



CLEVELAND REGION

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The Cleveland Museum of Natural History
and
The Kirtland Bird Club

THE CLEVELAND REGION

The Circle Has A Radius of 30 Miles Based on Cleveland Public Square

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Beaver Creek | 30 Lake Rockwell |
| 2 North Amherst | 31 White City |
| 3 Lorain | 32 Euclid Creek Reservation |
| 4 Black River | 33 Chagrin River |
| 5 Elyria | 34 Willoughby |
| 6 LaGrange | Waite Hill |
| 7 Avon-on-the-Lake | 35 Sherwin Pond |
| 8 Clague Park | 36 Gildersleeve |
| 9 Clifton Park | 37 North Chagrin Reservation |
| 10 Rocky River | 38 Gates Mills |
| 11 Cleveland Hopkins Airport | 39 South Chagrin Reservation |
| 12 Medina | 40 Aurora Lake |
| 13 Hinckley Reservation | 41 Aurora Sanctuary |
| 14 Edgewater Park | 42 Mantua |
| Perkins Beach | 43 Mentor Headlands |
| 15 Terminal Tower | 44 Mentor Marsh |
| 16 Cleveland Public Square | 45 Black Brook |
| Cuyahoga River | Headlands State Park |
| 17 Brecksville Reservation | 46 Fairport Harbor |
| 18 Akron | 47 Painesville |
| Cuyahoga Falls | 48 Grand River |
| 19 Akron Lakes | 49 Little Mountain |
| 20 Gordon. Park | Holden Arboretum |
| Illuminating Co. plant | 50 Corning Lake |
| 21 Doan Brook | 51 Stebbin's Gulch |
| 22 Natural Science Museum | 52 Chardon |
| Wade Park | 53 Burton |
| 23 Baldwin Reservoir | 54 Punderson Lake |
| 24 Shaker Lakes | 55 Fern Lake |
| 25 Lake View Cemetery | 56 LaDue Reservoir |
| 26 Forest Hill Park | 57 Spencer Wildlife Area |
| 27 Bedford Reservation | |
| 28 Hudson | |
| 29 Kent | |



CLEVELAND METROPOLITAN
PARK SYSTEM



PORTAGE ESCARPMENT
(800-foot Contour Line)

THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR

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Winter 1972-73

THE WEATHER

- December - Heavy snows and nearly perpetual dreariness were features of the month. The well-distributed precipitation occurred on 26 days which included 16 days in measurable amounts and 10 in trace amounts. Sunshine prevailed a mere five per cent of the time possible. Snowfall in excess of one inch came on six of these days, and on the 15th and 16th accumulations were in excess of 8.5 inches. The accumulation in water equivalent totaled 3.26 inches and was in excess by 0.92 inches. Temperatures averaged out 4.0 degrees warmer than normal. Lake Erie remained open, while shallow and inland waters were subject to transient icing.
- January - Temperatures averaged out 2.0 degrees warmer than normal, and sunshine increased to 41 per cent of the time possible. Days in the latter half of the month were generally warmer than normal, while those in the fore half were below normal; thus, Lake Erie developed and retained extensive ice cover in the period from the 10th to the 21st, after which the ice vanished rapidly. Precipitation accumulated to 1.62 inches and was in deficit by 1.05 inches from occurrence on 15 days well distributed. Measurable snow fell on 10 of these days but was heavy only on the 6th and 28th.
- February - Temperatures were cooler in the latter part of the month, which averaged out 0.6 degrees cooler than normal. Lake Erie redeveloped extensive ice cover' on the 16th, and severe conditions prevailed most of the time thereafter. Precipitation was fairly well distributed on 16 days that accumulated to 2.40 inches, which was in slight excess by .07 inches. In considering snowfall, however, accumulations were nine inches over average for the month.

