

*The Ohio*



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The Ohio Cardinal exists to provide a permanent and timely record of the abundance and distribution of birds in Ohio; to help document the occurrence of rare species in the state; to provide information on identification of birds; and to provide information on birding areas within Ohio.

The Ohio Cardinal invites readers to submit articles on unusual occurrences of birds, bird distribution within the state, birding areas in Ohio, identification tips, and other aspects of ornithology. Bird reports and photographs are welcome from any area in the state. Report forms are not a necessity but will be supplied on request. Unusual species should be documented--documentation forms are also available on request from the Editor, Publisher, and Records Committee Secretary.

In order to keep The Ohio Cardinal timely, seasonal reports are due by the following dates:

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Spring--June 10  
Summer--August 10  
Autumn--December 10

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Cover: Evening Grosbeak.  
Photo by Gary Meszaros.

## The Red-necked Grebe Invasion of 1994 by Robert Harlan

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It began innocently enough with a hapless bird found stranded in a Hardin County field February 1, 1994. The next day, a more fortunate individual was discovered in the company of a Red-throated Loon on the open waters at the Ashtabula Power Plant. By mid-February, it was very apparent that a most unusual event was taking place.

This event was a completely unexpected invasion of Red-necked Grebes. Birds appeared across Ohio, being found virtually wherever open water provided a refuge. But this is not to say that birds were not present in unsuitable areas as well, as at least 5 individuals were discovered grounded in unlikely, and ordinarily fatal, situations. Undoubtedly, many more birds were present, but were simply never stumbled upon by interested citizens. This event continued until the last bird was seen at Ashtabula May 9, and is simply without parallel in Ohio birding history. Never before have so many Red-necked Grebes appeared at so many locations to so many observers.

Clearly, in an attempt to understand an event of this magnitude, one must look for clues on a broader front. During a typical winter/spring period, we might expect 2-3 Red-necked Grebes throughout Ohio. However, during the period of February 1 through May 9 this year, reports seem to indicate that at least 100+ birds were present throughout the state. From nearby areas outside of Ohio, 35 grebes were found at Presque Isle SP at Erie, PA 3/31 (National Audubon Society Field Notes [hereafter referred to as "Field Notes"] 48(3):296). From NY, some winter period highs include 33 grebes on L. Erie at Dunkirk, NY (between Erie, PA and Buffalo, NY) 2/19, and 53 located along the Niagara River 2/15-21 (Field Notes 48(2):186). By the spring period, NY numbers built up to 130 grebes on Seneca Lk. 4/9 and a mind-bending 235 in Niagara Co. the same day (Field Notes 48(3):280). Farther afield, 174 grebes at a single Maryland site 2/28 apparently represents more birds in that state than their sum total for the past 50 years (Field Notes 48(2):193). What could have caused this massive influx, not only into Ohio, but across much of the northeastern United States as well?

It is no secret that the Winter of 1993-94 was one of the most brutal on record, and that Ohio did not face the brunt of this brutality alone. Temperatures in the upper Midwest plunged into the -40 degrees F. range in mid-January, and as a result, virtually all available open water froze over very rapidly. In Field Notes 48(2):210, James Granlund, the Regional Editor for the Western Great Lakes Region (encompassing Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota) states that the cold weather of mid-January "caused Lakes Superior and Huron to become completely covered with ice and Lake Michigan to nearly freeze-over." This fact, combined with the obvious dispersal pattern and timing of the Red-necked Grebe invasion evident throughout the East [as delineated in Field Notes 48(2)], points directly to this freeze as the most likely causal factor in precipitating this unprecedented influx.

In his "Changing Seasons" report on page 173 of the same issue of Field Notes, Kenn Kaufman examined the situation on a continental scale. He stated that "The push of Red-neckeds was preceded in January by a southward flight of Horned Grebes [apparently only lightly

detected, if detected at all, in Ohio-- RH], undoubtedly vacating the Great Lakes as the winter got worse. But the Red-necked Grebes appear to have held on as long as possible, so when they finally did leave the Great Lakes, it was as an en masse migration." Of course, for there to be an en masse migration out of the Great Lakes, there must have been a large number of grebes present on these lakes to begin with. In the Great Lakes birding literature, information regarding the numbers of birds wintering far offshore (and therefore out of sight) is scant at best. If the freeze/influx hypothesis is correct, then far more offshore grebes must winter on the Great Lakes than ever before believed.

Bringing our discussion back closer to home, we need to examine just how widespread this invasion was throughout Ohio. As stated previously, there are simply no prior influxes (of this normally rare species) that even begin to compare. Previously, the maximum number of individuals at a single site seems to be 6 alternate-plumaged birds closely observed at Englewood Dam in Montgomery Co. on April 20, 1924 (B.J. Blincoe, The Birds of Dayton and the Central Miami Valley, Ohio, Ohio Biological Survey Notes #1, 1964). [A typographical error led to 34 Horned Grebes at Buck Creek SP (Clark Co.) Nov. 8, 1992 being published as Red-necked Grebes in American Birds 47(1):99-- RH]. In comparison, this year 28 birds were counted on Newell's Run and the adjacent Ohio River in Washington Co. Feb. 14 (L. Barnhart, The Ohio Cardinal 17(2):38). In terms of a statewide movement, the previous peak seems to be 14 birds scattered across northern and central Ohio in March and April 1959 (Audubon Field Notes 13(3):292 & 296 and The Cleveland Bird Calendar 55(2):10). This compares to 100+ birds discovered throughout Ohio this year.

For the elucidation of future "Doubting Thomases", we attempt to present here as complete a compilation of the 1994 Ohio Red-necked Grebe movement as possible. In the Winter 1993-94 issue of The Ohio Cardinal (QC 17(2):38), we listed 12 counties generating reports of this species from Feb. 1 to Feb. 28, 1994. We will now offer the reports covering the dates of Mar. 1 to May 9, 1994, beginning with the northeastern counties, in alphabetical order by county [see the Contributors list elsewhere in this issue for Contributor abbreviations--RH]:

Ashtabula Co.-- up to 5 Ashtabula 3/5-16 (LR, JP, CH), 1 4/19 (JP), & 1 5/9 (JP); Cuyahoga Co.-- 1 on the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland 3/17 (PL, RHr), 1 Edgewater Pk. 4/9 (RHr); Geauga Co.-- 1 LaDue Res. 3/25 (CH); Lake Co.-- 2 Eastlake 3/22 (JP), 1-2 Fairport Harbor 3/26-4/2 (LR, JP), 1 Lakeshore MP 3/30 & 5/3 (JP); Lorain Co.-- 1 Avon Lake Power Plant 3/5-12 (TLP, RHr), 1 Wellington Res. 3/30 (TLP); Medina Co.-- 3 L. Medina 4/3 (F. Dinkelbach); Portage Co.-- 6 Mogadore Res. 3/28 (LR), 4 L. Rockwell 4/7 (CH, LR), with a new bird there 4/14 (LR), 1 W. Branch SP 3/27-29 (LR, RE), 1 Wingfoot Lk. 3/14-28 (LR, CH); Summit Co.-- 3 Long Lk. 3/27 (CH), 2-4 Nimsisla Res. 3/28-4/1 (BAT, BDL), 4-5 Springfield Lk. 3/27-28 (CH, LR), up to 7 Summit Lk. 3/5-28 (m. obs.); & Wayne/Holmes Co.-- 1 Killbuck WA 3/12-26 (LEV, TH, PY).

Moving on to the central and southeastern portions of the state, we add: Athens Co.-- 1 L. Snowden 3/27 (AB); Franklin Co.-- 1 Greenlawn Dam 4/10 (AG), 2 Hoover Res. 3/1 (KA); Hocking Co.-- 1 L. Logan 4/1 (J. Fry); & Washington Co.-- 1 on the Ohio River 4/4 (LB).

Shifting over to the southwestern counties, we add: Butler/Preble Cos.--

3-4 Hueston Woods SP 3/13-29 (C. Saunders, JSt); Clermont Co.- 1 E.Fork Lk. 3/16 (HA); Clinton Co.- 1 Cowan Lk. SP 3/22 (LG); Hamilton Co.- 3 at the 4 Seasons Marina 3/10 (L. McNeeley et al.), 1 Newtown 3/4-4/2 (HA, HC, LG, et al.); Montgomery Co.- 1-2 Eastwood Hydrobowl in Dayton 3/11-26 (J. Hill, CM); & Warren Co.- up to 4 Caesar Creek Lk. 3/5-26 (NKe et al.).

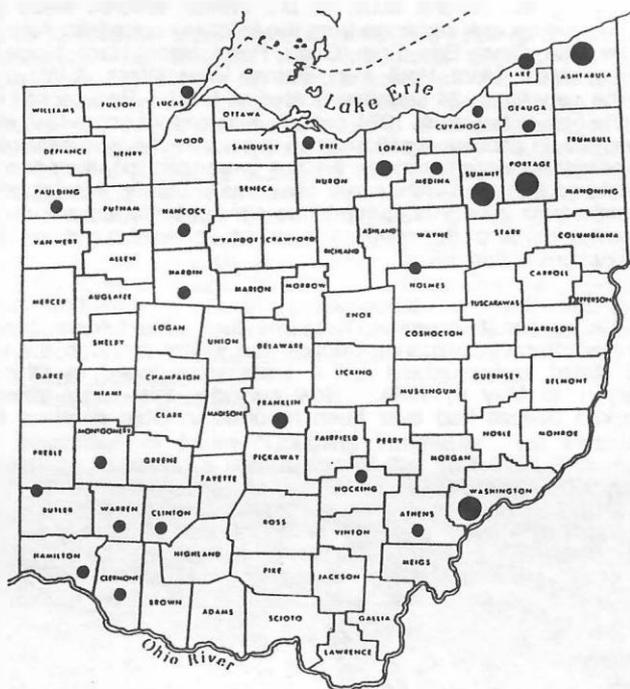
The northwestern counties are next on our clockwise journey: Hancock Co.- 2 Findlay Res. 3/28-29 (KA, BH); Lucas Co.- 1 Maumee Bay SP 4/9 (JP); & Paulding Co.- 1 Paulding Res. 3/31-4/10 (DMD, TK).

By combining the reports listed in the Winter 1993-94 issue to the above, we end up with sightings from the following counties: Asht, Athe, Butl, Cler, Clin, Cuya, Erie, Fran, Geau, Hami, Hanc, Hard, Hock, Lake, Lora, Luca, Medi, Mont, Paul, Port, Summ, Warr, Wash, & Wayn/Holm. So, at the very least, 24 counties hosted at least 1 Red-necked Grebe during the Feb. 1 to May 9, 1994 period. Allowing for some shift of birds from one site to another, it still seems very conservative to estimate that 100+ individuals were reported. If 100+ were reported, then how many more were present, but were never observed? Surely, this hypothetical latter total would greatly outnumber the sum of birds actually reported. For an overall view of the counties reporting during this period, see the map elsewhere in this article.

Certainly, the Winter of 1993-94 was a difficult period for both man and grebe. As a result, however, it seems that Ohio birders benefitted greatly from this circumstance through the winter and into the spring. As we stated earlier, about 100+ birds were found in Ohio from February 1 to May 9, 1994. Now consider this-- only about 250 Red-necked Grebes had ever been reported in Ohio previous to this period!!



Red-necked Grebe. Ashtabula Power Plant, February 1994.  
Photo by John Pogacnik.



COUNTIES OF OHIO

### Red-necked Grebe Dispersal, 2/1-5/9/94

- = 1 to 5 birds present per county
- = 6 to 10 birds present per county
- = 10+ birds present per county

## A Brief Study of the Nest Life of Black-throated Green Warblers at Hinckley MP by Norman J. Kotesovec, Jr.

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On a recent excursion to Beartown State Park in West Virginia, I saw a scarred tree that had twice, on separate occasions, been struck by lightning. Blessings, like bolts from "out of the blue", do, at times, fall in similar fashion. Such favor befell me this past spring and summer at Hinckley Metropark in Medina Co. Last year I had the good fortune to locate the nest of the Blackburnian Warbler (Dendroica fusca); this year the nest of the Black-throated Green (D. virens) was found, and, as if to further test divine intervention, that guiding bolt did seem to ricochet and point the way to the Magnolia Warbler's (D. magnolia) nest as well! Details of the nest life of the Black-throated Green Warbler follow. The tale of the Magnolia Warbler will have to wait for a future issue.

### Nest Site and Construction

At 11:42, on May 27th, 1994, I discovered a female Black-throated Green Warbler perched upon the inner branch of a Norway Spruce (Picea abies). An industrious spider had spun its web from this same branch to the trunk of the tree. It was from this web that the warbler repeatedly stole silken threads, and as spider silk has been noted as a useful tool in binding nesting material (Bent 1953, p. 295), I hoped that the female's frequent trips from the web to a second spruce a short distance ahead of me would prove to disclose a nest under construction. A sharp call-note betrayed the presence of a male Black-throated Green Warbler, who, traveling a similar route, visited the spruce into which the female had recently disappeared. I relocated myself beside the spruce. The male, seemingly aware of my observation, departed and was not seen again near the nest site until June 6th. From 11:53 to 13:54.5, the female returned 51 times to the same arching branch, approximately 40 feet from the ground.

The chosen Norway Spruce rested on the crest of a gentle slope, that in varying degrees of severity, descended some 140 feet to Hinckley Lake. The tree is one of many spruce plantings that act as a perimeter enclosing a wooded tract, approximately 60 x 200 x 340 feet; the irregular shape measured against a natural boundary imposed by a deep gully with a dried creek bed. At quick glance, the area which hosted the Black-throated Green and Magnolia Warbler nests this year and the Blackburnian Warbler nest last year (Kotesovec 1993), would seem to be dominated by the massive evergreens, but the tract contained a rich deciduous understory as well. Of 424 trees above 10 cm. in diameter, only 97 were coniferous. 76% of the wooded tract was in fact deciduous. The plant community directly beneath the nesting tree was composed chiefly of herbaceous species including May-apple (Podophyllum peltatum) and Virginia Creeper (Parthenocissus quinquefolia).

To return to the activity of the female Black-throated Green, she, at one point, landed a scant 2 yards from me to inspect another spider web. Webbing and leaf matter were the usual cargo flown to the nest site, although she was also seen to carry fine grasses and weed stems as well as an oversized twig. She made 29 flights to the nest site in the first hour. Although the male was out of sight, his distinct song was sung 10 times between 12:26 and 12:42.

Neither Black-throated Green Warbler was sighted on May 31st. I spent 2 hours at the nest site, and with the aid of a spotting scope, I ascertained that the nest was either finished or was near completion. The base of the cup-shaped structure sat atop a thick grapevine that ran the length of the spruce branch but hung some inches lower. Thus, the nest was built below, rather than upon the spruce branch, although the sides of the nest were possibly woven about the pendant spruce twigs.

On June 1st, at 10:04, I located the female foraging in the deciduous hardwoods. In the three hours I had the nest under observation, the female visited the nest site but four times, and then merely to cast it a quick glance. On one visit, she had no sooner returned to her nest, when she sprang off to engage a male Magnolia Warbler in swift contest, promptly chasing him off. The Magnolia had indelicately chosen her nesting tree from which to sing.

In 4 hours of observation on June 2nd, the female Black-throated Green spent only 25 of the 240 minutes at the nest. Perhaps cooler weather (59 degrees at noon) demanded more food to keep up her metabolism, forcing her to forage more frequently that day.

At 10:20.5, on June 3rd, the female was seen carrying grass stems and animal hair to the nest. It had been 8 days since I had first found the warbler working at its construction. 4-8 days are needed for nest completion; inclement weather, it seems, can greatly retard progress (Morse 1993, p. 9). The temperatures for May 27th through June 3rd reached as low as 36 degrees.

A prior commitment demanded my time each weekend and thus I was unable to reach the nest site. Regrettably, I cannot say with any certainty when egg laying was completed and when incubation began. However, when I returned to the study site on June 6th, incubation had commenced.

### Incubation

At 9:29, on the morning of June 6th, the female Black-throated Green Warbler crept quietly to the nest, while the male was seen a couple of branches above making soft chip-notes. This was the first time since May 27th that I found the male near the nest site. The female sat for 40, 61.5 and 52 minute intervals. [Editor's note-- In addition to the text for this article, Mr. Kotesovec also provided extremely detailed records concerning the amount of time the female spent on the nest from June 6th through June 16th. Although space restrictions prevent our publishing this information here, this material is available from the Editor or from Mr. Kotesovec]. While atop the nest, she was seen to consume small insects and larvae that wandered onto or near the nest. Her actions, in this instance, seemed both flexible and opportunistic. Although the male was spotted near the nest, he was never seen to feed the female.

At 11:13 on the morning of June 13th, I was fortunate to find a female Magnolia Warbler foraging low in the understory ahead of me. She alighted in the spruce housing the female Black-throated Green, a mere five branches below the nest site. No interspecific conflict arose between the two congeners. Perhaps the female Black-throated Green had a blind spot, for it seems that all confrontations erupted when a transgressor was sighted in the branches above the nest. The Magnolia opted to continue her journey elsewhere, and it was the female Magnolia

that I followed, abandoning the Black-throated Green until the morrow. God was generous; I would ultimately discover the Magnolia's nest-- but more of that later.

