

THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR

A Quarterly Journal of Bird Sightings from the Cleveland Region

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SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2006

The Cleveland Bird Calendar

Fall 2006

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The Cleveland Bird Calendar was founded in 1905 by Francis H. Herrick of the Western Reserve University. It is published quarterly by the Kirtland Bird Club and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

The purpose of the Calendar is:

- To provide information on the movement of birds through the Cleveland region;
- To monitor population densities of resident birds;
- To help determine patterns of vagrancy for rarely encountered species.

Readers are encouraged to make every effort to identify and help preserve sensitive habitats and migrant stopover points.

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You and Your Friends are Invited...

The Kirtland Bird Club welcomes you to its monthly meetings
the first Wednesday of each month, except July and August, at 7:30 PM at
The Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

Or, join a field trip to one of the local birding hot spots.

See the Web site for the up-coming meetings, programs, trips and directions;
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Fall 2006

Editor's Notes

by Fred Dinkelbach

Greetings

Welcome to Volume 102, Number 4, of the *Cleveland Bird Calendar*. It was with great enthusiasm that I accepted the offer to become editor of this century-old publication, flattered to be chosen knowing its history and of the many talented and renowned people who have held this post in the past. Whether you use this publication to chronicle and research ornithological data and events or just see how your friends have done in the field lately, I will make every effort to ensure that this journal continues to be the important asset it has always been.

Changes

This issue has some species sequence changes for sandpipers, terns and jaegers. See the notes on A.O.U. revisions located in the sightings section, page nine. Also, I plan to make page numbers continuous within each volume beginning with Volume 103, Number 1. Although we have literally hundreds of productive birding areas in our region, only a few sites are reported for almost every species. Rather than write them out in full each time, or describe their locations, at the bottom of every page spread will be a key to abbreviated or shortened location names. I'm continuing Kevin Metcalf's practice of underlining notable records and will keep those sightings together with all other species, plus, I'll underline any new early date, late date, and county records.

Although I don't want to make changes for changes' sake, an idea suggested to me more than once has been to change reporting periods for the summer and fall issues.



Fred Dinkelbach, Editor

Two other Ohio publications, the *Ohio Cardinal* and the Holmes Area Birding Society's *Bobolink*, use June and July for their summer reporting period and August through November for the fall. This also reflects the standards in *North American Birds*. It more accurately covers the breeding and fall migration periods. Making this change would be a great convenience for those who compile sightings for these publications and our own. A quick check through this issue will show many fall migrants' early dates occurring on September 1st, necessitating a lookup in the previous issue to research the accurate first fall date. I welcome any subscriber's thoughts on this topic.

Fall Highlights

A total of 235 species was reported to the Calendar, including the results of the Cuyahoga Valley National Park fall census (page 19). There are new latest fall dates for Least Bittern, Cattle Egret, Chimney Swift and Mourning Warbler for our region. There are new first county records for Lake County (Ross's Goose and Cattle Egret), Geauga County (King Eider) and Summit County (Lark Sparrow). Compared with any year other than 2005, one Cave Swallow was a good find at Headlands. Lake Erie this fall had larger than usual numbers of scoters, loons, and jaeger sightings. The restored Richfield Coliseum site was *the* place to find sparrow varieties usually seen along the lake. Tami Gingrich of the Geauga County Park District found family groups of Sandhill Cranes in two different locations on the same day. We have a newer birding area that is starting to propagate some good sightings: Liberty Park in Twinsburg, located off of either Liberty or East Aurora Roads.

Acknowledgments

On behalf of our membership and myself, I want to commend Kevin Metcalf for his exemplary work as editor of the six issues beginning with volume 101, number 1. Vic Fazio deserves special recognition for compiling the sightings for the Summer 2006 issue. He, Delores Cole, Clyde Witt and Susan Jones stepped up and shared the editor's duties for that interim issue. I am grateful to Bill Whan for sharing the *Ohio Cardinal* sightings for the fall season — there were many sightings for our area that were submitted only to him. A special thanks also to Ray Hannikman for providing most of the Mentor Headlands sightings text, and for his notes on what was seen early, what was a high count or what was a rarity—this saved me hours of research.

Fred

Weather Report

by Dwight Chasar

September:

Temperatures averaged 62.2°, 1.1° below normal. The high was 80° on the 8th and 9th and the low 43° on the 21st. Lake Erie was 70° on the 1st and eased down to 65° by the 30th. Rain occurred over 13 days and totaled 3.14 inches, .63 inches below normal. The greatest 24 hour rainfall was 1.03 inches on the 27th – 28th.

October:

Temperatures averaged 50.1°, 2.1° below normal. The highest was 75° on the 4th and 9th and the lowest 33° on the 30th. Rain occurred over 14 days and totaled 5.83 inches, a departure of 3.10 inches above normal. The greatest 24 hour fall was 1.92 inches on the 16th – 17th. Lake Erie water cooled to 55° by the 31st.

November:

Temperatures averaged 44.9°, 3.1° above normal. The highest was 66° on the 9th and the lowest 23° on the 4th. Occurring over 8 days, precipitation totaled 3.40 inches, 0.02 inches above normal. The greatest 24 hour fall was 1.47 inches. There was 1.4 inches of snow. Lake Erie temperature dropped to only 52° by the end of the month.

Seasonal Report

Location key is shown at the bottom of every page spread. Contributors' initials are inside the back cover. **Underline** denotes unexpected species in the region.

Snow Goose. Five birds were noted off Headlands Beach on October 24 (RH, JT). Two white-morphs were at Springfield Lake November 25–26 (fide GBe).

Ross's Goose. An adult was found on Fairport-Nursery Road in Fairport Harbor November 7 through November 11 (RH, KM). The bird was found at various times along Lost Nation Road, Lake Catholic High School, and Tyler Boulevard in Mentor through November 27 (many obs.). It was last reported flying with a group of Canada Geese on November 29 (JP). This was Lake County's first Ross's Goose.

Brant. Many saw the Edgewater Park bird between November 15 and 27 (many obs.). On the morning of November 17 one flew by the breakwater at HBSP (RH).

Canada Goose. No surprise that the most easily seen and heard bird was in every full report. Three hundred sixty were seen at Sims Park on November 30 (NA). At Edgewater 266 were seen on October 2 (TMR). Two hundred were in a wetland in Mayfield November 27 (FL).

Mute Swan. Seen in the CVNP throughout the season, a pair at the Pleasant Valley Road marsh began the spring with three young, but only one cygnet survived to the beginning of the fall season when the family totaled three (DAC) and by the end of November only the adults were seen (FCD). Sixty-five were at Mogadore Rsvr. November 4 (GBe). Fifty-six were seen at HBSP on November 12 (RH).

Tundra Swan. Migration peaked the first week of November; ~160 were seen at Springfield Lake and 24 at Summit Lake on November 4 (GBe). One hundred four were counted at HBSP November 1 (RH), with 75-100 seen at Bass Lake in Geauga County on November 3 (CPa). Thirty-four were seen from Perry Park on November 4 (CC). Eighty-five were noted at HBSP on November 20 (RH).



Photo by Sally Isacco

Ross's Goose/Canada Goose
Mentor, Lake County – 26 September 2006

Wood Duck. Birds were seen where expected throughout the fall. Ira Road had the peak number of 59 on October 23 and the latest occurrence with 15 on November 13 (TMR).

Gadwall. On October 15 at Mogadore Rsvr. 15 were seen (GBe). HBSP had two on September 20 and again on November 20 (RH).

American Wigeon. HBSP hosted one on September 10 and four on September 20 (RH). Ten were seen at West Branch SP on November 4 (GBe). Twenty-five were at Sandy Ridge November 24 (TMR).

American Black Duck. Five were at Perry Park on November 4 (CC). HBSP had three September 28, 12 on October 29, and three on November 19 (RH). Either one or two were seen along Ira Road from October 23 to November 13 (TMR).

Mallard. Highest report was 150 seen at Sandy Ridge on November 24 (TMR). Up to 67 were seen at Ira Road on November 6 (TMR). Thirty-four were seen on November 30 from the Towpath near Boston in the CVNP (HO et al.).

Blue-winged Teal. Sixty were seen September 20 at HBSP (RH). Twenty were seen at Summit Lake on October 9 (RSH, GBe).

Northern Shoveler. One was at HBSP on September 26 (RH). Eight were observed at Chippewa Lake on October 29 (RSH). Twelve were at Sandy Ridge November 18 (EK) and November 24 (TMR). One was at Eastlake Power Plant on November 26 (CC).

Northern Pintail. Thirty were seen October 5 and October 25 at HBSP (RH). Twelve were seen at Sandy Ridge on November 18 (EK).

Green-winged Teal. One hundred twenty-five were noted in several flocks flying around Fairport Harbor and Headlands Beach on October 24 (RH, JT). Four were at HBSP on September 20 (RH). Five were at Sandy Ridge on November 24 (TMR).

Canvasback. First was one at HBSP on October 26 (RH). Eight were seen at Wellington Rsvr. on November 24 (SSn). No other locations.

Redhead. Earliest were three at HBSP on October 25 (RH). Fifteen were seen at Wellington Rsvr. on October 29 (RSH). Fourteen were seen there on November 24 (SSn).

Ring-necked Duck. The first appearance was one on September 1 at HBSP and then 30 on November 18 (RH). Twenty-eight were seen at Wellington Rsvr. on November 24 (SSn). Three were at HBSP November 27 (RH).

