

SPECIES ACCOUNTS

By Craig Caldwell

Greater White-fronted Goose

The latest report was from Spring Valley on 23 Apr (*vide* Tom Rooney). Three observers reported the second last from Caesar Creek SP, **Warren**, on 14 Apr. Jill Bowers estimated 125 at Mercer WA on 10 Mar and there were several high double-digit counts. Twelve counties had sightings.



Ron Sempier counted 40 Greater White-fronted Geese, then snapped a sharp photo of four as they lifted from the water at Killdeer on 06 April.

Snow Goose

Loren Hintz watched a single bird fly over during the ONWR auto tour on 19 May. The second latest sighting was on 11 May, of a bird which had been at Old Reid Park, **Clark**, since mid-Apr (Julie Karlson and Doug Overacker). The high count was 150, at Mercer WA on 02 Mar; most of them stayed at least one more day (Jill Bowers). The highest count elsewhere was 90, at Metzger on 03 and 06 Mar (Sherrie Duris). Reports came from 23 counties.

Ross's Goose

Gary Bush noted six near Rayland, **Belmont**, on 08 Mar. Scott Pendleton reported the last, from The Bowl on 27 Mar; the second last hung around the Bowling Green golf course, **Wood**, for a few days until 15 Mar (David Gesiki and Mark Rozmarynowycz). Other single birds were reported in **Clermont, Erie, Franklin, Hamilton, Wayne**, and **Wood**.

Brant

John Pogacnik saw four westbound off Conneaut on 12 May.

Cackling Goose

Sites in **Hamilton** yielded the highest two counts and the last sighting. Riverside Park hosted the unusually large number of 18 on 04 Mar (William Hull). The last was a flyover at Armleder

Park on 29 Mar (Kirk Westendorf). **Cuyahoga, Erie, Lorain, Paulding, Richland, Wayne, Wood**, and **Wyandot** also produced sightings.

Canada Goose

Two sites hosted about three thousand birds. Jill Bowers saw them at Mercer WA on 03 Mar and Ryan Steiner on 10 Mar at Magee. Reports came from every county except **Gallia, Monroe, Pike**, and **Putnam**.

Mute Swan

Allen Chartier counted 114 at East Harbor on 20 May and there were many double-digit counts there. The highest number elsewhere was 28, at Metzger on 05 May (Gabriel and Mary Mapel, James Valimont). Forty-four counties provided sightings.

Trumpeter Swan

The 05 May ONWR census turned up 63 (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *vide* Douglas Vogus) and other nearby sites also had double-digit counts. The highest inland number was 25, at Killdeer on 31 Mar (Amber Hart). Twenty-one counties as far south as **Muskingum** produced reports.

Tundra Swan

All of the triple-digit counts came from **Erie, Lucas, Ottawa, Wayne**, and **Wyandot**. ONWR hosted 680 during the 03 Mar census (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *vide* Douglas Vogus). Ann and Dwight Chasar noted a lingering bird in CVNP on 05 May; even the two along the Magee causeway on 28 Apr were later than usual (Pamela Oleson). **Stark, Wayne**, and **Wyandot** are the southernmost of the 25 counties with sightings.

Wood Duck

The only counts over 99 came from the ONWR Boss on 21 Mar (135 by Robert Foppe and Jennifer Smolenski) and 22 Mar (108 by Kenn Kaufman). Seventy-five counties yielded reports.

Gadwall

Rob and Sandy Harlan found the last of the season in the Wilbeth Road marsh, **Summit**, on 26 May, though there were a few summer sightings. Justin Bosler and Dave Slager saw about 400 in ONWR Blausey on 19 Apr. The highest count away from Lake Erie was Dan Gesualdo's 130 at Killdeer on 09 Apr. Fifty-one counties produced sightings.

Eurasian Wigeon

Two late Feb sightings preceded this season's first on 13 Mar, which were at West Branch SP, **Portage** (Steve Hughes), and Killdeer (Ron

Sempier). The last was at ONWR Blausey on 01 May (Craig Moore). The latter site had hosted two birds on 23 to 26 Apr (Justin Bosler and Dave Slager). Their presence this year spanned a longer than usual time period. Solo birds were also in *Ashtabula*, *Geauga*, *Lucas*, *Richland*, *Trumbull*, and *Wayne*.

American Wigeon

These were present all season. The highest of many three-digit counts was Gene Stauffer's 300 at Killdeer on 25 Mar. Reports came from 58 counties.

American Black Duck

William L. Jones found 200 at Mill Creek on 02 Mar and there were only a few other triple-digit counts. Sightings came from 50 counties.

[Mallard x American Black Duck]

Laura Jenkins identified five among the parent species at Blendon Woods on 08 Mar. Eleven other counties also produced reports.

Mallard

Magee held about 1250 on 21 Mar (Robert Foppe and Jennifer Smolenski). Two inland sites each hosted about 1000: Funk on 15 Mar (Su Snyder) and the Thomas Wetlands, *Paulding*, on 17 Mar (Scott Myers). All but eight counties yielded sightings.

Blue-winged Teal

Reports came from 65 counties. The high count was 150, on 14 and 21 Apr at CPNWR (m. obs.) and 22 Apr at Darby Creek (Jeffery Pontius).

Cinnamon Teal

Two were reported in *Franklin*; the OBRC has some details.

Northern Shoveler

Several reports of 100 were topped by the 140 which Ed Pierce's ONWR census team counted on 07 Apr (*vide* Douglas Vogus) and by Allen Chartier's 121 at East Harbor on 08 Apr. Fifty-two counties had sightings.

Northern Pintail

Tim Harney saw the season's last at Magee on 15 May. Patrick Coy and Karin Tanquist found about 1700 along Wilderness Road, *Wayne*, on 17 Mar for the high count. Forty-six counties produced sightings.

Green-winged Teal

ONWR Blausey held about 800 on 12 Apr (Justin Bosler). The most seen south of the Lake Erie area was the 300 at Darby Creek on 22 Mar (Dave Slager). Sightings came from 55 counties.

Canvasback

Elliot Tramer *et al.* saw the last, at CPNWR on 11 May. Kenn Kaufman's 300 at East Harbor on 23 Mar was the high count. The second-highest was 121, at Big Island on 09 Mar; about which Charles Bombaci said, "Highest concentration I have seen in several decades." Forty counties provided sightings.

Redhead

Michael Hershberger commented in *The Bobolink*, "A banner Redhead spring!" Lake Erie at East Harbor hosted 3500 on 23 March, when Kenn Kaufman commented, "...redheads were second only to scaup among the huge rafts of diving ducks offshore". The second-highest number was 800. James F. Yoder found that many at Funk on 16 Mar; so did Sarah Sargent at Pymatuning Reservoir, *Ashtabula*, on 24 Mar. The last of spring were three at Prairie Lane, *Wayne*, on 30 May (Su Snyder). Reports came from 58 counties.

Ring-necked Duck

The last sighting was on 27 May, two birds at Prairie Lane, *Wayne* (James F. Yoder). Bruce Glick counted 1450 at Killbuck on 26 Mar. The only other four-digit count was Ben Morrison's 1300 at Berlin Lake, *Portage/Mahoning*, on 15 Mar. Sixty-six counties had sightings.

Greater Scaup

A trickle of singles and duos in May ended with one bird in the CCE on 23 May, a bit later than in most years (Justin Bosler). Two locations shared the high count of 250. Steve Landes found them on 23 Mar at Conneaut and Loren Hintz saw that many off Magee on 31 Mar. The highest count away from Lake Erie was 35 at the Paulding Reservoir on 21 Mar (Robert Foppe and Jennifer Smolenski). Reports came from 40 counties.

Lesser Scaup

Sightings continued into summer, though most of those in May were of fewer than 10 birds. These numbers were quite a comedown from the 1000 at Pymatuning Reservoir, *Ashtabula*, on 24 Mar (Sarah Sargent). That inland high in turn was dwarfed by the 7000 off Magee and ONWR between 13 and 18 Apr (m. obs.), but see Scaup sp. below as well. Sixty-seven counties generated reports.

Scaup sp.

Tom Kemp and friends estimated almost 80,000 were in Maumee Bay off CPNWR on 14 Apr. He said the bay "was covered with scaup; all the birds we identified to species were Lessers, but we are quite sure Greaters were present so we opted to lump all as scaup, sp."

Surf Scoter

Jen Brumfield scoped out two off Edgewater on 27 May, long after the second-last sighting which was at Metzger on 10 May (Thomas Olson). Ten, the high count, was by Jeff Loughman at Findlay Reservoirs on 24 Mar. Four sites shared the second-highest count of four. Sightings came from 14 counties as far south as *Clermont*.

White-winged Scoter

The last two sightings were probably of the same birds. Rick Asamoto saw three at Ferguson-Metzger Reservoir, *Allen*, on 30 Mar and two there on 06 Apr. His three there and also at Eastwood MP, *Montgomery*, on 09 Mar shared the high count. Fifteen counties all the way south to the Ohio River produced reports.

Black Scoter

Three reporters each found two birds: Danielle McCament at the Eastlake power plant, *Lake*, on 07 Mar; George Coleman at Cleveland's East 72nd Street on 19 Mar; and Shane Myers at the Findlay Reservoirs on 29 Mar. Ipper Collens found one at Mosquito Lake, *Trumbull*, on 31 Mar for the season's last sighting. Often a few linger into Apr. *Lorain* and *Trumbull* also hosted single birds.

Long-tailed Duck

The six reports are:

Two at Hoover NP on 01 Mar (Amy and Kevin O'Neil)

One at Lorain on 10 Mar (Joshua Stapleton)

Three at Salem Reservoir, *Columbiana*, on 17 Mar (m. obs.)

Three at Evans Lake, *Mahoning*, on 23 Mar (Jeff Harvey)

One off Conneaut's Lakeside Drive, *Ashtabula*, on 26 Mar (Delores Cole)

A rather late duo at Springfield Lake, *Summit*, on 12 Apr (Rob and Sandy Harlan)

Bufflehead

Sightings were fairly steady to the last, which was by Peter Hellman at Headlands on 15 May. The only triple-digit sightings were of 267 in CPNWR and nearby on Lake Erie on 14 Apr (Tom Kemp) and of 140 two days later off Magee (Mary Warren). Reports came from 64 counties.

Common Goldeneye

Ken and Helen Ostermiller saw two from Lake Erie Bluffs MP, *Lake*, on 18 Apr, the season's last. Robert Reed noted 150 in Eastwood MP, *Montgomery*, on 03 Mar and commented, "There could easily have been 4-600 in total as they were the most common along with the redheads." Thirty-four counties statewide had sightings.

Hooded Merganser

The high count came early in the season, when Bob Lane saw at least 200 at Berlin Lake, *Mahoning/Portage*, on 02 Mar. Julie Karlson and Doug Overacker found 150 at Buck Creek on 17 Mar for the second-highest number. Sixty-four counties contributed sightings.

Common Merganser

A few stick around to breed in eastern Ohio. Jen Brumfield saw the last migrant at her Cliff Drive lakewatch site, *Cuyahoga*, on 12 May, and wrote, "Single female flew by point-blank. Big surprise. Solo, not associating with RB Mergs." Allen Chartier made five point counts at East Harbor on 26 Mar and tallied 1165. About half of them had departed by 29 Mar (Kenn Kaufman). The highest inland count was 90, by Karen and Rich Kassouf at LaDue on 06 Apr. Reports came from 38 counties of which *Warren* was the southernmost.

Red-breasted Merganser

Jen Brumfield said they were "Staging [at Edgewater] in fantastic numbers" on 19 Apr; she noted 9600 that day. The *Richland* end of Clear Fork Reservoir hosted the highest inland count of 390 on 19 Mar for Gary Cowell *et al.* The last sighting was at Winous Point on 27 May (Dave Slager). Fifty-two counties had sightings.

Ruddy Duck

Multiple observers noted about 3500 at CPNWR on 21 Apr. The 1000 at Pipe Creek WA, *Erie*, on 19 Apr was the second-highest count (David Clark) and the highest inland was 700 at Rocky Fork on 23 Mar (Rick Asamoto). Fifty-five counties generated reports.

Northern Bobwhite

Mar provided only two sightings. One visited Junior Barnes' home in *Highland* on 02 Mar. Scott Pendleton saw another at the Reasoner farm, *Jefferson*, on 30 Mar, where "According to owner, no one in the area has captive quail". A few Apr reports led up to the bulk of them in May. Bill Stanley found six in East Fork's Williamsburg Wetlands on both 03 and 28 May. Reports came from 15 counties; all but *Wood* are on or east of I-71.

Chukar

I agree with Kathi Hutton, who commented, "certainly a farm-raised and released bird; still fun to see" with her report from East Fork on 20 May.

Ring-necked Pheasant

The Charlie's Pond area, *Pickaway*, is a consistent site for these; Kyle Brooks found seven there on 20 May. Twenty-seven counties had sightings.

Ruffed Grouse

David Weaver heard three in **Harrison** on 12 Mar. Several birders reported one or two in Shawnee during the course of the season. The other six reports, all of single birds, were from **Coshocton**, **Portage**, **Vinton** (3), and **Washington**.



While most Ohio birders feel lucky to hear the distant drumming of a Ruffed Grouse, John Howard was pleased to see this strutting male in **Adams** and captured the image on 15 March.

Wild Turkey

Sean Artman found 70 in a field on State Road in **Ashtabula** on 23 Mar. Mill Creek hosted 60 for Jeff Harvey on 07 Mar. Reports came from 61 counties.

Red-throated Loon

The six locations with reports follow. Historically there have been few sightings after the first week of May.

