

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER - NOVEMBER
1939

BIRD CALENDAR

of the

Cleveland Bird Club

35th Year

No. 4



Founded by Francis H. Herrick in 1905 for the
recording of Bird Activities

Edited by John W. Aldrich, The Cleveland Museum
of Natural History

February 7, 1939

CLEVELAND, OHIO



CONTRIBUTORS

John W. Aldrich
 Joseph Corbe
 Vera Carrothers
 G. H. Deutschlander
 W. Earl Godfrey
 Charles H. Knight
 J. O. McQuown
 Margarett E. Morse

Donald L. Newman
 Margarett H. Sherwin
 Marion Skaggs
 Merit B. Skaggs
 Harold E. Wallin
 S. V. Wharram
 Arthur B. Williams

During the Autumn season Margarett Morse was top scorer in total species recorded, edging out the recently invincible Skaggs combination by a score of 93 to 91. Able support was afforded Miss Morse by Miss Vera Carrothers on three dazzling plays in which the ball was run for substantial gains from a double wing-back formation.

Donald L. Newman weathered by far the hardest schedule of any team in the league with 22 trips totaling 44 hours in the field.

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Double-crested Cormorant. – 1 seen on a small pond at Waite Hill, near Willoughby, November 30 by Mrs. Francis M. Sherwin.

Whistling Swan. – 51 seen flying over Pepper Pike Village in Orange Township, October 31, by J. W. Aldrich. Several flocks observed on small pond at Waite Hill, near Willoughby, between November 28 and 30 (400 birds on the 30th) by Mrs. Francis M. Sherwin.

Old-squaw Duck. – 1 seen on Lake Erie off Edgewater Park, Cleveland, November 12 and 20, by J. O. McQuown.

Harlequin Duck. – 4 (both sexes) seen in Lake Erie off Edgewater Park, Cleveland, November 12, by J. O. McQuown.

Willet. – 3 seen in a marsh at Austinburg, September 24 by S. V. Wharram.

Northern Phalarope. – 1 seen on the Pennsylvania side of Pymatuning Reservoir, October 7, 1939 by Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Skaggs.

Franklin Gull. – 1 seen on Cleveland lake front, November 11, and 2 more at the same place November 12, by Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Skaggs.

Olive-sided Flycatcher. – 3 observed at West Richfield, September 3, by A. B. Williams.

Carolina Wren. – 1 seen at Nela Park, East Cleveland, September 28, by M. B. Skaggs, and 1 seen in Rocky River Reservation, October 15, by J. O. McQuown.

White-eyed Vireo. – 1 seen in Rocky River Reservation, September 3, by J. O. McQuown.

Pine Siskin. – 5 seen at Rocky River Reservation, October 15, by J. O. McQuown. 1 seen at Bedford Reservation, November 21, by W. E. Godfrey.

Snow Bunting. – 4 seen on the shore of Lake Erie at "White City" northeastern Cleveland, October 30, by M. B. Skaggs.

SUMMARY OF WEATHER CONDITIONS
Taken from Cleveland Weather Bureau Reports

Month	Mean Temp.	Normal Temp.	Total Precip.	Normal Precip.	% of Possible Sunshine	Normal Sunshine	Relative Humidity
Sept.	67.4°F	63.9°F	2.93" (snow 0.0")	3.33" (snow 0.0")	67%	62%	*67.2%
Oct.	56.2	53.6	1.84 (trace snow)	2.78 (snow 0.2")	57	52	*66.2
Nov.	41.8	40.9	1.24 (snow 0.4")	2.64 (snow 3.9")	38	31	*74.0
De- parture from normal	+7.0°		-2.74" (snow -3.7)		+17%		

* Based on an average of the monthly mean relative humidities for 1:30 a.m., 7:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.

The tabulated weather data show an excess of heat and sunshine and a significant deficiency of rain and snowfall during the autumn months.

