



Kirtland Bird Club ♦ 4310 Bush Avenue ♦ Cleveland, Ohio 44109

Club named in honor of J. P. Kirtland, Ohio Naturalist.

Affiliated with The Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

December 5, 2007

Dear Tom,

On behalf of the Kirtland Bird Club in northeast Ohio, we want to acknowledge the great contributions you have made to the Northeast Ohio birding community. Since becoming a member of the Kirtland Bird Club in the mid 70's, you have consistently supported the club's efforts of publishing *The Cleveland Bird Calendar* (CBC) and have contributed your bird sightings religiously. Your first bird sighting records were published in Volume 71, Number 4 in the Fall of 1975. Soon after you joined the club, you served as the club treasurer when Jean Hoffman was president, and for a few years you manned the Northeast Ohio Rare Bird Alert which is sponsored by the club.

Along with the likes of Dick and Jean Hoffman, David Corbin, Ray Hannikman, John Pogacnik, and Elinor Elders, to name a few, you found new bird records every season scouring the shores and bushes from Lorain harbor to Mentor Headlands Beach State Park looking for American Avocets, Red Knots, Whimbrels, and Iceland, Thayer's and Franklin's Gulls. You birded east and west visiting the Gordon Park impoundment (Dike 14), Shaker Lakes, Edgewater Beach, Lake Issac, Sims Park, Brecksville and North Chagrin Reservations, Huntington Park, White City beach, and Wildwood Park frequently.

In September 25, 1978, you reported a Hudsonian Godwit at the Munny Landfill which was the first year in CBC records that both the Marbled Godwit and Hudsonian Godwits were recorded. Along with your birding buddies and on your own, you establish many sighting firsts, such as the Tufted Duck seen on March 3, 1980 Lorain harbor and on July 26, 1978 you reported a Rough-legged Hawk at Wildwood Park, a first summer record considered "extraordinary".

For the last thirty years, 2007 being the thirty-first year, you have been the Cleveland Christmas Bird Count Complier. Your efforts have greatly aided in keeping this circle an active count with up to eight groups of surveyors each year yielding many species of birds.

The club is grateful to you Tom, for all the years of dedication in reporting and compiling bird sighting records of your own and for the Christmas count teams. For that we present you with a certificate of appreciation awarding you a lifetime membership to the Kirtland Bird Club, and National Geographic's fifth edition, *Field Guide to the Birds of North America*.

Sincerely,

Lisa Chapman
President, Kirtland Bird Club