



*Published by*  
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                |                              |
| 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** - Temperatures averaged out 5.3 degrees cooler than normal, with sunshine prevailing 58 per cent of the time possible. Precipitation fell on 13 days, fairly well distributed during the month. The total of 3.35 inches was 0.55 inches above normal. Winds from northerly quarters prevailed on 13 days.
- October** - Weatherwise, the month was substantially normal. Temperatures averaged out to no deviation from normal. Rain fell on only nine days; most of it came in the period from the 15th through the 20th. The total amounted to 1.73 inches, which was in deficit by 0.84 inches. Sunshine prevailed 56 per cent of the time possible, and winds from northerly quarters were dominant on nine days.
- November** - The month was unseasonably warm for the first 12 days and again from the 16th through the 20th. Some snow and flurries occurred on days in the remaining period, but persistent ground cover stayed for only one day. Temperatures averaged out 6.0 degrees warmer than normal for the month. Precipitation occurred on 13 days and totaled 1.91 inches, which was 0.84 inches below normal.

## COMMENT ON THE SEASON

Despite evidence of an early and vigorous beginning, the 1975 fall migration in the Cleveland Region was, on the whole, fairly routine. Favorable weather and an apparently bountiful food supply failed to persuade most birds to slow their southward progression. Hence, the migration pattern of most species did not extend appreciably beyond the norm. There were, however, a notable number and variety of stragglers.

On the positive side, few species were inordinately scarce. Thrushes, vireos, and several warblers evidently had successful nesting seasons, judging from their relative abundance in the migration. Arrival in the fall of Red-breasted Nuthatches, Evening Grosbeaks, and Pine Siskins gave promise of a better-than-average winter season. Those species which were notably low tended to be those, such as shorebirds and terns, which can readily bypass Cleveland in their migrations or ride northerly winds through. In sum, the positive aspects of the season outweighed the negative.

Grebes More Numerous. Common Loons were sighted with about the usual frequency. But both Horned and Pied-billed Grebes were reported in greater numbers and over a greater time period than expected. Earliest report of Horned Grebes was of two in Forest Hill Park on September 2 (Pesch), and the species was seen regularly at various locations from September 27 on. Normally, they are not common in the region before late October.

Whistling SWan Migration Compressed. Passage of Whistling Swans, expected during the middle part of November, was evidently limited almost entirely to the single weekend of November 22-23. "In lakefront areas movements were strong on November 22 with northwest winds prevailing, the birds often at high elevation but very audible" (Klamm). Small bands were sighted near East 140th Street (Hannikman) and Waite Hill (Flanigan).

A Lakewood resident was drawn outside that night "at least six times by the clamor of their voices" and saw one pod of 50 illuminated from below by city lights (Stasko). At 8:45 the following morning a Lyndhurst observer heard swans calling and flying southeast but was unable to see or count them because of their altitude and the morning sunlight (Kitson). Before 9:30, though, a contributor counted 1,100 in two flocks off Edgewater Beach (LePage). Several other contributors also reported flocks.

The movement continued into the night of the 23rd, and 30-40 birds were seen overhead on "a dark night, brilliant with stars" over Willoughby (Pallister).

Only swans recorded outside of this 48-hour period were 11 at White City, November 8 (Hoffman); 32 on Firestone Lake, November 14 (Jessie Belitsky, fide Tveekrem): an advance party of 60 over Waite Hill, November 21 (Sherwin); and 15 over the lakefront, November 28 (Klamm).

Waterfowl Somewhat Early. Waterfowl generally followed a pattern of slightly early migration, with most species being at or above expected levels. Canada Geese are apparently becoming more numerous locally as semi-permanent residents; among strictly migrants the peak seemed to be in October rather than the typical mid-November. One considerable flight of Snow Geese was sighted over Kirtland Hills on October 19 (Bole).

Dabbling ducks showed no significant increases in numbers, but migrant Black Ducks and Blue-winged Teals began arriving somewhat early. The nesting population of Wood Ducks evidently departed early in the fall, resulting in a reduction in tallies. Counts of diving ducks were for the most part above those of the immediate past years on all common wintering species except the Common Goldeneye, probably because of early migration in. Transient Red-breasted Mergansers were intermittent. A remarkable mass movement of an estimated 250,000 was observed in the Lorain area on November 12 (Ward); details of this are in a special Field Notes report.

