

The Ohio Cardinal is a quarterly publication devoted to the study and appreciation of Ohio's birdlife.

The Ohio Cardinal exists to provide a permanent and timely record of the abundance and distribution of birds in Ohio; to help document the occurrence of rare species in the state; to provide information on identification of birds; and to provide information on birding areas within Ohio. *The Ohio Cardinal* invites readers to submit articles on unusual occurrences of birds, bird distribution within the state, birding areas in Ohio, identification tips, and other aspects of ornithology. Bird reports and photographs are welcome from any area of the state. Report forms are not a necessity but will be supplied upon request. Unusual species should be documented, and forms to do so are available upon request from the Editor, Publisher, and Records Committee Secretary.

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On the Cover:

Lana Hays took this photo of a banded piping plover at Conneaut on 25 Jul.



Summer 2006 Overview and Reports

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The summer season lasts but two months, and because it represents the breeding season for so many species in Ohio home ranges we do not expect many extralimital rarities. Still, six review species – anhinga, swallow-tailed kite (2), Mississippi kite, piping plover (2), scissor-tailed flycatcher, and loggerhead shrike – were reported (half with photographs); all but the shrike were presumably post-breeding migrants or wanderers. Though both the plovers had nested in Michigan, and the shrike was local, the rest came with distinctly southern accents. Rarities are seldom inexplicably random occurrences, and each comes with lessons to learn.

Why have loggerhead shrikes become rare? Certainly, much of their favored habitat has disappeared, but a lot remains. Though it may not answer this particular question, the new Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas got off to a good start and will greatly expand our knowledge of our nesting avifauna. Increased coverage across the state as a result of OBBA surveys resulted in some interesting new records reflected in the Reports; thanks to the Atlas folks for digging out these data for us. Some very interesting contrasts with the existing Atlas are emerging already, and it will be important to determine whether they reflect distributional changes among birds or merely improved coverage. We will be offering regular reports on the progress and findings of the second OBBA, and encourage every reader to participate; if you cannot take on some blocks of your own, it is almost as much fun to help others with theirs. See the OBBA pages on the OOS web site ohiobirds.org for details, or use mail and telephone contacts in this issue's *Further Afield*.

As noticed this spring, migratory movements seemed a bit delayed, and a few extraordinary late records were established as a result (an American tree sparrow on 7 June was an all-time record, and a blackpoll warbler on 17 June was at least as rare, though nowhere near as high, as a kite). The number of stragglers found was remarkable. To have reports of 31 warbler species in June and July in Ohio is unusual; last summer it was 23, in 2004 it was 24, and 26 the year before. No doubt the extra scrutiny encouraged by Atlas work led to records of late stays, and of nesting in some new areas. As for the most habitat-sensitive summer migrants, a good showing of shorebirds (in variety, if not in numbers, especially considering only six species breed in the state) veteran observer Craig Holt summarized the situation in this way: "By my reckoning, 23 species put in appearances during June and July [at Conneaut]. I believe five more species were found elsewhere in the state, bringing the total to 28. That's darn good for an Ohio summer season. Imagine how many shorebirds would show up if we had more good habitat." Scan the shorebird reports below to see how important that little scrap of habitat in the NE corner of the state (the only locale for reports of eight shorebird species, and the principal one for many others) remained this season, threatened as it may be in so many ways.

In mid-state, June averaged 1.9 degrees cooler than usual, and July 1.4 degrees warmer; both months were wetter than average, June by .22 inches and July by 1.15. Warm summer air makes for extreme local rainfall, however: Lake County had ten inches of rain on 28 July, with horrific flooding as the Grand River crested 11 feet above flood stage, recreating perforce a lot of prehistoric habitat at Mentor Headlands. The Toledo area marinated in 9.19 inches of rain during July, 6.39 inches more than average. Inconveniences farther south more often involved uncomfortable heat and humidity. Lest readers take hot summers for granted, heed these surprising words from the pen of Ohio's first ornithologist J. P. Kirtland, writing in Cleveland during late June over a century and a half ago:

White-headed sparrow: This migratory bird has appeared here for the past month in unusual numbers and is prolonging its visits to the present time (27th of June). We noticed in a former article the tardiness of the white snow-bird in departing for the North and stated that it had remained here until it had passed its vernal moult, an occurrence we never before observed.

The Red Polls were equally slow in taking their departure for the North, and now the white crowned, and the white throated finches are still lingering about our gardens and fruit trees and are enlivening the dreary and remarkable season by their pleasant songs.

All the species seem to know that the state of the weather North of the Lakes is not adapted for their customary reception [The Family Visitor, Vol. 1, #19, 13 June 1850].

In the 47th Supplement to its Check-list (*Auk* 123:926-936), the American Ornithologists' Union revised the official taxonomic sequence among North American bird species, resulting in changes in the Ohio list in the order of Scolopacidae shorebirds, terns, jaegers vs. gulls, and cuckoos. These changes are reflected in the Reports below. Additionally, research has required that changes be made in the generic names of certain North American species; notes appear in the Reports in the two cases affected here, willet and Caspian tern. Too many pay as much attention to the AOU's non-scientific pronouncements, such as those involving the ungrammatical capitalization of English names, rather than to research-based nomenclatural changes such as these. The revised AOU Check-list is available on the internet at <http://www.aou.org/checklist/index.php3>; an Ohio version from the OOS can be found at <http://www.ohiobirds.org/birdingnews/Ohio%20list%20taxonomic.pdf>, or write to the Editor. We seem to be in a period of yearly refinements in ornithological nomenclature, and should not be surprised by further changes next July.

The Reports follow the nomenclature and taxonomic order of the 7th edition of the AOU Check-list of North American Birds (1998), including the 47th Supplement (July 2006). Underlined names of species indicate those on the OBRC Review List and documentation is needed to add reports of these species to official state records, or to attributions (i.e., reporters' names) in the Reports. Where supplied, county names appear *italicized*. Unless numbers are specified, sightings refer to single birds. Abbreviations, conventions, locations, and symbols used in the Reports should be readily understood, with the possible exceptions of the following: ad=adult; alt=alternate (breeding) plumage; BCSP=Buck Ck SP in *Clark*; BIWA=Big Isl WA in *Marion*; BSBO=Black Swamp Bird Observatory; CCE=Crane Ck estuary in ONWR; CPNWR=Cedar Point NWR in *Lucas*; CVNP=Cuyahoga Valley Natl Pk 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 31 July 2006; EHSP=East Hbr SP in *Ottawa*; tide="in trust of," said of data conveyed on behalf of another person; Funk WA is in *Wayne*; Gilmore Ponds is in *Butler*; GLSM=Grand Lk St Marys in *Mercer/Auglaize*; HBSP=Headlands Beach SP in *Lake*; HBSNP=Headlands Beach SNP in *Lake*; HWSP=Hueston Wds SP (*Butler/Preble*); imm=immature; Killbuck=Killbuck Marsh WA in *Wayne/Holmes*; KPWA=Killdeer Plains WA in *Wyandot*; LSR=Lakeshore Reservation (MP) in *Lake*; Magee=Magee Marsh WA in *Ottawa/Lucas*; MBSP=Maumee Bay SP in *Lucas*; MP=Metropark; m obs=many observers; MWW=Miami-Whitewater Wetlands in *Hamilton*; NWR=National Wildlife Refuge; OBBA=Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas, second edition; OBRC=Ohio Bird Records Committee; ODOW=Ohio Division of Wildlife; ONWR=Ottawa NWR in *Ottawa/Lucas*; ONWRC=monthly bird census at ONWR, reported by E. Pierce; PCWA=Pickerel Ck WA in *Sandusky*; ph=photograph; Res=Reservoir; Res'n=Reservation; SCBC=Greater Akron Audubon Society Summit County Bird Count of 16-25 June; SF=State Forest; SNP=State Nature Preserve; SP=State Park; SVWA=Spring Valley WA in *Greene/Warren*; WA=Wildlife Area.

