

THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR

A Quarterly Journal of Bird Sightings from the Cleveland Region

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The Cleveland Bird Calendar

Winter 2006 – 2007

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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.

Readers are encouraged to make every effort to identify and help preserve sensitive habitats and migrant stopover points.

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Cover photo: Purple Sandpiper, found at Headlands Beach State Park, December 20, 2006. Photographed by Greg Cudworth.

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In order to publish the correct information, please label the photos: **bird_location_date_photographer.jpg**

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

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WINTER

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Winter 2006 – 2007

Season's Highlights

by Fred Dinkelbach

Temperatures in the 50s during the first half of January and no substantial ice on the lake until February were factors influencing this season's sightings.

Lake Erie birds stayed until the last minute. This meant that a Gadwall on January 29th, for example, or a Pintail on January 23rd may very well be late fall "hangers-on" and not early spring wanderers. Other birds like Bonaparte's Gull and Black-crowned Night-Heron followed this pattern as well, with scoters continuing their fall success through the end of January. Nancy Howell wrote of the Lakewood Christmas Bird Count on December 30th: "Lake Erie was wide open...it was just too darn nice a day...notable sightings: painted turtles sunning themselves at Lake Isaac, fresh spider silk in wooded areas along trails." So for the February numbers, take into account that fewer birders venture out in the single-digit temperatures!

Our on-line form for submissions arranges the columns by date of earliest seasonal appearance, highest count, and latest date. For the winter issue I'm using this information only as a starting point. I've skipped the early/late dates for year-round residents for the most part and concentrated on high counts. For some of the waterfowl I have shown the numbers that illustrated the turn of events when winter finally did set in at the end of January. However this certainly does not mean that the unpublished portion of your submissions does not count. Every submission is turned over to the Cleveland Museum of Natural History's Archive Department once an issue

has been completed, so what ends up in print is not the only record available should one want to do more thorough research. Rather than rely solely upon submissions mailed or e-mailed directly to me, I've also exchanged sightings with Bill Whan of the *Cardinal*. I am using postings on the internet, but only if I know the poster well, and if it's a noteworthy sighting.



Fred Dinkelbach, Editor

For winter issues only, "CBC" means Christmas Bird Count and is not a reference to this publication. Many reports came from CBC participants, but I could not get all CBC records for the season to review for this issue. The loyal Calendar readers forwarded their noteworthy CBC sightings, and I did include the December 30th Lakewood CBC as an example of this year's results.

One hundred twenty-seven species were reported for this winter period and that number should have been higher. There was a record late date for Soras and a tie for record high for Purple Sandpiper. There was

one Ruffed Grouse reported; one would assume that turkeys would also have been seen, but no reports of turkeys were received. We know they're out there and their numbers are increasing every year. Also absent were Eastern Towhee and Barred Owl.

While compiling the Calendar I get a chance to read accounts of interesting behavior submitted with the sightings. Anders Fjeldstad watched a Cooper's Hawk try to catch a Ruddy Duck at Veteran's Park pond, the hawk going right into the water – and the duck got away (e-mail from Larry Rosche on 12/21). Linda Gilbert had a Tufted Titmouse singing its spring song on December 26. Mary Anne Romito discovered an unconventional way to attract a Virginia Rail. On one of her and her husband Tom's regular walks at the CVNP Ira Road towpath on

12/18, she said, "I accidentally sneezed and the rail responded. We then heard it again several times when we 'kissed' the back of our hands."

Correction:

The Fall 2006 report of a Lark Sparrow sighted at Richfield Coliseum area as being a first record for Summit County was in error. It was the second sighting for Summit County; the first was seen by Marie Morgan and Bert Szabo at the Akron Sewage Plant during the Greater Akron Audubon Society's Summer Count on June 19, 2005. It was reported to Kevin Metcalf who included it in the Cleveland Bird Calendar Volume 101 # 3 Summer 2005.

Weather Report

by Dwight Chasar

December:

Temperatures averaged 38.4°, 7.3° above normal. The high was 58° on the 17th and the low was 17° on the 8th. Lake Erie water stood at 52° on the 1st and fell to 46° by the 31st. Precipitation was distributed over 12 days, totaling 3.51 liquid inches, 0.37 inches above normal. The greatest liquid fall in any 24 hour period was 2.49 inches on the 30th – 1st. Snowfall totaled 9.5 inches and the greatest depth was 3.0 inches on the 8th and 9th.

January:

Temperatures averaged 31.1°, 5.4° above normal. The high was 59° on the 5th and the low 5° on the 26th and 29th. Precipitation was distributed over 24 days to total 5.84 liquid inches, 3.36 inches above normal. The greatest liquid fall in any 24-hour period was 2.14 inches on the 5th – 6th. Snowfall totaled 21.1 inches while the greatest ground depth was 6 inches on the 29th. Lake Erie was at 33° by the end of the month with little or no ice cover.

February:

Temperatures averaged 18.8°, 9.6° below normal. The high was 45° on the 20th and the low -4° on the 5th and 15th. Lake Erie remained essentially ice covered during the month. Total liquid equivalent precipitation was 1.41 inches, 0.88 inches below normal and occurred over 15 days. Snowfall totaled 23.2 inches with the greatest ground depth of 17 inches on the 19th after a maximum 24-hour fall of 10.4 inches on the 13th.

Seasonal Report

Location key is shown at the bottom of every page spread. Contributors' initials are inside the back cover. **Underline** denotes unexpected species in the region.

Greater White-fronted Goose. On December 16 one found its way to Sunset Pond in North Chagrin Reservation (KM) and stayed until the next day.

Snow Goose. Two were observed at Springfield Lake in Summit County on December 3 (GBe). Forty-three were seen flying over Wellington Reservoir and thirteen were seen at Findlay State Park on December 30 (AA, DL, CP). One was seen from the CVNP towpath near Boston January 18 and February 1 (HO et al.).

Brant. An adult was seen among Canada Geese at Fairport Harbor on December 27 (JT).

Cackling Goose. One was seen on the Mentor CBC December 18 (AFj fide LR).

Canada Goose. The usual numbers, most reports in the double-digits and some in the hundreds. Largest reported count was over 500 at E. 222nd Street in Euclid on December 13 (NA).

