

THE

OHIO CARDINAL

DEVOTED TO THE STUDY AND APPRECIATION OF OHIO'S BIRDLIFE • VOL. 37, NO. 2 WINTER 2013-14





Tom Fishburn braved the cold Lake Erie winds on 12 Jan and was rewarded with this outstanding photo of a first-year Black-legged Kittiwake at Cleveland's East 72nd Street.

On the cover:

The irruption of Snowy Owls this winter provided Ohio photographers with an unprecedented opportunity to observe and document these stunning creatures. This one was photographed by Tom Fishburn on 28 Dec at the Lorain Impoundment.

THE  **OHIO CARDINAL**

Devoted to the Study and Appreciation of Ohio's Birdlife

EDITOR

Craig Caldwell
1270 W. Melrose Dr.
Westlake, OH 44145
440-356-0494
craig_caldwell@sbcglobal.net

PHOTO EDITOR

Laura Keene
laurakeene@cinci.rr.com

LAYOUT

Roger Lau
rognceleste@gmail.com

CONSULTANTS

Mike Egan
Victor Fazio III
Rob Harlan
Andy Jones
Laura Peskin
Bill Whan

**OHIO BIRD RECORDS
COMMITTEE**

Paul Gardner
Secretary
295 Acton Road
Columbus, OH 43214-3305
psg0708@gmail.com

PAST PUBLISHERS

John Herman (1978-1980)
Edwin C. Pierce (1980-2008)

PAST EDITORS

John Herman (1978-1980)
Edwin C. Pierce (1980-1991)
Thomas Kemp (1987-1991)
Robert Harlan (1991-1996)
Victor W. Fazio III (1996-1997)
Bill Whan (1997-2008)
Andy Jones (2008-2010)
Jill M. Russell (2010-2012)



COMMENTS ON THE SEASON

By Craig Caldwell

Most of this winter was very cold. Though Dec's average temperature was close to normal, those of Jan and Feb were far below their historical averages. Jan, in fact, was the sixth coldest on record for the state in the 120 years with data. Much of Ohio was below zero from 06 to 08 Jan. Feb was "only" the 18th coldest. On 04 Mar the Plain Dealer reported that the Great Lakes as a system were more than 90% ice-covered; most of the open water was on Lake Ontario while Lake Erie and the other three were essentially completely iced over. In Jan and Feb Cleveland Hopkins Airport had 10 nights with below-zero lows, the most since 12 such nights during the winter of 1983-84 (*Plain Dealer*, 18 Feb). No doubt many individual stations set record lows, but the website from which I used to glean that information has vanished.

Precipitation followed a different pattern. December was the ninth wettest on record. The southern third of the state had 1½ to two times its average rain and snow, and a band from the central west to the northeast had up to triple its normal totals. Only the far northwest was drier than normal but only by about 10%. Jan precipitation statewide was somewhat below average, though the southwest, northwest, and the Lake Erie shore had up to 150% of normal. Feb's precipitation ranked 78 out of 120, on the wet side of normal. The far south and the northern quarter had almost double their averages, the central counties were as much as 25% below average, and the rest of the state received 90 to 150% of its usual precipitation. Most Jan and Feb precipitation, of course, was snow. Weather data are from the National Weather Service (<http://water.weather.gov/precip/>) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/temp-and-precip/maps.php>).

Last winter we were invaded by finches; this year Snowy Owls staged their biggest southward movement in at least 50 years. They were seen in 35 states as far south as Jacksonville, FL, and one even showed up in Bermuda! Finches come south in response to poor seed production in their core range. Snowys were also thought to push

south due to food shortages, with our visitors being by and large malnourished. New information from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, however, indicates that this invasion was the result of a banner year for lemmings, the owls' favorite food. Snowy Owl brood sizes were much larger than normal, and well-fed juveniles went exploring. Jim McCormac expands on the invasion in a separate article.

Waterfowl were here in typical numbers, at least until Lake Erie and many inland waters froze. Red-necked grebes were more numerous and more widely spread than usual. More sandpiper species lingered into Dec than usual. This was the first winter in quite a while with no reports of Black-headed Gull. One vireo and five warbler species stayed into or through the winter. The previous two winters, both of which were much milder, each hosted 10 warblers during at least part of the season. A few sparrows which normally are last seen in Nov stayed into Dec or beyond. Though this was not a "finch year" a few of each of these visitors from the north dropped in.

This issue contains reports or mentions of 189 species, the second-highest count of the last five years. (Winter 2011-12 had 190). Seven definite or probable hybrids are also listed, split 4:3 between waterfowl and gulls. (These two families account for the majority of the observable interspecific combinations in North America.) I attribute this record count of hybrids both to the growing numbers of birders and to their ever-increasing skill and interest in the unusual. Another five entries are at the genus or family level.

This winter marked the 114th Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC). As is customary, Ned Keller summarizes the Ohio counts in a separate article which is accompanied by a table of CBC results. In the species accounts which follow this section I many times note the highest number of a species found. These values are for single birders or parties, usually birding in a relatively small area, and often are the counts from a single route within a CBC. However, I seldom include counts from an entire CBC, each of which is the result of many parties' efforts in scattered locales within a 15-mile diameter circle; those data are in the table.

This issue also includes a report of actions by the Ohio Bird Records Committee. After a period of inactivity, the Committee has returned to life under new Secretary Paul Gardner. I extend my thanks to Paul, the eight other OBRC members, and the observant birders who submitted the documentation herein reported and which will be reported in future issues of the *Cardinal*.

Nine review species are listed in the Species Accounts with their names underlined. Observers sent documentation for four of them directly to the OBRC, and the Committee will be examining their submissions. Reports of the other five species, and additional reports of two of the four, were made to eBird and other online venues. Though these are also forwarded to the Committee, many lack any substantiating detail and are not substitutes for formal documentation. Reports which the Committee can't evaluate can't be included in the official record. The seven possibly "orphaned" species are Brown Pelican, Northern Goshawk, California Gull, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Common Raven, Harris's Sparrow, and Golden-crowned Sparrow.

The Records Committee and this editor urge birders to formally report all sightings of Review List species, of Core List species found at unusual times, of nesting by birds previously not known to nest in the state, and of course sightings of birds never before found in Ohio. Information on how to document rarities is available at <http://www.ohiobirds.org/records/documentation.php>.

Data for the following Species Accounts come from reports submitted directly to the *Cardinal*, reports submitted to The Bobolink, eBird (<http://ebird.org/content/ebird/>), the Ohio-birds listserv (<http://birding.aba.org/maillist/OH>), rarebird.org (<http://rarebird.org/forum/default.asp>), Audubon (<http://birds.audubon.org/christmas-bird-count>), and the Cincinnati Bird Sightings Log (<http://cincinnatibirds.com/goodbird/sighting.php>). Previous issues have benefited from The Bobolink, which publisher Robert Hershberger made available in draft form. Our schedules now mesh, and this issue marks the first for which Robert provided copies of all the submissions he received. All of our 88 counties contributed reports, though those from Scioto were only from a CBC. Three species' sightings in addition to a CBC report came from Putnam and six species were reported in Van Wert. Dark-eyed Junco was the only species seen in every county.

Taxonomic order and nomenclature follow the Check-List of North American Birds, 7th Edition (1998) as updated through the 54th Supplement (2013). This document is published by the North American Classification Committee of the American Ornithologists' Union and is available at <http://www.aou.org/checklist/north/print.php>. County names are in bold italics. Locations whose counties are of the same name, for example Ashtabula (city) and Delaware Wildlife Area, usually do not have the counties repeated. County names for sites described in Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Columbus are also omitted. Shortened names and a few sets of initials are used for locations and organizations which occur repeatedly; these abbreviations are listed here. The term "fide" is used in some citations; it means "in trust of" and is used where the reporter was not the observer.

Abbreviations:

- Armleder Park = a Cincinnati city park on the Little Miami River, **Hamilton**
- Avon Power = the generating station in Avon Lake, **Lorain**
- Big Island = Big Island Wildlife Area, **Marion**
- Blendon Woods = Blendon Woods Metro Park, **Franklin**
- Caesar Creek = Caesar Creek State Park, **Warren**
- CBC = Audubon Christmas Bird Count
- CLNP = Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve (the former Dike 14), **Cuyahoga**
- Conneaut = the mudflats to the west of Conneaut Harbor, **Ashtabula**
- CP = County Park
- CPNWR = Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge, **Lucas**
- CVNP = Cuyahoga Valley National Park, **Cuyahoga** and (mostly) **Summit**
- Darby Creek = Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park, **Franklin**
- Deer Creek = the State Park is in Pickaway, the Wildlife Area is in **Fayette**, and Deer Creek Lake is in both but mostly **Pickaway**
- East Fork = East Fork State Park, **Clermont**
- Edgewater = the Edgewater unit of Cleveland Lakefront Metroparks, **Cuyahoga**

COMMENTS ON THE SEASON

Fernald = Fernald Preserve, **Butler** and **Hamilton**

Findlay Reservoirs = several contiguous water bodies east of town in **Hancock**

Funk = Funk Bottoms Wildlife Area, **Ashland** and (mostly) **Wayne**

Headlands = Headlands Dunes State Nature Preserve, Headlands Beach State Park, and adjoining waters, **Lake**

Hoover NP = Hoover Nature Preserve, **Delaware**

Hoover Reservoir = the northern 80% is in **Delaware**, but the dam is in **Franklin**

Kelley's Island = the island and adjoining waters, **Erie**

Killdeer = Killdeer Plains State Wildlife Area; a bit is in **Marion** but it's mostly in **Wyandot**

LaDue = LaDue Reservoir, **Geauga**

Lorain = the dredge spoil impoundment east of downtown in the city and county of the same name, unless otherwise noted

Lost Bridge = a Great Miami River crossing on Lawrenceburg Road near Elizabethtown, **Hamilton**, where a covered bridge was lost to fire in 1903

m. obs. = Multiple Observers

Magee = the boardwalk and immediate vicinity in Magee Marsh Wildlife Area, **Lucas**, unless otherwise noted. The northern third of the causeway is also in **Lucas**, the rest in **Ottawa**.

Maumee Bay = Maumee Bay State Park, **Lucas**, unless otherwise noted

Medusa = Medusa Marsh, **Erie**, an informally named and privately owned area between Sandusky and Bay View

Metzger = Metzger Marsh Wildlife Area, **Lucas**

Mosquito Lake = Mosquito Creek Lake, also called Mosquito Creek Reservoir, **Trumbull**. Mosquito (Creek) Wildlife Area adjoins it.

MP = Metro Park, MetroPark, or Metropark depending on the system

NC = Nature Center

NP = Nature Preserve, except as part of CVNP

OBRC = Ohio Bird Records Committee

OOPMP = Oak Openings Preserve MetroPark, **Lucas**

ONWR = Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, **Lucas** and **Ottawa**

ONWR Blausey and Navarre = Units of Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge which are separate from the refuge's main body. Both are in **Ottawa**

Pickerington Ponds = Pickerington Ponds Metro Park, **Fairfield** and **Franklin**

RBA = Rare Bird Alert

Riverside NA = Riverside Natural Area, a preserve along the Great Miami River in **Hamilton**, **Butler**, which includes some upland as well

Rocky Fork = Rocky Fork State Park, **Highland**

SNP = State Nature Preserve

SF = State Forest

SP = State Park

SWA = State Wildlife Area

WA = Wildlife Area

Wendy Park = a lakeshore Cleveland park, **Cuyahoga**

Wilderness Road = a road which traverses Funk Bottoms Wildlife Area, **Wayne**, and adjoining farmland

The Wilds = a limited-access big-mammal breeding and research facility in **Muskingum**, also used generically to include the surrounding reclaimed Ohio Power strip mines

Errata:

The cover of the Summer 2013 issue showed it as Vol. 36, No. 3. The issue was No. 4; the interior pages were correct.

In the Fall 2013 issue (*Ohio Cardinal* 37:1) the "d" was dropped from Paul Gardner's name in the masthead; he's the Secretary of the OBRC.

In the same issue we mistakenly credited the Brown Pelican picture on page 10. The photographer was Ron Sempier.

And in that issue, in the "10 Years Ago" section on page 46, I listed Little Stint among the then-predicted newcomers to Ohio which had since arrived. One was reported a few years ago but the record was not documented for the OBRC, so that species is not yet on the official state list.

Addendum 1

The following items were omitted from the Fall 2013 Species Accounts:

Eastern Whip-poor-will

Michele Skolmutch posted to Ohio-birds that her husband had heard one near their house in *Holmes* early on 11 Sep. Ray Hannikman and Emil Bacik accidentally flushed one at Headlands on 28 Sep (*vide* Jerry Talkington).

Merlin

The OBRC has a report of an unusually large concentration of Merlins in *Huron*.

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

By Craig Caldwell

Greater White-fronted Goose

These were scattered across the state and throughout the season — see the accompanying map. Robert Hershberger saw 18 along Prairie Lane, **Wayne**, on 15 Feb. The second-highest count was 10, shared by Brandon Brywczynski at Independence Dam SP, **Defiance**, on 16 Dec and a host of observers in the Darby Bend unit of Prairie Oaks MP, **Franklin**, on 18 Jan.



Snow Goose

These, too, were seen all season. Kirk Westendorf noted 25 at Armleder Park on 02 Dec; Jen Moore and Jason Parrish saw 20 at Big Island on 23 Feb. Reports came from 44 counties.



A pair of Ross's Geese was a welcome post-holiday gift for photographer Dane Adams on 26 Dec in Wellington, **Lorain**

Ross's Goose

The earliest flew over Bill Stanley's **Clermont** home on 07 Dec. The last of the season was at

Funk on 23 Feb (Jeff Harvey, David Weaver), but it was seen again in Mar. Steven L. Hochstetler picked out three of them in a flock of Canada Geese as they passed near Loudonville, **Ashland**, on 15 Feb. Fourteen counties contributed sightings.

Brant

Both sightings were on 01 Dec. Shane Myers found his in Veterans Memorial Lake, **Hancock**, and John Pogacnik another in Ashtabula harbor.

Cackling Goose

These were here all season. The high count was seven, by Rick Asamoto at the Barrett Paving gravel pits, **Montgomery**, on both 28 and 31 Dec. Thirty-one counties produced reports.

Canada Goose

Paul Sherwood estimated 5600 at the Wellington Upground Reservoir, **Lorain**, on 28 Dec, and there were many more four-digit counts. Only **Putnam**, **Van Wert**, and **Williams** did not provide sightings.

Mute Swan

The mouth of Cold Creek, **Erie**, held up to 32 on several dates (m. obs.). The highest count elsewhere was 22, at Avon Power on 10 Jan (Jen Brumfield). Reports came from 48 counties.

Trumpeter Swan

About 100 were gleaned stubble corn fields along Route 2 near ONWR on 08 Dec (Julie Heitz). Other **Lucas** and **Ottawa** sites produced many counts in the 20 to 50 range. The highest count away from Lake Erie was the 15 which Corey Husic found near The Wilds on 01 Jan. Thirty-two counties had sightings.

Tundra Swan

The 01 Dec ONWR monthly census produced 2869 (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *vide* Douglas Vogus). The inland high count was 200; they flew over Linda Gilbert's house in **Geauga** on 07 Dec. Forty-two counties provided reports.

Wood Duck

These were present all winter though they were scarce in Jan. The Blendon Woods pond held 20 on 28 Feb (Julie Beehley and Reid Greiner), and other sites had counts up to 18. Twenty-seven counties produced reports.

Gadwall

Tom Bartlett found 625 on and about Kelleys Island on 05 Dec; about 450 remained the next day. Paul Sherwood counted 371 at Medusa

Marsh, **Erie**, on 23 Dec. Brian Menker's 128 in Old Reid Park, **Montgomery**, on 03 Dec was the highest inland count. Sightings came from 48 counties.

Eurasian Wigeon

Leroy E. Yoder discovered one at Mohawk Dam, **Coshocton**, on 23 Feb; the bird remained into Mar for multiple observers. Paul Sherwood, Mary Warren, and others saw one at Castalia Pond, **Erie**, also on 26 Feb. One briefly stopped at Funk on 26 Feb (*vide* Jen Brumfield).

[Eurasian x American Wigeon]

One spent 22 Feb into Mar at Fernald (m. obs.).

American Wigeon

Su Snyder *et al.* estimated 210 were along Wilderness Road on 25 Feb. The next highest number was 93, at Castalia Pond, **Erie**, on 30 Dec (Paul Sherwood). Thirty-eight counties provided sightings.

American Black Duck

Blendon Woods regularly hosts substantial numbers of this species; Andy Sewell noted about 300 there on 18 Jan. Sixty-four counties produced reports.

[American Black Duck x Mallard]

No doubt some of these lurk within most flocks of Black Ducks. Rachel Kohnke identified seven at Mosquito Lake on 23 Feb. Sixteen counties had sightings.

Mallard

Gene Stauffer found about 1600 at Deer Creek SP, **Pickaway**, on 26 Dec. Other sites yielded additional four-digit counts. All but six counties yielded sightings.

Blue-winged Teal

The five reports were:

One in ONWR on 01 Dec (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *vide* Douglas Vogus)

One during the Paint Creek Area CBC on 15 Dec (*vide* Audubon)

Two on the Ohio River at Gallipolis, **Gallia**, also on 15 Dec (Rennie Talbert)

One along Alum Creek, **Franklin**, on 17 Dec (Ben Warner, Sean Williams)

One at Eastwood MP, **Montgomery**, on 22 Dec (Robert Reed)

Northern Shoveler

Victor Fazio III was surprised to note that the 146 at Castalia, **Erie**, on 30 Jan outnumbered the Mallards. Counts to 115 were achieved there on other dates. The high elsewhere was Gregory Bennett's 74 at Springfield Lake, **Summit**, on 08 Dec. Thirty-five counties provided reports.

Northern Pintail

Sue Snyder and friends estimated 850 were along Wilderness Road on 25 Feb. The only other triple-digit count was 120, by Jen Moore and Jason Parrish at Big Island on 23 Feb. Reports came from 35 counties.

Green-winged Teal

Riverside NA hosted 47 on 14 Dec (Brian Wulker). Brian also found the second-highest number, 38 at Fernald on 22 Dec. Thirty counties produced sightings.

[Green-winged Teal x Gadwall]

One which was apparently this hybrid touched down at Old Reid Park, **Clark**, on 03 Dec (Doug Overacker *et al.*).

Canvasback

Jan and Feb each had many more reports than Dec. The highest estimate, 800 to 1000, came from Edgewater on 19 Dec (Jen Brumfield) and 20 Dec (Thomas Olson). The largest count away from Lake Erie was 81 at Lost Bridge on 08 Jan (Brian Wulker). Fifty-three counties provided sightings.

Redhead

Ryan Lesniewicz counted 567 at Marblehead Light SP, **Ottawa**, on 25 Feb. Irina Shulgina made the highest inland count, about 350 at Lake Corazon, **Union**, on 21 Feb. Reports came from 55 counties.

Ring-necked Duck

Brian Wulker contributed another high count, 278 of these at Fernald on 22 Dec. Fifty counties had sightings.

Greater Scaup

The waters around Kelleys Island hosted 2000 to 2500 for Tom Bartlett on 13 and 14 Dec (but see Scaup sp. below). Robert Jackson saw about 500 off Avon Power on 04 Feb. The inland high count was 110 on the Ohio River at Higginsport, **Brown**, on 13 Feb (Brian Wulker). Forty counties produced sightings.

Lesser Scaup

Tom Bartlett found 1000 to 1500 at Kelleys Island on 13 and 14 Dec (but again see Scaup sp. below). Gravel pits off Franklin-Trenton Road, **Warren**, held the highest inland count, 50 on 28 Feb (John Habig). Fifty-two counties provided reports.

Scaup sp.

Tom Bartlett estimated 17,000 in addition to the specific numbers above were off Kelleys Island on 13 Dec.

Harlequin Duck

The four sightings are:

One off the Huntington Reservation, **Cuyahoga** from 05 to 08 Dec (m. obs.)

