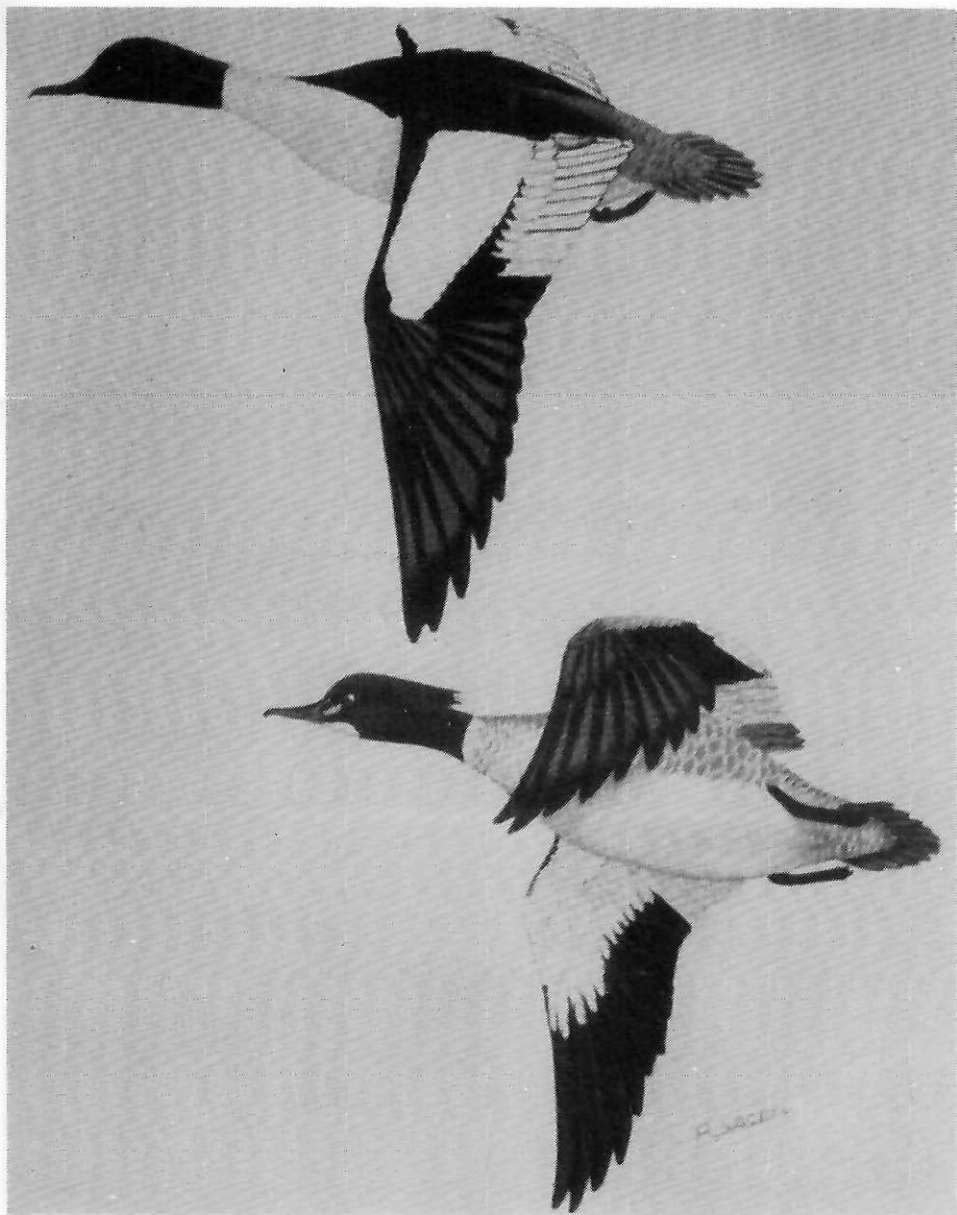


The Ohio



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Cover: Common Mergansers in flight.
Artwork by Robert Crofts.

Nesting Magnolia Warblers at Hinckley MP by Norman J. Kotesovec, Jr.

[Editor's note: The following piece ties in with Mr. Kotesovec's previous article concerning nesting Black-throated Green Warblers at Hinckley MP (Medina Co.) during the Spring and Summer of 1994, which appeared in our Spring 1994 issue [QC 17(3):79-84]. In that article, brief mention is made of nesting Magnolia Warblers at the same study site—this article follows up on that topic. Another article by the same author, this time regarding nesting Blackburnian Warblers at Hinckley MP, appeared in QC 16(4):96-101].

The Nest Site

On June 13th, 1994, I began to follow the female Magnolia Warbler (*Dendroica fusca*) with the hope that she would lead me to her nest. She had crossed the upper trail and foraged at low to medium height; mainly in dogwood, elm and maple saplings. At 12:48 an agitated male Magnolia was spotted high in a spruce, giving sharp call-notes. At 13:03 the female Magnolia foraged low in the herbaceous ground cover and upon the stripped spruce branches about the trunks. She took an oversized lepidopteran larvae, beat it on a bough, and then flew off with it to an upper spruce branch. She returned to this same branch in 3 quick successions, and afterwards, joined the male in the lower branches. One or both birds then gave a sharp animal-like squeak. The female flew back up to the branch, while the male cowered and glared at me. His wings were partly spread and he had a flattened appearance; reminiscent of the courtship display of the House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) I have often seen in my backyard. In the literature I have referenced, Margaret M. Nice ascribed similar conduct to a male Magnolia she studied. She writes "... he made a curious little squeaky, grating note kree-ee kree-ee, in the meantime spreading his wings and tail" (Nice, p. 193).

By 13:09 on June 13th, I was convinced that this branch, 20-25 feet high in a Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*), was the location of a nest. From 13:23 until 13:31 the female remained at the nest, until I forced her off by walking directly underneath to look straight up. In the 1.5 hours that I had the nest under observation (from 13:03 to 14:33), the female visited the nest 19 times. From 13:44 to 13:57, she was joined by the male at the nest.

The nest itself was hidden from view; cradled atop the latter third of the branch, and like the nest of the Black-throated Green Warbler (*D. virens*) that I had found earlier in the season, was concealed from above by the leafy grapevine that liberally covered the tree. The understory below the nest of the Magnolia Warbler was denser than that found beneath the nest of the Black-throated Green; still, both Norway Spruces chosen by the 2 warblers rested upon the crest of a gentle slope sprinkled with deciduous saplings that formed a kind of opening apart from the thicker stand of spruces. The nesting-trees were separated by approximately 80 feet.

At 13:55, I spotted the female Black-throated Green Warbler off her nest and foraging in the spruce next to the one harboring the nest of the Magnolia. Both species of *Dendroica* seemed to share the same

wooded tract and freely exploited its resources. They seemed to coexist with little conflict. The female Black-throated Green was never seen to forage at the top of the spruces; instead she confined her activities between medium heights and the lower branches. The female Magnolia also foraged at medium heights and below, but extended her range down to the herbaceous ground cover. The female and male Magnolia were even seen to peck at the tree trunks.

Territories and Vocal Effort

Immediately upon my arrival at 9:33 on the morning of June 14th, the female Magnolia Warbler left the nest. At this time the male Magnolia was heard singing 65 times. The last 3 songs were overlapped by another Magnolia Warbler's song from across the road. There seemed to be 3 Magnolia Warblers present over the course of the study: Male #1, the Magnolia holding the present territory (in Stand "B"); Male #2, the occupant on the opposite side of the gully-- a heavily wooded tract extending to the road leading to the boathouse (Stand "B2"); and Male #3, who patrolled the woods across West Drive directly behind the restrooms at Redwing Cabin (Stand "C"). There was much overlap of song, as 2-3 individuals could be heard singing simultaneously from different locales. This countersinging often confounded the accurate count of the songs given by Male #1 over the duration of the study. As such, a great deal of song was ignored to avoid any bias, whenever there was doubt regarding the singer. In 93 hours of observation, Male #1 sang 2,278 songs. The same factors that complicated efforts to tally the songs of the Black-throated Green Warbler were, likewise, applicable; however, it must be pointed out that while the Black-throated Green sang from a stationary perch uphill, the male Magnolia (Male #1) often sang while foraging and was seen frequently in the area that I occupied while watching the nest of the Black-throated Green.

The largest number of songs tallied on any single day was 463 songs on June 7th (over 3.5 hours of observation), while no song was recorded on June 2nd (4.0 hours), and only 2 songs were recorded on June 3rd (2.5 hours). It should be noted that June 2nd was a particularly cool and windy day (59 degrees F. at 12:00). June 7th also marked Male #1's greatest single performance: unbroken song persisted from 12:21 to 13:29; 308 songs in total, 280 in 1 hour. Song decreased in July, with Male #1 singing 28 times on July 5th, 20 times on July 12th, and no songs on July 20th. Male #3, however, from his grounds near the Redwing Cabin, sang 228 times in 1 hour on July 5th, and Male #2 sang a total of 440 songs on July 20th. Perhaps Males #2 and 3 were unmated, thus accounting for this comparatively greater volume of song. Two song types were noted: Type "A" rendered as: "sweeta, sweeta, swee-chu", and Type "B": "swee, swee, swee-chu". Song types were switched at regular intervals. Song was first noted on May 31st, and last heard on July 27th.

From 13:04 to 13:21 on June 14th, I had the pleasure of observing the magnificently colored male Magnolia at extreme close range. He had flown into the vicinity in a fury, having engaged another small passerine in a midair brawl. The vanquished invader departed and the male Magnolia sat victoriously upon a bare spruce branch above my head. Raindrops fell hard upon the branches, disturbing some winged insects which took to flight. Unlike his mate, which strongly preferred to glean rather than hover or flycatch, the male sallied forth to pursue his prey. He opportunistically took his meal on the wing 3 times. He would also travel the length of the inner branches, searching the surface underfoot.

Even the tree trunk was inspected; at least that portion that could be reached while stretching from the branch.

Young Birds and Parental Care

At 10:45, on the morning of June 16th, I set up beside the nest of the Magnolia Warbler. On that day it was quite apparent that there were young in the nest, as I heard them when the female Magnolia was in attendance. In the 2 hours I was at the nest-site, I counted 14 trips made by the female alone. At 11:44 the male Magnolia (Male #1) engaged another male Magnolia (Male #2) in a furious midair scuffle, replete with flailing wings, flashing feet and "frustrated" squeals. Stewart Edward White, in Bent, renders a similar harsh call as "k-e-e-e-dl", and that impression fitfully suggests the menacing tone exchanged by these pugnacious little brawlers (Bent, p. 205). Defeated, the interloping Magnolia flew back across the gully to a sapling; well out of harms way.

When I returned on June 20th, I found the nest of the Magnolia Warbler inactive with no sign of male or female during 1 hour of observation. No song was recorded that day. If the nest was successful and the nestlings fledged, then counting back 10 days, one might assume that eggs had hatched approximately on June 10th and that incubation commenced around May 29th. Hicks, in Peterjohn and Rice, reported recently fledged young by June 10th, suggesting that eggs are laid as early as the second half of May (Peterjohn and Rice, p. 282).

Song was again noted on June 21st, when I counted 32 songs, but no birds were seen. The female Magnolia Warbler was at last relocated at 16:35 on June 22nd. She carried a large green larva. My attention was torn between the female Magnolia and the nest of a Hooded Warbler (Wilsonia citrina) that I had under observation. Before I could make up my mind to follow her, however, she disappeared. A male Magnolia was spotted at 9:45 on June 23rd, also near the nest of the Hooded Warbler. Unlike the female, he foraged on the opposite side of the gully. He may have been Male #2, the intruder that was dispelled by Male #1 on June 16th.

On June 25th, after leaving the nest-site of the Black-throated Green Warbler at 8:25, I found the male Magnolia Warbler hovering above, and gleaning atop the herbaceous ground cover. Soft call-notes were heard, not far from the upper trail. The male flew to the trunks of the spruces, then dove down into the herbaceous layer with food he had secured. As I disturbed the undergrowth, a fledgling flew from the depths up to a spruce branch, fluttered its wings, and petitioned the adult male with soft cries. The male Magnolia flew to the branch and fed his offspring, then both flew off into the woods together, trailed by a second fledgling that also rose up from the ground cover.

Concluding Remarks

An immature Magnolia Warbler was last seen on August 8th. A female Magnolia was found as late as August 10th. In addition to the nests of both Black-throated Green and Magnolia Warblers, I also had the good fortune to observe a recently fledged throng of Red-breasted Nuthatches (Sitta canadensis) from June 26th to August 10th. They always announced their activities with "cheerful" chatter, and were never less than sociable. Close inspection was not a privilege, but rather an open

invitation. I shall miss their company as greatly as I will the Black-throated Green and Magnolia Warblers. The breeding season has ended-- summer turns to fall. Unlike an immature bird, we must not petition God greedily; we must accept our blessings and return from the wilderness. Blessings have been bountiful, in Hinckley and elsewhere. It has been a very good nesting season; I await, with anticipation, the next. I must keep the faith.

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Caspian Tern. Conneaut Harbor (Ashtabula Co.), Summer 1993.
Photo by Gary Meszaros.

The First Confirmed Northern Parula Nest in Cuyahoga Co. by Dwight W. Chasar

On May 1st, 1994, Fred Dinkelbach reported that he had heard a Northern Parula singing in the Cleveland Metroparks' Brecksville Reservation (Cuyahoga Co.), near the ford where Chippewa Drive crosses Chippewa Creek. The bird was reported again on the 8th in the same location. During the next two weeks, I stopped each morning on my way to work to listen and view the Parula. On occasion two could be heard singing; one near Chippewa Creek and the other at the Plateau picnic area just south of the ford. Because of my business travel, I was not able to continue monitoring, but at the end of May, Rob Harlan called and said that there was still a singing Parula in the same area. He reminded me that this has been attractive habitat for migrant Parulas in the past.

My mission became to establish a new late "spring" date for the N. Parula in Cuyahoga Co. Williams (1950, p. 129) reported that June 27, 1942 was that date. Nearly each morning in June, I spent about 30 minutes in the area listening and viewing. Most often the Parula could be heard and seen in the Plateau picnic area. Its only distinctive habits seemed to be that it flew counterclockwise among the trees that encircled the parking lot, and it seemed to prefer a huge sycamore tree at the south end of the lot, from which it sang its typical "zeeeeeeeeee-up" song.