COMMENT ON THE SEASON

Valid assessments of the winter birding season in the Cleveland Region are always difficult, since a large proportion of the species observed are likely to be somewhat abnormal--late fall and early spring migrants, wintering birds who failed to migrate, and wanderers from other territories. Furthermore, many of those varieties that can be considered winter residents here are commonly seen in such small numbers that a few birds more or less may give a false impression of a major population shift. Keeping those limitations in view, the 1972-73 winter season can be described as fairly typical. Nearly every species that is regarded as usually present (even though numerically rare) in winter was reported. Of the resident species, only the elusive Screech Owl was not identified. At the other extreme, the emphatically nonresident Goshawk, Boreal Chickadee, and Dickcissel all were observed. (See Noteworthy Records section for details.) Stragglers of a half-dozen migrant songbird species lingered into December, and a few coastal ducks and gulls showed up along the Lake Erie shoreline. Contradicting the pessimistic appraisal made in November, the northern finches were present in modest numbers, with only the Common Redpoll unreported.

Waterfowl: Some Plentiful Others Absent. On the whole, waterfowl reports indicated that the usual wintering species were present, at least part of the season, in good numbers. Less common species, however, appeared to be rare or totally absent. Whistling Swans remained in Sherwin Pond in Waite Hill until early December, a single bird being seen on the 12th. Another individual reported at Chagrin Falls on December 10 was found to have been wounded, probably by a gunshot (Sherwin). (See Field Notes for an account of another unfortunate Whistling Swan.) One Whistler was observed on Granger Pond in Mentor on the unusually late date of December 30 (Fais).

Canada Geese wintered in considerable numbers at both Sherwin Pond and the Holden Arboretum. A total of 500 were counted at the former site on December 23 (Flanigan, Sherwin) and 760 at the latter location, December 30 (Hammond). The two areas are only about five miles apart, and some movement from one to the other seems to occur.

Rather large flocks of Mallards and Black Ducks were reported from several locations during the winter. A Lorain Harbor observer noted that "up to 500" Mallards were present "almost daily until the end of January, few since." Blacks were described as "present since December 11, very few present during February" (Ward). A tabulation from the Cleveland lakefront showed 147 Mallards and 354 Black Ducks on February 4 (Klamm). At Sherwin Pond 250 Mallards and twice

that number of Blacks were counted on December 12 (Sherwin). At North Chagrin, on the other hand, Mallards outnumbered Blacks by 225 to 85 on December 16 (Scheibe). There were scattered reports of Pintails and American Widgeons throughout the season and four sightings of Gadwalls, the latest being a single bird in Strongsville on January 1 (Hocevar). Shovelers, three on December 9 and four on January 27, were observed in the same Strongsville location (Hocevar). Of four sightings of Green-winged Teals, the latest was a lone specimen at North Chagrin on January 14 (Kitson). One Wood Duck was seen as late as January 7 at Clague Park in Westlake (Stasko); a few others were reported from eastern locations during December.

Since Lake Erie remained open during much of the winter, shoreline counts of diving ducks fluctuated widely. Scaup, Common Goldeneye, and Ruddy Duck populations all seemed satisfactory, however, with Redheads, Canvasbacks, Buffleheads, and Common and Red-breasted Mergansers well represented. Heaviest concentrations were reported from Lorain, where 1,200 Canvasbacks were counted on December 23 (Ward). Of six reports of Oldsquaws, all were single birds except for two males and a female together at Lorain on Christmas Day (Ward). All three scoters were observed at : Lorain, and the White-winged was also at Gordon Park. Details on these are in the Noteworthy Records section. No other diving ducks were reported from any location.

