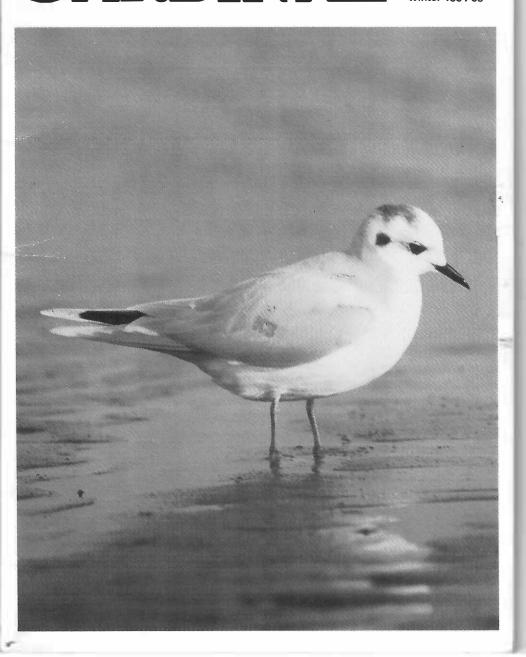


The Ohio CARDINAL

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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.

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

Please send all reports to:

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Cover: Little Gull. Conneaut Harbor (Ashtabula Co.), 10/30/94. Photo by Gary Meszaros.

A Northern Lapwing in Adams Co., Ohio by Bill Whan

"I've got an interesting bird for you..." my brother Pete's voice paused for dramatic effect. "How about a Northern Lapwing?" He was calling from Long Island, NY, and as he paused again I began frenzied speculation about how I could afford, and explain to non-birders, a spur-of-the-moment red-eye flight out east. Finally, he spoke again. "Chris has one down in Adams County."

"Adams County? OHIO?" I stammered. Pete went on to say the Chris Bedel, who had succeeded him as manager of the Nature Conservancy's Edge of Appalachia Preserve, had only minutes before called him with the news. Just that morning (December 29, 1994), Martin McAllister, an ODNR employee, had casually mentioned to Chris that he'd seen a lapwing along the road near West Union while driving to work. Disbelieving, Chris had rushed to the site, confirmed the identification, and excitedly called local birders, as well as my brother.

I thanked Pete and called Chris, who described the location, a winter wheat field near the hamlet of Panhandle, and told me that the bird had been there as late as nightfall. We discussed field marks, the necessity to contact hotlines, and even whether he should alert the sheriff about possible trafflic problems along the narrow country road, should hundreds of observers converge there. Then I called local birders, who in turn called others, and then stayed up late fielding calls from all over Ohio and surrounding states. A friend, reminding me of the Brambling he'd once missed by deciding to sleep-in one morning, persuaded several carloads of us to make plans to depart Columbus before dawn to seek this improbable bird.

The morning of December 30, 1994 was crisp and sunny in southern Ohio. When we arrived shortly after 8:00 a.m., we saw three friends standing along the roadside, their eyes glued to telescopes. They gave us the "high-sign" as we passed by looking for a safe place to park. Incredibly enough, viewing conditions were perfect, with bright sunlight from the south, and the wheat field to the north.

The bird was there all right, unmistakable even 200 yards away with binoculars, ambling on the far side of the field near a flock of Rock Doves. About the same size as the pigeons, it showed a black breast and a wispy crest. It may have been the approach of a gaggle of barnyard geese that startled it into brief flight, revealing paddle-shaped wings with a striking black and white pattern underneath.

We were surprised to see so few others arriving. A few Cincinnati birders straggled in, as did one from Dayton and one from Canada. Shortly after another Columbus contingent lugged their scopes to our vantage point, bringing to 21 the number of observers thus far, the lapwing took wing again, landing only 75 yards away in the field. Now we could easily study its upperparts, metallic green edged with buff, its caramel-colored undertail coverts, and its facial markings.

The bird looked nervous now, though for no apparent reason. Once again it sprang into flight, wheeled once, and then passed directly over us, fifty feet up, as if to display any heretofore unnoticed field marks—its black-tipped white tail and the off-white tips to its outermost primaries—and then with floppy heron-like wing beats, it arrowed off to the

southwest. At that moment another lucky Columbus birder arrived, and emerged from his car just in time to see the lapwing pass overhead. We followed it with binoculars, thrilled but suddenly dismayed lest it flee forever. A quarter of a mile off, it encountered two Killdeer, who joined it in flight, whereupon they all disappeared in the distance.

Our elation was tempered by alarm now. We cruised the back roads, searching for the bird, but to no avail. One curious farmer told someone that he had seen a "green quail" in his field, and the property was duly scanned, but to my knowledge the bird was never relocated. Kentucky birders must have missed a chance to add the species to their state's list. As the day wore on, we met scores of frantic and disappointed observers, who disconsolately kept vigil at the wheat field or joined us, just as unsuccessfully, in our search among the rolling hills to the southwest.

The lapwing was new to Ohio's list, and as far as I know represented the species' deepest recorded penetration by far into the North American continent. The unprecedented nature of this occurrence, especially in an area of the state seemingly so unlikely for this European vagrant, probably contributed to the relatively small number of observers able to get to the site in time. In any event, Adams County is not just for Chuck-will's-widows anymore.

Filling out a rare bird report can be a chore, reminding one of the inadequacies of one's skills at observation and note-taking, one's imperfect knowledge of similar species and plumages, and the inevitable shortcomings of any given field encounter with a wild bird. Doubts and misgivings swarm still more as one Imagines the skepticism such a report is bound to engender in those who judge it. Filling out the lapwing report, however, was a breeze, and even finding out later that I was the only one of the 21 people who saw the bird to send a report to the regional editor of National Audubon Society Field Notes (who, understandably enough, later called Ohio record keepers to inquire whether it might have been some sort of practical joke) failed to shake my confidence. The identity of the bird was so unmistakable, the conditions of its observation so nearly ideal, that my freedom from doubt was as unique as the bird's occurrence. At the same time it was disheartening to speculate about how many interesting sightings go unreported because the task of documentation seems too difficult, or even worse, intimidating.

My brother called me a couple of weeks later. Far from expressing envy at my luck, he told me that another lapwing had been discovered a few miles from his place in Sag Harbor, NY. This more cooperative bird stayed around until mid-April, gratifying him and a lot of other people who missed the Adams County two-day wonder. But of course the species is far more plausibly encountered, however rarely, in Long Island. Surely an Appalachian lapwing must rank as one of birding's most unlikely records; in the end, my only regret is that more of us were unable to share it.

Bill Whan 223 E. Tulane Columbus, OH 43202

[Editor's note: Several individuals, including Mr. Whan, did submit documentations to the Ohio Bird Records Committee. This record is currently under review by the OBRC.]

Book Review: Tom Thomson's <u>Birding in Ohio</u>, Second Edition by Robert Harlan et al.

Birding in Ohio Second Edition. 1994. By Tom Thomson, with the assistance of regional contributors; with a foreword by Roger Tory Peterson; preface by Richard B. Pierce; and drawings by Charles W. Gambill. Includes bibliographical references and indexes. Indiana University Press. Paperback \$13.95. 268 pages.

Birders are a traveling lot. In our quest to find new or unusual species in unfamiliar territory, we often depend heavily on local contacts, or, in many cases, a trusty bird-finding guide book. The "Birder's Guide" series originated by James A. Lane easily offers the most recognized and authoritative bird-finding advice for "hot spots" scattered across North America. Unfortunately, Ohio has never been rewarded with a Lane Guide; presumably this can be attributed to the fact that Ohio has never achieved status as a national "hot spot". Even so, our state does offer many excellent birding sites, and is deserving of a site guide which does justice to Ohio's birding richness and diversity. Birding in Ohio partially fills this bill.

The format of the second edition of Birding in Ohio generally follows the first edition (1983). The state remains divided into three sections: the "Northern Tier of Counties" (94 primary sites described), the "West-Central Counties" (72 primary sites described), and the "Southern and Eastern Unglaciated Counties" (70 primary sites described). Descriptions of each site include directions to the site as well as pertinent birding information. The 71 page "expanded annotated checklist" of the birds of Ohio in the first edition is reduced to a 26 page "expanded checklist" in the second, providing a bare-bones synopsis of each species' current Ohio status. This action was taken to accommodate many newly described sites in the second edition. Victor Fazio will offer a detailed examination of this section in a future issue.

Four appendixes follow the checklist, namely: "Some Facts about Ohio", "The Introduction of Peregrine Falcons to Ohio" by Denis Case, "Birding and Natural History Organizations" in Ohio, and "Taped Rare Bird Alerts" in Ohio. Although any listing of addresses and phone numbers is quickly doorned to obsolescence, it should be noted that the correct Rare Bird Alert phone number for the Cleveland area (pages 249 & 250) is currently (216) 381-TEAL. The Bibliography features about 75 entries. A brief section entitled "About the Contributors" acknowledges the assistance of many cooperating birders across the state, and includes many well known names. Two indexes complete the book, an "Index to the Birds" and a "Site Index". Very regrettably, the "Index to the Birds" refers only to page numbers in the "expanded checklist", and not to the bird-finding sections. Thus, for instance, if one wanted advice on finding Black Vulture in Ohio, the index would prove almost useless, referring the reader only to the statement that the species is a local resident in the unglaciated counties. For specific site suggestions, one would have to read through the descriptions of every site in the unglaciated counties, searching for any Black Vulture listings. This oversight greatly reduces the book's utility.

The three regional bird-finding sections total 214 pages, as compared to 163 pages in the first edition. A total of 236 primary sites are described, as compared to 203 sites in the first edition. Twelve sites of marginal value included in the first edition are not included in the

second; however, these losses are more than adequately compensated by the many valuable additions to the second edition, including Avon Lake Power Plant, Conneaut Harbor, Mallard Club Marsh WA, Medusa Marsh, Big Island WA, Caesar Creek SP, E. Fork SP and Scioto Trail SF. In addition to the 236 primary sites, a new feature entitled "regional inserts" add 20 more secondary sites. The three regional inserts describe "Cleveland Waterfront Winter Birding", "Lake County Metropolitan Parks and Nature Preserves", and "Oak Openings". About 25 more tertiary sites, recognized by bold-faced print, are included within the descriptions of the primary sites. Thus, roughly 275 sites receive at least some attention.

Space allotted to each primary site varies greatly, ranging from three lines (three sites) to nearly three pages, with Magee Marsh WA, Ottawa NWR, and Cleveland Waterfront Winter Birding deservedly receiving this maximum treatment. Where Thomson has allotted himself enough room, his talented writing style shines through. Often, we are treated to botanical, geological and archaeological information as well as the expected ornithological fare. His Magee Marsh WA description is my personal favorite-- reading this account on a cold winter's day will make one wish for spring's rapid arrival. Most sites are not awarded the luxury of expanded treatment, however, as just over half of the primary sites receive coverage of a half-page or less. Consequently, the vast majority of the primary sites contain little internal site-specific bird-finding advice. Most sites merely contain a "cookie cutter" list of expected species; the reader is left to track down each desired species on his or her own. When birding time is limited, this factor can be discouraging, especially at a sizable birding locale.

