

Volume 91 Number 2
March, April, May 1995

The Cleveland
**Bird
Calendar**
est. 1905



Published by
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.

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 Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*)

by Margret Krister, 1995.

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THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR

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WEATHER

Spring 1995

March - The month passed with little contrast of note. Temperature averaged out to 40.0°, 2.7° above normal. The highest temperature was 76° on the 20th and the lowest 9° on the 10th. Lake Erie waters were open all month except for some floating skim ice part of a day. Sunshine was very good at 48% of the time available. Precipitation totaled 1.72 in. over 11 days and was 1.17 in. below normal. The greatest fall in any 24 hour period was 0.90 in. on the 7-8th. Snowfall totaled 4.3 in with the greatest amount being 2.9 in. on the 8th-9th.

April - The month was surprisingly bright with sunshine prevailing 36% of the time possible. Lake Erie temperature advanced to 42° by the 14th, then to only 43° by the 18th and ended at 46° on the 31st. Temperatures averaged 46.6°,

1.0° below normal. The high was 81° on the 11th and the low was 23° on the 5th. The precipitation totaled 4.33 in. over 16 days and was 1.19 in. above normal. The greatest fall in any 24 hours was 1.30 in on the 21st. Snowfall totaled 0.2 in. on the 1st and 2nd but melted so that the greatest snow depth for the month was 0 in.

May - The month moved along with more stability than might be expected. Temperatures averaged 49.3°, 1.3° above normal. The high was 82° on the 14th and 23rd and the low was 35° on the 3rd. Lake Erie temperature progressed from 46° on the 1st, to 50° on the 12th, then 51° on the 15th, 54° on the 21st, and finally 58° on the 31st. Sunshine prevailed 48% of the time. Rain totaled 3.96 in. distributed on 11 days that provided 0.47 in. above normal. The greatest rainfall in any 24 hour period was 1.12 in. on the 28-29th. It did not snow.

THIRTY YEARS AGO: A **Peregrine Falcon** was seen just west of Beaver Point in Lorain on 5 Apr. 1965 (Johnson). A **Lark Sparrow** was at Painesville Municipal Beach on 27 Apr. (Szabo). A **Lawrence's Warbler** repeatedly sang a Blue-winged song at North Chagrin Reservation on 6 May (Kitson). On 7 May a **Blue Grosbeak** was at Shaker Lakes (Raynes).

TWENTY YEARS AGO: A **Black-legged Kittiwake** was at E. 55th Street Marina on 29 Mar. 1975 (Hoffman). A **Loggerhead Shrike** was at Gordon Park on 13 Apr. (Vavrek). A **Eurasian Wigeon** was at Sherwin Pond on 4 Apr. (Sherwin). A **Piping Plover** graced the lagoon at White City Beach on 26 Apr. (Hannikman). The only report for the season of **Double-crested Cormorant** was from Huntington Beach on the 20 Apr. Spring Bird Walk. A flock of 9 **Cattle Egrets** was at a horse farm in Kent on 12 May (Donatell).

TEN YEARS AGO: Three **Greater White-fronted Geese** were reported for the Spring 1985 season. On 5 Apr. 5 **Sandhill Cranes** passed by Perkins Beach (Klamm). A **Red Crossbill** was at Hinckley Metropark on 21-24 Apr. (Pierce, Harlan). A flock of 3 **Long-billed Dowitchers** was at Barberton on 27 Apr. (Rosche, Osborne). A **Clay-colored Sparrow** was at Donald Gray Garden on 11 May (Corbin). The first spring sighting since 1957 of **Red-necked Phalarope** was at Barberton on 28 May (Rosche, M.ob.).

Comment on the Season

by Larry Rosche

Spring birding was pretty phenomenal throughout the region. It seemed that each regularly birded spot had its outstanding days. Warbler migration was impressive. Along the lakefront, it will be hard to top the weekends of May 13-14 and May 20-21 in the future. Inland, Firestone Metropark enjoyed what had to be a record setting warbler day on May 10. A total of 24 warbler species were recorded there that day. Likewise the 28 species of warblers seen on the CVNRA census on 13 May must have been close to, if not a record for the count. Garnet Byrnnne noted that May 11th and 12th provided many warbler sightings in Kent. Harold Wallin reported that there were 1234 participants on the Sunday Morning Birdwalks. They found 189 species. While the majority of us noticed outstanding weekend birding, no Golden-winged or Kentucky Warblers were found this year on the wave days along the lake. Olive-sided Flycatchers were reported in excellent numbers.

A cautionary note was given by naturalist Kevin Metcalf. "Overall an excellent spring for observing migrants, at least along the lakefront. Of course, weather is the key factor here, and hopefully birders won't assume that having a good spring for birding has anything to do with actual bird populations". Many thanks to our contributors and good birding.

SPRING 1995

Common Loon migration was rather lackluster. A group of 16 was at Lake Medina on 29 Mar. (CW). A late bird was off Sims Park on 28 May (TK). Dr. Samuel J. Mazzer noted that a pair remained at a gravel pit lake in Barberton through the period. The high for **Pied-billed Grebes** was 9 on 27 Mar. in Akron (CH). The high tally for Shaker Lakes was 6 on 11 Apr. (RR). On 29 May 3 grebes were at Silver Creek MP (BDL). Mogadore Reservoir hosted 85 **Homed Grebes** on 7 Apr. (LR). **Double-crested Cormorants** numbers were staggering. As many as 1000 were seen on the Cleveland breakwalls (FG, PL). A gathering of 735 was at West Branch SP (LR). Hundreds were seen at Lake Rockwell and LaDue Reservoir. **Great Blue Herons** are doing well. The earliest **Great Egret** was at Lake Medina on the 27 Mar. (CW). Another early egret was along SR 21 in Summit Co. on 28 Mar. (JW). Six were at HBSP

on 13 May (RR). Four flew over Jaite on 28 May (RHL). The earliest **Green Heron** was at East Branch Reservoir on 4 Apr. (fide DB). The high tally (6) came of from an unlikely spot - Perkins Beach - on 6 May (TLn). This species remains a concern to this editor. Chasar reported that they not nearly as common as last year in their CVNRA stronghold. Two **Black-crowned Night-Herons** were at Euclid Beach SP on 30 Apr. (TK). The usual flock off Merwin Street grew to 65 on 13 Apr. (PL). Three were at Shaker Lakes on 17 Apr. (RR). A bird was in Pinery Narrows on 30 Apr. (DAC).

