

THE CLEVELAND  
**BIRD  
CALENDAR**



June, July, August 2001

Volume 97

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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.

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Due dates for seasonal field reports are as follows:

March 10 - Winter Season  
June 10 - Spring Season  
September 10 - Summer Season  
December 10 - Autumn Season

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

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# The Cleveland Bird Calendar

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# Summer 2001



## Summer 2001 by Dwight Chasar

**JUNE:** Temperatures averaged 68.0°, .4° above normal. The high was 91° on the 15th, and the low was 44° on the 5th. Lake Erie was 57° on June 1 and rose to 67° by the 30th. Rain occurred on 13 days, totaling 3.96 in., .26 in. above normal. The most rain in a 24 hr. period was 1.40 in. on the 21-22. Sunshine was available 66% of the time possible.

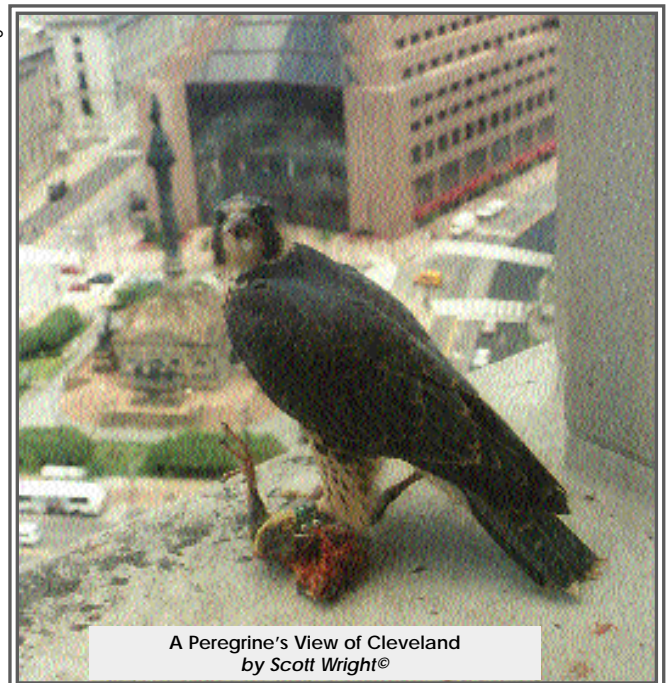
**JULY:** Temperatures averaged 71.9°, right at normal. The high was 93° on the 24th, and the low was 50° on the 6. Sunshine prevailed 85% of the time possible. This was the driest July on record with rain occurring over 5 days--totaling only .68 in., 2.84 in. below normal. The most rain in a 24 hr. period fell on the 25th, amounting to .47 in. Lake Erie rose to 72° by the end of the month.

**AUGUST:** Temperatures averaged 72.6°, 2.2° above normal. The high was 94° on the 8th, and the low was 51° on the 15th. Sunshine occurred 80% of the time possible. Rain fell on 12 days, totaling 3.31 in., .09 in. below normal. The most rain in a 24 hr. period was 1.63 in. Lake Erie water rose to 80° by the 16th, tying the record for the hottest ever, and then subsided to 74° by the end of month.

□



**N**o Common Loons summered in the region. Apparently, the only **Pied-billed Grebes** that nested were at Sandy Ridge MP (CC, RHL, SW). On July 29, 3 adults & 9 juveniles were seen there (PL, BF, m.obs.). One at Shaker Lakes on Aug. 27 was assumed to be a migrant (BW). Immature **Double-crested Cormorants** summered in fair numbers at many inland locales and along Lake Erie. The **Great Blue Heron** population appeared healthy. **Great Egrets** put in a good showing. Birds were seen at too many sites to mention. The high counts were 4 at Lake Rockwell in late August (VW) and 3 at Walborn Reservoir on Aug. 5 (BDL). One stopped by a Kirtland pond to be added to the yearly yard list on Aug. 18 (CK). Judging from the number of young seen at the various drawn-down reservoirs in August, **Green Herons** fared better than they have in many years. As many as 3 **Black-crowned Night-**



A Peregrine's View of Cleveland  
by Scott Wright©

**Herons** spent late July through August at Shaker Lakes (LD, BW).

Judging from the many broods and late August gatherings, **Wood Ducks** had a very good nesting season. An **American Black Duck**×**Mallard**, in the process of eating a green frog, was observed on July 29 at Sandy Ridge MP. The duck flattened the head of the frog with its bill until it managed to swallow everything except the hind legs. For a moment or two it appeared that the duck might choke on the legs; but finally, they, too, disappeared (PL, BF, m.obs.!) A drake **Blue-winged Teal** was in Lorain June 5 (CH). Flocks of 8 and 9 were noted at HBSP in late August (RH). Five were at Sandy Ridge MP on Aug. 28 (CC). **Green-winged Teal** did not appear on any report. **Ring-necked Ducks** were seen at Sandy Ridge, Singer Lake, and Lake George in June (m.obs.). A **Lesser Scaup** was out of place at Shaker Lakes June and July (LD, RR). **Hooded Mergansers** summered at CVNP, Lake Rockwell, Mogadore, and at River Road MP. **Ruddy Ducks** summered again at Sandy Ridge MP. No report of ducklings was submitted (CC, m.obs.). A male Ruddy was in Lorain June 5 (CH).



Banding a Young Peregrine  
by Scott Wright©

**S**ummering **Ospreys** are becoming commonplace. On the evening of June 9, one was watched as it dived at a farm pond at the corner of SR-176 and Hawkins Road in Richfield Township (FCD). Ospreys were near daily occurrences at Lake George (LR). Birds were in the HBSP area on Aug. 3, 13, 19, & 25 (RH, NB). One was at Villa Angela SP on Aug. 30 (TLP). Nesting was successful again at Berlin, where 4 young survived (BDL). **Bald Eagle** nests continue to produce fair numbers of young. An immature was seen at LaDue on Aug. 23 (CH). A **Northern Harrier** was tardy at Gordon Park on June 2 (TG, SZ). A pair flew over Singer Lake Bog on June 13 (LR). A **Sharp-shinned Hawk** was spied in Olmstead Falls on June 11 (RHL, SW). **Cooper's Hawks** were fairly numerous. The Boston Trailhead provided regular sightings of **Red-shouldered Hawks** (MR). Two were at Ira Road in the CVNP on June 8 (RR). A nest with two young **Broad-winged Hawks** was located at Brecksville Reservation (DAC). One over Wadsworth on July 16 was unusual (RHL, SW). A juvenile was seen at Elmwood Park on Aug. 21 (TG). Two were in Gates Mills the same day (JH). Another was seen at North Chagrin on Aug. 27 (LD). The **Red-tailed Hawk** nesting was deemed very success-

ful. **American Kestrel** numbers seemed to have increased a little in the eastern sectors of the region. Little information was received from the western rural sectors or from the heavily traveled interstate highways systems, where they were formerly common.

Harlan and Wagner found 4 **Northern Bobwhites** near Wadsworth on July 16. **Virginia Rails** were alarmingly scarce. Ira Road produces the only regular reports (TMR) Two were heard at Singer Lake Bog on June 13 (LR). Two **Soras** were viewed at Walborn on July 15 (BDL). One was heard at Singer Lake through June (LR). **Common Moorhens** were successful at Frame Bog Lake (LR). One was at Walborn on July 15 (BDL). An **American Coot** in Kent on July 18 seemed odd (CH).

