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The Ohio Cardinal is a quarterly publication devoted to the study and appreciation of Ohio's birdlife.

The Ohio Cardinal exists to provide a permanent and timely record of the abundance and distribution of birds in Ohio; to help document the occurrence of rare species in the state; to provide information on identification of birds; and to provide information on birding areas within Ohio.

The Ohio Cardinal invites readers to submit articles on unusual occurrences of birds, bird distribution within the state, birding areas in Ohio, identification tips, and other aspects of ornithology. Bird reports and photographs are welcome from any area of the state. Report forms are not a necessity but will be supplied upon request. Unusual species should be documented, and forms to do so are available upon request from the Editor, Publisher, and Records Committee Secretary.

Seasonal Report Due Dates Winter (Dec.-Feb.)-March 25 Spring (Mar.-May)-June 25 Summer (June-July)-August 25 Autumn (Aug.-Nov.)-December 25	Please send all reports to: Bill Whan 223 E. Tulane Road Columbus, OH 43202 billwhan@columbus.rr.com
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On the Cover:

Many photos were taken of the Anna's hummingbird, but this beauty from Chris Wood (4 Dec 2005 in Butler Co.) was part of the accepted documentation.

Winter 2005-2006 Overview and Reports

Bill Whan

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We had a topsy-turvy season, as if December's weather had been swapped for January's. In the central part of the state through 22 December, five weeks of abnormal cold reigned, the first three weeks of the month having averaged nearly 10 degrees below normal. The last week of December and all of January were extraordinarily mild; January had 15 days with highs above 50°, and a low temperature of only 21°. February continued with normal temperatures and precipitation. On average, snow and ice cover were well below average, allowing half-hardy wintering landbirds—phoebes, catbirds, hermit thrushes, sapsuckers, etc. to do quite well, even though it seemed many had left in November, and returned in the mild days of January (tree swallows were a prominent example). Some water-loving birds—cranes, geese, night-herons, small gulls, and swans—all stayed beyond their normal times, but icing of reservoirs seemingly discouraged season-long stays by ducks, and their presence on Lake Erie, which froze only locally, was governed by the usual complex factors. We had a small incursion of snowy owls after several years of dearth. Rarer gulls put in a good show beginning during our mild January, showing that iced-in warm-water outflows are not necessary to concentrate them. Gannet reports came in into mid-February. Boreal raptors were sparse, especially during Dec, perhaps because of a low cycle in prey populations in grasslands. By the end of the season they were somewhat more numerous.

Review list species reported numbered ten: Ross's goose (eight), cackling goose (17), northern gannet (two, perhaps three), prairie falcon (two), jaeger sp (four), mew gull (two), California gull (three or four), Anna's hummingbird, rufous hummingbird (two, plus one *Selasphorus* sp.), and common raven (one or two).

For decades Peterjohn's *The Birds of Ohio* has served as the ready reference for the normal seasonal occurrences of our birds. Has global warming advanced so quickly, even since the work's latest edition in 2001, that many of its statements, carefully derived from many decades of records, no longer apply? The season just past produced dozens of records that would have been exceptional, at least in the aggregate, only a few years ago. Many records fell into the categories of "casual" ("not observed annually"), "accidental" ("single records or a very small number of records"), or even unprecedented during this season alone. The warm waters at Castalia, famous for attracting numerous waterfowl in winter, were dull as dishwater this season. Tree swallows, black-and-white warbler, Baltimore oriole, summer tanager, hummingbirds, woodcocks—all in January? We had them.

Climate change cannot of course responsibly be invoked to explain a single season's anomalies. Still, of the world's twenty warmest years since data

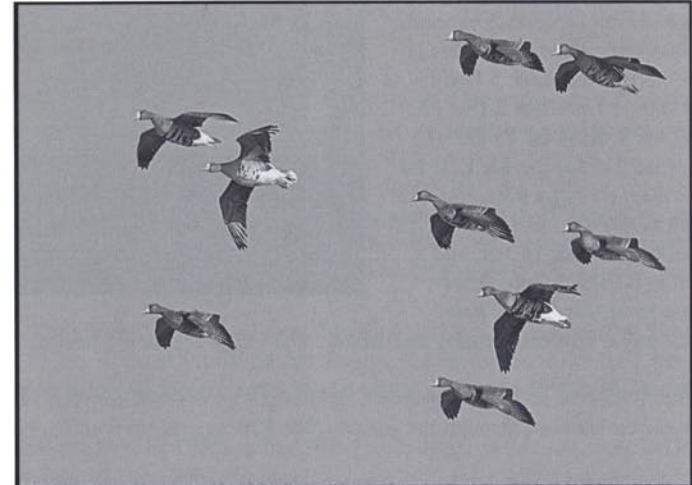
have been collected, nineteen have occurred since 1980. Category 4 and 5 hurricanes have doubled in frequency in the past 30 years. Last year thousands of residents of Papua New Guinea had to abandon islands swamped by rising ocean waters. Seven North American warbler species have shifted breeding ranges north by an average of 65+ miles in the past two decades. Still, only a few of our reported rarities are southern birds; look at the list above of the season's review species reported: there are birds from the east, the west, and the north, but none from the south.

We are grateful as always to Ned Keller for compiling all of Ohio's Christmas Bird Counts into a comprehensive tabular form. Because they are available in this form, CBC results are not the focus of the Reports, but we have at times enlisted them as evidence to support certain discernible trends.

The Reports follow the nomenclature and taxonomic order of the 7th edition of the AOU Check-list of North American Birds (1998), including the 46th Supplement (July 2005). Underlined names of species indicate those on the OBRC Review List; documentation is needed to add reports of these species to official state records, or to attributed records in the Reports. When supplied, county names appear italicized. Unless numbers are specified, sightings refer to single birds. Abbreviations, conventions, and symbols used in the Reports should be readily understood, with the possible exceptions of the following: ad=adult; alt=alternate (breeding) plumage; BCSP=Buck Ck SP in Clark; BIWA=Big Isl WA in Marion; BSBO=Black Swamp Bird Observatory; CCE= Crane Ck estuary in ONWR; CPNWR=Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge in Lucas; CVNP=Cuyahoga Valley Natl Pk in Cuyahoga and Summit; Dike 14=the Gordon Park impoundment in Cleveland; EFSP=East Fork SP in Clermont; eop=end of the period, in this case 30 Nov 2005; EHSP=East Hbr SP in Ottawa; fide= "in trust of," said of data conveyed on behalf of another person; Gilmore Ponds is in Butler=Grand Lk St Marys in Mercer/Auglaize, HBSP=Headlands Beach SP in Lake; HBSNP=Headlands Beach SNP in Lake; HWSP=Hueston Wds SP (Butler/Preble); imm=immature; Killbuck=Killbuck Marsh WA in Wayne/Holmes; KPWA=Killdeer Plains WA in Wyandot; LSR=Lakeshore Reservation (MP) in Lake; Magee=Magee Marsh WA in Ottawa/Lucas; MBSP=Maumee Bay SP in Lucas; MP=Metropark; m obs=many observers; MWW=Miami-Whitewater Wetlands in Hamilton; NWR=National Wildlife Refuge; OBRC=Ohio Bird Records Committee; ODOV=Ohio Division of Wildlife; ONWR=Ottawa NWR in Ottawa/Lucas; ONWRC=monthly bird census at ONWR; PCWA=Pickerel Ck WA in Sandusky; ph=photograph, Res=Reservoir; Res'n=Reservation; SF=State Forest; SNP=State Nature Preserve; SP=State Park; SVWA=Spring Valley WA in Greene/Warren; WA=Wildlife Area.

The Reports, Winter 2005-2006

Greater white-fronted goose: Unprecedented for winter, 116 were reported on 16 occasions throughout the season, in *Butler, Clark, Delaware, Erie, Fulton, Hamilton, Lucas, Marion, Pickaway, Wayne, and Wyandot*. High count 49 near *Circleville* 20 Feb (T. Bain), with the rest in single digits. Fifteen more were found by CBCs.



Nine of sixteen greater white-fronted geese found by photographer Brian Zwiebel at the Maumee Bay SP lagoon 6 Dec.

Snow goose: Statewide 510 reported, from *Champaign, Clark, Clinton, Defiance, Delaware, Erie, Franklin, Hamilton, Holmes, Licking, Lucas, Ottawa, Paulding, Stark, Tuscarawas, Warren, Wayne, and Wyandot*, and spanning the entire period. High count 75-100 near *Lebanon* 11 Dec (S. Carleton). The wintering flock at ONWR numbered only 33 (26 blues) on the 1 Jan census. CBCs contributed 95.

Ross's goose: A record year, with at least eight reported, most with details to the OBRC: one in *Erie* 18 Dec (ph), one in *Clinton* 21 Dec-7 Jan (E. Mitchell, ph), one in *Huron* (ph), one near *Circleville* 7 Jan, one in *Bay Village* 9 Jan (C. Caldwell), one in *Darke* 23 Jan (ph), one in *Lorain* 28 Jan (L. Hershberger, ph), and one in *Highland* Feb 16-21. Reports of apparent hybrids with snow geese, likely a growing ID problem, came from *Lucas* on 6 Feb (ph) and *Darke* on 11 Feb (ph).

Cackling goose: Reports, one hopes with details to the Records Committee, came from 4 Dec at *MBSP, BCSP* on 11 Dec, three at *Hoover Res* 26 Dec, five near *Wooster* 1 Jan, two in *Lake* 3 Jan, three in *Clinton* 7 Jan, and two in *Fulton* 24 Feb.

Canada goose: The *maxima* race was ubiquitous as usual, with a record 6388 on the 17 Dec *Hoover Res* CBC, 11,681 for the 1 Jan *ONWRC*, and "thousands" in *Sandusky Bay* 3 Jan (J. Larson et al.). As for the CBCs, *Hocking* escaped with only four, and *Goll Woods* only two.

Mute swan: Five constituted a record for the **Lk Erie Isl** count on 18 Dec (J. Pogacnik). The CBCs reported 132 (239 last year).

Tundra swan: Continues to flourish as a wintering species, with 2100+ reported spanning the season. Three-figure totals included 100+ over **Holmes** 4-5 Dec (E. Schlabach), 200+ over **Stark** 5 Dec (W. Sarno), ~100 over **Harrison** 5 Dec (T. Ford), ~150 off **S. Bass Isl** 15 Dec (L. Brohl), a record 219 for the **Lk Erie Isl** count of 18 Dec (J. Pogacnik), and 445 for the 1 Jan **ONWRC**. C. Caldwell had 70 near **Sheldon Marsh** 14 Jan, and V. Fazio seven at **KPWA** 1 Feb. Other reports came from **Cuyahoga, Erie, Franklin, Geauga, Hancock, Lake,** and **Wood**. The CBCs reported a healthy 876.

Wood duck: Unlike some other waterfowl, did not put up unusual numbers, with 1-2 reported in eleven counties through the period. The CBCs came up with 49, however.

Gadwall: Persisted through Jan in good numbers at several locations, including double figures at **Camp Dennison** (B. Foppe); the CBCs tallied 264.

Eurasian wigeon: A drake discovered 27 Feb at **Walborn Res** in **Stark** (S. Jackson) persisted through the eop.

American wigeon: Small numbers were found in January—20 on the 28th at **Camp Dennison** (B. Foppe), and one at **Sheldon Marsh** the 14th (C. Caldwell), with 50 still at **Camp Dennison** 19 Feb (B. Foppe).

American black duck: Wintered in decent numbers, with 1153 on the **Hoover Res** CBC of 17 Dec, and 500+ nearby at **Blendon Wds MP** 21 Feb (R. Thorn). The CBCs tallied 3636, nearly all inland.

Mallard: Numerous, with 38,517 on CBCs across the state. Two thousand-plus crowded into ice-free areas at **KPWA** 26 Jan (B. Whan).



A cackling goose photographed at Castalia 11 Feb by John Pogacnik. Besides overall size, note head and bill shape and neck length.



One of a number of apparent hybrid Snow x Ross's geese in Ohio this winter, for the first time. Note that its size is larger than a mallard (compared to *maxima* Canada goose). The bill shows black both at the base and along the join of the mandibles. The bill is short, but shows the snow goose's convex join at the base.

Blue-winged teal: Two Dec records, at **Camp Dennison** (B. Foppe): one the 7th, and two the 24th.

Northern shoveler: Dec numbers peaked at 69 for the **Gypsum** CBC of the 26th; on 30 Jan 65 remained at Camp Friedlander in **Hamilton** (B. Foppe).

Northern pintail: **ONWR**'s count of 1943 for the 1 Jan CBC was remarkable for the date. Forty were at **Sandusky** 14 Jan (M&T Romito), 30 at **KPWA** 16 Jan (L. Gara), and 259 at **BIWA** 18 Feb (C. Bombaci).

Green-winged teal: The **Cincinnati** CBC's 39 of 26 Dec was a record. Groups of birds in the single digits apparently overwintered in the northeastern quadrant of the state. The CBCs tallied 71.

Canvasback: Inland, the **Cincinnati** CBC had a record 33 on 26 Dec. On Lk Erie, the **Ottawa** CBC had 1587 on 1 Jan, **Sandusky Bay** 1000+ on 3 Jan (S. Snyder), **Pt. Clinton** ~2900 9 Jan (V. Fazio); ~800 remained at **Huron** 28 Feb (S. Zadar).

Redhead: **Cincinnati**'s CBC had a record 29 on 26 Dec, and 87 paddled **Camp Dennison** 31 Jan. **Caesar Ck SP** hosted 244 on 22 Feb (L. Gara). At the Lake, ~400 were at **Pt. Clinton** 9 Jan (V. Fazio), and 1500 remained at **Huron** 28 Feb (S. Zadar).

Ring-necked duck: The CBCs tallied 546. Later, larger gatherings were led by 250 at **Wellington Res** 25 Feb (R&S Harlan).

Greater scaup: Reported were 380 on the CBCs. Distant views often hamper firm IDs of this rarer scaup on Lake Erie. Inland, interesting reports included small reports from the south, led by 18+ at **Deer Ck Lk** 28 Feb (T. Bain).

Lesser scaup: Only 654 reported on CBCs, with 6357 "scaup sp," 6200 of them 18 Dec from **Toledo**, where huge flocks congregate season-long in **Maumee Bay**.

Harlequin duck: J. Pogacnik saw one passing **LSR** 7 Dec, then L. Rosche a male and a female at **E 72** in **Cleveland** 17 Dec. S. Zadar discovered a female in the **Vermilion** estuary 26 Jan, and E. Bacik two at **Fairport Hbr** 18 Feb *vide* Rosche.

Surf scoter: Not many, with 16 season-long, most on Lk Erie, with a high count of 5 on 11 Jan at **Wellington Res** in **Lorain** (V. Fazio).

White-winged scoter: Fourteen reported, all in Dec, with a high of seven on the **Lorain-Elyria** CBC 30 Dec.

Black scoter: Flocks at **Sims Park** in **Euclid** numbered from 17 on 3 Dec to a singleton 14 Feb (N. Anderson, et al.). Twenty-seven more, with 20 of them on the **ONWR** CBC of 1 Jan, were spread over Dec-Jan, mostly on or close to **Lk Erie**.

Long-tailed duck: J. Larson found a drake at **The Wilds** 2 Dec, and a female at **Lorain** 3 Jan. J. Pogacnik spotted one at **Conneaut** 16 Jan, and another at **Fairport Hbr** 22 Jan. Four were reported on CBCs, three in **Cincinnati** 26 Dec (N. Keller), and one on the **Mentor** count of 18 Dec.

Bufflehead: The traditional horde at **Kelleys Isl** yielded a count of 958 on 18 Dec, 1944 on 15 Jan, and 267 on 25 Feb (T. Bartlett). Double figures stayed at **Camp Dennison** through the period (B. Foppe).

Common goldeneye: While reservoir counts seldom reached double figures, the **Kelleys Isl** census found 3665 on 15 Jan, and 1831 on 25 Feb. Major CBC tallies included 1824 for the **Gypsum** count of 26 Dec, and 1058 for that at **ONWR** on 1 Jan.

Hooded merganser: Twenty was a record for the **Lk Erie Isl** CBC of 18 Dec (J. Pogacnik). At **Hoover Res**, 117 lingered on 7 Jan, and 170 occupied **Camp Dennison** two days later (B. Foppe). Only single figures were reported later; up to seven wintered in **Mahoning** (C. Holt).

Common merganser: J. Pogacnik counted 233 passing **LSR** 7 Dec, and the 2 Jan CBC at **ONWR** had the high count of 661 among pretty paltry numbers. .

Red-breasted merganser: J. Pogacnik counted 5043 flying past **LSR** 4 Dec, and C. Caldwell ~2000 at **Eastlake**, a favorite haunt, on 6 Dec, but Pogacnik's **LSR** count fell to 271 on 11 Dec, then 31 by 30 Dec. The 31 Dec **Lakewood** CBC tallied but 14, and the **Kelleys Isl** census only three on 15 Jan, when **LSR** produced only one. All the CBCs combined for 806; last year it was 22,787, the year before 8223, and 15,935 the year before that, then 20,741 a year earlier. Probably they wintered farther offshore during a warm season.

