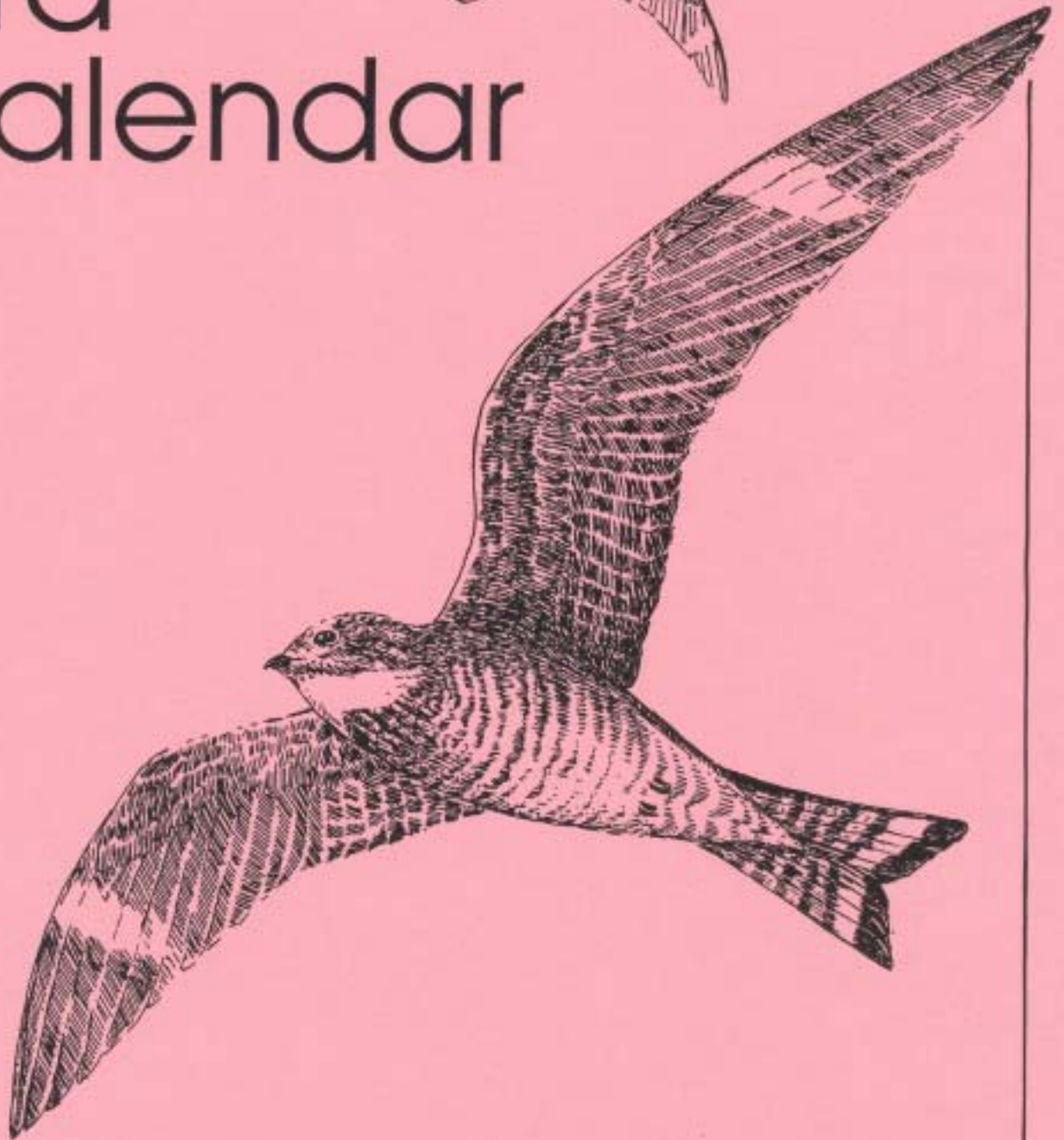


September, October,
November 1994
Volume 90 Number 4

The Cleveland

Bird Calendar



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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.

The Cleveland Bird Calendar is published quarterly by The Kirtland Bird Club and The Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

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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by Margret Krister, 1993.

September, October, November 1994

Volume 90 Number 4

The Cleveland Bird Calendar

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the nineties at Headlands
Beach State Park**

REFLECTIONS

THIRTY YEARS AGO: A total of 274 species was reported for the year ending 30 Nov. 1964.

A **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** was at Rocky River Reservation on 27 Sep. -- 4 Oct. (Stasko). A **Yellow Rail** was seen at Holden Arboretum on 2 Oct. (McKelvey). Our first October **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** was at Burke Airport on the 3rd (Klamm).

TWENTY YEARS AGO: A total of 262 species was reported for the year ending 30 Nov. 1974. A **Piping Plover** was at White City on 2 Sep. (Klamm). Two **Hudsonian Godwits** were there on 26 Sep (Hoffman). Our latest **Willet** ever was at LaDue Reservoir on 1 Oct. (Ibsen). Our first October record of **White-winged Scoter** since 1953 was at White City on 13 Oct. (Hannikman). Hannikman located a **Purple Sandpiper** at White City on the early date of 25 October. A **Common Black-headed Gull** was at White City on 3 Nov. (Hannikman).

TEN YEARS AGO: A total of 277 species was reported for the year ending 30 Nov. 1984. Our highest tally (24) of **Hudsonian Godwits** ever was at the Gordon Park on 10 Sep. (Klamm, LePage). A **Black-backed Woodpecker** was in Lorain on 27 Sep. (Pogacnik). The first verified state record of a **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** was at the Gordon Park 6-23 Oct. (Rosche). Three **American Avocets** spent 23 Oct. at Lake Rockwell (Rosche). A **Parasitic Jaeger** was seen at Sims Park on 24 & 25 Nov. (Hannikman).



Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) - 14 November 1994 - Medina, Ohio
by James Seymour

THE WEATHER

Autumn 1994

by William A. Klamm

SEPTEMBER - The month was quite cool and dry but otherwise relatively unremarkable.

