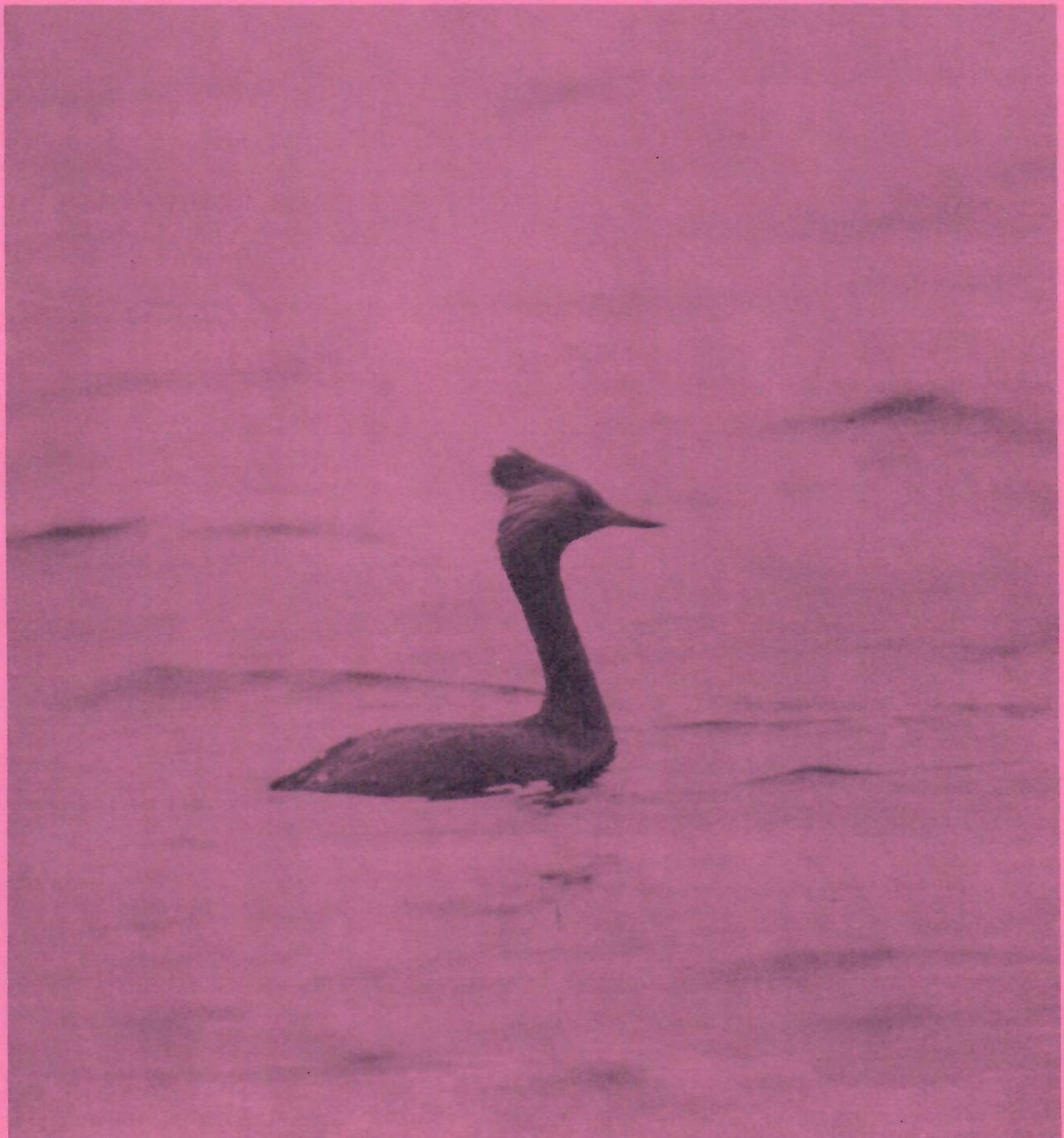


The Ohio

Vol. 4 No. 1
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CARDINAL



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Send all subscriptions to Edwin C. Pierce, 520 Swartz Road, Akron, Ohio 44319.

Bird reports are welcome from any area in the State. They should be sent to Edwin C. Pierce at the above address by:

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

Report forms are not a necessity but will be supplied if requested. Unusual or rare species should be documented and forms will be provided upon request.

Cover: Eared Grebe at Blacklick Woods Metro Park, Franklin County, Ohio
May 19-20, 1981 photographed by Don Tumblin.

Long-eared Owls

Robert Finch

Ed. Note: This article is reprinted from The Cape Codder, February 24 and March 3, 1981 with the permission of the author. Mr. Finch works for the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History, Brewster, Massachusetts. He writes a column for the Cape Codder, a bi-weekly newspaper on the Cape, called Soundings. This article is copyrighted by him.

On Friday night I was in Somerville visiting my friend Soheil, an avid Boston area birder and one of the editors of Bird Observer of Eastern Massachusetts. He asked me if I would like to go out to Lexington in the morning to see a flock of long-eared owls, and I eagerly answered yes before he told me we would have to get up before five o'clock, since most of the birds would be back on the roost by six. Why, I asked, couldn't we just go out there after it was light and watch them in the trees? But he said that these normally quiet owls "put on quite a display" as they come in to roost - so I assented and said good-night.

I had never seen even one long-eared owl before, let alone a "flock" of any kind of owl. Long-ears are occasionally reported on the Cape in winter and, very rarely, may even nest here. They are more regularly seen in small numbers on Nantucket, but in general they are thought to be much less common here than on the mainland. This is probably because their preferred habitat in New England - stands of dense conifers for roosting, near open country, especially river bottoms, for hunting - is in short supply here.

But another problem in determining their status is that long-eared owls are notoriously difficult to detect. They are among the most nocturnal of all birds, very rarely hunting by day and generally returning to their roosts before dawn. They are normally extremely quiet on the roost and camouflage themselves further by perching next to a trunk and compressing the feathers on their already-slender bodies so as to appear as part of the trunk of a dead stub or a branch. The truth is, they may be much more common than we know.

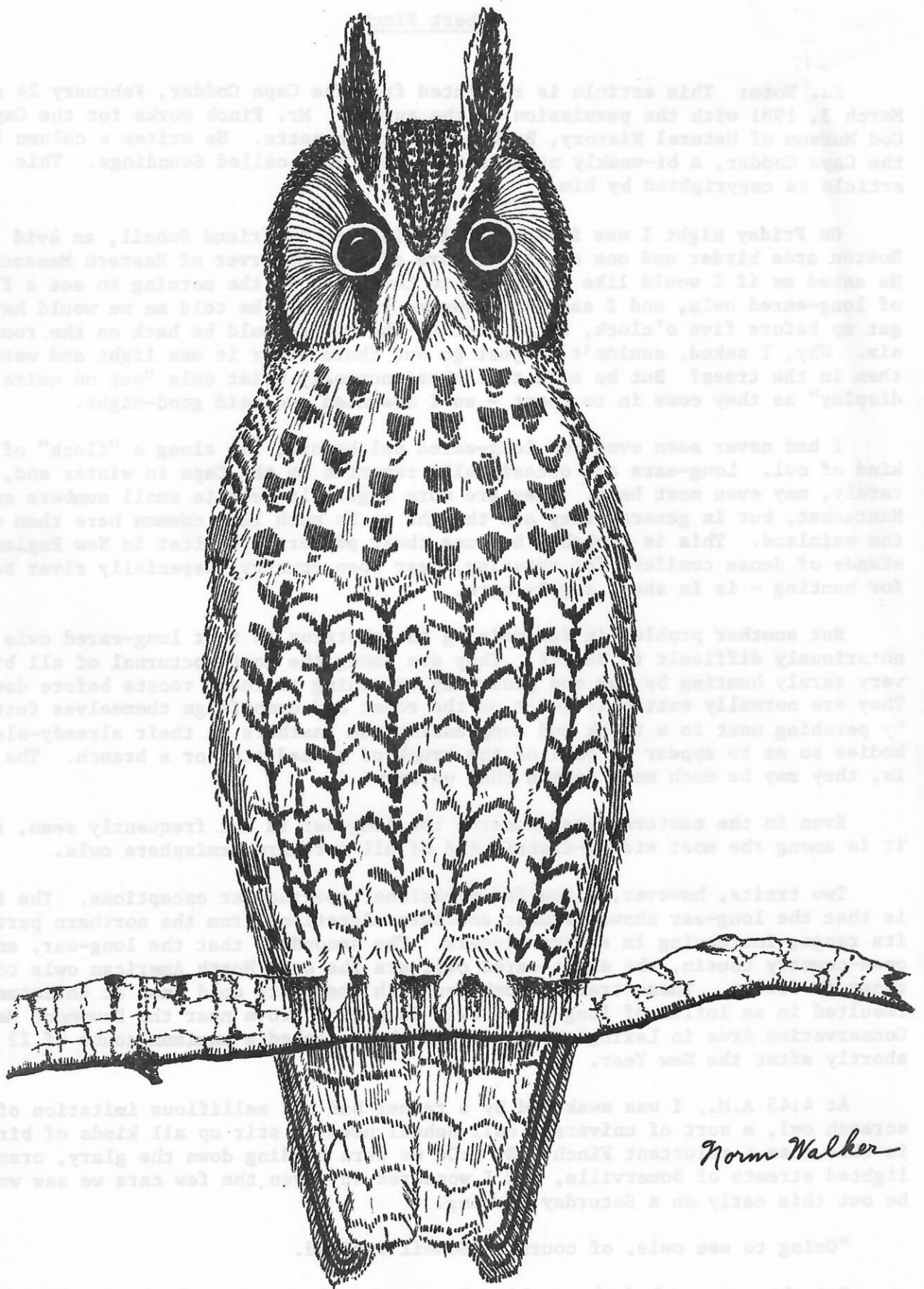
Even in the eastern Massachusetts the long-ear is not frequently seen, though it is among the most widely-distributed of all northern hemisphere owls.

Two traits, however, allow for occasional spectacular exceptions. The first is that the long-ear shows regular southern migrations from the northern part of its range, increasing in severe winters. The second is that the long-ear, and its open-country cousin, the short-eared owl, are the only North American owls to roost in flocks. These traits, combined with the sharp cold snap at Christmas, resulted in an influx of long-eared owls in a pine grove near the Drummond Meadow Conservation Area in Lexington, an influx that reached a maximum count of 22 birds shortly after the New Year.

At 4:45 A.M., I was awakened by a rather bad but mellifluous imitation of a screech owl, a sort of universal call Soheil uses to stir up all kinds of birds - in this case a reluctant Finch. By 5:00 we were heading down the glary, orange-lighted streets of Somerville, and I wondered why even the few cars we saw would be out this early on a Saturday morning.

"Going to see owls, of course," Soheil replied.

But when we reached the parking lot at the elementary school off Allen Street in Lexington, there was only one empty car there, which, according to Soheil, had



Norm Walker

been there for weeks. It was still quite dark, or as dark as suburban areas get. We looked across an empty playing field lit sallowly by area lights. At the far edge, where the hill begins to drop off down towards the meadow, rose the dark outline of a dense pine grove. It was a stand of red pines, distinguished by their tall, straight, slender trunks free of limbs for the first thirty feet, which had probably been planted, like the red pine stands on the Cape, back in the 1930's by the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Soheil said that one or two long-ears show up in this grove almost every winter, but that an influx the size of this one had not been seen for years. Curiously, when they do show up, long-ears seem to have a preference for the Boston suburbs, rather than more rural areas.

It was in 1874, only a couple of miles from here in Arlington Heights, that the famous Cambridge ornithologist William Brewster encountered a female long-ear defending its nest, and recorded one of the fiercest and most grotesque threat displays in the bird kingdom:

"It seemed to come from a dense growth of cedars in a hollow towards which I had taken only a few steps when the still air was rent by a dozen or more piercing shrieks, given in quick succession, and all alike save that each was a trifle less loud than the one immediately preceding it. Altogether they lasted almost half a minute and suggested the screams of a terror-stricken bird in the clutches of a hawk, but were much louder and more startling. They constituted a fitting prelude to the spectacular appearance, only a second or two later, of their author, a large, female long-eared owl, who suddenly pitched down to the ground about thirty yards away and stood facing me with ruffled plumage and glaring yellow eyes. Her widespread wings were so held that the tips of the outermost primaries touched the carpet of pine needles at her feet and those of the innermost secondaries met over her back, the other quills radiating outward between them. Although, as I have said, she faced me, the outer, not inner surfaces of both wings were shown in my direction. Owing to this singular disposition and inversion of all the flight quills, they formed what appeared to be a large, erect, circular fan of evenly-spaced feathers completely surrounding the head and body of the bird. Standing thus with threatening mien and menacing, swaying movements of the head, she looked like some impish, malformed creature half beside herself with rage."

We got out of the car and walked cautiously across the playing field towards the pine grove, speaking in hushed tones, though it is rather pointless to be "quiet" where owls are concerned. Besides, Soheil assured me, the birds on the roost were "totally oblivious to human beings."

We entered the grove, where the typical cathedral feeling of such stands was emphasized by the straight, planted lines of trunks. Inside the darkness was considerably thicker, but fortunately very little grows beneath red pine, so that we made our way rather easily to three close-set trees where most of the owls usually roosted.

The ground beneath these trees was littered with owl pellets, similar to those of the great-horned owl, regurgitated bits of fur and bone which, Soheil said, the long-ears "plop out at evening", just before they leave the roost.

I could see why the birds might be safely "oblivious" to observers in such a setting. The closest branches were at least 25 feet above our heads on smooth straight trunks. The owls were thought to hunt at night in the open meadows to the north and east below the grove, but were extremely secretive when they came

in to the roost, so that in previous visits Soheil and his companions had not managed to spot them before they were in the pines.

We stood quietly, craning our necks upward, and within a few minutes a dark, fluttery shape "appeared" in the top of the middle tree, settling on a branch near the trunk with a soft, rustling of wings like those of a crow. The long-ear, in fact, is about the size of a crow, and, had I not been told otherwise, I would have taken it for an early-rising member of that species.

But after settling in, the owl began to utter a high, soft, sharp twittery sound - ne-ne-ne-ne-ne-ne - unlike anything I had heard before, and certainly not what I might have expected from a member of the owl family. Shortly, however, two more dark shapes materialized in the tops of the pines, several trees over. They, too, settled in, and began answering with that high, quick call, such as a miniature horse might make. It seemed to be a kind of greeting as well as a roosting call, a kind of "Hi, fellas, how'd it go tonight?", since, though the owls roost together, they hunt alone. Instead of becoming quiet, however, there then ensued a great deal of jockeying around and shifting of perches among the flock, accompanied by a gentle, taffeta-like noise of wings that is never heard when the birds are in flight. This then, was their "roosting display", a low-key, crepuscular performance that was something like the woodcock's evening ballet in reverse, lovely and quietly impressive.

After the first three owls made their presence known in the tops of the pines above our heads, we waited quietly for another five minutes or so, but no more arrived. Since we could not actually see the birds as they approached the grove in the dim dawn light, it was difficult to tell how many there were, or even whether they had been there before we came.

It was now close to six, and a thin rose wash tinted the sky to the east. Soheil said that most of the birds had probably come in now, but I decided to walk to the eastern edge of the grove on the chance I might catch a straggler or two coming in.

I waited there, as a cock pheasant croaked once down in the meadow and a soft chirping, something like the departed catbird's calls, began down the slope. It was a calm, "warm" morning - about 26 degrees, but even in thermal underwear, I discovered, remaining still doesn't produce much heat. I considered taking a quick lap around the nearby playing field, but then over the tops of the bare maples to the east, a shifting gray form headed toward me. It looked and flew something like a large falcon - an impression given by the long-eared owl's exceptionally long wings, slender body and tail - weaving towards the grove, then circling around at the last minute and entering in from the north.