Ruddy duck: CBCs counted 173, and a few were occasionally sighted at warm-water outlets. **Summit Lk** in **Akron** boasted 33 on 9 Feb, and **Camp Dennison** held double figures through the period, with a high of 42 on 16 Feb (B. Foppe).

Red-throated loon: Only one report, from **LSR** 10 Dec (J. Pogacnik).

Common loon: Seven reported in December, then one in **Clermont** 7 Jan (K. Robinson); singletons at **Cowan Lake** 2 Feb (L. Gara) and at **KPWA** 20 Feb (R. Sempier) were quite unusual.

Pied-billed grebe: Rarely winters, but this was a rare year. Thirty were at **EFSP** 31 Dec (B. Foppe), with seven at **Summit Lk** in **Akron** 30 Jan with three at the eop (G. Bennett). B. Hardesty reported 1-2 probably wintered at **Lake Cascades** in **Hancock**.

Horned grebe: Reported throughout the period in the southern counties, for example three in **Clermont** 7 Jan (K. Robinson) and 5 at **Wilmington Res** 12 Jan (L. Gara).

Northern gannet: Unusually persistent along the **NE lakefront**, with two or perhaps more immatures involved well into Feb, after two were noticed as early as 11 Nov at **Conneaut**. Both light and dark individuals were frequently identified, as well as birds with relatively intact and others with quite worn primaries. Two were seen simultaneously at **Eastlake** 14 (B. Master) and 18 Dec (M. Gallaway). Frequently seen in Jan, with the last report 12 Feb at E. 72nd St in **Cleveland** (D. Chasar).

Double-crested cormorant: Some wintered, especially at roosts on breeding sites. Eight were at E. 72nd in **Cleveland** 3 Jan (J. Larson), then 68 at **Turning Pt Isl** in **Sandusky** the 9th (V. Fazio), where 85 had assembled by 25 Feb (R&S Harlan). Inland, one was at **Hoover Res** 23 Jan (B. Shively), and another at **Caesar Ck SP** 27 Jan (C. Schooley).

Great blue heron: Notable concentrations were a record 53 for the **Hoover Res** CBC 17 Dec, 78 on 4 Jan on **Sandusky Bay** (B. Morrison), and 19 at **HWSP** 8 Jan (J. Stenger).

Black-crowned night-heron: Cleveland's **Merwin St** winter roost had 79 on 1 Dec, 50 on 9 Dec, 75-80 1 Jan, ~65 11 Jan, 95 on 3 Feb, and 90-100 at the eop (P. Lozano et al.). On 9 Jan 34 roosted on **Turning Pt Isl** in **Sandusky**, a breeding site. On the **Olentangy R** on the OSU campus, 5-10 were observed 6 Jan-eop (D. Horn, m obs).

Black vulture: Good numbers in southern strongholds, led by a record 232 on the 26 Dec **Cincinnati** CBC. At **Cowan Lk**, ~50 were seen 11 Jan (B. Foppe).

Turkey vulture: Reported season-long throughout the state (e.g., **Allen**, **Clinton**, **Coshocton**, **Franklin**, **Hancock**, **Jackson**, **Licking**, **Medina**, **Pickaway**, **Portage**, **Seneca**, **Wyandot**), with the largest numbers in the south, led by ~100 near **Cowan Lk** 11 Jan (B. Foppe).

Bald eagle: Apparently growing almost explosively in numbers, the informal mid-winter survey showing 554 eagles vs. 336 last year, sightings in 63 counties, and 107 in **Sandusky Bay** on a single occasion. Resurgent since the abolition of DDT, Ohio eagles are proving more adaptable to human presence than Ohio authorities have allowed in the past.

Northern harrier: High counts of 21 (9 ad males) 13 Jan, and 24 on 26 Jan, came from a **Hardin** CRP wetland (R. Counts).

Northern goshawk: A sub-adult haunted **EHSP** 8 Dec (J. McCormac), an adult **Logan** 31 Dec (T. Shively), and an immature bird **Jefferson** 25 Feb (S. Albaugh).

Red-tailed hawk: Ubiquitous, but a pure-white (including tail) albino remained in **Logan**, and a few other red-tails in the area show some signs of albinism (T. Shively). A dark-morph individual was in **Butler** 11 Dec (P. Wharton).



This young northern gannet found E. 72nd St. in Cleveland to its liking 8 Dec. Photo by Sean Zadar.

Rough-legged hawk: Seemed down in numbers, especially early in the season, perhaps due to a low cycle in vole populations. High counts included 12 at **The Wilds** 26 Jan (S. Snyder) and ten in **Geauga** 12 Feb (T. Glassburner).

Golden eagle: At least two were present at **The Wilds** again through the eop; first seen was one 2 Dec (S. Landes), and Jan-Feb an ad and an imm were present (A. Parker). A sub-adult bird was well described at **KPWA** on 11 Feb (J. Estep).

Merlin: One-day wonders were reported from many locations, the most interesting a male of the pale "prairie" race *richardsonii* photographed at **KPWA** 16 Jan (B. Mathys *vide* A. Boone). On 15 Feb, L. Gardella reported a male, perhaps the same bird as the previous three years, appeared at **Calvary Cem** in **Garfield Hts**, which was later joined by a female and another tiercel. At **Spring Grove Cem** in **Cincinnati**, a merlin seen 11 Dec (L. Brumbaugh) was later joined by another 1 Jan (M. Busam).

Prairie falcon: One was reported at **The Wilds** 2 Dec, and an ad in flight, probably a male, was seen in **Vinton** 21 Feb. The origin of such birds is a perennial question.

Virginia rail: Dedicated CBC counters produced three for **Millersburg** 17 Dec, two for **Wooster** 24 Dec, and one for **Lakewood** 31 Dec.

American coot: Weather persuaded many to winter. At **Camp Dennison**, 710 on 9 Dec were still ~600 on 26 Feb (both B. Foppe). A couple of dozen probably wintered at **Lake Cascades** in **Hancock** (B. Hardesty). Around 500 were in **Wellington Res** 22 Jan (T&M Romito), and ~120 wintered at **Summit Lk** in **Akron** (G. Bennett).

Sandhill crane: An excellent season, consistent with northward movement of wintering grounds in recent years, with over a thousand reported, from **Auglaize, Butler, Clark, Darke, Fairfield, Fayette, Fulton, Hamilton, Hancock, Hardin, Holmes, Knox, Lucas, Montgomery, Paulding, Preble, Wayne, Williams, Wood,** and **Wyandot**. The **Cincinnati** area had ~475 during the period, with the state high count of 125 on 2 Dec (K. Westendorf).

Killdeer: Sparingly but consistently reported season-long, witness sightings in midwinter of two in **Hardin** 30 Jan (R. Counts) and two in **Cincinnati** 1 Feb (R. Kolde).

Purple sandpiper: Persisting at **HBSP** were two 1 Dec (G. Meszaros) and one 6 Dec (C. Caldwell). One appeared at **Eastlake** 11 Dec (J. Talkington *vide* S. Wagner).



Sharp-shinned hawks sometimes show the field guides' subtle plumage distinctions from their larger cousins, Cooper's hawks; none of them is 100% reliable. This sharpie, photographed by Haans Petruschke this winter, shows more diagnostic morphological characters: a "gentler" look lent by the rounded crown and lack of ridge above the eye, a chestier look because of the smaller head, and a squared-off tail.

Western Sandpiper: B. Morrison saw two at **Berlin Res** quite late on 5 Dec.

Dunlin: Persisted inland at **Berlin Res**, with three on 5 Dec (B. Morrison). The rest were on the lakeshore, with one at **Bayshore PP** in **Lucas** 18 Dec (E. Tramer), and counts for the **ONWRC** of two on 4 Dec and a second-record one on 1 Jan.

Wilson's snipe: On 4 Dec, J. Bowers had four in **Mercer** and B. Shively two in **Delaware**. In **Cincinnati**, N. Keller found one 18 Dec, and the 26 Dec CBC found one. At **SVWA**, one was discovered at the seep 16 Jan (J. Lehman). The **Wilmot** CBC had 10, and **Millersburg** 12, on 17 Dec.

American woodcock: P. Whan reported woodcocks persisted in **Adams** through mid-Nov, then calling began in early Jan. D. Weber reported calling in late Jan in **Athens**. By 3 Feb, two were calling in **Greene** (K. Beers), one in **Montgomery** (D. Dister), and another in **Clermont** (C&S Clingman).

Red Phalarope: One was at **Eastlake** 11 Dec (J. Talkington *vide* S. Wagner).

Pomarine jaeger: Two were observed passing **LSR** 10 Dec and 20 Feb (J. Pogacnik).

Jaeger, sp.: P. Lozano witnessed two on 3 Dec and one on 8 Dec off **Rocky River**. The **Mentor** CBC reported one 18 Dec.

Laughing gull: Found on 21 Jan was an adult at **E. 72nd St** in Cleveland (*vide* J. Brumfield), with probably the same bird, in adult alternate plumage, in **Lorain** 25 Feb (J. Pogacnik).

Franklin's gull: E. Bruder reported one in **Lorain** 30 Dec, where J. Pogacnik found two first-winter birds 7 Jan. Pogacnik later found an adult at **LSR** 22 Jan.

Little gull: Despite lots of companion Bonaparte's through Dec in the NE, a good season for this species did not start until Jan. First was an ad at **Fairport Hbr** 28 Dec (L. Rosche); dozens of reports ensued, many of multiple birds (high count six ad and one 2nd-winter bird among huge throngs of bonies at **Fairport** 7 Feb by Rosche), between **Avon Lk** and **Fairport Hbr**.



Blake Mathys photographed this merlin, the locally scarce "prairie" race *F. columbarius richardsonii*, at **KPWA** 4 Jan (*vide* A. Boone); another was observed nearby 21 Feb 2005.

Bonaparte's gull: Many departed with cold temperatures; in central Ohio, ~1000 were at **Hoover Res** on 1 Dec. For the 17 Dec **Hoover** CBC 607 was an all-time record, while the **Cleveland** count on the same day still had 3300 (the only CBC count in four figures). Only four showed up for the **Lakewood** CBC on the 31st, and several observers along the lakefront found only one on 1 Jan. Within a week, reinforcements showed up from somewhere: on 7 Jan J. Pogacnik estimated 7-8000 at **Lorain**, and on the 11th S. Zadar ~5000 at **Avon Lk**. Numbers grew till L. Gooch reckoned ~50,000 were at **E 72nd** 27 Jan, and six-figure numbers were mentioned at **Fairport Hbr** early in Feb, perhaps the largest flocks ever seen there by very experienced observers. On 7 Feb, however, only 32 were at **Eastlake PP** (C. Holt). By 20 Feb, numbers had diminished to ~20,000 at **E 72nd** and ~15,000 at **Fairport** (B. Whan).



In such a mild winter, purple sandpipers may have stayed north; some winter above the Arctic Circle. Gary Meszaros still got this portrait at HBSP on 1 December.

Mew gull: January's multitudes brought reports of a 2nd-winter bird to **Huron** 15 Jan (S. Zadar, ph), and a first-winter to **Eastlake** 23 Jan.

Ring-billed gull: Adults were present in huge numbers along the lakeshore; J. Pogacnik counted 15,430 passing **LSR** 30 Dec, and later 70-80,000 at **Lorain** 7 Jan, a number nearly equal to all the CBCs' total earlier. Oddly, except for migrants few showed up at inland haunts until mid-Feb.

California gull: According to reports, an ad showed up at **E 72nd St** 30 Dec (ph), one- two at **Conneaut** 16 Jan, one at **E 72nd** 22 Jan, and an ad at **Lorain** 26 Jan (S. Zadar, ph).

Herring gull: Best count was ~5500 for the 17 Dec **Cleveland** CBC.

Thayer's gull: Present in small numbers mid-Dec to mid-Feb from **Avon Lk** east.



Sean Zadar spotted this second-winter mew gull in the Huron harbor 15 Jan as it floated with ring-billed gulls. Note the short, narrow bill (hence its subspecies name '*brachyrhynchus*'), the heavy dark mottling on and near the head, the darker mantle, and the black markings on the tertials.

Iceland gull: Much as the preceding, except for three found at **Conneaut** (two 1st-winter and one 2nd-winter) 17 Jan (B. Coulter).

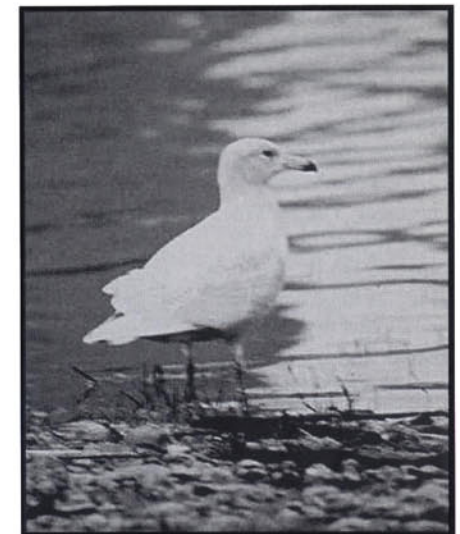
Lesser black-backed gull: Moderate numbers, with two counts of four: 7 Jan at **Lorain** (J. Pogacnik) and 26 Jan at **Avon Lk** (S. Zadar. One was found inland at **Mosquito Lk** on 22 Jan (C. Babyak).

Glaucous gull: Fair numbers, mostly immature, found along the "Gull Coast," though three adults were at **Eastlake** 16 Dec (*vide* J. Brumfield). Two occupied **Farnsworth Park** along the Maumee in **Lucas** 16 Dec (E. Tramer), one stayed at a **Findlay Res** 7-28 Feb (B. Hardesty), and a first record for **Dayton** was photographed 31 Dec at the end of a seven-day stay along the **Gt. Miami R** (D. Dister).

Great black-backed gull: The **Cleveland** CBC reported 650 on 17 Dec, and F. Losi estimated ~1000 at **E 72nd St** the 20th. An adult spent 11-12 Feb well inland at **Hoover Res** (D. Linzell).

Black-legged kittiwake: Three birds, all immatures, were good these days: one 17 Dec in **Cleveland** (L. Rosche), one at **Fairport Hbr** 1 Jan (J. Pogacnik), and another 2 Feb at **E 72nd St** (K. Beers).

Snowy owl: A moderate incursion began 3 Dec near **Oak Harbor** (P. Sherwood), followed by one in **Erie** 23 Dec (G. Brent *vide* S. Young), and a bird at **Lorain Harbor** 28 Dec (S. Zadar). After a hiatus, birds showed up 20 Jan in **Paulding** (dead), with a live one 23 Jan (both M&D Dunakin), one 22 (Zadar) through 27 Jan (S. Isacco) along the **E 72nd breakwall**, at least three at **Burke airport** in **Cleveland** 28 Jan (Zadar) with one through the eop, one in **Van Wert** 31 Jan-23 Feb (J. Perchalski), and one at **Lorain** Co airport 5 (J. Dunn) through 20 Feb (D. Sheldon).



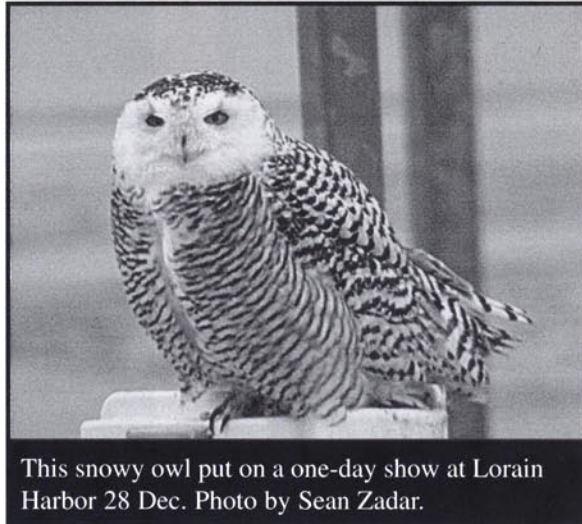
Photographed for the Dayton CBC of 31 Dec by Dave Dister, this first-winter glaucous gull was a first local record. It spent several days at the confluence of the Mad and the Great Miami Rivers in downtown Dayton.



Sean Zadar, scanning gulls massed shoulder-to-shoulder on the Lorain Harbor marina docks on 26 January, picked out this basic-plumaged adult California gull.

Long-eared owl: Most reports came from December and January, totaling 42 birds, in *Lorain, Delaware, Wyandot, Holmes, Lucas, Tuscarawas, Cuyahoga, Erie, Ashland, Wayne, and Darke*. Six were at the **KPWA** roost as late as 31 Jan (W. Sarno).

Short-eared owl: In reduced numbers overall, perhaps due to prey shortages. The **KPWA** flock topped out at 15 birds 16 Jan (L. Gara). As many as three surprised snowy owl observers at **Burke** throughout Feb, and the **ONWRC** found one on 4 Dec. Small numbers reported from *Jefferson, Hardin, Marion, Union, Summit, Defiance,* and *Columbiana* rounded out modest reports.



