

Spring 2009 Season Report

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Greater White-fronted Goose:

About 115 reported, all in Mar, nearly doubling last year's count. High counts include 42 at Mercer WA (07 Mar, Rick Asamoto) and 34 at **Hardin** wetlands (18 Mar, Rick Counts). The latest report came from Englewood Metropark, **Montgomery**, on 24 Mar (Ed and Bev Neubauer).

Snow Goose: Around 90 reported, with single digits from **Clark**, **Crawford**, **Franklin**, **Hamilton**, **Highland**, **Lake**, **Marion**, **Seneca**, and **Wayne**. High counts include several dozen at Killdeer Plains (05 Mar, Tom Rooney), 12 in **Paulding** (08 Mar, Doug and Micki Dunakin), and 20 in **Hancock** (10 Mar, Betty Hardesty), where one lingered through 05 May.

Ross's Goose: Reports of singles came from Delaware SP (01 Mar,

John Habig, Troy Shively, Bill Whan), **Hancock** (23 Mar, Betty Hardesty), and **Hardin** wetlands (08 Apr to 11 Apr, Rick Counts). Other reports include seven, some possibly hybrids, at Cowan Lake (13 Mar, Rick Asamoto) and two at Old Reid Park, **Clark** (22 Mar, Doug Overacker), which moved to Buck Creek SP, **Clark** (23 Mar, Rob Lowery) and remained until 26 Mar (m. obs.).

Cackling Goose: Four reports: three at Buck Creek SP, **Clark** (01 Mar, Doug Overacker), two at Sidecut Metropark (01 Mar, Elliot Tramer), two at Funk (07 Mar, Suzanne Wagner), and two off **Lake** (07 Mar, John Pogacnik).

Brant: Casual in early spring; John Pogacnik had one during his lakeshore waterbird survey in **Lake** on 08 Mar.

Mute Swan: An increasingly common invasive, this species was reported in **Champaign**, **Clark**, **Clermont**, **Clinton**, **Columbiana**, **Darke**, **Defiance**, **Delaware**, **Erie**, **Fairfield**, **Franklin**, **Geauga**, **Hamilton**, **Highland**, **Hocking**, **Huron**, **Lake**, **Lorain**, **Mahoning**, **Marion**, **Medina**, **Montgomery**, **Holmes**, **Mercer**, **Ottawa**, **Lucas**, **Paulding**, **Sandusky**, **Stark**, **Summit**, **Warren**, **Wayne**, and **Wyandot**.

Tundra Swan: Reported in usual numbers, with high counts of 368 on 01 Mar during the ONWR monthly census and 268 over Akron, **Summit**, on 10 Mar (Gregory Bennett).

Wood Duck: Good numbers included 48 in **Lake** (07 Mar, John Pogacnik), 21 at Hoover (20 Mar,

Charlie Bombaci), and 72 during the ONWR monthly census (05 Apr, Doug Vogus).

Gadwall: High counts, all from **Ottawa/Lucas**, include 120 at Metzger (09 Mar, Kenn Kaufman), 542 during the ONWR monthly census (05 Apr, Doug Vogus), and 150 at Medusa Marsh (22 Apr, Rob and Sandy Harlan). A lone female lingered in **Lorain** through 18 May (Gregory Bennett).

Eurasian Wigeon: Reports of this species have been increasing considerably, with at least 12 individuals reported this spring. Singles came from Delaware SP (06 Mar, Charlie Bombaci); Killbuck (06 Mar, Helen Ostermiller), which remained until 08 Mar (Gabe Leidy); Cowan Lake (07 Mar, Jay Lehman), which remained until 09 Mar (Shane Egleston, Rick Asamoto and John Habig); Mosquito Lake (15 Mar, Philip Marcischak); Metzger (17 Mar, Kenn Kaufman); Killdeer Plains (22 Mar, Pam Unger), which remained through 08 Apr (Ben Warner); **Hardin** wetlands (24 Mar to 11 Apr, Rick Counts); Springville Marsh, **Wayne** (11 Apr, Tom Bartlett); Bellevue Skyponds, **Seneca** (12 Apr, Rob and Sandy Harlan), which remained through 16 Apr (Kent Miller); and near Wooster, **Wayne** (09 May, James E. Yoder), which remained the following day (Kevin Kline).

American Wigeon: High counts include 140 at Metzger (09 Mar, Kenn Kaufman), 150 at Funk (08 Mar, Ken and Helen Ostermiller), and 355 at the Bellevue Skyponds (12 Apr, Rob and Sandy Harlan). Two remained at ONWR 09 May (Ken and Helen Ostermiller).

American Black Duck: The high count of the season came from Blendon Woods MP, **Franklin**, where Bruce Simpson had an astounding 545 on 06 Mar.

Mallard: High counts of this widespread species include 1,000 at Funk (Su Snyder), where 500 remained on 19 Mar (Robert Hershberger), 500 at Delaware SP (06 Mar, Bruce Simpson), 600 at Big Island WA (15 Mar, Jim McCormac), and 500 at Hoover (20 Mar, Charlie Bombaci).

Blue-winged Teal: The ONWR monthly census counted 102 on 05 Apr, and 50 were at Funk on 12 Apr (Ken and Helen Ostermiller). Su Snyder observed a leucistic individual at Killbuck on 27 Mar.

Northern Shoveler: Notable numbers reported include 161 on the ONWR monthly census (05 Apr, Doug Vogus), 130 at Big Island WA (15 Mar, Jim McCormac), and an impressive 400 at Funk (19 Mar, Robert Hershberger).

Northern Pintail: Good numbers passed through, mostly during Mar. Su Snyder observed 400 at Funk on 05 Mar, which doubled to 800 by 19 Mar (Robert Hershberger), and Jim McCormac had 180 to 200 at Big Island WA on 15 Mar.

Green-winged Teal: By 09 Mar, 50 had congregated at Deer Creek (Rob Roysse). High counts include 250 to 300 at Big Island WA (15 Mar, Jim McCormac) and 400 at Funk (19 Mar, Robert Hershberger), which increased to 570 two days later (Kevin Kline).

Canvasback: Reported in fewer numbers than last year. The high count of 200 was observed at Deer Creek (09 Mar, Robert Royse).

A single individual lingered in **Columbiana** through 11 May (Bob and Denise Lane).

Redhead: High counts for this species include 2,500 at Deer Creek (09 Mar, Rob Royse) and 1,000 at Metzger (22 Mar, Elliot Tramer). A lone female lingered at Killbuck through 16 May (Adam H. Troyer).

Ring-necked Duck: High counts include 1,000 at Killbuck (05 Mar, Su Snyder), which increased to 2,478 by 09 Mar (Kevin Kline) and 800 at Deer Creek on 09 Mar (Robert Royse). Lingered individuals include a drake at Pickerington Ponds, Franklin, on 30 May (Aaron Boone) and a pair at Shaker Lakes, **Cuyahoga**, remained through the end of May (Leo Deininger).

Greater Scaup: The Kelleys' Island census on 20 Mar had the spring high count of 671 (Tom Bartlett). *Aythya*

species such as Canvasback and both scaup species appeared to be in lower numbers than in prior years.

Lesser Scaup: More abundant than Greater Scaup, Lesser Scaup had a high count of 2,500 at Deer Creek on 09 Mar (Robert Royse).

Surf Scoter: At least 35 reported including three at Buck Creek SP, **Clark** (05 Apr, Rick Asamoto), Clear Fork (08 Apr, John Herman), Edgewater Park (29 Mar, Paula Lozano), and Wellington Upground Reservoir (12 Apr to 16 Apr, m. obs); two in **Lake** (28 Mar, John Pogacnik), Pleasant Hill Lake (30 Mar, Su Snyder), and Findlay Reservoir (08 Apr to 14 Apr, m. obs.); and singles in **Cuyahoga, Delaware, Highland, Huron, Lorain, Lucas, Pickaway, Portage, Paulding, and Summit**. The last report came from Grand Lake St. Mary's on 14 May (Mary Misplon).

White-winged Scoter: Around 35 reported, including two at Avon Lake (06 Mar, Spencer Ryan), both remained the following day (Lukas Padegimas); one at Pleasant Hill Lake (06 Mar,



This group of four male and one female Northern Pintail was photographed over Wellington Reservoir, **Lorain**, 06 Mar by Judy Semroc.

Kani Fenstermaker and Su Snyder), both remained through 10 Mar (Rose O'Donnell); two at Cowan Lake (06 Mar, Charlotte Mathena), which remained through 16 Mar (John Troyer, Jr.) and one remained through 27 Mar (Larry Gara); three at Caesar Creek SP (Shane Egleston, Rick Asamoto and John Habig); two at Sims Park, **Cuyahoga**, (14 Mar, Nancy Anderson); three at Killbuck (19 Mar, *vide* Bruce Glick), which remained through 28 Mar (m. obs.); and two in **Mahoning** (Bob and Denise Lane). John Pogacnik's lakeshore waterbird surveys in **Lake** produced two on 07 Mar and 08 Mar, one on 22 Mar, and three on 05 Apr. Singles came from **Clark, Delaware, Lorain, Lucas, Richland/Morrow, Van Wert, and Wood.**

Black Scoter: Eight individuals reported this spring, including one at Cowan Lake (05 Mar, Bob Powell), two at Edgewater Park, **Cuyahoga**, (14 Mar, Gabe Leidy), and one at Bresler Upground Reservoir, **Allen** (11 Apr, Ed Schlabach). John Pogacnik's lakeshore waterbird surveys in **Lake** produced one on 14 Mar, two on 22 Mar, and one on 04 Apr.

Long-tailed Duck: Nearly 40 individuals reported throughout the state, with the high count of nine from **Harrison** (19 Mar, Bruce Glick). John Pogacnik's lakeshore waterbird surveys in **Lake** produced two on 14 Mar, one on 15 Mar, and one on 04 Apr. Other reports came from **Ashland/Richland, Clinton, Defiance, Erie, Guernsey, Lucas, Medina, Pickaway, Richland/Marrow, Summit, and Wayne.**

Bufflehead: High counts include 342 during the Kelleys' Island census

(20 Mar, Tom Bartlett) and 860 in **Mahoning, Summit, and Portage** combined (06 Apr, Gregory Bennett).

Common Goldeneye: John Pogacnik's lakeshore waterbird surveys in **Lake** had a total of 1,247, with the high count of 637 on 07 Mar. The Kelleys' Island census recorded 824 on 20 Mar (Tom Bartlett).

Hooded Merganser: High counts for the season include 30 at Metzger (09 Mar, Kenn Kaufman) and 40 at Killbuck (16 Mar, Su Snyder).

Common Merganser: John Pogacnik's lakeshore waterbird surveys in **Lake** had a total of 1,247 with the high count of 637 on 07 Mar.

Red-breasted Merganser: The Kelleys' Island census recorded 755 on 20 Mar (Tom Bartlett). John Pogacnik's lakeshore waterbird surveys in **Lake** had a total of 20,579, with the high count of 6,946 on 28 Mar.

Ruddy Duck: Reported in good numbers, including a total of 910 in **Mahoning, Summit, and Portage** (06 Apr, Gregory Bennett), 750 at Wellington Reservoir (12 Apr, Rob and Sandy Harlan), and 501 at Magee (21 Apr, Jim Witter).

Red-throated Loon: About a dozen reported, including two at Clear Fork (28 Mar, Bruce Glick), with one remaining through 11 Apr (Su Snyder). Single reports come from Seneca Lake (19 Mar, Bruce Glick); Buck Creek SP, **Clark** (22 Mar, Doug Overacker), which remained through 29 Mar; Caesar Creek (30 Mar, Rick

Asamoto), which remained through 07 Apr (Jason Cade); Wellington Reservoir (31 Mar, Su Snyder), which remained the following day (Gabe Leidy); Springfield Lake (17 Apr, Gregory Bennett), which remained through 19 Apr; Findley Reservoir (23 Apr, Chris Knoll); **Lake** (25 Apr, John Pogacnik); and Clear Fork (26 Mar to 17 Apr, John Herman).

Common Loon: John Pogacnik had 11 on his lakeshore waterbird survey in **Lake** on 24 Apr, and 12 were at Buck Creek SP, **Clark**, on 28 Mar (Doug Overacker). A few birds lingered through the end of May in the northern part of the state.

Pied-billed Grebe: High counts for this species all occurred in Apr, including 22 during the ONWR monthly census on 05 Apr, 20 at Killbuck also on Apr 5 (Ken and Helen Ostermiller), and 26 at Wellington Reservoir on 12 Apr (Rob and Sandy Harlan).

Horned Grebe: Thirty were at Wellington Reservoir on 01 Apr (Gabe Leidy; Ken and Helen Ostermiller) and persisted through 05 Apr (Rob and Sandy Harlan). The high count was 38 individuals recorded by John Pogacnik during his lakeshore waterbird survey in **Lake** on 22 Mar.

Red-necked Grebe: Nearly 40 reported in the state, with the high count of seven at Tappan Lake, **Harrison** (19 Mar, Bruce Glick). Other reports came from **Ashland/Richland, Clark, Clinton, Franklin, Guernsey, Harrison/Belmont, Lorain, Lucas, Mahoning, Pickaway, Portage/**

Mahoning, Richland/Morrow, and **Summit**.