Temperatures averaged 63.9°. The high was 87° on the 14th and the low was 43° on the 12th and 30th. Lake Erie stood at 66° on the 1st and fell to 44° by the 30th. Sunshine prevailed a remarkable 75% of the time. Rain came on 10 days with 0.61 in. on the 25th - 26th. The total for the month came to 1.73 in., a deficit of 1.71 in.

OCTOBER - Temperatures averaged 54.5°, 1.7° above normal. The high was 79° on the 18th and the low was 34° on the 11th. Lake Erie was unusually stable all month starting at 42° on the 1st and ending at 44°, on the 31st. Sunshine prevailed 64% of the time. Rain was

sparse and measurable on only 5 days to total 1.05 in., 1.49 below normal. The most rain was 0.56 in. on the 31st. .

NOVEMBER - Temperatures were above normal on 21 days and below normal on 9 days to average out at 47.8°, 5.2° above normal. The high was 72° on the 14th and the low was 20° on the 24th. Lake Erie water temperature drifted up and down, rising as high as 47° and ending at 36°, on the 30th. The waterfowl survey on the 13th was plagued with bad weather including high winds, fog, rough water and other unfavorable conditions. Sunshine prevailed a surprising 45% of the time. Precipitation came on 8 days and totaled 2.52 in. This was 0.65 in. below normal. The most was 0.98 in. on the 9th & 20th. Snow was recorded as a trace on the 23rd.

COMMENT ON THE SEASON

by Larry Rosche

On the surface, this fall seemed rather lackluster. Perhaps due to the mild weather, the migrant waterfowl picture was very confusing. Nowhere is the absence of Bill and Nancy Klamm noticed more than in the daily tallies of waterbirds along Lake Erie. Puddle duck numbers were generally low. Divers were so late in arriving that some species high counts were unrealistically low. Raptors were encountered in above average totals and variety. Shorebird migration was very sparse along Lake Erie. Lorain and West Branch State Park were the only locations that provided consistent data on this group. Passerine movements were tough to figure as well. Good warbler movement days were concentrated in the first third of September, somewhat earlier than expected. Sparrows also defied observers to predict when their passage would occur. Apparently they passed through the region much later than expected. Paula Lozano mentioned that 26 October was a day when much migrant sparrow activity was noted along the lake in Cleveland. This, compared with data from Lake County, indicated that sparrows moved a good 2 weeks later than usual. Contrary to the Fall of 1993, this season produced no major incursions of northern finches.

Rarities were found, however. The region's first Townsend's Solitaire spent 14 Nov. in a shrub in Medina. Other multiple observer rarities included our first Greater White-fronted Goose since 1985, an immature Piping Plover, an adult Parasitic Jaeger, a male Varied Thrush, and an immature Le Conte's Sparrow. Thanks again, to the many reporters who supported this issue.

AUTUMN 1994

The first **Common Loon** was seen at Headlands Beach State Park (hereafter HBSP) on 19 Sep. (KM). The high tallies were 96 on 13 Nov. along the West Side (FG) and 109 at HBSP on 19 Nov. (FG, PH). **Pied-billed Grebes** were in expected low numbers. High tallies were 14 at Oberlin Reservoir on 4 Oct. (NK), 6 at Lake Medina on 26 Oct. (CW), 4 at Holden Arboretum and Ladue Reservoir (RR), and 24 on the Akron Lakes on 25 Nov. (CH). It seems that this species will never recover to the numbers expected a decade ago. A **Horned Grebe** was found dead at HBSP on 15 Oct. (EB). Inland, 6 were at Best Lake on 12 Oct. (*vide* DB). The high tallies along the lake were 24 on the West Side on 12 Nov. (TLP, PL) and 63 off Huntington Beach on 13 Nov. (FMG). The inland high was 21 at LaDue Reservoir on 18 Nov. (CH).

Double-crested Cormorants numbered 180 at HBSP on 15 Oct. (RH). Parma Heights had its first record on 11 Sep. (RHL). The 2nd **Great Egret** in the 12 years of the CVNRA Fall Census was found on 17 Sep. (EC, DAC). It remained through 1 Oct. A bird also dallied at West Branch SP through 1 Oct. (CH, LR). One was seen soaring with gulls over Eastlake on the late date of 11 Nov. (RH, KM). A count of 7 **Green Herons** was made in the CVNRA on 11 Sep. (DAC). One was tardy at HBSP on 30 & 31 Oct. (RH, LR). **Black-crowned Night-Herons** were newsworthy on the west bank of the Cuyahoga River where 42 were tallied on 3 Nov. (PL). A bird was at E. 55th St. on 25 Oct. (FMG).

Flocks totalling 250 **Tundra Swans** were noted over Big Creek Park on the rather early date of 25 Oct. (*vide* DB). A group of 8 passed over HBSP on 30 Oct. (EB, RH). A total of

330 was counted over Medina on 15 Nov. (RHL, TLP). A big movement was noted over North Chagrin Reservation on 16 Nov. (KM). Kellerman counted 100 on the water in Lorain on the same date. Another 35 passed by Huntington Beach on 17 Nov. (TLP). A **Mute Swan** put in a rare appearance at HBSP on 19 Nov. (FG, RH). A juvenile spent 23 Nov. at Lake Rockwell (LR). An early white morph Snow Goose was seen flying with Canadas over HBSP on 19 Sep. (KM). Another early **Snow Goose** spent 12 Sep. on a pond in southern Lorain Co. (NK). These reports match well with the September reports from Presque Isle Park in Erie. At least 8 birds were at Oberlin Reservoir on 16-17 Oct. (NK). The "Hudson Bay" Flock Of **Canada Geese** arrived at North Chagrin on 5 Sep. (KM).