AUTUMN MIGRATION TABLE – 1939

Species	: 1st 1939	: Average 1st	: Maximum 1939	: Last 1939	: Average Last
Common Loon	: Oct. 29 (1)	:	: Nov. 4 (15)	: Nov. 6 (1)	:
Horned Grebe	: Oct. 4 (20)	:	:	: Nov. 11 (20)	:
Pied-billed Grebe	: Breeds	:	: Oct. 8 (56)	: Nov. 24 (2)	: Nov. 10
Double-crested Cormorant	: Nov. 30 (1)	:	:	:	:
Great Blue Heron	: Breeds	:	:	: Nov. 4 (5)	:
American Egret	: Aug. 20 (6)	:	:	: Oct. 8 (2)	:
Green Heron	: Breeds	:	: Aug22-23(30)	: Oct. 8 (5)	: Sept. 17
Black-crowned Night Heron	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 7 (1)	: Sept. 29
American Bittern	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 8 (2)	: Oct. 10
Least Bittern	: Breeds	:	:	: Aug. 22 (2)	:
Whistling Swan	: Oct. 31 (51)	:	: Nov. 30 (400)	: Nov. 30 (400)	:
Mallard	: Breeds	:	: Nov. 18-30	: Winters	:
Black Duck	: Breeds	:	: Nov. 12 (200)	: Winters	:
Gadwall	: Nov. 4 (1)	:	:	: Nov. 4 (1)	:
Baldpate	: Aug. 26 (1)	: Sept. 17	: Oct. 8 (2000)	: Nov. 4 (100)	: Nov. 27
Pintail	: Sept. 10 (4)	: Sept. 29	:	: Oct. 7 (1)	: Nov. 5
Green-winged Teal	: Sept. 10 (2)	:	:	: Nov. 4 (1)	: Oct. 31
Blue-winged Teal	: Breeds	:	: Oct. 7 (30)	: Nov. 30 (2)	: Oct. 8
Shoveller	: Sept. 10 (4)	: *Sept. 4	:	: Nov. 19 (1)	: Nov. 3
Wood Duck	: Breeds	:	:	: Nov. 30 (5)	: Oct. 28
Ringed-neck Duck	: Nov. 19 (1)	:	:	: Nov. 30 (2)	: Nov. 11
Lesser Scaup Duck	: Oct. 4 (2)	: *Oct. 21	: Nov. 11 (200)	: Winters	:
American Golden-eye	: Nov. 12 (5)	: Oct. 23	:	: Winters	:
Old-squaw Duck	: Nov. 12 (1)	:	:	: Winters	:
Harlequin Duck	: Nov. 12 (4)	:	:	:	:
Ruddy Duck	: Oct. 7 (2)	:	:	: Nov. 30 (5)	:
Hooded Merganser	: Nov. 19 (1)	:	:	: Nov. 19 (1)	: Dec. 5
American Merganser	: Nov. 4 (2)	: Nov. 19	:	: Winters	:
Red-breasted Merganser	: Nov. 4 (2)	: Nov. 13	:	: Winters	:
Turkey Vulture	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 8 (5)	: Oct. 14
Sharp-shinned Hawk	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Cooper Hawk	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Red-tailed Hawk	: Breeds	:	: Oct. 8 (4)	: Winters	:
Red-shouldered Hawk	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Bald Eagle	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Marsh Hawk	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Osprey	: Sept. 6 (1)	:	:	: Sept. 6 (1)	:
Sparrow Hawk	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Ruffed Grouse	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Bob-white	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Ring-necked pheasant	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Sora	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 6 (1)	: Sept. 30

* Breeds rarely

AUTUMN MIGRATION TABLE (cont.)