This snowy owl put on a one-day show at Lorain Harbor 28 Dec. Photo by Sean Zadar.

Northern saw-whet owl:

Fewer than normal detected, though many were doubtless around. Only one **KPWA** report, a single bird as late as 23 Feb (D. Snapp). A confiding individual spent Jan and Feb next to the boardwalk at **Irwin Prairie SNP**, of which E. Tramer reported “dissection of pellets...revealed remains of a southern bog lemming *Synaptomys cooperi*.”

Caprimulgus, sp.: One reported by the *Adams* CBC of 17 Dec, a bird seen bolting from the road in the headlights of a vehicle. A remarkable report, but not without precedent after last year's 12 Dec record of a chuck-will's-widow from *Clermont*.

Anna's hummingbird: Finally identified 4 Dec (C. Wood, R. Epstein, et al., m obs), the **West Chester** bird persisted till 24 Dec, whereupon it finally moved on. There seem to be no accepted records of this western species in adjoining states or provinces, though there are eastern records from New York, Tennessee, and Wisconsin.

Rufous hummingbird: Fall migrant *Selasphorus* hummingbirds stayed on average less than half as long as those in recent years (based on 34 birds rufous hummingbirds identified in hand 2002-05 *fide* A. Chartier). An imm male in **Wadsworth, Medina** found on 3 Nov (D&M Wagner) stayed until 5 Dec. A hatch-year female spent 29 Aug (J&S Brown) through 8 Jan near **Ironton** in *Lawrence* (Chartier).

Selasphorus, sp.: A female/imm at a *Franklin* feeder since 12 Nov was last seen 6 Dec.

Yellow-bellied sapsucker: Routine through mid-state, this winter many were found in the north, with birds reported in *Portage, Cuyahoga, Summit, Lucas, Hancock,* etc. Elsewhere, large numbers included 27 in the *Hamilton* parks count of 10 Dec. The CBCs reported 172, vs. 109 last year, and 91 the year before.

Eastern phoebe: Following, but not during, single-digit temperatures in December, phoebes were found widely, well north of their customary winter range. Northern records included birds in **Cleveland** 26 Dec (B. Finkelstein) and 12 Feb (a first Feb record for R&S Harlan), **Woodbury WA** 7 Jan (L. Dornan), 8 Jan in *Wayne* (A. Troyer), a first Jan record for J. Pogacnik in **Willoughby** on the 12th, one in *Erie* 2 Feb (B. Phillips), and another in **Lakewood** 26 Feb (P. Lozano). The CBCs reported 35, vs. 12 last year.

Northern shrike: Reported 2 Dec (S. Landes) and 21 Jan (S. Snyder) at **The Wilds**, 11 Dec-1 Feb in the **CVNP** (D. Chasar), 18 Dec in **Kent** (L. Rosche), 22 Dec at **Bath Nat Pres** in *Summit* (W. McQueen), on the **Grand Rapids-Waterville** CBC and the **Mohican** CBC on 31 Dec, 21 Jan at **KPWA** (D. Horn), 21 Feb near **Carey** (E. Mullholland), and 22 Feb at **Magee Marsh** (P. Sherwood).

American crow: D. Overacker estimated the **Springfield** roost at 20,000 on 16 Dec, F. Renfrow that at **Cincinnati** at 15,000 on 7 Jan, and the **Mansfield** CBC estimated theirs at 14,000 on 17 Dec.

Common raven: One or perhaps two were well described from *Jefferson* 29 Jan and 1 Feb, with one re-found 3 Feb. The location is close to known nesting locales in PA. Details are with the **OBRC**.

Horned lark: Larger counts included 100+ in six inches of snow in *Mahoning* 8 Dec (B. Jones), on 11 Dec 300 in *Clermont* (B. Stanley) and 250 in *Butler* (P. Wharton), and a county count of 507 in *Hancock* 17 Dec (*fide* B. Hardesty).

Tree swallow: Seems to have withdrawn on schedule, but reappeared after the cold snap, with a bird at **Glacier Ridge MP** in *Union* 4 Jan-9 Feb (J. Watts), and three over the entry pond at **ONWR** on 3 Feb (P. Sherwood) for new late (or early?) records. T. Smart reported 24 on 30 Dec at Pte Mouillee not far north in Michigan. The **KPWA** CBC reported one 1 Jan.

Black-capped chickadee: After fall premonitions of a big flight, some observers remarked upon large numbers in the north (e.g., 41 at the **CVNP** 29 Jan, P. Coy), but few mentioned them farther south: S. Snyder reported two 1 Jan at Camp Buckeye in *Tuscarawas*, C. Schooley reported a possible diagnostic vocalization at **Caesar Ck SP** 27 Jan, and J. Stenger a single bird in *Butler* 8 Jan.

Red-breasted nuthatch: Seemingly inhabited most sizeable clumps of conifers in the state this season, and frequently seen at feeders. J. Stenger found 32 at **Winton Wds** 12 Jan, and the 17 Dec *Hancock* county census tallied 41 (*fide* B. Hardesty). New CBC records were set on 17 Dec in **Cleveland** with 20, and at **Hoover Res** with 23. The CBCs found 869 statewide, vs. 207 a year ago.

Brown creeper: Numerous. Jack Stenger recorded 19 on a walk through **Winton Wds** in *Hamilton* 12 Jan. Statewide CBCs reported 875.

Carolina wren: L. Rosche tallied a healthy 20 on a jaunt in **Kent** 28 Dec.

House Wren: One as late as 18 Dec was a great find in w. *Hamilton* (N. Keller).

Winter wren: Statewide reports included 118 for the Christmas Bird Counts.

Marsh wren: Few reported. A. Troyer noted up to four wintering at **Killbuck Marsh** in **Wayne**.

Golden-crowned kinglet: High count was 108 on the **Kelleys Isl** census of 19 Dec (J. Pogacnik).

Ruby-crowned kinglet: January records included one on the first in **Defiance** (J. Yochum), one on the 22nd at **Stage's Pond SNP** (E. Reiner), one in **Logan** on the 29th (D. Overacker), and one in **Hancock** 31 Jan (B. Hardesty). The **Cincinnati** CBC found seven on 26 Dec, and that for **Cuyahoga Falls** an equal number on 18 Dec.

Hermit thrush: Widely reported, even in the northern tier of counties. The **Grand Rapids-Waterville** CBC posted a record seven, and the **Hoover Res** CBC a record 14, but a new record for the 18 Dec **Lake Erie Isl** count, by virtue of 73 found on **Kelleys Isl**, took the cake—95 hermit thrushes. The CBCs had 290, vs. 64 last year.

American robin: The **Cincinnati** CBC tallied 18,301 on 26 Dec, over 40% of the state total.

Gray catbird: Another half-hardy species well-reported this season, with ten in the northern tier of counties alone. Feb records included one in **Trumbull** the 1st (E. Kistler) and one in **Erie** the 2nd (B. Phillips). The CBCs' total was 17, vs. 11 last year.

Northern Mockingbird: Near **Lowellville** in up in **Mahoning** ~10 was a good number, even for recent years (C. Holt).

Brown thrasher: Not as frequently reported as other half-hardies. The CBCs had but 15, vs. 10 last year.

American pipit: Not numerous, with a high count of only 14, in **Delaware** 4 Dec (B. Shively), and the latest a single bird at Lake Milton, **Mahoning** 16 Jan (G. Bennett). A CBC total of 51 was led by 23 reported in the **Mansfield** area 17 Dec.



This "Audubon's" warbler, the distinctive western subspecies of yellow-rumped warbler, and a rare Ohio visitor, was photographed 19 Feb at Castalia Pond by Brian Zwiebel. In black and white, you'll have to take our word for its brilliant yellow throat and flanks.

Yellow-rumped warbler: Forty-two on **Kelleys Isl** helped boost the 18 Dec **Lk Erie Isl** CBC total to 53. J. Watts found 12 at **Conkle's Hollow** SP 23 Jan. B. Zwiebel photographed one of the western subspecies, "Audubon's" warbler, at **Castalia** 19 Feb. The CBCs tallied 861, led by 123 in **Adams** and 124 in **Cincinnati**.

Pine warbler: Unusually frequent after Dec. One visited B. Zwiebel's feeder in **Lucas** 4 Dec-eop. In Columbus, another was below the Greenlawn Dam 1 Jan (R. Thorn), and one at **Green Lawn Cem** 30 Dec-1 Jan (P. Unger), with two photographed there 10 Jan (D. Tumblin). One came to a feeder in a **Cincinnati** suburb 10 Jan-10 Feb (C. Skowlin *vide* J. Stenger). J. Fry's feeder in **Hocking** hosted birds 14 Dec and 25 Feb, with one 15 Jan. S. Pelikan found two in **Cincinnati** 23 Feb.

Black-and-white warbler: Totally unexpected was one in trees outside The Nature Conservancy office in **Dublin** 10 Jan (A. Froehlich, G. Popotnik), probably a first Jan record for the state.

Common yellowthroat: Two were in **Killbuck Marsh**, with the last sighting 6 Jan (A. Troyer, S. Weaver).

Summer tanager: One was photographed in **Columbus** during a stay from late Dec-8 Jan (*vide* J. McCormac). It had only one precedent, a bird that spent three weeks at a feeder in **Lorain** in Jan 2002.

Eastern towhee: As befits a mild winter, fairly numerous. High count 100+ on a hike in **Hocking** 18-19 Feb (L. Deininger). Seven was a record for the **Hoover Res** CBC 17 Dec. V. Fazio reported 23 in a couple of hours in **Pike** 19 Jan. The CBCs tallied 1055 vs. 570 last year, led by Millersburg's 148 on 17 Dec

American tree sparrow: Present in normal numbers in many places, though seemed skimpy in **KPWA**. The 1 Jan **ONWRC** tallied 226, and N. Cade reported 60 at **Shawnee Lookout** in **Hamilton** 25 Feb. The state had 14,759 via CBCs.

Field sparrow: In normal winters this species is often seen in the south, but only rarely in the north. As our notion of "normal" evolves, we may more often have numbers more like this season's, when eleven could be found in **Kent** 18 Dec (L. Rosche), with individuals at **HBSP** 3 Jan (J. Larson) and in **Willoughby** 12 Jan (J. Pogacnik); the dedicated field workers of the **Ragersville** CBC found 101 on 26 Dec.

Savannah sparrow: Seen mostly in the south, with eight in **Butler** 11 Dec (P. Wharton), and five in **Cincinnati** 20 Dec (B. Hull). Three were found in **Columbus** for the 18 Dec CBC (A. Boone et al.).

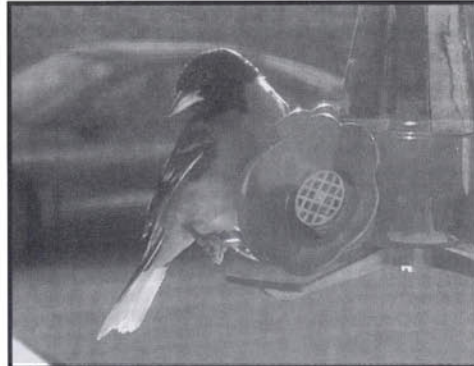


This American pipit spent a chilly 18 Dec day near the Bayshore power plant's hot water outflow. Photo by Brian Zwiebel.

Grasshopper sparrow: Always quite rare in winter, one was detected in **Columbus** for the CBC of 18 Dec by A. Boone & co.

Fox sparrow: Nice numbers in the south, with 18 on the **Hamilton** MP count of 10 Dec, and seven at **Gilmore Ponds** 29 Jan (M. Busam). Three at **Hoover Res** tied a CBC record high on 17 Dec, though seven showed up at **Green Lawn Cem** alone on 7 Jan (J. Larson et al.). Mostly singletons in the north.

White-throated sparrow: Present in good numbers this season, with, for example, 80 in **Clark** 16 Feb (D. Overacker) and 115 at **Gilmore Ponds** 18 Feb (B. Wulker). L. Rosche called it "as numerous as any winter I can recall." The CBC total was 7922, vs. last year's 6055.



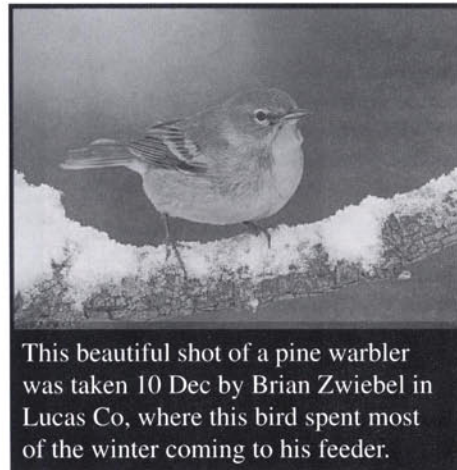
This Baltimore oriole posed for J. Barkley during its stay at his feeder 27 Dec-eop.

Lapland longspur: Snow-free fields may have prevented more reports. A record 754 (60% of the state CBC total) were tallied on the **Grand Rapids-Waterville** CBC of 31 Dec, ~250 in n. **Wyandot** 15 Jan (R. Counts), and "several hundred" in **Wood** 28 Jan (B. Rinehart). Farther south, 11 Dec brought reports of 15 from **Butler** (P. Wharton) and of 13 from three **Preble** townships (D. Dister).

Snow bunting: Seemed normal in numbers, but seldom detected in the Jan warm stretch. The **ONWRC** had 380 on 4 Dec, then 92 on 1 Jan. On 12 Feb, J. Pogacnik saw 200+ in **Ottawa** for the month's high count.

Red-winged blackbird: This species winters in Ohio in appreciable numbers, mostly in the NW marshes and in the southern counties. The first reports of displaying males came from late January in the **Columbus** area, probably an artifact of observer density. B. Glick reported a flock of 25-40 thousand black birds in **Wayne** 16 Feb, estimating 25% were red-wings.

Eastern meadowlark: Sparingly reported. High count 33 in **Butler** 11 Dec (P. Wharton). Statewide, the CBCs found 400. This diminishing species has now been out-numbered by eagles in reports; in 1971 the **Kingston** CBC alone found 263.



This beautiful shot of a pine warbler was taken 10 Dec by Brian Zwiebel in Lucas Co, where this bird spent most of the winter coming to his feeder.

Rusty blackbird: First reported were two 7 Jan in **Wayne** (E. Snively). Other numbers were similarly small for this imperiled species, but an estimated 2500-4000 birds in **Wayne** 16 Feb (B. Glick) were heartening.

Brewer's blackbird: As always sparingly reported, with one far to the east near **Orrville** 2 Dec (S. Hackett), and a high count of 11 at **KPAW** 1 Feb (V. Fazio).

Common grackle: Widely tallied in CBCs, with a fairly low total this year of 25,342. B. Glick estimated its share of a large 16 Feb **Wayne** black bird flock at 6000-10,000, and D. Morse reported numbers in five figures in **Clermont** during Feb.

Baltimore oriole: A male showed up at J. Barkley's feeder in **Dayton** 27 Dec, and stayed off and on through the eop. One was reported on the **EFSP** CBC of 2 Jan.

Purple finch: Except for 20 at a **Stark** feeder 25 Feb (B. Morrison), all double-figure reports came from the southern half of the state in Jan and Feb, led by 55 from the **Adams** CBC of 17 Dec.

House finch: Continuing to diminish in numbers apparently. D. Chasar reported 25 at a **Summit** feeder as the "most in a long time" on 17 Jan.

White-winged crossbill: A single record, from the **Grand Rapids-Waterville** CBC 31 Dec.

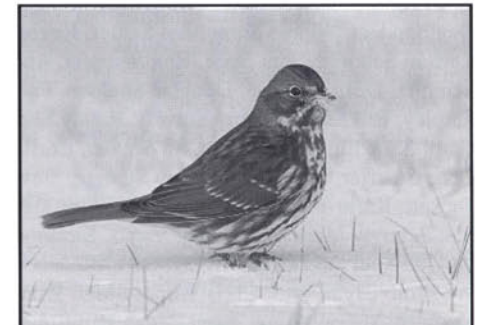
Common redpoll: Reported from **Lake**, with feeder birds 28 Dec and 5 Feb (J. Pogacnik), and the **Ashtabula** CBC of 17 Dec, with seven birds.

Pine siskin: Seemed down in numbers, with a high count of 20 on the **Hocking** CBC of 2 Jan.

Evening grosbeak: The sole report was of three birds 8 Feb at an **Ashtabula** feeder (T. Glassburner).



Staying in Columbus from late Dec till at least 8 Jan was this summer tanager. Report *fide* J. McCormac.



Five fox sparrows were in photographer Brian Zwiebel's back yard on 18 Dec. Even in black and white, this one stands out.

