snow filled woods.

RM

.....♂.....♂.....♂.....

Monrose	Newton-Macdonald	Orchard Farm	St. Joseph	Salem	Springfield	Squaw Creek	Sullivan	Swan Lake	Trimble	TOTAL	
568	135	29	5	25	96		71	34	143	1676	Meadowlark, Eastern
1		1	9			1			14	31	Meadowlark, Western
			3			13			235	650	Meadowlark, (sp?)
12003		627	80		125266	11083	42	19	183	156017	Redwinged blackbird
167	25	87			12536	650			10	13841	Rusty blackbirds
						30				83	Brewer's blackbird
461		351	3		201918	4055	543	1	16	232002	Common grackle
16		18	1		12637	7			13	16148	Brown-headed cowbird
13060								7	1018	14185	Blackbird (sp?)
276	174	172	141	25	287	23	325	26	184	4297	Cardinal
63	6	4	20	105		196	3	2	686		Purple finch
			15							15	Pine siskins
53	64	61	43	6	87	61	87	9	179	2916	Goldfinch, American
			1		4		15			54	Towhee, Rufous-sided
1										5	Savannah sparrow
2										3	LeConte's sparrow
1										1	Vesper sparrow
											Dark-eyed junco
994	659	205	196	100	608	39	574	56	317	10103	(slate-colored)
2		1					X			13	(Oregon)
1090	3	499	122	12	136	98	20	87	793	5761	Tree sparrow
3							2			5	Chipping sparrow
101	2			5	50		16		1	422	Field sparrow
27			22		7	4			29	559	Harris' sparrow
412			6		89	1	27	15	51	1445	White-crowned spar.
5	19		16	15	70	2	40		5	420	White-throated spar.
9				2	8	2	X		2	68	Fox Sparrow
1										1	Lincoln's sparrow
13		13		4	6	4	3		6	135	Swamp sparrow
58	2	114	3	10	58	20	8	8	46	868	Song sparrow
											Sparrow (sp?)
		1								143	Lapland songspur
										103	Longspur (?)
72	42	54	45	31	79	50	57	49	60	125	Number of Species
3			2		1	2		1	2	4	Additional Races


76773 2674 6014 4383 359 512188 74406 4381 48515 8776 849130 Number of individuals

Ancient sycamore,  
 Bare, but for its buttonballs--  
 And an old birds' nest.

RM

.....♂.....♂.....♂.....

# NOTES AND FEATHERS

that fall on the editor's desk 

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Dr. William Elder, professor of Wildlife and Fisheries at the University of Missouri, has been honored as the year's top conservationist by the Missouri Chapter of the Wildlife Society. Dr. Elder, now in his 30th year at the University, was recipient of the E. Sydney Stephens Professional Wildlife Award.

## SNOWY OWLS MAKE NEWS

We keep hearing reports of snowy owls seen in the north part of the state. Kelly Hobbs writes of two seen in the Kansas City area on December 15 and 18. The later one was seen at Richard-Gebour Air Force Base. This one was quite obliging, staying for two days for several birders to see. Its picture and story made the Kansas City Times and from there around the country.

Mr. Hobbs also reported a trip to Southwest Missouri on January 5 on which he saw "flock after flock (estimated 6000) mixed longspurs and horned larks." This was between Mifford and Jerico Springs. (Ed. Note: We'd settle for just one longspur.)

## A GATHERING OF CRANES:

The National Audubon Society, in conjunction with the Nebraska chapters, will again sponsor a weekend of activities along the Platte River. The magnificent concentration of sandhill cranes will be the main attraction. The event is set for March 22, 23. For details you may write our regional representative, Ron Klataske, 813 Juniper Drive, Manhattan, Kansas 66502.

## OLD COPIES NEEDED.

A request has been received from the library at Southwest Missouri State University for old copies of The Bluebird to complete their files. If you have some of these which you would like to donate for this permanent file, please contact the editor of The Bluebird, stating dates of copies you have available. Thank you.

## EARLY WOODCOCK REPORT

Jerry Sowers, Greene County's authority on woodcocks, wrote that he had heard them call and sing in their courtship flight on January 29, his earliest record.

The mating antics of the woodcock are something to witness. The Audubon Club of Springfield has scheduled a field trip for Tuesday evening, March 11, and chances are good that the members will have a ring-side seat for the performance. If you are in the vicinity, you are welcome to join them. Meeting place is in the park at the north end of the bridge on the east end of Fellows Lake. Time is 30 minutes before sundown. For more information contact Clyde Johnson, 847 North Lone Pine, Springfield, 65802.

