

## COMMENTS ON THE SEASON

### By Craig Caldwell

Temperature and precipitation in Mar were below their long-term averages; both were among the lowest 20 of the 120 years with data. Counties in a swath from the southwest to the northeast did have up to 125% of their average precipitation, but the rest of the state had as little as 25% of it. April temperatures and rainfall, by contrast, were among the highest 30 (of the 120) on record. The northwest quarter of the state had up to 150% of its average rainfall, the southeast 150-200%, and the rest of the state between 200 and 300% of average. May's temperature and rainfall were only a little above average. Most of the state got between 75 and 125% of its average rainfall, though the central lakeshore, the lakeshore's nearby inland areas, and the Steubenville area had up to double their usual amounts.

As always, some migrants arrived earlier than usual, though there did not seem to be as strong a pattern as in some other recent years. Several species, in fact, were not seen until well after their historic "normal" arrival date. One would expect the warm Apr to have helped migrants but the heavy rains apparently offset that benefit. The hard winter, which extended all the way to the Gulf coast and lingered into Mar, undoubtedly affected the timing of vegetation growth. Rob Roysse wrote that in *Vinton* the understory leafed out early but the trees did so late; several of us noted the same pattern along the north coast. While this did make for easy viewing of the warblers at Magee, it probably affected the mix and abundance of their insect food.

Snowy Owls staged a record invasion this past winter, and individuals remained as late as early May. Red-necked Grebe numbers began to climb in late winter and probably set a record this spring. There was some speculation that the extent of ice cover in the Great Lakes and eastern Canada forced the grebes our way.

Every county contributed at least one sighting. Canada Geese, Turkey Vultures, American Robins, and Red-winged Blackbirds were found in all 88. Reports to eBird continue to grow and dwarf those in all other venues combined. This season there were almost 635,000 entries!

This issue contains accounts for 313 species and 10 hybrids; seven more accounts are at the genus level. A record 33 Review List species are included. Two species are state firsts, itself a record for a single season; two state firsts in a year is rare enough. The names of the Review species are underlined in the species accounts which follow. (The Review List is itself under review, as some species which were formerly rare have been well documented annually for many years now.) Thanks to the recent revival of the Ohio Bird Records Committee, formal reports of seven of these species have been processed and accepted. The documenters are named in the accounts. Ten other species listed here have formal reports under review. For the birds with accepted records, and well-publicized birds with pending records, I have also noted those who first reported them.

Eight of the 17 species for which documentation was submitted directly to the OBRC were also reported at other locations but without formal documentation.

Unfortunately, the reports of another 16 Review Species were solely from internet sources. Many of the 24 informally-documented reports include photographs or descriptions which might enable the Records Committee to evaluate them, but some were only of the "I saw a Common Raven" variety. I hasten to add that the OBRC does not pass judgment on whether the reporter saw, or correctly identified, the bird in question, but only on whether his or her documentation is sufficient to support the identification and include the report in the official record.

The Records Committee and this editor continue to urge birders to formally report all sightings of Review List species, of "regular" species found at unusual times, of nesting by birds previously not known to nest in the state, and of course sightings of birds never before found in Ohio. Information on how to document rarities is available at <http://www.ohiobirds.org/records/documentation.php>. Internet postings, even with photographs, can only supplement formal reports, not replace them.

Data for the following Species Accounts come from reports submitted directly to the *Cardinal*, reports submitted to *The Bobolink*, eBird (<http://ebird.org/content/ebird>), the Ohio-birds listserv (<http://birding.aba.org/mailist/OH>), rarebird.org (<http://rarebird.org/forum/default.asp>), and the Cincinnati Bird Sightings Log (<http://cincinnatibirds.com/goodbird/sighting.php>). In the species accounts, "normal" early and late dates are from Harlan *et al.*, *Ohio Bird Records Committee Annotated Checklist of the Birds of Ohio*, 2008. Breeding ranges and isolated locations are from Harlan *et al.* and from Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas II submissions.

Taxonomic order and nomenclature follow the *Check-List of North American Birds*, 7th Edition (1998) as updated through the 54th Supplement (2013). This document is published by the North American Classification Committee of the American Ornithologists' Union and is available at <http://www.aou.org/checklist/north/print.php>. County names are in bold italics. Locations whose counties are of the same name, for example Ashtabula (city) and Delaware Wildlife Area, usually do not have the counties repeated. County names for sites described in Cincinnati, Cleveland, and Columbus are also omitted. Shortened names and a few sets of initials are used for locations and organizations which occur repeatedly; these abbreviations are listed here. The term "fide" is used in some citations; it means "in trust of" and is used where the reporter was not the observer.

### Abbreviations:

Armleder Park = a Cincinnati city park on the Little

Miami River, **Hamilton**

Berlin Lake = Berlin Lake, Mahoning and Portage

Big Island = Big Island Wildlife Area, **Marion**

Blendon Woods = Blendon Woods Metro Park,

**Franklin**

The Bowl = a limited-access area near the **Harrison** airport.

BRAS = Black River Audubon Society

Buck Creek = Buck Creek State Park, **Clark**

Caesar Creek = Caesar Creek State Park, mostly

**Warren** and a bit in **Clinton**

- CCE = Crane Creek Estuary, **Lucas** and **Ottawa**, viewable from both ONWR and the CCE Trail which originates at Magee
- CLNP = Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve (the former Dike 14), **Cuyahoga**
- Conneaut = the mudflats to the west of Conneaut Harbor, **Ashtabula**
- CNC = Cincinnati Nature Center, **Clermont**
- CP = County Park
- CPNWR = Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge, **Lucas**
- CVNP = Cuyahoga Valley National Park, **Cuyahoga** and (mostly) **Summit**
- Darby Creek = Battelle Darby Creek Metro Park, **Franklin**
- Deer Creek = the State Park is in **Pickaway**, the Wildlife Area is in **Fayette**, and Deer Creek Lake is in both but mostly **Pickaway**
- East Fork = East Fork State Park, **Clermont**
- East Harbor = East Harbor State Park, **Ottawa**
- Edgewater = the Edgewater unit of Cleveland Lakefront Metroparks, **Cuyahoga**
- Ellis Lake = the semi-official name of a pond, wetland, and woods in **Butler**, not to be confused with the reservoir of the same name in **Wyandot**
- Fernald = Fernald Preserve, **Butler** and **Hamilton**
- Findlay Reservoirs = several contiguous water bodies east of town in **Hancock**
- Frothing Meadows = Frothing Meadows, **Geauga**
- Funk = Funk Bottoms Wildlife Area, **Ashland** and (mostly) **Wayne**
- Great Miami WMG = Great Miami Wetland Mitigation Bank, **Montgomery**
- Headlands = Headlands Dunes State Nature Preserve, Headlands Beach State Park, and adjoining waters, **Lake**
- Hoover Reservoir = the northern 80% is in **Delaware**, but the dam is in **Franklin**
- Jones Preserve = Jones Preserve on Long Point, Kelleys Island, **Erie**
- Kelleys Island = the island and adjoining waters, **Erie**
- Killbuck = Killbuck State Wildlife Area, **Holmes** and **Wayne**
- Killdeer = Killdeer Plains State Wildlife Area; a bit is in **Marion** but it's mostly in **Wyandot**
- LaDue = LaDue Reservoir, **Geauga**
- Lake Erie Bluffs = Lake Erie Bluffs Metroparks, **Lake**
- Lake Hope/Zaleski = Lake Hope State Park and surrounding Zaleski State Forest, **Vinton**
- Lorain = the dredge spoil impoundment east of downtown in the city and county of the same name, unless otherwise noted
- Lost Bridge = a Great Miami River crossing on Lawrenceburg Road near Elizabethtown, **Hamilton**, where a covered bridge was lost to fire in 1903
- m. obs. = Multiple Observers
- Magee = the boardwalk and immediate vicinity in Magee Marsh Wildlife Area, **Lucas**, unless otherwise noted. The northern third of the causeway is also in **Lucas**, the rest in **Ottawa**.
- Maumee Bay = Maumee Bay State Park, **Lucas**, unless otherwise noted
- Medusa = Medusa Marsh, **Erie**, an informally named and privately owned area between Sandusky and Bay View
- Metzger = Metzger Marsh Wildlife Area, **Lucas**
- Mill Creek = Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary, a limited-access area in **Mahoning**
- Mohican = Mohican State Forest and State Park. Many trails cross the boundaries so some reports include sightings from both.
- Mohican SF = Mohican State Forest, **Ashland**
- Mohican SP = Mohican State Park, (mostly) **Ashland** and (slightly) **Richland**
- Mosquito Lake = Mosquito Creek Lake, also called Mosquito Creek Reservoir, **Trumbull**. Mosquito (Creek) Wildlife Area adjoins it.
- MP = Metro Park, MetroPark, or Metropark depending on the system
- NC = Nature Center
- Nimisila = Nimisila Reservoir, **Summit**
- NP = Nature Preserve, except as part of CVNP
- OBRC = Ohio Bird Records Committee
- OOPMP = Oak Openings Preserve MetroPark, **Lucas**
- ONWR = Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, **Lucas** and **Ottawa**
- ONWR Boss and Navarre = Units of Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge which are separate from the refuge's main body. Both are in **Ottawa**.
- Pickeral Creek = Pickeral Creek Wildlife Area, **Sandusky**
- Pickerington Ponds = Pickerington Ponds Metro Park, **Fairfield** and **Franklin**
- Pipe Creek = Pipe Creek Wildlife Area, **Erie**
- RBA = Rare Bird Alert
- Riverside NA = Riverside Natural Area, a preserve along the Great Miami River in Hamilton, **Butler**, which includes some upland as well
- Rocky Fork = Rocky Fork State Park, **Highland**
- Sandy Ridge = Sandy Ridge Reservation, **Lorain**
- Shawnee = Shawnee State Forest, **Scioto**, unless otherwise noted
- Shawnee Lookout = Shawnee Lookout County Park, **Hamilton**
- Sheldon's Marsh = Sheldon's Marsh State Nature Preserve, **Erie**
- SNP = State Nature Preserve
- SF = State Forest
- SP = State Park
- Springville Marsh = Springville Marsh State Nature Preserve, **Seneca**
- SWA = State Wildlife Area
- WA = Wildlife Area
- Wendy Park = a lakeshore Cleveland park, **Cuyahoga**
- Wilderness Road = a road which traverses Funk Bottoms Wildlife Area, **Wayne**, and adjoining farmland
- The Wilds = a limited-access big-mammal breeding and research facility in **Muskingum**, also used generically to include the surrounding reclaimed Ohio Power strip mines
- Willow Point = Willow Point Wildlife Area, **Erie**
- Winous Point = Winous Point Shooting Club, **Ottawa**

### Erratum

In the Table of Contents of the Winter 2013-14 Ohio Cardinal, print version, we forgetfully allowed a placeholder name to remain as the author of *The Snowy Owl Report*. The author, of course, was Jim McCormac.

## COMMENTS ON THE SEASON

### **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck**

Andy Jones discovered a flock of 10 by Cedar Point Road, **Erie**, on 11 May. The flock roamed and was last reported on 19 May. The OBRC has formal reports from **Erie** and **Lorain**, and internet reports from **Lucas**.

### **Greater White-fronted Goose**

Doug Overacker found the high count of 13 in Buck Creek on 08 Mar. Regina Schieltz reported the last of the season, four birds in the Woods Road wetlands, **Darke**, on 12 Apr. Reports came from 22 counties.

### **Snow Goose**

Forty flew over the Findlay Reservoirs on 11 Mar but didn't land (Edward Ingold). The Melvin Quarry pits, **Clinton**, hosted 25 on 07 Mar (Donna Kuhn). The last were two in a wetland by the Holland-Tampico Road, **Darke**, on 13 Apr (Regina Schieltz). Twenty-three counties provided reports.

### **Ross's Goose**

One showed up 15 May at Buck Creek and stayed two more days (m. obs.); where had it been hiding? The second last sighting had been back on 09 Apr, when John Herman and Julie Wittmer found one at Clear Fork Reservoir (**Morrow/Richland**). Participants in a Western Cuyahoga Audubon field trip were thrilled when three flew past Rocky River Park, **Cuyahoga**, on 22 Mar. The other sightings, from **Hamilton**, **Mahoning**, **Ottawa**, **Paulding**, **Stark**, **Wayne**, and **Wyandot**, were of single birds.

### **[Snow X Ross's Goose]**

These were reported in **Hamilton** and **Lucas**.

### **Snow/Ross's Goose**

Observers in **Greene**, **Logan**, and **Lucas** were unsure about individuals there.

### **Cackling Goose**

Doug Overacker noted five at Buck Creek on 07 Mar and there were several counts of two to four there and at other locations. Scott Myers saw the last, three at the Paulding (city) sewage lagoons on 01 Apr. Reports also came from **Ashland**, **Clermont**, **Cuyahoga**, **Franklin**, **Hancock**, **Marion**, **Montgomery**, **Ottawa**, **Ross**, **Stark**, **Trumbull**, **Wayne**, and **Williams**.

### **Canada Goose**

Every county generated sightings. The high count was 5000 in a field by Bodi Road, **Ottawa**, on 20 Mar. Mark Shieldcastle saw them and add-

ed, "Large numbers in region. Estimated 12,000 between Oregon, Ohio and this location along SR 2." Big Island hosted 4000 on 14 Mar as did Killdeer on 17 Mar (both Ron Sempier).

### **Mute Swan**

Kaley Bartosik and Jason Sullivan found 20 at Artist Island, **Logan**, on 01 Mar, and there were a few smaller double-digit counts. Reports came from 51 counties.

### **Trumpeter Swan**

This is a review species in the hope that a truly wild one can eventually be identified. Not enough generations have passed since the end of introductions of breeding pairs for them to be considered established. Nevertheless, ONWR hosted 59 on 30 Mar (Rob Campbell and Michelle Pesho) and more sites in **Lucas**, **Ottawa**, and a couple of other counties also had double-digit counts. Thirty-one counties contributed reports.

### **Tundra Swan**

Andrew Mashburn found about 600 along Route 11 in **Ashtabula** on 30 Mar. Victor Fazio III noted 515 at Killdeer the next day. There were a few unconfirmed May reports after the season's last confirmed sighting, in the Grand River WA, **Trumbull**, on 27 Apr (Don Keffer). Forty-one counties provided reports.

### **Wood Duck**

Members of a BRAS field trip to Sandy Ridge estimated 125 on 23 Mar. The second-highest count was Jeff Harvey's 75 at Mill Creek on 01 Apr. Only **Gallia**, **Meigs**, **Mercer**, **Pike**, and **Van Wert** did not have sightings.

### **Gadwall**

A few Jun reports followed the last of this season, which was of two birds at Lorain on 23 May (Patricia McKelvey). Victor Fazio III estimated 2600 both at Killdeer on 31 Mar and Metzger on 01 Apr. Sixty-four counties produced sightings.

### **Eurasian Wigeon**

The previous high number of these annual visitors was nine statewide in the spring of 2011 – see that issue of the *Cardinal*. This year 16 sites in 14 counties each hosted one bird, and two spent 26 to 29 Apr near the corner of Krause and Stange Roads, **Ottawa**, a fifteenth county (m. obs.). Andy R. Troyer saw one at each of three **Wayne** locations on 20 Mar. The last sighting was at Frohring Meadows on 06 May (Dick Hoopes, Wes Hatch).

### American Wigeon

Tim Jasinski saw the last of the season, in **Lorain** on 30 May, but there were a few Jun sightings as well. Pond 27 at Killdeer held the high count of 1000 on 26 Mar (Victor Fazio III, Helen and Ken Ostermiller). Victor also contributed the second-highest tally, 820 at Metzger on 01 Apr. Reports came from 62 counties.

### [Eurasian x American Wigeon]

One which arrived at Fernald on 27 Feb remained until 15 Mar (m. obs.).