Hawk Outlook Favorable Owls Uncertain. Except for a reduction in sightings of Rough-legged Hawks the winter tabulation of hawks was generally better than in 1971-72. The only reports received of Rough-legs (all single birds) were at Rocky River on December 3 (Stasko) and near Squire's Castle, January 14 (Hammond) and January 16(Flanigan). Evidently, others were seen in Lorain County, though. One adult Goshawk was seen in Waite Hill (Flanigan--see Noteworthy Records), and three Marsh Hawks, a species which was unreported in the previous winter, were sighted. A female Marsh Hawk was flying over the lake ar Lorain on December 1 (Dolbear). Other individuals were reported near Akron on December 23 (Ann Biscan and Jessie Belitsky, fide Szabo) and near Jones Road, Lorain County, on January. A female was found dead in Painesville on December 27 (Booth). Red-tailed Hawks showed a slight, but apparently not significant, dip in numbers, while Red-shouldered (14) and Sparrow Hawks (61) were both reported more than twice as often as in the 1971-72 winter season. Bald Eagles were again absent; the last sighting reported here was in May, 1971.

No snowy owls were observed, during the period, in contrast to the numerous reports of the preceding winter. On the other hand, a Saw-whet Owl was seen in Lorain County on January 12 (Edward Bittner, fide Johnson) and Short-eared

Owls were near Lorain County Airport during December and January (Huber). One Short-eared Owl was also observed in Strongsville, February 24 (Hocevar). (See Field Notes section for a detailed account of wintering Short-eared Owls.) Eight Barred Owls were recorded, matching the total of a year ago. But Great Horned Owls dropped from 13 to five, which may only reflect the relative degree of luck by contributors in the two seasons.

Gallinaceous Birds Scarce. A single bird at the F. A. Seiberling Nature Center on January 11 (Prack, fide Szabo) and two in Chesterland on February 25 were the only Ruffed Grouse recorded. The Bobwhite count at the Seiberling Nature Center was "low with only four appearing occasionally" (Szabo); no others were reported to CBC. Ring-necked Pheasant observations were limited to single specimens in Waite Hill on December 23 (Flanigan) and near Chardon on January 29 (Ramisch).

Few Coastal Gulls Sighted. Herring and Ring-billed Gulls were, as usual, abundant in the Lorain Harbor and Gordon Park areas, as well as elsewhere along the lakefront. Bonaparte's Gulls also were common, particularly in December. The Arctic and East Coast transient species, however, were quite scarce. Glaucous Gulls were reported from Lorain Harbor (Ward) and from points on the Cleveland East Side (Klamm) in December and again in late February. Probably a total of four birds were involved. Great Black-backed Gulls were observed frequently at Gordon Park and nearby areas but only in small numbers until the last week in February. An Iceland Gull was seen at Edgewater Park on December 25 (Klamm) and one at Lorain on February 10, 16, and 18 (Ward). (See Noteworthy Records for details.)

Northern Finches Continue Pattern. With some variations the wintering northern finches continued the trend of being less common in the "odd-even" years. (See Donald L. Newman, A Field Book of Birds of the Cleveland Region p. 22, for a discussion of this fluctuation.) Evening Grosbeaks and Pine Siskins, while far from scarce, were well below the numbers of the winters of 1969-70 and 1971-72. A single flock of six Red Crossbills was seen at Virginia Kendall Park on December 23 (Szabo), and up to eight White-winged Crossbills were present intermittently at a feeding station on Callow Road, Lake County, during December (Ralph Orient, fide Booth). No other crossbills were reported. Common Redpolls were apparently totally absent.

Pine Grosbeaks were observed at several locations. Largest flock was at the Holden Arboretum in late February, where 18 birds, mostly females and immatures, were counted on the 18th (Hammond). Earliest report of the species was of five at Chestnut Hill Cemetery in Cuyahoga Falls, Decem-

ber 23 (Gale Wiley, fide Szabo). A female or immature was feeding on seeds of an ash tree near the Interpretive Center in Rocky River on December 27 (Stasko). Individual birds were seen at a residence near Chardon on four dates in January and February and heard on other occasions; one of these, a male, was also observed feeding on ash seeds (Spare).

