

*The Ohio*



# CARDINAL™

Vol. 17, No.2  
Winter 1993-94



**The Ohio Cardinal** is devoted to the study and appreciation of Ohio's birdlife. **The Ohio Cardinal** is published quarterly.

Subscriptions: The subscription rate for four issues is \$12.00. Send all subscriptions to--

The Ohio Cardinal  
c/o Edwin C. Pierce  
520 Swartz Road  
Akron, OH 44319

**The Ohio Cardinal** exists to provide a permanent and timely record of the abundance and distribution of birds in Ohio; to help document the occurrence of rare species in the state; to provide information on identification of birds; and to provide information on birding areas within Ohio.

**The Ohio Cardinal** invites readers to submit articles on unusual occurrences of birds, bird distribution within the state, birding areas in Ohio, identification tips, and other aspects of ornithology. Bird reports and photographs are welcome from any area in the state. Report forms are not a necessity but will be supplied on request. Unusual species should be documented--documentation forms are also available on request from the Editor, Publisher, and Records Committee Secretary.

In order to keep **The Ohio Cardinal** timely, seasonal reports are due by the following dates:

Winter--March 10  
Spring--June 10  
Summer--August 10  
Autumn--December 10

Please send all reports to:

Robert Harlan  
7072 Parma Park Blvd.  
Parma Hts., OH 44130

**THE OHIO CARDINAL:**

Robert Harlan, Editor  
Edwin C. Pierce, Publisher  
The Ohio Bird Records Committee: H. Thomas Bartlett, Secretary.  
1833 S. Winfield Dr.  
Tiffin, OH 44883

Members: Matt Anderson (Toledo), Jon Dunn (Dayton), Bruce Glick (Millersburg), Ray Hannikman (Cleveland), Cal Keppler (Youngstown), Charlotte Mathena (Dayton), Jim McCormac (Columbus), Kevin Metcalf (Cleveland), Bill Murphy (Marietta), David Styer (Cincinnati).

Cover: Common Redpoll, Winter 1993-94.  
Photo by Gary Meszaros.

## Black-throated Gray Warbler in Independence, Ohio by Laverne & Albert Turner

---

Saturday, December 11th, 1993, saw the weather turn colder at our home in Independence (Cuyahoga Co.) after a storm passed through on Friday evening. I had filled the sunflower and suet log feeders earlier, and with the temperature at about 25 degrees F. at 11:00 a.m., I had settled down in the living room recliner to relax watching birds. It was about a half hour later when a black and white chickadee-sized bird caught my eye because of its unusual fluttering behavior near our suspended suet log feeder, which hangs about three feet from the window. It was smaller and puffier than the numerous Downy Woodpeckers, but similar in coloration. Binoculars revealed that it was not a Downy or a chickadee. The hovering action of the bird was suggestive of a warbler, but neither Peterson's 1947 Eastern A Field Guide to the Birds or Hausman's Field Book of Eastern Birds depicted it. But Don Eckelberry's color illustration of a Black-throated Gray Warbler flew out phoenix-like from Plate 29 in the 1949 Eastern edition of the Audubon Land Bird Guide by Richard H. Pough.

After contacting the Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland, they suggested that I notify the Kirtland Bird Club's Northeast Ohio Rare Bird Alert, which I did by leaving a recorded message. Later in the day, Jim Heflich returned my call and it was arranged that Ann and Bill Toneff would come the next day (Sunday) to verify the sighting. Throughout the rest of the day the bird was observed at the suet log feeder at 15-30 minute intervals, with the last feeding at 4:50 p.m. A timid feeder compared to the jaunty chickadee or titmouse, the deliberate woodpecker, or the aggressive House Finch, he seemed to get little suet from his brief but numerous forays at the feeder, although he did spend some time browsing on the ground near the holly shrubs beneath the two feeders. His fluffed-up ball-like appearance belied Eckelberry's painting, but my assumption was that his environment rather than his obesity was the cause. After feeding at the suet, he perched in a small dogwood tree four feet from the feeder and stroked his beak on the branch.

About noon on the 12th, Ann and Bill Toneff arrived and within an hour they were treated to three observations and took photographs through the living room window. A little later Robert Harlan called, and when he arrived at about 4:00 p.m., the bird was at the suet feeder. Our thanks to Rob for the copy of The Ohio Cardinal which had several interesting articles on the Black-throated Gray Warbler found at Georgetown, Ohio during the Winter of 1992-93.

The view from our living room looks out upon the Cuyahoga River Valley with the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area boundary adjoining our northern property line. At times, the bird left the feeder in that direction, at other times he flew towards a creek valley on the west, but most often he headed towards the tall White Pines on our eastern property line.

The 22 degree F. temperature at 8:00 a.m. on December 13th seemed to increase the bird's feeder visits to 10-15 minute intervals, which we observed until we left home at about noon. Larry Rosche had called earlier in the day and informed us afterwards that he had visited, observed and photographed the bird while we were gone.

The temperature was in the 30's on the 14th when Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wallin observed the bird three or four times in the hour that they were here. About 4:30 p.m., John Vanderpoel arrived just in time for the bird's longest and final feeding of the day.

The merit award for endurance has to go to Nancy and Bill Klamm, who came at about 11:00 a.m. on the 17th, set up two video cameras near the pine trees and were still photographing when we returned around 3:30 p.m.

On Monday, December 20th, Larry Rosche and Woody Stover observed the bird from the living room, and Larry made arrangements to bring some Amish birders at a later date. For the next three days, we had periods of light snow with daytime temperatures in the 20's and 30's.

About this time, the bird became more aggressive and was winning his contests with the chickadees, titmice, Downies and House Finches for space at the feeders. He also appeared to be trying to feed at the two sunflower seed feeders, but this seemed to be wishful thinking on his part. Suet always seemed to be his preference. He hadn't yet found the 10" wooden bowl that I suspended and spiked with suet, ground hulled sunflower seed, millet seed, ground corn, and hawthorn berries--but the nuthatches and titmice had.

The warbler found the bowl feeder on the 24th, which was a dull overcast day with a temperature of 26 degrees F. at 8:00 a.m. Larry Rosche came with a group of Amish men from the Millersburg area at 9:15 a.m. From the living room, they observed the bird as he was perched in the dogwood tree, and also as he fed in the bowl at a distance of two or three feet.

On Christmas morning, Jim Heflich came with another couple. He is such an avid birder that he hadn't realized that he was coming on Christmas Day when he called a few days earlier. After spending 15 or 20 minutes outdoors, they came inside and the warbler was soon feeding in the bowl. By this time, the bird seemed to be placid, trusting, single-minded-- almost tame. As I filled the feeders, he did not flee but remained about four feet away in the dogwood tree.

December 27th was a partly cloudy day with a 9:00 a.m. temperature of 12 degrees (1 degree F. was recorded at 6:00 a.m.). The warbler was at the bowl feeding at various times until we left at 2:00 p.m. He seemed lethargic, didn't feed as long, and seemed to eat very little. At the time, we did not know that we would not see him again. When in subsequent days he did not appear, we knew that he was gone forever. We can only speculate on the reasons for his departure: an owl that we hear at dusk, several neighborhood cats, the cold weather, or a more lucrative feeder. Our hopes are for the latter. Nevertheless, 17 days of empathizing with our guest was time enough to form an attachment for that fluffy ball. Titmice and chickadees and nuthatches have taken his place in the bowl feeder, but not in our thoughts. Our wayward guest was a Christmas gift that will be remembered for the rest of our days, just as will be all those dedicated, courteous bird-lovers that it was our pleasure to meet.

Laverne and Albert Turner  
7632 Treelawn Drive  
Independence, OH 44141

## Winter 1993-94 Overview by Robert Harlan

---

It wasn't the Red-necked Grebe fallout; it wasn't the "winter finch" invasion; it wasn't the Carolina Wren crash. With little question, the thread that tied together all these factors, and that formed the single-most important aspect of this past winter season was the weather itself.

Although the phenomenal C. Redpoll and Evening Grosbeak numbers may not have been directly attributable to the severe weather, as "winter finches", they at least chose an appropriately "wintry" season to appear. On the other hand, the Red-necked Grebe fallout (by far Ohio's largest ever recorded movement) and the precipitous crash of Carolina Wrens (especially in the southeast) were most assuredly artifacts of the atrocious weather. Exactly how the weather influenced the arrival of the grebes is open to debate; however, the formula for the drop in the Carolina Wren population was obvious: heavy snow + ice + extreme cold = doomsday. Fortunately, the species did not appear to take as severe a hit as it did in the late 1970's, but another winter like this past season may very easily take as heavy a toll.

To sum up the weather, the term "brutal" seems to apply nicely. Although December provided some fairly heavy snows late in the month, it was not until the Arctic blast of mid-January that the weather became truly nasty. Many sites around the state recorded their lowest temperatures since record-keeping began— one of our contributors, Robert Hershberger, reported a temperature of -33 F. at Berlin (Holmes Co.) on the morning of 1/19/94, with up to 2 feet of snow on the ground to boot. In the southeast, whole counties were crippled as extremely heavy snows coupled with treacherous ice storms to bring virtually all activity to a standstill. At L. Snowden (Athens Co.), our contributor Andy Barber reported personally finding 6 N. Cardinals, 3 Song Sparrows, 2 White-throated Sparrows and 2 House Finches dead around his feeder area, while his neighbor reported that their terrier brought in "dozens" of dead House Finches during the same period. The weather finally let up in mid-February, and many early migrants were noted at this time.

In terms of rarities, yet another Black-throated Gray Warbler put in an appearance, this time in Independence (Cuyahoga Co.) from 12/11-27/93. In my opinion, this represents Ohio's 7th verifiable record, and remarkably, the third since 1992! Two sightings of Bohemian Waxwing were reported from the far northeastern counties of Ashtabula and Lake on 12/7/93 and 1/22/94, including a flock of 16 on the latter date. A male Barrow's Goldeneye put in an appearance at the Ashtabula Power Plant (Ashtabula Co.) on 2/28/94. In addition, quite a few of the less common gulls appeared at unusual inland locations, and an excellent gull flight developed along Lake Erie during late February.

In order to conserve space, Christmas Bird Count (CBC) data were

generally not used in the following accounts. Most exceptions consist of acceptably-described rarities that I was personally able to review. All submitted CBC data, reviewed or not, are published in their entirety elsewhere in this issue.

In the following accounts, an asterisk (\*) signifies that a documentation has been submitted by the person indicated, and that this documentation has been accepted by the Ohio Bird Records Committee (OBRC). Please see the Committee Report elsewhere in this issue for further Committee actions.

"The Reports" section is intended to be read in phylogenetic order. The specific county location of most sites is listed in the accounts the first time a site receives mention. County names are often abbreviated by using their first four letters-- "Asht" representing Ashtabula Co., for example. Other place name abbreviations found in this issue are: BuCr (Buck Creek State Park/C.J. Brown Reservoir, Clark Co.); CPNWRC (Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge Count, Lucas Co., compiled by Joe Komorowski); FRes (Findlay Reservoirs, Hancock Co.); HBSP (Headlands Beach SP and vicinity, Lake Co.); Lksh (Lakeshore Metropark, Lake Co.); OkOp (Oak Openings MP and vicinity, mostly Lucas Co.); ONWR (Ottawa NWR, Ottawa/Lucas Cos.); & ONWRC (Ottawa NWR Count, Ottawa/Lucas Cos., compiled by Ed Pierce).



Black-throated Gray Warbler. Independence (Cuyahoga Co.), 12/18/93  
Photo by Larry Rosche.

## Loons through Herons

**Red-throated Loon--** Most unusual in mid-winter, an adult was meticulously described from the Ashtabula Power Plant (Asht) 2/2 (KM).

**Common Loon--** A spring migrant returned to Paint Creek Lk. (High/Ross) as early as 2/26 (SW et al.). Of the 48 reported on Christmas Bird Counts [hereafter CBC's], 29 were on the Buckeye Lk. CBC 12/18.

**Piedbilled Grebe--** 24 at Rocky Fork Lk. (High) 12/5 was by far the highest non-CBC count (SW). 3 birds were found during the mid-winter period of 1/10-2/10, not including up to 4 which wintered at the American Aggregates Quarry in Columbus (Fran) (KA).

**Horned Grebe--** The Am. Aggregates Quarry held 5 spring migrants 2/15 (KA). The mid-winter (1/10-2/10) tally was 9 birds statewide, the most interesting being 1 at L. Logan (Hock) 2/6 (JD, SU).

