

The CARDINAL



VoL. 1 No. 2

THE CARDINAL, Ohio's magazine of birds, is published four times each year.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: John Herman, 1257 Lewis Road, Mansfield, Ohio 44903. To receive THE CARDINAL, send John Herman \$ 5.00 for a yearly subscription.

EDITOR OF THE CARDINAL: John Herman. The editor invites short articles about birds to be used in THE CARDINAL. Black and white drawings or photographs of birds are also welcomed. Illustrations should preferably be 5 X 7 in size.

DONATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS: Donations and contributions should be sent to the Editor.

BIRD REPORTS: We particularly invite reports from parts of the state that have been neglected or covered lightly in past reports. To contribute bird reports, request the report forms from John Herman, 1257 Lewis Road, Mansfield, Ohio 44903.

THE SUMMER SEASON - June 1 to July 31, 1978

Temperatures in Ohio during June and July of 1978 averaged slightly lower than normal. June precipitation was above normal, due mainly to heavy thunderstorms. July was exceedingly dry, with some locations lacking 2 inches of rain from what is normal in July.

Summary: A total of 186 species was reported by 19 observers. Nesting was reported for 106 species.

An immature double-crested cormorant was seen at Paint Creek Lake (Highland Co.) in late July. Two adult plumaged little blue herons were seen daily from 26 July thru 31 July at Clearfork Reservoir (Richland Co.). Yellow-crowned night herons nested in Cuyahoga and Franklin Counties. Least bitterns nested in Franklin County, but American bitterns were unreported. An osprey summered (seen 1 June thru 31 July) at Paint Creek Lake (Highland County). Bobwhite remain scarce. Shorebirds were reported in 23 species. American avocets appeared in unprecedented numbers in Cleveland in July, and were also reported from Alum Creek Reservoir (Delaware Co.). One of the highlights of the Summer 1978 season was the presence of a black-headed gull, in adult plumage, at Cleveland. Encouraging news for barn owls in Ohio was received from Wayne county where 9 young were raised from three pairs of barn owls which nested in artificial nesting boxes. Cliff swallows continue to nest in large numbers in Holmes county, with 145 pairs nesting on one barn. Winter wrens summered in Cuyahoga and Lake counties. Carolina wrens nested in

Highland and Guernsey counties. Mockingbirds remain uncommon. The "Brewster's Warbler" reported in spring 1978 at Franklin county, remained until 30 June. Summering warblers reported from Hocking county included one pair of "Lawrence's Warblers", a male magnolia warbler, one pair of pine warblers, and two pair of Canada warblers. Fourteen species of warblers were reported as nesting in Hocking county. The excellent breeding and summering bird survey done in Hocking county was reported by Jerry Cairo. A male blue grosbeak was seen in late June at Hamilton county. Purple finch summered in both Richland and Wayne counties. House finch nested in Cuyahoga county, with fledglings noted in July. A pine siskin was reported from a thistle seed feeder at Portage county from 7 July thru 31 July. Although not as common in some locations as it was last (1977) summer, Henslow's sparrows were reported in good numbers from areas where suitable nesting habitat existed. Dark-eyed (slate-colored) juncos were reported with 5 singing males from Stebbin's Gulch (Lake Co.).

THE SUMMER SEASON - 1 June to 31 July, 1978

"Summering" refers to non-nesting birds that were seen 1 June thru 31 July. All birds that were documented are denoted by an asterisk * .

Common Loon

Summered at Clearfork Reservoir (Richland Co.) 2 winter plumaged birds.

Pied-billed Grebe

Reported from Franklin (2 locations) and Wayne counties.

Double-crested Cormorant

7-30 Paint Creek Lake (Highland Co.) one immature (JSk).

Great Blue Heron

Nested in Geauga (40 nests), Holmes and Seneca (3 nests) counties; also reported from 13 other counties throughout the state.

Green Heron

Nested in Cuyahoga and Wayne counties; also reported from 12 other counties.

Little Blue Heron

7-26 thru 7-31 Clearfork Reservoir (Richland Co.)
2 adult plumaged birds (Joe Herman, * JH, et.al.).

Great Egret

7-15 Ottawa Wildlife Refuge (hereafter O.W.R.) (32)
(LV).

Black-crowned Night Heron

6-12 Cuyahoga Co. (1) (Hoff.), 6-24 Killbuck Wildlife Area (Wayne Co.) (1) (JSt); also reported from O.W.R.

Yellow-crowned Night Heron

Nested in Cuyahoga (2 adults ,1 young) and Franklin (2 nests, 5 young) counties.

