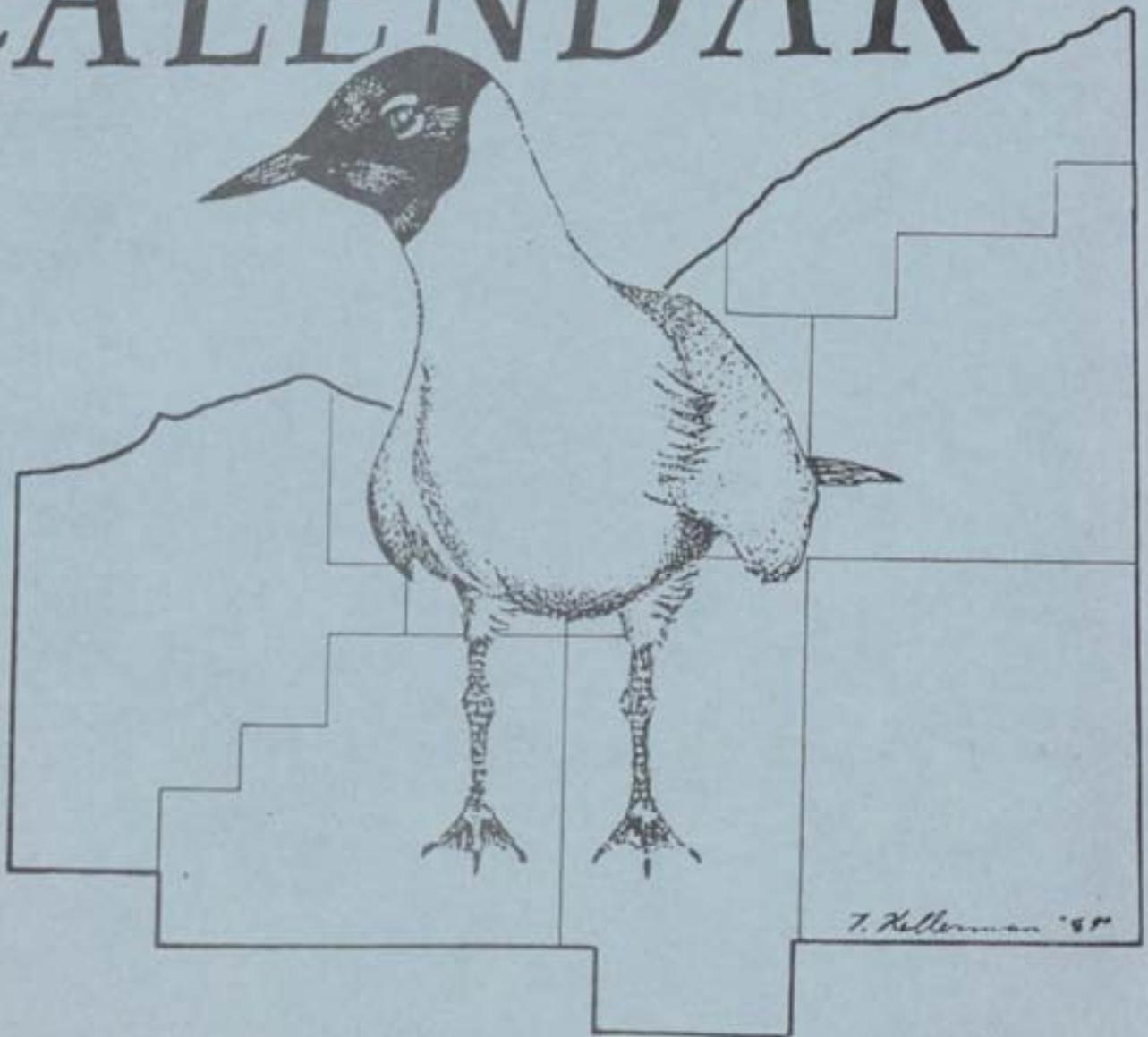


The Cleveland

Volume 85

Number 2

# BIRD CALENDAR



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The Cleveland Museum of Natural History  
and The Kirtland Bird Club

***The Cleveland Bird Calendar*** was founded in 1905 by Francis H. Herrick of The Western Reserve University. The purposes of the publication are to provide information on the movements of birds through the Cleveland region, to monitor populations, densities of resident birds, and to help in the establishment of patterns of vagrancy for rarely encountered species of the region.

The Cleveland Region consists of a seven county area including Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage and Summit counties.

The Cleveland Bird Calendar is published quarterly by the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and The Kirtland Bird Club.

Due dates for field records from contributors are as follows:

- 15 March for the winter season
- 15 June for the spring season
- 15 September for the summer season
- 15 December for the fall season

Cover design: **Bonaparte's Gull** by Thomas Kellerman, 1989.

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March, April, May 1989

Volume 85

Number 2

# THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR

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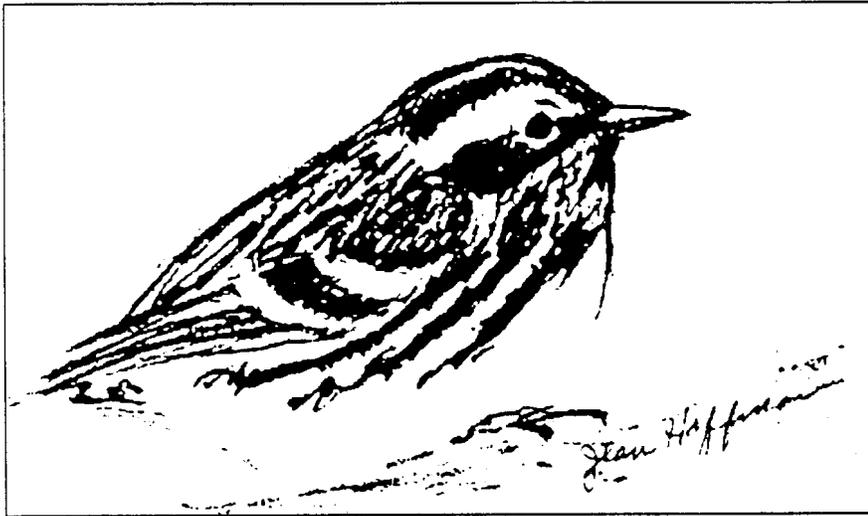
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## THE WEATHER

**Spring 1989** by William Klamm

**March** - Temperatures averaged 38.1 degrees, 2.8 degrees cooler than normal. The extremes reached a high of 80 degrees on the 17th and a low of 11 degrees on the 8th. Lake Erie water temperatures were steady at 33 degrees from the 1st through the 26th and 34 degrees through the 31st. Ice cover on Lake Erie was extensive from the 1st to 12th, then variable ice and open water areas appeared through the 16th, refroze with extensive ice through the 25th and variable ice fields thereafter. Precipitation came on 12 days and totaled 3.46 inches as water, 0.47 inches greater than normal. This included 5 days as snow that measured 9.9 inches. Sunshine prevailed 52% of the time.

**April** - Temperatures averaged 45.3 degrees, 2.8 degrees cooler than normal. Extremes of 71

degrees on the 27th and 23 degrees on the 10th were reached. Lake Erie retained variable offshore ice fields only until the 3rd and water temperature at 34 degrees on the 1st rose to 44 degrees by the 26th and remained there through the 30th. Sunshine prevailed 49% of the time. Precipitation was distributed on 16 days and totaled 3.73 inches as water, 0.41 inches above normal. Snow occurred on three of these days and measured 4.9 inches.

**May** - This was the wettest May on record and the fourth wettest month ever. Precipitation came on 20 days and totaled 9.14 inches, 5.84 inches in excess of normal. Sunshine prevailed 37% of the time. Temperatures averaged 57.6 degrees, 0.6 degrees cooler than normal. Extremes of 87 degrees on the 30th and 35 degrees on the 7th were reached. Lake Erie water temperature climbed from 44 degrees on the 1st to 60 degrees on the 31st.

