A feisty Great Egret was having a bit of a “bad hair” day on 07 Jun in Carroll Township, Ottawa, when Debbie Parker snapped this shot.

**On the cover:**
Leslie Sours captured this perfectly posed Upland Sandpiper at the OSU Livestock Facility on 05 Jun. It was one of four seen that day!
COMMENTS ON THE SEASON

By Craig Caldwell

Apr and May’s rains continued into Jun; the month was the fourth wettest on record. Only a few small areas received less than their usual amount of rain and a few more got a little more than usual. Most of the state received up to double the norm. The Cincinnati area and a band from Mansfield to Youngstown got twice to triple their norms and a few individual stations exceeded that multiplier. In contrast, Jun’s average temperature was well below normal, ranking at number 45 of the 125 years with data. This was driven by the average of high temperatures’ being very low; ranking at number 30, while the average of lows was above the midpoint.

Jul’s rainfall was above average, but not dramatically so; it ranked at number 80 of the 125 years. Though much of the state got up to double its usual amount and scattered small areas up to triple it, large parts received less than usual with some areas at only 50% of the norm. Temperatures reversed themselves from Jun: The average ranked number 115 with number 125’s being the hottest ever. New England, the Mid-Atlantic states, and the coastal states south through North Carolina had similar heat waves. Both the average highs and lows had ranks similar to that of the overall average.

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

You’ll see some changes in the species list because of the annual report of the North American Classification Committee (NACC) of the American Ornithological Society. No splits or lumps affected Ohio, but the sequences of species within cuckoos, plovers, swallows, and New World sparrows are new as a result of recent genetic data.

As usual, a few waterfowl lingered past the end of their usual migration windows, as did a few songbirds. Sightings of Marbled Godwit, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Swainson’s Thrush, White-crowned and Northern Saw-whet Owl, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Swainson’s Thrush, White-crowned and Warbler came at unexpected times.

Common Mergansers, Eurasian Collared-Doves, King Rails, Black-necked Stilts, Bell’s Vireos, and Lark Sparrows are nesting in more locations than they did a few years ago. Summer sightings of Merlins have been increasing and a pair nested in Franklin. (See the separate article.) Ruffed Grouse nested in Ashtabula and possibly in Lake, well north of where we have come to expect them.

This issue of the Cardinal contains reports of 249 species, tied with 2017 for the highest summer counts. However, one of this year’s is a review species with minimal documentation. The species accounts also include three reports below the species level. The streak of reports from every county continues; even under-birded Henry and Van Wert exceeded 20 species. Eight species were reported in all 88 counties; three species were seen in 87, and 34 more were seen in at least 80.

Thirteen review species were reported; their names are underlined. Sightings of four of them generated five formal reports to the OBRC—thank you! Reports of three of those species and eight of the others were only posted to eBird or other media, but with photos or descriptions which will allow review. Unfortunately, one review species was reported with minimal information, so almost without question it will not enter the official record, nor will it appear in eBird except to the observer. (These numbers don’t include Trumpeter Swans, whose establishment or not is under study.)

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/.

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 Rodewald et al., The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in Ohio (“OBBA II”, 2016) and Harlan et al.

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), Mahoning and Portage Big Island = Big Island Wildlife Area, Marion Blendon Woods = Blendon Woods Metro Park, Franklin The Bowl = a limited-access area near the Harrison airport BRAS = Black River Audubon Society BSBO = Black Swamp Bird Observatory, Ottawa (http://www.bsbo.org) Buck Creek = Buck Creek State Park, Clark Burke Airport = Cleveland Burke Lakefront Airport, Cuyahoga Caesar Creek = Caesar Creek State Park, Warren, 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 Ottawa, viewable from both ONWR and the CCE Trail which originates at Magee Clear Creek = Clear Creek Metro Park; the eastern 2/3 is in Hocking, the rest in Fairfield Clear Fork = Clear Fork Reservoir (or Lake), partly in Morrow but most of the birthing 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 Conneaut Harbor, Ashtabula CP = County Park CPNWR = Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge, Lucas CVNP = Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Cuyahoga and (mostly) Summit Darby Creek = Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park, almost entirely in Franklin but with bits in other counties as well. The Wet Prairie, Teal, and Harrier trails are the most often cited. 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 Hueston Woods = Hueston Woods State Park, which contains Acton Lake, about half in each of Butler and Preble. 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 cast 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.
Motus = a wildlife tracking system managed by Bird Studies Canada

Nimisila = Nimisila Reservoir, **Summit**
MP = Metro Park, MetroPark, or Metropark depending on the system
NC = Nature Center
NF = National Forest
NP = Nature 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, Koontz, and Navarre = units of ONWR separate from the main area, all in **Ottawa**; of them Boss and Koontz are 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, looking Lake Erie in **Lake**
Pearson MP = Pearson Metro Park, **Lucas**
Pickerel Creek = Pickerel 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](http://www.nature.org))
TP = Township Park
Vinton Furnace = Vinton Furnace Experimental Forest, **Vinton**
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**
WRGBT = Western Reserve Greenway Bike Trail, **Trumbull**
Wright Marsh = a hotspot in Killbuck WA north of Shreve, **Wayne**
Zaleski = Zaleski State Forest, **Vinton**
By Craig Caldwell

**Black-bellied Whistling-Duck**

Posts from *Cuyahoga, Franklin, Guernsey, Lucas, Ottawa,* and *Summit* had photos, but no one filed a report with the OBRC. A note from *Wayne* had no supporting information.

![This Black-bellied Whistling-Duck taking flight in Oak Harbor, Ottawa, was photographed by Debbie Parker on 07 Jun.](image)

**Snow Goose**

Alex Colucci reported one at Kent, *Portage,* on 21 Jul.

**Canada Goose**

The two highest counts came from ONWR during the monthly censuses; they were 543 on 02 Jun (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *fide* Douglas Vogus) and 513 on 07 Jul (Douglas Vogus *et al*.). The next most were 300 at Howard Marsh on 16 Jul (Dan Kramer). The most inland were 200, at both Rocky Fork on 19 Jul (Brian Walker) and Buck Creek on 31 Jul (Doug Overacker). Only *Defiance, Fulton, Henry,* and *Putnam* didn’t produce sightings.

**Mute Swan**

George Billman saw the most, nine at Pickerington Ponds on 04 Jun. (25 counties)

**Trumpeter Swan**

Douglas Vogus’ ONWR census team counted 211 on 07 Jul. Anne and David Wills had found 126 there on 22 Jun. Benjamin Miller saw the most away from *Lucas* and *Ottawa,* 26 at Muddy Creek, *Sandusky,* on 01 Jun. (24 counties)

**Wood Duck**

Sandy Ridge hosted the most, 116 for Cory Kampf on 28 Jul. Gary Cowell’s count of 97 at the Home Road Marsh, *Richland,* on 02 Jun was the second highest. (72 counties)

**Blue-winged Teal**

Amy Collins-Warfield and Doug Warfield counted 38 at Darby Creek on 23 Jul. (24 counties)

**Northern Shoveler**

Andrew Simon saw four at Howard Marsh on 07 Jun; all the rest of the sightings were of single birds. One at Howard Marsh on 10 Jul (Gautam Apte) and another at CLNP on 25 Jul (Sam Mitcham) were the only sightings that month. All of the reports came from *Cuyahoga, Lucas, Mahoning,* and *Wayne.*

**Gadwall**

Janice and Rob Tartell found six at Howard Marsh on 29 Jun and up to five were seen there on other dates. The rest of the sightings, from elsewhere in *Lucas,* *Erie,* *Summit,* and *Wayne,* were of single birds.

**American Wigeon**

One was at Howard Marsh on 29 and 30 Jun (m. obs.) and an unstated number were there on 14 Jul (Jennifer Suydam). Karl Overman saw 15 at a restored marsh on private property in *Lucas* on 30 Jun and wrote, “I was surprised to find a monolithic flock of wigeon of this size at this time of year.”

**Mallard**

Howard Marsh hosted the most, 200 for Andrew Simon on 07 Jun. The next most were Cory Kampf’s 169 at Sandy Ridge on 28 Jul. (79 counties)

**American Black Duck**

Sightings were sparse throughout the season. James Smallwood saw the most, six at Howard Marsh on 22 Jul. All of the reports came from *Erie, Lorain, Lucas,* and *Mercer.*

**Northern Pintail**

Karl Overman found two in a private *Lucas* wetland on 30 Jun for the only report.

**Green-winged Teal**

The high count of 11 came from Howard Marsh on 15 Jul (Paul Jacyk) and up to nine were reported there on other dates. Two at Mentor Marsh SNP, *Lake,* on 18 Jun (Dave Chase) and singles near ONWR on 07 Jun (Andrew Simon), at Funk on 16 Jul (m. obs.), and at a Silver Road pond, *Wayne,* on 06 Jul (Susan Evanoff and Su Snyder) complete the reports.

**Redhead**

Several birders saw two adults and four young at Howard Marsh on 13 Jul, and up to four birds
total were seen there on other dates. The most elsewhere were two at Lorain on several dates (m. obs.). *Highland, Logan, Medina, Trumbull, and Wayne* also produced sightings.

**Canvasback**
Mark Sweeney found two at Lorain on 05 Jun and Sean Hollowell saw another at Spring Lake Park, *Greene*, on 17 Jun.

![Canvasback](image)

*For second year, Sean Hollowell enjoyed tripping the rare bird alert with this gorgeous summertime Canvasback at Spring Lake Park, Greene, on 17 Jun.*

**Ring-necked Duck**
Sightings were fairly regular until 01 Jul but after that there were only two more. Larry Richardson saw one at Mosquito WA on 23 Jul and Cole DiFabio and Haley Thoresen saw one on 30 Jul at Hueston Woods. The latter bird, possibly injured, had been seen there intermittently through Jun. Three sites each hosted two birds, *Fairfield, Lorain, Preble,* and *Trumbull* provided all the reports.

**Lesser Scaup**
The high count of three came from each of Indiana Lake on 01 Jun (Eric Juterbock) and Howard Marsh on 06 Jun (Beth Lenoble) and 29 Jun (Janice and Rob Tartell). *Cuyahoga, Erie, Franklin, Lake,* and *Preble* also contributed sightings.

**Ruddy Duck**
Sixteen immature birds were among the 28 that James Smallwood counted at Howard Marsh on 22 Jul, and up to 26 total were reported there on other dates. The most elsewhere were Barbara James’ five at Berlin Lake on 26 Jul. (11 counties)

**Northern Bobwhite**
Presley Riggs and Oscar Wilhelmy found 10 near Old Highland Stone on 07 Jun. (21 counties)

**Ring-necked Pheasant**
Chris Tonra gave us the high count of nine, at Darby Creek on 18 Jun. (28 counties)

**Bufflehead**
Cole DiFabio and Haley Thoresen saw one at Hueston Woods on 06 and 07 Jun; it had been there since May. Brian Wulker saw another at the Newtown gravel pits, *Hamilton*, on 14 Jul.

**Hooded Merganser**
An adult female with 12 ducklings graced Killdeer for Eric Juterbock on 06 Jun. (30 counties)

**Common Merganser**
Sightings were fairly regular throughout the season. Bob and Denise Lane saw the most, a family of 10 on Little Beaver Creek, *Columbiana*, on 20 Jun. (See Field Notes for more.) (10 counties)

**Red-breasted Merganser**
Several reports came in from 01 to 19 Jun, but only three came after that. Those were of single birds at Cleveland’s Edgewater Marina on 19 Jul (Lori Brumbaugh) and 30 Jul (Lori Brumbaugh, Kevin and Patty McKelvey), and at Conneaut on 30 Jul (Cynthia Norris). The high count of five came from Jill and Larry Early at Howard Marsh on 08 Jun. Reports also came from *Lorain* and *Union*.

