

documentation is needed to add reports of these species to official state records, or to attributed records in the Reports. When supplied, county names appear *italicized*. Unless numbers are specified, sightings refer to single birds. Abbreviations, conventions, and symbols used in the Reports should be readily understood, with the possible exceptions of the following: BCSP=Buck Creek SP in *Clark*; BIWA=Big Island WA in *Marion*; BSBO=Black Swamp Bird Observatory; CCE=Crane Creek estuary in Ottawa NWR; CPNWRC=monthly census at Cedar Point NWR in *Lucas*; CVNP=Cuyahoga Valley National Park in *Cuyahoga* and *Summit*; Dike 14=the Gordon Park impoundment in Cleveland; EFSP=East Fork SP in *Clermont*; eop=end of the period, in this case 30 Nov 2002; EHSP=East Harbor SP in *Ottawa*; fide="in trust of," said of data conveyed on behalf of another person; GLSM=Grand Lake St. Marys in *Mercer* and *Auglaize*; HBSP=Headlands Beach SP in *Lake*; HBSNP=Headlands Beach SNP in *Lake*; Killbuck=Killbuck Marsh WA in *Wayne* and *Holmes*; KPWA=Killdeer Plains WA in *Wyandot*; LSR=Lakeshore Reservation (MP) in *Lake*; Magee=Magee Marsh WA in *Ottawa* and *Lucas*; MBSP=Maumee Bay SP in *Lucas*; MP=Metropark; m obs=many observers; MWW=Miami-Whitewater Wetlands in *Hamilton*; NWR=National Wildlife Refuge; OBRC=Ohio Bird Records Committee; ODOW=Ohio Division of Wildlife; ONWR=Ottawa NWR in *Ottawa* and *Lucas*; ONWRC=monthly bird census at Ottawa NWR; PCWA=Pickerel Ck WA in *Sandusky*; ph=photograph; Res=Reservoir; Res'n=Reservation; SF=State Forest; SNP=State Nature Preserve; SP=State Park; SVWA=Spring Valley WA in *Greene* and *Warren*; WA=Wildlife Area.

Corrigenda

The little blue heron of 20 Jul 2002 was not found in *Montgomery*, but the observers could not be reached to determine whether it was in *Greene*, *Warren*, or *Butler*. The daily number of purple finches reported this summer in *Mahoning* was 1-2.

For the Record

Here are noteworthy reports from earlier dates in 2002 (except where otherwise noted) that for one reason or another escaped our notice:

Northern Harrier: One was at Woodbury WA in *Coshocton* on 15 Jun (A. Yoder).

Sora: An adult and chick were noted in a marsh in *Ashland* 6 Jun (B. Burnett).


Willet: J. Lehman had one at the renowned shorebird Mecca of Crown City WA, *Lawrence/Gallia*, on 13 Jul.

Pectoral Sandpiper: Very early to return, and perhaps a failed breeder, was a female at Fairport Hbr on 29 Jun (R. Hannikman).

Blue-headed Vireo: One was quite early on 1 Apr in Shawnee SF this year (B. Royce).

Yellow-rumped Warbler: An "Audubon's" was at Magee 27 Apr (J. Sawvel).

Bay-breasted Warbler: J. Grabmeier had a singing male in Columbus 17 Jun.

Smith's Longspur: E. A. Yoder reported a bird seen 2-3 Apr 2000 on his farm in *Wayne* that, while he acknowledged the details are not wholly satisfactory, strongly suggested this species. The date is right, but it would be a first record for the region. We hope *Cardinal* readers will review the features on this species in the Spring issue, and conduct some intensive searches for Smith's in late Mar and early Apr this spring. 

Autumn 2002 Reports

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Red-throated Loon: First noted 20 Oct at LSR, with another 24 Nov (both J. Pogacnik). One was off Kelleys Isl 16 Nov (T. Bartlett), and four there 23 Nov (Bartlett fide V. Fazio), while Pogacnik had another off MBSP on 28 Nov. Inland, birds were at Delaware Res 4 Nov (B. Shively) and Lk Lemon, *Hamilton*, 9 Nov (N. Keller).

Common Loon: 2600+ reported. A local record early bird on 20 Sep in *Paulding* (D&M Dunakin) might have been summering elsewhere nearby; certainly one at KPWA on 3 Aug was doing so (B. Foppe). Other inland sites had big numbers in mid-Nov: 184 at Clear Fk Res (J. Herman) the 16th; 170+ at Hoover Res (R. Thorn) the 17th; 496 over *Holmes* (E. A. Yoder) the 18th; and 768 over Parma Hts (S. Zadar) the 19th.

Pied-billed Grebe: Bred sparsely. High count 31 at Metzger Marsh WA 14 Sep (R. Harlan, S. Wagner). Three remained at Seneca Lk, *Noble*, 26 Nov (B. Glick).

Horned Grebe: Scanty this fall statewide, the most noteworthy number by far 117 off Kelleys Isl 24 Nov (V. Fazio).

Red-necked Grebe: Most along Lk Erie: Cleveland 2-5 Nov (S. Zadar), Rocky River 9 Nov (R. Rogers), and Eastlake 10 Nov (C. Spagnoli). Inland, a likely first record for *Richland* was one 26 Nov (J. Herman) to 29 Nov (S. Snyder) at Clear Fk Res.

Eared Grebe: J. Pogacnik had one at Conneaut 28 Sep, and G. Miller birds at Rocky River Pk 14 Nov and Fairport Hbr 26 Nov. Reports came from 20 Nov in Cleveland (S. Zadar) and 29 Nov in Mentor, *Lake* (G. Leidy).

Northern Gannet: A great year for gannets began 16 Nov, with a first-fall bird at Rocky River Pk (K. Metcalf, m obs). Accepted by the OBRC. Another went undocumented.

Brown Pelican: Nine reports, most of them second-hand (fide A. Wormington), emerged of what was probably a single imm bird ranging between the Lk Erie Islands and Maumee Bay. They spanned the period from 9 Jun (P. Froehlich) to 23 Sep (crew of S. Bass Isl ferry fide N. Bixler). R. Duktig photographed an imm off Toledo 22 Aug. Accepted by the OBRC.

Double-crested Cormorant: Counts of 25,600+ on 28 Sep (CPNWRC) and 22,000+ there 10 Oct (J. McCormac) exceed all others previous. Good inland numbers were 220 at Hoover Res 21 Oct (R. Thorn), 250-300 in Cincinnati 28 Oct (D. Brinkman), and 258 at Findlay Res 29 Oct. One was at EFSP as late as 28 Nov (D. Morse).

American Bittern: One possible breeder was spotted by D. Overacker at PCWA 3 Aug. All others were probable migrants in a short Oct span: the 9th and 13th at N. Chagrin Res'n (K. Metcalf), the 10th at Magee (J. McCormac), and the 13th at Gilmore Ponds, *Butler* (D. Brinkman).

Least Bittern: Sparsely reported, with a late one 13 Oct at ONWR (J&M Kraus, ph).

Great Egret: V. Fazio tallied 440+ in three *Erie* locations 30 Aug, and 395 crowded Medusa Marsh 12 Sep (B. Whan). Inland, 16 were at Dillon Res 5 Aug (M. Bowman), 27 at BIWA 13 Aug (J. Hammond), a local record 60 on 23 Aug at Gilmore Ponds (M. Busam), and 23 on 8 Sep in *Mahoning* (B. Jones). The 3 Nov ONWRC had 44, and the last report came from 5 Nov at Sheldon Marsh (G. Leidy).

Snowy Egret: All over the place. Medusa Marsh had 13 on 3 Aug (J. Hammond), ONWRC 19 on 4 Aug, Gilmore a juv 18 Aug (M. Busam), Berlin Res one 18 Aug-16 Sep (B. Morrison), one with the spoonbills in Highland 28 Aug (G. Miller), five at PCWA 29 Aug (G. Leidy), six in Wood along the Maumee R 31 Aug (G. Links), three at BIWA on 2 Sep (R. Harlan, S. Wagner), and one in Brown 8 Sep (C&S Clingman).

Little Blue Heron: Three juveniles at Gilmore Ponds, Butler, 3 Aug ended with one 28 Aug (M. Busam); in between, S. Reeves found six there 19 Aug. One was at Medusa 7 Aug (G. Miller), and another at Berlin Res 21-27 Aug (B. Morrison).

Cattle Egret: Having abandoned W. Sister Isl in favor of Turning Pt Isl for nesting, 21 were seen s. of Sandusky 3 Aug (J. Hammond), and ~30 there the last week of the month (S. Young); the ONWRC by contrast had none 4 Aug, one 1 Sep, and one 6 Oct.

Green Heron: Not numerous. The high count was 12+ at Stillfork Swamp in Carroll 2 Aug (L. Dornan); 10 were at N. Chagrin Res'n 16 Nov (K. Metcalf).

