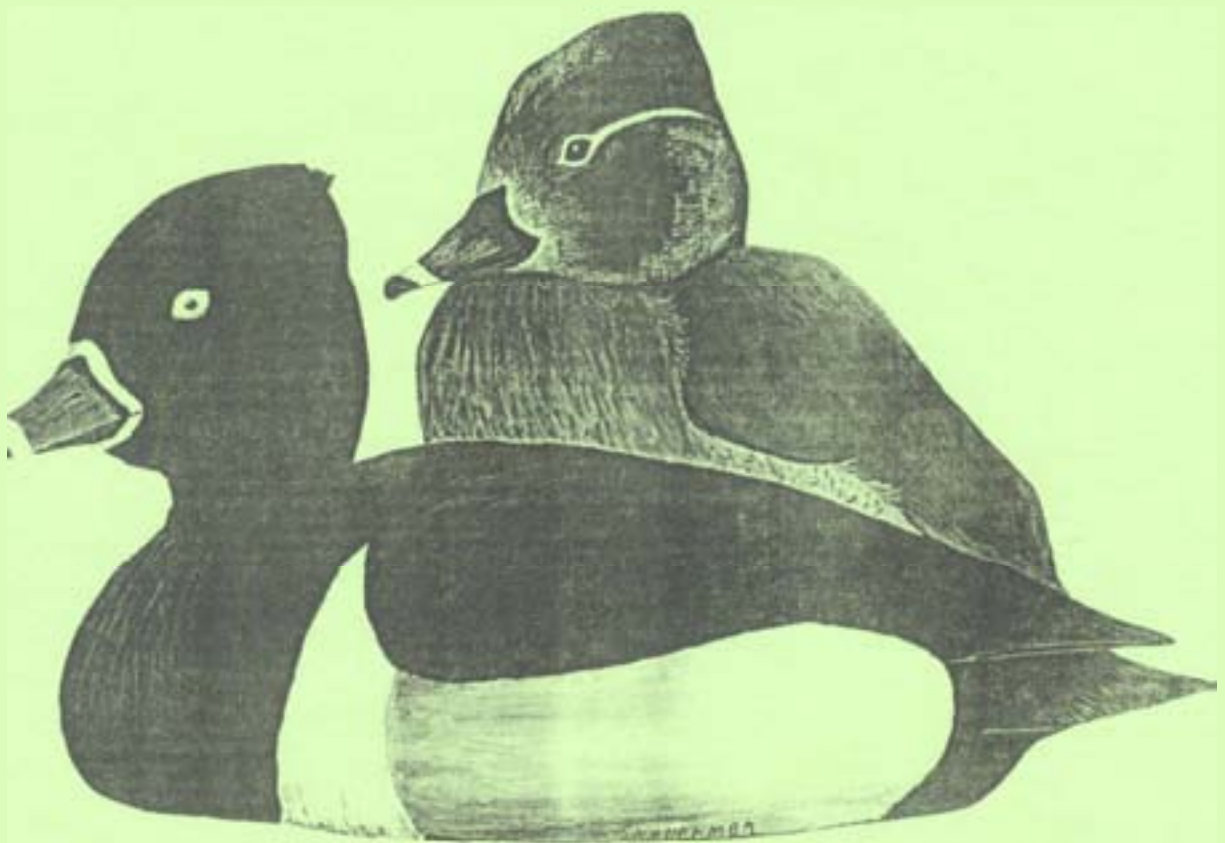


The Cleveland

March, April, May 1992

Volume 88 Number 2

BIRD CALENDAR



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**The Kirtland Bird Club and
The Cleveland Museum of Natural History**

The Cleveland Bird Calendar was founded in 1905 by Francis H. Herrick of The Western Reserve University. The purposes of the publication are to provide information on the movements of birds through the Cleveland region, to monitor population densities of resident birds, and to help in the establishment of patterns of vagrancy for rarely encountered species of the region.

The Cleveland region includes Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, and Summit Counties.

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Due dates for seasonal field reports are as follows:

5 March - winter season

5 June - spring season

5 September - summer season

5 December - autumn season

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March, April, May 1992
Volume 88 Number 2

THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR

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March - Temperatures averaged 36.6°. There was no unusual temperature departure above or below normal. The high was 74° on the 5th and the low was 11° on both the 16th and 23rd. Lake Erie water temperature stood at 35° on the 1st and rose to only 37° by the 31st. Sunshine prevailed 44% of the time. Precipitation on 16 days totaled 3.05 in., 0.06 in. above normal. The maximum in any 24 hour period was 0.7 in. on the 6th & 7th. Snowfall totaled 18.4 in. The most snow in any 24 hours was 5.9 in. on 21-22 and greatest depth was 6 in. on the 23rd.

April - Snow this month fell on 16 days and totaled 3.77 in., 0.45 in. above normal. The maximum in any 24 hour period was 1.10 in. on the 16-17. Snowfall totaled 4.4 in. with the greatest fall in a 24 hour period 2.9 in. on 31 Mar. - 1 Apr. and the greatest depth 2 in. on the first.

Temperatures averaged 47.9°, 0.2° below normal. The high was 81° on the 19th and the low 25° on the 2nd. Lake Erie water temperature rose to 46° by the 30th. Sunshine was at 45%.

May - Temperatures averaged 57.9°, 0.3° below normal. The maximum temperature was 87° on the 17th and the low was 36 on the 7th and 25th. Lake Erie water temperature climbed to 59°. Sunshine prevailed 67% of the time possible. Rain was distributed on 9 days to total 3.61 in., 0.29 in. below normal. The most rain in any 24 hours was 1.59 in. on the 23rd-24th.