One at Lake Shore Park, **Ashtabula**, on 11 Dec (Craig Holt)

One flyby at John Pogacnik's **Lake** home on 25 Dec

One on the Ohio River at BelPre, **Washington**, on 26 and 27 Dec (Derek Courtney *et al.*)



Dale Gaul worked for the perfect shot to convey the magnificent plumage of this Harlequin Duck, photographed on 05 Dec at Huntington Reservation, **Cuyahoga**.

Surf Scoter

The high count of 11 came from the mouth of Old Woman Creek, **Erie**, on 19 Dec (David Lumpkin). Other Lake Erie sites held up to nine. The two on a lake at Indian Springs Campground, **Hamilton**, on 15 Dec were the only inland number exceeding one (Brian Wulker). In addition to the already-named counties, **Ashtabula**, **Cuyahoga**, **Lake**, **Lorain**, **Warren**, and **Wyandot** also had sightings.

White-winged Scoter

These were widespread; 31 counties produced sightings. Jen Brumfield counted 82 birds in several flocks off Huntington Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 31 Jan. Preston Franklin and Brian Wulker saw 39 along the Ohio River bank in **Hamilton** on 15 Feb; this was the highest inland count.



Leslie Sours was delighted with the opportunity to photograph this White-winged Scoter at Greenlawn Dam, **Franklin**, as it carefully working its way across the icy surface to open water on 02 Feb.

Black Scoter

These were scattered but regular until mid-Jan, after which only four sites hosted them. One of these was the Eastlake power plant, **Lake**; two birds on 06 Feb (Dave Chase) and one on 22 Feb (Daniel and Kevin Parsons) were the only reports in that month. The high count was nine, shared by Kent Miller at Edgewater on 03 Dec and Bev Walborn from a further west Lake Road cliff, also in **Cuyahoga**, on 29 Dec. The only sighting away from Lake Erie was of a single bird at Eastwood MP, **Montgomery**, from 19 to 23 Dec (m. obs.). **Ashtabula**, **Lorain**, and **Lucas** also contributed sightings.

Long-tailed Duck

Tom Bartlett counted 23 as he ferried from Marblehead (**Ottawa**) to Kelleys Island (**Erie**) on 09 Dec. Debby Schuster found 20 at Mosquito Lake on 23 Feb. The accompanying map shows the 26 counties which these birds visited.



Bufflehead

The Kelleys Island area boasted about 750 on 13 Dec (Tom Bartlett). The most elsewhere was the 121 which Paula Lozano tallied along her CBC route in **Cuyahoga** on 29 Dec. The inland high was 35; Chris Zacharias found them at Eastwood MP, **Montgomery**, on 14 Dec. Fifty-one counties had sightings.



This obliging group of Bufflehead offered photographer Dane Adams a close view on 03 Jan at Spitzer Marina, **Lorain**.

Common Goldeneye

Tom Bartlett was on Kelleys Island on 26 Feb; he estimated more than 8000 goldeneye were there. He said, “Thousands of diving ducks mainly in open waters to the east of the island. The actual number is likely much higher but heat waves made ID impossible.” Max Gustafson saw about 1000 from Cleveland’s East 55th Street marina on 03 Jan. The inland high count was 80. It was shared by Amanda Lawson at Eastwood MP, *Montgomery*, on 31 Dec, Eric Elvert at Eastwood on 14 Jan, and Don Keffer at Mosquito Lake on 23 Feb. Reports came from 55 counties.

[Common Goldeneye x Hooded Merganser]

Alex Champagne identified one on the Scioto River at Hoover Park on 12 Feb; it stayed there another day for others to see. What was probably the same bird appeared a few miles downstream at Scioto Audubon MP on 24 Feb, and was seen there intermittently into Mar. Both locations are in *Franklin*.



This [Common Goldeneye x Hooded Merganser] hybrid drake was photographed with Common Mergansers by Paul Hurtado on 12 Feb below Griggs Dam in Hoover Park, Franklin.

Hooded Merganser

LaDue hosted 350 on 03 Dec (Kent Miller) and there were several more three-digit counts. Fifty-three counties provided reports.

Common Merganser

Jen Brumfield and Philip Chaon estimated 4200 to 4500 at Cleveland’s East 55th Street marina on 03 Jan. The highest count away from Lake Erie was 140 birds, seen on 13 Feb where Straight Creek meets the Ohio River in *Brown* (Brian Wulker). Fifty-eight counties produced reports.

Red-breasted Merganser

Jen Brumfield estimated 12,000 passed East 55th Street on 03 Jan and 15,000 went by Wendy Park on 21 Jan. Both locations are in Cleveland. The highest inland count was 100; Kent Miller found them at LaDue on 03 Dec. Reports came from 54 counties.

Ruddy Duck

The Wellington Upground Reservoir, *Lorain*, held 500 on 01 Dec (Helen and Ken Ostermill-

er). Rocky Fork Lake, *Highland*, hosted 250 on 07 Dec (Rick Asamoto). Fifty-one counties produced sightings.

Northern Bobwhite

The reports by individuals are listed; in addition three CBC tallies included bobwhites.

One at Marysville Reservoir, *Union*, on 01 Dec (Irina Shulgina)

One on Gilson Road, *Columbiana*, on 19 Dec (Chuck McClaugherty)

Two on 30 Dec and one on 30 Jan in *Highland* (Junior Barnes)

Two in Zoar Acres, *Warren*, on 24 Jan (Leslie Houser)

Two at her *Miami* home on 16 Feb (Rebecca J. Reinke)

One at Killdeer on 18 Feb (Irina Shulgina)

Ring-necked Pheasant

Kyle Brooks found 34 in the vicinity of Charlie’s Pond, *Pickaway*, on 08 Jan. The other double-digit counts were 12 at a *Gallia* farm on 27 Dec (Derek Dunaway) and two groups totaling 11 at Darby Creek on 10 Jan (Carl Winstead). Twenty-four counties provided sightings.

Ruffed Grouse

The reports are:

One on 11 Dec, two on 18 Dec, and one on 25 Jan in different areas around Clendening Lake, *Harrison* (Scott Pendleton)

Three at The Wilds on 21 Dec (Susan Nash).

One at Salt Fork SP, *Guernsey*, on 29 Dec (Chris Zacharias)

One in Harrison SF on 24 Feb (Scott Pendleton)

Three during the Cadiz CBC, *Harrison*, on 04 Jan (*vide* Audubon)

Wild Turkey

Kent Miller and Ben Morrison estimated 175 on 09 Jan at a farm in Osnaburg Township, *Stark*, whose owner puts out feed. The next highest number is the 100 which Sheila Joyce found in an *Erie* corn field. Forty-eight counties yielded sightings.

Red-throated Loon

Five locations produced reports which probably represent at least four and as many as six birds: One on 01 and 02 Dec at Caesar Creek (Leslie Houser, Bob Powell). It had first been seen on 29 Nov.

One at C.J. Brown Lake, *Clark*, on 07 Dec (Michael Hatfield and Sam Rockingwell)

One passing his *Lake* house on 07 Dec (John Pogacnik)

One at the Hoover Reservoir dam on 26 Dec (Keith Laakkonen) and again (?) on 01 Jan (Gene Stauffer)

One at Alum Creek Reservoir, **Delaware**, on 27 Dec (Mikey Lumerding)

Common Loon

Steve Landes saw the latest of the season from the Scioto River Trail, **Franklin**, on 23 Feb, though sightings resumed in Mar. The high count was a dramatic 112 which passed John Pogacnik's **Lake** home on 07 Dec. No other count exceeded 10. The accompanying map shows which counties were visited.



Pied-billed Grebe

The highest of many double-digit numbers was Bob Powell's 50 at Caesar Creek on 19 Dec. Forty-five counties produced reports.

Horned Grebe

Kent Miller saw about 100 in the waters near CLNP on 03 Dec. The next-highest count was 45, by Jen Brumfield off Sims Park, **Cuyahoga**, on 06 Dec. LaDue hosted the highest inland count, 30 on 01 Dec (Kelly Kozlowski and Matthew Valencic). Reports came from 40 counties.

Red-necked Grebe

Two stayed near CLNP for most of Dec; they or two others were there for most of Feb (m. obs.). Curiously, the only report between those months was of a single bird passing John Pogacnik in **Lake** on 11 Jan. Two also briefly appeared off Rocky River Park, **Cuyahoga**, on 20 Dec (Jen Brumfield). One spent from 15 to 18 Feb far south on the Great Miami River in Hamilton, **Butler** (m. obs.). Reports also came from **Clermont**, **Richland**, **Summit**, and **Wood**.

Eared Grebe

One which showed up on Cleveland's eastern waterfront on 25 Nov was seen almost daily at several locations until 07 Dec (m. obs.). It or another spent 22 to 29 Dec near CLNP (m. obs.) and was briefly joined by a second one on 23 Dec (Kent Miller).

Double-crested Cormorant

Paul Sherwood noted at least 300 from Sandusky's Jackson Street pier, **Erie**, on 02 and 05 Dec. Several counts in the 100 to 300 range came from **Cuyahoga**. Observers reported the inland high of 25 at locations along the Scioto River, **Franklin**, during the first half of Jan. Thirty-three counties provided sightings.

Brown Pelican

"Brownie", who was first noted on 24 Jun, was last reported on 11 Jan while roosting at Cleveland's 55th Street marina. The OBRC will acknowledge all who provided reports during its stay.

American Bittern

One spent from mid-Dec into Jan southeast of Apple Creek, **Wayne** (fide Andy R. Troyer).

Great Blue Heron

The ponds at the intersection of Routes 2 and 169 near Bayview, **Erie**, hosted large numbers until they iced over; Paul Sherwood counted 154 Great Blues there on 27 Dec. The most elsewhere was 45, at Charles Mill Lake, **Ashland**, on 16 Dec (Gary Cowell). Reports came from 76 counties.

Great Egret

Reports were scarce after 15 Dec, though the high count of four was achieved on 24 Dec at the Routes 2/269 intersection, **Erie** (Paul Sherwood). One or two stayed there into early Jan. Other Dec sightings came from **Ashland**, **Erie**, **Lucas**, **Ottawa**, **Richland**, and **Stark**. The remaining Jan reports were of single birds along the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland on 05 Jan (Karen and Rich Kassouf) and 16 Jan (Philip Chaon) and the mouth of Cold Creek, **Erie** on 15 Jan (John Schoenlein). There were no Feb sightings.

Black-crowned Night-Heron

Paul Sherwood provided the high count of 87, from the Sandusky, **Erie**, coal docks on 02 Dec. Nearby Cold Creek's mouth hosted up to 41 on several early Jan dates (m. obs.). At least 11, and as many as 14, counties had sightings.



Always a treat to photograph, Dane Adams encountered this Black-crowned Night-Heron in an exquisite setting 04 Jan at Cold Creek, **Erie**.

Black Vulture

An apparent deer carcass dump in **Pickaway** attracted 120 on 01 Jan (Leslie Sours). The second-highest count was 45, in a single kettle over the Mohican SP campground, **Ashland**, on 11 Jan (Gary Cowell). Thirty-two counties contributed reports.

Turkey Vulture

Reuben S. Erb counted 145 near Walnut Creek, **Holmes**, on 21 Feb. Stefan Mozu Gleissbird noted 80 above his home in **Athens** on 31 Dec. Reports came from 56 counties.

Golden Eagle

The Wilds and adjacent Ohio Power lands provided many reports of one or two birds, most of them coming during the OOS field trip on 18 Jan. Jim McCormac forwarded a report from Fred Lau, complete with trail camera photos taken 22 Dec, of one feeding on a deer carcass in **Pike**.

Northern Harrier

Leslie Sours found 17 in various parts of Darby Creek on 20 Jan. Tom Bartlett counted 13 at Killdeer on 11 Jan. More than 60 counties provided reports.



Ron Sempiet observed this Northern Harrier patrolling the fields of Delaware SP on 19 Feb.

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Most reports, which came from 52 counties, were of single birds. However, **Delaware**, **Franklin**, **Summit**, and **Wyandot** each produced a twofor.

Cooper's Hawk

These sightings also were mostly of single birds, but there were many doubles and three reports of three. Seventy-three counties produced sightings.

Northern Goshawk

An observer sent a report to the OBRC from **Wayne**. Internet venues have reports from **Franklin** and **Union** which were not detailed for the OBRC.

Bald Eagle

Tom Bartlett counted 32 at Kelleys Island on 14 Jan. Deborah Thomas saw 26 at Old Woman Creek, **Erie**, on 22 Feb. The inland high count was 17, by Doug Marcum at Lake Rockwell, **Portage**, on 28 Dec. Seventy-five counties provided sightings.

Red-shouldered Hawk

William Hull and Bill Zimmerman noted five along their CBC route in **Clermont** on 29 Dec. Three observers each reported four birds. Reports came from 61 counties.



Though they prefer to nestle deeper in the trees than their larger cousins, this Red-shouldered Hawk posed for Tom Fishburn on 15 Feb at Coe Lake, **Cuyahoga**.

Red-tailed Hawk

Gary Cowell and Julie Wittmer patrol a CBC route in northeastern **Knox**; on 15 Dec they counted 18 Red-taileds along it. Tom Bartlett found 13 at Kelleys Island on 11 Jan. Only **Carroll**, **Henry**, **Logan**, and **Putnam** did not provide a sighting.

Rough-legged Hawk

The accompanying map shows how widespread the reports were; no doubt the birds were present in much of the northwest as well. Charles Slusarczyk, Jr. counted 13 while viewing Cleveland Hopkins Airport from the 100th Bomb Group restaurant on 28 Feb. Locations in **Geauga** and **Muskingum** shared counts of 10.



Virginia Rail

Su Snyder found one at the traditional *Holmes* marsh on 11 Jan.

Sora

Wes Hatch and Kelly Kozlowski got good looks at a very late bird at Frohring Meadows, *Geauga*, on 05 Dec. The year's second to last sighting was way back on 28 Oct, itself a slightly later than usual date, but there are a few previous winter records.

American Coot

Mark Gilsdorf posted the highest count, an impressive 1500 at the Old Highland Stone gravel pits, *Highland*, on 18 Dec. The next largest count by a single observer was Rob Thorn's 140 at Watermark Lake, *Franklin*, on 05 Jan, though a couple CBCs achieved totals in the high hundreds. Fifty-three counties produced sightings.

Sandhill Crane

David A. Brinkman saw about 100 heading south-southwest over his *Hamilton* home on 02 Jan. Douglas Robinson noted about 80 in flight in *Butler* on 01 Dec. Thirty-three counties produced reports.

Killdeer

Charlie Saunders found 12 at the Riverside NA on 15 Dec. There were several counts of 10 during the month. Fifty-one counties had sightings.

Sanderling

John Pogacnik discovered an errant one at Conneaut on 10 Dec.

Dunlin

Six remained at ONWR for the 01 Dec census team to find (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *fide* Douglas Vogus). Two spent 01 to 04 Dec at Conneaut (m. obs.); perhaps they were the same birds which had been seen there on 28 Nov. A team of three found one at Riverside NA during a CBC on 14 Dec.

Purple Sandpiper

The five locations which provided sightings (some of which might have been of the same birds) are: The Cleveland Harbor outer breakwall, two on 07 Dec (m. obs.)

Cleveland's North Coast Harbor, one on 05 Dec (Diane Boswell)

Conneaut, one on 01 Dec (m. obs.)

Huron, *Erie*, one on 01 Dec (Dan Sanders and Doreene Linzell)

Wendy Park, one on 09 Dec (Philip Chaon)

Baird's Sandpiper

A single individual posed for the participants of a Cleveland Museum of Natural History outing

in West Branch SP, *Portage*, on 08 Dec (*fide* Jen Brumfield).

Least Sandpiper

One lingered at ONWR until 01 Dec (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *fide* Douglas Vogus)

Wilson's Snipe

Sightings were scattered in both space and time; the accompanying map displays the former. On 15 Dec Rennie Talbert had the high count of 20 birds gathered by a small pond at a West Branch Road farm, *Gallia*, on 15 Dec. The day before, Brian Wulker had found 13 scattered along the Great Miami bank in Riverside NA.



Wilson's Snipe can be a difficult bird to add to a January sighting list in Ohio, as most have moved on to warmer climates. Su Snyder found the right habitat and an indulgent individual for this wonderful photo on 09 Jan in *Holmes*.



American Woodcock

There were no Dec sightings. Bill Stanley's *Clermont* bird on 04 Jan was the only sighting in that month. The next was a duo on 19 Feb which Kathi Hutton found at her Fairskies Farm, *Clermont*. Possum Creek MP, *Montgomery*, provided the high count of eight on 21 Feb (m. obs.). *Athens*, *Coshocton*, *Fayette*, *Hamilton*, *Holmes*, *Ross*, *Warren*, and *Wayne* also contributed reports.

Red Phalarope

One which arrived at Edgewater on 23 Nov stayed until 03 Dec (m. obs.). It or another

appeared at Wendy Park on 27 Dec (Heather Johnson).



This Red Phalarope lingered at Edgewater Marina, Cuyahoga, through early December and was photographed on 01 Dec by Tom Fishburn.

Pomarine Jaeger

Usually these visit in Nov and Dec, but Tim Janski discovered one at Avon Power on 28 Feb.

Black-legged Kittiwake

At least one shows up almost every year, but they seldom remain long. A first-year bird broke precedent by spending the entire month of Jan along the Cleveland lakefront. Another was a rare inland record at Antrim Park, *Franklin*, from 04 to 10 Jan. Both yielded almost daily reports.

Sabine's Gull

Another regular fall visitor confounded expectations: John Pogacnik discovered one at Conneaut on 10 Dec, a good three weeks after they've usually passed through here.

Bonaparte's Gull

Jen Brumfield and Philip Chaon noted about 3000 at Cleveland's East 55th Street vantage point on 03 Jan. The highest count away from Lake Erie was Jason Sullivan's 100 at Caesar Creek on 11 Dec. Reports came from 30 counties.

Little Gull

Several Cleveland lakefront sites hosted these. Jen Brumfield noted a second-cycle bird on 23 Dec and one adult on each of several Dec and early Jan dates. She and other observers also found a first-year bird throughout Dec. The species' only other location was Conneaut, where John Pogacnik saw an adult on 10 Dec.

Ring-billed Gull

These are of course numerous, even inland, such as the 10,500 which Jeff Loughman estimated at the Findlay Reservoirs on 04 Dec. The high "count" was 22,000 off Wendy Park on 21 Jan (Jen Brumfield). Sixty-eight counties provided reports.

California Gull

Birds in *Lake* and *Lorain* were reported to internet sites but not to the OBRC.

Herring Gull

The highest of many large Cleveland-area numbers was 17,000 off Wendy Park on 12 Jan (Tom Bartlett). The highest number away from Cleveland was 3500 on the Ottawa River, *Lucas*, on 13 Jan (m. obs.). Findlay reservoirs hosted the largest inland concentration, 1500 on 04 Dec (Jeff Loughman). Fifty-five counties had sightings.

Thayer's Gull

One which arrived at Cleveland's East 55th Street marina in late Nov remained until 06 Dec (Jen Brumfield). Jen also provided the highest count, four birds at Wendy Park on 19 Jan. Lake Erie sightings came from other *Cuyahoga* locations, *Lake*, *Lorain*, and *Lucas*. Singles also visited inland *Defiance*, *Hancock*, *Stark*, and *Wood*.

Iceland Gull

Robert Foppe and Jennifer Smolenski saw one at East 72nd Street, Cleveland, on 06 Dec; Jeff Loughman and Robert Sams found one at Findlay Reservoirs the same day. These were the first of the season but followed a single mid-Nov bird. The season's last spent 23 to 26 Feb on the Scioto River in Columbus, though there were many Mar sightings to come. Jen Brumfield and Elizabeth McQuaid counted seven on the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland's Scranton Flats on 15 Feb. The largest inland number was the three which Scott Myers found at Independence Dam, *Defiance*, on 23 Jan. *Allen*, *Ashtabula*, *Erie*, *Lake*, *Lorain*, *Lucas*, *Stark*, *Summit*, and *Wood* also contributed sightings.

