

The Ohio

Vol.10 No.2
SUMMER 1987

CARDINAL



The next issue, Fall 1987, began a new numbering system in which the fall issue is No. 1 of a volume, so Volume 10 did not have Nos. 3 and 4.

The Ohio Cardinal is published quarterly each year, under the sponsorship of The Toledo Naturalists' Association, in January, April, July, and September. The subscription rate for four issues is \$10.00.

Send all subscriptions to: The Ohio Cardinal, c/o Edwin C. Pierce, 520 Swartz Road, Akron, Ohio 44319.

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Spring, June 10
Summer, August 10
Autumn, December 10

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Report forms are not a necessity but will be supplied on request. Unusual species should be documented and forms will be provided upon request.

The Ohio Cardinal Staff:

Thomas Kemp, Co-Editor
Edwin C. Pierce, Co-Editor
Matthew Anderson, Seasonal Editor
Peter Montion, Publications
Dorothea Barker, Mailing and Subscriptions

Cover: Immature female Peregrine Falcon photographed on 23 February 1987 in downtown Toledo by Christine Manzey.

THE SUMMER SEASON

Matt Anderson and Tom Kemp

Although considered by most to be the doldrums of the birding year, the breeding season, as always, has provided its share of interesting occurrences.

Geographical coverage of the state was quite adequate for the 1987 breeding season. Reports were received from 56 of the 88 counties [see map]. Although the number of observers decreases dramatically from the exciting spring migration season, there appear to be enough birders who are still braving the sweltering heat and mosquitoes to find out a bit more about the summer status of birds in their area. Without a doubt, the hiring by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources of several birders to determine the status of breeding birds within the state has helped to enhance our knowledge of numerous species. By no means, however, do we want to create the impression that coverage is ideal - we still would love to see a substantial increase in the number of contributors.

The "breeding season", as such, is to a small degree a misnomer. Late spring migrants and early fall migrants, particularly shorebirds, often almost overlap, such that it is hard to be sure which way they are headed. Moreover, many species of birds [for example owls, other raptors, goldfinches] typically nest outside of the June-July breeding season. Regardless, a total of 203 species was reported for the period as follows:

Species considered to be summer residents	170
Late spring and early fall migrants	30
Exotics and uncorroborated species	<u>3</u>
	203

Of the 170 species considered to be summer residents in June and July of 1987, there were 9 heron species, 13 waterfowl, 11 raptors, and 20 warblers. Twenty-five species of shorebirds were recorded during the two-month period, but only four [possibly five] were breeders.

Numerous reports were of particular interest: Double-crested cormorants nesting in Ohio for the first time in decades [see article this issue], a male Peregrine falcon spending the summer in downtown Toledo, Northwest Ohio's first ever Pine warbler nest, and new locations for Blue grosbeaks and Lark sparrows. A Least tern in Cleveland was outstanding and Gordon Park [Cleveland] once again had many fine shorebirds.

Some species were included in more than one section. For example, Upland sandpipers nest sparingly in the state but probably should be considered migrants if found in late July. Other species also fall in this category.

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Early Fall Migrants

Little Blue Heron

7/20 Berea [TL]

Black-bellied Plover

7/5 ONWR [ECP], 7/26 Cleveland [TL, RH]

Lesser Golden-Plover

7/5 ONWR [ECP]

Semipalmated Plover

7/9 Cleveland [TL], 7/11 Navarre Marsh [MS], 7/24 Columbus [KA],
7/25 Cleveland [5] [TL], 7/31 ONWR [ECP]

Killdeer

7/31 ONWR [90] [ECP]

American Avocet

7/21 Cleveland [12] [TL], 7/23 Cleveland [LR]

Greater Yellowlegs

7/11 Magee Marsh [MS], 7/12 Oak Openings [MA], 7/15 Grand River
WA [3] [CB], 7/18 CVNRA [DAC], 7/22 Big Island WA [4] [KA], 7/30 CVNRA
[DAC], 7/31 ONWR [16] [ECP]

Lesser Yellowlegs

7/5 Madison Co. [5] [KA], 7/9 Cleveland [4] [TL], 7/11 Navarre
Marsh [122] [MS], 7/14 Putnam Co. [TK], 7/18 CVNRA [DAC], 7/24
Cleveland [74] [TL], 7/28 Cleveland [165] [TL], 7/31 ONWR [63] [ECP]

Solitary Sandpiper

7/4 Niles [CB], 7/5 Madison Co. [3] [KA], 7/12 Oak Openings [MA],
7/14 Putnam Co. [TK], 7/18 Barberton [4] [LR], 7/31 Washington Co.
[LB], 7/31 ONWR [5] [ECP]

Willet

7/4 Cleveland [11] [RH], 7/7 Cleveland [TL], 7/21 Cleveland [TL],
7/31 ONWR [3] [ECP]

Spotted Sandpiper

7/31 ONWR [27] [ECP]

Upland Sandpiper

7/25 Cleveland [2], 7/29 Cleveland [3] [TL], 7/31 ONWR [2] [ECP]

Whimbrel

7/5 Cleveland [RH], 7/24 Cleveland [TL]

Ruddy Turnstone

7/25 Cleveland [TL, RH]

Sanderling

7/25 Cleveland [TL, RH], 7/31 ONWR [9] [ECP]

Semipalmated Sandpiper

6/28 Cleveland [RH], 6/30 Hueston Woods [RH], 7/11 Magee Marsh [MS], 7/28 Cleveland [35] [TL], 7/31 ONWR [7] [ECP]

Western Sandpiper D: spring only

7/11 Navarre Marsh [MS], 7/25 Cleveland [RH]

Least Sandpiper

6/30 Hueston Woods SP [RH], 7/11 Navarre Marsh [126] [MS], 7/12 Barberton [LR], 7/18 CVNRA [DAC], 7/30 CVNRA [DAC]

Baird's Sandpiper D: spring only

7/24 Cleveland [TL], 7/29-30 Columbus [KA]

Pectoral Sandpiper

7/11 Magee Marsh [MS], 7/15 Big Island WA [17] [KA], 7/18 Barberton [8] [LR], 7/21 Cleveland [TL], 7/30 CVNRA [DAC], 7/30 Columbus [80] [KA], 7/31 Cleveland [120] [TL], 7/31 ONWR [35] [ECP]

Dunlin

7/13 Magee Marsh [MS], 7/19 Cleveland [TL], 7/25 Cleveland [RH]

Stilt Sandpiper

7/11 Navarre Marsh [37] [MS], 7/22 Marion Co. [3] [KA], 7/22 Cuyahoga Co. [RH], 7/23-24 Cleveland [4] [LR, TL], 7/24 Columbus [3] [KA]

Short-billed Dowitcher

6/28 Cleveland [RH], 7/5 Buck Creek SP [DO], 7/6 Cleveland [15] [TL], 7/9 Cleveland [70] [TL], 7/11 Magee Marsh [MS], 7/12 Cleveland [60] [LR], 7/18 Barberton [11] [LR], 7/24-30 Columbus [KA], 7/31 ONWR [26] [ECP]

Common Snipe

7/31 ONWR [2] [ECP]

Wilson's Phalarope

7/4 Cleveland [RH], 7/11 Navarre Marsh [MS], 7/23 Barberton [LR], 7/23 Cleveland [TL], 7/28 Cleveland [TL]

Bonaparte's Gull

7/5 ONWR [ECP], 7/31 ONWR [3] [ECP]

Great Black-backed Gull

7/5 ONWR [ECP]

Common Tern

7/2 Miami Co. [RH]

Forster's Tern

7/5 ONWR [2] [ECP], 7/8 Huron [6] [TL], 7/13 Magee Marsh [MS], 7/20 Huron [20] [TL], 7/31 ONWR [74] [ECP]

Least Tern D

7/11 Cleveland [Gordon Park] [RHA]*

Purple Martin

7/30 Cleveland [200] [TL]

Summer Residents

Common Loon

Summered in Seneca Co. [2 imm.] [TB].

Pied-billed Grebe

Reported from Barberton and Cuyahoga, Marion, Ottawa [5 pr.], and Trumbull Cos. [LR, RH, KA, TB, ECP, MS, CB].

Double-crested Cormorant

Bred at Ottawa NWR [6 nests, max. 94 birds] [ECP, TB, MS]; single birds at Columbus and L. Rockwell in July [KA, LR].

Least Bittern

Reported from Ottawa NWR, Big Island WA, and CVNRA [ECP, KA, RH].

Great Blue Heron

Widespread, 1400 nests on West Sister Is. [MS].

Great Egret

600 nests on West Sister Is. [MS], also reported from L. Rockwell and Cuyahoga, Franklin, Marion, and Trumbull Cos. [LR, RH, KA, CB].

Snowy Egret

10 nests on West Sister Is. [MS]; 3 on 7/5 at Ottawa NWR [ECP].

Little Blue Heron

3 nests on West Sister Is. [MS]; one on 7/5 at Ottawa NWR [ECP].

Cattle Egret

8 nests on West Sister Is. [MS]; one on 7/31 at Ottawa NWR [ECP].

Green-backed Heron

Widespread: thought to be down in the Toledo area [MA].

Black-crowned Night-Heron

1300 nests on West Sister Is. [MS]; also reported from Hueston Woods SP and Hamilton Co. [RH, AW].

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

Nested in Columbus [KA].

Mute Swan

Nested at Cedar Point NWR [MS]; 7/6 Navarre Marsh [MS].

Canada Goose

Widespread: 650 nests at Magee Marsh [MS], 500 birds at Ottawa NWR on 7/5 [ECP].

Wood Duck

Widespread; at Mosquito Lake, 105 out of 160 boxes occupied [CB]; 231 birds at ONWR on 7/31 [ECP].