On June 14th and 21st, however, I caught a glimpse of a second bird with a yellow throat joining the singing male, but could not confirm its identity as to species or sex. On the 23rd, my wife Ann and I spent the morning at the Plateau with the mission of confirming a female Parula. After two hours of keeping track of the male, we finally identified a female joining him in his favorite sycamore tree. During the 3-4 minutes that the Parulas were together, the male remained on a small high branch, hardly moving and singing almost imperceptibly quiet songs, some the typical "zeeeeeeee-ups" as well as other variations. They then departed eastwardly together. Two minutes later, the male was back again, singing his typical loud song in the sycamore.

Visions of nesting Parulas danced in our heads. Now we were not only interested in besting a late date for Cuyahoga Co., but we were also eager to find evidence of nesting. Harlan told me that John Pogacnik had observed an adult female Parula feeding young at Hell Hollow MP in Lake Co. (some 30+ miles to the northeast) during the summer of 1992 (Harlan, p. 111). But apparently, the only person ever to actually find a Parula nest in northern Ohio was Lawrence E. Hicks, who located one in the old Pymatuning Bog in Ashtabula Co. 6/15/31 (Hicks, p. 190). On the down side, Mengel (1965, p. 399) reported that no nest had ever been found in Kentucky either, even though the Parula commonly nests there.

The next 16 days were relatively uneventful except for the following observations. In the late morning of June 25th, the male spent much of his time foraging and singing high in the treetops near the

ford crossing a short distance from the Plateau. On July 2nd, Ann and I found the male foraging low in the trees, and singing variable songs, even chipping, relatively quietly, near the ford area again. It did fly off to the Plateau once in this time, sang, and returned shortly thereafter. We could not tell whether it was carrying food. On July 6th, the Kirtland Bird Club had their picnic supper at the Plateau area. The male sang a few songs at 6:00 p.m. from the parking lot area and then sang again at about 7:30 p.m. from the trees just above the men's pit toilet. On July 7th and 8th, Norm Kotesovec interpreted the male's behavior as that of an unmated territorial bird, i.e., it was not carrying food to any one area but was foraging in a wide area, apparently for itself. Fortunately, these concerns would prove to be unfounded.

On the morning of July 10th, Ann and I got to the Plateau area early. The male was singing and foraging in the trees to the west edge of the parking lot. With a limp green larvae in its beak (this is standard fare according to Bent, p. 141), it flew eastwardly across the parking lot into the trees near the pit toilet, but shot out of our sight. It sang several times, and shortly thereafter, flew across to the west side again. The Parula repeated this activity 4-6 times. The nest had to be on the east side! Ann and I scanned the treetops for a few minutes and then Ann said, "I have it. Look for the hanging grass in the spruce tree. I know that's it, the bird just entered."

Indeed it was the nest. It appeared as a cup suspended near the end of a drooping Norway Spruce bough, woven together with dried grasses, with eight long strands sticking out of one side (the side from which the birds entered the nest). Although usnea lichen and Spanish moss are typically used for nest construction, where these materials are unavailable, Parulas will use the technique noted here (Bent, p. 140). In size, the nest appeared to be about 3-4 inches in diameter and depth, and was located about 45-50 feet high (about 10-12 feet down from the top) in a branch pointing in a northeasterly direction, about 4 feet from the trunk. The tree was on a hillside of hemlock, spruce, oak and sycamore, near a small ravine. We watched for another hour, confirming that both the male and female were bringing food to the nest (Bent, p. 141). The male seemed to bring the larger fare, while the female brought the lesser.

After lunch we reported our findings to Harlan and then returned to the nest in the late afternoon for observation. For this day and the next, the feeding went roughly like this: the female approached the nest quietly from a slightly lower branch, flew up to the nest edge from a southwesterly direction, fed the young, and then entered the nest for brooding (12-15 minutes each time on July 10th, 7-9 minutes on the 11th). When the male approached, he sang 1-10 times, and then alit on the upper curved part of the branch that the nest was on, but only closer to the trunk. The female then flew from the nest, as the male flew or hopped down to the nest edge, fed the young, and departed in about 30 seconds. The female would return in about 4-8 minutes and repeat the behavior. By July 12th, both the female and male were constantly feeding the young

with little if any brooding. On some occasions, both birds were at the nest simultaneously. Feeding continued at a vigorous pace through at least 7:45 a.m. on July 18th. The chirping of hungry young could be heard on the 17th and 18th. The young fledged sometime after that last feeding observation on July 18th and before 7:00 a.m. on July 19th. Occasional weak singing was heard on the 19th and 20th in the general area of the ford and Plateau.

According to The Birder's Handbook (Ehrlich et al., p. 510), Parulas incubate eggs for about 12-14 days. Time for fledging is unreported. Egg dates in Ohio are unknown, but young generally are thought to fledge in late June and early July from nests further south in Ohio (Peterjohn & Rice, p. 276). The fact that no consistent singing was heard in the vicinity of the nest on July 6th, 7th and 8th, yet feeding and brooding were observed on the 10th suggests that eggs hatched sometime on July 8th or 9th. Since the birds apparently fledged on July 18th or 19th, this would seem to indicate that fledging took about 10-11 days. Counting backwards 12-14 days from hatching suggests the eggs were laid around June 24-26. This might explain the male's behavior on June 25th and July 2nd, in that he was biding his time and conceivably foraging for food to feed the female on eggs. Since males were in the area from May 1st and a female was present by June 14th at the latest, does this time between the June 14th and 24th represent the "romance" and nest building period? Or did a delay occur because usnea lichen was unavailable?

Parulas may return to the same nesting areas in successive years and have been known to reuse the same nest (Harrison, p. 85). Maybe we will have a better chance next year to firm up these dates and times. Luck favors the prepared mind!

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Totally Unexpected: A Fulvous Whistling-Duck at Magee Marsh WA
by Ed Pierce

Bird Fever (a nervous condition causing frenetic activity seemingly associated with spring bird migration) had subsided, and I was ready for a leisurely walk in the sun with an occasional study of familiar wildlife. Nothing taxing. Not! So, on June 5, 1994, Rob Harlan and I helped with the monthly census at the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge main complex (Ottawa Co.). We walked the dike around what is known as Pool One, which is the large pool on the east side of the refuge north of the refuge headquarters building. We were the only two to take this eastern route. The remaining observers walked west on the Blue Heron Trail. By approximately 9:30 a.m., we had just emerged from the "goose pens" area (where Ohio's second Snowy Plover was found in August 1993) and found ourselves on the north/south dike on the far eastern edge of the refuge. I had first walked south on this dike a short distance to observe some swallows, which were flying in the canal between the Ottawa refuge dike upon which I was standing and the dike forming the far western boundary of Magee Marsh WA. Rob had walked north a short distance, and was looking eastward into the Magee Marsh. Eventually, he called me to come look at a bird that he had under observation, a bird he believed to be a Fulvous Whistling-Duck. I rejoined him and watched the duck in question for about 3 minutes.

The duck was on a moderately sized open-water pool. Although the pool was surrounded on 3 sides by cattails and other marsh vegetation, we had an unobstructed view. The duck was about 50 yards away from us, across the canal, and thus just inside the western boundary of Magee Marsh WA. The weather was perfect, with blue skies, bright sun, and no clouds. The sun was about 45 degrees up in the morning sky and shining at us during our observations. The only effect of this angle was to mute the plumage colors of the duck.

The first things that I noticed about the duck were the very prominent hook or nail on the upper mandible, and a shaggy crest of feathers protruding from the upper part of the back of its head. In 20 years of birding the Ottawa Refuge and Magee Marsh area, at least twice a month if not more, and seeing all expected species of ducks in all plumages, I had never seen a duck that looked like this one.

I studied the bird for about 3 minutes, first with my binoculars and then with my scope, until the bird flew. While the bird was on the water, I noted the following details. It was smaller than an adjacent Mallard, but noticeably larger than a nearby Pied-billed Grebe and somewhat larger than a nearby Blue-winged Teal. The bird's bill was entirely black, about the size of a Mallard's bill, but with a prominent nail. This nail extended well below the lower mandible and was clearly visible even at 50 yards. The bird had a shaggy crest of short, stubby feathers beginning at the center of the crown which loosely extended past the rear of the head. Plumage colors were muted due to the sun but the sides of the duck were obviously brownish to orange-brown, and the wings and back were darker brown. There was a small whitish area behind the duck's bill, and it had a narrow eye-ring of the same color. Rob noted that the bird was oddly proportioned, with a blocky-headed look and a thin neck. While we watched, the bird dove at least twice, completely submerging, to feed.

Suddenly the bird flew. I attempted to follow it with my scope as it flew in a large circle over Magee Marsh and finally directly away from us, out

of sight to the east. As it flew directly away, I was able to keep my scope on it constantly and could see a white band of feathers, in the form of a "U", on the uppertail coverts, above the dark tail, similar to the pattern on a Canada Goose. There was a small dark break in this "U"-shaped band at the very bottom of the "U". This break point was not clearly demarcated, but was visible. Rob noted that, in flight, the wings appeared uniformly dark on the upper surface, and that the rump was also dark.

Several minutes after the bird disappeared and before leaving the location, I used my tape recorder (and the reverse side of my screech owl tape) to record what I had seen. Rob and I then finished our census path, encountering Mike and Chris Crofts at the mouth of Crane Creek at about 11:30 a.m. We told them we had seen a Fulvous Whistling-Duck and its last known location. At noon, we finished our census at the Ottawa Refuge parking lot, but discovered that the other group (which had taken the Blue Heron Trail) had finished long before us and had gone home! We drove the Crane Creek causeway, as did the Crofts brothers, from about noon until about 1:00 p.m., but none of us were able to refind the duck, nor were others subsequently.

We remembered that the Sportsmen Migratory Bird Center at Magee Marsh WA had a Fulvous Whistling-Duck specimen on display. This specimen was remarkably similar to the bird we had seen. The only noticeable difference was that our bird had a visibly shaggy crest, whereas the specimen did not. The specimen did have the prominent hook at the end of the bill, the light area around the eye, and, even more remarkably, the break in the "U"-shaped band on the upper tail coverts, all of which I had seen on the live bird. The specimen also demonstrated how negligible or reduced the white ornamental feathering separating the wing from the flank can appear in some birds.

Although initially we had been concerned with the June 5th date, a very cursory review of the birding literature revealed the following sightings from nearby areas: 3 birds were at Jamaica Bay Refuge, NY from 5/29 to 6/4/65; 1 bird was at Montezuma NWR, NY 5/17-18/64; 1 was at L. Sullivan, IN from 5/28 to early September 1960; 2 were at Jasper-Pulaski WA, IN on 5/16/64; 2 were in Oakland Co., MI for two weeks in June 1964; 2 were at Cap Tourmente, Quebec 6/23/86; & 3 were at N. Stonington, CT 5/16-26/87. An apparently undocumented record exists from Killdeer Plains WA, Ohio, for 6/25/67 (see Tom Thomson's Birding in Ohio, 1983). Obviously, this species has a proclivity for wandering, even in late spring and early summer.

Ohio does have at least several previous records of this widespread species, although details are apparently non-existent for most sightings. Ohio's first records were noted as part of an apparent "invasion" during the Autumn of 1962. Of 9 birds present at Toussaint WA (Ottawa Co.) 10/20/62, 3 were collected. 2 of these birds are housed in the Ohio State University Museum at Columbus (see Milton B. and Mary A. Trautman's Annotated List of the Birds of Ohio, 1968). The other bird collected at Toussaint WA on 10/20/62 is very likely the specimen on display at the Sportsmen Migratory Bird Center at Magee Marsh WA.

Since so many of my state "firsts" are staked out birds, I had nearly forgotten how exciting it is to find and identify a bird you've never seen before. It is really the zenith of fun. Perhaps all that is necessary to provoke such an occasion is to write an article proclaiming that "Ottawa's Greatest Day" had already occurred.

Nesting Season Studies

Oak Openings Breeding Bird Census--

1994 marked the fifth year of the Oak Openings Breeding Bird Census. As in the previous 4 years, the census method consisted of bike riding 8 (7 in 1990) roadside routes through the most productive areas of the Oak Openings of Fulton, Henry and Lucas Counties, and listing all birds seen and/or heard along the routes. 99 species were found this year, plus 11 more species were found on non-census dates. This total represents the second lowest species count (for census dates only) over the course of the 5 year study, with the highest count being 108 species (1993) and the lowest count being 97 (1992). The average species count over the 5 year period has been 101.6 species/year. The 5341 individuals found this year also represents the second lowest total, with the highest total being 5853 (1993) and the lowest total being 4398 (1990). The average number of individuals found over the 5 year period has been 5330 individuals/year. The complete tally for all 5 years of the census is listed on the next page. Tom Kemp: 7021 Manore Rd., Whitehouse, OH 43571 and Matt Anderson: 12005 Oak River Lane, Whitehouse, OH 43571.

Greater Akron (Summit Co.) Summer Bird Count--

1994 represented the 17th year that the Greater Akron Audubon Society has conducted a mid-June bird count in Summit County (roughly the southern 3/4 of the county). The count was held June 17-20 this year. 42 observers found 18,780 individuals representing 123 species during 286 party hours. We added 3 new species to the count this year (Peregrine Falcon, Blackburnian Warbler, and White-throated Sparrow), bringing our total species count up to 168 (we incorrectly reported our total last year to be 168, when it actually should have been 165 species). Our most significant increases this year were Great Blue Heron, Wild Turkey, Bank Swallow, E. Bluebird, Veery, Wood Thrush, White-eyed Vireo, C. Yellowthroat, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Rufous-sided Towhee, Swamp Sparrow, Bobolink and N. Oriole. No species seemed unusually low in numbers except for E. Meadowlark and Brown Thrasher, which are scarce compared to 10 or 15 years ago. Carolina Wrens obviously suffered last winter, but are still more numerous than in the early 1980's. The only expected species that we missed was C. Moorhen. Our totals of all birds seen and/or heard appear under the heading "SUM" on the accompanying table. Carol Tveekrem: 621 Surfside Drive, Akron, OH 44319.

NASA Lewis Research Center-- Plumbrook Station

As part of an environmental inventory sponsored by the NASA Lewis Research Center's Plumbrook Station (Erie Co.), I surveyed the Station's 6400 acres for breeding birds this summer. One 25 mile route, styled after a USF&WS Breeding Bird Survey route, was driven 4 times. Also, the complex was also broken down into 6 blocks, similar to but smaller than Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas blocks, which received 138 hours of coverage. Data on the accompanying table (which appear under the heading "NLR") represent in most cases territorial males only. Tom Bartlett, 1833 S. Winfield Drive, Tiffin, OH 44883.