Inland Waterfowl numbers were close to the norm. Table 1 enumerates the passage fairly well. Lakefront tallies are no longer received. A flock of 7 **Tundra Swans** passed over Lakeshore MP on 26 Mar. (RR). An immature at Oberlin Reservoir on 24 Apr. was late (NK). **Green-winged Teals** were moving by HBSP by 12 Mar. Except for the 26 pairs at Berlin

Pintails were scarce. The earliest **Blue-winged Teal** were at Lake Isaac on 15 Mar. (RHL). The high tally of **Northern Shovelers** came from LaDue (7) on 30 Mar. (CH). **Gadwall** numbers were below expected totals. **American Wigeons** were also below average. **Canvasbacks** were found in small numbers. A **Redhead** was a new species for the Ravenna **Arsenal** on 12 Apr. (CWS). **Ring-necked Ducks** peaked at 750 at Mogadore on 19 Mar. (CH) and at 500 at Lake Kelso on 16 Mar. (fide DB). Small numbers of **Greater Scaup** remained inland into April. **Oldsquaws** again put in a good showing. A drake was at Summit Lake on 26 Mar. (BDL). Three were at LaDue Reservoir on 28 Mar. The 18 there on 30 Mar. were truly impressive (AF). One was at Wellington Reservoir on 30 Mar. (TLP). Two frequented the Cuyahoga River in Munroe Falls in early April (JS). Hinckley Lake hosted one on 8 Apr. (RHL). Two more were at Lake Kelso the same day (fide DB).

Reservoir (BDL), **Northern**

One was at Springfield Lake on 9 Apr. (JW). A group of 3 **Surf Scoters** was at Wellington Reservoir on 30 Mar. (TLP). Singles were noted at Oberlin Reservoir on 9 Apr. (CH) and at LaDue on 11 & 13 Apr. (AF). Wintering **White-winged Scoters** were still lounging off Avon Lake on 4 Mar. (BF, PL, RR). The 265 **Buffleheads** at Mogadore on 8 Apr. may have been the largest gathering ever in the history of the region for this species (LR). A graduate student study at the Ravenna Arsenal found some interesting behavior in the nesting **Hooded Mergansers** there. These mergansers apparently were able to recognize their eggs from eggs laid in the same box by Wood Ducks. Each time the mergansers would move the Wood Duck eggs from the center of the clutch to the outside of the clutch (CWS). **Common Mergansers** were widespread on inland lakes. The 600 **Ruddy Ducks** at LaDue on 16 Apr. was an outstanding number (CH).

	3/20	4/3	4/11	4/27
Turkey Vulture	412	504	325	31
Sharp-shinned Hawk	11	2	22	116
Cooper's Hawk	6	1	3	2
Red-tailed Hawk	141	28	45	27
Red-shouldered Hawk	24	3	3	•
Broad-winged Hawk	•	•	•	196
Rough-legged Hawk	2	1	1	•
Bald Eagle	•	1	1	1
Northern Harrier	6	3	27	2
Osprey	•	1	13	8
Merlin	2	•	•	1
American Kestrel	34	7	125	28

Table 2

The high tally of **Turkey Vultures** from Perkins Beach was 330 on 3 Apr. (TLP). **Ospreys** were in good supply. Birds were at Pinery Narrows (DAC, FD) and Lake Rockwell (LR) on 11 Apr. One was at Tinker's Creek SNP on 12 Apr. (TLP), while another was at the Ravenna Arsenal the same day (CWS). One was at Berlin Reservoir on 15 Apr. (BDL). Another was at Hinckley Lake on 16 Apr. (RHL). A bird was seen with a fish in its talons over the Ira Road beaver marsh on 21 Apr. (FD). A bird was soaring over

Jaite in the CVNRA on 24 Apr. (TLP). One was in Geauga Co. on 2 May (JA), as was a bird at Spencer Lake SWA (NK). Two were at Spencer Lake SWA on 18 May (NK). Birds were regularly seen at Lake Rockwell and at least 2 visited Lake Medina. **Bald Eagles** were widely encountered. Two migrant immatures were reported from Lake Rockwell. Nesting there had produced 3 young by the end of the period. They were aptly named Larry, Curly, and Moe. Two more immatures were seen at LaDue on 14 Apr. (AF). The nest site at LaDue had two young. Lake Kelso provided safe haven for several young birds throughout the period (*vide* DB). D'arcy Egan of The Cleveland Hain Dealer noted that Ohio now has 29 nesting pairs of eagles. **Northern Harriers** passed by the local lakefront migrant watching areas in the usual numbers. A bird was in Medina Co. on 2 Apr. (FD). A female was surfing the phragmites at the Barberton Holding Basin on 2 Apr. (JW). A bird over Firestone MP on 23 Apr. was unusual (BS). A gray bird was hunting in Geauga Co. on 12 May (JA). The high tally of **Sharp-shinned Hawks** off Perkins Beach was 36 on 3 Apr. (TLP). **Red-shouldered**