Green-winged Teal

Reported from Magee Marsh [MS], Cleveland [4] [TL], Barberton [LR], and ONWR [max. 10] [ECP].

American Black Duck

Reported from L. Rockwell [very good year] and ONWR [max. 17] [LR, ECP].

Mallard

Widespread; max. 1210 on 7/5 at ONWR [ECP].

Northern Pintail

Reported from Magee Marsh [fewer than normal] [MS] and ONWR [ECP].

Blue-winged Teal

Reported from Barberton, ONWR [max. 126], Magee Marsh, and Champaign, Cuyahoga, Preble, and Trumbull Cos. [LR, ECP, DO, RH, MS, CB].

Northern Shoveler

6/7 ONWR [6] [ECP] [only report]

Gadwall

6/8 Magee Marsh [MS], 6/17 Bayshore [nested] [MS], 7/27 West Sister Is. [nested] [MS], 7/31 ONWR [ECP]. "summered at Big Island WA" [KA]

American Wigeon

7/27 Winous Pt. [MS]

Hooded Merganser

Reported from Cuyahoga Valley NRA [8 young] [DAC, RH], Grand River WA [9 young] [CB], Magee Marsh [good population] [MS], ONWR [max. 13] [ECP], and Springville Marsh [3 young] [TB].

Ruddy Duck

7/3 Toledo [TB]

Black Vulture

6/5 Hocking Co. [2] [KA], 6/8 Adams Co. [2] [KA], 6/17 Hueston Woods [nest with two young] [RH]

Turkey Vulture

Widespread.

Bald Eagle

Lucas Co. [2 nests, 1 young], Ottawa Co. [5 nests, 4 young], Erie Co. [2 nests, 2 young], Sandusky Co. [2 nests, 2 young], Trumbull Co. [1 nest, 0 young] [data from MS]

Northern Harrier

Reported from Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Henry, Ottawa, Trumbull, and Van Wert Cos. [RH, TL, TK, ECP, MS, CB, TB].

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Reported from Anna [2 young fledged], Deersville [2], and Adams and Morgan Cos. [TB, LR, RH].

Cooper's Hawk

Reported from Butler, Cuyahoga, Franklin, Lucas, and Morgan Cos. [RH, TL, KA, MA, TK].

Red-shouldered Hawk

Reported from CVNRA and Lucas, Ross, and Shelby Cos. [JM, TK, KA, RH]; poor showing in NE [LR].

Broad-winged Hawk

Reported from Lucas, Portage [increasing], Ross, Sandusky, and Washington Cos. [MA, TK, LR, KA, TB, LB].

Red-tailed Hawk

Widespread.

American Kestrel

Widespread.

Peregrine Falcon

Still present in Toledo through the period [see cover photo this issue].

Ring-necked Pheasant

Reported from Champaign, Clark, and Lucas, and Ottawa Cos. [DO, TK, ECP, MS].

Ruffed Grouse

Reported from Adams, Lake [3 juveniles], and Ross Cos. [TL, KA].

Wild Turkey

Reported from Ross [8 young] and Scioto Cos. [KA].

Northern Bobwhite

Widely reported; increasing in most areas.

King Rail

7/11 Navarre Marsh [MS]; one June bird at Big Island WA [KA].

Virginia Rail

Reported from CVNRA and Marion, Ottawa, and Trumbull Cos. [RH, KA, MS, CB]; presumed present elsewhere.

Sora

Reported from Franklin, Marion, and Ottawa Cos. [KA, MS].

Common Moorhen

Reported from ONWR, Cleveland, CVNRA, Hueston Woods SP, Spring Valley, Grand River WA, Big Island WA, and Magee/Navarre Marshes; young seen [ECP, RH, LG, CB, KA, MS].

American Coot

Reported from Big Island WA, ONWR, and Magee Marsh [KA, ECP, MS].

Killdeer

Widespread and abundant.

Spotted Sandpiper

Reported from Clark Co. [DO], Lake Cowan and Little Miami River [LG], Niles [2 young] [CB], and Magee Marsh [MS].

Upland Sandpiper

Reported from Cuyahoga, Franklin, Henry, Lucas, and Ross Cos. [RH, TK, KA].

Common Snipe

7/15 Grand River WA [CB] [only report] [possible migrant-Ed.]

American Woodcock

Reported from Buck Creek SP [DO], Firestone MP, and Lucas and Ottawa Cos. [TK, ECP, MS]; presumed more widespread than this.

Ring-billed Gull

2500 nests at Bayshore [MS], 7/26 Buck Creek SP [40] [DO], 6/7 ONWR [100] [ECP].

Herring Gull

600 nests on West Sister Is., 400 nests at Bayshore [MS], 16 nests at ONWR [225 birds] [ECP], attempted nesting at Mosquito Lake [CB].

Caspian Tern

6/7 ONWR [ECP], 6/22 Magee Marsh [MS], 7/5 ONWR [ECP], 7/8 Huron [6] [TL], 7/20 Huron [6] [TL], 7/31 ONWR [9] [ECP], 2 summered in Summit Co. [ECP]

Common Tern

Reported from Huron, Magee Marsh, Bayshore [65 on 6/7], and Ottawa NWR [nested] [max. 274 birds on 7/31] [TL, MS, ECP].

Black Tern

Reported from Magee Marsh [nested] and Cleveland [MS, TL].

Rock Dove

Abundant and widespread.

Mourning Dove

Abundant and widespread.

Black-billed Cuckoo

Reported from Hueston Woods SP, ONWR, Kent, and Carroll, Cuyahoga, Harrison, Lorain, Lucas, Ottawa, Ross, Shelby, and Washington Cos. [RH, ECP, LR, TL, TK, MS, KA, LB].

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

Widely reported; reported down in S. Central Ohio, up in NW Ohio, and common in SW Ohio [KA, MA, RH].

Common Barn-Owl

7/20 Jackson Center [may have bred] [TB]

Eastern Screech-Owl

Widespread; reported as scarce in Trumbull Co. [CB].

Great Horned Owl

Widespread.

Barred Owl

Widespread; becoming more common in northwest [TK].

Long-eared Owl

7/3 Toledo [TB], 7/7 Seneca Co. [TB]

Common Nighthawk

Widespread and common.

Chuck-will's-widow

6/27 Adams Co. [8] [TB]

Whip-poor-will

Reported from CVNRA and Butler, Hardin, Lucas, Morgan, and Washington Cos. [MBG, RH, TB, TK, LB].

Chimney Swift

Common and widespread.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Widespread; seems to be increasing statewide.

Belted Kingfisher

Widespread.

Red-headed Woodpecker

Reported from Allen, Brown, Champaign, Clark, Henry, Lucas, and Washington Cos. [RC, LG, DO, TK, LB]; listed as down in NW Ohio [MA].

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Widespread.

Downy Woodpecker

Widespread and common.

Hairy Woodpecker

Widespread; reported as fairly common in Oak Openings and Washington Co. [TK, LB].

Northern Flicker

Common and widespread.

Pileated Woodpecker

Widespread and increasing in south, scarce in northwest.

Eastern Wood-Pewee

Widespread and fairly common.

Acadian Flycatcher

Widespread, more common in south.

Alder Flycatcher

Reported from Irwin Prairie, Grand River WA, Mosquito Lake [2], Wadsworth, and Sandusky Co. [3] [RH, CB, LR, TB].

Willow Flycatcher

Widespread and fairly common; 10 at Buck Creek SP on 6/14 [DO].

Least Flycatcher

Reported from Bolivar [3], Hanoverton, Stone Creek, West Point, and Allen, Ashtabula [common], Sandusky, Seneca [4], Trumbull, and Williams Cos. [5] [LR, RH, TB, CB].

Eastern Phoebe

Reported from Lucas, Washington [common], and Williams Cos.: presumed to be present elsewhere [TK, LB].

Great Crested Flycatcher

Fairly common and widespread.

Eastern Kingbird

Common and widespread; increasing in Lucas Co. [TK]; 31 on 7/5 at ONWR [ECP].

Horned Lark

Common and widespread; reported missing from Washington Co. [LB].

Purple Martin

Reported down in Allen, Hamilton, Ottawa, and Washington Cos. [RF, AW, MS, LB].

Tree Swallow

Common statewide; 415 on 7/5 at ONWR [ECP].

Northern Rough-winged Swallow

Widespread; common along Ohio River [LB].

Bank Swallow

Widespread in suitable habitat; 200 at Cleveland on 7/6 [TL].

Cliff Swallow

Increasing; reported from Ashtabula, Delaware [120 nests], Ottawa [14 nest], Richland [6 nests], and Wayne Cos. [RH, KA, MS, JH, LR].

Barn Swallow

Common statewide.

Blue Jay

Widespread and common.

American Crow

Widespread.

Black-capped Chickadee

Widespread in northern counties.

Carolina Chickadee

Widespread in south.

Tufted Titmouse

Common and widespread.

Red-breasted Nuthatch

6/16-7/4 Kent [family] [LR], 7/25 Oak Openings [TK]

White-breasted Nuthatch

Common and widespread.

Brown Creeper

Reported from Mosquito Lake [2] [CB].

Carolina Wren

Recovering statewide; reported as common in the south [KA, LB, LG, RH].

House Wren

Common and widespread.

Sedge Wren

Reported from ONWR and Miami, Sandusky [2], and Williams Cos. [2] [ECP, RH, TB].

Marsh Wren

Reported from CVNRA, Magee Marsh, ONWR, Spring Valley, Big Island WA, Buck Creek SP, and Clark, Portage [common], and Sandusky Cos. [RH, ECP, JM, MS, LG, KA, DO, TB].

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Widespread.