Winter Birding Generally Good. Despite the impression from the tabulations of selected species that bird populations were low, the 1972-73 winter season appeared to be reasonably good for birding. The common permanent residents were certainly not scarce, and such species as the Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, and Purple Finch were reported with delightful -frequency. American Goldfinches, Slate-colored Juncos, Tree Sparrows, and White-throated Sparrows also seemed to be about normal in numbers. Robins, while not often observed in the large flocks which sometimes winter here, were reported in small bands throughout the season. Largest concentration was reported from the Akron Metropolitan Parks, where "large flocks . . . (from 25 to 250 birds) descended on fruit.-bearing shrubs and trees and cleaned them up" after Cedar Waxwings had moved around selectively feeding on the fruits (Szabo). Other species which showed up frequently on contributors' reports were the Belted Kingfisher (27 observations, mostly in December), Yellow-shafted Flicker (27 observations), and Eastern Bluebird (18 reports of 59 individuals).

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

Common Loon - An "unlimited view" was obtained of one in the east side of Lorain Harbor on February 16 (Ward). Since there were no other reports of this species in the region after December 5, it seems safe to regard this as a spring migrant. It thus becomes a new earliest date, as the previously recognized date was February 21.

Double-crested Cormorant - A single immature specimen was seen at Lorain Harbor on six different dates from December 13 to December 23 (Ward).

White-winged Scoter - Two were identified at Lorain Harbor on February 22 and presumably the same two again on the 26th (Ward). Four were near Gordon Park on February 24 (Klamm, Carrothers).

Surf Scoter - At Lorain Harbor an immature was observed on December 19 and two females on December 25 (Ward). Another specimen, sex not reported, was on the lakefront at Lorain on December 8 (Dolbear).

Common Scoter - A male was observed at Lorain Harbor on February 22--"good view, flapped wings, no white" (Ward).

Goshawk - "Adult bird flew into maple tree by the barn at 8:15a.m." at a WaiteHill residence, January 7. It was described as "in splendid plumage that was conspicuous against the snowy background. Because of its large size I believe it a female. . . . I could see its red eye" (Flanigan).

Killdeer - In the cleared area at the back of Holy Cross Cemetery in Brookpark, one that "didn't appear to be doing anything in particular" was located on February 11. The only other observation for the winter season was at White City, December 5 (Hannikman). The February sighting is therefore regarded as a new earliest spring date, rather than a wintering bird.

Iceland Gull - What was described as "a second- or third! year bird" was with a gathering of Ring-billed Gulls on the breakwall at Edgewater Park on Christmas Day. "Being all white, he was pretty conspicuous" and was also set apart by the "longer, thinner wings" (Klamm). Another, described as in "pre-adult stage," was at Lorain Harbor on February 10, 16, and 18; "at 100 yards, soft light, mantle showed faintly gray--so faint that at greater distance in bright light, it would appear pure white" (Ward).

Boreal Chickadee - Late in the afternoon of December 23, one was mist-netted and banded in Waite Hill. Before being released the following morning, it was also photographed. "This bird was active and aggressive and uttered a little hissing call when handled" (Flanigan, fide Klamm et al.)

Mockingbird - Again, as in the past several winters, a lone bird remained in the locality where a nesting colony has been established in Willoughby Hills. (See CBC, Winter, 1970-71, issue for a detailed account.) It was not heard singing during the winter season but did commence on March 3, shortly before the arrival of its mate (Reutter).

Catbird - On December 23 one appeared on the back porch of a residence in Akron (Robert Capanna, fide Szabo).

Brown Thrasher - One visited a feeding station in Willoughby from February 13 to 17 "but failed to appear on the 18th. think the severe storm got him; he looked quite bedraggled on the 17th" (Pallister).

Wood Thrush - One was observed feeding with a Robin in a stand of hawthorn trees on the Case Western Reserve University campus, December 14 (Elmer S. Newman, fide Newman).

Hermit Thrush - What were evidently wintering birds--and conceivably could have been multiple observations of a single specimen--were in two areas near the Cleveland East

Side. One was observed on December 23, 24, and 29 in a wooded section near East 140th and Lakeland Freeway; again on February 28 one appeared in the same location (Hannikman). In between these dates the species was seen at two points in Cleveland Heights: one was near Overlook Road on January 29 (Baum), and one identified near Fairmount Boulevard on February 18 was "reported to have been around for a month or more" (Rickard).