Eared Grebe: Five reported, all singles, from Lake Medina (11 Mar, Karen Gray); Bellevue, **Sandusky** (12 Apr, Rob and Sandy Harlan), remaining through 27 Apr (Jay Lehman); Clear Fork (14 Mar, Kevin Kline); **Lake** (18 Apr, John Pogacnik); and Caesar Creek (23 Apr, Philip Ware).

American White Pelican: One was at Hoover 19 Mar through 28 Mar (Charlie Bombaci). John Herman had one at Clear Fork between 21 Mar and 22 Mar and again 08 Apr and 09 Apr. One was also reported from Bresler Uppground Reservoir, **Allen**, on 18 Apr.

Double-crested Cormorant: Clear Fork had 700 on 11 Apr (Su Snyder) and Craig Holt had 300 at Metzger on 25 Apr. John Pogacnik's lakeshore waterbird surveys produced a total of 1,427 off **Lake**, with the high count of 734 on 19 Apr.

American Bittern: Singles reported in **Columbiana, Coshocton, Delaware, Erie, Franklin, Geauga, Greene, Licking, Lorain, Lucas, Ottawa, Richland, Warren, Wayne,** and **Wood**, with the high count of five at **Hardin** wetlands on 16 Apr (Rick Counts).

Least Bittern: Chris Knoll reported one along the Magee boardwalk on 08 May, which was occasionally seen but mostly heard for at least a week or two longer. Other reports include singles at Navarre Marsh, **Ottawa** (07 May), Cedar Point NWR (02 May and 30 May, Elliot Tramer), and Springville Marsh (23 May, Tom Bartlett).

Great Blue Heron: The ONWR monthly census recorded 12 on 01 Mar and 33 on 05 Apr. Betty Hardesty observed 50 in **Hancock** on 07 Mar and John Pogacnik recorded 32 flying along the lakefront in **Lake** on 25 Apr. The high count of 79 was observed at a rookery in CVNP (16 May, Dwight Chasar).

Green Heron: The first report came from **Washington** on 03 Apr (Barb Hohman). The high count of eight was observed at CVNP on 16 May (Dwight Chasar).

Great Egret: One at Maumee Bay SP, **Lucas**, on 14 May was the first of the season (James Cole). The ONWR monthly census recorded 47 on 05 Apr, and John Herman counted 24 at Clear Fork on 08 Apr, which is likely a record high count for **Richland**. The season's high count of 65 was observed at ONWR on 09 May (Ken and Helen Ostermiller). Marcia Brehmer observed two nests on an island in a quarry in Columbus on 23 May.

Snowy Egret: Lukas Padegimas observed one along the Magee causeway on 11 Apr, which grew to 15 by 21 Apr (Jim Witter). At least one was occasionally seen through the rest of the season. Mary Misplon had one at Grand Lake St. Mary's (**Mercer/Auglaize**) on 14 May, and four were present at Killbuck on 27 Apr (Kevin Kline).

Little Blue Heron: The first of the season was reported at Armleder Park, **Hamilton**, on 11 Apr (Barb Schwallie). Singles were also observed at Veler Road, **Lucas** (28 Apr, Phil Chaon), Wright Marsh in Killbuck

(30 Apr, Bruce Glick), Magee (01 May, Bruce Glick; remained through the month), **Montgomery** (02 May, Shane Egleston), Mogadore Reservoir, **Portage** (06 May, Kent Miller), and again at Armleder Park on 08 May (Frank Frick).

Cattle Egret: A half-dozen reports, including nine at Killdeer Plains (25 Apr, Ron Sempier), four in **Auglaize** (27 Apr, Jay Lehman), 15 at Arrowhead Park, **Lucas** (28 Apr, *fide* Ohio RBA), 10 at Wright Marsh, Killbuck (30 Apr, Bruce Glick), one at Armleder Park, **Hamilton** (07 May, Allan Claybon), and one at Grand Lake St. Marys (**Mercer/Auglaize**) (14 May, Mary Misplon), which remained three days later (Russell Reynolds).

Black-crowned Night-Heron: Reported in good numbers this year, with the high count of 94 at Merwin Street, **Cuyahoga**, on 28 Mar (Paula Lozano). Other reports include 15 in **Ashtabula** (12 Apr, Rick Oxley) and 12 at the **Lorain** Impoundments (09 May, Robert Jackson). Small numbers were present at Magee through the season (m. obs.).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: One returned to the traditional nesting spot in suburban Columbus (Bexley) for the 13th consecutive year on 01 Apr (Bill Whan); up to five were present by 17 Apr (Barbara Abrams).

Black Vulture: Reported in usual numbers in the southern part of the state. Northern reports include eight in **Tuscarawas** (09 Mar, Sandy Brown), two in **Richland** (14 Mar, John Herman), five in **Sandusky**

(03 Apr, Robert Morton), six in **Ashland** (04 Apr, John Herman), and another in **Sandusky** (25 Apr, Hans Clebsch).

Turkey Vulture: The BSBO hawk counts in **Ottawa/Lucas** recorded 6,480 for the season, with a high count of 1,414 on 08 Apr. Various hawkwatches at Conneaut counted 1,491, including 761 on 24 Mar.

Osprey: Two were present at Lake Logan by 11 Mar (Bob Scott Placier). The BSBO hawk counts in **Ottawa/Lucas** counted 38 for the season, including 12 on 25 Apr. Hawk counts at Conneaut observed 42, including 31 on 25 Apr. It appears there was a good push on 25 Apr: both hawkwatches reported high counts on that day totaling 43 birds.

Mississippi Kite: A single flyover was observed by David Yoder near New Bedford, **Coshocton**, on 26 Apr. The OBRC accepted his documentation.

Bald Eagle: The ONWR monthly census recorded 12 on 01 Mar and 17 on 05 Apr, and Ed Schlabach observed 13 at Funk on 21 Mar. The BSBO hawk counts in **Ottawa/Lucas** recorded 179 for the season, including 21 on 09 Mar.

Northern Harrier: The BSBO hawk counts in **Ottawa/Lucas** counted 70 for the season, including eight on 09 Apr. Various counts at Conneaut recorded 44, including 31 on 25 Apr.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: Various counts at Conneaut recorded 803 for

the season, including 590 on 25 Apr. The BSBO hawk counts in **Ottawa/Lucas** counted 513, including 121 on 25 Apr.

Cooper's Hawk: The BSBO hawk counts in **Ottawa/Lucas** counted 252 for the season, including 31 on 17 Apr. Various counts at Conneaut recorded 21, including six on 25 Apr.

Northern Goshawk: Singles were observed in **Hancock** (03 Mar and 28 Apr, Betty Hardesty), **Geauga** (15 Mar, Brenda Barber), **Lucas** (19 Mar, Gerry Klug), and **Lake** (28 Apr, John Pogacnik), and a total of three were counted at various hawkwatches at Conneaut through the season. This species is often confused with the more common Cooper's Hawk, and sightings without additional documentation should be considered with caution.

Red-shouldered Hawk: The BSBO hawk counts in **Ottawa/Lucas** counted 262 for the season, including 95 on 09 Mar. Various hawkwatches at Conneaut recorded 187, including 170 on 17 Mar.

Broad-winged Hawk: The BSBO hawk counts in **Ottawa/Lucas** counted 446 for the season, including 256 on 21 Apr. Bruce Glick counted 5,687 over Conneaut on 25 Apr.

Red-tailed Hawk: The BSBO hawk counts in **Ottawa/Lucas** counted 720 for the season, including 69 on 17 Mar. Various hawkwatches at Conneaut observed 246 including 143 on 17 Mar. It appears 17 Mar was the day for Red-tails; both hawkwatches had high counts on that day totaling 212.

Swainson's Hawk: Two were reported over Conneaut on 25 Apr; the OBRC received no documentation.

Rough-legged Hawk: The high count of 28 was observed near Middlefield, **Geauga**, on 01 Mar (Andrew Morrison). The BSBO hawk counts in **Ottawa/Lucas** recorded only 10 for the season, the same number counted at Conneaut.

Golden Eagle: Singles were at ONWR (05 Apr, Richard Johnson), **Coshocton** (19 Apr, James E. Yoder), Dillon WA, **Licking/Muskingum** (19 Apr, Paul Haskins), Maumee Bay SP, **Lucas** (21 Apr, Chris Knoll, and 23 Apr, Lee Garling), Conneaut (25 Apr, Ed Schlabach), and **Holmes** (18 Apr, Kevin Kline). At least one was seen at Killdeer Plains through 22 Mar (Ken and Julie Davis, Rob Lowery) with two present on 15 Mar (Clyde Witt). The BSBO hawk counts in **Ottawa/Lucas** counted nine for the season, including three on 09 Apr.

American Kestrel: The BSBO hawk counts in **Ottawa/Lucas** counted 38 for the season, including 10 on 09 Apr. Various hawkwatches at Conneaut observed 130, including 97 on 25 Apr.

Merlin: Up to three roosted at Calvary Cemetery, with one remaining through 06 Apr (Lou Gardella). Two were in **Tuscarawas** on 14 Apr (Ed Schlabach), and John Pogacnik observed one on 19 Apr, three on 24 Apr, and three on 25 Apr in **Lake**. The BSBO hawk counts in **Ottawa/Lucas** counted nine for the season, and Bruce Glick had 12 at Conneaut

on 25 Apr. Singles were reported in at least a dozen other counties.

Peregrine Falcon: Singles reported throughout northern Ohio. Various hawkwatches at Conneaut observed 11 for the season, including nine on 25 Apr. The BSBO hawk counts in **Ottawa/Lucas** counted seven, including two on 17 Apr.

King Rail: The only one reported this season was a single bird at Irwin Prairie, **Lucas**, on 02 May (Glen Crippen).

Virginia Rail: The first report came from Spring Valley WA, **Greene/Warren**, of a single bird on 13 Mar (Michael Gerring). The high count of five came from CVNP on 16 May (Dwight Chasar).

Sora: One observed at **Hardin** wetlands on 24 Mar was the first one reported this spring (Rick Counts). There were many reports of small numbers but no notable concentrations reported.

Common Moorhen: Kenn Kaufman noted the first individuals of the season at ONWR on 18 Apr. Small numbers continued to be reported throughout the Magee/Ottawa marsh region. Bob Lane observed six around Guilford Lake, **Columbiana**, on 30 Apr.

American Coot: High counts for this species include 1,500 at Metzger (22 Mar, Elliot Tramer), 150 at Mogadore Reservoir, **Portage** (28 Mar, Gregory Bennett), and 645 counted on 05 Apr during the ONWR monthly census.

Sandhill Crane: Numerous reports from across the state, with a high count of 15 from Funk (28 Mar, Craig Caldwell). Away from their traditional flight path, one was observed by Lee Unterschultz in **Washington** on 06 May. Other reports came from **Allen, Clark, Clermont, Clinton, Darke, Erie, Franklin, Geauga, Greene, Hamilton, Hancock, Hardin, Highland, Lorain, Mahoning, Medina, Mercer, Montgomery, Ottawa, Paulding, Pickaway, Richland, Sandusky, Seneca, Summit, Tuscarawas, Warren,** and **Wayne**.

Black-bellied Plover: First reported from Veler Road, **Lucas**, on 11 Apr (John Pogacnik); other reports include five in **Delaware** (01 May, Jack Stenger), one at Killbuck (03 May, Gabe Leidy), one in **Darke** (12 May, Regina Schieltz), and four at Pickerel Creek WA, **Sandusky** (17 May, Sheryl Young).

American Golden-Plover: The first report, of six birds, came from ONWR during their monthly census on 05 Apr. The high count was an impressive 2,000 in **Marion** on 22 Apr (Troy Shively). Bill Whan had 5,000 in the same field a few years ago. Additional important concentrations include 500 in **Logan** (18 Apr, Bill Whan) and 600 to 700 in **Ottawa** (20 Apr, Phil Chaon).

Semipalmated Plover: The first reports came from Orwell Marsh, **Ashtabula** (Craig Holt), and Shreve Fish Pond, **Wayne** (Su Snyder), of singles on 29 Apr. The 35 along Benton-Carroll Road, **Ottawa**, on 12 May (Ken and Helen Ostermiller) increased to the high count of 70 on

17 May (Doug Overacker).

Piping Plover: Two reported. One was seen along Wilderness Road, **Wayne**, on 02 May (Kevin Kline), and remained through 04 May (Dan Sanders); the documentation was accepted by the OBRC. One reported at Maumee Bay SP, **Lucas**, on 06 May was not documented to the OBRC.

Killdeer: The **Hardin** wetlands hosted 47 on 18 Mar (Rick Counts) and the ONWR monthly census recorded 49 on 05 Apr. The high count of 63 came from **Hancock** on 09 May (Betty Hardesty).

Black-necked Stilt: Two reports. One was reported along Benton-Carroll Road, **Ottawa**, on several dates from 23 to 27 Apr but not documented to the OBRC. The other report, supported with photographs by Bruck Glick, was of two birds along Prairie Lane, **Wayne**, on 01 May. The OBRC accepted the documentation.

American Avocet: Gabe Leidy and Sherrie Duris discovered 23 on Veler Road, **Lucas**, on 25 Apr, and Gabe Leidy had another at the **Lorain** Impoundments between 12 May and 14 May.