**Red-necked Grebe--** Where to begin? The largest invasion ever recorded for Ohio began with a bird picked up in a field in Ada (Hard) 2/1 (J. Baughman, fide NM). The next day, 1 was found at Ashtabula (KM). Then, beginning 2/8, numbers began to build throughout the state. Naturally, most were found at the few sites with open water, but at least 5 were picked up by concerned citizens from very unlikely situations [such as 1 at the Summit Mall in Akron (Summ) 2/12 (fide W. Stover)] and were subsequently released on open water. While up to 8 were found at Avon Lake (Lora) 2/16 (TLP, m. obs.) & 11 were at Ashtabula 2/22 (JP), these counts paled in comparison to an absolutely surreal count of 28 birds on Newell's Run and the adjacent

Ohio River in Washington Co. 2/14 (LB). For the record, here are the county totals as best as can be determined thus far: Asht-11, Butl-1, Cuya-1, Erie-2, Fran-6, Hami-1, Hanc-2, Lake-3, Lora-8, Summ-3, & Wash-28. Many birds remained through the end of the period, so stay tuned for more in the spring report. Considering the numbers that were discovered grounded, how many more were grounded at remote locations and never detected? This was not an isolated Ohio incident-- I shudder to think how many Red-necked Grebes lost their lives during this period. Another bird, presumably not associated with this phenomenon, was seen on L. Erie about 4 miles east of the Cedar Point Amusement Pk. (Erie) 1/5 (MJS).

**Double-crested Cormorant--** Up to 13 wintered at the Am. Aggregates Quarry (KA). 10 were at the Cedar Point Amusement Pk. 2/19 (RHR, EP). 3 wintered at the Eastlake Power Plant (Lake) (many observers, hereafter m. obs.), and 2 wintered at Ashtabula (JP, KM).

**Great Blue Heron--** A bedraggled group of 51 huddled together in -28 degree F. weather at the Delaware Water Treatment Plant (Dela) 1/19 (WSh). 44 flew along the Chagrin River in the city of Eastlake 2/5 (KM). The first birds returned to their Ira Rd. (Summ) nesting colony as early as 2/3 (J. Shafer, fide EP).

**Great Egret--** 1 was photographed on the Ashland CBC 12/19 by Byron Burnett.

**Black-crowned Night Heron--** 25 were detected on the Toledo CBC 12/19, presumably at the hot water outlet along Otter Creek (Luca), where this species regularly winters. 1 remained at Lorain (Lora) as of 12/30 (NKr).

## Waterfowl through Cranes

**Tundra Swan--** Highs include 67 at Farnsworth MP (Luca) 12/26 (ETr)

& 66 at Headlands Beach SP [hereafter HBSP] (Lake) 12/5. Scattered small numbers were detected from mid-Jan. to mid-Feb.

Mute Swan-- Unusually numerous. Possibly more Mutes were present this season than ever before, including: 18 Bern Lk. (Hami) 2/10-14 (Y. Mohlman); 11 along the Muskingum River near Devola (Wash) 1/5-13 (LB); up to 9 at Hoover Res. (Fran/Dela) during Feb. (KA); 7 Wingfoot Lk. (Port) 1/19 (LR); 6 wintering at Eastlake (m. obs.); etc. At least 40 more birds were reported elsewhere.

Greater White-fronted Goose-- 2 adults were carefully documented from Killdeer Plains WA (Wyan) 12/8 (EH\*). Another adult was documented as part of the W. Hamilton Co. CBC 12/18 (KP\*). It was still present as of 1/13 (fide NKe). 2 were on the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge Count [hereafter ONWRC] (Otta/Luca) of 12/5.

Snow Goose-- From 1-4 birds were reported during the season at 13 sites, plus 25-29 wintered at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge [hereafter ONWR] (Otta/Luca) (m. obs.).

Brant-- 1 was at Conneaut (Asht) 12/7 (JP).

Canada Goose-- An individual fitting the description of the far western "minima" race, or "Cackling Goose", was scrutinized with other typical Canadas at the E. 55th St. Marina in Cleveland (Cuya) 12/6-7 (J. Heflich, m. obs.). Traits noted include very small size, very dark body coloration, and the lack of the white neck band that would be expected in the "Richardson's Goose", the small race that sometimes occurs in Ohio. I am unaware of any previous published mention of the "Cackling Goose" in Ohio. Non-CBC peaks recorded by standard methods include 2200 at Killdeer Plains WA 2/26 (RHr, EP)

& 1900 in Hancock Co. 12/7 (BH et al.). However, see the information provided by the Ohio Division of Wildlife elsewhere in this issue for other peak counts.

Wood Duck-- 20 migrants were at E. Fork Lk. (Gler) 2/27 (KF).

Green-winged Teal-- Highs include 12 ONWRC 12/5; 10 LaDue Res. (Geau) 12/5 (CH); & 8 Griggs Res. (Fran) 2/22 (KA).

Am. Black Duck-- 500 were at the open-water pond in Castalia (Erie) 1/16 (CH), while 418 were on the Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge Count [hereafter CPNWRC] (Luca) of 12/12. Inland, 100 each were at Buck Creek SP [a.k.a. C.J. Brown Res., hereafter BuCr] (Clar) 2/19 (DO) & Killdeer Plains WA 2/26 (EP, RHr).

Mallard-- Castalia pond attracted 3000 + birds 1/16 (CH). 500 each were at the inland sites of BuCr 12/12 (DO) & Killdeer Plains WA 2/26 (EP, RHr).

N. Pintail-- 18 fall migrants were on the ONWRC of 12/5, while spring migrants were represented by 20 at BuCr 2/19 (DO) & 18 at Hoover Res. 2/17 (KA).

Blue-winged Teal-- 1 was nicely described from the Millersburg CBC 1/1 by Dennis Kline.

N. Shoveler-- An awesome 70 were at Castalia 1/16 (CH). 30 were on the ONWRC of 12/5.

Gadwall-- The CPNWRC tallied 54 birds 12/12. 14 returned to Mogadore Res. (Port) 2/27 (CH). Up to 10 wintered at BuCr (DO), while 16 were at Castalia 1/26 (KA).

Am. Wigeon-- Always good for wintering wigeon, Castalia harbored 160 birds 1/26 (KA). From 20-30 wintered at Hoover Res. (KA). Peak return count was 20 at L. Snowden (Athe) 2/28 (AB).

Canvasback-- 1500 were on



Maumee Bay and along the Maumee River (Luca) 1/23 (ETr). 2000 congregated on Sandusky Bay (Otta/Erie) 2/19 (RHR). 400 at Eastlake 2/13-14 was a good count for the area (CH, KM). Inland, 25 were at Greenlawn Dam (Fran) 2/17 (AG).

Redhead-- Eastlake attracted 300 birds 2/27 (CH). 200 more were at Avon Lake 2/28 (RHR, EP). Inland spring migrants include: 44 Hoover Res. 2/22 (KA); 25 E. Fork Lk. 2/27 (KF); & 25 Caesar Creek Lk. (Warr) 2/28 (J. Decker).

Ring-necked Duck-- Peak spring counts include: 150 on hte Akron lakes (Summ) 2/27 (LK); 100+ L. Snowden 2/28 (AB); & 100 E. Fork Lk. 2/27 (KF). 80 fall migrants were at Wellington Res. (Lora) 12/8 (ETH).

Greater Scaup-- Four-digit counts include: 3000 Ashtabula 2/1 (JP); 1500 Rocky River Pk. (Cuya) 12/26 (CH); & 1050-1200 Edgewater Pk. (Cuya) 12/31 (LR, R. Hannikman). For a six-digit "scaup species" count, see the ODOW data elsewhere in this issue. Again seemed up inland, including up to 28 in Franklin Co.

Lesser Scaup-- 600 Lesser's were off Rocky River Pk. 12/19 (RHR). 40 were inland at Caesar Creek Lk. 2/28 (J. Decker).

Oldsquaw-- 5 inland sites attracted a total of 7 birds 12/5-19 and 2/28. 5 lakefront sites also provided from 1-4 birds each during the period.

Black Scoter-- Max 4 Sherod Pk. (Erie) 12/5 (ETH). 6 other lakefront locations totalled 10 birds, all but 1 in Dec.

Surf Scoter-- 6 at the Camp Dennison gravel operations (Hami) 12/4 was an impressive inland count (J. Rettig). 7 were at 5 lakefront sites in Dec. & Feb.

White-winged Scoter-- Inland: 1 Paulding Res. (Paul) 12/23 (DMD);

1 Caesar Creek Lk. 1/9 (J. Hickman); 1 Greenlawn Dam 2/6-15 (AG, KA); & 1 Am. Aggregates Quarry 2/28 (KA). 3 was the lakefront max, at each of 3 sites.

Common Goldeneye-- Enormous numbers were found inland at Mosquito Lk. (Trum), building up to 570 birds 12/14 (DJH).

Presumably, the vast majority of the 819 recorded on the Trumbull Co. CBC 12/19 were also at this site. These seem to be the largest inland counts ever reported for Ohio. 1500 was a good total for Avon Lake 2/11 (TLP), and 500 each at Lakewood Pk. (Cuya) 2/5 (m. obs.) and Cedar Point Amusement Park 2/19 (RHR) were also indicative of a productive year. But for mind-numbing numbers, see the ODOW Maumee Bay report elsewhere in this issue.

Barrow's Goldeneye-- An adult male was found at the Ashtabula Power Plant 2/28 (JP\*).

Bufflehead-- LePage counted 150 at Avon Lake 2/11. 120 more were at Eastlake 2/13 (LR). Inland, 15 were at E. Fork Lk. 2/27 (KF) & 12 were at Greenlawn Dam 2/7 (AG).

Hooded Merganser-- It seems that new state inland records for this species are mentioned on these pages with regularity. In keeping with this tradition, the 650 Hooded's at Mosquito Lk. 12/7 set yet another record (DJH). 265 were at L. Rockwell (Port) 12/3 (CH). 80 remained at Hoover Res. 1/3 (KA).

Common Merganser-- 1000 birds each were tallied at Eastlake 2/13 (LR) & Sandusky Bay 2/19 (RHR). Inland, flocks of 20 must have been very popular, with that number being found at the Findlay Reservoirs [hereafter FRes] (Hanc) 2/1 (BH); at the Am. Aggregates Quarry 2/15 (KA); at BuCr 2/19 & 27 (DO); & at Bern Lk. 2/14 (Y. Mohlman).

Ruddy Duck-- Up to 200 remained

from the fall at Oberlin Res. (Lora) 12/3-8 (ETh, NKR).

Black Vulture-- Non-CBC reports include: 5 Knox Co. 12/29 (BAT); 1 Hueston Woods SP (Preble Co. portion) 1/8 (DD); 4 Hocking Co. 1/31 (KA); 12 Fairfield Co. 2/6 (JD, SU); & 2 Paint Creek Lk. 2/26 (SW et al.). On 1/2, as part of the Lancaster CBC, HB et al. discovered 30 Black Vultures on 30 consecutive fence posts along Blue Valley Rd., just northwest of Sugar Grove (Fair).

Turkey Vulture-- Many migrants arrived statewide 2/18-22 (m. obs.), although a handful of birds found in Holmes, Athens and Montgomery Cos. 2/5-9 could also have been migrants. 1 in Strongsville (Cuya) 2/6 was certainly a migrant (M. Boyle, fide RHR). 151 birds were detected on CBC's, including 56 on the Lancaster CBC 1/2 & 45 on the Oxford CBC 12/18.

Osprey-- 1 along the Ohio River at Marietta (Wash) 12/31 (LB) was extremely late.

Bald Eagle-- The ODOV's mid-winter eagle survey detected a record high 47 adults and 29 imm. statewide, for a total of 76 birds. A site-by-site examination of the ODOV's press release indicates that the majority of these birds represented wintering pairs in the vicinity of known nest sites. In addition to these known-site birds, we received reports from other areas including: 4 birds presumably representing fall migrants 12/5-1/3; about 13 birds seen 1/8-2/7 presumably present for at least a portion of the mid-winter season; about 12 birds thought to be spending the winter; and about 7 presumed spring migrants seen 2/23-28. If we combine the ODOV data with our reports from other sites, it seems that over 100 Bald Eagles were in Ohio this winter! And this doesn't even include any possible additional birds reported on CBC's!