Of Ohio's 88 counties, sites are described for all but 12. Counties featuring the most primary sites are Franklin (15 sites), Montgomery (14), Hamilton and Lucas (12 each), Greene (11), and Cuyahoga (9) counties. This distribution places a fairly heavy emphasis on the southwestern counties, due in no small part to the fine efforts of Thomson's Dayton area contributors, spearheaded by Dr. John Shrader.

Anyone familiar with the excellent maps often provided in other bird-finding guides may be somewhat disappointed by the maps included in <u>Birding in Ohio</u>. Most of the 47 "vicinity maps" are just that; they provide a view of the general vicinity of a given birding site. It appears that very few, if any, vicinity maps were created specifically for this book; instead, preexisting maps were provided by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the Ohio Department of Transportation, etc. The vicinity map on page 188 was intended to apply to Ohio Brush Creek in Adams County; instead it applies to Brush Creek WA, across the state in Jefferson County. In addition to the vicinity maps, seven regional maps highlight the 236 primary birding sites with numbared open circles. Since placement of sites on these maps was apparently meant to be approximate, very few problems were noted. Potentially, the most troublesome concern would be that the indicators for Newell's Run/Leith Run Embayment and Ohio Power Recreation Area are switched on "Map F" (p. 153). Otherwise, these seven regional maps seem quite helpful in locating the general location of the listed birding sites.

Site Descriptions

The following portion of this review examines the treatments received by many of the birding sites included in <u>Birding in Ohio</u>. I personally

reviewed most of the text provided for the Northern Tier of Counties (excluding the Youngstown area, which was covered by David Hochadel of Youngstown). Cecelia Johnston (Columbus), Charlotte Mathena (Dayton) and Jay Stenger (Cincinnati) also provided valuable reviews for areas familiar to them.

Northern Tier sites— In any guide book, accurate directions are of utmost concern. In reading through the 94 primary sites for the northern counties, it became obvious that the directions provided for many sites were either inadequate or erroneous. In order to create a standardized gauge of accuracy for the provided directions, I devised the following scale: "5" (directions are accurate and helpful in finding the site); "4" (directions are accurate as presented, but not especially helpful in finding the site); "3" (directions are accurate as to road access, but distances listed are incorrect); "2" (directions as to road access are unsatisfactory or inaccurate, because either: a) access is actually from a nearby road, not the road listed, or b) the directions lead the user in the wrong direction, but on the correct road, or c) the directions provided are incomplete; and "1" (the directions provided are not only inaccurate but impossible to follow; the situations described do not, in reality, exist). After carefully examining the directions for 54 Northern Tier sites, all of which I have personally visited, it was discovered that 22 sites would grade a "5", that 7 sites would grade a "4", that 8 sites would grade a "3", that 6 sites would grade a "2", and that 11 sites would grade a "1". Thus, 25 (or nearly half) of the 54 sites received less than satisfactory directions. Since any user of a bird-finding guide necessarily relies heavily on the directions provided, this "success ratio" of 46% seems unconscionable. Apparently, little on-site double-checking of directions was undertaken, at least in the north.

Also, one should be aware that many of the rarities listed are open to question. Many rarities were either reviewed but not accepted by Ohio bird records committees, or were never reviewed at all. Of course, this latter fact alone does not necessarily indicate that the rarities did not occur; it does, however, mean that they did not receive an acceptable, standardized peer review. Curiously, several rare species are listed within the site descriptions, but are not listed at all in the "expanded checklist" later in the book. While on the subject of listed species, several species are alternately referred to by their current names as well as by outdated names, with American Pipit (vs. Water Pipit) being especially common. Also, Black-and-white Warbler appears as a nesting species under at least seven northeastern Ohio sites; however, I am not aware of any unequivocal nestings in this area since 1931-- apparently, generalized published range maps alone were used to insert this species at these sites.

It also seems important to update or provide additional information regarding many listed sites. As listed, Aurora Pond and Bog (p. 7) seems to harbor a very impressive list of nesting species; unfortunately, the data presented was collected in the 1930's, and the bog has been a housing development for many years. The regular public bird walk at Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge is said to take place on the first Sunday of each month (p. 12); actually these walks occur on the second Sunday. It is the public walk at Ottawa NWR that occurs on the first Sunday. Unfortunately, the continued existence of both of these walks is currently up in the air, as NWR management reevaluates public usage. Citing safety concerns, the hot water outlet at Eastlake (p. 18) has unfortunately been off-limits to all public admittance during much of the past two winters, greatly reducing the birding value of this site.

Also, newly established means of power production have essentially eliminated the hot water outflows at the Lorain (p. 43) and Cleveland (p.27) power plants. The Headlands Beach SP description (p. 29) fails to mention that this site is a superior passerine migrant trap, on many days rivaling the productivity of the Magee Marsh WA bird trail. Read ers also should be aware that public access is severely restricted at several listed sites, notably Stebbins Gulch (p. 31), Lake Rockwell (p. 41), Little Mountein (p. 42) and Waite Hill (p. 81). This fact is not acknowledged in the text, setting the stage for birder/property owner disputes. While on the subject of Little Mountain, the statement that Wilsoh's Warbler probably nests there is apparently based solely on a single bird reported there on July 4, 1938. There have been no subsequent similar sightings; the chances of this species ever nesting in Ohio are essentially nil. Birders investigating the Oak Openings area, and Maumee State Forest in particular, should be aware that Manore Road is thrice mistakenly listed as Monroe Road (p. 62). Despite these and other frustrating limitations, the vast majority of the data presented for the Northern Tier of Counties are accurate and useful.

The Youngstown Area-- by David Hochadel, 2150 Tibbetts-Wick Rd., Girard, OH 44420-1227. A review of Birding in Ohio's coverage for the Youngstown area reveals the need for some corrections and additions for the following areas: Kyle Woods (p. 36)- Thomson provides a fairly good description of this State Nature Preserve, but his directions will not get you there. To reach the Preserve go south on Tippecanoe Rd. from US 224 in Canfield Twp. for 1/2 mile, then west on a turnpike access road (just south of the turnpike overpass) for a few hundred feet. The parking lot is on the south side of the road.

Unfortunately, encroaching development has reduced the quality of this woodland as a breeding location for many species. Yellow-throated Vireo, Am. Redstart and Ovenbird should be deleted from the list. Mill Creek Park (p. 53)—This Metropolitan Park is a magnet for area birders and has produced many excellent sightings over the years. Additional access can be had from US 224 in Boardman Twp. A map, available from the park office at 816 Glenwood Ave., or the Ford Nature Education Center at 840 Old Furnace Rd., would be very helpful in navigating the many roads (some one-way) in the park. The species list is still a fair representation of what can be found except for Henslow's Sparrow, which should be deleted. I would have included the fact that Lakes Glacier and Newport attract just about every species of waterfowl that migrate through Ohio. New Lyme WA (p. 56)—This site should have been left out of the second edition. As the sign at the main entrance to this State Wildlife Area proudly proclaims, it is now an EPA Superfund Site (the New Lyme Landfill Project). Parts of the Area are closed, test wells have been dug for monitoring purposes, and drainage ditches have been excavated throughout the Area. As for the species list, with only two confirmed Ohio nestings this century, you will almost certainly not find Nashville Warbler nesting there. Mosquito Creek Reservoir (p. 55)--Thomson's emphasis on waterfowl and shorebirds for this area merely serves to highlight a significant shortcoming in his coverage for this part of the state. The real beauty of this area lies in its patchwork of swamp forest and open marsh which covered large areas of northern Trumbull and southern Ashtabula counties. Nearby Shenango WA (4845 acres) and Grand River WA (6799 acres), neither of which is even mentioned (I), also contain a high proportion of such wetland habitat. The open marshes of these refuges support Pied-billed Grebe, Virginia Rail, Sora, and C. Moorhen, while the wooded swamps host healthy populations of such species as Red-headed Woodpecker, Brown Creeper and Prothonotary Warbler. Several pairs of Bald Eagles also nest within these areas. Conclusions—A comparison of the text for the four areas reviewed above reveals that they are identical in both editions. Although Thomson mentions two organizations in the Youngstown area (the Audubon Society of Mahoning Valley and the Grant M. Cook Bird Club), apparently neither was approached about providing input. Unfortunately, Thomson's second edition of <u>Birding in Ohio</u> is of limited usefulness to birders in this part of northeastern Ohio.

Central and South-central Ohio- by Cecelia Johnston, 1780 Jewett Rd., Powell, OH 43065. The site descriptions I checked most closely were Shawnee SF, Scioto Trail SP, Green Lawn Cemetery, Killdeer Plains WA and the Clear Creek Valley; all are areas which I frequently bird. With the exception of Green Lawn Cemetery (p. 122), the descriptions are accurate. Unfortunately, a couple winters ago in an effort by the Cemetery to beautify the area, most of the bushes and shrubs surrounding "the Pit" were removed by chain saw, as were the overgrown Taxus sp., in which nearly all spring N. Saw-whet Owls were found roosting. On page 167, it is clearly stated that permission from Columbus Metro Parks is needed to enter the Neotoma area, as described in the Clear Creek Valley account. When I inquired whether permission would be granted to bird the Neotoma hollow, the reply of Metro Parks' personnel was "it's highly unlikely." The Clear Creek Valley is birded from the road only, as all wooded areas are posted. Clear Creek Valley sightings of Common Raven, Say's Phoebe and Great-tailed Grackle, significant state records to say the least, are first printed in this book- why not in <u>American Birds</u> or <u>The Ohio Cardinal?</u> On other matters, I wonder if Thomson checked the directions to areas presented in the book. Directions to the upper end of Alum Creek Reservoir (p. 87) say to use OH 42 (which, by the way, is US 42), but the correct route should be US 36, as US 42 does not intersect Old State Rd. I also noted at least six more occasions where US Routes are incorrectly stated to be Ohio Routes. Following the directions to reach Gahanna Woods (p. 115) put me nowhere near the area; in fact, they sent me in the wrong direction. The directions need to include a turn from OH 317 east onto Havens Comers Rd. before turning right onto Taylor Station Rd. In southern Ohio, the Panorama-McBride-Shawnee roads of Shawnee SF (p. 201) do provide a good birding loop, but unless one has a specialized map one will not know the roads by name, as within the Forest roads are marked by number only. Any birder who also has an interest in the local flora will appreciate the many botanical references made in many of the accounts.

The Dayton area-by Charlotte Mathena, 2001 Fox Run Rd., Dayton, OH 45459. The write-ups of Dayton birding areas are fairly good and certainly would be useful to people who have not visited the area previously. The write-ups I reviewed included Englewood Reserve, Germantown Reserve, Huffman Reserve, Spring Valley WA and Sugarcreek Reserve. The directions to all these sites were accurate and would provide the easiest to follow access for someone not familiar with the area. The descriptions of the areas ranged from adequate to very good. For Huffman Reserve (p. 132) I would take exception to the mention of a remnant prairie and of sailing on the 30 acre lake. The descriptions of Spring Valley WA and Sugarcreek Reserve were particularly good. The birding material was generally well presented. Those birds which would be rare or of casual occurrence were so annotated. The mention of Sandhill Cranes at Sugarcreek would certainly have to refer to fly-over sightings. One should note that the write-ups for birding areas in the Dayton vicinity received multiple reviews by area birders before being sent to Torn Thomson. Dr. John

Shrader coordinated this effort and provided the initial write-ups. He then sent them out to local birders seeking additions, corrections and comments. He then incorporated those inputs before sending them to Thomson. I don't know that all areas of the state had the opportunity to offer similar comments on the text.

