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Edited by
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BIRD CALENDAR COMMITTEE
FOR 1938

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Bird Calendar of the
CLEVELAND BIRD CLUB

34th Year – Bulletin No. 2 – April and May, 1938 – Prepared July 30, 1938.

The contributors to this bulletin are:

John W. Aldrich	Dale C. Kellogg
B. P. Bole, Jr.	Merit B. Skaggs
Charles H. Knight	Margarette E. Morse
Franklin Jedlicka	Arthur B. Williams

In addition to the above, the birds seen on the Sunday Morning Bird Walks of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History are included in this bulletin. These walks were led by the following people:

Shaker Lakes: Philip N. Moulthrop and Merit B. Skaggs
Hinckley Reservation: Arthur B. Williams and Frank Johnson
Gordon Park: B. P. Bole, Jr.
Richmond: Arthur B. Fuller and C. M. Shipman
North Chagrin Reservation: M. B. Walters and Russell A. Huggins
Brecksville Reservation: Dorothy A. Treat and Ruth Hubbard
Rocky River Reservation: Edythe G. Williams and Ralph A. O'Reilly, Jr.
Holden Arboretum: John W. Aldrich

The editor wishes at this point to make acknowledgment and thank Dr. John W. Aldrich for the preparation of this bulletin, compiling the migration table, and inserting the interesting comments.

The following statistics are available on the trips taken:

	<u>April</u>	<u>May</u>
Number of trips	65	91
Average number observations per trip	1.9	2
“ “ miles on foot per trip	2.16	2.6
Total hours observation in woods	57	84
“ “ “ in open country	56	85
“ “ “ in marshes, along lakes and streams	39	46

The total number of trips taken during those two months is 156 which is 25 more than were taken last year during these two months. Franklin Jedlicka led the list with 27 trips, Charles Knight was second with 19 and Margarette Morse and Merit Skaggs were tied for third with 17 trips each. The largest number of species recorded by any one observer was 169 by Merit Skaggs but Margarette Morse was a very close second with 168 and Franklin Jedlicka was third with 163. The total number of species reported by all observers was 204 as compared with 198 species seen last year during the same period. There are now 206 species on the year's list which is 2 more than had been observed last year up to this time.

An attempt is made this year for the first time in the Calendar to give an average date of arrival for migrant species. This was done by averaging the dates of the first records for the eight years from 1931 to 1938. These are included in the following table:

SPRING MIGRATION TABLE - 1938

<u>Species</u>	:1st Record : 1938 :	:Average Date 1st :Record '31-38 :	:Maximum :Abundance : 1938 :	<u>Remarks</u>
Common Loon	Apr. 3 (3)	Apr. 2		
Red-throated Loon	Apr. 10 (1)			Also Apr. 20 (1) (probably same Pa. side Pym. Res.)
Horned Grebe	Apr. 3 (1)	Apr. 7 (5 rec.)	Apr. 23	A few wintered
Pied-billed Grebe	Mar. 21 (2)	Mar. 22	Apr. 17	1 winter record
Great Blue Heron	Mar. 13 (2)	Mar. 24		
Green Heron	Apr. 17 (1)	Apr. 24		
Black-crowned Night Heron	Apr. 2 (1)	Apr. 17 (5 rec.)		
American Bittern	Apr. 3 (2)	Apr. 14 (6 rec.)		
Least Bittern	May 1	May 11		
Whistling Swan	Apr. 10 (1)	Mar. 30 (5 rec.)		
Canada Goose	Apr. 3 (200)	Mar. 11		
Mallard	Mar. 4 (2)	Mar. 12	Mar. 13 - Apr. 3	
Black Duck	Mar. 8 (2)	Mar. 12 (6 rec.)	Mar. 13-27	A few wintered
Gadwall	Mar. 13 (6)	Mar. 26 (7 rec.)		
Baldpate	Mar. 13 (4)	Mar. 16	Mar. 19-27	
Pintail	Feb. 13 (6)	Mar. 19 (7 rec.)	Mar. 19	A few wintered
Green-winged Teal	Mar. 6 (1)	Mar. 17		
Blue-winged Teal	Apr. 3 (24)	Mar. 30		
Shoveller	Mar. 13 (9)	Mar. 25 (7 rec.)		
Wood Duck	Mar. 20 (4)	Apr. 5 (7 rec.)		
Redhead	Mar. 19 (9)	Mar. 12 (6 rec.)		
Ring-necked Duck	Mar. 12 (2)	Mar. 15	Mar. 13 - Apr. 16	
Canvasback	Mar. 13 (3)	Mar. 13 (7 rec.)		
Lesser Scaup	Common winter resident			Last record May 22 (30)
American Golden-eye	Winter resident			" " Apr. 10 (2)
Bufflehead	Mar. 13 (7)	Mar. 22	Mar. 19 (106)	
Old Squaw	Mar. 6 (1)			Also Mar. 27 (1)
Ruddy Duck	Mar. 19 (9)	Apr. 5 (7 rec.)	Apr. 3 (20)	
Hooded Merganser	Mar. 13 (9)	Mar. 17 (7 rec.)		A few wintered
American Merganser	Common winter resident			Last record Apr. 10 (7)
Red-breasted Merganser	Winter resident			Last record May 28 (20)
Turkey Vulture	Mar. 13 (1)	Mar. 15	May 8-22	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Apr. 16 (1)			1 winter record
Red-tailed Hawk	Mar. 13 (1)			1 winter record
Red-shouldered Hawk	Mar. 13 (1)		Mar. 19 (8)	1 winter record
Broad-winged Hawk	Mar. 27 (1)			1 winter record
Rough-legged Hawk	Apr. 16 (1)			Also May 1 (1)
Bald Eagle	Apr. 10 (2)			
Marsh Hawk	Mar. 8 (1)	Mar. 2 (7 rec.)		A few wintered
Osprey	May 1 (1)	Apr. 23 (7 rec.)		Also May 22 & 28
King Rail	May] (1)	May 12 (6 rec.)		

