

THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR

SINCE 1905

VOLUME 101 NUMBER 2



Inside this issue...

Whooping Cranes in Northeast Ohio!

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MARCH, APRIL & MAY 2005

The Cleveland Bird Calendar



Spring 2005
Volume 101
Number 2

Editor: **Kevin Metcalf**

Editorial Consultants: **Fred Dinkelbach**
Ray Hannikman
Larry Rosche

Copy Editor: **Clyde E. Witt**

Technical Data Editors: **Linda Gilbert**
Julie West

Design Director: **Susan Jones**

KBC Webmaster: **Delores Cole**

Contributors: **Dwight Chasar**
Ray Hannikman

The Cleveland Bird Calendar was founded in 1905 by Francis H. Herrick of the Western Reserve University. It is published quarterly by the Kirtland Bird Club and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

The purpose of the Calendar is:

- To provide information on the movement of birds through the Cleveland region;
- To monitor population densities of resident birds;
- To help determine patterns of vagrancy for rarely encountered species.

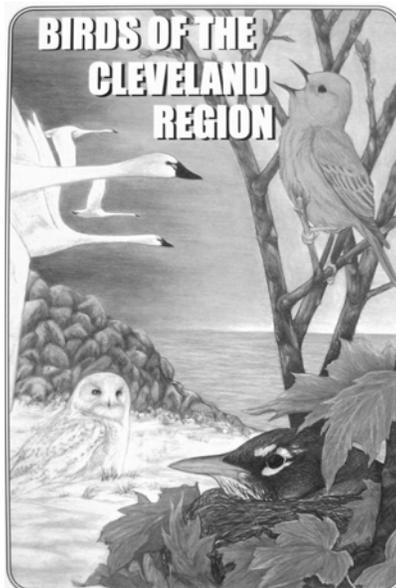
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Front cover photo: *Buckeye, the nesting Peregrine Falcon of Tower City, Cleveland. Photographed May 4, 2005 by Scott Wright.*



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e-mail: skermetcalf@earthlink.net.

We welcome your participation. All reports are archived at The Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

Due dates for seasonal field reports are as follows:

Winter Season	March 10
Spring Season	June 10
Summer Season	September 10
Autumn Season	December 10

Seasonal report forms are available at:

www.kirtlandbirdclub.org/cbc/cbc.htm

Rare Bird Hotline: 216-556-0700 Sponsored by the Kirtland Bird Club, this number may be called to learn of and to report recent bird sightings. In cases of extreme rarities, please alert the editors or the Web site as soon as possible.

THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR

SERVING THE REGION SINCE 1905

SPRING

MARCH, APRIL & MAY, 2005

VOLUME 101 NUMBER 2

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You and Your Friends are Invited...

The Kirtland Bird Club welcomes you to its monthly meetings—the first Wednesday of each month, except July and August—at 7:30 PM at The Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Or, join a field trip to one of the local birding hot spots. See the Web site for the up-coming meeting programs and trips, www.kirtlandbirdclub.org.

Spring, 2005

Overview of the Season

by *Kevin Metcalf*



Kevin Metcalf, Editor

Winter held on far too long this year, with the months of March and April pushing the official Cleveland “winter” seasonal snowfall to a record 117.9 inches. Between long bouts of cold, wet weather, the winds would shift for a relatively short time out of the south and finally bring spring arrivals. Northerly winds would then return and stick around like an unwanted house guest.

One of the indelible memories for me this spring was watching rough-winged swallows, fluttering over the water at Sandy Ridge Reservation, as a cold rain changed over to sleet and snow with an approaching storm. These desperate birds had their feathers fluffed out so much they looked like brown racket balls with wings rather than sleek aerial foragers. I can only imagine their fate. It was a poignant reminder that this phenomenon that we call migration is a serious business, with uncertain outcomes for the bird that tries to push north before mother nature is ready.

March held some promise of spring when we hit 58° on the 7th. Of course, in Northeast Ohio we know better than to trust March. Wintry temperatures returned and hung on until the 15th. After this, a warming trend brought us back into the 50s. on the 19th. On this date our peak numbers of several “dabbling” ducks were detected, including gadwall,

green-winged teal, northern shoveler and northern pintail. American woodcocks, Bonaparte’s gulls, rusty blackbirds and eastern meadowlarks also arrived as this time. Good overall diversity of waterfowl put down in area lakes during a period of northerly winds from 21 – 29 March. Lake Medina, for example, held 15 species of waterfowl on the 25th.

March ended like spring was truly on its way, with temperatures around 70° F on the 30th and 31st. This warm weather brought a flood of turkey vultures, with lesser numbers of song sparrows, American crows, dark-eyed juncos, American tree sparrows, eastern phoebes and northern flickers to lakefront migrant traps.

Fickle April gave us fits. The 2nd of April brought more than half a foot of snow to Cleveland and twice that to higher elevations east and southeast of the city. The snow was short-lived, as a warming trend brought area temperatures back into the 70s by the 5th. This warm weather brought a good push of early spring migrants, with the 6th providing first arrival dates of Forster’s tern, pine and yellow-rumped warblers, vesper and white-crowned sparrows, and good numbers of chipping sparrows.

The next southerly winds came on the 16th and 19th of April, bringing with them American golden-plovers, green herons, house wrens, blue-headed vireos, an early brown thrasher and hooded warbler, yellow warblers, black-throated green warblers, more pine and palm warblers, and swamp sparrows.

Just as our first early neotropical migrants were coming into the region, Cleveland received what many considered the worst snowstorm of the “winter” from April 23 – 25. On the 24th tempera-

tures hovered around 32° F, varying by a couple of degrees depending on elevation and proximity to Lake Erie. Some areas got only rain, while Cleveland received about a foot of snow. High elevation areas on the Western Alleghany Plateau received about twice that amount. This cold, wet weather might have had a serious, even deadly impact on early-arriving insect eaters. Luckily the snow was short lived, the temperatures were not extreme, and these birds are often a lot tougher than we give them credit for.

The magical month of May brought more arriving birds, with a major push beginning on the 5th and climaxing on the 9th, 10th, and 14th. New spring arrivals at this time included common moorhen, most of the flycatchers, vireos, *Catharus* thrushes, scarlet tanagers, orchard orioles, and many of the warblers, including chestnut-sided, magnolia, Cape May, black-throated blue, blackburnian, bay-breasted, American redstart, ovenbird, common

yellowthroat and Wilson's warbler. We had our only reports of golden-winged warbler and worm-eating warbler during this time as well.

A total of 238 species were reported from the region from March through May, including 35 species of wood-warblers. This spring had a few rarities as well, including black rail and "common" green-winged teal. This is a testimony to the great birding that we have here along the "North Coast", and to the active and knowledgeable field observers that are out there scouring the forests, fields and lakeshore. Thanks once again for your reports. ♪ ♪

See you in the field

*Kevin,
Editor*

Weather Report

by Dwight Chasar

March: The temperature averaged 32.5°, 5.0° below normal. The highest temperature was 71° on the 30th and lowest 7° on the 3rd. Lake Erie waters rose from 34° to 36° during the month. Sunshine prevailed only 8 percent of the time possible. Precipitation totaled 1.66 inches, 1.28 inches below normal. The greatest fall for a 24-hr period was .4 inches on the 1st. Snowfall totaled 19.8 inches with the greatest 24-hour amount being 5.8 inches on the 1st. The greatest snow depth was 7 inches on the 3rd.

April: The temperature averaged 48.7°, 1.1° above normal. The highest temperature was 81° on the 19th and the lowest 32° on the 24th. Sunshine occurred a meager 6 percent of the time possible. Precipitation over 15 days totaled 5.57 inches, 2.20 inches above normal. The greatest fall for a 24-hour period was 1.68 inches on the 23-24th. Snow totaled 19.0 inches for the month, with the greatest depth of 8 inches on the 25th. This additional snow easily made this the snowiest winter on record. Lake Erie water temperature moved up to 46° by the end of the month.

May: The temperature averaged 55.2°, 3.3° below normal. The highest temperature was 80° on the 9th and the lowest 35° on the 5th. The lake temperature rose to 55° by the 31st. Over 15 days, rain totaled 1.43 inches, 2.07 inches below normal. The greatest fall for a 24-hour period was .81 inches on the 13-14th. Sunshine was detectable only 6 percent of the time.

Seasonal Report

Underline denotes unexpected species in the region

HBSNP — Headlands Beach State Nature Preserve

MMSNP — Mentor Marsh State Nature Preserve

CVNP — Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Greater White-fronted Goose—one at Fairport Harbor 3 April (EB).

Snow Goose—EB found one at Fairport Harbor 19 March.

Canada Goose—daily counts of 30–100 were typical; one sporting green collar 3PC7 was at Summit Lake 21 March (GBe); a possible candidate for the “Lesser” form was photographed at E. 55th. St., Cleveland in mid-March (VF); individuals with orange and white collars of the “Interior” form were noted at North Chagrin Reservation of Cleveland Metroparks through at least 11 March (KM).

Mute Swan—five at Summit Lake 6 March (GBe); 12 at Mogadore Reservoir 23 March (LR); 27 Portage Lakes State Park 7 May (RSH); a pair was nesting in a southern Medina Co. wetland 3 April (RSH); one showed up at Sandy Ridge Reservation, Lorain Co. 21 May (CC); two–five found at Veteran’s Park, Lake Co. throughout period (m.obs.).

