

THE

OHIO CARDINAL

DEVOTED TO THE STUDY AND APPRECIATION OF OHIO'S BIRDLIFE • VOL. 41, NO. 4, SUMMER 2018





A hard-to-find nesting species in Ohio, this Bell's Vireo was captured by Alex Eberts as he hiked at Darby Creek on 02 Jun.

On the cover:

While doing some morning exploring near the pond in New Russia Township Park, Lorain, Kathy Caldwell photographed this extremely rare Roseate Spoonbill on 10 Jun.

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COMMENTS ON THE SEASON

By Craig Caldwell

I said it for spring, and it still holds true: Abnormal weather is the new normal. Following May's record highs, Jun's overall mean temperature was still well above average, coming in at number 107 with number 124 being the hottest. It was driven by the average of the high temperatures, which were the fourth highest on record. (The average of the minimums was about at the midpoint of the scale.) Jul's average minimum, average maximum, and overall average were a bit above their long-term means.

Jun rain was above average, ranking at number 106 of the 124. But its distribution was, literally, all over the map. Some areas received as little as half their normal amount while other pockets were drenched with triple their norm. In contrast, Jul was exceptionally dry; it ranked at number 28 with number 1 being the driest. Though the Ohio River valley, the Columbus area, and the far northeastern Lake Erie shore got up to double their normal amounts, in most of the state rainfall was below average. The far northwest and scattered pockets elsewhere got less than a quarter of their usual amounts.

Weather data are from the National Weather Service (<http://water.weather.gov/precip/>), the NOAA (<http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/temp-and-precip/maps.php> and <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/extremes/records/>), and the *Plain Dealer*.

Cardinal contributor Dr. Bernard (Bernie) Master of Worthington, *Franklin*, has reached a milestone passed by perhaps fewer than 50 other birders: He saw his 8000th species. "It was a rather plain bulbul—Styan's Bulbul—handsome in its own right, a vulnerable species globally, but common locally." He photographed the bird in Taiwan's Taroko Gorge NP on 09 Apr. In addition, Bernie had seen the monotypic Przevalski's Pinktail in 2014 which gave him at least one member of every avian family, and he's kept up with the family splits since then. Well done!

This past winter's Snow Owl invasion, though not record-breaking then, resulted in Ohio's first Jun sightings. At least one and possibly two individuals lingered. Several ducks made unusual summer appearances. Shorebird migration followed its usual pattern, including some sightings for which the direction of travel is a guess. Black-necked Stilts nested in at least two locations. Summer Merlin sightings, virtually unknown a decade ago, continue to increase.

Common Ravens are here to stay: They were seen in seven counties. Fish Crows might also be here to stay. However, it is still a review species, so please, please, file formal reports! Red Crossbills and Pine Siskins previewed the northern finch invasion predicted for this winter. Though passerine migrations in general followed their usual timing, a couple of warblers were here out of season.

This issue of the *Cardinal* contains reports of 243 species, almost exactly the average number of the previous several years. The species accounts also include a hybrid and three reports at the genus level. In addition, this issue also continues the streak of data from every county. Ten species were reported in all 88 counties and seven were seen in 87. Twenty-eight more species were seen in at least 80.

Nine review species were reported; their names are underlined. Sightings of four of them generated formal reports to the OBRC. Reports of the other five species were only posted to eBird or other media; fortunately most include photos or descriptions which will allow review. Two of the species with formal submissions also had posted reports from other locations.

The OBRC and this editor continue to urge birders to formally report all sightings of Review List species, of Core List species found at unusual times, of nesting by birds previously not known to nest in the state, and of course sightings of birds never before found in Ohio. An easy-to-use on-line form is available at <http://ohiobirds.org/rare-birds/report-a-rare-bird-sighting/>.

The Trumpeter Swan header is also underlined though it is not among the nine review species noted above. Those we see here are either introduced birds (to Ohio or a state to our north) or their descendants. No indisputably wild ones have been documented. The OBRC is evaluating records to decide if they are established (in the formal sense of having a self-sustaining population) which would enable them to be removed from the review list and be ABA-rules countable.

Data for the following Species Accounts come from reports submitted directly to *The Cardinal* and *The Bobolink* (the latter courtesy of its publisher, Robert Hershberger), eBird (<http://ebird.org/content/ebird>), and the Ohio-birds listserv (<http://birding.aba.org/maillist/OH>). In the species accounts, "normal" departure and arrival dates are from Harlan *et al.*, *Ohio Bird Records Committee Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Ohio*, 2008.

Mentions of breeding locations are from Rode-wald *et al.*, *The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in Ohio* (“OBBA II”, 2016).

Taxonomic order and nomenclature follow the *Check-List of North American Birds*, 7th Edition (1998) as updated through the 59th Supplement (2018). These documents are produced by the North American Classification Committee of the American Ornithological Society and are available at <http://www.checklist.aou.org/>.

County names are in bold italics. Locations whose counties are of the same name, for example Ashtabula (city) and Delaware Wildlife Area, usually do not have the counties repeated. County names for sites described in Cincinnati (*Hamilton*), Cleveland (*Cuyahoga*), Columbus (*Franklin*), Dayton (*Montgomery*), and Toledo (*Lucas*) are also omitted. Shortened names and a few sets of initials are used for locations and organizations which occur repeatedly; these abbreviations are listed here. The term “*fide*” is used in some citations; it means “in trust of” and is used where the reporter was not the observer.

Abbreviations:

Alum Creek = Alum Creek Reservoir, *Delaware*, unless otherwise noted
 Armleder Park = a Cincinnati city park on the Little Miami River, *Hamilton*
 Audubon = the National Audubon Society (<http://www.audubon.org>)
 Bayshore = a fishing access site near a power plant a bit east of Toledo
 BBS = the North American Breeding Bird Survey, a joint project of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the Canadian Wildlife Service
 Berlin Lake = Berlin Lake (or Reservoir), *Ma-honing* and *Portage*
 Big Island = Big Island Wildlife Area, *Marion*
 Blendon Woods = Blendon Woods Metro Park, *Franklin*
 The Bowl = a limited-access area near the *Har-ri-son* airport
 BRAS = Black River Audubon Society
 BSBO = Black Swamp Bird Observatory, *Otta-wa* (<http://www.bsbo.org>)
 Buck Creek = Buck Creek State Park, *Clark*
 Burke Airport = Cleveland Burke Lakefront Air-port, *Cuyahoga*
 Caesar Creek = Caesar Creek State Park, *War-ren*, unless the lake is specified; a bit of the lake is also in *Clinton*
 CBC = Audubon’s Christmas Bird Count

CCE = Crane Creek Estuary, *Lucas* and *Otta-wa*, viewable from both ONWR and the CCE
 Trail which originates at Magee
 Chapel Drive = a road off Ohio 83 south of Cum-berland in *Noble* which traverses grasslands
 Clear Creek = Clear Creek Metro Park; the east-ern 2/3 is in *Hocking*, the rest in *Fairfield*
 Clear Fork = Clear Fork Reservoir (or Lake), partly in *Morrow* but most of the birding is done in the larger *Richland* section
 CLNP = Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve (the former Dike 14), *Cuyahoga*
 CNC = Cincinnati Nature Center, a non-govern-mental entity whose Long Branch Farm and Rowe Woods units are in *Clermont*
 Conneaut = the mudflats to the west of Con-neaut Harbor, *Ashtabula*
 CP = County Park
 CPNWR = Cedar Point National Wildlife Ref-uge, *Lucas*
 CVNP = Cuyahoga Valley National Park, *Cuyahoga* and (mostly) *Summit*
 Darby Creek = Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park, almost entirely in *Franklin* but with bits in other counties as well
 Deer Creek = the State Park is in *Pickaway*, the Wildlife Area is in *Fayette*, and Deer Creek Lake is in both but mostly *Pickaway*
 East Fork = East Fork State Park, *Clermont*
 East Harbor = East Harbor State Park, *Ottawa*
 Edge Preserve = The Nature Conservancy’s Edge of Appalachia Preserve, multiple parcels mostly in *Adams* and extending a bit into *Scioto*.
 Edgewater = the Edgewater unit of Cleveland Lakefront Metroparks, *Cuyahoga*
 Englewood = Englewood MetroPark, *Montgomery*
 Fernald = Fernald Preserve, *Butler* and *Hamilton*
 Findlay Reservoirs = several contiguous water bodies east of town in *Hancock*
 Funk = Funk Bottoms Wildlife Area, *Ashland* and (mostly) *Wayne*
 Grand Lake = Grand Lake St. Marys. The State Park, the state fish hatchery, and the eastern 20% of the lake itself are in *Auglaize*. The rest of the lake is in *Mercer*.
 Great Miami WMB = Great Miami Wetlands Mitigation Bank, *Montgomery*
 Headlands = Headlands Dunes State Nature Preserve, Headlands Beach State Park, and adjoining waters, *Lake*
 Holden = Holden Arboretum, *Lake*, except for its Stebbins Gulch unit in *Geauga*
 Hoover NP = Hoover Nature Preserve, *Delaware*

- Hoover Reservoir = the northern 80% is in **Delaware**, the rest and the dam in **Franklin**
- Howard Marsh = Howard Marsh Metropark, a recently opened bird magnet in **Lucas**
- Huron = the harbor, breakwalls, and old dredge spoil impoundment in that **Erie** city, unless noted otherwise
- Indian Lake = Indian Lake State Park, **Logan**
- Jones Preserve = Jones Preserve at Long Point, on Kelleys Island, **Erie**
- Kelleys Island = the island and adjoining waters, **Erie**
- Killbuck = Killbuck State Wildlife Area, **Holmes** and **Wayne**
- Killdeer = Killdeer Plains State Wildlife Area; a bit is in **Marion** but it's mostly in **Wyandot**
- Kiwanis Park = Kiwanis Riverway Park, on the Scioto River in Dublin, **Franklin**
- LaDue = LaDue Reservoir, **Geauga**
- Lake Erie Bluffs = a **Lake** Metroparks parcel overlooking the eponymous water body
- Lake Hope/Zaleski = Lake Hope State Park and surrounding Zaleski State Forest, **Vinton**
- Lake Loramie = Lake Loramie State Park, **Shelby**
- Lorain = the dredge spoil impoundment east of downtown in the city and county of the same name, unless otherwise noted
- Lost Bridge = a Great Miami River crossing on Lawrenceburg Road near Elizabethtown, **Hamilton**, where a covered bridge was lost to fire in 1903
- m. obs. = multiple observers
- Magee = the boardwalk and immediate vicinity in Magee Marsh Wildlife Area, **Lucas**, unless otherwise noted. The northern third of the causeway is also in **Lucas**, the rest in **Ottawa**.
- Mallard Club = Mallard Club Marsh Wildlife Area, **Lucas**
- Marblehead Light = Marblehead Lighthouse State Park, **Ottawa**
- Maumee Bay = Maumee Bay State Park, **Lucas**, unless otherwise noted
- Medusa = Medusa Marsh, **Erie**, an informally named and privately owned area between Sandusky and Bay View
- Metzger = Metzger Marsh Wildlife Area, **Lucas**, not to be confused with Metzger Reservoir, **Allen**
- Mill Creek = Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, a limited-access area in **Mahoning**
- Mohican = Mohican State Forest and State Park. Many trails cross the boundaries so some reports include sightings from both without distinction.
- Mohican SF = Mohican State Forest, **Ashland**
- Mohican SP = Mohican State Park, (mostly) **Ashland** and (slightly) **Richland**
- Mosquito Lake = Mosquito Lake State Park, formerly Mosquito Creek SP, and also called Mosquito Creek Reservoir, **Trumbull**. Mosquito (Creek) Wildlife Area adjoins it.
- Nimisila = Nimisila Reservoir, **Summit**
- MP = Metro Park, MetroPark, or Metropark depending on the system
- NC = Nature Center
- NF = National Forest
- NP = National Preserve, except as part of CVNP
- OBBA II = the second Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas
- OBRC = Ohio Bird Records Committee
- Old Highland Stone = that company's water-filled gravel pits, **Highland**
- Old Woman Creek = Old Woman Creek National Estuarine Research Reserve, **Erie**
- OOPMP = Oak Openings Preserve MetroPark, **Lucas**
- ONWR = Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, **Lucas** and **Ottawa**
- ONWR Blausey, Boss, and Navarre = units of ONWR separate from the main area, all in **Ottawa**; of them only Boss is open to the public
- ONWR WD = Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge Wildlife Drive, the monthly opening of areas otherwise closed to vehicles, **Lucas** and **Ottawa**
- OSU = The Ohio State University, of course; sites are in **Franklin** unless noted otherwise
- Painesville TP = Painesville Township Park, overlooking Lake Erie in **Lake**
- Pearson MP = Pearson Metro Park, **Lucas**
- Pickrel Creek = Pickrel Creek Wildlife Area, **Sandusky**
- Pickerington Ponds = Pickerington Ponds Metro Park, **Fairfield** and **Franklin**
- Pipe Creek = Pipe Creek Wildlife Area, in the city of Sandusky, **Erie**
- Pleasant Hill Lake = an impoundment straddling the **Ashland/Richland** line
- Rocky Fork = Rocky Fork State Park, **Highland**
- Salt Fork = Salt Fork State Park, **Guernsey**
- Sandy Ridge = Sandy Ridge Reservation, **Lorain**
- Seneca Lake = most of the lake and the (non-state) Park are in **Noble**, while the dam is in **Guernsey**
- SF = State Forest
- Shawnee = Shawnee State Forest, **Scioto**, unless otherwise noted
- Shawnee Lookout = Shawnee Lookout County Park, **Hamilton**
- Sheldon Marsh = Sheldon Marsh State Nature Preserve, **Erie**

- Sherod Park = a city park overlooking Lake Erie in Vermilion, **Erie**
- SNP = State Nature Preserve
- SP = State Park
- Springfield Lake = in Greater Akron, **Summit**
- Springville Marsh = Springville Marsh State Nature Preserve, **Seneca**
- Spring Valley = Spring Valley Wildlife Area, almost entirely in **Greene** but extending into **Warren**
- Stillfork = The Nature Conservancy's Stillfork Swamp Preserve, **Carroll**
- Sunset Park = a city park overlooking Lake Erie in Willoughby, **Lake**
- SWA = State Wildlife Area
- TNC = The Nature Conservancy (<http://www.nature.org>)
- TP = Township Park
- Villa Angela = the Villa Angela unit of Cleveland's Lakefront Reservation
- WA = Wildlife Area
- Wake Robin = a trail and boardwalk in Mentor Marsh State Nature Preserve, **Lake**
- Wendy Park = a lakeshore Cleveland park, **Cuyahoga**
- Wilderness Road = a road which traverses Funk Bottoms Wildlife Area, **Wayne**, and adjoining farmland
- The Wilds = a limited-access big-mammal breeding and research facility in **Muskingum**, also used generically to include the surrounding reclaimed strip mines
- Willow Point = Willow Point Wildlife Area, **Erie**
- Winous Horseshoe = a limited-access part of Winous Point Shooting Club, **Ottawa**
- Winous Point = Winous Point Shooting Club, **Ottawa**
- Wintergarden Woods = Wintergarden Woods and Saint Johns Nature Preserve, **Wood**
- Woodman Fen = a natural area, part of Dayton's Five Rivers MetroParks system, **Montgomery**
- Zaleski = Zaleski State Forest, **Vinton**

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

By Craig Caldwell

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck

The bird which was photographed in *Hamilton* during spring continued there into early Jun, but still didn't prompt a formal report to the OBRC.