Orange-crowned Warbler - The second and third December records of the species in the Cleveland Region were reported from two rather widely separated locations. One was mistnetted, banded, and released in Waite Hill on December 2; "orange crown was present on this bird" (Flanigan). On December 10 a single bird was observed in the wooded area near East 140th Street where one had been reported on November 17 and 25 (Hannikman).

Myrtle Warbler - All but one of the reports of this species were for the month of December. Single birds were observed in Strongsville on the 9th and 23rd of the month (Hocevar). On the 10th another lone specimen was seen in Brookpark (Stasko). Three were along a ditchline in Portage County (Neil Henderson, fide Szabo) and two in North Chagrin Reservation (Scheibe) on December 23. The only later observation was of a single along the Chagrin River in the North Chagrin Reservation on January 14 (Hammond).

Eastern Meadowlark - One band of four were in a field in Lorain County on January 13, where they reportedly had also been seen some days earlier (Dolbear). In Strongsville a single bird was observed on January 14 and five on February 11 (Hocevar).

Dickcissel - Several observers watched one with House Sparrows at a feeding station in Willoughby Hills for about a half-hour on December 16. Reportedly, it had been visiting the feeder for about a week before that date (Pamela Proudfoot, fide Hocevar).

Vesper Sparrow - A "well-marked individual" was on a road at Highland Cemetery on December 3, only the second December record for the species in the Cleveland Region. "It kept to itself mostly but did associate briefly with a loose flock of Slate-colored Juncos" (Knight).

Oregon Junco - Twice on December 2 a Pink-sided specimen with "the marking definitive" was present at a feeding station in Mayfield in company with Slate-colored Juncos and Tree Sparrows (Scheibe).

Swamp Sparrow - What appeared to be a wintering individual, rather than record early spring-migrant visited a feeding

station in Amherst on February 28; the same bird was believed to have been also present at the same location a few days earlier (Dolbear).

FIELD NOTES

Gull Population at Lorain Harbor. [ED. NOTE: In the annual Christmas Bird Count Lorain Harbor is commonly at or near the top in the nation in numbers of Ring-billed Gulls and regularly has large numbers of Herring and Bonaparte's Gulls during the period. Therefore, the following observations from a contributor who checks the harbor consistently during the season take on a special significance. In order to retain the flavor of the reports, the contributor's notes are reproduced with a minimum of editing.]

Dates listed are representative dates and numbers of species in the Lorain Harbor area, that I visit almost daily. It seems to me the number of commonly wintering species of ducks and gulls remained higher, because of an open winter. The far north species were reduced in numbers or did not appear. Often in early January gulls drop to a few or none for a period. (Notice estimated 5,000 Ringbilled and 20,000 Herring Gulls on January 6.)

Herring Gull: 15,000 on December 6, at least 100,000 on December 10 (this figure is not broken down and reflects an immigration of Ring-bills at this time), and 20,000 on January 6. An estimated 5,000 or more Herrings were present most days to now (February 28).

Ring-billed Gull: An estimated 45,000 on December 16. After they departed, Herring seemed three or five to one over Ring-bills present to the end of February. (Difficulty is Ring-bills and Herring Gulls seem to group loosely separately in some areas. Other areas they mix freely. Depends on where one looks!)

