



CLEVELAND REGION

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and  
The Kirtland Bird Club

# THE CLEVELAND REGION

The Circle Has A Radius of 30 Miles Based on Cleveland Public Square

- |                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Beaver Creek               | 30 Lake Rockwell             |
| 2 North Amherst              | 31 White City                |
| 3 Lorain                     | 32 Euclid Creek Reservation  |
| 4 Black River                | 33 Chagrin River             |
| 5 Elyria                     | 34 Willoughby                |
| 6 LaGrange                   | Waite Hill                   |
| 7 Avon-on-the-Lake           | 35 Sherwin Pond              |
| 8 Clague Park                | 36 Gildersleeve              |
| 9 Clifton Park               | 37 North Chagrin Reservation |
| 10 Rocky River               | 38 Gates Mills               |
| 11 Cleveland Hopkins Airport | 39 South Chagrin Reservation |
| 12 Medina                    | 40 Aurora Lake               |
| 13 Hinckley Reservation      | 41 Aurora Sanctuary          |
| 14 Edgewater Park            | 42 Mantua                    |
| Perkins Beach                | 43 Mentor Headlands          |
| 15 Terminal Tower            | 44 Mentor Marsh              |
| 16 Cleveland Public Square   | 45 Black Brook               |
| Cuyahoga River               | Headlands State Park         |
| 17 Brecksville Reservation   | 46 Fairport Harbor           |
| 18 Akron                     | 47 Painesville               |
| Cuyahoga Falls               | 48 Grand River               |
| 19 Akron Lakes               | 49 Little Mountain           |
| 20 Gordon. Park              | Holden Arboretum             |
| Illuminating Co. plant       | 50 Corning Lake              |
| 21 Doan Brook                |                              |
| 22 Natural Science Museum    |                              |
| Wade Park                    |                              |
| 23 Baldwin Reservoir         | 51 Stebbin's Gulch           |
| 24 Shaker Lakes              | 52 Chardon                   |
| 25 Lake View Cemetery        | 53 Burton                    |
| 26 Forest Hill Park          | 54 Punderson Lake            |
| 27 Bedford Reservation       | 55 Fern Lake                 |
| 28 Hudson                    | 56 LaDue Reservoir           |
| 29 Kent                      | 57 Spencer Wildlife Area     |



CLEVELAND METROPOLITAN  
PARK SYSTEM



PORTAGE ESCARPMENT  
(800-foot Contour Line)

# THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR

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## THE WEATHER

September - Somewhat wetter than normal with total precipitation accumulating to 4.92 inches which was in excess by 2.02 inches for the month. Rainfall was reasonably distributed and measurable on 11 days, none the less, sunshine prevailed during 50% of the time available. Wind shifts occurred regularly so that the prevailing direction never exceeded three days of duration. Winds from northerly directions occurred on 11 days.

Temperatures averaged out a mere 0.6° cooler than normal.

October - A slightly cooler and drier month with more erratic wind patterns. More one day stands for a prevailing wind direction were prevalent and one 5.5 day stand of SW winds occurred. Northerly winds prevailed on 12 days. Precipitation was measurable on nine days with trace precipitation occurring on six days. Sunshine averaged 53% of available time while the regularly scattered precipitation totaled 1.90 inches which was in deficit by 0.52 inches.

Temperatures averaged cooler than normal by 1.5°.

November - A more gloomy month with the first snow falls and transient icing of shallow and still waters. Measurable precipitation occurred on 18 days which accumulated to 2.87 inches providing a moderate excess of 0.33 inches for the month. Wind directions were less stable in the latter part of the month which was also cooler. Cold weather changes developing on the 14th were fully manifest by the 15th.

Temperatures for the month averaged out 1.0° cooler than normal.

## COMMENT ON THE SEASON

As the autumn season progressed the migratory activity increased and culminated in rare and uncommon appearances on the lakefront. In late October and during November the following species were reported: Gannet, Harlequin Duck, Purple Sandpiper, Laughing Gull, Little Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, and Forster's Tern. A remarkable array of observations were made at LaDue Reservoir where the shorebird activity was unusually productive and included late appearances for the Knot and the Dowitcher. Significant records were made in the category of land birds also with the sighting of a Dickcissel, House Finch, and Harris' Sparrow. A major influx of the Common Redpoll occurred late in November and promises to endure.

Disquieting observations were expressed by two contributors which deserve a place in our presentation of the autumn scene. One view expressed "regardless of individual ability to observe, or of especially favorable locations for observations and such -- there are not as many birds in total numbers" (Raynes). The following view suggests an unwelcome development: "We have consistently fed birds at our home just south of the first Shaker Lake since 1943 ... including an ever increasing number of House Sparrows which have just about taken over" (Higley). The foregoing, and other aspects of autumn will, be discussed in greater detail in the following paragraphs.