Eastern Bluebird

Widespread.

Veery

Reported from Oak Openings, Orrville, New Pittsburg, Hueston Woods SP, and Portage Co. [common] [TK, LR, RH].

Wood Thrush

Widespread; listed as declining in the NW [MA].

American Robin

Widespread and abundant.

Gray Catbird

Widespread and common.

Northern Mockingbird

Widespread in the south, uncommon to scarce in the north; may be increasing in central Ohio [KA]; scarce in the Wilmington region [LG]; uncommon in east central Ohio [LR].

Brown Thrasher

Widespread; increasing in western Lucas Co. [TK].

Cedar Waxwing

Widespread.

Loggerhead Shrike D: northern and central counties

Nested in Madison [2 young] and Wood Cos. [4 young] [KA, TB, ECP*]; also reported from Warren Co. [RH].

European Starling

Widespread and abundant.

White-eyed Vireo

Reported from Buck Creek SP, CVNRA, Caesar's Creek, Greene County, Spring Valley, and Oak Openings [DO, JM, LG, TK]; one observer thought they were low in the north [TB]; fairly common from Stark Co. south in east central Ohio [LR].

Solitary Vireo

Nested again in the Oak Openings [TK]; reported at Va. Kendall SP [LR].

Yellow-throated Vireo

Reported from Cowan Creek, Little Miami River, Kiser Lake, Oak Openings, and Carroll, Champaign, Columbiana, Harrison, Medina, Portage, Stark, Summit, Tuscarawas, [a total of 113 birds from east central Ohio-LR], Wayne, and Williams Cos. [LG, DO, TK, MA].

Warbling Vireo

Widespread.

Red-eyed Vireo

Widespread.

Blue-winged Warbler

Widely reported; 110 on east central Ohio Atlas blocks [LR].

Golden-winged Warbler

Reported from Oak Openings [TB, MA, RH] [only report].

Northern Parula

Reported from CVNRA, Clear Creek, Cowan Creek, Germantown, Little Miami River, Scioto Trails SF, East Liverpool, West Point, and Adams Co. [JM, TB, LG, RH, LR, KA].

Yellow Warbler

Widespread.

Chestnut-sided Warbler

Reported from Kent, L. Rockwell [4], Oak Openings and Ashtabula and Wood Cos. [LR, MA, RH, TB].

Black-throated Green Warbler

Reported from CVNRA [3], Deersville, East Liverpool, Va. Kendall SP, West Point, and North Chagrin Pk. [Cleveland] [3] [JM, DAC, LR, TL].

Yellow-throated Warbler

Reported from Buck Creek SP, Cowan Creek, Little Miami River, Lisbon, East Liverpool, West Point, Spring Valley, and Washington Co. [DO, LG, LR, LB]; absent in the northwest [TK].

Pine Warbler

Reported from Brush Creek SF, L. Rockwell, Washington Co., and Oak Openings [first NW Ohio nest--see article this issue] [KA, LR, LB, TK].

Prairie Warbler

Reported from Athens, Caesar's Creek, Oak Openings, CVNRA, Stone Creek, West Point, and Butler, Carroll, Hamilton [numbers down], Harrison, Warren, and Washington Cos. [LG, TK, RH, MS, LR, TB, JM, DAC, AW, LB].

Cerulean Warbler

Widely reported; 15 on 6/15 in Scioto Trails SF [KA]; listed as down in SW Ohio [AW] and in the north [TB]; 114 in east central Ohio Atlas blocks [LR].

Black-and-white Warbler

Reported from CVNRA and Allen, Auglaize, Columbiana, Hardin, Harrison, Sandusky, Seneca, Washington, and Williams Cos. [JM, TB, LR, LB].

American Redstart

Reported from Buck Creek SP, Little Miami River, Magee Marsh, Maumee River, Mosquito Lake, ONWR, and Columbiana, Medina, Portage, Summit, Stark, Washington, and Wayne Cos. [DO, LG, MS, TK, CB, ECP, LR, LB].

Prothonotary Warbler

Widely reported; nine nests in the Magee/Navarre Marsh area [MS].

Worm-eating Warbler

Reported from Caesar's Creek and Columbiana and Washington Cos. [LG, LR, LB]; "gone" from SW corner of the state [AW].

Ovenbird

Reported from Clark Lake, Mosquito Lake, Oak Openings [mixed reports], and Clinton, Columbiana, Hamilton [down], Harrison, Portage, Summit, Tuscarawas, and Washington Cos. [CB, TK, MA, LG, LR, AW, LB].

Louisiana Waterthrush

Reported from CVNRA, Cowan Creek, Little Miami River, and Columbiana, Hamilton [numbers down], Harrison, Portage, Summit, Wayne and Washington Cos. [JM, LG, LR, AW, LB].

Kentucky Warbler

Widely reported; more common in southern and east central parts of the state [91 in east central Atlas blocks-LR].

Common Yellowthroat

Common and widespread.

Hooded Warbler

Widely reported; more common in southern and east central parts of the state: 108 in east central Atlas blocks [LR].

Yellow-breasted Chat

Widely reported; 18 in Adams Co. on 6/8 [KA].

Summer Tanager

Widely reported from south; more northern sightings included birds in Allen, Hardin, and Lucas Cos. [TB, TK]

Scarlet Tanager

Widely distributed.

Northern Cardinal

Widespread and common.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Reported from Buck Creek SP, Cowan Creek, Hueston Woods SP, and Auglaize, Butler, Hamilton, Lucas, and Shelby Cos. [LG, RH, TB, TK]; increases noted in north, spreading south [TB, TK].

Blue Grosbeak D: central and northern counties

Reported from Adams [4 males] and Hamilton Cos. [TB, KA, AK, MM, DS, NW, AW, m.ob.*]

Indigo Bunting

Widespread and very common.

Dickcissel

Reported from Buck Creek SP and Allen, Auglaize, Butler, Champaign, Clark, Hardin, Lucas, Miami, Montgomery, Ottawa, Preble, Putnam, Sandusky, Seneca, Shelby, Van Wert, and Wood Cos. [DO, TB, RH, TK]; apparently on the "up" end of their cycle.

Rufous-sided Towhee

Reported from Buck Creek SP, Magee Marsh, Oak Openings, and Champaign, Clark, and Washington Cos. [DO, MS, TK, LB].

Chipping Sparrow

Widespread and common.

Field Sparrow

Widespread and common.

Vesper Sparrow

Widespread and common.

Lark Sparrow

Reported from Adams and Hamilton Cos., Oak Openings, and Auglaize Co. [found in old gravel pits] [KA, TK, MA, MS, RH, TB, AK, MM, DS, NW, AW, m.ob.*]; appears to be increasing slightly.

Savannah Sparrow

Widespread, but less numerous in the south.

Grasshopper Sparrow

Reported from Buck Creek SP, Oak Openings, ONWR, and Champaign, Clark, and Washington Cos. [DO, TK, MS, ECP, LB]; also reported from two-thirds of Atlas blocks in SW Ohio [RH]; good numbers in reclaimed strip mine areas of east central Ohio [LR].

Henslow's Sparrow

Reported from Caesar's Creek, Germantown, and Adams [13], Ashtabula, Butler, Columbiana, Harrison [25], Morgan ["ridiculously common" locally], Stark [27], Summit, Tuscarawas, and Washington [numbers down] Cos. [LG, RH, LR, KA, LB].

Song Sparrow

Widespread and common.

Swamp Sparrow

Reported only from CVNRA, Magee Marsh, and Oak Openings [JM, MS, TK]; abundant in NE marshes [LR].

Dark-eyed Junco

Reported from North Chagrin Park [Cleveland] [4] [TL].

Bobolink

Reported from Buck Creek SP [max. 40], CVNRA, Magee Marsh, ONWR, Mosquito Lake, and Clark, Henry, Lucas, and Putnam Cos. [DO, JM, MS, ECP, CB, TK]; doing well in east central Ohio [LR].

Red-winged Blackbird

Widespread and abundant.

Eastern Meadowlark

Widespread.

Western Meadowlark

Reported from Ottawa NWR, Magee Marsh, and Van Wert Co. [ECP, TB, MS].

Common Grackle

Widespread and abundant.

Brown-headed Cowbird

Widespread and common.

Orchard Oriole

Widely reported; listed as down by one NW Ohio observer [MA].

Northern Oriole

Widespread.

Purple Finch

6/1-7/22 Springfield [DO], 6/9 West Point [2] [LR], 6/10 Navarre [LR], 6/10 Allen Co. [pair] [TB], 6/11 E. Palestine [LR], 6/17 Mosquito Lake [feeding young] [CB].

House Finch

Continues to increase statewide.

Pine Siskin

6/1 Oak Openings [MA], 6/30 Oxford [RH]

American Goldfinch

Widespread and very common.

House Sparrow

Widespread and abundant.

EXOTICS

Brazilian Cardinal

7/25 Locust Point [MS]

UNCORROBORATED REPORTS

The following reports were received without substantiating details so will be included in this section. It is important that observers include documentation for rare, hard-to-identify, or unusual numbers of species. The Ohio Cardinal Records Committee will review other species for which documentation has been received.

Long-billed Dowitcher [696] 7/11 Navarre Marsh

Bell's Vireo 7/26 Sandusky Co.

Ohio's second Rufous Hummingbird was found August 22 at a Trumbull County feeder and remained until at least August 29. Details will be published in the next issue of The Ohio Cardinal.

