

crops in the n. of the province supported good numbers of most winter finches, though Purple Finches and both crossbills were absent from *Rainy River* (*vide* DHE), while redpolls were missing farther east. In Algonquin P.P., small flocks of White-winged Crossbills were regular throughout the period, with recently fledged young observed twice in Aug, though breeding numbers were likely small (*vide* RGT). Very few winter finches had moved s. by the end of the period.

Corrigenda: A first-winter Laughing Gull reported on 6 & 14-23 Oct at Point Pelee (*North American Birds* 60: 61-65) should have been: a second-winter bird 6 Oct (AW, Kevin A. McLaughlin) and a first-winter bird 14-23 Oct (AW et al.)

Subregional editors (boldface) and cited observers: Alfred L. Adamo, Brian A. Ahara, Jody R. Allair, **Robert F. Andriele**, Maris P. Apse, Jeff Atkinson, Yousif S. Attia, Erich Bahr, **Margaret J. C. Bain**, Ted Barney, Tony F. M. Beck, Raymond Belhumeur, Chris Bell, John E. Black, Chris Blomme (CBo), Jacques Bouvier, **Robert A. Bracken**, David Bree, David J. Brown, Sue Bryan, Jim T. Burk, Ken & Mike Burrell, Adam M. Byrne, Barbara N. Charlton, Barry S. Cheriére, Linda Cheriére, Glenn

Coady, James P. Coey, Dave Copeland, Mike Cowlard, William J. Crins, Robert Curry, Willie C. D'Anna, Marc Denis, Dan Derbyshire, Bruce Di Labio, **Rob Z. Dobos**, David R. Don, Rick Dowson, Pam Duncan, Carolle Eady, Cheryl E. Edgcombe, **David H. Elder**, Eric Enbody, **Nicholas G. Escott**, Iain Ewing, Steven M. Favier, Gail Fraser, Christaian A. Friis, Mike & Nancy Furber, Graeme Gibson, Neil Gilbert, Cindy Gilbertson, Peter J. Good, **Clive E. Goodwin**, Joy E. Goodwin, Sharon Grawburg, Jim Griffin, Garry Hamman, Tracy Harper, C. Heffernan, Fred M. Helleiner, Micky Henderson, Leo Heyens, Peter Hogenbirk, Brandon R. Holden, Eric W. Holden, Bryan Holliday, Robert A. Horvath, Janice House, Jean Iron, Joanna Jack, **Marcia L. Jacklin**, **Anita Jacobsen**, Scott Jennex, Mark W. Jennings, Barry D. Jones, Graham Jones, Zach D. Kaiser, Walter Krisjanson, Bernie Ladouceur, Alison Lake, Larry & Nancy Lane, Jerry Lazarczyk (JLa), **John Lemon** (JLe), Gwen Lewington, **Christina Lewis**, **Stuart A. Mackenzie**, Ross & Sandy Mackintosh, **Blake A. Mann**, Dave A. Martin, Paul Matthews, Andrew McDonald, Cameron McGregor, William McKitterick, Kevin A. McLaughlin, **Stéphane Menu**, John Millman, David J. Milson, Brian Moore, David Moore, George M. Naylor, Fergus I. Nicoll, Sue O'Donnell,

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Margaret J. C. Bain, 219 Albert Street Cobourg, Ontario K9A 2R6, (mjcbain@sympatico.ca)

Eastern Highlands & Upper Ohio River Valley



Victor W. Fazio, III | Rick Wiltraut

Cool fall weather in late August offered an early impetus for migration. Heavy rainfall amounts early in the season left much potential shorebird habitat inundated. However, Tropical Storm *Ernesto* accounted for several remarkable shorebirds and terns in Pennsylvania 2-3 September, as well as two species of storm-petrel (see the Special Inter-regional Report, in this issue). Across most groups from shorebirds to songbirds, the first half of the season was fairly typical, lacking

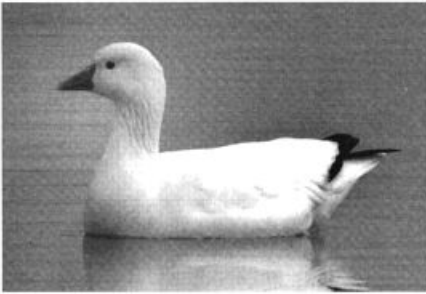
dramatic fallouts. October weather was moderate, offering up mild conditions for stragglers into early November. Strong southerly winds during the last week of October may have influenced some late sightings, including a fallout of swifts. However, winter arrived in earnest by mid-November, perhaps contributing to some astonishing loon and grebe concentrations, and coinciding with a superb fallout of sea ducks on Lake Erie. Rare species were distributed across the Region, with a Swallow-tailed Kite in Ohio, a state-first Black-chinned Hummingbird in West Virginia, and four Yellow Rails, one of them in Pennsylvania.

Abbreviations: B.E.S.P. (Bald Eagle S.P., Centre, PA); B.S.B.O. (Black Swamp B.O.); B.M.L. (Blue Marsh L., Berks, PA); B.C.S.P. (Buck Creek S.P., Clark, OH); C.F.R. (Clear Fork Res., Morrow/Richland, OH); Conneaut (Conneaut Harbor, Ashtabula, OH); Deer Creek (Deer Creek S.P., Fayette/Pickaway, OH); D.R. (Delaware R., Delaware, PA); Green Bottom

(Green Bottom W.A., Cabell, WV); H.M.S. (Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Berks/Schuylkill, PA); Headlands (Headlands S.P., Lake, OH); Hoover (Hoover Res., Franklin/Delaware, OH); J.H.N.W.R. (John Heinz N.W.R., Philadelphia, PA); L.B.L. (Little Blue L., Beaver, PA); L.M. (L. Marburg, Codorus S.P., York, PA); Longbrakes (Longbrake wetlands, Hardin, OH); M.W.W. (Miami-Whitewater Wetlands, Hamilton, OH); O.D.N.R. (Ohio Department of Natural Resources); Metzger (Metzger Marsh W.A., Lucas, OH); O.N.W.R. (Ottawa N.W.R., Ottawa/Lucas, OH); P.N.R. (Powdermill Nature Reserve, Westmoreland, PA); P.W.T. (Penn Warner Tract, Bucks, PA); S.R.C.F. (Susquehanna R. at Conejohela Flats, Lancaster, PA); Y.C.S.P. (Yellow Creek S.P., Indiana, PA).