REFLECTIONS

Thirty Years Ago: A Purple Gallinule was discovered at the marshy end of a small pond in Waite Hill on 16 May 1962. This bird was studied daily to the end of the month. (Flanigan). At Holden

Arboretum on 3 Mar. a single Bohemian Waxwing was discovered among a group of cedar Waxwings and Pine Grosbeaks (Raynes). From 3 Mar. to 4 Apr. an immature male Blue Grosbeak was a regular visitor to a backyard feeding station in Mentor (Hood and Booth). For about 15 minutes on 29 Apr. a solitary Le Conte's Sparrow was studied by four observers as it fed in the grass along the edge of a road in Rocky River Reservation (Sauter & Stasko).

Twenty Years Ago: A Red-necked Grebe was seen at Hinckley Lake on 16 Apr 1972 (Brubaker). A King Rail was at Mentor Marsh on 7 & 14 May (Hammond). Loggerhead Shrikes were reported regularly during the spring season beginning with a sighting of one at Case Western Reserve University on 25 Mar. (Sauter). One was at White City on 26 Mar. (Newman). One was in Waite Hill on 6 Apr. (Gaede). A bird was near Camp Cheerful on 9 Apr. (Stasko). On 16 Apr. one was in a field west of the Chagrin River and north of Roger's Road (Kitson).

Ten Years Ago: Two American Avocets were at the Gordon Impoundment on 26 Apr. 1982. A Laughing Gull was at the Gordon Landfill on 17 May (Klamm). Long-eared Owls were seen at the Old Brooklyn Airport on 26, 27 & 30 Mar. (Bacik) and on 14 Mar. at Lake view Cemetery (Hoffman) A Northern Saw-whet Owl was found in a small tree in front of a residence on East 174th Street on 15 Apr. (Kellerman).

Comment on the Season

by Larry Rosche

The field reports of Rob Harlan and Norma Kraps indicated that 12 May was the best day of what most considered a pretty decent spring. The majority of warblers arrived and remained well after expected times. Headlands Beach State Park was producing many warbler records well into June. The Sunday Morning Bird Walks alone produced a grand total of 196 species. Rarities abounded (many unverified or by single observer) and in total, 228 species were reported to this desk. This was an incredible, if not record breaking, number of species. In my 5 years of editorship this was the most difficult CBC to put together.

The Cleveland Bird Calendar prides itself in publishing verified records. I knew that after printing the occurrence date extremes in the winter issue that some records would be broken. This season proved me correct. My only concern is that all records that were broken were made by single observers. Our veteran reporters find rarities and somehow get others to see the bird. Case in point: many saw the Cattle Egret at Burke Airport, the saw-whets at Donald Gray Garden, and the Black-throated Gray Warbler in Berea. I hope that those who have begun to report regularly will also have the same conviction to verification that the reporters have shown since I have become editor.

A word about Ashtabula County is in order. Although many of our reporters visit the county, it is theoretically out of the Cleveland region. Do to the increased volumes of reports I can no longer find page space to include records from Ashtabula County. The rarities reported from Conneaut, Ashtabula, and surrounding areas are too great for any 2 editors to pass judgement upon. I recommend that reporters submit documentations for Ashtabula County (reporters are fully aware what species are included) to The Ohio Cardinal. That publication has a records committee. You may send your documentations for American Birds to me but they will not be published here. The CBC will gladly publish photographs of rarities from Ashtabula County.

Spring 1992

Common Loons were fairly numerous along Lake Erie. Inland, the first was at LaDue on 13 Mar. (EE). They were common in the east (LR) but nearly absent in the west (NK). A late bird was at Nimisila Reservoir on 29 May (BDL). Pied-billed Grebes were in low numbers. Wingfoot Lake was the only site at which they were reported to be probably nesting (LR). Horned Grebes were common, in small numbers, from March through mid-April. The migration status of Double-crested Cormorants has become abundant. The Klamms and Perry Johnson reported a tally of 350-400 at Munny Pier in Lorain on 26 & 27 Apr. Enough said. Great Blue Heron rookeries continue to

flourish. The Long Lake site has doubled since 1991 (BDL). At Tinker's Creek State Nature Preserve, nests totaled 20+ by 9 May (CH). Great Egrets were as expected with 2 birds early at Wingfoot Lake on 29 Mar. (CH). Green-backed Herons are to be monitored closely. All nesting reports should be turned in this summer. We need to get a better picture of their status. Black-crowned Night-Heron reports were widespread. A high of 15 was noted at HBSP on 19 Apr. (AJF, TL). Another was inland at Best Lake on the same date (JA).

Waterfowl were fairly well represented with their inland totals (see table). Tundra Swans were relatively scarce. The high tally was 12 at Wellington Reservoir

on 12 Mar. (TL). Six Snow Geese were counted flying over Lorain on 30 Mar. (BR). A brood of 9 Wood Ducks was seen leaving its nest box at North Chagrin on 7 May (KM). Green-winged Teals were scarce. The high count was a mere 30 at West Branch SP on 15 Mar. (CH). A pair was noted at the Holding Basin in Barberton at the period's end (JW). Up to 27 Northern Shovelers were tallied at Wingfoot Lake on 7 Apr. (BDL, CH). Elder's tally of 23 Canvasbacks at LaDue on 23 Mar. provided a good inland total. Ring-necked Ducks were far and away the most numerous duck species reported. Totals of 900 at Lake Kelso on 5 Apr. (fide DB) and 1200 at Walborn on 12 Apr. (BDL) were indicative. Wellington Reservoir hosted 650 scaup on 6 Apr.