The Ohio Cardinal has begun a campaign to increase its number of subscribers. Our goal is to gain 50 new subscribers by the end of 1987. To reach this goal, we need your help. Recommend the journal to friends or talk it up at your bird club meetings or in the field. As added incentive, we will deduct \$1.00 from your 1988 subscription for every new paid subscriber you enlist. If you enlist 10 new subscribers, your 1988 issues of The Ohio Cardinal are free! When subscribing, simply have your friends write "recommended by" [your name] and you will receive the proper deduction on your 1988 issues. We appreciate your help to ensure the continued success of The Ohio Cardinal.

CORRIGENDUM: Except for the Snowy Egret on 4/23, Jim Hill [JH1] should be given credit for observations attributed to [JH] in the last issue.

Location Cross-Reference

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>
Anna	Shelby	Hueston Woods SP	Preble/Butler
Barberton	Summit	Irwin Prairie	Lucas
Bayshore	Lucas	Kiser Lake	Champaign
Berea	Cuyahoga	Lake Cowan	Clinton
Beavercreek Res.	Seneca	Lake Rockwell	Portage
Big Island WA	Marion	Little Miami R.	Clinton/Warren
Bolivar	Tuscarawas	Lisbon	Columbiana
Brush Creek SF	Scioto	Magee Marsh	Ottawa/Lucas
Buck Creek SP	Clark	Maumee Bay SP	Lucas
Caesar's Creek	Greene	Mosquito Creek	Trumbull
Cedar Point NWR	Lucas	Mosquito Lake	Trmbull
Cowan Creek	Clinton	Navarre Marsh	Ottawa
Clark Lake	Clark	Oak Openings	Lucas
Clearcreek	Fairfield	Ottawa Refuge	Lucas/Ottawa
Cowan Lake	Clinton	Orrville	Wayne
Crane Creek	Ottawa/Lucas	Oxbow area	Hamilton
Cuyahoga Valley NRA	Cuyahoga/ Summit	Scioto Trails SF	Ross
Deersville	Harrison	Spring Valley WA	Greene
Englewood Res.	Montgomery	Springville Marsh	Seneca
East Liverpool	Columbiana	Stone Creek	Tuscarawas
East Palestine	Columbiana	Wadsworth	Medina
Germantown Res.	Montgomery	Wellington Res.	Lorain
Glen Helen	Greene	West Branch	Portage
Gordon Park	Cuyahoga	West Milton	Miami
Grand River WA	Trumbull	West Point	Columbiana
Hanoverton	Columbiana	Va. Kendall SP	Summit
		New Pittsburg	Wayne

CONTRIBUTORS

J. Kirk Alexander [KA]	Tom Kemp [TK]
Matt Anderson [MA]	Alan Knue [AK]
Carole Babyak [CB]	Tom LePage [TL]
Lynn Barnhart [LB]	Jeff Maugans [JM]
Tom Bartlett [TB]	Morris Mercer [MM]
Cincinnati Bird Club [CBC]	Doug Overacker [DO]
Dwight/Ann Chasar [DAC]	Ed/Cheryl Pierce [ECP]
Robert Cutter [RC]	Larry Rosche [LR]
Ralph Fischer [RF]	Mark Shieldcastle [MS]
Larry Gara [LG]	Dave Styer [DS]
Mark/Betty Gatewood [MBG]	Norm Walker [NW]
Ray Hannikman [RHA]	Art Wiseman [AW]
Robert Harlan [RH]	John Herman [JH]

Ohio Cardinal Records Committee

In this issue every documented bird reported has been reviewed by the new Ohio Cardinal Records Committee. If the bird report appears in The Reports section (all documented birds are noted by an asterisk) then a majority of the Committee accepted the documentation. If rejected, the report appears in a special report in this issue of rejected documentations. Here also appear those records published in the last issue of The Ohio Cardinal which have now been reviewed and rejected. (In the last issue all documented birds were published in The Reports section pending review.)

Members of this Committee's predecessor, The Ohio Records Committee, had additional time consuming duties which they felt prevented them from reviewing all Cardinal documentations. Most wished to restrict their efforts to first state records. The editors attempted to operate without a Committee for several issues but it was quickly apparent a Committee was necessary so the new committee was formed. Members of the former Committee were asked to join this new effort.

The editors strive for a high probability of accuracy in the bird reports published. It's important for historical purposes to have reliable data. To attempt to ensure reliability, reporters are requested to document many rare or difficult to identify species. Even then the editors found it extremely difficult to assess such documentations and sought outside expert opinion either to provide expertise they didn't have as to certain species or provide knowledge of the observer or eliminate any possible bias or simply as a second or third opinion. Above all we wanted the reporter to have every possible chance of having his record accepted. Thus the continuation of the Committee.

At full strength the present Committee will have five members. It now has four and we are still seeking a member to represent eastern Ohio. Each member represents a different geographical area of Ohio and is a recognized expert in field identification of Ohio birds. Each documentation submitted to the Ohio Cardinal is reviewed by each member. As the editors receive the documentations for each issue they are photocopied and sent to each member for his review. The members then return their reviews to the editors by letter or phone. If three or more of the Committee (a majority) approve a record, it is accepted. (Only three members were available to review the documentations in this issue and the last so it was necessary for only two to approve.)

The Committee's objective is to determine the probability that the viewer actually saw the bird named. An acceptance means that the bird described was probably seen. A rejection means only that the description given was inadequate to make this determination. A rejection does not mean that the observer did not see the bird he names. Some observers simply do not write well. The major cause of rejection is the failure of the observer to give a precise detailed description of the bird. As an observer, the rarer the bird, the more you try to get an excellent look at it to be sure of your identification. Thus the better you saw the bird, the more detail you can put into your written description to enable others to come to the same conclusion.

The committee members serve without any compensation. They obviously must devote much effort and time to this work and we feel very lucky to have their service. They worry that bird report contributors, many of whom they know as friends, will stop reporting if they have a documentation rejected. They hope that if they are objective and fair in their reviews that the contributor will not take their response personally as a blow to his ego but rather realize that they could not form an opinion from his description to verify his sighting. Again, they emphasize, it does not mean that the observer didn't see the bird named.

The four committee members are: Dr. Elliot Tramer, Toledo, Ohio; Tom LePage, Cleveland, Ohio; Jim Fry, Columbus, Ohio; and Duncan Evered, Cincinnati, Ohio.

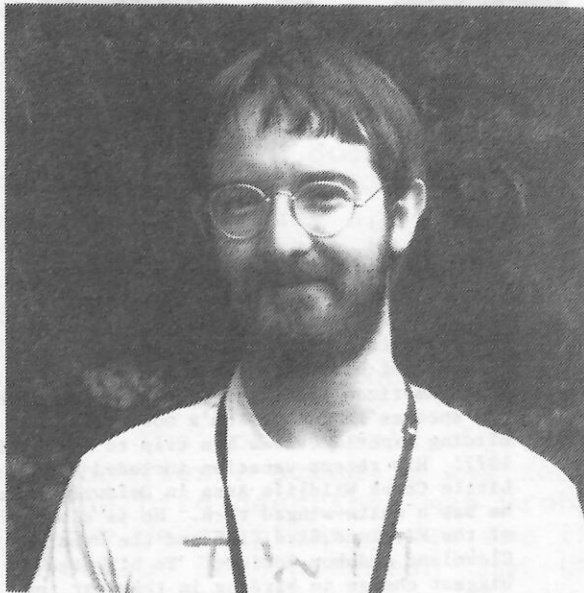
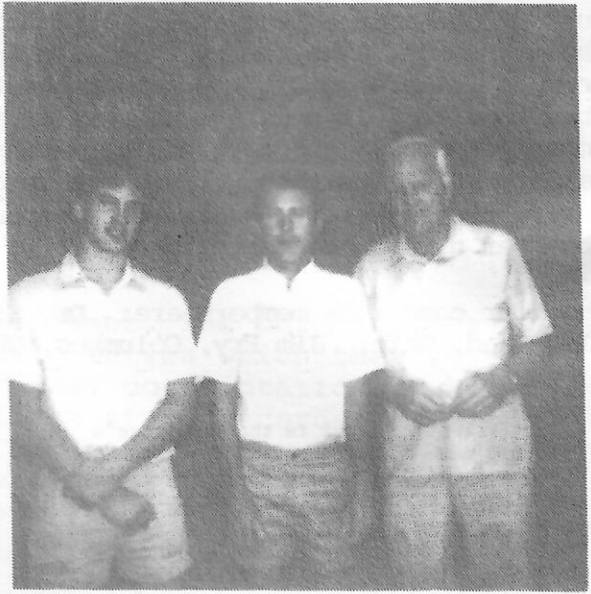
Elliot J. Tramer is the Committee's veteran member, having served on the prior Ohio Records Committee. He is a professor of biology at The University of Toledo where he has worked for 19 years and specializes in ecology. He has over 40 articles published in scientific journals (about half on birds), numerous popular articles on nature subjects, and is co-author of Distribution and Abundance of the Birds of Ohio with the other former Ohio Records Committee members. He is a life elective member of the American Ornithologists Union and also is a member of the Toledo Naturalists Assn., Wilson and Cooper Ornithological Societies and National Audubon Society. His most exciting sightings include quetzals and bellbirds in Costa Rica, cock-of-the-rock in Venezuela and condors in California. After 35 years of birding, his North American life list stands at 595 species. Elliot sees the increase in number and quality of birders leading to much better coverage as the biggest birding change in his lifetime.



Tom LePage is retired from the RCA Service Company. He birds the Cleveland lakefront area daily in addition to his extensive coverage of northern Ohio. In 17 years of birding, he has accumulated a North American life list of 664 birds, with 319 species in Ohio. Tom's most enjoyable birding experience was his trip to Alaska in 1977. His recent vacation included the Little Creek Wildlife Area in Delaware where he saw a white-winged tern. He is a member of the Kirtland Bird Club and the Greater Cleveland Audubon Society. To him, the biggest change in birding in the last ten years has been the increase in people going on birding trips to other parts of the United States with groups.



