The Ohio

CARDINAL

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The Ohio Cardinal is devoted to the study and appreciation of Ohio's birdlife. The Ohio Cardinal is published quarterly under the sponsorship of the Toledo Naturalists' Association.

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The Ohio Cardinal, c/o Edwin C. Pierce, 520 Swartz Road, Akron, OH 44319

The Ohio Cardinal exists to provide a permanent and timely record of the abundance and distribution of birds in Ohio; to help document the occurrence of rare species in the state; to provide information on identification of birds; and to provide information on birding areas within Ohio.

The Ohio Cardinal invites readers to submit articles on unusual occurrences of birds, bird distribution within the state, birding areas in Ohio, identification tips, and other aspects of ornithology. Bird reports and photographs are welcome from any area in the state. Report forms are not a necessity but will be supplied on request. Unusual species should be documented--documentation forms are also available on request from the Editor, Publisher, and Records Committee Secretary.

In order to keep <u>The Ohio Cardinal</u> timely, seasonal reports are due by the following dates:

Winter--March 10 Spring--June 10 Summer--August 10 Autumn--December 10

Please send all reports to: Robert Harlan, 7072 Parma Park Blvd., Parma Hts., OH 44130

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Robert Harlan, Editor Edwin C. Pierce, Publisher H. Thomas Bartlett, Secretary, Ohio Bird Records Committee

Cover: Bald Eagle at nest. Photo by Louis W. Campbell.

The First Golden-crowned Kinglet Nest for Ohio by Tom Kemp

In July/August 1990, I reported the first evidence of Golden-crowned Kinglets breeding in Ohio (Kemp 1990). At that time, four immature kinglets and an adult female kinglet were found in suitable habitat in Oak Openings Park, Lucas County. There is little question that the kinglets bred locally, although the possibility existed (fairly remote) that they wandered in from some other state or province (Peterjohn 1990).

The question of whether Golden-crowned Kinglets nest in Ohio has been put to rest with the discovery of a nest in the Maumee State Forest, Lucas County. Golden-crowned Kinglets have been present in this area since winter (they are common) and were present when I checked this spot on 10 May 1991. On 27 May, I stopped again in this forest and heard at least one kinglet. The following morning at daybreak, the male was in full song and it was obvious there were two kinglets present. One kinglet was seen leaving a thick clump of spruce branches, a likely looking nesting site. Close inspection in the dim light revealed a small "ball" of material underneath the overhanging spruce branches. I was 99% sure I had found the nest but decided to return that afternoon to confirm it. Between 3 and 4 PM, I observed the female gathering what I originally thought was nesting material and flying to the spruce clump. She stayed for several seconds then rapidly flew away. This behavior was repeated at least three times (probably more) during the hour that I followed the birds around. As it turned out, the material she was gathering was not for the nest but was food for the young. I visited the nest site briefly on 29 May with Matt Anderson and on 1 June with Elliot Tramer. Both kinglets were present and quite agitated at my presence 12 June. On 18 June I visited the area again and to my surprise, found five or six kinglets actively moving in the pines near the nest site. The birds had fledged! Watching closely, I saw food begging by the young and in my brief stay saw the adults feed the young at least five times.

This is the first reported nest of Golden-crowned Kinglet in Ohio. The nest was located about 25 feet high under the overhanging branches of a Norway Spruce. The clump of branches that held the nest had a west facing exposure in a small clearing in a dense stand of spruce. The spruce woods was surrounded by an extensive stand of White and Red Pines. This nest site is roughly two miles, as the kinglet flys, from the area in Oak Openings Park where the family group of kinglets was found in 1990. When Matt Anderson and I first discussed kinglets as possible breeders in the Oak Openings a few years ago, this state forest area was considered most likely to produce the first record. Our prediction was not far off.

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Terres (1980) lists nest heights for Golden-crowned Kinglets as primarily between 30 and 60 feet. This nest was close to that range. The nests are small and globular, made of mosses, lichens, bark strips, and rootlets, and lined with feathers, soft bark, or rootlets. The nests are usually suspended from twigs (Godfrey 1966, Terres 1980). This is the case with the State Forest nest. Since fledging occurred around 13 June, assuming three to four days for nest building, eight to ten days for egg laying (Golden-crowned Kinglets lay lots of eggs), twelve days for incubation, and twelve plus days to fledging, the kinglets probably started building the nest during the first week of May.

The normal breeding range of Golden-crowned Kinglet extends south to central Michigan (Houghton Lake area), southern Ontario (near Toronto), and in the Appalachians to southeast Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and North Carolina (pers. obs., AOU 1983). The Lucas County nest is at least 200 miles south of the nearest regularly breeding Golden-crowned Kinglets. With the abundance of planted conifers now in the state, these kinglets were fairly likely additions to Ohio's breeding birds.

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Thomas R. Kemp 7021 Manore Rd. Whitehouse, OH 43571

Second Nesting Record of Golden-crowned Kinglet in Ohio

by Mary Reinthal

There are no apologies for not noticing earlier. Although I heard the kinglets almost daily on my walks all winter and spring at my residence in Richfield, I was watching for those late warblers and ignoring the commonplace--kinglets. Then as the breeding bird count was approaching I checked the records and realized these remaining kinglets could be unusual.

June 8-Larry Rosche came to the rescue and confirmed these kinglets were indeed here a little late and advised me to pay attention to them.

June 9-After some close observation I discovered the nest about 25 feet high in a Norway Spruce, suspended about 4 feet from the tip of the branch. The Norway Spruce has drooping branches which perfectly hid the small tan globular nest.

June 10-In spite of darkness under the branch I could see two young. One had stripes on its head. An adult bird fed them about every 10 minutes.

June 11-Larry Rosche came to observe the nest and young.

June 12-There was a great increase in the frequency of feeding. It appeared as if both parents were now feeding the young.

June 13-The young have fledged.

June 14-The young are being fed in the evergreen canopy where they are almost impossible to see. The parents are very vocal but the fledglings are not as noisy as those of other species. The greatest number of kinglets that could be observed at one time is four.

June 26-The kinglets have disappeared.

June 30-A male kinglet is singing loudly in a 1-2 acre area around the nest. He is singing the full song: 4 or 5 very high pitched notes ascending in half tones, followed by much lower pitched rapid chattery notes.

July 9-The loud songs have ceased. Now there are just very faint calls and snatches of song in the conifers and mixed deciduous old orchard near the nesting site.

July 21-For the first time since the family departed another kinglet was observed with the male. From this date on there have been infrequent calls near the nesting site. On two

occasions one kinglet has been observed feeding another. It has not been possible to get a total count of kinglets.

Further notes:

The nest was located in an old field planted about 37 years ago with several varieties of exotic pine and spruce. Surrounding areas are old fields and ravines of mixed deciduous woods that were last farmed in the late 1940's. In the last three years Solitary Vireos and Black-throated Green Warblers have also nested. Cooper's Hawks built a nest near the kinglet nest this year and raised six young.

The birds were fairly tolerant of observation. On June 10, one bird was seen approaching another with nesting material. The other bird quickly took the material to the nest site. Unfortunately I observed little of the incubation period. Although I could not distinguish the male from the female by sight, I observed one bird feeding about every 10 minutes. Wherever this bird fed, another accompanied it, calling and singing constantly. The birds were usually too quick for me to observe what food they carried into the nest, but occasionally caterpillars were noted.