Black-crowned Night-Heron: Widespread in small numbers, the largest 10 at Gilmore Ponds 10 Aug (S. Pawlowski). As for odd appearances, one was in Scioto 6 Aug (B. Master), and an imm at KPWA 27 Nov (T. Archdeacon).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: S. Crawford photographed one at Killbuck 4 Aug; R. Thorn had a first-year bird at Greenlawn Dam in Columbus 1 Sep.

Plegadis Ibis sp.: One was at Conneaut 25 Aug (A. Fondrk et al.). An imm bird at KPWA 29 Aug (K. Miller *fide* G. Miller) through 2 Sept (R. Harlan, S. Wagner) was seen by many. J. Pogacnik had a flyby at Medusa Marsh 21 Sep, and J. Yochum one on the ground in Williams the 30th.

Roseate Spoonbill: Four imm birds were first confirmed 20 Jul at Rocky Fork SP in Highland (J. Holbrook); the last remained 20 Oct (A. Scheidler). A witness stated the birds had been present since late May, but this could not be confirmed; in any event, their prolonged stay set a record for this latitude. See article this issue. Accepted by the OBRC.

Black Vulture: Few reports. Only three were noted in the Granville roost 21 Nov (J. Estep), and 12 in Brown 8 Sept (S. Clingman); fully 30-40, though, were up at Lk Buckhorn, Holmes, 17 Nov (B. Glick).

Turkey Vulture: A staggering 600+ passed over Maumee, Lucas, 23 Oct (S. Stockman). On 10 Nov 225 overflowed Cowan Lk SP (E. Roush) and 17 Nov 195+ were at Lk Buckhorn (B. Glick). One remained in Lucas at the eop (E. Tramer).

Greater White-fronted Goose: D. St. John (*fide* V. Fazio) reported 31 near Newark, Licking, 25 Nov for the season's sole report.

Snow Goose: First noted at ONWR 13 Oct (M&J Kraus), where 30 remained at the eop (D. Dister). Interesting numbers away from the Lake included 85+ inland in Lucas 2 Nov (M. Anderson), 35+ over KPWA 10 Nov (G. Rettig), 18 at a Holmes farm pond 11 Nov (P. Boyd *fide* M. Hershberger), 15 in Holmes 18 Nov (B. Glick), and 25 in Clermont 24 Nov (M. Wessel). Reported color morphs were 70-80% 'blue' geese.

Canada Goose: True migrants from the imperiled *B. c. interior* race showed up at N. Chagrin Res'n, Cuyahoga, on 17 Sept (K. Metcalf), during the early goose season designed to thin our herds of semi-domesticated resident *B. c. maxima*.

Brant: All reports came from Conneaut Hbr: 22 on 7 Oct (G. Meszaros), 11 on 14 Oct (D. Sanders *fide* P. Gardner), and two 17 Nov (S. Butcher et al.).

Mute Swan: V. Fazio had 23 at Medusa Marsh and an ominous 106 at EHSP 15 Nov.

Tundra Swan: About 1500 reported along the Lake shore. Inland, 21 were over Holmes 23 Nov (E. Schlabach), and 84 at Berlin Res 26 Nov and 12 at neighboring Walborn Res 29 Nov (both B&D Lane). The ONWRC had 464 on 3 Nov, and H&S Hiris 135 at Magee 17 Nov.

Wood Duck: One KPWA pond had 168+ by 8 Aug (B. Whan), and H&S Hiris counted 234 at Magee 16 Sep and 345 on 17 Nov. J. McCormac tallied 600+ at CPNWR 10 Oct.

Gadwall: One on the 4 Aug ONWRC and 13 at Magee 18 Aug (H&S Hiris) may have summered; one 11 Aug at Winton Wds, Hamilton, is a mystery (N. Cade). Numbers swelled in Oct, with 550-600 at CPNWR the 10th (J. McCormac) and 796 there by 16 Nov (CPNWR). A Lk Rockwell record was 350 on 9 Nov (L. Rosche). 950 were at Medusa Marsh 15 Nov (V. Fazio). Eight were at West Branch Res 27 Nov (L. Dornan).

American Wigeon: No surprising numbers, with the high 480+ at Medusa Marsh, a favored spot, 15 Nov (V. Fazio). First were 10+ at the CCE 7 Sep (J. Hammond).

American Black Duck: ODOV aerial surveyors reported them in "good numbers" offshore, but elsewhere numbers resembled those of the ONWRC: 13 on 4 Aug, four on 11 Sep, 32 on 6 Oct, and 98 on 3 Nov. V. Fazio did have 270+ at Medusa Marsh 15 Nov.

Mallard: Aerial surveys detected far more, but the high count in areas accessible on land was 3500 for the 3 Nov ONWRC.

Blue-winged Teal: Numbers were far down by all accounts, with one triple-digit report, of 137 for the 6 Oct ONWRC. One remained for the 3 Nov ONWRC in a cold season.



Conneaut Harbor in Ashtabula County produced decent numbers of brant this season. The birds in this photo were part of a flock of 22 present on 7 October 2002. Photo by Gary Meszaros.

Northern Shoveler: Remarkable was an adult with three young at BIWA 3 Aug (**B. Foppe**), where **J. Hammond** found two birds 13 Aug. **Hammond** had two hens at Pipe Ck WA 3 Aug. Good numbers were found later, with 63 on the 3 Nov ONWRC, 103 at KPAW 15 Nov (**M. England**), and 230 at Magee 17 Nov (**H&S Hiris**).

Northern Pintail: A drake was at Medusa 1 Aug (**G. Miller**). Very scanty numbers were seen inland, and the two largest numbers near the Lake were 400+ at ONWR 8 Nov (**V. Fazio**) and 288 at Magee 17 Nov (**H&S Hiris**).

Green-winged Teal: Twelve had arrived for the 4 Aug ONWRC, and by that of 6 Oct 2578 were found, with 286 remaining in the area for the 16 Nov CPNWRC, and 330+ the day before at Medusa (**V. Fazio**). At Sandy Ridge MP in *Lorain*, 65 remained for **R. Harlan** and **S. Wagner** on the 25th of a very cold Nov.

Canvasback: Divers were way down, so to speak, with the earliest birds 27 Oct, 40 passing over *Lucas* (**M. Anderson**). Max 221 off LSR 16 Nov (**J. Pogacnik**).

Redhead: Early was one in *Paulding* 22 Sep (**M&D Dunakin**). Reported flocks never reached three figures during the period.

Ring-necked Duck: A hen was in *Hamilton* 11 Aug (**N. Cade**), but substantial numbers came in Nov, with 450 in *Shalersville Twp, Portage*, the 9th (**L. Rosche**), and 630 for the CPNWRC of the 16th.

Greater Scaup: First to appear were 14 at HBSP 30 Oct (**L. Rosche**), and with scaups at a low ebb this year numbers didn't get much higher. Fifteen at Camp Dennison in *Hamilton* 23 Nov (**J. Stenger**) was a good inland count.

Lesser Scaup: Skimp. ODOW aerial surveys revealed ~20% of normal numbers. First report was 16 Oct near *Wilmington* (**L. Gara**), and the high count was 317 off LSR 17 Nov (**J. Pogacnik**). None was found on the 3 Nov ONWRC.

King Eider: Not seen for more than four years, one was reported at *Conneaut* 2 Nov and perhaps thereafter, and an imm male in *Mentor, Lake*, 27 Nov-eop (**N. Barber**, m obs, ph) was accepted by the OBRC.

Common Eider: An imm female found at *Fairport Hbr* 3 Nov (**H. Petruschke** et al., m obs, ph) seemed to disappear from 10-24 Nov, but later remained for m obs through the eop. Accepted by the OBRC as Ohio's second record.

Harlequin Duck: **J. Pogacnik** noted imm males at LSR 2 and 17 Nov. **S. Zadar** reported a female at *Dike* 14 on 2 Nov.

Surf Scoter: 150+ birds, beginning with three 5 Oct at LSR (**J. Pogacnik**). Persisted from 17 Oct (three birds, **P. Lozano**) through the eop at *Rocky River Pk*, with high count of 70-75 on 2 Nov (**Lozano**); as with other scoters, more remarkable than numbers (we had ~300 surfs in '92, 286 in '98) was their lengthy stay at this site, and the 13 counties reporting at least a few. **J. Hammond** notes that this scoter sp. had the only adult male he saw this fall—one, at *Rocky River*.



The second state record of common eider was one first seen at Fairport Harbor in Lake County on 3 November 2002, and remaining through the end of the period. Digiscoped photo by Joe Hammond on 4 November 2002.

White-winged Scoter: 35+ birds, from eight counties, with a high of 16 at *Rocky River Pk* 5 Nov (**B. Conlon**), where the season's first appeared 21 Oct (**P. Lozano**) and several stayed through the eop. The largest fall number since pre-zebra mussel 1987, when 66 birds were reported statewide.