## REFLECTIONS

**Thirty Years Ago:** The spring of 1959 brought very rare birds to the Cleveland region. A Harris' Sparrow was in Hambden 16 Mar. (Harm). Two Western Grebes were observed on Pippin Lake in Portage County 30, 31 Mar., 4, 5 Apr. (DeSante, Wiley). Two Smith's Longspurs were reported from the Cuyahoga County Airport on 11 Apr. (Henderson). Two Western Meadowlarks were observed in courtship flights at Burke Lakefront Airport 19 Apr. (Klamm). The only sighting of Scissor-tailed Flycatcher ever reported to The Cleveland Bird Calendar was in Barberton 3 May, 1959 (McKay).

**Twenty Years Ago:** A Common Moorhen was found loitering in a boiler room on the 39th floor of the Erieview Building 5 May, 1969 (Kitson)! Many observers traveled to Middlefield to see two Glossy Ibises 7-9 May. A Western Meadowlark was heard at Warrensville Farms 26, 30 May (Knight).

**Ten Years Ago:** A maximum of three Long-eared Owls was at the Old Brooklyn Airport 4 Mar., 1979 (Bacik). A breeding plumaged Common Black-headed Gull was reported off Clifton Beach 21 Mar. (Klamm). Four Bald Eagles were reported for the season. The Klamms had impressive numbers of Broad-winged Hawks migrating over Perkins Beach. They reported 116 on 21 Apr., 474 on 25 Apr. and 429 on 30 Apr.

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## COMMENT ON THE SEASON

by Larry Rosche

The beginning of the season was dominated by arctic weather and gull watching was excellent through the first half of March. The incredible Sabine's Gull remained through the period. It became difficult to locate for a while but was relocated in Lorain where it has remained into August. Terns appeared in numbers higher than I can recall in recent spring seasons. Landbirds moved through fairly well, with 30 April and 14 May being the best for the Sunday Morning Bird Walks. Several species of warbler, notably Palm Warbler and American Redstarts, were in phenomenal numbers. Others, like the usually very common Cape May Warbler, obviously chose other paths to their breeding grounds. Some species certainly are changing in their status of occurrence. Winter Wren, Orange-crowned Warbler and Orchard Oriole come to mind as being on the increase whereas Grasshopper Sparrow seems to be in decline. Spring records for the past decade lend credence to the fact that Forster's Terns are to be expected earlier in the season than Common Terns.

Field observers located 239 species which was very good considering the cool weather in what is normally the peak of migration. Special thanks go to Harold Wallin for the yeoman job he did in totaling the seventeen Sunday Morning Bird Walk counts. The long term data provided is extremely useful in the updating of occurrence graphs for migrant species in the region. Your continued support will only serve to make The Cleveland Bird Calendar data more accurate and complete. Good birding.

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### Spring 1989

Common Loons moved through the region in fair numbers, often lingering for a week or more at selected spots. A high of 52 was at Lake Rockwell 3 Apr. They lingered in Lorain through 16 May and on Pippin Lake at the season's end. Pied-billed grebes were reported widely from the middle of March but numbers were not very high. Horned grebes were in no hurry to move through the region this year. They were especially easy to find away from Lake Erie in the last half of March. A high of 66 was noted on the Akron Lakes 19 Mar. A late bird was at Sims Park on 14 May. Double-crested Cormorants continue to be impressive in numbers throughout the region. On 25 Apr. 140 were observed migrating from West Branch State Park (Rosche, Tisdale). Other flocks of 50+ were noted from Ladue Reservoir and Lake Rockwell.

American Bitterns are usually quite noteworthy. This spring seventeen reports were received from the following locations: Barberton (2). Gordon Park, Headlands Beach State Park (2) (hereafter Headlands BSP), Holden Arboretum (2), Lantern Court, Rocky River Reservation (2), Russell Park and South Chagrin Reservation (2). This was quite an improvement when compared to recent seasons. Twenty four reports of Great Egrets were an impressive local total. Four were noted at Gordon Park 3 Apr. (LePage). Up to four were reported from the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area (hereafter CVNRA) in April (Kopka, Stover). Prior to 1989 only four Great Egrets were ever reported in March. This year early individuals were: 21 Mar. Mentor Lagoons (Rosche), 26 Mar. Lower Shaker Lake (Peskin), 27 Mar. Clifton Beach (Fazio), 27 Mar. CVNRA (Stover) and 28 Mar. Barberton (Wert). Green-

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### *Twenty-four reports of Great Egret...*

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backed Herons were not reported in very good numbers but the usual small number of Black-crowned Night-Herons were located.

The only reports of Tundra Swans were from Lorain County including twelve from Wellington Reservoir 12 Mar. (Fazio). A Snow Goose was reported in March and early April by observers in Akron. Wood Ducks do not usually elicit comment but Tisdale and others repeatedly saw 200+ at Tinkers Creek State Nature Preserve in late March. The number of drakes left quite an impression on even the most veteran of observers. The only flock of any size of Green-winged Teal was 125 at

**Inland Waterfowl Sampling/Greater Cleveland Mar. —Apr. 1989**

Date	3/16	18	19	19	20	4/2	3	81	21	23
Location	MOG	LAD	BAR	AL	MOG	MOG	LR	BAR	MOG	BAR
PB. GREBE	•	2	1	16	7	5	4	2		5
HORNED GREBE	•	2	•	66	21	12	•	•	•	1
CANADA GOOSE	150	70	35	450	110	25	75	15	32	10
A. BLACK DUCK	2	10	6	4	8	•	2	2	•	•
MALLARD	10	70	200	250	80	60	30	10	8	20
N. PINTAIL	•	20	60	2	•	•	•	•	•	•
BLUE-WINGED TEAL	•	•	25	•	1	25	3	35	5	6
GADWALL	2	2	4	•	8	4	2	6	2	2
A. WIGEON	22	52	45	10	60	20	4	26	12	10
CANVASBACK	2	•	4	•	30	62	•	•	•	•
REDHEAD	14	2	18	•	142	143	•	10	1	6
RING-NECK DUCK	830	40	360	20	1400	1100	55	600	75	70
GREATER SCAUP	10	•	•	2	•	8	•	•	•	•
LESSER SCAUP	280	•	90	95	300	350	60	120	20	20
C. GOLDENEYE	10	2	•	6	9	16	10	•	•	•
BUFFLEHEAD	2	•	4	2	12	20	•62	8	53	6
HOODED MERG	9	•	2	25	8	20	30	•	•	•
RUDDY DUCK	1	2	•	30	4	164	80	6	188	6

MOG--Mogadore Res.; BAR--Barberton; LAD--Ladue Res.; AL--Akron Lakes; LR--Lake Rockwell

Barberton 19 Mar. (Rosche, Wert). A good passage of Northern Pintail was noted 18-19 Mar. with flocks of 60 or more noted from several Lake Erie locations. Another 60 were at Barberton the same dates. Four at Shaker Lake 18 Mar. were deemed very uncommon for the location. American Wigeon movement coincided with Northern Pintail. Andy Fondrk noted 80 at LaDue Reservoir 22 Mar. while another 160 were located at Mogadore Reservoir the same day (Fazio).

Canvasback numbers remained impressive along Lake Erie with 1810 noted in Lorain 8 Mar. (Klamm). Inland, a high of 300 was reported from Wellington Reservoir 16 Mar. (Reed). Redheads mirrored Canvasbacks along Lake Erie through 19 Mar. Inland, the high totals

were 150 at Wellington Reservoir 16 Mar. and 143 at Mogadore Reservoir 2 Apr. (Rosche). Uniquely, a pair remained at Barberton through the period (Wert). Scaup totals were impressive along Lake Erie, numbering well into the thousands. A flock of 137 Lesser Scaups in Lorain 8 May was very good for the date (Klamm). Ring-necked Ducks were spectacular inland. From the 1400+ at Mogadore Reservoir (m.obs.) to 18 on tiny Horseshoe Pond in the CVNRA (Chaser) this species was

encountered on nearly every body of water in the region. Up to three Oldsquaws lingered in Cleveland through 2 Apr. (m.obs.). Others were noted from Lorain 12 Mar. and 5 Apr. The only inland reports were from Silver Lake 18 Mar. (Stover) and three at Lake Rockwell 3 Apr. Two to three Surf Scoters continued from winter in Lorain and one remained through 28 May (m.obs.). This date was the latest ever in the 85 year history of The Cleveland Bird Calendar. Three Surf Scoters were noted off Clifton Beach 19, 23 Mar. (Fazio). Up to 12 White-winged Scoters in Lorain and Avon Lake in early March (Fazio, LePage). Three at Lake Rockwell 3 Apr. were about normal for the location (Rosche). Seven at Oberlin Reservoir 29 Apr. were somewhat tardy (Kraps). Bufflehead numbers

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## *A Good Passage of Northern Pintail...*

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were good and their pattern of occurrence suggested a later than previously thought migrant. They were noted into May on several reports. Hooded Mergansers were in fair numbers along Lake Erie the first half of March but disappointing inland. Common Mergansers were virtually gone by the end of March. Two at Mogadore Reservoir 15 Apr. seemed late. Red-breasted Mergansers continue to boggle the minds of observers with their numbers. This desk cannot begin to fathom their totals in the region during migration. Ruddy Duck totals seemed lower than in recent years at Mogadore Reservoir with a high of 188 on 21 Apr. Four hundred at Wellington Reservoir 6 Apr. was more impressive (Reed).