Jim Fry is an Interpretive Naturalist for the Columbus and Franklin County Metropolitan Park District. He has worked for them for 28 years, first at Blacklick Woods Metropolitan Park, and since 1973 at Blendon Woods Metropolitan Park. He also writes a nature column for The Columbus Dispatch. Jim has been birding, Ohio almost exclusively, for the last 30 years. He birds twice a week, mostly in central Ohio, and has seen 319 species in the state. In 1977, he broke the American Birding Association's record for Ohio by seeing 265 species in one year and again broke it in 1978 with 283 species. He was the first person to see 265 species per year in Ohio for five consecutive years. He is a past-president of the Licking County Audubon Society and The Wheaton Club. One of his most exciting moments in birding was spending an hour with Dr. Roger Tory Peterson and his wife at their Connecticut home this summer. She took the photograph of Jim (center), her husband and Jim's friend, Eric Reiner. The biggest change Jim has seen in the last 10 years of birding is the establishment of a network of communication among birders throughout most of Ohio.



Duncan Evered was born and raised in England. He has been in the United States since 1982. He has worked as a research assistant for the University of Oxford, England, a research biologist for the Manomet Bird Observatory, a field assistant for Long Point Bird Observatory and is presently a PhD student in avian behavioral ecology at the University of Cincinnati. In fourteen years of birding and banding, he has a life list of 550 for North America and 367 for Britain. He has written two articles for the Bird Observer of E. Massachusetts: Artic/ Pacific Loon Identification and Birding Plymouth Beach. He is a member of the British and American Ornithological Unions, Wilson's Ornithological Society and the British Trust for Ornithology. He birds as often as he can get away with it and in the Spring that's 5-7 hours a day at Burnet Woods City Park. Duncan's biggest hoped for change in birding in the next ten years is to see US birders keep better notes, and to send summaries of their seasonal observations to more state/local committees for compilation.

REPORT OF THE OHIO CARDINAL RECORDS COMMITTEE [OCRC]

This report covers documented species for the 1987 Spring and Summer seasons. The following species reports were accepted by a majority vote of the Records Committee.

Red-necked Grebe 3/8 Summit Co.
Red-necked Grebe 4/9 Beavercreek Res.
Snowy Egret 4/23 Wayne Co.
Tricolored Heron 5/5 Barberton
Mississippi Kite 6/3 Shelby Co.
Swainson's Hawk 5/13 Hueston Woods
Peregrine Falcon 3/1-7/31 Toledo
Peregrine Falcon 5/9 ONWR
Yellow Rail 4/21-5/2 Irwin Prairie
Long-billed Dowitcher 3/8 Springville Marsh
California Gull 4/29 Cleveland
Least Tern 7/11 Cleveland
Bell's Vireo 5/25 Sandusky Co.
Kirtland's Warbler 5/9 Crane Creek
Swainson's Warbler 5/18-19 Jackson Co.
Blue Grosbeak 5/29-6/20 Hamilton Co.
Lark Sparrow 5/30 Hamilton Co.
Brambling 4/5-10 Bath.
Hoary Redpoll 3/6 Ottawa Co.

The following species reports were not accepted by the OCRC.

Red-necked Grebe 4/12 Lima. Comment: Description of size ["size of a Ruddy duck"] was inaccurate. Ruddy ducks are perhaps 5" shorter than Red-necked grebes. An incomplete description of the plumage was provided.

White-fronted Goose 3/1-8 Mosquito Lake. Comment: There was certainly no question that this bird was a White-fronted goose. The description was excellent. However, in the judgement of the committee, this bird was a likely escape. The length of stay [throughout the winter] and the reported tameness of this individual [it allowed very close approach] lead the committee to this decision.

Mississippi Kite 5/20 Delaware Co. Comment: The committee felt that the sighting was too brief to provide positive identification.

Northern Goshawk 4/5 Monclova [Lucas Co.]. Comment: Details submitted were insufficient to identify this species. Possible confusion with immature female Cooper's hawk was cited.

Yellow Rail 5/27 Big Island WA. Comment: There was considerable confusion about Yellow rails and Cricket frogs at Big Island this past spring. Other competent observers reported hearing Cricket frogs but did not see Yellow rails. This report is therefore not accepted unless a corroborating report is submitted.

Mountain Plover 5/22 ONWR. Comment: Committee members felt that the description was not complete enough to justify inclusion on the state list. The possibility of confusion with aberrant Black-bellied plovers or Killdeers exists.

PEREGRINE FALCONS IN DOWNTOWN TOLEDO

Matt Anderson

A tightly compacted flock of pigeons whirls by my office window in a frenzied state. It can only mean one thing: the Peregrine falcon's come to town for another visit.

Peregrine falcons have become part of America's urban landscape in recent years. Chicago, Grand Rapids, Baltimore, Atlanta, and other cities have released Peregrines in downtown areas hoping to establish them as breeders. The occurrence of Peregrine falcons in downtown Toledo is particularly gratifying as these birds introduced themselves to the city. Since November 1986 at least one Peregrine falcon has graced the downtown Toledo area with varying amounts of frequency.

As far as I know, the first sighting of these Peregrines was on 18 November 1986. On that date, I happened to peer out of my 14th floor office window in Edison Plaza just as an immature-plumaged Peregrine streaked by through the worst of a sleet storm.

Over the course of the next several months, this Peregrine was seen regularly [including on the Christmas Count date for a first-ever Toledo Christmas Count record]. Its most regular perches seemed to be the Ohio Citizens Bank Building, the Toledo Trust Building, and the old Macy's store. A maintenance worker at Toledo Trust discovered where the falcon roosted at night and also informed me and others of the birds habit of resting on or near the fire escape where it would sun itself during the day. The best Peregrine photographs were obtained here, at very close range.

During this time, the Peregrine entertained birders and non-birders alike with its artistry in flight. On one occasion, my fiancée observed the falcon catching insects in its talons high above the city and feeding in mid-flight. A co-worker of mine was lucky enough to witness the falcon pluck a pigeon from mid-air right in front of his office window. The typical scene, however, was of flocks of pigeons exploding from the rooftops as the Peregrine came swooping in. Although I have yet to see a Peregrine make a kill, I did observe several times as the Peregrine brought an already-dead pigeon or Bonaparte's gull to one of its favorite perches.

On 26 March, I happened to be out of the office but received a call from a co-worker who had developed an interest in the Peregrine. He reported that the bird he had been watching for the past several months was being chased by another bird that looked very similar. I have to admit that, at the time, I brushed this second bird off as a Red-tailed hawk which had also become a downtown regular. However, my doubts were quickly proved without merit the next day. Early in the morning I watched as a Peregrine raced by my window. This event had become a regular occurrence; however, this quick glimpse seemed to indicate a blue Peregrine, not the brown immature-plumaged bird. Sure enough, the next day I arrived to the exhilarating scene of two Peregrines circling the top of the Ohio Citizens Bank Building. Wow!

A second Peregrine falcon in downtown Toledo. The adult-plumaged slate-blue male was noticeably smaller than the female. A beautiful specimen indeed!

From the start, the male Peregrine gave every indication that it was quite enamored of the female. His activities included chasing her, diving at her, and chattering constantly.

I monitored the activity of the falcons closely from my office window whenever my work brought me downtown. My obvious hope was that the Peregrines were going to breed. In mid-April I observed as the male fluttered over the female and came within inches of lighting on top of her. From 27 March to 14 May all of my falcon sightings were of both birds together. However, beyond the activities described, I saw no direct evidence of breeding activity. To this day I am still not sure if the immature-plumaged female was of breeding age.

As of the date this article is being written [late August] I have not seen the female Peregrine since 14 May. However, the male has continued to make appearances throughout the summer, although very irregularly in mid-summer. [As I write this paragraph he is once again perched on the Ohio Citizens Building and has not moved all day].

The occurrence of these Peregrine falcons has raised numerous questions in my and other birders' minds: Did the female head north in mid-May? Where is the male spending its time when it is not downtown? Was the female too young to breed? Will the female return again this fall? Where did the Peregrines come from to begin with? Neither bird appeared to be banded.

The answers to at least some of these questions will probably eventually be answered. Practically all Toledo area birders are hopeful that these two Peregrines may eventually provide Ohio's first breeding record. At the very least, these two falcons have livened up birding in downtown Toledo!

First Cormorant Nests in 100 Years

Ed Pierce

"You don't always get what you want", sing The Stones, and that was certainly a fact at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge this summer. The Manager established a common tern nesting program but was the recipient of seven double-crested cormorant nests instead.

The efforts were clearly unrelated. Common terns started nesting on the mainland in Ohio in 1928. Before then they were known to breed only on a few islands in Lake Erie. For example, 1800 nested on Rattlesnake and Starve Island in 1927. Through the years since then, colonies up to 5000 birds have established and left various mainland locations in Ottawa and Lucas Counties, either through commercial fisherman who pulled seines on their nesting bar, egg hunters, storms or pressure from gull expansion.

In 1978, 51 pairs remained at the dredge disposal area at Bayshore power plant but this colony dwindled to 5 pairs, three of which nested with unknown success in 1986.

Conversely, cormorants had not nested in Ohio since the early 1800's. Their only previous Ohio nesting was at Grand Lake St. Mary's and apparently began about the time the reservoir was created. Dury 1930, spoke of hundreds nesting in snags from the creation of the Lake along the south shore. Howe 1898, tells of dead forests standing in the water in 1846 which were gone by 1902. Dury's account of a visit to the area in June 1867 is published in Langdon 1878:

"On the south side of the Reservoir, about seven miles from Celina, was the Water Turkey's rookery. Here I used to go and shoot them with the natives, who wanted them for their feathers; I have helped kill a boat load.

