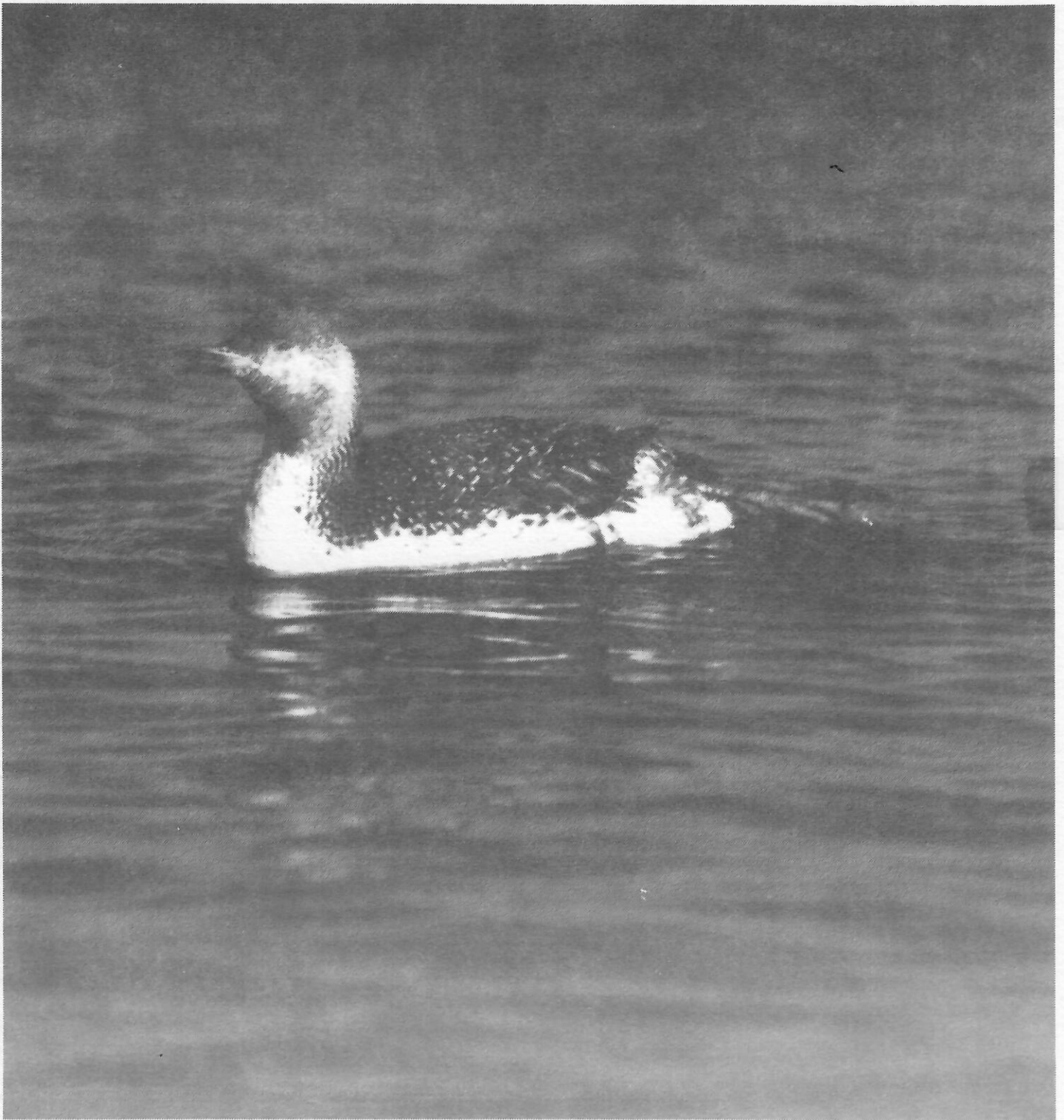


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The Ohio

CARDINAL



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The Ohio Cardinal invites readers to submit articles on unusual occurrences of birds, bird distribution within the state, birding areas in Ohio, identification tips, and other aspects of ornithology. Bird reports are welcome from any area in the state. They should be sent to: Tom Kemp, 7021 Manore Road, Whitehouse, Ohio 43571. Send seasonal reports according to the following schedule:

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

It is important that the reports be sent by the above dates if the journal is to be a timely publication. Late reports run the risk of not being accepted.

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

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Cover: Red-throated Loon in changing plumage, Headlands Beach State Park, Lake Co., 3 December 1988. Photograph by Gary Meszaros.

THE FALL SEASON - 1988

1 AUGUST - 30 NOVEMBER

Matt Anderson and Tom Kemp

A big question that certainly played on birders' minds during the fall of 1988 was "What effect did the extreme drought in the summer of 1988 have on bird populations and nesting success?" Numerous contributions commented about apparent declines in certain species, but such comments, fortunately, did not appear rampant. Whether any perceived declines were due to the drought or to a myriad of other possible reasons is hard to know. My guess is that the best gauge of how area migrants and breeders fared will be on display when birds start to move back north this spring.

The forceful grip of the drought was broken suddenly and quite dramatically in mid-July when much needed rains began to move into the state. A wet pattern continued pretty much throughout the fall season. Despite the fall rains, much of the state remained under drought conditions into the new year.

A good variety of birds was reported during the fall season - 31 species of waterfowl, 35 of shorebirds, 10 gulls, and 35 species of warblers were tallied. The total number of species reported was 271 which is actually down from the fall of 1987 total of 289. The most unusual species reported include Trumpeter swan and Little stint (see Records Committee report on these two individuals). Conspicuously absent from the list were King and Virginia Rails. The hawk migration was ordinary at best, and very few winter finches of any variety had arrived in the state by the end of November.

The following summarizes a few of the highlights of the fall 1988 season.

Loons through Ibis

One Red-throated loon was acceptably documented on November 30 at Headlands Beach State Park. Peak Common loon counts included 142 on November 3 along Lake Erie in Lorain and Erie Counties and 220 in Erie County November 9. Red-necked and Eared grebes were represented by just a couple of reports. A Northern gannet, always rare in Ohio was observed numerous times at Huron between November 11 and 19. A maximum of 900 Double-crested cormorants was reported from East Harbor October 10. Southern herons were scarce this past fall. No Tricolored heron reports were received. A single plegadis ibis was observed at Medusa Marsh on November 11.

Swans through Ducks

A well documented Trumpeter swan of unknown origin was at Metzger Marsh on September 16. Tundra swans apparently were a bit scarcer than normal with no large concentrations noted. Snow geese appeared at numerous localities but not in impressive numbers. No White-fronted geese were reported. The Huron pier seems to be the best spot in Ohio to find Brant. Five were there from November 9 to 11. Puddle duck and diving duck reports were generally not very noteworthy. Exceptions were a report of a Harlequin duck at Huron November 11 and a couple of Oldsquaws at Huron in November. All three scoters were reported. All told, 31 species of waterfowl were tallied.

Vultures through Falcons

A dozen Turkey vultures were seen on the late date of November 29 in Hancock County. Bald eagles were reported from three locales away from Lake Erie. No particularly impressive Broad-winged hawk concentrations were noted. Rough-legged hawks were decidedly scarce. The immature Golden eagle at Oak Openings was the only one reported. Falcons were very well represented with a half dozen reports of both Merlins and Peregrines. The pair of Peregrines which raised young last summer in downtown Toledo remained throughout the period.

Pheasants through Cranes

Northern bobwhites continue to be scarce in most of the state. Surprisingly, no Virginia or King rail reports were submitted: Soras were the only rail species listed. Were rails really that scarce during the fall of 1988? A very impressive total of 338 Sandhill cranes delighted observers near Dayton on November 21.

Shorebirds

At least thirty-six species of shorebirds graced our state last fall including the increasingly scarce Piping plover and possibly Ohio's first-ever Little stint scrutinized in great detail by a few observers at Willow Point Wildlife Area November 1-6. Because no photographs or specimen was obtained, this species should be considered hypothetical in the state until further evidence is gathered on its occurrence in Ohio. Several Lesser Golden-plovers lingered in the same area until at least November 11. The only Avocet seen was at Metzger Marsh on August 29. Both godwit species were scarce last fall. Baird's sandpipers were observed at seven scattered localities. Of four Purple sandpiper reports received, two were away from Lake Erie. Buff-breasted sandpipers were also scarce last fall and were turned up in only three reports. Red-necked phalaropes went unreported during the period while Red phalaropes were found at three locations.

Jaegers through Terns

There appeared to be an influx of Pomarine jaegers during the period. They were seen repeatedly off the pier in Huron from mid to late November. A Parasitic Jaeger at CJ Brown reservoir in Clark County was certainly the bird of the day for the birders present on November 6. Noteworthy gulls included Franklin's gulls at seven locales, a Little gull at Cleveland on November 28, Lesser black-backed gull at seven sites, including at the Maumee River rapids for possibly Ohio's first record away from Lake Erie, and one report of Sabine's gull.

Doves through Swallows

A Common barn-owl was reported from Hancock County on August 24. Only one Long-eared owl, two Short-eared owls and one Northern Saw-whet owl were tallied by contributors as of the end of the period. Moreover, no Snowy owls were reported indicating an off-year for these northern invaders. Common nighthawks moved through the state in large numbers during late August and early September--close to 1200 were seen at Shaker Lakes on August 27. Note the high concentrations of Ruby-throated hummingbirds at Oak Openings and Spring Valley. A very late Ruby-throated was in Hamilton County on November 2. Approximately 600 Northern Rough-winged swallows gathered along the Maumee River Rapids at Waterville on September 25.

