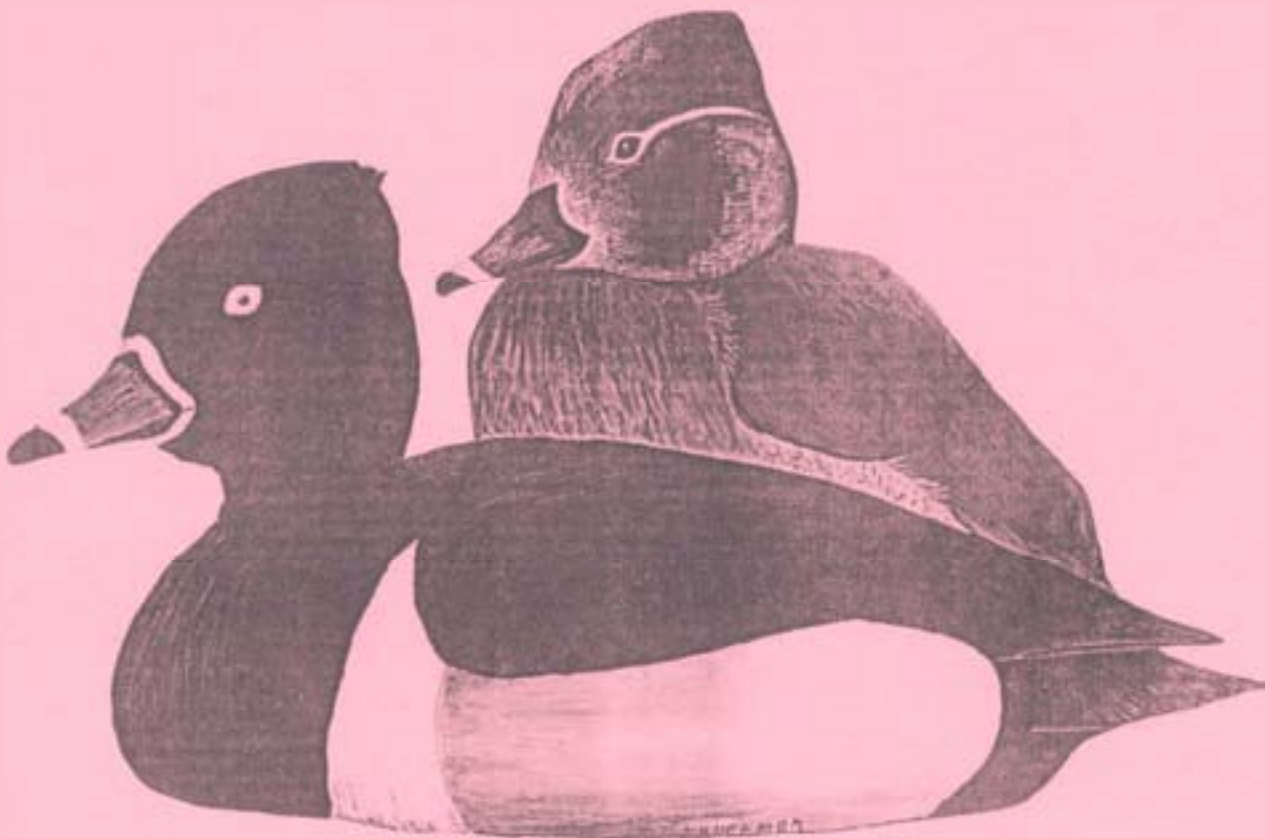


The Cleveland

September, October,
November 1992

Volume 88 Number 4

BIRD CALENDAR



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**The Kirtland Bird Club and
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The Cleveland Bird Calendar was founded in 1905 by Francis H. Herrick of The Western Reserve University. The purposes of the publication are to provide information on the movements of birds through the Cleveland region, to monitor population densities of resident birds, and to help in the establishment of patterns of vagrancy for rarely encountered species of the region.

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

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Due dates for seasonal field reports are as follows:

5 March - winter season

5 June - spring season

5 September - summer season

5 December - autumn season

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THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR

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REFLECTIONS

Thirty Years Ago: A total of 260 species was reported for the year ending 30 Nov. 1962. Two Red-necked Phalaropes were at Edgewater Park on 30 Sep. (Klamm). Another was at Spencer Lake on the same day (Morse). A flock of 44 Snow Geese was observed in Elyria Township 4-8 Nov. (Johnson). Large flocks of Tundra Swans were seen over Mentor-on-the-Lake on 11 Nov. (Hammond). The first local Western Tanager was discovered in Mayfield Heights on 24 Nov. (Staley).

Twenty Years Ago: The species total for the Bird Calendar year ending 30 Nov. 1972 was a mere 249. A late Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was banded in Waite Hill on 3 Oct. (Flanigan). A Black-and-white Warbler was at Lower Shaker Lake on 14 Nov. (Corbin). A Tree Swallow was tardy at Lake Rockwell on 20 Nov. (Leach). Flocks of up to 60 Pine Siskins were seen at Shaker Lakes (Corbin, Peskin).

Ten Years Ago: The yearly total of species reported by 30 Nov. 1982 was 273. This total is now the norm rather than the exception. A Cattle Egret was late at Gordon Park on 9 Nov. (Klamm). Tom LePage discovered a juvenile Sabine's Gull at East 55th St. on 15 Oct. A Harlequin Duck was there on 16 Oct. (Hoffman). The first October record of Red-throated Loon was from Sims Park on the 26th (Corbin). The latest Black Tern ever in the region was at Gordon Park on 31 Oct. (Rosche, Hannikman, Kellerman).

WEATHER

Fall 1992

by William Klamm

September - The month was moderately cooler and wetter than normal. Temperatures averaged 63.3°, .3° below normal. The highest temperature was 84° on the 7th and 15th. The lowest was 40° on the 28th and 30th. Lake Erie water temperature stood at 73° on the 1st and fell to 66° on the 30th. Sunshine prevailed 68% of the time possible. Rain occurred on 9 days to total 3.25 in., .33 in. above normal. The greatest 24 hour rainfall was 1.02 in. on the 21st & 22nd.