American Coots were earlier, more persistent, and much more numerous in the fall reports than in the recent past. On October 12, a fairly early date, there were 475 counted at Lake Rockwell (Fricker), about 210 at LaDue Reservoir (Hammond), 132 along the lakefront (Klamm), and lesser numbers at several other locations.

Raptor Reports Again Inspire Optimism. Fall sightings of Red-tailed Hawks and American Kestrels were above average and well distributed through the suitable habitat areas. In addition, Cooper's and Red-shouldered Hawks were at least as numerous as usual. The 11 reports of Marsh Hawks contrast with the customary one to three. Rough-legged Hawks were recorded on six dates; no more than two had been seen in any of the previous five autumn seasons.

Data on the common resident owls were inconclusive. Reports of the Long-eared Owl, classed as rare in the region, are increasing. One with a broken wing was found, October 17, in Olmsted Falls and taken to the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, where it died (Segedi). Another was found in a small stand of spruce in Lakeview Cemetery, October 26 (Hoffman). The species was also heard regularly where it has been in residence in Kirtland Hills for several years (Bole). There were again numerous sightings of up to

three Short-eared Owls at Gordon Park and at Burke Lakefront Airport during October and November. (See CBC, 71:1, Winter 1974-75, and 71:3, Summer 1975).

Shorebirds, Terns Evade. Except for the very numerous and persistent Killdeers and lingering of American Golden and Black-bellied Plovers and Semipalmated Sandpipers, shorebirds were generally below expectations and tended to leave early. Solitary Sandpipers were missing entirely from the fall reports and the lone Greater Yellowlegs was on Sherwin Pond on September 9 (Flanigan).

Gulls arrived on the lakefront on schedule with no indication of any reduction in populations. Fall migration of Common Terns, though, was the lowest in five years, based on contributors' reports; and the movement terminated early. Caspian Tern sightings were also reduced, and a lack Terns were quite scarce. It must be conjectured that their movements took them away from points of observation here.

Nighthawk Migration Protracted. Instead of being concentrated into the first days of September, the migration of Common Nighthawks was strung out into October. Small bands were observed at many locations through September, increasing considerably in the last week. Total number was evidently higher than usual, also.

Last reported sighting was of five birds at Goodyear Metropolitan Park, Akron, at noon, October 28, a record late date (Biscan). Another unusually late flight of 21 was at Firestone Metropolitan Park on October 15 (Biscan).

The main migration seemed to draw to a close with the passage of 104 birds over Sand Run Metropolitan Park in mid-afternoon, October 1 (Fricker). Smaller flocks had been seen near Sand Run about noon daily during the preceding week.

Other significant flights included 500 southbound over Akron, September 19 (Jean Staiger, fide Biscan); 50 over Rocky River valley in the afternoon of September 20 (Vavrek); 110 over Lakewood that same evening (Klamm); 55 east of Chardon, September 24 (Knight); 32 in Cleveland Heights, September 28 (Newman); 48 at Sand Run at 12:30 p.m., September 30 (Fricker); and 53 feeding low over fields in the northwest part of Mentor late that afternoon (Hammond). (Late-season migrations of Common Nighthawks somewhat comparable to this were reported in 1966 and 1968. See CBC, (62:4 and 64:4).

Chimney Swift migration exhibited no abnormalities. Observations were fairly steady until October 10, close to the average terminal date. A single bird was seen later.

Flickers Linger. Common Flickers seemed disinclined to leave the region this fall. Individuals were reported frequently through November, a total of five being seen by four different observers on the 23rd. Other woodpeckers, both permanent residents and migrants, appear to be fairly steady in numbers. Variations in reporting are probably greater from year to year than are the actual fluctuations in the bird populations.

Flycatchers Satisfactory. Migrations of flycatchers held few surprises and no particular disappointments. Reports of Great Crested Flycatchers were up a bit, perhaps significantly so. Empidonax flycatchers had a fairly good season, extending slightly into October. Unusual were the 16 records of the uncommon Olive-sided Flycatcher, which had also been seen five times in late August. Four were together in the western end of Mentor Marsh, September 7 (Hammond).