Migrating Loons. A Common Loon appeared on the lakefront at Lorain on September 27, a very early date (Dolbear). For the third consecutive autumn a contributor has observed migrating flocks of Common Loons, an event that is only rarely noted. An early morning watch, as early as 6:30 AM on occasion, was made at White City on 12 days in November between the 6th and 18th. Loons were observed on seven of these dates with a total count of 257. The first Loons, a group of eight, were seen on the 6th at 7:00 AM and from this time until 7:58 AM Loons passed at intervals of every few minutes on a strong north wind. It is usually the habit of migrating Loons to fly singly, or in small groups, and 30 flights totaling 101 birds and ranging in size from single individuals to a group of ten were noted during the 58 minutes. The direction of flight was to the south or southwest with the exception of two single birds that moved to the east and one small group that moved to the northwest. Two Loons were tallied on November 7; one bird on the 11th; and a group of six on the 12th. On November 13, from 7:15 to 8:00 AM, Loons passed at one or two minute intervals on a southwest wind and 25 flights totaling 129 birds; ranging in size from single individuals to a group of 32 were noted. On November 14 one Loon flew to the southwest; on the 16th, 17 birds passed to the south over East 140th and Lake Shore Boulevard (Surman, Jr.).

Horned Grebes in Abundance. "The influx of Horned Grebes was dramatic and well sustained. Substantial numbers (30) appeared on November 9 in lakefront areas; peaked at 307 on November 16; continued in abundance (207) through November 23, and maintained a population of 50 to 60 for the remainder of the month" (Klamm).

Flights of Swans. Oncoming rain, sleet, and snow pushed Whistling Swans ahead and they were heard in several sections of the region during the night of October 21; several flights being observed on the 22nd (fide Pallister). A low-flying vee of 50 Swans was noted moving east over Waite Hill at 4:15 PM on the 27th (Sherwin and Flanigan). At LaDue Reservoir 10 Swans were present on the 31st; the same number being observed on November 2 (English). A flight of 10 was noted on November 11 near Chardon (Spare). At 5:15 PM on November 12 a vee of approximately 80 Swans flew high over Waite Hill, calling a great deal and appearing confused and disorganized. They rearranged their positions and headed north, still calling (Flanigan). The peak dates of migration were November 14 and 15; then the reports ceased abruptly. At 3:10 PM on the 14th, and for the following 10 minutes, three flights of Swans that totaled 120 passed over Waite Hill, flying beneath scudding clouds that were moving swiftly eastward (Flanigan). Swans were heard calling at dusk of the same day near Bass Lake (Spare). Migration continued with calls heard through the night of the 14th and early morning of the 15th over Waite Hill. The greatest number of flights passed through the region on November 15: (1) three flights, totaling 305 Swans, moved eastward over Waite Hill during the day (Flanigan); (2) 61 Swans, in two flights, passed near Chardon (Spare); (3) At 8:00 AM two flights, totaling 41 Swans, moved to the southeast over Sunset Pond in North Chagrin Reservation; at 10:30 AM two flocks with a count of 33 Swans flew in a southerly direction at Mentor Marsh (Kitson and Scheibe).

Canada, Snow, and Blue Geese. Southbound Canada Geese were in evidence by September 26, as a wavering vee of 50 flying moderately high and to the southeast, was sighted over South Euclid at 8:30 AM (Kitson). The gathering on the Sherwin Ponds in Waite Hill reached a count of one thousand or more on that date, continuing to increase until they numbered 1,500 on October 15; remaining at about that level to the end of the period (Sherwin). Also on this date 500 were reported at Holden Arboretum (Hammond).

The rarely observed Snow Goose appeared on Sherwin Pond in Waite Hill on September 28. This adult goose apparently came in the previous night with a flock of Canada Geese whose noisy arrival was heard preceding a storm. It was seen the following day, flying and feeding in the company of the Canada