### American Black Duck

A few stay here all summer, but Mary Anne Romito saw the last of the season on 26 May at the Ira Road marsh in CVNP. The high count of 100 was shared by the Old Highland Stone pits, **Highland**, on 01 Mar (John Habig and Rick Asamoto) and Blendon Woods on 09 Mar (m. obs.). Fifty-six counties provided reports.

### Mallard

This species' high count, 1000, was also shared. John Habig and Rick Asamoto saw them at Old Highland Stone, **Highland**, on 01 Mar; Andy R. Troyer's were along Wilderness Road on 01 Mar; Ron Sempier saw his at Big Island also on 01 Mar; and Steve Jones found them still at Big Island on 10 Mar. Every county except **Jackson** and **Meigs** produced sightings.

### [American Black Duck x Mallard]

The ephemeral pond in a swale along Howard Road, **Lucas**, held 10 on 22 Mar (Deb Tefft). More reports came from other **Lucas** sites and 19 additional counties.

### Blue-winged Teal

Charles Bombaci counted 257 at Killdeer on 13 Apr. Thomas Olson's estimated 250 at Sandy Ridge on 20 Apr essentially tied that number. Seventy-two counties provided sightings.

### Northern Shoveler

Ronnie Clark noted the last two of spring at Darby Creek on 27 May, but these followed the typical migrant waterfowl pattern of having a few remain into or through summer. The high count was 269, by Aden A. Yoder at Killbuck on 01 Apr. Sixty-nine counties provided reports.



*Eurasian Wigeons showed up in record numbers this spring; this image was by Vic Fazio on 09 Apr near Milan, **Erie**.*

### Northern Pintail

Lots of folks saw two at Metzger on 22 May, and for a change there were no summer reports. Martha E. Troyer saw about 5000 at Funk on 25 Mar; and wrote that she "watched them fly in to roost...waters were almost covered (not to be forgotten soon)." Reports came from 60 counties.

### Green-winged Teal

The season's high count was 830, by Victor Fazio III along Wilderness Road on 09 Apr. The Ostermillers had found about 400 there on 20 Mar. Some Green-wingeds stayed well into Jun but from mid-May on the sightings were of only one to four birds. Sixty-eight counties had sightings.

### Canvasback

A single apparently injured bird lingered into early Jun at Lorain (m. obs.). The last otherwise was a group of five at East Harbor on 11 May (Sandie Myers). The Sulphur Brook (Pipe Creek) estuary, **Erie**, hosted 750 on 31 Mar (Dan and Lynn Gensualdo). Seventy counties produced reports.

### Redhead

Only a couple were seen at each of a few sites during the last week of May and into Jun. On 11 Apr, however Metzger held about 6300 (Victor Fazio III). Rob and Sandy Harlan made the highest count from an inland site, 1000 at Nimisila on 30 Mar. Seventy-four counties provided sightings.

### Ring-necked Duck

These were seen all season, with a very few carrying over into early Jun. The Ostermillers found about 2000 in Killbuck's Wright Marsh on 22 Mar. Only **Carroll**, **Fayette**, **Jackson**, **Lawrence**, **Meigs**, **Putnam**, and **Van Wert** did not produce sightings.

### Tufted Duck

Mike Williams and Janet Hughes found this bird in the Little Portage WA, **Ottawa**, on 06 Apr, where it spent one more day as well. Andy Sewell wrote it up with photographs for the OBRC, and Cory Chiappone and Victor Fazio III added more photos. Janet and other viewers posted photos on line. This bird is only Ohio's second record.



*Seasoned waterfowler Mike Wilkins pointed out this second Ohio record Tufted Duck to photographer Janet Hughes on 06 Apr at Little Portage River WA, **Ottawa**.*

### Greater Scaup

A couple lingered from late May into Jun; aside from those birds the last was a flock of 7 off Kelleys Island on 15 May (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). Kelleys' waters also hosted the high count of 4345 on 23 Mar, also by Tom Bartlett's census crew. The second-highest number was a comparatively small 700 by Victor Fazio III at East Harbor on 01 Apr. Victor also provided the highest inland count, 70 at Norwalk Memorial Reservoir, **Huron**, on 06 Apr. Sixty counties produced sightings.

### Lesser Scaup

Reports were frequent until mid-May after which a trickle of sightings extended into Jun. The high count was of several flocks totaling 23,600 off East Harbor on 01 Apr (Victor Fazio III). The second highest count was 8000 at ONWR Navarre on 09 Apr (Mark Shieldcastle) and the largest inland concentration was 1040 at Nimisila on 30 Mar (the Harlans). Reports came from 75 counties.

### Harlequin Duck

Scott Pendleton and friends saw two hugging our shore of the Ohio River at the **Athens/Washington** line on 08 Mar.

### Surf Scoter

Several birders saw the last one, at Findlay Reservoirs on 18 May. The only other sighting that month was at the **Preble** end of Acton Lake, Hueston Woods SP, on 07 May (Sean Fitzgerald). Doug Overacker noted five at Buck Creek on 06 Apr and there were two reports of four birds from other locations. Twenty-one counties provided sightings.

### White-winged Scoter

Jeffrey Pontius saw one in a restricted part of CPNWR on 13 May. The second latest sightings were on 29 Apr; one bird at Eastwood MP, **Montgomery** (Jeff and Megan Bartosik) and two at Deer Creek Reservoir, **Stark** (Kent Miller, Sean Ricker). The largest of several sizable Ohio River flocks was just off the Higginsport, **Brown**, shore on 07 Mar; Brian Wulker carefully counted 67 birds. The next highest count was 52 at the Avon Lake power plant, **Lorain**, on 09 Mar (Chris Pierce). Thirty-six counties produced sightings.

### Black Scoter

A trio of birders saw one at Scranton Flats, **Cuyahoga**, on 06 Mar.

### Scoter sp.

The Harlans saw a female in a pond west of Bellevue, **Seneca**, on 08 May but traffic prevented them from stopping to distinguish between Surf and White-winged.

### Long-tailed Duck

An invasion of sorts brought these to 31 counties as far south as **Brown**. Observers noted between 34 and 45 at Wallborn Reservoir, **Portage/ Stark**, on 04 Apr. Don Keffer's 24 at Mosquito Lake on 03 Apr was the highest count elsewhere. Margaret Bowman saw two at Mohawk Dam, **Coshocton**, on 30 Apr but the last was one off Headlands on 18 May (m. obs.).

### Bufflehead

Tom Bartlett's survey crew counted 494 at Kelleys Island on 23 Mar. Wes Hatch noted 225 at La Due on 02 Apr, the second-highest number. The latest sightings were on 11 May, of one or two birds at locations in **Erie**, **Geauga**, and **Lake**. Reports came from 80 counties.

### Common Goldeneye

A few birds lingered inland until 18 Apr at Big Island (Steve Jones) and La Due (Brad Goodner). The last were five off Kelleys Island on 23 Apr (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). Tom's crew also provided the high count on 5376 off the island on 23 Mar. The next highest count was a relatively paltry 221 by Paul Sherwood at East Harbor on 20 Mar. David Hochadel's 150 at Mosquito Lake on 12 Mar was the largest inland number. Fifty-three counties produced reports.

### Hooded Merganser

Charles Bombaci found 175 in Delaware WA on 27 Mar. Michael Hersberger watched a Bald Eagle attack and kill one at Funk on 29 Mar. All but nine counties had sightings.

### [Common Goldeneye x Hooded Merganser]

One first sighted in Feb remained until 06 Mar at Scioto Audubon MP, **Franklin** (m. obs.). It may have relocated to Eastlake, **Lake**, where Cory Chiappone saw one on 09 Mar.

### Common Merganser

The last migrants were off the Magee east beach on 14 May (m. obs.); birds seen at Conneaut, another **Ashtabula** site, and **Columbiana** through the end of May were probably nesters. Paul Sherwood says that his 4000 at Lake Point Park, **Ottawa**, on 20 Mar was a conservative estimate. Kent Miller's 342 at Berlin Lake on 27 Mar was a



This Red-throated Loon surfaced for a quick snapshot by Su Snyder on 11 Apr in Wayne.

“careful count primarily from rt 224 bridge, bike trail, and dam” and the largest inland number. Sixty-four counties provided sightings.

### Red-breasted Merganser

A few of these were still around into Jun. Jen Brumfield noted about 9600 at Edgewater on 22 Mar and the inland high was 400 at Berlin Lake on 27 Mar (Kent Miller). Reports came from 68 counties.

### Ruddy Duck

The May reports (and Jun’s as well) were all of fewer than 20 birds. The big flocks were earlier: Mark Shieldcastle saw 500 at ONWR Navarre on 18 Apr and the Harlans noted 520 at Nimisila on 06 Apr. Sixty-nine counties produced reports.

### Northern Bobwhite

Chuck McClaugherty found one near Mt. Sterling, *Pickaway*, on 28 Mar for the only report of that month. Paul Drescher’s 12 in Crown City WA, *Gallia*, on 23 May was the highest count. Kim Warner saw four on a private property in *Lucas* on 10 and 23 May; Taben Roye also saw four, at Springfield Bog, *Summit*, on 06 and 24 May. The latter site is a known release location and I suspect the *Lucas* birds were also captive-raised. Reports came from 14 counties.

### Ring-necked Pheasant

The high count of six was shared. Dan Briem found his at Pickerington Ponds on 08 Apr and Darby Creek hosted that many on several dates (m. obs.). Forty-three counties provided reports.

### Ruffed Grouse

Shawnee provided three for Kori Gasaway on 10 Mar and Robert Royse on 17 Apr. Kori’s were agitation-calling from a shrub tangle; Robert’s were each at different locations. The other reports, from *Adams, Belmont, Coshocton, Gallia, Harrison, Highland, Hocking, Jefferson, Morgan, Perry, Tuscarawas, Vinton,* and *Washington*, were of single birds.

### Wild Turkey

Jeff Harvey found 80 during 12 miles of travel in Mosquito Creek WA on 16 Mar. Seventy-two counties provided sightings.

### Red-throated Loon

The first of the season showed up at Caesar Creek on 06 Mar and was seen irregularly to 22 Mar (m. obs.). Clear Fork Reservoir, *Richland*, hosted an immature bird on 18 Apr and an adult from 25 to 30 Mar; it or another was there in late Apr as well (all John Herman). Two were seen at Findlay Reservoirs between 07 and 14 Apr (m. obs.) and also at Seneca Lake, *Guernsey/Noble*, on 05 Apr (Ed Schlabach and Dennis Troyer). The other reports, all of single birds, came from *Ashtabu-*

*la, Fulton, Geauga, Muskingum, Mahoning, Portage, Preble, Sandusky,* and *Wayne*.

### Pacific Loon

The OBRC has only an internet report, with no details, from *Portage*.

### Common Loon

These were present all season and into Jun. The high count was 85 by Albert L. Troyer, at Pleasant Hill Lake, *Ashland/Richland*, on 29 Mar. Reports came from 64 counties.

### Pied-billed Grebe

Donald Hall counted 45 along the ONWR auto tour route on 11 May. Andy Sewell found 26 at Big Island on 26 May. Seventy-six counties produced sightings.

### Horned Grebe

Aaron Bartley saw the last of the season at East Harbor on 21 May, though one showed up in *Lorain* in early Jun. The Harlans counted 251 at Nimisila on 06 Apr and saw a pair dancing there on 16 Apr, which we “don’t see that much in Ohio”. One big raft and several smaller groups totaled 115 for Eric Elvert at Eastwood MP, *Montgomery*, on 21 Mar. Sixty-seven counties produced reports.



*Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr. found this stunning Horned Grebe posing for his close-up at Wendy Park on 14 Mar.*

### Red-necked Grebe

This was a record spring for this species; large numbers appeared throughout the northeast quadrant of the U.S. and as far south as Tennessee and North Carolina. Though they moved



*Unprecedented numbers of Red-necked Grebe were reported in Ohio this spring. This beauty was photographed by Leslie Sours on 04 May at O’Shaughnessy Dam, Delaware.*

about, which complicates counting, I am confident that at least 200, and possibly more than 300, were here. Fifty-six Ohio counties hosted them. Our high count was 20, by William Hull and Brian Wulker at East Fork on 07 Mar. The five which Wes Hatch found at the Burton Wetlands, **Geauga**, on 03 May were “Late birds left-over from the large invasion.” The latest, however, was one which spent 18 to 24 May at the Findlay Reservoirs (m. obs.).

#### Eared Grebe

The first showed up at the Huron pier, **Erie**, on 15 Mar (*fide* Jen Brumfield). The last spent 06 to 18 May in ONWR where dozens of auto tour birders saw it. Brad Goodner found two at La Due on 12 Apr. The other reports, all of single birds, came from **Franklin, Hamilton, Hancock, Hocking, Paulding** and **Richland**.

#### Neotropic Cormorant

Jen Brumfield and Dan Gesualdo were passing the Sulphur Brook (Pipe Creek) estuary, **Erie**, on 29 Apr, saw an odd bird, and thought, My, that’s a small cormorant. They had discovered the first of this species to visit Ohio. Kathi Hutton provided both written documentation and photos for the OBRC. Lisa Brooks, Victor Fazio III, Paul Hurtado, and Donna Owen also contributed photos. Many other viewers posted photos on the internet. It hung around until 10 May.

#### Double-crested Cormorant

The waters off Wendy Park produced the high count of 1200 on 04 Apr (Paul Dennehy). The second-highest count was about 700, at Eastlake Power, **Lake**, on 21 Apr (Cory Chiappone). Jon Cefus and Kent Miller separately noted about 450 at Deer Creek Reservoir, **Stark**, on 17 Apr for the highest inland tally. Reports came from 65 counties.

#### Brown Pelican

One was reported in **Wayne** to *The Bobolink* RBA; no details are available.

#### American White Pelican

The first were six at Muddy Creek Bay, **Ottawa**, on 02 Apr (Bryant Dossman). Up to 33 were seen along the Lake Erie shore in **Erie, Lucas**, and **Ottawa** on many May dates and into Jun. Other reports came from **Greene, Hancock, Trumbull, Wood**, and **Wyandot**.

#### American Bittern

The first sighting was at the Great Miami WMB on 29 Mar (m. obs.). Darby Creek provided the high count of eight, by Paul Gardner and Bill Whan on 17 May. All but two, which Paul and Bill saw “squabbling in the air”, were booming

out of sight. Twenty-one counties produced reports.

#### Least Bittern

Debi Schuster noted the first, at Sandy Ridge on 10 Apr. That’s about three weeks earlier than expected, but there were sightings in other northern counties from 11 Apr on. The high count was three. It was shared by Frohring Meadows on 13 Apr (m. obs.), Pipe Creek on 03 and 06 May (Dan Gesualdo, Jacob Roalef), and Metzger on 12 May (m. obs.). **Ashland, Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Hamilton, Marion, Montgomery, Ottawa, Portage, Stark, Summit, Wayne**, and **Wood** also contributed sightings.

#### Great Blue Heron

The rookery and nearby riverside at Cromwell Park, **Lorain**, hosted 150 on 12 Apr (Daniel Smith). Sandra Griffiths counted 85 at the Bath Road, **Summit**, rookery on 02 Apr. Every county except **Meigs** and **Van Wert** provided sightings.

#### Great Egret

The first sightings since winter’s last (on 15 Jan) were of single birds at three locations on 15 Mar. Derek Dunaway found his at Charles Mill Lake Park, **Ashland**; Mary Warren’s was at Willow Point; and a trio of observers note the other at Mosquito Creek WA. The high count of 75 was also shared, by Pipe Creek on 12 Apr (Donna Kuhn and Lisa Phelps) and ONWR on 02 May (Richard Domokos). The largest number away from the northwest marshes was 42 in the Orweiler Road wetlands, **Richland**, on 06 Apr (John Herman). Fifty-eight counties produced reports.

#### Snowy Egret

Mary Warren noted the first, at Medusa on 07 Apr. The 04 May ONWR census counted 15 (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *fide* Douglas Vogus). All but one of the locations having multiple birds were from lakeside marshes in **Erie, Lucas**, and **Ottawa**; Ed Wransky found two near Grafton, **Lorain**, on both 09 and 10 May. **Hamilton, Marion, Sandusky, Trumbull**, and **Wayne** each hosted single birds.



