

# THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR

*A Quarterly Journal of Bird Sightings from the Cleveland Region  
Since 1905*



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# The Cleveland Bird Calendar

Winter 2007-2008  
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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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Cleveland Bird Calendar Archives on-line: Volunteers are scanning and converting past issues into searchable PDF files. The completed issues are published and can be found at [www.clevelandbirdcalendar.com](http://www.clevelandbirdcalendar.com).

## Contributions

We welcome your participation. Readers are encouraged to submit field reports, artwork, papers, digital photographs and corrections to: Fred Dinkelbach, 6320-406 Greenwood Parkway, Sagamore Hills, Ohio 44067 or e-mail: [seasonalreports@kirtlandbirdclub.org](mailto:seasonalreports@kirtlandbirdclub.org).

For sightings, A.O.U. taxonomical sequence and electronic media are appreciated. In order to publish the correct information, please label all e-mailed photos: `bird_location_date_photographer.jpg`. Seasonal report forms are available at: [www.kirtlandbirdclub.org/cbc/cbc.htm](http://www.kirtlandbirdclub.org/cbc/cbc.htm). All submissions are archived at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

Due dates for seasonal field reports are:

Winter - March 10

Spring - June 10

Summer - September 10

Autumn - December 10

**Front Cover.** Long-eared Owl, A. B. Williams Woods, 12/21/2007, photographed by Rosalyn Schrank.

**Back Cover.** Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, North Olmsted, 2/28/2008, photographed by Scott Wright.

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*It is through the generosity of our supporters that publication  
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*If you would also like to be a contributor to this important records journal,  
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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 many fine local birding locations. See the Web site for the up-coming meetings, programs and trips: [www.kirtlandbirdclub.org](http://www.kirtlandbirdclub.org).

All of us enjoy welcoming into our ranks the young and the not-so-young birders as they discover their new hobby and past-time; we smile as we point them towards that sought-after lifer, or as we share our experiences and knowledge. And in a perfect world, that would be that. Sadly, the world is not perfect and we also must say goodbye to long-time friends and associates who had the same impact on us. In October 2008 we lost Tom LePage, long-time Kirtland Bird Club member and someone who everyone was always genuinely happy to see. January 2009 saw the passing of Sheldon MacLeod, who along with his wife Marilyn was the principal benefactor of the revised *Birds of the Cleveland Region*. I know I can speak for our readers when I say that Tom and Sheldon will indeed be missed.



**Sheldon McLeod**



**Tom LePage, Peru, August 2001**  
Tony Hess

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## Overview of the Season

*Fred Dinkelbach*

This was a winter for the irruptive species. Not only did we see a bounty of Northern Shrikes, Rough-legged Hawks, and Snow Buntings, it seemed not a single area feeder was lacking in Common Redpolls. Other winter nomads also had greater than usual numbers. There were three different Goshawk sightings submitted – although not an irruption year for this rare species, the usual winter count is one, maybe two. More than just the expected number of winter Merlins presented themselves, and rural Lorain County and Burke Airport were the places to see Kestrels. But some species, like Snowy Owls, were missing. And although they had been well represented in the fall, Evening Grosbeaks and Saw-whets were not to be found during the winter months.

A signature winter highlight for our area is gull observation along Lake Erie. In a nutshell, “Winter” plus “East 72<sup>nd</sup> Street” equals “Gull Quantity and Diversity”. The lake’s ice cover is held at bay at the CEI plant’s warm-water outlet at East 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, squeezing any remaining gulls and ducks into an area smaller than a football field. The fish that annually fall victim to the cold also bring gulls closer to shore. This winter the confined space offered close viewing opportunities of ten gull species along with several hybrids before the arrival of south winds and rising temperatures in February. Perhaps because I am still in awe of the observers who can not only tell age, species and race but can also brave the cold winds off the lake long enough to do so, I have provided more detailed reports of the less-common gulls. Dick and Jean Hoffman summarized it best: “With the cold snap in mid-January, some shore ice quickly formed on Lake Erie and became a favorite loafing spot for the gulls. By the last week in January, thousands of Ring-billed and Herring Gulls were off E. 72nd St., Great Black-backed Gulls numbered in the hundreds and double digit counts of Iceland and Lesser Black-backed were being reported. Thayer’s Gull was well represented and other more exotic hybrid gull forms were also in evidence.”

*(Continued)*

I am continuing to detail Black Duck, Kestrel and Rusty Blackbird reports rather than provide highlights. The declining numbers of these three species have caused particular concern, and our citizen-scientists have collectively contributed valuable information. Of nation-wide concern is the Rusty Blackbird. The Cleveland Museum of Natural History is monitoring e-Bird data and the Smithsonian Institute has detailed information on recovery efforts on their website at [http://nationalzoo.si.edu/ConservationAndScience/MigratoryBirds/Research/Rusty\\_Blackbird/](http://nationalzoo.si.edu/ConservationAndScience/MigratoryBirds/Research/Rusty_Blackbird/).

## Weather Report, Winter 2007-2008

*Dwight W. Chasar*

**December:** Temperatures averaged 32.6°, 1.5° above normal. The high was 54° on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and the low was 12° on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Lake Erie water stood at 46° on the 1<sup>st</sup> and fell to 39° by the 31<sup>st</sup>. Precipitation was distributed over 14 days, totaling 4.20 inches of liquid equivalent, 1.06 inches above normal. The greatest fall in any 24-hour period was 1.10 inches on the 11-12<sup>th</sup>. Of this, snowfall totaled 9.6 inches and the greatest depth was 5.0 inches on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

**January:** Temperatures averaged 30.1°, 4.4° above normal. The high was 65° on the 7-8<sup>th</sup> and the low 5° on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Precipitation was distributed over 19 days to total 3.31 inches, 0.83 inches above normal. The greatest fall in any 24-hour period was 1.53 inches on the 8-9<sup>th</sup>. Snowfall totaled 16.5 inches while the greatest ground depth was 7 inches on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Lake Erie was at 33° by the end of the month.

**February:** Temperatures averaged 27.2°, 1.2° below normal. The high was 59° on the 5<sup>th</sup> and the low 4° on the 10-11<sup>th</sup>. Lake Erie remained at 33° at the end of the month. Precipitation totaled 5.54 inches, 3.25 inches above normal and occurred over 16 days. The greatest 24-hour fall was 8.21 inches on the 12<sup>th</sup>. Snowfall totaled 19.6 in, with the greatest depth 9 inches on the 27-28<sup>th</sup>.

## Sightings Location Key

**Boston.** CVNP Towpath near Boston Mills Road and Boston Store, 1/10 of a mile east of Riverview Road.

**Burke.** Burke Lakefront Airport, Cleveland.

**Caley Reservation.** Pittsfield Twp., Lorain Co.

**Calvary Cemetery.** Garfield Hts. bordering Cleveland.

**CVNP.** Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Summit and Cuyahoga Co.

**Dike 14.** Private property on Cleveland's lakefront at Gordon Park, open to birding only on special occasions.

**Firestone Metro Park.** 258 acre park south of Akron.

**Gordon Park.** Lakefront marina/park east of E. 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, Cleveland.

**HBS/Headlands.** Headlands Beach State Park and surrounding area, from Fairport Harbor and Headlands Dunes State Nature Preserve west to Shipman Pond, Zimmerman Trail and adjacent Mentor Marsh State Nature Preserve, Lake Co.

