

The Ohio



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

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Cover: Purple Sandpiper, Metzger Res. (Allen Co.), 11/13/94.
Photo by David C. Dister.

**Ohio's Fourth Inland Record of Purple Sandpiper,
with Thoughts on the Species' Distribution in Ohio**
by David C. Dister

November 1994 Occurrence

To be frank, the warmer than normal weather in November 1994 did not seem like a good omen for the Gem City Birders trip I was leading that morning. I chose the second Saturday, the 12th, because the Lima Reservoirs in Allen County had produced scoters, Oldsquaws, hundreds of Ruddy Ducks, and Snow Buntings reliably around this time for the last several years. By the time we arrived at our first destination, Metzger and Ferguson Reservoirs, a total of 18 birders had accumulated. The causeway separating the two reservoirs proved windy as always, but was still a great vantage point to scope for waterfowl. After walking south for a couple thousand feet, we turned west around the 90 degree bend. After another few hundred feet, someone in the group brought to our attention a shorebird to our right along the riprap (i.e. broken rock) and waterline of Metzger Reservoir. Since Killdeer was not quickly mentioned, I presumed it was likely a Dunlin, or a late yellowlegs, etc.until my binoculars froze on the bird.

Instantly, the shorebird was NOT a Dunlin, or any shorebird I'd seen in a long time. And after a 1.7-second mental pause, I exclaimed, "It kinda looks like aPurple Sandpiper... (and after another breath and rapid mental sorting), oh my gosh-- it HAS to be a Purple Sandpiper!!"

Now to check the field guides, just to be absolutely certain. The bird proved to be in first-winter plumage, and its behavior seemed typical for the species. I had seen my first (and only previous) Purple Sandpiper at close range on a boat pier at Dunkirk Harbor, New York, on November 17, 1985. This Lima anomaly was a life bird for everyone else on our trip except for Judy Whitaker. Even veteran birder Larry Gara had never seen the species.

The sandpiper, though aware of us at the top of the causeway 25 feet away, continued its westward search for food among the fist-sized algae-covered rocks by the water's edge. The bird walked sure-footedly and steadily over and around the riprap during our 45-minute observation. Despite the flurry of excitement, we managed to take a series of photos from two cameras. I also took voluminous field notes.

The following day, after some strategic phone calls, I eagerly returned with several other birders from Cincinnati, and my own 60-300mm lens. Fortunately, the bird was in virtually the same area. And we were able to observe it resting and sleeping-- its white eyelids a dramatic contrast on the dark gray head. A brief flight across the causeway revealed the underwings to be paler than the upperparts. On November 14, Jon Dunn attempted to locate the bird but was unsuccessful.

Natural History and Past Occurrences-- Status in Ohio

The vast majority of Purple Sandpipers in North America winter along the northern Atlantic coast from Newfoundland and New England south

to Virginia, with small numbers wintering regularly south to extreme northern Florida, and with casual occurrences to southern Florida. They are generally restricted to rocky areas or the sea wrack of upper beaches, and are usually very tame. The species is known to feed on small crustaceans and plant material (Terres, 1980). According to Jon Dunn (personal communication, 1994), Purple Sandpipers occur casually along the Gulf Coast.

This tundra-breeding species is considered a rare, but regular, fall migrant along the north and south shores of Lake Erie (and elsewhere along the Great Lakes, particularly the eastern Great Lakes) from mid-October through mid-January. Its peak movement in Ohio is between November 5 and 25 (Peterjohn, 1989). The earliest recorded fall migrant (a specimen) occurred exceptionally early in Cleveland (Cuyahoga County) on September 11, 1883 [Univ of Mich Occasional Papers 57:1-2], while the latest spring migrant was observed May 28, 1960 at Walnut Beach (Ashtabula County) [Redstart 27(3):69]. The majority of lakefront sightings (about 74%) have occurred in northeast Ohio between Ashtabula and Lorain Counties (Peterjohn, 1989).

I was somewhat in shock Saturday, November 12, and believed that our bird may well have been the first inland record for Ohio. Actually, it turned out to be the fourth inland record, but there was still another surprise-- the second inland sighting was of a bird seen at Ferguson Reservoir (virtually the same spot!) on November 29, 1985, by Dave Smith [American Birds, 40(1):120]. The first inland record turned out to be a bird observed by Lynds Jones and his Oberlin College ornithology class along the edge of the duck pond at Castalia (Erie County) on the very late date of May 26, 1940 [Cleveland Bird Calendar 36(2):12]. Following closely after the aforementioned Ferguson Reservoir record, the third inland sighting was provided by a bird (on the mudflat!) at the Grand Lake-St. Mary's State Fish Hatchery (Auglaize County) on November 12, 1988, by Galen Lenhart and Lamar Witmer [American Birds 43(1):111]. Also, there exists an unconfirmed inland sighting of a Purple Sandpiper on the Cincinnati Christmas Bird Count on December 28, 1952, by Sven Sjødahl [Audubon Field Notes 7(2):115].

In Ohio, there have been at least 170 individual Purple Sandpipers reliably published (or in litt.) (Rob Harlan, pers. comm., 1995). Of these, all but five individuals occurred during the expected fall/winter periods. These exceptions are the previously mentioned bird at Castalia on May 26, 1940; 3 individuals closely observed at Richmond Beach (now Headlands Beach State Park, Lake County) on May 13, 1951 [Cleveland Bird Calendar 47(2):4]; and the bird observed at Walnut Beach on May 28, 1960. The 165 fall/winter records can be broken down into ten-year periods as follows:

Fall/Winter 1985-86 through FW 1994-95:	56 indiv.
▪ 1975-76	▪ 1984-85: 44
▪ 1965-66	▪ 1974-75: 15
▪ 1955-56	▪ 1964-65: 8
▪ 1945-46	▪ 1954-55: 25
▪ 1935-36	▪ 1944-45: 11
	Prior to FW 1935-36: 6

There have been at least six cases of wintering birds through the Fall/Winter of 1993-94. When yearly averages are considered for the above ten-year periods, it is apparent that the last two decades have seen a tremendous increase in records. Whether the increase is truly reflective of improving population trends, increased numbers of observers, or a combination of the above, is unknown. The average number of individuals per year for each decade, plus highest and lowest yearly numbers, per decade, are given below, along with the number of years per decade in which no records were generated:

<u>10-year Periods</u>	<u>Avg.</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>Yrs. w/o rec.</u>
1985-86/1994-95 (56 indiv.)	5.6	14	1	0
1975-76/1984-85 (44 indiv.)	4.4	11	1	0
1965-66/1974-75 (15 indiv.)	1.5	5	0	3
1955-56/1964-65 (8 indiv.)	.8	2	0	4
1945-46/1954-55 (25 indiv.)	2.5	8	0	5
1935-36/1944-45 (11 indiv.)	1.1	4	0	5

[Note that only 159 of 170 individuals are included in the above table, as 11 published records were either never credited to a specific year or occurred prior to the Fall/Winter 1935-36 period.]

Within the last ten years, approximately 56 Purple Sandpipers have been recorded in Ohio, of which 3 (or 5.4%) were inland sightings. Based on the 10 most recent fall/winter periods, we may now expect about 5-6 individuals per period. However, a record high of about 14 individuals this past period may suggest increasing averages in the future.

As indicated previously, the Ashtabula County to Lake County lakefront accounts for 73.5% of all Ohio records. Within this area, the Lake County and Cuyahoga County lakefront account for 58.2% of all Ohio records. Amazingly, the Mentor Headlands/Fairport Harbor area of Lake County ALONE accounts for 34.7% of all state records! Of 164 records attributed to counties, the breakdown is as follows:

1) Lake: 60 indiv.	4) Erie: 16 indiv.	7) Luca: 3 indiv.
2) Cuya: 39 indiv.	5) Asht: 3 indiv.	8) Alle: 2 indiv.
3) Otta: 17 indiv.	6) Lora: 13 indiv.	9) Augl: 1 indiv.

Regional Inland Occurrences

Outside of Ohio, other peripheral states also have produced a few inland records. West of the Great Lakes, the Purple Sandpiper is listed as "Hypothetical" in Iowa (Dinsmore, et al., 1984) and Missouri (Robbins and Easterla, 1992). There is but a single record for Oklahoma, coming on December 9-12, 1977 (Baumgartner, 1992). Another single record exists for Arkansas, coming on November 29-30, 1976. This record was west of the main channel of the Mississippi River near the Arkansas/Tennessee state line (Holt, 1979). Bohlen (1989) states that there are no interior records in Illinois. Ricker (1942) claims an inland record on December 13, 1941, for Indiana; however Mumford and Keller

(1984) express some doubt as to its identity. Minnesota claims a total of three records, although only one is an inland sighting-- on November 14-17, 1977 (Janssen, 1987). The species is considered a rare but regular autumn/early winter transient in Michigan, but there are apparently no interior records for that state (McPeck, 1994). Purple Sandpipers are considered rare but regular fall migrants in southern Ontario, where they are extremely rare in spring. There are 17 records ever for Point Pelee, Ontario, of which only one was a spring sighting (May 12-13, 1978). The fall records at Pelee range from October 27 to January 1. The species is very rare at Ottawa, Ontario, and there are no inland records at reservoirs within the province (Alan Wormington, pers. comm., 1995). Stull et al. (1985) considers the species to be a rare late fall migrant at Presque Isle, along Pennsylvania's Lake Erie shoreline. Also, there are no records for West Virginia through 1983 (Hall, 1983). On December 18, 1949, a single Purple Sandpiper was observed at the Falls of the Ohio, Kentucky. This was a tentative identification and was regarded as "Hypothetical" by Mengel (1965), but considered likely a correct identification by Monroe (1994). Lastly, there are four records from Tennessee: November 25, 1962; June 8, 1967; June 6, 1975; and November 29-30, 1976 (Robinson, 1990). The latter record probably represents the same individual previously mentioned as occurring along the Arkansas/Tennessee border.

The three mid- to late-May records from Ohio, along with the mid-May record from Pt. Pelee, and the two early June records from Tennessee are significant in that they suggest that the birds may have been returning north from wintering along the Gulf Coast.

Conclusion

The emerging pattern of inland occurrences from Ohio and elsewhere suggests that Purple Sandpipers will continue to occur casually at inland reservoirs having algae-covered riprap shorelines. Though suitable reservoirs are scattered throughout Ohio, curiously, three of the four inland records have occurred at sites within 25 miles of each other in adjacent northwestern counties. Does this imply that inland fall sightings are more likely to occur at areas not directly south of Lake Erie? And had the May 26, 1940 Castalia bird simply not yet reached Lake Erie, on its trip northward? Whatever the case, it can be expected that the status of the Purple Sandpiper will be further refined in the coming years.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Jon Dunn for his invaluable assistance in relating the inland records of Purple Sandpipers from areas outside of Ohio, and to his keen review of this paper. Rob Harlan provided in depth analysis of Ohio records resulting in the tabular data presented, and his aid in research was considerable. Also, my thanks to a very timely roll of Kodachrome film courtesy of Hank Armstrong.

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Lapland Longspur. Conneaut (Ashtabula Co.), Autumn, 1994.
 Photo by Gary Meszaros.

Birding the Greenlawn Dam Area by Adam Goloda

Located on the Scioto River, just 1.5 miles from the center of downtown Columbus (Franklin Co.), the Greenlawn Avenue Dam area is an oasis in a desert of urbanity. Its diverse habitats include a reservoir, islands, floodplain woods, wooded paths, and a meadow, making it an ideal birding locale much frequented by birds (at least 200 species have occurred), yet it is little frequented by birders. In addition to migrant songbirds of many types, the area hosts transient shorebirds, nesting Yellow-crowned Night Herons, and a variety of winter waterfowl.

To begin a morning's birding here, start in the small boat-launch park off Whittier Street. From benches on an elevated section of land between two boat ramps, the reservoir and its islands may be scanned (a telescope is recommended). The small island at the western end of the reservoir is a regular roosting spot for Great Egrets and Black-crowned Night Herons from late summer into early fall, while the near end of the long island (in the middle of the reservoir) has a mudflat during low water and should be checked for gulls, terns, and shorebirds in season. (A closer look at the mudflat may be had from a vantage point discussed later). In spring and fall, any of Ohio's many species of migrant ducks should be looked for on the water, as should cormorants and grebes. The reservoir is a regular fishing area for migrant Ospreys, and can produce good numbers of swallows on cool, damp mornings in late April and early May. One or both of downtown Columbus' resident Peregrine Falcons are occasionally seen hunting here.

After the reservoir has been looked over, walk south down the dirt track which leads to the dam. Yellow-crowned Night Herons may be seen stalking crayfish along the rocky shores below the dam on summer mornings, and during times of low water in late summer and early fall, this is a good place to look for Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs as well as the odd Least or Pectoral Sandpiper. In winter, open water below the dam attracts gulls, and waterfowl including Common Goldeneyes, Buffleheads and Hooded Mergansers may be present. Before leaving the dam, check the area of the reservoir not visible earlier.

The path along the northern edge of the reservoir should be explored next. The path, with its cottonwood, hackberry, locust, sycamore, and willow trees, coupled with a dense understory, hosts migrant warblers and other songbirds during spring and fall, and provides nesting habitat for House Wrens, Gray Catbirds, Warbling Vireos, Northern Orioles and others. To access the path from the boat-launch park, walk as if exiting the park; the entrance is on the left, just before Whittier Street.

Proceed along the path until it opens out on the left above a storm sewer outflow. This is the best vantage point from which to view any birds which may be on the mudflat. All of the common shorebird species can be seen here over the course of the fall migration, as can a couple of uncommon ones, such as Stilt Sandpiper and Black-bellied Plover. The mudflat is also a resting spot for migrant gulls and terns, with Caspian Terns regular in late summer, and Bonaparte's Gulls intermittent during November and early December.

Always on the lookout for migrant songbirds, continue along the path. After a time, it will open out on the right as the trees on that side end and a grass-covered ridge begins. Immediately after this transition, look for dirt tracks on your left and take the second or third track to the cove. All of the migrant dabbling ducks regularly seen in the area have been found in this cove at one time or another, and it is an excellent place for viewing summer resident Green Herons.

When finished in the cove, return to the path until a meadow appears on the left. A dirt track follows the perimeter of the meadow and provides access. During the migrations, this can be an extremely productive area for songbirds and should not be rushed. All of the sparrow species which have occurred in the Greenlawn Avenue Dam area, as well as most of the warblers (including Golden-winged and Yellow-throated), have been seen in the trees and shrubs bordering this meadow. American Woodcock can be flushed during migration in March and April. After investigating the meadow, return to the boat-launch park, from where you may leave the area or continue on to the south path.