Mary Reinthal 3341 Medina Line Rd. Richfield, OH 44282



Golden-crowned Kinglet nest, Maumee State Forest Photo by Tom Kemp

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The Cleveland Area Breeding Bird Survey--1991 by Robert Harlan

The Cleveland Area Breeding Bird Survey (CABBS) entered into its third year in 1991. A cooperative effort of the Kirtland Bird Club, the CABBS is conducted to gather data concerning the population status of breeding birds in northeastern Ohio. CABBS is patterned after the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Breeding Bird Survey, with minor differences. A complete discussion of CABBS methods is described in <u>The Ohio</u> <u>Cardinal</u> Vol. 12(4) and <u>The Cleveland Bird Catendar</u> Vol. 85(3).

A total of 7032 birds was tallied along the 12 roadside routes scattered throughout the 7 county Cleveland area in 1991. This represents an average of 586 individuals/route, down from 601.4/route in 1990 and 643.1/route in 1989. The total number of species recorded each year has remained very consistent, however-100 in 1989, 103 in 1990, and 101 in 1991. Five species previously unrecorded on CABBS routes were discovered in 1991: Sharp-shinned Hawk, C. Moorhen, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Winter Wren, and Dark-eyed Junco. This brings the total number of species found thus far to 116.

Table 1 lists the 25 most numerous species in order of abundance. When compared to the baseline year of 1989, 17 out of the top 25 species in 1991 show declines in average number of individuals/route. Similarly, in 1990, 19 out of 25 showed declines. This may indicate unusually high totals in 1989, but one must consider the overall decline in ind./route since 1989. Actually, only one species in the top 25 has shown a consistent increase (C. Grackle), while 6 have shown a decrease every year (Blue Jay, B-c Chickadee, C. Waxwing, Indigo Bunting, Field Sparrow, and House Finch). It is very difficult to keep a watchful eye on such common species, but this activity does seem to be in order.

E. Bluebird has rebounded nicely, evidenced by a consistent increase from 0.80 ind./route in 1989 to 2.83 ind./route in 1991. Perhaps human assistance along with a series of mild winters is benefitting this species. Carolina Wren appeared more common at summer's end, but CABBS data show only a slight increase. Next year's surveys may provide evidence for these readily apparent gains. Cuckoos remain low, with only 3 Black-bills being noted. Time should prove enlightening for all species.

I am grateful to all the following, who, in addition to the author, participated in this survey: Anders Fjeldstad, Andy Fondrk, J.P. Harlan, William & Nancy Klamm, Tom LePage, and Larry Rosche.

| SPECIES | NO. | AV/RT | CHANGE |
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American Bittern. From the Robert Crofts collection, courtesy Toledo Naturalists' Association.

The Oak Openings: A Breeding Bird Census by Bicycle by Matt Anderson with Tom Kemp

The Oak Openings of northwestern Ohio is well known to birders, and particularly during May and June, attracts visitors from a wide area. The "Oak Openings" refers to not only the Metropark by that name but also to a larger area that encompasses the Maumee SF (in w. Lucas, and e. Henry and Fulton Counties) north and east to Irwin Praine and Secor Metropark. This region constitutes what is certainly one of the wildest remaining areas in this agriculturally oriented portion of the state. Extensive stands of pines and other conifers, sandy barrens, swampy woods and a variety of other habitats attract numerous species not otherwise commonly found in northwestern Ohio.

During June and early July of 1990 and 1991, Tom Kemp and I conducted bird censuses of the Oak Openings using bicycles as our primary means of transportation. In 1990, Tom mapped out 8 bike routes, each of which could be completed in 3-6 hours. These routes, in combination, covered most of the prime birding areas of the Oak Openings. Obviously, large tracts away from the roadsides remain uncovered. All 8 routes were covered in 1991, but we were only able to complete 7 in 1990.

All censusing was conducted in the early morning hours to better detect all birds present along each route. Although our methods might not stand up to scientific scrutiny, the data will certainly be of value in tracking population trends. Fluctuations between 1990 and 1991 counts may result from a number of factors beyond true population changes: the additional route covered in 1991, variations in time spent on each route, differences in singing activity as a result of weather, etc.

Tom and I are in agreement that 1991 may have been the most interesting breeding season in our many years of birding the Oak Openings. A total of 104 species was recorded, compared to 103 in 1990. Census and additional non-census data are listed in Table 1.

Tom's discovery of a Golden-crowned Kinglet nest was the highlight for the census period. Other species recorded that are generally typical of more northern climes included Least Flycatcher, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Hermit Thrush, Yellow-rumped and Canada Warblers, Purple Finch, and Red Crossbill. At the same time, a number of forms usually found farther south included N. Mockingbird, Yellow-throated Warbler, Summer Tanager, and Blue Grosbeak.

Readers may also be interested in Tom's article in the Toledo Naturalists' Association 1990 Yearbook.

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| IAN FLYCATCHER | 1 22 | 24 | (MAEWATER'I WARALER) | | 1 | NGALTAERN GAJOLE | 6 | 5 |
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| W FLYCATCHER | ·j | ·] · · · · | YELLON WARDLEN | 35 | 19 | WOUNE FLUCH | 108 | |
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NOTE: "HC" INDICATES BRECIES WAS OBSERVED DURING JUNE ON EARLY JULY BUT NOT ON THE CENTUR LITREF.

TABLE 1

Summer 1991 Overview

Most birders will remember the summer of 1991 as a season of drought. Remarkably little rain fell over most of the state, and the meager precipitation was quickly soaked up by the parched soil. Numerous wetlands dried up entirely, providing temporary habitat for transient shorebirds in the process. However, species normally inhabiting these areas did not fare as well.

The heat associated with the drought also took its toil, both on birds and birders. Still, many observers managed to get into the field despite (or in the case of shorebirders, because of) the conditions. Obviously, this effort paid off, resulting in the first two state nest records of Golden-crowned Kinglet, an unprecedented summer sighting of Long-tailed Jaeger, Ohio's second summer records of Com. Black-headed Gull and Surf Scoter, a Brown Pelican, the first specimen record of Rufous Hummingbird for the state, and an apparent family group of the very desirable Bewick's Wren. Further details on all these noteworthy records are to be found in the species accounts that follow.

The task of evaluating summer sightings is now much easier thanks to the data generated by the Breeding Bird Atlas project. It is important to remember, however, that the area covered by the Atlas was roughly only 1/6 of the state. Thus, nearly 5/6 of Ohio is terra incognita as far as our knowledge of nesting birds is concerned.

While the Atlas has now been officially completed, our job of keeping tabs on nesting species is not--nor will it ever be, as long as we have birds to watch. Please take the time now to examine the Blue Grosbeak account and how the exacting details provided tie in with the Breeding Bird Atlas project. Of course, with the vast majority of species, precision like this would be overkill, not to mention rather tedious reading. For marginal species such as Blue Grosbeak, however, this type of data provides valuable linkage to Atlas findings, and enables the researcher to more readily gauge population changes to a high degree of accuracy.

Regardless of any great scientific importance, this summer was very rewarding. From Little Gull to Laughing Gull and from Black Vulture to Bell's Vireo, this season proved one point: the summer should never be referred to as the "doldrums".