Thayer's/Iceland Gull

Indeterminate birds were reported in *Cuyahoga*, *Franklin*, and *Hancock*.



An accidental visitor to central Ohio and cause for enthusiasm for winter birders, this "Kumlein's" Iceland Gull was photographed by Paul Hurtado on 23 Feb on the Scioto River in Franklin.

Lesser Black-backed Gull

For once a highest gull count was inland: Jeff Loughman and Robert Sams found 15 at Findlay Reservoirs on 06 Dec. Edgewater hosted 13 on 03 Jan for the second-highest count (Jen Brumfield). The accompanying map shows how widely scattered these formerly-rare gulls were.



Glaucous Gull

David Weaver reported 43 at Avon Power on 12 Feb, far and away the most I've ever heard of here. The next highest number was 19, which Jen Brumfield and Elizabeth McQuaid counted at Collision Bend on the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland on 15 Feb. The inland high was three, at the Findlay Reservoirs on 06 Dec. Jeff Loughman and Robert Sams said they were, "Massive, whitish, honking big bill. Surprisingly easy to identify, even at 300+ yards." *Defiance, Delaware, Erie, Franklin, Lake, Lucas, Mahoning, Montgomery, Stark, and Wood* also provided reports.

Great Black-backed Gull

Jen Brumfield was awed by more than 300 off Huntington Reservation, *Cuyahoga*, on 09 Jan. Other large numbers came from every county touched by Lake Erie. Inland sightings were of singles but for Jonathan Frodge's "2 first winter birds loafing on ice near shore" on the Ohio River at Meldahl Dam, *Clermont, Belmont, Delaware, Franklin, Hamilton, Hancock, Jefferson, Montgomery, Stark, Tuscarawas, and Wood* were the other inland counties.

[Laughing x Ring-billed Gull]

Ben Warner and David Weaver believe the bird they saw at Wendy Park on 09 Dec was this hybrid.

[Herring x Glaucous ("Nelson's") Gull]

Kent Miller saw one at the Waynesburg gravel pit, *Stark*, on 03 Feb.

[Herring x Great Black-backed Gull]

Kelleys Island hosted one on 06 Dec (Tom Bartlett).

Unknown Gull Hybrids

A few birds of apparently mixed but indeterminate parentage were reported from *Lorain* and *Cuyahoga*.

Gull sp.

Jen Brumfield reported 20,000 of many species at Cleveland's East 55th Street on 03 Jan.

Rock Pigeon

Jack Stenger's CBC route in *Butler* covered 40 miles; he counted 525 pigeons along it on 14 Dec. Charlie Saunders found 300 along only two miles of the Great Miami River, also in *Butler*, on 19 Dec. Reports came from 76 counties.

Eurasian Collared-Dove

Reports from *Clark, Mercer, and Wayne* were on internet sites but were not sent to the OBRC.

Mourning Dove

The high count was 155, by Jack Stenger along his 14 Dec CBC route in *Butler*. All counties except *Meigs, Monroe, and Noble* had sightings.

Barn Owl

The reports are:

On 05 and 21 Dec, one at the Hebron Fish Hatchery, *Licking* (Margaret Bowman, Jeff Bartosik)

On 20 Dec, two during the Wilmot CBC, *Holmes/Stark/Tuscarawas/Wayne* (*vide* Audubon)

On 27 Dec, two during the Ragersville CBC, *Coshocton/Holmes/Tuscarawas* (*vide* Audubon)

On 19 Jan and 04 and 09 Feb, two at the Mel Miller farm, *Holmes*, which may also be included in one of the above CBCs (Robert Hershberger, Cristy J. Miller)

On 21, 26, and 28 Jan, one in a closed area visible from Pickerington Ponds MP, *Fairfield* (m. obs.)

On 16 Feb, one in a pine tree near Sugarcreek, *Tuscarawas* (Reuben S. Erb)

Eastern Screech-Owl

Matt Kemp wandered around *Wood* on 29 Dec; his 65 miles yielded 13 owls. Greg Links *et al.* found 10 along their CBC route in *Lucas* on 30 Dec. At least 42 counties produced reports.

Great Horned Owl

Junior Barnes' "Field and Forest" birding area in

Highland held four on 26 Dec. Many reports had three birds. Forty-five counties provided sightings.

Snowy Owl

This winter's huge irruption brought these visitors to more than half of our counties. The most in one view was five, which Diane Boswell enjoyed at North Coast Harbor, Cleveland, on 05 Dec. **Cuyahoga** also produced several views of three or four at a time at both of its airports. Jim McCormac's article in this issue gives a more detailed account of this almost unprecedented event.

Barred Owl

Jen Brumfield twice found four in **Cuyahoga**, on 13 Feb in Huntington Reservation and on 23 Feb in Rocky River Reservation. Reports came from 47 counties.

Long-eared Owl

Tom Kemp found one in **Lucas** on 01 Dec; it had been preceded by a single Oct sighting. The Mosquito Lake area produced both the high count, three on 24 Dec (Don Keffer) and the last of the season, one on 23 Feb (Dan Donaldson). Sightings there resumed in March. The accompanying map below shows their distribution.



Short-eared Owl

These arrived in Nov and stayed into Mar. Dan Donaldson counted 15 from Zion Ridge Road, **Muskingum**, which traverses the Ohio Power lands near The Wilds. Observers found 10 to 12 in that area on other dates. The high count elsewhere was eight, by Charles Slusarczyk, Jr. at Cleveland Hopkins Airport on 19 Dec. The accompanying map on the right shows how widespread these visitors were.

Northern Saw-whet Owl

Armler Park provided the season's last sighting on 20 Feb (James Shelton); indeed it was the only report that month. The latest of the few Jan sightings was Tom Bartlett's on Kelleys Island on 14 Jan. Jen Brumfield and Gerry Wesley found three in CLNP on 14 Dec. **Franklin, Lake, Richland,** and **Stark** also contributed one or two sightings.

Rufous Hummingbird

Two of the 10 which arrived in fall remained past the end of Nov; these data are courtesy of Allen Chartier:

Location and County	Age	Sex	First Observed	Banded	Last Observed
North Royalton, Cuyahoga	AHY	F	~01 Oct	08 Dec	11 Dec
Westerville, Delaware	AHY	M	~12 Oct	(not banded)	14 Dec

AHY = After Hatch Year
A tilde (~) preceding the date means the exact date is unknown.

Belted Kingfisher

William Hull and Bill Zimmerman noted five along their **Clermont** CBC route on 29 Dec. Susan Nash did the same while CBC-ing near The Wilds on 21 Dec. About 70 counties provided sightings.



The rattling call of the Belted Kingfisher got the attention of photographer Allan Clayton at Fernald on 03 Dec.

Red-headed Woodpecker

Killdeer produced the highest count, 15 on 14 Jan (Ron Sempier). Michael Hershberger found 12 in his neighborhood near Mt. Hope, **Holmes**, on 12 Jan. Reports came from at least 50 counties.



Red-bellied Woodpecker

David Carr *et al.* found 34 during their 25 miles of CBC counting in eastern **Hamilton** on 29 Dec. At least four individuals and survey teams achieved counts between 20 and 30. All but seven counties yielded reports.



Red-bellied Woodpeckers add a noisy yet familiar spirit to the barren winter landscape. This photo is by Tom Fishburn on 15 Feb at Coe Lake, **Cuyahoga**.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Spring Grove Cemetery, **Hamilton**, hosted five on 26 Jan (m. obs.), and several locations held four on other dates. Forty-eight counties produced sightings.



Paul Hurtado photographed this Yellow-bellied Sapsucker on 07 Jan at Green Lawn Cemetery, **Franklin**.

Downy Woodpecker

Three parties each found 27 during surveys or CBCs. However, the ONWR monthly survey on 05 Jan bested them with 34 (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *fide* Douglas Vogus). Reports came from every county except **Meigs**, **Putnam**, **Shelby**, **Van Wert**, and **Vinton**.

Hairy Woodpecker

CVNP monthly Towpath censuses produced

the high counts of 11 on 07 Dec and 16 on 01 Jan (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). Three solo observers each found eight in other locations. Seventy-five counties had sightings.

Northern Flicker

Lisa Phelps' CBC route in **Marion** includes Big Island; she found 21 flickers during her count on 29 Dec. Tom Bartlett *et al.* found 15 on Kelleys Island on 15 Jan for the highest non-CBC number. Eighty counties provided reports.

Pileated Woodpecker

The high counts again came from CVNP monthly censuses, seven on 07 Dec and nine on 01 Jan (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). April Brown noted five at her **Preble** property on 04 Feb. Reports came from 66 counties.

American Kestrel

Killdeer produced 15 for Ron Sempier on 05 Dec. Kent Miller's CBC route in **Holmes** turned up 12 on 20 Dec. At least 80 counties provided reports.



This American Kestrel found the Lorain Impoundment to have abundant hunting grounds and was impressively captured in this photo by Tom Fishburn on 28 Dec.

Merlin

Lou Gardella reported that three arrived in Calvary Cemetery, **Cuyahoga**, in late Oct and were still there in mid-Jan. Eight locations, three of them cemeteries, hosted two. Thirty-one counties produced sightings.

Peregrine Falcon

Paula Lozano found three along her CBC route in western **Cuyahoga** on 29 Dec; they might be the same three which Jen Brumfield saw during a vigil at Edgewater the same day. Many reports, which came from 27 counties, included two birds.

Eastern Phoebe

Curiously, there were more reports during Jan than in either Dec or Feb. All sightings were of single birds (no surprise there!). They came from 20 counties of which **Ashland** and **Wayne** are the northernmost.

Loggerhead Shrike

An observer sent a report from *Hamilton* to the OBRC.

Northern Shrike

These began arriving in Oct; the last was sighted near The Wilds on 20 Feb (Anthony Fry). That area held two on 18 Jan (m. obs.) as did Killdeer on 19 Jan (Irina Shulgina). The accompanying map shows their distribution.



White-eyed Vireo

John Pogacnik provided this account of a very late sighting in *Lake*: “I was at the Lake Erie Bluffs Park west of the Lane Road entrance yesterday (12/2) and had a white-eyed vireo. The bird was in some dense brush and was accompanied by several golden-crowned kinglets and a yellow-rumped warbler.” I found fewer than 10 previous Dec records.



A classic bird of prey, this Merlin was a cooperative subject for Rick Asamoto on 20 Dec at Englewood Metropark North, *Montgomery*.

Blue Jay

Paula Lozano counted 50 in western *Cuyahoga* on 29 Dec during her CBC duties. Irina Shulgina equaled that number at Killdeer on 16 Feb. *Meigs*, *Putnam*, and *Van Wert* did not produce sightings.

American Crow

David A. Brinkman wrote from *Hamilton* on 10 Jan, “On my way home birds were streaming across Glenway Ave. and flying directly over my house for the next two minutes. I would put the range at between 7,000-10,000 birds!” *Mahoning* and *Muskingum* roosts also provided numbers in the thousands. *Henry*, *Putnam*, and *Van Wert* can’t be crow-less, but no one reported any from them.

Common Raven

The OBRC received reports from *Delaware* and *Harrison*. The Committee did not receive details of internet reports from *Jefferson*, *Knox*, *Morgan*, *Richland*, and *Trumbull*.

Horned Lark

Tom Bartlett tallied 685 in *Wyandot* during a CBC on 03 Jan. Seventy-one counties provided sightings.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow

Two hardy, and seriously lagging, individuals spent 30 Dec to 02 Jan at the Lebanon, *Warren*, wastewater treatment plant (John Habig).

Tree Swallow

This species IS hardy; they’re our first swallows to arrive and the last to leave – not counting oddballs like the two above. Examples of both are in these seven reports:

One on 15 Dec and 10 on 30 Dec at Maumee Bay (Laura Stiefel, Greg Links)

One or two on several dates between 15 Dec and 04 Jan at Riverside NA (Mike Busam, Charlie Saunders, John Hull)

Ten on 22 Feb at Rocky Fork (Rick Asamoto)

One on 22 Feb along Wilderness Road (Andy R. Troyer)

Four on 23 Feb at Spring Valley WA, *Warren* (Sue Tackett)

One on 28 Feb at a gravel pit on Roxanna-New Burlington Road, *Greene* (Christopher Collins and Greg Sagasser)

Carolina Chickadee

Brian Wulker’s *Clermont* CBC route produced 68 on 30 Dec. David Carr found 61 along his eastern *Hamilton* route on 29 Dec. Non-CBC lists ranged up to 55 birds. Reports came from 61 counties.

Black-capped Chickadee

Kelleys Island produced 74 for Tom Bartlett on 15 Jan. Thirty-six counties had sightings.

Chickadee sp.

Reports of indeterminate species came from 22 counties. Most are along the fairly broad band of overlap where even vocal birds can be hard to name.

Tufted Titmouse

Joshua Eastlake found 35 in Cincinnati Nature Center's Rowe Woods, **Clermont**, on 31 Jan. Eighty counties provided reports.

Red-breasted Nuthatch

Charles Bombaci and Thomas Fetta each saw five. Charles's were at Hoover NP on 14 Dec and Thomas's in his **Hamilton** yard. Forty-four counties produced sightings.

White-breasted Nuthatch

A trio of CBC counters found 26 in Waynesville, **Warren**, on 19 Dec. Kent Miller came close to that with 21 in **Holmes** on 20 Dec, also during a CBC. Reports came from 78 counties.

Brown Creeper

C.J. Brown Lake's shore and vicinity, **Clark**, hosted 21 during a CBC on 20 Dec (Brian Menker). Tim Haney counted 20 in Ottawa Park, **Lucas** on 30 Dec. The only other double-digit number was Tom Bartlett's 13 on Kelleys Island on 06 Dec. Sixty-seven counties provided sightings.

House Wren

One showed up during the 20 Dec Wilmot CBC, **Holmes/Stark/Tuscarawas/Wayne** (*vide* Audubon). Joe Jennings reported another during a search of two watersheds at the border of **Hocking** and **Perry** on 04 Jan.

Winter Wren

Mark Shieldcastle found four in the woods of the Green Creek Hunt Club, **Sandusky**, on 04 Jan. Forty-two counties produced reports.

Marsh Wren

Seven or eight were reported:

One heard at Armleder Park on 02 Dec (Eric Burkholder and Kirk Westendorf)

One at Darby Creek on 04 Dec (James Muller) and the same one or another on 19 Jan (Irina Shulgina)

One in the Miami Whitewater Forest wetlands, **Hamilton**, on 16 Dec (Linda Osterhage)

One along the Wake Robin Trail, **Lake**, on 21 Dec (Tom Frankel)

Two during the Wooster, **Wayne**, CBC on 21 Dec (*vide* Audubon)

One in Spring Valley WA, **Greene**, on 14 Jan (Amanda Lawson)

Carolina Wren

David Carr *et al.* found 72 along their Newtown Bottoms, **Hamilton**, CBC route on 29 Dec, and David wrote, "This total surpasses our previous high (53 in 2006) for this territory. Carolina Wrens seemed to be everywhere today." William Hull and Bill Zimmerman noted 31 during their CBC efforts in **Clermont**, also on 29 Dec. Reports came from 76 counties.

Golden-crowned Kinglet

Riverside NA was hopping on 14 Dec; Brian Wulker found 32 of these sprites there. At least 70 counties produced sightings.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Though these were present all season, by Feb reports were sparse, and almost all reports were of single birds. Three individual birders each found two: Roger Casto in Columbus on 10 Dec, Brian Wulker at Riverside NA on 14 Dec, and Bill and René McGill at East Fork on 30 Dec. In addition, seven CBCs tallied more than one. Fourteen counties provided sightings.

Eastern Bluebird

The Great Miami Wetland Mitigation Bank, **Montgomery**, hosted 60 on 12 Jan (m. obs.). The next highest count was 41, in Hoover Meadows, **Delaware**, on 01 Jan (Charles Bombaci). Seventy-six counties generated reports.

Swainson's Thrush

Dean Porter saw one in Sycamore SP, **Montgomery**, on 01 Dec, about a month after it should have departed.

Hermit Thrush

Tom Bartlett *et al.* found eight on Kelleys Island on 15 Jan. Reports came from 29 counties.



True to its name, the winter population of Hermit Thrush can be quiet and secretive, but Irina Shulgina found a very cooperative subject for this photo on 06 Feb at Kiwanis Riverside Park, Franklin.

American Robin

Jack Stenger counted 770 along his **Butler** CBC

route on 14 Dec. There were many reports with numbers in the 100 to 400 range. All but nine counties had sightings.

Gray Catbird

The *Greene* section of Spring Valley WA hosted one between 30 Jan and 04 Feb (m. obs.); it provided the only Feb sightings. The high count of three came from the North Chagrin Reservation, *Lake*, on 04 Dec (Zack Hribar and Doug Marcum). At least 17 counties produced reports.

Brown Thrasher

All of the individual reports were of single birds, though three CBCs reported two. Nineteen counties provided sightings.

Northern Mockingbird

William Hull and Bill Zimmerman tallied 11 in *Clermont* during the 29 Dec CBC. The highest count not during a CBC was Philip Chaon's five at Cuyahoga County Airport on 14 Jan. Reports came from 63 counties.

European Starling

Paul Hurtado discovered a huge flock near the Columbus police impound lot on 08 Dec. He wrote, "VERY hard to accurately estimate numbers, but 25-100K. The flock included a very small percentage of Common Grackles and as many or fewer Red-winged Blackbirds...they were roosting [in phragmites], like a thick black blanket covering approximately 1.3-1.5 acres..." He also noted 3000 to 7000 at the SWACO landfill, *Franklin*, on several dates. All but six counties produced reports.

American Pipit

Eric Burkholder found about 20 at Armleder Park on 07 Dec. Twenty-five counties provided reports.

Cedar Waxwing

Two careful counts each tallied 156. Douglas Vogus *et al.* found them along the Towpath Trail in CVNP on 01 Jan; Tom Kemp's were along his *Lucas* CBC route on 04 Jan. Kent Miller found 110 in Quail Hollow SP, *Stark*, on 08 Jan. Forty-nine counties had sightings.

Lapland Longspur

Most of us are used to seen a few of these in flocks of Horned Larks, but large concentrations do show up. Charles Bombaci found about 1000 on 08 Jan at a property on Maloney Road, *Delaware*, whose owner puts out feed. Tom Bartlett noted 570 in *Wyandot* during a 03 Jan CBC. Robert Hershberger found two flocks, each of at least 400 birds, in *Wayne* on 05 Jan. Fifty-three counties produced reports.

Snow Bunting

The same *Delaware* property which hosted the large longspur flock held about 1000 buntings on 14 Feb (Jim Kreimer). Tom Bartlett's 03 Jan CBC efforts in *Wyandot* yielded 598. Usually we find them on the ground, or perhaps perching on a low fence, but David Weaver saw about 60 arrayed along power lines in *Wayne* on 09 Feb. Fifty counties provided sightings.



Photographer Dane Adams was accommodated with a quick pose from this lovely Snow Bunting on 04 Jan in *Seneca*.

Ovenbird

A straggler showed up at the OSU Browns Amphitheater on 04 Dec (Irina Shulgina).

Orange-crowned Warbler

Tom Bartlett *et al.* found one at the Barney Quilter CCC Camp, *Sandusky*, on 28 Dec and 01 Jan. Another spent 19 Jan to 11 Feb consorting with kinglets in a pine grove near Charm, *Holmes* (James E. Yoder).

Palm Warbler

Michael Hershberger saw one northwest of Bunker Hill, *Holmes*, on 08 Dec. Levi and Melvin Troyer found one in their barn near Apple Creek, *Wayne*, on 11 Dec. David Troyers reported to *The Bobolink* RBA that two had visited his feeder in *Holmes* near Baltic between 12 and 24 Dec.



A common but always gratifying winter visitor of rural Ohio, this Lapland Longspur was snapped by photographer Ron Semper on 21 Feb by Washburn Road in *Marion*.