N. Harrier-- From 6-8 were regularly found at Killdeer Plains WA 1/18-2/26 (m. obs.). 6 were on the ONWRC of 12/5, and 4 were in Highland Co. 1/29 (SW).

Sharp-shinned Hawk-- 1 found itself cornered in the rafters of a drive-up loading area canopy at a supermarket in Chardon (Geau) 2/20. Our man on the scene went to the location and secured the bird with a butterfly net attached to a pole, and then released it safely elsewhere (DB).

N. Goshawk-- An adult was carefully described in Eastlake 12/24 (HM). Another adult was reported from the Paint Creek Lk./Rocky Fork Lk. area 2/26 (SW et al.). An injured imm. was apparently found in the Cincinnati area 12/26 and was subsequently sent to RAPTOR, Inc. for rehabilitation (fide NKe).

Red-shouldered Hawk-- Up to 4 were in the Toledo area (Luca) during the period (MA, ETr). 4 were also in Geauga Co. 12/1 (DF) and in Hocking Co. 2/6 (JD, SU).

Red-tailed Hawk-- Highs include 25 at Maumee Bay SP (Luca) 12/20 (ETr) & 24 in the Paint Creek/Rocky Fork Lk. area 1/29 (SW).

Rough-legged Hawk-- ONWR held 6 birds 2/9 (ETr). 5 each were in Knox Co. 12/29 (BAT) & in Tuscarawas Co. 12/11 (ES). Moderate numbers elsewhere.

Am. Kestrel-- 40 were found in the Paint Creek/Rocky Fork Lk. area 1/29 (SW). 11 were in Lorain Co. 12/8 (ETh).

Merlin-- As this species is not generally thought of as being particularly social, a roost of up to 4 birds in Bath Twp. (Summ) through the period was very unusual (m. obs.). Singles were in Mentor-on-the-Lake (Lake) 12/17 (JP) & in Knox Co. 12/29 (BAT).

Peregrine Falcon-- A male and female made rounds at the MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland (Cuya) 1/23 (PL et al.). This pair apparently represents a second pair for Cleveland. An imm., not of the "tundrius" race, was at Avon Lake 2/27-28 (m. obs.). This may have been the same bird that was at Lorain 12/16-19 (KA, m. obs.). Other singles were at N. Kingsville (Asht) 12/7 (JP) & at Toledo 1/23 (TK), possibly a member of the local nesting pair.

Wild Turkey-- The vicinity of Butler in Richland Co. has been productive for this species in recent years, and 93 were seen there 12/31 (JH). The fields of Monroe Twp. (Asht) also proved very fruitful this season, with up to 83 encountered there 1/11 (JP). Up to 31 were found at the Grand River WA (Trum), with the peak coming 1/16 (DJH). Some other interesting counts include: 41 Hocking Co. 2/1 (JF); 30 Tuscarawas Co. 2/26 (SH); 25 L. Snowden during the pd. (AB); 18 northeast of Dundee (Tusc) 1/11 (WSa); & 11 E. Fork Lk. 12/29 (D. Brinkman).

Virginia Rail-- 2 were found at Lexington (Rich) 12/16, and remained for the Mansfield CBC 12/18 (M. Tawse, JH). 2 were also described from the Millersburg CBC 1/1 by Dennis Kline.

Am. Coot-- 185 were counted on the Akron lakes 12/19 (CH).

Sandhill Crane-- Fall migrants included of 40 at BuCr 12/5 (DO) & 87 in Hamilton Co. 12/11 (fide NKe). 4 were at Newtown (Hami) 12/26 as part of the Cincinnati CBC. A single at BuCr 2/20 (J. Hill, J. Howard) & 8 at E. Fork Lk. 2/27 (KF) were likely spring migrants.

### **Shorebirds through Terns**

Killdeer-- Good numbers moved through the state during the warm

spell 2/17-22 (m. obs.). 1 attempted to winter in Tuscarawas Co., and succeeded at least until 1/23, but was later found dead (RS).

Ruddy Turnstone-- An imm. spent the month of December at HBSP (m. obs.), being last seen 12/26 on the Mentor CBC.

Purple Sandpiper-- Singles were at Conneaut 12/7 (JP) & at Edgewater Pk. 12/31 (R. Hannikman, E. Bacik).

Dunlin-- Latest bird was at BuCr 12/5 (DO).

Common Snipe-- 2 wintered in Tuscarawas Co. (RS). Another survived at least until 1/29 at BuCr (DO). 11 were on the Cleveland CBC 12/18, presumably most or all being found at their traditional Cuyahoga Co. Airport site, where the birds favor open-water drainage ditches.

Am. Woodcock-- Arrived in Washington Co. 2/19 (LB), and was present in the north as early as 2/23.

Jaeger species-- Single jaegers were reported 5 times during the season.

Frankin's Gull-- 1 was at Fairport Harbor MP (Lake) 12/17 (JP).

Little Gull-- An adult was at Eastlake 12/4-23, while a 1st-winter bird was there 1/21-23 (both m. obs.). Another adult was in the HBSP area 12/5-24 (m. obs.). Other adults were at Lakeshore MP [hereafter Lksh] (Lake) and Conneaut (JP).

Bonaparte's Gull-- Max 10,000 Edgewater Pk. 12/24 (RHr). 6000 were on the HBSPC 12/5, and 5000+ were at Eastlake the same day (LR). 11 at the latter site 1/27 was the highest mid-winter count (KM). Inland, 50 were at BuCr 12/5 (DO).

Ring-billed Gull-- Although probably not as numerous as last winter, once again large numbers were found inland: 3000 Griggs Dam 12/8 (KA); 1000 Paint Creek/Rocky Fork Lk. area 2/26 (SW et al.); & 500 BuCr 12/12 (DO).

California Gull-- An adult was meticulously described from the Avon Lake Power Plant 2/27 (LR\*, JD\*, m. obs.).

Herring Gull-- 60 headed south over Berlin (Holm) 12/5 (RHe). 350 headed southeast over Garfield MP (Cuya) 1/12, likely headed for the Cuyahoga Co. landfill (RHr). Pogacnik witnessed a spectacular east to west movement of gulls over Lksh 2/26, including 2400 adult/3rd-year birds and 700 1st/2nd-year birds. Two days later, 4400 adult/3rd-year & 1500 1st/2nd-year birds were at Ashtabula (JP).

Thayer's Gull-- 8 imm. flew west past Lksh 2/26 (JP). Another imm. headed over inland Garfield MP 1/12 (RHr). Although only about 8-10 miles away from Lake Erie, this appears to be the furthest inland this species has ever been seen in Ohio! Singles were noted at a total of 6 other lakefront sites.

Iceland Gull-- At least 4 birds were identified at Farnsworth MP along the Maumee River from late-Dec. to late-Jan. (TK, ETr, MA). A 1st-year bird made it as far upstream on the Maumee as Independence Dam SP, 4 miles east of Defiance (Defi) 1/23 (DMD\* & ph., J. Haw). Another imm. headed southeast over Garfield MP 1/12 (RHr), and yet another was seen along the Cuyahoga River well upstream from downtown Cleveland 2/13 (ES). Any inland sightings are noteworthy. 3 1st-winter birds were at Avon Lake 2/27 (m. obs.). 1-2 birds were detected at an additional 6 lakefront sites.

Lesser Black backed Gull-- The Maumee River at Farnsworth MP

attracted at least 2 birds from late-Dec. to mid-Feb. (ETr, MA, TK). At least 3 were at Eastlake during the period (m. obs.), and 1-2 birds were also found at an additional 6 lakefront sites.

Glaucous Gull-- Good numbers. The gull flight at Lksh 2/26 contained 14 adult/3rd-year, 11 2nd-year, & 8 1st-year birds (JP). 13 more were at Ashtabula 2/28 (JP), while 10 were at Eastlake 2/27 (m. obs.) and 6 were at Lakewood Pk. 2/5 (m. obs.). Up to 4 were identified at Farnsworth MP from late-Dec. to late-Jan. (MA, TK, ETr). Elsewhere in the northwest, 1 was on the CPNWRC 1/9, and another headed over eastern Toledo 1/4 and again 1/5 (GK). 2 adults passed over inland Garfield MP 1/26 (RHr).

Great Black-backed Gull-- Even marginally inland birds are unusual, so the following reports are of interest: 2 adults were described from a lake next to Garfield MP as part of the Brecksville-Northfield CBC 1/2 (TMR); an adult was seen along the Ohio Turnpike in Olmsted Falls (Cuya) 1/16 (CH); & 2 imm. flew over Garfield MP 1/26 (RHr). Considering the above statement regarding even marginally inland sightings, the following truly inland reports become even more noteworthy: a 1st-year bird was at Silver Lk. (Summ) 12/20 (LR); up to 2 1st-year birds were at Greenlawn Dam 1/29-2/6 (AG, KA), with an adult also there 2/3-5 (KA, AG); & another 1st-year bird was at the Am. Aggregates Quarry 2/22 (KA). Along the Lake, 320 adult/3rd-year & 100 1st/2nd-year birds passed over Lksh as part of the large gull flight 2/26 (JP). At Ashtabula 2/28, a massive 1100 were estimated, including 800 adult/3rd-year, 160 2nd-year, and 140 1st-year birds (JP).

Black-legged Kittiwake-- A cooperative 1st-year bird was a good find along the frozen Cuyahoga River in Cleveland 2/7

(FG, PL photo, TLP, RHr). It was later found again nearby 2/18 + (TLP). Another bird was at Fairport Harbor MP 12/11 (JP).

Common Tern-- Late singles were at Cleveland 12/1 (FG); Eastlake 12/6 (JP); & Conneaut 12/7 (JP).

### **Doves through Warblers**

Mourning Dove-- 70 were at Ed Schlabach's Holmes Co. feeder 2/13.

Barn Owl-- The same Hancock Co. barn that held a Barn Owl in May 1993 still protected one in January 1994 (fide BH).

Snowy Owl-- Inland sightings include: 1 Holmes Co. 1/9-20 (MH, RHe, LEY, m. obs.); 1 Ada 1/3 (NM); & 1 near Broughton (Paul) 1/24 (DMD). Along the Lake: 1-2 Lorain 12/1-1/9 (m. obs.); 2 Maumee Bay SP from Dec. to Mar. (ETr); 2 Burke Lakefront Airport & vicinity (Cuya) 12/12-2/8 (PL, DAC, m. obs.); 1 Ashtabula 12/7-12 (JP, CH); 1 ONWRC CBC 1/2; & 3 reports from Lake Co. 12/14-2/6 (JP).

Long-eared Owl-- Up to 4 were present at Killdeer Plains WA through the end of the period (m. obs.). Another was at Caley MP (Lora) 2/21-2, a site where this species was also found last winter (NKr).

Short-eared Owl-- Many observers reported 1-5 birds at Killdeer Plains WA through 2/26, but Alexander reported 14 there 2/7. 3 were near Dundee 1/28 (SH). Also, 4 CBC reports totalled 16 birds.

N. Saw-whet Owl-- A max of 4 were detected at Killdeer Plains WA 2/5 (LG, m. obs.), although only 1-2 could be found there much of the time. At least 2 were still present as of 2/27-8 (PE, JH). Also 2 CBC reports.

Hummingbird species-- An imm. male survived at a feeder in

Caldwell (Nobl) until 12/25, where several hummers had remained into late October (fide LB). Never assume that a late (or extremely early, for that matter) hummingbird is a Ruby-throated! Attempts should be made to notify other observers about these lingering birds, and close-up photos should also be obtained when possible, especially of the spread tail.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker-- 1 returned to winter in Bath Twp. for the 2nd consecutive year (N. Ibsen). Of the 87 birds found on CBC's, 31 were counted on the Cincinnati CBC 12/26.

Pileated Woodpecker-- 1 photographed in a residential Lakewood (Cuya) yard 2/20 must have been a wanderer (PL). Another spent the winter in the Oak Openings MP area [hereafter OkOp] (Luca), where unusual (fide ETr).

E. Phoebe-- Aside from 7 CBC reports, a calling bird was in the OkOp 12/18 (MA).

Horned Lark-- Peak numbers were reported in January, compared to peak February numbers last year. Highs include: 500-1000 Tuscarawas Co. 12/31-1/22 (ES, SH); 450 Mahoning Co. 1/2 (DJH); 250 Champaign Co. 1/23 (DO); & 200 Waterville (Luca) 1/15 (MA). In the southeast, 25 were feeding on roads near L. Snowden 1/15 (AB). A "large movement" was noted at Magee 2/14 (MJS).