Mute Swan. Four were seen at E. 72nd Street, Cleveland, February 4 (CC).

Tundra Swan. Thirteen were found at Lake Rockwell on February 10 (GB). Thirty were reported from Hinckley December 1 (GL). Five were seen at Lorain Harbor February 4 (GL). Three were at HBSP February 7 (RH).

Wood Duck. The warm weather kept one around on December 29 at North Chagrin Reservation (FL). This may have been the same one seen there January 11 and 12 and within one quarter mile on January 11 at the Mayfield Village Wetland (FL).



Photo by Delores Cole

Greater White-fronted Goose

North Chagrin Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks — December 16, 2006

Gadwall. Greg Bennett had eleven at Mogadore Reservoir on January 20 and ten at O'Brien Cemetery in Hudson on January 23 (GBe). Twelve were at HBSP December 5 (RH), four at Gordon Park Boat Basin January 25 (NA) and one at E. 72nd Street February 4 (CC).

American Wigeon. Six were seen at HBSP January 23 (RH).

American Black Duck. On January 31 one was seen in Mayfield at an office park pond mixed in with Mallards and geese (FL). HBSP hosted ten on December 2, 30 on January 29 and ten on February 4 (RH). Twelve were at the CVNP Ira Road marsh December 11 (TMR).

Mallard. Most reports had double-digit counts. Seventy-five were at

Quick Rd & Rt. 8 on December 17 (TMR). Two hundred fifty were seen at HBSP January 28 (RH). Eighty were seen at the Mayfield Village Wetland January 23 (FL).

Northern Shoveler. On December 5 five were seen at Long Lake in Summit County, 18 at Nesmith Lake in Akron and nine at Summit Lake (GBe). On January 10 there were 45 at Summit Lake (GBe). Latest were six, two male and four female, on the lake-front at Cleveland Public Power on January 14 (GL) and one at HBSP on January 25 (RH).

Northern Pintail. The Cuyahoga Falls CBC recorded one off of the bike path near Hudson Drive on December 17 (FL). One was found at Mentor Lagoons December 18 (AFj fide LR). Two were seen at Lakeshore

Reservation on January 21 (JP). Two were counted at HBSP on January 23 (RH). Lake Rockwell had one on February 20 (GB). One or two were at the CVNP Ira Road marsh January 1 to February 26 (TMR).

Rockwell on February 10 and the number climbed to 40 on February 20 (GB).

10 at Mentor Lagoons December 10 (CC), 28 at Sims Park January 24 (NA). A first-year drake was at Spitzer Marina in Lorain on January 27 (GBe).



Photo by Delores Cole

Green-winged Teal

North Chagrin Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks — January 7, 2007

Green-winged Teal. One was seen at the south pond from the Nature Center at the North Chagrin Reservation on December 28 and January 12 (FL). Another was seen at Lake Phippen on February 1 (LR).

Canvasback. At HBSP 40 were counted on February 5 and 30 on February 7 (RH).

Redhead. High counts were 25 at Wellington Reservoir on January 6 (CC) and 20 at HBSP on February 7 (RH).

Ring-necked Duck. There were 133 at O'Brien Cemetery in Hudson on January 23 (GBe). One hundred were seen at Wellington Reservoir on January 6 (CC). Twelve wintered in the Summit Lake-Nesmith Lake area (GBe). Three were found at Lake

Greater Scaup. HBSP had one December 11 and 20 on February 7 (RH). The Avon Power Plant had one on February 10 (CC).

Lesser Scaup. HBSP had 30 December 5; 40 on January 29 and 20 on February 2 (RH). One was at E. 72nd Street on February 4 (CC).

King Eider. An immature male remained with the scoter flock off Mentor Lagoons from December 2 through December 18 (JT). One was seen from Sims Park on January 20 (NA) and two on January 21 (JT fide NA).

Harlequin Duck. A first-year drake was at Spitzer Marina in Lorain on January 27 (GBe).

Surf Scoter. Seventy were seen at HBSP on December 2 (RH, JT, LR),

White-winged Scoter. Twenty-seven remained at Lakeshore Reservation on December 2 (JP); 15 were at HBSP on Dec 2 (RH, JT, LR), where there were still two by January 27 (RH). See photo next page. Sims Park had seven on December 4, where the numbers were as high as 15 through January 1 (NA). Six were at Mentor Lagoons on December 10 (CC). One male was at Eastlake Power Plant and one male was at E. 72nd Street on February 18 (NA).

Black Scoter. At HBSP 40 were seen on December 2 (RH, JT, LR), with the numbers tapering off to two by December 24 (RH). Sims Park had the following well studied history: Six to seven on December 6 (NA), 10–12 on December 13 (NA), two on January 2 (CC) and one by January 27 (NA). Mentor Lagoons hosted six on December 10 (CC). Lorain Harbor had five on February 4 (GL).



Photo by John Pogacnik

Harlequin Duck

Lorain Harbor, Lorain — January 27, 2007



Photo by Jerry Talkington

White-winged Scoter

Lake Erie at East 72nd Street, Cleveland – date unrecorded

Long-tailed Duck. An unusual inland sighting; one male and two females in a pond in Homerville, Medina County, on December 19 (GE). Ten were at HBSP on December 2 (RH). Four were at Lakeshore Reservation on December 2 (JP). One was found at Avon Power Plant on February 10 (CC) and February 17 (PL).

Bufflehead. Twenty-three were observed at Sims Park on December 20 (NA). Thirty-five were seen on December 27 from Rocky River to Huntington Beach on December 27 (PL). One was at the Avon Power Plant February 10 (CC).

Common Goldeneye. Highest counts were 200 at Sims Park on January 2 (CC) and 247 at Sims Park on January 22 (NA).

Hooded Merganser. Twelve persisted at Summit Lake until February 13 and five until the end of the season (GBe). Twelve were at HBSP on December 7 (RH). Two were at Fowler’s Mill Golf Course in Geauga County on January 1 (AF). Three were found at Lake Rockwell on February 10 and nine on February 20 (GB).

Common Merganser. The highest count was at HBSP with 2000 on February 5, dropping to 300 on February 7 (RH). More than 500 were seen at Lorain Harbor on February 4 (GL). Among the CVNP Cuyahoga River reports were the following near Jaite: three (all males) on December 19 (FCD) and three on January 31, six on February 10 and six on February 17 (DAC). Three were at Lake Rockwell on February 20 (GB).