Least Bittern

Nested in Franklin county; also reported from Lake, Licking, and Wayne counties.

Mute Swan

7-3 Darbydale (Franklin Co.) (1) (Fry).

Canada Goose

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, and Knox counties.

Mallard

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Highland, Holmes, and Wayne counties; also reported from Fairfield county.

Black Duck

Nested in Wayne Co. (6 young) (JSt).

Pintail

6-25 to 7-8 Cleveland (1 pair) (Hoff.), 7-30 O.W.R. (4) (LV).

Green-winged Teal

7-4 Cleveland (2) (Hoff.), 7-15 Columbus (1) (Fry).

Blue-winged Teal

Nested in Franklin (2 young) and Wayne (10 young) counties; also reported from Cuyahoga, Delaware, and Fairfield counties.

Wood Duck

Nested in Ashland, Cuyahoga, Fairfield, Franklin, Highland, Holmes, Licking, Richland, and Wayne (152 nest boxes used at Killbuck Wildlife Area) counties.

Lesser Scaup

6-1 thru 6-18 Walden Waterfowl Refuge (Franklin Co.) (1 male) (Fry).

Ruddy Duck

6-15 Shreve Lake (Wayne Co.) (1 male) (JSt).

Turkey Vulture

Nested in Highland, Hocking, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 5 other counties. 50 on 6-7 Highland Co. (JSt).

Black Vulture

Reported from Fairfield and Hocking counties. 16 on 7-9 Highland Co. (JSt),

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Reported from Hamilton Co. (fide Fry).

Cooper's Hawk

Nested in Wayne county; also reported from Hocking, Holmes, and Seneca counties.

Red-tailed Hawk

Nested in Highland, Holmes, Lorain, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 4 other counties.

Red-shouldered Hawk

Nested in Wayne county (unsuccessfully); also reported from Richland county.

Broad-winged Hawk

Reported from Franklin, Hocking, and Lucas (6-18, 3 birds) (TK) counties.

Bald Eagle

Nested in Ottawa Co. (1 young raised) (LV); also reported 6-25 Paint Creek Lake (1 adult) (JSk).

Osprey

6-14 thru 7-31 Paint Creek Lake (1) (JSk).

American Kestrel

Nested in Cuyahoga, Fairfield, Franklin, Holmes, Lake, Lorain, and Wayne (17 young raised from 4 nesting boxes) counties. Also reported from Crawford and Highland counties.

Ruffed Grouse

Reported from Hocking county.

Bobwhite

Reported from Fairfield, Franklin (3), Guernsey, Highland (4), Holmes (4), Richland (1), Tuscarawas(4), and Wayne (5) counties.

Ring-necked Pheasant

Nested in Cuyahoga county; also reported from Franklin, Highland, Richland, and Wayne counties.

Virginia Rail

Nested in Portage and Wayne counties.

Sora

Reported from Lake and Wayne counties.

Common Gallinule

Nested in Franklin, Licking, and Wayne (2 broods) counties; also reported from Lake county.

American Coot

Nested in Ottawa Co. (3 broods); also reported from Wayne county.

American Avocet

7-6 to 7-7 Cleveland (1) (Hoff., Fry), 7-8 Cleveland (2) (Hoff., JH), 7-27 Cleveland (10) (Hoff., Fry), 7-31 Alum Creek Reservoir (Delaware Co.) (2) (Fry, JSk).

Semipalmated Plover

6-4 Cleveland (1) (Hoff.), 7-23 Columbus (1) (Fry), 7-29 Cleveland (Hoff.).

Killdeer

Nested in Cuyahoga, Fairfield, Franklin, Holmes, Lorain, Lucas, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 3 other counties. 50 on 7-23 Cleveland (Hoff.).

American Golden Plover

7-30 Lucas Co. (1) (TK).

Ruddy Turnstone

7-29 Huron (1) (Hoff.), 7-30 Lucas Co. (2) (TK).

American Woodcock

Nested in Cuyahoga, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from Franklin and Highland counties.

Common Snipe

Reported from Franklin and Portage counties.

Upland Sandpiper

Nested in Franklin (4 pairs, 12 young) county; also reported from O.W.R. on 7-30 (1) (LV), and Cleveland on 7-24 (2 adults, 1 immature) (Hoff.).

Spotted Sandpiper

Nested in Cuyahoga, Delaware, and Erie counties; also reported from 6 other counties. 30 on 7-16 Lucas Co. (TK).

Solitary Sandpiper

7-24 Cleveland (2) (Hoff.), 7-30 Columbus (10) (JSk).