Geese (Sherwin and Flanigan). This marks a new earliest fall date of occurrence. On October 18, fair and cold following a day of wind and heavy rain, a flock of Blue Geese heading southwest, flew low and close to the shore at Mentor Beach at 8:25 AM. The flock numbered 19 geese, mostly immature birds, but led by an adult bird (Hammond). At 9:55 AM on the same day a flight of 42 Snow and Blue Geese (containing at least 10 Snow Geese), flying to the southwest at about a 300 foot elevation, was sighted over a residence in Solon (Surman, Jr.). One Snow Goose passed overhead at LaDue Reservoir in a flock of 31 Canada Geese on October 19 (English). Two Blue Geese, one with an injured leg, were sighted in North Chagrin Reservation on October 22, but were gone the next day (Finck). On October 25 an immature Blue Goose flew in from the lake to a weedy land-fill area at Gordon Park where it rested and fed on the weeds (Klamm); one immature fed in the short grass at Cuyahoga County Airport on the 26th (Kitson and Scheibe). Two adult Blue Geese were observed at LaDue Reservoir on October 28 (Carrothers). The final report of both species came from Lorain on November 20, of one adult Snow Goose and nine immatures, accompanied by one adult Blue Goose as they milled about the harbor area at 3:45PM before flying off to the west (Ward).

Other Waterfowl. Waterfowl on the lakefront varied from normal to poor. Interference from watercraft and hunting is believed to contribute greatly to the lack of waterfowl. Redheads, Canvasback, and both species of Scaup were present in scant numbers; Common Goldeneye and Bufflehead were present in near normal numbers; Ruddy Ducks and Hooded Mergansers were moderately plentiful. On November 15, Red-breasted Mergansers moved in great number from west to east with a count of over 1,500, occasionally landing in large rafts to feed. Sea Ducks were generally scarce. [This commentary is based upon reports submitted by William[s] and Nancy Klamm who survey the lakefront regularly.]

A rare observance at Lorain harbor of two rafts of Blue-winged Teal, totaling 290, was made on October 31. After actively milling around for a short time they moved off to the west. "Only large flock of ducks the whole season" (Ward). Oldsquaw was observed at East 9th Street Pier on November 9; offshore in Lakewood on the 15th (Klamm). One was present at Lake Lucerne, Chagrin Falls, on November 14 and 15 (English, Carrothers, Gaede); and one on the Lorain lakefront on November 25 (Dolbear).

All three species of Scoters were reported in November. There was a sighting of the quite rare Surf Scoter at Perkins Beach on November 1. "A female was diving with some Scaup which flew off at the approach of a boat. The Scoter remained, paddling offshore and moving a short distance on the

wing -- but eventually was shot by hunters in the boat." Another was observed at White City on the 23rd (Klamm). A Surf Scoter was closely studied near a lakefront residence in Lorain on the 24th (Dolbear). The even rarer Common Scoter was reported from White City on the 23rd (Klamm and Stasko). One female White-winged Scoter was active at Gordon Park on the 27th (Klamm).

Shorebirds. The shorebird migration was the best that has been experienced since the autumn of 1964. Conditions were especially favorable for shorebirds at LaDue Reservoir (English). All of the species that commonly appear in the region occurred in good numbers. The Semi-palmated Plover, Greater Yellowlegs, Least Sandpiper, Dowitcher, and Sanderling were present for a much extended season. The Dunlin was present in impressive numbers: 96 on October 18 (Klamm); 62 on November 16 (Surman); and were still reported at the end of the period.

Gulls and Terns. Large concentrations of gulls were reported along the Cleveland lakefront and reached their maximum number on November 22 when the following estimates were made: 1,220 Herring Gulls, 5,900 Ring-billed Gulls, 6,750 Bonaparte's Gulls (Klamm). A heavy concentration at Lorain harbor was reached on November 25 when the following estimates were made: 5,000 Herring Gulls, 10,000 Ring-billed Gulls, and 10,000 Bonaparte's Gulls (Johnson). Ring-billed Gulls were reported moving about in areas not commonly occupied. "For several weeks prior to November 18 Ring-billed Gulls and a few Herring Gulls started coming to the pond on Smith Road in Waite Hill. On that date the field was white with them -- 750 or more. The gulls continued to come daily but in lesser numbers. Rarely do they frequent our ponds" (Sherwin). On November 18 a flight of 1,600 Ring-billed Gulls was sighted over downtown Painesville -- headed south (Booth).

Common Terns made a dramatic appearance on September 21 when they were concentrated in numbers exceeding 3,300 in the harbor breakwall area on each side of the mouth of the Cuyahoga River (Klamm).

Nighthawks and Swifts. As reported in the Summer issue of the BIRD CALENDAR the Nighthawk migration was limited and this trend continued into autumn. The main group of Common Nighthawks moved through the region on the last three days in August and the first day of September. The latter was the peak day with a major flight of 521 birds in Lakewood moving in typical west to east movement (Klamm); a total of 94 birds, ranging from singles to as many as a flock of 23 counted in Forest Hill Park, Cleveland Heights, between 6:47 and 7:47 PM (Newman); a group of 25 observed over the Shaker Lakes (Knight).