October - While not record setting, it was a cool month as temperatures averaged 49.9°, 3.3° below normal. The high was 77°, on the 3rd and the low was 27° on the 20th. Lake Erie water temperature dropped to 55° by the 31st.

Precipitation was distributed on 11 days and totaled 2.27 in., .18 in. below normal. The maximum fall in a 24 hour period was .73 on the 14th. A trace of snow fell on the 20th.

November - This was the 3rd wettest November on record. Precipitation occurred on 18 days to total 6.54 in., 3.78 in. above normal. The greatest fall in any 24 hour period was 1.77 in. on the 11th & 12th. This included snowfall that totaled 7.1 in., with 2.6 in. on the 5th and 2.4 in. on the 15th. Temperatures averaged 42°, .2° warmer than normal. The high was 65° on the 3rd and the low was 19° on the 16th. Lake Erie temperature fell to 45° by the 30th. Sunshine prevailed 20% of the time possible.

COMMENT ON THE YEAR AND SEASON

by Larry Rosche

Birds reported to The Cleveland Bird Calendar for the 1991-1992 year totaled a remarkable 286 species. This is remarkable in that little shorebird habitat existed during peak migration. Missing were Piping Plover, American Avocet, both godwits, Stilt Sandpiper, and Wilson's Phalarope. Highlights for the year were numerous. They started with last December's cooperative Western Grebe at the mouth of the Rocky River. Next came the spring's brilliant male Black-throated Gray Warbler at Baldwin Lake. In the summer it was the handsome Ruff at Gordon Park. The highlights culminated with the Gyrfalcon found in Lorain County and the immature Purple Gallinule found in Cleveland Heights this was a banner year for rarities in the region.

For the season, most of what is expected happened in timely fashion. Duck numbers were up for some species but alarmingly low for others. Once again it was a disappointing autumn for local shorebirds. It was surprising to read of the variety and numbers of warblers found during the weekdays of this past season. As a weekend birder, it seemed that only the ubiquitous Yellow-rumped Warbler passed through the region in any numbers. The totals reported by LePage and Metcalf offer a different perspective. Warblers were represented by 33 species, most in fair numbers.

A special thanks to Ray Hannikman for his support and expertise, to Jan McLean for her outstanding proof-reading and editing skills, and to all the contributors and helpers who make the Cleveland Bird Calendar possible.

Fall 1992

The first Common Loon was seen at Headlands Beach State Park (hereafter HBSP) on 16 Oct. (EB, PH). Two were at Best Lake on 21 Oct. (DB). Rosche and Vanderpoel were witness to a huge flight of at least 375 birds from 11:45 to 12:30 (between heavy snow squalls) over Huntington Reservation on 15 Nov. A light snow on 28 Nov. grounded an incredible number of loons on inland reservoirs. A tally of 81 at Springfield Lake was the square of what is expected at this lake (BL, LR, JV). The high tally for Pied-billed Grebes was only 12 at Wellington Reservoir on 8 Nov. (JES). A Small flock of 6 Horned Grebes appeared very early at Lake Rockwell on 12 Oct (LR). As Bill Klamm put it, grebe numbers were very poor along Lake Erie. The only Eared Grebe report was from Mentor Lagoons on 8 Nov. (AJF). Double-crested Cormorants

offered a different story, it was not uncommon to see 50± anywhere in the region through early November. Great Egrets at Spencer Lake SWA on 19 Sep. (NK) and HBSP on 20 Sep. (DB) were the only sightings this fall. A Green-backed Heron was in the Rocky River Valley on 9 Sep. (WNK). Lorain hosted 15 Black-crowned Night-Herons on 21 Nov. (JLD, SU). Two were at Eastlake on 26 Oct. (KM). The Klamms noted a high of 6 on their surveys. A bird at Donald Gray Gardens on 30 Sep. was unique (PL, TLn).

Many Tundra Swans passed over the region. On 6 Nov. 280 birds were counted over Leroy Township (JP). Dan Best reported that many were seen by Geauga County observers on that date. A flock of 156 graced LaDue Reservoir on 7 Nov. (EE). On the same day 430 Passed over Lakeshore Park (JP). Several flocks totaling 222 passed over Lake

County on 28 Nov. (RH, LR, JV). Holt tallied 60 at Edgewater on 29 Nov. Harlan saw 100 over Parma Heights the same day. A blue phase adult Snow Goose was at Summit Lake on 25 Oct. (JW). This is the 6th year for this species to winter in the Akron area. A blue phase bird was at Baldwin Lake on 27 Oct. (RHL). Several white phase birds were seen over Lorain Co. on 8 Nov. (BR).

Ducks, with exception of scoters, Buffleheads, and Red-breasted Mergansers, were generally in poor totals along Lake Erie (WNK). Wood Ducks were in reduced numbers at Lake Isaac and Lake Rockwell. Green-winged Teal were, for all intents and purposes, absent. American Black Ducks were numerous migrants along Lake Erie. Inland totals were holding their own as well. A total of 115 at Lake Isaac on 26 Nov. was indicative (RHL). Mallards were seen escorting young at Sims

Park on the ridiculously late date of 20 Sep. (RHL). Northern Pintails were typically scarce. Metcalf noted one at North Chagrin on 8 Sep. An immature male Blue-winged Teal was in Lorain on 15 Nov. (LR, JV). This was the first November sighting of this species for either observer in Ohio. They were very scarce at their usual migration period (WNK, LR). Two Northern Shovelers were at North Chagrin on 29 Sep. (KM). A pair was at Lake Rockwell on 15 Oct. (LR) and 10 Nov. (CH). The maximum count of Gadwalls at Lake Rockwell was 39 on 28 Oct. American Wigeon numbers were low throughout the region. The high count along Lake Erie was 1 on 30 Sep. (WNK).