**Huntington Reservation.** Cleveland Metroparks in Bay Village.

**Ira Road.** North of Riverview and Ira Roads in the CVNP; a large beaver marsh bisected by the towpath boardwalk.

**Jaite.** Wetlands and early-succession fields at the intersection of Highland and Riverview Roads in the CVNP, Brecksville.

**LaDue.** Reservoir in southern Geauga Co.

**Lake View Cemetery.** East of University Circle, Cleveland.

**Nesmith Lake.** Portage Lakes, Summit Co.

**Oberlin Reservoir.** Lorain Co.

**Perkins Beach.** At Edgewater Park, Cleveland.

**Sandy Ridge.** A large artificial wetland in North Ridgeville, Lorain Co.

**Shaker Lakes.** Shaker Heights, Cuyahoga Co.

**Sims Park.** Euclid, Cuyahoga Co.

**Springfield Lake.** Southeast of Akron in Summit Co.

**Station Road.** CVNP towpath trailhead area south of Rt. 82 at Riverview Road, including the Pinery Narrows heron rookery, bordering Brecksville and Cuyahoga Co.

**TCSNP.** Tinkers Creek State Nature Preserve, Portage Co.

**Wellington Upground Reservoir.** Lorain Co.

**West Woods, The.** Geauga County Park District, overlapping Russell and Newbury Townships on Rt. 87.

**Wildwood Park.** Cleveland Lakefront State Park at Neff Road.

## Sightings Highlights

*Noteworthy species, numbers, or dates are underlined>.*



**Ross's Goose, Olmsted Falls golf course, 12/29/2007**

*David Lewis*

**Greater White-fronted Goose.** Seen more often during their spring and fall migration, one appeared during the Burton Christmas Bird Count by appearing at LaDue on 1/1 (fide LG).

**Snow Goose.** A blue morph was seen at O'Brien Cemetery, Hudson, on 12/15 (GB).

**Ross's Goose.** One was found at Lakewood Park in Lakewood on 12/14 grazing with a flock of Canada Geese (CC). It stayed through 12/16 (PL, RF). One was photographed on an Olmsted Falls golf course on 12/27 (DL).

**Cackling Goose.** One was seen in LeRoy Township (Lake Co.) on 1/8 among a flock of Canada Geese (JP).

**Canada Goose.** Craig Caldwell had a big Canada day in Lorain County on 1/23: 1,000 were seen at Rt. 10 and Rt. 83, 2,500 at Wellington Upground

Reservoir and 1,000 at Oberlin Reservoir (CC). A possible *interior* subspecies with an orange collar was seen at Turkeyfoot Lake (Portage Lakes, Akron) on 2/21 (GB).

**Mute Swan.** The only report was two counted on the Cuyahoga Falls Christmas Bird Count on 12/16 (fide DAC).

**Trumpeter Swan.** Four were seen at Rocky River Park on 12/20 (CC). Six - two adults and four juveniles - were counted in Lorain County from West Road, south of Hughes Road, on 2/9 (CC).

**Tundra Swan.** Ira Road had 37 on 12/3 (TMR). Headlands had 64 on 12/4 (RH). On 12/9, over 150 were seen flying over the Chagrin River Park area (RB fide LR). Two were seen at O'Brien Cemetery, Hudson, on 12/15 (GB). Lake Pippen (Portage Co.) had two on 1/25 (LR).

**Wood Duck.** Many stragglers were reported for December. Three were at Headlands on 12/19 (RH). Two were at a Northfield pond on 12/28 (DAC). Ira Road had three on 12/29 (TMR).

**Gadwall.** Ten were at the E. 55<sup>th</sup> marina on 12/19 and on 1/2; three were there on 1/12 (DJH). Two were seen at HBSP both on 1/24 and on 2/18 (RH).

**American Wigeon.** The only report was one west of the E. 55<sup>th</sup> marina in Cleveland on 12/22 (DJH).

**American Black Duck.** Headlands' sightings (RH):

4 on 12/7

4 on 12/8

1 on 12/10

10 on 12/18

10 on 12/19

6 on 12/21

30 on 12/22

4 on 12/28

12 on 1/21

50 on 1/23

6 on 2/4

2 on 2/19

2 on 2/25

2 on 2/29.

Elsewhere:

40 to 50 on 12/7, Lake Pippen (fide LR).

2 on 12/7, LaDue (KT).

3 on 12/10, Ira Road (TMR).

2 on 12/19, Gordon Park (DJH).

3 on 12/25, Rocky R. Park (PC).

3 on 12/29, Brookside Park/Cleveland Zoo (TMR).

3 on 12/31, Ira Road (TMR).

2 on 1/12, Tinkers Creek SP (FL).

6 on 1/23, along the Cleveland lakefront (DJH).

6 on 2/4, Ira Road (TMR).

4 on 2/18, Ira Road (TMR).

**Mallard.** The Brookside Park-Cleveland Zoo area had 468 on 12/29 (TMR). Wellington Upground Reservoir had 200 on 1/6 and 300 on 2/8 (CC).

**Northern Shoveler.** Nesmith Lake had 50 on 1/17 (GB). Two were counted at Shaker Lakes on 2/10 (LD).

**Northern Pintail.** Rocky River Park had three on 12/2 (JE). Twelve were at Springfield Lake on 12/10 (GB). Ira Road had one on 12/10 (TMR). A pair was at Gordon Park (Cleveland) on 1/23 (DJH). Wellington Upground Reservoir had two on 2/8 (CC).

**Green-winged Teal.** Five were tallied at Rocky River Park on 12/9 (JE).

**Canvasback.** Forty were at Headlands on 1/25 (RH). Ten were east of the landfill behind Cleveland Public Power on 1/23 (DJH). Wellington Upground Reservoir had three on 1/26 (SS) and 10 on 2/8 (CC). In Chardon, W.C. Best Preserve (Geauga Co.) hosted two on 2/18 (LG).

**Redhead.** HBSP had 150 on 12/6 (RH). Twelve were east of the landfill behind Cleveland Public Power on 1/23 (DJH). Wellington Upground Reservoir had 12 on 1/26 (SS) and 40 on 2/8 (CC). Fifteen were at E. 72<sup>nd</sup> on 2/2 (DJH). W.C. Best Preserve (Geauga Co.) had five on 2/18 (LG).

**Ring-necked Duck.** Over 200 were found in Hudson on 12/30 (DAC). Wellington Upground Reservoir had 500 on 1/6, 300 on 1/23 and 200 on 2/8 (CC). Around 50 wintered on the Portage Lakes (GB).

**Greater Scaup.** Headlands' highest counts were 30 on 1/24, 40 on 1/25 and 200 on 2/8 (RH).

**Lesser Scaup.** Springfield Lake (Summit Co.) hosted over 200 on 12/17 (GB). Thirty were east of the landfill behind Cleveland Public Power on 1/23 (DJH). HBSP had 120 on 1/24 and 300 on 1/25 (RH).

**Surf Scoter.** As is typical, all three Scoter species were seen mostly in December. Ten were seen at Rocky River Park on 12/20 (CC). One was off Perkins Beach on 12/22 (DJH).

**White-winged Scoter.** HBSP had three on 12/8 and four on 2/8 (RH). One was seen from Perkins Beach on 12/22 (DJH). Two were seen at Edgewater Park on 12/25 (PC).