The extent of the September 1 movement was evidenced by the report of an observer traveling on the Ohio Turnpike just west of Youngstown at Exchange #15, of 28 Nighthawks noted as they were flying and diving about (Nagy). On September 3 a band of 27 flew northwest over the Natural Science Museum. (Peskin). Nineteen birds, including a flock of 12 flying steadily west to east, were observed between 7:00 and 7:55 PM in Forest Hill Park, Cleveland Heights, on September 5 (Newman). On the same day 17 Nighthawks were noted at Garfield Park, Garfield Heights (Knight). The last movement of any size -- 91 birds -- was reported on September 6 from Lakewood (Stasko). Scattered groups of small numbers were seen on several subsequent dates.

Chimney Swifts were reported commonly during September and early October. See the Field Notes section for an account of Swifts in Willoughby.

Red-breasted Nuthatch. For the second consecutive autumn the Red-breasted Nuthatch was reported almost daily, in fact, in even greater numbers as well as a greater number of occurrence records than the autumn of 1968.

Brown Creeper. As in the autumn of 1968 the Brown Creeper was numerous. "If the number of dead birds found in downtown Cleveland provides a sound basis for judgment, then there was a sizable migration of this species on September 28 and 29. At noon on the 29th, I found two dead birds at the Erieview Building and one disabled bird at the new Federal Building. On the 30th at 8:50 AM at the Standard Building, I found two dead birds whose condition indicated they had been killed a day or two before" (Newman). A daily noontime survey of Erie Street Cemetery in downtown Cleveland tallied Brown Creepers on eleven dates from September 19 to October 16, with a high count of 15 birds on both October 6 and 9 (Leach).

Carolina Wren on Increase? According to a summary of the relative abundance of the Carolina Wren appearing in the Autumn 1963 BIRD CALENDAR (59:34), the Wren had reached a low as compared with the five preceding years. A relative appraisal can be made by using the ratio as a basis for comparison in which the first figure indicates the total number of autumn records and the second the total number of birds represented in those records:

<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1963</u>
73/92	13/21	7/8	14/23	23/25	16/19

Six Carolina Wrens were heard singing from several different locations at the same time on November 5 at Sand Run Metropolitan Park, Akron (Szabo); four were observed at Black River Reservation, Lorain County, on November 11 (Johnson).

Migration of Kinglets. Kinglets moved through the region in impressive numbers in October. Some of the highlights of the migration are as follows:

October 4 An observation route along the lakefront, regularly covered by two contributors, produced a tally of more than 150 Golden-crowned Kinglets and over 120 Ruby-crowned Kinglets (Klamm).

October 9 Golden-crowned Kinglets were present in vast numbers all along Lake Shore Boulevard in Bratenahl, as was noted on the same day of October 1968 in even larger numbers. On the 10th, Kinglets were flitting through every tree and bush at Donald Gray Gardens in downtown Cleveland (Raynes).

October 15 The regular mid-day survey of Erie Street Cemetery in downtown Cleveland resulted in a count of 40 Golden-crowned Kinglets (Leach).

October 23 A steady flow was noted through the evergreen trees near a residence in Waite Hill with 38 Golden-crowned Kinglets counted between 8:15 and 10:45 AM (Flanigan); this movement was noted in the trees and shrubs near a Willoughby residence throughout the entire day (Pallister); in East Cleveland in early afternoon and at dusk (King).

Warblers in Migration. In Waite Hill daily observations were made of the warbler migration, where it was constant, showing few fluctuations. Ten or more species were tallied on 12 dates in September, with September 8 a peak day -- 16 species tallied. A remarkable number of sightings were made of the Orange-crowned Warbler, without precedent in the experience of the observer: (3) on October 6; (2) at 10:30 AM on October 9 and (2) at 5:15 PM, presumed to be different birds; (1) on October 10; (1) on October 12; (1) on October 23 (Flanigan).

Icterids. No report was received of any large gathering of Red-winged Blackbirds or Brown-headed Cowbirds, on the contrary; "blackbird population was down from other years... at Sand Run Metropolitan Park, Akron, there were no long lines of birds moving around for days as previously" (Szabo).

Common Grackles were reported in greater numbers than usual and an account follows of a Grackle movement as observed near North Chagrin Reservation. "An unusually large number of Common Grackles collected in the North Chagrin area during the last half of October. The birds worked eastward and northeast through the day and returned in seemingly endless streams to the roosting area in the evening, which appeared to be between Interstate 271 and S.O.M. Center Road. After seeing the movement for several days I decided to try to

get a count as they passed in the evening. On October 26 two columns converged at the Sunset Pond area, one from due east and the other from the northeast and during a 20 minute period of continuous passage of birds the count reached 11,200" (Scheibe).