Red-breasted Merganser. Autumn numbers continued through the winter. HBSP had 6000 on December 1, 300 on December 9, 5000 on December 12, 250 on January 22 and 3000 on February 5 (RH). Eight hundred were at the Avon Power Plant on January 6 (CC).

Ruddy Duck. Highest count was 1000+ at Wellington Reservoir on January 6 (CC). Fifteen were at HBSP on December 2 and 6 (RH). Twenty-four were counted at Sims Park on January 21 (NA). Five wintered at Summit Lake (GBe). Twenty-one were seen at Lake Rockwell on February 10 (GB).

Ruffed Grouse. One was at Swine Creek Reservation the week of January 26 Middlefield, Geauga County. (SB fide LR).

Red-throated Loon. Two birds were off Mentor Lagoons on December 2 and 3 (JT, RH, LR). At Lakeshore Reservation, there were three on December 3, one on December 5 and one on January 9 (JP).

Common Loon. Autumn leftovers included a large count of 611 at Lakeshore Reservation on December 3 (JP) and 46 at HBSP on December 2 (RH). An uncommon mid-winter count of three occurred off Headlands Beach on January 7 (JT, RH, EB) and then the numbers dropped to one on January 24 at HBSP (RH). Inland reports were one at Wellington Reservoir December 30 (AA, DL, CP) and one at Nimisila Reservoir on January 3 (GBe).

Pied-billed Grebe. Twelve were seen on December 2 at HBSP (RH). Eleven were at Springfield Lake on December 3 and nine were there on January 20 (GBe). Eleven were at Nimisila Reservoir on January 25 (GBe). Four were at Lorain Harbor on January 27 (GBe). Fourteen were at Summit Lake from January 28 through the end of February (GBe). Nine were seen at E. 72nd Street January 27 (GL). Three were at Lorain Harbor on February 4 (GL).

Horned Grebe. At HBSP two were seen on December 2 with one seen every few days until December 21; then one returning on February 7 (RH). Inland, two were reported at Oberlin Reservoir on January 6 (CC).

Double-crested Cormorant. Twelve were tallied at HBSP on December 12 and one on January 29 (RH). The E. 72nd Street marina hosted two on February 4 (CC).

Mostly mild weather from early December through mid-January kept excellent numbers of waterfowl in the HBSP area. Regular Mentor birders greatly enjoyed showing local and out-of-town birders “our” flock of all three species of scoters off Mentor Lagoons; along with an occasional visit by an immature male King Eider. More common species such as Red-breasted Mergansers, Common Goldeneyes, both Greater and Lesser Scaup, in varying numbers could also be found in the flock. And for those who could not get enough of shorebirds, the break-wall off Headlands Beach beckoned those who sought a very reliable December Purple Sandpiper which fed on algae-encrusted rocks. Mild early winter temperatures gave way to ice, blowing and drifting snow, and sub-freezing temperatures in mid-January and these conditions persisted throughout the rest of the season. The band of American Tree Sparrows in the dunes area of the State Nature Preserve, the chattering Winter Wren and bashful Eastern Screech-Owl at Mentor Lagoons – all added to a most satisfactory winter birding season during February’s bitterly cold days.

Great Blue Heron. More than 25 were at Shipman's Pond in Mentor Marsh on January 28 (NA).

Black-crowned Night-heron. Emil Bacik found an immature bird near the Coast Guard station on February 3 (EB). This was Headland’s first record of this species in the month of February. The popular Cuyahoga River wintering flock at Merwin Street near downtown Cleveland brought in the following counts through the season: 110 on December 2 (PL), 72 on December 12 (PL), 93 on December 17 (PL), 84 on January 1 (DJH), 62 on January 2 (CC), at least 101 on January 14 (PL) and none on February 17 (PL).

Turkey Vulture. One was seen over Richfield December 16 (LR) and nearby in Hinckley one on January 25 (GL). Possibly the same bird: in between those locations was a report of one over I-271 and Rt. 94 on January 27 (KT, PC, SJ, CW). One was seen in Sagamore Hills on the more expected date of February 28 (DAC).

Bald Eagle. Three were at the CVNP Ira Road marsh on December 4 (TMR). Two were seen in the CVNP on December 6 (LD). One was seen at Rocky River Metroparks on December 20 (LD). The Pinery Narrows nest on the Brecksville/Sagamore Hills border had one adult on December 31, one adult on February 3 and two adults on February 10 (DAC). Nearby two adults were seen at Station Road on December 18 and at Canal Road near Charles Road on January 17 (SJ, CW). On January 14 an adult was at the Pleasant Valley-Riverview Road marsh in the CVNP (DAC). On January 20 two sub-adults were seen at Red Lock in the CVNP and one sub-adult there on February 17 (DAC). One was seen from the E. 55th Street Marina on February 5 (LD). One adult was seen in Parma at Brookpark and Broadview on February 19 (GL). An adult was seen at the Tinkers Creek nest on February 22, 24 and 28 (FL).

Northern Harrier. One was seen at HBSP on December 10 (RH). On February 7 one was seen along Chagrin River Road (LR).

Sharp-shinned Hawk. One dodged traffic at E. 55th Street on January 30 (SJ).

Cooper's Hawk. Many December reports. One in Maple Hts. December 12, one in Tremont December 15, one from Franklin Blvd. in Cleveland December 21, an immature near Fleet Ave. in Cleveland on December 27 and an immature at a Lakewood shopping center December 27 (DR). One was seen at the Mayfield Village Wetland on January 11 (FL). One was found in Westlake February 17 (CC). One was seen near downtown Cleveland at E. 55th Street and Carnegie on February 14 (SJ).

Northern Goshawk. One immature bird raided a North Perry feeder the afternoon of January 20 (JP).

Red-shouldered Hawk. Half a dozen reports of one and two birds throughout the season. One was observed catching a Blue Jay in Westlake Feb 4 (CC).

Red-tailed Hawk. Six (three pairs close together) were seen along I-90 in Lorain County on January 3 (CC). Five were at the CVNP Ira Road marsh on January 1 (TMR). Five were seen along a three-mile stretch of Canal Road south of Rockside Road on February 7 (SJ).

