



# THE KIRTLAND WARBLER

Quarterly Newsletter of the Kirtland Bird Club, Cleveland Ohio  
[www.KirtlandBirdClub.org](http://www.KirtlandBirdClub.org) & [www.ClevelandBirdCalendar.com](http://www.ClevelandBirdCalendar.com)

Northeast Ohio Rare Bird Alert: 216 556-0700  
Winter 2009 - 2010, Issue No. 2

## KBC Monthly Meetings at 7:30 p.m.

Cleveland Museum of Natural History  
*Guests are welcome!*

### Wednesday, December 2, 2009

*"Review of Recent Ornithological Journal Articles"*  
presented by Andy Jones

The number of research papers published every year involving birds is staggering. Journals like The Auk, The Condor, Wilson Journal of Ornithology, and many, many others each publish dozens of papers per year. Many of these papers are fairly impenetrable thanks to technical jargon, and only a handful of these papers make their way into the popular realm where birders can learn about the exciting scientific discoveries. Dr. Andy Jones will highlight some of the most exciting research results in ornithology in 2009, with a focus on those with relevance to birding.

### Wednesday, January 6, 2010

*"Birds of the Land of Ice and Fire"*  
presented by Dwight and Ann Chasar

Iceland has long been famous for its volcanic activity and glaciers having the biggest glacier in Europe; which is why it is called the land of ice and fire. As Iceland is a relatively small island in the middle of the North Atlantic, it has less than 100 breeding species. Iceland is also famous for the occurrence of vagrants, its situation in the North Atlantic makes it an excellent place to look for rarities. Dwight and Ann accompanied a Field Guides birding trip to Iceland in July 2008 and will share their adventure with us.

### Wednesday, February 3, 2010

*"The Big Sky Country's Birds & Wildlife"*  
Presented by Dave Dvorak

Montana hosts a variety of mammals such as moose, elk, and bighorn sheep, birds such as eagles and osprey, and an incredible variety of deciduous trees, gorgeous wildflowers, and towering lodgepole pine forests. Join us for a program on the birds and wildlife of the Big Sky Country.

## Local Field Trips

### Saturday, December 19 at 8:00 a.m.

Christmas Bird Count

If you are interested in participating in this important data-collecting effort, please contact Jerry Talkington at [jerry073352@att.net](mailto:jerry073352@att.net) or 440-946-0063 to sign up with a group and take a specific area.

### Saturday, January 10 at 8:00 a.m.

**Where:** E. 72<sup>nd</sup> St, Cleveland Lakefront State Park  
**Leader:** Jerry Talkington

**Target Species:** Wintering species, gulls & ducks  
**Directions:** Cleveland Memorial Shoreway/I-90 to Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive exit. Proceed west on North Marginal Drive to East 72nd Street parking lot.. The Ohio Young Birders Club will join us.

### Saturday, February 6 at 7:45 a.m.

**Meeting at the Lake Erie Nature  
& Science Center**

**Where:** Western lakeshore (or inland as an alternative)

**Leader:** Craig Caldwell

**Target species:** Wintering gulls, grebes & waterfowl

**Directions:** Meet at 7:45 a.m. at the Lake Erie Nature & Science Center, 28728 Wolf Road, Bay Village, to carpool with an 8:00 a.m. sharp departure. From there we will travel to lakefront sites that will be determined that morning. I-90 W to Columbia Road exit. Stay right at split on exit ramp, turning right (north) on Columbia Road. Cross railroad tracks, turn left (west) at traffic light at Wolf Road and continue 1.7 miles to Huntington Reservation entrance.

**Thank you for renewing your  
KBC membership!  
And if you have not done so,  
don't forget to send in your KBC  
renewal payment.**

## 40 or so years ago...

### NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

**Red-necked Grebe** - Two birds were discovered on Summit Lake in Akron on February 2, and they were still there at the end of the month (DeSante).