OK OPENINGS BREEDING BIRD CENSUS (BY BICYCLE)

TOM KEAP - MATT ANDERSON

CHECKLIST ORDER

	1982	1983	1982	1981	1980	AVG
1. PIED-BILLED GREBE			NC			0.0
2. GREAT BLUE HERON	7	3	5	8	2	4.6
3. GREAT TERN		2				0.4
4. GREEN BACKED HERON		7	2	3	8	4.4
5. BLACK-CRANTON HERON				NC		0.0
6. CANADA GOOSE	2	NC	1	1	2	1.2
7. WOODDUCK		4	3	11	2	5.4
8. MALLARD	8	7	13	12	5	9.0
9. TURKEY Vulture	1	2	NC	NC		1.0
10. BOOPER SHAWK	1	3	3	5	2	2.4
11. RED-SHOULDERED HAWK	1	1	NC	NC	2	0.8
12. BREAST-WINGED HAWK	1	2	NC	1	1	1.0
13. RED-TAILED HAWK	8	3	4	1	3	3.8
14. AMERICAN KESTREL	3	2		4	1	2.0
15. RING NECKED PHEASANT	9	1	12	5	8	7.2
16. NORTHERN SOYWHITE	15	15	14	23	22	17.8
17. KILLDEER	21	30	33	29	22	29.0
18. SOOTY TERN SANDPIPER	1					0.2
19. SPOTTED SANDPIPER	3	2	3	4	1	2.8
20. COMMON SHORE	NC		NC	2		0.8
21. AMERICAN WOODCOCK	NC	4	NC	4	NC	1.6
22. ROCK DOVE	1	4	7	12	10	8.8
23. DOWNY DOVE	178	149	148	170	168	147.4
24. BLACK BELLED CUCKOO	3	2	NC	3	NC	1.4
25. YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO	1	1		3	0	3.0
26. EASTERN SCREECH OWL	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC	0.0
27. GREAT HORNEDOV	NC	1	NC	NC	NC	0.2
28. BARRED OWL	NC	NC	NC	NC	NC	0.0
29. COMMON NIGHTHAWK	NC	NC				0.0
30. WHIPPOORWILL	NC	NC	2	3	4	2.8
31. CHIMNEY SWIFT	21	10	11	21	7	14.0
32. RUBENSTEIN HUMMINGBIRD	11	8	3	11	5	7.8
33. BELTED KINGFISHER	3	5	2	5	3	3.4
34. RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER	2	8	12	11	12	8.0
35. RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER	18	8	12	11	14	12.2
36. DOWNY WOODPECKER	70	57	31	60	45	52.6
37. Hairy WOODPECKER	12	9	8	18	15	12.6
38. HERMITHORN FLYCATCHER	18	18	9	62	18	18.8
39. EASTERN WOODPECKER	87	80	53	62	77	83.8
40. ACADIAN FLYCATCHER	18	24	16	22	24	21.0
41. ALDER FLYCATCHER	2	2	3	3	1	3.2
42. WRLD FLYCATCHER	22	23	29	35	34	28.8
43. GREAT FLYCATCHER	1	1	1	1	1	1.4
44. EASTERN ROSE	7	9	2	3	3	3.2
45. LEAST CRESCENT FLYCATCHER	29	34	32	38	35	33.2
46. EASTERN KINGBIRD	32	29	34	28	23	28.8
47. HORNE LARK	8	17	20	18	15	15.2
48. PURPLE MARTIN	18	30	24	28	15	22.0
49. TREE SWALLOW	9	3	4	5	10	5.8
50. N. ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW	3	7	3	8	7	6.0
51. BANK SWALLOW	43	181	160	208	120	158.4
52. CLIFF SWALLOW	NC					0.0
53. BARN SWALLOW	57	33	38	59	68	53.0
54. BLUE JAY	121	109	114	128	115	118.2
55. AMERICAN CROW	124	137	115	118	111	121.2
56. BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE	103	107	88	84	86	94.0
57. TUFTED titmouse	108	131	138	121	80	115.2
58. RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH	NC(1)		1	NC(1)	1	0.4
59. WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH	38	30	23	31	37	35.8
60. BROWN CREEPER	2	2	2	1		1.4
61. CAROLINA WREN	7	28	33	23	8	20.0
62. HOUSE WREN	210	209	168	138	87	164.8
63. GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET			NC	1		0.2
64. BLUE GRAY NUTHATCH	28	39	33	41	21	32.4
65. EASTERN BLUEBIRD	28	24	25	30	28	27.8
66. VEERY	36	40	39	39	51	41.0
67. HERMIT THRUSH		2		1		0.8
68. WOOD THRUSH	52	65	59	56	34	53.8
69. AMERICAN ROBIN	483	482	484	373	298	424.2

	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980	AVG
70. GRAY CATBIRD	222	278	245	234	166	229.0
71. NORTH-ERN WOODRAGON	2	2	1	1	1	1.2
72. BROWN THRASHER	12	8	9	13	9	10.4
73. CEDAR WAXWING	86	161	144	128	68	121.4
74. EUROPEAN STARLING	174	171	125	148	82	142.2
75. WHITE-EYED VIREO	8	13	5	8	10	8.4
76. BELL'S VIREO					1	0.2
77. SOULTARY VIREO	3	4	3	2	2	3.6
78. YELLOW-THROATED VIREO	29	32	32	28	24	28.8
79. WARBLING VIREO	37	34	41	33	24	33.8
80. RED-EYED VIREO	181	112	97	111	121	108.8
81. BLUE WINGED WARBLER	40	46	46	41	20	40.2
82. GOLDEN WINGED WARBLER		1				0.2
83. JEWETTES W. WARBLER	1					0.2
84. TENNESSEE WARBLER					1	0.2
85. NORTH-ERN PARULA			1			0.2
86. YELLOW WARBLER	38	32	44	35	19	33.0
87. CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER	3	2	10	3	8	5.2
88. BLACK-THRO. BLUE WARBLER		1				0.2
89. YELLOW RUMPED WARBLER				1	NC(1)	0.2
90. BLACK-THRO. GREEN WARBLER	1				NC(1)	0.2
91. YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER			NC(1)	1		0.2
92. PINE WARBLER	3	5	9	6	3	5.2
93. PRAIRIE WARBLER	NC(1)			2	NC(1)	0.4
94. CEPLANE WARBLER	1	2	1	3	2	1.8
95. BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER		1		2		0.6
96. AMERICAN ROOSTER	5	7	7	8	3	6.0
97. LOUISIANA WATER-TROUS	98	91	90	72	91	88.2
98. LOUISIANA WATER-TROUS				1		0.2
99. MOURNING WARBLER		1	2	2	1	1.8
100. COMMON YELLOW-THROAT	140	181	165	203	140	161.8
101. HOODED WARBLER	5	8	18	12	7	8.2
102. CANADIAN WARBLER					NC(1)	0.2
103. YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT	6	13	9	10	10	10.0
104. SUMMERTAMER				1	2	0.6
105. SCARLET Tanager	27	45	38	48	41	43.8
106. NORTHERN CARDINAL	173	185	180	138	132	151.8
107. ROSE BREASTED GROSBEAK	15	29	20	31	14	21.0
108. BLUE GROSBEAK	NC(1)			1	NC(1)	0.2
109. INDIGO BUNTING	301	369	347	348	325	337.0
110. DICKCISSAL	3	3				0.6
111. PULVUS-BIRD TWIGGE CHIPPING SP. ARROW	52	83	83	55	55	68.2
112. FIELD SP. ARROW	120	132	108	146	127	128.2
113. VESPER SP. ARROW	16	30	34	33	21	28.8
114. LARK SP. ARROW	1	1	1	2	1	1.2
115. SAVANNAH SP. ARROW	18	24	18	20	38	21.4
116. GRASSHOPPER SP. ARROW	18	28	12	22	20	19.2
117. SONG SP. ARROW	252	320	258	277	172	255.4
118. SWAMP SP. ARROW	11	18	11	22	11	14.0
119. BOBOLINK	NC(1)	4		NC(1)	2	0.2
120. RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD	132	118	124	141	167	135.8
121. EASTERN MAGPIE	28	24	24	22	17	23.2
122. COMMON GRACKLE	151	181	156	183	206	175.4
123. BROWN-HEADED BOWBIRD	122	157	110	111	98	109.4
124. ORPHEO OROLE	14	11	15	15	8	12.4
125. NORTHERN OROLE	80	98	63	68	53	72.4
126. PURPLE FINCH			1	NC(1)	3	0.8
127. HOUSE FINCH	78	82	72	108	41	78.4
128. RED CROSSBIRD				NC(1)		0.2
129. AMERICAN GOLDFINCH	115	79	114	105	56	89.4
130. HOUSE SP. ARROW	129	87	128	123	77	110.8

TOTAL SPECIES (W/O NC)
ADDITIONAL W.C. SPECIES
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS (W/O NC)

	99	108	87	102	102	101.5
	11	9	11	16	7	15.0
	534	585	548	569	438	533.0

NOTES 1) # BARED PSYING MALES (OR PAIRS) FOUND IN JUNE-JULY ON 8 CENSUS ADITES (7 IN 1980) WITH THE OK OPENINGS
2) NC INDICATES SPECIES WAS OBSERVED DURING JUNE OR EARLY JULY BUT NOT ON THE CENSUS ITSELF
3) AVERAGE EXCLUDE ANY NO-SIGHTINGS

SPECIES	SUM	NLR	SPECIES	SUM	NLR
Pied-billed Grebe	4	0	House Wren	186	164
Double-crstd Corm.	1	0	Sedge Wren	0	24
Great Blue Heron	244	0	Marsh Wren	9	1
Green Heron	37	4	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	32	15
Black-cr. Night-Heron	2	0	E. Bluebird	62	39
Canada Goose	846	17	Veery	41	14
Wood Duck	82	11	Swainson's Thrush	1	0
Am. Black Duck	11	2	Wood Thrush	165	99
Mallard	541	10	Am. Robin	1394	379
Turkey Vulture	32	57	Gray Catbird	354	121
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3	0	N. Mockingbird	0	8
Cooper's Hawk	10	7	Brown Thrasher	12	34
Red-shouldered Hawk	8	0	Cedar Waxwing	201	72
Broad-winged Hawk	6	0	Eur. Starling	1370	166
Red-tailed Hawk	32	20	White-eyed Vireo	26	18
Am. Kestrel	12	12	Solitary Vireo	6	0
Peregrine Falcon	2	0	Yellow-throated Vireo	17	17
Ring-neckd Pheasant	3	15	Warbling Vireo	63	26
Wild Turkey	14	0	Red-eyed Vireo	182	75
N. Bobwhite	2	2	Blue-winged Warbler	70	23
Virginia Rail	2	0	"Brewster's Warbler"	0	1
Sora	2	0	Yellow Warbler	290	100
Killdeer	189	28	Chestnut-sided Warbler	7	6
Spotted Sandpiper	15	0	Black-thrd Green Warb.	3	1
Upland Sandpiper	0	1	Blackburnian Warbler	1	0
Am. Woodcock	4	9	Yellow-throated Warb.	2	0
Ring-billed Gull	164	0	Prairie Warbler	4	0
Herring Gull	3	0	Cerulean Warbler	17	1
Rock Dove	212	52	Black-and-white Warb.	0	1
Mourning Dove	580	56	Am. Redstart	16	4
Black-billed Cuckoo	12	6	Prothonotary Warbler	1	0
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	5	17	Ovenbird	25	2
E. Screech-Owl	12	20	Louisiana Waterthrush	7	0
Great Horned Owl	6	11	Kentucky Warbler	0	2
Barred Owl	11	0	Mourning Warbler	1	0
C. Nighthawk	19	1	C. Yellowthroat	284	166
Whip-poor-will	6	0	Hooded Warbler	109	0
Chimney Swift	341	10	Yellow-breasted Chat	13	15
Ruby-thrt'd Hummer	32	7	Summer Tanager	0	1
Belted Kingfisher	33	5	Scarlet Tanager	43	30
Red-headed Woodp.	3	15	N. Cardinal	591	103
Red-bellied Woodp.	79	23	Rose-brstd Grosbeak	100	28
Downy Woodpecker	102	47	Indigo Bunting	197	137
Hairy Woodpecker	32	12	Rufous-sided Towhee	144	68
N. Flicker	102	39	Chipping Sparrow	194	25
Piteated Woodpecker	13	0	Field Sparrow	137	208
E. Wood-Pewee	94	55	Vesper Sparrow	4	12
Acadian Flycatcher	59	14	Savannah Sparrow	42	26
Alder Flycatcher	7	3	Grassopper Sparrow	14	21
Willow Flycatcher	72	55	Henslow's Sparrow	0	7
Least Flycatcher	4	3	Song Sparrow	517	190
E. Phoebe	51	22	Swamp Sparrow	95	8
Great Crstd Flycatcher	56	31	White-throated Sparrow	2	1
E. Kingbird	49	62	Darkeyed Junco	1	0
Horned Lark	3	6	Bobolink	96	18
Purple Martin	27	2	Red-winged Blackbird	789	189
Tree Swallow	187	15	E. Meadowlark	33	45
N. Rough-wngd Swlth	97	7	C. Grackle	1170	95
Bank Swallow	947	0	Brown-headed Cowbird	304	103
Barn Swallow	239	39	Orchard Oriole	7	62
Blue Jay	413	103	N. Oriole	182	45
Am. Crow	255	27	Purple Finch	22	0
Black-cppd Chickadee	371	34	House Finch	546	40
Tufted Titmouse	272	49	Am. Goldfinch	430	129
White-brstd Nuthatch	114	18	House Sparrow	943	15
Carolina Wren	27	4			

Summer 1994 Overview by Robert Harlan

Surely, summer is the most important season for the birds. An enormous amount of avian energy is spent on producing the next generation— other than the demands of survival itself, there is nothing more important to a Magnolia Warbler than creating more Magnolia Warblers.