Black Scoter: ~200 birds, from nine counties, dominated by a high count of ~80 at *Rocky River Pk* 8 Nov (**P. McSweeney**), where present through the eop. Earlier, 161 reported in 2001 and 71 in 2000. The highest reported numbers since 1987 (with 241).

Long-tailed Duck: A 27 Oct sighting for the CPNWRC was a record local early date. Reports of ~40 birds were excellent, even including a flock of 18 on 6 Nov at *Clear Fk Res* that had grown to 25 the following day (**J. Herman**)—a record local number.

Bufflehead: Appearing first as a duo at LSR 27 Oct (**J. Pogacnik**), their numbers swelled to a state record 2285 off *Kelleys Isl* 16 Nov (**T. Bartlett**). Good inland numbers included 250+ at *Guilford Lk* in *Columbiana* (**B&D Lane**) and 151 at *Pleasant Hill Lk* and 121 at *Clear Fk Res* (both **S. Snyder**), all on that same day of 16 Nov.

Common Goldeneye: Late and scarce, at least from shore. The first report, of 2 females, came from *Eastlake* 10 Nov (**L. Rosche**), and the season's high count reached 220+ at *Kelleys Isl* by 24 Nov (**V. Fazio**).

Hooded Merganser: Few early reports, with one 10 Aug at *MWW* (**N. Cade**). *Hoover Res* featured remarkable numbers, with 65+ on 28 Oct (**R. Thorn**), 250 on 14 Nov (**J. Kuenzli**), and 790 on 17 Nov (**Thorn**). **B. Glick** had 280 at *Seneca Lk, Noble*, 26 Nov.

Common Merganser: **R. Thorn** was surprised to find an eclipse-plumaged drake at *Alum Ck Res, Delaware*, 21 Aug. Many arrived late, including the high count for the season: 60 at *Lk Rockwell* 23 Nov (**L. Rosche**).

Red-breasted Merganser: Earlyish was one at *Conneaut* 23 Sep (**B. Royse**). Appeared in customary—i.e., huge—numbers through the period, with the highest estimate 20,000 at *Eastlake* 21 Nov (**G. Meszaros**).

Ruddy Duck: A drake was at *Medusa* 1 Aug (**G. Miller**), a hen with four young at *BIWA* 3 Aug (**B. Foppe**), and one at *ONWR* for the 4 Aug census. Migrants appeared in numbers 22 Sep at CPNWR with ~30 (**J. Hammond**); 1200+ were at *Mogadore Res, Portage*, by 20 Oct (**L. Rosche**), 1500-2000 on *Sandusky Bay* 27 Oct (**B. Cullen**), 433 on *Lk Medina* 31 Oct (**S. Zadar**), and ~650 at *Metzger Res* in *Lima* 1 Nov (**D. Sanders**). One remained in *Fairport Hbr* 29 Nov (**L. Dornan**).



All three scoter species were unusually reliable along the Lake Erie shore this season. This white-winged scoter was digiscoped at Fairport Harbor in Lake County on 24 November 2002 by Joe Hammond.



This long-tailed duck entertained many at the Eastlake power plant in Lake County this season. Digiscoped photo by Joe Hammond on 9 November 2002.

Osprey: Fairly widely reported (18 counties) through the period. The ODOW reintroduction program produced 19 nests and 29 hatchlings; these birds seem to arrive early and leave late by historical standards, as there were three Nov sightings: the 1st in *Pickaway* (B. Whan), the 24th in *Washington* (B. Thompson, ph), and the 30th at E. Branch Res in *Geauga* (B&S Kovanes fide D. Best).

Bald Eagle: Reported frequently statewide, with fewest in southern unglaciated areas away from the Ohio River; notable were seven (two ad and five imm) at Seneca Lk, *Noble*, on 26 Nov (B. Glick), for example.

Northern Harrier: No verified nests, but birds at suspicious times included *Pickaway* 6 Aug (B. Master), 10 Aug at MWW (N. Cade), 11 Aug BIWA and two BCSP (D. Overacker), imm PCWA 12 Aug (M. Busam), 13 Aug BIWA (J. Hammond), imm 16 Aug *Muskingum* (J. Larson), *Huron* 17 Aug (R. Harlan, S. Wagner), imm 18 Aug MWW (N. Keller), 20 Aug *Hancock* (B. Hardesty), 22 Aug PCWA (B. Barchus), female *Geauga* 23 Aug (B. Faber fide D. Best), female 26 Aug KPWA (R. Sempier), 2 Sep Killbuck WA (Harlan, Wagner).

Sharp-shinned Hawk: The high count was four, at Kelleys Isl 28 Sep (K. Metcalf).

Northern Goshawk: An adult was over Oak Openings MP in Toledo 28 Oct (J. Hammond et al.).

Red-shouldered Hawk: High count was 21 overhead in *Lucas* 27 Oct (M. Anderson).

Broad-winged Hawk: S. Stockford was privileged to witness ~15-20,000 overhead in Perrysburg, *Wood*, over 1-1 1/2 hours 18 Sep (a new Ohio high count), then 8-10,000 there, probably part of the previous day's hordes, the following day. M. Anderson saw 1054 rise from roosts there on 19 Sep, then later 241 on 22 Sep and 93 on 23 Sep in *Lucas*. Farther south, D. Overacker counted 35 in *Springfield*, *Clark*, 22 Sep.

Red-tailed Hawk: D. Minney and J. McCormac found an "almost completely white individual" in *Scioto* 24 Sep.

Rough-legged Hawk: Normal to less-than-normal numbers at the usual places, with the first report coming from Sheldon Marsh SNP 2 Nov (B. Royse).

Golden Eagle: One report, two 23 Oct over Maumee, *Lucas* (S. Stockford).

Merlin: Over 25 merlins reported, from mid-Sep to a first local record at EFSP 24 Nov (H. Armstrong). Interesting was a pair of adults hunting 14 Oct on D&J Hochadel's property in *Trumbull*. Merlins seem to have rebounded just as well from former pesticide poisonings as peregrines, despite lack of intensive management by *Homo sapiens*.

Peregrine Falcon: Around 40 birds reported, the high count three probable locals in *Cleveland* 29 Nov (L. Rosche).

Ruffed Grouse: One in *Chilo*, *Clermont*, 23 Oct was pretty far west (S. Clingman).

Yellow Rail: On 7 Oct R. Schlabach et al. captured and photographed a juv bird in a *Tuscarawas* alfalfa field. Details are with the OBRC.

Sora: Still vocal in fall, birds were detected as late as 5 Oct at Sandy Ridge MP (B. Conlon) and N. Chagrin Res'n 13 Oct (K. Metcalf).

Common Moorhen: Sparsely reported, mostly at ONWR, where the census had five 4 Aug, nine 1 Sep, and three 6 Oct.



This yellow rail was discovered in a *Tuscarawas* County alfalfa field on 7 October 2002. Photo by Bruce Glick on that date.

American Coot: Young were seen at BIWA 13 Aug (J. Hammond), at Gilmore Ponds 17 Aug (M. Busam), and on the ONWRs of 4 Aug (431 birds), 1 Sep (980 birds), 6 Oct (998 birds), and 3 Nov (705 birds). The high count was 1518 on the 20 Oct census of Magee Marsh (H&S Hiris).

Sandhill Crane: Over 800 reported, nearly all between mid-Nov and the eop, and in the western third of the state. Two were in s. *Mahoning* 6 Aug (B. Jones). The *Geauga* birds peaked at four s. of Burton 27 Oct (D. Ferris). The two Sandy Ridge MP birds continued to intrigue observers despite the fact they are anything but wild.

Black-bellied Plover: Nearly all reports came from near Lk Erie, and spanned the period through 3 Nov, when the high count of 65 was made at the CCE by the ONWR. The first juv were two reported quite early at Conneaut 23 Sep (B. Royse).

American Golden-Plover: Fewer than 150 reported, dominated by 70 near Paulding 16 Sep (M&D Dunakin); nine were at Alum Ck Res 2 Sep (J. Fuller), ~20 were in s. *Mahoning* 9 Sep (B. Jones), five at Hoover Res 16 Sep (R. Thorn), and 12 at BCSP 12 Oct (D. Overacker), plus four others inland. Late were three at the CCE 3 Nov (ONWR).

Semipalmated Plover: In normal numbers, with a high of ~100 at the CCE 4 Sep (G. Miller); the last reported were three at Conneaut 20 Oct (B. Royse).

Piping Plover: Two welcome reports: one 16 Aug at BCSP (D. Overacker, ph T. Shively), accepted by the OBRC, and another 26 Aug at KPWA, in recirculation.

Killdeer: Big numbers included 600 at Berlin Res 27 Aug (B. Morrison). By 17 Nov 60-75 could still be found at Hoover Res (R. Thorn).

