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THE OHIO CARDINAL 2338 HARRINGTON RD. AKRON, OH 44319

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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:

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The subscription rate for one year (four issues) is \$25 including membership in the Ohio Ornithological Society. Please send all subscription requests to:

## The Ohio Cardinal

c/o Edwin C. Pierce 2338 Harrington Road

Akron, OH 44319

Because it is sent as bulk mail, subscribers should remember that the Post Office will not forward this magazine to a new address. Please notify the Publisher promptly if you move.

Bill Whan, Editor Edwin C. Pierce, Publisher Troy Shively, Design Manager The Ohio Bird Records Committee:

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ISSN 1534-1666



On the Cover: Ohio hosted one of a legion of eastward-wandering western tanagers. Jay Lehman got this photo 9 January in Grandview, Ohio.

# Winter 2006-2007 Overview and Reports

by Bill Whan 223 E. Tulane Rd. Columbus, OH 43202 billwhan@columbus.rr.com

It was a bitter winter season, but a short one. December began with some characteristically low temperatures, but in its second week started giving us well above normal ones. We marveled as unusually warm weather persisted week after week, into mid-January (with more daily highs exceeding 50 degrees F. than not), at which time we finally plunged into winter, with the third-coldest February ever recorded for the United States. Nevertheless, those warm December and January days made this winter---yes, once again---overall the country's warmest on record.

This set the stage for extended stays by the hardier migrants, and we got them. Observers found notably high numbers of geese, swans, and certain duck species. Record late dates were established for Nelson's sharp-tailed sparrow, spotted sandpiper, green heron, northern parula, and black-and-white and orange-crowned warblers. To set new late records for so many species in a single season is unprecedented. But such news is the order of the day lately, and it is sad in a way to see careful accumulations of records of birds superseded, and expectations of the "normal" on which we could agree for decades so easily swept aside. At any rate, we also witnessed unusually late stays for Eurasian wigeon, red-throated and common loons, least and American bitterns, sora, American white pelican, sandhill crane, purple sandpiper, white-eyed vireo, Nashville warbler (second-latest), rose-breasted grosbeak, and Baltimore oriole. One might have expected a few swallows, or hardy shorebirds like dunlins, to overstay normal departure dates, but perhaps the colder temperatures of early December were sufficiently discouraging to these highly gregarious migrants.

Overall, there was evidence that some hardier migrants, tempted day by day by the weather to remain longer in Ohio, stayed through a mere month or so of deep cold once periods of daylight lengthened. Not all survived, but quite early displaying by woodcocks showed that many did, as did much larger than normal numbers of wintering large waterfowl. Because winter temperatures were harshest toward the end of the season, so many late stays by southbound migrants were not matched by early appearances of northbound ones. Far from it. It seems that while warming trends are having very noticeable effects on bird occurrences in Ohio in winter, at this point they are mostly affecting the timing and length of stays by southbound migrants, who seem to be hanging around longer and in larger numbers. Effects on more conservative phenomena such as spring arrivals, and especially breeding, seem likely to take longer to appear. Should Breeding Bird Atlas work show a withdrawal of northern nesters (hermit thrushes, Canada and Blackburnian warblers, alder flycatchers, juncos, etc.) from the state there may be cause for more alarm than is occasioned by incremental changes in locales and durations of wintering by migrants. Most predict Ohio will lose many more northern breeders than southern ones we might gain in exchange.

Weather may also have influenced the migratory paths followed by some species. Certainly we saw increased numbers of cackling, snow, and

45 The Ohio Cardinal Ross's geese, normally users of the Mississippi flyway farther west, and our list of rarities was dominated by species more common in the west. Rarities (that is, OBRC review species) reported included many Ross's and cackling geese, as many as four king eiders, California gull, parasitic jaeger, western kingbird, western tanager, spotted towhee, and Harris's sparrow.

We present as usual a compilation of Ohio Christmas bird counts, official or at least conducted using official criteria; for this we all once again owe Ned Keller a debt of gratitude. As always they provide important regional information. Readers should bear in mind that several CBCs included in our state compilation report birds seen in other states or provinces. Accordingly, intriguing reports of a brant and two rose-breasted grosbeaks by the Lake Erie Island CBC came from Ontario's Pelee Island, and are thus not treated in the Reports.

**Corrigenda**: In last summer's issue Vol 29 No 4, six American bitterns were erroneously reported for Buck Creek SP on 4 Jun; please delete this from the record.

Mistakenly omitted from the fall issue was a semipalmated plover photographed by Delores Cole at Conneaut Harbor on 23 Nov 2006 for a new late Ohio record for the species.

Finally, a sentence in the second paragraph of the Dury article in the fall issue was transcribed in error. It should read as follows: "Approximately the southern two-thirds of Ohio drains into the Mississippi watershed, while the northern third drains into the Great Lakes, and thence, through Niagara and the St. Lawrence."

The Reports follow the nomenclature and taxonomic order of the 7th edition of the AOU Check-list of North American Birds (1998), including the 47th Supplement (July 2006). 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 attributions (i.e., reporters' names) in the Reports. Where supplied, county names appear italicized. Unless numbers are specified, sightings refer to single birds. Abbreviations, conventions, locations, 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 NWR 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 2006; EHSP=East Hbr SP in Ottawa; fide="in trust of," said of data conveyed on behalf of another person; Funk WA is in Wayne; Gilmore Ponds is in Butler; GLSM=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; MCWS=Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary in Mahoning; MP=Metropark; m obs=many observers; MWW=Miami-Whitewater Wetlands in Hamilton; NWR=National Wildlife Refuge; OBBA=Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas, second edition; OBRC=Ohio Bird Records Committee; ODOW=Ohio Division of Wildlife; ONWR=Ottawa NWR in Ottawa/Lucas; ONWRC=monthly bird census at ONWR, reported by E. Pierce; PCWA=Pickerel Ck WA in Sandusky; ph=photograph, PP=power plant, Res=Reservoir; Res'n=Reservation; SCBC=Greater Akron Audubon Society Summit County Bird Count of 16-25 June; SF=State Forest; SNP=State Nature Preserve; SP=State Park; SVWA=Spring Valley WA in Greene/Warren; WA=Wildlife Area.

The Reports: Winter 2006-2007

**Greater white-fronted goose:** Eleven reports, totaling 32 birds, spanned the period, most from the western part of the state, though reports emanated from as far east as **Cleveland**, with one on the local CBC 16 Dec, and one, perhaps the same bird, at **N. Chagrin MP** the following day (K. Metcalf). Last winter's count was a record 116.

**Snow goose:** Up, with a total of 1092 reported on 34 occasions, nearly all from 17 counties in the western half of the state, though a couple were found as far east as *Trumbull* for the local CBC 17 Dec. Wintered as usual at **ONWR**, where the first were 50 noted 9 Dec (B. Warner), but very few others stayed put for long, with reports through the eop. The high count was ~180 (~60% white morphs) at **Caesar Ck SP** 8 Jan (B. Powell). On 16 CBCs, 147 were reported, the high 46 for **Elyria/Lorain** on 16 Dec.

Ross's goose: With a minimum of eight reported, reports eclipsed last year's record number, and emerged from *Fayette*, *Ross*, *Lucas*, and *Highland*. Apparently both of two apparent adults at **Deer Ck SP** 4 Dec (B. Royse) were not involved in subsequent sightings in NE *Ross* of two individuals, where a state-record <u>six</u> frequented a farm pond 14 (E. Reiner) through 20 Jan (D. Hess). V. Fazio reported one in *Highland* 24 Jan, and J. Pogacnik another near **CPNWR** 10 Feb. Interestingly, **West Virginia** observers reported a group of six in the eastern part of the state 13-15 Jan.

**Brant:** Tardy was one at **Fairport Hbr** in *Lake* 27 Dec (R. Hannikman); the one reported for the CBCs was in Canadian waters.

Cackling goose: Twenty-five reports, of 77+ birds, came to light, as with the

previous three species mostly in western areas. One was reported for the Mentor CBC for the easternmost. High counts were ten for the Adams CBC 16 Dec. nine for the Goll Wds CBC the same day, eight in Bowling Green during Dec, and six in Hamilton 15 Jan. At least thirty-three were reported last fall, and more will come with the spring: The OBRC needs photos of all very small white-cheeked geese in case further splits are made.



This cackling goose, found 14 Jan at Englewood Reserve in Dayton, provides a good contrast with an accompanying Canada goose. Photo by Vic Fazio.

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Canada goose: Often less worthy of mention at other seasons, the occurrence of as many as ~10,000 at EFSP on 21 Feb (D. Morse) must have represented, at least in part, wild migrant Canadas headed north. The CBCs dutifully recorded 67, 074 statewide for this fourth most numerous species.

Mute swan: This potentially harmful exotic species needs watching. Some alarming numbers emerged last fall in the NE (and 22 at Congress Lake in Stark reported by B. Morrison 30 Dec only increased them), and 19 on the Ottawa NWR CBC of 31 Dec was a new local high, as were four on the Wooster CBC of 3 Dec. The Quail Hollow CBC tallied 68; this year, 167 were found by CBCs overall. At Medusa Marsh, a count of 30 on 10 Feb (C. Caldwell) was not reassuring. In SW Ohio, 12+ in various locations seemed poised to reproduce.

Tundra swan: These swans continue to rewrite the record book. Reports of thousands of birds spanned the winter period, beginning with 1326 on 3 Dec for the ONWRC, with 1175 on the CCE alone 20 Dec (R. Shonkwiler). The high count was 3256 for the ONWR CBC on 31 Dec. In fields near Fremont, ~1300 were estimated 26 Jan (R. Morton, ph). Numbers away from the NW marshes were much lower, but swans apparently wintered in other areas, witness 64 at KPWA 3 Jan (B. Shively) where double-digit figures persisted (peaking at 90 on 2 Feb, B. Simpson) through the period, 17 at **Mosquito** 28 Jan (J. Heflich) likewise, even four in Columbus the following day (R. Royse). In Portage, 13 were found 10 Feb (G. Bennett) and 19 at **Huron** the 16<sup>th</sup> (J. Brumfield), with smaller but significant numbers at other spots through the eop. Tundra swans were far more numerous in spring than fall as late as 1981, and large fall numbers more likely in eastern than western Ohio. Since then larger migrant numbers have tended to come from fall, and in the western Lake Erie marshes, where over the last dozen years three-figure flocks have wintered at ONWR. This year's large numbers in the marshes were news, as were the duration of their stay there and in other areas of the state, as far east as Trumbull. CBC totals for earlier counts this decade were 126, 405, 52, 702, 907, and 100; this year, 3766.

**Wood duck:** Sighted in numbers as high as eight in Dec (**Kokosing Res** in *Knox* the 5<sup>th</sup>, B. Warner), January brought birds at **N. Chagrin MP** (F. Losi) and Mosquito Res (C. Holt) the 11th, *Adams* the 12<sup>th</sup> (V. Fazio), **Columbus** the 19<sup>th</sup> (G. Stauffer), two in *Madison* the 26<sup>th</sup> (D. Overacker), and in Feb two at **EFSP** the 10<sup>th</sup> (B. Stanley) and three in *Holmes* the 12<sup>th</sup> (K. Overman). The CBCs counted 54.

Gadwall: Kelleys Isl birds numbered 40+ the second week of Dec, 23 the 17<sup>th</sup>, 100+ the 28<sup>th</sup>, then 119 on 20 Jan (all T. Bartlett). In Jan, 25 plied **Pickerington Ponds** in *Fairfield* the 18<sup>th</sup> (G. Stauffer), and 60+ **Lk Logan** in *Hocking* the 27<sup>th</sup> (J. Fry). On 1 Feb 178 were at **Camp Dennison** (B. Foppe); **Castalia** harbored as many as 108 on 7 Feb (V. Fazio).

**Eurasian wigeon:** A drake spent 1-3 Feb at **Camp Dennison** in *Hamilton* (B. Foppe, m obs). No previous documented records exist of this species between early Jan and late Feb in Ohio other than in *Castalia*'s warm spring waters.

**American wigeon:** Persisted winter-long in small numbers statewide, led by **Castalia**'s 98 on 7 Feb (V. Fazio). Six were offshore in Lake on 23 Jan (R. Hannikman). Migrants probably swelled **Camp Dennison**'s count of 48 as early as 26 Feb (B. Foppe).

American black duck: The 3 Dec ONWRC found 307. The *Hardin* wetlands produced 135 on 7 Jan (R. Counts). Ice covered many favored Sandusky Bay and nearshore Lake Erie areas after mid-Jan. Blendon Woods MP near Columbus, a traditional spot with winter-long artificially open water, held 498 on 3 Feb and 807 on 12 Feb (B. Simpson). In the SW, 56 were the high count at EFSP 26 Feb (B. Foppe). CBCs deemed it the second-most numerous dabbler, with 2138 reported.

**Mallard:** At **Deer Ck SP**, ~2700 had gathered on 15 Dec (R. Royse), and ~1100 crowded the much smaller *Hardin* wetland 7 Jan (R. Counts). The CBCs tallied 28,472 statewide during the same span.

**Northern shoveler:** The **Cincinnati** CBC found a record 84 on 30 Dec. Fifteen in *Stark* 4 Jan were unusual (B. Morrison). This species is rare in Lake Erie in winter, so six (two drakes) in **Cleveland** on 14 Jan were remarkable (G. Leidy). At the major waterfowl refugia, **Castalia** held ~100 on 28 Jan (C. Caldwell) and 187 on 7 Feb (V. Fazio), and **Camp Dennison** 60 on the latter date (B. Foppe).

**Northern pintail:** Numbers were overall unremarkable, with 44 for the **Toledo** CBC 17 Dec, 22 at **The Wilds** 6 Jan (S. Snyder), 20+ at **ONWR** the following day (D. True), and 45 at the *Hardin* wetland 15 Jan (R. Counts). Sixty-two at **EFSP** hinted at spring migrant numbers by 26 Feb (B. Foppe).

**Green-winged teal:** Reported in single digits across the state during winter. By 22 Feb, 24 were at **SVWA** (J. Habig) and by the 28<sup>th</sup> 30 were in **Cincinnati** (B. Hull).

Canvasback: Large numbers appear along the Erie lakefront, often visible but for a short time. R. Lowry was lucky enough to encounter the high count, numbers "approaching, if not over ten thousand" off Marblehead on 11 Feb. Early on, J. Pogacnik counted 72 off LSR 2 Dec, and the high count in the southwest was 32 at Camp Dennison 22 Feb (B. Foppe).

**Redhead:** Only small numbers were reported, even on **Lake Erie** during the icy period. Inland reports were scattered; C. Holt had 27 at **Shalersville** in *Portage* 2 Feb. The seasonal high count was 115 at **Camp Dennison** in *Hamilton* on 22 Feb (B. Foppe).

**Ring-necked duck:** The CBCs tallied 1055, but fewer endured the winter, with six at the *Hardin* wetland 14 Jan (R. Counts), ~35 in **Columbus** 22 Jan (R. Royse), and 28 in *Portage* 2 Feb (C. Holt). At **Camp Dennison** 180 were seen 5 Feb, and by 19 Feb 1000+ were witnessed moving through **The Wilds** in *Muskingum* (G. Crippen), their numbers presumably augmented by migrants.

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**Greater scaup:** Fewer were detected this winter than recently, especially inland. On 30 Dec eight were discovered in *Stark* (B. Morrison), and numbers only in the single digits were reported from the southwestern counties. Off **Kelleys Island**, 1603 were tallied for the local census on 23 Feb (T. Bartlett).

Lesser scaup: The Cincinnati CBC was happy with 25 seen 30 Dec. The Kelleys Island census of 23 Feb (T. Bartlett) found 1215 (along with ~1500 scaup spp).

Scaup, sp: Scaups are often indistinguishable in distant rafts offshore in Lake Erie. E. Tramer reported ~5000+ in Maumee Bay off the Bayshore PP's warmer waters on 9 Feb.

King eider: An imm female was reported off Mentor Lagoons in Lake 2 Dec. M. obs located an imm male there 9-23 Dec. Another young male was off Sims Park in Euclid 20 Jan, with two reportedly there the following day. Documentation has been completed for at least some of these.

Harlequin duck: After three fall sightings, first noted were four at Mentor Lagoons in Lake 2 Dec (R. Hannikman fide J. Brumfield), then two at Perry Pk 7 Dec (B. Warner). A pair off Marblehead 16 Dec (P. Wetzel) may have been the same pairs reported from Kelleys Isl 20 (T. Bartlett) and 30 Jan (J. Pogacnik). One in Lorain Harbor 27 Jan (G.



John Pogacnik had camera ready when this harlequin duck scooted out from the dock at his feet in Lorain on 27 Jan. An adult male, it was pretty far along in molt to alternate plumage.

Bennett) became two there 1 Jan (C. Priebe fide L. Rosche).

Surf scoter: Repeatedly reported from favorable spots, with at least sixty during the period. N. Anderson's counts from Sims Park in Euclid topped out at ~30 on 20 Jan. Three flew by LSR 2 Dec (J. Pogacnik), and ~10 accompanied the eider at Mentor Lagoons 9 Dec (S. Landes). G. Bennett found a male at Lorain 27 Jan, and the Ottawa CBC tallied its first 31 Dec. Inland, four were at Clear Fork Res 2-27 Dec with one imm remaining as late as 15 Jan (J. Herman), R. Asamoto found one at Hoover Res 27 Jan, and R. Thorn another in Alum Ck Res 2 Feb.

White-winged scoter: R. Hannikman reported 15 at HBSP 2 Dec, and a remarkable 27 flew past LSR the same day (J. Pogacnik) with two more on 4 Feb, and ~20 were off Mentor Lagoons the 9<sup>th</sup> (S. Landes). N. Anderson's Sims Park numbers reached 12-15 on 1 Jan. R. Asamoto found one in *Greene* near SVWA 3 Feb, and J. Williams one at EFSP 25 Feb. The Cleveland CBC tallied 18 on 16 Dec; actually outnumbered black scoters on the CBCs, with 20 total.