On an otherwise dreary 14 Apr at Killdeer, photographer Ron Sempier was treated to this group of 18 American White Pelicans.

**Little Blue Heron**

One spent 17 to 29 Apr at Sandy Ridge (m. obs.).

**Tricolored Heron**

The OBRC has only internet reports from *Lucas* and *Ottawa*.

**Cattle Egret**

Joe Miller reported to *The Bobolink* RBA that one spent 04 to 06 Apr at a farm in *Holmes* near Baltic. Dan Gesualdo discovered the next along Scheid Road, *Erie*, on 26 Apr. Magee held up to 15 on several May dates (m. obs.). Sightings also came from *Butler*, *Franklin*, *Geauga*, *Lorain*, *Lucas*, and *Wayne*.

**Green Heron**

Riverside Natural Area and a pond near Grainger, both in *Butler*, each hosted one on 05 Apr for Charlie Saunders and Dee Long, respectively. The high count was 20, at Scioto Audubon MP, *Franklin*, on 10 May (Rob Thorn). Both that site and Camp Berry, *Hancock*, had seven on 26 Apr (James Muller and m. obs., respectively). Sixty-six counties provided reports.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron**

Paula Lozano contributed the three highest counts, up to 63 on 07 Apr, from Rivergate Park, *Cuyahoga*. The largest crowd elsewhere was Rita Schneider's 44 in Medusa on 18 Apr. Reports came from 22 counties.

**Yellow-crowned Night-Heron**

The first sighting at the Preston Road, Columbus, site was on 13 Apr (Paul Hurtado); one adult was occasionally seen there until 12 May. Soon thereafter the remains of last year's only nest fell from its sycamore branch and none were rebuilt. Donna Kuhn and Lisa Phelps did see an adult in adjoining Wolfe Park on 26 May. The only other report was by Mark Salminen at Blendon Woods on 04 May.



*Tom Fishburn snapped this photo of a lone Yellow-crowned Night-Heron on 25 Apr at Preston Road, Columbus. By late May the only remaining nest in the dwindling colony had fallen.*

**Glossy Ibis**

Bill Kinkead found and wrote documentation of one in Mercer WA on 25 May for the OBRC, and Christopher Collins provided a photo.

There were also internet reports from *Erie*, *Hamilton*, and *Ottawa*.

**White-faced Ibis**

The OBRC has formal reports from *Lucas*.



*This White-faced Ibis, an Ohio Review List species, posed well for Victor Fazio III to document on 21 May at Metzger.*

**Plegadis Ibis sp.**

The OBRC has only internet reports from *Hamilton*, *Lake*, *Lucas*, and *Marion*.

**Black Vulture**

A power line tower and a nearby tree on Unity Road, *Adams*, held 95 on 01 Mar (Margaret Bowman and Sarah Winnicki). Stefan Mozu Gleissbird noted about 50 over the city of Athens on 09 Mar. Forty-five counties had sightings.

**Turkey Vulture**

Karen and Rich Kassouf counted 1944 east-bound past Edgewater during about 3½ hours on 01 Apr. Bruce Glick had noted 1408 in three hours from the Maumee Bay observation hill on 31 Mar. "Two massive kettles" totaling 250 birds passed Adam Zorn at Deer Creek on 29 Mar. Every county produced sightings.

**Osprey**

The first arrival date of 15 Mar was shared by five sites, in *Clermont* (Joanna Crewe and Ginny Fantetti), *Franklin* (Jerry Strosnider), *Jefferson* (Sandie Myers), *Pickaway* (Philip and Tamala North), and *Stark* (Jon Cefus). The high counts were 10 and 13, by James F. Yoder and Leon Miller, respectively, in *Holmes* on 29 Apr. Four locations each boasted six birds. Reports came from 68 counties.

**Swallow-tailed Kite**

The OBRC has a written report from *Lawrence*.

**Golden Eagle**

Fifteen were reported, from 13 locations. Two at The Wilds on 07 Mar (Jon Cefus and Ben Morrison) probably hadn't yet ended their winter stay. The rest appeared to be northbound migrants; the latest date was 18 Apr, when Leroy Schlabach saw an immature bird near Berlin,

**Holmes.** The other locations were in *Coshoc-ton*, *Cuyahoga* (2), *Holmes* (4), *Lucas*, *Mon-roe*, *Trumbull*, and *Wyandot*.

One of the Cuyahoga locations is in CVNP. Those records, on 12 and 13 Apr, were electronic, not visual. On the second day Scott Somers-shoe wrote, “GPS cellular tracked golden eagle. Accuracy to 1 m. Initially caught and banded in northwest Alabama in Feb [2014]. He had spent the previous night in the woods just south of the sanitation pond, departed south towards Akron in the morning.”

#### Mississippi Kite

The OBRC has formal reports from *Lucas* and *Hamilton*. Internet reports, many with no details, came from *Ashtabula*, *Erie*, *Knox*, *Lake*, and *Ottawa*.

#### **Northern Harrier**

These were here as usual into summer, but sightings decreased greatly after 19 May. The high count was 14, by Bruce Glick at the Maumee Bay observation hill on 31 Mar. Six had passed Magee on 21 Mar (Tim Drewyor and Tim Haney). Fifty-six counties provided sightings.

#### **Sharp-shinned Hawk**

Gabe Leidy and friends spent six hours at Malek Park, *Ashtabula*, on 01 Apr and tallied 100 sharpies. Jen Brumfield’s 2½ hours at Edgewater on 10 Apr yielded 68. Fifty counties produced sightings.

#### **Cooper’s Hawk**

The high count was a surprisingly low nine, by Gabe Leidy *et al.* at Malek Park, *Ashtabula*, on 01 Apr. Sixty-eight counties provided reports.

#### Northern Goshawk

The OBRC has only internet reports from *Erie* and *Ottawa*.

#### **Bald Eagle**

Conneaut continues to attract crowds, of eagles that is; Dave Inman saw 46 there on 17 May. The most elsewhere was 28 in the vicinity of Magee on 21 Apr (Tim Haney), and the most away from Lake Erie was Kent Miller’s 17 at Berlin Lake on 20 Mar. Reports came from 76 counties — quite a number when you consider that forty years ago seeing even one Bald Eagle in Ohio was cause for rejoicing.

#### **Red-shouldered Hawk**

Kim Warner counted 15 passing Maumee Bay on 10 Mar. Three folks each saw 11 at different north coast sites on dates between 18 Mar and 01 Apr. Sixty-six counties produced reports.

#### **Broad-winged Hawk**

Dan and Lynn Gesualdo saw the first, at Milan

WA, *Erie*, on 06 Apr. They also provided the high count for the Lake Erie shore, 83 passing Sheldon’s Marsh on 14 Apr. The most overall were Leon Miller and James F. Yoder’s 118 overhead near Walnut Creek, *Holmes*, on 26 Apr. Sixty-three counties produced sightings.

#### **Red-tailed Hawk**

The high count of 41 was shared; Dan Gesualdo saw them passing Volunteer Bay, *Erie*, on 18 Mar, while Bruce Glick’s were over Maumee Bay on 31 Mar. The second-highest number was 22, at Malek Park, *Ashtabula*, on 10 Apr (Victor Fazio III). Several observers noted a dark morph western bird at varied *Union* locations between 04 and 09 Mar, and Ed Schlabach reported a rare light morph “Harlan’s” in *Holmes* on 21 Mar and 01 Apr. Only *Defiance*, *Pike*, and *Van Wert* were without sightings.

#### **Rough-legged Hawk**

Sightings were fairly steady until the last, which came at Killdeer on 19 Apr (Amy and Kevin O’Neil). The two highest counts came from Cleveland Hopkins Airport, viewed from the 100<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group restaurant to its north. Jen Brumfield saw 14 there on 17 Mar and Joe Wojnarowski topped her by one on 26 Mar. The most elsewhere were eight along Hayes Road, *Geauga*, on 09 Mar (Sally Isacco). Twenty-seven counties provided reports.

#### Yellow Rail

The OBRC has internet reports from *Erie* and *Franklin*.

#### Black Rail

The OBRC has an internet report from *Lucas*.

#### **King Rail**

Paul Rodewald found one at Winous Point on 07 May. Two wowed visitors along the ONWR auto tour route between 10 and 17 May.

#### **Virginia Rail**

Bob Powell found the season’s first, at Caesar Creek on 02 Apr. Geauga Parks naturalists found six in Frohring Meadows on 28 Apr. Reports came from 23 counties.

#### **Sora**

Dillon WA, *Muskingum*, hosted the first on 31 Mar (Margaret Bowman). The highest of several double-digit reports was Tyler Ficker’s 20 along the ONWR auto tour route on 16 May. Thirty-eight counties produced reports.

#### Purple Gallinule

Bill Heck, Steve Landes, and Tom Sheley found one at Big Island on 12 May; Bill and Steve sent documentation to the OBRC. Charles Bombaci posted a resighting on 24 May; he included

descriptive details which enabled the OBRC to include it in the record.

### Common Gallinule

A BRAS field trip discovered the first, at Charlemont Reservation, **Lorain**, on 12 Apr. Big Island produced several double-digit counts; the largest was Andy Sewell's 24 on 26 May. Sandra Griffiths found 12 at Killbuck on 05 May, the highest number elsewhere. **Ashtabula, Butler, Erie, Franklin, Geauga, Harrison, Holmes, Lucas, Muskingum, Ottawa, Richland**, and **Sandusky** also contributed sightings.

### American Coot

Randy Shonkwiler found about 1900 at Big Island on 13 Apr and Cory Chiappone about 1000 at Metzger on the same day. Seventy-five counties provided sightings.

### Sandhill Crane

Scott Myers noted 43 in the Maumee River floodplain near Antwerp, **Paulding**, on 17 and 18 Apr. Bob Lane *et al.* saw a colt they estimated was only a week old in **Columbiana** on 24 May. Reports came from 46 counties. In a post to Ohio-birds on 30 May, Bill Whan called attention to reports of nesting in previously-unknown areas, and Elliot Tramer later wrote me, "The expansion of this species into our area over the past 15 years has been most welcome."

### Black-necked Stilt

The OBRC has only internet reports from **Franklin, Hamilton, Highland, Lorain, Lucas**, and **Ottawa**.



*This Black-necked Stilt courtship behavior, rarely seen in Ohio, was caught by Jeff Harvey during the pair's visit to the wetlands along the Magee causeway on 13 May.*

### American Avocet

The first was a flock of at least 20 in the CCE on 21 Apr (m. obs.); one report said "30 plus" (*vide*

Jen Brumfield). Dave Hochadel and Don Keffer counted 27 at Mosquito Lake on 04 May and later that day in nearby Grand River WA, also in **Trumbull**; they're sure it was the same flock. The remaining sightings, in **Erie, Hamilton**, and **Sandusky**, were of one or two birds.

### Black-bellied Plover

Jeff Loughman and Shane Myers saw the first, along **Hancock** County Road 76 on 13 Apr. That's a bit early. The next were right on time, two birds at Armleder Park on 29 Apr (Bill and René McGill). Joe Kappa's 60 along Corduroy Road, **Lucas**, on 13 May was the high count. The most not in **Lucas** or **Ottawa** were 13 at Killdeer on 18 May (Steve Jones). The last were seen in Jun. Twenty counties produced sightings.

### American Golden-Plover

Bob Powell saw one at Cowan Lake, **Clinton**, on 02 Apr; for a change that's a week or so later than usual. Shane Myers saw about 400 in flooded fields at the corner of County Road 330 and Ohio 568 in **Hancock** on 30 Apr; smaller triple-digit counts were there earlier in the month. The most elsewhere was 94, along Ohio Route 2 at Russell Road, **Ottawa**, on 11 May (Martie Eisentraut and Grace Oliver). Tyler Ficker's 30 in ONWR on 17 May were the last. Reports came from 18 counties.

### Semipalmated Plover

Evan Leon found one at Ellis Lake on 18 Apr and rightly noted that it "seemed a little early". However, others were seen in **Darke** and **Lucas** on 20 Apr. Brian Wulker saw 45 at Gilmore Ponds, **Butler**, on 09 May. Thirty-two counties had sightings.

### Piping Plover

The OBRC has only internet reports from **Hamilton**.

### Killdeer

The ONWR auto tour route hosted up to 60 on 10 May (m. obs.). Every county except **Morgan** and **Noble** produced sightings.

### Spotted Sandpiper

Shannon Brinkley saw three at Killbuck on 05 Apr, a little early for that latitude. Jeff Loughman noted 45 at the Findlay Reservoirs on 10 May for the high count. The second highest was 30 along Cleveland harbor breakwalls on 18 May (Donna Owen). Sixty-seven counties provided reports.

### Solitary Sandpiper

The Great Miami WMB hosted the first, three on 28 Mar (Alexander Clark). One showed up at Frohring Meadows the next day (m. obs.). Michael O'Brien and Louise Zemaitis noted 40 in

a “strong early morning westbound flight” near the Maumee Bay lodge on 08 May. The last spring sightings came on 24 May at four locations but there was one Jun straggler. Reports came from 60 counties.

### Greater Yellowlegs

Bob Powell found a single bird at the Melvin Quarry pits, **Clinton**, on 06 Mar. The second sighting was at Fernald 15 Mar (m. obs.) and the first in the far north was at a **Lucas** private property on 22 Mar (Kim Warner). The high count was 123, by Andrew Cannizzaro in fields on Union Road, **Warren**, on 14 Apr. The second highest was John Herman’s 74 in Sharon Township, **Richland**, on 02 May. Mary Ann Henderson saw the last of the season, one bird at Sandy Ridge on 28 May, though there were a couple of Jun reports as well. Forty-nine counties provided sightings.

### Willet

Chris Swan saw the first, at Conneaut on 27 Apr. One at each of Pearson MP, **Lucas**, on 14 May (Nancy Mulder) and Indian Lake SP, **Logan**, on 23 May (Troy Shively) were the last of this season. There were several Jun sightings as well. Pipe Creek hosted 38 on 03 May for the highest of many double-digit counts (m. obs.). **Clermont, Delaware, Franklin, Hancock, Hocking, Lake, Ottawa, Trumbull, Warren, Washington,** and **Wayne** also contributed reports.

### Lesser Yellowlegs

Brian Wulker’s bird at Lost Bridge on 14 Mar was the first; one made it to **Lucas** by 20 Mar (Kim Warner). The last but for a single 01 Jun sighting was at Hooven, **Hamilton**, on 27 May (Harris Abramson). Flooded fields north of Millersburg, **Holmes**, held about 450 on 06 May (James F. Yoder), and there were two other triple-digit counts. Fifty-five counties provided reports.



Bob Lane found a vocal pair of Upland Sandpipers by the side of Krause Road, **Ottawa**, on the morning of 04 May.

### Upland Sandpiper

The first were at The Bowl, four birds on 13 Apr (Scott Pendleton). Molly McDermott and Matthew Shumar saw the high count of six at the

OSU airport, **Franklin**, on 26 May. Other sightings came from **Clark, Hamilton, Holmes, Lucas, Ottawa, Sandusky,** and **Wood**.

### Whimbrel

The four reports are:

Eleven at Findlay Reservoirs on 20 May (Jeff Loughman, m. obs.)

One at Mohawk Dam, **Coshocton**, on 25 May (Leroy Yoder)

One along Wilderness Road in Funk on 26 May (Dan Sanders)

Six which circled Conneaut but didn’t land, also on 26 May (John Pogacnik)

### Hudsonian Godwit

Bob Lane well described a single bird which he and others watched overhead in ONWR on 19 May; the species is accidental here in spring.

