

dark-faced bird. Occasionally it would use its foot to scrape the dirt from its head. The feeding was confined almost entirely to shore area and only once for a brief moment did I see it enter the water and probe.

In checking with the Montezuma Refuge personnel I found that there is no previous record of the Marbled Godwit at the Refuge.

Walter E. Benning, Clyde, N.Y. 14433

Nesting of the Turkey Vulture in Wayne County: I first saw the Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) in the Clyde area of southeastern Wayne County in the mid 1930's. I have long suspected that it might be nesting in the area but had no definite knowledge of its breeding here until the summer of 1965 when Joel Thorn, part owner of the Marengo Swamp, told me that there was a nest at the base of a sycamore deep in the swamp with one young bird in it. He said he had found the nest the previous year, also with one young bird. I searched for the nest, but my time was limited, the swamp is a vast area, and I failed to locate it.

On June 15, 1966 Mr. Thorn told me that the nest was being used again. This time I located it about 1500 feet into the swamp in the base of a large sycamore



Photograph by David G. Allen, Courtesy Bird Photographs, Inc.

(locally referred to as "buttonball"), the trunk of which was about four feet in diameter with the base broadening to 7-8 feet and the hollow area in the base about 5 feet across. The nest was on the ground in the hollow base. At that time the hummock on which the tree stood was completely surrounded by water. Later in July the swamp dried out and there was no water in the area about the nest. Trees in the swamp are principally red maple with a scattering of American elm, white ash and other species.

When I first located the nest, one of the parent birds was present. As I approached it flew into a tree about 100 feet away and sat there watching me. On my second trip four days later, one of the parents was again at the nest. It flew away out of sight but a few minutes later as I was photographing the single young bird, I glanced up and found the old bird sitting about 30 feet up in the tree directly over me. These were the only two occasions on which I saw an adult bird. On neither occasion did it make any fuss or utter any cries, but simply kept a strict watch.

I visited the nest eight times and my observations of the young bird are tabulated below. On July 17 Mr. and Mrs. Alec Proskine accompanied me and took numerous pictures. On July 23 Dr. Walter Spofford and David Allen also visited the nest and made photographs. On this trip it was noted that one of the bird's wings drooped and appeared to be injured. On examination no broken bones were found. On the next two visits, Aug. 20 and Sep. 5, the wing still seemed to be giving the bird some trouble. On the September visit the bird appeared to be fully grown and completely feathered, but when it attempted to fly the wing apparently did not function properly. On Sep. 24 the bird was gone. A search of the area did not reveal any evidence that it had been destroyed by predators so, hopefully, the wing mended or the bird learned to overcome the handicap and finally was able to fly.

Date	Weight	Length	Wing span	Primaries	Tail feathers	
6/15/66		8"				Covered with down
6/19/66	1¼ lbs.	9"				Covered with down
7/ 4/66	3¼ lbs.	15"	2' 7"			Covered with down
7/17/66	4¼ lbs.	19"	3'10"	7"	3"	Covered with down. Wings and tail feathering
7/23/66	4¼ lbs.	22"	4' 6"	8"	5"	Covered with down. Scapulars and back feathers showing.
8/20/66	4¼ lbs.	28"	5' 4"	18"	11"	Fully feathered but with some curls of down showing between feathers on the back.
9/ 5/66	Fully feathered with all evidence of down gone. Appeared like adult except for black head rather than red. Bird able to fly short distances and no attempt was made to catch it and make any measurements.					
9/24/66	Bird gone.					

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A Marsh Hawk and a Coot: On September 24, 1966 when I checked a group of ducks on Black Lake at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge with my 30× Bal-scope, I was surprised to find an immature Marsh Hawk sitting or standing in the water halfway up to its breast. About 150 ducks, Mallards, Blacks, and a few American Widgeon, were milling about the hawk. For several minutes the bird remained