

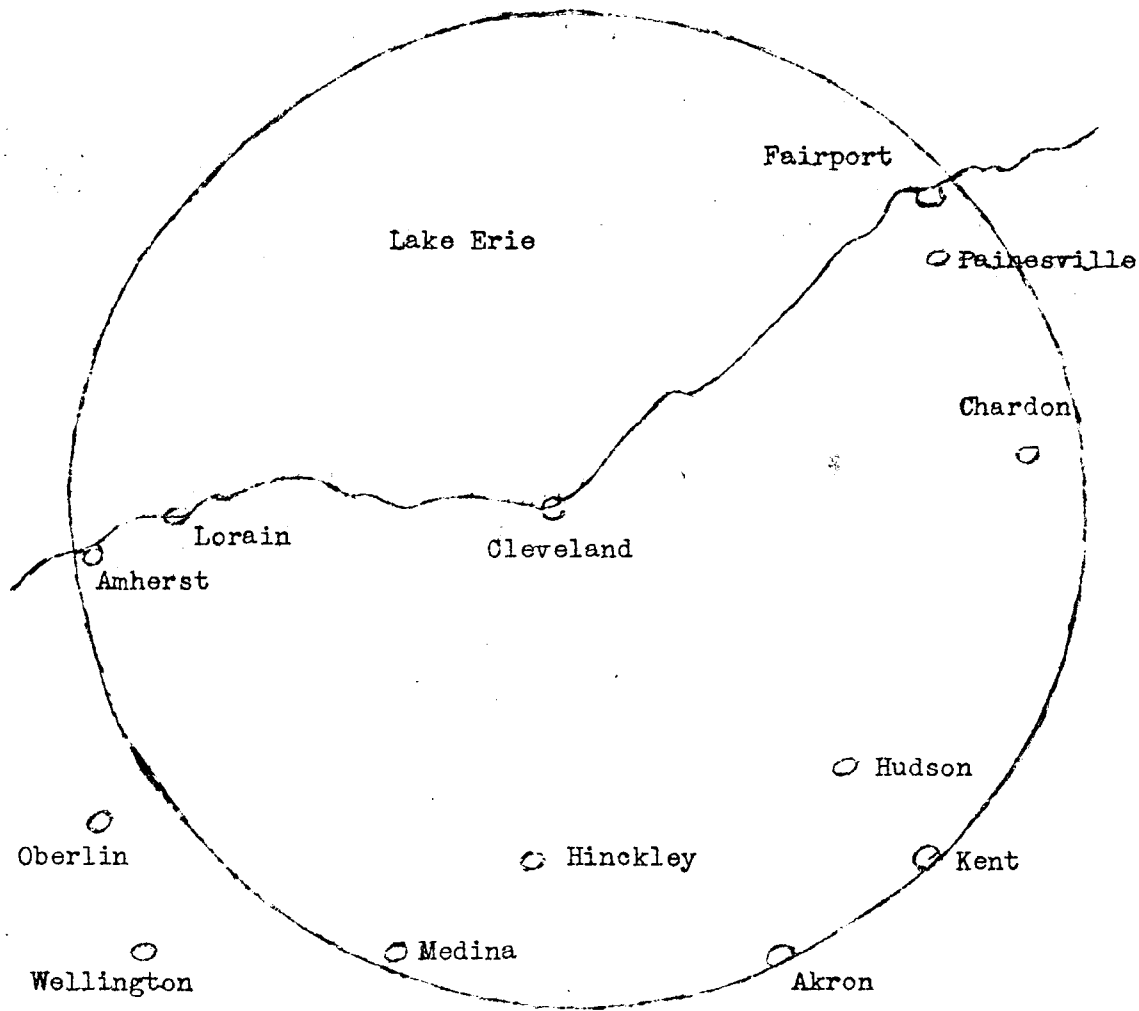
THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR

Founded by Francis H. Herrick
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Published and Edited
by
THE KIRTLAND BIRD CLUB

In Cooperation With
The Cleveland Bird Club Inc.