### Marbled Godwit

The four reports are:

A surprise one at Lower Shaker Lake, **Cuyahoga**, on 21 Apr (Leo Deininger)

One in the **Ottawa** section of Magee on 01 May (Sydney Penner)

One on the ground along the ONWR auto tour route on 03 May (Anna and Eddie Hicks)

Eight which flew over ONWR, also on 03 May (Janet Duerr and Steve Schafer)

### Ruddy Turnstone

Anna and Eddie Hicks saw the first, while auto-touring ONWR on 03 May. The last, but for a single 02 Jun sighting, were two along the CCE Trail on 28 May (Jared Hollick and Patrick Lister). Ben Warner counted 40 in a field at Decant and Seaman Roads, **Lucas**, on 13 May. Reports also came from **Ashtabula, Clark, Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, Hancock, Logan, Lorain, Sandusky,** and **Wayne**.

### Red Knot

One was in ONWR on 12 May (Mary E. Hansen and Kay Regester). Another was at Bay Point, **Ottawa**, on 31 May (Kurt Wray).

### Ruff

Sue Evanoff and Su Snyder first reported one at Funk on 05 Apr. The OBRC has several formal reports of that bird.



The highlight of 05 Apr was this male Ruff, captured by Su Snyder at Funk.

**Stilt Sandpiper**

Six locations hosted single birds:

ONWR on 02 May (Adam Hoisington and Jerry Strosnider) and 03 May (Ann and Eddie Hicks)

Ellis Lake on 07 May (Andrew Cannizzaro, John Marvin)

Armlerder Park on 07 and 10 May (m. obs.)

Gilmore Ponds, Butler, on 09 May (Andrew Cannizzaro)

Willow Point on 11 May (Jen Brumfield and Dan Gesualdo)

ONWR Boss on 18 May (Harris Brown and Frances Ventura)

**Sanderling**

Rick Asamoto discovered the first, at the Caesar Creek beach on 28 Apr. The Hicks's saw the next during the ONWR auto tour on 03 May. The most, and last but for a 01 Jun sighting, were 10 along the *Ottawa* section of the Magee causeway on 28 May (Jared Hollick and Patrick Lister). *Ashtabula*, *Franklin*, *Hamilton*, and *Hancock* also provided reports.

**Dunlin**

The first one was along the Cedar Point Causeway, *Erie*, on 02 Apr (Dan and Lynn Gesualdo), the next two were at Willow Point on 07 Apr (Mary Warren), and sightings continued into Jun. Dan Gesualdo also tallied the most, 600 at Pickarel Creek on 15 May. The largest inland count was 330-340 in the "sky ponds" in the vicinity of Township Roads 219 and 302, *Sandusky*, on 24 and 25 May (the Harlans, Victor Fazio III). Reports came from 26 counties.

**Least Sandpiper**

Joshua Eastlake and James Shelton began the season on 01 Apr with separate sightings of one bird at Armlerder Park. It was almost two weeks before Dan and Lynn Gesualdo saw the next one, at Willow Point on 13 Apr. Sightings continued into Jun. Armlerder Park also produced the high count, 75 by William Hull on 08 May. Thirty-eight counties provided reports.

**White-rumped Sandpiper**

Frank Frick saw five at Ellis Lake on 02 May; three were still there the next day (m. obs.). Also on 03 May, the Hicks's saw two in ONWR. Lost Bridge hosted eight on 23 May (William Hull). The last (but for a single Jun report) were on 25 May, one at Armlerder Park (William Hutchinson, Joe Sebastiani) and two at Killdeer (Irina Shulgina). Reports also came from *Ashtabula*, *Franklin*, *Hancock*, *Marion*, *Sandusky*, and *Wayne*.

**Pectoral Sandpiper**

Regina Schieltz saw the first, in Elroy, *Darke*, on

15 Mar. None were seen on the north coast until 28 Mar; when Kim Warner found 28 on private land in *Lucas*. Jeff Loughman counted 344 along *Hancock's* County Road 76 on 11 Apr and James F. Yoder estimated 350 were at Funk the next day. Charles Bombaci noted the last two northbound birds, in the Marion section of Killdeer on 24 May. Thirty-nine counties provided sightings.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper**

Jeffrey Pontius saw the first, in *Franklin* on 27 Apr and sightings continued into summer. Killdeer hosted 56 on 24 May (Victor Fazio III). Reports came from 29 counties.

**Western Sandpiper**

David and Tammy McQuaid reported one by Veler Road, *Lucas*, on 15 May. The Harlans found another near Bellevue, *Sandusky*, on 24 May.

**Short-billed Dowitcher**

The first were seen on 20 Apr, two at Willow Point (Dan Gesualdo) and one at ONWR Boss (Joshua Haas). The last were by the Magee causeway, three on 20 May (Jim de Waal Malefyt). Jeff Bartosik wrote about the 85 he counted at Lost Bridge on 14 May, "Huge group flew over and circled for a few minutes. Never landed...". *Ashtabula*, *Butler*, *Franklin*, *Marion*, *Sandusky*, *Union*, and *Wyandot* also contributed reports.

**Long-billed Dowitcher**

These are a rare spring migrant but appeared at several locations. On 15 May, Jeff Harvey and the Lanes watched a flock of 21 dowitchers fly back and forth across the ONWR auto tour road as raptors flushed them. Generously, some called in flight to confirm that several Long-billed were among them. The other reports were of single birds:

At Willow Point on the early date of 21 Apr (Jen Brumfield and Dan Gesualdo)

At The Bowl on 04 May (Janice Emrick and Scott Pendleton)

In ONWR, also on 04 May (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *fide* Douglas Vogus)

At Armlerder Park on 14 May (the McGills)

**Wilson's Snipe**

Tyler Ficker saw 50 around the Lodge Pond at Fernald on 29 Mar. Cristy J. Miller almost matched him with 45 near Millersburg, *Holmes*, on 18 Apr. Fifty counties provided reports.

**American Woodcock**

The highest of several double-digit counts was 16, by Tom Bartlett at Springville Marsh on 22 Mar. One which nested in the Magee parking lot gave dramatic evidence of her cryptic plumage

to hundreds of birders. Reports came from 58 counties.

### Wilson's Phalarope

Two showed up at Sandy Ridge on 29 Apr; they and a third were there the next day as well (Tim Fairweather, m. obs.). Five were in wet fields and ponds on both sides of the *Marion-Wyandot* line in Killdeer on 12 and 13 May (m. obs.), and one stayed until 16 May (Christopher Collins, Steve Jones). Other sightings, all of single birds, came from *Franklin, Lucas, Ottawa, Paulding, Stark, and Wayne*.

### Red-necked Phalarope

At least 50 observers saw one at Pearson MP, *Lucas*, on 13 and 14 May.

### Pomarine Jaeger

In a rare spring visit, one which Jen Brumfield *et al.* discovered on the lower Cuyahoga River in Cleveland spent from 06 to 29 Mar there and along the *Cuyahoga* lakefront as far west as Huntington Beach in Bay Village.



Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr. spotted this Pomarine Jaeger, an accidental spring visitor, foraging along the Cuyahoga River at the Scranton Road Park, *Cuyahoga*, on 07 Mar.

### Bonaparte's Gull

Sightings, from 61 counties in all, spanned the season and trickled into Jun. Victor Fazio III spent 40 minutes at the Billman Road, *Sandusky*, sky ponds on 12 Apr and made a "very careful count; took bulk of observation time. Birds gathered on ground at three sites with another 600 in flight [counted] as they came in to roost." His total was 2040 birds. He also contributed the second-highest count, 610, from more ponds on Bonham Road, *Sandusky*, the same day.

### Black-headed Gull

One report from *Lake* was gleaned from internet sources.

### Little Gull

What was probably the same bird was seen off North Perry (John Pogacnik) and in Fairport Harbor (Tom Frankel) on 22 Mar. It was joined by a second at Fairport the next day (Tom Fran-

kel). Both locations are in *Lake*. One of them, or a third bird, showed up at the mouth of the Huron River, *Erie*, on 04 Apr (Jen Brumfield and Dan Gesualdo).

### Laughing Gull

Two spent 15 and 16 May back and forth across Route 6 at Pickerel Creek (Victor Fazio III, Ben Warner, m. obs.). Bev Walborn saw one at Metzger on 19 May. One spent from 23 May into Jun roaming the Lorain (city) waterfront (m. obs.). John Pogacnik saw one at Conneaut on 26 May.



This Laughing Gull, a rare spring visitor, caught the attention of photographer Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr. at Lorain Harbor on 26 May.

### Franklin's Gull

The five locations whence came reports are: Deer Creek, one on 27 Mar (Robert Royce) and 28 Mar (Donna Kuhn) Township Road 180, *Hancock*, two on 08 Apr (Jeff Loughman and Shane Myers) East Fork, one on 15 and 16 May (m. obs.) Indian Lake SP, *Logan*, one on 22 May (Troy Shively) and 23 May (Doreene Linzell and Dan Sanders) Funk, one on 31 May (James F. Yoder)

### Ring-billed Gull

Dick and Jean Hoffman estimated 20,000 were along the lower Cuyahoga River in Cleveland between Scranton Flats and Lake Erie on 09 Mar. The highest inland number was Kent Miller's 3150 at Berlin Lake on 20 Mar. All but six counties provided reports.

### California Gull

Reports from *Warren* were gleaned from internet sources; the first might have enough detail to enable the OBRC to evaluate it.

### Herring Gull

Dick and Jean Hoffman also estimated 20,000 Herring Gulls were with the like number of Ring-billeds in Cleveland on 09 Mar. Likewise, Kent Miller contributed the largest inland number, about 1050 at Berlin Lake on 20 Mar. Sixty-one counties produced reports.

### Thayer's Gull

Reports came from five locations, listed by date of first sighting:

Various Cuyahoga River and Lake Erie locations in Cleveland, up to three birds from 06 to 18 Mar (m. obs.)

Bayshore Fishing Access, **Lucas**, one on 07 Mar (Kim Warner)

Across the Ohio River from **Monroe**, two on 10 Mar (*fide* Scott Albaugh. Though in West Virginia, they are noted because they are rare that far from Lake Erie)

North Perry, **Lake**, one on 01 Apr (John Pogacnik)

The Eastlake power plant, **Lake**, one on 07 Apr (Cory Chiappone)

### Iceland Gull

Up to 11 roved the Cleveland lakefront during Mar; that high count was by Victor Fazio III on 18 Mar. The most elsewhere were Andrew Slater's four along the Cedar Point causeway, **Erie**, on 01 Mar. The latest sighting was by Cory Chiappone at Conneaut on 02 Apr. Other reports came from **Delaware**, **Franklin**, **Jefferson**, **Lake**, **Lorain**, **Lucas**, **Morrow**, **Portage**, **Richland**, and **Summit**.

### Lesser Black-backed Gull

Jen Brumfield counted 12 at Wendy Park on 14 Mar; Kent Miller found 11 at Berlin Lake on 27 Mar. The second last was a late bird on the Sandusky waterfront, **Erie**, on 30 Apr (Dan and Lynn Gesualdo) and the last was very late at Woodland Park, **Lake**, on 11 May (Elaine and Joseph Ford). Twenty-five counties as far south as **Clark** and **Warren** produced sightings.

### Glaucous Gull

Jen Brumfield counted 71 while at Wendy Park on 09 Mar and wrote, "ASTOUNDING. Mostly first cycles and adults, with lesser numbers of 2nds and 3rds. Scanned from mouth of river west to the west wall of the greater CLE harbor at Edgewater marina." The most elsewhere was 10, at the Avon Lake power plant, **Lorain**, on 08 Mar (Mark Rozmarynowycz). The inland high was two, an immature and adult separately along the Scioto River in **Delaware** and **Franklin** (*fide* Paul Hurtado, dates not noted). The latest were duos on 15 Apr at Conneaut (Chris Swan) and Lorain (Victor Fazio III). **Ashland**, **Erie**, **Hancock**, **Lake**, **Mahoning**, **Morrow**, **Richland**, and **Portage** also contributed sightings.

### Great Black-backed Gull

The high count was 310, by Jen Brumfield at Wendy Park on 09 Mar. The most not in Cleveland were Daniel Hazard's 100 at the Avon Lake

power plant, **Lorain**, the same day. Other double-digit counts were on or near Lake Erie in **Ashtabula**, **Erie**, **Lake**, **Lucas**, and **Ottawa**. The inland sightings, in **Delaware** and **Summit**, were of single birds. Sightings continued into Jun.

### [Herring x Glaucous "Nelson's" Gull]

One or two were reported in the Cleveland area, and a cryptic bird which might have been another was in **Warren**.

### [Herring x Great Black-backed Gull]

Two were reported in Cleveland and one in **Lorain**.

### Caspian Tern

Lots of folks saw the first, at Wendy Park on 28 Mar. Victor Fazio III found the most, 364 at Pickerel Creek on 15 May, and there were many counts of up to 200. The most away from Lake Erie were 16 at Mosquito Lake on 11 Apr (Don Keffer). Thirty-four counties had sightings.

### Black Tern

Auto tourists saw one or two in ONWR on 03 May, the earliest date. A trio of observers found the high count of six in a restricted area of CPNWR on 18 May. Steve Jones noted four at Big Island on 29 May, the most away from Lake Erie. Other reports came from **Butler**, **Champagne**, **Erie**, **Hancock**, **Paulding**, **Wayne**, and **Wyandot**.



*Outstanding numbers and diversity of gulls were reported at Wendy Park on 09 Mar where Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr. found this first cycle Glaucous Gull.*

### Common Tern

The first three showed up in **Erie** on 04 Apr; one at Sherod Park (Dan Gesualdo) and two at the Huron River mouth (Jen Brumfield and Dan Gesualdo). The high count of 61 was off Kelleys Island on 15 May (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). The largest inland number was 10, along Little Walnut Creek, **Delaware**, on 25 May (Charles Bombaci). Twenty-two counties as far south as **Butler** produced reports.

### Forster's Tern

Victor Fazio III saw the first, at Port Clinton Lakefront Preserve, *Ottawa*, on 01 Apr. Freda Walker saw about 100 at Winous Point on 10 May, the high count. Don Keffer's 12 at Mosquito Lake on 03 May was the inland high. Twenty-three counties produced sightings; *Warren* is the southernmost of them.

### Rock Pigeon

Paul Krusling counted 255 in Riverside Park, *Hamilton*, on 07 Mar. Reports came from 77 counties.

### Eurasian Collared-Dove

The OBRC has formal reports from *Ashland* and *Hardin*. The Committee also has internet gleanings from nine other counties, most of which are very light on details.

### White-winged Dove

The OBRC has only internet reports from *Lucas*.

### Mourning Dove

The high count was 60, by Rebecca Jordan in Ashley, *Delaware*, on 02 Mar. Only *Noble* did not provide a sighting.

### Yellow-billed Cuckoo

Scott Pendleton scored the first, in Harrison SF on 21 Apr. More than a week passed before Kirk Westendorf saw the next, in Cincinnati's Ault Park on 30 Apr. The high count of six was shared. Scott Pendleton found them in Barcamp SP, *Belmont*, on 14 May; Lisa Pettit saw them in Lake Hope/Zaleski on both 16 and 23 May, on the latter date with Bruce Simpson. Fifty-eight counties produced reports.

### Black-billed Cuckoo

Three widely separated sites each hosted one on the first date of 30 Apr: Ault Park, *Hamilton* (Kirk Westendorf), Woodman Fen, *Montgomery* (Dan Enders), and Scioto Trail SF, *Ross* (Sue Tackett). The high count of four was shared on 13 May by Tom Bartlett in the Jones Preserve and Scott Whittle at Magee. Reports came from 49 counties.

### Barn Owl

Christopher Collins and Jacob Roalef saw an adult and two young at a nest box on the Pickerington Ponds maintenance building on 17 May. Alex Eberts watched two fly past him into an old building in Wellston, *Jackson*, on 26 May. Rob Harlan heard one calling about 1:00 am on 02 May in Columbia Woods Park, *Summit*. Other single sightings came from *Ashland*, *Scioto*, and *Wyandot*.

### Eastern Screech-Owl

The high count was five; Aaron Milenski saw

them in Webb Park, *Cuyahoga*, on 01 May. Thirty-five counties provided sightings.

### Great Horned Owl

Kim Warner found four in ONWR on 11 Apr and there were many reports of three birds. Forty-three counties had sightings.