**Pied-billed Grebe**
Howard Marsh produced two counts of 60, by Inga Schmidt on 19 Jul and by Cole DiFabio and Haley Thoresen on 27 Jul. James Lurie saw the most elsewhere, 50 at ONWR Koontz on 27 Jul. Ron Semper had the highest inland count, four adults and 16 young at Big Island on 12 Jul. (27 counties)

**Wild Turkey**
Two birders each saw four adults and 20 young, which possibly were merged families. Ann and Dwight Chasar’s were in CVNP’s Horseshoe Pond area on 15 Jun, and Bill Stanley’s were near his *Clermont* home on 25 Jul. (69 counties)

**Rock Pigeon**
Ed Schlabach found about 550 near Baltic, *Tuscarawas,* on 20 Jul. Counts of 200 came from
the OSU Livestock Facility on 11 Jun (Sameer Apte) and 17 Jul (Jennifer Kuehn). (78 counties)

**Eurasian Collared-Dove**

These doves have expanded to 12 counties now. Four localities each hosted three birds.

**White-winged Dove**

A *Cuyahoga* sighting produced a photo but no OBRC report.

**Mourning Dove**


**Yellow-billed Cuckoo**

Gautam Apte found 10 at Vinton Furnace on 09 Jun. (79 counties)

**Black-billed Cuckoo**

Many locations held two birds. (42 counties)

**Common Nighthawk**

Trudy Brandenburg saw 15 over Lakeside, *Ottawa*, on 01 Jun. William Hull’s seven in Cincinnati’s Clifton neighborhood on 22 Jul were the next most. (39 counties)

**Chuck-will’s-widow**

Waggoner Riffle Road, *Adams*, hosted one on 15 Jun for m. obs. Another regularly visited site in *Adams*, Hamilton Road, produced three for Chad Pumpelly on 04 Jun and one for Karen and Rich Kassouf on 21 Jun. Presley Riggs and Oscar Wilhelmy each heard one in *Adams* on 04 Jun, but not together and not at either of the previous sites. Ben and Steve Meredyk found one at Dean Forest, *Lawrence*, on 04 Jun, and Bruce Simpson another at Zaleski on 12 Jun.

**Eastern Whip-poor-will**

Gautam Apte heard four and eight at different sites in Vinton Furnace on 03 Jun and up to eight there on other dates as well. William L. Jones found the most elsewhere, five along Foundry Hill Road, *Columbiana*, on 26 Jun. (12 counties)

**Chimney Swift**

Bill Deininger counted 121 above the parking lot of the Little Met Golf Course in Rocky River Reservation, *Cuyahoga*, on 09 Jun. Only *Henry* and *Putnam* didn’t have sightings.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird**

Jim Crumpler found 21 at Huffman Prairie, *Greene*, on 27 Jul. Feeders at the Lake Hope SP nature center, *Vinton*, hosted 16 on 11 Jun for Alex Eberts. (83 counties)

**King Rail**

Sightings came almost daily until 18 Jun and then resumed on 01 Jul and continued into fall.

Howard Marsh produced at least two families; the high count of 13 came from several observers there between 06 and 09 Jul. The other sites with observations were Killbuck, where m. obs. saw one on several Jun and Jul dates, and Sandy Ridge, where Andrew France found one on 01 Jul.

**Virginia Rail**

Michael Hershberger saw four adults and five immatures “floated out of the marsh onto the road” at Killbuck on 18 Jun. Four other sites each held six. (21 counties)

**Sora**

The high count of six was shared three ways, by Clark West along the Chippewa Inlet Trail, *Medina*, on 07 Jun, Tom Frankel along Wake Robin on 11 Jun, and Michael Hershberger at Killbuck on 18 Jun. (18 counties)

**American Coot**

About 200 were at Howard Marsh for Karen Zeleznik on 23 Jul and up to 125 were seen there
on other dates. The most elsewhere were the 15 at Big Island on 06 Jun seen by Cam Lee and David Lehner. (14 counties)

**Limpkin**

We’ve never had one in Ohio before this summer, but there’s no doubting the identities of birds that appeared in Lake and Wayne. The OBRC has a report from the Lake site and both events produced posts with photos.

**Sandhill Crane**

About 70 were at Wilderness Road on 31 Jul (Jelmer Poelstra) and 32 had been seen there on 01 Jun (Su Snyder). Nearby Funk also hosted a similar range of numbers. The most elsewhere were the nine that Erin Allen saw at ONWR’s Adam Grimm prairie, Ottawa, on 13 Jul. (28 counties)

**Black-necked Stilt**

Birders found eight at Howard Marsh on several dates and smaller numbers on others. The only other site was Mercer WA, where Scott Myers saw five on 22 Jul and Josh King saw four on 27 Jul. Josh also saw what were probably the same birds outside the WA but near it on both 27 and 29 Jul.

**American Avocet**

The bird that several observers saw at Maumee Bay on 18 Jun was the only one reported that month. The next were two at Darby Creek on 08 Jul (Jim Crumpler) and scattered reports (in both date and location) came in for the rest of the season. Jacob Raber saw the most, 10 near Williamsport, Pickaway, on 12 Jul, and the next most were three that Jeff Harvey saw at Conneaut on 28 Jul. John Herman told me that the two that Gary Cowell saw fly over the Morrow end of Clear Fork were probably the first record for that county. (12 counties)

**Black-bellied Plover**

The last northbound bird was at Howard Marsh on 07 Jun for John Hull. The first seen heading south were three that Linda Verceles saw at Farrington Reservoir, Miami, on 14 Jul. The other locations with sightings were Conneaut (one bird on 02 Jun by Mark Shaver) and Lost Bridge (one on 22 Jul by Mackenzie Goldthwait and Doug Kibbe).

**Killdeer**

Cam Lee counted 217 at Delaware WA on 21 Jul. Only Crawford, Henry, and Scioto didn’t have sightings.

**Semipalmated Plover**

Ben Meredyk saw the last “spring” migrant, at Howard Marsh on 06 Jun. Noah Goodwin-Bain and Kate Wise saw the first “fall” bird at Sheldon Marsh on 11 Jul. Dan Kramer counted 23 at Funk on 30 Jul; up to 18 had been there on other dates. Aaron Nisley’s eight at nearby Wilderness Road on 04 Jun was the highest count elsewhere. (17 counties)

**Piping Plover**

Posts from Ashtabula, Lake, and Wyandot included photos but no OBRC reports resulted.

**Upland Sandpiper**

Sightings were fairly steady to the last of the season, which was of two birds on 18 Jul by Irina Shulgina at the OSU Livestock Facility where they’d been seen since May. Scott Pendleton saw the most, eight near Cadiz, Harrison, on 19
Jun, and he saw up to four there on other dates (see Field Notes). The other locations were the OSU Airport, which is adjacent to the Livestock Facility (up to three birds by m. obs.); Airpark Ohio, Clark (up to seven birds by m. obs.); and Huffman Prairie, Greene (one bird on 06 Jul by Rene’, Andy, and Bill McGill).

**Whimbrel**

The reports are:
- Twenty-one by Cummings Road, Greene, on 02 Jun (Lee Funderburg, Sean Hollowell)
- Two at Howard Marsh on 03 Jun (Paul Jacyk, Leslie Sours)
- Three at Seneca Lake, Guernsey, on 17 Jun (Wright Flood, Derrick Hill)
- One by Fairport Nursery Road, Lake, on 23 Jun (Dan Donaldson)
- One at Conneaut on 21 Jul (Mark Shaver) and another there on 28 Jul (Bob and Denise Lane)

**Marbled Godwit**

Bob Krajeski’s flyover at Conneaut on 04 Jul was the only sighting.

**Ruddy Turnstone**

The reports are:
- Two by Cedar Point Drive, Erie, on 05 Jun (Michael Schramm)
- One (or possibly a series of singles) at Conneaut from 28 to 30 Jul (Mark Shaver)
- One at the Lorain (city) fishing pier on 30 Jul (Bill Ohlsen)

**Red Knot**

The Columbus Zoo Motus station recorded one on 31 Jul (fide Bernie Master).

**Stilt Sandpiper**

The first date of 15 Jul was shared at three locations, by Dominick Fenech and Hunter Fordrill at Howard Marsh and by Irina Shulgina at each of Killdeer and Upper Sandusky Reservoir #2, Wyandot. The high count was five, at Killdeer on 22 Jul (m. obs.). Reports also came from Hamilton, Licking, and Wayne.

**Sanderling**

Matthew Bartolotta saw the last northbound, seven birds at Howard Marsh on 02 Jun. Mark Shaver also found seven, at Conneaut on 21 Jul. Craig Holt and Kim Nordquest reported singles at Conneaut at different times on 03 Jul; they were the first southbound migrants. Clark, Lake, and Lorain also had sightings.

**Dunlin**

The last of spring was at Maumee Bay on 04 Jun for Oscar Wilhelmy. The first of fall were two at Howard Marsh on 08 Jul (Debra Sweeney). Howard Marsh also provided the high count, 25 on 03 Jun (Paul Jacyk) and up to 22 were there on other dates. The most elsewhere were three at a sky pond in Madison on 01 Jun (Lee Funderburg and Rick Luehrs). Ottawa and Wayne also had sightings.

**Baird’s Sandpiper**

Jennifer Suydam saw one at Howard Marsh on 27 Jul.

**Least Sandpiper**

Andrea and Brad Imhoff saw two spring stragglers at the Hebron fish hatchery, Licking, on 05 Jun. The first southbound bird was Chris Pierce’s at Howard Marsh on 23 Jun. Aaron Nisley counted 42 at Funk on 14 Jul and Cam Lee found 35 at Killdeer on 16 Jul. (29 counties)

**White-rumped Sandpiper**

Five locations provided sightings:
- Near Sugarcreek, Tuscarawas, one bird on 01 Jun (Elias Raber)
- Wilderness Road, one on 01 Jun (Su Snyder)
- Conneaut, one on 02 Jun (Mark Shaver)
- Howard Marsh, one or two on five dates between 18 Jun and 10 Jul (m. obs.)
- Darby Creek, two on 26 Jul (Ronnie Clark)

**Pectoral Sandpiper**

There were no Jun reports; the first sighting was at Conneaut on 03 Jul (m. obs.). Cam Lee’s 19 at Delaware WA on 21 Jul was the high count. (15 counties)

**Semipalmated Sandpiper**

Cole DiFabio’s find at Big Island on 08 Jun was the last northbound bird. The first southbound birds were at Howard Marsh on 09 Jul; Karen Zeleznik saw one and Karen and Tom Beatty two. Bernie King found about 200 at Wilderness Road on 01 Jun; 84 were still there on 04 Jun for Aaron Nisley. The most elsewhere were 35 seen on 01 Jun at both Funk (m. obs.) and near Sugarcreek, Tuscarawas (Elias Raber). (21 counties)

**Short-billed Dowitcher**

The season’s first were the two that Jeffrey and Stephanie Bojc saw at Conneaut on 05 Jul. Jon Jenkins saw the most, 46 at Howard Marsh on 06 Jul, and up to 26 were seen there on other dates. The most elsewhere were 12 at Funk on 16 Jul (m. obs.). (17 counties)

**Long-billed Dowitcher**

Many birders saw the only one, at Howard Marsh on 31 Jul.