Greater Scaup. An out-of-season female-plumaged individual was at Veteran's Park on September 1 and 3 (RH, JT). Twenty were found at HBSP on November 20 (RH).

Lesser Scaup. An early stray was a female in Fairport Harbor on September 25 (RH). On October 29, 100 were at Chipewewa Lake (RSH). Four hundred were noted at HBSP on November 20 (RH). Six were found at Wellington Rsvr. on November 24 (SSn).

King Eider. One was shot in Geauga County "around November 1" (fide K. Metcalf). The Geauga County Park District supplied several photographs forwarded to the Calendar. This is a first record for this county.

Harlequin Duck. Single birds were reported from Fairport on November 17 (BM), an immature male at North Perry November 21 (JP), and Mentor Lagoons on November 30 (JT, RH).

Surf Scoter. A good year for this species. Ten were at HBSP on October 24 and then 50 the next day (RH). Twelve were at Bradstreet Landing on October 31 (CC). Sims Park had the best Scoter viewing with multiple birds from October 26 to November 30 (many obs.), peaking at 27 on November 13 (NA). Perry Park had two on November 12 (PCh, EK, BWi). Six were seen from Edgewater Park on November 24 (GL). Twenty-five were seen in the lake from Mentor Lagoons on November 30 (LR).

White-winged Scoter. Earliest was at HBSP with seven on October 24 and 16 the next day (RH). Sims Park started the season with one on November 7 and

ended with nine on November 29 (NA). Perry Park had two on November 12 (PCh, EK, BWi). Headlands had the latest report with two on November 26 (RH).

Black Scoter. A new earliest date for our area were five at HBSP on October 5 (RH). Three were at Sims Park October 29 (NA), the number grew to 20 on November 17 (BM), and at least 4 on November 30 (NA). One was seen at Edgewater Park on November 18 (EK).

Long-tailed Duck. One female was at Sims Park on October 30 (NA). One was at Rocky River Park on November 6 (PL). Latest report was one at HBSP on November 12 (RH).

Bufflehead. Common along the lake and many inland locations. Six were at HBSP on October 23 (RH). Seventy were at West Branch SP and 25 at Springfield Lake on November 12 (GBe). Eight were at Wellington Rsvr. on November 24 (SSn). Four were at HBSP on November 30 (RH).

Common Goldeneye. Earliest was five at HBSP November 1 (RH). At least seven were seen at Sims Park on November 3, 30 on November 12, and 10–15 on November 29 (NA). Three were seen at North Rsvr., Summit County, November 20–27 (GBe).

Hooded Merganser. Earliest were four at HBSP on October 26 and the highest count of 20 was also at HBSP on October 30 (RH). Eight–ten were at Sims Park on November 10 and four on November 21 (NA). Eight were at Gordon Park on November 22 (DJH). Two were at Sandy Ridge November 24 (TMR).

Common Merganser. Several reports; both the highest and earliest counts were five on October 24 at HBSP (RH).

Red-breasted Merganser. On October 13 one bird was at Wildwood Park (NA) and three at HBSP (RH). From there the numbers exploded to their typical counts: approx. 10,000 at Sims Park November 18 (NA), 5000 at Eastlake on November 16 (DJH), 7000 at HBSP November 12 and 4000 there on November 30 (RH).

Ruddy Duck. October and November had

high inland counts. Wellington Rsvr. had 900 on October 29 (RSH) and ~500 on November 24 (SSn). Mogadore Rsvr. had ~230 on October 15 (GBe). Earliest was one at HBSP on October 3 (RH).

Ring-necked Pheasant. On November 4 two were seen at Berlin Rsvr. and one at West Branch State Park. (GBe).

Wild Turkey. Three were reported from HBSP on September 29 (RH). One was at Ira Road October 16 (TMR).

Red-throated Loon. Two birds passed close to the beach on the afternoon of October 24 (JT) and single birds were noted on November 1 and 11 (RH, JT, EB). Two were seen from North Perry November 21 (JP).

Common Loon. Second-highest ever Mentor Headlands count occurred on November 20 with 778 Common Loons, 400+ loons alone noted between 9:00 AM and 9:45 AM after the passage of a squall (RH, JT). 200+ were seen from Rocky River Park on November 5, where only six were seen October 31 and one on November 23 (CC). One hundred seven were at Lorain on November 18 and inland 27 were at West Branch November 12 (GBe). The earliest report was one at HBSP on October 5 (RH).

Pied-billed Grebe. Thirty-seven were found at Nimisila Rsvr. on November 3 (GBe). Earliest report was two in the CVNP Pleasant Valley Rd. marsh on September 4 (DAC), and latest were eight on November 30 at HBSP (RH).

Horned Grebe. Earliest report was two at Sims Park on September 30 (NA). At Bradstreet Landing on November 5, 20 were seen (CC). 16 were at Sims Park on November 7 (NA). Six were at HBSP on November 30 (RH).

Red-necked Grebe. A bird in immature plumage was at the Gordon Park boat basin on November 16 (DJH) and November 20 (CC). One was seen from North Perry on November 21 (JP).

Eared Grebe. One was off North Perry November 5 (JP), another at Mentor Lagoons on November 30 (RH).

Double-crested Cormorant. Three hundred were seen from Perry Twp. Park on November 4 (CC). Summit Lake had 45 on October 9 (RSH); 150 were at Sims Park on October 16 (NA); 300 were found at Lorain Harbor on October 29 (RSH). A flyover of 55 birds was seen in the CVNP on September 3 (DAC). One was in the CVNP Pleasant Valley Rd. marsh on September 23 (DAC). One or two were seen at Shaker Lakes throughout September and October (LD).

American Bittern. One was at Dike 14 on September 24 (TMR), another at Chagrin River Park on November 21 (JT).

Least Bittern. Four or five were heard calling in the Jaite marsh on September 1 (DAC). Jerry Talkington spotted a lone Least Bittern in high water off Route 44 just south of HBSP on October 29. This is later than the previous latest date for a Least Bittern in the Cleveland Region, October 28 in 1962.

Great Blue Heron. Found everywhere, but most reports were one and two birds. Two were at Lorain Harbor on September 16 (CC). Between one and four were seen throughout the season at Ira Road (TMR). Two were at Black River Rsvn. on October 15 (CC). Highest count was 19 on November 14 at HBSP (RH).

Snowy Egret. An immature bird appeared briefly at Veterans Park on September 7 (JT).

Cattle Egret. A gentleman who works security at Hopkins Airport submitted a photograph of one to Tim Krynak for identification on September 26 (JL fide TK). Another was seen by multiple observers along Tamarac Blvd. in Willoughby from November 17 to 24 (RHu, many obs.). This is a first record for Lake County and also a new record late date for our region.

Green Heron. Five were at Ira Road on September 4 (TMR). On the same day three were seen at Station Road (DAC). On October 23 one was seen at North Chagrin Rsvn. – a very late date for this location (KM). One was seen on November 7, Towpath near Boston in the CVNP (HO et al.).

Black-crowned Night-heron. Six to 10 were at Shaker Lakes between September 1 and 10 (LD). A juvenile was seen at Ira Road on September 1 (GBe). Along the Cuyahoga River near downtown Cleveland at the Columbus Road bridge, Paula Lozano had her usual high numbers with 27 on November 1 (PL).

Turkey Vulture. HBSP had 50 on September 9 and on September 20 (RH). Elsewhere they were common in September and tapered off in October. The latest report was a single bird seen from the Towpath near Boston in the CVNP on October 26 by Hope Orr's group (HO et al.).

Osprey. One was seen at Shaker Lakes between September 3 and 12 (RR, BF, LD). Single birds were seen throughout September at HBSP with four on September 20 (RH). Two were seen at Mogadore Rsvr. October 1 (GBe).



Cattle Egret

Hopkins International Airport — 26 September, 2006

Photo by John Lewis

Bald Eagle. Many reports were made from along Lake Erie as well as in the CVNP. Earliest report was one adult seen at Nimisila Rsvr. on October 2 (RSH). An adult was seen at Chippewa Lake on November 23 (DKe) and another adult at Summit Lake on November 28 (GBe).

Northern Harrier. One was seen near I-90 and Rt. 611 in Avon on September 18 (CC). There were five sightings of single birds at HBSP from September 17 through November 18 (RH).

Sharp-shinned Hawk. At Ira Road one was seen September 18 and one on September 23; one was seen September 24 at Dike 14 (TMR). One was seen in Westlake on October 30 (CC). One was found at Gordon Park on November 24 (CC).

Cooper's Hawk. Single birds were seen at HBSP from September 3 through November 29 (RH). About 20 reports throughout the area were of single birds. Two birds were at Ira Road on September 18 and three were there on October 23 (TMR). Four were seen at Dike 14 on September 24 (TMR).

Red-shouldered Hawk. Several dozen sightings of single birds except either one or two were seen at Ira Road throughout the season (TMR).

Broad-winged Hawk. One was seen at Ira Road on September 11 (TMR).

Red-tailed Hawk. Single individuals and pairs were reported throughout the season.

Rough-legged Hawk. One was seen off of Hayes Road south of Rt. 87 in Geauga County on November 4 (DB). Another was seen

from Fairport Nursery Road on November 19 (JP).