**Black Scoter.** Twelve, including two 2<sup>nd</sup> year males, were seen at Rocky River Park on 12/25 (PC). Six were seen from Bay Village on 12/29 (CC).

**Long-tailed Duck.** Lakewood Park had a fly-by on 12/2 (BM). One was at Springfield Lake on 12/7 (GB). One was at Gordon Park on 12/19 and on 12/22 (DJH).

**Bufflehead.** HBSP had 50 on 1/25 (RH). Over 60 total were seen on 12/29 from several Cuyahoga County lakefront locations (CC).

**Common Goldeneye.** Twenty-five were seen at Rocky River Park on 12/20 and 32 at Huntington Reservation on 12/29 (CC). At Sims Park (Euclid), 60-75 were seen on 1/12 and over 100 on 2/3 (NA). Not to be outdone, Headlands had many double-digit counts mid-January to mid-February with 120 on 1/25 (RH).

**Hooded Merganser.** At least 60 were counted at LaDue on 12/7 (KT). Over 30 wintered in Summit County at Turkeyfoot and Summit Lakes through January; twelve lasted all the way through February (GB). Twelve were counted at HBSP on 12/2 (RH).

**Common Merganser.** Between 1/23 and 2/1, 300 were seen almost daily at Headlands; the counts were twenty or fewer most other days (RH). Eighty were counted at Sims Park on 2/3 (NA). Inland, the Cuyahoga River had three on 2/3 and on 2/16, seen near Redlock in the CVNP (DAC).

**Red-breasted Merganser.** The highest count at Headlands was 5,000 on 12/10 with a smaller peak of 1,100 on 12/21; afterwards none were seen until late January where numbers then climbed to 400 on 2/1 and tapered off afterwards (RH).

**Ruddy Duck.** An estimated 300 were counted between Headlands Beach SP proper and Mentor Lagoons on 12/19 (RH, SW, JT). At Wellington Upground Reservoir, 50 were seen on 2/8 (CC). Thirty to fifty were at Turkeyfoot Lake (Portage Lakes) from 1/11 to 1/31; eleven wintered there through February (GB).

**Wild Turkey.** One was found in the CVNP on 12/10 (LD).

**Red-throated Loon.** Emil Bacik found a bird close to the break wall at Headlands on 12/9, where it was observed for several hours as it dove and drifted out over Lake Erie in an easterly direction (EB fide RH).

**Common Loon.** Headlands had single birds on 12/2, 12/4 and 12/19 (RH). On 12/29 one was seen at Huntington Reservation (CC).

**Pied-billed Grebe.** Summit Lake had 15 on 12/10 with four wintering there (GB). There were many reports of one to five birds inland and along the lake throughout the season.

**Horned Grebe.** Springfield had 13 on 12/4 (GB). Gordon Park had 17 on 12/9 (PCh) and eight on 12/19 (DJH).

**Eared Grebe.** One was at Gordon Park on 12/23 with Horned Grebes present to give a good comparison (DJH). A winter-plumaged bird was seen at Westerly Wastewater Treatment between Edgewater Park and Whiskey Island (Cleveland) on 2/11 (PCh).

**Northern Gannet.** Dick and Jean Hoffman reported one on two separate days: "At E. 72<sup>nd</sup> on 12 Dec. an immature bird flew over from the west, causing the gulls there to take flight. It flew east pursued by gulls, circled over Gordon Park and then continued on east past Dike 14. On 28 Dec. it spent most of the morning in the water off E. 72<sup>nd</sup> before flying off to the west." (DJH). One was also seen there on 12/26 (RH).

**Double-crested Cormorant.** There were very few reports, all of single birds.

**Great Blue Heron.** Most reports were of one to three birds, occurring throughout the season.

**Great Egret.** A record January first, seven were seen by Ray Hannikman on 1/13 in flight over Lake Erie at E. 72<sup>nd</sup> Street. They were noted a little past noon and moving northwest to southeast (RH, JT).

**Black-crowned Night-Heron.** From Merwin Ave. in the Flats (Cleveland), 46 were along the west bank of the Cuyahoga River on 12/22; only nine were found there on 1/2 under less than ideal conditions (DJH). The number climbed to 90 on 1/13 (many obs.) and 73 on 1/26 (PL).

**Black Vulture.** One was found on 12/24 along Cleveland's lakefront flying westward parallel to N. Marginal Rd. (GL, many obs.). It was mobbed by gulls and a Peregrine several times.

**Turkey Vulture.** One was seen on 1/18 near the I-271 and Rt. 94 interchange (Medina Co.) (SJ). On a day where temperatures climbed into the mid 50s, four were observed over

Macedonia on 2/9 (FL).

**Bald Eagle.** Three were counted at TCSNP on 2/28 (FL). One was seen at Headlands on four dates in January and February (RH). At Station Road, one adult and one immature were seen near the new Pinery Narrows nest on 2/16 and on 2/23 (DAC).

**Northern Harrier.** Chagrin River Park had one on 12/9 (RB fide LR). Burke had two on 12/22 (CC) with one seen many times in December (many obs.) and on 1/24 (DAC). Calvary Cemetery had one on 1/7 (LGa). Lorain County Airport had two on both 1/6 and on 2/9 (CC). Caley Reservation had two on 1/21 (SWr).

**Sharp-shinned Hawk.** Only reports: Headlands had one on 12/6 and one on 2/12 (RH). Lake View Cemetery had one on 1/5 (DJH).

**Cooper's Hawk.** Single birds were reported throughout the region and the season in most reports. Headlands had three on 12/27 (RH).

**Northern Goshawk.** Along the lakefront, Jim McCarty got a scope view of one on 12/15 (JM fide LR). One was seen as it strafed a back yard in Westlake on 12/21 (CC). On 1/1, one provided long looks through a

scope and binoculars as it made unsuccessful passes at backyard feeders at a residence bordering the CVNP – and then presumably the same bird returned on 1/3 (KT, PC).

**Red-shouldered Hawk.** Few reports, but the CVNP had the most: Pairs were seen at Ira Road on 12/31, 2/4 and 2/11 (TMR); the Boston area had two on 12/27 (HO).

**Red-tailed Hawk.** Complete reports had as many Red-tails as all other hawks combined. A total of twelve were counted along U.S. Route 21 and I-77 from Norton to Brecksville on 12/1 (LD). Five were counted along Lorain County highways on 2/9 (CC).