...22 Common Mergansers at LaDue Reservoir on 7 Nov. was unique

Two Canvasbacks were of local interest in Northfield on 7 Nov. (DAC). Ten were off Huntington Reservation on 15 Nov. (LR, JV). A Redhead was early in Aurora on 23 Sep. (EE). Ring-necked Duck totals on Inland lakes were high. Scaup numbers were unimpressive. Five Oldsquaws were tallied at Lakeshore MP on 31 Oct. (JP). A hen flew by HBSP on 1 Nov. (EB, RH, LR). A male was at Oberlin Reservoir on 8 Nov. (JES). Holt saw 2 at HBSP the same day. On 31 Oct a mixed flock of 140 scoters was counted by LePage as they flew by Rocky River. A sizeable gathering of scoters off Bay Village on 21 Nov. included 15 Blacks, 60 Surfs, and

5 White-wingeds (JLD, SU). Four Black Scoters were at Sheffield Lake on 1 Nov. (RHL). Up to 50 Surf Scoters were seen in Lorain on 23 Nov. (KA). A Surf and a Black were seen at HBSP on 21 Oct. (KM). Two White-winged Scoters flew by HBSP on 25 Oct. (EB, RH, JV). Three were at Perkins Beach on 1 Nov. (RHL). An adult male was at Wellington Reservoir on 8 Nov. (NK, JES). Four were in Lorain of 23 Nov. (KA). Common Goldeneyes had arrived at Best Lake by 20 Oct. (DB). The customary winter flock off Sims Park was materializing by the end of the reporting period (RH). Other than the exceptional 160 at LaDue Reservoir on 7 Nov. (EE), Buffleheads were in expected totals inland. Along Lake Erie their numbers were well above average (WNK, m.obs.). Hooded Mergansers were moving in large numbers (for the species) in early Nov. This was particularly true along Lake Erie, when hundreds were seen from HBSP to Cleveland on 7 Nov. (EB, RH, LR). The Klamms found up to 149 on the west side from 7 to 12 Nov. As is usual for Lake Rockwell, 250+ staged there from mid-Nov. through the period. A flock of 22 Common Mergansers at LaDue Reservoir on 7 Nov. was unique (EE). The Red-breasted Merganser numbers along Lake Erie from Oct. through Nov. defy calculation. A flock of 380 Ruddy Ducks at Mogadore Reservoir was the high tally (JW). As expected, they were numerous at Oberlin and Wellington Reservoirs (NK, JES).

Charles Klaus saw an **Osprey** as it flew by his office window on the 33rd floor of the National City Center on 3 Sep. The only other Cleveland report was from

Gordon Park on 5 Oct. (WNK). They were seen in typical small numbers at expected times at most large inland reservoirs. Up to 3 were at Lake Rockwell in October (CH, LR). One to 3 were at Lake Medina in Sep.-Nov. (JH, CW). The latest sighting there was 22 Nov. (CW). In 1992 we established a record early spring date and a record-tying late fall date for Osprey. Two adult Bald Eagles were seen intermittently at Lake Rockwell from mid-September through the period (m.obs.). Northern Harriers were frequenting fields in Medina (JH) and Lorain (NK) Counties after mid-October. A Red-shouldered Hawk was seen along Crow Road on 19 Sep. (NK). A Broad-winged Hawk was seen in Lorain County on the late date of 29 Sep. (BR). A light-phase Rough-legged Hawk circled over HBSP on 1 Nov. (RH, EB, LR). A bird was regularly seen near Wellington 7-14 Nov. (JH). Bob Finkelstein and Paula Lozano enjoyed leisurely looks at a bird as it flew from Gordon Park to E. 72nd St. on 8 Nov. American Kestrels were as expected. A female **Merlin** was seen intermittently in Lake Co. during Sep.-Nov. (m.obs.). A bird in Medina Co. on 17 Oct. was an outstanding inland find (CW). One was at Gordon Park on 24 Oct. (TLP). The Cleveland Peregrine Falcons were seen throughout the period (m.obs.). A bird in Eastlake on 7 Nov. was unexpected (ES).

Shorebird reports were so disappointing that most observers failed to mention the Order. Up to 4 Black-bellied Plovers were seen at Burke Airport through 24 Oct. (WNK, m.obs.). Two at East Branch Reservoir on 11 Oct.

Waterbird Sampling for Greater Cleveland - October - November 1992

LOCATION	LR	LR	LR	LR	MOG	HBSP	LR	LOR	BV	LR	LAD	SWM	LR
DATE	10/12	10/19	10/25	11/1	11/6	11/7	11/10	11/15	11/15	11/24	11/27	11/28	11/28
COMMON LOON				2	3	7	18	4	378	3	45	94	21
PIED-BILLED GREBE	1	3	1	12	1	6	3	1		2	1	4	
HORNED GREBE	6								1		2	2	
DC CORMORANT	20	38	8	3		8	3		1	1			1
G. BLUE HERON	3	6	5	1	1	1	4			2	1		2
TUNDRA SWAN									12	2		5	16
CANADA GOOSE	120	350	350	240		35	283	20	30	350	220	20	500
WOOD DUCK	35	30	12	8			6						
GREEN-W. TEAL						9				1			1
A. BLACK DUCK	20	35	80	50	1	25	20	35	20	40	50	22	70
MALLARD	300	70	70	30	6	35	85	65	16	50	100	200	200
N. PINTAIL								2					
N. SHOVELER	2												
GADWALL	6	28	39	14			12				12		
A. WIGEON	24	20	45	20									
RING-NECK DUCK	28	125	1200	1500	88		113		3	900	18	2	100
LESSER SCAUP	2	18	4		1	14		65	120		2		
C. GOLDENEYE						60		14	18		3	3	1
BUFFLEHEAD				22	34	60		8	50		24	36	8
HOODED MERGANSER		14	30	18		100	22			217	143	1	140
RED-BREASTED MERG.				1		900		6000	2500		300	375	75
RUDDY DUCK	16	82	4	20			2	1	1	2		200	4
A. COOT	85	26	11	6	250	5	6	8	2		22	150	7