American Kestrel. One was seen at HBSP on October 18 (RH). Two were seen at Station Road on September 23 (DAC). One to two have been spotted throughout the fall at the Richfield Coli-

seum site (many obs.). Two were seen at Tyler Blvd. in Mentor on November 26 (CC, TMR). One was seen at Gordon Park November 30 (HC).

Merlin. One was seen at HBSP almost daily from September 10 through October 26 (RH). One was noted at Edgewater Park on November 18 (EK). A probable male was in Lakeview Cemetery near Wade Chapel and the ponds on November 16, 23, 25 & 29. This may be the third year in a row that one wintered in Lakeview Cemetery (DJH). One was seen at Calvary Cemetery in Garfield Hts. on November 17 (PL, BF).

Peregrine Falcon. One was seen at Wildwood Park on September 14 (NA). One was observed at Dike 14 on September 24 (TMR). One was seen at HBSP September 30 (many obs.). One was seen at the Hilliard Road Bridge on November 7 (PL) and on November 15 (CC). One was seen at Lorain Harbor on November 16 (CC). Throughout the fall one has been seen perched on a high billboard next to I-480 where it crosses the Cuyahoga Valley and two were spotted there on November 23 (CW, SJ). One was spotted on November 24 at Dike 14 (GL). One was at Eastlake on November 29 (DJH).

Virginia Rail. One was at Ira Road on September 1 (GBE). In October, one or two were counted at Jaite (date not given) (GL).

Sora. Two were seen at Chagrin River Park on November 21 (JT). One was at Ira Road September 18 (TMR).

Common Moorhen. One adult and two juveniles were seen from Wilbeth Road in Akron on September 11 (GBE).

American Coot. Rob and Sandy Harlan found 110 at Nimisila Rsvr. on October 2 and 1100 at Wellington Rsvr. on October 29 (RSH); ~475 were observed at Nimisila Rsvr. on November 3 (GBE); ~700 were at Wellington Rsvr. on November 24 (SSn); 200 were at Sandy Ridge the same day (TMR). Earliest was one in the CVNP Pleasant Valley Rd. marsh on September 23 (DAC).

Sandhill Crane. Four were seen along Jug Road in Geauga Co. (three adults and one juvenile) on November 29 and 30 (TG, many obs.). Three more (including at least one juvenile) were seen along Aquila Road in Geauga County on November 30 (TG). The Sandy Ridge pair was last reported November 24 (TMR). One was at Ira Road in the CVNP on October 30 (TMR).



Photo by Tami Gingrich

Sandhill Cranes
Geauga County — 30 November, 2006

Black-bellied Plover. A single flyby was observed at HBSP on September 30 (GL). Single birds were seen at HBSP on October 16, 20 and November 5 (RH).

American Golden Plover. Two at HBSP on September 17 (RH). A rather worn individual spent the morning on Headlands Beach on the very late date of November 15 (RH, JT, LR).



Photo by Greg Cudworth

American Golden Plover
Headlands Beach State Park

Semipalmated Plover. Four were seen at HBSP on September 1 and one on September 23 (RH).

Killdeer. Fifty-three were seen at Cuyahoga Co. Airport on October 29 and 38 were seen there November 20 (NA). Latest were five observed at Gordon Park on November 22 and five flying over E. 72nd Street, Cleveland, on November 24 (DJH).

Spotted Sandpiper. Between one and two were seen throughout September at HBSP (RH). One was seen at Mogadore Rsvr. October 15 (GBe).

Solitary Sandpiper. Seven were seen on September 1 at the Key Bank marsh next to Interstate 480 in Cleveland (GL). Two were at HBSP on September 25 (RH). One was seen October 5 from the Towpath near Boston Twp. in the CVNP (HO et al.)

Greater Yellowlegs. One was at HBSP October 4 and 29 (RH). Two were at West Branch SP on November 12 (GBe).

Lesser Yellowlegs. One was seen September 15 and two on September 20 at HBSP (RH).

Ruddy Turnstone. One was seen at HBSP September 1 (RH).

Sanderling. They were seen at HBSP September 1 – November 1 with the highest count of 12 on September 15 (RH). Three were seen at Wildwood Park on September 28 (fide NA).

Semipalmated Sandpiper. Eight were seen at HBSP on September 21 and one on September 25 (RH).

Baird's Sandpiper. One was seen September 17 at HBSP (RH).

Pectoral Sandpiper. One was seen at HBSP on September 20 (RH).

Purple Sandpiper. One to two birds were noted from October 27 through November 18 either along the HBSP breakwater or moving westward (many obs.).



Photo by Greg Cudworth

Purple Sandpiper
Headlands Beach State Park

Dunlin. One was seen at HBSP September 28 (RH). At least 200 were seen from Perry Park on November 4 (CC, many obs).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper. One bird moved southward over two observers on Headlands Beach on September 16 (LR, RH).

American Woodcock. One was at HBSP on November 12 (PCh, EK, BWi).

Wilson's Snipe. On October 15 six were found at the Richfield Coliseum site in the CVNP (GL). The number reached 13 on October 22 (JB) and 12 on November 4 (DAC).

Red Phalarope. Larry Rosche spotted a westward moving Red Phalarope on a windy October 29 at HBSP (fide RH).

Laughing Gull. A first-winter bird appeared at Mentor Lagoons and later at the west end of Headlands Beach on September 15 (RH).

Franklin's Gull. A first-winter bird remained faithful to the west beach of HBSP from September 12 to 19 (RH).

Little Gull. One adult was seen from Lakeshore Rsvn. in North Perry on October 29 (JP).

Bonaparte's Gull. An estimated 2,100 were seen at HBSP on November 3, which also had the earliest report of 70 on September 3 (RH). On November 4 ~250 were seen at Berlin Rsvr. and ~150 at West Branch SP (GBe). About 300 were seen at Eastlake on November 16 (DJH). Also seen were 50 on October 31 from Rocky River Park and about 2,000 on November 26 at E. 72nd Street, Cleveland. (CC).

Ring-billed Gull. Roughly 10,000 were seen at Lorain Harbor on November 18 (GBe), while about 1,000 were reported from Rocky River Park on October 31 (CC). HBSP had hundreds through the season with 1,200 on November 9 (RH). One hundred ninety were seen inland at Ira Road on November 20 (TMR).

Herring Gull. Besides the double-digit counts inland and along the lake throughout the fall, peak numbers were 200 at HBSP on November 3 (RH), 150 were at Lorain Harbor on September 16 (CC), and about 200 were at Eastlake on November 16 (DJH).

Thayer's Gull. An adult was at the Eastlake Power Plant on November 19 (JP).

Lesser Black-backed Gull. An adult was seen at Eastlake Power Plant on November 19 (JP). Three were seen there on November 21, one adult and two second-years (JP).

Great Black-backed Gull. One was seen at HBSP on September 11, five at Lorain Harbor on November 16, and three at Eastlake PP on November 26 (CC). Seven were seen at HBSP on November 30 (RH).



Photo by Bill Deisinger

Black-legged Kittiwake

Cleveland, East 72nd Street – 23 November 2006

Black-legged Kittiwake. Larry Rosche found a first-winter bird at Fairport Harbor on November 5 (fide RH). An immature was at the lakefront at E. 72nd St. between November 23 and 27 (many obs.).

Caspian Tern. HBSP had two on September 1 and 12 were seen September 16 (RH). Two were found at Shaker Lakes on September 22 (LD). One was seen on November 26 at Lorain Harbor (CC).

Black Tern. Two were seen on September 17 at HBSP (RH).

Common Tern. Over 650 encompassed a major movement past HBSP on September 3 (RH). Ten were seen at Lorain Harbor on October 29 (RSH). Two were at HBSP November 11 (RH).

Forster's Tern. 10 were seen at Lorain Harbor on October 29 (RSH).

Pomarine Jaeger. It was a jaeger invasion year as attested by one to two im-

matures that were present on several dates in November. First noted on October 24 at HBSP (many obs.). One was seen from Perry Park on November 4 (many obs.). On November 5 one was at HBSNP (many obs.). One was at Perry Twp. Park on November 17 (BM). The last report was one at HBSP November 29 (RH).

Parasitic Jaeger. This jaeger also had a good year — one or two immature and

sub-adults which frequented the HBSP area November 3 to November 6 (RH, JT, LR, KM). One was seen from Perry Park on November 4 (many obs.). One was seen at Perry Twp. Park on November 12 (PCh, EK, BWi), two on November 17 (BM) and one was seen there on November 18 (KM,

JS). A sub-adult was at Avon Lake on November 19 (JB).

Rock Pigeon. Thirty-five were seen at Ira Road on September 23 (TMR).

Mourning Dove. Sixty were seen at HBSP on September 9 (RH); 36 were at Ira Road on October 2; 37 seen there on November 13, and 34 on November 27 (TMR).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo. One each was seen on September 4 and September 11 at Ira Road (TMR). The latest was a Headlands bird on September 22 (RH).

Black-billed Cuckoo. One was in the CVNP on September 4 (DAC). One was seen on September 14 and one on September 28 from the Towpath near Boston in the CVNP (HO et al.).

Eastern Screech-Owl. HBSP had three birds on September 7, where usually one was seen throughout the season (RH).

Great Horned Owl. One was at HBSP

on September 4 (RH). One was seen in Westlake on October 8 (CC). One was seen November 5 at the SW corner of the Button Road field in Bedford Rsvn. (SL). Headlands had one on November 14 (RH).

Barred Owl. One was seen September 13 and one seen November 8, both at Shaker Lakes (LD). One was seen at Ira Road on September 4 (TMR).