**Rough-legged Hawk.** One was observed in Norton on 12/6 (RSH). One was seen at Ira Road on 1/28 (TMR). Twelve were counted at Headlands on 12/22 (RH). A dark-morph bird was at the east end of Burke on 12/22 and a light-morph was there on 12/25 (DJH). One was seen hovering over a field in Bainbridge on 12/23 (LG). One was seen from West Road north of Jones Road in Lorain County on 2/9 (CC). Two were seen at the Lorain Co. airport on 2/9 (CC). Three light-morph birds and one dark were at the Lorain Co. airport on 2/24 (DJH). Hayes Road (Geauga Co.) had

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## Comments on the Season – Headlands Beach State Park / Mentor Lagoons, Winter 2007-2008

*Ray Hannikman*

Rather meager numbers for most species of ducks in December and early January, no rare gulls of any sort, and what seemed like lower than usual numbers of regular winter visitors – American Tree and White-throated Sparrows, Dark-eyed Juncos – all made for lackluster winter birding in the Headlands Beach State Park area. But, to me that is the challenge of winter birding – seeking limited numbers of species against oftentimes harsh and bitter weather. I followed Brenda Baber's lead and set up a little bird-feeding area at the entrance to the State Nature Preserve area. American Tree Sparrows, Black-capped Chickadees, Blue Jays and Northern Cardinals greeted me as I started my walk toward the break wall. Throughout most of February, with a frozen Lake Erie and harbor area, the only birds I saw were gulls flying overhead or an occasional flock of Canada Geese. To be sure, with a few days of zero-degree wind chills, I pondered the wisdom of my solitary treks. But a few surprises awaited Suzanne, Jerry and me at Mentor Lagoons: a spritely Gray Catbird in January and February, a one-day fallout of 200-plus Common Redpolls and two dozen Pine Siskins on December 10<sup>th</sup>, and a reliable Pileated Woodpecker pounding away at his favorite tree. I can think of no better way for me to spend a winter's morning than walking the woods or patrolling the beaches of Headlands Beach State Park and areas nearby.



four on 1/25 (fide LR), and one each on 2/18 and 2/24 (SWr).

**American Kestrel.** Total reported:

- 1 on 12/4 at HBSP (RH).
- 1 on 12/15 in Eastlake (CC).
- 1 on 12/12 through 2/4, sitting in the same tree at the NE corner of Richmond and Harvard, Warrensville Hts. (NA).
- 2 on 12/19, Burke (DJH).
- 2 on 12/22, Burke (DJH, CC, RH).
- 1 on 12/25, Burke (DJH).
- 1 on 1/2, Gordon Park (DJH).
- 1 on 1/3, HBSP (RH).
- 5 on 1/6, five separate Lorain Co. locations (CC).
- 3 on 1/6, Lorain Co. Airport (CC).
- 1 on 1/12, female, at Burke (DJH).
- 2 on 1/16, Burke (DJH).
- 2 on 1/23, two separate Lorain Co. locations (CC).
- 1 on 1/23, Lorain Harbor (CC).
- 1 on 2/3, Redlock, CVNP (DAC).
- 12 on 2/3, seven different Lorain Co. roads (PL, RF).
- 1 on 2/8, West Road north of Caley in Lorain Co. (CC).
- 1 on 2/8, Lorain Co. Airport (CC).
- 1 on 2/9, Lorain Co. Airport (CC).
- 1 on 2/9, West Rd., Lorain Co. (CC).
- 2 on 2/24, along West Rd., Lorain Co. (DJH).
- 1 on 2/21, Boston (HO).

**Merlin.** Calvary Cemetery in Garfield Hts. never fails to provide multiple birds in the winter, and this season was no exception. They were seen throughout the period with as many as four on 12/26, 1/5 and 2/24 (LGa). Lake View Cemetery hosted two individuals, one from 12/12 to 1/16 and a darker-headed/bluer-backed bird from 1/23 to 2/2 (DJH). One was seen at Chagrin River Park on 12/9 (RB fide LR). On 12/31, Valleyview Golf Course (Akron) had one (GB) as did Twinsburg's Crown Hill Cemetery (GC fide LR). One was seen in the CVNP south of Bolanz Road on 2/16 (MR).

**Peregrine Falcon.** One was seen at Burke on 12/22 (CC). Before nesting activity was discovered in the CVNP under the Ohio Turnpike overpass the summer of 2008, Hope Orr's group

found one bird on 1/31 in the area at ground level, well seen by three people (HO). One was found perched in a tree at Wildwood Park (Cleveland) on 2/23 (NA).

**American Coot.** Wellington Upground Reservoir had 500 on 1/6 and on 2/8 (CC). Over 175 wintered at Turkeyfoot Lake (Portage Lakes) 1/24 to 2/13; only 100 remained by 2/25 (GB). Fifty were in the marina at E. 55<sup>th</sup> on 1/16 (DJH).

**Killdeer.** Headlands had a straggler on 12/26 (RH). A manure-spread field in Bainbridge hosted two on 2/17 (LG).

**Purple Sandpiper.** Emil Bacik and Brenda Baber found single birds in the leaf litter at the far end of the Headlands Beach Nature Preserve beach on 12/8, 12/9 and on the Mentor Christmas Bird Count on 12/22 (EB, BB fide RH).

**Bonaparte's Gull.** The gull of the month for December at Headlands: 1500 on 12/2, 3500 on 12/3, 2500 on 12/17 and 1800 on 12/24; the numbers were under 100 there, when seen, from mid-January on (RH). Elsewhere, the Hoffmans provided detailed sightings from the near-east lakefront: Starting with 20 on 12/19 at the marina east of Burke, the numbers climbed to 100 on 12/28 behind Cleveland Public Power, with about 300 on 1/2 and about 200 on 1/16. About 100 were at E. 72<sup>nd</sup> on 1/23 and 50 were there on 2/2 (DJH).

**Little Gull.** Two adults on 12/3 and one adult on 12/4 were in Fairport Harbor (RH, JT, SW).

**Franklin's Gull.** One graced Lakeshore Reservation in North Perry on 12/15 (JP).

**Ring-billed Gull.** Headlands had numbers in the hundreds and thousands throughout the season, with 1800 on 12/17, 1200 on 1/14, 4000 on 1/30, and 1700 on 2/4 (RH). A lakefront trip yielded over 1800 birds from Avon Power Plant to Rocky River Park on 12/29 (CC). Avon Power Plant had 1000 on 12/23 (CC). E. 72<sup>nd</sup> had 5000

on 1/27 (CC). Inland numbers peaked in February with 195 in the CVNP on 2/14 (HO).

**Herring Gull.** HBSP had 800, their highest for the season, on 12/17 (RH). Numbers built up as the weather turned colder; thousands were off E. 72<sup>nd</sup> on 1/23 and 1/29 when some shore ice was present (DJH). Avon Power Plant had 2000 on 1/27 (CC). February reported numbers were far fewer.

**A.O.U. Checklist changes: Gulls.**

In this issue and the last you may have noticed that the gull sequence has changed. (Most small gulls have genus name changes as well.) The following is from the 49<sup>th</sup> Supplement to the A.O.U. Check-list of North American Birds, condensed to show gulls from our region plus any that may be seen in North America:

**Black-legged Kittiwake** *Rissa tridactyla*

**Red-legged Kittiwake** *R. brevirostris*

**Ivory Gull** *Pagophila eburnea*

**Sabine's Gull** *Xema sabini*

**Bonaparte's Gull** *Chroicocephalus philadelphia*

**Black-headed Gull** *C. ridibundus*

**Little Gull** *Hydrocoloeus minutus*

**Ross's Gull** *Rhodostethia rosea*

**Laughing Gull** *Larus atricilla*

**Franklin's Gull** *L. pipixcan*

**Heermann's Gull** *L. heermanni*

**Mew Gull** *L. canus*

**Ring-billed Gull** *L. delawarensis*

**Western Gull** *L. occidentalis*

**Yellow-footed Gull** *L. livens*

**California Gull** *L. californicus*

**Herring Gull** *L. argentatus*

**Thayer's Gull** *L. thayeri*

**Iceland Gull** *L. glaucoides* (incl.

Kumlien's, a race of the Iceland)

**Lesser Black-backed Gull** *L. fuscus*

**Slaty-backed Gull** *L. schistisagus*

**Glaucous-winged Gull** *L. glaucescens*

**Glaucous Gull** *L. hyperboreus*

**Great Black-backed Gull** *L. marinus*

**Kelp Gull** *L. dominicanus*

**Gull Hybrid.** At E. 72<sup>nd</sup> many observers reported an odd gull at different times during the winter. Each had reached the same conclusion



**Glaucous Gulls, E. 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, Cleveland, 12/31/2007**

*Greg Cudworth*

believing it to be a Herring x. Greater Black-backed hybrid (many obs.).

