BIRD CALENDAR

of the

Cleveland Bird Club

38th Year, No. 3

June-July-August 1942



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

Edited by Arthur B. Williams, The Cleveland Museum of Natural History

CLEVELAND, OHIO



THE BIRD CALENDAR

Edited by

Francis H. Herrick 1906-1927 W. H. Hulme 1924,1926-1929 C. M. Finfrock 1930 S. Charles Kendeigh 1931-1938 John W. Aldrich 1938-1941 Arthur B. Williams 1941-1942

SUMMER NESTING NUMBER

This issue of the <u>Calendar</u> is essentially a record of the birds breeding in the Cleveland region, although it includes also the census of wintering ducks along the Lake Erie shore from October, 1941 to April, 1942. The beginnings of the southward migration of Autumn are also noted.

Contributors to this issue of the Calendar are:

George Bing Winifred Goodsell Margery Ramisch Mrs. H. D. Blake Raymond W. Hill Margaret Suhr Reed Vera Carrothers C. W. Hitchcock F. S. Ruckman Belle L. Clisby Lynds Jones Margaret Sherwin Roy E. Clisby Rudolph Kula Merit B. Skaggs Lee Crail Ellsworth H. Leamon Marion Skaggs Mrs. W.G. Davis J. O. Mc Quown G. A. Smith Mrs. Horace Deverell C. B. Margach Harold E. Wallin Edith Dobbins Ruby H. Margach S. V. Wharram H. C.Dobbins George Mealand Arthur B. Williams Maude Doolittle Margarette E. Morse Mrs. Norman Zepp C. T. Downer Omar E. Mueller Gladys Olson Don Eckelberry Ruth Newcomer Alice Porter Arthur B. Fuller Donald L. Newman W. Earl Godfrey Harry C. Oberholser

Donald Newman heads the list for number of trips taken during the period, his total being 13, representing more than 26 hours in the field. In number of species reported Ruth Newcomer and Earl Godfrey, working together, again lead the field with a total of 108 species.

Additional species for the March-April-May period reported too late to be included in the last issue were the following:

Little Blue Heron - Apl 3(1), May 3(1), Rocky River, H. W, Baker.

<u>Piping Plover</u> - May 23(1), Middle Harbor; May 24(2),. with nests and eggs, Bay Point, James H. Jenkins.

Golden Plover - Apl 4(1), Marblehead, Lynds Jones.

Black-bellied Plover - May 24(40) in field near Bono, James H. Jenkins.

Hudsonian Curlew - May 24(2), Bay Point, James H. Jenkins.

Western Willet - May 21(1), Rocky River, H. V. Baker.

White-eyed Vireo - May 17(3), Rocky Rivet, H. W. Baker.

Prairie Warbler - May 17(1), Marblehead, Lynds Jones.

This brings to 232 the number of species reported from Dec. 1 to May 31. Of these 139 were recorded in the March-April-May peroid. Our reports for the summer (June-July-August) add 4 species to this list, making the total for the year thus far, 236.

In addition to the six of our bird observers proviously reported to have entered the armed forces of our country, the following have left us since the last issue of the Calendar:

Gerhard Deutschlander - to the United States Army.

Tom Sandera - to the United States Navy.

CENSUS OF WINTERING WATERFOWL 1941-1942

The following intensive and careful study of ducks and other waterfowl wintering along the Lake Erie shore, from the mouth of Rocky River to East 140th Street, was undertaken and carried through by members of the Kirtland Bird Club under the supervision of Ralph O'Reilly.

The figures were gotten together and tabulated by James Akers. The report in its final form was written by W. Earl Godfrey. Those who took part in the field work were James Akers, George Bing, Vera Carrothers, Gerhard Deutschlander, Edith Dobbins, H. C. Dobbins, Don Eckelberry, Raymond W. Hill, Margarette E. Morse Donald L. Newman, Gladys Olson, Margery Ramisch, Merit and Marion Skaggs. Especial tribute is due the enthusiasm and persistence with which this group carried through the project in the bleakest part of the city at the coldest part of the day and year. They made 26 separate censuses at regular weekly intervals from October 5, 1941 through March 29, 1942.

That part of the waterfront west of the breakwater was investigated on Saturdays, that east of it, on the following day, Sundays. Five exceptions to this arrangement occurred (see table, page 3), the observations on both sides of the breakwater being then conducted concurrently.

In all, 75,277 observations were made of 20 species of Anatidae. This should not be construed however as indicating that 75,277 different individual birds were noted, inasmuch as many birds remained on the water under study for more than one week, and thus of necessity were counted more than once.

Of this grand total, Lesser Scaup made up 86.18%; American Merganser, 5.29% Black Duck, 3.39%; Red-breasted Merganser, 2,24%; American Goldeneye, 1.61%; Whistling Swam, 0.36%; other species, 0.31%

Although <u>Lesser Scaups</u> constitute so large a percentage of all the species observed in the six months study, they dropped to but 28.08% of the duck population that actually wintered here. Two well-defined peaks occur in the numbers of this species. The apex of one occurred in mid-November, but a steady, substantial decrease toward the end of that month took place. Numbers again rose in December until a yet higher peak was reached on December 20-21. After this a steady diminution is recorded until the first freeze-up, at which time the winter plane is reached. (See table, page 3).

