The Cleveland Bird Calendar was founded in 1905 by Francis H. Herrick of The Western Reserve University. The purposes of the publication are to provide information on the movements of birds through the Cleveland region, to monitor population densities of resident birds, and to help in the establishment of patterns of vagrancy for rarely encountered species of the region.

The Cleveland region includes Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, and Summit Counties.

The Cleveland Bird Calendar is published quarterly by The Kirtland Bird Club and The Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

Due dates for seasonal field reports are as follows:

- March 5 - Winter Season
- June 5 - Spring Season
- September 5 - Summer Season
- December 5 - Autumn Season

Cover design: Eastern Kingbird (Tyrannus tyrannus) by Kevin Metcalf, 1997.
The Cleveland Bird Calendar

Editor:
Larry Rosche (LR)

Consulting Editor:
Ray Hannikman (RH)

Editorial Assistant:
Dwight Chasar - Weather Summary

Technical Editor
Garnet Byrne (GB)

Contributors:
John Augustine (JA)
Emil Bacik (EB)
Nick Barber (NB)
Dan Best (DB)
Dwight and Ann Chasar (DAC)
Bob Finkelstein (BF)
Barbara Frye (BFr)
Frank Greenland (FG)
Robert Harlan (RHL)
Jim Heflich (JHe)
Dick and Jean Hoffman (DJH)
Craig Holt (CH)
Patty Kellner (PK)
Joanne Kohler (JK)
Norm Kotesovec (NK)
Bob and Denise Lane (BDL)
Thomas LePage (TLP)
Paula Lozano (PL)
Ann Missig (AM)
Perry Peskin (PP)
John Pogacnik (JP)
Tom and Mary Ann Romito (TMR)
Richard Rickard (RR)
Judy Tisdale (JT)
Carol Tveekrem (CT)
Sandy Wagner (SW)
Vernon Weingart (VW)
Jeff Wert (JW)
Clyde Witt (CW)
Sean Zadar (SZ)

On The Inside:

The Weather
Dwight Chasar

Reflections
Comment on the Season
Summer 1997
Noteworthy Records
by Larry Rosche

Field Notes
Birding by Kayak, or the
Case of the Purloined Fish
by Jim Heflich & Patty Kellner

The Status of Black-throated
Green Warblers in Hinckley, Ohio
by Norman J. Kotesovec, Jr. and Sean Zadar

Notes on Nesting Birds (1997) in
Pinery Narrows and Brecksville Reservation
by Dwight and Ann Chasar

Confirmed Nesting of
Yellow-throated Warbler
in Cuyahoga County
by Dwight Chasar

Next Issue:
Fall 1997
JUNE: Temperatures averaged 68.2°, .6° above normal. The high was 92° on the 25th, and the low was 43° on the 15th. Lake Erie was 56° on June 1st and rose to 68° by June 30th. Sunshine occurred 75% of the time possible. Rain occurred 12 days and totaled 3.34 in., .36 in. below normal. The most rain in a 24 hr. period was 1.04 in. on the 1st.

JULY: Temperatures averaged 70.6°, 1.3° below normal. The high was 90° on the 16th, and the low was 50° on the 10th. Rain occurred on 9 days, totaling 1.51 in., 2.01 in. below normal. The most rain fell on the 8-9th and amounted to .45 in. Sunshine prevailed 80% of the time possible. Lake Erie rose to 71° by the end of the month.

AUGUST: This was a cool, wet month with 5.26 in. of rain, 1.86 in. above normal. The greatest 24 hr. fall was 1.58 in. on the 16-17th. Temperatures averaged 67.5°, 2.9° below normal. The high was 89° on the 16th, and the low was 45° on the 6th. Sunshine occurred only 61% of the time possible. Lake Erie water temperature cooled to 71° by the end of the month.

THIRTY YEARS AGO: Two Least Bittern nests were studied closely in a marsh near Burton during the summer of 1967 (Sneller). A Common Snipe with a young in tow was in Avon on June 17 (Stasko). Common Moorhens nested at Lake Abrams (Stasko). Five or six singing Sedge Wrens were found in an abandoned field in Avon on July 16 (Klamm). A Western Meadowlark was also in Avon on several dates that summer (Klamm). A Piping Plover was at Headlands Beach SP on Aug 30 (Snider).

TWENTY YEARS AGO: A very tardy Connecticut Warbler was at the old Brooklyn Airport on June 3, 1977 (Bacik). Upland Sandpipers nested at Burke Airport (Hoffman, Klamm). Five breeding plumaged American Avocets were at White City on July 8 (Hoffman, m.obs.). A Western Sandpiper was scrutinized carefully at White City on July 16 (Hannikman). An early fall Connecticut Warbler was at Sims Park on Aug. 13 (Corbin). The first summer record of Hudsonian Godwit for the region was at Burke Airport Aug. 20-24 (Hoffman, m.obs.). Nine Buff-breasted Sandpipers graced Burke Airport on Aug. 27 (Besser).

