

## Corrigenda

The caption for the golden eagle range map on p. 170 of Volume 26, Number 4 (previous issue) should read: "Shaded areas in Canada show known breeding areas, except for that in NE New Brunswick, where wintering is known to have occurred. Shading in the US indicates wintering areas; hollow rectangles mark irregular nesting sites during years indicated. Map by John Economidy, taken from the new guide *Raptors of Eastern North America*, by Brian K. Wheeler, Princeton University Press 2001."

Contrary to what is related on p. 155 of our previous issue, the Caesar Creek SP Franklin's gull was first reported by **L. Gara** on 29 June.

## For the Record

Here are noteworthy records for previous seasons that for one reason or another were not published here earlier:

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** A bird well seen at Stage's Pond, *Pickaway* 19 Apr 2003 tied the second-earliest state record for the species (**R. Schieltz**, et al.).

**Willet:** Add to spring's birds 16 seen at HBSP 7 May 2003 (**L. Rosche**), for a total of 43.

**Laughing Gull:** One was at the Hardy Rd Landfill in Akron 20 Jun 2003 (**D&J Vogus**).

**Swainson's Thrush:** A male was in song at HBSP 28-29 Jun 2003 (**R. Hannikman**).

The Reports follow the nomenclature and taxonomic order of the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the *AOU Check-list of North American Birds* (1998), including the 44<sup>th</sup> Supplement (July 2003). Underlined names of species indicate those on the OBRC Review List; 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 ONWR; 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 2003; 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; ODOV=Ohio Division of Wildlife; ONWR=Ottawa NWR in *Ottawa* and *Lucas*; ONWRC=monthly bird census at ONWR; PCWA=Pickerel Creek 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. 🦉

## Autumn 2003 Reports

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**Greater White-fronted Goose:** Four reports emerged from the northwest, and may well have involved fewer than 11 individual birds: one in *Williams* 31 Oct (**J. Yochum**), three at Salisbury Quarry 14 Nov and four 19 Nov in Maumee (both **M. Anderson**), and three at MBSP 23 Nov (**D. Sanders**) through the end of the period (m obs).

**Snow Goose:** Beginning quite early with two near Toledo 25 Sept (**G. Links**), 207 were reported through the period, from 14 counties. Among 165 identified as to color morph, 113 were snowy. High count 80 on 16 Nov in *Wyandot* (**R. Counts**).

**Ross's Goose:** Details for one reported in *Hamilton* 30 Nov are with the OBRC. Besides its rarity here, apparently increasing numbers of hybrids with snow geese make careful documentation of sightings thought to be Ross's very valuable.

**Brant:** Two touched down on the beach at Pt Clinton 19 Oct (**J. Pogacnik**), and two were quite unusual inland at Pleasant Hill Lk, *Ashland* 17 Nov (**L. Hochstetler** fide **J. Herman** fide **S. Snyder**).

**Mute Swan:** EHSP was a winter resort as usual, with 63 there 19 Oct (**J. Pogacnik**) then 83 by 21 Nov (**V. Fazio**).

**Tundra Swan:** The first wave came 5-7 Nov, with over 1100 reported, including the high count of 500+ at a Findlay res the 6<sup>th</sup> (**B. Hardesty**). Over 500 more were reported along the easterly flyway through the rest of the period. At the CCE 11 Nov, 133 may have included those that traditionally winter at ONWR (**B. Whan**).

**Wood Duck:** The ONWRC of 3 Aug produced 211, but the Nov high count was only 31, on the 11<sup>th</sup> in *Hamilton* (**J. Seymour**). By 29 Nov a single drake in Lima was news (**D. Dister**).

**Gadwall:** Numbers built slowly, but high. At Ottawa NWR, the ONWRC counted eight on 3 Aug, then 37 on 7 Sept, with 2600 on 5 Oct; only 1613 were tallied on 2 Nov. At adjacent properties 852 were at CPNWR 15 Nov (**E. Tramer**) and 340 at Magee Marsh the following day (**H&S Hiris**).

**American Wigeon:** Four hundred on 5 Oct, then 1648 on 2 Nov were good numbers for the ONWRC, but wigeons seemed down overall, with the next-highest count only 134 on 21 Nov at Medusa Marsh, a regular haunt (**V. Fazio**).

**American Black Duck:** Aerial surveys reported large near-normal numbers on Sandusky Bay, but not until December. The inland high was 50+ at BIWA 31 Oct (**C. Bombaci**), and by 2 Nov only 171 were to be seen at Ottawa (ONWRC).

**Mallard:** Seemed down in numbers, with the ONWRC reporting 655 on 3 Aug, 2035 on 7 Sept, and 2100 2 Nov, but aerial surveys revealed no deficits.

**American Black Duck x Mallard:** This fairly common hybrid seems almost regular at Conneaut, where **C. Holt** had one 11 Nov.

**Blue-winged Teal:** Aug reports (27 were at Magee on the 17<sup>th</sup> [**H&S Hiris**]) suggested scattered nesting as usual. The high count was only 398, on 7 Sept for the ONWRC, and the latest double-digit count came 13 Oct, with 13 at EFSP (**D. Morse**).

**Northern Shoveler:** Scattered birds summered, with no breeding reported. The inland high was 37, at BIWA 31 Oct (**C. Bombaci**), and overall the max was 87 at Ottawa 2 Nov (ONWRC).

**Northern Pintail:** One was at BIWA 23 Aug, and 37 there 31 Oct (**C. Bombaci**). Ground-based surveys produced at best 231 at Ottawa (2 Nov ONWRC) and 93 at Magee (16 Nov, **H&S Hiris**). A hundred at Shawnee Lookout in *Hamilton* 29 Nov was a good count (**N. Cade**).

**Green-winged Teal:** At Conneaut, 25 was a good count for 24 Aug (**R&S Harlan**). In the NW marshes, ONWRC counts were 17 on 3 Aug, 92 on 7 Sept, 300 on 5 Oct, and 155 on 2 Nov; Magee numbers peaked at 316 on 16 Nov (**H&S Hiris**). Elsewhere, good numbers were 35 at Camp Dennison, *Hamilton* 10 Nov (**B. Foppe**) and 53 at Lk Rockwell, *Portage* 22 Nov (**L. Rosche**).

**Canvasback:** Virtually absent from reports. Perhaps delayed, as many ducks appeared a bit late, or perhaps out of sight offshore. The high count was a mere six at Wellington 8 Nov by **S. Snyder**. Earliest at Pickerington Ponds, *Franklin* 26 Oct (**R. Thorn**).

**Redhead:** Nearly as scarce as the preceding, with the earliest at Veterans Park in Mentor 23 Oct (**L. Rosche**), and a high of only 28 at Wellington 8 Nov (**S. Snyder**).

**Ring-necked Duck:** One at Willow Pt WA 30 Aug was unusual (**C. Caldwell**). No migrants reported till 17 Oct, with 12 at BCSP (**D. Overacker**). Mostly inland as usual, they peaked at an excellent 550 at Camp Dennison in *Hamilton* 14 Nov, with 375 remaining the 30<sup>th</sup> (both **B. Foppe**).

**Greater Scaup:** Yet to come, as nary a one was reported by earthbound correspondents.

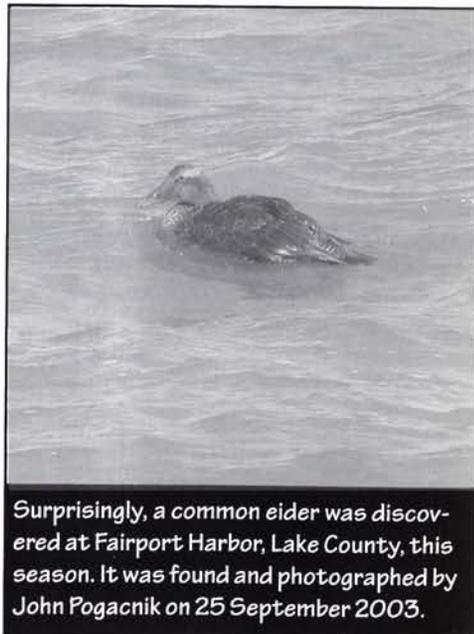
**Lesser Scaup:** First reported at EFSP 15 Oct (**F. Renfrow**), numbers peaked 4 Nov with 416 at a reservoir in Fostoria (**B. Hardesty**). Numbers in Lake Erie were to swell later, but in November the high count there was 15 on the 25<sup>th</sup> at Fairport Harbor (**K. Metcalf**).

**Common Eider:** Extraordinary was **J. Pogacnik**'s discovery on 25 Sept of a female at the same Fairport Hbr spot where another spent 3 Nov 2002-13 Jan 2003. Comparisons of photos of these birds, as well as of one that spent several intervening months in Michigan's Pte Mouillee (and later rediscovered there 5 Oct), showed individuals that seemed clearly distinguishable. Last reported 28 Sept by **Pogacnik** and **K. Metcalf**.

**Harlequin Duck:** An imm male flew by Lakeshore Res'n 8 Nov (**J. Pogacnik**).

**Surf Scoter:** Two at Findlay Res were the first reported, by **J. Buecking** 12 Oct. A minimum of 124 birds statewide, with reports from *Clark, Clermont, Cuyahoga, Erie, Hancock, Lake, Lorain, Mahoning, Ottawa, Paulding, Warren, and Wyandot*. Abided with its two congeners off Rocky River 31 Oct-eop (**P. Lozano**, m obs). High count 31 off *Lake* 15 Nov (**J. Pogacnik**); 22 were off Bay Village 22 Nov (**D. Overacker**).