Willet

7-7 Cleveland (9) (Hoff., Fry), 7-13 Cleveland (3) (DC), 7-23 Cleveland (2) (Hoff.).

Greater Yellowlegs

7-18 Columbus (2) (JSk), 7-26 O.W.R. (CG), 7-27 Richland Co. (1) (JH).

Lesser Yellowlegs

7-3 Franklin Co. (CG), 7-4 Cleveland (Hoff.), 7-18 Columbus (10) (JSk), 7-26 Wayne Co. (JSt), 7-27 Delaware Co. (CG), 7-30 Lucas Co. (55) (TK).

Red Knot

7-30 Lucas Co. (1) (TK).

Pectoral Sandpiper

7-1 Franklin Co. (CG), 7-4 Cleveland (6) (Hoff.), 7-15 Licking Co. (CG), 7-18 Columbus (15) (JSk), 7-26 O.W.R. (CG), 7-30 Lucas Co. (30) (TK).

Least Sandpiper

7-4 Cleveland (2) (Hoff.), 7-16 Lucas Co. (40) (TK), 7-20 Columbus (2) (JSk).

Dunlin

7-15 O.W.R. (2) (LV).

Dowitcher (Sp)

7-4 Cleveland (2) (Hoff.), 7-8 Huron (Erie Co.) (25) (DC), 7-15 O.W.R. (109) (LV), 7-16 Lucas Co. (135) (TK), 7-23 Columbus (JSk).

Stilt Sandpiper

7-15 O.W.R. (1) (LV), 7-22 Huron (Erie Co.) (6)
(DC), 7-30 Lucas Co. (1) (TK).

Semipalmated Sandpiper

6-4 Cleveland (5) (Hoff.), 7-1 Cleveland (3) (DC),
7-23 Columbus (Fry, JSk), 7-27 Huron (Fry), 7-30 Lucas Co. (TK).

Marbled Godwit

6-11 to 6-12 Cleveland (1) (Hoff., Fry), 7-22 O.W.R.
(1) (LV), 7-29 O.W.R. (1) (DC).

Sanderling

7-23 Lake Co. (Hoff.), 7-27 Huron (3) (Fry), 7-27
O.W.R. (CG), 7-30 Lucas Co. (10) (TK).

Wilson's Phalarope

7-22 O.W.R. (1) (LV), 7-23 Columbus (1) (Fry, JSk),
7-29 O.W.R. (1) (DC).

Great Black-backed Gull

7-30 Lucas Co. (1) (TK).

Herring Gull

Summered at the Cleveland area. 7-8 Huron (20) (DC),
7-16 Lucas Co. (450) (TK).

Ring-billed Gull

A few summered in the Cleveland area. 7-8 Huron
(40) (DC), 7-8 Franklin Co. (JC), 7-16 Lucas Co. (1775)
(TK), 7-20 Delaware Co. (12) (Fry).

Bonaparte's Gull

First birds seen in summer, 1978: 6-24 Cleveland
(5) (Klamm), 7-8 Huron (DC); 1000 on 7-30 Cleveland (Hoff.).

Black-headed Gull

7-23 thru 7-31 Cleveland (* Ray Hannikman, et.al.)
details on page 17 .

Common Tern

Nested at Lucas Co. (51 pairs) (TK); also reported
6-23 Paint Creek Lake (1) (JSk), 7-4 Richland Co. (1)
(JH), 7-20 Alum Creek Reservoir (3) (Fry), 7-23 Cleveland
(3) (Hoff.); 100 on 7-30 O.W.R. (LV), 510 on 7-16 Lucas
Co. (TK).

Forster's Tern

7-15 O.W.R. (30) (LV), 7-25 Cleveland (1) (Hoff.),
7-29 Huron (11) (Hoff., DC).

Caspian Tern

6-11 Cleveland (Hoff.), 7-27 Franklin Co. (JC),
7-30 O.W.R. (18) (LV), 7-30 Lucas Co. (12) (TK).

Black Tern

6-14 Franklin Co. (CG), 7-25 Franklin Co. (JC),
7-29 Huron (1) (Hoff.), 7-30 O.W.R. (10) (LV).

Rock Dove
Permanent Resident.

Mourning Dove
Nested in Cuyahoga, Fairfield, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Nested in Franklin, Highland, Hocking, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 6 other counties.

Black-billed Cuckoo
Nested in Highland and Wayne counties; also reported from 9 other counties.

Barn Owl
Nested in Wayne county (3 pair fledged 9 young from 3 artificial nest boxes) (JSt); also reported from 6-19 Pickaway Co. (1) (Fry), and 7-15 Holmes Co. (RM).