The Reports, Summer 2006

Snow goose: Perhaps its recent population surge has brought the occasional Ohio summer report. One flying with Canada geese over **Ottawa NWR** 13 Jun seemed uninjured (R. Hinkle).

Canada goose: 636 tallied by the 4 Jun ONWRC were almost certainly of the established introduced *maxima* population, as was a flock of 350 at **BCSP** 29 Jul (D. Overacker). The US Fish & Wildlife Service promulgated guidelines this summer that exempt local resident Canada geese (*B. c. maxima*) from protection afforded to migratory wildfowl, relaxing controls on lethal management measures.

Mute swan: Increasing, but not yet at so alarming a rate as in some nearby Great Lakes states. R&S Harlan reported eight adults and four downy young at **Nimisila Res (Summit)** 5 Jun; the SCBC later in the month tallied an uncomfortable 35 in the county. D. Overacker saw seven including one young bird at **BCSP** 9 June.

Wood duck: The high count of 68, at **Ottawa NWR**, included 14 downy young 4 Jun (ONWRC).

Gadwall: J. Lehman noted four at **ONWR** on 17 Jun; a rare annual nester in Ohio, breeding went unconfirmed in this case.

Mallard: The high count was 434, on the 4 Jun ONWRC, with 315 there on 2 Jul.

Blue-winged teal: Among scattered summering birds were 13 for the 4 Jun ONWRC, one near **Hudson** 17 Jun (D. Chasar), four pairs in a **Hardin** wetland 7 Jul (R. Counts) with a family elsewhere in the county 5 Jun (C. Hoagstrom), three in **Hancock** 11 Jul (B. Hardesty), and 10 in **Ashtabula** 31 Jul (C. Holt).

Northern shoveler: An adult male visited **Conneaut harbor**, with reports from 24 (M. Vass) and 28 Jun (C. Holt).

Green-winged teal: Four drakes were around for the 4 Jun ONWRC, and a pair present through the season in **Hardin** revealed a nest 2 Jul (R. Counts). The 2 Jul ONWRC found twelve at the refuge.

Canvasback: An adult drake found 13 Jun off **Kelleys Isl** may well have been the one present there last summer (T. Bartlett).

Redhead: A male in **Portage** 28 Jun-12 Jul appeared territorial, but no hen was located (K. Miller).

Ring-necked duck: The SCBC of 16-25 Jun turned up one in **Summit** for the only report of the summer.

Lesser scaup: The 4 Jun ONWRC observed a drake at **Ottawa**.

Hooded merganser: June brought additional reports of hens with young across the state. One with seven chicks on 30 Jun in **Williams** was of local interest (J. Grabmeier).

Common merganser: On 23 Jul, a hen with a half-grown young bird was photographed in **Columbiana** (J. Dolan, m obs).

Red-breasted merganser: Quite unusual inland in summer, a hen or imm plied **West Branch SP** in *Portage* on 19 Jul (G. Bennett).

Ruddy duck: A few ruddies turn up each summer around the state, but actual breeding is a far rarer event. This year, a drake spent Jun and Jul in *Hardin* and was found with a hen 19 Jul (R. Counts), another was present for the 4 Jun ONWRC along with four at the *Paulding* sewage ponds the same day (M&D Dunakin), and F. Frick noted a pair at *MWW* 12 Jun.

Wild turkey: Gaining a grip on habitable habitat everywhere, turkeys turned up—often with poults—in some surprisingly urban settings statewide.

Northern bobwhite: Breeding was confirmed, probable, or possible in *Adams, Athens, Ashtabula, Brown, Butler, Clermont, Clinton, Columbiana, Darke, Delaware, Greene, Hamilton, Hardin, Highland, Knox, Lorain, Montgomery, Muskingum, Perry, Scioto, Summit, Trumbull,* and *Warren* (OBBA data). The high count was 30+ in *Highland* 29 Jun (B. Foppe). The wild status of these birds is often open to question.

Common loon: As often happens, a few basic/immatures tarried at the **Findlay** reservoirs during the season, with two on 6 Jun, four on 20 Jun, and three through the eop (B. Hardesty). An imm/basic bird spent the summer at **Cowan Lk** in *Clinton* (L. Gara 11 Jun, K. Robinson 28 Jul). An adult in alternate plumage haunted **Alum Creek Res** (scene of rumored breeding in 2003), photographed 30 Jun (M. Romito).

Pied-billed grebe: Thirty-one were present for the 4 Jun ONWRC, and a hen with four young was at *MWW* two days later (F. Frick). At a new location were two nests in *Hardin* (R. Counts), where D. Overacker counted fifteen on 23 Jul.

Double-crested cormorant: Small numbers, nearly all imm, were seen at inland reservoirs as usual summer-long. The **Kelleys Isl** census tallied 462 on 17 Jun (T. Bartlett). C. Caldwell reported a minimum of 300 at **Turning Pt Isl** 9 Jul. The ONWRC counted only 26 on 4 Jun (vs. 132 the previous Jun), arguably a result of large-scale culling at nearby **West Sister Isl** this May. The official estimate of breeding pairs there was 2707 ±279, a significant decrease of 29.1% from last year's estimate of 3813 ±346 pairs, due in large part to the shooting of 4320 birds there by wildlife personnel. According to the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* (8/24/06), large-scale shooting of cormorants will continue (if approved) for the next few years, with goals next year of a 50-60% reduction at **Green Island** and an additional 30% at **WSI**. The reliability of this information may be compromised by the fact the *PD*'s star hook-and-bullet columnist called these birds "ducks."



If only we all were as quick with a camera as Judy Semroc, who caught this aninga flying overhead in southern Summit Co. on 26 Jun.

Anhinga: A flyover anhinga was photographed by an alert observer in southern **Summit** 26 Jun; another observer reported what was almost certainly the same bird at the same location 7 Jul. Details for this sighting, which would be the first accompanied by physical evidence since a specimen taken in *Washington* in 1885, are with the ÖBRC.

American bittern: The ONWRC had one 4 Jun (and three 2 Jul), and D. Overacker a remarkable six at **BCSP** the same day. E. Tramer saw one at **CPNWR** 10 Jun. B&D Lane another over *Columbiana* 16 Jun, and C. Babyak reported one calling in *Trumbull* 1 Jul.

Least bittern: Likely breeders were birds found during the period in *Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Columbiana, Cuyahoga, Hamilton, Lucas, Portage, Summit, Trumbull,* and *Wayne* (OBBA).

Great blue heron: On 15 Jun, C. Babyak counted 418 nests at the **Lordstown** site in *Trumbull*. The annual nesting survey of **West Sister Island** reported 1267 ±200 breeding pairs. An established colony adjacent to the *Ashtabula* airport disappeared, along with the trees (C. Holt).

Great egret: The ONWRC tallied 164 on 4 Jun and 158 on 2 Jul. C. Caldwell reported ~12 at **Turning Pt Isl** 9 Jul. Single-digit reports away from the NW during Jun and early Jul came from *Ashtabula, Clermont, Franklin, Hardin, Lorain, Mahoning, Summit, Union,* and *Wayne*. As usual, larger numbers assembled in the interior counties later in Jul, with 12 in *Darke* 29 Jul (R. Schieltz) and 27 in *Butler* the next day (M. Busam). The big news was two new breeding sites inland, in *Mahoning* and *Franklin*, found during Atlas work (see short notes in this issue). Estimates of **West Sister Island** breeders showed 1067 pairs ±152.