Northern Finches. Evening Grosbeaks made a spectacular showing during the 1968-69 season and appeared again this autumn. The first reports were of two birds flying over a residence in Hudson on October 25 (Henderson) and a band of 40 that was sighted in Warrensville Heights on the 31st (Knight). Three Grosbeaks were observed in flight near Chardon on November 7 (Spare). On the 9th one Grosbeak appeared at a feeding station in Lorain (Ed Dowler fide Ward) -- the only report from the western portion of the region -- and five visited a feeding station in Mentor (Fais). Six were sighted in Kirtland Hills on November 21; one on the 25th (Daniels). A brief stop was made at a feeding station in Kirtland by 15 Grosbeaks on the 23rd (Amanda McDonough fide Flanigan); 20 were observed on the campus of Kent State University on the same day (Louis Mazzola fide Dexter).

Common Redpolls appeared late in November with a strong surge; reported first from North Chagrin Reservation on the 26th when a flock of 15 fed at Sunset Pond (Finck). An exceptional influx of more than 113 birds was made on the 27th when flocks moved east to west along the lakefront and were noted in Lakewood Park Cemetery; a tally of 27 Redpolls was made on the 29th; 34 birds on the 30th (Klamm). Additional reports were received for the 27th indicating a general movement in the area on that date. This included three separate sightings from Gates Mills and Pepper Pike, totaling 8 birds (Tramer); a flock of 35 birds at Warrensville Farms (Knight); flocks varying from 35 to 54 birds at Shaker Lakes (Peskin and Leach). On the 29th, 80 Redpolls were reported at Shaker Lakes (Leach).

The Pine Siskin was reported on three dates: October 13 (Klamm); November 22 (Johnson); November 23 (Fais) -- single birds with the exception of three on the 22nd.

The rarest of the northern finches -- the Crossbills, made only brief appearances in the region. Red Crossbills were reported only one time, on November 11 from Mentor, when three males were seen as they flew down to drink from a puddle in the road (Hammond). Five White-winged Crossbills fed in hemlocks near a residence in Waite Hill on November 10 (Sherwin); three -- one male and two females or immatures, fed on pine cones at Warrensville Farms on November 27 (Knight).

First report of Snow Buntings came on November 1 -- of 62 birds (Klamm) after which they occurred regularly during the month throughout the region.

Late Stragglers. A variety of birds were tardy in their usual migratory journey, including the following: Sanderling, November 25 (Carrothers and Flanigan); Barn Swallow, September 28 (Klamm); Wood Thrush, November 3-6 (Flanigan); Swainson's Thrush, November 15 (Scheibe)

New Occurrence Dates. The following are new earliest and latest dates or occurrence for annotation in the supplement "Early and Late Dates for the Birds of the Cleveland Region" issued September 1968:

New Earliest Spring Date - Prothonotary Warbler-April 13, 1969

New Latest Spring Date - Nashville Warbler-June 27, 1969  
Blackburnian Warbler-June 30, 1969

New Earliest Fall Date - Snow Goose-September 28, 1969  
Oregon Junco-October 28, 1968

New Latest Fall Date - Willet-September 25, 1968  
Knot-November 4, 1969  
Dowitcher-November 4, 1969  
Prothonotary Warbler-October 15, 1968  
Prairie Warbler-October 10, 1969  
Orchard Oriole-November 14, 1968

Yearly Summary. In the BIRD CALENDAR year now ended, that is, from December 1, 1968 to November 30, 1969, 254 species were recorded, as compared with 258 the preceding year. In addition, the hybrid Brewster's Warbler, and the gambelii race of the White-crowned Sparrow were reported. There was no record for the Snowy Owl, Loggerhead Shrike, or Lapland Longspur.

#### NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Gannet - An immature Gannet was observed for about an hour and a half on November 16 in the CEI-Gordon Park area. "In flight, the long pointed wings and pointed tail were quite evident and the head was usually held in a downward position, toward water. The bird dove into the water quite cleanly with total submersion, yet rested on the water quite bouyantly" (Klamm and Chuck Hocevar). A Gannet, presumably the same bird, was reported from the same area on November 18 and 20 (Knight); and was viewed at close range on tie 22nd (Robert Shaper fide Carrothers). This is the first report since 1960.

Shoveler - A very early individual was observed at Shaker Lakes on September 1 (Knight).