Northern Saw-whet Owl. Larry Richardson discovered a roosting bird on property just south of the Coast Guard Beach at HBSP on October 22 (LRi, RH, JT).

Common Nighthawk. One was at Jaite on September 1 and seven were there on September 2 (DAC). Twenty-seven were seen at Cascade Valley MP (Akron) on September 8 (GBE). Two were seen at Shaker Lakes on September 16 (LD). Two were seen at Wilbeth Road, Akron on September 25 (GBE).

Chimney Swift. A new late date for the region when Bryn Roberts saw five flying over Jackson Field in South Chagrin Rsvn. on November 6. The previous late date was November 3, 1983. Otherwise they were well-reported. Two were seen on October 29 at North Chagrin Rsvn., a late date for this location (KM). Approximately 100 streamed past Shaker Lakes Nature Center on October 29 (HC).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Three were observed at HBSP on September 1 (RH). Four were seen at Ira Road on September 4 (TMR). One was at Dike 14 on September 24 (TMR). One was in Westlake September 17 and one at Gordon Park September 24 (CC).

Belted Kingfisher. Seen throughout the season on most reports. Highest was between one and five at Ira Road throughout the season (TMR).

Red-headed Woodpecker. Only reports were one to three birds at HBSP September 4 through 14 (RH), 12 were seen at Ira Road on September 23 and two were seen there November 27 (TMR).

Notes on AOU's Recent Sequence Changes

by Fred Dinkelbach

The 47th Supplement of the Check-list of the American Ornithologists' Union, the order that is used in the *Cleveland Bird Calendar*, was published July 2006 (The Auk 123(3):926-936). There were many changes made, mostly based on findings from ongoing DNA sequence studies. The following are the changes that affect our region.

The first five species of sandpiper are now arranged:

1. Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*)
2. Solitary Sandpiper (*Tringa solitaria*)
3. Greater Yellowlegs (*T. melanoleuca*)
4. Willet (*T. semipalmata*, formerly *Catoptrophorus semipalmatus*)
5. Lesser Yellowlegs (*T. flavipes*)

The Terns have the following new sequence (new genus assignment is underlined):

1. Least Tern (*Sternula* *antillarum*)
2. Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne* *caspia*)
3. Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*)
4. Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*)
5. Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*)
6. Royal Tern (*Thalasseus* *maximus*)

Jaegers and Skuas are now placed in their own family, Stercorariidae, and placed between Laridae (Gulls, Terns) and Alcidae (Murre, Puffins, etc.), to which they are now considered to be more closely related.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo now is placed before Black-billed.

Bridge, E. S., A. W. Jones, and A. Baker. 2005 A phylogenetic framework of the terns (Sternini) inferred from MtDNA sequences: Implications for Taxonomy and Plumage Evolution. *Molecular Phylogenetics and Evolution* 35: 459-469.

Ref. <http://www.aou.org/checklist>

Red-bellied Woodpecker. Most reports sighted multiple birds throughout the fall. Highest was 11 on September 28 at HBSP (RH). Four were seen on September 7, five on October 19, and two on November 30 from the Towpath near Boston in the CVNP (HO et al.).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. Six were at HBSP on September 16 and 20 were reported from there on September 27 (RH). One to three were reported from many locations in our area. Either one or two were seen at Ira Road between September 25 and November 6 (TMR).

Downy Woodpecker. Commonly seen everywhere; 12 were seen at Ira Road on September 23 (TMR). Three were seen on September 7, 10 on October 26, and 9 on November 30 from the Towpath near Boston in the CVNP (HO et al.).

Hairy Woodpecker. One to two were seen at HBSP September 1 through October 20 with three seen October 4 (RH). Two were seen at Ira Road on September 23 and on October 2 (TMR). One was seen on November 30 from the Towpath near Boston in the CVNP (HO et al.).

Northern Flicker. Seven were seen on September 7 and one on November 30 from the Towpath near Boston in the CVNP (HO et al.). Fifteen were at HBSP on September 30 (RH). Ten were seen on October 23 at Wildwood Park (NA).

Pileated Woodpecker. Counts were of one and two individuals throughout the area. Two were at Forest Hill Park on September 7 (LD). Two were found at Ira Road on September 4, October 9 and October 30, and one on November 20 (TMR). Highest count was six along a

three-mile stretch of the hike-and-bike trail in Northern Summit County on November 18 (SJ, CW).

Olive-sided Flycatcher. Earliest was one at HBSP September 1 (RH). A singing bird was found at Shaker Lakes on September 3 (RR). Almost a dozen reports, all single birds except for two found at Ira Road on September 18 (TMR). One was observed on September 24 late in the day just south of Station Road on the railroad tracks (DAC, FL).

Eastern Wood-Pewee. Seen in small numbers throughout September. Thirteen were at HBSP on September 1 (RH). Seven were seen at Akron's Firestone Metro Park on September 1 and 7 at Twinsburg's Liberty Park on September 4 (RSH). The latest was one seen October 10 at Wildwood Park (NA).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. High counts were four on September 1, 12 and 22 at HBSP (RH). One was seen at Firestone Metro Park on September 6 (RSH). On September 16 one was found at Erie Street Cemetery (BF, PL, CS). On September 17 one was observed at West Creek Rsvn. in Parma (GL). On October 1 one was seen at Wendy Park (GL).

Acadian Flycatcher. One was at HBSP on September 20 (RH).

Willow Flycatcher. The latest were two at HBSP on September 30 (RH).

Least Flycatcher. Seen September 1 through October 5 at HBSP with reports of mostly one or two, but seven were seen September 12 and 22 (RH). At Firestone Metro Park five were seen on September 1 and five were again seen on September 6 (RSH). Two were seen September 22 at Wildwood Park (NA).

Eastern Phoebe. Common. Five were seen at Ira Road on September 11, and the latest there was one on October 30 (TMR). One was seen at Wildwood Park on October 29 (NA). Seven were at HBSP on October 27 (RH).

Great Crested Flycatcher. One was seen on September 11 at Wildwood

Park (NA). Another was at HBSP on September 14 (RH).

White-eyed Vireo. Several reports, all along the lakefront. One was seen September 9 and another on September 21 at Wildwood Park (NA). HBSP had single sightings through September 23 (many obs.).

Yellow-throated Vireo. Three were seen at Ira Road on September 11, and the latest report was one there on September 23 (TMR). One was seen on September 14 from the Towpath near Boston in the CVNP (HO et al.).

Blue-headed Vireo. Twelve were seen at Shaker Lakes on September 29 (LD). One was found on September 16 at Erie Street Cemetery (BF, PL, CS). One was observed at HBSP on September 30 (FL) and again there on October 6 (RR). Latest was one seen on November 9 from the Towpath near Boston in the CVNP (HO et al.).

Warbling Vireo. Six were counted at HBSP on September 12 (RH). Four were seen at Ira Road on September 11 (TMR). Latest report was one on September 26 at HBSP (RH).

Philadelphia Vireo. Many scattered reports. HBSP had two on September 5 and six on September 16 (RH). Two were seen on September 16 at Lake Medina (GL). On September 16 one was found at Erie Street Cemetery (BF, PL, CS). One was seen October 4 at Wildwood Park (NA).

Red-eyed Vireo. Sixteen were seen at HBSP on September 9 (RH). The Romitos had six at Ira Road on September 4 and one there on September 25 (TMR). One was seen September 25 at Wildwood Park (NA). One was at HBSP October 2 (RH).

Blue Jay. Seen throughout the season, high counts were 29 seen at Ira Road on September 23 (TMR) and 25 at HBSP on September 29 (RH). Five were seen mobbing a Red-tailed Hawk on November 29 in Westlake (CC).

American Crow. Good numbers from

the entire area throughout the season. HBSP had 50 on September 15 (RH). Ira Road had 53 on September 11, 66 on October 23, and over 20 on many dates throughout the season (TMR).

Horned Lark. There were three at the Richfield Coliseum site on November 5 (DAC). Three were also seen at HBSP on November 12 (RH).

Purple Martin. The only records were from HBSP with 60 on September 1, 300 on September 5, 600 on September 6 ,finishing the year with one on September 22 (RH).

Tree Swallow. Thirty were at HBSP on September 2 and 50 on September 9 (RH). One was at Ira Road on September 23 (TMR) and seven at LaDue October 26 (RR).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow. With few reports, the year finished with two at HBSP on September 29 (RH).

Bank Swallow. The only report was nine at Ira Road on September 4 (TMR).

Cliff Swallow. One was reported from Berlin Rsvr. on September 2 (GBE).

Cave Swallow. A lone individual was noted over the pond in the Headlands Dunes Nature Preserve on the warm morning of November 30 (RH). The bird circled the pond area three times, climbed above the pond and disappeared.

Barn Swallow. Seventy were noted at HBSP on September 9 and the last were two there on September 13 (RH).

Black-capped Chickadee. Well-reported; 15 were at Ira Road on October 2 and on November 20 (TMR).

Tufted Titmouse. Seen everywhere in numbers usually greater than one. Eight were seen at Ira Road on November 27 (TMR).

Red-breasted Nuthatch. Earliest report was one on September 28 at HBSP (RH) and one on September 30 at Wildwood Park (NA). One was seen on October 12 at North Chagrin Rsvn. (KM). One was

seen at Horseshoe Pond on October 16 (CC). One stayed near a Grafton feeder all of November (CP). Last seen at Headlands were two on November 22 (RH).