Snowy egret: The 4 Jun ONWRC reported eight, and all subsequent reports during the period were of two to four birds in the **ONWR** area (m obs). Fifteen nests were reported from **West Sister Island**.

Little blue heron: B. Warner observed one on **West Sister Isl** 9 Jun, where one nest was confirmed. One was in **ONWR** 30 Jun (G. Links). P. Sherwood reported an imm near **ONWR** 22 Jul. Note: a pair nested at **WSI** last year as well, but did not appear in reports available to us until this year.

Cattle egret: Seven were found on **West Sister Isl** 9 Jun (B. Warner); four nesting pairs were reported there this summer, down from 10 last year. No onshore reports emerged of birds from the **Turning Pt Isl** colony, a coincidence one hopes. Unusual were two adults in breeding finery at **GLSM** on the Fourth of July (G. Dietz, ph), a presence that bears watching in the future.

Green heron: Seemed in normal numbers, with high counts of nine on the 4 Jun ONWRC, and 18 in J. Pogacnik's survey of the *Lake* MPs. The SCBC found 48 between 16 and 25 Jun in *Summit* alone.

Black-crowned night-heron: Whence came the imm birds at **Conneaut** 3 Jun (C. Holt) and at **Killbuck WA** 15 Jun (S. Weaver)? F. Renfrow counted six nests at **Spring Grove Cem** in *Cincinnati* on 6 Jun. Eight at **Pipe Ck WA** 9 Jul (C. Caldwell) were likely from the **Turning Pt Isl** colony. Subsequent dispersals probably accounted for 29 Jul reports of five imm in *Butler* (M. Busam) and ten birds at **Winton Wds** in *Cincinnati* (L. Brumbaugh). The official **West Sister Island** estimate came up with 480 ±94 nesting pairs this season.

Yellow-crowned night-heron: A fairly encouraging season overall. The small **Columbus** colony had two successful nests, but a high count of only three young (25 Jun, A. Paschall); on 7 Jul all had apparently departed (P. Gardner). Jay and Jack Stenger saw a young bird the next day at **Winton Wds** in **Cincinnati**. The species could not be relocated at **SVWA** (L. Brumbaugh). D. Kline (*vide* S. Snyder) located the nest of the **Wayne** pair 12 Jul; the birds and much of the nest disappeared shortly thereafter, according to m obs. A. Lindsay reported two birds calling in flight in **Athens** 18 Jul.

Black vulture: Reported from the usual areas, along with an unusual **Delaware** bird 15 Jun (C. Bombaci). B. Foppe was able to salvage a dead juv in **Clermont** 20 Jul, which will become the second Ohio museum specimen of this age class.

Osprey: The ODOW collected Ohio reports of 46 nests, with 75 young fledged (D. Sherman). J. Watts observed that the **Franklin** pair that fledged three 15 Jul was probably the first in a hundred years in the county. Does eagle competition discourage them from nesting, or even appearing in summer, in the **NW marshes** or **Conneaut**?

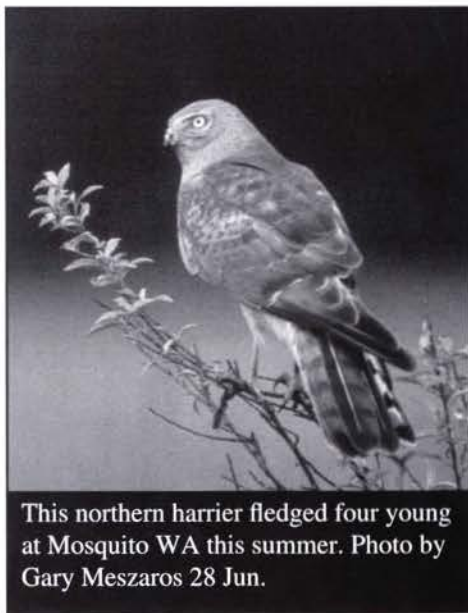
Swallow-tailed kite: A brief fly-over in **Ashland** on 3 Jun was rated by the observer as "possible." Another in **Mahoning** 31 Jul by an observer quite familiar with the species was observed for ten minutes.

Mississippi kite: An adult was reported 50' overhead in **Portage** 3 Jun; details should be with the OBRC.

Bald eagle: Some idea of their increasing numbers is exemplified by a sighting of seven perched along the breakwalls at **Conneaut**—not a hot spot for such numbers in the past—on 31 Jul (C. Holt).

Northern harrier: Reported were a male in **Clermont** 2 Jun (D. Morse) and one in **Holmes** the following day (R. Hershberger), one 9 Jun in **Miami** (T. Shively), one in **Lucas** 15 Jun (J. Dixon), a female in **Hardin** 20 Jun (R. Counts, m obs), another in **Hancock** 20 Jun (B. Sams *vide* B. Hardesty), a male in **Ashtabula** twice in Jul (C. Holt), a female at **The Wilds** 14 or 15 Jul (J. Larson), and one in **Paulding** 30 Jul (C. Busch). A nest at **Mosquito WA** had four hatchlings and two eggs 4 Jun (D&J Hochadel) with young fledged 28 Jun (G. Meszaros, ph). Another **Hardin** family produced at least three young 27 Jun (C. Hoagstrom).

Sharp-shinned hawk: OBBA results of interest included possible or confirmed nesting during the period in **Athens** (3), **Clinton**, **Columbiana** (3), **Cuyahoga**, **Delaware**, **Hamilton**, **Hocking**, **Holmes**, **Lucas**, **Stark**, and **Washington** (2). J. Pogacnik reported at least five possible nest sites in the **Lake** MPs.



This northern harrier fledged four young at Mosquito WA this summer. Photo by Gary Meszaros 28 Jun.

Red-shouldered hawk: Doing well in many locales. Of local interest was one in **Williams** on 20 Jun (J. Grabmeier), where seldom reported.

American Kestrel: High count a healthy nine, all at **Armleder Pk** in **Cincinnati** 13 Jul (B. Hull).

King rail: The 4 Jun ONWRC found three calling birds, and located but one on 2 Jul. The only report from the spring's pair at **Magee WA** was of one calling 23 Jul (P. Gardner, B. Whan).

Virginia rail: OBBA reports came from **Columbiana**, **Cuyahoga**, **Hardin**, **Lake**, **Mahoning**, **Medina**, **Portage**, **Richland**, **Stark**, **Summit**, **Trumbull**, and **Wayne**; reports from the NW marshes are no doubt lagging behind or not being shared.

Sora: Reports for the Breeding Bird Atlas came from **Columbiana**, **Darke**, **Hardin**, **Lake**, **Medina**, **Summit**, and **Trumbull**, and will emerge from elsewhere in the fullness of time.

Common moorhen: After some good spring numbers, reports emerged from many counties during the period: **Ashtabula**, **Butler**, **Columbiana**, **Cuyahoga**, **Darke**, **Delaware**, **Fairfield**, **Hardin**, **Highland**, **Holmes**, **Lake**, **Lucas**, **Marion**, **Ottawa**, **Pickaway**, **Portage**, **Summit**, **Trumbull**, **Warren**, and **Wayne**.

American coot: S. Snyder observed one at **Killbuck Marsh** 3 Jun, and the ONWRC had three the following day. Nested successfully for the first time at **Glacier Ridge MP** in **Union** (J. Watts).