Tundra Swan—11 at Ira Rd. Marsh, CVNP 13 March (KOn); 35 at West Branch State Park 13

March (GBe); 40 headed northwest over Thompson Twp., Geauga Co. 15 March (PM); two lingered at Veteran’s Park 18 March (NA, AJF) and four were at Wellington Reservoir the same day (BAT).

Wood Duck—following two late Feb. reports, a few observers noted their first wood ducks on 13 March, such as in the CVNP (KOn) and Findley State Park (CPi); common by 19–21 March with many reports in double figures; high count 32 at North Chagrin Reservation 1 April (KM); young were noted at the later location by 15 May.

Gadwall—first detected in the Mentor area 3 March (RH); daily maximum 12 at Nimisila Reservoir 19 Mar. (GBe); <10 reported from scattered sites through 21 April.

American Wigeon—first report of a pair 5 March in Northfield (DAC); max. 40 at Veteran’s Park 24–25 March (NA, RH); 36 at Mogadore Reservoir 19 March (LR); 50 at Sandy Ridge Reservation 19 March (TM); two remained at Veteran’s Park 29 April (NA) and one at Summit Lake 30 April (GBe); last reported 1 May (RH).

American Black Duck—max. 12 along the Cuyahoga River at Station Road, CVNP 6 March, with four remaining there 30 March. (DAC); the Chasars also reported nine from Tinkers Creek State Nature Preserve 19 March; North Chagrin Reservation had a high of four during the period that ap-

peared to be “more-or-less pure” black duck (KM); reports of two–three from other scattered sites through early April (TMR, m.obs.).

Mallard—maximum count 200+ at Mogadore Reservoir 4 March (GBe); 157 at North Chagrin Reservation 6 March (KM); counts of 20–50 per day were typical.

Blue-winged Teal—first found at Sandy Ridge Reservation 12 March (TF); 10 at Veteran’s Park 25 Mar. (NA); six at Mogadore Reservoir 30 April and 1 May (GBe).

Northern Shoveler—six at Summit Lake 6 March (GBe); five at Sandy Ridge Reservation 19 March (TM); four at Wellington Reservoir 9 April (KO); singles reported from HBSNP-MMSNP 23 March and 7 April (RH); seen through 16 April, Sandy Ridge Reservation (CC).

Northern Pintail—12 at Wellington Reservoir 13 March (CPi); 25 at Sandy Ridge 19 March (TM); six at Fairport Harbor 26 March (RH); last noted 22 April (RH).

Green-winged Teal—one male was a holdover from late Feb. at Merwin Street, Cleveland in early March (PL); 19 March provided the three high counts with 16 at Mogadore Reservoir (LR); 15 at Sandy Ridge (TM) and 12 at Tinkers Creek State Nature Preserve (DAC); 11 were at HBSNP-MMSNP 6 April (RH); seen through 1 May at Sandy Ridge Reservation (CC).

Green-winged Teal—a male of the subspecies *Anas crecca crecca* or “Common Teal” was photographed in Portage Co. on 5 April (LR). This Eurasian subspecies has been given full species status by European ornithologists, split from the North American *A. c. carolinensis*.

Canvasback—first report was of 42 at Wellington Reservoir 6 Mar. (SSn); 42 Nimisila Reservoir 19 March (GBe); 250 at Wellington Reservoir 18 March (BAT); six at Lakeshore Metropark 31 March (JP); last reported from Summit Lake on 9 April (GBe).

Redhead—two arrived Fairport Harbor 5 March (RH); 220 at Wellington Reservoir 6 March (SSn); 185 Nimisila Reservoir 19 March (GBe); max. 1000+ at Wellington Reservoir 18 March (BAT).

Ring-necked Duck—three arrived HBSNP-MMSNP 5 March (RH), 500 at Nimisila Reservoir 19 Mar. (GBe); 1200 at Mogadore Reser-

voir 23 March and 300 at Wingfoot Lake the same day (LR). High count for the Mentor area was 240 on 24 March (RH) where seven remained to 6 April; one at Sandy Ridge at least through 1 May (CC).

Greater Scaup—Three reported from Summit Lake 21 March (GBe); eight at Fairport Harbor 21 March (KM); max. 40 at Fairport Harbor 24 March with two remaining 10 April (RH); a very late female was at Whiskey Island, Cuyahoga Co. 27 April (LR).

Lesser Scaup—first reported 5 March; 110 at Fairport Harbor 24 March (RH); high count 250 at Wellington Reservoir 10 April (KO); 12 remained at Mogadore Reservoir 30 April (GBe) and two at Fairport Harbor 2 May (RH).

Surf Scoter—two arrived at a partially ice-covered Lake Medina 19 March (JW); one at Fairport Harbor 23–24 March (RH); three at Rocky River Park, Cuyahoga Co.

25 Mar. (PL); one on Lake Isaac, Big Creek Reservation of Cleveland Metroparks 27 March (NH); another the same day at Oberlin Reservoir (CPi); a late pair were at Nimisila Reservoir 7 May (RSH).

White-winged Scoter—one male at Oberlin Reservoir 27 March (CPi).

Black Scoter—a female at Wellington Reservoir 27 Mar. (CPi); another at Nimisila Reservoir 7 May was apparently a first for Summit Co. (RSH).

Long-tailed Duck—one drake reported from Wellington Reservoir 24 March and 9 April (CC, KO); one also along the Cleveland Lakefront in early April (SZ).

Bufflehead—12 on Summit Lake 6 March (GBe); 29 at Long Lake 19 March (GBe); 16 at Mogadore Reservoir 23 March (LR); 40–50 found in the Fairport Harbor area 23–31 March (RH); 25 at Spring-

Headlands Beach State Nature Preserve

by Ray Hannikman

Despite the persistent north/northeast winds of April and May, spring migration filtered through the Headlands Beach State Nature Preserve/Mentor Marsh State Nature Preserve area and satisfied those who diligently and faithfully sought the birds of the season.

Emil Bacik, Jerry Talkington, Nick Barber, with help from Suzanne Wagner and myself, recorded a total of 132 species on May 14, an all-time best one-day count for the area. Twenty-seven species of warblers highlighted this memorable day. Consistently good species counts with a steady stream of migrants kept the period from May 19–23 hopping with bird activity. The last three days of May brought both species of cuckoos to the area as well as very audible alder flycatchers and on May 29th, 17 species of warblers.

For those who stared at an ice-covered lake for most of March and who kept hoping for those northeast winds of April to go away, the colorful passage of spring migration was their reward in May.

field Lake, Summit Co. 26 March (GBe); 16 at Wellington Reservoir 9 April (KO); eight Fairport Harbor 17 April (RH); five at North Perry, Lake Co. 5 May (JP).

Common Goldeneye—16 at Fairport Harbor 31 March (RH); 14 at Lakeshore Metropark 9 April (JP); last reported 11 April (RH); just outside the reporting region were 550 at Mosquito Reservoir, Trumbull Co. on 20 March (DH).

Hooded Merganser—first reported 7 March (RH); common by 18–23 March with 26 at Findley Lake State Park (BAT); 30 at Mogadore Reservoir, 30 at Wingfoot Lake (LR), 30 at HBSNP-MMSNP (RH), 34 at Shaker Lakes (LD) and 53 at Nimisila Reservoir (GBe); 50–60 could be found in the Mentor area 26–31 March (RH); numbers declined rapidly thereafter, with migrants generally departing by early-mid April; females with young reported in CVNP 8 May (DAC).

Common Merganser—2 at Nimisila Reservoir 19 March (GBe); seven at Fairport Harbor 23 March (RH); seen at Lakeshore Metropark 9 April (JP) and along Cuyahoga River at N. end of Lake Rockwell into mid April (LR); last date noted was 23 April at Station Road, CVNP (DAC).

Red-breasted Merganser—max. 1,145 counted at Lakeshore Metropark 9 April (JP), with numbers declining by late April; 800 at HBSNP 26 March (RH); 50 at Nimisila Reservoir 23 April (GBe); 331 still moving past Lakeshore Metropark 5 May (JP); one at Shaker Lakes 4 May was unex-

pected (LGo); six remained at Lakeshore Metropark 22 May (JP).

Ruddy Duck—first reported 24 March (RH); max. 125 counted at Wellington Reservoir 9 April (KO); nine remained at Mogadore Reservoir 30 April (GBe); last report 5 May HBSNP-MMSNP (RH).

Wild Turkey—four reported from Brecksville Reservation of Cleveland Metroparks and CVNP (DAC); also seen at Ravenna Arsenal, Portage Co. (BAT) and in Geauga Co. (KM).

Red-throated Loon—unusual in spring, one very late immature was reported from Lakeshore Metropark 21 May (JP).

Common Loon—first report of the season from Long Lake on 19 Mar. (GBe); one at HBSNP 31 Mar. (JMc); area max. reported only 25 at HBSNP on 21 April (RH); a few could be found on inland lakes into early May; two seen through 19 May at Fairport Harbor (RH) and five at Lakeshore Metropark 21 May (JP).