Inland Waterfowl Sampling/Greater Cleveland March -April 1992

Date	3/3	3/14	3/15	3/20	3/21	3/23	3/28	3/31	4/2	4/6	4/10
Location	LR	LR	W/M	LR	W/M	AKL	LAD	LR	LR	LR	LR
COMMON LOON						3	1	8	28	30	10
PIED-BILLED GREBE	1	1	1	4	5	6	1	2	2	3	3
HORNED GREBE				1	6	8	7	6	6	4	4
DC CORMORANT								1		1	21
CANADA GOOSE	310	275	150	150	80	130	210	30	120	275	70
WOOD DUCK			12	12		3		30	24	30	30
GREEN-WINGED TEAL						6				3	56
A. BLACK DUCK	6	60	10	10	12	10	18	6	12	4	8
MALLARD	45	100	50	40	120	250	14	40	30	20	30
NORTHERN PINTAIL	2										
BLUE-WINGED TEAL	2						3			2	2
NORTHERN SHOVELER					5		2				2
GADWALL	12	2	12	20	30	6				6	2
AMERICAN WIGEON	12	6		40	30	24				30	20
CANVASBACK				10							
RING-NECKFD DUCK	135	318	675	200	3200	30	48	42	30	375	2000
GREATER SCAUP		2	75	10	40						
LESSER SCAUP		5	35	30	230	20		10	10	70	210
COM. GOLDENEYE	6	12	2	12	4	1		8	10	1	1
BUFFLEHEAD		4	40	10	35	6	32	12	24	16	24
HOODED MERG	20	20	10	30	3	35	2	28	30	40	40
COM MERGANSER		1		2				16	8		
RED-BREAST MERG	5	225	40	300	30	120	60	390	570	500	700
RUDDY DUCK		3	60	20			1	3	3	3	59

AKL = Akron Lakes; LAD = LaDue Reservoir; LR = Lake Rockwell;
W/M=Wingfoot Lake and Mogadore Reservoir

(NK). Walborn Reservoir had 1200 on 12 Apr. (BDL). Three Oldsquaws flew by HBSP on 1 Mar. (CH). They moved widely through the inland lakes on the weekend of 10-12 Apr. Up to 18 birds were at Portage Lakes SP on 10 Apr. (fide EP). A male was at Mogadore Reservoir and a hen at Lake Rockwell on 11 Apr. (LR). A total of 4 was at Lake Kelso on 12 Apr. (JA). Two were in North Perry on 16 Apr. (JP). Two Black Scoters were in North Perry on 22 Mar. (JP). A single Surf Scoter was in Fairport Harbor 15-19 Mar. (JP). A high count of 60+ Buffleheads was made at Wingfoot on 7 Apr. (BDL). Ruddy Duck totals were normal. A count of 100

at Springfield Lake on 12 Apr. was high for the location (LK).

Ospreys were widely reported and in fair totals. The first bird was record-breaking in Kirtland Hills on 7 Mar. (AJF). A bird at Helen Wyman Park in Painesville on 24 Mar. also broke the previously recorded early date (JP). Another at Crystal Lake in Summit Co. on 29 Mar. was the earliest ever for the county (BM). A bird was over Mentor Marsh on 11 Apr. (EB, RH, LR). One was seen from the 33rd floor of National City Center on 21 Apr. (CK). Another was over Lake Isaac the same day (RHL). A bird was in Parkman on 25 Apr. (JA). A bird was at Lake Medina on 29 Apr. (CW). Three were seen in

Cuyahoga Co. on 3 May (KM). The Werts watched one in the CVNRA on 4 May. Kraps had 4 sightings in Lorain and Medina Counties. A bird put on a magnificent show at Lower Shaker Lake on 10 May. It was observed as it caught a large goldfish, much to the delight of many (PP). On the negative side, none were seen at Lake Rockwell for the first time since the early 70s (LR). Bald Eagles were unsuccessful in their attempt to raise young at Lake Rockwell (LR). A bird was in Kirtland Hills on 14 Mar. (JP). An immature was seen at North Chagrin on 23 Apr. (KM). A bird soared over HBSP on 16 May (EB, RH, TL, AJF). An adult was seen

flying up the Chagrin River on a rather late date of 21 May (AJF). Migrant Northern Harriers were felt to be increasing (m.ob.). A pair remained at the Gordon Park Landfill through late May. This raised the suspicion of a local nesting attempt. Reports of nesting Red-shouldered Hawks have increased throughout the region (m.ob.). Pogacnik reported 56 over his yard in North Perry on 9 Mar. Two were at Lake Isaac on 6 Apr. (RHL). The Klamms counted 2 10 Broad-winged Hawks at Perkins Beach on 20 Apr. The Lanes had an out of place bird in Akron on 21 Apr. A Rough-legged Hawk was at the Gordon Park Landfill on 14 & 16 Mar. (WNK). Kraps saw one in Lorain Co. on 25 Mar. A bird was along Rapids Road on 28 Mar. (PP).

Leiden continued to see Wild Turkeys in Strongsville in April. Clyde Witt swerved to miss 3 near SR 82, in Cuyahoga County on 7 Apr. A tom flew across SR 21 near Wolf Creek on 18 May (CW). Ring-necked Pheasants were reported from Geauga Co. (JA) and Portage Co. (BM). A bird at Euclid Beach SP surely was a

released bird (TL). Few Virginia Rails, as well as Soras, were reported. A Virginia at North Chagrin 23 Apr. was from a rarely reported area (KM). American Coots were abundant on the inland lakes. Common Moorhens did not return to the 532 Marsh in Cuyahoga Falls. They were at their usual site in Barberton on 24 May (JW). A bird was at Holden Arboretum on 4 May (JP).

