

Spring 5-7-2021

The Birds of Kentucky

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Recommended Citation

Jordan, Carol Walker (2021) "The Birds of Kentucky," *The Southeastern Librarian*: Vol. 69 : Iss. 1 , Article 5.
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/seln/vol69/iss1/5>

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REVIEWS

The Birds of Kentucky



Burt L. Monroe Jr.
Original Paintings by
William Zimmerman
Lexington: University Press of
Kentucky, 2021
ISBN: 9780813151410
152 p. \$40.00 (Hbk)

Born in Louisville, Kentucky on August 25, 1930, the only child of Burt L. Monroe, Sr. and Ethelmae Tuell. At the age of 63, Burt L. Monroe, Jr. succumbed after a long and heroic battle with cancer. However, Monroe left to us *The Birds of Kentucky* a book produced by The Kentucky University Press which showcases his determination to share all he learned about ornithology in the state of Kentucky.

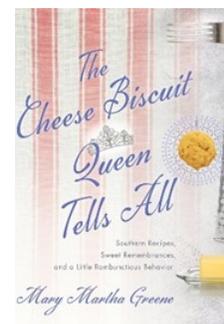
Monroe presented the data that he shares in four sections: Introduction, Ornithology, Species Accounts, and Acknowledgements (pages vii-xi). To this reader, the highlight and most appealing section of the book is the inclusion of William Zimmerman's paintings of the birds that populate the book. The Index gives the reader an opportunity to search a particular type of bird and see the painting that features the particular bird. Recurrence and abundance of the birds, classified under species is a great resource for anyone interested in the months of the year in which the specific bird species appear in Kentucky skies. Monroe and colleagues, family, and friends often traveled and recorded the instances of bird sightings and patterns of movement within Kentucky. The Bibliography gives credit to sightings of breeding, nesting, migration, and seasonal behaviors.

A beautiful and inspiring gift to those of who come after him who love birds and love Kentucky. Recommended to all who love of birds, public, and academic libraries.

Carol Walker Jordan, Ph.D., MLIS

The Cheese Biscuit Queen Tells All: Southern Recipes, Sweet Remembrances, and a Little Rambunctious Behavior

Mary Martha Greene
Columbia: The University of
South Carolina Press, 2021
ISBN: 9781643361826
248 p. \$24.99 (Pbk)



Much more than a cookbook, Mary Martha Green's *The Cheese Biscuit Queen Tells All* is an invitation and reference guide on southern hospitality. Greene spent 40 years as a lobbyist in South Carolina, where she cultivated her family recipes and entertaining expertise. The work contains 110 Low-country recipes collected and perfected by her family and friends. The content includes an introduction, a section on Aunt Mimi and the famous cheese biscuits that inspired the book (recipe included in this section), and "A Little Queenly Insight" that offers advice on baking essentials such as bakeware and measuring utensils. The recipes are divided into 8 sections: Breakfast Baking; Hors D'oeuvres; Salads, Vegetables, and Side Dishes; Meats and Poultry; Seafood; Cookies, Bars, and Candies; Cakes, Pies, and Other Treats; and Libations. There is an index at the end.

Each recipe is prefaced with an anecdote on the recipe's origin, such as "Shrimp Burgers" based on the heavily guarded recipe from the Shrimp Shack in St. Helena Island, SC. Greene spent years trying to recreate the recipe, tracking her attempts on a spreadsheet until she finally found a combination that worked, or a family story, like her mother's wedding punch from 1953. Further, some recipes have become local legend, like the "Best-Ever Chocolate Chip Pecan Cookies" that are so good they are able to bypass the J. Verne Smith Rule that prohibits food from being consumed on the 2nd floor of the lobby of the South Carolina State House.