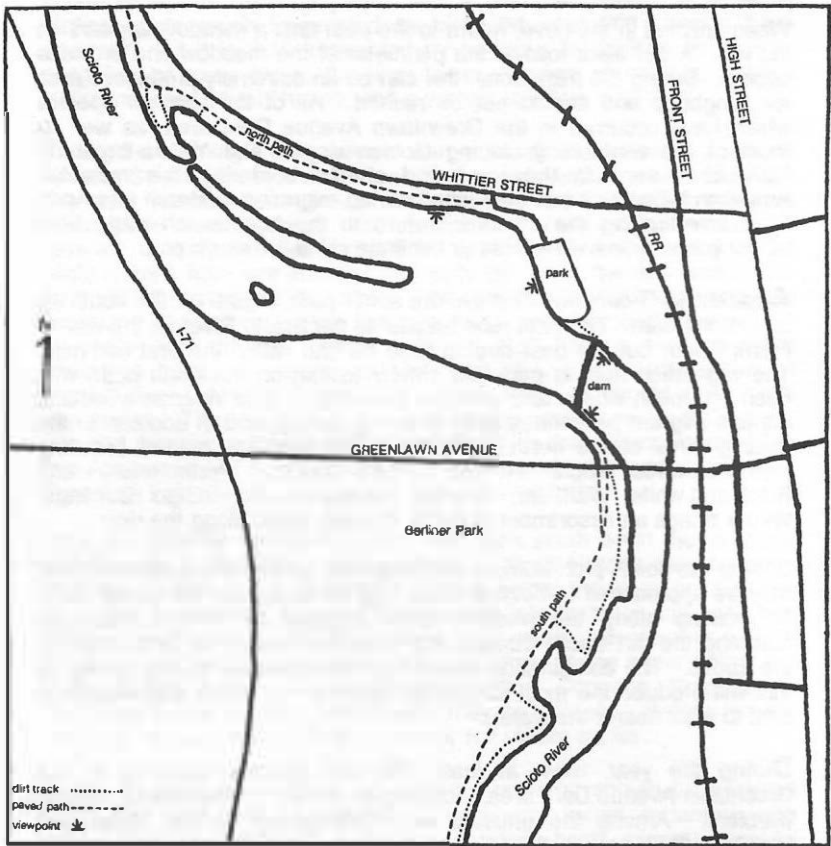
Adjacent to Greenlawn Avenue, the south path begins on the southern side of the dam. The path runs parallel to the Scioto River all the way to Frank Road, but the best birding is to be had within the first half-mile. The vegetation here is generally similar to that on the north path, with open floodplain woods and a dense understory. This riparian woodland attracts migrant passerines aplenty during spring, and in addition to the nesting birds of the north path, the south path has hosted breeding Yellow-crowned Night Herons, Wood Ducks, Prothonotary and Black-and-white Warblers, Scarlet Tanagers, and Indigo Buntings. Winter brings an assortment of ducks to open water along the river.

Birding the south path is more complex than birding the north path and may be approached in several ways: by remaining on the paved path; by walking along the western edge adjacent to Berliner Park; by following the dirt tracks through the floodplain woods; or by combining the above. The combination method is recommended during spring as this will produce the most songbirds, whereas for winter waterfowl it is best to walk nearer the water.

During the year 1994, at least 180 bird species occurred in the Greenlawn Avenue Dam area, including 21 ducks, 17 shorebirds, and 32 warblers. Among the unusual were Red-necked Grebe, Willet and Laughing Gull, noteworthy species anywhere in Ohio. That all of these were found here attests to the fact that this relatively small, easily accessed area can bring rewards in every season.

Directions: From downtown Columbus, follow High Street south to Whittier Street and go west. The entrance to the boat-launch park is the first left turn after crossing over the railroad tracks. To reach the south path from the boat-launch park, follow Whittier Street back east to Front Street and go south to Greenlawn Avenue. Go west on Greenlawn Avenue and make a right turn immediately after the bridge; the south path begins here. From I-71, take the Greenlawn Avenue exit and proceed east to the area.

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Greenlawn Avenue Dam Area

1994 Common Tern Nesting Project at Ottawa NWR by Nathaniel J. Stricker

Approximately 12 Common Terns arrived at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge (Lucas Co.) on or around April 19, 1994. This arrival date coincides with the April 18 arrival date noted for Pipe Creek Wildlife Area at Sandusky (Erie Co.), where approximately 70 birds arrived this year.

Tern activity at Ottawa was initially concentrated around the sand island that had been used in previous years. Other birds using this island included 20 nesting Herring Gulls, 1-2 pairs of Mallards, and 1-2 pairs of Canada Geese. Regular visitors to the island during the early part of the nesting season (April 18 to approximately May 31) included Ring-billed Gulls (0-250 individuals) and Double-crested Cormorants (0-200 individuals). Ring-billed and cormorants occupied the southeast sand spit of the island, while the terns and nesting Herring Gulls were found closer to the more vegetated peak of the island. While apparent displays of disturbance by either gull species were few, and by cormorants non-existent, it is possible that the large number of birds (peak sum of Ring-billed Gulls and cormorants was approximately 300 birds at one time) using a small portion of the island could have caused a crowding effect, possibly reducing the "attractiveness" of the island to other terns. The island is approximately 150 x 50 m., but the northern two-thirds of the island is densely vegetated, and occupied primarily by nesting waterfowl and a few Herring Gulls. The southern third of the island, which is less vegetated, is used by the terns, Ring-billed and Herring Gulls, and Double-crested Cormorants.

Nesting activity was observed to begin during the second week of May. On May 15 four nests (three with two eggs each and one with one egg) were noted on the sand island. In 1993 only three nests with eggs were initiated; this marks a severe decline in nesting activity from previous years (1990-1992) when as many as 25 pairs of terns used the island, and approximately 45 nesting attempts were recorded. All four nests initiated on the sand island failed by May 23. Inspection of the nests revealed that eggs from all nests were missing, with no shells or other remnants in evidence. No mammalian tracks were seen. Although the cause of disappearance cannot be determined, I suspect snake predation. No other nesting attempts were made on the sand island.

In an attempt to increase the terns' nesting success, a 16' x 32' artificial nesting island consisting of a wood-frame deck with 32 55-gallon drums as flotation devices was assembled and placed approximately 100 yards west of the sand island. Chris Crofts, Arnie Sutter, Erik Stricker, and Jorge Coppen assisted in assembly and placement. The artificial island was towed into place on May 18 with a 9.9 horsepower motorboat with two people pushing. The platform was held in position with eight 8' U-channel signposts and three anchor lines. Five terns were observed landing on the platform walls and perching on the signposts on May 19. On May 23 five decoys and twelve wooden chick shelters were added to the logs and sand substrate that had been placed on the platform during assembly. Four nests were found on the platform at that time. Following that date the size of the Common Tern colony increased

steadily, peaking at approximately 65 individuals during the second week of July. Peak number of concurrent nests was 30 nests on July 16. A total of 44 nest attempts were made on the artificial island on 39 separate sites (5 nest sites were reused). A total of 114 eggs were laid, and of these 41 were known to have hatched (the total number hatched is presumed to be higher, but I believe that some chicks disappeared before hatching could be confirmed).

Avian predators (Black-crowned Night Herons, gulls or Ruddy Turnstones) are believed to have been a source of some mortality; several eggs had puncture holes indicating that a bird attempted to pick them up. One egg was found by Chris Crofts on the sand island, but since no nest attempts had been made there for some time, the presumption is made that the egg was carried to the island by a predator.

Another source of mortality was from the platform itself. Severe warping of the wooden deck (constructed from 1/2" OSB, or "chipboard") from alternating wet/dry conditions and wave action resulted in the formation of gaps between the deck and deck frame. These gaps were large enough for chicks to fit through, and if chicks sought these gaps as cover during periods of disturbance they would have fallen under the platform and have eventually drowned. The amount of mortality from these gaps is unknown. Finally, several chicks died from mobbing by other adults when they wandered out of their home territory. A total of three chicks fledged from the artificial island, the first successes on the refuge since 1990 when two were believed to have fledged. No gulls attempted to land or were seen on the platform. The novelty of the platform as well as the large number of terns defending it are believed to account for this. In addition, terns were observed attempting to defend the original nesting area and the sand bar on the tern island against Ring-billed Gulls, even though no further nesting activity took place there. There was no indication that raccoons or snakes occurred on the platform; Fox Snakes had been observed on the sand island. Three Ruddy Turnstones were observed on the platform during the second week of August, and caused the failure of 6 or 7 nests.

All chicks found were banded with U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service numbered legs bands, unless the chicks were too small. No eggs, chicks, or adults were salvaged.

This concludes my active fieldwork for this project. After the nesting season, the artificial island was moved to the southwest corner of the pool for storage and later use, contingent upon volunteer involvement. [Editor's note: Chris Crofts reports that the artificial island did not survive the Winter of 1994-95, and therefore cannot be reused.]

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The Grapevine

Exciting Migrant Warblers in Hancock County

First, I should tell you that the only bird list that is really important to me is my list of birds seen on my 50 acres of woods and fields, seen over the 35 years I have lived here. As you can imagine, I do not add a new bird to my list very often anymore, but I added #167 and #168 on the same day-- August 23, 1994.

If you are familiar with Hancock County and especially Camp Berry Boy Scout Camp, I live almost 10 miles due west of there. Ottawa Creek cuts through our property, running south to north. It is a little hillier than Camp Berry, with several shallow ravines, and is mostly wooded with some old fields. On one hillside area we planted some 5000 pine trees in the first several years we lived here, and they are now getting quite tall. Our house sits on a hillside about 150 yards west of the creek, with an old field below that regularly floods. There are patches of thickets, mostly multiflora rose, scattered across the fields. A large mulberry tree stands above one of these tangles, with grape vines climbing through it as well as through a couple of young locust trees. For most of the summer this is a busy place. It is about 30 yards from the house and it is here that I saw the first exciting migrant that day, a Prothonotary Warbler.

The Yellow Warbler is a regular visitor to this thicket. I was scanning for him when the male Prothonotary popped into view. I watched him for a minute or two and then he flew straight toward me. There is absolutely no doubt in my mind as to who he was! His large bright yellow head and yellow breast and beady black eye with plain dark back and wings were unmistakable. I have seen this bird many times at Magee Marsh and in Florida.

The other warbler is another matter. I had never seen a Worm-eating Warbler. Although Doc Phillips reported two of his own sightings in his book The Birds of Hancock County, he did not mention the particular locations. Winnie McClanahan recalls one sighting from Camp Berry. The records of these two folks go way back. So, although I have thought about Worm-eating Warblers when scanning the shady slopes of the ravines here, I never really expected to find one. But the bird I observed was not on a shady hillside; instead it was disappearing around the back side of a walnut tree, just off the deck upon which I was standing. I had caught just a glimpse of the bird, and was watching for him to reappear when he poked his head up through a crotch of the tree. His size and bill suggested it was a warbler, but which one? The crown was buffy yellow, and two long black stripes bordered each side of the crown. His breast was also a plain buffy yellow. He was very intent on picking through the bark in that crotch. I could not see his back or wings until he flew, but when he did, I saw a plain back and wings of a rather dark color. I went to my identification guides and quickly identified him as a Worm-eating Warbler, but I was stymied by his location-- in the tree-- so I went through my guide page by page to see if I was overlooking anything else he might be. Then I found this passage regarding Worm-eaters in A.C. Bent's Life Histories of North American Wood Warblers, Part 1, page 43: "occasionally you will come upon one winding around the trunk of some small tree exactly in the manner of [Black-and-white Warbler], moving out along the branches with nimble motion, peering alternately under the bark on either side,

and anon returning to the main stem, perhaps in the next instant to hop back to the ground again." That's about how I would describe his actions. I went back outside and found him again, this time in a locust tree; then he flew off toward the creek. Did I make the correct identification? I feel confident that I did, but still it is the only Worm-eating Warbler that I have ever seen. By Wilma Seiler, 13825 County Rd. 54, Rawson, OH 45881.

Capture of an Anuran by an Eastern Screech-Owl

In April 1992, the authors observed an Eastern Screech-Owl (Otus asio) capturing an anuran on Henry Street in Pomeroy, (Meigs County) Ohio. The event occurred shortly after 8:00 p.m. during a steady rain. Henry Street is steep and narrow, so the authors were proceeding slowly when an anuran was illuminated by the headlights. We saw it hop twice, then pause within 0.5 meter of the side of the road. The anuran was small and brown in color, probably a Wood Frog (Rana sylvatica), but was possibly a small American Toad (Bufo americanus) or Woodhouse's (Fowler's) Toad (B. woodhousei). Part of the reason for the uncertain identity of the "frog" is that it had only paused for a moment before being captured by an Eastern Screech-Owl.

The owl dropped nearly vertically from an undetermined height, capturing the "frog" in its talons. The owl stood on its prey immediately after capturing it, looked around for a moment, bit it two or three times, then flew off with it in its talons. The owl did not mantle the prey with its wings after capture, as raptors sometimes do. As we were not able to pursue the owl, we did not see it eat the "frog", and cannot be certain if the prey item was consumed or rejected after capture.

This observation is consistent with the finding of an anuran's bones in a Screech-Owl pellet (Ritchison and Cavanaugh, J. Raptor Res. 26:66-73, 1992). Ritchison and Cavanaugh found one anuran in 671 prey items, suggesting that capture and/or ingestion of anurans is rare and unlikely to be observed. By Steven A. Edinger, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Ohio University, Athens, OH 45701 and Vicky D. German, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Southeast District Office, 2195 Front St., Logan, OH 43138-9031.

1994 Autumn Passerine Migration at Navarre Marsh

Personnel of Black Swamp Bird Observatory banded 3503 birds during fall migration at Navarre Marsh (Ottawa Co.). Peak movements per month were 9/28 (209 individuals banded), 10/30 (188 indiv. banded), and 11/2 (102 indiv. banded). Highlights include high numbers of N. (Baltimore) Oriole, Am. Goldfinch, Cedar Waxwing, Warbling Vireo, Magnolia Warbler, Connecticut Warbler, (Western) Palm Warbler, Winter Wren, Marsh Wren, and Am. Robin. Low numbers were observed on White-throated Sparrow, Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler, Com. Yellowthroat, and House Wren. Data by Mark Shieldcastle, Black Swamp Bird Observatory, P.O. Box 228, Oak Harbor, OH 43449.

1994 Oak Openings Fall Hawk Watch

From 9/1 through 11/30/94, we again surveyed raptors migrating over the Oak Openings (Lucas Co.) in northwest Ohio. Details follow in the table on the next page. By Tom Kemp, 7021 Manore Rd., Whitehouse, OH 43571 and Mait Anderson, 12005 Oak River Rd., Whitehouse, OH.