Rough-legged Hawk. One was seen January 26 (EK) and one on February 7 (fide LR) at Hayes Road in Geauga County. Two were hunting along the north edge of Burke Airport on January 14 (GL).

American Kestrel. One was seen at Bath Nature Preserve on January 20 (TM). One was seen eating a Brown Snake at Chagrin River Park on December 14 (JT fide LR). Craig Caldwell spotted one at Eastlake on December 16, two at Wist Rd. & Rt. 303 in Lorain County January 6 and one in Lorain County February 10 (CC). One was seen at the East Shoreway near the Illuminating Company December 17 (PL). From the CVNP towpath near Boston, one was seen January 11 and on February 8 (HO et al.). One was seen from Canal Road in Valley View January 17 (SJ, CW).

Merlin. One made an appearance in a Stow backyard January 21 (NDR fide LR). Lakeview Cemetery hosted one on December 8 through December 28 and again on January 26 and February 1 (DJH). Calvary Cemetery in Garfield Heights hosted one on December 28 (JB) and 2 there on February 27 (LGa). Besides cemeteries, golf courses were also good wintering grounds with one at Ridgewood in Parma on January 14 (GL) and one at Big Met in Rocky River on January 1 (PL) One was also seen in Parma on January 4 and 22 on CCC campus (PL). One was located at Horseshoe Lake in Shaker Hts. on January 28 (JW, GN).

Peregrine Falcon. One was observed at E. 72nd marina January 21 (GC fide LR) and on February 4 (KM). One was seen at Fairport Harbor December 23 (PCh). On February 14 one was seen flying at I-77 and Rockside Road with prey in its beak (SJ). The Eastlake Power Plant hosted one bird on December 10 (CC) and one on January 1 (JP).

Virginia Rail. On December 18 one was heard repeatedly from the Ira Road marsh in the CVNP and one was heard again there on January 1 and 8 (TMR). One was observed in a wetland under the power lines at Chagrin River Park on December 14 (JP fide LR).

Sora. Three observed in a wetland under power lines at Chagrin River Park on December 14 (JP & JT fide LR). This is later than the previous latest date November 7, 1947.

American Coot. At Nimisila Reservoir approximately 330 were seen on January 3 and 50 on January 19 (GBe). Around 130 were at Summit Lake through January and these tapered to single digits by the end of the season (GBe). Twenty-five were seen at Lake Rockwell on February 10 (GB). Forty were seen at HBSP on December 5 and 22 on January 31 (RH). Twenty were found at Lorain Harbor February 4 (GL).

Sandhill Crane. Fifteen were counted flying over Singer Lake January 19 (CJ fide LR). One was observed flying over the University Square area of Cedar Road on January 23 (JSm fide LR).

Killdeer. One was seen on December 30 at the Cleveland Zoo (TMR). The Lakewood CBC counted one on the same day (NH); 43 were seen at Golfview Lane in Richmond Hts. on December 3 (PL).

Purple Sandpiper. Five were counted at HBSP on the Mentor CBC on December 18 (AFj fide LR). This matched the previous highest count in November 1994. One very tame and photogenic individual frequented the west break wall off Headlands Beach from December 2 through January 23 (many obs.). One was seen at Lakeshore Reservation on January 6 (JP).

Wilson's Snipe. One was counted at Veteran's Park on the Mentor CBC on December 18 (AFj fide LR). Nineteen were seen in Richmond Hts. at Golfview Lane on December 3 and three were seen there on January 7 (PL).

American Woodcock. One was seen at Chagrin River Park on December 14 (JP fide LR).

Little Gull. One was seen at E. 55th Street on December 8 (NA).

Bonaparte's Gull. One hundred thirty were tallied at HBSP on December 5 and 250 on January 20, but by February 7 only one was counted (RH); 1000 were counted at E. 72nd Street on January 2 (CC). Inland there were 25 near Berlin Reservoir on January 15 (GBe).

Ring-billed Gull. Five to six thousand were seen at Fairport Harbor on December 23 (PCh). HBSP had 4500 on December 17 and 2400 on January 31, but none in February (RH). Inland counts included roughly 1000 at Berlin Reservoir on January 15 (GBe) and 250 at the CVNP Ira Road marsh on January 29 (TMR).

Herring Gull. Five hundred were at Fairport Harbor on December 23 (PCh). HBSP had 30 on December 5, 180 on December 17, 150 on January 7 and none in February (RH). Inland, 400 were counted at

Oberlin Reservoir on January 6 (CC). Forty-nine were at the CVNP Ira Road marsh on February 19 (TMR).

Thayer's Gull. One adult was seen at E. 72nd marina January 1 (JP) and January 21 (GC). One first-winter was at E. 72nd Street February 10 (RH).

Iceland Gull. One first-year bird was at Lakeshore Reservation on January 9 and January 20 (JP). One first-year or second-year was seen at Lakeshore Reservation on February 17 (JP). One first-winter individual was at E. 72nd Street on February 10 (RH). Another was seen there on February 23 (SW).



Photo by Jerry Talkington

2nd Year Iceland Gull

Lake Erie at East 72nd Street, Cleveland – date unrecorded



Photo by Jerry Talkington

Adult Glaucous Gull

Lake Erie at East 72nd Street, Cleveland – date unrecorded

Lesser Black-backed Gull. Fourteen reports, all January and February, from the usual spots along the lake (E. 72nd Street, Fairport Harbor, HBSP, Lakeshore Reservation). The sightings consisted of mostly one or two birds and, when aged, split between either adult or first-winter. Three, two adults and one first-winter, were seen at Eastlake Power Plant on January 1 (JP). Six were seen at E. 72nd Street February 10 (JB). Two adults and one first-winter were seen at E. 55th Street on January 27 (GL). On February 4, four were seen at E. 72nd Street (KM) and four on February 7 (LR).

Glaucous Gull. Ten reports, all along the lake and mostly during the last third of January and the first third of February. At Lakeshore Reservation four birds, one adult, one third-winter and two first to second year, were at Lakeshore Reservation January 20 and two adults were seen there on January 28 (JP). Three adults were seen at E. 72nd marina January 21 (GC). Three were seen February 10 at E. 72nd Street (JB). Earliest was one adult at Eastlake Power Plant on January 1 (JP) and latest was one second-winter bird at E. 72nd Street on February 23 (SW).