The Cleveland Region
(For Bird Calendar Records)
The circle has a thirty-mile radius



A+

The Cleveland Museum of Natural History
2717 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio

THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR

Winter Bird Population Number

Issued April 5, 1946

Edited by Arthur B. Williams

With December, 1945, another calendar year is completed, and, as usual, it is of interest to check back to note what new species, if any, have been added to our total list during the year.

We are fortunate this year in being able to record 5 species-never before reported in the Calendar. These are:

- No. 293 - Lark Bunting. Reported September 6, 1944, at South Euclid, by Merit B. Skaggs.
- No. 294 - Western Meadowlark. Reported April 28-29, 1945, near Bath, by Charles P. Mounts.
- No. 295 - Arkansas Kingbird. Reported June 1, 1945, at Cleveland, by Miriam Evans, Lida H. Whittier, Edythe G. Williams and Arthur B. Williams.
- No. 296 - American Three-toed Woodpecker. Reported September 29, 1945, at Euclid, by Mr. and Mrs. Spence O. Kline.
- No. 297 - Pomarine Jaeger. Collected October 15, 1945, at Richmond Harbor, by Rudolph Kula.

1945 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

The Sixth Annual Christmas Bird Count, conducted by the Kirtland Bird Club, was held on December 29, 1945. As in other years, the territory covered was to the east of Cleveland, including Lake Erie shore; Chagrin Valley and Shaker Lakes. Species reported were as follows:

Great Blue Heron 2, Mallard 56, Black Duck 23, Pintail 1, Lesser Scaup 15, Goldeneye 32, Bufflehead 2, White-winged Scoter 1, Ruddy Duck 1, American Merganser 40, Red-breasted Merganser 3, Sharp-shinned Hawk 1, Cooper Hawk 6, Red-tailed Hawk 1, Red-shouldered Hawk 3, Marsh Hawk 1, Sparrow Hawk 3, Ruffed Grouse 2, Bobwhite 14 (one covey), Ring-necked Pheasant 15, Herring Gull 131, Ring-billed Gull 228, Bonaparte Gull 3, Rock Dove 182, Barred Owl 1, Flicker 2, Pileated Woodpecker 9, Red-bellied Woodpecker 4, Hairy Woodpecker 11, Downy Woodpecker 36, Blue Jay 110, Crow 12, Black-capped Chickadee 131, Tufted Titmouse 47, White-breasted Nuthatch 51, Red-breasted Nuthatch 22, Robin 1, Golden-crowned Kinglet 4, Starling 813, English Sparrow 206, Cardinal 80, Evening Grosbeak 2, Goldfinch 19, Red-eyed Towhee 3, Slate-colored Junco 53, Tree Sparrow 67, Song Sparrow 8, Snow Bunting 1.

Total Species 48 - Individuals 2459

It is noteworthy that the only Bobwhites recorded were in 1 covey, and in a residence neighborhood where regular feeding is provided for them.

(Christmas Bird Count continued)

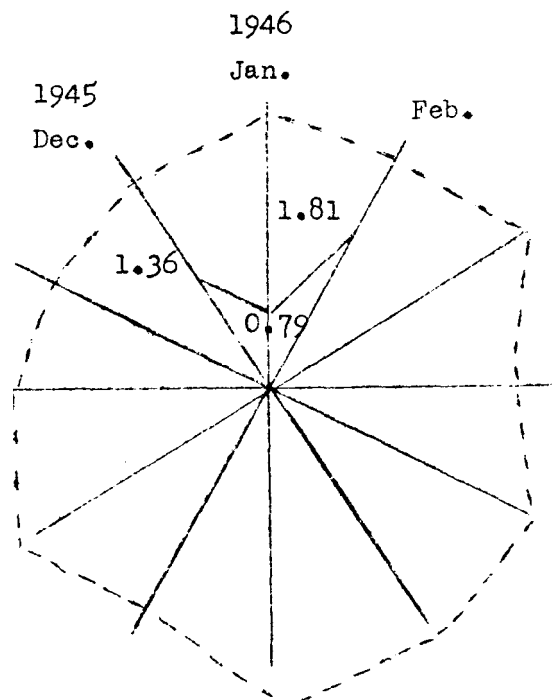
In the past 6 years the species lists of these winter bird counts have varied from 40 (1942) to 52 (1940). In order to find out how many species might possibly be included in such a count, Margarette E. Morse has made a study of all counts reported in Bird Lore, and its successor, Audubon Magazine, since publication of these reports was started in 1900. Prior to 1930, she finds, there were very few reports from Cleveland. Since that year, however, reports of Christmas bird counts have been regularly made from this region every year.