Spotted Sandpiper: The first report came from **Licking** on 15 Apr (Timothy Mason).

Solitary Sandpiper: A solitary bird at Columbia Woods Park in Norton, **Summit**, on 27 Mar was the first of the year (Rob and Sandy Harlan) and the high count of eight was at Orwell Marsh, **Ashtabula**, on 02 May (Craig Holt).

Greater Yellowlegs: One was at Shreve Fish Pond by 12 Mar (Su Snyder). High counts include 50 at Benton-Carroll Road, **Ottawa** (11 Apr, Ken and Helen Ostermiller), and 65 at Funk (21 Apr, Su Snyder).

Willet: Eighty-seven individuals reported in the state, including four at Deer Creek (01 May, Robert Royse), 43 at Killdeer Plains (02 May, Dan Sanders), one at Buck Creek SP, **Clark** (02 May, Darlene Snuffer), two in **Hancock** (03 May, Bob Sams), one in **Butler** (3 May, unknown), 25 at Buck Creek SP (07 May, Rick Asamoto), seven at Mogadore Reservoir, **Portage** (07 May, Gregory Bennett), one along the beach at Magee (14 May, James E. Yoder), one at Armleder Park, **Hamilton** (14 May, John Zahnen), and two at the **Lorain** Impoundments (17 May, Tom Fisher).

Lesser Yellowlegs: The first report came from **Ross** on 07 Mar (Tom Bain) and the high count of 117 was along Benton-Carroll Road, **Ottawa**, on 25 Apr (Vic Fazio III).

Upland Sandpiper: Three reports: one each in **Delaware** (18 Apr, Sean Williams), Conneaut (23 Apr, Robert Hershberger), and **Madison** (19 May, Aaron Boone). The latter was detected by its nocturnal flight call early in the morning.

Whimbrel: Two reports totaling 44 individuals: 43 in **Lake** (21 May, John Pogacnik) and a flyby at Magee (22 May, Dave Collopy).

Marbled Godwit: One report, a single bird along Veler Road, **Lucas**, on 25 Apr (Jay Lehman).

Ruddy Turnstone: All reports from May, with the first from Magee on 13 May (Mary Warren). High counts include 12 at Killbuck (14 May, Kevin Kline, Su Snyder) and 36 at Magee (27 May, Chris Knoll).

Red Knot: One report, Greg Links reported a group fly over Route 19, **Lucas**, the first week in May.

Sanderling: Uncommon in spring, singles were present in **Scioto** (30 Apr, Ben Morrison), Buck Creek SP, **Clark** (14 May, Doug Overacker), Metzger (16 May, Craig Caldwell), and Maumee Bay SP, **Lucas** (16 May, Doug Overacker). Two were in **Darke** on 17 May (Regina Schieltz) and another two in **Hancock** on 19 May (Betty Hardesty).

Western Sandpiper: Very rare in spring, singles were at Magee (26 May, Clyde Witt) and Conneaut (26 May, Craig Holt).

Baird's Sandpiper: Quite rare in spring. Aaron Boone reported, "a single 'long-winged' peep—without a scope, the bird appeared to be a Baird's Sandpiper," on 30 May at Pickerington Ponds.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: The first report came from Benton-Carroll Road, **Ottawa**, of a single bird on 27 Apr (Vic Fazio III) and the high count of 30 was observed at the Lorain Impoundment on 14 May (Gabe Leidy).

Least Sandpiper: First reported at Buck Creek SP, **Clark**, on 23 Mar (Rob Lowry) the high count of 100 was observed at the **Lorain** Impoundment on 14 May (Gabe Leidy).

White-rumped Sandpiper: All reports from May, with the first report from the **Lorain** Impoundment of four on 09 May (Robert Jackson). Other reports include three at Conneaut (30 May, Mark Vass) and singles at Funk (May 16 and 23, Kevin Kline), Benton-Carroll Road, **Ottawa** (17 May, Doug Overacker; 20 May, Rob and Sandy Harlan), Findlay Reservoir (17 May, Bob Sams), and Bellevue Skyponds (20 May, Rob and Sandy Harlan).

Ruff: An individual reported by several observers along Stange Road, **Ottawa**, on 20 and 23 Apr was not documented to the OBRC. What was probably the same bird was reported several times from ONWR between 19 and 22 May. The documentation of this second event, by Brenda Tekin, was accepted by the OBRC.

Pectoral Sandpiper: Five at Maumee Bay SP, **Lucas**, on 14 Mar were the first reported (James Cole). High counts include 200 in **Logan** (18 Apr, Bill Whan), 1,000 around **Ottawa** (20 Apr, Phil Chaon), and 250 at Funk (27 Apr, Kevin Kline).

Dunlin: The first report came from Magee on 21 Mar (Gabe Leidy). High counts include 1,450 along Benton-Carroll Road, **Ottawa** (25 Apr, Vic Fazio III), 2,000 at ONWR (09 May, Rob and Sandy Harlan), and 1,000 at Maumee Bay SP, **Lucas** (17 May, Doug Overacker).

Stilt Sandpiper: Su Snyder found one at Shreve Fish Pond, **Wayne**, on 29 Apr and another six at Killbuck on 14 May, which increased to 11 later in the day (James E. Yoder).



This Ruff was documented at Ottawa NWR, Ottawa, by several birding groups, including local residents as well as visitors from Virginia. Brenda Tekin obtained the close photo on the left on 19 May, and Michael Bolton provided the photo on the right on 21 May as the bird was joined by two female Red-necked Phalaropes.



Short-billed Dowitcher: All reports from May, with the first from Magee (05 May, Clyde Witt). High counts include 20 at ONWR on 10 May (Rob and Sandy Harlan) and 43 at Killbuck on 14 May (Su Snyder).

Long-billed Dowitcher: One was in **Logan** (01 Apr, Troy Shively), three along Veler Road, **Lucas** (11 Apr, John Pogacnik), and one at Magee (10 May, Clyde Witt). Inland sightings are rare.

Wilson's Snipe: First reports came from **Ross** (Tom Bain) and **Cuyahoga** (Paula Lozano) on 07 Mar. High counts include 145 at Killbuck (21 Mar, Ed Schlabach), 76 at ONWR during their monthly census on 05 Apr, and a couple hundred along Veler Road, **Lucas** (16 Apr, Kent Miller). Several reports were received of "winnowing" birds through the end of May.

American Woodcock: Rob Lowry had several at Highbanks MP, **Delaware**, on 06 Mar, and Rob and Sandy Harlan had the high count of 13 at Silver Creek MP, **Summit**, on 07 Mar.

Wilson's Phalarope: Reports include one at the Bellevue Skyponds (16 Apr, Ben Morrison), one in **Lorain** (26 Apr, John Pogacnik), four along Veler Road, **Lucas** (08 May, Chris Knoll), one at Metzger (21 May, Ben Morrison), and one in **Paulding** (25 May to 26 May, Doug and Micki Dunakin).

Red-necked Phalarope: A single bird at ONWR on 19 May (Brenda Tekin) which was joined by another on 21 May (Michael Bolton).

Laughing Gull: Tom Bartlett had one from his ladder during his Big

Sit! survey at Magee on 09 May. Craig Holt had one at Conneaut on 18 May, and Rick Asamoto had one in **Montgomery** on 25 May.

Franklin's Gull: Two reports, one east of Cygnet, **Wood** (11 Apr, Becky Cullen), and two along Benton-Carroll Road, **Ottawa** (20 Apr, Phil Chaon).

Little Gull: Sally Isacco observed one at East 72nd Street, **Cuyahoga**, on 05 Mar.

Bonaparte's Gull: John Pogacnik's lakeshore waterbird surveys in **Lake** counted a total of 1,972, with the high count of 777 on 18 Apr. Other good numbers include 200 at Buck Creek, **Clark** (05 Apr, Rick Asamoto), and 224 at ONWR during their monthly census on 05 Apr.

Black-headed Gull: One reported flying along the lakefront in **Lake** on 18 Apr was not documented to the OBRC.

Ring-billed Gull: High counts of this species include 10,000 at Hoover (01 Mar, Dave Slager) and a total of 7,165 in **Lake**, counted during John Pogacnik's lakeshore waterbird surveys, including a high count of 1,888 on 01 Mar.

Herring Gull: Lakeshore waterbird surveys produced 3,280 in **Lake**, with a high count of 1,344 on 01 Mar (John Pogacnik). Betty Hardesty had a good inland count of 323 in **Hancock** on 07 Mar.

Thayer's Gull: A single first-cycle bird was found at Oberlin Reservoir, **Lorain**, on 01 Mar (Jim McCormac).

Iceland Gull: Five were at Oberlin Reservoir, **Lorain**, on 01 Mar (Jim McCormac) and Gabe Leidy had singles there on 02 Mar and 15 Mar. Singles were also at Hoover (03 Mar, Ken Davis), Conneaut (18 Mar, Craig Holt), and Edgewater Park, **Cuyahoga** (22 Mar, Gabe Leidy). John Pogacnik recorded three on 01 Mar, one on 28 Mar, and one on 04 Mar during his lakeshore waterbird surveys in **Lake**.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: Probably a record spring, with numerous reports around the state. Four were at Oberlin Reservoir, **Lorain** (01 Mar, Jim McCormac), two at Deer Creek (04 Mar, Robert Royse), Berlin Reservoir (spans **Mahoning, Portage**, and **Stark**; 05 Mar, Ben Morrison), Findlay Reservoir (10 Mar, Bob Sams), Buck Creek, **Clark** (29 Mar, m. obs.), and Clear Fork (17 Apr, John Herman). Reports of singles also came from **Clermont, Delaware, Erie, Franklin, Lake, Logan, Ottawa, Richland, Summit**, and **Warren**.

Glaucous Gull: At least 16 reported, including one at Hoover (01 Mar, Ken and Julie Davis), which increased to two to three by 03 Mar, five to six at Oberlin Reservoir, **Lorain** (01 Mar, Jim McCormac), with one adult remaining the following day (Gabe Leidy), and singles at Berlin Reservoir (spans **Mahoning, Portage**, and **Stark**); 03 Mar, Craig Holt and 05 Mar, Ben Morrison), Deer Creek (04 Mar, Robert Royse), Lake Milton, **Mahoning** (05 Mar, Ethan Kistler), Conneaut (07 Mar, Craig Holt), Port Clinton (09 Mar, Kenn Kaufman), Clear Fork (21 Mar, James E. Yoder

and 24 Mar, John Herman), and the Westerly Wastewater Treatment Plant in **Cuyahoga** (22 Mar, Gabe Leidy).

Great Black-backed Gull: As did other gulls, this species invaded inland reservoirs, with a high count of five at Lake Milton (04 Mar, Ethan Kistler). Other inland reports include two at Oberlin Reservoir, **Lorain** (03 Mar, Craig Caldwell), and singles at Hoover (01 Mar, Dave Slager), Deer Creek (01 Mar, Robert Royse), Berlin Reservoir (spans **Mahoning, Portage**, and **Stark**; 03 Mar, Craig Holt and 05 Mar, Ben Morrison), Mogadore Reservoir, **Portage** (13 Mar, Gregory Bennett), and Chippewa Lake, **Medina** (07 Mar, Ken and Helen Ostermiller). The high count along the lakefront was 73 in **Lake** on 01 Mar (John Pogacnik).

Black-legged Kittiwake: The bird found on 28 Feb at Hoover remained through 06 Mar (Kevin Hall).

Caspian Tern: First reported 26 Mar at East Fork (Rob Edelen), high counts include 60 at **Lorain** Impoundment (26 Apr, Gregory Bennett) and 308 off **Lake** (25 Apr, John Pogacnik).

Black Tern: First reported from **Wayne** on 30 Apr (James E. Yoder), increased to eight by 14 May (Adam H. Yoder). Other reports include one at Delaware WA (02 May, Darlene Snuffer), eight at Metzger (10 May, Rob and Sandy Harlan), one remained through 21 May (Ben Morrison), two at Sandy Ridge (10 May, Craig Caldwell), one along Veler Road, **Lucas** (12 May, Ken and Helen Ostermiller), seven in **Erie** (18 May, Gabe Leidy), and at least five birds

and one nest at Cedar Point NWR (30 May, Tom Kemp).

Common Tern: The first report came from Cowan Lake on 23 Mar (Jason Cade) and the high count of six was in **Lake** on 08 May (John Pogacnik).

Forster's Tern: Larry Gara had two at Caesar Creek by 10 Apr, and John Pogacnik had the high count of 131 in **Lake** during his lakeshore waterbird survey on 25 Apr.

Rock Pigeon: Bob Evans was alarmed to discover an individual on his property in rural **Muskingum** 24 May, only the third one he has seen in nine years here. No other unusual reports received for this widespread species.

Eurasian Collared-Dove: This spring's reports: 04 Mar through end of period in South Baltic, **Tuscarawas**; 28 May into June north of Bunker Hill, **Holmes**; and a pair carrying nesting material up a grain elevator in Celina, **Mercer**, 18 Apr. More individuals were reported later that month in the same city. Though the Eurasian Collared-Dove is apparently becoming established in western Ohio and possibly in the Amish Country, it remains a review species. Documentation to the OBRC is especially important for a species expanding its nesting range into our state, so that the phenomenon can be properly studied. None of these sightings were reported to the OBRC.