Pied-billed Grebe—one returned to Northfield 24 March (DAC); two on 30 March in Fairport Harbor (RH); three at North Chagrin Reservation 3 April (KM); max. 14 in the HBSNP-MMSNP area 6 April (RH); 10 at Wellington Reservoir 9 April (KO); a few remaining into late May, such as one at Summit Lake 23 May (GBe).

Horned Grebe—first reports of one at Summit Lake (GBe) and three at Wellington Reservoir (SSn) on 6 March; 50+ at Wellington Reser-

voir 18 March (BAT); seven at Long Lake 19 March (GBe); last reported 9 April at Fairport Harbor and Wellington (RH, KO).

Eared Grebe—one in breeding plumage at Fairport Harbor 9–11 April (EB, RH).

Double Crested Cormorant—four at Fairport Harbor 27 March (RH); 500 on 3 April and 1500 10 April near the mouth of the Cuyahoga River (PL); 500 in Fairport Harbor 26 April (RH).

American Bittern—one at Mentor Lagoons, Lake Co. in mid April (JT); one at a wetland at Puritas Road and W. 14th St. on 4 May (LR); one at The Rookery, Geauga Park District 7–9 May (LG, m.obs., photographed); one also photographed at a Highland Heights residence on 15 May.

Least Bittern—no reports.

Great Blue Heron—up to 12 in MMSNP 6 and 17 April (RH); the heronry N. of Station Road, Brecksville Reservation had about 150 nests, most of which were active by 15 April; many nests had young by 8 May (DAC).

Great Egret—four provided the first sightings of the season at HBSNP-MMSNP 6 April (RH). This location provided sightings of one–two through 26 April; singles reported in April from Lakeshore Metropark (JP), and Summit Lake (GBe); one in CVNP 1 May (DAC); 21 provided the high count at Sandy Ridge Reservation 27 May (CC, m.obs.).



Photo by Dwight Chasar

Little Blue Heron
Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Little Blue Heron—always a nice find in our region, a single bird (above) was photographed 4 May in the CVNP near Riverview Rd. at the Sanitation Ponds (DC); another was present 11–14 May at Sandy Ridge Reservation (LD, CC).

Cattle Egret—one was photographed (HN) at a Twinsburg dairy farm, present 9–10 May. Specifically the bird was at the NW corner of Route 91 (Darrow Road) and Glenwood Drive next to “Corbett’s Pond”. This dairy farm is surrounded by new housing developments.

Green Heron—two were early at Station Road, CVNP, 16 April (FL) and two at Wilbeth Road in Akron 19 April (GBe); one arrived in Kirtland 1 May (CK); a daily maximum of four were noted at several locations.

Black-crowned Night-Heron—22, including 16 adults, were at Merwin Street 4 March (PL); numbers there increased to 131 on 3 April (PL); Charles Klaus had one at his Kirtland address for a yard first; one adult at Firestone Metropark

19 April (RSH); reported on several dates 6 April–4 May HBSNP-MMSNP (RH); last report from Shaker Lakes 11 May (LD).

Black Vulture—one flew overhead at Shipman Pond (RH), Headlands Beach State Park 26 April.

Turkey Vulture—a large movement was noted along the lakeshore 30 March with approximately 1,200 at Mentor Lagoons (RH, JT, SW) and 1,057 counted from Lakeshore Metropark (JP).

Osprey—a pair were at a nesting platform 22 March at Nimisila Reservoir (BSp). Four birds were seen at this location 8 April (RSH); these very early returnees tend to be local breeders that are part of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources reintroduction program; an osprey attended a newly erected platform at Headwaters Park, Geauga Park District 15 April (TG); one–two consistently reported from HBSNP-MMSNP 16 April–13 May (RH, m.obs.); many other scattered reports of one–two birds peaking in mid Apr.

Bald Eagle—maximum seven at Lake Rockwell 16 April (LR); many other scattered reports of one–three birds of various ages, such as in the CVNP, Tinkers Creek State Nature Preserve, the Chagrin River Valley, and Sandy Ridge Reservation.

Northern Harrier—two over Kirtland 9 March (CK) provided an unusual local report; a few singles noted from scattered locations.

Sharp-shinned Hawk—daily max. four at Lakeshore Metropark 31 March (JP); three migrants

HBSNP-MMSNP area 30 March (RH) where the species was reported with some consistency 26 March–14 May (RH).

Cooper’s Hawk—daily maximum seven from HBSNP-MMSNP area 30 March (RH); five at Lakeshore Metropark on the same day (JP); typically encountered in ones and twos in the region.

Northern Goshawk—one adult was reported being chased by a Cooper’s hawk at Mentor Lagoons on 12 April; field marks noted were the white supercilium, gray barring on the breast and “two-toned gray” upper-wings (JMc).

Red-shouldered Hawk—noted feeding in a dumpster in South Euclid 3 March (LC); local nesting underway by late March (DV); 17 migrants counted at Lakeshore Metropark 30 March (JP); four at Baldwin Lake, Mill Stream Run Res. Cleveland Metroparks 4 May, including three immature plumaged birds (RSH); four also noted at Mentor Marsh 13 May (RH).

Broad-winged Hawk—one was a week ahead of other sightings 7 April at Turkeyfoot Lake (GBe); next reported from Brecksville Reservation 14 April (DAC) where nest-building was noted the next day; small numbers reported from scattered locations thereafter.

Red-tailed Hawk—local nesting by late March (DV); 86 migrants at Lakeshore Metropark 30 March (JP).

Rough-legged Hawk—one migrant Lakeshore Metropark 30 March (JP) and another at Mentor Lagoons 1 April (JMc).

American Kestrel—scattered reports throughout the region, usually of one–two birds.

Merlin—a holdover from winter at Shaker Lakes 6 March (BF); one at Mentor Lagoons 24 March (LR); one Lakeshore Metropark 30 March (JP); max. three at HBSNP 17 April (RH) where migrants were seen regularly from 4–20 April.

Peregrine Falcon—the pair on the Terminal Tower in Cleveland laid their first egg on 16 March (SWr); no migrants were reported from HBSNP.

Black Rail—one was reported calling and very briefly seen (“small dark blur”) along the south dike of Sandy Ridge Res. of Lorain Co. Metroparks on the evening of 10 May (CG); there were no further reports of this bird. This is the third record of this species from the region and a first for Lorain Co.

King Rail—one heard calling at Ira Road Marsh, CVNP 23 May (TMR).

Virginia Rail—first reported 26 March from Mogadore Reservoir (GBe); one migrant found exhausted on Edgewater Drive the next day (LJ); one at MMSNP 20 April (RH); also reported from Aurora Wetlands (FL), the Ira Road Marsh, CVNP (TMR) and at Redlock, CVNP (DAC).

Sora—first report 21 April, Tinkers Creek State Nature Preserve (FL) followed by one 30 April in Independence (DAC); also found at Sandy Ridge Reservation 1 May (CC); Veteran’s Park 4 May (JMc), MMSNP 13 May (RH); North Chagrin Res 14 May; highest count three from CVNP 7 May (DAC).

Common Moorhen—first found at Herrick Fen in Portage Co. 29 April (LR); also Veteran’s Park 6 May (RH) remaining through at least 12 May; one photographed 21 May at the Pleasant Valley Marsh, CVNP (DAC). See photo, below.



Photo by Dwight Chasar

Common Moorhen
Pleasant Valley Marsh, CVNP May 21, 2005

American Coot—37 at Summit Lake 6 March (GBe); present in the HBSNP-MMSNP area 23 March–7 May (RH); two at Pleasant Valley Marsh, CVNP 7 May (DAC); last report from Sandy Ridge Reservation 14 May (CC).

Sandhill Crane—one heard over Nimisila Reservoir 19 March (GBe); one at Ira Road Marsh, CVNP 21 March (BR); one seen several times in a field in Munson Twp., Geauga Co. late March to early April (TR, KM); one returned to Sandy Ridge Reservation mid April with a second bird arriving 16 May (TF).

Black-bellied Plover—reported from Sandy Ridge Reservation in May (TF).

American Golden-Plover—30 in Pittsfield Twp., Lorain Co. 18

April (LR), this count was eclipsed by the 218 at Sandy Ridge Reservation the next day (TF).

Semipalmated Plover—first report 5 May (RH); at Sandy Ridge Res.

21–27 May (CC) and CVNP on 21 May (DAC); last reported 28 May (LR).

Killdeer—widespread by early March; 17 at S. Marginal Road, Cleveland 20 March (PL).

Greater Yellowlegs—first report from Pioneer Trail Rd., Mantua Twp. Portage Co. 22 March (LR); one flew over HBSNP 31 March (RH); max. 21 in a wet field in Auburn Twp., Geauga Co. 9 May (LR, GB); latest at Sandy Ridge Reservation 21 May (CC).

Lesser Yellowlegs—reported from Sandy Ridge Reservation (TF), Shaker Lakes (TMR); HBSNP (NA); three at CVNP on 4 May (DAC); an impressive local tally was 75 in Auburn Twp., Geauga 9 May (LR, GB).

Solitary Sandpiper—reports of singles at scattered sites 23 April (KM) through 29 May (m.obs.) with up to four seen in CVNP on 7 May (DAC); two at Shaker Lakes on 19 May (RR).

Willet—one was seen flying east past HBSNP on 5 May (RH).