In general, reports on puddle ducks were mixed. At oft monitored locations, such as Lake

November Survey for Lake Rockwell Fall 1994

Date	11/2	11/7	11/17	11/24
Common Loon	2	1	2	5
Pied-billed Grebe	8	5	6	4
Horned Grebe	•	•	4	5
Double-crested Cormorant	•	•	•	1
Great Blue Heron	2	•	•	1
Canada Goose	200	400	350	500
Wood Duck	202	35	1	•
Green-winged Teal	1	1	•	•
American Black Duck	25	35	100	80
Mallard	200	170	400	600
Northern Shoveler	•	•	•	•
Gadwall	60	72	80	4
A. Wigeon	15	20	30	•
Ring-necked Duck	30	•	350	20
Greater Scaup	•	•	•	•
Lesser Scaup	•	6	30	3
Common Goldeneye	•	•	•	1
Bufflehead	•	15	40	12
Hooded Merganser	12	48	420	400
Common Merganser	1	1	1	1
Red-breasted Merganser	4	•	•	3
Ruddy Duck	•	•	•	24
American Coot	350	200	500	175

Rockwell, numbers of some species were very respectable. Other locations, such as Mogadore Reservoir and the Akron Lakes received little coverage, therefore little data were reported from Summit County.

The flock of 202 **Wood Ducks** at Lake Rockwell on 3 Nov. was the largest gathering there in many years (LR). Elsewhere, they were encountered in more expected numbers. LaDue hosted 15 **Green-winged Teals** on 10 Nov. (CH). An apparent Green-winged Teal x Mallard was found at Garfield Heights MP on 20 Oct. (DR). **American Black Ducks** were in fairly good supply on inland lakes. **Mallards** gathered *en masse* at Lake Rockwell on 26 Nov. when 1200 were counted (CH). Two **Northern Pintails** were at Lake Phippen on 14 Oct. A count of 120

Blue-winged Teals was made at HBSP on 9 Oct. (RH). The high count (4) of Northern Shovelers came from an expected locale, LaDue Reservoir, on 7 Nov. (AF). A female was at Lower Shaker Lake on 3 Oct. (PP). **Gadwall** numbers were solid at Lake Rockwell. The high tally was 82 on 3 Nov. A flock of 7 was at Lower Shaker Lake on 4 Nov. (PP). The maximum at LaDue was 36 on 18 Nov. (CH). **American Wigeon** numbers were well below 20 year averages throughout the region.

The diving duck picture was equally unclear. Perhaps this was due, in part, to the mild fall weather. Regardless, numbers of **Ring-necked Ducks** seemed precariously low on the inland lakes where they usually gather in

large numbers. On the other hand, numbers of **Hooded Mergansers** must be at or near the all-time peaks. Interestingly enough, sought after species such as scoters and oldsquaws were seen in their usual or better than usual totals.

A drake **Canvasback** stood out in a flock of ring-neckeds in Shalersville on 19 Nov. A flock of 5 **Redheads** was at Beartown Lakes Reservation on 20 Oct. (file DB). Numbers of **Ring-necked Ducks** were considerably lower than usual. As many as 100 graced Best Lake on several dates (file DB). Likewise, Lake Rockwell's highest total was a paltry 350 on several early November dates. A **Greater Scaup** was early at HBSP on 23

*A drake
Canvasback
stood out...*

Oct. **Lesser Scaups** were widespread in small numbers along Lake Erie. Inland, the high count was 26 at Lake Medina on 26 Oct. (CW). An **Oldsquaw** was at HBSP on 12 Nov.(FG, RH, LR, JVP). Another was there on 19 Nov. (ES). A bird flew by Eastlake on 12 Nov. (JLD, ST). One was off Lakeshore MP on 13 Nov. (JP). Two female **Black Scoters** put in a noteworthy election day appearance at Lake Rockwell on 8 Nov. (LR). This marks the 2nd recent record there for this species. Two were off Lakeshore MP on 13 Nov. (JP). One was at Lakeview Park in Lorain on 16 Nov. (TK). An

immature **Surf Scoter** passed by HBSP on 23 Oct. One was at Wellington Reservoir on 18 Nov. (TLP). An immature **White-winged Scoter** was at Fairport Harbor on 27 Nov. (EB, RH, LR). **Common Goldeneyes** were scarce and the earliest **Buffleheads** were at HBSP on 10 Oct. (KM). A flock of 20 was at Avon Lake on 12 Nov. (TMR). Up to 420 **Hooded Mergansers** were at Lake Rockwell most of November. An excellent tally of 200 was made at Lake Kelso on 27 Nov. (vide DB). A female **Common Merganser** made an early appearance at Lake Rockwell on 26 Oct. (LR). Three were at Best Lake on 2 Nov. (vide DB). The massive flocks of **Red-breasted Mergansers** did not materialize until the middle of Nov. A flock of 20,000-30,000 was off Huntington Beach on 12 & 13 Nov. (BAT, FG). A count of 10,000 was seen off Fairport Harbor on 26 Nov. (RH). The first **Ruddy Ducks** were noted at Oberlin Reservoir on 28 Sep. The flock grew to 325 on 18 Nov. (NK, TLP). A count of 320 was made at Mogadore on 30 Oct. (CH, JVP, JW). They were very scarce along Lake Erie.