Sandhill crane: The DOW assembled data on a record-tying 15 nesting pairs: nine in **Wayne**, two in **Holmes**, and single nests in **Geauga**, **Williams**, **Ashtabula**, and **Lorain**. Not included was a pair spending its second summer at **SVWA** in **Warren** (J. Hickman), and observers in **Williams** suspect more than one pair nesting there. High count was 21 on 23 Jul, with 16 at **Funk WA** and five more at **Killbuck WA** (P. Jones).

Black-bellied plover: Skimpily reported, with migrants on the **Magee** beach 17 Jun (J. Lehman) and at **Conneaut** 25 Jul (L. Hays).

Semipalmated plover: Hardly numerous, and mostly a visitor to **Conneaut Harbor**, with six on 3 Jun (C. Holt), another on 10 Jun (J. Pogacnik), one on 28 (Holt) and 29 Jun (M. Vass), and one there 3 Jul (Vass). Holt reasonably wondered if a bird might have summered at the site. Maximum was only nine, again at **Conneaut** 31 Jul (Holt)

Piping plover: Two were discovered on the beach at **Conneaut**: one on 10 Jul (B. Coulter), and another 25 (L. Hays) and 26 (Coulter) Jul. Both were marked: researchers reported that the first bird was a female that had nested and fledged all four young this season near **St. Ignace, MI**, and that the second was a male, probably (some doubt persisted at the time of compilation) sire of a nest that had also fledged all four young, in this case near **Grand Marais, MI**.

Killdeer: Ohio birders tend to take killdeers for granted, mostly because we live in a major migratory pathway for the species. Others are not so lucky. As it happens, the US Shorebird Conservation Plan reduced its estimate of their population by 50% between 2001 and 2005, and their numbers are apparently declining. Higher counts of July migrants came on the 2nd, with 50+ in **Harding** (R. Counts) then 120 there 23 Jul (D. Overacker), 194 the 5th at **Funk WA** in **Wayne** (S. Snyder), 150+ in **Wyandot** the 21st (Counts), then 709 at **Funk** 28 Jul (S. Weaver).

American avocet: All reports came from **Conneaut**, with one there 15 Jul (L. Hays), three the 18th (C. Holt), and singletons on the 19th (B. Roysel) and the 24th (Hays).

Spotted sandpiper: Present in normal numbers. High count, admittedly pre-migration, only four at **Cowan Lk** 26 Jul (L. Gara).

Solitary sandpiper: Once regarded as an Ohio nester because found throughout the summer here, witness one in **Hardin** 15 Jun (B. Warner), one in **Holmes** 6 Jul (R. Schlabach), and another at **Glacier Ridge MP** in **Union** 10 Jul (J. Watts).

Greater yellowlegs: Also seen often, with a late one at **Conneaut** 10 Jun (J. Pogacnik), and early birds in **Hardin** 3 Jul (R. Counts), and 4 Jul at **Conneaut** (C. Holt).

Willet (newly *Tringa semipalmata*): All reports came from **Conneaut** in Jul, with three there the 9th, one on the 17th (A. Morrison), then another on the 18th (C. Holt).

Lesser yellowlegs: One returned to **Hardin** 20 Jun (R. Counts) and another to **Conneaut** 28 Jun (C. Holt). At the former location there were 19 by 2 Jul and 23 on 7 Jul (Counts). **Funk** had 31 on 12 Jul (S. Snyder), and a flooded field in **Wyandot** 68 on 20 Jul (Counts). The first juvenile was noted at **Conneaut** 13 Jul (Holt).

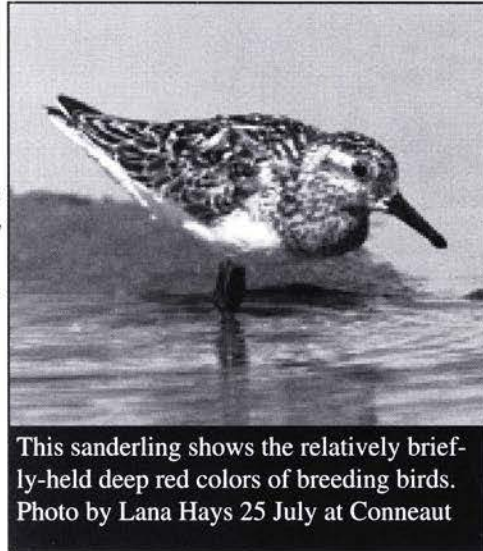
Upland sandpiper: Breeders were scarce as usual, with the airport contingent represented by birds at **Springfield** 11 Jun (J. Karlson *vide* D. Overacker), where observers with spotting scopes were soon banned by local warriors against terrorism. One of the traditional pair along Krause Rd near **ONWR** was spotted 17 Jun by J. Lehman. Fall migration was underway 24-25 Jul, when M&D Dunakin reported as many as four in a **Paulling** pasture. S. Weaver one at **Funk** 28 Jul, while in **Hardin** R. Counts found one on the 30th, and B. Warner five the following day nearby.

Whimbrel: Just one reported, at **Conneaut** on 18 Jul (C. Holt).

Marbled godwit: One sighting, of three birds at **Conneaut** 9 Jul (A. Morrison).

Ruddy turnstone: Three sightings of this comparatively late fall migrant, with one on the 2 Jul **ONWRC**, one at **Funk** 28 Jul (S. Weaver), and two adults at **Conneaut** 31 Jul (C. Holt).

Sanderling: Two adults were early at **Conneaut** 11 Jul (C. Holt), and careful counts there of 23 (Holt) and 47 (B. Roysel)—both on 18 Jul—demonstrate the volatility of shorebird numbers at this site in migration. Two were found inland, one at **Funk** 21 Jul (S. Weaver), and on the **BCSP** beach 22 Jul (D. Overacker).



This sanderling shows the relatively briefly-held deep red colors of breeding birds. Photo by Lana Hays 25 July at Conneaut

Semipalmated sandpiper:

Five stragglers were at **Conneaut** 3 Jun (C. Holt), and eight on the 10th (J. Pogacnik), while one lingered on the beach at **BCSP** 4 Jun (D. Overacker). The first reported returnees were a duo in **Hardin** 6 Jul (R. Counts). The high count was 71 on 28 Jul at **Funk** (S. Weaver).

Western sandpiper: Their migration, never well detected, was bracketed by adults found at **ONWR** 4 Jun (T. Bartlett) and 23 Jul at **Conneaut** (J. Pogacnik).

Least sandpiper: Late to depart were ten at **Pipe Ck WA** 5 Jun (J. Lehman). Four in **Hardin** 20 Jun were probably returnees, followed by three 24 Jun at **Conneaut** (M. Vass), and single birds there (C. Holt) and in **Lorain** (G. Leidy) the 28th. High counts 30-40 at **Conneaut** 9 Jul (A. Morrison) and 55 at **Funk** 26 Jul (K. Kaufman *vide* B. Glick). An early juv arrived at **Conneaut** 18 Jul (Holt).

White-rumped sandpiper: Usually lingers, this summer with two in **Hardin** 5 Jun (C. Caprette) one at **Conneaut** 10 Jun (J. Pogacnik), and a bird at **Killbuck WA** as late as 20 Jun (S. Weaver), then a returnee 15 Jul at **Conneaut** (Pogacnik); adults continued there through 23 Jul (Pogacnik).

Baird's sandpiper: Only a few. A bird at **Conneaut** 29 Jul was identified as an adult (G. Malosh), and presumably so were single birds in **Hardin** 21 Jul (R. Counts) and near **ONWR** 28 Jul (K. Kaufman).