American Avocet: Forty-plus reported were dominated by a flock of 26 at Sandy Ridge MP 14 Sep (C. Grame fide D. LeGallee). Six were at Conneaut 15 Nov (N. Brearton), and inland two basic birds were in *Butler* 20 Oct (J. Brown) and another, the season's last, at Alum Ck Res, *Delaware* 18 (R. Thorn) through 19 (G. Miller) Nov.

Greater Yellowlegs: Present through the period to at least 24 Nov (Cowan Lk SP, E. Roush). A good inland count was 25 at KPWA 3 Aug (R. Sempier).

Lesser Yellowlegs: Persisted through 2 Nov at Metzger Marsh (B. Royse), with high counts of 270+ at PCWA (V. Fazio) and 104 inland at Berlin Res 23 Sep (B. Morrison).

Solitary Sandpiper: High count 26 at Berlin Res 18 Aug (B. Morrison), with three reports of late birds: seven 6 Oct at Gilmore Ponds (M. Busam), one at KPWA 17 Oct (B. Shively), and one 19-22 Oct in *Holmes* (E. A. Yoder).

Willet: More than a dozen reported, spanning a brief period 15 Aug-2 Sep, with a high of five at Conneaut 16 Aug (B. Royse). A small alternate-plumaged bird at PCWA (15 Aug M&J Kraus, ph 17 Aug P. Gardner) was apparently of the eastern race *semipalmatus*, recorded only in 1952 in Ohio (and only once before in the interior US), with extensive rich brown streaking beneath. Unusual was a bird at W. Branch Res, *Portage*, 15 Aug (L. Dornan) and another at Beach City Dam in *Tuscarawas* 17 Aug (E. Schlabach).



Piping plovers have become quite rare in the Great Lakes region of late. This one turned up at Buck Creek State Park in Clark County on 16 August 2002. Photo by Troy Shively on that date.

Spotted Sandpiper: High count was 34 at Berlin Res 18 Aug (B. Morrison), and the final report came from EFSP 12 Oct (B. Stanley).

Upland Sandpiper: Sparsely reported, first from 3 Aug at KPWA (J. Hammond), with a high of only three, at the VOA site in Butler 24 Aug (D. Graham).

Whimbrel: All reports: 3 Aug at PCWA (D. Overacker) and Conneaut (K. Metcalf), Conneaut 16 Aug (B. Royse) and two there 28 Aug (G. Leidy), one at PCWA 28 Aug (Leidy), and one at Conneaut 2 Sep (J. Brumfield).

Hudsonian Godwit: More than 40 in 15 reports overall. Two were at the CCE 4 Aug for the ONWRC, then four 6 Oct, and a molting adult was at Conneaut 16 Aug (J. Hammond), with two adults reported the same day there by B. Royse. The high count was 14 at Conneaut 2 Sep (G. Meszaros), and last were 'several' at the CCE 2 Nov (Royse).



Pickerel Creek Wildlife Area in Sandusky County hosted a number of shorebirds this season, including this apparent "eastern" willet. Documented records of this subspecies are extremely rare away from the east coast. Digiscoped photo by Paul Gardner on 17 August 2002.



Fourteen Hudsonian godwits at Conneaut Harbor in Ashtabula County on 2 September 2002 represented the high count this season. These five birds were part of that group. Photo by Gary Meszaros.

Marbled Godwit: All reports: a bird at KPWA 3 Aug (R. Sempier) was seen through 10 Aug (L. Gara). One at the CCE 15 Sep (D. Sanders) was seen through the 20th (J. Pogacnik). Another was at Berlin Res 24 Oct (B. Morrison).

Ruddy Turnstone: Only a few. Among 12 reported, the only one inland, 22 Aug at Hoover Res (R. Thorn), was also the latest.

Red Knot: Reports from seven sites, with a total of probably 15 birds, the earliest 21 Aug at Conneaut (T. Shively), the latest—and high count—six juv at CPNWR 22 Sep (G. Links).

Sanderling: Numbers much reduced from last fall, with a high count of only 34 at HBSP 11 Sep (K. Metcalf). Inland high was 18 at Berlin Res 20 Sep (B. Morrison). Last report of the period came from 23 Nov at Lorain (G. Leidy).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: V. Fazio counted 660+ ad at PCWA 2 Aug; by 10 Aug one juv was among 90 birds there (G. Miller), where on 16 Aug ~40% of 93 birds were juvs (Fazio). Last report: two 23 Oct in Summit (E. Snively).

Western Sandpiper: Reports of 23 birds, with six juv in Delaware as late as 11 Nov (J. McCormac et al.). Other inland birds were singletons in Paulding 24 and 26 Aug (D&M Dunakin), Stark 1 Sep (B. Morrison), and Wood 7 Sep (B. Cullen).

Least Sandpiper: High count was ~200 at the CCE 4 Sep (G. Miller), and last report two at BCSP 15 Nov (D. Overacker). B. Master sought them out in far-flung locales, finding three in Van Wert 4 Aug and three in Lawrence 6 Aug.

White-rumped Sandpiper: High count was seven at Berlin Res 5 Sept (B. Morrison). One was near Killbuck 26 Oct (S. Snyder), and another quite late 17 Nov at Conneaut (S. Butcher et al.).

Baird's Sandpiper: An ad was a nice find at PCWA 2 Aug (V. Fazio). Numbers reached 12+ at Conneaut 26 Aug for B. Royse, who also found the latest 2 Nov at EHSP.

Pectoral Sandpiper: The high count came inland in Paulding—200 on 7 Aug (M&D Dunakin). A straggler was at Meadowbrook Lk, Ottawa, 15 Nov for V. Fazio.

Purple Sandpiper: Fourteen reported *in toto*, all 16-18 Nov—including four at Conneaut 17 Nov (S. Butcher et al.)—except for two at HBSP 30 Nov (T. Shively).

Dunlin: Legion, and season-long, with three for the 4 Aug ONWRC; one in alt plumage landed in PCWA 23 Aug (S. Zadar). Peaked 3 Nov, with ~4500 for the ONWRC among our highest recorded fall counts, and ~2600 at Sheldon Marsh 5 Nov (G. Leidy).

Stilt Sandpiper: V. Fazio counted 116 adults at PCWA 2 Aug, and J. Larson the first juv, in Muskingum 14 Sep. Inland high was 26 at Berlin Res 23 Sep (B. Morrison), and the latest were four for the 3 Nov ONWRC.

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: Twenty-two reported, all between 22 Aug (PCWA, B. Bowman) and 14 Sep (LaDue Res by J. Pogacnik, Alum Ck Res by R. Thorn, two at Hoover Res by L. Gara).

Ruff: A reeve found 25 Jul at PCWA persisted for m obs through 5 Aug (B. Royse).

Short-billed Dowitcher: At PCWA 100+ adults were present 2 Aug for J. Hammond, who also reported the first juv at Conneaut 16 Aug. Inland high was 16 at Buckeye Lk (G. Buckley) 16 Aug, and two brought up the rear at Alum Ck Res 17 Sep (G. Miller).

Long-billed Dowitcher: Three were calling in Paulding 15 Aug (D&M Dunakin). Three ad at the CCE 17 Aug were in active molt (B. Whan), as were nine of 10 in Paulding 19 Aug (Dunakins). G. Leidy et al. observed a very early juv at PCWA 28 Aug. One called in Holmes 30 Sep (E. Schlabach), one stayed at MWW 15 (N. Cade)—27 Oct (S. Reeves), and six were at GLSM 5 Oct (D. Dister). At the CCE, 300 were tallied by the ONWRC of 3 Nov. Interesting were five reported at KPWA 12 Oct and 9 Nov, the late date, by R. Sempier.

Wilson's Snipe: Good numbers included 14 at Mosquito Ck Res 5 Sep (G. Miller), 43 near Killbuck 16 Oct and 135 19 Oct (S. Snyder), and 34 in Huron 18 Oct (D. Sanders). Three were at Cowan Lk SP, Clinton, 24 Nov (E. Roush).

American Woodcock: One persisted till 16 Nov in e. Holmes (M. Hershberger).

Wilson's Phalarope: Thirty or more reported, from Sandusky, Paulding, Lucas, Williams, and Erie. Birds at PCWA 1-23 Aug peaked at seven the 22nd (B. Barchus). Four first basic birds at the CCE 17 Aug (V. Fazio) remained 23 Aug (G. Leidy). High count was 10 on the 1 Sep ONWRC.

Red-necked Phalarope: All reports: 10 Aug CCE (S. Corbo), 18 Aug Berlin Res (B. Morrison), 20 Aug Paulding (J. Perchalski), 22 Aug PCWA (B. Bowman), 27 Aug Holmes (E. Schlabach), 7 Sep CCE (B. Sparks), 23 Sep Conneaut (B. Royse), and 2 Oct Metzger Res in Allen (J. Ruedisueli). Half were inland.