The Cincinnati area—by Jay Stenger, 9761 Winton Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45231. The portion of <u>Birding in Ohio</u> covering the Cincinnati area generally serves its purpose, but falls short of being a complete bird-finding guide to southwestern Ohio. It should still be useful if taken with process disperse minds. with precautionary measures in mind. For many of the site descriptions I examined, the directions to the sites were found to be generally Some details follow. Burnet Woods (p. 158)- Contrary to the listed directions, turn left (east) onto Hopple St., not right. rotunda is a good place to park. In April and May, this heavily wooded park may have the highest density of migrant passerines per acre in the greater Cincinnati area. Gilmore Ponds (p. 176) - Due to a change in management practices, the type of bird habitats reported are probably a thing of the past. Only in years of heavy rainfall will there be the possibility of good wetland habitat, and even then it will probably be transient, not allowing most wetland breeding birds to get a foothold. Lunken Airport (p. 182)- Approached from 1-71, not 1-75, as listed. Miami Whitewater Forest (p. 184)- The listed directions are incomplete: they should be continued as follows "Turn right at West Rd. and go about 1/4 mile to park entrances. Follow park signs to the visitor center where maps are available." In addition, north of the original park is a newly acquired wetland/grassland complex of about 1000 acres. The area lies north of New Haven Rd., west of Oxford Rd., and is bisected by Baughman Rd. There is no designated parking at this time. However, a 7.8 mile bike/hike trail, beginning and ending at the visitor center, crosses the area. This new area presently offers an exceptional variety of birds; we hope to examine this area more closely in a future issue of <u>The Ohio Cardinal</u>. Shawnee Lookout County Park (p. 199)-The listed directions need help. Try these: Located in extreme southwest Hamilton Co. From I-275 take the Kilby Rd. exit #21, and go south 1 mile to US 50. Turn left and go east about 1 and a half miles into Cleves. Look for park signs. At the light (Mt. Nebo Rd.), turn right. At the first stop sign turn right onto River Rd. Follow River Rd. south along the east bank of the Great Miami River for about 3 miles to the park entrance. The Oxbow (p. 200)-- The Oxbow is actually in Indiana and is difficult to access. It is best to call a local birder for directions to this productive site. I must also question the inclusion of certain areas, such as the Little Miami River Overlook (p. 181) and the exclusion of another excellent site, Rocky Fork Lk., in Highland Co. We hope to offer more details of this site in a future issue as well.

Conclusions

The second edition of <u>Birding in Ohio</u> does contain numerous shortcomings. Of course, in any work of this scale, errors are almost unavoidable. Most distressing in this book is the overall lack of attention paid to accuracy in the directions provided. While the directions for many sites are adequate, anyone using this book should be aware that the directions must always be viewed as suspect. In order to rectify this situation, I would strongly recommend the additional purchase of the current Ohio Atlas & Gazetteer by the DeLorme Mapping Company (almost a prerequisite for any travelling birder anyway) and Natural Acts of Ohio by Stephen Ostrander (1994). This latter book describes nearly 70 sites also described in <u>Birding in Ohio</u>, but includes explicit and

accurate route directions. It also provides a wide range of site-specific natural history information. The book Ohio State Parks by Art Weber (1993) also contains detailed information and maps pertaining to all Ohio State Parks.

Although one could quibble with a few site omissions in <u>Binding in Ohio</u> (such as Shaker Lakes, Woodbury WA for its grassland nesters, Rocky Fork Lk., E. Harbor SP and Little Portage WA), the state is very well covered overall. While one would certainly desire in depth, site-specific birding advice within every account, the book does serve as an effective compilation of important Ohio birding areas. The fact that many obscure birding locales are brought to light in this book is a real strength; although the state might have been better served by placing more emphasis on the relatively few premier sites, and less (or no) emphasis on seldom birded locales of limited birding value.

Should one purchase this book? My answer would be yes, primarily by virtue of much new and valuable information, particularly in the Dayton area. A final thought— Birding in Ohio is available at many major book stores throughout the state. Purchase of Birding in Ohio will help book store owners (and publishers) to see that the general public is indeed interested in Ohio birding books, and this factor may open the door for even more Ohio birding literature in the future. With more birding books on book store shelves, chances increase that patrons with a casual interest will take note, and possibly develop a serious, long-lasting interest in our avocation of choice. Acknowledgements: I would like to thank all those who offered advice during the preparation of this review, including Dan Best, Vic Fazio, Adam Goloda, John Herman, Tom Kemp, Ed Pierce, John Pogacnik, Ed Schlabach, Gildo Tori and especially those who contributed the regional accounts included above.



Am. Black Ducks. Castalia Pond (Erie Co.), Winter 1994-95. Photo by Victor Fazio.

Winter 1994-95 Overview by Robert Harlan

One of the most unlikely events in Ohio birding history took place this season, when a Northern Lapwing was discovered by Martin McAllister in an Adams County winter wheat field December 29. This bird, which remained the next morning, allowed about 20 observers to add this Eurasian species to their lists— a most spectacular "tick", indeed. No other N. Lapwing has ever been known to reach this far inland in North America, and of course this bird would represent a first record for Ohio, once formally accepted by the Ohio Bird Records Committee. Although this acceptance seems likely, we must note that the OBRC has yet to review this record, and therefore we take some liberty in publishing it in this issue— but, we know you will enjoy reading about it regardless.

While on the subject of shorebirds, an arnazing array of laggards remained into the winter season, including Am. Golden-Plover, Lesser Yellowlegs, Spotted Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit and Pectoral Sandpiper. Perhaps the shorebirds made up for an almost total lack of "winter finches"; then again, perhaps not. An adult Mew Gull graced the Maumee River Rapids from December 31 through January 3. While the exact number of previous Ohio Mew Gull records is somewhat muddled, the rarity of this species is crystal clear. Uncommon gulls are being found more frequently at inland sites, with Lake Rockwell in Portage Co. hosting single Iceland and Glaucous Gulls and at least four Great Black-backed Gulls. The Maumee River in Toledo is a natural corridor for gulls leaving Maumee Bay, accounting for unusual gulls being found many miles upstream at this site. We refrain from comment on other rarities found this season until the OBRC Winter 1994-95 report is complete; hopefully, this will be so by the next issue. For comments on OBRC decisions from prior periods (mostly Autumn 1994), see the OBRC report elsewhere in this issue.

The winter weather was generally normal, with the exception of a mild December. This is in sharp contrast to last winter, when severe weather was the norm. One look at the comments regarding Carolina Wren should quickly elucidate the effects of severe winter weather on this species.

In order to conserve space, Christmas Bird Count (CBC) data were seldom used in the following accounts. All submitted CBC data 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 record has been accepted by the OBRC.

"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 each site receives mention. County names are often abbreviated by using their first four letters-- "Paul" representing Paulding County, for instance. Other place name abbreviations found in this issue are: BuCr (Buck Creek State Park, a.k.a. C.J. Brown Reservoir, Clark Co.); CPNWRC (Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge Count, Lucas Co., as compiled by Joe Kornorowski); FRes (Findlay Reservoirs, Hancock Co.); HBSP (Headlands Beach State Park, Lake Co.); Lksh (Lakeshore Metropark, Lake Co.); MWF (Miami Whitewater Forest, Hamilton Co.); ONWR (Ottawa NWR, Ottawa/Lucas Cos.); ONWRC (Ottawa NWR Count, Ottawa/Lucas Cos., as compiled by Ed Pierce); and SVWA (Spring Valley Wildlife Area, Greene/Warren Cos.).

THE REPORTS- WINTER 1994-95 by Robert Harlan

Loons through Herons

Common Loon— Post Christmas Bird Count (hereafter CBC) records Include 3 at Caesar Creek Lk. (Warr) through 1/14 (LG, JD, ST), with 1 still there 1/21 (K. McDonald), and 1 at the Findlay Reservoirs [hereafter FRes] (Hanc) 2/24 (BH). 37 were recorded on CBC's throughout the state.

Pled-billed Grebe-- Mid-winter numbers were up, Including a whopping 18 at Summit Lk. (Summ) 1/28 (B. Osborne, LR). From 3 to 5 birds each were found at 4 additional sites during the mid-winter period of 1/10-2/10.

Horned Grebe-- Mid-winter records totalled only 2 birds. 51 fall lakefront migrants were counted at Bay Village (Cuya) 12/18 (FMG). 30 inland migrants were at Rocky Fork Lk. (High) 12/1 (YM).

Red-necked Grebe- An imm. was identified at the Avon Lake Power Plant (Lora) 1/11 (TLP) and 1/16 (JP). 3 spring migrants were reported at Summit Lk. 2/27 (GK). What an incredible difference from last year at this time.

Eared Grebe-- One associated with a flock of Homed Grebes at Lorain (Lora) for the Eiyria-Lorain CBC 12/17 (JD, ST, JP et al.).

Double-crested Cormorant- Peak wintering counts include: at least 17 along the Cleveland (Cuya) lakefront (PL, CH, m. obs.); 12 at Greenlawn Dam (Fran) 1/19 (AG); & 10 at Cedar Point Amusement Pk. [hereafter CPAP] (Erle) 2/18 (RHr, EP).

Great Blue Heron- 30 congregated at CPAP 2/18 (EP, RHr), while 26 spent 1/9-10 at Greenlawn Dam (AG).

Black-crowned Night-Heron-Post-CBC reports include: 1-2 Ashtabula Power Plant (Asht) through 1/13 (JP); 1 Lorain 1/27 (ETh); 2 Port Clinton (Otta) 1/30 (JP); 8.1 along the Cuyahoga River in Cleveland 2/18-25 (RHr, EP, et al.). 76 were reported on CBC's.

Waterfowl

Tundra Swan- A good-sized movement was detected through much of the state 12/10-19, with the peak coming 12/11-12. Highest counts during this 2-day period include: 150 Clearfork Res (Rich/Morr) 12/11 (JH); 126 Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge Count [hereafter CPNWRC] (Luca) 12/11; & 125 over s. Akron (Summ) 12/12 (H. Mock, fide KMo). Good numbers were also noted during January, including: about 200 over E. Branch Res. (Geau) 1/6 (J. Bradt-Barnhart fide DB); 79 Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge Count [hereafter ONWRC] (Otta/Luca) 1/1; 40 L. Rockwell (Port) 1/3 (CH); & 35 Mosquito Lk. (Trum) 1/27 (D. Ferris, fide DB).

Mute Swan- Down considerably from last winter, but stlll plentiful, including: 12 Clearfork Res. 1/10-11 (JH); 8 Erle Co. 2/12 (DO); 5 Lorain 1/17 (RHr, TLP, EP); & at least 2 pair wintering along the Maumee River rapids (Luca/Wood) (ETr).

Greater White-fronted Goose-- Single adults were at the Painesville dump (Lake) 1/10-12 (JP) and at Mason (Warr) 1/27 (BS). An adult and an imm. were described from Adams Lk. SP (Adam) 2/18 (DD, C. Gardner).