Pine Warbler

Eric Schlabach and a few other observers saw one at his home in North Canton, **Stark**, on many dates between late Nov and 29 Jan. Leslie Warren's home in **Mahoning** hosted one for intermittent sightings between 02 Dec and 16 Feb. The Ashland County CBC on 20 Dec tallied three.

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Reuben S. Erb found about 90 along the **Holmes** Rails-to-Trails on 12 Jan. Kent Miller saw several flocks totaling about 50 birds around Mogadore Reservoir, **Portage**, on 17 Jan. Reports of this hardy fruit-eating warbler came from 61 counties.

Spotted Towhee

The OBRC has one observer's report from **Holmes**.



Su Snyder provided nice photo documentation of this Spotted Towhee, an accidental visitor to Ohio, taken at a residence in Shreve, Holmes, on 16 Dec.

Eastern Towhee

William Hull and Bill Zimmerman's CBC efforts in **Clermont** on 29 Dec yielded 25. Other double-digit counts came from **Athens**, **Fairfield**, **Hamilton**, and **Vinton** among the 58 counties with sightings.

American Tree Sparrow

On 07 Jan Brian Wulker noted "massive bouncing flocks all over the [Armleder Park] middle fields. Dozens would flush each step in some places along the trails..." He estimated they totaled about 325 birds. There were four other reports (two each from **Franklin** and **Ottawa**) of 300 or more. Seventy-nine counties produced sightings.

Chipping Sparrow

These were thinly scattered in space and time. The high count was three, achieved by Brenda Bricker in Green Lawn Cemetery on 03 Dec and Julie Beeghley and Reid Greiner at Hoover Dam on 17 Dec (both **Franklin**). Twenty-one other counties also provided reports.

Field Sparrow

These apparently piled up near the Ohio River.

Bill Stanley had 25 at his **Clermont** home on 19 Dec and Amy Ingham's feeders in **Lawrence** hosted 30 on 15 Jan. At least 50 counties had sightings.

Vesper Sparrow

One straggler visited Dan Stiley's **Hamilton** feeder on 08, 10, and 11 Dec. On 18 Dec in the Ashland University wetlands, **Richland**, Gary Cowell found another which he rightly said was "VERY LATE". Usually they're gone by late Nov.

Lark Sparrow

Leroy Schlabach reported that on 14 Dec he last saw the one which had showed up at his home in **Tuscarawas** in Oct.

Savannah Sparrow

These were patchily distributed in 17 counties statewide. The three highest counts all came from Armleder Park, 10 on 08 Dec (Jonathan Frodge), 12 on 19 Jan (Mark Gilsdorf), and 17 on 29 Dec (David Carr).

Henslow's Sparrow

They've bred in the Deer Creek WA, **Fayette**, for several years, and Robert Roysel found a straggler there on 01 Jan.

Le Conte's Sparrow

Kent Miller found a late bird in CLNP on 03 Dec. It was obviously happy there because it was seen regularly until 17 Feb.

Nelson's Sparrow

Carl Winstead saw one at Darby Creek on 02 Dec, about a month after their usual passage. Another briefly appeared at CLNP on 03 Dec (Paul Sherwood, Ben Morrison).

Fox Sparrow

Bill Stanley's **Adams** CBC route produced 14 on 14 Dec; all but one were in a single location. Linda Gerding's **Butler** feeder hosted nine on 14 Feb, and she said they "at first stayed under the blue spruce trees, scratching at the ground. But they became bolder and now chase the other sparrows out from under the feeder tray." Reports came from 35 counties.



With its ruddy coloring contrasted against the snow, Su Snyder had an excellent backdrop for this image of a Fox Sparrow on 15 Feb in Stark.

Song Sparrow

David Carr *et al.* counted 258 in Newtown Bottoms, **Hamilton**, during the 29 Dec CBC. Jack Stenger found about 100 at gravel pits near Lost Bridge on 01 Jan. Eighty counties provided sightings.

Lincoln's Sparrow

One dropped in on Cassidy Ficker in **Clermont** on 19 Dec; it was lagging about six weeks behind their usual schedule.

Swamp Sparrow

David Carr's CBC team found 33 in Newtown Bottoms, **Hamilton**, on 29 Dec. Darby Creek hosted 25 on both 04 Dec (Irina Shulgina) and 15 Dec (Amy and Kevin O'Neil). Fifty-one counties produced reports.

White-throated Sparrow

Not surprisingly, CBC routes produced the highest counts. William Hull and Bill Zimmerman found 110 in **Clermont** on 29 Dec and Greg Links 75 at Maumee Bay the next day. Seventy-one counties had sightings.

Harris's Sparrow

The OBRC has a formal report from **Fairfield**. Reports from **Ottawa**, **Wayne**, and **Wood** appeared on internet sites but were not provided to the OBRC.



On 02 Jan Tom Guisinger photographed what he declared the most interesting bird to visit his Lancaster, **Fairfield**, feeders in 50 years: this Harris's Sparrow that he had observed since mid-December.

White-crowned Sparrow

Armleder Park hosted 75 on a couple of dates. The Newtown Bottoms CBC route, which includes Armleder, produced 115 on 29 Dec (David Carr *et al.*). Fifty-eight counties provided sightings.

Golden-crowned Sparrow

The long-lived individual who first appeared in **Hancock** early in 2009 returned for his fifth winter; the OBRC has gleaned some posts from internet sources but none were directly submitted this winter.

Dark-eyed Junco

Tom Bartlett's CBC route in **Wyandot** produced 203 on 03 Jan. Tim Haney counted 150 in Woodlawn Cemetery, **Lucas**, on 30 Dec. This

was the only species reported in every county. "Oregon"-type birds were reported in **Franklin**, **Montgomery**, and **Seneca**, and Cassiar-types in **Builer**, **Clermont**, **Franklin**, **Geauga**, **Hancock**, **Knox**, and **Richland**. A "pink-sided" form was reported in **Knox**.

Summer Tanager

One visited Leslie Warren's feeder in **Mahoning** intermittently between 02 Dec and 23 Jan.



Jeff Harvey photographed this Summer Tanager, a rare winter visitor, at Leslie Warren's home in **Mahoning** on 08 Dec.

Northern Cardinal

Douglas Vogus *et al.* counted 95 along the Towpath Trail in CVNP on 01 Jan. Only **Henry**, **Putnam**, and **Shelby** did not provide a cardinal report.

Indigo Bunting

One was reported as coming to a feeder in **Holmes** between 11 Dec and 07 Jan (*vide* The Bobolink RBA).

Bobolink

Kent Miller found one in CLNP on 03 Dec. He wrote, "Last late bird of incredible 15 minute, 3 bird sequence in grassy field in center of impoundment. Bird stayed in field for the next hour making short flights within the field usually giving familiar, distinct chip notes as it took flight." (The other two stragglers were the Le Conte's and Nelson's sparrows; he saw only the former.)

Red-winged Blackbird

Kent Miller found about 8000 along Deerfield Avenue, **Stark**, on 20 Feb. He and others had seen about 5000 there earlier in Feb. Sixty-one counties produced sightings.

Eastern Meadowlark

Norman Hershberger counted 60 along a short stretch of County Road 61 in **Holmes** on 12 Feb. Jason Sullivan saw 55 at the Great Miami Wetland Mitigation Bank, **Montgomery**, on 10 Jan and 20 to 40 on other dates. The high count elsewhere was 25, at Darby Creek on 30 Jan (Irina and Kate Shulgina). Michael Hershberger reported that several of them were singing near his home in **Holmes** on 28 Jan, when the temperature was minus 15. One visited the Dunakins' feeder in **Paulding** on 06 Feb. Reports came from 40 counties.

Yellow-headed Blackbird

The reports are:

In the Deerfield Avenue area of **Stark**, one on 11 Dec (Laura Dornan) and intermittently between 03 Feb and 21 Feb (m. obs).

Two miles east of Apple Creek, **Wayne**, one on 22 Dec (Levi and Melvin Troyer)

Near Dalton, **Wayne**, one on 03 Feb (Kent Miller) and two on 15 Feb (James F. Yoder)

Two miles south of Charm, **Holmes**, two on 19 Feb (Eli M. Miller)

Rusty Blackbird

Donald Pfeister reported 62 in Norton, **Summit**, on 14 Feb. A couple of other counts approached that one, but most were of 15 or fewer birds. Thirty-eight counties provided sightings.



*Su Snyder focused her lens on this Rusty Blackbird as it foraged for seeds in the **Stark** snow on 15 Feb.*

Brewer's Blackbird

Five of these scarce visitors showed up:

One at Armleder Park on 08 Dec (Jonathan Frodge)

One by State Route 590, **Ottawa**, on 05 Jan (Tom Bartlett)

Two in Clarksburg, **Ross**, on 06 Jan (Mark Maier)

One south of Dalton, **Wayne**, on 24 Feb (Doreene Linzell and Dan Sanders)

Common Grackle

Jacob Roalef estimated 50,000 were northbound in the Deerfield Avenue area of **Stark** at dusk on 03 Feb. This number dwarfs the second-highest, 3000 from Kent Miller at another **Stark** location on 10 Jan and also from Gary Cowell near Mansfield, **Richland**, on 27 Feb. Reports came from 61 counties.

Brown-headed Cowbird

The high count was 2000, by John Cefus in North Lawrence, **Stark**, on 04 Feb. As usual, they were part of a larger flock of Red-winged Blackbirds and grackles. In the opposite corner of the state, Stricker's Grove, **Hamilton**, hosted about 1800 on 22 Dec (Brian Wulker). Fifty-six counties provided reports.

Blackbird sp.

On 25 Feb David Weaver was east of Barberton, **Summit**, and reported "A wide band of birds kept coming in a solid line which never seems to end. They flew over at an estimated rate of 150-200+ a second!" He put the total at more than one million birds.

Baltimore Oriole

I couldn't get details to flesh out a second-hand report of one visiting a Marietta, **Washington**, feeder in Feb. This is the third year in a row with a winter oriole report.

House Finch

Tom Hissong noted 76 at Aullwood Audubon Farm and Center, **Montgomery**, on 02 Jan. Seventy counties produced sightings.

Purple Finch

Tom Bartlett *et al.* found a total of seven in two locations on Kelleys Island on 15 Jan. Forty-two counties provided sightings.

Red Crossbill

Steven L. Hochstetler saw and heard a single fly-over north of Loudonville, **Ashland**, on 08 Jan.

White-winged Crossbill

Two flew over Christy J. Miller near Millersburg, **Holmes**, on 22 Dec. John Herman discovered three in Mansfield Cemetery, **Richland**, on 10 Jan.

Common Redpoll

Two were in the Darby Bend unit of Prairie Oaks MP, **Franklin**, on 08 Dec (Bama Clark) and one in Columbus on 10 Dec (Roger Casto). Two CBCs reported a total of three. Seven birds at Oakwoods NP, **Hancock**, on 20 Jan (Jeff Loughman) seems a high number for a non-invasion year, but has precedents.

Pine Siskin

The largest reliable count was by Jacki Byers; she had up to seven feeder visitors between 14 and 17 Feb in **Ross**. At least 22 counties produced reports.

American Goldfinch

David Carr *et al.* tallied 123 during their **Hamilton** CBC efforts. The largest count not during a CBC was Wes Hatch's 65 in Punderson SP, **Geauga**, on 01 Dec. Reports came from 79 counties.

Evening Grosbeak

Jeffrey Pontius reported one in Grove City, **Franklin**, on 04 Dec, and wrote, "Heard calling and seen well through binoculars. Bird was flying over pond and heading North."

House Sparrow

The farms along Deerfield Avenue, **Stark**, site of so many large blackbird flocks, also hosted 400 House Sparrows on 03 Feb (Jacob Roalef). About 80 counties had sightings.



*This enigmatic bird at an I-70 rest area in **Licking** needed further inspection to determine it was a leucistic House Sparrow, photographed on 03 Feb by Irina Shulgina.*

CONTRIBUTORS

The Species Accounts could not be written without the data provided by these contributors either directly to the Editor or by posting to an on-line venue. I thank you.

Dane Adams	Christopher Collins	Tom Guisinger	Robert Jackson
Scott Albaugh	Derek Courtney	Max Gustafson	Tim Jasinski
Rick Asamoto	Gary Cowell	John Habig	Joe Jennings
Carole Babyak	Leo Deininger	Scott Hackett	Heather Johnson
Junior Barnes	Dan Donaldson	Carrie Hampton	Sheila Joyce
Tom Bartlett	Laura Dornan	Tim Haney	Karen Kassouf
Jeff Bartosik	Tim Dornan	Scott Hannan	Rich Kassouf
Julie Beeghley	Doug Dunakin	Rob Harlan	Don Keffer
Brian Bendlock	Micki Dunakin	Sandy Harlan	Ned Keller
Gregory Bennett	Derek Dunaway	Jeff Harvey	Matt Kemp
Charles Bombaci	Joshua Eastlake	Wes Hatch	Tom Kemp
Steve Borgis	Eric Elvert	Michael Hatfield	Rachel Kohnke
Diane Boswell	David L. Erb	Julie Heitz	Kelly Kozlowski
Margaret Bowman	Reuben S. Erb	John Herman	Dan Kramer
Brenda Bricker	Bob Evans	Andrew J.	Bob Krajewski
David A. Brinkman	Victor Fazio III	Hershberger	Jim Kreimer
Kyle Brooks	Jan Ferrell	Michael Hershberger	Keith Laakkonen
April Brown	Thomas Fetta	Norman Hershberger	Steve Landes
Jen Brumfield	Cassidy Ficker	Perry D. Hershberger	Bob Lane
Brandon Brywczyński	Bob Finkelstein	Robert J. Hershberger	Denise Lane
Eric Burkholder	Tom Fishburn	Dennis Hills	Jason Larson
Mike Busam	Robert Foppe	Tom Hissong	Fred Lau
Jacki Byers	Tom Frankel	Steven L. Hochstetler	Amanda Lawson
David Carr	Preston Franklin	Dick Hoffman	Ryan Lesniewicz
Roger Casto	Jonathan Frodge	Jean Hoffman	Greg Links
John Cefus	Anthony Fry	Craig Holt	Doreene Lintzell
Alex Champagne	Lou Gardella	Leslie Houser	Scott Long
Philip Chaon	Dale Gaul	Zack Hribar	Jeff Loughman
Allen Chartier	Linda Gerding	John Hull	Paula Lozano
Dave Chase	Linda Gilbert	William Hull	Mikey Lumerding
Melissa	Mark Gilsdorf	Paul Hurtado	David Lumpkin
Chidester-Bluck	Stefan Mozu	Corey Husic	Mark Maier
Bama Clark	Gleissbird	Kathi Hutton	Doug Marcum
Allan Claybon	Reid Greiner	Amy Ingham	Chuck McClaugherty

CONTRIBUTORS

Jim McCormac	Robert Reed	Dan Stiley	Emery A. Yoder
Bill McGill	Rebecca J. Reinke	Jeff Stone	James E. Yoder
René McGill	Jacob Roalef	Jason Sullivan	James F. Yoder
Elizabeth McQuaid	Douglas Robinson	Sue Tackett	Leroy E. Yoder
Brian Menker	Sam Rockingwell	Rennie Talbert	Milan H. Yoder
Cristy J. Miller	Robert Royse	Deborah Thomas	Chris Zacharias
Eli M. Miller	Greg Sagasser	Rob Thorn	Bill Zimmerman
Jeffrey A. Miller	Robert Sams	Elliot Tramer	
Kent Miller	Dan Sanders	Allen Troyer	
Michael R. Miller	Charlie Saunders	Andy M. Troyer	
Jen Moore	Eric Schlabach	Andy R. Troyer	
Ben Morrison	Leroy Schlabach	David Troyer	
James Muller	John Schoenlein	Levi Troyer	
Shane Myers	Brad Schooley	Martha E. Troyer	
Susan Nash	Debby Schuster	Melvin Troyer	
Thomas Olson	Ron Sempier	Michael Troyer	
Amy O'Neil	Judy Semrock	Casey Tucker	
Kevin O'Neil	Andy Sewell	Matthew Valencic	
Linda Osterhage	James Shelton	Douglas Vogus	
Helen Ostermiller	Paul Sherwood	Christina Voise	
Ken Ostermiller	Mark Shieldcastle	Bev Walborn	
Doug Overacker	Irina Shulgina	Peggy Wang	
Jason Parrish	Kate Shulgina	Ben Warner	
Daniel Parsons	Michele Skolmuch	Leslie Warren	
Kevin Parsons	Charles Slusarczyk, Jr.	Mary Warren	
Richard Pendlebury	Jennifer Smolenski	David Weaver	
Scott Pendleton	Dave Snyder	Josh Wengerd	
Brad Perkins	Su Snyder	Gerryl Wesley	
Donald Pfeister	Leslie Sours	Kirk Westendorf	
Lisa Phelps	Jeff Spalding	Sean Williams	
Ed Pierce	Barb Sponseller	Carl Winstead	
John Pogacnik	Terry Sponseller	Julie Wittmer	
Jeffrey Pontius	Bill Stanley	Brian Wulker	
Dean Porter	Gene Stauffer	Aden Yoder	
Bob Powell	Jack Stenger	Atlee A. Yoder	
Fred Rau	Laura Stiefel	David H. Yoder	

DATA FROM THE BOBOLINK AREA, FALL 2013

By Craig Caldwell

The Fall 2013 *Bobolink* was not available when the fall *Cardinal* went to press. Here are additions and changes to that issue's Species Accounts which *The Bobolink* has now provided. The named individuals should also be added to the Contributors list. A table of updated county counts follows the text items.

Cackling Goose: Add *Coshocton* to the list of counties with sightings.

Red-throated Loon: Add *Tuscarawas* to the list of counties with sightings.

Common Loon: The two highest counts were on 23 Nov by skywatchers Perry D. Hershberger and Reuben S. Erb. They saw, respectively, 268 near Farmerstown and 255 near Walnut Creek. Both locations are in *Holmes*.

Brown Pelican: To the original report, add this directly from *The Bobolink*, *vide* Gary Cowell, "An unknown fisherman snapped a distant photo of one at [Charles Mill Lake, *Ashland/Richland*] on 9/11 at a time when the famous Cleveland bird was missing."

Least Bittern: Add a seventh report, of one on 10 Aug along Ohio 95 at Funk (James E. Yoder and David H. Yoder).

Great Blue Heron: The high count was by James F. Yoder, of at least 125 at Funk on 24 Aug.

Great Egret: The highest inland count was of at least 50 at Funk on 05 Oct (James F. Yoder).

Green Heron: The last was a "tardy individual" in Killbuck on 18 and 19 Nov (David H. Yoder).

Black-crowned Night-Heron: James F. Yoder also saw seven, at Funk on 24 Aug, tying the high count away from *Erie*.

White Ibis: One was reported to *The Bobolink* Rare Bird Alert; the OBRC is seeking details.

Golden Eagle: Add *Holmes* to the list of counties with sightings.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: Ed Schlabach tied the high count of three, near Sugarcreek, *Tuscarawas*, on 27 Oct.

Red-shouldered Hawk: The high count was five, which Reuben S. Erb saw passing Walnut Creek, *Holmes*, on 03 Nov.

Red-tailed Hawk: Reuben S. Erb also contributed this species' high count, 27 migrants near Walnut Creek, *Holmes*, on 03 Nov.

Sora: The latest sighting was by Aaron E. Miller, one at Funk on 02 Nov, which is somewhat later than their usual departure.

Greater Yellowlegs: Su Snyder's 42 at Funk on 01 Sep was the high count.

Upland Sandpiper: Jamin Shrock saw two in a grassy ex-strip mine near Bunker Hill, *Holmes*, on 17 to 19 Aug for the only multiple find.

Stilt Sandpiper: The most not at East Harbor were Aaron E. Miller's 28 at Funk on 07 Aug.

Baird's Sandpiper: The second to last sighting was along Wilderness Road on 27 Sep (Su Snyder).