Red Phalarope: All reports: 2 Nov Walnut Beach, Ashtabula (J. Pogacnik), 8 Nov (J. Hays) to 11 Nov (J. Van Coney) Hamilton (third SW record), 16 Nov Rocky River Pk (G. Hostetler et al.).

Pomarine Jaeger: An imm was at HBSP 30 Oct (L. Rosche), and two dark imm off LSR 17 Nov (J. Pogacnik).

Parasitic Jaeger: An intermediate-morph juvenile was reported at Rocky River Pk 13 Nov, then two there 14 Nov, with a single bird 21 Nov.

Jaeger sp.: L. Rosche had an imm at Painesville 30 Oct, and on 17 Nov G. Leidy had one at Lorain and J. Pogacnik another at Eastlake.

Franklin's Gull: H. Petruschke had an imm at CCE 18 Aug, D. Sanders one at PCWA on 15 Sep; one was at Caesar Ck SP 9 Oct (L. Gara) through 13 Oct (E. Roush), one at BCSP 11 Oct (D. Overacker), and a first-year bird at EFSP 15 Oct (H. Armstrong).

Little Gull: An imm was at Kelleys Isl 15 Aug (T. Bartlett), one on the 14 Sep CPNWRC, two ad at LSR 20 Oct (J. Pogacnik), a first-winter at Dike 14 2 Nov (S. Zadar), 2 ad at LSR and two at Fairport Hbr 29 Nov (Pogacnik), and one at Eastlake (L. Rosche) the same day.

Black-headed Gull: One report came from Eastlake 17 Nov.

Bonaparte's Gull: Eight were at the CCE 3 Aug (J. Brumfield); 40 there on the following day for the ONWRC outnumbered herring and ring-billed gulls. Large numbers stayed through the eop, as evidenced by 9478 tallied by J. Pogacnik at LSR 29 Nov.

Mew Gull: One was reportedly among Eastlake's throngs 14 Nov.

California Gull: An ad at Eastlake 3 Nov (L. Rosche, ph) was refound by B. Morrison and K. Miller 8 Nov. Accepted by the OBRC. A first-winter bird was reported at Huron 18 Nov.

Thayer's Gull: E. Elder found one at Eastlake 13 Nov; an ad and a first-winter were there 14 Nov (L. Rosche). One was at Dike 14 on 9 Nov (S. Zadar), and one at LSR 17 Nov (J. Pogacnik). A first-winter bird was at Lorain 23 Nov (G. Leidy).



This red phalarope surprised—and puzzled—many at Miami-Whitewater Park in Hamilton County for four days this season. Photo by Frank Renfrow on 10 November 2002.

Iceland Gull: E. Elder picked one out among the Eastlake multitudes 13 Nov.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: Widespread as usual, with best numbers six (two ad, one 3rd/one 2nd/two 1st-winter) at Eastlake 14 Nov (L. Rosche), and five (2nd, 3rd, and 3 ad) at Lorain 23 Nov (G. Leidy). An ad was at Sandusky 29 Nov (M. Busam). Remarkable was the often-simultaneous presence of two adults far inland at Caesar Ck SP (7 Sep-27 Oct—completing molt to basic—L. Gara) and another at BCSP (15 Sep-20 Oct, D. Overacker).

Glaucous Gull: Six birds, all young ones, showed up between 23 Nov (Rocky River Pk, M. Hendrick) and 30 Nov (Avon Lk, G. Leidy).

Black-legged Kittiwake: At LSR, J. Pogacnik had an imm 17 Nov, and B. Morrison found another at E. 72nd St in Cleveland 29 Nov.

Caspian Tern: High count (J. Hammond) 3 Aug at Pipe Ck WA, with 76 in a roost that stayed till teal season. Latest was one at Lk Rockwell 27 Oct (L. Rosche).

Common Tern: On the ONWRC, 62 on 4 Aug were local breeders, but 895 on 1 Sep and 690 on 2 Oct were staging migrants. Eighty inland at BCSP 14 Sep was a good count (D. Overacker). S. Zadar had 125 at Dike 14 as late as 2 Nov, where one remained 26 Nov (G. Miller).

Forster's Tern: V. Fazio had 550+ at the CCE 17 Aug, by far the high reported; 311 were there 2 Oct (ONWRC). The last report, of 16, came from Ottawa 20 Nov (Fazio).

Least Tern: Two reported: one at Conneaut 19 Aug, and one at Sheldon Marsh 29 Aug; documentation has been promised to the OBRC on the first sighting at least.

Black Tern: Sightings numbered 25 (15 inland), birds 138. High count was 47 at Hueston Wds SP 17 Aug (J. Hickey). Nearly all were seen in Aug, with two in Sep, but one at Dike 14 on 14 Nov (S. Zadar) tied the state record late date.

Ringed Turtle-Dove: A dove in a Findlay backyard 30 Aug (Y. Cline)-21 Oct (K. Noblet) was eventually determined to be this species, an avicultural escapee.

Black-billed Cuckoo: The latest report came from MWW 3 Oct (N. Cade).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Four Oct sightings culminated in three at KPWA on the 12th (R. Sempier; the last was reported from Dike 14 in Cleveland 2 Nov (S. Zadar).

Barn Owl: One was in s. Hancock 16 Sep (B. Von Stein *fide* B. Hardesty).

Short-eared Owl: Sixteen reported, 10 along Lk Erie, including one early at Magee 14 Sept (R. Harlan, S. Wagner); One was at MWW 20 Oct (S. Bobonick), and reports from KPWA came on 10 (G. Rettig) and 25 (B. Schiebart) Nov. Three or more were near Elkton, Columbiana, 26 Oct-23 Nov (D&B Lane).

Northern Saw-whet Owl: Two were at Dike 14, one 9 and one 11 Nov (S. Zadar).

Common Nighthawk: Sparse. Migrants peaked in early Sep with 97 over Columbus the 1st (J. Hammond), 100+ in Lucas the 2nd (M. Anderson), and "hundreds" in Cuyahoga on the 3rd (L. Gardella). A lone bird was in Findlay 1 Oct (D. Kohl *fide* B. Hardesty).



This adult lesser black-backed gull provided a very unusual inland record at Caesar Creek State Park in Warren County. Photo by Scott Reeves on 13 September 2002.

Whip-poor-will: A bird vocalized in *Adams* through 2 Oct (L. Miller).

Chimney Swift: B. McCullough's earliest roost ever (of 800+) in *Geauga* was on 8 Aug. Dike 14 had ~4000 on 5 Oct (S. Zadar), and HBSP 40+ on 14 Oct (K. Metcalf).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: A record late date for confirmed individuals of this species—30 Nov—was set by imm birds in Westerville, *Franklin* (from early Nov, G. Payton) and Massillon (from 2 Nov, M. J. Knowles), both ph J. Hammond.

Calliope Hummingbird: J. Foor discovered this bird 28 Oct in Chillicothe, *Ross* (B. Bosstic, ph). Identified and captured 1 Nov, this hatch-year male unfortunately died during handling for banding. Photographs, measurements, and in-hand examination were documented (A. Chartier, specimen), and accepted by the OBRC. Calliopes were also reported this fall in Missouri, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania; the species would if accepted be a first record in the latter two states as well. See article in this issue.

Rufous Hummingbird: Nine confirmed reports were unprecedented: ad female 19 Sept-eop *Logan* (D. Daniel, ph) banded 26 Sep; ad female 27 Oct-eop *Columbus* (S. Langendorfer, ph) captured 29 Nov [this bird had been banded 11/20/01 as HY near York, SC]; ad male 'Sept'-eop *Kidron*, *Wayne* (S. Snyder, ph) banded 7 Dec; HY female *Wooster*, *Wayne*, 'Oct'-eop (W. Gerber, ph) banded 7 Dec; ad male 23 Oct *Carrollton*, *Carroll* (D. Reed); ad female 24 Oct-eop *Carrollton*, *Carroll* (D. Reed, ph); ad female *Batavia*, *Clermont*, 'late Oct'-eop (C. Johnson, ph) banded 29 Nov; ad female 'Nov'-eop *Manchester*, *Adams* (C. Bedel, ph) banded 13 Dec; ad male 15 Oct-eop *Cincinnati* (G&K Rodocker). See article in this issue. The *Logan*, *Franklin*, and *Wayne* birds have thus far been accepted by the OBRC. A second-hand report of an adult male in *Delaware* could not be confirmed.



This adult male rufous hummingbird appeared at a Wayne County feeder in September and stayed throughout the season. Photo by Allen Chartier on 7 December 2002.

Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird: Three reports of one of these two *Selasphorus* species: imm/female 25 Aug *Lake* (J. Pogacnik); imm/female 7 Oct-10 Nov *Mt. Hope*, *Holmes* (M. Hershberger); imm male *Madeira*, *Hamilton*, 17 Nov-29 Dec (fide A. Chartier, ph).