Canada Goose

Ed Pierce's ONWR census crew counted 554 on 03 Jun (*fide* Douglas Vogus). Bob Lane found the second-highest number, 285, at Conneaut on 31 Jul. Only *Pike* didn't have a sighting.

Mute Swan

Philip Runyon saw six in Yoctangee Park, *Ross*, on 06 Jul (24 counties)

Trumpeter Swan

Paul Jacyk counted 98 along the ONWR WD on 15 Jul; and other large numbers were there and nearby on other dates. The most not in *Lucas* or *Ottawa* were the 15 which Irina Shulgina found at Killdeer on 10 Jun. (22 counties)



Now that is one LARGE duck! Janice Farral found this unique individual in Sandusky Harbor, *Erie*, on 12 Jul. Sadly, it was not re-found by those who chased it.

Wood Duck

Ed Pierce *et al.* counted 122 in ONWR on 03 Jun (*fide* Douglas Vogus). Next-most were 88 in a marsh along Howell Road, *Guernsey*, on 21 Jul (m. obs.). (73 counties)

Blue-winged Teal

Irina Shulgina found the most, 31 at Darby Creek on 24 Jul. (19 counties)

Northern Shoveler

Howard Marsh held five on 28 Jul (Kathy Frederick). One location in each of *Champaign*, *Franklin*, *Montgomery*, and *Summit* also hosted the species.

Gadwall

Nicky Rosner saw three at Metzger on 25 Jul. *Hamilton*, *Lorain*, and *Summit* also had sightings.

American Wigeon

One spent from 09 to 25 Jun at Howard Marsh (m. obs.) and three were there on 13 Jun (Alex Eberts). Another spent from 29 Jun to 07 Jul at the Camp Dennison gravel pits, *Hamilton* (m. obs.).

Mallard

Howard Marsh hosted about 250 on 05 Jun (Erica Reese). Mercer WA came in second with 185 on 02 Jun (Eric Juterbock). (74 counties)

American Black Duck

There were no Jun sightings; the first (and most) were Sandra LaFaut's 11 at Howard Marsh on 02 Jul. The only other multiple sighting was Inga Schmidt's duo at ONWR on 21 Jul. *Ashtabula*, *Cuyahoga*, *Guernsey*, and *Summit* also produced reports.

[Mallard x American Black Duck]

Several birders found one among the Mallards at Howard Marsh on 07 Jul. Michael Hensley saw three at the Castalia pond, *Erie*, on 25 Jul.

Green-winged Teal

The few sightings of what were probably north-bound birds ended with six at Howard Marsh on 09 Jun (Jacob Raber). South-bound movement sightings apparently began with Chris Pierce's trio on 24 Jun, also at Howard Marsh. That site hosted the six in Jun and another six on 14 Jul (Bob Swindaman). Singles in *Franklin* and *Wayne* were the only finds not in *Lucas* or *Ottawa*.

Canvasback

Glenn Palmgren's duo at Fernald on 07 Jun were the first of the season, and one or two were seen there for most of the summer. Those two and two at Howard Marsh on 28 Jun and 06 Jul were the "high" counts (m. obs.). Singles were also seen in *Greene* and *Lake*.

Redhead

A few were present all summer. Birders found seven at Howard Marsh on several dates, and the most elsewhere were four at Winous Point on 28 Jun (Joel Throckmorton). *Auglaize*, *Greene*, and *Marion* also had sightings.

Ring-necked Duck

Though a few were seen all season, sightings

were thinner in the second half of Jul. Big Island hosted three from 05 to 12 Jun (m. obs.). Reports also came from *Ashtabula*, *Franklin*, *Hamilton*, *Highland*, *Ottawa*, and *Sandusky*.

Greater Scaup

One spent from 08 to 28 Jun at Howard Marsh (m. obs.).

Lesser Scaup

Kevin Pero saw three at Howard Marsh on 13 Jun, as did Carlton Schooley on 29 Jun. Many other birders saw one there until 18 Jul. One was seen at Nimisila Reservoir, *Summit*, on several Jun dates, and Dawn Hanna's find at Mosquito SP on 02 Jun was the only other inland sighting.

Common Goldeneye

Several parties found one or two at ONWR on 06 Jun; it was the first ever recorded in Jun by Ed Pierce's census team (*vide* Douglas Vogus). It or another spent 02 to 04 Jul at Howard Marsh (m. obs.).

Hooded Merganser

Bob and Denise Lane provided the high count, 22 at Mill Creek on 04 Jun. (29 counties)

Common Merganser

Once virtually unknown here in summer, this species now nests in a few locations. Jeff Harvey counted 19 at Conneaut on 22 Jul and other birders saw up to 17 on other dates. These families are thought to be from nests somewhere up Conneaut Creek. Another nesting site is Beaver Creek SP, *Columbiana*, where the Lanes found a family of eight on 07 Jun. *Cuyahoga*, *Delaware*, *Franklin*, *Lake*, *Mercer*, and *Summit* also had sightings.

Red-breasted Merganser

Carrie Lingle found six at Howard Marsh on 09 Jun. Small flocks were also seen elsewhere in *Lucas* and in *Cuyahoga*, *Lorain*, and *Ottawa*; *Geauga* and *Guernsey* hosted singles.

Ruddy Duck

Howard Marsh provided yet another high count, 16 by Bill Ohlsen on 27 Jun, and up to 12 were there on other dates. The Lanes saw the most elsewhere, nine at Meander Creek Reservoir, *Mahoning*, on 13 Jun. (13 counties)

Pied-billed Grebe

The high count of 23 came during the 03 Jun ONWR census (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *vide* Douglas Vogus). The second-highest count was 15, shared by Paul Jacyk along the ONWR WD on 14 Jul and Greg Cornett at Darby Creek on 25 Jul. (30 counties)

Horned Grebe

One lingered in Mosquito SP; David Hochadel

saw it on 02 Jun and Dawn Hanna saw it the next day.

Northern Bobwhite

Michael Lamont and Chris Lotz found nine at Old Highland Stone on 21 Jun. (22 counties)



A perched Northern Bobwhite made an excellent subject in this photograph taken by Tom Fishburn at Crown City WA, Gallia, on 17 Jun.

Ring-necked Pheasant

Carleton Schooley's eight near Galloway, *Franklin*, on 23 Jun were the most. (26 counties)

Wild Turkey

Ben Morrison saw 26 along Shuffel Street, North Canton, *Stark*, on 18 Jul. (60 counties)

Rock Pigeon

Meg Ocampo and Nathan O' Reilly found about 250 at the OSU Livestock Facilities on 22 Jul. (82 counties)

Eurasian Collared-Dove

Counts of four came from Uniopolis, *Auglaize*, on 12 Jun (Mandy Roberts) and Waverly, *Pike*, on 28 Jul (Cole DiFabio and Kari Warner Matsko). *Clark*, *Erie*, *Fulton*, *Hancock*, *Seneca*, and *Wayne* also had sightings.

White-winged Dove

A formal report and many posts with photos came from *Auglaize*.

Mourning Dove

Bill Grant counted 137 in Acacia Reservation, *Cuyahoga*, on 01 Jul. (All 88 counties)

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

Charles Bombaci found 13 while boating along the north shore of Hoover Reservoir on 10 Jun. He had earlier seen seven along Old Sunbury Road, also *Delaware*, on 02 Jun. (76 counties)

Black-billed Cuckoo

Robert Sams noted three in Oakwoods NP, *Hancock*, on 02 Jul. (31 counties)

Chuck-will's-widow

Birders found up to five in the Edge Preserve. On

15 Jul Matt Anderson was the last to hear one in OOPMP's "Tornado Alley"; it or they had been heard there since spring. Howard Gratz heard one during his 03 Jun BBS count in Wayne NF, **Lawrence**.

Eastern Whip-poor-will

Counts of five came from OOPMP on 02 Jun (Matt Anderson), from Wayne NF, **Perry**, on 08 Jun (Kelin Wilkins), and from Foundry Hill Road, **Columbiana**, on several Jun dates (m. obs.). Renee Frederick heard the last of the season, near Logan, **Hocking**, on 16 Jul. (12 counties)

Common Nighthawk

The only counts exceeding six were Andrew Schopieray's 15 at Kiwanis Riverway Park, **Franklin**, on 08 Jun and Karen Lakus' 12 in Cuyahoga Heights, **Cuyahoga**, on 17 Jul. (40 counties)



*Leslie Sours was skilled enough to find this roosting Common Nighthawk at Kiwanis Riverway Park, **Franklin**, on 06 Jul. It was actually one of two birds!*

Chimney Swift

Jen Brumfield saw about 120 over Wendy Park on 07 Jul. The most elsewhere were Ben Morrison's 80 over State Street, Alliance, **Stark**, on 06 Jul. Only **Monroe** didn't have a sighting.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Travis Parker saw about 20 at the Lake Hope SP, **Vinton**, nature center feeders on 28 Jun. Rick Luehrs saw 15 at Huffman Prairie, **Greene**, on 27 Jul. (82 counties)

King Rail

At least one was seen or heard frequently from May to 26 Jul from the end of Force Road in Killbuck; up to four were reported there during that span. Other single birds were reported thusly:

In ONWR, on 06 Jun near the visitor center (Steve Bennett and Susan Wrisley), on 08 Jun in the walking trail pools (Kathleen Clink, Steve Jones), and by Krause Road on 21 Jul (Inga Schmidt)

At Funk on 24 Jul (m. obs.)

At Gilmore MP on 30 Jul (Charlie Saunders)
At Metzger also on 30 Jul (Mark Shieldcastle)



Camera in hand, Su Snyder was ready to shoot when this King Rail made a surprise appearance at Killbuck on 23 Jun.

Virginia Rail

Dave Chase saw three groups at Wake Robin on 05 Jun, each of an adult and young totaling 13 birds. The most elsewhere were Alvin E. Miller's eight at Darby Creek on 14 Jul. (21 counties)

Sora

Anna Wittmer found eight at Darby Creek on 02 Jul. Mark Shieldcastle tallied four at Metzger on 10 Jun for the highest count away from Darby. (13 counties)

Common Gallinule

Metzger hosted 28 for Mark Shieldcastle on 10 Jun. The next-highest count of 18 came twice from Darby Creek, by Jack Leow on 17 Jul and Irina Shulgina on 24 Jul. (16 counties)

American Coot

Darby Creek provided another high count, 37 on 07 Jul for Eric and Liz Shlapack, and smaller double-digit numbers on other dates. Two sites in **Lucas** and one in **Erie** each held 12, the most seen elsewhere. (14 counties)



*Capturing a hummingbird in flight is not an easy task! Debby Parker managed this excellent photo of this Ruby-throated at her feeders in **Medina** on 14 Jun.*

Sandhill Crane

Su Snyder counted 53 along Wilderness Road on 02 Jun. Helen and Ken Ostermiller found 36 at nearby Funk on 09 Jun. The most away from that area were groups of seven at Winous Point on 02 Jul (Joel Throckmorton) and near Metzger on 24 Jul (Debby Parker). (26 counties)



On 14 Jul, Su Snyder photographed this lovely Sandhill Crane family at Funk.

Black-necked Stilt

Howard Marsh hosted at least one successful nest; birds were there for the entire season and Mandy Roberts saw nine adults and four young on 28 Jun. Mercer WA also had a nest; several birders saw four adults and three young there on 14 and 15 Jul. And Mark Shieldcastle saw four adults and four youngsters at Metzger on 24 Jul. Single birds at two ONWR locations complete the list.



A rare nesting bird in the state of Ohio, a Black-necked Stilt was beautifully photographed in flight by Alex Eberts at Howard Marsh on 25 Jun.

American Avocet

Several birders saw the season's first, at Howard Marsh on 25 Jun. Conneaut held the most, 32 on 15 Jul (m. obs.). The most elsewhere were five on the Ohio River bank at Marietta, **Washington**, on 25 Jul (*vide* Terry Bronson). (11 counties)

Black-bellied Plover

John Whitaker saw three at Howard Marsh on 05 Jun. Robert Krajieski saw two at Conneaut on 10 Jun. On the morning of 31 Jul Bob Lane also saw

two at Conneaut, and later that day Craig Holt upped the count to three.