On June 14th, I allocated only some 90 minutes to observe the Black-throated Green nest, dividing my time between that and the Magnolia Warbler nest. I set up at the Black-throated Green nest at 11:14. The female was off, as evidenced by the presence of the male Magnolia Warbler inspecting the foliage draping her nest-- at one point actually appearing to peek into the nest itself!

June 15th was very hot with high humidity (92 degrees at 14:00), and the female Black-throated Green seemed to sit uncomfortably, frequently gaping. She seemed to sit higher in the nest than in days previous-- more of her tiny form was to be seen. She was also prone to rise up on occasion, seemingly to inspect her unhatched eggs. Despite the heat, she would sit for 65.5 minutes. June 15th proved to be the final day exclusively spent at incubation; feeding was observed for the first time on June 16th. In 20.5 accumulative hours of observation, the female alone had performed incubation duties. The male was never seen in attendance.

### Young Birds and Parental Care

At 10:31 on June 16th, the female was seen to carry a small unidentified insect which was seemingly fed to a nestling before she resettled upon the nest. I do not know if she was incubating or brooding, or performing both duties at once. [Editor's note-- Mr. Kotesovec provided very detailed and enlightening data regarding exact feeding times for both the female and male Black-throated Green from June 16th through June 25th. Given space considerations, we are prevented from publishing this material; however, it is available both from the Editor and from Mr. Kotesovec].

On the morning of June 17th, at 8:52, the female was seen sitting on the nest rim. She periodically poked her head down into the nest, seemingly standing on her head, her tail bolt upright. It seems probable that she cleaned the nest of the nestling's defecation, devouring the fecal sacs. Of 23 observations over the period of the study, the female apparently ate the fecal sacs 13 times and removed them 10 times. The male was only seen to remove fecal sacs on 3 occasions. At 10:08, the male cautiously made his way to the nest carrying food. The female took some of her mate's proffered meal and fed her young, while the male fed the remainder himself. This was the only time the male was seen to bring food to the nest until June 24th.

I returned to the nest site on June 20th to find the female Black-throated Green Warbler brooding briefly from 8:26 to 8:30. This was the last time I was to see her performing this task. In 2.5 hours of observation, the female only fed her young 7 times. Margaret M. and L.B. Nice have commented upon the Black-throated Green Warbler's overall slow feeding rate. One bird that they observed fed young once in 19.7 minutes, while another fed once in 16.3 minutes (Nice and Nice 1932, p. 171). In 21.5 accumulative hours, the female that I studied averaged one feeding trip every 16.9 minutes. Larval lepidopterans made up 67.5% of the food taken to the nest, ranging in size from small thin caterpillars to large thick larvae. The remaining food content consisted chiefly of tiny, unidentified insect prey.

June 21st was marked by an increase in the female's feeding rate, at peak performance averaging once every 10 minutes. Three times she dove from the nest, her route taking her so close to my position that if I had removed my ball cap, I could have snared her in it like a butterfly in a net. She seemed unconscious of, or uninterested in, my presence.

As I focused the spotting scope upon the nest at 8:36 on the morning of June 22nd, I was grieved to find that it had been plundered. A side was torn away and nesting material dangled limply in a tangled mass. I was as sickened as Hannibal upon learning that Carthage was in flames, and was ready to take down my scope and leave in disgust, when the female-- as timely a winged arrival as the angel which stayed Abraham's hand-- returned to her pillaged nest. Her arrival had been so unexpected that I did not notice if she had brought any food, and I wondered if she, like myself, had only now discovered the deed. She poked about the nest incessantly, then stood frozen upon the fallen rim, neck outstretched, looking about. Oddly, she did not seem flustered, nor did she give any agitated alarm notes. At 8:43.5 she left cautiously. I was left to ponder upon the present condition of the nest. Could a Red Squirrel (Tamiasciurus hudsonicus) have defiled it? By 8:56, the female was again in evidence at the nest, and to my pleasant surprise, I saw that at least one nestling survived, and was being fed!

By 11:08 on June 24th, the female Black-throated Green flew to the nest, but did not immediately feed the nestling. She stood upright on the vine a short distance from the nest, stretched her neck forward, and enticed, it seemed, the nestling with a green larva. It was snapped away from her by the nestling, which reached forward for it. At 11:39.5 the song of the male Black-throated Green was heard and at 11:44 he flew to the nest and hastily fed the occupant. It was the first time that he was seen to undertake any feeding chores since June 17th. The male broke into song at 12:07, singing 9 times until 12:13. At 12:49, 5 more songs were sung, preceding the male's arrival at the nest at 12:52. He fed the nestling, moved off and commenced to sing 4 more times. From 12:53 to 13:08.5, 14 ringing "zoo zoo zyder-zees" were sung. At 13:24 I was surprised to find a female Magnolia Warbler pilfering strands of material from the Black-throated Green's nest! She removed a beakful of material and flew off.

On June 25th, the female Black-throated Green Warbler arrived at the nest at 6:21 to feed, and was met by the nestling, which sat atop the rim of the nest, straining forward to reach the food. At 6:58 the female Magnolia Warbler again flew up to the Black-throated Green's nest, paused, but did not remove any nesting material. She did not linger. Perhaps the Magnolia was distracted by the inquisitive nestling, which thrust its head over the rim of the nest, looking as if it might accept food from the interloper as readily as it would from one of its own parents. As it began to rain steadily, I left at 8:25. It would be the last time I was to see mother and nestling at the nest.

I arrived on the morning of June 26th at 6:30. At 6:41.5 the song of the male Black-throated Green Warbler rang forth 4 times. At 6:42 he approached the nest with a large green larva. He hopped up onto the rim, looked down into the nest, and grew greatly agitated. He rotated upon the nest, looking in each direction, calling sharply. At 6:46.5 he abandoned the nest and climbed to the upper branches of the spruce, nearing the crown, where he opened his mouth and sang 1 last song. Perhaps it was an acoustical trick, but the song sounded a bit different: I rendered it as "too too tay tee-o". I left the nest site at 7:00, convinced

that the nestling had fledged.

## The Post-Nesting and Fledgling Stage

Attempts made over subsequent days to relocate the female Black-throated Green Warbler, her fledgling, and her mate were complicated by the discovery of an apparent second family unit. The details that follow all pertain to this "second" family unit.

July 22nd was exceptional in that it afforded an excellent opportunity to record the tireless and undaunted efforts of this "second" Black-throated Green female to see to the needs of her recently fledged brood. The location of this family group was only some 200 feet from the Norway Spruce that had contained the nest I had so recently held under observation. As there must have been some overlap of the nest lives of the respective females, and as the area seemed too small to accommodate two distinct territories (Morse states that territories may be as small as 0.25 ha: 1993, p.7), I facetiously suggest that the male Black-throated Green of my study might have been guilty of polygamy. Speculation aside, I am cognizant that nothing can be proven without the use of colored leg bands. I am also aware that a few minutes after fledging, a female Black-throated Green has been seen to lead her offspring 100 feet from their birthplace (Nice and Nice 1932, p. 161), indicating that the location of the family unit need not necessarily be anywhere near their point of origin.

The account of my acquaintance with the "second" Black-throated Green Warbler family group follows. At 9:54 on July 22nd, I inadvertently aroused the indignation of the female, which carried a large green larvae. She chipped loudly, flicked her wings and tail, and encircled the area upon which I stood. Call-notes preceded me; issuing from the herbaceous layer that carpeted the slope around me. As I stooped and peered intently at the ground, a tiny fledgling hopped out from behind a fallen tree. The tiny mite fled into deep cover, and I sat down to wait its reappearance, not wishing to tread upon it. Even as I waited, another fledgling showed itself. A third fledgling was discovered when it was fed by the female at 10:45 and 10:54. The female announced her approach with call-notes, and was readily answered by all 3 young. At 11:36 she landed in the brush to my left and hopped up against my resting hand. She stretched forward upon her legs, thrust forth her neck, cocked her head and gazed quizzically at me, before stooping low and fluttering off below the cover of the undergrowth. Later, I repositioned myself beside fledgling #1, only inches away, hoping that its call-notes would attract the attention of the female. At 12:29 the female unflinchingly landed before me, and without pause, rushed to the fledgling and fed it. Satisfied, I left at 12:30.

The fledglings were patterned thusly: Upper parts burnt orange; head dotted with random down-feather tufts; wings dull black and edged with blue-gray; two white wing bars; breast buffly and faintly streaked; legs long, pink and well developed; tail not fully developed; overall size: approximately 2.25 inches; age: approximately 10 days.

On August 8th I made the happy reacquaintance of 2 immature and 1 adult Black-throated Green Warblers. I think it is safe to assume that they all were members of the "second" family unit. The 2 immatures seemed quite independent. Although no contact was seen between the adult and the immatures, both youngsters fed in close company of the other. They were not seen to petition the adult over a 1 hour period. A

variable plumage easily distinguished the 2 immatures by this time: 1 bird had a ragged, unkempt look, being buffy on the breast and heavily streaked, with a blackish throat with feather edges tipped in white. The other bird was cleaner-cut, being lighter about the throat with no trace of a black bib, and only indistinct streaking. This was the last day that I found any Black-throated Green Warblers on the study site.

### Song of the Black-throated Green Warbler

Nice recorded 466 songs in one hour and more than 14,000 songs in 94 hours of observation (Nice and Nice 1932, p. 171). My documentation of song over 98.75 hours of observation was not even remotely close! Only 615 songs were recorded over the entire length of the study, and the largest number of song documented in 1 hour was 160 on June 7th from 12:20 to 13:20. No song was recorded between the June 20th and 23rd. Reasons for such an embarrassingly low figure for this study may include other noisy distractions (boaters, hikers, etc.), windy & rainy conditions, and possibly, the absence of another male Black-throated Green holding an adjacent territory reduced the need for song. Song was first heard on April 21st, and last heard on July 27th. The female Black-throated Green was first seen on April 27th.

God has been so very good and I hope that I have imparted a portion of my thankfulness in the preceding pages.

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## Ohio's Earliest Published Spring Warbler Arrival Dates by Robert Harlan

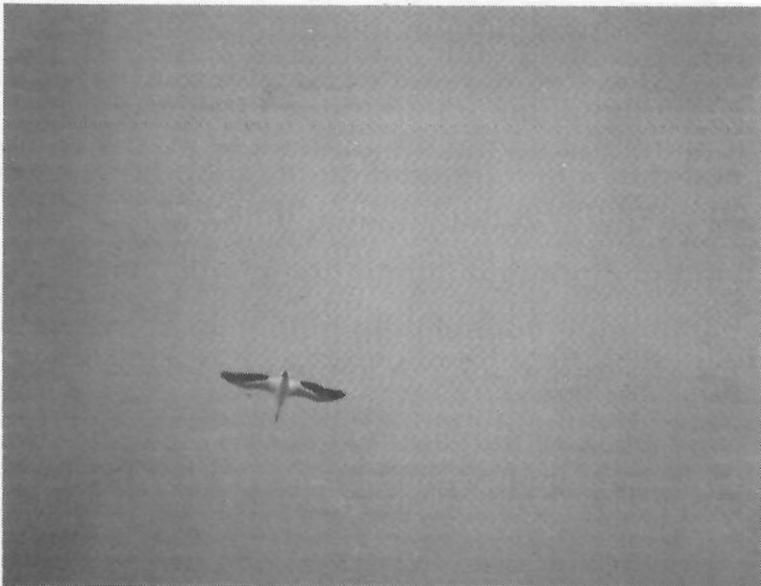
The following table attempts to present in a centralized location the earliest published spring arrival dates for all 37 regularly appearing Ohio warbler species. Substantial effort has been made to review as many sources as possible to produce this table. However, if you are aware of any trustworthy published dates that would precede any of the following, please let us know. Several published dates have not been included, since the probability of correct identification seems remote. Except where noted, all reports refer to a single individual. Comments have been included where appropriate.

Species	Date	County	Observer	Citation
Blue-winged	4/9/91	Cler	D. Brinkman	OC 14(3):22 Comment: In their <u>Annotated List of the Birds of Ohio</u> (1968), Milton B. and Mary A. Trautman list an April 2 date for this species on page 293. However, since dates listed in this publication were meant to refer to average arrival and departure dates, it is apparent that the April 2 date is merely a typographical error.
Golden-winged	4/19/94	Hanc	m. obs.	OC 17(3)
Tennessee	4/18/81	Hami	D. Styer	OC 4(1):32 Comment: In his <u>Birds of the Oxbow</u> (1993), Dave Styer lists several species (including Tennessee Warbler on p. 167) as being seen on 4/4/83. Even if these reports refer to birds seen in Ohio (the Oxbow area also includes portions of Indiana), the 4/4/83 date has been noted to be a typographical error (see OC 17(1):9), with the correct date being 5/4/83.
Orange-crowned	4/14/?	Lora?	L. Jones?	Bent p. 96 Comment: In his <u>Life Histories of N. American Wood Warblers</u> , A.C. Bent includes several tables enumerating arrival dates from areas across N. America. Unfortunately, these tables include only the month and date for each observation, omitting the year. Included within the table for Orange-crowned Warbler (p. 96) an early arrival date of 4/14 appears for Oberlin, Ohio. Lynds Jones of Oberlin College was Bent's primary compiler for this area, contributing reports from himself and others, generally during the period from the 1890's into the early 1900's. Since the "Oberlin area" also contained portions of Erie Co., we can not state categorically that this sighting emanated from Lorain Co.
Nashville	4/8/45	?	?	CBC 41(2):7 Comment: During the period of this sighting, <u>The Cleveland Bird Calendar</u> included many observations specifically located only as close as the "Cleveland area". Many observations were also not credited to a specific observer. In addition, given that 2 birds were reported for this sighting, some concern must exist concerning a possible typographical error. This species also is listed as being seen on 4/4/83 in <u>Birds of the Oxbow</u> (p. 168). See the comments above for Tennessee Warbler.
N. Parula	4/2/88	Cuya	R. Hannikman	CBC 84(2):17
Yellow	3/25/42	?	?	CBC 38(2):8,11 Comment: See the comments under Nashville Warbler regarding specific locations and observers.
Chestnut-sided	4/13/69	?	?	TNA 1973:39 Comment: On occasion, the <u>Toledo Naturalists' Association Yearbook</u> has published sightings specifically pinpointed only as close as the "Toledo area". Also for this sighting, no observer was cited.
Magnolia	4/12/31	Hami/Cler	Goodpaster?	CSNH 22(3):29 Comment: In this issue of the <u>J. Cincinnati Society of Natural History</u> , W. Goodpaster reported this sighting from the "Cincinnati area", which

	referred to either Hamilton or Clermont Cos.			
Cape May	4/23/92	Fran	K. Alexander	OC 15(3):84
Black-throated Blue	4/14/59	Cuya	R. Nausbaum	CBC 55(2):9
Yellow-rumped				
	Comment: Since this species regularly winters in substantial numbers, arrival dates do not apply on a statewide level.			
Black-thrd. Green	3/28/77	Fran	Henderson	ON 3(4):375
	Comment: This issue of <u>Ohio Naturalist</u> contained information regarding Columbus arrival dates for the years of 1897 through 1902. The year of this particular observation is not given.			
Blackburnian	4/15/93	Mont	C.&B. Berry	OC 16(3):90
	Comment: For a 4/4/83 report of this species in <u>Birds of the Oxbow</u> (p. 172), see the comments under Tennessee Warbler.			
Yellow-throated	4/28/40	Pike	F. Chapman	BL 42(3):305
	4/26/88	Rich	S. McKee	OC 11(3):22
Pine	2/15/90	Adam	D. Minney	AB 44(2):277
	Comment: Although this species can overwinter, this individual was referred to as an early migrant.			
Kirtland's	4/30/75	Sene	T. Bartlett	AB 29(4):861
Prairie	4/11/?	Sand	?	Bent p. 437
	Comment: In <u>Life Histories of N. American Wood Warblers</u> , this species was reported at Fremont on April 11, year and observer unspecified. Most likely, the report originated during the 1890's or early 1900's, and the observer was most likely E.L. Mosley.			
Palm	3/4/76	Butl	S. Beissinger	AB 30(3):727
	Comment: This individual could also represent a successfully wintering bird.			
Bay-breasted	4/19/94	Lake	J. Pogacnik	OC 17(3)
	Comment: A banded male.			
Blackpoll	4/16/1875	?	?	Borrer p. 25
	Comment: In his <u>A Checklist of the Birds of Ohio with the Migration Dates for the Birds of Central Ohio</u> (1950), Donald J. Borrer records the presence of this specimen at the OSU Museum, taken somewhere in central Ohio. Also, a 4/4/83 date appears on p. 176 of <u>Birds of the Oxbow</u> . See the comments under Tennessee Warbler.			
Cerulean	4/9/91	Hami	Wharton, Young	OC 14(3):23
	Comment: On p. 177 of <u>Birds of the Oxbow</u> , this species is reported on 4/4/83. See the comments under Tennessee Warbler.			
Black-and-white	3/25/91	Miam	R. Stilwell	OC 14(3):23-4
Am. Redstart	4/13/94	Hami	Pelikan, Styer	OC 17(3)
	Comment: A reported April 7 date at Oberlin in Bent's <u>Life Histories</u> (p. 679) is apparently a typographical error, since on p. 289 in F. Chapman's <u>Warblers of North America</u> (1968 edition), the earliest reported date for Oberlin is 4/27/1897.			
Prothonotary	4/6/47	?	?	Borrer, p. 24
	Comment: Reported only as from "central Ohio".			
Worm-eating	3/29/94	Otta	M. Shieldcastle	OC 17(3)
Ovenbird	3/29/87	Mont	M. Neal	AB 41(3):440
N. Waterthrush	3/29/81	Sene	T. Bartlett	OC 4(1):34
	Comment: Although published as 3/20/81, the documentation on file for this bird lists the date as 3/29/81. Identified by song.			
L. Waterthrush	3/7/46	?	?	Borrer, p. 26
	Comment: Reported only as from "central Ohio".			
Kentucky	4/15/85	Meig	B. Peterjohn	OC 4(1):34
Connecticut	5/2/61	Maho	V. McLaughlin	AFN 15(4):411
Mourning	4/29/93	Hami	H. Connor	OC 16(3):92
	4/29/93	Medi	C. Witt	OC 16(3):92
	Comment: As the Medina Co. report consists of 2 individuals, the possibility exists of a typographical error.			
C. Yellowthroat	4/4/92	Warr/Gree	B. Master	OC 15(3):85
	Comment: This individual could have wintered.			
Hooded	3/28/50	Otta	M. Trautman	AFN 4(4):245
	Comment: 3 other Columbus area records also occurred 3/30 & 4/2/50.			