Shorebirds were represented by only 17 species. These poor totals reflect our continuing lack of substantial shorebird staging areas. A Black-bellied Plover was at HBSP on 13 May (RH). Semipalmated Plovers were scarce. Solitary and Spotted Sandpipers were as expected. Ruddy Turnstone reports from HBSP were improved when compared to a year ago. Sanderlings were reported on 24 & 30 May at HBSP. Forty Semipalmated Sandpipers whizzed by HBSP on 30 May (EB, RH). A White-rumped Sandpiper was detected there the same day. A flock of 40 Pectoral Sandpipers cruised over Lake Rockwell on 11 Apr. (CH, LR, JV). Common Snipes reached Holden Arboretum by 5 Mar. (RR). It is

thought that Common Snipes no longer nest in the region. The possibility of a local nesting record was raised when birds were heard winnowing at Russell Park on 26 & 29 Apr. (JA, DB). Holt encountered them at a rather late date of 9 May at Streetsboro Bog. This was a former nesting area and the hopes of breeding were encouraged by this report. The first American Woodcock was 2 Mar. in Parkman (JA). Three were at Lake Isaac on 3 Mar. (RHL). One was found dead at the National City Center on 6 Mar. (CK). Another early bird (and more fortunate) was in Medina Co. on 7 Mar. (NK).

Gull numbers along Lake Erie were nothing out of the ordinary. Inland flock numbers of Bonaparte's Gulls were above average. The 12 at Tinker's Creek SNP were high for the site (CH). A flock of 60-82 Caspian Terns at Munny Pier in Lorain on 10 Apr. was far and away our highest tally (NK, TL). The best inland total was 4 at Best Lake on 19 Apr. (JA) Common Terns are not expected in early to mid-April and reports at this time are suspicious. A total of 7 birds at Lake Rockwell in May was extraordinary for the location. (LR). The 4 at Barberton on 24 May represented a good total and were indicative as to when this species is more likely to be found (CW). Forster's Terns were early and fairly conspicuous at HBSP in April and May. Inland, they were reported from most large reservoirs. The earliest report was from Lake Rockwell on 11 Apr. (CH, LR, JV). The only Black Tern observation was on 1 June at

Perkins Beach Hawk Watch -Spring 1992							
	3/25	4/6	4/7	4/20	4/22	4/23	5/2
Turkey Vulture	7	81	71	56	6	8	11
Osprey		1		3			
Bald Eagle				1			
N. Harrier		1		1		1	
Sharp-shinned	1	8	2	92	10	11	11
Cooper's		1	1	2	2	1	
Red-shouldered	2						
Broad-winged				210	22	53	4
Red-tailed	2	13	8	6		1	1
A. Kestrel	1		1	12	1		3
Merlin				1			

Data provided by William and Nancy Klamm and Tom LePage



Yellow-bellied Sapsucker handiwork - 8 April 1992 - Cleveland Heights
by Wendy Wasman

Lake Rockwell. This was, theoretically, a summer report (LR).

A Black-billed Cuckoo was at Firestone Metropark on 12 May (EP). Another was at Furnace Run Metropark on 13 May (MR). A total of 5 was tallied on the 17 May Sunday Morning Bird Walks (HW). No Yellow-billed Cuckoos were seen. Common Nighthawks arrived in Akron later than expected (JW). Ruby-throated Hummingbirds also arrived much later than last year.

Red-headed Woodpeckers were normal along the lake with no major movements noted. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers moved well along the lake on 19 Apr. A count of 48 was indicative for the day (LR). Pileated Woodpeckers continued to be found in odd places. One can only imagine the expression on Pogacnik's face when he found one in his banding net.

An Olive-sided Flycatcher was at Lakewood Park on 11 May (WNK). Another was at

Firestone MP on the same day (EP). Two were at Holden Arboretum on 17 May (CK). Another was near Big Creek Park on 21 Apr. (DB). An Eastern Wood Pewee was very early in the CVNRA on 19 Apr. (LK). A Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was seen at HBSP on 17 May (RH). A singing Acadian Flycatcher was at HBSP on 23 May (EB, RH). The first Alder Flycatcher report was from Long Lake on the 15th. This was 10 days earlier than the previous record early date (BDL). A singing bird in the CVNRA on 17 May was the 2nd earliest report to date (CH). A Least Flycatcher was exceptionally early at Tinker's Creek Nature Preserve on 13 Apr. (EE). A count of 9 at Lake Isaac on 12 May was representative of a good passage (RHL). An Eastern Phoebe was early at Parkman on 8 Mar. (JA). Another was in Amherst on 9 Mar. (BR). The 6 at Tinker's Creek SNP on 13 Apr. were noteworthy (EE). Great-crested Flycatchers and Eastern Kingbirds were fairly numerous throughout the region.

Top 10 species-banded in North Perry in spring 1992

House Finch	372
American Goldfinch	290
Wh.-throated Sparrow	264
Slate-colored JunCo	208
Blue Jay	148
Song Sparrow	136
Gray Catbird	131
Common Grackle	65
Yellow Warble	55
Lincoln's Sparrow	54

collected by John V. Pogacnik

Cold fronts in May caused 1000s of swallows to hawk insects over Lake Rockwell during the last half of May. Purple Martin reports paint a gloomy picture for this species throughout the 7 county area. The early Tree Swallow date was shattered on 9 Mar. at North Perry (JP). Cliff Swallows were as expected in Portage county. A bird was at HBSP on 16 May (EB, RH). The largest flights of Blue Jays passing by Perkins Beach were 1000+ on 2 May and 2000 on 11 May (WNK).

Red-breasted Nuthatches were noted in small numbers during the first half of May. it seems years since we had a good movement of this species.

A grand total of 36 species of warblers was documented in the region for the spring of 1992!