Semipalmated Plover

Aaron Nisley saw what were probably the last northbound migrants, four along the Holmes County Trail on 13 Jun. Mandy Roberts saw one at Conneaut on 25 Jun; it was probably heading south. Conneaut also provided the high count, 11 for Craig Holt on 31 Jul (25 counties)



Janice Farral snapped a photo of this adorable Semipalmated Plover while it took a quick bath at the Lorain (city) fishing pier on 27 Jul.

Piping Plover

Posts from **Ashtabula** and **Erie** had descriptions and photos but no report was filed with the OBRC.

Killdeer

Chris Pierce found about 250 along Wilderness Road on 29 Jul. Only **Meigs** and **Monroe** didn't have sightings.

Upland Sandpiper

These were seen throughout the season but were scarcer in Jul. While birding the OSU Livestock Facilities on 16 Jun, Irina Shulgina saw seven on the adjoining OSU airport and wrote, "... could be a successful nest". Reports also came from **Ashtabula**, **Columbiana**, **Harrison**, and **Lucas**.



This gorgeous American Avocet was photographed by Leslie Sours on 07 Jul at Buck Creek.

Whimbrel

Several birders saw two at Maumee Bay on 05 Jun for the only report that month. The next was Lori Brumbaugh's single at Euclid Beach Reservation, *Cuyahoga*, on 02 Jul, and the next after that were two at Huron harbor, *Erie*, on 20 Jul (m. obs.). Craig Holt and Robert Krajewski weren't together, but both saw seven at Conneaut on 22 Jul. *Lake* also provided a sighting.

Hudsonian Godwit

Elias A. Raber well described the six he saw at Wilderness Road on 31 Jul.

Marbled Godwit

Lori Brumbaugh saw two at Euclid Beach Reservation, *Cuyahoga*, on 05 Jul as did Mitchell SanGregory at Howard Marsh on 21 Jul.



This duo of Marbled Godwits was photographed by Lori Brumbaugh in Euclid Creek Reservation, *Cuyahoga*, on 05 Jul.

Red Knot

The latest date was 12 Jun; at least one bird had been seen at Maumee Bay from 02 Jun until then (m. obs.). Warren Leow saw four there on 07 Jun and wrote that one was "tagged on right leg with orange tag and black type: 'EY2'". The only other location was Howard Marsh, where Kenn Kaufman found one on 02 Jun.



Tyler Ficker got on the ground to capture this spectacular photograph of a Red Knot at Maumee Bay on 05 Jun.

Ruddy Turnstone

Up to seven were northbound at Maumee Bay on

06 Jun (m. obs.). The next was a single (probably) southbound bird at Conneaut on 25 Jun (Mandy Roberts). The next after it were singles on 22 Jul at East Fork (Ted Ossege) and Maumee Bay (John Parker). East Fork also had the most, eight on 31 Jul (John Landon). *Cuyahoga*, *Lorain*, and *Trumbull* also had sightings.

Stilt Sandpiper

One lingered from May to 01 Jun at Howard Marsh (Nathan Goldberg). Bob Swindaman saw the first southbound migrant, also at Howard Marsh, on 14 Jul. Bill Ohlsen counted 16 at Metzger on 31 Jul. (8 counties)

Sanderling

Cam Lee's two at Maumee Bay on 08 Jun were the last of spring migration. Jen Brumfield's single at Wendy Park on 05 Jul was the first of fall. Headlands provided the two highest counts, 156 on 22 Jul and 63 the next day (both Dave Chase). Jeff Harvey's 60 at Conneaut, also on 22 Jul, were the most elsewhere. (13 counties)

Dunlin

Howard Marsh hosted the last northbound bird, on 07 Jun (BSBO staff), the first southbound one, on 25 Jun (m. obs.), and the most, 30 on 02 Jun (Paul Jacyk). The most elsewhere were two at Maumee Bay on 05 Jun (Jamie Cunningham). *Ashtabula* and *Lorain* also produced reports.



A Dunlin showed off his summer plumage for Leslie Sours at Maumee Bay on 06 Jun.

Baird's Sandpiper

Participants on an Ohio Young Birders field trip saw one at Wilderness Road on 28 Jul.

Least Sandpiper

Steve Jones saw the last of spring, one at Howard Marsh on 08 Jun. Charissa Ebersole saw the first of fall, also one, along the Ferns and Lakes Trail, *Lucas*, on 25 Jun. Ron Bicknell counted 41 at Englewood on 21 Jul. (45 counties)

White-rumped Sandpiper

The last spring date was 12 Jun; Jack Leow saw

one at Howard Marsh that day. Robert Sams found three at Blanchard River NP, **Hancock**, on 13 Jul to start fall migration sightings. Counts of seven came on 01 Jun at Howard Marsh (Warren Leow) and the Hebron fish hatchery, **Licking** (Margaret Bowman). (7 counties)

Pectoral Sandpiper

Howard Marsh hosted both the last northbound bird, on 02 Jun for Paul Jacyk, and the first southbound one, on 30 Jun for Donna Kuhn and Lisa Phelps. Irina Shulgina's 25 at Killdeer on 31 Jul was the high count. (28 counties)

Semipalmated Sandpiper

Two at Maumee Bay on 10 Jun were surely northbound (Sandra LaFaut). The next, two there on 19 Jun, could have been going either direction (Chris Lotz). The seven at Howard Marsh on 04 Jul were definitely headed south (Jeff Harvey). Howard Marsh held about 100 on 01 Jun (Warren Leow) and 02 Jun (Paul Jacyk). The most elsewhere were 30 at Conneaut on 22 Jul (Craig Holt and Robert Krajewski). (33 counties)

Western Sandpiper

Several birders saw one at ONWR on 24 Jul.

Short-billed Dowitcher

Nick Fensler saw the last northbound bird, at the Coldwater Creek wastewater plant, **Mercer**, on 02 Jun. Donna Kuhn and Lisa Phelps saw the first southbound, at Howard Marsh on 30 Jun. Mark Shieldcastle's 75 at Metzger on 30 Jul were the most, and up to 46 were seen there on other dates. The most elsewhere were Warren Leow's 32 at Howard Marsh on 22 Jul. Lori Brumbaugh and Bob Helton independently reported 20 at Wendy Park on 16 Jul, the most away from the northwest marshes. (19 counties)

Long-billed Dowitcher

Jeff Harvey and Craig Holt saw the first of the season, at Conneaut on 22 Jul. Carrie Lingle saw the most, 10 at Metzger on 28 Jul, and up to seven were there on other dates. Single sightings came from those sites on other dates, from other **Lucas** locations, and from **Wyandot**.

Short-billed/Long-billed Dowitcher

Amy Didion saw a flock of 26 at Pickerel Creek on 05 Jul. Six counties hosted indeterminate birds.

American Woodcock

Inga Schmidt found seven along Chagrin River Road, **Geauga**, on 20 Jun. (26 counties)

Wilson's Snipe

Michael Lamont and Chris Lotz saw the season's first, at Howard Marsh on 19 Jun. Dave Chase

found six at Mentor Marsh SNP, **Lake**, on 21 Jul. (11 counties)

Spotted Sandpiper

Jacob Raber found about 30 along Wilderness Road on 05 Jul. Ron Bicknell came in second with 21 at Englewood on 21 Jul. (65 counties)

Solitary Sandpiper

Were Stefan Minnig's two along Couchman Road, **Champaign**, on 10 Jun the last northbound birds? Which direction were Irina Shulgina's two at Killdeer going on 17 Jun? The two at Killdeer on 23 Jun were probably headed south (m. obs.). Englewood hosted the high count of 18, for both Ron Bicknell on 21 Jul and Rick Asamoto on 27 Jul. (44 counties)

Willet

Robert Krajewski saw the first of the season, four at Conneaut on 01 Jul. Several birders saw 13 on the Lorain (city) harbor breakwall on 05 Jul. (8 counties)



A group of Willets were having a quick conversation between meals while Janice Farral photographed them at Euclid Creek Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 03 Jul.



An uncommon yet annual migrant to **Greene**, this Short-billed Dowitcher had no issue giving extremely close looks to a handful of birders. Sean Hollowell photographed this individual at Oakes Quarry Park on 17 Jul.

Lesser Yellowlegs

Mark Shieldcastle saw one, we assume headed north, at Metzger on 10 Jun. The next, probably headed south, were 30 at Howard Marsh on 25 Jun (m. obs.). Irina Shulgina found about 50 at Killdeer on 31 Jul. (35 counties)

Greater Yellowlegs

One at Howard Marsh on 09 Jun was surely headed north (Jacob Raber). Two there on 28 Jun were most likely southbound (Mandy Roberts and Diana Steele). But which direction were two heading from there on 17 Jun (Andrew Simon)? The high count of 15 came three times, from Howard Marsh on 16 Jul (Rob Rogers) and from Mentor Marsh SNP, **Lake**, on 21 and 25 Jul (Erin Allen and Andy Avram). (26 counties)

Wilson's Phalarope

Steve Jones and Warren Leow separately reported the season's first, from Howard Marsh on 08 Jun. It or others were seen there every few days throughout Jun and then almost daily in Jul. Howard Marsh also had the most, five including young which Kenn Kaufman found on 02 Jul (see Field Notes for more). The only other location was Mercer WA, where Jon Jenkins saw two on 29 Jul.



Even though Howard Marsh is only approaching its first birthday, it has been host to incredible birds this year. This Wilson's Phalarope was photographed by Alex Eberts while it cruised through the marsh on 25 Jun.

Red-necked Phalarope

Several birders saw one at Killbuck's Wright Marsh, **Wayne**, on 02 Jun.

Bonaparte's Gull

Warren Leow saw about 65 at Howard Marsh on 04 Jul and up to 60 were reported there on other dates. The most elsewhere were Chris Pierce's 30 at Maumee Bay on 14 Jun. The most away from Lake Erie were flocks of seven at Mosquito Lake on 24 Jun (Dave Hochadel) and Indian Lake SP, **Logan**, on 17 Jul (Brian O'Connor). (13 counties)

Laughing Gull

One was at Howard Marsh on 02 Jun (Kenn Kaufman) and on 03 Jun (Dave Smith); two were there on 24 Jun (m. obs.). Many folks saw one at Big Island between 10 and 12 Jun.

Franklin's Gull

The reports, all of single birds, are:

At Lorain on 10 Jun (m. obs.) and 21 Jun (Janice Farral, Joshua Vardous)

At Howard Marsh on 30 Jun (Kevin and Patty McKelvey, Dennis Mersky)

At Alum Creek on 06 Jul (Carl Winstead)

At Conneaut on 27 Jul (Tom Frankel)



This Franklin's Gull was photographed by Janice Farral on 16 Jul at the Lorain (city) fishing pier.

Ring-billed Gull

Justin Streit estimated 6000 were at Headlands on 27 Jul. Debbie Beer saw about 1200 at Conneaut on 28 Jul. The most inland were Carl Winstead's 550 at Alum Creek on 31 Jul. (46 counties)

Herring Gull

Jen Brumfield saw 280 at Wendy Park on 03 Jul as did Lori Brumbaugh there on 24 Jul. Brian Wulker saw the most away from Lake Erie, 17 at Hoover NP on 28 Jul. (33 counties)

Lesser Black-backed Gull

The reports are:

At Mosquito Lake on 24 and 27 Jun and 08 Jul (m. obs.)

At Headlands on 04, 05, 07, 21, and 22 Jul (m. obs.)

At the Toledo water treatment plant on 10 Jul (Karl Overman)

Great Black-backed Gull

Jun had a few sightings and Jul a somewhat larger number. Jen Brumfield counted 34 at Wendy Park on 14 Jul; up to 24 were there on other dates. The most elsewhere were five at Conneaut on 21 Jul (m. obs.). **Erie**, **Lake**, and **Lorain** also had sightings.

Caspian Tern

Erin Allen and Andy Avram counted 48 which

flew in from the north at Howard Marsh on 09 Jul; up to 45 were there on other dates. The most elsewhere were Robert Batterson's 34 at the Cedar Point lighthouse, **Erie**, on 15 Jun, and the most inland were David Donahue's 16 at Alum Creek on 30 Jul. (30 counties)

Black Tern

Howard Marsh hosted five on both 26 Jun (Ryan Lesniewicz) and 03 Jul (Ethan Urban). Other **Lucas** sites and **Ottawa** held up to four. The inland sightings were of two at Lake Mosier, **Hancock**, on 02 Jun (Shane Myers), one at Big Island on 03 Jun (Ron Sempier), one briefly at a pond near Sugar creek, **Tuscarawas**, on 06 Jun (Ed Schlabach), and one at Nimisila Reservoir, **Summit**, on 14 and 15 Jun (m. obs.).



This Black Tern was photographed by Alex Eberts at Howard Marsh on 25 Jun.

Common Tern

Warren Leow found about 250 at Maumee Bay on 22 Jul. The inland high count was five, at Hoover NP on 12 Jul (Marcie Ronken and Austin Severance) and Mosquito SP on 23 Jul (Dawn Hanna). (14 counties)

Forster's Tern

Maumee Bay provided the two highest counts, 300 for Karl Overman on 10 Jul and 50 for Warren Leow on 22 Jul. Corinna Honscheid and Beth Lenoble saw three at Alum Creek on 31 Jul for the inland high count. (15 counties)

Common Loon

Reports were scattered throughout the season but were more numerous in Jun. Robert Sams found the most, three birds at the Findlay Reservoirs on 21 Jul. (12 counties)

Double-crested Cormorant

Lori Brumbaugh and Kevin Pero separately reported 500 from Wendy Park on 27 Jul. Bob and Denise Lane counted 240 in a nesting colony at Meander Creek Reservoir, **Mahoning**, on 13 Jun for the inland high number. (63 counties)

American White Pelican

Sightings were scattered throughout the season. Amy Didion saw "Approx 54...high above in loose flock above marsh area eventually heading west" at Pickerel Creek on 05 Jun. Joel Throckmorton counted 27, the second-highest number, at Winous Point on 25 Jul. Other Lake Erie-side reports came from **Cuyahoga**. Inland, one was at Choctaw Lake, **Madison**, on 04 Jun (Jen Dennison) and another spent most of Jul at Lost Bridge (m. obs.).