Irruption Year for Red-breasted Nuthatches. Movement of Red-breasted Nuthatches, begun in late August, continued unabated through the fall season. Reports were the greatest since at least 1969. Indications at the end of the season were that some birds were remaining for the winter.

Brown Creepers also made a rather strong showing during the fall, though not markedly above the expected. House Wrens have remained almost constant in the fall reports from contributors for the past five years. Winter Wren sightings were below average but well distributed through the season; birders are well aware that the elusive behavior of these tiny migrants can make their identification difficult in a season of heavy plant growth.

The continuing population boom among Carolina Wrens in the region resists rational explanation. For the past six years tabulated reports have consistently increased in each of the four CALENDAR seasons over the count in the comparable season in the year immediately preceding. The trend has continued without a single reversal. Further, the tally was higher in each season than in the preceding season for the 1974-75 CALENDAR year. For the autumn season there were 165 separate observations recorded plus a notation of one bird being observed daily throughout.

Most Mimids, Thrushes Depart Promptly. Although numbers tended to be at or above the normal, mimic thrushes and thrushes both generally departed at the expected times in fall migration. There were eight widely scattered reports of Mockingbirds, which are acquiring the status of uncommon and irregular permanent residents.

Major exception among the migrants was the American Robin, the species less directed by inner chronology than



by weather and food supplies. Robins, more abundant than usual during the fall, were quite common through November. Sightings of Hermit Thrushes were high, also, comparable to the excellent 1973 season but with even more in November.

Vireos Plentiful. The common vireos, while adhering to the established migration schedule, appeared in considerably greater numbers than usual. Solitary and Philadelphia Vireos were reported with twice the normal frequency but with only slight evidence of extended migration periods. Red-eyed Vireo tallies were far above expectations with a few stragglers. Warbling Vireos showed no increase, and Yellow-throated Vireo's were scarce.

Warblers Arrive Early. Most significant feature of the fall warbler migration was the unseasonably early influx of mixed flights. The termination, though, was not advanced correspondingly, and sightings of most species were not noticeably high. On the other hand, only the Orange-crowned, among the warblers regularly reported in fall, appeared very low. It should be recognized that this species frequents habitats similar to those of the Winter Wrens in migration; the apparent decline of both may only reflect contributors' field activities during the season just concluded.

Reports of Tennessee Warblers were much heavier than in any recent autumn. Nashville Warbler sightings were double the average of the past four fall migrations with some time extension early and late. Blackburnian Warblers arrived early and in increased numbers. Bay-breasted Warblers, also appearing early, were unusually plentiful for the second year in succession. Peak in the increased Canada Warbler movement was August 31-September 1.

Northern Finch Reports Promising. Fall sightings of northern finches gave promise of the strongest incursion in three or four years. First report of Evening Grosbeaks was of 10 in Waite Hill on October 2 (Sherwin), and they began arriving in significant numbers in mid-October. They seemed to be taking up residence for the season in various locations although populations tapered off somewhat in November.

Pine Siskins were more plentiful than in any autumn since 1971; earliest report was of 25-30 bathing in a fish pond at a residence in Willoughby, October 10 (Huey). Common Redpolls, absent in the fall of 1974, were recorded at two locations on November 16: six birds were at Shaker Lakes (Besser) and seven at Lakeview Cemetery (Hoffman). A female Red Crossbill was at North Chagrin on November 23 (Hoffman), and about 25 Red Crossbills were feeding on hemlock cones in Kirtland Hills, November 30 (Bole).

Most Finches, Sparrows Normal. Fall reports of the migrant

and summer resident finches and sparrows showed few departures from the usual pattern. American Goldfinches were up substantially in contributors' records. Rufous-sided Towhees, low in spring and summer reports, resumed the typical fall level.

Dark-eyed Juncos evidently bounced back from an off year in 1974. Tree Sparrows were slow to arrive in the expected numbers. Conversely, Chipping Sparrows were up on fall tallies but departed on schedule with little lagging. White-throated Sparrows started arriving early and were slow to leave. Song Sparrows showed a probable increase in numbers but no deviation in time. Reports of Snow Buntings were above normal the largest flocks again being seen at Headlands State Park.