Black scoter: Pogacnik had 18 off LSR and Hannikman 40 at HBSP 2 Dec, and Landes counted ~10 at Mentor Lagoons on the 9th. N. Anderson reported the following at Sims Park: 6+ on 7 Dec, 10-12 on 13 Dec, 3-4 on 1 Jan, three on 20 Jan. P. T. Bartlett found one off Kelleys Isl 28 Dec. P. Lozano saw two off Rocky River 27 Dec, then 3-4 on 1 Jan. Feb reports included one at Alum Ck Res the 2nd (R. Thorn), five at Lorain the 4th (G. Leidy), and one off Cleveland the 19th (B. Royse).

**Scoter species:** R. Hannikman et al. (*fide J.* Brumfield) reported hundreds of scoters, with surfs in the highest numbers, followed by blacks, and smaller numbers of white-winged scoters, at **Mentor Lagoons** 2 Dec.

Long-tailed duck: J. Pogacnik noted four off LSR 2 Dec, when "at least 20+" were reported at Mentor Lagoons (R. Hannikman et al., *fide* J. Brumfield). The following day C. Babyak found one at Mosquito Res, and G. Emmert three in *Medina* the 19<sup>th</sup>. T. Bartlett found two off Kelleys Isl between 7-10 Jan, and Lee Gruber one at Camp Dennison 26 Jan that persisted through 3 Feb for m obs. B. Royse found a drake at Deer Ck SP 4 Feb, P. Chaon a female at Avon Lk 10 Feb, and a bird at MBSP was seen 5 (B. Royse) and 11 Feb (Pogacnik). The Firelands CBC reported three on 16 Dec.

**Bufflehead:** Widespread on Lake Erie, with the largest numbers as always off **Kelleys Isl**, where T. Bartlett reported 1000+ by the second week of Dec, then 1098 the 17<sup>th</sup>, and 783 on 20 Jan.

**Common goldeneye:** Triple-digit numbers commenced with 116 off **Sims Pk** 8 Dec (N. Anderson). Off **Kelleys Isl**, T. Bartlett reported 1348 on 17 Dec and 1350 on 19 Jan. R. Lowry estimated "several thousand" off **Marblehead** 11 Feb. Inland the largest report was of 70+ at **Lake Milton**, *Mahoning*, 15-20 Jan (G. Bennett).

**Hooded merganser:** Large numbers were customarily hard to find this winter. C. Holt found 30 at Akron's **Summit Lk** 8 Feb. The high count was 125, for the *Cincinnati* CBC 30 Dec, while 81 at **EFSP** 26 Feb (B. Foppe) probably represented returning migrants.

Common goldeneye X hooded merganser: Four drakes of this attractive hybrid were reported: one 16 Feb at Castalia Pond (J. Brumfield), one 11 Mar at Medusa Marsh (A. Sewell), one at South Bass Isl 15 Mar (J. McWilliams), and another 17 Mar in Lorain (J. Pogacnik). Observers confirmed that more than one individual was involved.

Common merganser: Large mid-winter numbers included ~1000 in Rocky River 2 Feb (J. Edwards), then 500+ shoulder-to-shoulder in a lead of open water in Lorain Harbor 4 Feb (G. Leidy); the Fremont CBC tallied 1715 on 17 Dec. Waters off HBSP/Fairport Hbr hosted ~1000 on 28 Jan and ~2000 5 Feb (R. Hanninkman). Good numbers inland included ~50, mostly drakes, on the Ohio side of Pymatuning Res 30 Dec (M. Vass), seven on Lk Logan in Hocking 4 Jan (J. Fry), and 360+ on Meander Res in Mahoning 11 Jan (C. Babyak).

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**Red-breasted merganser:** Numerous as always early on, e.g. with  $\sim$ 14,000 reported on the 16 Dec **Cleveland** CBC (and a total of 26, 718 for all the counts), but reports plummeted with frozen nearshore water. The high count for Feb was  $\sim$ 100 at **Eastlake PP** and 80 at **E. 72**<sup>nd</sup> **St**. on the 8<sup>th</sup> (C. Holt). Inland numbers were small, mostly single digits in the SW, with a high of  $\sim$ 50 at **Berlin Res** 4 Jan (B. Morrison).

**Ruddy duck:** As usual, large numbers favored certain locations, such as **Wellington Res**, where 700 were found 2 Dec (K. Ostermiller), and ~1000 6 Jan (C. Caldwell). Severe cold limited their numbers later, when only 24 remained in **Summit Lk** 20 Jan (D. Vogus), and only five were off **Kelleys Isl** 21 Jan (T. Bartlett). In the south, thirty persisted at rapidly-freezing **Camp Dennison** on 5 Feb (B. Foppe).

Wild turkey: Continues to expand. The urban Lakewood CBC had five on 30 Dec.

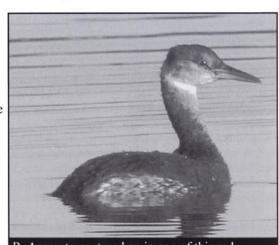
**Red-throated loon:** Fall's good movement continued into Dec, with one at **Caesar Ck SP** the 2<sup>nd</sup> (R. Asamoto), when two were at **Mentor Lagoons** in **Lake** (R. Hannikman et al. *fide* J. Brumfield). J. Pogacnik noted three off **LSR** the following day, then one on 5 Dec. Unusual were birds found as late as 28 Dec, at **Kelleys Isl** (T. Bartlett), and an adult seen off **LSR** by Pogacnik 9 Jan; only a handful of later Ohio records exist for the winter season.

**Common loon:** The season's high count was 148, seen passing **LSR** 5 Dec (J. Pogacnik). Loons always grow scarce in Jan, but single birds were found at **Willard Res** in *Huron* 2 Jan (B. Phillips), at **Nimisila Res** in *Summit* 3 Jan

(G. Bennett), on 20 Jan at Sims Pk (N. Anderson), in *Holmes* (L.E. Yoder *fide* B. Glick), and at HBSP (R. Hannikman) and Rocky Fk SP in *Highland* 24 Jan (V. Fazio). Late Jan records of uninjured loons are quite rare in Ohio.

Pied-billed grebe: Good numbers were common enough in Dec, led by 56 for the 3 Dec ONWRC.

Rocky Fork SP harbored 24 on 2 Dec (R. Asamoto), and remarkably 24 remained there as late as 10 Feb (B. Stanley).



R. Asamoto captured an image of this rednecked grebe at Rocky Fk Lk on 2 Dec.

**Horned grebe:** Tailed off rapidly in numbers, with high counts of only five, at **Rocky Fk SP** 2 Dec and **Alum Ck Res** 6 Dec (B. Shively). Still, present in small numbers through the season, with January singletons at **Findlay Res** the 18<sup>th</sup> (B. Royse) and **Hoover Res** the 23<sup>rd</sup> (C. Bombaci), then on Feb 10 (B. Stanley) and Feb 21 (D. Morse) at **EFSP**, and on the Olentangy River in **Columbus** 28 Feb (A. Wolfe).

**Red-necked grebe:** All reports came from early Dec, with one at **Rocky Fork SP** the 2<sup>nd</sup> (R. Asamoto), one remaining from fall at **Clear Fork Res** 2-7 Dec (J. Herman), and another at **Caesar Ck SP** the 10<sup>th</sup> (L. Gara).

**Eared grebe:** One dallied as late as the first day of the period at **Camp Dennison** (K. Hutton).

American white pelican: Adding to recent winter records of this species was a bird frequenting **Deer Ck SP**, discovered 4 Dec by B. Royse and last seen 15 Jan (P. Gardner) just as the weather deteriorated.

**Double-crested cormorant:** A new high count for the **Toledo** CBC was 28 on 17 Dec; statewide, the CBCs found 86. Later, three were at **Clear Fork Res** 15 Jan (S. Snyder), ~two dozen at **Sandusky** 25 Jan (S. Young), and 30+ south of **Columbus** 28 Jan (J. Brown). As many as four shivered at E. 72<sup>nd</sup> St. in **Cleveland** 8 Feb (C. Holt).

### American bittern:

Extraordinary were four during the period well away from the NW marshes: one in *Knox* 12 Dec (*fide* J. Fry), another in *Adams* 4 Jan (accompanied by spring peepers, R. McCarty), one at *Killbuck Marsh* in *Wayne* 9-16 Jan (S. Weaver *fide* D. Kline) and another at a groundwater-fed slough in *Pickaway* 8-12 Feb (T. Bain, ph.), when it was truly frigid.

Least bittern: Also unprecedented away from the NW marshes in winter was a bird at Winton Wds in Hamilton 3 Dec (Jay Stenger, J. Bens).



This remarkable mid-winter inland American bittern was photographed in Pickaway Co 8 Feb by Tom Bain.

Great egret: Multiple records. R. Asamoto had one at Rocky Fork SP 2 Dec. On 3 Dec, egrets were found on the ONWRC and near Wilmot in Stark (P. Soehnlen). Asamoto spotted another at Caesar Ck SP 10 Dec, V. Fazio two at Medusa Marsh 16 Dec, and the Paint Ck CBC had another on the 17<sup>th</sup>; J. Herman reported one 22-28 Dec near Charles Mill Lake. Still rarer Jan records came from Bay View 10 Jan (S. Young), Deer Ck SP from 7 (E. Reiner) to 12 Jan (B. Royse), and one in Gallia the 26<sup>th</sup> (V. Fazio), doubtless fleeing southward.

**Green heron:** Setting a new late record for the state, a green heron discovered at **Chilo Lock Pk** in *Clermont* 17 Dec (K. Robinson) lingered for m obs through 9 Jan (J. Lehman).

## Black-crowned night-heron:

Winter roosts reported included the traditional Flats site in Cleveland, with as many as 110 birds on 12 Dec; it was vacated (probably due to frozen water) by 17 Feb, but the birds later returned (P. Lozano). The same thing happened with the small Columbus roost, which had 16 birds until 22 Feb, when none were found, but was later reoccupied. Fourteen adults and 2 imm were found at the warmwater outflow of the Bayshore PP in Lucas 17 Feb (D. Dister). No reports from Cincinnati, but Sandusky had as many as 28 on a



This green heron established a new late winter record date, with reports through 9 Jan. Photo taken 4 Jan, courtesy of B. Foppe.

partial count on 25 Jan (S. Young). Odd was one imm 21-22 Dec near downtown **Mansfield** (J. Herman). An imm at **HBSP** 3 Feb was a local record for the month (E. Bacik).

Black vulture: Big CBC numbers included 133 for Cincinnati 30 Dec, and 89 for the 30 Dec Hocking Hills count, as well as the Ragersville count of 40 on 1 Jan. Traditional midwinter roosts in southern counties were reported: 21 in *Clermont* 6 Jan (K. Robinson), 43 in *Hocking* 15 Jan (P. Gardner), 26 in *Adams* 24 Jan (V. Fazio), 50+ in *Ross* 26 Jan (T. Bain), and 30 in *Preble* 23 Feb (C. Caldwell). Four at **Deer Ck SP** 4 Dec (B. Royse)-4 Feb (Bain), and three over **Hoover Res** CBC 16 Dec were of additional interest.

**Turkey vulture:** The high mid-winter count was 170 in *Brown* 10 Feb (B. Foppe), but TVs wintered across the state season-long. An imm, for example, was present all season as far north as **Kelleys Isl**, and several CBCs posted large numbers of vultures, such as **Cincinnati**, with 350 on 30 Dec, **Ragersville**, with 335 on 26 Dec, and **Millersbug**, with 470 on 1 Jan. The first obvious migrant group was five birds near **Chillicothe** 19 Feb (T. Bain). Reported from 25 CBCs overall.

**Bald eagle:** The ODOW's winter count recorded 359 adults and 121 immature birds in 53 counties; the total count of 480 fell short of last year's 554, but warm weather failed to concentrate birds. *Sandusky* had the highest numbers as usual, with 69 eagles. The CBCs found 238, with **Trumbull**, surprisingly enough, leading the way with 30.

Northern harrier: R. Counts's surveys of a *Hardin* wetland/grassland complex yielded 25 harriers on 2 Dec, 39 on 16 Dec, and 27 on 7 Jan. New Conservation Reserve Program lands in the **Pickaway Plains** area near **Charlie's Pond** yielded 12 for J. Fry on 15 Jan. The high CBC counts came from southern counties, with 23 for *Adams* 16 Dec, and 18 at **Paint Ck** 17 Dec.

Northern goshawk: One report, from J. Pogacnik, of an imm near his feeder in *Lake* 20 Jan.

**Red-shouldered hawk:** NW Ohio has not been a stronghold for this raptor, but the **Grand Rapids-Waterville** CBC had a record seven on 30 Dec, and an ad was seen 27 Jan and 12 Feb near **Toledo** (E. Tramer). Still doing rather well in the NE and SW.

**Rough-legged hawk:** Not a big year for this northern raptor, the high count was only 13 at **The Wilds** 19 Feb (G. Crippen). V. Fazio spotted two down along the *Adams/Highland* county line 24 Jan. The high count at **KPWA** was but eight, on 28 Feb (T. Shively).

Golden eagle: Reports at The Wilds began with one 3 Dec (G. Crippen), another 9 Dec (A. Parker), and various accounts of both an ad and an imm there throughout Feb (Parker et al.). The Wooster CBC got its first ever on 23 Dec. The ODOW eagle count reported three (one ad) during the season statewide. A juv was over Deer Ck SP 6 Dec (J. Kuenzli), one over KPWA 24 Dec (L. Saukko), one in Wayne 31 Dec (N. Saunders), and a young bird over Kelleys Isl 23 Feb was a local first for the season (T. Bartlett).

Merlin: Numerous reports of transients came to light, but wintering birds were the news. Extended stays at urban cemeteries with mature conifers continued in Cleveland (Lakeview and Calvary cemeteries), Columbus (with as many as three individuals at Green Lawn Cemetery), and several sites in Cincinnati. A bird first reported at the Parma CCC campus 4 Jan (P. Lozano) was, according to local observer G. Leidy, appearing for the seventh consecutive year at this location.

**Peregrine falcon:** Introduced birds have confused the traditional winter status of this species in Ohio. For example, observers of gulls and waterfowl at warmwater outflows at sites such as **Avon Lake** and **Eastlake** noted peregrines season-long where they would probably have been seen on only a few occasions under natural conditions not too many years ago. Diminished migratory traditions among human-fostered falcons parallel similar phenomena among introduced Canada geese and trumpeter swans.

Virginia rail: Persisted at seeps and spring-fed wetlands in several spots, with six found at **Springville Marsh** for the **Carey** CBC 1 Jan, and one found there 10 Feb (D. Dister). T&M Romito heard one at **Ira Rd** in the **CVNP** on 1 Jan as well.

Sora: J. Pogacnik spotted three at Chagrin River Pk in Lake 14 Dec, a very late date.

American coot: On 2 Dec, 900 paddled Rocky Fork Lk in *Highland* (R. Asamoto), and ~2000 Wellington Res in *Lorain* (K. Ostermiller). At the latter location, ~1000 remained on 6 Jan (C. Caldwell), and at the former 610 persisted through 24 Jan (V. Fazio). At Camp Dennison, 610 jammed a shrinking area of unfrozen water as late as 7 Feb (F. Renfrow). By 20 Feb, L. Gara found 60 alive and 31 apparently frozen to death at icebound Caesar Ck Lk.

Sandhill crane: Cranes' wintering areas have been shifting north with warmer winters, and with the peculiar conditions of this season broke all the rules. Kelleys IsI recorded its first winter record with four birds on 11 Dec (T. Bartlett). The following Jan-Feb records would have been unthinkable in the aggregate even ten years ago: on 10 Jan, 11 at **Deer Ck SP** (B. Royse); on 19 Jan, 15 in *Summit* (C. Johnson); on 22 Jan, 21 in **Cincinnati** (B. Hull); on 28 Jan, 19 in *Clermont* (C. Clingman); on 5 Feb, 7-10 in *Morrow* (T. Wheat); on 8-10 Feb, 83-112 in a field in *Fulton* (E. Tramer); 15 near **Xenia** on 10 Feb (E. Roush); 8 at **ONWR** 10 Feb (J. Pogacnik); ~60 in *Delaware* 12 Feb (M. Flynn *fide* M. Packer). Over 1400 were reported in the **Cincinnati** area, mostly in Dec. Interestingly, only one was found on the season's CBCs.

**Killdeer:** The CBCs reported 210 statewide. Persisted through the season at numerous locations, with a mid-winter high count of 16 in *Butler* 7 Jan (M. Busam).

**Spotted sandpiper:** A new late record for Ohio was established with the discovery by D. Dister of a bird on the east side of the **Great Miami River** on 31 Dec for the **Dayton** CBC.

**Purple sandpiper:** Headlands Beach SP's lighthouse breakwall was the hot spot, with three showing up 2 Dec (*fide* J. Brumfield), as many as five there 17-18 Dec (Mentor CBC, *fide* N. Barber), and sightings of single birds 4 Jan, 6 Jan, 10 Jan, and the last by R. Hannikman on 23 Jan; there are only a handful of later historical records. One on the beach at MBSP 3 Dec was unexpected (B. Zwiebel). Kelleys Island hosted one 13 Dec (L. Brohl), a record four 17 Dec, and one 30 Dec (J. Pogacnik). J. Estep spotted one at Lorain Harbor 9 Dec.

**Dunlin:** Has overwintered in the state, so having only two reports was surprising: one at **BCSP** 10 Dec (D. Overacker), and three at the **CCE** in **ONWR** 21 Dec (R. Shonkwiler).

Wilson's snipe: Found in suitable habitat throughout the season, with a high count of 19 in *Cuyahoga* 3 Dec (P. Lozano). The CBCs reported 44 statewide. The Cincinnati area produced 17 during the period. Mid-winter birds included one in *Erie* 7 Jan (B. Phillips), five at Cowan Lk SP 29 Jan (L. Gara), and one in *Pickaway* 12 Feb (T. Bain).