American Bittern

Birders found five at Darby Creek on both 02 and 03 Jun and up to three on other dates. Duos were at Akron's Long Lake, **Summit**, on 07 Jun (Joanne Priest) and Independence, **Cuyahoga**, on 24 Jul (*vide* Rob Harlan; see Field Notes). (10 counties)

Least Bittern

Quartets were at Darby Creek on 14 Jul for Alvin Miller and on 24 Jul for Ronnie Clark. Several trios were seen there and elsewhere. (13 counties)



On 22 Jul, a very secretive Least Bittern made an appearance while Debby Parker scammed from the Chippewa Inlet Trail, **Medina**, on 22 Jul.

Great Blue Heron

Ron Sempier found about 90 at Big Island on 25 Jun. **Crawford** and **Pike** didn't have sightings.

Great Egret

Janice Farral and Joshua Vardous counted 234 at Howard Marsh on 25 Jun and up to 226 were seen there on other dates. Ed Pierce's ONWR census team found the most elsewhere with 185 on 01 Jul (*vide* Douglas Vogus). The inland high count was Heather Angst's 50 at Gilmore MP, **Butler**, on 31 Jul. (53 counties)

Snowy Egret

Reed Gornet found 23 at ONWR on 07 Jul. Reports came from other **Lucas** and **Ottawa**

sites and locations in *Cuyahoga*, *Erie*, and *Sandusky* as well.

Little Blue Heron

One spent from 24 Jun to at least 30 Jul at Darby Creek for many to enjoy. A one-day wonder was at Sippo Lake, *Stark*, on 02 Jun but still a few birders were able to see it.



Tom Fishburn was lucky enough to capture a beautiful photo of this Little Blue Heron at Sippo Lake Park, *Stark*, on 02 Jun.

Cattle Egret

Up to three were seen at Howard Marsh between 05 Jun and 18 Jul. Kenn Kaufman noted one flying overhead near Toussaint WA, *Ottawa*, on 09 Jul. Paul Sherwood saw one by Homegardner Road, *Erie*, on 19 Jul.

Green Heron

The high count of 18 was shared by Paul Jacyk along the ONWR WD on 16 Jun and Greg Cornett at the north end of Hoover Reservoir on 27 Jul. (69 counties)



Debby Parker photographed this statuesque Green Heron waiting patiently for a chance to grab a meal on 29 Jul along the Chipewewa Inlet Trail, *Medina*.

Black-crowned Night-Heron

Steve Jones saw 15 at Metzger on 03 Jul. (22 counties)

Glossy Ibis

A post from *Wyandot* had a brief description.

Roseate Spoonbill

A bird in *Lorain* generated a report to the OBRC and many posts with photos and descriptions. Posts from *Holmes* had photos and descriptions and one from *Ashtabula* had a photo, but neither prompted a report to the OBRC.

Black Vulture

Alex Eberts counted 56 by U.S. 50 in *Vinton* on 24 Jul and wrote, "All patiently perched and feasting on a dead animal. They were quite tame, as they allowed me to stop my car right beside them and they didn't even flinch or attempt to fly off." (42 counties all the way to Lake Erie.)



These striking Black Vultures posed for Alex Eberts in *Vinton* on 24 Jul.

Turkey Vulture

Kettles over Wellington and nearby fields, *Lorain*, produced about 200 for Tim Krynak on 01 Jul. Gary Cowell counted 106 at Lexington, *Richland*, on 17 Jun. (All 88 counties)

Osprey

Jon Cefus found two pairs, each with three immature birds for a total of 10 at the *Carroll* end of Atwood Lake on 15 Jul. (58 counties)



An Osprey looks towards the sky in this phenomenal photo by Su Snyder taken in *Richland* on 26 Jul.

Northern Harrier

The reports, all of single birds, came from nine counties and were scattered throughout the season.

Sharp-shinned Hawk

The only multiple sighting was by Daniel Echt, who saw two at the Junction Earthworks, **Ross**, on 10 Jun. (24 counties)

Cooper's Hawk

Doug Bryant's yard in **Portage** hosted a pair with three young on 18 Jun. Several birders saw an nest with an adult and four young in Cincinnati's Burnet Woods on 08 Jul. (59 counties)

Bald Eagle

Bob and Denise Lane often provide this species' high count from Conneaut and this season is no exception: They saw 62 there on 23 Jul. Up to 47 were there on other dates. The most elsewhere were 16 at Winous Point on both 25 Jun and 08 Jul (Joel Throckmorton). The inland high count was 11; Ron Sempier saw that many in each of two sections of Big Island on 25 Jun. (63 counties)

Mississippi Kite

One spent most of the season at the Junction Earthworks, **Ross**, and generated many photos but no formal report. The OBRC does have report from **Hocking** to go with the posts which have photos. One post with photos came from **Scioto**.



Alex Eberts photographed this beautiful Mississippi Kite at the Junction Earthworks, **Ross**, while it was catching breakfast on 23 Jul.

Harris's Hawk

The OBRC has a report from **Holmes**.

Red-shouldered Hawk

John Kolar and Jeff Peters each saw an adult and three young. John's were in Chickagami Park, **Greene**, on 04 Jun, and Jeff's along the Tecumseh Trail, **Clark**, two days later. (57 counties)

Broad-winged Hawk

Counts of three were provided by Brian Wulker from Cincinnati on 10 Jun and George Novosel from Hudson, **Summit**, on 22 Jun. (41 counties)

Red-tailed Hawk

Nancy O'Bryan walked two-plus miles of the Silvercreek Power Corridor; **Geauga**, on 30 Jun and found 11 along it. (All 88 counties)



Rachel Shamy snapped a photo of this majestic Red-tailed Hawk sitting proudly in **Lucas** on 24 Jun while its young explored nearby.

Barn Owl

Cole DiFabio saw a pair with five young in a disused silo near Millersburg, **Holmes**, on 07 Jul. Reports also came from other **Holmes** sites and locations in **Adams**, **Coshocton**, **Fairfield**, **Franklin**, and **Wayne**.

Eastern Screech-Owl

Regina Schieltz found five adults and four young at Hartnagles Farm, **Darke**, on 09 Jun. Stefan Gleissberg saw a family of five along the Hocking Adena Bike Trail, **Athens**, on 16 Jun. Carice Jameson tied him along Township Road 351, **Coshocton**, on 27 Jul and wrote, "Whinny and trill calls coming from all directions. Listened for about 5 minutes to determine actual number of individuals." (26 counties)

Great Horned Owl

Sightings of duos came from five locations. (30 counties)

Snowy Owl

In this most unusual year, one stayed at Big Island until 04 Jun and it or another spent 13 to 17 Jun near Waterville, **Lucas** (both m. obs.).

Barred Owl

The high count of four was shared by Debbie and Mark Raven at Carlisle Reservation, **Lorain**, on 02 Jun and Jen Brumfield and Lauren King in South Chagrin Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 07 Jun. (41 counties)

Belted Kingfisher

Lia Messner kayaked around Lake Logan, **Hocking**, on 29 Jun and found eight. Many observers found five at other locations. (70 counties)

Red-headed Woodpecker

OOPMP produced counts of 15 on both 10 Jun (Dave Lacko) and 06 Jul (Don Danko). (72 counties)



This young Red-headed Woodpecker visited Kathy Mock's *Barberton*, **Summit**, yard on 07 Jul.

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Jen Brumfield counted 26 throughout Bradley Woods Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 26 Jun. Only **Pike**, **Putnam**, and **Van Wert** didn't have sightings.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Triples were in Burton, **Geauga**, on 10 Jun (Mark Shaver) and Eldon Russell Park, also **Geauga**, on 26 Jun (Nelson Mostow). In all, sightings came from two **Ashtabula** and five **Geauga** locations.

Downy Woodpecker

Jen Brumfield found 24 in Rocky River Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 02 Jul. **Brown**, **Pike**, and **Van Wert** came up downy-less.

Hairy Woodpecker

Jen Brumfield provided more high counts: eight on 14 Jun in Rocky River Reservation and again on 28 Jun in South Chagrin Reservation, both in **Cuyahoga**. (69 counties)

Northern Flicker

The high count was nine, shared on 15 Jul by Susan Carpenter in Chestnut Hill Memorial Park, **Summit**, and Carol White near Cambridge, **Muskingum**. Reports came from all counties except **Crawford**, **Jackson**, **Monroe**, and **Pike**.

Pileated Woodpecker

Five locations spread among four counties each produced counts of five. (69 counties)

American Kestrel

Like flickers, these also had two counts of nine. Irina Shulgina's came on 21 Jul at the OSU Airport, while William Hutchison and Bill Stanley saw them at Old Highland Stone on 28 Jul. (73 counties)

Merlin

The reports, all of single birds, are: On the Ohio University golf course, **Athens**, on 02 Jun (Stefan Gleissberg)
Near the Lake Hope SP lodge, **Vinton**, on 02 Jun (Bobbie Elbert and Phil Hector) and again there a few days later (Bruce Simpson)
Along Madison Hall Road, **Muskingum**, on 10 Jun (Chris Pierce)
In Bedford Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 12 Jun (Jen Brumfield)
Near his **Athens** home on 15 Jun (Stefan Gleissberg)

Peregrine Falcon

Families of six were noted in two CVNP locations: near the Boston Store on 13 Jun (George Novosel) and 14 Jun (Hope Orr) and under the Ohio Turnpike bridge on 14 Jun (also George Novosel). (16 counties)

Great Crested Flycatcher

Jon Cefus counted 11 in TNC's Browns Lake Bog NP, **Wayne**, on 24 Jun. (77 counties)

Eastern Kingbird

Ed Pierce's census teams counted 23 in ONWR on 03 Jun and 25 on 01 Jul (*vide* Douglas Vogus). Don Danko found 18 in Springfield Bog MP, **Summit**, on 08 Jul. (83 counties)

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

A post from **Greene** had a minimal description.

Olive-sided Flycatcher

The last northbound bird was seen by Gabriel Amrhein in Yellow Springs, **Greene**, on 14 Jun. (7 counties)

Eastern Wood-Pewee

Matt Anderson counted 26 in and near Secor MP, *Lucas*, on 03 Jun. Josh King found 20 in Germantown MP, *Montgomery*, on 25 Jul. Only *Pike*, *Putnam*, and *Van Wert* didn't have sightings.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher

Susan Carpenter gave a good description of the last migrant, a straggler in Hudson, *Summit*, on 17 Jun. The last otherwise spent 04 to 07 Jun at Huffman MP, *Greene* (m. obs.). (7 counties)

Acadian Flycatcher

Counts of 21 came from Mohican on 02 Jun during a Time and Optics-sponsored field trip and from Blackhand Gorge SNP, *Licking*, on 19 Jun (Carl Winstead). (73 counties)

Alder Flycatcher

Irina Shulgina saw the last to be positively identified, at Darby Creek on 18 Jul. No doubt they were silently present at many sites through the end of the season. Jehoiada Schmidt counted nine along three miles of Fometown Road, *Portage*, on 10 Jun. (21 counties)

Willow Flycatcher

Al Eibel counted 20 during his 03 Jul morning walk in Marlboro Township, *Stark*. (74 counties)

Alder/Willow "Traill's" Flycatcher

Indeterminate birds were seen, and apparently not heard, in 23 counties.

Least Flycatcher

Sightings were almost continuous to 01 Jul and from 16 Jul into Aug, with a single 07 Jul report between those stretches. Eight locations produced duos. (23 counties)

Eastern Phoebe

Kurt Garver and Carice Jameson found nine along two miles of Township Road 351, *Coshoc-ton*, on 06 Jul. (82 counties)

White-eyed Vireo

Joseph Lautenbach counted 11 in Tri-Valley WA, *Muskingum*, on 28 Jun. Scott Albaugh came in second with eight in Honey Run Highlands Park, *Knox*, on 06 Jun. (62 counties)

Bell's Vireo

Peter Kavouras provided the high count, three, from Voice of America MP, *Butler*, on 18 Jun, and many birders reported duos there and elsewhere. Reports also came from *Clark*, *Franklin*, *Hancock*, *Highland*, *Madison*, and *Union*.

Yellow-throated Vireo

Counts of nine came from CVNP on 01 Jun (Douglas Vogus *et al.*) and in and around Secor MP, *Lucas*, on 03 Jun (Matt Anderson). Eric

Reiner found six at Darby Creek on 15 Jun; Carl Winstead also found six in each of two locations in Blackhand Gorge SNP, *Licking*, on 19 Jun. (73 counties)

Blue-headed Vireo

Jon Allan saw the last apparent northbound migrant, at OOPMP on 01 Jun. Tom Kemp saw the probable first southbound bird, in his Grand Rapids, *Lucas*, yard on 30 Jul. The sightings between those dates came from known nesting areas. Joe Wojnarowski found seven along the CVNP Oak Hill trails on 17 Jun. (10 counties)

Warbling Vireo

The ONWR census of 01 Jul produced 32 (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *vide* Douglas Vogus), and the 01 Jun CVNP census on 01 Jun nearly tied with 30 (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). (78 counties)

Red-eyed Vireo

Jen Brumfield counted 36 in South Chagrin Reservation on 28 Jun. She found 26 in Rocky River Reservation on 14 Jun and again in Bedford Reservation on 01 Jul. All three sites are in *Cuyahoga*. (82 counties)

Horned Lark

Ron Sempier found 45 in the small *Marion* section of Killdeer on 29 Jul. The next-highest count was 27, by Brian McCaskey along his BBS route in *Fulton* on 10 Jun. (51 counties)



This striking Horned Lark stopped to pose for Debby Parker at the Lorain (city) fishing pier on 10 Jul.