WATERFOWL

Only 3 Greater White-fronted Geese in Ohio supplemented an equally weak Snow Goose flight in the w. led by 12 at Hoover 22 Nov (A. Sewell). An early Snow Goose in Wood, OH 24



In little more than a decade, Ross's Goose has gone from accidental in Ohio/West Virginia/Pennsylvania to an expectation of 10 or more records per annum in this Region. Of five recorded in the Region in autumn 2006, this bird was the least expected, in Jefferson County, West Virginia 14 November 2006. Photograph by Matt Orsie.



This Snow Goose at North Park, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania 29 October 2006 might have been unusual in other parts of the state, where spring birds are more common than autumn birds, but in southwestern Pennsylvania, fall birds predominate. Photograph by Geoff Malosh.



Red-throated Loons, rare inland away from the Great Lakes, were found twice in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania (here in O'Hara Township, 26 November) in fall 2006—the first for the county since 1983. Photograph by Geoff Malosh.

Sep (ph. T. Troutner) was preceded by a record-early appearance of one at Cedar Point, Erie, OH 27 Aug (DP, MG). A Ross's Goose at Grand L., Auglaize, OH 23 Sep (B. Menker) was early. Sightings at various locations in Lake, OH 7-29 Nov likely refer to the same bird (RH, JP). Another was present 20 Nov at Deer Creek (JK). A Ross's Goose at Seward, Indiana, PA 18-22 Nov was unusual for that area (T. Roberts), as was a Ross's Goose in Jefferson, WV 14 Nov (ph. MO). Reports of some 35 Ohio Cackling Geese included a flock of 17 in Williams 10 Nov (J. Yochum) and 9 at Maumee Bay S.P., Lucas 24 Nov (ph. JP). A

Brant was in Cleveland 13-26 Nov (m.ob.) and 2 at Conneaut 7-22 Oct (P. Lozano, CH). Brant in Pennsylvania included 20 at Green Hills L., Berks 21 Oct (K. Lebo), 26 on the Susquehanna R., Dauphin, PA 8 Nov (DH), and 108 during the season at H.M.S. (LG).

Peak Tundra Swan passage was marked by 500 through ne. Ohio 1 Nov (RH, JP); 131 dropped in at Cheat L., Monongalia, WV (JBo) the same day. Resting birds numbered 184 in Akron 20 Nov (G. Bennett), and later that day in excess of 400 were counted over the e.-cen. highlands of Holmes/Tuscarawas/Cochocton, OH (J. Hostetler, R. Hershberger, R. Schlabach). In between, a flight 12 Nov saw 180 birds on Colyer L., Centre, PA (JV). The 65 Mute Swans at Mogadore Res., Portage, OH 4 Nov (G. Bennett) were representative of burgeoning numbers in that state. Some 400-500 Green-winged Teal at P.W.T. 9 Oct (DF) made an excellent count; away from L. Erie, a count of 450 at Longbrakes 6 Oct, growing to 780 on 9 Nov (RC), was exceptional. A first-year male King Eider was shot by a hunter in Geauga, OH 29 Oct (fide J. McCormac), a rare record inland. Three Lake, OH sightings of Harlequin Duck 14-29 Nov may refer to one bird (JMc, JP, RH). A strong showing of White-winged Scoters saw 40+ birds in the Central Basin. This compared well to roughly 60-75 Surf Scoters and equal number of Black Scoters. The 11 Surf Scoters and 5 Black Scoters at Kelleys I., Erie, OH 5 Nov (TB) was a good tally for the Western Basin. A single Surf Scoter was at Sleepy Creek W.A., Jefferson, WV 4 Nov (MO), while 5 on Tygart L., Taylor, WV 2 Nov (JBo) made a high count locally. Black Scoters reported in Pennsylvania included 18 at B.M.L. 27 Oct (JS), 18 in Lancaster 28 Oct (JHe), and 21 in Dauphin 8 Nov (DH). Inland Ohio reports were topped by 10 at Killdeer Plains W.A., Wyandot 12 Nov (L. Gooch). Seven White-winged Scoters were at Middletown, Dauphin, PA 8 Nov (DH) and 6 on Cheat L., Monongalia, WV 23 Oct (JBo). Up to 25 Long-tailed Ducks were at S.R.C.F. 7 Oct (DH). In Ohio, Long-taileds were scattered across the ne., with up to 14 at Mosqui-

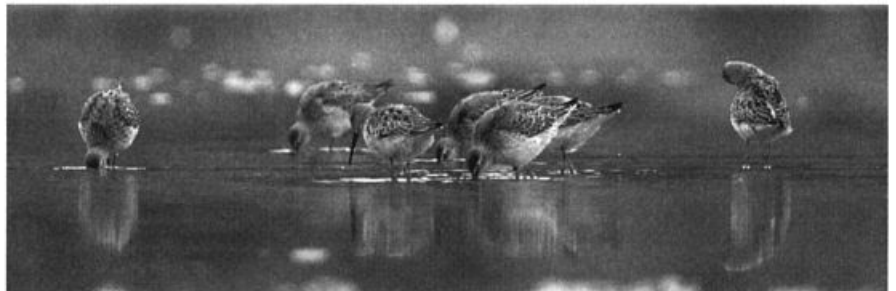


This Yellow Rail was found 31 October 2006 at Pine Run Dam in Bucks County, Pennsylvania (here 7 November); though perhaps regularly documented in the county in the nineteenth century, the species was recorded in the twentieth century here only in 1978 and 2002. Photograph from video by Devich Farbotnik.

to L., Trumbull 8-28 Nov (J. Lucas, C. Babyak, m.ob.); and in West Virginia, 4 set down on the Shenandoah R., Jefferson 23 Nov (MO), as did 4 others on Cheat L., Monongalia 1 Nov (JBo). Staging Buffleheads around Kelleys I., Erie, OH surpassed all other concentrations, with 1997 reported 19 Nov (TB et al.), a new state record. Ohio Ruddy Ducks numbered 1000 at both Bresler Res., Allen 12 Nov (JB) and Wellington Res., Lorain 28 Oct (K. Ostermiller), while 700 were supported on Tygart L., Taylor, WV 2 Nov and in excess of 500 on Cheat L., Monongalia, WV 7 Nov (JBo).