**White-winged Scoter:** Two off Rocky River 5 Nov (**P. Lozano**) were seen off and on through the eop (m obs). **M. Anderson** had two at the Salisbury Quarry in *Lucas* 6-7 Nov, **J. Pogacnik** one off *Lake* 8 Nov, **H. Armstrong** one at EFSP 11 Nov, **R. Sempier** a pair at the KPWA up-ground res 15 Nov, **L. Gara** two at Caesar Ck SP 16 Nov, and **M&D Dunakin** a bird at Paulding Res 17-20 Nov, for a statewide count of 11.



Surprisingly, a common eider was discovered at Fairport Harbor, Lake County, this season. It was found and photographed by John Pogacnik on 25 September 2003.

**Black Scoter:** Fifty-six reported, the first inland at BCSP 25 Oct (**J. Hammond**). Seventeen flew by LSR 8 Nov, then two on 9 Nov, then 11 on 15 Nov (all **J. Pogacnik**). Five were off Rocky River on 7 Nov, then 15 on 15 Nov (both **P. Lozano**). **D. Sanders** reported three at Oberlin Beach 16 Nov and two remaining at Rocky River 26 Nov.

**Long-tailed Duck:** **R. Nirschl** reported the only oldsquaw, off MBSP 20 Nov.

**Bufflehead:** Only the odd singleton or pair till 4 Nov, when 26 were tallied at Rocky River (**P. Lozano**). A good inland total was 39 at Lk George 9 Nov (**L. Rosche**).

**Common Goldeneye:** First appeared 5 Nov, at Conneaut (**C. Holt**), with precious few during the rest of the period.

**Hooded Merganser:** Only occasional birds reported in Aug, such as one at Pickerel Ck WA the 3<sup>rd</sup> (**S. Houpert**). Five were at Hoover Res by 6 Nov (**R. Thorn**), then 300 at La Due 22 Nov (**E. Elder**), and 350 at Hoover 27 Nov (**Thorn**).

**Common Merganser:** Twenty appeared in Maumee Bay as early as 1 Nov (**P. Gardner**), and one at Hueston Wds SP 8 Nov (**N. Keller**). Lk Rockwell hosted 20 more 21 Nov (**L. Rosche**), and presumably larger numbers would follow in December.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** Unexpected were 14 as early as 5 Sept off HBSP (**L. Rosche**), but this did not augur an early migration, as four-figure numbers came only in Nov, with **J. Pogacnik** counting 1335 the 8<sup>th</sup> and 2679 the 15<sup>th</sup> off LSR.

**Ruddy Duck:** A few summering birds were seen in Aug, with the ONWRC reporting a female and an imm male the 3<sup>rd</sup>, and **R. Counts** three birds in *Wyandot* the 24<sup>th</sup>. Migrants appeared 10 Oct, with 87 at Wellington (**E. Snively**) and on 12 Oct 450 in Maumee Bay (**E. Tramer**). High count a healthy 700+ at Mogadore Res 9 Nov (**L. Rosche**).

**Red-throated Loon:** A juv at Caesar Ck SP 18 Oct (**N. Keller**) was seen through 21 Oct (**S. Corbo**). Fly-by singletons were noted at LSR 29 Oct and 8 Nov (**J. Pogacnik**), and another was found at Caesar Ck SP 29 Nov (**S. Reeves**).

**Common Loon:** At least two of the three that summered at Alum Ck SP in *Delaware* remained 15 Sept (**L. Brumbaugh**, ph); one was an immature bird, and the other, an adult, had commenced prebasic molt by that date. The first migrants reported were two at LSR 4 Oct, where as many as 89 passed 8 Nov (both **J. Pogacnik**). The high count was of 115 birds passing overhead in *Holmes* 8 Nov (**E. Schlabach**). The end of the month saw a number of double-figure counts inland, with another 58 in *Holmes* (**Schlabach**) the 25<sup>th</sup>, 25 at Caesar Ck SP (**S. Reeves**) and 30 in *Knox* (**Leo Deininger**) the 29<sup>th</sup>, and 22 at Pleasant Hill Lk, *Richland* the 30<sup>th</sup> (**S. Snyder**).



Delaware County's Alum Creek State Park hosted three common loons this summer and early fall. This immature bird was photographed there on 14 September 2003 by Lori Brumbaugh.

- Pied-billed Grebe:** Adults with young were noted at large marshes in many spots. Migrant numbers peaked at 70 on 26 Sept at Metzger Marsh (**D. Overacker**), and 35 could still be found at Camp Dennison, *Hamilton* 14 Nov (**B. Foppe**).
- Horned Grebe:** The first migrant was rather early near Dayton 17 Sept (**N. Smith**), with the next report of 10 off CPNWR 12 Oct (**E. Tramer**). Not a big fall for the species, though 77+ were off Rocky River by 26 Nov (**B. Whan, T. Shively**).
- Red-necked Grebe:** The Whitefish Point Bird Observatory reported 6789 migrants 22 Aug. In Ohio, scarce but in normal numbers. One was at BCSP 24 Oct (**D. Overacker**) and the following day (**B. Sparks**). One at Caesar Ck SP 15 Nov (**S. Reeves**) and 20 Nov (**L. Gara**) may have been the same. **Overacker** had another at BCSP 16 Nov. **D. Sanders** spotted one at Avon Lake PP 26 Nov, and **S. Zadar** another in Huron 28 Nov.
- Eared Grebe:** Normal numbers with three reported, all inland; one quite early 19 Sept at the Thomas wetlands in *Paulding* (**D&M Dunakin**), and two at Pymatuning Res in *Ashtabula* 5 Nov (**C. Holt**).
- American White Pelican:** One at BIWA (*vide* **D. Daniel**) on 30 Sept remained elusive through 17 Oct (**S. Myers**). **N. Bixler** had a juv on the Pt Clinton beach 6 Nov (ph).
- Double-crested Cormorant:** **R&S Harlan** noted 1100+ in the Turning Pt Isl colony in Sandusky 5 Aug. **E. Tramer** reported 14,000+ moving west across Maumee Bay 28 Sept. Definitely retreating were 1000+ over BCSP on 17 Oct (**L. Gara**), 1000+ in *Clermont* 8 Nov (**D. Morse**), and 250 over *Tuscarawas* 29 Nov (**E. Schlabach**).
- American Bittern:** Possible breeders were one for the 3 Aug ONWRC, and one at BIWA 7 Aug (**C. Bombaci**). From further north probably were birds at PCWA 4 Oct (**D. Sanders**), 18-19 Oct at Gilmore Ponds (**M. Busam**), 31 Oct (**C. Rieker**)-2 Nov (**S. Zadar**) at Dike 14, and one at MWW 27 Nov (**F. Frick**).
- Least Bittern:** Probable breeders were at least at PCWA, with one 3 Aug (**S. Houpert**), and at MWW, with two 4 Aug (**J. Lehman**). One hopes under-reported this year.
- Tricolored Heron:** Several July reports in *Erie* during the summer suggest reports from Medusa Marsh 1 Aug, 3 Aug, and 7 Sept (m obs) may have involved the same individual of this rarity. Details are with the OBRC.
- Cattle Egret:** **R&S Harlan** counted 39 at the Turning Pt Isl colony in Sandusky 5 Aug, and foraging groups were noted inland, such as six along Rte 6 on 7 Aug (**B. Cullen**). A single wandering bird was probably involved in sightings at KPWA (10 Nov, **A. Eickholt**) and near Upper Sandusky (11 Nov, **N. Smith**).
- Great Egret:** Numbers seemed normal in the NW marshes, with a high of 198 on 7 Sept, but 111 still there 2 Nov was remarkable (both ONWRC). Noteworthy inland concentrations included 49 at BIWA 6 Aug (**R. Sempier**), 30 at KPWA 4 Oct (**Sempier**), and 24 at MWW 12 Oct (**K. Phillips**). One remained at KPWA 23 Nov (**G. Stauffer**).
- Snowy Egret:** Rather scarce this fall, with high counts of seven at PCWA 16 Aug (**B. Jackson**) and 12 for the 7 Sept ONWRC. One well seen at Ottawa 2 Nov (ONWRC) involved a record late date for the state.
- Little Blue Heron:** Only two reported. An imm was in *Darke* 2 Aug (**S. Miller vide** **R. Schieltz**), and an adult bird at EHSP 19 Oct (**J. Pogacnik**).
- Green Heron:** Family groups were seen in decent-quality wetlands statewide; one of eight at Killbuck WA 13 Sept (**S. Snyder**) was outsized. Departed on schedule, except for one lingering as late as 22 Oct at Twinsburg, *Summit* (**L. Rosche**).