White-rumped Sandpiper: Ed Schlabach contributed the high count of six, at Funk on 17 Sep.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: The high count was four, at Funk on 18 Sep (Dave Brumfield).

Pectoral Sandpiper: The second-highest count was 210, by James F. Yoder at Funk on 22 Aug.

Short-billed Dowitcher: Aaron E. Miller and David Weaver made the inland high count of 22 at Funk on 22 Aug.

Wilson's Snipe: Ed Schlabach found 30 near Sugarcreek, *Tuscarawas*, on 19 Oct; that is the highest count away from the northwestern marshes.

Snowy Owl: Leroy A. Schlabach and James F. Yoder saw one near Walnut Creek, *Holmes*, on 27 Nov.

Short-eared Owl: Add *Coshocton* and *Holmes* to the list of counties with sightings.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Add the following observation from *The Bobolink*. "Interesting was the story Hallie Mason shared of a nest at her neighbors, Dan & Lucretia Sherer's place [in *Tuscarawas*]. When one of the youngsters fell out of the nest into a pond, they rescued it, warmed and dried it, and put it back into the nest. It fledged with its sibling on 9/22 or 23, and according to Peterjohn, would be the latest a hummingbird ever fledged in the state."

Seelasphorus sp. Hummingbird: One visited a feeder near Rittman, **Wayne** from 26 Jul to 10 Aug; it was identified to genus from photographs but not banded (*vide* Victor Fazio III).

Peregrine Falcon: The high count of three was again tied, by Reuben S. Erb near Walnut Creek, **Holmes**, on 12 Oct.

Acadian Flycatcher: The second to last sighting was by Andy R. Troyer near Apple Creek, **Wayne**, on 05 Oct.

Least Flycatcher: Jonathan Erb saw the last of the season near Walnut Creek, **Holmes**, on 09 Oct.

Eastern Kingbird: The high count was of about 100 birds roosting along Wilderness Road on both 19 and 20 Aug (Aaron E. Miller).

Blue-headed Vireo: Ed Schlabach provided the high count of eight, near Ragersville, **Tuscarawas**, on 28 Sep.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: From *The Bobolink*, "Extremely late was one that landed briefly on a small tree beside [Jonathan Erb's] home [near Walnut Creek, **Holmes**] on 11/17. It hopefully did not make a lot of rest stops on its southward journey."

Tree Swallow: Ben Morrison's bird at Berlin Reservoir on 21 Nov tied for "last of season".

Swainson's Thrush: James E. Yoder counted 150 passing over in 20 minutes of the predawn on 04 Sep near New Bedford, **Coshocton**, for the high count. Ed Schlabach came close with 120 near Sugarcreek, **Tuscarawas**, on 14 Sep, also before sunrise.

Golden-winged Warbler: Add **Ashland** to the list of counties with sightings.

Connecticut Warbler: Add **Holmes** and **Stark** to the list of counties with sightings.

Kentucky Warbler: Add to the list of sightings one near Sugarcreek, **Tuscarawas**, on 18 Aug (Ed Schlabach).

Hooded Warbler: The last was near Apple Creek, **Wayne**, on 09 Oct (*vide* *The Bobolink*).

Palm Warbler: DKL noted the last, near Fredericksburg, **Wayne**, on 21 Nov.

Prairie Warbler: Add to the list of sightings one south of Mt. Hope, **Holmes**, on 10 Oct (Michael Hershberger).

Black-throated Green Warbler: Ed Schlabach's 17 near Ragersville, **Tuscarawas**, on 28 Sep was the high count.

Yellow-breasted Chat: Add **Wayne** to the list of counties with sightings.

Clay-colored Sparrow: Add **Wayne** to the list of counties with one sighting location.

Lark Sparrow: The long-staying **Tuscarawas** bird reported by Kent Miller was at Leroy A. Schlabach's feeder.

Nelson's Sparrow: Funk hosted 10 on 12 Oct (m. obs.).

Fox Sparrow: Mose Barkman saw the high number of seven near New Bedford, **Coshocton**, on 16 Nov.

Blue Grosbeak: Add **Holmes** and **Wayne** to the list of counties with sightings.

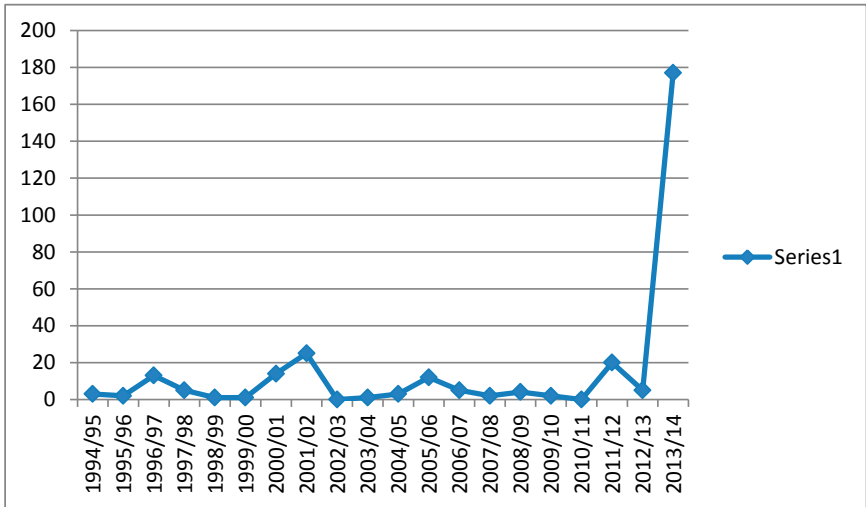
Eastern Meadowlark: The second-highest count was 28, by Emery A. Yoder near Bunker Hill, **Holmes**, on 07 Sep.

Orchard Oriole: The last was seen near Sugarcreek, **Tuscarawas**, on 06 Sep (Robert Schlabach).

Revised Counts of Counties with Sightings

Species	Count	Species	Count
Tundra Swan	29	Blue-headed Vireo	32
Wood Duck	62	Warbling Vireo	44
Lesser Scaup	33	Purple Martin	45
Surf Scoter	17	Bank Swallow	33
Hooded Merganser	46	Barn Swallow	62
Ring-necked Pheasant	18	Cliff Swallow	23
Common Loon	37	Black-capped Chickadee	33
Black Vulture	25	Brown Creeper	49
Osprey	51	House Wren	63
Northern Harrier	40	Winter Wren	41
Sharp-shinned Hawk	42	Cliff Gnatcatcher	43
Cooper's Hawk	62	Golden-crowned Kinglet	56
Red-shouldered Hawk	49	Veery	19
Sora	23	Gray-checked Thrush	27
Sandhill Crane	33	Swainson's Thrush	41
Semipalmated Plover	38	Hermit Thrush	34
Spotted Sandpiper	54	Wood Thrush	32
Greater Yellowlegs	42	Brown Thrasher	47
Dunlin	31	Lapland Longspur	21
Wilson's Snipe	35	Snow Bunting	22
American Woodcock	17	Ovenbird	35
Bonaparte's Gull	48	Northern Waterthrush	16
Ring-billed Gull	62	Blue-winged Warbler	20
Herring Gull	49	Black-and-white Warbler	42
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	38	Orange-crowned Warbler	22
Black-billed Cuckoo	23	Nashville Warbler	44
Eastern Screech-Owl	28	Mourning Warbler	16
Barred Owl	34	Common Yellowthroat	57
Common Nighthawk	43	Hooded Warbler	26
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	56	American Redstart	49
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	44	Cape May Warbler	45
Merlin	33	Fox Sparrow	31
Olive-sided Flycatcher	20	Lincoln's Sparrow	34
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	22	Swamp Sparrow	47
Willow Flycatcher	33	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	42
Least Flycatcher	30	Bobolink	27
Great Crested Flycatcher	31	Rusty Blackbird	38
Eastern Kingbird	54	Orchard Oriole	22
Yellow-throated Vireo	32	Purple Finch	24

THE SNOWY OWL WINTER IRRUPTION Winter 2013–2014



By Jim McCormac

Birders, ornithologists, and the general public were shocked and amazed by the massive Snowy Owl (*Bubo scandiaca*) irruption of winter 2013–14. The flight was of historical proportions, eclipsing all other invasions, at least in eastern North America. Online birding groups and email listservs were awash in sightings, and many lingering owls became local celebrities. Numerous articles about Snowy Owls appeared in all media formats, and an operation to scientifically study the birds, Project Snowstorm, sprang from this unprecedented opportunity.

A major inkling that something was afoot came via the Canadian province of Newfoundland on 22 November 2013. Birder Bruce MacTavish posted an article on his blog (www.bruce-mactavish1.blogspot.com) entitled “Weekend Forecast – A Heavy Snowy Owl Fall Warning”. MacTavish reported that 18 Snowy Owls had been seen along Cape Race Road in southern Newfoundland on that date. On the weekend of 07 December, MacTavish and other birders documented about 300 owls in southern Newfoundland — the flight was in full force.

By early December, Snowy Owls were being reported in ever-increasing numbers in the northeastern U.S. and Great Lakes states. It was clear by this point that a major irruption was shaping up. The majority of birds were located

in the northeastern, Mid-Atlantic, and Mid-western states, but scattered individuals turned up in the coastal Carolinas, Georgia, and even northern Florida. Two wanderers even made it to Bermuda! Contributors to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology’s eBird program (<http://ebird.org>) recorded hundreds of owls, providing outstanding documentation of the largest irruption of Snowy Owls ever recorded in the east.

Ohio was in the thick of the owls’ irruptive corridor, and our first bird was discovered in **Trumbull** on 22 November — the same day that MacTavish broke news of the Newfoundland owl incursion. The Trumbull owl was the vanguard of what would morph into Ohio’s largest and most thoroughly documented invasion of Snowy Owls on record. Predictably, the shoreline of Lake Erie drew and held most of the early-arriving owls. On 26 November, one appeared at Cleveland and was soon joined by numerous others. Come December, the irruption was fully fledged and owls were turning up all along Lake Erie and far into interior Ohio. Slightly over half of all reports during the course of the irruption, which spanned from late November 2013 to 03 May 2014, occurred during December.

New reports dropped significantly during January 2014, and many of these probably pertained to owls that were attempting to overwinter but had just been discovered. By February, sightings had dropped off markedly — only about 14

of 1858-59 a great many were shot in the neighborhood of Cleveland, and this is the case almost every year." Post-1950 irruptions diminished greatly in frequency and the numbers of birds involved. The graph at the head of this article shows Snowy Owl patterns for the past 20 years.

Two major overarching questions about the 2013-14 irruption are: 1) Why did the flight occur, and 2) Where did the birds come from? Evidence gathered by researchers working in the northern tundra of the province of Quebec, Canada documented an enormous explosion of lemmings in that region. They also noted large numbers of Snowy Owls, and a high rate of nesting success. One famous photo that made the Internet rounds showed an owl nest occupied by four unhatched eggs and ringed by 70 dead lemmings and eight voles. Such was the abundance of rodents that the owls could stockpile food in advance of eggs hatching, and survivorship of nestlings was apparently very high. It is well established that Snowy Owls are very nomadic and will quickly colonize areas of abundant food availability (Parmelee 1992). As many as 11 eggs will be laid under optimal conditions (Kaufman 1996) and the percentage of nestlings that successfully fledge also typically increases when food is plentiful. It seems almost certain that a lemming explosion in the Canadian Arctic of northern Quebec produced the bumper crop of Snowy Owls that irrupted into the eastern U.S. and adjacent Canada.

Snowy Owl reports came from many sources, including the Ohio Birds Listserv, the Facebook Birding Ohio group, reports submitted to various media outlets such as the Columbus Dispatch and Ohio Outdoor News, eBird, the Ohio Division of Wildlife, and direct reports made to the author and *The Ohio Cardinal*. The ready availability of online resources now makes it quite easy for people outside the birding community to make reports, and a significant percentage of these included photographs, often taken with a camera phone but nonetheless perfectly identifiable. To the degree possible, I attempted to vet sight records by talking to or emailing the observer, if the reports did not include photos or

were otherwise unverified. Fortunately, Snowy Owls are easily identified and are typically well seen. Nonetheless, at least two reports proved to be highly leucistic Red-tailed Hawks. The wide reach of the Internet has created an environment in which distinctive, conspicuous biological phenomena such as an irruption of Snowy Owls can now be tracked more thoroughly and with greater precision than ever before. I offer thanks to the dozens of observers who shared their reports.

Literature Cited

- Hicks, L.E. 1932. "The Snowy Owl invasion of Ohio in 1930-31." *Wilson Bull.* 44: 221-226
- Kaufman, K. 1996. *Lives of North American Birds*. Houghton Mifflin, New York. 675 p.
- Kirkpatrick, J. 1859. *Descriptions of the rapacious birds of Ohio, 13th annual report for the year 1858*. Ohio State Board of Agriculture, pp. 340-383.
- Parmelee, D. F. 1992. "Snowy Owl (*Bubo scandiacus*)," *The Birds of North America Online* (A. Poole, Ed.). Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Retrieved from the Birds of North America Online: <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/010doi:10.2173/bna.10>
- Peterjohn, B.P. 2001. *The Birds of Ohio*. Wooster Book Co., Wooster, OH. 638 p.
- Thomas, E.S. 1928. "The Snowy Owl invasion of 1926-27." *Ohio State Mus. Sci. Bull.* 1: 64-69
- Williams, A.B. 1950. *Birds of the Cleveland Region*. Kirtland Soc. Bull. No. 2. Cleveland Mus. Nat. Hist. Cleveland. 215 p.

Jim McCormac works for the Ohio Division of Wildlife, and is involved with wildlife diversity issues, nongame animal education, and public outreach. He is past secretary of the Ohio Bird Records Committee and was inaugural president of the Ohio Ornithological Society. Jim is author of Birds of Ohio, and has authored or coauthored four other books including the Lake Erie Birding Trail Guidebook and the Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas II. He also writes a natural history column, Nature, for the Columbus Dispatch, and publishes a popular blog, Ohio Birds and Biodiversity (<http://jimccormac.blogspot.com>). He has long been smitten with owls.

THE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS REPORT

By Ned Keller

The results from 68 counts are included in this year's report. All but two of the counts were official National Audubon Society Christmas Counts. Carey does not report its results to National Audubon, but runs its count according to the same protocol. Sunday and Monday Creeks should be an official count next year. National Audubon requires new counts to conduct a "trial run" before becoming official, and the results of that "trial run" are included here.

We were spoiled by last year's high number of 171 species. This year we were back to a more normal 151 species reported in all the circles. Because of the way National Audubon now reports its data, it is rather difficult to extract "count week" birds — species which were seen during the week of a count, but not on the actual day of the count. A little detective work indicates that at least four additional species fall into that category — Greater White-fronted Goose at Hoover, Common Raven at Mohican, Vesper Sparrow at Ashland, and Yellow-headed Blackbird at Quail Hollow/Ragersville. There may be more.

Eleven species were found on only a single count this year: Great Egret (Gypsum), Osprey (Ohio River), Broad-winged Hawk (Hocking Hills), American Woodcock (East Fork Lake S.P.), Blue-headed Vireo (Buckeye Lake), Tree Swallow (Toledo, ten individuals), Orange-crowned Warbler (Fremont), Common Yellowthroat (Ragersville), Summer Tanager (Youngstown), Le Conte's Sparrow (Cleveland), and Lincoln's Sparrow (Carey). At the other end of the spectrum, 14 species were found on all 68 counts: Canada Goose, Mallard, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Blue Jay, American

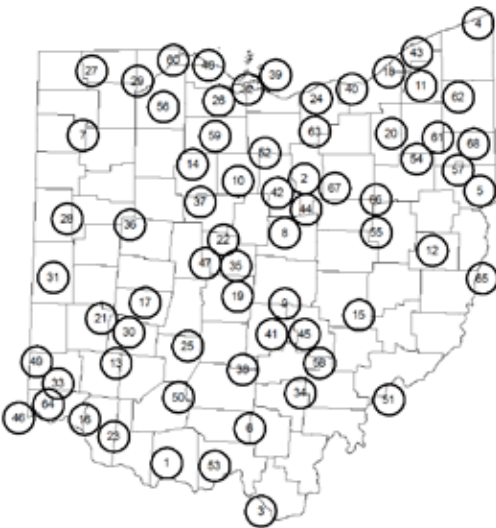
Crow, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Dark-eyed Junco, Northern Cardinal, American Goldfinch, and House Sparrow.

Toledo counters found the most species this year, 95, followed by Cincinnati with 93 and Ohio River with 92. The 123 counters at Cuyahoga Falls was by far the largest number of volunteers on any count. But it's not all about racking up big numbers. The two counters at Goll Woods, or the three at Ashland/Boyd County or at Beaver Valley, made just as much of a contribution to our knowledge of early winter bird distribution.

As always, the report includes everything that was reported to National Audubon (or directly to us), and no effort has been made to scrutinize questionable data. I do hope, however, that documentation of the Common Raven and the Eurasian Collared-Doves, which are state review birds, was sent to the Ohio Bird Records Committee. If not, it isn't too late to send it to the Secretary, Paul Gardner, at psg0708@gmail.com or 295 Acton Road, Columbus, OH 43214-3305.

We would like to thank the National Audubon Society for providing access to most of the data included in this report. Their web site, at <http://birds.audubon.org/christmas-bird-count>, has lots more information about the Christmas Bird Count. This past year was the 114th for this citizen science project, and we hope for many more.

Ned is the administrator of the OOS Ohio-birds listserve and the website Cincinnati Bird Sightings Log, <http://cincinnatibirds.com/goodbird/sighting.php>. In addition to that task, Ned contributes this CBC summary for each winter issue of the Ohio Cardinal. He recently retired after several years as the Secretary of the Ohio Bird Records Committee.



Note on the 114th Audubon Christmas Count tables

The tables on the following twenty pages are set up so that all the species are presented for the first half of the locations. Then the species list is repeated for the second half of the locations.

- First half of locations are on pages 80 – 89
- Second half of locations are on pages 90 – 99.
- Species are listed as received from Audubon, in an older taxonomic order.