Charles Klaus noticed three Turkey Vultures drifting over downtown Cleveland 3 Mar. After that date numbers were very good, with highs of 114 passing Perkins Beach 27 Mar. and 150 there 4 Apr. Starting with a bird 12 Apr. at the Medina City Reservoir (Harlan, LePage) at least 25 Ospreys were noted throughout the region. This total certainly reflects observer awareness or an unusually good passage. Ospreys were also reported from Bedford Reservation, Brecksville Reservation, CVNRA, Fairport Harbor, Gordon Park, Headlands BSP, Hinckley Reservation, Huntington Beach, Lake Rockwell, Rocky River Reservation and South Chagrin Reservation. Most spectacular were 10-11 over Fairport Harbor/Grand River 30 Apr. (Hannikman, Rosche).

Northern Harriers were widespread with seventeen reports mostly from several lakefront locations. Inland, they were noted at Barberton, Carlisle Visitor Center, Columbia Township, Russell Park and West Branch State Park. Red-shouldered Hawk reports were encouraging with territorial birds located in CVNRA, Gates Mills and Ladue Reservoir. Twelve passed by Perkins Beach 25 Mar. Broad-winged Hawks were about average with two very early reports. One was noted on 27 Mar. in Geauga County, where they nest rather commonly (Fondrk) and one was at Hinckley Reservation 2 Apr. (Harlan). Forty-four Red-tailed Hawks migrating west to east over Perkins Beach 25 Mar. was the highest total reported (Klamm). The only Rough-legged Hawk seen was on 16 Apr. Huntington Beach Bird Walk.

Ruffed Grouse were found at University School 12 Mar. (Rickard), 16 Apr., 14 May Lantern Court Bird Walk, 23 Apr., 7 May Brecksville Bird Walk and 30 Apr., 17 May Russell Park (Ferns). A Northern Bobwhite was an infrequent visitor to Henderson's feeder in late April. Virginia Rails arrived on time but seemed fewer than normal. This could be a ramification of last year's drought. The first Sora was located at Spencer Lake Wildlife Area 6 Apr. (Harlan) and widespread after the middle of the month. American Coot chicks were being fed 13 May in Barberton which was felt to be very early for successful nesting (Rosche).

Shorebirding left much to be desired. No suitable habitat translated into few reports. Exceptions were 5 May when numerous birds were noticed as they struggled to fly pass

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*Fog and northwest winds are hardly the ideal conditions for hawk migration in the region but 30 April brought excellent numbers over Lake County. Hannikman, Rosche and others tallied eleven species of falconiformes over Fairport Harbor/ Grand River in a span of two hours (Rosche added a twelfth with a Bald Eagle later at Lake Rockwell). Many Sharp-shinned Hawks were drifting low over the dunes at Headlands BSP in the mid-morning fog. Their ghostly forms kept increasing, first three then seven then sixteen. Indeed, a hawk movement was in progress. Soon the observers moved away from the fog shrouded shoreline for better viewing. Upon reaching the entrance to the park they were met with Broad-winged Hawks. Several kettles of up to 40 silently moved to the east. Other hawks joined them along with the most Ospreys ever reported from a single location in the history of The Cleveland Bird Calendar. In total 10-11 Ospreys, 3 Northern Harriers, 178 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 6 Cooper's Hawks, 3 Red-shouldered Hawks, 160 Broad-winged Hawks and 3 species of falcon highlighted a spectacular morning of hawk watching.*

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Headlands BSP and late May when fresh dredgings were pumped into the Gordon Park Landfill. Of the 21 species reported most were regularly occurring species and in small numbers. A high of only four Black-bellied Plovers was at Gordon Park 21 May. Semi-palmated Plovers were first noted in Kent 27 Apr. and later a few from Headlands and Gordon Park. Fazio saw 114 Greater Yellowlegs at Headlands BSP 5 May for the only good total. Lesser Yellowlegs were more widespread but the high was only 35 at Barberton 2 May. The first Solitary Sandpiper reports were on several of the 23 Apr. Bird Walks. A late bird was at Sims Park 22 May (Hannikman). A movement of 68 Spotted Sandpipers was at Headlands BSP 5 May. Upland Sandpipers had returned to their Fairport Harbor nesting location by 22 Apr. The Hoffman's had 10 there 23 Apr. Two were at Burke Airport 30 Apr. (Harlan, LePage). A pair was on territory at Hopkins Airport by 26 May. Few Ruddy Turnstones and Sanderlings were noted. The Semi-palmated Sandpiper high count was a paltry 23 at Barberton 24 May. Up to 50 Least Sandpipers were there from 2-15 May. Four White-rumped Sandpipers were happened upon at Gordon Park 27 May (Hoffman). It is hard to imagine that only two Pectoral Sandpipers were seen in the region. Dunlins were scattered throughout the month of May in low numbers. Common Snipe were exceptional at Barberton with a high of 42 on 19 Mar. (Rosche, Stover, Wert).

Common Snipe were still being seen at Oberlin Reservoir into June (Kraps). American Woodcock were fairly numerous throughout the region with a high of 28 along a two mile stretch of Cable Line Road in West Branch SP on 25 Apr.

Gulls remained outstanding along Lake Erie into mid-March. Hannikman, LePage and Rosche had ten species at E.72nd St. on 12 Mar. Two Thayer's Gulls were there 3 Mar. (Klamm). LePage had five sightings in the period. A second-year bird was in Lorain 6 Apr. (Fazio). Fourteen sightings of Iceland Gull were reported by LePage in Cleveland. A late bird was at Gordon Park 27 Mar. (Fazio). A tardy Lesser Black-backed Gull was in Lorain 11 Apr. (Fazio). Late Glaucous Gulls were noted on 23 Apr. at Gordon Park (Kiwi) and flying inland over Sims Park (Hannikman). A Great Black-backed Gull was photographed at Lake Rockwell 13 Mar. It was the fourth record for the lake (Rosche).

Terns were as impressive as any year in recent memory. The Klamm's tallied 240 Caspian Terns in Lorain 24 Apr. The first Common Terns were two at Headlands BSP 30 Apr. Up to 250 were in Lorain 11 May (m.obs.). Common Terns were noted inland for the first spring in several years. Birds were at Lake Rockwell 13 May, Mogadore Reservoir 14 May and three at Portage Lakes State Park 17 May. Forster's Terns were nothing short of spectacular in Lorain. The first one noted there was 10 Apr. (LePage). Numbers grew to

267 by 8 May (Klamm, m.obs.). Away from Lake Erie birds were at Lake Rockwell 26 Apr., Crystal Lake 11 May (Kopka) and Hinckley 14 May (Pierce). Thirteen Forster's Terns at Mogadore Reservoir on 14 May constituted what was, in all likelihood, the largest flock of this species in the history of Portage County (Rosche).