Spotted Sandpiper—first report came from Lorain Co. on 22 April (PL); followed by another at HBSNP 23 April (RH); four at Shaker Lakes 4 May (LGo); high count of 16 at HBSNP 13 May (RH) with other widespread reports of ones and twos.

Upland Sandpiper—no reports.

Ruddy Turnstone—one at Sandy Ridge Reservation in May (TF); one present at HBSNP 21–22, and 30 May (RH).

Sanderling—one at HBSNP 13 May (RH).

Semipalmated Sandpiper—one HBSNP 30 May (RH).

Least Sandpiper—first report from Sandy Ridge Reservation 11 May (CC) where the species was reported at least through 27 May; one at HBSNP 19 May (RH).

Pectoral Sandpiper—24 at Sandy Ridge Reservation, Lorain Co. on 10 April (BAT); 25 found along Pioneer Trail Rd. in Portage Co. 17 April (VW) and 15 at Lake Rockwell 18 April (VW).

Dunlin—only reports received were of 10 at Sandy Ridge Reservation 16 April (CC) and one in Auburn Twp., Geauga Co. 3 May (VW); last reported 28 May (VW).

Short-billed Dowitcher—two at HBSNP 30 May (RH).



Photo by Bob Roach

Long-billed Dowitcher **Cuyahoga Valley National Park, April 8, 2005**

Long-billed Dowitcher—rare in the region and an exceptional find in spring was a molting dowitcher found 8 April in Jaite, CVNP (BR).

Originally identified in the field as a short-billed dowitcher, photos have convinced several experienced observers that it was in fact a long-billed dowitcher. As Larry Rosche points out in the *Birds of the Cleveland Region* account for SHORT-billed dowitcher “date extremes for this species are suspect”. This would no doubt include the published 12 April 1970 record of short-billed dowitcher, which falls more within the window of spring migration for long-billed.

This record underscores the need for multiple observers or photographic documentation of rarities or difficult to identify species.

Wilson's Snipe—first report was of 23 from Mantua Twp., Portage Co. 7 April (LR, VW); max. 24 at the old Richfield Coliseum site in CVNP 17 April (DAC); 20 estimated in a wetland at Puritas Rd. and W. 4th St. 4 May (LR); scattered reports from elsewhere; one was “winnowing” at CVNP on 7 May (DAC); one lingered at HBSNP 23 May (RH).

American Woodcock—one in Lake Co. 18 March (JP); one at HBSNP 19 March (EB); widespread by 21 March (m.obs.); max. of five at Jaite, CVNP 29 March (DAC); three at Erie Street Cemetery 11 April (RSH); two were found at Jaite, CVNP 30 April (FL).



Wilson's Phalarope
Sandy Ridge Reservation, May 30, 2005



Red-necked Phalarope
Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, May 20, 2005
Compare this with the Wilson's phalarope, right.

Photos by Bill Deininger

Wilson's Phalarope—one at Sandy Ridge Reservation 24 and 30 May (TF, BD). See photo, above.

Little Gull—one adult reported from Lakeshore Metropark 31 March (JP); maximum of three at HBSNP 3 April (RH, EB); one remained in Fairport Harbor to 13 April (JP).

Laughing Gull—one adult reported by JP at Lorain Harbor 28 May.

Bonaparte's Gull—first noted returning to Spencer Lake in Medina Co. 19 March (KO); first report from Lake Erie 23 March (RH); 616 counted Lakeshore Metropark 30 Mar. (JP); 3,000 in Fairport Harbor 3 Apr (RH); numbers declined thereafter, with reports from HBSNP to 22 May (CK).

Ring-billed Gull—a “massive” westerly movement of ring-billed gulls noted from Lakeshore Metropark 8 Mar. (JP); 2,000 estimated at Oberlin Reservoir 18 March (BAT); 500 noted 4 April at Fairport Harbor (RH).

Herring Gull—up to 120 still present around Fairport Harbor as late as 2 May (RH).

Thayer's Gull—one pale adult, bordering Iceland gull, but concluded to represent this species, was at E. 72nd 3 March (VF); this or another adult was there 5 March (JP).

Iceland Gull—two 1st winter plumaged birds were at E. 72nd 3–5 March (VF, JP); one remained till 9 March (RSH); one also reported from Lakeshore Metropark 30 March (JP); one adult at Headlands Beach SP 3 April (EB).

Lesser Black-backed Gull—one adult at E. 72nd from winter to 3 March (VF); another reported from Fairport Harbor 13 April (JP).

Glaucous Gull—two adults, one 3rd Winter birds at E. 72nd 3–5 March (VF, JP); one adult HBSNP 3 April (RH, EB); another one or the same 13 April in Fairport Harbor (JP).

Great Black-backed Gull—numbers dwindled at E. 72nd by early March; 26 found at Lakeshore Metropark 9 April (JP), 20 at Fairport Harbor 25 April (RH); single digit reports to 25 May.

Great Black-backed Gull X Herring Gull—one adult remained at E. 72nd Street to 5 March (JP).

Caspian Tern—first reported from Lorain Co. and HBSNP 9 April (JP, RH), 43 counted near the Cuyahoga River mouth the next day (PL); also reported from inland lakes, such as 11 on Springfield Lake 2 May (GBE); high count an impressive 80 in Fairport Harbor 4 May (RH).

Common Tern—scarce; only reports received were of singles 2 and 9 May at Turkeyfoot Lake (GBE) and at Lakeshore Metropark 22 May (JP).

Forster's Tern—three arrived at Fairport Harbor 6 April (RH); seven noted at Turkeyfoot Lake 2 May (GBE); unlike common tern, this species was reported consistently from Fairport Harbor, with a maximum of 13 on 4 May (RH); last date noted was 11 May (RH).

Mourning Dove—typical daily counts ranged up to 50; 70+ counted in the HBSNP-MMSNP area 27 Mar (RH); large movement noted at Dike 14 on 6 April (SZ).

Black-billed Cuckoo—first report from the Oak Hill area of CVNP on 9 May (TMR); very few

reports; one in Lake Co. 29 May (JT, RH, m.obs.).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo—first report from Summit Lake on 23 May (GBe); very few noted this spring, but reports increased in June.

Eastern Screech-owl—a few reports came from Lake County, Cuyahoga Co. and in CVNP at Redlock.

Great Horned Owl—reported on nest 20 March in Avon, Lorain Co.; also nesting at Sandy Ridge Reservation (m.obs.); other reports included one calling in Sagamore Hills in late March (DAC).

Barred Owl—seen or heard at scattered sites, such as North Chagrin Reservation and Brecksville Reservation of Cleveland Metroparks, CVNP and Tinker's Creek State Nature Preserve.

Long-eared Owl—present at Dike 14 in early April (SZ), one migrant HBSNP 17 April (JW, LP).

Short-eared Owl—only report was of one in Northfield 7 March (DAC).

Northern Saw-whet Owl—no reports.

Common Nighthawk—first report from Mogadore Reservoir 10 May (GBe); arrived on 14 May at HBSNP; additional sightings 15 May Mogadore (GBe) and Berea (TM), four at Sandy Ridge 21 May (CC); max. 40 at Tinkers Creek State Nature Preserve 18 May (FL); the next highest count was of 11 in Lake Co. 30 May (RH).

Whip-poor-will—this species was detected only at HBSNP 21–22 May (EB).

Chimney Swift—remarkably but understandably scarce in April, given the weather, the first lone

report came from Shaker Lakes Regional Nature Center 17 April (VF) followed by another report in Akron 18 April (GBe); next reports after the late April snowstorm on 25 April (NH, RH); seen over Brecksville 30 April (JB) after which it became widespread; high count of 125 on 18 May (RH).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird—first report from Sagamore Hills 3 May (SJ); first female reported from that location 10 May; up to seven HBSNP-MMSNP 23 May (RH).

Belted Kingfisher—one–two usually encountered per day; daily maximum seven at CVNP 4 April (TMR); six at Lakeshore Metropark 9 April (JP).

Red-headed Woodpecker—wintered at Sandy Ridge Reservation, with sightings there in March and April (CC); three found in Aurora Wetland in April (FL); first

*We gratefully acknowledge
Brenda Baber, Bob Beck & Nell Swiers,
Craig Caldwell, Delores Cole, Fanny Dale,
Laura Gooch and Perry Peskin
whose generosity helped make
the publication of this issue possible.*

*If you would also like to be a contributor to this important
records journal, please contact the Kirtland Bird Club,
216-556-0700*

noted in CVNP 1 May near Station Rd (DAC); migrants returned 7 May to HBSNP-MMSNP and were encountered regularly thereafter (RH); one visited a suet feeder in Granger Twp. 15–22 May (JW).

Red-bellied Woodpecker—< eight typically reported daily; 14 in the HBSNP-MMSNP 8 May (RH).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—first report 31 March in Akron (GBe); max. 12 in Lake Co. 17 April (RH).

Downy Woodpecker—20 encountered in Lake Co. 19 April (RH).

Hairy Woodpecker—most reports of one–three birds from any given location.

Northern Flicker—one in Lake Co. 30 March (RH); increasing to 20 on the 31; max. 30 on 10 April (RH).

Pileated Woodpecker—widespread, with reports of one–three typical per day; one seen excavating a possible nesting cavity 30 March (DC).

