

June, July, August 2004 Volume 100 Number 3 **Founded in 1905** by Francis H. Herrick of The Western Reserve University, *The Cleveland Bird Calendar* was and is published jointly by the Kirtland Bird Club and The Cleveland Museum of Natural History. The purposes of the publication are to provide information on the movements of birds through the Cleveland region, to monitor population densities of resident birds, and to help in the establishment of patterns of vagrancy for rarely encountered species of the region. Readers are encouraged to make every effort to identify and help in the preservation of sensitive habitats that harbor beleaguered bird species. Migrant stopover points, grasslands and wetlands are dwindling at an alarming rate; and *The Cleveland Bird Calendar* cannot overlook the importance of such lands and their influence on our local avifauna.

**The Cleveland region** includes Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage and Summit Counties.

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

Due dates for seasonal field reports are as follows:

March 10 Winter Season
June 10 Spring Season
September 10 Summer Season
December 10 Autumn Season

Seasonal report forms available at:

www.kirtlandbirdclub.org/default1.htm

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**Notice**: All reports to *The Cleveland Bird Calendar* are archived in The Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

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**Invitation:** The Kirtland Bird Club meets the first Wednesday of the month, except July and August, at 7:30 P.M. in The Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

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# The Cleveland Bird Calendar







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## SUMMER 2004 WEATHER

by Dwight Chasar

JUNE: Temperatures averaged 66.7°, .8° below normal. The high was 91° on the 9th and the low was 46° on the 4th and 20th. Lake Erie was 60° on June 1st and rose to 67° by the 30th. Rain occurred on 16 days and totaled 2.87 in., 1.02 in. below normal. The most rain in a 24 hr. period was .85 in. on the 13-14th. Sunshine prevailed 62% of the time.

**JULY:** Temperatures averaged 71.2°, .7° below normal. The high was 88° on the 6th and 21st and the low was 56° on the 9th. Sunshine was available a measly 7% of the time possible. Rain occurred over 9 days, totaling 1.72 in., 1.58 in. below normal. The most rain in a 24 hr. period fell on the 14th and amounted to .62 in. Lake Erie was at 71° at the end of the month.

AUGUST: Temperatures averaged 68.1°, 2.1° below normal. The high was 88° on the 27th and the low was 49° on the 22nd. Sunshine occurred 6% of the time possible. Rain fell on 11 days, totaling 2.46 in., 1.23 in. below normal. The most in a 24 hr. period was .91 in. on the 31-1st. Lake Erie water remained at 71°.

### THE SEASON

he local nesting waterfowl seemed on par. Sandy Ridge Reservation certainly has provided ideal habitat for several species that nest no where else locally. These include **Blue-winged** and **Green-winged Teals** (TF, m.obs.). A Bluewinged Teal was early at North Chagrin, July 27 (KM). A **Gadwall** frequented Veterans Park through July 6 (RH).

Metcalf penned this behavior note on Wood Ducks. "On two occasions this summer, Wood Ducks attempted to eat juvenile little brown bats (Myotis lucifugus) that had fallen out of a roost near Sunset Pond in North Chagrin Nature Center. Both bats were rescued before the ducks could determine their fate. On July 13, I saw a Wood Duck eat a small frog and others were seen eating tadpoles. Apparently they like their protein if they can get it. Some of the Wood Ducks at North Chagrin have also taken to perching on a bird feeder eating sunflower seeds--up to three at a time crowding on. This behavior was first noted last year."

A **Ring-necked Duck** frequented at the Akron Sewage Plant near Bath Road through July 2 (MM). Another was at Sandy Ridge, June 6 (TF). Two **Lesser** 



#### **COMMENT ON THE SEASON**

by Larry Rosche

Another nesting season has come and gone. This year no fewer than 153 species displayed breeding behavior in the region. Diligent surveys at Sandy Ridge Reservation provided nesting reports on the rarer waterfowl and furtive marsh birds. The first regional nesting of Double-crested Cormorants was at Lake Rockwell. Common Nighthawks have become precariously close to nonbreeding birds. The few migrant nighthawks reported are a mere fraction of the totals of just 15 years ago. Prothonotary Warblers continue to improve locally because of nest jar efforts. The Western Meadowlark at the PPG Lime Lake #4 in Barberton was among the most exceptional summering birds found. A White-winged Dove was documented carefully in Rootstown and becomes the 375th species for the region.

In the recent 45th Supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union Check-list of North American Birds, Cackling Goose has been split from Canada Goose and becomes a new species for the region, Formerly known to locals as Richardson's Goose, this bird has been reported from Kirtland, Lake Isaac, Lake Medina, Lake Rockwell, Ridgehill Cemetery in Lorain and Shaker Lakes. For the time being, its status will be occasional to rare. Further study may find the Cackling Goose to be rare to uncommon.

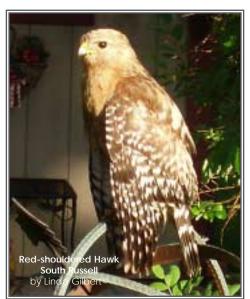
The Chasars and Doug Vogus once again provided an excellent summary of the Summit County breeding birds. The Chasars also documented what may have been the first Cuyahoga County nesting of Pied-billed Grebe. Bob McCullough (et al.) maintained a dedicated effort to document the rearing of a young Sandhill Crane in Geauga County. Kevin Metcalf for his details on the nesting of Alder Flycatchers in the region. John Pogacnik's survey work for the Lake Metroparks continues to document the existence of many relic species of the Canadian Zone.

Many thanks to Delores Cole for the unique collage on the back cover. Readers should note that the photographs, which were taken by Kirtland Bird Club members, do not necessarily reflect local occurrences. Good birding.

Scaups were at HBSP June 2 (RH). A hen Common Merganser lingered in Shalersville through June 2 (LR). Reports indicated Hooded Mergansers were doing quite well at traditional nesting locations. The 2 at North Chagrin July 12-14 were a bit of a surprise (KM). Ruddy Ducks nested successfully at Sandy Ridge (TF, m.obs.).

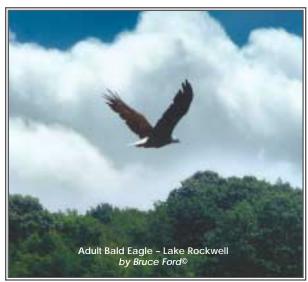
Pied-billed Grebes nested at Herrick Preserve, Sandy Ridge, Mogadore and the CVNP's Pleasant Valley Marsh (See Field Notes). One on a farm pond near Spencer July 29 was unusual (GL). It seems no lake is without a Double-crested **Cormorant** or two in the summer. Cormorants built at least 7 nests at an inaccessible island at Lake Rockwell. Judging from the number of immatures there in July, they must have been fairly successful. Great Egret reports seemed low. Besides the usual birds at Sandy Ridge, two were at HBSP June 2 (RH). One was

near Spencer July 29 (GL). As many as 7 were at Mill Stream Run in late July and early August (GL). Two were at North Reservoir Aug. 3 (GBe). On Aug. 21, Marian Kraus wrote this observation from Sandy Ridge, "We watched in amazement as a Great Egret beat a fairly large fish in the mud until it was tender-



ized enough to swallow!" **Green Herons** fared about as well as we can expect. Diligent reporting was helpful in locating birds at unusual sites. One was seen as it briefly landed on a wire over East Avenue near the I-77 ramp in Kenmore on July 21 (KMo). The 6 at the Bath Nature Preserve July 10 provided the high tally (TMR). **Black-crowned Night-Herons** were not plentiful. Shaker Lakes hosted 1-4 Aug. 26-27 (RR, LGo). **Turkey Vultures** appeared to be as numerous as any time in recent memory.

lesting Ospreys were troubled by high winds and early summer storms. The young at the Lake Hodgson site were killed. An Osprey was in Norton July 30 (RSH). Another was seen at Sandy Ridge Aug. 4 (TF). At HBSP, Ospreys were seen June 17, July 9 and July 19 (RH). Bald Eagle nesting results were mixed. The Ohio Department of Natural



difficult to detect species. A Sora was seen along the Boston Trail June 17 (MRe). Common Moorhens nested at Herrick Preserve (GB, KL, JO, m.obs.) and Sandy Ridge (m.obs.). An American Coot was seen at Mogadore June 26 (GBe).

Shorebirding has become a tough pastime to pursue in the region. Bryn Roberts

wrote, "I've been visiting Hinckley Lake throughout the month looking for shorebirds. Nothing too exciting yet (....but I keep coming back because, well, it's the only shorebird spot I know of less than 1.5 hours east or west or here). There's typically a half-dozen Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers there. Other shorebirds seen during the month of August include Short-billed Dowitcher, Solitary Sandpiper, Semipalmated Plover, Pectoral Sandpiper, Killdeer and Spotted Sandpiper."

The only American Golden-Plovers were viewed at HBSP July 31 (EB). Semipalmated Plovers graced HBSP Aug. 27–28 (RH). A Greater Yellowlegs passed by HBSP Aug. 28 (RH). A Lesser Yellowlegs was early at Station Road July 9 (DAC).

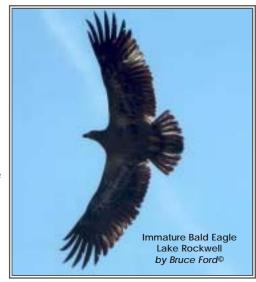
Resources reported that 2 young were raised at the nests at LaDue, Lake Rockwell. Kent and Tinker's Creek. The nest at Sandy Ridge produced one eaglet. The young died at the nest in Peninsula. An adult was seen at Station Road Aug. 3 and another at Jaite Aug. 27 (DAC). Sharp-shinned Hawks nested widely in Lake County. Six were reported on the Summit County Summer Bird Count. A Red-shouldered Hawk was a good find at Rocky River Nature Center June 12 (BD, m.obs.). Broad-winged Hawks nested in expected locales. The number of American Kestrels remains below average.