Contributors: We are indebted to the following individuals and organizations who contributed sightings data to the Reports: Scott Albaugh, Phillip Allman, Matt Anderson, Nancy Anderson, Rick Asamoto, Tom Bain, Zac Baker, Tom Bartlett, Greg Bennett, Joe Bens, Andy Bess, Ned Bixler, Charlie Bombaci, Aaron Boone, David Brinkman, Jeff Brown, Erik Bruder, Lori Brumbaugh, Jen Brumfield, Mike Busam, Neill Cade, Steve Cagan, Craig Caldwell, Steve Carleton, Paul Chad, Philip Chaon, Allen Chartier, Dwight Chasar, Hans Clebsch, Chris & Suzanne Clingman, Denis Conover, Rick Cottrell, Rick Counts, Patrick Coy, Glen Crippen, Ben Crow, Becky Cullen, Jeff Cullen, Donna Daniel, Lois Day, Leo Deininger, Gary Dietz, Chris Distel, Dave Dister, Jim Dolan, Andy Doll, Laura Dornan, Doug Dunakin, Micki Dunakin, John Dunn, Shane Egleston, Jason Estep, Bob Faber, Tim Fairweather, Joe Faulkner, Vic Fazio, Tom Ford, Bob Foppe, Frank Frick, August Froehlich, Jim Fry, Chris Gajewicz, Mike Gallaway, John Games, Brian Gara, Larry Gara, Paul Gardner, Neil Gilbert, Tom Glassburner, Bruce Glick, Laura Gooch, John Habig, Scott Hackett, Scott Hannan, Lois Harder, Betty Hardesty, Rob Harlan, Sandy Harlan, Bob Harter, Jeff Hays, Bill Heck, Jim Heflich, Michele Hendrick, Dave Hess, Jean Hoffman, Craig Holt, Ken Hoover, Dave Horn, Nancy Howell, William Hull, Sally Isacco, Shari Jackson, Bill Jones, Lynn Josefson, Ned Keller, Tom Kemp, Kenn Kaufman, Cynthia Kelly, Ethan Kistler, Everitt Kitchen, Ron Kolde, Judy Kolo-Rose, John Kuenzli, Steve Landes, Bob Lane, Denise Lane, Jason Larson, Tom Le Page, Jay Lehman, Gabe Leidy, Greg Links, Doreene Linzell, Fred Losi, Rob Lowry, Paula Lozano, Bernard Master, Pat McCarthy, Rich McCarty, Jim McCormac, Eric McElroy, Joe McMahan, Brian Menker, Bob McNulty, Kevin Metcalf, Gary Meszaros, Bruce Miller, Kathy Mock, Ben Morrison, Donald Morse, Eric Mulholland, Scott Myers, Jim O'Boyle, Helen Ostermiller, Doug Overacker, Al Parker, John Perchalski, Haans Petruschke, Lester Peyton, Brad Phillips, Ed Pierce, Cindy Ploch, John Pogacnik, Gary Popotnik, Bob Powell, Len Powlick, Eric Reiner, Frank Renfrow, Richard Rickard, Craig Rieker, Bill Rinehart, Paul Rodewald, Randel Rogers, Mary Anne Romito, Tom Romito, Larry Rosche, Bob Royse, Dan Sanders, Winnie Sarno, Jen Sauter, Kevin Schieltz, Regina Schieltz, Ed Schlabach, Carlton Schooley, Jim Scott, Ron Sempier, Andy Sewell, Jon Seymour, Dan & Wanda Schmitz, Dean Sheldon, Douglas Sheldon, Paul Sherwood, July Shieldcastle, Amy Shipley, Bill Shively, Troy Shively, Randy Shonkwiler, Darlene Sillick, Bruce Simpson, Carol Skowlin, Doug Snapp, Su Snyder, Chris Spagnoli, Brad Sparks, Bill Stanley, Gene Stauffer, Jack Stenger, Jay Stenger, Steve Stockman, Matt Studebaker, Sue Tackett, Karin Tanquist, Rob Thorn, Elliot Tramer, Dan Tumblin, Pam Unger, Manon Van Schoyk, Mark Vass, Doug Vogus, Suzanne Wagner, Sam Walker, John Watts, Wayne Wauligman, Dan Weber, Kirk Westendorf, Bill Whan, Pete Whan, Paul Wharton, Clyde Witt, Chris Wood, Susan Woolard, Scott Wright, Brian Wulker, John Yochum, Sheryl Young, Sean Zadar, Bill Zimmerman, and Brian Zwiebel. We also gratefully acknowledge information received from the editors of the *Bobolink*, the *Cleveland Bird Calendar*, the Ohio Division of Wildlife, the Black Swamp Bird Observatory, and internet resources managed by Chuck Anderson, the Ohio Ornithological Society, and Ned Keller.

Further Afield

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Just like clockwork, turkey vultures return to Hinckley, Ohio on precisely March 15 each and every year. And just as reliably, once a year I venture out to my garage, dust off my trusty time machine, and travel back in time at 10-year intervals to sample the Ohio birding scene of days gone by.

For established *Cardinal* readers, the existence of my time machine should by now be a matter of unquestioning certainty and enduring doctrine. Even so, I must admit that an insignificant and presumably envious handful of crabby readers continue to deny its existence, preferring to believe that instead of using a time machine, I actually consult old ornithological journals and history books and web sites to gather my facts. But to these surly readers, and to newcomers to my columns, let me offer reassurance that the existence of my time machine is every bit as dependable and unimpeachable as the regular and punctual return of the buzzards to Hinckley. Right? Right. Good.

It is always something of an adventure just to be able to reach the time machine in my garage, as another year's worth of detritus must first be cleared away to allow access. This year, and for unknown reasons, someone had piled (not one, but three!) croquet sets, a set of lawn darts (unused, and in their original box!), a fine assortment of tiki-themed citronella candles, and even one of those metallic, spheroid gazing balls, complete with pedestal, in front of or atop my precious time machine. Not to be denied, however, I overcame these indignities, brushed off the year's thickness of accumulated stray lawn clippings, sawdust, and desiccated fly carcasses, and filled 'er up with a leftover can full of Sohio's Super Cetron gasoline. So, I'm ready if you are—just remember, the first several stops may be a tad rough and uneven, as our balky conveyance gains its composure. Our first stop is.....

Winter 1875-76

Jack London, author of The Call of the Wild and White Fang, is born on January 12. On January 24, Bat Masterson is badly wounded in a gunfight in Sweetwater, Texas. Competitors Elisha Gray (of Barnesville, Ohio and Oberlin College) and Alexander Graham Bell both apply for the first patents for the telephone on February 14.

As usual, a fogged windshield dims our view of these early stops. Please be patient...there, that's better. Now we can see J.M. Wheaton collecting a lapland longspur in Columbus on February 19. Wheaton doesn't know it at the time, but in the 1940s Alexander Wetmore will identify this specimen (#203070 in the U.S. National Museum) as *Calcarius lapponicus alascensis*, the "Alaskan Longspur," a subspecies of lapland longspur that nests in Alaska and the Yukon Territory, and normally winters in the western U.S. and Great Plains. It may still be the only record

of this form from Ohio, but I'm not sure if anyone's actually looked for another. Onward.....

Winter 1905-06

Howard Hughes (December 24), Henny Youngman (January 12, or perhaps March 16, depending on what you read), Aristotle Onassis (January 15), and Bugsy Siegel (February 28) are born. Not much else happens.

As I feared, our unruly time machine has completely passed by the winters of 1885-86 and 1895-96. My fervent apologies, but at least we land in a relatively calm period. Not so calm, however, for snowy owls, as three of four owls found in Trumbull, Ashtabula, and Mahoning counties are "taken." H. McConnell sees another in Cadiz December 14, this one being kept in a cage after being winged by a farmer. The more tranquil Vermilion River gorge near Brownhelm Mills in Lorain County induces a white-throated sparrow to overwinter, the first such occurrence recorded by veteran birder Lynds Jones.

Winter 1915-16

On December 7, President Woodrow Wilson requests a standing army of 142,000, with 400,000 reserves, as the U.S. heads into The Great War. Albert Einstein publishes his General Theory of Relativity on December 16. Three striking workers are killed, and many more are injured, by company guards at the Youngstown Steel & Tube Co. on January 7.

Despite the troubled times, on December 25 Youngstown birders discover a wood thrush on their Christmas Bird Count. Possibly reflecting both their city and their times, the CBC compiler writes that the thrush "was possibly crippled, but could fly quite well."

Winter 1925-26

Soupy Sales is born on January 8. The newly-invented "television" is demonstrated by John L. Baird in London on January 27. Walt Disney Studios is formed on February 8. The same day, the German Reichstag applies for membership in the League of Nations.

The Wooster birding crew rings up rarities such as a long-eared owl on January 8, an eastern meadowlark on January 17, and a short-eared owl on January 20, but are most pleased with a field sparrow found on January 10, a bird deemed "quite unusual." Two wintering song sparrows are a topic of considerable and grave discussion in Cleveland, where the editor of *The Cleveland Bird Calendar* states that "It will apparently require close observation for several more consecutive years by several different observers...before we shall be prepared to give any definite authoritative opinion on the extent to which the Song Sparrow is becoming a non-migratory [species] in this region and latitude." Not to be outdone, flocks of Canada geese pass over Oberlin on February 11 and 14.

Winter 1935-36

Author Rudyard Kipling dies on January 8. His work The Man Who Would Be King was based on the life of Josiah Harlan, who was the first American in Afghanistan, and who would ultimately be named "Prince of Ghor" by the Hazara people, a title he and his progeny were to hold in perpetuity. Go ahead, look it up. Although actually a distant relative of Josiah Harlan, your friendly columnist Rob Harlan has never sought to reap any benefits from this arrangement; even so, he is keeping his options open. On January 29, the first five members of Baseball's Hall of Fame are named: Ty Cobb, Walter Johnson, Christy Mathewson, Babe Ruth, and Honus Wagner. Fullback Jim Brown, not to be confused with musician James Brown, is born on February 17. Chancellor Adolph Hitler opens Germany's first Volkswagen factory on February 26.

Here we find the Ashtabula CBC of December 27 really hopping, with a glaucous gull, seven great black-backed gulls, and 17 long-tailed ducks all gathering around at a "discharge of heated water." Merit Skaggs discovers Ohio's first wild mute swan to little fanfare in Cleveland on January 26, but Lou Campbell is pleased to kick up 88 northern bobwhites in Toledo on February 23.

Winter 1945-46

Following the May surrender of Germany and the August surrender of Japan, most U.S. wartime rationing has been concluded by this season. On December 27, the U.S., Great Britain, and the Soviet Union agree to divide Korea into two occupation zones. The first General Assembly of the United Nations convenes on January 10. In February, the U.S. War Department announces that it has developed an extremely sophisticated calculator, or "computer," which occupies a room and uses more than 18,000 vacuum tubes.

While others occupy Korea, Milt Trautman occupies an ice-fishing shanty a half-mile west of South Bass Island. On January 20, he watches a soaring, flapping, and croaking common raven for five minutes; on February 24, he identifies an Iceland gull by voice; and two days later he collects Ohio's first Thayer's gull, then considered a race of herring gull, but elevated to full specific status in 1973. At the opposite side of the state, a northern shrike on the Ashtabula CBC December 23 takes the easy way out, preferring to capture gizzard shad entombed in lakeshore drift ice.

Winter 1955-56

Rosa Parks keeps her seat on a Montgomery, Alabama bus on December 1. On December 6, Dr. Joyce Brothers wins big on the TV quiz show \$64,000 Question by correctly answering seven boxing questions. Truck driver Elvis Presley holds his first RCA recording session on January 5. Tennessee Ernie Ford's Sixteen Tons remains atop the Billboard pop charts for eight weeks. On February 4, teenager George L. Wright III wins \$100,000 on the quiz show The Big Surprise.

Surprisingly, Wright announces his first purchase is expected to be a tippie, a form of ukulele.

A low-key season, apparently. We do note, however, that 16 barn owls are found on eight CBCs, and that loggerhead shrikes outnumber northern shrikes on CBCs four to three. A wintering eared grebe pleases many at Akron's Summit Lake, and a male common eider is spied on Cleveland's lakefront January 14. Nearby, a "noisy flock" of 30 pine grosbeaks infests North Chagrin Reservation on February 12.

Winter 1965-66

Gemini 7 is launched by NASA on December 4. A Charlie Brown Christmas debuts on December 9. On January 7, the U.S. and Australian armies launch Operation CRIMP near Saigon. Batman, starring Adam West and Burt Ward, debuts on January 12. Timely Billboard #1 hits during the period include Turn! Turn! Turn! by the Byrds, We Can Work It Out by the Beatles, and The Sounds of Silence by Simon & Garfunkel.

A very active season everywhere, it seems. Ohio's first black-headed gull is found in Cleveland on December 13. This new arrival is counterbalanced by the 21 gray partridges, a species definitely on its way out, seen on the Utica CBC (Licking and Knox counties) December 23. A flock of 40-45 pine grosbeaks, with a ratio of one adult male to five females/immatures, winters at Holden Arboretum, just east of Cleveland. Oddball warblers seen this season include a Cape May, two ovenbirds, a northern waterthrush, and an adult male Wilson's seen by many in Barnesville December 31-January 12. Somehow reflecting world events, black-capped chickadees stage a major invasion of the south, reaching at least as far as Marietta.

Winter 1975-76

Laos falls to Communist forces on December 3. Sara Jane Moore pleads guilty on December 12, and Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme is sentenced to life in prison on December 17—both had attempted to assassinate President Gerald Ford. Golfer Tiger Woods is born on December 30. Henry Kissinger and Leonid Brezhnev continue to discuss the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT II).

Ohio's first (and only) ivory gull stuns observers in Cleveland December 17-19, being seen "at times less than 15 feet from observers." Black-capped chickadees are on the move again, including "[a] great wave...from the north" in Toledo, and outnumbering Carolinas at a Marietta banding station. A rose-breasted grosbeak wintering at a Youngstown feeder is trumped by a black-headed grosbeak wintering at a Cincinnati feeder. Single Bewick's wrens are found at feeders in Summit and Geauga counties on January 13 and February 6. Just as impressive, however, is a pair of house finches wintering at a Cleveland Heights feeder—"identification was confirmed by persons who were familiar with the species and further verified by an examination of skins in the Cleveland Museum of Natural History of all similar species."

Winter 1985-86

Libyan leader Muammar al-Qaddafi threatens to retaliate should the U.S. attack his nation. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day is first celebrated as a national holiday on January 20. The explosion of the space shuttle Challenger shocks the world on January 28. Following the Tylenol contamination, Johnson & Johnson announces on February 17 that they will no longer offer drugs for sale in capsules.

Huron steals the show, harboring Ohio's first Pacific loon December 7-10, and Ohio's second mew gull December 7-8. House finches have apparently increased somewhat since 1975, considering the flock of 2000+ seen in a sunflower field in Pickaway County on December 8. Peak gull counts at Eastlake include five Thayer's, 300 great black-backed, and 14 glaucous gulls. The largest long-eared owl roost is located at Killdeer Plains, where 16+ birds are "excessively harassed by thoughtless birders."

Winter 1995-96

On December 14, the Dayton Peace Accords, a peace treaty for Bosnia, which had been negotiated at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, is signed in Paris. The Alta Vista web search engine is debuted on December 15. President Bill Clinton has plenty to handle, including federal government budgetary shutdowns, the Whitewater scandal, various interns, etc. On February 15, the Toronto Globe and Star newspaper announces that pesticides used on fields in Argentina are killing tens of thousands of wintering Swainson's hawks. Princess Diana agrees to divorce Prince Charles on February 28.

Looks like a great winter. Many birders run the northwestern Ohio rarity route, gathering up a gyrfalcon in Paulding County, a Harris's sparrow in Henry County, 17 Brewer's blackbirds in Sandusky County, a wintering northern goshawk at Maumee Bay State Park, and both crossbills and both redpolls at Woodlawn Cemetery in Toledo. For larophiles, Thayer's gulls are found at four sites, Iceland gulls at eight sites, and lesser black-backed and glaucous gulls at nine sites each. All are eclipsed, however, when Rob Harlan discovers a wintering varied thrush at Nathan Hale Park in Parma Heights on January 23. Seen by tens of grateful birders, Harlan is later awarded the prestigious "Parma Heights Birder of the Century" citation at the annual Parma Heights and Vicinity Ornithological Congress. Plans to reinstate Harlan to his rightful position as "Prince of Ghor" have yet to come to fruition, however.

Winter 2005-06

I'll bet Bill Whan knows what has been seen in this current season. Seek his wisdom.

Winter 2015-16

Wintering warblers continue to increase. Gulls continue to frustrate. Winter finches continue to tantalize. The "Prince of Ghor" continues to pen breathtakingly poignant, yet tastefully understated birding columns from his self-imposed exile in northeastern Ohio.