Brown Creeper migration numbers were low and the time short in length. Szabo reported none on his outings in the Akron area. Klaus noticed a flock of 6 at Holden Arboretum on 2 Apr. Marsh Wrens were on territory at Barberton by early May (JW). A bird was at HBSP on 9 May (EB, RH). Golden-crowned Kinglets were numerous at Tinker's Creek SNP on 15 Apr. (EE). Harlan noted that they were "on territory" at Hinckley in May. Ruby-crowned Kinglets were abundant in Akron in April and May (LK). A total of 12 Blue-gray Gnatcatchers at HBSP on 9

May was a high tally (EB, RH, LR). Eastern Bluebirds were common throughout most of the region, where habitat was available. Veery reports were encouraging. Two early Gray-cheeked Thrushes were at North Chagrin on 7 May (KM). Swainson's and Hermit Thrushes were in good totals. Few Wood Thrushes were reported but they are felt to be holding their own as a nesting species. The Klamms reported an albino American Robin at Lakewood Park Cemetery on 13 Apr. A Northern Mockingbird was at the beaver pond off Ira Road in the CVNRA on 4 Apr. (LK). Removal of brush from Furnace Run Metropark has caused Brown Thrashers to look elsewhere for nesting habitat (MR). Reports from many areas were encouraging for this species. Hundreds of American Pipits were moving along HBSP 10 May (EB, RH, LR).

Vireos were fairly well reported. Dick and Jean Hoffman saw Solitary, Yellow-throated, and Warbling in the same tree on 29 Apr. at Lower Shaker Lake. The high tally for Solitary Vireos at a given site was 4 on 21 Apr. at Firestone MP (EP). They were nesting in the Rein-thal's woods in Richfield. White-eyed Vireos were widespread and reported from all areas counties. Yellow-throated Vireos were scarce along the lake. A Philadelphia Vireo was in Oberlin on 2 May (PL). They were consistently seen at Firestone MP on 11-14 May (LK, EP). Warbling and Red-eyed Vireos continue to be our most common vireo species.

Highlights of North Perry banding station for Spring 1992

Golden-winged Warbler	1
"Brewster's Warbler"	1
Kentucky Warbler	1
Connecticut Warbler	2
Mourning Warbler	18
Yellow-breasted Chat	1
Vesper Sparrow	1
Henslow's Sparrow	1
Northern Saw-whet Owl	1
Cooper's Hawk	1
Pileated Woodpecker	1

collected by John V. Pogacnik

A grand total of 36 species of warblers was documented in the region for the spring of 1992! The numbers of common warblers were very good. In Palm Warblers and Ovenbirds, the numbers were as high as any year in the last 20. Harold Wallin's' summary of Sunday Morning Bird Walks was impressive. Was this because of the delayed foliage?

Cheryl Pierce saw the first Blue-winged Warbler at Firestone MP on 20 Apr. Tennessee Warbler numbers were normal. An Orange-crowned Warbler was early at Donald Gray Gardens on 19 Apr. (WNK). Peskin noted one at Lower Shaker Lake on 26 Apr. The Fjeldstads saw one at Baldwin Lake on 27 Apr. Metcalf saw one in Cuyahoga Co. on 30 Apr. One was banded at Swine Creek Reservation on a rather late date of 11 May (*vide* DB). Nashville Warblers were early and numerous throughout the region. A Northern Parula was at Russell Park on 17 May (DB). Cape May, Black-throated

Sunday Morning Bird Walk Totals for Vireos and Warblers Spring 1992

Species	4/26	5/3	5/10	5/17
WHITE-EYED VIREO	7	4	1	4
SOLITARY VIREO	8	4	1	4
YELLOW-THROATED VIREO	3	8	8	10
WARBLING VIREO	8	40	20	53
PHILADELPHIA VIREO	•	1	•	22
RED-EYED VIREO	5	20	49	153
BLUE-WINGED WARBLER	59	80	32	32
GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER	•	•	2	2
TENNESSEE WARBLER	•	2	14	122
ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER	•	•	•	3
NASHVILLE WARBLER	8	20	7	9
NORTHERN PARULA	1	•	•	4
YELLOW WARBLER	58	142	121	135
CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER	1	13	12	68
MAGNOLIA WARBLER	1	3	18	115
CAPE MAY WARBLER	6	•	2	20
BLACK-THROATED BLUE W.	4	3	8	17
YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER	162	98	42	27
BLACK-THROATED GREEN W.	15	13	22	16
BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER	1	2	3	18
PINE WARBLER	13	•	1	•
PALM WARBLER	50	31	9	2
BAY-BREASTED WARBLER	•	•	5	35
BLACKPOLL WARBLER	•	•	2	8
CERULEAN WARBLER	2	23	4	22
BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER	10	41	8	18
AMERICAN REDSTART	3	4	10	176
PROTHONOTARY WARBLER	•	•	4	1
OVENBIRD	4	5	18	21
NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH	2	5	6	10
LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH	4	6	5	5
KENTUCKY WARBLER	2	•	•	1
MOURNING WARBLER	•	•	•	15
COMMON YELLOWTHROAT	42	64	85	75
HOODED WARBLER	8	16	13	33
WILSON'S WARBLER	1	•	1	44
CANADA WARBLER	•	2	•	41
YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT	•	•	•	1
• Not reported on this date				

Blue, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green, and Blackburnian Warblers were very well represented this spring. Pine Warbler reports continue to increase. The birds had returned to Lake

Rockwell by 15 Apr. (LR). One was at North Chagrin from 17 Apr. through 1 May (KM). A bird was seen at Lower Shaker Lake on 23 Apr. (RR). A nice tally of 11 was made on the 19 Apr. Easter Sunday Morning Bird

