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2025 TENNESSEE SPRING BIRD COUNTS

Liz Rutemeyer, State Counts Compiler
Knoxville, Tennessee

There were seven spring bird counts this year, with 225 observers volunteering 465 party hours to record 38,077 individual birds representing 220 species. The average number of species for the past 25 years is 203 and the 2025 spring count had one of the highest species counts in this period.

The weather was mild overall. Four counts experienced rain. Several counts had breezy conditions and Montgomery County had gusts in the afternoon. Temperatures ranged from 50°F in Nashville to 75°F in Blount County. Purple Gallinule (Blount) and Pacific Loon (Nashville) were new species for this count, bringing the all-time number of species for this count to 283 (+1 hybrid). Count highlights included Ross's Goose (3rd spring record), Common Goldeneye (2nd), Ruffed Grouse, Red-necked Grebe (2nd), White-winged Dove (2nd), Common Gallinule (2nd), Common Tern, Anhinga (3rd record and 3rd year in a row), Little Blue Heron, Peregrine Falcon, Loggerhead Shrike (not reported in the past 3 spring counts), American Pipit (not reported in the past 9 spring counts), Vesper Sparrow, and Yellow-headed Blackbird (3rd).

The following species were all recorded in record high numbers since 2001: Common Merganser, Herring Gull, Common Loon, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Swainson's Warbler, and Cape May Warbler.

The following species were all reported in the lowest or very low numbers since 2001: Northern Bobwhite, Greater Yellowlegs (2nd lowest), Black-crowned Night Heron (2nd lowest), Hairy Woodpecker (2nd lowest), Purple Martin, European Starling, and Common Grackle.

The statistics for this compilation (total species found, high and low numbers, etc.) are from a compilation Ron Hoff began keeping in 2001. The counts in the table are arranged geographically from west to east. The taxonomic order follows the American Ornithological Society (AOS) Checklist of North American Birds, the 65th supplement (2024) to the AOS Checklist.

COUNT SUMMARIES

cw = count week species

(3 days before & 3 days after actual count date, but not on count day).

F/Y = feeder/yard watcher

Blount County – 0200-2200. Weather: overall cloudy with some locations experiencing rain; Wind 0.5-7.5 mph; 52-75°F. The all-time species found on this count is 187. Count highlights included Hooded Merganser, Pied-billed Grebe, Purple Gallinule, White-rumped Sandpiper, Greater Yellowlegs, Common Loon, Least Bittern, American Bittern, Great Horned Owl, Red-headed Woodpecker, Least Flycatcher, Brown Creeper, Dark-eyed Junco, Lincoln's Sparrow, Bobolink, Nashville Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, and Canada Warbler. Observers: Jean J. Alexander, Kat Barrow, Rick Barrow, Christie Bass, Warren Bielenberg, Frances Bunse, Stephanie Crain, Andy Feldt, Sandy Graves, Paul Hartigan, Kim J. Henry, Stephen P. Henry, Thomas D. Howe (compiler), Susan Hoyle, David M. Johnson, Kristine Johnson, Evan Kidd, Julie Moore, Logan Rosenberg, Harumi Tsuruoka, Jimmy Tucker, June D. Welch, and Valerie Wininger.

Elizabethton - 0345-2115. Weather: cloudy with afternoon rain; winds light & variable; 51-71°F. This was the 82nd consecutive Elizabethton Spring bird count. Observers tallied 148 species, slightly below the 30-year average of 150 species. The all-time high for this count was 166 species in 2016. The area covered is Carter Co. and parts of adjacent Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi, and Washington counties. Count highlights included Common Merganser, Ruffed Grouse, Black-billed Cuckoo, Pectoral Sandpiper, Great Egret, Willow Flycatcher, Vesper Sparrow, Bobolink, Blue-winged Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, and Cerulean Warbler. Observers: Fred Alsop, Jerry Bevins, Rob Biller, Tammy Bright, Ron Carrico, Catherine Cummins, Gideon Daniels, Melodie Daniels, John Dollard, Dianne Draper, Harry Lee Farthing, Bambi Fincher, Dave Gardner, David Hollie, Don Holt, Connie Irick, David Irick, Jennifer Kennedy, David Kirschke, Patty Kirschke, Rick Knight (compiler), Roy Knispel, Priscilla Little, Vern Maddux, Larry McDaniel, Joe McGuinness, Tom McNeil, Alson Ovando, Susan Peters, Tracie Pierce, Brookie Potter, Jean Potter, Sherrie Quillen, Pete Range, Judith Reid, Judi Sawyer, Melanie Sheppard, Chris Soto, Tom Stetler, Bryan Stevens, Kim Stroud, Christine Wallace, Ryan Wallace, and Charlie Warden.

Hamilton County – 0530-1900. Weather: overcast with light rain; calm; 58-63°F. Some first-time spring count species appeared (since spring counts began in 2014): Common Tern, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (5), Olive-sided Flycatcher, and Winter Wren. Count highlights included Least Bittern, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Least Flycatcher, Bank Swallow, Marsh Wren, and Wilson's Warbler. Additionally, Cedar Waxwing and Dark-eyed Junco had record high spring counts. Observers: Harold Birch, Gary Brunvoll, Camille Burkley, Kevin Calhoon (compiler), Rhonda Carty, Bruce Dralle, Kent DuBois, John Dever, Ann Glass, Bill Haley, Sharon Klein, SK Jones, Dan Jacobson, OJ Morgan, Barbara McMahan, Mike McMahan, Kent Pennington, Tommie Rogers, Tim Russell, and Libby Wolfe.

Knox County – 0452-2040. Weather: mostly cloudy; winds NE 5-10 mph; 53-72°F. Notable sightings included Hooded Merganser (last in 2016), Common Loon (last in 2015), Common Raven (second time on count), Bank Swallow (last in 2015), and Dark-eyed Junco (late, last in 2015). Misses this year were Black-crowned Night-Heron, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Great Horned Owl, and Barred Owl. Observers: Amy Abercrombie, Robert Abercrom-

bie, Matt Alexander, Patti Armistead, Zachary Arnold, Andrew Avery, Mekhi Babauta, Reha Barnett, Lachlan Bebout, Karin Beuerlein, Frank Bills, Sharon Bostick, John Brantley, Astra Cope, Nathan Cope, Terry Crowe, Jennifer Darden, James Davis, Tara Davis, Dorothy Devan, K. Dean Edwards (compiler), Louise Ferris, Kelly Fox, Lois Frisbee, David Gaylor, Steven Hahn, Patricia Harmon, Paul Hartigan, Lis Henry, Phil Henry, Susan Hoyle, Kathy Jinks, Kristine Johnson, Evan Kidd, Maya Lapp, Luke Lewis, Rita Lewis, Bruce Marshall, Morton Massey, Kristen Mathes, Stephanie McNew, Robin Nichols, Patrick Rakes, Michele Ramsey, Kelly Roy, Martha Rudolph, Gillian Russell, Michael Ryon, Beth Schilling, Kristen Smith, Colin Sumrall, Robert Terrell, Rob Upchurch, Chris Welsh, Deb Welsh, and Karen Wilkinson.

Montgomery County – 0305-1820. Weather: overcast to partly sunny with calm breezes in the morning and gusts around noon; winds NNE-E 7-14 mph; 55-72°F. Highlights include Ross's Goose, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Chuck-will's-widow (4), Mississippi Kite (6), Bell's Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, and first time spring count sightings for Hermit Thrush, Vesper Sparrow, and Connecticut Warbler. Observers: Elaine Foust (compiler), Debbie Hamilton, Steve Hamilton, Sherri Hanson, Daniel Moss, Rick Shipkowski, and Sue Shipkowski.

Nashville – 0400-1831. Weather: Overcast in morning, then clearing; 50-70s°F. Red-necked Grebe and Pacific Loon were new spring sightings. Highlights include Semipalmated Plover, Bonaparte's Gull, Herring Gull, Little Blue Heron, Peregrine Falcon, and Sedge Wren. Observers: Krista Allen, Rachel Anderson, Jenna Atma, Kim Bailey, Clay Bibby, Matthew Bowling, Corey Bown, Susan Bradfield, Trae Bradfield, Lise Brown, Jean Buchanan, Phillip Casteel, Elyse Dilkes, Brad Dowd, Stephanie Durman, Robert English, Frank Fekel, Avery Fish, Steve Goodbred, Barbara Harris (compiler), Melissa James, Tim Loyd, Judy Luna, Michaela Maynard, Max Mays, Roy McGraw, Joe McLaughlin, Cheryl Medley, Myriah Mehrmann, Ken Oeser, Amy Pardo, Vera Roberts, Sheila Shay, Laura Smith, Mike Smith, Lisa Stevenson, Kren Teren, Barry Tillman, Cynthia Tolsma, Andrea (Pandy) Upchurch, Kathy Ware, and LinnAnn Welch.