Wilson's	4/23/78	Cuya	Klamm, Stasko	OC 1(1):19
Canada	4/17/91	Summ	P. Ellsworth	OC 14(3):24
Comment: This individual arrived on 4/17, and remained until 4/26, when it was killed by hitting a window.				
Yellow-brstd. Chat	4/17/94	Cler	H. Annstrong	OC 17(3)

From the above, we can quickly see that the majority of record arrival dates seem to have been established quite recently. In fact, of the 36 regularly appearing warbler species (not including the regularly wintering Yellow-rumped Warbler), 14 were set in the 1990's and 6 more were set in the 1980's. A close look reveals that only 6 of 36 records were set more than 50 years ago. The drastic increase in active observers, especially in the southern portions of the state, very likely accounts for this situation. If we consider migration in the form of a bell curve, logically then an increased number of observers would be more likely to detect the earliest returnees, those birds that would fall within the opening portions of the curve. Of all the arrival records, the Blackpoll Warbler (4/16/1875) and Hooded Warbler (3/28/50) records seem almost unbeatable, closely followed by Worm-eating Warbler (3/29/94), N. Waterthrush (3/29/81), and Connecticut Warbler (5/2/61). As they say, time will tell.



Am. White Pelican. Magee Marsh WA (Ottawa/Lucas Cos.), 5/28/94.  
Photo by Kevin Metcalf.

## Spring 1994 Overview by Robert Harlan

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It is hard to find any negatives when considering the Spring of 1994. Virtually no species were thought to be in exceptionally low numbers; indeed, good returns were tallied almost across the board. Although spring seasons are always buoyed by arrivals from the south, the overall abundance this season was augmented by wintering species remaining beyond their normal departure dates, especially Red-necked Grebe, Common Redpoll and Evening Grosbeak. After a strong winter showing, representatives of each of these species lingered into May. Concurrently, a strong warm front in late April ushered in excellent numbers of overflight warblers, especially noticeable in the north. Mid-May was generally considered very adequate, although the expected late May push never really materialized, apparently due to an extended period of warm weather.

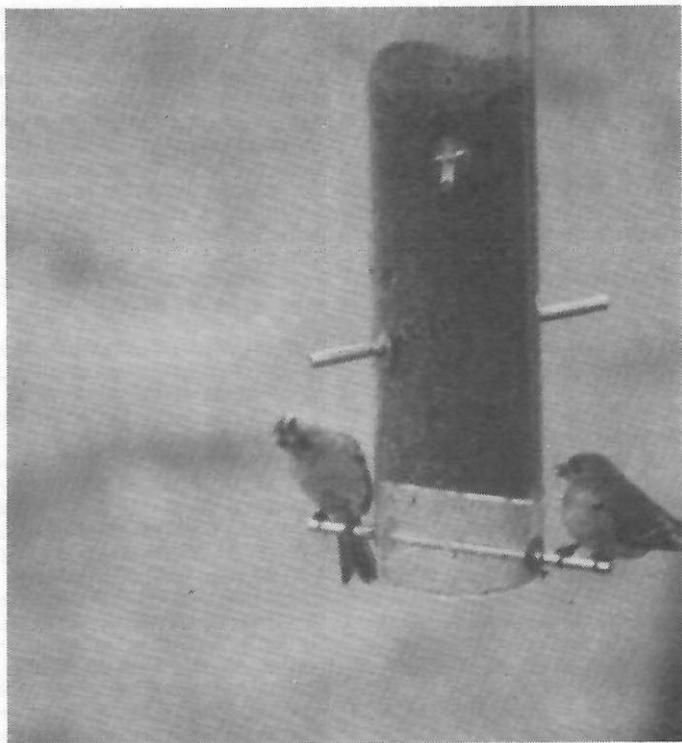
Some of the more unusual events during the season include the appearance of up to 8 Eared Grebes across the state 3/10-4/23, an estimated 80,000 Lesser Scaup on Maumee Bay 4/10, 2 lakefront Black Vultures 4/20-29, and up to 3 show-stopping King Rails along the causeway at Magee Marsh WA 5/8-29. An unconscionably early Worm-eating Warbler in Ottawa Co. 3/29 was also one for the record books.

And now on to the serious rarities. A Bell's Vireo in the Toledo area 5/14 was certainly a good bird, but was eclipsed the next day when a heavy rain hit Lake County. This storm not only brought down another Bell's (the Cleveland area's third ever), but a Kirtland's Warbler as well! A Bewick's Wren put in an all-too-brief appearance at Headlands Beach SP 5/21, and 2 Hoary Redpolls were photographed at northeastern Ohio feeders in mid-March, thereby adding two more additions to this species' peculiar occurrence pattern in our state. Only birders willing to count heard birds would have been satisfied with a vocal, but seemingly invisible, Yellow Rail at Irwin Prairie SNP for about a week beginning 4/25. Confidentially, this author would have been willing.

This is also the first issue in which we have had data from the Black Swamp Bird Observatory, located in the western Lake Erie marsh region. You will note many observations throughout the following pages marked with the "BSBO" insignia; these sightings have been reported by various observers under the BSBO umbrella. Primarily we present here data from BSBO sponsored shorebird surveys, raptor surveys, and banding data from Navarre Marsh. Be aware that the raptor surveys represent cumulative totals, as recorded at a varying number of hawk-watching posts, on the dates specified.

In the following accounts, an asterisk (\*) signifies that a documentation has been submitted by the person indicated, and that this documentation has been accepted by the Ohio Bird Records Committee (OBRC). Please see the OBRC Report elsewhere in this issue for further Committee actions.

"The Reports" section is intended to be read in phylogenetic order. The specific county location of most sites is listed in the accounts the first time each site is mentioned. County names are often abbreviated by using their first four letters -- "Wash" representing Washington Co., for example. Other place name abbreviations found in this issue are: BIWA (Big Island Wildlife Area, Marion Co.); BuCr (Buck Creek State Park, a.k.a. C.J. Brown Reservoir, Clark Co.); CPNWRC (Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge Count, Lucas Co., compiled by Joe Komorowski); CVNRA (Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area, Cuyahoga/Summit Cos.); FRes (Findlay Reservoirs, Hancock Co.); HBSP (Headlands Beach SP, Lake Co.); Lksh (Lakeshore Metropark, Lake Co.); Magee (Magee Marsh WA, Ottawa/Lucas Cos.); MWF (Miami-Whitewater Forest, Hamilton Co.); Navarre (Navarre Marsh, Ottawa Co.); OkOp (Oak Openings MP and vicinity, primarily Lucas Co.); ONWR (Ottawa NWR, Ottawa/Lucas Cos.); ONWRC (Ottawa NWR Count, Ottawa/Lucas Cos., compiled by Ed Pierce); PCWA (Pickerel Creek WA, Sandusky Co.); SVWA (Spring Valley WA, Greene/Warren Cos.); & WPSC (Winous Point Shooting Club, Ottawa Co.).



Hoary Redpoll. Parma (Cuyahoga Co.), 3/13/94.  
Photo by Craig Rieker.

## Loons through Herons

Red-throated Loon-- 3 inland reports are above average: 1 Caesar Creek Lk. (Warr) 3/11-13 (D. True, CM, LG); 1 basic-plumaged bird at W. Branch SP (Port) 3/27-29 (LR, CH, RE); & 1 Findlay Res. [hereafter FRes] (Hanc) 3/28 (KA).

Common Loon-- The first northerly migrant reached Akron (Summ) by 3/13 (LR). The 75 birds at Rocky Fork Lk. (High) 3/27 (D. Sadler) almost tripled the other high counts of: 30 Buck Creek SP [a.k.a. C.J. Brown Res., hereafter BuCr] (Clar) 3/27 (DO); 30 FRes 4/12 (BH); 29 W. Branch SP 3/27 (LR); & 28 L. Logan (Hock) 4/10 (VF, J. Fry). At least 12 birds were found during the period of 5/14-31, with the latest being: 1 FRes 5/31 (BH); 1 Oberlin Res. (Lora) 5/28 (C. Leininger); & up to 4 at Killdeer Plains WA (Wyan) 5/24+ (KA, BC).

Pied-billed Grebe-- The inland peaks of 14 on the Akron lakes 3/28 (LR) and 10 at Caesar Creek Lk. 3/20 (DO) were fairly low. Potential nesters include 7 at Big Island WA [hereafter BWA] (Mari) 5/23 (WS) and 3 at Silver Creek MP (Summ) 5/29 (BDL).

Horned Grebe-- All counts of 20+ birds came during the period of 3/16-29, including: up to 69 on the Akron lakes 3/20-28 (CH, LR, RHr); 43 W. Branch SP 3/27 (LR); & 26 E. Fork Lk. (Cler) 3/16 (HA).

Red-necked Grebe-- See the article elsewhere in this issue for further details regarding the truly astonishing and unprecedented invasion.

Eared Grebe-- Although fewer in number as compared to the Red-necked Grebes, 7-8 Eared Grebes in a spring is almost equally as noteworthy. Presumably these birds were also present due

to the Great Lakes freeze-over. The following singles were reported: a basic-plumaged bird at Youngstown's Mill Creek Pk. (Maho) 3/10 (RE, NB, C. Keppler); BWVA 3/22 (KA); a basic-plumaged bird at Fairport Harbor (Lake) 3/25 (JP), and possibly again at adjacent Headlands Beach SP [hereafter HBSP] (Lake) 4/10 (RHn, E. Bacik); Oberlin Res. 3/30 (as part of a 4 grebe day for TLP); Delaware WA (Dela) 3/31 (KA); an alternate-plumaged bird at Fairport Harbor 4/14-15 (JP); & Miami-Whitewater Forest [hereafter MWF] (Hami) 4/21-23 (TLu, J. Bens, JD, S. Utterback, CM et al.).

Am. White Pelican-- An impressive season for this species as well, including: 1 found along the Ohio River near Marietta (Wash) 3/11, which then moved downriver to Belpre (Wash) through the end of the period (LB); 2 additional birds on the Muskingum River in Washington Co. 3/22 (LB); 4 HBSP 4/12-13 (A. Bugada, A. & J. Fjeldstad, JP); 1 Pickerel Creek WA [hereafter PCWA] (Sand) 5/12 & 17 (DK); & 1 Magee Marsh WA [hereafter Magee] (Otta/Luca) 5/28-29 (KMe, JR, m. obs.) [presumably the same bird was seen again 6/9 (MJS)].

Double-crested Cormorant-- Moved through in heavy numbers 4/7-5/15, with records emanating from at least 29 counties. Lakefront highs include: 250-300 HBSP 4/16 (LR, RHn); 166 in Cleveland (Cuya) 4/12 (PL) with 157 at two different Cleveland sites 4/17 (FG); & 125 Ashtabula (Asht) 4/24 (CH). Inland: up to 275 L. Rockwell (Port) 4/20-23 (CH, LR); 154 at the combination of FRes & Fostoria Res. (Hanc) 4/12 (BH); 150 BuCr 5/7 (DO); & 85 in a kettle drifting northward over Trumbull Co. 5/14 (DJH). At least 6 other inland sites reported 20-60 birds during the aforementioned period. Holt found the following laggards in the northeast, all on 5/29: 35 Berlin Res. (Port/Star/Maho), 25 Meander Res. (Trum/Maho), & 3

WalbornRes. (Port/Star).

Am. Bittern-- At least 14 singles statewide, beginning with 1 at L. Snowden (Athe) 3/21 (AB) and ending 5/18. Up to 2 could be found at MWF 4/21-5/7 (TLu, J. Bens, m. obs.). 1 at Spring Valley WA [hereafter SVWA] (Gree/Warr) 5/2 was observed to slowly ascend to great heights and finally head off north (J. & K. Shrader, fide CM).

Least Bittern-- Several were found at SVWA 5/18 and into June (J. Whitaker, m. obs.). Singles were at MWF 5/7 & 15 (DH, PW); Conneaut (Asht) 5/25 (JP); & HBSP 5/30 (E. Back).

Great Blue Heron-- 100 were feeding in a large drained pool at Winous Point Shooting Club [hereafter WPSC] (Otta) 5/7-28 (EP, RHr). WPSC is home to an enormous nesting colony. 50 were at the heronry in the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area [hereafter CVNRA] (Cuya/Summ) [Cuya portion] by 3/27 (DAC). 30 nests were found along the Tuscarawas River near the Tusc/Star Co. line 5/13 (SH).

Great Egret-- The drained pool at WPSC attracted 100 birds 5/21 (RHr, EP). Inland, 5 were at Shreve Lk. (Wayn) 5/21 (BG) & 4 each were at Spencer WA (Medi) 4/20 (NKr et al.) & Mosquito Lk. (Trum) 5/14 (CB).

Snowy Egret-- Singles were at Magee 4/24 (MJS) & 5/10 (DAC); at WPSC 5/21-28 (EP, RHr); & along the Great Miami River in Middletown (But) 5/30 (T. Little). An unspecified number were at Navarre Marsh [hereafter Navarre] (Otta) 5/9 (BSBO).

Little Blue Heron-- 1 at Winton Woods (Hami) 5/18 was very good (NKe). 1 at Willow Pt. WA (Erie) 4/25 (DK) was quite possibly the same individual found at nearby PCWA the next day (DK).

Cattle Egret-- During the period of

4/14-5/29, 11 reports emanated from the w. Lake Erie marsh region, the max being 5 birds at PCWA (DK). Elsewhere: 1 Oak Openings MP and vicinity [hereafter OkOp] (Luca) 4/16 (MA); 3 Shawnee Lookout Pk. (Hami) 4/16 (PW); 1 over Waterville (Luca) 4/19 (ET); 2 Wayne Co. 4/22 (BG); 5 Newtown (Hami) 4/23 (DH); 1 nr. L. Logan 4/23 (EP et al.); & 5 at the Turning Point Island nesting colony (Erie) 5/13 (EP et al.).

Green Heron-- 1 reached L. Logan by 4/12 (J. Fry).

Black-crowned Night Heron-- Up to 100 were along the Cuyahoga River near downtown Cleveland 4/8-9 (PL, BAT). 1 in the CVNRA (Summ Co. portion) at the Ira Rd. beaver marsh 5/7-10 was locally unusual (MZ, LK, B. Szabo). 4 were at Shaker Lakes (Cuya) 4/24 for the inland high (R. Rickard). 8 were at the Turning Point Is. colony 5/13 (EP et al.).

Yellow-crowned Night Heron-- This species just doesn't seem to care where it nests. The first-known Toledo area nest was observed in a residential backyard in a busy w. Toledo (Luca) neighborhood 4/28+ (TK, MA, m. obs.). The homeowners stated that these birds also nested there in 1993. In May, another pair nested off Greenlawn Ave. along the Scioto River in Columbus (Fran) (J. Fry, KA), while still another pair nested for the 3rd consecutive year along a bike path near downtown Dayton (Mont), producing 2 young, which were observed through much of June (m. obs., fide CM). Singles were along the Little Miami River at John Bryan SP (Gree) 4/21 (K. Lovering), at Magee 4/17 & 19 (MJS), and at Firestone MP (Summ) 4/17 (A. Carlo, fide EP).