**American Woodcock**

Inga Schmidt counted seven along a half mile stretch of Chagrin River Road, Geauga, on 02 Jun. (29 counties)
Wilson’s Snipe
The high count of five was shared by Josh Hargrave at Wake Robin on 17 Jul and Cam Lee at Killdeer on 27 Jul. (13 counties)

Spotted Sandpiper
Cole DiFabio counted 13 at Mentor Marsh SNP, Lake, on 09 Jul. Elias Raber tied him at Wilderness Road on 13 Jul. (67 counties)

Solitary Sandpiper
The last northbound bird was at Wilderness Road on 04 Jun (Aaron Nisley) and the first southbound one was at Killdeer on 28 Jun (Irina Shulgina). Aaron Nisley found 18 along the Holmes County Trail on 31 Jul. (38 counties)

Lesser Yellowlegs
Loren Hintz saw one at Howard Marsh on 12 Jun; it was probably the last one heading north. Janice and Rob Tartell’s bird at Howard on 29 Jun was surely arriving from the north. Cam Lee saw about 80 at Killdeer on 23 Jul and up to 50 were reported there on other dates. Robert Bochenek and Karl Overman’s 26 at the Stange/Krause Roads corner, Ottawa, on 14 Jul were the most elsewhere. (25 counties)

Willet
The only Jun sighting was on 25 Jun, a single bird found by Lori Brumbaugh and Bob Helton at the Euclid Creek Reservation, Cuyahoga. The most were four that Bob Krajeski and Nicky Rosner saw a few hours apart at Conneaut on 27 Jul. Reports also came from Clermont, Hancock, Lorain, and Lucas.

Greater Yellowlegs
Several birders saw one at Funk on 01 Jun. The first definitely southbound birds were Brett Moyer’s duo on 22 Jun at Howard Marsh. (22 counties)

Wilson’s Phalarope
One spent from 14 Jun to 12 Jul at Howard Marsh (m. obs.).
Herring Gull
Morgan Pfeiffer saw about 350 at the Erie County Landfill on 11 Jul. The most away from the counties bordering Lake Erie was 17; George Novosel saw them at Center Valley Park, Summ it, on 14 Jun. (32 counties)

Lesser Black-backed Gull
The reports are:
One at Deer Creek SP on 16 Jul (Leslie Sours and Carl Winstead)
One at Grand Lake SP on 23 and 24 Jul (Josh King)
Two at the Findlay Reservoirs on 30 Jul (Amy Downing and Jeff Loughman)

Great Black-backed Gull
Jen Brumfield provided the two highest counts, 13 on 07 Jun and 12 on 05 Jul, both at Wendy Park. The most elsewhere were Bill Ohlsen’s five at Lakeview Park, Lorain, on both 06 and 18 Jul. The only inland sighting was of one that spent 25 to 30 Jul at Alum Creek (m. obs.). Lake also provided sightings.

Caspian Tern
Fifty-two were at Howard Marsh for Warren Leow on 17 Jul, and up to 48 were there on other dates. James Stammen saw 20 at Maumee Bay on 18 Jun, the most away from Howard, and Robert Thorn’s six at Delaware Reservoir on 26 Jun was the inland high count. (20 counties)

Black Tern
Howard Marsh provided the high count twice, three birds on 03 Jun (Trevor Zook) and again on 07 Jul (Dave Barnett); sightings came from four other Lucas sites as well. Wilderness Road hosted one on 28 Jul (Jon Cefus) and two on 29 Jul (Nicky Rosner). Singles at Lake Dorothy, Summit, on 16 Jun (Mike Edgington and Kathy Mock), Lost Bridge on 19 Jul (Jeff Aufmann), and Lake Logan SP, Hocking, on 30 Jul (Jacob Raber) complete the list.

Common Tern
Jessica Schmit found about 150 at CPNWR on both 26 Jun and 12 Jul while banding youngsters at their nests. The next highest number was 40, also provided by Jessica Schmit at Howard Marsh on 17 Jul, and the most inland were duos at Alum Creek on both 27 and 30 Jul (Donna Kuhn). (12 counties)

Forster’s Tern
Robert Bochenek and Karl Overman saw 80 at Maumee Bay on 17 Jul. Jane Riker found 10 at Lake Moser, Hancock, on 25 Jul for the inland high count. (15 counties)

Common Loon
Larry Richardson saw the most, four at Mosquito Lake on 24 Jul. (16 counties)

Neotropical Cormorant
The OBRC received two (!) reports about a long-staying bird in Franklin.

Double-crested Cormorant
Benjamin Miller found about 350 at Muddy Creek, Sandusky, on 01 Jun. James Muller came close with 320 at Campbell Memorial Park, Franklin, on 26 Jun for the most at an inland site. (61 counties)

American White Pelican
Benjamin Miller counted 55 at Muddy Creek, Sandusky, on 01 Jun; see Field Notes for more. The next most were Megan Owens’ 39 at Winous Point on 10 Jun and the inland high was Scott Myers’ 15 at Grand Lake on 29 Jul. Erie, Lake, Lucas, and Ottawa also had sightings.

American Bittern
Darby Creek hosted five for Chris Tonra on 18 Jun. (12 counties)

Least Bittern
Rob Fowler counted 10 at Howard Marsh on 16 Jul and up to nine were seen there on other dates. The most elsewhere were five at Killbuck, where Michael Hersheberger saw four and heard another on 18 Jun. (20 counties)

Great Blue Heron
Cam Lee counted 236 at Killdeer’s Pond 27 on 12 Jul and up to 188 were reported at Killdeer on other dates. Douglas Vogus et al. found 109 during the 07 Jul ONWR census. Only Fulton, Monroe, and Putnam didn’t provide reports.

Great Egret
The ONWR census team counted 191 on 07 Jul (Douglas Vogus et al.). The next most were the 142 that Irina Shulgina found at Darby Creek on 12 Jul. (54 counties)

Snowy Egret
The high count of nine was shared three ways. Anthony Popiel found them at Howard Marsh on 15 Jul and Allen Rand did so again on 21 Jul. Melissa Lake’s nine were along the ONWR WD on 30 Jun. Paul Sherwood saw the most away from Lucas and Ottawa, two at Medusa on 05 Jun, while Troy Shively found the only inland bird, at a pond in Logan near Indian Lake on 29 Jul. Lake and Sandusky also had sightings.

Little Blue Heron
The sightings, all of single birds, are:
At Mentor Marsh SNP, Lake, on 04 and 05 Jun (m. obs.)
At Englewood from 01 to 04 and again from 27 to 31 Jul (m. obs.)
At Howard Marsh between 08 and 27 Jul (m. obs.)

At Gilmore MP, Butler, on 17 Jul (Cassandre Crawford)

Tricolored Heron
A post from Ottawa had a brief description.

Cattle Egret
Medusa hosted three on 05 Jun for Paul Sherwood. One spent from 01 to 08 Jun at the OSU Livestock Facility (m. obs.), and others were in Ashtabula, Delaware, Lucas, Marion, Ottawa, and Wayne.

Green Heron
Andrea and Brad Imhoff counted 53 while kayaking Buckeye Lake, Licking, on 28 Jul. John Petruzzi’s 24 at Mill Creek on 12 Jul were the second most. (81 counties)

Black-crowned Night-Heron
Mallard Club Marsh hosted 18 for Matt Kemp on 05 Jun. The most away from Lucas and Ottawa were six seen at Campbell Memorial Park, Franklin, on both 20 Jun (Leslie Sours) and 19 Jul (Irina Shulgina), (17 counties)

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron
One or two were seen at Gilmore MP, Butler, between 19 Jun and 25 Jul. One spent 05 to 07 Jul at Headlands and another (or the same one?) was at Chagrin River Park, Lake, from 14 to 22 Jul. All three sites produced many reports.

Glossy Ibis
The OBRC has reports of separate sightings in Lucas and has gleaned photos from a Franklin post.

Ibis sp.
Posts from the Lucas and Franklin sites didn’t try to name the species.

Black Vulture
Gary Cowell and Tim Leslie counted 51 at Charles Mill Lake, Ashland, on 03 Jul. (52 counties including Cuyahoga and Lorain, where they’ve become regular though still scarce)

Su Snyder found this Cattle Egret quite entertaining on 27 Jul at Funk.

Turkey Vulture
Counts of 60 came from Shiloh, Richland, on 06 Jun (Jeremy Miller) and Deer Creek SP on 16 Jul (Leslie Sours and Carl Winstead). (all 88 counties)

Osprey
Carl Winstead saw 14 at the north end of Alum Creek on 23 Jun and wrote “Three of the four platforms in use, plus a nest in a tree nearby. Young visible in each active nest.” The most elsewhere were the nine that Tim Prindle found at Nimsila on 14 Jun. (64 counties)

Northern Harrier
Eli Miller found two near Baltic, Holmes, on 02 Jun. Single birds were reported from 25 sites spread among 21 other counties.

Sharp-shinned Hawk
Louis Hoying saw a family of five near his August home on 30 Jun and wrote that they were “in a thornless locust tree, adults higher in tree while 3 young were branching out of the nest and returning to nest several times.” The most otherwise were two that Gregory Allen saw at Honey Run Highlands Park, Knox, on 09 Jul. (25 counties)

Cooper’s Hawk
The high count was five. Jordan West saw families with three young at Burnet Woods on 22 Jul and at Spring Grove Cemetery on 30 Jul (both Hamilton). (67 counties)

Bald Eagle
Bob and Denise Lane counted 49 at Conneaut on 28 Jul; see Field Notes for more. Benjamin
Miller almost tied them with 47 at Muddy Creek, Sandusky, on 01 Jun. (64 counties)

Mississippi Kite
Posts from Hocking have descriptions and posts from Ross have photos.

Red-shouldered Hawk
Ken Andrews found two nests with a total of seven adults and young at Big Creek Reservation, Cuyahoga, on 07 Jun. Many sites produced reports of four birds. (61 counties)

Broad-winged Hawk
Michael Crouse saw an adult and three young at a nest in Lake Hope SP, Vinton, on 21 Jun. (45 counties)

Red-tailed Hawk
Elias Raber saw four adults and four immatures during five miles of travel near his Millersburg, Holmes, home on 29 Jun. There were several reports with counts of five. Henry, Monroe, and Pike didn't have sightings.

Barn Owl
Lots of birders got to see a family of six at a farm near Bunker Hill, Holmes, on 01 Jun. At least four locations in Holmes and one in each of Adams, Fairfield, Franklin, Warren, and Wayne hosted birds.

Eastern Screech-Owl
Sandy Reed saw a family of five along the Maumee Bay boardwalk on 17 Jun. Five duos were reported. (24 counties)

Great Horned Owl
Janice Farral and Joshua Vardous saw four at Sandy Ridge on 14 Jul. (26 counties)

Barred Owl
Deb Koprek-Nauer noted five juveniles “hanging out at picnic area” at Silver Creek MP, Summit, on 11 Jul. (48 counties)

Northern Saw-whet Owl
Matt Anderson noted one calling pre-dawn in OOPMP on 01 Jun. See Field Notes for more about this most unusual summer encounter.