Shelby County – 0630-1930. Weather: partly cloudy to overcast in the morning and overcast with light rain in the afternoon; 55-79°F. Highlights include White-winged Dove, Virginia Rail, Common Gallinule, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Loggerhead Shrike, Sedge Wren, Yellow-headed Blackbird, and Cape May Warbler; Northern Bobwhite was a miss. Observers: Judith Barrie, Chad Brown, Larry Chitwood, Michael Collins, Emily Conant, Sophie Dismukes, Judy Dorsey, Gregg Elliott, J. Fields Falcone, Chris Galbreath, Rachel Galbreath, Adrian Hall, Elizabeth Hall, Rob Harbin, Dexter Hartsfield, Julie Hartsfield, David Hill, Dianna Johnson, Rusty Johnson, Sarita Joshi, Sam Lawson, Douglas Logan, Melissa Mc-Masters, Georges McNeil, Dick Preston (compiler), Ryan Pudwell, PJ Pulliam, Liz Reed, Norman Soskel, Cliff VanNostrand, Deon VanNostrand, Tricia Vesely, and John Whirley.

COUNT DATE	SHLB 5/10/2025	MTGM 5/10/2025	NSHV 4/26/2025	HMLT 5/10/2025	KNCO 4/27/2025	BLNT 5/3/2025	ELIZ 5/3/2025	Totals
SPECIES								
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	54							54
Ross's Goose		1						1
Canada Goose	116	66	103	210	167	227	208	1,097
Wood Duck	4	8	33	6	15	36	31	133
Blue-winged Teal	18		1	1	8	5	2	35
Northern Shoveler	2							2
Gadwall	2							2
Mallard	29	4	131	20	51	64	86	385
Common Goldeneye			1					1
Hooded Merganser			1		1			3
Common Merganser						22	7	29
Red-breasted Merganser			1					1
Northern Bobwhite		8	8					16
Wild Turkey	14	8	42	2	6	23	16	111
Ruffed Grouse							1	1
Pied-billed Grebe	1		3			1		5
Red-necked Grebe			1					1
Rock Pigeon	87	10	22	29	72	18	92	330
Eurasian Collared-Dove	3	1	3	1		4	1	13
White-winged Dove	3							3
Mourning Dove	97	40	99	106	156	208	176	882
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	3		8	4		6	3	24
Black-billed Cuckoo						2	2	4
Common Nighthawk	5		2			1		8
Chuck-will's-widow		4	1	1	2	7	9	24
Eastern Whip-poor-will			4			1	32	37
Chimney Swift	71	9	109	5	69	83	149	495
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	19	3	8	14	14	16	18	92
Virginia Rail	1							1
Sora	13				3	4		20
Common Gallinule	1							1
American Coot	9		16	4				29
Purple Gallinule						1		1
Black-necked Stilt	76							76
Killdeer	25	11	24	8	35	22	32	157
Semipalmated Plover	3		2		2			7
Stilt Sandpiper	13							13
Dunlin	3							3
Least Sandpiper	325	2			5	11	16	359
White-rumped Sandpiper	4					1		5
Pectoral Sandpiper	55						1	56
Semipalmated Sandpiper	58							58
Short-billed Dowitcher	1							1
Long-billed Dowitcher	3							3
American Woodcock			1					1
Wilson's Snipe	1				4	2		7
Spotted Sandpiper	8		6		8	8	42	72
Solitary Sandpiper	33		3		13	25	39	113
Lesser Yellowlegs	45				2	3	6	56
Greater Yellowlegs	2					1		3
Wilson's Phalarope	1							1
Bonaparte's Gull			2					2
Ring-billed Gull			25	1				26
Herring Gull			5					5
Caspian Tern			1					1
Common Tern				1				1

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SPECIES								
Forster's Tern			5					5
Pacific Loon			1					1
Common Loon			66		1	1		68
Anhinga	1							1
Double-crested Cormorant	1		241	37	121	45	28	473
Least Bittern				1		1		2
American Bittern	2					1		3
Little Blue Heron	1		1					2
Snowy Egret	2			1				3
Yellow-crowned Night Heron	3					2		5
Black-crowned Night Heron			5			1		6
Green Heron	6	2	5	5	12	10	8	48
Great Egret	1		1		3		1	6
Great Blue Heron	1	7	82	19	45	42	50	246
Black Vulture	11	25	229	20	34	29	38	386
Turkey Vulture	19	26	145	32	54	21	96	393
Osprey	2	1	20	17	27	17	4	88
Northern Harrier					1			1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1			1				2
Cooper's Hawk	2	3	5		8	3	6	27
Bald Eagle	3	2	4	12	6	3	1	31
Mississippi Kite	46	6						52
Red-shouldered Hawk	17	4	11	5	19	10	4	70
Broad-winged Hawk	2	1	7	3	8	1	7	29
Red-tailed Hawk	5	5	25	6	17	12	14	84
American Barn Owl	1							1
Eastern Screech-Owl	2	2	2		3		15	24
Great Horned Owl	2		3			1	2	8
Barred Owl	10	4	15	2		4	4	39
Belted Kingfisher	5	1	12	4	7	8	15	52
Red-headed Woodpecker	8	4	11	16	1	1	2	43
Red-bellied Woodpecker	89	22	108	27	74	66	68	454
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker				5			7	12
Downy Woodpecker	36	13	48	21	54	48	33	253
Hairy Woodpecker	2	1	6	3	8	3	6	29
Northern Flicker	2	2	13	1	15	14	37	84
Pileated Woodpecker	15	6	37	6	7	16	36	123
American Kestrel	4	1	13	1	2		5	26
Peregrine Falcon	1		1					2
Great Crested Flycatcher	24	15	29	13	24	37	28	170
Western Kingbird	5							5
Eastern Kingbird	13	19	58	23	25	35	42	215
Olive-sided Flycatcher				1				1
Eastern Wood-Pewee	29	35	13	12	3	15	16	123
Acadian Flycatcher	22	21	14	7	1	7	27	99
Willow Flycatcher		5				3	1	9
Least Flycatcher	3		2	1		1	10	17
Empidonax sp.		1				1		2
Eastern Phoebe	18	9	14	12	42	54	64	213
White-eyed Vireo	49	20	152	17	47	53	19	357
Bell's Vireo		2						2
Yellow-throated Vireo	10	6	15	5	4	7	12	59
Blue-headed Vireo		1	3		4	5	42	55
Philadelphia Vireo	6	2						8
Warbling Vireo	4	4	21		2		10	41
Red-eyed Vireo	29	22	94	62	59	117	364	747

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SPECIES								
Loggerhead Shrike	1							1
Blue Jay	79	16	115	22	105	115	175	627
American Crow	49	22	97	81	147	143	218	757
Fish Crow	5		2	8	19	7	17	58
Crow sp.					2			2
Common Raven					2	2	17	21
Carolina Chickadee	62	31	165	43	136	149	144	730
Tufted Titmouse	89	47	212	35	120	140	189	832
Horned Lark		1						1
Bank Swallow	2		3	1	2			8
Tree Swallow	3	24	109	32	218	154	107	647
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	30	9	134	55	57	84	81	450
Swallow sp.					1			1
Purple Martin	26	11	54	12	44	30	29	206
Barn Swallow	245	61	104	95	129	90	144	868
Cliff Swallow	85	25	122	164	314	85	482	1,277
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	1	8	2	18		1	31
Golden-crowned Kinglet							2	2
Cedar Waxwing	57	63	152	500	61	111	122	1,066
Red-breasted Nuthatch							9	9
White-breasted Nuthatch	8	12	44	9	39	23	26	161
Brown-headed Nuthatch				4	13	6		23
Brown Creeper						1	6	7
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	29	33	210	18	79	91	62	522
Carolina Wren	58	37	191	44	193	166	159	848
Northern House Wren	1	2	7	2	15	13	39	79
Winter Wren				1			1	2
Sedge Wren	1		2					3
Marsh Wren	3			2		5		10
Gray Catbird	5	3	13	9	28	44	68	170
Brown Thrasher	11	7	31	19	55	59	43	225
Northern Mockingbird	51	41	91	64	145	107	97	596
European Starling	96	141	308	92	229	212	539	1,617
Eastern Bluebird	51	41	123	69	106	101	97	588
Veery	5	1	5	1		1	15	28
Gray-cheeked Thrush	3	1	1					5
Swainson's Thrush	29	7	20	19	2	17	8	102
Hermit Thrush		1	1		1			3
Wood Thrush	9	16	63	13	21	20	116	258
American Robin	109	86	196	163	303	409	654	1,920
House Sparrow	34	20	11	45	43	31	55	239
American Pipit					2			2
House Finch	9	38	91	64	157	135	78	572
Purple Finch					5			5
Pine Siskin							7	7
American Goldfinch	3	42	76	54	133	95	252	655
Grasshopper Sparrow		1				12		13
Chipping Sparrow	8	29	57	27	24	37	139	321
Field Sparrow	13	26	125	2	79	55	34	334
Dark-eyed Junco	1			13	2	1	48	65
White-crowned Sparrow	3		8		8	10	3	32
White-throated Sparrow	1	6	148	4	93	17	4	273
Vesper Sparrow	2	1					1	4
Henslow's Sparrow		6						6
Savannah Sparrow	11	2	11	1	17	7	4	53
Song Sparrow	6	11	18	24	84	115	287	545