Lost Bridge, **Hamilton**, on 05 Apr (Brian Wulker)

LaDue on 09 Apr (Dan Gesualdo) and 05 May (Wes Hatch)

Chippewa Lake, **Medina**, on 16 Apr (Helen and Ken Ostermiller)

Gordon Park, **Cuyahoga**, on 05 May (m. obs.)

Wendy Park, a northbound flyover on 26 May (Jim McCarty)

Clear Fork Reservoir, **Richland**, on 31 May (Gary Cowell)

Pacific Loon

The OBRC has reports from **Geauga** and **Trumbull**.

Common Loon

Thomas Olson provided the high count of 100, from LaDue on 07 Apr. James F. Yoder found 80 at Clear Fork Reservoir, **Morrow/Richland**, on 30 Mar for the second-highest number. Fifty-one counties had sightings.

Pied-billed Grebe

East Fork held 88 on 16 Mar for Bill Stanley and

about 50 on 28 Mar for J.W. Rettig. Reports came from 60 counties.

Horned Grebe

The second-last of the season were four at Silver Creek MP, **Summit**, on 20 May (Rob and Sandy Harlan). The last of the season was a single at Hoover NP on 26 May (Charles Bombaci). Rocky Fork hosted the high count of 143 on 23 Mar (Rick Asamoto). That was the only count over 100 among the 60 counties with sightings.

Red-necked Grebe

The four locations with sightings, all of single birds, are below. In many years sightings continue well into Apr.

The **Franklin** end of Hoover Reservoir on 14 and 15 Mar (Gene Stauffer)

Ferguson-Metzger Reservoir, **Allen**, on 17 Mar (Rick Asamoto)

Sandy Ridge Reservation, **Lorain**, on 22 Mar (BRAS)

Winton Woods Lake, **Hamilton**, on 29 Mar (Donna Mellon)

Eared Grebe

Five locations hosted single birds:

Ferguson-Metzger Reservoir, **Allen**, on 17 Mar (Regina Schieltz)

Huron harbor, **Erie**, on 19, 22, and 23 Mar (m. obs.)

Paulding Reservoir on 20 and 21 Mar (m. obs.)

Wellington Upground Reservoir, **Lorain**, on 31 Mar (Chris Pierce)

Marysville Reservoir, **Union**, on 02, 03, and 06 May (m. obs.)

Double-crested Cormorant

Allan Harris estimated 2000 were at the West Sister Island, **Ottawa**, colony on 30 Apr. The second-highest number was 450; it came from LaDue on 10 Apr (Wes Hatch) and Edgewater on 13 Apr (Ethan Gyllenhaal).



Allan Clayton snapped this image of a handsome Common Loon in fresh breeding plumage at Hueston Woods SP, **Preble**, on 02 April.

American White Pelican

Gary Cowell made the earliest report, of five birds at Charles Mill Lake, **Ashland/Richland**, on 05 Apr. Killdeer hosted at least 41 between 08 and 13 Apr (m. obs.). The season's last were 23 at CPNWR on 31 May (m. obs.). Reports also came from five other **Lucas** locations plus one **Delaware** and two **Ottawa** sites.



Ron Sempier photographed a portion of a record flock of 41 American White Pelicans at Killdeer on 13 April.

American Bittern

A Columbus Avid Birders field trip turned up the first, at Big Island on 23 Mar, *vide* Andy Sewell. The highest count was five, at the Honda Wetlands, **Union**, on 21 May (Irina Shulgina). Nineteen counties provided reports.

Least Bittern

Two parties produced the first sightings on 21 Apr, more than a week earlier than expected. Jen Brumfield and Elizabeth McQuaid found one in the CVNP's Brookside Marsh and Dan Gesualdo another during the ONWR auto tour. Darby Creek hosted up to four between 30 Apr and the end of the season (m. obs.). **Cuyahoga**, **Hamilton**, **Lake**, **Lucas**, and **Wayne** also produced sightings.

Great Blue Heron

Jill Bowers found about 150 in Mercer WA on both 03 and 10 Mar, the highest of three triple-digit counts. Every county but **Gallia**, **Morgan**, **Pike**, **Putnam**, and **Shelby** contributed reports.

Great Egret

Many single birds, and one cluster of eight, were seen during winter, so the first of this season wasn't the first of the year. Nevertheless, Peggy Blair saw it in Sandusky Bay, **Erie**, on 11 Mar. The 05 May ONWR census tallied 102 (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *vide* Douglas Vogus) and there were many counts in the 50 to 100 range in the northwest marshes. The highest inland number was 40, at Clear Fork Reservoir, **Richland**, on 06 Apr (Gary Cowell and Jason Hull). Reports

came from 54 counties.

Snowy Egret

LaDue hosted the first; Dan Gesualdo saw it there on 09 Apr and single birds were also seen later in **Hamilton**, **Logan**, and **Portage**. Dave Slager found 12 at ONWR on 06 May. Other sites in **Lucas** and **Ottawa** as well as locations in **Erie** and **Lake** hosted between two and 10.

Little Blue Heron

Neil Baus reported the earliest, in **Henry** on 29 Apr. The only duo was at Metzger; Craig Moore saw them there on 09 May and Brad Macurda on 25 May. Other **Lucas** sites plus **Franklin**, **Hancock**, **Montgomery**, and **Ottawa** contributed sightings.

Tricolored Heron

The OBRC has one report from **Hancock**.

Cattle Egret

Widely separated Fernald and the **Ottawa** part of Magee shared the first-sighting date of 10 Apr. (Michael Halstead and Joshua Stapleton, respectively). A lawn on South Hayes Avenue, **Erie**, held seven on 12 May (Justin Bosler) and three remained on 19 May (Cory Chiappone). Reports also came from **Hancock**, **Holmes**, **Lucas**, and **Wyandot**.

Green Heron

The first were three unexpectedly early flyovers which Adam Beeler saw and heard at Scioto Audubon on 26 Mar. Tim Krynak saw the next two at the Ohio and Erie Canal Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 07 Apr, about the time they historically have entered the state. Charles Bombaci tallied the high count of seven in Hoover NP on 26 May. Fifty-three counties had sightings.

Black-crowned Night-Heron

The two highest counts came from the lower Cuyahoga River viewed from Cleveland's Merwin Street. Paula Lozano found 30 there on 10 Apr and 59 on 13 Apr. The highest number elsewhere was 28, at the Bayshore power plant, **Lucas**, on 03 Mar. (Sherrie Duris). Eighteen counties provided reports.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

Alex Champagne saw the first arrival at Columbus's Preston Avenue site on 17 Apr. No one saw more than two adults there, and no young, by season's end. No other location had a sighting.

Glossy Ibis

The OBRC has reports from **Hamilton**, **Union**, and **Wyandot**.

[Glossy x White-faced Ibis]

The OBRC has reports from **Hamilton**

White-faced Ibis

The OBRC has reports from *Hamilton*.



Birders lined the shore of Lodge Pond at Fernald where Allan Claybon successfully captured a photo of this White-faced Ibis, one of two Plegadis ibises present on 29 April.

Plegadis sp. Ibis

The OBRC has reports from two *Hamilton* locations.

Black Vulture

Bruce Glick counted 58 while biking 14 miles of the Kokosing Gap Trail in *Knox*. Single birds in *Hancock* and *Lucas* were the furthest north, and 34 other counties produced reports.

Turkey Vulture

Only *Monroe*, *Pike*, and *Putnam* did not have sightings. The high counts, not surprisingly, were during migration. Bruce Glick tallied 1266 at Malek Park on 04 Apr “after a cold six weeks” and 1246 on 15 Apr. The third highest count was Jen Brumfield’s 566 while hawk-watching from Battery Park, *Cuyahoga*, on 30 Mar.

Osprey

The first three shared a slightly early date, 10 Mar. Susan Nash saw one adding to a nest on a platform at The Wilds, *Muskingum*; Ben Hawes saw a flyby individual in Canal Winchester, *Franklin*; and Ivan J. and Mary Esther Yoder had a migrant pass them near Stone Creek, *Tuscarawas*. The high count was 10 migrants passing Ed and Leroy A. Schlabach’s hawk watch site near Ragersville, *Tuscarawas*, on 18 Apr. Several reports were of six to nine birds. Fifty-five counties provided sightings.

Swallow-tailed Kite

Reports from *Clermont* and *Champaign* went to the OBRC.

Golden Eagle

The last was heading north over the Chagrin River in *Lake* on 15 May, later than their historical latest sighting (Haans Petruschke). Other single-bird

sightings came from *Cuyahoga*, *Franklin*, *Geauga*, *Holmes*, *Lucas*, *Muskingum*, *Ottawa*, *Shelby*, *Summit*, *Tuscarawas*, and *Wayne*.

Mississippi Kite

The OBRC has two reports from *Lucas* and one each from *Ottawa* and *Summit*.

Northern Harrier

Big Island and Killdeer each hosted 13 for Charles Bombaci on 09 Mar. The high count of migrants was 10, on 04 Apr at Malek Park (Irina Shulgina). The number of sightings and the number of birds per sighting declined during May through the end of the season. Fifty-two counties yielded sightings.

Sharp-shinned Hawk

Malek Park produced the high count of 236 on 18 Apr (Victor Fazio III) after yielding about half that number on 15 Apr (Bruce Glick). The highest number elsewhere was 87, shared by hawk watchers at Battery Park, *Cuyahoga*, on 18 Apr (Jen Brumfield) and Conneaut on 22 Apr (Ed Schlabach). Reports came from an even 50 counties.

Cooper’s Hawk

Jen Brumfield counted eight at Battery Park, *Cuyahoga*, on 18 Apr and Victor Fazio III saw eight at Malek Park on the same date. Sixty-four counties produced sightings.

Northern Goshawk

The OBRC received reports from *Ashtabula*, *Delaware*, *Hamilton*, and *Lake*.

Bald Eagle

An observer entered 39 in the ONWR eTT on 30 Mar. Normally I am somewhat skeptical of eTT reports, but Ken Kaufman tallied 35 birds from the Magee Bird Center and observation tower that same day. The highest inland count was 13, at Mosquito Lake, *Trumbull*, on 24 Mar (Scott Huger). Reports came from 68 counties.

Red-shouldered Hawk

Malek Park again produced the high count, 29 on 04 Apr (Bruce Glick). The second-highest number was “only” 19, from South Shore Park, *Lucas*, on 30 Mar (Sherrie Duris). Fifty-four counties had sightings.

Broad-winged Hawk

Leon N. Miller saw the first at Walnut Creek, *Holmes*, on 04 Apr. Evan Leon logged the second over Fairview Park, *Hamilton*, on 07 Apr. One reached Magee by 10 Apr for Joshua Stapleton. Michael Hershberger wrote, “The fabulous [Broad-winged] flight took place on 4/18.” That same day, a group of hawk watchers in Walnut Creek counted 726 and at least four other sites

had triple-digit counts. Bruce Glick and Ed Schlabach counted 616 at Malek Park on 22 Apr and there were two other triple-digit counts from there. Fifty-three counties provided reports.

Red-tailed Hawk

Ethan Kistler and Ryan Steiner watched 43 pass the Magee Bird Center and observation tower on 30 Mar. Bruce Glick beat them with 55 at Malek Park on 04 Apr. Every county except *Pike*, *Putnam*, and *Van Wert* had sightings.

Rough-legged Hawk

Cleveland Hopkins Airport hosted eight on 28 Mar (Jen Brumfield). Bruce Glick and Bev Walborn separately reported seven from Malek Park on 04 Apr. George Coleman and Louise Quigley noted the last over Magee on 26 Apr. Reports came from 20 counties.

Yellow Rail

The OBRC has reports from *Franklin* and *Sandusky*.

King Rail

The five reported locations are:

Big Island, one or two birds on 28 and 29 Apr, a bit earlier than they usually arrive (Jack Stenger, Dan and Lynn Gesualdo)

Darby Creek, up to four birds between 11 Apr (quite early) and 17 May (m. obs.)

Irwin Prairie SNP, *Lucas*, one bird on 02 May (Matt Anderson)

Killbuck, one bird on 15 May (Kent Miller and David Weaver)

Winous Horseshoe, one or two between 15 and 30 May (Justin Bosler, Dave and Emily Slager)

Virginia Rail

Mary Anne Romito made the first sighting away from a known wintering area, two pioneering birds in CVNP on 11 Mar. The high count of 10 was shared by Matt Anderson at Irwin Prairie SNP, *Lucas*, on 02 May and Kent Miller at Killbuck on 15 May. Three locations each held six birds. Twenty-three counties had sightings.

Sora

One bird in Spring Valley in Dec was winter's only sighting; possibly the same individual was spring's first there on 14 Mar (John Habig). The earliest elsewhere was in Crooked Run NP, *Clermont*, on 22 Mar, still an early date (Kathi Hutton). Elliot Tramer found 27 during a formal 21-stop census of CPNWR on 29 Apr. He said that number is "not a particularly high Sora count for this site during migration! Our max is 111". The most elsewhere was Kent Miller's 10 at Killbuck on 15 May. Reports came from 34 counties.

Common Gallinule

Magee provided the first sighting, on 17 Apr (Deb Teff *et al.*). Nearby Metzger hosted 16 on 25 May for the high count (Joe Baldwin) and there were smaller double-digit counts from Big Island and Magee. Fourteen counties produced reports.

American Coot

Waters along a mile of Larue-Prospect Road West, *Marion*, hosted 3000 for Charles Bombaci on 18 Apr. Metzger held the second highest number, 1100, on 13 Apr for Greg Links. ONWR had several counts of 1000. Seventy-one counties had sightings.

Sandhill Crane

Funk provided reports all winter as well as spring's high count: 32 were there on 03 Apr (m. obs.). Thirty-eight counties yielded reports.

Black-bellied Plover

Justin Bosler watched the first fly over Winous Horseshoe on 22 Apr. Jack Halibozek counted 52 at the Magee East Beach on 09 May and James F. Yoder made the high inland count of 34 at Funk on 16 May. A dozen counties provided sightings.