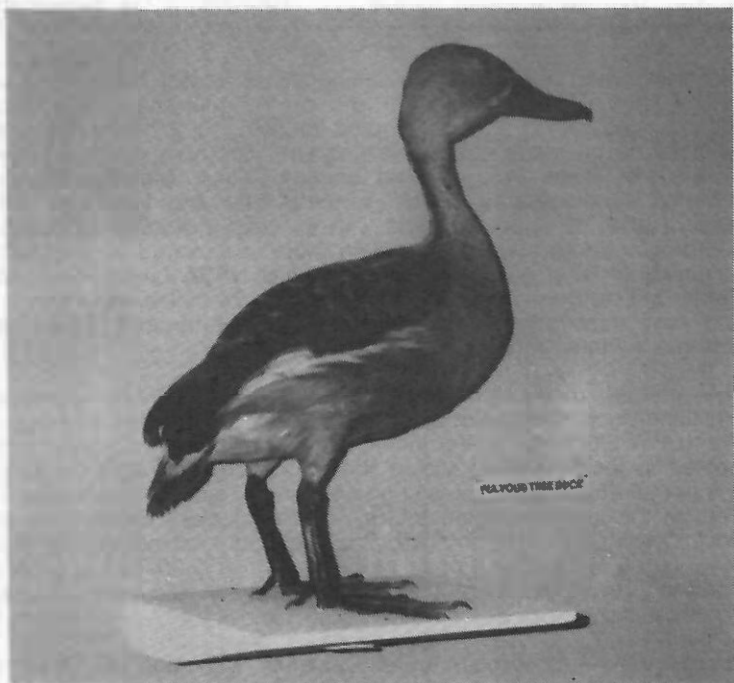
And in general, it seems to have been a rather good breeding season. Several productive birding areas received extensive coverage, and this effort was rewarded handsomely. Three areas in particular boasted long lists of rarities. Big Island Wildlife Area in Marion Co., which was flooded once again this year, attracted a wealth of marsh birds, including both bitterns, King Rail, and several interesting waterfowl species. Hinckley Metropark in Medina Co. continued to produce rare "northern" nesters, as the article in this issue certainly will attest. Mohican State Forest in Ashland Co. offered serious challenge to Hinckley, however, generating reports of Hermit Thrush and Blackburnian Warblers this season, not to mention tantalizing observations of potentially nesting Yellow-rumped Warblers.

Dickcissels had a banner year, being found almost everywhere, it seems, except the northeastern and central counties. Ring-billed Gulls nested, or at least attempted to nest, at 2 inland sites, a behavior never before noted. Nesting Lark Sparrows put on a show at Killdeer Plains WA, a most unusual site. Carolina Wrens, suffering at the hands of last winter's cold and ice, were still present at most expected sites, but as only a shadow of former numbers. Sedge Wrens, however, were discovered in excellent numbers, at least at the normally off-limits NASA Lewis Research Center in Erie Co., where 34 birds, including 24 males, were noted. And how does one explain at least 7 White-throated Sparrows during a summer period?

The premier bird of the season was a wandering Fulvous Whistling-Duck, which put in an all-too-brief appearance at Magee Marsh WA 6/5. Ohio's first mid-summer Clay-colored Sparrow was located in the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area on 6/19. It is not all that outlandish to suggest that this species could nest in Ohio in the not too distant future. The customary Bell's Vireo at Buck Creek State Park in Clark Co. apparently did not appear this year, but 1 at Gilmore Ponds in Butler Co. 7/19-29 was a worthy stand-in. A White-faced Ibis at Delaware WA 6/6 was also an excellent find.

In the following accounts, an asterisk (*) signifies that a documentation has been submitted by the person indicated, and that this documentation has been accepted by the Ohio Bird Records Committee (OBRC). Since the OBRC report in our Spring 1994 issue also dealt with the Summer 1994 documentations, no OBRC report appears in this issue. Look for the next Committee report in our Autumn 1994 issue.

"The Reports" section is intended to be read in phylogenetic order. The specific county location of most sites is listed in the accounts the first time each site receives mention. County names are often abbreviated by using their first four letters-- "Sene" representing Seneca Co., for example. Other place name abbreviations found in this issue are: BIWA (Big Island Wildlife Area, Marion Co.); BuCr (Buck Creek State Park, a.k.a. C.J. Brown Res., Clark Co.); CVNRA (Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area, Cuyahoga/Summit Cos.); CPNWRC (Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge Count, Lucas Co., as compiled by Joe Komorowski); FRes (Findlay Reservoirs, Hancock Co.); GASBC (Greater Akron Summer Bird Count, Summit Co., as compiled by Carol Tveekrem); HBSP (Headlands Beach SP, Lake Co.); KPWA (Killdeer Plains WA, Wyandot Co.); Lksh (Lakeshore Metropark, Lake Co.); Magee (Magee Marsh WA, Ottawa/Lucas Cos.); NLRC (NASA Lewis Research Center, Erie Co.); OkOp (Oak Openings MP and vicinity, primarily Lucas Co.); ONWR (Ottawa NWR, Ottawa/Lucas Cos.); ONWRC (Ottawa NWR Count, Ottawa/Lucas Cos., as compiled by Ed Pierce); SVWA (Spring Valley WA, Greene/Warren Cos.); & WPSC (Winous Point Shooting Club, Ottawa Co.).



Fulvous Whistling-Duck specimen, at the Sportsmen Migratory Bird Center (Magee Marsh WA).
Photo by Ed Pierce.

THE REPORTS-- SUMMER 1994
By Robert Harlan

Loons through Herons

Common Loon-- As usual, a few stragglers remained on large inland bodies of water, including: 1-2 Killdeer Plains WA [hereafter KPWA] (Wyan) through the period until 8/20 (BC, KA); 1 Hueston Woods SP (Butl/Preb) 6/4 (V. Urbanski); 1-2 Findlay Res. [hereafter FRes] (Hanc) 6/7-7/14 (BH); & 1 imm. L. Rockwell (Port) 6/25+ (LR).

Pied-billed Grebe-- Nested successfully (with young being seen) at Magee Marsh WA [hereafter Magee] (Otta/Luca) (CH); Big Island WA [hereafter BIWA] (Mari) (JH); and at Indian Creek WA (Brow) (LG). Other probable nesters include 7 on the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge Count [hereafter ONWRC] (Otta/Luca) 6/5; 2 at Medusa Marsh (Erie) 7/27 (CH); 4 at Silver Creek MP during the Greater Akron Summer Bird Count [hereafter GASBC, encompassing Summit Co.] 6/17-20 (BDL, fide CT); 8 on the Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge Count [hereafter CPNWRC] (Luca) 7/10; & an unspecified number at Navarre Marsh (Otta) 6/1-4 (BSBO).

Am. White Pelican-- Singles were seen at Magee 6/9 (MJS) and at Weir's Rapids on the Maumee River (Luca/Wood) 7/20 (ET, MAn). This latter bird moved 5 miles downriver to the Jerome Rd. Rapids at Sidecut MP (Luca/Wood) 7/22 (ET).

Double-crested Cormorant-- Another substantial increase was noted at W. Sister Island NWR (Otta), where 580 pairs nested this year, as compared to 300 pairs in 1993 (MJS). 150 were tallied on the ONWRC of 6/5. 6 inland sites reported, including: up to 40 at the Mahoning Co. portion of Meander Res. (Trum/Maho) through the period (NB); up to 15 L. Rockwell

through the period (LR, CH); 8 Knox Lk. (Knox) 6/11, with 2 there 7/8 (JH); 2 Buck Creek SP [a.k.a. C.J. Brown Res., hereafter BuCr] (Clar) 6/11 and 3 there 7/9 (DO); 2 Walborn Res. (Port/Star) 6/26 (CH); & an unspecified number along the Ohio River in Washington Co. 6/30 (LB). 23 were roosting at Sheldon Marsh SNP (Erie) 7/24 (KMo).

Am. Bittern-- Alexander found 1 at BWA 7/11, while Master noted 3 birds there 7/23 with 1 bird remaining 7/30. Another was at Springville Marsh SNP (Sene) 7/2 (TB).

Least Bittern-- At least 2 calling birds were at BIWA through at least 6/27 (JH, KA). Also probably nested at Spring Valley WA [hereafter SVWA] (Gree/Warr), where several birds were present through the period (LG, m. obs.). Bartlett found 1 at Springville Marsh SNP 6/4.

Great Blue Heron-- 45 inland birds at Walborn Res. 6/26 provided a good count (CH). Only 1600 pairs nested at W. Sister Island NWR, a significant decline from 2400 pairs there in 1993 (MJS). Other lakefront highs include 74 birds on the CPNWRC of 7/10 and 150 on the ONWRC of 6/5. The Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area [hereafter CVNRA] (Cuya/Summ) heronry (Cuya portion) fledged all young by 7/31 (DAC).

Great Egret-- 3 inland sites held singles in early- to mid-June, while 5 more inland sites attracted 6 birds 7/20-25. A whopping 250 congregated at a recently drawn-down mudflat at Turtle Creek Marsh (Otta) 7/30 (RHR, EP). 1040 pairs nested at W. Sister Island NWR, up from 750 pairs in 1993 (MJS).

Snowy Egret-- W. Sister Island NWR hosted 10 nesting pairs this summer, up from 8 pairs last year (MJS). 3 Snowy's associated loosely with the 250 Great Egrets at

Turtle Creek Marsh 7/30 (EP, RHr). 3 were detected on the ONWRC 6/5, and 1 remained there for the 7/3 ONWRC.

Little Blue Heron-- A juv. graced BuCr 7/9-11 (DO, LG).

Cattle Egret-- The nesting colony at Turning Point Island, easily seen from the Sandusky (Erie) waterfront, still held 10 birds 7/23 (RHr, EP). This colony was almost certainly the source of good-sized flocks at various Erie Co. sites 7/10-29, including the high of 34 birds along Strub Rd. 7/29 (KMo).

Green Heron-- Max 6 Streetsboro Bog (Port) 6/16 (TLP).

Black-crowned Night Heron-- 730 pairs nested at W. Sister Island NWR, as compared to 750 pairs last year (MJS). 20 birds at Winton Woods (Hami) 7/3 seemed unusual (G. Garnet). Other reports away from the western L. Erie marshes include: 2 Headlands Beach SP (hereafter HBSP) (Lake) 6/4 (R. Hannikman); 2 on the GASBC 6/17-20 (fide CT); & 1 Lorain (Lora) 7/16 (CH).

Yellow-crowned Night Heron-- At least 2, possibly 3 young remained in the Dayton area nest at Oakwood (Mont) as late as 7/2 (DO, m obs.).

Waterfowl

Fulvous Whistling-Duck-- This extreme rarity was watched for about 15 minutes at Magee Marsh WA as part of the ONWRC of 6/5 (RHr*, EP*). This apparently represents Ohio's first multiple-observer record since 1975.

Mute Swan-- Nested successfully at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge [hereafter ONWR] (Otta/Luca), where the ONWRC of 6/5 discovered a nest and 1 fledged young; at Mogadore Res. (Port) (LR); & at Medusa Marsh (MJK). A pair was also present at Burr Oak

SP (Morg/Athe) (LB).

Canada Goose-- Max 560 ONWRC 7/3.

Wood Duck-- 44 were tallied on the CPNWRC 6/12. 25 more were at Medusa Marsh 7/16 (CH).

Green-winged Teal-- Up to 3 males at BIWA 6/6-27 certainly could have been in residence (KA, JH). 3 males at Winous Point Shooting Club [hereafter WPSC] (Otta) 6/6 probably did not nest (EP, RHr). A single was found on the ONWRC of 6/5, and 3 more birds were detected on the ONWRC of 7/3. Fall migrants appeared at 3 sites 7/10-14.

Am. Black Duck-- The GASBC recorded 11 birds throughout Summit Co. 6/17-20 (fide CT). Nesting was suspected at L. Rockwell (LR, CH). As part of an extensive survey of the NASA Lewis Research Center-- Plumbrook Station [hereafter NLRC] (Erie), Bartlett twice found a pair of Black Ducks, and deemed this species to be a "possible breeder" there. Only counts from the w. L. Erie marshes were 2 ONWRC 6/5; 1 WPSC 6/6 (EP, RHr); & 1 CPNWRC 6/12, with 2 there 7/10.

Mallard-- Max 1324 ONWRC 6/5.

Blue-winged Teal-- BIWA was home to 4+ males 6/15-7/28, and nesting seems likely (JH). Laggards not thought to be nesting include singles in Tuscarawas Co. 6/1 (ES) and WPSC 6/6 (RHr, EP), & an unspecified number at Ferguson Res. (Alle) 6/5-12 (RC). Apparently normal in the w. L. Erie marshes, where 8 were tallied on the ONWRC of 6/5.

N. Shoveler-- The ONWRC of 6/5 found 4 birds. 1 was at BIWA 6/6 (KA).

Gadwall-- A possible nester was found on the ONWRC 6/5. By 7/10, a fall migrant had appeared

at Conneaut (Asht) (JP). 2 were recorded on the CPNWRC the same day.

Am. Wigeon-- 2 males lingered at L. Rockwell at least until 6/5 (CH, LR). 1 on the CPNWRC 6/12 could have been a nester, but 28 there 7/10 almost certainly had moved in from out of state to molt in the safety of this protected area.

Canvasback-- A bird in L. Erie near W. Sister Island (Otta) 6/25 was most unusual (TLe et al.).

Ring-necked Duck-- A pair was present on a lake in Shalersville Twp. (Port) 6/12 to at least 6/25, and may have summered (CH, LR). This particular lake seems very attractive to unusual water birds, being the same site where a pair of Common Loons spent considerable time last year. Ohio has no confirmed nesting records of either species, although both could certainly be found breeding in the future.

Lesser Scaup-- 2 were unusual at Hueston Woods SP 6/4-12 (V. Urbanski, NKe et al.).

Hooded Merganser-- At least 2 broods were produced in the CVNRA heronry 6/2-7/6 (DAC). 3 birds were at Tinkers Creek SP (Port) 7/18 (TLP, E. Elder), while 20+ were at ONWR 7/15 (JP). A female with 8 attendant young comprised the majority of the 11 birds found on the ONWRC of 6/5.

Red-breasted Merganser-- A male was found at the Shalersville Twp. lake 6/12 (CH). 4 lakefront stragglers at 3 sites 6/5-7/8 were as expected.

Ruddy Duck-- A lone male was found near the mouth of Crane Creek on the ONWRC of 6/5. An unspecified number was at Navarre Marsh 6/4 (BSBO).