Species	:1st Record : 1938	:Average Date 1st :Record '31-38	:Maximum :Ab'd'ce '38:	Remarks
Virginia Rail	Apr. 12 (1)	May 1		
Sora	Apr. 21 (1)	Apr. 30		
Florida Gallinule	Apr. 23 (6)	Apr. 30	May 14 (27)	
Coot	Mar. 19 (250)	Mar. 21 (7 rec.)	Mar. 19 - Apr. 10	
Piping Plover	Apr. 17	May 10 (7 rec.)		
Semipalmated Plover	May 1	May 10		
Killdeer	Mar. 4 (4)	Mar. 4		Also Feb. 13 (1)
Woodcock	Mar. 13	Mar. 26 (7 rec.)		
Wilson Snipe	Apr. 9 (5)	Mar. 30 (7 rec.)	Apr. 9-27	
Upland Plover	Apr. 25 (2)	Apr. 19 (7 rec.)		
Spotted Sandpiper	Apr. 17 (5)	Apr. 26	May 7-17	
Solitary Sandpiper	Apr. 24 (1)	Apr. 27	May 7-15	
Greater Yellowlegs	Mar. 21 (3)	Apr. 3		
Lesser Yellowlegs	Mar. 21 (45)	Apr. 15		
Pectoral Sandpiper	Apr. 1 (1)	Apr. 9		
Least Sandpiper	May 14 (10)	May 7		
Red-backed Sandpiper	May 5 (2)	May 9 (7 rec.)		
Semipalmated Sandpiper	May 14 (1)	May 10 (7 rec.)		
Sanderling	May 14 (2)	May 17 (5 rec.)		
Black-backed Gull	Apr. 10 (1)			Only record
Herring Gull	Common winter resident			Last seen May 29 (10)
Ring-billed Gull	Common winter resident			Last seen May 29 (50)
Bonaparte Gull	Mar. 27 (150)	Mar. 29 (5 rec.)		1 Winter record
Common Tern	Apr. 17 (1)	Apr. 24	May 22 (30)	
Caspian Tern	May 1 (3)	May 2		Also May 2 (1)
Black Tern	May 14 (18)	May 7		
Mourning Dove	Mar. 12 (2)	Mar. 7	Apr. 12-24	A few wintered
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	May 7 (3)	May 16		
Black-billed Cuckoo	May 9 (1)	May 13	May 22 (55)	
Short-eared Owl	Mar. 12 (1)			Also May 11 & 14
Saw-whet Owl	Mar. 15 (1)			Also Mar. 24 (1)
Whip-poor-will	May 19	May 2		Also May 30 (1)
Nighthawk	May 7 (1)	May 9		
Chimney Swift	Apr. 18 (5)	Apr. 22		
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	May 8	May 11		
Belted Kingfisher	Mar. 13 (2)	Mar. 18	Apr. 17-24	1 winter record
Flicker	Mar. 10 (5)	Mar. 12		
Red-headed Woodpecker	Apr. 17 (1)	Apr. 18		A few wintered
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Mar. 30 (1)	Mar. 26	Apr. 13-24	
Kingbird	Apr. 24 (2)	May 2	May 21-25	
Crested Flycatcher	Apr. 17 (1)	Apr. 30	May 8 (11)	
Phoebe	Mar. 13 (2)	Mar. 22		
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	May 16 (2)	May 17	May 20 (19) & 29 (26)	
Acadian Flycatcher	May 15 (2)	May 9		
Alder Flycatcher	May 9 (2)	May 14		
Least Flycatcher	May 3 (1)	May 3	May 19-22	
Wood Pewee	May 4 (1)	May 11	May 22 (14)	
Tree Swallow	Apr. 3 (6)	Apr. 7 (7 rec.)	Apr. 17 (20)	
Bank Swallow	Apr. 17 (5)	Apr. 21	May 8 (22)	
Rough-winged Swallow	Mar. 30 (12)	Apr. 18		
Barn Swallow	Apr. 16 (3)	Apr. 16		
Cliff Swallow	May 14 (5)	May 7		Colony at So. Euclid " " Solon
Purple Martin	Apr. 3 (3)	Apr. 3		
Crow	Feb. 11 (6)	Feb. 17	Mar. 12-27	A few wintered