Walks (HW). The high count was 3 at Lower Shaker Lake (PP). A bird at Findley SP on 29 Apr. provided a new location for the species (NK). The Hoffmans saw 2 at Gordon Park and 1 at Lake View Cemetery on 29 Apr. They had 2 at Lower Shaker Lake on 3 May. Harlan noted one at Lake Isaac on 4 May. Palm Warblers moved through in excellent numbers. Many observers noted 50+ at HBSP and Peskin found 20+ at Shaker Lakes on 3 May. Bay-breasted and Blackpoll Warblers were fairly common at the local migrant traps. Rarely noted along Lake Erie, a Cerulean Warbler was seen well at HBSP on 9 May (EB, RH). Black-and-white Warblers were fairly numerous throughout the region. A bird at Shaker Lakes on 12 & 14 Apr was early (RR, HW). Chasar noted few Prothonotary Warblers in the CVNRA by the end of May. Ovenbirds were exceptionally numerous and widespread. Kopka tallied 5 at Firestone MP on 3 May. It seems (to this editor) that this species exhibits a very cyclical pattern of occurrence in the region. Louisiana Waterthrush numbers were normal. Kentucky Warblers were at their traditional location at Whipp's Ledges on 22 May (LK). Mourning Warblers were common along the lakefront. Inland, sightings from Mogadore and Shalersville were more noteworthy (LR). Hooded and Wilson's Warblers were numerous. A high tally of 5 Canada Warblers at Firestone MP on 15 May was a good total (BDL). A Yellow-breasted Chat was at Donald Gray Gardens on 11 May (PL).

and another was at Brecksville 30 May (PL).

Scarlet Tanagers were in expected totals. A count of 40 Northern Cardinals at Lake Isaac provoked thoughts of migratory movement by the species from Harlan. Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were common throughout the region after 1 May. Sparrow migration was generally thought to be low in numbers by the majority of birders. Pogacnik's banding data do not support these impressions. No massive mixed flocks were noted at traditional staging areas such as HBSP and Gordon Park by our regular reporters. An American Tree Sparrow was tardy at the Carlisle Visitor Center on 27 Apr. (NK). Vesper Sparrows were early at Girdled Road Park on 8 Apr. (JP). Two were in Streetsboro on 12 Apr. (CH). The first Grasshopper Sparrows were in Hogback Ridge Park on 22 Apr. (JP). They were reported to be on territory in Shalersville on 31 May (LR). Fox Sparrows visited many feeders in the early part of the season. John Augustine noted that it was a very good year for them in Geauga Co. They departed northward in early April and few were seen along the lake. Lincoln's, White-throated, and White-crowned Sparrows were far below normal numbers. Dark-eyed Juncos numbers were rather disappointing as they moved through the region. This was unexpected because they had wintered in the region in good numbers. Many Bobolinks



Black-throated Gray Warbler - 27 April 1992 - Baldwin Lake
by Frank Greenland

were overhead at HBSP on 10 May (m.ob.). Wallin's' Sunday Morning Walk totals reflected an increase over the past few years. Eastern Meadowlarks were seen in above average totals as they moved along the lake in March and April.

The first Orchard Orioles were at HBSP on 3 May (TL, LR, RH). Two were unexpected in a flowering Buckeye tree in the Rocky River Valley on 3-6 May (WNK). A bird at Donald Gray Gardens on 9 May added to the list of outstanding spring sightings from this small location (TL). Northern Orioles were numerous. Purple Finch reports, away from traditional nesting areas, were unremarkable. Pine Siskins were numerous through April (m.ob.). The Wallin's noted young being unfed by parents in Brecksville through the period. The Klamms had 6 Common Redpolls at Lakewood Park

Cemetery on 19 Mar. Norma Kraps continued to have up to 15 at her feeder in Grafton, into April. A few were found along the the lakefront in early March (WNK, TL). An Evening Grosbeak was heard as it flew over the Zimmerman Trail on 3 May (LR).

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Red-necked Grebe - A lone bird was noted at the mouth of the Rocky River on 31 Mar. It was relocated near there on 2 Apr. but never seen again (Klamm). One at Best Lake was an excellent find for Geauga County on 4 Apr. (Fjeldstad).

Eared Grebe - Extremely rare in this season, a bird in near breeding plumage was seen in Fairport Harbor on 15 Mar. (Pogacnik). A winter-plumaged bird was seen with Horned Grebes off Gordon Park on 29 March (Hannikman, Bacik).

American Bittern - A bird was noted at French Creek Reservation on 10 Apr. (Black River Audubon). A bird was standing near the pond in the Natural Area of Headlands Beach State Park on 11 Apr. (Fjeldstad). One was photographed as it "froze" in a Streetsboro lawn on the evening of 26 Apr. (Rosche). A bird was at Headlands Beach SP on 9 May (Hannikman). Another was there on 22 May (Pogacnik). On 10 May a bird was in Barberton (Wert).

Least Bittern - The Lanes flushed one on 16 May while canoeing on Walborn Reservoir.

Little Blue Heron - Two were reported together in Leroy Township on 9 May (Pogacnik). This was the first time multiple birds have been seen in the region since 1965.

Tricolored Heron - Our 8th report was from Arcola Creek on 27 May (Pogacnik).

Cattle Egret - LePage found a bird at Burke Airport on 3 May. It was viewed by many. A bird was reported from Fairport Harbor on 4 May (Pogacnik).

Eurasian Wigeon - The Hoffmans found a male at the Gordon Park Yacht Basin on 15 March. Lozano and Leiden saw it there early on 16 Mar.

Northern Goshawk - A record-breaking immature was thoroughly documented in North Perry on 1 May (Pogacnik).

Merlin - A female allowed the Hoffmans to view it through a scope as she sat in a tree across the street from their home in Cleveland Heights on 7 Mar. Birds were in North Perry on 7 Apr. and 12 May. (Pogacnik). He reported one at Painesville Township Park on 20 Apr. One was at Headlands Beach SP on 26 Apr. (Bacik, Hannikman, Rosche).

Peregrine Falcon - The word received on the nesting success of the downtown pair was that the female is a hybrid and that they are trying to catch her (McLean). Birds were reported from North Perry on 16 Apr. and 2 May (Pogacnik).