	Ber 3/10	LaD 3/26	LR 3/27	LR 3/31	LR 4/6	MW 4/7	MW 4/8
Common Loon	•	3	2	2	•	•	3
Pied-billed Grebe	•	10	1	•	1	1	5
Horned Grebe	11	32	1	4	40	2	•
Dc Cormorant	•	•	1	3	36	18	•
Canada Goose	30	35	25	50	88	30	70
Wood Duck	•	2	12	16	19	2	2
Green-winged Teal	•	•	1	2	13	8	•
A. Black Duck	65	•	2	1	7	•	•
Mallard	250	2	•	•	•	•	2
Northern Pintail	52	•	•	•	•	•	•
Northern Shoveler	1	2	2	•	2	•	•
Gadwall	•	1	•	•	36	6	6
American Wigeon	40	•	2	•	•	•	•
Canvasback	12	4	2	•	•	•	•
Redhead	60	•	•	•	•	•	•
Ring-necked Duck	60	350	550	300	30	120	70
Greater Scaup	•	20	10	•	•	6	6
Lesser Scaup	85	420	650	420	20	180	183
C. Goldeneye	52	120	75	40	30	12	•
Bufflehead	36	40	35	16	64	165	265
Hooded Merg.	82	1	45	30	145	40	4
Common Merg.	13	18	16	25	43	6	•
Red-breasted Merg.	52	350	425	600	300	500	50
Ruddy Duck	•	4	40	3	120	220	395

Ber = Berlin Reservoir; LaD = LaDue Reservoir; LR = Lake Rockwell; MW = Mogadore and Wingfoot
Table 1

Hawks continue to increase. The Chasars found nests in Northfield, Sagamore Hills, and 2 in Brecksville Reservation. The Haleys found one in a very urban setting in Akron. The latter nest suffered so much harassment from crows that the young perished. **Broad-winged Hawks** were as expected inland. Although diligently sought after, none were seen migrating past HBSP. A total of 34 **Red-tailed Hawks** passed by Perkins Beach on 20 Mar. (TLP). A **Rough-legged Hawk** was at Burke Airport on 2 Mar. (FG).

Ring-necked Pheasant reports were more numerous than in the past few years. Augustine reported a bad news - good news story of **Ruffed Grouse**. The bad news - a bird flew into one of his house windows and died. The good news - it made for "excellent eating". A **Wild Turkey** surprised observers at the Ira Road beaver marsh on 15 Apr. (DAC, BO). One was at Buckeye Woods on 1 May (NK). A flock of 7 was noted in Lorain County on 29 May (TLP). A **Northern Bobwhite** strutted boldly past observers on the Sunday Morning Bird Walk at HBSP on 7 May (AJF). One was at a feeder in Maple Heights on 11 May. This marked the first time since 1971 that this species had visited this feeder (DR). Only 2 Sunday Morning Bird Walks reported **Virginia Rails** (HW). A bird was at Gordon Park on 5 May (TLP, BF). As many as 3 took up summer residence at the Ira Road beaver marsh (DJB). Three **Soras** were also there on 3 May (JW). One was at Tinkers Creek SNP on 3 May (TLP). The 2 **Common Moorhens** at Mentor Lagoons on 14 May were our

only sightings of the spring (RH, LR, JW). **American Coots** were abundant.

Given the lack of suitable resting areas, it is amazing that shorebirds were found at all. The only inland **Black-bellied Plover** was at Lake Rockwell on 13 May (CH). There were 3 more at HBSP on 28 May (RH). **Semi-palmated Plovers** peaked at 15 at Lake Rockwell on 14 May (CH). **Greater Yellowleg** numbers were below average. Two **Lesser Yellowlegs** in Stow on 30 Mar. were the earliest (LR). The maximum was 9 at Lake Rockwell on 16 May (CH). No flocks of **Solitary Sandpipers** were seen. **Willetts** went unreported. The high count of **Spotted Sandpipers** along the lake was 20 at HBSP on 27 Apr. (RH). **Ruddy Turnstones** were regular at HBSP after 13 May (RH, RR). The only inland **Semipalmated Sandpipers**

were at North Reservoir on 20 May (BDL). Along the lake, 15 were at HBSP on 28 May (RH). **Least Sandpipers** were in smaller than expected numbers. A flock of 10 **White-rumped Sandpiper** was exceptional at Lake Rockwell on 16 May (CH). **Pectoral Sandpipers** were scarce. The high tally for **Dunlins** was a mere 14 at Lake Rockwell on 14 May (CH). The only inland report of **Short-billed Dowitchers** was a flock of 6 feeding along the shoreline at LaDue on 21 May (LR). **Common Snipe** numbers were up from last year (It didn't take much). Five were in Streetsboro on 21-22 Mar. (CH). A flock of 18 spent the week of 8 Apr. in a wet field in Kent (LR). Up to 5 were present in Parma 13 Apr. - 2 May (RHL). Several were wintering in the CVNRA on 15-29 Apr. (DAC) and in Geauga Co. on 23 Apr. (JA). It was good to see that numerous contributors were still taking the time to

Woodpecker Haven

by Tom Leiden

April 10, 1995

While looking for a Hairy Woodpecker nest in Mill Stream Run Reservation near my yard, I heard a pounding sound nearby. Upon investigation I found a female Pileated Woodpecker foraging on a fallen tree. For the next half-hour, as I watched this bird forage, I also found:

- *The male Pileated Woodpecker which spent 10-15 minutes excavating the top of a rotted log*
- *A male Yellow-bellied Sapsucker working its sap wells in various trees. At one point it chased away a female sapsucker that was apparently attempting to use his wells*
- *A pair of Northern Flickers flying about calling "owee-owee"*
- *Two Downy Woodpeckers were heard and seen*
- *A pair of Red-bellied Woodpeckers landed on a nearby horizontal branch and mated*
- *A male Hairy Woodpecker that flew into view, stopped at one tree and quickly left.*

I never found the Hairy Woodpecker nest that day, but that was fine with me.