American Golden-Plover

Seven at Killdeer on 09 Apr were the first (Scott Myers). Two in the CCE on 22 May were the last (Kathy Mihm Dunning). In between (on 18 Apr), a single flock of over 500 at Killdeer was the high (Charles Bombaci). A dozen counties also hosted these.



Chuck Slusarczyk photographed this Virginia Rail in the dense vegetation of the Wake Robin Trail in Mentor Marsh SNP, *Lake*, 12 April.

Semipalmated Plover

The first were two extremely early arrivals at Killbuck on 04 Apr (Bruce Glick). The next, six

at CPNWR on 21 Apr; were on time (m. obs.). Aaron E. Miller and Kent Miller separately noted more than 100 in several groups at Funk and along nearby Wilderness Road on 15 May. Justin Bosler noted the highest number elsewhere, 75 at South Creek on 21 May. Reports came from 28 counties.

Piping Plover

The OBRC has reports from two sites in each of *Lucas* and *Ottawa*.

Killdeer

Seventy-six migrants passed Edgewater during Jen Brumfield's five hours there on 10 Mar. All but eight counties had sightings.

Black-necked Stilt

The OBRC has several reports from *Ottawa* and *Sandusky*.



Tim Colborn photographed this Black-necked Stilt, an accidental visitor, in a wetland on Conrod Rd., Sandusky, on 21 May.

American Avocet

Reports of between 23 and 50 at CPNWR on 21 Apr were the first (m. obs.). Su Snyder counted 54 there on 28 Apr. The last two reports were of 41 at Maumee Bay on 01 May (Claire Staples) and of one slow-to-leave bird at CPNWR on 31 May and 01 Jun (m. obs.). Those and all other sightings were in *Lucas*.

Spotted Sandpiper

Kirk Westendorf saw the first one on Bass Island, *Hamilton*, on 06 Apr, and Laura Gooch noted the first in the far north at Lower Shaker Lake, *Cuyahoga*, on the next day. Amber Hart counted 30 at Funk on 15 May. Fifty-six counties produced reports.

Solitary Sandpiper

The earliest sighting was all the way up at the Tappan Drainage Area, *Harrison*, on 06 Apr (Scott Pendleton). Sightings were steady until the last of the season on 28 May, in ONWR (Justin Bosler). Sites in *Clark*, *Franklin*, and *Harrison* shared the high count of 25 on 12 and 14

May (m. obs.). Reports came from 41 counties.

Greater Yellowlegs

Irina and Kate Shulgina saw the first, two at Killdeer on 17 Mar. However, Dan Sanders saw three distant flyby yellowlegs on 12 Mar, also at Killdeer, but couldn't assign them to a species. Dave Slager noted about 300 at Winous Horseshoe on 16 Apr, the highest of several three-digit counts there. The largest inland concentration was 45 at Big Island on 18 Apr (Charles Bombaci). Forty-six counties contributed sightings.

Willet

Rob Harlan noted the season's first, and wrote that it "called repeatedly as it flew overhead at Columbia Woods Apartments in Norton (Summit Co.) after dark 4/18. Heard from our deck... rather bizarre." Cullen Park, *Lucas*, hosted 54 on 01 May for Michael DeLong. The latest spring date of 16 May was shared by single birds at ONWR Boss (Harris Brown) and Darby Creek (Brian Wulker, Jeffrey Pontius). *Butler*, *Clark*, *Pickaway*, *Scioto*, and *Warren* also yielded sightings.

Lesser Yellowlegs

The first report came from Fernald on 10 Mar (Kathi Hutton). Five made it to Duff-Washa Road, *Ottawa*, by 15 Mar (Dan and Lynn Gesualdo). Wetlands along Wilderness Road, *Wayne*, held 200 on 28 Apr (Hallie Mason) and there were several more counts in excess of 100. Forty-two counties produced reports.

Upland Sandpiper

Scott Pendleton saw the first arrivals, three at The Bowl on 08 Apr. He and Gary Bush noted five there on later Apr dates and seven nesting pairs by the end of the season. Most other sightings were of one or two birds but the Stange-Krause Roads corner, *Ottawa*, had four on two dates (m. obs.). Other reports came from *Clark*, *Clermont*, *Franklin*, *Hamilton*, *Lucas*, *Marion*, *Montgomery*, *Richland*, and *Washington*.

Whimbrel

The three reports are:

One on Prairie Lane, *Wayne*, on 27 Apr (Bruce Glick, James F. Yoder *et al.*), for a very uncommon sighting date; most years they come through in late May.

A vocal flock of 45 passing over Winous Horseshoe on 20 May (Justin Bosler)

One at Conneaut on 27 May (m. obs.)

Marbled Godwit

The four reports are:

An early one at the Newtown gravel pits, *Hamilton*, on 07 Apr (Brian Wulker)

Up to 14 at Pickerington Ponds on 17 Apr (m. obs.)

Eleven at Winous Horseshoe on 19 Apr (Justin Bosler and Dave Slager)

Fifteen on the Buck Creek beach on 28 Apr (m. obs.)

Ruddy Turnstone

The first showed up right on time on 01 May, when Claire Staples saw eight in *Lucas*. Andy Jones tallied the high of 50 from the CCE Trail on 15 May. The inland high count, and second-highest overall, was Jeffrey Pontius' 32 at Darby Creek on 23 May. *Ashtabula, Clark, Crawford, Cuyahoga, Hancock, Lake, Ottawa,* and *Wayne* contributed more reports.

Sanderling

The first report was from CPNWR, one early bird on 29 Apr (Justin Bosler) and there were two reports from there in late May. The high count was seven, from Conneaut on 23 May (Sean Artman). Sightings of one to four also came from two other *Lucas* sites and one site in each of *Franklin, Hamilton,* and *Hancock*.

Semipalmated Sandpiper

Barry McEwen saw the first, three in ONWR Kuntz on 21 Apr; also an early date. South Creek hosted 650 for Justin Bosler on 29 May. The second-highest count was 200, from ONWR Blausey on 28 May, also for Justin. Sightings came from 26 counties.

Western Sandpiper

These are quite rare here in spring, and most of the few records are in late May. However, Regina Schieltz well described the two she saw in the Woods Road wetlands, *Darke*, on 03 May.



Dave Slager photographed this spectacular male Ruff in breeding plumage on 04 May in the Blausey Unit of ONWR.

Least Sandpiper

Bruce Glick saw five at Killbuck on 02 Apr, a

very early date. *Darke's* Woods Road wetlands hosted two for Regina Schieltz on 07 Apr, still a week or so before they're expected. Single birds in *Columbiana* (Craig Holt) and *Hamilton* (m. obs.) on 12 Apr were next, and sightings were frequent and widespread after 20 Apr. Justin Bosler found 75 in ONWR Darby, *Ottawa*, on 14 May; Ed Schlabach doubled that count two days later at Funk. Thirty-seven counties produced reports.

White-rumped Sandpiper

The earliest report was Robert Sams' from Litzenberg Memorial Woods, *Hancock*, on 04 May. The CCE hosted 25 on 23 May and South Creek had 15 on 29 May (both Justin Bosler). Other sightings came from *Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, Ottawa, Wayne,* and *Wyandot*.

Pectoral Sandpiper

Doug Overacker saw one in Buck Creek on 09 Mar to start the season. Different parts of Darby held the last two on 24 and 28 May (both Irina Shulgina). South Creek hosted 750 on 08 Apr (Justin Bosler). This was triple the next-highest count, from Killdeer on 09 Apr (Dan Gesualdo). Reports came from 34 counties.

Purple Sandpiper

Several observers saw one at Cleveland's East 72nd Street on 07 Mar; they're usually seen only in late fall and early winter.

Dunlin

Andrew Mashburn found three early birds at Conneaut on 31 Mar. Justin Bosler estimated 6000 at South Creek on 21 May and there were smaller four-digit counts there and at *Lucas* and *Ottawa* sites. The highest count elsewhere was 61, by Charles Bombaci at Killdeer on 07 May. Twenty-four counties provided sightings.

Stilt Sandpiper

The four reports are:

One at Magee on 14 May (Matthew Erickson)

One at ONWR Darby on 14 May (Justin Bosler)

One at the mouth of Crane Creek on 21 May
(Rob and Sandy Harlan, Rick Nirschl)

Three at Darby Creek on 24 May (David Tan)

Ruff

Reports went to the OBRC from *Marion, Ottawa,* and *Wayne*.

Short-billed Dowitcher

ONWR Blausey produced the first sighting, on 26 Apr (Justin Bosler). Dennis Kline found 93 at Killbuck on 15 May for the high count. Eleven other counties also had sightings.

Long-billed Dowitcher

Normally I list only sightings, but this is a differ-

ent kind of record: This spring was the first since 2004 with no reports of this species.

Wilson's Snipe

Sightings tapered off in the last half of May. ONWR Schneider hosted 115 on 11 Apr (Justin Bosler); the second-highest number, 80, was at the Kilby Road gravel pits, **Hamilton**, on 23 Mar (Evan Leon). Forty-one counties produced reports.

American Woodcock

Courtship flights started in Feb and continued well into spring. The highest of several two-digit counts this season was Bill Stanley's 15 at East Fork on 13 Mar. Forty-seven counties had sightings.

Wilson's Phalarope

The earliest was a pioneer at Fernald on 21 Apr (Kirk Westendorf). The next wasn't seen until 10 May, at ONWR Blausey (Justin Bosler). Darby Creek provided the high count of four on 14 May (Donna Kuhn, Brad Sparks). Reports also came from **Butler** and **Lucas**.

Red-necked Phalarope

Several observers reported one or two from Killdeer (both the **Marion** and **Wyandot** sections) on 10 May, the earliest date. Two at Winous Horseshoe on 29 May were the latest (Justin Bosler). Another **Ottawa** site and locations in **Hancock**, **Lucas**, and **Wayne** held one or two between those dates.

Red Phalarope

Conrad Yoder discovered a female at Tappan Lake, **Harrison**, on 11 May, but it apparently left that night. Jeffrey Pontius found what may have been the same bird at Darby Creek on 13 May; it stayed until 16 May for many observers to list. These are only the third and fourth spring records of the last 10 years.

Bonaparte's Gull

Jen Brumfield estimated 28,000 passed her Edgewater vantage point on 19 Apr and commented, "Astounding concentration, this is a low count". The highest count not on Lake Erie proper was 1000 in fields along Darsch Road, **Ottawa**, on 11 Apr (Ryan Steiner). The highest count well inland was 430 in flooded fields south of Findlay, **Hancock**, on 14 Apr (Shane Myers). Forty-three counties provided sightings.

Black-headed Gull

The OBRC has two reports from **Ashtabula** almost two months apart.

Little Gull

Dillon Reservoir, **Muskingum**, hosted one; a second-hand report gives its arrival date as 17

Mar and it was definitely present on 18 and 19 Mar (m. obs.). Three passed during John Pogacnik's Erie-watch in **Lake** on 08 Apr. Bob and Denise Lane saw one at Conneaut on 25 May, a month later than the typical last sighting.

Laughing Gull

The four reports, all of single birds, are:

At Indian Lake, **Logan**, on 03 May (Dan and Lynn Gesualdo)

Along Wilderness Road, **Wayne**, on 18 May (Kent Miller and David Weaver)

At Edgewater on 25 May (Jen Brumfield)

At Conneaut between 25 and 31 May (m. obs.)



Conneaut was the hot spot for uncommon gulls on 15 May, where this rare spring Laughing Gull struck a perfect pose for photographer Bob Lane.

Franklin's Gull

The nine reports are:

At the fish hatchery by Grand Lake St. Marys,

Auglaize, on 31 Mar (Sue Tackett and Charlotte Mathena) and on 02 Apr (Tim Durnell)

At Charles Mill Lake, **Ashland/Richland**, on 01 Apr (Gary Cowell) and again on 06 Apr (James F. Yoder)

On Lake Erie at Edgewater on 07 and 14 Apr (Jen Brumfield) At Lorain on 07 Apr (Dan and Lynn Gesualdo)



Bob and Denise Lane searched the Conneaut flats for migrants on 15 May and hit the jackpot with a sighting of this uncommon European visitor, a Black-headed Gull.

In Marion Township, **Hancock**, on 13 Apr (Jeff Loughman and Shane Myers)
At CPNWR on 25 Apr (m. obs.)

Ring-billed Gull

Jen Brumfield estimated 16,000 at Edgewater on 10 Apr. The highest counts away from Lake Erie were 1000 at Buck Creek on 05 and 07 Mar (Brian Menker and Doug Overacker, respectively). Sixty counties produced sightings.

Herring Gull

Ryan Steiner spent three hours on the Magee tower on 10 Mar; he estimated 8000 passed him and said, "Birds passed by the tower constantly the entire time I was there but in the first hour four huge flocks came through heading north numbering at least a thousand per flock". Scott Huger provided the highest inland count, 170 at LaDue on 29 Mar. Reports came from 38 counties.

Thayer's Gull

The two sightings were at Edgewater on 17 Mar (Jen Brumfield) and Conneaut on 24 Mar (Ben Hawes).

Iceland Gull

Jen Brumfield and Cory Chiappone noted three at Edgewater on 17 and 18 Mar respectively. Single birds were there, at other **Cuyahoga sites**, and at sites in **Ashtabula, Lake, Lorain**, and **Lucas** on individual dates between 03 and 27 Mar.

Thayer's/Iceland Gull

Sherrie Duris reported an indeterminate bird at Maumee Bay on 18 Mar.

Lesser Black-backed Gull

Edgewater produced the high count of seven on 19 Apr (Jen Brumfield). Fourteen counties as far south as **Delaware** had sightings.