Virginia Rails and Soras received very little mention. The Summit County Summer Bird Count is most helpful in providing data for these

## Comments on Summer 2004 at Headlands Beach State Park Areas

It was an interesting summer, even though I was gone for half of it. Surveys of Mentor Lagoons yielded a summering Acadian Flycatcher and probable nesting White-eyed Vireos. Swallows did not disappoint, as both Tree Swallows and Bank Swallows gathered by the hundreds at Mentor Lagoons. In contrast to 2003 when June 1 produced 17 species of warblers, early June 2004 saw very few late lingering warblers, vireos or flycatchers. By August's end, fall migrants had begun with good numbers of Canada Warblers and smaller numbers of a dozen other warbler species whetting our appetites for September's passage of Neotropical migrants on their way south.

Ray Hannikman



Another early returnee was at HBSP July 14 (RH). A Solitary Sandpiper was at Station Road July 21 (RR). Spotted Sandpipers nested in good numbers. A smattering of Sanderlings stopped briefly at HBSP. A handful of **Semipalmated** Sandpipers were seen. A mudflat in Streetsboro was promptly drained as soon as owners learned birdwatchers were enjoying the small numbers of waders there. Least Sandpipers were widespread in small numbers. The 3 at Station Road July 21 was a typical grouping (RR). Among the most sought-after peep species, **Baird's Sandpipers** visited HBSP Aug. 26 (2) and Aug. 27 (RH). **Pectoral Sandpipers** were scattered about in small numbers. The only **Short-billed Dowitcher** report was from Hinckley Reservation (BR). Two American Woodcocks were seen at Mogadore June 26 (GBe). The only summer report of Wilson's Snipe was from Horseshoe Pond (CVNP) June 25(GL).

The only **Bonaparte's Gull** report was from HBSP Aug 29 (RH). As many as 12 **Great Black-backed Gulls** spent most of the summer at HBSP (RH). **Caspian Terns** were regularly seen at HBSP throughout the season. They were easily found in the Akron/Portage Lakes area throughout August. Springfield Lake hosted 22 Aug. 21–28 (GBe). One flying over a house in Richfield



Aug. 7 made for an unusual "yard bird" (BR).

A Black-billed Cuckoo was found at PPG Lime Lake #4 June 25 (TMR). One was at Mogadore June 26 (GBe). A Yellow-billed Cuckoo called constantly most of July in Brecksville (PS). One was seen along Redlock Trail June 19 (DAC). Another was at Jaite July 24 (DAC).

Red-headed Woodpeckers continue to do well in the CVNP (m.obs.) Birds were seen at their regular site in Rocky River Reservation (BD). The 2 at the Bath Nature Preserve July 10 were unexpected (TMR). Birds summered at Mentor Lagoons, but nesting success was unknown (m.obs.).

An Olive-sided Flycatcher was located at Hogback Ridge in late June (JP). Other Olive-sideds were at expected times in late August. A bird was seen at Black River Reservation in Lorain Aug. 21 (JMK). One was along the Zimmerman Trail Aug. 29 (RH). Another was at Mentor Lagoons Aug. 30 (RH). Eastern Wood-Pewees were doing well and were felt to be quite common in Granger Township (JW). Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were returning by late August. Three were spied at HBSP Aug 27 (RH). Alder Flycatchers were in good supply at the Ravenna

TLS (LR). One was at Sanitation Pond (CVNP) July 10 (DAC). Willow Flycatchers were wellreported. Other than surveys at the Lake Metroparks, Least Flycatchers made few summer field reports. Birds were noted at HBSP from July 14 through the period (RH). A migrant Least was at Shaker Lakes Aug. 26 (LGo, RR). Eastern Phoebes were widespread and fairly

numerous. A fledgling **Great Crested Flycatcher** was found at Mogadore June 26 (GBe). **Eastern Kingbird** numbers were solid in rural areas.

White-eyed Vireos continued their uncommon nesting status. Blueheaded Vireos were in fair supply. Thirty-two territories were located at 10 Lake Metroparks (JP). A singing male was at South Chagrin June 3 (KM). One was at Indian Point June 11 (JMK). Two were reported from Munroe Falls MP June 16 (TMR). Two were at Hinckley June 19 (RSH). Two were singled out at Riding Run July 11 (DAC). One was seen along the Boston Trail July 29 (MRe).

Purple Martin nest boxes in Geauga and Lake Counties were very productive. The 150 martins at Mentor Lagoons Aug. 29 was the highest count received. As many as 600 Tree **Swallows** gathered on the wires at Mentor Lagoons in late August. **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** were as expected. The high count of Bank Swallows at Mentor Lagoons was 500 July 18 (RH). Cliff Swallows continue to nest at favored haunts. The 300 Barn Swallows at Mentor Lagoons July 11 was an unusually high count (RH).

Reinthal's study in the CVNP pro-

vided more reports of Tufted Titmice than Black-capped Chickadees. This is quite contradictory to reports from closer to Lake Erie and at the southern end of the region. At Highland Park Cemetery in Shaker Heights, Red-breasted Nuthatches were seen and heard throughout the summer (FCD). Birds were also reported from their traditional sites at Hinckley, Horseshoe Pond and Lake Rockwell (m.obs.). A bird in South Russell July 14 was thought to be an early migrant (LGi). Three territorial **Brown Creepers** at Mogadore June 26 were above average (GBe). One was at Virginia Kendall Ledges July 11 (DAC). Carolina Wrens remain as numerous as any time in the history of the region. Few regional neighborhoods are without this spunky chanticleer. The Pleasant Valley Marsh hosted as many as 5 territorial Marsh Wrens (DAC). Tinker's Creek provided intermittent reports (GB, CG). One was vocal at Shipman Pond in early July (RH). Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were seen in expected numbers.

Veeries and Wood Thrushes were common nesters in their woodland haunts. Northern Mockingbirds continue to show up at unexpected places. A bird displayed nesting behavior near 305th St. on the East Side June 6 (CK). One was seen at Burton Wetlands July 16 (LGi). Another was seen in Munson Township Aug. 14 (DB). Brown Thrasher numbers were relatively low, as expected. Cedar Waxwings appeared to have had a prolific breeding season.

Reports of nesting warblers were plentiful. A total of 24 species made breeding bird surveys. A Blue-winged Warbler near Dugway Creek, Bratenahl June 11 seemed out of place (LR). Even though Blue-wingeds are among our most numerous nesting warbler, they still elicit enthusiastic comments for veteran observers. On

#### **Common Nighthawk Reports and Comments**

Gregory Bennett wrote, "This summer I was able to locate 9 summing male Common Nighthawks in Portage and Summit Counties. A male returned to the North Hill neighborhood of Akron on May 9 and was last heard August 21 when southbound migrants passed through the area. The most promising sites were Barberton and Kent State University. At each site, 2 males could be found and 3 individuals were observed on at least one occasion. Although nesting was not confirmed, many entertaining territorial conflicts were observed. Both males in Barberton were still on territory on July 31. On this date, one performed its booming display dive near the old Barberton High School. Unfortunately, this building was demolished some time after August 9. A rooftop survey on the south side of Lake Anna revealed that only 3 of the many buildings are gravel-covered."

"Nighthawks have been passing through Akron each night this week. Aug. 29 was the best so far with  $30^+$ ."

#### **Dwight and Ann Chasar**

Jaite Headquarters (CVNP), Aug. 28, 19 Common Nighthawks.

#### **Bob Faber**

"2 nighthawks headed s.e. over Portage Co. fairgrounds on Aug. 25. Big deal."

#### **Tim Fairweather**

Sandy Ridge, June. (No date given)

#### **Rob and Sandy Harlan**

Common Nighthawk-- 6 Barberton (Summit Co.) evening of 7/17; "Also noted this season in Wadsworth (Medina Co.), Rittman (Wayne Co.), and Norton."

#### Lou Cardella

Last week I reported two nighthawks over Garfield Park. June 7 at 8:15 AM I saw two nighthawks (likely the same two) again over Garfield Park in Mentor.

#### **Marian Kraus**

Jeff told me he saw a nighthawk on Tuesday, August 24, flying over the Hopkins Airport grounds around 9 p.m.

#### Fred Losi

On Aug. 24, there were at least 6 fly-over nighthawks at Valley View Woods.

#### Paula Lozano

Stinchcomb-Groth Memorial Scenic Overlook, Aug. 22, 9 Common Nighthawks. Stinchcomb-Groth Memorial Scenic Overlook, Aug. 25, 19 Common Nighthawks. Stinchcomb-Groth Memorial Scenic Overlook, Aug. 27, 6 Common Nighthawks.

#### **Kevin Metcalf**

3 nighthawks at the North Chagrin Nature Center on the evening of August 20th!

#### Haans Petruschke

"There have been a few nesting nighthawks in downtown Willoughby this year."

#### **Bryn Roberts**

 $^\circ\text{I}$  had 5 nighthawks fly over my house in Richfield on Aug. 28, fleeing ahead of the approaching thunderstorm."

#### **Mary Anne and Tom Romito**

Stinchcomb-Groth Memorial Scenic Overlook, Aug. 27, 4 Common Nighthawks. Jaite Headquarters (CVNP), Aug. 28, 50 Common Nighthawks.

#### Jeff Wert

Granger Township Aug. 18, 8 Common Nighthawks. Macedonia Aug. 26, 3 Common Nighthawks over I-271.