American woodcock: Like snipes, woodcocks were able to survive the season in fair numbers. Though CBCs reported only one, the unexpectedly mild first half of January induced many to begin displaying: reports came from *Ross* on 1 Jan (J. McCormac), *Muskingum* (B. Thompson) 6 Jan, *Adams* (two seen in display 13 Jan by R. McCarty, one 18 Jan by S. Wilson), and *Clermont* 24 Jan (B. Stanley).

**Little gull:** Not many this time. In *Lake* on 7 Dec, B. Warner had two at **Perry Pk** and three at the **Eastlake PP**. On 16 Feb, J. Brumfield found an adult and a first-year bird at **Avon Lk PP**.

**Bonaparte's gull:** Fair numbers stayed through mid-Jan, though most moved south, including 100+ at **Berlin Res** 4 Jan (B. Morrison), 25 at **Deer Ck Lk** 10 Jan (B. Royse), and 60 at **Clear Fk Res** and as many at **Pleasant Hill Res** on 13 Jan, with five at the latter spot 25 Jan (J. Herman). Last reported were four at E 72<sup>nd</sup> St in **Cleveland** 20 Feb (J. Brumfield).

<u>California gull</u>: An adult was photographed on **Kelleys Isl** 17 Dec for a third local record.

**Thayer's gull:** At least half a dozen individuals of several age classes were reported along the lakefront in *Cuyahoga* and *Lake* through the period. Farther west, one was at a dump in *Wood* 9 Jan (T. Kemp), and another in *Ottawa* 10 Feb (J. Pogacnik).

**Iceland gull:** Much as the previous species, with sightings in the west coming from **Kelleys Isl** on 17 Dec (first CBC record), and three or more at the **Wood County** dump during mid-January (T. Kemp).

Lesser black-backed gull: Widely reported along the lakefront from Huron east. Multiple birds haunted E 72<sup>nd</sup> St in Cleveland in early Feb, with a local high count of six the 10<sup>th</sup> (J. Brumfield). Inland records included a 3<sup>rd</sup>-winter bird 16/17/20 Dec at Clear Fk Res, a first for the Mansfield CBC (A. & L. Troyer, J. Herman) and probably the same bird there again 13 Jan, joined by two adults 20 Jan (J. Herman), one at Charles Mill Lk 18 Dec (G. Cowell), up to eight at the Wood County dump on 9 Jan (T. Kemp), one 10 Feb at the Ottawa Co dump (J. Pogacnik), and one along the Maumee River in *Lucas* 18 Feb (D. Dister).

Glaucous gull: Well-represented along the lakefront from Huron east through the period, with a high count of three at E 72<sup>nd</sup> St 18 Feb (J. Pogacnik). Two reports from inland: two adults at the Wood Co dump 24 Dec (T. Kemp), and one adult 31 Jan (G. Cowell)-8 Feb (m obs) at Charles Mill Lk, establishing first county records for both *Richland* and *Ashland*.

Great black-backed gull: Seen only in fair numbers along the lakefront, with a high count of 266 passing LSR on 20 Jan (J. Pogacnik). One was reported well inland at Deer Ck SP 4 Feb (E. Reiner)

Black-legged kittiwake: Two reports of first-year birds (pehaps a single individual) came 7 Dec. at E 72nd St (B. Warner) and off Willoughby (J. Talkington fide L. Rosche).

Pomarine jaeger: Flybys at LSR were one on 3 Dec and two on 7 Jan (J. Pogacnik).

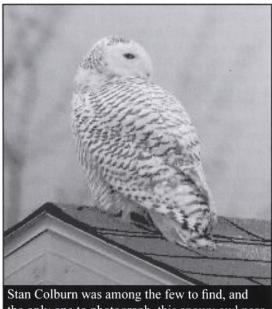
Sam Walker caught a great black-backed gull and a herring gull this winter engaged in prospective hybridization.

Parasitic jaeger: One was reported from Eastlake PP 2 Dec, perhaps the same reported from Mentor Lagoons the same day (both fide J. Brumfield).

Jaeger, sp.: unidentified as to species were jaegers at Perry Pk 7 Dec (B. Warner) and at Mentor Lagoons 2 Dec (R. Hannikman fide J. Brumfield).

Snowy owl: Few and flighty. Three reported from *Hancock*: 5 Dec (B. Von Stein), 10 Jan (M. Richards), and 16 Jan (B. Hardesty). An owl spent 21 (S. Drew) through 26 Dec (C. Rieker) in rural Pickaway. Another was photographed near W. Branch SP 2 Jan (S. Colburn).

Long-eared owl: Found unreliably at KPWA, peaking at six on 11 Feb (T. Shively). Reports of others came from Ottawa, Muskingum, Darke, Wood, Holmes, Lucas, and Ashland.



the only one to photograph, this snowy owl near West Branch SP 1 Jan.

Short-eared owl: Present in traditional areas, though perhaps in smaller numbers than recently. CBCs reported 25 statewide. At KPWA, 13 was the high count, on 19 Dec (J. Kuenzli), and reported numbers at the Wilds never reached double figures. Seven-plus were on Kelleys Isl in late Dec (T. Bartlett).

The *Hardin* wetlands harbored as many as 12 on 14 Jan (R. Counts), but what looked like predation by great horned owls was taking its toll.

Northern saw-whet owl: Seldom detected, all reports coming from December, with CBC records on the 17th from Kelleys Island (with a count of seven calling 28 Dec) and three from Toledo, as well as a bird calling in Youngstown 4 Dec (C. Holt) and another at Kelleys Isl 11 Dec (T. Bartlett). None reported from KPWA.



Red-headed woodpecker: A CBC count of 148 was low by recent standards, considering 42 of

those came from EFSP alone (17 Dec). Is much to be learned from CBC totals over the preceding seven years (329, 139, 129, 293, 154, 115, 198)?

Bruck Glick.

Yellow-bellied sapsucker: Reports throughout the period came from Athens, Delaware, Trumbull, Fairfield, Franklin, Ottawa, Lake, Cuyahoga, Lucas, Warren, Montgomery, Summit, Clark, Ashland, Coshocton, Richland, Ashland, Preble, Highland, Washington, Scioto, Stark, and Holmes. Eight came after the coldest weather arrived.

**Eastern phoebe:** Twenty-four showed up for CBCs, with a record high of nine in Cincinnati 30 Dec. Overall, reports came from Hamilton, Clermont, Stark, Lucas, Warren, Hocking, Ross, Wayne, Holmes, Jackson, Scioto, Gallia, Lawrence, Licking, Delaware, Columbiana, Cuyahoga, Muskingum, Butler, and Coshocton. D. Vogus reported one found dead in the snow at ONWR for the 4 Feb census.

Western Kingbird: Reported by two observers was one near MBSP 10 Dec; documentation is with the records committee.

Northern shrike: Fall shrikes from Lucas, Lorain, Pickaway (the southernmost), and *Trumbull* persisted. Joining them in a more or less normal showing were two birds in Muskingum, two in Wyandot, two in Stark, another in Lucas, another in Trumbull, and others in Tuscarawas, Geauga, Butler, Stark, Ottawa, Cuyahoga, Lake, Portage, Wayne, Mentor, and Coshocton.

White-eyed vireo: J. Yoder reported one in southern *Holmes* 3 Dec, at close range with excellent details (*fide* D. Kline). A very late record.

**Blue Jay:** On 17 Dec in **Rocky River**, E. Bruder witnessed "a huge flight of blue jays moving through the treetops in a direction from west to east. I stopped counting when I hit 200 jays, which took roughly 10 minutes. More jays continued to stream across for another 10-15 minutes after I stopped counting. The birds were calling as they moved." Another seasonal oddity, this unusually large movement was probably a migratory one, delayed or prolonged by mild weather.

American crow: At traditional urban roosts, **Springfield** had ~20,000 on 15 Dec (D. Overacker) and **Cincinnati** ~10,000 23 Feb (F. Renfrow); the **Mansfield** roost was estimated at 15,000 on 16 Dec (CBC).

**Horned lark:** For the high count, B. Royse reported a vast flock of "easily two to three thousand" in *Licking* 12 Feb, just as a big snowstorm was gathering.

**Red-breasted nuthatch:** Reports were scanty statewide; the CBCs tallied 77, with a high count of ten for the **Cleveland** count of 16 Dec. The **Cincinnati** CBC had but one, versus a record-setting 258 white-breasted nuthatches.

**Brown creeper:** The Christmas counts reported 1119, with highs for **Millersburg** of 139 on 1 Jan, and for **Grand Rapids-Waterville** 100 on 30 Dec; only three counts failed to find any.

Carolina wren: CBC counts totaling 5200 seemed to bear out subjective impressions of the continuing health of this species' numbers, after a total of 3188 last year. The New Year's Day count at Millersburg was far and away the highest, with 678. Every Ohio CBC reported Carolina wrens.

House wren: The CBC total of six was in view of the mild weather perhaps not astonishing. An individual different from that reported for the Millersburg CBC on 1 Jan was carefully observed

This ruby-crowned kinglet visited Tim Leslie's feeder off and on during the season

by K. Kline in n. *Holmes* the previous day, *fide* D. Kline. One responded to a tape in *Adams* 27 Dec (P. Whan).

Winter wren: The CBCs tallied 99, with 15 for Millersburg 1 Jan and 13 for Toledo 17 Dec. On Kelleys Isl, three were found for the 17 Dec census (T. Bartlett).

**Marsh wren:** Seven statewide for the CBCs was about normal, with a high of two for the **Wooster** count of 23 Dec, which were observed there as late as 31 Jan (S. Weaver *fide* D. Kline).

Golden-crowned kinglet: The CBCs tallied 3287, led by the assiduous observers of Millersburg, with 470 on 1 Jan. The Wooster CBC count of 129 was a local high. All but two counts reported some.

Ruby-crowned kinglet: Present in locally small numbers statewide. CBCs reported 45. Feb reports included birds on the 7<sup>th</sup> in Oxford (B. Heck) and at **Highbanks MP** in *Delaware* (K. Graham). T. Leslie had one at feeders



Bruce Glick got a shot of this hermit thrush near Millersburg in Holmes County this winter.

in Ashland intermittently from 2 Dec through the eop

**Hermit thrush:** A mainstay at **Kelleys Isl**, 50+, some still singing, were there 6-12 Dec (T. Bartlett), and 107+ were recorded by the local census on the 17th. The CBCs found 208 statewide. Subsequent reports were of one-two birds, but spanned the period, and came from nine counties.

Eastern bluebird: Every CBC save one reported this species, for a total of 6122 statewide.

American robin: Many did not migrate further south this winter, lingering in large numbers into late January. Several CBCs set new records for the species. As a very cold February compelled some to move, and some to perish, places to our south experienced record influxes. A single roost in *St. Petersburg, Florida*, was estimated to contain 522,000 robins on 28 Feb (D. Margeson).

**Gray catbird:** Apparently did not linger with the weather in appreciable numbers, with only 12 reported on the CBCs, and only a few thereafter, the northernmost in *Stark* 30 Dec (E. Snively) and at **Woodbury WA** 10 Jan (S. Jackson).

**Northern mockingbird:** Several CBCs in the northern half reported record numbers, as 18 at **Grand Rapids-Waterville** 30 Dec, 13 for **Wooster** on 23 Dec, and 17 at **Mohican** 30 Dec. The CBCs totaled a healthy if unspectacular 1138.

**Brown thrasher:** Thrashers seemed immune to the lure of a mild winter. The CBC total was only seven, and other reports amounted to seven of single birds Jan and Feb.

**European starling:** See observations from **Kelleys Island** by T. Bartlett elsewhere in this issue.

American pipit: A CBC total of 314 signaled a decent showing. Later, an apparent migrant flock of 125 was in s. *Holmes* 18 Jan (N. Schlaback *fide* D. Kline), and on 24 Jan 53 were in *Hocking* (J. Watts) along with 115 in *Adams* the same day (V. Fazio). W. Hull observed 35 at Armleder Pk in Cincinnati 10 Feb.

Orange-crowned warbler: One appeared at a feeder in Hilliard, *Franklin*, on 13 Feb (N. Nye, ph), for an apparent new late record for Ohio.

Nashville warbler: L. Brumbaugh observed an individual of this species on her property in *Hamilton*, obtaining photographs, between 3 and 13 Dec. This is Ohio's second-latest record.

Northern parula: One was present at Wolf Ck Environmental Center in *Medina* 7-10 Dec (D. Bertsch, ph M. Ludwig), and succumbed in captivity

This record, late northern parula an-

This record-late northern parula appeared at the Wolf Creek Environmental Center in *Medina*, and was photographed 7 Dec by Mark Ludwig.

on the latter date for a new late record for the state.

**Yellow-rumped warbler:** The high counts for a single observer were 56, on the **Kelleys Isl** census of 17 Dec (T. Bartlett), and on 27 Jan by V. Fazio at **Buckeye Furnace**, *Jackson*. Present winter-long.

Pine warbler: Birds coming to feeders included one 10 Dec in *Pickaway* (E. Reiner), one 12 Dec in *Columbus* (R. Thorn), one in *Greene* 1 Jan-12 Feb (G. Spahr, ph), one in *Hamilton* 25 Jan-eop (L. Keene, ph). and another in *Stark* 4 Feb (R. Macko). Other mid-winter observations included one at Walborn Res on 2 Feb (B. Morrison).

**Black-and-white warbler:** D. Hayhurst documented one feeding in **Clear Ck MP** in *Hocking* on 25 Feb, a new wintering record for Ohio.



Laura Keene got a lot of photos of a pine warbler that frequented her feeder in Jan and Feb.

Common yellowthroat: CBCs

reporting this species included ONWR, Caesar Ck., Dayton, Grand Rapids-Waterville, three for Toledo, and two for Wooster tying a local all-time high. E. Tramer reported two at CPNWR on 17 Dec, and Allen Troyer one at Killbuck Marsh 14&16 Jan (fide D. Kline).

Western tanager: R. Thorn discovered a drab-plumaged female or young male in Grandview Hts, a Columbus suburb, on 4 Dec. The bird called and fed on berries in urban yards through 20 Dec (D&J Hoffman). This was an unusual winter for this species in the east, with 20 others reported, in Connecticut, Maine, Georgia, Michigan, South Carolina, Nova Scotia, Pennsylvania, New York, Massachusetts (3), North Carolina (2), New Jersey (2), and Florida (5).

**Spotted towhee:** J. Dixon alertly noticed this western bird at her feeders in **Holland**, *Lucas* on 28 Feb. Ohio's fifth record remained for m. obs. well into the next period.

Eastern towhee: The CBCs had 708, led by 141 at Cincinnati on 30 Dec.



Oft seen, but seldom so well photographed, was this Harris's sparrow in Holmes Co this season. Photo courtesy of Bruce Glick on 27 Jan.

ago the second-most common bird for the CBCs, this year, though reported on all counts, it ranked seventeenth, with 10,537 found.

**Field sparrow:** The CBCs reported 440, the bulk of them in southwestern counties and in farm country in or near *Holmes* and *Wayne*.

Vesper sparrow: Only one reported by the CBCs.

**Savannah sparrow:** Thirty-two reported for the CBCs, with 15 in **Cincinnati** 30 Dec. J. Yoder had good numbers winter-long in a field in s. *Holmes*, with a maximum of 14 on 11 Feb (*fide* D. Kline). Other midwinter reports included one in *Preble* 23 Jan and two in *Lawrence* 25 Jan (V. Fazio), and two in *Seneca* 11 Feb (T. Bartlett).

**Nelson's sharp-tailed sparrow:** Quite rare in winter, one was located in *Ross* during the **Kingston** CBC on 1 Jan (D. Linzell, m obs), apparently a record late date for Ohio.

**Fox sparrow:** Total for the CBCs was 62, led by ten at **Caesar Ck** 14 Dec. Birds in the colder period included five at **SVWA** 22 Jan (J. Lehman), one in *Geauga* 26 Jan (E. Kistler), and ten in *Montgomery* 10 Feb (E. Baumgardner).

**Song sparrow:** P. Wharton reported 200+ in *NW Hamilton* 29 Dec. The CBC count was nearly ten thousand.

Swamp sparrow: The Toledo CBC led the state with 151 on 17 Dec.

White-throated sparrow: The CBCs found an unremarkable 8640, on all but six counts.

<u>Harris's sparrow</u>: On 25 Jan, W. Miller discovered a basic-plumaged adult male with a flock of white-crowned sparrows in *Holmes*, which was fairly reliably refound through the eop.

White-crowned sparrow: The CBCs found 3542, about normal.

**Lapland longspur:** The CBC total was 1396, led by **Carey** with 819 on 1 Jan. Found in decent numbers rather far south, witness ~100 near **Caesar Ck SP** 18 Feb (S. Egleston).

**Snow bunting:** The high count came from *Lorain* on 14 Feb, with a flock of 200+ (L. Romaniuk); about a hundred were near **Caesar Ck SP** 18 Feb (S. Egleston), and smaller numbers were found in other SW counties thereafter. Without much snow to concentrate them, only 133 were reported on the CBCs, 103 of them at **ONWR**.

Rose-breasted grosbeak: A male was found at Glen Helen Nature Ctr in Yellow Springs 8 Dec (N. Boutis, ph). There are not more than a dozen other Ohio winter records for this species.

**Red-winged blackbird:** Large numbers wintered in the NW marshes, and numerous males arrived elsewhere in Feb: C. Holt reported that in a 22 Feb flock in *Mahoning* females and immatures already outnumbered adult males.

**Eastern meadowlark:** Wintering birds at the *Hardin* wetland numbered 47 on 16 Dec, and 47 on 7 Jan (R. Counts). Over half the CBC's 272 came from three locales: 16 Dec with 59 in *Adams* and 37 in **Tiffin**, and on 26 Dec 60 for **Ragersville**. Few were reported at **KPWA** this winter.

**Rusty blackbird:** The CBCs reported 412, with a high of 146 on the 17 Dec **Toledo** count. Later, interesting counts were 38 in *Jackson* 27 Jan (V. Fazio) and 50-75 in *Knox* 5 Feb (A. Newman). One on **Kelleys Isl** 24 Jan (T. Bartlett) was a local late record. This species seems to be in trouble, and no one is sure why.