Belted Kingfisher
The Hebron fish hatchery, Licking, hosted 12 for Sean Jones on 10 Jul and up to nine on other dates. Marc Hanneman’s eight at Mentor Marsh SNP, Lake, on 26 Jul were the most seen away from the hatchery. (73 counties)

Red-headed Woodpecker
Anthony and Jona Schmitt found 18 in two miles of travel through OOPMP on 07 Jul. Matt Anderson noted a total of 35 in several Jun visits to different sections of the MP. The high count elsewhere was 10, at both McCracken Fen SNP, Logan, on 12 Jun (Julie Karlson and Doug Overacker) and the Station Road area of CVNP on 28 Jul (Bret and James McCarty). (74 counties)

Red-bellied Woodpecker
The high count of 19 was shared by Elias Raber near Millersburg, Holmes, on 29 Jun and Jen Brumfield at South Chagrin Reservation, Cuyahoga, on 10 Jul. Only Defiance and Van Wert didn’t have sightings.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Kightlinger, Ashtabula, produced sightings of nests and young, topping out at nine birds on 06 Jul (m. obs.). The most elsewhere were two adults and an immature at the Girdled Road Reservation, Lake, on 28 Jun (Andy Avram). All of the reports came from Ashtabula, Geauga, and Lake.

Downy Woodpecker
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Downy Woodpecker
Elias Raber’s travels near Millersburg, Holmes, on 29 Jun produced 16. Only Auglaize, Defiance, Henry, and Van Wert didn’t have sightings.
next boxes along Whipple Road, Delaware, on 20 Jul (Joseph Lautenbach). (71 counties)

**Merlin**
More and more seem to be staying; reports were scattered throughout the season. A pair nested in Upper Arlington, Franklin, and produced two young (m. obs.). See Leslie Sours’ article in this issue for more on this, the states’ first nest to be found in decades. Sightings also came from other Franklin sites and Athens, Logan, Richland, Wayne, and Wyandot.

**Peregrine Falcon**
Irina Shulgina monitors a nest at the OSU Drake Center where she saw the adults and three young on several dates. (17 counties)

**Great Crested Flycatcher**
Bonnie Fish found 14 at The Rookery, Geauga, on 12 Jul, and three locations each had 11. (80 counties)

**Eastern Kingbird**
Don Niece counted 25 while boating Indian Lake on 05 Jul. Next most were 20 found during the 02 Jun ONWR census (Ed Pierce et al., fide Douglas Vogus). Crawford, Henry, Pike, and Van Wert didn’t have sightings.

Always on the lookout for great photo opportunities, Debbie Parker spotted this Eastern Kingbird in Lorain on 25 Jun.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher**
Patrick Coy and Karin Tanquist saw the last to depart, on 08 Jun at Little Rocky Hollow SNP, Hocking. Sightings also came from Cuyahoga, Greene, Lucas, Summit, and Union.

**Eastern Wood-Pewee**
Elias Raber’s outing near Millersburg, Holmes, on 29 Jun produced 23. Gautam Apte’s 17 at Vinton Furnace on 04 Jun were the second most. (86 counties)

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**
Mill Creek hosted the last northbound bird, on 07 Jun (Bob Lane). Irina Shulgina saw the first arrival, at the OSU Livestock Facility on 27 Jul.

**Belmont, Lake, Lucas, and Ottawa** also had sightings.

**Acadian Flycatcher**
Elias Raber counted 45 in five miles of walking near Millersburg, Holmes on 29 Jun. The second highest count of 25 was shared by Carlton Schooley on 01 Jun and Carl Winstead on 07 Jun, both at Mohican SP. (75 counties)

**Alder Flycatcher**
Reports were thin in Jul, when they’ve mostly gone silent. Douglas Vogus et al. counted six during the 01 Jun CVNP towpath census and eight during the 05 Jul census. Two sites each held four. (27 counties)

**Willow Flycatcher**
Elias Raber provided another high count, 15 near Dresden, Muskingum, on 08 Jun. (79 counties)

A perfectly perched Willow Flycatcher was photographed by Debbie Parker on 11 Jun in Medina.

**Alder/Willow “Traill’s” Flycatcher**
The ONWR Navarre crew banded six on 03 Jun (Alex Eberts et al.). (26 counties)

**Least Flycatcher**
The high count of three was shared by Rachel McKinney at Eldon Russell Park, Geauga, on 02 Jun and Michael Goethe at Magee, also on 02 Jun (23 counties)

**Eastern Phoebe**
Shawnee hosted nine for David Ackerman on 01 Jun as did Vinton Furnace for Gautam Apte on 08 Jun. (81 counties)

**Loggerhead Shrike**
A post from Madison has a description.

**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher**
The OBRC has a report from the Morrow/Richland line.

**White-eyed Vireo**
Counts of nine came from Wayne NF, Scioto, on 12 Jun (Kyle Brooks), from near Millersburg, Holmes, on 29 Jun (Elias Raber), and from an
old rail line in Morgan on 16 Jul (Terry Bronson). (69 counties)

Bell’s Vireo
Voice of America MP, Butler, hosted six for Cole DiFabio on 06 Jun, and up to five were seen there on other dates. Three at Darby Creek between 03 and 08 Jun were the most seen elsewhere (m. obs.) and there were many reports of two. (9 counties)

Yellow-throated Vireo
Gautam Apte found 15 at Vinton Furnace on 05 Jun and up to 12 there on other dates. Elias Raber’s 10 near Millersburg, Holmes, on 29 Jun were the most seen elsewhere. (72 counties)

Blue-headed Vireo
A monitoring party counted six in Holden’s Stebbins Gulch on 13 Jul; it’s one of the state’s scattered nesting areas for them. (14 counties)

Philadelphia Vireo
Meg Glines saw one at Mosquito SP on 01 Jun and Paul Jacyk another at Bay View Park, Lucas, the next day.

Warbling Vireo
Jeremy Cohen reported 60 from Magee on 01 Jun and others found up to 36 there on other early Jun dates. The 02 Jun ONWR census produced the second-most, 32 (Ed Pierce et al., fide Douglas Vogus). (77 counties)

Red-eyed Vireo
Elias Raber counted 43 near Millersburg, Holmes, on 29 Jun and wrote they were “[s]eeingly everywhere throughout the forests I went through”. (82 counties)

Blue Jay
Deborah Edwards-Onoro found 25 in CNC’s Rowe Woods on 04 Jul. Only Auglaize, Henry, Pike, and Van Wert didn’t have sightings.

American Crow
Terry Bronson saw about 150 along Wood Road, Morgan, on 14 Jun. (83 counties)

Fish Crow
Sightings were posted from several Cuyahoga sites; one had a photo and some had descriptions. A Medina post included a video. However, the OBRC didn’t get any formal reports.

Common Raven
Todd Hawkins saw five near Marietta, Washington, on 30 Jun. Cynthia Norris’ three near Antrim, Guernsey, on 06 Jun were the second most. (8 counties)

Horned Lark
Deer Creek WA hosted 19 for Joseph Lautenbach on 31 Jul. (43 counties)

Bank Swallow
Several birders saw about 200 working Lake Erie Bluffs on 02 Jun. (49 counties)

Tree Swallow
About 600 had gathered at Killdeer when Matt Kemp was there on 10 Jul, and up to 500 were seen there on other dates. Douglas Vogus et al. counted 357 at ONWR during the 07 Jul census. (83 counties)

Northern Rough-winged Swallow
Tom Kemp counted 41 from his Grand Rapids yard, Lucas, on 14 Jul. (77 counties)

Purple Martin
The Nimisila reed beds held a mere 1000 on 24 Jul (Susan Wynn); we can expect five-digit numbers there in Aug. A congregation of about 210 were the next most seen; they were at Gilmore MP, Butler, on 16 Jul (Robert Lacker and Charlie Saunders). (77 counties)

Barn Swallow
Lori Brumbaugh saw about 350 at Sims Park, Cuyahoga, on both 18 and 19 Jul. Terry Bronson found about 250 along Chapel Drive, Noble, on 25 Jul and wrote, “Likely a pre-migration staging flock. Feeding over recently-cut hay field. Perhaps a conservative estimate. Scanned for many minutes, but only a few swallows of other species could be identified. Likely many juveniles.” Only Auglaize and Henry didn’t have sightings.
Cliff Swallow
A group of birders saw about 175 gathered on wires near Hartford, Licking, on 21 Jul. Irina Shulgina found a similar pre-migration gathering of 150 near Irwin, Union, on 28 Jul. (48 counties)

Carolina Chickadee
Jarrett Dickey counted 21 at Sugarcreek MP, Greene, on 06 Jul. (62 counties)

Black-capped Chickadee
South Chagrin Reservation, Cuyahoga, hosted 34 for Jen Brumfield on 03 Jul. (26 counties)

Carolina/Black-capped Chickadee
Birders were unsure of the species in reports from nine counties.

Tufted Titmouse
Larry Richardson saw 44 at Grand River WA, Trumbull, on 18 Jul. (81 counties)

Red-breasted Nuthatch
Inga Schmidt found a family of three along Chagrin River Road, Geauga, on 14 Jun. (12 counties)

White-breasted Nuthatch
The high count of 14 was shared by Gautam Apte at Vinton Furnace on 08 Jun; Jen Brumfield at South Chagrin Reservation, Cuyahoga, on 03 Jul; and Karen Zelezniak at Southgate Park, Summit, on 12 Jul. (79 counties)

Brown Creeper
Dan Best and Rachel McKinney counted four along the upper Cuyahoga River in Geauga on 23 Jun. (14 counties)

House Wren
Chris Pierce found 25 as he cycled southern Lorain on both 22 and 29 Jun. Only Crawford, Henry, Lawrence, and Pike didn’t have sightings.

Winter Wren
The reports are:
Two at Holden’s Little Mountain, Lake, on 01 Jun (Frank Buck and Haans Petruschke)
One at North Chagrin Reservation, Cuyahoga, on 27 Jun (Fred Losi)
One at the CVNP Kendall Ledges on 12 Jul (Robert Bobel)
Singles on several dates and at several sites in Mohican

Sedge Wren
The high count of four was achieved at four sites, one of them in early Jun and the others in late Jul. (12 counties)

Marsh Wren
Paul Jacyk found about 60 along the ONWR WD on 16 Jun and 45 there and at Howard Marsh on other dates. The most seen away from Lucas and Ottawa were Josh Hargrave’s 18 at Wake Robin on 17 Jul. (28 counties)

The unmistakable song of the Marsh Wren led Debbie Parker to this little fella at Howard Marsh on 25 Jul.

Carolina Wren
Elias Raber found 21 during his five miles of walking near Millersburg, Holmes, on 29 Jun. Kate Marlowe found two clutches totaling 12 birds at New Plymouth, Vinton, on 11 Jun. Only Defiance, Fulton, Henry, and Williams didn’t have sightings.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Elias Raber’s 22 near Millersburg, Holmes, on 29 Jun were the most. (83 counties)

Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Joe Faulkner saw one at Beechhaven, Perry, on 24 Jul and Bruce Simpson another at Zaleski on 28 Jul.

Eastern Bluebird
Cole DiFabio counted 23 at Holden on 02 Jun. (82 counties)

Veery
Karen Zelezniak tallied 17 as she walked about 3 miles of trails in CVNP on 27 Jun. (24 counties)

Gray-cheeked Thrush
Singles lingered from spring to 01 Jun at Wendy Park (Joel Throckmorton) and Magee (Jeremy Cohen). Brian Tinker’s flight call recorder had picked up one over Cuyahoga Falls, Summit, just after 3:00 am that same morning.