These peaks are paralleled by the records obtained in 1939-40 when a low peak was apparent in mid-November, and a higher one in early January. Unfortunatel complete details of the 1940-41 studies are not available.

It is suggested that the earlier peak in numbers of Lesser Scaups may represent maximum numbers of birds moving south under the influence of the migratory urge alone. The second peak may result from influxes of birds that are forced south by lack of open water in more northern latitudes.

The abruptness of this second peak would then vary with the abruptness, the duration and the geographical extent of low temperatures in waters to the north. Since there is much individual variation in duck species with regard to their autumn migratory movements, it is not surprising that the drop from these local peaks of abundance is gradual, unless sudden freeze-up conditions dictate otherwise.

	Seasonal Distribution of Wintering Species of Ducks							
1941-42	Lesser	Amer.		Red	Amer.			
	Scaup	Merg	Black	breasted	Gold-	Buffle-	Mal-	Comment
	Scaup	anser	Duck	Merger	eneye	head	lard	Comment
Oct. 5	0	0	18	25	0		0	_
11-12	361	0	44	40	0	0	0	
18-19	412	0	87	0	0	0	0	
25-26	944	0	72	0	0	0	1	
Nov.1-2	3,666	0	42	132	33	0	2	
8–9	5,214	95	285	106	72	0	10	
15-16	9,432	100	46	52	119	8	0	
22-23	3,138	9	4	25	226	2	0	
29-30	2,274	50	200	33	80	24	30	
Dec.6-7	6,852	5	590	166	113	0	4	
13-14	8,502	27	209	125	158	8	1	
20-21	10,838	220	33	32	42	0	0	
27-28	6,351	24	0	145	46	7	0	
Jan. 4	4,719	360	114	98	53	0	7 A	little ice.
10-11	99	845	5	15	6	0	1 F	reeze up.
17-18	195	76	6	23	104	0	0	
25	74	492	7	98	15	0	0	
31- 1	135	380	173	83	26	0		uch open water.
Feb.7-8	335	500	78	78	3	0	1 La	ike covered
14-15	102	84	0	25	0	9	0 w	ith solid ice
21-22	174	525	120	124	0	0	0 c	ontinuing so
Mar. 1	159	370	220	58	12	2	0 u	ntil March
7-8	140	188	0	20	48	0	0 7	-8 census
15	117	85	7	32	35	0	0 v	hen consider-
21-22	289	25	115	84	11	0	0 a	ble open
29	627	13	7	75	32	0	0 w	ater appeared.

All other species: Whistling Swan, 277; Canada Goose, 94; Ring-necked Duck, 15; White-winged Scoter, 13; Baldpate, 11; Ruddy Duck, 9; Pintail, 8; Redhead 4; Hooded Merganser, 4; Shoveler, 2; American Scoter, 2; Canvasback, 1; Surf Scoter, 1.

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Totals 65,039 4,473 2,482 1,694 1,222 60

Actual Winter Duck Population

In estimating the relative composition of the actual winter duck population it has seemed best, for several reasons, to use records obtained in the period January 31 to February 22. Considerable week-to-week fluctuations at this time show no definite trend and are doubtless attributable to varying conditions of observation and to local flock-shifting. In a static population the assumption seems justified that the highest count of individuals of a given species is the most accurate for that species. This is the method used here in arriving at the following estimate of the actual winter population.

American Merganser	44.00%	American Goldeneye	2.17 %
Lesser Scaup	28.08	Bufflehead	0.75
Black Duck	14.50	Mallard	0.08
Red-breasted Merganser	1.39	Total	100.00

The <u>American Merganser</u> thus appears to be numerically the most important species of this population, and is the only species that shows a January-February increase over November-December numbers,

The <u>Black Duck</u> heretofore has formed no part whatever of the actual winter population of these surveys. In the present report however Blacks are numerically third numbers. Inasmuch as local low temperatures are not in themselves a direct factor in limiting the winter range of this hardy species, the explanation of its presence here during the past winter might perhaps be hidden in the presence of some erstwhile inadequate food supply.

Winter Gulls

Incidental to the waterfowl survey were 11,786 observations made of five species of gulls.

Herring Gull was noted in much larger numbers than was the Ring-billed Gull, and was seen on every census trip. On January 31 - February 1 a curious influx of 3,367 Herring Gulls was noted. This is the more interesting when it is considered that the cumulative total of all Herring Gull observations to that date was only 3,644, averaging 214 birds per census, with a high of 631 for December 20-21. The next week's count showed the presence of 866 Herring Gulls and this figure levelled off to average numbers on the following census.

 $\underline{\text{Ring-billed Gull}}$ appeared in numbers considerably smaller than those of the Herring Gull. This was particularly true in the coldest period of the winter after January 4th.

Bonaparte Gull was most numerous on January 4, on which date it was last seen, This was just prior to the freeze-up. On that date 445 were counted, as compared to an average of 77 per census trip up to that time, and a high of 272 on December 6-7.