**Brewer's blackbird:** Remarkably far east was one near **Walborn Res** on 15 Jan (B. Morrison). None were reported from the CBCs, and many searches by experienced birders in the usually productive fields of **Jerusalem Twp** in *Lucas* were unavailing, but then those fields have more housing all the time.

**Common grackle:** The CBCs reported 61,215 this year. Later accumulations amounted to ~7000 in **Wooster** 3 Jan (S. Snyder), and 5000+ further south in *Wayne* 15 Jan (L. Deininger).

Brown-headed cowbird: The season's CBCs reported 4821 this time.

**Baltimore oriole:** A first-fall male came to a feeder near **Woodsfield** in *Monroe* mid-Dec, and was seen regularly through mid-Feb (H. Freeman, B. Heins, ph), for a rare mid-winter record, and a likely first for the county. The **Cuyahoga Falls** CBC of 17 Dec reported one.

**Purple finch:** Few reports, mostly from the southern counties. B. Morrison had one in *Noble* 18 Jan for the northernmost. The CBCs reported 43, with a high count of ten in **Cleveland** 12/16.

**Common redpoll:** A poor year for this species in Ohio. The only winter report came from well south, in *Preble*, where C. Mathena and S. Tackett found one with Lapland longspurs in a field on 18 Jan.

**Pine siskin:** Quite scantily reported, with most of its few reports emerging from the southwestern counties. Only 33 recorded for CBCs.

**Evening grosbeak:** During the CBCs, three were announced from *Preble* 15 Dec. and one from **Columbus** 17 Dec. No other reports were received.

Contributors: We are indebted to the following 250+ individuals and organizations who contributed sightings data to the Reports: Scott Albaugh, Matt Anderson, Nancy Anderson, Rick Asamoto, Carole Babyak, Emil Bacik, Nick Barber, Tom Bartlett, Erich Baumgardner, Jon Benedetti, Greg Bennett, Joe Bens, Dan Bertsch, Andy Bess, Charlie Bombaci, Aaron Boone, Steve Borgis, Nick Boutis, Jill Bowers, Jenny Bowman, David Brinkman, Lisa Brohl, Jeff Brown, Willis Brubaker, Erik Bruder, Lori Brumbaugh, Jen Brumfield, Eric Burkholder, Mike Busam, Neill Cade, Steve Cagan, Craig Caldwell, Paul Chad, Phil Chaon, Allen Chartier, Ann Chasar, Dwight Chasar, Hans Clebsch, Chris Clingman, Stan Colburn, Delores Cole, Ernie Cornelius, Karla Corzett, Ben Coulter, Rick Counts, Gary Cowell, Bill Creasey, Glen Crippen, Greg Cudworth, Becky Cullen, Jeff Cullen, Donna Daniel, Leo Deininger, Dave Dister, Jan Dixon, Steve Drew, Doug Dunakin, Micki Dunakin, Elinor Elder, Dave English, Jason Estep, Bob Evans, Tim Fairweather, Ginny Fantetti, Joe Faulkner, Vic Fazio, Scott Felker, Mike Fialkovich, Bob Finkelstein, Bonnie Fish, Haley Fitzpatrick, Doug Fisher, Mike Flynn, Andy Fondrk, Bob Foppe, Joan Frederick, Hazel Freeman, Frank Frick, Darlene Friedman, Jim Fry, Ross Gallardy, Brian Gara, Larry Gara, Paul Gardner, Karen Gerker, Jeff Grabmeier, Darlena Graham, Lee Gruber, Gary Haase, John Habig, Scott Hannan, Ray Hannikman, Betty Hardesty, Rob Harlan, Sandy Harlan, Lana Hays, Bill Heck, Jim Heflich, Bob Heins, Michele Hendrick, John Herman, Dave Hess, Rebecca Hinkle, Dick Hoffman, Jean Hoffman, Craig Holt, Dave Horn, Nancy Howell, Joe Hudick, William Hull, Kathi Hutton, Sally Isacco, Kenn Kaufman, Matt Kemp, Tom Kemp, Laura Keene, Ned Keller, Ethan Kistler, Dennis Kline, Judy Kolo-Rose, Marian Kraus, Mike Kravitz, John Kuenzli, Carl Johnson, Steve Landes, Jay Lehman, Gabe Leidy, Greg Links, Fred Losi, Rob Lowry, Paula Lozano, Mark Ludwig, Pat McCarthy, Jim McCormac, Joe McMahon, Jerry McWilliams, Charlotte Mathena, Cheri Medlin, Kevin Metcalf, Gary Meszaros, Wayne Miller, Kathy Mock, Andrew Morrison, Ben Morrison, Donald Morse, Rick Nirschl, Nat Nye, Ann Oliver, Helen Ostermiller, Ken Ostermiller, Doug Overacker, Michael Packer, Al Parker, David Patick, Steve Pelikan, John Petruzzi, Lester Peyton, Brad Phillips, Ed Pierce, Deb Plotts, John Pogacnik, Bob Powell, Frank Renfrow, Jim Reyda, Richard Rickard, Craig Rieker, Keith Robinson, Paul Rodewald, Randel Rogers, Linda Romine, Lisa Romaniuk, Mary Anne Romito, Tom Romito, Larry Rosche, Hugh Rose, Ed Roush, Jeff Rowe, Bob Royse, Dave Russell, Bob Sams, Dan Sanders, Winnie Sarno, John Sawvel, Regina Schieltz, Norman Schlaback, John Schoenlein, Carlton Schooley, Ryan Schroeder, Joe Sedransk, Ron Sempier, Andy Sewell, Paul Sherwood, Julie Shieldcastle, Bill Shively, Troy Shively, Randy Shonkwiler, Darlene Sillick, Bruce Simpson, Dennis Smoyer, Su Snyder, Greg & Tim Spahr, Chris Spagnoli, Brad Sparks, Bill Stanley, Gene Stauffer, Jack Stenger, Jay Stenger, Laura Stiefel, Steve Stockford, Jake Straub, Jerry Talkington, Karin Tanquist, Keith Tarvin, Rob Thorn, Elliot Tramer, Roger Troutman, Albert Troyer, Allen Troyer, David True, Tom Uhlman, Manon Van Schoyk, Mark Vass, Doug Vogus, Suzanne Wagner, Sam Walker, Ben Warner, John Watts, Samuel Weaver, Kirk Westendorf, Geoff Westerfield, Bill Whan, Pete Whan, Paul Wharton, Tammi Wheat, John Williams, Steve Wilson, Ben Winger, Scott Wright, James Yoder, Leroy Yoder, Norman Yoder, Sheryl Young, Teresa Yowler, 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**

by Robert Harlan 3361 Columbia Woods Drive, Apt. F Norton, OH 44203 kiskadee96@hotmail.com

### June

Riley's "queenly month of indolent repose" is here at last—June, with its blushing brides, sweet girl graduates, blooming roses and nesting birds. During the months which have preceded we have watched an army of birds file past; now it is high time to pay our respects to our feathered friends at their very homes.

Now I'll never claim to be an expert on James Whitcomb Riley, or on queenly months, but I will admit to an appreciation of the amiable and appealing chronologies of one Allen C. Conger, Professor of Zoology at Ohio Wesleyan University, in Delaware, Ohio.

In 1928 Professor Conger included the above passage in "A Calendar of Ohio Birds: June," the sixth installment in a 12-part series of newspaper articles that detailed the month-to-month changes in Ohio's avifauna over the course of a year. As related in my most recent column, I stumbled upon this series in the microfilmed archives of the *Wadsworth Banner-Press*, s perfect example of a small town rural newspaper, the type that thrived in the prosperous days immediately preceding the great stock market crash of 1929. Comparatively little information was published regarding Ohio's birds in the 1920s, which makes this series all the more noteworthy. Plus, I just like it.

At the conclusion of my last column, you'll recall we parted company with Professor Conger, and with spring migration, at the end of May. And so, let's now pick up where we left off in our year-long journey. I imagine we'll find the good Professor somewhere in central Ohio, and in early June, his month of blushing brides, sweet girl graduates, blooming roses, and nesting birds.

After a thoughtful request-- do not disturb a nest or its immediate surroundings, for many species of birds will abandon eggs and even young if the privacy of their homes is invaded, the Professor leads us down a dusty, shaded road. By early June, [s]ome of our good friends have already sent a brood of youngsters out into the wide world, but most of our common small birds raise two broods each year. Many of them are now busy with the second nesting—building a new home, incubating eggs or even caring for young, while the latest arrivals may just be settling down to the arduous cares of family life.

As we take a detour through town, the Professor begins to point out nests, finding them much quicker than we do, but just as adeptly as one might expect from an old-fashioned nest scout. He waves off the *all too easy to find* nests of English Sparrows; is more pleased with the *grass-lined mud cup of the Robin*, but is somewhat dismayed by the Mourning Dove's platform of twigs, a *poor excuse for a home*. So carelessly made are dove nests, intones the Professor, that [t]here must be a special providence that watches over these defenseless creatures. As we push onward, we discover nests of the house wren, chipping sparrow, Baltimore oriole, warbling vireo, even a pewee; and of course, the purple martin, whose apartments are a common sight in most Ohio towns. It's been a good day.

Harlan

### July

Summer moves on, so do we, and so do the birds. The first signs of impending change are upon us. The ducks which nested in the marshes by our Ohio lakes have already begun to assume their dull "eclipse plumage;" family groups of many birds are abroad, and while some seem loath to break family ties so soon, others are already scattered. The late nesting goldfinches, on the other hand, which until now have led a carefree existence...have sobered down to more prosaic tasks.

Not so prosaic is that big eccentric fellow, the Crested Flycatcher and his offbeat habit of dangling a discarded snakeskin from the opening of his nest cavity. The Professor muses: Many and long have been the arguments as to why a bird should choose so consistently and frequently this peculiar and far from common material for nest adornment. Lacking a solid answer, he settles for a trivial one—perhaps they are merely devotees of fashion.

### August

It would seem that the hot sun of dry August days here in Ohio might deter even the most eager of travelers from setting out on a journey to tropical regions, but such is not the case. Despite the scorching temperatures and an abundant supply of food, many birds choose August to steal away quite unheralded and in somber traveling dress.

Already the Swallows show signs of unrest, including the tree swallows, which have come down from more northern summer homes to tarry with their Ohio cousins for a few weeks. Many warblers reappear as well, including the gay Magnolia and the bay-breasted, in disguise at this season. Even our familiars, like the yellow warbler, have begun to melt away, perhaps [d]own the river, where the shrunken stream now flows between thickets of water willow. The yellows will be gone by the end of the month.

## September

On all sides we now see signs of the passing of the summer season. Though days may still be torrid, the death-knell of straw hats is sounded. Baseball and bat are neglected and the thud of footballs resounds throughout the land. School bells ring out and the bookseller rubs his hands with glee. Yes, summer is gone and the birds are going.

The Professor calls the roll of the departing: the cuckoos, the whip-poorwill and the nighthawk, the hummingbird, the kingbird *and his lesser kin*, and the bobolink. By the month-end the Martin houses stand empty and tenantless. No longer do we hear the cheery twittering notes.

But not all species depart so quickly, and many are still arriving. In the spring time May was warbler month; no less does September belong to them. But even these hordes are frequently overlooked—[m]ost people do not even see them and perhaps that is just as well, since they are thereby relieved of a great deal of mental effort....Last spring we learned to know some, perhaps many, of this army of birds as they passed on parade, in bright clean uniforms, with bands playing and colors flying. Can we pick these acquaintances in this army in retreat, which files by now in faded uniforms? There is a challenge here for the best of us. A confusing fall challenge, indeed.

#### October

Another challenge is quickly upon us. Who can doubt the approach of winter now? Woodlands are turning to flame and gold. The tang of leaf smoke is in the evening air...[s]urely the birds know it.

And we know it, too. Without the swallows and swifts, now our sky seems bare. Others depart as well; [t]he vireo clan, leisurely seekers of insects among the foliage of trees, now seeks more productive hunting grounds, where frost will not paint the leaves and send them tumbling down.

But while some depart, still others arrive. Just as September is Warbler month, we must dedicate October to the Sparrow tribe. We'll soon miss our locals, the vesper, the savannah, and the grasshopper, but we welcome our transient friends, the white-throated, white-crowned, swamp, and fox. The reappearance of Tree Sparrows and Juncos is further evidence of the near approach of winter, for they were among our first acquaintances on a mild day last January. A long time ago, it seems.

#### November

Not infrequently its days are melancholy and "the saddest of the year," but just as often it is a glorious month...The bird student who would round out his list of feathered acquaintances will not neglect this opportunity. Waterfowl are here, but they are so local in distribution and so variable in number that it is hazardous to predict what one may expect to find. The marshes now seem mostly deserted, save the occasional coot, and [a]long the sandy beaches where all summer long the sandpipers played tag with the waves we look in vain for the tiny three-toed footprints.

Of course, crows, jays, woodpeckers, and a few hardy robins remain with us. But now so does a new, and unwelcome, intruder to the Ohio scene—the European starling. Its ever-growing numbers will all too soon make it a factor to be reckoned with. Flocks of hundreds now winter at a great many places in central Ohio and it probably nested in most of the counties of the state during the past summer. The illadvised introduction of this bird into North America is most unfortunate, since it can contribute nothing of song, beauty or value by its presence here. Amen to that.

#### December

What can a bird lover find of interest in such a season? The answer will depend upon our own cunning in discovering the sheltered spots which birds now seek and which offer them both protection from storm and food in plenty.

These sheltered spots will come in handy for us, too, if we follow the Professor's advice and take part in the annual Christmas bird census. We might see our efforts recorded in print in *Bird-Lore, the official organ of the Audubon Society*. Though the lengthy lists published therein might seem *almost unbelievable*, a day searching out the sheltered spots, and the ones and twos that hunker there, will prove them at least possible.

We should search for open water as well, in hopes of mallards and black ducks, some golden-eyes, and especially the American merganser. In the fields, quail are of course present, and ring-necked pheasants have become fairly common in many parts of the state. Mourning doves should also be present, except [in] the northern third of the state.

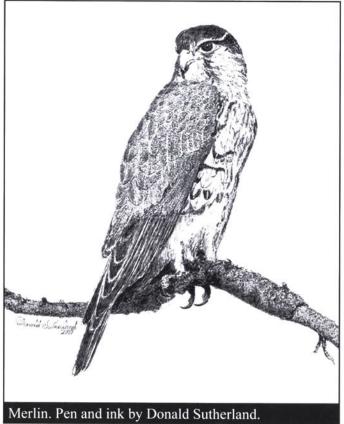
Don't overlook the birds of prey. In central Ohio we find the Marsh Hawk, a few Red-tailed and Red-shouldered Hawks, many Sparrow Hawks and not infrequently the three feathered scourges, the Goshawk, the Cooper, and the Sharpshinned Hawks. Owls also reside, including the screech, barred, great horned, and also the barn, which the Professor deems locally present.

In the windswept fields we must seek out the horned larks, and in the weedy fields, song sparrows, tree sparrows, and juncos. *The brilliant Cardinal adds a needed dash of color to our December list*, and the winter and Carolina wrens add a dash of spunk.

We must also keep a vigilant lookout for the *unexpected discoveries of* the season. Especially in the north, we may wish for the American crossbill, pine siskin, snow bunting, Lapland longspur, and northern shrike. And in the south, we may hope to stumble upon stragglers left over from the warmer months. It's often rewarding to expect the unexpected.

Sadly, it's now time for us to straggle home as well, very tired (but at least it's a good kind of tired) after a year's worth of fields and forests, new acquaintances, and old friends. I'm sorry to say that I've not been able to find much more in the way of popular writings penned by Professor Conger, but I suspect a growing family, a World War, and a busy workload put an end to his unfettered days soon after 1928. But by 1953, things were looking up, as his long career was winding down. In the October 1953 issue of *Ohio Wesleyan Magazine*, we note the Professor was planning some extensive travels, including a trip to San Francisco, home to his son, daughterin-law, and *the most wonderful grandchild in the world*.

Professor Allen C. Conger, registrar and professor of zoology, likes to walk past the college buildings this fall, look at them and not have to worry about what is going on inside them. He finds it good to be without any definite plans, to be for awhile master of his own destiny. We should all be so blessed.



Merini. I chi and nik by Donaid Sutherland.

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# **Recent Actions of the Ohio Bird Records Committee**

The Ohio Bird Records Committee reviewed 29 rare bird documentations in December 2006 and March 2007. Twenty of these records were accepted, seven were not accepted, and two remain in circulation (short-tailed hawk *Buteo brachyurus* and dusky flycatcher *Empidonax oberholseri*). Two of the accepted records were firsts for the state, white-throated swift and red-naped sapsucker. Although the sapsucker had been accepted by the committee in a prior vote, it was asked to be recirculated by a member of the birding community. The record again passed muster with the committee.

In other actions, three new members were elected at the March meeting. They are Tom Bartlett (Tiffin), Kevin Metcalf (Cleveland), and Bill Whan (Columbus). They join current members Dwight Chasar, Tom Hissong, Tom Kemp, and Ben Morrison. Many thanks for the hard work of outgoing members Rob Harlan, Ned Keller, and Sue Tackett.

## Accepted Records

Ross's goose *Chen rossii*; 14 January 2007; Ross Co.; B. Whan, P. Gardner Cackling goose *Branta hutchinsii*; 18 Dec 2006-1 Jan 2007; Wood Co.; T. Kemp, m.obs.

Cackling goose *B. hutchinsii*; 24 Nov 2006 Lucas Co.; J. Pogacnik King eider *Somateria spectabilis*; 6 Dec 2006; Lake Co.; B. Whan, m.obs. Western grebe *Aechmophorus occidentalis*; 12 Nov 2006; Allen Co.; J. Lehman Anhinga *Anhinga anhinga*; 26 June 2006; Summit Co.; J. Semroc American bittern *Botaurus lentiginosus*; 8-12 Feb 2007 Pickaway Co.; T. Bain Yellow rail *Coturnicops noveboracensis*; 20 Oct 2006; Licking Co.; J. McCormac

Piping plover *Charadrius melodus*; 10 July 2006; Ashtabula Co.; B. Coulter Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*; 28 August 2006; Fairfield Co.; B. Whan, m.obs California gull *Larus californicus* 12 Nov 2006; Ashtabula Co.; C. Holt Long-tailed jaeger *Stercorarius longicaudus*; 5 Sep 2006 Clermont Co.; W. Hull Eurasian collared-dove *Streptopelia decaocto*; 15 April-24 May 2006; Licking Co.; N. Surrat.

