

appendices close the book, enumerating the species of mammals, reptiles and amphibians, plants, and birds—twenty pages devoted to the latter—now encountered in the southwest Lake Erie marshes.

The marshes are no longer wholly wild, of course. Many species present two hundred years ago do not appear in these compendia, and too many of the species that do appear are less-than-welcome exotics transplanted from other continents. In many ways the birdlife has suffered less than the vegetation—wild rice and eelgrass, for example, have disappeared in the first case and nearly so in the second—or the fishes, whose diversity in the marshes is but a tiny fraction of what it used to be. Purple loosestrife and carp impoverish the marshes far more than starlings or house sparrows. Finally, there is, a reviewer is obliged to note, the occasional small imperfection in the accounts of wildlife of the marshes: in the case of birds, May is not the best time of year here for long-billed dowitchers, or Baird's or western sandpipers, and there is as yet no accepted record of MacGillivray's warbler in Ohio—but with small exceptions the science and the field expertise are solid, far more so than in any comparable work.

Lou Campbell, over six decades of field work and data collection and analysis, helped develop the bird references and records we all use. He acted as mentor to more than one generation of Ohio's best birders. He is part of the history of the marshes he describes, having been the first birder to visit many of them, beginning in the 1920s. All birders who have spent time in these marshes, as well as those who hope one day to do so, will enjoy and profit from this intriguing work. *Bill Whan*

Recent Actions of the Ohio Bird Records Committee

The Ohio Bird Records Committee exists to increase knowledge of Ohio's birdlife by validating records of birds, maintaining for the public archival records of occurrences of rare birds in Ohio, and establishing the official state list of species. The OBRC relies vitally upon the voluntary participation of the birding community in sending in records of their sightings. *The Ohio Cardinal*, as a journal of record, does not treat reports of OBRC Review Species as established until accepted by the Committee, and hence will not normally pass along to the public reports of rarities not supported by documentation submitted to the OBRC. The Review List, which includes all species sufficiently infrequent in Ohio as to require documentation (specimen, photograph, tape recording, full written description) for their inclusion in the official historical record, was last published in this journal this spring, in Vol. 22, No. 3, p 99.

Volunteers for this effort come not only from the ranks of reporters in the field; others agree to serve three-year terms on the OBRC, subject to election by the subscribers to *The Ohio Cardinal*. They are your representatives in establishing official bird records for all of us. Current members of the eleven-member Ohio Bird Records Committee, and their counties of residence, are:

Jim McCormac (Franklin), Secretary	Tom Kemp (Lucas)
Craig Holt (Portage)	Jon Dunn (Montgomery)
Rob Harlan (Cuyahoga)	David Dister (Montgomery)
Bob Conlon (Franklin)	Dave Hochadel (Trumbull)
Jay Stenger (Hamilton)	Bill Whan (Franklin)
Kevin Metcalf (Geauga)	

Retiring members, whose terms expire with the March 2000 annual meeting, are Dave Hochadel, Jon Dunn, and David Dister (as serving out Tom Bartlett's unexpired term). The Committee is grateful to these individuals for their service, and appreciative of their contributions. Members taking their places on the Committee at the annual meeting are: Bernard Master (Franklin), Larry Rosche (Portage), and David Dister (Montgomery). The Committee welcomes these new members.

We are grateful to OBRC Secretary Jim McCormac for the following update of actions taken by the Committee since our report in the previous issue.

ACCEPTED RECORDS: Documentation received from the observers specified for the following species on the indicated date(s) was judged sufficient to verify the record by at least nine members of the committee.

Long-billed Curlew—Holmes County, 1 Oct 1999, observer Bruce Glick
Pomarine Jaeger—Clermont County, 30-31 Oct 1999, observers Jay Lehman, David Brinkman
Philadelphia Vireo—Cuyahoga County, 18 Nov 1999, observer Haans Petruschke
Ruff—Lucas County, 5 Sep 1999, observer Chris Crofts
Ruff—Erie County, 14 Aug 1999, observer Bill Whan
Yellow Rail—Cuyahoga County, 30 Sep 1999, observers Joe Hammond, Dan Sanders

RECORDS NOT ACCEPTED: Documentation received for the following species received fewer than six votes to accept; such votes, it is important to note, do not reflect upon the sighting itself, but on the adequacy of the documentation to validate it for the permanent record.

White Ibis—Pickaway County, 2-5 Sep 1998
California Gull—Lake County, 1 Jan 1999
Long-billed Curlew—Lucas County, 25 May 1999
White-winged Dove—Lorain County, 24 May-3 Jun 1999
Wilson's Storm-Petrel—Ottawa County, 9 Aug 1997
Ruff—Lake County, 29 Jun 1999

RECORDS IN RECIRCULATION: These records are currently being recirculated among members of the committee, the documentation for which having received between six and eight votes to accept.

Pine Grosbeak—Paulding County, 20 Oct 1999
Yellow Rail—Marion County, 15 Aug 1999
Harris's Sparrow—Holmes County, 22 Dec-25 Mar 1999
Mississippi Kite—Summit County, 4 Jul 1999
Western Kingbird—Muskingum County, 6 Aug 1999
Common Ground-Dove—Cuyahoga County, 5-6 Nov 1999

In addition two species—MacGillivray's warbler (Stark County, Jan 1999) and Glaucous-winged gull (Cuyahoga County, Jan 1989)—will receive final consideration at the annual meeting, having failed in three recirculations to meet criteria for acceptance or non-acceptance. *Bill Whan*