A **Black-bellied Plover** graced HBSP on Aug. 4 (RH). Small numbers of **Semipalmated Plovers** were regular at HBSP area from late July (RH, m.obs.). One was at West Branch SP on Aug. 20 (CH). Several were seen at Sandy Ridge MP on Aug. 28 (CC). **Greater Yellowlegs** reports were as expected. A **Lesser Yellowlegs** was early at Lorain on July 3-4 (TLP, CH). The earliest returning **Solitary Sandpiper** was in Lorain on July 4 (CH). The high count was 6 at West Branch on July 20 (BDL). The only **Sanderling** reports were from HBSP from July 22 through the period (RH). **Semipalmated Sandpipers** were reported in fair numbers along the lake and at West Branch SP. Two adult **Western Sandpipers** stopped by West Branch SP briefly on Aug. 11 (LR). Several were reported at Sandy Ridge MP on Aug. 28 (CC). Six **Least Sandpipers** were exceptionally early on their return south at West Branch SP on June 28 (CH). By July 3, several more had reached Lorain (TLP). The high count was 38 at West Branch SP on Aug. 9 and 11 (CH, LR). One to two **Baird's Sandpipers** were detected at HBSP on Aug. 12, 13, & 26 (RH, NB). The only **White-rumped Sandpipers** reported were at Dike 14 on June 6 (SZ). The ear-

## Summer at the Mentor Headlands Area

Summer 2001 around Headland Beach State Park was enjoyable. Local numbers of nesters, like Eastern Wood Pewee, Eastern Kingbird, Carolina Wren, Purple Martin, and Warbling Vireo, to name a few, seemed to be in good numbers in the proper habitat. The shorebirds, though not in any significant numbers, moved in July and August. Sanderlings, though, did seem to be reduced in numbers. Fall migration was well underway by the end of August, as 20 species of warblers were noted during the last two and a half weeks of the month. Significant counts (20+ individuals) were made of Magnolia Warblers on August 24-25. Wilson's Warblers, American Redstarts, and Yellow Warblers were also very much in evidence in favored spots around the Headlands area. And what other way to end the month of August than with a Connecticut Warbler you could not walk away from!! It was a very nice summer, indeed.

Ray Hannikman

liest **Pectoral Sandpipers** were in Lorain on July 17 (TLP). The high count was 12 at Walborn on Aug. 5 (BDL). The only **Stilt Sandpiper** was at HBSP on Aug. 18 (RH).

**Short-billed Dowitchers** received few comments. Birds were noted at HBSP on July 21 & 22 and Aug. 19 (RH) and at Lorain on July 4-17 (CH, TLP). The high was a mere 6 at Lorain on July 17 (TLP). A

**Common Snipe** was an excellent find at Sandy Ridge MP on July 29 (PL, m.obs.) and again on Aug. 28 (CC).

**Bonaparte's Gulls** were slow to move into the region, and very few were noted. **Great Black-backed Gulls** were as expected. **Caspian Terns** were in fair numbers at HBSP, but poor elsewhere. The only **Common Tern** reports were 3 at Lorain on July 17 (TLP) and 10 at HBSP on Aug. 19 (RH). Remarkably, only one **Forster's Tern** was seen locally. It was Aug. 10 at HBSP (RH).

**Black-billed Cuckoos** were as expected on the local summer bird censuses. One was in LaGrange on June 2 (RHL, SW).

One at HBSP on July 21 was a lucky find (RH). Two birds were seen at Walborn on July 15 (BDL). One was at Ira Road on June 8 (RR). Since the spraying of pesticide to control gypsy moths, reports of **Yellow-billed Cuckoos** have dropped sharply in the region, especially in the CVNP. Birds were reported from Bradley Woods on June 8 and Bacon Woods on June 13 (TLP). One was seen intermittently along the Boston Trailhead (MR). Another was seen in the CVNP June 9 and 11 (TMR).

Resident owls species fared well. Walks along the trails at Mentor Lagoons regularly found calling **Eastern Screech-Owls**. **Common Nighthawks** seemed to be in dire straits locally. Nesting birds and August migrants were barely detected. Longtime nighthawk watcher, Jeff Wert wrote, "Nighthawks have been thin, but steady, August 26th-31st I had some every day from Montrose west to our house. Never more than 50, and sometimes just a half dozen.

None at a Cleveland-Boston game on the 30th, so they are sneaking past the Jake." The only Lake Co. report was 15 flying over SR-306 in Willoughby, heading toward Kirtland on Aug. 18 (CK). On the other side of the coin, **Chimney Swifts** and **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** were in excellent numbers.

**Red-headed Woodpeckers** seemed much improved, or at least more widely reported this summer. Greenland found them at 3 sites from Valley City to Litchfield along his regular aerobic bicycling route. On June 24 a feisty Red-headed Woodpecker was seen in Akron chasing away grackles and jays (JHa). The colony(?) at the Pinery Narrows seemed to be thriving (m.ob.). Sims Park hosted 2 pairs all summer (TLP). Up to 4 Red-headed could be counted along the Boston Trailhead (MR). One was at Forest Hills Park on June 11 (LD). Other Red-headed were found at HBSP on Aug. 25 (BW, BF) and at Lake View Cemetery on Aug. 29 (BW). **Northern Flickers** and **Pileated Woodpeckers** fared well on local summer censuses.

**Olive-sided Flycatchers** put in an excellent early fall showing. An



Sandhill Cranes at Sandy Ridge Metropark  
by Paula Lozano

early bird was at Shaker Lakes on Aug. 5 (RR). A bird was at HBSP on Aug. 19 (RH, LR). One was at Villa Angela SP on Aug. 25 (TLP). One was seen at Horseshoe Lake Park on Aug. 27 (GL). Two tardy spring birds at Ira Road in the CVNP on June 4 were exceptional finds (TMR). A **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** was late at HBSP on June 2 (RH). Returnees were reported there on Aug. 18 (NB) and Aug. 24 (RH). One was at Shaker Lakes on Aug. 27 (GL). **Acadian Flycatchers** are abundant in the upland woodlands of the CVNP and the Ravenna Training and Logistics Site. **Alder** and **Willow Flycatchers** were at the Klaus residence in Kirtland. An Alder was at the traditional Streetsboro Bog site on June 9 (RR). They were as expected at the RTLS (KL, LR). **Least Flycatchers** received poor nesting reviews. A pair of **Great Crested Flycatchers** remained at Nathan Hale Park into June for the first time in about 20 years (RHL, SW). Elsewhere, they were typically numerous and conspicuous (m.obs.). **Eastern Kingbirds** had a banner nesting year. Flights in late August were quite substantial. Counts of 30+ birds at Lake Rockwell, LaDue, and West Branch SP were made (LR).

Most vireos showed well on the summer counts. Nesting **White-eyed Vireos** appear in good shape. Birds found at Bacon Woods and Spencer Lake reaffirmed existing nest sites that had not received much attention in the recent past (TLP). On June 25, a **Blue-headed Vireo** was feeding a fledgling cowbird near the Plateau Picnic Area in Brecksville Metroparks (FCD). **Philadelphia Vireos** made an impressive August Showing. As many as 3 were tallied at HBSP Aug. 24-31 (RH). Another was viewed at Shaker Lakes on Aug. 27

(GL). **Red-eyed Vireos** nested in good numbers. The 16 Red-eyes counted at HBSP on Aug. 24 reflected an early movement (RH).

**Cliff Swallows** continue to thrive at West Branch SP (CH, LR). Bank Swallows gathered in large numbers at HBSP in late July (RH). Fair numbers of **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were seen at the end of Aug. (m.obs.). **Brown Creepers** continue their uncommon existence as a local nester. Rickard noted one feeding actively at Pinery Narrows on July 5. Chasar felt they were doing well in the Brecksville area. **Carolina Wrens** are doing very well and surely must be at near all-time high levels. **Winter Wrens** made summer surveys at Happy Days (RHL, SW), Chapin Forest (TLP), Conley Road, Girdled Road, Hell Hollow, Hogback Ridge, Indian Point, Paine Falls, Penitentiary Glen, and River Road Metropark (JP). As many as 4 **Marsh Wrens** were detected in Lorain in July (TLP). Several were reported from Sandy Ridge MP (CC, PL, m.obs.). A few birds could be heard singing at Mentor Marsh most of the summer. Walborn is the place to go to find this species in the summer. A canoe trip located 25+ there on July 15 (BDL).

**Eastern Bluebirds** are doing well. Gardella's trail in Brecksville MP fledged 23 young. **Veeries** were numerous. The 7 at Bradley Woods on June 8 typify their abundance in proper habitat (TLP). The first southbound **Swainson's Thrushes** were seen at HBSP by Aug. 24 (RH) and at Shaker Lakes by Aug. 27 (GL, BW). A **Gray-cheeked Thrush** was tardy at HBSP on June 2. One was early there on Aug. 24 (RH). **Wood Thrushes** were very conspicuous at Bradley Woods. On June 8, 12 were counted there

(TLP). Summer Bird Count totals reflected a solid breeding stock. They abruptly departed the HBSP on Aug. 3 (RH). **Gray Catbirds** continue in abundant supply. A **Northern Mockingbird** was in Westlake on June 11 & 12 (CC). Up to 6 **Brown Thrashers** summered at HBSP (RH).

