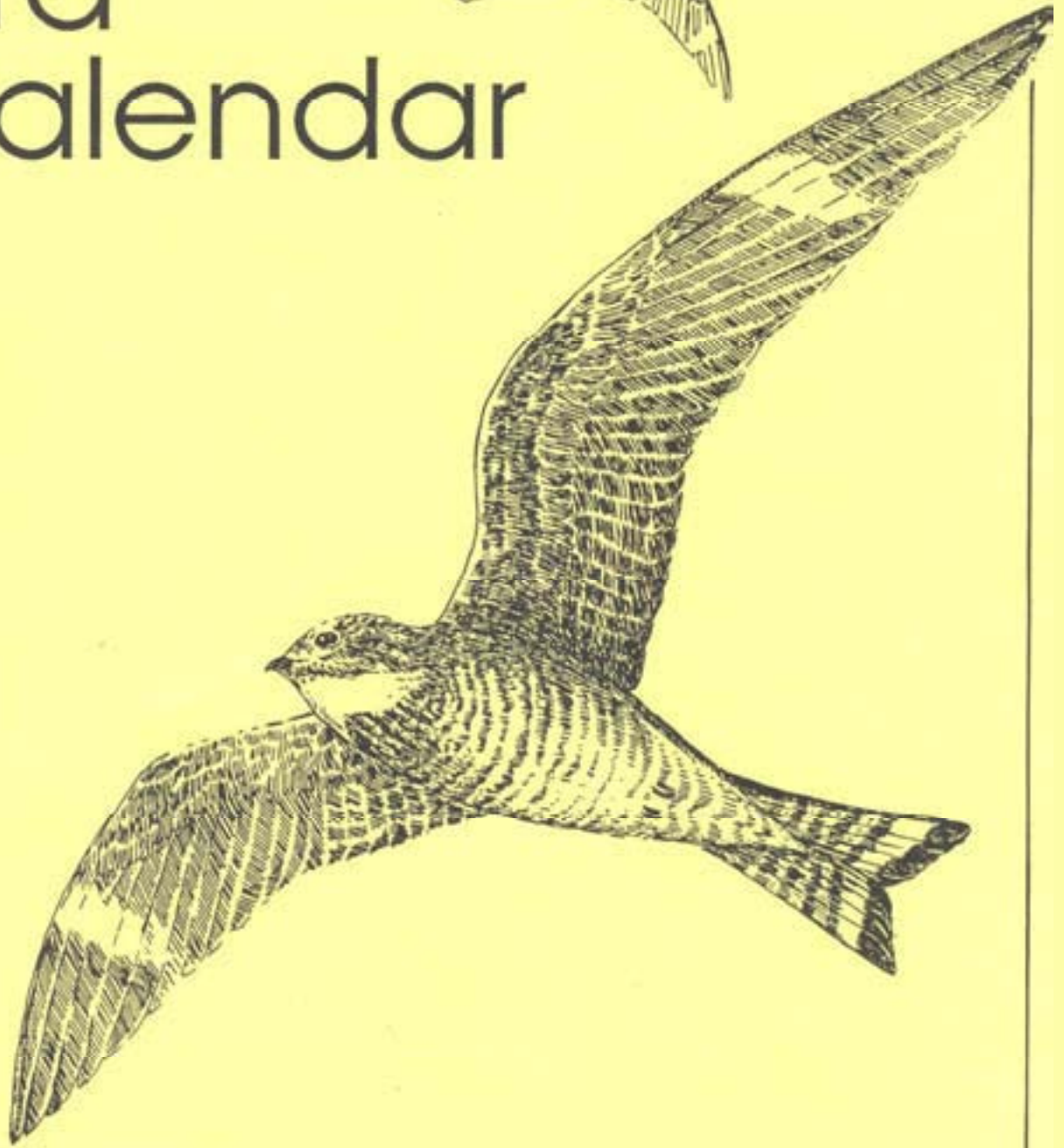


Volume 89 Number 3
June, July, August 1993

The Cleveland

Bird Calendar



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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.

The Cleveland Bird Calendar is published quarterly by The Kirtland Bird Club and The Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

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

Cover design: Common Nighthawks (*Chordeiles minor*)
by Margret Krister, 1993.



June, July, August 1993
Volume 89 Number 3

The Cleveland Bird Calendar

Editor:

Larry Rosche (LR)

Consulting Editor:

Ray Hannikman (RH)

Technical Editor

Janice V. McLean Ph. D.

Editorial Assistants:

William A. Klamm - Weather Summary
Judy Tisdale (JT)- Keyboarding

Contributors:

John Augustine (JA)
Emil Bacik (EB)
Tom Bartlett (TB)
Dan Best (DB)
Becky A. Carlson (BC)
Dwight and Ann Chasar (DAC)
Bob Faber (BFa)
Bob Finkelstein (BF)
Barbara E. Frye (BEF)
Robert Harlan (RHL)
Catherine Hillman (CHI)
Craig Holt (CH)
Sharon Hosko (SH)
William and Nancy Klamm (WNK)
Len Kopka (LK)
Norma Kraps (NK)
Bob Lane (BDL)
Tom Leiden (TLn)
Thomas LePage (TLP)
Paula J. Lozano (PL)
Kevin Metcalf (KM)
Perry Peskin (PP)
Ralph Pflugsten (RP)
Richard Rickard (RR)
Woody Stover (WS)
Bert Szabo (BS)
Carol Tveekrem (CT)
John Vanderpoel (JVP)
Jeff Wert (JW)
Clyde Witt (CW)

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and Paula J. Lozano*

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REFLECTIONS

Thirty Years Ago: A Piping Plover was at Nimisila Reservoir on 4-6 Aug. 1963 (Hjelmquist). An unprecedented flock of 15 was at Lorain on 24 Aug. (Wallin). A new early fall arrival date for Lincoln's Sparrow was established on 11 Aug. at Lakewood Park (Klamm). A Western Kingbird spent 25 Aug. in Hudson. It was often seen with a Loggerhead Shrike in the same dead tree (Henderson).

Twenty Years Ago: The first summer report of Osprey for the region was on 6 June 1973 at the Seiberling Naturealm (Szabo). Singing Dickcissels were near Wingfoot Lake until their hayfields were mowed on 15 June (Schirmer). Two King Rails were seen in Columbia Township on 2 July (MacClellan). A Red Knot was found at White City on 25 July (Hannikman). A group of 7 Willets flew over the wall at White City on 12 Aug. (Knight).