TEN YEARS AGO: In a portent of seasons to come, a Northern Parula was noted at Furnace Run Metropark on June 24, 1987 (Maugans). Hooded Mergansers nested successfully in Brecksville (Chasar). Three Marbled Godwits were in Lorain on July 1 (Kellerman). A Least Tern delighted many at Gordon Park on July 11 (Hannikman). A Little Blue Heron was at Baldwin Lake July 18-20 (Klamm). A female Ruddy Duck was seen at Gordon Park most of June (Klamm). The first nesting for the region of this species was established when a female with a brood of ducklings was noted on Lake Erie west of 72nd St. on Aug. 1 (Gustafson, Peterjohn). A Tricolored Heron was seen on the beach at Headlands on Aug. 9 (Kellerman, Gustafson). A Loggerhead Shrike was seen on the telephone wires at Gordon Park on Aug. 30 (Harlan, Hannikman).
I must confess to having become a summer bird census mercenary. I seek grants and contracts to do nesting projects. This summer I received a grant to work with Dr. Lisa Petit and her brother-in-law Dr. Ken Petit. We worked in the CVNRA and at the Hinckley Bridal Trail. I did point counts for the project while others did nest finding and nest studies. After watching Ken study a Hooded Warbler nest for 45 minutes, I developed a sense of admiration for those patient enough to sit and find out what the nestlings are being fed. In this instance, the warbler was feeding a cowbird. Ugh! I just wanted to remove the bird, but Ken advised that in the whole picture it was senseless to think that the removal of one cowbird would make a significant difference. At Hinckley Metropark I observed first hand what Norman Kotesovec has known for some time. The area is an absolute haven for Neotropical species. I can’t help sharing in the enthusiasm of Norman and Sean Zadar, Dwight and [Ann] Chasar, and Dan Best. Reading their breeding bird reports remind me of how much I enjoyed working on the Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas project. Norm has included a very interesting and enlightening article on the abundance of Black-throated Green Warblers in the Hinckley area. The other single most spectacular breeding bird this summer had to be Yellow-billed Cuckoo. I cannot remember seeing so many as I did in the CVNRA. It seemed that I had them on almost every point count. Chasar and Tveekrem echoed my sentiments in their reports. The Chasars’ study of the Brecksville area is detailed and enjoyable reading. Dan Best continued his Prothonotary Warbler project and discovered Geauga County’s first colony of Pine Warblers. My thanks to Carol Tveekrem for her continued study in Summit County. Indeed, this ongoing project presents a solid barometer for gauging population densities for many species over the years. Her project found record highs for several species I have expressed deep concern for in recent years. These included Green Heron, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, and Brown Thrasher.

Lakefront birders were treated to spectacular shorebirding in Lorain. When you put Tom LePage in the same birding location for many hours, outstanding and verified sightings are bound to occur. Multiple sightings of American Avocets, both Hudsonian and Marbled Godwits, Willets, and Whimbrels were among the outstanding sightings. Most of these were seen by many observers. One of Ohio’s rarest birds, a Least Tern, graced the mudflat there for several hours.

On a different note, being an editor, I sometimes have to make discretionary decisions that may not please some parties. Please don’t expect me to print every anonymous sighting that makes the Rare Bird Tape. Along the same vein, I have stopped writing the htmls that enable us to be on The Cleveland Museum of Natural History’s Web Site. The reason is that so many of our sightings are unverified. I am not an “I don’t see ‘em; I just report ‘em” type of editor like some of the birding forums on the Web. I also receive reports on “confirmed nestings” that are unverified. A confirmed sighting is one in which photographs are obtained, or multiple parties see the bird. This editor does not want the responsibility of accepting first state nesting records on the basis of one observer.

Good birding.
The only Pied-billed Grebes reported were on Greater Akron Audubon Summer Bird Count (GAASBC) (CT) and at Walborn Reservoir on June 28 (BDL). Double-crested Cormorants and Great Blue Herons were in outstanding totals. One would have to assume that it will only be a matter of time before thinning of the cormorant flocks will take place. Great Egrets were fairly numerous. On Aug. 18, 3 were along Station Road (DAC) and 5 were at LaDue (LR). Green Herons were found in fair numbers. A total of 7 was at Ira Road in the CVNRA on July 7 (TMR). Another 7 were at Pinery Narrows on Aug. 17 (DAC). Nine were at the Weaver Road Marsh in Shalersville on July 25 (LR). A Black-crowned Night-Heron was at HBSP on June 15 (RH).

Two Green-winged Teals were in Lorain on June 18-20 (TLP, RHL, SW, RR). Two were there on June 20. An American Black Duck was in Lorain the same day. Another was at HBSP on Aug. 10 (EB). Three Northern Pintails were in Lorain on July 27 (RHL, SW). A Northern Shoveler was in Lorain June 22 (CH). A southbound pair reached Berlin on Aug. 3 (BDL). A Gadwall was a surprise in Lorain on June 29 (CH). Two American Wigeons at Lorain on Aug. 6 were early (TLP). A molting Lesser Scaup was in Lorain on July 30 (DJB). Three female Hooded Mergansers, each with a brood, were seen in Pinery Narrows, CVNRA (DAC). An immature was in Lorain on Aug. 9 (BF, PL). A Red-breasted Merganser was seen intermittently throughout the period at HBSP (RH). A Ruddy Duck was seen in Lorain after late July (TLP, PP). A female was at LaDue on Aug. 31 (CH). Ospreys showed up in unusually small numbers. One was in Lorain on Aug. 1 (TLP). One spent August along the Grand River in Fairport Harbor (EB). A Bald Eagle was at Station Road on Aug. 17 (DAC). Sharp-shinned Hawks were found in Chardon on July 29 (DB) and at Lake Rockwell on July 10 (CH). Red-shouldered Hawks continue to increase throughout most of the region. It is not unusual to find them soaring over any river valley in the region. Nesting Broad-winged Hawks were fewer than expected. Young birds in Geauga Co. on Aug. 17 (LR, VW) and in Edinburg on Aug. 26 (VV) indicated dispersal was right on time. The numerous sightings of juvenile Red-tailed Hawks, show that they are doing rather well. American Kestrels fledged two young in Streetsboro (Holt). This was the only report of young kestrels. Augustine’s trips in rural Geauga Co. produced no kestrel sightings until Aug. 18.

Ring-necked Pheasants were unreported away from eastern Portage Co. Wild Turkeys have become more common than any other game bird in the region. One of the more reliable spots is Deep Lock Quarry where 2 were seen on June 21 (TMR). Two Northern Bobwhites were near Rochester (Lorain Co.) on June 21 (RHL, SW). Common Moorhens again successfully raised young in Shalersville. As many as 12 chicks were seen on Aug. 8 (VW, LR). A single moorhen was noted in Lorain throughout July and August.