In the following species accounts, an asterisk means documentation was submitted and accepted by the Ohio Bird Records Committee. County names are often represented by using their first four letters. Other place name abbreviations commonly used are as follows: BuCr (Buck Creek SP/CJ Brown Res., Clark Co.); CPNWRC (Cedar Point National

Wildlife Refuge Count, Lucas Co., compiled by Joe Komorowski); CVNRA (Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area, Cuyahoga/Summit Cos.); FRes (Findlay Res., Hancock Co.); GiPo (Gilmore Ponds, Butler Co.); GLSM (Grand Lake-St. Mary's, Mercer/Auglaize Cos.); GoPa (Gordon Park, Cuyahoga Co.); HBSP (Headlands Beach SP, Lake Co.); OkOp (Oak Openings MP, Lucas Co.); ONWRC (Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge Count, Ottawa/Lucas Cos., compiled by Ed Pierce); PSL (Paulding Sewage Lagoons, Paulding Co.); and SVWA (Spring Valley Wildlife Area, Green/Warren Cos.).

Ohio Bird Records Committee, Summer 1991 Report by H. Thomas Bartlett, Secretary

Ten documentations were submitted for the summer season, including two reports from previous seasons. All ten were accepted by the Committee and are included in the seasonal account.



Laughing Gull, East Fork Lk., Dec. 22, 1990 Photo by Joe Bens

The Ohio Cardinal

THE REPORTS--SUMMER 1991

Common Loon-- In keeping with the spring's high numbers, at least 16 birds lingered into summer. Reports include: 2 (1 in breeding plumage) 6/1 Paulding Res. (DMD); 1 6/4 Wellington Res. (ETh, NKr); 1 6/8 BuCr (DO); 6/4-7/30 FRes (max 7 6/11-BH); a basic plumaged bird on a Tiffin farm pond 6/19 (TB); 1 6/20 Ferguson Res. (RC); an imm. at Mosquito Lk. all summer (DJH); and 2 at LaDue Res. in early July (fide RHr).

Pied-billed Grebe-- Max 38 6/2 (ONWRC). An ad. w/3 young were noted 7/5 Cham (DO). Other inland reports included singles 6/10 Grand River WA (CB) & 7/14 Spencer WA (NKr); a pair summered at Barberton (m. obs.). Nested GiPo (fide NKe), Silver Creek MP (Summ) (B. Szabo).

Am. White Pelican-- An adult in breeding condition was found 6/2 (ONWRC).

Brown Pelican-- The odds of both pelican species being found in Ohio on the same day must be astronomical, yet such was the case with one 6/2 at Caesar Creek Res. (W. Driver* et al.). The possibility certainly exists that this was the same individual seen in Hancock Co. 5/28.

Double-crested Cormorant-- 30 6/23 was the Meander Res. max (NB), while 10 were at Knox Lk. 7/4 (JVH). BuCr, Mosquito Lk., LaDue Res., L. Rockwell, and GLSM also hosted birds this summer.

Am. Bittern-- Only report was 7/30 Hanc (BH), a probable migrant.

Least Bittern-- 1 Mentor Marsh SNP 6/2 (RHn); several summered at Barberton (m. obs.); 1 CVNRA in June (fide RHr), also noted SVWA (fide NKe).

Great Blue Heron-- 1100 nests W. Sister Is. (MS).

Great Egret-- 1040 nests W. Sister Is. (MS).

Snowy Egret-- 10 nests W. Sister Is. (MS).

Little Blue Heron-- 1 nest W. Sister Is. (MS).

Tricolored Heron-- Tramer noted one 7/16 as it flew past Maumee Bay SP.

Cattle Egret-- 1 6/30 Erie Co. (KMo). No nests this year on W. Sister Is. (MS).

Green-backed Heron-- Fazio noted 4 pair in s.w. Athens Co. mid-July, & 4 pr. elswhere in Athe. LePage had 8 7/6 Tinker's Creek SP.

Black-crowned Night Heron-- 3 imm. were at BuCr 7/6 (DO). 1400 nests W. Sister Is. (MS). Also seen GiPo (fide NKe).

Yellow-crowned Night Heron--A June nest in residential Dayton was unsuccessful (m. obs.).

Tundra Swan-- Babyak kept track of 1 June/July at Packard Pond (Trum). Another was at

FRes 6/2 (T. Roth).

Canada Goose-- Max 500 June/July (ONWRC). 12 young along the Hocking R. (Athe) were in an area w/o Atlas data (VF).

Wood Duck-- Max 60 June/July (ONWRC).

Green-winged Teal-- A female summered at Barberton (LK). A migrant was noted by 7/16 PSL (DMD).

Am. Black Duck-- Only noted at the traditional L. Rockwell site in June (CH) and 2 6/2 (ONWRC).

Maliard-- Max 646 June/July (ONWRC).

N. Pintail-- 4 were at Ottawa NWR June/July (ONWRC).

Blue-winged Teal-- Max 85 Barberton 7/13 (J. Vanderpoel). A female w/11 flightless young were in a Vinton Co. strip-mine pond 6/17 (DM, T. Bain), apparently a county first. Nested GiPo (fide NKe). Other June reports from Clar, Hanc, Luca, Cuya.

N. Shoveler-- One 6/1 at Big Island WA (JVH) was interesting. Another was found 7/7 (CPNWRC).

Gadwall-- 2 were at Big Island WA 6/1 (JVH). Ottawa NWR counters had 2 7/7. 1-2 birds spent early June at GoPa.

Am. Wigeon-- 1 was found 6/2 (ONWRC), while 2 were tallied 7/14 (CPNWRC).

Redhead-- Overacker's 2 6/22

at BuCr were most unusual. 5 were more expected 6/9 (CPNWRC).

Ring-necked Duck-- 3 males lingered at Beavercreek Res. through the period (TB), another male summered at Mogadore Res., and still another male was at GLSM 7/5 (CM).

L. Scaup-- A male was identified GLSM 6/28 (DD) & 7/5 (CM). CPNWRC provided 6 more 6/9.

Surf Scoter- Ohio's second summer record was provided by a male 7/4-13 GLSM (T. Little, CM). Further details are expected for the next issue.

Bufflehead-- 1 6/23 BuCr (DO) was a curiosity, as this species is a casual summer straggler. Recent June/July records include 7/16/74 (male) Castalia; 6/11/76 (fem.) Forest Hills Pk., Cleveland; 6/29/84 GoPa (fem.); thru 7/10/88 Ottawa NWR.

Hooded Merganser-- Definitely nested SVWA (fem. w/young 6/25 m. obs.), presumably nested CVNRA (fem 6/3, DAC). Other sightings: 2 fem. or imm. 6/22-23 Clar (DO, TB, ECP), 7/7 GoPa (fem, RHn), and 15 7/7 (ONWRC).

Red-breasted Merganser-- 2 were noted 6/2 (ONWRC), another frequented the Cleveland lakefront in July (TLP).

Ruddy Duck-- 1 at Barberton in June (fide RHr) was at a previous nesting site. Mock observed another 6/29-7/31

at E. Harbor SP.

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Black Vulture-- This species should be carefully watched in light of a recent major poisoning in Adams Co. Max 3 6/22-23 Adam/Brow (TB, ECP).

Turkey Vulture-- Max 42 Wellington Res. 7/4 (NKr).