Glaucous Gull was noted on January 11(1) and again on February 15(1).

One Great Black-backed Gull was seen on January 18th. (The writer also saw 2 adult and 1 second-year juvenile here on February 24).

W. Earl Godfrey.

SUMMARY OF WEATHER CONDITIONS

The higher than normal temperatures and excess precipitation which marked our spring weather carried over into summer. The latter part of July was particularly hot and humid. This gave us one of the most unusual growing seasons we have experienced in some time. Forest and roadside vegetation responded with luxuriant foliage. The year 1942 is undoubtedly indelibly recorded within the trunks of our trees by a particularly large annual growth ring of wood.

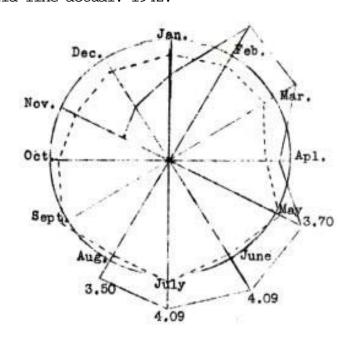
To get the full import of the precipitation chart below, one should compare it directly with the chart for June-July-August 1941. It is worth while to bring that issue of the <u>Calendar</u> out from your files and put the two charts side by side. And even then the full story is not told. The cloudburst of June 30th, that did so much damage east of the city is recorded by the Cleveland Weather Bureau (from whose records our figures are taken) as only three tenths of an inch. On that day at the Holden Arboretum 5.24 inches of rain fell in about three hours. On Little Mountain, 4.91 inches of rain fell between 1:30 and 5:00 p.m. Floods of great destructive power were the result.

Conditions such as these were undoubtedly fatal to many nesting birds, their eggs or young. This would be particularly true of ground-nesting birds.

Temperature Chart

Accumulated excess temperature above normal from January 1 to August 31 was 602 degrees.

Precipitation Chart Each "spoke" of the wheel equals 3 inches of water, Dotted line normal; solid line actual. 1942.



Excess precipitation from January 1 to August 31 was 4.79 inches of water. This was 10.48 inches more than we got last year during the same period. (But see remarks on precipitation above.)

LIST OF BREEDING SPECIES REPORTED

As compared with last year the volume of material reported this year for the summer period is considerably less. This we shall have to blame on the war. However, the coverage of species is exceptionally good, as the following list of 112 species indicates. Starred species are also covered in the special studies of nesting populations following.

Pied-billed Grebe - Regularly reported in small numbers. Great Blue Heron - Regularly reported throughout the summer. *Green Heron - Regularly reported throughout the summer. Black-crowned Night Heron - Aug 2(7), 20(1), 22(8), 24(8), 25(4), 30(1). *American Bittern - Regularly reported in small numbers. *Least Bittern - June 5(3), July 3(1), 4(1), 5(1), 23(3). Mallard - Regularly reported in small numbers. Black Duck - Regularly reported in small numbers (lees than Mallard). Blue-winged Teal - June 15(2), Aug. 2(23), 9(2), 22(50), 24(11), 25(7), 30(2). *Wood Duck - Regularly reported in small numbers - Possibly increasing. Turkey Vulture - Regularly reported in small numbers. Sharp-shinned Hawk - June 4(1),21(1), July 5(1)45(1)02W, Aug 21(1),30(1),15(0. Cooper Hawk - June 11(1), 13(1), July 5(1), 30(1), Aug. 25(1).Red-tailed Hawk - Regularly reported in small numbers, *Red-shouldered Hawk - Regularly reported in small numbers, Broadwing Hawk - June 1(1), 19(1), Aug. 24(1), 31(1). Marsh Hawk - Regularly reported in small numbers. Sparrow Hawk - Regularly reported throughout the summer, Ruffed Grouse - Regularly reported throughout the summer. *Bobwhite - Regularly reported throughout the summer. *Ring-necked Pheasant - Regularly reported throughout the summer. Florida Gallinule - July 4(1), 5(2), Aug. 2(2), 9(6). Coot - July 12(5), Aug. 9(2), 23(5). *Killdeer - Very many summer records. Woodcock - June 5(1), 13(2), July 25(1), Aug, 2(1). *Upland Plover - Regularly reported throughout the summer in small numbers. *Spotted Sandpiper - Regularly reported throughout the summer. *Mourning Dove - Regularly reported in numbers. Rock Dove - Locally abundant in downtown Cleveland. Some nest in suburbs. *Yellow-billed Cuckoo - Regularly reported in small numbers. Black-billed Cuckoo - Regularly reported in small numbers. Barn Owl - Nest with young in shale cliff in June - Rocky River. Screech Owl - Regularly reported in small numbers, Great Horned Owl - Regularly reported in small numbers. *Barred Owl - Regularly reported in small numbers. Whip-poor-will - Regularly reported in small numbers. Nighthawk - June 5(1),7(1), July 19(3),29(3), increasing through August to large flights August 26-27. Chimney Swift - Regularly reported in numbers throughout the summer. June 6(100), Aug. 22(100), 30(45). *Ruby-throated Hummingbird - Regularly reported in small numbers. Belted Kingfisher - Regularly reported throughout the summer.

