
New and Unusual Birds in Tulsa County from the 1954 Records of the Tulsa Audubon Society

ORRIN W. LETSON and ETHEL LETSON, Tulsa, Oklahoma

The following items from the records of the Tulsa Audubon Society for the year 1954 represent extension of our knowledge of the birds in the Tulsa region.

Little Blue Heron (*Florida caerulea*). The first nesting in Tulsa County of the Little Blue Heron was discovered by John S. Tomer on July 25, one mile east of the town of Owasso. At this time most of the young were able to fly. The total population was estimated at 300 to 500 individuals. One hundred seventy-nine nests were counted in the nesting area.

Black-bellied Plover (*Squatarola Squatarola*). The first fall record of the Black-bellied Plover in *Tulsa County* was reported by Mame Ginter and Anne Reynolds at Recreation Lake in Mohawk Park on October 26. The only other record of the Black-bellied Plover was for the month of May prior to the year 1934.

Red-backed Sandpiper (*Erolia alpina*). The first reported occurrence of the Red-backed Sandpiper in the Tulsa area is the September 5 and 6

appearance of this species on the mud flats of Recreation Lake in Mohawk Park. It was discovered by Orrin and Ethel Letson.

Bonaparte's Gull (*Larus philadelphia*). One Bonaparte's Gull was seen at Yahola Lake in Mohawk Park on April 16 by John G. Newell and Anne Reynolds. The only other record of this species in Tulsa County is prior to 1884 in the month of October.

Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*). The Cerulean Warbler was discovered in Mohawk Park April 16 by Anne Reynolds and John G. Newell. It was seen again at the same locality by Harold and Clara Spore on May 9 and again on May 14. These are the first reports of the occurrence of this species in the Tulsa region.

Canada Warbler (*Wilsonia canadensis*). The Canada Warbler, an occasional spring migrant, was reported on Bird Creek, north of Tulsa, by John S. Tomer and Ray Bunch on September 6. This is the first fall record of this species in the Tulsa region.

Summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*). A female Summer Tanager wintered in Tulsa in 1954. It was first observed at the feeding station of Mrs. Sherwood Lahman on January 11. Thereafter it was seen almost daily until April 1. The usual wintering area of the Summer Tanager is Central and South America.

Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra*). A female Red Crossbill visited the yard of Anne Reynolds on April 7. This is the first reported occurrence of the Red Crossbill in the Tulsa area.

Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Ammodramus caudacuta nelsoni*). A Sharp-tailed Sparrow, probably Nelson's, was discovered in a swampy area near a pond in Mohawk Park on October 17 by Orrin and Ethel Letson. This is the first recorded occurrence of any Sharp-tailed Sparrow for the Tulsa region.