Species	: 1st 1939	: Average 1st	: Maximum 1939	: Last 1939	: Average Last
Florida Gallinule	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 8 (7)	: Sept. 30
Coot	: Breeds	:	: Nov. 54 (800)	: Nov. 4 (800)	: Nov. 1
Semipalmated Plover	: Aug. 20 (3)	: Aug. 21	:	: Oct. 8 (2)	: Oct. 6
Killdeer	: Breeds	:	: Oct. 8 (20)	: Nov. 4 (4)	: Nov. 10
Black-bellied Plover	: Oct. 21 (2)	: Sept. 5	:	: Nov. 11 (2)	: Oct. 21
Woodcock	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 10 (1)	: Nov. 14
Spotted Sandpiper	: Breeds	:	: Aug. 22 (10)	: Sept. 10 (1)	: Sept. 21
Solitary Sandpiper	: July 28 (2)	:	: Aug. 22 (20)	: Sept. 10 (1)	: Sept. 25
Willet	: Sept. 24 (3)	:	:	: Sept. 24 (3)	:
Greater Yellowlegs	: July 28 (1)	: Aug. 28	:	: Oct. 29 (2)	: Oct. 26
Lesser Yellowlegs	: July 28 (3)	: Aug. 22	: Aug. 22 (60)	: Oct. 21 (1)	: Sept. 21
Pectoral Sandpiper	: July 21 (1)	: Sept. 2	: Oct. 8 (24)	: Nov. 4 (2)	: Oct. 19
Least Sandpiper	: Aug. 6 (1)	: Aug. 17	:	: Oct. 8 (1)	: Sept. 30
Red-backed Sandpiper	: Oct. 21 (11)	: Oct. 3	:	: Nov. 4 (11)	:
Dowitcher	: Aug. 23 (1)	:	:	: Sept. 17 (1)	:
Stilt Sandpiper	: Aug. 23	:	:	: Aug. 23 (2)	:
Semipalmated sandpiper	: July 22 (2)	: Aug. 21	: Aug. 23-Sep. 10	: Oct. 8 (1)	: Oct. 2
Sanderling	: July 16 (2)	: Aug. 22	:	: Oct. 21 (2)	: Oct. 12
Northern Phalarope	: Oct. 7 (1)	:	:	: Oct. 8 (1)	:
Herring Gull	: Summers	:	: Nov. 11 (150)	: Winters	:
Ring-billed Gull	: Summers	:	: July 16 (150)	: Winters	:
Bonaparte Gull	: Summers	:	: Nov. 24 (200)	: Winters	:
Franklin Gull	: Nov. 11 (1)	:	:	: Nov. 12 (2)	:
Common Tern	:*Sept. 1(29)	:	:	: Nov. 11 (1)	:
Mourning Dove	: Breeds	:	: Oct. 7 (16)	: Winters	:
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 20 (1)	: Sept. 19
Black-billed Cuckoo	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 27 (1)	: Sept. 28
Screech Owl	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Nighthawk	: Breeds	:	: Sept. 1 (106)	: Sept. 1 (106)	: Sept. 18
Chimney Swift	: Breeds	:	: Sept. 13 (35)	: Oct. 10 (1)	: Oct. 6
Hummingbird	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 18 (1)	: Sept. 23
Kingfisher	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 21 (2)	: Nov. 4
Flicker	: Breeds	:	: Sept. 1 (13)_	: Nov. 21 (4)	: Nov. 8
Pileated Woodpecker	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Red-headed Woodpecker	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 17 (1)	: Oct. 31
Yellow-bellied Sap-	:	:	:	:	:
sucker	: Oct. 7 (1)	:*Sept. 24	:	: Oct. 7 (1)	: Oct. 23
Hairy Woodpecker	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Downy Woodpecker	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Kingbird	: Breeds	:	:	: Aug. 17 (2)	: Sept. 16
Crested Flycatcher	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 1 (1)	: Sept. 9
Phoebe	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 8 (2)	: Oct. 16
Yellow-bellied Fly-	:	:	:	:	:
catcher	: Sept. 2 (2)	: Sept. 3	:	: Sept. 2 (2)	: Sept. 17
Acadian Flycatcher	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 24 (1)	: Sept. 17

* Breeds rarely

AUTUMN MIGRATION TABLE (cont.)