Jays through Warblers

The only Sedge wrens reported were from Little Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge on September 11 and October 9. Thirty-five species of warblers were observed during the fall of 1988. No unusual species were noted, but several species stayed unusually late: e.g. Orange-crowned warbler at Cincinnati November 23, Yellow warbler at Gordon Park in Cleveland November 12, Black-throated Green warbler at Shaker Lakes November 4 and Blackburnian warbler in Hancock County November 1. Several observers indicated that warbler numbers seemed to be down.

Tanagers through House Sparrow

A Blue grosbeak was still present in Adams County through at least August 30. A Henslow's sparrow was at East Fork Lake on August 10, and the always very rare LeConte's sparrow was reported from Sheldon's Marsh on November 9. Springville Marsh hosted a couple of Yellow-headed blackbirds on October 30, and 6 Brewer's blackbird visited the Whitehouse area on November 10. A very late Northern oriole was at Sycamore State Park in Dayton on November 24. It was very apparent by the end of the fall season that the winter of 1988-89 was not to be a big winter finch year. Purple finches passed through in very low numbers, only two Evening grosbeak reports were received, and even Pine siskins were virtually absent. Neither crossbill species was reported.

In the following species accounts, unusual species are underlined and an asterisk following a sighting indicates a documentation accepted by the records committee. A 'D' indicates species which should be documented. Commonly used abbreviations are ONWR (Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge), CPNWR (Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge), GLSM (Grand Lake St. Mary's), and CVNRA (Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area).



Second year Lesser Black-backed gull with Herring and Ring-billed gulls, Maumee River Rapids, Lucas Co., 19 November 1988. This bird was apparently present about four months and may be the first Ohio record away from L. Erie. Photograph by Tom Kemp.

Red-throated Loon

11/30 Headlands Beach SP (TL, photo)

Common Loon

10/15 Buck Creek SP (DO), 11/3 Lorain/Erie Cos. (142) (TL), 11/9 Erie Co. (220) (TL), 11/19 Caesar Creek Lk. (12) (NK), 11/19 Findlay Res. (6) (BH), 11/22-26 Huron (52-60) (PE, Eth)

Pied-billed Grebe

8/13 Medusa Marsh (11) (BS), 10/1 CJ Brown (10) (NK), 10/8 ONWR (10) (KMo), 11/11 Lake Cowan (12) (LG), 11/27 E. Fork Lake (3) (PG), "drastic decline in SW" (HC).

Horned Grebe

10/17 Bresler Res. (RCu), 10/30 Buck Creek SP (7) (DO), 11/19 Caesar Creek Lk. (11) (NK), 11/22 Huron (40) (PE), 11/22 Findlay Res. (4) (BH)

Red-necked Grebe

11/22 Huron (PE*)

Eared Grebe

10/15-30 Buck Creek SP (2) (DO, LG*), 10/30 Edgewater Pk. (RH), 11/20-24 Lorain (TL*, KM, m.ob.), 11/30 Headlands Beach SP (TL*)

Northern Gannet (D)

11/11-19 Huron (RH*, m.ob.)

Double-crested Cormorant

9/28 East Harbor (40) (Eth), 10/7 GLSM (122) (DD), 10/8 Buck Creek SP (12) (DO), 10/10 East Harbor (900) (KMo), 11/24 Huron (KM)

American Bittern

8/6-26 Spring Valley (m.ob.)

Great Blue Heron

8/9 Hancock Co. (36) (BH), 8/13 Medusa Marsh (40) (BS), 8/14 CPNWRC (32), 8/21 Darby Marsh (85) (KMo), 10/30 East Harbor (80) (KMo)

Great Egret

8/13 Medusa Marsh (72) (BS), 9/10 Mosquito Lk. (7) (CBa), 9/13 Hancock Co. (8) (BH)

Snowy Egret

8/10 Medusa Marsh (2) (Eth), 9/17 Ottawa Co. (PY)

Little Blue Heron

8/6-13 Buck Creek SP (DO), 9/10 ONWR (KM)

Cattle Egret

8/14 Erie Co. (11) (KMo), 9/26 Medusa Marsh (3) (Eth), 10/22 Ottawa Co. (2) (DD)

Green-backed Heron

8/9 Hancock Co. (8) (BH), 8/10-26 Spring Valley (10) (HC, LG)

Black-crowned Night-Heron

8/21 Darby Marsh (75) (KMo), 8/27 Winton Woods (5) (PG)

plegadis, sp.

11/11 Medusa Marsh (TL*, RH)

Trumpeter Swan

9/16 Metzger Marsh (JP*, LP, photos) [see Records Committee report]

Tundra Swan

10/29 Oak Openings (30) (MA), 10/30 Magee Marsh (19) (KMo), 11/13 Meander Res. (38) (NB, CBa), 11/18 Killdeer Plains (4) (DO), 11/19 Findlay Res. (10) (BH)

Mute Swan

10/23 Mosquito WR (NB)

Snow Goose

10/3 Wilmington Res. (LG), 10/7-15 GLSM (m.ob.), 10/8 Metzger Marsh (KMo), 10/23 Mosquito WR (12) (NB), 11/14 Baldwin Lk. (RH), 11/18 Killdeer Plains (22) (DO), 11/19 Medusa Marsh (2) (KM)

Brant (D: inland only)

11/9-11 Huron (5) (RH, TL, m.ob.), 11/9 Vermillion (TL)

Canada Goose

11/13 CPNWRC (553), 11/18 Killdeer Plains (500) (DO), 11/26 Hancock Co. (207) (BH), 11/27 Darby Marsh (400) (KMo)

Wood Duck

8/21 Darby Marsh (60) (KMo), 8/26 Spring Valley (35) (HC), 9/12 L. Isaac (123) (RH), 10/3 Sheldon's Marsh (60) (BS)

Green-winged Teal

8/18 Medusa Marsh (ETH), 8/21 Darby Marsh (75) (KMo), 8/27 Clark Lk. (DO), 10/1 Sheldon's Marsh (80) (KMo), 10/3 Medusa Marsh (56) (BS), 10/9 CPNWRC (751), 11/13 CPNWRC (1013)

American Black Duck

9/20 Findlay Res. (209) (BH), 11/13 CPNWRC (1505), 11/13 Killdeer Plains (40) (DO), 11/27 Darby Marsh (75) (KMo), 11/29 Wilmington Res. (50) (LG)

Mallard

11/13 CPNWRC (10,389), 11/27 Darby Marsh (700) (KMo), 11/29 Hancock Co. (396) (BH)

Northern Pintail

8/10 Medusa Marsh (ETH), 9/18 Darby Marsh (5) (KMo), 11/13 CPNWRC (249)

Blue-winged Teal

8/21 Darby Marsh (80) (KMo), 9/5 Wilmington Res. (65) (LG), 10/11 Hancock Co. (37) (BH), 11/23 Wilmington Res. (LG)

Northern Shoveler

9/4 Clark Lk. (8) (DO), 10/25 Findlay Res. (6) (BH), 11/27 Darby Marsh (175) (KMo)

Gadwall

11/27 Darby Marsh (125) (KMo), 11/1 Findlay Res. (11) (BH), 11/29 Wilmington Res. (LG)

American Wigeon

9/18 Darby Marsh (75) (KMo), 9/27 Wilmington Res. (8) (LG), 10/9 CPNWRC (18), 10/23 Mosquito WR (15) (NB)

Canvasback

11/6 Buck Creek SP, 11/11 Medusa Marsh (RH), 11/14 Cleveland (TL), 11/14 Mahoning Co. (NB), 11/19 Caesar Creek Lk. (15) (NK), 11/29 Cleveland (TL)

Redhead

10/25 Findlay Res. (32) (BH), 10/30 Buck Creek SP (15) (DO, LG), High: 11/19 Caesar Creek Lk. (500) (NK), 11/27 Darby Marsh (200) (KMo)

Ring-necked Duck

10/25 Wilmington Res. (40) (LG), 10/30 Buck Creek SP (25) (DO)

Greater Scaup

10/25 Bresler Res. (RCu) [only report]

Lesser Scaup

10/6 Wellington Res. (10) (ETH), 10/11 Hancock Co. (201) (BH), 10/29 Buck Creek SP (150) (DO),
11/19 Caesar Creek Lk. (90) (NK)

Harlequin Duck

11/11 Huron (RH, m.ob.)

Oldsquaw

11/11 Huron (6) (RH), 11/19 Huron (2) (KM)

Black Scoter

10/29 Buck Creek SP (2) (DO), 11/19 Huron (KM)

Surf Scoter

10/9 CPNWRC, 11/19 Avon Lake (ETH)

White-winged Scoter

10/17 Bresler Res. (RCu), 11/3 Lorain (ETH), 11/6 Mogadore Res. (LK), 11/19 Huron (KM)

Common Goldeneye

11/3 Bresler Res. (RCu), 11/6 Buck Creek SP (DO) [only reports]

Bufflehead

10/30 CJ Brown (8) (LG), 11/3 Bresler Res. (RCu), High: 11/19 Caesar Creek Lk. (80) (NK),
11/29 Findlay Res. (4) (BH)

Hooded Merganser

11/13 CPNWRC (53), 11/14 Oberlin Res. (150) (ETH), 11/19 Old Woman's Creek (40) (PE), 11/19
Findlay Res. (17) (BH), 11/20 Oberlin Res. (125) (RH)

Common Merganser

11/13 CPNWRC [only report!]