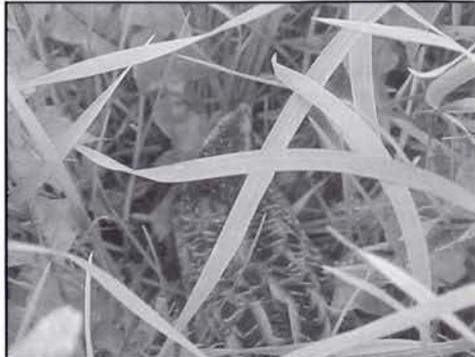
- Black-crowned Night-Heron:** Concentrations at some roosts went unreported, though 19 made the 3 Aug ONWRC count and five were at Turning Pt Isl in Sandusky 5 Aug (**R&S Harlan**). Two were late at Dike 14 on 4 Nov (**G. Leidy**), and another duo persisted through the eop near the Greenlawn Dam in Columbus (**R. Thorn**).
- Glossy Ibis:** Probably only a single bird was involved in reports from Pipe Creek WA 25 Aug (**S. Houpert**) through 30 Aug (**J. Lehman**). Details are with the OBRC.
- Plegadis Ibis sp.:** An immature bird, its specific identity inscrutable under the best of circumstances, was briefly seen at BCSP 12 Oct (**D. Overacker**).
- Black Vulture:** Reports were unremarkable save for the presence of 10 birds at the recently recognized New Concord roost in *Muskingum* 25 Nov (**J. Larson**).
- Turkey Vulture:** Summer roosts topped out at 225 in *Holmes* on 31 Aug (**E. Schlabach**). The high count of migrants was 417 over Toledo 19 Oct (**M. Anderson**). Two late migrants (or perhaps the same one) were reported over Solon (**D. Johnson**) and the CVNP (**G. Bennett**) 23 Nov; one was in *Wyandot* 30 Nov (**R. Counts**). A roost at Cowan Lk SP had 200+ 24 Nov (**E. Roush**), and that in New Concord hosted 52 on 25 Nov (**J. Larson**). The huge North Hill winter roost in Athens was abandoned following the attentions of adolescent male hominids.
- Osprey:** Increasing statewide with reintroductions. Only the *Erie* pair nested in the NW, and must have accounted for numerous reports from Medusa Marsh during August. Similar sightings from *Franklin* (e.g., 10&12 Aug, **B. Master**) may have arisen from the *Delaware* pairs. But five reports from Conneaut between 1 Aug (**C. Holt**) and 30 Aug (**C. Caldwell**) are more difficult to explain. The high count was an astonishing eight on 2 Sept near Findlay (**B. Hardesty**), where six perched in untidy and potentially dangerous dead trees, subsequently cut down. Very late was one at EFSP 22 Nov (**D. Graham**).
- Bald Eagle:** High count was 23 on the 30 Aug census of CPNWR (**E. Tramer**).
- Northern Harrier:** Present at suggestive times were adult females at PCWA 18 Aug, at KPWA 21 Aug (both **D. Sanders**), and one 13 Sept in *Clark* (**R. Rogers**). Later, 12 harriers were at KPWA 12 Nov (**S. Snyder**), while at a *Wyandot* field ~20 mi north **R. Counts** found four on 17 Nov, 15 on 21 Nov, and the high count of 18 on 25 Nov.
- Northern Goshawk:** In the migratory path and on schedule were birds in *Lucas* 9 Nov (**R. Johnson**), and two in different Toledo spots 10 Nov (**S. Stockford, R. Nirschl**).
- Broad-winged Hawk:** Early migrants south of Toledo were 35 on 29 Aug and 40 on 30 Aug (both **E. Tramer**). High count of 1200+ came in Perrysburg 23 Sept (**S. Stockford**). On 27 Sept, **D. Morse** had 60+ fly over his home in *Clermont*, some vocalizing.
- Swainson's Hawk:** A sighting of a pale-morph individual was documented in Fairport Hbr 20 Nov (**R. Hannikman, L. Rosche**). This date would be late for migrant Swainson's even in south TX, but among records of fall vagrants in the East are a surprising number from Nov.
- Red-tailed Hawk:** **R. Nirschl** counted 144 over Toledo 10 Nov. One all-white save for a blush of rust in the tail haunted a Massillon yard during the third week of Nov (**W. Sarno, B. Morrison**), and a very dark one was at La Due Res 22 Nov (**E. Elder**).
- Rough-legged Hawk:** First reported rather late, on 9 Nov at The Wilds (**B. Evans**).
- Golden Eagle:** The SE Michigan hawk-watch reported its first 1 Oct, a subadult. A subadult was well described by **D. English** in *Geauga* two days later. A juv was over Maumee 16 Oct (**G. Links**), one south of Toledo 9 Nov (**M. Anderson**), and another there the next day (**R. Nirschl**). **A. Parker** of The Wilds reported an adult there 22-28 Nov. **D. Overacker** had a young bird over BCSP 29 Nov.

**Merlin:** ~Twenty reports, from nearly that many counties. This species again established a presence in Cleveland, with a male appearing at Calvary Cem 22 Oct, and a female 29 Oct, with both seen off and on through the period (**L. Gardella**).

**Peregrine Falcon:** After the haphazard introductions of recent years, a peregrine readily identifiable as to subspecies is a rarity in Ohio. Right in the window for wild birds, however, were two identified as *tundrius* peregrines: a juv eating a ring-billed gull at GLSM 15 Oct (**S. Tackett**), and one temporarily fasting at the CCE 19 Oct (**B. Master**).

**Wild Turkey:** Despite a lackluster breeding season this year, continued to prosper.

**Yellow Rail:** **D. Sanders** spoke with seemingly knowledgeable hunters reporting a yellow rail 4 Oct at PCWA; while unverifiable, the report was certainly timely. One was in an unmowed alfalfa field in *Tuscarawas* 6 Oct (**R. Schlabach**, m obs, ph). Amazingly, yellow rails were documented at this farm 21 Sept 1991 and 7 Oct 2002; this does not make this spot the center of *C. noveboracensis* distribution in Ohio, but serves rather to remind us how numerous these secretive mites are in migration. Details with the OBRC.



Under the blades of grass hides a yellow rail discovered on 6 October 2003 in a *Tuscarawas* County alfalfa field. Photo by Su Snyder on that date.

**King Rail:** The only report received described a bird seen 8 Aug at BIWA (**J. Fry**).

**Virginia Rail:** **R. Sempier** saw a juv at KPWA 2 Aug. Latish was one at Gilmore Ponds 19 Oct (**M. Busam**). One on 29-30 Aug was a personal county record for *Paulding* (**D&M Dunakin**).

**Sora:** A family of eight was at BIWA 6 Aug (**R. Sempier**). The high count came from CPNWR as has become usual in fall, with 43 on 14 Sept (**E. Tramer**).

**Common Moorhen:** Bred in large healthy marshes across the state...i.e., sparingly. On 7 Sept the ONWRC had 27, a number probably augmented by migrants.

**American Coot:** Gathered in the latter half of the period, with 725 on 21 Oct then 600 on 14 Nov at Camp Dennison in *Hamilton* (both **B. Foppe**), 1550 on 5 Oct and 3133 on 2 Nov for the ONWRC, 300+ at Seneca Lk, *Guernsey* (**S. Hause**), and ~600 at Wellington Res, *Lorain* 26 Nov (**B. Whan**).

**Sandhill Crane:** About 1100 reported, with more to come during Dec. In *Geauga* haunts, at least five were seen through 5 Aug (**D. Ferris**), and the high count in the *Wayne* breeding area was eight (one imm) in Funk 5 Aug (**S. Snyder**). In the western flyway, numbers grew through Nov: 200+ in Dayton suburbs the 6<sup>th</sup> (**J. Hickman**), and on 29 Nov, ~180 over Toledo suburbs (**T. Kemp**) and 332 over *Wood* (**C. Anderson**).

**Black-bellied Plover:** At Conneaut, two ad were present 1 Aug (**D. Sanders**), seven more in molt 21 Aug (**R. Royle**), and seven including a juv 14 Sept (**B. Coulter**). High count 33 at the CCE 4 Oct (**Sanders**). Final sighting 15 Nov at CPNWR (**E. Tramer**).

**American Golden-Plover:** Unreported until 29 Aug, with three molting adults at Conneaut (**B. Royle**), where the same observer noted a juv 8 Sept. High count 45 (3 juv) at Conneaut 15 Sept (**C. Holt**). Last reported from the CCE 19 Oct (**B. Master**).

**Semipalmated Plover:** Numbers at Conneaut swelled to ~50 by 3 Sept (**D. Sanders**), where 30+ juv remained the 14<sup>th</sup> (**B. Coulter**). Among very few Nov records was one of two at Ottawa on the 2<sup>nd</sup> (ONWRC).

**Killdeer:** Beginning with 253 at Funk on 5 Aug (**S. Snyder**), triple-figure counts were frequent during the first three months of the period, ending with ~250 at Deer Ck Res 31 Oct (**B. Royle**); smaller numbers persisted through the eop thereafter.

**American Avocet:** An excellent flight. Assuming turnover every four days, at least 29 birds were seen. Inland records included two at Alum Ck SP 1 Aug (*vide* **B. Royle**), one at BIWA 23 Aug (**C. Bombaci**), and three at Van Wert Res 15 Sept (**J. Perchalski**). All the Lakefront reports came from *Ashtabula*, whence the high count of 10 came 4 Aug (**S. Zadar**) at Conneaut. Departed early, with one seen 5 Oct at Conneaut (**C. Holt**).