Glaucous Gull

Jen Brumfield's Edgewater Erie-watches provided both the most birds (four on 17 Mar), the second last sighting (30 Apr) and the last (29 May). This last is an extremely late date; they're seldom seen at all here in May, but what was almost surely this bird remained well into summer. An uncommon inland report came from Jeff Harvey at Evans Lake, **Mahoning**, on 23 Mar. Other sightings came from **Ashtabula, Lake**, and **Lorain**.

[Herring x Great Black-backed Gull]

Mark Rozmarynowycz identified one at Maumee Bay on 11 Apr.

Great Black-backed Gull

A hundred were off Wendy Park and 55 off Edgewater on 17 Mar (Jen Brumfield). A single bird

at LaDue between 20 and 25 Mar was the only sighting not on or adjacent to Lake Erie (m. obs.). **Ashtabula, Erie, Lake, Lorain, Lucas**, and **Ottawa** contributed reports.

Least Tern

The OBRC has reports from **Sandusky**.

Caspian Tern

Anna Wittmer noted the first, at the **Richland** end of Clear Fork Reservoir on 01 Apr. Maureen Bailey saw about 75 in the Spitzer Marina, which is adjacent to the Lorain Impoundment, on 23 Apr. Several other Lake Erie-side reports exceeded 20. Amy and Kevin O'Neil saw the highest inland number, 14, at Alum Creek Reservoir; **Delaware**, on 13 Apr. Reports came from 33 counties.

Black Tern

The first sightings came on 04 May from CPNWR (Sherrie Duris) and Magee (m. obs.). ONWR auto tourists reported up to 45 on 12 May. The highest count elsewhere was Steve Jones' 10 at Indian Lake SP, **Logan**, on 13 May. Thirteen counties had sightings.

Common Tern

Hoover NP provided the first report about two weeks earlier than expected, two birds on 13 Mar (Kyle Artis). East Harbor held the most, 150 on 03 May (Andy Jones). The Findlay Reservoirs hosted 19 on 20 May, the highest inland count (Jeff Loughman). Seventeen counties yielded sightings.

Forster's Tern

Jeff Harvey filed the earliest report from Mill Creek on 07 Apr, for a change somewhat later than in many years. Elliot Tramer found the high count of 157 at CPNWR on 29 Apr. The second-highest count was 45, from the Winous Point Metzger Unit, **Sandusky**, on 19 Apr (Justin Bosler and Dave Slager). Gary Cowell saw the largest inland number, 21, at Charles Mill Lake, **Ashland/Richland**, on 09 May and nearby Pleasant Hill Lake, **Richland**, the next day, and is sure they were the same birds. Reports came from 24 counties.

Rock Pigeon

Though these are undoubtedly present in every county, only 68 provided reports. Amanda Lawson and John Moore noted 150 at the Great Miami Mitigation Bank, **Montgomery**, on 03 Mar.

Eurasian Collared-Dove

Reports from **Allen, Clark, Mercer**, and **Wayne** went to the OBRC.

White-winged Dove

The OBRC received a report from **Clinton**.

Mourning Dove

All counties but *Noble*, *Pike*, and *Putnam* provided reports. John Shrader made the high count of 100 in Shawnee on 11 May.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

The earliest sightings were of single birds on 27 Apr. Harris Abramson's was at Fort Hill State Memorial, *Highland*; Albert Scruggs found his at Station Road in CVNP; and James F. Yoder heard one at Killbuck. Aden A. Yoder counted 18 flyovers at an *Ashland* site before dawn broke on 18 May for the only double-digit record. Paul Drescher counted five in the Five Forks area of Wayne NE, *Lawrence*, on 25 May and four were sighted in at least seven other locations. Fifty-three counties yielded sightings.

Black-billed Cuckoo

Kristi Rowland saw the earliest, in Lake Hope SP, *Vinton*, on 27 Apr. Counts of four came from Magee on 10 May (Mike Maxwell) and the CVNP Ledges on 18 May (Laurens Halsey). Thirty-four counties provided reports.

Barn Owl

Steve Landes saw two near Lancaster, *Fairfield*, on 17 Mar and Pickerington Ponds hosted two from at least 02 Mar to 27 Apr (m. obs.). One was seen in Higginsport, *Brown*, from 23 Feb to 12 May (m. obs.). Other single birds were reported in *Coshocton*, *Cuyahoga*, *Licking*, *Marion*, *Ottawa*, *Ross*, *Summit*, and *Wayne*.

Eastern Screech-Owl

Tom Kemp spent all of 08 Mar birding *Wood* and came up with five. Martin Calabrese saw an adult and three immatures at the Fernway School, *Cuyahoga*, on 04 and 05 May. Reports came from 23 counties.

Great Horned Owl

The high count was five; Sherrie Duris found them at CPNWR on 04 May. There were several reports of four birds among the 37 counties providing them.

Snowy Owl

One was seen in *Paulding* from early Dec to 22 Mar and a second joined it between 12 and 16 Mar (m. obs.).

Barred Owl

Bill Stanley found six at the East Fork horseman's parking area on 16 Mar. Several observers noted a pair feeding two chicks in the Rocky River Reservation, *Cuyahoga*, on 05 May. Sites in *Fairfield* and *Summit* also each hosted four birds. Forty-nine counties produced sightings.

Long-eared Owl

Despite this species' preference for roosting in conifers, the mostly-deciduous Magee woodlot hosted five on 14 Apr (Dan and Lynn Gesualdo). One lingered until 09 May (m. obs.). Two other *Lucas* locations and one each in *Cuyahoga*, *Hancock*, *Medina*, *Montgomery*, *Ottawa*, *Tuscarawas*, and *Wood* also had sightings of one or two birds.

Short-eared Owl

Justin Bosler saw five working the fields at Krause and Stange Roads, *Ottawa*, on 30 Mar. Several reports had three birds. Jen Brumfield noted the last, at CLNP on 01 May. Other reports came from *Hamilton*, *Harrison*, *Lake*, *Lucas*, *Muskingum*, *Portage*, *Summit*, *Wayne*, and *Wyandot*.

Northern Saw-whet Owl

Killdeer hosted two on 01 Mar (Irina Shulgina). Penitentiary Glen Reservation, *Lake*, held the last, on 15 Apr (Andy Avram, Ben Hawes). *Carroll*, *Cuyahoga*, *Hamilton*, *Hancock*, *Lucas*, *Marion*, *Montgomery*, *Ottawa*, *Wood*, and *Wyandot* also had single birds. As an aside, Kelly Williams reports that a female which she banded in *Ross* on 05 Nov 2009 (when it was a few months old) was recaptured at Whitefish Point, Michigan, on 06 May of this year.

Common Nighthawk

The first indisputable sighting came from the Magee East Beach on 20 Apr (Brett Moyer *et al.*) though there were sketchy reports beginning 06 Apr. Nineteen at Spring Grove Cemetery, *Hamilton*, on 17 May (David A. Brinkman) and 20 at CLNP on 29 May (Ryan Eldridge) were the only double-digit counts. Reports came from 40 counties.



Two bright-eyed Great Horned Owllets were photographed by Allan Claybon as they alertly watched from their nest at Symmes Township Park, *Hamilton*, on 21 April.

Chuck-will's-widow

Four reports of one or two birds came from van-

tage points along Ohio Brush Creek, **Adams**, between 22 Apr and 18 May (m. obs.). The only other report was of a calling bird near Goshen, **Clermont**, on 19 Apr (Lyn Charlton).

Eastern Whip-poor-will

Jason Parris reported the first, from Glen Echo Park, **Franklin**, on 18 Apr. David A. Brinkman found eight along Brush Run Road, **Adams**, on 01 May; Sam Corbo matched that number in OOPMP on 04 May. There were several reports of six or seven birds. Nineteen counties produced sightings.

Chimney Swift

Rob and Sandy Harlan's outing at Firestone MP, **Summit**, on 07 Apr provided the earliest report. Mary Anne Romito estimated about 500 were entering a Huntington Bank chimney in Berea, **Cuyahoga**, on 22 Apr. Seventeen counties generated reports.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

John Bigham's feeder in New Paris, **Preble**, hosted the first on 11 Apr. Craig Caldwell filed the next report, from Coonrod Road, **Sandusky**, on 18 Apr. Justin Bosler saw 21 along the Magee East Beach on 15 May, for the only count higher than seven. Reports came from 64 counties.

Selasphorus sp. Hummingbird

Gale Walker wrote from **Hamilton** on 02 Mar about a quick view, "The hummingbird did a fly-by and inspection of the red top on our peanut feeder and red cardinal decoration on the top of the feeding station, then off to the back woods. Most likely selasphorus species." This is the only March record of any hummingbird which I could find for the state.

Belted Kingfisher

Tom Kemp found nine in CPNWR on 14 Apr. Seventy-seven counties contributed sightings.

Red-headed Woodpecker

The highest of several double-digit counts from OOPMP was 19 on 08 Mar (Greg Links). The maximum number elsewhere was 12, at Headlands on 05 May (m. obs.). Fifty-eight counties produced reports.

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Big Creek Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, must have been noisy on 10 Mar when Karen and Rich Kassouf found 51 Red-bellieds there. The next highest count was 20, by Charles Bombaci from Hoover NP on 26 May. Only **Gallia** and **Putnam** did not have sightings.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Woodlawn Cemetery, **Lucas**, hosted 38 on 12

Apr (m. obs.); that has to be some kind of record if only for the site. Daniel Parsons noted a pair at a nest in Holden Arboretum, **Lake**, on 30 May. Craig Moore saw the latest migrant at Blendon Woods on 18 May. Reports came from 56 counties.

Downy Woodpecker

Charles Bombaci found 19 in Highbanks MP on 02 May and at Blendon Woods the next day. Both locations are in **Franklin**. Only seven counties did not produce sightings.

Hairy Woodpecker

The Girdham Road area of OOPMP hosted 11 on 13 May (Laurie Mauro). Seventy-two counties provided reports.

Northern Flicker

Cory Chiappone saw the high count of 40, at Headlands on 08 Apr, and there were many sightings with numbers in the 20s and 30s. Reports came from every county but **Fayette**, **Mercer**, **Perry**, **Pike**, and **Putnam**.

Pileated Woodpecker

Karen Markey's 10 miles of driving Shawnee roads on 22 Apr yielded seven; there were several counts of six at other sites. Elliot Tramer found CPNWR's first ever on 29 Apr. Seventy counties had sightings.

American Kestrel

Migration pumps up the numbers: Victor Fazio III counted 71 at Malek Park on 18 Apr and Dan Gesualdo noted 63 at Huntington Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on the same day. The highest count not at a hawk watch site was Charles Bombaci's 11 at Killdeer on 09 Mar. Sixty-seven counties provided reports.

Merlin

A very few of these winter visitors sometimes linger into summer, but this year's last sighting was at Killbuck on 15 May, a typical departure date (Kent Miller). Migration at Malek Park yielded six on 18 Apr (Victor Fazio III). Reports came from 20 counties.

Peregrine Falcon

Jen Brumfield's hawk watching at Battery Park, **Cuyahoga**, on 30 Mar paid dividends; she counted four Peregrines. D.L. Royer saw two adults and two immatures in the Rocky River Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 16 May. Twenty-seven counties produced sightings.

Olive-sided Flycatcher

The first sighting was right on time, 01 May, but it was all the way up in **Lucas** (Claire Staples). The next was more than a week later, on 09 May

at Scioto Audubon (Jessica Lowery). Four locations among the 18 contributing counties each had two birds.

Eastern Wood-Pewee

Charles Bombaci saw the first, on 27 Apr, at Hoover NP (Charles Bombaci). There were a couple of earlier “by ear” reports. Charles also made the highest count, 22, on 26 May also at Hoover NP. Singles in **Lucas** and **Ottawa** on 01 May were the first for the north coast (m. obs.). Sixty-eight counties provided sightings.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher

Kirby and Sarah Adams noted the first, at Magee on 06 May. Several locations hosted birds on the second date of 10 May. Jerry Talkington counted 15 at Wendy Park on 21 May (*fide* Jen Brumfield) and counts of 10 and 11 came from three other northern sites at about that time. Twenty-six counties yielded reports.

Acadian Flycatcher

Doug Overacker saw the first, in Davey Woods SNP, **Champaign**, on 27 Apr. The first in the far north was seen by Harry Fuller at the Magee East Beach on 02 May. Margaret Bowman found 12 in Blackhand Gorge SNP, **Licking**, on 16 May for the only double-digit count. Reports came from 54 counties.

Alder Flycatcher

The Mohican SP covered bridge area, **Ashland**, provided the earliest definite sighting on 09 May (Amber Hart), but see “Trail’s” Flycatcher below. One showed up at the Magee East Beach the next day (Harry Fuller). The high count of 11 was in CPNWR on 23 May (Elliot Tramer). Sightings came from 29 counties.

Willow Flycatcher

David A. Brinkman saw one at the Kilby Road gravel pits, **Hamilton**, on 30 Apr. The Magee East Beach again hosted the first far north bird for Harry Fuller on 02 May. Two hours in Wellington Reservation, **Lorain**, produced 30 for members of a BRAS field trip on 30 May. Scott Pendleton’s 12 in Deer Creek SP, **Pickaway**, on 18 May was the second-highest count. Fifty-two counties provided reports.

“Trail’s” (Alder/Willow) Flycatcher

Several eyes-only sightings occurred between 30 Apr and 09 May and so one of them could have been the earliest Alder.

Least Flycatcher

The first was a far-north bird, at Erie Street Cemetery, **Cuyahoga**, on 20 Apr (Jen Brumfield). In a reversal of the usual pattern, the second was in Avon Woods, **Hamilton**, on 25 Apr (T.S. Im-

feld). Magee hosted 45 on 10 May (Jeff Bouton). Reports came from 36 counties.

