



CLEVELAND REGION

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The Cleveland Museum of Natural History
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 | 51 Stebbin's Gulch |
| 22 Natural Science Museum | 52 Chardon |
| Wade Park | 53 Burton |
| 23 Baldwin Reservoir | 54 Punderson Lake |
| 24 Shaker Lakes | 55 Fern Lake |
| 25 Lake View Cemetery | 56 LaDue Reservoir |
| 26 Forest Hill Park | 57 Spencer Wildlife Area |
| 27 Bedford Reservation | |
| 28 Hudson | |
| 29 Kent | |



CLEVELAND METROPOLITAN
PARK SYSTEM



PORTAGE ESCARPMENT
(800-foot Contour Line)

THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR

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THE WEATHER
Spring 1972

- March - Unusually warm weather of rather short duration (one to three days) was periodically regular, and temperatures averaged 40 degrees or higher on ten of these days; but overall the month averaged 0.45 degrees cooler than normal. Precipitation on 13 days totaled 2.7 inches and was in deficit 0.16 inches. Ice cover on Lake Erie was moderately extensive through the 5th, open with extensive shore ice through the 11th, variable offshore ice fields through the 19th, and open waters thereafter.
- April - Temperatures averaged 1.0 degrees cooler than normal while precipitation totaling 3.40 inches was barely in deficit by .01 inches. Cool spells occurred principally during the first 9 days and again during the 24th to 28th. All measurable snow fell in the initial cool period with a maximum of 2 inches on the ground on the 8th. In all, precipitation occurred on 19 days but sunshine still averaged 54 percent of the time possible. Lake Erie was open all month while inland waters remained subject to transient icing during the first 8 days.
- May - The month was a little warmer and wetter than normal, with temperatures averaging 1.0 degrees above normal, and the total precipitation of 3.74 inches provided an excess of 0.22 inches. Cooler than normal temperatures prevailed only in the period from the 4th to 12th. Precipitation was measurable on 9 days in all and except for the 30th, it all occurred during the first 15 days. Winds from southerly quarters were dominant about two-thirds of the time.

COMMENT ON THE SEASON

The spring season was, in the opinion of most, one of the most interesting and rewarding in recent years. This season began with the continuing presence of many of our irregular winter visitors--Evening Grosbeaks, Redpolls, Pine Siskin and Snowy Owl.

As the season progressed, indication was given by many early arrivals of the soon-to-come northward migration. While an early Purple Martin made an appearance on March 12, Snow Buntings were still being reported on March 13. The first Broad-winged Hawk was reported on March 19, yet a Rough-legged Hawk remained until April 23. These observations previewed the spring appearance of many individually noteworthy species which included Red-necked Grebe, Eared Grebe, Sandhill Crane, King Rail, Willet, Sprague's Pipit, Swainson's Warbler, Brewster's Warbler and Prairie Warbler. The foregoing and other aspects of the spring season will be discussed in greater details in the following paragraphs.

Waterfowl. The Common Loon was reported on few occasions this spring. A single bird, however, was noted at Lorain Harbor on May 13 where it remained to the end of the period (Stasko and Ward).

Although sporadic appearances of Horned Grebe occurred prior to mid-April, peak populations were not recorded until April 8 to 16 when the majority of reports were made. Pied-billed Grebe were recorded in small numbers regularly throughout March and April. (See Noteworthy Records section for the reports of the Eared and Red-necked Grebe.)

Whistling Swans were observed daily in various sections of the Cleveland region from March 6 to 26. The only sizable migration reported was on March 19 when several flocks totaling approximately 800 birds were heard and observed in late evening as they passed above a Painesville residence (Booth). This same large movement was also noted separately by a Mentor observer (Fais).

Least Bittern. This elusive species, which was not recorded in 1970 and reported only once in 1971, was observed on four occasions in May. Observations of single birds occurred at Holden Arboretum on May 7 and 20 (Hammond) and on May 14 (Bole, Jr.). The other report occurred on May 14 when one was noted at Lakeview [Lake View] Cemetery (Baum).