Great Black-backed Gull. One hundred twenty-eight were at Lakeshore Reservation on January 9 (JP). HBSP had 9 on December 2 (RH), 60 on January 20 (RH) and 9 on February 9 (RH). Approximately 50 were counted at E. 72nd Street February 4 (KM).

Black-legged Kittiwake. One was seen from the beach at Willoughby on December 7 (JT fide LR).

Pomarine Jaeger. At Lakeshore Reservation one was seen on December 3 and two were seen on January 7 (JP).

Rock Pigeon. Most reports were from urban areas.

Mourning Dove. Many 2-figure counts were reported throughout the season. Fifty-five were seen at the CVNP Ira Road marsh on February 12 (TMR). Twelve were seen at All Saints Cemetery in Sagamore Hills on February 11 (FL).

Eastern Screech-Owl. At HBSP one was seen on December 20 and one on February 12 (RH).

Great Horned Owl. At HBSP one was seen on December 20 and two on December 29 (RH). One was heard from a Westlake residence on January 3 (CC).

Short-eared Owl. The Richfield Coliseum site provided reliable sightings December and January. One was seen there December 18 (PC); one on December 21 (TMR); two were there on December 31 (DAC); three on January 7 (JH, SK); three on January 11 (PC).

Belted Kingfisher. Two were at HBSP on December 2 (RH). Three were at the CVNP Ira Road marsh on January 8 and 15 (TMR).

Red-headed Woodpecker. One was seen near Rt. 58 north of Wellington on January 6 (CC).

Red-bellied Woodpecker. Five were seen at Rocky River Nature Center on December 2 (TMR). Five were at Bedford Overlook January 27 (FL).

Downy Woodpecker. Ten were seen at Rocky River Nature Center on December 2 (TMR). Ten were reported from Tinkers Creek State Park on January 20 (FL).

Hairy Woodpecker. Five were counted at Rocky River Nature Center on December 2 (TMR). Five were also counted from the bike path at Rt. 303 and Rt. 8 on December 17 (FL). Three were at Rocky River Reservation on January 1 (CC).

Northern Flicker. Three were at Findlay State Park on January 6 (CC).

Pileated Woodpecker. One was seen at Shaker Lakes on December 9 (LD). Several reports throughout the winter of one to two birds from HBSP (RH) and CVNP (many obs.).

Eastern Phoebe. One was seen on January 17 at the Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks (JAK).

Blue Jay. Highest count was a report of 19 from Tinkers Creek State Park on December 30 (FL).

American Crow. Twenty were seen at HBSP on December 29 (RH). Twenty-four were at Westlake on February 19 (CC). Fifty-three were found at the CVNP Ira Road marsh January 22 (TMR).

Horned Lark. Approximately 200 were in a fertilized field at the NE corner of Rt. 88 and Stoltis Road on January 28 (JH, SK).

Black-capped Chickadee. Thirty were counted from the bike path at Rt. 303 and Rt. 8 in Summit County on December 17 (FL). Twenty-five were seen at the CVNP Ira Road marsh on December 11 (TMR).

Continued, Page 10 column 2



Photo by Stan Colburn

Snowy Owl

West Branch Reservoir – January 1, 2007

Snowy Owl. One bird was a rare inland sighting near the East end of West Branch Reservoir on January 1 (CB fide LR, BW); at one time it was perched on a garage roof. This was on Wayland Road 1.2 miles south of Rt. 5.



Photo by Bill Deinger

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Rocky River Nature Center – January 21, 2007

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. One was at the Rocky River Nature Center’s feeders on January 21 (BD). Three were at the CVNP Ira Road marsh on both December 11 and January 22 (TMR). One was in a Richmond Heights backyard on February 5 (NA). One visited an Akron feeder February 11 and 12 (AS).



Photo by Judy Semroc

Northern Shrike
Ravenna Arsenal – January 9, 2007

Northern Shrike. Jerry Talkington found a single bird at an industrial park just south of Route 2 from December 17 and several dates thereafter (JT). HBSP had one on December 17 and 18 (RH). One was seen at Marsh Hawk Run in Chesterland on January 1 (AF). One was seen at Jaite in the CVNP on February 10 (DAC) and on January 21 (GL).

Black-capped Chickadee. (continued from Page 9, column 3)

Ten were found at Rocky River Reservation on January 1 (CC). Hope Orr’s group, doing their usual patrol of the CVNP towpath near Boston, counted 12 on December 14 and 8 on February 22 (HO et al.).

Tufted Titmouse. One to four were at the CVNP Ira Road marsh throughout the season (TMR). Eight were seen near Boston in the CVNP on February 22 (HO et al.).

Red-breasted Nuthatch. Single birds were found in Sagamore Hills on February 14 and 19 (DAC). Lakeview Cemetery had five on December 16 (DJH). Six were at HBSP on December 18 (RH).

White-breasted Nuthatch. Thirteen were seen at Quick Road and Rt. 8 in Summit County on December 17 (TMR). Nine were at Twinsburg Center Valley bike path on December 30 (FL).

Brown Creeper. One was at HBSP on December 1, December 18 and January 3 (RH). Two were at the CVNP Ira Road marsh on January 8 (TMR). Single birds were found in Sagamore Hills on January 23 and February 23 (DAC). One was at Tinkers Creek State Park on February 24 (FL). On January 28 one was heard south of Jaite (FL).

Carolina Wren. Ten were at the CVNP Ira Road marsh on January 1 (TMR). Eight were reported from HBSP on December 24 (RH).

Winter Wren. One was seen at Wilbeth Road in Akron on January 28 (GBE). HBSP had one seen on December 17 through February 1 (RH).

Golden-crowned Kinglet. Five were found near Quick Road and Rt. 8 in Summit County on December 17 (TMR). Fred Losi’s sightings were typical of everyone else’s: on the Cuyahoga Falls CBC he recorded two on December 17 off the bike path west of Rt. 91 (FL), two were seen from the Salt Run Trail in the CVNP on December 31 (FL) and two were counted at Tinkers Creek State Park on February 22 (FL). Many reports were of single birds throughout the season.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet. One was reported from the Rocky River Nature Center on December 2 (TMR).

