

NEST RECORD CARD PROGRAM — FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

David B. Peakall

This is the first report on the nest record card program started last spring by the Laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell University and the Onondaga Audubon Society. The total number of cards received during the first season's operation was 1092 of 128 species. This includes a number of records from previous years for which accurate data is available.

It should be emphasized that a card should be completed for each active nest found for which the contents can be accurately determined. This is so even if the nest is not visited again or is destroyed the same day. One of the assumptions on which analysis are based is that all active nests found by a given observer are reported.

The data from this program should be of considerable significance in writing the breeding biology section of the proposed state bird book. The weakness of our knowledge in this field is shown by examination of these sections in the new Handbook of North American Birds (Palmer, 1962). For information on the type and detail of the data that can be obtained by the collection and analysis of these otherwise lost fragments of information the reader is referred to a previous article in this journal (Peakall, 1963 Vol 13 pp 85-88).

A list of cards received is given by species in table 1.

Table 1.

Number of cards received by species. Those species for which fewer than five cards are available are given in foot-note at the end of the table.			
Mallard	6	Kingbird	8
Black Duck	5	Phoebe	32
Wood Duck	11	Alder Flycatcher	12
Goshawk	9	Tree Swallow	38
Red-shld Hawk	19	Rough-wgd Swallow	5
Golden Eagle	6	Barn Swallow	36
Caracara	5	Blue Jay	6
Limpkin	5	Blk-cpd Chickadee	5
Killdeer	5	House Wren	20
Woodcock	5	Catbird	46
Mourning Dove	20	Brown Thrasher	9
Yellow-bld Cuckoo	7	Robin	90
Ruby-thr Hummer'bird	5	Wood Thrush	19
Flicker	7		
		Bluebird	65
		Cedar Waxwing	13
		Starling	9
		Yellow Warbler	26
		Redwing	204
		Baltimore Oriole	17
		Grackle	8
		Cardinal	13
		Goldfinch	30
		Towhee	6
		Chipping Sparrow	22
		Field Sparrow	20
		Song Sparrow	46

Pied-bld Grebe 1; Anhinga 2; Green Heron 3; Least Bittern 1; Blk-crowned Night-Heron 1; Glossy Ibis 3; Canada Goose 2; Blue-wgd Teal 1; Florida Duck 2; Turkey Vulture 3; Black Vulture 2; Swallow-tailed Kite 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 3; Cooper's Hawk 4; Red-tailed Hawk 3; Broad-wgd Hawk 1; Ferruginous Rough-leg 1; Bald Eagle 3; Marsh Hawk 4; Osprey 2; Kestrel 4; Pheasant 1; Sandhill Crane 2; Common Gallinule 2; Oystercatcher 1; Piping Plover 1; Upland Sandpiper 2; Spotted Sandpiper 4; Willet 1; Gull-bld Tern 2; Skimmer 1; Blk-bld Cuckoo 3; Barn Owl 2; Screech Owl 3; Horned Owl 1; Barred Owl 2; Swift 1; Kingfisher 1; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker 2; Red-headed Woodpecker 1; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Downy Woodpecker 2; Least Flycatcher 1; Bank Swallow 3; Cliff Swallow 1; Purple Martin 1; Scrub Jay 3; Raven 1; Crow 1; White-breasted Nuthatch 2; Brown-headed Nuthatch 1; Brown Creeper 1; Carolina Wren 1; Mockingbird 1; Hermit Thrush 1; Olive-backed Thrush 1; Veery 4; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 2; Loggerhead Shrike 2; Red-eyed Vireo 1; Philadelphia Vireo 1; Warbling Vireo 1; Magnolia Warbler 1; Blk-thr Blue Warbler 2;

Cerulean Warbler 1; Chestnut-sided Warbler 4; Pine Warbler 2; Ovenbird 2; Mourning Warbler 1; Yellowthroat 2; Yellow-breasted Chat 3; Hooded Warbler 2; Redstart 3; House Sparrow 3; Bobolink 1; Orchard Oriole 1; Scarlet Tanager 2; Rose-breasted Grosbeak 4; Indigo Bunting 3; Purple Finch 2; Savannah Sparrow 1; Henslow's Sparrow 1; Dusty Seaside Sparrow 3; Slate-colored Junco 1; White-thr Sparrow 2; Swamp Sparrow 1.

The Red-winged Blackbird clearly leads the field and in a short time it should be possible to make a profitable analysis of the cards of this species. It would be interesting to compare the data obtained with that presented by Case and Hewitt (Living Bird, Volume 2:pp7-20). As the list of species indicates some of the cards were received from outside the state. A batch from Florida accounts for such species as Limpkin, Caracara and Dusty Seaside Sparrow. At present we are interested in receiving cards from any area that does not have a program of its own. A list of other record card programs is to be published in Audubon Field Notes (Vol. 18 Part 1).

A full list of contributors is given in table 2.

Table 2

List of contributors with number of cards sent in.