Lakeshore MP Banding Report (a comparison)

Selected Species -	Spring 1994 - Total	Spring 1995 - Total
YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER	7	22
ACADIAN FLYCATCHER	4	6
LEAST FLYCATCHER	8	13
E. WOOD-PEWEE	4	9
BROWN CREEPER	10	15
HOUSE WREN	24	28
WINTER WREN	12	5
GRAY CATBIRD	143	105
WOOD THRUSH	11	13
HERMIT THRUSH	23	17
SWAINSON S THRUSH	50	29
GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH	6	8
VEERY	26	9
GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET	16	22
RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET	41	24
WHITE-EYED VIREO	3	3
SOLITARY VIREO	1	1
PHILADELPHIA VIREO	1	2
RED-EYED VIREO	8	17
BLUE-WINGED WARBLER	5	3
ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER	1	2
NASHVILLE WARBLER	4	19
YELLOW WARBLER	30	
CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER	4	14
MAGNOLIA WARBLER	46	55
CAPE MAY WARBLER	1	1
BLACK-THROATED BLUE W.	14	4
YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER	6	5
BLACK-THROATED GREEN W	3	3
PRAIRIE WARBLER	1	0
PALM WARBLER	8	7
BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER	5	3
AMERICAN REDSTART	40	42
OVENBIRD	14	16
NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH	3	1
MOURNING WARBLER	46	34
CONNECTICUT WARBLER	5	2
COMMON YELLOWTHROAT	64	56
HOODED WARBLER	2	1
WILSON'S WARBLER	15	20
CANADA WARBLER	45	32
YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT	1	1
ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK	34	9
RUFIOUS-SIDED TOWHEE	25	34
CHIPPING SPARROW	46	33
FIELD SPARROW	31	15
SONG SPARROW	178	324
LINCOLN S SPARROW	72	59
SWAMP SPARROW	82	57
WHITE-THROATED SPARROW	445	393
WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW	64	118
DARK-EYED JUNCO	382	285
BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD	8	2
NORTHERN ORIOLE	5	16
PURPLE FINCH	56	38
HOUSE FINCH	443	359
PINE SISKIN	43	1
AMERICAN GOLDFINCH	364	288

Table 3 Data provided by John V. Pogacnik

observe displaying **American Woodcocks**. This traditional rite of spring provides a lasting impression on the young and the old. The first wood-

cock arrived in Geauga Co. on 11 Mar. (JA). One was out of place at Franklin Boulevard and West 30th on 4 May (DR).


The gull report was highlighted by an incredible passage of larids by Lakeshore MP on 22 Mar. In all, 9 species were reported. Included in these were 45,000 **Ring-billed Gulls**, 15,000 **Herring Gulls**, and 450 **Great Black-backed Gulls** (JP). Hundreds of **Bonaparte's Gulls** gathered at Dock 20 in Cleveland most of April (PL). **Thayer's Gulls** were found at Avon Lake on 9 Mar. (TLP) and at HBSP on 19 Mar. (EB, RH, LR). **Lesser Black-backed Gulls** were reported from Lake Co. on 18 & 22 Mar. and 5 Apr. (JP). A **Glaucous Gull** was at Lakeside Yacht Club on 5 Mar. (BDL). A bird was in Fairport Harbor on 11 Mar. (JP). One was at HBSP on 8 Apr. (RH). The **Caspian Tern** flock on Dock 20 grew to 183 by 19 Apr. (PL). The high count for Lorain was 75 on 27 Apr. (NK). The high at HBSP was 90 on 22 Apr. (RH). Except for 30 on 20 May at HBSP, **Common Terns** were scarce. The only inland report came from North Reservoir on 14 May (BDL). The high along the lake was 30 at HBSP on 20 May (RH). The only inland **Forster's Terns** were at LaDue on 19 Apr. (AF) and 2 at Nimisila Reservoir on 22 Apr. (BDL). Five were at HBSP on 22 Apr. (RH).

Cuckoos usually have each sighting listed. This spring both species were reported in numbers too high to accommodate contributors. Among the earliest **Black-billed Cuckoos** were birds at Baldwin Lake on 10 May (TMR), Donald Gray Garden

on 17 May (PL), and Geauga Co. on 18 May (JA). **Yellow-billed Cuckoos** were regularly found in the CVNRA. Augustine reported that they were fairly common in Geauga Co. Along the lake, they were reported from Sims Park on 30 May (TK) and several days at HBSP.

An **Eastern Screech-Owl** family was seen at Sims Park on 31 May (TK). The earliest **Common Nighthawks** were seen at Hopkins International Airport on 5 May (JW) and in Parma (RHL). Twenty were at HBSP on 29 May (RH). For the first time in several years nighthawks were heard over Kent. **Chimney Swifts** arrived somewhat later than expected.

Red-headed Woodpeckers were reported from Perkins Beach, Mill Stream Run, HBSP, Lakeshore MP, and Strongsville. **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** had a relatively poor season. The high was only 6 at HBSP on 22 Apr. (RH). One at the Firestone Estate in Bath on 4 May was late (BS). The 5 **Pileated Woodpeckers** at Hinckley MP on 16 Apr. constituted an exceptional tally (RHL).

 **live-sided Flycatchers** were quite newsworthy this spring. Birds were located at: the Ira Road beaver marsh on 5 & 17 May (DJB), HBSP on 13, 14, 15, 16, & 19 May (DB, RR, LR, JW, KM, RH), at Firestone MP on 13 May (BDL), Seiberling Naturealm on 19 May (WS), Munson Township on 21 May (KM), Virginia Kendall Park (WS), Lakeshore MP (JP) on 29 May, and Sims Park on 31 May (TK). **Eastern Wood-Pewees** were in good numbers

throughout the region after 13 May. **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** were regularly seen at the local lakefront spots the last third of May. The 4 at HBSP on 29 May was a good number (RH). The earliest **Acadian Flycatcher** was at Lake Medina on 28 Apr. (CW). An **Alder Flycatcher** was at Jaite on 28 May (RHL). **Willow Flycatchers** were common. **Least Flycatcher** numbers were solid. The earliest bird was at Firestone MP on 25 Apr. (EP). Among the early **Eastern Phoebe**s were birds in Geauga Co. on 14 Mar. (JA) and Holden Arboretum on 15 Mar. (RR). **Great Crested Flycatchers** and **Eastern Kingbirds** were reported in good totals.