Red-breasted Merganser

11/6 Lorain (10,000) (TL), 11/19 Caesar Creek Lk. (400) (NK), 11/19 Huron (4000) (PE), 11/19
Findlay Res. (135) (BH)

Ruddy Duck

10/5 Ferguson Res. (RCu), 10/9 GLSM (DO), 10/27 Oberlin Res. (400) (ETH), 11/20 Oberlin Res.
(210) (RH)

Black Vulture

8/12 Adams Co. (9) (BL)

Turkey Vulture

10/7 Lucas Co. (100+) (ET), 10/20 Adams Co. (30) (BL), 11/29 Hancock Co. (12) (MD)

Osprey

8/6-7 Old Woman's Creek (ETH, KMo), 9/23 Maumee R. Rapids (3) (TK), 11/6 Buck Creek SP (DO)
[about 26 additional reports statewide]

Bald Eagle

9/17 ONWR (3) (PY), 10/3 Medusa Marsh (3) (BS), 11/13 Meander Res. (NB), 11/13 Killdeer Plains
(DO), 11/26-28 Hueston Woods (m.ob.)

Northern Harrier

Twenty-five individuals reported statewide.

Sharp-shinned Hawk

9/16 Toledo (4) (ET), 11/29 Hancock Co. (5) (BH), decline in SW (HC), [12 additional individuals reported statewide; seems low-Ed.]

Cooper's Hawk

Decline in SW (HC), [28 individuals reported statewide].

Red-shouldered Hawk

Thirteen individuals reported statewide.

Broad-winged Hawk

8/31 Englewood (LG), 9/14 Sheldon's Marsh (ETH), 9/15 Sugarcreek Res. (150) (SU), 9/26 Adams Co. (BL), 9/29 Mill Creek Pk. (NB)

Rough-legged Hawk

10/25 Findlay Res. (BH), 11/13 Killdeer Plains (DO), 11/23 Holmes Co. (PY), 11/24 Wilmington (LG)

Golden Eagle (D)

11/13 Oak Openings (MA*)

Merlin

9/28-11/2 Mosquito Creek (CB*), 10/1-13 Gordon Pk. (TL*, DT), 10/10 GLSM (CM*, SU), 10/12 Maumee R. Rapids (ET)*, 11/19 Peninsula (JM)

Peregrine Falcon

9/24 Possum Creek Res. (CM*, SU, BM), 10/1 Germantown Res. (LG*, SU*, m.ob.), 10/2 Headlands Beach SP (TL*, EE), 10/2 Burke Airport (TL*), 10/30 Edgewater Pk. (TL*), pair continues in downtown Toledo (MA).

Ruffed Grouse

10/7 CVNRA (JM) [only report]

Northern Bobwhite

8/12 Killbuck Marsh (ETH), 9/10 Spring Valley (25) (NK), 11/22 Holmes Co. (7) (PY), down in Clermont Co. (PG).

Sora

8/27 Mahoning Co. (5) (NB), 9/10 ONWR (KM), 9/26 Spring Valley (HC)

Common Moorhen

8/2 Spencer Lake (Medina Co.) (nested) (ETH), 8/3-9/21 Spring Valley (HC, LG), 8/21 Darby Marsh (KMo), 8/27 Mahoning Co. (NB)

American Coot

9/26 Medusa Marsh (500) (ETH), 10/8 ONWR (150) (KMo), 10/11 Findlay Res. (218) (BH), 10/27-11/29 Wilmington Res. (100+) (LG), 10/29 Hueston Woods (350) (NK), 10/29 Buck Creek SP (300) (DO), 11/27 E. Fork Lake (100+) (PG)

Sandhill Crane

11/17 Oak Openings (30) (SH), 11/21 Dayton area (338) [wow!-Ed.] (m.ob.)

Black-bellied Plover

8/18 Hoover Res. (3) (KM), 8/28 Buck Creek SP (DO, LG), 9/17 ONWR (PY), 11/6-11 Willow Pt. WA (15-20) (MA, RH), 11/25 GLSM (DD)

Lesser Golden-Plover

8/21 Darby Marsh (KMo), 9/5 Buck Creek SP (DO), 10/9 Brukner NC (75) (GL), 10/9 Maumee R. Rapids (45) (TK), 11/6-11 Willow Pt. WA (MA, RH), 11/19 Cleveland (KM)

Semipalmated Plover

8/6 Clark Lk. (DO), 8/13 Hoover Res. (5) (LG), 8/21 Darby Marsh (50) (KMo), 8/28 Gordon Pk. (9) (TL), 9/17 Metzger Marsh (PY), 9/20 Findlay Res. (19) (BH)

Piping Plover (D)

8/4 Gordon Park (fide Cleveland Bird Calendar)

Killdeer

8/8 Maumee R. Rapids (344) (TK), 8/27 Hoover Res. (150+) (KM), 8/31 Whitehouse (125) (MA), 10/4 Hancock Co. (55) (BH)

American Avocet

8/29 Metzger Marsh (DD)

Greater Yellowlegs

8/8 Maumee R. Rapids (15) (TK), 8/21 Darby Marsh (20) (KMo), 10/11 Hancock Co. (5) (BH), 11/10 Metzger Marsh (ET), 11/25 GLSM (DD)

Lesser Yellowlegs

8/8 Maumee R. Rapids (84) (TK), 8/21 Darby Marsh (130) (KMo), 8/28 Hoover Res. (31) (KM), 8/28 Gordon Pk. (125) (TL), 11/1 Hancock Co. (4) (BH), 11/10 Metzger Marsh (ET)

Solitary Sandpiper

8/2 Hancock co. (14) (BH), 8/3 Spring Valley (3) (LG), 8/8 Maumee R. Rapids (?) (TK), 9/27 Findlay Res. (4) (BH)

Willet

8/22 Englewood Res. (MN, PK), 9/4 Ferguson Res. (RCu), 9/14 Cedar Point (ETH)

Spotted Sandpiper

8/2 Findlay Res. (18) (BH), 8/8 Maumee R. Rapids (30) (TK), 8/28 Hoover Res. (6) (KM), 10/15 Buck Creek SP (DO)

Upland Sandpiper

8/29 Germantown Res. (DN) [only report]

Whimbrel

8/2 Metzger Marsh (ETH), 9/27 Sheldon's Marsh (PE)

Hudsonian Godwit

10/1-9 ONWR (5-7) (DD)

Marbled Godwit

9/14 Cedar Point (ETH), 10/2 Maumee R. Rapids (TK, MA), 10/3 Medusa Marsh (BS)

Ruddy Turnstone

8/7 Buck Creek SP (DO), 8/16 Findlay Res. (BH), 8/21 Darby Marsh (3) (KMo), 8/28 Hoover Res. (KM), 9/15 Metzger Marsh (ETH), 11/17-19 Huron (m.ob.)

Red Knot

8/10 Medusa Marsh (2) (ETH), 8/29-10/8 Metzger Marsh (2) (m.ob.), 8/30 Gordon Pk. (RH), 9/4 Englewood Res. (CLC), 10/5-12 Ferguson Res. (RCu)

Sanderling

8/19 Hoover Res. (KM), 8/30 Headlands Beach (10) (NB), 9/5 Buck Creek SP (DO), 9/6 Medusa Marsh (ETH), 10/3 Huron (3) (TL), 10/5-12 Ferguson Res. (RCu), 10/30 Metzger Marsh (2) (KMo)

Semipalmated Sandpiper

8/8 Maumee R. Rapids (16) (TK), 8/13 Hoover Res. (10) (LG), 8/21 Darby Marsh (100) (KMo), 8/30 Gordon Pk. (125) (TL), 9/5 Buck Creek SP (15) (DO)

Western Sandpiper

8/18 Hoover Res. (KM), 8/30 Gordon Pk. (RH), 9/11 Ferguson Res. (RCu), 9/30 Maumee R. Rapids (TK), 10/30 Metzger Marsh (2) (KMo)

Least Sandpiper

8/8 Maumee R. Rapids (24) (TK), 8/21 Darby Marsh (150) (KMo), 8/28 Clark Lake (12) (DO), 10/18 Findlay Res. (BH), 11/9 CJ Brown (3) (LG), 11/10 Willow Pt. WA (TK)

White-rumped Sandpiper

9/18 Ferguson Res. (RCu), 10/4 Findlay Res. (BH)

Baird's Sandpiper

8/8 Maumee R. Rapids (TK), 8/24 Englewood Res. (CBB), 8/27 Gordon Pk. (6) (RH), 8/27-9/21 Spring Valley (LG), 8/27 Hoover Res. (4) (KM), 10/2 Maumee R. Rapids (MA), 10/20-31 Beaver Creek Res. (2) (TB)

Pectoral Sandpiper

8/19 Hoover Res. (40) (KM), 8/21 Darby Marsh (45) (KMo), 8/22 Maumee R. Rapids (150) (TK), 10/26 Spring Valley (40) (LG), 11/10 Metzger Marsh (ET)

Purple Sandpiper (D: inland only)

11/11 Huron (m.ob.), 11/12 GLSM (GL*, LW*), 11/13 Mentor Headlands (2) (PE)

Dunlin

8/10 Medusa Marsh (ETH), 8/27 Gordon Pk. (RH), 9/25 Ferguson Res. (RCu), 11/11 Metzger Marsh (150+) (JSt), 11/12 ONWR (200-300) (PY), 11/26 Sheldon's Marsh (60) (KMo)

Stilt Sandpiper

8/8 Maumee R. Rapids (2) (TK), 8/28 Hoover Res. (14) (KM), 9/7-13 Englewood Res. (m.ob.), 9/28 Ferguson Res. (RCu), 10/2 ONWR (35) (DD), 10/9 GLSM (DO)