Snow Goose— A flock ranging from 60 to 100 birds (roughly one-third white-phase) wintered at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge [hereafter ONWR] (Otta/Luca) (m. obs.). 75 spring migrants, strangely all white-phase birds, flew over s. Akron 2/10 (H. Mock, flde KMo). About 10 spring migrants were found statewide 2/18-25, while 6 more birds were reported from 4 countles during the mid-winter period of 1/10-2/10.

Brant- Bill & Nancy Klamm found 1 at Wildwood SP (Cuya) 12/17 for the Cleveland CBC. Another was at Conneaut (Asht) 12/2 (JP).

Canada Goose- Post-CBC highs include: 6400 + ONWR 1/13 (VF); 1500 Summit Lk. 2/5 (CH); & 1200 Killdeer Plains WA (Wyan) 2/11 (m. obs.).

Wood Duck- A count of 5 was good for Hancock Co. 1/10 (BH et al.). 2

pair spent 1/25-2/7 at Castalia Pond (Erle) (VF).

Am. Black Duck-- Post-CBC highs Include 2000 on Maumee Bay (Luca) 2/18 (MAn) & 1750 at Castalia 1/9 (VF). 70 were inland at the Berlin Yacht Club (Port) 2/25 (BDL).

Mallard-- Castalia Pond overflowed with 6000 Mallards 1/9 (VF), and were 5000 there on both 1/28 & 2/11 (EP, RHr). The Huron (Erle) lakefront held 2000 birds 1/28 (EP, RHr), while Maumee Bay attracted 3000 more 2/18 (MAn).

N. Pintail— Fazio counted a high of 13 males and 3 females at Castalia 1/9-2/13. 10 spring migrants returned to Funk Bottoms WA (Wayn) 2/25 (JH).

Blue-winged Teal-Very rare in mid-winter, a female was closely scrutinized and photographed at Castalia 1/8-2/7 (VF, FHr, EP, m. obs.). 2 migrants arrived at Gilmore Ponds (Buti) by 2/25 (T. Ellis).

N. Shoveler-- This species continues to Increase In winter, this season providing an Incomprehensible 130-140 at Castalia 1/9-2/13 (VF, m. obs.).

Gadwall - A nice-sized flock of 20 remained at Pine Lk. (Maho) as late as 1/16 (DJH). 34 were at Castalia 1/9 (VF).

Am. Wigeon— Castalia has long been a favored wintering site of this species. This season, up to 136 were there through January. Courtship was noted by 1/29 (VF). 15 were at Buck Creek SP [a.k.a. C.J. Brown Res., hereafter BuCr] (Clar) 2/26 (DO).

Canvasback- Three counts on 2/18 recorded 4000 birds on Maumee Bay (MAn), 1650 on Sandusky Bay (Otta/Erle) (EP, RHr), & 1500 at CPAP (EP, RHr). 1240 at Lakeshore MP [hereafter Lksh] (Lake) 1/4 provided a good Cleveland area count (JP).

Redhead- The 1000 at CPAP 2/18 far surpassed other lakefront totals (RHr, EP). 52 fall migrants were tallled at Clearfork Res. 12/8 (JH). Numbers of inland spring migrants were

favorable, Including: 193
FRes/Fostoria Res. (Hanc) 2/28 (BH);
70 along the Maumee River east of
the city of Defiance (Defi) 2/28 (DMD);
& 40 each at Greenlawr Dam 2/23
(AG) and at BuCr 2/25 (DO).

Ring-necked Duck- 12 males were at Spring Valley WA [hereafter SVWA] (Gree/Warr) 1/8 (JD, ST). 100+ spring migrants were found along the Portage River (Otta) 2/28 (NB).

Greater Scaup-- Peak count came 1/12 when 2000 were estimated at Rocky River City Pk. (Cuya) (TLP). 3 inland sites harbored this species, topped by 12 at Summit Lk. 2/26 (BDL).

Lesser Scaup-- Curiously, the high for this species also came from Rocky River City Pk. 1/12, when 2500 were estimated (RHr). 1000 were there 1/5 (TLP). Waterfowl numbers fluctuate rapidly at this site. 1000 congregated at the Sandusky Bay Bridge 2/18 (EP, RHr), and 750 more were on Maumee Bay the same day (MAn). Inland spring migrants Include 70 at FRes/Fostorla Res. 2/28 (BH) and 50 Caesar Creek Lk. 2/27 (LG).

Harlequin Duck- FMG found a drably plumaged imm. male at Avon Lake 12/17. This cooperative bird remained at least until 1/29, by which time it had taken on mostly adult plumage (m. obs.). Other adult males were noted at Gordon Pk. (Cuya) (J. & D. Hotfman) and at Headtands Beach SP [hereafter HBSP] (Lake) 2/4-5 (RHn, LR, et al.).

Oldsquaw- Post-CBC lakefront reports include up to 3 at Cleveland 1/12-14 (BC et al.); 1-2 wintering at Rocky River City Pk. 1/5-2/11 (m. obs.); & 1-2 at Avon Lake 2/11-12 (m. obs.). On 1/8, 2 females were found at Caesar Creek Lk. (JD, ST), and another bird was at BuCr (DO).

Black Scoter—11 were noted at Lksh 12/8 (JP). At least 2 were found intermittently at Rocky River City Pk. 12/21-1/7 (m. obs.).

Surf Scoter- A very large flock developed at Rocky River City Pk. 1/5-22 (m. obs.). The high there came 1/9, when 57 were counted (TLP). Other lakefront sightings include 4 at HBSP 2/5 (LR et al.) and 4-5 at Avon Lake 2/19-25 (m. obs.). Inland, 4 non-CBC reports include: 1 Paulding Co. 12/1 (DMD); 3 Clearfork Res. 12/11 (JH); 1 O'Shaughnessy Res. (Dela) 2/3 (KA); & 1 Mosquito Lk. 12/27-28 (DJH, CB).

White-winged Scoter-- Up to 9 spent 1/5-16 at Rocky River City Pk. (LR, m. obs.).

Common Goldeneye-- January highs include 700 at Rocky River City Pk. 1/7 and 450 in Cleveland 1/12 (both RHr). February highs, augmented by spring migrants, include 1500 at CPAP 2/18 (EP, RHr) & 1250 on Maumee Bay the same day (MAn).

Bufflehead- Post-CBC maxima were 150 at Avon Lake 1/29 (CH) & 100 at CPAP 2/18 (EP, RHr). Up to 10 were at Greenlawn Dam during the 1/10-2/10 pariod (AG).

Hooded Merganser - The 63 at Greenlawn Dam 1/10-2/10 provided an excellent mid-winter count (AG). Highest pre-CBC count was of 260-280 birds at LaDue Res. (Geau) 12/11-13 (AF).

Common Merganser-- 3500 concentrated on Maumee Bay 2/18 (MAn). 25 were inland at BuCr 2/25 (DO).

Red-breasted Merganser- The Eastlake Power Plant (Lake) retained many fall migrants well into December, including 16,000 birds 12/1 (TLP). 750 mid-winter birds were at Cleveland 1/29 (CH).

Ruddy Duck- 100 + birds were at Summit Lk. 1/3 (GK).

Vultures through Shorebirds

Black Vulture-- Post-CBC reports include 2-3 at Rocky Fork Lk. 1/14-25 (S. Wagner, YM, ST, CM) & 6 in Hocking Co. 2/25 (ST, CM).

Turkey Vulture- Several spring migrants were detected 2/19-26, as is expected. A single in Maumee (Luca) 1/22 provided an unusual mid-winter record for the north (MAn). 150 were detected on CBC's.

Baid Eagle- The ODOW's statewide

Mid-winter Eagle Survey tallied a record 98 birds (57 adults, 41 imm.) during the period of 1/4-18. County breakdown was as follows: Sand-24, Otta-19, Erle-16, Trum-12, Musk-5, Luca-4, Sene-4, Geau-3, Wyan-2, Maho-2, Brow-2, Clar-1, Mont-1, Ciln-1, Gall-1, & Port-1. We can add 1 other bird during the census period, an imm. in Hamilton Co. 1/10 (D. Anderson). An amazing concentration of wintering birds developed at Mosquito Lk., where 12 (10 i, 2 a) were counted on the Trumbull Co. CBC 12/18, & 16 birds (14 i, 2 a) were found 2/19 (CB). 2 Imm. at Berlin Res. (Port) 1/28 (BDL) and a bird in Ashtabula 1/27 (JP) were also likely wintering. By February, spring migrants augmented wintering birds, producing at least 6 more individuals in 5 counties 2/17-28.

N. Harrier-- Single-site highs include: 10 Funk Bottoms WA 1/21 (JH); 9 Rocky Fork Lk. 1/14 (S. Wagner); 7 along Jefferson Co. Rd. 45 on 12/23 (MAr); & 7 Killdeer Plains WA 2/11 (m. obs.).

Red-shouldered Hawk- 5 were in Hocking Co. 2/25 (ST, C. Mathena). 3 feeding on suet in Mentor (Lake) 1/29 must have been a bizarre sight (A. & J. Fjeldstad).

Rough-legged Hawk- 20 birds were specifically labelled as either light- or dark-phase. Peculiarly, 16 of these 20 were dark-phased. The Hayes Rd. area of Middlefield Twp (Geau) was productive throughout the season, with at least 7 birds present (AF, BF, PL, m. obs.).

Merlin-- At least 2 males and a female once again wintered in residential Bath Twp. (Summ) (LR, DAC, RHr et al.). 2 more males were found together along the Grand River in Fairport Harbor (Lake) 1/29 (E. Bacik). A single was at Rocky Fork Lk. 2/23 (YM).

Peregrine Falcon-Single migrants were detected at HBSP 12/1 (RHr) and at Ashtabula the next day (JP).

Wild Turkey.- Some flocks include: up to 35 in Whitewater Twp. (Hami) 1/28 (PW); up to 30 at L. Snowden (Athe) through the period (AB); & 25at Bulter (Rich) 1/28 (JH).

N. 8obwhite-- 40 were counted at Miami-Whitewater Forest [hereafter MWF] (Hami) 12/7 (P. Wharton) and 19 were in Holmes Co. 1/24 (LEY).

Virginia Rail- 1 was described for the Millersburg CBC 12/17. The Wooster CBC also reported one 12/28.

Am. Coot- Winter lakefront numbers were well above normal: 120 + Fairport Harbor 1/1 (JP); 59 Lorain 2/3 (TLP); up to 30 in Cleveland through the period (FMG); 29 CPAP 2/18 (RHr, EP); etc. Remants of fall migration include 450 at Cleartork Res. 12/14 (JH) and 300 on the Akron lakes 12/26 (CH). 25 on Piedmont Lk. (Belm) 2/20 were at a seldom-birded site (PL, BF).

Sandhill Crane- December 11 was productive for late fall migrants, including 5 at BuCr (DO); 28 in w. Lucas Co. (TK); & 50 in the Maumee River bottoms near Antwerp (Paul) (DMD). 4 spring migrants were at MWF 2/26 (PW), and 11 more were at SVWA the same day (D. Graham). 79 birds were found on CBC's, plus 197 more were found during CBC "count weeks". Of these, the 9 at Funk Bottoms WA for the Wooster CBC 12/26 may have been locals (R. Troutman).