Hawk Migration. Migratory movement was reported regularly this spring with most large movements of hawks being reported from western sections of the Cleveland region.

Sharp-shinned, Cooper's, Red-tailed, Red-shouldered, Marsh and Sparrow Hawks were reported regularly throughout the season. There were also several reports during the period of Rough-legged Hawks (2) and Osprey (11). The highlight of the season, however, is always the large movements of Broad-winged Hawks. As will be indicated in the following paragraphs, the largest flights were reported on April 15 and 23.

With the exception of April 30, good flights of hawks were not encountered along the lakefront this spring. The extensive inland movements of April 15 and 23 were not evident along the shoreline (Klamm).

Migratory movement was noted as early as March 19 when nineteen birds and six species were reported from Elmwood Park in Rocky River. A summary of spring reports from this area follows:

March 19

- 1 - Sharp-shinned Hawk
- 1 - Cooper's Hawk
- 15 - Red-tailed Hawk
- 1 - Rough-legged Hawk
- 1 - Sparrow Hawk

April 1

- 1 - Turkey Vulture
- 3 - Sharp-shinned Hawk
- 1 - Cooper's Hawk
- 12 - Red-tailed Hawk
- 1 - Red-shouldered Hawk
- 1 - Marsh Hawk
- 3 - Sparrow Hawk

April 15

- 1 - Turkey Vulture
- 32 - Sharp-shinned Hawk
- 1 - Cooper's Hawk
- 245 - Broad-winged Hawk
- 2 - Marsh Hawk
- 1 - Osprey
- 1 - Sparrow Hawk

April 23

- 1 - Red-shouldered Hawk
- 160 - Broad-winged Hawk
- 1 - Rough-legged Hawk

May 18

- 1 - Cooper's Hawk
- 4 - Red-tailed Hawk
- 10 - Red-shouldered Hawk
- 70 - Broad-winged Hawk

As can be seen, “Red-tailed Hawk dominated on the first two dates and Broad-winged Hawk on the last three dates. All observations were made at Elmwood Park in Rocky River except the May 18th date, which was near the Stinchcomb Memorial” in Rocky River Reservation (Stasko).

The most unusual and unseasonal report came from Medina on March 19 when eight Broad-winged Hawks were observed. Two Red-tailed Hawks, two Marsh Hawks, and a lone Red-shouldered Hawk were also reported from the same area (Baum).

Shorebird Migration. The spring shorebird migration in the Cleveland region is not generally typified by any great numbers or variety. This season, however, brought regular observations of many species. The highlights include: Black-bellied Plover, May 13 and 20 (Scheibe and Hammond); Ruddy Turnstone, May 13 (Hammond); Willet, April 29 (Ward); Least Sandpiper, May 13 (Scheibe); Dowitcher, May 7 and 15 (Klamm and Hocevar). There were numerous reports of Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Woodcock, Common Snipe, Spotted and Solitary Sandpipers, Lesser and Greater Yellowlegs, Dunlin and Semipalmated Sandpiper. Most reports came from White City.

Gulls and Terns. “Herring, Ring-billed and Bonaparte’s Gulls were in typical abundance with peak population levels present in the March 25 - April 10 period” (Klamm). Glaucous and Great Black-backed Gulls were continually reported from Lorain Harbor until March 20. The Little Gull and Black-legged Kittiwake were also reported from Lorain. (Details of these observations are included in the Noteworthy Records Section.)

Caspian Terns were present on many dates in April, with the largest assemblage of 95 noted on April 28 at Lorain Harbor (Ward). There were only two May records, the last being the observation of two birds on May 31 at White City (Hocevar).

A single Black Tern was reported from the lakefront when one was identified on May 13 at Fairport Harbor. The only other report of Black Terns occurred on May 30 when four were noted at Mogadore Reservoir (Knight).