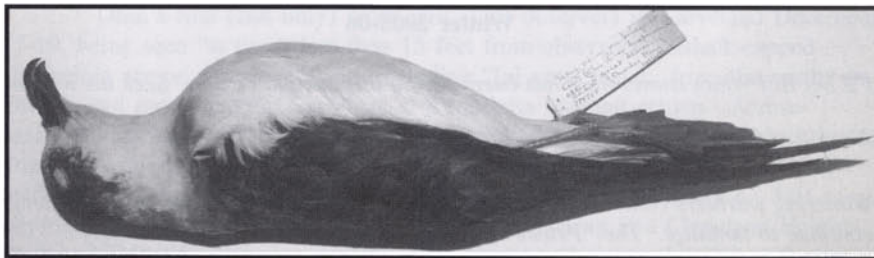
Short Note: Ohio's Black-capped Petrel Records

by Robert Foppe
5476 Mt. Zion Road, Milford OH 45150
fopsinc@aol.com

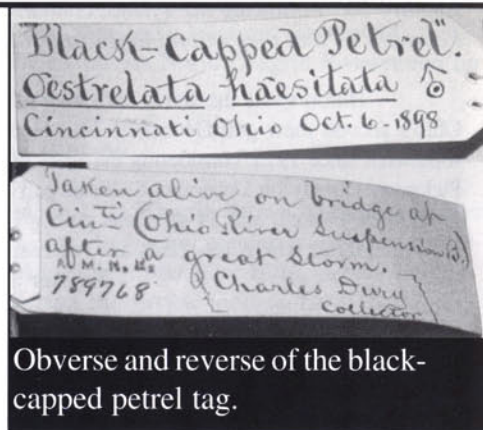
As recently as three years ago there was an effort to uncover some of the mysteries behind the appearance of black-capped petrels in the Cincinnati area after a hurricane passage in October 1898. You can read Bill Whan's article in the Ohio Cardinal Vol. 26 (2):71-76.

The article makes it clear some questions remain about the occurrence of the petrels. First, exactly how many birds were involved? Second, were the birds ever actually in Ohio? Third, are there any specimens still in existence other than the one housed at the Cincinnati Museum Center?

While I wish I could answer the first two questions, I do not have any relevant new information. As to the third, I have come across another specimen. The specimen was found in the ornithology collection of the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH). Thanks to Tom Trombone of AMNH, we know the specimen was in the collection of Dr. Leonard C. Sanford and the tag reveals it was a male collected by Charles Dury on the suspension bridge in Cincinnati on 10/5/1898. Given this information, it seems this is the specimen dug up from the manure heap at the Cincinnati Zoo by Dury. There were reports that Dury had sold this specimen, but no one was positive as to who bought it, where it went, and where the specimen is today. From the information provided by the AMNH, skin #749105 appears to be that missing Dury specimen. Dr. Sanford (1868-1950), of New Haven, CT, was an enthusiastic collector. As an AMNH trustee, he was a very significant benefactor to its collections.



Lateral view of the Ohio black-capped petrel skin discovered at the American Museum of Natural History in New York.



Obverse and reverse of the black-capped petrel tag.

The 2005-2006 Christmas Bird Counts

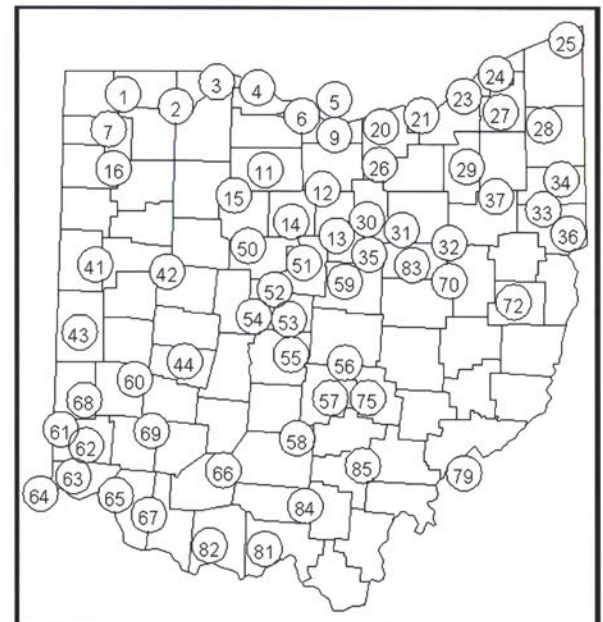
Ned Keller
7899 Bridgetown Rd., Cleves, OH 45002
keller@one.net

The following tables present results from 64 CBC circles, including a new one, Caesar Creek/Spring Valley, whose 88 species were the state's second highest. Millersburg took high species count honors with 95. Other high circles were Cincinnati (87 species); Cuyahoga Falls (85); Adams Co., Brown Family Educational Center, Ottawa N.W.R., and Toledo (all with 84); and Hamilton-Fairfield (84). We found a total of 155 species statewide this year, up from last year's 150, plus three additional species count week.

The list includes fully 23 species found in only a single circle. One species not listed is northern saw-whet owl. A few years ago, I wouldn't have been too surprised that none of this notoriously secretive species were found, though we have in fact found at least one in each of the past ten years. But recent banding studies show they are far more common than we thought. The Lake Monroe, Indiana counters found nine this year by playing tapes. Ohio counters should take that number as a challenge for next year.

In an invasion year for red-breasted nuthatches, we found 869, on 60 of the 64 counts. Over the past ten years, we managed to find them on no more than 50 counts. Other species normally quite scarce were easier to find this year, for example gray catbird and chipping sparrow. Both species are the subject of regular misidentifications, but these numbers are far too high to be explained by errors. Still, the only rare warblers found this year were the semi-expected pine warbler, palm warbler and common yellowthroat.

As in past years, I have attempted to report the results as I received them, without editorial comment on doubtful records. Anyone wishing to use these data for serious purposes should verify them with the individual count compilers.



Map numbers correspond to count numbers in the following reports.

Christmas Bird Count Results

	Adams County 12/17/2005 (82)	Ashland 12/17/2005 (30)	Ashtabula 12/17/2005 (25)	Beaver Creek 12/31/2005 (36)	Beaver Valley 12/17/2005 (84)	Brown Family Env. Center 12/18/2005 (55)	Black Swamp 12/14/2005 (16)	Buckeye Lake 12/17/2005 (56)	Bucyrus 12/16/2005 (14)	Burton 1/1/2006 (27)	Cadiz 12/31/2005 (72)	Caesar Cr. / Spring Valley 12/15/2005 (69)
Greater White-fronted Goose	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Snow Goose	1	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---
Ross's Goose	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Cackling Goose	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4	---	---	---	---
Canada Goose	1099	1068	1647	370	40	3103	215	746	275	3662	221	469
Mule Swan	---	2	---	---	---	2	---	---	---	2	---	---
Trumpeter Swan	---	4	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Tundra Swan	---	---	5	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Wood Duck	3	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2
Gadwall	2	1	2	---	---	13	---	---	---	---	---	10
American Wigeon	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2
American Black Duck	34	4	27	4	6	5	---	2	---	6	5	64
Mallard	158	345	229	209	152	172	---	288	11	514	61	2451
American Black Duck x Mallard	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Northern Shoveler	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	51	---	---	---	3
Northern Pintail	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1
Green-winged Teal	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	3	---	---	---	---
Canvasback	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	76
Redhead	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2
Ring-necked Duck	---	---	---	---	---	3	---	---	---	---	---	56
Greater Scaup	---	---	325	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1
Lesser Scaup	1	---	8	---	2	6	---	---	---	---	---	4
scaup sp.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Harlequin Duck	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Surf Scoter	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
White-winged Scoter	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Black Scoter	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Long-tailed Duck	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Bufflehead	---	---	15	---	---	20	---	---	---	---	---	5
Common Goldeneye	---	---	5	---	---	6	---	---	---	---	---	5
Hooded Merganser	24	---	26	---	4	7	---	---	---	---	---	5
Common Merganser	---	---	344	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	4
Red-breasted Merganser	---	---	271	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Ruddy Duck	---	---	3	---	1	17	---	1	---	---	---	---
duck sp.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Ring-necked Pheasant	---	---	---	---	---	10	---	5	1	---	---	3
Ruffed Grouse	1	---	1	4	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	6
Wild Turkey	2	58	98	41	2	60	46	---	---	81	77	46
Northern Bobwhite	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Common Loon	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	2
Pied-billed Grebe	---	1	1	---	---	4	---	---	---	---	---	6
Horned Grebe	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	24
Northern Gannet	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Double-crested Cormorant	1	---	8	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Great Blue Heron	9	19	---	2	8	9	ow	12	2	2	3	24
Great Egret	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Black-crowned Night-Heron	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Black Vulture	192	---	---	---	27	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Turkey Vulture	6	---	---	---	42	2	---	---	---	---	---	---
Bald Eagle	1	2	2	ow	---	3	---	---	---	3	1	---
Northern Harrier	27	2	1	3	9	2	4	3	3	---	1	8
Sharp-shinned Hawk	8	2	4	---	2	2	---	2	---	2	1	5
Cooper's Hawk	8	11	6	4	4	13	4	4	4	2	2	8
Northern Goshawk	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Accipiter sp.	---	---	---	1	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Red-shouldered Hawk	4	4	---	1	12	2	---	1	---	23	---	9
Broad-winged Hawk	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Red-tailed Hawk	55	46	33	26	56	68	10	34	10	31	17	21
Rough-legged Hawk	1	6	1	1	2	9	ow	4	1	2	3	---
Buteo sp.	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	---

Keller

	Carey 12/31/2005 (15)	Cincinnati 12/26/2005 (65)	Clark County 12/16/2005 (44)	Cleveland 12/17/2005 (23)	Columbus 12/16/2005 (65)	Cuyahoga Falls 12/18/2005 (29)	Dayton 12/31/2005 (60)	Delaware Reservoir 12/18/2005 (62)	East Fork Lake S.P. 1/2/2006 (67)	Elyria-Lorain 12/30/2005 (20)	Firelands 12/17/2005 (9)	Goli Woods 12/17/2005 (1)	Grand Lake-St. Marys 12/18/2005 (41)	Grand Rapids-Waterville 12/31/2005 (2)	Greenville 12/18/2005 (43)	Gypsum 12/26/2005 (6)
---	---	---	5	---	ow	---	1	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
618	3131	1862	475	5291	4123	3808	2492	1128	2180	3595	2	646	406	641	3765	
---	---	3	---	ow	28	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	---	21
---	---	---	---	---	ow	7	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2
---	---	8	1	ow	2	1	---	1	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	1
---	25	19	---	2	1	2	---	6	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	54
---	22	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	36
12	9	5	4	575	29	39	4	3	---	38	---	1	22	---	131	
496	513	696	168	1546	2515	811	47	244	352	1574	6	183	707	103	1932	
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1
---	ow	26	3	ow	---	3	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	69
---	ow	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	1	1	1	2
---	39	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	33	---	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	45	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	29	---	---	1	1	---	---	---	---	89	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	164	---	---	73	46	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3
---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	5	---	4	---	28	---	---	16	55	---	---	---	---	---	---	31
---	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	4	---	---	---	---	7	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	4	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	3	---	ow	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	58	---	2	---	4	3	---	2	23	---	---	---	---	---	---	5
---	4	---	25	---	14	3	---	1	107	---	---	---	---	---	---	1824
---	63	1	---	49	26	44	---	6	---	11	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	1	---	7	---	---	ow	---	---	22	---	---	---	---	---	---	42
---	---	---	250	---	18	---	---	4	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	5
---	37	---	1	1	24	---	---	---	16	---	---	---	---	---	---	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	54	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	1	---	4	5	---	4	4	---	---	1	---	---	---
ow	13	2	---	5	34	---	45	97	---	---	---	---	15	5	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	ow	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
5	31	---	4	5	8	4	---	10	1	1	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	2	2	---	---	---	15	6	---	---	---	---	---	---	7
---	53	20	1	52	45	43	5	8	6	1	2	16	3	6	81	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	6
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	54
---	232	1	---	---	---	---	---	12	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	187	1	---	1	---	---	---	23	---	---	---	4	---	---	1	---
13	1	1	4	---	4	---	3	ow	4	3	---	2	6	---	26	---
9	6	1	---	6	---	7	15	2	---	2	5	4	2	3	---	---
1	4	2	1	1	10	3	5	1	2	2	1	2	5	---	---	---
7	8	3	18	35	29	7	9	5	4	13	6	7	8	12	4	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	1	---	---	---	---	---	4	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	---
1	11	---	8	2	35	1	---	19	1	---	---	---	3	1	1	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
27	56	9	21	42	105	46	50	18	23	37	18	30	20	33	14	---
1	---	---	---	6	1	---	2	---	1	---	1	1	ow	---	1	---
---	3	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Christmas Bird Count Results

	Adams County 12/1/2005 (82)	Ashland 12/1/2005 (30)	Ashtabula 12/1/2005 (25)	Beaver Creek 12/3/2005 (36)	Beaver Valley 12/1/2005 (84)	Brown Family Env. Center 12/18/2005 (59)	Black Swamp 12/14/2005 (16)	Buckeye Lake 12/17/2005 (56)	Bucyrus 12/16/2005 (14)	Burton 1/1/2006 (27)	Cadiz 12/31/2005 (72)	Caesar Cr. / Spring Valley 12/15/2005 (69)
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	4	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	73	22	83
Eastern Bluebird	285	91	40	52	123	62	8	11	12	---	---	---
Swainson's Thrush	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Hermil Thrush	1	2	1	---	10	1	---	---	---	---	---	31
American Robin	389	50	38	5	66	7	---	4	17	52	4	593
Gray Catbird	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Northern Mockingbird	42	2	---	8	45	9	---	10	---	---	4	9
Brown Thrasher	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2
European Starling	2605	1672	1788	938	4422	1200	624	983	520	1859	453	2140
American Pipit	---	2	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	1
Cedar Waxwing	177	20	---	---	89	6	5	---	12	8	---	156
Yellow-rumped Warbler	123	16	---	---	26	1	5	1	---	---	---	21
Pine Warbler	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Palm Warbler	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Common Yellowthroat	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Eastern Towhee	29	8	cw	1	69	9	---	6	3	---	1	65
American Tree Sparrow	106	311	130	52	88	238	309	37	34	127	41	248
Chipping Sparrow	---	1	---	---	---	7	---	---	---	---	---	3
Field Sparrow	53	27	4	8	20	1	---	---	---	---	2	22
Vesper Sparrow	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Savannah Sparrow	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---
Grasshopper Sparrow	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Fox Sparrow	2	11	2	---	3	1	---	---	7	---	---	2
Song Sparrow	171	143	6	96	243	111	77	87	10	17	16	312
Lincoln's Sparrow	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Swamp Sparrow	41	5	---	---	15	11	1	---	---	---	---	83
White-throated Sparrow	104	112	14	8	117	58	1	25	8	18	5	229
White-crowned Sparrow	201	41	cw	---	85	115	8	20	---	---	14	29
sparrow sp.	---	---	---	---	1	7	---	---	---	---	---	---
Dark-eyed Junco	541	477	289	217	283	448	454	78	75	209	67	225
Lapland Longspur	---	---	---	---	3	7	---	22	---	---	---	50
Snow Bunting	---	---	7	---	2	400	---	---	---	---	---	---
Northern Cardinal	308	302	137	117	210	429	68	118	54	213	41	390
Dickcissel	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1
Red-winged Blackbird	50	6	cw	---	1200	8	---	105	---	---	---	---
Eastern Meadowlark	56	2	---	---	27	8	13	---	---	---	---	---
Rusty Blackbird	---	cw	---	---	2	4	1	---	---	---	---	1
blackbird sp.	30	---	---	---	12	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Common Grackle	148	6	---	1	6650	9	---	150	---	---	2	2
Brown-headed Cowbird	---	14	---	3	55	15	17	51	22	1	---	---
Baltimore Oriole	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Purple Finch	55	---	2	---	---	3	---	---	---	---	---	3
House Finch	68	98	112	74	51	240	16	22	17	272	44	79
White-winged Crossbill	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Common Redpoll	---	---	7	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Pine Siskin	---	cw	4	---	---	cw	cw	---	---	---	---	2
American Goldfinch	228	286	118	73	132	286	76	33	125	528	95	201
Evening Grosbeak	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
finch sp.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
House Sparrow	226	403	174	339	62	444	725	355	240	252	44	170
total species	84	71	66	50	73	84	44	57	51	49	52	88
total individuals	10736	7780	14802	4437	18171	9973	4029	4367	2448	9994	1914	10789
observers	25	21	13	13	24	30	8	11	1	23	11	36
party hours	96.00	63.50	51.50	47.25	61.75	84.00	20.00	25.00	12.00	47.00	32.25	255.00