June 24 Zadar wrote, "Today, I found a Blue-winged Warbler with a metal US Fish and Wildlife Service band and a color band. It was a red band that had faded to pink. And it is likely a bird banded by Norm (Kotesovec) and me back in 1996 or 1997, making the bird at least 8 or 9 years old. I checked the longevity record for Blue-winged on the Bird Banding Lab's website, and it stands at 7 years and 11 months. I wrote to the Bird Banding Lab to try to get an exact date on when the warbler was banded. I'll let you know what I find out." Chestnut-sided Warblers continue to be locally numerous at the Ravenna TLS (LR). Magnolia Warblers were found at 10 Lake Metropark sites (JP). Southbound migrants were widespread by the end of August. Black-throated Blue Warblers lingered at HBSP through June 2 (RH). There was a singing male at Erie St. Cemetery June 3 (GL). Another was late in Macedonia June 4 (FL). Another was late at Virginia Kendall Ledge June 6 (JB). An exceptionally late Yellowrumped Warbler was seen flying around the beach at Edgewater June 16 (GL). Black-throated Green **Warblers** were widespread in the CVNP. A bird at Twinsburg Ledges June 7 was new for the location (LR, SSt). Southbound Blackburnian Warblers were descending on the region by the end of August. Yellow-throated Warblers continue to thrive in the Lower Cuyahoga River sections of the CVNP (m.obs.). They have made positive impacts on at least 8 Lake Metroparks (JP). Two Pine Warblers were at Furnace Run Aug. 29 (BR). Local breeding birds were found in traditional haunts. Blackpoll Warblers lingered at HBSP through June 2 (RH). A tardy Blackpoll was seen along Dugway Creek June 11 (LR). Cerulean Warblers were well represented on Lake Metropark surveys (JP). Holden Arboretum hosted birds in at least three locations (HP). One was territorial at Headwaters Park (KM). Two birds were territorial at

Eagle Creek SNP (GBe). Station Road also provided numerous reports, probably of the same pairs that nest there (m.obs.). Black-andwhite Warblers were trickling into the region by late August. A bird was seen in downtown Cleveland Aug. 26 (JM). Reports of nesting American Redstarts were excellent. Prothonotary Warblers did not disappoint breeding bird surveyors. A bird was seen carrying a fecal sack at Nimisila June 22 (GBe). The nest at Rocky River Nature Center produced at least 3 fledglings (BD, m.obs.). The last sighting there was Aug. 7 (BD). At least 3 fledged in the CVNP (LGa). Two were at Black River Reservation in Lorain Aug. 21 (JMK). The Ovenbird heard at Munroe Falls MP June 6 was a very good news for this heavily used park (TMR). The 5 singing males at Mogadore June 26 was another excellent tally (GBe). Northern Waterthrushes were found at Hell Hollow and Hidden Valley Lake Metroparks (JP). Louisiana Waterthrush numbers were as expected. The female Mourning Warbler at the Sulphur Springs area of South Chagrin Reservation on Aug. 13 provided a nice start to the fall migration (BR). The 8 Hooded Warblers at Munroe Falls MP June 6 was a typical count for this common woodland species (TMR). One at Lakeshore MP June 27 was very unusual for a site adjacent to Lake

Erie (RR). Another lakefront bird was spied at HBSP June 18 (RH). Another was seen there on its southbound journey Aug. 29 (RH). Wilson's Warblers were as expected in late August. At least 10 territories of **Canada Warblers** were found in Lake Metroparks (JP). One was seen along Pierson Creek at Holden Arboretum June 18 (HP). A few migrants were filtering into the region the last half of August. The 6 at HBSP Aug. 27 was

an exceptional tally (RH). One was at Elmwood Park Aug. 30 (PL). A **Yellow-breasted Chat** along the Ira Road Trail June 7 was unusual (TMR).

The Vesper Sparrow that summered at the Coliseum field (CVNP) was unexpected (BR). Savannah Sparrows were numerous in proper habitat. Three Grasshopper Sparrows were flushed out of hiding at the Coliseum field June 27 (TMR). One was detected at Holden June 18 (HP). A White-throated Sparrow had made it to Lakeshore

MP by Aug. 30 (JP). Numerous territories of **Dark-eyed Juncos** were found in the Lake Metroparks (JP). One at Brecksville June 22 was an excellent find (DAC). A bird at Gates Mills June 8 was presumed to be a local nester (JHe).

The 40 **Bobolinks** at Bath Nature Preserve July 10 represented the high report



(TMR). Orchard Orioles continue to increase. Two males were at Mogadore June 26 (GBe). Another male was singing near Wingfoot Lake June 27 (GBe). Harlan wrote, "My Pittsfield BBS route in (Lorain/Huron Cos.) had 9 Orchards vs 5 Baltimores on June 6." Three males and a female were found at Stumpy Basin (CVNP) June 7 (DAC). Baltimore Orioles nested throughout the region. They had pulled out of HBSP by July 15 (RH).

Purple Finches were in fair numbers at traditional nesting areas.

American Goldfinches were felt to be at an all-time high in Lake County (JP). Pine Siskins once again nested at Lakeshore Reservation (JP). A siskin was a surprise at a feeder in South Russell July 21 (LGi). This individual may have also been from a local breeding population.





MERLIN – On July 15 an adult passed by Lakeshore Reservation (Pogacnik). This was one of the very few summer reports ever for the region.

#### SANDHILL CRANE -

Two adults and an immature were seen near Burton most of July and August (McCullough, Fish, m.obs.). A nest failed at Sandy Ridge (Fairweather).

#### AMERICAN AVOCET -

Four were at Burke Airport on July 23 (White). One sped past Edgewater Park July 30 (Leidy). The stormy morning of July 31 provided Bacik an opportunity to spy 4 avocets as they sped past Headlands Beach SP. That evening, while aboard the Goodtime II, Tom Romito saw 6 at Burke Airport.

MARBLED GODWIT – One was observed at Burke Airport July 23 (White).

**WILLET** – Four were seen among the shorebird flock at Burke Airport on July 23 (White).

WHIMBREL – One whisked by Headlands Beach SP Aug. 26 (Hannikman). One was carefully

observed at Edgewater Park July 30 (Leidy).

**RED KNOT** – One was at Headlands Beach SP July 31 (Bacik).

BLACK TERN – Two were seen at Headlands Beach SP July 31 (Bacik). was quite obvious and appeared as a long strip of white on the edge of the folded wings. It had iridescent aqua blue eye rings and a short, blunted tail. Also, the legs were very bright orange. Again on Tuesday, August 17, and Thursday, August 19, it appeared in the yard, both times under the feeder. On the last occasion it was chased away by a Mourning Dove."

WHIP-POOR-WILL – One was reported from Kirtland June 26 (Petruschke).

WHITE-WINGED DOVE - A bird

was seen in Rootstown on 3 occa-

sions. This is the second report of

the species to reach this desk in the

past 3 years. Susanne Frank wrote,

Sandy Lake, Rootstown Township,

Ohio. It was preening on a dead branch in a tree above my feeders.

The dove was approximately 11" long and only slightly shorter than

nearby Mourning Doves. However,

its body was heavier, its upper neck patch was larger, and its beak was

longer than a Mourning Dove. It

also carried no black spots on its body. The white I saw on the wings

"On Monday, August 16, I saw a White-winged Dove in my yard at

#### **RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD -**

Continuing to add to the list of regional occurrences, a male was spotted in a garden in Perry June 25 (Hannington).

# NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

LEAST BITTERN – A bird was found at Pleasant Valley Marsh (CVNP) June 27 and July 18 (Chasar). The only other possible nesting report was from Riverview Lake Metropark (Pogacnik).

**SNOWY EGRET** – One was seen at Sandy Ridge Reservation June 5 (Fairweather).

**LITTLE BLUE HERON** – One was seen at at River Road Park Aug. 19 (Pogacnik).

**NORTHERN HARRIER – A** 

subadult male was seen at the old Coliseum (CVNP) June 6 (Brumfield). Harriers were seen in the Headlands Beach area on June 20 and July 10 & 11 (Hannikman). One soared over the Blanche Novak

Sanctuary July 4 (Elder, Tanquist).



#### YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER -

Confirmed nesting was established at Holden Arboretum (Paine, Petruschke, m.obs.) and Hell Hollow (Pogacnik).

**SEDGE WREN** – Three males were noted along Quarry Road in western Lorain Co. June 6 (Harlan). Two were located by Vogus at PPG Lime Lake #4 in Barberton June 19.

#### GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET -

A male was at Hinckley Reservation June 19. The observers felt the kinglets have become harder to find the past couple years (Harlan). A bird at Chapin Forest provided the only other summer report (Pogacnik).

HERMIT THRUSH – Birds nested once again at Virginia Kendall Ledges. On July 11 & 15, 2 adults and 3 young were observed. Pogacnik's summer Lake County surveys found 7 territories at 3 different parks.

#### GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER - A

male mated with a female at the Horseshoe Pond area of the CVNP (Chasar, Leidy, Zadar, m.obs). See Field Notes.

"LAWRENCE'S WARBLER" – A male was seen on a BBS route at the Ravenna Training and Logistics Site June 4 (Rosche). Another bird, thought to be a female, was at Horseshoe Pond June 17 (Harlan).

**NORTHERN PARULA** – Two were tallied on the Summit County Bird Count (Chasar).

**BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER** – A male at Hinckley June 13 was at a different site than the bird in late May (Harlan).

PRAIRIE WARBLER – A bird lingered at Armington Pond (CVNP) well into June (Bennett, m.obs.). A singing male was found June 25 near PPG Lime Lake #4 (Romito).

**KENTUCKY WARBLER** – At least 2 birds were seen and heard at Kendall Ledges throughout the breeding season (Brumfield, Chasar, m.obs.).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER – A late bird was at Headlands Beach SP June 2 (Hannikman). The first southbound migrant was seen at Cleveland's Public Square Aug. 30 (Wright).