Soheil joined me, and in the next five minutes two more owls flew in from the east, clearly seen in silhouette weaving and darting from side to side in silent approach. He said it was an unusually late arrival for long-ears. Perhaps they had had particularly good - or else particularly bad - hunting that night.

No more owls arrived after that, and we went back into the grove. Inside it was still quite dark; the birds on the roost had quieted down now and were almost impossible to see. There was not much to do until it became light enough to count them, so, in order to keep warm, we decided to walk down to the meadow below the hill.

The slope was littered with glacial boulders, and I wondered if the hill might in fact be part of a drumlin or esker, glacial deposits common in the Boston Basin area. We passed through a stand of white pines where, according to Soheil,

a great horned owl hung out. He wondered whether it might be eating some of the visiting long-ears, thus accounting for their gradually diminishing numbers since the high count of 22 was reported in early January. Though the formidable great horned owl has been known to take other owls, and even red-tailed hawks on occasion, I thought it unlikely it would do so unless driven to extremes of hunger. More probably the moderating weather had caused some of the long-ears to head back north.

Drummond Meadow is a fine, wide field at the bottom of the hill, laced with small streams that make it prime farmland. It is, in fact, used for community gardens by the town of Lexington, as the numerous leaning, weathered tomato stakes testified.

It is also prime owl hunting territory, no doubt filled with field mice and the other "injurious rodents" that the literature says comprise the bulk of the long-ear's diet. Soheil told me that near the coast the long-eared owl replaced the marsh hawk at dusk as the open country hunter of rodents, hunting in much the same way by flying low over dunes and marshes. This kind of shift relief seemed an efficient use of habitat, though from the mice's perspective I thought it somewhat harsh, providing no rest for the meek.

Actually, because of its strictly nocturnal habits, very little is specifically known about the hunting techniques of the long-eared owl, though its diet has been well-established through pellet examination. Soheil, who is a photographer as well as birder, suggested that we might trap one and tie Day-glo ribbons to its legs. Then, mounting a camera with its shutter open overlooking the meadow, we could go home and sleep while the camera recorded the flight and passes of the owl through the night.

I was not sure that Day-glo shone in the dark, but ignoring this and the general improbability of the idea, I pointed out that, like most owls, the long-ear probably takes its prey with its feet. A luminiscent ribbon dangling before a potential meal, I suggested, might impair its hunting efficiency.

Well, then, he countered, we could put a dab of fluorescent paint on its back, or even shoot it with some dye on its roost without even having to capture it. But no, it would probably preen off the dye by nightfall, and even if it didn't . . .

We left the mystery of the owl's hunting techniques in the safer hands of future researchers and trudged back up the hill to the red pine grove. It was seven o'clock now, and fully light. The tree tops had become three-dimensional and colored, so that at first the owls were harder to spot than before, since their cryptic plumage now blended in with the limbs and needle clusters.

Long-ears are something of a smaller, more delicate version of the great-horned owl, though their "ears", or head tufts, are longer and set closer together. They also lack the white bib of the larger owl, and the black streakings on the lower breast and underparts are vertical rather than horizontal. Like most owls there is wide variation in color, with the males tending more towards gray and the females, in the elegant vocabulary of ornithologists, more "ochraceous", or yellowish-brown.

Soheil spotted them first, perched not close to the trunks as reputed, but well out on the lower limbs and scattered among several trees. I saw four in one, two in another. They sat utterly immobile, like lovely stone jugs somehow affixed to the branches. The breasts on most appeared a light, buffy grey, streaked with black and, perhaps because of our fore-shortened angle of view from below, large

and puffed out. At any rate, try as I might, I could see no sign of their heads. Though I had never heard of such a thing in owls, I wondered if they might roost with their heads tucked into their back feathers.

Once discovered, long-ears are very difficult to flush from their roost, and they did indeed seem, as Soheil had predicted, "totally oblivious" to our presence. The numerous regurgitated owl pellets were visible every where now beneath the trees, similar to but smaller than those of the great-horned's. I broke open a couple of them and found, as expected, the small white bones of mice and voles.

All in all we counted twelve owls, and possibly we missed a few more. Not a spectacular number, but very likely more long-eared owls than I would ever see again.

As we left the grove, I recalled an article I had read recently about red pines, written by a forester at Quabbin Reservoir. Unlike more foresters, this one had a primarily wildlife-oriented view of trees. Red pines, the article stated, are not indigenous to eastern Massachusetts and, because of their lack of undergrowth, are considered a "biological desert" for wildlife. The artificial pine plantations, originally planted in open fields and construction scars at the reservoir, are considered "an aesthetic as well as a utilitarian failure." So the red pine at Quabbin is gradually being clear-cut to return the land to open fields in some areas and to allow natural tree succession to take place in others.

Such an approach pleases the pure environmentalist in me, at least in the abstract. But the morning's visit to this red pine grove in Lexington made it difficult for me to view the trees as either a "failure" or a "desert." Perhaps, like a few houses scattered over an otherwise empty countryside, a little human tinkering with its habitat can sometimes improve things - at least for owls and those who love to watch them.

Common Tern Color-marking by the Canadian Wildlife Service
Request for Information

During 1981, Dr. Hans Blokpoel of the Canadian Wildlife Service color-marked Common Terns at two large colonies in the Great Lakes area, with the objective of determining the year-round distribution of the birds, especially their migration routes and wintering areas in Latin America. Adult Common Terns were trapped on their nests at the Eastern Headland of the Toronto Outer Harbour (Lake Ontario) and at Tower Island (Niagara River). Orange plastic tags were attached to both wings of the trapped adult birds. In addition, young Common Terns were marked with pink plastic wing tags at those colonies. One standard metal leg band and one colored plastic leg band (yellow with a black horizontal stripe) were put on each of the tagged birds.

If you see a Common Tern with a pink or orange wing tag, please record the following details: place, date and color of the tag. If possible, also record the combination of numbers and/or letters on the tag (the two tags on any bird have the same color and the same combination of letters and numbers) and note which legs the plastic and metal leg bands are on. Thank you very much for your assistance. All reports will be acknowledged and should be sent to:

Bird Banding Office
Canadian Wildlife Service
Ottawa, Ontario CANADA
K1A 0E7

OHIO RECORDS COMMITTEE

This issue is the first where every documented bird reported has been reviewed by the Ohio Records Committee.

The committee was formed during the Spring of 1981 to aid the editors of the Ohio Cardinal. As the Ohio Cardinal grew in subscribers and report contributors, so has the volume of documented bird reports. For example, each committee member reviewed 44 documented birds for this issue and is currently reviewing 64 for the Fall migration.

The editors simply did not have the expertise necessary to determine which reports to publish. However, it is important to have records with a high probability of accuracy for review later. If, for example, you wanted to know whether the black-legged kittwake has increased in Ohio over the last twenty years, or what season it is most likely to appear in Ohio, you would want to review records which had a high probability of accuracy. Also, it didn't seem fair to place the entire decision to accept or reject a record in the hands of one man. Thus, the records committee was formed.

The committee is composed of five members. 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 twice by each committee member. The documentations are photocopied and sent to each member simultaneously. Each member reviews the record without knowing the others views. The written reviews are sent to the editor. He then sends each member the views of the other four members for each documentation. Each member then reviews the documentation a second time and either changes or maintains his opinion. If three or more of the committee members approve a record, it is accepted. The object is to determine the probability that the viewer actually saw the bird named. An acceptance means that the bird described was probability 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 to date has been 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 committee members are: Bruce Peterjohn, Columbus, Ohio; Dr. Elliot Tramer, Toledo, Ohio; Worth Randle, Cincinnati, Ohio; Ray Hannikman, Cleveland, Ohio and Jean Hoffman, Cleveland, Ohio.

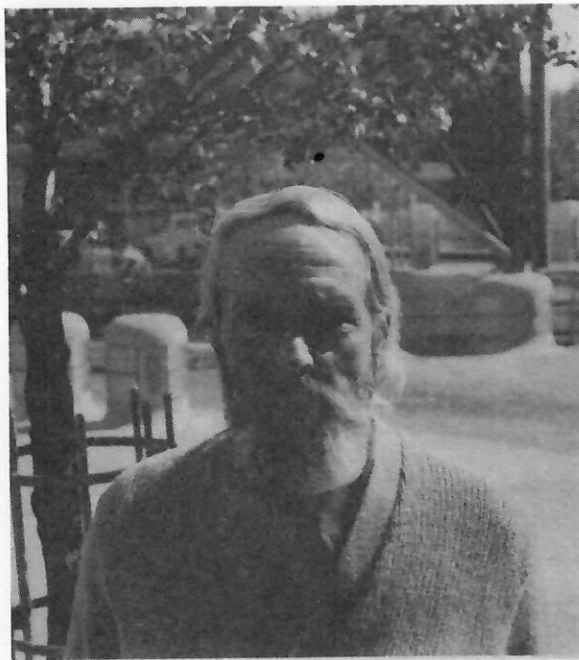
Bruce Peterjohn is the regional editor for American Birds for the Middle Western Prairie Region. He has worked for the last five years as a field biologist for the Ohio Department of Transportation. His most exciting birding experience occurred last year when he discovered an arctic tern at the Huron dredge disposal area and felt an earthquake tremor under his feet and scope as he was watching the bird. He is a member of the Columbus Audubon Society, Cooper Ornithological Society, American Ornithological Union and American Birding Assn. Bruce has been birding 17 years and has a life list that was at 530 birds last June. His Fall birding vacation trip to Washington and Oregon added more species. He believes that the most important future goal for current birders is correct identification. The biggest change he's witnessed in birding in the last ten years is its increased popularity.



Elliot J. Tramer is a professor of biology at The University of Toledo. He has worked there 13 years and specializes in ecology. He has over 30 articles published in scientific journals (about half on birds) and numerous popular articles on nature subjects. 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, sunbitterns in Panama and condors in California. After 29 years of birding, his North American life list stands at 590 species. Elliot sees the increase in number and quality of birders leading to much better coverage as the biggest birding change in his lifetime.

The committee members are: Bruce Peterjohn, Columbus, Ohio; Dr. Elliot Tramer, Toledo, Ohio; North Hurdle, Cincinnati, Ohio; Ray Hamilton, Cleveland, Ohio and John Hoffman, Cleveland, Ohio.

Jean Hoffman works as a computer programmer for the U.S. Navy Finance Center in Cleveland. She has also been a freelance fiber artist for the last fourteen years. In ten years of birding, she has accumulated a North American life list of 483 birds and with 296 species in Ohio. She has written two articles for the Ohio Cardinal: Identification of Winter Red & Northern Phalaropes and Site Guide to the Cleveland Lakefront. She is a past president of The Kirtland Bird Club (1978-1980) and also a member of the American Birding Association and the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. Her most exciting moment came in December of 1975 when she saw an adult ivory gull on the Cleveland lakefront. Jean is most frequently seen birding with her husband Dick. To her the most important future goal for current birders is to save birds and their habitat for future birders.



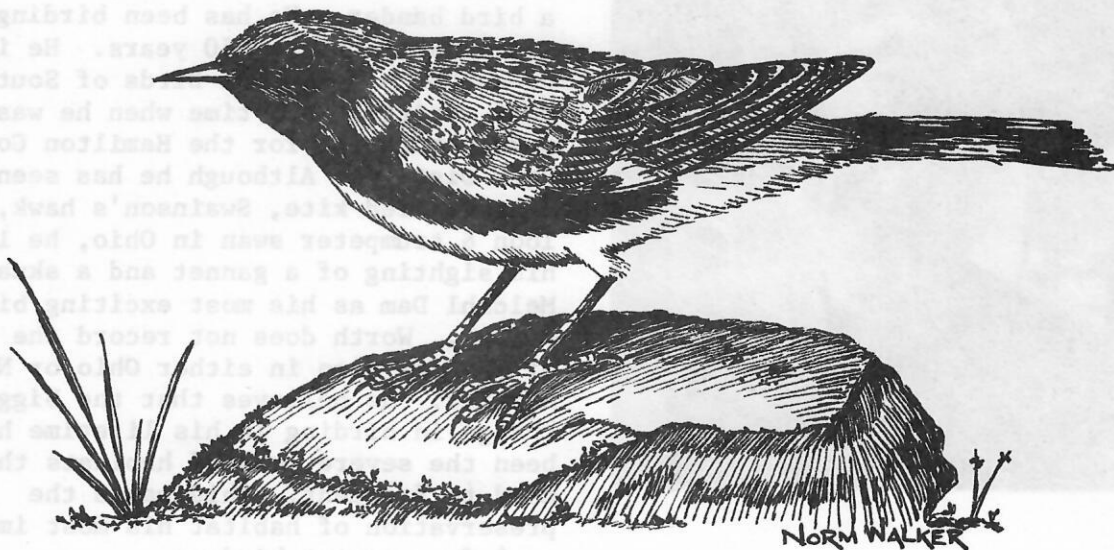
Worth Randle is presently the center director for the National Audubon, Cincinnati & California Woods Nature Centers, a lecturer and nature photographer for the Cincinnati Country Day School and biology teacher for the Bleitz Wildlife Foundation. He also is a bird bander. He has been birding the Cincinnati area for 50 years. He is the co-author of the book Birds of Southwestern Ohio, written at a time when he was the park naturalist for the Hamilton County Park District. Although he has seen the white-tailed kite, Swainson's hawk, artic loon & trumpeter swan in Ohio, he lists his sighting of a gannet and a skua at Meldahl Dam as his most exciting birding moment. Worth does not record the number of species seen in either Ohio or North America. He believes that the biggest change in birding in his lifetime has been the severe loss of habitats that he used to frequent. This makes the preservation of habitat his most important goal for current birders.



Ray Hannikman is an accountant working in Cleveland for the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District. He handles their money and investments. He's probably best known in the Cleveland area as the editor of the Cleveland Bird Calendar, a quarterly publication of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and Kirtland Bird Club. He's been the editor since 1975. His most exciting bird sighting was a Siberian rubythroat in 1978 at St. Lawrence Island, Gambell, Alaska. In ten years of birding, Ray has seen 640 species in North America and 287 in Ohio. His view of the biggest change in birding in his lifetime is the additional birders who do more chasing of birds. He feels the most important future goal for current birders is to develop more ability to write documentation forms.

The Records Committee also will compile a state list of birds seen in Ohio. This list will differ from Troutman's Annotated List in that it will be current and not necessarily require a specimen as a pre-requisite for listing.

Their state list should be completed by the Fall of this year.



REPORT OF OHIO RECORDS COMMITTEE

The following is a summary of those documentations received and reviewed by the Committee for Spring 1981 which were not accepted by a majority (3) of the Committee.

GOSHAWK. One, Reading, Hamilton Co., 27 March 1981. Bird described as immature. Description does not eliminate a female Cooper's hawk. No mention of eyestripe (may not have been seen or may not have been definitive).

Editor's note: Only one plumage characteristic considered diagnostic on immature goshawk by Raptor Information Center, Cape May, New Jersey: definitely streaked undertail coverts which appear essentially as a continuation of the streaking of the belly.

GOSHAWK. One, St. Mary's, Auglaize Co., 28 March 1981. Description given of an adult bird but eyestripe not mentioned. No size comparison given. Description of color does not eliminate other species. No description of tail color or breast color. Description has insufficient details to permit verification.

GOSHAWK. One, 1-75, Lima-Wapakoneta, 15 April 1981. Description of behavior contrary to usual behavior for species (sitting in tree in woods at edge of interstate). Viewing conditions not optimal (no binoculars while driving at presumably 55 MPH along interstate). No description of size comparison or was bird seen in flight. Description of color "grayness" does not eliminate blue-gray of other species. Description (although of an adult with a pronounced eyestripe) has insufficient details to permit verification of this rare and difficult to identify species in such unusual circumstances.