Mourning Dove: Thirty-seven were part of a Lakefront movement 22 Mar past Edgewater SP, **Cuyahoga** (Gabe Leidy).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Regarded by some as scarce this year. Mark Gilsdorf had the first records for the season on 25 Apr at both Armleder and Magrish parks, **Hamilton**, and, by 27 Apr, birds had reached **Holmes** (Leroy Yoder) and Magee (Rick Nirschl). Nirschl's eight at the Magee Bird Trail, **Lucas**, 27 May was the high tally.

Black-billed Cuckoo: One reached Shawnee Lookout, **Hamilton**, 25 Apr (Steve Bobonick), and Magee had its first the following day (Chris Knolls). Well reported overall, especially in the Bobolink area, where Black-billed reports nearly doubled those of Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Six in **Coshocton** 08 May (Kevin Kline) was an outstanding tally for this shy species.

Barn Owl: Four nests reported in the Bobolink area, along with a single bird in the **Pickaway/Ross** area 23 Mar (Charlie Bombaci, Bill Kincaid, Bruce Simpson).

Eastern Screech-Owl: Backyard fledglings were reported from two sites in **Cuyahoga** (Paula Lozano, Jeremiah Roth).

Great Horned Owl: Doug Vogus reported two active nests on the ONWRC 01 Mar, and a nest high on a powerline tower in **Jefferson** 04 Apr was unique (Emil Bacik, Gabe Leidy).

Snowy Owl: The two overwintering birds at Burke Lakefront Airport, **Cuyahoga**, just made it into this season's report; Greg Cudworth observed both there on 01 Mar for the only spring's only report.

Barred Owl: Six on the CVNP census 16 May was an all time high (Dwight and Ann Chasar).

Long-eared Owl: Two birds present at Caley Reservation, **Lorain**, at the beginning of the period, dwindled to one on 15 Mar, which remained through 27 Mar (Emil Bacik, Laura Keene, Jay Lehman, m. obs.). Twelve birds were reported within the Bobolink area, most of them overwintering, including a high count of four at Walborn Reservoir 06 Mar (Ben Morrison). Phil Chaon flushed a migrant near Camp Sabroske, **Ottawa**, 28 Mar.



*Long-eared Owl sightings are a reward for cautious observers; Larry Rosche and Judy Semroc spotted this bird at Caley Reservation, **Lorain**, after a considerable effort by several other observers. Semroc photographed this drowsy individual in its pine tree roost on 06 Mar.*

Short-eared Owl: Reported around the state, though they were not plentiful. Wintering birds were reported from 12 locales statewide, including high counts of six at Rockford, **Mercer**, 11 Apr (Ed Schlabach) and five at Killdeer Plains

14 Mar (Lukas Padegimas). The southernmost reports were of one at Armleder Park, **Hamilton**, 03 Mar to 01 Apr (Kirk Westendorf) and two at Miami-Whitewater Wetlands 05 to 22 Apr (Steve Bobonick, Neill Cade). Obvious migrants were one moving high over the Kline farm west of Holmesville, **Holmes**, 18 Apr (Dennis Kline), a flyby during a Conneaut hawkwatch 02 Apr (Ed Schlabach), and another at **Lorain** Impoundment, **Lorain**, 02 May (Emil Bacik, Gabe Leidy).

Northern Saw-whet Owl: A banner spring for the number of these tiny owls that were detected: nine were reported, all but one in the northern part of the state. Following Phil Chaon's report of three calling birds at Magee's east beach 28 Mar, m. obs. heard at least one along the boardwalk trail 02 to 16 Apr. In the northeast, John Pogacnik found four birds in a two-week period in late Mar to early Apr, all in **Lake**. On 07 Mar, Terri Martincic heard a calling bird at Hinckley Reservation, **Medina**, and on 18 Apr, Bob Sams found one at Camp Berry, **Hancock** (fide Betty Hardesty).

Common Nighthawk: Very few reports and even fewer of multiple birds. The first were a surprisingly early four near Mt. Eaton, **Wayne**, 26 Apr (Aden Yoder). Three were east of Ragersville 14 May (Leroy Schlabach), and Craig Holt was delighted to hear a bird in Struthers, **Mahoning**, 13 May. Doug Overacker racked up eight from Maumee Bay SP, **Lucas**, to Magee 15 May for the high count.



The banding efforts during spring migration at Navarre Marsh, **Ottawa,** occasionally produce Whip-poor-will records (top; 07 May). More unexpected was the Chuck-will's-widow (middle, bottom) that appeared 21 May. These species and other members of the Caprimulgidae family feature a comb-like edge on the middle toe's toenail which is an aid in preening. Three photos by Mark Shieldcastle.



Chuck-will's-widow: One of the these giant goatsuckers made its way into BSBO's mist nets at Navarre Marsh, **Ottawa**, 21 May. More routine were calling birds along Waggoner Riffle Road, **Adams**, 07 and 19 May (Steve Bobonick, Robert Foppe).

Whip-poor-will: **Adams** hosted the first 15 Apr (Jay Lehman), and by 19 Apr, three were at Shawnee SF (Kani Fenstermaker), where five were tallied 02 to 04 May (Ron Kolde). Three migrants were detected at northern Ohio locales 24 Apr: Maumee Bay SP, **Lucas**, (Bob Kingsbury *fide* Chris Knoll), Magee Marsh WA (Kim Kaufmann), and North Perry, **Lake**, (John Pogacnik).

Chimney Swift: Moved north in orderly fashion: 11 Apr two at **Hamilton** (Jonathan Frodge), 17 Apr three in **Holmes** (*fide* Bobolink area RBA), and 18 Apr two past the Magee hawkwatch tower (Emil Bacik, Gabe Leidy).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Arrived 19 Apr in **Athens** (Janet Duerr) and the following day in **Perry** (Diane Brooks). These birds wasted no time getting down to business; Bob Evans observed a female attending to a nest on his **Muskingum** property 08 May and Craig Holt another in **Mahoning** 12 May.

Belted Kingfisher: Often overlooked are the diurnal movements of kingfishers along the lakeshore in Mar and Apr; John Pogacnik recorded five 22 Mar and seven 18 Apr flying past his home in North Perry, **Lake**.

Red-headed Woodpecker: Three overwintering birds were found on

both the 01 Mar and 06 Apr Ottawa NWR censuses (Doug Vogus).

Red-bellied Woodpecker: Bill Stanley tallied 10 at Indian Creek WA, **Brown**, 14 Apr. Scott Albaugh witnessed an intriguing behavior 16 Apr in **Belmont**, when a female Red-bellied chased a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker off its tree, then proceeded to visit the sap wells the sapsucker had created.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Unusually late migrants included birds at Magee 21 May (Kenn Kaufmann) and **Tuscarawas** 13 May (Keith Schlabach *fide* Ed Schlabach). Eight migrants were seen in **Coshocton** 04 Apr (Adam Yoder), and six in **Ashtabula** 17 Apr may have included some local residents (Sean Artman).

Downy Woodpecker: Thriving in the Ottawa NWR environs, where 26 were counted on the 06 Apr census (Doug Vogus).

Hairy Woodpecker: It is always interesting to note this species' relative rarity in relation to its cousin the Downy Woodpecker. For example, on the 26 Apr ONWRC, only four Hairy Woodpeckers were found (Doug Vogus). It is a rare area in the state, if any exists, where Hairy outnumbers Downy Woodpecker, due to its more selective habitat requirements. Nineteen were racked up on the CVNP census 16 May (Dwight and Ann Charar).

Northern Flicker: The first definite migrant was noted 22 Mar past Edgewater SP, **Cuyahoga**, (Gabe Leidy). Hawkwatchers at Conneaut tallied 44 on 02 Apr (Ed Schlabach).

Pileated Woodpecker: Three sharp-eyed observers reported Pileated nest excavation this spring: 14 Mar at Spring Valley WA, **Greene/Warren**, right next to last year's site (Cindy Beckman), 23 Mar in **Montgomery** (Christine Hawley), and 19 Apr in **Athens** (Janet Duerr). Those in attendance at a public bird banding program 09 May in **Crawford** were lucky enough to watch Bob Scott Placier band one (*vide* Bill Fisher) and retain all his fingers!

the period. However, Bernie Master enjoyed an unusually lengthy stay from a vocal bird on his Worthington, **Franklin**, property, 18 May to 06 Jun.

Eastern Wood-Pewee: Arrived 24 Apr at Magee (Chris Knolls) and the next day in Mt. Hope, **Holmes**, (Michael Hershberger).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Ten at Magee 21 May was a nice tally (Ben



*The range of Pileated Woodpecker covers all of Ohio, yet their abundance varies regionally due to their dependence on fairly mature woodlots. This female was banded by Bob Scott Placier at Lowe-Volk Park, **Crawford**. In-hand examination showed that she had a brood patch, confirming this species as a nester for that location. Photograph by Bill Fisher, 09 May.*

Olive-sided Flycatcher: One only heard in **Hancock** 28 Apr (Betty Hardesty) and a bird at Camp Oky'Otwa, **Hocking**, 01 May (Dave Horn) preceded the next report by two weeks: 14 May at Magee (Josh Engel). Ten of this spring's 14 reports then fell between 14 and 20 May, with one at Magee 28 May (Chris Knoll) the last reported fully within

Morrison). Bruce Simpson found the first on 09 May at Blendon Woods MP, **Franklin**, after which none were reported until 14 May at Magee (Josh Engel). Still trickling through at the end of the month (and into the next), the last bird of the period was seen at Sugarcreek, **Holmes**, 31 May (Leroy Schlabach).

Acadian Flycatcher: Steve Bobonick had the first on 25 Apr at Shawnee Lookout, **Hamilton**, which was followed by another at Miami-Whitewater Forest, also **Hamilton**, 29 Apr (David Brinkman) and one at Blacklick MP, **Franklin**, 30 Apr (Robert McNulty). The CVNP census recorded 36 on 16 May (Dwight and Ann Chasar).

Alder Flycatcher: First heard 10 May at Blendon Woods MP, **Franklin**, (Bob and Elaine McNulty) and 16 May at **Hamilton** (Kirk Westendorf), **Franklin** (Rob Thorn), and Magee (Ethan Kistler). High count was a mere two along the Magee boardwalk 23 May (Emil Bacik, Sherrie Duris, Gabe Leidy).

Willow Flycatcher: Quite ahead of the pack was a bird in **Hocking** 02 May (Dave Horn); there was not another reported until 11 May at **Delaware** (Charlie Bombaci).

Least Flycatcher: Apr 24 brought the first wave of these minute flycatchers, with reports from Magee (Chris Knoll) and Navarre Marsh, **Ottawa**, (BSBO), Apple Creek, **Wayne** (Aaron Miller), and New Bedford, **Coshocton** (Adam, David, and James E. Yoder). BSBO banders netted 108 birds, nearly doubling last year's total.

Eastern Phoebe: Two in College Hill, **Hamilton** 04 Mar were the firsts (Steve Pelikan), followed by birds in **Hocking** 06 Mar (Dave Horn) and **Lucas** 11 Mar (James Cole).

Great Crested Flycatcher: Arrived at **Holmes** (Aaron Schlabach), Zaleski SF (Robert Royse), and **Clermont** (Michael

Gerringer) with the 24 Apr wave. Seventeen were recorded on a bike trip from New Bedford, **Coshocton**, to Killbuck on 09 May (Adam, David, and James E. Yoder). A hefty 89 were totaled on the 16 May CVNP census (Dwight and Ann Chasar).

Eastern Kingbird: Early birds were at Shawnee SF 17 Apr (Steven Harvey) and **Holmes** 22 Apr (Jacob Hostetler). Steven Harvey reported 25 at Shawnee SF on 24 Apr, quite early for such a concentration.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher: Jim McCormac passed along information about one that was seen at Crown City WA, **Gallia/Lawrence**, 20 May by an undisclosed "reliable observer." It was not seen again, and the original observer did not provide documentation to the OBRC.

Loggerhead Shrike: Only one report was received, of a transient bird on 17 May along Highway 51 in northwestern **Sandusky** (John Kuenzli). His documentation was accepted by the OBRC.

Northern Shrike: Nine birds made this spring's report fairly typical: 01 Mar at Herrick Fen, **Portage** (Deb Neidert, Kay Lauener), two through 18 Mar along the Magee causeway (Kenn Kaufman, Chris Knoll), 07 Mar near Dundee, **Tuscarawas** (David Miller), one at Deer Creek thru 09 Mar (Robert Royse), 14 Mar at Jaite CVNP (Robert Jackson), 20 to 28 Mar at Wright Marsh, Killbuck (Su Snyder, Samuel Weaver, m. obs.), 22 Mar at Mosquito WA (Brenda Baber, Emil Bacik), and one at Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, **Mahoning** (Bill Jones, Bob and Denise Lane).

White-eyed Vireo: Eight were already at East Fork SP, **Clermont**, 18 Apr (Bill Stanley) and two at Summit Lake, **Summit**, the following day (Gregory Bennett). A dozen at Shawnee SF 24 Apr was the highest total reported (Steven Harvey).

Bell's Vireo: Unreported until late May, when territorial birds were discovered at Kilby Road Gravel Pits, **Hamilton**, 25 May (Neill Cade) and near Homestead Park, **Franklin**, 27 May (Rob Lowry).