Shorebirds were diligently tallied in Lorain (see table). Black-bellied Plovers were in the usual small summer numbers. Most of these were strikingly handsome in plumage. An American Golden-Plover was at West Branch SP on Aug. 13 (CH). One was in Lorain on Aug. 30 (DAC). Semipalmated Plovers passed through in fair numbers in Lorain. Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs

Aug 13, 1997 - Lorain Still Exciting

This afternoon from 4:15 to 5:30 we visited Lorain along with Rob Harlan in the beginning and Norma Kraps at the end. As reported yesterday, one Hudsonian Godwit remained. There was also one Willet, 5 American Avocets, 8 Black-bellied Plovers, a few Sanderlings and a White-rumped Sandpiper along with Semipalmated Sandpipers, Semipalmated Plovers and Short-billed Dowitchers. The Black-bellied Plovers were calling frequently and at some point all took off to the east. It was strange to see no Killdeer or Spotted Sandpipers on the flat. It was overcast, humid, but chilly with north wind and an exciting feel to the air. Just when we intended to leave, a Peregrine Falcon arrived and caught a bird before we even knew it was there. With its catch, it nearly hovered, circled the landfill and went west to perch and eat on the water tower on top of the power plant. The shorebirds and even gulls and terns were restless after that and many of them left. When we saw the godwit fly higher and higher into the sky we knew it was a bad sign and soon it too disappeared into the east.

Dick and Jean Hoffman......
were in small numbers. Three Solitary Sandpipers were at Lake Rockwell on July 11 (CH). Spotted Sandpipers nested in expected numbers. Ruddy Turnstones were seen in small numbers at Lorain and HBSP. Sanderlings were as expected, with a high of 11 at Lorain on Aug. 17 (CH). Semipalmated Sandpipers were numerous in Lorain. An adult Western Sandpiper was in Lorain on Aug. 10 (CH). Three juveniles were there on Aug. 17 (CH, LR). Least Sandpipers were widespread as expected. A Baird’s Sandpiper was early in Lorain on July 30 (DJB). Juveniles were noted by many observers in Lorain the last half of August. White-rumped Sandpipers were found in Lorain on June 18, 22, & 25 (TLP, DJH, RR). A single was on the beach at HBSP on Aug. 17 (LR, VW). Pectoral Sandpipers were poorly distributed. The only Stilt Sandpiper found outside of Lorain was at Berlin on June 26 (BDL). Away from Lorain, Short-billed Dowitchers were seen at HBSP, West Branch SP, and Berlin. An American Woodcock was an unusual find at HBSP on June 15 and July 4 (RH). A Common Snipe was at Berlin on July 26 (BDL).

Ring-billed and Herring Gulls nested in fair numbers. A juvenile Ring-billed Gull, with its fresh, brownish plumage stood out from the other gulls in Lorain on a rather early date of June 25 (DJB). An estimated 800 Bonaparte’s Gulls were in Lorain by early August. A juvenile-plumaged Great Black-backed Gull was at HBSP in early July (EB, RH, AM, LR). Once again, the question of how close does this species nest to the Cleveland region popped up. About 20 Great Black-backededs summered in Lorain (CH, TLP).

Caspian Terns peaked at 108 in Lorain on July 31 (TLP). The 20 Common Terns at Lake Rockwell on Aug. 17 were unexpected (LR). The high from HBSP was only 20 on Aug. 31 (RH). The high at Lorain was 146 on Aug. 28 (TLP). Even this tally seemed lower than expected. Three Forster’s Terns were at HBSP on June 1 (EB, RH, AM).

DATA PROVIDED BY TOM LEPAGE AND CRAIG HOLT

---

**SELECTED TALLIES OF MIGRANT SHOREBIRDS AND TERN FOR LORAIN SUMMER 1997**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>6/1</th>
<th>6/18</th>
<th>7/15</th>
<th>7/17</th>
<th>7/26</th>
<th>7/28</th>
<th>8/8</th>
<th>8/10</th>
<th>8/17</th>
<th>8/24</th>
<th>8/28</th>
<th>8/31</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black-bellied Plover</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semipalmated Plover</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Avocet</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Yellowlegs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lesser Yellowlegs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solitary Sandpiper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willet</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whimbrel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hudsonian Godwit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marbled Godwit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruddy Turnstone</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red Knot</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanderling</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semipalmated Sp.</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>60</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Sandpiper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Least Sandpiper</td>
<td></td>
<td>35</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White-rumped Sp.</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baird’s Sandpiper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pectoral Sandpiper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunlin</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stilt Sandpiper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-billed Dowitcher</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilson’s Phalarope</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-necked Phal.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caspian Tern</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Common Tern</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forster’s Tern</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Tern</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data provided by Tom LePage and Craig Holt
Nesting passerines received excellent coverage. We obtained reports from all counties, and apparently a good breeding season was had. It was particularly good to hear from the rural areas of Lorain and Medina Counties.

Two Black-billed Cuckoos were at Horseshoe Pond on Aug. 9 (GB, JT). One was in north Chagrin on Aug. 30 (RR). A bird was along the Upper Cuyahoga in late June (DB). Yellow-billed Cuckoos were far and away more numerous than any year in my tenure as editor. This was especially encouraging in that it is a species that is monitored closely by the U.S. Fish & wildlife Department. As Dwight Chasar put it, “many all over the CVNRA.”

Three Barred Owls were at Hudson Springs Park on Aug. 23 (GB). Common Nighthawks were widespread during late August. As usual, Wert noted the large numbers in Summit Co. in late August. Red-headed Woodpeckers nested at Pinery Narrows (DAC), North Chagrin (RR), Berlin (BDL), and Bacon Woods (TMR). There were 4 reports from Geauga Co. (DB). Pileated Woodpeckers totals reflected a population that is increasing.

An Olive-sided Flycatcher was along Station Road in the CVNRA on Aug. 31 (DAC). Eastern Wood-Peewees nested commonly. Two Yellow-bellied Flycatchers lingered at HBSP until June 8 (RH). One was at Cleveland Lakefront SP/Villa Angela on Aug. 24 (BF, PL). Acadian Flycatchers were abundant in the CVNRA. A total of 5 Willow Flycatchers was at Spencer Lake on June 11 (TLP). An Alder Flycatcher was unusual at Ira Road on Aug. 4 (TMR). Rickard found them at Streetsboro Bog on June 4 and July 25. A Least Fly-catcher was at Spencer Lake on June 11 (TLP). An Alder Flycatcher was unusual at Ira Road on Aug. 4 (TMR).