Buff-breasted Sandpiper

Early: 7/31 Hoover Res. (KM), 8/22 Lucas Co. (TK), 8/27 Gordon Pk. (RH, TL), 9/24 Buck Creek SP (DO)

Short-billed Dowitcher

8/1 Killdeer Plains (ETH), 8/21 Darby Marsh (225) (KMo), 8/27 Buck Creek SP (DO)

Long-billed Dowitcher

Early: 8/20 Hoover Res. (2) (KM), 10/8 Buck Creek SP (DO), 10/9 Maumee R. Rapids (TK), 10/18 Beaver Creek Res. (TB), 11/12 ONWR (PY)

Common Snipe

9/10 Metzger Marsh (23) (KM), 10/3 Medusa Marsh (43) (BS), 11/11 Willow Pt. WA (20) (RH)

American Woodcock

11/1 Cincinnati (AW), 11/12 DG Gardens (RH)

Wilson's Phalarope

8/17 Maumee R. Rapids (TK), 8/17 Spring Valley (LG), 8/20 Gordon Pk. (RH), 8/24 Hoover Res. (KM), 8/29 Metzger Marsh (2) (DD), 9/3 Englewood Res. (m.ob.), 9/22 Sheldon's Marsh (ETH), 10/2 GLSM (DD)

Red Phalarope

11/4-7 Cleveland (2) (m.ob.), 11/6 Pymatuning Lk. (RH), 11/19 Cleveland (KM)

Pomarine Jaeger (D)

11/11 Huron (RH), TL reports 7 sightings between 11/11 and 11/30 along L. Erie (m.ob).

Parasitic Jaeger (D)

11/6 CJ Brown (TB*, m.ob.), 11/19 Huron (KM)

Laughing Gull

10/31 Lorain (ETH)

Franklin's Gull

9/24 Buck Creek SP (DO), 10/20 CJ Brown (LG, DO), 10/29 GLSM (CLC), 10/30-11/13 Bayshore (TK), 11/1 Lorain (TL), 11/15 Huron (PE), 11/20 Lorain (RH, TL)

Little Gull (D: inland only)

11/28 Cleveland (TL)

Bonaparte's Gull

11/5 Ottawa Co. (1750) (KMo), 11/13 Bayshore (3000) (TK), 11/26 Buck Creek SP (300) (DO)

Thayer's Gull (D: inland only)

11/19 Lorain (ETH)

Lesser Black-backed Gull (D: inland only)

8/17-11/19 Maumee R. Rapids (TK)*, 9/15 Metzger Marsh (ETH), 10/8 Mentor Headlands (TL), 11/2 Eastlake (PE), 11/6 Lorain (3) (TL), 11/19 Huntington Beach (TL), 11/19 Lorain (KM)

Great Black-backed Gull

8/10 Sheldon's Marsh (ETH)

Sabine's Gull (D)

11/4-6 Cleveland (TL, RH, LK)

Caspian Tern

8/20 Grand Rapids (26) (TK), 9/10 Huron (31) (KM), 9/13 Findlay Res. (4) (BH), 9/14 Sheldon's Marsh (45) (ETH), 9/24 Buck Creek SP (3) (DO), 10/3 Medusa Marsh (20) (BS)

Common Tern

9/7 Mentor Headlands (55) (TL), 10/8 Metzger Marsh (70) (KMo), 10/30 Bayshore (300) (TK), 11/24 Cleveland (KM)

Forster's Tern

8/18 Hoover Res. (KM), 8/21 Darby Marsh (50) (KMo), 8/29 ONWR (300+) (DD), 9/5 Buck Creek SP (20) (DO), 9/14 Cedar Point (150) (ETH), 10/4 Port Clinton (175+) (BS), 10/13 Maumee R. Rapids (ET)

Black Tern

8/21 Buck Creek SP (6) (DO), 8/31 Hoover Res. (KM), 9/4 Gordon Pk. (20) (TL), 9/13 Findlay Res. (BH), 9/14 Cedar Point (8) (ETH)

Black-billed Cuckoo

8/27 Mahoning Co. (NB), 9/10 Magee Marsh (KM), 9/11 CPNWRC, 9/13 Tinkers Creek SP (TL), 9/22 Waterville (ET)

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

8/6 Clark Lake (DC), 9/6 East Harbor (ETH), 9/7 Englewood Res. (feeding young) (LG), 9/10 Holmes Co. (PY), 9/11 CPNWRC (6), 9/22 Cincinnati (HC), 10/9 Magee Marsh (KMo)

Common Barn-Owl

8/24 Hancock Co. (YM)

Long-eared Owl

8/26 DG Gardens (fide Cleveland Bird Calendar)

Short-eared Owl

10/3 Huron (TL), 10/16 Sheldon's Marsh (PE)

Northern Saw-whet Owl

10/25 Oak Openings (MA)

Common Nighthawk

8/25 Englewood (158) (CBB), High: 8/27 Shaker Lakes (1190) (VF), 8/27 Magee Marsh (288) (JSt), 8/28 Hamilton Co. (several hundred) (BAM), 8/31 Waterville (300) (ET), 8/31 Baldwin Lk. (500) (RH), 9/1 Cleveland (195) (TL), 9/4 Cincinnati (200+) (BS), 10/9 Cincinnati (3) (HC) [see Records Committee report for a late nighthawk on 11/13 in Dayton].

Whip-poor-will

8/3 Adams Co. (BL), 9/17 Adams Co. (BL)

Chimney Swift

8/31 Englewood Res. (150) (LG), 9/6 Cincinnati (250+) (BS), 10/23 Gordon Pk. (RH)

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

8/20 Oak Openings (22) (TK, MA), 8/26 Spring Valley (19) (HC), 9/7 Englewood Res. (5) (LG), 9/10 Spring Valley (10) (NK), 9/16 Adams Co. (BL), Late: 11/2 Hamilton Co. (AW)

Red-headed Woodpecker

8/21 Darby Marsh (5) (KMo), 9/27 Mill Creek Pk. (5) (NB)

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

9/18 Buck Creek SP (DO), 9/21 Lima (RCu), 9/24 Gilmore Ponds (JB), 9/27 Mill Creek Pk. (NB), 10/8 Sheldon's Marsh (ETH), 10/9 CPNWRC (6), 11/18 Cincinnati (2) (HC)

Olive-sided Flycatcher

8/26 Spring Valley (HC), 8/26 Adams Co. (BL), 8/29 CJ Brown (CLC), 8/30 Maumee R. Rapids (ET), 9/11 CPNWRC

Eastern Wood-Pewee

8/26 Waterville (11) (ET), 8/26 Spring Valley (12) (HC), 9/27 Findlay Res. (BH), 9/28 Adams Co. (BL), 10/3 Hamilton Co. (NK), Late: 10/23 Summit Co. (LK)

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher

8/18 DG Gardens (RH), 8/26 Spring Valley (HC), 9/3 Parma Hts. (RH)

Willow Flycatcher

8/8 Spencer WA (Medina Co.) (ETH), 8/21 Buck Creek SP (DO), 9/13 Hancock Co. (m.ob.), 9/14 Spring Valley (LG)

Least Flycatcher

8/27 Cincinnati (HC), 9/21 Hancock Co. (m.ob.)

Eastern Phoebe

10/19 Lima (RCu), 10/23 Adams Co. (BL), 10/26 Niles (CBa)

Great Crested Flycatcher

8/26 Spring Valley (HC), 9/5 Adams Co. (BL), 9/6 Hancock Co. (m.ob.)

Eastern Kingbird

8/21 Darby Marsh (15) (KMo), 8/26 Spring Valley (3) (HC), 8/29 Adams Co. (9) (BL), 9/8 Lucas Co. (8) (TK)

Purple Martin

8/3 Dayton (300) (CM), 9/4 Buck Creek SP (DO), decline in Cincinnati area (HC).

Tree Swallow

9/28 Sheldon's Marsh (1000) (ETH), 10/1 Spring Valley (200) (NK), 10/9 GLSM (30) (DO)

Northern Rough-winged Swallow

8/21 Darby Marsh (60) (KMo), 9/5 Clark Lake (10) (DO), High: 9/25 Waterville (600) (TK, ED)

Bank Swallow

8/21 Ottawa Co. (1700) (KMo), 8/27 Buck Creek SP (300) (DO)

Cliff Swallow

8/13 Hoover Res. (40 nests) (LG), 8/21 Buck Creek SP (5) (DO), 8/27 Gordon Pk. (RH), 9/13 Findlay Res. (BH), 9/17 Lime Lakes (LK)

Barn Swallow

8/9 Hancock Co. (80) (BH), 8/11 Adams Co. (102) (BL), 8/14 CPNWRC (54), 8/21 Darby Marsh (50) (KMo), 10/9 GLSM (5) (DO)

American Crow

11/16 Oak Openings (3500) (TK), 11/30 Lorain Co. (200) (ETH)

Red-breasted Nuthatch

8/30 Waterville (ET), 8/30 Adams Co. (BL), 9/13 Niles (CBa), 10/4 Crane Creek (BS), 10/8 Englewood Res. (LG), 10/8 Sheldon's Marsh (ETH), 10/17 Adams Co. (BL)

Brown Creeper

10/2 Holmes Co. (PY), 10/9 Buck Creek SP (DO), 10/18 Hancock Co. (4) (BH), "Excellent numbers" (ET).