Blue Jay Migration. The annual eastward migration of jays was again well documented this spring. All reports, however, were made from the Lake Erie Shoreline. The initial observation of migrating jays was noted on March 12 when small bands were seen moving along the lakefront (Raynes).

On April 30 a lakefront migration, from west to east started with heavy flights averaging 2200 per hour until noon, then the rate dwindled to 150 per hour until 1:15 PM and tapered off to a trickle thereafter. Strong movements were again observed on May 13, and, finally, on May 23 when the average rate was 350 per hour (Klamm).

For two and one-half hours on the morning of May 12, an observer tallied the eastward passage of Blue Jays at Huntington Beach. On this sunny, warm morning, a total of 481 jays were observed. 331 were noted in the first 45 minutes (9:00 to 9:45 AM), with the largest flock consisting of 150 birds. During the final 45 minutes (11:15 to noon), a flock of 26 and a single jay were all that passed. All of the Blue Jays followed a narrow corridor of flight extending from a few hundred feet off shore to a few hundred feet inland, although most passed over the land rather than the water (Newman).

Warbler Migration. Reports were made by many observers. General comments indicate that the warbler wave was very good this spring. However, it appeared to be earlier and perhaps of shorter duration than in recent years. Comments of the spring warbler migration include: "Warblers appear to be recovering well. Best warbler show in 25 years" at Kirtland Hills (Bole, Jr.); "Warblers average in numbers of species, few in numbers of individuals" (Booth).

Several contributors noted individual dates of warbler concentrations. A summary of these dates include: "In the May 6 - 13 period, concentrations were often excellent, but variety and distribution were weak. In the May 14 - 21 period, variety and distribution were fairly good, while in the period after May 21, numbers and distribution were quite lean" (Klamm).

"May 5 - 14 a nice warbler wave" (Raynes). "Warbler migration was good during the week of May 14th" (Szabo). "May 14th most warbler species" (Booth). Another reporter observed "A sizeable movement on May 14", for on the morning of that day 16 species were recorded including good numbers of Chestnut-sided, Bay-breasted, and Cape May Warblers (Newman). "May 15th and 18th were the best day for spring migration - 84 species with 21 specie of warblers on the 15th. 76 species on the 18th with 18 specie of warblers" (Stasko). The best weekends in Rocky River were May 14 and 21. This spring there was a noticable [noticeable] absence of American Redstarts and Myrtle Warblers in our area" (Siebert). "The heaviest warbler migration seemed to be May 15 to 19" (Ulrich).

Status of Mockingbird. The only regular report of this southern species in recent years has been the resident bird in Willoughby Hills. On March 12 this bird was observed with an apparent mate. One bird was again noted on March 25 (Scheibe).

Several other records of individual birds include the report of one on April 18 at the Erie Street Cemetery in downtown Cleveland (Leach), one on May 14 near Shaker Blvd (Raynes), one at a residence in Waite Hill on May 18 (Gaede) and one was noted at Lakeview [Lake View] Cemetery on April 8 (Baum).

Finches. The dramatic winter incursion of Evening Grosbeaks, Common Redpolls and Pine Siskin continued well into May. A summary of the spring records of these species follows.

Evening Grosbeaks continued to be reported throughout the region this spring. (1) A flock of up to 25 birds remained at the feeding station at Holden Arboretum where they were last seen on April 15 (Hammond). (2) Reports of up to ten birds occurred at a feeder in Kirtland Hills and were last noted on April 24 (Bole, Jr.). (3) Grosbeaks were sporadic visitors to a Painesville feeding station where 26 birds were last recorded on April 26 (Booth). (4) A large flock that wintered at a Kirtland Hills feeding station was last reported on April 25 by which time it had dwindled to twenty-five birds (Daniels). (5) A flock that had wintered at a Willoughby Hills residence dwindled in early May and was last seen on May 14 when two birds remained (Skaggs). (6) A flock totaling up to a dozen birds was reported from Waite Hill in March and April and was last seen on April 24 when a single bird remained (Sherwin). (7) A small flock numbering up to five birds was reported on several dates in March and April from Chesterland and was last noted on April 24 (Gaede). (8) A flock of up to 11 birds wintered at a residence in West Geauga and remained until April 24 (Kremm). (9) A large flock remained at a residence in Chagrin Falls until the late date of May 13 (English). (10) Evening Grosbeaks remained at a feeder in Chardon until May 1 (Spare). (11) The last report of this species occurred on May 18 at a feeding station in North Royalton where four birds were identified (Michalski fide Newman).