Blue Jay

Bill Grant found 38 in Acacia Reservation, *Cuyahoga*, on 11 Jul and up to 31 were reported there on other dates. Annie Crary saw 25 at TNC's Kitty Todd NP, *Lucas*, on 03 Jun. Only *Crawford*, *Pike*, and *Van Wert* didn't produce reports.

American Crow

Kathleen Conrad counted 136 at Suffield, *Portage*, on 09 Jul. Gary Cowell's five miles along the *Richland* B&O Trail produced 65 on 18 Jul. All counties but *Putnam* and *Van Wert* had sightings.

Fish Crow

Many posts came from **Cuyahoga**; a few had minimal descriptions but most had none. Posts from **Lorain** and **Ross** had descriptions of vocalizations. No observer made a formal report to the OBRC.

Common Raven

Five sites each produced reports of duos. Sightings came from **Ashland**, **Belmont**, **Guernsey**, **Harrison**, **Jefferson**, **Mahoning**, and **Washington**.

Purple Martin

Paul Jacyk found about 175 in ONWR on 14 Jul and there were several counts of 100 there and elsewhere. (78 counties)

Tree Swallow

Ed Pierce's ONWR census team found 477 on 01 Jul (*vide* Douglas Vogus). About 400 massed at Willow Point on 06 Jul (Cam Lee and David Lehner). **Meigs**, **Pike**, and **Van Wert** didn't have sightings.



This albino Tree Swallow, one of two, was photographed by Peter Hellman on Chagrin River Road, Cuyahoga, on 12 Jun. Andy Jones of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History noted, "These are Tree Swallows, based on tail and body shape. They are definitely albino rather than leucistic, as they have red irises and pink bills." (More photos are available at <https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S47149113>.)

Northern Rough-winged Swallow

Tom Kemp noted a gathering of 160 in Grand Rapids, **Lucas**, on 19 Jul, and up to 120 there on other dates. Haley Holiman and Mark Woodrey found 85 at Winous Point on 24 Jul. (79 counties)

Bank Swallow

Joel Throckmorton found 900 at Winous Point on 23 Jul and wrote, "Large numbers arriving last night. Was prob around 300 before this. One group of 500". He saw about 400 still there on 26 Jul. The Ostermillers also saw 400, along Fires-tone Road, **Wayne**, on 29 Jul. (54 counties)

Cliff Swallow

Matthew Domer saw about 250 at a farm in **Wayne** on 05 Jul. (58 counties)



Sean Hollowell spotted this Cliff Swallow in the middle of building a nest on the dam at Huffman MP, Greene, on 15 Jun.

Barn Swallow

Sims Park, **Cuyahoga**, hosted about 400 for Lori Brumbaugh on 19 Jul. (All 88 counties)

Carolina Chickadee

Rob Thorn's 21 in Blacklick Woods, **Fairfield**, on 14 Jul were the most. (61 counties)

Black-capped Chickadee

Three miles of trails in Bedford Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, produced 51 for Jen Brumfield on 01 Jul. (29 counties)

Carolina/Black-capped Chickadee

Ten counties had sightings of indeterminate birds.

Tufted Titmouse

Josh King found 30 in Germantown MP, **Montgomery**, on 05 Jul. **Fayette**, **Pike**, **Putnam**, and **Van Wert** didn't have sightings.

Red-breasted Nuthatch

Sightings, from eight counties, were scattered throughout the season. Mark Shaver found two in Chardon, **Geauga**, on 05 Jun, as did Cory Chiappone at his **Cuyahoga** home the next day. Robert Sams noted that his find at Camp Berry, **Hancock**, on 06 Jul was far from the species' usual summer haunts.

White-breasted Nuthatch

Jen Brumfield saw or heard 16 in South Chagrin Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 28 Jun. (83 counties)

Brown Creeper

John Kolar saw five while kayaking the upper Cuyahoga River in **Geauga** on 03 Jun. (12 counties)

House Wren

The ONWR census crew counted 47 on 01 Jul (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *fide* Douglas Vogus). Debbie Vargo found 23 along less than two miles of the CVNP towpath near Ira Road on 19 Jun. (83 counties)

Winter Wren

These were (early) summer wrens at cool and shady sites in *Ashland*, *Cuyahoga*, *Geauga*, *Holmes*, and *Summit*. Mohican SP hosted two for Alvin Miller on 09 Jun and the last of the season for Presley Riggs on 22 Jun.

Sedge Wren

Steve Jones found six at Darby Creek on 14 Jul. (12 counties)

Marsh Wren

Paul Jacyk saw and heard about 60 along the ONWR WD on 14 Jul; up to 40 were recorded there on other dates. The most elsewhere were Mark Shieldcastle's 16 at Metzger on 10 Jun. (29 counties)

Carolina Wren

Counts of 12 came from Honey Run Highlands Park, *Knox*, on 06 Jun (Scott Albaugh) and CVNP on 06 Jul (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). *Crawford*, *Pike*, *Putnam*, and *Van Wert* didn't produce reports.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

John Kolar's kayak trip along the upper Cuyahoga River in *Geauga* on 03 Jun produced 16. (82 counties)

Eastern Bluebird

Tom Frankel saw 18 in Holden on 03 Jun. Only *Van Wert* didn't have a sighting.

Veery

Once these go silent, reports drop dramatically; very few were noted after mid-Jul. But Alvin Miller found 20 in Mohican on 09 Jun and others saw or heard 15 there on other dates. Nelson Mostow tallied 10 in Eldon Russell Park, *Geauga*, on 26 Jun. (23 counties)

Swainson's Thrush

The reports are:

One in Reynoldsburg Civic Park, *Franklin*, on 01 Jun (Rob Thorn)

Two heard in Eldon Russell Park, *Geauga*, on 01 Jun (Ethan Maynard)

One in the Red Lock area of CVNP on 01 Jun (Colette Rieglmayer)

One during the 03 Jun ONWR census (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *fide* Douglas Vogus)

Hermit Thrush

Like Winter Wrens, these like the cool and shady hemlock groves of *Ashland*, *Cuyahoga*, *Hock-*

ing, and *Summit*. Katie Grigsby found 10 in Hocking Hills SP on 30 Jul.

Wood Thrush

Sites in *Allen*, *Clermont*, and *Hamilton* each held 20 on late Jun to early Jul dates. (78 counties)

American Robin

Inga Schmidt saw a migration massing of about 350 along Chagrin River Road, *Geauga*, on 22 Jul. Angelika Nelson's New Dover BBS route, *Union*, produced 139 on 24 Jun. (All 88 counties)

Gray Catbird

Annie Crary counted 33 in TNC's Kitty Todd NP, *Lucas*, on 03 Jun, but Ed Pierce's ONWR census edged her with 35 on 01 Jul (*fide* Douglas Vogus). Only *Pike* and *Van Wert* didn't show catbirds.

Brown Thrasher

Five miles of travel in *Guernsey* yielded 16 for Ben Morrison on 25 Jun. (80 counties)

Northern Mockingbird

Jon Cefus and Matt Anderson both saw 11; Matt's were in eastern *Fulton* on 09 Jun and Jon's in TNC's Stillfork Swamp NP, *Carroll*, on 30 Jun. (73 counties)

European Starling

Lori Brumbaugh saw about 2000 at Burke Airport on 22 Jun. Debbie Beer and Joseph Miller saw 1000 at Conneaut on 28 Jul. (All 88 counties)

Cedar Waxwing

Joan Scharf found 100 at Holden on 15 Jun and wrote that "large flocks were in almost every tree I passed by". Leslie Hefner and Karen Markey counted 52 at Margaret Peak NP, *Lorain*, on 24 Jun. *Crawford*, *Meigs*, and *Monroe* didn't have sightings.

House Sparrow

Brian McCaskey counted 141 along his BBS route in *Fulton* on 10 Jun. The next-most were Angelika Nelson's 111 in *Union* on 24 Jun, also on a BBS route. (All 88 counties)

American Pipit

The reports are:

One at Howard Marsh on 06 Jun (Olivia Wetsch)

One at Maumee Bay on 08 Jun (m. obs.) and again on 10 Jun (Quentin Skrabec)

Two at Big Island on 01 Jul (Cam Lee)

House Finch

Irina Shulgina provided the high count of 35, from the OSU Waterman Farm on 17 Jul. *Carroll*, *Crawford*, and *Van Wert* didn't have sightings.

Purple Finch

Four visited the Lanes' *Mahoning* feeders on 16

Jun, as did another four at Michael Pogue's home in **Summit** on 19 Jul. (14 counties)

Red Crossbill

Up to eight wandered several areas of Lake Hope SP, **Vinton**, from 25 Jul into Aug (m. obs.). Tim Spahr determined they were Type 1; see Field Notes for more.

Pine Siskin

Two visited Robert Edelin and Ginny Fantetti's feeders in **Clermont** on 14 Jul. Singles were reported in **Coshocton**, **Fairfield**, **Lake** (two sites), **Ottawa**, **Seneca**, and **Wayne**.

American Goldfinch

Dennis Mersky saw 95 at the Junction Earthworks, **Ross**, on 25 Jun. Rick Dunning counted 64 at the Camp Dennison gravel pits, **Hamilton**, on 21 Jun. Only **Van Wert** didn't have a sighting.

Eastern Towhee

Jon Cefus found about 25 while wandering Salt Fork on 07 Jul. (79 counties)

Chipping Sparrow

Angelika Nelson's BBS route in **Union** produced 51 on 24 Jun. A home in **Franklin** hosted 33 on 14 Jul for Christy Esmahan. **Van Wert** had no reports.

Clay-colored Sparrow

One out-of-season bird visited a yard in **Holmes** between 24 and 26 Jun (m. obs.)

Field Sparrow

Irina Shulgina found 35 at Killdeer on 10 Jun. (82 counties)

Vesper Sparrow

Ben and Steve Meredyk noted five at Margaret Peak NP, **Lorain**, on 02 Jun. (25 counties)

Grasshopper Sparrow

Scott Pendleton found 35 along Busby Road, **Harrison**, on 29 Jul. The next-highest count was 15, on 07 Jun by Joseph Lautenbach in Clinton Township, **Vinton**. (50 counties)



Leslie Sours captured this Grasshopper Sparrow singing proudly on Infirmity Road, **Vinton**, on 10 Jun.

Lark Sparrow

Gavin Awerbuch counted six in the species' OOPMP stronghold on 17 Jun. Sightings also came from **Greene**, **Lorain**, **Miami**, **Montgomery**, and **Tuscarawas**.

Savannah Sparrow

Scott Pendleton's 16 along Busby Road, **Harrison**, on 29 Jul was the high count. Three sites each hosted a dozen. (60 counties)

Henslow's Sparrow

Joseph Lautenbach counted 24 on his five miles of travels in Clinton Township, **Vinton**, on 07 Jun. (39 counties)



One of the most stunning sparrows to nest in our state, this Henslow's Sparrow was wonderfully photographed by Janice Farral on 03 Jun at Bath NP, **Summit**.

Song Sparrow

Not surprisingly, censuses produced the highest numbers. Ed Pierce *et al.* counted 67 in ONWR on 03 Jun (*fide* Douglas Vogus), and the Vogus team found 76 in CVNP on 01 Jun. Only **Pike** didn't have a sighting.

Lincoln's Sparrow

Cole DiFabio saw one lingering at Strong Acres, **Lake**, on 01 Jun.

Swamp Sparrow

The ONWR census of 03 Jun tallied 30 (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *fide* Douglas Vogus), and the CVNP census of 06 Jul came close with 25 (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). (38 counties)

White-throated Sparrow

A few often linger into Jun, so Dave Chase's find at Mentor Marsh SNP, **Lake**, on 03 Jun wasn't a huge surprise. Nor was Shane Myers' discovery at Springville Marsh, **Seneca**, on 10 Jun. However, one which Adam Betuel photographed and sound-recorded at his **Delaware** home between 05 and 07 Jul was definitely out of season.

Dark-eyed Junco

Holden hosted seven on 21 Jul (m. obs.). Other **Geauga** sites and **Cuyahoga**, **Lake**, and **Summit** also had juncos.

Yellow-breasted Chat

Thomas Czubek found 15 in Armeleder Park on 06 Jul. (51 counties)

Yellow-headed Blackbird

BSBO staffers found one at Howard Marsh on 01 Jun. Birders saw three at Metzger on 30 Jul and singles there into Aug. Of the three, Mark Shieldcastle wrote “brood of 3 young of year birds. Sustained flight capable.”

Bobolink

The grasslands along Busby Road, *Harrison*, hosted 150 on 29 Jul (Scott Pendleton). Scott also found the second-highest number, 55, at another *Harrison* location on 01 Jul. The most elsewhere were 45 in Dorsett WA, *Ashtabula*, on 10 Jul (Josh Hargrave and Joan Scharf). (56 counties)



On 09 Jul, Sean Hollowell found this molting Bobolink perched on a tall mullein stalk in the middle of Huffman Prairie, *Greene*.

Eastern Meadowlark

Scott Pendleton produced another high count from Busby Road, *Harrison*, 75 meadowlarks on 29 Jul. Jon Cefus tallied 45 along Chapel Drive, *Noble*, on 09 Jun. Only *Meigs*, *Pike*, and *Putnam* didn't have sightings.



On 25 Jun, Scott Zimmerman photographed an Eastern Meadowlark claiming his territory at Daves Arboretum, *Licking*.

Western Meadowlark

One spent from 24 Jun to 13 Jul at ONWR's Adam Grimm Prairie, *Ottawa* (m. obs.).