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SPECIES								
Lincoln's Sparrow	2		4			1		7
Swamp Sparrow	6		13		8		1	33
Eastern Towhee	8	21	100	37	105	67	203	541
Yellow-breasted Chat	1	12	72	15	14	35	9	158
Yellow-headed Blackbird	2							2
Bobolink	49				6	4	6	65
Eastern Meadowlark	13	24	42	10	32	39	108	268
Orchard Oriole	9	12	62	18	43	17	28	189
Baltimore Oriole	4	1	25		8	7	26	71
Red-winged Blackbird	78	63	150	119	198	196	211	1,015
Brown-headed Cowbird	56	108	144	44	114	118	65	649
Common Grackle	19	17	91	51	88	234	195	695
Ovenbird	3		2	2	2	27	169	205
Worm-eating Warbler	3		4	4	2	3	42	58
Louisiana Waterthrush	2	6	4		3	6	45	66
Northern Waterthrush	5	1	17	1	5	9	4	42
Golden-winged Warbler	2		1				2	5
Blue-winged Warbler			20		1			22
Black-and-white Warbler	11	2	6	9	10	15	104	157
Prothonotary Warbler	22	7	29	4	12	9	1	84
Swainson's Warbler	2						24	26
Tennessee Warbler	71	37	86	9	10	7	13	233
Orange-crowned Warbler			2		2			4
Nashville Warbler	2	1	15		4	2		24
Connecticut Warbler		1		2				3
Mourning Warbler	1							1
Kentucky Warbler	6	14	20	2	1	3	4	50
Common Yellowthroat	11	33	140	6	47	46	25	308
Hooded Warbler	5		16	7	16	47	234	325
American Redstart	12	3	6	10	15	15	27	88
Cape May Warbler	3		6	5	12	4	14	44
Cerulean Warbler	2		2		2		2	8
Northern Parula	69	19	82	3	27	38	88	326
Magnolia Warbler	10	2		9	4	4	4	33
Bay-breasted Warbler	4	1	5	3	1	1	6	21
Blackburnian Warbler	1	1	2	1	1		16	22
Yellow Warbler	9	8	11	11	9	9	10	67
Chestnut-sided Warbler	13		7	8	2	1	32	63
Blackpoll Warbler	2	1	33	17	8	1	6	68
Black-throated Blue Warbler					2	2	97	101
Palm Warbler	15	3	66	3	17	3	5	112
Pine Warbler	1	8	3	8	12	16	7	55
Yellow-rumped Warbler	4	2	115	8	95	5	17	246
Yellow-throated Warbler	8	14	32	3	7	10	52	126
Prairie Warbler	4	10	68	14	12	12	1	121
Black-throated Green Warbler	4		15	4	10	20	100	153
Canada Warbler	1			1		1	50	53
Wilson's Warbler	2			1				3
Summer Tanager	29	28	63	25	7	3	2	157
Scarlet Tanager	5	9	33	13	17	25	92	194
Northern Cardinal	129	72	368	95	329	368	284	1,645
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	6	14	42	14	24	16	30	146
Blue Grosbeak	14	13	11	12	15	16	11	92
Indigo Bunting	88	62	165	32	61	121	164	693
Painted Bunting	3							3
Dickcissel	64	7					1	72

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Observers	33	7	42	20	56	23	44	225
Parties	12	5	10	6	38	13	15	99
Party hours	43	23.02	70	40	106.92	97.41	85	465.35
Hours by car	20.5	8.5	19	15	5.8	19.65		88.45
Hours by foot	22.5	14.52	51	25	84.12	77.76		274.9
Miles by car	78	68.8	285	224	105.72	164.75		926.27
Miles by foot	19.5	4.4	47	21	70.57	45.37		207.84
Hours owling	2	1.4	3.3	1	1.09	9.3	9	27.09
Miles owling	8	0	12	4	1.23	5.98		31.21
Feeder observers		3				9		12
Feeder hours		3.72			15.92	15.9		35.54
Temperature low (F)	55	55	50	58	53	52	51	
Temperature high (F)	69	72	70	63	72	75	71	
Start time	6:30 AM	3:05 AM	4:00 AM	5:30 AM	4:52 AM	2:00 AM	3:45 AM	
End time	7:30 PM	6:20 PM	6:31 PM	7:00 PM	8:40 PM	10:00 PM	9:15 PM	
Party miles	105.5	73.2	344	245	177.52	216		1161.22

MINUTES OF THE SPRING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Chattanooga, Tennessee
2 May 2025

President Michael Collins called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm.

The meeting was held at the Courtyard Marriott Board Room in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Field trips were held to Cravens House, Stanifer Gap Marsh, Enterprise South Nature Park, Camp Jordon and Chesterfield Frost Park. Secretary Cyndi Routledge determined there was a quorum.

Approval of the Minutes – Motion was made Pam Lasley to accept Fall 2024 Minutes as written. Chris Welsh seconded. Approved unanimously.

Report of Officers and Directors-at-Large:

Vice Presidents:

East TN – Chris Welsh – Five TOS Chapters in East TN have all been very active and are doing a great deal of outreach activities with local and regional communities. Chapters are also holding joint field trips. A few chapters are working with local municipalities to get signage up at some birding hotspots with the idea that getting interest in birds, into the public eye, goes beyond just birding.

Birding Kingsport took advantage of the Christmas season to decorate a Christmas tree in Glen Bruce Park with a bird theme for a Downtown Kingsport Association fundraiser. Birding Kingsport also worked with Wild Birds Unlimited helping children make pinecone bird feeders at Exchange Place's annual "Christmas in the Country". Bill Grigsby with Birding Kingsport does a short bird-related segment on the "AM Tri-Cities with Dave Light" live radio show on WKPT. Chattanooga continues to list and monitor area chimneys used by Chimney Swift for roosts, educating building owners about swifts and hosting Swift Roost watch events during migration throughout Hamilton County. The region is searching for a new East TN Vice President since Chris Welsh is President Elect.

Middle TN – Steve Routledge – Spring Wednesday morning Radnor walks began in April and run through the 2nd Wednesday in May. They remain an excellent source of outreach with over 100 participants each migration period. The Nashville Chapter awarded a conservation grant to the Bird Alliance group of The Clarksville Montgomery County School district's Middle College. Five pairs of binoculars were purchased and will be housed with Brandy Schnettler, biology teacher and group leader, to be used with spring, fall and Christmas bird counts the students participate in each year.

West TN – Dick Preston – absent – no report

Directors-at-Large:

East TN – Susan Hubley – Annual Spring Meeting will be in Kingsport, 1-3 May 2026. Details will be forthcoming.

Middle TN – Mac McWhirter absent – no report

West TN – Allan Trently was absent but sent a reminder that Middle Fork Bottoms State

Park in Madison County was officially opened on August 12. This 860-acre park contains grasslands, marshes, early successional and bottomland forests. A visitor's center is scheduled to be completed in the next few years.

Secretary – Cyndi Routledge – reminded everyone that all updates to State Directors lists for the webpage need to be sent to her on an annual basis. Along with any additional prevalent changes.