Eastern Phoebe

The first of the season, which might have wintered in southern Ohio, showed up in OOPMP on 08 Mar for Greg Links and sightings were almost daily from then on. Two observers found 21, Sam Corbo in Glen Helen SNP, **Greene**, on 13 Apr; and Charles Bombaci in Hoover NP on 26 May. Only six counties did not produce sightings.

Great Crested Flycatcher

The first was slightly early at Malek Park on 15 Apr (*fide* Gabe Leidy); four more were seen at mid-state locations two days later. Hoover NP held 26 on 26 May (Charles Bombaci). Sixty-seven counties had sightings.

Eastern Kingbird

Bob and Judy Welch noted the first, on their property in **Darke** on 09 Apr. Frequent sightings started less than a week later. Elliot Tramer counted 32 in CPNWR on 23 May. Groups of three or four added up to the second-highest number, 25, at Marblehead Light SP, **Ottawa**, for Kenn Kaufman on 15 May. Sixty-six counties provided reports.



An Eastern Kingbird perched nicely on a cattail at Metzger for photographer Allan Claybon on 07 May.

Northern Shrike

Terri Martincic saw a flyby shrike which was most likely this species at the Erie Street Cemetery, **Cuyahoga**, on 09 Apr. It and a Northern which Andy Avram and John Pogacnik saw on 15 Apr at Lake Erie Bluffs MP, **Lake**, were the only post-Mar shrikes. Two locations each held two birds, Mill Creek on 14 Mar (Jeff Harvey and William L. Jones) and Woodbury WA, **Coshoc-**

ton, on 16 Mar (Amber Hart). At least one bird had been at Mill Creek since early Jan. Sightings came from 16 counties, all in the northern half of the state.

White-eyed Vireo

Kyle Carlsen recorded the first, on 13 Apr in Broughton WA, **Washington**. Greg Links saw the first in the north shore counties at the Magee East Beach on 18 Apr. Charles Bombaci winkled 14 out of Blackhand Gorge SNP, **Licking**, on 09 May. Sixty-one counties produced reports.

Bell's Vireo

The three locations with sightings are: Heritage Parkway, **Franklin**, up to three in this nesting location from 05 May into summer (m. obs.)

Kilby Road gravel pits, **Hamilton**, one or two on 10, 14, and 19 May, in a repeat of 2012 (m. obs.)

Shawnee Lookout, one bird on 01 May (Shiloh Benz)

Yellow-throated Vireo

A BRAS field trip to Charlemont Reservation, **Lorain**, noted the first on 14 Apr. Jack Stenger *et al.* spent five hours combing 2200 acres of Lake Hope SP, **Vinton**, on 07 May and discovered 14. The only other double-digit count was by Aden A. Yoder; he found 11 at The Wilderness Center, **Stark**, on 02 May. Fifty-four counties contributed reports.

Blue-headed Vireo

Brian Wulker and Cristy Miller shared the first sighting date of 07 Apr. Brian found his in California Woods, **Hamilton**; Cristy's was way north near Bunker Hill, **Holmes**. The second sighting date of 13 Apr was shared by locations in three southern counties. The first north coast report was Nancy Anderson's from Villa Angela SP, **Cuyahoga**, on 15 Apr. Magee hosted 12 on 04, 05, and 06 May and seven to 11 on many other days (m. obs.). The high count elsewhere was seven, at CVNP's Wetmore Trails on 23 Apr (Brian Slaby). Fifty-one counties had sightings.

Warbling Vireo

The earliest sighting was on Little Bass Island, **Hamilton**, two birds on 16 Apr (William Hull). Two days later one was on the Magee East Beach (Greg Links). The largest of many double-digit counts was 45, at Magee on 08 May (Richard Nugent). Reports came from 61 counties.

Philadelphia Vireo

Evan Leon reported the first, in Spring Grove Cemetery, **Hamilton**, on 25 Apr. This is rather early but others were seen in **Delaware** and

Franklin four days later. Gary Dorman made the first northern sighting, at the BSBO office, **Ottawa**, on 02 May. Jeff Loughman and Shane Meyers made the highest count, four at Riverbend Recreation Area, **Hancock**, on 18 May. Twenty-eight counties produced sightings.

Red-eyed Vireo

Two sites shared earliest honors on 16 Apr. Cincinnati's Clifton neighborhood hosted one (William Hull) and Shawnee (Robert Royse) had several. The first reached Magee two days later (Justin Bosler). John Shrader found 33, mostly by ear, in Shawnee on 11 May for the high count. Seventy-three counties provided reports.

Blue Jay

The Lake Erie shore pushes northbound birds east and west, and jay flocks in the hundreds are common. The largest count was Chris Wood's 1710 in 2 ½ hours at Metzger on 10 May. Kenn Kaufman estimated 1500 passed Marblehead Light SP, **Ottawa**, in a little over two hours on 15 May. Only **Pike** and **Putnam** didn't produce a sighting.

American Crow

Gary Cowell said, "Part of the Mansfield night roost dispersing in the am", when he reported 3000 from East Cook Road, **Richland**, on 22 Mar. Brian Menker noted up to 2000 at Buck Creek early in Mar. **Pike** and **Putnam** again came up blank.

Fish Crow

A combination of (probably) more birds moving in and (certainly) greater observer awareness produced reports to the OBRC from four **Cuyahoga** sites and one site in each of **Lake**, **Lucas**, **Summit**, and **Stark**.

Common Raven

This species, too, is now being reported at many locations. OBRC has documentation (unfortunately some of it very thin!) from **Ashland**, **Guernsey**, **Harrison**, **Hocking**, **Knox**, **Lucas**, and **Monroe**.

Horned Lark

The big flocks had left or dispersed by Apr; the high count was the 345 passing Edgewater on 10 Mar (Jen Brumfield). Elizabeth McQuaid had estimated 200 at Margaret Peak Preserve, **Lorain**, on the day before. Fifty-nine counties provided reports.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow

John Shrader found one in the **Warren** section of Spring Valley on 23 Mar. A Columbus Avid Birders trip to Killdeer on that day saw four. Shane Meyers noted at least 100 at the Findlay

Reservoirs on 12 and 13 May. Reports came from 70 counties.

Purple Martin

Matt Courtman noted a single bird near his *Stark* home on 11 Mar; so did Steven L. Hochstetler in *Muskingum* on that same early date. Subsequent sightings trickled in: The second was at Camp Dennison, *Hamilton*, on 15 Mar (J.W. Rettig) and the third at Rocky Fork on 23 Mar (Rick Asamoto). A BRAS field trip on 22 May counted 84 around the nest gourds at Lakeview Park, *Lorain*. Fifty-four counties had sightings.

Tree Swallow

Jason Sullivan and Chris Zacharias saw the first, six birds at Spring Valley on 01 Mar. One made it almost to Lake Erie by 05 Mar; Tom Kemp saw it in Perrysburg, *Wood*. Rob and Sandy Harlan estimated 1200 were working the air above Nimsila Reservoir, *Summit*, on 20 Apr. The next highest count was 400, achieved in *Lucas*, *Marion*, *Ottawa*, and *Wayne* on different Apr dates. All but six counties provided reports.

Bank Swallow

Junior Nisley reported 11 flybys in *Knox* to *The Bobolink* RBA on 04 Apr. Armleder Park hosted the next on 10 Apr (William Hull). CPNWR had the first far north sighting on 14 Apr (Tom Kemp). About 250 were along the Magee East Beach on 15 May (Justin Bosler). Reports came from 46 counties.

Barn Swallow

Craig Moore found the earliest at Pickerington Ponds on 29 Mar and Justin Bosler one in ONWR Blausey two days later. The flock at Nimsila Reservoir on 20 Apr (see Tree Swallow) included about 1800 Barns (Rob and Sandy Harlan). Rob commented that this is a typical concentration for a cold Apr day but that they disperse when it's warm. The number was triple the next highest, which Shane Myers posted from the Findlay Reservoirs on 12 May. Seventy-five counties contributed sightings.

Cliff Swallow

Great American Ball Park (*Hamilton*) and Killbuck shared the earliest sightings on 06 Apr, by David A. Brinkman and Craig Moore, respectively. The first report from the north coast didn't come until 18 Apr, when Justin Bosler and Greg Links saw three at the Magee East Beach. Bruce Glick found 800 on 02 May at the Andy R. Troyer home in *Wayne* and said the site "is one of the largest Cliff Swallow colonies - 500-600 pairs each year". Forty-two counties provided reports.

Swallow sp.

Elliot Tramer provided this behavioral observa-

tion: "On May 10 I was watching about 100 swallows feeding on a hatch of caddis flies over the Maumee River at Farnsworth Metropark [*Lucas*]. Suddenly the swallows were gone. Scanning about with my binocs I quickly rediscovered them, wheeling about in a dense cloud hundreds of feet overhead. As I looked down, I saw a Merlin coming straight at me from across the river. It passed over my head and continued northward out of sight. A minute later the swallows were back, feeding again on the insect swarm. Apparently they had seen the Merlin coming, and had climbed above it and clumped together to minimize the threat."

Carolina Chickadee

Charles Bombaci provided the high count of 47, in Hoover NP on 26 May. Sixty counties had sightings.

Black-capped Chickadee

Douglas Vogus *et al.* counted 39 along the CVNP towpath trail on 06 Apr, the highest of many double-digit numbers. Reports came from 34 counties. They included birds singing in *Jefferson*, *Tuscarawas*, and *Wyandot*, along the southern edge of the Black-capped - Carolina hybrid zone.

Chickadee sp.

Aden A. Yoder discovered a flock of chickadees at The Wilderness Center, *Stark*, on 02 May. Most were obviously Carolinas but among them was one bird singing a Black-capped song and one singing both Black-capped and Carolina songs.

Tufted Titmouse

OOPMP hosted 40 when Elliot Tramer visited on 05 May. Reports came from all counties except *Mercer*, *Perry*, *Pike*, and *Putnam*.

Red-breasted Nuthatch

A trio of observers noted a "small, mostly silent flock" of seven at the Riverbend Recreation Area, *Hamilton*, on 24 Mar. Fifty-six counties (down from winter's 84) provided reports.

White-breasted Nuthatch

Thomas Slemmer counted 25 in Calhoun, *Delaware*, on 09 Mar and there were many reports in the teens. Reports came from 81 counties.

Brown Creeper

Observers found unusually high numbers in Magee in early Apr; the top count was 25 on 07 Apr (Tyler Sabo). The highest number elsewhere was 19 in CPNWR on 14 Apr (Tom Kemp). Fifty-nine counties yielded sightings.

House Wren

Armleder Park again hosted a first-of-season; Brian Wulker found one House Wren there on 07

Apr. Robert Bochenek saw one at Magee two days later. Charles Bombaci's studies at Hoover NP paid off with a count of 29 on 26 May. Seventy-three counties contributed reports.

Winter Wren

Migrants were noted all through the period and a few seemed to be settling in at their scattered northeastern breeding locations. The high count was 20, at Springville Marsh on 13 Apr (Tom Bartlett). Jeffrey Pontius noted a "huge movement overnight" which produced 15 in Green Lawn Cemetery, *Franklin*, on 07 Apr; and Dan Gesualdo saw that number at Magee on 10 Apr. Reports came from 39 counties.

Sedge Wren

Sam Corbo at Beaver Creek WA, *Greene*, and Mary Cappuccilli in Monclova Township, *Lucas*, each saw one on 02 May. Various locations within Darby Creek on several dates (m. obs.) and the *Ottawa* section of Magee on 10 May (Craig Moore) each hosted two. Single birds were also found at another *Greene* site and at several additional locations in *Lucas* and *Ottawa*.

Marsh Wren

The earliest of the season was seen at Metzger on 17 Mar (Greg Links and Brian Zwiebel). Leslie Houser noted two at Spring Valley on 30 Mar and wrote that he "and my birding companion agree that Marsh Wrens are wintering over at Spring Valley. I reported them also on 12/8/2012 and feel that there could be more. This time they were singing their "rattling trill" song...There could have been more than these since we heard more and more singing as we went back and forth on the boardwalk, but 2 would be a conservative estimate with as many as 4 possible." (See the winter 2012-13 *Cardinal* for additional Dec and Jan sightings.)

Elliot Tramer made the high count of 39, in CPNWR on 11 May and many more large numbers came from the northwestern marshes. The highest number from other than *Lucas* and *Ottawa* was Kent Miller's 10 at Killbuck on 15 May. Twenty counties produced sightings.

Carolina Wren

Twenty of these cuties, including two family groups, were along a mile of Jacoby Road, *Greene*, on 18 May (Sam Corbo). Seventy-eight counties provided reports.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

The first sightings were singles on 07 Apr. Karen Beatty noted hers at Englewood MP, *Montgomery*, and Tyler Sabo found his at Magee. The high count was 40, in Spring Grove Cemetery,

Hamilton, on 27 Apr (Bill Zimmerman), and also throughout Buck Creek SP, *Clark*, on 01 May (Brian Menker). Reports came from 80 counties.

Golden-crowned Kinglet

Rob Harlan wrote that "a singing male at Firestone MP [*Summit*] 5/26 was out of habitat and must have been a very late migrant"; it was the season's last sighting. The second last was also a straggler, but not by much, at Magee on 14 May (m. obs.). Mark Shieldcastle counted 156 during two hours at ONWR Navarre on 12 Apr; the only other triple-digit count was 110 at Magee on 10 Apr (Greg Links). Sixty-two counties produced reports.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

On cold 21 and 22 Apr, Elliot Tramer watched one hovering at fresh sapsucker wells in a hickory and apparently feeding from them. He noted that hummingbirds and other woodpeckers have been documented doing this but isn't aware on any previous record by kinglets. The last of the season were spotted along the Lake Erie shore on 20 May, two at CLNP (Peter Hellman), one at Headlands (Andy Avram), and one at Magee (Tim Jeffers). Kelly Kozlowski reported 100 at Magee on 01 May; many reports in the 25 to 45 range from there preceded and followed that date. Sightings came from 58 counties.