"One season I climbed up to their nests and got a cap full of their eggs. The nests were made of sticks and built in the forks of the branches. The trees (which were all dead) were mostly oaks and covered with excrement. I found from two to four eggs or young to a nest. The young were queer little creatures - looked and felt like India rubber. The old birds flew around and made their croaking notes, indicative of their displeasure at my presence. Some of the trees had ten or twelve nests on them. As the timber has rotted and blown down, the birds have become less and less numerous."

Cormorant sightings have greatly increased at the O.N.W.R. in the last three years. Strictly a migrant in the Toledo area and mainly in the fall this bird had only one summer record (1937) by 1968. This despite its reported nesting on the Chicken Islands (Ontario) since 1939. (Trautman: 12 young 1949 and Langlois: 13 nests 1954). This pattern continued at O.N.W.R. in 1981 (2 birds 10/2), 1982 (0 birds) and 1983 (2 birds 9/6) but in 1984 six birds were recorded June 3, two July 1, two September 2 and three October 7

and the explosion was on:

	1985	1986	1987
June	10	8	6
July	11	12	30
August	16	10	94
September	42	21	72
October	15	39	113
November	1	25	

This increase corresponds to the increase in this species on the east coast. I wonder what the Chicken Islands' population looks like now.

Cormorant distribution through 1962 was on the increase from its low in 1925 which was due to its persecution by man. It had by 1962 reoccupied much of its former breeding range and was increasing. Apparently the pesticide era slowed or stopped this increase. Now recovered, the species is increasing annually across northeastern United States and predicted to come into increasing conflict with fisheries managers. Indeed a proposal by the Prince Edward Island Fish and Wildlife Division to declare an open season on the species was defeated partly by the action of the P.E.I. Natural History Society. However "nuisance" individuals that feed on trout and fresh water ponds will be shot. Palmer 1962, lists the fish eaten in order of abundance by this species which appear to be largely non commercial species.

Six O.N.W.R. cormorant nests were built about the third week in June this year and a seventh was under construction on July 5. They were built in two dead snags standing in a large reservoir of water about 100 yards inside the new outermost dike at the main complex near the mouth of Crane Creek. Cormorants were seen sitting on the nests which remained through most of August until a heavy storm blew down one of the snags. On September 6, only one nest remained in the remaining snag which was the easternmost of the two. It was abandoned.

I have not heard of any young in these nests and would appreciate hearing from anyone who did. On August 2, full grown cormorants were sitting on the nests as if incubating. Palmer 1962, gives four days for nest construction, twenty-eight days for incubation and twenty-one to twenty-eight days before the young wander from the nest. At fourteen to twenty-one days there is great activity, large appetite, much exercising, and total confusion at the nest at feeding time, including trampling and begging response between young. This is the activity we should have observed by August 2, or someone should have seen during that month, but if they did it is yet unreported to me. (Additionally, Trautman's twelve young in 1949 were seen May 5 and Langlois' thirteen nests in 1954 on May 22.) Now back to the terns. The project started in early May with loop tapes of common tern colony calls and decoys. Again the new outer dike ending at the mouth of Crane Creek was the site of this activity. Mike Tansy, Refuge Manager, reports that two nests with eggs were actually seen and a third nest was thought to exist. Chris and Mike Crofts acted as tern wardens, observing the area for tern activity from a nearby dike throughout the summer. The nests were thought to be destroyed by predators.

The project will continue next year with some sophistication learned from this year including perhaps an electrified fence to keep predators from this dike. Mike Tansy says that it generally takes at least three years for a tern colony to establish. He certainly deserves accolades and encouragement for undertaking such a worthwhile project.

As The Stones say (eventually) in closing, "If you try sometimes you just might get what you need."

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Atlas Finished

The largest and most intense bird survey in Ohio's 281 year history completed it's field work this summer. 780 data points and 5 years later Dan Rice, Project Director of Ohio's Bird Atlas is looking forward to returning to his normal duties with Ohio's Department of Natural Resources: fish, reptilian, and amphibian surveys. Dan speaks with pride of the quality of the work accomplished: all 780 blocks were surveyed with a 90% coverage rate on each block. This means that 90% of the species expected or predicted to be present in each block were actually found. In the eastern blocks, 80 species were predicted while 70-80 species were expected in the western blocks. 90% coverage of the 80 species means 72 were actually found. A days census at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge in June or July usually produces 70-80 species. At the rate of a day per block then it would take 780 days to do what Dan Rice's survey crew accomplished in 305 days (June, 30 days plus July, 31 days for five years).

He also openly admires the abilities of his survey crew birders who upon seeing certain habitat, know what birds should be there and then find them. They also have the knack of looking for the odd habitat within a block. He feels some birders just seem to have this innate ability to find birds.

Dan says the Atlas itself should be published in 2-3 years. He hopes to hold down the cost to \$20.00 per book. Vermont charges \$35.00, New York \$45.00 and Ontario \$53.00 for their books. Every species will have a map and a write up.

To date, roughly \$200,000 has been spent on the project. Dan believes that a minimum of 25 years and perhaps as much as 50 years should pass before the survey is repeated. After all, it has been about 52 years since the Ohio Biological Survey published the last survey (Hicks) of Ohio's breeding birds, which of course was much less extensive. The \$200,000 is quite an expense to justify and there should be some substantial time period over which change could occur. However, he feels local birders could repeat the survey for their county every 5 years or so to maintain current knowledge. The original data for each county will be stored at the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and will be available upon request.

Dan frankly states he underestimated the amount of work the Atlas would require. This summer's goal alone was to visit 300 blocks which were deemed unacceptable in terms of percentage of species found versus expected. Tom Bartlett visited 59 of these himself in northwestern Ohio but Dan did 60.

The most difficult part of the last five years was finding enough volunteers to do the census work. 400-500 are necessary. In 1983, 250-300 volunteers started atlasing, but the number dropped precipitously each year afterwards. It was necessary to hire census workers the last three years. Dan felt that the various Ohio bird clubs would undertake the atlasing of their various counties and neighboring counties as a club project for the education and enjoyment of their members as well as a benefit to Ohio but few did. This was a disappointment to him. He also found that few volunteers birded above their level of ability. For example, few would learn bird songs in an effort to improve their location of species within their block.

He thought the individual birder would use this opportunity to improve his techniques.

Now that the data collection is over, Dan looks ahead to other projects that have been on his mind: establishing a network of observers to check on endangered or rare species now that some of their locations have been identified; and inventorying birds species quantitatively on Scenic Rivers and State Nature Preserves.

This summer, as with the last two, the Department of Natural Resources hired summer survey workers to atlas quads. Employed this summer were Vic Fazio, Mary Gustafson, Tom Bartlett, Rob Harlan, Larry Rosche, Steve McKee, and Bill Reiner. Generally, they worked the months of June and July for an hourly wage and travel expenses. Tom, for example, covered 59 blocks in western and northwestern Ohio often staying overnight in the general area. He generally spent one day in each block by birding it from 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. on one day and then from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on a second day. This allowed him to be in two blocks for two days alternating between them. His highlights included lark sparrows in three different locations in Auglaize County with a nesting pair at St. John's; a common barn-owl in Shelby County; sedge wrens in Van Wert and Sandusky counties, a Bell's vireo in Sandusky County; long-eared owls in Lucas and Seneca counties; a northern harrier in Van Wert County; and a confirmed nesting of a sharp-shinned Hawk in Shelby County. He found dickcissels in all the counties he visited and believes they are much more common than expected.

Other accounts of "How I Spent My Summer Vacation" are written below by two other workers.

Rob Harlan

"It is possible...that the species nest regularly somewhere in southern Ohio. Because of its preference for dense thickets, the superficial similarity of its song to that of the Louisiana waterthrush, and the dearth of resident ornithologists in this section of the State, the bird might easily have been overlooked." Although written in 1947 (Wilson Bulletin 59:211), these comments concerning Swainson's warbler by N. Bayard Green still hold true to day. In his article, Green relates his discovery and studies of a territorial male Swainson's warbler in Lawrence County during the spring and summer of 1947.

Prior to this May, when I was working for the Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas, this record has always seem archaic to me. Actually, while doing the atlas work on May 17 near Wellston in Jackson County, it had not even entered my mind. Instead, I was more concerned with a larger-sounding dog in the distance and having darkness fall while I was still a mile or so off the highway in a maze of old logging roads. Nonetheless, a bird singing somewhere in the impenetrable brush ahead kept my attention. It was a song I recognized, a loud, monotonous seeo seeo tu tu weeeo, but one that I couldn't definitely put a name to. I searched for as long as I cared to but couldn't pin the bird down and decided to try again the next morning. When I got back to camp I played Peterson's Eastern Bird Tape and quickly confirmed my

suspicions: the singer was a Swainson's warbler!

A return trip the next morning proved very fruitful. Upon approaching the site where the bird had been the day before, its now familiar song announced its continued presence. A short distance and a little bushwhacking later, I had the bird in sight. It sat 20 or 30 feet up in a dead pine tree, singing constantly. While the warbler's behavior indicated territoriality, I found no evidence of a female, although this possibly cannot be ruled out. Bruce Peterjohn and Mary Gustafson refound the bird a week later, thus confirming its territorial status. The Swainson's may not have been the most colorful or "fashionable" bird that I have ever found, but it was definitely one of the most satisfying.