*<u>Flicker</u> - Regularly reported throughout the summer. Pileated <u>Woodpecker</u> - Regularly reported in small numbers,

*Red-bellied Woodpecker - Regularly reported in small numbers.

*Red-headed Woodpecker - Regularly reported in small numbers.

*Hairy Woodpecker - Regularly reported throughout the summer.

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*Downy Woodpecker - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
*Kingbird - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
 Crested Flycatcher - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
*Phoebe - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
*Acadian Flycatcher - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
*Alder Flycatcher - Regularly reported in small numbers.
*Wood Pewee - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
 Prairie Horned Lark - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
 Tree Swallow - Regularly reported in small numbers.
Bank Swallow - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
 Rough-winged Swallow - Regularly reported throughout summer. Aug. 2(45),6(50).
*Barn Swallow - Regularly reported in some numbers.
Cliff Swallow - Regularly reported in small numbers.
Purple Martin - Regularly reported in numbers.
*Blue Jay - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
*Crow - Regularly reported ix some numbers.
*Black-capped Chickadee - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
*Tufted Titmouse - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
*White-breasted Nuthatch - Regularly reported throughout the summer,
*House Wren - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
Carolina Wren - July 4(1), Aug. 9(2).
*Prairie Marsh Wren - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
*Catbird - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
*Brown Thrasher - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
*Robin - Regularly reported in numbers throughout the summer.
*Wood Thrush - Regularly reported throughout the summer,
*Wilson Thrush - Regularly reported in small numbers. Nest, 4 eggs, May 30.
*Bluebird - Regularly reported throughout the summer,
*Blue-gray Ghatcatcher - June 4(2)41(2)_121(2), July 1(2),28(1).
*Cedar Waxwing - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
Migrant Shrike - Regularly reported in small numbers.
Starling - Regularly reported. Flocks of several hundreds June, July, August.
Yellow-throated Vireo - Regularly reported in small numbers.
*Red-eyed Vireo - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
Warbling Vireo - Regularly reported throughout the summer
*Blue-winged Warbler - Regularly reported in small numbers,
*Yellow Warbler - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
Black-throated Green Warbler - July 5(4),8(6), Aug. 25(1).
*Cerulean Warbler - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
*Ovenbird - Regularly reported in numbers.
*Louisiana Waterthrush - June 4(1), 11(2), 21(2).
*Yellowthroat - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
*Yellow-breasted Chat - Regularly recorded throughout the summer.
*Hooded Warbler - Regularly recorded throughout the summer.
*Redstart - Regularly recorded throughout the summer.
*English Sparrow - Regularly recorded throughout the summer.
*Bobolink - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
*Meadowlark - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
*Redwing - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
*Baltimore Oriole - Regularly reported throughout the summer.
 Bronzed Grackle - Flocks of hundreds reported June, July, August.
*Cowbird - Regularly reported throughout the summer,
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*Scarlet Tanager - Regularly reported throughout the summer,

- *Rose-breasted Grosbeak Regularly reported in small numbers.
 - $\ensuremath{^*}\underline{\text{Indigo Bunting}}$ Regularly reported throughout the summer.
- *Goldfinch Regularly reported throughout the summer.
- *Red-eyed Towhee Regularly reported throughout the summer.
- *Savannah Sparrow June 6(1),14(2),27(3), July 12(1), Aug. 2(2).
- ${}^{*}\text{Grasshopper Sparrow}$ Regularly reported throughout the summer.
- *Henslow Sparrow Regularly reported throughout the summer.
- *Vesper Sparrow Regularly reported throughout the summer, Slate-colored Junco Aug. 5(1),6(1),7(1). (singing male).
- *Chipping Sparrow Regularly reported throughout the summer.
- *Field Sparrow Regularly reported throughout the summer.
- *Swamp Sparrow Regularly reported throughout the summer.
- *Song Sparrow Regularly reported throughout the summer.

BREEDING BIRD POPULATION STUDIES

We are glad to present again a series of carefully made breeding bird population studies based on intensive field work during the past spring and summer. The fact that these are less in number than similar studies made in previous years betokens no slacking of interest, but only that in these strenuous times various kinds of war emergency service have first call.

Beside the veterans whose names appear below we welcome three new recruits to the ranks of our "bird census takers" - George Bing, a former Cleveland student, now removed to Vermilion, Ohio, George A. Smith, President of the Cuyahoga Falls Bird Club, and F. S. Ruckman, also of Cuyahoga Falls. The two new habitat areas thus added to our localit list are important for a more complete understanding of the breeding birds of the region.

Bog and old filled-in Lake. Cattails, marsh grasses and sedges, a few trees of willow, red maple, silver maple and American elm. 65 acres.
 Location: "Abram's Lake" - east of Berea and south-east of Cleveland Airport. (Till Plain, south-west). About 1/4 of area is water.

Census by George Bing.

Breeding Bird Populations: 142 Pairs. Density: 218 pairs per 100 acres.