King Rail - Hannikman located this species at the Gordon Park Landfill on the afternoon of 23 May. He and Harlan flushed it again later in the day. This was the first report of this species since the road-killed specimen found by Jerry Talkington on 16 May 1986 in Eastlake.

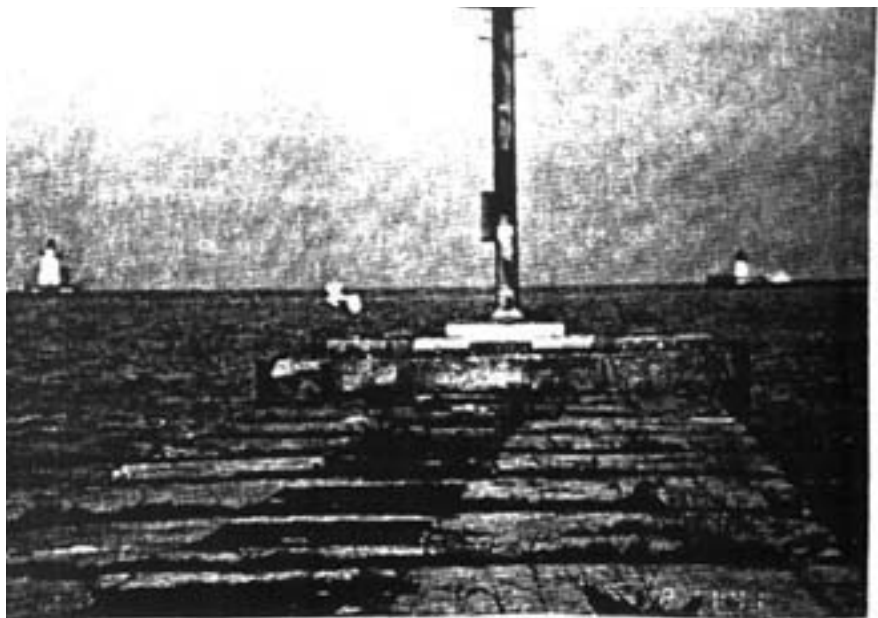
Sandhill Crane - Elinor Elder saw 5 passing high over Aurora on 6 Mar. Two were reported from Girdled Road Park on 2 Apr. (Pogacnik). He saw another in North Perry on 30 Apr. Holt was in the right spot at the right time when 2 flew over LaDue Reservoir on 9 Mar. LePage saw a rather late bird on 29 Apr. over Perkins Beach.

Willet - Paula Lozano and Tom Leiden saw 5 at Edgewater Park on 30 Apr. Bacik alerted Hannikman to a bird as it flew east at HBSP on the rainy morning of 30 May.

Upland Sandpiper - Our only report was from Fairport Harbor on 4 May (Pogacnik).

Laughing Gull - Our only report was from Fairport Harbor on 4 May (Pogacnik).

Least Tern - The first spring bird in our files was seen flying east at Gordon Park on 25 May (Hannikman, Bacik).



Snowy Owl - 2 Mar. 1992 - East Pier Light, Cleveland
Paula Lozano

Snowy Owl - At least one bird remained in Cleveland into mid-March (m.ob.). Lozano photographed one at the East Pier Light on 2 Mar.

Northern Saw-whet Owl - Paula Lozano and Tom Leiden found them at Donald Gray Gardens on 17, 19, 20, 23, 27, & 28 Apr. Bacik found 2 there on 18 Apr.

Whip-poor-will - A bird was viewed by many at Donald Gray Gardens on 19 Apr. (Bacik). Other birds were found there on 24 Apr. (LePage) and 27 Apr. (Lozano). A bird was at Lake Isaac on 4 May (Harlan). Finally, a bird was in North Perry on 16 May (Pogacnik).

Sedge Wren - Anders Fjeldstad reported 3 at Mentor Marsh on 17 & 23 May.

Varied Thrush - A bird was documented from Concord Township on 21 Apr. (Pogacnik).

Northern Shrike - The continuing presence of 1-2 birds at the Gordon Park Landfill was highlighted by a "Battle Royale" on 28 Mar. between 3 Northern Mockingbirds and 2 Northern Shrikes (Hannikman, Lozano). Pogacnik found birds in Leroy Township on 13 Mar. and in Concord Township on 14 Mar.

Golden-winged Warbler - Kopka noted 3 at Firestone Metropark on 3 May. A male was there from 4-8 May (Pierce, Osborne). A male was at Headlands Beach SP on 9 & 10 May. A female was

there on 16 May (Hannikman, Bacik). A bird was banded in North Perry on 12 May (Pogacnik).

Black-throated Gray Warbler - A male was located by Harlan at Baldwin Lake on 26 Apr. It was viewed by many through 2 May.

Yellow-throated Warbler - This species had returned to the Chippewa Creek at Brecksville Reservation by 18 April (Harlan). Later, Chasar and others found 2 more along the Cuyahoga River Towpath. A bird was in Kirtland Hills from 21 Apr. through 8 May (Pogacnik). A male was at Lower Shaker Lake on 10 May (Hoffman, Peskin). A bird was in the Cascade Metropark in Akron the same day (Wert). Judy Tisdale found one in her yard in Stow on 18 May.

Worm-eating Warbler - A singing bird was at Firestone Metropark on 24 Apr. (Pierce). Normally an exceptionally early migrant, the presence of a bird at Holden Arboretum on 17 May raised the question of a possible nesting attempt (Klaus).

Prairie Warbler - This ever decreasing species (locally) was at Lake View Cemetery on 8 May (Yoerg). Bert Szabo found a singing male in Akron on 13 May.

Connecticut Warbler - Pogacnik was the only observer to find this species. One was seen in Kirtland Hills on 22 May, and in North Perry on 23, 29 & 31 May.