House Wren

10/7 Cincinnati (HC), 10/14 Mill Creek Pk. (NB), 10/25 Findlay Res. (BH)

Winter Wren

10/3 Cincinnati (2) (HC), 10/4 Hancock Co. (2) (m.ob.), 10/8 Englewood Res. (LG), 10/22 Buck Creek SP (DO), 10/29 DG Gardens (3) (LK)

Sedge Wren

9/11 CPNWRC, 10/9 CPNWRC

Marsh Wren

8/6 Buck Creek SP (DO), 8/14 CPNWRC, 9/29 Gordon Pk. (3) (TL)

Golden-crowned Kinglet

10/1 Germantown Res. (LG), 10/2 Killdeer Plains (DO), 10/4 Crane Creek (71) (BS), 10/25 Hancock Co. (12) (BH)

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Early: 8/28 Holmes Co. (PY), 8/31 Englewood Res. (LG), 10/4 Crane Creek (12) (BS), 10/8 Hamilton Co. (9) (NK), 10/9 CPNWRC (15), 10/15 Buck Creek SP (8) (DO), down in NW Ohio (ET).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

9/2 Cincinnati (HC), 9/5 Buck Creek SP (DO)

Veery

9/10 Spring Valley (NK), 9/16 Adams Co. (3L), 9/16 Cincinnati (HC), 10/2 Lake Cowan (LG), 10/3 Sheldon's Marsh (ETH)

Gray-cheeked Thrush

9/18 Buck Creek SP (DO), 10/13 Cincinnati (3) (HC)

Swainson's Thrush

8/2 L. Isaac (RH), 8/26 Huffman Res. (CM), 8/27 Clark Lake (DO), 9/5 Holmes Co. (PY), 9/10 Cincinnati (30) (HC), 9/24 Mill Creek Pk. (NB)

Hermit Thrush

10/3 Sheldon's Marsh (10) (ETh), 10/15 Buck Creek SP (4) (DO), 10/20 Cincinnati (HC), 10/25 Niles (CBa)

Wood Thrush

9/24 Cincinnati (HC), 9/25 Holmes Co. (PY), 10/1 Germantown Res. (LG), 10/13 Lima (RCu)

American Robin

October Cincinnati (2000+ roost) (BS)

Gray Catbird

9/29 Cincinnati (4) (HC), 10/7 CVNRA (JM), 10/30 Buck Creek SP (DO), down in NW Ohio (ET).

Brown Thrasher

9/7 Cincinnati (7) (HC), 9/18 Darby Marsh (KMo), 9/24 Mill Creek Pk. (NB), 9/24 Buck Creek SP (DO), 10/29 DG Gardens (LK), down in NW Ohio (ET).

Water Pipit

9/17 Gordon Pk. (4) (TL), 9/24 Buck Creek SP (DO), 10/2 Whitehouse (4) (MA), 10/8 Hoover Res. (6) (KM), 10/18 Findlay Res. (15) (BH), 10/23 Mosquito WR (2) (NB), 10/26 Spring Valley (2) (LG)

Cedar Waxwing

9/4 Buck Creek SP (50) (DO), 11/5 E. Fork Lake (200) (NK), 11/13 Meander Res. (70) (NB, CBa), 11/21 Whitehouse (290) (TK)

shrike, sp.

11/24 Gordon Park (KM)

White-eyed Vireo

8/26 Spring Valley (HC), 9/8 Adams Co. (BL), 9/9 Holmes Co. (PY), 9/13 Hancock Co. (2) (m.ob.)

Solitary Vireo

10/8 DG Gardens (TL), 10/8 Aullwood (LG), 10/9 CPNWRC, 10/20 Parma Hts. (RH)

Yellow-throated Vireo

9/4 Jefferson Co. (NB), 9/10 Buck Creek SP (DO), 9/10 CVNRA (DAC), 9/14 Spring Valley (LG),
Late: 10/15 Niles (CBa)

Warbling Vireo

8/26 Spring Valley (6) (HC), 9/4 Jefferson Co. (NB), 9/7 Englewood Res. (LG), 9/10 Magee Marsh (KM)

Philadelphia Vireo

9/8 Cincinnati (HC), 9/18 Buck Creek SP (DO), 9/24 Mill Creek Pk. (NB), 9/25 Headlands SP (TL), 9/29 Waterville (ET)

Red-eyed Vireo

9/10 Cincinnati (HC), 9/11 Buck Creek SP (4) (DO), 9/25 Hamilton Co. (NK), 10/1 Germantown Res. (LG)

Blue-winged Warbler

9/1 Cincinnati (HC), 9/3 Firestone MP (LK), 9/4 Buck Creek SP (DO), 9/21 Spring Valley (LG)

Golden-winged Warbler

8/29 Englewood Res. (6) [!-Ed.] (CB), 9/1 Crane Creek (PE), 9/8 Cincinnati (HC), 9/10 Toledo (ET)

Tennessee Warbler

8/19 Lorain (ETh), 8/20 Waterville (ET), 8/31 Adams Co. (BL), 9/3 Buck Creek SP (DO), 10/8 Mill Creek Pk. (NB), 10/11 Cincinnati (HC)

Orange-crowned Warbler

10/3 Hamilton Co. (NK), 10/19 Waterville (ET), 11/4 Shaker Lakes (VF), Late: 11/23 Cincinnati (HC)

Nashville Warbler

9/6 Adams Co. (BL), 9/7 Englewood Res. (LG), 9/27 Hancock Co. (9) (m.ob.), 10/3 Cincinnati (decline this fall) (HC), 10/7 CVNRA (DAC), 10/8 Mill Creek Pk. (NB), 10/22 Aullwood (2) (m.ob.)

Northern Parula

9/17-18 Sims Park (singing!) (RH), 9/20 Lima (RCu)

Yellow Warbler

Late: 11/12 Gordon Pk. (RH)

Chestnut-sided Warbler

8/26 Huffman Res. (CM), 8/28 Buck Creek SP (DO), 8/29 Cincinnati (HC), 8/29 Lima (RCu), 9/25 Hamilton Co. (NK)

Magnolia Warbler

8/20 Waterville (ET), 8/21 Darby Marsh (KMo), 9/2 Cincinnati (8) (HC), 9/18 Darby Marsh (10) (KMo), 9/25 Hamilton Co. (8) (NK), 10/9 CVNRA (JM), 10/11 Hancock Co. (3) (m.ob.)

Cape May Warbler

Early: 8/4 Lake Cowan (LG), 8/16 Waterville (ET), 8/29 Adams Co. (BL), 9/10 Cincinnati (HC), 9/24 Buck Creek SP (DO), 9/29 Niles (CBa), 10/9 Northfield (DAC)

Black-throated Blue Warbler

9/2 Cincinnati (HC), 9/7 Lorain Co. (ETh), 9/13 Lima (RCu), 9/14 Mill Creek Pk. (NB), 9/25 Hamilton Co. (NK)

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Early: 8/20 Sims Pk. (RH), 9/3 Adams Co. (BL), 9/10 Mill Creek Pk. (NB), 9/14 Spring Valley (LG), 9/24 Cincinnati (HC), 10/11 Hancock Co. (68) (m.ob.)

Black-throated Green Warbler

8/28 Holmes Co. (PY), 8/31 Adams Co. (BL), 9/25 Hamilton Co. (11) (NK), 10/23 Holmes Co. (PY), Late: 11/4 Shaker Lakes (VF)

Blackburnian Warbler

Early: 8/2 Hancock Co. (BH), 8/20 Waterville (12) (ET), 8/20 Niles (CBa), 8/29 Adams Co. (BL), 10/8 Aullwood (LG), Late: 11/1 Hancock Co. (BH)

Yellow-throated Warbler

8/3 Mill Creek Pk. (very unusual) (NB), 9/8 Adams Co. (BL), 9/21 Spring Valley (LG)

Pine Warbler

9/6 Hancock Co. (m.ob.), 9/10 Spring Valley (NK), 9/11 CPNWRC, 9/17 Sims Pk. (RH), 10/17 Adams Co. (BL)

Prairie Warbler

9/3 Hamilton Co. (NK), 9/8 Adams Co. (BL)

Palm Warbler

9/10 Adams Co. (BL), 9/11 CPNWRC, 9/14 Sheldon's Marsh (ETH), 9/24 Cincinnati (decline) (HC), 10/8 Adams Co. (BL)

Bay-breasted Warbler

8/28 Buck Creek SP (DO), 9/16 Cincinnati (6) (HC), 9/25 Hamilton Co. (14) (NK), 10/9 CVNRA (JM), 10/18 Hancock Co. (BH), 10/19 Waterville (ET)

Blackpoll Warbler

9/11 Aullwood (DO), 9/18 Darby Marsh (6) (KMo), 10/8 Holmes Co. (PY), "Excellent numbers" (RH)

Cerulean Warbler

9/7 Cincinnati (HC)

Black-and-white Warbler

8/7 Spring Valley (LG), 8/14 Buck Creek SP (DO), 8/24 CVNRA (DAC), 9/29 Cincinnati (HC), 10/25 Wilmington Res. (LG)

American Redstart

8/24 CVNRA (DAC), 8/28 Buck Creek SP (DO), 9/2 Cincinnati (16) (HC), 9/11 CPNWRC (5), 10/18 Hancock Co. (BH), "Lowest numbers in my memory" (ET).