Species	: 1st 1939	: Average 1st	: Maximum 1939	: Last 1939	: Average Last
Alder Flycatcher	: Breeds	:	:	: Aug. 28 (3)	: Sept. 26
Least Flycatcher	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 6 (1)	:
Wood Pewee	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 13 (2)	: Sept. 22
Olive-sided Fly- catcher	: Aug. 25 (3)	:	:	: Oct. 15 (2)	:
Horned Lark	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Bank Swallow	: Breeds	:	: Aug. 20 (30)	: Aug. 20 (30)	:
Rough-winged Swallow	: Breeds	:	:	: July 19 (1)	:
Barn Swallow	: Breeds	:	:	: Aug. 28 (3)	: Sept. 15
Purple Martin	: Breeds	:	:	: Aug. 25 (6)	: Sept. 11
Blue Jay	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Crow	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Black-capped Chickadee	: Breeds	:	: Oct. 21 (61)	: Winters	:
Tufted Titmouse	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
White-breasted Nuthatch	: Breeds	:	: Oct. 21 (15)	: Winters	:
Red-breasted Nuthatch	: Sept. 6 (1)	: Sept. 18	:	: Winters	:
House Wren	: Breeds	:	: Sept. 5 (9)	: Oct. 14 (1)	: Oct. 2
Winter Wren	: Sept. 14 (1)	: Sept. 26	:	: +Sept. 20 (1)	:
	:	: (1)	:	:	:
Carolina Wren	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Long-billed Marsh Wren	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 5 (1)	: Sept. 27
Short-billed Marsh Wren	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 8 (1)	:
Catbird	: Breeds	:	: Sept. 3 (35)	: Sept. 28 (2)	: Oct. 6
Brown Thrasher	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 24 (1)	: Sept. 29
Robin	: Breeds	:	: Sept. 7 (203)	: +Nov. 24 (1)	:
Wood Thrush	: Breeds	:	: Sept. 2 (10)	: Sept. 24 (2)	: Oct. 7
Hermit Thrush	: Sept. 10 (1)	: Sept. 27	:	: Oct. 29	: Oct. 28
Olive-backed Thrush	: Aug. 30 (1)	: Sept. 11	: Sept. 24 (10)	: Oct. 7 (3)	: Oct. 14
Veery	: *Sept. 6 (1)	:	:	: Sept. 6 (1)	: Sept. 20
Bluebird	: Breeds	:	:	: +Oct. 29 (10)	:
Golden-crowned Kinglet	: Oct. 1 (5)	: Sept. 30	: Oct. 15 (23)	: +Nov. 26 (2)	:
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	: Sept. 14 (1)	: Sept. 25	: Oct. 15 (10)	: Oct. 21 (3)	: +Nov. 1
American Pipit	: Oct. 7 (1)	:	: Oct. 29 (40)	: Nov. 4 (7)	:
Cedar Waxwing	: Breeds	:	: Nov. 4 (1000)	: Winters	:
Migrant Shrike	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 7 (2)	:
Starling	: Breeds	:	: Nov. 4 (2000)	: Winters	:
White-eyed Vireo	: Sept. 3 (1)	:	:	: Sept. 3 (1)	:
Yellow-throated Vireo	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 24 (1)	: Sept. 22
Blue-headed Vireo	: Oct. 1 (1)	: Sept. 20	:	: Oct. 15 (1)	: Oct. 8
Red-eyed Vireo	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 15 (2)	: Oct. 2
Warbling Vireo	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 12 (2)	: Sept. 25

* Breeds rarely

+ Winters rarely

AUTUMN MIGRATION TABLE (cont.)