Yearly Summary. In the BIRD CALENDAR year now concluded (December 1, 1974, to November 30, 1975) a total of 258 species were recorded, a little better than the average of the past 25 years. One species, the Black-headed Grosbeak, was added to the list of birds identified in the Cleveland Region. Absentees from the annual list were all species which are rare and limited locally and generally irregular in appearance, such as the Northern Shrike, Summer Tanager, and White-winged Crossbill. In addition to the 258 species enumerated, the hybrid Brewster's Warbler was again seen.

#### NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

American Wigeon - Three birds were in Waite Hill on the unseasonably early date of September 1 (Flanigan, Klamm).

Greater Scaup - A male, was identified and studied by telescope in the settling basin at White City on September 27, identification being made by the wing stripe, head shape, and bill characteristics (Klamm, Hoffman). Although the Lesser Scaup has been seen locally on a few occasions in late summer and early fall, there are apparently no previous sightings of this species earlier than November.

Black Scoter - A female or immature was diving close to shore near the East 55th Street marina in the company of two Ruddy Ducks in the afternoon of November 2, quite early for this winter visitor (several observers).

Broad-winged Hawk - A single specimen was observed in Waite Hill on the most unusual date of November 19 (Flanigan). CBC records and other sources show that even the latest migrants depart from the Cleveland Region and surrounding areas by about October 20. A few casual and accidental birds appear irregularly in the summer range during winter, but previous records of such wanderers locally have all been in December or later.

Bald Eagle - A Snow Goose which spent October and November around Sherwin Pond almost fell victim to an immature eagle on October 6. The predator swooped to "within six feet" of its quarry but was evidently scared off by the clamor of the Snow Goose and the estimated 1,500 Canada Geese which were in the vicinity (Sherwin).

Osprey - One seen at Silver Lake, October 27, marked by one day a new latest date for the species (Donatell).

Peregrine Falcon - At Headlands State Park on the morning of September 27, one was sighted heading toward the lake about 70 feet above the observer; the mustache facial marking was clearly visible on the presumably adult specimen (Newhous).

Whimbrel - This rare but apparently increasingly frequent visitor was seen at two locations on the lakefront during September. At Burke Lakefront Airport two were present on the 4th and 5th and a group of four on the 21st (Hoffman). At the east end of Headlands State Park one was observed on shore near the breakwall, September 27, seemingly indifferent to people close by (Newhous, et al.).

Red Knot - Up to four birds were present throughout September and into October at White City. One lingered there, October 10-12, a quite late date (Hannikman).

Purple Sandpiper - At sunset, November 11, one flew in to White City in the company of a Dunlin (Hoffman).

Dowitcher - Two specimens were studied by telescope as they fed and rested along the margin of Lake Rockwell, November 23 (Surman, Biscan). This is not only a new latest fall date but only the second November record in CBC files.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper - At Burke Lakefront Airport four were seen within 100 feet of North Marginal Drive on September 28, a new latest fall date (LePage). Five were photographed as they fed leisurely along the Burke airport runways on the preceding day (Klamm).

Glaucous Gull - A first-year bird dominated the feeding area at White City, driving assembled Ring-billed Gulls away from its chosen spots, on the unusually early date of November, 27 (Hannikman).

Great Black-backed Gull - A new earliest fall date was recorded with the sighting of one at Lorain Harbor on October 10 (Ward).

Sabine's Gull - An immature was resting on the water with Bonaparte's Gulls at White City, September 13; identification was made as the bird "took off into a very strong

wind, "affording ample opportunity for study of the entire wing pattern, bill color and other field marks" (Hannikman). The observer had become familiar with the species earlier in the summer at Churchill, Manitoba. This, is only the second recorded visit of, this Arctic gull to the Cleveland Region in the 20th century.

Caspian Tern - A very late straggler was reported at White City, October 25 (Hoffman).

Black Tern - A laggard appeared at White City on the uncommonly late date of October 12 (Hannikman).

Common Nighthawk - A group of five at noon at Goodyear Metropolitan Park in Akron, October 28, marked a new latest date of record (Biscan). One flying southwest very low at 6:30 p.m. in Waite Hill on October 24 (Flanigan) was also later than the previous latest date of October 19, 1970.

Empidonax Flycatcher, sp. - An Empidonax with yellow underparts including the throat, "very bright," was in brush and small trees on the Gordon Park landfill about noon, November 9 (LePage). The markings appeared to be those of a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, but sight identifications of Empidonaces in fall must be treated as inconclusive. Nevertheless, a record of any member of this genus after mid-October is remarkable.