White-breasted Nuthatch. One or two birds were seen in all reports throughout the season. Eight were found on October 2 and October 23 at Ira Road (TMR).

Brown Creeper. Three were seen at Liberty Park on September 4 (presumably locals rather than migrants) (RSH). Eight were tallied at HBSP on October 5 (RH). Four were seen September 30 and two were seen November 6 at Wildwood Park (NA).

Carolina Wren. The Harlans found one at Rocky River Rsvn. on September 13, noting that it sang a rough rendition of a Gray Catbird song for about five minutes (RSH). Highest numbers were 12 at Ira Road on October 9 and November 13 (TMR) and 12 at HBSP on September 16 (RH).

House Wren. Thirteen were seen at HBSP on September 29 (RH). A late bird was seen at Wendy Park on November 30 (CC).

Winter Wren. Many reports from one to four birds throughout the area. Earliest was one was seen at HBSP on September 12 (RH). Highest was 100 on October 5 at HBSP (RH). Latest reports were on October 26 where one was found at Erie Street Cemetery (BF). One was found near Dike 14 on November 24 (GL).

Sedge Wren. Jerry Talkington found a single Sedge Wren in Headlands Dunes Nature Preserve on September 29 (JT).

Marsh Wren. Two were at Jaite on October 1; one was seen there on October 9 (DAC). One or two birds were reported at HBSP through October 19 (RH).

Golden-crowned Kinglet. All locations reported these busy little birds which had their highest numbers the end of September and the start of October. The earliest was one on September 21 at HBSP but with 90 there on September

30 and 110 on October 5 (RH). Latest sighting was on November 27 where one was seen in the Mayfield Village Wetland (FL).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet. First seen on September 7 at HBSP with one bird, but the numbers grew to 120 on September 30 and 110 on October 20 (RH). Twenty-plus were seen October 20 at Wildwood Park, and the latest report was one there on November 19 (NA). Fred Losi watched one on Fernwood Trail at Seiberling Nature Realm in Summit County on October 29 eating the remains from Woolly Aphids (FL).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. Not many sightings. One was seen on September 7 from the Towpath near Boston in the CVNP (HO et al.). Last reported was one on October 5 at HBSP (RH).

Eastern Bluebird. The CVNP led the sightings; 49 were seen on October 26 from a one-mile stretch of the Towpath near Boston in the CVNP, where 18 were seen on September 7 and six were seen November 30 (HO et al.). Four were seen at the Richfield Coliseum site on October 16 (CC). Two were at Sandy Ridge on November 24 (TMR).

Veery. HBSP had four on September 1 and one on September 15 (RH). There was one at Ira Road on September 4 (TMR).

Gray-cheeked Thrush. As many reports as any other thrush this season. One was seen September 9 at Wildwood Park (NA). Three were at HBSP on September 21 and 22 (RH). Two fed on pokeberries in Dick and Jean Hoffman's yard in Cleveland Heights on September 26 (DJH). One was seen in the North Quarry in Bedford Rsvn. on October 21 (FL). One was seen at Seiberling Nature Realm on October 29 (FL).

Swainson's Thrush. Earliest were two at HBSP on September 5 (RH). Ten were seen at Firestone MP on September 11 (RSH). Ten were also seen September 21 at Wildwood Park (NA). Three were seen feeding on the same pokeberries in Cleveland Heights on September 25 as the Gray-cheeked

Thrush did the day after (DJH). A late bird was seen at Shaker Lakes on November 3 (LD).

Hermit Thrush. Twenty-five were seen at HBSP on October 27 (RH). Earliest was one there on September 22 (RH). On October 26 an estimated 20 were found at Erie Street Cemetery (BF). One was at Ira Road on November 20 (TMR). One was seen November 18 at Wildwood Park (NA).

Wood Thrush. One was seen on September 4 at Ira Road (TMR), and another on September 21 at Wildwood Park (NA). Latest was on September 22 where one was noted at HBSP (RH).

American Robin. Seventy were at HBSP on September 16 (RH); 63 were seen on September 14 from a one-mile stretch of the Towpath near Boston in the CVNP (HO et al.). The Romitos had 60 on October 16 at Ira, where they had counts over 10 throughout September and October (TMR).

Gray Catbird. Mostly multiple birds were reported. Highest was 20 seen at Firestone Metro Park on September 11 (RSH); 15 were seen at Ira Road on September 11 (TMR). The latest report was two at Ira Road on October 16 (TMR) and four at HBSP October 18 (RH).

Northern Mockingbird. The high count was four seen at E. 33rd and King Sts., Cleveland, on September 2 (DAC). Besides the slowly growing lakefront and urban sightings, on September 17 one was seen at West Creek Rsvn. (GL). One was at Jaite on September 27 (DAC) and another there on October 2 (FL). Kevin Metcalf had his first Chardon bird on November 22 (KM). One was seen in Mentor on November 26 (TMR).

Brown Thrasher. HBSP had birds through October 3 with a high of seven on September 12 (RH). Nancy Anderson had one on October 12 at Wildwood Park (NA).

European Starling. As numerous as always. ~100 were seen at Avon Power

Numbers – Twenty-two species of warblers on September 16th, 778 Common Loons on November 20th, 650 Common Terns on September 3rd, 125 Green-winged Teal on October 24th, 60 Blackpoll Warblers on September 22nd – tell only part of the story of Fall 2006 migration in the Headlands Beach / Mentor Marsh State Nature Preserve areas. Rarities, such as Ross's Goose, Snowy Egret, Cave Swallow, just to name a few, added extra excitement to the inexorable passage of birds through the season. But to me, a woodland trail enveloped by brightly plumaged fall warblers (take a look, they really are bright!), an overgrown field crisscrossed by brush-colored sparrows, a river mouth awash in the soft-tone whites and grays of a thousand gulls, all reveal annual and mysteriously immutable journeys to which we observers are witness only too briefly and most often too casually. I can only hope to be party to many more migrations to come.

Plant on September 16 (CC); 50-plus were seen October 9 at Cuyahoga Co. Airport (NA); 50-plus were seen at Sims Park on October 19 (NA). Twenty were in Westlake on November 12 (CC); 49 were at Ira Road on October 30 (TMR).

American Pipit. On September 16 one was noted at HBSP (RH). On October 1 there were 40 flybys at Wendy Park (GL). On November 10 at HBSP 20 were seen (RH). On November 18, 15 were seen at Perry Twp. Park (KM).

Cedar Waxwing. 278 were observed September 23 during the CVNP census during five hours of observation in the area of Canal Visitor Center and Terra Vista (FL). One hundred fifteen were counted on September 14 from a one-mile stretch of the Towpath near Boston in the CVNP, where 30 were seen on September 7 but only one on November 24 (HO et al.). Ira Road had big flocks throughout the season: 90 September 4, 100 September 18, 140 October 16, and 80 on November 6 (TMR).

Golden-winged Warbler. Single birds were found at Mentor Lagoons on September 7 (RH, SW, JT) and along the Fisherman's Path at Headlands Beach on September 9 (JT, SW).

Tennessee Warbler. Mostly single birds counted at HBSP from September 1 to October 15 (RH). Two were at Ira Road September 4 (TMR). One was seen October 14 at Wildwood Park (NA).

Orange-crowned Warbler. Our area had many reports of single birds. HBSP had one on September 23 (RH). Gabe Leidy on October 15 had four at Dike 14 (GL). Three were seen October 29 at Wildwood Park (NA). One was at Kendall Park in the CVNP on November 5 (DAC).

Nashville Warbler. Six were seen on September 1 at HBSP (RH). Two were in Sagamore Hills on September 3 (DAC). One banded bird was found at Rocky River Rsvn. on September 13 (RSH); 12 were found September 22 at Wildwood Park (NA). HBSP's first November Nashville Warbler was located along the Coast Guard Road on November 4 (RH); 15 were seen there on September 29 (RH).

Northern Parula. Two were seen September 11, two on September 17, and one on October 8 at Wildwood Park (NA). Five were at HBSP on September 30 (RH).

Yellow Warbler. Seen everywhere with mostly single birds reported. Two were seen on September 21 at Wildwood Park (NA), seven at HBSP on September 16 (RH), and the latest was one at HBSP on October 18 (LR, RH).

Chestnut-sided Warbler. Several locations. HBSP had the earliest on September 1 with five, also on September 11 with eight and on October 6 with one (RH). Two were seen on September 21 at Wildwood Park and one at Sims Park on October 8 (NA).

Magnolia Warbler. Most all reports included at least one. Thirty were seen at HBSP on September 1 (RH); ~15 were seen in Sagamore Hills on September 3 (DAC). Fifteen were seen on September 22 at Wildwood Park (NA). The latest were one at Wildwood Park October 19 (NA) and another at HBSP on October 22 (RH).

Cape May Warbler. One was seen September 5 at HBSP and 28 were seen there September 22 (RH). Most reports were of more than one bird. Seven were seen on September 21 and one on September 30 at Wildwood Park (NA). One was at Dike 14 on September 24 (TMR). Latest was one at HBSP on October 13 (RH).

Black-throated Blue Warbler. Several locations. HBSP had seven September 1, where six were seen September 30 (RH). A male and a female were seen October 16 at Sims Park (NA). Jim McConnor discovered a male at Veteran's Park on November 29 (JMCr, JT). The bird remained until the next day.