Nesting warblers received good reviews from those who helped out on the summer censuses in the region. (See Field Notes and Tables). Southbound warblers were on the move in good numbers by the last third of August. On Aug. 27, at Shaker Lakes, Leidy and Winger experienced a very fine passage of warblers. **Blue-winged Warblers** were very numerous at the Ravenna TLS (KL, LR). LePage found 3 at Bacon Woods on June 13. The Novak Preserve hosted one on June 23 (TLP). A bird at Koellicker Fen delighted many botanists, photographers, and odonatists on June 9 (LR, m.obs.). No lingering **Tennessee Warblers** were seen. Fall arrivals were at HBSP on Aug. 13 (BW). Migrating **Nashville Warblers** were common in late August. A **Northern Parula** was at Shaker Lakes on Aug. 27 (GL, BW). **Yellow Warblers** nested well and southbound birds were in evidence by early August.

**Chestnut-sided Warblers** nested in fair numbers. Three early migrants were detected at Elmwood Park on Aug. 20 (TG). Another 6 were seen at Shaker Lakes on Aug. 27 (GL). Seven migrants were at HBSP on Aug. 25 (RH). Fifteen migrant **Magnolia Warblers** were counted at HBSP on Aug. 13 (BW). Another 25 were there on Aug. 25 (RH). Shaker Lakes hosted 21 on Aug. 27 (GL). A probable nesting bird was at Hinckley MP on June 9 (RHL, SW). **Cape May Warblers** put in a strong early showing. Two were seen at HBSP on Aug. 25 & 30

(RH). The head count of **Black-throated Blue Warblers** was 3 at HBSP on Aug. 25 (BW). The surveys at Stebbin's Gulch yielded 3 male **Black-throated Green Warblers** on June 19 (HP). One was a pleasant surprise along the Boston Trailhead on June 28 (MR). The conifer zones in the CVNP continue to harbor increasing numbers of these flashy warblers (DAC, LR, TMR). A **Blackburnian Warbler** was at Shaker Lakes on Aug. 24 (RR). Four were noted at HBSP on Aug. 24 (RH). Two **Yellow-throated Warblers** were seen along the Boston Trailhead on Aug. 16 (MR). **Pine Warblers** summered at Mogadore and Kendall Hills (LR). After 20 years of hearing several territorial males at Lake Rockwell, the editor noted a family group on Aug. 8. Five fledglings were being attended to by 2 adults (LR). Hinckley MP hosted a territorial male on June 9 (RHL, SW). A migrant Pine was seen at Shaker Lakes on Aug. 27 (GL). **Bay-breasted Warblers** followed suit and were in good numbers at HBSP in late August. Winger tallied 10 there on Aug. 25. **Blackpoll Warblers** were not about to miss the show. Five were at HBSP on June 1, and a late bird was there on June 10. The first birds to return were seen there on Aug. 13 (NB, BW). **Cerulean Warblers** continue their downward slide in the CVNP. Birds at Bacon Woods and Spencer Lake SWA were welcome news (TLP). **American Redstarts** were deemed "abundant" by Winger. Nesting **Black-and-white Warblers** were found only on Lake Co. surveys (JP). Migrants began to be detected on Aug. 14 at Shaker Lakes (BW). **Prothonotary Warblers** were as expected in the Station Road area of the CVNP (DAC, m.obs.). **Ovenbirds** were in good supply in the CVNP. The 10 at Bacon Woods on June 8 were

exceptional (TLP). **Louisiana Waterthrushes** were as expected. The only word of nesting **Northern Waterthrushes** was from the Lake Co. surveys (JP). **Kentucky Warblers** were found only on Lake Co. surveys (JP). A **Mourning Warblers** was expectedly late at HBSP on June 1-2 (RH). Southbound migrants were there on Aug. 24 and 31 (2). One was at Shaker Lakes on Aug. 26 (BW). **Hooded Warblers** were typically abundant in suitable nesting habitat. No migrants were detected along the lake. The 10 **Wilson's Warblers** at HBSP on Aug. 24 represented a very good total for the date (RH). This total was eclipsed by the 11 at Shaker Lakes on Aug. 27 (GL). Breeding Bird Surveys at Stebbin's Gulch yielded 4 **Canada Warblers** on June 2 (HP). A Canada lingered at HBSP until June 10. Five were counted there on Aug. 25 (RH). Two were at Shaker Lakes on Aug. 26 (BW). A **Yellow-breasted Chat** was at Carlisle MP on June 17 (TLP).

**Scarlet Tanagers** seemed to be holding their own against the evils of cowbird parasitism. The nesting status of **Eastern Towhees** is rather enigmatic. Widespread and numerous in successional habitats away from Lake Erie, they are barely found in similar habitats along the shoreline. **Chipping Sparrows** were noted in good numbers on local summer censuses. **Field Sparrows** followed nearly the same occurrence trends as towhees. A **Vesper Sparrow** was at the Holden Arboretum near Corning Lake on June 2 (HP). The GAASBC provided record numbers of **Grasshopper Sparrows** (DAC, DV). One summered in Wadsworth (RHL, SW). A tan **White-throated Sparrow** was an interesting find at the Lewis Road Riding Ring in Rocky River

Reservation on June 10 (GL). **Dark-eyed Juncos** continue to thrive in the hemlock-dominated sectors of the region. A summering bird was reported in the CVNP where they are rare (DAC). A junco at a residence in Orange on June 13 seemed to have made a poor choice of habitat (RHL, SW). LePage found 3 at North Chagrin on June 26 .

**Rose-breasted Grosbeaks** and **Indigo Buntings** fared well on summer surveys. **Bobolinks** remain as common nesters in suitable habitats. **Orchard Oriole** numbers were solid on the summer surveys. One at Carlisle MP on June 18 was from a new site (TLP). Numbers of **Baltimore Orioles** were simply staggering on June surveys. A **Pine Siskin** was a surprise in Medina on June 17 (RHL, SW). □



**AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN** — On July 5, one was seen from the Days Inn parking lot overlooking the Cuyahoga Valley. It was observed soaring over the valley and then flew behind the Days Inn and out of sight (McConnor).

**AMERICAN BITTERN** — The only report was from the Summit County Summer Bird Survey (Chasar, Vogus).

**LEAST BITTERN** — Birds were regularly seen at Herrick Fen in Portage Co. throughout June and July (Rosche, Weingart, Zadar). One was spied at Sandy Ridge Metropark on June 2 & 18 (Harlan, Wagner, McConnor). The Lanes found two at Walborn on a July 15 canoe trip.



**LITTLE BLUE HERON** — On June 18, Jim and Merry McConnor located this handsome species at Sandy Ridge Metropark. It was observed from the observation mound.

**MERLIN** — An immature frequented Mentor Lagoons Park in mid-August. This is highly unprecedented for the region. On Aug. 17, the last day of observation, the Merlin apparently became weary of a nearby Indigo Bunting's incessant minstrelling and brought it to a swift and final end (Hannikman, m.obs.).

**PEREGRINE FALCON** — Peregrine nests were reported from Akron and Cleveland (Wright).

**SANDHILL CRANE** — At least 2 cranes delighted many at Sandy Ridge Metropark for most of the summer. Unfortunately, these birds were tame. Susan MacGillis of the Hawk Ridge Wildlife Center received confirmation from Operation Migration that the Sandhill #355 at Sandy Ridge is one of their imprints from 1998. Susan wrote, "In 1999, Dr. David Ellis of Patuxent Wildlife Research Center decided to relocate it and 5 cranes from its group from the East Coast to Iroquois NWR in upstate NY. He holds the permit for this bird to be in the flyway."

Operation Migration and Chris Grame, park land manager, came up with an action plan of human avoidance tactics to keep the bird away from people for its own good. "Please don't approach this bird, so it won't have to be removed. Hopefully the birds will migrate and return to Sandy Ridge next year when bird #355 will be of breeding age." While this news may be disheartening for local birders, it didn't detract from the charm

and elegance of both these birds.

**AMERICAN AVOCET** — One was at Sandy Ridge on July 5 (LeGallee).

**WHIMBREL** — A bird sped by Rocky River Park on Aug. 31 (Gilliland). The same morning, one was seen at Headlands Beach State Park (Hannikman).

**WILLET** — A single bird was on the shore at Headlands Beach State Park on July 23 (Hannikman).

**LAUGHING GULL** — A first-summer bird was seen early on the morning of June 16 at Fairport Harbor and later at Headlands Beach State Park the same day (Hannikman). A juvenile was at the far east end of Fairport Harbor Beach the morning of Aug. 18 (Pogacnik).