It is not without significance that it was in 1930 that Dr. S. Charles Kendeigh became the editor of the Bird Calendar, and that in the same year the present editor began his work as Naturalist for the Cleveland Metropolitan Park Board. A real effort to make the Christmas Bird Count an adequate coverage of the territory chosen began at that time. During the 16 years of this intensive effort, Miss Morse finds that 91 species of birds have been reported as having been seen near Cleveland about Christmas-time. The fact that our largest single record to date is only 52 indicates the vagrant and accidental character of many of our winter bird visitors. This year the Evening Grosbeak was first added to the list.

SUMMARY OF WEATHER CONDITIONS

The winter as a whole proved to be an unusually mild one, with a more than normal amount of sunshine and a deficiency of snowfall. The month of January was particularly notable for its succession of sunshiny days. The snow cover remaining from December 10 disappeared January 4. This was the third driest January during the last 75 years. The weather in February continued mild, with more than the normal amount of sunshine. On the 14th a heavy windstorm, which continued most of the day, caused damage estimated at nearly \$1,000,000 in the county.

The chart to the right shows the precipitation records for the months of December, January and February. Each spoke of the wheel represents a possible 3 inches of water. The dotted line connects the points which indicate the "normal" or average precipitation - for each month. The solid line connects points showing actual amount of precipitation for the period. Figures are from the reports of the U.S. Weather Bureau at the Cleveland Airport.



CONTRIBUTORS

Contributors to this issue of the Calendar are:

Fred J. Ackermann	Florence Gray	Donald L. Newman
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Fred H. Bogart	Mrs. M. C. Harvey	Frank Phelps
Harry Branch, Jr.	Raymond W. Hill	Marjorie Ramisch
Jerry Brodie	Frank D. Johnson	John F. Reed
Vera Carrothers	Lynds Jones	Mrs. Margaret H. Sherwin
Mrs. Owen Davies	Frederick H. Keer	Merit B. Skaggs
Owen Davies, Jr.	John E. Lieftinck	Marion Skaggs
C. T. Downer	Mrs. John S. Lucas	Walter L. Smith
Gerhard Deutschlander	Edward MacArthur	Harold E. Wallin
Miss Eckert	Charles B. Margach	Maurice B. Walters
Adela Gaede	Howard Martin	J. LeRoy Weier
Edna M. Gifford	Margarette E. Morse	Arthur B. Williams
W. Earl Godfrey	Charles P. Mountz	Mrs. C. O. Witzel
H. C. Dobbins	Bruce W. Nelson	

The editor also acknowledges with pleasure the assistance furnished by W. Earl Godfrey in checking over the reports for interesting or unusual records, and for writing the commentary on the record for the period as a whole.

INTERESTING OR UNUSUAL RECORDS

Wood Duck - December 9 - Four at Aurora Pond, an unusually late date (Carrothers, Dobbins, Gaede, Godfrey).

Oldsquaw - No more than two noted at any one time. Birds seen at Clifton Beach and Edgewater Park until January 1, after which they were noted only on the East Side (near Gordon Park). Possibly the same individuals forced to move considerably by shifting areas of open water (Carrothers, Hill, Skaggs, Morse, Godfrey).

American Rough-legged Hawk

December 2 - One observed at Beaver Creek Dam (Morse, Godfrey).
 January 5 - One at Edgewater Park (Hill).
 February 3 - One at Gordon Park (Hill).
 February 3 - One near Willoughby (Godfrey).