Rufous hummingbird *Selasphorus rufus*; 1-26 Nov 2006; Warren Co.; A. Chartier

White-throated swift *Aeronautes saxatalis*; 2 April 2006; Lucas Co.; E. Pierce, Johnson, J., R. Reyda, D.Vogus.

Red-naped sapsucker *Sphyrapicus nuchalis*; 4-10 April 2005; Holmes Co.; m.obs.

Western tanager *Piranga ludoviciana*; 4-8 Dec 2006; Franklin Co.; J. McCormac, m. obs.

Spotted towhee *Pipilo maculatus*; 28 Feb-23 March 2007; Lucas Co.; J. Dixon, m.obs.

Lark bunting *Calamospiza melanocorys*; 15 May 2006; Lucas Co.; P. Rodewald Harris's sparrow *Zonotrichia querula*; 29 Jan-3 March 2007; Holmes Co.; B. Whan, m. obs.

Kemp

Records Not Accepted

Ross's goose C. rossii; 3-4 March 2007; Clinton Co.

After careful scrutiny of the excellent photographs provided in this documentation, the committee strongly felt that this goose represented a hybrid Ross's X snow goose *Chen caerulescens*. The overall size and bill dimensions suggested an intermediate bird and not a pure Ross's goose. In a way, this makes this record even more important, as we may be seeing more hybrid individuals in the state in coming years.

Mew gull Larus canus; 18 November 2006; Wyandot Co.

The committee felt the details provided, while suggesting this species, did not rule out ring-billed gull. In addition, the observers were not familiar with mew gull.

Semipalmated sandpiper Calidris pusilla; 3 December 2005; Lucas Co.

The committee decided the plumage details and voice description provided did not completely distinguish this species from the very similar, and far more likely on this date, western sandpiper *C. mauri*.

Eurasian collared-dove; 7 May 2006; Eric Co.

This record was studied closely by the committee. Ultimately, they felt that the details provided, particularly coloration of the undersides, while suggesting this species, did not rule out ringed turtle-dove *S. risoria*.

Chestnut-collared longspur Calcarius ornatus; 18 February 2007; Lucas Co.

Details provided to the committee were insufficient in ruling out the similar and far more likely Lapland longspur *C. lapponicus*. A far more complete description is necessary to include this bird on the state list.

McCown's longspur Calcarius mccownii; 25 January 2007 Ottawa Co.

Details were insufficient to rule out Lapland longspur *C. lapponicus*. A more complete description and photos would be desirable in order to add this species to the state list.

McCown's longspur C. mccownii; 15 February 2007; Sandusky Co.

The more likely Lapland longspur *C. lapponicus* was not ruled out by the description provided.

Tom Kemp Secretary, OBRC

## **OBRC Bylaws Revision: Member Elections**

Formed in 1991, the Ohio Bird Records Committee (OBRC) serves as a peer-review panel designed to evaluate and endorse records of rare birds found in Ohio. As such, it maintains the official Ohio state bird list, fosters the historical record, and compiles the Review List of rare Ohio bird species. The OBRC preserves original documentary evidence submitted for the records it reviews, as well as the votes and comments made by its members, thereby allowing study by future bird researchers. OBRC actions are published regularly in *The Ohio Cardinal*. Although governed by its own bylaws, the OBRC has since its beginnings prospered from a close relationship with the *Cardinal*.

OBRC Bylaws are reviewed periodically by the Committee, and a special meeting was held on 8 October 2006 for this purpose. This meeting was called to discuss changes under consideration since 2003, which, when approved, ultimately granted the OBRC a greater level of independence from *The Ohio Cardinal*. While maintaining a long-term professional relationship with the *Cardinal*, and now as well as a standing committee of the Ohio Ornithological Society (OOS), the OBRC

is now a truly independent organization with autonomous self-control.

Formerly, the editor and publisher of *The Ohio Cardinal* had primary roles in choosing the members of the OBRC, but the newly amended bylaws provide that the Committee itself will vote to choose its Secretary and members. In addition, the bylaws formerly gave to subscribers of *The Ohio Cardinal* the option to nominate members to the Committee, whereupon a vote was held among *Cardinal* subscribers to elect new members. This subscriber vote was a somewhat unusual, and possibly unique, method of electing members to a state rare birds committee. However, although several such votes have been held over the past 16 years, in general this system has not seen much use.

Since 2004, when *The Ohio Cardinal* became a partner with the OOS, the *Cardinal* subscriber base has increased considerably. This growth has made it less likely a subscriber electorate would be as familiar with the qualifications of

nominees, and promised to make the entire process extremely unwieldy.

Further, upon approval of a proposed unification between the *Cardinal* and the OOS, the status of publisher of the *Cardinal* would shift from an individual person to a corporate entity, further complicating previous OBRC nomination procedures. For these reasons, the OBRC, in cooperation with *The Ohio Cardinal*, voted on the aforementioned date to adopt the method of electing its own members.

Other familiar features of the OBRC remain the same, including the number of voting members (seven), their terms of office, and accountability via publicly accessible vote sheets, recirculation procedures, regular publications of decisions, and ongoing revisions of the state list. The updated OBRC Bylaws may be consulted online at http://www.ohiobirds.org/records/Bylaws.pdf, or by requesting a copy from OBRC Secretary Tom Kemp at 1507 Napoleon Road, Bowling Green, Ohio, 43402, or at andigena@aol.com.

The OBRC greatly values and relies upon the support of Ohio's birders, and would be of little value without it. We encourage everyone to document observations of rare birds, and submit them to the Secretary. More information about the Committee is available at <a href="http://www.ohiobirds.org/records/aboutobrc.php">http://www.ohiobirds.org/records/aboutobrc.php</a>. We look forward to serving Ohio's birds and birders as an independent

organization, long into the future.

For the Ohio Bird Records Committee, Robert Harlan, Member 3361 Columbia Woods Drive, Apt. F Norton, OH 44203

## The 2006-2007 Christmas Bird Counts

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

We were able to obtain results from 64 Christmas Bird Counts this year, the same number as last year. The results include a new circle, Rudolph, located in Wood County (circle number 17 on the accompanying map). It seems only fitting that the same number of circles should produce the same number of species; and indeed, our 155 species found statewide did match last year's total. It was rather surprising that no more species were found during count week this year. For those who enjoy the competitive aspect of Christmas counts, Toledo led the race for the most species with 90, followed by Cincinnati with 86, Ottawa NWR with 84, Millersburg with 82, Lake Erie Islands and Wilmot with 81, and Adams County, Caesar Creek / Spring Valley, and Wilmot, all with 80.

Seventeen species were found in all 64 counts, and four others were missed in only a single circle. No Canada geese or great blue herons were found in Preble County, no American crows at Grand Lake St. Marys, and no (as is nearly always the case) tufted titmice on the Lake Erie Islands. At the other extreme, 21 species were found on only one count. It's difficult to single out the rarest of the rare, but surely brant at Lake Erie Islands, king eider at Mentor, our nearly extirpated loggerhead shrike at Brown Family Environmental Center, western tanager at Columbus, two rose-breasted grosbeaks at Lake Erie Islands, an indigo bunting at Wilmot, and Baltimore oriole at Cuyahoga Falls are worthy of mention.

Winter invasives were particularly difficult to find on the Christmas counts this year. Although red-breasted nuthatches were found on 30 counts, they amounted to only 77 individuals. The only winter finches reported were 43 purple finches from eleven circles, 33 pine siskins from six circles and 4 evening grosbeaks from two circles. Check the Reports elsewhere in this issue to see whether these results were typical of the season. Pine warbler and common yellowthroat were the only rarities among the warbler clan this year, but unusual sparrows included vesper, Nelson's sharp-tailed, and Lincoln's.

We normally report results exactly as we receive them. This year, I have taken the liberty of changing a report of common snipe to Wilson's snipe, assuming that the compiler simply used the old name. With that exception, I have not made any attempt to edit out other potentially dubious records. I leave that exercise to the reader.

	Adams County 12/16 2006 (82)	Ashland 12/16/2006 (30)	Beaver Creek 12/30/2006 (36)	Beaver Valley 12/16/2006 (84)	Black Swamp 12/14/2006 (16)	Brown Family Env. Center 12/17/2006 (59)	Buckeye Lake 12/16/2006 (56)	Bucyrus 12/30/2006 (14)	Burton 1/1/2007 (27)	Cadiz 12/31/2006 (72)	Caesar Cr. / Spring Valley 12/14/2006 (69)	Carey 1/1/2007 (15)
Greater White-fronted Goose				***	***	***		***		***	***	
Snow Goose		***	***		***		-	***	***	***		3
Ross's Goose	***	***		***						777		
Brant Cackling Goose	10		***			1			***	***		
Canada Goose	682	423	177	88	451	3110	825	550	2163	313	374	1190
Mute Swan		2				1	***	***	1	***		1
Trumpeter Swan		2	***	***	***	***		***	(man)	***		
Tundra Swan		cw	***	***	***			-	***	***		
Wood Duck	6	2	***		***	3	***	1				
Gadwall	4				***		4	***	6	***		***
American Wigeon	2	11		9		53			5		16	11
American Black Duck	51 53	161	40	23	73	673	228	48	330	47	132	453
Mallard American Black Duck x Mallard												
Blue-winged Teal				-				-			***	
Northern Shoveler		***	***				5			-	10	***
Northern Pintail	***		***			***		-	***		***	***
Green-winged Teal	1			***	cw	***	***	***		***	***	***
Canvasback	***	***		***	-	***	***	***	***	***		1
Redhead		***		***		1	6.707				1	
Ring-necked Duck	22		***		- 5	10	***	***	1			9
Greater Scaup			770	1	1						1	
Lesser Scaup	9	1						-				***
scaup sp.	5765	N-AGE	***	***	***		***					
King Eider Surf Scoter												
White-winged Scoter	***	***										
Black Scoter	***	***										-
scoter sp.			***	577			***					
Long-tailed Duck	***	***					***	***	***	***	***	***
Bufflehead	9	3	***		***	12	***		***		4	***
Common Goldeneye	5			***	***		***	***	40	10		***
Hooded Merganser	23	18	4			4		***	13	19	8	9,555
Common Merganser	***	***		***	-							
Red-breasted Merganser						1	222				***	
merganser sp. Ruddy Duck					3	1	5	-			***	1
duck sp.	***		***			4		***	***	***	***	577.5
Ring-necked Pheasant			a text			1		1	***	***	3	2
Ruffed Grouse	- 1		3	1						4	***	***
Wild Turkey	30	31	8	13	cw	73		3	38	38	3	1
Northern Bobwhite	1			cw			-	***				
Common Loon				3		17	2		1 5	1	7	21
Pied-billed Grebe			2		****						3	
Horned Grebe											3	-
Eared/Horned Grebe Double-crested Cormorant	***	1	-				-					
Great Blue Heron	22	24	2	6	1	14	19	3	6	5	17	6
Great Egret								***	***	***		
Black-crowned Night-Heron	***			***			iran					
Black Vulture	211		***	16	***	7	2				5	
Turkey Vulture	9			66		10	12	-		***	26	
Osprey				- 7	-							25
Bald Eagle	1	4	cw	1		6	1	4	2			25
Northern Harrier	23	7	1	10	3	1	1	***	1	***		3
Sharp-shinned Hawk	4	2		4		1	3	2	1 8	1	3	1 2
Cooper's Hawk Accipiter sp.	5	7	1	11	1							
Red-shouldered Hawk	7	5	1	20	-	3		2	13	***		
	- 45			0.000		- 500	200,53		-0.00		. 1756	

Cincinnati 12/30/2006 (65)	Clark County 12/15/2006 (44)	Cleveland 12/16/2006 (23)	Columbus 12/17/2006 (55)	Cuyahoga Falls 12/17/2006 (29)	Dayton 12/31/2006 (60)	Delaware Reservoir 12/17/2006 (52)	East Fork Lake S.P. 12/17/2006 (67)	Elyria-Lorain 12/16/2006 (20)	Firelands 12/16/2006 (9)	Fremont 12/17/2006 (8)	Goll Woods 12/16/2006 (1)	Grand Lake-St. Marys 12/17/2006 (41)	Grand Rapids-Waterville 12/30/2006 (2)	Greenville 12/17/2006 (43)	Hamilton-Fairfield 12/16/2006 (62)
1		1			cw			46				4	****		
			-		- 111		***			***					
-					122					3	9				
1179 3	575 5	1061	1798	4373 19	1148 5	846	269	2187	1052	1657 1	450	1777	508	332	777
										33					
4		2		1				777.5	175	47		***	2	***	1
70	10	1	33	3		***	6					***			87
16 9	1	32	1 514	3 28	8	15	14	11	17	101	***	***	32	3	3
370	134	605	883	1620	360	92	269	537	609	3075	160	381	397	214	472
	***	***	***				***				***	***	***	***	***
84	10		11					9		11		40			
	5	222	6	1	-	1	1			23					222
10	1							3		1					
7	7		9				-	3	25	3				777	
104	40	8	36	167		***			2	12		277		-	-
25	***	30		8				3	13				***		
													***	***	
		14													***
		18 11		***	-	***			555			***	***		***
-			-			-									
									3		***		***		
61		25 145		1					10 664	1		2			
125	1	1 8	49	69	36	4	2	24	1		***	***	***	***	
		14000		1		1		5064	69	1715 1296					2
								***					-	777	
60				12				41	7	37		28			
1222	***	1		***	***	5		2	2	1	1		2		
31		7		30	1		1000		1	cw			30	36	
	***					1	***	***						11	
38	16	5	1 15	1 7	13		21	3	1 5				***	1	7
	2	2	2		cw		2		5		***		***		
		2	5	***	***	***	***	***			***	•••	***		
70	16	44	51	35	43	42	cw 9	5	5 44	1 59	1	20	11	5	1 28
	***	***	***			***	***	***			***	***	***	***	
133			15				3				_				
350	1	***				***	24	***		-	21	***	1		
1	1	***	***	1	cw	1		3	9	20		2	7		
4	2				1	9	3		2		3	1			1
8 25	3 cw	2 18	22	10	5	19	7	3	2	1	2	2	3	3	2
2	***				***	1		***			***	1			
18		11	1	11	***		16	***	222				7		1

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	Adams County 12/16 2006 (82)	Ashland 12/16/2006 (30)	Beaver Creek 12/30/2006 (36)	Beaver Valley 12/16/2006 (84)	Black Swamp 12/14/2006 (16)	Brown Family Env. Center 12/17/2006 (59)	Buckeye Lake 12/16/2006 (56)	Bucyrus 12/30/2006 (14)	Burton 1/1/2007 (27)	Cadiz 12/31/2006 (72)	Caesar Cr. / Spring Valley 12/14/2006 (69)	Carey 1/1/2007 (15)
Broad-winged Hawk	64	58	22	64	21	45	39	23	38	25	1 35	32
Red-tailed Hawk Rough-legged Hawk	1	4				6	1		2			
Buteo sp.		1		2		2	222			***	***	+
Golden Eagle		***				***	***	***	***	****	***	
American Kestrel	47	12	3	31	10	21	14	11	3	14	17	20
Merlin	***			***	***				***			
Peregrine Falcon	100	1										
falcon sp. hawk sp.			***	***		***						
Virginia Rail				***		***	***			***	***	6
American Coot	17	***	200	***			12		40	1	317	2
Sandhill Crane	***	***	***		***	***	***	***	***	****		***
Killdeer	6	2	***	17	***	2	4	***	***	***	19	6
Spotted Sandpiper		****	***		2000	777		***	***	-		***
Purple Sandpiper	***	***		***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Wilson's Snipe	***	***	***	1	***				***		****	***
American Woodcock					***		***		***			***
shorebird sp. Bonaparte's Gull		10		***		6			***	30		
Ring-billed Gull	2	45	3		3	93	391	522	184	446	286	1292
California Gull							***					***
Herring Gull		1	***	***	***	***	8	502	8	***		64
Iceland Gull		***			***		***		***	**		***
Lesser Black-backed Gull	544	cw					***	***	***	****		
Glaucous Gull	***	***	****	***	-	-	***	-				
Great Black-backed Gull	***	-	-			18						
gull sp. Rock Pigeon	127	149	49	284	12	121	119	48	148	48	40	148
Mourning Dove	642	721	102	336	66	1272	381	339	190	34	103	269
Barn Owl		***				4	***					
Eastern Screech-Owl	11	7	1	13	1	***	1	1	1		3	7
Great Horned Owl	8	2		1	cw	***		-	2	1	5	6
Barred Owl	5	777.5	1	5	1		1	2	***		2	
Long-eared Owl	***	***		1777	1571	***	***					
Short-eared Owl	1	***	***	***	-	****	***		***	***	***	***
Northern Saw-whet Owl		2	7	2		18	10	1	3	5	12	1
Belted Kingfisher Red-headed Woodpecker	11	3			2	10	1	15			1	2
Red-bellied Woodpecker	91	66	25	77	10	63	21	23	49	18	110	31
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	2		1							1	2	
Downy Woodpecker	87	121	40	86	20	83	21	51	97	38	102	49
Hairy Woodpecker	34	15	9	14	6	30	3	9	19	12	14	7
Northern Flicker	53	19	8	37	4	19	14	17	16	17	76	17
Pileated Woodpecker	22	11	3	22	****	5	2	4	10	7	28	1
woodpecker sp.	***							***	7.22	***	1	
Eastern Phoebe Loggerhead Shrike		-	***	1		1					-	
Northern Shrike	-			5144					1	***		***
Blue Jay	320	166	64	214	22	177	58	99	208	59	182	64
American Crow	1194	531	214	4245	9	913	182	110	287	135	270	123
Horned Lark	45	107	2	3	39		125	285		***	7	1410
Carolina Chickadee	186	59	2	219		141	82	19		64	502	18
Black-capped Chickadee		27	6	***	20	1		11	441	***		32
chickadee sp.		50	97					4				
Tufted Titmouse	139	117	47	125	3	99	16	44	94	15	100	14
Red-breasted Nuthatch White-breasted Nuthatch	5 121	122	37	91	19	96	21	45	92	19	124	37
Brown Creeper	11	19	4	16	4	5	7	16	7	3	17	10
Carolina Wren	97	69	26	106	6	61	20	10	18	13	171	29