Swainson’s Thrush
Sightings on 01 and 02 Jun came from two Cuyahoga sites, a Lucas site, and sites in Ashland, Ottawa, and Summit. The final sightings were on 03 Jun, three seen by Alex Eberts at ONWR Navarre and one seen by Chris Pierce at his North Olmsted, Cuyahoga, home. Andy R. Troyer encountered an anomaly, one he heard singing and then saw at Dalton, Wayne, on 29 Jun. See Field Notes for more.
Hermit Thrush
Three counts of five came from Hocking: separately by James Holsinger and Robert Thorn at Clear Creek on 08 Jun and by Sean McCandless at Hocking Hills SP on 28 Jun. Ashland and Summit also had sightings.

Wood Thrush
Elias Raber’s walk near Millersburg, Holmes, on 29 Jun yielded 26. The next most were Jeremy Dominguez’s 18 in the Tecumseh Lake area, Perry, on 17 Jun. (81 counties)

American Robin
Twenty miles of the Slippery Elm Trail in Wood produced 179 and 141 for Jack Leow on 08 and 10 Jul respectively. The most elsewhere were the 120 that Peter Dy-Liacco saw at CLNP on 22 Jul. (all 88 counties)

Gray Catbird
A group of birders found about 30 at Magee on 09 Jun. Only Henry didn’t have a sighting.

Brown Thrasher
Preston Luniewski and Oscar Wilhelmy counted 12 at Caesar Creek on 25 Jun. (75 counties)

Northern Mockingbird
Cincinnati’s Eden Park held 20 for Ezekiel Dobson on 01 Jul. Andrew Hood found 14 at Highbanks MP, Delaware, on 01 Jun. (74 counties)

European Starling
Tyler Ficker estimated that 1000 were in the Madison section of Prairie Oaks MP on 25 Jul. Jennifer Ferrick saw about 600 in Richfield Township, Summit, on 27 Jul. Only Defiance didn’t have a sighting.

Cedar Waxwing
Gregory Bennett noted about 800 westbound near Vermilion, Erie, on 07 Jun. He also had seen almost 300 westbound over Orchard Beach Cemetery, Erie, on 02 Jun. (79 counties)

Hamilton, hosted 38 for Jim Crumpler on 19 Jul. (83 counties)

House Sparrow
Melissa Reaves provided the high count, 94 at Plainfield, Cuyahoga, on 27 Jun. (all 88 counties)

Purple Finch
Ethan Kistler’s five near Mosquito Lake on 11 Jul were the most. (19 counties)

Pine Siskin
The reports are:
One at her Knox home intermittently from 02 Jun through the end of the season (Katherine Noblet)
One at Missing Pine, Jefferson, on 20 Jun (Andrea Anderson)
One at feeders in Loudonville, Ashland, on 22 Jun (Steve Hochstetler)

American Goldfinch
Andrea Anderson saw about 50 at the Junction Earthworks, Ross, on 11 Jul. Only Henry and Van Wert didn’t have sightings.

Grasshopper Sparrow
Scott Pendleton saw 43 near Cadiz, Harrison, on both 04 and 25 Jul; John Jackson was with him for the first count. Tyler Ficker’s 20 at Crown City WA, Gallia, on 08 Jul were the next most. (58 counties)

White-crowned Sparrow
Allen and Daniel Stutzman made a most unusual find of one near Millersburg, Holmes, on 20 Jul; see Field Notes for more.

White-throated Sparrow
The reports are:
One at Mound Cemetery, Washington, on 10, 16, and 22 Jun (Michael Schramm)
Two at CVNP’s Hale Farm on 21 Jun (Susan Jones and Clyde Witt)
One heard and audio-recorded in Montgomery, Hamilton, on 07 Jul (Jason Parrish)
One at Headlands on 16 Jul (Tom Frankel) and it or another there on 25 Jul (Sally Isacco)
One along Alum Creek in Bexley, **Franklin**, on 20 Jul (Zebedee Muller)

**Lark Sparrow**
The most were six, found at Oakes Quarry Park, **Greene**, on 07 Jun (Lee Funderburg). Lee also saw the next most, three there on 19 Jul. Erin Allen and Andy Avram also saw three, at OOPMP on 09 Jul. Reports also came from **Richland** and **Tuscarawas**; see Field Notes for much more.

![Diane Burkholder documented this Lark Sparrow nest in Richland on 09 Jun.](image)

**Chipping Sparrow**
Chris Pierce’s 40 miles of bicycling in southern **Lorain** on 29 Jun produced 25. Only **Fulton** and **Henry** didn’t have sightings.

![No one knows why Chipping Sparrows hang out in cemeteries, but Leslie Sours knew she would find one at Union Cemetery, Franklin, on 22 Jun.](image)

**Field Sparrow**
Elias Raber counted 37 near Millersburg, **Holmes**, on 29 Jun. Lee Funderburg saw 30 at Sweet Arrow Reserve, **Greene**, on 14 Jun. (82 counties)

**Dark-eyed Junco**
The high count of eight was shared by three birders: Haans Petruschke at Holden’s Little Mountain, **Lake**, on 26 Jun; Jen Brumfield at South Chagrin Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 10 Jul; and James Smallwood at Girdled Reservation, **Lake**, on 21 Jul. Matthew Crandall wrote on 22 Jun from Hinckley, **Medina**, that one “visited my black oil sunflower feeder throughout the day, first observed around 9:00 AM”. **Ashland**, **Ashtabula**, **Geauga**, and **Summit** also had sightings at the expected nesting locations.

**Vesper Sparrow**
Joseph Lautenbach saw five along Lampe Road, **Fayette**, on 24 Jul. (29 counties)

![On 04 Jun, this Vesper Sparrow took a break from foraging long enough for Janice Farral to capture this shot at Margaret Peak NP, Lorain.](image)

**Henslow’s Sparrow**
Crown City WA, **Gallia**, was hopping with 23 Henslows when Tyler Ficker was there on 08 Jul. (38 counties)

**Savannah Sparrow**
Darby Creek hosted 24 for Jeffrey Pontius on 14 Jul. (58 counties)

**Swamp Sparrow**
Lori Brumbaugh counted 18 in CVNP’s Brookside Road marsh on 01 Jun. (39 counties)

![While walking the Wet Prairie Teal and Harrier Trails at Darby Creek on 06 Jun, Bruce Miller perfectly captured this perched Henslow’s Sparrow.](image)

![Patrick Coy discovered not one, but three, singing male Dark-eyed Juncos in CVNP on 26 Jun!](image)
Song Sparrow
Douglas Vogus et al. counted 48 during the 01 Jun CVNP census. Henry alone didn’t have a sighting.

Eastern Towhee
Elias Raber’s efforts near Millersburg, Holmes, on 29 Jun yielded 24. (78 counties)

Yellow-breasted Chat
Elias Raber needed only 1.5 miles of travel near Dresden, Muskingum, on 08 Jun to find 15 chats. (55 counties)

Yellow-headed Blackbird
At least one family was raised at Howard Marsh. Alex Eberts tallied 11 birds there on 16 Jul (see Field Notes). Other birders counted up to 10 there on various dates.

Bobolink
It only took Scott Pendleton a little over a mile near Cadiz, Harrison, to find 80 on 25 Jul. Lori Brumbaugh tallied 70 along 2 miles of Fargo Road, Carroll, on 24 Jul. (50 counties)

Eastern Meadowlark
Scott Pendleton found 65 near Cadiz, Harrison, on 13 Jul and up to 35 there on other dates. The most elsewhere were Charles Bombaci’s 30 along County Route 50, Hardin, on 02 Jun. (79 counties)

Orchard Oriole
Jill and Larry Early found nine in the Greene section of Spring Valley WA on 23 Jun. (72 counties)

Baltimore Oriole
Douglas Vogus’ CVNP census team counted 18 on 01 Jun. Only Fulton and Jackson didn’t have sightings.

Red-winged Blackbird
Chad Pumpelly estimated that 1000 were at Darby Creek on 23 Jul. Douglas Vogus et al. tallied 953 during the 07 Jul ONWR census. (all 88 counties)

Brown-headed Cowbird
Julie Karlson and Doug Overacker found about 100 along the South Charleston Bike Trail, Clark, on 27 Jul. The OSU Livestock Facility hosted 80 for Brian O’Connor on 17 Jun. Only Henry, Pike, and Van Wert didn’t have sightings.

Common Grackle
About 3000 had gathered at Darby Creek for Irina Shulgina on 28 Jul and up to 1000 were reported there on other dates. Gary Cowell’s 400 were the most seen elsewhere; that flock was southbound over Kingwood Center, Richland, on 04 Jul. (all 88 counties)

Ovenbird
Gautam Apte found 30 at Vinton Furnace on 02 Jun. (48 counties)

Worm-eating Warbler
Gautam Apte and Vinton Furnace provided another high count, 11 on 03 Jun. David Ackerman’s 25 miles in Shawnee on 01 Jun yielded eight. (14 counties)

Louisiana Waterthrush
Daniel Beechy counted 10 along Mohican SP’s Hemlock Gorge Trail on 16 Jun. (43 counties)

Golden-winged Warbler
Gabriel Amrhein saw the only one, at Glen Helen Preserve, Greene, on 03 Jun.

Blue-winged Warbler
CVNP’s Wetmore Trails hosted 13 on 08 Jun (Joshua Davidson). Grand River WA, Trumbull, held nine on 04 Jul (Larry Richardson). (40 counties)
Black-and-white Warbler
David Ackerman found nine at Shawnee on 01 Jun. (33 counties)

Prothonotary Warbler
The high count of 10 was shared by the 02 Jun ONWR census team (Ed Pierce et al., fide Douglas Vogus) and Susan Evanoff and Su Snyder at Killbuck on 15 Jun. (47 counties)

Swainson’s Warbler
Posts from Clark have photos.

Tennessee Warbler
Mark Shaver saw one at Wicked Woods, Greene, on 01 Jun, and Chuck McClugher on another in Marlboro Township, Stark, on the same day.

Mourning Warbler
Brian Tinker discovered and Kim Pastrick later saw a northbound straggler at CVNP on 04 Jun. Several birders saw three at Kightlinger, Ashtabula, between 09 Jun and 06 Jul. On the first day, Marc Hanneman wrote “Watching a male 1’ away (alarm calling) while hearing another sing. Heard a third (attempted recording) a couple hundred yards from first two, also acting territorial. All were in slashing on north side (Shiner).” Harlan’s Annotated Checklist calls the species a casual nester in the northeast and northwest.

Kentucky Warbler
David Ackerman counted seven during his long day at Shawnee on 01 Jun. (39 counties)

Common Yellowthroat
Not surprisingly, the monthly ONWR censuses produced the highest counts, 36 on 02 Jun (Ed Pierce et al., fide Douglas Vogus) and 54 on 07 Jul (Douglas Vogus et al.). Matt Kemp found 35 at Killdeer on 10 Jul. (81 counties)

Hooded Warbler
Gautam Apte found 22 at Vinton Furnace on both 02 and 04 Jun. (58 counties)

American Redstart
Bob and Sara Crist saw or heard 20 in the Hocking section of Clear Creek on 08 Jun. (57 counties)

Cerulean Warbler
Gautam Apte counted 16 throughout Vinton Furnace on 05 Jun and up to 15 there on other dates. The most elsewhere were eight, at both Shawnee on 01 Jun (David Ackerman) and Mohican SP on 02 Jul (also Gautam Apte). (44 counties)

Northern Parula
This time Mohican took top honors, with Gautam Apte’s 12 on 02 Jul. Seven were at each of Clear Creek on 08 Jun (James Holsinger) and Mohican on 15 Jun (Alvin Miller). (53 counties)

Magnolia Warbler
Robert Thorn’s find at Cedar Bog SNP, Champagna, on 02 Jun was probably the last northbound bird. Alvin Miller saw four at Mohican, a known nesting site, on 15 Jun. Reports also came from Ashtabula, Geauga, Hocking, Medina, and Trumbull.