Eastern Wood Pewee - Near East 133rd Street an active bird was seen repeatedly from 8:10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., October 26, a new latest fall date (Hannikman). This date is 10 days later than the previous record and a full four weeks later than any other 1975 sighting reported.

Olive-sided Flycatcher - Latest of the unusually large number of reports of this rare migrant was at North Chagrin Reservation, October 6, a notably late date (Leach).

Rough-winged Swallow - In the Rocky River Reservation near Cleveland Hopkins Airport two birds were observed on September 28, a new latest fall date of record (Stasko).

Gray Catbird - Late-lingering specimens were observed in Waite Hill, November 2 (Flanigan), and in Kuhlman Woods, near East 140th Street, November 16 (Hannikman).

Wood Thrush - An unusually late migrant was in Waite Hill on three November dates, last seen on the 13th (Flanigan).

Water Pipit - Among a greater-than-usual number of autumn reports was the sighting of five birds on rocks near the lagoon at White City in the evening of September 5, a notably early date (Hannikman).

White-eyed Vireo - Only fall report of this rare and accidental migrant was of a lone specimen at Shaker Lakes on September 29 (Leach).

Red-eyed Vireo - Latest of the stragglers was one sighted in Waite Hill, November 2 (Flanigan).

Cape May Warbler - What appeared to be an adult female was observed in Kuhlman Woods on November 8, 9 and 11, each time actively foraging in the same brushy site (Hannikman).

Black-throated Green Warbler - One "in very good plumage" was actively feeding in Kuhlman Woods, another late-lingerer in the mild weather of November 8 and 9 (Hannikman).

Chestnut-sided Warbler - An immature was studied for several minutes in Kuhlman Woods on the morning of October 19, quite a late date for this species which seems little inclined to dawdle in fall migration (Hannikman).

Common Yellowthroat - Latest of three November laggards in Waite Hill was observed on the 15th (Flanigan).

Yellow-breasted Chat - One netted and banded in Waite Hill on September 16 was recaptured there on the 19th, somewhat late for this uncommon summer resident (Flanigan).

Wilson's Warbler - Individual males were sighted at Donald Gray Gardens, October 25, and at Lakeview Cemetery, October 26 (Hoffman). Another specimen was in Rocky River Reservation on October 19 (Stasko). Any observation after early October is unusual.

Sharp-tailed Sparrow - Recorded in the region only twice in the preceding 15 years, this species was seen at two lake-front locations in October. A contributor who is thoroughly familiar with it found a "well-marked bird which clearly showed the orange facial pattern" actively feeding in Donald Gray Gardens, October 1; "although fairly tame, it did not appear to be injured" (Hocevar). The same or another specimen was in and around tall weeds on the Gordon Park landfill on October 11, 12, 13, and 15, quite active but approachable to distances of less than 10 feet (Hoffman).

Lapland Longspur - At White City a specimen which appeared to be a female was "herded out from a clump of tall grass" near the edge of the lagoon, October 19 (LePage, et al.).

#### FIELD NOTES

MERGANSERS MIGRATE EN MASSE . On November 12, a few days after the big blow that sank the freighter Edmund Fitzgerald on Lake Superior, the day was bright and the lake choppy

from a fresh west wind. Corinne Dolbear (Lorain) phoned me about noon regarding the thousands of Red-breasted Mergansers heading east.

I hit the shore about 1:00 p.m. and drove a mile west to Lorain Harbor. The lake was loaded with rafts and the air with flocks of mergansers headed east. I could see an estimated 25,000 at one time. I headed east to reach the eastern limit of the migration., About eight miles east at the Avon power plant the rafts had thinned, but mergs were in the air heading east.

About 3:30 p.m. I phoned from Avon to a birder near Bay Village, about three miles farther east. Mergansers were passing there, still headed eastward. So I doubled back west, stopping at each viewing point. Every point was still loaded with rafts from one-half to one-and-a-half miles off shore and flights extending to the horizon.

West of the harbor, near the western city limits, the rafts thinned out, but mergansers were still coming in from the west. This meant 10 miles of rafts plus birds that had gone on east before the start of my observation. My last, observation time was 4:30 p.m. As I could see 25,000 in the water and the air at anyone time for 10 miles I feel that a quarter-million is a very conservative estimate.