Pectoral sandpiper: No Jun reports, with the first coming 6 Jul in **Hardin** (R. Counts). Numbers at **Funk WA** grew to the high count of 245 on 26 Jul (K. Kaufman *vide* B. Glick).

Dunlin: Late departures on 4 Jun were two at **BCSP** (D. Overacker) and 11 for the **ONWRC**. As usual in recent years, an adult in alternate plumage frequented the **Ottawa NWR** area very early, first reported this year by K. Kaufman 21 Jul.

Stilt sandpiper: Adults trickled in during late July, the first the 15th near **ONWR** (K. Overman), then three at **Conneaut** the 18th (C. Holt), two in **Wyandot** (R. Counts) and two in **Conneaut** the 20th, where another showed up the 23rd (J. Pogacnik).

Short-billed dowitcher: First detected was a single bird in **Hardin** 3 Jul (R. Counts), then at **Conneaut** four the next day (C. Holt) and 14 on 9 Jul (A. Morrison), and five at **Funk WA** the 12th (S. Snyder). A wave of 250 touched down near **ONWR** 15 Jul (K. Overman). C. Holt reported one of the locally very scarce eastern *griseus* race at **Conneaut** 18 Jul. No reports of juveniles were received, as is normal for the period.



This adult stilt sandpiper is in relatively intact breeding plumage; note especially the bold striping on the flanks. Photo by Lana Hays, at Conneaut 25 July.

Long-billed dowitcher: A single report of this later-migrating dowitcher, an alternate adult, came from **Conneaut** 26 Jul (B. Coulter, m obs, ph).

Wilson's snipe: One was winnowing 4 June for the **ONWR** census team, interestingly enough. Still more unexpected was one at a **Pickaway** wetland 11 Jun (B. Whan et al.). One 2 and 3 Jul in **Hardin** was earlyish for a migrant (R. Counts). Apparently southbound were birds 16 Jul near **ONWR** (K. Kaufman) and in **Hancock** 18 Jul (B. Hardesty). J. Pogacnik reported one possible nesting in the **Lake** MPs this year, and more from the NE doubtless went unreported.

Wilson's phalarope: Ohio's fourth nesting locale for this species was recorded at a **Hardin** wetland. R. Counts noted a pair there 4 Jun, where G. Stauffer found three 13 Jun. A female, a male, and two juveniles were observed there 16 Jul (Counts). Elsewhere, a migrant juv was near **ONWR** on the latter date (K. Kaufman).

Laughing gull: A hatch-year bird visited **Kelleys Isl** 17 Jul (T. Bartlett).

Franklin's gull: One visited **BCSP** 4 Jun (D. Overacker), and another/others a **Findlay Res** 20 Jun and 11 Jul (immature, B. Hardesty).

Bonaparte's gull: A few non-breeding birds hung around the Lake. An ad was at **Kelleys Isl** 11-16 Jun (T. Bartlett), while at **Conneaut** two apparent summering birds were present 3 Jun (C. Holt), then seven on 10 Jun (J. Pogacnik), nine on 24 Jun (M. Vass), and 11 on 3 Jul (Vass).

Ring-billed gull: C. Holt reported the first juvenile out on its own at **Conneaut** 28 Jun, and R&S Harlan found two in a flock of 45 in **Medina** two days later. A flock of 150 at **Caesar Ck SP** on 19 Jul included three juveniles (L. Gara). By 29 Jul, 300 ring-bills were at **BCSP** (D. Overacker).

Herring gull: First reported as juveniles 18 Jul, at **Conneaut** (C. Holt).

Lesser black-backed gull: At **Conneaut**, a second-year individual was present 15 Jul (J. Pogacnik), and a first-summer on 31 Jul (C. Holt). P. Chaon reported this species 30 Jul from the **Kelleys Isl** ferry.

Great black-backed gull: After 10 on 3 Jun (C. Holt), seen as singletons at **Conneaut** during Jun, with one there the 3rd (Holt) and another the 10th (J. Pogacnik). T. Bartlett reported a second-year bird at **Kelleys Isl** 17 Jul.

Caspian tern (newly *Hydroprogne caspia*): Unusual were two adults seen at **BCSP** 9 (C. Schooley) and 16 Jun (D. Overacker). Two at **Conneaut** on 3 Jul were ahead of schedule (M. Vass), and may have been non-breeders. The first juvenile was found there 31 Jul (C. Holt).

Black tern (note new position in taxonomic order): At **Metzger Marsh**, scene of recent nestings, J. Lehman noted two on 5 Jun and C. Spagnoli 3-4 on 10 Jun; C. Caldwell had the high count of eight there 15 Jul. Unusual were three at **Killbuck Marsh** 3 Jun (S. Snyder) and another bird 9 Jun (R. Counts) in **Hardin**, where M. Studebaker found three on 20 Jun. At **CPNWR**, another sometime nesting spot, one was seen 10 Jun (E. Tramer), but none on two subsequent visits. Post-breeding movements went mostly unnoticed this summer, with single birds at **BCSP** 22 Jul (D. Overacker) and **Kelleys Isl** 30 Jul (P. Chaon)

Common tern: The 4 Jun **ONWRC** found 110 at the supported nesting colony there; production numbers were not available at press time, but apparently predation by great horned owls affected them significantly (R. Huffman). Lowering Lake levels may expose offshore islands and bars that were this species' natural breeding areas in days gone by. A dispersing individual was at **Funk WA** by 22 Jul (S. Snyder).

Forster's tern: The 4 Jun **ONWRC** found one, and C. Spagnoli three over **Metzger** on 10 Jun, where C. Caldwell found two 15 Jul. One touched down at **Conneaut** 18 Jul (C. Holt). Inland, four were at **Funk** 28 Jul (S. Weaver).

Yellow-billed cuckoo (note new position in taxonomic order): By all accounts spottily numerous around the state this year. On 28 Jun, C. Holt reported his first ever for **Conneaut**, and double-figure counts came from **Jaite** in **Cuyahoga** 12 Jun with 10+ (D. Chasar) and **Kelleys Isl** 17 Jul with 10 (T. Bartlett). On the latter date R. Thorn reported this species as "common in narrow riparian strips south of **Columbus**."

Black-billed cuckoo: Less common than yellow-billed (the **SCBC**'s ratio of 31 to 7 was typical), and similarly patchy in distribution, it still did not experience a bad year.

Common nighthawk: E. Tramer's remark about its status in the **Toledo** area, "absent from formerly reliable nesting sites," applied to many other areas as well. Eleven found in all of **Summit** 16-25 Jun by the **SCBC**, for example, is not encouraging, and Holt called his findings in the NE "pitiful." Increasingly, it seems our migrant nighthawks, their numbers still fairly strong, are Canadian birds.

Chuck-will's-widow: No surprising occurrences were reported this year. Chucks nest in perhaps half a dozen southern counties, but usually go unreported except in **Adams**, where observers are used to seeking them. The new **OBBA** should, one hopes, further clarify their breeding range.

Whip-poor-will: Declining in once-productive areas like the **Clear Creek Valley** in **Hocking**, where veteran observer J. Fry heard but one this summer, on 29 Jun; little obvious habitat change has occurred at this location, except perhaps maturation of forest edge.

Chimney swift: Having noticed 1000+ in late May at a building in **Wadsworth**, R&S Harlan found unusual numbers there later: 365 on 6 Jul, and 425 on 26 Jul, surprisingly large roosts for those dates. See *Further Afield* for more details.