LOONS THROUGH IBISES

There was a significant loon/grebe fallout through the Region. Common Loon passage through Ohio peaked 12 Nov with 1372 over e. Morrow (AT) and 230 on C.FR. (RT). Earlier flights brought 350 to Deer Creek 1 Nov (RR) and 134 to C.C.S.P. 11 Nov (RA), while another wave saw 778 over Headlands 20 Nov (RH). A final passage 3 Dec was led by 611 birds over Lake (JP). Coupled with widely scattered smaller flocks, no fewer than 4000 birds were accounted for over Ohio—yet nothing of this flight was detected farther east. The 12 Red-throated Loons in the Central Basin beginning 21 Oct at Conneaut (CH)



These Stilt Sandpipers, most of a group of eight, gathered at Independence Marsh, Beaver County, Pennsylvania 2-4 (here 2) September 2006. Photograph by Geoff Malosh.

were led by 4 in *Lake*, OH 11 Nov (ES). Inland Ohio reports 4-20 Nov from reservoirs in *Warren*, *Clark*, *Pickaway*, and *Franklin* were expected. However, the flight spilled into the unglaciated plateau as well, involving *Wayne*, *Ashland*, *Guernsey*, *Noble*, and *Hocking* (S. Hannan, SS, BG, J. Watts, BWh). This was eclipsed by the fallout in Pennsylvania, where 50+ across the state were topped by 11 in *Bucks*, PA 3-23 Nov (*fide* AM) and up to 14 at Y.C.S.P. 14-26 Nov (*fide* PH). Two found their way to West Virginia, where rare, with one near New Martinsville, *Wetzel* 14 Nov (W. Jarrell) and one on the *Shenandoah R.*, *Jefferson* 17 Nov (MO).

The Horned Grebe flight in the w. was normal, with a peak passage 5 Nov of 217 in the Central Basin (JP). This flight saw one Eared Grebe past a watch point in *Lake*, OH (JP). Singles were inland to Hoover 30 Oct-12 Nov (BW, JL) and in *Hamilton*, OH 18-30 Nov (FF, K. Hutton, m.ob.). In the Eastern Highlands, there was an exceptional fallout of 1380 Horned Grebes on the *Susquehanna R.* at *Harrisburg*, *Dauphin*, PA 23 Nov (TJ). Single Eared Grebes were in Pennsylvania at *L. Heritage*, *Adams* 13 Aug (D. Heathcote) and *State College*, *Centre* 14-23 Sep (JV), the latter a 2nd county record. Less unusual was one at P.I.S.P. 15 Nov (D. Yagusic, D. Wilton). Only 3 Red-necked Grebes were detected along the s. shore of the Central Basin versus 12 spread across inland Ohio reservoirs 25 Oct-30 Nov, among them 3 at C.F.R. 25-29 Oct (JH et al.), 2 in *Mahoning* 4 & 6 Nov (GB, E. Kistler), and 2 in *Noble* 12-19 Nov (T. Vincent, A. Wilson). The Red-necked Grebe flight in Pennsylvania was in better form, with 9 in *Berks* 28 Oct-11 Nov (*fide* RKe). Accompanying one at *Ferguson Res.*, *Allen*, OH was a *Western Grebe* 12 Nov (ph. JL).

Quite rare for West Virginia, an *American White Pelican* was at *Green Bottom* 21 Nov (JBg); singles in Ohio were noted at *Deer Creek*, OH 30 Oct+ (*fide* O.D.N.R.), in the *Sandusky Bay* area, OH 14-30 Oct (*fide* R. Hinckle, M. Hendrick et al.), and at *Killdeer Plains W.A.*, *Wyandot*, OH 10 Aug-22 Oct (L. Powlick, M. Finney, m.ob.). A *Great Cormorant* at *L. Ontelaunee*, *Berks*, PA 28 Oct-25 Nov furnished a first record for that location (J. Eckert). Late *American Bitterns* lingered at *Longbrakes* 12 Nov (J. Stenger), in *Bucks*, PA 22 Nov (C. Walsh), at *Metzger* 24 Nov (JP), and at *Millbrook Marsh*, *Centre*, PA 15+ Nov (J. Verica). A drawdown at J.H.N.W.R. attracted 200 *Great Egrets* 25 Aug (DM); post-breeding dispersal of this species Aug-Sep drew special comment across Ohio, with just 10 sites reporting 300+ birds; the highest counts were of 45 in *Williams* (JY), 38 at

Hoover (C. Bombaci), 30 in *Auglaize* (JB), and up to 60 in *Wayne* (SS, L. Deininger). Lingered through 24 Nov were 5 *Great Egrets* at *Bayshore Power Plant*, *Lucas*, OH (JP) and one at C.F.R. (JH). Only 17 *Snowy Egrets* were detected in the *Western Basin* marshes. The only itinerant bird was found in *Lake*, OH 7 Sep (JT). A *Little Blue Heron* at *Sandy Ridge*, *Lorain*, OH 1-12 Aug (CS, m.ob.) was away from the usual haunts; more expected were 3 reported from the *Western Basin* marshes 9-14 Sep (BWh, PS) and one or 2 at M.W.W. 6-31 Aug (FF, JL). Farther up the *Ohio R.*, one was at *Green Bottom* 5-12 Aug (WA, JBg). Late-season *Cattle Egrets* included singles in *Lake*, OH 17-21 Nov (ph. R. Hunziker, JP, m.ob.), *Wayne*, OH 4-5 Nov (SS, S. Weaver), *Clinton*, OH 9 Oct (K. Corzett), *Bucks*, PA 6 Nov (R. & V. Smith), and *Montgomery*, PA 7 Nov (G. Franchois, PG). Two *Glossy Ibis* lingered at J.H.N.W.R. 19-24 Nov (DM). Unidentified *Plegadis* in Ohio included 5 in flight over *Maumee*, *Lucas* 1 Sep (MA) and one in *Mahoning* (*fide* BWh).