	Pairs		Pairs
Green Heron	1	Robin	1
American Bittern	1	Cedar Waxwing	3
Least Bittern	1	Yellow Warbler	3
Wood Duck	1	Yellowthroat	7
Ring-necked Pheasant	1	English Sparrow	3
Killdeer	3	(in old shed)	
Spotted Sandpiper	4	Bobolink	1
Mourning Dove	1	Redwing (estimated)	75
Flicker	1	Cardinal	3
Alder Flycatcher	3	Indigo Bunting	1
Prairie Marsh Wren	8	Swamp Sparrow	4
Catbird	1	Song Sparrow	15

2. Open Field - partly swampy. 6 Acres.

Location: Wellington, Lorain County, O. (Till Plain, south-west)

Census by Belle L. Clisby and Roy E. Clisby.

Breeding Bird Population: 42 pairs. Density: 700 pairs per 100 acres.

	Pairs		Pairs
Bobwhite	1	Yellowthroat	3
Mourning Dove	2	Yellow-breasted Chat	2
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1	Redwing	2
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	1	Cowbird	present
Kingbird	1	Cardinal	1
Catbird	2	Indigo Bunting	1
Brown Thrasher	1	Goldfinch	2
Robin	2	Red-eyed Towhee	1
Bluebird	2	Grasshopper Sparrow	1
Starling	1	Vesper Sparrow	2
Blue-winged Warbler	2	Chipping Sparrow	1
Yellow Warbler	2	Field Sparrow	4
		Song Sparrow	4

3. Open field of high prairie type - No trees. 28.3 acres.

Location: Sulgrave Road, Shaker Heights. (Plateau, east)

Census by Merit and Marion Skaggs

Breeding bird population: 21 pairs Density: 74 pairs per 100 acres

	Pairs		Pairs
Upland Plover	2	Henslow Sparrow	1
Bobolink	4	Vesper Sparrow	1
Meadowlark	3	Field Sparrow	3
Savannah Sparrow	1	Song Sparrow	3
Grasshopper Sparrow	3		

4. Oak-Hickory Forest - 50 acres.

Location: Brecksville Metropolitan Park. (Plateau, south)

Census by Harold E. Wallin.

Breeding bird population: 79 pairs. Density: 158 pairs per 100 acres.

	<u>Pairs</u>		<u>Pairs</u>
Hairy Woodpecker	1	Cerulean Warbler	10
Downy Woodpecker	4	Ovenbird	18
Crested Flycatcher	2	Louisiana Waterthrush	2
Acadian Flycatcher	3	Hooded Warbler	3
Wood Pewee	3	Redstart	3
Chickadee	4	Cowbird	present
Tufted Titmouse	5	Scarlet Tanager	2
White-breasted Nuthatch	2	Cardinal	1
Wood Thrush	5	Indigo Bunting	1
Yellow-throated Vireo	2	Red-eyed Towhee	1
Red-eyed Vireo	7		

5. Oak-Hickory Forest with beech-maple in ravines 56 acres Location: Virginia Kendall State Park, north of Akron (Plateau, south). Census by F.S. Ruckman and G.A. Smith

Breeding bird population - 25 pairs. Density, 45 pairs per 100 acres.
(Coverage not complete. Probably a larger breeding population)

	Pairs		Pairs
Downy Woodpecker	1	Red-eyed Vireo	4
Acadian Flycatcher	2	Cerulean Warbler	1
Wood Pewee	1	Ovenbird	9
Crow	1	Hooded Warbler	2
Tufted Titmouse	1	Cardinal	1
White-breasted Nuthatch	1	Indigo Bunting	1

Other species noted: Ruffed Grouse, Hairy Woodpecker, Crested Flycatcher, Scarlet Tanager

6. Climax Beech-Maple Forest - 14 acres

<u>Location:</u> Wellington, O. "Andrew Lincoln's Woods" (Till Plain, south-west) Census by Belle L. and Roy E. Clisby

Breeding bird population - 48 pairs. Desity 343 pairs per 100 acres.

	Pairs		Pairs
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	1
Flicker	2	Starling	3
Red-bellied Woodpecker	2	Yellow-throated Vireo	2
Red-headed Woodpecker	1	Red-eyed Vireo	2
Downy Woodpecker	2	Cerulean Warbler	2
Crested Flycatcher	2	Ovenbird	2
Acadian Flycatcher	2	Louisiana Waterthrush	1
Wood Pewee	3	Redstart	1
Blue Jay	1	Scarlet Tanager	2
Crow	1	Cardinal	4
Tufted Titmouse	3	Indigo Bunting	1
White-breasted Nuthatch	2	Red-eyed Towhee	3
Wood Thrush	2		

7. <u>Wet Beech-Maple Forest</u> - 30 aces

Location: Ceder Road and Gates Mills Blvd. (Plateau, east)

Census by Vera Carrothers and Margarette E. Morse.

Breeding bird population - 89 pairs. Density, 297 pairs per acres.