### Snowy Owl

As the invasion receded, sightings dwindled through Mar. The second to last sighting came from Bonham Road, *Sandusky*, on 11 Apr (the Kassoufs) and the last at Haskins, *Wood*, on 03 May (the Harlans). The only multiple sighting was by Scott Myers on 04 Mar in *Paulding*; he wrote, "One individual present on TR 106 and one on TR 96 - both visible from TR 21 simultaneously!" *Cuyahoga*, *Fayette*, *Geauga*, *Lake*, *Lucas*, *Seneca*, *Trumbull*, and *Wayne* also contributed reports.



The winter's Snowy Owl irruption was enjoyed well into spring, as Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr. chronicled from Cleveland Hopkins Airport on 14 Mar.

### Barred Owl

Cory Chiappone found six in Chapin Forest, *Lake*, on 26 May. He wrote, "...saw an adult with short tailed shrew shortly after arrival...later saw at least 3 young birds in the area...also heard a pair calling at 8pm in a different area". Reports came from 56 counties.

### Long-eared Owl

Ann and Dwight Chasar saw one in the CVNP Virginia Kendall area on 22 Apr. It was the latest but for a straggler at Lake Erie Bluffs which John Pogacnik saw on 05 May. The Osborn Recreation Area, *Erie*, held four on 11 Apr (Dan Gesualdo). Other reports came from *Athens*, *Franklin*, *Licking*, *Portage*, *Stark*, and *Trumbull*.

### Short-eared Owl

Several birders saw five in the Great Miami WMB on 09 Mar; Chris Zacharias found them still there on 24 Mar. The last two were a flyover at the Magee causeway on 25 Apr (Wes Hatch) and one in Pearson MP, *Lucas*, on 11 May (Curt

and Kathy Hofer). A dozen other counties also hosted them.

### Northern Saw-whet Owl

The six reports, all of single birds, are:

In DuPont Marsh SNP, **Erie**, on 21 Mar (Jen Brumfield and Dan Gesualdo)

In Quail Hollow SP, **Stark**, on 22 Mar (Jon Cefus and Kent Miller) and 24 Mar (Jon Cefus)

On Kelleys Island on 23 Mar (Tom Bartlett)

In CLNP on 07 Apr (Jen Brumfield)

At Lake Erie Bluffs on 05 May (John Pogacnik)

### Common Nighthawk

Kyle Brooks saw one over the OSU campus on 28 Apr. The high count was 58, by Tom Kemp over his Grand Rapids, **Lucas**, yard on 21 May; there were only a few more double-digit counts. Forty-seven counties produced sightings.

### Chuck-will's-widow

The reports are:

At the Edge of Appalachia Preserve Eulett Center, **Adams**, one on 25 Apr (m. obs.), two on 26 Apr (m. obs.), and one on 17 May (Paul Hurtado)

At the Shawnee SP lodge, **Scioto**, one on 12 May (Greg Cornett)

North of Loudonville, **Ashland**, one on 13 May (Steven L. Hochstetler)

At the Beasley Fork Bridge over Ohio Brush Creek, **Adams**, one on 23 May (Ned Keller)

At Springville Marsh on 25 May (Tom Bartlett), the second record for **Seneca**

### Eastern Whip-poor-will

Gabriel Amrhein found three in the AEP Recreation Land, **Morgan**, on 12 Apr. Two parties



Unknowingly passed by scores of bikers and joggers daily along the Hockhocking Adena bike path, **Athens**, this individual, one of a duo, was digiscoped by Glen Crippen on 30 Mar.

shared the high count of seven. Ada and John Habig saw two and heard five more in Shawnee on 18 Apr. Matt Kemp heard his at 4:40 am on 09 May in OOPMP. Twenty counties provided reports.

### Chimney Swift

The first showed up on 03 Apr, at the Kroger Wetlands, **Washington** (Kyle Carlsen). That's an early arrival, but sightings were almost daily from then on. On 04 May Hans Klebsch noted a "Veritable river of swifts. Third year I have seen this sudden and massive concentration of swifts along Doan Brook [at Shaker Lakes, **Cuyahoga**] during spring. There may have been as many as 1000+." Reports came from 78 counties.

### Ruby-throated Hummingbird

One was quite early in OOPMP on 12 Apr (Clair Cogar and Mark Rozmarynowycz). Tom Bartlett *et al.* found 12 in the Jones Preserve on 13 May. Ten at Lake Erie Bluffs on 22 May was the only other double-digit count (Dave Chase). Seventy-one counties produced reports.

### Belted Kingfisher

The high count was six, achieved twice in CVNP. Mary Anne Romito *et al.* saw them at the Ira Road marsh on 07 Apr. Doug Marcum found his along eight miles of Towpath Trail near Peninsula on 13 Apr. Seventy-eight counties provided reports.

### Red-headed Woodpecker

Four miles by boat along Little Walnut Creek, **Delaware**, produced 16 for Charles Bombaci on 25 May. Seventy-one counties had sightings.

### Red-bellied Woodpecker

James Shelton and Bill Stanley found 24 in CNC's Rowe Woods on 08 Mar. Every county except **Mercer**, **Putnam**, and **Van Wert** provided sightings.

### Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

The Jones Preserve hosted eight for Tom Bartlett *et al.* on 16 Apr. Reports came from 58 counties.

### Downy Woodpecker

Kelleys Island again provided the high count, 28 on 23 Mar (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). Charles Bombaci noted 24 in Hoover NP's Area N, **Delaware**, on both 19 and 21 Apr. Only **Noble**, **Putnam**, and **Van Wert** did not have a sighting.

### Hairy Woodpecker

Tracy Cambron found seven in CNC's Rowe Woods on 08 Mar. Seventy-six counties produced reports.

### Northern Flicker

Migrants hit the Lake Erie shore on 13 Apr.

That's when Jen Brumfield saw 50 at Edgewater and several observers saw the same number at Headlands. **Henry** and **Van Wert** alone did not have sightings.

#### **Pileated Woodpecker**

The high count of six was shared by Daisy Asmus in Dorset WA, **Ashtabula**, on 11 Apr; Omer Ben in Grant Park, **Montgomery**, on 23 May; and Lisa Pettit and Bruce Simpson in Lake Hope/Zaleski, also on 23 May. Seventy-six counties provided reports.

#### **Crested Caracara**

Terry Fout discovered the bird near the Kelleys Island glacial grooves on 21 May and almost literally didn't trust her eyes because Ohio is so far outside the National Geographic field guide range map. She photographed this first state record and wrote up her encounter for the OBRC. The bird didn't stay long on its perch and wasn't found again despite searching by several chasers.

#### **American Kestrel**

The Melvin Quarry pits, **Clinton**, hosted 12 on 09 Mar (Alexander Clark). Funk held eight on 22 Mar (Dick Hoopes and Kelly Kozlowski). All but six counties had sightings.

#### **Merlin**

Louis Hoying saw the season's last, at his **Aug-laize** home on 19 May. Mark Faust saw two in Cullen Park, **Lucas**, on 14 Mar, and Reuben Erb saw the only other duo in **Holmes** on 12 Apr. Thirty counties produced reports.

#### **Peregrine Falcon**

Jen Brumfield saw three on 16 May at CLNP; there's a nest on a nearby power plant. Sightings, in 25 counties, included many twos.

#### **Olive-sided Flycatcher**

Craig Moore saw the first, in his **Franklin** yard on 03 May. Magee hosted two on several May dates (m. obs.) as did Lake Hope/Zaleski on 23 May (Lisa Pettit and Bruce Simpson). Twenty-one counties provided reports.

#### **Eastern Wood-Pewee**

Andrew Core found one a bit early, at Caesar Creek on 23 Apr. One reported, but not confirmed, in OOPMP the same day would have been quite early for the latitude. On 30 Apr singles were definitely there (Brandon Brywczyński) and at Magee (m. obs.). The highest of four double-digit reports was 18 at Eldon Russell Park, **Geauga**, on 31 May (Kelly Kozlowski and Matt Valencic). Reports came from 78 counties.

#### **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**

Roger Redmond saw the first on 04 May; it got all the way to Magee before discovery. **Butler**

and **Franklin** had sightings the next day. The high count was 10, at the Jones Preserve on 13 May (Tom Bartlett *et al.*); Tom's crew banded three of them. Two locations each had three, the next highest count. Thirty counties produced reports.

#### **Acadian Flycatcher**

One said "Peet ZUPP!!" for Bill and René McGill in CNC Rowe Woods on 28 Apr. It took until 04 May for one to get far north; Tim Harvey saw it in Woodlawn Cemetery, **Lucas**. Collier SNP, **Seneca**, was hopping on 27 May when Victor Fazio III found 27 there – 18 were singing and the others calling. Sixty-six counties provided sightings.

#### **Alder Flycatcher**

One **Cuyahoga** and three **Lucas** sites each had one on 08 May, though indeterminate "Traill's" were seen earlier. Magee hosted 10 on 24 May (the Harlans). Thirty-seven counties provided reports.

#### **Willow Flycatcher**

Ronnie Clark saw the first, in Prairie Oaks MP, **Franklin**, on 02 May (but see "Traill's" Flycatcher below). Clyde Witt and Susan Jones saw Magee's first on 05 May. Sites in **Hamilton**, **Lake**, and **Wyandot** each held 25 during the last week of May. Reports came from 60 counties.

#### **Willow/Alder "Traill's" Flycatcher**

Several folks saw one at Camp Berry, **Hancock**, on 26 Apr. Heather and Jeremy Miller saw one on Riverside Drive in Dayton, **Montgomery**, on 01 May. Tom Bartlett *et al.* banded 14 and saw another 11 in Jones Preserve on 13 May.

#### **Least Flycatcher**

Steve Landes found one in Highbanks MP, **Franklin**, on 17 Apr. The first for the Lake Erie shore was Dan Gesualdo's at Willow Point on 19 Apr. The Jones Preserve had 20 on 13 May (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). Fifty-two counties produced sightings.

#### **Eastern Phoebe**

As usual there were winter sightings, but the first of this season wasn't until 07 Mar. Andrew Cannizzaro found one that day at Ellis Lake. The first seen in the far north was at French Creek Reservation, **Lorain**, on 09 Mar (BRAS). The high count was 12, at Magee on 23 Apr (Debbie Carr-Taylor), and there were two earlier reports from **Erie** of nine each. Only **Defiance**, **Henry**, **Putnam**, and **Van Wert** did not have sightings.

#### **Great Crested Flycatcher**

Holly Latteman found one in the Hogback Ridge Preserve, **Delaware**, on 17 Apr, about their ex-

pected arrival date. Two earlier reports were of heard-only birds. Kelly Kozlowski and Matt Valencic counted 12 during their 31 May sojourn in Eldon Russell Park, **Geauga**. Reports came from 78 counties.

### Eastern Kingbird

Jason Cade saw one at the Rahe access point on the Little Miami River, **Warren**, on 14 Apr. **Clermont** and **Greene** each had one sighting on 17 Apr. One reached Lake Erie at Conneaut on 21 Apr (Victor Fazio III). The high count was 40; Michael O'Brien and Louise Zemaitis noted them at Maumee Bay on 08 May, and Jeffrey Pontius found his in a restricted section of CPNWR on 13 May. Seventy-seven counties provided sightings.

### Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

Dan Gesualdo first saw this stunning bird, which spent from 10 to 14 Apr at the Sawmill Creek Resort adjacent to Sheldon's Marsh. Su Snyder and Craig Caldwell documented the bird for the OBRC, and many chasers posted photos on various internet venues.

### Northern Shrike

Several hung around until 30 Mar. They were seen near CVNP Headquarters (the Chasars), at Maumee Bay (Chris Byers), at Killdeer (Michael Crouse), and at Cleveland Hopkins Airport (Terri Martincic). John Pogacnik found the latest, though, in Lake Erie Bluffs on 09 Apr. **Coshocton**, **Crawford**, **Delaware**, **Geauga**, **Marion**, **Ottawa**, **Trumbull**, and **Wayne** also contributed reports.

### White-eyed Vireo

I don't recall ever having written a species account in which seven locations simultaneously provided the first sightings: On 13 Apr, single birds were found in Shawnee (Eric Burkholder); Brush Creek SF, **Adams** (Joshua Eastlake); Strouds Run SP, **Athens** (Sarah Burch and Jacob McCartney); Caesar Creek (m. obs.); Chesapeake, **Lawrence** (Philip Runyon); and Sheldon's Marsh (Dan Gesualdo). Robert Roysse found an amazing 13 throughout Vinton Furnace Experimental Forest, **Vinton**, that same day. Aden A. Yoder edged him for high count, though, with 19 at The Wilderness Center, **Stark**, on 08 May. Sixty-nine counties produced reports.

### Bell's Vireo

The first showed up on 06 May, at the Kilby Road gravel pits, **Hamilton** (David A. Brinkman). Two were seen there on later dates (m. obs.). The Heritage Trail, **Franklin**; Big Island, **Marion**; Mt. Hope, **Holmes**; and Deer Creek SP, **Pickaway** also had sightings.

### Yellow-throated Vireo

Jon Cefus and Kent Miller saw the first, on Duerber Avenue, **Stark**, on 12 Apr. Five sites hosted one or two on 18 Apr. Two miles of canoe travel on the Cuyahoga River in Eldon Russell Park, **Geauga**, yielded 14 for Kelly Kozlowski and Matt Valencic. Seventy counties produced sightings.

### Blue-headed Vireo

The first date was 12 Apr. That day, Gary Cowell found one near the Mohican SP lodge, Bill Stanley saw another at East Fork, and Jen Sauter saw two at her **Hocking** farm. The first in the far north, on 19 Apr, were one in the Brecksville Reservation, **Cuyahoga** (the Chasars) and three in OOPMP (Matt Anderson). Magee hosted 19 on 30 Apr (Victor Fazio III) and up to 16 on other dates. The most elsewhere was eight, at locations in **Cuyahoga** and **Montgomery**. Fifty-eight counties provided reports.

### Warbling Vireo

Diane and Mark Otten found one in Glenwood Gardens, **Hamilton**, on 12 Apr. One made it to West Woods, **Geauga**, by 16 Apr (Dick Hoopes and Kelly Kozlowski). The Magee crowd of birders found a crowd of Warbling Vireos (about 50) on 07 and 08 May. The most elsewhere was 35 at Pipe Creek (also m. obs.). Reports came from 78 counties.

### Philadelphia Vireo

Tyler Ficker saw the first, on 29 Apr at the AVO-CA trailhead, **Hamilton**. Dan Enders found the north coast's first at Magee on 03 May. Magee also hosted the most, five on 17 May (Cole DiFabio, Robert Scranton). Thirty-eight counties yielded sightings.

### Red-eyed Vireo

Sara Burch and Jacob McCartney noted the first, in Riddle SNP, **Athens**, on 24 Apr. Swan Creek Preserve MP, **Lucas**, hosted the far north's first on 30 Apr for Scott Myers and Sherry Plessner. About four miles of travel through Wayne NE, **Washington**, yielded 31 for Paul Drescher on 11 May. Eighty counties produced reports.



Vic Fazio III found this third Marion record Bell's Vireo a cooperative subject at Big Island on 31 May.

### **Blue Jay**

Jen Brumfield estimated that 1800 passed Magee during her five hours of intermittent skywatching on 08 May. John Pogacnik was able to count 255 passing Lake Erie Bluffs on 14 May. Only underbirded *Van Wert* did not provide a sighting.

### **American Crow**

Jon Cefus saw about 200 at Leesville Lake, *Carroll*, on 01 Mar. Several other counts were in the 100 to 150 range. All counties but *Putnam* and *Van Wert* had sightings.

### **Fish Crow**

The OBRC received a formal report from *Greene*. *Cuyahoga* and *Lake* produced internet reports.

### **Common Raven**

The OBRC has a formal report from *Jefferson*. Internet sites contained reports from *Ashland*, *Belmont*, *Knox*, and *Washington*.