## NEW BLUEBIRD PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Careful consideration has gone into the decision to revise slightly the time of publication of our quarterly news bulletin. It will now carry the dates of June, September, December, and March. In order to be sure that material submitted for publication can be used, please observe these deadlines for copy to be in the hands of the editor: May 10, August 1, November 1, and February 1. It is believed that the new plan will give better coverage to the events of our Society. Remember--NEXT DEADLINE: MAY 10.



THE BLUEBIRD is the quarterly publication of The Audubon Society of Missouri, and is sent to all its members. Annual membership dues are: regular, \$4.00; family, \$6.00; student, \$2.00. Dues should be sent to Katherine Wade, treasurer, 2202 Missouri Boulevard, Jefferson City, Missouri 65701.

There are still some of David Plank's lovely cardinal and bluebird prints available free to those paying regular or family dues. If you did not request one when you paid your dues last year, you may do so when you send your 1975 dues. Please indicate your preference of cardinal pair or bluebird, and include \$3.00 for the cost of postage and packaging. You will be proud to own one of the 17" by 21" bird portraits, each personally inspected and signed by the artist.

....@...@...@....

Lodging can be secured at the following locations in the Branson-Hollister area for the Nature Conservancy - Audubon Society Meeting to be held at the School of the Ozarks on 18-20 April. When making reservations, indicate that you are a member of one of these organizations, as the rates given are special and are applicable only for these groups on the dates indicated. All phone numbers are area code 417.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| Branson Inn (Best Western Motel - new-<br>118 units all with 2 double beds -<br>restaurant and bar)<br>Box 676, Branson. (334-5121)<br>Single, \$10.00; double, \$12.00 | Paramount Motor Lodge (Best Western Motel)<br>North Highway 65 (26 units)<br>Branson (334-2111)<br>Single, \$8.00, double, \$16.00                        |
| Branson Motor Court (15 units)<br>615 S. Commercial<br>Branson. (334-3420)<br>Single, \$10.50; double \$12.50   | Roark Motor Lodge (67 units)<br>North Highway 65<br>Branson (334-3196)<br>Single, \$12.00; double, \$16.00  |
| Holiday Inn (150 units - new -<br>restaurant and bar)<br>West Highway 76, Branson. (334-5101)<br>Single, \$10.50; double, \$15.00                                       | Rustic Oak Motor Inn (60 units - new)<br>Collect calls accepted<br>Fourth and Main<br>Branson (334-6464)<br>Single, \$9.00; double, \$13.00               |
| Jesse James Confusion Hill Motel<br>West Highway 76 (25 units)<br>Branson. (334-3594)<br>Single, \$9.00 ; double, \$13.00   | Sammy Lane Resort (20 units)<br>Kitchenettes-will sleep 4 to 6 persons.<br>320 E. Main<br>Branson (334-3253)<br>Single, \$6.00; double, \$5.00 per person |
| Lamplighter Motel (20 units)<br>North Highway 65<br>Branson (334-3431)<br>Single, \$10.00; double, \$10.00  | Southern Air Motel (15 units - new)<br>North Highway 65<br>Branson (334-2417)<br>Single, \$8.00; doubles, \$10.00 one bed<br>\$12.00 two beds             |
| Motel Taney (Best Eastern Motel)<br>North Highway 65 (28 units)<br>Branson (334-3143)<br>Single, \$7.00; double, \$8.00   | Traveler Motel (31 units)<br>North Highway 65<br>Branson (334-3868)<br>Single, \$8.00; Doubles, \$11.00   |
| New Haven Court (10 units)<br>North Highway 65<br>Branson (334-3440)<br>Single, \$8.00; double, \$10.00   | Ye English Inn (20 units)<br>Hollister (334-4142)<br>Single, \$10.00; doubles, \$10.00  |

THE AUDUBON SOCIETY OF MISSOURI

President - Paul Bauer  
4 Club Grounds South Drive  
Florissant 63033

Vice-president - Dr. William Goodge,  
1017 South Glenwood  
Columbia, 65201

Treasurer - Mrs. Katherine Wade  
2202 Missouri Boulevard  
Jefferson City 65701

Secretary - Mrs. Edna Kriege  
6123 Waterman Blvd.  
St. Louis, Missouri 63112

Editor - Mrs. Rebecca Matthews  
Route 2, Box 128  
Springfield 65802

Bird Survey Editor - Dick Anderson  
1147 Grenshaw Drive  
St. Louis, Missouri 63137

Conservation Editor - James P. Jackson  
105 Terry Lane  
Washington, 63090

After ten days return to  
THE AUDUBON SOCIETY OF MISSOURI  
c/o Mrs. E. R. Kriege  
6123 Waterman Blvd.  
St. Louis, Missouri 63112

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U. S. POSTAGE

PAID

St. Louis, Mo.  
Permit #1778

Dr. E. E. Pickett  
608 Westmount  
Columbia, Mo.  
65201