Vultures through Rails

Black Vulture-- A minimum of 3

were noted in Adams/Brown Cos. 6/5-25 (MJK, RHr, EP, DO). Singles were found in Holmes Co. 7/15 (BG) & 7/31 (MH).

Turkey Vulture-- 65 soared over Cowan Lk. (Clin) 7/24 (LG), while 27 lounged on the dike at Ferguson Res. the same day (RC).

Osprey-- A bird at Paulding Res. (Paul) 6/3 was a late spring migrant (DMD). A fall returnee was at L. Rockwell 7/26 (LR). 1 along the Ohio River in Washington Co. 7/2 could have been a result of the hacking project at Blennerhasset Is., West Virginia (LB). 1 at NLRC 7/2-4 was presumably a wanderer (G. Bernhardt, fide TB).

Bald Eagle-- The only bird reported away from known nesting areas was at Ashtabula (Asht) 7/10 (JP). The nest at L. Rockwell fledged 2 young the first week of July (LR). However, the Geauga Co. nest failed (fide LR). According to the "Maumee Bay Press" of August 1994, 26 nests were initiated in the state this year. 24 pairs began incubation, with 15 pairs successfully raising 30 young. Only 1 of 7 nests along L. Erie were successful. The ONWRC of 7/3 found 4 adults and 3 imm.

N. Harrier-- Although no confirmed nestings were reported, birds were sighted in Asht, Fult, Lake, Luca, & Paul. One of the Lake Co. reports came from Fairport Harbor, where a female was noted through mid-July (m. obs.). In addition, this species was noted at Killbuck WA (Wayn/Holm) 7/17 & 25 (LC).

Sharp-shinned Hawk-- An imm. was seen chasing a male Indigo Bunting at the Stranahan Arboretum in Toledo (Luca) 7/1 (ET). Other reports came from Adam, Carr, Lake, & Summ.

Cooper's Hawk-- 3 nesting pairs inhabited Findlay (Hanc) this season (fide BH). 5 nests were discovered at the NLRC (TB).

Broad-winged Hawk-- 1 was detected on the Oak Openings [hereafter OkOp] (mostly Luca) survey, where scarce (TK, MA).

Red-tailed Hawk-- 20 pair inhabited the NLRC (TB).

Peregrine Falcon-- The pair nesting on the Terminal Tower in Cleveland (Cuya) raised 4 young, all males (fide P. Lozano).

Wild Turkey-- A bird in the CVNRA (Cuya portion) 7/2 was interesting (RHr). Certainly still on the increase.

Ring-necked Pheasant-- 15 males were detected at the NLRC (TB). The ONWRC found 9 birds 6/5.

N. Bobwhite-- The OkOp survey totalled 15 birds (TK, MA). 10 were in Adams Co. 6/11 (EP, RHr). Rosche cited a decrease in Portage Co. NLRC hosted 2 males and 1 female (TB).

King Rail-- At least 2 birds were noted on many dates through the end of the period at BIWA (JH, KA).

Virginia Rail-- The ONWRC recorded a single bird 6/5. 6 were found at BIWA 6/6, with 2 still there 7/25 (KA, JH). JH also noted 4 in Richland Co. 6/11. 1 was at Springville Marsh SNP 7/2 (TB). An area near Dundee (Tusc) held 2 birds 7/4 and 1 bird 7/20 (SH). 2 were also present in the lower CVNRA (Summ portion), as recorded on the GASBC 6/17-20 (fide CT).

Sora-- The GASBC recorded 2 birds 6/17-20 (fide CT). 1 was in Richland Co. 6/11 (JH). Magee attracted another bird 7/30 (RHr).

Common Moorhen-- Definitely nested at BIWA, where 2+ adults were noted through the period (JH, KA) and 8 young were seen 8/5 (JH). 3 on the ONWRC 6/5; 2 on the OP NWRC 6/12; 2 at Springville Marsh SNP 7/2 (TB); 1 at Killbuck

WA 6/23 (TLP); & an unspecified number at Navarre Marsh 6/1 (BSBO) were likely nesters, while 1 at N. Chagrin MP (Cuya) 6/2-6 was an apparent late migrant (KME, TMR). Also present through the period at SVWA (fide JS).

Am. Coot-- 6+ adults remained at BWA through 7/21 (JH). 1 at the Findlay Clay Pits 7/12 & 19 could have been nesting (BH). An adult was at Magee 7/27 (CH).

Shorebirds through Terns

Black-bellied Plover-- JP noted both the latest spring migrant and earliest fall migrant this year, at Fairport Harbor 6/11 and at Conneaut 7/22.

Am. Golden-Plover-- A late spring migrant remained at KPWA 6/6 (BC, J. Howard), while an early adult returned to Paulding's Stokely Treatment Pond (Paul) 7/31 (DMD).

Semipalmated Plover-- 7 spring migrants dawdled at WPSC 6/6 (EP, RHr). 2 fall returnees were at Conneaut by 7/14 (JP), and 6 were there 7/28 (NB).

Piping Plover-- A bird was found at Conneaut 7/14 (JP*).

Killdeer-- 110 at Cowan Lk. 7/25 caused "quite a noise at the spillway" (LG). Up to 200 in flooded fields in Scott Twp. (Mari) 7/30 were presumably twice as loud (KA).

Am. Avocet-- An adult male at the Stokely Treatment Pond 7/27 provided a first record for Paulding Co. (DMD).

Greater Yellowlegs-- While a late spring migrant remained for the ONWRC of 6/5, 4 fall migrants had reached the far south at Miami-Whitewater Forest (Hami) on the very early date of 6/26 (P. Wharton). 42 migrants congregated in flooded Marion Co. fields in Scott Twp. 7/30 (KA).

Lesser Yellowlegs-- Scott Twp. also held 35 Lessers 7/30 (KA). 30 more were at Metzger Marsh WA (Luca) the same day (RHr).

Solitary Sandpiper-- 8 were in Scott Twp. 7/30 (KA).

Willet-- A bird at E. Fork Lk. (Cler) 7/26 was an excellent find (HA). Conneaut harbored 2 birds 7/22 (JP).

Spotted Sandpiper-- Max 34 ONWRC 7/3. 19 were scattered across Hancock Co. 7/26 (BH et al.). A nest at Jaite in the northern CVNRA held 4 eggs 6/4. These hatched 6/14-15 (DAC).

Upland Sandpiper-- On 6/16, TB discovered a nest containing 4 eggs at NLRC. Unfortunately, the nest had been destroyed by a mowing machine. Potential nesters include: 3 Fairport Harbor 6/2 (JP); 2 BIWA 6/15 (JH); 1 KPWA 6/18 (RHr); 1 Mansfield Airport (Rich) 6/20 (JH); 1 near the Ashtabula Co. Airport 7/2 (CH); 2 Henry Co. 7/17 (TK); 3 near ONWR 7/20 (CH); 1 Middletown Airport (Butl) 7/20 (fide JS); & an unspecified number at the Wright Patterson Air Force Base (Gree) in June (CM et al.). 6 in Scott Twp. 7/30 were presumably migrants (KA).

Whimbrel-- 1 remained at Conneaut 7/6-27 (RHr, EP, JP).

Marbled Godwit-- A small mudflat at Lorain unexpectedly attracted a bird 7/24 (J. & D. Hoffman).

Ruddy Turnstone-- 7 spring migrants remained for the ONWRC of 6/5. 4 returnees were at Maumee Bay SP (Luca) 7/27 (CH).

Red Knot-- A single was at Conneaut 7/14 (JP).

Sanderling-- Up to 8 were at Conneaut 7/14-28 (JP, CH, NB). 3 inland singles were of note: E. Fork Lk. 7/21 (HA); Stokely Treatment Pond (a Paulding Co.

first) 7/26 (DMD); & BuCr 7/31 (DO).

Semipalmated Sandpiper-- 35 spring migrants remained at WPSC 6/6 (EP, RHr). The same observers tallied 100 fall migrants at Metzger Marsh WA on both 7/23 & 7/30. 1 at Miami-Whitewater Forest 6/26 provided a notably early fall date for the far south (P. Wharton).

Western Sandpiper-- Conneaut attracted 2 birds 7/14 (JP) and a single 7/28 (NB). Nearby Walnut Beach (Asht) held 3 birds 7/10 (NB). Mock found a bird at Medusa Marsh 7/24.

Least Sandpiper-- 3 lingering spring migrants were at WPSC 6/6 (RHr, EP). 65 fall migrants were at ONWR 7/10 (CH). 20 more were inland at W. Branch SP (Port) 7/26 (CH).

White-rumped Sandpiper-- The following 3 counts, all representing spring migrants, were impressive: 19 WPSC 6/6 (RHr, EP); 7 Greenlawn Dam (Fran) 6/9 (AG); & 6 Walborn Res. 6/4 (CH). An early fall migrant was at BIWA 7/30 (BM).

Pectoral Sandpiper-- 1 at KPWA 6/18 provided a most unusual mid-summer record (EP, RHr, L. Powlick). Max 40 BIWA 7/28 (JH). Up to 18 were in Paulding Co. at the Stokely Treatment Pond 7/23-31 (DMD).

Dunlin-- 6 birds at WPSC (RHr, EP) and 1 at KPWA (BC, J. Howard), all on 6/6, were the latest reported spring migrants.

Stilt Sandpiper-- Reports were as follows: 2 Metzger Marsh WA 7/10 (CH); 1 ONWR 7/15 (JP); 2-4 BIWA 7/23-30 (BM, KA); 6 Scott Twp. 7/30 (KA); & 1 Turtle Creek Marsh 7/30 (RHr, EP).

Short-billed Dowitcher-- Highs include 30 birds at WPSC 7/23 and 25 birds at Metzger Marsh WA 7/30

(both RHr, EP).

Common Snipe-- Only report of probable nesting activity came from the OkOp survey, presumably at Irwin Prairie SNP (Luca) (MA, TK). 1 on the ONWRC of 7/3 could have been a nester. A migrant was in Scott Twp. 7/30 (KA).

Franklin's Gull-- An adult was at Conneaut 7/22 (JP), while a juv. was at BuCr 7/24 (DO).

Bonaparte's Gull-- 3 remained from the spring at Lorain 6/5 (CH). A southbound adult was inland at BuCr 7/24 (DO).

Ring-billed Gull-- Ohio's first known inland nestings of this species took place this season. At least 2300 pairs of Ring-billeds nested atop the Riser Foods Warehouse in Bedford Hts. (Cuya), some 14 miles from L. Erie. This site is near the Cuyahoga Regional Sanitary Landfill, which receives some 2,200 tons of refuse daily. According to USDA biologists, about 160 lbs. of chicken and rib bones were removed from the landfill and taken back to the nesting colony by the gulls each week! [Data from "Science News" Vol. 145 (April 16, 1994) and "Pennsylvania Birds" 8(2):97]. Another colony of around 50 nests (consisting of both Ring-billed and Herring Gulls) was discovered at L. Cascades in southwest Findlay in May and June (fide BH). For details regarding the demise of this colony, see the article elsewhere in this issue. Juveniles, possibly from the Bedford Hts. colony, began to appear at HBSP in late June (LR). 100 juv. were at Walnut Beach by 7/20 (CH).

Herring Gull-- In addition to the Ring-billed Gulls mentioned above, approximately 700 pairs of Herring Gulls nested in Bedford Hts. this season (R. Dolbear, fide E. Kwatek [from "Pennsylvania Birds" 8(2):97]). See the article elsewhere in this issue for details regarding the nesting colony at L. Cascades

in Findlay. 50+ adults at the Turning Pt. island colony off Sandusky 7/23 represented but a tiny fraction of nesters at this site (RHr, EP).

Great Black-backed Gull-- Once again, many summered at Conneaut, with the max of 40 coming 7/16 (m. obs.). 26 were counted at HBSP 7/3 (LR et al.). 4 more were at Lorain 7/16 (CH). Singles on the CPNWRC 6/12 and at WPSC 6/18 (EP, RHr) were less expected.

Caspian Tern-- Fall migrants or wanderers were detected as early as 6/19, with a single at HBSP (R. Hannikman). Singles were also found at 2 other sites 6/25-26, including an inland bird at Walborn Res. on the latter date (CH). 5 birds were noted at KPWA 7/24 (BM).

Common Tern-- A 16' x 32' artificial island (a nesting platform) at ONWR held at least 22 nests this summer, with about 50 adults present (fide "Toledo Naturalists' Association Bulletin", August 1994). We are presently unaware of the ultimate success of this colony. Our only inland report was of 4 birds at E. Fork Lk. 7/26 (HA).

Forster's Tern-- 128 loafed at the marina adjacent to Metzger Marsh WA 7/30 (EP, RHr). Only 2 Common Terns consorted with this flock. 30 more Forster's were at Maumee Bay SP 7/27 (CH). 2 fall migrants were at Lorain by 6/26 (TLP), but 3 at FRes 6/14 are harder to categorize (BH). 6 were inland at KPWA 7/24 (BM).

Black Tern-- Things are beginning to look somewhat better for this species, at least as migrants. Although no nestings were reported, the following transients were: 2 BuCr 7/23 (DO); 1 WPSC 7/23 (RHr, EP); 1 bird in a flooded field 3 miles north of BIWA 7/23 (BM); 3 E. Fork Lk. 7/26 (HA); 2 FRes 7/26 (BH); & 1 Fairport Harbor 7/31 (JP). Many more were

to follow in the fall months.

Cuckoos through Shrikes

Black-billed Cuckoo-- Generally seemed up, especially in the north, where 12 were tallied on the GASBC 6/17-20 (fide CT) and 6 were found at the NLRC (TB).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo-- Also seemed up. While the NLRC harbored 17 birds (TB), the GASBC tallied 5 birds 6/17-20 (fide CT). 5 were at Magee 7/30 (EP, RHR), while 4 sites recorded 4 birds each.

Barn Owl-- 3 nestings were reported from the Tuscarawas/Holmes Co. area this year (RS, ES, MH, RHe, m. obs.). For more details, see the article elsewhere in this issue. JH reported the following: 1 at Knox Lk. 6/11, 2 adults with 6 banded young in Richland Co. 6/20, and 2 birds at LaRue (Mari) 7/21.

N. Saw-whet Owl-- An adult was found at Hell Hollow MP (Lake) 7/1 (JP). This species is presumably a more common nester than we realize, but detection can be very difficult.

Chuck-wills widow-- 4 were heard near the southern end of Waggoner-Riffle Rd. in Adams Co. 6/10-11 (EP, RHR).