## Waterfowl

Tundra Swan-- 300 at Evans Lk. (Maho) 3/13 was by far the highest count (DJH). 120 were on small lakes along the Ohio Turnpike

(mostly in Sandusky Co.) 3/17 (RHe). 1 remained at Pickerington Ponds MP (Fran) from 3/20-5/13 (VF).

Mute Swan-- Potential nesters include: 2 Hebron Fish Hatchery (Lick) from late March to 5/19 (VF); 2 SVWA 3/31-5/29 (LG, m. obs.); up to 4 Mogadore Res. (Port) 3/13-4/15 (LR, CH); & up to 5 at Medusa Marsh (Erie) during the period (JP). A flock of 8 on the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge Count [hereafter ONWRC] (Otta/Luca) 5/1 was cause for concern, due to the aggressive nature of this species.

Greater White-fronted Goose-- An adult was feeding on the grassy lawn with Canada Geese at the south end of Pine Lk. (Maho) 3/19 (B. & P. Jones, DJH\*, NB, RE). 2 adults found on the ONWRC 3/6 were very likely the same birds found there 3/12 (EP, RHr).

Snow Goose-- 26 "blue" & 2 "snow" geese were at BuCr 3/13 (DO), while 25 "blue" & 1 "snow" geese were on the ONWRC 3/6. 20 were on Sandusky Bay (Otta/Sand/Erie) 3/11 (MJS). At least 8 reports were received of 1-7 birds. Fazio questioned the wildness of 5 adult "blues" at Hoover Res. (Fran/Dela) on the late date of 5/9. The same might be said of single "blues" in Tuscarawas Co. 5/16-17 (ES) & at Dublin (Fran) 5/31 (KA). Is someone releasing "Blue Geese"?

Brant-- One remained at the Four Seasons Marina in Cincinnati (Hami) from 3/10 to 4/2 (K. Maslowski, NKe\*, DBr\*, LG\* ph., m. obs.).

Canada Goose-- Max 5600 ONWRC 3/6.

Wood Duck-- Groups of 80 (all males) appeared at PCWA nightly in mid-May (DK). Likewise, virtually all of the 47 "Woodies" at Little Portage WA (Otta) 5/28 were males (RH\*, EP). Highest migrant

count was 32 birds at Caley MP (Lora) 3/22 (fide P. Johnson).

Green-winged Teal-- Highs include: 160 ONWRC 4/3; 100 BIWA 4/4 (KA); & 60 Rocky Fork Lk. 3/20 (LG). A male at BIWA 5/26 was a possible nester (JH).

Am. Black Duck-- Inland highs were 100 MWF 3/6 (JSt, PW) & 70 BIWA 3/15 (KA). 635 were counted on the ONWRC of 3/6.

Mallard-- 1500 were found at BIWA 3/15 (KA). BuCr hosted 1000 birds 3/5 (DO). 4200 lakefront birds were found on the ONWRC of 3/6.

N. Pintail-- BIWA attracted 70 birds 3/15 (KA), while 40 were at MWF 3/4 (NKe). 310 were on the ONWRC 3/6.

Blue-winged Teal-- Obviously, BIWA was very attractive for puddle ducks this spring, including 180 of this species 4/4 (KA). 100 more were at MWF 4/10-13 (NKe et al.). 1 reached Findlay (Hanc) by 3/8 (BH). Kramer reported "many local nesters" at PCWA. Other potential nesters include: up to 16 at BIWA 5/23-26 (WS, JH); 3 MWF 5/30 (NKe, K. Parker); & 1 Walborn Res. 5/29 (CH). Lakefront max was 82 ONWRC 4/3.

N. Shoveler-- Inland highs include: 48 BIWA 3/22 (KA); 28 Delaware WA 3/22 (KA); & 25 throughout Clark Co. 3/27 (DO). Along the Lake, 180 were on the ONWRC 4/3. 3 laggards were at WPSC 5/21 (EP, RHr).

Gadwall-- Lakefront peaks were 256 ONWRC 4/3 & 99 on the Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge Count [hereafter CPNWRC] (Luca) 4/10. Inland: 40 BIWA 3/22 (KA); 30 Mogadore Res. 3/13 (CH); & 25 SVWA 3/20 (DO, NKe).

Eurasian Wigeon-- An adult male was discovered with other puddle ducks in a wet cornfield at Conneaut 3/23 (TH\*, LEY et al.).

Am. Wigeon-- 250 were at BWA 3/15, and 150 more were at Delaware WA the same day. 200 were at the latter site 3/21 (all KA). A late male was at Little Portage WA 5/28 (RHR, EP).

Canvasback-- Highs include: 77 on the Akron lakes 3/27 (CH); 56 L. Rockwell 3/27 (LR); & 30 BuCr 3/5-6 (DO). A very late bird spent 5/26-30 at Spring Lk. (Hanc) (W. McClanahan, fide BH).

Redhead-- A pair at PCWA 5/28 was suggestive of nesting (DK). A flock of 500 at E. Fork Lk. 3/16 (HA) completely overshadowed all other inland reports.

Ring-necked Duck-- 1100 birds provided a sub-par total for Portage Co. 3/26 (LR). Other highs include: 900 Delaware WA 3/15 (KA); 400 Newtown 3/13 (J. Rettig); & 400 BiWA 3/15 (KA). 150-200 in the HBSP area 3/26 was a very good lakefront total (RHn, LR). A male remained at Silver Creek MP through 5/29 (BDL).

Greater Scaup-- Up to 18 were at at the Paulding Sewage Lagoons (Paul) 3/1-4/23 (DMD). 12 each were at Hoover Res. 3/1 (KA) & on the Akron lakes 3/6 (BDL). At least 9 other inland sites also reported. A late female was found in Clark Co. 5/6-7 (DO).

Lesser Scaup-- 1000 congregated at Killbuck WA (Wayn/Holm) 3/19 (PY), while Paulding Sewage Lagoons & Paulding Res. (Paul) combined for 400 birds 3/22 (DMD). Although these inland numbers were not spectacular, lakefront totals most certainly were, including an absolutely unprecedented estimate of 80,000 birds on Maumee Bay (Luca) 4/10 (JK). About 12,000 more were on Middle and East Harbors at E. Harbor SP (Otta) 4/1, with thousands still present 4/17 (KMO). The previous published highs for Ohio include: 40,000 on Maumee Bay 4/8/90; 20,000 there 4/8/34; 20,000 there 4/9/88; and 20,000 to

50,000 at Marblehead (Otta) 4/8/34. It seems remarkable that all 5 historical top counts were made between 4/8 and 4/10!! We report 2 in Van Wert Co. 4/11 (DO) just to prove that avian life does occur in that area.

Oldsquaw-- March 27 was obviously the day to find this species, with 11 at Nimisila Res. (Summ) (CH). 11 at W. Branch Res. (CH, LR), and 4 at L. Rockwell (LR, CH), all the same day. These sites apparently hogged most birds, as only 4 other inland "squaws" were reported. 5 singles were along L. Erie.

Black Scoter-- Always tough in the spring, an imm. male was at Metzger Res. (Alte) 4/17 (DD), while 1-2 were at the Eastlake Power Plant (Lake) 3/19-22 (R. Rickard, JP).

Surf Scoter-- Inland: 1-2 Caesar Creek Lk. 3/5-13 (J. Hill, JSt et al.); 1 Delaware Res. (Dela) 3/31 (KA); 2 Paulding Res. 4/3-12 (DMD, TK); 1-3 Mogadore Res. 4/23-5/1 (CH, m. obs.); & a male at Pickerington Ponds MP 4/24 (EP et al.). 5 birds were at 4 lakefront sites 3/4-4/10.

White-winged Scoter-- Up to 5 were on Caesar Creek Lk. 3/7-13 (LG, J. Hill et al.). 2 adults were along Prairie Lane in Wayne Co. 3/27 (JES, BG), and a single was at Mogadore Res. 4/23 (CH). Another single chose to feed in a farm pond rather than on adjacent E. Fork Lk. 5/10 (HA et al.). 5 lakefront sites hosted 6 birds, including a late individual at Maumee Bay SP (Luca) 5/11 (KA).

C. Goldeneye-- 180 were tallied at HBSP 3/6 (LR et al.). Inland, 70 were at Hueston Woods SP (Preb/Butl) 3/29 (C. Saunders, JSt).

Bufflehead-- W. Branch Res. held 75 birds 3/27 (CH), while 50 were at Hueston Woods SP 3/29 (C. Saunders, JSt). A laggard was at Sheldon Marsh SNP (Erie) 5/15 (FG).

Hooded Merganser-- 40 birds each were at BuCr 3/6 (DO) & Hueston Woods SP 3/29 (C. Saunders, JSt). Conneaut attracted 38 birds 4/10 (CH). 7 females with a total of 21 young were tallied at Little Portage WA 5/28 (RHr, EP). Kramer deemed this species to be a "common local nester" at PCWA. Also thought to be nesting at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge [hereafter ONWR] (Otta/Luca) (JP) & in the CVNRA heronry (DAC). Certainly seems to be increasing, both as a migrant and as a nester.

Common Merganser-- The ONWRC recorded 80 birds 3/6, but the 34 on the CPNWRC 4/10 was also significant due to the comparatively late date. Inland, 50 were at BuCr 3/13 (DO).

Red-breasted Merganser-- 3000 were estimated at Fairport Harbor 3/26 (LR), and 2300 were at Ashtabula 4/10 (CH). By far, the highest inland concentration developed in Hancock Co., where 933 were tallied 3/29 (BH et al). 2 remained in Paulding Co. 5/27-29 (DMD).

Ruddy Duck-- 2000 on Maumee Bay 4/10 was an excellent count (JK). Only 2 three-digit inland counts were made, topped by 150 at Mogadore Res. 4/15 (LR). 1 remained at Paulding Sewage Lagoons 5/29 (DMD).

### Vultures through Rails

Black Vulture-- The first record ever for northwestern Ohio was established by a bird at Magee and subsequently at ONWR 4/29 (LG, JP, m. obs.). Another extremely rare lakefront bird was seen with "TV's" at N. Perry (Lake) 4/20-21 (JP). Perhaps these 2 were among the 4 birds apparently migrating northward over Berlin (Holm) 4/2 (PY). 2 at Twin Lakes (Dela) 4/4 were also locally rare (KA). 3 at Gallipolis (Gall) 5/20 were from a seldom-reported site (BAT). The Hueston Woods SP outpost was good for 2 birds 3/26 (JD, S.

Utterback, CM, J. Monahan).

Turkey Vulture-- BSBO results from the L. Erie marsh region reveal the following total sightings: 3/19-- 258 birds, 3/23-- 694, 3/24-- 698, 3/26-- 567, & 4/2-- 1260. In the far northeast, 161 were counted at Conneaut 3/23 (ES, LEY et al.).

Osprey-- At the very least, 24 counties reported, with roughly 50 birds being noted 3/28-5/29. In addition, the BSBO reported 8 sightings in the w. Lake Erie marsh region on both 4/23 & 4/25. 3 passed over Tuscarawas Co. 4/14 (RS). Almost certainly an artifact of an Osprey hacking project along the Ohio River in West Virginia, an aborted nesting attempt was made on the Ohio side of the River near Belpre this season (fide VF).

Bald Eagle-- With reports from at least 21 counties, separating migrants from nesters becomes very difficult. However, about 30 birds were reported away from known nesting areas. The Shieldcastle's report another 23 birds (very likely nesters mixed with migrants) in the w. Lake Erie marsh region 3/11 and 17 birds there 4/14 (BSBO). 3 Trumbull Co. nests were successful (CB), as was a nest at L. Rockwell for the first time since the mid 1930's (LR). A new nest in Delaware Co., however, failed (WS). "WildOhio" 5(3):10-11 reports that the nesting pair at Killdeer Plains WA successfully raised 2 young of their own plus a transplanted orphan, and that a new nest was built in Wyandot Co. but not used. Also, the same issue reports that imm. birds were found shot in Adams Co. & Muskingum Co. during 1994. The Adams Co. bird had been hatched at Magee. In all, 30 eaglets were produced in Ohio in 1994.

N. Harrier-- High totals include 48 at ONWR 3/23 (KA) & 42 total sightings in the w. L. Erie marsh region 4/2 (BSBO). A male at Grand River WA (Trum) 5/22

could have been a nester (CB).

**Sharp-shinned Hawk--** Three counts of 48-57 birds were made in the w. Lake Erie marsh region 3/23-4/23. However, the BSBO reports the following total sightings from the same area: 4/2-- 149, 4/15-- 133, & 4/26-- 185. 27 were at Conneaut 3/23 (ES). Apparent migrants still trickled past Navarre through 5/26 (BSBO).

**Cooper's Hawk--** Several above normal counts include: 21 ONWR 3/23 (KA); 17 Conneaut 3/23 (ES); & 15 ONWR 4/2 (KMo).

**N. Goshawk--** Single adults (or near adults) were recorded from Hudson (Summ) 4/2 (LR); Magee 4/9 (JP); & L. Isaac (Cuya) 4/27 (RHR). An imm. passed Maumee Bay SP 4/23 (ES).

**Red-shouldered Hawk--** 41 migrants were tallied at Conneaut 3/23 (ES, LEY et al.). 32 more were at ONWR the same day (KA). BSBO reports from the w. Lake Erie marsh region include 113 total sightings on 3/20 and 123 total sightings on 3/23.

**Broad-winged Hawk--** 7 double-digit counts were made 4/14-23, peaking with 83 at Maumee Bay SP 4/23 (ES, PY) & 32 in Tuscarawas Co. 4/18 (RS). Meanwhile, the BSBO reported the following total sightings from the w. Lake Erie marsh region: 4/14-- 109, 4/24-- 104, 4/25-- 262, & 4/26-- 531. 2 early returnees made it to ONWR 4/2 (KMo), while an imm. was still heading northward over Holmes Co. 5/29 (LEY).

**Red-tailed Hawk--** Peak western Ohio count was 147 ONWR 3/23 (KA), whereas the 52 at Conneaut the same day topped all other eastern Ohio counts (LEY, ES et al.). In addition, the BSBO w. Lake Erie marsh region totals include: 3/5-- 139, 3/12-- 159, 3/19-- 181, 3/23-- 218, & 4/2-- 418. Apparently well up from last year.

**Rough-legged Hawk--** 11 congregated in a small area on the ONWR 3/6. Also reported from an additional 7 counties. Totals from the w. Lake Erie marsh region include 16 sightings on 3/5 and 23 sightings on 3/19 (BSBO).

**Golden Eagle--** An imm. was identified at Perry Twp. (Lake) 4/14 (JP). An adult found at Maumee Bay SP 4/23 (ES et al.), when combined with the N. Goshawk mentioned above, made for a very satisfactory day. Another imm. was reported at Pt. Clinton (Otta) 3/20 (fide MJS).

**Am. Kestrel--** A far cry from last spring, with the migrational max being 14 birds at Conneaut 3/23 (ES).

**Merlin--** Last winter's roost at Bath Twp. (Summ) still held 2 birds 3/16 (LR). HBSP alone attracted singles 4/15, 19, 23, 26, & 5/14 (KME et al.). 11 other sites produced at least 13 birds 3/10-5/11, with reports from Dela, Hami, Holm, Jeff, Lake, Luca, Otta, Star, & Tusc. In addition, the BSBO reports 17 sightings from the w. Lake Erie marsh region 3/14-5/2.

**Peregrine Falcon--** 8 probable migrants were detected 3/14-5/11, with reports from Dela, Erie, Lake, Sand, & ONWR. According to "WildOhio" 5(3):7, successful nestings took place in Cleveland (4 young), Columbus (3 young) & Toledo (3 young). Birds at Akron, Dayton & Cincinnati did not nest. Also, 11 sightings were reported from the w. Lake Erie marsh region 3/1-4/29 (BSBO).

**Ruffed Grouse--** A female with 11 chicks paraded through Blackhand Gorge SNP (Lick) 5/30 (DSK).

**Wild Turkey--** The Ohio Division of Wildlife reports that this species is now found in 60 of Ohio's 88 counties, with an estimated population of 77,000 adults in 1993. Hunters took 9054 birds throughout the state during the

1994 spring hunting season, with 537, 514, & 407 birds checked in Vinton, Gallia, & Jackson Cos., respectively.

N. Bobwhite-- 1 at HBSP 5/23 was out of place (KMe).

Yellow Rail-- At Irwin Prairie SNP (Luca), a site of previous observations, a "Tap-tap, tap-tap-tap, tap-tap, tap-tap-tap-tap" call was heard repeatedly a half dozen times between 8:00 and 8:30 p.m. on 4/25 (ED\*). Tramer heard it the next evening, and it was apparently present for about a week overall (fide ET).

King Rail-- At least 3 birds put on a show for many observers along the causeway at Magee 5/8-29. Elsewhere: 1 Navarre 4/21 (BSBO); 2 BIWA 5/2 & 11 (KA); & 1 PCWA 5/15 (DK).

Virginia Rail-- 18 were detected at BIWA 5/2 (KA), while 6-8 were at Killbuck WA 5/8 (BG). Up to 3 migrants were easily observed at Shaker Lakes, with the max coming on 4/18 (TMR). Also found in 9 other counties.