Yellow-throated Vireo: Right on schedule 18 Apr in **Delaware** (Sean Williams) and 19 Apr in **Hamilton** (Jim McCormac). They were abundant on Glen Helen Institute's Big Day 09 May in **Greene**, where they had been absent a year before (Nick Boutis).

Blue-headed Vireo: Arrivals 05 Apr near New Bedford, **Holmes**, (David Yoder) and 09 Apr in Jeff and Becky Cullen's Bowling Green yard, were quite hasty in their northbound movements, the latter setting an early date for the Toledo area. Much farther south, three potential breeders were back at Shawnee SF 11 Apr (Brad Sparks). Other probable breeders were at Conkle's Hollow SNP, **Hocking**, 23 May (Aaron Boone) and Mohican SP in late May (*vide* Bobolink area RBA).

Warbling Vireo: Birds showed up statewide 24 Apr, including at Magee (Chris Knoll), **Holmes** (Daniel and Eli Hershberger), Prairie Oaks MP, **Franklin/Madison**, (Nathaniel Nye), and **Hocking** (Robert Roysse).

Philadelphia Vireo: An early bird was at Spring Grove Cemetary, **Hamilton**, 02 May (Jay Stenger), followed by no reports until the species' arrival at Magee 08 May (Sam Woods). At Magee, they quickly built in numbers and were regarded as "numerous" on 14 May (Josh Engel), and five were seen on a quick dash down the boardwalk on a 17 May big day (Gabe Leidy, m. obs.).

Red-eyed Vireo: Arrived simultaneously with the strong south winds 24 Apr, from Shawnee SF (Steven Harvey) to **Wayne** (Andy and Marty Troyer) and Magee (Chris Knoll).

Blue Jay: Usually these diurnal migrants generate a few sizeable counts numbering in the hundreds or more along the lakefront in late Apr and early May. These year, however, the peak count received was 79 passing Magee in 30 minutes, 27 Apr (Vic Fazio III).

American Crow: 100 passed North Perry, **Lake**, 07 Mar (John Pogacnik), and 138 were tallied from Edgewater SP, **Cuyahoga**, 22 Mar (Gabe Leidy).

Common Raven: While no nesting was confirmed this year, a number of sightings again arose from the east-central part of the state. On Mar 01, Eric Hall observed a raven over New Alexandria, **Jefferson**, near last season's nest site at Fernwood SF. On 09 Mar, he spied another in Newell, also **Jefferson**. Between 26 Mar and 04 Apr, up to three ravens were observed by in the general vicinity of Fernwood SF, but no positive reports followed thereafter (Gabe Leidy, Rob Lowry, Ben Morrison, m. obs.). All of these sightings were reported to the OBRC and their documentation accepted.

Horned Lark: On 17 Mar, a hefty 483 passed an *Ottawa* hawkwatch site (Mark Shieldcastle). Ninety-three were counted on the 02 Mar Ottawa NWR census (Doug Vogus).

Purple Martin: Birds arrived to check out real estate in *Wayne* 22 Mar (Ben Troyer) and *Holmes* (Tom Bartram) the following day. Swarms around the parking area at Metzger in mid-May were a spectacle to behold, numbering several hundred (Gabe Leidy, m. obs.).

Tree Swallow: Though not the very first arrival, one made it to Trail, *Holmes*, on the first day of the period (Jamin Schrock). Quite a gap separated the first inland reports and those in the northern counties on 17 Mar at *Summit* (Gregory Bennett) and Magee (Mary Warren). An additional 300 were observed during the 06 Apr Ottawa NWR census (Doug Vogus).

Northern Rough-winged

Swallow: Two arrived in Goshen, *Clermont*, 24 Mar (Bill Doss), and another on 29 Mar at Clear Fork Reservoir, *Richland*, (Gary Cowell). No notable concentrations reported.

Bank Swallow: One at Pleasant Hill Dam, *Richland*, on 26 Mar was incredibly early (Levi Yoder), though Bruce Glick and Su Snyder note that there are other Mar records for the Bobolink area. Kenn Kaufman located an early northern arrival at Ottawa NWR 09 Apr.

Cliff Swallow: First arrived at Andy A. Troyer's farm in *Wayne* 09 Apr, where a personal best of 635 nests was counted later in the season.

Barn Swallow: Continuing the trend of early arriving swallows, Kenn Kaufman observed one at Toussaint WA, *Ottawa*, 30 Mar, and Ed Schlabach reported another at Conneaut 02 Apr, besting the southern arrivals in *Clermont* 03 Apr (Bill Stanley) and *Franklin* 06 Apr (Al La Sala).

Carolina Chickadee: None were spied north of their normal range. Al La Sala encountered a nest containing seven eggs in *Union* 08 May—a pair with their work cut out for them.

Black-capped Chickadee: Two were reported south of their usual haunts, at The Wilderness Center, *Stark*, 18 Apr (Su Snyder) and visiting a *Tuscarawas* feeder 16 May (Hallie Mason, Su Snyder).

Tufted Titmouse: Quite unusual for the Magee Marsh region, one visited BSBO's feeders in Apr (Chris Knoll).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: A good number of wintering birds were to be found at feeders and pine plantations, including a report from Zaleski SF 17 Mar that, "every clump of pines has one or more in attendance" (Robert Royse). Migrants were detected as small numbers in late Apr to May, though a feeder bird 08 May in Albany, *Athens*, was a bit unusual (Scott Moody).

White-breasted Nuthatch: On the CVNP Spring Census 16 May, parties counted 36 total (Dwight and Ann Chasar).

Brown Creeper: Seven at Killbuck 14 Mar (Aden Yoder) was a good early

season count, perhaps comprised of both early migrants and breeders: Doug Vogus heard three in full song there on 16 Mar. Although no unusual migrant concentrations were reported, many probable breeders were reported.

Carolina Wren: Ten at Delaware Run, *Delaware*, 22 Mar was a healthy count (Sean Williams).

House Wren: Returnees were at Miami-Whitewater Wetlands, *Hamilton*, 05 Apr (Neill Cade) and Walnut Creek, *Holmes*, 11 Apr (Alvin and Eli Miller).

Winter Wren: Reported high counts for migrants were 11 in northeast *Coshocton* 04 Apr, including seven singing birds (Adam Yoder), and 10 on the Ottawa NWR monthly census 06 Apr (Doug Vogus). Late records included one banded at Navarre Marsh, *Ottawa*, 13 May (BSBO), and others at Oak Openings MP 17 May (Greg Links) and CVNP, *Summit*, 18 May (Chris Pierce, Jeremiah Roth), and a singing male apparently holding territory along Overton Road near Wooster, *Wayne*, 21 May through the end of the period (Willis Brubaker).

Sedge Wren: Birds in *Butler* 02 May (Jay Stenger) and at Glacier Ridge MP, *Franklin*, 03 May (Rob Thorn) were a bit ahead of schedule. Nine total were reported, including three in separate locations 17 May for a team in the North Coast Open event: one singing just after midnight at Krause and Stange roads and two others within Oak Openings MP (Sherrie Duris, Gabe Leidy, Troy Shively, Ben Warner).

Marsh Wren: Arrival date was 05 Apr at Miami-Whitewater Wetlands (Neill Cade) and Guildford Lake SP, *Columbiana*, (Bob and Denise Lane). By 11 May, at least 20 were singing away at Guildford Lake (Bob and Denise Lane).

Golden-crowned Kinglet: 89 in northeast *Coshocton* was an impressive inland tally 04 Apr (Adam Yoder), and, closer to the lake, 61 were tallied on the 21 Apr Magee census (Jim Witter). No news of potential nesting birds was received this season.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Nick Boutis had the first on 29 Mar at Glen Helen SP, *Greene*, followed by one at Metzger 03 Apr (Chris Knoll). Seventy-eight at West Creek Reservation, *Cuyahoga*, 21 Apr was the high count (Gabe Leidy).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Those at Killdeer Plains 21 Mar (Ron Sempier) and Burr Oak SP, *Morgan*, 29 Mar (Glen Crippen) were quite early, with the next arrivals showing up 10 Apr at Limpytown, *Holmes*, (Aaron Hershberger) and Little Hocking, *Washington*, (Lee Underschultz). High counts: 30 in *Greene* 26 Apr (Rob Thorn), at least 25 at Prairie Oaks MP, *Franklin*, 24 Apr (Rob Thorn), and 24 at East Fork SP, *Clermont*, 19 Apr (Bill Stanley).

Eastern Bluebird: Bob and Denise Lane's 20 or more in *Columbiana* 07 Mar was a nice tally of wintering birds.

Mountain Bluebird: One of this season's highlights was a young male discovered 30 Mar by Dan Barda

and independently observed a few days later by Pat Hayes, though news did not officially spread to the birding community until 05 Apr (*vide* Greg Links). The bird remained on location, hanging out along the fence line at Toledo Express Airport's western end and also using the "sparrow field" at Wilkins and Sager Roads, **Lucas**, through 17 Apr (m. obs.).

Veery: First of seasons showed up 24 Apr at Magee (Chris Knoll), Firestone MP, **Summit**, (Janet Wertz), and Shawnee SF (Steven Harvey). Much tardier migrants were found at Magee 27 May (Rick Nirschl) and **Wayne** 29 May (Adam Yoder). On 18 May, 10 were counted at Mohican SP downstream from the covered bridge (Phyllis Jones).

overall, and judging by the number of reports from late Apr, a bit advanced in their northbound movements this spring, capped by an impressive nine at Magee on 27 Apr (Vic Fazio III). Late May totals of four in **Stark** (Aden Yoder) and eight at Magee 27 May (Rick Nirschl) were more typical of normal occurrence patterns.

Swainson's Thrush: As with Gray-checked, prolonged south winds produced counts unheard of from our state for April: at least 40 on 26 Apr at Magee (Greg Links) and 47 there the following day for Vic Fazio III, along with 25 on 29 Apr in **Coshocton** (Adam Yoder) and 22 on 28 Apr in **Hancock** (Betty Hardesty, m. obs.). Eight were still at Magee 29 May (Kenn Kaufman).



*While not as stunning as the pied leucistic White-throated Sparrow on the inside back cover of this issue, this Swainson's Thrush shares the same type of genetic mutation. In this case the affected feathers are restricted to a few spots on its head. Mark Shieldcastle banded and photographed this bird on 22 May at Navarre Marsh, **Ottawa**.*

Gray-checked Thrush: The firsts were "several" at Magee 24 Apr (Chris Knoll), one in **Holmes** 25 Apr (Daniel Hershberger), one in **Clark** (Doug Overacker), and two in **Cuyahoga** 26 Apr (Fred Losi). Quite widespread

Hermit Thrush: The many early Mar reports indicated the local survival of a number of these hardy wintering thrushes. Migrants peaked with at least 25 at Green Lawn

Cemetery, **Franklin**, (Michael Packer) and **Hancock** (Betty Hardesty) 18 Apr, both sizeable inland tallies. A straggler at Magee 28 May (Rick Nirschl) was incredibly late. Seven territorial birds were at Conkle's Hollow SNP, **Hocking**, 23 May (Aaron Boone).

Wood Thrush: Showed up 19 Apr as far north as New Bedford, **Coshocton** (*fide* Bobolink area RBA), and also in Columbus (Joan Frederick), **Athens** (Dan Weber), and **Clermont** (Bill Stanley).

American Robin: At least 500 at Cowan Lake SP, **Clinton**, 08 May (Jay Stenger) was an interesting concentration well advanced into the breeding season. **Hancock** birders tallied 701 on 31 Mar (Betty Hardesty).

Varied Thrush: Observers reported a flyby male at Headlands Beach SP, **Lake**, 14 May. However, it was not documented to the OBRC.

Gray Catbird: One in Charm, **Holmes**, 12 Apr (Ivan H. Miller) preceded all other reports by 12 days, perhaps a locally wintering bird. Arrivals rode the 24 Apr wave *en masse*, showing up as far north as South Bass Island, **Ottawa** (Lisa Brohl).

Northern Mockingbird: "Mockers" continue their expansion into the northern realm of the state, thriving especially around urban sections of Cleveland, **Cuyahoga**. Dianne Jones of Cleveland's West Park neighborhood began hosting a pair in early Mar and providing them with meal worms, cranberries, and dried raisins.

Brown Thrasher: Given this mimic's rare but regular wintering status in the state, it is difficult to distinguish the first spring arrivals. Scott Hite's bird in **Wood** 08 Mar was a bit earlier than normal, and may have wintered somewhere in the north. The next reports—15 Mar in **Clermont** (Bill Stanley), 17 Mar at Hueston Woods SP, **Butler/Preble** (Tim Tolford), and 17 Mar in **Hamilton**—were clustered and were likely early migrants. One found dead along the interstate near Cleveland, **Cuyahoga**, 31 Mar was the first to be reported in the northern half of the state (Nancy Howell).

European Starling: This heartily disliked species was nevertheless widely reported. Many reports did not include quantities, but the largest flock noted, 07 Mar at Big Island, **Marion**, was estimated to contain 1,200 birds (Charles Bombaci).

American Pipit: Highest counts tied at 200 in rural **Holmes** 06 Mar (*fide* The Bobolink) and **Lorain** 21 Mar (Emil Bacik, Gabe Leidy).