**BLACK TERN** — Six Black Terns were seen at LaDue on Aug. 19 (Heflich, Kellner, B. & E. Faber).

#### **YELLOW-BELLIED**

**SAPSUCKER** — Tom Leiden writes, "This year I decided to spend time surveying Lake and Geauga Counties for nesting Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers. With the assistance of several birders and friends, ten (10) active territories have been located with nests found in seven (7) of those territories. Summary by county shows approximate location and nesting status.

Lake County

- a) Booth & Baldwin Roads (near Children's Schoolhouse) - nest located
- b) Paine Falls Park - nest located
- c) River Road & Palisades Drive - active pair feeding young, nest not located

d) Riverview Park - birds sighted, nesting a possibility

Geauga County

- a) Lakewood Road south of Cedar Road - nest located
- b) Cedar Road east of Lakewood Road - nest located (a & b are the closest two nests to date)
- c) Lakeview Road - West Bass Lake - nest located
- d) Leroy Road west of Thompson Road - nest located
- e) Clay Street & Thompson Road - nest located
- f) Clark Road east of Ravenna Road - active pair feeding young, nest not located

At least seven (7) of those territories are associated with mature willow trees, which are used as sap or feeding trees. In fact, five of the nests were located by following the adult birds as they flew from the willow tree to the nest tree.

I would appreciate any informa-



Sandhill Cranes at Sandy Ridge Metropark  
by Paula Lozano©

tion on sightings of Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, regardless of county. Thanks.”

**GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET** — Three birds were at the traditional Hinckley MP nesting site on June 9 (Harlan, Wagner).

**HERMIT THRUSH** — Birds were once again successful at Happy Days in the CVNP (Chasar). Pogacnik found them at 4 Lake County Metroparks. (See Field Notes)

**GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER** — An adult female graced Shaker Lakes on Aug. 27 (Leidy).

**BREWSTER'S WARBLER** — An adult male was at Shaker Lakes on Aug. 27 (Leidy, Winger).

**NORTHERN PARULA** — A bird was singing in Stebbin's Gulch on June 19 (Petruschke).

**BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER** — One was in Stebbin's Gulch on June 21 (Petruschke). A territorial male was seen at North Chagrin MP on June 6 (Harlan, Wagner).

**PRAIRIE WARBLER** — The first member of this species ever observed in the summer in the Headlands area was seen on July 22 along the Marsh Rim Trail at Mentor Lagoons (Hannikman).

**PALM WARBLER** — A north-bound straggler at Headlands Beach SP on June 2 was noteworthy (Hannikman).

**CONNECTICUT WARBLER** — Hannikman wrote: “The Connecticut Warbler ‘of a lifetime’ was closely and at length (for 10 minutes or more) observed in a vine tangle just off the Coast Guard Beach at Headlands Beach SP on

Aug. 31. The bird, I judged it to be an immature female, just sat and sat. It remained fully in plain view in this vine tangle, as if it were resting after just having arrived from its flight across Lake Erie. Never have I come close to observing this species so well or so long as when I observed this individual. I could only think of the words made famous by Dave Corbin-‘What a thrill.’”

**HENSLOW'S SPARROW** — The only report was from the hayfields at the Ravenna TLS (Ludt).

**NELSON'S SHARP-TAILED SPARROW** — One lingered at Gordon Park until June 2 (Gilliland, Zadar). □



## Hermit Thrush Nest-a 3rd and 4th time! By Dwight and Ann Chasar

For the third year in a row, we found a Hermit Thrush (*Catharus guttatus*) nest at Kendall Ledges in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Summit Co. This nest was on an ENE facing ledge, about 75-100 yards west of where it was the last two years (Chasar). It was located on a 7-8 in. shelf about 11 ft. above the ground and 13 ft. from the top of the ledge. The nest was tucked in against the base of an interrupted fern. A branch of a hemlock extended over and near the nest.

When we found the nest on May 19, the bird had just entered the nest and remained on it so that we could not determine the number of

eggs. On May 20, however, we found two blue eggs in it. Upon revisiting the nest on May 24 and 28, we found an adult that appeared to be incubating, giving us no chance to determine the number of eggs. When we returned on June 16 after a vacation, the nest was empty. We did find an adult Hermit Thrush feeding a begging cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) at the top of the ledges.

If incubation began about May 20-22 (allowing for 3-4 eggs), hatching would have occurred about June 3 and fledging about June 15. This timing is about right for the nest to be empty on June 16. Of the three nesting years, this one in 2001 occurred the latest and shows a variation of three weeks in egg dates for this NE Ohio location.

On July 22, we found another Hermit Thrush nest at the same ledges, about 100 yards west of the one reported above, again on an ENE facing ledge, about 11 ft. above the ground. This nest was tucked in among dead ferns, with *Dryopteris* wood fern drooping over it. A hemlock branch also extended out toward this nest.

Two adults attended three well-developed nestlings. Their eyes were open, and they could raise their heads but did not stretch their necks much. While most of the food fare was long legged insects and green larvae, one feeding did consist of a small bunch of dark colored berries that looked similar to those of Pokeweed. Vegetable based food is fairly unusual for Hermit Thrush young (Jones). An adult carried away a fecal sac.

A visit to the nest at 7 am on July 24 revealed that the adults were still attending to the nestlings and that the young were now stretching



Hermit Thrush feeding young at Happy Days - 2001  
by Dwight Chasar ©

## Geauga County Breeding Bird Summary by Dan Best

There were more bird sightings and breeding bird information generated out of Geauga Park District for the summer of 2001. Our participation in the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's Birds in Forested Landscapes documented the presence of a variety of forest nesting songbirds; the Golden-winged Warbler Atlas Program didn't get any Golden-wingeds, but did document Blue-winged Warblers; and our house calls by our volunteer Box Doc's produced bluebird, Tree Swallow, and House Wren nesting stats for Cornell's Cavity Nest Box Network and the North American Bluebird Society. Results are still being compiled for these studies and were not yet available to be included in this report.

their necks and moving their bodies fairly vigorously. The adults were not as wary as the literature would suggest (Jones). When one of us returned to the site at 7:30 am July 26, it was clear that the birds had just fledged, as all three fledglings were located on the ground below within 30 ft of the nest site and were being fed by the two adults.

Since fledging had just occurred, then hatching would have occurred on the 14th, brooding would have started on the 2nd, eggs would have been laid between June 29-July 1, and nest building, which takes 7-10 days by the female,

should have been between June 15-28. This timing would support double brooding by the same pair of thrushes from the above first described nest. This may well be the first documentation of double brooding by Hermit Thrush in Ohio (Peterjohn).

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Following is a summary of Dan Best's and Andy Fondrk's work with nesting Prothonotary Warblers on the Upper Cuyahoga River in the vicinity of Eldon Russell Park in Troy and Burton Township's for the 2001 nesting season.

- The breeding population within

### Geauga County Metroparks Birds in Forested Landscapes

	BTLR	BC	WW	BW	BBMP	HW	RK	ERP	SC	TWW
Red-shouldered Hawk	1			1					1*	1
Yellow-billed Cuckoo									1	1
Eastern Wood-Pewee	1	1	1	1	1	1	2		1	
Acadian Flycatcher		1		1	1		2	3	1	6
Yellow-throated Vireo	1			1		1	1	1		
Veery				1		1	1	2		
Wood Thrush		1	1	1	1	2	2			2
Cerulean Warbler					1	1	1	1		
Louisiana Waterthrush						2			1	3
Hooded Warbler		1	1		2	1	1		1	1

\* = nest

BTLR-Beartown Lakes Reservation; BC-Big Creek Park; WW-Whitlam Woods; BW-Burton Wetlands;  
 BBMP-Bessie Benner Metzenbaum Park; HW-Headwaters Park; RK-The Rookery; ERP-Eldon Russell Park;  
 SC-Swine Creek Reservation; TWW-The West Woods.

