

JUNE - JULY - AUGUST

1939

BIRD CALENDAR

of the

Cleveland Bird Club

35th Year

No. 3



Founded by Francis H. Herrick in 1905 for the
recording of Bird Activities

Edited by John W. Aldrich, The Cleveland Museum
of Natural History

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CLEVELAND, OHIO



CONTRIBUTORS

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BREEDING BIRD POPULATIONS OF THE CLEVELAND REGION

1939

Following are the results of the third annual breeding bird population surveys carried on jointly by the Cleveland Bird Club and Cleveland Museum of Natural History under the direction of Dr. Arthur B. Williams.

(1.) Sand Dune Habitat – 27.7 acres.

Location: Lake Erie Shore at Richmond

Census by: Merit Skaggs and Marion Skaggs

Breeding Population: 21 pairs (76 per 100 acres)

Song sparrow	10 pairs	Killdeer	2 pairs
Spotted sandpiper	4 “	Vesper sparrow	2 “
Field sparrow	2 “		

Visitors: Red-breasted merganser, sparrow hawk, black-bellied plover, piping plover, ruddy turnstone, sanderling, herring gull, ring-billed gull, Bonaparte gull, common tern, chimney swift, flicker, bank swallow, barn swallow, purple martin, blue jay, crow, bluebird, cedar waxwing, starling, yellowthroat, redwinged blackbird, bronzed grackle, goldfinch.

(2.) Grassland Habitat – 40 acres.

Location: Sulgrave Road, Shaker Heights

Census by: Charles H. Knight

Breeding Population: 43 pairs (108 per 100 acres)

Henslow sparrow	11 pairs	Yellowthroat	2 pairs
Bobolink	5 “	Bob-white	1 “
Meadowlark	5 “	Killdeer	1 “
Grasshopper sparrow	5 “	Savannah sparrow	1 “
Upland plover	4 “	Vesper sparrow	1 “
Song sparrow	3 “	Field sparrow	1 “
Horned lark	3 “		

(3.) Grassland and Bramble Habitat – 40 acres.

Location: Corner of SOM and Cedar Roads, Pepper Pike Village

Census by: Ralph A. O'Reilly Jr.

Breeding Population: 49 pairs (120 per 100 acres)

Field sparrow	15 pairs	Grasshopper sparrow	1 pair
Song sparrow	12 “	Bluebird	1 “
Yellowthroat	4 “	Bobolink	1 “
Catbird	3 “	Alder flycatcher	1 “
Starling	2 “	Savannah sparrow	1 “
Meadowlark	2 “	Goldfinch	1 “
Vesper sparrow	2 “	Killdeer	1 “
Flicker	2 “	Cowbird	Present

(4.) Thorn Scrub Habitat – 10 acres.

Location: Holden Arboretum, Kirtland Township

Census by: Philip N. Moulthrop, B. P. Bole Jr. and H. L. Phillips

Breeding Population: 19 pairs (190 per 100 acres)

Field sparrow	7 pairs	Black-billed Cuckoo	1 pair
Song sparrow	3 “	Red-eyed Vireo	1 “
Cardinal	2 “	Blue-winged Warbler	1 “
Towhee	2 “	Goldfinch	1 “
Mourning dove	1 “		

(5.) Marsh and Swamp Shrub Habitat – 15 acres.

Location: Aurora Pond

Census by: John W. Aldrich

Breeding population: 62 pairs (413 per 100 acres)

Red-winged blackbird	22 pairs	Virginia rail	2 pairs
Long-billed marsh wren	19 “	Song sparrow	2 “
Swamp sparrow	6 “	Wood duck	1 “
Yellow warbler	3 “	Killdeer	1 “
Alder flycatcher	3 “	Kingbird	1 “
Least bittern	2 “	Catbird	1 “

(6.) Bog Forest – 23 acres.

Location: Aurora Pond

Census by: John W. Aldrich

Breeding population: 40 pairs (174 per 100 acres)

Song sparrow	9 pairs	Red-eyed vireo	2 pairs
Yellow-throat	5 “	Green heron	1 “
House wren	3 “	Flicker	1 “
Grinnell water-thrush	3 “	Downy woodpecker	1 “
Swamp sparrow	3 “	Crested flycatcher	1 “
Wood pewee	2 “	Tufted titmouse	1 “
Black-capped chickadee	2 “	Robin	1 “
White-breasted nuthatch	2 “	Prothonotary warbler	1 “
Catbird	2 “		

(7.) Wooded Ravine (stream at bottom) – 25.5 acres.