Over 1500 Purple Martins gathered in Lorain on Aug. 29 (TLP). Cliff Swallows are flourishing at West Branch SP and Berlin Reservoir. One in the CVNRA on June 22 was a surprise (RHL, SW). Probable nesting Red-breasted Nuthatches were noted at Hinckley (NK) and at Headwaters Park (DB). By late August, many migrants were beginning to flow into the region. At least 3 Brown Creepers summered in the vicin-ity of Russell Park (DB). On June 28, 3 were heard in Hinckley MP (RHL, SW). Carolina Wrens made almost everyone’s list of reports.

### POINT COUNT SURVEYS FOR HINKLEY AND CVNRA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>Riding Run</th>
<th>Stanford</th>
<th>Riverview</th>
<th>Hinckley</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BROAD-WINGED HAWK</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOWNY WOODPECKER</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HAIRY WOODPECKER</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHERN FLICKER</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PILEATED WOODPECKER</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACADIAN FLYCATCHER</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EASTERN PHOEBE</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EASTERN KINGBIRD</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROWN CREEPER</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAROLINA WREN</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSE WREN</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLUE-GRAVY GNATATCHER</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EASTERN BLUEBIRD</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VEERY</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOOD THRUSH</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMERICAN ROBIN</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GRAY CATBIRD</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YELLOW-THROATED VIREO</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WARBLING VIREO</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RED-EYED VIREO</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLUE-WINGED WARBLER</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YELLOW WARBLER</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CERULEAN WARBLER</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AMERICAN REDSTART</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OVENBIRD</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMMON YELLOWTHROAT</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOODED WARBLER</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCARLET TANAGER</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NORTHERN CARDINAL</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDIGO BUNTING</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIPPING SPARROW</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FIELD SPARROW</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SONG SPARROW</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORCHARD ORIOLE</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BALTIMORE ORIOLE</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PURPLE FINCH</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data provided by Larry Rosche
They must have enjoyed a banner breeding season. **House Wrens** were common. **Marsh Wrens** were reported in expected numbers. The high was 12 at Walborn on June 28 (BDL). Two **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** at Bacon Woods on June 30 represented one of the very few reports other than the Tveekrem study (TMR). The high count of gnatcatchers was 4 at Holden Arboretum on Aug. 19 (RR).

Thirty **Eastern Bluebirds** fledged at the South Chagrin bluebird study area (BFr, JK). **Veeries** and **Wood Thrushes** were very common in the CVNRA, especially along Riding Run. At Hinckley they were abundant. **Gray Catbirds** are flourishing. A **Northern Mockingbird** was a good find at HBSP on June 21 (RH). A bird at
Lakeshore MP on June 6 was equally surprising (JP). **Brown Thrashers** are trying to maintain their uncommon existence.

**White-eyed Vireos** suffered a major setback to their recent advancement into the region. Very few were noted when compared to last year. A late White-eyed was at Nathan Hale Park on June 3 (RHL). A **Blue-headed Vireo** was at Headwaters Park on June 28 (DB). One was at Holden Arboretum on June 25 (RR). Four June 28 (DB). One was at Holden Osprey nesting site (BDL). Berlin, 6 could be found near the was north or southbound (NK, SZ).

It was hard to tell if a June 20 push of southbound migrants. It was as expected. **American Redstarts** remain one of our most abundant woodland nesters. I was surprised as to how tame they are around a nest site. The Prothonotary Warbler nest box program along the Upper Cuyahoga produced fewer young than hoped for. This was due in part to flooding and tenacious House Wrens. This caused the warblers to resort to using natural cavities. Thus, they were subjected to cowbird parasitism (DB). Three pairs of Prothonotaries nested in Pinery Narrows (DAC). **Ovenbirds** were surprisingly abundant in the areas Rosche surveyed along Brandywine Creek. The tally of 8 at Bradley Woods was also encouraging (TLP). **Louisiana Water-thrushes** are rarely noted away from nesting sites. A bird outside the Meyer Center at Big Creek Park on Aug 22 was unique (DB). A **Kentucky Warbler** was at Hinckley on June 17 (LR). A **Mourning Warbler** was late at HBSP on June 15 (RH). The only nesting report was from Lake Co. (JP). A tally of 30 Wilson’s Warblers at HBSP on Aug. 29 was impressive (NK, SZ). **Canada Warblers** nested at Hell Hollow (JP). A migrant was noted at HBSP on Aug. 31 (RR). A **Yellow-breasted Chat** was at Spencer Lake on June 11 (TLP). Four were among the findings at Bacon Woods on June 29 (TMR). A single was in Parkman on July 4-5 (JA).

Reflecting the lateness of Spring migration, a total of 25+ **Scarlet Tanagers** was reported from Lakeshore MP on June 4 (JP). Generally speaking, sparrow numbers were as expected. **Vesper Sparrows** were in their traditional Portage County areas in expected numbers. Other than on the GAASBC, **Grasshopper Sparrows** went unreported. Two **Dark-eyed Juncos** were in Orange Village on July 7 (RR). They were found at 54 sites in 13 Lake Co. Parks (JP). Four were at North Chagrin on Aug. 6 (BF, PL).

Eastern **Meadowlarks** summered as well as can be expected. Six **Orchard Orioles** along Ira Road in the CVNRA on July 28 was a good count (TMR). **Baltimore Orioles** were common. A **Purple Finch** was along Ira Road in the CVNRA on June 23 (TMR). They were felt to be scarce elsewhere.

**Once again, many warblers were noted well into June along the lake. On June 1, Hannikman found 14 warbler species at Headlands Beach State Park. Carol Tveekrem’s table illustrates a good notion as to which warbler species is the most abundant nester in the region. The final few days of August brought the first big push of southbound migrants.**