The only November **Turkey Vulture** was reported from Perry on the 16th (JP). Ospreys were in good numbers along the lakeshore and inland. A bird was at Jaite on 3 Sep. (RHL). One was at Lake Medina on 10 Sep. (CW). Two were at HBSP on 12 Sep. (KM). The usual 5-8 passed through Lake Rockwell. One was observed as it caught a fish at Spencer Lake SWA on 16 Oct. (FD). A Bald Eagle flew over Saybrook on 9 Oct. (JP). Another bird was

over Calvary Cemetery in Cleveland on 12 Oct. (DAC). One was in Lorain on 16 Nov. (TK). One was over Daniels Park in Willoughby on 21 Nov. (RW). The pair at Lake Rockwell was in the same tree on 24 Nov. (LR). A **Northern Harrier** was observed hunting chipmunks at the Sweetbrier Golf Course in Lorain Co. on several Sep. dates (BR). An immature was over HBSP on 14 Oct. (KM). Another was there on 30 Oct. (AJF). One was in Lorain on 5 Nov. (FMG). One was seen over West Farmington on 29 Nov. (JA). A **Sharp-shinned Hawk** was in West Farmington on 5 Sep. (JA). One was regularly seen in the CVNRA through late Oct. (DAC, RHL). A Sharpie was in Streetsboro on 30 Oct. (CH). The young **Cooper's Hawks** at HBSP remained in the into Oct. Unique among these HBSP Cooper's Hawks, was a striking pied individual. This bird caused many double-takes upon first glance. Several Cooper's Hawks were reported at downtown loca-

tions in Oct. and Nov. (PL). An injured Red-shouldered Hawk was taken to the Lake County Rehab Center on 13 Oct. (vide DB). This species remained common in the eastern part of the region. Attesting to this, 5 were in the Jaite area of the CVNRA on 11 Sep. (DAC). A bird in Parma on 12 Sep. represented our western most report (RHL). A Broad-winged Hawk was a good find at Lake Medina on 18 Sep. (CW). The first Rough-legged Hawk was spotted in Lorain Co. on 11 Oct. (BR). A light morph bird drifted over HBSP on 23 Oct. (KM, M. ob.). A dark morph bird soared over the same site on 27 Nov. (EB, RH, LR). Birds were note at Burke Airport on 1, 3, & 15 Nov. (FMG). One was over E. 72nd St. on 25 Nov. (FMG). **American Kestrels** were in fair numbers. A **Merlin** buzzed by West Branch SP on 15 Sep. (CH). At least 3 birds had returned to their Bath wintering territory by mid-October (vide GLK). Birds were seen in Fairport Harbor on 1 & 18 Nov. (JP).

Comment on the 1993-1994 Cleveland Bird Calendar year

A total of 285 species was reported. Of these, 273 were reasonably documented by multiple observers, detailed notes, or photographs, Several were not published because no written reports were received. The editors felt that (given the mood of the nation) it would be more appropriate to be conservative in acceptance of single observer reports than to be too liberal. For example, single observer reports of accidental species from the editors themselves were not published.

This marked the first year in our history that none of the phalarope species was seen. Once again, King Eider and Common Black-headed Gull eluded us. The Townsend's Solitaire in Medina was the only new species for the region. My totals stand at 360 species for the region. Carolina Chickadee was documented for the first time since the 30s. American White Pelican and Kirtland's Warbler were seen for the first time in this decade. Of the most noteworthy occurrences, it will be a long time before we ever have the number of Red-necked Grebes as we did this year. The endangered Piping Plover was seen in both migrations. Wishing you the best of good birds in 1994 -1995 year.

A female **Ring-necked Pheasant** was found dead in Sagamore Hills on 26 Oct. (DAC). A road killed **Ruffed Grouse** at Lake Rockwell on 22 Oct. provided testament that they exist there (or formerly did) (LR). **Wild Turkey** numbers were thought to be increasing in eastern Lake Co. The only report for the season from Mentor Marsh of **Virginia Rails** or **Soras** came on 8 Oct. (JP). **Common Moorhens** were unreported for the period. **American Coots** were in very high numbers on inland lakes. Counts at Lake Rockwell ranged to 600+, up to 140 were seen at LaDue, an impressive 430 were counted at Mogadore. Of these impressive numbers, none surpassed the 875 on the Akron Lakes on 25 Nov. (CH).

The shorebird passage, except for a few rarities, was rather uneventful. The lack of substantial lakefront habitat provided little resting area for holarctic waders. Observers were left to the luck of the day and had to be at the right place at the right time to see this enjoyable group.

Two immature **Black-bellied Plovers** were at West Branch SP on 23 Sep. (LR). The only **American Golden-Plover** reported was in Lorain on 13 Sep. (TLP). Small numbers of **Semipalmated Plovers** were seen through Sep. In Lorain (TLP). Another 3 remained at West Branch SP through 26 Sep. (CH). Late flocks of 4 and 9 **Greater Yellowlegs** were unusual for Shaker Lakes on 23 Oct. (RR). and for HBSP on 30 Oct. (RH). The high count of **Lesser**

Yellowlegs was 10 at West Branch SP on 24 Sep. (CH). A **Solitary Sandpiper** was at West Branch SP on 17 Sep. (CH). The late report came from Shaker Lakes on 26 Sep. (RR). **Ruddy Turnstones** were scarce and received little mention. No **Red Knots** were seen locally. The high count (24) of **Sanderlings** came from Lorain on 13 Sep. (TLP). A late bird was at HBSP on 19 Nov. (PL, BF, FG, RH). **Semipalmated Sandpipers** passed through rather inconspicuously. **Least Sandpipers** were widespread in smaller than expected numbers. **White-rumped Sandpipers** were found only in Lorain. LePage noted them there on 7 and 28 Sep. Up to 2 **Baird's Sandpipers** were in Lorain throughout most of September (TLP). Three were at West Branch SP on 15 - 18 Sep. (CH, LR). **Pectoral Sandpipers** were found in small numbers at West Branch SP. A group of 6 was at Spencer Lake SWA on 28 Sep. (NK). The earliest **Dunlins** were at West Branch SP on 28 Sep. (CH). Two **Stilt Sandpipers** remained at West Branch SP through 1 Oct. (CH, LR). One was in Lorain on 12 Sep. (TLP). While no **Short-billed Dowitchers** were seen, one **Long-billed** was reported in Madison on 4 Oct. (JP). Two **Common Snipes** were at Jaite on 11 Sep. (DAC). One was at West Branch SP on 12-26 Sep. (CH). Another was at Spencer Lake SWA on 2 Oct. (FD). Three snipes were in Geauga County (KM) and 1 at HBSP (RH) on 30 Oct. Always a difficult bird to find in the fall, an **American Woodcock** was spotted in Geauga Co. on 30 Oct. (KM).