Osprey-- 6/2 OkOp (MA); 6/2 (ONWRC); 6/11 GiPo (fide NKe); 6/15 Akron (KMo); 6/30 along Sandusky R. nr. Tiffin (TB); 7/4 L. Rockwell (L. Rosche); 7/21 along Maumee R. nr. Toledo (MA); 7/30 Hanc (BH); 7/31 Hami (fide NKe); also E. Branch Res. in July (fide RHr).

Bald Eagle-- 2 young were raised at Mosquito Lk. (fide CB), amending the spring report. 1 egg was taken from an Ottawa Co. nest where the ad. male had died, hatched at the Cleveland Mus. Nat. Hist., then later transplanted to the Mosquito Lk. nest. 3 imm. spent June/July at Ottawa NWR (ONWRC), while 2 summered at L. Rockwell (fide RHr).

N. Harrier-- At Mosquito Lk. through the pd. (DJH). 3 were tallied 7/7 Henr/Putn (TK). Mid- to late-July records could pertain to nesters or dispersants: 7/16 Hanc (W. McClanahan, K. Noblet), 7/30 Paul (DMD).

Sharp-shinned Hawk-- Fondrk identified singles 6/1 (Geau/Lake), 6/6 (Geau), and 7/1 at a different Geau site. Individuals 7/27 Tusc (ES) & 7/28 CVNRA (RHr) added to the growing evidence for mid-July to mid-August movements of this species.

Cooper's Hawk-- A June nest in a residential area of Hancock Co. overflowed w/6 young (fide BH).

Red-shouldered Hawk-- Nested OkOp (MA). Babyak observed a nest w/4 young in Howland 6/18 and 3 fledged young in Niles 6/21. 2 at a Geau nest 7/3 seemed late (AF).

Broad-winged Hawk-- At least 2 nests in OkOp (MA).

Am. Kestrel-- LePage counted an astonishing 23 at Cleveland's Burke Airport 7/27.

Peregrine Falcon-- An ad. with a very light breast was identified 7/6 E. Harbor SP (KMo). Nested in Toledo (fide MA), through June in Cleveland (D. Rolik).

N. Bobwhite-- Believed to be increasing. The OkOp survey tallied 23 (MA, TK).

Virginia Rail-- Medina & Knox Cos., both w/o Atlas data, harbored this species: 1-2 birds 6/13-7/10 Spencer WA (ETh); 3 Knox 6/6 (JVH). Also noted Trum (CB, DJH).

Sora-- 1 was at Spencer WA 6/13 (ETh). No Atlas data were produced from Medina Co.

C. Moorhen-- Max 33 (9 ad., 24 chicks) Barberton 6/19 (RHr). 2 ad. w/5 young were noted 7/14-25 SVWA (m. obs.). 1 in Cham 7/5 (DO) was in a county

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w/o Atlas data. Also found Springville Marsh SNP (TB), Grand River WA 6/10 (CB).

Am. Coot-- Max 15 June/July (ONWRC). Nested GiPo (fide NKe). Singles were 6/1 Big Island WA (JVH); and Barberton 6/19 (RHr).

Sandhill Crane-- An imm. (poss. 2) spent 6/5-7/30 + in a s. Lorain Co. soybean field (m. obs.). 1 was photographed 6/15-16 2 miles south of Parkman (Geau/Port) (D. Ferris).

Black-bellied Plover-- 2 lingered 6/2 (ONWRC), while 8 had returned to Burke Airport 7/28 (fide RHr).

Semipalmated Plover-- 10 were counted at Middletown 7/7 (TLi) and Huron 7/23 (TLP).

Killdeer-- Flocks included 150 + 6/29 Berlin Res. (CH), 147 Huron 7/19 (TLP), 136 7/7 (ONWRC).

Am. Avocet-- 2 reports: 1 7/21 Alum Creek Res. (fide RHr) & 4 birds 8/1 Englewood Rsv. (TLi). 1 remained 8/2.

Greater Yellowlegs-- Max 32 7/7 (ONWRC). Up to 20 were at PSL 7/4-31 (DMD).

Lesser Yellowlegs-- Max 60 7/4-31 PSL (DMD). Returned by 7/2 CVNRA (DAC). 1 was in Athe 7/10 (VF).

Solitary Sandpiper-- 27 7/31 at L. Rockwell was a good max (CH). Arrived by 6/29 Berlin Res. (CH).

Willet -- 3 were on the GoPa

breakwall 6/29 (RHn), another was noted 7/3 GLSM (DD).

Spotted Sandpiper-- Max 34 7/7 (ONWRC). 21 in Hanc 7/30 was also a good total (BH). An ad. w/juv. was seen as late as 7/28 BuCr (DO).

Upland Sandpiper-- 12 were at Wright Patterson AFB 6/23 (CM, SU). The Middletown Airport hosted 2 7/7 (TLi), and 2 were 4 miles n.w. of Paulding 7/21 (DMD).

Whimbrel-- 4 were at Burke Airport 7/21 (T. Kellerman).

Ruddy Turnstone-- Walborn Res. (Port) hosted 1 6/2 (CH); another was at Englewood Rsv. 7/27 (C. & B. Berry).

Sanderling-- Huron attracted 3 birds by 7/21 (TLP).

Semipalmated Sandpiper- 200 were spring migrants 6/1 Walborn Res. (Port) (CH). Fall migrants included 60 7/19 Huron (TLP) and 25-30 PSL 6/29 + (DMD). 10 were record early for the Dayton area in Middletown 7/7 (TLi).

Western Sandpiper-- An amazing 20 ad. were described from PSL 7/1 (DMD). Another was at GoPa 7/13 (RHn).

Least Sandpiper-- 1 6/28 Cuya (RHr) was definitely headed south, but 3 6/20 Cowan Lk. (LG) are more problematic. A max of 200 7/3-31 PSL was quite good (DMD). 67 at Berlin Res. in mid-July was also significant (CH). Little's 8 in Middletown 7/7 set another new Dayton area arrival record.

White-rumped Sandpiper-- 2 reports: 7/15 Big Island WA (DO) and 7/26 Sheldon's Marsh SNP (ETh).

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Baird's Sandpiper-- One was at PSL on the intriguing date of 7/13 (DMD). Another was at Huron 7/30 (TLP).

Pectoral Sandpiper-- The Dunakin's PSL study produced the max of 100 7/2-31.

Dunlin-- An extra-seasonal bird was at Lorain 6/11 (ETh, NK).

Stilt Sandpiper-- 1 ad. W. Branch SP 7/18 (CH); 4 Huron 7/21 (TLP) & 1 7/14-16 & 27 PSL in breeding plumage (DMD) were the only reports.

Short-billed Dowitcher--Earliest was 1 6/23 GoPa (RHn, RHr), where 30 were tallied 7/7 (RHn). Max 134 Huron 7/21 (TLP).

Long-billed Dowitcher-- 1 7/11 PSL was an excellent find (DMD) and presaged an unusual fall flight.

C. Snipe-- At least 1 pair summered at Irwin Prairie SNP (MA). 1 7/7 (ONWRC) could have been a summering bird or a migrant, while 1 7/14 GoPa was certainly in passage (TLP).

Wilson's Phalarope-- 1 7/26 Sheldon's Marsh SNP (ETh).