Olive-sided Flycatcher—reports received were of singles at Firestone Metropark 16 May (RSH), CVNP 19 May (GBe), two–three on 23 May (LR) and one on 24 May (BSp).

Eastern Wood-Pewee—arrived in Lake Co. by 14 May (RH), after which it became widespread; up to nine in the HBSNP-MMSNP area 23 May (RH).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher—first reported from Lake Co. 23 May and again 29 and 31 May (RH); another noted in Akron 25 May (GBe).

Acadian Flycatcher—first reported from CVNP 9 May (TMR); max. eight in CVNP (DAC).

Alder Flycatcher—first reported 15 May at Mogadore Reservoir (GBe) with up to four there on 21 May; four also noted at the HBSNP-MMSNP area 30 May (RH); several reports of one–two through the end of the period from scattered locations.

Willow Flycatcher—early was one 8 May at Akron (GBe); first lake-front report was 14 May (RH); six reported from Summit Lake 23 May (GBe); up to 10 at Dike 14, Cuyahoga Co. on 21 May (m.obs.)

Least Flycatcher—first report 5 May (RH); became widespread on 6–7 May, with reports from CVNP (DAC), Erie Street Cemetery, Cleveland (GL) and five at Firestone Metropark (RSH); max. 13 in the HBSNP-MMSNP area 23 May (RH).

Eastern Phoebe—first arrival at Avon 21 March (PL); 19 at Lakeshore Metropark 31 March (JP) and 13 the same day in the HBSNP-MMSNP area (RH).

Great Crested Flycatcher—first reported from CVNP (DAC) and Lakeshore Metropark 5 May (JP); first noted at HBSNP 9 May (RH); maximum of eight 27 May (RH).

Eastern Kingbird—first of season from Mogadore Reservoir 30 April (GBe); high counts included 12 at Lakeshore Metropark 5 May (JP).

Northern Shrike—reported from Stanford Road area, CVNP on 5 March (DAC); the Bath Nature

Preserve bird from winter was found as late as 16 March, singing (WS); one was at Pekin Road, Newbury Twp., Geauga Co. until 21 March (DB); one N. of Boston, CVNP 28 March (DV); one at HBSNP 5 April (JT, RH), provided possibly the second-latest ever date for the region.

White-eyed Vireo—first of season from Brecksville Reservation 29 April (DAC); present at HBSNP-MMSNP area beginning 5 May (RH) where one–two were consistently found through the end of the period; also reported from Lake Isaac, Cleveland Metroparks (TMR) and CVNP (DAC).

Yellow-throated Vireo—first reported CVNP 7 May (TMR, RR) and Shaker Lakes (PL, m.obs.); reports typically of one–two per location.

Blue-headed Vireo—arrived at HBSNP (KM) and Brecksville Reservation (DAC) on 16 Apr; noted the next day at Shaker Lakes (VF) and Mogadore Reservoir (GBe); max. six at Firestone Metropark 26 April (RSH); migrants still noted 22 May at MMSNP (CK) and 30 May (RH).

Warbling Vireo—two arrived Summit Lake 30 April (GBe); noted in Mayfield Village 1 May (KM, m.obs.); max. of 25 in the HBSNP-MMSNP area 21 May (RH); up to eight at Summit Lake 23 May (GBe).

Philadelphia Vireo—10 reports received, with the first at Brecksville Reservation 9 May (DAC); other reports fell between 16–29 May; one was singing at CVNP 24 May

(DAC); last reported West Creek Preserve, Cuyahoga Co. (JB).

Red-eyed Vireo—arrived at CVNP 7 May (TMR) and at HBSNP 9 May (RH); max. of 25 in HBSNP-MMSNP 23 May (RH).

Blue Jay—daily counts of 10–20 noted in HBSNP-MMSNP area late March–April where numbers increased to 110 on 4 May (RH); hundreds on 5 and 7 May at Lakeshore Metropark (JP); 9 May produced a major movement with 300 noted in HBSNP-MMSNP (RH), and in excess of 5,000 estimated at Lakeshore Metropark (JP); the later location had an estimated “8,000+” on 21 May (JP); nesting noted in CVNP by 6 May (DAC).

American Crow—counts of 120 at HBSNP on 26 March (RH) and 274 Lakeshore Metropark 30 March (JP) represented the peak of lakefront migration for the species.

Horned Lark—few comments by observers; only one reported (RH) from HBSNP this spring, 5 March.

Purple Martin—first reported from Veteran’s Park 31 March (JMc) and Summit Co. 6 April (GBe); max. of 40 on 23 May (RH).

Tree Swallow—first detected 19 March (TM); two at Ira Rd. Marsh, CVNP 21 March (BR); became widespread in small numbers by 25 March; 60 counted Lake Co. 10 April (RH); 54 counted at Summit Lake 30 April (GBe); 380+ counted Lakeshore Metropark 5 May (JP).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow—first arrival 31 March Lakeshore

Metropark (JP), next report from HBSNP 9 April (RH); became widespread in moderate numbers by 13–17 April; 80 in Lake Co. 21 April (RH); 50–60 noted near Station Road, Brecksville Reservation 30 April (JB); 179 reported from Lakeshore Metropark 5 May (JP).

Bank Swallow—first reported Summit Lake 30 April (GBe); next report from HBSNP and CVNP 2 May (RH, TMR); widespread thereafter with 20 reported from HBSNP 23 May (RH).

Cliff Swallow—first report came from Lakeshore Metropark 5 May (JP); a colony of about 20 birds was found under the eaves of an abandoned building on Ravenna Arsenal land, Portage Co. (PP).

Barn Swallow—a remarkably early report from Allardale Park, Medina Co. 20 March (JW) missed the 1936 early date record for the region by five days; another was seen “in a swamped barnyard” near Wingfoot Lake 23 March (LR); yet another early sighting near Nimisila Reservoir 28 March (GBe); 32 counted at Summit Lake 30 April (GBe); 200+ at Lakeshore Metropark 5 May (JP).

Black-capped Chickadee—< nine typically encountered daily; max. 12 noted in the HBSNP-MMSNP area 4 May (RH).

Tufted Titmouse—generally < eight reported per day with 10 in Oak Hill area, CVNP 9 May (TMR).

Red-breasted Nuthatch—migrants noted in ones and twos at scattered locations through 17 May; max. nine in HBSNP-MMSNP area 9

May (RH); one at Triangle Lake Bog State Nature Preserve 21 May (GBe) could have been a local breeder.

White-breasted Nuthatch—generally one–four reported daily by single observers.

Brown Creeper—max. count reported was 10 near the lakeshore in Lake Co. 17 April (RH); inland max. of four around Summit Lake 9 April (GBe).

Carolina Wren—numbers not reduced by the snowy (but not particularly cold) winter of 2004–2005; up to 10 in Lake Co. 27 March (RH); the same number found in CVNP 16 May (TMR).

House Wren—first reported at HBSNP 19 April (RH) and at Bacon Woods Reservation, Lorain Co. on 20 April (CC); Summit Lake and Mogadore Reservoir had the first inland on 30 April (GBe); double digit counts in the region were reached by 8 May (RH).

Winter Wren—reported from CVNP and Brecksville Reservation in late March (DV, DAC); eight at MMSNP 3 April (RH); late migrants at Elmwood Park, Cuyahoga Co. 5 May (JAE) and HBSNP 6 May (RH); a presumed late migrant was at Firestone Metropark 10 May (RSH).

Sedge Wren—no reports.

Marsh Wren—first report from North Chagrin Reservation 8 May (KM, m.obs.); several reported at Sandy Ridge Reservation 14–27 May (CC, m.obs.); three at Pleasant Valley Marsh, CVNP (DAC).

Golden-crowned Kinglet—six at North Chagrin Reservation 6

March likely over wintered (LD); first probable migrants 29–31 Mar. (CC, RH); max. of 21 at Mogadore Reservoir 2 April (RH); a lingering bird was seen in CVNP near Jaite on 7 May (DAC).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet—an early returnee at North Chagrin Reservation 3 April (BD, KM, m.obs.); max. counts of 17 in the HBSNP-MMSNP 17 and 25 April (RH); 15 at CVNP 7 May (TMR) and 10 at Shaker Lakes on 4 May (LGo).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher—returned by 9 April with max. daily counts of 14–15 in Brecksville Reservation 30 April (JB) and 22 in Lake Co. 16 May (RH).

Eastern Bluebird—mostly encountered as ones and twos, with no exceptional flocks noted.

Veery—first reported 6 May HBSNP (RH) and 7 May at Erie Street Cemetery (GL); lakeshore migrant traps held some good totals for those who hit the right day, such as 20 on 15 May and 30 on 19 May in the HBSNP-MMSNP area (RH); last migrant reported 24 May (RH).

Gray-cheeked Thrush—arrived 9 May, with one–two seen on several dates through 31 May in Lake Co. (RH); the few inland reports included one at Shaker Lakes 11 May (LD) and two in CVNP on 29 May (DAC).

Swainson's Thrush—scarce, relative to most years, away from migrant traps; only one–two per day were typically found inland by single observers and some observers reported none; first report 9 May (RH); maximum count of 30

from Lake Co. on 19 May (RH); last report of five on 27 May.