Other observations of sporadic visitors and/or lesser numbers were received from the following locations: Strongsville (Hocevar); North Chagrin (Scheibe and Kitson); Mentor (Hammond); Rocky River (Klamm and Stasko); Brecksville Reservation (Knight); Chardon (Ramisch); and Kent (Dexter).

Common Redpoll. Redpolls were reported frequently in March and early April. Many reports were of small flocks at feeders, which might indicate their relative abundance elsewhere. A Chardon observer noted that “Redpolls must have been present in great numbers. I would see at least one flock of 20 to 40 birds each day, and would observe them wherever I might go in the Chardon area.” This flock was last seen on April 16 (Spare), which was the latest report for 1972. Small groups of redpolls were noted at home feeders in several areas: Broadview Heights (Allenson); Strongsville (Hocevar); Shaker Heights (Peskin); Painesville (Booth); Chagrin Falls (English); Willoughby Hills (Ramisch and Skaggs); Holden Arboretum and Mentor (Hammond); Kirtland Hills (Daniels); and Lyndhurst (Kitson). Other observations of redpolls were reported from Shaker Lakes (Leach) and Rocky River Reservation (Stasko).

Pine Siskin. This irregular visitor was noted continually throughout the period, often at feeders. Although there were many observations in early May, the last report came from Willoughby Hills on May 19, where a flock of up to 50 individuals had remained. Three hundred individuals were banded at this location this spring (Skaggs). Other reports came from Kirtland Hills (Daniels and Bole, Jr.); Mentor Headlands (Hammond); Chagrin Falls (English); Chardon (Schinagle fide Spare), Rocky River Reservation (Klamm, Siebert, Stasko); Waite Hill (Sherwin); and Willoughby (Proudfoot).

A Summary of Early and Late Dates. As is not uncommon during the spring, this season produced a large number of early and late migrants. Although many of the observations are not new records for the region, most are worthy of recognition.

Early Arrivals

Field Sparrow	- March 5 (Daniels)
Savannah Sparrow	- March 12 (Scheibe)
Broad-winged Hawk	- March 19 (Baum)
Swamp Sparrow	- April 3 (Hocevar)
Chipping Sparrow-	- April 3 (Siebert)
Henslow’s Sparrow	- April 15 (Klamm)
Louisiana Waterthrush	- April 15 (Leach)
Hooded Warbler	- April 23 (Hammond)
Orange Crowned Warbler	- April 23 (Hammond)
Whip-poor-will	- April 24 (Newman)

Late Stragglers

Snow Bunting	- March 13 (Hocevar)
White-winged Scoter	- April 9 (Ward)
Oldsquaw	- April 15 (English)
Rough-legged Hawk	- April 23 (Stasko)
White-winged Crossbill	- April 30 (Skaggs)
Green-winged Teal	- May 6 (Hammond)
Fox Sparrow	- May 9 (Knight)
Bufflehead	- May 14 (Bole, Jr.)
Common Merganser	- May 15 (Ward)
Rusty Blackbird	- May 21 (Spare)
White-throated Sparrow	- May 26 (Leach)
Common Loon	- May 31 (Ward)
Caspian Tern	- May 31 (Hocevar)

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Red-necked Grebe - An adult was observed at Hinckley take on April 16. This rare transient was recorded on the first Spring walk at Hinckley Reservation and was viewed by many observers (Brubaker *fide* Wallin).