Red-necked Phalarope--Another good find at PSL was a juv. 7/31 (DMD).

Long-tailed Jaeger-- The bird of the season would have to

be the breeding plumaged adult (with "long, fluttering central tail feathers") nr. Ottawa NWR 6/2 (M. Bolton*, J. Szanto).

Laughing Gull-- A 2nd-summer bird was noted GLSM 6/28 and 7/3 (DD*) and remained into the fall season 8/5 (J. Dunn, SU). Another was in alternate plumage at Ottawa NWR 6/2 (TB* et al.).

Franklin's Gull- A 1st-summer individual was at HBSP 6/22 (RHn), while a 2nd-yr. bird was at Farnsworth MP along the Maumee R. 7/24 (ETr).

Little Gull-- Hannikman spotted a 2nd-summer bird at HBSP 7/28.

Bonaparte's Gull-- Singles were found 6/11 FRes (BH) and Lorain (ETh, NK). 200 had settled in at Huron by mid-July (TLP).

<u>C. Black-headed Gull</u>-- A breeding plumaged adult at Ottawa NWR 7/11 represented Ohio's 2nd summer record. (G. Klug*).

Herring Gull-- 4 downy young were seen 6/2 (ONWRC), where 80 were observed 7/7.

Great Black-backed Gull-- 1 7/26 Lorain (ETh, NK).

Caspian Tern-- Max 16 7/14 (CPNWRC). LePage's 3 6/16 at Huron were interesting, while 4 6/30 GLSM (DD) were presumably southbound.

Common Tern-- Max 87 (ONWRC). Singles 6/4 FRes (BH) and 6/11 Lorain (ETh, NK)

were likely late spring migrants.

Forster's Tern-- Max 80 7/19 Huron (TLP). 2 were at the same site 6/16 (TLP). Inland: 2 7/3-5 GLSM (DD, CM); 1 imm. 7/8 Mosquito Lk. (DJH); 1 L. Rockwell 7/14 (L. Rosche); 1-2 7/21 & 27 BuCr (DO).

Black Tern-- Poor showing. Only reports: 3 (ONWRC); 1-2 PSL 7/1, 8 (DMD); 3 Huron 7/23 (TLP).

Mourning Dove-- Max 137 7/9 Hanc (BH).

Black-billed Cuckoo-- Anderson cited low numbers in OkOp, but seemed more common than Y-billed in n.e.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo-- Max 5 7/7 (ONWRC).

Barn Owl-- Nested successfully near Warsaw (Cosh) (TK).

Chuck-wills-widow-- 12 + were counted in Adams Co. 6/22-23 (TB, ECP).

Whip-poor-will-- Common in OkOp (MA). Bartlett & Pierce tallied 6 + 6/22-23 in Adams Co., while Schlabach had another 6/19 in Holmes Co.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird--Many observers noted larger numbers than normal late in the season, especially at feeders. Max 12 + 6/22 Adams Co. (TB, ECP).

<u>Rufous Hummingbird</u>-- Ohio's 5th record (1st specimen) was found in moribund condition at Salt Fork SP, Guernsey Co., 7/25 (T. Monroe). Fazio's detailed account of this green-backed variant will appear in the next issue, along with a discussion of other eastern Rufous sightings (VF*).

Red-headed Woodpecker--Max only 5 7/19 Hanc (BH). 2 were found 7/20-21 CVNRA (DAC), where summer records are few.

N. Flicker-- Max 20 7/23 Hanc (BH).

Olive-sided Flycatcher-- An early migrant had returned to Hanc 7/23 (BH).

Alder Flycatcher-- Early June records may easily pertain to migrants. These include: 2 6/1 Springville Marsh SNP (TB); 2 6/2 (ONWRC); 1 6/2 BuCr (DO). Likely summering birds were: 3 OkOp (MA); 1 6/7 Irwin Prairie SNP (ETr); 1 6/9 Hinckley (RHr); 1 6/10 Grand River WA (CB); 1 6/19 Gott Fen SNP (Port) (CH); Streetsboro Bog (Port) (CH).

Willow Flycatcher-- A survey of s.w. Athens Co. turned up an unexpected 33 males 7/16, all in riparian corridors. Another 16 singing males were found 7/18 in e. Athens Co. Only 3 inhabited uplands (VF).

Least Flycatcher-- Widely scattered in n.w., where 1 at PSL in June was the most unusual (DMD). 1 6/12 & 23 at Carriage Hill Rsv. (Mont) was a good find for the south. 3 on terr. in June at Mosquito Lk. was the max (DJH).

E. Phoebe-- Max 10 7/28 CVNRA (RHr). Atlas data proved scant for Paulding Co., where the Dunakin's found the species through June.

E. Kingbird-- Max 25 7/7 (ONWRC).

Horned Lark-- Kemp noted 55 7/7 Henr/Putn and 45 6/11 Fult.

Purple Martin-- 73 pair were in residence at Apple Creek (Wayn) (JVH). July max 41 7/9 Hanc (BH).

Tree Swallow-- 1 6/22 Adam (TB, ECP) was far south. Max 118 7/7 (ONWRC). Hardesty had 65 birds 6/4 Hanc.

N. Rough-winged Swallow--300 gathered at GoPa 7/14 (TLP).

Bank Swallow-- Fondrk counted 300 in Geau 7/14 before the colony was destroyed by construction operations. Most, however, are believed to have fledged. 200 + pair nested near the Toledo Airport (MA) and 70 + pair were still feeding young 7/19 near Xenia (LG). Also found in Paulding Co., which generated no Atlas data (DMD). 350 + had amassed at Sheldon's Marsh SNP by 6/30 (KMo).

Cliff Swallow-- 2 colonies at Apple Creek comprised 250 & 400 pairs (JVH). 12 nests were detected at Coolville (Athe) 7/18, a county w/o Atlas data (VF).

Barn Swallow-- Max 100 + 6/22 Adam (TB, ECP).

Blue Jay-- Brundage witnessed a particularly slow individual being eaten by a woodchuck on her deck. A N. Cardinal met the same fate 6/23.

Red-breasted Nuthatch--Potential nesters include 1 nr. LaDue Res. 6/2-3 (AF); at least 1 pr. OkOp (MA); 1 6/18 Maumee SF (TK). Tramer noted 1 6/6 in Ottawa Hills (Luca) but felt that it was not in suitable nesting habitat.

Brown Creeper-- 2 pair in OkOp, where 1 was seen with nesting material (MA). The Hochadel's found 2 nests at Mosquito Lk. in June. 1 was out of place at Ottawa NWR 7/11 (G. Klug).

Carolina Wren-- Certainly more numerous, fairly common in the Cleveland area. Detected in Paulding Co., where none were recorded during the BBA project (DMD). Max 25 + Adams Co. 6/22 (TB, ECP). 23 on the OkOp survey (MA, TK), up from 9 last year.

Bewick's Wren-- Bartlett discovered 3 birds (male, another adult, and apparently a begging fledgling) along the Sandusky River in n. Wyandot Co. 6/26 (TB*, S. Carty). The male responded to recorded Bewick's Wren song. Field marks noted include similar appearance to Carolina Wren but darker on the back, underside much whiter and w/o any buffy color, thinner eveline, and white on the outer tail feathers. Despite subsequent searches, these birds could not be refound. and appear to have been a

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wandering family group.