Species	:1st Record : 1938	:Average Date 1st :Record '31-38	:Max. Ab'd'ce: : 1938	: :	Remarks
Red-breasted Nuthatch		Common winter resident			2 pairs nested Little Mt. (Bole)
Brown Creeper	Mar. 12		Apr. 13-17		A few wintered
House Wren	Apr. 16 (1)	Apr. 23			
Winter Wren	Mar. 20 (1)				Did not winter '38
Carolina Wren	Apr. 17 (1)				" " " "
Long-billed Marsh Wren	Apr. 24 (2)	May 2			
Short-billed Marsh Wren	May 15	May 18			
Catbird	Apr. 13 (2)	Apr. 28			
Brown Thrasher	Apr. 2 (1)	Apr. 15			
Robin	Feb. 11 (15)	Feb. 19	Mar. 19 (250)		1 winter record
Wood Thrush	May 4 (2)	Apr. 25			
Hermit Thrush	Mar. 27 (1)	Mar. 25	Apr. 13-24		2 winter records
Olive-backed Thrush	Apr. 17 (1)	Apr. 26	May 22 (21)		
Gray-cheeked Thrush	May 12	May 14	May 20 (21)		
Veery	May 7	May 5	May 12-22		
Bluebird	Mar. 5 (2)	Mar. 1 (y rec.)	Mar. 13-27		A few wintered
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Apr. 23 (2)	Apr. 29			Incubating eggs May 25
Golden-crowned Kinglet	Mar. 7 (1)	Mar. 16	Mar. 21-25		1 winter record
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Apr. 2 (5)	Apr. 13	Apr. 13-24		Also Mar. 12 (4)
Pipit	Mar. 27 (2)	Mar. 27 (3 rec.)	May 6 (20)		
Migrant Shrike	Mar. 13 (1)	Mar. 26			
Yellow-throated Vireo	Apr. 23 (1)	May 4			
Blue-headed Vireo	May 8	May 5			
Red-eyed Vireo	Apr. 30 (2)	May 8			
Philadelphia Vireo	Apr. 30 (2)	May 14			
Warbling Vireo	Apr. 27 (1)	May 3	May 8-21		
Black and white Warbler	Apr. 28 (1)	Apr. 29	May 9 (23)		
Worm-eating Warbler	Apr. 28 (1)				Also May 3 (1) (Only other record 5/30/31) Only 1 record 1938
Golden-winged Warbler	May 4 (1)	May 9 (4 rec.)			
Blue-winged Warbler	May 1 (1)	May 3			
Tennessee Warbler	May 9 (12)	May 8	May 9 & 22		
Orange-crowned Warbler	May 7 (2)	May 12 (6 rec.)	May 29 (7)		
Nashville Warbler	Apr. 30 (2)	May 3	May 22 (15)		
Parula Warbler	May 19 (4)	May 11			(Also May 20 (1) & 22 (2))
Yellow Warbler	Apr. 21 (1)	Apr. 27	May 7-15		
Magnolia Warbler	May 1 (4)	May 6	May 9-22		
Cape May Warbler	May 7	May 4	May 9-22		
Black-throated Blue Warbler	May 7 (3)	May 4	May 14-19		
Myrtle Warbler	Apr. 15 (1)	Apr. 19	Apr. 24 & May 9		
Black-throated Gr. Warbler	Apr. 13 (1)	Apr. 27	May 9-22		
Cerulean Warbler	May 1	May 4			
Blackburnian Warbler	May 1 (4)	May 4	May 9 (116)		
Chestnut-sided Warbler	May 1 (1)	May 6	May 22 (29)		
Bay-breasted Warbler	May 8 (3)	May 12	May 9 & 22		
Black-poll Warbler	May 14 (2)	May 12	May 16 (27)		
Pine Warbler	May 15 (1)	May 5 (4 rec.)			
Prairie Warbler	May 1 (1)				Also May 22 (1)
Palm Warbler	Apr. 26 (3)	Apr. 30	May 1 (44)		
Ovenbird	Apr. 24 (1)	Apr. 27			
Grinnell Water-thrush	Apr. 17	Apr. 26 (6 rec.)			
Louisiana Water-thrush	Apr. 12 (1)	Apr. 16			
Connecticut Warbler	May 19 (3)	May 13			Also May 20 (1), 21 (1) & 29 (1)