Am. Golden-Plover-- An injured juv. was a very late find at Metzger Marsh WA (Luca) 12/3 (RHr, EP).

Killdeer- A bird near Findlay (Hanc) 1/19 (K. Noblet, fide BH) and & 4 in Tuscarawas Co. 1/21 (ES) were the only mid-winter reports from the north. Spring migrants arrived 2/18-26.

Lesser Yellowleas— 3 extremely late birds were closely observed on the ONWRC/CBC 1/1 (RHr, EP, G. Klug).

Spotted Sandpiper -- Metzger Marsh WA held a very late bird 12/3 (EP, RHr).

Marbled Godwit A member of this species at Magee Marsh WA (Otta/Luca) 12/30 provided another extremely late shorebird record (M. Shieldcastle).

Ruddy Turnstone- One remained at Conneaut 12/23 (JP).

Western Sandpiper-- Along with the Am. Golden-Plover and Spotted Sandpiper noted above, 6 Western Sandpipers were at Metzger Marsh WA 12/3 (EP, RHr).

Pectonal Sandpiper— Ohio's first January record was carefully scrutinized on the ONWRC/CBC 1/1 (EP, RHr, G. Klug).

Purple Sandpiper. This was perhaps the best winter ever for this species in Ohio. Of the 5 birds present at HBSP at the end of the Autumn 1994 period, 4 remained 12/23 (DAC), 3 remained 1/10 (JP), & 2 remained 2/5 (fide LR). The Lorain flock built up to 3 for the Elyria-Lorain CBC 12/17 (JD, ST et al.), & 2 were still present 1/16 (JP). 3 more were at Conneaut 12/2, with 2 there 12/23 (JP). Ashtabula hosted 2 wintering birds through 2/13 (JP). Still another was found at Cleveland 1/8 (J. & D. Hoffman).

Dunlin- 80 Dunlin added to the shorebird mix at Metzger Marsh WA 12/3 (RHr, EP). Another dawdled at Cowan Lk. (Clin) 12/1-3 (LG).

Common Snipe- Post-CBC records include: 1 Akron 1/6 & 2/1 (BDL); 1 Greenlawn Dam 1/10 (AG); & 2 Millbrook (Wayn) 2/25 (JH). 26 were found on CBC's.

Am. Woodcock- Spring returnees reached 5 southern counties 2/19-26, and 2 were further north near Dundee (Tusc) 2/28 (SH).

Jaegers through Terns

Franklin's Gull- 1 was reported at Lorain 12/8 (JP).

Little Gull-- Singles were at Lksh 12/2 (JP); Conneaut 12/23 (JP); & at Lorain 1/16 (JP) and 1/27 (ETh).

Bonaparte's Guil- Lorain retained 600 birds 1/21 (EP, RHr). A total of 60 birds were present at 3 inland sites 1/1-2.

Mew Guil- An adult was was an excellent find near Jerome Rd. along the Maumee River Rapids (Luca) during the Grand Rapids-Waterville

CBC 12/31 (TK*). it remained in the area through 1/3, being seen by many.

Ring-billed Gull-- 50,000 were at Lorain 1/21 (RHr, EP).

Herring Gull- CPAP is excellent for this species year-round, with 5000 there 1/14. Lorain held 5000 more both 1/7 & 1/21 (all RHr, EP).

Thayer's Gull- Singles were found at 5 northeasterly sites through 2/26. in the northwest, the Maumee River rapids near Waterville attracted at least 1 bird, specified as a 1st-winter individual 2/19 (JD, ST, C. Mathena, J. Monahan) and unspecified as to age on 1/16 (BC, D. Horn).

Iceland Gull-- A 1st-winter bird seen and photographed at L. Rockwell 1/1 provided a first Portage Co. record (LR). A minimum of 2 birds were present at Farnsworth MP along the Maurnee River Rapids 1/16-2/18 (BC, TK, MAn). Other than a bird on Sandusky Bay 2/22 (JP), all additional reports came from the northeast lakeshore, predominantly 2/11-22. Almost all reports were of singles.

Lesser Black-backed Gull-- An undetermined number ranged between the Maumee River rapids and Maumee Bay 12/7-2/19 (ETr, TK, JD, ST). An adult was at E. Harbor SP (Otta) 1/14 (RHr, EP). 5 northeastern lakefront sites reported 1-3 birds, mostly in December.

Glaucous Guil- As a nice compliment to the 1st-year Iceland Guil, a 1st-year Glaucous Guil was also at L. Rockwell 1/1 (LR, CH). 5 birds were noted on Maumee Bay and along the Maumee River 1/29 (TK et al.). 10 more lakefront sites reported, with a high of 4+ birds at Avon Lake 2/11 (ES).

Great Black-backed Gull-- A total of 4 birds (including 1st-, 2nd-, & 3rd-winter birds and an adult) were identified at L. Rockwell between 12/22 and 1/1. 3 were present on 1/1 alone (LR, CH). Even more evidence of an increasing inland trend was provided by 7 + at Solon (Cuya) 2/12 (KMe); 6 over Warrensville Hts. (Cuya) 12/21 (RHr); 1 at Summit Lk. 1/6 (GK), with 2 there 1/8 (CH); and

an adult at Clearfork Res. 12/8-1/5 (JH, KMe, et al.). Along the Maumee River rapids, up to 25 were present (some up to 23 miles inland) on 2/12 (ETr.). 500 each were estimated at CPAP 1/14 (RHr, EP) & at Cleveland 2/12 (CH).

Black-legged Kittiwake- Singles, présumably all imm., were reported at Eastlake 12/3-4 (A. & J. Fjeldstad); at Lorain 1/16 (JP); and at HBSP 1/28 (E. Bacik).

Forster's Tern-- Conneaut continued to host an extremely late bird 12/2 (JP).

Owis through Shrikes

Snowy Owl- Obviously an off-year. 1 was at Cleveland's Burke Lakefront Airport from the last few days of December (fide RHr) to 1/4 (PL et al.). It or another was there 2/19 (A. & J. Fjeldstad). In Ashtabula Co., different Individuals were at Conneaut 12/28 and Ashtabula 1/13 (JP).

Long-eared Owl-- Up to 6 were at Kiiideer Plains WA 12/26-2/26 (PE, LG, m. obs.). Caley MP (Lora) hosted a bird 2/20 (D. & J. Brumfeld). Also 2 CBC reports.

Short-eared OM-- The Hayes Rd. area of Geauga Co. attracted at least 8 birds 1/8-2/26 (D. Ferris, AF, BF, PL, LR, m. obs.). At least 5-6 were present at Killdeer Plains WA during the period (m. obs.). For much of February, up to 7 were found along Chenango Rd. near New London (Huro) (T. Reed et al.). 6 more were along Jefferson Co. Rd. 45 on 1/7 (MAr). 6 additional sites hosted 1-4 birds during the post-CBC period. 30 were reported on CBC's.

N. Saw-whet Owl-- Surprisingly, none were found at Klildeer Plains WA. Instead, 2 were on the Mohican CBC 12/31 (JH) and singles were at 2 Lake Co. sites 12/1 & 1/18 (JP) and at Englewood Reserve (Mont) 1/29-2/26 (LG ph., JD, ST).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker-- Post-CBC reports include: 2 Greenlawn Cem. (Fran) 1/3 (KA); 1 Delaware Co. 1/16 (KA); 1 Woodlawn Cem. in Toledo (Luca) 2/12 (DD et al.); 1 Lima (Alle) 12/20-2/18 (RC); 1 Barnesville City

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Pk. (Belm) 2/19 (BF, SLH, PL); & 1 Bacon Woods MP (Lora) 2/25 (PL, P. Coley). 45 were found on CBC's.

E. Phoebe-- Singles at the Waterloo Wildlife Experiment Station (Athe) 1/13-2/5 (AB) and in Morgan Co. 1/28 (LB) lasted beyond the CBC period. CBC's totalled 12 birds.

Homed Lark-- Peak numbers came in January again, featuring: 1000 Whitewater Twp. 1/10 (D. Brinkman); 300 southeast of Whitehouse (Luca) 1/21-23 (ETr); & 300 Ragersville bottoms (Tusc) 1/28 (ES).

Barn Swallow- An extraordinarily late bird was discovered over the open waters at Bayshore Power Plant on Maurnee Bay 1/16 (G. Links, J. Chadwick).

Am. Crow- Aside from the enormous roosts noted in the CBC data, SLH observed a steady stream of crows, apparently heading to roost, near the Ohlo River in Belmont Co.

Presumably a nightly event, some 10-20,000 were estimated there 1/10.

Red-breasted Nuthatch— Relatively few were found this winter. Compared to Winter 1993-94, when CBC's averaged 5.92/court, this year CBC's averaged only 1.30/count.

Brown Creeper-- The productive Greenlawn Dam area hosted at least 25 birds during the 1/10-2/10 period (AG).

Carolina Wren- As evidence of a severe population crash following the severe winter weather of January-Febuary 1994, an average of only 18.97 birds were found on CBC's this year. CBC's taken last year (before the brutal weather hit in mid-January) averaged 40.21 birds per count. The biggest drop was noted in the southeast, where counts dropped some 77% from the 1993-94 CBC's to the 1994-95 CBC's. Although every region across the state experienced some declines, the southwestern counties certainly seem to have the healthiest population.

Winter Wren-- 4 were at the tip of Metzger Marsh WA 12/3, Including a bird in song (RHr, EP).

Marsh Wren-- One was observed near Cherry Fork (Adam) 12/14 (BL). LR described 1 in Kent (Port) for the Cuyahoga Falls CBC 12/18. A singing bird was at SVWA 3/6 (JD, ST). While technically outside the winter period, it had very likely wintered at this site.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet- Non-CBC reports include: 1 Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area (Cuya/Summ) 12/26 (DAC); 1 Camp Berry (Hanc) 1/13 (m. obs., fide BH); & 1 Belmont Co. 2/18-19 (SLH, BF, PL).

Hermit Thrush- Northerly post-CBC singles were in Tuscarawas Co. 1/28 (ES) & in Lake Co. 2/12 (JP).

Gray Catbird-- 4 were reported on CBC's.

N. Mockingbird- The period of 1/22-2/28 witnessed 5 birds being located at 4 northeastern lakefront sites.

Brown Thrasher-- Aside from 5 CBC reports, we received the following: 1 along the Scioto River north of Columbus (Fran) 12/12-2/18 (RR); 1 Obetz (Fran) 12/20-1/13 (KA); 1 Tuscarawas Co. 1/7 (ES); 1 at a Cincinnatl (Hami) feeder 1/6-29, with 2 there from 2/5-28 (BS); & 1 at a Highbanks MP (Fran) feeder 1/8 (CW, J. Holzworth).

Am. Pipit-- Much more prevalent than normal. Non-CBC reports include: 1 BuCr 12/11 (DO); 8 near Eckmansville (Adam) 12/14 (BL); 30 in the Scioto River bottoms in Pike Co. 12/31 (DM, T. Bain); 1 along the Great Miaml River In Dayton (Mont) 1/22 (DD); 1 Greenlawn Dam 1/27-31 (AG); & 20 Shawnee Lookout MP (Hami) 1/29 (NK).