BV = BAY VILLAGE; HBSP HEADLANDS BEACH SP; LR = LAKE ROCKWELL;

LAD = LADUE RESERVOIR; LOR = LORAIN; MOG = MOGADORE RESERVOIR; SWM = SPRINGFIELD LAKE, WINGFOOT LAKE, AND MOGADORE RES.

were noteworthy (AJF). A Lesser Golden-Plover was at Burke Airport 21 Sep. - 27 Oct. (WNK). Two were at HBSP on 14 Sep. (KM). A bird was a local rarity at Buckeye Woods Park (Medina Co.) on 3 Oct. (JH). The only concentration of Semipalmated Plovers reported was 30 at East Branch Reservoir on 11 Oct. (AJF). Yellowlegs numbers were low. A Solitary Sandpiper was rather late in the CVNRA on 19 Sep. (DAC). Two Whimbrels were in Fairport Harbor on 19 Oct. (JP). Ruddy Turnstones were found only along Lake Erie beaches. Sanderlings were numerous at HBSP, with up to 50 being counted on 19 Oct. (EB, RH, LR). A Baird's Sandpiper was at HBSP on 11 Sep. (KM). A Pectoral Sandpiper was at East Branch Reservoir on 11 Oct.

(AJF). A flock of 21 Dunlins were there the some day. A Long-billed Dowitcher was seen at East Branch on 11 Oct. (AJF). No Common Snipe reports were received. As a migrant, this species has declined greatly throughout the region. A late American Woodcock was at Donald Gray Gardens on 14 Nov. (WNK).

The Franklin's Gull that Rickard saw at Sims Park on 12 Sep. was our only report along the lake. A first winter Little Gull was at Eastlake on 26 Oct. (KM). An adult was there on 7-8 Nov. (AJF). Another adult was seen in Lorain on 7 Nov. (DM) and on 14 Nov. (WNK). Rosche and Vanderpoel saw an immature there on 15 Nov. Up to 15,000 Bonaparte's Gulls were in

Lorain on various days in November (m.obs.). A flock of 2000 was at the mouth of the Grand River during the same time period. They were more numerous than expected on inland lakes. Counts of up to 50 could be made on a given day at LaDue Reservoir, Lake Medina, and Lake Rockwell. An adult Thayer's Gull was in Lorain on 15 Nov. (JLD, SU), 26 Nov. (JP), and on 30 Nov. (KA). A Lesser Black-backed Gull was seen at Eastlake on 14 Nov. (AJF). Another was photographed in Lorain on 21 Nov. (JLD, SU). A Glaucous Gull was seen from Lakeshore MP on 15 Nov. (JP). Another was at Lorain on 29 Nov. (BM, WNK). Great Black-backed Gulls were exceptionally numerous for the time of year. Caspian Terns were below average in num-

bers along the lake. Inland, a high of 4 was reached at Lake Medina (JH). A flock of 35 Common Terns at Lorain on 3 Nov. was noteworthy (TLP). Forster's Terns were scarce. Our only report of Black Tern was noted at HBSP on 11 Sep. (KM).

A Black-billed Cuckoo was in the CVNRA on 5 Sep. (DAC). One was at Euclid Beach SP on 13 Sep. (TLP). A Yellow-billed Cuckoo was at HBSP on 16 Sep. (EE). Another was in the CVNRA on 19 Sep. (DAC). Snowy Owls were distributed from Fairport Harbor west to the Cuyahoga River. The first report was from HBSP on 7 Nov. (EB, RH, LR). A bird was in Fairport Harbor 18-20 Nov. (JP). Up to 2 could be found near or at Burke Airport from 19 Nov. (WNK, PL, m.obs.). A pale bird was at Edgewater Park on 21 Nov. (JLD, SU). A Barred Owl was out of place along the beach at HBSP on 12 Sep. (CH). A Short-eared Owl was in Lorain on 26 Oct. (TLP). Another was in Lake Co. on 31 Oct. (JP).

Common Nighthawks (276) were moving along I-90 east and west of Cleveland on 6 Sep. (JLD, SU). The latest nighthawks were on 4 Oct. when 5 were seen in Akron (LK). Chimney Swifts left on time. The last Ruby-throated Hummingbird was slightly late on 23 Sep. (KM). Red-headed Woodpeckers were in higher than expected totals along the lake. The Klamms encountered up to 8 birds on 22 of 24 birding excursions. While the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker migration was noticeable during the period from 23 Sep. through 3

***The Acadian
Flycatcher in the
CVNRA on 19 Sep.
was the
latest...***

Oct. numbers were unspectacular (WNK).

An Olive-sided Flycatcher was at Gordon Park on 1 Sep. (TLP). The Fjeldstads saw one at HBSP on 13 Sep. A Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was a good find at Tinker's Creek SNP on 7 Sep. (EE). Two were at HBSP on 13 Sep. (AJF). The Acadian Flycatcher in the CVNRA on 19 Sep. was the latest report in my tenure as editor (DAC). The latest Willow Flycatcher was 23 Sep. (WNK). Least Flycatchers were common, as expected. Eastern Phoebes were common, with a high count of 15 at the Jaite Area of the CVNRA on 19 Sep. (RHL). A bird was exceptionally late at HBSP on 15 Nov. (CH). Three Great Crested Flycatchers at HBSP on 13 Sep. was the high tally for the season (AJF). Tree Swallows were unexpectedly numerous (50±) at Lake Rockwell from 11-26 Oct. (LR, CH).