Treasurer – Pam Lasley – **2024:** Assets for the Society at the end of 2023 were \$488,501 including cash of \$4,049 and fair market value of our Vanguard investments at \$483,557. Our investments gained \$47,512 in market value this year. We transferred \$26,000 to our operating checking account in 2024. We no longer carry a long-term reserve for The Migrant, since we have moved to digital format only. There was no change in the long-term conservation reserve.

Non-investment revenue for the year was \$13,739. All of it was member dues save \$318 for general contributions. Total expenses were \$43,555. Publications and communications at \$15,910 are our largest expense and include four issues of the printed and mailed *The Migrant*, MailChimp fees to electronically send *The Tennessee Warbler*, and our website maintenance contract. We awarded \$20,000 in research and conservation grants. Overall, the net revenues over expenses were \$41,285, but Operating loss was \$29,816 which excludes the gain on our investments.

Dividends and interest for 2024 were slightly higher at \$23,589. Investment performance was roughly 16% for 1 year return, 3-year annualized is 5.7%, 5-year is 10.3% and 10-year annualized return on investments is 7.5%.

Total individual membership decreased overall 3% to 697, and we lost two institutional subscriptions. I've included a new column for Student memberships. Sellars had a large drop for a small club. For the larger clubs, Chattanooga and Knoxville fell in membership. Memphis had a nice increase, and Nashville remained essentially the same. At Large membership is up for 2024 by 12%. Total memberships stand at 710.

As required by the Constitution, an examination of the 2024 financial records was performed. The Finance Committee (S Routledge, Pyles, Preston) has performed this exam and will give a report during the meeting.

2025: TOS remains in excellent financial shape. Revenues, expenses and publications are running as expected, with Individual memberships roughly the same as last year. The Conservation and Research Fund has funded \$10,612 in grants this year. *The Migrant* was published on-line only for the March 2024 edition. Cost of typesetting was \$260. All publications are available on the TOS website. During the first quarter, our Vanguard investment account decreased in value by \$15,314. Dividends and interest are comparable to 2024. The full results of 2025 will be presented at the Spring 2026 meeting.

Migrant Editor – Bob Ford absent – no report

TN Warbler Newsletter – Theresa Graham absent – no report – Note: The BOD ex-

pressed condolences on unexpected passing of Theresa's husband, Danny, recently. She remains in our thoughts.

Committee Reports:

TN Bird Record Committee – Graham Gerdeman absent – no report

Conservation & Policy Committee – Melinda Welton – Statewide the wetland bill did pass which means it's 'open season' on wetlands Tennessee. Dr. Susan Blas is the newest member of the Committee. The Chair continued to encourage members to sign-on to ABC's action alerts during this most important and fragile time for conservation and wildlife.

Conservation Research Funding – Dr. Michael Collins – Committee received 9 applications for grants. They awarded 5 projects state-wide for total of \$10,612.

Website – Cyndi Routledge – Webmaster Amy Wilms reports that efforts to move the chapter sites to the TOS page are close to completion. The following work has taken place:

- Existing sites have been moved to one server, thus eliminating the separate costs per chapter
- Domain names have been moved to one company for consistency
- Chattanooga Chapter is now complete and training will be scheduled
- Directions to add events to the community calendar are complete
- Updates are completed as needed
- A new header has been added to the website for chapters. This will allow users to find chapter sites much more efficiently. (Nashville will be added very soon).
- A new forms plugin has been added to the site for state meeting registrations.
- I will add here that I – as secretary – get between 5-10 emails a month via the webpage from readers. They range from bird ID's to field trip information and sometime DBAB requests – most of those come directly from the 'education' page on the webpage, membership questions...etc...
- As always, Amy thanks us for the opportunity to help and promote birding in Tennessee.

Finance – Steve Routledge reported that on 2 May 2, Barbara Pyles and Steve Routledge did an audit and found all finances to be in excellent order. Kudos to Pam Lasley, Treasurer for all her efforts.

Curator – Stefan Woltmann absent – no report

TN-Bird – Rob Biller absent – Rob sent the following report - Since May 2024 thru April 2025, 27 additional birders have subscribed to the listserv and 5 have unsubscribed for various reason. Total overall list participation is 905.

Old Business - None

New Business

Jeremy Teague emailed about holding a Joint meeting with Kentucky Ornithological Society tentatively in Fall 2026. The idea was received with much favor and Michael Collins and incoming President Chris Welsh will follow up with KOS.

Ron Hoff reported that additional field cards are needed. Susan McWhirter made a motion to print 2000 yellow field cards. Seconded by Ron Hoff. Passed unanimously.

After 20 years of service Ron Hoff has submitted his retired as the TOS State Bird Count Compiler. A candidate to replace Ron needs to be identified and appointed. Ron is willing to help during the transition.

President Elect Chris Welsh is searching for replacement for East TN Vice President among eastern chapters.

Bob Ford has indicated his desire to retire as Migrant Editor in the coming months. A discussion took place, naming a few possibilities. Additionally, Martha Waldron and Susan McWhirter are stepping down after the December 2024 issue of The Migrant is published. President Elect Chris Welsh will contact those members that were suggested as possibly being interested.

Following up on a discussion regarding archiving the Migrant on the TOS site that took place at the Fall 2024 meeting, Cyndi Routledge presented the proposal for that work that was submitted by Amy Wilms, webmaster of the TOS. After information was provided about the current status of SORA and the pros and cons of Amy's proposal, Pam Lasley made a motion to table the discussion until the Fall 2025 meeting regarding the moving of The Migrant to the TOS webpage pending completion of the migration of SORA to the 'new' USF site. Chris Welsh seconded. Passed unanimously.

Pam Lasley made a motion to eliminate offering Institution subscriptions of The Migrant now that the publication has gone digital. Seconded by Ron Hoff. A discussion of the pros and cons took place. The vote passed unanimously

General Announcements:

- Spring 2026 meeting will be in Kingsport, per our recently approved rotation. Specifically, 1-3 May 2026. Memphis will hold the Spring 2027 meeting. Knoxville will hold the Spring 2028 meeting and Nashville will hold the 2029 Annual meeting.
- Fall 2025 meeting will be held in Elizabethton: tentative dates, 26-28 Sept. 2025.
- Discover Birds book – In November 2024, 2000 books were printed for \$5,000 with grants money from TOS and TWRA. To date 47,298 books have been distributed!
- Pam Lasley thanked the Chattanooga Chapter for hosting the meeting.

Steve Routledge made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Pam Lasley. Pass unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned by President Collins at 3:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cyndi Routledge, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Chattanooga, Tennessee
2 May 2025

President Dr. Michael Collins welcomed everyone to the Annual Spring meeting which was held at Puckett's Restaurant in downtown Chattanooga. The meeting was called to order at 6:45 pm.

Dr. Collins thanked the Chattanooga Chapter for hosting the meeting and providing a lovely weekend despite the rain showers.

President Collins then provided a summary of the afternoon Board of Director's meeting including but not limited to:

- Finances – all in good order
- Bird Conservation and Policy – important time to stay on top of all conservation bills
- Grants – 5 research projects were funded. Total funding was \$10,612.
- Discover Bird Books – to date 47, 298 books have been distributed.
- Call for volunteers for BOD positions that are open or will be coming open in the next few months.

President Collins presented the Slate of Candidates for 2025-2027 term:

President – Chris Welsh
VP East TN – vacant
VP Middle TN – Steve Routledge
VP West TN – Dick Preston
Secretary – Cyndi Routledge
Treasurer – Pam Lasley

Directors-at-large:
East – Susan Hubley
Middle – Mac McWhirter
West – Allan Trently

President Collins asked for any nominations from the floor. Having heard none, he called for a motion to accept the slate as nominated. OJ Morgan made a motion to accept the slate as presented. Ron Hoff seconded. Passed unanimously.

At this time Dr. Michael Collins introduced the new TOS President, Chris Welsh and turned the meeting over to the newly elected President. Newly elected President Chris Welsh thanked Michael for his service and expressed his thanks to all TOS volunteers for the work they do each year.

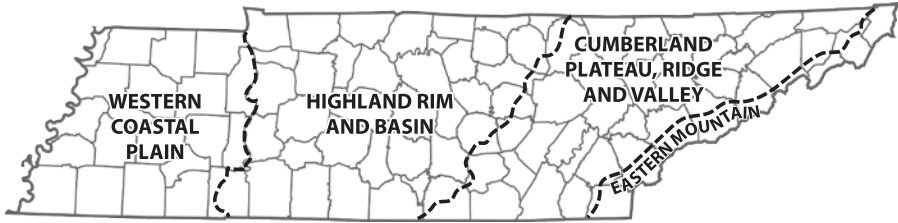
Newly elected President Welsh asked for motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by OJ Morgan and seconded by Ron Hoff. Vote passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:58 pm for introduction of Dr. David Aborn, the Keynote Speaker.