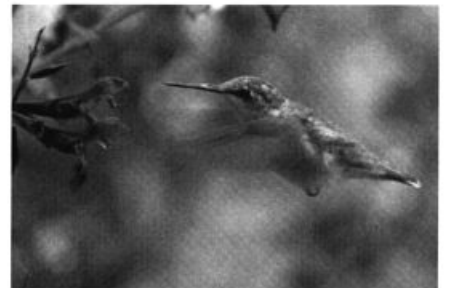
VULTURES THROUGH CRANES

The peak *Turkey Vulture* flight was noted 6 Oct, with 440 over *Whitehouse*, *Lucas*, OH (MA). Five *Black Vultures* were n. to *Richland*, OH 8 Oct (GC). A well-described *Swallow-tailed Kite* was seen overhead at *Carlisle Reservation*, *Lorain*, OH 15 Aug (M. Garvin). *Mississippi Kites* were reported in Pennsylvania from *Rose Tree Hawkwatch*, *Delaware* 10 Sep (J. Lockyer) and H.M.S. 11 Sep (DB). Substantial *Broad-winged Hawk* flights of 4500 (RN) and 800 (J. Stockton) were noted over *Lucas*, OH hawkwatches 25 & 14 Sep, respectively. The 7508 *Broad-winged* 12 Sep at H.M.S. made the 4th highest count there (DB); a rare dark morph was described in *Bucks*, PA 25 Sep (K. & L. Moulton). Six *Golden Eagles* passed over nw. Ohio 1-10 Nov (RN, MA, J. Stackford); an ad. 16 Sep at *Longbrakes* (RC) was quite early. A *Golden Eagle* in *Westmoreland* 15 Nov (RCL) and another in *Indiana* 18 Oct (MH) were rare for w. Pennsylvania (RCL). The species had returned to its wintering quarters at *The Wilds*, *Muskingum*, OH by 25 Nov (A. Parker). The 204 *Merlins* at H.M.S. set a new seasonal record (DB). Pennsylvania's 2nd nesting pair of *Merlins* successfully raised 2 young in *Warren* (D. Watts).

Single *Yellow Rails* in Ohio were picked up in *Licking* 20 Oct (L. Fosco) and *Lake* 24 Oct (*fide* JP); another was seen in s. *Holmes* 24 Sep (James E. Yoder). A *Yellow Rail* in *Bucks*, PA 31 Oct-7 Nov (vt. AM et al.) made a 4th county record. A *King Rail* was a very nice find in *Cumberland*, PA 1 Aug (A. Markel),



This Franklin's Gull at the Penn-Warner Tract in Falls Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania was photographed 8 October 2006, for a fifth county record. Photograph from video by Devich Farbotnik.



A Ruby-throated Hummingbird at Fox Chapel, Pennsylvania (here 26 October 2006) stayed through 2 November, the latest date for Allegheny County for this species. Photograph by Geoff Malosh.



This adult female Rufous Hummingbird at McDonald, Washington County, Pennsylvania (a first for the county) was found at a feeder 15 October 2006 (here 21 November) and remained through at least 9 December. It had been banded the previous winter, 25 January 2006, in *Diamond Head*, *Mississippi*. Photograph by Geoff Malosh.

while an imm. *Purple Gallinule* in *Macungie*, *Lehigh*, PA 1-13 Oct furnished a first county record (ph. L. Levengood, m.ob.). There were 2200 *American Coots* at *Camp Dennison*, *Hamilton*, OH 30 Oct (R. Foppe) and 1475 at Y.C.S.P. in Nov (MH). The w. *Sandhill Crane* flight through Ohio, beginning 5 Oct, numbered 180 birds by season's end; 82 at *Funk Bottoms W.A.*, *Wayne* 29 Nov (GC) was a good concentration for ne. Ohio.

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH TERNS

The total of 16 *American Avocets* along the *L. Erie* shoreline 4 Aug-29 Sep was above aver-



On 25 October 2006, this Clay-colored Sparrow was found on the Smith farm, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, one of four detected in the state in autumn 2006. Photograph by Howard Eskin.

age for Ohio. The only avocet in Pennsylvania was at S.R.C.F 5 Aug (BS, DH). The draw-down at J.H.N.W.R. attracted 500 Lesser Yellowlegs 28 Aug (DM), while no more than 312 mustered at O.N.W.R. 16 Jul (B.S.B.O.). A Solitary Sandpiper in Beaver, PA 2 Nov (GM) was tardy, as was a 17 Nov Spotted Sandpiper at Hoover (BW). Three Willets were reported from the L. Erie shoreline 9-30 Aug (KK, PS, MV); 2 more appeared inland to B.C.S.P. 12 Aug (RA). In Pennsylvania, single Willets were at L.B.L. 17 & 20 Aug (MV, GM), while the only Whimbrel was at P.I.S.P. 4 Sep (R. Stringer). Four Whimbrels set down in Ohio 19 Aug–5 Oct; the one inland report on the latter date came from Hoover (CB). Hudsonian Godwits were widespread and numerous this season. A flock of 16 dropped in at Longbrakes 1 Sep (RC); singles were at L.M. 10-22 Oct and later (M. Weible) and in Fairfield, OH 31 Aug–9 Sep (J. Watts, m.ob.); 5 were along L. Erie 30 Aug–2 Sep (TB, CH); *Ernesto* brought down 30 at S.R.C.F. 2 Sep (BS, DH et al.); and up to 20 were detected at night by vocalizations at P.N.R. 24-25 Sep (ML). Single Marbled Godwits were at S.R.C.F. 16 Aug (DH et al.), at P.I.S.P. 27 Aug (BC), on Sandusky Bay, Ottawa, OH 20 Sep (TB et al.), and at O.N.W.R. 15 Oct (B.S.B.O.). Three appeared at a fish farm in Mahoning, OH 20 Aug (B. Jones), while one at C.C.S.P. 19 Aug (C. Knoll) furnished a rare record for sw. Ohio. Eight Red Knots in Ohio, all along L. Erie 21 Aug–11 Sep (TB, D. Friedman, CH), marked the passage of this dwindling species.