Bonaparte's Gull: 5,000 on December 6, about 1,000 on the 9th, 1,500 on the 11th and the 12th, 500 on the 16th, and 200 on the 25th. Bonaparte's Gulls gone by December 28. On January 7 there were 11 and one on January 11. Then on February 8 two rafts were resting in the harbor, an estimated 5,000. But none were in the air anywhere else. On February 9 there was a raft of 75; 40 were rising, wheeling, banking, and turning in precision, exactly like shorebirds. This maneuver I had not seen before. As in the case of February 8, none were in the air elsewhere. I have seen none since that date to the end of the winter recording period. - CLINTON E, WARD

Whistling Swan Unresponsive to Medical Aid. One Whistling Swan, which first landed on our pond in Waite Hill on November 23, stayed until December 6, getting no food or rest. As they had done with other migrating swans, our own swans (three Whoopers and one Mute) aggressively pestered him. We caught him, as he was unable to fly, and while attempting to water, feed, and warm him, I called the Zoo veterinarian for advice. He knew my vet, Dr. J. P. Henley, nearby, and they discussed his treatment--powerful vitamin shot and food and also separate him from the others. On his visit to Dr. Henley, he sat on the lap of my helper in a burlap bag, head out, and looked around with great interest and calmness at all the dog and cat lovers with their pets. One diagnosis of his affliction was sheep lice, which sucked his blood. Sadly, he died in spite of our efforts, succumbing between the two Bird Counts of December 16 and 23. - MARGARET H. SHERWIN

[Mrs. Sherwin did not make clear in her report whether the sex of the Whistling Swan was actually determined. Her use of the masculine pronoun may be only an excusable bit of literary license.--ED.]

Short-eared Owls Repeat as Winter Residents. For the past three winters Short-eared Owls have been regularly present near the Lorain County Airport in an area of old fields and pastures at Albrecht and Russian Roads, Amherst Township. The following is a summary of observations of the birds during this time span.

1970: First sighted, December 7; last sighted, March 25, 1971. Population count: three. Every day approximately 60 to 90 minutes before sunset (very regularly), they would appear over pasture and old fields. This was just about when the Marsh Hawks ceased to feed. If Marsh Hawks were around, the owls would chase them away. During the day the owls would roost on the ground in the fields. When feeding, which was mainly on field mice, they did not hesitate to go near buildings.

1971: First sighted, December 8; last sighted, April 16, 1972. Population count: high of seven but three most of the winter. Feeding pattern was the same as in the preceding winter--very regular in time when feeding begun. There were seven owls sighted in December in a "mass" circular flight, after which they dispersed. From then on only a population of three was seen. Apparently the others sought other wintering grounds. The possibility of establishment of winter feeding territories might be considered.

1972: First sighted, November 23; last sighted, February 1, 1973. Population count: seven. This year these seven owls always roosted in a corn field opening, which was

vegetated but with some corn. However, they were never seen to feed in the area as in the previous winters. Part of the old fields had been put into crops (beans, corn), but some old fields did remain, especially in the airport area, which they had utilized in previous years. - JAMES J. HUBER

[The first time that Short-eared Owls were reported from single location over an extended period of time in winter in the Cleveland Region was in the 1953-54 season, when they remained near the Cleveland Airport (now Hopkins Airport). Subsequently, they were observed during the 1956-57 winter at the Lakefront dump and during 1960-61 at Burke Lakefront Airport. In each of these winters two or more birds were generally present, with three being the typical number. One must wonder what attraction airports possess for these birds.--ED.]

Blue Jay as a Predator. The Blue Jay is now recognized as being omnivorous, but at the time of the publication of Bent's Life Histories of North American Jays Crows and Titmice (:1946), there was a discrepancy between the results of stomach examinations and the testimony of field observers concerning its nest-robbing habits. However, evidence of predation was so overwhelming and so universally admitted that it was accepted as true.

Recently I have personally been a witness to two acts of Blue Jays' destructiveness. On December 26, 1972, a Blue Jay was observed feeding on a small bird while perched in a Norway spruce near my home in Waite Hill. We saw the small bird dropped to the ground. The Blue Jay flew down momentarily but apparently was no longer interested, as it flew off and did not return. When retrieved, the dead bird was found to be a Slate-colored Junco that had been banded by me on November 12. The skull of the victim had been penetrated on the left side at about the site of the eye and had been cleaned out thoroughly. No other mark could be found on the body.