Ten Years Ago: In the summer of 1983 the region's only verified record of nesting Hermit Thrushes was found at Virginia Kendall Ledges (Rosche). Unprecedented for the Cleveland region, a male Ruby-crowned Kinglet spent the summer near Painesville (Miller). The first record of American Avocet from Headlands Beach State Park was 4 flying by on 2 July (Bacik). A Marbled Godwit was with 11 Willets on 4 July at Gordon Park (Hoffman, Emery). Four Cattle Egrets briefly appeared at Gordon Park on 24 July (Klamm).



Immature White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*) - 17 July 1993 - Rockcliff Spring
by Sharon Hosko

THE WEATHER

Summer 1992

by William Klamm

June - The month was very wet and warm. Temperatures averaged 67.9°, .3° above normal. The highest temperature reached was 90° on the 18th and the lowest was 43° on the 6th. Lake Erie temperature stood at 57° on the 1st and rose to 67° by the 30th. Sunshine prevailed 64% of the time. It rained on 10 days and totaled 5.18 in., 1.48 in. above normal. The greatest rainfall in any 24 hour period was 1.55 in. on the 6th and 7th.

July - The month was very warm and dry. A record high temperature of 96° was hit on the 28th. Overall, temperatures averaged 75°, 3.1° above normal. The high for the month was 96° and the low was 54° on the 23rd. Lake Erie temperature rose to 67° by the end of the month. Sunshine prevailed

70% of the time. Precipitation was measurable on 8 days and totaled 2.58 in., .94 in. below normal. The maximum rainfall in any 24 hour period was .67 in. on the 29th and 30th.

August - This month was again hot and dry. Temperatures averaged 75.2°, 2.8° above normal. The high was 94° on the 26th, 27th, and 30th. The low of 74°, on the 24th, was the highest low ever for this date. Lake Erie temperature rose to 76° on the 1st through the 7th, then dropped to 75° through the 25th and then returned to 76°, for the rest of the month. Sunshine prevailed 73% of the time. Rain came on 12 days and totaled 1.52 in., 1.88 in. below normal. The greatest rainfall in any 24 hour period was .42 in on the 2nd.

Comment on the season

by Larry Rosche

This was an incredible summer for me. I received a grant through The Nature Conservancy and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to inventory the birds of the Ravenna Arsenal. This was no small task, given that the area is over 22,000 acres and that most of the work was on foot. The findings were startling with respect to the numbers of several species. One can only imagine what it would be like if there were no houses or traffic around areas like the Rocky River Valley. Elsewhere, reports indicated that the populations of several woodland warblers have tripled at Hell Hollow since Ray and I were there in the late eighties. It was nice to receive the Greater Akron Audubon Bird Count results for Summit County and compare the data. Many thanks to Carol Tveekrem and her long time study.

I also wonder just when does fall migration begin? Daily coverage of the Ravenna Arsenal found no migrants, other than nighthawks, through 30 August 1993. I have always been led to believe that orioles are early migrants. I'm beginning to have doubts that Northern Orioles migrate early. Maybe they simply get quiet and are molting in late June through July. Do migrants really know where the nest trees were of our summer residents? Next year watch your local orioles and see what I mean. Singing orioles all of a sudden appear in late July to mid-August in the same exact location where nestings occurred.

In general, west of the Perry Power Plant, fall landbird migrants were just beginning to trickle into the region by late August along the lakefront. East Branch Reservoir, West Branch Reservoir, LaDue Reservoir, and Lake Rockwell had low water levels during the period. This provided some shorebird habitat but few glamorous rarities were found. All in all, a remarkable 203 species were reported (many undocumented and unverified and thus, unprinted) for the summer of 1993. Remember, this column is just the opinion of one man. Wishing you the best of good birds.

Summer 1993

A **Common Loon** dawdled off Perkins Beach 1-6 June (WNK, PL). Two were at Wellington Reservoir on 21 June - 1 July and one at Oberlin Reservoir on 1 July (NK). The only report of **Pied-billed Grebes** came from the Grand River Breeding Bird Survey on 12 June (TB). A bird at Walborn Reservoir on 8 Aug. was probably an early migrant (BDL). As many as 7 **Double-crested Cormorants** were seen daily at Lake Rockwell all summer. A high of 25 was off Euclid Beach SP on 15 Aug. (RH). **Great Egrets** were in very good numbers at the inland lakes and reservoirs. Four were late migrants at the Jaite Area of the CVNRA on 6 June (PP). Another foursome was at Barberton on 31 Aug. (LK).

The high tally was 5 at LaDue Reservoir 27-29 Aug. (BFa, LR). **Green-backed Heron** nesting success has been a concern of this editor. For the first time in a decade many youngsters were noted in August at the drawn down inland reservoirs. A high of 20 was seen in the CVNRA in July (LK). A total of 9 was seen at Lake Isaac on 4 Aug. (RHL). A tally of 28 was made on the Greater Akron Audubon Summer Bird Count (hereafter GAASBC) (CT). The only negative report came from the Portage Lakes where the Lanes felt that they were nearly absent. **Black-crowned Night-Herons** were as expected along the rivers that flow into Lake Erie. Our first report from the Portage Lakes in several years provided another 12 individuals on 18 Aug. (CW). A bird at Lake Medina on 14 Aug.

was a "first" for the site (CW). A bird at LaDue Reservoir on 25 Aug. was a good find for Geauga County (BFa).

Mute Swans successfully raised 2 young at Mogadore Reservoir. A pair of **American Black Ducks** at Baldwin Lake on 19 July was fairly noteworthy (RHL). **Blue-winged Teal** probably nested at Barberton (JVP). A flock of 10 was seen at Lake Rockwell on 24 Aug. (CH, LR). A **Green-winged Teal** was in Lorain on 29 Aug. (CH). A male **Lesser Scaup** summered in the marina area of Lorain (TLP). A family of **Hooded Mergansers** was encountered by Dan Rice and Tim Morgan at the Ravenna Arsenal. A hen was in the rookery area of the CVNRA on 21 June (DAC). Two young were noted along the Grand River on 24 June (JP). Single

Red-breasted Mergansers were seen off HBSP on 5 June and off Sims Park on 19 June (RH). As many as 3 **Ruddy Ducks** were seen at Oberlin Reservoir through 1 July (NK). A male was off Gordon Park on 26 June (RH).