1994 Oak Openings
Fall Raptor Watch

(T Kemp / M Anderson)

file: raptor94

	SUMMARY			1994	1993	1992
	SEP	OCT	NOV	TOTAL	TOTAL	TOTAL
TURKEY VULTURE	144	2060	25	2229	2010	884
OSPREY	9	21	3	33	31	4
BALD EAGLE	0	1	1	2	5	1
NORTHERN HARRIER	0	5	2	7	13	5
SHARP-SHINNED HAWK	68	174	11	253	412	210
COOPER'S HAWK	18	22	5	45	46	25
NORTHERN GOSHAWK	0	0	0	0	3	0
RED-SHOULDERED HAWK	2	36	20	58	82	77
BROAD-WINGED HAWK	1567	0	0	1567	1811	2198
RED-TAILED HAWK	7	74	551	632	334	262
ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK	0	1	3	4	3	2
GOLDEN EAGLE	0	2	1	3	1	1
AMERICAN KESTREL	11	7	0	18	32	14
MERLIN	2	2	0	4	3	4
PEREGRINE FALCON	0	0	0	0	4	1
HAWK (SP?)	2	11	3	16	9	0
ACCIPITER (SP?)	5	6	3	14	10	6
BUTEO (SP?)	9	36	32	77	69	
EAGLE (SP?)	0	0	0	0	4	1
SMALL FALCON (SP?)	2	2	0	4	4	5
TOTAL	1846	2460	660	4966	4886	3729
HOURS (EST)	30.0	56.0	42.0	128.0	141.8	
BIRDSHOUR	61.5	43.9	15.7	38.8	34.5	

1994 MAXIMUM COUNTS		
#	DATE	WIND

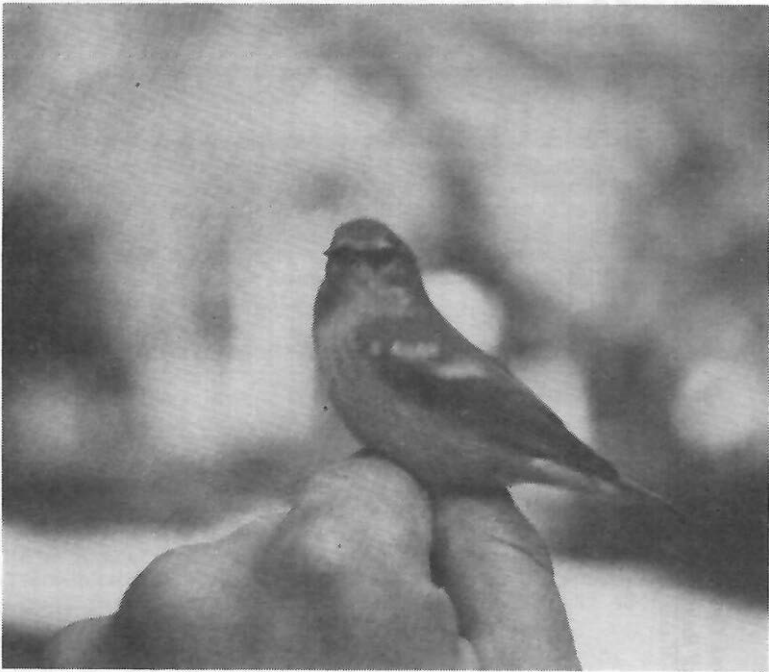
322	10/11	e
6	10/9	nw
1	10/29, 11/13	sw
2	10/15, 10/29	e, sw
38	10/15	e
5	10/16	e
0	n/a	
12	10/30	var
776	9/21	s
273	11/13	sw
3	11/15	n/e
1	3 dates	w
9	9/17	nw
1	4 dates	sw, nw
0	n/a	

1991-94 MAXIMUM COUNTS		
#	DATE	WIND

450	10/13/93	ne/e
6	10/09/94	nw
2	11/2/91	sw
2	10/23/93	sw
60	10/4/92	e
6	10/23/93	sw
1	var 1993	
33	10/31/92	e/ne
1590	9/12/92	e/se
273	11/13/94	sw
3	11/15/94	n/e
2	11/2/91	sw
14	10/2/93	nw
1	various	
2	9/28/93	w

Bird Banding at Lakeshore MP, Autumn 1994

For a total of 285 hours (3714.5 net hours) on 50 days between July 18 and December 4, 1994, I banded birds at Lakeshore Metropark (Lake Co.). My final tally was 3930 individuals banded, representing 96 species and 1 hybrid. Peak movements per month were 7/19 (128 individuals banded), 8/17 (179 indiv. banded), 9/11 (76 indiv. banded), 10/30 (107 indiv. banded), and 11/3 (99 indiv. banded). My top numbers were as follows, with some comments comparing these results with results from Autumn 1993: House Finch-- 958 (up); White-throated Sparrow-- 355 (way down); Black-capped Chickadee-- 209 (way down from 1993, but still felt to be in good numbers); Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco-- 193 (way down); Am. Goldfinch-- 140 (way down); Winter Wren-- 130 (little change); Golden-crowned Kinglet-- 121 (way down); Gray Catbird-- 109 (little change); Song Sparrow-- 103 (little change); Hermit Thrush-- 101 (down); Rose-breasted Grosbeak-- 88 (way up); N. (Baltimore) Oriole-- 80 (way up); Swainson's Thrush-- 78 (way down); Am. Redstart-- 78 (way up); Yellow Warbler-- 75 (little change); N. Cardinal-- 63 (way down); Ruby-crowned Kinglet-- 58 (way down); Com. Yellowthroat-- 52 (way up); White-crowned Sparrow-- 50 (little change); & Mourning Dove-- 47 (way down). Data by John Pogacnik, 4765 Lockwood Rd., Perry, OH 44081.



Brewster's Warbler, Lakeshore MP (Lake Co.), 8/29/94.
Photo by John Pogacnik.

Ohio Bird Records Committee Report By H. Thomas Bartlett, Secretary

The Bylaws of the Ohio Bird Records Committee call for annual elections of a portion of its membership. As governed by these Bylaws, an insert was included with The Ohio Cardinal 17(3), requesting nominations for four openings on the Committee. Since no nominations were received by the Editor within 30 days of the mailing date of that issue, the four candidates nominated by the Editor and Publisher are now considered elected to three-year terms as members of the Ohio Bird Records Committee. These four individuals are:

Vic Fazio, Tiffin
Ned Keller, Cincinnati
Larry Rosche, Kent
Elliot Tramer, Toledo

We are very fortunate to add these four knowledgeable observers to the Committee. They have already begun processing documentations, beginning with the records listed below. The complete roster of the Committee is listed on the inside front cover of every issue.

Of course, we must also say goodbye to the four retiring members of the Committee: Matt Anderson of Toledo, Bruce Glick of Millersburg, Charlotte Mathena of Dayton, and Dave Styer of Cincinnati. These individuals have provided a great deal of support to the Committee. Their efforts are sincerely appreciated. According to the Bylaws, retiring members must retire for at least one year before once again becoming eligible to serve on the Committee.



Reviews of all the Autumn 1994 documentations were not completed by press time. Of those records that did receive a decision, the ACCEPTED records appear on page 36 of this issue. The following list (with 2 exceptions) contains first-circulation records that have either not yet received a decision (marked with a "??"), or records that were Not Accepted (marked with a "NA"). Reasons for non-acceptance should appear in the next issue.

Pacific Loon-- 2, Perkins Beach (Cuya), 11/19/94	???
Ross' Goose-- 1, L. Sylvan (Clar), 11/23/94	NA
Greater Golden-Plover-- 1, Ferguson Res. (Alle), 8/14/94	NA
Piping Plover-- 1, Turtle Creek Marsh (Otta), 9/7/94	NA
Piping Plover-- 8, Turtle Creek Marsh (Otta), 9/18/94	??
Piping Plover-- 1-2, Lorain (Lora), 9/25 & 10/8/94	??
Ruff-- 1, Magee Marsh WA (Otta/Luca), 8/5/94	NA
Pomarine Jaeger-- 1, Lakeshore MP (Lake), 11/16/94	??
Sabine's Gull-- 1, Huron (Erie), 11/20/93	??
Sabine's Gull-- 1, Fairport Harbor (Lake), 9/18/94	??
Black-backed Woodpecker-- 1, Magee Marsh (Luca), 9/18/94	NA
Kirtland's Warbler-- 1, Magee Marsh WA (Luca), 9/18/94	NA
Le Conte's Sparrow-- 1, Lake MP Rehab. Ctr. (Lake), 9/15/94	??
Pine Grosbeak-- 1, Turtle Creek Marsh (Otta), 9/24/94	NA
Com. Black-headed Gull-- 1, Conneaut (Asht), 7/10/94	NA

In addition, a Mew Gull (Maumee River Rapids, Lucas Co., 12/31/94-1/3/95) was ACCEPTED. Details will appear in the next issue. Also, 6 other records continue with Recirculation procedures.

Autumn 1994 Overview by Robert Harlan

With apologies to Kevin Costner and Field of Dreams, we offer the following: "If you make it, they will come." in terms of the Autumn 1994 season, the "it" in the above sentence refers to shorebird habitat, and the "they" refers to the will-o'-the-wisps of the bird world, the shorebirds. Seldom has this paraphrase been more evident than this season, when a huge mudflat was created at Turtle Creek Marsh, the eastern portion of Magee Marsh Wildlife Area (Ottawa Co.).

Although the mudflat began to develop as early as May, birder awareness and access was severely limited until the autumn months. Some enormous summer season counts (typically the peak of shorebird numbers) were taken by the Black Swamp Bird Observatory, however, and are presented in the Addenda elsewhere in this issue. By August, when most observers became familiar with the site, large numbers and tremendous variety were thankfully still present, with over 20 shorebird species being possible in a single day. Be sure to carefully read the appropriate portion of "The Reports" section for a taste of what can appear if choice habitat is present. Considering the great birder interest that developed in this site, and in the shorebird group in particular, we would hope that similar premier habitats can and will be created in the future. The Ohio Division of Wildlife deserves accolades for allowing birder access to this normally off-limits site-- whether or not the existence of the mudflat was in actuality an incidental happenstance, created by virtue of other long-term marsh management projects.

The songbird migration, on the other hand, was somewhat disappointing statewide. After a good warbler movement in early September, numbers and variety dropped rapidly, and did not appreciably increase during the remainder of the month. The Navarre Marsh and Lakeshore Metropark banding stations, in Ottawa and Lake Counties, respectively, continued to produce interesting results. Particularly enigmatic results were generated for Rose-breasted Grosbeak, N. Oriole, and Purple and House Finches.

Is there truly that great a difference between lakefront migration in northwest versus northeast Ohio? Apparently!

Although at press time we have received only partial results from the Ohio Bird Records Committee (OBRC) regarding the Autumn 1994 documentations, we can state that the following three records have been accepted by the Committee: 4 White-faced Ibis at Englewood Reserve (Montgomery Co.) 8/24-25; a Varied Thrush at Headlands Beach State Park (Lake Co.) 10/30; and yet another Black-throated Gray Warbler, this one near Barrs Mills in Tuscarawas Co. 11/17-12/4. Look for more late-breaking results from the OBRC on page 15. Full details regarding those records should appear in our next issue. An asterisk (*) signifies that a documentation has been submitted by the person indicated, and that this record has been accepted by the OBRC.

"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- "Luca" representing Lucas Co., for example. Other place name abbreviations found in this issue are: BuCr (Buck Creek State Park, a.k.a. C.J. Brown Reservoir, Clark Co.); CPNWRC (Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge Count, Lucas Co., as compiled by Joe Komorowski); CVNRA (Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area, Cuyahoga/Summit Cos.); DGG (Donald Gray Gardens, Cleveland, Cuyahoga Co.); FRes (Findlay Reservoirs, Hancock Co.); HBSP (Headlands Beach State Park (Lake Co.); Lksh (Lakeshore MP, Lake Co.); Magee (Magee Marsh Wildlife Area, Ottawa/Lucas Cos.); MWF (Miami-Whitewater Forest MP, Hamilton Co.); OkOp (Oak Openings MP and vicinity, mostly 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.); & TCM (Turtle Creek Marsh, Ottawa Co.).



Hooded Merganser. Castalia Pond (Erie Co.), Winter 1994-95.
Photo by Victor Fazio.

THE REPORTS-- AUTUMN 1994
by Robert Harlan

Loons through Ibis

Red-throated Loon-- A juv. lingered at Caesar Creek Lk. (Warr) 11/2-13 (JD, ST, LG).

Common Loon-- We received reports of 6 August birds at 4 sites, all inland. 30 birds were at Caesar Creek Lk. by 10/22 (LG). As usual, peak numbers came in November, including the lakefront highs of 109 Headlands Beach State Park (Lake) [hereafter HBSP] 11/19 (FMG) & 85 Erie Co. 11/1 (KA). More noteworthy, however, were 2 inland tallies of birds passing overhead. 112 were observed heading south over Sugar creek (Tusc) between 8:50 and 9:20 a.m. 11/22 (RS), and 63 were noted over Berlin (Holm) 11/16 (RHe). 207 birds were on the waters of Rocky Fork Lk. (High) 11/25 for the highest count this season (SWa).

Pied-billed Grebe-- Lakefront highs include 15 at Medusa Marsh (Erie) 9/5 (MJK) & 12 on the Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge Count (Luca) [hereafter CPNWRC] 8/14. Inland, we received 6 reports of 10-14 birds 9/17-11/16. These 6 reports, however, paled in comparison to 68 birds at Rocky Fork Lk. 11/20 (SWa).

Horned Grebe-- 86 birds at Lakeshore MP (Lake) [hereafter Lksh] 11/13 (JP); 63 at Huntington MP (Cuya) 11/13 (FMG); & 24 at Rocky River City Pk. (Cuya) 11/12 (PL) represented the lakefront highs. 3 inland reports of 21-25 birds were submitted from the period of 11/18-20. 2 very unusual August reports were received: 2 at the Camp Dennison Gravel operations (Hami) 8/29 (YM) & 1 at the Findlay Reservoirs (Hanc) [hereafter FRes] 8/30 (A). Scarbrough & S. Ross, fide BH). 15 were at FRes by 10/10 (JMc).

Red-necked Grebe-- Reports were as follows: 1 Buck Creek State

Park (a.k.a. C.J. Brown Res.) (Clar) [hereafter BuCr] 11/2 (KA); 1 Lksh 11/17 (an imm.) (JP); & 1 Rocky Fork Lk. 11/20 (SWa).

Double-crested Cormorant-- Inland counts continue to amaze, including 169 adults and 12 imm. over Belpre (Wash) 10/27 (BMU); 115 headed south over Berlin at 11:30 a.m. 9/23 (RHe); & 100 over Greenlawn Dam (Fran) 10/2 (AG). All of these very good counts are but a pittance, however, when compared to the 1265+ headed south between Old Fort (Sene) and Oak Harbor (Otta) 10/2! (TB). This enormous number had most likely just departed from the w. Lake Erie marsh region. Even so, 3000 were still present in the marshes for the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge Count (Otta/Luca) [hereafter ONWRC] later the same day, and 4500 were at the same site the next day, 10/3 (KA). 2500 more were at Huron 11/1 (Erie) (KA). 250 remained at Cedar Point Amusement Pk. (Erie) as late as 11/13 (RHr). In all, at least 23 counties, including 17 inland, reported.