Horned Larks received little mention. Up to 20 **Purple Martins** occupied a martin house at Lakewood Park at the end of the period (TLP). A **Tree Swallow** at North Chagrin on 15 Mar. was the earliest ever for the site (KM). **Bank Swallows** continue to thrive. **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** were at their traditional nesting sites by late April. The first **Cliff Swallows** were early at West Branch SP on 15 Apr. (LR). At least 3 were at HBSP on 10 May (KM). Up to 60 nests were found on the Portage Co. side of Berlin Reservoir (CH, BDL). A bird at the Bank Swallow colony at Jaite on 15 May was a good local find (RHL). Early **Barn Swallow** reports came from Lakeshore MP on 11 Apr. (JP) and Shaker Lakes on 15 Apr. (BF).

Red-breasted Nuthatches did not make an appreciable appearance this spring.

Diligent field observer Tom LePage saw none. **Brown Creepers** were in much better tallies than last year. Double figures could be found at lakefront locale the first third of April. **Carolina Wrens** present a puzzling picture. They continue to do well in some areas but poorly in others. **Winter Wrens** moved fairly well. They remained through the period at North Chagrin and Big Creek. A **Marsh Wren** was at HBSP on 29 Apr. (RH). A migrant was noted at North Chagrin on same day (KM). Elsewhere along the lake, 1-2 birds were at Donald Gray Garden from 17-25 May (PL, TMR). **Golden-crowned Kinglets** peaked at 40 at HBSP on 8 Apr. (RH). **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** fared about as well. The early **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** was at Donald Gray Garden 13 Apr. (PL).

Eastern Bluebirds were reported from all counties in good numbers. Apparently all of the local bluebird trails have made a lasting impact on the species. The earliest **Veery** was at Donald Gray Garden 20 Apr. (PL). A total of 8 was at HBSP on 13 May (RH). **Gray-cheeked Thrushes** were found in small numbers. Two were at HBSP on 22 May and one there on 27 May (RH). One was at the Seiberling Naturealm on 23 May (WS). A bird was at Bush Road on 21 May and another at Baldwin Lake on 24 May (TMR). One was seen at Donald Gray Garden 24-26 May (FG, PL, TMR). Two were at Deep Lock MP on 28 May (RHL). **Swainson's Thrushes** were found in good numbers everywhere. A bird spending 11-13 May in an urban Akron

yard was an oddity (JW). **Hermit Thrush** numbers were average. **Wood Thrushes** seem to be holding their own locally. **Gray Catbirds** were as abundant as in recent memory along the lake. A **Northern Mockingbird** was at Sims Park off and on from 15 Apr. (TK). One dashed by HBSP on 30 Apr. (LR). A bird was in Akron on 5 May (BDL). A **Brown Thrasher** was a surprise visitor to a Sagamore Hills feeder on 15 Apr. (FD). Up to 16 were found at HBSP on 7 May. A flock of 9 **American Pipits** was located in Parma Heights on 17 Mar. (RHL). Six were in Medina Co. on 2 Apr. (FD). **Cedar Waxwings** put in their usual abundant presence late May.

White-eyed Vireos were as expected. The nest **Solitary Vireo** was found in Geauga Co. on the early date of 16 Apr. ((fide DB). In general, they were up in numbers. A bird was rather tardy at HBSP on 23 May (KM). A **Yellow-throated Vireo** was at HBSP on 7 May (EB, LR). A bird there on 29 May was late (RH). Inland, the summer residents were singing up a storm by mid-May. **Philadelphia Vireos** were found at Firestone MP on 10-13 May (BDL, EP). One was at HBSP on 13 May (RH). A bird was reported from Pinery Narrows on 19 May (TMR). One was at Sims Park on 23 May (TK). Another was at Brecksville on 26 May (DAC). **Warbling Vireos** along the lake were virtually impossible to tally. As soon as you find one, 2 or 3 more chase it from its perch. The song of **Red-eyed Vireos** could be heard in practically every neighborhood by mid-May.