Blackburnian Warbler
Sightings of one or two at various Mohican locations were regular to 22 Jun, followed by one on 02 Jul. Matt Anderson saw a singing male at OOPMP on 03 Jun.

Yellow Warbler
Ed Pierce’s ONWR census crew counted 248 on 02 Jun (fide Douglas Vogus). The next most were the 70 that Fred Losi found at CLNP on 25 Jun. Defiance, Fulton, Pike, and Van Wert didn’t have sightings.

Chestnut-sided Warbler
Kim Pastrick saw four along the CVNP Wetmore Trails on 04 Jun as did several birders at Kightlinger, Ashtabula, on 06 Jul. (25 counties)

Blackpoll Warbler
Oscar Wilhelmy’s find at Magee on 04 Jun was the last one heading north. The five at Headlands on 02 Jun were also ready to cross Lake Erie (Jo Ann Kubicki and Marty Reynard). One or two were seen in Ashland, Franklin, Harrison, Lake, Lucas, and Mahoning.

Black-throated Blue Warbler
The only two sightings could have been of birds attempting to nest, though a late departure by one and a very early arrival of the other are possible. Jeremy Dominguez found one at Veto Lake, Washington, on 03 Jun and Larry Richardson the other at Grand River WA, Trumbull, on 27 Jul.

Palm Warbler
Tom McElfresh well described this summer rarity which he discovered at Englewood on 08 Jul.

Pine Warbler
The OOPMP breeding bird census spans several days; counters found 14 during Jun there (fide Matt Anderson). The most on a single day were Bryan Smith’s nine at Wayne NF, Lawrence, on 15 Jun. Mohican had four on 01 Jun for Carlton Schooley. (25 counties)

Yellow-rumped Warbler
Kim Nordquest saw the only one, at Walnut Beach Park, Ashtabula, on 01 Jun; no doubt it headed for Canada that night.
Yellow-throated Warbler
The high count of five was shared by six locations. (60 counties)

Prairie Warbler
Elias Raber contributed the highest count, 12 at Tri-Valley WA, Muskingum, on 08 Jun. (27 counties)

Black-throated Green Warbler
One at the Rocky River Reservation, Cuyahoga, on 01 Jun was the last northbound migrant (m. obs.). Patrick Coy and Karin Tanquist counted 21 in the Old Man’s Cave area, Hocking, on 06 Jun. The next most were 15, a number shared in Mohican by Alvin Miller on 15 Jun and Nancy O’Bryan on 23 Jun. (14 counties)

Canada Warbler
Joe Woyma saw the last migrant, in downtown Cleveland on 04 Jun; others before that were at Magee and in Franklin and Lorain. Mohican hosted five on 15 Jun for Alvin Miller and up to three were seen at several sites within the SF and SP throughout the season. Patrick Coy and Karin Tanquist saw another likely nester at Little Rocky Hollow SNP, Hocking, on 08 Jun.

Wilson’s Warbler
Lee Funderburg saw one in South Charleston, Clark, on 02 Jun and m. obs. enjoyed another at Magee on both 02 and 03 Jun.

Summer Tanager
The three counts of four came from OOPMP on 12 Jul (Nate Koszycki); Sugarcreek MP, Greene, on 20 Jul (Jarrett Dickey); and Cincinnati’s Ault Park on 26 Jul (Kirk Westendorf). (38 counties)

Scarlet Tanager
David Ackerman counted 18 at Shawnee on 01 Jun as did Elias Raber near Millersburg, Holmes, on 29 Jun. The next most were Reuben S. Erb’s 13 at Mohican SP on 22 Jun. (73 counties)

Northern Cardinal
Elias Raber counted 48 within a one-mile radius of his Millersburg, Holmes, home on 29 Jun. Bill Stanley found 30 at CNC’s Rowe Woods on 22 Jun. (all 88 counties)

Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Elias Raber also found 19 grosbeaks in that one-mile circle on 29 Jun (see Northern Cardinal). Three sites each hosted 10. (67 counties)

On 18 Jun, this male Rose-breasted Grosbeak - along with a female (not pictured) - stopped by Debbie Parker’s yard in Medina.

Blue Grosbeak
The high count was five. Dena Sievert saw that many at Fort Ancient SP, Warren, on 28 Jun. So did Kent Miller at the Bolivar Landfill, Stark, on 03 Jul, and Summer Hawkins and Erin Hoppe at Battelle Riverfront Park in Columbus on 11 Jul. (31 counties)

A gorgeous male Blue Grosbeak posed for Su Snyder on Cutter Road near Apple Creek, Wayne, on 04 Jun.
Indigo Bunting
Elias Raber’s peregrinations near Millersburg, Holmes, on 29 Jun produced 31. Christine and Greg Ward found 23 at the Gleason Family NP, Morrow, on 08 Jun. Only Henry and Van Wert didn’t have sightings.

Dickcissel
Deer Creek WA hosted 16 for Tyler Ficker on 29 Jul. (47 counties)

Gautam Apte was drawn to this singing Dickcissel in Clark on 01 Jul.
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.

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Janice Tartell     Susan Wynn
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Haley Thoresen     Benjamin H. Yoder
Robert Thorn       David H. Yoder
Joel Throckmorton  Marvin Yoder
Brian Tinker       Vernon Yoder
Chris Tonra        Karen Zeleznik
Andy R. Troyer     Devon Zimmerman
Anthony R. Troyer  Trevor Zook
Jesse Troyer
Joshua Vardous
Linda Verceles
Douglas Vogus
Lisa Wall
Christine Ward
Greg Ward
Doug Warfield
Doug Wentzel
Clark West
Jordan West
Kirk Westendorf
Oscar Wilhelmy
Anne Wills
David Wills
Carl Winstead
Kate Wise
The discovery of a pair of Merlins in Franklin in Apr 2019 offered a unique opportunity to document the nesting of these taiga or boreal falcons. The pair was observed through courtship, incubation, brooding, and rearing of two nestlings. Fledglings were closely watched for an additional four weeks. The success of the nesting along with observations of overwintering Merlins in the area suggests that the species will likely be utilizing urban nest sites in the state more regularly as it continues to expand south and into urban areas, perhaps becoming year-round residents.

Harlan et al. (2008) describes the Merlin as “Very uncommon migrant. Extirpated nester, last noted in the 1930’s”. Rodewald et al. (2016) refers to the bird as “an exceedingly rare and poorly known breeding bird in Ohio” with only two modern records, one of adults feeding young in Lake in 2009 and one of a nestling in Knox in 2010. Range maps show Merlin in Ohio during migration (Warkentin et al. 2005), but they are reliably found in Ohio only during the winter months. Two birds have overwintered in Franklin’s Union Cemetery since 2015; both male and female have been noted, with four being seen for a short time in Aug 2018. Last winter’s apparent pair was seen as late as mid-Mar. Two nearby locations along the Scioto River had individual birds spend the winter of 2019 as well. It is possible that the 2019 nesting pair was from these overwintering individuals and that these birds may be opting not to migrate. With this nesting, Ohio joins a trend being seen in states to our west. Merlins nested in Illinois and possibly Indiana for the first time in 2016 (Engle 2016). That same year, two pairs fledged young in Iowa for the first time since 1909 (Caswell et al. 2016).

On 16 Apr I heard an unfamiliar high-pitched call directly overhead. The small bird ripping past looked like a falcon. I assumed it was a migrating bird until the next day, when a Merlin was found calling from a cottonwood tree and being answered by another in a blue spruce across the street. For the next 3.5 months, everything possible was documented including flight styles, what different vocalizations meant, what trees were used for what purposes, how the birds hunted, what they ate, how they defended their territory and nest, what other birds shared their space, and how they tolerated the everyday sights and sounds of a busy suburban neighborhood.

Courtship was consistent throughout late Apr and May. The male performed impressive flight displays of high-speed flyovers, rolls, and spectacular dives, and the pair flew tight circles just above the trees. Their courtship calling was heard frequently throughout the day accompanying all observed flights and displays. Activity occurred within a territory bounded by Barrington Road to the south, Guilford Road to the north, the dead snag and cottonwood to the west, and Beaumont Road to the east. The birds flew back and forth between favored perches, using a direct and powerful flutter flight.
Merlins nest in old corvid nests (Warkentin et al. 2005), and the pair seemed interested in a nest in the blue spruce used by American Crows in 2016 and 2017. On 30 May, however, my neighbor Amy Tressler saw the birds fly into a Norway spruce around the corner. The female was hunkered down and barely visible in an old stick nest; and the male was perched on a nearby dead snag. A spotting scope was then used every day to peer 55 feet up into the tree through a small window between branches. For the next 10 days, until hatching, the female spent almost all of her time on the nest.

A male Merlin does all of the hunting and food preparation for both himself and the female during incubation (Warkentin et al. 2005). The male was initially observed hunting only within the small area shown in the map, and ranging further once the fledglings had moved away from the nest area. He hunted from the dead snag or the top of the nest tree, launching straight at a flock of birds. More often, he flew through the upper canopy or just below the crown of large deciduous trees, dropping down onto scattering passerines and grabbing them in midair. When prey could be identified, it was always a House Sparrow with one possible Song Sparrow.

Only the female was observed incubating, leaving the nest to retrieve food from the male or chase a perceived predator.
In a typical scenario witnessed countless times, the male would call from the maple behind the nest tree; it was the primary food preparation site. He would emerge from the tree carrying a plucked and beheaded sparrow, fly over to the nest apparently to show it to the female, fly back to the maple, and call some more. He sometimes had to fly back to the nest again, with or without the prey, then back to the maple or the dead snag and patiently wait for the female to leave the nest and fly over to retrieve the food. He would then return to the nest tree and sit six to 12 feet above the nest while the female stayed in the maple to eat. He often stayed above the nest until it was again time to hunt or until dark.

Hatching occurred on 11 Jun, when both adults were observed peering into the nest and uttering the one-syllable calls they would use through fledging. Hatching was confirmed the next day, when the female flew to the nest with food and spent 25 minutes feeding young. The male continued to hunt for the female as well as for the nestlings, and the female fed the young. When the chicks were two days old, the male called and flew above the nest carrying prey, going back and forth between the maple and the nest for 56 minutes. It was raining hard, and the female would not budge from the nest. When she finally flew to the snag, rather than flying to her, the male flew to the nest and began to feed the young. The female promptly returned to the nest and took over, and the male was never again observed feeding the nestlings.

Just about everything the Merlins did during the nesting stage was accompanied by incessant calling. The calls of the male and the female could be differentiated, the male’s being louder and more high-pitched, the female’s sounding softer but more insistent. During incubation, the male generally called to the female two to three times before she flew off of the nest, calling, to retrieve the food. Once hatching occurred, the female used calls to let the male know that the chicks were hungry. He typically brought food to the nest tree, transferring it to her while both were perched on a limb. The transfer also happened in midair or while the male flew past the perched female, pausing for a split second for her to grab it.