Am. Crow-- The Springfield (Clar) roost held 10,000 birds on 12/18, as part of the Clark Co. CBC, while the Mansfield (Rich) roost held a whopping 21,000 on the Mansfield CBC the same day.

Black-capped Chickadee-- 25 in a small wooded area along L. Erie at Conneaut 12/12 were presumably at the trailing end of last autumn's large incursion (RHr). As evidence of this movement, Black-capped Chickadee totals from the

Southwest, Unglaciaded, West Central, and Central Regions obtained during 1992-93 CBC's were compared to 1993-94 CBC results from these same Regions. In 1992-93, an average of 1.66 birds were found, whereas in 1993-94, CBC participants located an average of 8.06 birds per count. Statewide, numbers jumped from an average of 73.66/count in 1992-93 to 88.70/count in 1993-94.

**Tufted Titmouse--** Like the preceding species, it was believed that this bird also moved into Ohio, but to a lesser degree, this fall. Statewide CBC results revealed an average of 104.60 birds per count in 1992-93, compared to an average of 122.10/count this year. It is unknown whether this increase is due to an incursion or to other factors.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch--** Widely reported, and deemed abundant in the OkOp (TK). An average of 2.48 birds were reported statewide on 1992-93 CBC's, while an average of 5.92 birds were discovered on CBC's this year.

**Brown Creeper--** 10 at BuCr 1/22 was a good count for the date (DO).

**Carolina Wren--** The severe cold, snow cover and ice after mid-January caused problems everywhere for this species, but wreaked havoc in the southeast (AB, V. Fazio). Only the upcoming seasons will reveal the true impact of this catastrophe.

**Winter Wren--** 6 reports were received after the CBC period.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet--** Low numbers overall.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet--** In addition to 40 being found on CBC's, 1 was found in Knox Co. 12/29 (BAT).

**E. Bluebird--** 19 were counted in Holmes Co. 1/16 (MH). This species also apparently took a hit

in the southeast (AB).

**Hermit Thrush--** The post-CBC period produced about 6 birds, including 1 that wintered at Seiberling Naturealm (Summ). A second bird also appeared at this site in early Feb. (W. Stover).

**Am. Robin--** "Super numbers" were present in central Ohio according to KA, including a roost of 3000+ birds at Dublin (Fran). Another roost produced 3325 birds on the HBSPC 2/6. 1305 were counted throughout Hancock Co. 1/11 (BH et al.).

**Gray Catbird--** The 8 reported on CBC's seemed like a very large number. Another was at Killdeer Plains WA 1/1 (JB).

**Brown Thrasher--** In addition to 5 reported on CBC's, 1 was at BuCr 1/1-2 (DO).

**Am. Pipit--** A very large late flock of 27 was described from the Wooster CBC 12/18 by Dennis Kline. Another was at Pleasant Hill Res. (Rich/Ashl) as part of the Mohican CBC 12/26 (JH).

**Bohemian Waxwing--** This rarity was found on two occasions. The first consisted of a total of 3 birds found with two flocks of Cedar Waxwings in scrubby habitat east of Conneaut 12/7 (JP\*). Another "pure" flock of 16 was found in Concord Twp. (Lake) 1/22 (JP\*). Unfortunately, none of these birds could be found subsequently.

**Cedar Waxwing--** Highs include 300+ in Sagamore Hills (Summ) as part of the Brecksville-Northfield CBC 1/2 (DAC) & 218 at N. Chagrin MP (Cuya/Lake) 12/14 (KM).

**N. Shrike--** 4 reports were received from the Lake/Ashtabula Co. area 12/2-1/10 (JP, LR), although some duplication may be involved. 1 was described for the Killdeer Plains CBC 1/2 by Richard Bradley.

Loggerhead Shrike-- The adult at Killdeer Plains WA from last season was present at least until 2/5, when it was found again by J. & K. Shrader and documented by JD\*.

Black-throated Blue Warbler-- A male (most likely an imm.) subsisted on peanut butter at the Garfield Hts. (Cuya) home of Norm & Marge Hoprich from 11/28-12/5, providing the latest record ever for Ohio (LR ph.).

Yellow-rumped Warbler-- Generally scarce, with post-CBC high of about 20 at Hoover Res. 2/5 (BM).

Black-throated Gray Warbler-- An imm. male resided at the Independence (Cuya) feeders of LAT 12/11-27 (LAT, RHR\*, LR ph., m. obs.), providing at least a 7th verifiable record for the state.

Pine Warbler-- 1 squeaked into the winter period at Lksh 12/1 (JP).

Palm Warbler-- A straggler, apparently of the typical migrant western-race, was closely observed and described from N. Chagrin MP 12/11 (KM).

Common Yellowthroat-- 2 were described from the Dayton CBC 12/19 by Tom Hissong & Charlotte Mathena. Another was described from the Youngstown CBC 12/18 by Virginia Elser.

### **N. Cardinal through Evening Grosbeak**

N. Cardinal-- A statewide average of 295.67 birds/CBC were counted this season, compared to an average of 248.79/CBC during the 1992-93 CBC season. Whether this represents a true influx is unknown; however, an apparent northward migration did take place at Lksh during the spring of 1994.

Am. Tree Sparrow-- Post-CBC max was 153 at Killdeer Plains WA 1/16 (BM). 50 were in Clark Co. 1/23 (DO).

Chipping Sparrow-- Only post-CBC report was of an imm. at Burr Oak SP (Athe/Morg) 1/29 (LB). Singles were described from the W. Hamilton Co. CBC 12/19 by Ned Keller & from the Beaver Valley CBC the same day by Joe McMahon.

Field Sparrow-- 1 somehow survive Sd the winter weather at Mentor (Lake), being seen on 2/19 (A. & J. Fjeldstad).

Vesper Sparrow-- 1 was described from the Kingston CBC 1/2 by Connie Wolcott.

Fox Sparrow-- An early movement brought 3 birds to Magee Marsh WA (Otta/Luca) 2/21 (FG) and 2 to Killdeer Plains WA 2/26 (BM).

Song Sparrow-- 35 were at Fredericksburg (Wayn/Holm) 2/10 (RHe).

Lincoln's Sparrow-- Very rare in December, a bird survived in ornamental plantings in downtown Cleveland until the 23rd of the month (D. Basic, fide C. Klaus). For some reason, plantings such as this have previously harbored winter stragglers.

Swamp Sparrow-- Gara had one at his Wilmington (Cln) feeder 2/12.

White-crowned Sparrow-- 28 were in the Ross/Pickaway County Line Road area 1/22 (BM). 8 were at the Berlin feeder of RHe 2/20.

Dark-eyed Junco-- 60+ were tallied at Fredericksburg 2/10 (RHe).

"Oregon Junco"-- One spent 12/26 to about Feb. at Caesar Creek Lk. (fide CM). Another was present at a Centerville (Mont) feeder 1/20 through Feb. (J. & K. Shrader).

Lapland Longspur-- Post-CBC highs were 11 southeast of Whitehouse (Luca) 2/11 (ETr) & 10 in Champaign Co. 1/23 (DO).

Snow Bunting-- Very good

numbers, especially in mid-January. Highs include: up to 500 along Mennonite Rd. in Portage Co. 1/22-24 (LR, CH); 300 Holmes Co. 1/23 (LEY); 250 Paulding Co. 12/12 (DMD); 215 throughout Hancock Co. 2/8 (BH et al.); 200 + Killdeer Plains WA 1/16 (SU, CM); and four more reports of 100-160 birds 1/15-30.

E. Meadowlark-- Of up to 13 present in Tuscarawas Co. 12/28-31, only 3 remained as of 2/1 (ES, RS). 8-10 were at Killdeer Plains WA 1/11-2/26 (JH, EP, RHR). 3 lakefront migrants were at Lakewood Pk. by 2/20 (CH).

Yellow-headed Blackbird-- A male was photographed at the Springdale (Hami) feeder of GAO, being observed 12/26 & 1/4. Another male was at the Columbus home of M. Dawson 1/16 & 25 (fide JF).

N. Oriole-- An adult male was described from the Mansfield CBC 12/18 by James Johnson & Kevin Metcalf.

Purple Finch-- Low numbers once again.

Common Redpoll-- We may have just witnessed the largest recorded Ohio invasion ever of this species. An incredible concentration developed along Antioch Rd. near Lksh 1/15-20, when about 1500 birds were present (GM, JP). See the photo elsewhere in this issue for a glimpse of only a portion of this swarm. The Wayne/Holmes Co. area also attracted excellent numbers, including 360 at Fredericksburg 2/10 (RHe) & 175-200 over Berlin 1/18 (RHe, LEY). Some other triple-digit counts include: 150 Wellington 1/1 (NKR); 125 Hicksville (Defi) 2/10 (MA); 105 Eastlake 1/9 (CH); 100 + Killdeer Plains WA 12/5 (fide CM); 100 Geauga Co. 2/20 (DF); & 100 Granger Twp. (Medi) 1/23 (LR). Obviously, many more significant flocks were also present. Small numbers trickled to the

southern counties of Hamilton, Washington, Montgomery, & Warren. It seems that the majority of birds throughout the state favored weedy fields rather than feeders. Not including CBC reports and those counties represented by the above, the following additional counties also provided records: Cuya, Dela, Erie, Fran, Hanc, Hard, Luca, Maho, Paul, Port, Rich, Trum, & Tusc. After a series of sub-par winters, it is nice to know that redpolls do, in fact, still exist.

Pine Siskin-- Locally abundant to rare, with concentrations including: up to 110 at an OkOp feeder 1/29 (MA); 100 Hocking Co. 1/31 (KA); & 60 wintering at Mohican SP (Ashl) (JH, DD).

Am. Goldfinch-- 36 were at ES's Holmes Co. feeder 2/12.

Evening Grosbeak-- As testimony to last fall's invasion, good numbers were discovered at many areas across the state. At Rockbridge (Hock), the first 7 birds appeared at JF's feeder 12/11, and were then seen every day through the end of the period except 12/12. The peak for December was 89 birds 12/22, the January max was 181 birds 1/28, and the February max of 128 came on 2/15 (JF). Alexander reported 225 birds, also in Hocking Co., on 1/31. 100 wintered at Mohican SP (JH), and 150 + were found there 1/29 (DD, M. Neal). The Oak Openings max of 50 birds came on 2/20-21 (TK). A bird heading inland off L. Erie at Avon Lake 2/15 was interesting (FG). Excluding CBC reports, the following counties produced data: Ashl, Asht, Athe, Augl, Brow, Geau, Hami, Hock, Holm, Knox, Lake, Lora, Luca, Maho, Rich, Ross, Summ, Tusc, & Wash.

#### EXOTICS & ESCAPES

Trumpeter Swan-- 3 very tame birds found at FRes as part of the Hancock Co. CBC 12/18 were very likely the same 3 released birds



that have been present in the Findlay area since April 1993. They were also present at FRes on 1/12 (fide BH).

**Yellow-fronted Canary--** Hank & Sally Hiris extensively photographed a bird visiting their Elmore (Otta) feeder 12/26-1/5 (HSH). Interestingly, this west African species (common in captivity) was also found at a feeder on the Hamburg, PA CBC 12/2627/93 ["Pennsylvania Birds" 7(4):129-30]. When confronted with a completely unexpected bird, it is very tempting to "pigeon-hole" it into a known species-- these two individuals were initially thought to be a Prairie Warbler and a Lesser Goldfinch, both probably just as unlikely as a Yellow-fronted Canary! Perseverance paid off for the observers, however, as the correct identifications were soon worked out.

#### ADDENDA

**Surf Scoter--** A flock of 21 females/immatures were described from E. Fork Lk. 10/24/93 (G. Herbst), as part of an excellent inland flight. This becomes the largest ever published inland flock for Ohio, topping the 10 birds found at FRes just 5 days earlier. Apparently, the next highest published inland records both refer to flocks of 6 birds each.

**Arctic Tern--** 2 individuals were observed at Alum Creek Res. (Dela) on 6/5/93 (B. Peterjohn"). This represents only the second known occurrence of this species in Ohio-- remarkably, both being discovered by the same observer.

#### CORRIGENDA

**Canada Goose--** To complete the report for this species as listed in OC 17(1):11, the Ohio Division of Wildlife estimated 1350 birds at Killbuck WA (Wayn/Holm) on 11/30-12/1/93.