**MOURNING WARBLER** – The two found on the Summit County Bird Count represented an expected number (Chasar).

HENSLOW'S SPARROW – As many as 5 birds were counted at the Bath Nature Preserve this summer (Brumfield, m.obs.). See Field Notes.

**DICKCISSEL** – One visited a feeder in Willoughby Aug. 26 (Talkington).

WESTERN MEADOWLARK – A singing, territorial male was found at PPG Lime Lake #4 in Barberton June 19. It remained there into July and was seen in the company of 3 juveniles June 21 (Vogus, m.obs.).

## ADDENDUM TO VOLUME 100 NUMBER 2:

Please add the following to the Noteworthy Reports section. **RED-NECKED GREBE** – One was at Lake Medina Apr. 4 (Wert). **LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH** – One was record-breaking early on March 26 at Erie Shores Golf Course in the northeast corner of Lake County (Pogacnik).

In the Typos'R'us category, the date for the belated **HARRIS'S SPARROW** report at HBSP on p. 16 should read Oct. 12, 2003. Also, please note the reference to **Northern Rough-winged Swallow** on p. 22 should read March 29, not May 29.



## FIELD NOTES

## NESTING OF PIED-BILLED GREBE (PBGR) IN CUYAHOGA COUNTY

by Dwight and Ann Chasar

On May 31, 2004, we located an adult Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) with at least four young, probably less than a week old, in tow, in a small marsh on the edge of the city limits of Independence and within the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Minutes earlier we had spotted a lone calling adult in the same wetland. This may well be the first unequivocal and documented nesting of this species in Cuyahoga Co.

There appears to be no confirmed nesting of the "Water-witch" or "Dabchick" (Dawson 1903) in Cuyahoga Co. during the first half of the 20th century (Williams 1950), although confirmation did occur in the six other counties of the Cleveland region (Hicks 1935). The Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas of 1982-87 never confirmed nesting in the county (Peterjohn 1991). A study at

Lake Abrams in Middleburg Heights in 1983-4 confirmed the presence of PBGR in June but no nesting confirmation (Grame 1983-84). In an update of the Birds of the Cleveland Region that is currently being written (Rosche 2004), there is no mention of nesting PBGR in the county. Our search of the last 60 years of the Calendar confirmed that no nesting observation was reported. However, an adult with 5 young was seen at Mill Stream Run on August 25, 2002 (Rosche 2002). Since this date coincides with the beginning of PBGR movement in the region (Rosche 2004), it would be tenuous at best to conclude that nesting unequivocally occurred in 2002 in Cuyahoga Co.

The timing of nesting is in line with that which has been noted for Ohio. namely as early as May 17 (Peterjohn 2001) but typically between May 30-June 10 (Peterjohn 1991). When we returned to this location on June 19, we found five young lounging grebes (see photo) but no adult. We may have missed the fifth bird on our first visit or it may have hatched subsequently (Bent 1963). On June 27, we made a more startling discovery. We found one family of six young being attended to by an adult. These were more advanced in age than downy young, showing weak remnants of stripes on the back and still showing striping on the face and neck with strong "burnt umber" coloring on the head. Then, we spotted three other young that were indeed older than the six, being larger in size, very little burnt umber on the head, and the crown nearly solid black, more like juvenal plumage (Sibley 2000). These birds took delight in feeding on their own and exercising their larger wings trying to simulate take-off with a running start. These three may have been remnants of the original five of June 19, as snapping turtles abound in this marsh and can be predators (Muller 1999). These observations suggest at least



two families of grebes! We spent more than five hours that day trying to find more adults and families but to no avail. On our next return visit on July 10, we found an adult accompanied by two young birds and at least two other juveniles that appeared older and somewhat independent. Visits on July 18 and July 25 turned up two and four immature birds, respectively.

ur personal past field observations revealed that we found single adult PBGRs here on May 9, 1998, and May 1, 1999, as well as a pair in breeding plumage on April 29, 2001. Our feeble attempts to confirm breeding in these earlier years were unsuccessful. Pied-billeds are opportunistic nesters, being most plentiful in Ohio during "wet years" (Peterjohn 1991). The rainfall recorded at Cleveland Hopkins Airport for March through May was 14.29 in., 4.59 in. above normal (Chasar 2004) and may well help explain our find. Incidentally, rainfall during the same time period in 2001 and 1999 was below average while in 1998, it was 1.69 in. above (Chasar 2001, 1999, 1998).

PBGRs prefer to nest in the emergent vegetation of marshes greater than 10 acres where the water depth

at nest sites varies from a few inches to greater than 3 feet (Peterjohn 1991). This 14-acre marsh is bordered by Pleasant Valley Road on the north. Brookside Road on the west, Riverview Road more or less on the south and the Cuyahoga Valley Railroad and Cuyahoga River on the east. This is not an isolated location, as traffic and train noise are abundant. Originally, this wetland developed from a construction scraping, probably due to road building, became a dump site for a time, was cleaned up and then succeeded into a field. Being in a flood plain, the area probably became flooded from water drainage and/or Cuyahoga River overflow and a small pond and marsh area developed. The water ranges from 0-3.5 ft deep. In 1999, this location was expanded by an additional 3.5 acres through wetlands mitigation as a result of wetland loss in Stumpy Basin in the CVNP when the Ohio Turnpike bridges over the Cuyahoga Valley just north of Peninsula were replaced. It is therefore subject to all the Ohio EPA requirements and in this respect, phragmites were removed, cattails now abound, and the Davey Resource Group is monitoring the area for invasive species for five years. This included spraying Rodeot-77 herbicide in 2001 and

2003 to kill the invasive plant species.

In our visits to this marsh, we counted at least five territorial Marsh Wrens (June 27), as many as 6-8 Green Herons (July 18), families of Wood Duck and Mallard, an immature Hooded Merganser (June 27) and a number of Eastern Phoebes, Eastern Kingbirds and a juvenile Belted Kingfisher. This site had been good for multiple Soras and Virginia Rails in past years, especially when time was taken to seek them out. More surprisingly, we spotted a Least Bittern on June 27 and again on July 18. The Davey Group also found American Coot in 2002 and 2003. Refer to the accompanying article by Nancy Howell on her marsh monitoring studies at the same wetland.

cknowledgments. We thank Dave Vasarhelyi and Kevin Skerl of the CVNP for providing background information on the wetland site and Rob Harlan, Jean Hoffman, and Larry Rosche for useful discussions.

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## A GOLDEN-WINGED×BLUE-WINGED WARBLER NEST IN SUMMIT COUNTY

by Sean T. Zadar

Golden-winged Warblers are nearly extirpated as breeders in Ohio, with the most recent nesting report coming from Columbiana County in 1991 (Peterjohn 2001). Historically, Wheaton (1882) described Goldenwinged Warbler as a rare summer resident. The Golden-winged has been reported breeding in the northeastern portion of Ohio before, but no confirmed records for Summit County could be found (Jones 1903; Hicks 1935; Dunn 1997; Peterjohn 2001). On 15 June 2004, a male Golden-winged Warbler (Vermivora chrysoptera) was discovered at Horseshoe Pond, Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Summit County, Ohio. At approximately 6:00 P.M., the warbler was observed as it sang a Type II song four or five times before cessation. It sang close to the top of a twelve-meter high snag near a forested edge. The territory was located in an oblong patch of early successional forest habitat of two hectares in area, near a wooden bench that marks the halfway point of the Christmas tree farm trail (noted for nesting Purple Finch). Within the entire territory, the vegetation was dominated by herbaceous growth with patches of woody shrub, dead snags, isolated small trees and forested edge. This sighting represents the first confirmed breeding of Golden-winged Warbler in Ohio in more than a decade, although it was a hybridized nest.

Golden-winged Warblers have two song types that have intersexual (mate attraction) and intrasexual (territorial) meaning. Early in the breeding season, males will deliver the Type I song to announce a territorial boundary and its own physi-

cal presence (Highsmith 1989; Confer 1996). This song is phonetically represented by the phrase "beebuzz-buzz-buzz." During confrontational male to male interactions. males will switch to the Type II song, which begins with a few staccato notes (typically 2-3) and ends with a lower-pitched trill. This song is also given for about a half hour before sunrise from the beginning of the breeding season until the young fledge, and it is sung at a rapid rate. After sunrise, the Type I song is given, but at a lower, or intermittent rate. Highsmith (1989) reported observations of the evening Type II song. As the breeding season progresses, the Type I song becomes less frequent as males switch over to the Type II song.

Highsmith (1989) studied the two song types of male Golden-winged Warblers, and he found a correlation between the Type II usage and a female's presence. When a female Golden-winged Warbler is located on a male's territory, there is no effect on the amount of short-duration Type I or Type II song given by the male. However, a female's presence strongly correlates with an abrupt drop in long-duration of the Type I singing activity (Highsmith 1989). If a male Golden-winged paired with a female Blue-winged Warbler (*V. pinus*), the same effect might be expected. The Summit county male never sang the Type I when observed during the evening of June 15 or during four mornings between June 20 and July 1. The male was not observed before sunrise to listen for the Type II song that is typically given during that time period. The fact that the observed Golden-winged did not sing the Type I song, but did sing the Type II suggested that it was nesting in the area.

At about 8:15 A.M. on July 1, the male Golden-winged Warbler was observed feeding a yellowish, warbler-sized fledgling in a scotch pine

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in an area about 200 meters away from where it was originally discovered singing its Type II song. The juvenile was yellowish in appearance, but no distinct plumage characteristics could be further detailed, since the warbler was facing forward. A female Blue-winged Warbler was seen feeding a yellowish juvenile within a few meters from the male Golden-winged. Again, the plumage of the juvenile could not be fully documented. Overall, both the adult and juvenile warblers were flighty and did not stay in one location very long.