Am. Bittern-- 1 was at Funk (Wayn) 10/27 (RT).

Least Bittern-- At least 4 birds were still present from the summer at Spring Valley Wildlife Area (Gree/Warr) [hereafter SVWA] 8/7 (JD, ST). 1 was at Arcola Creek (Lake/Asht) 8/9 (JP).

Great Blue Heron-- Max. 66 ONWRC 9/4. 53 remained at Medusa Marsh as late as 11/13 (RHr). Inland highs include 40 at Rocky Fork Lk. 11/17 (YM) and 30 at Berlin Res. (Port/Star/Maho) 9/18 (CH).

Great Egret-- Lakefront highs include 184 ONWRC 9/4 and 150 Magee Marsh Wildlife Area (Otta/Luca) [hereafter Magee] 9/18 (RHr). Inland highs include 14 at Berlin Res. 9/28 (CH) and 10 at a pond southeast of Columbus (Fran) 9/23 (SLH). Late birds were

numerous: 1 Rocky Fork Lk. 11/25 (SWa); 1 Findlay Clay Pits (Hanc) 11/22 (BH); 1 Old Woman Creek SNP (Erie) 11/22 (JP); & 5 Medusa Marsh 11/13 (RHr).

Snowy Egret-- The w. L. Erie marshes produced highs of 9 at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge (Ott/Luca) [hereafter ONWR] 9/11 (CH) and 8 there on the ONWRC of 9/4. A single was at Sidecut MP (Luca) 8/23 (ET).

Little Blue Heron-- A "calico" bird was at Big Island WA (Mari) 8/1-12 (BC, J. Fry). Another bird was an excellent find at L. Snowden (Athe) 8/24-25 (AB).

Cattle Egret-- Up to 41 were in the E. Harbor SP (Ott) area 8/13-21 (JH, KMo). Singles were at Metzger Marsh WA (Luca) 8/25 (CH) & 9/24 (EP, RHr), while 3 were at Medusa Marsh 10/2 (EP, RHr). Singles at Winton Woods (Hami) 11/6 (J. Decker) and on the ONWRC the same day were late.

Green Heron-- Max. 7 Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area (Cuya/Summ) [hereafter CVNRA] 9/11 (DAC). A very late bird was at the Findlay Clay Pits 11/18 (D. Kohl, M. Dailey fide BH).

Black-crowned Night Heron-- For some reason, a heavily industrialized stretch of the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland (Cuya) has proven attractive to this species in recent years. The highest count there this period was 42 birds, on both 11/3 & 11/10 (PL). 33 were tallied on the ONWRC 9/4. 3 inland singles were noted through 9/2.

Yellow-crowned Night Heron-- Single adults were at Arcola Creek 8/27 (JP) & along the Sandusky River in Tiffin (Sene) 9/16, providing a second Seneca Co. record (V. Fazio, K. Baker fide TB). An imm. was at Sidecut MP 8/23 (ET).

Ibis sp.-- A dark ibis was found

at ONWR 9/11 (CH). This bird was documented as a Glossy Ibis on 9.8 by ST. This record is scheduled for review with the Winter 1994-95 documentations.

Waterfowl

Tundra Swan-- Although 250 were seen over Big Creek MP (Geau) as early as 10/25 (D. Hendrickson, fide DB), the "big push" obviously came on 11/15-16. Of 14 additional reports of 50+ birds, 11 of these occurred 11/15-16, including: 384 throughout Hancock Co. 11/15 (BH et al.); 330 over Weymouth (Medi) 11/15 (RHr, TLP); 325 e. Lake Co. 11/15 (JP); 318 in a single "V" over Berlin 11/15 and 205 more the next day (RHe); 170 over Dundee (Tusc) 11/15 (SH); & 130 Pleasant Hill Res. (Ashl/Rich) 11/16 (JH). An early bird was with Mute Swans at Sheldon Marsh SNP (Erie) 9/10-18 (MJK et al.).

Mute Swan-- Max 4 CPNWRC 9/11. 2 adults and 1 imm. could be seen at Medusa Marsh 9/5-11/6 (MJK et al., CH). 3 imm. at Magee 10/5 may have come from a nearby nest (RHr).

Snow Goose-- A white-phase adult on the ONWRC 9/4 set a new early fall arrival date for the state. A flock of 41 Blues and 1 Snow was seen in Ottawa Co. near ONWR 11/6 for the daytime high (CH), although a sizeable flock flew over Parma Hts. (Cuya) in the 6:30 a.m. darkness 10/27 (RHr). At least 7 other counties reported 1-10 birds 9/12-11/19.

Brant-- 2 fed with Canada Geese in a Fairport Harbor (Lake) field 11/9 (JP).

Canada Goose-- Highs include: 635 throughout Hancock Co. 11/4 (BH et al.); 550 ONWRC 11/5; 500 L. Rockwell (Port) 11/24 (LR); & 340 on a Berlin pond 11/13 (RHe). As determined by neck collars, the first Hudson Bay nesters arrived at N. Chagrin MP (Cuya) 9/5 (KMe).

Wood Duck-- Highs include 256 CPNWRC 10/9; 250 Funk 10/27 (RT); & 202 L. Rockwell 11/2, for the highest count there in many years (LR).

Green-winged Teal-- Lakefront highs include 725 CPNWRC 10/9; 425 Turtle Creek Marsh (Otta) [hereafter TCM] 10/8 (RHr, EP); & 400 ONWR 10/5 (RHr). 25 birds at Funk 10/27 represented the inland high (RT).

Am. Black Duck-- Inland max. 100 L. Rockwell 11/17 (LR). Migrants reached southern Ohio at L. Snowden by 8/22 (AB).

Mallard-- Highs include: 1350 ONWRC 9/4; 1237 CPNWRC 8/14; 1200 TCM 8/27 (RHr, EP); & 1200 L. Rockwell 11/26 (CH).

N. Pintail-- For the second consecutive year, the inland max. was only 7 birds. This year, the 7 were at Mill Creek Pk. (Maho) 11/29 (NB). 50 lakefront birds were on the ONWRC of 11/5, and 25 more were at TCM 10/8 (RHr, EP).

Blue-winged Teal-- We received 6 inland reports of 30-50 birds 8/27-9/27, topped by 50 at BuCr 8/28 (DO). 325 were along the Lake at ONWR 9/11 (CH), and 200 were at TCM 8/27 (LR).

N. Shoveler-- Up to 43 were seen at Magee 10/5-8 (RHr, EP). 30 more were at TCM 8/27 (LR). 10 birds at Pine Lk. (Maho) 11/14 represented the inland high (NB).

Gadwall-- Max. 425 ONWRC 11/5. Other highs include: 100 Medusa Marsh 11/13 (RHr); 98 Pine Lk. 11/14 (NB); & 82 L. Rockwell 11/3 (LR).

Am. Wigeon-- 719 were recorded on the CPNWRC of 10/9, while 400 were found on the ONWRC of 11/5. 76 were at Mosquito Lk. (Trum) 10/8 for the inland high (CB). 2 reached Conneaut (Asht) by 8/7 (CH).

Canvasback-- Last autumn, the inland high was 80 birds. This season, the inland peak was only 8 birds, at Oberlin Res. (Lora) 10/31 (NKR). 20 were along the Marblehead Peninsula in Ottawa Co. 11/13 (TMR).

Redhead-- 30 at FRes 10/10 represented the inland high (JMc). 20 more were at Clearfork Res. (Rich/Morr) 11/16 (JH).

Ring-necked Duck-- The 350 at L. Rockwell 11/17 (LR) and the 225 in Shalersville Twp. 11/18 (CH) were comparatively low totals for Portage Co. A bird at the latter site 8/15 had summered (LR). In the southwest, 170 were at the Camp Dennison Gravel operations 11/18 (YM).

Greater Scaup-- From 2-4 birds were inland at Paulding Res. (Paul) 10/30-11/10 (DMD).

Lesser Scaup-- The 750 birds at E. Fork Lk. (Cler) 11/16 (HA) far surpassed all other inland totals. In fact, our next highest inland count was of 60 birds at Wellington Res. (Lora) 11/8 (NKR).

Oldsquaw-- A very poor season, with only a total of 4-5 birds being seen at 3 Lake Co. sites 11/12-19. No definite inland reports!

Black Scoter-- Lakefront max. 20 Erie Co. 11/1 (KA). Inland: 2 BuCr 11/2 (KA); 2 females at L. Rockwell 11/8 (LR); & 3 Paulding Res. 11/11-14 (DMD).

Surf Scoter-- 4 lakefront counties totalled 42 birds 10/4-11/23. 9 inland sites reported, including: 7 Paint Creek Lk. (High/Ross) 11/17 (YM); 5 females at Pleasant Hill Res. 11/16 (JH); & 5 early birds on 10/10, with 3 at FRes and 2 at Killdeer Plains WA (Wyan) (both JMc).

White-winged Scoter-- Only 2 inland singles were found, at Paulding Res. 11/6 (DMD) and at FRes 11/15 (KA). Furthermore, 3

lakefront reports totalled only 9 birds 11/1-27.

Common Goldeneye-- A poor showing, with the inland max. being only 10 at LaDue Res. (Geau) 11/10 (CH).

Bufflehead-- Inland highs: 144-148 FRes 11/15 (KA, BH); 80 LaDue Res. 11/10 (CH); & 70 E. Fork Lk. 11/16 (HA). In the southeast, 11 were at Atwood Lk. (Carr) 11/25 (SH).

Hooded Merganser-- Medusa Marsh held 60-70 birds 11/13-26 (RHR, BS, TMR). One was in Paulding Co. 8/2 (DMD).

Common Merganser-- Max. 20 Huntington MP 11/13 (FMG).

Red-breasted Merganser-- Counts reached 40,000 in Erie Co. 11/27 (KA) and at Lksh 11/16 (JP). In Cuyahoga Co., 20-30,000 were at Huntington MP 11/12-13 (FMG, BAT), while several sites in Lorain Co. totalled over 17,000 birds 11/13 (PL et al.). Inland peak was only 58 birds at FRes 11/22 (BH).

Ruddy Duck-- The 700 birds at Metzger Res. (Alle) 11/12 (DD, LG et al.) more than doubled the next highest inland counts of 325 at Oberlin Res. 11/18 (TLP) and 315 at Mogadore Res. (Port) 11/12 (CH). 150 lakefront birds were at Sheldon Marsh SNP 10/21 (BC, D. Horn), 6 reached Ferguson Res. (Alle) by 9/18 (RC).

Vultures through Cranes

Black Vulture-- Rocky Fork Lk. attracted up to 66 birds 10/29-11/25, with the peak coming 11/20 (SWa). 3 were in Athens Co. at L. Snowden 11/22 (AB).

Turkey Vulture-- The Oak Openings (Luca) [hereafter OkOp] hawk watch recorded 2229 birds 9/1-11/13, including 2060 in October. Peak counts there were 322 birds on 10/11, 270 on 10/16, & 256 on 10/15. All 3 of the above

peaks came on days with east winds (MAN, TK). 22 migrants headed south over Berlin 9/8 (RHe). Several triple-digit (presumably roosting) concentrations were noted, including: 320 Rocky Fork Lk. 10/29, with 160 still there 11/25 (SWa); 172 at a Hancock Co. roost 10/11 (WS, tide BH); & 170 at Pleasant Hill Res. 10/5 (JH). A nest held 1 young in Vinton Co. 8/10 (AB). Many lingerers were noted in the north, including: 25 Wellington Res. 11/1 (NKR); 5 Tuscarawas Co. 11/17 (RS); 1 Holmes Co. 11/18 (JKI); 1 Wooster (Wayn) 11/18 (ESn); 1 Fostoria Res. (Hanc) 11/25 (BH); & 3 Knox Co. 11/26 (JH). A near albino has apparently been seen many times through the year (reported as early as 1993 by A. Palmer) north of Barnesville (Belm) at the Route 800 exit along I-70. The bird is 95% white with a few black feathers on the upper wing coverts. It is apparently best seen near dusk (SLH).

Osprey-- The OkOp hawk watch totalled 33 birds, including the peak of 6 on 10/9, and the latest bird of the season, on 11/23 (TK, MAN). Along L. Erie, about 8-9 birds were found in 4-5 counties 8/21-10/5. Inland, at the very minimum 35 birds seen from 8/5-10/23 added at least 18 more counties. Also, Royse reported 9 sightings at Columbus 9/1-10/18, and Tramer noted this species along the Maumee River in Lucas/Wood Cos. on 9 dates 8/23-10/22.

Bald Eagle-- About 18 counties reported, with 40+ individuals being observed. Highs include 10 ONWRC 9/4 & 7 CPNWRC 10/9.

N. Harrier-- Highs include: 10 along Jefferson Co. Rd. 45 just before dusk 10/1 (MAr); 7 Rocky Fork Lk. 11/6 (SWa); & 6 ONWRC 10/2. In all, 17 counties reported.

Sharp-shinned Hawk-- The OkOp hawk watch recorded 253 birds

9/3-11/25, including 38 birds on 10/15, 36 on 10/16, and 24 on 10/2. All 3 peaks came on days with east or northeast winds (TK, MAn). 5 migrants were tallied at BuCr 9/10 (DO).

Cooper's Hawk-- Max. 5 OkOp hawk watch 10/16 (MAn, TK).

Red-shouldered Hawk-- 58 were recorded on the OkOp hawk watch 9/3-11/24. Peaks there included 12 on 10/30 and 9 on 10/15 (TK, MAn). The Chasar's found 5 at Jaite in the n. CVNRA 9/11.

Broad-winged Hawk-- 1567 were counted on the OkOp hawk watch, all in September. 3 peak days accounted for most of this total: 776 on 9/21, 588 on 9/20, and 165 on 9/11 (MAn, TK). Away from the OkOp, the only count of significance was of 24 birds at Findlay 9/20 (fide BH). A bird at the Dunakin's place in Paulding Co. 10/3 was fairly late (DMD), but an adult slowly circling at low altitude over Parma Hts. 11/11 was extremely late (RHr).

Red-tailed Hawk-- The OkOp hawk watch recorded 632 birds 9/5-11/26, with 551 appearing in November alone. Peaks were 273 on 11/13, 177 on 11/11, and 45 on 11/15 (TK, MAn). 18 were at Rocky Fork Lk. 10/29 (SWa).

Rough-legged Hawk-- About 11 counties reported, with 3 birds each being found in Knox Co. 11/26 (JH) and on the OkOp survey 11/15 (TK, MAn).

Golden Eagle-- Singles were recorded on the OkOp hawk watch on 10/29 (brisk s.w. winds), 10/30 (variable winds), and 11/11 (e.s.e. winds) (MAn, TK).

Am. Kestrel-- Max. 18 Highland Co. 11/11 (SWa). The peak for the OkOp hawk watch came on 9/17, when 9 were counted (TK, MAn).