Eight sightings of Black-billed Cuckoos were four times the number of Yellow-billed Cuckoos reported. Eastern Screech-Owl fledglings were noted 21 May in Twin Lakes. Barred Owls were noted in

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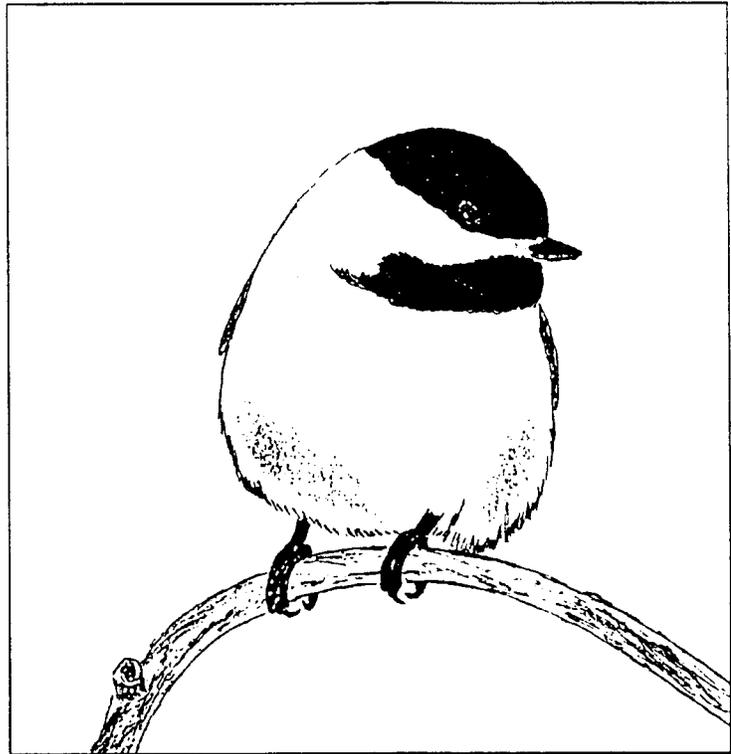
### *Forster's Terns were nothing short of spectacular...*

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Rocky River (Heflich) and along the Zimmerman Trail (m.obs.) on various occasions. Short-eared Owls were in Cleveland on 18 Mar. (Klamm) and 23 Apr. (LePage). A northward bound bird was at Headlands BSP 16 Apr. (LePage, Rosche). The first Common Nighthawk was at Shaker Lakes 4 May and noted to be scarce until the third week of the month. Chimney swifts were common after 20 Apr. Ruby-throated Hummingbirds numbers were very good after 10 May. The increased usage of feeders is helping locate this species. Red-headed Woodpeckers were very noticeable along

Lake Erie in May. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers elicited few comments from observers and therefore must have been in smaller than usual numbers. Northern Flickers were moving well in mid-April with counts of 50+ along several Lake Erie migrant watching locales. Two Pileated Woodpeckers at Shaker Lakes 26 Mar. were rare for the location but fitting for their pattern of movement. (Fazio)

Olive-sided Flycatchers were reported only from Hinckley Reservation and Sims Park in late May. A high of six Yellow-bellied Flycatchers was at Headlands BSP 20 May. Pierce saw one at Firestone Metropark 18 May. Stover reported one at The Seiberling Naturealm 19 May and Harlan's survey at Lake Isaac 22 May found the only other birds away from Lake Erie. Acadian Flycatchers were scarce migrants but commonly on territory by late May. Four Alder Flycatchers were located at Lake Isaac (Harlan). This was a good total for the location. The first Willow Flycatcher was on 5 May in Cleveland (Klamm). Least Flycatcher totals were excellent with counts of 30+ at Sims Park and Headlands BSP. A higher than usual number of territorial Least Flycatchers remained at the period's end. Harlan first noted an Eastern Phoebe 17 Mar. in Cuyahoga County. Fair numbers were reported through the period. Great-crested Flycatchers put in an excellent showing starting 25 Apr. at Donald Gray Gardens (LePage). The same could be said for Eastern Kingbirds.



Black-capped Chickadee by Victor Fazio III

Horned Larks were feeding young in Stow on 10 May. Purple Martins were slightly improved away from Lake Erie. Early migrants were noted 6 Apr. in Lorain and 8 Apr. at Shaker Lakes (Fazio). Tree Swallows arrived early only to be disappointed by weather events. During the second week of May many thousands of the four common species of swallows hovered closely over the inland lakes. The uncommon Cliff Swallow returned to its West Branch SP nesting areas by 25 Apr. Others were reported from Barberton, Gates Mills, Headlands BSP and Gordon Park. Six hundred Blue Jays passed by Perkins Beach in an hour 4 May and 450 by Headlands 5 May. A rather late group of 462 passed by Perkins Beach 19 May.

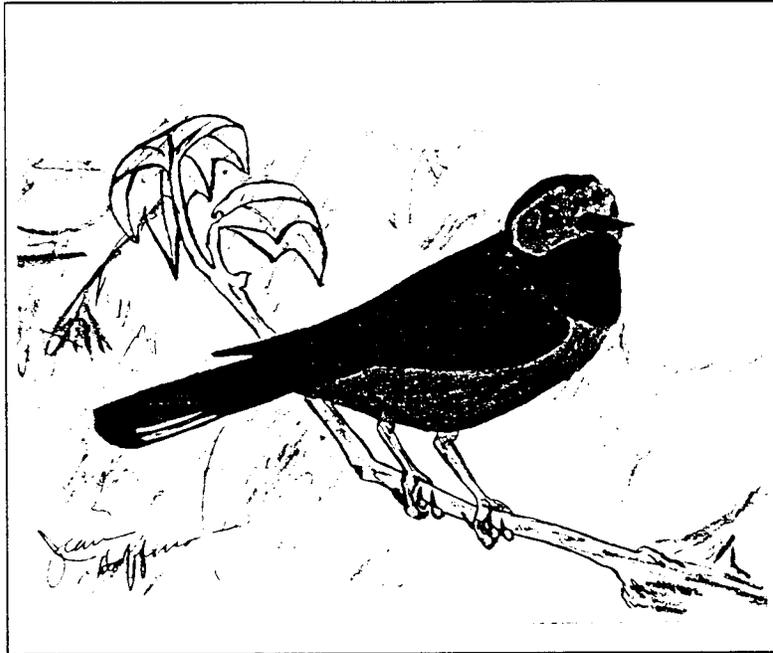
Red-breasted Nuthatches were noted on only five occasions but Brown Creepers were widespread in April. Chasar and Kopka commented that they were particularly plentiful this year in the CVNRA and Summit County. Carolina

Wrens were feeding young at Lake View Cemetery for the first time since 1975 and in nearly the same location as in earlier years (Hoffman). The first House Wren reported was at Headlands BSP 16 Apr. (Rickard). Winter Wrens were found to be remaining in North Chagrin Reservation and Virginia Kendall Ledges at the period's end. Golden-crowned Kinglets moved well in mid-April as attested by the 429 on the 16 Apr. Bird Walks. Ruby-crowned Kinglets were numerous 30 Apr. with 349 counted on the Bird Walks. Blue-gray

Gnatcatchers were fairly conspicuous from the last third of April.

Veeries moved rather well on 30 Apr. and 14 May. A late migrant was at Sims Park 28 May (m.obs.). Gray-cheeked Thrush numbers were not good, with a high of only 3 at Headlands BSP on the 21 May Bird Walk. Swainson's Thrushes were late and totaled only 25 on 21 May Bird Walks. An early Hermit Thrush was at Firestone Metropark 1 Apr. (Pierce). A late Hermit Thrush was in Bratenahl 19 May (Hoffman). Wood Thrushes fared better than usual and nesting was in full swing by mid-May. The first Gray Catbird was found in Peninsula 23 Apr. (Cull). They were very numerous by mid-May in all areas. Northern Mockingbirds were regular at Gordon Park, Headlands BSP and Lake Rockwell. Fledglings were observed at Gordon Park 26 May (Hoffman). Brown Thrashers are apparently coming back from a low density period in the mid-eighties. They were particularly numerous at Headlands BSP. Water Pipits were found at Barberton 18 Mar., Shaker Lakes 26 Mar., Geauga County 23,30 Apr. and Headlands BSP 5 May. Late birds were seen 19, 20 May at Headlands (1-2) and a nice flock of 20+ at Gordon Park on 21 May. Cedar Waxwing numbers leaped dramatically with the emergence of midges along Lake Erie.