Red-headed Woodpecker: Several reported a good mast season for oaks and beeches. D. Chasar reported they'd vacated CVNP by 5 Oct, but E. Tramer observed they continued to "benefit from oak savannah restoration in the Oak Openings."

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: High count 17 on the 6 Oct ONWRC.

Northern Flicker: Sixty were in *Caesar Ck* SP 28 Nov (N. Cade).

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Eleven reports, normal schedule; two *Parma* 18 Sep (S. Zadar).

Eastern Wood-Pewee: Strange was one in song at *Gilmore Ponds* on the very late date of 27 Oct (M. Busam).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Three field reports for this not-so-easy fall ID. BSBO banded a total of 24 at *Navarre*, three on 22 Sep, spanning the period 18 Aug-13 Oct.

Acadian Flycatcher: G. Links had one vocalizing in *Wood* 31 Aug. Latest report came from *Franklin* 27 Sep (R. Thorn).

Alder Flycatcher: T. Bartlett at *Springville Marsh*, *Seneca*, had six willows and one alder singing 1 Aug, and only the latter the 11th. He banded a HY male, ID based on measurements, there 21 Sep.

Willow Flycatcher: Late birds were in the CVNP 14 Sep (D. Chasar) and in *Franklin* 18 Sep (R. Thorn).

Least Flycatcher: A migrant was present for the 4 Aug ONWRC. S. Reeves had one calling at MWW on 5 Oct.

Eastern Phoebe: J. Kuenzli saw two of these hardy birds at ONWR 26 Oct, K. Metcalf another at HBSNP 27 Oct, and M. Anderson one in his yard in *Lucas* 2 Dec.

Great Crested Flycatcher: S. Reeves reported the last, at *Caesar Ck* SP 3 Oct.

Western Kingbird: Our second of the year was at *KPWA* 9 Aug (C. Bombaci, ph). Accepted by the OBRC.

Eastern Kingbird: Ten migrants were in *Holmes* 31 Aug (E. Schlabach). One remained at *Crooked Run Pk* in *Clermont* 6 Oct (J. Lehman).

Loggerhead Shrike: R. Sempier found one (ph) at *KPWA* 26 Oct, seen fitfully by m obs through the period. Accepted by the OBRC.

Northern Shrike: Six reports, the earliest 1 Nov at *Magee* (M. Warren).

White-eyed Vireo: BSBO banded a tardy bird at *Navarre Marsh* 31 Oct.

Yellow-throated Vireo: Four were reported 5 Oct, three in *Coshocton* (L. Yoder) and one at *EFSP* (L. McNeeley).

Blue-headed Vireo: One was singing in *Columbus* 3 Nov (R. Thorn) and the latest reported was 16 Nov during the *Kelleys Isl* census (T. Bartlett).

Warbling Vireo: Quite late was one banded at *Navarre Marsh* by BSBO 31 Oct.

Philadelphia Vireo: G. Leidy had a very respectable 10 in *West Ck Preserve* in *Parma* 26 Sep. BSBO netted a straggler in *Navarre* 31 Oct.

Red-eyed Vireo: Last reported in *Licking* 12 Oct (J. Hammond).

Blue Jay: R. Thorn had 190+ migrants in two hours at *Alum Ck Res* 30 Sep, and S. Reeves 300-350 over *Caesar Ck* SP 3 Oct.



For the second year in a row, Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area in Wyandot County hosted a loggerhead shrike. This one was found and photographed on 26 October 2002 by Ron Sempier.

Horned Lark: High count was 123 on the 3 Nov ONWRC.

Purple Martin: A flock of 120 in *Holmes* 17 Aug diminished to two by 2 Sep (**J. Miller**). **L. Rosche** had eight late birds at HBSP 21 Sep.

Tree Swallow: "Several thousand" cruised Sheldon Marsh 2 Nov (**B. Royse, H. Ostermiller**), and 100 were tallied the same day by the ONWRC. Last was a lone bird at Hoover Res 27 Nov (**J. Kuenzli**).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: High count 210+ at Resthaven WA 23 Sep (**V. Fazio**); quite late was one 16 Nov at Guilford Lk in *Columbiana* (**B&D Lane**).

Bank Swallow: ~1600 were at PCWA 8 Aug (**G. Leidy**).

Barn Swallow: The 10 Aug CPNWRC found 246 for the high count. Two juv lingered at BCSP through 12 Nov (**G. Miller**).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: Nineteen birds reported, most probably having nested in the NE, such as the 11 on the CVNP census of 14 Sep (**D. Chasar**). **E. Tramer** reported only one in the Toledo area, on 24 Sep. Hardly an invasion year.

Brown Creeper: First reported as a capture 29 Sep at Navarre (BSBO).

Carolina Wren: The 14 Sep CVNP census found 31. Eight were on Kelleys Isl on 16 Nov (**T. Bartlett**).

House Wren: The ONWRC of 4 Aug had 27. **B. Royse** had one in *Franklin* 7 Oct.

Winter Wren: BSBO reported the first migrant at Navarre on 16 Sep.

Sedge Wren: Two sang in *Lucas* late Jul-mid Aug (*fide* **E. Tramer**). Two were near Winton Wds, *Hamilton*, 1 Aug (**R. Kolde**), and two at MWW 3 Aug (**P. Wharton**). Fifteen at the VOA site in *Butler* on 7 Aug (**M. Busam**) grew to 20 on 13 Aug (**W. Hull**), with nesting confirmed 12 Aug. **V. Fazio** reported 20 territories at KWPA 1 Aug. Two were at BCSP 16-17 Aug (**D. Overacker**). **S. Zadar** had single birds at Dike 14 on 22 & 28 Sep and 20 Oct.

Marsh Wren: **E. Schlabach** reported one in a soybean field in *Tuscarawas* 8-12 Oct. Present for the 16 Nov CPNWRC.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: First report 9-10 birds in *Paulding* 28 Sep (**M&D Dunakin**), and largest numbers ~100 at Metzger Marsh WA 2 Nov (**B. Royse**).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: First 29 Sep at Lakewood (**P. Lozano**). On 20 Oct 52 were at Dike 14 (**S. Zadar**) and ~100 at Sheldon Marsh (**M. Busam**). Three were on Kelleys Isl 23 Nov (**T. Bartlett** *fide* **V. Fazio**).

Veery: Last reported 29 Sep at Mitchell Mem Forest, *Hamilton* (**N. Cade**).

Gray-cheeked Thrush: Last reported by the ONWRC, with two on 6 Oct.

Swainson's Thrush: High diurnal count 35 at Magee 14 Sep (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**), and (unusually) latest reported for the 3 Nov ONWRC.

Hermit Thrush: Latish was one in *Hancock* 19 Nov (**S. Baxter** *fide* **B. Hardesty**).

Wood Thrush: Latest were birds on 5 Oct in *Tuscarawas* (**E. Schlabach**) and two at EFSP (**J. Lehman**).

Gray Catbird: Thirty-four were at Jaite in the CVNP 13 Sep (**Suzanne Wagner**); **L. Rosche** had one in Rocky River on 29 Oct.

Brown Thrasher: Nov reports: 24th Gilmore (**M. Busam**) and MWW 29th (**N. Cade**).

American Pipit: Very early but not unprecedented were six at the Hebron fish hatchery (**G. Buckey** et al.) on 16 Aug. **B&D Lane** had 100+ near Garfield, *Mahoning*, 16 Nov.

Cedar Waxwing: Eight flocks in the triple digits reported, the largest 800+ in Columbus 10 Nov (**R. Thorn**) and 750 in *Lucas* 27 Oct (**M. Anderson**).

Blue-winged Warbler: Very late was one banded at the CVNP 11 Oct (**Su. Wagner**).

Golden-winged Warbler: Six reports, the latest 3 Oct Sandy Ridge MP (**B. Whan**).

Tennessee Warbler: Plenteous, with 45 in Caesar's Ck Gorge 21 Sep (**S. Reeves**) and 28 in **M. Anderson's** yard the next day, then six there 6 Oct (last report).

Orange-crowned Warbler: First seen 22 Sep Kelleys Isl (**V. Fazio**), last in *Lucas* 10 Nov (**M. Anderson**). **K. Metcalf** saw a possible western-race bird at HBSNP 9 Nov. **Anderson** had one in *Lucas* 11 Nov.

Nashville Warbler: **L. Gooch** had one at Shaker Lks 29 Aug, and **S. Zadar** 64 at Dike 14 on 2 Oct for the high count. **K. Metcalf** found the last, 27 Oct at HBSNP.

Northern Parula: Remarkable was one banded 26 Oct at Navarre Marsh by the BSBO.