Keller

	Carey 12/31/2005 (15)	Cincinnati 12/26/2005 (65)	Clark County 12/16/2005 (44)	Cleveland 12/17/2005 (23)	Columbus 12/18/2005 (55)	Cuyahoga Falls 12/18/2005 (29)	Dayton 12/31/2005 (60)	Delaware Reservoir 12/18/2005 (52)	East Fork Lake S.P. 1/2/2006 (67)	Elyria-Lorain 12/30/2005 (20)	Firelands 12/17/2005 (9)	Goli Woods 12/17/2005 (1)	Grand Lake-St. Marys 12/18/2005 (41)	Grand Rapids-Waterville 12/31/2005 (2)	Greenville 12/18/2005 (43)	Gypsum 12/26/2005 (6)
---	7	---	---	---	ow	7	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	1
5	125	10	35	27	138	36	67	136	43	35	8	---	---	60	14	3
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	14	9	---	16	3	8	---	---	6	---	2	1	---	7	1	---
3	18301	228	519	1682	1076	4027	333	2120	62	49	---	---	9	70	34	132
---	---	---	---	---	---	3	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1	77	1	8	34	---	6	38	1	---	---	---	---	---	12	5	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1363	19401	585	369	46947	4537	11230	3456	3244	6575	561	580	2369	3918	1676	2336	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1	216	9	75	6	87	---	6	393	---	18	2	---	---	2	14	---
---	124	8	---	20	7	14	6	81	15	3	---	---	---	3	5	5
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
2	87	8	1	12	17	5	4	38	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
128	288	11	43	312	711	89	291	153	35	254	24	183	138	96	174	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	3	1	---	---	---	3	1	---
---	79	---	---	1	14	17	1	15	3	---	---	---	---	7	53	1
---	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	3	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	1	---	1	3	5	1	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	1	1	---
115	711	42	23	223	354	63	260	351	20	63	27	216	46	324	48	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
23	27	1	1	1	14	---	2	32	---	---	---	---	---	---	11	---
28	624	159	117	514	712	363	106	365	56	98	1	14	48	15	54	---
7	23	5	---	10	28	---	58	12	---	6	---	6	22	49	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
242	354	67	300	450	1061	185	385	214	258	327	144	130	412	334	39	---
2	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	---	---	6	5	754	1	---	---
---	---	6	---	1	---	---	223	---	---	---	230	105	650	87	---	---
198	1186	101	166	716	1117	247	430	431	133	130	57	86	218	157	88	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1	106	2	---	cw	5	1	4	1	1	3	---	---	---	---	---	---
1	3	---	---	---	---	---	35	11	---	---	---	---	1	---	7	1
---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	3	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	496	5	---	34	30	3	6	5507	---	2	---	---	---	4	---	41
1	3	---	---	76	49	11	1	43	---	10	---	---	3	3	1170	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	1	15	---	20	---	---	---	---	---	35	2	---
83	207	57	102	435	508	169	217	72	113	176	49	92	288	97	46	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	2	---	3	---	3	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	10	---	1
177	418	51	164	408	1122	158	210	138	99	117	23	54	293	114	63	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
589	479	216	306	1469	1714	298	857	161	624	203	458	1045	376	861	1802	---
57	87	60	72	77	85	66	66	73	60	69	45	44	64	59	69	---
5364	56784	25248	21480	67227	27879	23294	12848	21039	29227	14862	2401	6706	10555	6976	19664	---
13	83	8	48	47	93	46	33	17	19	24	7	8	27	17	5	---
30.00	167.00	30.00	92.50	118.00	225.00	68.25	79.75	34.75	58.75	50.50	20.00	33.25	58.75	52.25	28.50	---

Christmas Bird Count Results

	Hamilton-Fairfield 12/17/2005 (62)	Hocking Hills 12/2006 (65)	Hoover Reservoir 12/17/2005 (63)	Indian Lake 12/17/2005 (42)	Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area 1/1/2006 (60)	Kingston 1/1/2006 (68)	Lake Erie Islands 12/18/2005 (5)	Lakewood 12/3/2005 (21)	Lancaster 12/3/2005 (67)	Mansfield 12/17/2005 (13)	Mentor 12/18/2005 (24)	Millersburg 12/17/2005 (83)
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	5	---	1	---	---	---	3	---	---	1	---	---
Eastern Bluebird	54	116	89	7	6	64	3	7	47	150	43	526
Swainson's Thrush	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Hermil Thrush	6	7	14	---	---	3	95	cw	1	5	---	2
American Robin	1479	298	345	5	3	57	571	603	102	28	87	115
Gray Catbird	---	---	---	1	---	1	---	---	1	2	1	---
Northern Mockingbird	11	7	8	1	1	16	---	3	5	2	---	128
Brown Thrasher	1	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
European Starling	21657	1412	2836	1913	1351	16419	3854	1503	1333	1209	2025	2222
American Pipit	6	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	23	---	7
Cedar Waxwing	1	1	24	---	---	---	75	---	---	39	---	1
Yellow-rumped Warbler	5	8	10	1	---	17	53	---	10	3	---	55
Pine Warbler	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Palm Warbler	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	cw
Common Yellowthroat	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Eastern Towhee	8	71	7	---	---	29	---	cw	10	6	---	148
American Tree Sparrow	157	46	48	164	166	390	77	43	34	166	60	1746
Chipping Sparrow	---	5	6	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1
Field Sparrow	4	35	---	1	---	15	---	1	---	1	---	83
Vesper Sparrow	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	1
Savannah Sparrow	2	---	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	11
Grasshopper Sparrow	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Fox Sparrow	5	2	3	---	---	1	---	1	1	2	---	2
Song Sparrow	208	83	41	310	35	351	19	24	81	89	7	1866
Lincoln's Sparrow	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Swamp Sparrow	20	1	7	1	4	10	5	1	1	6	---	77
White-throated Sparrow	227	56	164	16	16	153	152	58	52	51	20	515
White-crowned Sparrow	13	1	12	4	20	109	3	---	10	33	---	859
sparrow sp.	---	---	---	115	---	---	8	---	4	---	---	---
Dark-eyed Junco	90	231	185	179	39	220	165	231	129	761	105	1150
Lapland Longspur	5	---	---	8	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1
Snow Bunting	20	---	---	226	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	40
Northern Cardinal	180	161	265	128	189	200	150	153	219	426	107	2096
Dickcissel	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Red-winged Blackbird	24	5	---	---	10	238	---	22	1	---	3	98
Eastern Meadowlark	---	---	---	10	6	7	---	---	---	1	---	21
Rusty Blackbird	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	12
blackbird sp.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	175	---	---	27
Common Grackle	45	6194	2	---	---	2970	---	8	717	210	---	41
Brown-headed Cowbird	40	120	cw	cw	9	6	4	10	4	9	89	180
Baltimore Oriole	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Purple Finch	---	3	2	---	---	---	2	---	2	5	---	1
House Finch	39	---	99	42	29	68	65	339	63	278	56	540
White-winged Crossbill	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Common Redpoll	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Pine Siskin	---	20	cw	---	---	---	---	4	---	1	8	---
American Goldfinch	189	93	173	86	607	99	68	227	200	462	151	759
Evening Grosbeak	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
finch sp.	---	---	---	---	---	---	15	---	---	---	---	---
House Sparrow	82	20	153	1167	550	778	369	526	203	522	417	2217
total species	83	64	78	56	55	71	63	68	62	68	66	95
total individuals	30686	11177	22730	10801	8353	27323	11583	11661	5168	23176	7588	30553
observers	16	37	25	22	13	30	15	48	19	20	12	81
party hours	22.00	45.00	62.00	52.00	39.25	70.00	27.00	60.25	34.00	72.00	30.75	282.50

Keller

	Monican Slate Forest 12/31/2005 (35)	Mount Gilead 12/17/2005 (51)	New Lexington 1/1/2006 (75)	Ohio River IN-OH-KY 12/17/2005 (64)	O'Shaughnessy Reservoir 12/31/2005 (54)	Ottawa N.W.R. 1/1/2006 (4)	Oxbow Lake 1/2/2006 (7)	Oxford 12/17/2005 (61)	Paint Creek Area 12/18/2005 (66)	Parkersburg WV-OH 12/17/2005 (79)	Plymouth 12/26/2005 (12)	Portsmouth 12/17/2005 (81)	Preble County 12/16/2005 (68)	Quail Hollow-Hartsville 12/18/2005 (37)	Ragersville 12/26/2005 (70)	Salem 1/1/2006 (33)
---	---	---	---	1	---	---	cw	---	---	2	---	2	---	---	---	---
149	6	49	67	69	---	---	19	17	80	173	2	52	2	41	279	88
---	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---
7	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	10	---	1	1	2	---	---	4	---
215	10	30	644	378	12	---	---	467	68	136	3	16	97	17	40	3
---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	1	3	---
13	---	9	18	2	1	---	---	9	5	88	---	63	---	---	74	10
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---
950	86	398	2216	4275	3539	1418	1475	1806	1621	817	803	245	1582	6724	1214	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	8	---
89	---	27	---	---	---	---	---	---	34	6	---	15	---	39	35	---
2	2	1	33	---	1	4	4	8	5	---	6	---	7	48	---	---
cw	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
12	1	16	47	---	---	---	21	18	48	---	42	9	1	52	2	---
178	25	---	605	153	512	64	128	379	23	30	3	47	326	727	216	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	25	---	---	2	---
12	---	---	23	---	6	---	1	18	14	---	2	---	3	101	2	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	6	---	---	6	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1	1	---	1	---	---	---	7	---	2	---	1	2	---	2	---	---
125	27	45	493	59	166	5	155	158	262	12	88	19	137	1012	120	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1	---	4	115	---	30	---	---	1	16	2	5	---	8	29	5	---
108	11	3	196	22	13	cw	216	92	85	4	121	8	86	338	26	---
46	12	13	140	10	3	---	36	70	21	5	40	8	22	658	31	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
437	63	65	95	454	57	39	234	218	129	46	243	54	302	993	131	---
---	---	---	---	265	---	52	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	6	---
---	---	---	---	162	---	8	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	120	---	---
345	57	97	272	266	169	35	220	177	448	37	179	37	263	1390	165	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
44	---	---	48	26	1578	---	---	---	---	cw	1	26	---	1	93	2
---	1	---	12	---	8	---	5	51	1	---	4	5	---	20	---	---
---	---	---	43	---	24	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	7	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	550	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	47	---	---
1	---	---	22	10	322	---	223	17	1	4	176	---	3	3	---	---
4	---	---	41	---	150	---	---	7	6	3	---	---	---	14	56	20
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
5	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	7	---	---	2	---	---	---	---	---
105	11	8	18	116	42	10	55	14	227	34	48	---	144	490	124	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
16	---	---	---	3	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	1
250	9	36	243	220	351	51	111	105	165	32	80	71	62	390	89	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
325	47	102	74	583	2162	76	198	70	303	91	---	91	413	1161	282	---
68	40	52	79	50	84	42	67	75	79	46	76	39	65	78	59	---
7659	1373	1787	12141	12989	57378	3846	6955	6444	10494	2120	6513	1674	9041	27312	6325	---
39	3	7	10	31	24	6	32	11	30	6	11	3	17	55	15	---
72.25	16.00	25.00	30.50	369.00	91.50	19.25	180.00	33.00	72.50	14.00	40.00	15.50	45.00	219.50	48.75	---

Christmas Bird Count Results

	Tiffin 12/17/2005 (11)	Toledo 12/18/2005 (3)	Trumbull County 12/18/2005 (28)	Wellington 12/17/2005 (26)	Western Hamilton County 12/18/2005 (63)	Wilmet 12/17/2005 (32)	Wooster 12/24/2005 (31)	Youngstown 12/17/2005 (34)	Total	Circles, Count Day	Circles, Count Week
Greater White-fronted Goose	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	15	2	3
Snow Goose	---	2	---	3	---	---	11	---	93	19	21
Ross's Goose	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1
Cackling Goose	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	5	2	2
Canada Goose	1937	2180	5281	3630	3686	1503	3529	3684	131093	64	64
Mule Swan	---	3	---	---	1	3	---	---	132	24	25
Trumpeter Swan	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	38	4	4
Tundra Swan	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	876	9	10
Wood Duck	---	3	---	---	1	10	---	---	49	20	21
Gadwall	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	---	264	23	24
American Wigeon	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	94	13	15
American Black Duck	11	381	66	---	27	5	242	2	3636	53	53
Mallard	170	3040	274	142	582	327	952	442	38517	62	62
American Black Duck x Mallard	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1
Northern Shoveler	---	---	---	---	---	---	8	---	211	15	18
Northern Pintail	---	3	---	---	1	---	4	---	1979	18	19
Green-winged Teal	---	---	---	---	---	---	7	---	71	11	12
Canvasback	---	115	---	---	---	---	---	---	1886	14	15
Redhead	---	12	---	3	---	---	---	---	211	17	19
Ring-necked Duck	---	2	---	50	---	---	1	---	546	18	18
Greater Scaup	---	4	---	---	---	---	---	---	380	7	7
Lesser Scaup	---	426	---	---	---	---	1	---	654	22	22
scaup sp.	---	6200	---	---	---	---	---	---	6357	7	7
Harlequin Duck	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	1	1
Surf Scoter	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1
White-winged Scoter	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	8	2	2
Black Scoter	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	24	2	2
Long-tailed Duck	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4	2	3
Bufflehead	---	2	---	2	---	---	---	---	1210	19	19
Common Goldeneye	---	619	---	---	---	---	---	---	4217	18	18
Hooded Merganser	---	5	---	---	6	---	---	2	602	25	25
Common Merganser	---	17	---	---	---	---	---	---	1152	15	17
Red-breasted Merganser	---	14	---	---	---	---	---	---	806	13	13
Ruddy Duck	---	3	---	1	---	---	---	cw	173	21	22
duck sp.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2172	5	5
Ring-necked Pheasant	2	1	---	5	---	3	1	1	74	23	25
Ruffed Grouse	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	14	6	6
Wild Turkey	113	---	65	5	14	12	10	6	2012	42	43
Northern Bobwhite	---	---	---	---	---	---	cw	cw	4	3	6
Common Loon	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	8	5	6
Pied-billed Grebe	---	10	---	1	---	---	1	---	190	27	27
Horned Grebe	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	42	4	4
Northern Gannet	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1
Double-crested Cormorant	---	11	---	---	---	---	---	---	116	14	15
Great Blue Heron	3	49	1	---	41	35	30	2	1082	57	58
Great Egret	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	6	1	2
Black-crowned Night-Heron	---	13	---	---	---	---	---	---	67	2	2
Black Vulture	---	---	---	1	1	---	---	---	622	15	15
Turkey Vulture	---	---	---	---	---	46	1	---	892	21	21
Bald Eagle	8	18	15	---	---	2	2	6	233	42	44
Northern Harrier	3	13	5	3	12	14	10	4	386	54	54
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3	---	3	1	8	9	---	---	133	46	46
Cooper's Hawk	7	15	12	9	15	28	13	7	577	63	64
Northern Goshawk	---	---	---	---	---	---	ow	---	0	0	1
Accipiter sp.	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	22	11	11
Red-shouldered Hawk	---	---	13	2	20	1	7	5	253	42	43
Broad-winged Hawk	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	2	2
Red-tailed Hawk	44	48	37	18	52	209	69	27	2647	64	64
Rough-legged Hawk	3	1	6	2	---	31	13	---	231	38	41
Buteo sp.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	10	5	5

Keller

	Tiffin 12/17/2005 (11)	Toledo 12/18/2005 (3)	Trumbull County 12/18/2005 (28)	Wellington 12/17/2005 (26)	Western Hamilton County 12/18/2005 (63)	Wilmet 12/17/2005 (32)	Wooster 12/24/2005 (31)	Youngstown 12/17/2005 (34)	Total	Circles, Count Day	Circles, Count Week
American Kestrel	5	19	4	28	18	59	24	3	1069	60	61
Merlin	---	---	1	---	2	---	---	---	15	12	13
Peregrine Falcon	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	cw	13	9	11
hawk sp.	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	10	4	4
Virginia Rail	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	6	3	3
American Coot	---	8	---	100	---	---	---	164	2053	34	34
Sandhill Crane	---	---	---	---	cw	---	---	---	109	6	9
Killdeer	---	2	1	---	4	13	3	---	126	26	28
Dunlin	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	2	2
Wilson's Snipe	---	---	---	---	---	10	---	---	32	9	10
Jaeger, sp.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1
Franklin's Gull	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1
Bonaparte's Gull	---	925	---	---	---	---	---	---	5337	13	13
Ring-billed Gull	---	4448	9	3	3012	---	---	1050	87392	44	44
Herring Gull	---	3032	---	---	3	---	---	cw	14156	26	28
Thayer's Gull	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	1	1
Iceland Gull	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1
Lesser Black-backed Gull	---	2	---	---	---	---	---	---	7	3	3
Glaucous Gull	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	2	2
Great Black-backed Gull	---	10	---	---	---	---	---	---	1111	10	10
Black-legged Kittiwake	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1
gull sp.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	690	1	1
Rock Pigeon	411	1870	269	263	570	1182	216	74	20957	62	62
Mourning Dove	696	1304	206	474	370	1590	621	119	33073	64	64
Barn Owl	---	---	---	---	---	2	1	---	31	6	6
Eastern Screech-Owl	8	9	---	---	1	6	2	1	267	43	44
Great Horned Owl	4	6	3	cw	4	14	---	1	187	42	44
Snowy Owl	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1
Barred Owl	3	---	---	---	6	1	6	1	106	39	39
Long-eared Owl	---	---	---	---	---	---	4	---	18	7	7
Short-eared Owl	---	---	2	---	---	1	4	---	31	12	14
Caprimulgus sp.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1
Belted Kingfisher	---	7	---	---	11	16	7	2	376	54	55
Red-headed Woodpecker	2	---	23	1	---	43	20	4	329	34	34
Red-bellied Woodpecker	55	32	43	29	126	252	100	24	4198	64	64
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	3	---	---	2	24	4	---	---	172	38	38
Downy Woodpecker	78	88	50	39	209	242	135	25	5478	64	64
Hairy Woodpecker	8	13	6	1	22	59	11	5	919	64	64
Northern Flicker	25	12	12	4	72	46	46	5	1700	64	64
Pileated Woodpecker	3	---	4	3	19	31	11	9	605	55	55
woodpecker sp.	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	6	3	3
Eastern Phoebe	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	35	15	16
Loggerhead Shrike	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1
Northern Shrike	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3	3	3
Blue Jay	106	98	194	120	256	576	301	93	13033	64	64
American Crow	882	94	84	132	3626	405	235	721	60026	64	64
Horned Lark	---	94	---	374	702	570	221	415	11346	48	50
Tree Swallow	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1
Carolina Chickadee	---	---	---	---	706	197	67	---	7688	39	39
Black-capped Chickadee	51	88	131	141	---	36	46	98	4152	36	36
chickadee sp.	8	---	---	---	---	120	35	---	869	16	16
Tufted Titmouse	36	22	29	21	193	253	110	45	5563	64	64
Red-breasted Nuthatch	4	6	2	18	33	20	17	4	869	60	60
White-breasted Nuthatch	83	83	51	28	58	274	126	40	5147	64	64
Brown Creeper	7	14	2	3	41	31	33	cw	875	59	60
Carolina Wren	21	12	4	3	148	154	69	12	3188	64	64
House Wren	---	---	---	---	2	---	---	---	2	1	1
Winter Wren	1	5	---	---	2	4	1	---	118	43	44
Marsh Wren	---	---	---	---	1	---	4	---	5	2	2
Golden-crowned Kinglet	5	2	10	2	88	83	14	3	1546	57	57