Eastern Bluebird. Seven were seen from the Rt. 303 and Rt. 8 bike path on December 17 (FL). Twelve were at Quick Road and Rt. 8 in Summit County on December 17 (TMR). From the CVNP towpath near Boston, seven were counted on January 18 (HO et al.).

Hermit Thrush. One bird wintered at Mentor Lagoons, observed on December 9 and 11 and on February 9 (RH, JT). One was at HBSP on December 23 (PCh). One was seen in Rocky River Reservation, Cleveland Metroparks on January 21 (BD). One was found at Wildwood Park on January 27 (NA).

American Robin. Approximately 100 were observed flying over Rt. 8 and Rt. 82 in Summit County on January 26 (FL). The same day in the CVNP Tree Farm trail 50 more were seen (FL).

Northern Mockingbird. One was seen in Sagamore Hills on January 6 (DAC). Two were found at Sanitation Pond in the CVNP on January 21 (DAC). Many reports were from urban parks and cemeteries.

European Starling. Included in most reports. 26 were seen from the Summit County bike path at Rt. 303 and Rt. 8 on December 17 (FL). 58 were counted at the Cleveland Zoo on December 30 (TMR).

Cedar Waxwing. Twenty were at the CVNP Ira Road marsh on December 11 and 27 on January 8 (TMR). In South Russell Township 20 were seen on December 8 (LG).

Yellow-rumped Warbler. Twelve were at Findlay State Park on the December 30 Wellington CBC (fide LR).

American Tree Sparrow. In South Russell Township 31 were seen on



Photo by Bill Deininger

Hermit Thrush

Rocky River Nature Center, Cleveland Metroparks
January 21, 2007

December 26 (LG). On December 17, 30 were seen from the Rt. 303 & Rt. 8 bike path (FL). Thirty were at HBSP on December 24 (RH).

Chipping Sparrow. One was found January 1 from Stafford Road next to Auburn SWA on the Burton CBC (LR).

Field Sparrow. One was seen at Shaker Lakes on December 7 (LD).

Fox Sparrow. One was seen at HBSP on December 8 (RH). One was at a feeder in Swine Creek Reservation in Geauga County on January 26 (EK).

Song Sparrow. Nine were at an Akron feeder on February 14 (GBe). In Summit County, 10 were at the Rt. 303 and Rt. 8 bike path on December 17 (FL). Five were at the Mayfield Village Wetland on January 3 (FL).

Swamp Sparrow. On January 23 one was observed in the Mayfield Village Wetland (FL). One was seen

at HBSP on December 18 and December 23 (RH). Two were at the CVNP Ira Road marsh on January 29 (TMR).

White-throated Sparrow. Thirteen were reported from the CVNP's Ira Road marsh on January 22 (TMR). Twenty were found at the Ohio and Erie Canal Center on February 3 (DAC).

White-crowned Sparrow. One was at the CVNP's Wilson Feed Mill on February 3 (DAC).

Dark-eyed Junco. Thirty-one were counted at the Rt. 303 and Rt. 8 bike path in Summit County on December 17 (FL). Thirty-two were at Quick Road and Rt. 8 on December 17 (TMR). Forty to 50 were at a Swine Creek Reservation feeder in Geauga County on January 26 (EK).

Lapland Longspur. A few were mixed in with Horned Larks in a fertilized field at Rt. 88 and Stoltis Road in Geauga County on January 28 (JH, SK).

Snow Bunting. At HBSP 20 were seen on December 3 and 30 on February 7 (RH). About a dozen were found in a Geauga County manured field at Rt. 88 and Stoltis Road on January 28 (JH, SK).

Northern Cardinal. In Summit County, 20 were observed at the Rt. 303 and Rt. 8 bike path on December 17 (FL). Fifteen were at Quick Road and Rt. 8 on December 17 (TMR). Twenty to 25 were at the Swine Creek Reservation feeder in Geauga County on January 26 (EK). At the tow-path in the CVNP near Boston, 14 were seen on February 22 (HO et al.).

Red-winged Blackbird. Eighteen were counted at the CVNP Ira Road marsh on December 26 (TMR). Twenty were found at the Ohio & Erie Canal Center on February 3 (DAC).

Rusty Blackbird. Fifteen were seen at Firestone Metroparks on January 30 (GBe). One was seen at the CVNP towpath near Boston on both December 14 and 21 (HO et al.).

Common Grackle. More than 80 were seen flying over Findlay State Park on December 30 (AA, DL, CP). One was at HBSP on January 4 (RH).

Brown-headed Cowbird. Four were seen at HBSP on December 26 (RH). The CVNP Ira Road marsh had two on February 12 and four on February 26 (TMR).

Purple Finch. Five were seen at Waite Hill on December 16 (AF).

House Finch. Highest count was 28 at Quick Road and Rt. 8 in Summit County on December 17 (TMR).

Pine Siskin. Two were at Lakeview Cemetery on December 16 (DJH).

American Goldfinch. Seventy-five were counted at Eastlake on December 16 (CC). Fifty-five were at the CVNP Ira Road marsh January 8 (TMR).

House Sparrow. Eight-six were seen at Quick Road and Rt. 8 in Summit County on December 17 (TMR).

You and Your Friends are Invited...

The Kirtland Bird Club welcomes you to its monthly meetings the first Wednesday of each month (except in 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 meetings, programs, trips and directions;
www.kirtlandbirdclub.org.

Notes on Common Names Found in *The Cleveland Bird Calendar*

by Dick Hoffman

In the course of working on the project to make *The Cleveland Bird Calendar* available online, particularly when working on the early volumes, I encountered common names I'd never seen before and former names I hadn't seen in many years.

With the encouragement of Delores Cole, I decided to keep a cross reference between former and current names from which I could eventually produce a report.

The USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center's web sites www.pwrc.usgs.gov/research/pubs/banks/obspart1.htm www.pwrc.usgs.gov/research/pubs/banks/obspart2.htm were of great assistance in resolving some of the older names to their current counterparts. This report is now online at the Kirtland Bird Club's web site. Some of the notes I made while compiling and reviewing the report will hopefully give you a feeling for what I found.