Parasitic Jaeger - One observed on December 8 at the lake front near Gordon Park (Perner).

Glaucous Gull - January 6 - One seen at Gordon Park (Hill).
 February 2 - One at E. 74th Street (Skaggs, Hill).

Iceland Gull - On February 24 an immature bird was carefully identified on the lake front at East 72nd Street by R. W. Hill and Jerry Brodie.

(Interesting or Unusual Records continued)

Great Black-backed Gull - First noted on December 23 on the lake front and regularly noted there throughout the period, although no more than four (Carrothers) were seen on any one day. This species will probably be found here each winter if looked for.

Snowy Owl - December 1 - One noted at the lake front (Carrothers, Skaggs).
 8 - One at Edgewater Park (Hill).
 16 - One at Edgewater Park (Owen Davies).
 31 - One at lake front (Carrothers).
 31 - One at Akron (Akron Bird Club).
 January 6 - One at Gordon Park (Skaggs, Morse).
 23 - One at Gordon Park (Carrothers).
 24 - One at Gordon Park (Skaggs).
 28 - One at Gordon Park (Skaggs).
 No February records of Snowy Owls.

Saw-Whet Owl - December 10 - One at Waite Hill (Mrs. Francis Sherwin).

Eastern Belted Kingfisher - January 5 - A wintering bird seen at Gates Mills by Marjorie Ramisch.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - February 3 - A wintering individual at Waite Hill (Mrs. Francis Sherwin).

Eastern Crow - A winter roost of 1500 individuals near Akron reported by John E. Lieftinck.

Evening Grosbeak - This irregular winter visitor was most often observed at North Chagrin Metropolitan Park, where on December 2 George King saw 9; on December 5 M. B. Walters saw 11; on December 8 Margarette Morse noted 8; on December 31 Vera Carrothers observed 6; and on January 1 R. W. Hill found 4 there. Twelve were observed at the Akron Municipal Golf Course by John E. Lieftinck and the Akron Bird Club on December 30 and 31. Two were seen by Nadine Literaty on the Kirtland Bird Club's Christmas Census on December 29. Mrs. M. C. Harvey reported on January 20 that six had spent a week at her feeding shelf at Gates Mills. Miss Eckert reported six from Mastick Park, Rocky River, on February 17. The latest report for the period is of two at the feeding shelf of Mrs. John Lucas at North Woodland and SOM Center Roads on February 28. Mrs. Lucas has had as many as 16 at her feeding station regularly.

SPECIES LISTS

(All records within 30 miles of Cleveland Public Square)

Late Migrant Species

Lesser Loon - December 2(4), 8(4), 29(1).

Horned Grebe - December 1(15), 2(23), 8(21), February 16(1), 20(1), 23(1).

Pied-billed Grebe - December 9(2).

Great Blue Heron - December 2(1), 14(1), 15(1), 25(1), 29(3),
 January 1(1), 5(1), 20(1).

(Late Migrant Species continued)

Common Canada Goose - December 28(1), 29(1).

Wood Duck - December 9(4).

Gadwall - December 9{15).

Baldpate - December 1(1), 9(35), 10(2).

American Pintail - December 10(3), 29(1).

Canvasback - December 9(2), 26(1).

Ruddy Duck - December 1(174), 2(100), 8(350), 9(140), 23(1), 29(1),
January 27(1).

Hooded Merganser - December 9(51), 10(10), 29(1).

Bonaparte Gull - Recorded in steadily decreasing numbers (2000 to 3)

December 1 to 29. January 1(23), 6(24), 19(3), 20(3), 23(2), 25(1).

Wintering Ducks and Gulls

Common Mallard - December 9(70), 10(30), 15(8), 23(2), 26(2), 29(56),
January 1(4), 6(21), 12(14), 19(15), February 3(2), 22(14),

Black Duck - December 1(10), 2(22), 8(12), 9(45), 10(5), 23(5), 29(23),
January 6(43), February 9(1), 17(2), 22(2).