FERRUGINOUS HAWK. One, ONWR, Ottawa Co., 7 April 1981. Observer submitted record for comment by others realizing that he could not be positive that the bird was not a red-tail. Two members of the committee saw the bird and believe it to be an odd-plumaged red-tailed hawk. The lower breast and belly weren't pure white but were lightly streaked with brown (not the characteristic of an adult ferruginous). In response to the observer's question concerning the profile or shape of this bird, while there are general differences between redtails, rough-legs and ferruginous, these species can appear to be identically shaped depending upon a variety of factors. Shape is not a definitive field mark for these species.

PEREGRINE FALCON. One, Crane Creek SP, Ottawa Co., 15 March 1981. Bird not seen flying, only perched, 130 to 150 yards away. Bird described as an immature. Merlins and kestrels have dark eyes. Description does not adequately eliminate other buteos or accipiters.

MERLIN. One, Crane Creek SP, Ottawa Co., 15 March, 1981. Body shape and flight pattern not described. Description does not eliminate kestrel.

YELLOW RAIL. One, Crane Creek SP, Ottawa Co., 6 April 1981. White wing patches not seen. Sighting is two weeks earlier than any other record. Habitat unlikely. Sora's give a "tick" call when alarmed. (Throw a stone during migration into any sizeable marsh area and you will get several "ticks" in response.) Description does not eliminate sora.

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER. Four, Winous Point, Ottawa Co., 29 May 1981. Many "peeps" have the scaly back pattern. The head and chest aren't buffy on a Spring Baird's (see cover photo of American Birds, Vol. 35, No. 2). Baird's are not generally buffy in the Spring (only Fall juveniles are buffy and this plumage is molted in the late Fall/early Winter). Description also does not eliminate Spring sanderling.

RUFF. One, ONWR, Ottawa Co., 21 May 1981. Characteristic shape of bird (plump almost plover-like body with a long and thin neck) not mentioned. Instead size compared to lesser yellowlegs, a species that doesn't appear like ruff. Lighting poor (sun directly behind bird at 9:15 A.M. on refuge entrance road some 180 yards from road). Record needs corroboration from another observer, photograph or more detailed description.

LAUGHING GULL. One, Crane Creek SP, Ottawa Co., 27 and 28 March 1981. The bird described had the head and tail of a first-year bird and the wings of an adult. No laughing gull has that plumage. Bird described with "winter" head so "hood" differences immaterial. However, Franklin's head not much darker and less extensive in full breeding plumage. Description lacking sufficient details for verification.

Editor's note: Brooks Atherton in Birding, June 1978, as corrected in August 1978, states the differences between an immature laughing gull and an immature Franklin's gull:

"The immature Franklin's has a more petite head. Also, the Franklin's has a fairly clearcut black cap or hood that is absent in a Laughing. At the nape there is a distinct end to the Franklin's cap. In winter this is a good mark because you'll never see a Laughing with the immature wing pattern and a black cap. And the Franklin's breast, flanks, and sides are white. The tail is important. The Franklin's has a perfectly narrow, black tail band of even width that does not extend onto the white outer tail feathers. The Laughing has a broader, more blotchy, and uneven tail band that has black extending onto the outer tail feathers. The foreheads and bills are also different. Normally, the Franklin's has a white forehead between the cap and the bill, while the Laughing's forehead is grayer and dirtier-looking. The Franklin's bill is smaller and has no curve or hook like a Laughing's.

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE. One, Crane Creek SP, Ottawa Co., 15 March 1981. Bird described as immature flyby at 125 yards distance. No other gulls mentioned as present for size comparison. No description of shared-off tail which is present in a kittiwake. Description has insufficient details without corroboration by photo, another observer or more detail.

BELL'S VIREO. One, Ashland Co., 19 May 1981. Voice not heard. Behavior atypical. Philadelphia, solitary and young white-eyed vireos not eliminated by description. In Spring, white-eyes can have a dusky gray iris that are not prominent especially at 100 feet. At that distance, the yellowish wash on the underparts would not be very noticeable on a Bell's but quite noticeable on a white-eye.

A View of The 1981 Spring Migration
Magee Marsh Wildlife Area

Mark Shieldcastle

Spring migration on the Crane Creek State Park-Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge complex had both spectacular highs and disappointing lows. The shorebird migration can only be described as disastrous and the waterfowl movement was less than expected. However, the hawk and passerine flights were fantastic. Shorebird habitat was about normal in the marshes with adequate flats at Ottawa, Cedar Point NWR, and the Navarre Unit of Ottawa. One possible explanation of the reduced flight is the more or less drought occurring in the marsh region. The result was little to no sheet water in crop fields. This caused a major reduction in overall habitat acreage and regional acceptability. Waterfowl stopover may also have been affected. Combined with an early ice breakup, it caused a more rapid migration.

Whatever the possibilities, the lesser scaup needs to be watched. Major reductions in their numbers have been noted the past two years. Ohio Division of Wildlife bandings on Ottawa and Magee: 700 in 1979, 60 in 1980, and 3 in 1981.

Accipiters and falcons showed excellent numbers with the same holding true for buteos with the exception of the broad-wing.

The small birds moved with every southwest wind and had three major movements. The first was an April 28 overflight dominated by the male yellow-rump warbler, male ruby-crowned kinglet, and white-throated sparrow but included overflight warblers such as worm-eating, hooded, and yellowthroated. The second movement and largest occurred on May 9th. This substantiates my previous two years banding data that the southwest wind that occurs between the 7th and 13th should not be missed. This flight was dominated by female yellow-rump, Cape May, ovenbird, goldfinch, white-throated sparrows, and veerys. The birds seemed to be dripping from the trees. The final major movement was May 23rd and rivaled the 9th. It was dominated by the magnolia warbler with good numbers of yellows, mourning, Wilson, Canada warblers, female goldfinches, vireos, and flycatchers.

Overall, all species were well represented this year with no noticeable exceptions. Cuckoos, flycatchers and vireos appeared in normal numbers but peaked slightly late. Sparrows seemed up as a whole. White-crowns, white-throats, field, Lincoln, fox and songs were definitely up with swamps apparently down. Rose-breasted grosbeaks were extremely abundant with tanagers normal. The warbler movement was surely one of the best on record. Large increases were recorded in Nashvilles, parulas, Cape May, black-throated-blue, magnolias, chestnut-sided, ovenbirds, northern waterthrush, and Canadas. The only species appearing possibly down were the orange-crown and bay-breasted.

An excellent spring was noted for gnatcatchers, catbirds, thrashers and winter wrens. However, house wrens were down. Thrushes as a whole were up with unbelievable numbers noted in veerys and wood thrushes.

Extremely strong southwest winds, influencing possibly displaced birds by Mt. St. Helens fall eruptions, may account for the occurrences of more western species such as the clay-colored sparrow and golden eagles.

Mark Shieldcastle
2670 N. Benton-Carroll
Oak Harbor, Ohio 43449

The Reports

Spring Migration

1 March - 31 May 1981

John Herman

Our thanks to John Herman for his obvious effort in compiling the Spring reports into the readable form below. This task increases with each issue. Seventy-seven people statewide contributed Spring reports. Two hundred seventy-six species were reported.

This is the first issue where every submitted documentation has been reviewed by the Ohio Records Committee (see article in this issue). The symbol (D) after the species name designates those birds the Ohio Records Committee suggests be documented. Those reports noted with an asterisk have a written documentation or photo on file which has been accepted by the Ohio Records Committee. Those reports which were not accepted by a majority (three) of the Committee are reviewed in their report, also in this issue. Three documentations were misplaced and submitted to the Committee too late for review for this issue. These three documentations are included in this report but noted as subject to the Committee's decision.

In the following reports the terms early, late and high are used to designate the extremes of the information we have received. These terms do not necessarily mean that the species has arrived or departed early or late nor that the migration has peaked at a particular time. The number of each species sighted is included unless only one bird was seen and then no number is designated. The location of the sighting is given with as much preciseness as possible to enable the reader to know where certain birds can be found. The county containing the location is identified for each location only at the first instance the location is mentioned. However, a cross-reference chart showing each location mentioned and its county appears at the end of the report.

"The migration reflected the weather conditions. Warm temperatures in late March and early April encouraged a number of early arrivals. Cool temperatures in late April inhibited migration, causing the last half of the month to be rather dull except for a flight on April 28th-29th. Strong frontal systems in May were not conducive for the creation of major "flights." The only strong movement was on May 9th-11th while smaller movements were noted on May 4th and May 15th-16th. Hence, the general pattern was a fairly uniform "trickle" of migrants, broken by a few stronger movements. After May 20th, only small numbers of migrants were noted." (BP)

Reporting from Cincinnati, Hamilton County and surrounding areas, Art Wiseman summarized as follows:

"Most observers agreed this was a poor and rather strange migration. Few individuals were seen, and some species were reported only as occasional observations. The season started early for both ducks and warblers but failed to build and did not stretch out as it had in past years. Ducks left abruptly in Mid-March and warblers and finches left earlier (by 10 days to two weeks) than usual about 20 May. The May Count, which can be conducted on any day from 5 to 18 May, was not spectacular. The highest count reported for a single day was 116 species on the 16th (up from 86 species by the same crew on the 9th). However, all groups commented that they struggled to reach their totals which were far from high counts. By the 23rd of May, very few, if any, birds could be located for counting."

A report on Spring migration in the north (Crane Creek State Park) by Mark Shieldcastle, is included in this issue.

Common Loon

Early: 3/4 Magee Marsh State WA (Ottawa Co) (MS), 3/21 Hueston Woods SP (Preble Co) (DS), 3/23 Deer Creek Lake (Pickaway-Fayette-Madison Cos) (JF); High: 4/12 Clearfork reservoir (Richland-Morrow Cos) (28) (JHr), 4/13 Long Lake (Summit Co) (11) (CT), 4/12 Cleveland (Cuyahoga Co) (10) (WNK); Late: 5/25 Newton gravel pits (Hamilton Co) (DS), 5/23 Lake Rockwell (Portage Co) (breeding plumaged and calling) (LR), 5/17 Findlay reservoir (Hancock Co) (BS).

Red-throated Loon, Red-necked Grebe (D)

No reports.

Horned Grebe

Early: 3/1 Pleasant Hill reservoir (Richland-Ashland Cos) (JHr), 3/1 Rocky Fork SP (Highland Co) (VF), 3/8 Sandusky Bay (Erie-Ottawa Cos) (AT); High: 4/13 Cleveland (88) (WNK), 3/23 Findlay reservoir (30) (BP); Late: 5/13 ONWR (Ottawa-Lucas Cos) (VF), 5/1 Cleveland (WNK), 4/30 Wayne Co (VDK).

Eared Grebe (D)

5/19-20 Blacklick Woods Metro Park (Franklin Co) (*JF, m. ob.). See cover photo of this issue.

Pied-billed Grebe

Early: 3/1 Cleveland (WNK), 3/2 Magee (MS), 3/6 Clearfork reservoir (JHr); High: 3/28 Crane Creek SP (Ottawa Co) (27) (BS).

Double-crested Cormorant

Excellent migration; Early: 4/6 Knox Lake (Knox Co) (BP), 4/8 Spring Valley State WA (Greene Co) (CM, AVR), 4/12 Clearfork reservoir (12) (JHr); High: 5/16 Winous Point (Ottawa Co) (31) (JP), 4/18 Hamilton Co. (MM); Late: 5/31 Crane Creek (JP), 5/29 Erie Co (AT), 5/23 Pickerington Ponds (Franklin Co) (BS). About 85+ individuals reported this spring.

Green Heron

Early: 4/10 West Chester (Butler Co) (FR), 4/11 Toussaint State WA (Ottawa Co) (VF), 4/11 Clark Lake (Clark Co) (DO).

Little Blue Heron

4/14-18 Spring Valley WA (adult) (JHn, m.ob.) 4/17-5/2 Funk (Wayne Co.) (*JHr, BJB, m.bo.) (adult), 4/28-29 Crane Creek (imm.) (JP, TL), 5/16 Navarre Marsh (Ottawa Co) (adult (JP), 5/30-31 ONWR (2 adults) (BP); 5/7 Columbus (CEP).

Louisiana Heron (D)

4/28-29 Pickerington Ponds (1) (*JF, *JC)

Great Egret

Early: 3/25 Crane Creek (JP), 4/4 Wayne Co. (JHr), 4/6 Mentor Marsh State Nature Preserve (Lake Co.) (TL); Late inland: 5/28 Gilmore (Tuscarawas Co.) (FR), 5/13 Pickerington Ponds (MT, JF).

Cattle Egret

5 inland reports: 4/2 Clark Lake (VF), 4/4-6 Hamilton Co. (KM), 4/29 Englewood Reserve Dayton-Montgomery Co. Park District (Montgomery Co.) (DCh), 5/11-12 Fayette Co. (MI), 5/29 Spring Valley WA (3) (JSh). 4/12-5/26 Magee-ONWR (max. 32) (JP, TK, m.ob.).

Snowy Egret (D: inland only)

5/2-31 ONWR (2) (JP, m.ob.), 5/9 Medusa Marsh (1) (Erie Co.), (BP).

Black-crowned Night Heron

Early: 3/4 Turtle Creek (Ottawa Co) SP (wintered?) (JP), 3/22 Crane Creek (JP), 4/18 Spring Valley WA (TH, CM, AVR); Late inland: 5/25 Franklin Co (MT).

Yellow-crowned Night Heron

4/9-5/25 Rocky River Valley (Cuyahoga Co) (1) (WNK), 4/25 Columbus (Franklin Co) (3) (JC), 4/26-5/2 Englewood Reserve (1) (DCh, BB, CB, RM), 5/5 Wayne Co. (JB), 5/7 Glen Helen State Nature Preserve (Greene Co.) (1 adult) (VF), 5/9 Crane Creek (JP, BP), 5/15 Columbus (female on nest) (JC).

Least Bittern

4/26 Toussaint WA (EE), 4/29-5/16 Magee (JP, BS, m.ob.), 5/1-5 Pickerington Ponds (DJH, SNP, JF), 5/2 Medusa Marsh (JP), 5/9 Mentor Marsh (DJH), 5/24 Cedar Point NWR (Lucas Co) (3) (JF), 5/29 Gilmore (FR), 5/30 Maumee Bay SP (Lucas Co) (3) (BP).

American Bittern

There were 19 reports: 4 Dayton-Springfield area, 6 Toledo area, 2 Columbus area, 2 Mansfield, 2 Wooster, 1 each from Elyria, Huron and Lima. Early: 4/9 Richland Co. (JHr), 4/11 Clark Lake (DO), 4/11 Elyria (Lorain Co) (LR).

Plegadis spp. (D)

4/16-5/15 Magee (1) (*JP), 4/19 Walden Waterfowl Refuge (Franklin Co.) (1) (*JF).

Mute Swan

3/20, 4/20 ONWR (2) (JP), 4/23 Clearfork reservoir (1) (JHr).

Whistling Swan

Early: 2/20 Crane Creek (MS, JP), 2/27 Wayne Co. (JB), 2/28 Huron (Erie Co) (LR); High: 3/27 Lake Rockwell (1,000) (LR), 3/22 Wellington reservoir (Lorain Co) (159)(AT), 3/23 Magee (85) (VF); Late: 4/10 ONWR (JP).

Canada Goose

3/15 Navarre Marsh (1,200+) (MS), 3/28 Grand Lake St. Marys (Mercer Co) (460) (RC), 3/2 Wayne Co. (150) (JB).

White-fronted Goose (D)

4/5 Mentor (Lake Co.) (3) (*TL).

Snow Goose

3/1-5/3 Crane Creek (1 "snow," 4 "blue"), 3/9 Lorain (Lorain Co) (1 "blue") (TL), 4/1 Wooster (Wayne Co.) (4 "snow") (JP), 4/1-6 Clearfork res. (1 "snow," 1 "blue") (fide JHr), 4/30-5/2 Cleveland (1 "snow") (TL, RH).

NOTE: All species of ducks, if only a few birds, except greater scaup, goldeneye, bufflehead, oldsquaw, scoters, and mergansers were present at western Lake Erie marshes in late May.