Although the Swainson's warbler was found in Jackson County in southern Ohio, most of my time was spent in the southwestern and west-central counties: Butler, Warren, Preble, Miami, and Shelby. I also spent a week each in Ashtabula and Morgan counties, as well as participating in a Williams County blockbusting weekend. The Butler county/southern Preble county area seemed to be the most productive, with Hueston Woods State Park standing out. College Corner block (encompassing the northern extremities of Hueston Woods) harbored a species count in the middle 90's, featuring a black vulture nest, veery, common moorhen, and a pair of black-crowned night-herons, seemingly interested in nesting.

Concerning individual species, dickcissels could be found in most Butler County blocks, as well as smaller numbers in Preble, Montgomery, Clark, and Miami counties. Other sightings of interest include two colonies of cliff swallows near Leon in Ashtabula County, sedge wren near Piqua in Miami County, three sedge wrens near Pioneer in Williams County and pine siskin near Oxford in Butler County. A recently fledged pine siskin in Brecksville, Cuyahoga County, provided evidence of an unusual successful Ohio nesting of this species. Rose-breasted grosbeaks and savannah sparrows continued to push southward and grasshopper sparrows were found in most areas where proper habitat was present. Henslow's sparrows, far from being difficult to locate, proved abundant in some areas of Jackson and Morgan counties, locally, in Butler, Montgomery and Warren counties and present in smaller numbers in Ashtabula County.

When the Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas is finally completed and published, it will undoubtedly reaffirm many of our ideas regarding Ohio's breeding bird distribution. However it will also provide many surprises. I consider myself privileged for the opportunity of taking part in the project and to add to our knowledge of Ohio's avifauna.

Larry Rosche

My 1987 Atlas project included all or parts of 37 blocks in east central Ohio. The time period was from June 6 to July 19. I worked mainly in Columbiana, Harrison, Portage, and Wayne counties and to a lesser extent parts of Carroll, Cuyahoga, Stark, Summit and Tuscarawas counties.

Knowing that I would be in areas of high numbers of warblers and grass

land species I decided to try to census the species of particular interest to me. (See census chart at the end of this article.) The census was by no means complete and indeed quite inadequate for the blocks that I only spent a few hours atlasing. I had to keep my atlas objective in mind and search the necessary habitats to find overlooked species. I had originally planned to include the grasshopper sparrow in the census but in some blocks this species was so numerous that an accurate guestimate could not be made. I did not locate rarities like the sedge wrens I found in Trumbull County in 1986 but I did encounter many birds. Indeed, Columbiana County is certainly an area to deserve more study. The most surprising finds included least flycatchers in West Point, alder flycatchers as far south as Bolivar and Stone Creek. Veery was of interest in New Pittsburg and Orrville blocks. I was also surprised to find out just how isolated the colony of pine warblers at Lake Rockwell (Portage County) is from the rest of their species. Atlasing large pinelands in Carroll and Harrison County did not produce this species.

All in all, the three years I have worked for Natural Areas and Preserves has provided me a wealth of knowledge and given me some of my most rewarding birding in Ohio.

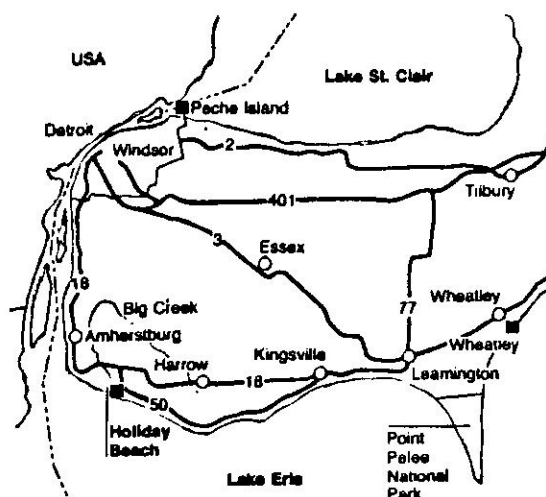
COUNTIES	COLUMBIANA				TUSCARAWAS			STARK		WAYNE			MEDINA				PORTAGE			CARROLL		HARRISON			SUMMIT				
CITIES	W. Point	Hanoverton	Lisbon	E. Liverpool	Elkton	Straasburg	Stone Creek	Mineral City	Navarre	Bolivar	New Pittsburg	Creston	Rittman	Orrville	Wadsworth	Kent	Attwater	Windham	Mantua	L. Rockwell	Dellroy	Jewett	Deererville	Smithfield	Bowerston	Akron east	Va. Kendall		
<u>SPECIES</u>																													
<u>VIREOS</u>																													
Solitary																													
Yel.-throat.	12	1	3	11	3	3	4		4		4	4			5	1	2	6	4	8	5		4	7	5	9	1	8	
<u>WARBLERS</u>																													
Blue-wing.	15	1	3	1	7	5	4	2	2	7		2	2		10	6	3	2	5	8	2		1	7		1		1	5
N. Parula	1			3																									
Yellow	12	14	10	5	14	1	8	2	18	11	21	13	12	11	26	30	17	20	10	26	8		1	10	4	5	20	8	
Chest.-side.																1				4									
BT Green	2			1																				2					1
Yel.-throat.	5		2	1																									
Pine																				4									
Prairie	1					3															10	2	1		1				
Cerulean	16	1	7	17	3		2		1		13	4		2	1			8		6	2		9	7	2	4		1	8
Black & whil.	5		2	1																			1	1					
Am. Redstart	1	2	1	3					2		2	2	1	3		1	2	2	12									1	1
Prothonotary									1							1				4									
Worm-eating	1		1																										
Ovenbird	3	1	1	8			2													1				8		7			16
La. Water.	3		5	1							2	2						1					2						4
Kentucky	20		9	12	1	2	4		1	5	4	4	2								2	6	13	1	5				
Yellowthro	30	28	15	7	17	3	11	4	26	22	14	14	20	13	34	30	15	24	22	35	13		13	23	30	13		15	10
Hooded	10	3	3	7			5		1		8		1			1	6		18		1		8	6	2				28
Chat	6		1	5		2	6	4	1	9	1	1	1	2	6								2	6	6				

Warblers and vireos of east central Ohio, compiled June-July 1987 by Larry Rosche.

Site Guide

Holiday Beach Migration Observatory

"Holiday Beach Provincial Park (in Essex County, Ontario, on the north western shore of Lake Erie) is Canada's premier site for monitoring the passage of post-breeding hawks in the Fall. Birds from the northeast portion of Canada (Ontario, Quebec and presumably the maritime provinces) are funneled into southern Ontario where the majority, unwilling to cross Lake Ontario or Erie stream by to cross the Detroit River." (The Northwind.) In 1986, for example, 41 bald eagles, 36 golden eagles, 32 merlins, 22 peregrine falcons and 37 northern goshawks were counted by members of the Holiday Beach Migration Observatory as well as 43,251 broad-winged hawks, 16,135 sharp-shinned hawks and eight other raptor species.



This fall began the 13th year of formalized counting started in 1974, by the Detroit and Oakland Audubon Societies. As their influence waned over the years, a group of independent observers evolved and in 1985 formed the Holiday Beach Migration Observatory. What began in 1974 as 27 days of coverage has expanded to 90 days. You may have seen or met some of these people, principally Dick Benoit, in the parking lot of the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge the last two Springs. There they spent 92 hours, over 15 days, in 1986 monitoring our Spring hawk migration.

In the spring, the hawk flights are less concentrated than the Fall but as the hawks fly north and encounter the western basin of Lake Erie they turn west and fly around the western edge of the Lake to avoid a cross-over. The O.N.W.R. parking lot creates a break in the tree line in their east to west flight and can, on selected days, provide good views. However, in the fall this flight does not occur. The southern flying birds disperse once they've cleared the western edge of the Lake. One solution to seeing fall hawk flights is to travel to the Canadian side of Lake Erie and Holiday Beach Provincial Park. Other closer places are Lake Erie Metropolitan Park in Michigan at the south end of Detroit or Pointe Mouillee in Michigan on the southern line of Monroe County. Each is accessible from I-75.

Point Mouillee is farther south and apparently receives hawks from Holiday Beach Provincial Park as they cross the mouth of the Detroit River. Joe Komorowski reports good flights at Pointe Mouillee with 21,000 broadwings on September 16, 1986, and 500 red-tails and 200 sharp-shins a day in October. As for golden eagles in 1986, Pointe Mouillee had two whereas Lake Erie Metro Park had five.

Holiday Beach Migration Observatory has no physical structures as yet but the observers are there daily in the parking lot of the Park and welcome helpers and visitors. Their newsletter The Northwind says that the broad-winged hawks will peak during the week of September 12-18. Ospreys, sharp-shinned hawks, bald eagles and northern harriers are also present. Raw, rainy days with southwest winds the day of the time change and after (September 27-October 6) brings peregrines with merlin, sharp-shins, ospreys and bald eagles. The turkey vultures peak October 8-11, the red-shoulders around October 14, golden eagles October 27-30 (11 were seen October 30, 1986) and red-tails around November 6. The newsletter continues that wind direction becomes more important as the season progresses. The best hawk days are when winds have a northerly component and the worst days are westwinds.

Holiday Beach also has a non-hawk migration with 607,406 individual birds of 172 species tallied in 1986. The highlight of 1985 was a black-backed woodpecker that spent three days in the Park.

You can become a member of the Observatory and receive their newsletter thrice yearly by sending \$8.00 to 1120 Clair Circle, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103.

THE FIRST PINE WARBLER NEST FOR NORTHWEST OHIO

Tom Kemp

Pine warblers [*Dendroica pinus*] are known to nest in southern and eastern Ohio, primarily in the unglaciated portions of the state [Peterjohn, et. al. 1987]. In post-glacial times, the northwestern two-thirds of Ohio was virtually devoid of coniferous trees, hence no Pine warblers. In recent times [the last 50 or 60 years], pines have been planted in many areas of Ohio that had no original pine forest. One such area is the Oak Openings of Fulton, Henry, and Lucas Counties.