The Merlin pair was highly territorial around the nest. The nest was in a residential neighborhood one block west of OSU’s West Campus soybean field. It was under a flyway used by Great Blue Herons, Great Egrets, and Double-crested Cormorants coming and going from a nesting rookery due west near the Scioto River. The male chased Great Blue Herons that flew too close to the nest, staying right on the tail of the herons until they were well out of his territory. These chases were accompanied by loud alarm calls that were distinct and different from the calls between the pair. The male chased a Cooper’s Hawk out of the area in Apr, and the hawk wasn’t seen in the neighborhood for the rest of the summer. In Jul a young Cooper’s Hawk flew past the fledglings and was promptly chased off by the male. The female did not like Turkey Vultures and was observed leaving the nest to chase them on three occasions. Common Grackles constantly tormented the Merlins, coming as a group and working their way down close to the chicks until chased. One of the adult Merlins was always close to the nest, often in an oak I refer to as the defense tree.

The female spent hours on the nest tracking cars, bikes, scooters, people, planes, birds, squirrels, dragonflies, and typical neighborhood activities. She re-
acted to garage doors, car doors, kids playing, and dogs barking. The long weekend beginning on 04 Jul brought intense heat and unusual challenges, with four nights of backyard fireworks and a block party held directly under the nest. The female flew straight up from the nest tree in pursuit of a bottle rocket and a helium balloon, but overall the Merlin family seemed tolerant and adaptable.

The young Merlins matured quickly. Nine days after hatching, one tiny white wing stretched up from the deep nest. Two days later, two downy white faces reached up to take food. At two weeks, the chicks were becoming brown. At 21 days of age, the chicks spent most of their time out of the nest, preening out tufts of down as their flight feathers came in. The female fed them in the morning but later in the day dropped prepared birds into the nest for the chicks to feed themselves. The female now spent a fair amount of time away from the nest, either on the dead snag or at the top of the nest tree. Hungry chicks returned to the nest to beg and be fed.

The larger chick took a short flight to a companion Norway spruce on 07 Jul at 26 days of age, and both chicks were flighted at 28 days. Initially flying with unsteady flutters, the young Merlins crossed back and forth between the nest tree and nearby trees with increasingly stronger direct flights.

By 14 Jul, at five weeks of age, the fledglings had adopted a favorite perch in a dead tree one house down from mine. For the next 14 days I only had to step outside to watch the fledglings develop their flying skills, learn to hunt, interact with local breeding birds, and mature into independent falcons.

Learning to hunt was a short and awkward stage. The adults used the blue spruce across the street for feeding and keeping an eye on the young. The fledglings begged loudly and frequently, flying to the parents to retrieve food. Sometimes they carried the prey back to the dead tree, and there was evidence of difficulty figuring out how to land with prey and hold onto it. Directly under the dead tree perch were a beheaded House Sparrow and an intact House Sparrow showing a bite behind the neck. Bits of wing, a foot, and many feathers accumulated in the yard. They had to contend with a family of Common Grackles and three Blue Jays mobbing them, resulting in many chases. One Merlin dropped straight down out of the tree almost to the ground and nearly hit an American Robin, and one went after a very low-flying Turkey Vulture.

Occasionally the fledglings resorted to stealing prey. On 17 Jul, the male flew into the dead snag with a House Sparrow and began plucking it. One of the young
birds swooped in, begging, snatched the bird from him, and returned to the dead tree. Seemingly not knowing what to do with an unplucked bird, it continued to beg for another 10 minutes before flying off with the bird. On 23 Jul, one of the young Merlins flew low overhead with a sparrow. The other youngster rocketed from the dead tree straight at its sibling, causing it to drop the prey. The second bird dropped down under the other to grab the falling sparrow in midair.

By August, the young Merlins were seven weeks old. They spent more time alone and practiced high soaring flights. Occasional calls sounded more like contact calls than begging. On 03 Aug the young female flew into the blue spruce across the street and called for fourteen minutes. On 10 Aug, two Merlins flew over, calling. One went to the dead snag, and it was determined by plumage and tail molt to be the female. The other could not be located. No Merlins were seen or heard in the area after that evening.

The successful nesting of Merlins in a suburban neighborhood in Ohio provides further evidence of the expansion of the breeding range of these birds southward from the northern boreal forests into urbanized areas. Cemeteries, parks, and neighborhoods with old trees and ornamental spruce trees that have had nesting American Crows should be monitored in early spring for the presence of courting Merlins. Locations close to where Merlins overwintered would be of particular interest. It is likely that with vigilance, more nesting pairs will be found and studied in Ohio.

Special thanks to Jim McCormac for obtaining stellar photos of the Merlin chicks in the nest and to Tyler Ficker for mapping the Merlins’ territory. I’d like to thank Med and Chris Lutmerding and Amy Tressler for monitoring the nest while I was away and reporting sightings and behavioral observations. Many thanks to the wonderful neighbors who allowed me to hang out in their driveways for hours and to the many who came out to learn about this special nest. Finally, thank you to the friends who joined me to delight in these birds.

### Literature Cited


Leslie Sours has been birding in Ohio since taking an ornithology class at Ohio Wesleyan University while pursuing a degree in zoology. After getting her Master’s in physiology at SUNY Binghamton, she taught high school biology and psychology in Savannah, GA. then moved to Columbus in 1981. Leslie began seriously birding seven years ago while volunteering for Columbus Audubon. She is a member of the American Birding Association and the Ohio Ornithological Society and is a long-time volunteer in a garden that provides organic produce to a local pantry. Her favorite pastimes are exploring nature with her two granddaughters and birding both
MOTUS IN ZOOS: A NEW TOOL FOR BIRD MIGRATION RESEARCH

By Michael Kreger, Ph.D.

Next time you visit the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium or The Wilds, take a look at the roofs of the Mapori (Zoo) or Overlook (The Wilds) restaurants. What looks like an old-fashioned TV antenna is really a cutting-edge tool for studying migratory birds and other flying animals. The Motus Wildlife Tracking System is a collaborative international research network that uses automated radio telemetry to track the movements of flying animals. It is a program of Bird Studies Canada (BSC) in partnership with contributing researchers and organizations. For bird folks, this means that Motus stations are set up throughout North America and three other continents to act as a network to detect birds wearing nanotag transmitters. This information helps answer important research questions. (Though “Motus” looks like an acronym and is often fully capitalized, it’s actually Latin for “movement”.)

Citizen science tells us where birds are, but to understand the migratory behavior of an individual bird, or group of birds, you need to track it. What is its full annual migratory route? Where are the stopover places? How long does it stay at them? Is there important habitat along the way that should be protected? You can begin to answer research questions addressing how climate change, habitat change, urban light, or ecological disasters like oil spills affect migration, or basic questions like survival rates of fledged birds on their first migration. You can get some information from bird banding and geolocators, but then you have to re-catch the bird to know where it is or where it has been. You could use satellite telemetry, but transmitters are expensive and their weight restricts their use to larger species. Or you could use radio telemetry and a network of receiver stations like Motus so you could pick up location data every time the bird passes within range of a station. Not only do you get a more accurate and precise view of a bird’s migratory movements, but you do not need to recapture it to know its travels. According to the Motus website (https://motus.org), in the last hundred years bird banding has produced 64 million data points (re-captures and re-detections). In five years, Motus projects have already produced 750 million data points! Since its inception in 2015, nearly 21,000 individuals of 198 species (mostly birds) have been tagged (see https://motus.org/data/numbers).

In 2017, with financial support (and enthusiasm) from Dr. Bernie Master, the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium and The Wilds became the first U.S. zoos to try this technology. Other zoos have since joined the network and more are coming online – some are even working to establish a line of Motus stations across their states! Ideally, we would like to see all the North American flyways covered. We are using this system, not just to expand the network, but to participate in research projects and to inspire guests through education and research.

There are currently over 880 stations, most of them in Canada and the United States. They are concentrated in certain areas such as the Laurentian Great Lakes, along the Gulf of Mexico, and the Atlantic coast (See the Motus map: [Motus map link]).
https://motus.org/data/receiversMap?lang=en). In Ohio, there are 18 stations, including those set up by former OSU professor Paul Rodewald and current OSU Professor Chris Tonra. Dr. Tonra uses the stations to study the ecology of Rusty Blackbirds, Black-crowned Night-Herons, Prothonotary Warblers, and other species. Our stations contribute to Dr. Tonra’s and other ongoing studies every time we detect one of his tagged birds. To date, Motus has been part of 283 projects. The data we collect are sent to Bird Studies Canada and then posted on the Motus website.

The Columbus Zoo is working with Powdermill Nature Reserve (of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History), the Ohio Wildlife Center, and Lights Out Columbus to tag and release birds that have been rehabilitated after window strikes. Do these birds survive once released? Do they continue their migration? Are there species-specific or other differences in migratory behavior? Meanwhile, our stations are working around the clock, 24/7. Species detected so far include Black-crowned Night-Heron, Swainson’s Thrush, Wood Thrush, Virginia Rail, White-throated Sparrow, Kirtland’s Warbler, Common Nighthawk, Red Knot, Chimney Swift, Eastern Whip-poor-will, and Ruddy Turnstone. For many of these birds, you can track them online through the Motus website.

The Motus network will continue to grow as researchers, educators, public land managers, and zoos continue to put stations on the landscape and tag birds. It’s one more tool for unravelling the mysteries of migration and helping to solve some of our conservation challenges.

For further information, contact:

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The Wilds: Stephen Spear, sspear@thewilds.org

Dr. Michael Kreger is the Vice President of Conservation at the Columbus Zoo. He works with all the departments at the Zoo, Safari Golf, and The Wilds to develop and promote programs that save animals worldwide. Before joining the Zoo, he had a 20-year career with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Migratory Bird Program and International Affairs.
GREATER AKRON AUDUBON SOCIETY’S SUMMER BREEDING BIRD CENSUS

By Douglas Vogus

The Greater Akron Audubon Society conducts in a summer breeding bird census every year, held over a 10-day period from mid- to late Jun. This census was started in 1978 with Carol Tveekrem as coordinator. Ann and Dwight Chasar succeeded Carol when she moved out of Ohio, and since 2014, Doug and Michelle Vogus have served as coordinators. This ongoing census has always been on a volunteer basis – citizen science at its best.

The census covers all of Summit, with the county broken up into 30 sections, mostly with roads, highways, rivers, or lakes as dividing lines; some are small, some quite large. From the northwest corner that includes Richfield and Bath, the census area extends east to include Sagamore Hills and Twinsburg and south to include the bird-rich habitats of Ohio’s only national park – the familiar CVNP. The census area also includes the cities of Cuyahoga Falls, Stow, Barberton, and of course all of Akron. It includes many places that used to be “country”, such as Tallmadge, Copley, and Green that have been increasingly under attack by the machine known as “progress.” And it includes even smaller cities and villages such as Northfield, Hudson, Norton, Clinton, and Springfield Township.

The census covers a wide variety of habitat. From the cool, hardwood-shaded woodlands in the Cuyahoga Valley, to the watery arteries of the Portage Lakes region, to the grassy areas of not one, but two airports – Akron-Fulton International Airport and Akron-Canton Regional Airport – as well as part of the Cuyahoga River and the start of the Tuscarawas River, many summering birds are to be found within the county. And some surprises are found almost every year.