Screech Owl
Nested in Wayne county; also reported from Highland and Hocking counties. See article on screech owl nesting success on page 18 .

Great Horned Owl
Reported from 7 counties throughout the state.

Barred Owl
Reported from Franklin, Highland, Seneca, and Wayne counties.

Chuck-will's-widow
6-9 Adam's Co. (2 seen, 2 heard) (Fry).

Whip-poor-will
Reported from Adam's, Ashland, Highland, Hocking, and Tuscarawas counties.

Common Nighthawk
Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, and Wayne counties; also reported from Fairfield, Richland, and Tuscarawas counties.

Chimney Swift
Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Lorain, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 4 other counties.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Nested in Fairfield, Franklin, Cuyahoga, and Seneca counties; also reported from 7 other counties.

Belted Kingfisher
Nested in Cuyahoga, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 7 other counties.

Common Flicker
Nested in Cuyahoga, Fairfield, Highland, Lorain, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 4 other counties.

Pileated Woodpecker

Nested in Cuyahoga and Fairfield counties; also reported from Franklin, Highland, Holmes, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties.

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Nested in Cuyahoga and Wayne counties; also reported from 4 other counties.

Red-headed Woodpecker

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Lake, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 4 other counties.

Hairy Woodpecker

Nested in Cuyahoga, Hocking, Lorain, Portage, and Seneca counties; also reported from 3 other counties.

Downy Woodpecker

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hocking, Lorain, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 3 other counties.

Eastern Kingbird

Nested in Cuyahoga, Fairfield, Highland, Lake, Lorain, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 5 other counties.

Great Crested Flycatcher

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Highland, Portage, and Wayne counties; also reported from 6 other counties.

Eastern Phoebe

Nested in Fairfield, Highland, Holmes, Portage, and Wayne counties.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher

Late spring migrant: 6-7 Lucas Co. (TK).

Acadian Flycatcher

Nested in Cuyahoga, Fairfield, Franklin, Highland, Knox, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from Ashland, Holmes, and Lucas counties.

Willow Flycatcher

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Lorain, and Wayne counties; also reported from 7 other counties.

Least Flycatcher

Late spring migrant: 6-2 Hocking Co. (JC).

Eastern Wood Pewee

Nested in Cuyahoga, Fairfield, Knox, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 5 other counties.

Olive-sided Flycatcher

Late spring migrant: 6-3 to 6-6 Euclid (Cuyahoga Co.) (DC).

Horned Lark

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 5 other counties.

Tree Swallow

Nested in Cuyahoga, Highland, Lake, and Wayne counties; also reported from 4 other counties. 150 on 7-15 O.W.R. (LV).

Bank Swallow

Nested in Cuyahoga (100 nests), Holmes (20 nests), Lucas (19 nests), and Wayne (20 nests) counties; also reported from Highland county.

Rough-winged Swallow

Nested in Cuyahoga, Highland (100 young), Holmes, Hocking, Lake, and Wayne counties; also reported from 5 other counties.

Barn Swallow

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Highland (20 young), Hocking, Holmes, Seneca, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties; also reported from Henry and Richland counties.

Cliff Swallow

Nested in Franklin (3 pairs), Highland (3 unsuccessful nests), and Holmes (145 pairs nesting on one barn) counties; also reported 7-22 Franklin Co. (Fry).

Purple Martin

Nested in Cuyahoga, Fairfield, Franklin, Holmes, Richland, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 3 other counties. 100 on 7-31 Cleveland (Hoff.).

Blue Jay

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Holmes, Lorain, and Wayne counties; also reported from 6 other counties.

Common Crow

Nested in Cuyahoga, Fairfield, Holmes, Lorain, and Wayne counties; also reported from 5 other counties.

Black-capped Chickadee

Nested in Cuyahoga and Seneca counties.

Carolina Chickadee

Nested in Hocking and Wayne counties; also reported from Highland and Holmes counties.

Tufted Titmouse

Nested in Cuyahoga, Hocking, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 6 other counties.

White-breasted Nuthatch

Nested in Cuyahoga, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from Highland, Hocking, and Holmes counties.

House Wren

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Highland, Holmes, Perry, Richland, Seneca, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties; also reported from Ashland, Henry, and Hocking counties.

Winter Wren

6-10 North Chagrin Metro. Park (Cuyahoga Co.) (1 heard singing) (DC), 7-30 Stebbin's Gulch (Lake Co.) (1 heard singing) (DC).