### **Horned Lark**

Elliot Tramer wrote that he encountered more than 500 “on a 1/2-hr drive along snowy country roads in western Lucas Co, March 4”. There were two other double-digit reports: Rebecca Jordan saw about 130 in Ashley, *Delaware*, on 02 Mar and a trio of birders noted about 110 in a flooded field in *Hancock* on 30 Mar. Sixty-seven counties produced sightings.

### **Northern Rough-winged Swallow**

The first was a little early; Thomas Czubek saw it at Armler Park on 20 Mar. The first in the far north was at Shaker Lakes NC, *Cuyahoga*, on 05 Apr (Hans Clebsch). The Harlans estimated 400 were at Nimisila on 23 Apr despite the 39° temperature; such temperatures make it easier to observe swallows as they are forced to feed close to the water. The next highest count was 110 by Jen Brumfield at Wendy Park on 30 Apr. Reports came from 74 counties.

### **Purple Martin**

Brian Wulker saw two at the Camp Dennison gravel pits, *Hamilton*, on 15 Mar, about a week earlier than expected. It took until 31 Mar for one to reach near Lake Erie; Tom Kemp saw it in Grand Rapids, *Lucas*. Camp Dennison also had the high count, 65 on 16 Apr (Robert Foppe and Jennifer Smolenski). Seventy counties provided reports.

### **Tree Swallow**

Several Feb reports as far north as *Wayne* preceded this season. Inga Schmidt saw the first near the north coast in the Walter C. Best Wildlife Preserve, *Geauga*, on 14 Mar. Four locations provided estimates of about 500 birds between

23 Apr and 15 May. *Defiance* was the sole non-reporting county.

### **Bank Swallow**

Sue Tackett found the first at Spring Valley WA, *Warren*, on 04 Apr, another early date. Jen Brumfield found the north coast's first at Edgewater on 10 Apr, about when they usually cross the Ohio River. A colony at Lake Erie Bluffs hosted about 600 on 14 May (Jen Brumfield) and there were a couple of reports of about 200. Fifty-five counties produced sightings.

### **Barn Swallow**

The first was a little early at Pickerington Ponds on 22 Mar (m. obs.). It took more than another week for the first to make the north coast, when Dan Gesualdo saw it in Sherrod Park, *Erie*, on 01 Apr. The Findlay Reservoirs hosted about 350 on 17 May (Jeff Loughman and Shane Myers). Only *Defiance* didn't have a sighting.

### **Cliff Swallow**

Mark Gilsdorf saw two at Lost Bridge on 06 Apr, for a change a week or more later than the usual first sighting. The next were Matthew Shumar's three in the OSU wetlands, *Franklin*, on 11 Apr, and four reached the lake at Sheldon's Marsh on 13 Apr (Dan Gesualdo). West Branch SP, *Portage*, on 13 May (Aaron Bartley) and the Findlay Reservoirs on 17 May (Jeff Loughman and Shane Myers) shared the high number of 150. Two reports of 80 were the next highest. Forty-eight counties provided sightings.

### **Carolina Chickadee**

Charles Bombaci noted 40 in Hoover NP's Area N, *Delaware*, on 24 Apr. Fifty-nine counties produced reports.

### **Black-capped Chickadee**

Tom Bartlett *et al.* counted 41 on Kelleys Island on 23 Mar. Thirty-one counties yielded sightings.

### **Chickadee sp.**

Reporters in 16 counties did not assign their birds to a species. On 13 Apr Tom Bartlett noted one in *Seneca* (where Black-capped is expected) and wrote, “One adult bird observed and heard singing a typical CACH spring song. It is probably a hybrid but the song is CACH”.

### **Tufted Titmouse**

Six miles of the Ohio and Erie Canal towpath in *Tuscarawas* produced 45 for Matthew Galentine on 01 Mar. All counties except *Henry*, *Jackson*, *Putnam*, and *Van Wert* had sightings.

### **Red-breasted Nuthatch**

Michael Fulbright discovered six in OOPMP on 14 May; two other locations each held four. Reports came from 38 counties.

### White-breasted Nuthatch

Matthew Gallentine found 25 along six miles of the Ohio and Erie Canal towpath, *Tuscarawas*, on 01 Mar. Eighty-two counties provided reports; *Gallia*, *Henry*, *Noble*, *Pike*, *Putnam*, and *Van Wert* did not.

### Brown Creeper

Two observers shared the high count of 10, Nina de l'Etoile at Blacklick Woods MP, *Fairfield* on 10 Apr and Maria Zachary in CLNP on 19 Apr. Fifty-nine counties produced reports.

### Rock Wren

By now you probably know the story of this second state record – its discovery by young Jesse Hershberger at his home on County Road 77 near Millersburg, *Holmes*, on 28 Apr; its rediscovery across the street the next day, and visits by dozens of chasers until it was last seen on 06 May. Jesse, who sketched it, his father Michael, Craig Caldwell, Victor Fazio III, Karen and Rich Kasouf, Laura Keene, Su Snyder, and Bruce Stambaugh provided formal reports or photos for the OBRC, and of course many others posted their photos online.

### House Wren

The first showed up early at James Shelton's Withamsville, *Clermont*, home on 04 Apr. One got to *Lake* two days later; Cole DiFabio saw it in his yard. The 04 May ONWR census team counted 17 (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *fide* Douglas Vogus). Reports came from 75 counties.

### Winter Wren

Lee Adams and Kim Warner saw the last north-bound migrant, at Magee on 21 May. Reports from their several nesting locations continued into summer. Springville Marsh hosted six on 19 Apr (Tom Bartlett *et al.*) Forty-two counties yielded sightings.

### Sedge Wren

Paul Sherwood heard an early arrival, at Reshaver WA, *Erie*, on 02 May. David A. Brinkman tromped 75 acres of the Miami Whitewater Forest wetlands, *Hamilton*, on 03 May and found eight. No other count exceeded three. *Butler*, *Franklin*, *Holmes*, *Lake*, *Ottawa*, and *Tuscarawas* also contributed sightings.

### Marsh Wren

The season's first sightings came on 13 Apr, two birds in Hocking Hills SP (Susie Short), one in a *Geauga* unit of Holden Arboretum (Stan Plante), and one in Holden's main, *Lake*, unit (Cole DiFabio and Stan Plante). The high count was 23; Victor Fazio III noted them along the ONWR auto tour route on 12 May. Twenty-three counties provided reports.

### Carolina Wren

Ten miles of travel in Symmes Township, *Lawrence*, produced 20 for Doug Overacker on 21 Apr. J.W. Rettig found 11 on Bass Island in the Little Miami River, *Hamilton*, on 18 Mar. *Defiance*, *Fayette*, *Henry*, *Huron*, *Pike*, *Putnam*, *Van Wert*, and *Williams* did not have sightings.

### Bewick's Wren

The OBRC has only an internet report which might have enough information to evaluate.

### Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

The first two sightings, on 02 Apr, were widely separated, at Armleder Park (James Shelton) and Wintergarden Woods/St. John's NP, *Wood* (Michael Monarch). These were lagging; often gnatcatchers arrive during the last week of Mar. Mark Shieldcastle *et al.* counted 70 in ONWR Navarre on 18 Apr. The second highest count was 45 in CNC Rowe Woods on 26 Apr (Maddie Varias). *Defiance*, *Guernsey*, *Henry*, *Pike*, *Putnam*, and *Van Wert* came up short.

### Golden-crowned Kinglet

Several birders saw the last migrant, at Magee on 12 May. Reports continued after that in *Summit*, where they nest. Jeffrey Pontius found 40 in Lou Berliner Park, *Franklin*, on 07 Apr. Sixty-two counties produced reports.

### Ruby-crowned Kinglet

An Ohio Young Birders Club outing to East Fork discovered one on 08 Mar. (There was a trickle of reports all winter.) Tom Rooney saw the next, in Oakwood, *Montgomery*, on 24 Mar and sightings were frequent after that. Horseshoe Lake in Shaker Heights, *Cuyahoga*, was hopping on 04 May; Sameer Apte found 85 of these sprites then. Sixty-nine counties provided reports.

### Eastern Bluebird

Kim Warner found 25 on a private *Lucas* property on 13 Mar. Every county except *Defiance*, *Fayette*, *Henry*, *Mercer*, *Pike*, *Putnam*, and *Van Wert* had sightings.

### Veery

Ellis Lake hosted the first, on 17 Apr for Andrew Cannizzaro. Ben Hawes saw one the next day in CLNP. John Pogacnik's 22 at Lake Erie Bluffs on 14 May was the high count. Forty-eight counties produced sightings.

### Gray-cheeked Thrush

Joanie and Mark Hubinger saw the first, at Mautzee Bay on 28 Apr. Tom Bartlett's crew in the Jones Preserve encountered 20 on 13 May; the most not at a banding station was eight at Magee on 15 May (m. obs.). Victor Fazio III saw the last, at Springville Marsh on 28 May. Reports came from 38 counties.

### **Swainson's Thrush**

Melanie Shuter's Circleville, *Pickaway*, yard hosted the first on 14 Apr. One made it to the Caley Reservation, *Lorain*, by 19 Apr (BRAS). Greg Links found 31 in OOPMP on 15 May and there were two reports of 20. A few lingered into Jun. Sixty-five counties provided reports.

### **Hermit Thrush**

The two highest counts were from ONWR Navarre, 78 on 15 Apr and 68 on 18 Apr (Mark Shieldcastle). Of the former number he said they were "Easy to see with snow background." The most at a site away from Lake Erie was 12 at Springville Marsh on 26 Apr (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). Fifty-four counties produced sightings.

### **Wood Thrush**

The first was early, at Lake Loramie SP, *Shelby*, on 08 Apr (Louis Hoying). One Erie and two Cuyahoga sites shared the far north arrival date of 12 Apr. Aaron Miller found 18 in *Wayne* on 29 Apr and there were many counts up to that number. Seventy-seven counties produced reports.

### **American Robin**

Robins shared "all county" honors with Canada Geese, Turkey Vultures, and Red-winged Blackbirds. Mark Naier counted 368 in *Ross* near Deer Creek on 18 Mar. The remaining reports were of 300 or fewer.

### **Gray Catbird**

John Pogacnik saw 70 at his home in *Lake* on 08 May and found about 100 at Lake Erie Bluffs on 14 May. Cole DiFabio's 60 at Magee on 17 May was the next highest number. *Defiance, Henry, Jackson, Noble, Pike, Shelby*, and *Van Wert* did not have sightings.

### **Brown Thrasher**

Irina Shulgina wandered 15 miles in Killdeer and surroundings on 25 May; she found 10 thrashers. Reports came from 80 counties.

### **Northern Mockingbird**

Fernald hosted eight on 03 May (David and John Marvin). Seventy-three counties yielded sightings.

### **European Starling**

Sydney Penner estimated 5000 were at the Ohio 73/I-71 interchange in *Clinton* on 07 Mar. Dan and Lynn Gesualdo found about 4000 along County Highway 123, *Erie*, on 27 Mar. Only *Noble* and *Van Wert* did not provide sightings.

### **American Pipit**

Scattered sightings throughout winter preceded this season. Eric Schlabach saw the last, in a Colblentz Avenue field, *Stark*, on 26 May. Steven L.

Hochstetler found about 250 at McZena, *Ashland*, on 27 Apr. The next-highest count was 100 near Mt. Eaton, *Wayne*, on 17 Apr (Atlee A. Yoder). Forty-two counties produced reports.

### **Cedar Waxwing**

Armleder Park held the two highest counts, 115 on 15 May (William Hull) and 250 on 18 May (Joshua Eastlake). *Franklin, Portage, Summit*, and *Vinton* each provided a count of 100. Seventy-four counties produced sightings.

### **Lapland Longspur**

David and Tammy McQuaid found the last, one bird at the Stange/Krause Road corner, *Ottawa*, on 15 May. (That's about the expected latest date.) A trio of observers saw about 500 along Hill Road, *Mercer*, on 12 Apr and 1700 there on 19 Apr. The most elsewhere were 300 near Farmerstown, *Holmes*, on 06 Apr (Perry D. Hershsberger). Reports came from 28 counties.

### **Smith's Longspur**

Internet reports placed them in *Mercer*, but the OBRC did not receive any documentation.

### **Snow Bunting**

Jeff Loughman, Shane Myers, and Robert Sams saw five at the corner of County Road 330 and Ohio 568, *Hancock*, on 30 Mar; they were the last. Several birders estimated 200 to 250 near Middlefield, *Geauga*, between 07 and 14 Mar. Maumee Bay had about 110 on 10 Mar (Kenn Kaufman). Thirteen other counties as far south as *Delaware* also had sightings.

### **Ovenbird**

The first were seen on 13 Apr, right on time. There were two in Vinton Furnace Experimental Forest, *Vinton* (Robert Roysse), one at Shawnee (Eric Burkholder and Kirk Westendorf), and two all the way north at Sheldon's Marsh (Sandy Buckles). Craig Caldwell drove the nine miles of Pond Lick Road in Shawnee on 27 Apr and tallied 32. Paul Drescher found 22 on each of 02, 07 and 14 May in the Five Forks region of Wayne NE, *Lawrence*. Sixty-six counties produced reports.

### **Worm-eating Warbler**

John Kuenzli discovered the first, in Highbanks MP, *Delaware*, on 16 Apr; it stayed at least one more day. Bruce Simpson found eight in Lake Hope/Zaleski on 05 May. Thirty-two counties produced sightings.

### **Louisiana Waterthrush**

Susan Nash saw two in Dillon WA, *Muskingum*, on 21 Mar, but they didn't appear on the north coast until 11 Apr, when Kurt Grenig saw one in Big Creek Reservation, *Cuyahoga*. The

high count was seven. Tom Frankel saw his in Indian Point Park, **Lake**, on 18 May and the Ostermillers theirs near the Mohican SP covered bridge on 24 May. Fifty-five counties provided sightings.

#### Northern Waterthrush

One made it to Sheldon's Marsh on 14 Apr, early for the north coast (Kim Warner, Patricia McKelvey). The high count was 12, at Magee on 09 May (Eddie Kasper). Forty-eight counties produced reports.

#### Blue-winged Warbler

Kathi Hutton's Fairskies Farm, **Clermont**, had one on 12 Apr. Ellen Lathrop saw the first of the far north on 19 Apr in Frohring Meadows. Andy Sewell counted 12 along 25 miles of Shawnee roads on 26 Apr; Craig Caldwell found 11 in nine miles there the next day. Reports came from 59 counties.

#### Golden-winged Warbler

The first showed up at Blendon Woods on 29 Apr (Bruce Miller, Ben Warner). Two made it to **Lucas** on 03 May, one at Magee (the Hickses) and the other on Veler Road (Paul Rodewald). Triples were seen in the Ira Road area of CVNP on 07 May (Sandra Griffiths) and at Magee on 09, 10, 12, and 18 May (m. obs.). Twenty-four counties provided reports.

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

The five locations with sightings are: Magee from 30 Apr to 03 May (m. obs.) Grand Rapids, **Lucas**, on 01 May (Tom Kemp) Shawnee Lookout on 03 May (Rick Asamoto and John Habig) Wildwood MP, **Lucas**, on 07 May (Rick Nirschl) Lake Erie Bluffs on 13 May (John Pogacnik)

#### [Blue-winged x Golden-winged "Lawrence's" Warbler]

Shane Eggleston reported one at Caesar Creek on 02 May (*fide* Rick Asamoto) and Amanda Lawson another at Englewood MP, **Montgomery**, on the next day.

#### [Blue-winged x Golden-winged Warbler]

A few apparent hybrids can't be assigned to either of the named types. Kirk Westendorf saw one in Ault Park, **Hamilton**, on 30 Apr. Several observers reported one at Magee on 01 and 02 May; it was apparently different from the "Brewster's" present during that same period. Rick Asamoto and John Habig watched an apparent Blue-winged singing a Golden-winged song at Shawnee Lookout on 03 May. They specifically noted that it was in addition to the "Brewster's" which they also saw there.