Pine warblers have been present in the Oak Openings in the summer for several years now. Breeding was suspected but never confirmed. On 11 June 1987, I found a male and female Pine warbler in Oak Openings Park, Lucas County. I watched the female gather nesting material and fly three times to a clump of needles high in a White pine. Later that evening, Peter Montion and I watched the female working with the nesting material in the same clump of needles.

The nest was located about 85 feet off the ground in a White pine that was 90 feet tall. The nest was hidden in a clump of needles near the end of a vertical branch. Terres [1980] lists nest heights for Pine warblers as between 8 and 80 feet. Bent [1963] states that some South Carolina nests were located as high as 135 feet off the ground. The nest tree was in a clearing with two other large White pines and some smaller pines and deciduous trees. Nearby were extensive pine plantation and deciduous forest.

I returned to observe the nest on 7 July. The male and female came to the nest to feed young, which I heard but could not see because of the nest location. The normal clutch size in this species is four [Terres 1980], so I assume four young may have been present in the nest. I did not observe the nest again so I do not know whether the young fledged successfully.

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- Bent, A. C. 1963. Life Histories of North American Wood Warblers. Dover Books.
- Peterjohn, B. G., R. L. Hannikman, J. M. Hoffman, and E. J. Tramer. 1987. Abundance and Distribution of the Birds of Ohio. Ohio Biol. Surv. Biol. Notes No. 19.
- Terres, J. K. 1980. The Audubon Encyclopedia of North American Birds. Alfred A. Knopf, New York.

Sir,

I was glad to see that the Ohio Cardinal is back on line. There is a place for what it can provide to those interested in the avian fauna. A reasonable effort appears to be made to insure credibility and accuracy in bird reports and sightings. However, this credibility seems to be lacking when it comes to recognizing where sightings are made and reflects a lack of professionalism. A publication has the responsibility to correctly inform its subscribers. The Ohio Cardinal holds a unique niche for Ohio birders in that it can inform of what, where, and when, but also has the ability to produce material that can assist birders in how their favorite haunts became available to them and what they can do to insure their future availability. Anything less is a breach of service to the subscribers and a sign of serious lack of concern and professionalism of the staff. I was greatly disappointed in that lack of professionalism in the last issue, Vol. 10, #1. From the inaccurate caption for the cover to the neglect of accurate record reporting in your article at the end, serious question is placed on the accuracy and concern of the editorial staff for providing an accurate, comprehensive, and useful publication. If the staff had been naive concerning this subject it would not have reflected on their professionalism to as great a degree, but they were not. I don't know if this is an isolated incident or an overall indication of the quality of the publication.

I have been closely involved with the Magee Trail for a long time now. I know who has worked on it and who has not. I know who have been misinformed complainers and who has been a pain. I know how close birders came to losing the area they did not support. Some stumbling blocks are now gone. Money may now be available for improvements but if those that use the area refuse to acknowledge it, is there any purpose? The article I have written and enclosed is for the next Ohio Cardinal if you agree with the points I have tried to make above and you see fit for its publication. It has not been my purpose to step on any toes, but I just question the extreme amount of time and effort that has been and can be put into the bird trail if those that it was developed to serve are not concerned enough with its existence to acknowledge it.

Mark Shieldcastle
Oak Harbor, Ohio

Editor: The Ohio Cardinal welcomes suggestions and comments from its readers. Mr. Shieldcastle did include an article further explaining his views on the Bird Trail. Due to space limitations, it will be published in a subsequent issue.

Sir,

I am writing in regards to the spring issue of the "Ohio Cardinal", particularly the report of the red-necked grebe on Summit Lake.

I was the first to see and "call" this bird on Sat., March 7. I called the Greater Akron Audubon Society [Pat Haddad], who then called Larry Rosche, who called Ed Pierce.

Being new to the reporting aspect of birding, I was not aware of the form I needed to record it. Since this was a special event for me, I would like credit for seeing the grebe first - "everyone" in Akron [and many elsewhere!] knows I did. Thank you.

Kathy L. Mock
Akron, Ohio

Editor: Subscribers are reminded that report forms are available from the editors. All readers are encouraged to report their sightings.

Sir,

Thanks for the first issue of the new series of THE OHIO CARDINAL.

Naturally I had a special interest in the several mentions of the Kirtland's Warbler. In the first line of Ed Pierce's account on p. 37, he missed Gene Sattler's record of May 11, 1984, in Swan Creek Park, which was reported in the Toledo Naturalists' Association 1984 Yearbook. Gene was leading a tour group, as I recall it, and showed the bird to a number of people who were with him.

Also, Ed Pierce's mention of the "recently discovered wintering grounds" is a bit puzzling. The wintering grounds of the Kirtland's Warbler were discovered long before the nesting grounds, and a number of specimens were taken as evidence in the Bahama Islands in the last century.

Harold Mayfield
Toledo, Ohio

Editor: We stand corrected and thank Mr. Mayfield for his comments.

Fifty-two of eighty-eight counties received coverage for the 1987 Summer Season. Those counties are shaded in the map below.

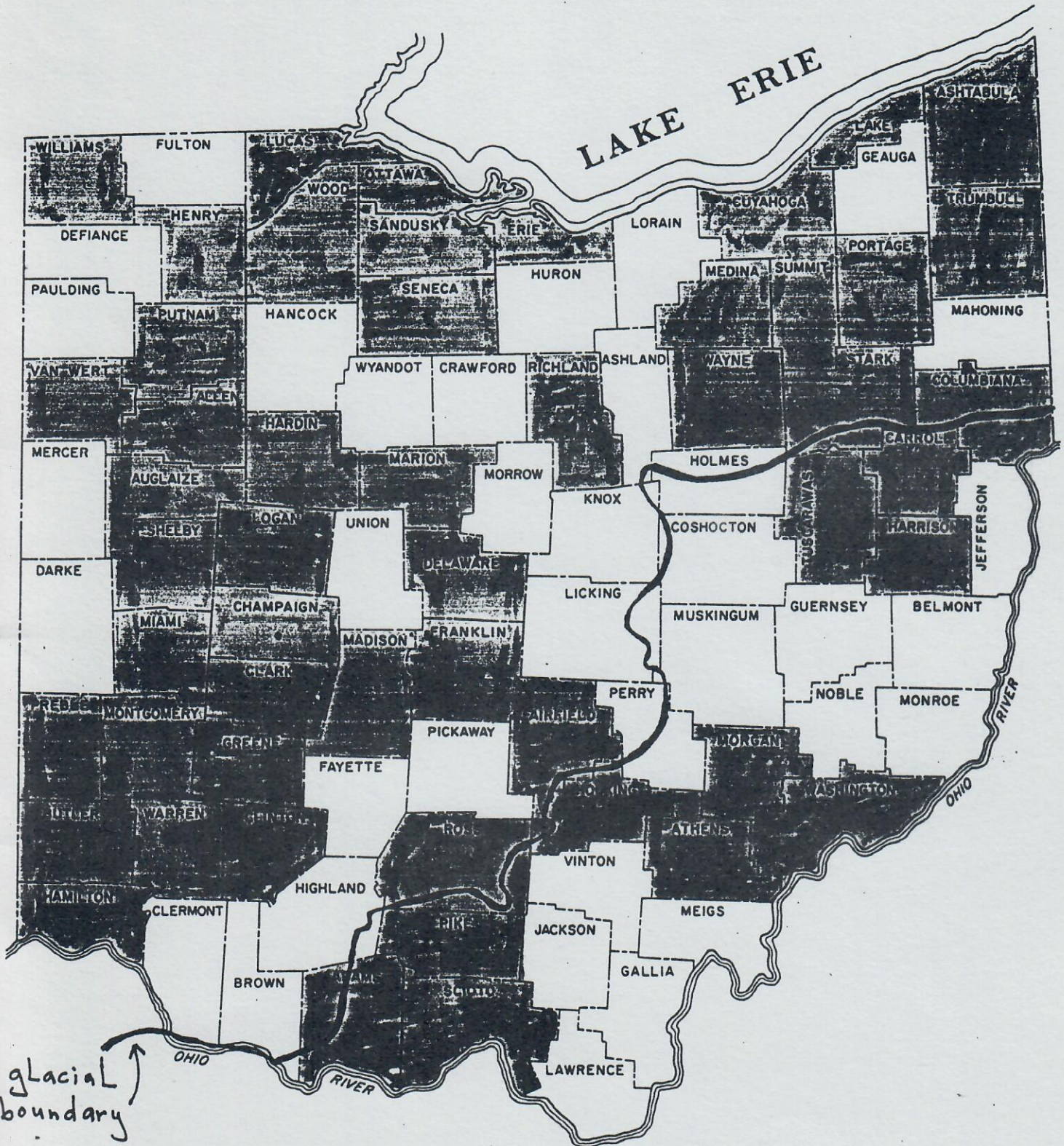


TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE SUMMER SEASON. Matt Anderson and Tom Kemp.....1
SEASONAL SUMMARY.....3
ANNOUNCEMENTS.....22
LOCATIONS.....23
CONTRIBUTORS.....23
OHIO CARDINAL RECORDS COMMITTEE.....24
REPORT OF THE RECORDS COMMITTEE.....27
PEREGRINE FALCONS IN DOWNTOWN TOLEDO. Matt Anderson.....28
FIRST CORMORANT NESTS IN 100 YEARS. Ed Pierce.....30
ATLAS FINISHED.....33
HOLIDAY BEACH MIGRATION OBSERVATORY.....37
FIRST PINE WARBLER NEST FOR NORTHWEST OHIO. Tom Kemp.....39
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.....40

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