Location: East Branch Euclid Creek

Census by: Joseph Corbe

Breeding population: 49 pairs (192 pairs per 100 acres)

Red-eyed vireo	14 pairs	White-breasted nuthatch	1 pair
Robin	6 "	Phoebe	1 "
Ovenbird	2 "	Belted kingfisher	1 "
Wood pewee	2 "	Chickadee	1 "
Crested flycatcher	2 "	Catbird	1 "
Towhee	2 "	Cowbird	1 "
Flicker	2 "	Goldfinch	1 "
Crow	2 "	Song sparrow	1 "
Cardinal	2 "	Rough-winged swallow	1 "
Tufted titmouse	2 "	Wood thrush	1 "
Scarlet tanager	2 "		

(8.) Pine-Hemlock Forest – 75 acres.

Location: Little Mountain

Census by: B. P. Bole Jr.

Breeding population: 121 pairs (174 per 100 acres)

Ovenbird	15 pairs	Crested flycatcher	1 pair
Black-throated green warbler	11 "	Acadian flycatcher	1 "
Wood thrush	10 "	Wood pewee	3 pairs
Phoebe	8 "	Chickadee	3 "
Robin	8 "	White-breasted nuthatch	3 "
Hooded warbler	7 "	Rose-breasted grosbeak	3 "
House wren	7 "	Indigo bunting	3 "
Junco	6 "	Song sparrow	3 "
Scarlet tanager	5 "	Tufted titmouse	2 "
Red-eyed vireo	4 "	Blue jay	2 "
Chimney swift	3 "	Towhee	2 "
Ruffed grouse	1 "	Chipping sparrow	2 "
Mourning dove	1 "	Turkey vulture	1 "
Flicker	1 "	Sharp-shinned hawk	1 "
Pileated woodpecker	1 "	Cedar waxwing	1 "
Hairy woodpecker	1 "	Louisiana water-thrush	1 "

(9.) Beech-Maple – Hemlock Woods – 39 acres.

Location: Holden Arboretum

Census by: A. B. Williams and Philip N. Moulthrop

Breeding population: 103 pairs (264 pairs per 100 acres)

Ovenbird	11 pairs	White-breasted nuthatch	3 pairs
Red-eyed vireo	11 "	Hairy woodpecker	2 "
Hooded warbler	9 "	Crested flycatcher	2 "
Wood pewee	7 "	Towhee	2 "
Tufted titmouse	7 "	Blue jay	2 "
Redstart	6 "	Rose-breasted grosbeak	2 "
Scarlet tanager	5 "	Red-bellied woodpecker	1 "
Wood thrush	5 "	Flicker	1 "
Louisiana water-thrush	5 "	Black-throated green warbler	1 "
Acadian flycatcher	4 "	bluebird	1 "
Chickadee	4 "	Indigo bunting	1 "
Caerulean warbler	4 "	Song sparrow	1 "
Yellow-throated vireo	4 "		
Downy woodpecker	3 "		

(10.) Beech-Maple Forest (mixed with second growth and shrubby areas) – 14 acres.

Location: Wellington

Census by: Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Clisby

Breeding population: 34 pairs (243 per 100 acres)

Cardinal	5 pairs	Great horned owl	1 pair
Tufted titmouse	4 "	Crested flycatcher	1 "
Wood pewee	3 "	Acadian flycatcher	1 "
Red-eyed vireo	3 "	White-breasted nuthatch	1 "
Towhee	3 "	Yellow-throated vireo	1 "
Flicker	2 "	Caerulean warbler	1 "
Red-headed woodpecker	2 "	Ovenbird	1 "
Downy woodpecker	2 "	Louisiana waterthrush	1 "
Red-bellied woodpecker	1 "	Indigo bunting	1 "

(11.) Beech-Maple Forest – (climax) – 65 acres.