Sora-- Reported from at least 17 counties, with BIWA attracting 45 birds 5/2 (KA) & 20 birds 5/6 (JH).

Common Moorhen-- 6 each were found at Killbuck WA 4/18 (LC); BIWA 5/2 (KA); & on the CPNWRC of 5/8.

Am. Coot-- Highs include: 320 Mogadore Res. 4/15 (LR); 271 Akron lakes 3/27 (CH); about 250 Delaware WA 4/16 (WS); & 200 SVWA 4/8 (HC).

Sandhill Crane-- Once again, 1-2 pair were present in the Funk (Wayn)/Killbuck WA vicinity as early as 3/11-19 (BG, JH, PY). 2 in Middlefield (Geau) 5/1 could also conceivably have been locals (JP). From the southwest, we received 5 reports totalling 48 birds 3/5-13, including 26 in Cincinnati 3/7 (BS).

1-2 were found in the Delaware Res. area 3/15-22 (KA), and a single was at BIWA on the late date of 5/21 (JH). From the northwest: 1 PCWA 3/11 & 15 (DK); 2 ONWR 3/23 (KA); & 3 ONWR 4/1 (KMo). Also from the w. Lake Erie marsh region, the BSBO reports 3 at Turtle Creek Marsh (Ofra) 3/16, 1 at ONWR 4/6, singles at Magee 3/15, 4/1, 4/17, 4/23, & 4/24, and 2 at Magee 4/14. A cautionary note- watch out for Great Blue Herons flying with outstretched necks! This behavior is not at all unusual.

### Shorebirds through Terns

Black-bellied Plover-- Highs: 25 Medusa Marsh 4/29 (JP); 20 WPSC 5/21 (EP, RHr); & 15 Magee 5/21 (MA). A single was at MWF 4/27 (TLu).

Am. Golden-Plover-- A down year, with the high being only 31 at ONWR 4/24 (BSBO). 4 inland reports were received: 2 Madison Co. 4/13 (KA); 1 Newtown 4/14-23 (DH); 5 Killdeer Plains WA 4/15 (JH); & a basic-plumaged bird in Kent (Port) 4/18 (LR).

Semipalmated Plover-- Good numbers: 95 ONWR 4/30 (BSBO); 5 Walborn Res. 5/15 (BDL); 75 WPSC 5/21 & 28 (RHr, EP); 37 Medusa Marsh 5/29 (KMo); & 24 Hebron Fish Hatchery 5/19 (VF).

Piping Plover-- A bird at HBSP 4/20-21 was long overdue (KM\*, LR ph., RHn, et al.). 2 were along the Magee Marsh WA beach 4/24 (MJS).

Killdeer-- Max 115 ONWRC 3/6. A nest with 1 egg was already present in Mahoning Co. 4/2 (DJH).

Am. Avocet-- 13 flew past HBSP 4/16 (LR, RHn, E. Back). The same number were also seen at Pipe Creek WA (Erie) the same day (BSBO). Merely a coincidence? 2 more flew by HBSP 4/17 (A. & J. Fjeldstad).

Greater Yellowlegs-- Curiously, the highest counts came from the southwest, including 200 at Newtown 4/23 (DH) & 150 at Gilmore Ponds (Butl) 4/24 (JSt, AW). Elsewhere: 110 ONWR 4/24 (BSBO); 40 Funk 4/30 (JH); & 35 Grafton (Lora) 4/18-19 (NKr, P. Johnson).

Lesser Yellowlegs-- Mirroring the pattern of the preceding species, 300 were at Newtown 4/23 (DH) & 100 were at Gilmore Ponds 4/24 (JSt, AW). 191 were at Toussaint WA (Otta) 4/2 (BSBO).

Solitary Sandpiper-- 50 at Funk 4/30 (JH) & 46 at Magee 5/15 (BSBO) overshadowed other counts. A laggard was at Camp Berry (Hanc) 5/31 (C. Brown fide BH).

Willet-- 12 were an excellent find along the Scioto River at Greenlawn Dam (Fran) 5/2 (AG). 2 were at Walborn Res. 5/6 (BDL).

Spotted Sandpiper-- Up to 70 migrated past HBSP 5/15 (RHn). 25 were encountered along a 5-mile stretch of the Tuscarawas River (Star/Tusc) 5/13 (SH).

Upland Sandpiper-- Reported from 8 locations, totalling 11 birds, representing the counties of Clar, Fran, Hami, Jeff, Lake, Mari, Otta, & Wyan.

Whimbrel-- 13 graced Walborn Res. 5/21, being found in both Stark & Portage Cos. (LR, BDL). At least 5 were photographed at Mosquito Lk. 5/27 (S. Fisher), although 14 were apparently present (C. Willis). 2 birds each were at ONWR 5/21 (BSBO) & WPSC 5/28 (EP, RHr).

Marbled Godwit-- An extremely early bird was described from FRes 4/5 (BH et al.). A single was observed by many at ONWR 5/14.

Ruddy Turnstone-- Highs include: 75 Magee 5/22 (BSBO); 70 ONWR 5/29 (BSBO); & 50 Metzger Marsh

WA (Luca) 5/22 (RHr). 3 inland reports totalled 9 birds 5/16-24.

Red Knot-- A flock of 23 winged past Magee 5/10 (KME et al.). An alternate-plumaged bird at Firestone MP 5/27 was completely unexpected (EP, J. Reyda).

Sanderling-- Only report was of 1-2 birds at HBSP 5/14-18 (JP, KME, RHn).

Semipalmated Sandpiper-- 120 were at Magee 5/26 (BSBO). Inland, up to 115 were at Walborn Res. 5/25 (LR, CH).

Western Sandpiper-- An alternate-plumaged bird was a very good find at Walborn Res. 5/25 (LR).

Least Sandpiper-- Walborn Res. was the place for "peeps" this spring, with the max of 250 Least there 5/15 (BDL). 88 were in the Magee/ONWR area 5/11 (KA).

White-rumped Sandpiper-- A good spring: 1 Walborn Res. 5/16 (CH); 3 Paulding (Paul) 5/16-17 (DMD); 1 Delaware WA 5/24 (KA); 1 Conneaut 5/25 (JP); 6 MWF 5/28 (Y. Mohiman); 2 WPSC 5/28 (EP, RHr); 1 Medusa Marsh 5/29 (KMo); 8 Grand Lake-St. Mary's Fish Hatchery (Augl) 5/30 (DD); & 3 HBSP 5/30 (RHn, KME).

Pectoral Sandpiper-- An excellent showing: 950 ONWR 4/26 (BSBO); 500 Fairfield Twp. (Butl) 4/24 (DD); 300 Toussaint WA 4/2 (BSBO); 300 Gilmore Ponds 4/24 (JSt, AW); 250 Newtown 4/20 (DH); & 222 Barrs Mills (Tusc) 3/24-25 (SH). 2 were quite early at MWF 3/10 (J. Lippert).

Dunlin-- The drawn-down impoundment at WPSC attracted 2000 birds 5/21 (RHr, EP). 3214 birds on 5/15 was the high at Magee (BSBO). Inland high was 31 birds at Walborn Res. 5/16 (CH).

Stilt Sandpiper-- Always a rarity in

the spring, 2 were at Waiborn Res. 5/10 (CH, BDL), and singles were at Delaware WA 5/11 (WS, KA) & ONWR 5/29 (JP).

Short-billed Dowitcher-- Max 45 Waiborn Res. 5/10 (CH). 5 reports were received of 10-18 birds 5/2-16.

Common Snipe-- Up to 150 were found at ONWR 4/1-3 (KMo, MJS, ONWRC). 63 were at PCWA 4/20 (BSBO) and 45 were near Barrs Mills 3/29 (SH).

Am. Woodcock-- A nest with 2 eggs was found in Ashtabula Co. as early as 3/30 (DJH).

Wilson's Phalarope-- Single females were at Medusa Marsh (FG) & Magee (KA), both on 5/11.

Red-necked Phalarope-- 4 were a good find at the Paulding Sewage Lagoons 5/21 (DMD). A female was described from E. Fork Lk. 4/6 (HA et al.).

Franklin's Gull-- The Toneff's discovered 9 at Wellington Res. (Lora) 4/6 and another at Sims Pk. (Cuya) 4/12. A 1st-year bird was at Conneaut 5/30 (CH).

Little Gull-- 1 was at Lorain (Lora) 5/4 (TLP).

Bonaparte's Gull-- Lakefront peak was 1000 at Edgewater Pk. (Cuya) 4/9 (RHR). Some interesting inland reports include: 165 Hancock Co. 4/12 (BH et al.); 150 Shawnee Lookout Pk. 4/16 (PW); & 40 L. Snowden 3/19-20 (AB).

Ring-billed Gull-- 2000 were at the Griggs Dam (Fran) 3/1 (KA).

Herring Gull-- Inland, 55 were at Griggs Dam 3/1 (KA). 500 lakefront birds were present at HBSP 3/6 (LR et al.).

Thayer's Gull-- 1 was along the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland 3/8 (TLP).

Iceland Gull-- 1 remained at Ashtabula 3/5-6 (LR, JP).

Lesser Black-backed Gull-- Singles were along the Cuyahoga in Cleveland 3/8-9 (TLP, PL) & at HBSP 4/3 (LR et al.).

Glaucous Gull-- Still prevalent into early April, with reports from at least 7 lakefront sites through 4/4. LePage tallied 20 sightings for the period. Max 4 Lorain 3/6 (FG). A very late bird was at Conneaut 5/25 (JP).

Great Black-backed Gull-- Adding to the unusual inland flight this past winter, an adult was at the Overton ponds (Wayn) 3/17 (JES). Up to 54 remained at Conneaut 5/25 (JP), continuing the trend of large numbers summering at this site.

Black-legged Kittiwake-- The 1st-year bird lingered from the winter along the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland through 4/3 (PL, B. Finkelstein, TLP).

Caspian Tern-- Down somewhat, max 75 Cleveland 4/12 (PL). 19 were inland at L. Rockwell 4/20 (CH, LR).

Common Tern-- Max 45 Lorain 5/6 (TLP). 12 were at PCWA 4/20 (DK). Inland, 9 were at Pickerington Ponds MP 5/15 (VF) & 8 were at Clark Lk. WA (Clar) 5/7 (DO). 5 other inland sites hosted a total of 11 birds 4/12-5/21.

Forster's Tern-- The 65 birds at Lorain 5/6 (TLP) far outnumbered the next highest count of 10 at Sheldon Marsh SNP 5/11 (PY). 8 inland sites reported, peaking with 7 at MWF 4/24 (AW, JSt).

Black Tern-- It's a good thing to have too many reports to enumerate individually. Although only 3 lakefront singles were noted, 13 inland sites produced records 5/1-28, totalling at least 37 birds, topped by 9 at Spencer WA 5/8 (NKr). In all, at least 13 counties

reported.

### **Doves through Flycatchers**

Rock Dove-- A nest on a rocky face at Ash Cave SP (Hock) 4/3 provided an interesting change of pace for this urban dweller (NKr et al.).

Black-billed Cuckoo-- Both cuckoos seemed more widespread than usual, max 6 Athens Co. 5/9 (VF).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo-- Max 6 Hancock Co. 5/31 (BH et al.). 1 arrived at Waterloo Twp. (Athe) by 4/24 (VF).

Barn Owl-- Pairs were present in Tuscarawas (fide BG) & Richland Cos. (fide JH).

Snowy Owl-- Ashtabula retained a bird 3/10 (LP).

Barred Owl-- 1 at Euclid Beach SP (Cuya) 5/10 was certainly out of place (TLP).

Long-eared Owl-- Up to 3 were noted at Caley MP through 3/14 (TLP et al.). The Killdeer Plains WA roost still hosted 1-2 birds through 3/17 (JH). Singles were at Maumee Bay SP 3/23 (KA); Girdled Rd. MP (Lake) 4/2 (JP); & French Pk. (Hami) 4/13 (HC).

Short-eared Owl-- 2 remained at the Killdeer Plains WA wintering site 3/20 (JH). 4 other singles were found elsewhere 3/18-4/16.

N. Saw-whet Owl-- 4 singles: Killdeer Plains WA through 3/24 (JH); Lakeshore MP [hereafter Lksh] (Lake) 3/22 & 4/15 (JP); & Magee 3/23 (KA).

Common Nighthawk-- An unspecified number returned to Cincinnati on 4/20 (JSt), quite an early date.

Whip-poor-will-- At least 10 migrants were detected 4/14-5/24, including a male captured inside the old Arcade in downtown

Cleveland 5/14 (fide D. Rolik).

Chimney Swift-- First arrival reached Berlin by 4/12 (RHe).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird-- Barnhart reported 1 in Washington Co. 4/10, an extremely early date. Singles in Highland (T. Dean) & Clermont (HA) Cos. 4/19 were also early.

Red-headed Woodpecker-- Max 12 Hancock Co. 5/17 (m. obs. fide BH).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker-- Max 16 Greenlawn Cem. (Fran) 4/15 (KA). A late bird was at HBSP 5/14 (LR, m. obs.).

Downy Woodpecker-- Quite possibly as a result of the brutal winter, VF reported that despite "intensive daily birding efforts" in Athens Co., a high count of only 3 birds could be found outside the suburban Athens area.

N. Flicker-- Max 50 Perkins Beach (Cuya) 4/9 (RHr).

Pileated Woodpecker-- 1 apparently remained from the winter in the OkOp through 3/30 (MA). Termed "just plain COMMON" in Athens Co. (VF).

Olive-sided Flycatcher-- At least 11 birds reported 5/10-26, with sightings from Athe, Clar, Fran, Hami, Lake, Otta, Paul, & probably Summ.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher-- Shaker Lakes produced 8 birds 5/24 (VF). A peak of 19 were banded at Navarre from 5/26-30 (BSBO). 12 other sites also reported, with singles in Washington Co. 5/10 (LB) & at Gallipolis 5/20 (BAT) being the most noteworthy.

Acadian Flycatcher-- Singles arrived at York Twp. (Athe) 4/28 (VF) & at Berlin 4/30 (PY), both early dates. At least 9 lakefront birds were found 5/14-28, not including a peak of 7 banded at

Navarre 5/29-30 (BSBO). 37 singing males were heard in Athens Co. 5/10 (VF).

Alder Flycatcher-- Max 4 Magee 5/30 (ET). 12 more birds were reported 5/18-29.

Least Flycatcher-- 22 were banded at Navarre 5/9 (BSBO). Inland peak was 10 birds in Parma & Parma Hts. (Cuya) 5/18 (RHr). A very early bird was at Kinnickinnick (Ross) 4/15 (KA).

E. Phoebe-- Early arriving singles reached the south at the Cincinnati Nature Center (Cler) 3/2 (B. Creasey) & SVWA 3/4 (LG), and the north at Killbuck WA 3/14 (BG). 21 pairs were detected in Athens Co. 5/10 (VF).

Great-crested Flycatcher-- 20 were at Magee 5/9 (RHr). Otherwise, numbers seemed low. 1 was at Greenlawn Cem. 4/15, a very early date (KA).

E. Kingbird-- A flock of 20 was noted at PCWA 5/12 (DK). 2 reached Burnet Woods (Hami) by 4/14 (SP, DST).

### Larks through Shrikes

Horned Lark-- Max 500 Turtle Creek Marsh 3/6 (MJS).

Purple Martin-- 3 sites reported birds as early as 3/23.

Tree Swallow-- An unspecified number reached the northerly site of Magee by 3/9 (MJS).

N. Rough-winged Swallow-- A bird at Nesmith Lk. (Summ) 3/27 set a new spring arrival date for the Cleveland area (CH). 125 congregated at O'Shaughnessy Res. (Fran) 5/4 (KA).

Bank Swallow-- A single at MWF (AW) & an unspecified number at PCWA (DK) appeared on the early date of 4/10.

Cliff Swallow-- Reported from at

least 12 counties. A small colony of at least 5 birds was conveniently located under the eaves on the Sportsmen Migratory Bird Center at Magee in May (m. obs.). A similar-sized colony was present at WPSC (EP, RHr), while 6+ pair were in residence at Coolville (Athe) by 5/10 (VF).

Blue Jay-- Some movements include: 1132 Lksh 5/14 (JP); 450 Marblehead 5/15 (VF); & 200+ HBSP 5/7 (LR).

Am. Crow-- 400 migrants were tallied at Turtle Creek Marsh 3/6 (MJS). 130 passed HBSP the same day (LR et al.).

Black-capped Chickadee-- Considering the size of last fall's movement into Ohio, the spring movement was comparatively weak. 29 were banded at Lksh 3/22-5/5 (JP), while the banding station at Navarre recorded this species on 12 dates 4/2-5/17 (BSBO).

Tufted Titmouse-- 23 lakefront birds were banded at Lksh 3/22-5/5 (JP). 13 at L. Isaac 4/27 was a very large number for this site (RHr).