Yellow-bellied sapsucker: This regular NE breeder went under-reported as usual, but G. Leidy did find three breeding pairs in **Ashtabula**, two on 12 Jun and one on 15 Jun; also reporting **Ashtabula** pairs were J. Pogacnik (three) and N. Barber (one). D. Cole reported a **Trumbull** bird, and Pogacnik eight in the **Lake** MPs during the period.



One of the least flycatchers Gabe Leidy found nesting near Hiram in Geauga Co. Photo by Gary Meszaros, 25 Jun.

Yellow-bellied flycatcher: One touched down at CPNWR as late as 10 Jun (E. Tramer).

Acadian flycatcher: High counts included eleven in the **Cuyahoga Falls** area 20-21 Jun (T&M Romito), and seven in a small park in **Wadsworth** 6 Jun (R&S Harlan).

Alder flycatcher: Well-represented in the north, with high counts of six in **Ashtabula** 15 Jun (G. Leidy) and eight probable territories in the **Lake** MPs (J. Pogacnik). Seen in migration as late as 7 Jun in **Columbus** (R. Thorn), with—as last year—southerly outposts at **Cedar Bog** in **Champaign** (several pairs 20 Jun, J. McCormac), and **Clear Ck MP** in **Hocking** (two 2 Jun and one 22 Jun, J. Watts).

Willow flycatcher: Also a bit slow to arrive, numbers quickly swelled, with 38 seen on the 4 Jun ONWRC. D. Chasar observed “a good showing all period” at the CVNP.

Least flycatcher: Well-represented in the NE, with multiple reports from **Ashtabula**, **Medina**, **Portage**, **Geauga**, **Trumbull**, and **Cuyahoga**, with J. Pogacnik also noting 11 likely territories in the **Lake** MPs. Well outside the usual strongholds were at least four males in a **Williams** woodlot 20 Jun (J. Grabmeier, E. Tramer), one in **Coshocton** 19 Jun-25 Jul (L. Deininger), one at **Clear Ck MP** in **Hocking** as late as 22 Jun (J. Watts), and another in **Pickaway** 25 Jun (M. Gallaway).

Great crested flycatcher: The high count of nine came with the big early Jun wave of flycatchers on the 4th at **Ottawa** (ONWRC).

Eastern kingbird: The 4 Jun ONWRC tallied 34. Never prone to linger, by mid-Jul staging was underway, with 15 in a field in **Miami** the 13th (T. Shively) and 51 at **Kelleys Isl** the 17th (T. Bartlett). Some good observers regarded their overall numbers as depressed this year.

Scissor-tailed flycatcher: An adult of this species was well described from **Battelle-Darby MP** in **Franklin** 10 Jul. Several subsequent undocumented reports from this location were not wholly satisfactory. Details are with the OBR. There is only one previous summer record of this species in the state, a male collected in **Adams** 16 Jun 1970.

Loggerhead shrike: One was spotted and photographed 15 Jun in **Highland**, where two were determined to be present later that day. An adult was verified carrying food 24 Jun, for our first shrike nesting in three years. Details with the OBR.

White-eyed vireo: With few records in **Williams**, three were found there 20 Jun (J. Grabmeier).

Bell's vireo: Not found at once-traditional nesting sites near BCSP, where D. Overacker suggested vegetation may have matured enough to make sites there less inviting. The **Columbus** pair from the previous season nested, with three eggs observed 13 Jun (B. Warner). A single sighting came from **Campbell Ponds** in **Hamilton** 3 Jun (Neill Cade). A male showed up in **Darke** the same day, and after much serenading had attracted a female by 17 Jun (R. Schieltz). One of another pair found in **Greene** 11 Jun (J. Karlson *vide* Overacker) was carrying nesting material.

Yellow-throated vireo: Widely reported. D. Chasar remarked it had put on its “best showing in years” in the CVNP.

Blue-headed vireo: Likely the new Atlas will extensively redraw the map of this as a nesting species. Reports emerged from northeastern strongholds to be sure, where J. Pogacnik reported as many as 37 territories in the **Lake** MPs. C. Chasar reported “an outstanding year” for the CVNP (plus 4-5 singing males in **Brecksville Res'n** in **Cuyahoga**), and J. Dolan 10+ territories in a single walk in **Columbiana**. The **Hocking Hills** breeders are well known, but **Franklin**, **Delaware**, **Morgan**, **Scioto**, **Vinton**, and **Washington** reports this summer are new to the existing maps.

Purple martin: Large migratory flocks were reported in late Jul in the SW, with 200-300 at **Winton Wds** 27 Jul (J&J Stenger), and 2000+ in **Butler** the 30th (M. Busam).

Tree swallow: E. Tramer et al. witnessed flocks numbering “well over 4000” at CPNWR on 22 Jul.

Bank swallow: An early migrant was in **Holmes** 2 Jul (E. Schlabach). At **Conneaut** ~200 swarmed on 10 Jul (C. Holt), and S. Snyder noted 300+ staging at **Funk WA** two days later. By 22 Jul, 2700+ were to fly by CPNWR for the census team (E. Tramer).

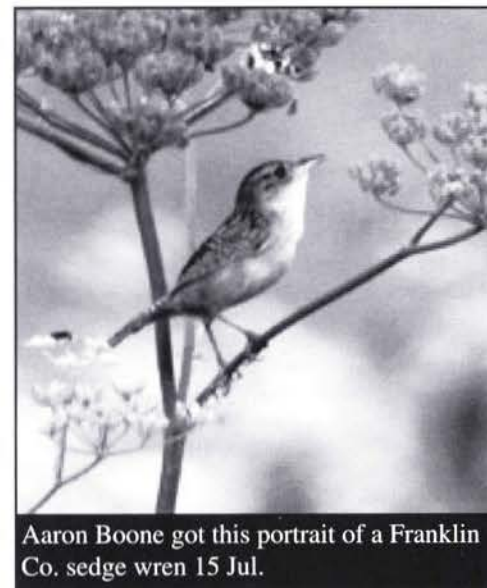
Cliff swallow: P. Yoder's farm was again the site of numerous warmly-welcomed breeders, with 400+ nests on his farm buildings in **Holmes** on 10 Jun (S. Snyder); nearby, his rival A. Troyer had approximately as many in **Wayne**: we're not taking sides.

Barn swallow: Not as prone as other swallows to move en masse, ~100 nevertheless gathered over the VOA site in **Butler** 12 Jul (M. Busam)

Red-breasted nuthatch: Though missing from some expected spots, nested sparingly across the NE, with a high count of seven at **Horseshoe Pond** in the CVNP 8 Jul (G. Leidy). In the NW, nested in **Oak Openings MP** in **Lucas**, and observed in the **Maumee SF** in **Henry** in June (T. Kemp).

Brown creeper: Atlas work resulted in nesting reports ranking from possible to confirmed from **Ashland** (three at **Mohican SF**), **Ashtabula**, **Cuyahoga**, **Delaware**, **Greene** (“several”), **Lake** (3 in MPs), **Mahoning**, **Portage** (2), **Summit** (2), and **Trumbull** (2). High count seven at **Killbuck** 20 Jun (S. Weaver).

Winter wren: The spring's lonely male in **Dublin** last sang 1 Jun (G. Fluke). At least one territory was located in the **Mohican SF** during the period (B. Glick), and from the **Lake** MPs J. Pogacnik reported six possible nesting sites, 13 probable ones, and three confirmed, most commonly in hemlock bluffs.



Aaron Boone got this portrait of a Franklin Co. sedge wren 15 Jul.