Harlequin Duck - A female Harlequin was present in Lakewood on November 22, diving close to the shore with Bufflehead and Goldeneye (Klamm).

Bald Eagle - (1) At 12:30 PM on September 14, with a clear sky and a light breeze, an Eagle called repeatedly high above the valley near a residence in Painesville. 9-power binoculars were quickly obtained and on returning three Eagles were in view, two flying in close company, one above the other at times, with the third flying some distance in the rear. The birds were judged to be immatures (Booth). (2) An Eagle was observed for more than 15 minutes on September 21 as it soared in the bright sun, very high over a residence in Waite Hill (Sherwin).

Piping Plover - The individual present at White City on three dates in late August continued to be seen in September; the last observation on the 6th (Klamm, Carrothers, Gaede, Scheibe).

Knot - One was observed at LaDue Reservoir on November 4. The Knot preferred to feed "on the fringe and never with the other shorebirds" (Szabo). This marks a new latest date of occurrence as well as the first November record.

Purple Sandpiper - (1) A Purple Sandpiper, occasionally joined by a lone Dunlin, fed on the beach at White City on November 15, with preference shown for the leaf-littered portion of the shoreline. On the 23rd, one, presumably the same bird, was encountered in the same location (Klamm); and one on the 24th (Carrothers). (2) Also on the 23rd, a Purple Sandpiper, presumed to be a second bird, was observed on the jetty at the mouth of the Rocky River as it flew occasionally to avoid waves that were breaking, while still managing to stay close to the shore (Stasko). (3) Far to the west, at Lorain harbor, a Purple Sandpiper was identified on November 24, and under observation for three hours as it moved in and out of the jetty (Ward, Dolbear, Lebold).

Least Sandpiper - (1) Six were observed at White City on October 24 (Scheibe); (2) one was present at Burke Lakefront Airport on October 26 (Klamm) -- uncommonly late dates.

Dowitcher - Four Dowitchers fed on a spit of land extending into LaDue Reservoir in the company of a Greater Yellowlegs and Dunlin on November 4 (Szabo). This marks a new latest date of occurrence as well as the first November record.

Northern Phalarope - (1) One was studied for almost one hour on November 23 at Lakeview Park, Lorain (Ward). (2) One was active close to the shore at White City beach on November 25 (Carrothers and Flanigan).

Laughing Gull - An immature Laughing Gull was observed for one hour on a sand bar at Lorain harbor on October 26 (Ward). This is the first October record for the region.

Franklin's Gull - Seven reports were received from September 8 to November 23, of single birds except for three on October 18, and two on October 20; all occurrences were at White City (Carrothers, Klamm, Raynes).

Little Gull - Both adult and immature Little Gulls were reported: (1) in the early morning of November 12, an adult associated with several hundred Bonaparte's offshore at White City (Surman, Jr.); (2) an adult fished off the seawall at White City on the 15th; an immature was observed on the 16th resting on the sand spit with Bonaparte's at White City; an adult was active inside the breakwall at Edgewater Park on the 23rd; an immature was observed at White City on the same day (Klamm); (3) an immature was present at White City on November 24 (Carrothers).

Black-legged Kittiwake - At 9:00 AM on November 29 an immature bird was identified as it flew in and out at Lorain harbor and was studied as it rested on the water. "The Kittiwake could not be found when Robert Morse arrived but it was found by him when he returned at a later time" (Ward).

Forster's Tern - One, in winter plumage, rested in the basin at White City on October 25 and engaged in fishing; the presence of Common Terns furnishing a contrast (Klamm).

Saw-whet Owl - Scolding Blue Jays and pellets beneath a horse chestnut tree led to the discovery of a Saw-whet Owl at Lakewood on October 23; being observed on the 24th also. "By an odd coincidence a Saw-whet Owl was found by me in this same tree a few years previously" (Stasko).

Mockingbird - A Mockingbird appeared in Waite Hill on October 3.6 (Sherwin and October 27 (Flanigan). See the Field Notes section for an account of the Mockingbird that nested in Willoughby Hills in 1969.

Northern Shrike - A Northern Shrike was identified in Waite Hill on November 11 after it gave chase to a Mourning Dove and smaller birds at a feeding station and then perched. On two previous dates, November 7 and 10, a Shrike had been observed on the grounds but no determination was made as to its classification; it is now presumed to be the same bird (Flanigan).

Golden-winged Warbler - A male fed in the low shrubbery at Waite Hill on September 15 in the company of ten other species of warblers that passed between 8:30 and 9:00 AM (Flanigan).