Red-breasted Nuthatch-- A relatively good northbound flight, max 10 HBSP 5/14 (LR et al.). 35 were banded at Lksh 4/26-5/30, with the 5/30 bird being a female with a brood patch (JP). The Navarre station recorded this species every day but 1 from 4/18-5/15 (BSBO). An unspecified number at Mitchell Forest (Hami) 5/29 very likely represent a nesting attempt (AW). Babyak also thought that nesting was possible at Howland (Trum).

Brown Creeper-- 10 were observed in Parma/Parma Hts. 4/12 (RHr). At least 2 pair were resident in the OkOp at the end of the period (MA).

Carolina Wren-- After the winter crash, details of current populations are now of much

interest. Intensive efforts to locate this species in Athens Co. located 40 territories, where 400 were expected (VF). In the Cincinnati area, HC found an average of 1.7/trip, as compared to 7.8/trip during the Spring of 1993. In Holmes Co., PY estimated an 80-90% drop, while BG thought the decrease was more like 90-95%. Only LR in Portage Co. felt that the species remained fairly common.

**Bewick's Wren**-- Rosche closely observed this true rarity near the breakwall at HBSP from 5:45 to 5:50 a.m. 5/21 (LR\*).

**House Wren**-- An extremely early bird was seen and heard singing in Holmes Co. 3/22 (MH, RHe).

**Winter Wren**-- Max 24 Greenlawn Cem. 4/15 (KA).

**Sedge Wren**-- Reported from 8 sites. Observers should be aware that Common Yellowthroats have a song very similar to the typical Sedge Wren song, and of course they share the same habitat. Be sure to actually see those Sedge Wrens! Counties reporting include Dela, Lake, Luca, Madi, Mari, & Paul.

**Marsh Wren**-- Definite lakefront migrants include 4 banded at Lksh 5/10 and another captured there 5/22 (JP); 1 Donald Gray Gardens (Cuya) 5/11 (FG); & 1 Sims Pk. 5/22 (T. Kellerman). 6 were at BWA 5/23-28 (WS, JH).

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**-- 20 were at Burnet Woods 4/7 (SP, DSt).

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet**-- 100 + were at Magee 4/29 (BAt), and 49 were banded at Navarre 5/9 (BSBO). Inland, 50 were at Shaker Lakes 4/17 (P. Peskin).

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**-- Seemed way up. 50+ at HBSP 4/23 was a huge number for the lakefront (LR). Other double-digit migrant counts include: 20 HBSP 5/14 (LR); 15 banded at Navarre 4/16 (BSBO);

15 Euclid Beach SP 4/29 (FG); 13 Greenlawn Cem. 4/15 (KA); 10 Perkins Beach 4/15 (RHr); & 10 BuCr 4/16 (DO). To repeat-- way up! A very early bird was at Greenlawn Cem. 4/5 (KA), while a late migrant was still at Magee 5/28 (RHr). 61 birds in Athens Co. 5/10 was considered normal (VF).

**Veery**-- 24 was an excellent count at Magee 5/14 (EP et al.). 12 were at HBSP 5/21 (LR, RHn).

**Gray-cheeked Thrush**-- Earliest bird was at L. Snowden 4/25 (AB).

**Swainson's Thrush**-- Over-eager singles were at Burnet Woods 4/14 (SP, DSt) & Waterville 4/15 (ET). Did not appear in numbers until about 5/20, including: 30 HBSP 5/21 (LR); 25 Magee 5/22 & 28 (RHr); up to 24 banded at Navarre 5/26-27 (BSBO); & 23 banded at Lksh 5/22 (JP).

**Hermit Thrush**-- Found at Navarre through 5/15 (BSBO). 20 were at Greenlawn Cem. 4/12 (KA).

**Wood Thrush**-- Reported from 2 southern & 1 central Ohio sites 4/13, but 1 reached northerly Magee the next day (ET). Seemed up, as evidenced by 15 at HBSP 5/21 (LR). A whopping 109 singing males were discovered across Athens Co. 5/10 (VF).

**Gray Catbird**-- 22 were at L. Isaac 5/4 (RHr), and 47 were scattered across Athens Co. 5/10 (VF).

**N. Mockingbird**-- Nesting again at a cemetery in Niles (Trum) (CB).

**Brown Thrasher**-- 10 migrants were at Euclid Beach SP 4/24 (RHr). 18 were found throughout Hancock Co. 5/31 (BH et al.).

**Am. Pipit**-- An extremely early bird was at MWF 3/1 (J. Lippert). 25 were in Hancock Co. 5/17 (m. obs. fide BH) & 20 were in Lorain Co. 3/30 (TLP).

**Cedar Waxwing**-- Biggest numbers

arrived after 5/20, including: 200 + Alexander Twp. (Athe) 5/21 (VF); "100's" at HBSP 5/21 (LR); & 100 + Shaker Lakes 5/28 (VF).

N. Shrike-- Singles (possibly the same bird) were recorded on the ONWRC of 3/6 & on the ONWRC of 4/3. Another was in Ashtabula Co. 3/23 (ES).

Loggerhead Shrike-- Singles were at Maumee Bay SP 4/23 (KA); Navarre 5/27 (BSBO); & Fairport Harbor 5/25+ (JP).

### Vireos through Warblers

White-eyed Vireo-- Small numbers appeared statewide 4/12-17. 3 at Donald Gray Gardens 5/11 was a good count for this tiny lakefront area (FG). Fazio counted 70 singing males in Athens Co. 5/10.

Bell's Vireo-- While looking for the Kirtland's Warbler (see below) at Chagrin River MP (Lake) 5/15, a singing male Bell's Vireo was discovered. It remained the next day, providing the Cleveland area's 3rd record ever (RHr, TLP, JP, EP et al.). Another singing male was slightly more expected along the Maumee River south of Waterville 5/14 (ET).

Solitary Vireo-- Earliest bird was at Firestone MP 4/11 (LR, J. Wert). 6 were banded at Navarre 5/9 (BSBO).

Yellow-throated Vireo-- Burnet Woods hosted an unspecified number on the very early date of 4/12 (SP, DSt). Another was at Gilmore Ponds the next day (D. Sadler). Fazio detected 16 singing males in Athens Co. 5/10.

Warbling Vireo-- 1 reached L. Snowden by 4/14 (AB).

Philadelphia Vireo-- Max 6 Magee 5/14 (EP et al.).

Red-eyed Vireo-- 20 likely migrants were at Magee 5/21 & 22 (RHr). Earliest singles were at Cowan Lk.

(Clin) 4/16 (LG) & in Washington Co. 4/18 (LB). Athens Co. produced 134 birds 5/10 (VF).

Blue-winged Warbler-- We received an amazing 5 reports before 4/20, including 1 at Greenlawn Cem. 4/12 (KA). 15 lakefront migrants were detected 4/26-5/15. In addition to these 15, Navarre hosted birds on 19 dates from 4/26-5/18. The 10 banded there 5/9 seems like a huge number (BSBO). Overall, an excellent flight. 71 singing males were counted in Athens Co. 5/10 (VF).

"Brewster's Warbler"-- The faithful CVNRA (Cuya portion) male returned for a 3rd consecutive year, being seen 5/5-22+ (DAC, TMR, BAT, et al.). A migrant was at Magee 5/9 (RHr). A possibly territorial bird was at Blackhand Gorge SNP 5/30 (DSK).

Golden-winged Warbler-- At the very least, 18 birds were reported from the following counties: Cham, Clar, Cuya, Fran, Hami, Hanc, Holm, Lake, Luca, Paul, Port, & Summ. Also, 6 males were detected in Athens Co. 4/25-5/10 (VF). Furthermore, an unspecified number were present at Navarre on 10 dates from 4/21-5/15 (BSBO). 1 at Camp Berry 4/19 (m. obs. fide BH) sets a new early spring arrival date for Ohio. This bird or another was at the same site 5/31 (C. Brown, fide BH), while another potential nester was at Indian Pt. MP (Lake) the same day (JP). A female at Magee 5/28 was a very late migrant (RHr, EP).

Tennessee Warbler-- April 18 is the earliest published date for Ohio. So what were 5 birds doing at Burnet Woods as early as 4/19? (SP, DSt). The 30+ birds in Athens Co. 4/29 also testify to an early southern push (VF). 26 were at Magee 5/15 (VF), and 55 were at Scioto Trail SF (Ross) 5/12 (KA).

Orange-crowned Warbler-- At least 18 birds were reported 4/15-5/18, plus an unspecified number at

Navarre on 10 dates from 4/19-5/20 (BSBO). Singles at Lksh (BAT) & Greenlawn Cem. (KA) 4/15 appear to be only 1 day off the early state arrival record.

Nashville Warbler-- The 57 banded at Navarre 5/9 (BSBO) completely overshadowed all other counts, including 20+ birds in Athens Co. 4/28 (VF) & 14 in Paulding Co. 5/6 (DMD). Recorded at Navarre as late as 5/29 (BSBO).

N. Parula-- 4 migrants were at Magee 5/15 (VF). 3 Athens Co. males were on territory in Waterloo Twp. (Athe) in late May, an area without Breeding Bird Atlas data (VF). Another territorial male was discovered in Brecksville MP (Cuya) 5/1+ (DAC). More details regarding the successful nesting of this individual will appear in our next issue.

Yellow Warbler-- 61 were banded at Navarre 5/9-10 (BSBO). 50 more were at nearby Magee 5/21 (RHr). 54 were in Athens Co. 5/10 (VF). An unspecified number arrived at Gilmore Ponds by 4/13 (D. Sadler).

Chestnut-sided Warbler-- Highs include: 20 Bacon Woods MP (Lora) 5/19 (J. Blaser); 17 Sharon Woods (Hami) 5/12 (HC); & 14 HBSP 5/22 (RHn). An early bird was at MWF 4/21 (L. Payton).

Magnolia Warbler-- 88 were banded at Navarre 5/15 (BSBO). 75 were thought to be present at Lksh 5/22 (JP), and 40+ were at Magee 5/15 (VF). 30 more were at HBSP 5/21 (LR).

Cape May Warbler-- Max 15 Magee 5/13 (MA).

Black-throated Blue Warbler-- Max 14 Magee 5/15 (VF).

Yellow-rumped Warbler-- A swarm of 200+ birds was found at Howland 4/27, with 150-200 still there the next day. Only 3 remained 4/30 (CB). 150+ were at

Mogadore Res. 4/30 (LR).

Black-throated Green Warbler-- 60 degree F. temperatures ushered in a very early male at Sheldon Marsh SNP 4/2 (TMR et al.). 30+ were scattered across Athens Co. 5/8 (VF). 16 were banded at Navarre 5/9 (BSBO).

Blackburnian Warbler-- At least 11 birds were reported before May, including 5 in York Twp. (Athe) 4/28 (VF). Max 8 banded at Navarre 5/15 (BSBO) & 8 more at Secor MP (Luca) 5/21 (MA).

Yellow-throated Warbler-- 6 definite migrants were noted 4/12-5/5. A very peculiar situation existed at Lorain Co.'s Bacon Woods MP, a site where 1-2 pairs have apparently nested annually for the last 10 years or so (fide P. Johnson). A whopping 10 birds were reported there 4/20, dropping to 4 on 4/24, 5 on 4/27, and 1 on 4/28 (J. Blaser). The timing and habitat certainly seem appropriate, but 10 birds at a single northerly site seems incredible. An unspecified number reached Hamilton Co. by 4/4 (PW). 23 singing males were found throughout Athens Co. 5/10 (VF).

Pine Warbler-- At least 28 migrants were reported, including a concentration of 7 birds at Greenlawn Cem. 4/15 (KA). A territorial male was present at Brecksville MP 5/23+ (RHr). 11 resident males were singing at Waterloo Wildlife Experiment Station (Athe) during the period, which is considered normal for this area (VF).

Kirtland's Warbler-- A probable female was found after a heavy rain at Chagrin River MP at about 10:00 a.m. 5/15 (J. Smallwood et al.). It was found again from 11:30 to 11:34 a.m. by JP\*, and seen briefly for the last time at about 12:45 p.m. (RHr\*, J.P. Harlan). With this species rapidly increasing on its Michigan nesting grounds, perhaps we also will see an

increase in sightings.

**Prairie Warbler--** A very good season, with at least 14 northerly migrants detected 4/15-5/15, starting with a male at Donald Gray Gardens (FG). 3 singing migrants at L. Isaac 4/27 was an amazing total for this site (RHr). In addition, Navarre hosted this species on 6 dates 4/19-5/9 (BSBO). A bird at Burnet Woods 4/12 (SP, DSt) may tie or be only 1 day off the earliest state arrival record. Other early singles were at Fowler Woods SNP (Rich) 4/15 (SM) & at the Wilderness Center (Star) 4/16 (LC).

**Palm Warbler--** Highs include 29 ONWRC 5/1 & 28 Shaker Lakes 5/5 (VF). Birds reported as the "Yellow" Palm Warbler race were banded at Navarre 4/24-26 & 28 (BSBO) and at Lksh 4/18 & 20 (JP).

**Bay-breasted Warbler--** A state-record early male was banded at Lksh 4/19 (JP). A massive 140+ descended on Magee 5/15 (VF).

**Blackpoll Warbler--** April 26 is quite early for this species, but at least 4 birds were found on this date: at Magee (DAC); at L. Isaac (RHr); at Greenlawn Cem. (KA); & at Navarre (BSBO). Highs: 14 Scioto Trail SF 5/12 (KA) & 12 Magee 5/15 (VF).

**Cerulean Warbler--** Far more migrants than normally expected were found, some of the more interesting being: 3 banded at Navarre 4/26 (BSBO); single females at Magee 5/9 (RHr) & Sheldon Marsh SNP 5/15 (FG); an early bird at Lksh 4/17 (JP); & an extremely late migrant at Sims Pk. 5/28 (T. Kellerman). Resident counts include: 8 Davey Woods (Cham) 5/8 (DO); 33 singing males in Athens Co. 5/10 (VF); & 28 Scioto Trail SF 5/12 (KA). A nest was discovered 70 feet high in a sycamore at California Woods (Hami) 5/10 (DBr).

**Black-and-white Warbler--** HBSP

held 15 birds 5/7, with 12 there 5/14 (LR). 11 were banded at Navarre 5/9 (BSBO). A single at Shaker Lakes 4/9 (P. Peskin) & an unspecified number at Navarre the same day (BSBO) were very early for the north. A late male was in Parma Hts. 5/27 (RHr).

**Am. Redstart--** A new state early arrival record was set by a bird at Burnet Woods 4/13 (SP, DSt). 25 were at Magee 5/21 (RHr) & 20 were at HBSP 5/21 (LR). 41 birds, most probably residents, were in Athens Co. 5/10 (VF).

**Prothonotary Warbler--** As usual, it is very difficult to sort migrants from nesters. However, reports emanated from at least 19 counties, with some of the more interesting being: a singing male at a nest hole in Dover Twp. (Athe) 5/22, an area without BBA data (VF) [VF also notes that this species has been present at this site since 1991]; 1 Lksh 4/15 (BAT); & at least 4 nesting pair at Russell Pk. (Geau), thanks to a project which places artificial nesting structures there (DBe). Another nest was found in the Ira Rd. beaver marsh in the CVNRA in May (LK, MZ).

**Worm-eating Warbler--** A bird was seen & described from Ottawa Co. on the surreal date of 3/29 (MJS). Needless to say, this represents a new state early arrival date record. At least 8 other northerly migrants were noted 4/15-5/21, with reports from Berlin, Firestone MP, HBSP, Howland, Lksh, Magee, Navarre, & Paulding Co. 8 residents were at Scioto Trail SF 4/25 (KA) & 12 males were heard singing in Athens Co. 5/10 (VF).

**Ovenbird--** 15 were banded at Navarre 5/15 (BSBO). Inland, 8 were found at Howland 5/10 (CB). Singles reached central Ohio at Greenlawn Cem. 4/12 (KA), and northern Ohio at Magee on 4/14 (ET). In the south, 95 singing males were counted in Athens Co. 5/10 (VF).

N. Waterthrush-- The Navarre banding station captured 12 birds 5/10 (BSBO). Late singles were at Berlin 5/29 (PY) & Lksh 5/30 (JP).

Louisiana Waterthrush-- Although the earliest southerly bird was found 3/26, 1 reached Magee 2 days earlier, on 3/24 (JP). Two extremely late migrants were identified, at Firestone MP 5/19 (EP et al.) & at Magee 5/21 (JD, m. obs.). Found at Navarre on 5 dates from 4/19-5/1 (BSBO). 15 singing males were in residence in Athens Co. 5/10 (VF).

Kentucky Warbler-- At least 6 northerly migrants were detected 4/23-5/15. In addition, an unspecified number were at Navarre on 9 dates from 4/25-5/9 (BSBO). Athens Co. harbored 44 singing males 5/10 (VF).

Connecticut Warbler-- A group of 3 was an excellent find at HBSP 5/22 (RHn). Recorded at Navarre on 8 dates from 5/15-30, with 3 banded there 5/26-27 (BSBO). 5 more were banded at Lksh 5/22-30 (JP). 13 others reported from elsewhere 5/11-29, with sightings from Cler, Cuya, Fran, Hami, Hanc, Luca, Maho, & Paul.