**Franklin's Gull--** The bird at GLSM FH 10/3/93 [OC 17(1):20] should have been attributed to "DO, TLI" rather than "DD, TLI".

#### CONTRIBUTORS & OBSERVERS

All individuals contributing bird reports to "The Ohio Cardinal" for the Winter 1993-94 season are listed below in

CAPITAL LETTERS. In addition, many other Observers submitted their sightings to other birding-related publications. For this report, records from the following publications have been used: "The Cleveland Bird Calendar" (Kirtland Bird Club), "Passenger Pigeon" (Cincinnati Bird Club), "Wingtips" (Black River Audubon Society), & "The Yellow Warbler" (Dayton Audubon Society). Those Observers who received at least four citations in the Winter 1993-94 "The Reports" section are also included in following list of Contributors: J. KIRK ALEXANDER (KA); MATT ANDERSON (MA); CAROLE L. BABYAK (CB); HARLEY BAKER (HB); ANDREW L. BARBER (AB); LYNN BARNHART (LB); DAN BEST (DB) for the Geauga Co. Park District; NANCY D. BRUNDAGE (NB); JEFF BUECKING (JB); DWIGHT & ANN CHASAR (DAC); ROBERT F. CUTTER (RC); DAVID C. DISTER (DD); DOUG & MICKI DUNAKIN (DMD); JON L. DUNN (JD); PAUL D. ELLSWORTH (PE); DUANE F. FERRIS (DF); Kevin Flowers (KF); JIM FRY (JF); LARRY GARA (LG); FRANK GREENLAND (FG); ADAM GOLODA (AG); SCOTT HACKETT (SH); BETTY HARDESTY (BH); ROBERT HARLAN (RH); EDMUND P. HEARNE (EH); DAVID & STAN HEDEEN (DSH); JOHN HERMAN (JH); MICHAEL HERSHBERGER (MH); ROBERT J. HERSHBERGER (RHe); HANK & SALLY HIRIS (HSH); DAVID & JUDY HOCHADEL (DJH); JEAN & DICK HOFFMAN (JDH); CRAIG HOLT (CH); NED KELLER (NKe); TOM KEMP (TK); GERARD J. KLUG (GK); JOSEPH KOMOROWSKI (JK); LEN KOPKA (LK); Norma Kraps (NKr); TOM LePAGE (TLP); PAULA LOZANO (PL); JIM LUCAS (JL); BERNARD F. MASTER (BM); CHARLOTTE MATHENA (CM); KEVIN METCALF (KM); GARY MESZAROS (GM); NELSON MOORE (NM); OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE-- fide GILDO TORI (ODOW); GORDON & ANN OHLHAUSER (GAO); DOUG OVERACKER (DO); KATHY PARKER (KP); EDWIN C. PIERCE (EP); JOHN POGACNIK (JP); LARRY ROSCHE (LR); TOM & MARY ANNE ROMITO (TMR); WINNIE SARNO (WSa); ED SCHLABACH (ES); ROBERT SCHLABACH (RS); MARK & JULIE SHIELDCASTLE (MJS); WILLIAM B. SHIVELY (WSh); ERDINE THOMPSON (ETH); BILL & ANNE TONEFF (BAT); ELLIOT TRAMER (ETr); LAVERNE & ALBERT TURNER (LAT); SUE UTTERBACK (SU); Steve Wagner (SW); LEROY E. YODER (LEY); & MARIAN ZEHNDER (MZ). Also, many other Observers are cited for 1 to 3 records within the species accounts.

## ODOW Waterfowl Counts, Winter 1993-94

---

**AERIAL COUNTS:** Each year, from early autumn into winter, the Ohio Division of Wildlife conducts aerial waterfowl surveys over the Lake Erie marsh region, ranging from Sandusky Bay to Maumee Bay. As this type of survey is not truly comparable to our land-based counts, we present here separately the Winter 1993-94 portion of these surveys. Totals should be considered as indexes, or plus or minus 30%, as exact counts would of course be impossible. We thank Gildo Tori, Mark Shieldcastle, and Jack Weeks of the ODOV for this information.

	12/20	1/5	1/18
Tundra Swan	410	1	2
Snow Goose	350	65	
Canada Goose	12,600	15,280	15,700
Am. Black Duck	37,500	5855	3520
Mallard	40,300	13,305	5000
N. Pintail	200		
Am. Wigeon	300		
Canvasback	6400	10	1500
Redhead	2200		
Scaup sp.	109,000	15,000	12,000
C. Goldeneye	5750	15,057	14,500
Merganser sp.	9950	8540	5000

Some interesting aspects regarding the above information include: 19,900 of the Am. Black Ducks recorded on 12/20/93 were found on Sandusky Bay; 14,630 of the C. Goldeneye recorded on 1/5/94 were found on Maumee Bay; and all 109,000 scaup recorded on 12/20 were also found on Maumee Bay.

In addition to these lakefront surveys, certain inland sites were also covered on or immediately after the above dates. Some highlights include: Canada Goose- 5400 Killdeer Plains WA 1/5-6; 12,355 Mosquito Lk. 1/5-6; 3800 Grand Lk.-St. Mary's 1/5-6; 3525 Maumee River 1/5-6; 3000 Meander Res. 1/5-6 & 1/18; 3400 Killbuck WA 1/5-6; & 1988 on the Ohio Power Co. lands 1/5-6. Am. Black Duck: 900 Maumee River 12/20-1; 1200 Killdeer Plains WA 12/20-1; 525 Buck Creek SP 12/20-1; & 1400 at the Kyger Creek and Gavin Power Plants in Gallia Co. Mallard: 2300 Maumee River 1/5-6; 1800 Killdeer Plains WA 12/20-1; & 2040 Scioto River 1/5-6.

**MID-WINTER WATERFOWL SURVEY:** The ODOV also conducts a statewide waterfowl census in early- to mid-January, covering all 88 counties. Presented below are statewide totals, followed by the peak county totals. Tundra Swan: 53/16 (Erie); Mute Swan: 22/4 (Medi); Snow Goose: 99/65 (Luca); Canada Goose: 96,570/13,310 (Trum) [statewide totals split into 72,461 "maxima" & 24,109 "interior" races]; Wood Duck: 65/28 (Medi); Green-winged Teal: 62/55 (Gall); Am. Black Duck: 27,142/12,469 (Erie); Mallard: 68,359/25,232 (Erie); N. Pintail: 22/9 (Cosh); N. Shoveler: 33/25 (Erie); Gadwall: 75/31 (Wayn); Am. Wigeon: 235/192 (Erie); Canvasback: 145/40 (Cuya); Redhead: 130/50 (Cuya); Ring-necked Duck: 320/211 (Fran); Scaup sp.: 23,099/15,000 (Luca); C. Goldeneye: 22,193/16,702 (Luca); Bufflehead: 105/35 (Luca); Merganser sp.: 14,994/9200 (Luca); Am. Coot: 260/102 (Knox); plus 163 "unknown", for a statewide total of 254,187 waterfowl.

## Ohio Christmas Bird Counts, 1993-1994 by Ned Keller

---

The following report contains the results of 61 of the 63 Christmas Bird Counts (CBCs) held in Ohio last winter. Unfortunately, we were unable to obtain the results of the Ashtabula and Hamilton-Fairfield Counts. We appreciate the time the compilers took to send us copies of their results. In the report, each count name is followed by the date of the count and by a number, which corresponds to a circle on the CBC map elsewhere in this issue.

For the state as a whole, we managed to find 147 species, plus an additional 5 species during "count weeks". For comparison, the 1992-1993 counts produced only 142 species, plus 3 more during "count weeks". These numbers do not include exotic species. The number of species always reflects the number of rarities. This season, 10 species were represented by a single individual, and only two individuals were found of another 6 species.

Cincinnati once again reported the most species, 87, which was the highest number in its history. Other high counts included Millersburg and Cleveland with 79 and Cuyahoga Falls with 76. Of the counts that reported the number of observers (a few did not), Cuyahoga Falls far surpassed the rest with 82 counters and 240 party hours.

Every year, we find a few birds which failed to migrate. This year's entrants in that category (unfortunately, not all of which were documented) were led by single Blue-winged Teal at Cuyahoga Falls and Millersburg, an Osprey at Beaver Creek, 6 Barn Swallows at Steubenville, a House Wren and a White-eyed Vireo at Lake Erie Islands, and single N. Orioles at Indian Lake and Mansfield. Of more significance was the widespread influx of northern passerines, including Red-breasted Nuthatch, Common Redpoll and Evening Grosbeak.

As is our custom, the CBC report includes whatever sightings the compilers report to us, regardless of documentation. However, "The Reports" section in this issue generally contains only acceptably-documented rarities. So, if you don't find your favorite sighting included there, be sure to send in full documentation next year.

Ned Keller  
7066 Wesselman Rd.  
Cleveland, OH 45002

[Editor's note: In the following tables, these notations have been used: "..." = acceptable details have been provided; "\*\*\*\*" = details have been provided and have been sent on to the OBRC (results elsewhere in this issue); "\*\*\*\*\*" = acceptable details provided but the bird was seen outside of Ohio (also note that although no details were provided, the Peregrine Falcon, House Wren, White-eyed Vireo, and Rusty Blackbird recorded on the Lake Erie Islands CBC were actually found in Ontario); and "+" = Snow Geese not differentiated by morph.]

## Northwest Region

## Northeast Region

	Firelands 12/18/93 (9)	Fremont 1/2/94 (8)	Golf Woods 12/18/93 (1)	Grand Rapids-Waterville 12/26/93 (2)	Hancock Co. 12/18/93 (10)	Lake Erie Is. (OH-OH) 12/22/93 (6)	Mansfield 12/18/93 (13)	Ottawa N.W.R. 1/2/94 (4)	Oxbow Lake 12/27/93 (7)	Plymouth 12/28/93 (12)	Tiffin 12/18/93 (11)	Toledo 12/19/93 (3)		Ashland 12/19/93 (30)	Beaver Creek 12/19/93 (36)	Brecksville-Northfield 1/2/94 (22)	Burton 1/1/94 (27)	Cleveland 12/18/93 (23)	Cuyahoga Falls 12/19/93 (29)	Elyria-Lorain 12/19/93 (20)	Lakewood 12/19/93 (21)	Mentor 12/26/93 (24)	Mohegan S.F. 12/26/93 (35)	Quail Hollow-Hartsville 12/18/93 (37)	Salem 1/2/94 (33)	Trumbull Co. 12/19/93 (28)	Wellington 12/29/93 (26)	Wilmet 12/18/93 (32)	Wooster 12/18/93 (31)	Youngstown 12/18/93 (34)					
Common Loon	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-				
Pied-billed Grebe	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	9	1	1	CW	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	3			
Horned Grebe	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Double-crested Cormorant	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	4	5	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-				
Great Blue Heron	52	12	5	5	10	-	9	64	3	-	3	60	39	2	4	16	14	49	14	11	4	8	2	11	8	14	13	7	-	-	-				
Great Egret	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Black-crowned Night-Heron	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CW	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Tundra Swan	5	-	1	100	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62	64	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17			
Mute Swan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Greater White-fronted Goose	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Snow Goose (white form)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	55†	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Snow Goose (blue form)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Canada Goose	1055	675	420	1429	811	89	106	113	161	476	58	623	886	321	744	582	884	1888	3447	224	239	392	411	864	966	3033	308	657	656	2593					
Wood Duck	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	5	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Green-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
American Black Duck	126	75	-	20	7	5	21	362	25	-	3	244	25	-	18	35	110	36	25	83	100	21	28	-	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	92	10		
Mallard	1316	567	56	540	802	184	172	533	154	-	797	917	71	140	529	413	714	1323	605	912	165	50	701	205	281	130	94	1540	568	-	-	-			
Northern Pintail	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	93	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	
Blue-winged Teal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Northern Shoveler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Gadwall	9	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	6	24	11	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	
American Wigeon	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	
Canvasback	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	6	-	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Redhead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	CW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ring-necked Duck	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	34	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	
Greater Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	50	46	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lesser Scaup	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	629	2	2	-	-	2	7	3	250	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Scaup, sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harlequin Duck	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oldsquaw	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	CW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Black Scoter	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Surf Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-winged Scoter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Goldeneye	335	-	-	9	-	952	6	232	1	-	-	350	-	-	-	-	63	-	-	52	47	3	-	-	819	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	
Bufflehead	42	-	2	1	2	1183	5	9	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	33	12	34	42	56	-	10	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	
Hooded Merganser	-	-	-	1	-	10	-	-	-	-	CW	18	-	-	CW	2	1	31	CW	1	4	1	-	-	38	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	-	
Common Merganser	43	-	-	61	1	56	3	631	50	-	-	3943	-	-	-	-	9	14	364	75	110	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22	
Red-breasted Merganser	71	-	-	-	-	846	1	267	8	-	-	30	-	1	-	-	50	-	7	870	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ruddy Duck	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	1	-	-	1	9	85	2	-	7	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	
Duck, sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-13600	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	1000