Cedar Waxwing: High counts were approximately 350 at Spring Grove Cemetery, **Hamilton**, 18 Apr (Jay Stenger) and 200 at Magee 27 May (Rick Nirschl), characteristic of this species' two-part migration through our state each spring.

Blue-winged Warbler: One was an early arrival to **Hamilton** 14 Apr (Steve Pelikan), followed by singles in **Perry** (Diane Brooks) and at Ault Park, **Hamilton**, (Michael Gerringer) 21 Apr.

[Golden-winged x Blue-winged Warbler]: On 01 May, Ault Park, **Hamilton**, hosted a rare 'Lawrence's' hybrid (Sally Wood) and a female showed up 09 May near Sugarcreek, **Holmes**, (Ed Schlabach). Although usually the more common of the hybrids, only two 'Brewster's' were reported this spring, 25 to 26 Apr at Magee (Sherrie Duris, Craig Holt, Chris Knoll, m. obs.) and 05 to 06 May at Blendon Woods MP, **Franklin** (Charlie Bombaci).

Golden-winged Warbler: A nice showing of these flashy warblers, with 17 reports this spring. On 25 Apr, the season's firsts showed up in the greater Magee area: at Benton Carroll Road, **Ottawa**, (Sherrie Duris, Craig Holt, Chris Knoll, m. obs.) and Metzger (Sherrie Duris, Gabe Leidy, Jay Lehman, m. obs.), and another was photographed in a **Medina** backyard (Scott Orcutt *vide* Dan Bertsch). Other late Apr males were observed at Cowan Lake SP, **Clinton**, 26 Apr (Ed Rousch), **Coshocton** 29 Apr (Adam and David Yoder), and CVNP 30 Apr (Jared Mizanin). Spring Grove Cemetery, **Hamilton**, hosted two 03 May (Joe Bens) and the latest was a female at North Perry, Lake, 21 May (John Pogacnik).

Tennessee Warbler: Arrived 24 Apr, when a female was mist-netted at Navarre Marsh, **Ottawa** (BSBO), a male visited Magee (Kenn Kaufman), and three were recorded much further south at Shawnee SF (Steven Harvey). Fifteen at Spring Grove Cemetery, **Hamilton** 03 May constituted the high count (Joe Bens).

Orange-crowned Warbler: An early push of this species included one at Shawnee Lookout, **Hamilton**, 24 Apr and four in the Magee/Metzger area both 25 and 27 Apr (Vic Fazio III, Rick Nirschl). Other reports of multiple birds were three near Apple Creek, **Wayne**, 11 May (Aaron Miller) and a couple at Spring Grove Cemetery, **Hamilton**, 03 May (Joe Bens).

Nashville Warbler: Although none were seen earlier, Apr 24 produced reports of at least 17 birds by a total of 11 observers. High counts in early May included 25 at Spring Grove Cemetery, **Hamilton**, 03 May (Joe Bens) and at Ottawa NWR 08 May (Ethan Kistler), and 14 in Apple Creek, **Wayne**, 08 May (Andy and Marty Troyer) and **Holmes** 12 May (Levi Yoder). A singing male at Alum Creek SP, **Delaware**, 30 May was tardy (Rob Thorn). The 430 individuals banded at Navarre Marsh, **Ottawa**, far exceeded the 20-year average of 185 (BSBO).

Northern Parula: Local breeders were the first to arrive: 08 Apr at Crooked Run, **Clermont**, 11 Apr at Sharon Woods, **Hamilton**, (Brian Wulker), and 12 Apr at Shawnee SF (Matthew Studebaker), and a migrant made it up to Magee 18 Apr (Emil Bacik, Gabe Leidy). Ten were *~IIIIPing* at Shawnee SF 24 Apr (Steven Harvey). BSBO set a record high, with 34 banded at Navarre Marsh, **Ottawa**, including 14 on 17 May.

Yellow Warbler: First arrivals matched expected first dates: 18 Apr at Magee (Ed and Bev Neubauer) and 19 Apr in **Franklin** (Joan Frederick)

and **Summit** (Gregory Bennett). Most impressive were 276, mostly singing males, counted on a bike trek from New Bedford to Killbuck, **Holmes**, 09 May (Adam Yoder). Equally impressive were 561 banded at Navarre Marsh, **Ottawa**, (BSBO), an all time high.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: An ambitious bird 19 Apr in **Summit** (Gregory Bennett) moved ahead of the Neotropical wave; 25 Apr brought the next arrivals, at Killbuck (Paul Hershberger, Rick Stevick) and Columbus (Robert Royse). Twenty were in **Lucas** 16 to 17 May (Doug Overacker) and migrants were still trickling through Magee as late as 26 May (Chris Knoll).

Magnolia Warbler: Characteristically a bit laggard, with the first detected 25 Apr at Magrish Preserve, **Hamilton**, (Mark Gilsdorf) and the next reports coming 27 Apr from Magee (Vic Fazio III) and Calamus Swamp, **Pickaway**, (Dave Horn). Twenty-one east of Trail, **Holmes**, 12 May (Leroy Yoder) and 19 near Apple Creek, **Wayne**, 08 May (Andy and Marty Troyer) were excellent migrant totals from the interior of the state, and Doug Overacker found 30 in **Lucas** 16 May. Still trickling through at the end of the month, with one present at Punderson SP, **Geauga**, 31 May (Elaine Snively). Aaron Boone reported six to seven males occupying territory at Conkle's Hollow SNP, **Hocking**, 23 May.

Cape May Warbler: 24 Apr produced the firsts of the season, at Magee (Chris Knoll), **Lake** (John Pogacnik), Zaleski SF (Robert

Royse) and Shawnee SF (Steven Harvey). Although no high counts were reported from Magee, six were present at Spring Grove Cemetery, **Hamilton**, 03 May (Joe Bens). Most interesting was the report of a singing male at Mohican SP 30 May (Eli Miller); there are no Ohio breeding records of this species.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: Southern arrivals at Cincinnati Nature Center, **Clermont**, 24 Apr (Michael Gerringer) and five at Shawnee SF 25 Apr (Steven Harvey) beat out the first bird at Magee 02 May (Chris Knoll) by over a week. Thirteen in Apple Creek, **Wayne** (Andy and Marty Troyer) and eight in the small woodlot at Lorain Harbor 14 May (Gabe Leidy) were the high counts. Kenn Kaufman had one at Magee 29 May, and on 30 May, a singing male was present at Mohican SP (Eli Miller), near where they have summered in the past.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: "Hundreds" at Spring Valley WA, **Greene/Warren**, 23 Apr (Dave Collopy) and 220 counted at Magee 27 Apr (Vic Fazio III) surpassed other high counts. The latest report came 22 May from Navarre Marsh, **Ottawa**, where 1,414 were banded during the period, three times the species' 20-year average (BSBO).

Black-throated Green Warbler: Individuals at Spring Grove Cemetery, Hamilton, 14 Apr (Elizabeth Brennan), Canter's Cave, **Jackson**, 16 Apr (Jim McCormac), and Shawnee SF 20 Apr (Bruce Simpson) were the first to appear in the state. Big numbers were not far behind these birds; on 25 Apr, 50 were at Magee (Gabe Leidy), making it the second

most abundant warbler species that day. A lingering male at Highbanks MP, **Delaware**, 30 May assumed to be a late migrant (Rob Lowry).

Blackburnian Warbler: First arrivals appeared 24 Apr at Prairie Oaks MP, **Franklin** (Nathaniel Nye) and Zaleski SF (Robert Royse), and then at Magee the following day (Gabe Leidy, Sherrie Duris). A wonderful inland and statewide high count of 16 came from The Wilderness Center, **Stark** 12 May (Aden Yoder). Possible territorial birds were noted from Conkle's Hollow SNP, **Hocking** (Aaron Boone), Troyer Hollow, **Holmes** (Adam and James Yoder), and Mohican SP (Eli Miller) towards the month's end, although late migrants were also noted at this time, with five reports of six late migrants around Amish Country 30 to 31 May (*vide The Bobolink*).

Yellow-throated Warbler: Although always one of the earliest warblers to return to breeding grounds, Bernie Master's bird on 23 to 24 Mar in Worthington, **Franklin**, bested the previous early date by two days (Peterjohn 2001). One was photographed at a feeder in **Lake** 04 Apr (*vide* John Pogacnik), fairly early for the northern reaches of the state. By 11 Apr, 20 were singing along the creeks of Shawnee SF (Brad Sparks).

Pine Warbler: The hardiest of our warbler species besides the Yellow-rumped, there were already a half dozen singing at Zaleski SF 13 Mar and another reached Mt. Eaton, **Wayne**, 18 Mar (Michael Miller). Most migrants pass through during the second half of Apr, sometimes developing into unusual

concentrations. Such was the case for John Pogacnik 24 Apr, when he counted a whopping 19 birds in his **Lake** backyard.

Kirtland's Warbler: An incredible six reports, falling between 12 and 21 May, made it a notable spring for these rare jack pine-nesters. The first was discovered 12 May by Chris Bedel and Pete Whan at Edge of Appalachia Preserve, way down in **Adams**, and was especially notable because the vast majority of our sightings have come from the far northern part of the state. Ryan Schroeder observed a singing bird at Lou Campbell SNP, **Lucas**, 15 May. On 16 May, one was picked up from Public Square in downtown Cleveland after a window collision and subsequently released after treatment by the Lake Erie Nature and Science Center (*vide* Dan Kramer of ODOW, to whom LENS reported the bird). Young birder Andy Johnson, of Michigan, discovered the next—a young male near the Sportmen's Migratory Bird Center at Magee, which equally delighted and frustrated crowds over the next two days with its evasiveness but did allow Sam Woods to photograph it. Finally, 21 May brought two more males—another at Magee, which stayed a short while (Ben Morrison, Rick Nirschl), and one photographed in North Perry, **Lake**, by John Pogacnik. All of these, except the downtown Cleveland bird, were documented to the OBRC or had photos posted, and the records were accepted.

Prairie Warbler: Arrived 19 Apr farther south, at East Fork SP, **Clermont**, (Bill Stanley) and Shawnee SF (Kani Fenstermaker), 21 Apr in Columbus (Rob Thorn),

and on 25 Apr, a bird was singing at the entrance to the Cedar Point Chaussee, **Erie**, (Craig Holt). A healthy number of transient birds were detected this year, and one apparently set up territory in the Oak Openings, **Lucas**, discovered 15 May by Ben Warner and still present in the same spot 25 May (Jeremy Ross). Another northerly bird, near Jaite in CVNP 14 May through the end of the period, reclaimed an area where this species has been absent for many years (Dwight and Ann Chasar, Fred Losi).

Palm Warbler: Record-early was Bruce Simpson's report of a singing bird 15 Mar at Blendon Woods MP, **Franklin**, its appearance preceding all others by a full month. More typical in their arrival date were Palms 15 Apr in **Licking** (Timothy Mason), a 'Yellow Palm Warbler' (of the *Dendroica palmarum hypochrysea* subspecies, much yellower below than western populations) 19 Apr in **Holmes** (James Yoder), and 20 Apr at Squire Valleevue Farm, **Cuyahoga** (Lisa Rainsong) and Shawnee SF (Bruce Simpson). Approximately 200 outnumbered even the Yellow-rumps at Magee/Metzger 27 Apr (Rick Nirschl). Three observers reported seven total 'Yellow' Palms this spring, from 19 Apr to 02 May (Chris Knoll, John Pogacnik, James Yoder), and BSBO pulled another four out of mist nets, among 322 total Palm Warblers banded.

Bay-breasted Warbler: Reached the southern end of the state with the first wave 24 Apr at Cincinnati Nature Center (Michael Gerringer) and 25 Apr at Sharon Woods, **Hamilton** (Jason Cade), and Magee 27 Apr (Rick

Nirschl). Twenty-five were tallied from Maumee Bay SP, **Lucas**, to Magee 16 May (Doug Overacker).

Blackpoll Warbler: Apr 27 brought the first three reports, from Magee Marsh and Reno Beach, **Lucas** (Vic Fazio III) and Green Lawn Cemetery, **Franklin** (Michael Packer). Twenty was a respectable total 16 May in **Lucas** (Doug Overacker), and there were multiple inland high counts of six birds: 12 May in **Coshocton** (Leroy Yoder), 16 May at **Tuscarawas** (Levi Yoder), 16 May in **Franklin** (Rob Thorn), and 25 May around Bakersville, **Coshocton** (Adam Yoder). 176 banded at Navarre marsh, **Ottawa**, set yet another BSBO high count.

Cerulean Warbler: Arrived in good numbers 24 Apr, including four at Shawnee SF (Steven Harvey), and another foursome at Zaleski SF (Bruce Simpson), where Dan Weber counted 10 on 26 April, the highest reported total.

Black-and-white Warbler: This species reached Shawnee SF 11 Apr (Brad Sparks), Spring Grove Cemetery, **Hamilton**, 14 Apr (Elizabeth Brennan), **Adams** 15 Apr (Jay Lehman), **Jackson** 16 Apr (Jim McCormac), and **Holmes** 19 Apr (Emery Yoder). Counts of 10 at Shawnee SF 20 Apr and Zaleski SF 24 Apr (both Bruce Simpson) reflect a heavy percentage of breeders.