Location: North Chagrin

Census by: A. B. Williams and M. B. Walters

Breeding population: 118 pairs (181 per 100 acres)

Red-eyed vireo	21 pairs	Cardinal	3 pairs
Ovenbird	19 "	White-breasted nuthatch	3 "
Hooded warbler	13 "	Downy woodpecker	3 "
Wood thrush	11 "	Phoebe	2 "
Tufted titmouse	7 "	Hairy woodpecker	2 "
Acadian flycatcher	6 "	Chickadee	1 "
Redstart	5 "	Towhee	1 "
Wood pewee	5 "	Crested flycatcher	1 "
Scarlet tanager	4 "	Barred owl	1 "
Black-throated		Rose-breasted grosbeak	1 "
green warbler	4 "	Blue jay	1 "
Louisiana waterthrush	4 "		

(12.) Grassland with Small Planted Trees (managed for Arboretum purposes, nesting boxes supplied) – 43 acres.

Location: Holden Arboretum, Kirtland Township

Census by: Philip N. Moulthrop, B. P. Bole Jr. and H. L. Phillips

Breeding population: 159 pairs (370 pairs per 100 acres)

Field sparrow	32 pairs	Kingbird	2 pairs
Song sparrow	16 "	Alder flycatcher	2 "
House wren	13 " (in boxes)	Cedar waxwing	2 "
Bluebird	10 " (in boxes)	Mourning dove	1 "
Towhee	9 "	Hummingbird	1 "
Goldfinch	8 "	Flicker	1 "
Catbird	7 "	Downy woodpecker	1 "
Yellow warbler	6 "	Phoebe	1 "
Black-billed cuckoo	5 "	Wood pewee	1 "
Yellow-throat	5 "	Black-capped chickadee	1 " *
Meadowlark	5 "	Brown thrasher	1 "
Vesper sparrow	5 "	Yellow-throated vireo	1 "
Bob-white	3 "	Warbling vireo	1 "
Killdeer	3 "	English sparrow	1 "
Robin	3 "	Blue-winged warbler	1 "
Starling	3 "	Redstart	1 "
Grasshopper sparrow	3 "	Indigo bunting	1 "
Chipping sparrow	3 "		* (in box)

(13.) Grassland, Bramble and Beginnings of Trees (Surrounding 20 acre lake. Nesting boxes supplied) – 22 acres.

Location: Holden Arboretum, Kirtland Township

Census by: Philip N. Moulthrop

Breeding population: 81 pairs (364 pairs per 100 acres)

Field sparrow	24 pairs	Woodcock	1 pair
Song sparrow	12 “	Black-billed cuckoo	1 “
Vesper sparrow	6 “	Flicker	1 “
House wren	5 “ (in boxes)	Alder flycatcher	1 “
Yellowthroat	4 “	Wood thrush	1 “
Goldfinch	4 “	Red-eyed vireo	1 “
Towhee	4 “	Blue-winged warbler	1 “
Bluebird	3 “ (in boxes)	Yellow warbler	1 “
Catbird	2 “	Redstart	1 “
Robin	2 “	Baltimore oriole	1 “
Meadowlark	2 “	Savannah sparrow	1 “
Bobwhite	1 “	Chipping sparrow	1 “

(14.) Country Estate (Managed as bird sanctuary) – 15 acres.

Location: Gates Mills

Census by: S. Charles Kendeigh and Frank A. Pitelka

Breeding population: 85 pairs (566 per 100 acres)

Robin	16 pairs	Chimney swift	1 pair
House wren	11 “	Hummingbird	1 “
Soong sparrow	10 “	Flicker	1 “
Catbird	8 “	Phoebe	1 “
Chipping sparrow	8 “	Barn swallow	1 “
English sparrow	7 “	Wood thrush	1 “
Yellow warbler	3 “	Starling	1 “
Bluebird	2 “	Red-eyed vireo	1 “
Cedar waxwing	2 “	Redstart	1 “
Baltimore oriole	2 “	Cardinal	1 “
Cowbird	2 “	Goldfinch	1 “
Sparrow hawk	1 “	Towhee	1 “
Mourning dove	1 “		

(15.) City Block – 3.5 acres (approx.)

Location: Superior and E. 9th Street, Cleveland

Census by: Charles H. Knight

Breeding population: 42 pairs (1200 per 100 acres)

English sparrow	26 pairs	Starling	3 pairs
Domestic pigeon	11 “	Chimney swift	2 “

One nighthawk was a frequent visitor.