	Northwest Region													Northeast Region																	
	Firelands 12/18/93 (9)	Fremont 1/2/94 (8)	Goll Woods 12/18/93 (1)	Grand Rapids-Waterville 12/26/93 (2)	Hancock Co. 12/18/93 (10)	Lake Erie Is. (OH-ON) 12/22/93 (5)	Mansfield 12/18/93 (13)	Ottawa N.W.R. 1/2/94 (4)	Oxbow Lake 12/27/93 (7)	Plymouth 12/29/93 (12)	Tiffin 12/19/93 (11)	Toledo 12/19/93 (3)		Ashland 12/19/93 (30)	Beaver Creek 12/19/93 (36)	Brecksville-Northfield 1/2/94 (22)	Burton 1/1/94 (27)	Cleveland 12/18/93 (23)	Cuyahoga Falls 12/19/93 (29)	Elyria-Lorain 12/19/93 (20)	Lakewood 12/19/93 (21)	Mentor 12/26/93 (24)	Mohican S.F. 12/26/93 (35)	Quail Hollow-Hartsville 12/18/93 (37)	Salem 1/2/94 (33)	Trumbull Co. 12/19/93 (28)	Wellington 12/29/93 (26)	Wimot 12/18/93 (32)	Wooster 12/18/93 (31)	Youngstown 12/18/93 (34)	
Turkey Vulture	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Osprey	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Bald Eagle	CW	2	-	1	-	-	-	10	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	CW	3	1	5	5	3	4	2	4	3
Northern Harrier	CW	-	2	-	-	-	-	3	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	-	-	4	-	1	4	1	2	1	2	CW	-	-	2	2	4	9	3	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	5	2	1		
Cooper's Hawk	4	1	-	6	5	3	10	5	3	2	3	7	2	6	1	8	6	23	3	1	3	1	4	12	7	5	12	6	5		
Northern Goshawk	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Accipiter, sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	
Red-shouldered Hawk	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	-	-	-	1*	CW	1	-	3	10	6	9	-	-	1	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	3		
Red-tailed Hawk	29	20	14	24	15	11	28	47	28	20	27	34	25	35	13	47	17	55	17	7	3	23	10	56	26	47	76	43	21		
Rough-legged Hawk	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	4	3	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	19	-	-	6	1	3	-		
Buteo, sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
American Kestrel	14	11	25	10	55	-	18	36	17	8	45	24	22	12	1	7	6	14	47	7	4	9	28	45	25	33	51	28	10		
Merlin	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	-	-	CW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Peregrine Falcon	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Ring-necked Pheasant	-	1	-	3	1	2	3	9	4	4	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	2	6		
Ruffed Grouse	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	7	-	-	-	-	-	
Wild Turkey	-	-	-	-	-	-	138	-	-	-	-	-	-	94	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24	-	3	-	2	-	-	-	
Northern Bobwhite	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Virginia Rail	-	-	-	-	-	-	2*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
American Coot	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	296	3	135	CW	-	71	-	-	-	-	-	30		
Killdeer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	1	3	-	1	-	-	-	1		
Ruddy Turnstone	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Common Snipe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	
Little Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Bonaparte's Gull	36	-	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	36	-	-	-	-	1880	3	32	3365	1024	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	2		
Ring-billed Gull	7885	20	1	4423	781	146	15	1266	192	-	1	3956	2019	22	586	9	6623	8692513218380	2279	41	17	-	997	5	4	-	301				
California Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Herring Gull	703	100	-	808	3	217	3	192	24	9	-	728	-	-	46	5	2159	21	835	68	800	4	26	-	83	-	-	-	-	5	
Thayer's Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Iceland Gull	-	-	-	CW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Lesser Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	CW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1**	-	-	-	-	
Glaucous Gull	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Great Black-backed Gull	68	3	-	1	-	48	-	14	-	-	-	73	-	-	2	-	81	1	120	21	194	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Gull, sp.	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	314	-	-	-	-	-	-	400	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Rock Dove	332	10	312	90	486	5	306	56	104	39	785	680	143	303	204	213	353	1344	598	479	38	66	638	375	143	160	784	490	402		
Mourning Dove	453	238	448	345	334	22	328	381	170	172	255	837	243	649	119	283	152	985	308	67	83	264	1079	974	867	598	1016	672	577		
Barn Owl	-	-	CW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Eastern Screech-Owl	7	-	1	22	5	-	41	13	3	8	17	5	-	6	-	2	3	14	-	2	1	9	-	5	-	-	1	1	1		
Great Horned Owl	4	2	3	5	4	2	9	25	2	1	4	5	3	11	2	2	1	16	-	-	1	-	1	1	2	2	3	2	2		



### Northwest Region

### Northeast Region

	Northwest Region											Northeast Region																		
	Firelands 12/18/93 (9)	Fremont 1/2/94 (8)	Golf Woods 12/18/93 (1)	Grand Rapids-Waterville 12/26/93 (2)	Hancock Co. 12/18/93 (10)	Lake Erie Is. (OH-ON) 12/22/93 (5)	Mansfield 12/18/93 (13)	Ottawa N.W.R. 1/2/94 (4)	Oxbow Lake 12/27/93 (7)	Plymouth 12/28/93 (12)	Tiffin 12/18/93 (11)	Toledo 12/19/93 (3)	Ashland 12/19/93 (30)	Beaver Creek 12/19/93 (36)	Brecksville-Northfield 1/2/94 (22)	Burton 1/1/94 (27)	Cleveland 12/18/93 (23)	Cuyahoga Falls 12/19/93 (29)	Elyria-Lorain 12/19/93 (20)	Lakewood 12/19/93 (21)	Mentor 12/26/93 (24)	Mohican S.F. 12/26/93 (35)	Quail Hollow-Hartville 12/18/93 (37)	Salem 1/2/94 (33)	Trumbull Co. 12/19/93 (28)	Wellington 12/29/93 (26)	Wilmot 12/18/93 (32)	Wooster 12/18/93 (31)	Youngstown 12/18/93 (34)	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	4	-	-	11	-	2	-	6	-	1	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	5	2	
Pine Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Common Yellowthroat	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1*	
Northern Cardinal	125	99	17	240	123	171	414	166	85	51	313	154	128	163	119	270	177	846	170	75	150	280	155	244	199	229	417	270	161	
Rufous-sided Towhee	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	2	-	1	1	1	
American Tree Sparrow	202	33	8	257	30	85	121	741	97	62	391	149	63	108	137	254	98	469	69	35	88	212	41	450	510	541	274	233	218	
Chipping Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Field Sparrow	-	-	7	1	-	1	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	1	-	15	-	-	-	-	3	2	11	-	2	-	1	1	-	
Fox Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CW	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Song Sparrow	27	73	19	64	17	11	106	40	13	4	64	23	26	47	25	19	47	215	39	8	3	19	17	78	43	48	148	133	21	
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	-	4	4	4	15	57	-	-	2	21	-	-	2	7	1	22	6	-	2	-	-	-	6	2	10	12	3	
White-throated Sparrow	1	-	1	8	18	34	14	1	2	-	4	23	9	7	8	4	8	50	8	7	10	25	3	2	18	1	7	26	7	
White-crowned Sparrow	CW	-	-	1	1	5	13	-	-	3	1	-	9	1	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	21	7	5	1	2	34	55	10	
Dark-eyed Junco	147	125	37	381	83	47	486	56	84	53	104	110	140	213	40	265	207	708	189	94	101	462	72	393	191	367	212	279	172	
Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Lapland Longspur	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Snow Bunting	-	-	CW	-	33	1	-	4	272	20	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CW	20	-	-	
Red-winged Blackbird	320	-	-	4	263	2	2	3	-	-	2	236	1	-	-	-	60	1	-	-	74	29	1425	212	25	-	1	165	4	
Eastern Meadowlark	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	5	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	
Yellow-headed Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	205	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	22	-
Brewer's Blackbird	-	-	-	-	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Common Grackle	267	-	-	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	11	-	-	-	-	120	34	1	-	20	-	1196	2	1	-	15	15		
Brown-headed Cowbird	39	6	-	CW	3	1	CW	-	-	-	26	1250	-	-	-	137	16	-	-	-	5	3	15	-	-	18	-	-	2	
Northern Oriole	-	-	-	-	-	1*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Purple Finch	7	-	2	8	1	23	6	-	-	-	-	CW	-	1	2	1	2	28	-	-	2	7	-	8	4	4	-	4	4	
House Finch	224	45	82	399	236	341	519	56	60	44	247	560	211	282	188	187	278	1559	606	265	167	168	122	255	101	281	226	84	313	
Red Crossbill	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Common Redpoll	-	-	-	12	-	6	-	30	130	2	-	-	2	-	CW	60	8	-	28	-	1	-	-	-	88	145	-	-	-	
Pine Siskin	3	2	-	130	3	-	10	2	-	-	3	29	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	2	127	-	12	-	-	-	20	
American Goldfinch	53	7	15	139	82	45	385	90	15	45	101	180	80	151	121	152	176	704	207	93	70	236	78	118	290	232	232	102	130	
Evening Grosbeak	-	-	-	2	-	3	19	-	-	-	2	-	-	38	-	4	-	16	-	-	-	16	135	-	-	1	-	8	-	35
House Sparrow	343	565	636	454	459	265	775	1387	422	77	928	1058	228	437	311	591	499	1995	1266	219	233	301	956	767	376	570	2192	476	276	
total species	60	42	45	66	57	71	69	63	52	38	53	70	48	54	49	50	79	76	66	60	72	69	54	56	64	47	59	65	71	
total individuals	17283	3421	4424	16238	9726	11191	28632	21731	4268	1281	9788	33876	5792	6060	5311	5877	21520	27236	35338	27673	8451	5085	21748	9086	10834	6230	10722	8748	8709	
observers	27	11	15	12	29	6	15	23	8	5	35	23	13	23	17	?	55	82	29	?	15	12	17	18	11	18	10	14	20	
party hours	50	?	35	56	?	24.5	74	29	28	12	42	50.5	50.5	63	86.5	?	127.5	239.8	74.5	?	35.5	45.17	65	64.5	55	47	82	46.67	55	