The usual 2-5 **Ospreys** visited Lake Rockwell throughout the summer. A bird was reported from Lorain on 31 Aug. (TLP). **Sharp-shinned Hawks** were more widespread than usual. Birds were reported from all but Lorain and Medina Counties. A bird in Sagamore Hills on 17 July was noteworthy (DAC). **Red-shouldered Hawks** were easy to find in Sagamore Hills (DAC). Two were seen in Elyria on 28 Aug. (NK). Four **Broad-winged Hawks** were seen over Big Creek Park on 10 June (DB). An immature was flushed from near Shipman Ponds at HBSP on 21 Aug. (EB, RH, LR). Another 4 were in the CVNRA on 27 Aug. (BS). **Red-tailed Hawks** were in above average numbers on the Klamms' surveys. Inland studies at the Ravenna Arsenal and the Greater Akron Audubon Breeding Bird Survey indicated stable to growing populations. In most areas, **American Kestrels** nest sites have increased when compared to the past few years. Birds were seen near the mouth of the Cuyahoga River on various occasions (PL).

Ring-necked Pheasants are holding onto a meager existence at the Ravenna Arsenal (due in part to the efforts of the local hunting club). Six were at Hinckley MP on 6 June (RHL). A **Wild Turkey** was there on 29 June. Northern Bobwhites are thriving in eastern Portage Co.

Summering **Common Moorhens** went unreported for the first time in my tenure as editor. Three American Coots were in the CVNRA on 27 Aug. (BS).

Drawn down inland reservoirs provided safe haven for the common shorebird species. Available habitat along the lake was limited to the east pier area of Lorain. A Black-bellied Plover was at HBSP on 12 June (RH). The high tally along the lake was 9 at Burke Airport on 29 Aug. (TLP). The only inland report was from Barberton on 31 Aug. (JVP). An American Golden-Plover was at Lorain on 30 Aug. (TLP). An early **Semipalmated Plover** was at Lake Rockwell on 26 June (LR). Small numbers were encountered at the expected times along the lake. As many as 220 **Killdeer** were seen at Lake Rockwell in July. A high of 24 **Solitary Sandpipers** was reached there on 23 July (CH, LR). **Greater Yellowlegs** were fairly scarce. A bird was early at Lorain on 23 June (NK). One was at Lake Medina on 14 Aug. (CW). The high tally for **Lesser Yellowlegs** was 20 in Rittman on 21 Aug. (LK). **Willetts** were in good supply at Lorain. LePage saw 1-2 on 7 & 8 July and on 9 & 24 Aug. Two were seen off North Perry on 17 July (JP). One was at HBSP on 25 July (EB, RH, LR). **Ruddy Turnstone** numbers at HBSP were as expected. The most noteworthy **Sanderlings** were from West Branch SP on 8

...adult Western Sandpipers were seen regularly at Lorain...

Aug.(LR) and from Barberton on 28 Aug. (JVP). Excellent tallies (35+) of this species were made at HBSP. The high count of **Semipalmated Sandpipers** was 22 at Lake Rockwell on 22 July (LR). Up to 2 adult **Western Sandpipers** were seen regularly at Lorain from 19 July through 3 Aug. (TLP). The earliest **Least Sandpiper** was at Lake Rockwell on 23 June (LR). The first juvenile arrived there on 18 July. The highest tally for the species was 35 there on 23 July (CH) and at West Branch SP on 14 Aug. Lorain provided the first **Baird's Sandpiper** on 23 Aug. (TLP). Two were there on 30 Aug. (TLP). The only inland report was of a juvenile at Barberton on 31 Aug. (JVP). **Pectoral Sandpiper** migration was as expected away from Lake Erie. A high of 10 was reached in Rittman on 21 Aug. (LK). LePage found **Stilt Sandpipers** on 5 occasions in August at Lorain. A **Short-billed Dowitcher** was early at Lake Rockwell on 8 July. A bird was at Spencer Lake Wildlife Area on 25 Aug. (NK). Nesting **American Woodcocks** were plentiful at the Ravenna Arsenal. The only **Common Snipe** was at Lake Rockwell on 22 & 24 Aug. (CH).

A sizeable buildup of **Bonaparte's Gulls** (350-600) was noted at Lorain in August. As many as 250 were at HBSP in late August (RH). In this buildup, many juveniles were noted. As many as 25 Great Black-backed Gulls were seen on every field excursion to HBSP (EB, RH, LR). Caspian Terns were numerous inland from Lake Medina on the west to West Branch SP on the east. A bird off Sims Park on 30 June seemed out of place (RH). As many as 18 were tallied at Dock 20 on 13 Aug. (PL). **Com-**

mon Terns reached a high of 351 at Lorain 27 Aug. (TLP). They peaked at 65 at HBSP on 28 Aug. (RH). Up to 4 could be found most of August at Lake Rockwell. A **Forster's Tern** at Barberton on 16 Aug. was a good find for the site (LK). A **Black Tern** was at HBSP on 23 Aug. (RH). The only other report came from Lakeshore MP on 16 Aug. (JP).

Black-billed Cuckoos were in fair numbers. A late migrant was at HBSP on 2 June (RH). A calling bird was heard at Firestone MP on 13 June (JVP). A bird was in the CVNRA on 14 Aug. (DAC). **Yellow-billed Cuckoos** were in small numbers at expected locales. A bird singing in Twin Lakes 1-14 July seemed out of place (LR).

An **Eastern Screech-owl** was a surprising find at Lake Isaac on 2 June (RHL). Nesting **Common Nighthawks** were thought to have done very poorly in the Akron area (WS, JW). No mention of breeding nighthawks was received from most counties. Counts of 20-50 were made in Akron nightly in late August (BDL, LK). They were migrating by the 1 00s in Portage County on 30 Aug. (LR). The 5 **Whip-poor-wills** on the Greater Akron Audubon Summer Bird Count were the only ones reported (CT). **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** were in excellent totals through the period. **Belted Kingfishers** were also in good numbers.