Sedge wren: The high count of migrants was 21 for the 4 Jun ONWRC. Vigilance on behalf of the Atlas produced records of singing males from at least *Ashtabula, Darke, Franklin, Geauga, Hardin, Holmes, Huron, Lake, Logan, Lorain, Lucas, Medina, Miami, Muskingum, Paulding, Portage, Trumbull, Van Wert, Wayne, Williams,* and *Wood* during the period.

Marsh wren: Again, the 4 Jun ONWRC provided the high count, including migrants no doubt, of 21, but also reported 20 at the Refuge on 2 Jul. At least four pairs at the small marsh at **Jaite** in *Cuyahoga* was a nice concentration (D. Chasar), as were the same number at **Conneaut** (C. Holt). C. Caldwell noted the species' ability to adapt to *Phragmites* in reporting six at **Medusa Marsh** 15 Jul. Other reports emanated from marshes in *Ashland, Columbiana, Erie, Lorain, Ottawa, Richland, Sandusky, Summit,* and *Wayne*.

Golden-crowned kinglet: P. Coy reported a male in the **CVNP** 11 Jun. One was singing in the **Mohican SF** 6 Jul (B. Glick). One was reported during the 16-25 Jun SCBC. J. Pogacnik reported probable nesting during the period at **Chapin Forest MP** in *Lake*.

Veery: In more southerly islands of habitat, large counts of 15 singing males were detected 30 Jun in the **Mohican SF** (B. Glick), and 20 in **Clear Ck MP** in *Hocking* (J. Watts). Intriguing reports of single birds from still farther south came from near **Cowan Lk** in *Clinton* 8 Jun (B. Powell) and in *Greene* 17 Jun (T. Spahr).

Swainson's thrush: Bringing up the rear was one singing in *Montgomery* 3 Jun (D. Dister).

Hermit thrush: Two birds were in **Brecksville Resn** 21 and 23 Jun (D. Chasar). J. Pogacnik found one nest, and suspected five others, in the *Lake* MPs during the period. Three singing males were found in **Mohican SF** 3 Jun (B. Glick). From *Hocking*, J. Watts reported five in the MPs, and four others were reported in the SPs there (m obs).

American pipit: Two were still on their way exceptionally late on 4 Jun, found by the **Ottawa NWR** census team (E. Pierce).

Cedar waxwing: The 4 Jun ONWRC produced 151 migrants. The high mid-summer count was ~40 in *Clermont* 24 Jun (B. Hart).

Blue-winged warbler: Some veteran observers reported them down in numbers. We do not know how Katrina may have impacted southbound trans-Gulf migrants last fall. G. Leidy reported one mated with a "Brewster's" warbler in *Summit* 10 Jul, with two hybrid young noted.

Golden-winged warbler: A male singing at the end of Jun in **Morgan Swamp** in *Ashtabula* could not later be relocated (J. Pogacnik).

Northern parula: Birds north of the strongholds included: in the first week of Jun, one in *Logan*, three in *Miami*, and one in *Darke* (all T. Shively), one in **Columbus** 12 Jun (R. Royse), several at **Cedar Bog** in *Champaign* 20 Jun (J. McCormac), two heard in *Paulding* as late as 30 Jun where the species has been found for three years (M&D Dunakin), three singing at **Mohican SP** 26 Jun (R&S Harlan), a bird singing in the **Brecksville Res'n** 20 Jun and a pair that fledged young at **Station Rd** in the **CVNP** (D. Chasar).

Yellow warbler: Little **Kelleys Isl** hosted 153 on 17 Jun for the local census (T. Bartlett). R. Harlan noted the first southbound migrants in *Medina* 10 and 13 Jul, and C. Holt one at **Conneaut** 18 Jul; E. Schlabach noticed birds on the way south in *Holmes* on 20, 28, and 30 Jul.

Chestnut-sided warbler: Mostly a sparse nester in the north, out of the way reports came via a male singing at **Mohican** 3 Jun (B. Glick), a male Jun-long in Toledo's **Oak Openings** (E. Tramer), males at two *Medina* locations 10 and 25 Jun (R&S Harlan), one noted in *Coshocton* 19 & 20 Jun (L. Deininger), and two from **Clear Ck MP** in *Hocking* (J. Watts).

Magnolia warbler: J. Pogacnik noted 22 in the *Lake* MPs as possible, probable, or confirmed nesters. In the traditional **Hinckley MP** location in *Medina*, T. Martincic witnessed an adult carrying food 16 Jul. A male on territory for two weeks in **Toledo** was missed by 10 Jun (R. Nirschl). One was singing in **Mohican SF** 26 Jun (R&S Harlan). K. Ricks had one in **Akron** 12 June, and J. Dolan another in *Columbiana* the 15th. Three territories were in the **Clear Ck MP** in *Hocking* (J. Watts).

Cape May warbler: In **Toledo**, one was still singing in spruces on 2 Jun (M. Anderson).

Black-throated blue warbler: One singing in **Mohican** 3 Jun was not refound (B. Glick).

Yellow-rumped warbler: Quite late, one in *Holmes* 10 Jun (K. Kaufman *vide* B. Glick) was not refound.

Black-throated green warbler: In the *Lake* MPs, 34 were regarded as possible nesters or better (J. Pogacnik). Fifteen were tallied in **Clear Ck MP** (J. Watts).

Blackburnian warbler: No reports, positive or negative, were received on the traditional nesters in *Hocking*. One singing 3 Jun in **Mohican** could not be relocated (B. Glick).

Yellow-throated warbler: In unusual spots were two-three in *Logan*, four or more in *Miami*, and three in *Darke* the first week of Jun, too late for migrants (all T. Shively). Eight nests were located in **Mohican** during the period (B. Glick). One was singing in **Toledo** 8 Jun (M. Anderson). J. Pogacnik found eight possible or better nesters in the *Lake* MPs during the period.

Pine warbler: Mostly a southern species, one was near **Wilmot** 3 Jun (W. Sarno), with 4-6 singing in **Mohican** in Jun (B. Glick) along with 10+ males near **Nimisila Res** (R&S Harlan), three territories near **Meander Res** (C. Babyak), and three pairs probably breeding in the *Lake* MPs (J. Pogacnik).

Prairie warbler: L. Gardella counted 40+ while driving one road in *Adams* 12 Jun. Seven pairs were along one trail in **Clear Ck MP** in *Hocking* 2 Jun (J. Watts). Way out in very glaciated Ohio, two were in *Miami* during the first week of Jun (T. Shively).

Palm warbler: One lingered in Dayton's **Englewood MP** as late as 3 Jun (C. Schooley)

Blackpoll warbler: The usual laggards included birds in *Butler* 2 Jun (M. Busam) and **Conneaut** the next day (C. Holt), but a singing male at **Chestnut Ridge MP** in *Fairfield* on 17 Jun (E. Reiner) was a shock.

Cerulean warbler: Numbers seem healthy, knock on wood, and the Atlas will furnish some good ones eventually. In well-covered strongholds, 49 were in the *Lake* MPs (J. Pogacnik), and 39 at **Clear Ck MP** in *Hocking* (J. Watts).

Black-and-white warbler: Notable records included one in *Logan* 7 Jun (T. Shively), one in *Franklin* 6 Jun (C. Morrow), one 7 Jun and 7 Jul in *Coshocton* (L. Deininger), several in **Mohican** during the period (B. Glick), and 14 possible or better as nesters in the *Lake* MPs (J. Pogacnik).

American redstart: During the period, **Clear Ck MP** harbored 41 (J. Watts), **Mohican** two singing males (B. Glick), and **Kelleys Isl** seven on 17 Jun (T. Bartlett).