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

Date	14 Dec	20 Dec	27 Dec	28 Dec	15 Dec	14 Dec	17 Dec	15 Dec	14 Dec	04 Jan	04 Jan	04 Jan	19 Dec	03 Jan	21 Dec
LOCATIONS	Adams County (1)	Ashland (2)	Ashland/Boyd Co. KY-OH (3)	Ashkula (4)	Beaver Creek (5)	Beaver Valley (6)	Black Swamp (7)	Brown Family Env. Ctr. (8)	Buckeye Lake (9)	Bucyrus (10)	Burton (11)	Cadiz (12)	Cesar Crk./Spring Valley (13)	Carey (14)	Chandlersville (15)
SPECIES															
Snow Goose	1			2	12			153					307		
Ross's Goose															
Cackling Goose								3					3		
Canada Goose	821	462	123	1190	612	13	2079	3087	461	51	1079	535	1063	1306	240
Mute Swan		2							5		4				
Trumpeter Swan		7													17
Tundra Swan					34			3						1	
Wood Duck	4														
Gadwall				1				2			20		84	12	12
American Wigeon															4
American Black Duck	19	25		16	29		4	5	8		34	5	14	27	10
Mallard	61	170	71	190	261	8	79	612	460	100	173	36	202	125	71
American Black Duck x Mallard															
Blue-winged Teal									19						
Northern Shoveler									46						
Northern Pintail								2					3		
Green-winged Teal	2												4		2
Canvasback															2
Redhead				3									38	18	21
Ring-necked Duck	14					1						2	5		98
Greater Scaup				15											
Lesser Scaup				24				3	2						9
scaup species				10											
Surf Scoter															
White-winged Scoter															
Black Scoter			3	2											
Long-tailed Duck				3											
Bufflehead	4			75				6	5				4		
Common Goldeneye				66					5				4		
Hooded Merganser	19		8	7	1			25	6				13		3
Common Merganser				403				2	2				2		
Red-breasted Merganser				1316							1		1		
merganser species															
Ruddy Duck									22			5	15	1	6
diving duck species															
duck species			1	14				80							
Ring-necked Pheasant				2				1					6		
Ruffed Grouse												3			3
Wild Turkey	108	156		103	140	10	15	76	5		3	27	6	38	1
Northern Bobwhite															
Common Loon				2					1						

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

29 Dec	20 Dec	14 Dec	15 Dec	15 Dec	28 Dec	15 Dec	04 Jan	21 Dec	17 Dec	28 Dec	23 Dec	21 Dec	04 Jan	21 Dec	15 Dec	04 Jan	14 Dec	04 Jan	14 Dec
Cincinnati (16)	Clark Co. (17)	Cleveland (18)	Columbus (19)	Cuyahoga Falls (20)	Dayton (21)	Delaware Reservoir (22)	East Fork Lake S.P. (23)	Elyria-Lorain (24)	Fayette Co. (25)	Fremont (26)	Gall Woods (27)	Grand Lake-St. Marys (28)	Grand Rapids-Walerville (29)	Greene Co. (30)	Greenville (31)	Gypsum (32)	Hamilton-Fairfield (33)	Hocking Hills (34)	Hoover Reservoir (35)
	9													1	1				
	1				2												1		
2			5				4												
2144	3200	335	2940	4338	3482	2616	3458	6623	1044	8597	275	642	2287	724	272	3879	2040	205	677
4	2		4	6	8											28		9	4
								2		4						10			
1			2	68		11				65						2			
7			4	5			2												
3	6	10	6	43	21		20			7									
37	1		9		1											44	1		2
28	20	30	630	38	8	48	32	1	2	148			21			81	47	2	83
957	442	294	1280	1599	498	1109	813	184	111	2801	100	303	843	42	55	667	1036	116	913
				1								1							
10	10	3	2													94	6		32
7		1	1	1			8			110			1			21	2		
				1	3					3				10			52		2
2	3						75									52		1	
21		5	6	8			18									40	1	1	7
5		2	202	97	5		2						1				5	22	
		25																	
	1	219	3		24		15		2	3							1	1	8
		1																	
		6																	
		4																	
		2		2															
20	4	2	9	2	41		6	11	2				1			2	17		11
4	1	136			41	1	2	3					5			7	7		19
83	27	1	162	20	104	13	10	140	16					14			25	25	430
1	2	27		15	4		9			424			1			502	1		1
		4345			7		1	10								230			17
14		8	6	21	3		11		3							2	2	1	42
1										900		50							
						2			15	2			8						
57		34	49	1		15	12	3	4		18		24				22	34	23
6						1			12										
		1			1				2										4

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

Date	14 Dec	20 Dec	27 Dec	28 Dec	15 Dec	14 Dec	17 Dec	15 Dec	14 Dec	04 Jan	04 Jan	04 Jan	19 Dec	03 Jan	21 Dec
LOCATIONS	Adams County (1)	Ashland (2)	Ashland/Boyd Co. KY-OH (3)	Ashhtulula (4)	Beaver Creek (5)	Beaver Valley (6)	Black Swamp (7)	Brown Family Env. Ctr. (8)	Buckeye Lake (9)	Bucynus (10)	Burton (11)	Cadiz (12)	Cesar Crk./Spring Valley (13)	Carey (14)	Chandlersville (15)
SPECIES															
Pied-billed Grebe	2			1	1	1		2					1	42	5
Horned Grebe														5	
Double-crested Cormorant	6		1	28					1					9	1
Great Blue Heron	9	23	11	19	6		2	6	42	1	1	8	14		18
Great Egret															
Black-crowned Night Heron			1	4											
Black Vulture	387							5				15	8		
Turkey Vulture	5		1					7			1	1	26		
Osprey															
Bald Eagle	2	4		14	3	4	1	11		4	3	13	3	14	
Northern Harrier	14	1		3	2	3	3	4	6	5	1	7	5	5	8
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3			4	1		1	1	1	1	4	1		1	2
Cooper's Hawk	4	3		7	6	3	1	4	3	5	9	7	7	11	4
accipiter species															
Red-shouldered Hawk	14	6	3	7	9	6		6	3	1	42	3	27		4
Broad-winged Hawk															
Red-tailed Hawk	29	27	2	54	38	11	8	61	16	10	67	60	35	29	53
Rough-legged Hawk		1	1	3	2			1			7	7	2		8
buteo species															
hawk species															
American Kestrel	46	6	7	11	5	7	10	17	9	7	3	9	8	8	28
Merlin											1		1	1	
Peregrine Falcon			1		1						1			1	
falcon species															
American Coot	4	1		23				12	1	150		30	187		20
Sandhill Crane												70			
Killdeer	6					18		1	4			2	4		6
Dunlin				1											
Wilson's Snipe								2	1						
American Woodcock															
Bonaparte's Gull				96								3	2		
Ring-billed Gull	7	90		2231	125			116	192	3	32	670	633		233
Herring Gull	1	5		379	2			5	12		1				
Thayer's Gull															
Iceland Gull				1											
Lesser Black-backed Gull				1					1						
Glaucous Gull															
Great Black-backed Gull				49											
gull species															
Rock Pigeon	111	68	397	337	99	73	209	142	32	148	254	102	34	72	180
Eurasian Collared-Dove															

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

29 Dec	20 Dec	14 Dec	15 Dec	15 Dec	28 Dec	15 Dec	04 Jan	21 Dec	17 Dec	28 Dec	23 Dec	21 Dec	04 Jan	21 Dec	15 Dec	04 Jan	14 Dec	04 Jan	14 Dec
Cincinnati (16)	Clark Co. (17)	Cleveland (18)	Columbus (19)	Cuyahoga Falls (20)	Dayton (21)	Delaware Reservoir (22)	East Fork Lake S.P. (23)	Elyria-Lorain (24)	Fayette Co. (25)	Fremont (26)	Gall Woods (27)	Grand Lake-St. Marys (28)	Grand Rapids-Walerville (29)	Greene Co. (30)	Greenville (31)	Gypsum (32)	Hamilton-Fairfield (33)	Hocking Hills (34)	Hoover Reservoir (35)
41	10	2	22	10	10		62						2			29	2	8	
	2	35	4	1												6		12	
		4	35	1	1					1					2			3	
28	5	21	51	17	22	47	6	5	6	35		13	44	1	1	81	27	6	13
																1			
			4													44			
109							81							10				118	
27			1	2			59		6					34				56	
2		3	10	12	3	10	3	1		33		1	18	1		37	2	1	3
3	1	1	3			11	8		4	10	1				1	2	2	2	2
7			4	3	2	2	3	2		2			5			2	2	1	2
17		2	24	20	8	8	3	3	2	10		3	12	1	5	5	5	4	4
31		3	1	22	2	1	24	7					5	1			1	16	4
																		1	
69	5	12	42	71	27	31	26	14	10	66	4	3	64	2	12	25	23	45	28
		1					2									3		2	
1						1													
12	3	3	10	3	9	16	13	7	7	18	10	21	15	2	7		15	5	2
				1	2	1													
3		3	1		1					1			1				1		
239	22	3	129	91	221	1	4	39	9				2			4	6		20
205					3	100									15				
7			2	2	2	1	27							1			11	7	2
																	1		
		1				1											13		
							1												
	6	2495				1		11	40			2				210		24	
173	865	2607	2720	1951	1192	224	2825	40,464	60	2038	1	33	468		1286	311		765	
1	26	235	17	108	10		15	62	30	201		3	214		947			6	
		2											1			1			
		13						11								3			
						2						25							
416	305	90	901	496	165	70	55	262		863	25	45	95	14	90	20	2478	30	69
												3							

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

Date	14 Dec	20 Dec	27 Dec	28 Dec	15 Dec	14 Dec	17 Dec	15 Dec	14 Dec	04 Jan	04 Jan	04 Jan	19 Dec	03 Jan	21 Dec
LOCATIONS	Adams County (1)	Ashland (2)	Ashland/Boyd Co. KY-OH (3)	Ashhtelaia (4)	Beaver Creek (5)	Beaver Valley (6)	Black Swamp (7)	Brown Family Env. Ctr. (8)	Buckeye Lake (9)	Bucynus (10)	Burton (11)	Cadiz (12)	Cesar Crk./Spring Valley (13)	Carey (14)	Chandlersville (15)
SPECIES															
Mourning Dove	994	239	134	192	307	947	354	463	282	84	254	168	145	345	197
dove species															
Barn Owl															
Eastern Screech-Owl	10	3		1	3		3	1	1		1	3	6	2	1
Great Horned Owl	2			1					7		1		1	2	
Snowy Owl				2											
Barred Owl	3	3		1	2			2	2	2	3	1	5		1
Long-eared Owl															
Short-eared Owl															6
Northern Saw-whet Owl															
Belted Kingfisher	5	4	3		9	1		5	6		1	7	8	1	16
Red-headed Woodpecker	5	2					5	2	9	24	1			4	1
Red-bellied Woodpecker	75	52	7	22	34	13	28	38	38	12	97	50	66	18	35
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	6		1				1	1			2	1	14	2	2
Downy Woodpecker	39	60	6	40	47	11	32	40	32	21	109	54	82	34	52
Hairy Woodpecker	18	12		7	8	1	3	11	3	6	41	14	10	2	13
Northern Flicker	55	7	3	4	7	14	7	8	7	4	13	12	48	10	48
Pileated Woodpecker	5	6	3	4	16	4		7	2	2	13	13	13		8
woodpecker species															
Eastern Phoebe	1		1												
Northern Shrike				1										1	1
Blue-headed vireo									1						
Blue Jay	196	138	18	129	145	47	80	106	87	63	388	57	211	110	150
American Crow	334	240	20	326	350	205	13	331	84	245	253	206	244	15	521
Horned Lark	19	5			42	30	769	337	47	1304	271	7	309	3350	24
Tree Swallow															
Carolina Chickadee	107	65	33		15	25		66	27	19		153	166		133
Black-capped Chickadee		18	1	68	42		37			9	491	1		10	
chickadee species		21		84											
Tufted Titmouse	69	69	17	31	111	9	22	78	14	27	147	68	113	3	62
Red-breasted Nuthatch				1			3	1			7	1			1
White-breasted Nuthatch	41	61	11	24	52	7	27	32	23	32	108	64	102	20	37
Brown Creeper	6	8	1	2	5	4	6		9	4	4	6	20	4	7
Carolina Wren	65	36	24	7	36	12	2	23	27	4	12	25	104	1	51
House Wren															
Winter Wren	1	1	1					1				1	5	1	
Marsh Wren															
wren species															
Golden-crowned Kinglet	15	31	6	2	45	12	2	32	20	24	58	40	122	1	66
Ruby-crowned Kinglet		2													
kinglet species															

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

29 Dec	20 Dec	14 Dec	15 Dec	15 Dec	28 Dec	15 Dec	04 Jan	21 Dec	17 Dec	28 Dec	23 Dec	21 Dec	04 Jan	21 Dec	15 Dec	04 Jan	14 Dec	04 Jan	14 Dec
Cincinnati (16)	Clark Co. (17)	Cleveland (18)	Columbus (19)	Cuyahoga Falls (20)	Dayton (21)	Delaware Reservoir (22)	East Fork Lake S.P. (23)	Elyria-Lorain (24)	Fayette Co. (25)	Fremont (26)	Gall Woods (27)	Grand Lake-St. Marys (28)	Grand Rapids-Walerville (29)	Greene Co. (30)	Greenville (31)	Gypsum (32)	Hamilton-Fairfield (33)	Hocking Hills (34)	Hoover Reservoir (35)
1342	66	129	396	540	67	650	313	193	523	32	115	72	446	63	291	25	1157	292	157
												3							
3		1	2	7	2	5	2			2	2		31	2		2	1	2	1
11			2	3	4	4				2			3			1	3	4	3
		2		1				3			2								
1		1	12	5	2	1	2	2			1		3					5	2
						1													
1								1	2							1			
		3																	
21	11	8	15	7	13	6	5	3	2	2		3	2	2		1	12	2	3
	1	2	8			8	26	3			6	1	4		2				
311	24	57	148	217	101	83	65	27	2	45	17	4	131	23	19	20	17	84	88
27	3		13			9	3	3				1	1	3		1	5	7	6
272	35	57	195	243	107	84	56	22	3	69	15	14	136	33	21	52	37	81	75
33	6	7	19	61	25	19	5	2		14	1	2	31	4	2	1	3	21	13
129	11	7	73	32	45	41	24	5	1	36	5	6	46	7	1	18	15	17	32
24		6	13	24	20	4	8				1		2	4			3	41	8
4							1			2				1				2	
				1		1													
444	20	192	349	566	67	206	193	159	5	186	30	60	394	35	42	88	21	180	207
1462	10,000	22	300	3703	120	115	219	70	46	48	21	1	190	448	36	27	49	638	134
15	5	1	105		3	2031	219	2	110	137	20	10	1007	25	2941	673	148		4
1220	61		447		293	3	169							160	23		86	226	168
		85		616				76	5	30	55		236			32			
						158						21							
554	16	48	175	251	91	56	109	47		24	17	2	171	59	14	9	42	157	92
	4	1	2							5		3			2		2	6	
174	35	30	104	220	95	108	37	20	2	29	25	11	157	22	17	20	12	125	61
44	33	1	40	10	61	24	5	3		14	6	5	45	5		16	9	8	8
585	23	26	93	65	104	39	77	7	2	15	1	7	32	13	5	9	52	80	44
8	1	2	5	3	1	2				3			2	1		2	3		5
335	36	6	54	108	94	36	39	6		13	5	14	71	30	5	7	73	75	40
7			1		2					1							2	1	1

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

Date	14 Dec	20 Dec	27 Dec	28 Dec	15 Dec	14 Dec	17 Dec	15 Dec	14 Dec	04 Jan	04 Jan	04 Jan	19 Dec	03 Jan	21 Dec
LOCATIONS	Adams County (1)	Ashland (2)	Ashland/Boyd Co. KY-OH (3)	Ashhtelaia (4)	Beaver Creek (5)	Beaver Valley (6)	Black Swamp (7)	Brown Family Env. Ctr. (8)	Buckeye Lake (9)	Bucyrus (10)	Burton (11)	Cadiz (12)	Cesar Crk./Spring Valley (13)	Carey (14)	Chandlersville (15)
SPECIES															
Eastern Bluebird	132	39	20	50	46	29	6	81	22	6	101	71	98	8	152
Hermit Thrush	4					3		3	1	1			5	26	2
American Robin	1003	214	59	51	17	125		32	171	13	556	99	2237	61	113
Gray Catbird								1							
Northern Mockingbird	52	1	17		13	2		9	16	1		8	33	1	19
Brown Thrasher	2														
European Starling	1726	970	880	1486	609	360	3758	2569	3921	2690	2779	608	3117	1407	1227
American Pipit												9			
Cedar Waxwing	28	38			4			16			123		28	3	10
Orange-crowned Warbler															
Yellow-rumped Warbler	113	13	120			2	29	1	1	1	10	4	297		6
Pine Warbler		3													
Palm Warbler			7												
Common Yellowthroat															
Summer Tanager															
Eastern Towhee	22	9	5	2	2	3		4	16		2	8	30		12
American Tree Sparrow	47	148	1	77	189	38	79	291	51	167	379	155	115	628	87
Chipping Sparrow				1				1							1
Field Sparrow	24	1				2		9				10	12		3
Savannah Sparrow												1	1		
Le Conte's Sparrow															
Fox Sparrow	18												3		
Song Sparrow	101	48	24	9	60	37	15	97	77	17	17	124	172	71	95
Lincoln's Sparrow														1	
Swamp Sparrow	9	5	4		4	4		1	2	1		13	30	12	10
White-throated Sparrow	157	31	22	4	13	29	1	46	65	21	18	45	163	2	51
White-crowned Sparrow	67	18			12	33	1	18	9	1		44	4	8	4
sparrow species								16							
Dark-eyed Junco	334	203	70	136	724	182	332	359	149	249	317	446	274	981	141
Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco								5							
Lapland Longspur				3			52	200		1012			7	1409	
Snow Bunting				192			70		87				1	764	
Northern Cardinal	262	118	36	85	373	18	58	159	97	62	88	170	384	104	156
Red-winged Blackbird	5	1		1		25		20	2			27	32		22
Eastern Meadowlark	6		3		2	19		9	26			2		3	11
Rusty Blackbird						2		1	2						
Brewer's Blackbird															
Common Grackle	11	2				5		2		5		1	2		2
Brown-headed Cowbird	9	10				20		1	45	2		10	5		
blackbird species															
Purple Finch									1	5			1		2

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

29 Dec	20 Dec	14 Dec	15 Dec	15 Dec	28 Dec	15 Dec	04 Jan	21 Dec	17 Dec	28 Dec	23 Dec	21 Dec	04 Jan	21 Dec	15 Dec	04 Jan	14 Dec	04 Jan	14 Dec	
Cincinnati (16)	Clark Co. (17)	Cleveland (18)	Columbus (19)	Cuyahoga Falls (20)	Dayton (21)	Delaware Reservoir (22)	East Fork Lake S.P. (23)	Elyria-Lorain (24)	Fayette Co. (25)	Fremont (26)	Gall Woods (27)	Grand Lake-St. Marys (28)	Grand Rapids-Walerville (29)	Greene Co. (30)	Greenville (31)	Gypsum (32)	Hamilton-Fairfield (33)	Hocking Hills (34)	Hoover Reservoir (35)	
196	6	13	92	150	127	67	39	24	2	53	2		121	8		9	19	98	108	
14	7		3		3		2						7		1	1		6	2	
6985	583	1526	3000	872	918	868	317	112	4	698	5		517	117	1	302	2106	347	328	
2		5			2					1						1		2		
181		5	17		4	9	23		2	1			9	2	1	1	19	14	11	
1						1	2						1					1		
16,490	7000	530	10,251	3872	8418	6620	1413	2688	630	3282	700	2160	3671	1286	901	3298	6731	1107	2488	
			18	1		7	3								1		9		5	
83	4	9	20	402		13	23	6		3			254			12			115	
										1										
78	9	2	67	47	69	31	53			8			1	68	1		29	2	36	41
				1																
161	1	1	18	9	10	7	42			1			1	9		1	4	91	4	
403	8	106	395	487	100	425	459	79	1	259	10	62	857	14	5	517	71	144	32	
1						1									1					
70			6	3	1	1	64		9				2			1	3	10	3	
17			1														5	6		
		1																		
10			3	1		4										2	3		3	
1026	20	69	220	163	131	87	215	27	9	45		23	121	11	25	53	138	157	92	
83		23	2	8	7	24	54		2	3		2	4	3		5	6		1	
857	71	116	608	158	218	137	218	5	6	14			44	81	7	94	155	112	212	
153	1	6		3		40	2						16			3	14	9	2	
									17				21							
516	14	344	552	584	175	645	271	143	78	311	65	18	1338	35	267	349	98	813	281	
		1	183	1		339				155			134		20	121				
		7				18				13			189			15				
1826	73	180	600	630	212	236	298	93	19	193	18	16	418	83	69	105	137	249	246	
73		1	13	16		5	252			13			1		30	1	371			
21							15			1				6				10		
10			5			7	2										26			
112			8	10	7	31	399			4			4			2	79	5	127	
1			5	35		5	1			27			18	1	2	3	124	24	2	
			50																	
7				10	4			3										5		