Mallard

High: 3/11 Funk (5,500) (JHr), 4/4 ONWR (3,000) (VF), 3/7 Walden WR (401) (JF).

Black Duck

High: 3/7 Walden WR (574) (JF), 3/15 Navarre Marsh (315+) (MS); Late inland: 5/21 Wayne Co. (DK), 5/19 Walden WR (JF).

Gadwall

Early: 2/21 Wayne Co. (JHr), 2/27 Magee (MS); High: 4/19 Navarre Marsh (200+) (MS); Late inland: 5/9 Wayne Co. (VDK), 5/4 Pickerington Ponds (JF).

Pintail

Early: 2/16 Delaware Co. (RN), 2/19 Wayne Co. (JB), 2/23 Magee (MS); High: 3/11 Funk (5,500) (JHr), 3/21 Crane Creek (350) (BS); Late: 5/21 Wayne Co. (VDK).

Green-winged teal

Early: 2/24 Ottawa Co. (JP), 2/28 Cleveland (WNK), 3/2 Funk (JB); High: 3/23 ONWR (40) (VF); Late: 5/28 Wayne Co. (JB) 5/2 Clark Lake (DC).

Blue-winged Teal

Early: 2/24 Darby Marsh (Ottawa Co) (JP), 3/1 Pleasant Hill res. (JHr); High: 4/19 Navarre Marsh (800+) (MS), 4/22 Wayne Co. (66) (JB); 5/31 Washington Co. (LB).

American Wigeon

Early: 2/16 Navarre Marsh (MS), 2/19 West Chester (FR); High: 3/21 Crane Creek (400) (BS), 3/25 Funk (200) (JB); Late: 5/16 Castalia Pond (Erie Co.) (JC), 5/12 Wayne Co. (JB), 5/2 Fairfield Co. (MT).

European Wigeon (D)

2/28 - 4/20 ONWR (*JP, m.ob.), 3/23-29 Killbuck Marsh WA (Wayne Co.) (*BJB, JB, m.ob.).

Northern Shoveler

Early: 2/22 Crane Creek (MS), 3/1 Pleasant Hill res. (JHr); High: 4/4 Navarre Marsh (160+) (MS), 3/22 Killbuck WA (40) (JHr); Late: 5/3 West Chester

(FR), 5/2 Clark Lake (DO).

Wood Duck

Early: 3/6 Pickerington Ponds (JC), 3/7 Gilmore (FR).

Redhead

Early inland: 2/25 Columbus (JF), 2/25 Clearfork res. (JHr), 2/25 Funk (JB); High: 3/10 Maumee Bay (Lucas Co) (6,000) (JP), 3/15 Clearfork res. (2,000) (JHr), 3/15 Findlay res. (1,100) (BP); flocks of 500+ common this spring; Late: 4/29 Walden WR (JF), 4/21 Wayne Co. (JB).

Ring-necked duck

Early: 2/25 Clearfork res. (JHr), 2/27 Grand Lk. St. Marys (RN); High: 3/23 Wayne Co. (2,000) (JB), 3/21 Wellington res. (900+) (AT), 3/15 Navarre Marsh (700) (MS); Late: 5/12 Walden WR (JF), 5/6 Fairfield Co. (MT).

Canvasback

Early: 2/20 Franklin Co. (MT), 2/25 Funk (JB); High: 3/2 Funk (125) (JB), 3/15 Clearford res. (125) (JHr); Late: 5/17 Findlay res. (BS), 5/16 Wayne Co. (JB).

Greater Scaup

3/1 Pickerington Ponds (JC), 3/10 Lake Rockwell (1) (LR), 3/12 Delaware res. (Delaware Co) (RN), 3/22 Walden WR (3) (JF), 3/31 Lake Rockwell (4) (LR); High: 3/22 Cleveland (121) (WNK); Late: 4/14 Lorain (JP).

Lesser Scaup

Early: 2/21 Pickerington Ponds (MT), 2/27 Funk (JB); High: 3/22 Cleveland (1,207) (WNK), 4/1 Clearford res. (800) (JHr), 4/4 Navarre Marsh (305+) (MS); Late: 5/17 Findlay res. (BS), 5/17 Castalia (AT).

Common Goldeneye

Early: 2/20 Franklin Co. (MT), 2/27 Clearfork res. (JHr); High: 3/1 Magee (300) (MS); Late: 4/21 Wayne Co. (JB), 4/17 Cleveland (WNK), 4/13 Walden WR (JF).

Bufflehead

High: 4/14 Wellington res. (70) (JP); Late: 5/16 Castalia (JC), 5/12 Magee (JF), 5/10 Lake Rockwell (LR).

Harlequin Duck (D)

3/12 Lorain (1) (*JP), 3/13 Cleveland (pair) (*WNK).

Eiders (D)

No reports.

Oldsquaw

3/21-4/8 Cleveland (2) (WNK, DJH), 3/23 Toussaint WA (pair in breeding plumage) (VF), 3/24 Wellington res. (AT), 3/25 Lorain (JP), 4/14 Oberlin res. (Lorain Co) (JP), 4/27 Cleveland (WNK).

Red-shouldered Hawk

Migrants: 3/15 Crane Creek (233)(JP), 3/15 Maumee Bay SP (48) (TK).

Broad-winged Hawk

Early: 4/11 Fairfield Co. (MT), 4/11 Lorain Co. (AT); High: 4/26-27 ONWR (350-150+) (LR, EE), 4/22 Cleveland (105) (WNK), 4/29 Cleveland (46) (WNK), 5/23 Columbus (25) (BS).

Rough-legged Hawk

5/5 Crane Creek (JP), 5/5 Killdeer Plains WA (Marion Co) (MS), 4/20 Fairfield Co. (MT).

Bald Eagle

Migrants: 3/6 Clearford res. (Imm.) (JHr), 3/8 Knox Lake (imm.) (BP), 4/28 Cleveland (2) (WNK); 9 young in nests along w. Lake Erie at end of May (MS).

Golden Eagle (D)

3/14 ONWR (adult) (*TB) (subject to review by Ohio Records Committee), 3/18 Lake Rockwell (adult) (*LR), 4/10 ONWR (imm.) (see photo in this issue) (*JP), 4/18 Navarre Marsh (imm.) (JP), 5/21 Magee (imm.) (JP, MS).



Golden Eagle (imm., 3rd year?) at ONWR on 4/10. Photographed by John Pogacnik.

White-winged scoter

3/18 Cleveland (1) (TL), 3/23 Delaware res. (Delaware Co) (RN), 3/24-25 Lorain (3) (JP), 3/30 Maumee Bay (2) (JP), 4/12 Metzger Marsh (Lucas Co) (7) (JP), 4/25 Huron (male) (LR).

Surf scoter, Black scoter (D: inland only)

No reports.

Ruddy Duck

Early: 2/16 Dayton (Montgomery Co) (TH, DCh), 2/28 Crane Creek (JP); High: 4/14 Lorain (425) (JP), 4/16 Cleveland (136) (WNK), 4/11 Lake Rockwell (120) (LR); Late: 5/13 Pickerington Ponds (MT), 5/10 Cleveland (WNK).

Hooded Merganser

High: 4/17 ONWR (35) (MS); Late: 5/25 Groveport (Franklin Co) (MT); 5/10 Lake Rockwell (LR); 4/8 Spring Valley WA (male in eclipse plumage) (CM, AVR); 4/30 Killbuck WA (hen incubating 10 eggs) (JS), 5/5 Killbuck WA (a second hen with 12 young) (JS), 5/8 Crane Creek (hen with 13 young) (JP) (See article in this issue).

Common Merganser

Early: 2/21 Wayne Co. (JB), 2/27 Pickerington Ponds (MT); High: 3/15 Navarre Marsh (630+) (MS), 3/14 Deer Creek Dam (Pickaway Co) (66) (JC); Late: 5/1 Huron (JP).

Red-breasted Merganser

High: 3/27 Cleveland (2500) (TL), 3/26 Geneva SP (Ashtabula Co) (1800) (VF), 3/13 Lorain (730) (AT); Late: 5/16 Huron (JC), 5/16 Buck Creek SP (Clark Co) (DO).

Turkey Vulture

Early: 2/28 Pickaway Co. (MT), 3/1 Chardon (Geauga Co) (EF); High: 3/1 Clearcreek (Fairfield Co.) (200) (JC), 5/16 Hancock Co. (45) (WM), 3/29 ONWR (40) (DJH).

Black Vulture (D: Central and Northern Ohio)

4/5 Spring Valley WA (1) (JH, NC), 5/25 Fort Ancient State Memorial (Warren Co) (1) (FR); also reported from the Hocking and Fairfield Cos.

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Migrants: 4/26 ONWR (60) (DJH), 4/8 Cleveland (22) (WNK), 3/29 ONWR (12) (DJH), 3/29 Cleveland (6) (DC); Late: 5/24 Maumee SP (JC), 5/15 Cleveland (WNK).

Goshawk (D)

3/1 Crane Creek (JP), 4/28 Kent (*LR). The Crane Creek bird stayed over from the winter period. See Vol. 3, No. 4.

Red-tailed Hawk

Migrants: 3/15 Maumee Bay SP (86) (TK), 4/26 ONWR (30) (LR), 3/29 ONWR (15) (DJH), 3/26 Wayne Co (12) (JB).

Osprey

Over 61 sightings statewide. Late: 5/21 Erie Co. (AT), 5/15 Springfield (Clark Co.) (JC), 5/7 Lake Rockwell (LR).

Peregrine Falcon (D)

4/19-20 Crane Creek (adult) (JP), 5/3 Euclid (*RH).

Merlin (D)

3/8 Port Columbus Airport (Franklin Co.) (*JC).

Turkey

3/28 Tar Hollow SP (Ross Co) (JC), 4/3 Tar Hollow SP (15) (DC,TL), 4/16 Holmes Co. (EM), 5/4 Vinton Co. (JC), 5/5 Clearcreek (JC).

Sandhill Crane

3/12 Killdeer Plains WA (fide, Robert Sturgeon, KPWA Manager), 3/29 Crane Creek (1) (JP), 4/10 ONWR (3) (JP), 4/28 Aurora (Portage Co.) (1) (EE*), 5/2 Hamilton Co. (1) (KM), 5/8-9 ONWR (2) (JP), 5/10 ONWR (*BS).

Yellow Rail (D)

4/28-5/3 Irwin Prairie State Nature Preserve (Lucas County) (1-2 birds) (TK,JP).

King Rail

4/5, 4/18 Spring Valley WA (1) (JH, CM, AVR), 4/19-5/16 ONWR (1-3 birds) (JP, m.ob.), 5/3 Irwin Prairie SNP (TK, JP).

Virginia Rail

Early: 4/5 ONWR (JP), 4/7 Spring Valley WA (CM, PH, NC).

Sora

Early: 4/4 Crane Creek (JP), 4/5 Clark Lake (DO), 4/9 Richland Co. (JHr).

Black Rail (D)

No reports

Common Gallinule

Early: 3/28 Crane Creek (JP), 4/18 Richland Co. (JHr).

American Coot

Early: 3/6 Pickerington Ponds (JC,MT), 3/7 Pleasant Hill res.(JHr), High: 4/4 Magee (3,500) (VF), 4/3 Wellington res. (400) (AT), 4/6 Clearfork res.(400) (JHr).

Semipalmated Plover

Early: 4/27 Medusa Marsh (AT), 5/3 Huron (JC), 5/4 Cleveland (WNK); High: 5/21 Funk (200) (JB), 5/29 Winous Point (140) (JP); Late: 5/31 Funk (JB), 5/25 Fairfield Co. (MT).

Piping Plover

4/9 Huron (breeding plumage) (TL).

American Golden Plover

Numbers and sightings increased over 1980. Early: 3/27 Crane Creek (JP), 3/28 Fairfield Co. (JC), 4/2 Funk (VDK); High: 4/13 Marion Co. (250) (JF), ONWR (200) (JP), 4/17 Celeryville sod farms (Huron Co.) (125) (JHr); Late: 5/14 Ottawa Co. (JP).

Black-bellied Plover

Early: 4/29 Cleveland (WNK), 4/30 Funk (VDK), 5/2 Huron (JP); High: 5/31 Maumee Bay (150+) (MS), 5/21 Funk (25) (VDK).

Ruddy Turnstone

Early: 5/9 Huron (JF), 5/10 Cleveland (WNK); High: 5/31 Maumee Bay (100+) (MS), 5/20 Crane Creek (70+) (JP); 5/16-21 Funk (1-6) (VDK), 5/31 Findlay res. (rare for Hancock Co.) (TB).

American Woodcock

Early: 2/25 Chardon (EF), 2/27 Columbus (BP); 5/9 Gorman Nature Center (Richland Co.) hen with four young (fide JHr).

Common Snipe

High: 3/28 Killbuck WA (100+) (JHr); Late: 5/29 Winous Point (JP), 5/16 Irwin Prairie SNP (winnowing) (JC).

Whimbrel

5/20 Huron (1) (TL), 5/30 Findlay res.(12) (fide TB), 5/31 Crane Creek (1) (JP).

Upland Sandpiper

Early: 4/11 Clark Co. (DO), 4/13 Killdeer Plains WA (JF); Over 24 reports statewide.

Spotted Sandpiper

Early: 4/7 Cuyahoga Co. (EF), 4/11 ONWR (VF).

Solitary Sandpiper

Early: 3/29 Magee (BP), 4/6 Franklin Co. (JF), 4/9 Funk (VDK); Late: 5/21 Funk (JB, VDK), 5/20 Crane Creek (JP).

Willet

4/27 Huron (BP), 5/4 Crane Creek (JP), 5/9-10 Hamilton Co. (DS,DD), 5/10 Huron (JF).

Greater Yellowlegs

Early: 3/25 ONWR (MS, JP), 3/28 Deer Creek SP (Pickaway Co) (JC), 3/30 Stage's Pond State Nature Preserve (Pickaway Co.) (JF); High: 4/18-19 Funk (20),

(JHr, LR); Late: 5/30 ONWR (BP), 5/30 Funk (JB), 5/28 Gilmore (FR).

Lesser Yellowlegs

Early: 3/12 Franklin Co. (MT), 3/14 Dayton (JSh), 3/25 Deer Creek SP (JC); High: 5/2 Navarre Marsh (60+) (MS), 4/15 Franklin Co. (30)(MT); Late: 5/24 Lake Rockwell (LR), 5/22 Fairfield Co. (MT).

Red Knot

5/28 ONWR (3) (JP), 5/28 Funk (9) (JB), 5/29 Winous Point (4) (JP), 5/31 Bayshore Power Plant (Lucas Co.) (3) (MS).

Pectoral Sandpiper

Early: 2/28 Crane Creek (JP), 3/18 Franklin Co. (MT), 3/22 Funk (JHr); High: 4/18 Killdeer Plains WA (2,000+) (JC), 4/18 Funk (1,700) (JB), 4/8 Medusa Marsh (1,200) (AT); Late: 5/29 Winous Point (JP), 5/7 Franklin Co. (MT).

White-rumped Sandpiper

5/16 Willow Point (Lucas Co.) (JP), 5/19 Bayshore Power Plant (JP), 5/21 Oregon (Lucas Co.) (JF, LVC), 5/24 Medusa Marsh (JC), 5/24 Bayshore Power Plant (7) (TK), 5/30 Stark Co. (6) (LR).

Baird's Sandpiper, Ruff

No reports.

Least Sandpiper

Early: 4/27 Medusa Marsh (AT), 5/2 Vinton Co. (JC), 5/3 Cleveland (WNK); Late: 5/31 Huron (LR), 5/24 Medusa Marsh (JC).

Dunlin

Early: 3/26 ONWR (MS), 4/12 Alum Creek res. (Delaware Co.) (BP), 4/25 Cleveland (WNK); High: 5/17 Navarre Marsh (750+) (MS), 5/21 Funk (200) (JB); Late: 5/29 Medusa Marsh (AT), 5/29 Funk (JB).