It was hard to tell if a June 20 **Blue-winged Warbler** at Lakeshore MP was north or southbound (JP). At Berlin, 6 could be found near the Osprey nesting site (BDL). **Yellow Warblers** were abundant. In Geauga Co., **Chestnut-sided Warblers** summered at Big Creek and Headwaters Parks. Four territorial male **Magnolia Warblers** were found at Hinckley (NK). A **Black-throated Blue Warbler** was an exceptional find at Hinckley on June 14 (NK). A **Yellow-rumped Warbler** in Medina on June 21 was surely mixed up as to which direction it was going (CW). **Black-throated Green Warblers** were widely reported and in solid totals. Five were tallied at Happy Days Ledges on June 29 (DAC). A **Yellow-throated Warbler** at Bacon Woods on June 29 was from a new local site (TMR). One was at Ira Road on June 22 (RHL, SW). **Pine Warblers** nested in their usual haunts. They stopped singing by July 20 at Brecksville (DAC). Dan Best and Eric Faber found 4-5 males singing at Headwaters Park in June. This is the first Geauga Co. location for the species. News on **Cerulean Warblers** was encouraging. Five were at Spencer Lake on June 11 and another 5 were at Bacon Woods on June 14 (TL). Solid numbers were reported on breeding bird surveys at Hinckley MP and the the CVNRA. **American Redstarts** remain one of our most abundant woodland nesters. I was surprised as to how tame they are around a nest site. The Prothonotary Warbler nest box program along the Upper Cuyahoga produced fewer young than hoped for. This was due in part to flooding and tenacious House Wrens. This caused the warblers to resort to using natural cavities. Thus, they were subjected to cowbird parasitism (DB). Three pairs of Prothonotaries nested in Pinery Narrows (DAC). **Ovenbirds** were surprisingly abundant.
TERMINAL TOWER, CLEVELAND. Sara Jean Peters and Dave Scott, Ohio Division of Wildlife, report that 9-year-old male Szell 67Z paired for the fiftieth time with 5-year old female Zenith 23W. Between March 13 and April 5, 4 eggs were laid, possibly by a different female. A partial band reading suggested that Zenith was present at this time. On April 16, 7 eggs were seen and Zenith was identified on the nest. The eggs were candled and found not to be viable. The eggs were removed and by May 19, a new clutch of 4 eggs was being incubated. Hatching began on June 19 and all 4 young were banded and fledged by August 1. On August 4, 1 of the young was found dead on a ledge near the nest site. The decomposing body was presumed dead for a day or two with death attributed to an unknown injury sustained after fledging. Despite the confusion surrounding the early nesting season, this pair had an outstanding performance this year.

Gold Coast, Lakewood. Dave Scott reports that the 1996 pair 3-year-old female Athena 5/V and 4-year-old male Buckeye 3/1, were territorial, aggressive, and displayed courtship behavior early in the nesting season, but were unable to find a suitable nest site due to removal of the nest box and other steps taken to minimize conflicts between the pair and building tenants, maintenance personnel, and management staff. An unbanded bird was seen in mid-May around the site and the pair have not been seen since late spring.

Akron. A pair of peregrines was seen near the nest box. The female is J.P. *G/3, fledged wild in 1996 from the New Center, Detroit, Michigan; the male is Bandit 3/*P, fledged wild in 1995 from the Book Building, also in Detroit. This pair did not nest but was seen regularly throughout the nesting season according to Sarah Jean Peters and Dave Scott.

Elyria. Dave Scott reports that an unbanded adult female was paired with a juvenile male *A/5, fledged in 1996 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. A nest box was installed in the area in early April; however nesting did not occur this year.
reported that the Terminal Tower nest produced 4 young. One of the tercels crashed and died on its first flight. The only female was found injured in Sandusky. It subsequently died at a rehab center.

**SANDHILL CRANE** - Best report ed that a pair of Sandhill Cranes was seen on July 3 along the Upper Cuyahoga River, just downstream from Bridge Creek confluence. This was the first sighting (as far as he knew) since mid-May. Speculation that the cranes may have nested in the wetlands along the Cuyahoga River, but would have suffered from the severe flooding with heavy rains at end of May/first of June. Another possible/very plausible sighting (in flight) was made on 7/8 on Upper Cuyahoga River between Russell Park and Rt. 422 by Gene Wright, ODNR Preserve Manager (fide Best).

**AMERICAN AVOCET** - This summer provided excellent opportunities to see this species in Lorain. As many as 14 could be found there (July 15 - Harlan and Wagner). Given the amount of diligent coverage, totals surely added up to over 30 individuals (LePage, Holt, Hoffman, m.obs.).

**WILLET** - While not usually a species found in this column, this summer Willet numbers were so exceptional I decided to include them here. In Lorain Holt and LePage saw them on 13 dates. Several observers had sightings of 13 birds. The high count was 16 on Aug. 10 (Hoffman). Elsewhere, Bacik had a flock of 7 at Headlands Beach SP on Aug. 15. There must have been 40 or so Willets in the region this summer.

**UPLAND SANDPIPER** - A family group was noted in Fairport Harbor on June 22. (Hannikman). This is probably the only known regular nesting area in the region.

**WHIMBREL** - Birds were seen in Lorain on 3 dates. Three were there on July 28 (LePage). Singles were there on Aug. 7 (LePage) and on Aug. 31 (Holt). One was reported from Burke Airport on July 30 (Pogacnik).

**HUDSONIAN GODWIT** - This stylish wader put in a nearly unprecedented showing. A flock of 17 adults landed on the mudflat at Lorain at about 7:30 A.M. on Aug. 17 (Holt, Weingart, m.obs.). A single bird remained there through Aug. 18 (LePage, m.obs.). LePage reported that an observer from Columbus said he saw 34 there on an unnamed date in August. I did not receive further incidentals on this unverified report.

**MARbled GODWIT** - Of the two godwits known to the region, this is the more expected. LePage found singles in Lorain on June 25, July 15, and Aug. 8. Holt saw two there on July 17.

**RED KNOT** - As many as 2 juveniles graced the Lorain mudflat in mid-August (LePage, Holt, m.obs.).

**WILSON’S PHALAROPE** - A male was in Lorain from June 18 through June 25 (LePage, Hoffman, Romito, m.obs.).

**RED-NECKED PHALAROPE** - Our first report for the period was on Aug. 23-24 in Lorain (Hoffman, Holt). A second was at Lakeside Yacht Club on Aug. 28 (Greenland, Lozano).

**LAUGHING GULL** - LePage saw 2 adults in Lorain on June 28 and a single on July 1-3. An adult was at Headlands Beach SP on July 3 (Bacik). Peskin found one adult in Lorain on July 19. It or another was there on July 20.
(Harlan, Wagner, Lozano, Finkelstein). A juvenile was studied and sketched there on Aug. 9 (Brumfield, Finkelstein, Hoffman, Lozano).

