

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I wish to respond to the Magee Marsh Bird Trail article in the January 1988 CARDINAL. I believe the author, Mark Shieldcastle, has put forth some mis-information which should be addressed.

Mr. Shieldcastle makes the mistake of applying blanket statements to a large and diverse group, birders. He claims that since money to operate the trail comes from hunting and fishing license revenues and taxes on firearms and ammunition, birders do not provide monetary support for the trail. Here he makes the erroneous assumption that of all of the birders using the trail, none of them hunt or fish, buy firearms or ammunition. Mr. Shieldcastle also states that one of the reasons for the trail's current condition is "a lack of caring by the users". Certainly not every person using the trail has a total disregard for its welfare.

Furthermore, I feel that Mark's opinions concerning the Division of Parks and Recreation's attitudes towards wildlife and habitat are inappropriate in an article of this nature. I fail to see the relationship between his perception of Park's policy philosophy concerning natural resources, and his very valid point, that the Division of Wildlife should receive due credit for providing an excellent birding area.

James S. McCormac
Columbus, Ohio

Sir,

The new and revised edition of THE OHIO CARDINAL is really very nice. I also like the compressed format for the records. It makes a lot of sense - you can get more into the issue with the smaller print. The map at the end outlining which counties were involved in the list is especially helpful. It shows just how biased our data collection is when viewed state wide. I like the idea of a more collective effort. Please keep up the good work!

John A. Shrader, M.D.
Centerville, Ohio

Editor: This is an excerpt from Dr. Shrader's report submitted to the editor.