



# THE KIRTLAND WARBLER

Quarterly Newsletter of the Kirtland Bird Club, Cleveland, Ohio

[www.KirtlandBirdClub.org](http://www.KirtlandBirdClub.org) and [www.ClevelandBirdCalendar.com](http://www.ClevelandBirdCalendar.com)

2018–2019 Membership Year, No. 3, Spring Issue

## Monthly Meetings

Guests are always welcome — Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of every month except July and August, 7:30 PM

**Wednesday March 6, 2019**

## Our Ohio Peregrines: Provocative and Personal Glimpses

Presented by Chad and Chris Saladin



Our talk will delve into the dramatic lives, personalities, and behaviors of peregrine falcons as experienced and captured through our personal lenses (both literally and metaphorically). Utilizing a Power Point slide presentation of our photos depicting the courtship, breeding, nesting, and fledging phases of this remarkable bird of prey, we will share our experiences with individuals, pairs, and families that we've watched in awe over the years.

Chad and Chris Saladin are a husband and wife “team” of nature enthusiasts and peregrine falcon fanatics. Starting as peregrine falcon nest monitors for the Ohio Division of Wildlife in the late 1990s (when peregrines were listed as “endangered” status), Chad and Chris have been involved in monitoring/tracking, rescuing, and assisting in rehabilitation efforts on the behalf of peregrine falcons. With the peregrine population now stabilized they have maintained their passion to obsessively watch, study, and photograph these marvels of nature and to share their experiences with others, particularly via their Facebook page at “C&C’s Ohio Peregrine Page”.

*The Kirtland Warbler*, the newsletter of the Kirtland Bird Club (KBC), Cleveland Ohio, is published quarterly.

It contains KBC meeting and trip information, web site updates, other events and programs of interest, as well as issues of local concern. A subscription to *The Kirtland Warbler* is a benefit of club membership.

Your contributions of articles, event information, photos, and drawings are always welcome.

Please send submissions to the president Dale Gaul or to [info@kirtlandbirdclub.org](mailto:info@kirtlandbirdclub.org).

## Monthly meetings

**Wednesday April 3, 2019**

### **Trumpeter Swan Species Survival Plan and Waterfowl Conservation**



**Presented by Tiffany Mayo**

Tiffany has worked as an Animal Keeper at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo for over sixteen years and she is currently the Lead Keeper of the Hospital/Commissary area of the Zoo. She is also Coordinator of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) Species Survival Plan (SSP) and Studbook Keeper for trumpeter swans. This means that Tiffany helps manage the zoological population of trumpeter swans in North America. It is her job to make sure we have a sustainable, genetically diverse zoological population of swans. Her other job as SSP Coordinator is to coordinate the participation of zoos with different trumpeter swan restoration programs and promote conservation efforts that Zoos are involved in.

**Wednesday May 1, 2019**

### **Warbler Warm-up**

**Presented by Matt Valencic & Kelly Kozlowski**



Warbler warm-up gets birders visually ready for migration by looking at 162 photographs of warblers in a variety of postures and habitats. Review the field marks by looking at several examples on the same slide (e.g., eyebrows, eye rings, wing bars, etc). Group some by color, others by behavior and still others by habitat. Finish with a review of NE Ohio common breeding warblers and then the others that just “pass through” on their way north. (Continued on the next page)



## Monthly meetings (continuation)



### Supercillium

(Palm, Blackburnian female, Prairie, N. Waterthrush, Black-throated blue female)

Matt Valencic is a birder and bird photographer and a member of the Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland. He has been taking pictures for 10 years and uses them to educate and entertain various groups throughout NE Ohio. Kelly Kozlowski is also a birder and photographer, with a special gift for hearing and identifying bird songs. They thoroughly enjoy presenting this program together.

## Events

### **SHREVE MIGRATION SENSATION**

**Saturday, March 30 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m**

**Location:** Shreve United Methodist Church, 430 North Main St. (State Route 226), Shreve, Ohio 44676, **Leader: Self-guided**



Activities and talks will be at the Shreve United Methodist Church, 430 North Main St. (State Route 226), Shreve, Ohio 44676, throughout the day. Family friendly programs will be held at Whispering Hills Jellystone Camp-Resort, 81881 St Rt 514, a new help station on Cemetery Road and at the nearby Killbuck Marsh.