**Thayer's Gull.** At E. 72<sup>nd</sup> on 1/26, one second-winter bird provided a point-blank view while two adults were more distant (GL).

**Iceland Gull.** Except where noted, all reports are from E. 72<sup>nd</sup> Street. A second-winter bird was found on 12/31 (GC fide LR). In January, a second-year Kumlien's was seen on 1/12 (DJH). Another second-year was seen

on 1/16 (DJH). A first-winter was on the ice on 1/23 (DJH). Last reports were first-winter birds on 1/29 and 2/2 (DJH). Headlands had one on 1/30 (RH).

**Lesser Black-backed Gull.** Except where noted, all reports are E. 72<sup>nd</sup> Street. Highest count was twelve adults and over 20 first-years on 12/31 (GC fide LR) and ten individuals counted on 1/27 (CC). At least five adult birds could be seen on the ice on 1/23 (DJH). There were a half-dozen reports of one or two in the E. 72<sup>nd</sup> area birds in January into early February. Headlands had one on 1/21 (RH).

**Glaucous Gull.** Except where noted, all reports are E. 72<sup>nd</sup> Street. On 12/31 three, including one adult, were seen (GC fide LR). Two were seen on 1/4 (CC). A first-year bird was seen on 1/5 (DJH). At least four sub-adult birds were out on the lake ice on 1/23 (DJH). At least five appeared on 1/27 (CC). Three first or second-winter birds were together on 1/29 (DJH). HBSP had two birds on 1/30 and on 2/3 (RH).

**Great Black-backed Gull.** "Greaters" were seen in good numbers throughout December and January at HBSP, peaking at 200 on 1/30 and quickly tapering off afterwards (RH). The E. 72<sup>nd</sup> Street area had its share, also peaking late January with the growing lake ice and then the numbers dropped as the water cleared in early February. Starting with about 20 on 12/22, counts climbed to 50 on 12/28, 300 on 1/5, dropped on 1/16 to at most 30, 60 on 1/23, but then an estimated 200 on 1/29; finally on 2/2 with all ice wind-blown away there were only about 50 (DJH).

**Rock Pigeon.** A manure-spread field in Bainbridge had 200 on 2/17 (LG).

**Mourning Dove.** Highest count was thirty in Lorain County at Harley Road south of Rt. 18 on 1/6 (CC).

**Barn Owl.** Judy Semroc, Conservation Specialist for the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, found one in Suffield Twp. (Portage Co.) on 12/16

at 6:40 A.M. It flew across the road about 20 feet in front of her car near Rt. 43 (JS).

**Eastern Screech-Owl.** One was found at Firestone Metro Park on 1/12 (DV).

**Great Horned Owl.** One was observed flying away from the confluence of Silver and Deerlick Creeks in the Bedford Reservation on 12/15 (FL). Headlands had one on four dates from 12/23 to 2/28 (RH).

**Barred Owl.** One was seen in the CVNP on 12/14 (LD). At the CVNP Horseshoe Pond area one was observed on 1/26 (CC). Shaker Lakes had one on 2/4 (LD).

**Long-eared Owl.** One was found at A. B. Williams Woods on 12/21 (RS). Seen at Caley Reservation (Lorain Co.):  
3 on 1/6 (CC).  
5 on 1/26 (SS).  
7 on 2/8 (CC).  
9 on 2/9 (CC).  
3 on 2/24 (DJH).

**Short-eared Owl.** There were no reports this winter from the old Richfield Coliseum property. One was at the east end of Burke, aggressively interacting with a Northern Harrier, on 12/19 (DJH). Four were found at Hayes Road (Geauga Co.) on 2/16 (JH, PK fide AJ). On 12/25 at least two were at Burke, seen flying along the outer runways and landing in the center grassy strip (DJH). One was at Burke

on 2/21 (DJH). Judy Semroc and Larry Rosche discovered one that was hunting along the Summit-Stark county line the evening of 2/23 (LR).



**Long-eared Owl, A. B. Williams Woods, Cuyahoga Co., 12/21/2007**  
*Rosalyn Schrank*

**Belted Kingfisher.** Singles were in most reports. Three were found at Ira Road on 1/7 (TMR).

**Red-headed Woodpecker.** A juvenile wintered at Oakwood Cemetery in Cuyahoga Falls (GB). Sims Park had one on 12/15 (NA). Three were seen at Quick Road in the CVNP on 12/16 (TMR).

**Red-bellied Woodpecker.** Eight were counted at Ira Road on 2/25 (TMR).

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.** Ira Road had one on 12/31 (TMR).

**Downy Woodpecker.** Ten were seen at Ira Road on 12/31 (TMR).

**Hairy Woodpecker.** The Overlook area in Bedford Reservation had three on 1/27 (FL).

**Northern Flicker.** A rare winter sighting for the Headlands area, Jerry Talkington spied a single bird just off of the Fisherman's Path at HBSP on 1/28 (JT fide RH).

**Pileated Woodpecker.** Four, all heard knocking and calling, were found at North Chagrin Metropark on 2/23 (SWr). Lake View Cemetery had a pair seen and heard in close

company on 1/12; a male was seen excavating a tree there on 1/16 (DJH).

**Eastern Phoebe.** The Cleveland area's second-ever January sighting was a bird around Mentor Lagoons' parking lot on 1/22 (JT fide RH).

**Northern Shrike.** One was found at the entrance to Caley Reservation (Lorain Co.) on 12/2 (CG fide TF). The perennial Jaite bird was seen on



**Red-breasted Nuthatch, Chardon, 2/11/2008**

*Sally Isacco*

12/14 (FL). The same day another was seen west of Streetsboro south on Rt. 303 (GC fide LR). One was observed stashing what appeared to be a shrew between branches during its hunting forays at Sandy Ridge on 12/18 (TF fide LR). One was found in the Bath Nature Preserve (Summit Co.) on 1/25 (fide LR).

**Blue Jay.** On 12/16, 29 were counted along the Summit County Bike & Hike path at Rt. 303 and Rt. 8 (FL).

**American Crow.** No reports of large winter roosts. At Ira Road 101 were counted on 12/10 (TMR).

**Horned Lark.** On 2/9 in Lorain County, 50 were counted at West Road south of Hughes Road and another 50 at Lorain County Airport (CC). Headlands five on 12/6, then 20 on 2/6 and 24 on 2/7 (RH). Fifty were found at Hayes Road (Geauga Co.) on 2/24 (SWr). Several hundred, too many to

count, were seen at Burke on 2/10 (PCh). One was seen at Ira Road on 2/11 (TMR). Twelve were found at a manure-spread field in Bainbridge on 2/17 (LG).

**Black-capped Chickadee.** On 12/16, 28 were counted along the Summit County Bike & Hike path at Rt. 303 and Rt. 8 (FL).