Over the years we have come to use the Red-breasted Nuthatch migration as a barometer to tell whether it will be a good winter finch year. This fall's movement was poor and the outlook for a winter finch invasion remains bleak. The Brown Creeper passage was very poor paralleling the Red-breasted Nuthatch. Carolina Wrens continue to spread and take advantage of

favorable weather conditions. Winter Wrens were in good numbers along the lake at expected times. Marsh Wrens were at Donald Gray Gardens and Gordon Park on 17 Oct. (RHL). Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets were plentiful throughout the region. This was particularly true for Golden-crowneds when, on cold days, many could be seen foraging on the ground (WNK). A Ruby-crowned was late in Medina Co. on 26 Nov. (BR).

Eastern Bluebirds were in good totals on the west side (WNK) and in Lorain Co. (BR). A late Veery was banded in North Perry on 8 Oct. (JP). The Gray-cheeked Thrush migration was good along Lake Erie and as expected inland (m.obs.). A high of 36 Swainson's Thrushes was reached along the lakefront on 11 Sep. (WNK). Hermit Thrushes moved as expected. A Wood Thrush was tardy at Euclid Beach SP on 15 Oct. (TLP). Up to 6 Northern Mockingbirds could be found near Gordon Park (WNK). A bird at Lake Kelso on 29 Nov. was an excellent find for the location (DB). Gary Gerrone saw one South of Grafton on 8 Nov. Brown Thrashers received little mention. John Herman found a sizeable flock of 70 American Pipits in Medina Co. on 14 Nov. A few were seen along the lake on 29 Sep. and 2 Oct. (WNK).

A Solitary Vireo was late at Euclid Beach SP on 18 Oct. (TLP). A bird at Lakeshore MP on 7 Nov. was extremely late (JP). White-eyed and Yellow-throated Vireos were virtually absent away from the CVNRA.

LePage's Lakefront Warbler Survey for Fall 1992

DATE	9/4	9/5	9/6	9/7	9/8	9/13	9/20	9/21	9/24	9/26	10/1
BLUE-WINGED				1							
GOLDEN-WINGED				1							
TENNESSEE			2	1		1					2
ORANGE-CROWNED						1					
NASHVILLE		8	3	6		8	2	1	2		4
YELLOW	1	2	1	5		2	2			3	
CHESTNUT-SIDED			1	1		3	1		1	1	1
MAGNOLIA	6	15	12	20	4	5	3	1	3	8	3
CAPE MAY	1	3		4		4			1	1	
BLACK-THROATED BLUE				1			1		1	1	1
YELLOW-RUMPED							2		1		1
BLACK-THROATED GREEN	1	2									4
BLACKBURNIAN	1	3	1	6					1		
PALM							5				
BAY-BREASTED	5	9	6	15	2	2			1		1
BLACKPOLL	1	3	2	13		15	2				
BLACK-AND WHITE	1	3		1		3	1				
AMERICAN REDSTART	4	5	4	3	2	4	2	1	1		1
OVENBIRD		1		2							
MOURNING				2		2				1	
C. YELLOWTHROAT		1				2	1	1	1		1
WILSON'S	1	2	2	9		5	3	1	2	3	
CANADA		1							1		

A Philadelphia Vireo was at HBSP on 5 Sep. (KM). Two were in the CVNRA on 16 Sep. (BAT). Red-eyed Vireo migration was strong and timely. A bird was singing in the CVNRA on the late date of 1 Oct. (LK). A freshly dead bird was found at HBSP on 1 Nov. (LR, EB, RH). This was the latest report since a bird was seen on 2 Nov. 1975 at Waite Hill (Flanigan).

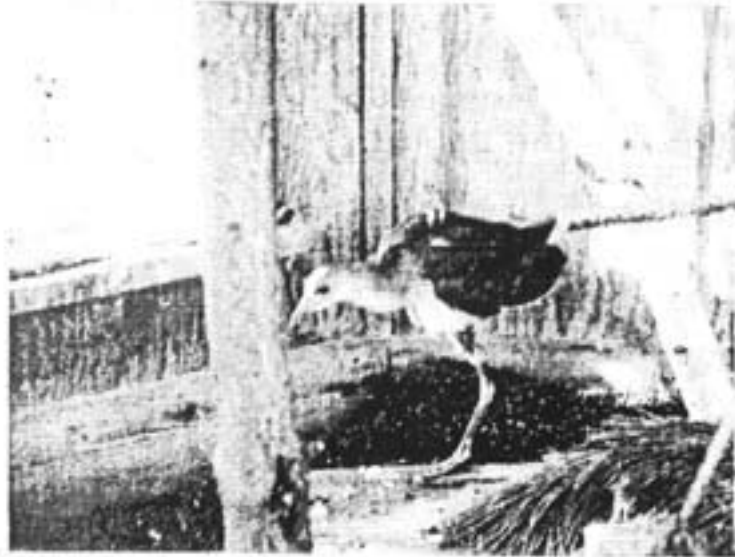
The high count for Blue-winged Warblers was 2 at Lake Isaac on 1 Sep. (RHL). LePage encountered 5 Orange-crowned Warblers during his excursions along the lakeshore. A bird was at Gordon Park on 13 Sep. (RHL). At HBSP Metcalf found 2 on 23 Sep. and 3 on 21 Oct. Two were there on 22 Oct. (DM). Nashville Warblers were fairly common. The only Northern

Parula was at HBSP on 20 Sep. (DB, RHL). A male Yellow Warbler at Bacon Woods on 13 Nov. was exceptionally late but not a record-breaker (BR). Cape May Warblers were scattered about the region in small numbers from 1 Sep. through 12 Oct. The high count of Black-throated Blue Warblers was 6 on 3 Oct. at HBSP (EB, RH, LR). Black-throated Green Warblers were common. A Pine Warbler put in a late appearance at HBSP on 25 Oct. (LR, EB). A Prairie Warbler was a good find in the CVNRA on 26 Sep. (BAT). Palm Warblers were fewer than expected. Euclid Beach SP and Sims Park each hosted 15 Blackpoll Warblers on 13 Sep. (RHL). The high count of Blackburnian Warblers was 2 at Spencer Lake on 19 Sep. (NK). Black-and-white Warblers were fairly common the region.