Species	1st 1939	Average 1st	Maximum 1939	Last 1939	Average Last
Black and White Warbler	: Sept. 2 (2)	: Aug. 24	:	: Sept. 14 (2)	: Sept. 29
Blue-winged Warbler	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 24 (1)	:
Nashville Warbler	: Sept. 3 (30)	: Sept. 15	:	: Oct. 1 (3)	: Oct. 9
Parula	: Sept. 3 (2)	:	:	: Sept. 10 (2)	:
Yellow Warbler	: Breeds	:	:	: Aug. 28 (2)	: Aug. 30
Magnolia Warbler	: Sept. 3 (2)	: *Sept. 5	:	: Oct. 15 (6)	: Oct. 11
Cape May Warbler	: Aug. 30 (2)	: Sept. 11	:	: Oct. 5 (1)	: Oct. 5
Black-throated Blue Warbler	: Sept. 19 (1)	: Sept. 8	:	: Oct. 14 (1)	: Oct. 5
Myrtle Warbler	: Sept. 24 (5)	: Sept. 20	: Oct. 15 (23)	: Oct. 21 (8)	: Oct. 29
Black-throated Green Warbler	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 1 (1)	: Oct. 14
Cerulean Warbler	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 5 (1)	:
Chestnut-sided Warbler	: Sept. 13 (1)	: *Sept. 2	:	: Sept. 24 (1)	: Sept. 21
Bay-breasted Warbler	: aut 18 (1)	: Sept. 2	:	: Sept. 2 (9)	: Oct. 8
Black-poll Warbler	: Sept. 2 (2)	: Sept. 5	:	: Sept. 2 (2)	: Oct. 11
Palm Warbler	: Sept. 5 (2)	: Sept. 21	:	: Oct. 7 (1)	: Oct. 14
Ovenbird	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 5 (1)	: Sept. 30
Grinnell Water-thrush	: *Sept. 2 (3)	:	:	: Sept. 3 (3)	: Sept. 10
Louisiana Water-thrush	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 4 (1)	: Sept. 11
Mourning Warbler	: Aug. 26 (1)	:	:	: Aug. 26 (1)	:
Yellow-throat	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 5 (1)	: Oct. 8
Yellow-breasted Chat	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 5 (1)	:
Hooded Warbler	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 5 (2)	: Sept. 26
Wilson Warbler	: Sept. 2 (4)	: Sept. 14	:	: Sept. 6 (1)	: Sept. 22
Canada Warbler	: Sept. 3 (1)	: *Aug. 28	:	: Sept. 3 (1)	: Sept. 13
Redstart	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 5 (1)	: Oct. 4
English Sparrow	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Bobolink	: Breeds	:	:	: Aug. 28 (5)	: Sept. 19
Meadowlark	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 24 (1)	: Nov. 4
Red-winged Blackbird	: Breeds	:	: Oct. 21-29	: Oct. 29 (250)	: Nov. 9
Baltimore Oriole	: Breeds	:	:	: Aug. 30 (2)	: Aug. 28
Rusty Blackbird	: Oct. 7 (25)	: Oct. 2	:	: Oct. 29 (20)	: Oct. 31
Grackle (10)	: Breeds : Nov. 6	:	: Sept. 30 (400)	:	: Oct. 29
Cowbird	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 24 (1)	: Oct. 17
Scarlet Tanager	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 20 (1)	: Sept. 24
Cardinal	: Breeds	:	: Sept. 2 (19)	: Winters	:
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	: Breeds	:	:	: Aug. 3 (1)	: Sept. 27
Indigo Bunting	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Pine Siskin	: Oct. 15 (5)	:	:	: Winters	:
Goldfinch	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:

* Breeds rarely

AUTUMN MIGRATION TABLE (cont.)

Species	: 1st 1939	: Average 1st	: Maximum 1939	: Last 1939	: Average Last
Towhee	: Breeds	:	:	: +Oct. 29 (2)	:
Savannah Sparrow	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 8 (9)	: Oct. 13
Grasshopper Sparrow	: Breeds	:	:	: Aug. 1 (1)	: Sept. 26
Henslow Sparrow	: Breeds	:	:	: Sept. 7 (3)	: Sept. 6
Vesper Sparrow	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 11	:
Junco	: Aug. 25 (1)	: *Sept. 25	: Oct. 29 (81)	: Winters	:
Tree Sparrow	: Sept. 14 (5)	: Oct. 15	:	: Winters	:
Chipping Sparrow	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 7(3)	: Oct. 9
Field Sparrow	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 29 (2)	: Oct. 23
White-crowned Sparrow	: Oct. 7 (3)	: Sept. 28	:	: Oct. 29 (4)	: Oct. 26
White-throated Sparrow	: Sept. 20 (1)	: Sept. 18	:	: Oct. 29 (5)	: Nov. 3
Lincoln Sparrow	: Sept. 30 (1)	: Sept. 15	:	: Oct. 15 (1)	: Oct. 12
Swamp Sparrow	: Breeds	:	:	: Oct. 15 (1)	: Oct. 24
Soong Sparrow	: Breeds	:	:	: Winters	:
Snow Bunting	: Oct. 30 (4)	: Nov. 17	:	: Winters	:
	:	:	:	:	:

Our records show that in general autumn migration was ahead of time both as to arrival and departure, 27 species arriving ahead of their average dates as against 15 late arrivals, while there were 40 late compared with 59 early departures for the south.

Although early arrival was the rule in all groups, early departure seemed to be more in evidence among the land birds and particularly the more insectivorous ones] as the flycatchers, swallows, and warblers, but was also true of the more vegetarian thrushes, blackbirds, and sparrows. The vireos seem to be the exception among the insectivorous birds, tending to leave later than the average. Strangely enough Dr. Charles F. Walker says (Bird Lore, Nov.-Dec. 1939, supplement, p.8) that it was the experience of most Ohio observers that the peak of the warbler migration occurred rather later than usual. This would seem to be at variance with our data.

In regards to time of departure just the reverse of the situation of the land birds seems to have been the case among the water birds including grebes, herons, kingfisher, ducks, geese, rails, gallinules and shorebirds. Here late departure was the rule although there was a tendency toward early arrival just as in the case of the land birds.

+ Winters rarely

* Breeds rarely

SUMMARY OF ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES
OF CERTAIN GROUPS OF BIRDS

General group		Arrival		Departure	
		early	late	early	late
Water Birds	Grebes, herons, kingfisher etc.			2	3
	Ducks, geese, etc.	4	1	3	4
	Rails, gallinules, etc.			0	3
	Sandpipers, plovers, etc.	7	2	4	8
	Total	11	3	9	18
Land Birds	Flycatchers			6	1
	Nighthawk, swift, and swallows			3	1
	Thrushes	2	0	3	1
	Vireos		1	1	3
	Warblers	8	4	14	5
	Blackbirds, Orioles, etc.	1		6	1
	Finches, Sparrows, etc.	3	3	7	5
	Total	14	8	40	17

What, if anything, is the explanation of the migration trends in terms of weather. The excess of heat and sunshine during the autumn added to excesses in both of these conditions in the summer season could hardly be considered a likely cause of early migration in themselves. However coupled with the accumulated deficiency of precipitation totaling 6.58 inches for the summer and autumn months a possible causative factor is seen.

Heat and drought dried (dried) up the ponds exposing large areas of muddy bottoms attractive to shorebirds, and their concentration in these places made them more readily observed, possibly contributing to earlier recording of certain species, and to their lingering later into the autumn. The late freeze up of inland bodies of water gave waterfowl and fish eating species an opportunity to find their food longer than usual and was thus conducive to late departure.

Heat and drought may have caused a reduction in the number of certain insects or at least an acceleration in their life cycle with the result that insectivorous birds moved south somewhat ahead of time. The same conditions may have affected the seed and berry crops also, thus affecting birds which feed upon them in the same way as the insect feeders.

FIELD NOTES

First Ohio Record for the Harlequin Duck. – While viewing an aggregation of ducks on Lake Erie off Edgewater Park, Cleveland, November 12, 1939, it became my privilege to enjoy that thrill which comes from the discovery of something out of the ordinary. In this particular case – the Harlequin duck. This raft of ducks consisted of some 200 to 300 fowl, black ducks mostly, 30 mallards, a sprinkling of golden eyes, 2 red-breasted mergansers, and one male old squaw. With a clear sky and bright sunlight, the conditions for observing them with binoculars were perfect.