**Greater Yellowlegs:** Widely reported in suitable habitat statewide, with a high count of 25 at Deer Ck Res 3 Nov (**B. Royle**). A very early juv was at Conneaut 3 Aug (**C. Holt**). The latest report came from GLSM 23 Nov (**T. Shively**).

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** Earliest juv at Conneaut 1 Aug (**C. Holt**). Massed early, with 128 at Funk 5 Aug (**S. Snyder**) and 86 in *Wyandot* 7 Aug (**R. Counts**). The 5 Oct ONWRC found 89. Passed through quickly, with the latest reported in *Wyandot* 21 Oct (**Counts**).

**Solitary Sandpiper:** An unremarkable migration, except that it ended rather early, with the last reported at North Chagrin Res'n 14 Sept (**K. Metcalf**).

**Willet:** A poor showing, with two reports from Conneaut only: a bird on 3 Aug (**L. McDonald**) and an ad and a juv the same day (**C. Holt**).

**Spotted Sandpiper:** The high count was 28, by the 3 Aug ONWRC. Two Nov reports: three by the ONWRC on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, and a very tardy bird at GLSM the 15<sup>th</sup> (**D. Dister**).

**Upland Sandpiper:** Sparse as usual, with singletons 2 Aug at the Springfield Airport (**D. Overacker**), in *Wyandot* 5 Aug (**R. Counts**), a juv at Conneaut 8 Aug (**J. Heflich**), and two near *Paulding* Res 25 Aug (**M&D Dunakin**).

**Whimbrel:** With no large flocks, but numerous reports on consecutive days—all but one of them at Conneaut—numbers were difficult to estimate, but at a minimum totaled 11, at a maximum 20. The high count was three on 11 Aug (**S. Zadar**), the latest there rather early on 4 Sept (**B. Coulter**). On the late but not unprecedented date of 13 Oct, kayakers saw one at Whiskey Isl in Cleveland (**P. Kiplinger & R. Stearns**, *ph vide* **L. Rosche**).

**Hudsonian Godwit:** Merely a trickle. One was seen on the 5 Oct ONWRC, and another reported at the CCE on 19 Oct (**J. Pogacnik**).



Conneaut Harbor in *Ashtabula* County was the place to be for whimbrels this season. This one was photographed there on 10 August 2003 by Bill Whan.

- Marbled Godwit:** At Conneaut, probably the same juv bird 28 Aug (**B. Royse**) through 3 Sept (**D. Sanders**, m obs) became two by 4 Sept (**B. Coulter**). A molting adult was reported there 14 Sept (**Coulter**).
- Ruddy Turnstone:** Very skimpily reported, with repeated reports of three birds at Conneaut 2 Aug (**J. Pogacnik**) through 21 Aug (**P. Lozano**), and four on 3 Aug (**C. Holt**). Later a single bird was there on 15 Sept (**Holt**). That was it.
- Red Knot:** The best fall flight in years for this beleaguered species. Seventy-one birds reported, most from Conneaut, including an unusual high count of 33 adults 3 Aug (**C. Holt**). A few were noted at ONWR, including the season's latest at the CCE on 20 Oct (**B. Zwiebel**), and at Cedar Pt NWR two were seen 30 Aug, six 14 Sept, and six 28 Sept (all **E. Tramer**). First juv 15 Sept at Conneaut (**Holt**). The sole inland knot was found at the Shreve fish pond in *Wayne* 19 Oct (**R&S Harlan**).
- Sanderling:** Maintained a presence at Conneaut period-long, with a local high count of 50+ on 2 Sept (**L. Rosche**), and the latest two reports: seven on 5 Nov (**C. Holt**) and one 24 Nov (**S. Marengo**). The only inland report came from *Williams*, with five birds on 16 Aug (**J. Yochum**). The high count was 100+ on Pt Clinton beach 28 Oct (**N. Bixler**).
- Semipalmated Sandpiper:** No big numbers, with a high count of ~250 at Conneaut 31 Aug (**J. Lehman**). Max of juveniles came with 30 on 15 Sept there (**C. Holt**). Scarce in the NW, with a high of 69 on the 3 Aug Ottawa census. Joining a handful of reliable Nov records was a group of three carefully observed at the CCE for the ONWRC (**C. Crofts**) on the 2<sup>nd</sup>; Lou Campbell published a report of one found near this spot on 19 Nov 1938.
- Western Sandpiper:** Conneaut birds were noted on 10 Aug (**B. Whan**), 19 Aug (**J. Brumfield**), and 28 Sept (**J. Pogacnik**). One was in *Clark* 24 Aug (**D. Overacker**), one at Lorain 11 Oct (**D. Sanders**), and another at EHSP 19 Oct (**Pogacnik**).
- Least Sandpiper:** A diminished presence this season, it seemed. High count at Conneaut was only 25 (1 Aug, **D. Sanders**), and for the state only 37 (ONWRC of 5 Oct). The latest report was of a bird 5 Nov at Conneaut (**C. Holt**).
- White-rumped Sandpiper:** About three dozen reported, with a high of seven 20 Aug at Conneaut Hbr (**P. Lozano**). One procrastinated until 15 Nov at the CCE (**J. Lesser**).
- Baird's Sandpiper:** The largest numbers occurred at Conneaut, including three sightings of six birds: 19 Aug (**J. Brumfield**), 22 Aug (**L. Rosche**), and 27-28 Aug (**B. Royse**). Nine birds were found at inland locations. Final report 13 Oct at the Shreve fish pond in *Wayne* (**S. Snyder**).
- Pectoral Sandpiper:** With higher counts during late summer, August's largest report was of 97 at Funk on the 5<sup>th</sup> (**S. Snyder**). The high Sept count was only ~50, at the CCE on the 28<sup>th</sup> (**D. Overacker**). The season's high count was 108 on 5 Oct (ONWRC). One lingered as late as 16 Nov at the Hebron Fish Hatchery in *Licking* (**C. Dusthimer**).
- Purple Sandpiper:** First came one at an unexpected locale—Pt Clinton beach—on 8 Nov (**L. Hochstetler** *vide G. Links*). The other reports came from the NE: three at HBSP 18 Nov (**S. Zadar**), one at Conneaut and one at Ashtabula 20 Nov (**G. Meszaros**), one at Walnut Beach 21 Nov (**D. Linzell**) through 23 Nov (**B. Wilkinson**), and two at HBSP 25-26 Nov (**Meszaros**).
- Dunlin:** Early was one at Conneaut 7 Sept (**B. Royse**). The CCE, as usual, boasted the big numbers: 1200+ by 22 Oct (**D. Sanders**), then ~5500 for the 2 Nov ONWRC (a state record fall count). Willow Pt WA on Sandusky Bay attracted 1050 on 31 Oct and 340 on 21 Nov (both **V. Fazio**). Berlin Res in *Stark* hosted 144 on 13 Nov (**B. Morrison**).
- Curlew Sandpiper:** Documentation of a juvenile reported at Wright's Marsh in *Wayne* on 6 Sept has been promised to the OBRC.

**Stilt Sandpiper:** High count 32 on 1 Aug at Conneaut (**D. Sanders**), where among a flock of 27 the following day a very early juvenile was noted (**C. Holt**). Two adults there on 13 Aug were molting to basic (**B. Royse**). Latest reported were two at Toussaint WA and five at the CCE, all on 4 Oct by **Sanders**.

**Buff-breasted Sandpiper:** All reports: PCWA 16 Aug (**W. Jackson**), 20 Aug and 7 and 9 Sept Conneaut (all **B. Royse**), 14 Sept Conneaut (**B. Coulter**), 15 Sept Conneaut (**C. Holt**), 15 Sept *Clinton* (**N. Smith**), and, on the Findlay Res dikes, two birds on 9 Sept, one on 16 Sept, and one on 30 Sept (all **B. Hardesty**).

**Short-billed Dowitcher:** Early were three inland at BCSP 2 Aug (**D. Overacker**) and six near Lodi the next day (**F. Dinkelbach**). The first juv noted was at Conneaut 9 Aug (**J. Lehman**). Most observations came from Conneaut, where 75+ mostly adults were present 13 Aug (**B. Royse**), then a flock increasingly composed of juvenile birds until four or five remained 14 Sept (**B. Coulter**). High count in the NW was only 56 adults on the 3 Aug ONWRC. At a near-record late date was a juv 19 Oct in the CCE (**B. Master**).

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** The first southbound migrants were an adult at Conneaut 3 Aug (**C. Holt**) and two molting adults 16 Aug (**B. Whan**). More molting and some mostly basic adults were in the CCE 7 Sept, where 24 basic birds were seen 5 Oct, then 238 basic birds on 2 Nov (all ONWRC). **B. Master** reported 100+ basic birds in the CCE 19 Oct, where 12 remained as late as 11 Nov (**Whan**).

**Wilson's Snipe:** Good numbers in Oct's last week, when on the 24<sup>th</sup> **S. Snyder** had 64 in *Wayne* and **S. Corbo** 45 at Gilmore Ponds, while **L. Rosche** encountered 30+ at Lk Rockwell in *Portage* the 26<sup>th</sup>. One was at Gilmore as late as 23 Nov (**M. Busam**).

**American Woodcock:** Nov reports included one in *Franklin* the 6<sup>th</sup> (**J. Watts**), one at BCSP the 16<sup>th</sup> (**D. Overacker**), and one in NW *Coshocton* the 22<sup>nd</sup> (**L.E. Yoder**).