**LITTLE GULL** - An adult graced the mudflat in Lorain briefly in Lorain on Aug. 3 (LePage) and on Aug. 17 (Holt).

**FRANKLIN’S GULL** - An adult was out-of-season in Lorain on June 14 (LePage).

**LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL** A second-year bird was studied closely in Lorain on June 29 (Holt).

**LEAST TERN** - An adult was documented at Lorain on June 18 (Harlan, Wagner). It was verified by LePage, Finkelstein, and Lozano that evening. This editor appreciates the verification of rarities of this magnitude.

**BLACK TERN** - Two were seen by Jim Reyda at Springfield Lake on the Akron Summer Bird Count (fide Tveekrem). One was in Lorain on Aug. 31 (Holt).

**WHIP-POOR-WILL** - The only report was from the Greater Akron Audubon Summer Bird Count (Tveekrem).

**RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD** - A believable, but unverified report was received from Lakeshore MP on June 10 (Pogacnik). This sighting awaits acceptance from the Ohio Rare Birds Records Committee.

**WINTER WREN** - One was at Holden Arboretum on June 25 (Rickard). A single bird was seen at Happy Days Ledges on June 29 (Chasar). A bird that was singing at Hinckley MP on June 1 could not be relocated (fide Harlan).

**BELL’S VIREO** - A bird was documented at Chagrin River Park on June 16 (Pogacnik).

**TENNESSEE WARBLER** - A singing male was extremely late in Twin Lakes on June 27 (Rosche). Late birds, such as this, are usually found only along Lake Erie.

**NASHVILLE WARBLER** - A singing male was observed at Hinckley MP on June 28. Because he was acting very furtive, a nearby nest was suspected (Harlan and Wagner). Two singing males were reported from Hell Hollow (JP).

**NORTHERN PARULA** - The Chasars watched a nest in Brecksville where two young fledged on July 3 (See Field Notes). A bird was reported on the Greater Akron Summer Bird Count (Tveekrem). Two singing males were reported in Lake Co. (JP).

**BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER** - A bird was
in Hinckley MP on June 28 (Harlan, Wagner). Two singing males were reported at Hogback Ridge (JP).

**PRAIRIE WARBLER** - A singing male was at Hinckley Metropark on June 28 (Harlan, Wagner).

**PALM WARBLER** - A single observer sighting on the breakwall at Headlands Beach SP on Aug. 10 provided a new early fall arrival date for the species (Bacik).

**BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER**
A male was singing vehemently along the Riding Run Bridle Trail in June (Rosche). A female raised suspicion of breeding along the Zimmerman Trail on June 28 (Hannikman).

**NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH** - The only report of this species nesting was from Lake Rockwell (Weingart).

Birding by Kayak, or the Case of the Purloined Fish
*by Jim Heflich & Patty Kellner*

On Labor Day (September 1, 1997), Patty and I were kayaking on East Branch Reservoir in eastern Geauga County. Right after putting in, we were treated to a swirling kettle of sixteen Turkey Vultures, an adult Osprey, and a Cooper's Hawk.

An hour later, farther up the lake, the Osprey flew past us, occasionally hovering to fish. Then it reappeared overhead, flying due north with a large fish in its talons. A few minutes later the Osprey came back toward us, still grasping the fish and calling loudly, but with an adult Bald Eagle in seemingly lazy pursuit.

The Bald Eagle did not seem to be flying unusually fast, but with its larger, stronger wings it quickly closed the gap to the Osprey, still burdened with its heavy prey, until, nearly directly overhead the kayak, it rose upside down, thrusting its talons toward the Osprey, but not quite making contact.

The Osprey dropped the fish, which was almost instantly caught by the Bald Eagle in midair. The eagle than took off with its stolen meal with the Osprey following in half-hearted pursuit for a few minutes, before giving up.

We purchased the kayak with inland birding in mind, but this spectacular aerial drama was the highlight of our first birding season afloat.

**The Status of Black-throated Green Warblers**
*by Norman J. Kotesovec, Jr. and Sean Zadar*

As many as 25 singing males were found on territory in Hinckley Metropark (Medina Co.) in the summer of 1997--18 singing males, along the bridle path off Hinckley Hills Road and 7 singing males, along the bridle path behind Judge's Lake east to Harter Road (the two singing males near Harter Road technically reside in Summit County, although the bridle path is apparently still part of the Hinckley Reservation). While 25 singing males were noted, the actual number of Black-throated Green males that remained on territory throughout the season may be somewhat less. The greatest single count in one day was 17 singing males. Eleven singing males were censused on at least five dates over a minimum of 20 days, while five birds were censused on eight to ten dates over a 41-93 day period.

All said, I can account for 16 singing males that persistently held territory at the Hinckley Hills Road site during all, or portions of, the 1997 breeding season, which, in the case of the Black-throated Green Warbler, began during the last week in April and ended after the first week of August. Disappointingly, however, was the lack of any single territorial Black-throated Green in the Norway Spruce stand along West Drive where I documented nesting activities in 1994 and 1995 (Kotesovec, *The Ohio Cardinal* 17:3, 1994; 18:4, 1995) and where Black-throated Greens have been noted from at least 1992 through 1996 (Rob Harlan, pers. comm.; Kotesovec, pers. obser.). This is somewhat ironic since a large wave of approximately 50 Black-throated Greens, noted by Sean Zadar and me on May 9, 1997, passed through this site. Perhaps any territorial male present was discouraged by the encroachment of so many conspecifics and moved on!
As many as four female Black-throated Green Warblers were found at the Hinckley Hills Road site from June 24 through August 6. A female was observed on June 24 collecting nest material, which included pine needles and spider silk. On June 28 a pair of Black-throated Greens were seen copulating upon the branch of a Black Walnut; and on July 14 an additional pair of Black-throated Green Warblers were both found in attendance to a single fledgling just days out of the nest and unable to fly. Lastly, a female was observed on August 6, foraging low in a Black Cherry, where it was attacked twice and finally driven off by a Blue-winged Warbler!