Christmas Bird Count Results

	Tiffin 12/17/2005 (11)	Toledo 12/18/2005 (3)	Trumbull County 12/18/2005 (28)	Wellington 12/17/2005 (26)	Western Hamilton County 12/18/2005 (63)	Wilmot 12/17/2005 (32)	Wooster 12/24/2005 (31)	Youngstown 12/17/2005 (34)	Total	Circles, Count Day	Circles, Count Week
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	cw	39	16	19
Eastern Bluebird	42	2	58	42	79	328	150	14	4524	62	62
Swainson's Thrush	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	3	2	2
Hermil Thrush	---	2	---	---	10	6	1	---	290	34	35
American Robin	1	151	22	12	9497	20	14	41	45457	61	61
Gray Catbird	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	17	12	12
Northern Mockingbird	---	1	---	---	51	98	12	6	960	45	45
Brown Thrasher	1	---	---	---	2	1	2	---	15	11	12
European Starling	817	4406	612	1840	10012	2638	1656	485	237720	64	64
American Pipit	---	1	---	---	---	cw	1	---	51	10	11
Cedar Waxwing	---	5	91	---	89	19	91	5	1988	39	39
Yellow-rumped Warbler	6	---	6	8	35	26	13	---	861	46	46
Pine Warbler	---	1	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	2
Palm Warbler	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	0	0	1
Common Yellowthroat	---	---	---	---	---	---	2	---	2	1	1
Eastern Towhee	---	---	2	1	72	45	21	1	1055	43	46
American Tree Sparrow	567	655	365	121	536	857	452	42	14759	63	63
Chipping Sparrow	---	---	---	5	1	5	---	---	71	17	17
Field Sparrow	---	4	---	1	41	6	4	---	706	40	40
Vesper Sparrow	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4	3	3
Savannah Sparrow	---	---	---	---	11	2	1	---	46	11	11
Grasshopper Sparrow	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1
Fox Sparrow	3	8	---	---	5	cw	2	---	94	35	37
Song Sparrow	109	88	46	54	1024	842	261	36	12632	64	64
Lincoln's Sparrow	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	---	1	1	1
Swamp Sparrow	---	12	10	---	79	21	59	2	800	43	43
White-throated Sparrow	10	56	39	40	696	174	115	10	7922	63	64
White-crowned Sparrow	14	4	8	30	22	539	146	5	3686	52	53
sparrow sp.	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	153	7	7
Dark-eyed Junco	542	351	190	287	521	886	208	116	18411	64	64
Lapland Longspur	1	17	---	---	11	22	1	---	1241	21	21
Snow Bunting	49	109	---	---	---	113	2	cw	2563	22	23
Northern Cardinal	225	230	171	177	950	1014	356	60	19462	64	64
Dickcissel	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1
Red-winged Blackbird	13	13	---	---	88	806	374	cw	5102	37	42
Eastern Meadowlark	---	---	---	---	15	64	4	cw	400	29	30
Rusty Blackbird	2	3	---	---	---	50	---	---	154	14	16
blackbird sp.	---	---	---	---	---	66	375	---	1282	8	8
Common Grackle	45	286	---	---	42	42	862	---	25342	42	42
Brown-headed Cowbird	10	451	---	---	1	299	504	1	3586	44	46
Baltimore Oriole	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1
Purple Finch	---	---	4	---	---	---	---	cw	171	20	21
House Finch	153	204	113	69	246	260	92	39	8044	62	62
White-winged Crossbill	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	1	1
Common Redpoll	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	cw	7	1	2
Pine Siskin	---	---	---	---	---	1	---	---	80	16	20
American Goldfinch	207	274	146	53	447	585	119	80	13080	64	64
Evening Grosbeak	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	cw	0	0	1
finch sp.	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	15	1	1
House Sparrow	999	1352	180	175	818	1411	550	125	33484	63	63
total species	56	84	53	55	75	77	80	53	155		
total individuals	8625	34204	8982	8582	40200	19782	13854	8174	968447		
observers	26	26	7	24	38	67	28	14	1434		
party hours	35.25	58.00	49.50	50.50	98.50	134.50	91.25	35.50	4135.00		

Historical Note: An Extraordinary Harris's Sparrow Record

By Dean E. Sheldon,

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For the record, it was I who made the initial sighting of the bird that snowy Saturday. I knew it was different upon first seeing it: the black crown, face, and bib, and the pink bill were unique. Steps were taken to verify the sighting. In the old Peterson guide I had used that morning, there is a notation in my handwriting of the date and place: "2/5/72 - Folly." The note is on page 219, just next to the brief reference description of the bird and across from Plate 58 depicting sparrows with unstreaked breasts. The illustration in the field guide immediately validated my observation. With that, I determined that the bird was, indeed, a basic adult Harris's sparrow *Zonotrichia querula*, and set about informing others of my find.

It had happened quite by chance. I was not bird-watching that day. I had gone out to the Folly (since 1979 Sheldon Marsh State Nature Preserve) to work at a variety of projects as I was wont to do on almost any weekend. I glanced out the west window of the cottage to see if the large feeder mounted on the propane tank needed filling, and there this bird was, on the ground scratching and feeding along with the other birds present. During that time, we fed soybean screenings along with cracked corn at the site. The Harris's sparrow's known propensity for weed seeds in its winter diet may have been a factor in causing the bird to settle in at this location.

We hosted the Harris's sparrow through two full winters. The bird was conspicuously present during the winter seasons of 1972 and 1973, associating with other overwintering sparrows at the feeding area. It was present continuously during those winter months. It was seen only infrequently in the spring, summer, fall and winter of that year, and in 1973 only during the winter. I have no recollection of consistent sightings during any of the other seasons except winter and early spring. It is for that reason that I am unable to comment on any apparent seasonal changes in plumage or appearance. We offered the customary mix of food at the feeders only during the winter and early spring. In those years there were agricultural fields adjacent to the Folly, whose edges and waste corners had plenty of weedy areas. My guess is that is where the bird spent most of its time in the "off season." Its food source of weed seeds and insects was most likely found in those locations. In the late fall, as we resumed feeding, the bird moved back and was usually seen at the bird feeding area.

I do not recall that any twitchers seeking the sparrow came to the Folly except during those times (in the late fall, winter and early spring) when large numbers of birds gathered at the feeding area. After all, that was when the best viewing of the sparrow took place. This vagrant from Canada and the

western plains was seen by dozens of competent birders from around the state during this period. All were rewarded for their efforts. Groups assembled in the main room of the cottage, where the west window looked out over the bird feeding area. We moved furniture around so as to permit easy viewing and picture-taking through the open window with the screen removed. It was a great birding time for us all.

While many photos were taken by visiting birders, I could find only one in the Sheldon's Folly archives. On the reverse side of the photo is the notation (again in my handwriting): "Feb 1972, Sheldon's Folly." The name "Harris Sparrow" was written in by someone else—probably Tim Brugeman who worked with us at the Folly for many years. Tim is well known as the long-time director of the Hancock County Park District. I just cannot come up with a date for the last sighting of the bird during the winter or early spring of 1973. I am certain it continued there for all (or the better part) of that winter season. It is not unlike so many other rare bird sightings, i.e. the excitement is at the beginning. Eager birdwatchers join in their frenzy to see the rarity and then...."poof," suddenly the object of our collective interest vanishes, never to be seen again at that location. What is really gratifying is to know, for certain, that this was a truly rare happenstance. We were fortunate to be a part of that phenomenon. It was all fun and, during those times, it made an awful lot of people happy.



This photo, taken during Feb 1972 at Sheldon's Folly, documents the appearance of the Harris's sparrow there (photo courtesy of Dean Sheldon)

Short Note: Ohio's First Confirmed Anna's Hummingbird

by Mike Busam

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Ohio's first-record Anna's hummingbird *Calypte anna* spent more than a month, from 12 November 2005 through 24 December 2005, at the Dan and Wanda Schmitz residence in West Chester Township, Butler County. Dan Schmitz noticed on 12 November a hummingbird coming to a feeder he had forgotten to take down. The bird continued to visit the feeder, and after a few days Schmitz contacted the Cincinnati Zoo and the Hamilton County Parks District for advice.

Both the zoo and the park district recommended that Schmitz keep the feeder up, and assured him the hummingbird would eventually leave on its own. Jerry Lippert, a naturalist with Hamilton County Parks, suggested Schmitz post a note about the sighting on the Birding in Cincinnati web site (www.cincinnatibirds.com).

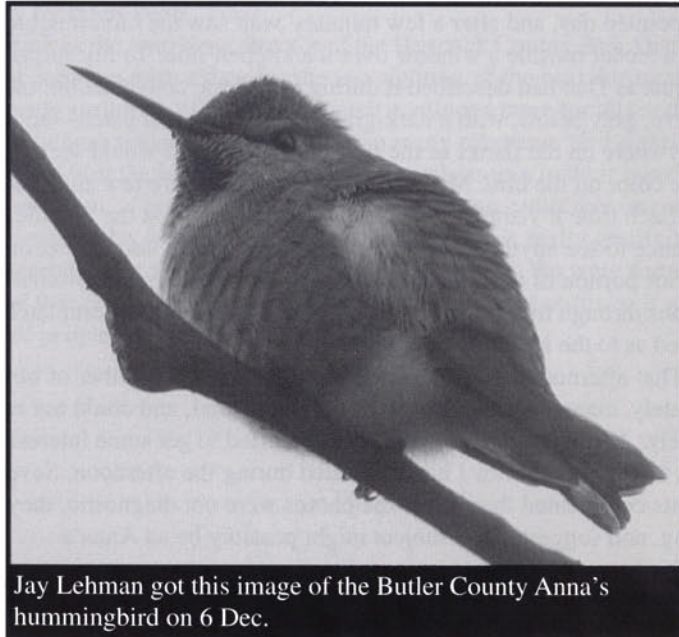
On 1 December Schmitz left a brief a note there, announcing that a ruby-throated hummingbird was frequenting his backyard feeder. I called him and arranged to visit his home on Friday 2 December to see what I assumed would be a hatch-year *Selasphorus* hummingbird—most likely a rufous hummingbird, which I considered more likely than a ruby-throated at this time of year.

My two-year-old daughter Grace and I visited the Schmitz residence on the appointed day, and after a few minutes' wait saw the hummingbird appear at a feeder outside a window over the kitchen sink. To my surprise, the bird was just as Dan had described it during our phone conversation: mostly green above, gray below, with a dark-gray, triangular throat patch—no signs of rufous anywhere on the flanks or the tail. I had assumed I would see at least a little more color on the bird. My views that afternoon were few and short in duration. Each time it visited the feeder, it chose a perch on the far side, giving me no chance to see anything other than the bird's flanks, some of its back, and the posterior portion of the side of its head. I took a few less-than-satisfactory photographs through the window, and left after an hour or so, completely confounded as to the identity of the hummingbird.

That afternoon I forwarded the photographs to a number of birders. Unfortunately, many were out of town for the weekend, and could not reply immediately. However, that evening I was gratified to get some interesting responses to the poor photos I had circulated during the afternoon. Several respondents commented that, while the photos were not diagnostic, they were compelling, and suggested the subject might possibly be an Anna's hummingbird.

Jon Dunn and Chris Wood, who happened to be in Ohio that week, were asked if they would be interested in visiting the Schmitz residence to see if they could confirm the identity of the hummingbird. On Sunday 4 December, Dunn, Wood, Charlotte Mathena, Sue Tackett, Ned Keller, and I visited the Schmitz house. The hummingbird spent quite a bit of time perched on a bush in the Schmitz's backyard, as well as making regular feeding forays to the feeder by the kitchen window. Dunn almost immediately identified the bird as an Anna's hummingbird, and had it in the view of his scope within minutes of arriving at the Schmitz residence. Wood obtained diagnostic photographs, proving that the unusual visitor at the Schmitz feeder was, indeed a first state record for Ohio.

Dan and Wanda Schmitz were exemplary and patient hosts, and thanks to them over 145 people from nine different states were able to see the Anna's hummingbird between 4 December and 24 December 2005. Everyone who arranged to visit saw the bird, and many sent photos to Dan Schmitz for a scrapbook he put together, documenting its stay. The Schmitzes always kept an extra filled hummingbird feeder on a hot-air register, using it to replace the outside feeder when empty or frozen. After making it through some rather intensely cold and snowy periods—temperatures as low as 13° F and snow as deep as five inches—the Anna's hummingbird departed sometime during the afternoon of Christmas Eve, shortly before the onset of another period of cold weather. During its stay in West Chester, the bird seemed in excellent health. It showed no physical signs of distress; its plumage always looked well-cared for, etc. There's every reason to believe it simply decided to move on to another locale.



Jay Lehman got this image of the Butler County Anna's hummingbird on 6 Dec.

Recent Actions of the Ohio Bird Records Committee

Tom Kemp, Secretary

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Forty-two records were reviewed in February and March 2006 by the Ohio Bird Records Committee. Most of the reports were from the last half of 2005, but a few were recirculations from prior years and three were from early 2006. Thirty-four of the records were accepted by the Committee, six were not accepted, and two remain in circulation. Among the accepted records are three state firsts: sooty tern, green violet-ear, and Anna's hummingbird.

Accepted Records

Ross's goose *Chen rossii*: 9 Jan 2006: Cuyahoga Co.; C. Caldwell

Ross's goose: 21 Dec 05 to 5 Jan 2006: Clinton Co.; E. Mitchell

Ross's goose: 12 Nov 2005: Auglaize Co.; R. Rogers, B. Whan

Ross's goose: 28 Jan 2006: Lorain Co.; L. Hershberger, S. Snyder, m.obs.

Cackling goose *Branta hutchinsii*: 18 Dec 2004: Butler Co.; M. Busam

Cackling goose: 31 Oct 2005: Summit Co.; R. & S. Harlan

Cackling goose: 23 Oct 2004: Summit Co.; R. Rogers

Cackling goose: 12 Nov 2005: Auglaize Co.; R. Rogers, B. Whan

Brown pelican *Pelecanus occidentalis*: 19 September 2003: Lorain Co.;

W. Reid

White ibis *Eudocimus albus*: 5 July 2005: Cuyahoga Valley NP; K. Rado

White ibis: 24 July 2005: Franklin Co.; A. Sasson

Glossy ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*: 24 Sep 2005: Trumbull Co.; B. Whan

Swainson's hawk *Buteo swainsoni*: 20 November 2003: Fairport Harbor;

L. Rosche, R. Hannikman.

Yellow rail *Coturnicops noveboracensis*: 15 September 2004: Miami-

Whitewater Park; R. Rogers.