Orchard Oriole

Counts of nine came from Woodbury WA, *Coshocton*, on 06 Jun (Joseph Lautenbach) and Winous Point on 24 Jul (Haley Holiman and Mark Woodrey). (71 counties)

Baltimore Oriole

The high count was 20. It was shared by Douglas Vogus' CVNP census team on 01 Jun and Elizabeth McQuaid and Helena Souffrant in OOP-MP on 10 Jun. (78 counties)

Red-winged Blackbird

Sara Queen saw about 1500 at Rocky Fork on 24 Jul. The next-highest number was Alvin Miller's 700 at Darby Creek on 14 Jul. *Pike* alone didn't have a sighting.

Brown-headed Cowbird

Shane Myers said that his “first large blackbird flock of the year” included about 200 cowbirds; he was in *Putnam* on 27 Jul. Elizabeth McQuaid counted 114 at Holy Cross Cemetery, *Cuyahoga*, on 05 Jul. (83 counties)

Common Grackle

Shane Myers' *Putnam* blackbird flock of 27 Jul had about 900 grackles. Alvin Miller found about 700 at Darby Creek on 14 Jul. (All 88 counties)

Ovenbird

Sightings had decreased to a trickle by late Jul. A Time and Optics field trip to *Mohican* on 01 Jun produced 30, double what Karen Zeleznic found at the CVNP ledges on 24 Jun. (54 counties)

Worm-eating Warbler

Counts of four came from *Mohican* on 02 Jun (m. obs.) and Clear Creek MP, *Hocking*, on 02, 10, and 13 Jun (m. obs.). (14 counties)

Louisiana Waterthrush

Haans Petruschke and Mike Watson counted eight in Holden's Stebbins Gulch on 30 Jun. (36 counties)

Northern Waterthrush

These are scarce in summer, but three were positively identified: at Magee on 01 Jun (Victor Fazio III), in Grand Rapids, *Lucas*, on 18 Jul (Tom Kemp; see Field Notes), and by a banding team on Gibraltar Island, *Ottawa*, on 27 Jul (Chris Tonra *et al.*). Two were reported without details from the Mohican gorge, where Louisiana Waterthrushes are common nesters.

Blue-winged Warbler

Jon Cefus and Kent Miller found nine in Salt Fork on 08 Jun. (41 counties)

Black-and-white Warbler

Michael Lamont tallied four in Conkles Hollow SNP, *Hocking*, on 25 Jun. (24 counties)

Prothonotary Warbler

Charles Bombaci counted 28 at Hoover NP Area N on 10 Jun and 20 in a different section of the preserve on 07 Jul. (39 counties)

Mourning Warbler

Stephen Constantelos saw a straggler at Mentor Marsh SNP, **Lake**, on 11 Jun.

Kentucky Warbler

Salt Fork produced 15 for Jon Cefus and Kent Miller on 08 Jun. The next-most were six which Julie Karlson and Doug Overacker found at East Fork on 16 Jun. (30 counties)

Common Yellowthroat

The high count of 36 was shared by Douglas Vogus' CVNP census team on 01 Jun and Joseph Lautenbach at Tri-Valley WA, **Muskingum**, on 28 Jun. (83 counties)



A male Common Yellowthroat belts out his song for Debby Parker along the Chippewa Inlet Trail, **Medina**, on 14 June.

Hooded Warbler

Jon Cefus and Kent Miller's 25 at Salt Fork on 08 Jun were the most. Jon soloed there on 07 Jul and found 16. The most elsewhere were Joe Wójnarowski's 14 in the Oak Hill area of CVNP on 17 Jun. (50 counties)

American Redstart

Jon Cefus and Kent Miller produced another high count from Salt Fork, 22 on 15 Jun. (54 counties)

Cerulean Warbler

Josh Hargrave and Joan Scharf noted nine in the Mohican gorge on 11 Jun. (35 counties)

Northern Parula

The parts of East Fork which Thomas Czubek visited on 02 Jul held 10. (55 counties)

Magnolia Warbler

Birders found up to four in Mohican, mostly along the Lyons Fall Trail. Jacob Raber saw one in Hocking Hills SP on 09 Jun.

Blackburnian Warbler

Alvin Miller found four in Mohican on 09 Jun;

Nathan Mast and Elias A. Raber saw only one on 21 Jun. Tom Kemp saw one along Ten Mile Creek, **Lucas**, on 10 Jun.

Yellow Warbler

The ONWR census of 03 Jun tallied 131 (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *vide* Douglas Vogus). Josh Hargrave saw about 70 in CLNP on 01 Jun. (83 counties)

Chestnut-sided Warbler

Dennis Mersky and Hope Orr saw four along the CVNP Wetmore Trails on 13 Jun. (16 counties)

Blackpoll Warbler

Micki Dunakin saw one at her **Paulding** home on 06 Jun, a latish but not unprecedented date.

Black-throated Blue Warbler

The reports are:

One in Mohican SP on 02 Jun (Joshua Davidson) and again on 03 Jul (Christina Stump)

Two at Observatory Park, **Geauga**, on 02 Jun (Alison Huey)

One at Black Swamp Audubon Sanctuary, **Paulding**, on 08 Jun (Micki Dunakin)

One at Novak Audubon Sanctuary, **Portage**, on 09 Jun (David Factor and Mary Salomon)

Pine Warbler

A trio of birders saw five in the Edge Preserve on 05 Jun. Alvin Miller tied them in Mohican SP on 09 Jun. (21 counties)

Yellow-throated Warbler

The only counts greater than six were Carl Winstead's 10 at Blackhand Gorge SNP, **Licking**, on 19 Jun and Irina Shulgina's 12 at Glacier Ridge MP, **Union**, on 01 Jun. (47 counties)

Prairie Warbler

Counts of 12 came from the **Gallia** section of Crown City WA on 02 Jun (Jennifer Kuehn and Michael Lamont) and the Edge Preserve on 05 Jun (m. obs.). (24 counties)

Black-throated Green Warbler

Alvin Miller found eight at Mohican on 09 Jun as did Marc Hanneman at Conkles Hollow SNP, **Hocking**, on 08 Jul. (12 counties)

Canada Warbler

Observers found eight in Mohican SP on 04 and 09 Jun and up to three on other dates. The only sightings not in Mohican were singles on 02 Jun in George Rogers Clark Park, **Clark** (Julie Karlson and Doug Overacker) and Kelsey Ravine, **Geauga** (Cleveland Museum of Natural History Natural Areas staff).

Scarlet Tanager

Jen Brumfield noted 14 in South Chagrin Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 28 Jun. Three other sites each hosted nine. (69 counties)

Summer Tanager

Matt Anderson counted eight in OOPMP on 02 Jun. Brian Wulker found six at the other end of the state in Shawnee Lookout on 12 Jul. (29 counties)



This stunning Summer Tanager was photographed at Lake Hope SP, Vinton, by Alex Eberts on 10 Jun.

Northern Cardinal

Thomas Czubek saw about 50 in Armleder Park on 06 Jul. (All 88 counties)

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Nancy O'Bryan saw 10 along the Silvercreek Power Corridor, **Geauga**, on each of 11, 12, and 27 Jul and noted that about half were immature birds. (61 counties)



Debby Parker captured this handsome male Rose-breasted Grosbeak by Chippewa Inlet Trail, Medina, on 14 Jun.

Blue Grosbeak

Counts of four came from Leihley Hill Road, **Tuscarawas**, on 02 Jun (Dennis Mersky), from Fernald on 10 Jun (Jack Verdin) and 23 Jul (Brian Wulker), and from the **Lawrence** part of Crown City WA on 14 Jun (Joseph Lautenbach). According to John Herman, a pair which Devon Zimmerman found in Butler Township, **Richland**, made only the fifth record of the species for that county. (31 counties)

Indigo Bunting

Thomas Czubek saw 40 in Armleder Park on 06 Jul. (All 88 counties)



An Indigo Bunting happily perched for Sean Hollowell on one of many purple coneflowers at the historic Huffman Prairie, Greene, on 13 Jul.

Dickcissel

At least 35 territorial males were among the 60 Dickcissels which Richard Counts found in the **Hardin** wetlands on 29 Jun. (58 counties)

Addenda

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

After the spring issue was published the OBRC received a formal report of an Apr sighting in **Hamilton**. The sighting had previously produced a post.

Chestnut-collared Longspur

After the spring issue was published the OBRC received a formal report of a May sighting in **Lake**; it previously had only posts related to it.

CONTRIBUTORS

Here we list all the birders who sent reports directly to the *Cardinal* or the *Bobolink*, and those whose posts to eBird or the Ohio-birds listserv we specifically cited. We also list everyone who contributed photographs, even if we weren't able to publish them. We regret that the available space doesn't allow us to list everyone who contributed to one of the e-venues, though those sightings provide the bulk of the county counts. The editors thank all of you.

Scott Albaugh	Margaret Bowman	Stephen Constantelos
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Gavin Awerbuch	Jon Cefus	Jen Dennison
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Ron Bicknell	Kathleen Conrad	Rick Dunning
Charles Bombaci		Charissa Ebersole

Alex Eberts	Stefan Gleissberg	David Hochadel
Daniel Echt	Nathan Goldberg	Steve Hochstetler
Robert Edelin	Reed Gorner	Haley Holiman
Al Eibel	Bill Grant	Sean Hollowell
Bobby Elbert	Howard Gratz	Craig Holt
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Christy Esmahan	Josh Hargrave	William Hutchison
David Factor	Dawn Hanna	Larry Imhoff
Ginny Fantetti	Marc Hanneman	Paul Jacyk
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Victor Fazio III	Jeff Harvey	Jon Jenkins
Nick Fensler	Phil Hector	Steve Jones
Tyler Ficker	Leslie Hefner	Eric Juterbock
Tom Fishburn	Peter Hellman	Julie Karlson
Tom Frankel	Bob Helton	Kenn Kaufman
Kathy Frederick	Michael Hensley	Peter Kavouras
Renee Frederick	John Herman	Tom Kemp
Kurt Garver	Michael A. Hershberger	Josh King

The Ohio Cardinal, Summer 2018

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John Kolar	Carrie Lingle	Kent Miller
Robert Krajewski	Chris Lotz	Raymond L. Miller
Tim Krynak	Rick Luehrs	Stefan Minnig
Jennifer Kuehn	Karen Markey	Kathy Mock
Donna Kuhn	Nathan Mast	Ben Morrison
Sandra LaFaut	Bernie Master	Nelson Mostow
Dave Lacko	Brian McCaskey	Shane Myers
Karen Lakus	Kevin McKelvey	Angelika Nelson
Michael Lamont	Patty McKelvey	Aaron Nisley
John Landon	Elizabeth McQuaid	William Norris
Bob Lane	Kari Warner Matsko	George Novosel
Denise Lane	Ethan Maynard	Nancy O'Bryan
Joseph Lautenbach	Ben Meredyk	Meg Ocampo
Cam Lee	Steve Meredyk	Brian O'Connor
David Lehner	Dennis Mersky	Bill Ohlsen
Beth Lenoble	Lia Messner	Nathan O'Reilly
Ryan Lesniewicz	Alvin E. Miller	Hope Orr
Jack Loew	Jeffrey A. Miller	Ted Ossege

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John Parker	Colette Riegelmayer	Andrew Schopieray
Travis Parker	Presley Riggs	Ron Sempier
Dan Paulus	Mandy Roberts	Austin Severance
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Kevin Pero	Rob Rogers	Mark Shaver
Jeff Peters	Marcie Ronken	Paul Sherwood
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Lisa Phelps	Robert Royce	Eric Shlapack
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Michael Pogue	Robert Sams	Andrew Simon
Joanne Priest	Mitchell SanGregory	Bruce Simpson
Sara Queen	Charlie Saunders	Quentin Skrabec

The Ohio Cardinal, Summer 2018

Dave Smith	Debbie Vargo	Marvin R. Yoder
Su Snyder	Jack Verdin	Karen Zeleznic
Helen Souffrant	Douglas Vogus	Devon Zimmerman
Leslie Sours	Mike Watson	Scott Zimmerman
Tim Spahr	Olivia Wetsch	
Bill Stanley	John Whitaker	
Diana Steele	Carol White	
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Christina Stump	Carl Winstead	
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Chris Tonra	Brian Wulker	
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Ethan Urban	Levi Yoder	
Joshua Vardous	Marcus Yoder	

THEODORE JASPER'S UNIQUE BIRD SPECIMENS in the OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY MUSEUM

By Bill Whan

Ohio ornithologist Theodore Jasper (1814-1897) was a modest and self-effacing man. German-born, after sojourns in New York and Connecticut he came to Ohio in 1866 and opened a successful medical practice in Columbus. His contributions to bird studies have seemed obscure, though we know he was held in high esteem by his colleagues in town. J.M. Wheaton, author of the *Report on the Birds of Ohio* (1882) often cited his findings, and Oliver Davie called Jasper his “learned preceptor” and drew on his expertise for his own widely-read works on oology and taxidermy. More than a hundred drawings by Dr. Jasper illustrate Davie’s *Methods in the Art of Taxidermy*, which has remained in print since 1894. Less well known are his contributions to Ohio State University’s fledgling bird collection. A year after his death, his large collection of bird specimens was sold to Davie, who in turn sold it to OSU for \$3500, a sum equivalent to nearly \$100,000 today (*Cincinnati Enquirer* 7/30/1898, pg. 4).

By the early 1870s Jasper had envisioned an ambitious work on North American ornithology, with species accounts and painted illustrations based on an extensive collection of North American bird specimens. Mindful that previous works from Wilson and Audubon were often beyond the reach of common readers, in 1873 he advertised that his work, eight of whose projected 36 issues were complete, was available by subscription. Buyers could subscribe to a series of thirty-six fascicles—each with ornithological lore and high-quality pictorial representations of bird species—which were to be produced in a regular schedule and mailed to subscribers for a dollar apiece. He used chromolithography to produce the images as the first step, and planned to furnish texts as they were finished. Early issues—which might be quite valuable now—can be contrasted with a published book produced later which ultimately had the title *Studer’s Birds of North America*, with Jasper recognized as the artist.