Prothonotary warbler: Showed up, but did not persist, at some odd places in Jun. Elsewhere, a ten-mile trip along the upper reaches of the **Cuyahoga R** yielded 15 for C. Pierce 10 Jun. C. Bombaci's efforts in southern **Delaware** along the upper shores of **Hoover Res** peaked at a remarkable record 141 territories 8 Jul, many with fledged birds by then; by 24 Jul none were to be found there (CB).

Worm-eating warbler: A male was found on **Kelleys Isl** the week of 11-16 Jun (T. Bartlett). Three were detected in **Mohican** 26 Jun (R&S Harlan). SCBC surveyors found one in **Summit** for the second summer in three decades.

Ovenbird: L. Gardella counted 30+ in **Adams** 12 Jun. Ten were heard in **Mohican** 22 Jun (B. Glick) during the summer. E. Schlabach noted an early migrant in **Tuscarawas** 30 Jul.

Northern waterthrush: E. Tramer spotted a straggler at **CPNWR** 10 Jun. More intriguing was a possible pair at **Rising Valley Pk** in **Medina** 18 Jul (G. Leidy). In the *Lake* MPs, J. Pogacnik found one probable and two possible nesting pairs during the period.

Louisiana waterthrush: Five were singing in **Mohican** 20 Jun (B. Glick). In the unglaciated western counties, T. Shively found two in **Logan** during the first week of Jun, and R. Nirschl one in **Williams** on the 20th.

Kentucky warbler: Seemed in normal numbers. Searchers in **Mohican** found a single nest (B. Glick). Two males in **Logan** 7 Jun were unusual (T. Shively).

Mourning warbler: In the belated category were three on the 4 Jun ONWRC, one in **Dayton** 9 Jun (J. Beale), and two 11-16 Jun on **Kelleys Isl** (T. Bartlett). A male in **Summit** 25 Jun was remarkable (D. Vogus). J. Pogacnik reckoned nesting probable in one case and possible in another in the *Lake* MPs.

Common yellowthroat: Fifty-two passed through **Ottawa** for the census team on 4 Jun.

Hooded warbler: B. Glick reported 15 singing in **Mohican** 3 Jun. Very scarce in the unglaciated area, but T. Shively found three in **Logan** the first week of Jun, one in **Paulding** 17 Jun was a first summer record there (D&M Dunakin), and J. Grabmeier found two males way up in **Williams** 20 Jun.

Wilson's warbler: Last reported passing through was one in **Darke** 3 Jun (R. Schieltz).

Canada warbler: In customary haunts, **Clear Creek MP** had seven (J. Watts),

Mohican five (B. Glick), and the *Lake* MPs as many as 11 singing males (J. Pogacnik).

Yellow-breasted chat: High count was 11 at **Shawnee Lookout** in **Cincinnati**, 3 Jun (D. Brinkman).

American tree sparrow: R. Hannikman found one at **Mentor Lagoons** 7 Jun for a new late Ohio record.

Clay-colored sparrow: K. Miller discovered a singing male in **Stark** 30 Jun, last seen 19 Jul. L. Gooch reported a territorial male in **Summit** 3&4 Jul. There is only one Ohio nesting record, but trends seem up for this species.

Field sparrow: Fifty-one poured through **Ottawa** during the 4 Jun census.

Vesper sparrow: Hangs on in the little habitat afforded it in agricultural areas. T. Shively reported it in "every field" he visited in **Van Wert** in June, and we may grant him the license of enthusiasm. J&J Stenger found eight 4 Jul in **Brown**, Ohio's southernmost outpost for this species (adjacent Kentucky has no confirmed breeding records in recent years). R&S Harlan reported seven on a BBS route in grasslands spanning **Lorain**, **Huron**, and **Ashland** counties 4 Jun.

Lark sparrow: In mid-Jul, birds were reported at a park in **Greene** close to **Dayton** (*vide* M. Busam). As for the **Oak Openings** colony, 12 birds flushed off Girdham Rd on 27 Jul (E. Tramer), arguing for a successful breeding season there.

Henslow's sparrow: Perhaps their inconspicuous song went undetected in years gone by, or perhaps they have genuinely established new breeding areas, but it seems work for the new Atlas will draw a much larger map of their presence.

Swamp sparrow: Perhaps one down in **Clinton** on Jun 8th was just passing through (B. Powell). The 4 Jun ONWRC counted 17, and R&S Harlan 15 around **Chippewa Lk** in **Medina** 30 Jun.

White-throated sparrow: E. Tramer found a straggler at **CPNWR** 10 Jun.

Dark-eyed junco: Unexpected but not unprecedented was one as late as 5 Jul down in **Columbus** (D. Snapp). D. Chasar called several pairs in **Brecksville Res'n** their "best year ever." R. Rickard observed a pair with three young in **S. Chagrin Res'n** 24 Jul. R&S Harlan had a singing male in **Mohican** 26 Jun. **Summit** birds were reported by K. Miller 11 Jul and G. Leidy 21 Jul. Numbers increased farther north, capped by 107 (possible, probable, and confirmed) territories in the *Lake* MPs (J. Pogacnik).



Kent Miller took this portrait of a clay-colored sparrow that spent at least 30 Jun-19 Jul singing in a Stark Co field.

Rose-breasted grosbeak: This northern species nested about as far south in the state as you can get, with a nest at **Shawnee Lkout** in **Cincinnati** 3 Jun (D. Brinkman), one in **Scioto SF** 2 Jul (D. Overacker), and an imm west of **Cincinnati** 23 Jul (N. Keller).

Blue grosbeak: Present in good numbers at the usual locales, including Toledo's **Oak Openings** at the northernmost point, where as many as five were reported. The only new frontier seemed to be **Logan**, where T. Shively found a pair 28 June and a pair at another location the following day.

Dickcissel: A heavy incursion this year, with reports from 39 counties and doubtless present in many more, appearing as far east as **Lake, Gallia, and Muskingum**. G. Links reported 17 pairs in a 3.5-acre field in **Wood**, with some nests only 70 meters apart.

Bobolink: More widely reported than usual, perhaps because of increased scrutiny of fields by Atlas participants. S. Snyder reported migrants were already staging by 19 Jul, with 35 at **Funk WA**.

Eastern meadowlark: Encouraging were 100+ in nw **Williams** 18 Jun (E. Tramer).

Western meadowlark: The male singing in **Wayne** since 16 May was joined by a female, with up to five young fledged from the nest. The female was judged to be of the same species (K. Kaufman *fide* B. Glick), a fairly remarkable coincidence in eastern Ohio. Fewer than usual reports came from the NW, with a bird in **Perrysburg** present since 12 Jun (P. Chad).

Yellow-headed blackbird: Beginning with the 4 Jun ONWRC, reports of single males emerged sporadically from the **Ottawa/Cedar Pt** area through the period, and it was thought a few birds had returned to the cattail patch in ONWR where they nested last year.

Orchard oriole: Leading the way were two southbound migrants detected in **Holmes** 29 Jul (E. Schlabach).

Purple finch: Twenty-seven apparent nesting pairs were reported from **Lake, Geauga, and Ashtabula** (OBBA). Farther south, two singing males were found in **Mohican** during the period (B. Glick), C. Holt had one in **Mahoning** 5 Jun, and B. Evans reported an out-of-the-way encounter with a male in **Muskingum** 11 Jun.

Pine siskin: Two seen well at a feeder in **Brown** 11 Jul were surprising but not unprecedented (B. Stevenson).

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Barb Keykens captured this amazing photograph on 14 June. She was able to witness and video tape a nest of killdeer eggs hatching at her home in **Logan**.