Merlin-- 3 birds returned to their roost in residential Bath Twp.

(Summ) as early as 10/29 (fide EP). About 9-10 other birds were reported, with the earliest being found at Metzger Marsh WA 8/27 (AF). 4 reports came 9/10-20, and 4 came 11/1-18. Outside of these periods, the only report was of a bird photographed in Tiffin 10/14 (TB). The above totals do not include 4 birds on the OkOp survey, found 9/8, 9/17, 10/6, & 10/9 (MAn, TK).

Peregrine Falcon-- Not including residents, 12 counties reported. 7 inland singles were found in Athe, Clar, Cuya, Hancock, Port, Tusc., & Wood Cos., while 8 singles were observed along L. Erie. Of the above 15 individuals, 12 were found 9/18-10/9. 2 migrants sat on the TCM mudflat together 10/8 (EP, RHr). At least 2, possibly 3 Cleveland sites continue to host resident birds (PL, B. Finkelstein).

Ring-necked Pheasant-- Max. 7 BuCr 8/27 (DO).

Wild Turkey-- Barber reported 35 young seen in the L. Snowden area during the period. Barnhart, in nearby Washington Co., termed this species "very abundant".

King Rail-- From 1-2 birds remained from the summer at Big Island WA through 8/5 (JH, KA).

Virginia Rail-- 1-2 birds each were reported from Lake, Mari, & Sene Cos., as well as SWVA & ONWRC 8/1-10/8.

Sora-- 5 birds each were found at SVVA 9/24 (D. Graham) & at Springville Marsh SNP (Sene) the same day (TB). Single imm. were flushed from a Tuscarawas Co. alfalfa field 8/22 (RS) and from a Holmes Co. hay field 9/1 (RHr). From 1-3 birds were also reported from Clar, Lake, Mari, & Paul Cos. through 10/8. Unspecified numbers were at Navarre Marsh (Luca) [hereafter Navarre] on 6 dates 8/30-10/13 (BSBO).

Common Moorhen-- 22 at Mosquito Lk. 10/8 seemed like an extraordinary total (CB). As noted in the summer, a pair with 8 young was observed at Big Island WA 8/5 (JH). At SVWA, 2 birds were found 8/13, with 1 remaining 9/24 (D. Graham). 2 more were at Springville Marsh SNP 9/11 (TB). 1 at Tinkers Creek SNP (Port) 8/30 was interesting (E. Eider).

Sandhill Crane-- Somewhat down compared to recent autumns, with reports including: 2 Funk 10/27, with 8 there 11/5 (RT); 2 over eastern inland Cuyahoga Co. 10/28 (BAT); 3 Rocky Fork Lk. 11/17 (YM); 62 SVWA 11/21-22 (JD, ST); 54 Winton Woods 11/22 (fide JS); & 39 over Riverbend MP (Hanc) 11/22 (BH).

Shorebirds

Black-bellied Plover-- High for TCM was 30 birds 8/5 (BSBO), with 15-16 still there 10/22-27 (RHr, EP, CH, BSBO). Late singles (quite possibly the same individual) were at Cedar Pt. Amusement Pk. 11/13 (RHr) & at adjacent Sheldon Marsh SNP 11/26 (BS). Inland, Clar, Mari, Paul, & Port Cos. held 1-3 birds 8/17-9/23.

Am. Golden-Plover-- TCM hosted a peak of 100 birds 9/24 (m. obs.), with 1 remaining 11/2 (JP). Inland peaks include: 65 Killdeer Plains WA 9/21 (JH); 31 Farnsworth MP (Luca/Wood) 10/13 (ET); & 14 Berlin Res. 9/18 (CH). Other inland counties reporting from 9/12-10/25 were Craw, Dela, Hanc, & Paul.

Semipalmated Plover-- 450 birds at TCM 8/21 (BSBO) and 200 there 8/19 (BSBO) and 8/27 (m. obs.) easily outdistanced counts from elsewhere. A laggard was at Metzger Marsh WA 11/2 (JP). Inland, 7 were at W. Branch SP 8/5 (CH) & 5 were at BuCr 10/15 (DO).

Killdeer-- An outstanding season, including: 1600 TCM 8/1 (BSBO), 450+ there 9/13 (ET), and 387

there 10/16 (BSBO); 425 Berlin Res. 9/24 (CH); 300 Paint Creek Lk. 11/20 (SWa); 265 Mosquito Lk. 10/8 (CB); etc.

Am. Avocet-- A few birds lingered at various sites long enough to allow numerous observers the chance to view this attractive species. 1 remained at Berlin Res. 9/18-24 (CH, NB, RE, DJH, BAT). Killdeer Plains WA hosted 3 birds 9/26-28 (JMc, JH, BC, BMa). The most widely observed bird, however, was at TCM 8/16-10/23 (m. obs.). 2 were there 8/19-23 (BSBO). Other singles were in Scott Twp. (Mari) 8/1-5 (KA), at Metzger Marsh WA 8/8, 8/15, and 9/18 (BSBO) and at Conneaut 10/23 (JP).

Greater Yellowlegs-- Strangely, the TCM mudflat did not seem especially attractive to this species. Instead, the high was 58 birds at Conneaut 10/30 (CH). Other highs include: 26 TCM 10/27 (BSBO); 24 Metzger Marsh WA 9/8 (BSBO); & 12 at the Stokely Treatment Ponds in Paulding Co. 8/13 (DMD). A late bird was at the Findlay Clay Pits 11/22 (BH).

Lesser Yellowlegs-- A whopping 800 were estimated at TCM 8/28 (BSBO). This same site also held 400 birds 9/11, 500 birds 9/24 (m. obs.), and 300 birds 10/9 (BSBO). Inland, 42 were at Hoover Res. (Dela/Fran) 9/12 (KA) and 41 were at Berlin Res. 9/24 (CH). A laggard was at LaDue Res. through 11/7 (AF).

Solitary Sandpiper-- Max. 8 Tuscarawas Co. 8/20 (ESc).

Willet-- Except for BSBO reports from TCM, this bird was scarce once again, with reports of: 7 at TCM 8/13, with 6 there 8/29, 7 there 9/12, and 5 there 9/29 (all BSBO); 1 at Berlin Res. (Stark Co. portion) 9/20-21 (RE, BAT); 1 at Metzger Marsh WA 9/29 (BSBO); & 1 at Weir's Rapids on the Maumee River (Luca/Wood) 10/18 (ET).

Spotted Sandpiper-- Max. 20 across Hancock Co. 8/9 (BH et al.). 12 were at TCM 8/1 (BSBO) and 10 were at Spencer WA (Medi) 8/4 (NKR). A very late bird was at the Findlay Clay Pits 11/18 (D. Kohl, M. Dailey fide BH).

Upland Sandpiper-- A vocal flock of 8 headed over Tuscarawas Co. 8/4 (RS). 5 were in a Fairport Harbor field 8/20 (LR et al.), while 3 were in a Holmes Co. field 9/1 (JKJ). Singles were in Paulding Co. 8/5 (DMD) & at Cleveland's Burke Lakefront Airport 8/13 (TLP).

Whimbrel-- All reports: 1 TCM 8/21 & 9/18 (BSBO); 1 Lorain (Lora) 9/15 (TLP); 1 Pipe Creek WA (Erie) 9/16 (BSBO); & 1 Metzger Marsh WA 9/18 (BMA).

Hudsonian Godwit-- Up to 3 birds (probably all juv.) spent 10/5-26 at TCM (RHr, m. obs., BSBO). An adult (still retaining extensive chestnut on the plumage) and a juv. were at Sheldon Marsh SNP 10/23 (JD, ST). A single at FRes 9/27 provided a first for Hancock Co. (BH et al.). 1 was at Medusa Marsh 11/1 (KA).

Marbled Godwit-- 2 birds were at TCM 8/9-23, and 1 remained through 9/24. (BSBO, m. obs.). It or another was found there again 10/22 & 28 (RHr, EP). Singles were also found at Pipe Creek WA 8/1 (BSBO), on the ONWRC of 9/4, and at Metzger Marsh WA 9/8-18 (BSBO). 2 were at Conneaut 8/11 (JP).

Ruddy Turnstone-- High at TCM was 30 birds 9/5 (BSBO). 9 were at Conneaut 8/11 (JP). The only inland bird was at BuCr 8/19 (LG).

Red Knot-- Up to 6 birds were seen intermittently at Metzger Marsh WA 9/6-10/26 (m. obs.). A single was at TCM 8/16 (BSBO) and 3-6 were there 9/4-12 (BSBO, m. obs.). 2 were recorded on the ONWRC 9/4. 5 inland birds at FRes 9/20 were quite interesting (BH, S. Ross).

Sanderling-- TCM peaks came on 8/5 (20 birds) and 9/12-21 (36-86 birds, with the high 9/18) (BSBO). Other lakefront highs include: 24 Lorain 9/13 (TLP); & 20 adults at Conneaut 8/14 (CH). A laggard remained at HBSP 11/19 (m. obs.). From 1-5 inland birds were noted at Berlin Res. and in Clar, Hanc, & Mont Cos. 8/14-9/24.

Semipalmated Sandpiper-- TCM totals dropped from 3098 birds (actually during the summer season) on 7/27 to 1860 birds 8/1. 800 were still present 8/23 (all BSBO). 2 dawdlers remained 10/16 (EP, RHr). Pipe Creek WA hosted 213 birds 8/1 (BSBO). Inland, 12 were at Berlin Res. 9/18 (CH) and 10 (including 9 adults) were in Tuscarawas Co. 8/13 (ESc).

Western Sandpiper-- Inland: 1 ad. W. Branch SP 8/4-9 (CH); 1 Spencer WA 8/6-10 (NKR); 1 Miami-Whitewater Forest (Hami) [hereafter MWF] 8/7 (P. Wharton); 2 Stokely Treatment Ponds 8/10, with 2 there 9/8 (DMD); & 1 BuCr 10/8-9 (m. obs.) and again 11/9 (JD, ST). Along the Lake, 2 juv. spent 10/5-11/2 at Metzger Marsh WA (RHr, CH, JP). Unspecified numbers were there 8/4 & 9/18 (BSBO), while 1-2 were at TCM 8/21-27 (BSBO, m. obs.).

Least Sandpiper-- TCM attracted a high of 185 birds 8/15 (BSBO), seemingly attracted more to the drier portions of the mudflat during their stay. Metzger Marsh WA harbored 27 birds 8/25 (CH). Inland peaks include: 45 Scott Twp. 8/10 (KA); 23 W. Branch SP 8/13 (CH); & 10 juv. Tuscarawas Co. 8/20 (ESc).

White-rumped Sandpiper-- Sightings at TCM this season began with 7 birds 8/15 (BSBO). From 1-10 + juv. were there 10/2-23 (m. obs.), with the max. coming on the latter date (JD, ST). An adult was at HBSP 8/10 (LR). 1-2 juv. were at Metzger Marsh WA 10/22-11/2 (EP, RHr, CH, JP).

while singles were at Conneaut 9/15 (RE) & at Lorain 9/7 & 28 (TLP). Moving inland, 2 were at BuCr 8/19 (LG) and singles were at the Stokely Treatment Ponds 8/17 (DMD); Big Island WA 8/1 (KA); & Greenlawn Dam (an imm.) 9/26 (AG).

Baird's Sandpiper-- During the summer period, 4-9 birds (presumably adults) arrived at TCM 7/23 and remained through 8/3 (BSBO). None were reported there 8/5-8/15, but 34 were reported 8/16. None were noted 8/19, but 1-9 birds were again present 8/21-10/27 (BSBO, m. obs.). From 1-2 birds were at 4 other lakefront sites 8/6-9/21. 9 inland sites combined for 15 individuals, including: 3 at Englewood Reserve (Mont) 9/16 (N. Walker et al.); 3 juv. at W. Branch SP 9/15-18 (CH, LR); and a very late bird at E. Fork Lk. 11/5 (HA). Also found at Berlin Res., and in Clar, Dela, Fran, Paul, & Tusc Cos.

Pectoral Sandpiper-- Peak count at TCM came 9/24, when 500 were estimated (m. obs.). 100+ were tallied on all counts there 8/29-10/22 (BSBO, m. obs.). 42 birds at Hoover Res. 9/19 (KA), 30 at Berlin Res. 9/18 (CH), & 21 in Tuscarawas Co. (ESc) represented the inland highs. Late singles dawdled at Bucyrus Res. (Craw) 11/15 (JH) and at Rocky Fork Lk. 11/17 (YM).

Purple Sandpiper-- Very rare inland, an imm. was found at Metzger Res. 11/12 (DD, LG et al.). It remained to be photographed the next day, when it was seen to fly the short distance across the causeway to Ferguson Res. (DD ph., HA, et al.). Up to 5 birds were present in the HBSP/Fairport Harbor area at the end of the period (RHn, m. obs.). 2 were at Lorain 11/20+ (TLP), and another was at Huron 11/22 (JP).

Dunlin-- Max. 450 TCM 10/23 (CH). 100 remained at Metzger Marsh WA 11/13 (EP). Inland, 10 were at

BuCr 10/16-22 (DO).

Stilt Sandpiper-- TCM attracted 100-200 birds 8/21-9/4, with 200 reported on both 8/28 & 9/4 (BSBO). 2 juv. remained 10/23 (JD, ST). 23-40 birds were at Metzger Marsh WA 8/25-27 (CH, ET, ESc). 9 inland counties reported, including: 6 juv. Berlin Res. 9/24 (CH); 6 Hoover Res. 9/12 (KA); & 5 juv. Englewood Reserve 8/27-9/3 (JD, ST, LG).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper-- Singles were found inland at FRes 9/6 (S. Ross, A. Scarbrough, fide BH) & at Hoover Res. (Delaware Co. portion) 9/16 (BC, L. Pawlick). 2 were at the Sandusky Airport (Erie) 9/2 (JP). At TCM, 6 were found 8/28 (BSBO), and 8 were viewed at close range 9/24 (m. obs.). A late bird was there 10/9 (BSBO). 1 was at Metzger Marsh WA 9/11 (BSBO).

Short-billed Dowitcher-- The peak of 620 spilled over from the summer period at TCM 8/1 (BSBO). 70 more were at Metzger Marsh WA 8/25 (CH). One at the latter site 9/24 stood out like a sore thumb in a flock of 200 Long-billed Dowitchers (LR, m. obs.). A flooded field in Scott Twp. attracted 10 birds to Marion Co. 8/15 (KA).

Long-billed Dowitcher-- Up to 115 adults were present at Metzger Marsh WA 8/27 (LR) & 101 more adults were recorded on the ONWRC of 9/4. 111 juveniles were on the ONWRC 10/2. Up to 50 were at TCM 10/9 (BSBO). 2 inland birds were at Stokely Treatment Pond 9/29 (DMD), while another was at Killdeer Plains WA 10/4 (KA).