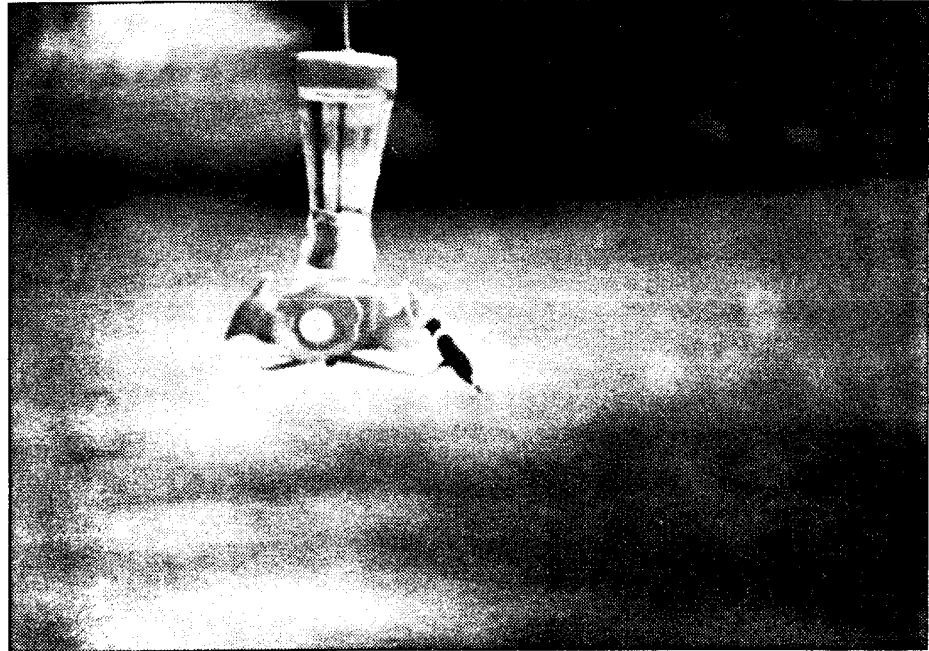
Although 2 were at HBSP on 14 May, **Blue-winged Warblers** were scarce along the lake. **Tennessee Warblers** were so numerous it was reminiscent of the late 1970s in Kent. The high count was 100± at HBSP on 21 May (EB, RH, LR). A bird was tardy in Parma Heights on 30 May (RHL). An **Orange-crowned Warbler** was at Firestone MP on 1 & 7 May (EP, BDL). Birds were found at HBSP on 20-21 May (RH, M.ob.). **Nashville Warbler** numbers were average. **Northern Parulas** put in a good showing. Multiple birds were seen at Firestone MP on 10 May (EP) and at HBSP on 22 May (RH). A bird was at Lake Rockwell on 13 May (CH). Yet another was at Shaker Lakes on 23 May (RHL). **Chestnut-sided Warbler** numbers were high. The 12 at Firestone MP on 10 May was representative on inland totals. The 20 at HBSP on 21 May was indicative of their passage along the lake. **Magnolia Warblers** peaked at 40 at HBSP on 14 May (RH, LR). **Cape May Warblers** were in above average totals. No species was more impressive numerically than **Black-throated Blue Warbler**. The 36 at HBSP on 14 May constituted a Cleveland region high (RH, LR). **Yellow-rumped Warblers** staged nicely the first week of May. **Black-throated Green Warblers** were widespread but not conspicuous. Indeed, inland counts outdid those along the lake. **Blackburnian Warblers** were conspicuous by their prolonged stay. **Yellow-throated Warblers** returned to their traditional Cuyahoga Valley areas in timely fashion. A bird at Firestone MP on 3 May was

unusual for the site (EP). A bird was at Bacon Woods on 20 May (TMR). In what may have been the earliest non-wintering **Pine Warbler** in our history, a male was found in Twin Lakes on 24 Mar. (RB). A pair was at Lower Shaker Lake on 18 Apr. (BF, PL). Birds were on territory at Lake Rockwell, Brecksville, and Bedford. After a poor showing in 1994, **Palm Warblers** returned to usual numbers this spring. The high was 90 at HBSP on 7 May (RH, LR). Inland and along the lake, **Bay-breasted Warblers** were also numerous. A total of 20+ was at Jaite in the CVNRA on 19 May (DAC). The 42 at HBSP on 21 May represented a spring season single day high for the park (RH, KM, LR). As with many previous species, **Blackpoll Warbler** numbers were exceptionally high. **Cerulean Warblers** put in rare lakefront visits at Sims Park (TK) and HBSP (EB, LR) on 14 May. A **Black-and-white Warbler** was early in the CVNRA on 15 Apr. (BO). **American Redstarts** were common throughout the region. The high was 32 at HBSP on 21 May (RH, KM, LR). Up to 3 **Prothonotary Warblers** delighted many at the Ira Road beaver marsh through the period (DJB, JW). This number pales in comparison to the 16 near Russell Park in Geauga Co. (AF). Birds were noted at HBSP on 20 May (RH) and in the CVNRA at Station Road on 21 May (BF, PL). The high for **Ovenbirds** at HBSP was an impressive 25 on 14 May (EB, RH, LR). **Northern Waterthrushes** put in a prolonged showing at Donald Gray Garden where they were seen from 27 Apr. through 25 May (FG, PL).

Louisiana Waterthrushes

returned to North Chagrin on the "traditional" date of 9 Apr, (KM). The only **Kentucky Warbler** were at Deep Lock MP on 8 May (TMR) and at Firestone MP on 15 & 19 May (EP). **Mourning Warbler** were reported from many sites a in good numbers. The high count was 6 at HBSP on 22 May (RH). A bird at Streetsboro Bog on 27 May was in a site where nesting is a distinct possibility (RR). The 80-10 **Common Yellowthroats** at HBSP on 14 May provided the single day's highest tally ever for the site (RH, LR). It seemed that one was hiding under every shrub in the place. Generally, **Wilson's Warbler** numbers were good. The latest was at Donald Gray Garden on 30 May (PL). **Canada Warblers** were reported from all counties in the region indicating a widespread influx. The 10 at HBSP on 22 May were stellar even for this oft-monitored site (RH). As with most southern species this year, **Hooded Warblers** were fewer than normal along the lake. **Yellow-breasted Chat** were felt to be improved inland (DAC, LR). Along the lake, one was at Donald Gray Garden on 10 May (FG). A bird was at Sims Park on 13 & 14 May (TK). Two were at HBSP on 10 May (KM).

Scarlet Tanagers, **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks**, and **Indigo Buntings** were reported in average to above totals. **Rufous-sided Towhees** were early at Streetsboro on 21 Mar. (CH). Six **Chipping Sparrows** were early at Lake Medina on 21 Mar. (CW). **Vesper Sparrows** returned to their traditional haunts later than expected. A bird at Biggs Road in Lorain Co. on 2 May



Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*) - 30 April 1995 - Mentor, OH

by Roger Powell

reflected this (NK). **Grasshopper Sparrows** were found on 14 May were early at Lake Medina (CW) and at HBSP (LR). Another was seen at Donald Gray Garden on 16 May (PL, FG). No **Henslow's Sparrows** were reported. **Fox Sparrows** moved well along the lake. An early bird was detected in Parma on 13 Mar. (RHL). One was at Lakeshore MP on 21 Mar. (RR). The high tally of **Lincoln's Sparrows** was 17 at HBSP on 10 May (KM). A singing bird was at Pinery Narrows on 23 Apr. (FD). **White-throated Sparrow** numbers were less than expected. **White-crowned Sparrows** were more like what we have come to expect along the lake. **Dark-eyed Juncos** left the region early.