Prairie Warbler - (1) Two Prairie Warblers were active in Mentor Marsh at mid-day on September 14; one was judged to be a male and the other a female (Hammond). (2) One was observed at Donald Gray Gardens in downtown Cleveland on October 10 as

it fed with other migrants (Raynes). This marks a new latest fall date of occurrence

Yellow-breasted Chat - One, "in beautiful plumage" was observed in the shrubbery around a residence in Lorain on the mornings of October 29 and 31 -- uncommonly late dates (Dolbear).

Dickcissel - A male Dickcissel appeared at a feeding station in Mentor on November 22 and remained for the 23rd and 24th (Fais). A Dickcissel visited this yard in 1963 and again in 1964.

House Finch - A male House Finch frequented the feeders at a residence in Waite Hill on five dates in September, beginning on the 18th; two males were present on October 5. These individuals were striped in rosy pink on the sides and washed in rosy pink all over the head and shoulders, and identified as the Carpodacus frontalis hybrid on the basis of the coloring and data from B. P. Bole, Jr. (Flanigan).

Oregon Junco - An individual of the pink-sided race of the Oregon Junco was observed as it fed in the shrubbery in North Chagrin Reservation on November 8 (Scheibe).

Harris' Sparrow - An immature Harris' Sparrow was present several times each day from October 28 to November 4 as it fed on the ground near a residence in Brecksville. The bird was active but did not associate with the other birds (Jerry Piskac vide Knight).

#### FIELD NOTES

Rescue of a Pied-billed Grebe. Driving home at dusk on November 16, I spotted a familiar silhouette in the unfamiliar habitat of a roadside, as I passed the Smith Road Pond in Waite Hill. I quickly stopped and found a Pied-billed Grebe sitting quite alert in the usual "buttonhook" attitude as though it was on the water. The bird got up and walked into the wire fence, enabling me to catch it and take it home to a filled bathtub. The Grebe dove and swam in usual but limited fashion, though not as lively as one I had rescued some years ago from a small hole in the frozen-over pond. There was no apparent injury and although it continued to be active it refused bits of raw fillet of sole. Merit Skaggs banded the Grebe, as he had done with the first rescued bird. It was decided this Grebe was quite immature, perhaps tired and unable to keep up with the more rugged transients, and didn't quite make the landing in the fading light. The next morning, the Grebe seemed sufficiently frisky, but the sole was untouched. We took the Grebe to the edge of the pond where it quickly dove and disappeared. A minute later a bit of its head pushed up on the pond's far side. - MARGARET H. SHERWIN

Crows Interfere with Red-tailed Hawk. On November 7 attention was drawn, by raucous calls, to three Common Crows engaged in mobbing an immature Red-tailed Hawk in a stand of dogwood trees about 100 feet from our home in Waite Hill. The Hawk was in an upright position on the ground with the wings outspread as though protecting a "catch". The Crows drove the Hawk into the trees and tormented it unmercifully, coming so close with their passes to cause the Hawk to bob its head repeatedly. They flew back and forth between two or three trees but remained near the area where they had been seen on the ground. During a lull a smaller bird flew in and made a pass at the quietly perched Hawk and it was identified as a shrike after it alighted at the tree top. The shrike then made eight or nine passes at the Hawk, flying to the tree tops between passes. On the fourth pass it either struck the Hawk on the head, or missed by a hairsbreadth, as the Hawk came near to losing its footing on the limb. Two Blue Jays entered the attack at the departure of the shrike and they also came quite close in their harassment. This observation began at 11:00 AM and continued until the Hawk flew off to the north at 12:15 PM. At this time the area where the Hawk was first seen was examined and a rabbit was found. Conditions indicated it had been killed by the Hawk and the spots where the talons had penetrated were marked by drops of blood. No observation was made in the intervening hours, but at 3:30 PM the Hawk was observed as it flew up into a tree, arising from the spot where the rabbit was located. The Hawk chose a low perch and it was noticeable that its crop was bulging to such an extent the bird appeared as though it had swallowed a large object. After a short time had elapsed the Hawk was harassed by Blue Jays but it appeared in a torpid state, perching quietly with no attempt to fly off or to change position. At 4:20 PM it was still perched on the same limb. The departure of the Hawk was not observed but at dusk it was gone. The rabbit was then approached closely enough to see that the entire front portion was devoured and the ground was covered with small tufts or [of] rabbit fur torn off by the Hawk. - ANNETTE B. FLANIGAN

Common Gallinule. There is evidence of a nesting of the Common Gallinule, which has become an uncommon nesting bird, at a small lake near Punderson. Parents and two young were observed from September 15 to October 4, and photographed. - BERNARD S. MANDLE