Vireos were late in arriving with only a few Solitary, Yellow-throated and Warbling Vireos receiving mention in late April. White-eyed Vireos were scarce



Hooded Warbler by Jean Hoffman

along Lake Erie but holding their own in Portage and Summit Counties. The Bird Walk's highest total of Solitary Vireos was 13 on 14 May. Only eight reports of Philadelphia Vireo were received. A singing bird was slightly out of place at the Kopka residence in Akron 21 May. Red-eyed Vireos were tardy in arriving but in good numbers after 18 May. Warblers were spotty, with some locations having many of one species while other sites were entirely missed. Reports indicated the period 12 May through 24 May carried the lion's share of migrants. Southerly breezes on 19 May brought the closest thing to a "wave day" according to Stover. Blue-winged Warblers were plentiful away from Lake Erie, although a few were noted at Headlands BSP. Orange-crowned Warbler is usually considered rare. Nineteen reports of this species

indicated a good passage. Five on the 14 May Mentor Bird Walk and two at the Pinery Narrows on 21 May (Chasar) were the most noteworthy. Comments on Nashville Warbler indicated a feast or famine distribution. LePage felt that they were down but the Hoffman's offered that there were quite a few. Northern Parula reports were: 30 Apr. Brecksville Bird Walk, 5, 6, 9 May Shaker Lakes (Hoffman, Fazio), 14 May Headlands BSP (Hannikman, Rosche), 15 May Lake Rockwell (3, (Rosche) and 16 May Brecksville (Harlan). Cape May Warblers were generally scarce, being reported on only eight days in May. Black-throated Blue Warbler numbers were encouraging throughout the region. Birds encountered on 29 Apr. in Akron (Rosche) and 30 Apr. at Headlands BSP (Hannikman, Rosche) were the first April sightings ever noted by the observers for this species.

## Sunday Morning Bird Walk Totals for Vireos and Warblers Spring 1989

Species	4/30	5/7	5/14	5/21
WHITE-EYED VIREO	•	1	1	3
SOLITARY VIREO	8	•	3	3
YELLOW-THROATED VIREO	4	•	6	23
WARBLING VIREO	6	1	21	35
PHILADELPHIA VIREO	•	•	1	5
RED-EYED VIREO	•	•	16	98
BLUE-WINGED WARBLER	14	5	60	41
GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER	•	•	1	•
TENNESSEE WARBLER	•	•	12	38
ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER	•	•	5	1
NASHVILLE WARBLER	12	4	29	3
NORTHERN PARULA	1	1	1	•
YELLOW WARBLER	196	162	291	202
CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER	•	2	43	21
MAGNOLIA WARBLER	1	•	21	29
CAPE MAY WARBLER	•	•	10	3
BLACK-THROATED BLUE W.	1	•	29	10
YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER*	500	132	446	18
BLACK-THROATED GREEN W.	17	7	86	24
BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER	2	1	40	21
PINE WARBLER	6	•	•	•
PALM WARBLER	70	38	85	3
BAY-BREASTED WARBLER	•	•	7	23
BLACKPOLL WARBLER	•	•	•	12
CERULEAN WARBLER	•	•	19	42
BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER	25	6	77	8
AMERICAN REDSTART	3	2	24	74
PROTHONOTARY WARBLER	•	1	1	1
OVENBIRD	3	5	84	20
NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH	12	1	6	4
LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH*	2	3	5	6
MOURNING WARBLER	•	1	2	1
COMMON YELLOWTHROAT	9	8	76	109
HOODED WARBLER	3	2	28	36
WILSON'S WARBLER	1	•	5	13
CANADA WARBLER	•	•	6	23
YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT	•	•	2	2

\* Small numbers seen on the first two Sunday Morning Bird Walks  
• Not observed

Yellow-rumped Warblers remained in larger than usual numbers due to miserable weather conditions. Forty as late as 18 May at Headlands BSP was indicative of their reluctance to move northward (Hoffman). The highest total of Blackburnian Warblers from a single location was 10 at Firestone Metropark in Akron 5 May (Kopka). A late Blackburnian Warbler was in Rocky River 30 May (Klamm). Pine Warblers were in fair numbers beginning 16 Apr. A late bird delighted observers 28 May at Sims Park. At least two territorial males were at Lake Rockwell and pairs were in Rocky River and Brecksville Reservations at the end of the period (Harlan). Two Pine Warblers at Wellington Reservoir 11 May (Fazio) and one at Findley SP 13 May (Krapf) were welcome news from Lorain County. The only Prairie Warbler reports were from Kent 5 May and from the CVNRA 6 May (Rosche). Palm Warblers literally descended on the region. Reports of high numbers were received from nearly every contributor. Fondrk reported 150 at Headlands BSP 9 May! A male Blackpoll Warbler at Firestone Metropark 6 May was twelve days earlier than the next report (Hannikman, Kopka). Forty Cerulean Warblers were reported from Brecksville Bird Walk 21 May. Black-and-White Warblers moved through in better than average numbers (see table). American Redstarts were numerous from 15 May through 22 May. Prothonotary Warblers were noted in May at Firestone Metropark (Kopka, Pierce),

### County Arrival Dates for Common Migrants — Spring, 1989

SPECIES	CUYAHOGA	GEAUGA	LAKE	LORAIN	MEDINA	PORTAGE	SUMMIT
GREEN-BK HERON	4/25	4/21	4/15	4/20	4/30	4/25	4/22
BLUE-WINGED TEAL	3/17	3/16	3/18	3/27-	4/13	3/22	3/19
BW HAWK	5/13	3/25	4/30-	•	4/2	4/23	5/6
Gr. YELLOWLEGS	4/26	•	4/30	4/7	•	4/29	4/22
SOLITARY SANDPIPER	4/26	•	4/30	5/13	4/23	4/30	5/2
C.NIGHTHAWK	5/4	•	5/20-	5/17	5/17	5/17	5/15
E.WOOD PEWEE	5/15	•	5/15	•	5/18	5/15	5/16
LEAST FLYCATCHER	4/26	•	4/30	•	5/14	5/1	4/29
E.KINGBIRD	4/30	5/17	5/6	5/1	5/21	5/11	5/4
BARN SWALLOW	4/16	4/23	4/22	4/6	4/13	4/6	4/15
SWAINSON'S THRUSH	4/30	5/8	5/14	•	•	5/20	5/14
WOOD THRUSH	4/30	5/3	4/29	4/29	4/30	5/1	4/28
G.CATBIRD	4/30	5/6	4/29	5/13	4/30	5/3	4/23
SOLITARY VIREO	4/25	4/30	4/26	•	5/7	5/3	4/26
WARBLING VIREO	4/29	•	4/30	5/19	5/21	5/1	4/28
BLUE-WINGED WARB.	5/6	5/7	4/30	4/29	5/14	5/3	4/27
NASHVILLE WARB.	4/30	•	4/30	4/29	5/14	5/3	4/23
MAGNOLIA WARB.	5/9	5/14	5/14	5/13	5/14	5/15	5/6
PALM WARBLER	4/25	4/28	4/29	5/13	4/30	4/29	4/28
BAY-BREASTED WARB.	4/30	5/13	5/14	•	5/21	5/15	5/16
BLACKPOLL WARB.	5/1	5/21	5/19	•	•	5/23	5/6
A. REDSTART	5/18	5/10	5/14	5/14	5/7	5/15	5/5
N.WATERTHRUSH	4/25	5/7	5/14	•	4/30	5/1	4/29
C.YELLOWTHROAT	5/5	4/30	5/4	5/1	5/7	4/29	4/29
SCARLET TANAGER	4/30	5/13	5/14	•	4/30	5/15	5/1
ROSE-BREASTED GB.	4/30	4/30	4/30	5/13	4/30	4/29	4/29
CHIPPING SPARROW	4/12	3/25	4/5	4/13	4/16	4/15	4/15
SAVANNAH SPARROW	4/6	4/16	4/5	4/14	4/16	4/15	4/15
BOBOLINK	5/6	5/15	5/5	5/13	•	5/15	5/13
N.ORIOLE	4/30	5/5	4/30	4/30	5/14	5/3	4/29

• No Data Received

Brecksville Bird Walk, CVNRA (Chaser) and Geauga County (Kremm). The first Louisiana Waterthrush was at Firestone Metropark 10 Apr. (Kopka). The Kentucky Warblers reported were: 5 May Remsen Road Farm, Medina Co. (Stover), 6, 17 Shaker Lakes (Fazio), 12 May CVNRA (Harlan) and 19 May The Seiberling Naturealm

(Stover, Szabo). Mourning Warblers were widespread with a high of five at Headlands BSP 27 May (Hannikman, Rosche). Harlan's total of 13 reflects the typical distribution for this species in the last half of May. Of the 68 Wilson's Warblers reported all but fourteen were between 18 and 24 May. There was a good showing of

Canada Warblers at their usual time, the last half of May.