**Wilson's Phalarope:** Two juv. continuing at BIWA were seen as late as 7 Aug (**C. Bombaci**). **J. Pogacnik** found two birds at Conneaut 2 Aug, and **R. Counts** another pair in *Wyandot* the following day. At Conneaut, a juv was found 10 Aug (**B. Whan**), one 21 Aug (**P. Lozano**), one 23 Aug (**B. Jones**), and another 4 Sept (**B. Coulter**). **J. Yochum** had the high count of three, in *Williams* 16 Aug. **Bombaci** reported one from BIWA 23 Aug, and **S. Houpert** one from PCWA 25 Aug.

**Red-necked Phalarope:** Juveniles were reported from Conneaut 11 Aug (**S. Zadar**), from PCWA 21 Aug (**B. Bowman**), and *Butler* (**S. Reeves** 30 Aug, **J. Brown** 31 Aug). A bird was reported from PCWA 31 Aug (**S. Houpert**). **J. Pogacnik** saw two flybys off *Lake* on 19 Sept.

**Red Phalarope:** At least seven birds, beginning with one at Walnut Beach 1 Oct (**K. Miller**)-5 Oct (**J. Pogacnik**). **D. Sanders** discovered one at Conneaut 2 Oct, which may have been that later found there 5 Oct by **C. Holt**, 6 Oct by **S. Butcher**, and 7 Oct by **B. Royse**. On 15 Oct, **Sanders** had another at Huron, and **K. Metcalf** two off HBSP. **Pogacnik** reported another at EHSP 19 Oct.

**Long-tailed Jaeger:** Observed at length and copiously photographed at close range was a jaeger thought to be of this species just below the dam at Hoover Res in *Franklin* on 8 Oct. It was apparently making do with small fish minced by the overflow valve of the dam tower. Documentation is with the OBRC.



The OBRC is still deliberating about this jaeger sp. discovered on 8 October 2003 at Hoover Reservoir in Franklin County. Photo by Jen Sauter.

**Laughing Gull:** Total of seven, five inland. One 10 Aug at Hoover Res (**R. Thorn**), a juv at EFSP 26 Aug (**B. Foppe**)-1 Sept (**G. Fantetti**), basic adult at Lorain 5 Sept (**S. Zadar**), juv at Caesar Ck SP 16 Sept (**T. Shively**)-3 Oct (**L. Gara**), basic ad in Akron 21 Oct (**G. Bennett**)-cop (m obs), second-winter bird GLSM 12 Oct (**D. Dister**), and one at E. 72<sup>nd</sup> St in Cleveland 4 Nov (**G. Leidy**).



This juvenile laughing gull spent the better part of two weeks at Caesar Creek State Park in Warren County this season. Photo by Troy Shively on 16 September 2003.

**Franklin's Gull:** A good showing. Sixty-five birds were reported, 59 of them from inland locations, most in October, in *Allen, Ashtabula, Clark, Hancock, Logan, Lucas, Richland, Warren, Wayne, and Wyandot*. The high count was 13 in Findlay 13 Oct (**B. Hardesty**). The first, a juv, was found in *Wyandot* 4 Aug (**R. Counts**), the last at BCSP 3 Nov (**B. Royse**). As in four of the past five years, the distribution of these birds was considerably at variance with that described in Peterjohn's *The Birds of Ohio*.

**Little Gull:** **C. Holt** found a second-year bird at Conneaut 3 Aug that stayed through at least 29 Aug (**B. Royse**) for m obs. **L. Rosche** had a first-winter bird at HBSP 16 Oct. **J. Pogacnik** found an adult at Conneaut 25 Oct, and **Holt** another there on 5 Nov. **Pogacnik** reported adult flybys off LSR on 8 and 16 Nov as well.

**Black-headed Gull:** Quite unusual in the Western Basin, a basic-plumaged adult was seen briefly but at close range at the CCE on 11 Nov. Details are with the OBRC.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** Numbers were low in the central basin until October, when flocks of hundreds appeared. By 15 Nov, **E. Tramer** reported 1417 at CPNWR, and **J. Pogacnik** 2460 at LSR, at opposite ends of the Lakefront. Shortly thereafter migrant flocks increased inland, such as with 340 at Hoover 27 Nov (**R. Thorn**) and 150 at Caesar Ck SP on 29 Nov (**S. Reeves**). On 28 Nov, Lorain Hbr still hosted 4000-5000 (**S. Zadar**).

**Herring Gull:** Once again, **D. Chasar** observed ~100 feeding on shad well inland at Station Rd in the CVNP 9 Nov.

**Thayer's Gull:** An ad was at Eastlake 26 Nov (**T. Shively** et al., ph) and on 28 Nov a first-winter bird was at Huron (**S. Zadar**).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** An ad and a third-basic bird were at Conneaut on 15 Sept (**C. Holt**). A number showed up along the Lakefront in Oct and Nov, with a high count of three at Eastlake 18 Nov (**S. Zadar**). More unusual were birds inland at Dillon SP, *Muskingum* 22 Sept (**C. Crook**)-27 Sept (**Holt**), and another at Evans Lk in *Mahoning* 14-26 Nov (**Holt**). As far as we know, the latter two constitute first county records.



Dave Dister discovered this second-winter laughing gull at Grand Lake St. Marys in Auglaize County on 12 October 2003.

**Glaucous Gull:** A first/second-year bird passed LSR on 29 Nov (**J. Pogacnik**).

**Sabine's Gull:** Remarkable were two adults in alternate plumage at Salt Fk SP on 1 Sept (**J. Larson**, ph). **J. Pogacnik** spotted imm birds at Fairport Hbr 2 Oct and at LSR 8 Nov.

**Caspian Tern:** High count 36 for the 3 Aug ONWRC. Six were at Findlay 12 Oct (**J. Buecking**) for a rather early latest report.

**Common Tern:** On 7 Sept, the high count of 2000 was made by the ONWRC; on the next day ~500 were at Sheldon Marsh (**B. Whan**), with ~1200 remaining at the CCE 28 Sept (**D. Overacker**). By 21 Nov, three adults were still at Pt Clinton, and an alternate-plumaged bird at EHSP (both **V. Fazio**).

**Forster's Tern:** The high count was 1000, for the 7 Sept ONWRC. As many as 41 remained on 23 Nov, at Pt Clinton (**D. Sanders**).

**Black Tern:** Only 25 reported statewide. Beyond single birds 3 Aug (ONWRC) and late on 19 Oct at EHSP (**J. Pogacnik**), Conneaut hosted the rest of the seven Lakefront reports. High count only six, at Caesar Ck SP 3 Sept (**L. Gara**).

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** Significantly late was one in *Coshocton* 18 Oct (**L.E. Yoder**).

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** Last seen 4 Oct, with one at BCSP (**D. Overacker**) and three at KPWA (**R. Sempier**).

**Barn Owl:** **E. Schlabach**'s pair in *Tuscarawas* fledged four young in early Nov.

**Long-eared Owl:** One was in *Lorain* 22 Nov (**C. Rieker**), and on 29 Nov one in *Williams* (**J. Grabmeier**) and two at KPWA (**R. Schieltz**).

**Short-eared Owl:** Two were near Perrysburg in *Lucas* 16 Oct (**M. Sweeney**). One at Dike 14 in Cleveland 17 Oct (**C. Rieker**) led to the high count of 22 (local record) 18 Nov (**S. Zadar**). One was on the Little Miami floodplain 17 and 20 Nov (**S. Hedeon**), and at KPWA, ~20 were found 26 Nov (**K. Schieltz**). On 29 Nov, two were at BIWA (**D. Linzell**) and three at the VOA site in *Butler* (**M. Miller** *vide* **M. Busam**).

**Northern Saw-whet Owl:** Banders in *Ross* trapped six during Nov (**K. Sieg**). Two were at Dike 14 on 22 Nov (**S. Zadar**). At KPWA first reported 29 Nov (**R. Schieltz**).

**Common Nighthawk:** The first 10 migrants were noted in Columbus 18 Aug (**M. Skinner**). Aug 27 was the big day, with 166 at the VOA (**M. Busam**), 75+ in Springfield (**D. Overacker**), 225 south of Toledo (**M. Anderson**), and 116 over Columbus (**B. Whan**). The last two bullbats reported passed over MWW 13 Oct (**L. Peyton**).



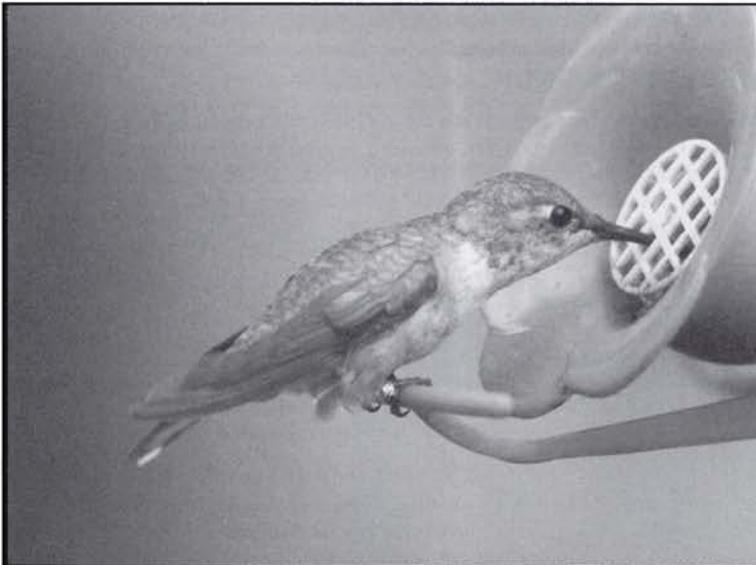
Two adult Sabine's gulls appeared at Salt Fork State Park in Guernsey County on 1 September 2003. This one was photographed there by Jason Larson.