**Tufted Titmouse.** On the Cleveland Christmas Bird Count, 12 were tallied in the Eastlake area on 12/15 (CC).

**Red-breasted Nuthatch.** Most reports were from feeder birds. One to three (two males, one female) spent the entire season, seen daily, at a peanut feeder and at a suet feeder in Sagamore Hills (DAC).

**White-breasted Nuthatch.** Ira Road had consistently five to ten throughout the season and 11 on both 12/31 and on 2/25 (TMR).

**Brown Creeper.** At the Overlook in Bedford Reservation, two were seen on 1/27 (FL). One was seen at a Sagamore Hills suet feeder on 12/30, 2/3 and 2/27 (DAC).

**Carolina Wren.** Five were seen at Station Road on 12/27 (DAC). Four were at Ira Road on 12/3 and five on 2/4 (TMR). One was seen at a peanut feeder and at a suet feeder in Sagamore Hills on 1/2 and 2/28 (DAC).

**Winter Wren.** TCSNP had one on 2/16 and on 2/28 (FL).

**Golden-crowned Kinglet.** Five were seen at the Bedford Reservation's Overlook region on 1/27 (FL).

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet.** A late migrant was at Mentor Lagoons on 12/7 (RH). On 12/16, one was seen from the Summit County Bike & Hike path at Rt. 303 and Rt. 8 (FL).

**Eastern Bluebird.** Ten were seen at Ira Road on 12/3 (TMR). On 12/16, 14 were counted along the Summit County Bike & Hike path at the junction of Rts. 303 and 8 (FL). Ten were counted in the CVNP Boston area on 2/28 (HO).

**Hermit Thrush.** Chagrin River Park had one on 1/1 (RB fide LR). One bird was in the undergrowth near the beginning of the road into Mentor Lagoons on 1/2 (RH).

**American Robin.** The usual random winter flocks were reported. Westlake had up to 75 on 12/6 (CC). Headlands had 200 on 12/10 and 150 on 2/23 (RH).

**Gray Catbird.** A hardy individual was noted at Mentor Lagoons on eight dates from 1/7 to 2/25. The bird was often observed feeding on the little berries of multiflora rose which it frequented (RH, JT, SW). One was seen and heard at Jaite on 2/16 (MR).

**Northern Mockingbird.** One was seen at HBSP throughout December (RH). During a Christmas Bird Count

on 12/15, six were counted at Lake View Cemetery (DJH).

**European Starling.** Three hundred were counted in Westlake on 12/28 (CC). At Cleveland Zoo and surrounding Brookside Park, 260 were seen on 12/29 (TMR).

**American Pipit.** Rare for February, one was seen at the E. 55<sup>th</sup> parking lot on 2/10 (PCh).

**Bohemian Waxwing.** One was seen and heard twice at Rocky River Park on 12/11 (BW).

**Cedar Waxwing.** Headlands had a flock of 200 on 12/2 (RH). Ira Road had 100 on 12/10 (TMR). Sixty were observed at South Chagrin Metropark on 12/29 (SWr).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler.** TCSNP had two on 2/28 (FL).

**Ovenbird.** A Chardon feeder hosted one from 12/10 through 1/17 (SI).

**Eastern Towhee.** On 12/16, two were counted along the Summit County Bike & Hike path at the junction of Rts. 303 and 8 (FL). One was heard singing on 1/12 in Hudson (GB). Two were found at Ira Road on 2/18 (TMR).

**American Tree Sparrow.** Numbers were as expected. Along the Summit County Bike & Hike path at the junction of Rts. 303 and 8, 104 were counted on 12/16 (FL).

**Chipping Sparrow.** A Richmond Hts. feeder was visited by one on 12/1 and 12/3 (NA). A Rocky River feeder hosted one on 12/1 (JE).

**Field Sparrow.** One was found at Chagrin River Park on 12/30 (RB fide LR). On 1/19, 21 were counted in a flock flying over Jaite (GL). Linda Gilbert found one making an early appearance in West Woods (Geauga Co.) on 2/15 (LG).

**Savannah Sparrow.** A new species for December for the HBSP area was a single individual flushed by Suzanne Wagner's dog from the grassy edge of the beach at the Lake Metroparks Fairport Harbor shelter on 12/6 (RH, JT, SW).

**Fox Sparrow.** One was seen at Brookside Park (Cleveland Zoo) on 12/29 (TMR).

**Song Sparrow.** Ten were seen on 12/10 at Ira Road (TMR). On 12/16,



**Ovenbird, Chardon, 1/20/2008**  
Sally Isacco



**Common Redpoll, Chardon, 1/3/2008**  
Sally Isacco

six were counted along the Summit County Bike & Hike path at the junction of Rts. 303 and 8 (FL).

**Swamp Sparrow.** Ira Road had four on 12/17 (TMR). Four were counted at Jaite on 1/8 (DAC). Two were seen at TCSNP on 2/28 (FL).

**White-throated Sparrow.** Twenty-five were counted at Ira Road on 12/17 and 15 were there on 2/18 (TMR).

**White-crowned Sparrow.** One was seen at Ira Road on 12/10 (TMR). Three were seen in Sagamore Hills on 1/6 (DAC).

**Dark-eyed Junco.** At Brookside Park/Cleveland Zoo, 38 were seen on 12/29 (TMR). About 50 were in Lake View Cemetery on 1/12 (DJH).

Cleveland Heights had 16 on 2/11 (SWr).

**Lapland Longspur.** One was seen mixed in with flocks of hundreds of Snow Buntings and Horned Larks at Burke on 2/10 (PCh).

**Snow Bunting.** Over 200 flew over E. 72<sup>nd</sup> on 12/16 (GL). Thirty were counted on 12/22 at Burke (CC). Gordon Park (Cleveland) had 12 on 12/29 (SWr). Near Caley Woods (Lorain Co.) at Jones Road, 50 to 60 were seen on 1/26 (SS). At Lorain County Airport, 76 were seen on 2/9 (CC). An estimated 500 were reported from Burke on 2/10 (PCh). In Bainbridge, 69 were counted at a manure-spread field on 2/17 (LG).

**Northern Cardinal.** On 12/16, 31 were counted along the Summit County Bike & Hike path at the junction of Rts. 303 and 8 (FL). Ira Road had 29 on 2/4 (TMR).

**Red-winged Blackbird.** An early bird was seen at Auburn Marsh (Geauga Co.) on 1/10 (KK fide AJ). Approximately 250 were found in Barberton on 1/25 (GB).

**Rusty Blackbird.** Total reports: 1 on 12/17 at Ira Road (TMR). 7 on 1/28 at Ira Road (TMR). 1 on 2/11 at Ira Road (TMR). 10-15 on 2/16 from CVNP Towpath s. of Bolanz Rd. (MR). 3 on 2/18 at Ira Road (TMR). 38 on 2/25 at Ira Road (TMR).

**Common Grackle.** Three were found at Headlands on 12/19 (RH). One was seen in Westlake on 1/22 (CC).

**Brown-headed Cowbird.** Ira Road had two on 12/10 and on 12/17, then 30 on 1/28 (TMR). HBSP had one on 1/22 (RH).

**Purple Finch.** The Cleveland Zoo/ Brookside Park area had four on 12/29 (TMR).

**House Finch.** Eight were counted in the CVNP Boston area on 12/6 (HO).

**White-winged Crossbill.** Joining the irruptives from the north, Jerry Talkington heard and saw one at Mentor Lagoons on 12/11 (JT fide RH).