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

Date	14 Dec	20 Dec	27 Dec	28 Dec	15 Dec	14 Dec	17 Dec	15 Dec	14 Dec	04 Jan	04 Jan	04 Jan	19 Dec	03 Jan	21 Dec
LOCATIONS	Adams County (1)	Ashland (2)	Ashland/Boyd Co. KY-OH (3)	Ashhtobula (4)	Beaver Creek (5)	Beaver Valley (6)	Black Swamp (7)	Brown Family Env. Ctr. (8)	Buckeye Lake (9)	Bucyrus (10)	Burton (11)	Cadiz (12)	Cesar Crk./Spring Valley (13)	Carey (14)	Chandlersville (15)
SPECIES															
House Finch	11	30	5	140	47	10	26	79	39	38	146	19	42	22	1
Common Redpoll											1				
Pine Siskin				2				2		1	2				
American Goldfinch	212	67	21	51	88	31	41	59	30	40	241	68	89	115	68
House Sparrow	308	193	41	346	443	55	512	466	443	862	615	143	260	602	199
TOTAL SPECIES	75	62	49	77	57	52	44	81	72	52	60	71	85	57	76
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	8437	4302	2256	10,219	5395	2534	8786	10,605	7285	7653	9411	4664	12,083	11,808	4896
Observers	24	14	3	14	21	3	8	25	27	8	26	23	58	11	17
Party hours	77.50	34.00	9.00	60.75	67.00	14.25	25.75	49.08	33.50	21.00	110.50	70.75	46.00	24.75	53.50

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

29 Dec	20 Dec	14 Dec	15 Dec	15 Dec	28 Dec	15 Dec	04 Jan	21 Dec	17 Dec	28 Dec	23 Dec	21 Dec	04 Jan	21 Dec	15 Dec	04 Jan	14 Dec	04 Jan	14 Dec
Cincinnati (16)	Clark Co. (17)	Cleveland (18)	Columbus (19)	Cuyahoga Falls (20)	Dayton (21)	Delaware Reservoir (22)	East Fork Lake S.P. (23)	Elyria-Lorain (24)	Fayette Co. (25)	Fremont (26)	Gall Woods (27)	Grand Lake-St. Marys (28)	Grand Rapids-Walerville (29)	Greene Co. (30)	Greenville (31)	Gypsum (32)	Hamilton-Fairfield (33)	Hocking Hills (34)	Hoover Reservoir (35)
181	18	262	341	370	154	100		39	12	106	5	4	197	15	17	65	232	15	91
				2										1		5		3	
528	44	73	348	633	118	238	115	56	11	81	25	10	280	211	65	97	38	182	80
1261	236	232	977	1163	288	528	138	404	2	1382	50	362	662	47	525	1652	184	90	328
93	60	87	86	81	78	78	82	56	46	67	37	39	72	52	42	82	80	74	81
43,179	23,461	15,236	29,675	25,390	18,228	18,527	13,712	52,197	2892	23,701	1664	4064	16,216	3728	5817	16,210	18,631	6300	9010
72	10	41	68	123	57	33	12	20	12	14	2	6	33	11	13	19	19	51	34
174.00	28.00	52.50	144.00	205.25	70.00	79.50	40.50	10.00	4.00	57.75	14.00	21.25	87.50	15.00	32.25	7.00	45.00	66.97	46.25

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

Dates	22 Dec	29 Dec	01 Jan	15 Dec	29 Dec	28 Dec	14 Dec	21 Dec	28 Dec	01 Jan	15 Dec	31 Dec	05 Jan	14 Dec	15 Dec
LOCATIONS	Indian Lake (36)	Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area (37)	Kingston (38)	Lake Erie Islands (39)	Lakewood (40)	Lancaster (41)	Mainfield (42)	Mentor (43)	Mohican State Forest (44)	New Lexington (45)	Ohio River IN-OH (46)	O'Staughnessy Reservoir (47)	Ottawa N.W.R. (48)	Oxfoot (49)	Paint Creek Area (50)
SPECIES															
Snow Goose		1							2						
Ross's Goose												2			
Cackling Goose															
Canada Goose	1352	3330	889	1175	1294	971	1976	722	1280	57	2084	1947	2133	45	211
Mute Swan	9			2		9	3					1	4		
Trumpeter Swan		14			2		1						40		
Tundra Swan		33	349			1		9			5		106		
Wood Duck					5						3				5
Gadwall				362			4				119	5	4		
American Wigeon		4		13		12					3				1
American Black Duck	1	572		321	63	3	1	2	7		57	48	5	6	16
Mallard	214	2457	10	1575	1482	160	60	185	119	1	1063	1119	163	28	142
American Black Duck x Mallard				5											
Blue-winged Teal															1
Northern Shoveler						4					81	4		1	18
Northern Pintail		152									3				
Green-winged Teal															
Canvasback				5	56						6		1		
Redhead				66	611			22			32	48			
Ring-necked Duck				146	1				4	1	129	16			
Greater Scaup				1510	4						5				
Lesser Scaup				4129	608				3		6	40			11
scaup species				3944											
Surf Scoter					6						2				
White-winged Scoter					5										
Black Scoter					9										
Long-tailed Duck				1	3										
Bufflehead				2212	58						27	5	4		35
Common Goldeneye				5694	575			9				30		3	9
Hooded Merganser				4	5		1	9			145	138	1		94
Common Merganser		1		3247	44			7			4	12			
Red-breasted Merganser				6220	4695			393	40		1	1			
merganser species				2450											
Ruddy Duck				1	50		1				4	45		3	27
diving duck species				10,642											
duck species	5			530											
Ring-necked Pheasant				5									1		
Ruffed Grouse															
Wild Turkey				5			293	4	20	4	152	2		56	
Northern Bobwhite															
Common Loon				1	3										

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

28 Dec	04 Jan	21 Dec	14 Dec	27 Dec	29 Dec	28 Dec	04 Jan	14 Dec	30 Dec	28 Dec	15 Dec	28 Dec	22 Dec	21 Dec	20 Dec	21 Dec	14 Dec		
Parkersburg WV-OH (51)																			
													6				1	496	12
																		6	4
				1					4	1			5					28	9
2009	350	233	4141	1669	1698	4363	34	484	13,454	1673	2987	6769	4994	101	1363	643	571	129,902	68
			23			4			1				13	2		4		151	23
									8		49					2		1379	22
	1		1						624	1		12			2	48		1379	22
		2	6		1				4									48	12
4			23	1		53			9	6		1	74			13	67	1234	33
			1						3				4			1		141	17
17		1	33		12	90			219	17			44		1	23	15	2989	52
430	44	56	1246	12	757	477	10	65	3275	257	67	175	827	82	372	236	469	34,417	68
									1									6	2
																		21	3
						3			11				8		1		6	340	18
			4		1				9				2	2		31		361	19
											1		42					122	11
									198			1						402	12
									405	37		7	2	1				1418	23
32									42	2		15	286	4			7	1146	27
									38								1	1598	7
10		5				13			697	9		8						5854	26
									8650									12,604	3
																		9	3
																		11	2
																		18	4
																		11	5
5									17	11		21	1	11			9	2638	31
						2			373	28		1	1				22	7048	26
16		8				6			10	56		8	16			8	41	1718	39
2									3079	10								7802	24
									36	2							1	17,317	18
																		2450	1
11	1		1		1	2			277			16		1		4	153	760	33
																		10,642	1
			42	90											1			1714	11
					5	1				1								49	12
																		6	2
1			94	42				37		20	7		82	6	52		8	1869	44
		2																21	4
																		15	8

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

Dates	22 Dec	29 Dec	01 Jan	15 Dec	29 Dec	28 Dec	14 Dec	21 Dec	28 Dec	01 Jan	15 Dec	31 Dec	05 Jan	14 Dec	15 Dec
LOCATIONS	Indian Lake (36)	Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area (37)	Kingston (38)	Lake Erie Islands (39)	Lakewood (40)	Lancaster (41)	Manfield (42)	Mentor (43)	Mohican State Forest (44)	New Lexington (45)	Ohio River IN-OH (46)	O'Staughnessy Reservoir (47)	Ottawa N.W.R. (48)	Oxfort (49)	Paint Creek Area (50)
SPECIES															
Pied-billed Grebe					1	5	1				17	1			163
Horned Grebe					54			2	2		7	6			4
Double-crested Cormorant				4	13			12	4						
Great Blue Heron	7	7	5	2	17	5	15	10	15	5	58	48	69	18	35
Great Egret															
Black-crowned Night Heron															
Black Vulture						23			19		32			43	121
Turkey Vulture			22			16				1	9			2	15
Osprey											1				
Bald Eagle		23	1	40	8	3	4	2	35		16	12	22	2	9
Northern Harrier	1	33	10	1	1	2		1	4	5	4	15	4		9
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1		1	1		3		2	1	1	1	1	1		
Cooper's Hawk	1		3	10	15	7	13	2	4	4	11	15	6	2	2
accipiter species															
Red-shouldered Hawk			7		7	2	1	3	4	15	2	6		1	
Broad-winged Hawk															
Red-tailed Hawk	8	30	61	9	38	55	30	10	78	31	70	57	23	5	19
Rough-legged Hawk		2	1	1	2			2	8	1			2		
buteo species															
hawk species						1			1						
American Kestrel	15	17	30		6	8	3		18	3	39	17	9	4	21
Merlin					1				1						
Peregrine Falcon			1		5						1				
falcon species															
American Coot					5	6	76	6			111	14	2		477
Sandhill Crane				23							22				46
Killdeer								4		3				1	1
Dunlin															
Wilson's Snipe														1	
American Woodcock															
Bonaparte's Gull				42	6			120			15				
Ring-billed Gull	7	20		69	8427		1	5715	4		319	327	88	31	515
Herring Gull		4		306	769			542				1	142	7	10
Thayer's Gull															
Iceland Gull					1										
Lesser Black-backed Gull					2			3					1		
Glaucous Gull															
Great Black-backed Gull				17	95			43					1		
gull species				236											
Rock Pigeon	56	34	212		166	77	84	134	278	43	537	242	25	45	62
Eurasian Collared-Dove															

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

28 Dec	04 Jan	21 Dec	14 Dec	27 Dec	29 Dec	28 Dec	04 Jan	14 Dec	30 Dec	28 Dec	15 Dec	28 Dec	22 Dec	21 Dec	20 Dec	21 Dec	14 Dec		
Parkersburg WV-OH (51)																			
									10	6		1	11	1	1			474	32
Plymouth (52)									7	3						1	1	143	16
Potomouth (53)																		136	19
Quail Hollow-Hartsville (54)																		1182	63
Rehersville (55)																		1	1
Rudolph (56)									40									93	5
Salem (57)																		1143	16
Sunday and Monday Creeks (58)																		727	24
Tiffin (59)																		1	1
Toledo (60)																		1	1
Tri-Reservoir (61)																		1	1
Trumbull Co. (62)																		1	1
Wellington (63)																		1	1
Western Hamilton Co. (64)																		1	1
Wheeling (65)																		1	1
Winnet (66)																		1	1
Wooster (67)																		1	1
Youngstown (68)																		1	1
INDIVIDUALS																		474	32
CIRCLES																		143	16
3																		136	19
34	4	13	9	16	6	7		10	92	2	3	1	32	1	36	11		1182	63
																		1	1
									40									93	5
				145			1						26					1143	16
12				390			2						12		20			727	24
																		1	1
3		12	2	2	5	1	2	7	59	12	24	2	6		6	4	4	544	57
1		4	2	13	11	3		3	7	1	5	3	8		8	1		278	55
2	2		3	5	1	1		1	7			1	1		2		1	97	46
9	1	3	5	31	8	5	1	3	22	2	3	6	14	1	30	4	1	454	64
1			2										3					7	4
10		3	9	1	1	7	2	1		32	11	5	6	2	5		1	393	51
																		1	1
47	16	14	30	270	31	40	11	38	41	65	21	51	61	1	180	20	6	2546	68
		1		12		1		1	1		4				14	1		94	29
5																		7	3
			3												1			6	4
15	3	5	8	68	36	17		15	15	10	9	22	16	2	66	7		863	63
				2	1				1				2			1	1	17	14
1					2				2									27	17
					1													1	1
			78			57			98		3	110	8	1			102	2372	39
					3						1					18		506	11
				10									5		10			137	24
																		2	2
	2			21									1		9			52	10
																		1	1
									26									3099	16
28	45		102	1536	528	85		16	9189	686	64	46	145	18	9	7	1500	91,842	56
1	2		4	50	573	5			7466	26	1		1	1	1	19	221	12,432	43
					1					2								3	2
										3								5	3
					5					27								44	10
										8							1	9	2
										12								244	9
																		263	3
1212	112	115	443	1190	128	263	56	147	635	86	53	114	692	73	1792	25	338	18,216	66
																2		5	2

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

Dates	22 Dec	29 Dec	01 Jan	15 Dec	29 Dec	28 Dec	14 Dec	21 Dec	28 Dec	01 Jan	15 Dec	31 Dec	05 Jan	14 Dec	15 Dec
LOCATIONS	Indian Lake (36)	Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area (37)	Kingston (38)	Lake Erie Islands (39)	Lakewood (40)	Lancaster (41)	Manfield (42)	Mentor (43)	Mohican State Forest (44)	New Lexington (45)	Ohio River IN-OH (46)	O'Staughnessy Reservoir (47)	Ottawa N.W.R. (48)	Oxfoot (49)	Paint Creek Area (50)
SPECIES															
Mourning Dove	265	248	780	39	317	395	193	48	369	197	284	432	206	224	190
dove species															
Barn Owl															
Eastern Screech-Owl			1	13	1		12	1	7		7		13		
Great Horned Owl			2	10	4				1		1	4	10	1	
Snowy Owl					10			3							
Barred Owl		3	2		2	1	2		4	3		3		1	
Long-eared Owl												1	2		
Short-eared Owl		10			1					1		2			
Northern Saw-whet Owl				1			1								
Belted Kingfisher	1		9		8	9	6	4	7	2	8	5		7	8
Red-headed Woodpecker	1	17	3		5	2						8	2		1
Red-bellied Woodpecker	17	19	46	25	111	51	76	22	60	29	48	96	31	29	23
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker				2		4	3		2	3	2	9		2	1
Downy Woodpecker	21	39	53	53	102	47	92	28	60	28	64	134	70	17	12
Hairy Woodpecker	1	2	6		31	4	28	3	28	12	7	22	8	3	3
Northern Flicker	8	38	44	14	8	23	8	2	21	23	40	71	9	8	18
Pileated Woodpecker			8		4	13	9	3	27	13	18	5		11	3
woodpecker species	3														
Eastern Phoebe														1	
Northern Shrike	1	2			1										
Blue-headed vireo															
Blue Jay	70	171	151	65	408	147	241	157	210	178	58	242	139	25	42
American Crow	45	26	397	32	89	226	15,000	101	1030	257	674	544	3	30	169
Horned Lark	75	15	258	186		6	10		3		721	389	575	369	60
Tree Swallow															
Carolina Chickadee			89			171	26		76	46	159	243		109	32
Black-capped Chickadee				179	216			141	13	6			12		
chickadee species	25	14					156		38						
Tufted Titmouse	12	23	65	2	65	96	185	52	96	41	70	108	3	49	27
Red-breasted Nuthatch			1	2	3		10		1	1	1		1		
White-breasted Nuthatch	17	30	52	17	87	101	128	31	92	34	36	138	25	36	12
Brown Creeper	5	10	29	12	5	8	7	2	14	3	17	39	9	3	3
Carolina Wren	9	1	68	14	34	64	45	3	27	24	101	68	12	35	14
House Wren															
Winter Wren			7	1		4	1		3		4	1		1	
Marsh Wren								1							
wren species						18									
Golden-crowned Kinglet	7	7	55	8	19	44	64	9	288	24	45	49	4	23	15
Ruby-crowned Kinglet					3						1				
kinglet species				3											

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

28 Dec	04 Jan	21 Dec	14 Dec	27 Dec	29 Dec	28 Dec	04 Jan	14 Dec	30 Dec	28 Dec	15 Dec	28 Dec	22 Dec	21 Dec	20 Dec	21 Dec	14 Dec		
Parkersburg WV-OH (51)																			
Plymouth (52)																			
Potomouth (53)																			
Quail Hollow-Hartville (54)																			
Regensville (55)																			
Rudolph (56)																			
Salem (57)																			
Sunday and Monday Creeks (58)																			
Tiffin (59)																			
Toledo (60)																			
Tri-Reservoir (61)																			
Trumbull Co. (62)																			
Wellington (63)																			
Western Hamilton Co. (64)																			
Wheeling (65)																			
Winnet (66)																			
Wooster (67)																			
Youngstown (68)																			
INDIVIDUALS																			
CIRCLES																			
393	74	286	534	2306	250	146		483	385	202	227	141	887	25	1538	245	157	24,442	67
				2											2			3	1
																		4	2
3			10	9	38			4	18				2		5			244	43
1	2		8	13	10			1	10				1		10		1	144	35
					1										1			25	9
2		2	4	10						3		1	2		9	1	1	118	42
																		4	3
				2	1				1				2					31	13
																		5	3
10	1	8	5	26	2	5		2	2	4	1	1	16		32	5	2	380	58
			1	1	14	8	2				11	5			79			274	35
89	11	17	68	426	61	42	5	40	56	64	11	36	113	14	442	25	14	4285	68
9				9				2					1	9	1			176	38
45	13	23	56	389	72	30	2	53	135	86	46	23	142	13	442	53	20	4729	68
11		2	20	115	14	7		4	11	10	3	11	20	2	88	5	3	902	63
39	9	10	19	152	20	8	1	9	45	38	3	22	67	7	112	11	1	1706	68
20	1	15	5	76		9	9	1		11	2	4	12	3	48		1	585	52
																		3	1
1		1						1					2		1			19	13
										1	1	1			1	1		14	13
																		1	1
251	31	73	287	685	243	175	27	166	142	404	156	101	242	45	778	80	15	11,576	68
216	57	175	245	3454	35	477	17	152	25	392	170	86	1505	30,052	615	268	2404	80,004	68
		479	10	44	322	124	17	2	15		41	19	8		459	26	22	18,225	57
									10									10	1
202		62		730			10						521	71	330	68		6610	39
	17		212	11	20	87		45	146	254	99	78			55	8	79	3490	36
															51	3		571	10
134	13	56	64	517	50	45	4	22	35	81	40	29	152	40	420	49	20	5439	67
	2		3	6	3	3		1	4			11	3		2		2	99	33
60	15	29	60	436	97	42	11	30	73	107	20	54	95	20	347	30	15	4322	68
3	2	1	3	29	24	2	1	10	31	3	2	2	26	1	51	4		784	64
132	2	68	33	257	25	22	12	14	26	20	8	3	303	22	228	23	7	3432	68
							1								1			2	2
			2	5				1	5		2		2		2			90	35
																2		3	2
																		18	1
32	4	18	22	379	9	16	5	14	17	53	22	15	100	18	191	47	1	3147	67
1		3	1					2					1					29	15
																		3	1

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

Dates	22 Dec	29 Dec	01 Jan	15 Dec	29 Dec	28 Dec	14 Dec	21 Dec	28 Dec	01 Jan	15 Dec	31 Dec	05 Jan	14 Dec	15 Dec
LOCATIONS	Indian Lake (36)	Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area (37)	Kingston (38)	Lake Erie Islands (39)	Lakewood (40)	Lancaster (41)	Manfield (42)	Mentor (43)	Mohican State Forest (44)	New Lexington (45)	Ohio River IN-OH (46)	O'Shaughnessy Reservoir (47)	Ottawa N.W.R. (48)	Oxfoot (49)	Paint Creek Area (50)
SPECIES															
Eastern Bluebird	7	7	68		9	140	82	16	198	105	65	177	9	21	55
Hermit Thrush			3	2		1					1	1	1		1
American Robin	9	227	542	266	1023	231	83	347	84	65	1523	3146	36	394	298
Gray Catbird	1						1	1				1			
Northern Mockingbird		8	25		6	17			14	18	36	13	1	4	7
Brown Thrasher			2												
European Starling	2316	2175	2958	6905	1770	2664	369	1039	654	990	11,214	3681	1467	2632	856
American Pipit											17	1			
Cedar Waxwing			6	27	2	2	36	55	3		11	78			12
Orange-crowned Warbler															
Yellow-rumped Warbler		11	14	43		45	12		10	27	146	53	2	1	18
Pine Warbler															
Palm Warbler															
Common Yellowthroat															
Summer Tanager															
Eastern Towhee		2	12	1		11	2	1	6	23	35	5		1	3
American Tree Sparrow	32	604	82	34	134	24	151	112	82	25	511	235	799	30	37
Chipping Sparrow			1						1						
Field Sparrow	1		1			2			1	1	2	2	1	1	15
Savannah Sparrow			3								9	1	3	3	
Le Conte's Sparrow															
Fox Sparrow		1					1				4	1	4	1	7
Song Sparrow	7	44	77	1	38	116	77	7	86	18	436	87	100	67	40
Lincoln's Sparrow															
Swamp Sparrow		6	2	2	2	10	4			1	223	5	11	7	1
White-throated Sparrow	14	24	123	79	30	29	38	50	12	19	199	121	15	63	70
White-crowned Sparrow		25	61			11	1	8	2	7	213	37			5
sparrow species	52					1									
Dark-eyed Junco	91	108	201	139	369	126	524	107	360	193	306	745	307	119	122
Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco									1						
Lapland Longspur		1		6							404		135	9	
Snow Bunting				82	29		5						244		
Northern Cardinal	34	78	142	163	206	174	368	134	157	164	329	335	225	119	76
Red-winged Blackbird		1		12	80	1	3	18	1		142	1	87	15	
Eastern Meadowlark		18								1	49	2			38
Rusty Blackbird		1					1				5			25	
Brewer's Blackbird													1		
Common Grackle			43	8	6	210	1	9	8	1	17	2	2	6	2
Brown-headed Cowbird	16		1	35		3	5				6	9	153	13	
blackbird species															
Purple Finch						1			1						