An immature jaeger was left unidentified at Eastlake on 13 Nov. (AJF). Up to 3 **Little Gulls** (including 2 juveniles) frequented HBSP in early to mid-Sep. (RH, M.ob.). Two adults were at Eastlake on 13 Nov. (AJF). **Bonaparte's Gulls** put in a good inland showing. Up to 45 were counted at LaDue and another 35 were seen at Lake Rockwell. Along Lake Erie, 1000s gathered at traditional staging areas by mid-November. **Ring-billed Gulls** continued to dominate the gull picture numerically throughout the region. A first-winter plumaged **Iceland**

*..no Short-billed
Dowitchers were
seen...*

Gull flew by HBSP on the rather early date of 30 Nov. (RH). An early **Lesser Black-backed Gull** was at Fairport Harbor on 28 Sep. (JP) One arrived at Eastlake on a more typical date 6 Nov. (LR, RH, JVP). Another adult was in Lorain from 8 Nov. (TLP). An Immature **Glaucous Gull** was at Eastlake on 12 Nov. (JLD, RH, LR, ST). A different immature was there on 20 Nov. (BF, RH, LR). **Great Black-backed Gulls** were common everywhere along the lake. **Caspian Terns** put in another rather dismal showing along the lake. The high count was a paltry 7 at Lorain on 12 Sep. (TLP). A concentration of 200 **Common Terns** was reported from Lorain on 23 Oct. (TK). The high count for HBSP was 16 on 6 Sep. (RH). A group of 4 was at Lake

**Selected Thrushes, Vireos, and Warblers
reported from Headlands Beach State Park
September 1994**

Veery	1
Gray-cheeked Thrush	2
Swainson's Thrush	15
Wood Thrush	•
Solitary Vireo	1
Warbling Vireo	17
Philadelphia Vireo	3
Red-eyed Vireo	7
Tennessee Warbler	2
Orange-crowned Warbler	•
Nashville Warbler	5
Yellow Warbler	7
Chestnut-sided Warbler	12
Magnolia Warbler	49
Cape May Warbler	22
Black-throated Blue Warbler	12
Yellow-rumped Warbler	13
Black-throated Green Warbler	3
Blackburnian Warbler	7
Palm Warbler	5
Bay-breasted Warbler	15
Blackpoll Warbler	56
Black-and-White Warbler	13
American Redstart	41
Ovenbird	1
Mourning Warbler	2
Northern Waterthrush	•
Common Yellowthroat	5
Hooded Warbler	•
Wilson's Warbler	26
Canada Warbler	3
•Not seen	

Data excerpted from the field reports of Hannikman, LePage, Metcalf, & Rosche

Rockwell on 21 Sep. (LR). Four in Lorain on 5 Nov. were somewhat tardy (FMG). Only 2 **Forster's Terns** were seen at HBSP.

A **Black-billed Cuckoo** was an exciting find at Donald Gray Garden on 4 Sep. (TMR). The same day one was noted at the Rocky River Nature Center (DAC). The **Black-billed** seen on the 17 Sep. CVNRA Fall Census was the first in 12 years (EC). A late **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** was there on 8 Oct. (DAC).

All three regularly occurring owls (especially, calling birds) were found in above average numbers and locations. Among the easier to see category, was a gray morph

Eastern Screech-owl at HBSP on many dates. A **Barred Owl** was calling in West Farmington on 20 Sep. (JA). One was in the Toneff's front yard in Brecksville on 25 Sep. Wanderers included birds in Parma Heights on 8 Nov. (RHL) and at Euclid Beach SP on 19 Nov. (FMG).

Other than 30 on 7 Sep. in Mentor (AJF). **Common Nighthawks** had left the region before the start of the reporting period. Chimney Swifts remained common into mid-Oct. The last **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** were at the Carlisle Visitor Center on 20 Sep. (NK) and in Twin Lakes on 21 Sep. (LR). **Belted Kingfishers** were poorly

reported. **Red-headed Woodpeckers** were gone by early Sep. **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** were regularly found at Donald Gray Garden from 20 Sep. through 21 Oct. (PL). They put in a below average showing at HBSP. The 2 noted at Lake Isaac on 2 Oct. was representative of local tallies (TMR). **Pileated Woodpeckers** received the usual mention from the large wooded sectors of the region.

Along the lake, **Eastern Wood-Pewees** were common into mid-September. A total of 3 **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** was found at

*Eastern Phoebes
moved well in the
first half of Oct.*

HBSP on 3 Sep. (RH). One was there on 5 Sep (BF). A bird was at Shaker Lakes on 7 Sep. (RR). One was in the CVNRA on 17 Sep. (BAT). A bird was reportedly banded at Lakeshore MP on 21 Oct. (JP). **Least Flycatchers** were common into early September. The last one banded at Lakeshore MP was on 13 Oct. **Eastern Phoebes** moved well in the first half of Oct. A threesome was at HBSP on 15 Oct. (RH). The latest **Great Crested Flycatchers** were reported from Baldwin Lake on 1 Sep. and Donald Gray Garden on 4 Sep. (TMR). **Eastern Kingbirds** were gone by September. The latest **Purple Martin** was in Fairport Harbor on 3 Oct. (JP). **Tree Swallows** were numerous at inland lakes at the expected times, Northern **Rough-**



"Brewster's Warbler" - 31 August 1994 Lakeshore Metropark
by John V. Pogacnik

winged Swallows were as expected. This year's October **Barn Swallow** was seen on 22 Oct. (RH).