Prothonotary Warbler

8/24 CVNRA (DAC)

Worm-eating Warbler

8/29 Cincinnati (HC)

Ovenbird

9/3 Buck Creek SP (DO), 9/11 CPNWRC, 9/16 Cincinnati (5) (HC), 10/1 Germantown Res. (LG), 10/18 Niles (CBa)

Northern Waterthrush

9/10 Magee Marsh (4) (KM), 9/22 Sheldon's Marsh (ETH)

Louisiana Waterthrush

8/27 Spring Valley (LG)

Kentucky Warbler

8/3 Holmes Co. (PY), 8/31 (Parma) (fide CBC), 9/1 Sims Park (TL), 9/11 CPNWRC

Connecticut Warbler

8/27 Gordon Pk. (RH), 9/9 Strongsville (RH), 9/10 Magee Marsh (KM), 9/14 Mentor Headlands (VF)

Mourning Warbler

8/20 Springville Marsh (TB)

Common Yellowthroat

9/24 Buck Creek SP (DO), 9/26 Spring Valley (9) (HC), 10/30 Magee Marsh (KMo)

Hooded Warbler

8/12 Spencer WA (ETH), 9/25 Holmes Co. (PY)

Wilson's Warbler

8/25 Cincinnati (HC), 9/7 Holmes Co. (PY), 9/11 CPNWRC, 9/22 Sheldon's Marsh (ETH), 9/27 Hancock Co. (m.ob.), 10/4 Adams Co. (BL)

Canada Warbler

8/17 Dayton (SU), 8/30 Lima (RCu), 9/1 Cincinnati (HC), 9/10 Holmes Co. (PY), 9/11 Aullwood (DO), 9/14 Sheldon's Marsh

Summer Tanager

9/8 Cincinnati (HC), 9/14 Adams Co. (BL), 9/18 Lake Cowan (LG)

Scarlet Tanager

9/11 Fort Ancient (LG), 9/19 Akron (LK), 9/26 Spring Valley (HC)

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

8/7 Buck Creek SP (DO), 9/24 Mill Creek Pk. (3) (NB), 9/24 Cincinnati (4) (HC), 10/2 Adams Co. (BL)

Blue Grosbeak

8/30 Adams Co. (BL)

Indigo Bunting

9/24 Buck Creek SP (5) (DO), 9/26 Spring Valley (4-a pronounced decline from 1987) (HC), 10/8 Aullwood (LG)

Dickcissel

8/1 Killdeer Plains (ETH)

Rufous-sided Towhee

11/26 Hamilton Co. (16) (NK)

American Tree Sparrow

10/23 Caesar's Creek (LG), 11/12 Buck Creek SP (DO), 11/19 Holmes Co. (PY), 11/23 Cincinnati (HC), 11/27 Darby Marsh (45) (KMo)

Chipping Sparrow

10/9 Adams Co. (40) (BL), 10/27 Cincinnati (HC), 11/20 Waterville (ET)

Vesper Sparrow

9/18 Buck Creek SP (DO), 10/4 Hancock Co. (3) (m.ob.)

Savannah Sparrow

9/3 Big Island WA (12) (KM), 9/27 Findlay Res. (BH), 10/2 Killdeer Plains (4) (DO), 11/9 CJ Brown (LG)

Henslow's Sparrow

8/10 E. Fork Lake (PG)

LeConte's Sparrow

11/9 Sheldon's Marsh (TL)

Fox Sparrow

10/10 Oak Openings (MA), 10/30 Magee Marsh (KMo), 11/1 Germantown Res. (7) (fide JS), 11/6 Spring Valley (LG), 11/13 CPNWRC, 11/15 Hancock Co. (10) (BH), 11/27 E. Fork Lake (several) (PG)

Song Sparrow

11/26 Hamilton Co. (95) (NK)

Lincoln's Sparrow

9/10 Magee Marsh (KM), 10/9 Holmes Co. (PY), 10/9 CPNWRC (6), 10/15 Buck Creek SP (DO), 10/30 Magee Marsh (KMo)

Swamp Sparrow

10/9 CPNWRC (21)

White-throated Sparrow

9/24 Buck Creek SP (DO), 9/29 Niles (CBa), 10/9 CPNWRC (186), 10/22 Cincinnati (30) (HC), 11/8 Hancock Co. (25) (m.ob.), lower than usual (ET).

White-crowned Sparrow

9/26 Sheldon's Marsh (ETH), 10/9 CPNWRC (34), 11/5 E. Fork Lake (10) (NK), 11/20 Gordon Park (100+) (TL), 11/24 Wilmington (25) (LG)

Dark-eyed Junco

9/24 DG Gardens (LK), 9/28 Hamilton Co. (NK), 10/8 Holmes Co. (PY), 11/20 Gordon Park (350) (TL)

Lapland Longspur

11/12 Gordon Pk. (8) (RH) [only report]

Snow Bunting

11/3 Lorain (35) (ETH), 11/6 CJ Brown (7) (TB), 11/10 Willow Pt. WA (25) (TK), 11/26 Findlay Res. (156) (BH), 11/27 Buck Creek SP (DO), "good numbers early Nov." (TL).

Bobolink

8/20 ONWR (dozens) (ET)

Red-winged Blackbird

9/11 CPNWRC (1500), 10/23 Buck Creek SP (200) (DO)

Western Meadowlark

8/29 Maumee Bay SP (singing) (DD)

Yellow-headed Blackbird

10/30 Springville Marsh (2) (TB)

Rusty Blackbird

10/16 Caesar's Creek/Spring Valley (30) (DO), 10/30 Magee Marsh (40) (KMo), 11/1 Hancock Co. (284) (BH), 11/6 Spring Valley (150) (LG), 11/7 Waterville (50) (ET)

Brewer's Blackbird

11/10 Lucas Co. (6) (ET)*

Common Grackle

8/19 Adams Co. (1100) (BL), 10/18 Hancock Co. (665) (BH)

Brown-headed Cowbird

8/27 Clark Lake (50) (DO), 10/18 Hancock Co. (256) (BH)

Orchard Oriole

8/2 L. Isaac (RH)

Northern Oriole

8/21 Darby Marsh (12) (KMo), 8/26 Waterville (9) (ET), 9/2 Cincinnati (HC), Late: 11/24 (CB*, BB, MN)

Purple Finch

Early: 9/6 Hancock Co. (3H), 10/15 Niles (CBa), 10/16 Adams Co. (BL), 10/23 Buck Creek SP (DO), 11/18 Wilmington (LG), 11/19 Canfield (NB)

Pine Siskin

11/1 Lorain (ETH), 11/4 L. Isaac (RH)

Evening Grosbeak

9/18 Aullwood (JS), 9/27 Hancock Co. (m.ob.)

EXOTICS

Ruddy Shelduck 8/31-10/8 Englewood Res.

The following species elicited few, if any, comments from reporters concerning change of status within the state.

Red-tailed Hawk	E. Screech-Owl	Pileated Woodpecker	White-breasted Nuthatch
American Kestrel	Great Horned Owl	Northern Flicker	Carolina Wren
Ring-necked Pheasant	Barred Owl	Horned Lark	Eastern Bluebird
Ring-billed Gull	Belted Kingfisher	Blue Jay	Field Sparrow
Herring Gull	Red-bellied Woodpecker	Black-capped Chickadee	Eastern Meadowlark
Rock Dove	Downy Woodpecker	Carolina Chickadee	American Goldfinch
Mourning Dove	Hairy Woodpecker	Tufted Titmouse	House Finch
			House Sparrow

ADDENDA/CORRIGENDA

Sightings received too late for inclusion in the Summer Report included a pair of Winter wrens feeding young in the CVNRA in June (JM). The correct county for Barberton is Summit. Sightings attributed to (KM) in Vol. 11 (4) should be attributed to (KMo). Please delete the Long-toed stint reference from Vol. 11(4):18. The bird was reported only as an "odd peep" and never specifically as a Long-toed stint.

A Sabine's gull seen by many observers in January in Cleveland may be the first mid-winter record for North America. Details will be published in the next issue of THE OHIO CARDINAL.

Tom Bartlett of Tiffin has joined the Ohio Cardinal Records Committee. Tom has long been active in Ohio ornithology and is an ardent and experienced field birder. Tom was one of the mainstays of the recently completed Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas. He has compiled an Ohio bird list of over 300 species and a North American list of well over 600 species. We welcome him as a member of the records committee.

Report of the Records Committee, Fall 1988

The Ohio Cardinal Records Committee (OCRC) received 36 documentations of 34 separate birds during Fall 1988. The OCRC accepted 24 of the 36 documentations; they are reported elsewhere in the issue. In the 12 other cases we were either unable to verify the sightings reported from the descriptions provided, or have other comments. Those sightings are as follows:

Red-throated Loon - Bresler Reservoir 11-3. Description incomplete, sketchy, size comparison unreliable with no Common Loon present. (Not seen very well? Description states "wanted to get a better look, but couldn't wait..." etc.)

Red-necked Grebe - Bresler Reservoir 11-3. Not clear whether size comparison with other grebe was actually possible; plumage description includes some inconsistencies.

Western Grebe - Bresler Reservoir 11-23. Sketchy description. Insufficient detail and precision for such a rare species; does not rule out Red-necked Grebe or even loons.

Trumpeter Swan - Metzger Marsh, 9-16. Accept as Trumpeter Swan. Was it a wild bird or an escape?

Goshawk - Findlay, 11-22. Description does not rule out Cooper's Hawk or even an immature Red-tailed.

Merlin - w. of Lima, 11-23. Description incomplete. Shape of bird not given, description does not establish that bird was a raptor.

Purple Sandpiper - Ferguson Reservoir, 9-4. Very brief, sketchy description of a rare bird in an unlikely place on a very unlikely date. Beak size, shape & color not mentioned.