American Redstart: One returned to Shawnee SF 19 Apr (Kani Fenstermaker) and a male at Salt Fork SP, **Guernsey**, 23 Apr was just ahead of the big warbler wave (Roger Merrick, Rose Anne

O'Donnell, Su Snyder). Doug Overacker tallied 35 from Maumee Bay SP, **Lucas**, to Magee 16 May, Rob Thorn reported 25 on 16 May in **Franklin** and Levi Yoder reported 19 on 12 May near Trail, **Holmes**.

Prothonotary Warbler: First appeared 19 Apr at East Fork SP, **Clermont** (Bill Stanley), 21 Apr at Spring Valley WA, **Greene** (Cindy Beckman), and 23 Apr at Hoover (Kevin Hall). Interesting migrant reports included one singing in a wooded backyard in Farmerstown, **Holmes**, 02 May, which flew in to the porch railing in response to call playback (Jacob Beechy), and an extremely late migrant at Wildwood SP, **Cuyahoga**, on 30 May (Nancy Anderson). Michael Hershberger counted 16 on 10 May at Killbuck.

Worm-eating Warbler: Arrived both north and south simultaneously on 24 Apr, at Magee (Chris Knoll), Zaleski SF (Robert Royse, Bruce Simpson), and Shawnee Lookout (Andy Bess). Uncommon migrants in the northern reaches of the state, two were recorded at Magee 25 Apr (Vic Fazio III) and **Hancock** 28 Apr (Betty Hardesty) and singles at Pipe Creek WA, **Erie**, 26 Apr (Grege Links), Dike 14, **Cuyahoga**, 02 May (Gabe Leidy), Magee 08 May (Chris Knoll), and Oak Openings 14 May (Geoff Cottier). BSBO captured a record five at Navarre Marsh, **Ottawa**.

Ovenbird: Returnees to the breeding grounds were one 15 Apr in **Adams** (Jay Lehman) and three 19 Apr at Shawnee SF (Kani Fenstermaker), and one reached Magee on 24 Apr (Chris Knoll). That very day, at least 15 were

teacher-TEACHERing farther south in Zaleski SF, **Vinton** (Bruce Simpson). A 29 May bird at Magee was a bit tardy (Kenn Kaufmann).

Northern Waterthrush: One at Magee 18 Apr was surprisingly early (Emil Bacik, Kenn Kaufman, Gabe Leidy); the next was reported 24 Apr at Shaker Lakes, **Cuyahoga** (Steve and Beth Cagan). There is certainly no better place in state than Magee to see numbers of migrant Northerns; the high count this spring was 10 on 27 Apr by Rick Nirschl.

Louisiana Waterthrush: It's often regarded as a harbinger of spring, but Rob Thorn's bird 14 Mar in Columbus, Franklin, was early even by this species' standards. Recorded next at Rocky Fork Gorge, **Highland**, 24 Mar (Bruce Lombardo), **Washington** (Becky Wright) and **Hocking** (Ann Cramer) 28 Mar, **Greene** 29 Mar (Nick Boutis), **Fairfield** 31 Mar, and finally Ottawa NWR 02 Apr (Dan Gesauldo). A respectable 30 or more were tallied at Shawnee SF 11 Apr (Brad Sparks). Out of place was a late migrant at Magee 16 May (Sam Woods).

Kentucky Warbler: The first representatives showed up at Magee (Chris Knoll) and Cowan Lake SP, **Clinton**, (Ed Roush) 24 Apr. A couple migrants lingered along the Magee boardwalk 24 to 27 Apr (Chris Knoll, *vide* Vic Fazio III, m. obs.) and 08 to 10 May (Chris Knoll, Ethan Kistler, m. obs.), and another was observed coming off the Lake 25 Apr in **Lake** (John Pogacnik). Adam Yoder had 10 in northeastern **Coshocton** 29 Apr. BSBO banded a late migrant 28 May at Navarre Marsh, **Ottawa**.

Connecticut Warbler: Not as many were reported as last year, but there were still decent numbers this season. First arrivals were 14 May at Magee (Kenn Kaufman), 15 May at Kettering, **Montgomery** (Phil Ware), and 16 May in **Franklin** (Rob Thorn). Eighteen reports overall and two of multiple birds: two at Magee 27 May (Rick Nirschl) and an impressive five banded at Navarre Marsh, **Ottawa**, that same day (BSBO).

Mourning Warbler: David Miller found the first, and a fairly early one at that, 02 May along the Rails to Trails, **Holmes**. A mini-wave arrived 08 May, dropping birds at The Wilderness Center, **Stark** (Aden Yoder), Magee (Chris Knoll) and Metzger (Andy Dettling). This was regarded as a banner spring for this species by some folks, and an impressive nine birds 21 May in John Pogacnik's *Lake* yard were a testament to that, as were "35 birds in 27 reports" from the Bobolink area. And lest we underestimate just how many of these enigmatic warblers are avoiding detection, Navarre Marsh, **Ottawa**, banders processed 109 individuals, including 15 on 28 May (BSBO).

Common Yellowthroat: This species was first heard in **Holmes** 18 Apr (Nelson Troyer), and by 24 Apr it was common at both Zaleski SF (Bruce Simpson) and Shawnee SF (Steven Harvey).

Hooded Warbler: Early arrivals were found in **Hamilton** 19 Apr (Lori Brumbaugh) and Shawnee SF the next day (Bruce Simpson).

Wilson's Warbler: The strong southerlies at the end of Apr brought

several early arrivals to the state; this is typically one of the latest warbler species to pass through. On 25 Apr, one was seen in **Richland** (Albert Troyer) and another 27 Apr at Magee (Vic Fazio III), and, notably, the next report to follow was not until 08 May. A dozen at Magee 26 May was a nice total (Mark Garland *vide* Chris Knoll), as was 15 seen on an outing from Maumee Bay SP, **Lucas**, to Magee 17 May (Doug Overacker).

Canada Warbler: The arrival date for this species this spring was as expected 08 May at Magee (Chris Knoll) and two near Mount Eaton, **Wayne** (Michael Miller). A healthy 15 were found in **Lucas** 17 May (Doug Overacker) and four was the next highest reported total, from Elmwood Wetlands Preserve, **Lorain**, 18 May (Gregory Bennett). Three at Conkle's Hollow SNP, **Hocking**, on 23 May seemed to be occupying territory (Aaron Boone).

Yellow-breasted Chat: The first chats showed up at Shawnee SF 24 Apr (Steven Harvey) and Magee 25 Apr (Sherrie Duris, Gabe Leidy, Rick Nirschl, m. obs.).

Eastern Towhee: Adam Yoder tallied 76 in northeastern **Coshocton** 04 Apr.

American Tree Sparrow: Lingered until 26 Apr at **Lake** (John Pogacnik) and **Erie** (Greg Links). 105 were counted on ONWRC 01 Mar (Doug Vogus).

Chipping Sparrow: Appeared at Spring Grove Cemetery, **Hamilton**, 13 Mar (Frank Renfrow) and **Delaware** (Sean Williams) and

Ottawa NWR (Linda Sekura) 22 Apr. One hundred twenty-eight were counted 28 Apr in **Hancock** (Betty Hardesty) and 33 were concentrated on John Pogacnik's **Lake** property 24 Apr.

Clay-colored Sparrow: Eleven individuals reported this spring: 24 Apr North Perry, **Lake** (John Pogacnik), 26 Apr Pipe Creek WA, **Erie** (Greg Links), 08 May Voice of America, **Butler** (Mike Busam, Dave Russell), 09 to 10 May two individuals at Magee (David Johnson, Gabe Leidy, m. obs.), 09 May Benton-Carroll Road, **Ottawa** (Tim Hochstetler), one in an off-limits section of Ottawa NWR (Greg Links), 16 May Magee (Rick Nirschl), 17 May Oak Openings, **Lucas** (Greg Links), 29 May **Ottawa** NWR (Chris Knoll), and a territorial bird near Walnut Creek, **Holmes**, 03 May through the period (Reuben Erb, James F. Yoder, m. obs.).

Field Sparrow: The high count was of 50 at Indian Creek WA, **Brown**, 14 Apr (Bill Stanley).

Vesper Sparrow: One in New Bedford, **Holmes**, 22 Mar was slightly early (James E. Yoder), with 28 Mar bringing the first wave of reports: three to four at Charlie's Pond, **Pickaway** (Doreene Linzell, Rob Lowry, Dan Sanders), another in **Hardin** (Rick Counts), and "more than expected" seen along back roads in **Seneca** (Bill Whan).

Lark Sparrow: Continuing to branch out within the state: a pair were seen regularly at Waterman Farm, **Franklin**, 11 May through the

end of the period (Alex Champagne, John Lennon, Dave Slager). Other reports alluding to possible breeding include a pair at Oakes Quarry Park, **Greene**, 05 Apr (Greg Spahr), and up to three occupying Leighley Hill, **Tuscarawas**, through the end of the period (James F. Yoder, Alvin and Wayne Miller, m. obs.). The Oak Openings birds returned 19 Apr (John Habig). A **Holmes** migrant was discovered 09 May (Kevin Kline, Samuel Weaver).

Savannah Sparrow: The season's high count was 28, by Robert Hershberger in a single field near Mt. Hope, **Holmes**, 09 Apr.

Grasshopper Sparrow: One in Walnut Creek, **Holmes**, 09 Apr (Wayne Miller) was early, preceding the next report by 11 days. Scarcely reported overall this spring; Robert Royse considered them "numerous" at Deer Creek 01 May and expected this species to benefit from organized burns to preserve grasslands here. The high, and only, count was 18 in **Hancock** 12 May (Bob Sams).

Henslow's Sparrow: Pairs were detected 26 Apr in northwestern **Coshocton** (Leroy Yoder) and 27 Apr at Voice of America Park, **Butler** (Mike Busam), and Levi Yoder found a migrant near Trail, **Holmes**, that same day. As a species that is often overlooked during the warbler rush of mid-May, few were reported, with certainly more to follow in Jun. The high count was of four at CVNP's Coliseum site, **Summit** 24 May (Robert Jackson).

Le Conte's Sparrow: Doug and Micki Dunakin encountered one

singing in a field at Black Swamp Audubon Sanctuary near Antwerp, **Paulding**, 15 May.

Nelson's Sparrow: One was discovered 15 May at Killbuck by Allen Troyer, and refound later that day by Kevin Kline and James F. Yoder, quite an unusual occurrence for that part of the state during spring migration. Another was singing at Mallard Club Marsh, **Lucas**, 17 May (Doug Overacker).

Fox Sparrow: One was counted on the 01 Mar ONWRC, and on the following month's census 06 Apr 109 were counted, outnumbering even Song Sparrows (Doug Vogus). One wintered nearby at the BSBO office, **Ottawa** (Chris Knoll). The first certain migrants were seen at Highbanks MP, **Delaware** 09 Mar (Bruce Miller) and Sims Park, **Cuyahoga**, 14 Mar (Nancy Anderson). Paula Lozano hosted seven 29 Mar in Lakewood, **Cuyahoga**, a nice yard count. By May, Fox Sparrows are typically long gone, so one 02 May at Wildwood MP, **Lucas**, was notable (Rick Nirschl).

Song Sparrow: Coinciding with this species' northward movements in spring, Paula Lozano reported "triple figures" 29 Mar at Elmwood Park, **Cuyahoga**.

Lincoln's Sparrow: Typically late, arrived with the warbler mob 24 Apr, when singles were noted at Magee (Rick Nirschl) and **Wayne** (Aaron Miller). All reports of one to two birds, except four in **Lucas** 16 May (Doug Overacker); last seen 27 May at Magee (Rick Nirschl).

Swamp Sparrow: Surprisingly, only three were noted on the ONWRC 06 Apr (Doug Vogus) and seven on the Magee census 21 Apr (Jim Witter).

White-throated Sparrow: One hundred forty at Magee 27 Apr was a standard high count (Vic Fazio III), and one lingered until 27 May (Rick Nirschl). A bizarre white headed partial albino was netted at Navarre Marsh, **Ottawa**, 28 Apr (BSBO), looking like the "tiniest Bald Eagle ever seen" to one observer.

Harris's Sparrow: A one-day wonder was photographed by Tammy Seaman in Moncolva, near Toledo, on 16 May. Her documentation was accepted by the OBRC.

White-crowned Sparrow: A fair number of mid- to late-Mar sightings indicated a good crop of wintering birds, including four along Prairie Lane, **Wayne**, 16 Mar (Doug Vogus). One on Kelleys' Island 22 Mar (Tom Bartlett) was notable. Forty-three were totaled on the **Hancock** Big Day 09 May (Betty Hardesty), Erie Street Cemetery, **Cuyahoga**, hosted eight to ten on 14 May (Steve Cagan), and Bob Beason had the latest at his feeders in **Erie** 25 May. A representative of the western 'Gambel's' subspecies was banded by BSBO at Navarre Marsh, **Ottawa**, 14 May.