Cedar Waxwing-- An obvious push developed 2/19-25, including: 400 Rocky Fork Lk. 2/23 (YM); 300 Lorain 2/25 (PL, P. Coley); & 110 Hancock Co. 2/21 (BH et al.).

N. Shrike- A good year, with at least 9 sightings in addition to 10 CBC reports. An adult near Sugarcreek (Tusc) 12/11-1/7 was found at the exact site where a bird (the same individual?) was observed from the

winters of 1989-90 through 1992-93 (ES).

Loggerhead Shrike-- Always noteworthy, singles were found southeast of Beaver (Jack) 12/4-28 (DM); in Adams Co. 12/30 (JM et al.); & at Delaware WA (Dela) 1/30 (KA).

Warblers through Finches

Yellow-rumped Warbler-- Statewide CBC's totalled 528 birds.

Pine Warbler-- LG was treated to a 1st-year male at his Wilmington (Clin) feeder 1/23-3/4 + (LG ph.). A feeder at Lksh held a bird 1/6-7 (JP). Another was in Marietta (Wash) 1/16 (LB).

Palm Warbler -- A representative of our typical migrant western race was at D. Troyer's Sugarcreek (Holm) feeder 1/8-2/6. it was found dead 2/8 (DT, ES).

Common Yellowthroat-- Singles were reported at Hogback Ridge MP (Lake) 12/3 (JP); at BuCr 12/11 (DO); & at Walnut Beach (Asht) 12/28 (JP). 2 more CBC reports.

Am. Tree Sparrow—Post-CBC reports include: 460 Delaware WA 2/20 (KA); 200 MWF 1/8 (PW); & 200 along Kilby Rd. (Hami) 2/5 (PW).

Chipping Sparrow- 1 was at Greenlawn Cem. (Fran) at least through 1/7 (RR, KA). Another was in Tiffin (Sene) 12/9 (VF).

Savannah Sparrow- Numbers built up at MWF, where 5 were found 12/7, 10 were found 1/8, and 16 were found 1/26. Numbers dropped to 2 birds 2/26 (PW). At least 1 wintered at M. Weaver's feeder in Holmes Co., where 2 were seen by LEY et al. 1/29. Another was at Killdeer Plains WA 2/5 (RR).

Fox Sparrow- 3 wintered at Mohican SP (Ashl) (JH).

White-throated Sparrow-- RR reports: "like always they are abundant wirter birds in honeysuckle bushes along the Scioto [River in Columbus]. My CBC total during a 3.5 hour walk was 153. Most stay all winter." AB's albino remained at his L. Snowden

feeder through at least 1/15.

White-crowned Sparrow- Some Interesting reports include: 10-20 Spencer Lake WA (Medi) 2/5 (Justy); 10+ at a Titfin feeder in Jan./Feb. (TB); & 9 Valley City (Medi) 1/21 (FMG).

"Oregon Junco"-- Singles wintered at RR's Columbus feeder 1/21 through early March and at Possum Creek Reserve (Mont), being seen at least through 2/18 (JD, ST).

"Gray-headed Junco"-- A bird showing the characteristics of this western montane race was present at P. Lewis' Seaman feeder (Adam) from mid-December through at least 1/27 (BL).

Lapland Longspur- VF counted 58 birds north of Hessville near the Sand/Otta county line 1/26.

Snow Bunting- Highs include: 165 north of Hessville near the Sand/Otta county line 1/26 (VF), with 100 there 2/4 (PL, BF); 160 + ONWR, where "waves of up to 40 birds" flew in off L. Erie 1/13 (VF); 150 southeast of Whitehouse 2/12 (ETr); up to 110 in Paulding Co. during the period (DMD); & 75 at Mosquito Lk. 12/12 + (DJH). 2 reached as far south as Paint Creek Lk. (High/Ross) 12/3 (YM).

E. Meadowark- 10 each were at Killdeer Plains WA 2/14 (JH) and near SVWA 1/8 (JD, ST). 8 were south ot Wooster (Wayn) 12/26, where 5 remained 1/29 (MJK).

Common Grackle-- A flock of thousands of blackbirds, over a mile long and several hundred feet wide, headed southwest over Berlin (Holm) 1/7. Grackles dominated this flock (RHe). 175 were in w. Medina Co. 1/12 (ETh).

Brown-headed Cowbird- Holmes Co. hosted 3500 12/2 (LEY).

Purple Finch-- Seemed very low. CBC's averaged only 2.03/count this season. A territorial male returned to DJH's Girard (Trum) property by 2/20.

Red Crossbill- Only non-CBC report was of a bird in the Oak Openings

(Luca) 12/4 (MAn).

Pine Siskin-- Very few. Whereas Ohio CBC's averaged 7.25 birds/count last winter, only 0.31 birds/count were averaged this winter.

Evening Grosbeak-- Another big drop-oft. Ohio CBC's averaged only 0.10 birds/count this winter, whereas 8.49 birds/count were averaged last winter. JP reported 20 at N. Kingsville (Asht) 1/13.

EXOTICS & ESCAPES

Barnacle Goose-- 1 was at ONWR 2/18 (MAn).

HYBRIDS

Mallard x Am. Black Duck-38 hybrids were picked out among the waterlowl throng at Castalia 1/9 (VF).

Mallard x N. Pintail— A male was scrutinized at Castalia 1/30 (JP).

"Nelson's Guil" -- This Glacous Gull x Herring Guil hybrid was identified at Lorain 12/23 (JD, ST, B. Peterjohn, M. Gustafson).

FINAL OBRC DECISIONS FROM PREVIOUS REPORTING PERIODS

by H. Thomas Bartlett, Secretary

The following records were reviewed by the Ohio Bird Records Committee. All received at least 9 "Accept" votes from the 11 member Committee, and are therefore ACCEPTED:

Autumn 1993

Ross's Goose—OBRC 170-93-02: 3 birds fed with a Snow Goose and Canada Geese In a comfield at the Mercer WA at Grand Lake-St. Mary's (Merc) 10/18/93. The Committee became aware that at least one of these birds was later killed by a hunter and photographs were taken. Although the Committee was unsuccessful in obtaining a photograph, this record was accepted regardless, based on the written documentaion (KA*).

Long-tailed Jacoer -- OBRC 38-93-02: A rain storm with heavy northerly

winds ushered a juvenile into Lorain Harbor (Lora) 9/6/93 (J. & D. Hoffman*). Unfortunately, it remained only about one minute, a trait that has come to be expected with this species.

Sabine's Gull-OBRC 62-93-05: A juvenile was observed at rest and in light for about 2.5 hours at the Huron (Erie) pier 11/20/93 (R. Schlabach*, m. obs.).

Autumn 1994

Sabine's Gull- OBRC 62-94-06; A juvenile flew east to west with Bonaparte's Gulls past Fairport Beach MP (Lake) 9/18/94 (JP*).

Le Conte's Sparrow- OBRC 548-94-09: A juvenile was picked up by a citizen in Mentor (Lake) and taken to the Lake MP Rehabilitation Center 9/15/94. It was photographed at the Rehab Center by JP.

CONTRIBUTORS AND OBSERVERS

All individuals contributing bird reports to "The Ohio Cardinal" for the Winter 1994-95 season [December 1, 1994 through February 28, 1995] 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); "The Toledo Naturalists' Association Bulletin"; and "Wingtips" (Black River Audubon Society) Those Observers who received at least four citations In the Winter 1994-95 "The Reports" section are also included in the following list of Contributors: J. KIRK ALEXANDER (KA); MATT ANDERSON (MAN) MICHAEL J. ARABIA (MAY); CAROLE L. BABYAK (CB); ANDREW L. BARBER (AB); LYNN BARNHART (LB); TOM BARTLETT (TB); CHRIS BEDEL (CBe); DAN BEST (DB) for DEDEL (CBB); DAN BEST (DB) IOT the Geauga Co. Park District; NANCY D. BRUNDAGE (NB); DWIGHT & ANN CHASAR (DAC); BOB CONLON (BC); ROBERT F. CUTTER (RC); PATRICIA A. DIMLING (PD); DAVID C. DISTER (DD); DOUG & MICKI DUNAKIN (DMD); PAUL D. ELLSWORTH (PE); VICTOR W. FAZIO (VF); BOB FINKELSTEIN (BF); ANDY FONDRIK (AF); LARRY GARA (LG); PEGGY ANN GATCH (PG); ADAM GOLODA (AG); FRANK & MELINDA GREENLAND (FMG); SCOTT HACKETT (SH); RAY HANNIKMAN (RHIN); SHARON LEE HANSE (SLH); BETTY HARDESTY (BH); ROBERT HARLAN (RHIY); PHIL HARNER (PH); JOHN HERMAN (JH); ROBERT HERSHBERGER (RHe); DAVE & JUDY HOCHADEL (DJH); CRAIG HOLT (CH); NED KELLER (NK); TOM KEMP (TK); JOE KOMOROWSKI (JK); GENE KOVACH (GK); MARIAN & JEFF KRAUS (MJK); Bob & Denise Lane (BDL); TOM LePAGE (TLP); PAULA LOZANO (PL); BARBARA LUND (BL); CHARLOTTE MATHENA (CM); JIM MCCORMAC (JM); BOB MCCULLOUGH (BM); GARY MESZAROS (GM); KEVIN METCALF

(KMe); DAVE MINNEY (DM); KATHY L. MOCK (KMo); Yvonne Mohlman (YM); OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE (ODOW) fide GILDO TORI & MARK SHIELDCASTLE; DOUG OVERACKER (DO); EDWIN C. PIERCE (EP); JOHN POGACNIK (JP); TOM & MARY ANNE ROMITO (TMR); LARRY ROSCHE (LR); ROBERT ROYSE (RR); WINNIE M. SARNO (WS); ED SCHLABACH (ES); JOHN SHRADER (JS); BRUCE STEHLING (BS); SUE TACKETT (ST); ERDINE THOMPSON (ETh); ELLIOT TRAMER (ETI); DUANE A. TROYER (DT); BILL WHAN (BW); Paul Wharton (PW); CONNIE WOLCOTT (CW); LEROY E. YODER (LEY); & MARIAN ZEHNDER (MZ). In addition, many other Observers are cited for 1 to 3 records within the species accounts. My thanks to all.

ODOW Waterfowl Counts, Winter 1994-95

AERIAL COUNTS: Each year, from early autumn into winter, the Ohio Division of Wildlife conducts aerial wateriowl 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 1994-95 portion of these surveys. Totals should be considered as indeces, or plus or minus 30%, as exact counts would of course be impossible. We thank Glido Tori, Mark Shieldcastle and Jack Weeks of the ODOW for this infonnation.