**Description:** This peak spring bird migration event includes self-guided tours with experts located at help stations throughout the Killbuck Wildlife Area, which covers over 5,600 acres and is Ohio's largest wetlands complex. Enjoy a full day of "sensational" family-friendly activities in addition to six workshops offered by well-known experts in their fields. Admission is \$15 individual and \$20 per family and

includes all events and workshops. There is no fee to explore the wildlife area on your own or in groups of people.

**Directions:** Shreve is located on State Route 226, south of Wooster. Arteries that lead into Wooster are State Routes 83, 30, and 250. From Wooster, take State Route 3 south and bear left on State Route 226.

## Upcoming fieldtrips

### *Early spring on Sandy Ridge*

**Sandy Ridge Reservation. Saturday, March 23, 9:00 am**

6195 Otten Rd, North Ridgeville, OH 44039

**Leaders:** Paula Lozano, Anna Kozlenko.



Photo: Anna Kozlenko

Sandy Ridge is a 310 acre wetland and wildlife preserve, divided almost equally between forest, meadow and marsh. A favorite of naturalists and bird watchers, Sandy Ridge has over 100 bird species on its breeding list and is rich in other wildlife as well.

**Target species:** waterfowl, shorebirds, cranes, egrets, bald eagles.

**Directions:** From the Greater Cleveland area, take I-90 to the Rt. 254 exit, left on Rt. 254 to Rt. 301, right on Rt. 301 past Lorain Community College, left on Burns Rd., right on Case Rd., left on Otten Rd. to Sandy Ridge. Or take I-480 to Clague Road, turn right or north on Clague to Center Ridge Road (Rt. 20), turn left or west on Center Ridge to Case Rd., turn right on Case Rd., right on Otten Rd. to Sandy Ridge.

### *Migrants on Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve*

**Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve. Saturday, April 20, 2019, 8:00 am**

8701 Lakeshore Blvd, Cleveland, OH 44108

**Leaders:** Dr. Andy Jones, Courtney Brennan

**Description:** The 88 acres now known as the Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve began life in 1979 as a dredge impoundment to contain spoils excavated from the Cuyahoga River. About 280 species of birds have been recorded to date, and spring and fall migration can bring spectacular fallouts of birds.

**Directions:** Take I-90 East to the University Circle/Martin Luther King Jr Drive exit (#177) and turn left (north) onto Martin Luther King Jr Drive. Go under the I-90 overpass and immediately turn left (west) onto the North Marginal. We will meet in the parking lot near Metropark's office building



Thanks to members of the *Kirtland Warbler*  
Committee who reviewed and edited this issue:  
Ann and Dwight Chasar and Paula Lozano.

## Upcoming fieldtrips (continuation)

### *Late migrants and other birds in Bedford Reservation*

**Bedford reservation, Hemlock Creek Picnic Area. Sunday, May 19, 7:30am – 12:00pm**

Gorge Pkwy, Bedford, OH 44146,

**Leader:** Fred Losi



**Description:** It will be the last of the spring Sunday walks series. We will see late migrants and nesting species, also some spring wildflowers still will be blooming.

**Directions:** From Cleveland east side, travel on 480 west and take exit 21 at E98/Transportation Blvd, turn left onto E98/transportation Blvd. After 0.25 miles turn left on Antenucci Blvd. **Then continue following directions below**

From Cleveland west side, travel on 480 east and take exit 21 at E98/Transportation Blvd. Continue straight from the exit onto Antenucci Blvd. After 0.75 miles

turn right onto Turney Rd. After 2 miles, turn right onto Dunham Rd. After 1.5 miles at bottom of big hill, turn left onto Button Rd (opposite Tinkers Creek Road)  
Park 0.25 miles after crossing bridge over Hemlock Creek

## Results of the Cleveland Christmas Bird Count

**By Dr. Andy Jones**

This season's Cleveland Christmas Bird Count (CBC) was held on December 22nd, 2018. Seventy-four birders were in the field plus another three feeder watchers submitted data for the day. The count day was cloudy and breezy, with scattered flurries in the afternoon. The temperature hovered right around freezing all day, and most water was open. The CBC's 15 mile diameter circle covers the east side of Cleveland, and includes popular birding sites like Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve, Lake View Cemetery, Shaker Lakes, and North Chagrin Reservation, as well as under-birded areas like Hach-Otis State Nature Preserve and the Acacia Reservation in Beachwood. This CBC circle is supported by the Kirtland Bird Club and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