While the Hinckley Hills Road site was censused thoroughly, the Judge's Lake area was visited too infrequently to ascertain whether the Black-throated Greens present remained on territory the entire season, although 18-20 males may not be an unrealistic number for the whole of Hinckley. Whether this 1997 count is unusually high is uncertain. Rob Harlan tallied 10-15 pairs in 1992 and attributed an increase in "northern" nesters to "cool weather during late May and June" that "induced northern species to set up housekeeping far south of their expected range" (The Ohio Cardinal 15:4, 1992). Temperatures in May had averaged 52.9 degrees, 5.1 degrees below normal with rainfall totaling 4.21 inches, .72 inches above normal (fide The Cleveland Bird Calendar 93:2, 1997). Given these weather conditions, the 1997 count of Black-throated Greens at Hinckley Metropark may be merely a product of cool temperatures and may not reflect an increase in number, although one might argue for greater vigilance as a causal factor as well (this was the first year that I included the bridle path behind Judge's Lake in my census). Continued and greater censusing in 1998 (and beyond) will be needed at all locations before determining any trends.

Be that as it may, the emphasis of my 1997 study had been on the collection of dawn song data (to supplement dusk song data recorded in 1996) and the position of the Black-throated Green in the dawn chorus. Song was first heard on April 29 (the date that the first Black-throated Green was found on territory) and was last noted on August 6.

Notes on Nesting Birds (1997) in Pinery Narrows and Brecksville Reservation

by Dwight & Ann Chasar

The Pinery Narrows in the CVNRA and the nearby Brecksville Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks, are rich in various habitats and, therefore, in bird diversity. Some of the nesting bird diversity merits documentation for base-line data, if for no other reason.

The swamp north on the railroad tracks from the Station Road parking lot in the Pinery Narrows is the site of a heron colony, with at least 80 nests this year, many nests with three or more young. In this same swamp, three pairs of Prothonotary Warblers nested, their nests in a line parallelizing the adjacent railroad tracks. The end nests were 565 and 523 feet from the center nest, maybe indicative of territory requirements. Two pairs of Red-headed Woodpeckers also nested, and these nests were about 300 yards apart. Three female Hooded Mergansers were found with 7, 6 and 2 young, all within one hour time span. In addition, Brown Creepers, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Bluebirds, Tree Swallows, Northern Flicker, Baltimore Oriole, Cedar
Waxwing, Wood Ducks, and many other common bird nests were discovered here. For the second time in three years, across the river from the swamp, we found the Yellow-billed Cuckoo nest, which was subsequently abandoned. Louisiana Waterthrush is a probable nester along the canal in this location.

... we again found nesting Northern Parulas in a Norway Spruce ...

A Yellow-throated Warbler pair nested (see article in this issue) just off the Station Road parking lot. A probable second nesting (nest building completed about July 11) of Cerulean Warbler, just across the historic iron bridge in a Sycamore 30 feet above the towpath trail, was found. Two fledged broods of Ceruleans were seen being fed in the same vicinity a few days earlier.

In the Plateau area of the Brecksville Reservation, we again found nesting Northern Parula in a Norway Spruce 19 feet distant from the spruce used in 1994 (and 56 feet from the tree where nesting was attempted in 1995) and just 11 3/4 feet above the parking lot. When we found the nest on June 27, young were already being fed. Two birds fledged on July 3rd and were refound on the 4th, with parents attending them.

During the Ohio breeding bird survey from 1982-87, no Broad-winged, Cooper's, or Red-shouldered Hawks were confirmed as nesters in this area. We found three Cooper's Hawks' nests, one at the Plateau picnic area (3 young), one on Meadows Drive (5 young) and one near Brecksville Road (2 young) at the maintenance center entrance. The Broad-winged Hawk, which nested (3 fledged) in 1995 near Oak Grove picnic area, nested at My Mountain this year and fledged three young. One Red-shouldered Hawk near the stables fledged three young. Dark-eyed Junco was a possible nester here (nest confirmed in 1996).

Brecksville Metropark is in the second year of a continuing raptor survey. Here are comparisons of four Cooper's Hawks' nests found this summer during the survey. It is difficult to decide when the birds "fledge," since the young move out to branches around the nest and return to the nest, fly to nearby trees, and fly back. Also, as a note, early mornings are not good observation times because the young stay low in the nest and all nests are very high.

One pair used an old nest (previous occupant unknown) in a deciduous tree. I (Ann) first saw an adult standing on the nest on June 21; it was seen earlier than that date by another volunteer. Two young were first visible on July 13. They seemed to develop very slowly. They never walked around the edge of the nest nor out on the limbs. On July 27 there was no activity at the nest, and I feel that these young were
either predated or died from lack of care.

Another pair built a nest in a Norway spruce, overlooking two roads, a parking lot, and a picnic area! This is an area where I bird frequently, but the adults were very quiet and secretive. I had no idea they were nesting until I walked directly under the tree on June 25 and a disturbed adult gave its agitated call; I easily located the nest, with one young visible. On June 28 three young were visible, one of which was hopping around. In the next week all were climbing out on limbs. The nest was empty by July 8, but young could still be heard in the area on July 16.

A third pair built their nest in a secluded white pine area. I found an adult sitting on the nest on June 18. She was always sensitive to my presence, flying from the nest, chasing me with kek-kek-kek calls whenever I came nearby. A turkey vulture, flying overhead, was also chased away. Two young, one standing, were visible by June 29. They were actively moving about on July 4; by July 16 the nest was empty.

The fourth nest, also in a white pine, was the earliest discovered and easily visible from a road 50 feet away. I first saw the adult fly in and sit on the nest on May 10. On June 10 she was standing on the nest, but no young were visible. On June 21 two or three young were visible. This adult never seemed to mind people. She never gave an alarm call nor flew off, and she readily fed her young that were in my view. On June 25 one young was walking around the edge of the nest. On June 28 one young was out of the nest being fed by an adult. By July 9 the nest had fallen apart, but the young were in nearby trees. They stayed in the immediate vicinity for about two weeks, giving excellent views of feeding behavior—at one time I had four young on one horizontal log. I never saw all five young, but two other volunteers indicated the presence of five young, both before and after fledging.

An up-to-date and complete review of the Cooper's Hawk by Rosenfield and Bielefeldt is in The Birds of North America, Bulletin #75, published by The American Ornithologists' Union and The Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. They site a study by Meng of a Cooper's Hawk nest in New York, where an average of 66 medium-sized prey items were required to raise a young bird to age 6 weeks. Perhaps this is not the time to do a bird census in Brecksville Metropark!