Yellow Warbler: **R. Rickard** had late Sep birds, 28th at LaDue Res and 29th at HBSP.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: Late 6 Oct at MWW (**S. Reeves**) and on the ONWRC.

Magnolia Warbler: High count 25 at HBSP 18 Sep (**L. Rosche**); last report 11 Oct Hoover Res (**R. Thorn**).

Cape May Warbler: Four one-day counts of 30+ were reported, including 40+ on 21 Sep at GLSM (**N. Cade**). BSBO netted 265 at Navarre 10 Sep-17 Oct.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: High count seven at Magee 14 Sep (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**). One was tardy in Toledo on 6 Nov (**R. Nirschl**).

Yellow-rumped Warbler: First noted 13 Sep at HBSP (**K. Metcalf**), their numbers swelled to 326 on 2 Oct at Dike 14 (**S. Zadar**).

Black-throated Green Warbler: Twelve were in Parma 26 Sep (**G. Leidy**), and one lingered in the Oak Openings 22 Oct (**E. Tramer**).

Blackburnian Warbler: Seven were in the CVNP 14 Sep (**L. Rosche**), and the latest report came from Hoover Res 11 Oct (**R. Thorn**).

Yellow-throated Warbler: Last seen at Ira Rd in the CVNP 30 Sep (**T&M Romito**).

Pine Warbler: Two were at Mitchell Mem Forest in *Hamilton* 28 Aug (**F. Renfrow**), one sang at N. Chagrin Res'n 29 Sep (**K. Metcalf**), and one was in *Coshocton* 6 Oct (**L. Yoder**).

Prairie Warbler: Lingered through 7 Oct was one at EFSP (**E. Wolff**).

Palm Warbler: Twelve were at MWW 6 Oct (**J. Lehman**). One of the eastern race was in Parma 17 Oct (**G. Leidy** et al.), where the last was found 10 Nov (**Leidy**).

Bay-breasted Warbler: Fairly numerous, the last 13 Oct Gilmore Ponds (**M. Busam**).

Blackpoll Warbler: Kelleys Isl's census had 78 on 22 Sept (**V. Fazio**), and BSBO netted 614 between 3 Sep and 18 Oct at Navarre.

Cerulean Warbler: Hard to find in fall, one seen Spring Grove Cem 31 Aug (**N. Cade**).

Black-and-white Warbler: High count 12 in *Paulding* 29 Aug (M&D Dunakin).

American Redstart: Nineteen at Kelleys Isl 22 Sep (V. Fazio), and one as late as 6 Nov in *Lucas* (R. Nirschl).

Prothonotary Warbler: Three were still singing 12 Aug in *Mercer* (J. McCormac).

Worm-eating Warbler: A nice find in appropriate breeding habitat was one in *Coshocton* 5 Oct (L. Yoder).

Ovenbird: Six were in *Holmes* 21 Sep (E. Schlabach), and one stalked Cleveland's Public Square 27 Oct (C. Spagnoli).

Northern Waterthrush: First appeared 10 Aug at CPNWR (G. Links), with the last departing 6 Oct in Columbus (R. Thorn).

Louisiana Waterthrush: One at the Cleveland Garden Center on 14 Aug apparently persisted through 21 Sep (R. Harlan, S. Wagner).

Kentucky Warbler: E. Roush spotted one at Cowan Lk SP on 2 Sep.

Connecticut Warbler: BSBO netted a record 20 between 8 Sep and 6 Oct at Navarre. Field observers saw about a dozen in mid-Sep, and an ad female was in *Coshocton* 5 Oct (L. Yoder).

Mourning Warbler: Seen as seldom as the above, with the last 6 Oct at Gilmore Ponds (M. Busam). Three each seen 19 and 28 Sept in *Clermont* (B. Stanley) and Dike 14 (S. Zadar) respectively.

Common Yellowthroat: Eight migrants were in *Coshocton* 18 Sep (E. Schlabach). E. Roush observed a pair feeding a fledgling as late as 7 Sept at Cowan Lk SP.

Hooded Warbler: Two males on territory and females feeding fledglings were at Tar Hollow SP, *Hocking*, 2 Sep (R. Thorn). R. Harlan and S. Wagner noticed one singing and on territory in *Wadsworth, Medina*, 2 Oct. Max five in *Coshocton* 18 Sep (E. Schlabach).

Wilson's Warbler: Appeared 28 Aug in Rocky River (P. Lozano), and bid us adieu 5 Oct in *Tuscarawas* (E. Schlabach). High count 15 at HBSP 18 Sep (L. Rosche).

Canada Warbler: First seen at HBSNP 19 Aug (K. Metcalf), and the latest seen at the same place 3 Oct (B. Conlon).

Yellow-breasted Chat: A local bird remained at EFSP through 25 Sep (H. Armstrong), and the latest was at Crooked Run Pk elsewhere in *Clermont* 6 Oct (J. Lehman).

Summer Tanager: A molting male was at Kelleys Isl 15 Aug (T. Bartlett). Two pairs 1.5 mi apart were still in the Oak Openings 16 Sep (E. Tramer). Last appeared at MWW 6 Oct (S. Reeves).

Scarlet Tanager: Three still sang at N. Chagrin Res'n 11 Aug (K. Metcalf). One still came to a *Hancock* feeder as late as 8 Nov (W. Seiler *vide* B. Hardesty).

American Tree Sparrow: First appeared 21 Oct, at LSR (J. Pogacnik). Thirty-two were in Parma 19 Nov (G. Leidy).

Chipping Sparrow: High count 100+ in *Licking* 12 Oct (J. Hammond). Two were still on Kelleys Isl 16 Nov (T. Bartlett).

Clay-colored Sparrow: One frequented a Findlay feeder 3-8 Oct (A. Wymer *vide* B. Hardesty); 14 Sep and 9 Oct birds were at Dike 14, and one in Parma 9 Oct (G. Leidy).

Field Sparrow: ~Fifty were in *Clermont* 11 Oct (B. Stanley), and one was in *Delaware* 11 Nov (R. Thorn).

Vesper Sparrow: E. Schlabach had three in *Tuscarawas* 26 Oct for the high count.

Lark Sparrow: Three remained in traditional Oak Openings spots through 7 Aug (E. Tramer), and one was near MWW 16 Aug (K&D Roth).

Savannah Sparrow: J. McCormac and B. Bosstic found 35+ in a small *Ross* wetland 22 Oct. Last reported 23 Nov at Gilmore Ponds (M. Busam).

Grasshopper Sparrow: A pair carried food at Deer Ck SP late on 5 Aug (R. Thorn). Ten were at a grassland area in *Huron* 17 Aug (R. Harlan, S. Wagner). Latest was one 2 Sept at MWW (J. Lehman).

Henslow's Sparrow: Four remained at the VOA site in *Butler* 7 Aug, and 10 there on 17 Aug (M. Busam).

Le Conte's Sparrow: G. Leidy located this elusive species in Parma 8 and 21 Oct.

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow: All records: 20 Sep ONWR (J. Pogacnik), 30 Sep Sandy Ridge MP (C. Rieker), 30 Sep MWW (F. Frick) then two there 11 Oct (P. Wharton) with one 28 Oct (N. Cade), 1 Oct Parma (G. Leidy), and two at Gilmore Ponds 12-16 Oct (M. Busam); Dike 14 harbored two 28 Sep, two 5 Oct, and one 11 Oct (all S. Zadar).

Fox Sparrow: Not reported till 15 Oct, at MWW (N. Cade). Twenty-two were at Dike 14 on 7 Nov (S. Zadar), and three in *Coshocton* 17 Nov (L. Yoder).

Lincoln's Sparrow: First reported from downtown Cleveland 18 Sep (S. Wright) and 42 at Dike 14 on 11 Oct (S. Zadar); one persisted in *Franklin* 1 Nov (B. Royse).

Swamp Sparrow: Four migrants were at MWW 25 Sep (W. Hull), where 40 were counted 20 Oct (J. Lehman). Dike 14 had 73 on 11 Oct (S. Zadar).

White-throated Sparrow: One was at HBSP 19 Aug (K. Metcalf). At Dike 14, a phenomenal 507 were tallied 20 Oct (S. Zadar).

Harris's Sparrow: One came to a Lithopolis, *Fairfield*, feeder 20-26 Nov (M. England). Accepted by the OBRC.

White-crowned Sparrow: Not reported till 7 Oct, at the CVNP (M&T Romito), but numbers grew to a record-setting 1709 at Dike 14 by 22 Oct (S. Zadar).

Dark-eyed Junco: First reported 19 Aug, from HBSNP (K. Metcalf). Max was 336 at Kelleys Isl 16 Nov (T. Bartlett et al.).

Lapland Longspur: From Conneaut 28 Sep came the first report (J. Pogacnik); by 12 Oct, four were at the other end of the state at EFSP (B. Stanley). Five were in *Holmes* 3 Nov (M. Hersherberger), and L. Rosche had 30 at Fairport Hbr 27 Nov.