#### Black-and-white Warbler

Andrew Cannizzaro saw the first, at Ellis Lake on 08 Apr. Clair Cogar and Mark Rozmarynowicz saw the first in the far north in Bend View MP, **Lucas**, on 13 Apr. The high count was Gautam Apte's 30 around Horseshoe Lake, **Cuyahoga**, on 03 May, and Aden A. Yoder found 23 at The Wilderness Center, **Stark**, on 06 May. Sixty counties produced reports.

#### Prothonotary Warbler

Burnett Woods, **Hamilton**, had the first, right on time on 06 Apr (Jack Stenger). Magee's first was on 14 Apr (Matthew Valencic). Four miles of boating Little Walnut Creek, **Delaware**, yielded 37 on 25 May for Charles Bombaci. Reports came from 40 counties.



*Fourteen-year-old Matthew Kappler photographed every sighting on his spring trip to Magee, with his favorite being this Prothonotary Warbler on 12 May.*

#### Swainson's Warbler

I forwarded an internet report from **Ottawa** to the OBRC.

#### Tennessee Warbler

Fifty-five counties had sightings. Michael Monarch saw the first two in Mary Jane Thurston Park, **Wood**, on 21 Apr. This is rather later than expected. Three locations had sightings on 26 Apr, the second date. Tom Bartlett *et al.* waved goodbye to the last, in the Jones Preserve on 28 May. An Earlham College class found 32 along five miles of roads in Miami Whitewater Forest, **Hamilton**, on 09 May. This would have been the high count but for Matt Anderson's efforts, for which he provided this report from **Lucas** on 18 May:

"When I opened the car windows to the cold 35° outside air along Irwin Road this morning, more than the unusual cold was apparent. There were Tennessee warblers singing. Lots of them. Between Old State Line and Angola Roads, I had at least ten. I decided to track them carefully. Their loud, ringing song is easy to detect, even from a slow-moving car. By the time I reached the north end of Irwin Road at Secor Metropark, I was plenty cold, but I also had already tallied 33

Tennessee warblers. At that point, I decided to change plans and make Tennessee warblers the focus of my few hours of available birding time. A swing through the park and then all the way south along Schwamberger Road, and my count was already north of 80.

“One thing is readily apparent – Tennessee warblers are very partial to oak trees when passing north through our area. And, of course, there are plenty of oak trees in the Oak Openings. So I covered lots of roads between Secor Metropark and Oak Openings Preserve Metropark where oaks are prevalent. By the time I had to call it quits at 10:30, my count stood at an amazing 229 Tennessee warblers! Probably greater than 95% were singing from oak trees or woods predominated by oaks. It was commonplace to have half a dozen or more within earshot. Where there were no oaks, there were no Tennessees.”

#### Orange-crowned Warbler

David Scali discovered the first, at Sheldon’s Marsh on 16 Apr. Paradoxically, Lisa Pettit and Bruce Simpson found the last well south at Lake Hope/Zaleski, on 23 May. Highbanks MP, *Delaware*, hosted five on 03 May for Keith Lott. Twenty-seven counties provided reports.

#### Nashville Warbler

Their first was another late-ish, far north, first sighting, in Side Cut MP, *Lucas*, on 17 Apr (Barry McEwen). The last but for a single Jun sighting came on 24 May, with two along the Grand River, *Ashtabula* (Sean Altman), one in his Lake yard (Cole DiFabio), and one at Oak Hill in CVNP (the Chasars). Jeff Bouton and David LaPalma counted 73 at Magee on 07 May. Sixty-five counties contributed reports.

#### Connecticut Warbler

Brad Goodner’s at the James H. Barrow Field Station, *Portage*, on 03 May was about a week early for the latitude, but three other northern locations hosted them on 07 and 08 May. The only multiple sighting was of two in Litzenberg Memorial Woods, *Hancock*, on 25 May (Robert Sams). One of them (probably) was still there on 28 May to share the last date (Jeff Loughman). Doug and Micki Dunakin had one on their *Paulding* spread that day and multiple observers enjoyed one at Magee on 27 and 28 May. Reports came from 15 counties.

#### Mourning Warbler

Kyle Brooks saw the first, on 01 May at The Ledges, an OSU property in *Athens*. The first in the far north were two at Magee (Rick Nirschl) and one at OOPMP (*vide* Dennis Johns) on 08 May. The high count was a fantastic 16,

all males, by Rick Nirschl at Magee on 21 May. John Pogacnik came in second with 12 in his *Lake* yard on 25 May. And I’m happy to see one or two! Twenty-six counties produced sightings.

#### Kentucky Warbler

Regina Schieltz found two in Tar Hollow SF, *Ross*, on 19 Apr. Richard Harris saw the north coast’s first at Meadowbrook Marsh, *Ottawa*, on 25 Apr. Lake Hope/Zaleski hosted six on 05 May (Bruce Simpson) and 23 May (Lisa Pettit and Bruce Simpson). Forty counties provided sightings.

#### Common Yellowthroat

Matthew Shumar’s at OSU Waterman Farm, *Franklin*, on 11 Apr was the first. Almost two weeks passed before Kathy Telfer saw the first of the far north on 23 Apr, along the CCE Trail. John Pogacnik found 60 at Lake Erie Bluffs on 14 May; Irina Shulgina tallied 45 at Killdeer on 25 May. Reports came from 78 counties.

#### Hooded Warbler

The Harlans saw the first, in Shawnee on 13 Apr. Dan Gesualdo saw the first near Lake Erie at Sheldon’s Marsh on 26 Apr. Steven L. Hochsteter’s day in Mohican on 10 May produced 40 of them. Andy Sewell *et al.* found 25 in Shawnee on 26 Apr. Fifty-nine counties provided reports.

#### American Redstart

Glen Helen Preserve, *Greene*, held the first on 18 Apr (Gabriel Amrhein). The first in the far north was at Maumee Bay on 28 Apr (Joanie and Mark Hubinger). Andy Jones and Dave Lewis estimated 50 at Magee on 12 and 19 May, respectively. Seventy-three counties provided sightings.

#### Kirtland’s Warbler

The OBRC has a report from *Van Wert*. Reports of sightings in *Erie*, *Lake*, and *Lucas* were posted but not formally documented. Though some posts did include photos, I want to repeat that they are not substitutes for formal reports.



An ONWR sponsored tour to CPNWR revealed a prized female Kirtland’s Warbler on 13 May, photographed by Rebecca Hinkle.

#### Cape May Warbler

The earliest date was 26 Apr. Rick Asamoto

found one in the Creekside Preserve, **Greene**, and John Kuenzli another at Blendon Woods. David Gesiki saw Magee's first on 29 Apr. Victor Fazio III saw the last, at Collier SNP, **Seneca**, on 27 May. Birders noted 20 to 30 at Magee on several dates; the most elsewhere were eight at Lake Hope/Zaleski on 23 May (Lisa Pettit and Bruce Simpson). Forty-five counties produced reports.

#### Cerulean Warbler

Robert Royle saw one in Shawnee on 17 Apr. The Ostermillers saw the first "almost far north" in River Styx Park, **Medina**, on 28 Apr. Magee hosted two on 30 Apr (Diane Boswell, Kim Warner). The high count was 18; Andy Sewell found that many in Shawnee on 26 Apr as did Aden A. Yoder at The Wilderness Center, **Stark**, on 08 May. Fifty-one counties produced sightings.

#### Northern Parula

Three sites shared the first arrivals on 11 Apr, rather later than usual. Matthew Erickson saw one in his **Delaware** yard, Joshua Eastlake's was in California Woods, **Hamilton**, and Linda Osterhage found two in Shawnee Lookout. Nancy Bogart saw one at Magee two days later, on 13 Apr. Hueston Woods SP, **Butler/Preble**, hosted 17 on 07 May (Sean Fitzgerald). Reports came from 63 counties.

#### Magnolia Warbler

Molly McDermott saw one in Columbus on 25 Apr and another made it to Maumee Bay the next day (Michael DeLong). A few lingered into Jun. The Jones Preserve hosted 50 on 13 May (Tom Bartlett *et al.*). Sixty-one counties provided reports.

#### Bay-breasted Warbler

The first was a bit early at Lake Hope/Zaleski on 24 Apr (Bruce Simpson). Magee's first was on 02 May (Adam Hoisington). Lynn and Nik Shayko saw the last, at CVNP's Station Road on 31 May. Several folks had seen one at Magee on 26 May. Magee also had the high count of 25 on both 09 May (Noah Brand) and 17 May (Cynthia Donaldson and Susan Mallozzi). Forty-seven counties yielded sightings.

#### Blackburnian Warbler

Bob Gold and Nancy Rudel discovered the first, at Blendon Woods on 25 Apr. **Franklin, Greene, Hancock, Scioto, Stark, and Warren** all had sightings the next day. The first by Lake Erie was at Metzger on 29 Apr (Joanie and Mark Hubinger). Louis Hoying saw the last, on 27 May at his **Auglaize** home. Erik Bruhnke counted 19 at Magee on 08 May. Fifty-seven counties had sightings.

#### Yellow Warbler

Alum Creek hosted the first, on 31 Mar, a good two weeks early for the middle of the state (Robert Batterson). Gary Cowell's find along Township Road 1037 in **Ashland** on 05 Apr continued the trend. Sandra Griffiths saw the first of the far north at Sandy Ridge on 18 Apr, only a week or so after they usually enter the state. John Pogacnik found 150 at Lake Erie Bluffs on 14 May. Only **Henry, Jackson, Pike, and Van Wert** did not produce reports.

#### Chestnut-sided Warbler

Bruce Simpson's trek to Lake Hope/Zaleski on 24 Apr again produced a species' first sighting. April 30 marked their arrival in **Lucas** at Magee (Julie Heitz) and Swan Creek MP (Scott Myers and Sherry Plessner). Dan Donaldson found 30 at Magee on 05 May; the most elsewhere was 20 at each of three sites. Fifty-eight counties provided sightings.

#### Blackpoll Warbler

Regina Schieltz *et al.* found an early arrival in Tar Hollow SP, **Hocking**, on 19 Apr. Donna Kuhn saw the next at Blendon Woods on 25 Apr and Magee's first was on 01 May (the Hubingers). Magee also provided the high count, 45 on 16 May (Greg Links). Joshua Eastlake found the highest non-Magee number, 25 at Magrish Riverlands Preserve, **Hamilton**, on 15 May. He wrote, "They were absolutely everywhere. Extremely responsive to pishing, as were most birds here today. Possibly due to cool, overcast weather? At one point, I had eight Blackpolls within 5' of me in a honeysuckle shrub." Reports came from 52 counties.



*This Blackpoll Warbler foraged low, allowing a sharp image by Victor Fazio III on 17 May at Magee.*

#### Black-throated Blue Warbler

Andrew Core opened the season with one at Buck Creek on 25 Apr. Tom Frankel saw the first in the far north at Veterans Park, **Lake**, on 29 Apr. These dates are slightly ahead of schedule. Dave Chase saw the last (but for a single Jun report) at Chagrin River Park, **Lake**, on 30 May.

Magee hosted 35 on 08 May (m. obs.); the most elsewhere were 20 at Camp Sabroske, **Ottawa**, on 09 May (Michigan State University Bird Club). Forty-six counties had sightings.

#### **Palm Warbler**

Jen Moore and Jason Parrish saw the first about two weeks early, on 31 Mar at OSU's Chadwick Lake, **Franklin**. It stayed until 02 Apr (m. obs.). The next didn't appear until 12 Apr, at Fernald (Joshua Eastlake). Laura Madden saw the first by Lake Erie at Cleveland's Wildwood Park on 13 Apr. Sightings came daily from then almost to the last, which Brandy and John Polo saw at Magee on 29 May. Kim Smith estimated 50 at Pipe Creek on 10 May and said, "For the whole three and a half hours I couldn't walk 50 feet without seeing another one. They were all over the woods, in the marsh, and in the shrubs along the edge of the ponds". Sixty-seven counties produced reports.

#### **Palm Warbler (Yellow)**

Three of this east coast variant were reported: On 22 Apr in Blacklick Woods MP, **Franklin** (Gene Stauffer)  
On 27 Apr in Shawnee (Paul Hurtado)  
On 07 May in the **Hancock** sanitary landfill (Robert Sams)

#### **Pine Warbler**

One which had frequented Leslie Warren's feeder in **Mahoning** for most of Jan and Feb remained into early Mar, making it the season's first. The high count was 12, by Dave Chase at Veterans Park, **Lake**, on 29 Apr. Fifty-two counties provided reports.

#### **Yellow-rumped Warbler**

The last but for one Jun report were seen on 30 May. Louis Hoying found two at his **Auglaize** home and Paul Hurtado another at OSU Waterman Farm, **Franklin**. Aaron Miller saw about 150 along Prairie Lane, **Wayne**, on 04 May, and Andrea Anderson estimated 200 at Pipe Creek on 10 May. Seventy-six counties provided sightings.

#### **Yellow-throated Warbler**

Jack Stenger found the earliest, in Burnett Woods, **Hamilton**, on 01 Apr. The first in the (fairly) far north was at Firestone MP, **Summit**, on 09 Apr (Pat Rydquist). Lake Vesuvius Recreation Area, **Lawrence**, hosted 15 on 19 Apr (Alex Eberts). Reports came from 64 counties.

#### **Prairie Warbler**

Jack Stenger saw the first, in Burnett Woods, **Hamilton**, on 06 Apr, which is about a week earlier than expected. Bruce Simpson found the next one at Lake Hope/Zaleski on 10 Apr. Scott

Pendleton and Charles Bombaci shared "top count" honors with 13. Scott's were along a mile of Abner Hollow Road, **Adams**, on 27 Apr and Charles' were in Blackhand Gorge SNP, **Licking**, on 06 May. Other double-digit counts came from **Adams** and **Vinton**. Thirty-eight counties had sightings.

#### **Black-throated Green Warbler**

Kaley Bartosik found one in Hills and Dales MP, **Montgomery**, on both 05 and 06 Apr. Tom Hissong saw the next, at Aullwood Audubon, **Montgomery**, on 11 Apr. Clair Cogar and Mark Rozmarynowycz saw the first in the far north in Bend View MP, **Lucas**, on 13 Apr. Magee hosted at least 50 on 03 May (Sue Tackett) and Shaker Lakes, **Cuyahoga**, had about 30 the next day (Sameer Apte). Sixty-seven counties produced reports.

#### **Canada Warbler**

One spent from 28 to 30 Apr at Burnett Woods, **Hamilton** (Jack Stenger), and another was in Kelly NP, **Clermont**, on 28 Apr (C. Emerson). One showed up at Magee on 30 Apr (m. obs.). The last migrant was also at Magee, on 29 May (John Polo), though a few stayed to breed in cool damp places. Tom Bartlett's team found 12 in the Jones Preserve on 13 May. Thirty-five counties provided reports.

#### **Wilson's Warbler**

Alex Everts noted the first, at an Ohio River overlook in **Lawrence** on 02 May. Anna and Eddie Hicks saw one at Magee the next day. The last of the season was at OSU Waterman Farm, **Franklin**, on 29 May (Irina Shulgina) though there was one Jun report. The high count was 25, at Magee on 18 May (Tom Bain) and 24 May (the Harlans). Forty-five counties produced sightings.

#### **Yellow-breasted Chat**

Wyatt Westerkamp found one in Kelly NP, **Clermont**, on 19 Apr. The Kassoufs and Victor Fazio III saw the first for the north coast, at Willow Point on 30 Apr. Bruce Simpson found 14 in Lake Hope/Zaleski on 18 May and 10 to 12 there on other dates. The most elsewhere was eight, a number shared by sites in **Gallia**, **Hamilton**, and **Muskingum**. Reports came from 56 counties.

#### **Spotted Towhee**

The one documented in **Holmes** during winter was reported until 09 Apr but not further documented.

#### **Eastern Towhee**

The high count of 30 was shared. Doug Overacker saw that many at Buck Creek on 18 Apr

and also in Symmes Township, *Lawrence*, on 21 Apr. Joshua Eastlake saw his in Withrow NP, *Hamilton*, on 31 Mar. Every county except *Auglaize*, *Defiance*, *Henry*, *Mercer*, *Putnam*, and *Van Wert* had sightings.