About half way between the shore and the main group of ducks lay four other ducks. Since two of them were of drab brown color it was quite evident that they were females. The other two were a startling shade of slate blue – a color not common to ducks in this region, and displayed four particular marks: 1. Body color – slate blue. 2. Chestnut or reddish band over eye near crown. 3. White area between eye and base of bill; another on side of head. 4. Considerable area of chestnut on sides and flanks which was quite noticeable when the ducks were diving.

During the seven years that I have been observing waterfowl on these waters, and in which time I have identified 23 species of ducks and mergansers, I had never come across any fowl like this before. It has been my custom to keep a complete record of every species of bird that I have identified since I began this study. I wished very much to do so in this case, but being in doubt about this duck, sought the aid of The Cleveland Museum of Natural History where the skins of the Harlequin duck were shown me by Dr. J. W. Aldrich. In comparing the specimens with the ducks I had seen I knew at once that both

were identical, and am quite satisfied and confident that the water fowl I found at Edgewater Park, November 12, 1939, were no other than the *Harlequin duck. – J. O. McQuown

Bird Notes from Waite Hill. – The following observations were made around our small ponds at Waite Hill near Willoughby, Ohio.

November 1st – Immature bald eagle over ponds.

November 4th – Great numbers of cedar waxwings. Over 1000 seen near the house. Present for two days.

November 28th – First noticed the wild swans flying over the ponds – in the night – full moon – marvelous sight.

November 29th – Several small flocks of swans flew over during the day.

November 31st – Swans all day long – at least 400 during the day. Forty lit on our pond and stayed for several hours, leaving late in the afternoon in answer to the restless calls of another group. One, badly wounded by someone's shot gun, took off and dropped dead not far away. This same day I saw 100 blacks and mallards, 5 or 6 ruddy ducks, 2 blue-winged teal, 1 golden eye, 2 ring-necks, 5 or 6 wood ducks and a cormorant. The cormorant stayed several days. – Margaret H. Sherwin

A Visit to Hawk Mounain. – Hawk Mountain is the name of a promontory of the Blue Mountain range near Pottsville, in eastern Pennsylvania. The point is so named because it has for years been a splendid place from which the migration of many species of hawks could be observed at close range. Formerly a shooting shambles for gunners, it has now become the first sanctuary in the world for birds of prey.

Mrs. Skaggs and I visited Hawk Mountain on October 28 and were fortunate in seeing a good many hawks. After scrambling up the stony path that was the only way to reach the observation ledge, we saw 15 or 20 observers who had come to see the hawks. Some were from New Jersey, others from New York or Pennsylvania, but all had driven many miles just to see some birds that the average hunter shoots on sight.

Mr. Maurice Broun, who is in charge of the sanctuary, was on hand and was counting the various birds as they flew by. The vast majority of the hawks on October 28 were red-tails but a good many sharp-shins were seen. Some flew past at or below our level and we could see the back and upper tail patterns. Others flew somewhat higher so that we identified them by their silhouettes only.

* After having gone over the matter of identification exhaustively with Mr. McQuown the editor is convinced that Harlequin ducks were seen – making the first record for this species in the state of Ohio.

The big thrill of the day came when we saw two golden eagles – those giants of the west that have appeared regularly and more often than was expected at Hawk Mountain. The wind was from the north-west and this tended to drive the birds to our side of the valley and although we saw two or three brief rain storms come across the valley and soon felt them wet us, we took shelter for only a few minutes then resumed our watch.

Birds we saw were as follows: red-tailed hawk, over 100; red-shouldered hawk, 1; sharp-shinned hawk, 50; Cooper hawk, 2; goshawk, 1; marsh hawk, 2; pigeon hawk, 1; sparrow hawk, 2; golden eagle, 2; several flocks of robins and bluebirds, a flock of geese and some kinglets.

Even after several hours of sitting or standing on a mountain ledge in the wind and rain, we agreed that it was a wonderful sight and truly a “mountain top” experience in ornithology. – Merit. B. Skaggs