The species that appears to have endured the most name changes during the 100-plus years of *The Calendar* is the Eastern Towhee. In Volume 1 of *The Calendar* it is called Chewink, Ground Robin and Towhee Bunting but simply Towhee in Volume 7. By Volume 40 it is Red-eyed Towhee followed by Rufous-sided Towhee in Volume 54 and finally becomes our present Eastern Towhee in Volume 92 (at the same time that Baltimore Oriole was reinstated). During its tenure as Rufous-sided Towhee, I incidentally recalled, it was considered conspecific with the western Spotted Towhee. How many Spotted Towhees were overlooked during its non-specific term as Rufous-sided Towhee?

Loon names were a problem. Volume 4 simply refers to "Loon" and I took the liberty of treating it as Common Loon, but who knows? Black-throated Loon appears in Volume 13 and the Patuxent web site refers this name to "Arctic Loon." However, Arctic Loon was split into Arctic and Pacific Loons and the latter is more likely to ap-

pear here than the former, though neither have according to the published guides. Dr. Arthur B. Williams, in his 1950 edition of *Birds of the Cleveland Region*, lists neither Arctic nor Pacific but does list Greater and Lesser forms of the Common Loon (and Volume 40 of *The Calendar* mentions Lesser Loon, no doubt the latter form). Larry Rosche, in the latest edition of *The Birds of the Cleveland Region*, lists neither Arctic nor Pacific. If the 1917 report in fact was for other than a Common Loon it must have been rejected later.

Then there are shrikes. I thought I had them figured out: Great Northern Shrike would be the rare winter visitor we know simply as Northern Shrike and Migrant Shrike would be our Loggerhead Shrike, but I had to pause when I read in Volume 3 of a Great Northern Shrike nesting in an Osage orange hedge on Green Road. There are no shrikes anywhere near the Green Road I know that ambles through our eastern suburbs but in 1917 this was the Wild, Wild East and anything was possible. A review of the Williams and Rosche publications showed no record of nesting Northern and gives Loggerhead as a former nester in Rosche, so the report must have been revised to the Loggerhead equivalent at some later date.

Early *Calendars* were apparently influenced by the Old World for common names for in Volume 6 I noted Sand Martin and White-bellied Martin, European names for Bank Swallow and, perhaps, Tree Swallow, respectively. The Turtle Dove in Volume 7 must have been what we know as Mourning Dove and Volume 11 may have been similarly influenced in its use of White-headed Eagle for Bald Eagle. Or was this an early attempt at being PC?

I am resigned to writing Long-tailed Duck instead of Oldsquaw. I remembered that Peregrine Falcon replaced Duck Hawk, Upland Sandpiper replaced Bartramian Sandpiper (with a stop along the way at Upland Plover) and that Whimbrel replaced Hudsonian Curlew and I remembered a change that resulted in someone trying to explain it with “Knot is not to be read Knot but Red Knot.” However, I was completely surprised by Black Capped Green Warbler instead of Wilson’s Warbler, Blue Back Snowbird instead of Dark-eyed Junco, Arkansas Kingbird instead of Western Kingbird, Blue Yellow-backed Warbler instead of Northern Parula and Brown Thrush instead of Brown Thrasher. I seem to remember that our Common Grackle was once both Bronzed and Purple Grackle, but definitely not that Green-crested Flycatcher is now Acadian Flycatcher, Olive-backed Thrush is now Swainson’s Thrush and that Wilson’s Thrush is now Veery. Of course, my favorite new archaic name is Snow Flake for Snow Bunting.

In the early to mid 1940s, when A. B. Williams was editor of *The Calendar*, there seemed to be an undue emphasis placed upon identifying species down to the sub-specific level. It was interesting to read Merrit Skaggs’ account of banding a Gambel’s White-crowned Sparrow in Volume 40, but nearly every species reported in that Volume has its common name prefaced by a geographic or other descriptive qualifier. Thus we read of Ohio House Wren, American Barn Owl, Mississippi Song Sparrow, Eastern Snow Bunting, Northern Blue Jay and Common Mallard. Some of this tendency was in evidence

even earlier. In volume 12 we find Great Herring Gull (implying a Lesser?) and in Volume 4 we see a report of a Little Green Heron (implying perhaps an Intermediate Green Heron?). All these presumed sub-species names inflated my list to over 280 entries so in the interest of brevity I have deleted most of them from the final report.

I found that not all former names disappear forever. Besides the previously noted Baltimore Oriole, I found, for example, in Volume 48, the bird reported as Nelson’s Sparrow is what we know today as Nelson’s Sharp-tailed

Sparrow. Likewise, Blue Headed Vireo, which appears in Volume 10 and endures until Volume 54 when Solitary Vireo replaces it, reappears as Blue-headed Vireo in Volume 94. Our present Wilson’s Snipe harks back to Volume 4 as Wilson Snipe with a temporary change to Common Snipe in Volumes 54 through 97.



Photo by Judy Semroc

Northern Shrike

Ravenna Arsenal – January 9, 2007

Lest you conclude that a lot of flux and confusion associated with common names could have been avoided if we amateurs had only used the scientific names, let me assure you that a review of the last several AOU Checklist revisions published as supplements in *The AUK* shows otherwise. The same forces and events that caused changes in the common names, i.e. advances in avian taxonomy, reconsideration and refinement of past observations and the need to correct outright errors in grammar, have resulted in relatively the same level of change in the scientific names.

Take a look at the online *Calendars* and the report and discover additional gems.

Lakewood Christmas Bird Count 2006

by Nancy Howell

December 30, 2006

66 Species; 14,847 individuals
 64 Participants
 17.5 hours for feeder watchers
 53.25 hours on foot; 45.75 miles
 7.75 hours by car; 100.5 miles

Of special note were the Black Scoter, Wild Turkey and Killdeer. High count of Red-tailed Hawk and Cooper's Hawk. Low numbers of big water ducks, as well as species and numbers of gulls. Two species noted during count week.