Golden-crowned Sparrow: On 07 Apr, Ohio's first Golden-crowned Sparrow appeared at a feeder near Findlay, **Hancock**. Tom Bartlett banded it on 16 Apr. Access was initially limited for the birding public, but local birders Jeff Loughman and Bob Sams kept us updated on the bird's status, and eventually birders were welcomed for two days, 22 and

23 Apr. The sparrow cooperated wonderfully, and about 160 visitors were able to view it just in the nick of time; it was not seen again after the evening of 23 Apr. The detailed documentation was accepted by the OBRC. [Editor's note: *At press time, it was known that the same bird returned during the winters of 2009-2010 and 2010-2011*]

Dark-eyed Junco: Ron Kolde reported one fairly late individual (for this southern location) on a trip to Shawnee SF 02 to 04 May, and one hung around **Lake** until 10 May (John Pogacnik). Hildegard Bingen found a nest on the eaves of her house 10 Apr in Bainbridge Twp, **Geauga**, where they have bred for several years.

Lapland Longspur: An incredible 4,503 were counted at the Lickert–Harder Road hawkwatch site, **Ottawa**, 17 Mar (Mark Shieldcastle). Doug and Micki Dunakin had up to 300 in **Paulding**, with the last birds departing by 09 Apr.

Smith's Longspur: The rediscovery of this species within the state was a wonderful highlight this season. Two birds were initially found 11 Apr in Rockford, **Mercer**—not far from the Indiana border—by excellent Bobolink

area birders on a Smith's-finding mission (Ed Schlabach, Adam, James E. and Levi Yoder, m. obs.). This group of a dozen observers was canvassing southern **Van Wert** and northwest **Mercer** looking for potential Smith's habitat—fields with corn stubble and especially foxtail (mostly *Setaria faberi*), a preferred food source of Smith's away from the breeding grounds—and they struck big. Once the news broke, more birders began to make the pilgrimage to western Ohio, only to find that the number of birds was building at this location. The next day, Troy Shively reported five to seven Smith's here, then on 14 Apr, 35 or more were seen right off the road and well photographed (Emil Bacik, Gabe Leidy, and Phil Chaon). On 18 Apr, Bill Whan's group observed at least 40. The last reported sighting came 25 Apr (Jay Lehman) when nine were seen, ending a thrilling two-week vigil and hopefully adding new insight into this species' migratory habits within our state. Though no formal report was made to the OBRC, the many online descriptions and photographs provided enough documentation for acceptance.

Snow Bunting: The 331 in **Ottawa** 17 Mar made up the high count (Mark Shieldcastle).



*A first state record, this Golden-crowned Sparrow was present for several weeks in Apr at a private residence near Findlay, **Hancock**. Ethan Kistler took this photo on 22 Apr.*

Summer Tanager: A male at Magee 25 Apr was the first reported (Chris Knoll, Gabe Leidy, Rick Nirschl), hanging around until the next day to be joined by a female (Jay Lehman). Five were counted at Miami–Whitewater Forest/Wetlands on the fairly early date of 26 Apr, and another in **Richland** the same day (Albert Troyer). Accounted for at most of the usual locales by early to mid-May; Lakeshore migrants were at Magee 02 May (Jim Witter) and 17 May (Rick Nirschl), and Pipe Creek WA, **Erie**, 08 May (Gabe Leidy).

Scarlet Tanager: On 19 Apr, the first males appeared in southwestern forests at East Fork SP, **Clermont** (Bill Stanley) and Shawnee Lookout, **Hamilton** (Jim McCormac). The next reports came in 24 Apr: from Magee (Chris Knoll, Robert Jackson), The Wilderness Center, **Stark** (Aden Yoder) and Zaleski SF (Robert Royse). Nice single site counts included 16 near Apple Creek, **Wayne**, 08 May (Andy and Marty Troyer), 14 at The Wilderness Center 12 May (Aden Yoder), and a record 82 on the CVNP census 16 May (Dwight and Ann Chasar).

Northern Cardinal: Counts reported on the ONWRC were 19 on 02 Mar and 64 on 06 Apr (Doug Vogus), fluctuating perhaps due to more conspicuous breeding activity on the latter date. Forty-two at Delaware Run, **Delaware**, 22 Mar (Sean Williams) and 36 at East Fork Lake SP, **Clermont**, (Bill Stanley) were single site high counts.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: An overflight female arrived at Delaware Run, **Delaware**, on 18 Apr (Sean

Williams), a full week before the first males were reported around the state 24 Apr (m. obs.).

Blue Grosbeak: Returned to familiar haunts in **Butler** and **Hamilton** by 25 to 27 Apr (Mark Gilsdorf, Lee Gruber, Laura Keene). A good number of migrants were located in wayward locations this spring, especially in the east-central portion of the state, conceivably an indicator of breeding expansion to come. Migrant reports: 28 Apr Blendon Woods MP, **Franklin** (Doreene Linzell, Bruce Simpson), 28 Apr near Walnut Creek, **Holmes** (Levi Keim), two at feeders in Becks Mills, **Holmes**, 06 to 08 May (Roy Stutzman), 09 May Delaware WA, **Delaware** (Luke Heider, photo provided), 09 May Walhonding, **Coshocton** (Steve Mast), west of Baltic 14 May (*vide* Bobolink area RBA), and 16 May Stillwell, **Holmes** (Ed Schlabach, m. obs.).

Indigo Bunting: Widespread on 24 Apr, when one made it all the way to Magee (Chris Knoll) and nine were already at Shawnee SF (Steven Harvey). Aden Yoder turned in a nice count of 25 at The Wilderness Center, **Stark**, 12 May. Fifty-five were counted during the annual “Big Day” in **Hancock** 09 May (Betty Hardesty).

Dickcissel: An overwintering young male remained at Blendon Woods MP, **Franklin**, feeders through 15 Mar (Bruce Simpson). The next reported, and quite early, was 20 Apr at Baltic, **Coshocton/Homes/Tuscarawas** (James Hershberger), followed by the first at Armleder Park, **Hamilton**, 03 May (Kirk Westendorf). Kilby Road Gravel Pit, **Hamilton**, was home

to 15 on the last day of the period (Neill Cade). Sam Corbo's team in the North Coast Open event found one in Bellevue, **Sandusky**, on 16 May, the farthest north report.

Bobolink: Coincidentally (or perhaps not), the Bobolink area produced the first reports this spring: 24 Apr at Apple Creek, **Wayne** (Andy and Marty Troyer) and 25 Apr at Sugarcreek, **Holmes** (Robert Schlabach), and four flew over Pipe Creek WA, **Erie**, the next day (Greg Links). A mere nine at CVNP, **Summit**, 16 May (Doug Vogus) was the largest concentration accounted for.

Red-winged Blackbird: Robert Royse estimated 250,000 or more blackbirds at a roost in **Franklin** 05 Mar, the majority of which were Red-wings.

Eastern Meadowlark: Jim McCormac found meadowlarks "all over the place" in **Adams** 07 Mar, and shortly thereafter first-of-the-season announcements began popping up statewide.

Western Meadowlark: Six records this spring, all of singletons: 21 to 22 Mar at Fredericksburg, **Wayne** (Perry Yoder), 07 Apr through the end of the period at the traditional **Wood** spot (Rob Lowry, m. obs.), 10 Apr through the end of the period in Bowling Green, **Wood** (Tom Kemp), a first county record 23 Apr for **Logan** (Troy Shively), 03 May at Oak Harbor, **Ottawa**, and 23 May in **Paulding** (Doug and Micki Dunakin).

Yellow-headed Blackbird: All reports came from **Lucas** and

Ottawa: one at Inland Marina 16 Apr (Hugh Rose and Judy Kolo-Rose), a male on the beach at Magee 16 May (Rick Nirschl), at least one distant male on the Ottawa NWR driving tour 09 May (Gabe Leidy), and the best news of all, a male at Metzger 18 May (Sam Woods), where the species remained into the summer season.

Rusty Blackbird: Concentrations around **Ottawa** were impressive this spring: 1,450 were tallied at Lickert-Harder Road 17 Mar (Mark Shieldcastle), and on 22 Mar at least 1,000 south of Ottawa NWR (Dave Dvorak, Linda Sekura). Elsewhere around the state, the numbers were significantly less impressive, with peak counts of 50 at CVNP 14 Mar (Robert Jackson) and **Ashland** 31 Mar (Su Snyder). A late Rusty was banded 10 May at **Ottawa** (BSBO).

Brewer's Blackbird: Brewer's were especially difficult to come by this spring, with two reports: 28 Mar two north of Killdeer Plains WA (Bill Whan) and 12 Apr, a well studied female in New Bedford, **Coshocton** (James E. Yoder).

Common Grackle: No big flocks reported to this journal, making 250 or more 07 Mar in **Columbiana** the largest total (Bob and Denise Lane).

Brown-headed Cowbird: The CVNP census on 16 May counted 105 (Dwight and Ann Chasar).

Orchard Oriole: A couple of birds preceded the wave: one 19 Apr near New Bedford, **Coshocton** (James E. Yoder) and another 21 Apr at Three Creeks MP, **Franklin** (Rob Thorn).

Ten made for a sizable total 26 Apr at Miami-Whitewater Forest/Wetlands (Paul Wharton) and seven passed by North Perry, **Lake**, 08 May (John Pogacnik).

Baltimore Oriole: One at Atwood Lake, **Carroll**, 15 Apr was quite early (Tom Hay), followed by one 21 Apr at Mount Eaton, **Wayne** (Aden Yoder).

Purple Finch: Thirty-five at East Fork SP, **Clermont**, 28 Mar was a nice sum (Bill Stanley) as were 17 **Coshocton** flybys 18 Apr (Adam, David and James E. Yoder).

House Finch: Reported from throughout the state, with no unusual counts.

Red Crossbill: Two reports were submitted: one on 28 Mar in **Franklin** (Steve Landes) and a surprising flock of 12 reported by James Lesser and m. obs. 15 May in the Oak Openings. Over the next three days, the latter flock roamed the area, frustrating observers with their random occurrences. Matt Anderson counted 13 on 16 May and Geoff Cottier last reported the group 18 May.

White-winged Crossbill: An unforgettable season for White-winged Crossbills! Nearly every observer in the state had a memorable crossbill encounter during our most impressive irruption on record (lasting from this past fall through spring). Some peak counts for the spring period included 25 at **Washington** 01 Mar (Barb Devola), 15 to 20 at Green Lawn Cemetery, **Franklin**, 01 Mar (Bill Whan), 20 at Baldwin-Wallace College, **Cuyahoga**, 07 Mar

(Paul Cary), 25 in Sagamore Hills, **Summit**, 09 Mar (Denise Powers-Kissel), 25 at Woodlawn Cemetery, **Lucas**, 14 Mar (Tim Haney), at least 20 at Kidron Park, **Wayne**, 06 Mar to 03 May (David Weaver), and 20 more over Overton, **Wayne**, 19 Apr (Willis Brubaker). A few lingered into early May: a singing male at Hell Hollow MP, **Lake**, 04 May (John Pogacnik), eight at Spring Grove Cemetery, **Hamilton**, 05 May (Jay Stenger), and 08 May at North Perry, **Lake** (John Pogacnik). A very intriguing observation came out of Fremont, **Sandusky**, 16 Mar, where a pair were apparently gathering nesting material (“small globs of leftover duckweed and dead vegetation”) and flying it to a nearby spruce stand, but no follow-up behavior was observed (Robert Morton).

Common Redpoll: Decent numbers in scattered locations this spring. Thirty were at Elizabeth Heineman’s feeders on South Bass Island 07 Mar for the state’s high count, and a dozen visited Whitehouse, **Wood** (08 Mar, Matt Anderson) and **Lake** (29 Mar, John Pogacnik) feeders. Two lingered in Damascus, **Mahoning**, 21 Apr (Bob and Denise Lane) and one in North Perry 10 May (John Pogacnik).

Pine Siskin: A huge year for siskins led to a banner early nesting season, with birds in **Trumbull** (Suzanne Butcher), **Cuyahoga** (Craig Caldwell, Mike Sandy), **Mahoning** (Craig Holt), **Montgomery** (Ed and Bev Neubauer), **Van Wert** (John Perchalski), **Lucas** (Matt Anderson), **Summit** (Gregory Bennett), **Holmes** (James E. Yoder), **Wayne** (Su Snyder), and **Clermont** (Donald Morse) exhibiting nesting behavior.

From 08 to 10 May, John Pogacnik's feeders swarmed with over 100 siskins, and Leslie Warren hosted 69 in **Mahoning** 09 Mar. Also fitting, BSBO caught its first siskin in 21 years of banding operations at Navarre Marsh, **Ottawa**.

American Goldfinch: Vic Fazio III counted 113 in passage past Magee Marsh 27 Apr.

Evening Grosbeak: A **Montgomery** flyover 24 Apr (Julie Zickefoose) and a feeder bird at North Perry, **Lake**, 27 Apr (John Pogacnik) were the season's only representatives.

House Sparrow: The only unexpected observation was of one that nearly became the victim of a Blue Jay in a bit of avian drama in Cleveland Heights, **Cuyahoga**, 22 Apr. The jay had captured the sparrow and had it pinned down, pummeling it ferociously, though after being roughed up a bit the sparrow escaped (Steve Cagan).

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*Pine Siskins persisted into the spring after a strong irruption this winter. As expected, several nested or attempted to nest south of their typical range, including this bird gathering nesting material. Photograph by Su Snyder on 13 Apr near Wooster, **Wayne**.*

The editorial staff of *The Ohio Cardinal* thanks all of the individuals and organizations who made their field data available to us through reports submitted directly to us by mail and e-mail, as well as through online resources managed by the Ohio Ornithological Society and other means.

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