	Pairs		Pairs
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	Wood Thrush	8
Barred Ow1	1	Veery	3
Hairy Woodpecker	2	Yellow-throated Vireo	1
Donny Woodpecker	3	Red-eyed Vireo	9
Crested Flycatcher	1	Cerulean Warbler	4
Phoebe	1	Ovenbird	14
Acadian Flycatcher	4	Hooded Warbler	5
Wood Pewee	1	Redstart	12
Blue Jay	1	Cowbird	present
Chickadee	4	Scarlet Tanager	2
Tufted Titmouse	3	Cardinal	2
White-breasted Nuthatch	2	Red-eyed Towhee	5

8. <u>Suburban residence section</u> - Houses' lawns, shrubbery, open fields, small orchard, woods (oak and maple) adjoining Rocky River Park. 10 acres. <u>Location:</u> Parkview Village - (Lake Plain, west).

Census by Margaret Suhr Reed,

Breeding bird population: 46 pairs. Density: 460 pairs per 100 acres.

	Pairs		Pairs
Bobwhite	1	Wood Thrush	2
Ring-necked Pheasant	1	Robin	2
Mourning Dove	3	Bluebird	1
Hummingbird	1	Cedar Waxwing	1
Flicker	1	Starling	1
Downy Woodpecker	2	Red-eyed Vireo	1
Kingbird	1	Meadowlark	2
Crested Flycatcher	1	Redwing	1
Phoebe	1	Baltimore Oriole	1
Wood Pewee	1.	Scarlet Tanager	1
Barn Swallow	2	Cardinal	1
Blue Jay	2	Goldfinch	1
Tufted Titmouse	2	English Sparrow	2
White-breasted Nuthatch	2	Chipping Sparrow	1
House Wren	2	Field Sparrow	2
Catbird	1	Song Sparrow	2

LIST OF MIGRANTS AND VAGRANTS

(Interesting or unusual records are starred)

*American Egret - July 11 to Aug. 11 - Three seen almost daily on branch of Cuyahoga just south of Lake Aquila. Mrs. Norman Zepp.

July,14 - One caught by children in Cuyahoga valley under Clark Avenue bridge. Cleveland Plain Dealer.

July 15(1),17(3),20(5),30(2). Austinburg. S.V.Wharram.

June 26 to Aug. 23 - Newbury Twp, Geauga Co. 4 to 6 birds seen regularly on small new lake. George Mealand.

July 22(1), Shaker Lakes - Lee Crail.

July 26(1), Sherwin Pond, Willoughby, Margaret Sherwin.

July 29(1), Rocky River near Trailside Museum Alice Porter.

Aug. 1(1), Shaker Lakes - Omar Mueller.

Aug. 2(10), Bay Bridge - Ruth Newcomer, Marl Godfrey.

Aug. 22(2), Bay Bridge - Lynds Jones.

Aug. 22(5), 24(2), Milton Lake, Vera Carrothers, Merit Skaggs.

Aug. 28(3), Indian Lake - J.O. McQuown.

Shoveller - Aug. 9(1), Pymatuning Lake. Carrothers, Skaggs.

*Red-breasted Merganser - July 11(1), Richmond, Raymond 1. Hill.

Bald Eagle - June 3(1), 23(1), July 28(1), Aug, 9(5),24 (1).

Osprey - Aug. 16(1), 22(1), 23(1).

Semipalmated Plover - Aug, 6(1), 17(9),, 22(15), 24(10), 25(1).

Golden Plover - Aug. 24(1).

Black-bellied Plover - Aug 24(1).

Solitary Sandpiper - Aug. 9(3), 20(1), 22(4), 24(6).

Greater Yellowlegs - Aug.2(4),24(1).

Lesser Yellowlegs - Aug. 2(2),9(1),22(4),

Pectoral Sandpiper - Aug. 22(1),24(0.

*Baird Sandpiper - Aug. 25(1).