Redhead - January 28(2), February 3(1), 9(3), 16(15), 17(8), 22(4),
23(6), 24(8), 28(50).

Lesser Scaup - Recorded regularly in numbers up to 100 during December
and up to 200 in January and February.

Goldeneye - Recorded regularly in small numbers (1 to 36) during December,
January 1(166), and throughout January and February in lesser
numbers (2 to 50).

Bufflehead - Recorded regularly in small numbers (1 to 15) during December,
and lesser numbers January to February 24.

Oldsquaw - December 16(1), January 1(2), 23(2), 25(1), February 9(2), 22(2).

American Merganser - December 2(96), 9(11), 10(1), recorded daily
December 23-29 (25 to 1500) and throughout January, February
in smaller numbers (20 to 400).

Red-breasted Merganser - December 1(5), 2(10), recorded daily December 23-31
(1 to 500), and lesser numbers January, February (1 to 100).

American Herring Gull - Recorded regularly in numbers during December,
January, February.

Ring-billed Gull - Recorded regularly in larger numbers than Herring Gull
during December and January, but in much lesser numbers February.

Winter Visitors

American Rough-legged Hawk - December 2(1), January 5(1), February 3(2).

Snowy Owl - December 1(1) 8(1), 16(1), 31(1), January 6(2), 23(1), 24(1),
25(1), 28(1).

Red-breasted Nuthatch - December 9(5), 22(2), 23(9), 29(22), January 4(2),
5(3), 6(2), 13(2), February 5(2), 9(13), 16(1), 17(1), 23(2)•

Brown Creeper - December 1(1), January 5(1), February 3(2), 9(1), 25(1).

Eastern Golden-crowned Kinglet - December 29(4).

Northern Shrike - December 6(1), 9(1).

Eastern Evening Grosbeak - December 2(19), 5(11), 8(8), 29(2), 30(12),
31(18), January 1(4), 20(6), February 17(6), 27(2).

Common Redpoll - February 21(1), 22(1).

Slate-colored Junco - Regularly recorded December (1 to 75), January (5 to
40), February (3 to 35).

Eastern Tree Sparrow - Regularly recorded December (1 to 68), January (3 to
25), February (1 to 41).

Snow Bunting - December 29(1), January 6(4).

Wintering Stragglers and Delayed Migrants

- White-winged Sooter - One or two recorded regularly December 23 to 29.
February 28(1).
- American Coot - January 1(1).
- Parasitic Jaeger - December 8(1).
- Glaucous Gull - January 6(1), February 2(1).
- Iceland Gull - February 24(1).
- Great Black-backed Gull - December 23(1), 25(4), 26(2), 27(1), January 1 (2),
6(1), 25(1), February 2(3), 23(2).
- Eastern Mourning Dove - December 2(1), 24(20), 28(4), January 5(3), February
22(6).
- Eastern Belted Kingfisher - January 5(1).
- Northern Flicker - December 23(1), 29(2), February 15(1), 21(1), 22(1), 23(1),
26(1).
- Eastern Red-headed Woodpecker - December 1(1), 2(1), 9(1), 16(2), 29(1),
January 5(1).
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - February 3(1).
- Eastern Crow - December 2(4), 9(1), 29(14), 31(1), January 5(2), 12(2), 25(1)
26(7), 27(2), February 3(4), 5(4), 8(4), 9(3), 10(8), 16(2), 17(5).
See also Early Spring Migrants.
- Eastern Robin - December 2(1), 12(6), 17(5), 23(1), 29(1), February 12(1). See
also Early Spring Migrants.
- Eastern Meadowlark - December 19(3), February 5(1).
- Red-eyed Towhee - December 23(1), 29(3), January 4(2), February 22(1).
- Mississippi Song Sparrow - December 2(1), 9(3), 16(1), 28(1), 29(11),
31(2), January 1(2), 5(1), 6(4), 13(1), 23(3), 26(5), 27(3),
28(1), February 2(3), 3(1), 9(12), 16(1). See also Early
Spring Migrants.
- Permanent Resident Species
- Sharp-shinned Hawk - December 9(1), 29(1), 31(1), January 6(1).
- Cooper Hawk - December 2(1), 21(1), 29(6), January 1(2), 12(1), 19(2), 20(1)
23(1), 24(1), 27(1), February 14(1), 22(2).
- Eastern Red-tailed Hawk - December 8(1), 29(1), 31(1), February 3(2), 22(3)
- Northern Red-shouldered Hawk - December 15(1), 16(1), 29(3), January 6(1)
19(2), February 3(1), 9(1), 17(1), 22(6), 23(1), 28(6).
- Marsh Hawk - December 9(2), 19(1), 29(1), January 25(1), February 10(1),
21(1), 22(2).
- Eastern Sparrow Hawk - December 1(1), 2(1), 9(3), 23(1), 29(3), January 1 (1),
5(1), 6(1), 20(1), 23(2), 24(3), February 3(3), 9(1), 10 (1), 13(1),
23(1), 25(1), 28(3).
- Appalachian Ruffed Grouse - December 2(1), 29(2), January 27(1), February
10(1).
- Eastern Bobwhite - December 1(10), 2(16), 20(9), 22(1), 23(11), 29(14)
January 1(5), 5(9), 19(3).
- Ring-necked Pheasant - December 9(1), 15(10), 29(18), 31(1), January 6 (5),
19(2), 26(6), February 22(6).
- Rock Dove - December 29 (Christmas Bird Count) (207).
- Eastern Screech Owl - February 24(2).
- Great Horned Owl - January 7(1), 16(1).
- Northern Barred Owl - December 18(1), 23(1), 29(1), January 6(1), February 28(1).
- Saw-whet Owl - December 10(1).