Cleveland CBC observers reported a total of 69 species, below the 50-year average of 76 species. Late fall and winter started out cold, with below average temperatures dominating October and November. December, however, was well above average. The warm temperatures meant that water bodies were not frozen in our area and apparently remained unfrozen to the north of us, leading to very poor waterfowl showings. You might recall that Cleveland had the highest count of Red-breasted Mergansers in North America a few years ago. The December 2016 count tallied a whopping 36,899 individuals. This year, we had just 543. Buster Banish, Jim McCarty, Liz McQuaid, and Mark Shaver covered the Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve, and kept their eyes on the lake for waterfowl. This year, the productive site had just 23 individuals. Many duck species were missing completely, and others were present in very low numbers, with two exceptions. Ray Hannikman, Irene Krise, and Jerry Talkington, found 412 Common Goldeneyes along the Lake Erie coast, just breaking the previous count record of 404 from a decade ago. Cackling Goose was recorded for just the second time in the count's history.

## Results of the Cleveland Christmas Bird Count (continuation)



Cackling Goose. Photo A.Kozlenko

However, this species has only been formally recognized since 2004, and they certainly occurred within our circle before 2004.

An Eastern Phoebe, reported by Buster and his group, was a highlight for the count and was probably lingering in our area thanks to the warmer temperatures. This individual was reported at Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve throughout December, and persisted at least through mid-January. This was just the fifth time that this species has appeared on the Cleveland CBC. Another Eastern Phoebe was seen during the count week in Lake View Cemetery, and stayed into early January as well. Both individuals were appreciated by listers looking to kick-off their 2019 year lists.

No new species were added to the Cleveland CBC this year.

In addition to the high counts for Common Goldeneye and Cackling Goose, Bald Eagle also set a record with nine individuals observed. Northern Saw-whet Owl was reported for just the tenth time. While no records were set, the 16 Red-headed Woodpeckers and 118 Red-bellied Woodpeckers were close to the record high counts (both set in the last two years).

Most irruptive species went unrecorded, with no reports of redpolls, Purple Finch, Evening Grosbeak, nor crossbills. Just 13 Pine Siskins were tallied. Forty Red-breasted Nuthatches was one of the highest counts in Cleveland CBC history.



Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Cleveland Christmas Bird Count! The seventy-four participants this year tied the previous record (in 1976) for people helping document bird populations in Cleveland. The group at Nature Center at Shaker Lakes was particularly large this year, and included birders at every single skill level. I appreciate how willing our ace birders are to take beginning birders out for a fun day afield. One of my earliest birding experiences was joining knowledgeable birders on a CBC when I was in high school, and that left a lasting impression on me - birders are fantastic, welcoming people!

My thanks to Dick Hoffman for our productive discussion of historical data for this count.



Photo by Pat Coy

On Friday, February 22, 2019, long time Kirtland Bird Club member **Bill Toneff**, master birder, much-loved teacher of music and literature, accomplished golfer, and WWII veteran, had his **100th birthday**. He was born in Illinois, spent most of his childhood in Lima, Ohio, and graduated from the Ohio State University with a degree in music. After serving in WWII, he returned to Ohio and began a career in the Garfield Heights school system, teaching high school music and English. That was where he met the love of his life, Ann Thornton, who shared a career as a music teacher in the same school system. They were married for 68 years and had many mutual things they enjoyed. In the 1970's they became birders, thanks to a teaching colleague who was a birder. Then, in the late 1980's, Bill and Ann joined the Kirtland Bird Club and were frequent participants on Ed Pierce's birding van trips and on many birding trips with another long time KBC member, Delores Cole. Bill continues to attend KBC meetings.

**Happy 100th Birthday, Bill!**

## **100 Years of Wisdom**

By Bill Toneff

1. The sole purpose of this life is to enjoy it.
2. In human interaction don't put the other person down – everything is about his or her ego (and yours).
3. To live a fulfilled life, you must keep on broadening and deepening your response to people, nature, science, and all the arts. You must stay curious.
4. Life is often just random luck – often bad. There is no god or logic involved; you just have to deal with it the best you can.
5. Most of us are sustained by our illusions.
6. For most people the most satisfying thing in life is the human relationships.
7. Birding is the most fun of anything you can do – without taking your clothes off.

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**KIRTLAND BIRD CLUB, a Northeast Ohio Birding Club**



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Cleveland, Ohio 44109

Publisher of:

***The Cleveland Bird Calendar***  
***Birds of the Cleveland Region and the Field***  
***Book***  
***The Kirtland Warbler***

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