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Least Sandpiper - Aug. 8(4),24(2).
*Stilt Sandpiper - Aug. 22(1).
Semipalmated Sandpiper - Aug. 6(1),9(1),22(10),24(10).
*Western Sandpiper - Aug. 22(1).
*<u>Sanderling</u> - July 11(3)45(2), Aug. 17(10),25(5)
Herring Gull - June 1(1),7(2),20(60),Aug.2(7),13(4),14(10),17(1),23(2),25(10).
Ring-billed Gull - June 28(1), July 22(2), Aug., regularly reported in numbers.
Bonaparte Gull - Aug, 2(6),5(50),6(20),13(16),14(450),31(150).
Common Tern - July 22(50), Aug. 2(30), 13(10), 17(3), 24(1), 25(10).
Caspian Tern - July 12(3), Aug. 2(27), 13(1), 16(4), 22(2), 24(1), 25(1).
Black Tern - July 22(14), Aug, 2(8), Aug. 28(5).
*Magpie - Aug. 10(1),11(1), Rocky River. Elmer E. Johnson. It appears that our old friend
Malcolm Jollie brought back two young magpies with him from Colorado, banded them and
released them in Rocky River. They were reported to the Museum by several others beside
Mr. Johnson.
*Mockingbird - June 23(1). Roadside near South Chagrin Met. Park, H.C.Oberholser. Aug.24(1)
               Immature bird observed "for a month or six weeks" at 1365 Lynnpark Drive.
              Mrs. W.G.Davis and Mrs. H.D.Blake.
Olive-backed Thrush - Aug. 29(1),30(1).
Ruby-crowned Kinglet - Aug. 27(1),
Black and White Warbler - July 6(1),14(3),24(3),29(1), Austinburg, S.V.Wharram. Aug.
                25(1),27(1),29(3).
*Worm-eating Warbler - Aug. 20(1), Winifred Goodsell.
Nashville 'Warbler - Aug. 29(3),30(1),31(1).
*Parula Warbler - June 27(1), North Chagrin (singing) Don Eckelberry.
Magnolia Warbler - Aug. 25(4), 29(2), 30(3), 31(3),
Cape May Warbler - Aug. 29(3), 24(7), 26(3), 30(2), 31(1).
Myrtle Warbler - Aug. 6(1), 29(2).30(2).
Blackburnian Warbler - Aug. 15(1),22(2),30(1),31(2).
Chestnut-sided Warbler - Aug. 29(1),
Bay-breasted warbler - Aug. 31(1).
Black-polled Warbler - Aug. 23(1),30(3).
Pine Warbler - Aug. 31(1),
Northern Waterthrush - June 21(1), 28(1), Aug, 29(1)4
Wilson Warbler - Aug. 23(1),30(1).
Canada Warbler - Aug. 3(2),30(1).
*Blue Grosbeak - July 12(3) - 1 male, 2 females - Novelty, O. - C.T.Downer
*Red Crossbill - June 16(1), North Chagrin, Female in hemlock. Don Eckelberry,
                              BEGINNINGS OF AUTUMN MIGRATION
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As the above list is scanned, the beginnings of autumn migration appear as follows:

July 6 - Black and White Warbler,

11 - Sanderling.

24 - Black and White Warbler.

26 - Blue-winged Warbler.

29 - Black and White Warbler.

Aug. 2 - Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs.

3 - Canada Warbler.

6 - Semipalmated Plover, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Myrtle Warbler.

8 - Least Sandpiper.

9 - Solitary Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs, Semipalmated Sandpiper.

Beginnings of autumn migration (continued)

- Aug.15 Blackburnian Warbler.
 - 17 Semipalmated Plover, Sanderling,
 - 20 Solitary Sandpiper, Worm-eating Warbler,
 - 22 Semipalmated Plover, Solitary Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs, Pectoral Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Western Sandpiper, Blackburnian Warbler,
 - 23 Black-polled Warbler.
 - 24 Semipalmated Plover, Golden Plover, Black-bellied Plover, Solitary Sandpiper, Greater Yellowlegs, Pectoral Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper.
 - 25 Semipalmated Plover, Baird Sandpiper, Sanderling, Black and White Warbler, Magnolia Warbler.
 - 27 Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Black and White Warbler.
 - 29 Olive-backed Thrush, Black and White Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Black polled Warbler, Canada Warbler, Northern Waterthrush,
 - 30 Olive-backed Thrush, Nashville Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Myrtle Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Black-polled Warbler, Canada Warbler.
 - 31 Nashville Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler.

UNUSUAL NESTING HABITAT TABLOID

The song of the Veery, or Wilson Thrush, **is** sometimes heard in damp woods during the nesting season in the Cleveland area, but the nest has seldom actually been found near Cleveland,

Usually the Veery builds her nest on the ground, or a few inches up in small shrubbery, and often near a stump or an old log. It is loosely made and rather bulky, consisting of grapevine bark, weed stems, dead leaves and rootlets, depending on the type of material at hand.

A nest of the Veery which we found on May 28, 1942 in a wet beech-maple woods near the corner of Cedar Road and Gates Mills Boulevard, east of Cleveland, had 3 eggs in it. A fourth was added the next day, and all hatched in about 12 days.

This nest was built on the ground in a rather open place in the woods. There were several pools of standing water near by but the nest was in a fairly dry situation where there were no large trees, It was located in a clump of weeds and so well concealed that it hardly would have been discovered had not the sitting bird flushed almost from under foot during the progress of a systematic search for it.

The outside of this nest was loosely constructed of wide strips of grapevine bark, the main part was of weed stems, and the lining was of dry grasses.

Margarette E. Morse and Vera Carrothers.

Congratulations to Miss Carrothers and Miss Morse on finally finding the nest which for two previous summers eluded their steady search!

Ed.

RARITIES

In 1936 Ralph O'Reilly made a compilation of all species recorded in the Calendar from 1905 through 1935. He thus listed 262 species.

The present Editor has gone through the issues of the <u>Calendar</u> from 1935 through 1941, and finds that 24 additional species are recorded since 1935. This brings the total of species thus far recorded in the Calendar to 286.

As further additions to this list must include still rarer species, perhaps our readers will be interested to scan the list of the 24 additions.

Reported first in 1936

- European Widgeon Mch 28(1) on pond *mear* Willoughby. Margaret Sherwin. Frequently recorded since in several locations.
- American Scoter Apl 26(1) Lake Erie at Gordon Park. B. P. Bole Jr. Several subsequent records.
- Snowy Egret Sep 22(2), Oct 4(1) Pymatuning. Margarette Morse, Merit Skaggs, Ralph O'Reilly. Also Aug 5, '39(1) Rocky River. Harold E. Wallin.
- Glaucous Gull Dec 27(1) Ashtabula Harbor. Morse, Skaggs. Several subsequent records.