Species	:1st Record : 1938	:Average Date 1st :Record '31-38	:Maximum Ab'd'ce: : 1938	: Remarks
Mourning Warbler	May 8	May 13		Also May 29 (3)
Northern Yellow-throat	May 1 (4)	May 2	May 14 & 15	
Yellow-breasted Chat	May 2 (2)	May 9		Nested at Chagrin Falls (JWA)
Hooded Warbler	May 8 (4)	May 6		
Wilson Warbler	May 14 (3)	May 14		
Canada Warbler	May 14 (1)	May 11	May 21-22	
Redstart	May 1 (4)	May 2	May 22 (25)	
Bobolink	May 1 (2)	May 1	May 14-21	
Meadowlark	Mar. 8 (2)	Mar. 9		
Red-winged Blackbird	Mar. 6 (2)	Mar. 5		Also Feb. 13 (1) & 19 (2)
Orchard Oriole	May 1 (1)	May 13		Also May 17 (1) & 22 (2)
Baltimore Oriole	Apr. 28 (1)	May 1		
Rusty Blackbird	Mar. 20 (20)	Mar. 11		Also Feb. 12 (20)
Bronzed Grackle	Mar.8 (1)	Mar. 2	Mar. 19 (975)	
Cowbird	Mar. 6 (2)	Mar. 9	Apr. 17 (265)	
Scarlet Tanager	May 3 (1)	May 4	May 9 (11)	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	May 4 (1)	May 3	May 8 (27)	
Indigo Bunting	May 3 (1)	May 6		
Purple Finch	Mar. 9 (3)		Apr. 24 (62)	
Redpoll	Uncommon Winter Resident			Last record Mar. 12 (45)
Goldfinch	Mar. 20	Apr. 2 (6 rec.)		A few wintered
Towhee	Mar. 20 (4)	Mar. 20 (5 rec.)		No winter rec.
Savannah Sparrow	Mar. 30 (2)	Apr. 10		
Grasshopper Sparrow	Apr. 13 (1)	Apr. 20		
Henslow Sparrow	Apr. 12 (1)	Apr. 28		
Vesper Sparrow	Mar. 20 (1)	Mar. 30		
Junco	Winter Resident		Mar. 21-28	A few nested at Little Mt. Bole
Tree Sparrow	Common winter resident			Last record May 22 (8)
Chipping Sparrow	Mar. 28 (1)	Apr. 5		
Field Sparrow	Mar. 19 (1)	Mar. 19		
White-crowned Sparrow	Apr. 17 (4)	Apr. 29		
White-throated Sparrow	Apr. 16 (1)	Apr. 19	May 1 (56)	
Fox Sparrow	Mar. 13 (4)	Mar. 26	Apr. 13 (17)	
Lincoln Sparrow	May 19 (2)	May 10		Also Mar. 30 (2)
Swamp Sparrow	Mar. 19 (11)	Apr. 5	May 14 (15)	
Song Sparrow			Apr. 3-17	Many wintered
Snow Bunting	Uncommon winter resident			Last record Feb. 13 (5)

The above table shows an unmistakably early migration this year particularly among the early migrants. Species which were recorded ahead of the average numbered 111 while those which arrived just on time or a little after the average date of first record numbered only 46. Of the latter group, a goodly percentage are normally very late migrants such as Lincoln sparrow, Connecticut warbler, Wilson warbler, and Canada warbler. A very early spring followed by a cold spell during the early part of May is very likely responsible for this.

In the case of permanent resident species, an attempt is made to show their relative abundance in the winter and spring seasons by comparing the index of abundance for January, February, and March against that of April and May. The index of abundance is the number of individuals observed per hour of time spent in the habitat of the species concerned.