Hermit Thrush—one at Horseshoe Pond, CVNP 5 March (DAC) might have over-wintered; next reports from HBSNP (RH) and Akron (GBe) on 31 Mar; max. daily counts of 18 HBSNP (RH) and nine at Elmwood Park in Rocky River 17 April (PL); another push came with 16 in Lake Co. 4 May (RH); last migrants 14 May (RH).

Wood Thrush—first of season at Mogadore Reservoir 30 April (GBe); reached HBSNP by 4 May (RH); migrant trap max. of 12 hit on 14 and 19 May (RH) while most inland observers found only one–three daily.

American Robin—max. estimated at 800 from HBSNP-MMSNP area 30 March (RH); a large movement noted 6 April at Dike 14 (SZ).

Gray Catbird—first of season report from Mogadore Reservoir 30 April (GBe); numerous by 5–7 May (m.obs.); up to 20+ could be found at migrant traps along the lakeshore in mid May.

Northern Mockingbird—noted in a part of the CVNP north of the park headquarters in a formerly mocker-free zone 9 May (CW, SJ); noted on three dates at HBSNP (RH).

Brown Thrasher—a very early migrant was at HBSNP 14 March (BF); next report came from Lorain Co. 18 April (PL); up to 11 found in the HBSNP-MMSNP area 11 May (RH); three noted in one tree in CVNP 4 May (DAC).

American Pipit—two reported 27 March HBSNP (RH); max. about 25 in a field in Portage Co., near Mantua 5 April (KM); late was one in Kirtland 26 May (CK).

Cedar Waxwing—one arrived in Lake Co. 25 April (RH) with numbers building through May, topping out at 300 on 29 May in the HBSNP area (RH).

Blue-winged Warbler—first at Mogadore Reservoir 25 April (GBe); max. one–two typically reported from any one location.

Golden-winged Warbler—three of four reports came on 9 May; one at Sandy Ridge (JAE) another at Mentor Lagoons (JT) and yet another at Lakeshore Metropark (JP); there was also a female at Mentor Lagoons on 14 May (JT).

Tennessee Warbler—arrived at Mogadore Reservoir (GBe) and HBSNP 15 May (RH) with seven reported from HBSNP on that date; max. eight on 21 May (RH).

Orange-crowned Warbler—first report of two on 29 April in HBSNP-MMSNP area (RH); one Chagrin River Park 1 May (NA); very late was a single along the Zimmerman Trail of MMSNP 23–28 of May (EB, RH, SW, BB); scattered reports of ones and twos from other sites in the region, such as two in CVNP on 7 May (TMR).

Nashville Warbler—first report came from Summit Lake 30 April (GBe); became fairly widespread first week of May; up to eight daily reported by Hannikman 9–14 May.



Photo by Scott Wright

Northern Parula

Northern Parula—early report of two–three at Bacon Woods Reservation 20 April (CC); the next report came 10 days later; one–two reported consistently from HBSNP-MMSNP 6–30 May (RH).

Yellow Warbler—first report for the region came from CVNP 17 April (DAC); found at several locations by 19 April (JT, m.obs.); 25 at Terra Vista, CVNP 7 May in six hours of observation (FL); 26 at Summit Lake 23 May (GBe); 50 tallied in the HBSNP-MMSNP area 14 May (RH).

Chestnut-sided Warbler—seemed to be well represented this spring; first report (of 12) from the HBSNP-MMSNP area 9 May (RH), with the same number achieved at that location 19 May.

Magnolia Warbler—first report 7 May from HBSNP (RH, SW); eight at Mogadore Reservoir 15 May (GBe); an impressive 40 tallied (RH, m.obs.) 23 May; up to three still present in the HBSNP-MMSNP area 30 May (RH).

Cape May Warbler—first report came from Lakeshore Metropark 5 May (JP); few reports, with singles at HBSNP-MMSNP on 17–18 May (RH).

Black-throated Blue Warbler—first reports came from CVNP 6 May (DAC) and from HBSNP 7 May (SW); max. of six at the latter location 10 May (RH); reported through 21 May.

Yellow-rumped Warbler - first migrant at HBSNP 6 April (RH); became widespread in small numbers by 9–10 April (KO, m.obs.); 12 reported from Shaker Lakes 19 April (VF); 300+ estimated at Lakeshore Metropark 5 May (JP); double-digit counts reported consistently through 21 May; one remaining in the HBSNP-MMSNP area 29 May (RH).

Black-throated Green Warbler—first reported from Cleveland Heights 18 April (LGo); consistently reported through May; max. eight in CVNP 7 May (TMR) and Mogadore Reservoir 15 May (GBe); last migrant noted on 21 May (RH), while one at Happy Days Ledges, CVNP 25-29 May could have been a local breeder (DAC, CC).

Blackburnian Warbler—first report 6 May North Chagrin Reservation (SW); with one–two the next day at Shaker Lakes (PL, m.obs.); five was a good inland tally at Firestone Metropark 16 May (RSH), while seven were along the Lake Co. lakeshore 18 May (RH); one still present at Happy Days Ledges, CVNP 29 May (CC).

Yellow-throated Warbler—territorial birds returned to Station Rd, CVNP 14 April (DAC); unusual along Lake Erie was one at Lakeshore Metropark 5 May (JP); also reported from Bacon Woods Reservation 28 April (CC).

Pine Warbler—first migrants arrived at Shaker Lakes 9 April (LD), the same day the wintering bird in Rocky River apparently departed (JA); returned to Lakeshore Metropark 10 April (JP), with others at North Chagrin and HBSNP 17 April (KM, EB); seven at Nimisila Reservoir 7 May could represent local breeders (RSH).

Prairie Warbler—no reports.

Palm Warbler—first reported from Lakeshore Metropark 9 April (JP), with the next report from HBSNP 19 April (JT, RH); nine counted at Summit Lake 30 April (GBe); maximum 28 counted in the HBSNP-MMSNP area 10 May (RH); 12 at Lakeshore Metropark 5 May (JP); last reported at HBSNP 22 May (CK).

Bay-breasted Warbler—first reported 10 May (RH); an impressive 10 reported from Mogadore Reservoir 15 May (GBe) and the same number achieved in the HBSNP-MMSNP area 19 May (RH); last report 23 May (RH).

Blackpoll Warbler—first reported at Sandy Ridge Reservation 9 May (JAE); next one at Summit Lake 12 May (GBe); 12 reported from the HBSNP-MMSNP area 28 May for the regional max.; found to the end of the period at HBSNP (RH).

Cerulean Warbler—first of season at Station Road, CVNP 20 April (JAE); one singing male at MMSNP 11 May was at a Lakefront migrant trap where they are rarely detected (SW); max. 12 at Hinckley Reservation of Cleveland Metroparks 13 May (TMR).

Black-and-white Warbler—arrived in the region 29 April (NA, DAC); an impressive 14 in the HBSNP-MMSNP area 7 May (RH, SW) with double-digits also achieved there on 16 and 19 May.

American Redstart—first reported from HBSNP 6 May (RH, SW); numbers increased significantly 16–23 May, with daily max. of 18 on 19 May (RH); last presumed migrants reported 23 May.

Prothonotary Warbler—first reported near Station Road, CVNP/Brecksville Reservation 23 April (DAC), with four at that location 29 April (BRo), including one quickly getting to the business of gathering nesting material; one singing male North Chagrin Reservation 1 May (KM, m.obs.); one female at Veteran's Park 6 May (JMc, PK); one Sandy Ridge Reservation 9 May (JAE) where the species later nested.

Worm-eating Warbler—one reported from Veteran's Park 18 May (JT).

Ovenbird—first reported 5 May at Lakeshore Metropark (JP); with more returning to the region 6 May (RH, DAC); peak number hit on 19 May with 15 seen in the HBSNP-MMSNP area (RH); presumed migrants last detected 21 May.

Northern Waterthrush—first detected 22 April (RH), with the next



Photo by Bob Roach

Prothonotary Warbler

coming 6 May; singles typically reported from scattered locations, with two noted on 19 and 21 May in HBSNP-MMSNP area (RH); last date 22 May at HBSNP (LR, m.obs.).

Louisiana Waterthrush—returned to Bedford Reservation of Cleveland Metroparks by 10 April (FL) and Brecksville Reservation by 16 April (DAC); a pair was seen copulating mid-stream at North Chagrin Reservation 17 April (KM, m.obs.).

Kentucky Warbler—first discovered at Garfield Park Reservation of Cleveland Metroparks 3 May (JB); one at Lakeshore Metropark 9 May (JP); one at Mentor Lagoons 14 May (JT); two territorial males were at Happy Days Ledges, CVNP 25 May (DAC).

Connecticut Warbler—the only report received was a female observed by EB at HBSNP 28 May.

Mourning Warbler—reported on eight dates (14–31 May) by (RH) in the HBSNP-MMSNP area with three there on 28 May; one each at Bedford Reservation 15 May (FL); Station Road, CVNP 24 May (DAC); North Chagrin Reservation 24 May (KM) and Mogadore Reservoir 28 May (GBE).

Common Yellowthroat—first reported from HBSNP-MMSNP area 7 May (RH, SW); up to 17 tallied at Ira Road, CVNP in May (TMR); 13 counted by (RH) 21 May.