Yellow-rumped Warbler. There were many high counts the end of September and beginning of October; 120 were counted at HBSP on October 4 (RH). One hundred-plus were seen at Shaker Lakes on September 29 (LD); 80-plus were seen at Summit Lake on September 30 (GBe). Earliest were 10 at HBSP on September 7 and latest was one there November 21 (RH).

Black-throated Green Warbler. Earliest was two birds on September 1 at HBSP, which also had the highest count at 10 on September 22 (RH). Many sightings everywhere, the latest reported was one seen at HBSP on October 22 (LR).

Blackburnian Warbler. A dozen reports. Earliest reports were seven at HBSP on September 1 (RH) and one in Sagamore Hills on September 3 (DAC). The highest count of eight was on September 22 at HBSP (RH). Latest was one seen October 8 at Sims Park (NA).

Pine Warbler. Two were still singing at Mogadore Rsvr. on October 1 (GBe). Also two resident males were still singing at Nimisila Rsvr. on October 2 (RSH).

Prairie Warbler. The only report was a first-fall male at Summit Lake on September 7 (GBe).

Palm Warbler. Seen everywhere, mostly single birds. HBSP had one on September 6 (RH). Four were there on September 16 (RH). One was seen October 12 at Wildwood Park (NA) and one on October 19 at HBSP (RH).

Bay-breasted Warbler. HBSP had the earliest on September 1 with five birds (RH). One was seen September 9 at Wildwood Park (NA). One was at Dike 14 on September 24 (TMR). One was at

Ira Road on October 2 (TMR).

Blackpoll Warbler. Earliest was one at HBSP on September 1 (RH); 60 were seen there on September 22 (RH), but most reports were one to three birds, usually along the lake. Twenty-five-plus were found on September 22 at Wildwood Park (NA). One was at Dike 14 on September 24 (TMR). One was seen at Jaite on October 1 (FL). The latest report was on October 16 with one at HBSP (RH).

Black-and-white Warbler. Most reports were along the lakefront. Earliest were eight on September 1 at HBSP (RH). Three were seen September 9 and one on September 26 at Wildwood Park (NA).

American Redstart. Only reported from two locations; 13 at HBSP on September 1; 15 there on September 12, and one on October 15 (RH). Two were seen September 9, 10-plus on September 22, and one on October 5 at Wildwood Park (NA).

Ovenbird. Three were seen September 1 at HBSP (RH). One was seen on September 13, two on September 21, and one on September 25 at Wildwood Park (NA). Latest was one at HBSP on September 30 (RH).

Northern Waterthrush. Two were seen at HBSP on September 23 (RH).

Louisiana Waterthrush. One was seen at HBSP on September 1 (RR).

Connecticut Warbler. One was at HBSP on September 10 (RH). One was found along the fisherman's path at HBSP on September 10 (JT, SW) and at Mentor Lagoons on September 18 (RH).

Mourning Warbler. A late-date record was broken on November 24 by Gabe Leidy at Dike 14. He writes, "Given the time of year, I gave MacGillivray's very serious consideration, but the eye-ring was quite narrow and barely broken... Everything else seemed consistent with Mourning. It was an adult female." The previous late date was November 2, 1985. Other sightings include one observed on September 4 at Dike 14 (GL)

and two were at HBSP on September 22 (RH).

Common Yellowthroat. Eleven were seen on September 7 from the Towpath near Boston in the CVNP (HO et al.). Five were seen September 9, seven on September 13, and one on October 20 at Wildwood Park (NA). One was seen at HBSP on October 22 (LR).

Hooded Warbler. Six were found in Hampton Hills Metro Park in Summit County on September 4 (FL). HBSP had one on October 5 (RH).

Wilson's Warbler. Eleven were at Headlands on September 1, where numbers ran as high as 23 on September 12 (RH). One was seen on September 11, three on September 17, and two on September 22 at Wildwood Park (NA). On October 21, one male was seen at HBSP, a late date for that area (KM).

Canada Warbler. Five were at HBSP on September 1 (RH), otherwise singles were seen throughout the month until September 14 at Wildwood Park (NA) and September 26 at HBSP (RH).

Scarlet Tanager. One was seen on September 22 and another on September 26 at Wildwood Park (NA). Two were seen at Wendy Park on September 30 (CC).

Eastern Towhee. Three were at Ira Road October 2 and October 23 (TMR). Several single reports from around the area with the latest of one at Eastlake along the treatment plant road on November 16 (DJH) and one at HBSP on November 19 (RH).

American Tree Sparrow. Three were seen on October 19 and 12 on November 30 from the Towpath near Boston in the CVNP (HO et al.). A single bird was North Chagrin Rsvn's first for the year on October 25 (KM). Between 400-500 were heard giving their night flight calls overnight November 18-19 in Cleveland Heights (PCh). HBSP had 25 on November 14-15 (RH).

Chipping Sparrow. Twenty-five were found at Gordon Park (Dike 14) on September 18 (RSH); 14 were seen in a

Pepper Pike yard on October 21 (RR). On October 26 two were seen at Erie Street Cemetery (BF). Latest report was two in Sagamore Hills on November 18 (CW, SJ).

Clay-colored Sparrow. One bird remained in and around the Headlands Dunes Nature Preserve from October 30 through November 1 (RH, JT, JMCr).

Field Sparrow. Seven were seen at HBSP on October 16 (RH). Three were seen on October 20 at Wildwood Park (NA). Three were seen near Stone House in Liberty Park in Twinsburg on October 26 (FL). Two were found on November 6 at Wildwood Park (NA).

Vesper Sparrow. On October 15, one was seen at the Richfield Coliseum site in the CVNP (GL). Four were at HBSP on October 25 and two on October 30 (RH).

Lark Sparrow. On October 15, Bryn Roberts found one at the Richfield Coliseum site, seen also by Gabe Leidy (BR, GL). This is the first record for Summit County.

Savannah Sparrow. Single birds were seen at HBSP from September 25 through November 1 (RH).

Le Conte's Sparrow. On October 15, one was found by Gabe Leidy at the Richfield Coliseum site and again located there on October 22 (GL, JB). On September 30 one bird in first-fall plumage was seen at Dike 14 during the Sparrow Symposium field trip (KM, many obs.). This furtive grassland inhabitant was also found in the Headlands Dunes Nature Preserve on October 18 remaining in a little bush for five minutes (RH, JT).

Fox Sparrow. Earliest was one on October 4 at Erie Street Cemetery (BF). Most reports were of one or two birds within a few miles of Lake Erie late October into November. Highest count was on November 5 when five were seen at Jaite (DAC). On November 12 two were heard calling and were seen south of Jaite at dusk (FL). One was seen on November 13 at Wildwood Park (NA) and two at Ira Road on the same

day (TMR).

Song Sparrow. Seen everywhere. Some high counts were 50 at HBSP on October 25 (RH); 12 were seen on October 30 at Wildwood Park (NA). On October 26 an estimated 20 were seen at Erie Street Cemetery (BF).

Lincoln's Sparrow. First of the season was one at HBSP September 7 (RH). One was at Ira Road September 18 (TMR). Five were seen at HBSP on September 29 (RH). Three were seen at Jaite on October 2 (FL). On October 26 one was found at Erie Street Cemetery (BF), one at HBSP (RH), and one at Wildwood Park (NA).

Swamp Sparrow. HBSP had the highest count of 17 on October 18 (RH). Eight were seen October 15 at Jaite (DAC); 10 on October 19 were seen from the Towpath near Boston in the CVNP (HO et al.). One was seen on November 18 at Wildwood Park (NA).

White-throated Sparrow. The earliest was one seen September 11 at Wildwood Park (NA). 250 were seen on October 1 at Dike 14 (GL) and 200 were at HBSP on October 5 (RH). One-hundred-plus were seen at Shaker Lakes on September 29 (LD); 50-60-plus were counted October 20 at Wildwood Park (NA) and 30 were at Ira Road on October 30 (TMR).

White-crowned Sparrow. First for the season was one on September 22 at HBSP (RH), with 120 seen at Dike 14 on October 15 (GL). Counts ranged into the high double digits through October. On November 14 a first year individual was seen by the train station at Station Road (FL).

Dark-eyed Junco. Earliest report was one at Dike 14 on September 18 (RSH) with 130-plus seen on October 23 at Wildwood Park (NA), and the same count at HBSP on October 27 (RH).

Lapland Longspur. Fifteen were seen at HBSP on October 31 (RH). On November 24 one was seen at Edgewater Park (GL).

Snow Bunting. First reported appear-

ance were four on October 25 at HBSP (RH); 120 seen at Perry Park on November 12 (PCh, EK, BWi) and 200 at HBSP on November 1 (RH).

Northern Cardinal. Twenty-five were seen at HBSP on October 4 (RH). Everyone had several to report.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak. At least five were seen in Sagamore Hills on September 3 (DAC). Single counts throughout the region, with three at HBSP on September 21 and 22 (RH). Ira Road had two on September 11 and 18 (TMR). Latest was one at HBSP October 13 (RH).

Indigo Bunting. Mostly seen throughout September at HBSP (RH), latest were two females reported from Cleveland Heights on October 31 (PKr).

Bobolink. One was reported from HBSP on September 8 (RH).

Red-winged Blackbird. An estimated 3,500 were observed flying overhead over a 10-minute period just before dusk on September 26 at Jaite (FL); 1,300 seen in Twinsburg October 26 (FL) and 11 on November 30 from the Towpath near Boston in the CVNP (HO et al.) was the latest report.