Either **Orchard Oriole** has undergone a marked range expansion or observers are becoming more familiar with its songs and call notes. In any case, reports were numerous. Birds were thought to be nesting

in Valley City (FG). This was a new locale. **Rusty Blackbirds** were late at HBSP on 14 May (EB, RH, LR, JW).

One has to go back to the previous late sighting of 2 **Common Redpolls** in North Royalton on 7 May. They were observed in catkins in the company of a Nashville Warbler (JD). A single **Pine Siskin** was at the Seiberling Naturealm on 3 Apr. (WS). **American Goldfinch** migration peaked at 210 at Lakeshore MP on 8 May (JP).

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

EARED GREBE - The only report for the season was a breeding plumage bird at Lake Rockwell on 39 Apr. & 1 May (Rosche, Vanderpoel, Holt).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN - Two were reported from Lakeshore MP on 29 May (Pogacnik).

AMERICAN BITTERN - The earliest report of this species was from the Ravenna Arsenal on 2 Apr. (Willis). Two were seen near Shipman Pond on 29 Apr. (Hannikman, Bacik, Krister). Another was seen at the Shaker Lakes Nature Center the same day (Lozano). A bird was flushed at Frame Bog on 20 May (Vidic).

LEAST BITTERN - As was the case last year, a bird was seen in the shrubby area along the Coast Guard Station Road at Headlands Beach SP on 21 May (Krister). One was standing near the pond in the dunes there on 28 May (Bacik, Hannikman).

SNOWY EGRET - A bird was reported from Chagrin River Park on 21 May (Pogacnik).

CATTLE EGRET - The only sighting was reported from Concord Township on 27 Apr. (Pogacnik).

YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON - A bird was reported from Chagrin River MP on 11 May (Pogacnik).

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE - A bird flew by Headlands Beach SP on 1 Apr. (Hannikman).

NORTHERN GOSHAWK - A bird was reported from Lakeshore MP on 20 Mar. (Pogacnik). A record late bird was reported from Parma on 5 May (Harlan).

GOLDEN EAGLE - An immature was documented on 20 Mar. from Lakeshore MP (Pogacnik).

MERLIN - Birds were seen at

Headlands Beach SP on 15 & 22 Mar. and 29 Apr. (Greenland, Hannikman, Rosche).

PEREGRINE FALCON - Much to the chagrin of Ohio Division of Wildlife officials a bird sexed as a female turned out to be male and attempted to nest in Lakewood (Lozano). It may have been a slight embarrassment for them but it was good news for the species. The downtown pair hatched 4 chicks and at least 3 survived through the period (fide Lozano). The Brumfields were the only observers to report seeing the birds in Akron. A bird was reported from Lakeshore MP on 21 May (Pogacnik).

SANDHILL CRANE - Two birds were observed as they flew over Stow on 4 Apr. (Tisdale). Five were reported from Girdled Road MP on 28 Apr. (Pogacnik).

UPLAND SANDPIPER - A very vocal bird flew over Headlands Beach SP on 15 Apr. (Hannikman, Rosche).

WHIMBREL - A flock of 22 passed by Headlands Beach SP on 21 May (Hannikman, Rosche). One was there on 25 May (Hannikman).

SANDERLING - Small numbers were seen at Headlands Beach SP. A flock of 12 was there on 21 May (Hannikman, M.ob.).

PECTORAL SANDPIPER - A record tying late bird was at Headlands Beach SP on 28 May (Hannikman, Bacik).

BLACK TERN - One was reported from Lakeshore MP on 14 May (Pogacnik). Two birds were seen at Spencer Lake SWA on the evening of 23 May (Kraps).

LAUGHING GULL - An adult was seen by several at Headlands Beach SP on 12 May (Stokes).

FRANKLIN'S GULL - A bird was reported from Fairport Harbor on 15 Apr. (Pogacnik).

LITTLE GULL - An adult was at Sims Park on 16 Apr. (Hannikman).

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE - The only report was from Lakeshore MP on 22 Mar. (Pogacnik).

SNOWY OWL - A bird was first noted at Headlands Beach SP on 25 Mar. (Hannikman, Bacik). It was reported in the area into early Apr.

NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL - A bird was at Lakeshore MP on 12 Apr. (Pogacnik).

WHIP-POOR-WILL - Birds were at Donald Gray Garden on 10 May (Greenland) and on 17 May (Lozano). A bird was reported from Hell Hollow on 10 May and Lakeshore MP on 17-18 May (Pogacnik).

RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD - An adult male visited the feeder of the niece of former Bird Calendar editor Annette Steadman (Flanagan) in Mentor from 29 Apr. to 1 May. At Annette's urging Dottie and Roger Powell were able to obtain diagnostic photographs of the bird. This sighting provides our second record and

the first spring record ever for the state.

CAROLINA CHICKADEE - A bird was heard, mist-netted, measured, examined, and banded at Lakeshore MP on 6 May (Pogacnik).

SEDGE WREN - The only report of this ever decreasing species (locally) was from Sims Park on 13 May (Kellerman).

NORTHERN SHRIKE - Rarely found at this time, a bird was at Jaite in the CVNRA on 15 Mar. (Chasar).

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE - A single observer saw one along Fairport - Nursery Road on 15 Apr. (Pogacnik).

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER - Birds were reported from Lakeshore MP on 27 Apr. & 10 May. One was at Hell Hollow on 10 May (Pogacnik). The only other report received was from the CVNRA on 13 May (Chasar).

BREWSTER'S WARBLER - It was a good spring for reports of this hybrid (except for the one found dead at The CMNH on 12 May by Robert Segedi). A bird had returned to the site at Station Road by 9 May (Chasar). One was at Firestone MP on 10 May (Pierce). A bird was at Lower Shaker Lake on 13 May (Peskin). A bird seemed to be paired with a Blue-winged Warbler at Oak Hill on 29 May (Chasar).