Respectfully submitted,
Cyndi Routledge, Secretary

THE SPRING SEASON

Graham Gerdeman, Editor



1 March – 31 May 2025

The weather across our state this season was dramatic, with many severe events. Continuing dry conditions in much of the east led to numerous fires the first week of March [1]. Most notably in Sevier Co, where the Pittman Center/ Webb Mountain fire burned more than 1,000 acres before being contained. A few areas in northeast TN remained dry while the rest of March and April brought record-breaking rains to most of the rest of the state, especially west and middle TN. Almost all of west TN received rainfall from 2–6 April that exceeded a 50-year storm, as well as multiple deadly tornados. By the end of May, forty-seven tornados had been recorded. East TN finally received its share of heavy rain in May. Chattanooga had its wettest May on record with 12.02” received. The warm southern air that brought so much severe weather also resulted in record warm temperatures throughout March and April, cooling to around normal averages by the end of May.

The long-lasting floodwaters in the west provided habitat for huge numbers of shorebirds in early to mid April, including record-breaking thousands of American Golden-Plovers, Long-billed Dowitchers, Yellowlegs and more. These large flocks in flooded fields offered a glimpse of what might be if more land in Tennessee could be actively managed to provide migratory shorebird stopover locations.

Rarities this season were mainly one-hit wonders, delighting only a lucky few who were able to see them. They included Arctic Tern, Western Tanager, Vermillion Flycatcher, and a third state record of Lazuli Bunting. There was also a single, now rare-again Limpkin in east TN and briefly continuing Smith’s Longspurs from the winter’s amazing mixed Longspur flock down in Lincoln Co. Bell’s Vireo continued to show signs of expansion this spring, with promising reports from five counties in west TN, outside of their expected areas on Fort Campbell.

Sightings are extracted from eBird [2], submissions from regional compilers, the tn-birds listserv, and when necessary, verified social media posts or iNaturalist. Comments on historical records rely on *Birds of Tennessee - A New Annotated Checklist* [3], archives of the tn-birds listserv as well as subsequent eBird records and submissions to the Tennessee Bird Records Committee (TBRC). Capitalized species records below indicate species requiring TBRC review. Inclusion in this report does not imply that all records have been officially accepted.

STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS

ad - adult	max - maximum count
au - audio recorded	m.ob. - many observers
ba - banded	Mtn - Mountain
Co - County	NWR - National Wildlife Refuge
ers - earliest reported sighting	ph - photographed
et al. - and others	SNA - State Natural Area
fide - reported by	SP - State Park
im - immature	WMA - Wildlife Management Area
lrs - latest reported sighting	yg - young

Locations: SBP - "Snow Bunting Peninsula" on Old Hickory Lake, Davidson Co; DRU - Duck River Unit of TN NWR, Humphreys Co; Ensley - Ensley Bottoms, including the EARTH Complex and TVA Lake, southwest Shelby Co; Lock 3 - Old Hickory Lake, Sumner Co; LBL - Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area; GSMNP - Great Smoky Mountains National Park

Black-bellied Whistling Duck: Reported from 17 counties across the state. Shelby Co (220) was the highest at the species' stronghold at Ensley on 4 April (max. Alan Troyer).

Cackling Goose: Humphreys Co (2) lingered at DRU until at least 8 Mar (Roy McGraw); Hawkins Co (2) on John Sevier Lake were last reported on 17 Apr (ph., lrs. Susan Hubley, Michael Hubley); Davidson Co (1) the continuing rarity *B.h. minima* subspecies at Radnor Lake on 1/6/21 Mar (ph. Melissa James, Isaac Brown, m.ob.).

Trumpeter Swan: Coffee Co (1) at Woods Reservoir 26 Mar (ph. Susan Lanier).

Tundra Swan: Rhea Co (1) continued at Watts Bar Lake until last reported 12 Mar (Frank Bills); Hawkins Co (1) continued on Sevier Lake until and was last reported on 9 Apr (ph., lrs. Susan Hubley, Michael Hubley); Sullivan Co (1) in Bluff City on 6 Mar (Daniel Huffine).

Wood Duck: Henderson Co (304) at Beech River Bottom (max. Ruben Stoll, Alan Troyer) was a notable spring count.

Blue-winged Teal: Lauderdale Co (800) estimated at Chickasaw NWR Impoundments on 3 Apr was a notable high count (max. Alan Troyer).

Cinnamon Teal: Putnam Co (1) adult male at Cane Creek Park on 6 May (ph. Morton Massey, m.ob.).

Northern Shoveler: Lauderdale Co (1,000) estimated at Chickasaw NWR Impoundments on 3 Apr was a notable high count (max. Alan Troyer).

American Wigeon: Humphreys Co (500) at DRU on 1 Mar (max. Alan Troyer, Ruben Stoll) was the highest estimate.

Redhead: Coffee Co (390) at Hillsboro Highway Pond on 3 Mar (max. Susan McWhirter, Mac McWhirter) was an exceptional spring count.

Lesser Scaup: Davidson Co (2,000) at SBP on 4 Apr (Graham Gerdeman) was a notable spring count.

Surf Scoter: Hamilton Co (1) continued from 28 Feb at Harrison Bay–Duck point until 2 Mar (Christopher DeRocher) and was likely the same bird seen down river from Booker T. Washington SP 6/8 Mar (ph. Tim Lenz, Tim Russell, m.ob.); Benton Co (1) at Camden WMA on 2 Mar (ph. Allen Trently).

White-winged Scoter: Knox Co (1) at Concord Park 5 Mar (Jeremy Dotson); Lake Co (1) on the other end of the state at Reelfoot Lake SP on 16 Mar (Alan Troyer).

Black Scoter: Hawkins Co (1) drake on Cherokee Lake 20/24 Mar (ph. Tammy Bright); Sullivan Co (1) at South Holston Lake on 1 Apr (Bambi Fincher, m.ob.).

Long-tailed Duck: Hamilton Co (3) continued at Chester Frost Park until last reported 21 Mar (Tim Lenz); Sullivan Co (1) in the area of Pinnacle Park 10 Mar–1 Apr (ph. Monica Hoel, m.ob.).

Hooded Merganser: Lauderdale Co (240) at Chickasaw NWR Impoundments on 3 Apr (max. Alan Troyer) established a new state high count for spring; Humphreys Co (213) at DRU on 8 Apr (Clayton Ferrell) set the second highest spring count record.

Common Merganser: Continuing the species' recent explosive expansion, reported from 17 counties of the Cumberland Plateau and Eastern Mountains (max. 11 at Horton Ford Road, Hancock Co (ph. Susan Hubley, Michael Hubley)); Lake Co (2) at Reelfoot NWR 14 Mar (Dana Spontak) was the only record west of the plateau.

White-winged Dove: Davidson Co (1) seen at a feeder near Nashville's Shelby Park on 6 Apr (ph. Mike Smith, m.ob.); Shelby Co (4) was the most at the regular Riverside Apartments location on 21 May (Ty Sharrow).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Knox Co (1) bird calling at Melton Hill Lake on 19 Mar (Jeremy Dotson) was an extreme early arrival, beating the previous early date by ten days, set in 1967 [3].

Nighthawk sp.: Davidson Co (1) flying bird seen and documented at Cornelia Fort Airpark on 6 Apr (Kaela Griffin) was very early for a returning Common Nighthawk. Though the observer's observation was well-described, she was unfamiliar with the species and did not rule out a vagrant Lesser Nighthawk, a species with no Tennessee records. The very next day, on 7 Apr, Kentucky's first state record of that species was found (deceased) in McCracken Co. Then, on 9/13 Apr, Kentucky's second record of Lesser Nighthawk was photographed further east in Clark Co - initially misidentified as an early Common Nighthawk.

The timing and spacing of these observations suggests that the Davidson Co bird could quite possibly have been a Lesser Nighthawk.

King Rail: Shelby Co (1) calling bird recorded at Ensley 9 May (au. Cliff VanNostrand); Humphreys Co (2) duetting at DRU 10–12/17 May (au. Ruben Stoll, Alan Troyer, m.ob.); Knox Co (1) individual struck by a car on 19 Apr and brought to a wildlife rehabber in Chattanooga, Hamilton Co (David Aborn *fide* Graham Gerdeman). After a two-week recovery there, the bird was banded and released at Standifer Gap Marsh on 4 May where it was heard calling 5–6 May (ba., ph. David Aborn, m.ob.).