Black-capped Chickadees were reported as up in numbers by Harlan and Pogacnik. Unlike the fall of 1993, **Red-breasted Nuthatches** were barely noticed along the lake. The **Brown Creeper** movement was better than the past few autumns. As many as 4 could be found at Donald Gray on any given October day (M.ob). Eight were at HBSP on 30 Oct. A total of 34 was ringed at Lakeshore MP. **Carolina Wrens** were doing well in some locations but generally poor along the Lake Erie shoreline. **Winter Wrens** were common to abundant along the lakefront, but somewhat later than expected. High counts at HBSP and Donald Gray Garden numbered 10+ on several dates. On 2 Oct. 50+ were reported from Lakeshore MP. The only **Sedge Wren** report came from Arcola

Creek on 3 Oct. (JP). A **Marsh Wren** was at Pinery Narrows on 10 Sep. (TMR). One seemed out of place in a Lakewood backyard on 29 Sep. (PL). A bird was still singing at HBSP on 5 Sep. (RH). **Golden-crowned Kinglets** were too numerous to count at Donald Gray Garden on 26 Oct. (PL). Elsewhere they were very numerous the last week of Oct. **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** were common but not as much as Golden-crowns.

Eastern Bluebirds were moving the last third of Oct. Flocks of 8-10 were seen and heard over Kent and Lake Rockwell on several dates. A group of 10 was seen at Jaite on 23 Oct. (DAC). A **Veery** was at HBSP 3 Sep. (RH). Two were at Donald Gray Garden on 17 Sep (FMG). A **Gray-cheeked Thrush** was at Donald Gray Garden on 8 Sep (FMG). The high tally (3) came from Parma Heights on 9 Sep. (RHL). One was at HBSP 11 Sep. (RH). Another was at Shaker Lakes on 12 Sep. (RR). A movement

of 25 **Swainson's Thrushes** was detected over Parma Heights during the early morning hours of 8 Sep. One was somewhat tardy at Edgewater SP on 12 Oct. (PL). **Hermit Thrushes** were fairly numerous along the lake into late October. Ten were at HBSP on 16 Oct. (RH). A bird lingered at Donald Gray Garden through 3 Nov. (FMG). A **Wood Thrush** was very late at HBSP on 22 Oct. (EB, RH) but nowhere near the 3 Nov. bird at Lakeshore MP (JP). The roost of **American Robins** at Mentor Marsh numbered in the 1000s by mid-October. Two **Northern Mockingbirds** were at Gordon Park on 16 Oct. (PL). Another brace was in Bedford Heights on 23 Oct. (EB). A late **Brown Thrasher** was at Lake Isaac on 16 Nov. (RHL). A flock of 25 **American Pipits** was seen in Lorain Co. on 25 Oct. (NK). A group totaling 80 birds was at LaDue on 4 Nov. (AF).

Two **Solitary Vireos** were at HBSP 23 Oct. (EB, RH, KM, LR, JVP). The only **White-eyed Vireo** was at Riverview Park on 3 Sep. (JP). **Philadelphia Vireos** were widespread. Birds were at HBSP 3 & 5 Sep. (DAC, RH). A bird was at Donald Gray Garden on 8 Sep (FMG). Brecksville hosted one on 17 Sep. (TMR). Another was at Euclid Beach SP on 18 Sep. (FMG). Two were banded at Lakeshore MP in September. A bird was in the CVNRA on 1 Oct. (DAC). One was in Lodi on 2 Oct. (FD). The latest **Red-eyed Vireo** was at Donald Gray on 13 Oct. (PL).

Although migrant **Blue-winged Warblers** were scarce along the lake, they

**Autumn 1994 Field Tallies
for Selected Migrants
at Lake Isaac**

Species	9/7	9/14	9/21	9/28	10/4
House Wren	3	3	4	3	2
Swainson's Thrush	1	4	8	•	•
Warbling Vireo	•	1	1	•	•
Philadelphia Vireo	•	•	1	1	•
Red-eyed Vireo	1	1	1	2	•
Blue-winged warbler	1	•	•	•	•
Nashville Warbler	•	•	•	•	•1
Yellow Warbler	1	•	•	•	•
Chestnut-sided Warbler	•	•	•	•	•
Magnolia Warbler	3	1	5	3	•
Cape May Warbler	3	•	•	•	•
Black-throated Blue Warbler	1	•	•	•	•
Yellow-rumped Warbler	•	•	•	•	10
Black-throated Green Warbler	1	•	•	•	•
Blackburnian Warbler	3	•	•	•	•
Palm Warbler	•	•	•	•	•
Bay-breasted Warbler	2	2	1	•	•
Blackpoll Warbler	5	2	•	•	•
American Redstart	1	1	2	1	•
Northern Waterthrush	•	1	•	•	•
Common Yellowthroat	5	4	•	1	•
Wilson's Warbler	•	•	2	•	•
Rufous-sided Towhee	1	3	1	2	4
Indigo Bunting	•	•	1	•	•

•Not observed

Data excerpted from R. Harlan's field report

were seen at through early September at Lake Rockwell. **Tennessee Warblers** were felt to be in average or above numbers at HBSP. Contrary to this, only 1 was banded at Lakeshore MP in September. An **Orange-crowned Warbler** was at HBSP on 16 Oct. (RH). One was at Donald Gray on 31 Oct. (PL). Birds were reported from Lakeshore MP on 25 Sep. and 3 Nov. (JP). **Nashville Warblers** were fairly numerous along Lake Erie. A **Northern Parula** was at HBSP on 3 Sep. (EB, RH, LR). An immature **Yellow Warbler** lingered at HBSP through 2 Oct. (RH, LR, JVP). **Chestnut-sided Warblers** were common and well distributed throughout the region during the first 2 weeks of September. **Magnolia Warblers** were exceptionally numerous and widespread. A total of 33

was banded at Lakeshore MP in September (JP). **Cape May Warblers** put in a good showing. A count of 6 at Donald Gray Garden on 14 Sep. was noteworthy (FMG). **Black-throated Blue Warblers** were late at Donald Gray Garden on 13 Oct. (FMG, PL) and at HBSP on 16 Oct. (RH). **Yellow-rumped Warblers** were as numerous inland than they were along the lakefront. Counts of over 50 were easy to make in the CVNRA into mid-October. A group of 10 **Black-throated Green Warblers** in Valley City on 5 Sep. represented the best count for the region (FMG). **Blackburnian Warblers** were numerous at HBSP on 3 Sep. when 6 were tallied (EB, RH, LR). One was at Donald Gray Garden on 4 Sep. (DAC). The last report of **Yellow-throated Warbler** came