Eared Grebe - This rare visitor appeared on March 20 when one was closely observed at Lorain Harbor (Ward).

Common Egret - (1) One was reported from Horseshoe Lake in Shaker Heights on April 16 (Peskin). (2) A single bird was observed in flight on May 7 in Rocky River Reservation (Stasko). (3) One was reported from Lorain Harbor on May 15 where it remained for the entire day (Ward).

Black-crowned Night Heron - The only report of this species came from Navertil's Lake in Medina on April 15, when two adults were observed (Allenson and Hocevar).

Yellow-crowned Night Heron - This rare spring visitor was reported on the April 30 Holden Arboretum birdwalk (Bole, Jr.).

Oldsquaw - (1) A "female in brown summer plumage [plumage]" was observed at the Munny Light Plant on April 8 (Klamm). (2) An unprecedented observation of this species occurred when 14 and 53 were reported from LaDue Reservoir on April 12 and 15 (English).

White-winged Scoter - (1) An adult male and female were discovered near the East Ninth Street pier on April 8. Another tardy female was reported on April 15 at the Lakewood lakefront (Klamm). (2) An adult male was present at Lorain Harbor on April 9 (Ward).

Common Scoter - A female was noted on March 11 swimming and diving with other ducks near the East Ninth Street pier (Klamm).

Common Merganser - A very late female appeared on Lorain lakefront on May 15 (Ward).

Rough-legged Hawk - Although regularly reported this winter, there were only two spring sightings of this northern visitor. Single birds were identified on March 19 and April 23 at Elmwood Park in Rocky River (Stasko).

Sandhill Crane - An adult was observed and eventually photographed at the Sherwin Pond in Waite Hill. This bird was originally identified by an unknown Akron couple on April 23 and was subsequently seen by many observers (Skaggs *et al*) and was last reported on May 5 (Sherwin). This marks the first spring record since March 1966.

King Rail - A single bird was flushed from the same area in Mentor Marsh on May 7 and May 14 (Hammond). This is the first observation of this elusive species since 1968.

Virginia Rail - (1) A single individual was flushed several times on April 22 at the Streetsboro Bog (Allenson and Hocesvar). (2) One was flushed from a cattail pool on May 2 at Hanging Rock Farm in Kirtland Hills (Bole, Jr.). (3) Four were noted at Mentor marsh [Marsh] on May 10 (Sauter).

Black-bellied Plover - (1) One was viewed as it fed in the short grass at Burke Lakefront Airport on May 13 (Scheibe). (2) On May 20, one was observed at Mentor Headlands State Park (Hammond).

Ruddy Turnstone - This rare spring migrant. was reported from Fairport Harbor on May 13 where it was seen on "the concrete base of the light marking the east side of the entrance to the outer harbor" (Hammond).

Willet - A single individual was observed on April 29 at Lorain Harbor (Ward). This marks only the second spring record in the past twenty years.

Glaucous Gull - One was present on March 5 at Lorain Harbor (Stasko). Additional observations of a single bird, probably the same individual, were made on six dates in March with the last being March 25 (Ward).

Little Gull - An adult was identified at Lorain Harbor early in the morning of April 27 (Ward). This European gull is now being reported regularly in small numbers. Spring reports, however, continue to be extremely unusual in the Cleveland region.

Black-legged Kittiwake - An immature was present at Lorain Harbor on March 6, 11, and 16 (Ward). This is probably the same bird reported in February.

Snowy Owl - (1) The bird that was reported this winter at Lorain Harbor was last observed on March 2 (fide Ward). (2) One was discovered and observed closely as it perched in a tree near a Painesville residence on March 30 (fide Booth).

Cliff Swallow - (1) One was identified at the Holden Arboretum on May 6, 13 and 14 (Bole, Jr. and Scheibe). (2) On May 9, one individual was observed feeding with other swallows over Lower Shaker Lake (Knight).

Purple Martin - On the very early date of March 12, one was observed in Chardon (Spare).