Hooded Warbler—a singing male seen 17 April at North Chagrin Reservation (KM, m.obs.) was just three days shy of the early date record for the region; one at Elmwood Park, Rocky River 5 May (JAE); in the HBSNP-MMSNP area this species was seen 9 and 19 May; max. of six reported by single observers in CVNP in May (TMR).

Wilson's Warbler—an early report came from CVNP 6 May (DAC); most arrived later, such as at Mogadore Reservoir 15 May (GBe); daily max. of 13 counted 25 May by Hannikman in the HBSNP-MMSNP area.

Canada Warbler—first observed 14 May with six arriving at the HBSNP-MMSNP area; a very impressive max. of 13 there on 22 May (RH); seven migrants still present there 28 May.

Yellow-breasted Chat—reported from HBSNP 8 May (JMc) and Mentor Lagoons 14 May (JT).

Summer Tanager—single males, both photographed, were seen at Rocky River Reservation 26 April (TK) and at Oberlin 8 May (DDS).

Scarlet Tanager—arrived in the region 6–7 May (JAE, DAC, RH); a few observers found a daily max. of four from various locations.

Eastern Towhee—back singing in CVNP 21 March (BR); max. 12 counted in the HBSNP-MMSNP area 20 April; seven at Lakeshore Metropark 7 May (JP).

American Tree Sparrow—25+ Lakeshore Metropark (JP) and 14 at HBSNP (RH) on 30 March represented a peak of migrants along the lakefront; one lingered to 30 April at HBSNP (RH).

Chipping Sparrow—arrived at feeder in Madison, Lake Co. 29 March (CT); showed up at HBSNP (RH) and Brecksville Reservation (BAT) 31 March; widespread by 9–10 April; max. 17 migrants noted on 6 May (RH).

Clay-colored sparrow—one reported singing at Lakeshore Metropark 7 May (JP).

Field Sparrow—arrived at HBSNP and Lakeshore Metropark 31 March (RH, JP); daily high counts of one–two typically reported, with six at HBSNP 9 May (RH).

Vesper Sparrow—returned to Dike 14 by 6 April (SZ); noted 30 April and 4 May at HBSNP (RH).

Savannah Sparrow—first report 29 March in Madison, Lake Co (CT); three Lorain Co. 1 April (PL); one in Geauga Co. 2 April (KM); lakefront migrant numbers peaked at seven on 17–18 April (RH); up to 10 at the old Richfield Coliseum site, CVNP 7 May (DAC).

Grasshopper Sparrow—first report was of one at Erie Street Cemetery 7 May (GL).

Henslow's Sparrow—no reports.

Fox Sparrow—reported 26 March–13 April (GBe, LGo, m.obs.); max. 10 in the HBSNP-MMSNP area 31 March (RH).

Song Sparrow—40 reported in HBSNP-MMSNP area 24 March (LR); 250+ Lakeshore Metropark 30 March (JP); 220 estimated 31 March in the HBSNP-MMSNP area (RH); 38 at Summit Lake 9 April was good inland tally (GBe); numbers of migrants declining after first week of April.

Lincoln's Sparrow—arrived 4 May Shaker Lakes (LGo); up to six at Lakeshore Metropark 9 May (JP); max. of 12 on 23 May in the HBSNP-MMSNP area (RH); eight at the latter location again 26 May.

Swamp Sparrow—one–five typically detected at lakefront migrant traps 17 April through early May; 10 noted at Brecksville 17 April (TMR) and 20 at the Sanitation Ponds in CVNP 4 May (DAC).

White-throated Sparrow—14 noted at Shaker Lakes 19 April (VF), 16 at Summit Lake 30 April (GBe); abundant by early May, with 300+ estimated at Lakeshore Metropark 7 May (JP).

White-crowned Sparrow—an early report came from Akron 5 April (GBe) followed by another in CVNP 26 April (TMR); more typical migrants reached the region 1–4 May; 40+ were noted on 14 May in HBSNP-MMSNP area (RH); last report Kirtland 22 May (CK).

Dark-eyed Junco—daily max. 125+ Lakeshore Metropark 30 March (JP); by 10 April most reports in single digits, with a few migrants lingering into May, such as one at Shaker Lakes 4 May (LGo); four at Lakeshore Metropark 7 May (JP); one at HBSNP 10 May (RH); late were singles at the Henkel Property, Avon on 18 May (CC) and at Lakeshore Metropark 22 May (JP).

*(See Dwight Chasar's article *Juncos Continue to Nest in Brecksville*, Page 18).*

Lapland Longspur—16 reported from Lakeshore Metropark 30 March (JP).

Snow Bunting—(RH) had one on 5 March for the only report.

Northern Cardinal—counts ranged from 12–25 in the HBSNP-MMSNP area (RH); a nest with eggs was noted in Bainbridge Twp., Geauga Co. 8 May (CCa).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak—seemed to be more common this spring; first reports from South Russell, Geauga Co., 30 April (LGi); also in Kirtland 1 May (CK); common by 7–9 May, with 21 reported at HBSNP-MMSNP 8 May; 15 reported from Lakeshore Metropark 9 May (JP); migrants present at least through 21 May.

Indigo Bunting—first reported from CVNP 2 May (TMR); eight males seen at Rocky River Reservation 13 May (SW).

Bobolink—migrant bobolinks seemed less easily detected this spring; returned to the region by 7–8 May (DAC, JW); up to 10 noted at the old Richfield Coliseum site, CVNP 29 May (CC, JB); also seen in possible nesting habitat in eastern Cuyahoga Co. on Sherman Road, on Bean Road in Geauga Co. (KM), at the Ravenna Arsenal in Portage Co. (PP, BAT), at Holden Arboretum (RR) and at Sandy Ridge (CC).

Red-winged Blackbird—large movements noted at HBSNP 26 March (RH) and at Dike 14 on 6 April (SZ), involving thousands of birds.

Eastern Meadowlark—first reported 19 March at Sandy Ridge Reservation (TM); reached Lake Co. by 26 March; daily max. from any given site was four (m.obs.).

Rusty Blackbird—eight seen Sandy Ridge Reservation 19 March (TM); small numbers reported throughout April, such as 13 at Mogadore Reservoir 25 April (GBe); daily max. for the region was 80 in the HBSNP-MMSNP area 22 April

(RH); last reported from CVNP 9 May (DAC).

Common Grackle—common by first week of March; thousands noted by 16 March in Summit Co. (KMo).

Brown-headed Cowbird—common; a representative report was of 20 at Dike 14, Cuyahoga Co. 21 May (TMR).

Orchard Oriole—first report (of four) came from Lakeshore Metropark 7 May (JP); max. nine seen at HBSNP 17 May (RR); inland, a max. of seven noted at Ira Road, CVNP 16 May (TMR); noted at many other locations.

Baltimore Oriole—some observers noted that this species arrived about a week later than usual; first report came from Mogadore Reservoir 1 May (GBe); became common by 5–7 May; high tally for the region 40 counted by Hannikman 9 May; an inland high was 20 in CVNP 16 May (TMR); one was noted in a woven nest as early as 8 May (PP).

Purple Finch—max. seven reported in CVNP in late March (DV); other reports from scattered sites through May included five at Lakeshore Metropark 7 May (JP) and six there on 22 May (JP); four at Holden Arboretum also on 22 May (RR); four in Kirtland through the end of the period (CK).

House Finch—common and widespread, with five–15 typically encountered daily.

Common Redpoll—the few that showed up this winter stealthily

left the region and went undetected this spring.

Pine Siskin—scattered reports into early May; at least five at the feeder of Charles Klaus in Kirtland, with four staying on though the end of May; two at North Chagrin Reservation 1 May (KM, m.obs.); 40+ reported from Lakeshore Metropark 5 May (JP) with five there on 7 May and two on 22 May.

American Goldfinch—several observers felt numbers were up; an estimated 1,500 at Lakeshore Metropark 5 May (JP); by contrast, the HBSNP area max. was only 25 on 17 May (RH); 32 counted in CVNP on 16 May.

Exotics

Whooping Crane—three birds were reported to have touched down near Waite Hill, Lake Co. on 4 April (PM) sporting bands 301, 309 and 318. These birds are part of a reintroduction program. These individuals apparently wintered in North Carolina and were on their way north into Michigan. ♪ ♪

Cuyahoga Valley National Park Annual Spring Census

May 7, 2005

7:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Weather: 47 – 68 degrees F. overcast in a.m., sunny p.m.