American Redstarts were common to abundant at expected times. An Ovenbird was in Brecksville on 17 Sep. (DAC). A Mourning Warbler was a good find in the CVNRA on 23 Sep. (BAT). A Hooded Warbler was a slightly late in the CVNRA on 26 Sep. (DAC). Common Yellowthroats moved well. Wilson's Warblers were common. A Canada Warbler was late at Sims Park on 26 Sep. (RH). Yellow-breasted Chats were reported from Lakeshore MP on 5 & 23 Sep. (JP).

A Scarlet Tanager at HBSP on 4 Oct. was one of the few reported (KM). The high of 4 Rose-breasted Grosbeaks was disappointing on 14 Sep. at Shaker Lakes (RR) and in the Rocky River Valley (WNK). Indigo Buntings were typically scarce.

American Tree Sparrows were abundant at expected times in preferred locales. A one day high 100+ Chipping Sparrows at Gordon Park on 18 Oct. was about a week later than expected (RH). Field Sparrow numbers were less than the past several falls. Six Vesper Sparrows along the lake front on 30 Sep. represented the high count (WNK). A Grasshopper Sparrow posed an identification problem at Gordon Park on 17 Oct. (RH). Lincoln's Sparrows were as expected along the lake. A high of 6 was reached at the CVNRA on 2 Oct. (BAT). Two Fox Sparrows were at Tinker's Creek SP on 28 Oct. and 2 were in the CVNRA on 7 Nov. (DAC). Five were flushed at Donald Gray Gardens on 8 Nov. (RH, LR). A bird was in Barberton on 8 Nov. (BL). White-crowned Sparrows were not as abundant as the past few falls. By November many were taking up winter residence throughout the region. Dark-eyed Juncos were numerous in fields away from Lake Erie. Snow Buntings moved well along Lake Erie where up to 250 were tallied on 26 Nov. (WNK). A Lapland Longspur was at HBSP on 6 Oct. (EB, RH). A bird was seen at Huntington Reservation on 15 Nov. (JLD, LR, SU, JV). The high count of Eastern Meadowlarks along the lake-front was 7 on 19 Oct. (WNK). Many Rusty Blackbirds descended on Twin Lakes in mid-October (LR). A single Pine Siskin was in Sagamore Hills on 8 Nov. (DAC). A small flock of siskins was in Amherst Township 21-22 Nov. (BR). Eight were at Huntington Beach on 30 Nov. (KA).



Purple Gallinule (*Porphyrio martinica*) at the Lake County Rehab Center - November 1992
by John V. Pogacnik

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

by Ray Hannikman

Red-throated Loon - Two individuals were noted in Lake County - at Lakeshore Metropark on 8 Nov. (Pogacnik) and at Headlands Beach SP on 28 Nov. (Rosche, Bacik, Hannikman).

Red-necked Grebe - One was located at Lakeshore Metropark on 7 Nov. (Pogacnik).

American Bittern - A bird was flushed from Mentor Lagoons on 14 Nov. (Fjeldstad).

Cattle Egret - A lone bird appeared at Edgewater Park during high winds on 16 Oct. (LePage). This species has been noted from this location for two consecutive falls.

King Eider - Two birds were documented from Lakeshore Metropark on 15 Nov. (Pogacnik).

Gyr Falcon - An immature female, incapable of flight, was found at the BFI garbage dump in Russia Township on 29 Oct. and was placed in the care of Dr. Jaime Lindstrom. The bird was found dead on 25 Nov. having succumbed to a lung infection (file Kraps and Pogacnik). This was only the Cleveland area's second record for this species, both birds quite curiously having been found in Lorain County near the end of October.

Purple Gallinule - An immature was picked up on Lee Road in Cleveland on 24 Sep. and

taken to the Lake Metropark Rehabilitation Center at Penitentiary Glen Metropark (Linville fide Pogacnik). The bird was scheduled for release in South Carolina.

Sandhill Crane - Five birds were reported from Painesville on 26 Oct. (Pogacnik).

Western Sandpiper - An early November movement occurred with birds at Headlands Beach SP on 1 Nov. (Bacik, Hannikman, Rosche), Painesville Township Park on 2 Nov. (Pogacnik), and 2 at Sitvercreek Metropark (Summit County) on 8 Nov. (Lane).

Purple Sandpiper - Two flew by Huntington Reservation on 15 Nov. (Rosche, Vanderpoel).

Red-necked Phalarope - Two birds were found, one 22 Sep. at Painesville Township Park (Pogacnik) and the other on 24 Sep. at Sims Park (Hannikman). The latter bird was a brightly colored juvenile.

Red Phalarope - One was at Fairport Harbor Beach on 27-28 Oct. (Pogacnik).

Black-legged Kittiwake - A first-winter bird was noted from Lorain on 15-17 Nov. (Rosche, Vanderpoel, LePage).

Northern Saw-whet Owl - A bird was reported at the Walter C. Best Preserve on 8 Nov. (fide Best). Another was at Lakeshore Metropark on 25 Nov. (Pogacnik).

Whip-poor-will - Our only fall report was from Virginia Kendall



Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) Lakeshore Metropark 17 Oct. 1992
by John V. Pogacnik

Ledges in the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area on 3 Oct. (Wert).

Empidonax (sp) - A very late individual at the Gordon Park Impoundment was cautiously and conservatively left unidentified on 17 Oct. (Harlan).

Sedge Wren - Single birds were found at the Gordon Park Impoundment on 4 Oct. (Hannikman) and Headlands Beach SP on 22 Oct. (Miller).