Eastern Bluebird

John Shrader spent 10 hours on 11 May criss-crossing Shawnee and found 30 bluebirds. Reports came from 81 counties.

Veery

Evan Leon reported the season's first from Fairview Park, *Hamilton*, on 17 Apr. Mike Sandy saw one in the Rocky River Reservation, *Cuyahoga*, on 21 Apr for the first of the far north. Andy Sewell in Clear Creek MP, *Hocking*, on 10 May and Jen Brumfield at Wendy Park on 15 May each saw or heard 10. Thirty-eight counties generated reports.

Gray-cheeked Thrush

The first sighting was in Columbus on 24 Apr (Jessica Lowery); the second was at Magee the next day (m. obs.). The maximum count of two was achieved at nine locations between 09 and 23 May. The last (but for one in *Cuyahoga* in early Jun) was at Magee on 28 May (Kirk and Kyle Huffstater). Twenty-eight counties produced sightings.

Swainson's Thrush

Woodman Fen, *Montgomery*, provided the first sighting, for Amanda Lawson on 13 Apr. It took

until 20 Apr for one to show up in Erie Street Cemetery, *Cuyahoga* (Jen Brumfield). Brian Menker found 20 in Hills and Dales MP, *Montgomery*, on 17 May and commented, "These were everywhere I went today. Saw lots of them skulking and flying around to fallen logs and stumps. Heard them singing everywhere I went also." Reports came from 47 counties, at least five of which also have early Jun sightings.

Hermit Thrush

Magee hosted about 60 on 07 Apr (Tyler Sabo). The highest inland count was 30, at Springville Marsh on 13 and 14 Apr (Tom Bartlett). Sightings came from 46 counties.

Wood Thrush

Richard Green saw and heard one singing in a tree at Philo High School, *Muskingum*, on 09 Apr. Two days later, Dick Hoopes noted one in South Chagrin Reservation, *Cuyahoga*. Jack Stenger's 07 May sojourn in Lake Hope SP (see Yellow-throated Vireo) yielded 30. Seventy counties produced sightings.

American Robin

Jen Brumfield's 2200 in 15 minutes at Battery Park, *Cuyahoga*, on 07 Apr was by far the highest count. She also tallied the second-highest, 860 at Edgewater on 10 Mar. *Pike* and *Putnam* alone did not have sightings.

Gray Catbird

Though there were scattered records in every winter month, the earliest catbird of spring wasn't seen until 07 Apr, by Cassidy and Tyler Ficker at their *Clermont* home. The season's first in the far north was in Warrensville Heights, *Cuyahoga*, on 12 Apr (Nancy Anderson). Counts of 65 came on 11 May from both Camp Berry, *Hancock* (m. obs.), and ONWR (Justin Bosler). Seventy-eight counties provided reports.

Northern Mockingbird

The high count was eight; it was achieved three times. Raymond Herhaus found them on the Kenyon College campus, *Knox*, on 23 Mar; Bob Hargrave in Glenwood Gardens, *Hamilton*, on 02 Apr; and Angelika Nelson along her New Dover, *Union*, BBS route on 27 May. David A. Brinkman reported from Fernald on 09 Apr, "Two Northern Mockingbirds...One of them was doing perfect imitations of Willow Flycatcher, Northern Bobwhite and Tree Swallow. No meadowlarks heard coming from the mockingbird..." Sixty-six counties had sightings.

Brown Thrasher

Like catbirds, thrashers were occasionally seen during winter, but the first report of spring was

Dana Bollin's from Maumee Bay on 10 Mar. Jeffrey Pontius counted 16 along a mile of the Heritage Trail, *Franklin*, on 17 Apr for the only double-digit tally. Reports came from 69 counties.

European Starling

Justin Bosler estimated 5000 in a "mega flock" at the Krause/Stange Roads corner, *Ottawa*, on 30 Mar. Jen Brumfield noted about 8500 passed her Edgewater station in five hours on 10 Mar. Every county but *Gallia*, *Pike*, and *Putnam* produced at least one sighting.

American Pipit

The season's first were seen at opposite ends of the state on 07 Mar, at Lost Bridge, *Hamilton* (William Hull), and the BSBO office, *Ottawa* (Ryan Steiner). Four flocks totaling 320 were at the Findlay Reservoirs on 13 Apr (m. obs.). The last northbound bird was seen on 30 May at Headlands (Bill Byrd and Laura Peskin); it or another had been there on 27 May (Tom Frankel). One was also at Conneaut on 27 May (David Kuceyes and Joyce Stevens). Thirty-five counties produced reports.

Cedar Waxwing

William Hull noted about 300 at Armleder Park on 17 May. The second-highest count was 150, the sum of several flocks which Kenn Kaufman saw at Magee on 29 May. Fifty-nine counties contributed reports.

Lapland Longspur

Dan and Lynn Gesualdo saw about 1200 while searching for Smith's Longspurs in *Mercer* on 27 Apr. Paul Hurtado saw about half that many in *Union* of 16 Apr as did Justin Bosler at the Magee East Beach on 18 Apr. Jason also reported the last sighting, from ONWR Blausey on 14 May. Twenty-two counties provided reports; of them only *Butler*, *Clark*, and *Monroe* are south of Columbus.

Smith's Longspur

The OBRC has several reports from *Mercer*.

Snow Bunting

Mark Rozmarnowycz found 30 along Township Road 162 in *Paulding* on 21 Mar. Keith Lott *et al.* saw the season's last at LaDue on 07 May. This bird, which Keith and companions saw and described well, is probably the latest record for Ohio. The other counties with sightings were *Ashtabula*, *Delaware*, *Franklin*, *Geauga*, *Hancock*, and *Lucas*.

Ovenbird

Patrick Miller saw one at his *Cuyahoga* home on 22 Mar and 01 Apr; we assume it is the same bird which was seen there intermittently through

winter. Kyle Carlsen noted the first migrant on 13 Apr in Broughton WA, **Washington**. Joe Woyma saw two in Cleveland's Public Square on 16 Apr. Twenty miles and five hours in Shawnee produced 40 birds for John Shrader on 27 Apr. Sightings came from 62 counties.

Worm-eating Warbler

Eric Mullholand banded one at Springville Marsh on 20 Apr. On the same day, Cody Berkebile saw one at Blendon Woods and several observers saw one at Magee, where they are rare. Jack Stenger *et al.* found 10 in Lake Hope SP, **Vinton**, during their five hours there on 07 May. Twenty-five counties provided reports.

Louisiana Waterthrush

The first sighting was in Mt. Airy Forest Arboretum, **Hamilton**, on 30 Mar (Steve Pelikan) and the first on the north coast was at Magee on 10 Apr (Joshua Stapleton). The high count was nine, in Shawnee on 14 Apr (Chris Zacharias). Sightings came from 45 counties.



By mid-May Louisiana Waterthrushes are nesting in southern and eastern Ohio, while Northern Waterthrush is the expected migrant in northwest Ohio. Thus, the appearance of this Louisiana Waterthrush was a surprise for photographer Laura Keene on 13 May at Magee.

Northern Waterthrush

Joshua Stapleton noted the first, all the way up north along the Magee causeway on 10 Apr. The Magee boardwalk area hosted 10 on 12 May (Andy Jones) and 16 the next day (Charlie Nims and Joseph Scott). The highest count not at or near Magee was Jen Brumfield's three in CLNP on 10 May. Thirty-one counties provided reports.

Blue-winged Warbler

Evan Leon and Robert Royse shared first-sighting honors on 16 Apr. Evan saw three birds in Fairview Park, **Hamilton**, and Robert's single one in Shawnee. A host of birders reported one at Magee on 27 Apr, the earliest far north date. John Shrader counted 14 along 20 miles of

Shawnee roads, also on 27 Apr. Fifty-five counties had sightings.

[Blue-winged x Golden-winged "Brewster's" Warbler]

At least four were reported:

At Brukner Nature Center, **Miami**, on 30 Apr (Deb Oexmann)

At Buck Creek on 07 May (Julie Karlson and Doug Overacker)

At East Harbor on 02 May (Dave Slager)

At Magee on 03, 14, and 18 May (All dates are by m. obs.; probably at least two different birds are represented)

Golden-winged Warbler

Tyler Ficker saw the earliest, in the Cincinnati Nature Center Rowe Woods, **Clermont**, on 27 Apr. For a change, the little Metzger woodlot instead of Magee hosted the first seen on the north coast, on 30 Apr (m. obs.). Magee did have the high count of three on 10 May (m. obs.). Joshua Stapleton saw the last until fall at Headlands on 19 May. Reports came from 18 counties.

Black-and-white Warbler

Jen Brumfield had "Point-blank looks at a male. Overshoot with massive movement of passerines last night" at CLNP on 07 Apr. Cory Chiapone also benefited from that movement; he saw a Black-and-white the same day at Riverview, **Lake**. Magee (Angelina and Wayne Hooch) and CPNWR (Elliot Tramer) each hosted 15 on 11 May. There were many sightings of 10 to 14 at Magee as well. Fifty-seven counties provided reports.

Prothonotary Warbler

Tyler Ficker found one on Bass Island, **Hamilton**, on 08 Apr; it took another 10 days before Greg Links saw the first for the north coast at Magee. Charles Bombaci monitors a nest box line in Hoover NP and counted 51 birds there on 26 May. Forty counties produced reports.

Tennessee Warbler

The first was in Cincinnati's Clifton neighborhood on 19 Apr (William Hull) and Magee held one the next day (Richard Quick). The last two were also at Magee, on 29 May (Kenn Kaufman). Ed Schlabach wandered "mainly Coshocton County" on 16 May and found 30 Tennessees. Much more compact East Harbor hosted 16 on 15 May (Scott Huger). Forty-four counties provided sightings.

Orange-crowned Warbler

The trio of Jeff Loughman, Scott Myers, and Robert Sams saw the earliest, in the Riverbend Recreation Area, **Hancock**, on 24 Mar, a very

early bird indeed. Greg Links saw the next, at the Magee East Beach on 18 Apr, which is paradoxically a little later than usual. Woodlawn Cemetery, **Lucas**, hosted eight on 24 Apr, and Greg Links said, "As many Orange-crowns as I have seen locally in a day. There may have been as many as 12. Foraging on the ground around the lake." Stevie Timmer saw the last, at Magee on 25 May. That's rather late, but one was reported there almost daily during the week preceding the sighting. Reports came from 20 counties.

Nashville Warbler

Evan Leon noted two in Fairview Park, **Hamilton**, on 16 Apr. One got to Magee the next day (m. obs.), earlier than expected. Elliot Tramer counted 38 in CPNWR on 11 May; Magee and a few other sites produced many double-digit numbers. Fifty-one counties had sightings.

Connecticut Warbler

Their Ohio passage spanned 04 to 29 May; Magee provided those bookend sightings for John Armitage and Laurie Mauro, respectively. The first (04 May) sighting was earlier than usual but **Cuyahoga**, **Lorain**, and **Lucas** sightings the next day show a wave of the species. Three sites each hosted two: Bill Booth's **Lucas** yard on 13 May; Scioto Audubon on 21 May (James Estep); and ONWR Navarre also on 21 May (Brett Moyer). Fifteen counties produced reports.

Mourning Warbler

The first was seen at Magee on 01 May (m. obs.). The season's last were seen on 29 May, one each at Wendy Park (Jen Brumfield) and Headlands (Tom Frankel), though there were also three summer records. Dave Slager banded 10 of the 12 he found in ONWR on 20 May and there were a few reports of six and eight birds elsewhere. Sightings came from 27 counties.

Kentucky Warbler

An OSU ornithology class found the earliest, in Clear Creek MP, **Hocking**, on 20 Apr. Philip Odum saw the north coast's first at Magee on 01 May. Kent Miller spent nine hours in Shawnee on 02 May and turned up 12 Kentuckys. Gary Cowell found half that number in a little over an hour in Mohican SF, **Ashland**, on 26 May. Thirty-eight counties contributed reports.

Common Yellowthroat

Ryan Steiner saw the first, in his **Ottawa** yard on 09 Apr. CPNWR hosted 37 during Elliot Tramer's 23 May visit. Seventy-eight counties produced sightings.

Hooded Warbler

Shawnee and Springville Marsh shared first hon-

ors on 13 Apr, sightings made by Chris Zacharias and Eric Mullholand, respectively. Two **Lucas** sites shared "first far north" sightings on 19 Apr: Magee (Kenn Kaufman) and Woodlawn Cemetery (m. obs.). Karen Markey found 35 along 10 miles of Shawnee roads on 22 Apr and wrote, "I counted every Hooded. I love em! Visuals on four of them. We have so few in Michigan that I must come to Ohio to get my fill." Sixty counties yielded sightings.

American Redstart

Peter Gottschling found one in Shawnee on 14 Apr. Sean Artman reported the earliest near Lake Erie, on Boughner Road, **Ashtabula**, more than two weeks later on 29 Apr. Kenn Kaufman's 150 at Magee on 23 May prompted him to write "Conservative count. Saw at least 120, heard at least 30 others. Of those seen, only 2 were adult males; massive push of females and young males". Elliot Tramer counted 35 in CPNWR on 23 May, the most away from Magee. Sixty-two counties provided reports.

Kirtland's Warbler

Reports from two **Lucas** and one **Van Wert** locations went to OBRC.