(Permanent Resident Species continued)

Northern Pileated Woodpecker - December 22(1), 29(9), January 13(1), February 3(1), 9(3), 10(1), 28(1).

Red-bellied Woodpecker - December 1(1), 16(2), 23(3), 28(1), 29(4), 31(2), January 5(2), 27(1), 28(1), February 3(2), 9(2), 16(1), 22(1), 23(2), 25(1), 28(1).

Eastern Hairy Woodpecker - Recorded regularly in small numbers December, January, February.

Northern Downy Woodpecker - Recorded regularly December, January, February in usual numbers.

Prairie Horned Lark - February 28(4).

Northern Blue Jay - Recorded regularly December, January, February in usual numbers.

Northern Black-capped Chickadee - Recorded regularly December, January, February in usual numbers.

Tufted Titmouse - Recorded regularly December, January, February in usual numbers.

White-breasted Nuthatch - Recorded regularly December, January, February in usual numbers.

Cedar Waxwing - January 5(9), 19(3), and throughout February in considerable numbers (6 to 40).

Starling - Recorded regularly December, January, February in usual numbers.

English Sparrow - Recorded regularly December, January, February in usual numbers.

Eastern Cardinal - Recorded regularly December, January, February in usual numbers.

Eastern Goldfinch - Recorded regularly December, January, February in usual numbers.

Early Spring Migrants

Killdeer - January 8(1).

Eastern Crow - February 21(2), 22(71), 23(7), 24(9), 26 ("large flock"), 28(42).

Eastern Robin - February 22(6), 23(1), 28(1).

Eastern Bluebird - February 28(1).

Eastern Red-winged Blackbird - February 28(3).

Rusty Blackbird - February 28(1).

Bronzed Grackle - February 28(1).

Mississippi Song Sparrow - February 21(4), 22(13), 23(2), 25(1), 26(2).

Comment on the Record

by W. Earl Godfrey

It is somewhat paradoxical that the past unusually mild winter (see p. 2) was characterized by an influx of such northern species as Snowy Owls, Evening Grosbeaks, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Northern Shrikes, and Rough-legged Hawks - all birds that in most years are noted here either in small numbers or not at all. It emphasizes clearly the influence of factors other than that of weather, and particularly in this case that of food failures, on the fascinatingly complex distribution of bird populations. On the other hand, comments were frequent that our regular winter residents were in general fewer and harder to find this winter. Apparently the snowless countryside offered broader feeding facilities for them, with a resultant wider dispersal of individuals. Certainly most birds were less dependent than usual upon feeding stations and did not concentrate so much in their vicinities.