Chestnut-sided Warbler - The first November record in the Cleveland Bird Calendar files occurred when one was banded at Lakeshore Metropark on 7 Nov. (Pogacnik).

Yellow-throated Warbler - Another new late departure date was established when this

species was noted in the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area on 19 Sep. (Chasar).

Dickcissel - An immature male was banded on 17 Oct. at Lakeshore Metropark (Pogacnik).

Le Conte's Sparrow - This elusive species was documented from the Gordon Park Impoundment on 22 Oct. (Miller).

Red Crossbill - One was first heard calling, then seen, at Shaker Lakes on the early date of 30 Sep. (Harlan).

White-winged Crossbill - A single bird was reported from Lakeshore Metropark on 27 Oct. (Pogacnik).

FIELD NOTES

A nesting chronology of Lake Rockwell's Bald Eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)

by Ed Maynard, Akron
Watershed Superintendent

Thursday, March 19, 1992

5:30 p.m.: Both adults at nest. One sits atop, facing north, other inside of nest, head appears from time to time.

5:46 p.m.: Adult inside of nest flies over to perch atop a tree 20 yards south of nest. Preening, some dark around eyes and in tail. Other eagle stays atop nest.

6:40 p.m.: Both adults flying low along northwest Rockwell shore. Immature eagle perched here, just north of dike #4, no white visible.

6:45 p.m.- Both adults perched in tree 30 yards east of nest, twilight.

7:00 p.m.: "Creaky door" calls. One eagle flies low, disappears to the south of nest.

7:10 p.m.: Dark. Other eagle flies to nest, too dark to see clearly, but appears to have landed inside of nest.

Friday, March 20

8:00 a.m.: one eagle on nest.

1:00 p.m.: one eagle on nest.

5:45 p.m.: Both eagles inside nest, busy arranging twigs, bark, etc. Light snow begins falling.

6:03 p.m.: One flies off to south, other lowered into nest. New scope today, can see dark patterns on head. This one is staying in the nest. It is sifting still with its head bobbing up and down, cannot see anything in its beak.

6:35 p.m.: Eagle in nest has been quite still since last entry, now it rises erect, fluffs feathers, and settles down again in some spot.

6:37 p.m.: Other eagle returns, sits atop nest for a minute and flies off north. Too dark and snowy to see any other activity.

7:00 p.m.: No other roosting eagles spotted. The northern quarter of Lake Rockwell has a thin cover of ice tonight.

Saturday, March 21

6:25 a.m.: Eagle flies in from South and perches in a tree 120 yards north of nest. Flies over and sits atop nest, glancing around in all directions.

7:00 a.m.: Eagle has gathered several two foot branches for nest, now settles inside of nest with only head visible, busy arranging small nest material.

7:25 a.m.: Other eagle flies into nest. This one is smaller and has more dark markings on head, especially on nape; dark *eye

stripe" more pronounced. Both birds gather and arrange two foot to 4 foot branches in nest. One always stays atop the nest.

2:00 p.m.: Both eagles in nest, one just brought back a fish and they are eating it in the nest.

Saturday, March 28

8:15 a.m.: Both eagles in nest, one sitting still, other walking around, busily working nesting material.

8:50 a.m.: "Busy" eagle flew off 15 minutes ago, returns now with food that they share, sitting eagle remains in the same spot.

9:00 a.m.: Fishing eagle flies off south, it is the one with the dark area on the back of its neck.

2:00 p.m.: Eagle in nest, moving twigs. Sitting still,

4:00 p.m.: Other eagle flies in, sits atop nest, they share a fish.

Sunday, March 29

9:00 a.m.: One eagle in the air by nest, chasing a crow, other eagle in nest, eating. Flying eagle returns to nest with small branch. The flying eagle has a whiter head, the nest eagle is the one with a dark neck area. Fretz reports that both eagles were chasing a Red-tailed Hawk yesterday; one of them returned to nest within one minute.

9:20 a.m.: "White Neck", perches in tree east of nest, flies back and forth from nest, does not wander very far. Preening on perch. They have traded places from earlier observations.

Sunday, April 12

10:15 a.m.: White Neck in nest, busy poking around. Sitting slightly off center towards north of nest.

10:30 a.m.: Constantly poking around. Standing up occasionally, bill empty. Moves to south area of nest, same activity.

11:00 a.m.: Another eagle, salt and pepper head. Perched by dike #5. It has a silver band on its left leg. Chest is molting, preening, pulling downy feathers. This is not one of the nesters. Full white tail.

3:30 p.m.: White Neck in nest, sifting low, no activity.

Tuesday, April 21

6:20 p.m.: White Neck in nest.

6:40 p.m.: Other eagle fishes in Lake George, perches near lake edge. This is the salt and pepper eagle that I spotted on April 12. It has a white "V" mark below its nape. It gets dive bombed by a Red-tailed Hawk and flies off at 7:00 p.m.

7:05: White Neck still sitting, facing away from Lake George, east, seems oblivious to the action nearby.

7:10 p.m.: Black Neck flies into nest, White Neck flies off to nearby perch. Black neck

assumes sifting position after gingerly walking around in nest. White Neck preens.

Wednesday, April 22

6:10 p.m.: White Neck in nest, sitting low and still.

6:50 p.m.: Black Neck flies into nest, perches on east edge.

7:00 p.m.: White Neck flies over to same perch tree that it used yesterday evening. Black neck assumes sitting position.

7:05 p.m.: White Neck flies off, returns to nest with a slender five foot stick and adds it to the nest, returns to perch tree and preens.

Wednesday, April 29

8:50 a.m.: White Neck perched in tree overlooking nest, preening, Dark Neck sitting in nest; lots of head bobbing and beak probing. Squeaky door calls (two note) back and forth. Dark Neck stands up, faces southwest and probes around this area of nest after resuming sitting position.