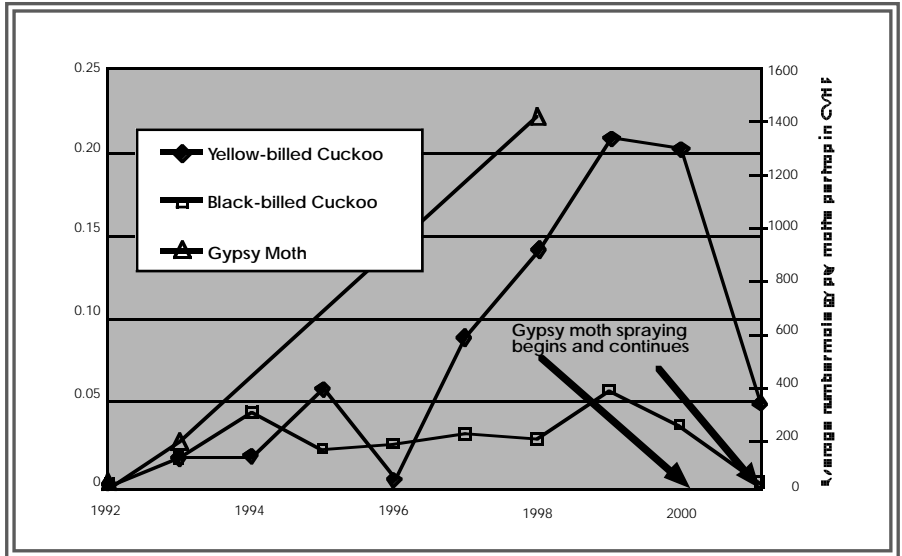
the study area consisted of 12 nest- ing pairs of Prothonotary Warblers comprised of 9 males and 12 females. One male nested with a second female after the first female's eggs disappeared (presum- ably due to wrens). A polygamous male held down two territories at the same time. He was also involved in an earlier unsuccessful nesting attempt in which the nest was abandoned and the female dis- appeared.

- 13 nestings produced a total of 64 eggs. 34 eggs hatched with all young surviving to fledging.
- Of the 30 eggs that did not hatch, 8 were in two nestings that were abandoned, 10 were lost to wren removal and 12 failed to hatch due to embryo death, infertility or for reasons unknown. Wren inter- ference was light, compared to past years.
- All nestlings, nesting females and all but one male were banded with USFWS aluminum bands. Adults are additionally color banded for individual recognition.
- Of the adult birds in the study, 6 of 12 females and 3 of 9 males were new to the population. Of the 12 birds returning as breeding adults, 4 are second year (new in 2000), 3 are third year (1999), 1 is a fourth year (1998), 1 is a fifth year (1997) and 1 is a sixth year--our oldest known bird--a female banded as a breeding adult in 1996. Also, one of this year's breeding females was banded as a nestling in 2000.

## Where were the Cuckoos?

By Dwight Chasar

In a recent article (Chasar) I dis- cussed the cuckoo (*Coccyzus*) pop- ulation trend in Cuyahoga and Summit Co over the last 23 years. Using semi-quantitative data from various censuses in the two coun-



ties, especially data from the Greater Akron Audubon Society Summer Bird Count (SBC), I showed that the recent outbreak of cuckoo sightings from 1997-2000 could be correlated with the gypsy moth infestation. Spraying to control the gypsy moth caterpillar began in the spring of 2000 in a number of communities and por- tions of the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, while some limited spraying occurred in 2001. A wet spring in 2000 also contributed to keeping the caterpillar at bay. The CVNP was noticeably devoid of caterpillars in 2001.

It was recently reported by Gale that, on nearly all study sites in CT, PA, and VA, both cuckoos appeared two years prior to an outbreak of gypsy moths and then virtually dis- appeared after the outbreak was over. The chart below depicts data from the SBC for the last 10 years. One can see that the number of cuckoos/party hr. in 2001 dropped to near the historic norm of those years prior to the gypsy moth infes- tation. Clearly, the local cuckoo population varies according to its food availability; and being nomadic, the cuckoo abandoned Summit Co. in search of sources of

food elsewhere, possibly southern Ohio, which experienced a record tent caterpillar infestation (Whan).

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## Breeding Bird Survey of the Natural Areas at Holden Arboretum by Carol Skinner

Of the Holden Arboretum's 3400- acre holdings, approximately 2200 acres consist of natural areas. Last summer the Research Department awarded me a grant to conduct a breeding bird survey of these properties. In October and November 2000, I laid out eight walking routes, each 1.5-2.5 km long. The routes sampled the habi- tats along both sides of Stebbins Gulch, Upper and Lower Baldwin, Little Mountain, Bole Woods, Sugarbush, and the Pierson Creek valley, along Highlights, Old Valley, Woodland, Pierson Creek

and Strong Acres trails. On each route I established data-collecting stations and marked them with flags and GPS positions. Each station was at least 200 m from any other station; 79 stations were established. From May 8 until July 14, 2001, Haans Petruschke and I walked each route a total of four times, at 1-2 week intervals between the same routes, pausing at each station for 10 minutes to record all birds heard (and infrequently seen) in that time period. Most of the birds were detected and identified by song. Since females of very few species sing, most of the birds recorded were singing males. This is a good indication of breeding, since bird song functions to establish and retain territory, attract a mate, or both. Determination of breeding was based on habitat suitability of an area, numbers of times a species was recorded in an area, numbers of individuals of one species present in an area, and other indications of breeding, such as territorial males fighting, or a male and female in association.

We documented 88 species during the study, 81 of which were believed to be breeding. As most of the habitat was forest, 95% of the species recorded were forest birds, such as woodpeckers, flycatchers, vireos, thrushes and warblers. Twenty-two species were found on all 8 transects, including Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Acadian Flycatcher, Veery, Wood Thrush, Ovenbird, Hooded Warbler and Scarlet Tanager. A total of 2,022 individuals were recorded. Some species were surprisingly abundant; we tallied 139 Wood Thrush, 80 Hooded Warblers, and 66 Scarlet Tanagers. Four state-endangered species were recorded, as well as an additional 13 species, which are conservation priorities at the federal, state, or public/private partnership levels (Partners in Flight/National Audubon Society). These species (Table 1) are of concern, primarily because of sharp and documented population declines and overall rarity.

We also documented other probable breeders which are uncommon

or rare in the area, including Wild Turkeys, Blue-headed Vireos, Northern Parula, Black-throated Green Warblers, Blackburnian Warblers, Vesper Sparrows, and Purple Finch.

During the course of the study, it became obvious that there were "hot spots" along certain transects for one or more species. Station 3 on Stebbins Gulch North transect reliably gave us the Blackburnian Warblers (one of the rarest breeding warblers in Ohio) and a Blue-headed Vireo. The run between Stations 2-6 on Upper Baldwin transect provided most of the Ceruleans found in the study, and Station 0 on Lower Baldwin was "Hooded Warbler Central" with 4-6 singing males every visit. Pierson Creek valley stations yielded Winter Wrens and Dark-eyed Juncos, as did much of Stebbins Gulch. Black-throated Greens also hung out along the Gulch.

The natural habitats of the Arboretum support a good diversity of mainly forest birds. More than 35% of the species recorded in this study were found in such numbers and/or distribution as to consider them "common." Several of these are species considered "uncommon" or "rare" in the Greater Cleveland region, or are considered endangered, threatened, or of concern at the State and Federal levels. The Arboretum also supports smaller numbers of rare breeders and hosts numerous migrants, many of whom are both spring and fall visitors.