Peep concentrations at J.H.N.W.R. included 1200 Least Sandpipers 28 Aug and 930 Semipalmated Sandpipers 12 Aug (M. F. Sharp). Least Sandpipers lingered late in Ohio, with one in Wayne 26 Nov (SS), 3 in Auglaize 26 Nov (DD), and one in Clinton 22 Nov (LG). The 500 at Winous Pt., Ottawa, OH 31 Aug (TB) was par for the Western Basin marshes. An average flight of 20 West-

ern Sandpipers across Ohio had one remaining at Deer Creek until 4 Nov (RR); one was in the company of a Baird's Sandpiper in Mason, WV 29 Aug (WA). The maximum Central Basin flock of White-rumped Sandpipers numbered 14 at Conneaut 2 Sep (CH). A weak flight of Baird's Sandpiper away from the Western Basin saw only 36 birds reported through 25 Oct. A late bird was in Wayne, OH 10 Nov (SS). The minor Pectoral Sandpiper flight was led by 365 at O.N.W.R. 15 Oct (B.S.B.O.). A Purple Sandpiper had arrived at Headlands by 27 Oct (RH). An astounding 8200 Dunlins

on the Crane Creek estuary at O.N.W.R. 4 Nov (B.S.B.O.) was almost double the previous state record. The 75-80 Silt Sandpipers reported widely across Ohio represented a poor season, while the 31 Buff-breasted Sandpipers noted across 12 Ohio counties 20 Aug–15 Oct was average for the season. Up to 3 Buff-breasted were present at S.R.C.F. 14 Sep (JHo), and 3 were found in West Virginia, 2 in Jefferson 9 Sep (MO) and one in Mason, WV 30 Sep (WA).

Shorebird of the season was a Ruff at Pickerel Creek W.A., Sandusky, OH 27-28 Aug (JK, ph. A. Boone). No more than 300 Short-billed Dowitchers could be found in the Western Basin at Winous Pt., Ottawa, OH 31 Aug (TB). A Long-billed Dowitcher tarried at O.N.W.R. 23 Nov (JP) after a 15 Oct peak of 500 there (B.S.B.O.). Long-billed Dowitcher is a scarce fall migrant in Pennsylvania. One was at P.I.S.P. 27 Aug (BC), 2 at S.R.C.F. 30 Aug (DH), and singles at L.B.L. 28 Aug (GM), D.R. 2 Sep (JHo), and L.M. 17 Oct+ (m.ob.). Single Wilson's Phalaropes were at L.M. 12 Sep (P. Robinson), at S.R.C.F. 24 Aug (DH) and 14 Sep (JHo), in Venango, PA 12 Aug (J. Stanley, R. States), and at J.H.N.W.R. 29 Aug (T. Fellenbaum). The 7 Wilson's Phalaropes at Pickerel Creek W.A., Sandusky 19 Aug (ES) led the Ohio reports, which totaled 15 birds; the family party of 3 at Longbrakes remained through 12 Aug (RC, BW). A good Ohio flight of 14 Red-necked Phalaropes 10 Aug–6

Oct was topped by 5 at Pickerel Creek W.A., Sandusky 20-27 Aug (K. Tarvin et al.) and 4 at Maumee Bay S.P., Lucas 27 Aug (J. Grabmeier). Many more were found in e. Pennsylvania, having been entrained or downed by *Ernesto*, along with a few Reds. A Red Phalarope was present at Conneaut 22 & 29 Oct (JP).

Ohio Laughing Gull reports, from 30 Aug–12 Nov, were led by 4 at East Fork L., Clermont 16-26 Sep (JL, B. Stanley, m.ob.). Singles were in Ottawa, Erie, Richland, Pickaway, and Ashtabula (TB, B. Sparks, JH, RR, CH) and in adjacent Erie, PA 22 Oct (JM). A rarity was one in Putnam, WV 5 Nov (K. Kazmierski, D. Ellis). The passage of 6 Franklin's Gulls in Ohio 12 Sep–25 Oct (JL, LG, DD) was as expected, while one was e. to P.W.T. 8 Oct (DF). Sporadic reports of Little Gulls at Conneaut 9 Sep–7 Oct (MV, JL, CH) and neighboring P.I.S.P. 10 Oct (JM) likely involved the same 2-3 birds. Another was found in Lake, OH 29 Oct (JP). An ad. Black-headed Gull at Conneaut 21-24 Sep (MV, S. Wagner, JT, JP) was early. The 1200 Bonaparte's Gulls at Deer Creek 29 Oct (RR) made a good inland tally. An ad. California Gull at Conneaut 12 Nov (CH) was in the company of the only Glaucous Gull reported from the Central Basin. The 390 Lesser Black-backed Gulls counted in Bucks, PA 12 Nov (A. Binns) was typical of that location; comparable counts in North America are known only from Florida. The 11 Lesser Black-backed Gulls in Ohio included singles inland at Lost Creek Res., Allen 10 Nov (JK) and L. Milton, Mahoning 23 Nov (E. Kistler). A Great Black-backed Gull at C.C.S.P. 23-26 Sep (LG, RA) was even a greater rarity inland. Imm. Black-legged Kittiwakes in Ohio were noted from Headlands 4-5 Nov (L. Rosche, RH, JP) and Cleveland 22-28 Nov (M. Harter, R. Steiner, S. Isacco, m.ob.). A Least Tern was S.R.C.F. 2 Aug (DH). McWilliams counted 342 Common Terns at P.I.S.P. 16 Oct, an extraordinary number for the Eastern Basin. Black Terns were reported from locations throughout Pennsylvania 19 Aug–12 Sep, including an outstanding pre-*Ernesto* count of 37 at S.R.C.F. 30 Aug (DH).