Little Stint - Willow Pt. Wildlife Area, 11-1, 2. A very detailed, well-documented sighting. However, since this old-world species has not been recorded in Ohio previously, we can only relegate this sighting to *hypothetical* status. Small Stints are notoriously difficult to identify, and acceptance of this record would require the submission of a specimen, or photographs of the bird in the hand.

Sabine's Gull - Ferguson Reservoir, 10-12. Location of triangular wing pattern not stated, head pattern doesn't fit; does not conclusively rule out Bonaparte's.

Common Nighthawk - Dayton 11-13. Accept as Nighthawk *sp.* Especially on such an unusually late date, the Lesser Nighthawk is also possible.

Northern Raven (8 birds) - Ferguson Reservoir, 10-12. Brief, sketchy description that does not mention beak size or throat feathers; crows apparently were not present for direct comparison. Ravens not reliably reported in Ohio in this century. Extremely unlikely location for a first sighting, far removed from the Raven's existing range.

Varied Thrush - CR 205 at Blanchard R, 11-1. Puzzling description, fitting Varied Thrush in some particulars (eyestripe, wingbars) but not others (white tail band, "like a Kingbird"). Committee is not convinced the bird was a Varied Thrush.

BACHMAN'S SPARROW IN OHIO

Robert Harlan

The history of the Bachman's Sparrow in Ohio presents an intriguing study in avian distribution. However, to comprehend the nature of this distribution in our area, one must first examine the accounts of the Bachman's Sparrow from its ancestral range, the southeastern United States.

The Bachman's Sparrow was first discovered by John Bachman along the Edisto River near Charleston, South Carolina in April, 1832. Bachman's friend, John James Audubon, collected several specimens and named this newly described species after its discoverer (Hardin, 1983). It seems likely that for a nesting species to remain completely undiscovered near a major city such as Charleston, the species in question must have been either difficult to identify or present in very small numbers. Most likely, both conditions held true at the time.

The Bachman's Sparrow is notoriously shy, seldom providing good views. While the song is quite notable, one must remember that the species was unknown at the time, and the song could have been passed off as that of another species emitting a variation on a more typical song. In fact, Bachman believed that in the past he may have mistaken what he now recognized as the Bachman's Sparrow song for a vocalization of the Rufous-sided Towhee (Weston, 1968).

Also, the prevailing vegetational conditions limited the number of Bachman's Sparrows. At the time, virgin pine forests covered much of the southeastern United States. According to Weston (1968), "So close and dense was this growth that there was little or no underbrush and the ground was bare except for a clean mat of pine needles. The only cover or food available for ground-ranging birds was along the infrequent edges." Slowly, however, the substantial logging industry opened up these areas, creating considerable second growth and edge habitats. As this situation widened, the door was opened for the Bachman's Sparrow population explosion of the late 1800's and early 1900's.

With these newly created habitat corridors, the Bachman's Sparrow was able to expand into previously unsuitable areas. Weston (1968) states "There can be no doubt of the almost explosive increase in numbers because, before the close of the nineteenth century, Bachman's Sparrow had become so common throughout the southeast that it had to expand into areas that had never known it before--Tennessee, Kentucky, West Virginia, and even southern Ohio and southwestern Pennsylvania." Indiana's first Bachman's Sparrow was found in 1871 (Butler, 1898), followed by Ohio's, taken near South Webster, Scioto County in 1897 (Brooks, 1938), then by West Virginia's in 1903 (Hall, 1983), and by Pennsylvania's in 1910 (Todd, 1940). Based on this information, Brooks (1938) hypothesized that the Bachman's Sparrow invaded our area ". . . from the south and southwest, following roughly the valley of the Ohio River."

In Ohio and elsewhere, the Bachman's Sparrow strengthened its foothold in the decades that followed. By 1937, Lawrence Hicks, in Brooks (1938) presented data from 40 Ohio counties, predominantly in the unglaciated southeastern portion of the state. These counties are as follows: Adams, Ashland, Athens, Belmont, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Coshocton, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Gallia, Greene, Guernsey, Hamilton, Highland, Hocking, Holmes, Jackson, Knox, Lawrence, Licking, Meigs, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Pickaway, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Tuscarawas, Vinton, Warren, Washington, and Wayne. In his study of the breeding birds of unglaciated Ohio, Hicks (1937) determined the Bachman's Sparrow to be fairly common in Hocking County, uncommon in Vinton County, and present in various degrees of rarity in 17 other counties previously listed. Additional records, primarily overshoot birds, have come from Erie, Lucas, Ottawa, Cuyahoga, Lake, Portage, and Carroll Counties (Cooke, 1914; Campbell, 1968; Williams, 1950; Buchanon, 1980). Undoubtedly, other county records exist.

During this period, the Bachman's Sparrow was of local distribution, but an observer with an awareness of its habitat requirements could dependably find this species in many parts of the state. However, a gradual population reduction set in over the following years. By the 1960's, the Bachman's Sparrow became increasingly difficult to locate, and nearly impossible to find by the late 1970's. This decline has also been mirrored in neighboring states. Bohlen (1978) states that in Illinois the Bachman's Sparrow was present as far as the central and northern portions of the state between the 1920's and 1950's, but that it is now seldom found even in the south. In Indiana, Keller, et al. (1979) remarks of a decline in abundance. The story in West Virginia is similar, as Hall (1983) states ". . . at the present time, there is no place known in the state at which one can confidently expect to find the species." The paucity of reports in American Birds in recent years supports these conclusions. Except for a few isolated stragglers, the Bachman's Sparrow is now essentially absent from our part of the country.

Why did this drastic turnaround take place? The definitive causes may not be entirely clear, but the following factors probably played a part in this decline. As second growth habitats matured, suitable areas available to the Bachman's Sparrow diminished. In addition, the increased attention to soil conservation may have also been a factor. According to Barbour (1973), "Curiously, the reclamation of worn-out fields and eroded gullies has frequently decreased the numbers of a few species that prefer old fields and erosion cuts. The habitat preferences of Lark Sparrow and Prairie Warbler, for example, make them vulnerable to land improvement. The species most affected is Bachman's Sparrow . . ." Another pertinent factor may have been the pattern in which a new species in an ecosystem "runs wild" until natural controls develop to check its growth. Regardless of the causes, the effects of the decline have been dramatic.

One's chances of finding the Bachman's Sparrow in Ohio today are of course extremely slim. However, with a little knowledge of their life history, the odds are perhaps somewhat better. Hicks, in Brooks (1938), found the median spring arrival date near Columbus to be April 22, and the median fall departure date to be August 17. Considering the species' skulking nature, these dates must serve only as rough guidelines, especially in the fall after singing had ceased. Hicks wrote extensively concerning the situations preferred by the Bachman's Sparrow in its heyday, and I quote his notes liberally here to provide a detailed appraisal of their habitat requirements:

"A person acquainted with the ecology of the species can readily find twenty-five birds for every one located by the 'hit and miss' method. The cutting of the forest, soil erosion, and the abandoning of farms have favored the species. It is practically never found in a field until at least four years after cultivation has ceased. Also, it is practically confined to hill country. . . Usually it is found on those ridge tops which drop away sharply in a divide to either side. The choicest locations are about fifty to one hundred yards down from the ridge tops in old deserted fields. A typical territory is a circle 150 feet away from an eroded gully which has healed and is now well covered with miscellaneous trees, shrubs, and particularly blackberry brambles. . . A good water supply, with humid and fertile soil, soon provides a vegetation set-up too dense for this species. . . There is no indication that pines add anything to the attractiveness of the habitat"
(Brooks, 1938).

Based on this information, Bachman's Sparrow habitat in Ohio differs from the habitats used in the southeastern United States. Even so, the need for open conditions is maintained. Whereas the species is typically difficult to observe, it should often be detectable if present by virtue of its loud, musically pleasing song. Brooks (1938) states, "Apparently the birds are well within their song-cycle when they arrive in our territory. Singing begins immediately, and is continued frequently until well along in July."

Backed with a familiarity of its song and habitat preferences, a birding trip through southern or southeastern Ohio in the spring or early summer months could conceivably still produce, with a great deal of luck, a Bachman's Sparrow that hasn't heard the news about the decline of its species.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SANDHILL CRANES NEST IN WAYNE COUNTY

(Reprinted from the Nongame Quarterly, Vol. 4 [1])

A graduate school professor once observed that biologists perhaps concentrate too much on the unusual. While he may have been right, it is also true that the unusual has a way of getting your attention. This was the situation for Ohio's first nesting Sandhill cranes in more than 60 years. Although the birds apparently have been nesting in Wayne County for the last three or four years, it wasn't until this year that a nest was located and verified. It had a normal clutch of two eggs when it was located by helicopter in mid-May.

Ohio is fortunate in that the Division's pilot, John Clem, has several years of experience in conducting aerial searches for sandhill nests. This experience was gained by assisting the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in their studies of the Sandhill crane population on the Seney National Wildlife Refuge in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The purpose of that study is to determine the feasibility of introducing Whooping cranes into the area, to establish another population and make the species more secure. John remarked that, from the air, the area containing the Ohio sandhill nest looked identical to a typical sandhill breeding territory in Michigan.

The history of sandhills in Ohio is a little fuzzy. They were first mentioned by Jared P. Kirtland in 1838, but he referred to the Whooping crane and the Sandhill crane interchangeably. In 1882, J.M. Wheaton guessed that Kirtland was actually referring to sandhills, but he equivocated on the bird's status. He mentioned only that sandhills were "probably [an] occasional summer resident." In 1903, Lynds Jones of Oberlin College stated conclusively that sandhills bred in Ohio, and gave a couple of specific locations.