Snow Bunting: First reported 1 Nov, at the CCE (D. Sanders); by 8 Nov 100+ were at Fairport Hbr (M. England), and inland 50+ were at Berlin Res 14 Nov (B. Morrison).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Last reported 13 Oct, from *Clermont* (F. Kidd).

Indigo Bunting: An albino bird enlivened the 4 Aug ONWRC. A female was at Dike 14 on the late date of 7 Nov (S. Zadar).

Dickcissel: Scarce. V. Fazio reported 10 territories at KPWA 1 Aug, and B. Foppe two at BIWA 3 Aug. One was in *Union* (R. Harlan, S. Wagner) 4 Aug, two at MWW 10 Aug (N. Cade), two in *Williams* 21 Sep (J. Pogacnik), and a bird on Kelleys Isl 22 Sep (Fazio).

Bobolink: Twenty were at MWW 3 Aug (**P. Wharton**). Eighty-seven at the VOA site in Butler 14 Aug were four by 23 Sep. Sixteen were at PCWA 22 Aug (**B. Barchus**). At CPNWR 224 were overhead for the 14 Sep census. Last 2 Oct at Dike 14 (**S. Zadar**).

Eastern Meadowlark: Seventeen at the VOA site in *Butler* on 7 Aug (**M. Busam**) grew to 40 by 20 Oct (**J. Lehman**). Thirty were in *Holmes* 26 Aug (**E. Schlabach**).

Yellow-headed Blackbird: Two adults were in a mixed blackbird flock at PCWA on 29 Aug (**G. Miller** et al.). An ad male was at Rocky Fk SP 31 Aug (**A. Sigler**).

Rusty Blackbird: Early was one at Resthaven WA 23 Sep (**V. Fazio**); another was at LSR 29 Sep (**J. Pogacnik**). Flocks of 30 were at Hoover Res 14 Nov (**M. England**) and Gilmore Ponds 23 Nov (**M. Busam**).

Brewer's Blackbird: **G. Miller** reported one in a feedlot in *Fulton* 18 Nov, and **J. Pogacnik** two in *Ottawa* 28 Nov.

Common Grackle: **B. Glick** reported blackbird flocks, mostly of this species, of 15,000+ on 6 Nov and 50,000+ on 22 Nov in SE *Wayne*.

Baltimore Oriole: **R. Harlan** and **S. Wagner** had eight at Firestone MP in Akron 19 Aug. A first-year bird was in *Ashtabula* on the late date of 23 Nov (**S. Wright**, ph).

Orchard Oriole: The BSBO banded two at Navarre 21 Aug. One on 7 Sep was a late record for **M. Anderson** in *Lucas*.

Purple Finch: **E. Tramer** justly called them 'scarce' in *Lucas*, with only two reports for the period. The high count was only two, in *Hamilton* 29 Sep (**N. Cade**).

Common Redpoll: One appeared at a feeder just s. of ONWR 24 Nov (**S. Cummings**).

Pine Siskin: Six reports of single birds, the first 21 Sep at HBSP (**R. Harlan**, **S. Wagner**), the last at Caesar Ck SP 28 Nov (**N. Cade**).

American Goldfinch: A female was incubating four eggs as late as 12 Sep in *Geauga* (**K. Metcalf**); nest abandoned 18 Sep. **R. Sempier** estimated 500+ at KPAW 12 Oct.

Evening Grosbeak: Two reports. A flock of 26 was in *Cuyahoga* 13 Nov (**C. Rieker**), and another of six at Hoover Res the following day (**M. England**).

Contributors

We are grateful to the following birders who reported observations during the season: Matt Anderson, Thomas Archdeacon, Hank Armstrong, Carole Babyak, Nick Barber, Brian Barchus, Sue Baxter, Chris Bedel, Betty Berry, Andy Bess, Dan Best, Ned Bixler, Steve Bobonick, Brad Bolton, Charles Bombaci, Paul Boyd, Bill Bosstic, Bruce Bowman, Margaret Bowman, Nancy Brearton, Doug Brewer, David Brinkman, Jeff Brown, Lori Brumbaugh, Jen Brumfield, Gina Buckley, Byron Burnett, Mike Busam, Jason Cade, Neill Cade, Steve Cagan, Allen Chartier, Ann Chasar, Dwight Chasar, Yolanda Cline, Suzanne Clingman, Bob Conlon, Sam Corbo, Melissa Cover, Scott Crawford, Rich Cressman, Becky Cullen, Sharon Cummings, Jim Dagley, Donna Daniel, Ken Davis, Leo Deininger, Dave Dister, Laura Dorman, Roberta Duktig, Doug Dunakin, Micki Dunakin, Elinor Elder, Marcus England, Jason Estep, Ben Fambrough, Ginny Fantetti, Joe Faulkner, Vic Fazio, Duane Ferris, Bob Finkelstein, Andy Fondrk, Jean Foor, Bob Foppe, Frank Frick, Dan Frisk, Paul Froehlich, Jim Fry, Jayme Fuller, Larry Gara, Lou Gardella, Paul Gardner, Rick Gardner, William Gerber, Bruce Glick, Jeff Goff, Laura Gooch, Chuck Gooding, Jeff Grabmeier, Darlena Graham, Chris Grame, Joe Hammond, Ray Hannikman, Betty Hardesty, Rob Harlan, Jeff Hays, Lana Hays, Stan Hedeon, Dave Helm, John Herman, Aaron Hersberger, Michael Hersberger, Jim Hickey, Rebecca Hinkle, Hank Hiris, Sally Hiris, Dave Hochadel, Janet Holbrook, Craig Holt, Dave Horn, Gabe Hostetler, William Hull, Cindy Johnson, Bill Jones, Phyllis Jones, Ned Keller, Fran Kidd, Peter King, Everitt Kitchen, Mary Jo Knowles, Ron Kolde, Bill Kovans, John Kuenzli, Sandra Langendorfer,

Steve Landes, Bob Lane, Denise Lane, Jason Larson, Bill Leaman, Dave LeGallee, Jay Lehman, Gabe Leidy, Tom LePage, Greg Links, Doreene Linzell, Tami Longaberger, Edie Lotz, Paula Lozano, Bernard Master, Charlotte Mathena, Jim McCormac, Mike McCormac, Bob McCullough, Kathy McDonald, Lee McNeeley, Paul McSweeney, Gary Meszaros, Kevin Metcalf, Greg Miller, Kent Miller, Jeffrey A. Miller, Lucy Miller, Dave Minney, Mary Misplon, Marshal Moser, Ben Morrison, Donald Morse, Heather Nagy, Rick Nirschl, Kathy Noblet, Ann Oliver, Helen Ostermiller, Ken Ostermiller, Doug Overacker, Anne Paschall, Sharon Pawlowski, Glenda Payton, Steve Pelikan, John Perchalski, Stacy Peterson, Haans Petruschke, Ed Pierce, John Pogacnik, Glenn Redmer, Dale Reed, Frank Renfrow, Scott Reeves, Grant Rettig, Richard Rickard, Craig Rieker, Bill Rinehart, George & Kathy Rodocker, Randel Rogers, Mary Anne Romito, Larry Rosche, Dennis Ross, Kirk Ross, Ed Roush, Bob Royce, Jonathan Ruedisueli, David Russell, Dave St. John, Dan Sanders, Charlie Saunders, Andrea Scheidler, Regina Schieltz, Ed Schlabach, Robert Schlabach, Becky Schwiebert, Joe Sedransk, Wilma Seiler, Ron Sempier, Lois Shadix, Rod Sharpnack, Bill Shively, Troy Shively, Kelly Sieg, Andy Sigler, Darlene Sillick, Shaune Skinner, Nick Smith, Elaine Sniveley, Su Snyder, Chris Spagnoli, Brad Sparks, Bill Stanley, Mike Stasko, Gene Stauffer, Jay Stenger, Steve Stockford, John Switzer, Laurel Theriault, Bill Thompson, Rob Thorn, Elliott Tramer, Roger Troutman, Jane Van Coney, Barb Von Stein, Sandy Wagner (S. Wagner), Suzanne Wagner (Su. Wagner), Mary Warren, John Watts, Wayne Wauligman, Bill Whan, Pete Whan, Paul Wharton, Ben Winger, Eric Wolff, Alan Wormington, Scott Wright, Arlene Wymer, Aden Yoder, Emery A. Yoder, Leroy E. Yoder, Sheryl Young, Sean Zadar. We also received valuable information from the editors of *The Bobolink* and internet resources managed by Vic Fazio, Ned Keller, Chuck Anderson, and the Black Swamp Bird Observatory. 



This striking American avocet was photographed at Conneaut Harbor in Ashtabula County on 11 August 2002 by Gary Meszaros.