Reported first in 1937

- Yellow Rail Apl 18(1) Pepper Pike Village. O'Reilly. Also May 12, 40(1) Austinburg. Collected by Frank W. Braund.
- Forster Tern May 9(1) Lake Erie at Mentor. Arthur B. Fuller. Several subsequent records.

Reported first in 1939

- Brewster Warbler Aug 30(1) Brecksville. O'Reilly. Also May 19 '40(1) at Rocky River Valley. J. O. McQuown.
- Lawrence Warbler Aug 30(1) Brecksville, O'Reilly.
- Harlequin Duck Nov 12(4), both sexes, Lake Erie at Edgewater Park. McQuown.
- King Eider Dec 5(8) Sandusky Bay (1 collected). Chester K. Brooks. Also Nov, $26\ ^140(1)$ Ashtabula Harbor. 1 collected.

Reported first in 1940

- Rock Dove Began first to be listed as a wild bird in 1940.
- Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker Mch 10(2) Chardon. Winifred Goodsell,
- Barrow Goldeneye Mch 30-31 (1) Clague Pond, Bay Village. Harold W. Baker. Also Mch 2 141 (3) Rocky River. Arthur B. Williams.
- Summer Tanager May 6(1) Shaker Lakes Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Good.
- Black-throated Gray Warbler May 25(1) Willoughby. Margaret Sherwin.
- Chukar Partridge Summer (1) Mentor Headlands. Elizabeth F. Roe. Description checked by Dr. John W. Aldrich.
- Western Sandpiper July 16(2) Fairport. Skaggs. Several subsequent records.
- Kirtland Warbler Sep 8(1) Rocky River Valley. McQuowwn.
- Wilson Phalarope Oct 27(5) Pymatuning. Richard Klein.
- Hawk Owl Dec 5(1), 24(1),25(1), Jan 1 '41(1), Jan 6(2). Holden Arboretum and Northfield. Bole, Harry Phillips, Rudolph Kula, Tam Sandera.

Reported first in 1941

- White-winged Crossbill Feb 16(30),23(100) North Chagrin. Maurice B. Walters, Morse,
 Donald Newman. Feb 23(60) Willoughby. Raymond W. Hill.
 Mch. 2(18), 11(2) Skaggs.
- Pacific Loon Mch 9(1) Rocky River Baker,
- Eared Grebe Apl 21(1) Holden Arboretum. Bole. Collected.
- Black-necked Stilt Aug 15(1) Shaker Lakes. Omar B. Mueller. Dead bird found.

EDITORIAL AND FIELD NOTES

As the Editor scans the list of "Rarities" on page 14, it seems apparent that Lake Erie (including its marshes and harbors) will furnish the best hunting ground for those who are ambitious to add to our total species list. Undoubtedly, close attention to gulls and terns and shorebirds, as well as other "waterfowl", will repay the careful worker with the thrill of "adding another" to our local list. And it is true also that one who goes afield frequently in all kinds of weather with a keen and discriminating eye is sure to encounter sooner or later the bird that has so far escaped being reported by others.

The Editor is moved to insert a word of caution here. Every record of a rare or unusual bird should be fully substantiated by careful and painstaking observation to make sure that identification is correct. Better to make no report than to report an uncertainty. If an additional observer can be secured, so much the better. One should undoubtedly err on the side of conservatism rather than be carried away by the imagination on the wings of wishful thinking. Better settle the question of uncertain identity in favor of the <u>usual</u> rather than the unusual.

<u>Bluebird sequel</u> - A sequel to the "Bluebird Triangle" reported on p. 15, of the September-October-November number of the <u>Calendar</u> for last year was furnished this year in an unexpected manner.

In April a pair of unbanded bluebirds began nesting in the same box which was occupied last year. This nest was broken up by some unknown predator, and the female bird disappeared.

The male stayed by, and about June 1 was joined by another (?) unbanded female. Nesting was begun and three eggs laid. During our absence from home this nest also was broken up, and again the male was left alone.

About July 5 still another female appeared, and a third nesting was undertaken, This new mate wore a U. S. Biological Survey band on her leg, which later identified her as one of the brood of young birds hatched in this very box the year before, and banded by us on May 13, 1941.

We wish we could report a happy ending to this story, but on August 7 one young bird was discovered dead in the nest, and on August 9 the two other young were also found dead. No apparent cause for these deaths could be assigned,

Net results: 100% mortality so far as eggs and young were concerned, in three nesting attempts; Probably 50% mortality for adult birds concerned.

Merit and Marion Skaggs.

Blackbirds Begin to Flock. At Mentor-on-the-Lake during the afternoon of July 12, small bands of Blackbirds (probably Cowbirds, Red-wings, and some Starlings, too) were observed flying east along the lake shore; and in the early evening a flock of about 40 Bronzed Grackles, flying in an easterly direction, filed across the sky at a height of 300 to 400 feet. These were, for me, the first evidences that the Blackbirds had begun to flock.

Donald L. Newman.