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

28 Dec	04 Jan	21 Dec	14 Dec	27 Dec	29 Dec	28 Dec	04 Jan	14 Dec	30 Dec	28 Dec	15 Dec	28 Dec	22 Dec	21 Dec	20 Dec	21 Dec	14 Dec		
Parkersburg WV-OH (51)																			
257	19	25	52	598	28	66	7	31	9	106	59	78	135	25	353	26	13	4841	65
			3						5				2	1				111	29
480	4	104	31	720	199	22	35	40	1060	49	9	61	5668	16	494	170	3	41,796	66
6		2							2				1	1				30	16
81		13	3	110	9	12			12	3	2		126		146	9	3	1149	51
		1											1					12	9
2624	605	807	1973	8238	22,796	1679		1447	23,498	1130	915	1905	19,426	1225	5664	816	254	248,335	67
			3	1														75	12
			280	77	21	14	1	23	20				10	17	6	48	63	2006	42
																		1	1
71	2	1	51	36	1		1	13	22	23	6	26	44		35	87		1940	55
			1														1	5	3
			1															9	3
			1															1	1
																	1	1	1
42		3	5	129		2	15		1	2	1	6	35		158	6		982	52
14	97		658	1170	278	122	4	133	776	162	483	135	179		865	339	51	15,244	66
8																		16	9
3		5		97	4				3			1	36		12			422	37
				13														63	12
																		1	1
4			2						6	1			7	2				88	22
218	6	24	92	1480	32	60	16	18	98	56	14	36	347	32	879	169	10	8384	67
																		1	1
21			6	12	3	2			18	6	3	10	20		40	50	2	789	52
44	8	65	25	330	4	4	8	3	143	1	8	12	399	14	204	122	12	6073	66
27	8	20	20	475	3	1		1	18		2	5	46		589	28		2081	47
																		107	5
149	168	111	449	1267	237	112	10	431	940	269	310	50	236	67	1359	57	76	21,909	68
																		6	2
	111			6	6790										133	1		11,233	24
	4			10	32				27					4		6		1799	20
232	26	95	317	1083	116	117	17	127	243	211	135	55	690	48	1024	157	48	15,316	68
	1	40	114	93	3			2	10,674	41	1		622		1551	4	2	14,420	44
6				26	1			1	2				1		13			292	26
			3	9					2				661		15		1	778	18
														1				2	2
12	19	12	23	108					4375	209	1	1	16,454	1	2080			24,428	45
			155	8	36			11	5588	4	7	24	2750		437			9611	40
				32											675			757	3
1													1					42	13
																		INDIVIDUALS	CIRCLES

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

Dates	22 Dec	29 Dec	01 Jan	15 Dec	29 Dec	28 Dec	14 Dec	21 Dec	28 Dec	01 Jan	15 Dec	31 Dec	05 Jan	14 Dec	15 Dec
LOCATIONS	Indian Lake (36)	Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area (37)	Kingston (38)	Lake Erie Islands (39)	Lakewood (40)	Lancaster (41)	Manfield (42)	Mentor (43)	Mohican State Forest (44)	New Lexington (45)	Ohio River IN-OH (46)	O'Shaughnessy Reservoir (47)	Ottawa N.W.R. (48)	Oxford (49)	Paint Creek Area (50)
SPECIES															
House Finch	4	5	45	145	229	73	128	35	13	33	28	231	34	28	31
Common Redpoll															
Pine Siskin											3			1	
American Goldfinch	36	26	36	92	287	85	243	150	128	62	148	253	114	83	50
House Sparrow	1034	212	319	583	959	137	641	188	286	180	48	1649	1055	408	12
TOTAL SPECIES	43	67	60	74	83	63	64	62	68	53	92	81	68	65	68
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	5914	10,993	8146	54,678	25,931	6921	21,647	10,859	6540	3030	23,702	17,710	8797	5339	4468
Observers	10	17	25	16	85	26	26	37	29	19	17	52	17	7	13
Party hours	32.00	35.00	0.00	36.00	80.00	43.50	63.50	47.05	110.00	0.00	53.25	56.00	44.00	30.00	27.25

114TH AUDUBON CHRISTMAS COUNT

28 Dec	04 Jan	21 Dec	14 Dec	27 Dec	29 Dec	28 Dec	04 Jan	14 Dec	30 Dec	28 Dec	15 Dec	28 Dec	22 Dec	21 Dec	20 Dec	21 Dec	14 Dec		
Parkersburg WV-OH (51)	Plymouth (52)	Portsmouth (53)	Quail Hollow-Hartville (54)	Reigersville (55)	Rudolph (56)	Salem (57)	Sunday and Monday Creeks (58)	Tiffin (59)	Toledo (60)	Tri-Reservoir (61)	Trumbull Co. (62)	Wellington (63)	Western Hamilton Co. (64)	Wheeling (65)	Wilmot (66)	Wooster (67)	Youngstown (68)	INDIVIDUALS	CIRCLES
46	21	51	223	451	54	18		64	143	43	37	34	202	9	472	8	38	5855	66
		6		1												2		3	2
44	27	48	229	618	52	65	2	123	229	56	147	49	235	26	549	56	82	8884	68
201	54	39	569	1773	1329	768	1	358	852	612	282	195	559	58	2345	202	51	33,958	68
69	47	57	68	80	67	58	35	53	95	65	56	65	88	43	80	64	62	151	
10,166	2496	2810	13,300	34,937	36,952	9705	343	4711	99,178	7790	6594	10,743	60,579	32,167	30,472	4460	6967	1,047,217	
31	7	15	25	75	16	15	9	14	26	26	12	11	43	8	78	15	9	1763	
67.50	14.00	8.00	77.85	264.00	61.00	56.00	10.00	46.70	60.00	40.00	18.00	8.00	118.50	23.15	163.00	40.00	19.00	3650.30	

RECENT ACTIONS OF THE OHIO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE, May 2013–June 2014

By Paul Gardner

[Editor's note: Though the actions described in this report were taken in spring 2014, I am printing them in this winter issue to speed their dissemination.]

The period since the last Ohio Bird Records Committee report in Spring 2013 (The Ohio Cardinal 36:120-121) has been one of transition. Ned Keller stepped down as Secretary of the committee after a five-year tenure. He was succeeded by Greg Miller, who in turn stepped down due to the press of other commitments. I came on board as Secretary at the end of May 2014. Productivity has suffered, but we hope that routines and procedures are once again established and that we will begin to move through our backlog of reports at an effective pace. The current membership of the committee is Mike Busam, Paul Gardner (Secretary), Rob Harlan, Rick Nirschl, Ed Pierce, Jay Stenger, Sue Tackett, Doug Vogus and Bill Whan.

The role of the committee is to review reports of sightings of review-list species and potential first state records. The review list can be viewed and downloaded at <http://www.ohiobirds.org/site/committee/review.php>. Reports of sightings of rare birds can be documented online using a handy form at <http://www.ohiobirds.org/site/committee/rarebird-submission.php>. Alternatively, information can be emailed to the secretary at psg0708@gmail.com or mailed to him at 295 Acton Road, Columbus, OH, 43214. While the committee endeavors to glean reports of sightings of rarities from the numerous and seemingly ever-expanding corpus of internet sources, many reports never come to the committee's attention. Direct submission of reports is the only sure way to see that a sighting becomes part of Ohio's official ornithological record.

All common and scientific names, and the taxonomic order in which the records are presented, follow the Fifty-fourth Supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union Check-List of North American Birds.

Since the last published summary, the committee has resolved eight reports, all but one being accepted. Acceptance of a record requires approval by at least eight of the committee members. Records receiving five to seven votes for acceptance are recirculated to the committee for up to three rounds of voting. Records receiving less than five votes to accept are not accepted.

Records Accepted

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*): One individual, **Geauga**, 04 April 2013, documentation by Wes Hatch, photograph by Matt Valencia; vote 9-0.

Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*): One individual, **Ottawa**, 29-30 April 2013, documentation by Dave Slager; vote 9-0.

Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*): One individual, **Ottawa**, 04 May 2013, documentation by Dave Slager; vote 9-0.

Black-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*): One individual, **Ashtabula**, 24 May 2013, documentation by Robert Lane; vote 9-0.

Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*): One individual, **Hamilton**, 02 June 2013, documentation by Alan Claybon and Laura Keene; vote 9-0.

Kirtland's Warbler (*Setophaga kirtlandii*): One individual, **Lucas**, 15 May 2013, documentation by Dave Slager; vote 9-0. (Additional documentation by Craig Caldwell)

Lark Bunting (*Calamospiza melanocorys*): One individual, **Paulding**, 06 August 2012, documentation by Doug and Micki Dunakin; vote 9-0.

Record Not Accepted

Black Phoebe (*Sayornis nigricans*): One individual, **Franklin**, 26 January 2013; vote 0-9. The documentation did not eliminate other species.

Paul Gardner has been a resident of Columbus for the past 23 years. He is a native of North Carolina, where he took a PhD in anthropology from the University of North Carolina specializing in the archaeology of the eastern United States. He has been a serious birder since 2002, when he discovered the Columbus Avids. From April 2007 through October 2008, he compiled a weekly Rare Bird Alert for Ohio, and in 2007 joined with Greg Miller, Dan Sanders, Bill Whan and Joe Hammond to develop an Ohio Checklist with Difficulty Codes (http://www.ohiobirds.org/publications/checklist/field/4Column_Codes.pdf).

WINTER BIRDING WARMS MY HEART

By Andrew Pegman

It is late November in northeastern Ohio, and the temperature reflects it. The air is cold and the wind is whipping the last few leaves off the branches. Fortunately, I am still inside my warm home, but I won't be for long. I reach for my ceramic mug; the coffee is strong and very hot. I take a sip and open the blinds. For a long moment, the wind stops, and there is only stillness, darkness outside.

Almost magically, a buck materializes from a neighboring woodlot, seemingly from nothingness. It takes a step, then pauses and surveys its surroundings. Then, for reasons known only to it, the massive buck puts its head down and makes a right turn onto my winding suburban street, galloping as if its very life depends on it. The cold clacking of its hooves beats out a staccato message against the cold pavement, and the sound echoes through the empty air. Moments later, the buck retreats sharply back into the woods. I look up and see a hawk perched on the limb of a massive sugar maple, watching the buck disappear. The noble hawk lets out a piercing cry and takes flight. Nature always speaks, if we only listen.

But I did not awaken before the sun on this cold day to gaze reflectively through my kitchen window; I am going winter birding. I set my empty coffee mug down, and begin the process of getting ready. First, I climb into my thermal gear. The hardwood floor is cold, but the woods will be much colder. I add a second pair of socks and slide into my lucky fishing sweater. I don't know why it's lucky; I never catch any fish when I wear it. Plus, I'm not going fishing. Nevertheless, it's the warmest sweater I own, so it's the right choice.

After gathering up enough gear to survive in the wilds for several decades, I am finally ready

to depart. As always, I am heading to the deep forest near the Chagrin River. As always, I am departing roughly three hours later than I had originally intended. As always, I will return home half-frozen. Old habits are hard to break.

Winter birding in Ohio is a different kind of birding. It is not for everyone. Some would argue that it is not for anyone, but I disagree. It does require a bit more preparation than the average birding excursion, but with careful planning that time can be minimized. For example, the process of getting dressed for winter birding, if done properly, should only take about twice as long as the actual trip itself. I always try to reach my destination by late morning, say one or two p.m. Every birder must stand rigidly by his or her own code, especially in adverse conditions.

Because it can get so cold, it can be tough to spend too many hours outdoors during the unforgiving Ohio winters. But even if the birding time is short, the memories are long. I have seen some remarkable things while winter birding. I have seen golden sunlight gleaming on frozen treetops against a clear blue sky, I have witnessed the silence of an open forest, and I have seen fellow birders, hearty companions, rubbing their cold hands and warming their hearts by sharing laughs and stories. I've even seen a few birds.

Truly, winter birding is not for everyone, but there is a great outdoors outside our frozen doors. The winter's cold embrace awaits us.

Andrew J. Pegman (Andrew.pegman@tri-c.edu) is an Assistant Professor of English at Cuyahoga Community College. His work has appeared in *The Plain Dealer*, *SUN Newspapers*, *Ohio Outdoor News*, *Pedestal Magazine* and other publications. He enjoys reading, writing, fishing, hiking, and birding. He lives in Mayfield Heights, OH with his wife, Amy, and Corgi, Olive.

YEARS AGO

10 years ago, the Winter 2013-14 *Ohio Cardinal*, Vol. 27 No. 2 (Bill Whan, Editor), was the first issue under OOS sponsorship, in which the subscription cost also included membership. (OOS ownership was to come later.) It contained these items:

Thirteen gull species were reported.

Five review species were reported; two of them, Ross's Goose and Rufous Hummingbird, are no longer on the review list.

One Snowy Owl visited the state.

At least 100 Long-eared Owls were found across 16 counties; the Killdeer Plains roost held 26 on 22 Feb.

More than 150 Short-eared Owls occurred. They were in 12 counties.

Six warbler species were reported.

25 years ago, the Winter 1988-89 *Ohio Cardinal*, Vol. 12 No. 2 (Ed Pierce and Tom Kemp, Co-Editors), contained these items:

"Most of the state had easily below-normal amounts of snowfall and there were no prolonged deep freezes of more than a few days duration. Large parts of Lake Erie remained open all winter."

There were 51 Audubon Christmas Counts.

Ed Pierce and Mike Bowler found a Sabine's Gull at Cleveland on 24 Jan. It turned out to be the first mid-winter inland North American record and only the second mid-winter visitor for the whole continent.

The season's 15 gull species included a Mew Gull, and eight Little Gulls at one time visited Cleveland.

Birders found two Snowy Owls.

35 years ago, the Winter 1978-79 *Ohio Cardinal*, Vol. 2, No. 4 (John Herman, Editor) included these items:

Four Bald Eagles overwintered at ONWR and one was seen in each of *Madison* and *Seneca*.

The state's first Heerman's Gull visited Cleveland from 12 to 18 Feb.

One Snowy Owl was reported.

A Gyrfalcon spent 05 to 09 Dec at ONWR.

Four Loggerhead Shrikes were found.

50 years ago, the *Cleveland Bird Calendar*, Winter 1963-64 Vol. 60 No. 1, Donald L. Newman, Editor, contained these items:

"By December 22 the lake was extensively ice covered..."

One King and five Common eiders visited.

One Common Loon showed up at Cleveland.

"Nor was there even one record for the Double-crested Cormorant, which is now truly a rarity in the region."

Two Bald Eagles on the *Lorain* shore were noteworthy.

A winter finch invasion included a flock of at least 70 Evening Grosbeaks at the North Chagrin Reservation feeders on 19 Jan.

The Cleveland area's first House Finches were noted.

100 years ago, the *Bird Calendar* – 1914, Bulletin No. 1 (Francis H. Herrick, Editor), contained these items: Fifteen inches of snow fell between 09 and 12 Nov.

Three Whistling [Tundra] Swans were shot on the Bratenahl shore on 13 Nov.

A pair of American Kestrels spent the winter on the Western Reserve University campus.

American Crows were "reported but rarely seen".

OOS MEMBERSHIP

Welcoming backyard birdwatchers and researchers in the field alike, the Ohio Ornithological Society is the largest statewide organization specifically devoted to fostering a deeper appreciation of wild birds, fellowship and collaboration in advancing our collective knowledge about them, and our ability to speak with one voice to preserve Ohio's bird habitats.

We encourage and support important research on birds. We provide educational resources to members, the public, and the news media. We unite individuals and constituencies interested in birds, and provide means and reasons for them to cooperate. Our activities are not conducted independently, but in concert with local organizations whenever possible, and when mutually beneficial.

If your membership has lapsed, we hope that you will renew your membership and be a part of this dynamic organization.



THE OHIO ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATION

www.ohiobirds.org



NAME					
ORGANIZATION					
ADDRESS					
CITY/STATE/ZIP					
EMAIL					
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$15	STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100	PATRON OR BUSINESS
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$35	INDIVIDUAL	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250	SUSTAINING MEMBER
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$50	FAMILY OR NON-PROFIT	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$500	BENEFACTOR

Please note: To receive printed publications, please add an additional \$20.00 to the Student, Individual and Family membership fees as listed above. Otherwise, all members will receive electronic versions of the Cerulean and the Ohio Cardinal.

Yes! I would like to make a one-time tax-deductible donation to support the Society's development and conservation activities!			
\$	DEVELOPMENT	\$	CONSERVATION

Please make check payable to and forward to:
OOS • P.O. Box 2432 • Westerville, OH 43086
questions?oosmembers@gmail.com

Renew online at: <http://www.ohiobirds.org/site/membership.php>



The Counties of Ohio



A beautifully timed shot by Dennis Hills showcased this stunning Long-tailed Duck on 13 Feb at Deer Creek SP, Pickaway.

Instructions for Contributors

The Ohio Cardinal would not exist without contributions from Ohio birders. We solicit sightings, notes on unusual observations, in-depth scientific articles, historical accounts, book reviews, essays, artwork, and photographs related to Ohio and its birdlife. Please refer to our website (www.ohiobirds.org/publications/cardinal/aboutcardinal.php) for general guidelines on style and formatting.

Reports of bird sightings for each season are requested and should be submitted directly, by email or postal mail to:

Craig Caldwell, 1270 W. Melrose Dr., Westlake, OH 44145

craig_caldwell@sbcglobal.net

Send digital photo files or links to Laura Keene:

laurakeene@cinci.rr.com

Deadlines are as follows:

Winter (Dec, Jan, Feb) - 21 March

Spring (Mar, Apr, May) - 21 June

Summer (Jun, Jul) - 21 August

Fall (Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov) - 21 December

Back cover:

Fred Rau shared this fascinating image of a Golden Eagle atop a deer carcass which was taken by a trail cam on his Pike property on 22 Dec.



OHIO CARDINAL

The Ohio Ornithological Society
PO Box 2432
Westerville, OH 43086

Contents



Comments on the Season <i>By Craig Caldwell</i>	50
Species Accounts <i>By Craig Caldwell</i>	54
Contributors <i>By Craig Caldwell</i>	72
Data from The Bobolink Area, Fall 2013 <i>By Craig Caldwell</i>	74
The Snowy Owls Report <i>By Jim McCormac</i>	76
The Christmas Bird Count Report <i>By Ned Keller</i>	79
Recent Actions of the Ohio Birds Records Committee, May 2013–June 2014 <i>By Paul Gardner</i>	100
Winter Birding Warms my Heart <i>By Andrew Pegman</i>	101
Years Ago	102