(Comment on the Record continued)

The short cold spell of mid-December decreased sharply the numbers of ducks on the lake, particularly Ruddies and Lesser Scaups, although very large late-autumn rafts of the latter were at no time noted as in other recent years. Adequately broad expanses of open water remained throughout the winter off Cleveland, however, to support the usual mergansers, goldeneyes, scaups, together with smaller numbers of other species. Bonaparte Gulls departed abruptly in numbers in mid-December, and thereafter were seen only in very small companies until January 25, after which no more were observed. Ring-bills drifted away more gradually, but by mid-winter only a few remained, leaving the Herring Gull by far the commonest winter gull. Bobwhite and Ruffed Grouse were again observed in disturbingly small numbers, and it is fortunate that the past winter would seem to have dealt kindly with them. In late February northward movements of some of the ducks as well as of certain of the passerine birds was apparent, promising an early migration schedule for the approaching spring.

INTERESTING RECORDS FROM NEIGHBORING LOCALITIES

Oberlin

Dr. Lynds Jones reports 2 Evening Grosbeaks found pretty regularly during February, and Red-breasted Nuthatches at "most lunch counters". Mourning Doves have been regular at lunch counters, but about a tenth as numerous as last winter. No Flickers. No Bobwhites. Crows and Robins were noted migrating February 28.

Summit Lake (South Akron)

J. E. Lieftinck reports: Pied-billed Grebe, January 20(1); Black Duck, January 20(1), February 9(4); Ring-necked Duck, February 17 (1); Canvasback, January 19(1); Lesser Scaup, January 19(4), February 9(8); American Goldeneye, January 20(20); Bufflehead, February 9(2); Hooded Merganser, January 20(1); American Merganser, January 19(4); Red-shouldered Hawk, regularly seen; Sparrow Hawk, regularly seen; Bobwhite, no birds, no tracks all winter; Coot, 2 present all winter; Herring Gull, January 19(6); Kingfisher, 1 present all winter; Crow, roost of 1500 every night all winter; Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Blue Jay, Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Starling, English Sparrow, Cardinal, Goldfinch, all regularly seen; Slate-colored Junco, Tree Sparrow, Song Sparrow, all regularly seen in small numbers.

Sandusky Bay.

Vera Carrothers, H. C. Dobbins and W. Earl Godfrey make the following report of two trips, December 2, 1945, and February 6, 1946. In the tabulation below the numbers enclosed in parenthesis refer to December 2; those not so enclosed to February 6.

Pied-billed Grebe (1), Mallard (700), 200, Black Duck (600), 120, Gadwall (20), 3, Baldpate (300), 37, Pintail (500), 44, Shoveler (1), 6, Wood Duck (1), Redhead 115, Ring-necked Duck (9), Canvasback (17), 1, Lesser Scaup (4), 5, Goldeneye (2), Bufflehead (5), Ruddy Duck (27), American Merganser 50, American Rough-legged Hawk (1), Bald Eagle 1, Marsh Hawk (1), Sparrow Hawk (2),

(Sandusky Bay continued)

Herring Gull (75), 500, Ring-billed Gull 12, Mourning Dove (4), 36,
Rock Dove (90), 12, Barn Owl (4), Kingfisher 1, Crow (7), 5,
Prairie Horned Lark 42, Red-winged Blackbird 1, Rusty Blackbird
(2), Tree Sparrow 18, Song Sparrow 5.

EDITORIAL

As you receive this issue of the Calendar spring will be well on its way, and some birds will have already begun to nest. This prompts the editor to suggest that every reader of the Calendar has an opportunity to acquire important information about the nesting activities of the birds that he observes. Strangely enough, detailed information about the nesting behaviour of many birds is still very inadequate. Most reports are vague and lack essential facts. Here are some of the more obvious questions to which answers are important:

- Date of beginning of nest building?
- Date when nest construction is completed?
- Part taken in nest building by each of the pair?
- Date when first egg is laid?
- Interval between laying of each egg?
- Number of eggs finally laid?
- Date when incubation began?
- Date of hatching of first egg?
- Do both parents feed the young?
- Date when first young leaves nest?
- What happens after this?