House Wren-- Max 48 6/11 Hanc (BH). 3 broods were produced in a Howland yard (CB), and at least 8 nests were located in 4 acres of Trum (DJH).

Winter Wren-- Definitely nested CVNRA (Summ), as a family group was noted in a hemlock area 6/15 (DAC). May be increasing: 2 N. Chagrin MP 6/8 (RHr); 5 Little Mtn./Stebbins Gulch 6/29 (AF, ECP, RHr); 3 Geau 7/3 (AF); 2 Chapin Forest (Lake) 7/10 (AF).

Sedge Wren-- 6/29 Wayn (JVH); 7/4 Clar (DO); 7/8-9 Mosquito Lk. (DJH); 7/9-16 Hanc (m. obs., 1st Hanc record); 7/21 OkOp (MA).

Marsh Wren-- Max 8 6/9-7/14 (CPNWRC). A singing male and a nest (possibly a dummy nest) provided an excellent record in Vint 6/16-23 (DM). Also noted Clar, Colu, Erie, Port, Rich, Summ, & Trum Cos., SVWA.

Golden-crowned Kinglet--Ohio's first two nests were found in Maumee SF (TK) and Richfield (Summ) (M. Reinthal). Full details are to be found elsewhere in this issue.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher-- Max 20 + 6/22 Adam (TB, ECP).

E. Bluebird-- 165 banded as of 8/7 Hanc (fide BH). Max 100 + 6/22 Adam (TB, ECP).

Veery-- Max 7 Bradley Woods MP (Cuya) 6/24 (TLP), also 6 6/8 Mohican SF (JVH). 1 summered at Culberson Woods (Clin), a very good s. Ohio record (LG).

Gray-cheeked Thrush-- 1 lingered 6/2 (ONWRC).

Swainson's Thrush-- Latest was 1 6/4 Hanc (BH).

Hermit Thrush-- Gara's 11 6/17 Hocking Hills was an enormous number. Minney found 3 young 1-2 days old at the same site 6/24. 1-2 males through at least mid-July in OkOp, but were thought unmated (MA, TK).

Am. Robin-- Max 153 6/14 Hanc (BH). 2nd broods fledged 7/5-8, and construction was again underway 7/9 in Athe (VF).

N. Mockingbird-- Kemp noted birds in Luca, Henr, & Fult, but only one lingered beyond mid-June. 1 was found 7/13-31 at Cecil (Paul) (DMD).

Brown Thrasher-- Max 12 + Adam 6/22 (TB, ECP), also 11 6/4 Hanc (BH).

Cedar Waxwing-- 2 imm. with an adult 6/3 in Lora (NKr) represented a phenominally early nesting, possibly earliest ever for Ohio.

Loggerhead Shrike-- 2 were in Madi June/July (fide RHr). Another was near BuCr 6/23 (DO, TB, ECP).

Eur. Starling-- A flock of 2000 + was at Findlay by 7/5 (NB).

Bell's Vireo-- Up to 2 were at BuCr 6/2-23 (DO, TB, ECP).

Solitary Vireo-- 3 males 6/9 Colu (DJH); 3 Hocking Hills 6/17 (LG); 6 Little Mtn./Stebbins Gulch 6/29 (AF, ECP, RHr). Fondrk also observed the species at several other Geau sites. Anderson thought the OkOp population to be down, while LePage noted an adult feeding a juv. B-h Cowbird 7/7 at N. Chagrin MP (Cuya).

Yellow-throated Vireo-- 3 observers felt numbers were down, but numbers seemed adequate in OkOp. 2 adults feeding young at Ft. Ancient SM 7/18 seemed marginally late (LG).

Warbling Vireo-- Max 12 6/2 (ONWRC).

Red-eyed Vireo-- Max 21 Mill Stream Run MP (Cuya) 6/23 (RHr).

Golden-winged Warbler-- No reports.

N. Parula-- 2 along the Sandusky River 6/26 were unexpected (TB), as was a terr. male at Hinckley MP (Medi) 6/2-19 (RHr et al.). A migrant was late 6/2 (ONWRC). Reports from expected locales include: 12 6/10-17 Hocking Hills, 6/4 Ft. Ancient, 6/28 Clin (all LG); 4 6/23 Adam/Brow (TB, ECP); and a male 6/9 Colu (DJH).

Yellow Warbler-- Max 28 6/2 (ONWRC). Babyak found none in their normal Trum territories.

Chestnut-sided Warbler-- 9 were tallied on the OkOp survey (MA, TK). 3 were in Geau 7/1 (AF). Other scattered reports from Summ and Colu.

Magnolia Warbler-- A good year: 1 male 6/15 Hinckley MP (RHr); 1 male Stebbins Gulch, 2 males Little Mtn. 6/29 (AF, ECP, RHr); male 7/8 Gates Mills (Cuya) (AF). 1 6/1 Firestone MP (Summ) was a late migrant (ECP).

Cape May Warbler-- 1 6/5 Hanc (BH) was quite late considering the brevity of spring migration.

Yellow-rumped Warbler-- A migrant was very late 6/2 (ONWRC), but more unusual was a singing male 6/11 OkOp (MA).

Black-throated Green Warbler--Max 7 Hocking Hills 6/17 (LG). Other good counts: 6 Mohican SF 6/8 (JVH); 6 Stebbins Gulch/Little Mtn. 6/29 (AF, ECP, RHr). Also noted 6/3 & 9 OkOp (MA).

Blackburnian Warbler-- Bartlett & Minney found a singing male nr. S. Bloomingville (Hock) 6/15.

Yellow-throated Warbler-- 1 remained through 6/18 OkOp (MA). Another was noted through 7/18 at Morrison Lk. (Sene) (TB). A male sang from a backyard in the CVNRA 6/2 (RHr).

Pine Warbler-- Noted at expected sites including 6 on the OkOp survey (MA, TK). Also found Mohican SF, Hocking Hills, Adams Co.

Prairie Warbler-- Continued to

hold on in OkOp (2 males through June-MA, ETr) and CVNRA (1 6/1 DAC). Max 25 + 6/22 Adams Co. (TB, ECP).

Cerulean Warbler-- 2 pair were at Secor MP (Luca), another inhabited the OkOp (both MA).

Black-and-white Warbler--Babyak found 1 6/17 Howland. Max 9 6/17 Hocking Hills (LG). A migrant returned to Brecksville MP 7/28 (TLP).

Prothonotary Warbler-- Nested CVNRA (young seen-DAC) & Mosquito Lk. (3 nests in June-DJH). Also: 2 6/2 (ONWRC); 6/14 SVWA, 6/28 Clin (both LG); singing male 6/22-9 Anderson farm (Luca) (T. & A. Anderson); 1 6/22 Adam (TB, ECP).

Worm-eating Warbler-- Max 4 6/17 Hocking Hills (LG). Dunn & Utterback located another at the traditional Ft. Ancient site 5/29.

Ovenbird-- 5 6/24 in Bradley Woods MP (TLP) was good for Cuya. Gara noted 1 all summer in Culberson Woods (Clin).

Louisiana Waterthrush-- Max 8 6/29 Stebbins Gulch (AF, ECP, RHr). At least 1 singing male was found OkOp in June (MA).

Kentucky Warbler-- 2-3 were at the Hinckley MP ledges 6/1-15 (LK, RHr), while the normal OkOp outpost was not inhabited this year (MA).