By doubling back, I determined that I was not viewing the same birds "playing leapfrog" (which they do) for the 3.5 hours of observation. I was going against the flow. Incidentally, I could identify very few adult males among them. On November 13 there were but a few Red-breasted Mergansers in the area. - CLINTON E. WARD

LATE JUNCO NESTING SUCCEEDS. Our home in Leroy Township, Lake County, is in a ravine in a heavily wooded area with a creek. On August 14 we sighted a pair of Dark-eyed Juncos building a nest close to, the house in ivy growing up the side of a beech tree. The location was about 18 inches from the ground. The ivy is very thick, and though the twigs on the outer part of the nest were visible, the nest itself was not. The female was busy bringing twigs to the nest; the male was not very active.

On August 16 the female was busy gathering bird feathers and dog hairs for the final touches in the nest. We concluded that she had already had one brood; two young juncos followed her about when she was out feeding on the cracked corn we put out.

August 19, we checked the nest early in the morning when the female was away and found two eggs. August 20, there was a third egg, and August 21, a fourth

August 31, one egg hatched. The nestling, very red and bare of feathers, lay on its back, looking almost lifeless. The mother pushed it around so that she could brood it and the eggs at the same time. By September 3 all four eggs had hatched. When I moved an ivy leaf to get a better look, all four mouths were opened wide for food.

September 7 was the, first day that we saw the male help with the feeding. His tail, incidentally, was stark white. The nestlings by this time were getting feathers and were very quiet in the nest (unlike a nesting of House Wrens we had observed earlier). The mother scolded and clicked when I went near the nest.

At 8:00 a.m., September 10, all was well in the nest. We returned from work at 5:00 p.m., and the nest was empty. September 13, a pair of juncos and four immatures were feeding on the cracked corn scattered on the grass. One of the young appeared smaller than the rest. - DOROTHY MILLER

(ED. NOTE: The incubation and nesting time periods and the difference in sex roles reported here coincide with reports in Bent, Life Histories of North American Cardinals, Grosbeaks, Buntings, Towhees, Finches, Sparrows, and Allies. The date for the start of this nesting, though, is markedly later than any mentioned by Bent.)

RED-TAILED HAWKS MIGRATE UP CUYAHOGA. During the month of October there was evidence of a well-defined movement of Red-tailed Hawks (and perhaps other Buteos, although no other species was identified) up the Cuyahoga River valley from north of Akron. Based on observations of 30 birds seen in a limited area during October, the flight path was up the river to a point north of Sand Run Metropolitan Park and then either southeasterly up the valley or southward away from the river.

Observations were made at three locations: the North Hawkins area of Sand Run, my residence on Newcastle Drive, or my office near Market Street. The first two points are on the ridges on the south side of the valley where the Cuyahoga bends from a northwest to a northern course at the northern edge of Akron. The third location is approximately a mile and a half southwest of the North Hawkins area.

A total of 12 Red-tailed Hawks were seen on noontime trips to the North Hawkins area. They appeared to follow the western edge of the valley until reaching the area. At that point they either continued along the ridge to the southeast toward Akron, or they left the valley, flying over the North Hawkins area and heading south or southwest.

Birds following the former route would be visible from

my residence, and those following the latter, my office. No active birding was done at either location; observations of hawks being strictly on a chance basis. Four Red-tailed Hawks and seven unspecified Buteos were sighted thus on the southeasterly route, and seven Red-tails on the southern.

No hawks were sighted at any of the three locations in October traveling in any direction except as indicated. Although my noontime trips to North Hawkins continued during the first 10 days of November, no further Red-tails were seen at any of these locations. - FRED E. FRICKER

MIGRATING WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH? The White breasted Nuthatch is generally classed as a permanent resident species; at least no regular migratory movements have been reported. Thus of more than casual interest was the finding of a dead bird, seemingly an adult male, at the base of the Central National Bank Building in downtown Cleveland on the morning of October 7.