Common Snipe-- Highs include: 35 Magee 9/6 (BSBO); 25 Metzger Marsh WA 10/30 (BSBO); 15 Killdeer Plains WA 9/27 (JH); & 6 Mosquito Lk. 10/8 (CB).

Am. Woodcock-- 6 individuals noted 10/23-11/25 seem like a large number for so late in the season.

Wilson's Phalarope-- The peak count of 15 at TCM 8/27 was very impressive (m. obs.). From 1-8 birds were found there on almost all counts 8/16-9/29 (BSBO). Singles elsewhere include a juv. at Metzger Marsh WA 8/15 (JD, ST, LR) & a bird at Conneaut 8/10 (JP).

Red-necked Phalarope-- A flock of 6-8 at TCM 8/21-9/4 allowed close comparison with the preceding species (BSBO, m. obs.). 3 were tallied on the ONWRC 9/4. Singles were at Metzger Marsh WA 8/8 (BSBO); at Pipe Creek WA 8/13 (BSBO); & at BuCr 9/18 (DO).

Red Phalarope-- Singles were reported at TCM 9/10 (ST, C. Mathena, BMa) and at Walnut Beach (Asht) 10/2 (CH) & 10/9 (JP).

Jaegers through Terns

Jaeger species-- An imm. was at Eastlake (Lake) 11/13 (A. & J. Fjeldstad).

Laughing Gull-- An apparent 2nd-winter bird spent 9/17-11/2 at Pleasant Hill Res. (Richland Co. portion) (JH, EP). It was joined by a juv. 10/1-2 (JH). A 1st-year bird was noted at Greenlawn Dam 9/15 (AG).

Franklin's Gull-- 3 inland singles: an imm. at Caesar Creek Lk. 10/3-22 (LG ph., JD, ST); E. Fork Lk. 11/5 (HA); & FRes 11/3 (KA). At least 3 lakefront singles were noted 8/27-11/13.

Little Gull-- A potential new Ohio high of 16 birds was set by 8 adults, 2 2nd-winter birds, and 6 1st-winter birds at Conneaut 10/30 (GM ph., CH). Smaller numbers were seen there 10/9-11/16. At least 3 were identified at HBSP 9/10-25 (LR, RHn, et al.). 3 other lakefront sites reported 1-2 birds.

Bonaparte's Gull-- Peak lakefront counts came on widely separated dates, namely 2500 at HBSP 8/10 (LR) & 5000 at Lorain 11/13 (RHr). The 500 at Pleasant Hill Res. 11/22

was JH's best count there in 20+ years. Other inland highs include 300 at BuCr 11/25 (DO) and 120 at Atwood Lk. the same day (SH).

Ring-billed Gull-- An estimated 50,000 were spread over the Erie and Lorain Co. lakefront 11/13 (RHr).

Herring Gull-- The Erie/Lorain Co. lakefront held 2000+ birds 11/13 (RHr).

Iceland Gull-- An early 1st-winter bird passed HBSP 11/30 (RHn).

Lesser Black-backed Gull-- 4 lakefront singles 11/2-29.

Glaucous Gull-- A 1st-year bird was at Eastlake 11/12 (LR, FMG et al.), while a 2nd-year bird was there 11/20 (LR).

Great Black-backed Gull-- At least 2 adults reached as much as 30 miles inland on the Maumee River Rapids 10/27+ (ET). Metcalf located 75+ birds at HBSP 8/15. 40 remained from the summer at Conneaut 8/29 (RHr, EP).

Black-legged Kittiwake-- A 1st-winter bird was at Conneaut 11/6 (JP). Meszaros also noted this individual about the same time.

Caspian Tern-- Strangely, the max. came from the Akron lakes (Summ) 8/24, when 36 birds were counted (B. & D. Lane). Lakefront high was 25 birds at TCM 8/27 (m. obs.).

Common Tern-- A nice-sized flock developed at TCM, with 1500 birds 8/27 (m. obs.) and about 1200 birds 9/3 (BMA). 200 were at Lorain 10/23 (T. Kellerman). 25 remained at Metzger Marsh WA 11/13 (EP). 8 inland reports were received, including 14 at BuCr 9/17 (DO) and 9 along the Auglaize River in Paulding Co. 10/8 (DMD).

Forster's Tern-- The 1500 Common Terns at TCM 8/27 were accompanied by 200 Forster's Terns (m. obs.). 175 were at

Metzger Marsh WA 10/8 (CH). A 1st-winter bird was at Conneaut on the late date of 11/18 (RRi, FP et al.). 5 inland sites reported, topped by 9 birds at BuCr 8/14 (DO).

Black Tern-- The TCM mudflat would have seemed to have been the logical site for an "old fashioned" lakefront flock, but such was not to be the case. The high count there was 1 bird 8/27-9/10. Instead, HBSP and Lorain took honors for the highest lakefront counts, with 12 at the former site 8/13 (RHn) & 5 at the latter 8/29 (TLP). 3 other lakefront singles were noted on 8/14. August 14 was also the big story inland. The highest tally on 8/14 was 35+ adults and immatures on the Licking and Perry Co. portion of Buckeye Lk. A windy cold front restricted boater access on the lake that morning, but by 1:30 p.m. the weather had eased, allowing boater traffic to disperse the birds. None remained the next day (GB). Elsewhere on 8/14, 25+ birds were found at Greenlawn Dam (AG) and 20 were at BuCr (DO). 11 more were at Delaware WA (Dela) 8/4 (BC, D. Horn). Inland sites in Alle, Hanc, Luca, Medi, & Paul Cos. also reported 1-3 birds 8/14-10/1. Let us hope this upward swing continues.

Cuckoos through Shrikes

Black-billed Cuckoo-- 4 were discovered at the ONWR parking lot 8/6 (AF).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo-- A fairly late bird was in the CVNRA 10/8 (DAC). 3 were in Tuscarawas Co. 9/2 (ESc).

Barn Owl-- 2 adults with 6 young were present in Richland Co. 8/25 (JH). 2 birds were seen and heard at Lksh 8/18 (JP).

E. Screech-Owl-- 4 birds each were at E. Fork Lk. 10/9 (D. Brinkman) and at Maumee Bay SP (Luca) 10/22 (EP, RHr).

Barred Owl-- Singles in Parma Hts. 11/8 (RHr) and at Euclid Beach SP (Cuya) 11/19 (FMG) were certainly out of place. 1 was a pleasant surprise in the Toneff's Brecksville (Cuya) front yard 9/25 (BAT). Another was at Camp Berry (Hanc) 11/18-25 (BH, m. obs.).

Long-eared Owl-- Springville Marsh SNP hosted a bird 10/29 (TB). Lksh did likewise 11/13 (JP).

Short-eared Owl-- From 10-12 birds were located along Jefferson Co. Rd. 45 from 11/13-19 (MAR). This area has proven to be an excellent site for this species in recent years. 3 were at Dundee 11/18-30 (SH), and 2 were at Killdeer Plains WA 11/19 (JH). Singles were at different Madison Twp. (Lake) sites 11/17 & 11/28 (JP).

N. Saw-whet Owl-- HBSP hosted a bird 11/7 (KMe). LePage found another at Donald Gray Gardens (Cuya) [hereafter DGG] 11/10.

Common Nighthawk-- Of 12 counts of 50+ birds, 9 came between 8/22-30. For some reason, the top 5 counts for the state all came from the Cincinnati area, Hamilton Co. in particular, including: 547 Mt. Healthy 8/23 (P. Wharton); 500 Winton Woods 8/22 (JS); & 500 Cincinnati 8/25 (K. McDonald). 40-50 birds at Zanesville (Musk) 8/27 were also of interest (SLH).

Chimney Swift-- Max. 350+ Cincinnati 10/12 (BS). Hundreds descended into SH's Sugar creek chimney 9/5. 175 were counted at HBSP 8/7 (LR et al.). A very late bird was found there 10/30-31 (A. & J. Fjeldstad, KMe).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird-- Max. 12 E. Fork Lk. 8/15 (HA). 3 fed on pineapple in Hancock Co. on the late date of 10/18 (fide BH).

Red-headed Woodpecker-- Immatures, apparently signs of local nesting, were found at Killbuck WA (Wayn/Holm), Sheldon Marsh SNP, & Charlemont MP

(Lora) in August. Max. 14 throughout Hancock Co. 8/23 (BH et al.).

Red-bellied Woodpecker-- A female fed young in the nest at N. Chagrin MP 8/24, an extremely late date for young to still be at this stage (KMe).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker-- Max. only 5 ONWRC 10/2. 1 remained from the summer at Hells Hollow MP (Lake) 8/5 (JP).

N. Flicker-- Single-site max. was 25+ at Lksh 8/26 (JP).

Olive-sided Flycatcher-- 12 singles were identified 8/12-9/24, with reports from SVWA as well as Fran, Hanc, Lake, Luca, Otta, Sene, Warr, & Wyan Cos.

E. Wood-Pewee-- Max. 15 Clark Co. 9/3 (DO). A late bird was banded at Lksh 10/21 (JP).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher-- 6 were banded at Lksh 8/18-10/21, with 5 of these captured 8/18-9/11 (JP). 3 were at HBSP 9/3 (LR et al.). Of about 15 other individuals statewide, 11 were found 8/27-9/10. In addition, unspecified numbers were noted at Navarre on 13 dates 8/21-10/9 (BSBO).

Acadian Flycatcher-- Only lakefront report was of a bird banded at Lksh 8/28 (JP).

Alder Flycatcher-- Singles were reported at HBSP 8/10 (LR) and at Worthington 9/8 (BMA).

Least Flycatcher-- Max. 10 HBSP 9/4 (LR et al.). 4 migrants were there by 8/10 (LR).

E. Phoebe-- Fairly late singles were at Rocky Fork Lk. 11/17 (SWa) and at Barrs Mills (Tusc) 11/18 (NB).

Great Crested Flycatcher-- A very late bird was seen and heard at Lksh 10/29 (JP).

E. Kingbird-- 21 were counted on

the CPNWRC of 8/14, including 3 young in the nest.

Horned Lark-- Max. 100 Lorain Co. 11/23 (Nkr, E. Thompson). 50+ at Findlay SP 9/3, also in Lorain Co., seemed like a good total for the date (NB).

Purple Martin-- While 1200-1500 fall migrants roosted at Sheldon Marsh SNP 8/27 (ESc), adults were still tending young in the OkOp 8/28 (MAN). About 500 birds each were at ONWR 8/15 (RRo) and at Lorain 8/31 (TLP).

Tree Swallow-- Estimates ranged from 2000 to 8000 birds at TCM 9/24 (m. obs.). 1000 were at Killdeer Plains WA 10/12 (JH), and 580 were at Sheldon Marsh SNP 9/2 (TMR). 6 dawdlers remained at ONWR 11/2 (JP).

N. Rough-winged Swallow-- Max. 24 HBSP 8/10 (LR).

Bank Swallow-- Max 200 HBSP 8/7 (LR et al.).

Cliff Swallow-- 20 at MWF 8/28 was an excellent count (NKe, K. McDonald). 4 were in the OkOp 8/17 (MAN). Singles were also noted at at least 6 other sites 8/4-9/13.

Barn Swallow-- A fairly late bird at BuCr 10/16 (CW, J. Holzworth, DO) was presumably the same individual still there 11/2 (KA). 80 were at HBSP 8/7 (LR et al.).

Black-capped Chickadee-- 200 were banded at Lksh 8/3-11/26. This compares to 399 and 18 banded there during the 1993 & 1992 fall seasons (JP). Above average numbers appeared at L. Isaac (Cuya) as early as 9/7 and remained through the period (RHr).

Carolina Chickadee-- 30 were tallied at Glen Helen (Gree) 11/26 (DO).

Red-breasted Nuthatch-- Well down from last autumn, max. 5 Rocky

River MP (Cuya) 9/11 (RHr). While 74 were banded at Lksh 8/15-11/30 last year, only 14 were banded this season (JP).

White-breasted Nuthatch-- Only 2 were captured at Lksh this season, compared to 56 in 1993 and 4 in 1992 (JP).

Brown Creeper-- Max. 17 banded at Navarre 10/30 (BSBO). 12 were at HBSP 10/2 (LR et al.). 1 at Hells Hollow MP 8/5 was presumably a resident (JP). A singing bird at N. Chagrin MP 8/31 (KMe) & 1 in the CVNRA 9/35 (DAC) were also likely locals.

Carolina Wren-- Although generally down, reports ranged from "common" in the Twin Lakes area of Kent (Port) (LR) to "down drastically" in Paulding Co. (DMD). Numbers may have picked up this fall, augmented by young of the year. Hopefully, the 1994-95 Christmas Bird Counts will help us get an accurate statewide picture. Highest reported total for this season was 4 birds.

House Wren-- Max. 13 HBSP 10/1 (KMe).

Winter Wren-- Highs include: 50 + Lksh 10/2, with 27 being banded (JP); 24 banded at Navarre 10/11 (BSBO); 20 HBSP 10/2 (LR et al.); & 20 Magee 10/5 (RHr). A bird at Hells Hollow MP 8/12 must have been a local (JP).

Sedge Wren-- 13+ birds remained from the summer at NASA's Plumbrook Station (Erie) 8/15 (TB). Singles were in Madison Twp. (JP) and at Killdeer Plains WA (JH), both 8/10. Only lakefront report was of a single at Arcola Creek 10/3 (JP).

Marsh Wren-- From 4-5 migrants were noted, including a bird in PL's Lakewood (Cuya) yard 9/29. A fairly late migrant was at Huron 11/2 (TLP). 1 at BuCr the same day could have been a local (DO). From 6-7 birds remained from

thesummer at SWVA 8/10-13 (LG, D. Graham). A nest with young at this site 8/26 provided an extremely late nesting date (fide JS).

Golden-crowned Kinglet-- 30 + were tallied at DGG 10/26 (PL, FMG). BSBO banding nets captured 45 birds at Navarre 10/30.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet-- A bird in NB's Canfield (MaHo) yard 8/22 was quite early. Highs include 50 at HBSP 10/15 (TMR) & 40 + at Magee 9/30 (RFo).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher-- 6 were at N. Chagrin MP 8/4 (KMe). A very late bird was at Navarre 10/30-11/2 (BSBO).

E. Bluebird-- 20 + migrants passed Lksh 10/31 (JP). 20 were at Caley MP (Lora) 11/1 (NKR et al.).

Veery-- Lksh banding nets captured 8 birds 9/6 (JP). A late bird was banded there 10/7 (JP).

Gray-cheeked Thrush-- 3 in Parma/Parma Hts. 9/9 represented the highest inland daytime report (RHr). Along the Lake, 23 were captured at Navarre 9/17 (BSBO) and 7 were banded at Lksh 9/30, with a late bird was captured there 10/18 (JP).

Swainson's Thrush-- Navarre banding nets caught 42 birds 9/22 (BSBO). Inland non-banding daytime max. 20 Parma/Parma Hts. 9/12 (RHr). 2 arrived at southerly MWF as early as 8/23 (YM).