Carolina Wren

4 reports: Nested at Salt Fork State Park (Guernsey Co.) (HM), and unsuccessfully at Paint Creek Lake (Highland Co.) (JSk); also reported 6-20 to 6-22 Killbuck Wildlife Area (Wayne Co.) (JSt), and late July in Holmes Co. (1) (DVK1).

Long-billed Marsh Wren

Nested in Franklin, Lake, and Wayne counties.

Short-billed Marsh Wren

1 report: Nested in Wayne Co. (1 pair) (JSt, et.al.)

Mockingbird

Nested in Franklin and Holmes counties; also reported from Highland and Hocking counties.

Gray Catbird

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Richland, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 4 other counties.

Brown Thrasher

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Richland, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 5 other counties.

American Robin

Nested in Cuyahoga, Henry, Holmes, Lorain, Richland, Seneca, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties; also reported from 2 other counties.

Wood Thrush

Nested in Cuyahoga, Highland, Hocking, Lake, Portage, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 5 other counties.

Swainson's Thrush

Late spring migrant: 6-3 Lucas Co. (* TK).

Veery

Summered at Ashland (6-24, JH), Cuyahoga (3) (7-5, Hoff.), Lake (7-20, Hoff.), and Portage (6-27, Hoff.) counties.

Eastern Bluebird

Nested in Henry, Highland, Holmes, Fairfield, Knox, Seneca, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties; also reported from Portage, Richland and Vinton counties.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Nested in Fairfield, Highland, Holmes, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 4 other counties.

Cedar Waxwing

Nested in Cuyahoga, Henry, Ottawa, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 7 other counties.

Starling

Permanent Resident.

White-eyed Vireo

Nested in Hocking county; also reported from Franklin, Highland, Lucas, and Richland counties.

Yellow-throated Vireo

Nested in Fairfield, Highland, and Lake counties; also reported from Cuyahoga, Holmes, Lucas, and Seneca counties.

Red-eyed Vireo

Nested in Cuyahoga, Hocking, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 6 other counties.

Warbling Vireo

Nested in Cuyahoga, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 8 other counties.

Black-and-white Warbler

Nested in Hocking Co. (10 pairs) (JC).

Prothonotary Warbler

Nested in Highland Co. (3 nests, 6 young)(JSk); also reported 6-4 O.W.R. (1) (LV), and early June (18 singing males) at Killbuck Wildlife Area (Wayne Co.) (JSt).

Worm-eating Warbler

Reported 6-3 Mohican State Park (Ashland Co.) and 6-4 Hocking Co. (6 pairs) (JC).

Golden-winged Warbler

Late spring migrant: 6-1 to 6-2 Franklin Co. (Fry).

Blue-winged Warbler

Reported from Highland, Hocking (9 pairs), Holmes, Knox, Lucas (4), Portage, and Seneca counties.

Blue-winged X Golden-winged Warbler

"Lawrence's Warbler" 6-1 to 7-25 Hocking Co. (1 pair, no nest or young seen) (* JC); "Brewster's Warbler" 6-1 to 6-30 Franklin Co. (1) (Fry).

Nashville Warbler

Late spring migrant: 6-4 Hocking Co. (JC).

Northern Parula

Nested in Hocking Co. (19 pairs) (JC).

Yellow Warbler

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hocking (18 pairs), Seneca, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties; also reported from 4 other counties.

Magnolia Warbler

One male summered at Hocking County (JC).

Black-throated Green Warbler

Nested in Hocking County (8 pairs) (JC); also reported as summering at Mohican State Park (Ashland Co.), Holden Arboretum (Lake Co.), and Stebbin's Gulch (Lake Co.).

Cerulean Warbler

Nested in Hocking County (17 pairs, 3 nests found) (JC); also reported from Franklin, Highland, Holmes, Seneca, and Tuscarawas counties.

Blackburnian Warbler

Late spring migrant: 6-7 Lucas Co. (TK).

Yellow-throated Warbler

Nested in Hocking County (9 pairs); also reported from Highland county.

Pine Warbler

Summered at Hocking County (1 pair, no nest found).

Prairie Warbler

Nested in Hocking County (9 pairs, 2 nests found); also reported from Highland and Knox counties.

Ovenbird

Nested in Hocking (27 pairs) and Lake counties; also reported from Ashland and Lucas counties.

Louisiana Waterthrush

Nested in Cuyahoga, Hocking (9 pairs, 6 nests found), and Lake counties; also reported from Ashland, Highland, and Holmes counties.

Kentucky Warbler

Nested in Hocking (14 pairs) and Knox counties; also reported from Franklin, Holmes, and Lake counties.