Dowitcher sp.

Early: 4/9 Metzger Marsh (JP), 4/11 Huron (LR); High: 5/10 Medusa Marsh (70) (JP), 5/12 Funk (40) (JB); Late: 5/31 Huron (LR), 5/27 Medusa Marsh (JP).

Short-billed Dowitcher

4/9 Metzger Marsh (JP), 5/13 ONWR (40) (VF), 5/21 Funk (4) (DK).

Long-billed Dowitcher

No reports.

Stilt Sandpiper

2 reports: 5/16-28 ONWR (BP, CM, AVR, m. ob.), 5/28 Hancock Co. (BH).

Semipalmated Sandpiper

Early: 4/22 Funk (JB), 4/27 Medusa Marsh (AT); High: 5/29 Funk (380) (JB);
Late: 5/31 Funk (JB), 5/31 Huron (40) (LR).

Western, Buff-breasted Sandpiper

No reports.

Marbled Godwit

5/14-24 ONWR (2-1) (JP, m.ob.).

Hudsonian Godwit

No reports.

Sanderling

3 reports: 5/10 Cleveland (6) (DJH), 5/20 Crane Creek (11) (JP), 5/22
Huron (3) (TL).

Red-Phalarope

No reports.

Wilson's Phalarope

5/9 Medusa Marsh (JP), 5/12-31 ONWR (3) (JC, JF, m.ob.), 5/15 Columbus
(fem.) (JC), 5/21 Funk (2) (JB, VDK), 5/28 Hancock Co. (BHa), 5/30 Funk (2) (JB).

Northern Phalarope

5/19-24 Bayshore power plant (1) (JP, TK), 5/21 Funk (1) (2nd Wayne Co.
record) (JB, VDK), 5/28-29 Funk (1-2) (JB), 5/29 Winous Point (1) (JP).

American Avocet, Jaegers

No reports.

Glaucous Gull (D: inland only)

3/7 E. Harbor SP (1) (2nd yr.) (CEP), 3/16 Magee (MS), 4/5 Crane Creek (JP),
4/6-10 Beaver Creek res. (Seneca Co.) (2nd yr. plumage) (*TB) (subject to review by
Ohio Records Committee).

Iceland Gull (D: inland only)

3/3 Lorain (DC), 3/3-16 East Harbor SP (Erie Co) (Kumlien's race) (JP,
CEP, TK), 4/18 Navarre Marsh (MS).

Great Black-backed gull (D: inland only)

High: 3/17 Cleveland (180) (WNK), 3/3 Nielson's Marsh (Erie Co.) (37)
(AT); present in low numbers at w. Lake Erie at end of May.

Lesser Black-backed gull (D)

No reports.

Herring Gull

Early inland: 2/27 Clearfork res. (JHr), 3/1 Fairfield Co. (MT); High: 3/16 Navarre Marsh (450+) (MS), 3/17 Cleveland (180) (WNK); Late inland: 5/10 L. Rockwell (possibly nesting in goose nest box) (LR), 5/2 Buck Creek SP (DO).

Ring-billed Gull

Early inland: 2/28 Clearfork res. (JHr); High: 3/1 Cleveland (3,500) (WNK), 3/16 Navarre Marsh (350+) (MS), 3/23 HWSP (720) (JI); Late inland: 5/18 Funk (DK).

Franklin's Gull

4/10 Metzger Marsh (adult) (JP).

Bonaparte's Gull

Early: 3/3 Lorain (DC), 3/15 Magee (MS), 3/22 HWSP (JI); High: 4/6 Cleveland (1,525) (WNK), 4/10-11 L. Rockwell (110) (LR); Late: 5/17 Crane Creek (JP), 5/10 Cleveland (WNK), 5/9 Funk (DK).

Heermann's Gull (D)

3/12 Huron (JP).

Little Gull (D: inland only)

3/30 Cleveland (1) (TL).

Black-Legged Kittiwake (D)

3/21-25 Lorain (immature) (*TB, JP, MS) (Subject to review by Ohio Records Comm.)

Common Tern

Early: 4/12 Cleveland (DJH), 4/12 Seneca Co. (TB), 4/16 Clark Lake (DO); High: 5/31 Bayshore power plant (200) (MS), 5/3 Cleveland (160) (WNK); Late inland: 5/22 Pickerington Ponds (MT).

Forster's Tern

4/9-5/16 Huron (1-6) (TL, m.o.b.), 4/10-12 L. Rockwell (2-1) (*LR, EE), 4/12 Cleveland (1) (DJH), 4/16 Clark Lake (2) (VF), 4/24-5/8 Pickerington Ponds (2-1) (JC, MT), 4/25 Cleveland (1) (DJH), 5/2 Navarre Marsh (MS), 5/3 ONWR (LVC), 5/6 HWSP (JI), 5/6 Wyandot Co., Pitt. Twp. (2) (BP), 5/6 Englewood Reserve (1) (CM, AVR).

Caspian Tern

Early: 3/28 Sandusky Bay (AT), 4/2 Cleveland (DJH, WNK), 4/9 Huron (TL); High: 4/15 Huron (55) (TL), 4/16 Cleveland (41) (WNK); Late: 5/31 Bayshore power plant (MS).

Black Tern

Early: 4/30 Pickerington Ponds (JF), 5/3 Huron (JC); High: 5/7 Magee (35) (MS),

Black Tern (continued)

5/12 Spring Valley Lake (Warren Co.) (19) (BP), 5/10 Findlay res. (13) (BS); Late: 5/28 Pickerington Ponds (MT), 5/24 ONWR (LVC).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

Early: 5/2 Vinton Co. (BP), 5/2 Lancaster (Fairfield Co.) (HK), 5/5 Columbus (JF), 5/9 Crane Creek (JP).

Black-billed Cuckoo

Early: 4/28 Crane Creek (LVC), 4/29 Pickerington Ponds (JC, JF), 4/30 Brown Co. (BP).

Barn Owl

3/21-4/12 Crane Creek (JP); 4 pair nesting in Wayne Co. (JS).

Snowy Owl

3/1-4/6 Crane Creek (2) (JP), 3/1-10 Maumee Bay SP (JP), 3/1-4/12 Cleveland (2-1) (WNK, DJH, TL), 4/27 Crane Creek (JP).

Burrowing Owl (D)

4/5-6 Ottawa Co. Carroll Twp. (2nd Ohio Record) (See article in this issue). (*Sandra Zenser).

Long-eared Owl

3/10, 4/4-9 Crane Creek (JP), 5/18 Maumee Bay (JP).

Short-eared Owl

3/1-4/30 Crane Creek (max. 7) (JP, m.o.b.), 3/25-4/18 Burke Airport (Cuyahoga Co.) (2-1) (TL, DJH), 3/21 Oregon (2) (TK), 5/14 ONWR (JP).

Saw-whet Owl

3/1 Crane Creek (JP, LVC, EE), 3/15 Columbus (JC, JF), 3/21, 29, 30-4/5 Crane Creek (max. 5) (JP, m.o.b.), 5/11 Crane Creek (JP).

Chuck-wills-widow (D: central and northern)

5/5 Shawnee State Forest (Adams-Scioto Cos.) (HK), 5/5-24 Adams Co. (3-4) (JC, TB).

Whip-poor-will

Early: 4/9 Cleveland (WNK), 4/11 Crane Creek (m.o.b.), 4/13 Marietta (Washington Co.) (LB), 4/14 Columbus (JF).

Common Nighthawk

Early: 4/27 Lancaster (JC), 4/28 Oxford (Butler Co.) (JI), 5/2 Huron (JP).

Chimney Swift

Early: 4/7 Springfield (VF), 4/9 Licking Co. (BP), 4/9 Crane Creek (JP),
4/11 Holmes Co. (VDK).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Early: 4/20 Butler Co. (JI), 4/22 Lancaster (HK), 5/1 Cedar Point NWR (AT).

Common Flicker

4/17-18 Crane Creek (red-shafted race; bird seen and feather found) (JP);
Migrants: 4/15 Cleveland (45) (WNK), 4/4 Navarre Marsh (25+) (MS), 4/4 Mentor
Headlands (Lake Co.) (20) (DJH).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Late: 5/13 Cleveland (WNK), 5/9 Mentor Headlands (DJH), 5/5 Crane Creek (JP).

Eastern Kingbird

Early: 4/18 Hamilton Co. (LH, JFr), 4/25 Adams Co. (BP), 4/26 Richland Co.
(JHr), 4/28 Crane Creek (JP).

Great Crested Flycatcher

Early: 4/15 Lancaster (HK), 4/23 Hamilton Co. (JRe, HC), 4/25 Adams Co. (BP),
4/27 Kent (LR).

Eastern Phoebe

Early: 3/15 Spring Valley WA (NC), 3/15 Clearcreek (JC), 3/23 Findley SP
(Lorain Co.) (JP), 4/1 Cleveland (WNK).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher

Twelve (+) reports statewide. Early: 5/14 Columbus (JC), 5/16 Rocky River
Valley (WNK), 5/16 Sheldon's Marsh (Erie Co.) (AT); High: 5/23 Navarre Marsh
(7+) (MS); Late: 5/31 Crane Creek (JP).

Acadian Flycatcher

Early: 4/18 L. Katherine (HK), 4/29 Hueston Woods SP (JI), 5/2 Wooster (BJB).

Willow Flycatcher

Early: 5/7 Cleveland (WNK), 5/11 Pickerington Ponds (MT), 5/11 Holmes Co.
(VDK), 5/12 Crane Creek (JP).

Alder Flycatcher

5/23-31 Crane Creek (max. 3) (JP, JC), 5/24 Irwin Prairie SNP (3) (TK).

Least Flycatcher

Early: 4/26 Hamilton Co. (JRe, HC), 4/27 Columbus (JF), 4/28 Clark Co. (VF),
4/28 Crane Creek (JP), 4/28 Euclid (Cuyahoga Co.) (DC); Late: 5/31 Findlay Res. (TB).

Eastern Wood Pewee

Early: 4/28 Clark Co. (VF), 4/29 Lancaster (HK), 4/29 Crane Creek (JP).

Olive-sided Flycatcher

16 (+) reports statewide. Early: 5/12 Lorain Co. (TL), 5/14 Crane Creek (JP), 5/16 Columbus (JF); Late: 5/30 Crane Creek (6+) (TB); 5/23 Washington Co. (LB).

Horned Lark

5/13 Pickerington Ponds (one young) (JC).

Tree Swallow

Early: 3/14 Magee (m.o.b.), 3/27 Pickerington Ponds (JC), 3/29 Cleveland (WNK); High: 4/24 Alum Creek Res. (1,200) (BP), 4/5 L. Rockwell (1,000+) (LR), 4/4 Navarre Marsh (900+) (MS).

Bank Swallow

Early: 4/5 ONWR (LVC), 4/7 Knox Lake (JC, JF), 4/7 East Harbor SP (JP); High: 5/6 Findlay res. (100) (BP).

Rough-winged Swallow

Early: 4/1 Warren Co. (BP), 4/4 Spring Valley WA (CM), 4/11 Rocky River Valley (WNK); 5/20 L. Rockwell (100) (LR).

Barn Swallow

Early: 3/29 Crane Creek (JP), 4/5 Clark Co. (DO), 4/5 Fairfield Co. (MT); 4/24 Alum Creek Res. (500) (BP).

Cliff Swallow

Early: 4/18 Sand Beach (Ottawa Co.) (JP), 4/22 L. Rockwell (LR), 5/1 Pickerington Ponds (DJH); 150+ pair nesting in Holmes Co. in May.

Purple Martin

Early: 3/16 Hamilton Co., 3/26 Crane Creek (JP), 3/27 Pickerington Ponds (JC), 4/2 Clark Lake (DO); High: 5/17 Navarre Marsh (180+) (MS), 5/18 Cleveland (64) (WNK).

Blue Jay

Migrants: 4/28 Euclid (1,000) (DC), 5/4 Cleveland (913) (WNK), 4/8 Cleveland (735) (WNK).

Common Crow

3/9 ONWR (620) (monthly census fide CEP), 3/11 Oak Openings MP (Lucas Co.) (600) (TK), 3/26 Cleveland (178) (WNK), 3/16 Navarre Marsh (150+) (MS); 6/1 Adams Co. (57) (TB).

Black-capped Chickadee

Migrants left Holmes Co. in early April (VDK).

Red-breasted Nuthatch

Late: 5/25 Rocky River Valley (WNK), 5/24 Magee (JC), 5/23 Euclid (DC), 5/21 Columbus (GS); 6/9 Tiffin (Seneca Co.) (pair carrying nest material) (TB).

Brown Creeper

Late: 5/16 Oak Openings MP (TK), 5/17 Euclid (DC), 5/13 Toussaiht WA (VF).

House Wren

Early: 4/11 Spring Valley WA (BB, BM), 4/18 Delaware SP (RN), 4/18 Navarre Marsh (JP).

Winter Wren

Low numbers reported. Early: 3/27 Crane Creek (JP), 3/29 Columbus (JC), 4/1 Euclid (DC); Late: 5/11 Crane Creek (JP), 5/1 Hoover Res. (Delaware Co.) (RC), 4/26 Akron (Summit Co.) (CT).

Carolina Wren

Increasing in numbers in southern Ohio, slightly improved in central Ohio. One pair, Holmes Co. (VDK). One northern Ohio report: 5/9 Birmingham (Erie Co.) (JP). 2+ pair nesting in Dayton area (CM, TH).

Marsh Wren

Early: 4/7 East Harbor SP (JP), 4/24 Clearfork Res. (JHr), 5/5 Lucas Co. (TK), 5/22-6/1 L. Rockwell (6) (LR).

Sedge Wren

Statewide 10+ reports. Early: 5/2 Irwin Prairie SNP (TK), 5/9 Mentor Marsh SNP (DJH), 5/9 Pickerington Ponds (2) (BP), 5/10-31 Lorain Co. (7) (JP), 5/13 Euclid (DC).

Mockingbird

Numbers improving in central and southern Ohio. Northern reports: 3/1-4/16 Crane Creek (JP, m.o.b.), 3/31 Genoa (Ottawa Co.) (LVC), 4/14 Cleveland (TL), 4/19 Ontario (Richland Co.) (JHr).

Gray Catbird

Early: 4/4 Crane Creek (VF), 4/14 West Chester (FR), 4/22 Fairfield Co. (MT).

Brown Thrasher

Early: 3/30 Euclid (DC), 3/31 Clark Co. (VF), 4/2 Crane Creek (JP).

American Robin

Migrants: 3/29 Crane Creek (2,800) (JP), 3/5 Cleveland Hts. (100+) (DJH).

Wood Thrush

Early: 4/5 Magee (BP, m.o.b.), 4/15 Hamilton Co., 4/22 Holmes Co. (VDK).

Hermit Thrush

Early: 3/29 Crane Creek (JP), 3/30 Columbus (JF), 4/1 Euclid (DC); Late: 5/23 Crane Creek (JP), 5/17 Euclid (DC), 5/17 Akron (CT).

Swainson's Thrush

Early: 4/22 Clark Co. (VF), 4/23 Magee (MS), 4/30 Franklin Co. (MT); Late: 5/31 Crane Creek (JP), 5/25 Cleveland (WNK), 5/25 Akron (CT).

Gray-cheeked Thrush

Only 12 reports this spring. Early: 5/3 Euclid (DC), 5/6 Crane Creek (JP), 5/10 Franklin Co. (MT); Late: 5/31 Crane Creek (JP), 5/25 Akron (CT), 5/23 German-town Reservoir (Montgomery Co.) (CM, JHn).

Veery

Early: 4/28 Crane Creek (JP), 4/30 Franklin Co. (MT), 5/3 Euclid (DC); Late: 5/31 Crane Creek (JP), 5/30 Akron (CT).