**Table 1. Species of Concern Recorded on Transects**

SPECIES	#	USFWS, ODNR, or PIF/NAS Rating
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	Special Interest
American Woodcock	2	High Priority
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	3	Concern
Northern Flicker	10	Concern
WinterWren	9	Endangered
Veery	35	Concern
Wood Thrush	139	High Priority
Chestnut-sided Warbler	1	Concern
Magnolia Warbler	7	Endangered
Black-throated Blue W.	4	High Priority
Cerulean Warbler	12	High Priority
Louisiana Waterthrush	11	High Priority
Canada Warbler	13	Endangered
Field Sparrow	7	Concern
Dark-eyed Junco	20	Endangered
Bobolink	4	High Priority
Eastern Meadowlark	7	High Priority

## Comparative Totals for BBS Routes at Ravenna Training and Logistics Site

Species	Totals 2001	Totals 1999	Totals 1993		Totals 2001	Totals 1999	Totals 1993
Great Blue Heron	35	19	10	Bank Swallow		1	5
Green Heron			3	Barn Swallow	7	4	11
Turkey Vulture	8	5	14	Black-capped Chickadee	49	36	47
Canada Goose	28	2	34	Tufted Titmouse	105	85	77
Wood Duck	17	14	7	White-breasted Nuthatch	24	8	11
Mallard	3			Carolina Wren	2		
Hooded Merganser			2	House Wren	44	89	108
Northern Harrier	1		2	Marsh Wren	2	1	
Sharp-shinned Hawk			2	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	5	7	3
Cooper's Hawk		1	1	Eastern Bluebird	28	29	65
Red-shouldered Hawk	2	2		Veery	76	77	82
Broad-winged Hawk	1			Wood Thrush	77	63	57
Red-tailed Hawk	9	11	32	American Robin	152	207	158
American Kestrel	1	2	6	Gray Catbird	155	143	182
Ring-necked Pheasant		2	3	Brown Thrasher	5	25	23
Wild Turkey	5	1		European Starling	95	86	83
Northern Bobwhite			5	Cedar Waxwing	115	34	60
Sora		1		Blue-winged Warbler	62	51	65
Killdeer	6	17	18	Yellow Warbler	127	130	155
Ring-billed Gull			4	Chestnut-sided Warbler	25	17	19
Rock Dove	2	2	8	Cerulean Warbler	3	1	8
Mourning Dove	44	53	33	American Redstart	13	14	9
Black-billed Cuckoo	3	4	2	Ovenbird	7	11	16
Yellow-billed Cuckoo		19	2	Kentucky Warbler	1		2
Barred Owl		1	1	Common Yellowthroat	151	183	224
Chimney Swift	25	16	15	Hooded Warbler	13	20	26
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	3	4	18	Canada Warbler	2		
Belted Kingfisher	2	1	9	Yellow-breasted Chat	5	16	9
Red-bellied Woodpecker	17	15	11	Scarlet Tanager	36	52	36
Downy Woodpecker	21	19	12	Rufous-sided Towhee	112	127	184
Hairy Woodpecker	8	8	7	Chipping Sparrow	1	6	5
Northern Flicker	19	19	30	Field Sparrow	160	180	220
Pileated Woodpecker	8	6	4	Song Sparrow	131	168	207
Eastern Wood Pewee	47	41	45	Swamp Sparrow	5	12	15
Acadian Flycatcher	15	14	12	Northern Cardinal	101	88	77
Alder Flycatcher	14	17	34	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	104	104	79
Willow Flycatcher	27	40	35	Indigo Bunting	28	40	59
Least Flycatcher		6	2	Bobolink	1		1
Eastern Phoebe	18	22	42	Red-winged Blackbird	98	128	177
Great Crested Flycatcher	21	27	16	Eastern Meadowlark			7
Eastern Kingbird	4	18	13	Common Grackle	122	109	131
White-eyed Vireo	10	20	29	Brown-headed Cowbird	114	97	120
Yellow-throated Vireo	20	26	31	Orchard Oriole	1	2	1
Warbling Vireo	4	8		Baltimore Oriole	22	46	12
Red-eyed Vireo	107	125	88	Purple Finch	4	1	4
Blue Jay	74	103	79	House Finch	15	4	5
American Crow	105	115	118	Goldfinch	127	89	113
Tree Swallow	31	21	20	House Sparrow	12	20	
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	5		3				
				Species Total	84	82	87

Data provided by Larry Rosche  
and Kim Ludt

## Some Observations on Caspian Terns

by Nick Barber

On July 25, I was shorebirding at Conneaut Harbor when I heard a high-pitched call that sounded like a shorebird, but could not see what made the noise. Dismissing it, I came around some tall grass to see a small piece of sand, on which, amid a handful of peeps and Ring-billed Gulls, sat a juvenal Caspian Tern. This individual was more heavily barred on its upperparts than any I had ever seen before.

Many juvenal Caspians we see in Ohio in late summer have streaking on the upper mantle, sometimes creating a sort of indistinct rear-collar. First-winter Bonaparte's Gulls showing such markings can infrequently be found when their numbers build on Lake Erie in early winter. But this individual had very coarse, dark barring on both the mantle and scapulars. Later, when the bird was flying, I saw that it had barring on its rump and central tail feathers as well. Neither the Sibley guide nor National Geographic shows such a heavily marked bird; the closest illustration I could find was in The Birds of Kenya by Zimmerman, et al.

In Olsen and Larsson's tern book, photo 16 depicts a Finnish juvenal Caspian Tern in July; it has typical first-winter scapulars without the distinct barring of a juvenile. This, along with what I have observed of young Caspians in summer, suggests that the scapulars are molted early in a young tern's life. The bill of the Conneaut bird was also noticeably small, both in length and in width; its coloration was paler than an adult's. This criterion, combined with the heavily marked upperparts, suggests that this bird

was very young and possibly very recently fledged.

While walking back towards the car across the sand, with hundreds of Bank Swallows wheeling above me at all heights, I heard the grating "kraak" of a Caspian Tern and turned to see an adult flying towards the sand where the juvenile had been sitting. I then saw the juvenile fly up and follow the adult, while giving the high-pitched call I had heard earlier. It was a weak, squeaky "stree-eeep" or "pree-ep," vaguely two-parted. I could not see where the birds flew or if the adult had food, but it was evident that it was probably the juvenile's parent.

Wondering if this were a normal occurrence, I looked in some references at home. I found my answer in Peterjohn's Birds of Ohio, where he notes that the first migrants in Ohio "frequently include adults accompanied by dependent young" and that the high-pitched begging calls of the young are often heard at this time of year.

It is widely known that some birds, like cranes and geese, migrate as families, with adults accompanying their young, presumably to show these young birds the proper route to their wintering grounds. But these are precocial birds, which, just hours after hatching, are able to forage on their own, rather than be fed by parents. Post-breeding dispersals and pre- or mid-migration staging is familiar along the lakefront, but the opportunity to observe such a phenomenon as a part of the annual breeding cycle of a species that does not nest in our region is something Cleveland area birders should take advantage of.

### References

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## Notes on State listed and Rare Nesting Birds Found Within the Lake Metroparks in 2001

by John Pogacnik

**Coding-** (co) designates confirmed nesting, (pr) designates probable nesting, and (po) designates possible nesting.

Pied-billed Grebe: None were found at Conley Road because of low water levels.

American Bittern (Endangered): None were found.

Least Bittern (Endangered): None were found. They nested at HVN in 2000. A reduction in cattails may have led to the pair deserting this area.

Green Heron: Green Herons were found at the following parks: Arcola Creek (pr), Big Creek (co), Blair Road (pr), Chagrin River Park (pr), Chapin Forest (co), Conley and Paradise Road Properties (2--pr), Concord Woods (pr), Girdled Road (2--pr), Hell Hollow (po), Hidden Valley (2--po), Indian Point (2--po), Mason's Landing (pr), Penitentiary Glen (2--pr and co), Red Mill Marsh (po), River Road (2--pr), Riverview (po), South Ridge (po), Veteran's Park (pr). They were found in 7 locations in 1996, 11 in 1997, 12 in 1998, 15 in 1999, 14 in 2000, and 19 in 2001.

Blue-winged Teal: None were found.

Hooded Merganser: The only birds found this year were at River Road. Birds were seen at the east and west wetlands. Breeding was (pr) at the west, (co) at the east.

Sharp-shinned Hawk (Special Interest): Sharp-shinned Hawks were found at 6 locations: Chapin Forest (pr), Girdled Road (co), Hell Hollow (pr), Hogback Ridge (po), Paine Falls (pr), and River Road (po). No actual nests or young were found, and nesting was strongly suspected at only one location. Sharp-shinneds were found at four locations in 1996, three in 1997, two in 1998, five in 1999, five in 2000, and six in 2001.

Red-shouldered Hawk (Special Interest): Red-shouldered Hawks were found at the following locations: Big Creek (po), Blair Road (pr), Chapin Forest (2--co and po), Conley Road (pr), Ellison Creek (po), Girdled Road (2, pr and po), Hell Hollow (2--pr and po), Hogback Ridge (po), Hidden Valley Resources Center (co), Lake Farmpark (po), Mason's Landing (pr), Paine Falls (2, both pr), Penitentiary Glen (po), River Road (pr) and South Ridge (pr). They were found in five locations in 1996, 7 in 1997, 10 in 1998, 13 in 1999, 12 in 2000, and 17 in 2001.

Sora (Special Interest): None were found.