SA A Nov fallout of jaegers on L. Erie saw 25-28 reported (an average autumn has just five reports). While it has been established that Parasitics outnumber Pomarines elsewhere in the Great Lakes, such is normally not the case in the Central Basin of L. Erie. However, during this event, it appears that as many Parasitics as Pomarines were involved. Given that some may mill about a week or more at a time, estimates of jaegers' numbers (and relative abundance) are problematic. Documented reports of 13 Parasitic Jaegers 3-18 Nov (JT, J. Brumfield, JP, m.ob.)—led by 5 in Lake 14 Nov (JMc)—suggest that minimally 7-8 birds were present. The 10 more widely distributed reports of Pomarine Jaegers also suggested roughly 6-7 birds present 4-18 Nov (GM, CH, KM, JMc, JP, m.ob.). A single unidentified jaeger in Ottawa 10 Nov (P. Chad) supplied the only report from the Western Basin.

DOVES THROUGH FINCHES

A rare White-winged Dove was reported in Bath, Northampton, PA 21 Aug (R. Kline). A Yellow-billed Cuckoo at Metzger 31 Oct (KK) was rather late. A family party of Barn Owls, involving several fledged young, was still present on a private farm just outside New Hope, Bucks, PA through Oct (*vide* VF). A 29 Oct flight of Chimney Swifts over the Cleveland area had scattered flocks of 2-6 at various locations (S. Marengo, KM, S. Cagan); Haas Clebsch observed the flight from the Shaker Lakes, where up to 100 passed through the Doan Brook corridor. This same day, one was seen in Monongalia, WV (JBo), and stragglers from the fallout included one in Cuyahoga, OH 4 Nov (CS), one in Erie, PA 5 Nov (D. Snyder), 9 at Conneaut 7 Nov (CH), and one at Sandy Ridge, Lorain, OH 9 Nov (A. Ryan), the last a record late date for the Cleveland region. Single Rufous Hummingbirds were in Berks, PA 5 Nov-8 Dec (K. Lebo), in Delaware, PA 10 Nov+ (AG), and Gibsonia, Allegheny 26 Oct (b. AL); one in Washington, PA 15 Oct+ had been banded in Diamond Head, MS 25 Jan 2006 (AK, *vide* PH). Other singles were noted at a Dayton, OH feeder 26 Oct-23 Nov (*vide* A. Chartier), in Warren, OH 1-26 Nov (T. Yowler, m.ob.), and in Jefferson, WV 20 Oct (ph. MO). Some 305 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were banded at P.N.R. during the season (AL); late Ohio birds were in Lake 26 Oct (CT), Hamilton 31 Oct (J. Bens), Wayne 1 Nov (L. Stoller), and Richland 3 Nov (RT), and another late one was in Allegheny, PA 2 Nov (GM). West Virginia's first Black-chinned Hummingbird was enjoyed by many at Shepardsstown, Jefferson 10 Oct-Jan (L. Wiseman, ph. W. Hershberger, m.ob.).

Seasonal totals of just 19 Olive-sided Flycatchers in Ohio and 21 in Pennsylvania were indicative of continued decline. A late Eastern Wood-Pewee was studied closely 31 Oct at Metzger (KK), and another was reported from Schuykill, PA 22 Oct (B. Ritzheimer). A Say's Phoebe was reported at Avondale, Chester, PA 6 Nov (J. Grantham), and a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was in Pocahontas, WV 2 Sep (D. Holsinger, J. Oswald, G. Byrne, M. Williamson, G. Eddy). In a non-flight year, single Northern Shrikes were notable s. to Deer Creek 8-30 Nov (RR, m.ob.) and The Wilds, Muskingum, OH 26 Nov (AP). The only Loggerhead Shrike report came from the Summers/Monroe, WV line 15 Nov (J. Phillips).

Single Red-eyed Vireos in Franklin, OH 19 Nov (P. Rodewald) and Clinton, PA 22 Nov (B. Snyder, W. Laubscher) were tardy. A White-eyed Vireo tarried on Kelleys I., Erie, OH 19 Nov (TB). Two Blue-headed Vireos lingered in Centre, PA 24 Nov (N. Butkovich); the 185

recorded at H.M.S. constituted a new seasonal record (LG). The 11,400 Tree Swallows at Pickerel Creek W.A., Sandusky, OH 15 Sep (VF) was among the larger fall concentrations. A late Barn Swallow was present at B.C.S.P. 11 Nov (JL). An Ohio Cave Swallow was reported from Headlands 30 Nov (RH), while 3 in Pennsylvania included one at P.W.T. 19 Nov (DF) and 2 at Whitehall, Lehigh 1 Dec (DW). Five Sedge Wrens were reported in Pennsylvania, including one at Middle Creek W.M.A., Lancaster/Lebanon 13 Aug (G. Boltz) and 4 in Bucks 1-14 Oct (KR, CR, B. Keim). A late Wood Thrush was on Kelleys I., Erie, OH 5 Nov (ph. S. Roberts). Late Veeries included one banded at P.N.R. 27 Oct (AL) and one studied in Westmoreland, PA 6 Nov (D. Byers). Late Gray-cheeked Thrushes were in Allegheny, PA 3 Nov (B. Shema) and in Summit, OH 29 Oct (F. Losi). An American Pipit 26 Aug at Conneaut was early (M. Studebaker).