Eastern Bluebird

4/26 Washington Co. (21 nesting boxes with eggs or young) (LB).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Early: 4/2 Crane Creek (JP), 4/4 Dayton (Bill Fox), 4/4 Columbus (JF), 4/8 Cleveland (WNK).

Golden-crowned Kinglet

Late: 5/4 Crane Creek (JP), 4/26 Shaker Lakes (Cuyahoga Co.) (DJH), 4/26 Dayton (VF).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Early: 3/28 Fairfield Co. (HK), 3/29 ONWR (EE), 4/1 Cleveland (WNK); High: 4/27 Magee (35+) (BP), 4/26 Shaker Lakes (30) (DJH); Late: 5/22 Crane Creek (JP), 5/17 Columbus (GS).

Water Pipit

Early: 3/7 Dayton (JSh), 3/10 L. Rockwell (LR), 3/14 Delaware WA (RN); High: 4/4 ONWR (50) (VF), 4/22 Lorain Co. (50) (TL), 5/10 Lucas Co. (25) (TK); Late: 5/12 Wayne Co. (VDK).

Cedar Waxwing

High: 5/20 Kent (1005) (LR), 5/30 Navarre Marsh (90+) (MS), 3/1 Lorain Co. (55) (AT), 4/11 Wooster (50) (CT).

Northern Shrike (D: central and southern Ohio)

3/26 Crane Creek (adult) (JP).

Loggerhead Shrike (D: northern Ohio)

4/6-8 Delaware Co. (pair attempted nesting) (BP, m.o.b.), 5/30 Ottawa Co. (LVC).

White-eyed Vireo

Early: 4/15 Meigs Co. (BP), 4/18 Fairfield Co. (MT), 4/28-5/1 Crane Creek (JP, m.o.b.), 5/5-9 Euclid (DC), 5/10 Cleveland (DJH).

Bell's Vireo (D)

5/24 Irwin Prairie SNP (singing male) (TK).

Yellow-throated Vireo

Early: 4/18 Tar Hollow SP (BP), 4/22 Findley SP (TL), 4/25 Adams Co. (JC), 4/26 East Fork SP (Clermont Co.) (RN).

Solitary Vireo

Early: 4/19 Columbus (BP), 4/22 Findley SP (TL), 4/26 Mohican SP (Ashland Co.) (JHr), Akron (LR), 4/28 Shaker Lakes (DC); Late: 5/20 Englewood Reserve (CM, AVR) Pickerington Ponds (JC), 5/19 Rocky River Valley (WNK) Crane Creek (JP).

Red-eyed Vireo

Early: 4/25 Shawnee SF (DS) East Fork SP (RN), 4/26 Englewood Reserve (VF), 4/28 Crane Creek (JP, MS).

Philadelphia Vireo

Early: 5/2 Kent (Portage Co.) (LR), 5/4 Crane Creek (JP), Sim's Park (Cuyahoga Co.) (DC), 5/5 Columbus (JF); Late: 5/30 Crane Creek (JP), 5/25 Sim's Park (DC).

Warbling Vireo

Early: 4/14 Hamilton Co. (SBr), 4/19 Shawnee Lookout (Hamilton Co.) (DS), 4/25 Buck Creek SP (DO), 4/27 Senecaville Lake (Noble Co.) (LB) Crane Creek (JP, MS).

Black-and-white Warbler

Early: 4/7 Crane Creek (JP), 4/18 Tefft Memorial Nature Sanctuary (Washington Co.) (LB), 4/19 Highland Co. (MI); Late: 5/31 Magee (MS), 5/26 Lorain Co. (JP), 5/25 Rocky River Valley (WNK).

Prothonotary Warbler

15+ reports statewide. Early: 4/23 Magee (MS), 4/25 HWSP (JI), 4/26 Englewood Reserve (DO, VF).

Worm-eating Warbler

Early: 4/18 Tar Hollow SP (Ross Co.) (BP), 4/28 Clearcreek (JC, JF), 4/30 Franklin Co. (MT); overflight birds: 4/28-5/11 Magee (1-3) (JP, MS, m.o.b.), 5/4 Sim's Park (DC), 5/9 Sheldon's Marsh (JF).

Golden-winged Warbler

27 reports statewide. Early: 4/28 Crane Creek (JP, MS), 4/29 Tinker's Creek SNP (Portage Co.) (LR) Dayton (TH, DBo); Late: 5/21 Dayton (DBo) Fairfield Co. (MB); 5/16 Richland Co. (2nd Richland Co. record) (Joanne Wrasse).

Blue-winged Warbler

Early: 4/14 Hamilton Co. (SBr), 4/16 Lawrence Co. (BP), 4/24 Blendon Woods MP (Franklin Co.) (JF), 4/26 Washington Co. (LB), 4/27 Cuyahoga Co. (TL).

"Brewster's Warbler"

4/28-29 Crane Creek (male banded) (MS, m.o.b.), 5/3 Columbus (*GS), 5/9 ONWR (JP) Columbus (*GS), 5/26 Streetsboro (singing golden wg. w. song) Tinker's Creek SNP (singing blue-wg. w. song) (LR), 5/30 Oak Openings MP (TL).

"Lawrence's Warbler"

4/28-5/22 Clearcreek (male) (JC, *JF), 5/3 Seiberling Nature Center (Summit Co.) (banded) (RMM), 5/9 Lorain Co. (JP), 5/11-12 Crane Creek (female banded) (MS, JP), 5/30 Oak Openings MP (TL).

Tennessee Warbler

Early: 4/18 Hamilton Co. (DS), 4/28 Clark Co. (VF), Pickerington Ponds (JC, JF, MT), 4/29 Crane Creek (JP); Late: 5/31 Crane Creek (JP) Fayette Co. (MI), 5/28 Wayne Co. (JB).

Orange-crowned Warbler

11 reports statewide. Early: 4/25 Cuyahoga Co. (TL), 4/29 Columbus (GS) Navarre Marsh (MS), 5/3 Rocky River Valley (WNK); Late: 5/30 Lower Shaker Lake (CL), 5/24 Crane Creek (JP).

Nashville Warbler

Early: 4/15 Lancaster (HK), 4/22 Clark Co. (VF), 4/27 Tinker's Creek SNP (EE) Crane Creek (JP) Delaware Co. (RN); 5/16 Rocky River Valley (18) (WNK); Late: 5/30 Crane Creek (JP).

Northern Parula

Early: 4/14 Clearcreek (JF), 4/16 Clark Lake (VF), 4/18 Spring Valley WA (TH, m.o.b.), 4/23 Mentor Headlands (DC); Late: 5/25 Sim's Park (DC), 5/24 Crane Creek (JP).

Yellow Warbler

Early: 4/12 Hamilton Co. (JR, HC) Gilmore (FR), 4/16 Lawrence Co. (BP) Wayne Co. (JB), 4/19 Crane Creek (JP) Silver Lake (Summit Co.) (LR), 5/17 Navarre Marsh (220+) (MS).

Magnolia Warbler

Early: 4/29 Columbus (GS), 5/2 Franklin Co. (MT), 5/3 Shaker Lakes (VF), 5/23 Navarre Marsh (150+) (MS); Late: 5/31 Crane Creek (JP), 5/25 Rocky River Valley (WNK) Sim's Park (DC).

Cape May Warbler

Early: 4/30 Crane Creek (JP), 5/3 Shaker Lakes (VF) Sim's Park (DC), 5/9 Magee (100) (MS); Late: 5/24 Crane Creek (JP), 5/19 Rocky River Valley (WNK).

Black-throated Blue Warbler

Early: 4/27 Crane Creek (AT), 4/30 Hamilton Co. (DS), 5/4 Cleveland (DC, WNK); 5/10 Magee (25+) (MS); Late: 5/25 Rocky River Valley (WNK), 5/24 Crane Creek (JP), 5/22 Columbus (GS).

Yellow-rumped Warbler

4/28 Magee (200+) (MS), 5/3 Shaker Lakes (140) (VF); Late: 5/25 Rocky River Valley (WNK) Sim's Park (DC), 5/24 Crane Creek (JP).

Black-throated Green Warbler

Early: 4/4 Crane Creek (VF, JP), 4/11 Shaker Lakes (DC), 4/21 Mohican SP (JHr).

Cerulean Warbler

Early: 4/18 Tar Hollow SP (BP) Washington Co. (LB), 4/19 Highland Co. (MI), 4/23 Clearcreek (JC), 4/28 Peninsula (Summit Co.) (LR).

Blackburnian Warbler

Early: 4/27 Crane Creek (JP, BP), 4/28 Franklin Co. (JC), 4/30 Silver Lake (LR); Late: 5/24 Sim's Park (DC) Crane Creek (JP, JC).

Yellow-throated Warbler

Early: 4/7 Washington Co. (BP, LB), 4/8 Clearcreek (JC), 4/12 Hamilton Co. (DS); 4/16 Brecksville (Cuyahoga Co.) (TL), 4/26 Lower Shaker Lake (*CL, DJK), 4/28 Crane Creek (JP), 5/10 Silver Lake (LR).

Chestnut-sided Warbler

Early: 4/27 Pickerington Ponds (JF) Columbus (GS), 4/28 Crane Creek (LVC); 5/17 Navarre Marsh (50+) (MS); Late: 5/30 Crane Creek (JP), 5/25 Cuyahoga Co. (DC, WNK).

Bay-breasted Warbler

Early: 4/28 Clark Co. (VF) Columbus (GS), 5/5 Crane Creek (LVC, JP); Late: 5/30 Crane Creek (JP), 5/25 Rocky River Valley (WNK).

Blackpoll Warbler

Early: 5/4 Shawnee Forest (HK), 5/7 Crane Creek (JP); very few reports except for 5/10 Englewood Reserve (10) (CM, AVR, m.o.b.); Late: 5/31 Crane Creek (JP), 5/28 Hamilton Co. (AW).

Pine Warbler

Early: 3/28 Tar Hollow SP (JC), 3/29 Crane Creek (JP), 4/9 Port Clinton (Ottawa Co.) (PJ); Late: 4/30 Silver Lake (LR), 4/28 Crane Creek 4/26 Shaker Lakes (DJH).

Prairie Warbler

Early: 4/13 Pickaway Co. (BP), 4/14 Hamilton Co. (SB), 4/18 Washington Co. (LB), 4/25 Magee (MS); 5/5 Sim's Park (DC), 5/9 Lorain Co. (JP), 5/10 Cleveland (2) (DJH), 5/16 Oak Openings MP (JC).

Palm Warbler

Early: 4/8 Crane Creek (JP), 4/17 Pickerington Ponds (JC), 4/27 Cleveland Hts. (Cuyahoga Co.) (DJH), 4/28 5/9 Magee "western race" (MS); Late: 5/20 Holmes Co. (VDK), 5/17 Rocky River Valley (WNK), 5/16 Columbus (GS).

Ovenbird

Early: 4/12 Crane Creek (JP), 4/15 Englewood Reserve (RM, BM), 4/18 Washington Co. (LB) Lake Katherine (HK).

Northern Waterthrush

Early: 3/20 Springville Marsh (Seneca Co.) (*TB), 3/30 Horseshoe Lake (Cuyahoga Co.) (CL), 4/19 Shawnee Lookout (DS), 4/27 Crane Creek (JP) Rocky River Valley (WNK); Late: 5/30 Crane Creek (JP), 5/22 Rocky River Valley (WNK), 5/20 Pickerington Ponds (JC).

Louisiana Waterthrush

Early: 4/1 Warren Co. (BP), 4/2 Clearcreek (JC), 4/3 Crane Creek (JP), Tar Hollow SP (DC), 4/5 Mohican SP (JHr) South Chagrin Reservation; Cleveland Metro. Park (Cuyahoga Co.) (DC), 5/9 Lorain Co. (3) (JP), 5/4 Cuyahoga Valley NRA (Summit - Cuyahoga Co. (LR), 5/16 Oak Openings SP (JC).

Kentucky Warbler

Early: 4/15 Shade River SF (Meigs Co.) (BP), 4/28 Clearcreek (JC), 4/29 HWSP (JI); 5/9 Crane Creek (JP), 5/8-10 Lower Shaker Lake (TL, CL), 5/16 Resthaven WA (Erie Co.) (JP), 5/17 Oak Openings MP (TK), 5/23 Chapin Forest Reservation, Lake Co. Metro. Park (DC).

Connecticut Warbler (D: fall only)

8 reports statewide. Early: 5/9 Crane Creek (BP, m.o.b.); 5/24 Sim's Park (LR); Late: 5/30 Crane Creek (TL) Maumee Bay SP (BP).

Mourning Warbler

Early: 5/3 Shaker Lakes (VF), 5/9 Crane Creek (JP), 5/11 Holmes Co. (VDK); 5/23 Navarre Marsh (15+) (MS), 5/24 Magee (7) (JC), 5/24 Cedar Point NWR (6) (TL); Late: 5/31 Crane Creek (JP), 5/30 Maumee Bay SP (BP).

Common Yellowthroat

Early: 4/17 Hamilton Co. (ET), 4/18 Clark Co. (DO), 4/23 Clearcreek (JC), 4/27 Magee (MS).

Yellow-breasted Chat

Early: 4/28 Crane Creek (JP), Clearcreek (JF), 4/30 Columbus (GS), 5/2 West Chester (FR); 5/4 Sim's Park (DC), 5/22 Rocky River Valley (WNK).

Hooded Warbler

Early: 4/16 Clearcreek (JC), 4/18 L. Katherine (HK) Tar Hollow SP (BP), 4/22 Clark Co. (VF); 4/26 Hamilton Co. (JR, HC), 4/28 Crane Creek (JP), 5/5-13 Sim's Park (1-2) DC), 5/16-17 Oak Openings MP (JC, TK), 5/30 Crane Creek (JP).

Wilson's Warbler

Early: 5/4 Columbus (GS) Crane Creek (JP), 5/5 L. Rockwell (LR); 5/23 Navarre Marsh (15+) (MS); Late: 5/30 Crane Creek (JP) Blendon Woods MP (JC), 5/25 Akron (CT).

Canada Warbler

Early: 4/28 Crane Creek (JP, MS), 5/5 Columbus (JF), Sim's Park (DC); 5/23 Navarre Marsh (15+) (MS); Late: 5/30 Crane Creek (JP) Blendon Woods MP (JC), 5/25 Akron (CT).

American Redstart

Early: 4/28 Clearcreek (JC, JF), 5/3 Fairfield Co. (MT), 5/4 Shawnee Forest (HK) Magee (MS) Sim's Park (DC); 5/30 Navarre Marsh (70+) (MS), 5/9 Magee (25) (BP).

Bobolink

Early: 4/29 Crawford Co. (BP) HWSP (JI), 4/30 Aurora (EE) Crane Creek (JP), 5/1 Fairfield Co. (MT) Cuyahoga Co. (TL), 5/2 Buck Creek SP (DO); 5/13 Henry Co. (20) (TK).

Eastern Meadowlark

Early: 2/21 Wayne Co. (JHr), 3/1 Fayette Co. (MI) Pickerington Ponds (JC) ONWR (EE).

Western Meadowlark

3/30 Maumee Bay SP (JP), 4/13-5/31 Ottawa Co. (pair) (JF, m.o.b.).

Yellow-headed Blackbird (D: inland only)

4/22 East Dayton (imm. male) (Debbie Fennel), 5/3 Crane Creek (JP, TK), 5/7 Lucas Co. (TK), 5/17 Cedar Point NWR (BP), 5/29 Crane Creek (JP).

Orchard Oriole

Early: 4/19 Shawnee Lookout (DS), 4/20 Franklin Co. (JF), 4/25 Adams Co. (JC) Richland Co. (JHr), 4/28 Fayette Co. (MI) Crane Creek (JP).

Northern Oriole

Early: 4/21 Dillon SP (JP), 4/22 Hamilton Co. (DS), 4/26 Fayette Co. (MI) Dayton (VF), 4/27 Senecaville Lake (LB); 5/19 Cuyahoga Co. (21) (WNK).