In addition to the national park, Summit boasts one of the best local park systems one could ask for; Summit County Metro Parks, which has been in existence since 1921. From the shaded ledges of The Gorge MP and Liberty Park to the prairie-like setting of Springfield Bog MP to urban parks such as Goodyear Heights and Firestone MP’s, as well as the Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath and Bike & Hike trails, a superb trail system allows public access.

The long-term benefit of this census is its record of how the distribution of species and counts within species change over the years. These data are important to biologists and environmentalists who wish to monitor the changes that occur on a regional or national level, not just the local one.

The 2019 census was held from 14 to 23 Jun, and 85 volunteers spent almost 570 hours in the field counting in 30 separate areas. They tallied 137 species, one less than the 2017 record, and 37,554 individual birds, a new record. The 107 Wild Turkeys, 85 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds, 57 Osprey, 85 Pileated Woodpeckers, 14 Louisiana Waterthrushes, and 16 Dark-eyed Juncos were among the 24 species which set new record high counts.

Doug Vogus is a lifelong birder and Ohio resident. He has been a participant in the Cuyahoga Falls CBC since the late seventies, the ONWR monthly census since 2002, the monthly Cuyahoga Valley Towpath Census since 2010, and the coordinator of the Greater Akron Audubon Summer Breeding Bird Census since 2014. He and his wife Michelle reside in the Merriman Valley area of Akron and can usually be found in their preferred habitat, CVNP.
FIELD NOTES

(Lightly edited to correct obvious misspellings and to conform to the Cardinal’s style sheet.)

From Matt Anderson:

Northern Saw-whet Owl – A calling bird (high-pitched toots…advertising call?) was near Horse Rider Center on Jeffers Road in OOPMP on 09 Jun, just before dawn. A couple of subsequent early morning forays did not yield the bird again. It’s worth noting that a pair raised young (discovered and photographed by Glen Firebaugh) in 1978 in a spruce stand about 0.5-0.75 miles away in nesting box placed in a spruce stand in OOPMP.

Eastern Whip-poor-will – a bit disappointing to hear just five during a couple of early-morning jaunts through OOPMP on 09 and 11 June.

Purple Finch – singing male near east boundary of OOPMP on 08 Jun; may be first Toledo area Jun record since mid-1990s. [It’s the only Lucas record this summer – ed.]

From Carole Babyak:

[In Trumbull] The crows had more to “mob” than the Barred Owls; Red-shouldered Hawks nested just north of our property and raised at least two young. One of the fledglings was loud - food begging, another was quiet. Often in our woods.

Turkeys: Two hens and one male frequented the yard, bringing about nine young with them.

Purple Finches were present; 05, 06, and 07 Jun a male was at sunflower feeder. [On] 23 Jun a female and 19 Jul a male.

From Tom Bartlett:

…observation report from the days we banded at Springville [Marsh SNP, Seneca] this summer. The only species of note is the Sandhill Crane. We have had them around in spring and early summer the last few years but this is the first breeding record for the marsh and Seneca. We observed a pair with one colt on 22 Jun.

Another record I feel is of note was a pair of Broad-winged Hawks feeding a recently fledged young bird in Knox on 23 and 24 Jul. It was in a neighborhood on the [southwest] edge of Apple Valley Lake.

[These are the only records for those counties this season– ed.]

From Patrick Coy:

I don’t know if this is interesting enough for the Cardinal given the numbers of juncos now summering and even nesting in [northeast] Ohio, but I had three singing males [on 26 Jun] in what I took to be distinct territories along the creek from Blue Hen Falls to Buttermilk Falls in the CVNP.

From Alex Eberts:

[Regarding a family of Yellow-headed Blackbirds at Howard Marsh] At least eight young heard begging. The male flew overhead and continued into the marsh, but the two females were foraging together beside the long boardwalk.
on the Madewell Trail. They frequently made trips into the cattails to feed the young, which stayed hidden but were extremely loud and vocal.

From John Herman (straight text) and Devon Zimmerman {in fancy brackets}:

[Regarding Lark Sparrows near Shiloh, Richland] 30 May to 14 Jun. First Richland nesting record. {On Thursday, 30 May, a pair of them were found.} These Richland Lark Sparrows nested in the middle of a large, recently planted, corn field…{09 Jun I got to see both male and female and the nest with four eggs.} On 10 Jun, Mrs. Lucy Zimmerman, the farm owner’s wife, saw that one of the Lark Sparrow’s eggs had hatched. On 14 Jun [I] found one of the adult Lark Sparrows…Gary Cowell also saw the two adult Lark Sparrows…carrying food to the nest. He could not see the nest from his location at the edge of the corn field. Lucy and her husband Harlan Zimmerman found no adult or young Lark Sparrows…on 16 Jun. This is the second all-time record of Lark Sparrow in Richland.

From Bob Lane:

[Regarding Common Mergansers in Columbiana] My wife Denise and myself. Sixty-nine degrees. With the Middle Fork of Little Beaver Creek running full, the Common Merganser family apparently took safe haven on a gravel bar, just upstream from the confluence with Little Beaver Creek, on Elk Run. They were just north of and visible from the bridge over Elk Run on County Road 419 (Middle Beaver Road). It began to pour down rain as we departed. The family consisted of mom and nine good sized merglets.

[We did] our annual late Jul Bald Eagle count [at Conneaut on 28 Jul]. Basically from 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM. Forty-nine is probably a conservative number because of the eagles that hang out back up the Conneaut Creek ship channel and those flying! Could be 60! Upon our arrival there were eight eagles on “The Sandspit”. Later in a single scope sweep from the spit, there were 29 eagles on the east breakwall and another eight on the lighthouse breakwall. Thirty-seven in one view. Eleven adults were seen. The rest juveniles. By 9:30 AM, as usual, they seem to pretty much disappear!

From Benjamin Miller:

[Regarding 55 American White Pelicans at Muddy Creek, Sandusky]] Huge numbers feeding between the bridge and the mouth of the bay in a diked area, many birds and groups of birds constantly seen in flight. Some sailed by the boat very closely. Later in the day over half of the pelicans formed a group and went east. Made sure not to double count birds.

From Scott Pendleton:

[Regarding eight Upland Sandpipers near Cadiz, Harrison] Conservative count. Had five in air at one time and heard several at same time, likely two or three clutches since all the birds I could see well were recent fledges.
From Haans Petrushke:

[Regarding a Ruffed Grouse at Gildersleeve Mountain, Lake] Flushed while exploring herbaceous forest seep area. Did not explode nearby but took off about 15 yards away and was observed flying for about five seconds. Size, shape, coloration, and manner of flight make this bird unmistakable in this environment compared to either American Woodcock or Wild Turkey which would be the other species that would be expected to flush off the ground like this. The black band on the tail was clearly seen.

Very cool as it has been years since I have seen this bird here. It is a location Lake Metroparks cites as one of the best possible locations for this species in the region.

From Daniel Stutzman:

[Regarding a White-crowned Sparrow near Millersburg, Holmes, on 20 Jul] I found the bird at our neighbor’s place. After telling them of the bird they said they had seen it off and on all summer and they could even have nested in a brushy area behind the house. I wish I’d have known about it a month or six weeks earlier. To my knowledge no nest-building or other direct nesting behavior was noted and I’m not positive that two birds were present. I was unable to find the bird a few days later. I looked for about 1½ hours.

From Andy R. Troyer

[Regarding a Swainson’s Thrush in Dalton, Wayne, on 29 Jun] [It] was singing in our woods all day. Was also well seen. I have seen two other Swainson’s Thrushes in early Jun which would be late spring migrants. But this one is a little past the “late migrant” date. [Two weeks past – ed.]

From Douglas Vogus:

I was following up on Bill Osborne’s report of the Prairie Warbler behind the restrooms at Pine Hollow at the Kendall Sledding Hill [in CVNP]. The bird had moved west from its previous years near the back of Kendall Lake on the hills. Michelle and I had the male bird there shortly after the count period ended on June 24th. I went there yesterday (12 Jul) on my lunch break from work and had the female eating caterpillars in the field at about 20 yards. Best looks I’ve had in a long time. While she was feeding, the male was singing from a nearby treetop - so that makes two. Then the female started getting followed by a juvenile begging for caterpillars. The male was still singing from the treetops - so that makes three. So happy it wasn’t a cowbird following her. She never did feed the juvie, as if to say, “You’re fully capable of feeding yourself now.”

Today (13 Jul), Michelle and I went for a quick bike ride down here in the Merriman Valley before it got too hot. We went north towards Akron. We stopped at the observation deck where the Little Cuyahoga River meets the Cuyahoga River and there was an odd quacking. Kind of a mix between a bad Mallard and a clucking Green Heron. Coming down the Little Cuyahoga was a family group of Common Mergansers, an adult female with five almost fully grown juveniles. They all dived together right at the
confluence of the two rivers. Common Merganser is a species we missed this year on the summer census...Just wanted to share a couple noteworthy, summer Summit records.
YEARS AGO

By Craig Caldwell

10 years ago, the Summer 2009 Ohio Cardinal, Vol. 32 No. 4 (Andy Jones, Editor-in-Chief; Aaron Boone, principal author) contained these items:

- The number was published as a double issue with that of Summer 2009.
- Two Brown Pelican sightings were documented and accepted by the OBRC, as was a single Whimbrel sighting.
- A Black Vulture in Ashland warranted mention.
- Lake hosted the state’s first documented Merlin nesting since the 1930s, though the nest itself wasn’t seen.
- Logan had our first documented nesting by Eurasian Collared-Doves; sightings also came from Holmes, Mercer, and Tuscarawas.
- One Common Raven sighting (of four birds) was documented and accepted; another, of a single bird, was reported but not documented.

25 years ago, the Summer 1994 Ohio Cardinal, Vol. 17 No. 4 (Rob Harlan, Editor) contained these items:

- Articles gave details of a nesting Magnolia Warbler pair in Medina and a Northern Parula pair in Cuyahoga.
- A Fulvous Whistling-Duck was briefly seen but well documented at Magee.
- Two single White Pelicans were seen.
- NASA Plum Brook Station, Erie, hosted 24 territorial male Sedge Wrens.
- A rare-bird telephone hotline (remember those?) was established.

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

50 years ago, The Cleveland Bird Calendar 65:3, Annette B. Flanigan, Editor, included these items: (A reminder—the Calendar area is a circle of radius 30 miles centered at Cleveland’s Public Square)

- The May Yellow-crowned Night-Heron in Willoughby, Lake, stayed until 05 Jun.
- An Iceland Gull made the area’s second summer appearance on 20 Jul.
- A Barn Owl was sighted in Kirtland, Lake.
- Three Northern Mockingbird nests rated special mention.
- So did the one Bald Eagle, seen in Lake.
- Holden’s Stebbins Gulch hosted at least one each singing Winter Wren, Blue-headed Vireo, and Nashville, Magnolia, and Black-throated Green warblers, plus nesting Louisiana Waterthrush, Black-throated Blue and Canada warblers, and Dark-eyed Juncos.

100 years ago, The Cleveland Bird Calendar did not publish an issue.
Welcoming backyard birdwatchers and researchers in the field alike, the Ohio Ornithological Society is the largest statewide organization specifically devoted to fostering a deeper appreciation of wild birds, fellowship and collaboration in advancing our collective knowledge about them, and our ability to speak with one voice to preserve Ohio's bird habitats.

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

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

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

Renew online at: http://www.ohiobirds.org/site/membership.php
Back cover:
Another trip to the OSU Livestock Facility, this time on 17 Jun, gave Leslie Sours the chance to capture this adorable fledgling Barn Swallow.

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

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