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*; 18 July 2003: Wyandot Co.; R. Counts

Ruff; 2 Oct 2005: Ottawa NWR; R. Johnson

- Mew gull *Larus canus*: 15 Jan 2006: Erie Co.; S. Zadar
- California gull *Larus californicus*: 26 Jan 2006: Lorain Co.; S. Zadar
- Sooty Tern *Sterna fuscata*: 13-19 July 2005: Clermont Co.: D. Morse,
B. Whan, R. Rogers
- White-winged dove *Zenaida asiatica*: 16-19 August 2004: Portage Co.; S.
Frank
- White-winged dove: 17 September 2005: Ottawa NWR; G. Miller, m.obs.
- Green violet-ear *Colibri thalassinus*: 15-16 Aug 2005: Holmes Co.; A. Miller,
G. Hostetler, others
- Anna's hummingbird *Calypte anna*: 4-11 December 2005; Butler Co.; C.
Wood, R. Epstein, m obs.
- Rufous hummingbird *Selasphorus rufus*: 6-19 Nov 2005; Logan Co.; S. Ervin
- Rufous hummingbird: 19-25 Aug 2005; Union Co.; A. Chartier
- Rufous hummingbird: 9 Oct to 6 Nov 2005; Medina Co I; A. Chartier
- Rufous hummingbird: 2-16 Nov 2005; Fairfield Co.; A Chartier
- Rufous hummingbird: 29 Oct to 18 Nov 2005; Carroll Co.; A. Chartier
- Rufous hummingbird: 3-20 Nov 2005; Medina Co. II; A. Chartier
- Rufous hummingbird: late Aug to 13 Dec 2005; Lawrence Co.; A. Chartier
- Gray Flycatcher *Empidonax wrightii*: 18 Sep 2005; Lake Co.; J. Talkington,
L. Rosche, R. Hannikman
- Black-billed magpie *Pica hudsonia*: 1-2 Oct 2005; Columbiana Co.;
B. Whan, R. Rogers, B. Lane
- Cave swallow *Petrochelidon fulva*: 5 Nov 2005: Lake Co.; K. Metcalf,
J. Pogacnik, m.obs.
- Black-throated gray warbler *Dendroica nigrescens*: 22 Oct 2005; Summit Co.;
E. Pierce, J. Reyda

Records Not Accepted

- Tricolored heron *Egretta tricolor*: 21 May 2005, Ottawa NWR
The committee felt that the short duration of the observation, the fact that the bird was only partially visible, and the bird's traits described (yellow lores and chestnut neck would be highly unusual at

this time of year and this age class is probably unlikely in Ohio) were not enough evidence to accept this record.

Mississippi kite *Ictinia mississippiensis*: 1 May 2005, Shawnee SF
The circumstances of this observation (50 mph on the highway, no optics) were the two primary reasons cited for not accepting this record.

Gyrfalcon *Falco rusticolus*: 25 January 2005, The Wilds
The majority of committee members felt that the description offered did not eliminate the more likely Northern harrier or Northern goshawk. The documentation indicated a brief sighting of a gliding bird and the above mentioned species could not be ruled based on the information provided.

Yellow rail: 5 October 2005, Tuscarawas Co.
This bird was seen for just a few seconds as it flushed from a field. Although the secondaries were described as white, few other plumage details were included. Due to the short duration of the observation, and the difficulty in distinguishing this species from Sora in such a short time span, the committee voted not to accept.

Curlew sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*: 6 September 2003, Wayne Co.
This was a difficult one circulated three times within the committee. In the end, members felt that this age class (juvenile) was extremely unlikely in Ohio and that the tail pattern and head coloration did not quite fit the species being described.

Rufous hummingbird: 17 November 2005, Mahoning Co.
The photographs and description provided did not allow committee members to determine what species of hummingbird this might have been.

The Ohio Bird Records Committee exists to increase knowledge of Ohio's birdlife by validating records, maintaining archives for researchers of Ohio records of occurrences of rare bird species, and establishing the official list of Ohio's bird species. The Committee relies on help from field birders who send in details of their sightings of birds on the Review List (see <http://www.ohiobirds.org/publications/OBRClist.pdf>), which includes all species encountered infrequently enough in the state as to require acceptable documentation (specimen, photo, sound recording, and full written description from witnesses) for inclusion in the scientific record. Helpful information on the Committee and on documentation can be found at <http://www.ohiobirds.org/records/aboutobrc.php>.

Current members of the seven-member Committee are: Tom Kemp, Secretary (Toledo), Dwight Chasar (Northfield), Rob Harlan (Norton), Tom Hissong (Dayton), Ned Keller (Cincinnati), Ben Morrison (Alliance), and Sue Tackett (Dayton). –Ed.

Book Review: Milton B. Trautman (with Mary Trautman). *Birds of Western Lake Erie: Documented Observations and Notes 1850-1980*. Edited by Ronald L. Stuckey.

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The renown of Milton B. Trautman (1899-1991) in the field of biology derives as much from his work as an ichthyologist as an ornithologist. His *The Fishes of Ohio* remains an indispensable source on the subject today. Among birders, particularly Ohio birders, Trautman is better known for *The Birds of Buckeye Lake*, a detailed study of the birds and natural history of the Buckeye Lake Region. *The Birds of Buckeye Lake* is a remarkable work, as interesting, fresh, and entertaining today as when first published.

Trautman was, by all accounts, a unique and interesting man. In many senses of the word, he was a true character. A man of modest build, and rather short in stature, the stamina and intensity he displayed while in the midst of field work was legendary among his peers, and he continued as an active field worker even in his later years. Perhaps somewhat surprising, then, is the fact that he suffered from chronic illnesses of one sort or another for most of the first thirty years of his life. Under his father's tutelage, Trautman became a master plumber, but with improving health in his early thirties, he turned all his attention to biology, a field that had captivated him since his boyhood (Mayfield 1992).

A widely respected authority on fish and birds, Trautman held jobs as a biologist with the Ohio Department of Conservation, the University of Michigan, and Ohio State University, though he never received a university-level academic degree. Fieldwork took him all over the North American continent, as well as to the Yucatan. All the while, he kept scrupulous records of practically everything he saw and encountered. His attention to details both interesting and mundane led to an impressive accumulation of facts and observations, much of which he turned into material for his publications. Some sense of Trautman's obsession with chronicling all that he experienced can be had by considering that he left behind an estimated 30,000 pages of journal entries, and still had time to note "how many strokes of his bicycle pedals it required go to work under different wind conditions" (Mayfield 1992).

To study nocturnal migration, he slept under the stars on the Lake Erie shore; to learn how to separate gulls by their calls, he spent hour after hour in an ice shanty near South Bass Island, fishing and studying, listening and learning. To find out what ducks were eating during migration stops, he shot them and dutifully identified and counted everything in their stomachs and crops. This exacting field work and analysis is clearly evident in *The Birds of Buckeye Lake* and *The Fishes of Ohio*.

Birds of Western Lake Erie doesn't compare easily to Trautman's earlier books, largely because it is an unfinished work. Trautman's ally and confidante, as well as his equal partner in countless hours of field work, was his wife, Mary

Auten Trautman, herself a biologist, with a Ph.D. in entomology (Mayfield 1992). From the time Trautman began working on *Birds of Western Lake Erie* around 1981, until her death in 1986, Mary Auten Trautman helped to organize, transcribe, and compose the species accounts that make up the present work. Sadly, after Mary's death, Trautman lost the interest or the will needed to finish the project. He died in 1991.

Recognizing the importance of even an unfinished work by Milton Trautman, Ronald L. Stuckey, a friend and student of Trautman's, edited the manuscript and worked to get it published.

What we have is essentially half a study of the bird life of the western basin of Lake Erie. Everything from loons through woodpeckers is covered in its entirety. Passerine coverage begins strong with complete treatment of the flycatchers, but then fades: coverage of the swallows is incomplete, all the wren species are accounted for, but the only thrush—and the last species covered in the book—is Townsend's solitaire.

The strength of the book lies in the detailed treatment of the bird groups that were Trautman's favorites in the first place: the "water" birds—loons, grebes, swans, ducks, herons, shorebirds, rails, and gulls—and raptors. In contrast to the experience of most birders and ornithologists today, Trautman could claim to have actually eaten or at some point at least collected almost every species in those groups. Some of his accounts of the finer points separating the succulent from the unsavory among waterfowl and waterbirds led me to wonder if there isn't somewhere in the Trautman archives at Ohio State University the makings of a wild game cookbook: "Wild Fare From the Water and Air," by Milton B. Trautman, or something along those lines.

As is the case with other books treating the bird life of a specific area in taxonomic order, *Birds of Western Lake Erie* is enjoyable to browse through: to move from the short-billed dowitcher account, where we find that market hunters in the late 19th century found the species easy to hunt because of its "unsuspecting" nature (dowitchers were easy to lure in with calls and decoys, and highly desired as game birds), to the red-breasted merganser account in which Trautman reports the only known record of breeding by this species in Ohio. The latter is an interesting story. In May 1956, while studying black ducks on South Bass Island, Trautman "was amazed to see a female Red-breasted Merganser, followed by two small ducklings, leave Starve Island and swim to South Bass. They arrived at the south shore within 150 feet of me, then disappeared in the comparatively short vegetation. Dashing to the spot I hunted in vain for the female and her ducklings." Amazing, indeed!

Reading through the species accounts for grebes, one finds Trautman postulating that, based upon discussions with commercial fisherman in the region, and the tendency of the species to show up in numbers at inland sites in winter only during severe cold periods, that "a wintering population" of red-necked grebes "exists on Lake Erie or to the north of it." This hypothesis, as yet unproved, has come to be shared by a number of ornithologists and birders today.

An interesting theme that comes up repeatedly in the book is Trautman's concern over the loss of wetland habitat in northwestern Ohio, as well as changes

in management practices of protected wetlands. While some readers might not agree with Trautman's assertions as to the negative effects of management practices in protected wetlands in Lake Erie's western basin, all will agree that the loss of wetlands to development has had a singularly negative effect on animal and plant communities in the region. Trautman rightly criticizes this trend, which continues today.

In general, today, bird monographs are not written in a "personal" or first-person style. *Birds of Western Lake Erie*, on the other hand, is filled with Trautman's accounts of his own adventures afield and of the many, many hours he spent in museum collections, sorting through specimens. Reading this book, one gets a sense of Trautman's personality—including the kinds of things that bothered him or caused friction between him and other birders and researchers. It would be a stretch to say the book is as much about Trautman as it is about the birds of Western Lake Erie, but one can learn quite a bit about him and the way he approached his work in reading this book.

Through a combination of old-fashioned field work—floating in rivers and marshes, tramping through fields, mucking through wetlands—and research—combing through old records and specimens in museum collections or consulting retired market hunters, sportsmen of old, etc.—Trautman has created a picture of the birds of the western Lake Erie region both personal and scholarly. The result is of a style we don't see too often these days—a scholarly work nonetheless conversational and personal in tone. It's a book that would not be written the same way today.

Take Trautman's golden eagle account, for instance. It begins with the expected references to 19th century records in Ohio, then moves to a general seasonal distribution of the birds (scattered from late October, into winter, with the latest records in mid-May; usually immature birds) before moving into accounts of the sadly comical and the simply strange. In December 1926, Trautman writes

I interviewed a farmer in western Ohio about a mounted Golden Eagle. He told me . . . that he first saw "the grand-daddy of all chicken hawks" standing on the ridge of his tall barn. He got an old, rusty rifle and fired five times at the bird, but failed to hit it. After driving to town in his Model T Ford to buy a box of cartridges, he finally hit the eagle on his eighth shot. . . .

Trautman explains that he didn't really believe the farmer's story, which seems to support claims about the supposed unwariness of the species, until he had an experience at his home on South Bass Island with a sub-adult golden eagle he found perched above his chicken shed. Only after Trautman began running around, waving his arms and shouting, did the bird finally fly away.

Finally, Trautman recounts seeing a golden eagle attempt to take down a goose over South Bass Island. While watching a kettle of red-tailed hawks on 25 March 1943, Trautman saw a golden eagle fly into the kettle and scatter the

hawks. Then the eagle went after bigger prey: "the eagle twice stooped and with its talons struck the wing of a large, low-flying tri-motor plane as it flew over our house," writes Trautman. The "goose" in this instance was one of the "Tin Goose" Island Airlines Ford Tri-Motor airplanes that flew passengers to and from the Lake Erie islands for a number of decades.

Another instance of something one isn't likely to read in a contemporary monograph on birds is Trautman's story of his struggle to save the hawks of South Bass Island from slaughter by killing a northern goshawk. According to Trautman, South Bass Island residents used to shoot hawks lest the birds kill their chickens and livestock. After years of public relations efforts on behalf of hawks, by 1954 Trautman writes he and a friend had "convinced the islanders not to shoot hawks." But on 25 November 1954, the tenuous detente was nearly shattered when an island resident told Trautman that "a hawk as large as a red-tail with the large head and neck of an eagle" had been killing rabbits and pheasants in a cedar woods near his home for some time, but that the trouble had escalated, and the hawk had turned its attentions to the man's helpless chickens. "Realizing that something had to be done to avoid a reoccurrence of hawk shooting," Trautman and his wife searched the cedar woods for the voracious hawk. It didn't take long for the Trautmans to locate the scattered remains of a few rabbits and pheasants, but they didn't find the killer. The next day he returned to the site, "whistling 'screech-owl' to possibly attract the hawk when my cap was jerked from head and disappeared in the distances in the talons of a Goshawk." The goshawk was obviously unaware of the danger it had put itself in by crossing that particular Rubicon to steal Milton B. Trautman's hat. Late in the afternoon a few days after suffering this effrontery, he writes "I went into the center of the cedar woods, backed against the bole of a red cedar tree to protect myself from rear attack, and began to whistle 'screech owl.' . . . The second time I whistled the Goshawk instantly located the sound . . . and dove directly at me. I instinctively shot it." Phew! Thus were the hawks of South Bass Island saved from persecution as a result of Trautman's sunset standoff with a rapacious northern goshawk.

Intermixed among the species accounts are occasional stories of some of the people Trautman encountered or befriended—or didn't befriend, as was sometimes the case—in the field. Some readers will be able to read between the lines of the gull and tern passages and recognize birders with whom Trautman had obvious disagreements. It troubled him that birders in the 1970s and 1980s were making claims for species for which they didn't have voucher specimens. But one birder with whom Trautman had no quarrels was a man with whom every reader will be familiar.

On 31 May 1931 . . . at Bay Point in Ottawa County, a man rapidly approached and asked if I were Trautman. He then asked for the name of the birds that were singing "all over." After I told him they were Traill's Flycatchers, we watched several of the singing birds. He maintained that if they were Traill's, then the birds in the State of New York were not this species, although in size and plumage they appeared to be identical. After he left abruptly, I realized that he had not

mentioned his name. During the next 10 years we became friends, and we were frequent birding companions. He was Roger Tory Peterson.

It's possible that for every hour he spent in the field, Milton B. Trautman spent another hour in the collections of a research museum, poring over the specimens, many of which he had collected himself. For Trautman, work in the field informed work in the museum, and work in the museum, in turn, informed and improved his identification skills in the field. In the late 1930s, after studying northern goshawks in the field in Michigan, and then looking at a large series of museum specimens, he came to the conclusion that he had probably misidentified a number of immature Cooper's hawks in the 1920s by claiming they were immature northern goshawks.

He applied a similar logic built around a combination of field and museum work to the identification of difficult species groups such as western and semipalmated sandpipers, short- and long-billed dowitchers, *Empidonax* flycatchers, and the Thayer's/Iceland gull complex. Trautman's impatience with birders who weren't as experienced in specimen study as he is especially evident in the section of the book on flycatchers, where he complains that he knew birders who were confidently identifying birds as yellow-bellied flycatchers in the field, but who were unable to correctly identify in the hand specimens of yellow-bellied flycatchers, or any of the other empids for that matter.

I wonder what Trautman would think of the state of bird identification today, particularly as it pertains to gulls, shorebirds, and *Empidonax* flycatchers?

Birds of Western Lake Erie, though incomplete in a literal sense, does provide a fairly robust sense of what Milton B. Trautman thought and knew of the birds of the region. Its strengths are clearly those of Trautman himself: obsession with detail, love of the subject, and an impressive accumulation of knowledge about the birds and natural history of the western Lake Erie region. The book is illustrated with a number of clean line drawings, black-and-white photos, and detailed maps of the counties covered in the text. The index is easy to use and seems to be thorough and accurate: birds are listed under their common names. People and places mentioned in the text are also indexed.

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Gulls Of Lake Erie



Little gulls show varied intermediate characters in their second winter. Note the underwing shows a patchy version of the full adult's sooty look, and the black markings remaining on the tips of two primaries on the left wing. The black skullcap is pronounced on this bird. Photo by John Pogacnik 6 Feb at E. 72nd St.



Three other gull species accompany this adult California gull, photographed by John Pogacnik on 30 Dec at E 72nd St in Cleveland.



There's something jarring about this photo—a laughing gull in immaculate breeding array standing on the ice at Lorain Harbor. John Pogacnik caught this image there 25 Feb



This less than fully adult bird, while its underwing looks much sootier overall, shows obvious signs of immaturity in two primaries of the left upperwing. Its skullcap is noticeably paler, and the dark "scarf" on the neck is more pronounced than normal. Photo by John Pogacnik 22 Jan at E. 72nd St.



Photographed by Sean Zadar on New Year's Day in Cleveland, this young Iceland gull shows the "gentler" look of the species, with a dove-like head profile and more delicate bill; note also the darker markings on the tertials.