Sora: Shelby Co (28) at Ensley 22 Apr (max. Scott Heppell, Jim Varner, Cliff VanNostrand) was notable.

Common Gallinule: Shelby Co (1) at Ensley 3–23 May (ph. Allen Trently, Wade Baker, m.ob.); Obion Co (2) at Reelfoot NWR–Grassy Island Unit 30 May (au. Mark Greene); Carroll Co (1) at Bruceton Marsh 13 May (Alan Troyer); Roane Co (1) at Emory Bend Wetland 8 May (ph. Roger Kroodisma) and (1) about 2 km away at Lakeshore Park 31 May (ph. Jo VerMulum, David VerMulum), likely the same individual; Cocke Co (1) at Rankin Bottoms 9 May (Mark Armstrong); Hawkins Co (1) at John Sevier Lake 24–28 Apr (ph. Susan Hubley, Michael Hubley).

Purple Gallinule: Hawkins Co (1) at Phipps Bend 16 Apr (ph. Shane Falin); Blount Co (1) at Kyker Bottoms Refuge 10 Apr–5 May (ph. Sandy Graves, m.ob.); Shelby Co (1) at Ensley 21–29 Apr (ph. PJ Pulliam, m.ob.).

LIMPKIN: Sevier Co (1) in Gatlinburg 10 May (ph. Paulette Cloutier *fide* Keith Watson).

American Avocet: Sullivan Co (5) at Steele Creek Park 22 Apr (ph. Lance Jesse, m.ob.); Roane Co (1) at Lakeshore Park 24 Apr (ph. Robert Hunt, m.ob.); Humphreys Co (4) at DRU 21 Apr (ph. Mary Ganaway, Sue Bradley); Hardin Co (1) at Pickwick Dam 21 Apr (ph. au. Ruben Stoll); Gibson Co (29) at Ed Davis Fish Farm 25 Apr (ph., max. Mark Greene, m.ob.); Dyer Co (14) was the most at Pioneer Farm Road 1 May (ph. Ruben Stoll); Shelby Co (7) was the most at Ensley 25 Apr (Adrian Hall, Liz Hall, m.ob.) where at least one bird was reported 19 Apr–23 May (m.ob.), also (1) at Maynard C. Stiles WTP 11 May (ph. PJ Pulliam) and (6) at Shelby Farms Park 7 May (ph. Ryan Pudwell, Adrian Hall, Will Braam).

American Golden-Plover: Dyer Co (5,870) in receding floodwaters near Ridgely 13 Apr (ph. max., Ruben Stoll, Alan Troyer) set an apparent second highest state count; Lake Co (4,200) at Robinson Bayou 15 Apr (ph. Mark Greene) was also a staggering count.

Piping Plover: Shelby Co (1) at Ensley 25 Apr (ph. au. Ruben Stoll, m.ob.).

Upland Sandpiper: Tipton Co (1) along Coon Valley Road 12 Apr (ph. Adrienne Bolton, Alan Troyer); Lake Co (1) at least along Robinson Bayou Road 13–19 Apr (ph. Ruben Stoll, Mark Greene, Alan Troyer); Hardin Co (2) at Savannah Bottoms 11 Apr (au. Ruben Stoll);

Williamson Co (1) on Big East Fork Road (au. Isaac Manzanera, Julia Raymond) was a surprising first county record in eBird; Hamilton Co (1) at Baylor School 18 Apr (Luke Thompson).

Hudsonian Whimbrel: Hamilton Co (44) in a flyover flock at Williams Island 14 May (ph., max. Austin Young, Robert Windham) was the most ever seen in Tennessee; (1) earlier in the county at Chester Frost Park 3 May (au. Tim Lenz, Susan Schott, Theodore Lau); Lake Co (1) at Phillipy Pits 20 May (ph. Ruben Stoll, Mark Greene).

Marbled Godwit: Lake Co (1) at Robinson Bayou 17 Apr (ph. W.G. Criswell *vide* Mark Greene); Crockett Co (1) at Lanier Road, Alamo 28 Mar (ph. Mark Greene); Hardin Co (5) at Pickwick Dam 21 Apr (ph., max. Avery Fish) and (1) also at Pickwick Dam 1–2 May (ph. Clyde Cole, Ruben Stoll).

Long-billed Dowitcher: Another species with an exceptional showing this season; Dyer Co (7,600) at Pioneer Farm Road 1 May (au., max. Ruben Stoll) shattered the previous state high count of 2,200 at Lake Co from 19 Apr 2020. There were also several records in east TN, where the species is not recorded annually: Monroe Co (11) at Tellico Lake WMA 26 Apr (ph. Christie Jones) was a first county record in eBird and a notably high count for east TN; Knox Co (1) at Melton Hill Lake 27–31 Mar (ph. Jeremy Dotson, m.ob.) and (1) at NTRC Holding Pond 7 Apr (Dean Edwards, ph. Rob Upchurch, m.ob.); Cocke Co (3) at Rankin Bottoms 27 Apr (ph. Ron Shrieves) were also notable; Davidson Co (65) at Cornelia Fort Airpark 3 May (ph. Melissa James, m.ob.) was exceptionally high for the Nashville area and established a new high count for the county.

Wilson's Phalarope: Hawkins Co (1) at Surgoinville 18 May (ph. Tammy Bright) was a rare eastern record and an apparent county first; Gibson Co (1) at Ed Davis Fish Farm 2 May (ph. Michael Todd, Wade Baker, Zach McClay); Lake Co (1) at Choctaw Fields South 2 May (Ruben Stoll); Shelby Co (11) was the highest count at Ensley 4 May (max. Chris Galbreath, David O. Hill) where the species was observed 1–10 May (m.ob), and (1) at Maynard C. Stiles Water Treatment Plant 1 May (ph. PJ Pulliam).

Lesser Yellowlegs: Dyer Co (4,000) on Pioneer Farm Road 26 Apr/1 May (max. Daniel Redwine, Ruben Stoll).

Willet: Davidson Co (110) at SBP 25 Apr (ph., max. Tim Loyd, Mike Smith). Otherwise widely reported from 15 counties across west, middle, and east TN.

Greater Yellowlegs: Dyer Co (880) in Ridgley 13 Apr (max. Ruben Stoll, Alan Troyer) was the highest.

Ruddy Turnstone: Only two reports: Lauderdale Co (1) at Chickasaw NWR 17 May (ph. Daniel Redwine); Shelby Co (11) at Ensley 18 May (ph., max. PJ Pulliam).

Stilt Sandpiper: Lauderdale Co (37) at Chickasaw NWR 17 May (ph., max. Daniel Red-

wine) was the highest.

Sanderling: Lake Co (1) at Fritz Landing Boat Launch 20 May (ph. Ruben Stoll) was the only report.

Dunlin: Lauderdale Co (205) at Chickasaw NWR 15 May (ph., max. Daniel Redwine) was the most.

Baird's Sandpiper: Dyer Co (5) at Dyersburg 12 Apr (ph., max. Alan Troyer) and (1) at Ridgley 13–17 Apr (Alan Troyer, Ruben Stoll); Lake Co (1) at Robinson Bayou 12/15/16/19 Apr (ph. Daniel Redwine, m.ob.).

White-rumped Sandpiper: Lauderdale Co (40) at Chickasaw NWR 17 May (max. Daniel Redwine).

Least Sandpiper: Lauderdale Co (514) at Chickasaw NWR 10 May (max. Daniel Redwine).

Pectoral Sandpiper: Dyer Co (800) at Pioneer Farm Road 26 Apr (max. Daniel Redwine).

Western Sandpiper: Sullivan Co (1) at Paddle Creek 7 May (Roy Knispel, Joe McGuiness) was a rare eastern mountains record; Lake Co (1) at Robinson Bayou 26 Apr (Daniel Redwine) and (1) at Haynes Sawmill Road 2 May (Mark Greene); Shelby Co (2) was the most at Ensley 22 May (max. Cliff VanNostrand).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: Shelby Co (378) at Ensley (max. Cliff VanNostrand) was a notable count.

Little Gull: Marion Co (1) continued from winter at Nickajack Lake until last reported 18 Mar (Roi Shannon, Deb Shannon, ph. Tim Lenz).

Bonaparte's Gull: Sevier Co (3,500) at Douglas Dam 5 Mar (max. Mark Armstrong) was the second highest spring count on record in eBird.