The first wave of Scarlet Tanagers arrived on 30 Apr. They were not common again until mid-May and were generally scarce along Lake Erie. Juxtaposed to tanagers, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were common along Lake Erie.

Numbers approached 100 at Headlands BSP 14 May. Indigo Buntings were also scarce along Lake Erie but very conspicuous by 20 May inland. Sparrows were very evident 14 May along lakefront migrant watching spots. At least 14 species of sparrows were found that day. Vesper Sparrows were early in Cleveland 1 Apr. (Fazio) and 4 Apr. (Klamm). LePage had one of the earliest Grasshopper Sparrows ever for the region 23 Apr. at Gordon Park. One was at Headlands BSP 14 May (Hannikman, Rosche) and another at Hopkins Airport 26 May (Harlan). Fox Sparrow totals were very good and two birds at the Fondrk feeder 12 Apr. were a local first. A singing male at Lake View Cemetery 17 May was exceptionally late (Hoffman). Lincoln's Sparrows were numerous and widespread with a high of 26 at Headlands BSP 14 May (Mentor Bird Walk). One was still there 28 May (Hoffman). White-throated and White-crowned Sparrows were numerous during their usual migration period. The high for White-throated Sparrows was 270 on 14 May Bird Walks and White-crowned Sparrows 233 on 14 May Bird Walks as well.

Twenty-two reports of Orchard Orioles were indicative of the increased numbers of this species. Granted, most are first year males but none the less this species is becoming more widespread. Orchard Oriole was a rarity at the Seiberling Naturealm 14 May (Stover, Szabo). This species became bird number 162 at the Henderson's, again, providing

data as to their widespread occurrence. Northern Oriole totals were impressive as well. The Bird Walk totals for 14 May were 129 and for 21 May 133. Purple Finches filtered through the region but in small numbers. Local populations, particularly in Geauga, Portage and Summit Counties seemed to be very noticeable this spring (Rosche). A group of three Pine Siskins at the Ira Road Beaver Pond in the CVNRA 30 Apr. were the only ones noted (Stover, Wert).

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## NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

**Least Bittern** - Mentioned only from Barberton, at least two were calling and sometimes visible from 24 May through the period (Rosche, Wert)

**Tufted X Scaup Duck** - An apparent first year male Tufted Duck was located behind Munny Light 2-16 Apr. (Hoffman, m.obs.). Scrutiny from close range revealed back vermiculations similar to those found on scaup ducks. Photographs were sent to waterfowl expert Dr. E.H. Gillham in the United Kingdom. His conclusion was that the bird in question was an adult hybrid. Dr. Gillham felt that this was most likely a Tufted X Lesser Scaup hybrid, which has not been fully described in ornithological literature. This record certainly sheds an ominous cloud over previously accepted Tufted Duck records from the Great Lakes.

**Harlequin Duck** - A male was at Avon Lake 19-23 Mar. (Fazio). A

female was at Edgewater Park 22, 25 Mar. (Klamm). Hannikman saw another at E. 72nd St. 25 Mar.

**Bald Eagle** - Young Ivor Kiwi described an immature over Gordon Park on 9 Apr. Duane Ferris reported this species at LaDue Reservoir from 17 Apr. through 4 May. Another immature delighted local residents and many birders at Wildwood State Park from 25 May through the period (Heflich, LePage, m.obs.).

**Merlin** - A female allowed herself to be studied at close range through spotting scopes 30 Apr. (Rosche, m.obs.). A male with freshly caught prey called in defiance of observers at the same location on 14 May (m.obs.). Bill and Nancy Klamm saw another in association with Blue Jay migration over Perkins Beach 17 May.

**Peregrine Falcon** - Pierce had the first on 4 Mar. at E. 72nd St. A saga began to unfold in downtown Cleveland starting in late March. One, then two birds were observed in and around the Terminal Tower Building (Klaus, Pierce, m.obs.) through the period. A migrant was observed over Fairport Harbor 30 Apr (Hannikman, Rosche).

**Sandhill Crane** - Heflich saw this rarely encountered species flying west along South Marginal and E. 55th St. 4 Apr

**Lesser Golden-Plover** - Four flocks totaling about 200 birds were observed near Wellington 25 Apr. (Reed). This is well within the expected time of occurrence for this species, particu-

larly in the western part of the state. Continued reports from this part of Lorain County at this time of year may yield similar data.

**Willet** - On 5 May Fazio located six at Headlands BSP.

**Wilson's Phalarope** - A female was foraging at the Gordon Park Landfill 31 May (Klamm).

**Red-necked Phalarope** - A brilliantly plumaged female was at Barberton 25 May (Rosche, Wert).

**Laughing Gull** - The only bird this season was spotted by LePage at the E. 55th St. Marina on 30 Apr.

**Little Gull** - Harlan reported a first-year bird at E. 72nd St. 2 Mar. and an adult there on 10 Mar. Hannikman had a first-winter bird at Headlands SBP on 22 May.

**California Gull** - An adult was photographed at E. 72nd St. 12 Mar. If photographs are deemed diagnostic then this species will no longer be considered hypothetical in Ohio (Hannikman, LePage, Rosche).

**Sabine's Gull** - The star of the winter was last seen in Cleveland 12 Apr. (Fazio, Hannikman). It was rediscovered in Lorain 6 May where it remained through the period (Gerrone, Hoffman)

**Black-legged Kittiwake** - One to two first-winter birds were at E. 72nd St. through 14 Mar. (LePage, m.obs.). Another was located at Edgewater Park 4 Mar. (Klamm). Hannikman

found an incredibly late bird 7 May at the E.55th St. Marina.

**Black Tern** - Extremely rare in the spring, birds were found in at least five different locations. They include: Lorain 7-8 May (2-3, Hannikman, Klamm), Barberton 6 May (5, Rosche, Wert), Wellington Reservoir 11 May (3, Fazio), Nesmith Lake 13 May (2, Rosche) and Lake Rockwell 20 May (Rosche).

**Common Barn-Owl** - A bird was reported from Spencer Lake Wildlife Area 20 Mar. (*fide* Kraps). Gustafson inspected a pellet found in the barn where the bird had been sighted. The mammal remains fit those of prey items usually taken by this species.

**Whip-poor-will** - The Culls discovered one in the CVNRA 27 Apr. Another was at Headlands BSP 30 April (m.obs).

**Sedge Wren** - The first report in two years was at Gordon Park 14 May (Fazio).

**Varied Thrush** - The bird from the winter remained through 27 Mar. in Westlake (Graff, Cavanno).

**Northern Shrike** - The Gordon Park bird from the winter was noted at least through 24 Mar. (Fazio).

**Loggerhead Shrike** - A singing bird was photographed at West Branch State Park 21 Mar. (Rosche, Tisdale).

**Golden-winged Warbler** - Only three observers found this locally decreasing species. Chasar had one in the Jaite area of the CVNRA 5 May. Harlan reported

one 12 May and two 16 May in different locations at Brecksville Reservation. He had one at Lake Isaac 17 May. Fazio reports from Shaker Lakes were a male 6-9 May and a female 14 May.

**Brewster's Warbler** - Two reports were good for this seldom seen hybrid. They were: 12 May Brecksville Reservation (Harlan) and 17 May Rocky River Reservation (*fide* Fazio).

**Connecticut Warbler** - Two reports were received. The first was at Firestone Metropark 22 May (Pierce). The other came from Headlands BSP 28 May (Hannikman, Hoffman).

**Summer Tanager** - Jean Hoffman recorded a fly-by at Gordon Park on 19 May, a day of high migrant activity in the region.

**Clay-colored Sparrow** - Rosche located one at the west end of Headlands BSP 14 May. The bird allowed itself to be observed by many of the Mentor Bird Walk participants at close range. The bird could not be located the next day even after thorough investigations. Jean Hoffman detailed what was, in all likelihood, another at the east end of Headlands BSP 18 May.