An earlier incident involved the predation of a nest of newly-hatched Robins in an apple tree by a rear terrace. In that instance a Blue Jay removed a nestling and carried it to a Norway spruce at the front of the house, where it was observed to devour the bird almost completely. The only remaining portion that could be found was the mandible portion of the head. The Blue Jay was seen returning to the nest at least once more. The parent Robin appeared unable to fight off its fierce and persistent attack.

- STEPHEN McINTOSH and ANNETTE B. PIIANIGAN

Feeding Stations Attract Varied Population. For a multiplicity of reasons many enthusiastic birders confine their winter observations to the comfort of their homes, where they

devote the hours to watching backyard feeding stations. One motive is simply that feeding stations do attract such an interesting assortment of birds. Several of the uncommon to rare winter visitors which appeared at feeders in the region this past winter are mentioned in the Noteworthy Records section. Others, though, deserve a few words on their own.

Naturally, who comes to dinner is determined in part by the menu. Beef suet is particularly popular with many birds. (For the information of the inexperienced, a simple and effective way to provide it is to put a solid chunk of suet in a mesh bag such as vegetables are packed in and hang it from a tree branch.) Most birders expect Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers to feed on suet. In Geauga County, though, a female Pileated Woodpecker, occasionally joined by a male, regularly visited a suet dispenser, while a female Yellowbellied Sapsucker persisted at another (Spare). A Redbellied Woodpecker appeared occasionally at a feeder in Willoughby (Huey). At another Geauga County residence the suet-eaters included two Carolina Wrens and a Red-breasted Nuthatch (Kremm).

The conventional mixture of grain and sunflowers of course attracts many varieties of finches. Several observers, though, were pleased to have species not usually seen close to habitation in winter. Song Sparrows were commonplace, and several contributors reported White-throated Sparrows. Six White-throats appeared one February morning at a feeding station in Willoughby (Pallister), and three were present all winter at a home in Chagrin Falls (Clark). A White-crowned Sparrow was a regular at a feeder in Berea (Chambers) and another during most of the winter in Waite Hill (Flanigan). Among the northern finches which were habitual visitors to feeders were Pine Siskins and Evening Grosbeaks, along with an occasional Purple Finch. Siskins came to a yard in Elyria, as many as 25 at a time, throughout December (Elizabeth and Gertrude Yoder, fide Johnson) and were also reported from Solon (Spare) and Willoughby (Pallister).

As is well known, some birds will visit feeding stations in winter but evidently confine their feeding to the ground underneath. Some observers theorize that they prefer the seeds that have been softened by moisture, although it may only reflect their aversion to enclosed spaces; and be a matter of sticking to their customary habitat. From late January on, up to three Horned Larks fed thus on waste grain at a feeder at Willowick Junior High School (Hammond); another appeared at a feeder in Chardon (Spare). Three Rufous-sided Towhees "spent a great deal of their time scratching in the deep litter of seeds below the bird feeders" (Szabo). The same habit was followed by a female Brown-headed Cowbird in Cleveland Heights (Crofts), though

this species normally does not hesitate to perch on feeders. At the same Cleveland Heights residence five Robins, however, rejected all offerings except bread.

In all, no less than 35 separate species of birds were reported as partaking of food provided for them, not counting the Cedar Waxwings which presumably were interested only in the natural fruits and the Common Crows which occasionally foraged in residential yards.

Addendum (Summer 1972):

Semipalmated Sandpiper. The late spring bird observed at White City was last seen on June 11, rather than June 13 as originally recorded. The observation still is a new latest spring date, as the previous latest date was June 9.

Addendum (Fall 1972):

Oldsquaw. The two males reported on November 25 were on Baldwin Reservoir instead of Berlin Reservoir (which is actually outside the Cleveland Region). The error occurred in the transcribing of data.

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AN INVITATION: The Kirtland Bird Club meets at 7:45 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month, with the exception of July and August, in The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Wade Oval, University Circle. Visitors are always welcome to attend these meetings.