	W. Central Region				Central Region								South-		west Region				Unglaciated Region																
	Clark Co. 12/18/93 (44)	Grand Lake St. Marys 12/18/93 (41)	Greenville 1/2/94 (43)	Indian Lake 12/19/93 (42)	Buckeye Lake 12/18/93 (56)	Columbus 12/19/93 (55)	Delaware Reservoir 12/19/93 (52)	Hoover Reservoir 1/2/94 (53)	Killdeer Plains 1/2/94 (50)	Kingston 1/2/94 (58)	Lancaster 1/2/94 (57)	Mt. Gilead 12/18/93 (51)	O'Shaughnessy Res. 12/18/93 (54)	Cincinnati 12/26/93 (65)	Dayton 12/19/93 (60)	East Fork Lake S.P. 1/2/94 (67)	Ohio River (IN-KY-OH) 12/18/93 (64)	Oxford 12/18/93 (61)	Paint Creek Area 12/19/93 (66)	Western Hamilton Co. 12/19/93 (63)	Adams Co. 12/18/93 (82)	Athens 12/18/93 (78)	Beaver Valley 12/19/93 (84)	Cadiz 1/1/94 (72)	Millersburg 1/1/94 (83)	New Lexington 1/2/94 (75)	Parkersburg (WV-OH) 12/18/93 (79)	Portsmouth 1/1/? (81)	Ragersville 12/26/93 (70)	Steubenville 12/18/93 (71)	Washington Co. 12/26/93 (77)	Zanesville 12/18/93 (74)			
Lapland Longspur	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	CW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Snow Bunting	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	-	-	-	-	1703	-	21	-	-	10	-	-	28	122	101	2	60	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern Meadowlark	-	-	3	-	2	-	-	-	1	49	-	-	-	14	-	27	-	3	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	30	-	1	-	32	25	2	-	15	-
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	5	2	-	-	14	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Blackbird, sp.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	-	-
Common Grackle	-	-	20	-	755	37	-	-	-	15	1	-	-	6	406	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	1	1	2	2	5	-	8	1	-	-	2
Brown-headed Cowbird	7	-	-	-	12951	2	5	-	-	6	-	2	-	51	200	-	-	2	-	201	-	-	-	4	3	2	1	2	5	1	2	-	-	-	-
Northern Oriole	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Purple Finch	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	CW	-	-	7	-	-	8	25	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	21	-	3	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	2	-
House Finch	145	23	62	9	268	562	565	132	91	317	214	88	111	345	582	210	347	86	135	859	-	-	-	207	468	103	51	516	98	538	102	485	-	166	75
Common Redpoll	-	-	-	30*	-	-	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	91	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	-	-	12	-	-	5	10	3	-	-	1	-	-	12	CW	16	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	CW	6	-	3	CW	7	4	5	-	-	-
American Goldfinch	86	64	18	24	28	305	193	82	123	158	80	40	90	307	242	115	173	90	93	233	-	-	-	140	167	37	27	539	21	271	183	178	22	45	8
Evening Grosbeak	CW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CW	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	30	42	28	-	12	31	33	44	9	-	10	-
House Sparrow	167	112	278	729	865	1039	1107	134	355	1108	188	118	474	699	489	98	133	99	84	1129	-	-	-	187	100	88	84	3002	151	273	53	1349	18	180	68
total species	62	52	45	49	61	65	60	60	50	66	57	39	46	87	66	65	63	55	63	61	-	-	-	72	53	70	35	79	48	64	70	71	34	50	40
total individuals	15737	4757	4096	4700	36602	16726	19289	10134	8985	12934	3805	1730	9430	52720	32155	11480	15269	5308	4633	50273	-	-	-	5835	4825	5909	1202	23188	3206	11016	4632	18940	1022	2116	2139
observers	10	10	17	4	18	41	22	17	13	31	29	6	?	59	59	13	11	32	7	31	-	-	-	25	20	17	?	64	9	58	25	42	6	4	7
party hours	39.5	25.5	23	18	32.75	187	64.75	43.5	42.5	71.75	74	21.25	?	152.5	?	39	36	45	34.5	78	-	-	-	84	40.5	43.25	25	230	34	117.25	?	158.25	17	11	51



Common Redpoll flock. North Perry (Lake Co.), 1/18/94.  
Photo by Gary Meszaros.



Iceland Gull. Independence Dam SP (Defiance Co.), 1/23/94.  
Photo by Doug & Micki Dunakin.

## Ohio Bird Records Committee Report by H. Thomas Bartlett, Secretary

---

For this issue, the Ohio Bird Records Committee (OBRC) provided initial reviews for 22 records (all but 4 of which originated during the Winter 1993-94 reporting period), plus continued Recirculation procedures on an additional 10 records from previous reporting periods.

Of the 22 first circulation records, 11 records received at least 9 "Accept" votes from the 11-member Committee, and are therefore ACCEPTED, according to OBRC Bylaws section VI F(10)(a). 9 of these 11 Accepted records appear within the body of "The Reports" section elsewhere in this issue, and another appears in the "Addenda" section. Details of the remaining Accepted record (Hoary Redpoll, Parma, Cuyahoga Co., 3/12-13/94), will appear in the appropriate seasonal report in the next issue. All Accepted records are marked with an asterisk (\*) next to the name(s) of the documenting observer(s).

6 records received between 6 and 8 "Accept" votes, and are therefore scheduled for a second circulation (the first Recirculation), according to Bylaws section VI E(3)(a). These records are:

- Long-tailed Jaeger-- OBRC #38-93-02: Lorain Harbor (Lorain Co.), 9/6/93.
- California Gull-- OBRC #58-93-03: Lorain Harbor (Lorain Co.), 12/19/93.
- King Eider-- OBRC #162-94-93: Ashtabula Power Plant (Ashtabula Co.), 1/30/94.
- N. Goshawk-- OBRC #334-94-09: Lakeshore MP (Lake Co.), 1/11/94.
- Common Raven-- OBRC #486-94-01: Elk Twp. (Noble Co.) 3/7/94.
- Swainson's Thrush-- OBRC #578-93-01: Ault Pk. (Hamilton Co.), 12/12/93.

5 records received fewer than 6 "Accept" votes, and are therefore considered NOT ACCEPTED, according to Bylaws section VI F(10)(b). These 5 records are listed below, with comments (or paraphrased comments, for clarity) as made by individual Committee members:

- Lesser Black-backed Gull-- OBRC #50-93-02: 1, Mosquito Lk. (Trumbull Co.), 12/14 & 19/93. Comments: 1) Inadequate description. 2) Head color should be dark brown, streaking not reported. 3) Doesn't rule out Great Black-backed Gull.
- N. Goshawk-- OBRC #334-93-08: 1, Lima (Allen Co.), 12/7/93. Comments: 1) Doesn't rule out female Cooper's Hawk or imm. Red-shouldered Hawk. 2) Insufficient details. 3) Poor viewing conditions.
- Golden Eagle-- OBRC #349-93-11: 1, Prairie Twp. (Holmes Co.), 12/23/93. Comments: 1) Insufficient plumage detail, especially failure to mention tail pattern. 2) Doesn't rule out dark-phase Rough-legged Hawk or dark- or rufous-phase Red-tailed Hawk.
- Gyr Falcon-- OBRC #354-94-03: 1, Ferguson Res. (Allen Co.), 1/21/94. Comments: 1) Insufficient detail. 2) Sighting period too short. 3) Only one observer. 4) Gulls not eliminated.
- Hoary Redpoll-- OBRC #527-94-01: 1, Lakeshore MP (Lake Co.), 1/16, 17, & 20/94. Comments: 1) Photo shows side and flank streaking

too heavy for typical Hoary, also shows too much contrast between top and bottom of bird. 2) Doesn't rule out hybrid Hoary x Common Redpoll; photo may support this possibility.

As stated above, Recirculation procedures continued for 10 records from previous reporting periods. Of these 10 records, 2 records received between 6 and 8 "Accept" votes, and therefore move on to a third circulation (second Recirculation). These records are: Golden Eagle, OBRC #349-93-09, Brimfield Twp. (Portage Co.), 5/17/93; and N. Shrike, OBRC #621-93-01, Green Twp. (Ross Co.), 1/6/93. Regarding another record, [Ross' Goose, OBRC #170-93-02, 3, Mercer Co. WA (Mercer Co.) 10/18/93] we have learned that photographs or specimens may exist, so therefore we will temporarily table this record until we can look into this situation. 7 of the 10 records undergoing Recirculation procedures received fewer than 6 "Accept" votes, and have therefore completed Recirculation. These 7 records are considered NOT ACCEPTED, according to OBRC Bylaws section VI F(10)(b). These 7 records are listed below, with comments (or paraphrased comments, for clarity) as made by individual Committee members, as taken from both the initial circulation and from the second circulation (first Recirculation):

- California Gull-- OBRC #53-92-02: 1, Fairport Beach MP (Lake Co.), 12/7-9/92. Comments: 1) Insufficient details regarding bill size and length & head shape. 2) Should have streaked, rather than white head during winter. 3) No comment made regarding more black in wingtips compared to Herring Gull; primary description incomplete. 4) Iris color would be difficult to determine from distance involved. 5) Statement that Herring Gulls have no red spot on bill confusing. 6) Confirmation by other observers desired.
- Sabine's Gull-- OBRC #62-93-02: 1, Caesar Creek Res. (Warren Co.), 9/4-6/93. Comments: 1) Insufficient details, especially regarding back color and wings. 2) Documentations written long after bird seen. 3) Details do not rule out Black-legged Kittiwake or Little Gull. 4) No fall Sabine's Gull can have black in the tail and yet have a gray back. 5) Bill tip color questioned. 6) Considering date span present, other reports from other observers desirable.
- Sabine's Gull-- OBRC #62-93-04: 1, Caesar Creek Res. (Warren Co.), 9/30/93. Comments: 1) Black-legged Kittiwake not eliminated. 2) Lack of observer familiarity with species coupled with poor observation conditions (soaring high overhead). 3) Documentation written long after bird seen. 4) Given distance involved, reported details questioned. 5) Soaring gulls are difficult, especially in certain lighting conditions (conditions not mentioned). 6) Uppersurface of wing pattern reported, but bird was 150 yards above observers; typical Sabine's wing pattern not distinctive from below. 7) Concerns about observers especially looking for Sabine's Gull based on previous reports from the site (about a month earlier).
- Ruff-- OBRC #260-93-04: 2, Barberton Holding Basin (Summit Co.), 9/2/93. Comments: 1) Buff-breasted Sandpiper and juv. Pectoral Sandpiper not eliminated. 2) Presence of 2 birds unlikely, given the date (juv. Ruff not expected as early as the date reported) and the general scarcity of the species in the Midwest during the fall. 3) Concern about rump pattern (described as having white ovals separated by dark center, rather than having a white "U"). 4) More details needed on frontal plumage. 5) Direct size comparisons with other birds not described. 6) Brief sighting period.
- N. Goshawk-- OBRC #334-03-07: 1, Washington Twp. (Hancock Co.), 3/23/93. Comments: 1) Insufficient details, including details on tail

pattern, belly pattern, supercilium, & undertail coverts. 2) Imm. Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered, and Red-tailed Hawks not eliminated. 3) Concerns over body shape. 4) Size questioned given viewing distance.

Gyr Falcon-- OBRC #354-93-02: 1, Ashtabula Power Plant (Ashtabula Co.), 1/19-22/93. Comments: 1) Considering time span, concerns over lack of confirmation by more observers, especially since many observers attempted to locate the bird. 2) Insufficient details, especially regarding wing length. 3) All races of Peregrine Falcon not eliminated, nor are any falcon hybrids. 4) Photographs desired, given apparent opportunity.

Le Conte's Sparrow-- OBRC #548-93-06: 1, Magee Marsh WA (Lucas Co.), 5/15/93. Comments: 1) Reported "wide white (or light-colored) stripe above the eye" eliminates Le Conte's Sparrow (should be orange). 2) Insufficient plumage details, including median crown stripe. 3) Some details consistent with Le Conte's, others not. 4) Poor lighting conditions. 5) Possible observer unfamiliarity with similar species. 6) Late date for Le Conte's Sparrow migration.

One record (Slaty-backed Gull, OBRC #48-92-01) is still awaiting an initial vote. This record will possibly see an initial vote during the next round of Committee action.

As reported in the last OBRC report [QC 17(1):33], 9 records (mostly from the Autumn 1993 reporting season) received fewer than 6 "Accept" votes during that Committee session. We now present here the comments regarding the NON-ACCEPTANCE of these records:

Lesser Black-backed Gull-- OBRC #50-93-01: 2, LaDue Res. (Geauga Co.), 11/4/93. Comments: 1) Lack of details concerning conditions and duration of observation. 2) Reported size too small. 3) Head streaking not reported. 4) Mantle too dark for this species. 5) Insufficient plumage detail. 6) Leg color not seen.

Least Tern-- OBRC #74-93-02: 10, Ferguson Res. (Allen Co.), 8/14/93. Comments: 1) Insufficient details, including head coloration. 2) Number of individuals (10) unlikely. 3) Size comparison? 4) Date for 10 individuals unlikely. 5) Bill color should be darker (greenish) by mid-August. 6) Leg color seen on flying birds? 7) Least Terns dive rather than skim.

Glossy Ibis-- OBRC #186-93-03: 1, Meadow Brook (Ottawa Co.), 10/24-26/93. As stated in the last OBRC report, the Committee accepted this bird as a "dark ibis species". Regarding the non-acceptance as a Glossy Ibis, the reported details do not rule out White-faced Ibis.

Black Rail-- OBRC #216-93-02: 1, Pickerington Ponds MP (Franklin Co.), 8/30/93. Comments: 1) Young rails and moorhens are possible at this date. 2) Details unconvincing. 3) Concerns over period of time spent in the open. 4) Lighting conditions may have affected perceived color. 5) Some observer doubt evident in report. 6) Size comparison seems large.