Red-headed Woodpeckers nested in the rookery in the CVNRA (DAC). Two were at the Ira Road Beaver Pond on 12 June (BDL). Five nest sites, 3

1993 Great Blue Heron Rookery Survey for NE Ohio and NW Pennsylvania*

Location(County)	Nests	Average Number	
			Fledged
Solon (Cuyahoga)	46		1.23
Geauga Parks (Geauga)	185		2.3
Tinker's Creek SNP (Portage)	109		2.45
Wingfoot Lake (Portage)	38		2.06
Ashtabula Co. Airport (Ash.)	258		2.3
West Bath Road (Summit)	42		2.5
East Bath Road (Summit)	14		2.5
Pinery Narrows (Cuyahoga)	82		2.22
Break Neck Creek (Portage)	4		2.5
Pukkerbrush Swamp (Trumbull)	6		2.5
Eaton (Lorain)	54		1.96
Pittsfield (Lorain)	74		2.54
Beaver, Pa. (Beaver)	44		2.1
Grafton Road (Medina)	194		2.22
Brucker Sanctuary, Pa. (Mercer)	171		NA
Atwater (Portage)	8		2

(Editor's note) Those data were provided by Becky Carlson of the John Carroll University Biology Department. Her study included areas outside of the region but were felt to be useful in helping readers draw their own conclusions. She is interested in determinants of Great Blue Heron rookeries, particularly factors such as isolation.

at Perkins Beach, were studied along the West Side lakefront parks (WNK, TLn). They met a variety of difficulties with starlings, kestrels, squirrels, jays, and crows. In all 5 nests, only one bird was fledged on the first attempt. The result was the same for the second nesting. Three young were lost in storm destruction on 28 July. A pair was at Tinker's Creek SNP on 6 June (CH). A red squirrel was watched as it tried unsuccessfully to catch a young **Red-bellied Woodpecker** in Parkman on 10 July (JA). In all of Leiden's woodpecker studies, no Hairy Woodpeckers were found. **Pileated Woodpecker** nests were monitored at Pinery Narrows and Rockcliff Springs. Each nest had 2 young (TLn).

Olive-sided Flycatchers were at Lake Isaac (RHL) and Euclid Beach SP on 2 June (TLP).

Eastern Wood Pewees remain our most numerous nesting flycatcher. **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** lingered through the first week in June in Lake Co. **Acadian Flycatchers** were in expected totals at North Chagrin Reservation (RR). **Alder Flycatchers** were reported from many sites in early June. Birds were at HBSP through 26 June (RH). Two at Streetsboro Bog on 21 Aug. were from a known population (RHL). **Willow Flycatchers** continue to hold their position as our most common and widespread empid. Two Least Flycatchers were at HBSP on 22 Aug (RH). (Nesting reports were few.) **Eastern Phoebes** were abundant at the Ravenna Arsenal. Kopka made a count of 15 in the CVNRA on 31 Aug. A 2nd clutch hatched in Parkman on

RAVENNA ARSENAL BREEDING BIRD CENSUS 1993

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	TOTAL ON FOOT	TOTAL BBS ROUTES	ADJ. TOTAL*
Great Blue Heron	42	10	47
Green Heron	9	3	9
Canada Goose	112	34	130
Wood Duck	47	7	54
Mallard	45	0	45
Blue-winged Teal	6	0	6
Hooded Merganser	6	2	8
Turkey Vulture	107	14	111
Northern Harrier	6	2	5
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	2	3
Cooper's Hawk	6	1	6
Red-shouldered H	2	0	2
Broad-Winged Hawk	1	0	1
Red-tailed Hawk	58	32	78
American Kestrel	10	6	16
Ring-necked Pheasant	3	3	6
Ruffed Grouse	1	0	1
Wild Turkey	3	0	3
Northern Bobwhite	19	5	24
Virginia Rail	2	0	2
Sora	6	0	6
Killdeer	39	18	57
Spotted Sandpiper	1	0	1
American Woodcock	37	0	37
Rock Dove	14	8	22
Mourning Dove	44	33	77
Black-billed Cuckoo	8	2	10
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	7	2	9
Barn Owl	1	0	1
Eastern Screech-owl	2	0	2
Great Horned Owl	6	0	6
Barred Owl	5	1	6
Chimney Swift	31	15	40
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	39	18	57
Belted Kingfisher	9	12	19
Red-bellied Woodpecker	31	11	42
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	2	0	2
Downy Woodpecker	64	12	76
Hairy Woodpecker	25	7	32
Northern Flicker	77	30	107
Pileated Woodpecker	14	4	18
Eastern Wood-Pewee	134	45	179
Acadian Flycatcher	111	12	123
Alder Flycatcher	27	34	61
Willow Flycatcher	37	35	72
Least Flycatcher	7	2	9
Eastern Phoebe	83	42	125
Great Crested Flycatcher	37	16	53
Eastern Kingbird	64	13	77
Horned Lark	1	0	1
Tree Swallow	117	20	125
N. Rough-winged Swallow	12	3	15
Bank Swallow	13	5	18
Barn Swallow	72	11	83
Blue Jay	186	79	220
Common Crow	134	118	205
Black-capped Chickadee	187	47	234
Tufted Titmouse	165	77	242
White-breasted Nuthatch	67	11	78
Brown Creeper	1	0	1

	TOTAL ON FOOT	TOTAL BBS ROUTES	ADJ. TOTAL*
Carolina Wren	5	0	5
House Wren	188	108	296
Marsh Wren	2	0	2
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	24	3	27
Eastern Bluebird	134	65	199
Veery	138	82	220
Wood Thrush	127	57	184
American Robin	377	158	535
Gray Catbird	319	182	501
Brown Thrasher	38	23	61
Cedar Waxwing	110	60	170
European Starling	193	83	276
White-eyed Vireo	57	29	86
Solitary Vireo	3	0	3
Yellow-throated Vireo	77	31	108
Warbling Vireo	11	0	11
Red-eyed Vireo	279	88	367
Blue-winged Warbler	98	65	163
Yellow Warbler	323	155	478
Chestnut-sided Warbler	56	19	65
Cerulean Warbler	21	8	29
Black-&-white Warbler	4	0	4
American Redstart	42	9	51
Ovenbird	23	16	39
Louisiana Waterthrush	3	0	3
Kentucky Warbler	2	2	4
Mourning Warbler	2	0	2
Common Yellowthroat	459	224	683
Hooded Warbler	88	26	114
Yellow-Breasted Chat	13	9	22
Scarlet Tanager	100	36	136
Northern Cardinal	210	77	287
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	130	79	209
Indigo Bunting	95	59	154
Rufous-sided Towhee	328	184	512
Chipping Sparrow	16	1	17
Field Sparrow	468	220	688
Savannah Sparrow	18	0	18
Grasshopper Sparrow	3	0	3
Henslow's Sparrow	9	0	9
Song Sparrow	446	207	653
Swamp Sparrow	50	15	65
Bobolink	48	1	49
Red-winged Blackbird	307	177	420
Eastern Meadowlark	35	7	42
Common Grackle	62	131	170
Brown-headed Cowbird	186	120	306
Orchard Oriole	2	1	3
Northern Oriole	52	12	64
Purple Finch	11	4	15
House Finch	38	5	43
American Goldfinch	246	113	359
House Sparrow	25	0	25
	8,498	3,812	12,053