Common Moorhen (Special Interest): A pair with young was found at the Hidden Valley Resource Center Wetland (co). None were found at Conley Road, due to low water levels.

Spotted Sandpiper : Spotted Sandpipers were found at Arcola Creek (co), Chagrin River Park (co), Mason's Landing (po), and River Road (co).

Northern Saw-whet Owl (Special Interest): None were found.

Red-headed Woodpecker: This species was found at Eric Mores (2--both pr) and Conley Road (pr).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (Endangered): Sapsuckers were

found at Cascade Road (po), Girdled Road (2--both po), Paine Falls (co), Riverview (co), and Children's Schoolhouse (co).

Alder Flycatcher: Birds were found at Arcola Creek (2--both pr), Conley Road North (po), Erie Shores (2co and po), Girdled Road (pr), and Hell Hollow (po). They were found at 7 sites in 1996, 5 in 1997, 2 in 1998, 3 in 1999, 5 in 2000, and 5 in 2001.

Least Flycatcher: Least Flycatchers were found at Girdled Road (co), Hell Hollow (po), Lakeshore Reservation (co), Mason's Landing (po), and River Road (pr).

White-eyed Vireo: Birds were found at Girdled Road (co).

Blue-headed Vireo: This species was found at most areas with hemlock ravines. Locations include: Cascade Road (pr), Cedar Hills (1--po), Chapin Forest (2--pr and po), Conley Road (2--pr), Girdled Road (3--co and 2 po), Hell Hollow (8- 2 co, 4 pr and 2 po), Hogback Ridge (2--pr), Hidden Valley (2--pr and po), Indian Point (1--po), Paine Falls (4--1 co, 3 po), Penitentiary Glen (1--po), River Road (3, pr), and RV (po).

Purple Martin (Special Interest): Martins nested at the following locations: Arcola Creek (1 box, co), Erie Shores Golf Course (4 boxes, 4 co), Girdled Road (1 box co), Hidden Valley (1 box, co), Willowick Lakefront Lodge (2 boxes, 2 co), Penitentiary Glen (2 boxes, 2 po), Pine Ridge Country Club (1 box, co), River Road (1 box, co), and Veteran's Park (3 boxes, 3 co). Martins nested in five locations in 1996, 7 in 1997, 6 in 1998, 8 in 1999, and 9 in 2000 and 2001.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: None were found.

Brown Creeper: Brown Creepers were found at the following loca-

tions: Girdled Road (pr), Hell Hollow (co), and River Road (po).  
Winter Wren (Endangered): Winter Wrens were found at Chapin Forest (3 pair--1 co, 2 pr), Conley Road (po), Girdled Road (3 pair--3 pr), Hell Hollow (4 pairs--3 pr, 1 po), Hogback Ridge (3--2 pr, 1 po), Indian Point 2--1 pr, 1 po), Paine Falls (2 pairs pr), Penitentiary Glen (pr), and River Road (3pair-2 pr, 1 po). In 1996, 12 birds were found at 7 locations; in 1997 12 birds were found at 6 locations; in 1998, 2 birds were found at 2 locations; in 1999, 10 birds were found at 5 locations' in 2000, 12 birds were found at 5 locations, and in 2001, 22 birds were found at 9 locations.

Marsh Wren (Special Interest): None were located this year.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: Kinglets may have again nested at Chapin Forest this year. A pair was found in June (po).

Hermit Thrush (Endangered): Hermit Thrushes were found at Big Creek (po), Hell Hollow (5 pair- 3 co, 2 pr), Hidden Valley (pr), and Paine Falls (pr), Hermit thrushes was found in 3 locations in 2000 and 4 locations in 2001.

Northern Mockingbird : Two pair were found at Chagrin River Park (both co).

Magnolia Warbler (Endangered): Birds were found at Cascade Road (po), Cedar Hills (pr), Chapin Forest (po), Conley Road (pr), Girdled Road (3 pair- 2 pr, 1 po), Hell Hollow (7 pair- 2 co, 3 pr, 2 po), Hogback Ridge (2 pair-pr, po), Indian Point (2 pair- 1 pr, 1 po), Paine Falls (2 pair- both pr), Penitentiary Glen (po), and River Road (2 pair- pr, po). In 1996, there were 10 sites at 6 parks, 11 sites at 4 parks in 1997, 4 sites in 4 parks in 1998, 11 sites in 5 parks for 1999, 14 sites in 8 parks in 2000, and 23 sites in 11 parks in 2001.



Blackburnian Warbler: None were found.

Yellow-throated Warbler: Birds were found at Blair Road (pr), Helen Hazen Wyman (pr), Hidden Valley (2 pair- co, po), Indian Point (pr), Paine Falls (po), Riverview (po), River Road (po), and RV (co). There were three locations in 1996 and 1997, two in 1998, 6 locations in 1999, 8 locations in 2000, and 7 locations in 2001.

Pine Warbler: This species was found at Chapin Forest (po), Hell Hollow (co), and Hogback Ridge (po). Pine Warblers were found at three sites in 1996, 2 in 1997, 1 in 1998, 1 in 1999, 1 in 2000, and three in 2001.

Cerulean Warbler (Special Interest): Cerulean Warblers were found at the following locations: Blair Road (2 pair--2 po), Cedar Hills (po), Chapin Forest (3 pair--1 co, 1 pr, 1 po), Conley Road (2 pair--1 pr, 1 po), Girdled Road (4 pair--1 co, 3 pr), Helen Hazen Wyman (po), Hell Hollow (8 pair--2 co, 2 pr, 4 po), Hidden Valley (3 pair--2 co, 1 pr), Hogback Ridge (5 pair--1 co, 2 pr, 2 po), Indian Point (4 pair--1 co, 1 pr, 2 po), Mason's Landing (2 pair--2 po), Paine Falls (3 pair--1 co, 2 po), Penitentiary Glen (po), River Road (4 pair--1 co, 2 pr, 1 po), and Riverview (2 pair--2 pr). There were 40 birds at 14 locations in 1999, 43 birds at 16 locations in 2000, and 45 birds at 15 parks in 2001.

Black and White Warbler: This species was found in the following parks: Chapin Forest (pr), Girdled Road (po), Hell Hollow (2 pair--2 pr), Hidden Valley (co), Hogback Ridge (po), and River Road (po). They were found at 7 locations in 1999, 5 in 2000, and 6 in 2001.

Prothonotary Warbler : A singing bird was heard at Mason's Landing along the Grand River (po).

Northern Waterthrush (Endangered): Birds were found at Hell Hollow (pr), and Hidden Valley (pr). None were located in 1998, 3 in 1999, 2 in 2000, and 2 in 2001.

Kentucky Warbler: A singing bird was again found at Hell Hollow (po). They were found at two locations in 1996, none in 1998, 1 in 1999, and 1 in 2000 and 2001.

Mourning Warbler: Birds were found at Erie Shores (2 pair--pr, po) and Girdled Road (pr). They were found at two locations in 1996, one in 1997 and 1998, none in 1999 and 2000, and 2 in 2001.

Canada Warbler (Endangered): Canada Warblers were found at Girdled Road (pr), Hell Hollow (2 pair- (both pr), Hogback Ridge (co), Paine Falls (pr), and River Road (pr) this year. In 1996, there were at 10 locations in 6 parks, 2 locations in 2 parks in 1997, 1 location in 1 park in 1998, 4 locations in 2 parks in 1999, 8 locations in 4 parks in 2000, and 6 locations in 5 parks in 2001.

Yellow-breasted Chat: A pair was found at Erie Shores (pr). They were found at three locations in 1996 and one in 1997, 1998, 1999; none in 2000; and one in 2001.

Savannah Sparrow : A pair of Savannah Sparrows was found at Chagrin River Park (co).

Vesper Sparrow- A pair was found at Penitentiary Glen (po).