	12/15/94	1/3-4/95	1/18-19/95
Mailard	35,925	33,100	12,875
Am. Black Duck	26,295	33,200	11,480
Canvasback	2000	250	1600
Scaup sp.	10,000	7000	11,800
C. Goldeneye	450	325	220
Mergarser sp.	8600	4350	7925
Canada Goose	11,200	10,690	7410
Tundra Swan	453	350	115

MID-WINTER WATERFOWL SURVEY: The ODOW also conducts a statewide waterfowl census in early January (this year on 1/2-6/95), covering all 88 counties. The total number of waterfowl recorded for the state was 225,548 birds, which represents the second highest total ever (just under last year's record of 254,187 birds). The Mallard total was the third highest ever, and the highest since 1972. The Am. Black Duck total was also the highest since 1972. The Canada Goose count represents the second highest total ever. Presented below are statewide totals, followed by the peak county totals. Mallard: 70,225/17,725 (Otta); Am. Black Duck: 41,465/18,525 (Otta); Gadwall: 68/17 (Port); Am. Wigeon: 80/27 (Geau); Green-winged Teal: 19/15 (Gall); N. Shoveler: 41/26 (Merc); N. Pintall: 32/11 (Augl); Wood Duck: 43/21 (Meig); Redhead: 81/25 (Tusc); Canvasback: 781/500 (Lake); Scaup sp.: 8177/7000 (Luca); Ring-necled Duck: 295/69 (Harr); C. Goldeneye: 456/297 (Otta); Bufflehead: 242/66 (Tusc); Ruddy Duck: 159/100 (Lora); Merganser sp.: 8611/4000 (Lake & Luca); Snow Goose: 39/14 (Erle); Canada Goose: 93,847/11,608 (Trum); Tundra Swan: 121/50 (Luca & Otta); Mute Swan: 31/10 (Musk); & Am. Coot: 518/200 (Summ).

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

For this issue, the Ohio Bird Records Committee (OBRC) provided initial reviews for 18 records (16 from the Autumn 1994 season, 1 from the Winter 1994-95 season, and 1 from the Autumn 1993 season). The OBRC also continued Recirculation procedures on an additional 4 records from previous reporting periods, for a total of 22 records examined. We hope to have the results from the Winter 1994-95 reporting period for the next issue.

Of the 22 records, 9 records received at least 9 "Accept" votes from the 11 member Committee, and are therefore considered ACCEPTED, according to OBRC Bylaws section VI F(10)(a). Details regarding 3 of these accepted records appeared in <u>The Ohio Cardinal</u> 18(1):35-36. Details regarding 5 more records (all from previous reporting periods) appear appended to the conclusion of the seasonal report in this issue. Another accepted record (Mew Gull) appears within the body of the seasonal report in this issue.

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

Piping Plover-- OBRC 277-94-05: 8 birds, Turtle Creek Marsh (Ottawa Co.), 9/18/94.

Piping Plover-- OBRC 277-94-06: Lorain Harbor (Lorain Co.), 9/25/94 and 10/8/94. This record will be split into two records for Recirculation procedures.

One record [Common Raven, OBRC 486-94-01: Elk Twp. (Noble Co.), 3/7/94] also received between 6 and 8 "Accept" votes on its third circulation (second Recirculation). This record is will now be tabled until a final discussion and vote at the OBRC meeting next spring.

10 records received fewer than 6 "Accept" votes, and are therefore considered NOTACCEPTED, according to OBRC Bylaws section VI F(10)(b). These 10 records are listed below, with comments (or paraphrased comments, for clarity) as made by individual OBRC members:

Pacific/Arctic Loon-OBRC 10-94-01: 2, Perkins Beach (Cuyahoga Co.), 11/19/94. Comments: 1) 2 individuals are unlikely. 2) Lack of detail concerning facial pattern. 3) Dark bulge on the sides of neck indicates Common Loon. 4) Birds appear to be juveniles, so chin strap should be evident. 5) Common Loons or juvenile Red-throated Loons not ruled out. 6) Size is hard to judge on L. Erie. 7) Light conditions can effect color perception. 8) No mention of optical equipment used. 9) More detailed description necessary for such a rare species.

Ross's Goose - OBRC 170-94-04: 1, L. Sylvan (Clark Co.), 11/23/94.

Comments: 1) Insufficent detail, especially regarding bill. 2)

Description does not eliminate Snow Goose.

Greater Golden-Plover – OBRC 271-94-01: 1, Ferguson Res.
(Allen Co.), 8/14/94. Comments: 1) Insufficient detail for such a rare species, no previous fall North American records. 2) Date is 2 weeks earlier than movement of n. European birds, which are at a higher latitude than Ohio. 3) Description does not eliminate Pacific Golden-Plover, which is moving on this date. 4) Lacks detail

on shape and extent of white line on flanks. 5) Does not rule out adult female or molting male American Golden-Plover. 6) No description of call. 7) No description of primary extension, an important ID feature. 8) Needs corroborating observer. 9) Could "pale" vs. "white" axillaries be distinguished at 250-300 yards with 7x binoculars?

Piping Piover- OBRC 277-94-04: 1, Turtle Creek Marsh (Ottawa Co.),

Piping Plover—OBRC 2/7-94-04: 1, Turtle Creek Marsh (Ottawa Co.), 9/7/94. Comments: 1) Does not eliminateSnowy Plover. 2) Lacks details on plumage. 3) Observers disagree on ID (Piping vs. Snowy Plover). 4) Snowy not safely eliminated based on range.

Ruff-- OBRC 260-94-05: 1 female, Magee Marsh WA (Ottawa/Lucas Cos.), 8/5/94. Comments: 1) Inadequate details, especially back & wing pattern. 2) Size too small for Reeve. 3) Shape not described. 4) Does not eliminate Solitary Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, investig Spotted Sandpiper, 5) juvenile Spotted Sandpiper, or juvenile Wilson's Phalarope. 5)

Observation period too short. 6) Leg color atypical.
Pornarine Jaeger- OBRC 36-94-01: 1, Lakeshore MP (Lake Co.), 11/16/94. Comments: 1) Does not eliminate Parasitic Jaeger. 2) No mention of white at base of primaries or primary coverts. 3) Bill should have been two-toned similar to Glaucous Gull. 4) Size appears too small, how was it judged? 5) Possibly acceptable as

"jeager species".

Common Black-headed Gull-- OBRC 55.1-94-01: 1, Conneaut Harbor (Ashtabula Co.), 7/10/94. Comments: 1) Photograph shows 1st-summer Bonaparte's Gull, based on bill color/thickness/shape and head plurnage. 2) Photograph does not seem to match written

description.

Black-backed Woodpecker-- OBRC 400-94-01: 1, Magee Marsh Bird Trail (Lucas Co.), 9/18/94. Comments: 1)Description does not rule out juv enile Lewis' Woodpecker (unlikely), juv. Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker (esp. melanistic), or a sapsucker. 2) Some white should show on folded wings and on outer tail feathers. 3) Lacks details of head pattern. 4) No mention of barring on sides and flanks. 5) Very early date for this species. 6) Incomplete view, too brief an observation. 7) Needs corroborating observer. 8) Overall lack of details for such a rare species.

Kirtland's Warbler -- OBRC 670-94-02: 1, Magee Marsh Bird Trail (Lucas Co.), 9/18/94. Comments: 1) Incomplete details including no description of tail pattern. 2) Does not rule out Magnolia Warbler (many fall Magnolia's lack white wing patches). 3) Inadequate views of bird. 4) Inconsistencies in description (rump "obscured by foliage" but later used to separate from Magnolia Warbler). 5) No mention of tail-bobbing, a trait expected in

Kirtland's Warbler.

Pine Grosbeak -- OBRC 515-94-01: 1, Turtle Creek Marsh (Ottawa Co.), 9/24/94. Comments: 1) Early date, especially with no substantial subsequent finch movement into area. 2) Too brief a sighting (flyby) for such a rare species. 3) Lack of observer experience with the species. 4) Report by accompanying observer would have been desirable. 5) Observer appears unconvinced himself.

Many records (mostly from the Winter 1994-95 period) are currently being reviewed by the OBRC. These records are:

W. Grebe-- Maurnee River, 1/25/95 N. Gannet-- Lorain, 12/11-13/94 Glossy Ibis-- ONWA, 9/8/94 Baikal Teal- Englewood Rsv., 2/25-6/95 E. Wigeon- Conneaut, 12/21/94 E. Wigeon-- Castalia, 1/23+/95

N. Lapwing- Adams Co., 12/29-30/94 Pomarine Jaeger-- Lorain, 12/17/94 C. Blk-headed Gull-- Eastlake, 12/17/94 California Gull-- Walnut Beach, 1/13/95 Scarlet Tanager -- Findlay, 11/26+/94 Brewer's Blackbird- Magee, 8/5/94



N. Saw-whet Owl. Englewood Reserve (Montgomery Co.), 1/29/95. Photo by Larry Gara.

Ohio Christmas Bird Counts, 1994-1995 by Ned Keller

We managed to secure data from 61 of 62 Christmas Bird Counts conducted in Ohio this season, the same number as the previous year. The only count that we did not receive was the Beaver Creek CBC in Columbiana County. The remainder of the unnumbered circles on the CBC map elsewhere in this issue represent counts that were not run. We know how much time the compilers put into preparing their results, and we certainly appreciate the extra effort they make to get these results to us. This report includes counts conducted partly in Ohio and partly in another state or province. With the exception of some of the rarer birds, these counts do not distinguish between birds seen inside and outside the state.

Christmas Count data can be used to trace long-term population trends, but I suspect that most birders are motivated more by the search for uncommon birds. It is certainly important to know whether 300 Song Sparrows occurred on your count, or only 150. Still, if you tell the truth, wouldn't you rather have found the Golden Eagle (Millersburg), the Common Black-headed Gull (Cleveland) or the Mew Gull (Grand Rapids-Waterville)? This summary highlights the unusual findings, not because they are more important, but because population trends need more years to develop.

Ohio counters managed to find a total of 793,451 individuals representing 149 species, this year. One of these, the Osprey found on the Ohio River count, was actually seen outside of Ohio. An additional three species were seen during "count weeks". The 1993-94 counts yielded 791,076 individuals representing 147 species, plus five "count week" species. Fourteen of this year's species were represented by a single individual, and three more were seen only twice.

Birders on the Cincinnati count found the most species, with 81. Other high counts included Wooster and Millersburg with 80, Toledo with 79, Elyria-Lorain with 77, and Ottawa N.W.R. and Cuyahoga Falls with 75 species. Elyria-Lorain counted the most individual birds (with 67,350), followed by Firelands (60,425) & Toledo (51,542).

The following tables include all the reports that we have received. Unlike in the seasonal reports, we make no effort to screen out the suspicious, undocumented reports. Sightings marked with a single asterisk (*) were accompanied by at least minimal acceptable documentation. Sightings marked with two asterisks (**) require review by the Ohio Bird Records Committee. Sightings marked by three asterisks (***) occurred outside of Ohio. Sightings marked with a cross (+) represent Snow Geese not differentiated by morph.