**Henslow's Sparrow** - The only report was from Shaker Lakes 14 May (Fazio).

**Yellow-headed Blackbird** - Jeff Wert found a beautiful male foraging in the mud at Barberton 3 May.

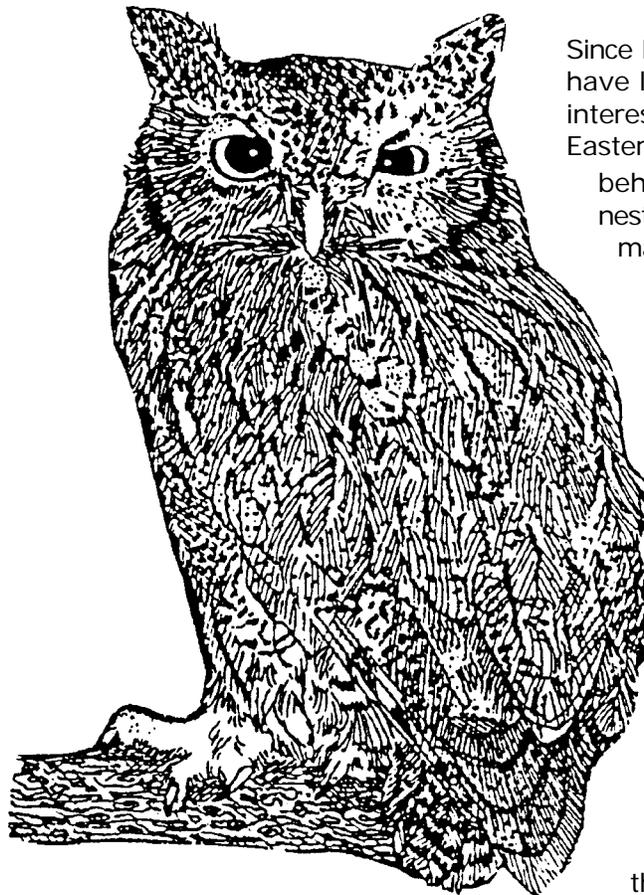
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## FIELD NOTES

### A Life History Of The Eastern Screech-Owl in the Cleveland Region *by Lee Cavanno*

The Eastern Screech-Owl (*Otus asio*) is the most common raptor in Ohio and is a common resident locally. This diminutive species is only 7-8 inches in length and weighs about the same as a Mourning Dove. Their habits of roosting inside cavities and being nocturnal cause them to go unnoticed by most people. The easiest way to locate them is to listen for their calls. Nesting birds are heard from late January to early March. Dispersed youngsters are heard in late summer. Another way to find Eastern Screech-Owls is to observe them sitting at the cavity entrance to their roost before their evening's hunt. The main requirements for this species seem to be both the availability of nesting cavities and proximity to water. In areas where water is available, owls will drink nightly and bathe frequently.

Eastern Screech-Owls appear in two color morphs; red and gray. There is also an interme-



mediate color morph present in a small percentage of the population. The nesting success of combinations of color morphs appears to be random and to have no effect on either nesting success or number of young fledged. Color morphs are not correlated with either age or sex. Approximately 25% of the birds in this area are red, approximately 5% are intermediate and the balance gray. All other combinations of color morphs may produce young with more than one color in the brood. Sex ratios of males to females do not differ substantially from 50/50. As is typical of owls, the female is larger.

Since I began this study I have learned a number of interesting facts about Eastern Screech-Owl

behavior and erecting nest boxes. This species mates for life and once on territory will remain in that area for the duration of its life unless habitat destruction, the necessity of finding a new mate, or loss of food supply cause them to move. This territory is generally no more than one mile in diameter and tends to be smallest in December and largest during the nesting season.

Nesting, in our area, generally begins about March 1, eggs being laid about April 1 and hatching by May 1. The young fledge by early June. The male owl "owns" one or more nest sites and he determines into which cavity the female will lay eggs. A pair will invariably nest in the same cavity as the previous year, as long as the previous nesting was successful and the same male is involved. If the female has died, the male will bring a new mate to the same nest cavity. If the male has died, the female will then nest in a cavity owned by her new mate.

Once eggs have been laid the female performs all of the incubation and is fed entirely by the male. This is also true while the nestlings are being brooded. As the young get larger both adults provide prey. Eastern Screech-Owls are unique among our local owl species in that the young are fed primarily on migrant passerines and their reproductive schedule is timed to coincide with peak migration. As a rule, Eastern Screech-Owls are relatively non-aggressive near the nest but as fledging time approaches adults may become very aggressive even during the daylight. Once fledged, the young owls remain and are cared for by the adults until they disperse in late summer. Approximately 75% of the young leave the natal area. The average dispersal distance is reportedly about 20 miles from the natal area. Young who do not leave the natal area are thought to have paired with older, mate-less birds.

Eastern Screech-Owls have a relatively high mortality rate. About two-thirds of the first year birds do not survive to breed. Approximately one-third of the adults die annually. The success of this species in the suburbs may be due to a combination of factors. These include, abundant prey items, lack of predators and inconspicuous habits. Automobile accidents are a leading cause in Eastern Screech-Owl mortality. The fact that the birds fly typically 3-8 ft. above the ground make them particularly vulnerable to automobile accidents.

As my study progresses I hope to accumulate additional data on the dynamics of this species in our suburban environment. I would greatly appreciate any personal observations you may have made regarding this species. I am happy to provide dimensions and instructions to anyone interested in building an Eastern Screech-Owl box. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about or suggestions for my study. Lee Cavanno 24330 Westwood Rd. Westlake, Ohio 44145.

### **A Presumed Herring X Great Black-backed Gull Hybrid** by *Victor W. Fazio III*

While censusing waterfowl at the Avon Lake Power Plant on March 19, 1989 my attention was drawn to a large gull not more than 60 meters from shore. My immediate impression was of a Great Black-backed Gull, so large was the bill and head, with a broadly sloping forehead characteristic of the species. However, just as quickly I noted the mantle color as far too light for a Great Black-backed Gull. Having only a few minutes before discovered two adult Lesser Black-backed Gulls on the ice 100 meters away, I thought perhaps I had found a third. Yet the head was massive, even for a Herring Gull. Further comparisons of the mantles of this bird and the Lesser Black-backed Gulls led me to determine that the former's held a shade slightly

lighter than the Lesser Black-backed. There was never any question in my mind that this shade was much darker than any Herring Gulls in the area. Even so I wanted to further rule out Herring Gull, and again looked closely at the bill, and overall size. Unfortunately, no Herring Gull was ever immediately next to the bird in question, but many Red-breasted Mergansers were, as they were also next to many Herring Gulls. A comparison of ratios suggested to me that the best approximation of size of this bird was the upper extreme of Herring Gull, although it also seemed to sit taller in the water. Wholly incongruous with being a Herring Gull, however, were the bill and head which were almost a perfect match for the Great Black-backed Gulls sitting on the ice 100 meters away. The prominent gonys, thickness of bill and long sloping forehead, I have never seen to this degree in a Herring Gull. When the bird dipped forward, while working over the fish, the upper portions of the legs could be viewed. These were a very pale pink, flesh tones. The over-all impression was of a dark-mantled gull intermediate in size between Herring Gull and Great Black-backed Gull, except for the bill and head, leaving the bird with a most odd "big-headed" appearance. The white plumage was clean, no streaking, and the iris was straw-yellow.

Herring X Great Black-backed Gull hybrids have been described by several observations from "Ottawa or the lower Great Lakes" (Foxall,

1979). The mantle is described as neutral gray and to my astonishment, I read "the mantle color is somewhat paler than *L. f. graellsii*" (Foxall, 1979). In further reading of Andrie (1972, 1973), Jehl (1960), and Godfrey (1973) I noted these comparisons. Jehl mentions a mantle "extremely similar to that of a California Gull" while Godfrey states "averaging perceptibly darker than that of a California Gull". The Avon Lake bird fits Godfrey's description. Also Godfrey's specimen had a white head and neck like the Avon Lake gull. Godfrey's bird is described as closer to that of a Great Black-backed Gull whereas Andrie (1972) described a bird closer to a Herring Gull. The leg color is described as "whitish or very pale flesh" (Foxall, 1979), not inconsistent with the Avon lake bird. Unfortunately, I could make no observations concerning the pattern of mirrors in the wing. It is my belief that all other observations fit the description of a Herring X Great Black-backed Gull hybrid and cannot be ascribed to any other similarly appearing species.