Species	No.	Species	No.
Canada Goose	902	Barred Owl	1
Snow Goose	ct. wk.	Eastern Screech Owl	4
Wood Duck	9	Belted Kingfisher	4
Mallard	1174	Red-bellied Woodpecker	72
American Black Duck	29	Downy Woodpecker	94
American Wigeon	3	Hairy Woodpecker	22
Northern Shoveler	1	Northern Flicker	2
Green-winged Teal	1	Pileated Woodpecker	6
Lesser Scaup	24	American Crow	40
Black Scoter	2	Blue Jay	225
Bufflehead	112	Black-capped Chickadee	207
Common Goldeneye	203	Tufted Titmouse	37
Red-breasted Merganser	860	White-breasted Nuthatch	62
Wild Turkey	5	Red-breasted Nuthatch	1
Common Loon	1	Brown Creeper	1
Double-crested Cormorant	3	Carolina Wren	31
Great Blue Heron	2	Golden-crowned Kinglet	8
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	Eastern Bluebird	13
Cooper's Hawk	8	American Robin	609
Red-tailed Hawk	25	Northern Mockingbird	4
Red-shouldered Hawk	7	European Starling	313
American Kestrel	1	Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler	4
Merlin	ct. wk.	Eastern Towhee	1
Peregrine Falcon	1	American Tree Sparrow	16
American Coot	1	Field Sparrow	1
Virginia Rail	1	Song Sparrow	13
Killdeer	1	Swamp Sparrow	2
Ring-billed Gull	6552	White-throated Sparrow	28
Herring Gull	273	Dark-eyed Junco	213
Great Black-backed Gull	13	Northern Cardinal	148
Bonaparte's Gull	880	Red-winged Blackbird	130
Rock Pigeon	308	House Finch	153
Mourning Dove	201	American Goldfinch	189
Great Horned Owl	1	House Sparrow	587

About the Contributors



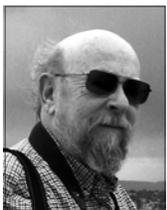
Dwight Chasar, former KBC president, leads bird walks in the CVNP year round and organizes/compiles the Spring and Fall CVNP bird censuses.



Fred Dinkelbach, current editor of the *Cleveland Bird Calendar* and former KBC president, Fred lives in Summit County with his wife Cheryl.



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.



Dick Hoffman, a long-time birder and KBC member who lives in Cleveland Heights with his wife Jean and an unnamed leather cat.



Nancy Howell, compiler for the Western Cuyahoga Audubon's CBC with hopes of increasing participation to cover more of the area. She is a science instructor at CMNH and has been birding since *Archaeopteryx* was around.

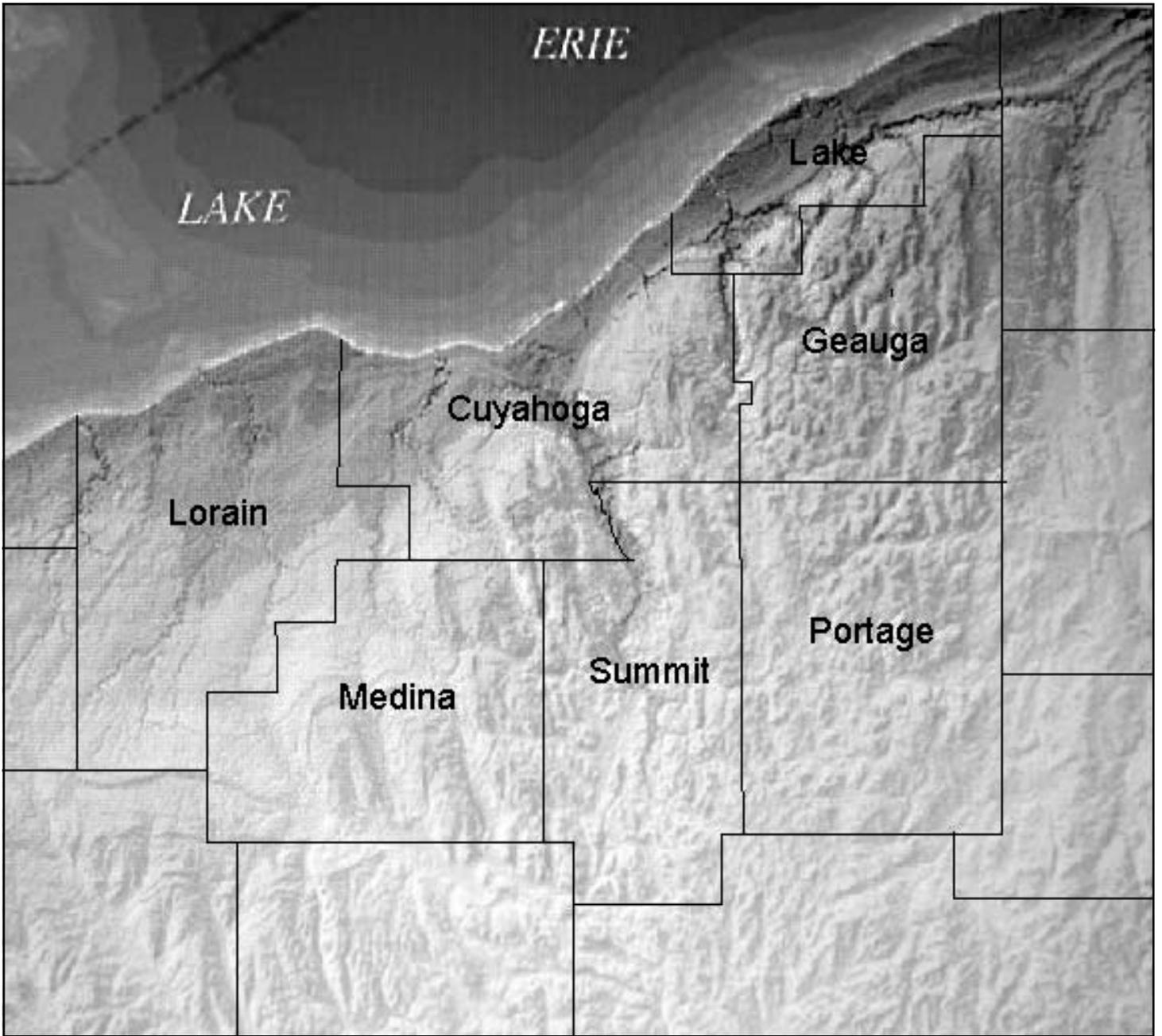
We Thank the Field Contributors...

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Craig Caldwell (CC)
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Sue Chester (HO)
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Contributors noted with (HO) were participants in a field trip led by Hope Orr.



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



Cleveland Ohio
Kirtland Bird Club