from Pinery Narrows on 10 Sep. (TMR). A **Pine Warbler** was at Shaker Lakes on 6-12 Sep. (BF, RR). A bird was reported on 16 Oct. from Lakeshore MP. **Palm Warblers** were generally scarce. The high counts at Donald Gray Garden, Shaker Lakes, and HBSP were 21 **Bay-breasted Warblers** were fairly common but only in early September. High counts of **Blackpoll Warblers** were 20 at both Donald Gray (FMG), and Parma Heights (RHL) on 8 Sep. The best mark at Headlands Beach SP was 16 on 11 Sep. (RH). Interestingly enough, only 1 was banded at Lakeshore MP in September. **Black-and-white Warblers** were in good totals into the second week of September. **American Redstarts** were numerous with high counts in the 10+ range at expected times in Sep. Oddly, only 4 were banded at Lakeshore MP. Single **Ovenbirds** were found at Donald Gray on 5 dates from 2 Sep. through 11 Oct. (FMG, PL). During the period 4 were banded at Lakeshore MP. A **Northern Waterthrush** was at Donald Gray on 8 Oct. (BF, PL). **Mourning Warblers** were reported from Donald Gray on at least 3 occasions in Sep. (PL). A total of 8 was banded at Lakeshore MP in September and October. An immature male **Common Yellowthroat** was late at HBSP on 20 Nov. (LR, RH, JW). **Hooded Warblers** remained vocal at Lake Rockwell into the last third of Sep. **Wilson's Warblers** totals reached a high of 12 on 3 Sep. at HBSP (EB, RH, LR). A total of 8 was banded at Lakeshore MP in September. **Canada Warblers** were more numerous

**Selected Thrushes, Vireos, and Warblers
banded at Lakeshore Metropark
September 1994**

Veery	7
Gray-cheeked Thrush	34
Swainson's Thrush	56
Wood Thrush	7
Solitary Vireo	•
Warbling Vireo	•
Philadelphia Vireo	2
Red-eyed Vireo	2
Tennessee Warbler	1
Orange-crowned Warbler	2
Nashville Warbler	30
Yellow Warbler	•
Chestnut-sided Warbler	•
Magnolia Warbler	33
Cape May Warbler	•
Black-throated Blue Warbler	2
Yellow-rumped Warbler	•
Black-throated Green Warbler	1
Blackburnian Warbler	1
Palm Warbler	•
Bay-breasted Warbler	1
Blackpoll Warbler	1
Black-and-White Warbler	•
American Redstart	4
Ovenbird	5
Northern Waterthrush	•
Mourning Warbler	7
Common Yellowthroat	27
Hooded Warbler	7
Wilson's Warbler	8
Canada Warbler	1

•Not banded

Data excerpted from J. V. Pogacnik's field report

than in recent falls. A late **Yellow-breasted Chat** was caught in the nets at Lakeshore MP on 16 Oct. (JP).

Most **Scarlet Tanagers** and **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks** left before September and their reports were far below the usual totals. Two **Indigo Buntings** were recorded at HBSP on 4 Sep. (RR). A late bird (for our region) was seen at Lakeshore MP on 29 Sep. (JP). **Rufous-sided Towhees** moved as expected and in numbers that reflected a decent breeding season to our north.

American Tree Sparrows were slightly late in their arrival but solidly entrenched

by late November. The **Chipping Sparrow** movement was difficult to assess. They were far less noticeable than is expected in mid-Oct. For example, only one was at Donald Gray Garden on 13 Oct. (TLP, PL). Contrary to this, late birds were rather numerous. One was in Geauga Co. on 5 Nov. (KM). A bird was at Lakeshore MP on 13 Nov. (JP). The latest chippy was at HBSP on 25 Nov. (LR) Field Sparrows moved inconspicuously and few remained through the period. Again, data indicated a later than expected passage along Lake Erie. Birds were noted at the end of October at Donald Gray Garden, Edgewater SP, and at HBSP. Two

late **Vesper Sparrows** were at Girdled Road Park on 5 Nov. (JP). The only **Sharp-tailed Sparrow** report came from Arcola Creek on 1 Oct. (JP). **Fox Sparrows** were absent along the lake until late Oct. Fair numbers were encountered into mid-Nov. A bird was at Lake Rockwell on 20 Oct. (LR). One was in the CVNRA on 7 Nov. (TMR). A late twosome was at HBSP on 25 Nov. (FMG).

Lincoln's Sparrows put in a fairly numerous and widespread showing. A bird was at Lower Shaker Lake on 20 Sep. (BF). Two were at Spencer Lake SWA on 3 Oct. (CW). Up to 10 were tallied in Lodi on 2-15 Oct. (FD). A three-some was in the CVNRA on 14 Oct. (BAT). Late birds were at Donald Gray on 2 Nov. (FMG, PL) and at HBSP on 5 Nov. (LR). Contrary to these data, only 5 were banded at Lakeshore MP. Few reports gave the indication that **Swamp Sparrows** were unusually furtive in their southward passage. **White-throated Sparrows** were too numerous to count at Donald Gray on 26 Oct. (PL). A group of 12 **White-crowned Sparrows** was in Perry on 25 Nov. (LR). In general, both *Zonotrichia* species were below average totals. **Dark-eyed Juncos** were late in arriving in significant totals. Inland, they were typically numerous by the end of the period and Christmas Bird Counts should reflect good numbers of this species. **Snow Buntings** were common along the lake during most of November. A flock of 70- 100 birds was at HBSP 13 Nov. (AJF, RH, KM). A group of 32 hung around LaDue the last half of November (AF, CH). The only **Lapland Longspur** was at HBSP on 22 Oct. (EB, RH). The only **Bobolink** report came from Lorain on 2 Oct. (JP).