Whip-poor-will-- Summit Co. hosted 6 birds 6/17-20, as reported by the GASBC (fide CT). A bird was found in the OkOp 7/10 & 20 (MAN).

Chimney Swift-- 20 to 30 birds roosted in SH's Sugarcreek (Tusc) chimney each evening for much of July.

Red-headed Woodpecker-- Excellent field work by TLe in heavily populated Cuyahoga Co. resulted in at least 7 pairs being discovered, with 2 other single adults also being noted. These nestings produced at least 8

young, with many more likely. 2 pairs double-brooded, which apparently is a fairly unusual circumstance in the northern states. One nest still contained young as late as 8/10. Of the 7 confirmed pairs, 5 were located along L. Erie. The 2 single adults were also found very close to the Lake (TLe). Another Cuyahoga Co. pair nested at N. Chagrin MP (KMe). Other highs include: 15 at the NLRC (TB); 14 birds in Auglaize Co. 7/25 (RC); & 9 in Hancock Co. 7/19 (BH et al.).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker-- A lone individual was found at Hell Hollow MP 7/13 (JP).

Olive-sided Flycatcher-- Late migrants were located at Lakeshore MP [hereafter Lksh] (Lake) 6/1 (JP) and at Camp Berry (Hanc) 6/7 (C. Brown, fide BH).

E. Wood-Pewee-- 10 birds at HBSP 6/5 presumably included some migrants as well as residents (LR et al.).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher-- 4 migrants were banded at Lksh 6/5-10 (JP). An unspecified number remained at Navarre Marsh 6/1 & 4 (BSBO).

Acadian Flycatcher-- Max 23 Mohican SF (Ashl) 7/2 (LEY et al.). 14 were tallied at the NLRC this season (TB). 10 each were at Glen Helen (Gree) 6/18 (DO) & at Hinckley MP (Medi) 7/4 (PE). Singles at on the ONWRC of 6/5, at Lksh 6/12 (banded, JP) and at the Findlay Clay Pits 6/14 (BH) were likely still heading north. Meanwhile, young were already present at Ft. Ancient SM (Warr) 6/6 (LG).

Alder Flycatcher-- Likely residents were reported as follows: 1 L. Isaac (Cuya) through 6/22 (RHR); 1 singing near Lexington (Rich) 6/11-23 (SM); 1 SVWA 6/11 & 19 (DD); 7 GASBC 6/17-20 (fide CT); 3 Streetsboro Bog 6/18 (CH); 1 Tinkers Creek SP 6/23 (E. Elder); 2

singing at Aquilla Lk. WA (Geau) 7/25 (KMe); 2 on the OkOp survey (TK, MAn); 3 males at the NLRC (TB); & an unspecified number at Girdled Rd. MP (Lake) during the period (JP). A good year.

Willow Flycatcher-- Highs include: 32 ONWRC 6/5; 11 Richland Co. 6/11 (JH); 10 BuCr 6/5 (DO); & 10 KPWA 6/18 (RHr, EP).

Least Flycatcher-- 4 were found in Summit Co. on the GASBC 6/17-20 (fide CT) and 3 males were recorded at the NLRC (TB). Other areas reporting include Hanc, Huro, Lake, Sene, & the OkOp survey.

E. Phoebe-- LePage counted 10 at Tinkers Creek SP 7/18. 5 on the CPNWRC 7/10 was an interesting summer total for the W. L. Erie marsh region.

E. Kingbird-- The ONWRC of 6/5 noted 21 birds, while up to 20 were at Spencer WA (Medi) 7/25 (N. Krap).

Horned Lark-- TK counted 65 across Fulton Co. 6/27. About 7 birds in w. Washington Co. 7/21 was a good total for that area (LB). 1 over downtown Parma (Cuya) 7/28, far away from suitable nesting habitat, defies explanation (RHr).

Purple Martin-- About 20 pairs at Lakewood Pk. provided a rare Cuyahoga Co. nesting record (TLP). A colony near Lksh contained 100+ birds (JP), while 21 pairs inhabited a Richland Co. colony 6/10 (JH). 39 birds in the OkOp 7/25 (MAn) and 37 on the CPNWRC 7/10 presumably represent locals mixed with fall migrants.

Tree Swallow-- This species occupied 13 of 35 bluebird boxes at Mosquito Lk. SP (Trum), averaging 5 per clutch. All were successful (DJH). 277 congregated at CPNWRC 7/10; 286 did likewise on the ONWRC

7/3; while 20 were at KPWA 6/26 (DO).

N. Rough-winged Swallow-- Max 12 HBSP 7/3 (LR et al.).

Bank Swallow-- Telephone wires at WPSC bowed low under the weight of 3000 "Bankers" 7/30. 1000 more were at Metzger Marsh WA the same day (both RHr, EP).

Cliff Swallow-- Some specific nesting counts include: 30 pairs at O'Shaughnessy Res. (Dela) (KA); 21 pairs in Richland Co. 6/10 (JH); 10+ pairs at Knox Lk. 6/11 (JH); & about 5 nests each at Magee (m. obs.) and at WPSC (RHr, EP). Generally reported to be nesting along the Ohio River near the Washington/Athens Co. line (LB); at Geneva SP (Asht) (JP); and at W. Branch SP (LR). Nesters were reported to have increased in their e. Holmes Co. stronghold (ES).

Tufted Titmouse-- A suspended House Wren box attracted a nesting pair of Titmice to an Independence (Cuya) yard, with young still in the nest around the Fourth of July holiday. This represents a very late date (T. Harlan, fide RHr).

Red-breasted Nuthatch-- Definitely nested at Hinckley MP, where a family group was observed from 6/26 to 8/10 (NKo). This site has proven fairly consistent for nesters. Potential nesters include: 1, possibly 2, at Mitchell Forest (Hami) 6/12 (A. Walls); 1 at Mallard Lake in OkOp MP 6/19 (MAn); 1 Lksh 7/2 & 25 (JP); 2 Mohican SF 7/23 (LEY et al.); & 1 Holden Arboretum (Lake) 7/23 (RRi). A spring migrant was banded at Lksh 6/9 (JP).

Brown Creeper-- Nested at Mosquito Lk. (DJH). 2 singing males were in the OkOp 6/19 (MAn), and another sang at Russell Pk. (Geau) 6/1-2 and 8/1 (DB). Also reported from the CVNRA heronry 6/26 (TLc); Heli Hollow MP 6/23 (JP); & Indian Pt. MP (Lake)

7/30 (JP).

Carolina Wren-- Certainly down in most areas due to the winter freeze. 7 were detected on the OkOp survey, where 23, 33, & 28 had been found during 1991, 1992, & 1993, respectively (TK, MA). BG found only 5 individuals on 2 Breeding Bird Survey routes in the east-central portion of the state. LB regarded the species as down considerably in Washington & Morgan Cos. Only 5 could be located during a whole day of intensive birding in Adams Co. 6/11 (EP, RHR). Even so, a handful of observers did report stable numbers at various sites. It appears that Carolina's still can be found, at least in small numbers, at most expected locations.

House Wren-- Single site max was 25 birds on the ONWRC 6/5.

Winter Wren-- A male sang vociferously in Stebbins Gulch (Geau) 7/13+ (RHR, EP, V. Fazio). Also reported as present at Hell Hollow MP (JP).

Sedge Wren-- An incredible concentration was present in old grassy fields at the NLRC this summer, where 24 males were noted on territories for at least a week, and 10 additional males were found only once (TB). 3 singing males were present at their traditional Green Springs (Sand) site along Hayden Rd. 6/18 (RHR, EP). A single was noted at BIWA 7/21 (JH). An unspecified number were reported from Possum Creek Reserve (Mont) during the last week of June (J. Hill, J. Howard, fide CM).

Marsh Wren-- We received inland reports as follows: 3 Springville Marsh SNP 6/4 and 3 there 7/2 (TB); 6+ BIWA 6/6-7/25 (JH, KA); 5 BuCr 6/11 (DO); 5 Richland Co. 6/11 (JH); 1 Knox Co. 6/11 (JH); 5 SWVA 6/15 (LG); 9 GASBC 6/17-20 (fide CT); 1 Tinkers Creek SP 6/23 (E. Elder); 1 NLRC (TB); & an unspecified number northwest of

Kent (Port) during the period (LR). Lakefront birds were found in Lake, Luca, & Otta.

Golden-crowned Kinglet-- A pendant ball of grasses, almost certainly a nest, was discovered at Hinckley MP 6/19. A pair of adults was present, and 1 was seen to visit this presumed nest. A second male was also singing across the road from this site at the same time (RHR). Although at a slightly different location than previous years, this species has been present at Hinckley MP annually since 1992.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher-- 25 were in Adams Co. 6/11 (EP, RHR), and 10 were at Glen Helen 6/18 (DO).

E. Bluebird-- At S. Chagrin MP (Cuya), 59 eggs resulted in 45 fledged young (B. Fry). 9 nests were successful along a bluebird trail at Mosquito Lk. SP, up from 3 successes in 1993 (DJH). 50 birds were noted across Adams Co. 6/11 (RHR, EP).

Veery-- 1 was unexpected at the central Ohio site of Twin Lakes (Dela) 6/14-25 (KA). 3 birds were found at Mohican SF 6/4 & 7/2 (JH, LEY et al.). 14 males at the NLRC seemed like a very good count (TB).

Gray-checked Thrush-- A bird was banded at Lksh 6/5 (JP). 2 more late spring migrants were reported from N. Chagrin MP the same day (TMR).

Swainson's Thrush-- A very early fall migrant was banded at Lksh 7/22 (JP). Single spring migrants were noted at Lksh (JP) and HBSP (KMe), both on 6/4, while an unspecified number remained at Navarre Marsh the same day (BSBO).

Hermit Thrush-- Mohican SF is certainly one of our best summer sites for this species. JH found 7 there 6/4, and 4 were still present 7/2 (LEY et al.).

Gray Catbird-- The ONWRC of 6/5 tallied 31 birds. 30 were counted at HBSP 6/5 (LR et al.), while 29 were at L. Isaac 7/27 (RHR).

N. Mockingbird-- A pair at Union Cemetery in Niles (Trum) fended off the advances of both a Fox Squirrel and an Am. Crow 6/5. Their efforts were obviously successful, as a young bird was seen near the nest site 7/29 (CB). Another juv. was out of place at HBSP 7/19 & 25 (KMe). Also apparently nested in Concord Twp. (Lake) (JP). An impressive 8 males were found at the NLRC this summer (TB).

Brown Thrasher-- The GASBC tallied 12 throughout Summit Co. 6/17-20, as compared to 354 Gray Catbirds (fide CT). In Hancock Co., 16 thrashers were counted 6/7, as compared to 53 catbirds (BH et al.). Bartlett recorded 34 territorial males at the NLRC. 10 were in Adams Co. 6/11 (EP, RHR), while 9 more were in a different area of the same county 6/13 (LG). 5 were at HBSP 6/5 (LR et al.).

Cedar Waxwing-- Max 200 HBSP 6/5 (LR et al.). Birds were noted moving along L. Erie at Lksh from late June to early July (JP).

Loggerhead Shrike-- A very elusive bird remained from the spring along Fairport Nursery Rd. in Fairport Harbor. It was seen 6/4 (JP), 6/12 (MJK), and 6/26 (MJK, J. & A. Edwards). Apparently nested along Radnor Rd. in Delaware Co., where up to 4 birds were seen in early August (J. Fry).

Vireos through Warblers

White-eyed Vireo-- Max 20 Adams Co. 6/11 (EP, RHR).

Bell's Vireo-- Gilmore Ponds (Butl) hosted this very rare bird 7/19-29 (D. Styer, S. Pelikan, Y. Mohlman).

Solitary Vireo-- 10 were present at the favored Stebbins Gulch site 7/13 (EP, RHR). 7 more were at

Mohican SF 7/2 (LEY et al.). The GASBC tallied 6 birds 6/17-20 (fide CT). JP reported the species at 3 Lake Co. sites, and the OkOp survey located 3 birds (TK, MAn). Gara found 1 at Cedar Falls SP (Hock) 6/23.

Yellow-throated Vireo-- A singing male on the ONWRC of 6/5 provided the first summer record for this series of censuses. An unspecified number at Navarre Marsh through at least 6/4 also seems unusual (BSBO).

Warbling Vireo-- LR et al. counted 20 at HBSP 6/5, an excellent location for this species.

Philadelphia Vireo-- 1 was banded at Lksh 6/5 (JP).

Red-eyed Vireo-- 15 were noted at Glen Helen 6/18 (DO). The same number was counted at HBSP 6/5 (LR et al.).

"Brewster's Warbler"-- The annual male at Brecksville MP (Cuya) in the upper CVNRA remained at least until 6/4 (P. Lozano et al.). Other singles were discovered on the OkOp survey (MAn, TK); at NLRC (a singing male present 6/21 into July--TB); and at KPWA 6/26 (DO).

Golden-winged Warbler-- One inhabited Indian Pt. MP 6/1-11 (JP).

Tennessee Warbler-- Reminiscent of last summer, an early fall migrant was banded at Lksh 7/27 (JP). A late spring migrant was at N. Chagrin MP 6/5 (TMR).

N. Parula-- The Chasar's faithfully observed a nesting pair at Brecksville MP (a Cuyahoga Co. first) through 7/20 (DAC, m. obs.). See the article elsewhere in this issue for more details.

Yellow Warbler-- 76 summer residents were found on the ONWRC of 6/5. As one of the earliest fall migrants, good numbers may be expected by late

July. This year, 22 were banded at Lksh 7/22, when 70 + birds were thought to be present (JP).

Chestnut-sided Warbler-- The GASBC recorded 7 birds 6/17-20 (fide CT), and 6 males were noted at the NLRC (TB). Apparent residents were also found in Ashl, Lake, Lora, Medi, Sene, & on the OkOp survey. Singles banded at Lksh 7/19, 7/23, & 7/28 were possibly fall migrants from points north or were otherwise on the move after nesting locally (JP).

Magnolia Warbler-- Definitely nested at Hinckley MP (NKo). Details are provided elsewhere in this issue. An adult male at Mill Creek Pk. (Maho) 6/8 (NB); a bird at Donald Gray Gardens (Cuya) 6/8 (FG); & a bird banded at Lksh 6/9 (JP) very likely were all late spring migrants, as were unspecified numbers at Navarre Marsh 6/1-4 (BSBO). Single singing males near Ashtabula 7/14 (JP); at Hell Hollow MP 7/21 (JP); and at Stebbins Gulch 7/13 (RHr, EP) were all likely residents.