Eight Golden-winged Warblers across Ohio were all that could be found. Lawrence's Warblers were discovered 7 Sep at Alum Creek, Delaware, OH (RTh) and 17 Sep in Holmes, OH (K. Kline); one was banded at P.N.R. 12 Sep (AL). A late Nashville Warbler was in Lancast-



At Pine Run Dam near Doylestown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, Cameron Rutt and Tom Johnson found this rare migrant Le Conte's Sparrow 24 (here 25) November 2006. Photograph by Howard Eskin.

er, PA 26 Nov (P. Fisher), and a Northern Parula was in Jefferson, WV 30 Oct (E. Kirschbaum). Late Yellow Warblers were noted 21-23 Oct in Wayne, OH (AT et al.), 26 Oct at Maumee Bay S.P., Lucas (ph. BZ), and 31 Oct at Metzger (KK). A Black-throated Blue Warbler lingered in Lake, OH 29-30 Nov (RH).

Ohio Clay-colored Sparrows were reported from Lake 4 Oct (JP) and Cuyahoga 1 & 14 Oct (DO, m.ob.); 4 were reported across Pennsylvania in Washington, Indiana, Bucks, and Centre. Extralimital Lark Sparrows in Pennsylvania were in Bucks 14 Oct (RVS), at S.R.C.F. 15 Oct (BS), and in Northampton 19 Oct (A. Koch); singles in Summit, OH 14 Oct (BR) and in Mason, WV 5 Sep (WA, DP, MG) were unexpected, while 2 in Greene, OH 27

Jun-7 Aug had summered at a potential nesting site (D. Snuffer, DO, m.ob.). A late Grasshopper Sparrow was in Bucks, PA 24-26 Nov (CR, TJ, B. Merritt). An increase in reports of Nelson's Sharp-tailed and Le Conte's Sparrows in Ohio in recent years has been a product of improved observer awareness of these elusive birds. Thirteen Nelson's, led by 4 in Tuscarawas 7 Oct (ES) and 3 in Lake 6 Oct (JP), probably represent the peak of passage through Ohio. Two at Winous Pt., Ottawa, OH 26 Sep (TB) were rare for the Western Basin. A remarkable 6-7 Le Conte's reported in Ohio included 2 in Wayne 7 Oct (DK, K. Kline), one or 2 in Tuscarawas 7-14 Oct (ES), one in Summit 15-22 Oct (G. Leidy), one at Headlands 18 Oct (RH, JT), and one at C.C.S.P. 20 Oct (FF). A Le Conte's Sparrow at Pine Run Dam, Bucks, PA 24-25 Nov (TJ, CR et al., ph.) furnished just the 3rd state record. A Harris's Sparrow at O.N.W.R. 1 Oct (DO, J. Karlson) was early, as was an Oregon Junco at Maumee Bay S.P., Lucas, OH 30 Oct (ph. BZ). A Lapland Longspur had arrived in Hancock, OH by 21 Sep (RR), while an early push by Snow Buntings saw 150 at Conneaut 29 Oct (BW) and 200 at Headlands 1 Nov (RH).

A Blue Grosbeak at M.W.W. 1 Oct (D. Russell) was late. The Holmes, OH Western Meadowlark remained through 29 Aug (A. Miller). Single Yellow-headed Blackbirds appeared in Lake, OH 30 Sep (P. Chaon), adjacent Conneaut 22 Aug (J. Petruzzi, RR), and in Chester, PA 24 Nov (C. Chalfant), while 6 appeared at Springville Marsh S.N.P., Seneca OH 8 Oct (TB). A Rusty Blackbird in Lucas, OH 2 Sep (M. Warren) was early. A Brewer's Blackbird was at Cannonsburg L., Washington, PA 26 Sep (R. Gallardy). A singing Dickcissel 31 Oct in Pickaway, OH (P. Gardner) was late. Late Baltimore Orioles were discovered in Cuyahoga, OH 25 Oct (BR) and Centre, PA 18 Nov (J. Keller). An early Common Redpoll at Headlands 1 Nov (RH) did not herald a flight into the state. The boreal finch flight fell flat other than the 20 Red Crossbills at H.M.S. 12 Nov (DB) and 5 White-wingeds there 27 Nov (C. Farmer).

Addenda: An American White Pelican was at C.F.R., OH 27 Jun 2006 (ph. L. Patterson). A thorough description was received of a Würdemann's Heron along the Susquehanna R., Luzerne, PA 12-17 Jul 2006 (WR). A 2nd Pip ing Plover was at Conneaut 10 Jul 2006 (BC).

Observers (subregional compilers in bold-face): OHIO: Matt Anderson (MA), Nancy Anderson (NA), Rick Asamoto (RA), Tom Bartlett (TB), Charlie Bombaci (CB), Jill Bowers (JB), Rick Counts (RC), Gary Cowell

(GC), David Dister (DD), Vic Fazio (VF), Frank Frick (FF), Larry Gara (LG), Bruce Glick (BG), Ray Hannikman (RH), John Herman (JH), Craig Holt (CH), Kenn Kaufman (KK), Ned Keller, Dennis Kline (DK), John Kuenzli (JK), Jay Lehman (JL), Kevin Metcalf (KM), Rick Nirschl (RN), John Pogacnik (JP), Bryn Roberts (BR), Robert Royse (RR), Ed Schlabach (ES), Robert Schlabach, Paul Sherwood (PS), Su Snyder (SS), Chris Spagnoli (CS), Carol Takacs (CT), Jerry Talkington (JT), Robert Thorn RTh), Roger Troutman (RT), Ben Warner (BW), Bill Whan (BWh),