Mourning Warbler-- Kemp found 1 6/5 OkOp (migrant?) and another in Fult 6/17.

C. Yellowthroat-- Max 40 7/9 Hanc (BH).

Canada Warbler-- 5 were tallied 6/8 Mohican SF (JVH). Stebbins Gulch hosted 3 6/29 (AF, ECP, RHr). A singing male was present 6/5-15 OkOp (MA).

Yellow-breasted Chat-- Max 12 6/22 Adam (TB, ECP).

Summer Tanager-- Max 4 5/29 Ft. Ancient (JD, SU). A male was at the traditional OkOp site 6/2-12 (MA), and Tramer found a singing male (believed to be a wanderer) 7/9 in Waterville (Luca).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak--Observed as far s. as Miami-Whitewater Pk. (Hami) (fide NKe) and Clar & Gree (DO).

Blue Grosbeak-- An astonishing 14 (6 males, 4 fem., 2 hy, 2 sy) were found in Adams Co. 6/22. For good measure, 2 more were added the next day in Brow (TB, ECP). The OkOp pair returned, with the fem. seen carrying nesting material 6/7 (m. obs.). One observer expressed concern over excess human disturbance of this pair. A male was identified in Hanc 6/19 (TB*). Fazio's deliberate effort turned up the following: a singing ad. male, Letart Twp. 7/10 (Meigs Co.-New Haven Quad: Block 6); singing ad. male & fem. 7/16 Lee Twp. (Athens Co.-The Plains Quad: Block 3); ad. male 7/18 Rome Twp. (Athe-Stewart Quad: Block 2).

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Others were in Jackson Co. (D. Rice). Obviously, a good year.

Indigo Bunting-- One day max 100 + 6/22 Adam (TB, ECP), a whopping 348 in OkOp (MA, TK).

Dickcissel-- 2 males 5/29 Hanc (fide RHr); 4 + 7/3 Pickerel Creek WA (Sand) (TB); 7/7 Henr (TK); male 7/7 Killdeer Plains WA (fide MA); Paulding Co. (DMD); BuCr (m. obs.); Trenton (Butl) (fide NKe).

Rufous-sided Towhee-- Max 25 + 6/22 Adam (TB, ECP).

Field Sparrow-- Max 67 6/18 Hanc (BH). 30 6/9 CVNRA (PE) was also a good total.

Vesper Sparrow-- Max 35 7/7 Henr/Putn (TK). A terr. male remained in Athe (VF).

Lark Sparrow-- 2 were at their normal OkOp haunts (MA, TK, ETr).

Savannah Sparrow-- Max 25 7/11 Geau (AF), 19 7/7 Henr/Putn (TK). A singing male was found at the Ohio Univ. Airport 7/16 (VF).

Grasshopper Sparrow-- 19 (inc. 5 juv.) were found in Athe, mostly from the s.w. corner of the county 7/16 (VF). Common at Toledo Airport (MA). Also noted from Adam, Clar, Cuya, Gree, Hanc, Lora, Paul, Summ, Wyan.

Henslow's Sparrow-- 6/2 CVNRA (LK); 6/19 Holm (ES); 4 6/22 Adam (TB, ECP); ad. feeding yng. 6/23 Wright Patterson AFB (CM, SU); 1 male in Aurora (Port) in June (E. Bacik); 5 terr. males in July in Alexander Twp. (Athe-The Plains Quad: Block 6). 7 others elswhere in Athe 7/17 (VF).

Song Sparrow-- Max 116 7/9 Hanc (BH), 80 7/7 Henr/Putn (TK).

Swamp Sparrow-- Max 6 7/11 Geau (AF).

Dark-eyed Junco-- Most odd was a pair of adults 7/29 at Stroud's Run SP (Athe) (T. Reid, fide VF). Another peculiar individual remained at a Litchfield (Medi) feeder until 6/13 (H. Kethcam, fide ETh). A pair nested in a hanging flower basket in Geau (S. Prior). More expected were: 13 Stebbins Gulch/Little Mtn. 6/29 (AF, ECP, RHr); 1-2 6/8-17 N. Chagrin MP (RHr, TLP); 1 6/6 Geau (AF).

Bobolink-- Max 24 7/7 Henr/Putn (TK). 20 were at Wright Patterson AFB 6/23 (CM, SU). 10 was a good CVNRA total 6/9 (PE). A migrant was at GoPa by 7/27 (TLP).

Red-winged Blackbird-- Max 308 7/9 Hanc (BH).

E. Meadowlark-- Max 50 + 6/22 Adam (TB, ECP).

W. Meadowlark-- Kemp found 1 in Fult 6/11; Bartlett had another 7/3 Pickerel Creek WA.

Com. Grackle-- Max 341 7/30 Hanc (BH).

Orchard Oriole -- 15 on the

OkOp survey (MA, TK).

N. Oriole-- The OkOp survey tallied 68 (MA, TK).

Purple Finch-- At least 3 males spent June in OkOp, where 1 nest was found (MA). An imm. male 6/1-24 was good for Tusc (ES). Another male was at Firestone MP 6/17 (ECP).

Red Crossbill-- The flock at J. Fry's feeder in Hocking Co. reached 42 birds 6/2, and then diminished. 9 were along Reed Rd. in OkOp 6/4 (TK), 2 remained 6/13 (ETr).

Pine Siskin-- A recently fledged bird appeared at a Parma Hts. (Cuya) feeder 6/17 (RHr).

Am. Goldfinch-- Max 78 7/7 (ONWRC).

ADDENDA

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper--Ohio's 2nd record was provided by a juv. 12/1-2/90 at Metzger Marsh WA (M. Bolton*, J. Szanto*).

Laughing Gull-- 2 photos were taken of a bird at E. Fork Lk. 12/22/90 (J. Bens*, et al.).

Evening Grosbeak-- A fem. at a Brukner Nature Center feeder (Miam) 5/22 set a new late spring departure date for the Dayton area (B. Heidelburg).

CORRIGENDUM

Wood Thrush-- The report of 2 birds at Howland 4/2/90 should be deleted.

OBSERVERS

Matt Anderson (MA); Carole Babyak (CB); Tom Bartlett (TB): Nancy Brundage (NB); Dwight & Ann Chasar (DAC); Robert Cutter (RC); David C. Dister (DD); Doug & Micki Dunakin (DMD); Jon Dunn (JD); Paul D. Ellsworth (PE); Victor Fazio (VF); Andy Fondrk (AF); Larry Gara (LG); Betty Hardesty (BH); Ray Hannikman (RHn); Rob Harlan (RHr); John & Vicki Herman (JVH); David & Judy Hochadel (DJH); Craig Holt (CH); Ned Keiler (NKe); Tom Kemp (TK); Joseph Komorowski (JK); Len Kopka (LK); Norma Kraps (NKr); Tom LePage (TLP); Tim Little (TLi); Charlotte Mathena (CM); Dave Minney (DM); Kathy L. Mock (KMo); Doug Overacker (DO); Ed & Cheryl Pierce (ECP); Ed Schlabach (ES); Mark Shieldcastle (MS); Erdine Thompson (ETh); Elliot Tramer (ETr); Sue Utterback (SU). In addition, many other observers are cited for one or two records. These observers are cited within the species accounts. Larry Rosche generously allowed access to records published in The Cleveland Bird Calendar. My thanks to all.