Chimney Swifts Go to Roost in Willoughby. On September 19 a seemingly endless swirling mass of Chimney Swifts was observed from 7:45 to 8:00 PM as they flew around the airshaft chimney of the Junior High School. This chimney is used each spring and fall by migrating Chimney Swifts. On this day, neither the beginning nor the ending of this movement was seen but thousands of birds were involved. A watch was made of the movement from beginning to end on the 20th. The first Swift



appeared at 7:05 PM, the gathering began at 7:15, and though widely scattered some dipped at the chimney. The first Swift entered the Chimney at 7:17 PM with a few birds following in the next few minutes. Two hundred Swifts had entered the chimney by 7:25 and then their entry became too rapid to count by single birds as six or eight were entering at one time. Their entry continued rapidly until 7:35 PM at which time an occasional few would fly off briefly before returning and entering the chimney. A total of 3,312 Swifts had entered the chimney by 7:40 PM -- the last 17 being stragglers and entering by ones and twos. - ANNETTE B. FLANIGAN

Continuing Presence of Mockingbird in Willoughby Hills. An account of the nesting Mockingbirds appeared in the Summer issue. One parent and one young bird continued to be seen together until mid-September. As October approached only a single bird was seen, almost daily, and was heard singing several times. Because of the different behavior of this individual, such as a penchant for the favorite perching places of the male Mockingbird during the nesting period; one such being the chimney top, and a comparative lack of wariness, it was presumed to be the male Mockingbird. A bird continues to be seen once or twice a week, the last date being November 27. It was reported that a bird which flew against the window of a residence about a mile to the northeast had been identified as a Mockingbird. - GEN REUTTER and RUTH SILLIMAN

Cape May Warbler Attracted to Insect Infestation on Hawthorn as in 1965. During September 1965 two Cape May Warblers eliminated a severe insect problem which had affected a hawthorn tree at our home in Waite hill. In September 1969 another woolly aphid infestation occurred on this same hawthorn and a Cape May Warbler was found feeding on the insects on the 16th. By the 20th the bird was present in the hawthorn almost the entire day and at dusk perched quietly in the outer edges of the tree after almost all other birds had gone to roost. On the 21st the Cape May alternated between feeding in the hawthorn and a stand of Alder Buckthorn (Rhamnus frangula) at a short distance where it fed on the berries. Other warblers, as well as the Cape May, fed on the berries but no other warbler species was seen to feed on the infestation although many species of warblers passed through the grounds during this period. This routine of alternate feeding was followed daily thereafter until September 25 at 6:30 PM which was the last appearance of the Cape May Warbler in the hawthorn. A Downy Woodpecker then fed on the infestation and continued to do so until early in October when the hawthorn was again free of insects. - ANNETTE B. FLANIGAN

Observations on Significance of Available Food. (1) The heavily laden bayberry shrubs on the grounds at the Natural Science Museum were a prime attraction during the autumn migration, particularly to Myrtle Warblers. Beginning October 20, a flock numbering as high as 30 birds, was held by this attraction for almost two weeks, by which time the shrubs were bare of fruit. - GLENN KITSON

(2) There was a marked drop in the fall bird population feeding in the field south of Sunset Pond, North Chagrin Reservation. Most noticeable was the absence of a build-up of the American Goldfinch and a curtailed build-up of the Bobolink. The 1968 build-up of Bobolink reached approximately 60 birds that remained for more than three weeks. The highest count in 1969 was 27 birds and they lingered for only one week. Tree Sparrows and Slate-colored Juncos were down in numbers in this area also. A possible contributing factor is the absence of any planting in this field during 1969 as was carried out in 1968. - ROBERT SCHEIBE

From Hanging Rock Farm Kirtland Hills. The following records submitted by B. P. Bole, were not received in time to be included in the usual sequence of reports.

Snow Goose: one was occasionally present during September with the Canada Geese.

Blue Goose: on October 28, seven, appearing to be Snow-Blue hybrids, fed on corn in the field.

Great Horned Owl: seen regularly over the chicken yards and in the woods. An encounter, as witnessed by B. P. Bole, Jr., follows. At 3:00 PM on October 24 Horned Owls wakened us as they hooted on the roof of our bedroom. Two pair were engaged in a territorial fight, with all four owls taking part. For an hour they made dive-bombing runs over the pond and lawn and finally one pair was driven off to the east; the owls remaining presumed to be the pair that nest to the west of us.

Long-eared Owl: appeared occasionally through the autumn.

Wilson's Warbler: five, on the very late date of October 18.

Evening Grosbeak: first appeared on November 22, then becoming regular; varying in count from five to 30 birds.

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