Mourning Warbler

Late spring migrant: 6-4 Ottawa Co. (1) (LV).

Common Yellowthroat

Nested in Cuyahoga, Fairfield (44 pairs, several nests found), Lorain, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 6 other counties.

Yellow-breasted Chat

Nested in Hocking County (14 pairs) and Wayne county; also reported from Highland, Holmes, and Richland counties.

Hooded Warbler

Nested in Hocking (15 pairs) and Lake (10 pairs) counties; also reported from Cuyahoga, Ashland, Holmes, Knox, and Lucas (6-4 and 6-18, one singing male).

Canada Warbler

Summered at Hocking County (2 pairs, no nest found).

American Redstart

Nested in Cuyahoga, Hocking (8 pairs, 2 nests found), Lake, and Seneca counties; also reported from Franklin, Highland, Richland, and Tuscarawas counties.

House Sparrow

Permanent Resident.

Bobolink

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, and Seneca counties; also reported from Delaware, Henry, Holmes, and Richland counties.

Eastern Meadowlark

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Holmes, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 4 other counties.

Western Meadowlark

Reported 7-8 to 7-16 Erie Co. (1 singing male).

Red-winged Blackbird

Nested in Cuyahoga, Highland, Hocking, Holmes, Lorain, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 3 other counties.

Orchard Oriole

Reported from Franklin, Highland, Holmes, Richland, and Ottawa counties.

Northern (Baltimore) Oriole

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hocking, Holmes, Highland, Seneca, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties; also reported from Ashland, Henry, and Lucas counties.

Common Grackle

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hocking, Holmes, Lorain, and Wayne counties; also reported from 4 other counties.

Brown-headed Cowbird

"Nested" in Highland, Hocking, Richland (parasitized song sparrow), and Wayne counties; also reported from 4 other counties.

Scarlet Tanager

Nested in Cuyahoga, Fairfield, Highland, Lake, Lorain, and Wayne counties; also reported from 3 other counties.

Summer Tanager

Reported from Franklin, Highland, Holmes, and Wayne (6-2, JSt) counties.

Cardinal

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Henry, Highland, Hocking, Holmes, Lorain, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties; also reported from Ashland and Richland counties.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Nested in Lorain and Wayne counties; also reported from Ashland, Henry, Lucas, Richland, and Seneca counties.

Blue Grosbeak

6-26 Hamilton County (1 male) (Fry).

Indigo Bunting

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Lorain, Portage, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties; also reported from 4 other counties.

Dickcissel

Reported from Delaware, Ottawa, Putnam, and Wyandot counties.

Purple Finch

Summered at Richland County (up to 3 males and 6 female plumaged birds seen at a sunflower seed feeder) and Wooster (Wayne Co.) (one male, two female plumaged birds seen) (JSt). Purple finch have summered for the last five consecutive years in Richland County (JH).

House Finch

Nested in Cuyahoga County (Klamm); also reported 7-4 Cuyahoga Co. (1 male, 3 female plumaged birds) (EB), and 7-13 Lorain, Ohio (2 male, 7 female plumaged birds seen) (John Pogacnik).

Pine Siskin

Reported 7-7 thru 7-31 at Kent (Portage Co.) at a thistle seed feeder (Larry Rosche).

American Goldfinch

Nested in Cuyahoga, Hocking, and Wayne counties; also reported from 6 other counties.

Rufous-sided Towhee

Nested in Cuyahoga, Hocking, Lorain, and Wayne counties; also reported from 4 other counties.

Savannah Sparrow

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Lorain, and Wayne counties; also reported from 5 other counties.

Grasshopper Sparrow

Nested in Franklin and Hocking counties; also reported from Delaware, Highland, Holmes, Lucas, Ottawa (2) and Putnam counties.

Henslow's Sparrow

Reported from Cuyahoga (1), Franklin, Highland (10 birds), Hocking (2), Holmes (18 pair), Pickaway, Vinton (1 bird), and Wayne (1 pair) counties.

Vesper Sparrow

Nested in Franklin and Wayne counties; also reported from 6 other counties.

Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco

7-20 Stebbin's Gulch (Lake County) (5 singing males) (Hoff.).

Chipping Sparrow

Nested in Cuyahoga, Fairfield, Franklin, Holmes, Lorain, Seneca, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties; also reported from 4 other counties.

Field Sparrow

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Holmes, Lake, Lorain, Portage, Seneca, and Wayne counties; also reported from 5 other counties.

White-throated Sparrow

Late spring migrant: 6-1 to 6-4 Euclid (Cuyahoga Co.) (1 male heard and seen) (DC).