Cape May Warbler

The earliest was in Mitchell Memorial Forest, **Hamilton**, on 19 Apr (David A. Brinkman) and the earliest in the far north was in Riverside Cemetery, **Cuyahoga**, on 29 Apr (Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr.). Magee hosted the high count of 15 on 01 May (Rob and Sandy Harlan). Magee also provided the latest sighting, on 20 May (m. obs.). Reports came from 27 counties.

Cerulean Warbler

Martha Weaver reported two in **Holmes** through **The Bobolink RBA** on 09 Apr, a very early date. Robert Royce discovered one in Shawnee on 16 Apr and Richard Quick saw one at Magee on 20 Apr. Charles Bombaci found 12 in Blackhand Gorge SNP, **Licking**, on 09 May as did Aden A. Yoder at The Wilderness Center, **Stark**, on 12 May. Forty-four counties contributed sightings.

Northern Parula

The earliest date was 09 Apr; Kirk Westendorf found one in United American Cemetery, **Hamilton**, and David Kuehner another on West Fork Road, **Adams**. Almost two weeks went by before Terri Martincic saw the first near Lake Erie, in Bacon Woods Reservation, **Lorain**, on 21 Apr. Rob and Sandy Harlan's 35 at Magee on 15 May was more than double the next-highest count, 15 by Brian Wulker in Shawnee Lookout on 18 Apr. Fifty-three counties produced reports.

Magnolia Warbler

Junior Nisley reported one quite early arrival in *Ashland* to *The Bobolink* RBA on 13 Apr. Paul DuBuc well described one at Spring Valley on 15 Apr. One or two were seen in *Franklin*, *Hamilton*, and *Lucas* on 20 Apr, still an early date. Brett Moyer estimated 200 at ONWR Navarre on 20 May. Dave Slager banded 29 of the 45 he found in the *Lucas* section of ONWR that same day. The highest count other than in *Lucas* and *Ottawa* was 12 at sites in *Cuyahoga* and *Lake*. Fifty-two counties yielded sightings.

Bay-breasted Warbler

Cincinnati Nature Center Rowe Woods, *Clermont*, provided the first sighting, on 27 Apr (Tyler Ficker). Up to three at Magee on 01 May were the first far norths (m. obs.). Magee also hosted the most (12 on 14 May by Jeff Harvey) and the last (one on 29 May by Kenn Kaufman). Thirty-two counties produced reports.

Blackburnian Warbler

Lisa Miller saw one in the OSU wetlands, *Franklin*, on 10 Apr. Justin Bosler and Dave Slager noted the first north coast bird in East Harbor on 18 Apr. Kenn Kaufman found 20 at Magee on 12 May, double the high count anywhere else. Terri Martincic saw the last of the season at Erie Street Cemetery, *Cuyahoga*, on 29 May, but there were three Jun sightings as well. Fifty-one counties generated sightings.

Yellow Warbler

The earliest got to central Ohio before Jason Cate saw it at Scioto Audubon on 10 Apr. Two days later Carol Martinsen saw one at Sandy Ridge Reservation, *Lorain*. Elliot Tramer counted 133 in CPNWR on 11 May, the highest of many large numbers in the northwest marshes. The highest count elsewhere was Joe Woyma's 90 at CLNP on 06 May. Reports came from 78 counties.

Chestnut-sided Warbler

Robert Sams found one in *Hancock* on 16 Apr; it wasn't until 27 Apr that one appeared at Magee (John Peer). Jeff Kingery saw 30 at Magee on 18 May and that site provided counts of 10 to 20 on many days. Dave Slager's 12 at ONWR on 20 May was the largest non-Magee number. Forty-eight counties had sightings.

Blackpoll Warbler

A very early bird showed up on 13 Apr on the Whittier Peninsula, *Franklin* (fide Bernie Master). Three locations had sightings on 21 Apr; Riverside in *Butler* (Charlie Saunders), Shawnee (Ron Kolde), and Scioto Audubon (m. obs., and possibly the 13 Apr bird). Two days later, Chris

Byers and Steven Glynn noted a "surprisingly early arrival" on the CCE Trail. As usual, Magee hosted the high count, 25 on 23 May (Kenn Kaufman). Seven sites in five counties held one or two birds on 29 May, the latest but for two solo stragglers in Jun. Forty-two counties produced sightings.

Black-throated Blue Warbler

Rowe Woods, *Clermont*, again held the earliest, on 27 Apr for three observers. Pamela Oleson saw one at Magee the next day. Dwight and Ann Chasar found 30 at Magee on 15 May; the high count not in *Lucas* or *Ottawa* was five by Marcia Rubin in CLNP on 04 May. Thirty-nine counties provided reports.

Palm Warbler

Robert Sams found an early arrival at Oakwoods NP, *Hancock*, on 01 Apr. Another showed up for Cody Kent in Blue Limestone Park, *Delaware*, on 09 Apr. Greg Links saw one along the Magee causeway on 15 Apr. Greg also saw 175 at the Magee East Beach on 01 May and added "As expected, Palm Warbler Heaven". The second-highest count was "only" 76, by Elliot Tramer in CPNWR on 11 May. Fifty-five counties produced sightings. Two of the "yellow" subspecies *hypochrysea* were reported; they are very rare west of the Appalachians and the OBRC has those reports.

Pine Warbler

Ed Schlabach reported in *The Bobolink* that one visited a feeder in *Holmes* from mid-Jan to 02 Mar. The first migrant was seen on 10 Mar at a *Franklin* home (Carl Hansen) and many more showed up south of there starting 12 Mar. The high count was 16, in OOPMP on 25 Apr (Dan and Lynn Gesualdo). The only other double-digit number was 11, from Camp Berry, *Hancock*, on 22 Apr (Jeff Loughman). Reports came from 49 counties.

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Seventy-five counties produced sightings. Elliot Tramer made the high count of 273, in CPNWR on 11 May. Magee hosted 200 to 250 on 01 May (m. obs.). One of the western "Audubon's" group, presumed to be subspecies *auduboni*, was seen by many at Magee on 10 May. The highest count outside *Lucas* and *Ottawa* was 113 at Camp Berry, *Hancock*, on 11 May (m. obs.).

Yellow-throated Warbler

Paul Wharton saw one in Colerain Township, *Hamilton*, on 02 Apr, a bit later than usual for the first arrival. Dan Gesualdo noted one in CVNP on 12 Apr for the first in the northern tier

of counties. Dan and Lynn Gesualdo saw 19 in Shawnee Lookout on 30 Apr. Fifty-two counties had sightings.

Prairie Warbler

David Kuehner's single bird on West Fork Road, *Adams*, on 09 Apr was the first. The highest of the three two-digit reports was John Shrader's 16 in Shawnee on 27 Apr. Thirty-seven counties statewide provided reports, though most of those reports came from the southern half of the state.

Black-throated Green Warbler

Bill and René McGill found one in *Hamilton* on 10 Apr. Tom Kemp and Elliot Tramer said that theirs in CPNWR on 14 Apr was early for the location. Kelly Kozlowski estimated 35 at Magee on 01 May. Sixty counties produced reports.

Canada Warbler

Wyatt Westerkamp's find in *Clermont* on 17 Apr was at least a week earlier than expected. Philip Odum saw one at Magee on 01 May, about when they're usually entering the state. Brett Moyer noted 20 at ONWR Navarre on 20 May for highest count and the only double-digit number other than at Magee. Reports came from 26 counties.

Wilson's Warbler

The first-of-season sightings on 01 May at Riverview, *Lake* (Cory Chiappone), and along the Magee causeway (Gary Dorman) were a couple of weeks early for the north coast. The highest of four double-digit counts was Elliot Tramer's 25 at CPNWR on 23 May. Twenty-eight counties provided sightings.

Yellow-breasted Chat

Tom Bartlett *et al.* saw the first, at Springville Marsh on 21 Apr. Christopher Taylor saw one at Magee and Sam Corbo one at OOPMP on 04 May, the earliest in the "border" counties. Christopher Dyer and Joseph Volzer found seven in Tri-Valley WA, *Muskingum*, on 03 May for the high count. Forty-six counties produced reports.

Eastern Towhee

The high number was 75 or more; Su Snyder recorded them in Salt Fork SP, *Guernsey*, on 23 Apr. John Shrader saw or heard 40 them at Shawnee on 27 Apr for the second highest count. Seventy-nine counties had sightings.

American Tree Sparrow

Fair numbers in Mar and Apr fell to a trickle in early May; the last sighting was 11 May in CLNP (Dick Hoopes). The 03 Mar ONWR census produced 366 (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *vide* Douglas Vogus). The highest count elsewhere was 76, at Springville Marsh on 16 Mar (Robert Sams). Reports came from 59 counties.

Chipping Sparrow

Justin Bosler wrote about a "...massive foraging aggregation in recently burned prairie..." at Meadowbrook Marsh, *Ottawa*, on 24 Apr, which totaled 200 birds. The next highest count was 50, by Elliot Tramer in OOPMP on 05 May. Seventy-nine counties produced reports.

Clay-colored Sparrow

Robert Sams had a brief look at one which visited the Reick Center feeders, *Hancock*, on 16 Apr; this date is a good week earlier than expected. Frank Buck and Haans Petruschke found the next one on the Wake Robin Trail, *Lake*, on 27 Apr, and the next after that was in the *Lucas* section of ONWR on 04 May (m. obs.). Kent Miller saw the last, in *Holmes* on 15 May. All of the sightings were of single birds; *Ashland*, *Cuyahoga*, *Erie*, *Ottawa*, and *Wood* also contributed to the list.

Field Sparrow

Brad Goodner noted the high number of 45 at the Barrow Field Station, *Portage*, on 27 Apr. Seventy-eight counties provided sightings.

Vesper Sparrow

Regina Schieltz discovered the first, along the Alice Bish Walkway, *Darke*, on 22 Mar. The second was further south, in Spring Valley on 31 Mar (Paul Pruitt). It took until 08 Apr for one to be seen on the north coast, in the Puritas Wetlands, *Cuyahoga* (Jen Brumfield, Elizabeth McQuaid). The high count was nine, on 10 Apr at The Bowl (Gary Bush and Scott Pendleton). Thirty-one counties produced reports.

Lark Sparrow

Two singing in the Renaissance Park development, *Warren*, on 22 Apr (Sam Fitton) and two more, also singing, in Colerain Township, *Hamilton*, on 23 Apr (Paul Wharton) were the first. They reached their usual nesting areas in OOPMP by 25 Apr (Dan and Lynn Gesualdo). The high count was eight, at OOPMP and several other *Lucas* sites. Reports also came from *Erie*, *Greene*, *Ottawa*, and *Tuscarawas*.

Savannah Sparrow

Wes Hatch made counts of 30 at Frohring Meadows, *Geauga*, on 21 and 28 Apr. Forty-six counties had sightings.

Grasshopper Sparrow

Greg Links saw one at Pearson MP, *Lucas*, on 18 Apr. Scott Pendleton found up to 40 at The Bowl; that number came on 08 May. The highest counts elsewhere were by Jeffery Pontius at Darby Creek where he noted 15 to 20 beginning 22 Apr. Thirty-three counties provided reports.

Henslow's Sparrow

Bill and René McGill saw the earliest, in Rowe Woods, **Clermont**, on 16 Apr. Two along the ONWR auto tour route on 07 May were the first in the far north (Don and Robyn Henise). A field in Harrison SF hosted 13 on 30 Apr for Scott Pendleton. Twenty-one counties yielded sightings.

Le Conte's Sparrow

Doug and Micki Dunakin found the season's only Le Conte's on their spread in **Paulding** on 04 May. The species is regular though rare in fall but only very rarely and irregularly seen here in spring.

Nelson's Sparrow

These also are rare in spring, but one overwintered in **Tuscarawas** and was last seen on 30 Mar (Ed Schlabach). In addition, on 18 May Jen Brumfield saw one in CLNP, and Tom Frankel and Haans Petruschke saw another at Headlands.

Fox Sparrow

Greg Links commented that the 135 at Magee on 10 Apr were the "Most I have seen at one place at one time." Ryan Steiner found 48 still there two days later. Between those numbers were the 64 tallied during the 07 Apr ONWR census (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *vide* Douglas Vogus). Two lingered past Apr, seen by Robert Sams at Litzenberg Memorial Woods, **Hancock**, on 05 May and Mary Bunker and Elizabeth Harris at Magee on 06 May. Reports came from 50 counties.

Song Sparrow

Jen Brumfield estimated 300 at Gordon Park, **Cuyahoga**, on 07 Apr. Ed Pierce *et al.* made the second-highest count, 152, during the monthly ONWR census the same day. All counties but **Pike** and **Putnam** produced sightings.

Lincoln's Sparrow

The only double-digit counts were at Wendy Park; Jen Brumfield saw 15 there on 10 May and 20 on 15 May. Jen also saw one there on 29 May, sharing last-of-season sighting honors with Jeffrey Pontius at Darby Creek. Twenty-five counties provided reports.

Swamp Sparrow

Tom Bartlett *et al.* noted 30 at Springville Marsh on 22 Apr after seeing about 25 on each of the previous two days. Fifty-eight counties had sightings.

White-throated Sparrow

Magee hosted about 250 on 24 Apr (Kelly Kozlowski) and about half that many on 02 May (Robert Foppe and Jennifer Smolenski). The highest number elsewhere was 120, on 10 May in CLNP

(Jen Brumfield). Sightings continued into Jun. Seventy-five counties produced reports.

Harris's Sparrow

One was well documented in the **Franklin** section of Pickerington Ponds from 01 Jan to 18 Apr. The OBRC report has the attributions.



This long-staying Harris's Sparrow spent the winter wowing Ohio birders at Pickerington Ponds; it was photographed by Paul Hurdato on 20 April.