Behaviorally, the male Goldenwinged Warbler was consistent in flight direction when it was sighted on its breeding territory (15th, 20th, 24th and 28th of June). It flew away from its preferred song perch and across the trail towards a narrow section of open field wedged between a narrow stand of conifers and a wider mixed deciduous forest. That specific area, as well as contiguous ones, was exhaustively searched for a nest but to no avail. On June 20, the male left its preferred perch and returned fifteen minutes later to forage about 30 meters from its song perch. This was the only time the warbler was observed foraging, and it consumed food that it collected, as opposed to carrying it away for nestlings or its mate. After foraging, it flew away in its typical flight path. The facts that the warbler consistently perched on the same dead tree on multiple days, sang the Type II song and eluded detection during the last two observation days were all indications that the Golden-winged was a nester and not a summer visitor/wanderer. The discovery of the male feeding a fledgling confirmed these field observations.

Acknowledgment: I wish to thank Gabe Leidy for his assistance in nest searching and his help in finding the male Golden-winged Warbler and fledgling. I thank Dr. Ronald A.

Canterbury (Concord University, WV) for inspiring me to annually check Horseshoe Pond for breeding Golden-wingeds and hybrids.

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## HUMMINGBIRD WINDOW COLLISIONS by Cathy Priebe

I am by no means an expert on hummingbird window collisions and I hope I never am. Just the thought of finding an unconscious bird lying on the ground saddens me, let alone a hummer.

I had the misfortune of finding such a hummer mishap below my neighbor's sunroom window. The little guy must have just crashed after being startled by my neighbor coming outside to water her flowers. Luckily, as it turns out for him, I was outside and able to help him recover from his crash.

There are no set-instone first aid methods to help hummer crash victims, although I believe timing is crucial and the sooner you find them the better. In fact, I would estimate that many of them die on impact or lie on the ground and become victims of shock or someone's meal. A few may eventually wake up and fly away, hopefully recovering. My little immature ruby guy was one of the fortunate ones.

I simply picked him up and cupped him lightly in both hands to keep him warm to help prevent him from going into shock. My boy ruby was almost unconscious, his eyes barely open and his breathing somewhat labored. I talked to him softly, words of encouragement, of course, and very delicately stroked the top of his head. I keep flyby feeders, the little tube ones, everywhere in the yard, so I snagged one of those and held it to his beak. I did not have to force feed him. I let him taste a small drop of sugar water and then pulled it back. I did this every few minutes, still keeping him snug and warm in the palm of my hand. Slowly but surely, his eyes fluttered open and his breathing steadied. He started to make small peeping noises and his tongue went after the food a little more frequently. I opened my hand, not holding him anymore, and let him rest there as I fed him.

I really cannot tell you exactly how much time elapsed during this rescue attempt, but I would estimate around 20 minutes, give or take. When he either realized he was not captive or he just finally felt better, he floated out of my hand and into a nearby dogwood tree where he sat for about five minutes before heading for the taller pine trees.



During the time I held him, I was not able to determine for certain if there were any outward physical injuries. They are so tiny. But he sat in my hand and his wings were not drooping or at any awkward angles, so I assumed that those parts were probably OK. Internal injuries are completely out of my realm.

After he flew away, I allowed myself to take some deep breaths and continued my outside chores. A little later, I scoped around the yard to see if he were around. At least four rubies were chasing each other at breakneck speeds. I stepped onto the deck and suddenly a little boy hummer hovered in front of my face for a few seconds and then sped by my head to chase an interloper. It was the crash boy and he seemed fine.

I am happy to report that he is still hummin' around the yard (September 7, 2004) and seems no worse for his window encounter. Hopefully, you will never have this experience, but if you do, maybe this information will help.

## RESCUE

by Paula Lozano & Bob Finkelstein

On our return to Cleveland from Conneaut one day in late August, Paula Lozano suggested that we take a look at a small swampy area adjacent to Conneaut Creek. So after a bit of backtracking, we exited I-90 onto SR-193 and then onto a secondary road. After a couple of minutes, Paula spied a fledgling in the middle of the road. She stopped the car along the roadside, and I hopped out to catch the little bird (By the time Paula stopped we had both identified it as a waxwing). The bird evaded my first attempt to catch it, and as I began to try a second time, Paula and I saw a car approaching the fledgling. I got out of the way, and we both cringed

expecting to see a small spot of feathers where the little waxwing had been. Now, if the car had run over the bird, there would be no story; so everyone knows that didn't happen

Without further ado, I snared the baby waxwing and placed it on a finger. The fledgling had the beginnings of a crest and a yellow terminal band on its short tail. It got a firm grip on my finger, turned its head toward me (more or less) and opened its bill. I felt pretty stupid. Here I was a surrogate parent without the foggiest notion of what is fit fare for a fledgling waxwing. Fortunately, Paula had heard adult Cedar Waxwings calling, and we hoped that one of them was this youngster's real parent. I carried the waxwing to a sapling at the edge of the woods along the roadside and managed to get it to perch on a small branch. We took a few pictures, got back into the car and, hoping that one of the parent waxwings would find and take care of his or her offspring, headed for the small swamp.

The swamp was dry and birdless.



## 2004 PINE WARBLER AND RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH BREEDING SURVEY

by Andy Fondrk and Dan Best

\*Survey was conducted by Russ Young, Carol Skinner and Andy Fondrk

Introduction: This is the third year that the study has been conducted at Headwaters Park in Geauga County. Although Pine Warblers are found throughout the eastern United States, their breeding range is restricted to where suitable coniferous habitat is present. This type of habitat is found along both sides of the lake at the park. The Red-breasted Nuthatch breeds in similar habitat, although Northern Ohio is at the southern end of its breeding range.

Procedure: Suitable Pine Warbler and Red-breasted Nuthatch territories were identified on both sides of the lake. The automobile odometer was used to locate fourteen points on the east side of the lake that seemed to have suitable habitat. At each of these points, Pine Warbler and Red-breasted Nuthatch songs were played. At various points, an Eastern Screech-Owl call was played. Birds seen or heard were recorded. The west side of the lake has two areas of conifer trees, one at each end of the lake. These two areas were surveyed.

Summary: A total of 10 Pine Warblers were found, 8 on the east side and 2 on the west side. This is five more than what was found last year. Most of the warblers were males (8). It is difficult to determine how many females were present since they don't always respond to played songs, but two did show up with males. Again, this year, no Red-breasted Nuthatches were found.

# PROTHONOTARY WARBLER REPORT 2004 by Andy Fondrk and Dan Best

Warbler Numbers: Seventeen adult Prothonotary Warblers occupied a territory along the Cuyahoga River north and south of Russell Park in Geauga County. Over this area, eighteen Metamucil jars were placed in the river, close to shore. The jars are mounted so that they can be raised and lowered to adjust to river conditions. This technique was especially important this year, as several times the jars had to be raised in order to avoid having nests flooded.

#### Pair Makeup and Returning

Warblers: Fourteen of the seventeen warblers occupying the territory were paired and nested. Three male warblers were unable to find females and did not nest. One pair was evicted from one of the jars by wasps and ended up nesting in a nearby natural cavity where they produced three fledglings. Of the 17 resident warblers, 12 were colorbanded adults that had nested here last year. This represented a 70% return rate, which is higher than the average return rate of 57% for the past nine years. Two of the nesting warblers were female sisters that had fledged from the jars last summer. In addition, their mother also returned and nested again. It is interesting to speculate on whether these three traveled and spent the winter together.

#### **Nesting Attempts and Results:**

There were ten nesting attempts in jars that were successful. A total of 41 eggs were laid and these resulted in 29 banded and fledged warblers. The nest in the natural cavity produced six eggs, of which three were banded and fledged. The number of fledged warblers this year was much lower than normal. The three males not being able to find mates might have caused this lower number of fledged birds.

# COMMENTS ON ALDER FLYCATCHERS

by Kevin Metcalf

Here is a compilation of Alder Flycatcher dates and locations from this past summer. In summary, I would guess there were at least 6 territorial male Alders in Geauga Co., maybe 10-12 in Trumbull Co. - that I found - no doubt more out there hidden on private property and out of earshot from the road. There are probably at least twice as many as I was able to find. I did not even try to survey Ashtabula, and I am sure quite a few are in Summit and Portage.

The late May and even early June singing birds may have been migrants, but if I heard them on more than one date at the same location I figure they were on territory. I found, however, that the local birds are probably most vocal when the migrants are coming through; and once the females are on eggs, the males don't sing much, so it is a tough bird to census.



#### **GEAUGA COUNTY**

**Burton Township:** 1 singing male; Rapids Road; about 150 yards. east side of road, about 1 mile south of SR-87; brushy wet woods near small wetland; May 31.

Auburn Township: 1 singing male; north of (& moved south of) Bartholomew Road 50 yards. east of Munn Road; shrubby wetland; May 30; June 17.

- 1 singing male; south of Bartholomew Road 100 yards. west of Munn Road; shrubby wetland; May 30; not heard June 17.
- **Hambden Township:** 1 singing male; Hambden Orchard SWA; shrubby old field; May 22.
- 1 singing male; Hambden Orchard SWA; wet thicket near pond; May 22.
- **Newbury Township:** 1 singing male; west side Munn Road .6 mile south of Music St.; June 17.
- 1 singing male; south of Music St. .6 mile east of Munn Road; June 17.
- Thompson Township: 1 singing male; Thompson Road .1 mile west of Leroy Center Road near Geauga-Lake Co. line; old field; June 9; June 12.
- Troy Township: 1 singing male; Stafford Road .25 mile east of Snow Road; shrubby old field near wetland; May 19; June 15; (this or another) - moved to .6 mile east of Snow Road.
- 1 singing male; Rapids Road; west side, north of Stafford; shrubby old field; May 30.
- 1 singing male; Rapids Road; Eldon Russell Park south of entrance; shrubby old field; May 30; June 11; June 15; June 20; singing about once every 6 seconds, no evidence of female in territory - the persistent singing by this bird may have indicated that it was unmated.