The last known nest in the state was in 1926, about a mile east of the present Willard Marsh Wildlife Area in Huron County. The existing 1,676 acres are all that remain of the former 20-square-mile Huron Bog, which must have been a traditional nesting area for sandhills. The fate of the last nest sounds like a soap opera. According to an account by Lawrence Hicks, one of the pair was shot, leaving the unmated bird to return to the area alone for several weeks each year, from 1927 to 1931. The longevity record in the wild for sandhills is 18 years and 3 months.

It is not known what the future holds for sandhills in Ohio. They regularly occur as migrants, sometimes in large flocks. Reintroduction of the species as a nester always seemed an attractive project, but habitat availability was a major problem. One thing in the crane's favor is that they appear to be relaxing some stringent habitat requirements regarding wetland size and degree of isolation from people. In recent years, they have extended their range in southern Michigan, and have nested in relatively small wetland sites near the Ohio border. Whatever the future holds, it's nice to know that at least one pair has added to the present diversity of Ohio's breeding birds. Sometimes it's nice to focus on the unusual.

BOOK REVIEWS

Ed Pierce

A Field Guide to Hawks: North America. W. S. Clark. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 1987.

Hawks in Flight. P. Dunne, D. Sibley, and C. Sutton. Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston, 1988.

Contrary to your first impression, these books complement each other. Both should be in your source library. They are, however, of limited use in the field.

Field Guide to Hawks is the newest in the Peterson Field Guide series. It is, according to one reviewer (Roberts, 1987, Bird Observer of E. Mass., Vol. 15 [5]: 234), "the most thorough discussion of the identification of North American hawks available today." Unfortunately, it is of limited use in the field as you might not expect from its name. So much information is packed into each species that you must know the salient diagnostic features of the species while it is under your fleeting observation rather than look it up after the bird has passed. However, from this book you can learn all of those refined diagnostic features that "the big boys" know and then apply them in the field. Only flight characteristics (typical or comparative behavior or overall appearance), which are not covered well, will require additional field experience.

However, flight characteristics are the thesis of Hawks in Flight. This book stresses identification based on overt shape, size, plumage, actions--the overall impression.

Buteos, accipiters, falcons, kites, the Northern harrier, eagles and vultures, and the Osprey are the seven chapters of the 167 page text. Each chapter begins with a basic description of that group and the traits that unite them and those that set them apart from the others. Then a detailed description of the identifying field marks (shape, plumage, and manner of flight) of each species within the group is given. Each chapter ends with a section on telling them apart, which compares and contrasts species of similar appearance, e.g. Telling Buteos Apart, Telling Accipiters Apart, Telling Falcons Apart, Telling Kites Apart, Telling Harriers from the Rest, Telling Osprey from the Rest. Each chapter has multiple black and white drawings of each species in flight (dorsal and ventral views). The remainder of the book is 145 black and white photos of each species in flight. Twenty-three species are covered.

The Field Guide to Hawks has 112 pages of text, 24 color and 2 black and white plates, and 241 black and white photos. It covers 39 species (includes California condor, Hook-billed kite, Snail kite, Common Black hawk, Harris' hawk, Gray hawk, Roadside hawk, Short-tailed hawk, White-tailed hawk, Zone-tailed hawk, White-tailed eagle, Steller's Sea eagle, Crested caracara, Eurasian kestrel, Aplomado falcon, and Northern hobby in addition to those species in Hawks in Flight). The various morphs of Red-tailed, Swainson's, and Rough-legged hawks as well as the age sequence plumages of Bald and Golden eagles are all included in text, plates, and photos.

In short, the Field Guide to Hawks deals with the fine points of each part of the bird while Hawks in Flight deals with what you see in the sky when those parts are expressed as the total bird.

If I could buy only one of these books, I would choose Hawks in Flight for its instructional teaching technique of comparing each species to similar species in flight. But I have both as the Field Guide to Hawks is a handy, inexpensive encyclopedia source book for those fine points that arise.

Price: A Field Guide to Hawks, \$19.95 clothbound, \$13.95 paperback.

Hawks in Flight, \$17.95 hardbound.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To: Ohio Birders

Dear Colleagues,

In 1978, the publication of The Cardinal permitted a heightened awareness of current happenings with Ohio's avifauna through timely presentation of detailed information. Today we have a stronger Ohio Cardinal still progressing toward our collective goal of a respected and informative journal. However, I perceive a threat to this enlightened age of ornithological communication, the notion of competition between publications, and the possible schizm between Ohio birders that may follow. Already I have been exposed to the antipathy that exists between certain groups in Ohio.

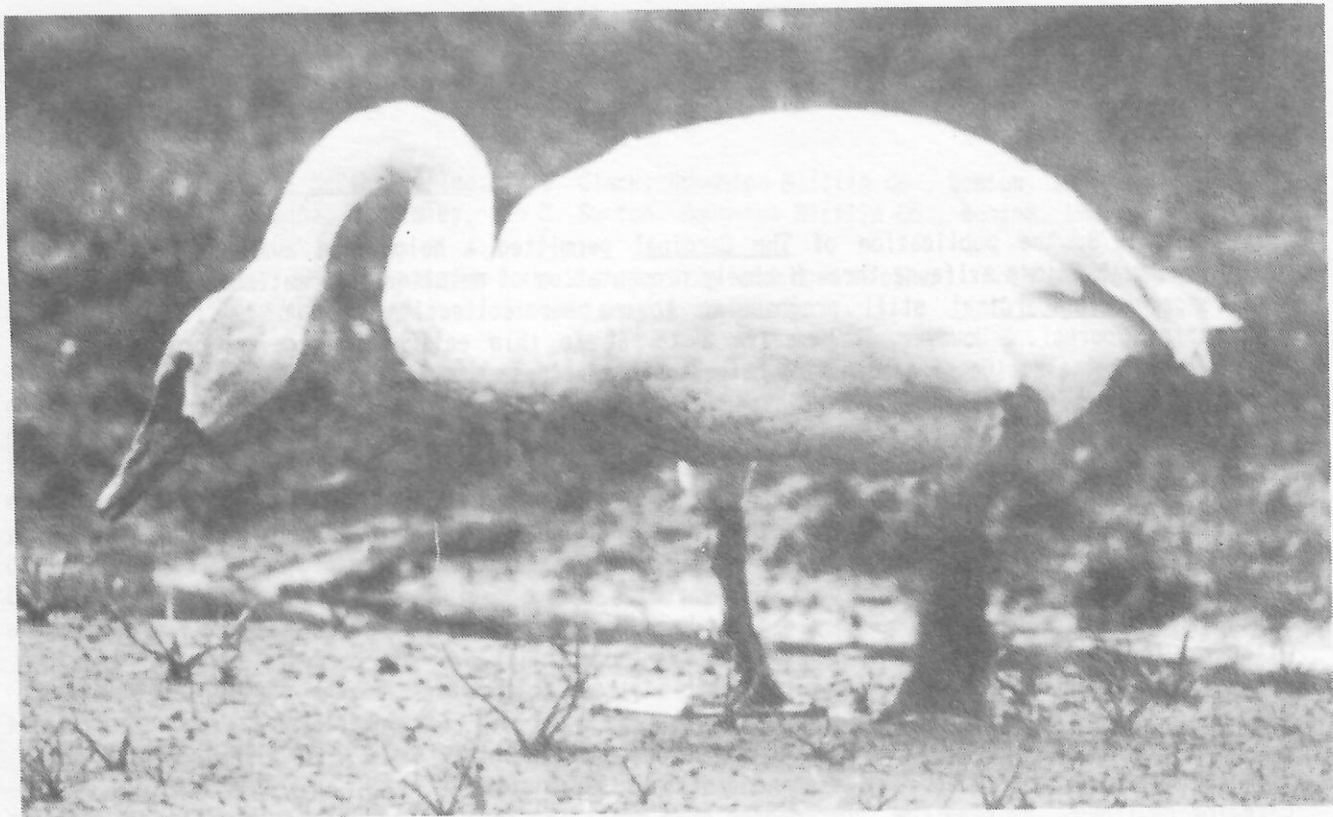
As Mr. Pierce recently pointed out, The Ohio Cardinal does not replace American Birds but supplements it. The Ohio Cardinal provides the opportunity to reveal, with its greater depth of coverage, the details of a winter invasion, the seasonal passage of a migrant, or the ups and downs of the breeding season. Certainly we would be remiss to ignore the regional overview as described professionally in each issue of American Birds. However, fine tuning our coverage, especially attacking the spatial and temporal gaps in our knowledge, will, over time, create a highly readable record of the changes we are forever putting our environment through.

I state the obvious but I believe a few have forgotten this. I ask that all birders in Ohio from amateur to expert commit to the support of their state journal. Amateurs, I say to you, take care, be cautious, and practice thoroughness when providing records. Try to fill in the gaps the experts can't reach or simply overlook. To the experts, I suggest providing your expertise as guidance and discuss amongst ourselves how we may cooperate to further Ohio ornithology.

Vic Fazio
Shaker Heights, Ohio

OBSERVERS

Matt	Anderson	MA	Vic	Fazio	VF	Charlotte	Mathena	CM
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Bonnie	Fancher	BF	Barb	Markham	BM	Lamar	Witmer	LW
						Perry	Yoder	PY



Trumpeter swan at Metzger Marsh, Lucas Co., 16 September 1988. Note the relatively long straight bill and extensive black skin as it approaches the eye. Photograph by John Pogacnik.



Red-throated loon (same individual as cover), 30 November 1988, Headlands Beach State Park. Photograph by Tom LePage.

Thirty-eight counties received coverage for the 1988 fall season.



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