Eastern Meadowlark. On October 4, 12 were seen at the Richfield Coliseum site, CVNP (GL). Six were seen there October 16; five on October 25 (CC). Three were seen there November 5 (DAC).

Rusty Blackbird. Many big flocks, with 1,400 seen flying over Jaite at dusk on October 8 and 850 again there on October 2 (FL). Eighty were observed on September 19 in Valley View (FL), 24 at Ira Road on October 16 and 30 were seen there November 13 (TMR). The latest was one at HBSP on November 15 (RH).

Common Grackle. Countless thousands roosted in the HBSP marshes in November (RH). A flock of 850 moved through the area around the Scenic Overlook in Bedford Rsvn. on October 21 (FL), while 450 were seen at Ira Road on October 16 and 117 seen there on November 13 (TMR). Two hundred-

plus were seen at North Chagrin MP on October 11 (LD).

Brown-headed Cowbird. The only report was four seen at Ira Road on October 9 (TMR).

Baltimore Oriole. Latest was one at the Rocky River Nature Center's suet feeder on November 9 (TK). One was observed on September 3 at Cascade Locks on the Towpath Trail in Summit County (FL). Two were at Ira Road September 4 (TMR).

House Finch. Reported everywhere. Highest were 18 at HBSP on November 28 (RH).

Common Redpoll. One at HBSP on November 1 (JT fide RH), there was also a single flyby on November 5 at HBSNP (KM).

Pine Siskin. The single sighting for the season was on October 18 at HBSP (JT).

American Goldfinch. Very common. 20 were seen November 28 at HBSP (RH). Numbers between 6 and 30 were seen throughout the season at Ira Road (TMR).

House Sparrow. One hundred fifty were seen at Carlisle Rsvn. on October 1 (CC).

Spring 2006 Exotic Species



Photo by Judy Semroc

Anhinga

Singer Lake Wetlands, Summit and Stark County Line — June 26, 2006

We regret the printed image quality of Judy Semroc's photograph of the Anhinga which she found in Summit County that appeared in the summer 2006 issue. Here is the photograph, with our apologies to Judy.

Population Trends of the Four Most Common Warblers in Summit County

by Dwight Chasar

The Greater Akron Audubon Society has conducted a Summit Co summer bird count for the last 28 years. Where the numbers justify it, I try to look at trends in the populations of various species based on these data (Chasar 2004). This article covers the four most common warblers that nest in Summit Co: Yellow Warbler (YWAR), Common Yellowthroat (COYE), Hooded Warbler (HOWA), and Blue-winged Warbler (BWVA). As usual, I plot the birds/ party hour vs. year of the count using Excel and let the program determine a linear trend line. That graphic is shown below.

The plots show both relative densities and population trends for the four species over the 28 years. Clearly, the YWAR and COYE show nearly the same density while the HOWA and BWVA show similar densities. This is demonstrated in the mean values. The mean of a series of numbers is the value above and below which there are an equal number of scatter points. Thus, for the former two warblers, about 1 individual is encountered per hour of field observation, while for the latter two warblers about 1 individual is encountered per 4 hours of field observation.

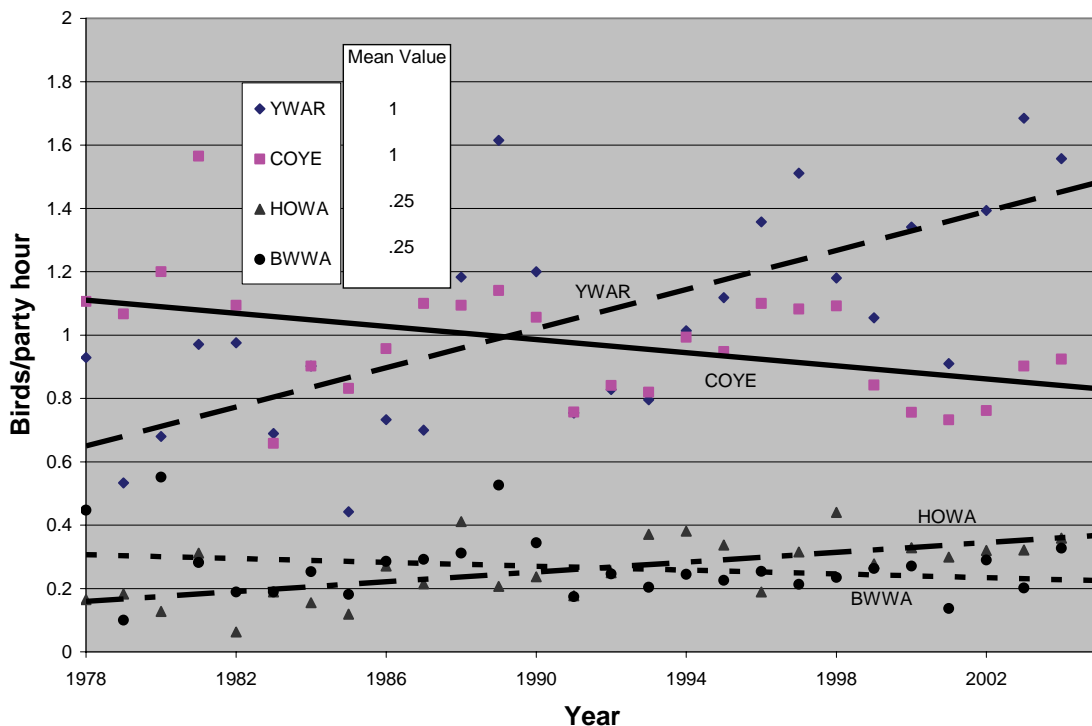
Interestingly, while YWAR and COYE show similar densities, the population trend is increasing for the former and decreasing for the latter. This probably reflects an increase in appropriate habitat, e.g., farm field succession, for the Yellow and a loss of habitat, e.g., wet areas, for the Yellowthroat. For Ohio in general, the population trend is up for both (Earnst 1996).

The population trends for HOWA and BWVA are less definitive but one can at least conclude that the populations appear fairly constant although the BWVA may be decreasing. For Ohio, both species show increasing population trends (Earnst 1996).

Chasar, D. 2004. Counting Birds. Cleveland Bird Calendar, 100(2):32.

Earnst, S.L. and B.A. Andres. 1996. Population trends of breeding birds of Ohio. Ohio Biol. Surv. Misc. Cont. No. 3.

Population Trends for Four Most Common Warblers in Summit Co



New Volunteer Effort at CMNH

by Dr. Andrew W. Jones, curator

During my talk presented to the Kirtland Bird Club on 01 November 2006, I presented an overview of my ideas to increase the profile of the ornithology research collections at the CMNH. One of these priorities is to continue growing the collection through preparing new specimens. I asked for volunteers who might be interested in preparing specimens on a weekly basis to contact me. I expected a handful of folks; instead I had about a dozen people agree to volunteer.



A recent skinning session. Left to right:

Lisa Chapman, Karin Tanquist, Susan Jones, Phil Chaon, Gary Neuman, Julie West, Laura Gooch, Bob Finkelstein, and Lou Palermo.

We began in December 2006 with an orientation session that covered how museum specimens are used in research followed by a demonstration of how to prepare a bird. The following week eight volunteers began preparing their first birds.

Most of the birds that are being prepared come to the museum as either salvaged birds (typically window collisions or road-killed) or as birds that were unable to be saved by the region's rehabilitation facilities. Birds prepared in the last two months came primarily from Mona Rutger's Back to the Wild Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in Castalia, OH and Tom Bartlett's salvaging efforts in the Tiffin and Kelley's Island areas.

After thawing out the frozen birds, the volunteers weigh the bird and record its wing chord. A wing is cut off to be spread out separately for molt studies (see Figure 1.).

An incision is made on the lower chest and across the belly, so that they can work the skin free from the abdomen. Like removing a sock, they carefully continue around the tail and then invert and remove the skin all the way up to the head. Along the way, they note any molting feathers, how ossified the skull is (useful for ageing songbirds), and how much fat is on the bird. A few bones from the skull, the wings, the legs, and the tail are all that are left inside. The body itself is removed so that they can check the stomach (actually, the gizzard) contents. Phil Chaon's background as a volunteer for Dr. Joe Keiper in the museum's invertebrate zoology department has already paid off — he recently identified beetle

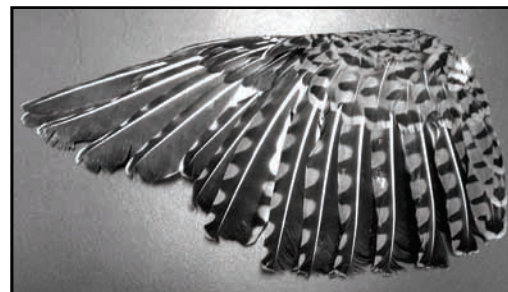


Figure 1

A prepared wing of a Northern Flicker.

and snail remains in a young European Starling. They also measure the size of the testes or ovaries — these organs change greatly in size over the course of a year as they enter breeding condition. A sample of heart and breast muscle is removed and frozen for any future DNA work. Cotton balls are placed in the eyes, a body is fashioned out of cotton and put inside, and the bird is sewn up. Finally, two identical tags are written: one for the body and one for the separate spread wing (more details are presented in Winker 2000).