Cincinnati	12/30/2006 (65)	Clark County 12/15/2006 (44)	Cleveland 12/16/2006 (23)	Columbus 12/17/2006 (55)	Cuyahoga Falls 12/17/2006 (29)	Dayton 12/31/2006 (60)	Delaware Reservoir 12/17/2006 (52)	East Fork Lake S.P. 12/17/2006 (67)	Elyria-Lorain 12/16/2006 (20)	Firelands 12/16/2006 (9)	Fremont 12/17/2006 (8)	Goll Woods 12/16/2006 (1)	Grand Lake-St. Marys 12/17/2006 (41)	Grand Rapids-Waterville 12/30/2006 (2)	Greenville 12/17/2006 (43)	Hamilton-Fairfield 12/16/2006 (62)
	34	8	33	42	98	37	43	25	37	30	53	18	15	30	24	29
	2	-			***		1		2	-	***		***	***	***	1
							2									
	1	3	4	7	4	11	40	17	18	6	10	14	10	6	13	11
	2		2	1	1	***										
	-			***	***	***		***	***	***	***	***				
_					***					***	***	***	***		***	
82		10	1		102	14			22	-	1		1		1	28
	3				1	***		45								
						1		15								22
	-		-		8775	***			***							***
	-	2	9										777			
	_					***										
46	2 1	600	1700	605	1937	176	210	158	25	2500	2					2
			2213		1937	176	310	2501	29876	2596	12579	4	2258	415		458
1	**	2	4053	7	51	2	***	***	1496	42	59	***	1	12	***	1
	-	-	3							1						
			1		***		***		***							
			60						4	22	1	***				
31		98	1612		878	220	229	39	274	201	282	63	131	170	97	166
	6	57	226	896	830	619	896	422	149	159	117	420	591	905	494	488
	1	3	4	5	13	1	4	1	1	17	2		***	49	5	4
	9	-	1	1	7	5	4 2	4	1	6	3	1	1	10	3	5
												1		3	1	cw
	**		-	***	***	***	•••	***	***	***		***	***	***	344	ina
3	4	6	10	18	13	18	19	8	2	5	6		6	6	3	11
	4	***		-777				42			***	7	***			
36		25	102	135	154	66	80	108	32	32	21	23	15	92	32	28
37		35	104	261	394	68	141	73	65	40	1 57	23	39	189	49	3 55
5 10		8 17	21	25 63	82 27	10	17	11	9	6	15	2	4	58	3	5
5		2	13	5	24	16	43 5	58 10	7	12	10	2	3	35 1	12	19 7
7			***	-									2			
	9							1								
	-	***						***		***	***	***	-			
67		28	309	268	592	47	200	442	164	73	72	33	28	156	33	30
	8 20 8	000	86	1751 10	2157	48	186 228	199	42	59 61	20 35	22 22	134	111 391	46 28	14 13
152		99	225	494	076	295	3	244					7		71	194
			335		976		212		110	53	21	35	44	430		***
57		15	78	129	329	57	56	130	33	25	15	11	4	222	9	59
26	0	43	103	134	1 343	2 57	114	41	1 60	27	14	24	21	2	27	1
4	4	42	1	39	22	48	24	3	2	27 6	14 15	24 4	21 7	100	27 12	17 16
54	1	50	38	190	182	70	88	150	14	24	26	7	21	99	18	58

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						v. Center					ng Valley	
	Adams County 12/16 2006 (82)	Ashland 12/16/2006 (30)	Beaver Creek 12/30/2006 (36)	Beaver Valley 12/16/2006 (84)	Black Swamp 12/14/2006 (16)	Brown Family Env. 12/17/2006 (59)	Buckeye Lake 12/16/2006 (56)	Bucyrus 12/30/2006 (14)	Burton 1/1/2007 (27)	Cadiz 12/31/2006 (72)	Caesar Cr. / Spring Valley 12/14/2006 (69)	Carey 1/1/2007 (15)
House Wren		***				3						3
Winter Wren	6		2	2	cw			1		1	4	
Marsh Wren Golden-crowned Kinglet	53	55	35	86	3	34	9	24	38	12	118	5
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	5	1			1	1						***
kinglet sp.								***				
Eastern Bluebird	376	137	83	156	5	124	13	26	94	29	188	12
Hermit Thrush	4			5	-						8	***
American Robin	865	57	21	207	6	37	123	26	117	22	1469	58
Gray Catbird		***		1	***			***			1	1
Northern Mockingbird	53	2	4	44	***	11	16			2	23	1
Brown Thrasher				***								
European Starling	1500	1674	307	839	299	1789	2731	1812	1877	346	1594	4992
American Pipit			***	1	***	1	***	777				
Cedar Waxwing	24		***	83		-	***		41	***	18	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	111	32		25		***	-			****	26	5
Pine Warbler	-						***		***			***
Common Yellowthroat						***	***	-	***	***	1	
warbler sp.	***					0.000			-		***	
Western Tanager										4	58	1
Eastern Towhee	19	2		9	77	4 91	4	1	218	52	148	192
American Tree Sparrow	23	184	33	42		91		40	1	52	1	1
Chipping Sparrow Field Sparrow	38	6		10		3		10		1	7	
Vesper Sparrow			***	***	***	***	***	***				
Savannah Sparrow					***					122	***	-
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow										144	***	***
Fox Sparrow	2	***									10	3
Song Sparrow	90	91	78	147	13	83	36	14	24	23	215	97
Lincoln's Sparrow	***		1777		-			***				
Swamp Sparrow	10	1		4		1			10	***	40	20
White-throated Sparrow	54	41	11	117	-	56	6	5	5	10	508	18
White-crowned Sparrow	72	23	6	20		26	21	9	***	5	38	8
sparrow sp.									400		400	225
Dark-eyed Junco	742	355	128	333	25	282	161	87	182	90	462	325
Lapland Longspur		5	-		2		***			-	1	819
Snow Bunting	040		440	242	40	255	86	69	239	72	401	13
Northern Cardinal Rose-breasted Grosbeak	319	259	116	212	19	255		09	239	12	401	131
Indigo Bunting						****	-		***			
Red-winged Blackbird		251	0442	15		1	28	***	6		60	40
Eastern Meadowlark	59	251		5		4	20	1				1
Rusty Blackbird		22.2		24	222		***				20	
Common Grackle	23			2		3	33	21	4	***	20	***
Brown-headed Cowbird	1	25	***	1	cw	1	79	16	***		1	
blackbird sp.	3									***		
Baltimore Oriole		***					***		***	***	***	
Purple Finch	2					2		1	***			
House Finch	36	26	46	23	58	81	47	82	94	12	27	37
Pine Siskin	***		***			12	***		***	757	1	***
American Goldfinch	340	190	36	104	6	182	33	129	269	41	208	191
Evening Grosbeak									470		470	
House Sparrow	178	397	154	174	139	289	90	209	170	90	172	291
total species	80	67	48	67	40	75	56	53	59	47	80	68
total individuals	9553	7039	2072	8975	1464	10703	6183	5408	7945	2245	9037	12692
observers	32	25	6	30	4	25	14	10	26	10	34	14
party hours	89.50	66.75	27.00	55.00	11.50	67.50	26.25	64.00	67.75	36.50	234.00	

Cincinnati 12/30/2006 (65)	Clark County 12/15/2006 (44)	Cleveland 12/16/2006 (23)	Columbus 12/17/2006 (55)		Dayton 12/31/2006 (60)	Delaware Reservoir 12/17/2006 (52)	East Fork Lake S.P. 12/17/2006 (67)	Elyria-Lorain 12/16/2006 (20)	Firelands 12/16/2006 (9)	Fremont 12/17/2006 (8)	Goll Woods 12/16/2006 (1)	Grand Lake-St. Marys 12/17/2006 (41)	Grand Rapids-Waterville 12/30/2006 (2)	Greenville 12/17/2006 (43)	Hamilton-Fairfield 12/16/2006 (62)
6	1	1		1		1			1	2			3		7
160	48	9	48	102	60	51	23	10	7	13	5	10	170	6	36
4	1		1	1	1	1				1	777		1	_	2
207	1	71	80	95	60	94	271	68	62	7	13	2	67	17	15
23	7		2	3	1		5			***		***	3	***	***
7599	1475	1283	1738	282	2266	774	1014	93	68	46	1	52	546	241	544
121	1	9	34		13	12	38			***		***	18	4	23
1	 FC4	4440	45000	4044			2	4007	750						***
6286	564	1113	15660	4814	3372	7147	4536	1897	759	4039	1450	3916	1354	4826	9127
17	13	100		103	5	1	137	2	31	34	***	***	134	***	2
57	13		14		2	2	63	1	6	29	***		9		1
	_				1								1		
					-						***	-			
141	3	***	4	3	6	1	67				11	577	1	***	2
223	12	88	58	621	36	265	86	79	199	367	37	88	428	27	50
23	3	***	1		7					***			3	1	
23				8			33		***				12	1	2
15	-		2							1					
1	4		1	2		2	2				***	***	***		
788	37	27	194	197	83	166	363	20	21	54	3	35	168	2 76	2 148
	***			***	***			***	***	***	***	***			
39 1286	3 198	5 69	918	18 212	2 254	13 79	15 491	7	6 52	12 7		2	6 43	6 13	18 298
138		1	12	8	2	20	79		1	7			9	2	19
571	115	286	471	840	237	420	470	217	224	404		52			
	110	200	1	040	231	420	479	217	224	121	95	90	894 206	46	29
							***			-	1	122	4		
1743	120	227	827	895	351	379	411	140	140	124	37	80	415	69	113
***		7		-											
12	4	8	402	74		9	251	1	99	13963				-	212
2			16	1	***	1	11 18	2		10		***	3	1	
6		40	361	31		9	18		30	189			1		3750
cw			6	10	***	7	202	1	21	132	***	2	26	-	18
				1					775						
cw		5		4				-					cw		
224	7	125	323	424	85	140	98	66	76	31	12	79	247	23	70
592	49	264	634	1139	73	365	117	170	68	369	65	96	214	37	88
-			1								***				
641	179	471 77	1102 72	1868	101	853	317	489	198	841	375	728	934	560	146
31598	25847	31401	31467	78 27421	58 10535	63 14800	69 14500	61 43660	71 8311	71 41948	42 3479	44 10842	66 10633	50 7546	66 17853
117	15	62	48	106	41	39	12	21	30	21	4	10	31	13	20
190.00	31.50	93.75	118.00	219.75	91.00	91.50	28.00	45.50	35.75	39.75	12.00	37.50	91.00	22.50	90.00

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	Hocking Hills 12/30/2006 (85)	Hoover Reservoir 12/16/2006 (53)	Indian Lake 12/16/2006 (42)	Area 3/17/2007 (50)	Kingston 1/1/2007 (58)	Lake Erie Islands 12/17/2007 (5)	Lakewood 12/30/2006 (21)	Lancaster 12/30/2006 (57)	Mansfield 12/16/2006 (13)	Mentor 12/17/2006 (24)	Millersburg 1/1/2007 (83)	Mohican State Forest 12/30/2006 (35)
Greater White-fronted Goose		***	***									
Snow Goose		***	***	4	4		cw	***	***	***		***
Ross's Goose					2	1						
Brant Cackling Goose		-								1		2
Canada Goose Mute Swan	5	2410	1095	978	507	259	902	314	1203	727 6	1097	1940 cw
Trumpeter Swan	-	-	-	16		-						
Tundra Swan	***	***		86		10					4	1
Wood Duck							9			4	2	1
Gadwall		***				53			CW		***	
American Wigeon		7				6	3	2		2		
American Black Duck	***	16	***	14	18	126	29	5	132	3	19	-
Mallard	66	790	195	233	121	660	1174	124	161	154	588	99
American Black Duck x Mallard		***	***			3		****	***			
Blue-winged Teal			***									
Northern Shoveler		5					1					
Northern Pintail			***	1	***	-		***	***	2		
Green-winged Teal		***			***		1	***		2		
Canvasback		***	***	***	***	1		2		***	***	***
Redhead	***	***	***			1		***	16			
Ring-necked Duck		-		1		cw		10	12	3	1775	1777
Greater Scaup	-			777				***		2		****
Lesser Scaup	***	***	***	***	****	2	24	1	44	10	1	***
scaup sp.					777	24		***	***	4		1777
King Eider	***	***	***		***		***	***		1		***
Surf Scoter	***	1	***		***	1	***	***	1	15	***	***
White-winged Scoter	-		***	***	***	2		***	***		***	
Black Scoter		***			***	***	2		***	6		***
scoter sp.												***
Long-tailed Duck							440	-				
Bufflehead Common Goldenova	6775	3 12		5750	777	2023 2376	112 203	1000	7 5	4	2575	3
Common Goldeneye Hooded Merganser	3	96		5	5	8	203		6	12		25
Common Merganser		50				20			6	12		1
Red-breasted Merganser	7		***			1370	860	***		3903	***	
merganser sp.						4	000			3903	-	***
Ruddy Duck		17			***				3	3		16
duck sp.			3					4	26		***	
Ring-necked Pheasant		***	***	cw	2	8		***	3		9	2
Ruffed Grouse	1		-					***				
Wild Turkey	27	17			21		5	30	124	1	243	214
Northern Bobwhite												
Common Loon	***	1	***	***	***	51	1	***	12	4	***	***
Pied-billed Grebe	23	6	***			1		4	13	6	1	22
Horned Grebe	****		***	***		15			cw	3	***	
Eared/Horned Grebe	***	***	***	***		3		***			***	
Double-crested Cormorant			1			20	3		13	2		
Great Blue Heron	12	30	13	13	9	3	2	6	15	23	60	22
Great Egret		-		****	-	-	-	-	777		-	
Black-crowned Night-Heron	***		***	***				-				***
Black Vulture	89	3	***	***	***	***	***	3	***	***	89	4
Turkey Vulture	105	3	1			1			2		470	***
Osprey Bold Fools			***			10	***	***				
Bald Eagle	1	8		8	2	10	***		3	1		9
Northern Harrier		1	4	16	2	cw		1	cw	-	2	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	3 11	1 8	2	1	3	2		**		5	1
Cooper's Hawk	3	11	0	3	9	4	8	4	14	1	35	8
Accipiter sp.			1							***	3	

_								Ke	ller							
	Mount Gilead 12/16/2006 (51)	New Lexington 1/1/2007 (75)	Ohio River IN-OH-KY 12/16/2006 (64)	O'Shaughnessy Reservoir 12/30/2006 (54)	Ottawa N.W.R. 12/31/2006 (4)	Oxbow Lake 1/5/2007 (7)	Oxford 12/16/2006 (61)	Paint Creek Area 12/17/2006 (66)	Parkersburg WV-OH 12/30/2006 (79)	Plymouth 12/30/2006 (12)	Portsmouth 12/30/2006 (81)	Preble County 12/15/2006 (68)	Quail Hollow-Hartville 12/30/2006 (37)	Ragersville 12/26/2006 (70)	Rudolph 12/23/2006 (17)	Salem 12/30/2006 (33)
					cw	***	***							***		
						***			cw							
		***		****	***	***				***	***			***	***	
		777	***	****	****	***	***	***		***	***	***	***	***	5	***
	185	79	279	725	2410 19	29	564	15	783	536	321	77	3178	550	1041	878
					21								66	****		2
		***			3256		***			3	***				6	
-		***	2	2	3	2	***		1	***	2		***	2		1
			28 27	4	104		4	7	***				55	***		22
		***	46	7	129		8	16	8	2	32		34		4	239
		11	384	598	2659	1	290	75	543	212	91		717	203	629	348
-				***							***	***	***	***	***	***
			10	4	2		2	1 4			4		8			
			2	1	30	***		2	***	1	1	***	2		7	6
	***		16 5	5	3	***	1	***	***	***	13	***		***		
-					47		***	***	***	***	***	***		***	***	
			109		4		16	17	1		1		cw 12			14
		***		2		1		***					11	***		
			2		219	***	3			2			2		222	
-	-													***		
					1						***					
	0.000	***	***	****	***		***				***	***	***			
		7773			12							***	***	***		
-													***			
	***	***	8		5		***	13					1			2
	***	***			35	***		2		****	222		***			
			26	10	9 393			36	7				27			
		***	***		116		2		***	1						
		***									***	***	***	***	***	
			1		9		1777	10	***	1	***	***	151	***	***	5
				5				1					1 2		9	
-		***	***		***						4			1		
	28	11	17		***		1	***	39	***	15	***		29		
		***	12				1	3		1				***		
	***	***	13	2	1			31	1		1		13		1	
_		***		***		***	1	2	***	***					***	***
		***			***				-							***
	4	2	57	33	71	1	20	41	26	2	129		2 11	17	10	4
					***			1								
					***		***		***	***	***		***	***		
			10 15				51 18	13	***					40	***	
								1			1	2		335		
_		1	***	1	17	2		3	2		3	***	5	***	2	2
	1	1		1	11	***	1	18			1			11	12	
	1	***	1	9	3 13		3	1	cw 7	1	3	2	2	2 26	3	8
			***	***		***			1					1		8
_		4	3	3	***	***	1	***	15	***	7	1	3	2	2	3
0													energy in			