The acceptance of this latter work in the

ornithological community, and by the public at large, was lukewarm. Jasper’s friend Wheaton briefly remarked that “The plan and execution of the work is well calculated to render it what it is designed to be, a popular work on this interesting subject.” Jasper eventually contributed only a few first-person species accounts for the work. His publisher Studer was later to rely almost entirely on material from published sources, mostly without attribution; for example the elaborate account of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker was lifted word for word from Audubon and unattributed.

As few of Jasper’s writings survive, and his illustrations fell short of those of his distinguished predecessors, his scientific legacy is his extensive collection of bird specimens. Over 600 of them lie in the drawers in the bird division at the Ohio State University Museum of Biological Diversity. He almost never included his name on the tags these specimens bear, but his handwriting, style, and attributions are recognizable. Jasper’s many expertly-prepared Ohio specimens are augmented by hundreds of others from elsewhere in North America that he evidently purchased to produce the illustrations for his planned publication. Coincidences of dates and localities suggest that he relied on a limited number of respectable collectors—mostly based in the Canadian Maritimes, Florida, Texas, Colorado, and northern and southern California—to supply these specimens. They seem invariably well-prepared and correctly identified in the taxonomy of the day. Florida specimens dated in 1882, when Jasper is known to be in Ohio, seem to eliminate him as the collector of his Common Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*) specimen, but he was its recipient and curator.

There are dozens of Florida specimens among Jasper’s acquisitions at OSU. Their dates of collection range from 1872 to 1882, with 23 of them having recorded locations in Tampa or Hillsborough County. Each bears a tag in Jasper’s handwriting and early OSU catalog numbers in three digits; the greenshank is number 553. Three quarters of a century later, as museum curators Milton and Mary Trautman conducted a system-

atic review of the entire collection, they added a tag to this specimen, citing an erroneous identification and a new species identity as Greater Yellowlegs *T. melanoleuca*. This was unfortunate, as a quick glance at the dorsum beneath the folded wings would have revealed a greenshank's distinctive white plumage. Jasper, having brought memories from a life-long study of birds with him when he moved to the U.S. from his native Germany in his thirties, was no doubt familiar with the greenshank, which bore the scientific name of *Totanus glottis* at the time.

Jasper usually recorded dollar amounts on his American tags—even those on birds he himself had collected—often prefaced with the word “Value,” perhaps suggesting something other than the price he may have paid such as a valuation for purposes of taxes or some other assessment. In the case of the greenshank the amount is \$3.00, the same as a Marbled Godwit specimen; other values on the Tampa-area specimens include \$6.50 for an Ivory-billed Woodpecker, \$2.75 for a Reddish Egret, \$4.50 for a Limpkin, \$1.75 for a Mangrove Cuckoo, \$0.50 for a Boat-tailed Grackle, and \$1.00 for a Carolina Parakeet. Other useful hints for identifying specimens from Jasper's trove at OSU are museum numbers between 200 and 1200, dates of collection in or near breeding seasons between 1860 and 1890, and the lack of a collector's or an owner's name. Taken together, the accumulation of species has very few duplications. The vast majority are males in alternate plumage. His intent seems to have been to collect an orderly and complete reference of North American species in fine feather.

Evidently neither Jasper nor his supplier regarded the greenshank as a truly significant rarity, thereby reducing the chance that any deliberate misrepresentation might have been involved. Indeed, Jasper was almost certainly aware that Audubon had already collected greenshanks in Florida. The Museum's Common Greenshank specimen was lent in 2010 to the Florida Ornithological Society Records Committee, who accepted it as a state record (*Florida Field Naturalist* 38(4):156). Missing names of collectors, as is the case with all of Jasper's specimens, are seldom by themselves reasons to reject them if other conclusive data are attached. The Colorado Bird

Records Committee will examine photos of male and female black-headed skink (*Carduelis notata*) specimens in the Jasper collection recorded as taken in that state in 1877. The specimens, with numbers 1137 and 1138, have cautionary notations from the Trautmans as well: “loc. probably wrong”. This species, described for Kentucky by Audubon earlier, had not been accepted for North America by the ornithological community, presumably because his specimens of this great rarity can no longer be found.

A third unique contribution from the Museum collection – and to the North American avifauna – comes from Jasper's collection. Again, neither Jasper's name nor that of the collector is recorded, but handwriting and tag data conform with his practices. Number 183 came from a collector in the Maritimes during the 1870s who had supplied a number of local specialties: Eskimo Curlew (Number 581, 07 Mar 1877, Newfoundland), Manx Shearwater (Number 258, Apr 1877, coast of Newfoundland), all three jaegers (Parasitic number 207, Apr 1877, Newfoundland, \$5.50; Long-tailed, number 208, Jun 1877, west coast of Newfoundland, \$5.50; and Pomarine, number 206, 12 Jan 1876, Newfoundland, \$4.00). There are two Steller's Eiders, numbers 390 and 391, both taken off Newfoundland on 18 May 1877, one with the highest value of \$12.

The unique surprise is a Crested Grebe, *Podiceps cristatus*, a male in alternate plumage, recorded as collected on the west coast of Newfoundland in Apr of 1877. It bears Museum number 183 and name “Golden-crested Grebe,” and the notation “European” (presumably indicating the normal range of the species). The specimen is a bit discolored by coal dust spread by the Museum's old heating systems. During their review, the Trautmans added a new tag, adding the words “Location probably erroneous”. The same notation was added to the card file, without further remarks. Audubon had asserted its presence in substantial numbers in North America. He apparently relied, as did all his colleagues, upon unverified reports of breeding by this species in the remote “fur countries” of the far north, and his specimens, if any, have not survived until the discovery of this one. It is not recognized today on the list maintained by the American Ornitho-

logical Society (AOS, formerly the American Ornithologists' Union, AOU).

After Brewer's paper in the *Bulletin* of the Nuttall Ornithological Club in 1878, where he pronounced that "not a specimen is in existence of American origin, and there is no authentic record of the capture of a single specimen in America," the Crested Grebe was rejected by the ornithological community as a North American species. Audubon's account was emphatically rejected. One prominent then-AOU member, William Brewster, carried out lengthy correspondence with J.M. Wheaton, also a founding member of the Union, albeit from the backward provinces of Ohio. Their letters are at Harvard's Museum of Comparative Zoology (supplied thanks to Alison Pirie) and the Ohio Historical Society. In them Brewster mocked Wheaton's reports on Jasper's specimen during an ongoing exchange. There seems to be no evidence that Brewster communicated with Jasper himself on the topic, or ever examined the specimen. Another eminent AOU member, Elliott Coues, never rejected this species' right to inclusion in the North American list, writing that he believed it "may have been hastily eliminated from our fauna" (*Key to North American Birds* (II:1055)). Photographs of the specimen have been shared with W.A. Montevecchi, co-author with L.M. Tuck of *Newfoundland Birds: Exploitation, Study, Conservation* (Nuttall Ornithological Club, 1987), and while verifiable connections with various nineteenth-century collectors in Newfoundland remain unconfirmed, an official determination remains to be made.

One can imagine that the curatorial remarks on this, the greenshank specimen, and the siskins were guided by caution, in view of the fact that no other specimens of these species from North America were known. The Trautmans were also aware that very few written records accompany Jasper's accumulations of specimens. They also knew that the work on North American birds which Jasper planned but could not successfully sell was eventually taken over by Jacob Studer, who had at first proposed that he act merely as publisher. Studer later finished *The Birds of North America* with the largely derivative species accounts that made clear he knew little or nothing about ornithology. This work is still in print today,

owing to Jasper's illustrations. Studer's accounts of the greenshank (p. 170), the "black-headed goldfinch" (p. 132) and the grebe (p. 159) show no evidence he was familiar with the North American specimens which Jasper had acquired, prepared, and illustrated. Trautman wrote in 1973 a letter (now in the Ohio State University Archives) to a colleague seeking information about Studer the following:

"I have made it a practice over the past fifty years of learning everything I could about the older Ohio naturalists, especially Drs. Wheaton, Kirtland, and Theodore Jasper. Studer has been neglected and you can see why.

In 1922 I became acquainted with Thomas Mason Earl, an old taxidermist who knew Dr. Jasper and Oliver Davie. Prof. James S. Hine knew Davie well too...

Dr. Theodore Jasper came from Germany and lived on South Sixth St. in one half of a double which he owned, my uncle Frank Weinlein owning the other half. From all I have heard Dr. Jasper was a gentleman. He had a large practice and frequently was not paid. His obsession was birds. He made beautiful skins and painted well. Apparently even that fine gentleman Dr. J. M. Wheaton occasionally, at least, took advantage of him, but Studer really went overboard. I called Ed Thomas, whose memory of recent happenings is bad but whose memory of things learned when a young man is phenomenal. He told me the same story as I remembered it. Thomas received his information from K. Graham of the old Baker Art Gallery, I mostly from Tom Earl. Here is the story as it was told to us:

Studer's profession was promoting. He promoted the National Science foundation of New York and founded The Columbus Board of Trade. Incidentally, I called Mrs. Marian Bates, Librarian at the Ohio Historical Center, shesaying that...the only information she could supply was that of a pamphlet written relative to Columbus and the Board of Trade which may have been written, at least in part, by Studer.

Studer apparently contacted Dr. Jasper and it was decided that thesetwo author a book on Ornithology. Jasper did the paintings, and if not all at least most of them and wrote much of the text. However something happened, Studer got a

hack writer to finish the book which came out as Studer's *Popular Ornithology*. I have never seen anything else that Studer wrote about birds and hearsay evidence indicates that he knew virtually nothing about them. His job was that of a promoter and making money, apparently."

Trautman thus neatly explains some anomalies in the text of *Birds of North America*. Jasper conceived of the work, and began it in the early 1870s. He produced all or nearly all of the illustrations, and began a few of the projected 36 parts of the text. For some reason, perhaps daunted by the immense extent of the work and the necessity to deal with many species with which he was unfamiliar, or perhaps publishers' balking at the expense involved, he chose to become involved with Studer. They were both professional men in Columbus, and Studer professed an interest in birds. Jasper decided to throw his lot in with the younger man on this venture, which was to be realized only in a way he did not foresee.

[For more on Studer and this work, see "A Phony Ornithologist in Ohio" in *The Ohio Cardinal* 40:2, Winter 2017-18.]

Trautman's assessment of Jasper as a true gentleman, friend of the poor, and trustworthy witness of bird records at OSUM is echoed by all local informants of the era: James S. Hine, Edward S. Thomas, John M. Wheaton, and Oliver Davie. That he was modest, even diffident, seems borne out by his willingness to allow his work to be used without attribution, his relatively low profile in Columbus (no newspaper obituary seems to have appeared upon his death in 1897), the absence of any of his papers in the Ohio Historical Society archives, and the unspoken instances Trautman hints at in which others took advantage of him. His house, and his office nearby, were eradicated decades ago by a Columbus freeway, and all that remains is a modest tombstone in Green Lawn Cemetery, next to that of his wife Johanna, who predeceased him by 17 years. Jasper's efforts to accumulate fine examples of all the birds of the continent, gathered from trusted collectors in North America, provided accurate models for his illustrations, but they also supplied many specimens to fill out the OSU Museum. His specimens of rare species from North America provided

records of which we in the modern era might otherwise have been unaware, and he has only recently been recognized for their discovery.

Jasper's ornithological specimens are all mounted round skins, and no one has determined whether they reached Jasper in this condition or if he prepared them from more easily-mailed flat skins. He accumulated them during the years when he lived in New York and Connecticut, and especially later in Ohio, and were sold to Ohio State University's museum shortly after his death, but the name of the collector appears on only two of them, for neither of which was Jasper the collector. There are some from which original tags have disappeared, but various circumstantial evidence (such as collection numbers) nevertheless makes it clear that they too came from Jasper.

The latter half of the nineteenth century featured the popularity of natural history specimens in America among both scientists and laymen. For birds, serious naturalists and hobbyists alike accumulated sometimes vast collections of eggs and prepared skins and mounts, many of which later ended up discarded by their descendants. But certain carefully curated collections were preserved and luckily ended up in museums where they continue to be cared for and used. Most often these specimens have attached tags which record the species, date and location of collection, name of collector, and other pertinent data. It is consistent with Jasper's modest nature that only a handful of his specimens contain his name on the original documentary tags.

Jasper's collecting was designed to include fine specimens of all the birds of this continent. No species from outside North America is known to be in his collection. There are no systematic series of specimens of the same species. None is represented by more than a skin or two, among which differing plumages of males and females and immature birds are seldom included.

Some years ago, volunteers entered data on the OSU Museum's collections of birds and other animals into an electronic database. This made it possible to collate and compare nineteenth-century specimens according to the time of their acquisitions, and in the case of birds the assigned collections numbers and other matching

data helped to identify Jasper's contributions by matching data on the tags. Research in other old regional museums may give us more discoveries.

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Thanks to Alison Pirie, Robert Foppe, John Condit, and Joseph Meara for help in finding evidence in museum records and correspondence.

*Bill has provided us with many contributions highlighting Ohio's ornithological past. His home patch is **Franklin**.*

RECENT ACTIONS OF THE OHIO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE, July–Oct. 2018

By Jay Lehman, Secretary

This report includes all records which are currently under review by the Ohio Bird Records Committee (OBRC) including fifteen records under first circulation and three records under first recirculation (second circulation overall). The OBRC is evaluating formal reports for seven of the first circulations and one of the recirculations; the other reports were gleaned from eBird and Facebook posts. However, we encourage birders to file OBRC reports online at the OOS website or with a Word version of the form (available from the Secretary) for those who prefer that route of reporting.

The purpose of the OBRC is to endorse documentation of sightings of birds in Ohio. The Committee bases its decisions on the documentation submitted. Secondly, photographs and descriptions posted to on-line venues can sometimes be evaluated. By applying peer review to observational records, these sightings become valuable scientific data and part of Ohio's ornithological record. We also maintain the official Ohio State Bird List and publish all committee decisions.