Black-throated Blue Warbler-- Navarre Marsh hosted an unspecified number of late spring migrants 6/1 & 3 (BSBO).

Yellow-rumped Warbler-- A very intriguing situation existed at Mohican SF, where a singing male was seen 7/2. This bird was seen in the company of a female or possibly an immature. The male was still singing 7/23 (LEY et al.). This is even more interesting when one considers that a singing male was also noted there 6/9-12/92 and again 7/3/93 (LEY). Ohio has no confirmed nesting record for this species. So far.

Black-throated Green Warbler-- Mohican SF produced a whopping 38 birds 7/2 (LEY et al.), with 25 + still there 7/15 (BG). 8 were in Stebbins Gulch 7/13 (EP, RHr). A detailed account of a nesting at Hinckley MP this season appeared in our spring issue (NKo). A male

sang from a deciduous woodlot at the NLRC on 6/25 (TB). Also reported from Geau, Hock, Lake, Summ, & the OkOp.

Blackburnian Warbler-- 2 males sang at Mohican SF 7/2, but at a different site from where this species has been noted at Mohican in 1992 and 1993 (LEY et al.). Another territorial male resided near Kendall Lk. in the southern CVNRA through mid- to late-June (G. & S. Cull). An apparent fall migrant was at Lksh 7/21 (JP).

Yellow-throated Warbler-- 3 sites in the CVNRA hosted this species (DAC). Another northerly bird was noted along the Grand River in Leroy Twp. (Lake) (JP). 15 males in Adams Co. 6/11 were as expected for the south (RHr, EP).

Pine Warbler-- A juv. banded at Lksh 7/19 was presumably produced at an undetected nest somewhere nearby (JP). A singing male accompanied by another drably-plumaged bird near Buttonbush Bog at Holden Arboretum 7/23 also brought up the possibility of local nesting (RRi). Another singing male inhabited the same pine grove at Brecksville MP 6/25-7/9 where Cuyahoga Co.'s only previous nesting record took place, in 1989 (RHr, DAC). The OkOp survey turned up 3 birds (MAN, TK, ET).

Prairie Warbler-- This species was particularly abundant in Adams Co., where 75 were estimated 6/11 (RHr, EP). 4 were located near Wetmore Rd. in the southern CVNRA, as part of the GASBC 6/17-20 (fide CT). 1 bird was found in the OkOp (TK, MAN).

Bay-breasted Warbler-- A late spring migrant was at Lksh 6/8 (JP).

Blackpoll Warbler-- The latest spring transient was recorded at HBSP 6/5 (LR et al.).

Cerulean Warbler-- The stretch of

Brecksville MP along Chippewa Creek is always an excellent spot for this species. 10 were found there 6/25 (RHr).

Black-and-white Warbler-- A male in Tuscarawas Co. 7/23 was thought to be a migrant (ES). Considering how early this species is known to migrate, this assessment seems very probable. A singing male was noted at the NLRC 6/16 & 23 (TB).

Am. Redstart-- This species moved in amazing numbers through Lksh beginning 7/15. Of 38+ thought to be present 7/22, 8 were captured for banding. At least 16 more were banded there 7/18-28 (JP).

Prothonotary Warbler-- At least 6 pairs nested in plastic jugs supplied for this purpose along the upper Cuyahoga River in Geauga Co. 4 broods were banded in July (DB, K. Stanek). Also definitely nested in the CVNRA heronry (DAC) and in the Ira Rd. beaver marsh in the southern CVNRA (MZ). Single males at L. Isaac 6/8 (RHr) & at N. Chagrin MP 6/4-10 (KMe, TMR) were late spring migrants. Presumably nested at Navarre Marsh (BSBO).

Worm-eating Warbler-- 1 was found at Mohican SF 7/2 (LEY et al.). A window-killed bird was found at Burr Oak SP 7/28 (LB).

Ovenbird-- 1-2 singing males at Cowan Lk. 6/17 & 28 were good for the site (LG).

N. Waterthrush-- A singing male at Mohican SP 6/2 was a late spring migrant (SM), as was an unspecified number at Navarre Marsh 6/4 (BSBO). Returning singles at L. Isaac 7/27 (RHr) and at Magee 7/30 (RHr, EP) were about as early as fall arrivals might be expected.

Louisiana Waterthrush-- A bird at Columbus (Fran) 7/17 was thought to be a fall migrant (RRo).

Kentucky Warbler-- As usual, 2-3 males inhabited the ledges area at Hinckley MP (RHr). 2 males were unexpected at the NLRC (TB). 8 were counted at Mohican SF 7/2 (LEY et al.).

Connecticut Warbler-- Navarre Marsh retained an unspecified number of migrants 6/1 & 3 (BSBO).

Mourning Warbler-- Single males were located at a traditional site near Everitt in the lower CVNRA 7/2 (RHr) and at Chapin Forest MP (Lake) 6/7 (RHr). Although the latter date is certainly within this species' migration period, it acted territorial. 2 migrants were banded at Lksh as late as 6/10 (JP). An unspecified number was also at Navarre Marsh 6/1-4 (BSBO).

Common Yellowthroat-- Holt recorded 20 at New Lyme WA (Asht) 7/2. The same number were tallied on the ONWRC of 6/5.

Hooded Warbler-- LEY and associates tallied 26 at Mohican SF 7/2. An unspecified number at Navarre Marsh 6/4 seemed unusual (BSBO).

Wilson's Warbler-- 1 was banded at Lksh 6/5 (JP). Navarre Marsh hosted an unspecified number 6/1-4 (BSBO). Another spring migrant remained at HBSP 6/1 (KMe).

Canada Warbler-- 3 males were in residence at Stebbins Gulch 7/13 (EP, RHr). Singing males were also noted at Hell Hollow MP (JP) and along the Chagrin River in Lake Co. 6/14 (LR). 1-2 birds were at Mohican SF 6/14-7/2 (JH, LEY et al.). Late spring migrants were banded at Lksh 6/5, 6/9, & 6/12, one bird each day (JP), while an unspecified number remained at Navarre Marsh 6/1 & 3 (BSBO).

Yellow-breasted Chat-- 20 was an expected number for Adams Co. 6/11 (EP, RHr), but 8 territories at Silver Creek MP during the period

(BDL) and 15 at the NLRC (TB) were good counts for the north.

Tanagers through Finches

Summer Tanager-- Up to 2 pairs remained at BG's Holmes Co. property through July. More unusual, an adult male was found at the NLRC from late May through 6/15 (TB).

Scarlet Tanager-- Apparent post-breeding birds passed through Lksh 7/20 +, with 10+ thought to be present 7/22 (JP). An orangish male with a single bar across the upper wings (as opposed to typical wingbars, which are formed by light tips to the greater and median covert feathers) provided an interesting sight near Gnadenhutten (Tusc) 6/14 (ES).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak-- Like Scarlet Tanager, many apparent post-breeding birds were detected at Lksh 7/20 +, with at least 10 banded 7/18-31 (JP). 7 residents were at Streetsboro Bog 6/18 (CH). A star-crossed pair was killed simultaneously at BG's window in Holmes Co. this season.

Blue Grosbeak-- A singing adult male was well out of range in Osnaburg Twp. (Star) 6/28 (LR). At least 6 different males were found throughout Adams Co. 6/6-13 (MJK, LG, EP, RHR). 4 males were noted along Ohio Brush Creek in Adams Co. 7/29 (fide JS).

Indigo Bunting-- This species was truly abundant in Adams Co., where 100 were estimated over the course of a day's birding 6/11 (RHR, EP). Spring migrants were still moving in early June, as evidenced by 2 banded at Lksh 6/12 (JP) and 7 males plus a female at L. Isaac 6/1, a large number for the date at this site (RHR).

Dickcissel-- An excellent season, seemingly moving in during June. 2 were found on the ONWRC of 6/5, but numbers had built up to 18

by the ONWRC of 7/3. KPWA attracted very large numbers beginning 6/3, when 2 were noted there (JH). By 6/29, the same observer had located 36 birds! Many other observers also reported good numbers from this site through 7/25. The Dunakins reported another good year for this species in Paulding Co. 6/17-7/31, with clover fields being the habitat of choice. Bartlett recorded 15+ birds in 1 square mile of Thompson Twp. (Sene) during the period. Birds away from these sites, but still in expected areas, were: 2 BuCr 6/5 (DO); 1 Miami-Whitewater Forest in early June (fide JS); 1 Mercer WA (Merc) 6/25 (JH); 1 Putnam Co. 7/17 (TK); up to 5 birds, both males and females, in the OkOp through the period (MAN, ET, TK); & 4 in Butler Co. on an unspecified date (fide JS). Away from these more expected areas, 1 was at The Wilds (Musk) 6/10 (MAN), and unspecified numbers were along the Ohio River in Washington Co. 7/24 (LB). From 6-8 singing males spent mid-June to mid-July at the Hopetown Area of Hopewell Culture National Historic Pk. (Ross) before their fields were mowed (JM).

Chipping Sparrow-- 46 were counted at Mohican SF 7/2 (LEY et al.).

Clay-colored Sparrow-- Ohio's first summer record was provided by a singing mate seen in a large, overgrown briar field along Major Rd. in the Summit Co. portion of the CVNRA 6/19 (PE*). Unfortunately, the bird could not be found subsequently. This is another species which eventually could be found nesting in Ohio.

Field Sparrow-- A strip-mined area near Dundee held 50+ birds 7/4 (SH). 30 was a good count for the CVNRA 6/19 (PE).

Vesper Sparrow-- The Dundee strip-mined area noted above produced 15-20 Vespers 7/4 (SH).

A route through Henry & Putnam Cos. revealed 49 birds 7/17 (TK). In the far south, where this species is scarce, a nest with 3 eggs was found in w. Washington Co. 6/30 (LB), and a single was found in a reclaimed Vinton Co. area during the period (AB).

Lark Sparrow-- Very unusual outside of the OkOp, at least 1 nesting took place at KPWA (L. Powlick), where up to 6 adults plus a nest with small young were seen 6/6 (KA), and up to 5 birds were still present at least through 6/26 (DO, RHr, EP, m. obs.). 1 remained there 7/24 (BM). We received sketchy reports from the OkOp, but at least 1 bird was present through 7/10 (TMR).

Savannah Sparrow-- Henry & Putnam Cos. combined for 41 birds 7/17 (TK). 20 were near Dundee 7/4 (SH), while up to 14 were present in a large Fairport Harbor field through at least 7/3 (LR, m. obs.). Also noted in Washington Co. 6/30, where scarce (LB).

Grasshopper Sparrow-- The grassland sparrows seem to be attracting more attention in recent years, as their preferred habitats are more carefully explored. Highs this season include: 50+ birds near Dundee 7/4 (SH); 25 at The Wilds 6/10 (MAn); 21 males at the NLRC (TB); 16 on the OkOp survey (TK, MAn); 14 on the GASBC 6/17-20 (fide CT); & 10 at KPWA 6/18 (RHr, EP). In addition, "lots" were found in w. Washington Co. during the period (LB), and smaller numbers were reported from Adam, Clar, Gree, Hanc, Huro, Lake, Maho, Medi, Otta, Paul, Port, & Star/Carr.

Henslow's Sparrow-- While SH reported 20+ birds near Dundee 7/4, by 7/20, he reported that this species was "impossible to count! Many more [were] singing in [the] evening than during the day. I couldn't begin to count individual songs." At the traditional Jefferson Co. site along Co. Rt. 45, 12+

birds were found 7/24, and at least 5 remained 8/13 (MAR). 7 males were detected at the NLRC (TB). Other reports came from Adam, Gree, Lake, Lora, Musk, Rich, Star/Carr, & Wash.

Song Sparrow-- We received 5 tallies generated along U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Breeding Bird Survey routes, each 24.5 miles in length. 3 of these routes were placed in Stark & Carroll Cos., and provided counts of 165, 137, and 70 birds (LR). A route through Henry & Putnam Cos. recorded 101 birds 7/17 (TK), while a route through Lorain & Huron Cos. produced 55 birds 6/4 (RHr).

Lincoln's Sparrow-- A laggard was banded at Lksh 6/5 (JP). An unspecified number was at Navarre Marsh 6/3 (BSBO).

Swamp Sparrow-- Highs include 11 in Richland Co. 6/11 (JH); 8 at the NLRC during the period (TB); and 6 at Streetboro Bog 6/18 (CH). 2 very late spring migrants were banded at Lksh, 1 on 6/9 and 1 on 6/10 (JP).

White-throated Sparrow-- A bird banded at Lksh 6/10 (JP) and an unspecified number at Navarre Marsh 6/4 (BSBO) can safely be considered as late spring migrants, but 5 other singles in the north into July are harder to comprehend: 1 at the NLRC 6/30 (TB); 1 at HBSP through 7/3 (E. Bacik, R. Hannikman, LR); 1 at Silver Creek MP 6/18 (BDL); 1 at Barberton (Summ) 6/19-20 (BDL); & a singing bird at L. Isaac 6/22 (RHr).

Dark-eyed Junco-- Hinckley MP continues to attract noteworthy species, including its first summer representatives of this species, where at least 1 and probably 2 males were present 6/19-7/4 (RHr, PE). An out-of-place lone male remained at Greenlawn Dam through the period (AG). 6 were as expected in Stebbins Gulch 7/13 (RHr, EP). An adult fed 1 young at Big Creek MP (Geau) 7/27 (DB).

Also likely nested at N. Chagrin MP (KMe, TMR, TLP) and at 3 Lake Co. Metroparks: Hell Hollow, Hidden Valley, & Hogback Ridge (JP).

Bobolink-- 35 at Holden Arboretum 7/24 could have been staging for migration (FG). Other highs include 12 at Fairport Harbor 7/3 (LR et al.) & 10 at BuCr 6/5 (DO).

E. Meadowlark-- A BBS route in Stark & Carroll Cos. tallied 44 birds (LR). 20+ were near Dundee 7/4 (SH) & 20 were at KPWA 6/18 (EP, RHr).

W. Meadowlark-- JH found this species at KPWA 7/15 in the northwest corner of the intersection of C75 (Sportsmen Center Rd.) and T123. Another was singing next to the Stokely Treatment Pond in Paulding Co. 7/12 (DMD).