Remarks: It is evident from the foregoing that areas which are in part or wholly managed as bird sanctuaries by supplying nesting boxes etc., support much greater breeding populations of birds than any natural habitat with the exception of a combination of marsh and swamp shrub. Thus is strikingly illustrated the value of managed sanctuaries increasing the number of small land birds. But who would have believed that downtown Cleveland supports a breeding bird population over twice as dense as the bird sanctuary at the Baldwin Bird Research Laboratory! Unfortunately, however, quality is sacrificed in the city for quantity.

SUMMARY OF WEATHER CONDITIONS
Taken from Cleveland Weather Bureau Reports

Month	mean		normal		% of		*	*
	temp.	temp.	precip.	precip.	possible	normal	relative	normal
June	: 71.2°F	: 67.1°F	: 3.25"	: 3.12"	: 65%	: 67%	: 68%	: 67%
July	: 73.2	: 71.4	: 1.53	: 3.45	: 76	: 70	: 66	:
August	: 73.2	: 70.0	: 0.72	: 2.77	: 79	: 66	: 69.7	:
Departure from normal	: +9.1°F	:	: -3.84"	:	: +17%	:	:	:

* Based on an average of 4 daily readings taken at 1:30 A.M., 7:30 A.M., noon, and 7:30 P.M. (except June when only the last three readings were taken).

Remarks. The most conspicuous thing about the weather of the summer season, and the factor that is most likely to have had some effect on the general reproductive conditions of birds, was the drought, indicated by the deficiency of 3.84 inches of rainfall. Since heavy rains are known to have an injurious effect on the young of some birds we may assume that the scarcity of rain in July and August was beneficial to such species as had young in these months.

SPECIES OCCURRENCE

Starred (*) species nest in the area covered by the Bird Calendar.

- *Pied-billed grebe – Three pairs nested in bogs and ponds at Holden Arboretum – Moulthrop.
- *Great-blue heron – August 20 (2), 22 (1), 23 (1), 25 (1), 26 (1).
American egret – August 20 (6) at Pymatuning Reservoir – Skaggs, (4) at Lotus Pond, Holden Arboretum – Moulthrop.
Snowy egret – August 5 (1) on Rocky River – Wallin.
- *Green heron – One pair nested at Aurora Pond – Aldrich, 3 pairs nested at Holden Arboretum – Moulthrop.
- *Black-crowned night heron – August 21 (2), 22 (2).
- *American Bittern – July 28 (1), August 26 (1).
- *Least Bittern – Two pairs nested at aurora Pond – Aldrich.
- *Mallard – Two pairs nested at Holden Arboretum – Moulthrop, Bole, and Phillips.
- *Black duck – August 17 (5), 22 (14), 23 (11), 25 (5), 26 (8).
- *Blue-winged teal – August 20 (6), 22 (5), 23 (25).
- *Wood duck – August 23 (1), 26 (7). One pair nested at Aurora Pond – Aldrich.
Redhead – One seen at Fairport, June 3 – Skaggs.
American merganser – Five seen at Fairport, June 3 – Skaggs.
- *Turkey vulture – Jun 28 (4), July 5 (5), August 20 (3), 25 (1), 28 (3). A pair nested at Little Mountain – Bole.
- *Sharp-shinned hawk – A nest found, June 10 at Sterling Hill, near Willoughby – Shankland. A pair nested at Little Mountain – Bole.
- *Cooper hawk – June 16 (2), August 6 (1), 16 (1), 25 (1).