The membership of the committee for the reports listed below is Jen Brumfield, Tom Kemp, Jay Lehman (Secretary), Ben Morrison, Dan Sanders, Steve Schafer, Su Snyder, Ben Warner, and Brian Wulker. At the annual meeting on Oct 28, 2018, Rob Harlan and Steve Landes were elected to replace Dan Sanders and Su Snyder, whose three year terms expired. Brian Wulker, whose temporary one year replacement term expired, was reelected for a full three year term. The role of the committee is to review reports of sightings of review-list species and potential first state records. The review list can be viewed and downloaded at <http://www.ohiobirds.org/site/committee/review.php>. Reports of common species seen at unusual dates, such as an Osprey in Jan, are also welcome.

Reports of sightings of rare birds can be documented online using a handy form at http://www.ohiobirds.org/site/committee/rare_bird-

[submission.php](http://www.ohiobirds.org/site/committee/rare_bird-submission.php). Alternatively, information can be emailed to the secretary at lehman.jg64@gmail.com or mailed to him at 7064 Shawnee Run Road, Cincinnati, OH, 45243. While the committee endeavors to glean reports of sightings of rarities from the numerous and seemingly ever-expanding corpus of internet sources, many reports never come to the committee's attention. Direct submission of reports is the only sure way to see that a sighting becomes part of Ohio's official ornithological record.

The three recirculation records addressed here have sighting dates from Oct 2013 to May 2017. The fifteen first circulation records have sighting dates from May 2016 to Sep 2017. Acceptance of a record requires approval by at least eight of the committee members. Records receiving five to seven votes for acceptance are recirculated to the committee for up to three rounds of voting. Records receiving fewer than five votes to accept are not accepted or recirculated.

This list of records is presented in taxonomic order and chronologically within a given species. They pertain to the sighting of a single bird unless otherwise noted. Individuals who submitted formal reports are named; those who posted to internet venues are not. The sequence and common and scientific names of species follow the *Check-List of North American Birds*, 7th Edition (1998) as updated through the 59th Supplement (2018) regardless of the date of the sighting. These documents are produced by the North American Classification Committee of the American Ornithological Society and are available at <http://www.checklist.aou.org/>.

Records under first recirculation: Not all votes have been received at the writing of this report.

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*) – Trumbull, 15 Nov 2016

Neotropic Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax brasilianus*) – Lake, 23 May 2017

Townsend's Warbler (*Setophaga townsendi*) – *Paulding*, 02 Oct 2013

Records under first circulation: Not all votes have been received at the writing of this report.

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*) – *Holmes* and *Wayne*, 25 May 2017

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna autumnalis*) – *Butler*, 28 May 2017

White-winged Dove (*Zenaida asiatica*) – *Hancock*, 11 July 2017

Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) – *Wayne*, 23 Apr 2017

Black-headed Gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*) – *Lucas*, 20 Sept 2017

Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*) – *Mercer*, 12 Jun 2017

Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*) – *Delaware*, 30 May 2017

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) – *Lucas* and *Ottawa*, 30 May 2016

Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) – *Columbiana*, 05 May 2017

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) – *Ross*, 29 May 2017

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*) – *Butler*, 05 May 2017

Harris's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*) – *Ottawa*, 29 Sept 2016

Kirtland's Warbler (*Setophaga kirtlandii*) – *Ashland*, 15 May 2017

Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*) – *Holmes*, 07 Dec 2016

If readers know of reports submitted directly to previous OBRC Secretaries that are not included in reports listed above or in *The Ohio Cardinal* for the period 2013 through 2016, please contact OBRC Secretary Jay Lehman, lehman.jg64@gmail.com. A new Vice Secretary has not yet been appointed. We welcome old reports not addressed. The OBRC directly receives all reports submitted electronically through the OOS website.

FIELD NOTES

From Charles Bombaci

[Posted to the Ohio-birds listserv on 07 Jul]:

Today's weather was just too nice to waste. I put aside the To-Do List and headed to [Hoover NP] to enjoy nature and determine what was active. Appropriately the first species of my day was Prothonotary Warbler. I checked their activity at multiple sites in the Hoover NP and joyfully observed them at every stop. Locations I visited included Oxbow Road; Wiese Road; Areas L, M, and N; the boardwalk in Galena; Little Walnut Creek; and Old Sunbury Road. Fledglings were present at most sites. Often they were located low in a buttonbush, but more were in the lower canopy of the trees near where they fledged.

The only other warblers I found were a few Yellow Warblers, a couple of Common Yellowthroats, and singles for Ovenbird, Yellow-throated Warbler, and Louisiana Waterthrush. Earlier in the spring there were Northern Parula in several locations but I didn't see or hear any today. Usually they nest along Big Walnut Creek.

Yellow-billed Cuckoos seem to be having a very good year as I have been finding them in numbers widely spread within the preserve. Area N and Little Walnut Creek seem to be especially good locations for them.

Many resident woodpeckers are either currently feeding hatchlings or fledglings. Red-headed Woodpeckers are abundant as I located adults with young at six locations. Shaune and I have found close to 25 nest cavities this spring. Other woodpeckers observed were Pileated, Downy, Red-bellied, and Northern Flickers. Most of these are also rearing young.

Flycatchers seen today were Eastern Wood-Pewee, Acadian, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested, and Eastern Kingbird. I found an Acadian Flycatcher on its nest. She ducked her head and I went by quietly as if I hadn't seen her. The nest was at Area N. Earlier Shaune and I located a nest along the shore of one of the inlets at Twin Bridges.

The Osprey at the platform in Area M are doing well. They were feeding their youngsters while I was in the area. There appears to be some additional Osprey residing further south at the reservoir. I keep seeing them far from the pairs to the north. There is an additional pair nesting off of State Route 3 north of Galena. Bald Eagles and Red-shouldered Hawk were also active along the west shore.

A few Great Egrets were foraging near the northeast shore and Green Herons were hunting from the top of snags. They were having better luck than the fishermen I encountered.

There were many Red-eyed and Warbling Vireos around but only a single Yellow-throated Vireo, that near Big Walnut Creek. Most of the Cliff Swallows have fledged with but a small contingent still at the nests under the bridges. A small number of Baltimore Orioles were moving about but I only had singles of Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Scarlet Tanager, Indigo Bunting, and Eastern Towhee.

My one negative for the day was the trash left behind by careless individuals. I guess that's why I keep a supply of large trash bags in the trunk. Picking up the trash does have its rewards. A few years ago I saw where people had thrown their empty beer cans inside an old structure. I got a trash bag and picked up the trash and discovered Barn Owls in the building.

From Carole Babyak:

[Howland Township, *Trumbull*] Red-headed Woodpecker, visited suet feeder but around 19 Jun the butcher shop was out of beef suet and they didn't like the packaged suet that was in the holder.

From Alex Eberts:

[Re Red Crossbills at Lake Hope SP] First state record of Type 1, confirmed via audio recording/spectrographic analysis by Tim Spahr. After two unsuccessful attempts by others to get a recording, I finally managed to snag one. First flew overhead at 8:35, then again at 8:50 and 9:05. Never landed but appeared to appear and disappear each time from up further in the forest near the cabins.

From Rob Harlan:

...I want to report (for the summer season) that my brother (Tom Harlan, Jr.) saw 2 American Bitterns standing foolishly in a grassy suburban lawn in Independence (*Cuyahoga*) on 24 Jul. Tom said it had rained heavily the night before.

From John Herman:

[Dickcissel] Noticeably less common than last summer. Last summer I had Dickcissels at *Knox* and south-central *Ashland*—none this summer. This summer a few in *Ashland* west of city of Ashland. *Richland* birds nearly completely restricted to extreme northeast are of county. Habitat change – much more corn fields, much less hay fields [than] summer 2018.

From Kenn Kaufman:

[Re five Wilson's Phalaropes at Howard Marsh on 02 Jul] We had single males acting as if they had nests on two different islands, circling around with alarm calls. Also saw two adult males flying together a couple of times. There may have been a third male, with its activity centered on a different area, and a while after 11 a.m. that individual led three downy young up over the dike and down into the wetland in the northern part of the park, so we have definite confirmation of breeding.

From Tom Kemp:

[A Northern Waterthrush seen on 18 Jul was an] exceptionally early fall migrant; this bird was found along the shore of the Maumee River; clearly a waterthrush: small bird with brown back and dark streaks underneath; constant bobbing movement as it walked along the shore or on branches just above the ground; finer streaking on throat; whitish eyeline narrow throughout; yellowish wash on undersides.

From Bob Lane:

[Re 240 Double-crested Cormorants at Meander Creek Reservoir on 13 Jun] The active nests were viewed carefully from the bridge shoulder on I-80 westbound. The nests, which have been here for at least fifteen years, are on three abandoned concrete pier platforms and a fourth, mostly demolished. A total of 92 nests were counted. There are at least three roost trees around the reservoir.

[Re 62 Bald Eagles at Conneaut on 23 Jul] We did our eagle count today from "The Sandspit" at 7:00 am. From one scope setup we had 31 on the east breakwall and eight on the lighthouse breakwall. We then relocated about 7:15 am, to the top of the hill above the Conneaut Creek channel, counting the eagles on the aggregate piles and the conveyors, adding another 23, totaling 14 adults and 48 juveniles.

From Bernie Master:

I checked on the Cliff Swallow colony at the Route 315 and Route 161 crossing, Worthington, *Franklin*, the other day on 08 Jun. This is an on-going colony as far as I can remember back about 35 years when I first started looking at them. There were nine plus individuals flying around, entering and leaving eight fresh mud nests (all eastern side of underpass). There could be more nests as I could not see the western side of the underpass. There was no feeding apparent but lots of checking those nests. These colonies are scarce in Ohio, and I believe this is one of the oldest, have to see when that Route 161 bridge was built across the Olentangy River. This was the largest colony at this site I have ever seen. Usually there are only four to six nests.

From Elias A. Raber:

At our place [Millersburg, *Holmes*] we had a Barn Swallow nest in which they fledged young. After the young had fledged a Cliff Swallow pair claimed and remodeled the nest. It contained two eggs when it blew down on 22 Jul. Apparently this isn't totally unheard of, as there was another attempt made at a different nest, but was quit when the Barn Swallows reclaimed the nest.

From Robert Royle:

I kept tabs on the Bell's Vireos I found west of London in *Madison* along the Prairie Grass Trail. The two *Madison* birds I reported for the end of May continued singing on occasion until mid-Jul although they didn't sing very persistently after early Jun. A third bird was also found in *Madison* quite close to the London trailhead. I see that bird was reported on eBird. I heard it as recently as 02 Aug. I never again found the bird I reported from *Clark*, but I went down that far (southwest of South Charleston) only a couple of times and always at mid-day.

YEARS AGO

By Craig Caldwell

10 years ago, the Summer 2008 *Ohio Cardinal*, Vol. 31 No. 4 (Andy Jones, Editor-in-Chief; Aaron Boone, Seasonal Editor) contained these items:

Craig Holt documented Ohio's first Reddish Egret, at Conneaut.

Skyponds west of Bellevue, **Sandusky**, provided a banner assortment of shorebird sightings including possible nesting by Black-necked Stilts.

Mississippi Kites were reported in four counties.

A Burrowing Owl visited Darke.

A **Lorain** back yard briefly hosted a Western Tanager.

25 years ago, the Summer 1993 *Ohio Cardinal*, Vol. 16, No. 4 (Rob Harlan, Editor) contained these items:

The state's third White Ibis spent three days in **Cuyahoga**.

A Swainson's Warbler was heard singing but never seen in **Jefferson**.

No American Bitterns were reported, not surprising in those pre-internet days.

But one American White Pelican was seen.

A single, female, Common Merganser was in **Cuyahoga**.

Conneaut hosted a Piping Plover in mid-Jun and again in late Jul.

35 years ago, the *Ohio Cardinal* did not publish an issue.

50 years ago, *The Cleveland Bird Calendar* 64:3, Summer 1968, Annette B. Flanigan, Editor, included these items:

Jun and Jul were both unusually cool and wet.

On 28 Jul a Dassault Falcon business jet taking off from Burke Airport ingested gulls in both engines and crashed into Lake Erie. The three crew members were rescued. In addition to the unknown number of birds which shut down the engines, 315 Ring-billed and Herring gulls and one Caspian Tern were found dead by the runway, apparently killed by takeoff turbulence.

One Double-crested Cormorant, one Great Black-backed Gull, and one Northern Mockingbird were reported.

More than 1000 Cedar Waxwings gathered at the Lorain (city) waterfront on 01 Jun to feed on a midge hatch.

A King Rail grounded in a Lakewood, **Cuyahoga**, yard.

Three Yellow-crowned Night-Herons were in Cuyahoga Falls, **Summit**

100 years ago, *The Cleveland Bird Calendar* did not publish an issue.

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

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The Counties of Ohio



*An amazing discovery by Don Dravenstott provided Larry Imhoff with an opportunity to get one of the very few photos of a rare Harris's Hawk behind the Welcome Church of Christ near Millersburg, **Holmes**, on 08 Jun.*

Instructions for Contributors

The Ohio Cardinal would not exist without contributions from Ohio birders. We solicit sightings, notes on unusual observations, in-depth scientific articles, historical accounts, essays, artwork, and photographs related to Ohio and its birdlife.

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

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

Cardinal@ohiobirds.org

Send digital photo files or links to Christopher Collins:

chris.collins@ohiobirds.org

Deadlines are as follows:

Winter (Dec, Jan, Feb) - 21 March

Spring (Mar, Apr, May) - 21 June

Summer (Jun, Jul) - 21 August

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

Back cover:

An unmistakable Dickcissel surveys his territory at Bockey Wetlands, Allen, while being photographed by Jamie Cunningham on 05 Jun.

THE OHIO CARDINAL

The Ohio Ornithological Society
PO Box 2432
Westerville, OH 43086

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