The Ohio Cardinal 81 The Ohio Cardinal

	Hocking Hills 12/30/2006 (85)	Hoover Reservoir 12/16/2006 (53)	Indian Lake 12/16/2006 (42) Killdeer Plaine Wildlife	Area 3/17/2007 (50)	Kingston 1/1/2007 (58)	Lake Erie Islands 12/17/2007 (5)	Lakewood 12/30/2006 (21)	Lancaster 12/30/2006 (57)	Mansfield 12/16/2006 (13)	Mentor 12/17/2006 (24)	Millersburg 1/1/2007 (83)	Mohican State Forest 12/30/2006 (35)
Broad-winged Hawk Red-tailed Hawk	19	38	36	29	41	13	25	20	39	8	280	90
Rough-legged Hawk				1	2				3		20	16
Buteo sp.	***	***	1	***						***	***	
Golden Eagle		***			***	1	***	***	***			
American Kestrel	4	8	26	23	39 1		1	10	9	***	68	27
Merlin Peregrine Falcon					1	cw	cw 1					
falcon sp.									***		***	***
hawk sp.			4		***		***	***		***		***
Virginia Rail		***		***	***	***	1	***	***	***	1	
American Coot	162	1	****	***	***	***	1	2	160	7	277	5
Sandhill Crane Killdeer			3	***	11	2	1	1			4	cw 1
Spotted Sandpiper					***							
Purple Sandpiper			***	***		4				5		
Wilson's Snipe				***	***			***		2	10	-
American Woodcock			***	***	1	CW	***	***				***
shorebird sp. Bonaparte's Gull		55				2 375	880		70	207		70
Ring-billed Gull		3169	480	106		1209	6552		1502	1321	9	755
California Gull		3103				1						
Herring Gull		3	4			875	273	***	10	288	1	13
Iceland Gull	-					1	***	***	-			
Lesser Black-backed Gull				***	***			****	1			
Glaucous Gull Great Black-backed Gull			***			40	13			3		
gull sp.			9			5		***	***		***	
Rock Pigeon	5	92	77	492	220	cw	308	38	103	47	1457	299
Mourning Dove	252	205	356	174	709	23	201	130	404	25	1994	503
Barn Owl											19	2
Eastern Screech-Owl Great Horned Owl	6	4		8	9	16 12	4		14	1	19 15	27 7
Barred Owl	5	8		1	4	12	1	1	2		13	4
Long-eared Owl				cw		1	-					1
Short-eared Owl			***	1	***						7	
Northern Saw-whet Owl			***			2					***	
Belted Kingfisher	13	4		4	8	2	4	6	12	1	29 6	14
Red-headed Woodpecker Red-bellied Woodpecker	54	cw 104	5 17	12 26	45	64	72	47	1 76	12	483	105
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker		3				3		1	2			1
Downy Woodpecker	81	123	21	30	56	112	94	35	119	27	676	124
Hairy Woodpecker	24	10	2	2	9	1	22	5	25	8	141	31
Northern Flicker	39	31	3	16	26	79	2	8	20		164	19
Pileated Woodpecker	30	3	1		11	***	6	9	14	2	103	21
woodpecker sp. Eastern Phoebe	1		3		1			1			3	1
Loggerhead Shrike												
Northern Shrike			-	cw					***			
Blue Jay	158	268	18	51	120	26	225	103	198	43	720	400
American Crow	315	185	48	12	1151	59	40	165	15000	59	2216	757
Horned Lark Carolina Chickadee	204	15	152	7	320	***		158	5		622 1226	15 167
Black-capped Chickadee	304	335	13		220	500	207	158	11	61	1226	4
chickadee sp.			9	12					234		3	86
Tufted Titmouse	127	140	9	26	124		37	108	197	58	703	150
Red-breasted Nuthatch	6			1			1	4	cw		1	2
	400	106	33	25	70	4	62	63	140	28	763	161
White-breasted Nuthatch Brown Creeper	128 15	12	5	13	14	66	1	2	5	2	139	27

							V	ener							
Mount Gilead 12/16/2006 (51)	New Lexington 1/1/2007 (75)	Ohio River IN-OH-KY 12/16/2006 (64)	O'Shaughnessy Reservoir 12/30/2006 (54)	Ottawa N.W.R. 12/31/2006 (4)	Oxbow Lake 1/5/2007 (7)	Oxford 12/16/2006 (61)	Paint Creek Area 12/17/2006 (66)	Parkersburg WV-OH 12/30/2006 (79)	Plymouth 12/30/2006 (12)	Portsmouth 12/30/2006 (81)	Preble County 12/15/2006 (68)	Quail Hollow-Hartville 12/30/2006 (37)	Ragersville 12/26/2006 (70)	Rudolph 12/23/2006 (17)	Salem 12/30/2006 (33)
12	8	38	81	45	4	20	33	25	15	45	9		143		42
1				1				25	1	1	9	50	8	53	42
	777	***	-	***		***	***	4	•••		***	***	***	***	***
2	7	16	28	35	4	5	30	16	17	22	2	7	64	20	19
								1							
	***	***					***	***			-	***		***	
		60			-						***		***	***	***
	_			13		1	1645	1				184		1	
		11				11		16	-	24			13		
				cw										77.70	
						2		cw				***	1		
-				****	***		***	***	***		***	***			
-		1		17		32	29								
	1	130	189	9396		243	541	2	21	cw		134	487	1804	35
	***		1	546			cw		1			29	108	1257	2
						***			***	***	***			1	
	***	***		1	***		***	***			***	***		4	
	_			17										cw	
11		101	122	25			107	4000		254		***			
120	98	191 610	439	52 313	18	19 225	127 354	1232 583	174 143	351 559	7 24	413 876	744 1421	61 744	243 246
													12		1
		2	1	2		1		8 cw	3	2		7	5 11	23 5	1
		***	3			2	1	1	1	1		1	5		
	-			1	***				***	***	***	***	***	1	
	-			8			1						4		
1	1	14	9	3	1	11	13	10	1	8	3	3	10		9
1 11	1	89	6 83	1 31	1 9	58	3 39	1 99	11	48	19	55	229	20	20
-		2	6			4	1	2		1		1	4		
11 4	29	123 16	72 11	74	14	53 5	38 7	101 26	20	77 12	26 3	76 18	321 83	40 5	25
2	12	49	54	6	10	30	22	34	3	14		30	137	8	8 2
2	7	4	5	(775)	1777	9	4	24	CW	26	3	5	40		4
		2											2		
***		***							***	***	***	***			***
21	24	35	196	70	23	124	40	351	30	123	15	161	436	39	82
48	383	443	139	6	5	188	199	258	36	333	16	187	2080	83	161
 1	60	145	24 247	93		23	7	402	113				210	191	
	13	347	247	18	11	205	79	402	17	213	43	255	626 3	16	80
22		***													
17	26	178	43	3	10	72 1	43	233	11	138	15 4	66 1	418	26 2	34
17	18	52	86	11	12	57	34	124	11	126	29	72	312	24	29
3	16	8 179	9 60	22 41	1	8 62	5 62	12 183	8	1 79	4	3 58	63 331	27	2
	10		50	41	3	52	92	103	0	19	14	30	331	15	28

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	Hocking Hills 12/30/2006 (85)	Hoover Reservoir 12/16/2006 (53)	Indian Lake 12/16/2006 (42) Killdeer Plains Wildlife	Area 3/17/2007 (50)	Kingston 1/1/2007 (58)	Lake Erie Islands 12/17/2007 (5)	Lakewood 12/30/2006 (21)	Lancaster 12/30/2006 (57)	Mansfield 12/16/2006 (13)	Mentor 12/17/2006 (24)	Millersburg 1/1/2007 (83)	Mohican State Forest 12/30/2006 (35)
House Wren		***						***			1	
Winter Wren Marsh Wren	2	cw	***	***	****	8			2	2	15 1	cw
Marsh Wren Golden-crowned Kinglet	89	38		15	75	168	8	3	19	4	470	100
Ruby-crowned Kinglet		1	***	***	2	6			***	***	1	1
kinglet sp.						3						
Eastern Bluebird	131	162	8	6	61	25	13	77	143	5	894	153
Hermit Thrush	1	3		-	3	110			***	***	1	1
American Robin	156	627	193	61	874	1693	609	149	84	34	364	223
Gray Catbird		***								7700	- 1	250
Northern Mockingbird	10	26	1	1	18		4	5	3		126	17
Brown Thrasher	1 153	cw 1947	3133	1621	2368	23250	313	470	809	1603	3474	1394
European Starling American Pipit	153	1947	3133	1021	2300	4	313	470		1003	175	1004
Cedar Waxwing	1	89	***		12	123		5.22	1		3	1
Yellow-rumped Warbler	21	31		1	12	103	4	6	8		108	
Pine Warbler		***	***	***	1			***	***	***	***	
Common Yellowthroat	***		***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***
warbler sp.	***	***	***	***	***	1	***	***	***	***		***
Western Tanager			***	***	***		***	***	***	***	***	***
Eastern Towhee	6	2			7	cw	1	5	3	-	120	4
American Tree Sparrow	29	80	63	362	21	62	16	22	99	22	1271	289
Chipping Sparrow	3							***		***	1	1
Field Sparrow	21	1	4		10		1	16	8		53	17
Vesper Sparrow	***			***			***					
Savannah Sparrow			***	***							4	
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow		2			1				1		1	1
Fox Sparrow Song Sparrow	112	79	29	33	106	13	13	54	86	2	1856	167
Lincoln's Sparrow			***				Cere		***	***		
Swamp Sparrow	2	9	1	8	8	9	2				96	4
White-throated Sparrow	47	253	4		180	153	28	19	27	11	506	67
White-crowned Sparrow		14	2	2	21	2		14	14	***	1030	78
sparrow sp.			3			2	777	20			***	***
Dark-eyed Junco	323	280	62	38	323	150	213	203	565	35	2030	642
Lapland Longspur					***	***		***		***	***	***
Snow Bunting					***	1				***		
Northern Cardinal	234	346	59	40	289	196	148	172	303	52	2884	462
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	***	-				2						
Indigo Bunting		1772	988	1000	-	155	400					
Red-winged Blackbird		3		80		7	130	9	215	21	227 29	99
Eastern Meadowlark Rusty Blackbird	-		5	cw		3		9			3	
Common Grackle		5		-	4	3	-	1	3	***	4	
Brown-headed Cowbird	-		23		1	1				15	285	85
blackbird sp.			17			***	***			***	30	
Baltimore Oriole	***			***		-	***			***		***
Purple Finch	4	***		***		8		2	4			
House Finch	25	245	38	2	58	262	153	25	122	1	398	49
Pine Siskin		1	****	***	***	***	***			***	***	
American Goldfinch	119	425	47	67	154	47	189	75	301	79	940	289
Evening Grosbeak												
House Sparrow	19	247	482	163	419	367	587	120	416	101	2678	370
total species	61	71	48	55	66	81	66	57	76	67	82	76
total individuals	3721	13409	6843	4957	8725	37435	14847	2948	23498	9129	35307	10888
observers	42	28	12	15	22	19	58	23	20	23	113	43
party hours	59.75	84.25	32.25	40.25	52.25	47.50	61.00	35.50	71.00	27.75	369.00	117.00

								Ne	Her							
	Mount Gilead 12/16/2006 (51)	New Lexington 1/1/2007 (75)	Ohio River IN-OH-KY 12/16/2006 (64)	O'Shaughnessy Reservoir 12/30/2006 (54)	Ottawa N.W.R. 12/31/2006 (4)	Oxbow Lake 1/5/2007 (7)	Oxford 12/16/2006 (61)	Paint Creek Area 12/17/2006 (66)	Parkersburg WV-OH 12/30/2006 (79)	Plymouth 12/30/2006 (12)	Portsmouth 12/30/2006 (81)	Preble County 12/15/2006 (68)	Quail Hollow-Hartville 12/30/2006 (37)	Ragersville 12/26/2006 (70)	Rudolph 12/23/2006 (17)	Salem 12/30/2006 (33)
	***	***					***	***		ana.		***	***			
	1	***			1	1	***	***	1		1	1		2		
	***	17	23	13	28	3	54	17	33	3	14	19	27	329	15	8
		1					1	125			3		2	525		
1				***		***				***			***			***
	15	68	104	113	1	***	52	80	132	13	128	19	61	407	1	20
	18	12	992	1 586	1 29	1	4 1431	1 280	3 66	9	3 172	291	27	1 65	1 25	30
		12		1	25		1451	200	1		1/2	291			25	30
•	2	8	35	25			14	15	70		55	2		83	3	9
									1							
	412	233	1978	5131	4666	1265	3853	1426	998	688	1328	337	1204	7799	3930	686
			2 5	-			11	2	3		13	3		81	14	5
		4	95	10			17	4	12		10		20	8		2
	***					322							cw			***
	***			***	1				_		***				-	
								***	***				***		(777)	
9		2	37	***		***				***					- "	
	1	3	83	202	704	3	6 34	8 40	25 11	31	5 8	3 16	5 146	39 786	1 213	1 29
											33					
	***	***	9	6	•••			5	5	***	***		1	89	1	3
-	2000		***								***				***	
								***					***	2		
					1		6	1	4		1			2		
	11	12	387	111	52	4	73	85	314	23	103	19	102	1243	46	34
	***	***	***	***		***	***	***	1	***		***		***	***	***
	2	6	36	13	44	577	3	10	21	3			4	30	1	
			340 274	90	19 10		224 13	64 10	144 15	6	56 30	24	51 5	407 644	7	7
			***													
	36	126	84	435	69	11	156	245	257	74	264	46	217	1899	234	84
	-	***			60					40				1	261	
	26	117	417	258	103 187	15	252	146	458	24	293	55	268	1558	1 120	106
									450		255		200	1000	120	100
			***					-	-			-		***		
-		desc	241	****	3688	***	1	24	***		15		21222	64	CW	400
	***	***	11	1	1 41			20	1			2		60		
		1	22		2			40	3		1	1	4 61215	6	cw	1
	***	***	***	***	530		4			3			30	101	4	
-		***			7995	***		***	***				500	91		
		***	40		***	•••		***	***	***	***	***	****	****	***	***
	9	4	10	105	49	2	29	7	147	44	32	11	75	307	126	70
												8				
-	32	39	185	144	150	8	98	26	164	44	154	8	82	494	84	42
		405				-						3				
-	84	105	120	635	739	14	514	75	282	188	119	5	393	817	1499	271
	36 1175	42 1585	75 9331	63 11224	84 39673	33 1499	71 9316	74 6306	65 8356	48 2596	64 5681	41 1115	71 92665	73 26968	61 12796	55 4422
-	4	5	8	28	26	3	31	10	31	5	20	51	22	62	13	9
	17.50	25.00	38.00	59.25	44.50	9.25		34.75	59.75	11.75	52.00	17.00		238.00	60.00	36.75
-																

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	0		3) (A	(6)	Western Hamilton County 12/23/2006 (63)	(2	6	ç		Day	Week
	Tiffin 12/16/2006 (11)	Toledo 12/17/2006 (3)	Trumbull County 12/17/2006 (28)	Wellington 12/30/2006 (26)	Western Hamilto 12/23/2006 (63)	Wilmot 12/15/2006 (32)	Wooster 12/23/2006 (31)	Youngstown 12/16/2006 (34)	-	Circles, Count Day	Circles, Count Week
	Tiffin 12/16	Toledo 12/17/2	Trur 12/1	Wel 12/3	We:	Wilmot 12/15/2	Wo 12/2	You 12/	Total		
Greater White-fronted Goose	- 77		-				6		11	3	3 15
Snow Goose Ross's Goose		2	2	72		6			147	11	15
Brant				***			***		1	1	1
Cackling Goose		***	-		***	***		_	31	7	7
Canada Goose	336	1992	2575	1129	1485	2544	2363	1305	67074	63	63 25
Mute Swan		8	3		5	2	4	_	167 81	24	7
Trumpeter Swan Tundra Swan		166		6			6		3766	12	13
Wood Duck						cw	1		54	22	23
Gadwall		10	3		19	***	5	4	538	22	23
American Wigeon		3	-			-		1777	96	18	18
American Black Duck	1	147	4	404	66	50	40	3	2138	46 62	46 62
Mallard	243	1527	482	181	942	786	461	285	28472 3	1	1
American Black Duck x Mallard			121500			(ST)			5	2	2
Blue-winged Teal Northern Shoveler		4	4	2	19		1		246	21	21
Northern Pintail		44		***		-	11	2	143	19	19
Green-winged Teal		25	***		15	-	cw	***	95	13	15
Canvasback	***	1		2	***	-	2	****	75	11	11
Redhead		****		2			2	-	101	13	14
Ring-necked Duck		30	252	45	117		***		1055 20	27 6	28
Greater Scaup		202					1		605	23	23
Lesser Scaup scaup sp.		406				-			434	3	3
King Eider									1	1	1
Surf Scoter						***	-		33	6	6
White-winged Scoter		***			***		***	***	20	2	2
Black Scoter		***		***			***		19	3	3
scoter sp.		***							12	.1	1
Long-tailed Duck	-		-				-	-	3	1	1
Bufflehead	-	14	42	8	200	-	1		2372 3600	23 15	23 15
Common Goldeneye Hooded Merganser		141	2 24		1		4	24	736	36	36
Common Merganser		51			-	-		11	2220	14	14
Red-breasted Merganser	***	28							26718	14	14
merganser sp.					****				4	1	1
Ruddy Duck	***	75	26	350	****		1	9	844	24	24
duck sp.					****	-	-	-	66	6	6
Ring-necked Pheasant	1	5	777	4	1750	3			75	24	25 7
Ruffed Grouse			234	49	27	66	cw		15 1625	7 39	42
Wild Turkey Northern Bobwhite	51	2	234	49	1	00	CW		27	6	7
Common Loon				1					83	14	14
Pied-billed Grebe		7	1					2	336	37	37
Horned Grebe		4		-			***		41	- 11	13
Eared/Horned Grebe	***				***			***	3	1	1
Double-crested Cormorant	***	28	-	1					86	15	17
Great Blue Heron	6	97	28	3	25	41	30	8	1482	63	63
Great Egret			***						10.	2	2
Black-crowned Night-Heron Black Vulture		20	_			cw			35 679	16	17
Turkey Vulture	-	cw			10	264	_		1748	24	25
Osprey	200			-					1	1	1
Bald Eagle	13	15	30	-	***	2	7	3	238	40	42
Northern Harrier	3	3	11	3	4	1	1	1	186	41	43
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2		1		1	4	5	1	109	44	45
Cooper's Hawk	5	9	6	3	10	25	6		498	60	61
Accipiter sp.			10	2	1	2	2	3	11 249	8	8 40
Red-shouldered Hawk			10	2	6	- 2	2	3	249	40	40