- *Red-tailed hawk – June 16 (2), 28 (4), July 30 (5), August 28 (2).
- *Red-shouldered hawk – August 25 (1), 28 (1).
- *Broad-winged hawk – August 19 (1).
- *Bald eagle – August 20 (4).
- *Marsh hawk – August 25 (1), 26 (1).
- *Sparrow hawk – June 3 (1), August 20 (1), 26 (1), 28 (2).
- *Ruffed grouse – June 12 (2), 16 (3), 17 (1), July 6 (1), 21 (3), 22 (2), August 6 (3), 24 (1). A pair nested at Little Mountain – Bole.
- *Bob-white – A pair nested in grassland habitat at Sulgrave Road, Shaker Heights – Knight, another in grassland and bramble habitat at Holden Arboretum – Moulthrop.
- *Virginia rail – Two pairs nested in marsh at Aurora Pond – Aldrich.
- *Florida gallinule – June 16 (1), August 23 (2). A pair nested in Buttonbush Bog, Holden Arboretum – Moulthrop.
- *Coot – August 23 (1).
- *Piping plover – One seen June 3 at Fairport – Morse.
- Semipalmated Plover – August 20 (3), 25 (1), 26 (3).
- *Killdeer – Two pairs nested in sand dune habitat – Skaggs, 1 pair in grassland habitat – Knight, 1 pair in grassland and bramble – O'Reilly, 3 pairs in grassland with young trees, Holden Arboretum – Moulthrop, 1 pair in marsh at Aurora Pond – Aldrich.
- *Woodcock – 8 summer records.
- *Upland plover – Four pairs nested in grassland habitat at Sulgrave Road, Shaker Heights – Knight.
- *Spotted sandpiper – Four pairs nested in sand dune habitat at Fairport Harbor – Skaggs, three pairs at Holden Arboretum – Moulthrop.
- Solitary sandpiper – July 28 (2), 31 (4), August 6 (3), 20 (1), 22 (20), August 25 (1), 26 (7).
- Greater yellowlegs – July 28 (1), 31 (1), August 22 (2), 25 (21), 26 (1).
- Lesser yellowlegs – July 28 (3), 31 (2), August 6 (4), 17 (10), 22 (60), 23 (10), 25 (3), 26 (12).
- Pectoral sandpiper – July 28 (1), August 22 (15), 23 (3), 26 (2).
- Least sandpiper – August 6 (1), 17 (5), 20 (2), 23 (1), 26 (8).
- Dowitcher – August 23 (1), 25 (1), 26 (1).
- Stilt sandpiper – Two seen August 23 at Holden Arboretum – Bole.
- Semi-palmated sandpiper – June 3 (1), July 22 (2), 31 (1), August 17 (5), 20 (10), 23 (50), 26 (2).
- Sanderling – July 16 (2), August 26 (5).
- Herring gull – June 3 (2), July 15 (20).
- Ring-billed gull – June 3 (75), July 17 (150), August 26 (10).
- Bonaparte gull – June 3 (20), July 16 (20), August 26 (4).
- *Mourning dove – (Many summer records)
- *Yellow-billed cuckoo – (“)
- *Black-billed cuckoo – Two pairs nested at Holden Arboretum in thorn scrub – Moulthrop.
- *Screech owl – Four nests found near Willoughby – Shankland.
- *Horned owl – One pair nested in beech-maple woods at Wellington – Clisby.
- *Barred owl – One pair nested in beech-maple woods of North Chagrin – Williams and Walters.
- *Nighthawk – Many summer records.
- *Chimney swift – (“)

- *Hummingbird – Many summer records
- *Kingfisher (“)
- *Flicker (“)
- *Pileated woodpecker – A pair nested at Little Mountain – Bole.
- *Red-bellied woodpecker – A pair nested in Beech-Maple-Hemlock woods at Holden Arboretum – Moulthrop and Williams, another in Beech-Maple at Wellington – Clisby.
- *Red-headed woodpecker (many summer records)
- *Hairy woodpecker (“)
- *Downy woodpecker (“)
- *Kingbird (“)
- *Crested flycatcher (“)
- *Phoebe (“)
- *Acadian flycatcher - One seen on nest June 3, at North Chagrin – Morse.
- *Alder flycatcher – (Many summer records)
- *Least flycatcher – August 26 (1)
- *Wood pewee – (Many summer records)
- Olive-sided flycatcher – Three seen August 25 at Holden Arboretum – Williams. One seen August 28, at Austinburg – Wharram.
- *Horned lark – Nest found at Willoughby – Shankland. Three pairs nested in grassland area at Sulgrave Road, Shaker Heights – Knight.
- *Tree swallow – One pair nested in bird house at Holden Arboretum – Moulthrop.
- *Bank swallow – (Many summer records)
- *Rough-winged swallow (“)
- *Barn swallow (“)
- *Purple martin (“)
- *Blue jay (“)
- *Crow (“)
- *Chickadee (“)
- *Tufted titmouse (“)
- *White-breasted nuthatch (“)
- *House wren (“)
- *Mockingbird – One seen June 9 on lawn of Cleveland Museum of Natural History – Museum Staff.
- *Catbird – Many summer records
- *Brown thrasher (“)
- *Robin - (“)
- *Wood thrush - (“)
- Olive-backed thrush – August 30 (1)
- *Veery – Nest and eggs found at Fern Lake, Deutschlander
- *Bluebird – Many summer records
- *Cedar waxwing (“)
- *Starling (“)
- *Yellow-throated vireo (“)
- *Prothonotary warbler – A pair nested in bog forest at Aurora Pond – Aldrich.
- *Blue-winged warbler – (Many summer records)
- Brewster warbler – One seen August 30, at Brecksville – O’Reilly
- Lawrence warbler – One seen August 30, at Brecksville – O’Reilly
- *Yellow warbler – (Many summer records)
- Cape May warbler – August 30 (2)
- *Black-throated blue warbler – August 30 (1)
- *Black-throated green warbler – Eleven pairs nested at Little Mountain – Bole, 1 pair at Holden Arboretum – Williams and Moulthrop, 4 pairs at North Chagrin – Williams and Walters.
- *Caerulean warbler – (Many summer records)