54 Participants 126 Species

Compiled by Dwight Chasar

347	Canada Goose	15	Pileated Woodpecker	1	Black-throated Blue Warbler
86	Wood Duck	3	Eastern Wood-Pewee	46	Yellow-rumped Warbler
87	Mallard	1	Acadian Flycatcher	33	Black-throated Green Warbler
2	Blue-winged Teal	2	Least Flycatcher	8	Blackburnian Warbler
2	Green-winged Teal	39	Eastern Phoebe	18	Yellow-throated Warbler
3	Hooded Merganser	18	Great Crested Flycatcher	3	Pine Warbler
19	Wild Turkey	13	Eastern Kingbird	31	Palm Warbler
1	Pied-billed Grebe	7	Yellow-throated Vireo	1	Bay-breasted Warbler
3	Double-crested Cormorant	18	Blue-headed Vireo	1	Blackpoll Warbler
226	Great Blue Heron	36	Warbling Vireo	10	Cerulean Warbler
5	Green Heron	15	Red-eyed Vireo	13	Black-and-white Warbler
95	Turkey Vulture	231	Blue Jay	7	American Redstart
1	Osprey	168	American Crow	5	Prothonotary Warbler
1	Sharp-shinned Hawk	250	Tree Swallow	39	Ovenbird
8	Cooper's Hawk	43	Northern Rough-winged	2	Northern Waterthrush
18	Red-shouldered Hawk	6	Bank Swallow	12	Louisiana Waterthrush
3	Broad-winged Hawk	86	Barn Swallow	40	Common Yellowthroat
34	Red-tailed Hawk	169	Black-capped Chickadee	43	Hooded Warbler
3	American Kestrel	118	Tufted Titmouse	1	Wilson's Warbler
1	Virginia Rail	1	Red-breasted Nuthatch	27	Scarlet Tanager
5	Sora	41	White-breasted Nuthatch	56	Eastern Towhee
6	American Coot	3	Brown Creeper	114	Chipping Sparrow
23	Killdeer	37	Carolina Wren	46	Field Sparrow
2	Greater Yellowlegs	61	House Wren	16	Savannah Sparrow
2	Lesser Yellowlegs	1	Winter Wren	237	Song Sparrow
17	Solitary Sandpiper	1	Golden-crowned Kinglet	49	Swamp Sparrow
1	Spotted Sandpiper	34	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	37	White-throated Sparrow
2	Wilson's Snipe	110	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	32	White-crowned Sparrow
5	American Woodcock	28	Eastern Bluebird	280	Northern Cardinal
10	Ring-billed Gull	5	Hermit Thrush	35	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
3	Herring Gull	13	Wood Thrush	4	Bobolink
12	Rock Pigeon	340	American Robin	562	Red-winged Blackbird
95	Mourning Dove	26	Gray Catbird	3	Eastern Meadowlark
2	Barred Owl	2	Northern Mockingbird	4	Rusty Blackbird
74	Chimney Swift	3	Brown Thrasher	165	Common Grackle
3	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	126	European Starling	121	Brown-headed Cowbird
15	Belted Kingfisher	68	Blue-winged Warbler	8	Orchard Oriole
3	Red-headed Woodpecker	2	Orange-crowned Warbler	133	Baltimore Oriole
104	Red-bellied Woodpecker	29	Nashville Warbler	2	Purple Finch
87	Downy Woodpecker	212	Yellow Warbler	44	House Finch
17	Hairy Woodpecker	6	Chestnut-sided Warbler	464	American Goldfinch
40	Northern Flicker	2	Magnolia Warbler	43	House Sparrow

About the Authors



Dwight Chasar has birded Ohio for more than 25 years. He leads bird walks in the CVNP and organizes spring and fall bird censuses.



Kevin Metcalf is current editor of the CBC and naturalist for the Cleveland Metroparks at the North Chagrin Reservation.



Ray Hannikman, former editor of the CBC, began birding in 1970. Since 1994, most of his non-Ohio birding has been focused on South America—mostly Peru and Brazil.

Thanks to Our Field Contributors...

Nancy Anderson (NA)

John Andes (JA)

Brenda Baber (BB)

Emil Bacik (EB)

Gregory Bennett (GBe)

Dan Best (DB)

Garnet Byrne (GB)

Jennifer Brumfield (JB)

Craig Caldwell (CC)

Chris Caprette (CCa)

Dwight Chasar (DC)

Dwight and Ann Chasar (DAC)

Liz Clingman (LC)

Bill Deininger (BD)

Leo Deininger (LD)

John and Ann Edwards (JAE)

Tim Fairweather (TF)

Ben Fambough (BF)

Victor Fazio (VF)

Bob Finkelstein (BF)

Anders and Joyce Fjeldstad (AJF)

Linda Gilbert (LGi)

Tami Gingrich (TG)

Laura Gooch (LGo)

Chris Grame (CG)

Ray Hannikman (RH)

Rob and Sandy Harlan (RSH)

Jim Heflich (JHe)

Dick and Jean Hoffman (DJH)

Nancy Howell (NH)

Susan Jones (SJ)

Laura Jordan (LJ)

Paul Kiplinger (PK)

Charles Klaus (CK)

Marian Kraus (MK)

Tim Krynak (TK)

Gabe Leidy (GL)

Fred Losi (FL)

Paula Lozano (PL)

Jim McConnor (JMc)

Kevin Metcalf (KM)

Kathy Mock (KMo)

Kevin O'Neil (KOn)

Holly Norton (HN)

Ken Ostermiller (KO)

Linda Paine (LP)

Perry Peskin (PP)

Chris Pierce (CPi)

John Pogacnik (JP)

Cathy Priebe (CP)

Todd Ray (TR)

Bob Roach (BRo)

Bryn Roberts (BR)

Tom and Mary Anne Romito (TMR)

Larry Rosche (LR)

Doug and Dorothy Sheldon (DDS)

Su Snyder (SSn)

Barb Sponseller (BSp)

Woody Stover (WS)

Carol Takacs (CT)

Jerry Talkington (JT)

Bill and Ann Toneff (BAT)

Doug Vogus (DV)

Suzanne Wagner (SW)

Sam Walker (SWa)

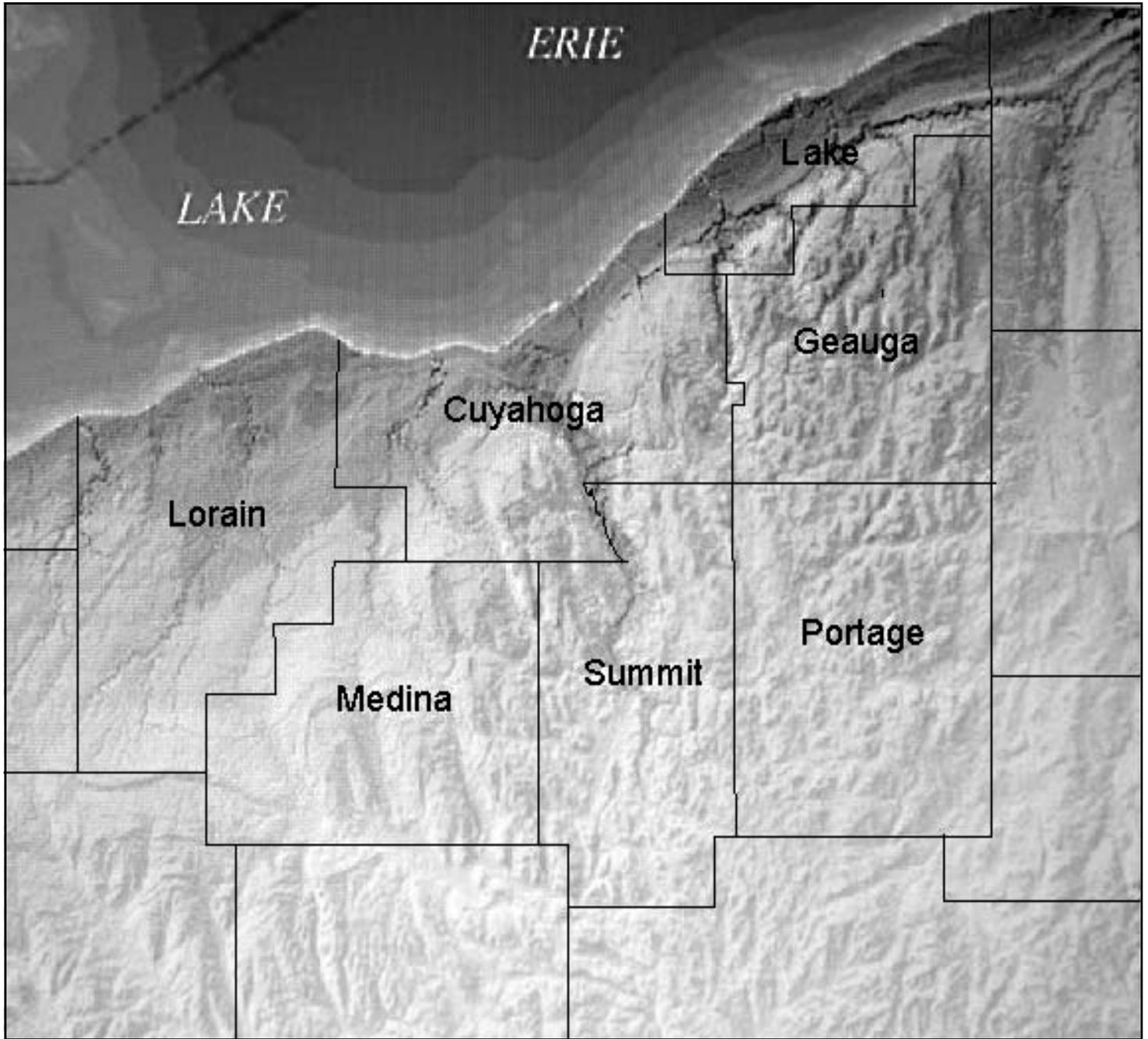
Jeff Wert (JW)

Ben Winger (BW_i)

Clyde Witt (CW)

Scott Wright (SW_r)

Sean Zadar (SZ)



The seven counties of northeast Ohio included in the Cleveland Bird Calendar region.