	Tiffin 12/16/2006 (11)	Toledo 12/17/2006 (3)	Trumbull County 12/17/2006 (28)	Wellington 12/30/2006 (26)	Western Hamilton County 12/23/2006 (63)	Wilmot 12/15/2006 (32)	Wooster 12/23/2006 (31)	Youngstown 12/16/2006 (34)	. Total	Circles, Count Day	Circles, Count Week
Broad-winged Hawk Red-tailed Hawk	62	34	31	56	51	205	69	13	1 2854	1 64	1 64
Rough-legged Hawk			5			15	2		94	21	21
Buteo sp.	***					***		***	14	7	7
Golden Eagle							1		2	2	2
American Kestrel Merlin	20	21	22	37	8	84	26		1115	61 5	61 7
Peregrine Falcon		2	***					3	10	6	6
falcon sp.		***		***	***		***	***	1	1	1
hawk sp.		***		***	-	2			6	3	2
Virginia Rail American Coot		4	501	401	73			11	8 4627	35	35
Sandhill Crane							1		1	1	2
Killdeer	***	***			1	14		***	210	25	25
Spotted Sandpiper	***	***	***						1	1	1
Purple Sandpiper Wilson's Snipe		577	100	-		17			9	2	3
American Woodcock									1	1	2
shorebird sp.									2	1	1
Bonaparte's Gull		369	108		100				4146	20	20
Ring-billed Gull California Gull	61	4419	1378	132	180	384	9	288	96195 1	55 1	56 1
Herring Gull	2	834	63			32			10651	35	36
Iceland Gull	575		1777					-	2	2	2
Lesser Black-backed Gull		2	777		***		-	-	12	6	7
Glaucous Gull Great Black-backed Gull		9							1 169	1 9	2
gull sp.						1			58	5	5
Rock Pigeon	298	337	239	215	539	1158	370	208	16333	61	62
Mourning Dove	394	1326	568	755	635	1405	564	125	30009	64	64
Barn Owl Eastern Screech-Owl	18	26				4	1 2		43 358	7 47	7 47
Great Horned Owl	3	7	2		***	8	1		194	44	46
Barred Owl	6			***	2	4	3	1	110	39	40
Long-eared Owl	***		***		***			***	4	4	5
Short-eared Owl Northern Saw-whet Owl		3			_		3		25 5	7 2	7 2
Belted Kingfisher	4	7	4	-	17	26	6	5	501	59	59
Red-headed Woodpecker	2		20			4	1	2	148	27	28
Red-bellied Woodpecker	41	32	108	53	108	228	73	18	4489	64	64
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Downy Woodpecker	58	160	1 75	72	12 140	283	109	30	99 6288	31 64	31 64
Hairy Woodpecker	7	9	17	29	11	64	9	9	1151	64	64
Northern Flicker	13	14	8	21	28	74	24	3	1735	62	62
Pileated Woodpecker	4	-	7	8	11	26	6	8	652	53	54
woodpecker sp. Eastern Phoebe		1				1		***	7 24	12	12
Loggerhead Shrike						***		-	1	1	1
Northern Shrike					-	1		***	4	4	5
Blue Jay	122	79	328	189	227	516	220	122	10716	64	64
American Crow Horned Lark	762 336	38	260	75 107	9089	187	510 140	498	69845 5486	63 43	63 43
Carolina Chickadee		30			593	268	87		9824	40	40
Black-capped Chickadee	110	119	266	191		49	1	130	4571	36	36
chickadee sp.	***	***	***	***		117	83		973	13	13
Tufted Titmouse Red-breasted Nuthatch	46	25 4	74	46	195	378	82	55	6473 77	63 30	63 31
White-breasted Nuthatch	66	53	78	61	83	296	108	50	5713	64	64
Brown Creeper	27	23	3	3	22	59	11	1	1119	61	61
Carolina Wren	26	64	13	14	167	242	83	25	5299	64	64

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	Tiffin 12/16/2006 (11)	Toledo 12/17/2006 (3)	Trumbull County 12/17/2006 (28)	Wellington 12/30/2006 (26)	Western Hamilton County 12/23/2006 (63)	Wilmot 12/15/2006 (32)	Wooster 12/23/2006 (31)	Youngstown 12/16/2006 (34)	Total	Circles, Count Day	Circles, Count Week
House Wren		1		-	***				6	4	4
Vinter Wren	2	13	***		3	4	1		101	32 6	35 6
Marsh Wren		1				1	120	10	7 3287	62	62
Golden-crowned Kinglet	3	22	32	2	54	205	129	18	45	24	24
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	***								3	1	1
kinglet sp.	62		94	87	82	373	126	33	6122	62	63
Eastern Bluebird Hermit Thrush	62	cw 4	54		4	2	1		208	29	29
American Robin	49	855	17	25	4622	294	223	94	36310	64	64
Gray Catbird	40					1			12	9	9
		4		***	62	90	13	8	1138	46	46
Northern Mockingbird Brown Thrasher		CW			1	1	***		7	6	8
European Starling	2154	11065	1690		40529	2986	2048	539	231897	64	64
American Pipit	3	***	***	***	***	43	1	***	314	11	11
Cedar Waxwing		31	8	***	1	32	1	20	1122	36	36
Yellow-rumped Warbler			5	14	6	60			957	39	39
Pine Warbler	-						***		1	1	2
Common Yellowthroat		3				***	2		9	6	6
warbler sp.	***		***	***			***		1	1	1
Western Tanager		***	***	1,500			***		1	1	1
Eastern Towhee	***		1	***	40	47	6	3	708	43	44
American Tree Sparrow	82	750	241	21	27	550	406	44	10537	64	64
Chipping Sparrow		4	***			1		***	50 440	11	11 37
Field Sparrow	1	1		***	16	7			1	1	1
Vesper Sparrow		1		***						8	8
Savannah Sparrow		3		***		4	1		32 1	1	1
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow		7	***	555	1	2	-		62	25	25
Fox Sparrow Song Sparrow	26	247	46	23	261	739	165	31	9998	64	64
Lincoln's Sparrow		4-71							1	1	1
Swamp Sparrow	1	151	4		6		24	1	726	46	46
White-throated Sparrow	3	78	11	8	775	215	46	10	8640	58	58
White-crowned Sparrow		146	5	2	37	557	58	6	3542	50	50
sparrow sp.				***		3	***	-	80	5	5
Dark-eyed Junco	229	392	197	234	437	1092	369	99	20457	64	64
Lapland Longspur			***		5000	***	***		1396	10	10
Snow Bunting	***	***				1	9	***	133	8	8
Northern Cardinal	216	377	229	141	710	1092	363	111	20973	64	64
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	+++	***	***	***	***		***	***	2	1	1
Indigo Bunting		***		***		1	***	****	1	1	1
Red-winged Blackbird	202	6160	***	163	58	3466	251	***	52173	40	41
Eastern Meadowlark	37	cw		2	77	10	2		272 412	23 19	25 19
Rusty Blackbird		146	4	407	14	92	16	1	78446	40	41
Common Grackle	1 5	676 1405		187	141	11576 1585	8		4836	34	36
Brown-headed Cowbird	3	1400		202	(875	4694	2		13332	8	8
blackbird sp.		***	***	***	***	4694	2		13332	1	1
Baltimore Oriole Purple Finch	922				1				43	11	13
House Finch	47	225	117	39	100	217	46	13	5814	64	64
Pine Siskin	71							9	33	6	6
American Goldfinch	137	389	114	83	235	500	160	66	12239	64	64
Evening Grosbeak	137	303			200				4	2	2
House Sparrow	1309	890	232	289	663	1483	305	138	29294	64	64
											-
total species	56	90	65	56	69	81	80	55	155		
total species total individuals	56 7724	90 37149	65 10969	56 9649	69 63925	81 42429	80 10352	55 4511	155 1008280		

# Winter Birds of Kelleys Island, Ohio 2006-2007

by H. Thomas Bartlett 1833 S. Winfield Dr. Tiffin, OH 44883 tomb@tiffinohio.com

Beginning in November of 1997, I have been conducting a monthly bird census on Kelleys Island for the Kelleys Island Audubon Club. Over that period the census has missed only two months, January and February 2000. Thus, for the most part, on at least three days each winter data have been systematically collected on birds using the island. In addition, Lee and Sandy Tkach live on the island and keep me posted on what they are seeing. This past winter things changed somewhat. OK, they changed a lot. First, last June I retired from teaching after 30-plus years. Second, Bill and June Campbell gave me free use of their island condo for the winter. Not being one to insult the Campbells' generosity, I chose to use the condo for 21 out of 90 days this past winter. As a consequence the amount of data collected this past season increased greatly.

First, some background on Kelleys Island derived from the Kelleys Island Audubon Club's Web page http://www.kelleysislandnature.com/default1. htm. This is the largest of the United States islands in Lake Erie, at about 3000 acres and 18 miles of coastline. It is also the easternmost US island, located about 4.5 miles north of the Marblehead peninsula. Like the other islands, it is primarily what remains from an old Devonian limestone ridge left over from the last glaciers over 12,000 years ago. Among the island's tourist attractions are glacial grooves left from that event. Because of the alkaline nature of its soil, the island hosts numerous plants and animals unusual in the region. Its location also makes the island a major stopover for migrating birds and insects in spring and fall. Kelleys Island is listed as an Important Bird Area by the National Audubon Society for good reason. It is a remarkable staging area for buffleheads and American goldeneyes in season, and it has long been known for its high winter concentrations of golden-crowned kinglets, hermit thrushes, yellow-rumped warblers, and white-throated sparrows. More recently, it has been noted for wintering long-eared and northern saw-whet owls.

It appears this may have been an atypical winter, bird-wise, for the island. Weather-wise, December and January were abnormally mild, with February changing back to winter. In fact, data show this past February was one of the coldest on record. Waters around the island during the first two months were open, but quickly froze over in February. It was interesting to note that during warm sunny days in December, hermit thrushes, American robins, song sparrows, and white-throated sparrows were singing typical breeding songs early in the morning. The February count was typically very quiet and cold.

As has happened in most of the past 10 years, the island was censused over the third weekend of each month: 17 December, 20 January, and 23 February. Historically, during those winter census routes, a total of 105 species of birds has been observed, but the average has been 65 species observed on the routes during the winter months. A total of 92 species has been observed over the 10 years of censusing during December, with an average per year of 48. This year, December had 60 species. January has had 77 species observed, with an average per year of 39; this year, 44 species were observed. February has had

75 species observed, with an average of 39; this year 41 species were observed. Over this winter, census routes recorded 70 species plus one hybrid and one race. The total number of species observed for the winter of 2006-2007 came to 92. Of these 92 species, 33 were observed at least once on each visit to the island. In addition, nine more were missed on only one visit. Nineteen species were observed on only one visit. It appears the number of species using the island this winter, at least during the first two-thirds of the season, was above the norm.

## Species observed during the winter of 2006-2007

Canada goose Tundra swan Gadwall

American wigeon American black duck

Mallard

Mallard X black duck

Canvasback Redhead Greater scaup Lesser scaup Harlequin duck Surf scoter

White-winged scoter

Black scoter Long-tailed duck Bufflehead

Common goldeneve Hooded merganser Common merganser Red-breasted merganser

Ruddy duck

Ring-necked pheasant Red-throated loon Common loon Pied-billed grebe Horned grebe

Double-crested cormorant

Great blue heron Turkey vulture Bald eagle

Sharp-shinned hawk

Cooper's hawk Red-tailed hawk Golden eagle

Merlin Sandhill crane

Killdeer Purple sandpiper American woodcock Mourning dove Eastern screech-owl Great horned owl Long-eared owl Northern saw-whet owl

Belted kingfisher

Red-bellied woodpecker Yellow-bellied sapsucker Downy woodpecker Hairy woodpecker Northern flicker

Blue jay American crow Horned lark

Black-capped chickadee Red-breasted nuthatch White-breasted nuthatch

Brown creeper Carolina wren Winter wren

Golden-crowned kinglet Ruby-crowned kinglet Eastern bluebird Hermit thrush American robin Northern mockingbird European starling American pipit Cedar waxwing

Yellow-rumped warbler

Eastern towhee

American tree sparrow

Song sparrow Swamp sparrow White-throated sparrow Dark-eved junco

"Oregon" junco Snow bunting Northern cardinal Red-winged blackbird

Rusty blackbird Bonaparte's gull Ring-billed gull Common grackle California gull Brown-headed cowbird

Herring gull Purple finch Iceland gull House finch

Great black-backed gull American goldfinch Rock pigeon House sparrow

### Notes on rare/uncommon sightings

Harlequin duck: A pair was found and photographed on the SW side of the island 20 Jan during the census. John Pogacnik reported a pair earlier in the month on the NE side of the island. Harlequin ducks have been rarely reported off the island in the past during winter months; this appears to be the latest date for them.

Ring-necked pheasant: An adult male was observed on the Sheele Preserve on 11 December. In the early years of the census, it was not unusual to find a pheasant on the island, but they have not been recorded since 2003. It is likely this was a released bird.

Red-throated loon: The only winter record is a single bird photographed just north of West Bay on 28 December 2006.

Turkey vulture: An immature bird was observed on the island during all of December, January, and most of wintering record for the species on the island.



February. This is the first Tom Bartlett got this great shot of a late red-throated loon off Kelleys Island 28 Dec.

Golden eagle: An immature bird was observed and photographed during the February census by Tom Bartlett and Sandy Tkach. This is the first winter record of this species on the island, and may well be the first record for the island overall.

Sandhill crane: Four individuals were observed flying onto the island in the early hours of 11 December from the north. This is also a first a winter record for the island.

Killdeer: Two individuals were found during the Christmas Count of 17 December by the Pogacnik group on the east side of the island.

#### Winter Birds of Kelleys Island

Purple sandpiper: A single individual was found by Ross and Lisa Brohl on Long Point on 13 December. Four individuals were discovered at the same location during the 17 December Christmas Count; at least one was photographed. Purple sandpipers have rarely been reported on the island, and four individuals is easily the record number, as all other sightings have been of single birds. All previous records have occurred in November or December.

California gull: An adult was found and photographed in the north harbor during the Christmas Count of 17 December. This is the third record of California gull on the island during ten years of censusing.

Iceland gull: A second-year bird was observed in the north harbor during the Christmas Bird Count by John Pogacnik and all of the other counters. This is the census record for the island.

Long-eared owl: At least two individuals were observed on the island during December and early January. The most regular spot was Scheele Preserve.

Northern saw-whet owl: A high of seven calling birds was recorded on 28 December. During December, three birds were banded and two additional birds were recaptured. On of the recaptures had been banded on the island 9 November 2006. The other recapture had been banded by Canadian banders but the data has not yet become available.

European starling: A remarkable phenomenon involving this species was noted again this year. During early December, 20,000+ individuals were observed flying to the island from the mainland to feed. On 28 December, the flock grew to 110,000+, and was observed going to roost in the NW section of the island. These birds were feeding mainly on dogwood berries and poison ivy berries. By the middle of January, most of these berries were gone, leaving very little wild food for birds on the island.

"Oregon" junco: Two individuals of this race of the dark-eyed junco were observed during January. At the same time there were numerous observations of intergrade juncos between the "slate-colored" and the "Oregon" races. The "Oregon" race is not a rare occurrence in winter on the island. At least one has been observed in five out of the 10 winters of censusing.

Rusty blackbird: A single individual was observed in a wet area on the north side of the island on 24 January. This is the latest (earliest?) record for this species on the island, and also the first January record.

There is no doubt that more analysis of the data is necessary before any scientific conclusions can be drawn from the avian data presented here. Still, the mild nature of the early part of the winter of 2006-2007 seems to be reflected in the data listed, as is the more typical nature of the winter weather during February.

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This 4 March 2007 photo of the spotted towhee discovered by Jan Dixon near Toledo was contributed by Robert Epstein.

In the first edition (1886) of the American Ornithologists' Union Check-list, six towhees of the genus Pipilo were recognized. The fifth edition of the Check-list (1957) covered 16 recognized subspecies of just one of them, P. erythrophthalmus, then called the "rufous-sided towhee," later in 1998 the "eastern towhee"; this is the common species in Ohio. Recognized as a separate species in 1886 was the "Arctic towhee" P. maculatus, which was later merged into P. erythrophthalmus as a subspecies arcticus, but recognized anew in 1996 as P. maculatus, the "spotted towhee." Even though miraculously enough we still have six species after 120 years, it's easy to see the towhees remain in taxonomic flux. The old Arctic towhee, presently the spotted towhee, is distinctively marked, and Ohio now has five records.

On 39 Mar 1946, one was reported by C. Walker, G. Rea, and N. Thomson along the Scioto River in Delaware Co. See p. 11 of Borror, D. 1950. A Check List of the Birds of Ohio. *Ohio Journal of Science* 56:1-32. This author asked Thomson about the record five years ago; he recalled it well, and described the bird in detail. Tom Bartlett captured and photographed one at Springville Marsh in Seneca Co. on 4 May 1996. (H. T. Bartlett. 1996. A Spotted Towhee in Seneca Co. *Ohio Cardinal* 19:75-76). One visited the Klamm's feeder in Lakewood, Cuyahoga Co. 22-29 Oct 1998 (Rosche, 1998. *Cleveland Bird Calendar* 94(4):43). One was reported by the Black Swamp Bird Observatory as captured in Ottawa Co. 2 April 2000; it is recognized by Anderson et al. (2002. *Birds of the Toledo Area*).

Jan Dixon noticed and reported an adult of this species at her feeder in Holland, OH, just west of Toledo, on 28 Feb 2007; this individual was seen by m obs through at least 20 April.