Sprague's Pipit - On May 25, at the Erie Street Cemetery in downtown Cleveland, three birds were closely observed, as they fed in the grass (Leach). This is the fifth record for the region since the initial report in 1961.

Loggerhead Shrike - This bird was reported regularly during the spring season beginning with (1) the observation of one on the campus of Case-Western Reserve University on March 25 (Sauter). (2) At mid-morning on March 26, one was seen perched in a tree at the edge of the lagoon at White City (Newman). (3) One was reported from Waite Hill on April 6 (Gaede). (4) A single bird was identified in a field near Camp Cheerful in Strongsville on April 9 (Stasko). (5) In early morning of April 16 one was studied as it perched in [th] the edge of a field west of the Chagrin River and north of Roger's Road (Kitson).

White-eyed Vireo - (1) One was observed on May 8 and 9 at Lower Shaker Lake (Knight), (2) One was identified singing in a tree near a Lyndhurst residence on May 14 (Kitson). (3) A single bird was also reported from Rocky River on May 14 (Klamm). (4) One was observed in Rocky River Reservation on May 15 (Stasko).

Prothonotary Warbler - The only spring sighting of this warbler occurred on May 7 when a single bird was present near the new Interpretive Center in Rocky River Reservation (Stasko).

Swainson's Warbler - This rare southern warbler made an appearance along the East Branch of the Chagrin River in Chardon Township, where it was observed and repeatedly heard singing in early evening on May 13 (Tkac).

Golden-winged Warbler - There were an extraordinary number of sightings of this warbler. (1) The first appearance was recorded on May 7 when a single bird was seen at Lower Shaker Lake (Peskin). (2) Two were seen at Lower Shaker Lake on May 8 and one remained on May 9 (Knight). (3) A single bird was identified at a Lyndhurst residence on May 10 (Kitson). (4) A report of a single bird came from Rocky River Reservation on May 14 (Klamm). (5.) Single birds were reported from Furnace Run Metropolitan Park on May 15 and May 19 (Allenson).

Brewster's Warbler - This hybrid was observed searching for insects in hawthorn trees at the F. A. Seiberling Nature Center in Akron on May 17 (Szabo).

Pine Warbler - (1) The first report of this warbler occurred on April 13 when one was observed at Brecksville Reservation (Knight). (2) One was noted on April 25 feeding at Shaker Lakes (Leach). (3) A single bird was reported from Waite Hill on April 30 (Raynes).

Prairie Warbler - A male was observed singing on May 13 at the H. S. Wagner Daffodil Trail, Furnace Run Metropolitan Park (Szabo).

Kentucky Warbler - (1) On May 3 one was identified at Lower Shaker Lake (Knight and Raynes). (2) One was reported on May 20 as it moved near the bank of the Tuscarawas River in the Firestone Metropolitan Park (Szabo).

Hooded Warbler - A brightly-colored male was seen on April 23 in a wooded section near the Mentor Christmas Tree Farm (Hammond). This marks a new early spring date of occurrence.

Orchard Oriole - (1) An adult male was first observed on May 1 at a residence in Willoughby Hills and was subsequently seen regularly to the end of the period (Skaggs). (2) One was reported from Kirtland Hills on May 27 (Bole, Jr.).

White-winged Crossbill - (1) Two were seen at a residence in Waite Hill on March 21, and one there on March 26 and

31 (Sherwin). (2) A female, was identified at a feeder in Willoughby Hills on April 30 (Skaggs). This marks a new late date of occurrence, the previous late date being April 25, 1970.

Oregon Junco - (1) An individual of the pink-sided race was noted in a flock of Slate-colored Juncos on April 1 at North Chagrin Reservation (Scheibe). (2) Single birds of the pink-sided race were observed at a Mentor residence on April 2 and 16, and at Holden Arboretum on April 2 (Hammond).

Snow Buntings - Three quite late individuals were observed on a snow bank at Gordon Park on March 13 (Hocevar).