Map by Sue Tackett and Larry Rosche

CONFERMED NESTING OF YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (Dendroica dominica) IN CUYAHOGA COUNTY by Dwight Chasar

The Yellow-throated Warbler (Dendroica dominica) has returned to the Chippewa Creek ford area in the Brecksville Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks, since before 1980 (Flynn) as a summer resident. Typically one singing territorial male was found. In the last four years there have been sporadic summer reports from other nearby sites, ie, Jaite and Peninsula in Summit County. In the last two years singing males have expanded along the Chippewa Creek toward the Cuyahoga River and north along the river on both the east (Summit Co.) and west side (Cuyahoga Co.). This area is known as the Pinery Narrows.
There were at least 5 males in the summer of 1997.

There has never been confirmed nesting of the Yellow-throated Warbler in Cuyahoga Co or generally in northern Ohio (Peterjohn and Rice). It was anecdotally reported, however, to have nested at Deep Lock Quarry (Summit Co.) in 1980 (Flynn). My wife Ann and I have been in search of this confirmation for several years (Chasar). Part of the difficulty was in our not understanding the Yellow-throated Warbler breeding chronology in NE Ohio, as it is poorly documented in Ohio in general. The Yellow-throated Warbler returns to the Brecksville reservation around the middle of April each year (Chasar) and sings into August. Nests are generally found very high in Sycamore trees, of which there are numerous ones in this vicinity. On July 1, 1995, we found (Chasar) a singing male and clipping female together at the heron colony swamp (Cuyahoga Co) in Pinery Narrows, our first encouragement that both sexes existed. Then, on July 9, 1997, Wilbur McQueen, Ann and I found a Yellow-throated Warbler feeding a fledged Brown-headed Cowbird (Molothrus ater) along the towpath in Pinery Narrows on the Summit Co side. There have been only two other recorded observations of this behavior (Hall). This not only provided us with the first real evidence of nesting, but more importantly gave us the first suggestion of breeding chronology in NE Ohio. Now was the time to be searching diligently for nests, if it were not already too late.

On July 11, at 6:30 am, I observed a singing male Yellow-throated Warbler in a 100 ft. tall Sycamore tree at the southwest corner, where Station Road crosses the railroad tracks near the Station Road parking lot of the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreational Area. When I returned to that tree at 8:00 am, I found both the singing male and clipping female foraging all over that tree, slowly working their way up to the top. The two birds converged to a dark spot hidden among the leaves. I lost track of the birds. About 10 minutes later, the singing male returned to the tree with a green larva in its beak and over 1-2 minutes moved up the tree to the same dark spot. I really had found the nest site! I returned with my scope at 9:10 am and after about 10 minutes found a non-singing Yellow-throated Warbler approaching from below, what proved to be, the bottom of a nest; and then it disappeared behind the leaves above. This was it.

Later that evening, Ann and I returned to search for the nest from the west (opposite) side of the tree, thus having the evening light to our backs. We viewed the nest with the scope and were rewarded with a tail and beak extending beyond the nest. An adult Yellow-throated Warbler, minutes later, exited from, and perched in front of the nest. Confirmation extraordinaire! On the evening of July 12 from the same perspective, I watched an adult Yellow-throated Warbler enter the nest and remain several minutes.

Many Yellow-throated Warbler nests in Sycamore trees are saddled over a horizontal branch between 10 to 120 ft. high far out from the trunk (Harrison). This nest was about 80 ft. high, but was more suspended from small limbs and leaning against a somewhat vertical branch toward the center of the tree. It resembled a hanging nest that a Yellow-throated Warbler builds in Spanish moss in the South.

On the evening of July 13, something was amiss, as the nest bottom was hanging loosely. A Yellow-throated Warbler came to the nest with a beak of nest material, pecked at the bottom of the nest, and flew east across the river. By July 16 the nest had totally disappeared. Winnie Kennedy told me that she saw a Yellow-throated Warbler removing material from the nest on the 15th. The nest either failed from poor construction or was predated. This nest may have already been in trouble when I first found it, as it was not a typically-built nest.

Ann and I found an adult Yellow-throated Warbler feeding a well-developed fledgling on the Summit Co. side of the river, not far from the failed nest site on multiple visits between August 18-25th. This could have been the same Yellow-throated Warbler whose nest had failed. Nevertheless, I think we confirmed the nesting of the Yellow-throated Warbler in both Cuyahoga and Summit Counties.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

ACKNOWLEDGMENT: Special thanks are given to William and Nancy Klamm, Richard and Jean Hoffman, Anthony Hess, Mr. and Mrs. E. William Haley, William and Ann Toneff, and Bertalan Szabo for their generosity towards the publication of Volume 94.

NOTICE: All reports to The Cleveland Bird Calendar are archived in the The Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

RARE BIRD HOTLINE: (216) 526-2473 (BIRD) The hotline is sponsored by the Kirtland Bird Club. In cases of extreme rarities, (i.e. Western Grebe, Mew Gull, Varied Thrush, Harris Sparrow, etc.), please contact the editors as soon as possible.

INVITATION: The Kirtland Bird Club meets the first Wednesday of the month, except July and August, at 7:45 P.M. in The Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

FIELD STUDY: On the first Sunday of each month a census is conducted at Headlands Beach State Park. The purpose is to study the long term occurrence patterns of migrant and resident birds of the Grand River and Fairport Harbor section of the region. For more information call Larry Rosche at (330) 678-9408 or Ray Hannikman at (216) 261-9552.

INQUIRIES REGARDING SUBSCRIPTION to The Cleveland Bird Calendar should be addressed to Joan M. Palmer, The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, 1 Wade Oval, University Circle, Cleveland, Ohio 44106. The annual subscription rate is $7.50.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS: Contact Shannon Spyker at The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, (216) 231-4600 ext. 309

FIELD REPORTS, ARTWORK, PAPERS, AND PHOTOGRAPHS should be sent to Larry Rosche, 7473 Sylvan Drive, Kent, Ohio 44240. e-mail: lorofs@aol.com