9:15 a.m.: White Neck flies onto nest, finds a fish inside and eats it: then, walks over to Dark Neck and feeds it the remaining pieces. Several times Dark Neck offers a gaping mouth and is fed. They both walk around and do some large stick arranging. Dark Neck resumes sitting position, white neck perches atop nest edge, alongside.

12:45 p.m.: Dark Neck in nest. White neck perched atop a nearby tree.

6:15 p.m.: White Neck perched in tree by Lake George. I am just across the lake in a car, this must be too close, it flies back to perch by nest, Dark Neck sitting still, low, in nest. Did not see a leg band on White Neck, but only had clear view of right leg.

Thursday, April 30

1:15 p.m.: White Neck perched over nest in nearby tree, White Neck sitting low in middle of nest. White Neck flies into nest and gingerly assumes sifting position after Black Neck flies off to Lake George east shore.

Sunday, May 3

9:00 a.m.: White Neck sitting low in nest, doing a lot of head dipping, beak probing. Cannot see anything in its beak.

6:30 p.m.: White Neck is sitting very low in nest. Busy probing around in the area of nest in front of it. Top of head appears about every 15 minutes.

7:30 p.m.: The eagle has moved to the south end of nest (it is White Neck) and is sitting at the usual height, full head showing.

Monday, May 4

4:00 p.m.: White Neck sitting low in middle of the nest. Lots of head movement, beak probing area in front of it. Drizzle, 40°.

7:00 p.m.: White Neck stands up, probes the spot it was sitting in, turns 180° and very carefully settles back down to sitting position (feathers ruffling

and waddling).

7:20 p.m.: Dark Neck flies into nest, chews on some of the small top branches. White Neck flies over to nearby perch, Dark Neck takes over sitting position.

Thursday, May 7

8:00 a.m.: White Neck in nest, sitting low in the middle, busily probing around in nest area in front, north end of nest.

9:00 a.m.: Dark Neck in nest. White Neck not perched in area, flying near Lake George.

3:00 p.m.: Both in nest, White Neck feeds Dark Neck a few times. White Neck flies off to nearby perch, Dark Neck stays in sitting position.

Friday, May 8

8:00 a.m.: White Neck perched and preening near nest.

8:40 a.m.: Have tried all viewing angles, see nothing in the nest. White Neck gone from perch.

8:45 a.m.: White Neck flies into nest, sits low in middle of nest. Lot of head movement down into nest.

8:55 a.m.: Dark Neck flies in and perches on branch of nest tree. After five minutes, White Neck stands up, steps back and flies to nearby perch. Dark Neck flies over to join White Neck after one minute. Dark Neck flies into nest, lands on edge, hops in, and settles into sitting position in middle.

5:00 p.m.: White Neck in nest, stands up and probes in area it was sitting in, turns 180°, settles down into sitting position with wagging movement. Extends both wings fully at 5:02, laying them atop nest, with head down. 5:04 head pops up, folds left wing back into place

5:13 folds right wing back. Gusty wind (20-30 mph), feathers ruffling.

5:28 p.m.: Stands up, pokes where it was sitting, turns 90°, sits.

Monday, May 11

9:05 a.m.: White Neck standing in nest, appears to be eating. Settles to sitting position with wagging motion. Up again at 9:10, has been busily working head around, picking something up from its left side and putting it on right side below rim at nest. Mouth agape, quite warm already, may hit 80o today.

9:45 a.m.: Stands up, turns 180°, lots of head and beak activity in same nest spot as at 9:05 after settling into sitting position. Up again after two minutes. poking around, white feathers in beak. Sits down again. 10:00 end. Dark Neck Perched in tree at Lake George.

4:00 p.m.: Wildlife Division, ODNR, has determined that the eggs, if any, are long overdue to hatch, The eggs must be collected for testing as to why they did not hatch. Denis Case climbs the tree and finds two eggs in the nest. One is cracked, (Possibly, he stated, caused while he harnessed

himself to the nest branch). The cracked egg is milky and putrid. Both eagles circled the area while he investigated the nest, calling and swooping down to treetop level. Denis found a bluegill and a turtle ("stinkpot") in the nest. The nest was described as not particularly deep and the loose compost material at the center was fairly new. The eggs will be used as a control for comparison with other, especially Lake Erie samples.

7:30 p.m.: Eagles not in sight by nest area. End

Tuesday, May 12, 1992

No eagles sighted today.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Breeding Survey

The Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) is a common spring migrant from late March through May, whose numbers peak in April. According to the Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas (1991) it is considered a rare nester in the counties of Northeastern Ohio. I am planning on conducting a breeding survey this year (1993). I would appreciate any information on sightings of sapsuckers after the middle of May to determine the possibility of breeding in the Cleveland region. Please send reports to: **Thomas Leiden** 14631 Mill Hollow Lane Strongsville, Ohio 44136 or telephone me at (216) - 572-4824.

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

Rare Bird Hotline: (216) 321- 7245 The hotline is sponsored by the Kirtland Bird Club. In cases of extreme rarities (i.e. Western Grebe, Mew Gull, Varied Thrush, Harris Sparrow, etc.) please contact the editors as soon as possible.

Invitation: The Kirtland Bird Club meets the first Wednesday of the month except July and August at 7:45 P.M. in The Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

Field Study: On the first Sunday of each month a census is conducted at Headlands Beach State Park. The purpose is to study the long term occurrence patterns of migrant and resident birds of the Grand River and Fairport Harbor section of the region. For more information call Larry Rosche at 678- 9408 or Ray Hannikman at 261- 4047.

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Inquiries regarding subscription to The Cleveland Bird Calendar should be addressed to Joan M. Palmer, The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, 1 Wade Oval, University Circle, Cleveland, Ohio 44106. The annual subscription rate is \$7.50.

Field reports, artwork, papers, and photographs should be directed to Larry Rosche, 7473 Sylvan Drive, Kent, Ohio 44240.