Common Grackle-- From 3000 to 5000 birds regularly passed over Sugarcreek on July evenings, apparently heading off to roost (SH).

Orchard Oriole-- A thorough survey of the NLRC recorded an extremely impressive 62 territorial males this season, as compared to only 45 N. Orioles. Approximately 4 cases were noted where "helpers" assisted in nestings (TB). The OkOp survey tallied 14 birds (TK, MAn). 5 were at KPWA 6/18 (EP, RHr). A male at Vickers Preserve (Maho) 6/4 was of local interest (NB). A nest with 2 young inside was observed at Lksh 7/25 (RRi).

N. Oriole-- Movements of some sort, presumably short distance post-breeding wanderings, are occasionally noted during late July. This was especially noticeable at Lksh this season, where 31 birds were banded 7/19-31. On 7/22 alone, 60+ birds were thought to be present, and 14 were captured for banding (JP).

Purple Finch-- At least 20

were banded at Lksh 6/5-7/31 (JP). The GASBC tallied 22 birds 6/17-20 (fide CT). A female brought her young to a Girard (Trum) feeder 6/30 (DJH). A silent male at L. Isaac 7/20 provided an unusual summer record for the west side of Cleveland (RHr).

House Finch-- Over 600 birds were banded at Lksh through the period (JP).

Pine Siskin-- Singles were unexpected at RHe's Berlin (Holm) feeder 6/20-21 and at Big Creek MP 6/1 (DB, J. O'Meara). At Lksh, where this species has become almost old hat during summer, 2 were banded 6/5 and singles were banded 6/9 & 7/27 (JP).

Am. Goldfinch-- Max 120 ONWRC 7/3.

EXOTICS AND ESCAPES

Trumpeter Swan-- 2 calling adults flew over the NLRC 6/15. The possibility exists that these birds could represent 2 of the young that spent much of the spring and summer of 1993 in nearby Hancock and Seneca Cos. (TB).

ADDENDUM

Red Crossbill-- A single was found at Harley Baker's Rockbridge (Hock) feeder on one date during the winter of 1993-94.

CONTRIBUTORS & OBSERVERS

All individuals contributing bird reports to "The Ohio Cardinal" for the Summer 1994 [June 1 through July 31, 1994] season are listed below in CAPITAL LETTERS. In addition, many other Observers submitted their sightings to other birding-related publications. For this report, records from the following publications have been used: "The Cleveland Bird Calendar" (Kirtland Bird Club); "Passenger Pigeon" (Cincinnati Bird Club); "The Toledo Naturalists' Association Bulletin"; "Wingtips"

(Black River Audubon Society); & "The Yellow Warbler" (Dayton Audubon Society). Those Observers who received at least four citations in the Summer 1994 "The Reports" section are also included in the following list of Contributors: J. KIRK ALEXANDER (KA); MATT ANDERSON (MA); MICHAEL J. ARABIA (MAR); Hank Armstrong (HA); CAROLE L. BABYAK (CB); ANDREW L. BARBER (AB); LYNN BARNHART (LB); TOM BARTLETT (TB); DAN BEST (DB) for the Geauga Co. Park District; BLACK SWAMP BIRD OBSERVATORY (BSBO); NANCY D. BRUNDAGE (NB); DWIGHT & ANN CHASAR (DAO); BOB CONLON (BC); LeROY H. CURTIS (LC); ROBERT F. CUTTER (RC); DAVID C. DISTER (DD); DOUG & MICKI DUNAKIN (DMD); PAUL D. ELLSWORTH (PE); ROBERT K. ELLWAY (RE); VIC FAZIO (VF); LARRY GARA (LG); BRUCE GLICK (BG); ADAM GOLODA (AG); FRANK GREENLAND (FG); SCOTT HACKETT (SH); BETTY HARDESTY (BH); ROBERT HARLAN (RH); JOHN HERMAN (JH); MICHAEL HERSHBERGER (MH); ROBERT HERSHBERGER (RHe); DAVE & JUDY HOCHADEL (DJH); CRAIG HOLT (CH); NED KELLER (NKe); JOSEPH KO MOROWSKI (JK); NOR MAN J. KOTESOVEC, JR. (NKo); MARIAN & JEFF KRAUS (MJK); Bob & Denise Lane (BDL); THO MAS LEIDEN (TL); TOM Le PAGE (TLP); BERNIE MASTER (BM); STEVE MCKEE (SM); JOE Mc MAHON (JM); KEVIN METCALF (KMe); KATHY L. MOCK (KMo); DOUG OVERACKER (DO); EDWIN C. PIERCE (EP); JOHN POGACNIK (JP); RICHARD RICKARD (RRI); TOM & MARY ANNE ROMITO (TMR); LARRY ROSCHE (LR); ROBERT ROYSE (RRo); ED SCHLABACH (ES); ROBERT SCHLABACH (RS); MARK & JULIE SHIELDCASTLE (MJS); DAVE SKINNER (DS); Jay Stenger (JS); ELLIOT TRAMER (ET); CAROL TVEEKREM (CT); LEROY E. YODER (LEY); &

MARIAN ZEHNDER (MZ). In addition, many other Observers are cited for 1 to 3 records within the species accounts. My thanks to all.

LATE ADDITIONS:

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron-- An adult was found in Ruggles Twp. in n. Ashland Co. 7/8. This bird was along Buck Creek, a tributary of the Vermilion River (VF). Another adult was located along a tributary of the Black River (just northwest of Spencer Lake WA) on the Medina/Lorain Co. line in late July (probably July 22 or 24) (VF).

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Waterfowl Ecology and Identification Seminar--

Black Swamp Bird Observatory will be sponsoring a Waterfowl Seminar on Saturday, April 8th, 1995, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Oak Harbor High School in Oak Harbor, Ohio (Ottawa Co.). Program topics include: waterfowl behavior, migration, ecology, identification and Ohio wetlands. On Sunday, April 9th, there will be a morning field trip to nearby Lake Erie wetlands.

Guy Baldassarre will be the featured speaker. Guy has made many contributions to the knowledge of waterfowl ecology. His research has taken him to coastal wetlands and prairie potholes in North America as well as to the Yucatan and other parts of Mexico. He has recently completed a major text "Waterfowl Ecology and Management".

The seminar cost is \$20/person which includes lunch. Pre-registration is necessary for this all-day affair. Seating is limited. Please call Julie Shieldcastle at (419) 898-4674, if you are interested in attending.

A SPECIAL THANKS to all those who donated to this volume of The Ohio Cardinal, especially Nancy Brundage, Vic Fazio, Paula Jack, Cal Keppler, John F. Smith, Tom & Mary Anne Romito, and Edward Thayer. Thank you!

The Grapevine

Ring-billed and Herring Gulls Attempt to Nest at Findlay

There were approximately 50 total nests of both Herring and Ring-billed Gulls, with a total of approximately 150 eggs produced, at Lake Cascades, the site of a new housing/business development on the southwest side of Findlay (Hancock Co.) in May and June, 1994.

On October 31, 1994, I talked with Paul E. Shafer, a consultant with Enelco, Inc. We visited the dock and picnic area of the Lake Cascades development. The lake, a former limestone quarry, has been stocked with fish and the rocky ledges and stoney shores are perfect habitat for gulls. Rock Doves live in the holes and crevices on the east side of the quarry, and 3 Turkey Vulture nests were discovered on the quarry's west side this summer.

About 200 Canada Geese, 1 Herring Gull and 3 Ring-billed Gulls remained as we walked through old droppings amidst the now abandoned gull nests. The nest sites, containing matted grasses and weeds on the inside, were surrounded by rings of stones, 1-2 inches in diameter.

Paul supervised the construction of the beach, dock and wooden deck picnic area. As we walked, bird droppings were heavy. Although we stepped around the goose droppings in October, gull droppings were of much concern back in May. At that time, Paul was unhappy about the filth in the beach area, and called the local Ohio Division of Wildlife's District 2 Office, and at their suggestion, placed plastic owls on poles in the area. This action, however, did not discourage the gulls. He then contacted Ed Cleary of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Sandusky. Mr. Cleary, along with his supervisor from Columbus, drove to Findlay to see Paul's reported nesting colony. These men were impressed and excited about the gulls nesting inland. Paul, however, was not, and told them why: 1) the beach and picnic area were intended for families who had built homes on Lake Cascades property for recreational use; and 2) even construction vehicles did not disturb the gulls for long.

Consequently, Paul was given permission to destroy the approximate 50 nests and permission to shoot up to 50 Ring-billed Gulls and 20 Herring Gulls. He destroyed the nests and threw the approximate 150 eggs into the lake. He did not shoot any gulls.

Although the nearby Findlay Reservoirs have somewhat similar habitat, the rock riprap is large, and the dikes are very human-oriented. On a summer day, walkers, birders and fisherman are on the dikes by 6:00 a.m. No gull has a chance to sit for long. By Betty Hardesty, 209 Greenlawn Ave., Findlay, OH 45840.

Barn Owls Galore

Barn Owls were first detected on our Sugarcreek (Tuscarawas Co.) farm on April 30th. A peek into the nest box in our barn revealed 4 eggs by May 12th. On May 15th activity was also observed at the nest box in our neighbor's barn, which is approximately 250 yards from our barn. (Our neighbor's box successfully produced 4 young Barn Owls 5 years ago). Further observation revealed that there was nesting activity in

both boxes, with 1 male (?) interacting between the 2 boxes, apparently feeding both brooding females.

On July 1st, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, who regularly check these boxes, discovered 4 young in our neighbor's box, but only 1 young in ours. The other eggs didn't hatch. The 1 young in our box died a few weeks later. The 4 young owls at our neighbors flourished, however, and by the end of July and throughout August, their food-begging hisses and screams were constantly heard during the late evening hours. By the end of August and early September, the young started leaving the nest and sat atop the barn roof and on fence posts and nearby trees. The young owls continued using the nest box through most of September, but during the last week of the month they gradually moved away. The last bird was heard on October 1.

In late August a third nest was discovered in a tree about one-half mile down the road. According to the landowner, at least 3 young Barn Owls were fledged from this nesting.

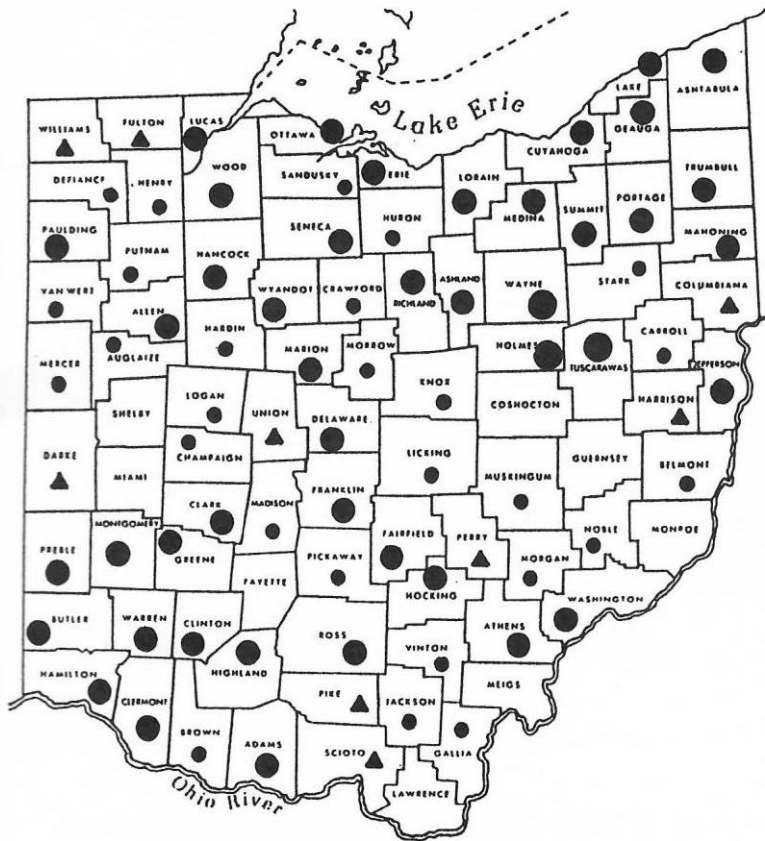
Quite a few Ohio birders were able to add Barn Owl to their state lists this spring and summer by visiting our farm in Tuscarawas Co. By Robert D. Schlabach, 279 Smokey Lane Rd. NW, Sugar creek, OH 44681.

A Shortage of House Wrens at Mosquito Lk. SP

Several pieces of evidence point to a sudden drop in the number of nesting House Wrens in Trumbull Co. in northeastern Ohio. Anecdotally, several local observers have reported apparent declines on their properties. Data of a more quantifiable nature comes from the Mosquito Lake State Park bluebird trail, which showed a 25% decline over last year, and from our own Liberty Township property, where nests have declined over 50% since 1992.

Most telling of all were the results of the Mosquito Game Refuge Breeding Bird Census. Censuses conducted in 1989 and 1991 showed wren territories at an average density of 14 per 100 acres (see Hochadel, D., BBC #89 Mixed Hardwood Swamp, in Journ. of Field Ornith., Vol. 61 supp. p. 78 and Hochadel, D., BBC #32 Mixed Hardwood Swamp, in Journ. of Field Ornith., Vol. 63 supp. p. 53). The 1994 census of this 30 acre plot consisted of 8 sunrise visits, averaging 3.5 hours each, between May 24 and June 26. Not a single wren was seen or heard during any of these visits! Other species were present at or near the densities of previous censuses. This remarkable absence of wrens does not appear to be due to a lack of food or potential nest sites.

Bruce Peterjohn, in his Birds of Ohio (1989), considered House Wrens to be most abundant in northeastern Ohio, following generally steady increases statewide this century. It will be interesting to see if this is a temporary local decline or the beginning of a more widespread trend. By David & Judy Hochadel, 2150 Tibbets-Wick Rd., Girard, OH 44420.



COUNTIES OF OHIO

County Coverage Map for Volume 17

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On the Inside...

Nesting Magnolia Warblers at Hinckley MP
by Norman J. Kotesovec, Jr.116

**The First Confirmed Northern Parula Nest in
Cuyahoga County**
by Dwight W. Chasar120

A Fulvous Whistling-Duck At Magee Marsh
by Ed Pierce123

Nesting Season Studies125

Summer 1994 Overview
by Robert Harlan128

The Reports-- Summer 1994
by Robert Harlan130

The Grapevine146

County Coverage Map, Volume 17148

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