Dark-eyed Junco (Endangered): Juncos were again found about everywhere that suitable habitat was present. They were found at a record number of different sites (82) and one new location (Lake Farm Park). The following is a list of locations: Big Creek (po), Blair Road (pr), Cascade Road (pr), Cedar Hills (2 pair- both pr), Chapin Forest (4 pair--1 co, 2 pr, 1 po), Conley Road (5 pair--2 co, 1 pr, 2 po), Girdled Road (5 pair--1 co, 2 pr, 2 po), Hell Hollow (26

pair--9 co, 8 (pr), 9po), Hogback Ridge (6 pair--2 co, 2 pr, 2 po), Hidden Valley (3 pair--2 pr, 1 po), Indian Point (5 pair--2 co, 2 pr, 1 po), Lake Farm Park (po), Mason's Landing (3 pair--2 pr, 1 po), Paine Falls (8 pair--2 co, 2 pr, 4 po), Penitentiary Glen (3 pair--1 pr, 2 po), and River Road (8 pair--3 co, 1 pr, 4 po). In 1996, they nested at 55 sites in 14 parks, 54 sites in 13 parks in 1997, 20 sites in 12 parks in 1998, 51 sites in 13 parks in 1999, 64 sites in 12 parks in 2000, and 82 sites in 16 parks in 2001.

Bobolink: Bobolinks were found at Girdled Road (approximately 4 pairs, co), Lake Farmpark (approximately 2 pairs, pr), and Penitentiary Glen (approximately 3 pairs, co). They were found at three locations in 1996; two in 1997; one in 1998, 1999, and 2000; and three in 2001.

Purple Finch: Purple Finches were found at Girdled Road (po), Hell Hollow (2 pair- 1 co, 1 po), Hidden Valley (pr), Lakeshore (co), Paine Falls (pr), and River Road (po). In 1996, they were found at 5 locations in four parks, 6 locations in 5 parks in 1997, 3 locations in 3 parks in 1998, 4 locations in 4 parks in 1999, 8 locations in 6 parks in 2000, and 7 locations in 6 parks in 2001.

## GREATER AKRON AUDUBON SUMMIT COUNTY SUMMER BIRD COUNT 2001

by *Ann Chasar and  
Doug Vogus*

The 24th GAAS summer bird census was held from June 15-24th, 2001. Average daily temperatures were between 64°F and 79°F; little rain fell during the period, except for June 21st (.73"). Eastern

Bluebirds, all five woodpecker species, Black-capped Chickadees, White-breasted Nuthatches and Tree Swallows were found in higher numbers than usual. The census was conducted several days later in June than in past years, so this may reflect fledging of cavity nesters or increased habitat/food/visibility because of the number of dying trees in the aftermath of the gypsy moth invasion of the past several years. Cuckoo num-

bers dropped, possibly reflecting this decrease in gypsy moths. The Bath Township Nature Preserve produced the second record for Henslow's Sparrow, and newly created grassland on the 90 acres of the old coliseum property explains the increase in Savannah Sparrows (second highest total) and the huge spike in Grasshopper Sparrows. Turkeys and Green Herons were at an all-time high. No Great Horned Owls were found during

the count period, but Barred Owls were found in high numbers! An American Bittern (first on a count since 1989), two pine warblers (second record), Red-breasted Nuthatches, and some unusual ducks were nice finds. The ODNR re-introduction programs produced Osprey and Peregrine Falcon nests (one each noted). □

### Totals for the June, 2001 Summit County Bird Census

Pied-billed Grebe	3	Hairy Woodpecker	63	Blue-winged Warbler	44
Double-crested Cormorant	3	Northern Flicker	115	Northern Parula	1
American Bittern	1	Pileated Woodpecker	35	Yellow Warbler	292
Great Blue Heron	290	Eastern Wood Pewee	106	Chestnut-sided Warbler	7
Green Heron	58	Acadian Flycatcher	74	Black-throated Green Warbler	10
Turkey Vulture	117	Alder Flycatcher	7	Yellow-throated Warbler	4
Canada Goose	1166	Willow Flycatcher	71	Pine Warbler	2
Mute Swan	6	Least Flycatcher	5	Prothonotary Warbler	1
Wood Duck	132	Eastern Phoebe	91	Cerulean Warbler	18
Mallard	484	Great Crested Flycatcher	81	Black & White Warbler	1
Blue-winged Teal	2	Eastern Kingbird	69	American Redstart	23
Ring-necked Duck	3	White-eyed Vireo	8	Ovenbird	43
Hooded Merganser	4	Blue-headed Vireo	5	Louisiana Waterthrush	5
Osprey	3	Yellow-throated Vireo	26	Common Yellowthroat	235
Northern Harrier	2	Warbling Vireo	91	Hooded Warbler	96
Cooper's Hawk	15	Red-eyed Vireo	219	Yellow-breasted Chat	8
Red-shouldered Hawk	9	Blue Jay	606	Scarlet Tanager	106
Broad-winged Hawk	4	American Crow	624	Eastern Towhee	143
Red-tailed Hawk	83	Horned Lark	7	Chipping Sparrow	280
American Kestrel	7	Purple Martin	12	Field Sparrow	145
Peregrine Falcon	6	Tree Swallow	255	Savannah Sparrow	37
Ring-necked Pheasant	1	N. Rough-winged Sw.	124	Grasshopper Sparrow	97
Wild Turkey	44	Bank Swallow	343	Henslow's Sparrow	1
Virginia Rail	2	Barn Swallow	236	Song Sparrow	662
Sora	1	Black-capped Chickadee	525	Swamp Sparrow	44
Killdeer	184	Tufted Titmouse	357	Dark-eyed Junco	1
Spotted Sandpiper	12	White-breasted Nuthatch	162	Northern Cardinal	808
American Woodcock	2	Red-breasted Nuthatch	2	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	136
Ring-billed Gull	88	Brown Creeper	3	Indigo Bunting	213
Herring Gull	2	House Wren	254	Bobolink	78
Rock Dove	215	Winter Wren	1	Red-winged Blackbird	1220
Mourning Dove	2262	Marsh Wren	9	Eastern Meadowlark	32
Black-billed Cuckoo	2	Carolina Wren	53	Common Grackle	1144
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	16	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	72	Brown-headed Cowbird	392
Eastern Screech Owl	4	Eastern Bluebird	116	Orchard Oriole	16
Barred Owl	15	Veery	45	Baltimore Oriole	227
Common Nighthawk	10	Hermit Thrush	1	Purple Finch	10
Chimney Swift	356	Wood Thrush	122	House Finch	357
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	58	American Robin	1908	American Goldfinch	939
Belted Kingfisher	37	Gray Catbird	650	House Sparrow	1028
Red-headed Woodpecker	1	Brown Thrasher	19		
Red-bellied Woodpecker	175	Cedar Waxwing	445	Total Species	127
Downy Woodpecker	244	European Starling	1635	Total Birds	23,114

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Ben Winger (BW)

Scott Wright (SW)

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# CLEVELAND REGION BIRDING SITES



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lorain Harbor</li> <li>2. Findley State Park &amp; Wellington Reservoir</li> <li>3. Portage Lakes</li> <li>4. Mogadore Reservoir</li> <li>5. West Branch State Park</li> <li>6. Lake Rockwell</li> <li>7. LaDue Reservoir</li> <li>8. Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area</li> <li>9. Bedford Reservation</li> <li>10. Brecksville Reservation</li> <li>11. Lake Isaac &amp; Mill Stream Run</li> <li>12. Rocky River Reservation</li> <li>13. Avon Lake Power Plant</li> <li>14. Edgewater Park &amp; Perkins Beach (Cleveland Lakefront State Park)</li> <li>15. Burke Airport</li> <li>16. East 72nd St. Marina &amp; Gordon Park (Cleveland Lakefront State Park)</li> <li>17. Villa Angela &amp; Wildwood Yacht Basin (Cleveland Lakefront State Park)</li> <li>18. Sims Park</li> <li>19. Eastlake Power Plant</li> <li>20. Mentor Marsh and Lagoons</li> <li>21. Headlands Beach State Park</li> <li>22. Lakeshore Metropark</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>23. Headwaters Park</li> <li>24. Lake Medina</li> <li>25. North Chagrin Reservation</li> <li>26. Tinkers Creek State Nature Preserve</li> <li>27. Hinckley Reservation</li> <li>28. Mill Stream Run Reservation</li> <li>29. Shaker Lakes</li> <li>30. Lakeview Cemetery</li> <li>31. Berlin Reservoir</li> <li>32. Happy Days (CVNRA)</li> <li>33. Big Creek Metropark</li> <li>34. Spencer Lake State Wildlife Area</li> <li>35. Oberlin Reservoir</li> <li>36. Rocky River Park</li> <li>37. Seiberling Naturealm</li> <li>38. Sandy Ridge Metropark</li> <li>39. Holden Arboretum*</li> <li>40. Streetsboro Bog-Gott Fen*</li> </ol> <p>*Restricted access</p> |
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