**Chimney Swift:** The Columbus area was most carefully monitored, where on 18 Aug ~1450 were in town (**M. Skinner**) and 1000-2000 in nearby Dublin (**D. Sillick**). In the latter location, ~3800 were estimated 11 Sept, 2700+ on 29 Sept, and 3700 on 4 Oct (all **Sillick**). In Westerville, **R. Thorn** tallied 2400 at one location on 14 Sept, then 450+ on 27 Sept; overall, he estimated 10 to 20 thousand birds in Columbus roosts during fall. The last seen were five at HBSNP on 15 Oct (**K. Metcalf**).

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** Oct birds included one the 5<sup>th</sup> in Wilmington (**E. Roush**), one the 9<sup>th</sup> at Shaker Lks (**R. Rickard**), and another the 14<sup>th</sup> in Findlay (**D. Kohl**). **R&S Harlan** had one at a feeder in Crystal Lk, *Summit* as late as 3 Nov.

**Rufous Hummingbird:** All reports follow. Juv female 27 Oct-eop at Blendon Wds MP in *Franklin* (**B. Simpson**, **S. Dalton**, ph), banded 14 Nov **A. Chartier**. Ad male in Bath, *Summit* late Sept-eop (**C&A Miller**, **J. Brumfield**, ph). Female, age unreported, in Grafton Twp, *Lorain* 31 Oct and 21 Nov (**C. Priebe**, **L. Rosche**, ph). Juv male in Salt Ck Twp, *Muskingum*, early Nov-eop (**M&W Wise**, **J. Hammond**, ph), banded 20 Nov **A. Chartier**. Juv female in Maumee, *Lucas* 24 Nov-eop (**L. Fayerweather**) banded 16 Dec **A. Chartier**. Hatch-year female Greenville, *Darke*, early Sept-eop (**C. Fetzer**, ph), banded 15 Dec **A. Chartier**. Imm female in Middletown, *Butler* mid-Oct-eop (**R&R Sauer**), banded 21 Dec **A. Chartier**.

**Selasphorus Hummingbird sp.:** All reports: r/A, probable female in Hallsville, *Ross* 14 Sept-7 Nov (**L&T Brady**, ph); female in Massillon, *Stark* (**M. Knowles**, **N. Lowes**, ph) early Nov-eop; probable *Selasphorus* Augusta, *Carroll* mid-Oct-19 Nov (**E&R Dinger** *vide* **A. Chartier**); probable *Selasphorus* Dayton, *Montgomery* 8 Nov (*vide* **J. Arnold**); female r/A near Dayton, *Montgomery*, through 30 Nov (**R. Dougherty**, ph).



Much like the Fall 2002 season, *Selasphorus* hummingbirds were reported in good numbers. This immature female rufous hummingbird was banded on 16 December 2003 by Allen Chartier in Lucas County. This photo by Art Webber shows the band on the bird's right leg.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** A pair nesting at Mosquito Lk WA successfully fledged young 28 Aug (**S. DeHaven**). Later migrants included one in *Coshocton* on 26 Oct (**L.E. Yoder**) and another in *Hancock* 1 Nov (**B. Hardesty**).

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** On schedule, though one was earlyish 4 Aug at ONWR (**L. Deininger**).

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** Latest at Greenlawn Dam in Columbus 18 Oct (**R. Thorn**).

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** High count two in *Holmes* 5 Sept (**E. Schlabach**). Latest was banded at Navarre Marsh by BSBO 27 Sept.

**Acadian Flycatcher:** A pair still had two fledglings in *Cuyahoga* 18 Aug (**K. Metcalf**). Latest reported from the CVNP 18 Sept (**D. Chasar**).

**Willow Flycatcher:** High count 10 on the 3 Aug ONWRC. One was in the CVNP 13 Sept (**D. Chasar**).

**Least Flycatcher:** Latest were five at HBSP 30 Sept (**L. Rosche**).

**Eastern Phoebe:** Late birds in the north were in *Paulding* 6 Nov (**D&M Dunakin**) and 7 Nov in *Hancock* (**B. Hardesty**).

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** A local early record was a migrant in *Paulding* 24 Aug (**M&D Dunakin**). Four were found on the CVNP census of 13 Sept (**D. Chasar**). Last seen 27 Sept south of Toledo (**M. Anderson**).

**Eastern Kingbird:** High count 47 on 3 Aug's ONWRC. Last reported 24 Sept at Killbuck WA (**S. Snyder**).

**Loggerhead Shrike:** Presumably one of the spring's nesting pair was that seen 11 Oct in *Adams* (**R. Lakes**). Documentation of one at KPWA 10 Nov-eop is with the OBRC.

**Northern Shrike:** First one at LSR 30 Oct (**J. Pogacnik**). Others at KPWA 12 Nov (**S. Snyder**), an imm in *Summit* 25 Nov (**J. Brumfield**), one at MBSP 20 Nov (**B. Zwiebel**), and one in *Wood* 30 Nov (**C. Anderson**).

**White-eyed Vireo:** Still singing were males in *Muskingum* 14 Sept (**J. Glover**) and in *Franklin* 4 Oct (**R. Lowry**). A late bird at Alum Ck SP on 5 Oct was mum (**R. Thorn**).

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** A migrant was at S. Chagrin MP 7 Sept (**B. Roberts**), and another at Shawnee Lookout in *Hamilton* 5 Oct (**L. Peyton**).

**Blue-headed Vireo:** Two lingered into Nov, one in *Franklin* on the 1<sup>st</sup> (**R. Thorn**) and another in *Licking* on the 3<sup>rd</sup> (**C. Dusthimer**).

**Warbling Vireo:** Four were around for the 5 Oct ONWRC, and one was still in song at Lorain on 10 Oct (**E. Snively**).

**Philadelphia Vireo:** Last to go were one in Parma 12 Oct (**G. Leidy**), and one banded at Navarre 15 Oct (BSBO).

**Red-eyed Vireo:** High count of 12 on 6 Sept in *Coshocton* (**E. Schlabach**). Departing were birds in Gahanna 4 Oct (**R. Thorn**), and Gilmore Ponds (**M. Busam**) and BCSP (**D. Overacker**) 5 Oct. The last straggler was a net result at Shaker Lks 17 Oct (BSBO).

**Horned Lark:** At Fairport Hbr, 75 migrants were seen 21 Nov (**K. Metcalf**).

**Purple Martin:** Last reported three at Mentor Lagoons, *Lake* 21 Sept (**K. Metcalf**).

**Tree Swallow:** An estimated 7000-8000 were in Findlay 30 Sept (**B. Hardesty**). Last to depart was one at Conneaut 5 Nov (**C. Holt**).

- Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** Twenty-five were at Castalia on 31 Aug (R&S Harlan), where one was seen very late on 16 Nov (S. Snyder et al.).
- Bank Swallow:** At Conneaut, ~1500 swirled over the *Phragmites* 11 Aug (B. Whan). Three remained 7 Sept at Mentor Lagoons in Lake (L. Rosche).
- Cliff Swallow:** The last two were reported from Mentor Lagoons 7 Sept (L. Rosche).
- Barn Swallow:** Plenty late was one in Clermont 27 Nov (D. Morse).
- Swallow sp.:** This fall, seven eastern states and Ontario recorded ~100 cave swallows. Ontario, just across Lake Erie, recorded them 1-10 Nov, then a second wave 23-26 Nov following SW winds and 65° temperatures. On 23 Nov, J. Pogacnik observed a swallow dart by at LSR, and noticed an orange rump, short tail, with chest and forehead seemingly orangeish. Inconclusive but suggestive, and the species is long overdue in Ohio.
- Red-breasted Nuthatch:** Obeying its apparent biennial cycle, numbers were up. Multiple sightings included 10 at the CVNP 13 Sept (L. Rosche), seven at Winton Wds 21 Oct (F. Renfrow), five at Secrest Arboretum in Wayne 8 Nov (S. Snyder), and three at Findley SP in Lorain 22 Nov (C. Rieker).
- Brown Creeper:** Five were at HBSP 16 Oct (L. Rosche), and six were found on the 2 Nov ONWRC. D. Overacker noticed one at BCSP 30 Nov.
- House Wren:** Forty-nine were tallied for the 3 Aug ONWRC. On the late side was one in Holmes 11 Oct (E. Yoder) and one banded at Navarre the next day (BSBO).
- Winter Wren:** In the vanguard was one banded in Ross 16 Sept (K. Sieg). By 23 Oct 15-20 were observed at HBSNP and nearby Mentor Lagoons (K. Metcalf).
- Sedge Wren:** On 3 Aug nine were at the VOA site (F. Renfrow) and three at MWW (P. Wharton). Two were at BIWA 4 Aug (B. Royse). B. Master found one in a *Muskingum* wetland 11 Aug. Five were at Dike 14 20 Sept (G. Leidy), and one in Paulding 4 Oct (M&D Dunakin). D. Overacker had two at MWW 10 Oct, and on 17 Oct C. Rieker found one on Dike 14.
- Marsh Wren:** Twenty-nine showed up for the ONWRC of 3 Aug. On 7 Oct, 15 were found on Dike 14 in Cleveland (C. Rieker).
- Golden-crowned Kinglet:** Two in Hancock were the first to arrive, on 30 Sept (B. Sams *vide* B. Hardesty).
- Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** Not arriving especially early, last seen 23 Nov at BCSP (D. Overacker). On 23 Oct, 40+ were seen at HBSNP and Mentor Lagoons (K. Metcalf).
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** An unremarkable migration, save for an apparently healthy bird at Ottawa NWR 2 Nov (ONWRC), surely a memorable occasion for late records.
- Veery:** Latest reported 23 Sept in Franklin (R. Thorn).
- Gray-cheeked Thrush:** Bespeaking their inconspicuous nature, save for one seen the 10<sup>th</sup> in Hocking by J. Fry, all October records came from banders—the 5<sup>th</sup> at Shawnee Lookout (L. Peyton), the 10<sup>th</sup> in Ross (K. Sieg), and the 16<sup>th</sup> at Navarre (BSBO).
- Swainson's Thrush:** Upwards of a hundred were heard overhead in Norton, Summit on 15 Sept (R&S Harlan). BSBO netted 480 between 25 Jul-20 Oct at Navarre.
- Hermit Thrush:** Nice and early was one 7 Sept in Rocky River (P. Lozano). Forty were netted at Navarre on 16 Oct by BSBO, and C. Rieker counted ~50 at Dike 14 on 17 Oct. One was at BCSP on 29 Nov (D. Overacker).