**Common Redpoll.** A good winter for Redpolls. A frenzied feeding flock of about 200 was along the lakefront trail at Mentor Lagoons on 12/10; birds were feeding both on the ground and in the trees along with a dozen or so Siskins (RH, JT, SW). Forty were counted at HBSP on 12/25 (RH). Linda Gilbert's backyard feeders in South Russell hosted Redpolls beginning 12/22; the most at one time was 25-30, but the site consistently averaged about 6-10 birds through the season (LG). One was seen at a Macedonia feeder on 1/1 (FL). Wadsworth had 25 on 1/4

(RSH). North Chagrin Metropark had two on 1/5 (SWr). A Westlake residence had one on 1/11 (CC). Big Creek Park (Chardon) had three at the feeders on 2/23 (DAC).

**Pine Siskin.** Twelve were seen at Mentor Lagoons on 12/10 (RH). One was seen at a Fairport Harbor residence on 1/4 (CC). At least one was heard at Big Creek Park (Chardon) on 2/23 (DAC).

**American Goldfinch.** Highest report was 28 in a Macedonia neighborhood on 2/10 (FL).

**House Sparrow.** Thirty were counted along the Summit County Bike & Hike path at Rt. 303 and Rt. 8 on 12/16 (FL). Less rural, 171 were counted at the Brookside Park/Cleveland Zoo on 12/29 (TMR).



**Pine Siskin, Chardon, 2/21/2008**

*Sally Isacco*

# Preparing Bird Skins for Museum Collection

*Lisa Chapman*

For over a year now, many Kirtland Bird Club members have been volunteering to prepare bird specimens for the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Birds come from a variety of sources. Many are picked up locally as victims of window strikes, particularly around Public Square. Many are not successfully rehabilitated at Back to the Wild, Lake Erie Nature Center, and other rehab facilities. Individuals find victims in their yards or along roads which make their way to the museum. The volunteer group has prepared 261 specimens since we started, thus making a sizable dent in the number of specimens waiting to enter the collection.

In December of 2006, Dr. Andy Jones began training the group in the proper techniques for preparing specimens. Certain skills were slowly acquired, as was knowledge of anatomy, physiology, and taxonomy. In a nutshell, we learned how to separate the bird skin from its frame. Along the way, certain weights, measurements, and observations as to molt, fat deposits, sex, and stomach contents are made and recorded. Tissue samples are saved. Once the skin is removed from the skeleton, all remaining fat and muscle must be removed so that no proteinaceous material is left to rot. The skin may also have to be washed and dried if stained by excess blood or body fluids. Cotton is used to re-stuff the skin. It is usually wound around a wooden dowel which is then anchored in the upper mandible. Cotton eye balls are then inserted to give the face proper definition. The skin is then stitched closed, the feet are tied, and the skin is pinned to a styrofoam board to dry. Because the wings would be folded against the body, the left wing of each specimen is removed and also stretched out to dry. This provides better inspection of the entire wing and feather groups as well as colors. Proper identification tags are made to record data and are later secured to the skin and detached wing

Besides the satisfaction of contributing service to the museum, the volunteer gets other rewards. I was surprised to see the lemon yellow powder down on my Green Heron. Hidden under longer feathers, it is used to groom the otherwise wet and often oily bird. The colorful patterns of the Sun Bittern's wing drying on a board were a sight to behold. Following a Pileated Woodpecker's tongue back to the base of its skull was astounding. Each session is a four hour tutorial on all facets of ornithology; challenging questions, shared sightings and experiences, and one more opportunity to study and contribute to the good of the birds.

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## 2007 Cuyahoga Falls Christmas Bird Count, December 16, 2007

*Dwight Chasar*

These are statistics for only those areas covered by the Chasar volunteer group of 22 participants in 9 teams. There were 45 species of 2242 individuals, compared to 41 species the previous year. The weather was rain, then no rain, wind, then snow, starting at about 40 degrees and getting colder.

311 Canada Goose	34 Downy Woodpecker	2 Yellow-rumped Warbler
2 Mute Swan	5 Hairy Woodpecker	2 Eastern Towhee
3 Gadwall	1 Pileated Woodpecker	114 Tree Sparrow
218 Mallard	143 Blue Jay	15 Song Sparrow
162 Ring-necked Duck	60 Crow	1 Swamp Sparrow
9 Ruddy Duck	114 Black-Capped Chickadee	3 White-throated Sparrow
5 Wild Turkey	21 Tufted Titmouse	2 White-crowned Sparrow
1 Cooper's Hawk	21 White-breasted Nuthatch	73 Junco
1 Red-shouldered Hawk	1 Brown Creeper	119 Cardinal
9 Red-tailed Hawk	4 Carolina Wren	18 Red-winged Blackbird
22 Ring-billed Gull	1 Winter Wren	1 Purple Finch
139 Rock Pigeon	1 Ruby-crowned Kinglet	15 House Finch
42 Mourning Dove	15 Bluebird	50 Goldfinch
16 Red-bellied Woodpecker	184 Starling	211 House Sparrow
1 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	69 Cedar Waxwing	



## 2007 Burton Christmas Bird Count, January 1, 2008

Linda Gilbert

Count Day Total Species = 46

Count Week (cw) Species = 3

Well, as you can see, the results of our bird count are pretty dismal, to say the least, and mostly due to the windy weather and afternoon snowstorm. Many parties reported that most of their sightings came from bird feeders along their respective routes.

- Almost every species had low numbers this year, except for the northern invaders—Red Breasted Nuthatches, Pine Siskins, Common Redpolls which had high or normal numbers for our circle.
- This year's count recorded the highest number ever of Common Redpolls according to the data posted on the Audubon website for this species from 1978-present.
- Also, two new birds were seen in the Burton circle this year. A Merlin was perched at the top of a dead snag along Auburn Rd. between Bell and Washington street, and a White-fronted Goose was seen at LaDue.
- No one saw Bald Eagles.

Canada Goose	947
White-fronted Goose	1
American Black Duck	2
Mallard	137
Common Merganser	4
Wild Turkey	20
Great Blue Heron	2
Cooper's Hawk	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	3
Red-tailed Hawk	6
American Kestrel	4
Merlin	1
Ring-billed Gull	11
Herring Gull	6
Rock Dove	23
Mourning Dove	85
Barred Owl	3
Great Horned Owl	1cw
Belted Kingfisher	1cw
Red-bellied Woodpecker	19
Downy Woodpecker	44
Hairy Woodpecker	8
Northern Flicker	2
Pileated Woodpecker	1
Northern Shrike	1

Blue Jay	48
American Crow	116
Horned Lark	15
Black-capped Chickadee	172
Tufted Titmouse	61
Red-breasted Nuthatch	10 HC
White-breasted Nuthatch	41
Carolina Wren	3
Golden-crowned Kinglet	5cw
Eastern Bluebird	29
American Robin	1
European Starling	710
American Tree Sparrow	97
Song Sparrow	14
White-throated Sparrow	3
Dark-eyed Junco	209
Northern Cardinal	222
Common Grackle	3
Purple Finch	1
House Finch	119
Common Redpoll	91 HC
Pine Siskin	15
American Goldfinch	138
House Sparrow	109
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS	3556

\*HC = high count (based on species numbers over a ten year period, 1997-2007)

## 2007 Lakewood Christmas Bird Count, December 29, 2007

Nancy Howell, Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society ([www.wcasohio.org](http://www.wcasohio.org))

The 2007 Lakewood CBC had its ups and downs in regard to birds seen. Some species were totally missing while others were more abundant. Fifty-four terrific observers were either in the field or watching feeders. There were 64 party hours in the field that covered 96.50 miles. Feeders were observed for a total of 17 hours. Sixty-five species were seen on the count date and two species in the count week.