Spotted Redshank-- OBRC #253.2-93-01: 1, Pickerington Ponds MP (Franklin Co.), 8/30/93. Comments: 1) Needs independent confirmation. 2) More details needed. 3) Uncertainty regarding leg & bill color. 4) Concern over white on tertials & secondaries. 5) Dowitchers not eliminated. 6) Concerns over bill length and leg

- length. 7) Lacks tail description.
- Ruff-- OBRC #260-93-04: 2, Ferguson Res. (Allen Co.), 9/11-12/93.  
 Comments: 1) Needs more detail. 2) Other species not eliminated.  
 3) Lack of observer experience with species. 4) Needs independent  
 confirmation. 5) No mention made of rump & tail pattern.
- Swainson's Hawk-- OBRC #342-93-02: 1, Perry Twp. (Lake Co.),  
 9/25/93. Comments: 1) Osprey not eliminated. 2) Needs more  
 detail. 3) Description doesn't fit juvenile. 4) Needs independent  
 confirmation. 5) Observation period too short.
- Broad-winged Hawk-- OBRC #343-92-03: 1, Dayton Christmas Bird  
 Count (Montgomery Co. portion), 12/20/92. Comments: 1) Details  
 don't establish age of bird. 2) Too many tail bands. 3) More  
 plumage details needed. 4) Accipiters and Red-shouldered Hawk  
 not eliminated. 5) Needs description of wing and tail shape. 6)  
 Underwing should be cream/white rather than tan/rufous.
- Bewick's Wren-- OBRC #719-93-03: 1, Cuyahoga Valley National  
 Recreation Area (Summit Co. portion), 9/5/93. Comments: 1)  
 Marsh and Carolina Wrens not eliminated. 2) Bewick's not known  
 to sing in fall. 3) Bewick's more reddish above. 4) Documentation  
 written long after observation. 5) More details needed. 6) Needs  
 independent confirmation. 7) Habitat unlikely. 8) Lack of observer  
 experience with species.



Members of the Ohio Bird Records Committee present at the annual meeting of 3/20/94. From left to right: Cal Keppler, Vic Fazio, Tom Bartlett, Jim McCormac, Charlotte Mathena, Larry Rosche, Dave Styer, & Tom Kemp.

## The Grapevine

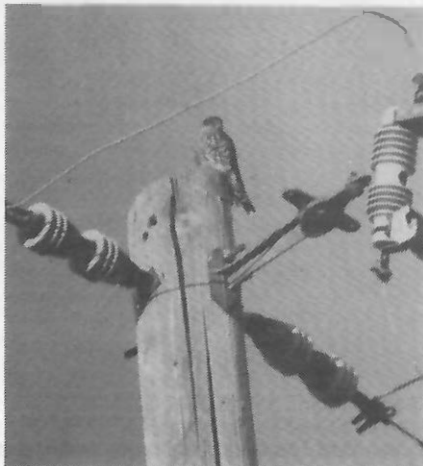
### Three Great Black-backed Gulls on the Scioto River

On January 29, 1994, at around 9:30 a.m., while looking over a congregation of approximately 500 gulls (mostly Ring-billeds with a couple dozen Herrings) standing on the icy portion of the reservoir above the Greenlawn Avenue Dam in Columbus (Franklin Co.), I noted two large gulls unlike the others, one standing, and one resting on the ice. They were about 100 yards out, but my 8 x 32 binoculars allowed a good look at the following details.

Focusing on the standing bird, I noted that the head and upper breast were chalky-white, except for a bit of dark smudging surrounding the dark eyes. The bill was large and black. The mantle was of an almost black-and-white checkered pattern. The primaries were dark. The legs and feet were dull pink in color. It soon took off chasing a Herring Gull, and this allowed me to see its chalky-colored tail with a dark terminal band, its dirty-streaked sides and flanks, as well as its comparatively larger size, longer wingspan, and slower, stronger flight.

Being able to compare the two large gulls, both at rest and in flight, with the Ring-billed and Herring Gulls in all plumages helped me to eliminate the possibility of them belonging to either of those two species. Having seen many Great Black-backed Gulls before on Lake Erie, I took the two large gulls to be immature Great Black-backed Gulls in first-year plumage. A check in my field guide gave me confidence in my identification, but I called Tom Thomson and asked him if he would come take a look. He came around noon, saw one of the gulls in question, and confirmed my identification.

On February 3rd, these two were joined by a third Great Black-backed--this time, much to my delight and surprise, an adult. It remained until February 5th, when fellow birder Pam Raver got a look at it. One of the immatures was seen February 6th, but none were seen thereafter. By Adam Goloda, 269 E. Blenkner St., Columbus, OH 43206.



Merlin. Bath (Summit Co.), 2/27/94.  
Photo by Larry Rosche.

## Gull-watching-- Hawk-watch Style

On the Brecksville-Northfield CBC of January 2, 1994, Tom & Mary Anne Romito discovered two adult Great Black-backed Gulls on a lake next to Garfield MP (Cuyahoga Co.), some 8-10 miles inland from Lake Erie. Sightings of this species this far inland are quite unusual, so I decided to check out the site soon thereafter. So, on the morning of January 12, I arrived only to find the lake (apparently an old, but sizeable, barrow pit) completely frozen, with no gulls in sight. Since I had never before visited Garfield MP, I then decided to explore this area instead. Soon I found myself at a parking lot in a corner of the park, and noticed many gulls flying overhead, all apparently on a mission to parts unknown (to me, at least). Since all were heading to the southeast, I quickly surmised that they might be heading for the Cuyahoga County Landfill area in Solon and Glenwillow, some 8-10 more miles farther inland to the southeast. I decided to make an effort to scrutinize this phenomenon, especially when first-year Iceland and Thayer's Gulls soon flew over! After a brief settling-in period, I found that I could separate the numerous Herring Gulls from the smaller, "flappier" Ring-billed Gulls with relative ease. In all, I estimated about 350 Herrings and 5 Ring-billeds in about an hour's time. Since I had another appointment to keep, I was forced to leave, but returned to the site on January 26. Although gull numbers were much reduced (only about 50 Herrings went over), I also tallied 2 adult Glaucous Gulls and 2 very bulky immature Great Black-backed Gulls, these birds also heading southeast. Whether this represented an annual phenomenon, only now discovered, or whether it was a unique situation (as part of the unusual inland gull movement noted in many areas), I cannot say. Even if these inland flights at Garfield MP turn out to be a one-year phenomenon, I was allowed to observe 4 species of gulls at an inland site, all for the first time, and to use hawk-watching skills on a new group of birds. By Rob Harlan, 7072 Parma Park Blvd., Parma Hts., OH 44130.

## Our Exotic Visitor

On Sunday, December 26, 1993, the day after Christmas was sunny and bright at our home in Elmore (Ottawa Co.). I was reading the newspaper at the dining room table, and occasionally I would look up and out the window to see what might be feeding at our bird feeders. I noticed a flash of yellow fly by. I thought "Sure was a lot yellow in that goldfinch for this time of year". A little later when my wife Sally came into the room, I told her about the bright goldfinch. It was but a few minutes later (10:00 a.m.) when Sally said "You'd better look again, that's not a goldfinch sitting in the sand cherry shrub". At that point it was obvious to both of us that we had an unusual visitor that was bright yellow on the breast and a drab olive green on the back. We also found out how quickly this small visitor was able to disappear. We never saw it arrive or leave, but it would just seem to be there and just as quickly be gone. That was the last we saw of it on Sunday.

Monday, December 27th, was cloudy. We had no sightings. On the 28th, however, our visitor, whom we mistakenly guessed to be a possible Prairie Warbler, arrived at about 8:30 a.m. and stayed around the feeders for nearly an hour. The next day was cloudy with snow, and again we had no sightings.

December 30th was sunny, and the bird appeared at the feeder within six feet of the great room window from 10:45 to 11:15 a.m. It appeared to be feeding exclusively on millet. Only once did it take any of the

peanut butter; we never observed it eat any of the suet. Looking at the bird at that close distance, we could distinctively observe the facial markings, which looked like a good match for a Prairie Warbler's facial pattern. The overall size of the bird was smaller than most warblers, nearer to kinglet proportions.

On December 31st, we observed our visitor from 12:15 to 1:45 p.m. as it fed on the thistle feeder. As it was perched with its back to us, we noticed a definite yellow rump. This observation really added doubt to our identification attempts. No bird pictured in our six field guides seemed to match the field marks we had observed.

On January 5, 1994, we noticed that the bird's bill was thicker than a warbler's bill. Also, it did not seem to mind the presence of House Sparrows and House Finches. At 8:45 a.m., the bird disappeared, and this turned out to be our last observation of our visitor.

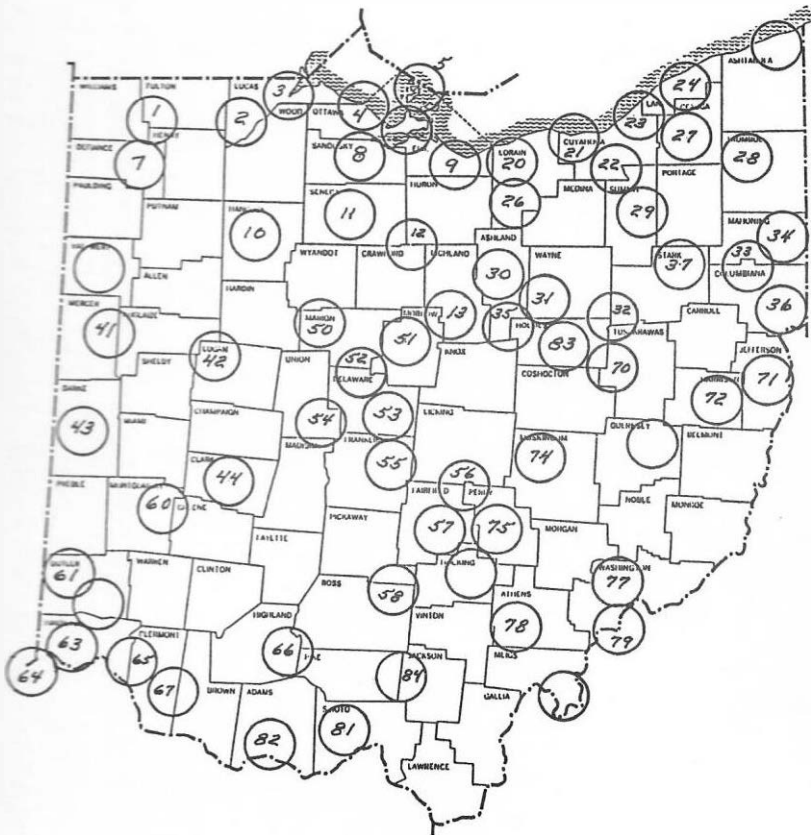
In summarizing our sightings, we came to the conclusion that the more details we managed to observe, the less confident we became in any of our best-guesses. We thought of calling the Toledo Rare Bird Alert, but we were not sure about the identification, nor were the sighting times consistent.

The experience we gained was that we needed a broader research library in order to come up with a proper identification. At the monthly Toledo Naturalists' Association meeting, Tom Kemp, Matt Anderson and Eric Durbin looked at our photograph and said that they did not recognize the bird but would look it up and let us know. Within 24 hours we received a call telling us that, although they each used a different guide to African birds, they independently came to the same conclusion-- a Yellow-fronted (Yellow-eyed) Canary. You just have to know where to look. By Hank Hiris, 15420 W. SR 105, Elmore, OH 43416.



Yellow-fronted Canary. Elmore (Ottawa Co.), 12/28/93.  
Photo by Hank Hiris.





Ohio Christmas Bird Count Map

**IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION**  
if this line is checked \_\_\_\_\_

**On the Inside...**

<b>Black-throated Gray Warbler In Independence, Ohio by Laverne &amp; Albert Turner .....</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Winter 1993-94 Overview by Robert Harlan .....</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>The Reports-- Winter 1993-94 .....</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>ODOW Waterfowl Counts .....</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Ohio Christmas Bird Counts, 1993-1994 by Ned Keller .....</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Ohio Bird Records Committee Report .....</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>The Grapevine .....</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Ohio Christmas Bird Count Map .....</b>	<b>74</b>

THE OHIO CARDINAL  
520 SWARTZ ROAD  
AKRON, OH 44319

\_\_\_\_ NON PROFIT ORG.  
\_\_\_\_ US POSTAGE PAID  
\_\_\_\_ PERMIT NO. 487  
\_\_\_\_ AKRON, OHIO