While the above information is desirable, it is not always possible to secure it in such detail. If only one observation at the nest is possible, the date, location, and condition of affairs observed is of value, such as: "May 28, 1946, Lakewood, Ohio, nest of Wood Thrush in small maple sapling about 8 feet from the ground containing 4 eggs. Bird incubating." Such information will be welcome, and will be published in the issue of the Calendar following its receipt. Let's see what our readers can do this spring and summer to give us more facts about birds' nesting.

Editor

FIELD NOTES

The Birds We Did Not See - Our invitation to record our negative bird observations of 1945 did not produce results that could be reduced to a very definite statement. Aside from John E. Lieftinck's careful analysis of his 1944 and 1945 records, which indicated definitely a lesser number of birds seen in 1945 than in the previous year, there was only the general opinion expressed in conversation that there were fewer birds to be seen in 1945 than in 1944. Dr. Lynds Jones of Oberlin confirms this with the remark, "The general impression is that all birds have been much less numerous during December, January, February than usual." Earl Godfrey suggests a possible reason for this in his summary of the season's records on page 7.

(Field Notes continued)

Woodcock and Ruffed Grouse - In response to our statement that records of the Woodcock and Ruffed Grouse in this region were quite unsatisfactory, Frederick H. Keer of Aurora writes as follows: "Below is a record of birds of these two species flushed by me in the area between Aurora and Bainbridge with the aid of a springer spaniel."

<u>Woodcock</u>	<u>Ruffed Grouse</u>
September 21(1)	October 24(1)
October 10(6)	November 12(1)
22(9)	21(4)
24(1)	22(7)
November 10(4)	23(6)
November 12(3)	26(3)
	27(3)
	30(5)

Migration Along the Lake Erie Shore - Gerhard Deutschlander writes of migration easterly along the Lake Erie shore as he has observed it in the vicinity of Bay Village: "In the first week in March I have seen dozens of flocks of crows all moving in the same direction. There is no 'meandering' or wandering about. They are flapping in one direction and move right along. This morning (March 6) in ten short minutes I saw about 300 crows go by, as well as small (up to 50) flocks of small birds, which I could not identify because of the distance. These flights seem to be over by 8:00 A.M. Late in the afternoon there is a smaller flight."

More Side Lights on Snowy Owl's Diet - Charles B. Margach writes that November 11, 1945, he observed a Snowy Owl on the Lake Michigan shore, about 40 miles east of Chicago, feeding on the carcass of a Snow Goose.

From Middle Harbor, Ottawa County, comes the following information in a letter from J. LeRoy Weier of Sandusky. Early in November, 1945, a large white owl was observed on a spot of marshy land in a waterfowl preserve. On visiting the place, the heads, wings and feet of perhaps a half dozen ducks ("ruddies, blue-bills and coots") were found. The owl was watched for almost daily, but while "more heads and duck trimmings" were found, it was not shot until two weeks later. As the season progressed, duck heads were found at several other stations in the marsh, leading eventually to the killing of 4 additional Snowy Owls.

Reversed Formation - "About 10:30 on the morning of November 10, 1945, a flock of from 150 to 175 dark geese were observed flying southeasterly over the southern fringe of South Euclid. The most striking thing about the flock was not its size, but its formation. It was a 'V' in reverse."

"What might have been two patriarchs of equal rank were evenly abreast of each other at the widespread ends of this reversed 'V', which had a depth about equal to the distance between the leader birds. All the way back to the tip of the 'V' the birds held in precise formation, but about the rear tip there was some lack of symmetry. Here 5 or 6 birds seemed to have a hard time keeping up and were continually shifting position relative to each other."

Fred H. Bogart