PRAIRIE WARBLER - A bird was singing in Geauga Co. on 12 May (Augustine). On 13 May one was at Headlands Beach SP (Hannikman). Two were

near the former nesting area in the CVNRA on 29 May (Chasar).

WORM-EATING WARBLER - A bird was seen and heard by many at North Chagrin 7 - 11 May (Metcalf).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER - A bird was at Firestone MP on 12-16 May (Pierce). A female was first spied by Kevin Metcalf along the Zimmerman Trail on 21 May. It posed nicely for many to get a diagnostic look.

SUMMER Tanager - A bird was reported from Lakeshore MP on 27 Apr. (Pogacnik).

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW - A bird was in Parma on 11 May (Harlan). One allowed a brief study at Headlands Beach SP on 21 May (Hannikman, Rosche). A bird was seen with a flock of Chipping Sparrows at Lakeshore MP later the



American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) - 29 April 1995 Shaker Lakes
by Richard Wagner©

same day (Pogacnik).

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD - A bird visited and was photographed by a feeder near Mentor Marsh on 11 April (Fjeldstad).

FIELD NOTES

March 11, 1995

by Dick and Jean Hoffman

This afternoon we returned home in our car about 4:30, and parked beside the house. I could see a bird standing on the ground in the backyard that looked very strange to me, a little like a kid robin or flicker or mockingbird, but not quite right. The old binoculars under the seat came to the rescue. The bird was an immature Sharp-shinned Hawk! It had just finished eating something and soon flew up into

small branches at the back of the yard where it engaged in a round of bill wiping behavior. Its crop was distended. The top of its head was very dark, as were the streaks on the underparts. The undertail coverts were clear white. The legs were yellowish. The eye seemed yellow-orange. The hawk was long bodied and small headed with a rather flat bottomed tail.

When the hawk was gone, we got out of the car, couldn't find where it had gone, then investigated the place it had been in the yard. There we found a big scattering of feathers. Most were gray, some with a little white and a few downy white ones. This made us think it was a junco, but there were also a good many feathers with

brown tips. Other birds were still hiding in the yard while the hawk was present (and a man sitting in the yard next door), but the birds became active as soon as the sharpie was gone. This was not the first Sharp-shinned Hawk in our yard, but it definitely is the first we have seen get a meal here. We are doing fine for the accipiters.

SPRING 1995 AT HEADLANDS BEACH STATE PARK

by Ray Hannikman

Spring 1995 started slowly with cool weather in April but culminated in two spectacular weekends, May 13-14 and May 20 and 21. The 128 species recorded in the HBSP area on May 14 set a new one day record for numbers of species and the 25 species of warblers

Cleveland Christmas Bird Count Summary 1940 -1994

by Dick and Joan Hoffman (continued from Volume 91 Number 1)

Species	Years Seen	Overall Avg	Year Seen Avg	Max	Max year
Brown Creeper	54	5	5	29	1984
Carolina Wren	37	4	6	24	1975
House Wren	1	0	1	1	1975
Winter Wren	25	1	2	4	1974
Golden-crowned Kinglet	50	11	12	72	1984
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	13	0	2	7	1972
Eastern Bluebird	43	9	12	37	1991
Swainson's Thrush	2	0	1	1	1971
Hermit Thrush	12	0	1	2	1989
Wood Thrush	1	0	1	1	1978
American Robin	53	112	116	1277	1986
Gray Catbird	8	0	1	1	1944
Northern Mockingbird	14	0	1	2	1966
Brown Thrasher	9	0	1	3	1969
American Pipit	2	0	2	2	1982
Cedar Waxwing	47	92	107	397	1993
Northern Shrike	9	0	1	2	1954
European Starling	55	2662	2662		1986
Yellow-rumped Warbler	21	2	5	16	1992
Common Yellowthroat	1	0	2	2	1980
Northern Cardinal	55	214	214	394	1975
Dickcissel	0	0	0	0	CW 2 years
Rufous-sided Towhee	37	4	5	37	1960
American Tree Sparrow	55	187	187	570	1947
Chipping Sparrow	5	0	4	12	1959
Field Sparrow	26	2	4	16	1964
Vesper Sparrow	0	0	0	0	CW 1984
Savannah Sparrow	1	0	1	1	1959
Fox Sparrow	4	0	1	2	1958
Song Sparrow	55	47	47	108	1975
Lincoln's Sparrow	1	0	1	1	1981
Swamp Sparrow	27	1	3	9	1979
White-throated Sparrow	46	26	31	215	1980
White-crowned Sparrow	10	1	4	18	1984
Dark-eyed Junco	55	275	275	612	1947
Lapland Longspur	8	0	3	12	1988

that day are now deemed to be the most recorded in one day for the HBSP area. Bay-breasted Warblers, Ovenbirds, Common-Yellowthroats (100 on May 14!!), Magnolia Warblers and Black-throated Blue Warblers were all recorded in the highest numbers in recent memory. Ten plus Blackpoll Warblers on May 29 was a good indication of the lateness of the spring. Other observations which serve as memories of the spring were the 30

Common Terns fishing off the breakwall on May 20, several singing Yellow-bellied Flycatchers on May 28 and 29, a long study of an Olive-sided Flycatcher on May 19, and an explosion of singing Red-eyed and Warbling Vireos in late May. On the down side, Golden-winged Warbler again went unrecorded, and both Dark-eyed Juncos and White-throated Sparrows were down. To sum up - it was another grand spring at HBSP!!

Acknowledgement: Special thanks are given to Anthony Hess, Mr. and Mrs. E. William Haley, Richard and Jean Hoffman, and William and Nancy Klamm for their generosity towards the publication of Volume 91.

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

Rare Bird Hotline: (216) 381-8325 (TEAL) 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.

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.

Changes of Address: Contact Barbara Hosta, at The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, (216) 231 - 4600

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