*NUMBERS REFLECTED ARE 90±% MALES
ADJUSTED TOTAL IS NUMBER ON FOOT PLUS BBS ROUTES MINUS KNOWN
OVERLAP OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS. IN MOST CASES IT IS MERELY THE SUM.

26 June (JA). The last young left this nest on 10 July. High numbers of **Great Crested Flycatchers** were seen in June in Medina and Summit Counties (BDL). An **Eastern Kingbird** was observed drinking from a puddle in the parking lot at The Cleveland Museum of Natural History on the evening of 2 June (PL). They were scarce in Lake County (JP).

An estimated 400+ **Purple Martins** were seen at HBSP on 29 Aug. (EB, RH, LR). This was the largest flock of this species at this site in the past 15 years. The Greater Akron Audubon Summer Bird Count tallied 54 (CT). **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** were normal. **Bank Swallows** nested abundantly. Szabo counted 150 at Cascade Valley MP on 14 June. As many as 30 active nests of **Cliff Swallows** were found at West Branch SP (CH).

A **Red-breasted Nuthatch** nesting report was received from the Seiberling Naturealm (WS). A female was banded on 27 June at Lakeshore MP (JP). Two birds in the Rocky River MP on 21 July were either local nesters or a portent of what was to come in the fall (TLP). A few migrants were noted along the lakefront counties at the end of the period. **Brown Creepers** were scarce. **Carolina Wrens** have become as common as House Wrens in some areas. **Marsh Wrens** were few and far between. Two at HBSP on 31 July were unexpected (RH). Canoe trips to Walborn Reservoir found 3+ on 8 Aug. (BDL). **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** were as expected.

Barbara Frye's study of 14 nest boxes of **Eastern Bluebirds** found that of 39 eggs 27 hatched. Of these, 21 fledged. Interesting to note was, of the 39 eggs, 5 were white. Veeries were abundant in all areas of the Ravenna Arsenal. **Swainson's Thrushes** lingered well into June (m.ob.). Two hatching year birds were banded at Lakeshore Park on 3 Aug. (JP). **Wood Thrushes** were in expected totals at North Chagrin Reservation (RR). On the evening of 22 Aug. hundreds of **American Robins** in heavy molt were seen going to roost near Chapel Hill Mall in Akron (LR). **Northern Mockingbirds** were in low but expected numbers. The upward cycle of **Brown Thrashers** continued in most areas. A bird at Cascade Valley MP on 14 June was a good find (BS).

White-eyed Vireos are doing very well in many parts of the region. Two **Solitary Vireos** were at Hinckley MP on 9 June (RHL). A male was on territory at Virginia Kendall Ledges on 12 June (DJH). They were as expected in Lake Co. **Yellow-throated Vireos** were fairly common. **Warbling Vireos** were widely distributed. A **Philadelphia Vireo** was near record late at Perkins Beach on 2 June (PL). Another late bird was at HBSP on 1 June (DAC). **Red-eyed Vireos** were in expected high numbers.

The last **Tennessee Warbler** was 2 June at HBSP (RH). **Nashville Warblers** were exceptionally late at Lakeshore MP on 8 June (JP) and exceptionally early at Euclid Beach SP on 22 Aug. (TLP). **Yellow Warblers** were still

at the Ira Road Beaver Marsh in the CVNRA on 16 Aug. (LK). **Chestnut-sided Warblers** were common at the Ravenna Arsenal. A bird was at Hinckley MP on 1 June (RHL). A **Magnolia Warbler** was noteworthy at Hinckley MP on 1 June (RHL). **Cape May Warblers** were moving along the lake nicely the last third of Aug. A **Black-throated Blue Warbler** was at Lakeshore MP on 6 June (JP). Up to 9 **Black-throated Green Warblers** were found at Hinckley MP on 9 June (RHL). Hell Hollow provided another 7 on 12 June (JP). Two males and a female **Blackburnian Warbler** were at Hinckley MP on 6 June (RHL). An out of place bird was in Parma Heights on 11 June (RHL). A **Pine Warbler** was noted in the CVNRA on 4 June (BAT). The first **Bay-breasted Warbler** was at HBSP on 22 Aug. (RH). A **Blackpoll Warbler** was late there on 2 June. (RH). **Cerulean Warblers** were in expected totals. **Black-and-white Warblers** were found at the Ravenna Arsenal and at several Lake County sites. **American Redstarts** were abundant. A **Prothonotary Warbler** was at Sanitation Pond in the CVNRA on 6 June (DAC). Three pairs were enticed to nest near Russell Park by using converted plastic jars (DB). Only 1 was found on the Greater Akron Audubon Summer Bird Count (CT). A bird was in Pinery Narrows on 20 June (CH). **Ovenbirds** were fairly common at the Ravenna Arsenal and on the Greater Akron Audubon Summer Bird Count (CT). Migrant **Northern Waterthrushes** were late on 5 June and early on 29 Aug. at HBSP (RH). A count of 26

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

singing male **Louisiana Waterthrushes** in Hell Hollow on 12 June outdoes the number found at Stebbins Gulch (JP)! **Kentucky Warblers** were once again found at Hinckley MP in June (RHL, LK). A bird was reported from Hidden Valley MP on 14 June (JP). A **Mourning Warbler** was late at Sims Park on 2 June (RH). Three were banded at Lakeshore Park in August (JP). A report of a male **Hooded Warbler** feeding a begging **Brown-headed Cowbird** at the Squire's Castle area of North Chagrin Reservation on 19 Aug. was annoying (CHi). Kopka counted 20 in a 5 acre tract of woods in Bath on 12 June. **Wilson's Warblers** lingered at HBSP through 5 June (RH). A **Canada Warbler** was at Hinckley MP on 6 June (RHL). An early migrant had returned to HBSP by 14 Aug. (RH). A bird at the Lorain landfill on 18 Aug. must have looked out of place (TLP). Two **Yellow-breasted Chats** were in Sagamore Hills on 2 July (DAC). A count of 3 was made at Silver Creek MP on 12 June (BDL).

Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were in excellent numbers. **Indigo Buntings**, **Rufous-sided Towhees**, and **Field Sparrows** were abundant. **Vesper Sparrows** were scarce. Two in Madison Township in Lake Co. on 7 July were from a new site (RHL, JP). A **Grasshopper Sparrow** was a good find at Lake Medina on 25 June (CW). Another was in Madison Township in Lake Co. on 7 July (RHL). On the GAASBC 6 were reported (CT). The Lanes found 3 in Barberton on 13 June. A **Lincoln's Sparrow** was tardy at HBSP on 2 June (RH). **Dark-eyed Juncos**

were in expected totals along the Chagrin and Grand Rivers (DB, RHL, KM, JP). Totally unexpected were 2 on the GAASBC (CT). **Bobolinks** were in expected nesting totals. The only indication of a southerly movement was 8 birds at the Lorain landfill on 31 Aug. (TLP).

An **Orchard Oriole** was seen in the CVNRA on 4 June (BAT). A bird was in Medina on 6 June (CW). Four were counted on the Greater Akron Audubon Summer Bird Count (CT). John Augustine commented that he "hadn't seen one in a long time" after watching a male feeding a youngster in his Parkman yard on 5 July. **Northern Orioles** were conspicuous through mid-June. A total of 126 was counted on the GAASBC (CT). Birds lingered at HBSP until mid-August. In the last third of August an influx of migrants was noted. Three **Purple Finches** were seen in the CVNRA on 12 June (RHL). In North Perry 20 young were banded (JP). House Finch numbers seemed down to most observers during most of the period. They must all have spent the summer in North Perry where 700 were reported to have been banded since April (JP). A single **Pine Siskin** was reported on the Grand River Survey (TB).

.A Grasshopper Sparrow was a good find at Lake Medina...

Common Loon - Unprecedented in the region, a pair of breeding plumaged birds remained through the season at a large lake in Shalersville Township. A downpour that measured 4.5" in early June probably destroyed the nesting attempt.

Least Bittern - The only report this summer was from the holding basin in Barberton on 31 July (Vanderpoel).

Tricolored Heron - The first local record of an immature of this species was discovered at East Branch Reservoir 21- 28 Aug. (Faber, m.ob.).

Cattle Egret - A bird was in Mentor on 1 July (Pogacnik).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron - A bird was seen in Willoughby on 28 June (Pogacnik).

White Ibis - The first regional record of this species was discovered by Lester and Jean Andelosen early in the morning of 19 July at Rockcliff Spring in the Cleveland Metroparks.

Common Merganser - A female (in all likelihood, the same bird reported in spring) was seen at Rocky River Metropark on 5 June (Harlan).

Bald Eagle - It seemed odd that the nest failed at Lake Rockwell and 2 adults and a young bird were seen there all summer (Holt, Rosche). Adults were seen in the areas near

the Geauga County nest site (Best, Faber).

Northern Harrier - The first nesting in recent Portage County history was monitored by Rosche at the Ravenna Arsenal. Two young were closely observed and the nest was photographed after the birds had fledged. Two subadult birds were noted in other areas of the arsenal as well. Two female plumaged birds were reported from Fairport Harbor from June - August (Bacik, Rosche). Vanderpoel noted one at Barberton on 28 July.

Peregrine Falcon - For the first time in the history of the region a pair successfully bred and fledged 2 young in downtown Cleveland (Lozano, m.ob.).

King Rail - An adult was viewed for several minutes at Streetsboro Bog on the morning of 6 June (Holt).

American Avocet - A male, still retaining much of the brilliant orange color on his head, was discovered at Lake Rockwell following a downpour on 28 July (Holt). A bird was in Lorain on 11 Aug. (Kraps, LePage). Two were videotaped there on 16 Aug. (Klamm, LePage).

Upland Sandpiper - A maximum of 2 birds was reported from Fairport Harbor 1 June - 31 July (Pogacnik).

Whimbrel - Three were at Headlands Beach SP on 25 July (Rosche, Hannikman, Bacik). One was there on 30-31 July (Hannikman, Bacik). Another was in Lorain on 31 July (LePage).

Hudsonian Godwit - A bird was documented from Barberton on 29 Aug. This was the first report from Summit County since 1951 (Vanderpoel).

Marbled Godwit - The first local report of this species in several years was in Lorain on 26 July (LePage). It or another was there on 28 July (Kraps).

Red Knot - No longer expected in the region, birds were seen in Lorain on 26, 27 & 31 Aug. (LePage).

Wilson's Phalarope - A bird was in Lorain on 15 Aug. (LePage).

Laughing Gull - An adult was seen at Headlands Beach SP on 19 June (Hannikman). It or another was off North Perry 29 June (Pogacnik).

Little Gull - An adult was in Lorain on 3 Aug. and an immature was there on 30 Aug. (LePage).

Barn Owl - A bird was watched for several minutes at the Ravenna Arsenal on the night of 18 June by ODNR biologist Ralph Pfingsten.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - Once again, a male summered in Tallmadge (Stover). This year it provided a "first" for the Greater Akron Audubon Summer Bird Count (Tveekrem).

Winter Wren - Three territorial males were reported from Hell Hollow. This species had not previously been reported from this site (Pogacnik). No reports were received from the CVNRA.

Golden-crowned Kinglet - A male was at Hinckley Metropark on 6-9 June (Harlan).

Brewster's Warbler - For the second year in a row, a bird was seen along Station Road in the CVNRA on 19 June (Chasar).

Northern Parula - Birds were noted only in Lake County. One was at Hell Hollow on 12 June and near River Road Park on 24 June (Pogacnik).