**Black-crowned Night Heron** - A bird which was "nearly frozen but could not be caught" was observed in Lake County on January 3 (Bole, Jr.).

**Peregrine Falcon** - Pausing but momentarily in the top of a tall tree, a single bird swept in and then out of the spacious grounds of a residence in Painesville on December 15 (Booth).

**Glaucous Gull** - At East 72nd Street on the Cleveland lakefront, an immature bird was studied for about half an hour on February 16 as it sat on the ice feeding on an unidentified object, meanwhile taking care that nearby Herring Gulls did not intrude (DeSante). This, or another, bird was seen there again on February 25 (Raynes).

**Iceland Gull** - An immature bird was discovered in the midst of about 200 Herring Gulls at East 72nd Street on February 12 (DeSante).

**Franklin's Gull** - Two birds were recorded at Beach Cliff Park, Rocky River, on December 2 (Stasko).

**Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker** - At Hanging Rock Farm in Lake County, where this species has been observed before, a single bird was seen at a suet feeder on January 3 and 23 (Bole, Jr. ).

**Eastern Phoebe** - An extraordinarily hardy bird, which was known to have been present in November 1962, was recorded between December 19 and January 17 in the Cuyahoga River valley at Botzum, Northampton Township, Summit County (Hjelmquist and Glassner). At first it was found near a little bridge but later at an old farmhouse, where it was seen to "catch some type of black flying insect that came from around the roof" (Hjelmquist). The only previous winter record is of a bird at North Chagrin Reservation on December 27, 1956.

**Long-billed Marsh Wren** - Late in November 1962, a single bird was observed in a cattail swamp at Columbia Station, where it was seen again on December 2, which is a new latest fall date of occurrence (Barber).

**Mockingbird** - To have three winter records is most unusual: one bird in Willoughby on December 30 (Pallister); one on January 17 in Willoughby Hills

(Skaggs); and a "rather dark, dirty, tattered" bird which appeared at a backyard suet feeder in Warrensville Heights on January 26, after which it came daily through February 1, and then irregularly through February 14. (Rickard).

**Bohemian Waxwing** - A flock of about 30 birds was reported from Hanging Rock Farm in Lake County on January 2 (Bole, Jr.). This record and one from Holden Arboretum in March 1962 are the only records of occurrence since April 1944.

**Northern Shrike** - Two birds were reported: one in the vicinity of Beachwood and Pepper Pike Village from December 22 to January 30 (Raynes et al); and a "loudly singing" bird at the Lower Shaker Lake on January 3 (Tramer).

**Pine Warbler** - On December 1, an Indian-summer day, a single individual, in the company of Tree Sparrows and American Goldfinches., was observed in a small stand of evergreens in a scrub growth area in Mayfield Heights (Raynes). This is the first winter record for the Cleveland region.

**Pine Grosbeak** - An adult male appeared at a feeding station in Gates Mills on February 16 (Tramer).

**Savannah Sparrow** - Feeding stations were the sites of the first January and February records of occurrence in the history of the region: one bird, in Hunting Valley on January 27 (Swetland), and one in Willoughby on February 27 and 28 (Pallister).

**Le Conte's Sparrow** - On December 10 at a residence in LaGrange Township, Lorain County, an enfeebled bird was captured by Mrs. Robert J. Morse. Despite the care given it, the bird died two days later (Morse). It was then made into a study skin by Howard W. Martin, who found it was a female. The skin, which has been added to the collection of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, was examined by Dr. Harry C. Oberholser, who confirmed the identification. Although there is one sight record for this species (April 29, 1962 in the Rocky River Reservation), this is the first specimen record for the Cleveland region.

**Oregon Junco** - (1) One bird was a quite regular visitor to a feeding station in Iradale, Summit County, beginning about December 6 and continuing through February. For a period of about two weeks, a second bird was present (Glassner). (2) In Chestnut Hill Cemetery, Cuyahoga Falls, a single bird was identified on February 2 (DeSante).