Rusty Blackbird

4/11 Toussaint WA (200) (VF), 2/28 Gilmore (200) (FR), 3/25 Spring Valley WA (100+) (CM, RM, BB, CB), 4/11 Crane Creek (100) (VF); Late: 5/12 Crane Creek (JP) Silver Lake (LR).

Brewer's Blackbird (D)

3/14 Madison Co. (female) (*JC), 4/18 Magee (pair) (*JC, *JP, m.o.b.).

Scarlet Tanager

Early: 4/18 Tar Hollow SP (BP), 4/25 HWSP (JI), East Fork SP (RN), 4/26 Hamilton Co. (SB), 4/28 Crane Creek (JP); 5/16 Cuyahoga Co. (17) (WNK).

Summer Tanager

Early: 4/18 Lake Katherine (HK), 4/25 Hamilton Co. (DS), 5/2 Lake Hope SP (Vinton Co.) (JC); 5/7 Findley SP (male) (TL) Kent (singing male) (LR), 5/12-13 Crane Creek (MS, JP), 5/22-23 Crane Creek (JP).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Early: 4/22 Clark Co. (VF), 4/24 Columbus (BS), 4/25 Shawnee Lookout (DS), 4/28 Fairfield Co. (JC) Crane Creek (JP); 5/19 Cuyahoga Co. (19) (WNK).

Blue Grosbeak (D: central and northern Ohio)

5/15 Adams Co. (pair) (*JF, BP, JC).

Indigo Bunting

Early: 4/2 Washington Co. (LB), 4/16 Columbus (BS), 4/19 Hamilton Co. (DS), 4/22 Englewood Reserve (CM, RM, BB), 4/27 Holmes Co. (VDK), 4/28 Crane Creek (JP), 5/30 Navarre Marsh (85+) (MS).

Dickcissel

3 reports (all by JP): 5/7 Ottawa Co., 5/18 Maumee Bay SP, 5/21 Crane Creek (7).

Evening Grosbeak

3/26 Mohican SP (25) (JHr), 4/7 Washington Co. (18) (BP), 3/15 Lake Rockwell (15) (LR); Late: 5/24 Oak Openings MP (TK), 5/10 Magee (BP), 5/9 Sim's Park (DC).

Purple Finch

3/7 Spring Valley WA (40-50) (CM, AVR), 3/26 Mohican SP (25) (JHr), 3/19 Hamilton Co. (20) (DS); Late: southern Ohio: 5/11 Clearcreek (JC), 5/9 Hamilton Co. (DS).

House Finch

Nesting evidence this spring for Dayton (CM). First spring county records at Seneca Co. (TB) and Springfield, Ohio (DO), 5/17 Toledo (2) (TK), 408 birds banded at JP's Lorain feeder from 11/79 to 5/31/81.

Common Redpoll

3/9-4/23 Lorain (5-1) (AT), 3/27-4/10 Shaker Lakes (9-1) (VF), 4/1 Crane Creek (JP).

Pine Siskin

4/22 Clark Co. (20) (VF), 5/9-10 Sim's Park (20) (DC); Late: 5/31 Crane Creek (JP), 5/25 Sim's Park (DC) Peninsula (LR), 5/23 Lower Shaker Lake (15) (CL); Nesting attempted at Greenlawn Cemetery (Columbus) (BP); pair nested in Hamilton Co. with one young seen on 5/9 (DS, MM).

American Goldfinch

5/5-12 Sim's Park (100+) (DC), 5/9 Magee (75+) (MS), 5/9 Mentor (50+) (DJH).

Red Crossbill

3/11 Findley SP (2) (JP).

White-winged Crossbill

3/1-5/31 Lorain (1) (JP), 4/29 Columbus (2) (GS).

Savannah Sparrow

Early: 3/25 Fayette Co. (MI), 3/28 Fairfield Co. (JC), 3/29 Sugarcreek Reserve, Dayton-Montgomery Co. Parks (Greene Co.) (CM), Cleveland (WNK), 3/30 Holmes Co. (VDK).

Grasshopper Sparrow

Early: 4/2 Fayette Co. (MI), 4/11 Hamilton Co. (NW), 4/14 Lorain Co. (JP); 5/5-9 Adams Co. (20) (JC); 5/4 Donald Gray Gardens (Cuyahoga Co.) (TL).

Henslow's Sparrow

Early: 4/8 Clearcreek (JC), 4/14 Lorain Co. (JP); 5/25 Aurora (2 males) (LR), 5/31 Lorain Co. (14 males) (JP).

Le Conte's Sparrow (D)

4/28 Sim's Park (Cuyahoga Co.) banded (*TL, m.o.b.).

Sharp-tailed Sparrow

5/25 Cleveland (1) (TL).

Vesper Sparrow

Early: 3/19 Toussaint WA (JP), 3/29 Liberty (Montgomery Co.) (FR), 3/31 Fairfield Co. (MT); 4/30 ONWR (30) (VF).

Lark Sparrow

4/23-5/31 Oak Openings MP (TK, m.o.b.), 5/19 Crane Creek (JP).

Dark-eyed Junco

Late: 5/19 Cleveland (WNK), 5/16 Erie Co. (AT), 5/4 Crane Creek (JP), 5/2 Lake Hope SP (BP, JC); 3/2 Geauga Co. ("Oregon race") (EE), 3/8 Blendon Woods MP ("Oregon race") (JF).

Tree Sparrow

Late: 5/4 Crane Creek (JP), 4/14 Kent (LR).

Chipping Sparrow

Early: 3/28 Fairfield Co. (HK), 3/29 Magee (BP, JP) Blendon Woods (JF),
4/2 Clearcreek (JC), 4/4 Euclid (DC).

Clay-colored Sparrow (D)

4/27-5/2 Magee (See photo in this issue) (*BP, m.o.b.), 5/1 Oxford (Butler
Co.) (banded) (*JI).

Field Sparrow

Early: 2/25 Clark Co. (VF), 3/15 Cleveland Hts. (DJH) Clearcreek (JC), 3/26
Butler Co. (JI), 3/30 Cleveland (WNK).

White-crowned Sparrow

Early north: 4/11 Magee (DJH); 5/5 Cleveland (30) (WNK), 5/9 Mentor (20)
(DJH); Late: 5/25 Cleveland (WNK), 5/24 Crane Creek (JP), 5/22 Holmes Co. (VDK).

White-throated Sparrow

4/28 Magee (100+) (MS), 5/4 Cleveland (67) (WNK), 5/9 Mentor (50) (DJH); Late:
5/29 Stark Co. (CT), 5/26 Lorain Co. (JP), 5/25 Cleveland (WNK).



Clay-colored Sparrow at Magee Marsh State WA, 4/27 5/2. Photographed by John
Pogacnik.

Fox Sparrow

Early: 3/1 Greene Co. (RN), Lancaster (AK), 3/15 Cleveland Hts. (DJH)
Maumee Bay SP (TK); 4/4 Navarre Marsh (46+) (MS), 4/4 Mentor (20) (DJH); Late:
5/4 Crane Creek (JP), 4/29 Cleveland (LR).

Lincoln's Sparrow

Early: 4/28 Sim's Park (DC), 4/29 Pickerington Ponds (JC), 5/3 Shaker
Lakes (VF) Lucas Co. (TK); Late: 5/25 Cleveland (WNK), 5/22 Oxford (banded)
(JI), 5/23 Navarre Marsh (MS).

Lapland Longspur

3/1 Crane Creek (JP, MS), 4/22 Wyandot Co. (14) (BP).

Smith's Longspur (D)

3/9 ONWR (3) (*LR, *JP).

Snow Bunting

2/25-3/1 Magee (MS, BP), 4/2 Maumee Bay (13) (JP).

Spring, 1981 Bird Report Contributors

Ron Austing	(RA)	Tom Hissong	(TH)
Lynn Barnhart	(LB)	Dick & Jean Hoffman	(DJH)
Tom Bartlett	(TB)	James Ingold	(JI)
Betty Berry	(BB)	Melinda Irvin	(MI)
Charlie Berry	(CB)	Paula Jack	(PJ)
Dixie Bowsher	(DBo)	Tom Kemp	(TK)
Sally Brockman	(SBr)	Hermann Kind	(HK)
James Bruce	(JB)	William & Nancy Klamm	(WNK)
Robert & Jeanne Bruce	(BJB)	Vernon & Dennis Kline	(VDK)
Jerry Cairo	(JC)	Paul Knoop	(PKp)
Dale Chase	(DCh)	Chris Lee	(CL)
Nancy Cherry	(NC)	Tom LePage	(TL)
Dave Corbin	(DC)	Edward MacArthur	(EM)
Harry Connors	(HC)	Karl Maslowski	(KM)
Robert Cutter	(RC)	Charlotte Mathena	(CM)
Dale Durbin	(DD)	Winnis McClanahan	(WM)
Elinor Elder	(EE)	Jananne McNitt	(JM)
Eric Faber	(EF)	Bea Mercer	(BM)
Vic Fazio	(VF)	Morris Mercer	(MM)
Joan Franchi	(JFr)	Roland Mercer	(RM)
Jim Fry	(JF)	Bill Moring	(BMo)
Polly Hall	(PH)	Reed Noss	(RN)
Louise Halley	(LH)	Doug Overacker	(DO)
Ray Hannikman	(RH)	Bruce Peterjohn	(BP)
Betty Hardesty	(BH)	Cheryl & Ed Pierce	(CEP)
John Herman	(JHr)	John Pogacnik	(JP)
Jim Hickman	(JHn)	Worth Randle	(WR)
Betty Hill	(BH)	Frank Renfro	(FR)
Jim Hill	(JH)	Jim Rettig	(JRe)

Spring, 1981 Bird Report Contributors
(continued)

Anne Van Roekel	(AVR)	Earl Thirey	(ET)
Larry Rosche	(LR)	Marjory Thomas	(MT)
Gene Sattler	(GS)	Arden Thompson	(AT)
Mark Shieldcastle	(MS)	Carol Tveekrem	(CT)
John Shrader	(JSh)	Laurel VanCamp	(LVC)
John Staab	(JS)	Norman Walker	(NW)
Bruce Stehling	(BS)	Susan Wilkinson	(SW)
Dave Styer	(DS)	Art Wiseman	(AW)
Myra (Messick) Styer	(MM)	Joanne Wrasse	(JW)

Again, our grateful thanks to these industrious contributors who are the core of this magazine. Without their extra effort in reporting their sightings to us and their willingness to subjugate their ego to the scrutiny of others, you would not be reading this now.

CROSS-REFERENCE

<u>Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>County</u>
Akron	Summit	Delaware SP	Delaware
Alum Creek Reservoir	Delaware	Delaware State WA	Delaware
Aurora	Portage	Donald Grey Gardens	Cuyahoga
Bayshore power plant	Lucas	East Fork SP	Clermont
Beavercreek Reservoir	Seneca	East Harbor SP	Erie
Birmingham	Erie	Elyria	Lorain
Blendon Woods MP	Franklin	Englewood Reserve	
Brecksville	Cuyahoga	(Dayton-Montgomery Park	
Buck Creek SP	Clark	District)	Montgomery
Burke Airport	Cuyahoga	Euclid	Cuyahoga
Castalia Pond	Erie	Findlay Reservoir	Hancock
Cedar Point NWR	Lucas	Findley SP	Lorain
Celeryville Sod Farms	Huron	Fort Ancient SM	Warren
Chapin Forest Reservation (Lake Forest MP)	Lake	Funk	Wayne
Chardon	Geauga	Geneva SP	Ashtabula
Clark Lake	Clark	Genoa	Ottawa
Clearfork Reservoir	Richland-	Germantown Reservoir	Montgomery
	Morrow	Gilmore	Tuscarawas
Clearcreek	Fairfield	Glen Helen SNP	Greene
Cleveland	Cuyahoga	Gorman Nature Center	Richland
Cleveland Heights	Cuyahoga	Grand Lake St. Mary's	Mercer
Columbus	Franklin	Groveport	Franklin
Crane Creek SP	Ottawa	Hoover Reservoir	Delaware
Darby Marsh	Ottawa	Horseshoe Lake	Cuyahoga
Dayton	Montgomery	Hueston Woods SP	Preble
Deer Creek Lake & Dam	Pickaway-	Huron	Erie
	Fayette-	Irwin Prairie SNP	Lucas
	Madison	Kent	Portage
Deer Creek SP	Pickaway	Killbuck State WA	Wayne
Delaware Reservoir	Delaware	Killdeer Palins	Marion
		Knox Lake	Knox

CROSS-REFERENCE

(continued)

<u>Location</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>County</u>
Lake Hope SP	Vinton	Sandusky Bay	Erie-
Lake Rockwell	Portage		Ottawa
Lancaster	Fairfield	Seiberling Nature Center	Summit
Liberty	Montgomery	Shaker Lakes	Cuyahoga
Long Lake	Summit	Shawnee Lookout	
Lorain	Lorain	(Hamilton Co. Park)	Hamilton
Magee Marsh State WA	Ottawa	Shawnee SF	Adams-
Marietta	Washington		Scioto
Maumee Bay	Lucas	Sheldon's Marsh	Erie
Maumee Bay SP	Lucas	Silver Lake	Summit
Medusa Marsh	Erie	Sim's Park	Cuyahoga
Mentor Marsh SNP	Lake	South Chagrin Reservation	
Mentor Headlands SP	Lake	(Cleveland MP)	Cuyahoga
Metzger Marsh	Lucas	Spring Valley State WA	Greene
Mohican SP	Ashland	Springfield	Clark
Navarre Marsh	Ottawa	Springville Marsh	Seneca
Newtown Gravel Pits	Hamilton	Stages Pond SNP	Pickaway
Neilson's Marsh	Erie	Sugarcreek Reserve	
Oak Openings MP		(Dayton-Montgomery	
(Toledo MP)	Lucas	Co. Parks)	Greene
Oberlin Reservoir	Lorain	Tar Hollow SP	Ross
Ontario	Richland	Tefft Memorial Nature	
Oregon	Lucas	Sanctuary	Washington
Oxford	Butler	Tiffin	Seneca
Peninsula	Summit	Tinkers Creek SNP	Portage
Pickerington Ponds	Franklin	Toussaint State WA	Ottawa
Pleasant Hill Reservoir	Richland-	Turtle Creek	Ottawa
	Ashland	Walden Waterfowl	
Port Clinton	Ottawa	Refuge	Franklin
Port Columbus Airport	Franklin	Wellington Reservoir	Lorain
Reading	Hamilton	West Chester	Butler
Rocky River Valley	Cuyahoga	Willow Point	Lucas
Sand Beach	Ottawa	Winous Point	Ottawa
Shade River SF	Meigs	Wooster	Wayne

Burrowing Owl
Ohio's Second Record

Sandra L. Zenser

On April 5, 1981, in the afternoon of this cloudy and rainy day, Gilbert Gyde of Locust Point, Oak Harbor, Ohio, and I saw an owl in a drainage ditch paralleling Darsch Road, Carroll Twp., Ottawa County, Ohio. Darsch Road connects Zenser Road with State Route 2. The bird was one-half mile south of State Route 2 and standing by a broken 12 x 6 inch culvert tile. Mr. Gyde thought the bird was injured as it was right next to the road but as he walked toward it, it ran away from him faster than a quail. Mr. Gyde had been out West and said he thought it looked like one of those owls that live in the ground.

We returned April 6, 1981, about 9:30 A.M. The sun was shining. I saw the bird again but this time very closely with 7 x 35 binoculars. It was again in the same position. The sun was in front of me. It flew after a time and landed on the opposite side of the road on a mound of dirt. While there, it moved up and down in kind of a bob. In this position, the sun was to my back. I saw very long legs, very bright yellow eyes and a black band around the throat area. The bird was a blond-brown color with white speckles. It was bigger in size than the saw-whet owl I had seen several days earlier at Magee (perhaps because of the very long legs) and smaller than a great-horned owl. The only other burrowing owl I had seen was the previous November at the St. Louis Zoo bird house and I thought that's what this bird was and that was confirmed by the field guides.