Hermit Thrush-- Max. 25 ONWRC 10/2.

Wood Thrush-- Late singles were seen at HBSP 10/22 (RHn, E. Bacik) & Lksh 11/3 (JP).

Am. Robin-- Thousands inhabited their Mentor Marsh SNP (Lake) roost by mid-October (LR). 200 were in the CVNRA 10/8 (DAC).

Gray Catbird-- Max. 46 L. Isaac 8/10 (RHr). 22 were at HBSP the

same date (LR). Late singles were in Tuscarawas Co. 10/29 (ESc) & at Lksh 11/1 (JP).

Brown Thrasher-- 12 were found between HBSP and Gordon Park (Cuya) 9/11 (TMR). A laggard was at L. Isaac 11/16 (RHr).

Am. Pipit-- Highs include: 60-80 LaDue Res. 11/4-6 (AF, DB et al.); 44 Bucyrus Res. 10/22 (JH); & 30 in Holmes Co. 11/12 (ESc).

Cedar Waxwing-- By far the largest count came from Hancock Co. 11/4, where 549 were found, mostly at Camp Berry (BH et al.). 100+ were at Springville Marsh SNP 8/28 (TB).

N. Shrike-- 1 arrived at Thompson Twp. (Geau) by 11/15 (JP).

Loggerhead Shrike-- At least 1 remained along Radnor Rd. in Delaware Co. through 8/15 (BC, BMA, KA). Another was in Madison Co. 8/20 (KA). The Fairport Harbor summering bird was last seen 8/4 (JP).

Shrike sp.-- An unidentified shrike was seen at Killdeer Plains WA 10/26 (C. Johnston) and again 11/3 (JH).

Vireos through Warblers

White-eyed Vireo-- A singing bird was discovered at Mosquito Lk. on the fairly late date of 10/8 (CB).

Solitary Vireo-- Max. 8 Magee 9/30 (RRo). While an early bird was at HBSP 9/4 (LR et al.), several late birds were noted as follows: 2 Columbus 10/18 (RRo); 1-2 HBSP 10/23 (KMe, LR et al.); 2 Cowan Lk. (Clin) 10/23 (LG); & 1 banded at Lksh 11/16 (JP).

Yellow-throated Vireo-- 2 October birds were of interest: 1 Paulding Ponds WA (Paul) 10/4 (DMD); & 1 Brukner Nature Center (Miami) 10/9 (ST, C. Mathena). 3 were at MWF 9/23 (L. Peyton).

Warbling Vireo-- Max. 31 banded at Navarre 8/24 (BSBO). 12 were seen at HBSP 9/4 (LR et al.).

Philadelphia Vireo-- Max. 3 each at 3 lakefront sites 9/11-18.

Red-eyed Vireo-- Max. 8 each banded at Lksh 8/26 (JP) & at Navarre 9/9 & 28 (BSBO), and 8 seen at Columbus 9/25 (RRo).

Blue-winged Warbler-- The latest bird was found in the CVNRA 9/17 (fide DAC).

"Brewster's Warbler"-- 1 was banded and photographed at Lksh 8/29 (JP). Another was seen at E. Fork Lk. 8/15-17 (HA).

Golden-winged Warbler-- An excellent fall season, with at least 21 birds reported, all but 3 of which were initially found 8/20-9/14.

Tennessee Warbler-- Highs include: 26 banded at Navarre 9/28 (BSBO); 25 MWF 9/23 (L. Peyton) & 18 Berlin 9/3 (PY). Reminiscent of bandings in Seneca Co. and at SVWA 7/21 & 7/23 last year, another early fall migrant was banded at Lksh 7/27 (JP).

Orange-crowned Warbler-- In addition to 7 birds banded at Lksh 9/25-11/3 (JP), and unspecified numbers at Navarre on 3 dates between 10/9-11/2 (BSBO), at least 8 others were noted statewide 9/29-10/31. An even later bird was in Tramer's Waterville (Luca) yard 11/16.

Nashville Warbler-- Max. 12 banded at Lksh 9/23 (JP).

N. Parula-- 8 inland reports 9/6-10/8 were preceded by a bird in Parma Hts. 8/15 (RHr). Along the Lake, 4 were seen 8/30-10/2.

Yellow Warbler-- Max. 34 HBSP 8/10 (LR). A very late bird was identified at Sheldon Marsh SNP 10/30 (MJK et al.). 75 were banded at Lksh this season, all between 7/18-9/6 (JP).

Chestnut-sided Warbler-- Max. 6 each at DGG 8/26 (FMG) & in the OkOp 9/4 (MAN).

Magnolia Warbler-- Highs include: 37 banded at Navarre 9/28 (BSBO); 20+ at Columbus on several dates between 8/31-9/14 (RRo); 20 HBSP 9/3 (LR et al.); & 18 Holmes Co. 9/5 (LEY). 1 at Twin Lakes in Delaware Co. 8/1-5 was very early (KA).

Cape May Warbler-- 15 at Magee 9/18 (RHr) & 14 in the OkOp 9/10 (MAN) represented the high counts.

Black-throated Blue Warbler-- It is not often that this species can claim to be the most common warbler at Magee, yet such was said to be the case 9/30, when 12 + "blues" outnumbered all other candidates (RRo).

Yellow-rumped Warbler-- Some highs include: 75-100 Paulding Co. 10/18-20 (DMD); 65 CPNWRC 10/9; & 59 Riverbend MP 10/11 (BH).

Black-throated Green Warbler-- Highs include: 15 French Pk. (Hami) 10/2 (NKe, K. McDonald); 10 Valley City (Medi) 9/5 (FG); 9 Columbus 9/28 (RRo); & 8 Howland (Trum) 9/4 (CB). An unspecified number in the lower CVNRA during August was of note (MZ).

Blackburnian Warbler-- An imm. was found in Holmes Co. as early as 8/6 (ESc, JKl). 9 were in the OkOp 8/27 (MAN), and 6 were at HBSP 9/3 (LR et al.).

Yellow-throated Warbler-- Single migrants were in Columbus 9/2 & 21 (RRo); in Holmes Co. 9/3 (LEY); & more significantly at HBSP 9/18 (AF).

Pine Warbler-- At least 10 singles were found statewide 8/29-10/10.

Prairie Warbler-- A bird at Sims Pk. (Cuya) 8/27 provided a rare fall lakefront record (TLP). A bird in

the OkOp 9/4 may also have been a migrant (MAN).

Palm Warbler-- Numbers were very low in eastern Ohio, but the BSBO reported high numbers for Navarre, where 29 were banded 9/17. The max. for the rest of the state was a measely 10 birds at MWF 10/1 (JS, m. obs.).

Bay-breasted Warbler-- Highs include: 25 MWF 9/23 (L. Peyton); 15 Paulding Co. 9/10 (DMD); 12 CPNWRC 9/11; & 12 banded at Navarre 9/28 (BSBO). Earliest bird was banded at Lksh 8/18 (JP).

Blackpoll Warbler-- Max. 45 banded at Navarre 9/28 (BSBO). 3 other sites reported 20 birds each: DGG 9/8 (FMG); HBSP 9/9 (TLP); & Parma/Parma Hts. 9/9 (RHr). This species remained in unspecified numbers at Navarre as late as 10/30 (BSBO).

Cerulean Warbler-- A bird remained at Indian Pt. MP (Lake) 9/24 (JP). For some reason, lingering birds seem to be found at this site annually.

Black-and-white Warbler-- Max. 10 HBSP 9/3 (LR). 8 were found in the OkOp 8/27 (MAN).

Am. Redstart-- Royse reported about 50 birds in 2 hours in Columbus 8/29. The next highest counts were only 18 banded at Navarre 9/17 (BSBO) and 15 birds at HBSP 9/3 (LR). Of 78 birds banded at Lksh 7/18-9/23, 26 were banded in July. This species is apparently on the move quite early.

Prothonotary Warbler-- 4 locals were at Killbuck WA 8/6 (SH). 4 more were banded at Navarre 8/15 (BSBO). Singles were in Leroy Twp. (Lake) 8/16 (JP) and at the Seiler place in Hancock Co. 8/23 (WS).

Worm-eating Warbler-- This species is very unusual as a fall migrant, yet 1 was observed in Hancock Co. at the Seiler place 8/23 (WS), a

very nice compliment to the Prothonotary Warbler noted above. Yet another migrant (a juvenile) was banded at Navarre 8/21 (BSBO).

Ovenbird-- 9 were banded at Navarre 9/28 (BSBO). Is it possible that the max. for the rest of the state was only 1-2 birds? Apparently.

N. Waterthrush-- Other than 3 banded at Navarre 9/28 (BSBO), only singles were reported, including a fairly early bird at Rocky River MP 8/7 (RHr) and a very late bird at HBSP 11/12 (RHn, FMG).

Louisiana Waterthrush-- A singing local remained at N. Chagrin MP 8/6 (KMe).

Kentucky Warbler-- 1 at Magee 9/20 was unusual for the fall (AF).

Connecticut Warbler-- Singles were banded at Lksh 8/29, 9/19, & 10/13 (JP). 3 were captured at Navarre on 9/28, and unspecified numbers were there on 4 dates from 9/9-19 (BSBO). 1 was observed at DGG 9/2 (PL).

Mourning Warbler-- While the rest of the state could manage only 15 birds 8/26-9/22, banding nets at Lksh caught 18 birds 8/8-10/2 (JP) and banders at Navarre reported unspecified numbers there on 11 dates from 8/21-9/22 (BSBO).

Common Yellowthroat-- Max. 15 Magee 9/18 (EP, RHr). An imm. male remained at HBSP 11/20 (LR et al.).

Hooded Warbler-- Migrants were way up at Lksh, where 17 were banded 8/18-10/4, as compared to 3 in 1993 and 0 in 1992 (JP). The only other birds reported as migrants were 3 at Berlin between 9/4-10 (PY) and an unspecified number at Navarre 9/25 (BSBO).

Wilson's Warbler-- Highs include 12 at HBSP 9/4 (LR et al.) & 7 at

Columbus 9/7, where an early migrant was found 8/23 (RRO).

Canada Warbler-- Max. 3 Howland 8/29 (CB). For some reason, the high last autumn was 3 birds at Howland 9/1. Late singles were at 2 sites 10/8.

Yellow-breasted Chat-- 1 was banded at Lksh on the late date of 10/16 (JP).

Tanagers through Finches

Summer Tanager-- 4 birds at MWF 9/25 seemed like a very respectable total (NKe et al.).

Scarlet Tanager-- A fairly late female was at Magee 10/5 (RHr).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak-- Is this species an early migrant? Of 88 birds banded at Lksh 7/18-9/30, 84 were captured 7/18-9/11. However, at Navarre, this species was present on only 6 of 19 banding dates between 7/20-9/11, but instead was noted on 14 of 16 banding dates between 9/13-10/2 (BSBO). Why the difference?

Indigo Bunting-- Max. only 7 CPNWRC 8/14.

Dickcissel-- All reports represented holdovers from the summer, including: 19 Killdeer Plains WA 8/1 (JH), with at least 1 still there 8/12 (BC); an unspecified number in Paulding Co. 8/1-10 (DMD); & 3 in Thompson Twp. (Sene) 8/15 (TB).

Rufous-sided Towhee-- 20 were along the Clear Creek Valley (Hock/Fair) 10/16 (RRO).

Am. Tree Sparrow-- Max. 30+ in the n. CVNRA 11/18 (BAT).

Chipping Sparrow-- At least 18 individuals were found at a total of 10 sites in November, with the latest being a single at HBSP 11/25 (LR). Max. 30 Walnut Creek Twp. (Holm) 10/1 (MH).

Field Sparrow-- Max. 17 Dundee 8/9 (SH).

Vesper Sparrow-- 2 fairly late birds were at Girdled Rd. MP (Lake) 11/5 (JP).

Lark Sparrow-- 1 was near the newly discovered Columbus summering site 8/14 (RRo).

Savannah Sparrow-- Max. 15 Fairport Harbor 10/23 (LR); 10 ONWRC 9/4; & 10 MWF 10/1 (JS, m. obs.).

Grasshopper Sparrow-- Single probable or certain migrants were seen in Tuscarawas Co. 10/2 (RS); in Holmes Co. 10/16 (LEY); & at Lksh 11/16 (JP). From 2-6 locals remained from the summer at 3 other sites through 8/9.

Henslow's Sparrow-- Holdovers from the summer were noted at Dundee (12 birds 8/9, SH) and along Jefferson Co. Rd. 45 (5 birds 8/7 & 13, MAR).

Sharp-tailed Sparrow-- Only report was of a bird at Arcola Creek 10/1 (JP).

Fox Sparrow-- Max. 11 Bacon Woods MP (Lora) 11/7 (J. Blaser).

Lincoln's Sparrow-- Max. 5 ONWR 10/5 (RHr). 1 banded at Lksh 11/3 (JP) and singles at DGG 11/2 (FMG, PL) & HBSP 11/5 (LR et al.) were on the late side.

Swamp Sparrow-- A very nice count of 31 birds was made on the CPNWRC of 10/9. 23 were banded at Navaire 10/30 (BSBO). 22 locals were found at Killbuck WA 8/6 (SH).

White-throated Sparrow-- Very low numbers. At Lksh, only 354 were banded 9/19-12/4 (including 55 captured 10/7), as compared to 854 & 631 banded during the autumns of 1993 and 1992, respectively (JP). The banding peak at Navarre totalled 31 birds 10/11 (BSBO). Other low "highs"

include 77 at Camp Berry 10/11 (BH) & 75 at HBSP 10/2 (LR et al.). A 95% albino returned to AB's L. Snowden feeder 11/8+, where it was also noted last year.

White-crowned Sparrow-- The highest report for the state was an absolutely pathetic 20 birds at Gordon Park 10/15 (RHr).

Dark-eyed Junco-- The 150-175+ birds at Elmwood Pk. (Cuya) 10/26 was the high count for the state (MJK). 67 were at Camp Berry 11/25 (BH). At Big Creek MP, where nesting occurred this past summer, a family (generally an adult with 1-2 young) continued to patronize feeders at the Meyer Nature Center through 9/15 (DB).

Lapland Longspur-- Max. 6-8 birds at the Dunakin's place in Paulding Co. 11/8-30 (DMD). 3 early birds were on the TCM mudflat 9/24 (m. obs.). Strangely, a beligerant Tree Swallow was seen to continually pursue one longspur over and around the mudflat for several minutes.

Snow Bunting-- Highs include: 150 Paulding Res. 11/26 (DMD); 70-75 at HBSP on 3 dates between 11/7-13 (KMe, LR, CH); & 60 LaDue Res. 11/18 (CH). Earliest report was of 18 birds at HBSP 10/19 (KMe).

Bobolink-- A flock of 60 in Holmes Co. 8/22 served as the max. (ES).