- Wood Thrush:** On a much-delayed schedule was one at HBSP 20 Nov (L. Rosche).
- Gray Catbird:** Fear of flying must have affected birds like the one in the Oak Openings on 2 Nov (R&S Harlan) and another at Fairport Hbr 22 Nov (E. Schlabach).
- Northern Mockingbird:** Continues to move the flags in the north. T&M Romito had their first ever at Ira Rd in the CVNP on 24 Nov, and another was found in chilly Fairport Hbr on 26 Nov (L. Rosche).
- Brown Thrasher:** One Nov report—a bird in Cincinnati 10 Nov (N. Cade).
- American Pipit:** Earlyish was one at Conneaut 11 Sept (B. Finkelstein). R. Counts reported “hundreds” in Wyandot on 22 Sept, 18 Oct, and 20 Nov. Less lucky were D. Smith, with only 30+ in Harrison 20 Oct, and S. Snyder, with ~50 in Wayne 5 Nov.
- Cedar Waxwing:** The CVNP was productive, with 334 on the census of 13 Sept (D. Chasar), then 300-400 there on 15 Nov (R. Rickard).
- Blue-winged Warbler:** The Dunakins noted a migrant in Paulding 30 Aug. All reports were of single birds, the latest 11 Oct at Dike 14 in Cleveland (C. Rieker).
- Golden-winged Warbler:** Unremarkable, with eleven birds during late Aug and Sept.
- Tennessee Warbler:** Seemingly ubiquitous at times. Two were first on 17 Aug at Holden Arboretum in Lake (B. Roberts). L.E. Yoder found 33 on 13 Sept and 14 on 28 Sept in NW Coshocton, reckoning Tennessee the “most numerous warbler” in the area this fall. On 28 Sept, M. Busam et al. tallied ~100 at Gilmore Ponds in Butler. Found as late as 9 Nov in Hamilton (F. Renfrow).
- Orange-crowned Warbler:** Quite early was one at EFSP 13 Sept (N. Cade et al.). High count eight 7 Oct at Dike 14 (C. Rieker). Quite late was one at the latter location 23 Nov (G. Leidy). L. Rosche reported one of the *celata* subspecies at HBSP 23 Oct.
- Nashville Warbler:** First noted 20 Aug at S. Chagrin MP (B. Roberts), one as late as 22 Nov at Dike 14 (E. Schlabach). High count 15 south of Toledo 27 Sept (M. Anderson).
- Northern Parula:** A migrant was in Columbus 31 Aug (R. Thorn), the latest netted at Navarre 14 Oct (BSBO). High count four, 25 Sept at the Oak Openings (E. Tramer).
- Yellow Warbler:** One continued in song through 5 Aug at Medusa Marsh (R&S Harlan). By 17 Aug 10+ migrants were at HBSNP (K. Metcalf); one was banded at Navarre 29 Sept (BSBO).
- Chestnut-sided Warbler:** A migrant was in Delaware 28 Aug (R. Thorn). High count five, on the 7 Sept ONWRC. One was noted in Hamilton 5 Oct (L. Peyton).
- Magnolia Warbler:** One was as late as 21 Oct at Gilmore Ponds (D. Brinkman).
- Cape May Warbler:** BSBO banded 105 between 27 Aug and 17 Oct at Navarre Marsh. One came to a Hocking feeder 27-28 Oct (L. Andrews).
- Black-throated Blue Warbler:** In normal numbers, on a normal schedule.
- Yellow-rumped Warbler:** High count 300+ 19 Oct at HBSP (L. Rosche).
- Black-throated Green Warbler:** High count 25+ at Spring Grove Cem in Hamilton (L. Brumbaugh), with one as late as 18 Oct in Columbus (R. Thorn).
- Blackburnian Warbler:** High count six in Coshocton 13 Sept (L.E. Yoder). Seen as late as 11 Oct, at Magee (B. Zwiebel).

**Yellow-throated Warbler:** Last noted 30 Sept in Columbus (**B. Royse**).

**Pine Warbler:** Reported as late as 16 Nov, in Cincinnati (**S. Corbo**).

**Prairie Warbler:** Seen 25 Sept at HBSP (**L. Rosche**) and 28 Sept at EFSP (**B. Stanley**).

**Palm Warbler:** Arrived as expected, but one found by the 2 Nov ONWRC was quite late. High count was 17, on 10 Oct in Parma (**G. Leidy**).

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** **L.E. Yoder** had the high count of five, in *Coshocton* 13 Sept. BSBO briefly interrupted the progress of the latest migrant on 14 Oct at Navarre.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** Appearing 28 Aug in *Delaware* (**R. Thorn**), the last flew into BSBO's nets at Navarre 21 Oct; earlier on 1 Oct, they'd banded 37 blackpolls.

**Cerulean Warbler:** Seldom detected in migration, one was in *Holmes* as early as 17 Aug (**E. Schlabach**), and the latest was seen 13 Sept at EFSP (**N. Cade**).

**Black-and-white Warbler:** An early migrant was in *Coshocton* 10 Aug (**L.E. Yoder**), and the latest was at Navarre 20 Oct (BSBO).

**American Redstart:** High count of migrants was 10 at Rocky River MP 24 Sept (**R&S Harlan**). The last hurrah was one at HBSP 19 Oct (**L. Rosche**).

**Prothonotary Warbler:** Two October records were remarkable, both at Magee: the 11<sup>th</sup> (**B. Zwiebel**) and the 19<sup>th</sup> (**S. Snyder**).

**Ovenbird:** For inconspicuous fall migrants, it's not surprising the high count came from banders: seven at Navarre 7 Sept. Last noted at Shawnee Lookout 5 Oct (**L. Peyton**).

**Northern Waterthrush:** October departures included on at Gilmore Ponds 5 Oct (**M. Busam**) and one at Navarre 12 Oct (BSBO).

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** Much later than expected was one in Rocky River 24 Sept (**R&S Harlan**).

**Kentucky Warbler:** A good find but not unexpected were two at Shawnee Lookout 6 Sept (**A. Bess**), but a bird as far north as Magee (**E. Tramer** on 16 Aug) was noteworthy.

**Connecticut Warbler:** Birds on 4 and 14 September relying on the scanty vegetative cover in downtown Cleveland delighted observers (**S. Wright** et al.). BSBO banded seven 15 Sept-1 Oct at Navarre. The latest was seen at MWW 12 Oct (**C. Betrus**).

**Mourning Warbler:** Like the previous species, seemed easiest to find in downtown Cleveland, with seven birds reported 8-25 Sept (**S. Wright, M. Egar**, m obs). One was banded in *Ross* 25 Sept (**K. Sieg**).

**Common Yellowthroat:** High count 52 locals on 3 Aug by the ONWRC. Latest reported was an imm male at EHSP 2 Nov (**R&S Harlan**).

**Hooded Warbler:** **L.E. Yoder** reported two on 11 Oct in NW *Coshocton*, observing that the species remained on local breeding grounds through early Oct.

**Wilson's Warbler:** An early arrival was at Sandy Ridge MP in *Lorain* 24 Aug (**P. Lozano**); the latest was netted at Navarre Marsh 23 Oct (BSBO).

**Canada Warbler:** Probably a Canadian Canada was in *Paulding* on 27 Aug (**D&M Dunakin**), as were the latest, at HBSP on the late dates of 9 (**J. McConnor**) and 11 Oct. (**R. Rickard**).