Brian Zweibel (BZ). PENNSYLVANIA: David Barber (DB), Ben Coulter (BC), Devich Farbotnik (DF), Laurie Goodrich (LGo), Greg Grove, Al Guarente (AG), Paul Hess (PH), Jonathan Heller (JHe), Margaret Higbee (MH), Deuane Hoffman (DH), Jason Horn (JHo), Tom Johnson (TJ), Rudy Keller (RKe), Ramsay Khoury (RK), Robert Kline (RKL), Mike Lanzone (ML), Robert C. Leberman (RCL), Adrienne Leppold (AL-Powdermill Avian Research Center), Geoff Malosh (GM), Doris McGovern (DM), Jerry McWilliams (JM), August Mirabella (AM), William Reid

(WR), Ken Reiker (KR), Cameron Rutt (CR), Bob Schutsky (BS), Joan Silagy (JS), Richard & Vicki Smith (RVS), Mark Vass (MV), Joe Verica (JV), Dustin Welch (DW), Rick Wiltraut (RW). WEST VIRGINIA: Wendell Argabrite (WA), J. Boback (JBo), J. Browning (JBg), Jeanette Esker, Mike Griffith (MG), Matt Orsie (MO), David Patick (DP). ☪

Victor W. Fazio, III, 18722 Newell Street
Shaker Heights, Ohio 44122, (bcvireo@sbqglobal.net)

Rick Wiltraut, P.O. Box 294

Saylorsburg, Pennsylvania 18353, (rwiltraut@state.pa.us)

Illinois & Indiana



James D. Hengeveld
Keith A. McMullen
Geoffrey A. Williamson

Overall the Region's precipitation was 13 cm above average, making for the wettest fall since 1993. Aside from September's normal rainfall levels in Illinois, these rainy conditions persisted uniformly through the season. Shorebird concentrations did not occur, as lake levels were high and mudflats were scarce or absent altogether. Temperatures were slightly lower than typical during September and October, but November continued a pattern set over the past five years, with temperatures 3° F above normal, with many species lingering late into the season.

The fall migration had noteworthy passages, particularly inland, of loons and grebes, sea ducks, and several rare-but-regular gulls. A diverse selection of rarities was discovered, most notably the Region's first Black-chinned Hummingbird.

Abbreviations: Bev. Sh. (Beverly Shores, Porter, IN); Carl. L. (Carlyle L., s. IL); C.B.C.M. (Chicago Bird Collision Monitors); Chau. (Chautauqua N.W.R., IL); EP (Forest Preserve); G.P.F.W.A. (Goose Pond Fish and Wildlife Area, Greene, IN); Horseshoe L. (Madison, IL); I.B.S.P. (Illinois Beach S.P., Lake, IL); L. Lemon (Monroe and Brown, IN); Mich. City (Michigan City Harbor, La Porte, IN); Miller (Miller Beach, Lake, IN); Montrose (Montrose Pt., Lincoln Park, Chicago). Specimen material (*) deposited at the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago.

WATERFOWL THROUGH QUAIL

A single Ross's Goose at Potato Creek S.P. 16 Sep and presumably the same bird at another St. Joseph location 24 Sep (RH) furnished Indiana's first Sep record ever. A nice showing of Tundra Swans occurred, with tallies of 63 in W. Lafayette, IN (EMH) and 50 at Herrick Lake EP, DuPage, IL (UWG), both 19 Nov. A strong showing of 6500 Gadwalls was at Horseshoe L. 5 Nov (FRH). Northern Shovelers and Green-winged Teal also passed through the Region in good numbers, the latter exemplified by a total of 9269 at Chau. 10 Nov (R&SB). A record-high fall total of 740 Northern Pintails was recorded on the Indiana lakefront, bolstered by a peak tally of 349 at Miller 4 Oct (KJB, PBG et al.). Impressively large totals of bay ducks included 24,000 Canvasbacks 19 Nov and 20,000 Lesser Scaup 15 Nov in Hancock, IL (AGD). Greater Scaup, on the other hand, did not arrive in numbers prior to the end of the period, with the season's peak just 11 at Saganashkee Slough, Cook, IL 29 Oct (WSS).

One of the highlights of the season occurred 10 Nov, when a first-year male King Eider was seen flying eastward past Miller (JMJ, TA, BB et al.). An ad. male Harlequin Duck

was in Chicago 14 Nov+ (DFS, m.ob.), and a female or imm. male was at Mich. City 18 Nov (PBG). As a group, scoters made a good showing this season, especially at inland locations. Nine Surf Scoters at Eagle Creek Park, Marion, IN 20 Oct (LP), 8 White-winged Scoters at Saganashkee Slough, Cook, IL 22 Oct (WJM et al.), and 7 Black Scoters on L. Lemon 11 Nov (DRW, J&SH) provided the top counts among numerous sightings away from L. Michigan. Nine inland Long-tailed Ducks were reported, including 3 on L. Lemon on the early date of 24 Oct (J&SH). Record fall congregations of Ruddy Ducks included 4103 at Clear L. and vicinity 22 Nov (R&SB) and 4000 in Hancock, IL 19 Nov (AGD).

A nice fall count of 71 Greater Prairie-Chickens 22 Nov at Prairie Ridge State Natural Area, Jasper, IL was encouraging for this local and threatened species (RES). Northern Bobwhites were reported in poor numbers except for refreshing counts of 38 at G.P.F.W.A. 27 Sep (LWS, BF), 37 in Jasper, IL 25 Sep (RES), and 29 in Edwards, IL 29 Nov (RES).

LOONS THROUGH IBISES

It was an amazing fall for loons and grebes, as all of the regularly occurring species were recorded in exceptional numbers. An impressive total of 116 Red-throated Loons included 10 at Highland Park, IL 25 Nov (RDH) and at least 15 inland birds. The Region hosted 4 Pacific Loons, one at Carl. L. 29 Oct–12 Nov (DMK, KAM, m.ob.) and 3 from Indiana, all on L. Lemon. A massive flight of Common Loons occurred on 19 Nov: in the morning, 1038 were counted heading southward from Miller (TA), and in late afternoon, an Indiana record-high count of 5500 (more than doubling the previous high count) was made at L. Lemon (DRW).