From an Adjoining Locality:

Glossy Ibis - In early afternoon on May 6, an adult was identified as it flew past several observers at Magee Marsh at Crane Creek State Park (Allenson and Hocevar) This bird was again observed on May 13 by employees of the park (Van Camp fide Hocevar). This rare southern visitor is being reported with more frequency from Ohio. A report from Geauga County in May 1969, and a September 1970 observation from the Cleveland lakefront are the only known previous records from the area.

FIELD NOTES

Whip-poor-will in Downtown Cleveland. On April 20 at 8:15 AM with the thermometer reading 41 degrees, I discovered a Whip-poor-will huddled parallel to a horizontal limb of a leafless sweet gum tree on the grounds of St. John's Cathedral at the busy intersection of East 9th Street and Superior Avenue in downtown Cleveland. The bird, which was about 30 feet up in the tree, was still there at 12:40 PM and still facing into a stiff northwest wind which ruffled its breast feathers.

There was a flow of warm southerly air into the Cleveland region on April 18 and 19; and I believe the Whip-poor-will traveled with this air flow, arriving on the night of the 19th or very early on the morning of the 20th, But before daybreak on the 20th the weather changed, the wind shifting to the northwest and temperatures falling sharply. Thus weather conditions may have forced the bird to halt its migratory journey, --Donald L Newman

From the same area the following report was made.

After leaving my office at 5:00 PM on April 21, I walked through a parking lot at 9th and St. Clair when a bird fluttered from under a car. I followed it to where it landed and discovered a Whip-poor-will under a car. It allowed me to get quite close before fluttering to a new spot. This was undoubtedly the same bird reported a day before by Donald Newman. It now appeared to be ill and would not fly more than a few yards when disturbed.

--Robert A. Scheibe, Jr.

Chimney Swifts and Nighthawks at Kent State University.

Chimney Swifts returned to the Kent State University Campus, as residents, on April 26. This is later than average, but within the expected range of early and late dates of arrival. The Common Nighthawk returned to the Campus on May 17, which is average.

--Ralph W. Dexter, Department of Biological Sciences, Kent State University.

Early Spring Nesting Notes. Canada Geese - A pair of geese have been observed nesting on the pond near Fowles Road and Big Creek Parkway in Middleburg Heights. This is a very unusual observation for the West side of Cleveland.--Genevieve Chambers

Wood Duck - A pair with seven young were reported. from a Wickliffe pond on May 14, and a parent and nine new ducklings were seen on a pond in Waite Hill on May 20. --Merit B. Skaggs and Annette Flanigan

Broad-winged Hawk - A Broad-winged Hawk was observed building a nest above the ledges at Virginia Kendall Park on April 29. This species has been nesting in the same general area for several years. --Bert L. Szabo

Red-headed Woodpecker - At least one nesting pair has been observed in the Shaker lakes area. This is the first time in recent memory that this species has nested at Shaker Lakes.

--Perry K. Peskin

Ruby-throated Hummingbird - A hummingbird was observed constructing a nest at Firestone Metropolitan Park on May 20 during a rain. The nest was located on a horizontal limb about 30 or more feet off the ground. It was attaching lichens to the outside. --Bert L. Szabo

Ruffed Grouse - On the Sunday morning bird walk on April 23 at O'Neil Woods Metropolitan Park, a Ruffed Grouse was observed and heard as he commenced his drumming breeding ritual. --Bert L. Szabo

Addendum: The Vesper Sparrow observed on December 4, 1971 and reported in the Winter 1971-72 issue constitutes a new latest fall date of occurrence (See The Cleveland BIRD CALENDAR, 68:1, 7).

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AN INVITATION: The Kirtland Bird Club meets at 7:45 PM on the first Wednesday of each month, with the exception of July and August, in the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Visitors are always welcome to attend these meetings.

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Annual subscriptions to the Cleveland BIRD CALENDAR may be obtained by mailing a check for \$2.00 to the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Please indicate any interest you may have in contributing to this publication and enclose your mailing address.