#### American Tree Sparrow

Corey Smith saw the last, a straggler at Station Road in CVNP on 20 May, and others were in nearby counties on the days preceding that sighting. Leslie Sours found about 150 at Darby Creek on 05 Mar as did Tom Bartlett *et al.* at Springville Marsh on 20 Mar. Sixty-nine counties contributed sightings.

#### Chipping Sparrow

Tom Kemp counted 68 in OOPMP on 09 May. Only *Gallia*, *Pike*, and *Van Wert* did not provide reports.

#### Clay-colored Sparrow

Dan and Lynn Gesualdo and Mary Warren saw the earliest, at Nickel Plate Beach, *Erie*, on 03 May. The last were seen on 09 May at Huffman Prairie, *Greene* (Sam Corbo) and Tom Kemp's feeder, *Wood* (Tom Kemp, Mark Rozmarnowycz). The only duo was in CLNP on 07 May (Laura Gooch). *Clermont*, *Franklin*, *Geauga*, *Holmes*, *Lake*, and *Lucas* also contributed reports.

#### Field Sparrow

Irina Shulgina found 45 during 20 miles of wandering Killdeer and adjoining areas on 20 Apr. Seventy-nine counties had sightings.

#### Vesper Sparrow

Leonard Hawley noted one at his *Franklin* home on 22 Mar. The next wasn't too far away in the *Franklin* section of Prairie Oaks MP on 26 Mar (Ronnie Clark). Several observers reported one in a Billings Road field, *Erie*, on 05 May, the first for the far north. Christopher Collins found eight along North Snyder Road, *Montgomery* on 02 Apr, and Scott Pendleton tied him at The Bowl on 03 May. Thirty-six counties produced reports.

#### Lark Sparrow

Jacob Roalef and Greg Sagasser discovered one at Oakes Quarry Park, *Greene*, on 19 Apr; up to three were seen there into Jun. Matt Anderson found them in two sections of OOPMP, also on 19 Apr. Not surprisingly, the high count of 12 came from OOPMP, their long-time nesting locale, on 28 May (Jared Hollick). Reports also came from *Lorain*, *Montgomery*, *Tuscarawas*, *Warren*, and *Wayne*.

#### Savannah Sparrow

Ed Pierce's ONWR census team counted 27 on

04 May (*vide* Douglas Vogus). Andy Jones and Michelle Leighty found 20 in CLNP on 08 May. Sixty-one counties provided reports.

#### Grasshopper Sparrow

Tyler Ficker saw the first two, in CNC Rowe Woods on 16 Apr. CLNP hosted the first near Lake Erie on 27 Apr (m. obs.). The two highest counts came from The Bowl, 15 on 04 May and 20 on 26 May (Gary Bush, Janice Emrick, and Scott Pendleton). Paul Drescher saw the most elsewhere, 12 in Crown City WA, *Gallia*, on 04 May. Forty-one counties produced sightings.

#### Henslow's Sparrow

Phil Swan saw the first, an early arrival at his property in *Perry* on 04 Apr. Almost a month passed before Anna and Eddie Hicks saw the first of the far north in ONWR on 03 May. The only double-digit counts were 11 in Tri-Valley WA, *Muskingum*, on 30 May (Cynthia Norris) and 13 in Harrison SF on 28 Apr (Scott Pendleton). Reports came from 28 counties.

#### Nelson's Sparrow

The four reports are:

One at Younger's Wetlands, *Hancock*, on 30 Apr (Robert Sams)

One along the Wake Robin Trail, *Lake*, on 14 May (Jim McConnor)

Two in the Erie Street Cemetery, *Cuyahoga*, on 22 May (Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr., *vide* Jen Brumfield)

One at Lake Erie Bluffs on 26 May (Edward Kamposek)



The Erie Street Cemetery, *Cuyahoga*, boasted a duo of Nelson's Sparrows, found and documented by Chuck Slusarczyk, Jr. on 22 May.

#### Fox Sparrow

One was seen at Magee on several dates between 09 and 21 May, the season's last sighting (m. obs.). ONWR Navarre hosted the high count of 26 on 09 Apr (Mark Shieldcastle *et al.*). Fifty-five counties produced reports.

### Song Sparrow

The high count was 114, on 31 Mar again at ONWR Navarre (Mark Shieldcastle). CLNP (m. obs.) and Springville Marsh (Tom Bartlett *et al.*) each held about 100 on 30 Mar. Only *Noble* did not provide a sighting.

### Lincoln's Sparrow

Robert Sams reported the earliest, in Oakwoods Preserve, *Hancock*, on 21 Mar, a very early date indeed. Did it overwinter unnoticed? Jeff Loughman saw it or another there on 11 Apr (still somewhat early) for the season's second sighting. Jeff Harvey's at Mill Creek on 29 May was the last but for a single 01 Jun sighting. Two locations shared the high count of 15. Andy Jones and Michelle Leighty saw theirs at CLNP on 08 May; Tom Bartlett *et al.* found them in the Jones Preserve on 13 May. Reports came from 42 counties.

### Swamp Sparrow

Not surprisingly, banding operations provided the two highest counts. Tom Bartlett's team found 45 at Springville Marsh on 26 Apr and Mark Shieldcastle's found 38 at ONWR Navarre on 18 Apr. Scott Pendleton saw the most by a single observer, 30 in the Tappan Drainage Area, *Harrison*, on 20 Apr. Fifty-five counties produced sightings.

### White-throated Sparrow

A trickle of sightings in May continued into Jun. Tim Haney noted about 250 in Woodlawn Cemetery, *Lucas*, on 25 Apr. The Ostermillers' 155 at Magee the same day was the second highest number. Seventy-six counties produced reports.

### Harris's Sparrow

The OBRC has a formal report from *Fairfield*. Reports from *Ottawa* and *Wayne* were posted elsewhere.

### White-crowned Sparrow

Cory Chiappone saw the last of the season, at Mentor Lagoons NP, *Lake*, on 27 May. (There was also a single 01 Jun report.) The high count came during the 04 May ONWR census, a whopping 101 (Ed Pierce *et al.*, *fide* Douglas Vogus). The second highest count was 50 by Paul Owens at Deer Creek on 03 Mar. Sixty-eight counties provided reports.

### Golden-crowned Sparrow

The long-lived individual who first appeared in *Hancock* early in 2009 returned for his fifth winter and remained into spring. As was the case last season, the OBRC has gleaned some posts from internet sources but none were directly submitted.

### Dark-eyed Junco

It's hard to separate migrants from potential nesting birds in the northeastern counties, but the latest sightings away from there were in mid-May. The high count was 80, in Woodlawn Cemetery, *Lucas*, on 04 Apr (m. obs.). Eighty counties produced reports; *Fayette*, *Henry*, *Jackson*, *Meigs*, *Pike*, *Preble*, *Putnam*, and *Van Wert* did not.

### Summer Tanager

Singles appeared in *Fairfield*, *Franklin*, *Hamilton*, *Ross*, and *Warren* on 26 Apr (m. obs.) Magee had its first on 30 Apr (m. obs.). The high count was seven, by the Earlham College group in Miami Whitewater Forest, *Hamilton*, on 09 May. An apparent pair near Beach City, *Tuscarawas*, on 10 May were a bit outside their usual breeding zone (Levi and Melvin Troyer). Forty counties had sightings.

### Scarlet Tanager

Craig Moore found one in Shawnee on 20 Apr; the Ostermillers also found one in a different part of the Forest the same day. Matt Anderson saw 30 in OOPMP and surrounding areas on 18 May. Magee hosted the second-highest number, 20, on both 16 and 17 May (m. obs.). Reports came from 75 counties.

### Northern Cardinal

CVNP hosted 55 and 54 during both the 07 Mar and 09 May Towpath censuses (Douglas Vogus). Robert Sams found 52 at Camp Berry, *Hancock*, on 10 May. Only *Van Wert* had no sightings, though *Henry* and *Pike* had but one apiece and *Noble* two.

### Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Tom Hissong noted one a bit early at Aullwood Audubon, *Montgomery*, on 13 Apr. The next were seen on 18 Apr in Hocking Hills SP (Susie Short) and a *Geauga* yard (Linda Gilbert). Bart Scott walked 2½ miles of trails at Blendon Woods on 07 May and came up with 25. Seventy-two counties provided reports.

### Blue Grosbeak

Edward Ingold saw the first, in Aeroland Park, *Hancock*, on 29 Apr, somewhat early for that far north. Brian Wulker found six at Fernald on 17 May. The most elsewhere was three, at Crown City WA, *Lawrence*, on 18 May (Paul Drescher) and Oakes Quarry Park, *Greene*, on 20 May (Eric Elvert *et al.*). Twenty counties hosted them.

### Indigo Bunting

The first sighting was all the way up in *Lucas*; it was by Kim Warner on a private parcel on 11 Apr. Magee hosted about 100 and Maumee

Bay about 75 on 08 May (m. obs.). The most elsewhere was Joshua Eastlake's 50 at Armleder Park on 18 May. Seventy-nine counties yielded sightings.

### Dickcissel

Pickerington Ponds had an early bird, a young male already singing on 27 Apr (Craig Caldwell). The next weren't seen until 06 May, one at Fernald (David A. Brinkman) and five in McCarthy Park, **Union** (Jerry Strosnider). Doug Overacker found 10 along Number 8 Hollow Road, **Perry**, on 29 May. Twenty-three counties provided sightings.

### Bobolink

Scott Pendleton saw the first, at The Bowl on 21 Apr. He also found the next, in the Chambers Wetlands, **Harrison**, on 27 Apr. Diane Boswell saw four in Secor MP, **Lucas**, that same day. The Bowl hosted 80 on 26 May (Gary Bush and Scott Pendleton). The second-highest count was Charles Bombaci's 48 along a mile and a half of County Road 50, **Hardin**, on 24 May. Forty-eight counties provided reports.

### Red-winged Blackbird

Jacob Roalef and Greg Sagasser estimated 10,000 at Spring Valley WA, **Greene**, on 28 Mar, and said, "Mostly females. ENORMOUS flocks coming in and perching for the night". Greg also saw about 5000 at Eastwood MP, **Montgomery** on 13 Mar. Every county produced at least one sighting.

### Eastern Meadowlark

A large group of birders counted 54, the season's high number, in the Great Miami WMB on 06 Apr. Reports came from 81 counties.

### Western Meadowlark

Paul Sherwood saw and heard one along Township Road 218, Sandusky, on 08 Apr; it was consorting with two Eastern Meadowlarks for comparison.

### Yellow-headed Blackbird

Dan and Lynn Gesualdo saw the first of the season along County Highway 123, **Erie**, on 27 Mar. Bob Lane reported three near Farmerstown, **Holmes**, on 01 May, and doubles came from five locations in **Lucas**, **Ottawa**, and **Sandusky**. **Franklin** and **Wayne** also had sightings.

### Rusty Blackbird

These are usually gone by mid-May, but Harris Brown and Frances Ventura found one at Magee on 19 May while Chae Lee noted three in the Kent State wetlands, **Portage**, the same day. The last however, was one which Donna Kuhn

and Lisa Phelps discovered along the ONWR walking trail on 24 May. The second-highest count was Mark Shieldcastle's 850 along the Magee west beach on 26 Mar; for the highest see the next paragraph. Fifty-seven counties produced reports.

Jonathan Frodge and Leslie Houser expanded on the 1500 which they found at Gilmore Ponds, **Butler**, on 06 Apr: "The largest flock of Rusty's I've ever encountered - this estimate was reached by measuring the area of the observed flock and applying the estimate of 2 birds for every 30-ftX30-ft block. This is likely a very conservative estimate. With scopes so we could see well into the flooded forest, we easily observed 300 individuals and had a few flocks numbering in the 70's fly over to the northeast that allowed a good count. Ratio of other species was 8% Red-winged BB, and 5% C. Grackle, with Am. Robin interspersed in good numbers as well. Birds were feeding low in flooded forest bordering some shallow open water areas and very vocal."

### Brewer's Blackbird

The reports are:

One to "a handful" in the vicinity of Maumee Bay between 16 and 23 Mar (m. obs.)

One in the **Ross** section of Deer Creek on 20 Mar (Mark Maier)

One at Gilmore Ponds, **Butler**, on 01 Apr (Andrew Cannizzaro)

One along Reader Road, Alliance, **Stark**, on 06 Apr (Ben Morrison)

One at Lake Erie Bluffs on 20 Apr (Cole DiFabio)

### Common Grackle

Mark Shieldcastle estimated 4200 were along the Magee west beach on 11 Mar. Two locations shared the next highest count, 2000: Metzger on 01 Apr (Victor Fazio III) and the Miami White-water Forest wetlands, **Hamilton**, on 09 May (m. obs.). Only **Carroll** didn't have a sighting.



Bob Lane had a rare opportunity for a close up of this Yellow-headed Blackbird on 30 April in **Holmes**.

### **Brown-headed Cowbird**

Dan and Lynn Gesualdo found about 800 along County Highway 123, **Erie**, on 27 Mar. Other flocks ranged up to 600 birds. All counties except **Pike** and **Van Wert** produced reports.

### **Blackbird sp.**

The Deerfield Avenue area of **Stark** had huge mixed flocks in late winter which remained into spring. Buster Banish and Mark Shaver estimated that 15,000 were there on 02 Mar.

### **Orchard Oriole**

Jason Parrish's feeder in **Franklin** hosted the first, on 19 Apr. It took a while for them to push further north. Jeff Loughman and Robert Sams found one in Oakwoods MP, **Hancock**, on 25 Apr and Diane Boswell saw two in Secor MP, **Lucas**, on 27 Apr. A single feeder in **Lake** hosted 14 on 08 May (John Pogacnik). Fernald produced the next highest count of 12 on 04 May (Andrew Cannizzaro) and Magee held 10 on both 12 and 18 May (m. obs.). Sixty-four counties provided sightings.

### **Baltimore Oriole**

The first were a bit early on 12 Apr. Billy Kozuh saw one in his **Butler** yard and Thomas Watkins another in Highbanks MP, **Franklin**. Two weeks later, one visited Lois Harder's hummingbird feeder in **Ottawa** and another showed up at Magee (Wes Hatch). John Pogacnik counted 126 passing his home in **Lake** in two hours on 08 May. Tom Bartlett said that the 74 he found during his monthly Kelleys Island survey on 15 May represented "normal spring numbers". Magee on 05 May (Dan Donaldson) and Maumee Bay on 08 May (Michael O'Brien and Louise Zemaitis) each hosted 50. Eighty-two counties provided reports; **Guernsey**, **Jackson**, **Mercer**, **Morgan**, **Pike**, and **Van Wert** did not.

### **House Finch**

Amanda Wolski counted 34 in Scioto Audubon MP, **Franklin**, on 23 Mar. Reports came from 75 counties.

### **Purple Finch**

Ten visited Lisa May's feeders in Loveland, **Hamilton**, on 29 Apr. Forty-three counties produced sightings.

### **Pine Siskin**

The high number was six, at John Pogacnik's feeders in **Lake** on 08 May. The last few were at a **Medina** feeder (Debbie Harbaugh) and in Toussaint WA, **Ottawa** (Ethan Kistler), both on 22 May. **Coshocton**, **Cuyahoga**, **Delaware**, **Erie**, **Franklin**, **Lawrence**, **Lucas**, **Summit**, and **Union** also produced reports.

### **American Goldfinch**

John Pogacnik estimated 4500 moved through his yard in **Lake** on 08 May; at one point his feeders hosted more than 100. Paul Rodewald saw about 150 in the fields along Veler Road, **Lucas**, on 03 May. Only **Guernsey**, **Pike**, and **Van Wert** did not have sightings.

### **House Sparrow**

A group of birders counted 160 on Merwin Avenue, Cleveland, on 30 Mar. Jessica McQuigg estimated 150 at the Toledo Zoo on 25 May. **Meigs**, **Noble**, and **Pike** did not provide reports.

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