The Grapevine

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper

About 4:00 p.m. on Dec. 1 1990, Mike Bolton noticed an unusual shorebird actively feeding at Metzger Marsh. He asked me to have a look. It looked like a Pectoral Sandpiper, but I couldn't see any sharp demarcation or breast line. Mike had a good look the second time, and noted a reddish back, chestnut cap, vivid white eve line that flared behind the eye, and a pale yellow breast fading into the white of the belly. From Mike's description I knew it was a juvenile Sharp-tailed Sandpiper. The following morning we met at Metzger to try to find the bird again, but no luck. So, we proceeded to Ottawa NWR for the monthly count and told the group about our find the previous day. During our lunch break, we again checked unsuccessfully. After the count concluded at 3:30 p.m., Mike and I decided to check one more time, and this time we were delighted to find the bird again. The sandpiper was about 40 ft. from us, feeding actively with a Dunlin. We studied the field marks again, and additionally noted dark check-markings in the vent area. We studied the sandpiper for about a half hour and then decided to leave, since it was beginning to get dark. [Ed. note -- this species apparently conducted a "low-density invasion" last fall, with birds appearing in Iowa, Illinois, New Mexico, etc. See American Birds 45(1):64 for details.] By John M. Szanto, 2108 Caledonia St., Toledo OH 43605.

Common Black-headed Gull

I was feeling disappointed and somewhat unlucky Sunday morning July 7. My car wouldn't start, and I was forced to miss the monthly Ottawa NWR walk. So, I planned to go the next chance I got. As it turned out, this was a very lucky thing overall, because I really hit the jackpot Thursday July 11. Since I had intended to take "the death march" on Sunday, I asked permission to go that way. It was granted. That was a good thing too, because near the border of Ottawa and Magee Marsh I saw an amazing bird. In a mixed flock of Herring & Ring-billed Gulis and Common & Forster's Terns, I noticed a dark-headed bird smaller than the other gulls, but taller and longer legged than the terns. With binoculars I easily noted the fairly sturdy red bill and earthy brownish-gray head. This bird was as long as the terns but much more stocky with longer legs and a longer neck. I clapped to get the birds up. They did and this bird's longer wingspan and stocky appearance compared to the terns was obvious. The underwings looked dusky under the primaries. I clapped a total of three times, and each time saw the "Bonaparte's" upper-wing pattern but with a dusky underside to the primaries. This bird beyond doubt was an adult, breeding plumaged Common Black-headed Gull. [Ed. note-Ohio's only other summer sighting of this species was July 23-Aug 4, 1978 in Cleveland, also in this plumage.] By Gerard J. Klug, 1016 Greenwood Ave., Toledo OH 43605.

My Highrise Visitor

I live in a highrise apartment building along Lake Erie in Euclid, Ohio. My apartment is on the seventh floor facing east. I have lived there for 20 years and during that time I have had the normal expected suburban birds visit my balcony--House Sparrows, Cardinals, Blue Jays, Pigeons, Mourning Doves and, of course, my favorites, the House Finches. Every year I put up two hanging flower baskets (usually impatiens) and each year I get at least two nests of House Finches. This spring, though, I put up two chinile plants. They didn't attract House Finches, but at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 1, I looked up from reading just in time to see a Ruby-throated Hummingbird hovering and circling around one of the chinile baskets. I watched for about 30 seconds before -bzzzt- it was gone. Considering that hummingbirds are normally seen low to the ground, I found this very interesting and guite a thrill! By Patricia R. Mallon.

Long-tailed Jaeger

Mr. Szanto and the reporter were driving east on Krause Rd. when a lone bird was observed southeast of us. It was instantly apparent to both of us that this was a unique bird because of the extraordinary length of its tail. We immediately got out of the van and the bird flew by in front of us. It was obvious that it was a lagger. We observed the bird through our binoculars. and called out to each other characteristics of the bird for the other to affirm or controvert. As the bird flew over, its presence caused considerable excitement by Killdeers and Red-winged Blackbirds. After about 2 minutes, we quickly reviewed the aeger section in the National Geographic field guide, and then continued to watch the bird until it executed a 180 degree rollover and dropped down out of sight behind a stand of pines. Thinking that it may have flown away undetected, we spent approximately the next 3 hours (accompanied by Tom Bartlett and Kathy Mock) driving and walking areas north, south, and east of the observation area trying to spot the bird. We did not see it again. [Ed. note-- June 2 may seem to be an unlikely date, yet it does fall within the expected migrational window for this high-arctic nesting species. Although Ohio has no previous records at this season, the Michigan Bird Records Committee recently accepted an alternate plumaged adult from Whitefish Pt. June 7, 1984. See The Jack-Pine Warbler 68(5):20]. By Michael R. Bolton, 5628-A Hibernia Drive, Columbus OH 43232.

[Ed. note--"The Grapevine" section will be included in future editions of The Ohio Cardinal as space permits. Observers are welcome to submit short notes regarding interesting or noteworthy sightings. In the above accounts, the rarity reports were adapted from the original documentations. Of course, the Ohio Bird Records Committee judged only the original official documentations.]

Ohio Bird Records Committee Bylaws

On July 1, 1991, the Editor and the Publisher of <u>The Ohio Cardinal</u> adopted written bylaws to govern the Ohio Bird Records Committee. Although <u>The Ohio Cardinal</u> has had records committees in operation since 1981 there have never been written procedures governing their operation.

The Bylaws are patterned after the California Bird Records Committee with one major difference--in Ohio, subscribers to <u>The</u> <u>Ohio</u> <u>Cardinal</u> elect the Committee members whereas in most states the existing committee members elect new members.

The Bylaws create a new Committee of eleven members (ten elected and one appointed) which begins operation November 30, 1991. As you know from the insert in the last issue (you received an insert if you were eligible to vote) the nomination process for the ten members has occurred and voting is now in progress (with the current insert).

Tom Bartlett, 3443 E. CR 36, Tiffin, Ohio 44883 has been appointed as the eleventh member (Secretary).

At first, three members will serve one year terms, three will serve two year terms, and four will serve three year terms. Eventually (after the expiration of those terms) every member will serve a term of three years after which they must retire for one year. Thus at least three new members will be elected to the Committee each year.

Committee meetings may be called (although unlikely) and voting will be done by mail as coordinated by the Secretary. At the close of each season each member will receive simultaneously from the Secretary the documentations for that season. Within two weeks and without abstention or consultation with other Committee members (consultation with any other person is permitted) each member is required to vote. A majority vote (6) accepts the record. A member rejecting any record should state his/her reasons. Any person can cause one re-vote if a record receives less than nine "accept" votes. During a re-vote (recirculation) the members may consult with each other. Once a final decision has been made (after recirculation, if requested) a record can be resubmitted only if there is substantial new documentary evidence that might reverse the decision. The goal for each Committee member is to determine if each sighting is verifiable using the documentation provided.

The Committee will also keep the official Ohio state list and the review list of species that require documentation. It will maintain permanently the original documentations and other evidence provided, as well as all Committee votes and comments. These votes and comments shall be available to all, except that the names of the specific Committee members so voting or commenting shall remain confidential.

A copy of the complete bylaws is inserted in this issue.

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