Blackburnian Warbler - Two males and a female were at Hinckley Metropark on 6 June (Harlan). A male was in Parma Heights on 11 June (Harlan).

Prairie Warbler - A bird was found by Gary Gerrone at the Lorain County Metropark Equestrian Area on 10 - 12 June (Kraps). One was in Leroy Township on 22 June and 14 Aug. (Pogacnik).

Worm-eating Warbler - A bird was reported from Paine Falls on 5 June (Pogacnik).

Connecticut Warbler - A bird was in North Perry on 8 June (Pogacnik).

Henslow's Sparrow - A bird was observed along Dewey Road on 7 June (Pogacnik).

White-throated Sparrow - A bird was noted off and on at Headlands Beach SP all summer (Hannikman, Metcalf, Toneff).

Western Meadowlark - A singing male put in a 2 day appearance at Streetsboro City Park on 12-13 June (Holt).

FIELD NOTES

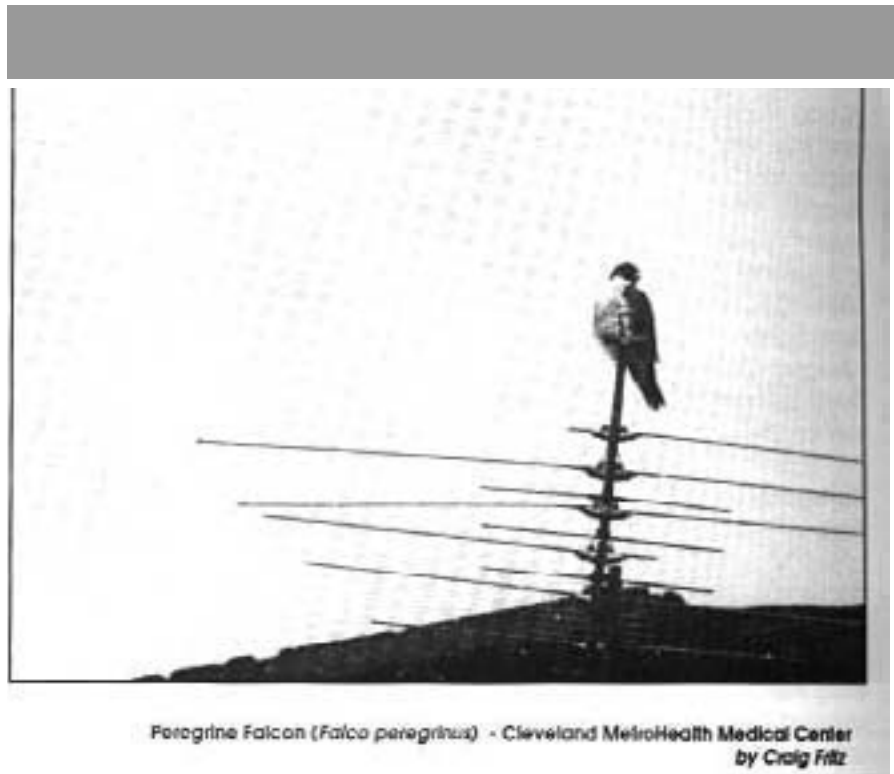
Recent Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) observations in the Cleveland Region

by *Bob Finkelstein
and Paula J. Lozano*

According to published sources dating back to 1950, the Peregrine Falcon was regarded as a rare migrant in the Cleveland region (Williams, 1950; Newman, 1969). In the recent editing of A Field Book of Birds of the Cleveland Region (Rosche, 1988) the Peregrine Falcon was still regarded as a rare migrant, but noted that the frequency of sightings was increasing.

Since that time, Peregrine Falcon activity has been increasing in Cleveland with sightings at Burke Lakefront Airport and unsuccessful nesting attempts on the Terminal Tower.

A milestone was reached this year when a pair of Peregrine Falcons nested on the Terminal Tower successfully fledged two chicks in August. These events were preceded by the ODNR's Division of Wildlife removing the sterile female hybrid Peregrine-Prairie Falcon that had been paired with the male for five years. Within three weeks an immature female took her place, and the ensuing events were covered with considerable fanfare by the local



Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) - Cleveland MetroHealth Medical Center
by Craig Fritz

media. As the chicks neared the time of fledging, the Division of Wildlife formed an ad hoc group of volunteers, including three Kirtland Bird Club members, to monitor the chicks' activity during their critical first flights. Both chicks are alive, as far as is known.

In addition to the pair that nested on the Terminal Tower, as early as April of 1992, another Peregrine was seen around MetroHealth Medical Center on Scranton Road. It all started when Dan Gladyszewski of the Facilities Engineering Department at the medical center received reports of bird kills. In investigating the bird kills, Dan saw a raptor he identified as a Peregrine Falcon perched on one of the medical center

buildings. Dan continued to see the Peregrine Falcon and knowing it was an endangered species, decided to inform an appropriate Cleveland organization. Dan eventually talked to Harvey Webster, Supervisor of Wildlife Resources at The Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Harvey confirmed Dan's identification; he also suggested a journal be kept of Falcon observations. Dan was only able to provide observations when his work took him outside or when one of his staff reported seeing the bird.

In January 1993, Dan contacted the Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society for help in monitoring activity, Joni Norris, then president of the Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society,

organized an *ad hoc* group of volunteers to monitor. Several Kirtland Bird Club members also participated.

Individuals from the group of volunteers were able to spend various periods of time at the medical center observing and recording the Peregrines activities. The notes of the individual observers were compiled into a log, and weekly monitoring schedules were organized.

For the first three months of 1993, sightings of the bird were from many locations around the MetroHealth complex. However, it did seem to favor two locations: the East Tower, and the Cleveland Psychiatric Institute (CPI), where it frequently fed and roosted.

The Falcon was observed feeding on Rock Doves at various times of the day from early in the morning to late in the afternoon. The Rock Dove seemed to be a favored prey species, a choice that could have been influenced by availability. There's no shortage of Rock Doves.

On April 5, another Peregrine Falcon appeared at MetroHealth. By visually comparing the two birds, it was concluded that the smaller bird was an immature male and the larger a mature female. With the arrival of the male, the two birds were at times observed engaging in joint activities, such as perching near each other, calling to each other, and chasing each other in flight. However, no

one reported that they mated. The male was also observed attacking small birds in flight, making kills, and sometimes dropping and catching the prey in the air. About this time, parts of migratory birds such as, Green-backed Heron, American Coot, American Woodcock, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, and Eastern Meadowlark were found scattered about the bases of the two towers. One observer even reported finding the head of a Hooded Merganser.