**Yellow-breasted Chat:** Chats can hang around much later, but our latest was one snagged at Navarre Marsh 16 Oct (BSBO).

**Summer Tanager:** The latest reported came from Highbanks MP in *Delaware* 29 Sept (**R. Lowry**).

**Scarlet Tanager:** Three early October reports: the 4<sup>th</sup> in *Hancock* (**B. Hardesty**), the 5<sup>th</sup> at BCSP (**D. Overacker**), and the 6<sup>th</sup> in *Hamilton* (**A. Oliver**).

**American Tree Sparrow:** A quite early bird was in the CVNP 20 Sept (**D. Chasar**), and by 22 Nov 500+ could be found at Dike 14 (**E. Schlabach**).

**Chipping Sparrow:** High count 48 in *Stark* (**B. Morrison**) 17 Oct. On 20 Nov, single birds were in both HBSP (**L. Rosche**) and MWW (**W. Hull**).

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** There are some Oct records of this species in Ohio, but one well-observed in *Holmes* on 1 Nov (**E. Schlabach**) is apparently a new late record.

**Field Sparrow:** The ONWRC had 21 on 3 Aug and 41 on 7 Sept. Twenty-five were at HBSP 16 Oct (**L. Rosche**).

**Vesper Sparrow:** No large flocks, but two at Gilmore 25 Oct (**M. Busam**) were good to see.

**Savannah Sparrow:** Enthusiastic reports of "hundreds" came from *Wyandot* 22 Sept (**R. Counts**) and MWW 8 Oct (**W. Hull**). The latest report came from MWW, with several 20 Nov (**Hull**).

**Grasshopper Sparrow:** Late birds were detected 27 Oct in *Delaware* (**B. Leatherman**) and in Parma (**S. Zadar** fide **G. Leidy**).

**Henslow's Sparrow:** Lacking reports from the large reclaimed strip mines, the high count was 15 at the VOA site in *Butler* 3 Aug (**F. Renfrow**); **B. Leatherman** described one seen in *Delaware* 27 Oct for the late date.

**Le Conte's Sparrow:** One was detected at MWW on 9 Oct (**D. Russell**).

**Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow:** All records: two at Conneaut 26 Sept (**J. Pogacnik**), two at MWW 28 Sept (**N. Keller**), two at Conneaut 30 Sept (**G. Meszaros**), four at MWW 5 Oct (**D. Brinkman**), five there 12 Oct (**C. Betrus**), one Gilmore Ponds 18 Oct (**M. Busam**), and the latest 16 Oct at Pickerington Ponds, *Franklin* (**J. Watts**).

**Fox Sparrow:** Later records in the north included two at Dike 14 (**G. Leidy**) and three in *Coshocton* (**L.E. Yoder**) on 16 Nov, and one in *Hancock* 25 Nov (**B. Hardesty**).

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** The high count came from Dike 14, where **G. Leidy** tallied 21 on 20 Sept. The ONWRC's 2 Nov census garnered one.

**Swamp Sparrow:** Counts in excess of 100 came from Gilmore Ponds on both 18 and 25 Oct (**M. Busam**), and 19 remained at Ottawa NWR 2 Nov for the census team.

**White-throated Sparrow:** Arrived 30 Sept, with five in Parma (**G. Leidy**). The high count was 300+ at Dike 14 on 11 Oct (**S. Zadar**).

**Harris's Sparrow:** A juv was reported from HBSP 13 Oct; details with the OBRC.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** Appeared at Mentor Lagoons in *Lake* 21 Sept (**K. Metcalf**). At Dike 14 in Cleveland, 1100+ greeted **S. Zadar** on 11 Oct. **Metcalf** reported a *gambelii* race (or intergrade) at North Chagrin Res'n on 2 Nov.

**Dark-eyed Junco:** One was in *Holmes* 20 Sept (**E. Yoder**). The sparrow hot-spot Dike 14 featured 300+ diurnal migrants 18 Oct (**S. Zadar**).

**Lapland Longspur:** First reported at Conneaut, two birds 30 Sept (**G. Meszaros**). One was in *Tuscarawas* 25 Oct (**E. Schlabach**). On 17 Nov **B. Royse** found 150 at KPWA and 12 at nearby BIWA. One was in the Little Miami floodplain 20 Nov (**S. Hedeon**).

**Snow Bunting:** First seen at the Crane Ck SP beach 19 Oct (**J. Pogacnik**), the same observer had the high count of 138 in *Lake* 15 Nov. **E. Schlabach** reported one from *Holmes* 29 Nov.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** One was at the Shaker Lks 5 Oct (**B. Finkelstein**), with the last reported a female in Lorain 10 Oct (**E. Snively**).

**Blue Grosbeak:** **P. Gardner** located one or two females and a first-yr male in *Pickaway* on 4 Sept at summer's nest site, probably representing a second nesting.

**Indigo Bunting:** Twenty-seven for the 3 Aug ONWRC included one albinistic bird. The latest fall report came from Dike 14 on 16 Nov (**G. Leidy**).

**Dickcissel:** August reports from ONWR the 3<sup>rd</sup> (three, ONWRC), BIWA the 4<sup>th</sup> (**B. Royse**), the VOA the 5<sup>th</sup> (**N. Keller**), and two ad and three young in *Wyandot* the 24<sup>th</sup> (**R. Counts**). Late was one in *Holmes* 18 Oct (**E. Schlabach**).

**Bobolink:** Peaked at VOA at ~100 birds 28 Sept (**N. Keller**), and a goodly number of 23 remained in *Holmes* 11 Oct (**E. Yoder**).

**Eastern Meadowlark:** The VOA hosted 36 on 7 Aug (**M. Busam**), *Holmes* 35 on 2 Oct (**E. Schlabach**), and one *Hancock* spot had 13 on 5 Aug, 15 on 12 Aug, and 10 on 5 Nov (**B. Hardesty**).

**Rusty Blackbird:** Eight hundred-plus were at PCWA 4 Oct (**D. Sanders**).

**Orchard Oriole:** Latish for the species, a female was at CPNWR 30 Aug (**E. Tramer**).

**Baltimore Oriole:** Three remained 13 Sept for the CVNP census (**D. Chasar**).

**Purple Finch:** Appeared widely. On 18 Oct 10 were in the CVNP (**D. Chasar**) and five at EFSP in *Clermont* (**B. Stanley**), then 15 in the Oak Openings 20 Oct (**G. Links**); BSBO banded a record 28 during Oct at *Navarre* in *Ottawa*.

**Red Crossbill:** **R. Thorn** had one at Alum Ck SP 19 Oct, **S. Zadar** another at Dike 14 on 2 Nov, and **S. Hite** *fide* **G. Links** three in the Oak Openings, *Lucas* 30 Nov.

**Common Redpoll:** A vanguard of six made landfall at LSR 29 Nov (**J. Pogacnik**).

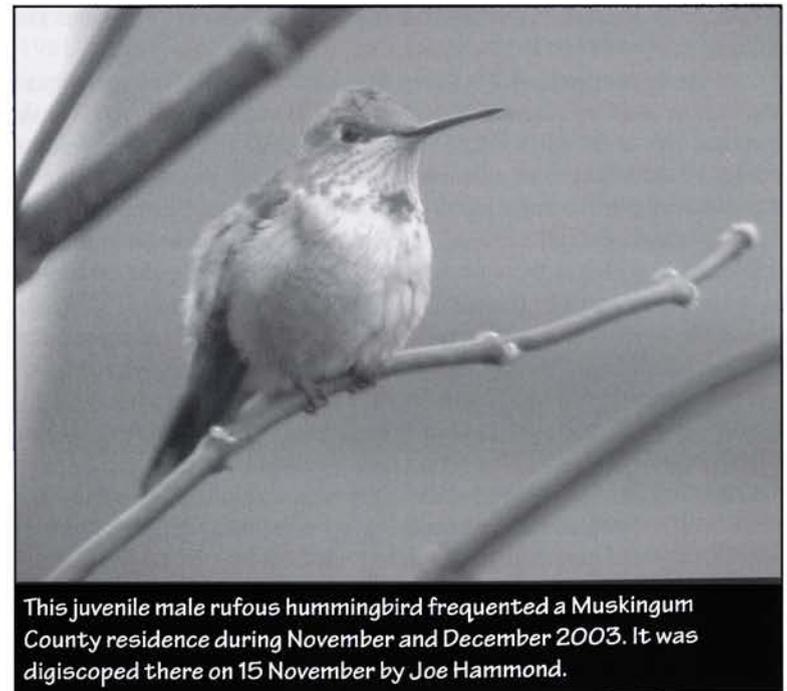
**Pine Siskin:** The first reported, on 4 Oct, came from *Clinton* (**K. Corzatt**) then 16 were seen in *Painesville* 7 Oct (**J. Pogacnik**). Subsequently reported across the state, with counts like 40-50 near *Mohican* SF 27 Nov (**D. Plant**), 40+ near *Toledo* 30 Nov (**T. Kemp**), and 30 in *Logan* the same day (**T. Shively**).

**Evening Grosbeak:** Rare these days. One bird, near *Columbus*, on 6 Oct (**K&J Davis**).

## Contributors

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This juvenile male rufous hummingbird frequented a Muskingum County residence during November and December 2003. It was digiscoped there on 15 November by Joe Hammond.