Also found dead there that morning were a Brown Creeper and a White-throated Sparrow. In addition, a tired Ruby-crowned Kinglet was resting in the shelter of one of the recessed ground-floor windows. Whether the nuthatch was actually a member of this southward movement of passerines can only be conjectured. In any case, it is the only specimen I can recall finding among the dozens, of dead birds I have collected in downtown Cleveland during the past 15 years. - DONALD L. NEWMAN

GEESE DIE OF UNIDENTIFIED CAUSES. During early November seven or eight Canada Geese were found dead around Sherwin Pond in Waite Hill. They had not been shot. One was seen dying in the driveway in convulsions. For two weeks afterward no geese landed on the pond. They flew over the water high and cautiously and only later began to land in far fields, then closer in small groups. Previously, there had been 1,000 to 2,000 geese steadily around the pond.

On November 24 more geese were found dead, and Terry Welch of the Ohio Wildlife Service was notified. He stated that he had just sent eight dead geese from a nearby pond to Columbus for analysis. At last report, nothing had been found of evidence of poison or of other cause of death. As in early November, though, the geese took some time to return to the pond. - MARGARET H. SHERWIN

TRANSIENT SWIFTS ROOST WITH RESIDENTS. Upon my return to the Kent State University campus on September 19, I found a roosting flock of Chimney Swifts in airshaft S-1 on the roof of the Administration Building. Trapping of the birds revealed that they included the mates which nested in that shaft and their all-season visitor, which comprised a three-



some for the past summer; one of the mates which nested in shaft D-1; and eight repeats which did not nest (probably immatures), although some of them on occasion visited nesting pairs in the campus colony.

In addition to these local birds, the roost also included six previously-banded specimens which had not been captured earlier in 1975; three of these had not been captured since they were banded in 1972. Also captured were 96 unbanded swifts, most of which were probably migrants passing through the area on their southward journey to South America for the winter. - RALPH W. DEXTER

NIGHTHAWKS IGNORE MONARCH BUTTERFLIES. Between 6:15 and 7:15 p.m., September 25, a group of 17 migrating Common Nighthawks fed over a large area in the vicinity of my home in Cleveland Heights. During the hour of continuous observation, many monarch butterflies were migrating, too.

The butterflies followed a due south course, some at a height of 25 to 30 feet, others at 75 to 100 feet, and still others several hundred feet in the air, not much below the nighthawks. At no time, though, did I see any of the birds feed on or even attempt to feed on the butterflies. - DONALD L. NEWMAN

SHORT NOTES FROM CONTRIBUTORS: House Sparrows, which were living in our martin house in Willoughby, made numerous trips on October 16 to an old robin nest in a nearby crab-apple tree. They systematically removed all the twigs from the outside of the nest, leaving only a mud shell, and carried them to the martin house, a recycling of the nesting material. - GRETA PALLISTER. . . . Black-capped Chickadees were lakefront migrants this fall, moving from west to east. Flight groups were relatively small, usually four to 12 birds, as well as scattered individuals. Heaviest movements were noted on November 1 and 2. Oddly, the direction of movement was the same as has been observed for spring migrants. - WILLIAM A. KLAMM. . . Two Common Crows were seen working at a badly tattered hornet nest in a tree near Corning Lake at the Holden Arboretum. One flew, but the other continued to probe into the nest briefly. Evidently, they had been tearing the nest apart in search of larvae or similar food items. - WAYNE A. HAMMOND. . . . During a spell of wet and windy weather in late September, the windows of a building on Chagrin Boulevard, Beachwood, exacted a considerable toll of small migrants. On the 24th the known dead were a Nashville, a Magnolia, and two Bay-breasted Warblers and two Rose-breasted Grosbeaks; a Red-eyed Vireo was stunned but survived. On the 25th the list was a Philadelphia Vireo, an American Redstart, and a Rose-breasted Grosbeak dead and a Black-throated Green and a Wilson's Warbler stunned. - NAOMI CLARK

Addendum (Spring - 1975):

Bewick's Wren - Along the Chagrin River near Hanging Rock Point in Kirtland Hills, one was first identified by song, and then as the observers listened, it appeared, "hopping along the river edge in full sun" (Bole).

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AN INVITATION: The Kirtland Bird Club meets at 7:45 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month except July and August in The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Wade Oval, University Circle. Visitors are always welcome.

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Inquiries and correspondence regarding subscriptions to THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR should be addressed to The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Wade Oval, University Circle, Cleveland, Ohio 44106.