- Bay-breasted warbler – August 18 (1), 25 (3)
Black-poll warbler – August 25 (1)
 *Ovenbird – (Many summer records)
 *Louisiana water-thrush - (“)
 *Grinnell water-thrush – Three pairs nested at Aurora Pond – Aldrich.
Mourning warbler – August 26 (1)
 *Yellowthroat – (Many summer records)
 *Yellow-breasted chat – Two singing males present during breeding season at Aurora Pond – Aldrich.
 *Hooded warbler – Seven pairs nested at Little Mountain – Bole, 9 pairs at Holden Arboretum – Moulthrop and Williams, 13 pairs at North Chagrin – Williams and Walters.
 *Redstart - (Many summer records)
 *English Sparrow - (“)
 *Meadowlark - (“)
 *Redwinged blackbird - (“)
 *Orchard oriole – One pair nested along lake shore north of Willoughby – Sahankland. One seen in same region, probably same bird, June 3 – Skaggs.
 *Baltimore oriole – (Many summer records)
 *Grackle - (“)
 *Cowbird - (“)
 *Scarlet tanager - (“)
 *Cardinal - (“)
 *Rose-breasted grosbeak – One pair nested at North Chagrin – Williams and Walters, 2 pairs at Holden Arboretum – Williams and Moulthrop, 3 pairs at Little Mountain – Bole.
 *Indigo bunting – (Many summer records)
 *Purple finch – One seen in Forest Hills Park June 4 – Newman.
 *Goldfinch – (Many summer records)
 *Towhee - (“)
 *Savannah sparrow – One pair nested at Sulgrave Road, Shaker Heights – Knight, one pair at Corning Lake, Holden Arboretum – Moulthrop, one pair in Pepper Pike Village – O’Reilly.
 *Grasshopper sparrow – (Many summer records)
 *Henslow sparrow – Eleven pairs nested at Sulgrave Road, Shaker Heights – Knight.
 *Vesper sparrow – (Many summer records)
 *Junco – Six pairs nested at Little Mountain – Bole.
 *Chipping sparrow – (Many summer records)
 *Field sparrow - (“)
 *Swamp sparrow – Six pairs nested at Aurora Pond – Aldrich.
 *Song sparrow – (Many summer records)

FIELD NOTES

Holden Arboretum Trip

On August 26, 1939, about sixty members of the Cleveland Bird Club accepted the invitation of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History to visit the Holden Arboretum under the leadership of Dr. J. W. Aldrich. The day was a beautiful, sunny day of late summer.

The first part of the walk was to the lake on the west side of the road where we saw several little Green Herons. "Where were the shore birds?" we wondered. It was fun to hike in the sunshine and to renew "bird" acquaintances, but we had anticipated seeing some shore birds.

We crossed the road and went to the newly formed lake where we soon discovered a small flock of shore birds across the lake. Field glasses revealed that one of the birds was the rare Dowitcher. Dr. Aldrich hurriedly set up a high powered telescope and we formed a line for a coveted look at the bird. Someone suggested that Dr. Aldrich should charge a nickel a look and no doubt we would have been glad to have paid it.

In due time, we walked around the lake. Imagine our surprise when we found the Dowitcher again and approached it to within 15 feet. The leader said the plumage indicated it was a young bird. We studied it for some time and left it as it continued to probe in the mud with its long bill.

Other shore birds observed were: Least and Semipalmated sandpipers, Solitary sandpipers, Greater and Lesser yellow-legs and Killdeer.