**Source: Cleveland Bird Calendar, Vol159, No.1**

**The Kirtland Warbler**, the newsletter of the Kirtland Bird Club (KBC), Cleveland Ohio is published quarterly. It contains KBC meeting and trip information, web site updates, other events and programs of interest, and issues of local concern. A subscription to *THE KIRTLAND WARBLER* is a benefit of club membership. Contributions of articles, event information, photos, and drawings are appreciated. Send them to the Editor, Delores Cole or to [info@kirtlandbirdclub.org](mailto:info@kirtlandbirdclub.org).

## Welcome New KBC Members!

Wes Hatch  
Jessie StChristopher

### Christmas Bird Counts:

December 19th, Cleveland, Jerry Talkington, 440-946-0063

December 20th, Cuyahoga Falls, Marie Morgan,  
m.morgan3@sbcglobal.net

Dec. 27th, Lakewood, Nancy Howell, 216 231-4600  
ext 3225

January 1st, Burton, Linda Gilbert,  
lkg38@adelphia.net



Ohio Young Birders Club  
BLACK SWAMP BIRD OBSERVATORY

## Ohio Young Birders Club 3rd Annual Conference

Saturday,  
November 14, 2009  
8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge  
14000 W. State Route 2  
Oak Harbor, Ohio 43449

**Master of Ceremony**, Elliot Miller, age 14

### Presentations

Sara Winnicki, age 15 presenting:  
"For the Love of Condors:  
A Conservation Story"

Lukas Padegimas, age 16 presenting:  
"The Piping Plovers of Cape Henlopen"

### **KAUFMAN BIRD QUIZ**

presented by Kenn & Elliot Miller

**And our KEYNOTE Speaker:**

Malkolm Boothroyd, age 17 presenting  
"My Bird Year by Bicycle  
all over North America"

Students - \$10 & Adults - \$20

All ages and non-members welcome!

Visit [www.ohioyoungbirders.org](http://www.ohioyoungbirders.org) for  
registration information

## President's Message . . .

The golf teaching pro Harvey Penick wrote a book entitled "And if you play golf, you're my friend" which was given to me by my friend and Massachusetts birding buddy Alex. Alex has led me to think about the similarities between golfing and birding. A golfer can head to a course anywhere in the world and join up with a threesome he or she has never met before and have an enjoyable game. While "winning" the game is important, so is scoring fairly, and Penick wasn't alone with being willing to teach anyone who loved his game. I've been lucky to spend time in the field with experienced, patient renowned birders in KBC. Using the figure of 21% of Ohio residents watching birds (Birding in the United States: A Demographic & Economic Analysis; US Fish & Wildlife Service) we have some 585,000 friend here in Northeastern Ohio, and haven't met most of them yet! There is obviously an opportunity to greatly expand KBC's membership and to help even more people appreciate and understand the birds in the diverse habitats of our area. We can all help somebody else see and hear that bird in front of us, to enjoy learning the behavior of our most familiar birds as well as share mutual excitement at identifying that rarity and keeping an honest list. Treating every birder as our friend is good for the birds, as is recruiting new friends to be members and volunteers in building KBC to continue in the decades ahead.

Good birding!

Scott VanValkenburg  
President



**SEASONAL REPORTS for  
The Cleveland Bird Calendar  
Your Fall report is due December 10th**

Mail to: Fred Dinkelbach, CBC Editor  
6320 Greenwood Pkwy, Apt 406  
Sagamore Hills, Ohio 44067

or email to:

[seasonalreports@kirtlandbirdclub.org](mailto:seasonalreports@kirtlandbirdclub.org)

Reporting forms are available on the KBC website  
and at KBC meetings



**Kirtland Bird Club**

4310 Bush Ave  
Cleveland, Ohio 44109

Publisher of:  
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*Field Book of the Birds of the Cleveland Region*  
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