These specimens will be added to the existing research collection and made available to any interested researchers. Recent museum specimen requests have ranged from researchers in the Cleveland region to a British researcher interested in our holdings of pheasants, quail, and other Galliformes.



**Fruits of the first skinning session:
a Brown Thrasher**



Pinned, drying Red-bellied Woodpecker skin.

Literature Cited:

Winker, K. 2000. Obtaining, preserving, and preparing bird specimens. *Journal of Field Ornithology* 71:250-297.

Andrew W. Jones, Ph.D
William A. and Nancy R. Klamm
Endowed Chair of Ornithology
and Head of Department of Ornithology
Cleveland Museum of Natural History

Fall Census: Cuyahoga Valley National Park

by Dwight Chasar

September 23, 2006

113 Species

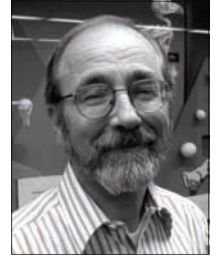
45 observers; 16 teams

65/75°F, cloudy with a late morning drizzle

Species	No.	Species	No.	Species	No.
Canada Goose	329	Great Crested Flycatcher	1	Black-throated Blue Warbler	1
Mute Swan	3	Eastern Kingbird	1	Yellow-rumped Warbler	21
Wood Duck	137	Eastern Phoebe	55	Magnolia Warbler	30
Mallard	125	Yellow-throated Vireo	3	Cape May Warbler	10
Wild Turkey	4	Blue-headed Vireo	1	Black-throated Green Warbler	12
Double-crested Cormorant	3	Warbling Vireo	4	Blackburnian Warbler	3
Great Blue Heron	22	Philadelphia Vireo	1	Palm Warbler	12
Green Heron	5	Red-eyed Vireo	4	Bay-breasted Warbler	4
Turkey Vulture	60	Blue Jay	328	Blackpoll Warbler	4
Northern Harrier	2	American Crow	188	Black-and-white Warbler	4
Sharp-shinned Hawk	5	Tree Swallow	11	American Redstart	3
Cooper's Hawk	17	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	1	Ovenbird	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	13	Barn Swallow	2	Common Yellowthroat	18
Red-tailed Hawk	16	Black-capped Chickadee	247	Hooded Warbler	7
American Kestrel	2	Tufted Titmouse	124	Wilson's Warbler	2
American Coot	1	Red-breasted Nuthatch	7	Canada Warbler	1
Killdeer	29	White-breasted Nuthatch	100	Scarlet Tanager	9
Solitary Sandpiper	2	Brown Creeper	4	Eastern Towhee	14
Spotted Sandpiper	4	Carolina Wren	77	Chipping Sparrow	14
Rock Pigeon	121	House Wren	3	Field Sparrow	7
Mourning Dove	77	Winter Wren	1	Savannah Sparrow	4
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1	Marsh Wren	1	Song Sparrow	58
Eastern Screech-Owl	3	Golden-crowned Kinglet	5	Lincoln Sparrow	2
Barred Owl	1	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	30	Swamp Sparrow	1
Chimney Swift	611	Eastern Bluebird	50	White-throated Sparrow	13
Belted Kingfisher	8	Swainson's Thrush	6	Northern Cardinal	202
Red-bellied Woodpecker	99	Wood Thrush	3	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	3
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	5	American Robin	345	Indigo Bunting	2
Downy Woodpecker	109	Gray Catbird	85	Red-winged Blackbird	1618
Hairy Woodpecker	26	Northern Mockingbird	1	Eastern Meadowlark	3
Northern Flicker	93	European Starling	1817	Rusty Blackbird	40
Pileated Woodpecker	17	Cedar Waxwing	585	Common Grackle	1373
Olive-sided Flycatcher	1	Blue-winged Warbler	1	Brown-headed Cowbird	5
Eastern Wood-Pewee	16	Tennessee Warbler	9	House Finch	28
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	1	Nashville Warbler	11	American Goldfinch	172
Acadian Flycatcher	3	Northern Parula	2	House Sparrow	24
Willow Flycatcher	2	Yellow Warbler	1		
Least Flycatcher	2	Chestnut-sided Warbler	1		

About the Authors

Dwight Chasar, former KBC president, leads bird walks in the CVNP year round and organizes/compiles the Spring and Fall CVNP bird censuses.



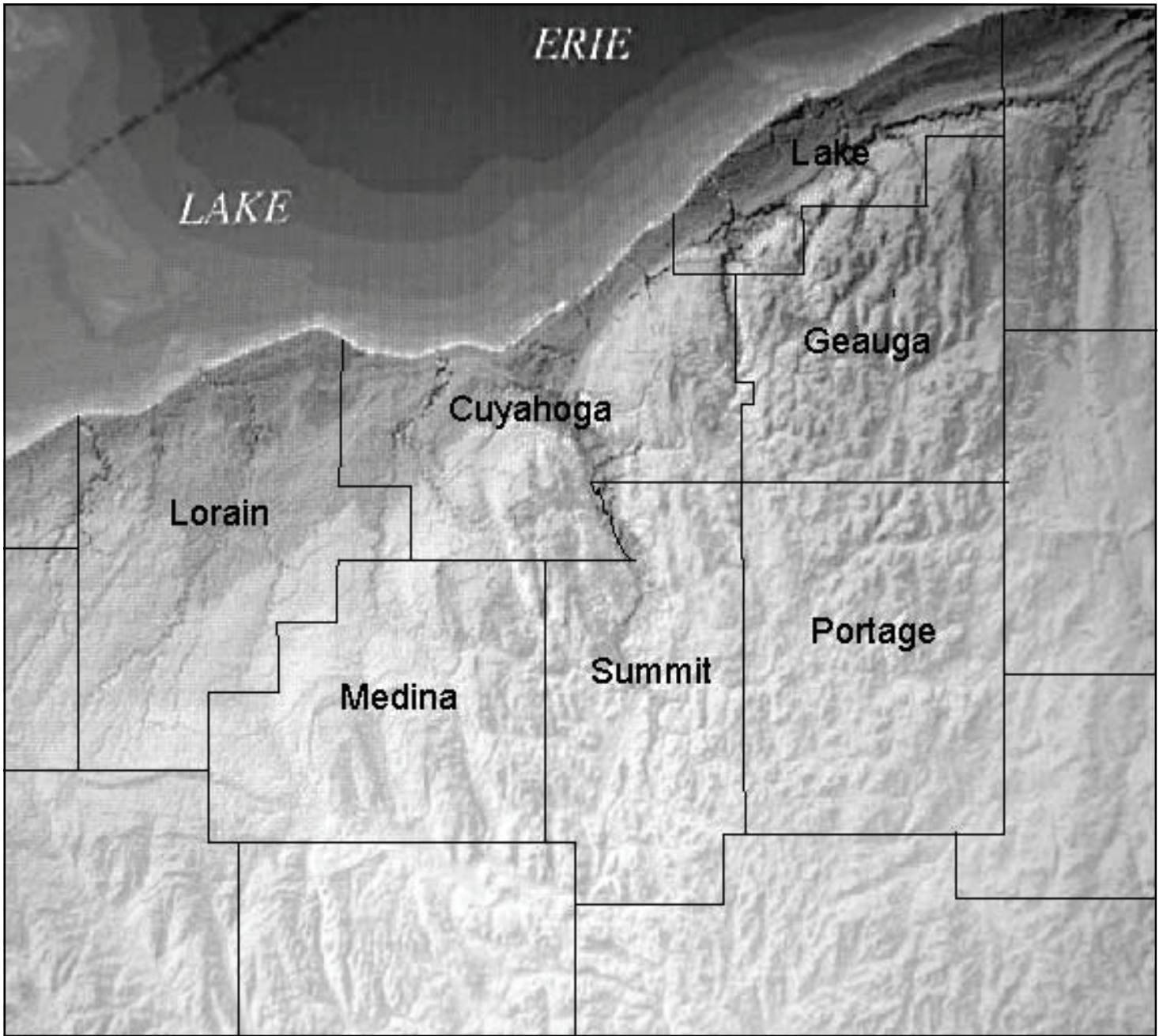
Ray Hannikman, former editor of the CBC, began birding in 1970. Since 1994, most of his non-Ohio birding has been focused on South America – mostly Peru and Brazil.

Andrew W. Jones, Ph.D occupies the new William A. and Nancy R. Klamm Endowed Chair of Ornithology and is Head of the Department of Ornithology, CMNH. Andy grew up in Kingsport, TN and in Raleigh NC, beginning the life of a birder in his teens. He earned his BS at the University of Tennessee and his Ph.D at the University of Minnesota



We Thank Our Field Contributors...

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Emil Bacik (EB)	Dick & Jean Hoffman (DJH)	Hope Orr (HO)
Gregory Bennett (GBe)	Ray Hunziker (RHu)	Chris Parker (Geauga Parks) (CPa)
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Jen Brumfield (JB)	Hedy Jones (HO)	Cathy Priebe (CP)
Garnet Byrne (GB)	Susan Jones (SJ)	Larry Richardson (LRi)
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Bob Finkelstein (BF)	Jim McConnor (JMCr)	Ben Winger (BWl)
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Ray Hannikman (RH)	Kevin Metcalf (KM)	Sean Zadar (SZ)



The seven counties of northeast Ohio included in the Cleveland Bird Calendar region.



Cleveland Ohio
Kirtland Bird Club