By this time we were very hungry so we went back to the picnic ground and climaxed the day with an outdoor steak-fry and picnic.

Marion Skaggs
(One of those who went.)

Trip to Pymatuning, September 17, 1939

Leaders: Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Skaggs

Shore birds are not easy to identify, but the forty-two persons on the trip learned to know several of them. To tell the least and semipalmated sandpipers apart stumps many experts. However, on this trip the birds stood side by side until the leader had explained the difference between them and everyone had a chance to study them. Merit said he went over the week before to arrange for their showing.

Several of the group had seen a dowitcher for the first time in their lives on the trip to the Holden Arboretum. Then here they were fortunate enough to see another one.

The bald eagle came low enough so that its white head and tail and even its yellow feet could be seen without glasses.

The American egrets, migrants from the south instead of from the north, were a beautiful white against the shoreline.

This was one trip on which Frank Braund failed to find any eggs to add to his collection.

The Aldrich children, as well as several older members of the club, had quite a time throwing bread to the fish.

The one group of birdlovers that tried to use a stove for their picnic found the wind too strong for speedy work. They finally begged jelly for a sandwich from their neighbors because they couldn't wait for their meat to fry.

Vera Carrothers

Bluebird Doings

During the past two summers, Mrs. Skaggs and I have derived considerable enjoyment from watching the doings of a pair of bluebirds in our dooryard. In 1938 we erected a bird box in the back yard and watched the parent birds as they raised two broods of five and four birds, respectively.

This year we moved the box so that it was only 20 feet from one of the kitchen windows, with the entrance hole towards the house. We did not place the box in position until late April so as to prevent the English sparrows from moving in. It was interesting to watch the male drive away English sparrow while the female carried nesting material into the box.

The first brood consisted of 5 which were out of the nest by June 7th. Just after this brood left, we moved the box several feet closer to the house, where it was only 15 feet away from the window.

The second set of five eggs were laid on the last five days of June. A hinge on the top permitted us to look into the nest. Incubation started immediately and we were surprised to find the eggs hatching after an incubation period of only 12 days. During this time, the male often fed the female on the nest, sometimes having to pass one or more of the first brood of youngsters, as they sat on the roof of the bird-house. Many times we saw three or four of this first brood, with their stubby tails and speckled breasts, huddling together on the roof of their old home. However, the male refused to feed them, and after a week or so they left.

By the last of July, the second brood had left and the show was over for this year. Assuming that four out of five survived (one bird of the first brood was missing in July) from each brood, the rate of increase from this pair was 800%.

M. B. Skaggs

REPORT OF THE FIELD WORK COMMITTEE – 1939

Appointed. – September 8, 1939

Members. –

Dr. John W. Aldrich, Chairman
Miss Isabelle Hellwig
Mr. Malcolm Jollie
Mr. Charles H. Knight
Miss Margarette E. Morse

Mr, Ralph A. O'Reilly Jr.
Mrs. Francis M. Sherwin
Mr. Merit B. Skaggs
Mrs. Merit B. Skaggs
Miss Vera Carrothers

Meetings. – September 16 and November 25 at The Cleveland Museum of Natural History.
Discussed. – The past activity of the Cleveland Bird Club in field work and noteworthy achievements of Cleveland ornithologists in the study of local bird life.

The possibility of the following subjects being made bird club projects: life history studies; bird banding; courses in field identification; assistance in compiling data for the Bird Calendar; developing a bird sanctuary; emergency winter feeding; and population studies.

Recommendations. – That a questionnaire be sent to all club members asking them which of the suggested activities they would like to participate in.

That the club allocate money from its treasury for emergency winter feeding by the field work committee in cooperation with the state game protector and other conservation organizations.

That a request be inserted in a regular club notice for the loan of waste land to be developed by the bird club as a managed bird sanctuary.

That the bird population studies in which the Cleveland Bird Club has distinguished itself during the past three years be continued and receive further support.

Submitted by
 John W. Aldrich

NOTICE

The fancy new cover design for our venerable Bird Calendar is the work of John Tobolski, student at the Cleveland School of Art. Probably no Cleveland Bird Club member needs to be told that the figure represents the bald eagle, subject of Dr. Francis H. Herrick's famous life-history study – the first important piece of ornithological research to be conducted in the Cleveland region.