Abundance of Permanent Residents – 1938

Species	Index of abundance	
	Jan. Feb. Mar.	- Apr. and May
Cooper Hawk	0.10	0.09
Sparrow Hawk	0.45	0.45
Ruffed Grouse	0.25	0.09
Bob-White	3.58	2.18
Ring-necked Pheasant	0.72	0.35
Barn Owl	No records	0.01 (1 record)
Screech Owl	0.07	0.003 (1 record)
Great Horned Owl	No records	0.04
Barred Owl	0.11	0.05
Pileated Woodpecker	0.10	0.14
Red-bellied Woodpecker	0.21	0.17
Hairy Woodpecker	0.50	0.36
Downy Woodpecker	1.44	0.68
Horned Lark	0.77	0.28
Blue Jay	3.20	1.13
Black-capped Chickadee	3.00	2.32
Tufted Titmouse	2.42	1.66
White-breasted Nuthatch	2.04	0.87
Cedar Waxwing	4.58	1.91
Starling	9.33	13.09
English Sparrow	4.30	4.21
Cardinal	1.63	2.89

The very noticeable decrease in frequency of white-breasted nuthatch records in the spring compared with the winter may be due in part to the extreme secretiveness of that species after the beginning of the breeding season in April. On the other hand, the increase of starlings in the spring is very likely due to an influx of migrants of that species.

Merit Skaggs observed that some birds arrived earlier than usual this spring, probably due to the advanced foliage, but the main group of warblers did not come until late (May 19 and 20). These observations are borne out by the migration table. Mrs. Skaggs observed 18 species of warblers, including a mourning and two Connecticuts, in two hours, near Green and Anderson Roads, South Euclid. The same observers heard a yellow-breasted chat singing at about 11 p.m. May 27th, in South Euclid. John Aldrich also had the chat nesting near his house at Chagrin Falls this spring and likewise noted this species singing in the middle of the night.

Members of the staff of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, as well as Mr. and Mrs. Skaggs, witnessed a most amazing concentration of migrant birds, particularly warblers, on the Museum grounds, on Euclid Avenue near 30th Street, May 18 and 19. On those two days 50 species were observed including such unusual

forms as Whip-poor-will, parula, and Connecticut warblers.

Charles Knight reports an albino robin which appeared in his yard several times in April and which was persecuted to such an extent by the other robins that it was forced to flee the neighborhood.

Knight also found a robin nest with two eggs on the unusually early date of March 30. He flushed a woodcock from her nest containing four eggs in Calvary Cemetery on April 1, and a ring-necked pheasant was found incubating eight eggs in Maple Heights May 1.

B. P. Bole, Jr., observed what appeared to be three black-throated gray warblers at Little Mountain on May 9. This western species has been recorded only once before in the east, one being collected in Massachusetts. The species is at best an exceedingly rare straggler east of the Rocky Mountains and an authentic record would have to be substantiated by a preserved specimen.

Franklin Jedlicka saw a rough-legged hawk at Sandusky on May 1, and a worm-eating warbler in the Cuyahoga Valley on April 28. Dale Kellogg reported one of the latter species at Peru, on the Huron River on May 3. The worm-eating warbler records are of particular interest since there are no recent authentic breeding records of the species in northeastern Ohio, north of Richland, Ashland, Holmes, Stark, and Mahoning Counties. Intensive search should be made for this warbler during the breeding season in the southern part of the Cleveland area.

A red-throated loon in winter plumage was observed at Pymatuning Reservoir (Pennsylvania side) by Arthur Fuller, on April 10 and Merit Skaggs saw what was probably the same bird at the same place on April 20.

Both the red-legged and common black ducks were recorded this spring by our observers, which brings up a matter of policy. Ordinarily it is unsafe to try and distinguish between subspecies in the field, even though the different races are well marked like the two forms of black duck. It is granted that typical examples of one subspecies may frequently be distinguished in the field from typical examples of another. However, the very large number of intermediate examples, which always exist between any two geographic races, and which are identified only with difficulty even in the hand, makes the practice of distinguishing between subspecies in the field hazardous to say the least. For our purposes, therefore, when more than two races of the same species are known to migrate through Ohio, it seems best in our field identifications, to use just the specific name, black duck, horned lark, etc.

It is noticeable that, as in previous years, Gordon Park supplied observers with the greatest concentrations of birds of any locality worked. This is shown by the results of the public bird walks of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History at that station. It seems likely that there a combination of factors, each favorable to producing a concentration of migrating birds is responsible. First, it is the first extensive green area migrants encounter in passing northeasterly along Cleveland's barren lake front. Secondly, it is the northern limit of a chain of parks along Doan Brook Valley which serves as a favorable pathway for migrant birds. Lake Erie probably acts as a temporary barrier to further increase the concentration in Gordon Park.