Red-winged Blackbird-- Hardesty reported 12,400 birds at FRes 10/4.

E. Meadowlark-- Max. 15 Holmes Co. 10/5 (ES).

Rusty Blackbird-- 3 excellent counts were received: 500 in the n. CVNRA 10/16 (DAC); 403 Camp Berry 10/21 (BH); & 250+ Springville Marsh SNP 10/9 & 16 (TB).

Common Grackle-- An estimated 50,000 roosted at Mentor Marsh SNP 10/30 (RHn).

Brown-headed Cowbird-- 200 were recorded on the ONWRC 9/4.

Orchard Oriole-- Probable migrants, all singles, were seen at Carlisle MP (Lora) 8/8 (NKR) & at Lksh 9/5 (JP). Another was banded at the latter site 8/18 (JP).

N. Oriole-- Figure this: of 80 banded at Lksh 7/19-10/9, 74 were captured 7/19-8/18, with peaks of 14 coming on 7/22 and 8/3 (JP). The banding peak at Navarre (9 birds) also came during this latter period, on 8/15 (BSBO). 12 were at E. Fork Lk. 8/15 (HA). The bulk of this species' fall migration is apparently quite early. A late bird was at TCM 10/22 (RHr).

Purple Finch-- Now figure this: of 16 banded at Lksh 7/18-11/26, 14 were captured 7/18-8/17 (JP). At Navarre, however, the species was noted on only 4 dates, all between 9/25-10/30 (BSBO). Max. 11 Camp Berry 11/4 (BH).

House Finch-- Next, figure this: 438 birds were banded at Lksh 7/18-31, actually before the fall season officially began. In August, 577 more were banded, including 106 birds 8/7 and 111 birds 8/17. For the remainder of the season (9/1-12/4), only 43 more birds were banded there (JP). Meanwhile, banding nets at Navarre could only attract a high of 5 birds each on 8/31 & 9/17 (BSBO)!

Red Crossbill-- A flock of 9+ birds, including adult males, appeared at Springville Marsh SNP 11/13, thereby providing a second Seneca Co. record (TB).

Common Redpoll-- No confirmed reports.

Pine Siskin-- Very low, max. 6 Erie Co. 11/1 (KA).

Am. Goldfinch-- During Autumn 1993, 2 banding peaks were evident at Lksh, with the first peak coming 8/1-9/20 and the second 11/2-30. This season, an identical

pattern developed. 55 birds were banded 7/19-9/23, none were banded (despite continual banding effort) 9/25-10/31, and 85 were captured from 11/3-12/4 (JP). The banding peak at Navarre came on 10/30, when 87 were captured (BSBO). 60 were at ESC's Holmes Co. feeder 11/6.

Evening Grosbeak-- Only report was of 6 birds at Hells Hollow MP 11/12 (JP). Absolutely no comparison to last autumn's invasion.

ADDENDA--SUMMER 1994

Am. Golden-Plover-- An early bird was found at TCM 7/27 (BSBO).

Semipalmated Plover-- The massive TCM mudflat attracted a spectacular 468 birds 7/24 (BSBO).

Lesser Yellowlegs-- 138 were at TCM 7/27 (BSBO).

Solitary Sandpiper-- 18 birds were at TCM 7/17 (BSBO).

Willet-- 7 were reported at TCM 7/17 (BSBO).

Whimbrel-- 6 Whimbrels were a nice find at TCM 7/17 (BSBO).

Marbled Godwit-- One was found at TCM 7/27 (BSBO).

Semipalmated Sandpiper-- An amazing 3500 were estimated from TCM 7/23 (BSBO).

Western Sandpiper-- 2 were at TCM 7/27 (BSBO).

Least Sandpiper-- TCM attracted 200 birds 7/23 (BSBO).

White-rumped Sandpiper-- 6 at TCM as early as 7/27 seem very unusual (BSBO).

Baird's Sandpiper-- A peak of 9 were reported at TCM 7/23-8/3, with the peak coming 7/24 (BSBO).

Pectoral Sandpiper-- 380 were at

TCM 7/17 (BSBO).

Stilt Sandpiper-- 200 at TCM 7/23 was a huge number (BSBO).

Short-billed Dowitcher-- 1500 were estimated at TCM 7/23 (BSBO).

Wilson's Phalarope-- 1 was at TCM 7/27 (BSBO).

Gray Catbird-- 32 were banded at Navarre 7/20 (BSBO).

Golden-winged Warbler-- A territorial male was present in the OkOp (BSBO).

Yellow Warbler-- Staging for fall migration was evident at Navarre 7/10, with 117 banded that day (BSBO).

Prothonotary Warbler-- 5 were banded at Navarre 7/10 (BSBO). Did this represent pre-migratory staging as well?

Dickcissel-- This species was a confirmed nester at Blue Heron Reserve MP (Sand) (BSBO).

Lark Sparrow-- The BSBO confirmed nesting at OkOp.

ADDENDA-- OTHER PERIODS

Red-necked Grebe-- 1 spent 2/24-27/94 on a small farm pond along the Scioto River just outside of Chillicothe (Ross) (D. Minney). This adds another individual and another county for the Spring 1994 invasion.

Golden-winged Warbler-- A fairly late bird was at Columbus 10/2/93 (RRo).

Orange-crowned Warbler-- Columbus hosted a late bird 11/15/93 (RRo).

Cerulean Warbler-- Definite migrants are always a treat, so a female at S. Bass Island (Otta) 5/9/94 was of interest (SWu).

Summer Tanager-- A bird with a

reddish wash was at S. Bass Is. 4/25/94 (SWu).

Lark Sparrow-- On 6/16/93, RRo discovered 2 adults in an abandoned quarry in Columbus. 1 bird was still present in early July 1993. During Spring 1994, 2 were seen at the same site on 5/13, and 1 was found about a quarter mile away on 8/14 (as noted in the above seasonal account). Although direct evidence of nesting has yet to be found, the habitat described does appear to be similar to other isolated quarry habitats elsewhere in Ohio which have attracted Lark Sparrows in the past.

Henslow's Sparrow-- 2 very early migrants were detected at S. Bass Is. 4/9/94 (SWu).

SPRING WARBLER ARRIVALS

The following records were received in reference to the article "Ohio's Earliest Spring Warbler Arrival Dates", which appeared in OC 17(3):85-88. These dates now supercede the earliest arrival dates listed in that article: Orange-crowned Warbler-- 1, 4/12/81, Greenlawn Cem. (Fran) (KA); Blackburnian Warbler-- 1, 4/8-9/91, Greenlawn Cem. (KA et al.); Yellow-throated Warbler-- 1, 3/25/83, Sunfish Creek (Pike) (KA); Prairie Warbler-- 1, 4/10/92, Green Twp. (Adam) (D. Minney); & Mourning Warbler-- 1, 4/27/90, Reno Beach (Luca) (KA).

LAST MINUTE DECISIONS FROM THE OHIO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE--

The following results were received too late to place in proper order in the above Autumn 1994 accounts. All of the following records were ACCEPTED by the Committee. Other pending and Non-accepted records appear on page 15 of this issue.

White-faced Ibis-- A flock of 4, probably all juveniles, were found at Englewood Reserve (Mont) 8/24 (JD*, m. obs.). The flock took off on the morning of 8/25 (m. obs.).

Varied Thrush- Ohio's first autumn record was provided by an adult male at HBSP 10/30 (RHn*, E. Bacik).

Black-throated Gray Warbler- A male, apparently an adult, spent 11/17-12/4 in a swampy area near Barrs Mills (Tusc) (SH*, ph., RS*, CK*, RE*, m. obs.). This bird represents at least an 8th verifiable record for Ohio, and 4th since April 1992!

CONTRIBUTORS & OBSERVERS

All individuals contributing bird reports to "The Ohio Cardinal" for the Autumn 1994 season (August 1 through November 30, 1994) are listed below in CAPITAL LETTERS. In addition, many other Observers submitted their sightings to other Ohio birding-related publications. For this report, records from the following publications have been used: "The Cleveland Bird Calendar" (Kirtland Bird Club); "The Heron" (Audubon Society of Mahoning Valley); "Passenger Pigeon" (Cincinnati Bird Club); "The Toledo Naturalists' Association Bulletin"; & "Wingtips" (Black River Audubon Society). Those Observers who received at least 4 citations in the Autumn 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), compliments of Mark & Julie Shieldcastle; NANCY D. BRUNDAGE (NB); GINA BUCKEY (GB); DWIGHT & ANN CHASAR (DAC); BOB CONLON (BC); CHRIS CROFTS (CC); ROBERT F. CUTTER (RC); PATTI DIMLING (PD); DAVID C. DISTER (DD); DOUG & MICKI DUNAKIN (DMD); JON L. DUNN (JD); STEVEN A. EDINGER (SE); ROBERT K. ELLWAY (RE); ANDY FONDRK (AF); LARRY GARA (LG); BRUCE D. GLICK (BG); ADAM GOLODA (AG); FRANK & MELINDA GREENLAND (FMG); SCOTT HACKETT (SH); RAY HANNIKMAN (RHn); SHARON LEE HANSE (SLH); BETTY HARDESTY (BH); ROBERT N. HARLAN (RH); PHILIP B. HARNER (PH); JOHN HERMAN (JH); MICHAEL HERSHBERGER (MH); ROBERT J. HERSHBERGER (RH); HOWARD HINTZ (HH); HANK & SALLY HIRIS (HS); DAVID & JUDY HOCHADEL

(DJH); JEAN & DICK HOFFMAN (JDH); CRAIG HOLT (CH); RICHARD JASPER (RJ); NED KELLER (NK); TOM KEMP (TK); CAL KEPPLER (CK); JONATHAN KLINE (JK); JOE KOMOROWSKI (JKo); Norma Krapos (NKr); MARIAN & JEFF KRAUS (MKJ); TOM LEIDEN (TL); TOM LePAGE (TLp); PAULA J. LOZANO (PL); BERNIE MASTER (BMA); JIM McCORMAC (JM); GARY MESZAROS (GM); KEVIN METCALF (KME); JOEL MILLER (JM); KATHY MOCK (KMO); Yvonne Mohlman (YM); BILL MURPHY (BM); OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE (ODOW), compliments of Gildo Tori and Mark Shieldcastle; DOUG OVERACKER (DO); EDWIN C. PIERCE (EP); JOHN POGACNIK (JP); FREDERICK A. PRATT (FP); RICHARD RICKARD (RR); TOM & MARY ANNE ROMITO (TMR); LARRY ROSCHE (LR); ROBERT ROYSE (RRO); ED SCHLABACH (ES); ROBERT SCHLABACH (RS); WILMA SEILER (WS); ELAINE SNIVELY (ESn); BRUCE STEHLING (BS); Jay Stenger (JS); SUE TACKETT (ST); BILL & ANN TONEFF (BAT); ELLIOT TRAMER (ET); K. ROGER TROUTMAN (RT); Steve Wagner (SW); CONNIE WOLCOTT (CW); STANLEY E. WULKOWICZ (SWU); LEROY E. YODER (LEY); PERRY YODER (PY); & MARIAN ZEHNDER (MZ). In addition, many other Observers are cited for 1 to 3 records within the species accounts. My thanks to all.

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE:

As part of a long-term population study, I will be examining the effects of Brown-headed Cowbirds on habitat selection and reproductive success in Blue-winged Warblers in northeastern Ohio. This project will form a M.S. thesis for Barbara Catuzza.

I am requesting help from birders in the area of this project. Birders may observe the mist-netting activities and learn mist-netting of Blue-winged Warblers. Birders are also needed to help collect data on color-marked birds, map territories, find nests, and quantify vegetation in habitats used.

This is a large-scale project that will require many volunteers. The data collected from this project will be used to compare to data collected in West Virginia. Interested parties may contact me at:

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Ohio Division of Wildlife Aerial Waterfowl Counts, Autumn 1994

Each autumn, the Ohio Division of Wildlife conducts aerial waterfowl surveys over the Lake Erie marsh region, ranging from Sandusky Bay to Maumee Bay. As this type of survey is not truly comparable to our land-based counts, we present a portion of this aerial data here separately. Totals should be considered as indexes, or plus or minus 30%, as exact counts would of course be impossible. We thank Gildo Tori, Mark Shieldcastle, and Jack Weeks of the ODOW for this information.

	9/30	10/13	11/2	11/14	11/29
D-c Corm.	4000	1200	200	0	0
Mallard	15,100	27,523	57,000	91,402	89,670
Am. Black Dk.	2670	5955	15,250	20,927	50,847
Gadwall	3300	4640	11,700	12,310	3655
Am. Wigeon	7225	10,025	18,700	1910	90
G-w Teal	8425	24,595	22,600	15,370	245
B-w Teal		[Peak count was 9518 on 9/1]			
N. Shoveler	750	65	0	545	185
N. Pintail	1350	775	26,425	13,560	885
Wood Duck	50	247	[Peak count was 333 on 9/1]		
Redhead	0	70	0	0	0
Carvasback	0	0	0	25	0
Scaup sp.	1	650	5500	0	18,708
Ring-neck Dk.	0	0	0	280	0
Ruddy Duck	0	12	100	5	60
C. Goldeneye	0	0	0	0	204
Merganser sp.	0	0	0	4350	3976
Bufflehead	0	0	35	30	45
Can. Goose	5255	11,080	7000	12,320	14,285
Snow Goose	0	0	0	0	0
Tundra Swan	1	0	0	293	454
Mute Swan	0	6	0	0	0
Am. Coot	4800	12,105	6650	9766	2175

The peak ODOW count for Double-crested Cormorant this season was 4410 birds on 9/15. This compares to 13,130 birds on 9/29/93. Some peak inland ODOW counts include: Mallard-- 1128 Killbuck WA 11/29-30; Am. Black Duck-- 350 Mosquito Creek WA 11/29-30; Gadwall-- 100 Mosquito Creek WA 11/14-15; Am. Wigeon-- 75 Mosquito Creek 11/2-3; Green-winged Teal-- 156 Killbuck 11/29-30; Blue-winged Teal-- 225 Ohio Power Company Lands 11/2-3; Wood Duck-- 72 Killbuck 9/1; Redhead-- 25 Grand Lake-St. Mary's 11/14-15; Scaup sp.-- 350 Indian Lake 11/14-15; Ring-necked Duck-- 250 GLSM 11/14-15; Ruddy Duck-- 35 Mosquito Creek 11/14-15; Merganser sp.-- 350 Mosquito Creek 11/29-30; Bufflehead-- 50 GLSM 11/14-15; Canada Goose-- 9870 Mosquito Creek 11/14-15; Snow Goose-- 23 Mosquito Creek 11/14-15; Tundra Swan-- 153 GLSM 11/14-15; & Am. Coot-- 360 Caesar Creek Lk. 11/14-15. The ODOW also noted 3 Oldsquaw at Alum Creek Res. 11/29-30 and 14 Common Loons at BuCr 11/14-15.

**IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION
if this line is checked**

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