Swamp Sparrow

Nested in Cuyahoga, Lake, Portage, and Wayne counties; also reported from Richland county.

Song Sparrow

Nested in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Richland, Seneca, Tuscarawas, and Wayne counties; also reported from Henry and Highland counties.

CONTRIBUTORS

* * * * *

Emil and Priscilla Bacik (EB)

Jerry Cairo (JC)

Dave Corbin (DC)

Jim Fry (Fry)

Charles Gambill (CG)

John Herman (JH)

Jim, Dick and Jean Hoffman (Hoff.)

Thomas Kemp (TK)

William and Nancy Klamm (Klamm)

Dennis and Vernon Kline (DVK1)

Jean Knoblauch (JK)

Henry Miller (HM)

Reuben Miller (RM)

Ellis Shimp (ES)

Jerry Skinner (JSk)

John Staab (JSt)

Laurel Van Camp (LV)

Joanne Wrasse (JW)

Occurrence of Black-headed Gull at Cleveland, Ohio

by Ray Hannikman

At approximately 9:30 a.m. on July 23, 1978 an adult Black-headed Gull was observed at White City Lagoon. The bird was resting with Bonaparte's and Ring-billed Gulls in the shallow waters at the north side of the lagoon. I had just happened to glance at the gulls and noticed this gull with a red bill. I looked closer, saw the brown hood, and noticed the slightly larger size of the bird (when compared with Bonaparte's Gulls). I called Dave Corbin over to verify the sighting. As I was about to depart to begin calling people about this bird, the gull took off and I thought it would never be seen again. Luckily, I was wrong for the Black-headed Gull was again found that Sunday afternoon at the Northeast Yacht Club which is adjacent to White City. Here the gull was observed resting with Bonaparte's Gulls both on the breakwall and on the boat moorings of the yacht club. During this observation, all diagnostic field marks were noted: red bill, brown hood that did not extend as far as back on the head as a Bonaparte's black hood does, dark underwings, and the somewhat lighter gray mantle color. This latter characteristic was especially noticeable when the Black-headed Gull was seen with Bonaparte's Gulls.

While I observed the Black-headed Gull at the Northeast Yacht Club on the evening of July 24, all sightings thereafter were from the area behind the bathhouse and boat-launching ramps at Gordon Park. Here the best time to locate the gull was in the early evening. The gull was still present on July 31. (Editor's Note: The Black-headed Gull was seen at least thru 4 August 1978 at Cleveland.)

The Black-headed Gull was almost invariably seen with its new world first cousin, the Bonaparte's Gull. Excellent comparisons between the two species could easily be made. The gull spent much of its time doing what gulls most like to do -- preening, loafing on wire railings, boat moorings, and floating logs, and taking short flights. When the Black-headed Gull was observed in flight, its heavier and more labored flight could be observed for this species is not as graceful on the wing as the Bonaparte's Gull. This is the first summer sighting of this European vagrant in the Cleveland area and very probably the State of Ohio.

Screech Owl Nesting Decline from 1976 thru 1978

by Laurel Van Camp

150 wood duck nesting boxes checked each year for Screech Owl nesting activity in 1976, 1977, and 1978.

55 of the 150 boxes checked in 1978 contained evidence of Screech Owl use. The following was found in the boxes, Screech Owl pellets, song bird feathers and remains, mammals and remains, dead Screech Owls, Screech Owl remains (abundance of Screech Owl feathers, no doubt the carcass was consumed by other Screech Owls), and nesting Screech Owls. No accurate records of evidence of use by Screech Owls was obtained from the boxes in 1976 and 1977.

5 dead Screech Owls or remains were found in the boxes in 1978, none in 1976 or 1977. The evidence contained in the boxes in 1978 showed that Screech Owls used the boxes during the fall of 1977 up to nesting time in 1978, but a good per cent did not survive to nest in 1978. Less nesting, more abandonment, and lower success rate in 1978.

Screech Owls use the boxes for roosting, feeding structures and nesting structures. Example: instead of consuming prey where it is caught, they carry it into the boxes, if not consumed then, they consume most of it later. The reason for this is they are vulnerable to larger owls while they are feeding on prey in the open.

20 nests located in 1976
2 nests abandoned, 18 successful nests.
Average number of young per nest located, 3.6 per nest.
73 young banded.

17 nests located in 1977.
2 nests abandoned, 15 successful nests.
Average number of young per nest located, 3.2 per nest.
56 young banded.