Toward the end of April both Falcons disappeared from the MetroHealth Medical Center. Near the end of June, Dan Gladysewski reported that a Peregrine Falcon was again there. The bird looked like an immature male, perhaps the same one that was there in April. On two occasions in July it was seen flying eastward, away from the medical center, toward LTV Steel with part of a kill in its talons. There is no clear explanation for this behavior. Then on July 23, a mature female Peregrine, perhaps the bird that had been there since 1992, reappeared at the medical center. Twice both Peregrine Falcons were seen together but, after July 23, there is no unambiguous

observation that places the female at the medical center. The male, however, was seen through the middle of August.

Postscript: on August 9, Lakewood residents from a 25th floor Winton Place apartment that faces Lake Erie, told a member of the monitoring group that for the previous week they had seen what they identified as a Peregrine Falcon for a brief time each day in the late afternoon. They reported seeing the bird flying, perched on a porch railing of the nearby Meridian Apartments, and feeding in a dead tree along the lake shore. From a distance, on August 20, the monitoring group member saw a Peregrine Falcon in this area that was joined by what looked to be another Peregrine. Both birds then flew in a southerly direction until they were out of sight. The most recent observation was on August 26, from the Winton Place residents. They reported two Peregrine Falcons performing aerial loops together at Winton Place. One was an immature male and the other a mature female. Perhaps these are the MetroHealth Medical Center Peregrines.

References:

1. A. B. Williams, *Birds of Cleveland*, (1950)
2. Donald L. Newman, *A Field Book of Birds of the Cleveland Region*, (1969)
3. Larry Rosche, *A Field Book of Birds of the Cleveland Region*. 2nd. ed., (1988)
4. Peregrine Falcon Watch Log, (Unpublished).
5. Communication between Paula Lozano and Richard and Jenine Porter.

***The Falcon was
observed feeding
on Rock Doves at
various times...***

Grand River Breeding Bird Survey

by Tom Bartlett

Since the Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas project was completed in 1988, Dan Rice, Vertebrate Biologist for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, has concentrated on surveying the birds of Ohio's scenic rivers. The first couple of years he attempted to persuade individuals to survey the rivers but this method did not produce the results he wanted. Borrowing an idea from the atlas "blockbusting days" he rounded up a crew of experienced birders for a weekend river survey. During the summer of 1992, the crew surveyed the Little Beaver River. This summer it was the Grand River's turn to be surveyed. On 11 June 1993 thanks to the generosity of Jim Storer, the crew of 17 arrived at Walden II in Perry Township. On Saturday morning, teams of two canoed 5 mile stretches of the Grand River from mile 8.75 to mile 69.5. Each canoe stopped every 1/4 mile and counted all birds seen or heard for 5 minutes. In addition to the canoe work, there were several parties walking up tributaries to the Grand River making similar counts. The major problem on this weekend was that the river and its tributaries were well above flood stage. This made it nearly impossible to stop the canoes for the 5 minute interval. Hearing bird songs above the roar of the river

Selected Species from the Grand River Survey

Pied-billed Grebe	5	White-eyed Vireo	9
Great Blue Heron	25	Solitary Vireo	2
Green-backed Heron	4	Yellow-throated Vireo	34
Wood Duck	111	Warbling Vireo	36
Red-tailed Hawk	13	Red-eyed Vireo	230
Red-shouldered Hawk	6	Blue-winged Warbler	29
Spotted Sandpiper	5	Northern Parula	5
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	2	Yellow Warbler	77
Black-billed Cuckoo	7	Chestnut-sided Warbler	5
Barred Owl	3	Blk-throat. Green W	5
Rt. Hummingbird	22	Yellow-throated Warbler	4
Belted Kingfisher	14	Cerulean Warbler	69
Red-headed Woodpecker	2	Black-&-white Warbler	2
Red-bellied Woodpecker	74	American Redstart	44
Downy Woodpecker	273	Prothonotary Warbler	2
Hairy Woodpecker	23	Ovenbird	13
Northern Flicker	34	Louisiana Waterthrush	25
Pileated Woodpecker	23	Kentucky Warbler	1
Eastern Wood-Pewee	191	Common Yellowthroat	142
Acadian Flycatcher	71	Hooded Warbler	64
Willow Flycatcher	4	Yellow-breasted Chat	2
Eastern Phoebe	49	Scarlet Tanager	126
Great Crested Flycatcher	63	Northern Cardinal	199
Eastern Kingbird	8	Indigo Bunting	173
N. Rough-winged Swallow	88	Rufous-sided Towhee	11
Blue Jay	156	Chipping Sparrow	11
American Crow	144	Field Sparrow	15
Black-capped Chickadee	104	Song Sparrow	278
Tufted Titmouse	166	Dark-eyed Junco	3
White-breasted Nuthatch	90	Bobolink	2
House Wren	35	Red-winged Blackbird	60
Carolina Wren	11	Eastern Meadowlark	5
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	79	Common Grackle	82
Eastern Bluebird	3	Brown-headed Cowbird	116
Veery	6	Orchard Oriole	4
Wood Thrush	120	Northern Oriole	70
American Robin	142	Purple Finch	2
Gray Catbird	68	House Finch	15
Cedar Waxwing	70	Pine Siskin	1
		American Goldfinch	89

was difficult at best. Several canoes capsized, including those of veterans Larry Rosche, Bert Szabo, John Augustine, and Eric Faber. At least Szabo and Rosche got to see an otter before they dumped their data into the river.

A total of 105 species was reported along this 65 mile stretch of river. Two species, Olive-sided Flycatcher and Swainson's Thrush were thought to be late migrants.

The Olive-sided Flycatcher was again seen on the Lake - Ashtabula County line on 24 June. Noteworthy species seen along the river included a Pied-billed Grebe with young, Hooded Merganser, Least Flycatcher, Red-breasted Nuthatch, 16 species of warblers, and Dark-eyed Juncos. These data point out that the Grand River well deserves its rank as an Ohio scenic river

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- 9552.

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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.