White-crowned Sparrow

On 10 May Kent Miller described an "Incredible movement throughout day but especially impressive first thing in the morning; numbers along the [Magee] causeway road were astounding. All adults"; he estimated 200 were there. There were counts of 100 to 150 at other sites near Lake Erie that same day. The season's last sightings came on 28 May at one **Lake** and two **Cuyahoga** sites. Reports came from 61 counties.

Kenn Kaufman wrote, "Among these concentrations of White-crowns, I've noticed more "Gambel's" White-crowns than usual. This subspecies (*Z. l. gambelii*), which breeds west of Hudson Bay, is usually a rare migrant through here... Today [13 May] I saw three at Black Swamp Bird Observatory (one banded bird which has been around since winter, plus two unbanded individuals) and a fourth at a private residence north of Oak Harbor. I've seen two others within the last week. This represents only a few data points, of course, but it suggests that more of these birds than usual are passing through this region... I suspect that a lot more would be reported in Ohio if more birders were watching for them."

Dark-eyed Junco

The last definite migrant was a bird at Magee on 23 May (Darlene Friedman), though there were later sightings at and near known nesting locations. One sighting was of a recently-fledged youngster and its parents in Chardon, **Geauga**, on 30 May

(Daniel Parsons). Gordon Park, **Cuyahoga**, hosted about 450 on 1 Apr (Jen Brumfield). Seventy-seven counties provided reports.

Eight individuals exhibiting characteristics of the “Cassiar” race, subspecies *cismontanus*, were reported in **Franklin**, **Hancock**, and **Morrow** between 04 and 10 Apr (m. obs.). One assigned to the “Oregon” group remained in Columbus from winter until 29 Mar and other singles were reported in **Franklin**, **Richland**, and **Stark** in early Mar. Sightings of these western birds are increasing, I suspect due more to increased birder skill and attentiveness than to an increase in their actual numbers here. Rob Harlan provided this link to a fascinating discussion of the junco taxonomy conundrum: <http://www.oceanwanderers.com/JuncoID.html>.

[White-throated Sparrow x Dark-eyed Junco]

Tim Thompson and Patti Fey-Smith separately photographed this hybrid along the CCE Trail on 05 May; Kenn Kaufman and Victor Fazio III agreed with the parentage they proposed.



This mystery bird on the Crane Creek Estuary Trail was photographed by Julie Heitz on 07 May, providing additional documentation as a rare hybrid Dark-eyed Junco x White-throated Sparrow.

Summer Tanager

Junior Nisley reported an early bird in **Knox** to *The Bobolink* RBA on 13 Apr. Alicia Brunner and Elizabeth Erickson discovered another early bird in Tuttle Park, **Franklin**, on 18 Apr. The next sighting (even earlier for the latitude) was also the first far northern bird; Ryan Steiner saw it at ONWR Navarre on 21 Apr. Kevin Lee found eight in the Pyramid Hill Sculpture Park, **Butler**, on 26 May. Twenty-eight counties produced sightings; eight of them are north of Columbus.

Scarlet Tanager

The first two showed up on 13 Apr. Adam Beel-

er and Alison Renaud saw one in Westerville, **Franklin**, and Leroy Hershberger reported one to *The Bobolink* RBA from near Farmerstown, **Holmes**. Many reports on 14 and 15 Apr led up to the first from the north coast, at Winous Point on 16 Apr (Dave Slager). Kent Miller's 20 in Shawnee on 02 May was the highest of several double-digit numbers. Sixty-five counties had sightings.

Western Tanager

The OBRC has documentation from **Licking**.

Northern Cardinal

Only **Putnam**, with no species reported, and **Pike**, with only three, failed to provide a cardinal sighting. Four hours and about seven miles in Twin Creek MP, **Montgomery**, produced 100 for Paul DuBuc on 14 Apr. The second-highest count was 65, which Bruce Glick tallied while biking about 30 miles of the Kokosing Gap Trail in **Knox**.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Two northern counties produced the earliest sightings on 10 Apr. Jason Hull found a grosbeak in Lexington's Bicentennial Park, **Richland**, and John Edwards saw one in his Rocky River, **Cuyahoga**, yard. Craig Holt saw the next one, near Lowellville, **Mahoning**, on 17 Apr. The 10 May CVNP Spring Census tallied 19 (Douglas Vogus *et al.*). Reports came from 64 counties.

Blue Grosbeak

Shawnee Lookout hosted the earliest, on 19 Apr (Linda Osterhage). The first for the far north showed up at Shaker Lakes Nature Center, **Cuyahoga**, on 07 May (Marcia Rubin). They're very rare in **Cuyahoga**. Robert Royse counted five in Crown City WA, **Gallia/Lawrence**, on 14 May. Three reports were of three birds and several had two. Twenty-two counties provided sightings.

Indigo Bunting

Christopher Collins saw one in Spring Valley on 18 Apr, the earliest date. Brian Wulker watched two males chase each other in Shawnee Lookout on the same day. Wes Hatch saw one in Frohring Meadows, **Geauga**, on 23 Apr, not quite on Lake Erie but close. Kenn Kaufman noted 30 in Marblehead Light SP, **Ottawa**, on 15 May. Seventy-two counties produced reports.

Dickcissel

David A. Brinkman heard two near the Aero Building, **Butler**, on 29 Apr. Brian Wulker reported the next, one bird at Fernald on 07 May. It only took another three days for one to appear at Metzger (Chris Wood). Armleder Park hosted 10 on 16 May (T.S. Imfeld). Eleven counties had sightings: **Butler**, **Clark**, **Darke**, **Franklin**,

Hamilton, Holmes, Lucas, Ottawa, Perry, Richland, Wayne, and Wyandot.

Bobolink

Greg Links and Rick Nirschl saw and heard one fly over Magee on 18 Apr, a bit early for the latitude. Ninety minutes at BSBO headquarters, **Ottawa**, produced 150 for Jeff Bouton on 15 May. The only other triple-digit count was 130, from Metzger on 15 May (Matt Anderson). Forty-five counties yielded sightings.

Red-winged Blackbird

Jen Brumfield estimated 16,000 passed during her five hours at Edgewater on 10 Mar. Earlier in the day, a half hour at another Cleveland west side location produced 9500 for her. There were many more counts exceeding 1000, mostly from counties adjoining Lake Erie but including **Hamilton** and **Seneca**. **Pike** and **Putnam** alone did not have sightings.

Eastern Meadowlark

Loren Hintz saw about 50 at ONWR on 31 Mar. The second-highest number was Scott Pendleton's 40 on three dates at The Bowl. Reports came from 75 counties.

Meadowlark sp.

David A. Brinkman briefly heard, and John Habig saw and heard, an individual at Fernald on 05 and 07 Apr, respectively, which they could not conclusively assign as either Eastern or Western. They both leaned towards the latter.

Western Meadowlark

Jack Stenger reported one at Big Island on 28 Apr; other observers reported the presumed same bird on 15 and 23 May. Another was reported near Bowling Green, **Wood**, on 06 and 07 May (*fide* Tom Kemp).

Yellow-headed Blackbird

Single birds were seen in **Darke, Erie, Lake, and Ottawa** between 30 Mar and 13 May (m. obs.).

Rusty Blackbird

One lingered at Killbuck until 18 May (Steven L. Hochstetler); Evan Leon saw two at Magee on the same day. Springville Marsh hosted 450 on 13 Apr for Tom Bartlett; Magee had 350 on 07 Apr (Kenn Kaufman). Forty-seven counties provided sightings.

Brewer's Blackbird

The six reports are:

One at Killdeer on 01 Mar (Ron Sempier)

One at Garber's Lake, **Richland**, on 17 Mar (Gary Cowell)

One on DuPont Road, **Lucas**, on 19 Mar (Sherri Duris)

One along the Rails to Trails corridor, **Holmes**, on 09 Apr (Bruce Glick)

Two in **Darke** on 12 Apr (Regina Schieltz)

One at Magee on 16 Apr (*fide* Ken Ostermiller)

Common Grackle

The highest of many four-digit counts were by Jen Brumfield on 10 Mar. She noted 4000 in a half hour beginning at 6:35 am and 6000 between 8:00 am and 1:00 pm passing different sites near Lake Erie in **Cuyahoga**. Every county except **Monroe, Morgan, Pike, and Putnam** produced sightings.

Brown-headed Cowbird

Terri Martincic and Elizabeth McQuaid saw about 1000 near Lake Abram, **Cuyahoga**, on 09 Apr. Helen and Ken Ostermiller had seen half that many along Wohlgamuth Road, **Wayne**, on 09 Mar. Reports came from 82 counties.

Orchard Oriole

Brian Wulker and Elizabeth Errickson shared first-sighting honors on 18 Apr. Brian's bird was in Shawnee Lookout and Elizabeth's on Rathbone Avenue, **Franklin**. Tim Krynak saw the first near the north coast in South Chagrin Reservation, **Cuyahoga**, on 25 Apr. The high count was 12; Charles Bombaci achieved it at Hoover Meadows, **Delaware**, on 18 May. Fifty-five counties provided reports.

Baltimore Oriole

An anonymous second-hand report in eBird placed one in **Hamilton** on 23 Mar. Without the spot-on description which the entry contained I would not even include this extraordinarily early report, but it must remain conjectural without further information. The first undisputed sightings were on 18 Apr, when Leslie Houser saw a bird in Armeleder Park and William Hull found another in Shawnee Lookout. Sherrie Duris and Dan Gesualdo found the first-far-north, at Metzger Marsh on 23 Apr. East Harbor hosted 45 on 15 May (Scott Huger). Seventy-four counties produced sightings.

Purple Finch

James Fry's feeders in **Hocking** hosted 28 on 19 Apr. The other two double-digit counts were of 12 at the BSBO headquarters feeders, **Ottawa**, on 18 Apr (Kenn Kaufman) and 15 in Rush Run Park, **Franklin**, on 06 May (Paul Rodewald). Sightings came from 49 counties.

House Finch

Nancy Anderson counted 32 at her home in **Cuyahoga** on 24 Mar, and there were at least three counts of 25 at other sites. Seventy-two counties produced reports.

Red Crossbill

Bruce Glick saw and heard a flock of about 35 overhead at Malek Park on 22 Apr. One or more small flocks were seen in OOPMP in Mar (m. obs.) and two birds there on 01 May were the last sighted in the season (Chris West). (OOPMP also provided one early Jun report.) Paul Hurtado assigned to Type 3 the birds he saw and heard in Dublin's Brandon Park, **Franklin**, on 02 Mar. Reports came from the single **Ashtabula** and **Lucas** locations cited above, several additional **Franklin** locations, two sites in **Ashland**, and one each in **Athens**, **Coshocton**, **Hamilton**, **Holmes**, and **Wayne**.

White-winged Crossbill

Up to 30 hung around Mt. Vernon, **Knox**, until 11 May (James F. Yoder); four birds in Spring Grove Cemetery, **Hamilton**, shared that latest date (m. obs.). The second-last sighting was considerably earlier than 11 May and its location was further north than either of that date's reports: Robert Sams found three birds at the Reick Center, **Hancock**, on 21 Apr. The second-highest count, 15, was also shared, by Spring Grove Cemetery on 03 Mar (Kirk Westendorf) and a Wooster, **Wayne**, feeder on 06 Mar (*vide* Su Snyder). Fourteen counties, down from winter's 40-some, produced reports.

Common Redpoll

Mentor Lagoons NP, **Lake**, hosted up to 70 on several Mar dates (m. obs.). One frequented Martha E. Troyer's feeder in Fresno, **Coshocton**, from 02 Mar to 06 May and again between 17 and 24 May (m. obs.). Another (or the same?) bird visited Atlee H. Burkholder's **Coshocton** feeder on several dates between 28 Apr and 22 May. The 22 and 24 May birds are the latest state records, by about a week, that I could find. Reports came from 22 counties as the birds headed north from the 44 which had hosted them during winter.

Hoary Redpoll

The OBRC retrieved three eBird reports and one from another source; unfortunately they included little detail.

Pine Siskin

Jerry Talkington's feeders in **Lake** were almost emptied by about 150 siskins on 13 May. The next-largest numbers were in the 50 to 75 range (m. obs.). Spring's last sightings were on 29 May, by Cole DiFabio in **Lake** and Kenn Kaufman at Magee, though there were a couple of Jun reports. Fifty-one counties (about two-thirds of winter's number) produced sightings.

American Goldfinch

Elliot Tramer estimated 90 were in the Gird-

ham Road fields of OOPMP on 05 May. Sara Burch and Jacob McCartney counted 68 at their **Athens** home on 03 Mar during Project Feeder Watch. Only **Noble**, **Perry**, **Pike**, **Putnam**, and **Shelby** did not have sightings.

Evening Grosbeak

Some lingered from winter's hordes. Michele Skolnutch saw up to seven at her **Holmes** feeder through much of Mar. David Tan reported nine overhead at Darby Creek on 19 Mar. The home feeder station on the border of Mohican SF, **Ashland**, where they first appeared on 01 Dec produced many Mar reports; Christy J. Miller noted 48, the largest number, on 07 Mar. The last two sightings there were of four on 07 Apr (Kathi Hutton) and five on 02 May (Bruce Glick). Jeff Bouton also saw one on 02 May, on Grayton Road, **Cuyahoga**.



The banner winter for Evening Grosbeak seekers persisted into spring with continued opportunities for sightings. Paul Hurtado photographed this bird on 23 March at a residence adjacent to Mohican SF.

House Sparrow

Most observers, myself included, don't attempt to count these. Angelika Nelson does, and tallied 139 during her 27 May BBS run in **Union**. Greg Links saw about 80 in Cullen Park, **Lucas**, on 21 Mar. Every county but **Belmont**, **Gallia**, **Pike**, **Putnam**, and **Shelby** produced reports.



*Ron Sempier well documented the continued presence of Pine Siskins in his **Marion** back yard on 09 May.*

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