Mourning Warbler-- To indicate how numerous this species truly is in suitable locations, Navarre hosted birds every day from 5/10-30, except 5/12. 13 were banded there 5/22 (BSBO). Furthermore, 44 were banded at Lksh 5/15-30, including 14 captured on 5/22 alone (JP). 4 were still at Magee as of 5/30 (ET). 10 other counties also reported.

Common Yellowthroat-- 18 migrants were banded at Lksh 5/15 (JP), while 16 birds were captured at Navarre 5/21 (BSBO). 18 more were found at SVWA 5/13 (HC).

Hooded Warbler-- A male at Magee on 4/14 (ET) was very early, but the early state arrival record of 3/28/50 is considered virtually impragnable. 61 singing males

were counted in Athens Co. 5/10 (VF).

Wilson's Warbler-- Highs: 15 Lksh 5/24 (JP); 12 banded at Navarre 5/16 (BSBO); & 10 at HBSP 5/21 (LR) and 5/24 (PE).

Canada Warbler-- Another good movement, including: 14 banded at Lksh 5/22, with 35 thought to be present (JP); 11 Magee 5/11 (VF); 10 HBSP 5/21 (LR); & 8 Firestone MP 5/20 (EP).

Yellow-breasted Chat-- April 17 doesn't seem especially early, however, a bird at the Cincinnati Nature Center on this date nevertheless sets a new state arrival record (HA). Only 5 other obvious migrants reported, not including birds at Navarre on 10 dates from 5/10-24 (BSBO).

## Tanagers through Finches

Summer Tanager-- Always a good find away from nesting areas, singles were discovered at Greenlawn Cem. 4/24 (KA); Greenlawn Dam 4/25 (AG) [the same bird?]; a male at Lksh 5/11 (JP); & an imm. male at Pearson MP 5/13 (TMR). Nested as far north as BG's Holmes Co. property.

Scarlet Tanager-- Earliest bird was at Greenlawn Cem. 4/15 (KA). 2 others were found elsewhere 4/17. 11 migrants were at HBSP 5/21 (LR). Athens Co. produced 52 singing males 5/10 (VF).

N. Cardinal-- Movements of this species are very hard to detect, however, 72 were banded at Lksh 3/22-5/25 (JP). Given the nature of this location, it seems that certainly a substantial portion of these birds were in transit.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak-- HBSP was enlivened by 20 migrants 5/7 (RHn). 10 each were at BuCr 5/7 (DO) & Magee 5/9 (RHr).

Blue Grosbeak-- A singing male at

Pickerington Ponds MP 5/5 was an excellent find (VF). Fazio also located a singing male in Lodi Twp. (Athe) 5/21. Only other report was of a bird in Washington Co. 5/10 (LB).

Indigo Bunting-- Earliest bird arrived in Washington Co. 4/18 (LB). Residents seemed scarce at several sites until a definite push in late May, including 30 + birds at Lksh 5/30 (JP) and 25 at BuCr 5/22 (DO).

Dickcissel-- All reports: 1 BuCr 5/22 (DO); 3 Killdeer Plains WA 5/24 (KA); 1 Sandusky Co. 5/29 (JP); & 3 along Hodge Rd. in Clark Co. 5/31 (KA). The first and last reports may very well pertain to the same birds.

Am. Tree Sparrow-- An extremely late bird was banded at Lksh 5/22 (JP).

Chipping Sparrow-- Earliest singles were in Anderson Twp. (Hami) 3/14 (M. McCarty) & at Sugarcreek (Tusc) 3/23 (SH).

Clay-colored Sparrow-- Lksh hosted a bird 4/24 (JP\*).

Vesper Sparrow-- A territorial male was in Alexander Twp. (Athe) 5/20 +, where scarce (VF).

Lark Sparrow-- Several pair were evidently present in the OkOp, being noted as early as 4/21 (TK, MA).

Savannah Sparrow-- Max 40 MWF 4/27 (TLu). 1 was discovered under a mobile home's awning at Marblehead at 1:30 a.m. on 3/13. It was gone in the morning (KMo).

Grasshopper Sparrow-- "Many" were present near Dundee (Tusc) in Tuscarawas Co. on 4/26 (SH). Also reported from Athe, Clar, Hami, Hanc, Holm, Jeff, Lake, Luca, Ross, & Sand.

Henslow's Sparrow-- Strip-mined areas near Dundee held a few

birds by 4/26 and good numbers by 4/29 (SH). By 5/16, the species was locally common there (BG).

Elsewhere: 2 Lodi Twp. (Athe) 4/26 (VF); 2 Hocking Co. 5/23 (KA); 1 Concord Twp. (Lake) 5/21 (JP); & unspecified numbers in Jefferson Co. 4/24 (NB) & at Navarre 5/9 (BSBO).

Fox Sparrow-- Up to 15 congregated in tiny Donald Gray Gardens 4/9 (DAC, KMo). A late bird was at Lksh 5/14 (JP).

Song Sparrow-- Max 75 Donald Gray Gardens 4/9 (RHr). Of the 178 banded at Lksh 3/22-5/24, 170 were captured 3/22-4/27 (JP).

Lincoln's Sparrow-- An early bird was banded at Lksh 4/25 (JP). 18 were at HBSP 5/14 (LR). 1 heard singing in Holmes Co. 5/4 (MH) was considered extremely unusual, as only rarely does this species sing while passing through our area.

Swamp Sparrow-- 20 birds each were at MWF 4/27 (TLu) & Magee 5/8 (PE). Lksh mist-nets captured 18 birds 4/27 (JP).

White-throated Sparrow-- Highs: 200 Greenlawn Cem. 4/15 (KA) & 108 Firestone MP 4/30 (EP). Always among the most common migrants captured for banding, 116 were banded at Navarre 4/25-26 (BSBO) & 56 and 69 were captured at Lksh on 4/25 and 5/2, respectively (JP). Several late migrants were noted at various sites from late May to early June, possibly indicative of the surprising numbers yet to be found during the summer.

White-crowned Sparrow-- 5 sites hosted 21-25 birds 4/23-5/14. Reported in Paulding Co. as late as 5/29 (DMD).

Dark-eyed Junco-- Max 180 Greenlawn Cem. 4/5 (KA). Of 382 banded at Lksh 3/22-5/25, 372 were captured 3/22-4/27 (JP). Birds at Big Creek MP (Geau)

5/6-29 + (DBe et al.) & 1 at N. Chagrin MP (Cuya) 5/23 (RHr) undoubtedly represent local nesters. A male at Greenlawn Dam through the end of the period had little chance of nesting (AG).

Lapland Longspur-- Nice totals include: 75 ONWRC 3/1; 75 Turtle Creek Marsh 3/6 (MJS); up to 50 alternate-plumaged birds along Washburn Rd. at Killdeer Plains WA 4/21-5/12 (BC, J. Howard, JH); & 40 Paulding Co. 4/15-26 (DMD).

Snow Bunting-- A massive 1500 were estimated at Turtle Creek Marsh 3/6 (MJS). 350 were recorded on the ONWRC of 3/1. 3 other reports of 40-50 birds.

Bobolink-- A tally at Lksh 5/14 resulted in a total of 223 fly-bys (JP). 25 were at Mosquito Lk. the same day (CB). Singles arrived in Allen Co. 4/23 (RC) & in Holmes Co. 4/24 (MH). A male held a territory in Waterloo Twp. (Athe) 5/22, an area without BBA data (VF).

E. Meadowlark-- A singing male in the backyard of a residence next to L. Isaac 5/25 was obviously a migrant, despite the late date (RHr).

W. Meadowlark-- A bird spent 4/21-5/6 in Holmes Co. (TH). Other singles were at Killdeer Plains WA 5/24 (KA) & in Sandusky co. 5/29 (JP).

Yellow-headed Blackbird-- 4 males were reported: Lksh 4/11 (JP); PCWA 4/25 & 28 (DK); Navarre 5/13 (BSBO); & Fairport Harbor 5/25 (JP).

Rusty Blackbird-- Max 150 Walnut Beach (Asht) 4/10 (CH).

Common Grackle-- Max 10,000 MWF 3/1 (J. Lippert).

Brown-headed Cowbird-- Max 200 HBSP 3/6 (LR et al.).

Orchard Oriole-- At least 3 birds at

HBSP 5/14-31 were unusual (m. obs.).

N. Oriole-- 241 migrants passed Lksh 5/14 (JP). Earliest arrival was at Shawnee Lookout Pk. 4/16 (PW). Fazio counted 39 singing males in Athens Co. 5/10.

Purple Finch-- The following counts were encouraging: 40 Amherst (Lora) 5/2, with 20-25 remaining 5/13 (J. Blaser); 26 Scioto Trail SF 4/26 (KA); 18 banded at Lksh 4/27 (JP); & 18 York Twp. (Athe) 4/28 (VF). The first young of the year were banded at Lksh 5/30 (JP).

House Finch-- Most of the L. Snowden wintering population left for parts northward 4/5-10 (AB).

White-winged Crossbill-- Only report was of 12 birds at Lksh 4/27 (JP).

Common Redpoll-- We received reports from 13 counties this spring, compared with 0 counties last spring. Obviously, many birds remained from the winter invasion, including: 60 Berlin 3/10 (RHe); 60 Girard (Trum) 3/16 (DJH); 55 Conneaut 3/23 (ES); 28 Hancock Co. 3/8 (fide BH); & 30+ Big Creek MP 3/28 (DBe). Although most birds left by 4/15, several laggards remained, including 2 banded at Lksh 5/3 (JP).

**Hoary Redpoll**-- One was photographed from a feeder in Parma, being present at least 3/12-13 (CR\* ph., RHr\*, m. obs.). Another feeder bird was photographed at Lksh 3/16-17 (JP\* ph.). These two records add to an unusual occurrence pattern in Ohio. Only about 16 individuals have ever been acceptably reported in our state, with all but 2 having been seen during the late winter/early spring period of 2/12-3/25. Since this species associates so closely with Common Redpolls (which appear as early as late October), why do we have no records before 12/19, and why only 2 birds before 2/12?

Pine Siskin-- Reported from 16 counties, with highs of 50 Greenlawn Cem. 4/13 (KA) & 35 Caesar Creek Lk. 3/5 (JSt).

Am. Goldfinch-- 72, 75, & 73 birds were banded at Lksh on 5/9, 5/10, & 5/11, respectively (JP). 145 were at Scioto Trail SF 4/26 (KA), & about 100 passed through Magee 5/9 (RHr).

Evening Grosbeak-- At least 16 counties reported, with the latest report being 2 birds at Carlisle MP (Lora) 5/17 (NKr). Highs include: 30 Mohican SP (Ash) 3/12 (JH); up to 25 Richfield (Summ) 3/27-5/7 (PE); 21 Athens Co. 4/28 (VF); & 20+ Lksh 4/25 (JP). Obviously up from last spring, when none were reported statewide. The last 10 days of April seem to have been the peak of migration.

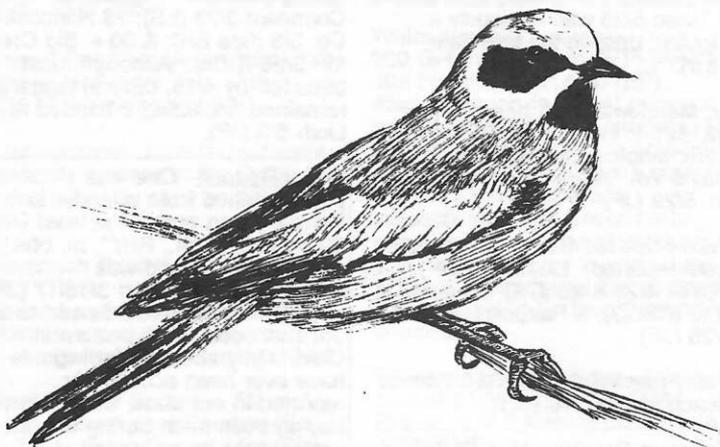
HYBRIDS-- An apparent male Hooded Merganser x Common Merganser was closely observed and puzzled over at Sandusky Bay (Erie Co. portion) 3/12 (RHr, EP).

## EXOTICS

Trumpeter Swan-- 3 birds appeared independently at a Geauga Co. pond starting in mid-March. Unique tagging identified 2 of the birds, with 1 having been hatched in Michigan in 1991 and the other hatched in Wisconsin in 1992. The third bird was an unmarked immature (fide MJS). We obviously now have 3 species of swan to worry about!

## CONTRIBUTORS AND CITED OBSERVERS

All individuals contributing bird reports to "The Ohio Cardinal" for the Spring 1994 season are listed below in CAPITAL LETTERS. In addition, many other Observers submitted their sightings to other birding-related publications. For this report, records from the following publications have been used: "The Cleveland Bird Calendar" (Kirtland Bird Club), "The Heron" (Audubon Society of Mahoning Valley), "National Audubon Society Field Notes", "Passenger Pigeon" (Cincinnati Bird Club), "Toledo Naturalists' Association Bulletin", "WildOhio" (Ohio Division of



Golden-winged Warbler.

By Carole Jonson Babyak.

Wildlife), "Wingtips" (Black River Audubon Society), & "Yellow Warbler" (Dayton Audubon Society). Those Observers cited at least 4 times in the Spring 1994 "The Reports" section are also included in the following list of Contributors: J. KIRK ALEXANDER (KA); MATT ANDERSON (MA); HENRY L. ARMSTRONG (HA); CAROLE L. BABYAK (CB); ANDREW L. BARBER (AB); LYNN BARNHART (LB); CHARLES E. BERRY (CB); DAN BEST (DB); for the Geauga Co. Park District; BLACK SWAMP BIRD OBSERVATORY (BSBO); DAVID A. BRINKMAN (DB); NANCY D. BRUNDAGE (NB); BECKY BURGOON (BB); DWIGHT & ANN CHASAR (DAC); BOB CONLON (BC); HARRY CONNOR (HC); LeROY H. CURTIS (LC); ROBERT F. CUTTER (RC); DAVID C. DISTER (DD); DOUG & MICKI DUNAKIN (DMD); JON L. DUNN (JD); ERIC DURBIN (ED); PAUL D. ELLSWORTH (PE); ROBERT K. ELLWAY (RE); VICTOR W. FAZIO (VF); LARRY GARA (LG); BRUCE D. GLICK (BG); FRANK GREENLAND (FG); SCOTT HACKETT (SH); David Hadine (DH); Ray Hannikman (RH); BETTY HARDESTY (BH); ROBERT N. HARLAN (RH); JOHN HERMAN (JH); MICHAEL HERSHBERGER (MH); ROBERT J. HERSHBERGER

(RHe); TIM HOCHSTETLER (TH); CRAIG HOLT (CH); DAVID & JUDY HOCHADEL (DJH); NED KELLER (NKe); TOM KEMP (TK); JOE KOMOROWSKI (JK); LEN KOPKA (LK); DAN KRAMER (DK); Norma Kraps (NKR); MARIAN & JEFF KRAUSE (MJK); Bob & Denise Lane (BDL); DAVID H. LeGALLE (DL); TOM LePAGE (TLP); Tony Leukering (TLU); PAULA LOZANO (PL); CHARLOTTE MATHENA (CM); STEVE MCKEE (SM); KEVIN METCALF (KMe); GARY MESZAROS (GM); KATHY MOCK (KMo); BEN MORRISON (BM); DOUG OVERACKER (DO); Steve Pelikan (SP); EDWIN C. PIERCE (EP); JOHN POGACNIK (JP); ROSALIE RICKS (RR); CRAIG RIEKER (CR); JOHN C. RITZENTHALER (JR); TOM & MARY ANNE ROMITO (TMR); LARRY ROSCHE (LR); ED SCHLABACH (ES); ROBERT SCHLABACH (RS); LINDA SHARP (LS); MARK & JULIE SHIELDCASTLE (MJS); WILLIAM B. SHIVELY (WS); DAVE SKINNER (DSk); JOHN & ELAINE SNIVELY (JES); BRUCE STEHLING (BS); Jay Stenger (JSt); Dave Styer (DSt); BILL & ANNE TONEFF (BAT); ELLIOT TRAMER (ET); Alan Walls (AW); Paul Wharton (PW); LEROY E. YODER (LEY); PERRY YODER (PY); & MARIAN ZEHNDER (MZ). In addition, many other observers are cited for 1 to 3 records within the species accounts. My thanks to all.



King Rail. Magee Marsh WA (Ottawa/Lucas Cos.).  
From the Robert Crofts collection, courtesy Toledo Naturalists' Assoc.

## **The Grapevine**

### **An Exciting Day at Magee Marsh**

We don't generally get to bird at Magee Marsh WA many times in the spring, but this year we vowed that we would. We chose April 26th for our first visit because there was a nearly full moon, the weather was forecast to be perfect, we both could get the day off from work, and we wanted to get a head start on warbler sightings. And did we ever!