Ackley, Mrs. Willard D.	4	Marsi, Mrs F. V.	36
Allen, A. A.	37	Mason, David	6
Anderson, Mrs Harry	1		
Austin, J. F.	1	Nero, B.	1
		Newman, Mrs Leslie	30
Barnette, Stella	3	Nicholson, D. J.	9
Belknap, John B.	4	Nichols, B.	1
Bell, Barbara	3		
Benedict, Mr & Mrs R. J.	14	Palmiter, Merle	79
Benning, W. E.	7	Pantle, R.	7
Benton, Dr. Allen H.	2	Paquette, Paul R.	2
Booth, Mrs. Robert	3	Patterson, James	14
Boyles, Mrs Hubert W.	7	Peakall, D. B.	17
Brosbeau, William	9	Phelps, S. B.	52
Burns, M. E.	1	Post, Peter W.	15
Burt, Dr. B.	3	Proskine, Louise B.	1
Bush, J. H.	3		
		Quick, Fern K.	1
Carter, C.	57		
Corse, David	1	Ranson, Dr. & Mrs. F.	7
		Raftis, Dorthy	1
Davis, George	1	Rosche, Richard C.	53
Dunham, D.	1	Rose, R. H.	1
		Rusk, Miss M.	3
Erlenbach, G.	5		
Evelian, Anna	3	Scheider, Dr. F.	2
		Sheffield, Mr & Mrs R.	15
Feder, June F.	18	Smith, Vance	8
Flanigan, Annette B.	16	Spofford, Dr. W. R.	93
Franks, Mary	1	Standfast, Mrs E. C.	29
Fults, Olive	2	Starr, Mrs Betty	6
		Stephenson	1
Gerould, Clinton	5	Stevens, L. T.	7
Gokay, Aden L.	18	Stocek, R. F.	13
Graham, Allan	7	Stone, Ina	5
Grinnell, L. I.	1		
		Taylor, Thelma	11
Hall, J.	10	Thurber, Lona C.	2
Haller, Mrs Jean	143	Turk, Mrs Arle	8
Heath, Fred A.	66	Turner, Sada	4
Hoyt, Dr. Sally	13		

Kaine, Charles H.	1	Walker, Jayson A.	2
Ketcham, Mrs H. M.	11	Ward, Loren D.	3
Knight, Mrs John	2	Washburn, Dr & Mrs N. R.	2
Kuhn, Shelia	20	Waterman, Otis T.	7
		White, Mildred	3
Lundgren, J.	8	Williams, Evelyn	12
		Williams, Mrs Ruth	11

The top position goes to Mrs. Haller and her friends who completed cards on over 140 nests. While few persons could hope to equal this record it should be mentioned that two or three cards from each member of the Federation would net another thousand cards and thus double the in-take. The value of this program should increase from year to year and it is hoped that it will be widely supported.

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF NEW YORK STATE ORNITHOLOGY — 1962

- Agathon, Oshin. Observations on reverse courtship in the House Finch. *Linnaean News-letter* 15 (9):2-3.
- Allen, Arthur A. Sapsucker Woods, Cornell University's exciting new bird sanctuary. *National Geographic* 121:530-551.
- Cornell's Laboratory of Ornithology. *The Living Bird* 1:7-36.
- Allen, Arthur W. Purple Martins vs. Tree Swallows. *Kingbird* 12:80-81.
- A Sparrow Hawk dines on suet. *Kingbird* 12:81.
- Allen, David G. Red-tailed Hawk takes mouse from cat. *Kingbird* 12:22.
- Anonymous. Winter waterfowl banding. *N. Y. State Conservationist* 16(3):35.
- Duck count. *N. Y. State Conservationist* 16(4):40.
- Mid-winter waterfowl survey. *N. Y. State Conservationist* 16(5):33.
- Waterfowl patriarchs. *N. Y. State Conservationist* 16(5):37.
- Banded waterfowl. *N. Y. State Conservationist* 16(5):38.
- Long haul (Blue-winged Teal banded in Wayne Co., recovered in Venezuela). *N. Y. State Conservationist* 16(5):38.
- Strange catch (Gull entangled in fisherman's line near Massena). *N. Y. State Conservationist* 17(1):34.
- Backstrom, Jacqueline. Third Avenue titmouse. *Linnaean News-letter* 15(8):3-4.
- Barben, A. H. Unusual nesting failure in a Purple Martin colony. *Kingbird* 12:26.
- Beal, Clarence M. The Jamestown bird roost. *Kingbird* 12:128-130.
- Belknap, John B. Raptors at Point Peninsula (Jefferson County). *Kingbird* 12:22.
- Winter bird population study, mixed hardwood-hemlock forest. *Audubon Field Notes* 16:368.
- Bemont, Leslie E. Region 4—Susquehanna. *Kingbird* 12:40-42, 94-97, 150-152.
- Benson, Dirck. The chemistry of spring. *N. Y. State Conservationist* 16(4):23-26.