

Pittsburg State University

Pittsburg State University Digital Commons

Correspondence

Sperry-Galligar Collection

1-2-1968

Kansas Ornithological Society Newsletter, No. 22, 2 January 1968

John L. Zimmerman

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/sperrycorrespondence>

Recommended Citation

Zimmerman, John L., "Kansas Ornithological Society Newsletter, No. 22, 2 January 1968" (1968).
Correspondence. 18.
<https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/sperrycorrespondence/18>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Sperry-Galligar Collection at Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Correspondence by an authorized administrator of Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@pittstate.edu.

1967 Breeding Bird Census

John L. Zimmerman

The Kansas Ornithological Society has been complimented by the Fish and Wildlife Service for its participation in the 1967 Breeding Bird Census conducted by the Migratory Bird Populations Station at Laurel, Maryland. On two separate occasions both Ted Van Velzen and Chandler Robbins asked me to thank all the participants for their excellent coverage. For the first run they thought it was quite remarkable.

If you remember June, it was quite a rainy, blustery month (but then, what June in Kansas is not?). As weekend after weekend of violent weather passed, I began to wonder whether any censuses would be taken, particularly since, according to the rules, counts could not be made in high or even moderate winds or during prolonged rains. Indeed some counts could not be completed because of the weather, while other routes had to be altered due to washed-out bridges and impassable roads. Yet KOS members and friends did complete their routes - 26 out of the 35 scheduled - and with a considerable amount of effort and perseverance, the extent of which the rest of us will probably never know. I just wonder what time Mrs. T. M. O'Keefe of Towner, Colorado had to get up in order to arrive one-half hour before sunrise at the starting point of her two routes that averaged over 50 miles away from her home, or T. R. Mollhagen, who had three of the routes that he completed starting from points over 60 miles from Hays.

Even though the censuses were conducted by car, all the participants I heard from wrote that it was hard work, but interesting work - for example, comments from such active birders as Tom Shane of Junction City that he never realized that Yellow Warblers were so abundant in June. I'm sure that everyone gained a better understanding of the summer birds of Kansas through their census efforts. And the great thing about the whole business is that this information can be shared with others so that a continent-wide understanding of species occurrences can be obtained for a given season as well as the chance to relate population changes from year to year.

I would like to thank the following persons personally as well as on behalf of our society for their effort in the 1967 census. Not all of them were able to complete their routes, but all of them agreed to try. Unfortunately I do not know the names of all the people who helped these people, but we owe them too an equal debt of thanks. Known 1967 participants: Mrs. A. R. Challans, Dave Coleman, Charles A. Ely, W. I. Harrison, Mrs. Ivan E. Herrmann, M. Gary Heskett, Carl S. Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel H. Hunt, J. C. Johnson, Mrs. Arnold Latscher, Wilfred A. Meier, T. R. Mollhagen, Mrs. T. M. O'Keefe, David F. Parmelee, Orville O. Rice, Joseph C. Saunders, Marvin D. Schwilling, Thomas G. Shane, C. O. Smith, T. M. Sperry, Mr. and Mrs. Paul A. Volkland, and Mrs. John C. Willis. Again, my thanks.

By the way, if you live close to any of these people, please feel free to offer your help, I'm sure they will accept it. It really takes more than one person to conduct each route; there are so many things to do at once. Also, two routes, one in Clark County and another in Comanche County were not assigned. Any volunteers? Let's have complete coverage next year. What is the status of the Dickcissel in Clark County anyway?