Summer Tanager - A bird was reported from North Perry on 19 May (Pogacnik).

Clay-colored Sparrow - A singing male was found by New York birder Peter Yoerg on 8 May at Lake View Cemetery. Another was at Donald Gray Gardens on 10 May (LePage, m.ob.). A bird was seen in North Perry on 12 May (Pogacnik).

Henslow's Sparrow - This species was also seen at Donald Gray Gardens on 10 May (Harlan, Hannikman, LePage). A bird was in Thompson on the same day (Pogacnik). Pogacnik banded one in his yard in North Perry on 16 May.

Sharp-tailed Sparrow - The spring's only report was from Gordon Park on 19 May (Hannikman).

Yellow-headed Blackbird - The incredible streak of good fortune continued as Pogacnik found a male in Mentor On The Lake on 14 Mar.

FIELD NOTES

OHIO'S FIRST WIDELY-VIEWED BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER

by Robert Harlan

A confession - I like warblers. Yes, I am well-aware that ducks have always been a traditional favorite, that gulls and shorebirds have become very trendy, and that hawks have attracted a single-minded, hard-core contingent unlike

any other group. Don't get me wrong, I enjoy all these birds as much as the next person, but I must admit that I have always been most intrigued by the warblers.

In fact, the Golden-winged Warbler has long been my favorite bird. Its plumage is a study in subtle understatement, its' quirky song always attracts attention, and it is "just rare enough" to always make for a good find. So, while doing some routine dickey-birding at the Cleveland Metroparks' Baldwin Lake with my brother on April 26, 1992, I was understandably pleased to look up and see the distinctive white belly and black streaking on the flanks and a startlingly unexpected facial pattern. This bird was not a Golden-wing, it was even better.

One look at the alternating black and white facial pattern caused me to blurt out "I think it's a Black-throated Gray Warbler!" My brother and I made some mental notes on the spot, noting the bright white underparts, except for the black flank streaking (which extended only from the outer edges of the bib); completely white undertail coverts; two white wing bars, and the striking facial pattern. After watching the bird for about 30 minutes, we decided that the bird seemed content to stay in the cottonwoods, feeding amongst the catkins with a small troop of other warblers. After a quick trip home and a flurry of phone calls, I returned to the site with a few friends. Four hours later, however, all we

had to show for our efforts was a possible brief glimpse of the bird soon after our arrival. I was not liking this turn of events.

After the first wave of disappointed birders came and went, I continued to search the area. The second wave that afternoon was more fortunate, as the bird was refound and provided many high (but certainly conclusive) views of the adult male Black-throated Gray. Bruce Glick was able to obtain some distant photos at this time.

Another group of birders had congregated at the site by Monday evening, but without success. I feared that the bird was going to turn out to be a "one-day wonder". On a whim, Joe Emery and I drove around to the other side of the lake to check out a seldom-used trail leading along the opposite shore. We had traversed most of the rapidly-fading trail when I noticed movement in some multiflora rose near the ground. I quickly got Joe's attention when I said "Here's a bird--here's THE bird!" We genuinely had a hard time believing that the bird everyone was looking for on the other side of the lake was bouncing around the shrubbery inches off the ground in front of us. Every possible field mark was taken into account this time, even the miniscule yellow loreal spot. As I stayed with the bird, Joe hurried back to alert the rest of the group. After what seemed like hours, the others finally arrived. Frank Greenland obtained somewhat closer photos from this vantage point. This sighting

would prove to be by far the best viewing opportunity and curiously, the bird was never refound at this alternate site, despite almost nightly searches.

On Tuesday, the bird was again found back in its original treetop haunts. And also on Wednesday. And Thursday. Amazingly, the bird was present for at least 8 days, being last seen on Sunday, May 3, after which interest in the search waned. I believe at least 40 observers ultimately saw the bird, which is even more surprising when one considers the fact that the bird was never heard to sing. Fortunately, the cold spring had retarded early foliage development, allowing relatively easy treetop viewing. I suspect it may have remained for even longer, but with the newly-developed foliage, this is difficult to say.

In my opinion, this bird represents Ohio's 5th verifiable record of Black-throated Gray Warbler. The first was collected in Columbus on November 15, 1950. The second was documented from Lower Shaker Lake on April 25-26, 1967, and was seen by at least 7 observers. Another was photographed at Athens in November-December 1969 (see the cover of Audubon Field Notes 24 (1)). The only other documented bird was seen and heard at Lorain on April 20, 1980. To the best of my knowledge, the Baldwin Lake bird is the first widely-viewed Black-throated Gray Warbler for Ohio. And it was even better than a Golden-wing.

Notice: All reports to The Cleveland Bird Calendar are archived in the library of The Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

Rare Bird Hotline: (216) 321- 7245 The hotline is sponsored by the Kirtland Bird Club. In cases of extreme rarities (i.e. Western Grebe, Mew Gull, Varied Thrush, Harris Sparrow, etc.) please contact the editors as soon as possible.

Invitation: The Kirtland Bird Club meets the first Wednesday of the month except July and August at 7:45 P.M. in The Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

Field Study: On the first Sunday of each month a census is conducted at Headlands Beach State Park. The purpose is to study the long term occurrence patterns of migrant and resident birds of the Grand River and Fairport Harbor section of the region. For more information call Larry Rosche at 678- 9408 or Ray Hannikman at 261- 4047.

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Inquiries regarding subscription to The Cleveland Bird Calendar should be addressed to Joan M. Palmer, The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, 1 Wade Oval, University Circle, Cleveland, Ohio 44106. The annual subscription rate is \$7.50.

Field reports, artwork, papers, and photographs should be directed to Larry Rosche, 7473 Sylvan Drive, Kent, Ohio 44240.