Laughing Gull: Hamilton Co (1) at Chester Frost Park 24 Apr (ph. Stefanie Jones, Tim Lenz, m.ob.); Davidson Co (1) subadult individual at SBP 13 Apr (ph. Jerry Webb) and (1) again 19–21 May (Frank Fekel, m.ob.) were possibly the same individual; Sumner Co (1) adult individual at Mallard Park 25 May (ph. Tim Loyd) and Lock 3 27 May (ph. Tim Loyd, Walker Lincoln); Houston Co (1) adult, alternate plumaged individual at Danville Landing 1 Mar (ph. Jo VerMulum, David VerMulum); Hardin Co (1) adult in alternate plumage in the area of Pickwick Dam 15 Mar/6 Apr (ph. Alan Troyer, Ruben Stoll, Philemon Friesen), possibly the same individual, and (1) individual still in basic plumage, possibly subadult, in the same vicinity 12 May (ph. Ruben Stoll).

Franklin's Gull: Shelby Co (1) at Meeman-Shelby Forest SP 1 Mar (Cliff VanNostrand); Hardin Co (1) at Pickwick Lake 3 Apr/12 May (ph. Ruben Stoll); Davidson/Sumner Co (1)

between Old Hickory Lake and Drake's Creek 18–20 May (ph. Tim Loyd, m.ob.).

American Herring Gull: Hardin Co (94) lingering at Pickwick Dam 6 Apr (Ruben Stoll, Philemon Freisen) established a new spring high count for the state.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: Lake Co (9) at Tiptonville 7 Apr (ph., max. Mark Greene) established a new spring high count for the state; Hardin Co (8) at Pickwick Dam 19 Mar (ph. Ruben Stoll) was a close second; Henry Co (1) at Paris Landing 8 Mar (Mary Ganaway); Davidson Co (2) at SBP 3 May (ph. Victor Stoll, m.ob.); Sumner Co (1) at Lock 3 24 Mar (Tim Loyd) and (1) at Mallard Park 1 Apr (ph. Tim Loyd), were possibly the same lingering bird; Marion Co (1) in the locale of Nickajack Dam 16/18 Mar (ph. Tim Lenz, Roi Shannon, Deb Shannon); Hamilton Co (1) at Chester Frost Park 6 Apr (ph. Tim Lenz, Stefanie Whitson, Kristin Whitson).

Least Tern: Davidson Co (2) at SBP 20 May (ph. Tim Loyd, Chris Agee) after (1) had been present 17–18 May (ph. Melissa James, m.ob.), always a rare sighting away from the Mississippi; Gibson Co (1) at Gibson County Lake 16 May (ph. Mark Greene); Lake Co (100) scanned from Fritz Landing was the most observed on Mississippi mudflats, where expected, 20 May (max. Ruben Stoll).

Caspian Tern: Hardin Co (110) at Pickwick Dam 11 Apr (max. Ruben Stoll) was notable for any time of year, and established a new state high count for spring.

Black Tern: Dyer Co (750) feeding over the Mississippi at Linwood Bend Boat Ramp 21 May (ph. Mark Geene) shattered previous spring records and established a new state high count for any season.

ARCTIC TERN: Dyer Co (1) found with the Black Terns at Linwood Bend Boat Ramp 23 May (ph. Kyle Bess) established an apparent 7th state record.

Common Tern: Hamilton Co (25) at Chester Frost Park 7 May (Nolan Keyes) was a notable spring count.

Red-necked Grebe: Davidson/Sumner Co (1) at both SBP and Lock 3 on Old Hickory Lake 4 Apr (ph. Tim Loyd, Graham Gerdeman, m.ob.); also (1) in Davidson Co on J. Percy Priest Lake from Anderson Road Recreation Area 26 Apr (Avery Fish, Brad Dowd).

Eared Grebe: Hawkins Co (1) in full alternate plumage on John Sevier Lake 19 May (ph. Susan Hubley, Michael Hubley) appears to establish a new late spring date for TN.

Red-throated Loon: Hamilton Co (2) at least lingered in the TN River between Chester Frost Park and Booker T. Washington SP 6 Mar–26 Apr (ph. Stefanie Whitson, Tim Lenz, m.ob.); Hardin Co (1) at Pickwick Dam 3/11 Apr (Ruben Stoll).

Pacific Loon: Davidson Co (1) in alternate plumage at J. Percy Priest Lake 26 Apr (ph. Ken

Oeser, Avery Fish, Brad Dowd); Hamilton Co (1) at Booker T. Washington SP seen sporadically 5–30 Mar (Kent Dubois, ph. Tim Lenz, m.ob.), and (1) very likely the same individual at Chester Frost Park 15 Apr (O.J. Morgan).

Anhinga: Knox Co (1) Forks of the River WMA 3 Apr (ph. Tim Lenz); Hamilton Co (1) seen soaring from Cravens House 19 Apr (Stephen W. Johnson); Humphreys Co (14) was the highest count at the known breeding location of DRU 17 May (ph., max. Ruben Stoll, Alan Troyer); Lake Co (2) at Reelfoot Lake SP–Eagle Basin 1 May Ruben Stoll; Dyer Co (8) was the most at Bogota WMA 28 Apr (ph. Mark Greene); Shelby Co (6) was the highest count at Meeman-Shelby Forest SP 28 Apr (ph. Rob Harbin); Tipton Co (1) at Plantation Road, Munford 18 May (Katherine Markley).

Double-crested Cormorant: Hardin Co (1,175) at Pickwick Dam 6 Apr (max. Ruben Stoll) was notable.

Neotropical Cormorant: Shelby Co (6) at Robco Lake 4 Apr (ph., max. Alan Troyer) set an apparent high county record, also (1) at Meeman-Shelby Forest SP 7 Apr (Cliff VanNstrand); Dyer Co (1) at Bogota WMA 17 Apr (ph. Ruben Stoll); Lake Co (1) at Reelfoot Lake SP–White’s Landing 1 May (Ruben Stoll); Stewart Co (1) at Cross Creeks NWR 24 May (ph. Iris Kilpatrick); Humphreys Co (2) was the highest at DRU on multiple dates, where present throughout the season (m.ob.).

Glossy Ibis: Humphreys Co (1) at DRU 27 Mar (Clayton Ferrell) and 11–17 May (ph. Avery Fish, m.ob.); Gibson Co (2) at Ed Davis Fish Farm 25–26 Apr (ph., max. Mark Greene, m.ob.), a first county record; Shelby Co (1) at Ensley 28 Apr (Gail King, ph. Cliff VanNstrand, m.ob.) and 24 May (ph. Larry Chitwood).

White-faced Ibis: Humphreys Co (1) at DRU 15–16 May (ph. Ruben Stoll, Victor Stoll, m.ob.); Lake Co (1) at Choctaw Fields South 20 May (ph. Mark Greene, Ruben Stoll).

American Bittern: Davidson Co (3) was the minimum number at Shelby Bottoms Park 6–25 Apr (ph. Ariel Dunham, m.ob.) where they were reported from several areas. Possibly more were present, but even 3 set an apparent county high record. The species was otherwise widespread in appropriate habitat across the state, with reports of 1–3 birds from twelve counties.

Tricolored Heron: Monroe Co (1) at Tellico Lake WMA–Chota Unit 25 Apr (ph. Christie Jones, Morton Massey); Hamilton Co (1) at Standifer Gap Marsh 30–31 May (ph. Peter Robinson, m.ob.); Humphreys Co (1) at DRU 28 May (ph. Tammy Ross-Arnold).

Snowy Egret: Humphreys Co (31) at DRU 11 Apr (ph., max. Sue Bradley) was a notable spring count.

Great Egret: Humphreys Co (420) at DRU 5 Apr (max. Ruben Stoll) was the highest.

Turkey Vulture: Sevier Co (400) migrating over Sevierville 13 Mar (Mike Smith) appears to establish a statewide spring high count.

Swallow-tailed Kite: Hamilton Co (1) at Signal Mountain 2 Apr (ph. Patrick Higgins) was a first county record in eBird; Sumner Co (1) near Drakes Creek 5 Apr (ph. Tim Loyd); Knox Co (1) at Seven Islands State Birding Park 14 Apr (Nicole Lussier).

Mississippi Kite: Hamilton Co (6) at Point Park 2 May (Bruce Dralle) set a high count for the county; Grainger Co (1) at Harrell's Farm 19 May (ph. Dallas Harrell, Jason Cole) established yet another first county record for this rapidly expanding species.