#### **LAKE COUNTY**

Willoughby Hills: 1 singing male; Chagrin River Road just north of N. Chagrin's Squire's Castle; old field with dense growth; June 10 (probably late migrant).

## WETLAND BREEDING BIRD SURVEY IN CVNP

by Nancy Howell

In 1991 a call was put forth by Brad Andres, then of the Ohio Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, for volunteers to participate in an Ohio wetland breeding bird survey. The Cuyahoga Valley

			Nur	mbers (	of Bird	Specie	s Coun	ted at	Wetlar	nd				
Species (a) Canada Goose Wood Duck Mallard	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995 8	1996	1997 19 2 2	1998 2	1999	2000b 61 9	2001 5 2	2002	2003	2004
Pied-billed Grebe* Great Blue Heron* Green Heron*		1	6	2	5	3	2	1	2	1	2	4	'	1(e)
Cooper's Hawk Virginia Rail* Sora*					2	1	1 1					1(d)		1
Spotted Sandpiper* Ring-billed Gull* Belted Kingfisher									1				2	
Willow Flycatcher* American Crow Tree Swallow*	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			2
Marsh Wren* European Starling Yellow Warbler		·					2		2	,	1			2 22 1
C. Yellowthroat Swamp Sparrow* Rw Blackbird Common Grackle Bheaded Cowbird	1		1	2	2	2	4	1		1	2	1 23	1 1 13 1	1 57 36 2

- (a) Species marked with \* were among the targeted species from 1991-2001. Starting 2002, all species were counted.
- (b) By now, wetland mitigation had modified this marsh, deepening the wetland area creating ponds and open water. Shallow marsh with vegetation was still present.
- (d) Freshly dead bird picked up along Brookside Rd. Tape playing to detect bird may have led to its demise.
- (e) Heard calling after the time officially designated for the point count was over

National Recreation Area, now the CVNP, was included as having wetlands needing to be surveyed. Volunteers collecting the data were trained as to the procedures used for the survey. I have been and continue to be the only volunteer in the CVNP participating in this survey.

The surveys in the CVNP were begun in 1991. Initially, only four wetland points were listed to be surveyed. Over the years, more points were added but these still inadequately surveyed the park, since the points were generally monitored from roadsides. The wetlands of the CVNP are not always accessible by way of roads. In addition, beaver activity, human activity and river flooding continually change and reshape the wetlands. Some wetlands originally surveyed in 1991 have remained unchanged; others are either non-existent or have increased in size and scope.

The information presented here covers one point of the survey located in Independence, OH. The wetland boundaries are Pleasant Valley Rd. to the north, Brookside Road to the

west and Riverview Road to the south. The Cuyahoga Valley Railroad line is to the east, as is the Cuyahoga River. This floodplain area changes as the river floods and with precipitation received.

For the survey, only certain wetland species were targeted from 1991 to 2001 (see table), but beginning in 2002 All bird species seen/heard in the point range within the count time were to be recorded. A general description as to the type of habitat according to count guidelines, whether it is open water, shallow marsh, etc. was also noted. This particular wetland is considered a "shallow/deep marsh - standing water vegetated by cattails, rushes, grasses or sedges." In 2002 a more detailed description of each point was requested, adding a GPS reading of latitude/longitude, details of vegetation percentages, percent of open water and whether any human activity was nearby.

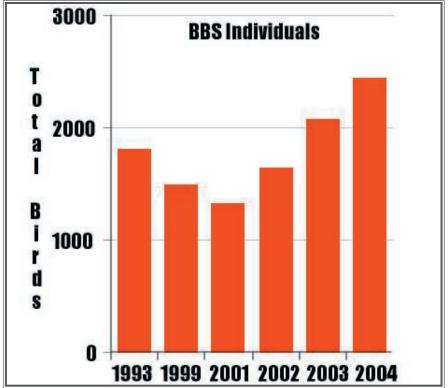
The accompanying table shows the species of birds as well as the numbers seen/heard during the point count from 1991 through 2004. The

counts were conducted between the last week in May and the first week in June, usually from 6-6:30 am. There was only one visit to the point each year.

## Ravenna Training and Logistics Site (RTLS) Breeding Bird Route Summary 2004 by Larry Rosche

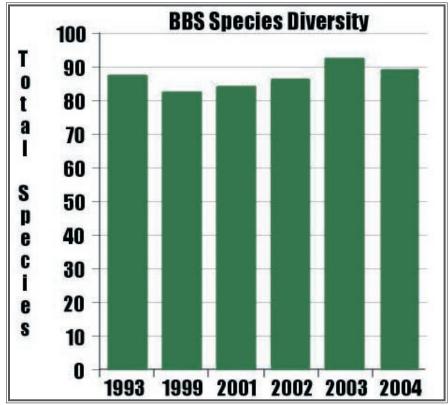
Method: The method for performing the breeding bird routes remains the same as it was when initiated in 1993. Each stop is approximately .4 miles apart and at each stop all birds seen or heard are counted for a five minute period. This technique essentially combines standard point count and transect censusing strategies.

Results: The 89 species found in 2004 were slightly above average (2.69%) in species diversity. The 2,428 birds censused was considerably higher (35.62%) in total recorded individuals. New species



recorded for the BBS routes at the RTLS include Ruffed Grouse (Bonasa umbellus) and Spotted Sandpiper (Actitis macularia). Another hybrid species, "Lawrence's" Warbler ("Vermivora lawrencii"), was seen along Greenleaf Road south of Sand

Creek. This exceptional find further indicates the presence of the endangered Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*) as a breeding bird at the Ravenna site. The Ohio endangered species, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) was



observed in dead snags adjacent to the bridge over Hinkley Creek along South Patrol Road.

Summary: After six years of studying and reflecting on the data presented, observers feel that the timing of routes is very important for those routes that pass through the wooded areas of the Ravenna site. Conflicts of schedules and necessity of a government vehicle to enter certain sectors of the Ravenna site may account for the decrease in species per stop on the Smalley, North Fence Line and Greenleaf Road routes. Perhaps the 8-9% decrease in species per stop on these routes is normal, but seeing it in the final data report did make an impact on this observer. The reverse could be said for the Tanks route (initiated in 2002 to include grassland species). The Tanks route was a pleasant surprise, and the increase of nearly 12% in species per stop seemed to reflect the lateness of this survey and perhaps gave a better indication of the actual usage of the training and target areas by grassland species. The charts that follow seem to indicate a sinusoidal pattern that reflects normal increases and decreases over a 12-year span. Further surveys will continue to add to the trend lines for species diversity and total birds.

Acknowledgment: I thank Ms. Kimberly Ludt for her diligent assistance in the field and for providing archival data from previous Ravenna Training and Logistics Site Breeding Bird Surveys.

## tseLICT AT BATH NATURE PRESERVE

by Jennifer Brumfield

tseLICT.....tseLICT

I'm standing on an old gravel road on a gently rolling grassland hill. Puffy cumulus clouds dot an otherwise clean blue August sky. Small

family groups of Eastern Kingbirds are actively flycatching and lounging in the sun - sharing shrub space with clusters of Field and Song Sparrows, yellowthroats, and catbirds.

#### tseLICT.....tseLICT

There it is again - that lame excuse for a bird song. A nearly one-syllable, grasshopper-like 'hiss'. I hear the 'song' and hurriedly stumble along the road towards its unseen composer. At least, I THINK I'm moving towards it.

#### tseLICT!

I HAVE to be close! I scan the tops of shrubs, grasses and clumped flower heads for the olive-brown figure of my quarry. It sings again and I seriously question my observation skills. It seems that I've wandered nearly on top of the bird and still cannot locate him. I scan again and again. Alas, I cannot find the musician. I could call it quits, divert my attention towards other birdlife and label the sparrow as 'heard only' - but I must prevail, for I'm on the trail of my first Summit County Henslow's Sparrow.

#### TSELICT!

I walk ever so stealthily towards the sound - and all at once, several yards away, a small sparrow erupts from the grass, sputters low over the field and quickly disappears again. Typical look at a Henslow's Sparrow: on the retreat! But I wasn't satisfied. After more cat-and-mouse games and fruitless minutes of standing in bewilderment at the sparrow's ability to throw its voice, I finally catch sight of the little trick-ster.

There he was, 'Teed up' on the head of a Joe Pye-Weed plant, I could study him at length. Washed in brown, buff and olive hues, I noticed his large bill, proportionately large and flat head and short, spiky tail. Mugshot views revealed the classic necklace of fine streaking across the bird's breast. I was amazed at how distant he sounded as he sang. No wonder I was troubled in locating him! I felt almost sorry for the chap, for as he sang he whipped his head to the sky and snapped open his bill. He exerted quite a ridiculous amount of effort in doing this and produced only a horribly weak 'lisp'.

My study lasted several minutes and then I and the Henslow's went our separate ways. Every now and then I tuned in on more insect-like 'spits' from the sparrow. In fact, I managed to locate three separate birds, each providing brief but splendid examinations of this member of *Ammodramus*.