The weather was on the mild side for winter with temperatures running from 32 to 38 degrees F. Winds were variable, but tended to be out of the west with very light snow toward the end of the day. Of course, depending on where one birded, some parties had no wind, others, such as along the lake, had some periodic gusts of wind. Both still and moving water, lakes, rivers and streams were open.

Considering Lake Erie was wide open AND duck hunters were out along parts of the count area some of the numbers of diving ducks, mergansers and gulls were incredibly low... a single Common Merganser and 133 Red-breasted Mergs! Normally the Red-breasted are in the double-digit thousands. In fact, waterfowl, such as Canvasback, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck and Hooded Merganser were not even seen. Similarly the species diversity and numbers of gulls was low. It was the lakefront teams that were able to find the Bald Eagles and added two species of scoter...nice. Inland, the party that had the Ross's Goose mixed with Canada's on a golf course also had the Northern Harrier, two wonderful sightings. None of the three potential species of falcons made an appearance this year. A couple of the northern irruptives did show at feeders and with various parties, the Red-breasted Nuthatch and Common Redpoll were nice additions. Fox Sparrows were seen by two different parties and a single White-crowned Sparrow was sighted. These sparrows tend not to be seen in our area so they were great additions. Northern Mockingbird eluded us this year and American Robins almost did. The past few years American Robins were much more abundant, this year they were not as easy to find. So, an up and down CBC with some new species and plenty of regulars.

Canada Goose	1266	Red-shouldered Hawk	3	Brown Creeper	3
Ross's Goose	1	Red-tailed Hawk	15	Carolina Wren	10
Wood Duck	9	American Coot	2	Winter Wren	1
American Black Duck	48	Bonaparte's Gull	106	Golden-crowned Kinglet	1
Mallard	1115	Ring-billed Gull	8779	American Robin	79
Northern Pintail	1	Herring Gull	42	European Starling	921
Greater Scaup	2	Great black-backed Gull	8	Cedar Waxwing	50
Lesser Scaup	58	Rock Pigeon	390	American Tree Sparrow	66
Surf Scoter	7	Mourning Dove	278	Fox Sparrow	2
Black Scoter	15	Great Horned Owl	3	Song Sparrow	27
Bufflehead	285	Barred Owl	1	Swamp Sparrow	1
Common Goldeneye	193	Belted Kingfisher	6	White-throated Sparrow	12
Common Merganser	1	Red-bellied Woodpecker	41	White-crowned Sparrow	1
Red-breasted Merganser	133	Downy Woodpecker	76	Dark-eyed Junco	267
Ruddy Duck	(N/A)	Hairy Woodpecker	19	Northern Cardinal	116
Common Loon	1	Northern Flicker	6	Common Grackle	1
Pied-billed Grebe	1	Pileated Woodpecker	5	Brown-headed Cowbird	(N/A)
Horned Grebe	4	Blue Jay	33	House Finch	115
Double-cr. Cormorant	100	American Crow	198	Common Redpoll	20
Great Blue Heron	4	Black-capped Chickadee	135	American Goldfinch	335
Bald Eagle	2	Tufted Titmouse	40	House Sparrow	557
Northern Harrier	1	Red-breasted Nuthatch	17		
Cooper's Hawk	8	White-breasted Nuthatch	77		

## Contributors

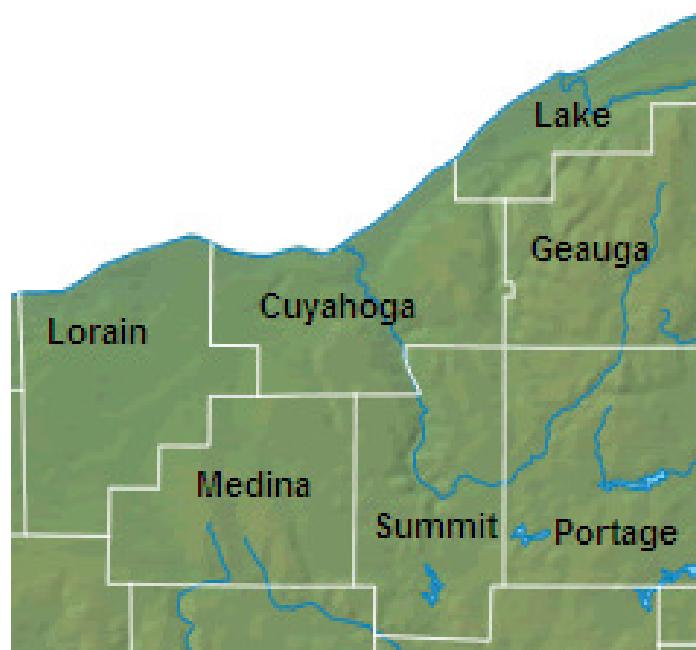
Nancy Anderson (NA)  
Brenda Baber (BB)  
Emil Bacik (EB)  
Gregory Bennett (GB)  
Roger Beuck (RB)  
Steve Borgis (HO)  
Craig Caldwell (CC)  
John Cameron (HO)  
Philip Chaon (PCh) \*  
Dwigh & Ann Chasar (DAC)  
Sue Chester (HO)  
Pat Coy (PC) \*  
Wayne Crouse (HO)  
Greg Cudworth (GC)  
Leo Deininger (LD)  
Sue Dubbstadt (HO)  
Lois Eckard (HO)  
John Edwards (JE)  
Tim Fairweather (TF)

Robert Finkelstein (RF) \*  
Henry Fortlage (HO)  
Chris Grame (CG)  
Lou Gardella (LGa) \*  
Linda Gilbert (LG)  
Ray Hannikman (RH)  
Rob & Sandy Harlan (RSH)  
Jim Heflich (JH) \*  
Sally Isacco (SI) \*  
Dick & Jean Hoffman (DJH)  
Andy Jones (AJ)  
Susan Jones (SJ)  
Hedy Jones (HO)  
Patty Kellner (PK) \*  
Winnie Kennedy (HO)  
Ken Kresina (KK)  
Gabe Leidy (GL) \*  
David Lewis (DL)  
Fred Losi (FL)

Paula Lozano (PL) \*  
Bret McCarty (BM) \*  
Jim McCarty (JM)  
Wilber McQueen (HO)  
Hope Orr (HO)  
John Pogacnik (JP) \*  
Marty Reynard (MR)  
Tom & Mary Anne Romito (TMR)  
Larry Rosche (LR)  
Rosalyn Schrank (RS)  
Judy Semroc (JS)  
Su Snyder (SS)  
Jerry Talkington (JT)  
Karin Tanquist (KT) \*  
Doug Vogus (DV) \*  
Suzanne Wagner (SW)  
Annette Webb (HO)  
Bill Whan (BW)  
Scott Wright (SWr)

\* Sightings gathered from [birdingonthe.net/maillinglists/ohio.html](http://birdingonthe.net/maillinglists/ohio.html)

Some submissions are received indirectly through forwarded correspondence (fide = "in trust of").



Cleveland Bird Calendar 7-county Area