This area was very open with no trees or bushes. The field on the side of the road (east) with the ditch was plowed while the other side of the road was a wheat field.

Laurel VanCamp

I did not see the bird, but I did go to the area when I heard of it. I found quite a bit of excrement and two pellets at the east end of the tile culvert indicating an owl had spent considerable time at this spot. This was on the lee side of the road from the prevailing wind. The pellets were about screech owl size and not from a short-eared owl, the only other owl that would have spent time at this spot.

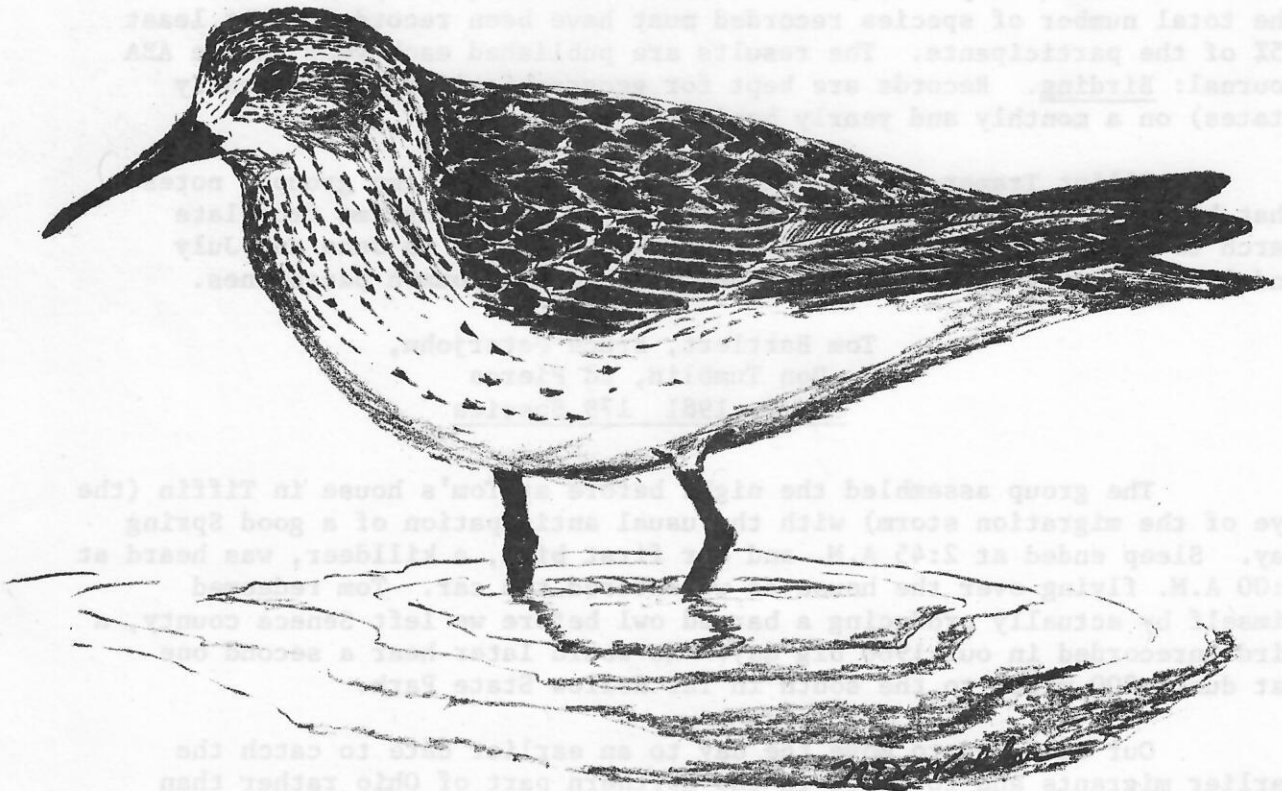
Editor

This record was approved unanimously by the Ohio Records Committee. The above was taken from the documentation forms submitted.

The only other record of a burrowing owl in Ohio appeared in the Auk, Vol. 63, pages 450-451: (Notice the striking similarity of this account to the most recent sighting.)

"Burrowing Owl in Ohio.---My brother Norman called my attention to a small fast owl along an open ditch southwest of Payne in Paulding County, Ohio, during the early part of October, 1944. It insisted upon roosting along the bare bank of a ditch that had been enlarged by a dredge a short time previously. On four occasions it was

seen sitting on the bare bank of the ditch. Two attempts were made to secure it with a 40-gauge shot gun and both times it could have been shot at a distance of 40 feet. However, we did not shoot it as it would have been ruined for a specimen. After flushing, it seemed very shy and would fly a considerable distance out in the harvested soy-bean fields where it tried to conceal itself under bunches of soy-bean straw. It did considerable walking. It was observed at one of its roosting places beside a four-inch tile where this drained into the open ditch. There on October 22, I collected elen pellets of varying sizes. The pellets contained some fur but several seemed to be composed principally of elytra of beetles and legs and wings of grasshoppers and crickets. A mental image of the owl matched up very well with Audubon's plate of a Burrowing Owl. I was impressed by the owl's falcon-like speed as it dashed down to alight on the bank of the ditch. While I have seen but three Saw-whet Owls in this region, they were observed in thickets and woodland. The pellets will be sent to some expert for determination of contents.---Homer F. Price, Payne, Ohio."



Western Sandpiper

THE BIG DAY
1981

Taking a clue from last year's new Ohio big day record of 166 species set by the "Kemp group," the "Bartlett group" reversed its course and started in the north this year and worked south establishing a new Ohio record of 179 species.

The timing was right. The day, May 9, subsequently turned out to be the only major flight day of the year. Two other "days," May 4th and May 15th and 16th had significant movements in retrospect but they were minor in comparison. This migration pattern also restricted the big day attempts to two groups: Bartlett et al and Cairo et al (the "Kemp group" did not mobilize until June 1st but still saw 160+ species on that day in the Toledo area, thus claiming the big day record for June in Ohio.)

Big days received official recognition in 1971 when they were sanctioned by the American Birding Association. Sanctioned because the ABA published rules to standardize the event nationwide (and now worldwide). The object is for a team of observers to see as many species in one day as possible. Not too scientific perhaps but challenging and lots of fun. The birds may be seen, or heard, and most, to conserve time, must be heard. The count can be held during any single 24-hour period during the year but must be on a single calendar day. In fact, most Ohio counts must be timed to occur during a peak May migration day to insure a high count. The participants must remain within direct voice contact of each other during all travel and must travel in the same vehicle if motorized. There must be two or more participants on each count to qualify for a record and the total number of species recorded must have been recorded by at least 95% of the participants. The results are published each year in the ABA journal: Birding. Records are kept for geographical areas (basically states) on a monthly and yearly basis.

Elliot Tramer, an additional member of the "Kemp group," notes that big days are possible around western Lake Erie anytime from late March to late October. They had counts in the 130's in June and July and 107 on August 23 when they missed many of the common passerines.

Tom Bartlett, Bruce Peterjohn,
Don Tumblin, Ed Pierce
May 9, 1981 179 Species

The group assembled the night before at Tom's house in Tiffin (the eye of the migration storm) with the usual anticipation of a good Spring day. Sleep ended at 2:45 A.M. and our first bird, a killdeer, was heard at 3:00 A.M. flying over the house as we entered the car. Tom redeemed himself by actually producing a barred owl before we left Seneca county, a bird unrecorded in our 1980 big day. We would later hear a second one (at dusk) 200 miles to the south in Tar Hollow State Park.

Our decision to move the day to an earlier date to catch the earlier migrants and to start in the northern part of Ohio rather than southern produced a record count. Unexpectedly, a big day is not built on varieties. Ours were only a sandhill crane, snowy egret, yellow-crowned night heron, Connecticut warbler and western meadowlark. To illustrate,

we wouldn't have needed these birds if we had seen a black duck, red-headed woodpecker, cedar waxwing, Wilson's warbler or a harrier.

Luck is important. A night time roadside call of nature for Don produced a screech owl calling (unrecorded for Don, apparently muffled by his own noise). A fortuitous glance overhead while on the Crane Creek bird trail produced a yellow-crowned night heron flying directly behind a black-crowned night heron. Bruce's quick eyes found for us all (and everyone on the bird trail) a Connecticut warbler walking through the leaves on the ground.

Time and habitat are the critical factors. We had 150 species by 1:00 P.M. when we left Huron for the south. The remaining eight hours produced twenty-nine birds (acadian flycatcher, ruffed grouse, whip-poor-will, pileated, red-bellied, and hairy woodpeckers, Carolina chickadee, mockingbird, Louisiana waterthrush, orchard oriole, prairie, pine, worm-eating, yellow-throated and Kentucky warblers, summer tanager, Henslow's and grasshopper sparrows, all of which are easier and therefore less time consuming to see in the south.)

The statistics were: 438 miles by car and 7 miles by foot; 19 hours and 56 minutes in the field; 97.8% of the 179 species were recorded by all four group members.

Is 200 possible? Who knows. 190 is reachable if the combination of early migrants and late migrants are compressed by a late spring and good early May movement. We would have needed black duck, ring-necked duck, common goldeneye, bufflehead, any merganser, yellow-headed sapsucker, brown creeper, winter wren, golden-crowned kinglet, dark-eyed junco, tree and fox sparrows. 200 would require an additional ten of the birds we missed: least and American bittern, red-shouldered hawk, harrier, golden plover, ruddy turnstone, white-rumped sandpiper, short-eared owl, red-headed woodpecker, willow flycatcher, cliff swallow, cedar waxwing, prothonotary and Wilson's warblers and pine siskin.

The complete list of species seen or heard is listed below: common loon, pied-billed grebe, double-crested cormorant, great blue heron, green heron, cattle egret, great egret, snowy egret, black-crowned night heron, yellow-crowned night heron, Canada goose, mallard, gadwall, pintail, green-winged teal, blue-winged teal, American wigeon, northern shoveler, wood duck, redhead, canvasback, lesser scaup, ruddy duck, turkey vulture, sharp-shinned hawk, Cooper's hawk, red-tailed hawk, broad-winged hawk, American bald eagle, osprey, American kestrel, ring-necked pheasant, ruffed grouse, sandhill crane, Virginia rail, sora, common gallinule, American coot, semipalmated plover, killdeer, black-bellied plover, American woodcock, common snipe, spotted sandpiper, solitary sandpiper, greater and lesser yellowlegs, pectoral and least sandpipers, dunlin, short-billed dowitcher, semipalmated sandpiper, great black-backed, herring, ring-billed and Bonaparte's gulls, Forster's, common, caspian and black terns, rock and mourning doves, yellow-billed and black-billed cuckoos, screech, great-horned and barred owls, whip-poor-will, common nighthawk, chimney swift, ruby-throated hummingbird, belted kingfisher, common flicker, pileated, red-bellied, hairy and downy woodpeckers, eastern kingbird, great-crested flycatcher, eastern phoebe, acadian flycatcher, least flycatcher, eastern wood pewee, horned lark, tree, bank, rough-winged and barn swallows, purple martin, blue jay, common crow, black-capped chickadee, Carolina chickadee, tufted titmouse, white-breasted nuthatch, house wren, marsh and sedge wrens, mockingbird, gray catbird, brown thrasher, American robin, wood, hermit, Swainson's and gray-cheeked

thrushes, veery, eastern bluebird, blue-gray gnatcatcher, ruby-crowned kinglet, water pipit, starling, white-eyed, yellow-throated, solitary, red-eyed, Philadelphia, and warbling vireos, black and white, worm-eating, golden-winged, blue-winged, Tennessee, and Nashville warblers, northern parula, yellow, magnolia, Cape May, black-throated blue, yellow-rumped, black-throated green, cerulean, blackburnian, yellow-throated, chestnut-sided, bay-breasted, blackpoll, pine, prairie and palm warblers, ovenbird, northern and Louisiana waterthrushes. Kentucky and Connecticut warblers, common yellowthroat, yellow-breasted chat, hooded and Canada warblers, American redstart, house sparrow, bobolink, eastern and western meadowlarks, red-winged blackbirds, northern and orchard orioles, rusty blackbird, common grackle, brown-headed cowbird, scarlet and summer tanagers. cardinal, rose-breasted grosbeak, indigo bunting, purple finch, American goldfinch, rufous-sided towhee, Savannah, grasshopper, Henslow's, vesper, chipping, field, white-crowned, white-throated, Lincoln's, swamp and song sparrows.

Jerry Cairo, Chuck Hocevar,
Dave Corbin, Howard Besser
May 15, 1981 167 species

We also started in the north for the first time and improved our count total from 1980 by 14 species. We started at Touissant for marsh birds of the night. We went to Irwin Prairie and Oak Openings and then to Magee and Ottawa. It was a non-wave day so the bird trail took too much of our time (2½ hours). That threw our time schedule way off. We then went to Huron Pier and then headed for southern Ohio. We briefly stopped at Pickerington Marsh and then headed on down to Clearcreek and only had 45 minutes to cover it. Upon leaving Clearcreek it was 7:00 and we had 164 species. We then went down to Adams County which was a mistake because we arrived as it was getting dark and only added grasshopper sparrow, whip-poor-will and Chuck-will's-widow. I believe if we would have stayed at Clearcreek for the final 1½ hours we would have had at least 170. Our final total was 167. It is a high total but when you consider the area traveled I don't really consider it to be that good. We still believe Adams County can be included in a big day but leaving northern Ohio earlier is critical and also Clearcreek has to be replaced with a comparable area more in line with Adams County.

In total, we tallied: 13 ducks, 7 hawks, 14 shorebirds, 3 owls, 4 woodpeckers, 7 flycatchers, 5 vireos, 31 warblers, 6 blackbirds, 4 finches and 10 sparrows. Our noteworthy species were: yellow-crowned night heron, bufflehead, black vulture, upland sandpiper, western sandpiper, Forster's tern, barred owl, Carolina wren, orange-crowned warbler and mourning warbler.

Lawrence's Warbler Banded

A Lawrence's Warbler was captured on May 3, 1981, in a mist net at Seiberling Naturealm, Akron, Ohio. Marie Morgan banded the bird and released it.

It was captured in a 1 1/4" mist net at 7:00 A.M. It was in the bottom shelf of a 7' x 40' net, and only about five feet from a Blue-winged Warbler. These were the only two warblers netted in the entire morning in 18 nets. The weather was fair skies, 35^o F (after a frost), calm winds, and a barometer of 30.1.

It was a well-marked individual. It will be reported as AHY-U (after hatching year - unknown sex). It had a black throat and cheeks, the black feathers in the throat edged with yellow. The forehead, belly, and face were yellow, and yellow under the lower mandible extended 3 mm to the black throat. The nape and back were yellowish-green, brighter on the rump. The flight feathers were blue-gray. The secondary coverts had white spots and the spots were edged with yellow (giving the appearance of a yellowish-white wing bar). The primary coverts were blue-gray with lighter gray edging. The undertail coverts were white. The tail was blue-gray except for two largely white outer tail feathers on each side, smaller amounts on the third, and only a small spot on the fourth. The wing chord was 60.0 mm. There was no body fat visible. It weighed 8.5 grams.

After showing it to about a dozen birders who quickly responded to some telephone calls, the bird was released. It flew about 150 feet to a tree and began feeding immediately. Later in the morning two groups of birders saw it (with the band visible) about 500 yards south of the banding station.

Marie Morgan is a sub-permittee of Dr. Harold D. Mahan, Director of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. The Museum and the Akron Metropolitan Park District cooperate in a bird-banding project at Seiberling Naturealm, part of Sand Run Metro Park. It is located on Smith Road just outside the northwest corner of Akron. Marie and Ron Morgan band there most weekends of the year.

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