Swainson's Hawk: Shelby Co (1) at Shelby Farms Park 17 Apr (Michael Collins) and (1) at Ensley 27 Apr (Cliff VanNostrand).

Northern Saw-whet Owl: Perry Co (1) caught on a camera trap at Tree Farm Road 17 Mar (ph. Justin Miller *vide* Ruben Stoll); Hamilton Co (1) apparently stunned on an office porch in downtown Chattanooga 31 Mar (ph. Patti Russell). Both were notably late spring migrants.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Davidson Co (6) in Percy Warner Park 16 Apr (ph. Graham Gerdeman) was the highest number of continuing high counts in Nashville from winter. A first nesting record for the Warner Parks was documented 18 Apr (ph. Graham Gerdeman, Adriana Gerdeman).

VERMILLION FLYCATCHER: Perry Co (1) adult male along Cane Creek 4 Apr (ph. Ruben Stoll, m.ob.) established a first county record and the third in TN over just a 12 month period.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher: Rare in the eastern mountains, Washington Co (1) returned to the previous year's nesting location 28 Apr (ph. Daniel Huffine).

Bell's Vireo: Dyer Co (2) at Thorny Cypress WMA 26 Apr/1 May (au. Daniel Redwine, Ruben Stoll); (2) at White Lake Refuge 26 May (ph. Mark Greene); and (1) at Bogota WMA 15 May (Baily Crable, Brianna Saylor); Lake Co (2) at Tumbleweed WMA 14 May (Mark Greene); Crockett Co (1) in Alamo 8 May (ph. au. Mark Greene) was a county first; Madison Co (4) was the highest at Middle Fork Bottoms SP 18/23 May (ph., max. Allan Trently, Jacob Newby) where reported regularly and singing 4–25 May; Fayette Co (1) at Wolf River WMA 17 May (ph. au. Duncan Fraser); Montgomery Co (2) at Ft. Campbell 10 May (Daniel Moss *vide* Graham Gerdeman); Stewart Co (1) at Ft. Campbell 28 May (Daniel Moss *vide* Graham Gerdeman).

Fish Crow: Montgomery Co (4) at Ft. Campbell 23 May (au. Daniel Moss *vide* Graham Gerdeman) was a new species for the base.

Horned Lark: Lake Co (180) at Robinson Bayou 12 Apr (max. Daniel Redwine) was a no-

table spring count.

Bank Swallow: Sullivan Co (1) at Steele Creek Park 27 Mar (ers. Daniel Baron) was early; Davidson Co (18) at SBP 3 May (Ruben Stoll, Victor Stoll) was a high count record for Davidson; Humphreys Co (400) at DRU 10 May (max. Ruben Stoll) was notable.

Tree Swallow: Humphreys Co (900) at DRU 24 Mar (max. Ruben Stoll) was notable.

Brown-headed Nuthatch: Shelby Co (1) at H.W. Cox Park 12 Apr (ph., au. Rob Harbin, m.ob.) was an apparent second county record.

Hermit Thrush: Knox Co (1) banded at Seven Islands State Birding Park 18 May (Mrs. Mark Armstrong, Kristen Smith, m.ob.) was notably late.

SMITH'S LONGSPUR: Lincoln Co (2) continued from winter 2 Mar (Avery Fish, Jeffrey Walck).

Lapland Longspur: Lincoln Co (15) continued briefly from the large mixed Longspur flock this winter 1–2 Mar (max. Avery Fish, ph. Ariel Dunham, m.ob.); Weakley Co (1) at New Salem Church Road 9 Mar (Alan Troyer); Crockett Co (1) at Larry Bettis Road 17 Mar (Mark Greene).

Bachman's Sparrow: Montgomery Co (1) female on a nest of four eggs on Fort Campbell 28 May (ph. Daniel Moss).

Clay-colored Sparrow: Knox Co (1) near a retention pond at Pellissippi Corporate Center 10 Mar–13 Apr (ph. Dean Edwards, m.ob.).

LeConte's Sparrow: Lincoln Co (3) at Fowler Road Irrigation pond 2 Mar (max. Avery Fish); Hardin Co (2) at Cypress Pond Bottoms 2 Mar (Alan Troyer, Ruben Stoll); Gibson Co (1) in Humboldt 21 Mar (Mark Greene); Shelby Co (2) was the most at Shelby Farms Park 2 Mar (Sophie Dismukes) where (1) was last reported 1 Apr (Cliff VanNostrand, Deon VanNostrand); also (2) at Eagle Lake Refuge 2 Mar (Cliff VanNostrand).

Savannah Sparrow: Lake Co (240) at Robinson Bayou 26 Apr (max. Daniel Redwine) was a notably high spring count.

Henslow's Sparrow: Cumberland Co (3) at a private wetland near Crossville 21 May (au. Michael McCloy); White Co (1) at Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness WMA 15 May (Kent Dubois); Benton Co (4) at Big Sandy River Prairie 15 May (ph., au., max Ruben Stoll); Crockett Co (1) in Friendship 29 Apr (au. Mark Greene); Gibson Co (1) singing at the observer's yard 14 May (au. Mark Greene), an apparent second county record; Montgomery Co (6) was the most observed on Ft. Campbell 10 May (max. Daniel Moss *vide* Graham Gerdeman); Stewart Co (2) on Ft. Campbell 28 May (Daniel Moss *vide* Graham Gerdeman).

Lincoln's Sparrow: Shelby Co (16) at Shelby Farms Park 5 May (ph., au., max. Ruben Stoll, Victor Stoll) was notably high.

Yellow-headed Blackbird: Shelby Co (1-2) at Ensley 9–13 May (ph. Will Braam, m.ob.).

Western Meadowlark: Lincoln Co (1–2) continued at Fowler Road Irrigation Pond 2/23 Mar (ph. au. Avery Fish, Jeffrey Walck); Hardin Co (1) at Gooch Road Swamp 2 Mar (au. Alan Troyer, Ruben Stoll); Shelby Co (1) at Ensley 13–14 Mar (Ryan Pudwell, Cliff Van-Nostrand, Scott Heppel); Obion Co (1) at East Crockett Bend Road 27 Mar (au. Preston Ballard); Lake Co (16) at Lake Isom MWR 3 Apr (max. Alan Troyer) was a notable spring count.

Northern Waterthrush: Hamilton Co (18) at Moccasin Bend 28 Apr (au., max. Tim Lenz, m.ob.) was a notably high count for the state.

Western Tanager: Shelby Co (1) in Collierville 23 Apr (Rob Harbin) was seen for a moment and never relocated, only the second county record in eBird.

LAZULI BUNTING: Shelby Co (1) adult male at Shelby Farms Park 4 May (ph. Adrian Hall, Liz Hall, m.ob.) established a third state record—all from Shelby Co.

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- [1] Tennessee Climate Office, East Tennessee State University, Tennessee Climate Office Monthly Report. <https://dc.etsu.edu/tn-climate-monthly-reports>
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- [3] *Birds of Tennessee - a New Annotated Checklist*, Scott G. Somershoe and Christopher A. Sloan (2015)

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

The Migrant records observations and studies of birds in Tennessee and adjacent areas.

SUBMISSIONS: The manuscript should be submitted electronically to Bob Ford at editorthemigrant@gmail.com. Submission of hard copies is optional. If so desired the original and two copies of the manuscript should be sent to the: Editor: Bob Ford, 808 Hatchie, Brownsville, TN 38012. Manuscripts that have been published in other journals should not be submitted.

MATERIAL: The subject matter should relate to some phase of Tennessee ornithology. It should be original, factual, concise and scientifically accurate.

STYLE: Both articles and short notes are solicited; recent issues of *The Migrant* should be used as a guide in the preparation of manuscripts.

COPY: Manuscripts should be double-spaced with adequate margins for editorial notations and emailed in Word.docx. Tables and figures should be prepared in a separate file with appropriate headings. For photographs intended for publication, 72 – 100 dpi is acceptable. Weights, measurements, and distances should be in metric units. Dates should be in “continental” form (e.g., 16 March 1997). Use the 24-hour clock (e.g., 0500 or 1900).

NOMENCLATURE: The scientific name of a species should be given after the first use of the full common name in the text. The scientific name should be italicized and in parentheses. Names should follow the *A. O. S. Check-list of North American Birds*.

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SEASON REPORTS: Observations that are to be considered for publication in “The Season” should be emailed to the Season Editor, Graham Gerdeman, at grahamgerdeman@gmail.com.

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