This summer an impressive total of 5 singing Henslow's Sparrows resided amidst the wet pastures of the 404-acre Bath Nature Preserve (Pierce, et al.). I was fortunate to locate 3 of these fine individuals on August 7, 2004. This diverse parcel of land, purchased in 1997 and 1998, allows the birder and nature enthusiast to experience several vital and diverse environments that are declining rapidly in Summit County. This field naturalist is very delighted to see Bath Township and the University of Akron's cooperative conservation tactics in safeguarding this sensitive land. A hike and bike trail, completed in July 2001, pro-

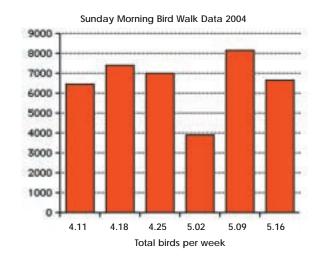


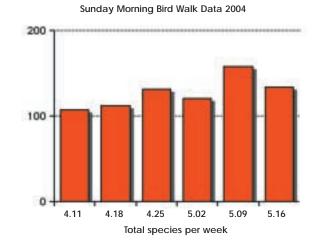
vides a route for educational observation of the wetlands, woodlands, prairie/scrub, and wetland meadow habitats indicative of this important preserve.

It is the actively-managed old-field prairie and wetland meadows that have drawn residents such as Henslow's, Song, and Field Sparrows, Bobolinks, Eastern Meadowlark, Eastern Kingbird, Eastern Bluebird, Gray Catbird and Common Yellowthroat. The scrubby woodland edges have produced gems such as Yellow-breasted Chat and Orchard Oriole. Though expected to be found as well, Indigo Buntings, Least and Willow Flycatchers, Eastern Towhee and Yellow and Blue-winged Warblers will delight birders too. Notable is the regular occurrence of Brown Thrasher and American Kestrel two species that are locally scarce. Indicative of this exceptional habitat was a Northern Shrike that wintered at this locale in 2003. Also encouraging is the presence of Red-headed (continued on p. 33)

Species   411   4,18   4,25   502   509   5,16   1088   Species   4,11   4,18   4,25   502   509   5,16   1088   Common Loon   10   1   1   1   1   1   1   1   1	Spring 2004 Sunday Morning Birdwalk Tallies															
Section   Sect	Species	A 11	<i>I</i> 18						_			4 25	5.02	5.09	5 16	Total
Common Loon   10   10   10   10   10   10   10   1	I <b>I</b> '	4.11	4.10		5.02	3.07	5.10		•	4.11			5.02			
Piedeo   Decomposition   Program		12	19								7	4				
American Sittem   1					3	1	2			29	43	31	15			
Least Bitter	Double-crested C.	76					15	562	Red-headed Woodpecker							
Carall Egref   9	I <b>I</b>		1	3	1	1										
Greek Egycl 1 6 4 2 5 1 1 19 Harry Woodpecker 9 20 8 4 1 22 20 73 1 1		205	222	275	00	1/5			•							
Cattle Figer	I <b>I</b>															
Green Files		'	U	4		3	'									
Indicate   March   M	9		3	17		16	18									
Canada Goose   392   437   317   278   316   337   278   316   337   278   316   337   278   316   337   337   338   338   328   348   3	Black-crowned NH	1	1					2	Olive-sided flycatcher					1		
Mote Swen	7													-	27	
Mood Duck	I <b>I</b>		437		2/8	316	337					1		3	1.4	
Cardwall   4	I <b>I</b>		153		67	114	81					1		1		
American Wigners 4 8 8 6 7 18 194 99 86 173 114 35 Great Create Hybridge Hy			100	100	07	117	01						1	-		
Mallard   151   134   99   86   173   114   757   Eastern Kingstard	I <b>I</b>	4	8	6					3	33	39	24	17			
Buse-Minged feat    8	I <b>I</b>							35								
Nothern Shrowlets						173	114		Ü							
Northern Pintall   2			9	4	1						1	4		-		
Common Georgy		2	2								3	0				
Rang neckéd Duck 20 2 2 1 1 23 Philadelphia Virse	I <b>I</b>		2				0				3					
Iesses Scaup*   40		20	2		1		Ü					.0				
Buffleheard   21   13   3	Greater Scaup		2	2				4	Red-eyed Vireo			1	3	89	114	207
Common Goldeneye   3	· '								3							
Hooded Merganser			13	3						107	109		86		99	
Common Merganser			1	1		10			•	256	402		152		260	
Red-breasted Merg. 111 1 000 94 25 14 34 Bank Swallow 7 7 5 3 3 3 7 25 Caprey 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 2 2 8 Bank Swallow 3 7 27 7 9 51 95 195 195 195 195 195 195 195 195		0	4	4		10										
Ruddy Duck		111	100	94	25	14			9 9	17						
Baid Eagle		2	23	3				28	Barn Swallow	3	7	27	9	51	95	
Northern Harrier																
Sharp-shinned Hawk   2		1			1											
Cooper's Hawk   3   10   2   3   3   3   2   23   Brown Creeper   21   13   4   2   5   4   49   Northern Goshawk	I <b>I</b>	2	•				2									
Northern Goshawk	III '				3											
Reds-houldered H.		3	10	_	3	3	_									
Red-Lailed Hawk	I <b>I</b>	5	13	5	2	8	5									
Rough-legged Hawk								55		10	3					
American Kestrel	I <b>I</b>	10	20	9	4	10					_		_	1		
Merlin		1	2			1	-							45	2	
Peregrine Falcon				1		'	'									
Ring-necked Ph.							0									
Wild Turkey   5		1	2	1	2	1	1		Veery				4	13		
Virginia Rail																
Soria		5	2	3	4	1	4			0	0	0.0				
Common Moorhen	9						1			2	8				-	
American Coot					'	1	1			329	321					
Black-bellied Plover   1		12	10			-				027						
Greater Yellowlegs	I <b>I</b>									4						
Lesser Yellowlegs	I <b>I</b>	12	31		7	13	20									
Solitary Sandpiper				1		,				359	253		84		188	
Spotted Sandpiper   2   29   7   26   25   89   Blue-winged Warbler   7   16   20   43			2	10	ρ				·	1	1	1			21	
Dunlin							25			I	ı		7			
Common Snipe			_		,	20	20						,		20	
Bonaparte's Gull   15	I <b>I</b>	4							Tennessee Warbler						13	
Ring-billed Gull       42       112       97       44       115       83       493       Northern Parula       1       2       12       6       21         California Gull       53       53       53       56       15       24       24       225       Chestnut-sided Warbler       1       8       47       207       178       441         Great Black-b. Gull       1       1       1       2       3       8       Magnolia Warbler       1       49       36       86         Great Black-b. Gull       1       1       1       2       3       8       Magnolia Warbler       1       47       34       82         Caspian Tern       3       11       10       12       41       12       89       Cape May Warbler       1       1       47       34       82         Caspian Tern       3       11       10       12       41       12       89       Cape May Warbler       2       1       19       4       24         Cosmon Tern       2       4       3       9       Yellow-rumped Warbler       12       115       339       150       197       16       829	I <b>I</b>					1										
California Gull         53         53         56         15         24         24         225         Chestnut-sided Warbler         1         8         47         207         178         441           Herring Gull         53         53         56         15         24         24         225         Chestnut-sided Warbler         1         49         36         86           Great Black-b. Gull         1         1         1         2         3         8         Magnolia Warbler         1         47         34         82           Caspian Tern         3         11         10         12         41         12         89         Cape May Warbler         1         1         47         34         82           Common Tern         2         4         3         9         Yellow-trumped Warbler         12         115         339         150         197         16         829           Rock Pigeon         44         41         31         9         23         35         183         Black-throated Green W.         11         4         15         56         8         94           Mourning Dove         132         130         96						445	00									
Herring Gull       53       53       56       15       24       24       225       Chestnut-sided Warbler       1       49       36       86         Great Black-b. Gull       1       1       1       2       3       8       Magnolia Warbler       1       47       34       82         Caspian Tern       3       11       10       12       41       12       89       Cape May Warbler       1       1       47       34       82         Common Tern       0       0       Black-throated Blue W.       1       19       4       24         Forster's Tern       2       4       3       9       Yellow-rumped Warbler       12       115       339       150       197       16       829         Rock Pigeon       44       41       31       9       23       35       183       Black-throated Green W.       11       4       15       56       8       94         Mourning Dove       132       130       96       43       73       94       568       Blackburnian Warbler       1       1       2       7       8       18         Black-billed Cuckoo       1       1       1		42	112	9/	44	115	83				1					
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Caspian Tern       3       11       10       12       41       12       89       Cape May Warbler       1       1       3       4         Common Tern       0       0       Black-throated Blue W.       1       19       4       24         Forster's Tern       2       4       3       9       Yellow-rumped Warbler       12       115       339       150       197       16       829         Rock Pigeon       44       41       31       9       23       35       183       Black-throated Green W.       11       4       15       56       8       94         Mourning Dove       132       130       96       43       73       94       568       Blackburnian Warbler       1       1       2       7       8       18         Black-billed Cuckoo       1       2       2       Yellow-throated Warbler       1       8       7       3       2       4       25         Yellow-billed Cuckoo       1       1       1       2       5       Palm Warbler       1       7       64       85       84       5       246         Great Horned Owl       2       2       1 <t< td=""><td></td><td></td><td>55</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></t<>			55													
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Rock Pigeon       44       41       31       9       23       35       183       Black-throated Green W.       11       4       15       56       8       94         Mourning Dove       132       130       96       43       73       94       568       Blackburnian Warbler       1       1       2       7       8       18         Black-billed Cuckoo       2       2       Yellow-throated Warbler       1       8       7       3       2       4       25         Yellow-billed Cuckoo       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       1       2       5       1       1       1       2       2       1       3       3       2       4       25       2       1       3       3       2       4       25       3       3       4       2       1       3       3       4       3       5       2       4       3       3       4       3       3       4       3       3       3       3       3       4       3       3       3       3       3       3       3       3       4       3       3       3       3																
Mourning Dove       132       130       96       43       73       94       568       Blackburnian Warbler       1       2       7       8       18         Black-billed Cuckoo       2       2       Yellow-throated Warbler       1       8       7       3       2       4       25         Yellow-billed Cuckoo       1       1       Pine Warbler       19       12       2       1       34         Eastern Screech-Owl       1       1       2       5       Palm Warbler       1       7       64       85       84       5       246         Great Horned Owl       2       1       4       3       1       2       11       Blackpoll Warbler       9       9       18         Barred Owl       1       4       3       1       2       11       Blackpoll Warbler       1       2       1       24       25					_				•	12						
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Yellow-billed Cuckoo       1       1       Pine Warbler       19       12       2       1       34         Eastern Screech-Owl       1       1       1       2       5       Palm Warbler       1       7       64       85       84       5       246         Great Horned Owl       2       1       3       Bay-breasted Warbler       9       9       18         Barred Owl       1       4       3       1       2       11       Blackpoll Warbler       1       24       25		132	130	90	43	13				1	Ω					
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Great Horned Owl         2         1         3         Bay-breasted Warbler         9         9         18           Barred Owl         1         4         3         1         2         11         Blackpoll Warbler         1         24         25		1				1	2			1			85			
'	Great Horned Owl													,	-	18
Long-eared Owl 1 1 Cerulean Warbler 1 6 30 34 71	I∎	1			3	1	2		•							
	Long-eared Owl			1				1	Cerulean Warbler			1	6	30	34	71