We arrived before 7 a.m., one of the first cars present. The parking lot was full, not of vehicles, but of thrushes, primarily Swainson's. An Orchard Oriole greeted us at the boardwalk entrance. As I recall, it might have taken us an hour to round the first bend of the walk, for warblers were everywhere. Among the many Palms and Yellow-rumpeds was a Cerulean Warbler, our first ever at the boardwalk. Tennessee, Orange-crowned, Cape May, Blackburnian, Pine, Blackpoll and Prothonotary Warblers were quickly added. A Worm-eating Warbler was a lifer for us, and it was so cooperative, remaining along the wood-edge during our lunch at the picnic tables. Our warbler total reached 22 species, as we added overshooting Kentucky, Prairie and Yellow-throated Warblers as well. What an early wave, and what a way to start our year list. By Dwight & Ann Chasar, 163 Sandy Hill Rd., Sagamore Hills, OH 44067.

### **A Big Day in Holmes County**

What a spring it was. Some birders spend a lot of time at the hotspots during the peak of migration, and we usually hit Magee Marsh WA once every year, too. But always our main focus is at home here in the farming hills of Holmes County, 2 miles north of Berlin. Anyhow, we were well rewarded for birding at home this year, as we considered it the best spring in our 11 years of birding. Our single favorite woods features healthy numbers of warblers every year, but we never had so much variety as May 12, 1994. My brothers Emery, Marty, and a cousin had 26 warbler species in that one woods by mid-afternoon. I then joined them and had the luck to find their 2 rarities (Worm-eating and Golden-winged Warblers) as well as quite a few others. The total for the day was 107 species, our previous record being 98. And all on foot! By Perry A. Yoder, 6381 C.R. 77 Rt. 6, Millersburg, OH 44654.

### **A New Bird for Magee Marsh**

Starting on a drive to Montana, we stopped at Magee Marsh WA on April 29th to catch the early warbler migration. The birding was good, but the kicker was something quite unexpected. When a large black bird flew over the boardwalk, several people called it an immature Bald Eagle being chased by gulls. It was being chased, all right, but I was sure it was not an eagle. In fact, it was an almost field-book-perfect Black Vulture. As I had recently seen a number of them in Texas, I went to the Sportsmen Migratory Bird Center to report it.

The ranger understandably questioned my call and said it must have been an immature Bald Eagle. In fact, there had been a young eagle perched in a nearby tree when the vulture went over. A man counting raptors was also skeptical. I had seen an immature eagle, he said. I was very discouraged until I met another birder who confirmed my sighting because he, too, had seen it.

Finally, when John Pogacnik also reported a Black Vulture and put it on the day's listing, the ranger went out to see for himself. Seeing him later I said, "That bird is not even on your checklist." "It is now", he replied. That Black Vulture, which was seen at Magee Marsh only that one day, gave me a high that lasted all the way to Montana and back. By Larry Gara, 21 Faculty Place, Wilmington, OH 45177.

## Central Ohio Doings

I thought it was an interesting spring in central Ohio with good variety but mostly low numbers. March featured an excellent waterfowl movement, mostly at Delaware WA (Delaware Co.) and Big Island WA (Marion Co.). Big Island had been totally dry in 1993 but this year had plenty of water and plenty of birds. Rail numbers were also impressive at this site. Passerine migration was very early with warblers in low numbers. On April 15th, one of the best overflights in recent years developed. On that day I recorded 17 species of warblers in southern Ohio, the earliest that I had ever recorded that many. Also, April 25-26 were excellent days with 31 species of warblers recorded. By J. Kirk Alexander, 5329 Drumcally Lane, Dublin, OH 43017.

## 1994 Spring Passerine Migration at Navarre Marsh

Personnel of Black Swamp Bird Observatory have been involved in passerine migration monitoring in the Lake Erie marsh region since 1978. The banding operation has identified 3 distinct species-composition waves, each normally containing 2 pulses. Each of these waves are predictable within a 3 to 7 day period annually. While day length is the ultimate decision maker for migration, frontal passage and pressure cell location contribute to fine-tuning the migration and its most intense paths. Temperature can be used as a gross indicator of weather patterns on a local scale.

Spring 1994 differed from the norm with above normal temperatures in April which remained throughout May. From data collected from the Davis Besse Nuclear Power facility (a.k.a. Navarre Marsh, Ottawa Co.), only 11 days between 10 April and 15 June were below the 10 year average and 24 were above the 95% confidence interval around the average temperature. During mid-May a high pressure cell became stationary over the lower Great Lakes, resulting in fair weather into June.

The 1994 spring banding season started out on a record pace with high numbers of many species associated with the first wave in late April. The first wave occurred on schedule, on 25-27 April. The main wave in early May arrived on 9-11 May and appeared to show normal species numbers and diversity. However, the second pulse of this wave was low in numbers (15 May), as was the third wave in late May (26-27 May). The second pulse of this final wave, normally occurring between 5-10 June, never really materialized.

A peak of 610 birds were captured on 9 May. By effort, this date was also the peak with 348 birds captured per 100 net hours. Until 15 May the station was 1000 birds above 1993's record year. By the end of the season in June, however, it was 1000 birds below 1993.

Species occurring in above normal numbers included N. (Baltimore) Oriole, Solitary & Yellow-throated Vireos, Blue-winged, Golden-winged, Nashville, Yellow, Yellow-rumped (Myrtle), (Western) Palm, Louisiana Waterthrush, Kentucky & Hooded Warblers, Gray Catbird, Red-breasted

Nuthatch, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher & Hermit Thrush.

Species appearing in below normal numbers included "Trail's" Flycatcher, Lincoln's & Swamp Sparrows, Indigo Bunting, Red-eyed Vireo, Am. Redstart, Tennessee, Magnolia, Bay-breasted, Mourning, Wilson's & Canada Warblers, House Wren, Veery & Swainson's Thrush. By Mark Shieldcastle, Black Swamp Bird Observatory, P.O. Box 228, Oak Harbor, OH 43449.

### Bird Banding at Lakeshore MP, Spring 1994

For a total of 181 hours (1948.5 net hours) on 31 days between March 22nd and June 5th 1994, I banded birds at Lakeshore MP (Lake Co.). My final tally was 3500 individuals banded, representing 95 species. My top numbers were as follows: White-throated Sparrow-- 446, Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco-- 382, Am. Goldfinch-- 364, House Finch-- 343, Song Sparrow-- 178, Gray Catbird-- 145, Blue Jay-- 121, Swamp Sparrow-- 82, N. Cardinal-- 72, Lincoln's Sparrow-- 72, Common Yellowthroat-- 64, White-crowned Sparrow-- 64, Purple Finch-- 56, Swainson's Thrush-- 50, Canada Warbler-- 47, Chipping Sparrow-- 47, Magnolia Warbler-- 46, Mourning Warbler-- 46 & Common Redpoll-- 44. By John Pogacnik, 4765 Lockwood Rd., Perry, OH 44081.

### Documentation and Meditation: Yellow Rail at Irwin Prairie State Nature Preserve (Lucas Co.), April 25, 1994

The needle rush lay in frozen, golden waves. Where the grass was thin and flattened, standing water gleamed through, silver in the setting sun, leaden and oily in the shadows. The south wind of the last several days was still strong and warm, and redolent with the gun-powder smell of the prairie.

I sat on one of the small benches on the boardwalk, just east of Irwin Road. I tapped on my binoculars with my car key. I tapped. I listened to the winnowing of the Common Snipe. I tapped. I watched the sky turning pink. I tapped. A Yellow Rail tapped: Tap-tap, tap-tap-tap, tap-tap, tap-tap-tap-tap. Fifteen or twenty taps in a row. Loud. Slightly hollow-sounding, faintly echoing. Exactly like two pebbles tapped together.

I tapped again and seemed to be ignored. I tapped some more and the rail tapped again. The tapping moved a few feet this way and that, always beneath the folded grasses. The Yellow Rail tapped a half dozen times between 8:00 and 8:30 p.m. No bird was seen. The sun set. I went home.

I believe it is customary in a documentation to recite: 1) the type of optical equipment used (7 x 35 binoculars, for tapping on only), 2) field guides consulted (none, although from marginal notes in my copy of Lou Campbell's *Birds of the Toledo Area*, I find that I had previously heard Yellow Rail at Irwin Prairie on May 6, 1980, and several evenings thereafter, and with Matt, Alex and Chuck Anderson momentarily and more or less accidentally captured said Yellow Rail on May 19, 1980) and 3) the names of other observers (none, though Elliot Tramer tells me he heard a Yellow Rail at the same spot the following evening, April 26, 1994, and while not actually confirming this report, qualifies as quite a coincidence). By Eric Durbin, 343 Shrewsbury St., Holland, OH 43528.

## Ohio Bird Records Committee Report by H. Thomas Bartlett, Secretary

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For this issue, the Ohio Bird Records Committee (OBRC) provided initial reviews for 16 records (1 of which originated during the Winter 1992-93 period, 10 of which originated during the Spring 1994 period, and 5 of which originated during the Summer 1994 period), plus continued Recirculation procedures for an additional 8 records from previous reporting periods.

Of the 16 first circulation records, 13 records received at least 9 "Accept" votes from the 11-member Committee, and are therefore ACCEPTED, according to OBRC Bylaws section VI F(10)(a). 9 of these 13 Accepted records appear within the body of "The Reports" section elsewhere in this issue. Details regarding the 4 remaining Accepted records (White-faced Ibis, Delaware WA, 6/6/94; Fulvous Whistling-Duck, Magee Marsh WA, 6/5/94; Piping Plover, Conneaut, 7/14/94; and Clay-colored Sparrow, CVNRA, 6/19/94) will appear in the appropriate summer seasonal report in the next issue. All accepted records are marked with an asterisk (\*) next to the name(s) of the documenting observer(s).

1 first circulation record received between 6 and 8 "Accept" votes, and is therefore scheduled for a second circulation (the first Recirculation) according to OBRC Bylaws section VI E(3)(a). This record is: Common Black-headed Gull-- OBRC #55.1-94-01: Conneaut Harbor (Ashtabula Co.), 7/10/94.

2 first circulation records received fewer than 6 "Accept" votes, and are therefore considered NOT ACCEPTED, according to OBRC Bylaws section VI F(10)(b). These 2 records are listed below, with comments (or paraphrased comments, for clarity) as made by individual Committee members:

Wilson's Plover-- OBRC 280-94-01: 2, Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge (Ottawa Co.), 5/21/94. Comments: 1) Doesn't rule out Killdeer, especially juveniles. 2) Doesn't rule out female Semipalmated Plover, of which several were present at the site at that time. 3) Insufficient/sketchy details for such a rare inland species, i.e. color of neck band, and head & facial pattern. 4) Documentation written 2 weeks after sighting. 5) Observation time appears too brief for a positive ID.

Slaty-backed Gull-- OBRC 48-92-01: 1, Eastlake (Lake Co.), 12/28-29/92 and Lorain (Lorain Co.), 2/8/93. Comments: 1) ID questioned by other competent observers. 2) Because of apparent variability in this species, and apparent lack of key features on this individual, hybrids are not safely ruled out. 3) The "string of pearls" on inner primaries of most Slaty-backed Gulls was not as evident on this individual as would be desired. 4) Some independently requested opinions from observers familiar with the species did not support the Slaty-backed Gull ID. 5) The white secondary line is too thin. 6) A lack of white in the subapicals. 7) The pale specimens of Slaty-backed Gull at the US National Museum could be hybrids. 8) The silvery underside to the primaries is a frequent 3rd-winter characteristic (at least of some individuals) of all large gulls with black in the primaries. 9) Bird may be further advanced than 3rd-winter plumage. 10) Bird appears too slim and round-headed. 11) Tertiary crescent too narrow. 12) On underside of wings, only outer primaries are dark. 13)

Doesn't have the typical amount of black on the upperwing for any gull. 14) A brief study at less than optimal viewing conditions, with little supporting opinion. 15) Supporting evidence is equivocal. **NOTE:** Although this record has now received a decision vote, the Secretary has become aware that a Recirculation is being requested, as per OBRC Bylaws section VI E(3)(e). Further outside opinions are also being requested from observers familiar with the species.

As stated above, Recirculation procedures continued for 8 records from previous reporting periods. Of these 8 records, 4 records received between 6 and 8 "Accept" votes. As 2 of these 4 records have already seen three rounds of circulations, they will now be tabled until the next annual OBRC meeting in March 1995. Final decisions will be provided at this meeting. These 2 records are: 1) Golden Eagle-- OBRC #349-93-09: Brimfield Twp. (Portage Co.), 5/17/93; and 2) N. Shrike-- OBRC #621-93-01: Green Twp. (Ross Co.), 1/6/93. The other two records receiving between 6 and 8 "Accept" votes will now move on to a third circulation round (2nd Recirculation). These 2 records are: 1) Long-tailed Jaeger-- OBRC #38-93-02: Lorain (Lorain Co.), 9/9/93; and 2) Common Raven-- OBRC 486-94-01: Elk Twp. (Noble Co.), 3/7/94. The remaining 4 of the 8 records undergoing Recirculation procedures received fewer than 6 "Accept" votes, and have therefore completed Recirculation. These 4 records are considered NOT ACCEPTED according to OBRC Bylaws section VI F(10)(b). These 4 records are listed below, with comments (or paraphrased comments, for clarity) as made by individual OBRC members:

- King Eider-- OBRC #162-94-03: 1, Ashtabula Power Plant (Ashtabula Co.), 1/30/94. Comments: 1) Needs more detail on head description and bill shape. 2) How was size judged? 3) Questions about pale area around bill. 4) Insufficient details. 5) Body color can be influenced by lighting, this factor not considered. 6) Needs independent confirmation. 7) Doesn't rule out Common Eider or scoters.
- N. Goshawk-- OBRC 334-94-09: 1, Lakeshore MP (Lake Co.), 1/11/94. Comments: 1) Doesn't rule out Cooper's Hawk. 2) Lacks detail on underwing coverts. 3) Problem with description of wing shape. 4) Not enough details. 5) Needs independent confirmation. 6) Problem with using snow imprint for accurate measurements.
- California Gull-- OBRC 53-93-03: 1, Lorain (Lorain Co.) [Elyria-Lorain CBC], 12/19/93. Comments: 1) No independent confirmation. 2) Insufficient details to determine age. 3) Lack of detail on bill; if eye color was noted, why no red spot on bill; bill color seems wrong. 4) Doesn't rule out Herring Gull. 5) Lacks details of tail pattern. 6) Leg color not conclusive.
- Swainson's Thrush-- OBRC 578-93-01: 1, Ault Park (Hamilton Co.), 12/12/93. Comments: 1) Needs more details to eliminate Hermit Thrush. 2) Period of observation may not have been long enough for positive ID. 3) Lighting conditions and effect questioned. 4) Eye-ring color not noted. 5) Needs more details on facial pattern.

SELECTED ARRIVAL DATES, BY REGION--South, Central, North

SPECIES	DATE	COUNTY	OBSV.
R-t Hummingbird	4/10	Wash	LB
	4/24	Fran	EP et al.
	4/25	Otta	BSBO
Acadian Flycatcher	4/28	Athe	VF
	4/30	Holm	PY
	5/7	Lake	JP
Swainson's Thrush	4/14	Hami	SP, DSt
	4/25	Fran	KA
	4/15	Otta, Luca	v. obs.
Red-eyed Vireo	4/16	Clin	LG
	4/26	Holm	BG
	4/26	Various	v. obs.
Blue-winged Warbler	4/14	Hami	SP, DSt
	4/12	Fran	KA
	4/16	Medi	C. Witt
Tennessee Warbler	4/19	Hami	SP, DSt
	4/25	Fran	KA
	4/26	Otta/Luca	DAC
Yellow Warbler	4/13	Butl	D.Sadler
	4/23	Wayn/Holm	BG
	4/18	Otta/Luca	MJS
Cape May Warbler	4/25	Ross	KA
	4/29	Holm	BG
	4/26	Otta/Luca	DAC
Blackburnian Warbler	4/27	Hami	SP, DSt
	4/25	Fran	KA
	4/26	Otta/Luca	v. obs.
Blackpoll Warbler	4/29	Hami	JSt
	4/26	Fran	KA
	4/26	Various	v. obs.
Scarlet Tanager	4/17	Morg/Athe	LB,f. VF
	4/15	Fran	KA
	4/26	Various	v. obs.
Indigo Bunting	4/18	Wash	LB
	4/19	Fran	KA
	4/25	Paul	DMD
N. Oriole	4/16	Hami	PW
	4/28	Holm	BG
	4/25	Paul	DMD

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**On the Inside...**

<b>The Red-necked Grebe Invasion of 1994 by Robert Harlan .....</b>	<b>75</b>
<b>A Brief Study of the Nest Life of Black- throated Green Warblers at Hinckley MP by Norman J. Kotesovec, Jr. ....</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Ohio's Earliest Spring Warbler Arrival Dates by Robert Harlan .....</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>Spring 1994 Overview .....</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>The Reports-- Spring 1994 .....</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>The Grapevine .....</b>	<b>110</b>
<b>Ohio Bird Records Committee Report by H. Thomas Bartlett .....</b>	<b>113</b>
<b>Selected Arrival Dates Table, Spring '94 ..</b>	<b>115</b>

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