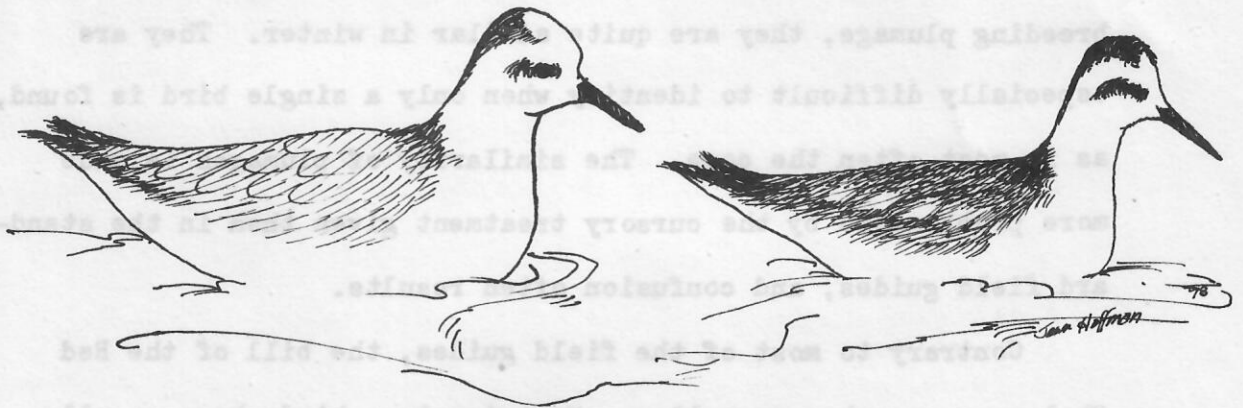
9 nests located in 1978
3 nests abandoned, 6 successful nests.
Average number of young per nest located, 3.0 per nest.
28 young banded.

The reason for such a large decline in nesting in 1978 is, number 1, in winter and during the nesting season song birds are a substantial part of the Screech Owl diet. The blizzard of January 26, 1978 caused a substantial decline in song bird population which lowered their food supply. Number 2, possibly the most important, was the heavy snow cover over a long period of time, all thru March, covering up the mouse population. This was very evident after the snow melted, showing how the mice girdled the trees and shrubs that were covered with deep snow. Thus, the mice did not come to the surface and were not available for food for

Screech Owls, causing some starvation.

The blizzard alone was not the cause of the heavy loss of song birds. Heavy rain before the blizzard wetting their plumage on those that roosted in the open, then the extreme temperature change from 36 degrees to 6 degrees in a short time was more than a lot of the birds could stand.

Phalaropes in Winter Plumage



red phalarope

northern phalarope

PHALAROPES IN WINTER

Jean Hoffman

In late fall and winter Ohio birders have an opportunity to discover lingering phalaropes. Wilson's Phalaropes departing from the northern prairies have normally passed through Ohio by October (Trautman), and are easily distinguished from the other phalaropes. Outside the breeding season, Red and Northern Phalaropes usually remain at sea, but a few are found, spinning and dabbing, on Lake Erie and inland waters. By this time most Northerns are also gone from Ohio, but sometimes stragglers occur. This is also the most common season for Reds.

Though Red and Northern Phalaropes are strikingly different in breeding plumage, they are quite similar in winter. They are especially difficult to identify when only a single bird is found, as is most often the case. The similarity of plumages is made more problematic by the cursory treatment given them in the standard field guides, and confusion often results.

Contrary to most of the field guides, the bill of the Red Phalarope may show no yellow. Most immature birds have an all black bill and the majority of adults quickly lose any trace of yellow (Russell). The bill of the Red is shorter and stouter than that of the Northern, but this is most helpful when the birds are seen together.

The following points, taken together, may assist in differentiating Red and Northern Phalaropes. First, the Red has a plump, round body, short, thick neck and large, round head. In contrast,

the Northern is flatter bodied with long, thin neck and smaller, flatter head. Second, the dark marking on the hindneck of the Red generally extends very little onto the head. This gives it a "bald" appearance rather than the "receding hairline" of the Northern. Third is the coloration of the back. A Red Phalarope will have some dark markings around the shoulders, but the back is a uniform pale gray. The back of the Northern is a darker gray, interrupted by pale stripes which form a "V" pattern. This striping is normally quite distinctive. Even in changing plumage these characteristics should be helpful.

Care must be taken in identifying winter phalaropes. They are very uncommon, but do occasionally appear. Red Phalaropes have been of annual occurrence the last five years with sightings ranging from October through February, once even in May. Northern Phalaropes are more common earlier in the fall, but have been seen December through February.

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