Black-and-white Warbler							
American Redstart							
Prothonotary Warbler							
Worm-eating Warbler		1	4	4	27	9	45
Ovenbird		'	4	4	30	62	92
Northern Waterthrush			1	7	6	9	23
Louisiana Waterthrush			į	/	1	9	
Kentucky Warbler				9	34	12	1 55
Connecticut Warbler			3	2	34 12	2	19
Mourning Warbler	2	7	5 5	7	6	4	31
Common Yellowthroat	2	/	3	/	O	1	1
Hooded Warbler					1	ı	1
Wilson's Warbler					1	1	2
Canada Warbler			3	10	67	80	160
Yellow-breasted Chat			2	4	29	26	61
Scarlet Tanager			2	4	29 8	4	12
Eastern Towhee					4	5	9
American Tree Sparrow					4 1	3	1
Chipping Sparrow				8	56	41	105
Clay-colored sparrow	13	30	34	o 17	24	13	131
Field Sparrow	13 17	30	34	17	24 8	13	25
Vesper Sparrow	11	87	142	49	84	91	464
Savannah Sparrow	11	07	142	49	1	91	1
Fox Sparrow	20	36	41	17	37	21	172
Song Sparrow	20	1	2	17	2	2.1	8
Lincoln's Sparrow	3	2	4	'	4	5	18
Swamp Sparrow	3	2	4		4	J	3
White-throated Sparrow	140	161	162	83	151	120	817
White-crowned Sparrow	2	101	102	1	3	120	7
Dark-eyed Junco	7	12	10	7	11	4	51
Northern Cardinal	39	50	146	169	55	4	463
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1	3	3	20	89	4	116
Indigo Bunting	52	18	10	4	6	2	92
Bobolink	210	247	240	134	186	175	1192
Red-winged Blackbird	210	277	3	19	104	48	174
Eastern Meadowlark			3	5	22	45	72
Rusty Blackbird				4	3	61	68
Common Grackle	1046	720	624	375	492	413	3670
Brown-headed Cowbird	1040	35	29	8	12	27	121
Orchard Oriole	47	85	84	1	12	21	217
Baltimore Oriole	211	260	248	121	241	187	1268
Purple Finch	267	267	289	107	96	115	1141
House Finch	201	201	207	3	14	14	31
Pine Siskin			1	41	436	204	682
American Goldfinch	1	12	17	2	1	5	38
Evening Grosbeak	36	42	37	26	31	44	216
House sparrow	2	2	3	20	51	77	7
I	375	309	435	230	403	308	2060
193 species reported	20	307	733	230	400	300	2000
Ken Gober – compiler	98	65	76	54	71	92	456
l	,0	00	, 0	0 1	, ,	12	100
I							





The Cleveland Bird Calendar is proud to be able to provide the Sunday Morning Birdwalk data to the general birding public. The tedious task of sorting through each list turned in by the many leaders is not a simple task. These data are extremely useful in the documentation of the migrants passing through the region each spring. We are deeply indebted to Ken Gober for taking the time to put together this remarkable compilation.

 $\Box$ 

(from p. 31)
Woodpecker and Prothonotary
Warbler within the dead tree-laden
marsh adjoining the preserve.

The author anticipates the repeated occurrence of Henslow's Sparrow at this location. 'TseLICT' was my 96th recorded species at this locale - and you can be sure I'll soon return in search of my 97th. Perhaps we'll even cross trails!

Note: Regular summer censusing of Bath Nature Preserve enabled Ed Pierce to report his finding of a maximum of 5 territorial Henslow's Sparrows throughout the summer of 2004.

27th GREATER AKI	RON	AUDUBON SOCIETY S	UMM	IIT COUNTY BIRD CC	UNT
Common Loon	1	Pileated Woodpecker	30	Parula Warbler	2
Pied-billed Grebe	1	Eastern Wood Pewee	142	Yellow Warbler	490
Double-crested Cormorant	22	Acadian Flycatcher	94	Chestnut-sided Warbler	9
Great Blue Heron+	502	Alder Flycatcher	6	Black-throated Green Warbler	6
Green Heron	51	Willow Flycatcher	85	Prairie Warbler	1
Mute Swan (9 yng)*	28	Least Flycatcher	1	Yellow-throated Warbler	7
Canada Goose	1300	Eastern Phoebe+	111	Pine Warbler	6
Wood Duck	91	Great Crested Flycatcher	87	Prothonotary Warbler	5
Mallard	738	Eastern Kingbird	73	Cerulean Warbler	29
Ring-necked Duck	1	Horned Lark	4	Black & White Warbler	1
Turkey Vulture+	196	Purple Martin	142	American Redstart	40
Osprey+	12	Tree Swallow	287	Ovenbird	36
Northern Harrier (family)	3	N. Rough-winged Swallow+	214	Louisiana Waterthrush	6
Sharp-shinned Hawk	6	Bank Swallow	162	Mourning Warbler	2
Cooper's Hawk+	31	Barn Swallow	290	Kentucky Warbler	2
Red-shouldered Hawk	28	Blue Jay	625	Common Yellowthroat	291
Broad-winged Hawk	5	American Crow	424	Hooded Warbler	113
Red-tailed Hawk	84	Black-capped Chickadee	441	Yellow-breasted Chat	6
American Kestrel	10	Tufted Titmouse	206	Scarlet Tanager+	143
Peregrine Falcon	3	White-breasted Nuthatch	131	Northern Cardinal+	1059
Wild Turkey	39	Red-breasted Nuthatch	9	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	176
Virginia Rail	4	Brown Creeper	4	Indigo Bunting+	372
Sora	3	House Wren	232	Eastern Towhee	179
Killdeer	186	Winter Wren	1	Chipping Sparrow	378
Spotted Sandpiper	22	Sedge Wren	2	Field Sparrow	151
American Woodcock	2	Marsh Wren	7	Savannah Sparrow	79
Ring-billed Gull	77	Carolina Wren	69	Grasshopper Sparrow	6
Herring Gull	7	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	59	Henslow's Sparrow	1
Rock Pigeon	359	Eastern Bluebird+	140	Song Sparrow	858
Mourning Dove+	932	Veery	33	Swamp Sparrow	59
Black-billed Cuckoo	4	Hermit Thrush	1	Bobolink	158
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	11	Wood Thrush	133	Red-winged Blackbird	1473
Eastern Screech-Owl	4	American Robin	2329	Western Meadowlark	1
Great-horned Owl	5	Gray Catbird+	773	Eastern Meadowlark	57
Barred Owl (2 yng)*	10	Brown Thrasher	17	Common Grackle	1375
Common Nighthawk	5	Cedar Waxwing	588	Brown-headed Cowbird	425
Chimney Swift+	652	European Starling+	3739	Orchard Oriole+	34
Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	80	White-eyed Vireo+	20	Baltimore Oriole	241
Belted Kingfisher	38	Blue-headed Vireo	13	Purple Finch	11
Red-headed Woodpecker	9	Yellow-throated Vireo	23	House Finch	434
Red-bellied Woodpecker+	235	Warbling Vireo	105	American Goldfinch+	1222
Downy Woodpecker	241	Red-eyed Vireo	294	House Sparrow	1550
Hairy Woodpecker	67	Blue-winged Warbler+	103	+ record high for that species	
Northern Flicker	143	Golden-winged Warbler	1	*young included in count	

Total Species: 130 Total Birds: 30,007 Party Hours: 315 + 5 owling

During the census four inches of rain fell on portions of Summit County and temperatures were slightly below average. Most precipitation occurred in the late afternoons with little impact on morning counts. Perhaps a large crop of aerial insects accounted for the highest numbers ever for Chimney Swifts, Northern Rough-winged Swallows, Eastern Phoebes and Eastern Bluebirds. Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were the highest ever, partially because of feeder watchers. Field and edge birds continued to increase with high numbers of Blue-winged Warblers, Gray Catbirds, Northern Cardinals, Indigo Buntings and American Goldfinches. Cedar Waxwings seemed to be everywhere and starlings were almost double their recent census numbers. Where grassland habitat is being preserved, Bobolinks, Eastern Meadowlarks and Savannah Sparrows, as well as the select Grasshopper and Henslow's Sparrows, were found. The count of American Crows was still down. The Sedge Wrens and Western Meadowlark were found at the PPG Lime Lake #4 area which was censused for the first time in years. The Western Meadowlark brought the total count for the 27 years to 179 summering species.



Ann Chasar and Doug Vogus

## The Cleveland Bird Calendar



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