Six **Eastern Meadowlarks** were in Medina on 1 Oct. (CW). A late bird was at Burke Airport on 3 Nov. (FMG). Pinery Narrows hosted 500+ Rusty Blackbirds on 16 Oct. (DAC). Other than this tally, rusties seemed relatively scarce. The Common Grackle flock at Mentor Marsh numbered 50,000 on 30 Oct. (RH). They were equally numerous in southern Summit Co. A **Northern Oriole** was banded at Lakeshore MP on 9 Oct. (JP). Wert and Vanderpoel saw 3 **Pine Siskins** at Mogadore Reservoir on 30 Oct. No other northern finches were encountered.

NOTEWORTHY RECORDS

RED-THROATED LOON - This season's only report came from Lakeshore MP during the Lake Erie Waterbird Survey on 13 Nov. (Pogacnik).

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE - The first regional report since 1985 was of a bird over Headlands Beach SP on the blustery morning of 27 Nov. (Hannikman, Rosche). This was the first autumn report since 1966.

BRANT - The 2 birds in Fairport Harbor on 9 Nov. provided the region's only report this year (Pogacnik).

BROAD-WINGED HAWK - An adult circling over Parma Heights on 11 Nov. provided the latest local report since 1975 (Harlan).

PEREGRINE FALCON - One was at Lakeshore MP on 22 Sep.



Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) - 14 November 1994 - Medina, Ohio
by James Seymour

(Pogacnik). Birds were seen in Lorain on 25 & 28 Sep. (LePage). Birds were seen on 4 & 11 Oct. and on 10 Nov. in the downtown area of Cleveland (Lozano, Greenland). One was at Cahoon Park on 13 Nov. (Greenland).

SANDHILL CRANE - Two birds were observed flying east over I-271 near Chagrin Boulevard on 28 Oct. (Toneff).

PIPING PLOVER - A juvenile was in Lorain 25 Sep - 4 Oct. (LePage, Miller, M.ob.). This was the first year since 1987 that this beleaguered species occurred in both spring and fall.

WHIMBREL - The only report this season was from Lorain on 15 Sep. (LePage).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT - A bird was reported from Cleveland on 25 Oct. (Pogacnik).

PURPLE SANDPIPER - Two were found in Lorain on 20 Nov.

(LePage). Two more birds were found on the breakwall at the mouth of the Grand River on the afternoon of 26 Nov. This group grew to 5 by the end of the month (Hannikman).

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER - Once again, a pair of birds was able to avoid the tree line and zero in on the athletic fields at Painesville Township Park. This unique touchdown happened on the fairly late date of 1 Oct. (Pogacnik).

PARASITIC JAEGER - An adult flashed by Headlands Beach SP on 13 Nov. (Rosche, Greenland, Hannikman, Vanderpoel).

FRANKLIN'S GULL - The first bird reported was from Fairport Harbor on 1 Oct. (Pogacnik). The season's only other report came from Lorain on 3 Nov. (LePage).

BLACK TERN - This formerly abundant fall species has been reduced to a species seen by few observers anywhere in the

region. The only report this season was of a group of 3 at Spencer Lake State Wildlife Area on 1 Oct. (Krapts).

SHORT-EARED OWL - Birds were reported from Madison Township on 17 & 28 Nov. (Pogacnik).

LONG-EARED OWL - One was at Lakeshore Metropark on 13 Nov. (Pogacnik).

NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL - Metcalf photographed one at Headlands Beach SP on 7 Nov. LePage found one at Donald Gray Garden on 12 Nov.

TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE - The long awaited first record, for the Cleveland region, was a well-photographed bird in Medina on 14 Nov. (Greenleaf, Seymour). Unfortunately for the many state listers, this bird proved to be a one day wonder never to be seen again.

VARIED THRUSH - Bacik and Hannikman documented a handsome adult male at Headlands Beach SP on 30 Oct. This was our earliest date ever for this species.

NORTHERN SHRIKE - One was reported from Thompson Township on 15 Nov. (Pogacnik).

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER - A bird was at West Park Cemetery on 8 Sep. (Romito). A female was in Parma Heights on 9 Sep. (Harlan).

NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH - A bird at Headlands Beach SP was our latest since 1967 and only the second in November (Hannikman, Greenland).



CONNECTICUT WARBLER - A bird of Donald Gray on 2 Sep. was rather early (Lozano). Birds were banded at Lakeshore MP on 19 Sep. and 13 Oct. (Pogacnik).

LE CONTE'S SPARROW - An immature bird was found in Mentor and turned into the Lake County Rehab Center on 15 Sep. (fide Pogacnik). This was the second immature reported to The Cleveland Bird Calendar (the first was 22 August 1992). These 2 occurrences raise questions as to seasonal patterns for this species. Previous records had suggested that this sparrow was not to be expected before October. Is it possible that young birds move south earlier than the adults?

ADDENDUM - In Volume 89 Number 4 we reported an unidentified ani species. The ani has been identified by Dr. Bruce McLean of The John Carroll University, Dr. Timothy Matson of The CMNH, and Dr. James Van Remsen of The Louisiana State University as a **Smooth-billed Ani**

(Crotophaga ani). According to Dr. McLean, this is the first occurrence in the United States north of North Carolina. An article on this specimen will be forthcoming in a later issue of The Cleveland Bird Calendar.

ANNOUNCEMENT - Black Swamp Bird Observatory will be sponsoring a Waterfowl Seminar on Saturday, 8 April 1994, from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm at the Oak Harbor High School in Oak Harbor, Ohio. Program topics include: waterfowl behavior, migration, ecology, identification, and Ohio wetlands. On Sunday, 9 April, there will be a morning field trip to nearby Lake Erie wetlands. Guy Baldassarre will be the featured speaker. Guy has made many contributions to the knowledge of waterfowl ecology. He has recently completed a major text "Waterfowl Ecology and Management". The seminar cost is \$20/ person. This includes lunch. Pre-registration is necessary. If you are interested in attending, please call **Julie Shieldcastle at (419) 898-4674**.

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- 9552.

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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.