## SITE GUIDE:

### **Lake County Lakefront by Anders and Joyce Fjeldstad**

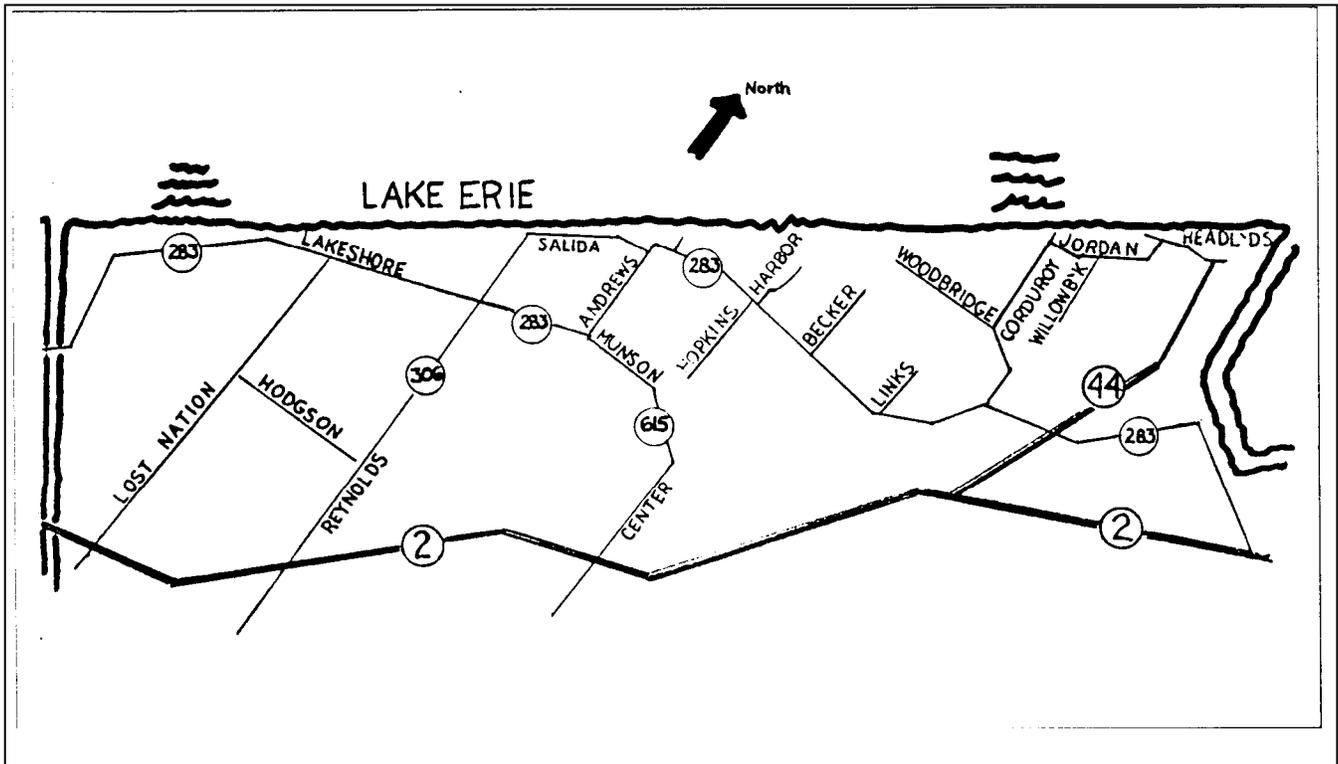
Lake County in general, and the city of Mentor in particular, have developed considerably during the past several years. There are still good places to bird, most of them clustered along the Lake Erie Shore and Mentor Marsh.

From Cleveland take State Route 2 (SR 2) to Lost Nation Rd. in Willoughby, exit north and drive about two miles until you reach the Lost Nation Airport. You can stop here and pull off the road (something you cannot do on the other side of the airport, SR 306) and look for hawks, snipe, sparrows and other open field birds. Continue north for another mile and turn east on Lake Shore Blvd. (SR 283) and travel about 1/4 mile to Willoughby Municipal Park. Park here and walk to the lake shore to see ducks and gulls. In season, observe the Bank swallow colony in the sandy cliff face. You can actually get right up to the nesting holes.

Continue east until you reach SR 306 intersection. Turn north (Reynolds Rd.) and drive 3/4 mile to Lobo Park for more lake watching. Upon leaving the parking lot, turn left at the stop sign. Reynolds Rd becomes Salida Rd. Continue on Salida for approximately one mile to SR 283 (Andrews Rd.), turn north and drive a short distance to Mentor Beach Park. If you walk along the cliff edge east of the parking lot, you can see the western edge of Mentor Lagoons. Or you can walk to the left around the building and on down to the beach. By walking east you can reach the mouth of the lagoons. About 1/4 mile east of the park on SR 283 is Chestnut St. Turn north and drive a short distance to the end of the street. The lagoons are visible from this vantage point. Numerous herons, egrets and duck species have been found there. Care should be taken

because all property is privately owned. Return to Lake Shore Blvd. and continue east for 3/4 miles turn south on Hopkins Rd. to Veteran's Park. Here is a small woods and an old gravel pit full of water. This spot can be good in the early morning. Return to SR 283 and turn right. Travel about 50 feet and turn left onto Harbor Drive then right at the stop sign. You are entering Mentor Lagoons. The dirt road you are traveling is privately owned and should the gates be closed do not enter. If they are open you can drive the right edge across the bridge and observe the long slough to the east. We always find Tundra Swans here when they come through. It's not uncommon to find Great Egrets, Hooded Mergansers and other migrating waterfowl.

Return to SR 283 and turn east for .6 miles to Becker Rd. Turn north. The fields on both sides of the road are good for birds. About .7 miles from the turnoff, there is a dirt parking area. You can walk west along a muddy road between the marsh and sewer plant. Here, you will get an excellent overlook of Mentor Marsh. We have seen bitterns, herons, rails and Short-eared Owls here! From Becker Rd. return to SR 283 and turn east. About 1 mile past Links Rd. is a stop light at Corduroy Rd. Turn north for about 100 yards to the Mentor Marsh House. Park here and follow the Kerwin Trail through the woods and fields to another overlook of Mentor Marsh. Indigo Buntings are in the fields in the summer and warblers can be found in migration. Owls are sometimes flushed



from the pines. Leave Mentor Marsh House, turning north and driving through Mentor Marsh to a caution light at Woodbridge Lane. Turn west and drive to the Wake Robin Trail parking area. Houses in this vicinity have feeders which have been known to harbor Yellow-headed Blackbirds. The trail is often muddy and the phragmites dense but glimpses of herons, ducks and Common Moorhens are possible. Marsh Wrens are common in season.

Return to Corduroy Rd and turn north for 3/4 miles to Jordan Dr. Turn right and follow Jordan Dr. until it meets Headlands Rd. Turn east on Headlands Rd. for .2 miles and park at the area for the Zimmerman Trail. Follow the trail into the marsh for Marsh Wrens, Prothonotary Warblers and other marsh birds. From

the parking lot you can walk down to observe Shipman Pond. Be sure to get here early before the fisherman if you expect to see wading birds and waterfowl. Drive east from the Zimmerman trail parking lot to the entrance to Headlands Beach State Park. Drive to the easternmost parking area. The State Nature Preserve is here. Warblers can be found in abundance in the brushy areas which border the picnic area on the north and east.

The dunes can be good for sparrows and on more than one occasion a Short-eared Owl has been flushed. Loons, ducks, shorebirds, gulls and terns can be observed from the beach. The property east of the park is private but can be birded. Both the harbor area and the dunes are excellent in migrations.

To return to Cleveland, leave through the main entrance and follow SR 44 for approximately 2.5 miles to SR 2 and turn west.

**Rare Bird Hotline:** (216)289-2473. The hotline is sponsored by the Kirtland Bird Club.

**Invitation:** The Kirtland Bird Club meets the first Wednesday of the month except July and August at 7:45 P.M. at The Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Visitors are always welcome.

**Inquiries** regarding subscription to The Cleveland Bird Calendar should be addressed to: Joan M. Palmer, The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Wade Oval, University Circle, Cleveland, Ohio 44106. The subscription rate is \$4.00 annually.