Ned Keller 7066 Wesselman Rd. Cleves, OH 45002

			N	lor	thv	ves	st l	Re	gio	n	y,		Northeast Region																
	Firelands 12/17/94 (9)	Fremont 12/18/94 (8)	Goll Woods	Grand Rapids-Waterville 12/31/94 (2)	Hancock Go. 12/17/94 (10)	Lake Erie Is. (0H-0N) 12/20/94 (5)	Mansfield 12/17/94 (13)	Ottawa N.W.R. 1/1/95 (4)	0xbow Lake 12/17/94 (7)	Plymouth 12/28/94 (12)	Tiffin 12/12/04 (11)	Toledo 12/18/94 (3)		Ashland 12/17/94 (30)	Ashtabula	Burton 1/1/95 (27)	Cleveland 12/17/94 (23)	Cuyahoga Falls 12/18/94 (29)	Elyria-Lorain 12/17/94 (20)	Lakewood 12/18/94 (21)	Mentor 12/26/94 (24)	Mohican State Forest 12/31/94 (35)	Quail Hollow-Hartville 12/31/94 (37)	Salem 1/2/95 (33)	Trumbull Co. 12/18/94 (28)	Wellington 12/28/94 (26)	Wilmot 12/17/94 (32)	Wooster 12/26/94 (31)	Youngstown 12/17/94 (34)
Common Loon Pied-billed Grebe Horned Grebe Eared Grebe Double-crested Cormorant	3 4 20 - 60	21111		11111	1CW	17 - 56 - 8	8 CW	3 -	11111	William Co.		4		1111	11111	CW	2 3	6	4 1 28 1* 6	32	1		XXXXXX	11111	2	2 4	3.3.1.5.3	2	4 3 -
Great Blue Heron Black-crowned Night-Heron Tundra Swan Mute Swan Snow Goose (blue form)	25 - - 1	2		18	8 -	29	9	52 87 7	4	11111	8	31 20 28		23	1 1 1	3	29 35	28 5	12 5	7 21	9	10 CW	17	45 2	6	3	7	20 3 2	18
Snow Goose (white form) Canada Goose Brant Wood Duck Green-winged Teal	3904		54	-	4377 - 2CW	254	- 1304 -	88† 6027 2 11	- 463 -	1 187	_ 2897	2† 2245 2		500	1807	2557 1 4	2205	3435	643	252	1373	434 CW	1762	469 8	3375	705	669 9	864	1782
American Black Duck Mallard Northern Pintail Northern Shoveler Gadwall	524 2235	31	120	451	2CW 1646 2CW	38 355 2 - 4	160 422 - - 3	570 4616 128 61 601	51	- 40 -	874 5906 14	394 2103 8 15 9		29 136 -	48 205 - 15	41 436 1 -	73 878 - CW	24 1766 - 1 25	24 400 1 - 7	131 810 - 2	25 209 -	22 165 - 14	35 1043 -	14 403 -	72 2842 2 76	2 208 1	107 508 -	72 2700 9	54 674 9 1
American Wigeon Canvasback Redhead Ring-necked Duck Greater Scaup	25 2	11111	1 1 1 1 1	cw	1 11111	3 34 - 2 6	14	323	11111	1	* * * * *	3 95 1 –		1111	2 2	- - 15	CW - -	2 1 - 5	13 40 -	10 1 - 60	5		20	21	28 - 4 4	4 1 125	11111	1	1 15
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Common Goldeneye Bufflehead Hooded Merganser Common Merganser Red-breasted Merganser	7 25 4 10007 24	1		3	1 43 8	1856 1681 71 851	4 2 27 1 3	9 27 41 1080 52	11111	1.1.1.1.1	-	3667 43 88 7672 250			3 35 14 710 155	32	101 78 35 2925	12 5 13 6	3 63 9 73 903	185 56 1 548	19 35 1 204 124	10 4 8 2	10	8	41	27 10	11111	1 1 -	3
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	Northwest Region Northeast Region
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Sharp-shinned Hawk Cooper's Hawk Northern Goshawk Accipiter, sp. Red-shouldered Hawk	3 2 4 - 4 2 1 2 1 4 5 1 3 1 1 4 3 3 1 7 3 1 4 3 3 3 3 4 8 1 - 1 4 3 2 5 6 3 8 10 2 7 1 2 6 2 2 9 3 3 1
Red-tailed Hawk Rough-legged Hawk Buteo, sp. American Kestrel Merlin	30
Peregrine Falcon Ring-necked Pheasant Ruffed Grouse Wild Turkey Northern Bobwhite	
Virginia Rail American Coot Sandhill Crane American Golden-Plover Killdeer	2 - 3 400 907 - 73 12 11 2 292 2 - 6 7 140 - 11 50 4 - 4 - 4
Lesser Yellowlegs Marbled Godwit Pectoral Sandpiper Purple Sandpiper Dunlin	3* - 1CW 1* 3*** 3*** 4
Common Snipe Pomarine Jaeger Common Black-headed Gull Bonaparte's Gull Mew Gull	37 - 223 - 223 - 616 - 1618 - 409 10 2727 826 197412275 207 28 - 1**
Ring-billed Gull Herring Gull Thayer's Gul l Lesser Black-backed Gull Glaucous Gull	32661 166 - 1923 613 424 18 7927 58 61 1000 5850 14 9365 86 14410 66 5330 26648 3155 36 43 174 1258 1396 4 5 79 148 - 169 1 217 - 694 22 3 4 5514 - 2588 6 3334 - 1951 977 373 4 5 2 - 6 2 - 3 2 - 3 3 2 - 3 3 3 4 - 3 5 2 - 3 3 4 - 3 5 3 4 4 5 7 4 4 5 7 4 4 5 4 4 4 5 7 4 4 4 5 5 4 4 4 4 5 7 4 4 4 4 5 7 4 4 4 4 4 5 7 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4
Great Black-backed Guil gull, sp. tem, sp. Rock Dove Mourning Dove	22

	Northwest Region	Northeast Region													
	Firelands 12/17/94 (9) Fremont 12/18/94 (8) Goll Woods 7:2/7/72 (1) Grand Rapids-Waterville 12/31/94 (2) Hancock Co. 12/17/94 (10) Lake Erie Is. (0H-0N) 12/20/94 (5) Mansfield Mansfield 12/17/94 (13) Ottawa N.W.R. 1/1/95 (4) Oxbow Lake 12/17/94 (7) Plymouth 12/28/94 (12) Tiffin 12/17/94 (11) Toledo 12/18/94 (3)	Ashland 12/17/94 (30) Ashtabula 12/17/94 (25) Burton 11/1/95 (27) Gleveland 12/17/94 (23) Cuyahoga Falls 12/18/94 (29) Elyria-Lorain 12/17/94 (20) Lakewood 12/18/94 (21) Mohican State Forest 12/31/94 (21) Mohican State Forest 12/31/94 (37) Salem 1/2/95 (33) Trumbull Co. 12/18/94 (26) Wellington 12/28/94 (26) Wellington 12/28/94 (26) Wooster 12/26/94 (31) Youngstown 12/26/94 (31)													
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ufted Titmouse ked-breasted Nuthatch Vhite-breasted Nuthatch rown Creeper Carolina Wren	41 6 96 73 - 240 11 25 10 82 66 2 - 2 8 - 4 7 - - - 1 53 - 25 89 66 1 170 7 33 9 101 43 5 - 1 41 12 120 4 26 6 - 43 48 3 - 4 4 3 9 6 - 3 9	117 18 98 188 557 111 84 111 206 38 28 68 46 357 171 143 2 - 3 1 1 - 2 1 12 - 1 2 - 1 - 87 11 64 118 331 57 38 38 143 31 16 47 34 95 153 94 9 - 2 7 9 7 14 7 18 1 4 2 1 3 14 1 8 - - 5 48 10 2 3 20 4 7 - - 13 17 4													
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	Northwest Region	Northeast Region												
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dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco apland Longspur Snow Bunting Red-winged Blackbird Sastern Meadowlark	2 25 16 13 - 15 25 192 30 2 18 2135 - 1 - 3 - 11 -	11 1 - 40 440 440 440												
usty Blackbird lackbird, sp. common Grackle Irown-headed Cowbird Jurple Finch	9 1CW 18 - 7 - 2 50 13 - 21 1 CW 5 - 5 298 - 2CW 5 9	1 25 - 3 9 45 2 1 4 - 3702 - 2 10 1 - 13 12 - 125 21 - 1 6 3 30 2 1 2510 130 16 - 1 2 - 19 2 - 8 2 - 1 - 15												
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evening Grosbeak House Sparrow Otal species	337 76 734 249 776 286 870 1117 252 220 2159 1180 72 21 35 57 54 73 68 75 38 36 57 79	- -												
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ommon Loon ied-billed Grebe łomed Grebe ouble-crested Cormoran freat Blue Heron	3 4 4 - 3	- - - 15	4	1 - 4	15	16 9 19	17	2	CW	2 - 1	1	- 1	2 - 16	20	1 7 - 47	CW 11 9	21	5 - 94	5	56 2 18	20	- 5	2	6	1	24	a 6 % 1 1	3 1*** 33	3 - 22	6	2	39	19	
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Canada Goose Wood Duck Green-winged Teal American Black Duck Mallard	2 - 75	1075 3 92 933	48 4 - - 127	265 452	134 - 5 209		12	-	300	1064 25 150	336	152	841 - - 11 189	741 2 CW 16 426	831 1 7 1045	156 - 50 535		8 2 71	445 - 146 1097	2 54	438 1 6 564	125 9 3 63 218	68	19 - 39	117 - - 24	1421 3 - 22 493	118 - 3 32	830 3 17 220	7 39	164 2 - - 32	25	141	2 118	
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	W. Central Region	Central Region South-	west Region Unglaciated Region
	Clark Co. 12/17/94 (44) Grand Lake St. Marys 12/18/94 (41) Greenville 12/18/94 (43) Indian Lake	Buckeye Lake 12/17/94 (56) Columbus 12/18/94 (55) Delaware Reservoir 12/19/94 (52) Hoover Reservoir 1/2/95 (53) Killdeer Plains 1/1/95 (50) Kingston 1/1/95 (50) Kingston 1/1/95 (50) Kingston 1/1/95 (50) Columbus 1/1/95 (50) Columbus 1/1/94 (57) Columbus 12/17/94 (54) Columbus 12/18/94 (65) Columbus 12/18/94 (65) Columbus 12/18/94 (65) Columbus 12/18/94 (65)	East Fork Lake S.P. 12/31/94 (67) Hamilton-Fairfield 12/17/94 (62) Ohio River (IN-KY-OH) 12/17/94 (64) Oxford 12/17/94 (61) Paint Creek Area 12/17/94 (65) Western Hamilton Co. 12/17/94 (63) Adams Co. 12/17/94 (82) Athens 12/17/94 (82) Athens 12/17/94 (84) Cadiz 12/17/94 (78) Beaver Valley 12/17/94 (79) Parkersburg (WV-OH) 12/17/94 (79) Parkersburg (WY-OH) 12/17/94 (71) Paggersville 12/17/94 (71) Washington Co. 12/17/94 (77)
Accipiter, sp. Red-shouldered Hawk Red-tailed Hawk Rough-legged Hawk Buteo, sp.	12 7 5 12 1CW	1	4 1 1 4 1 2 - 2 - 2 23 56 64 20 30 39 47 13 29 12 172 21 43 32 65 9 27 10 - - 41 2 3 3 1 1 1 2 4 - -
nawk, sp. Golden Eagle American Kestrel Peregrine Falcon ialcon, sp.	23 16 27 32	38 35 41 31 36 65 7 18 55 32 15 - CW	31 42 - 20 40 16 90 18 26 7 34 12 45 33 35 3 12 16
Ring-necked Pheasant Ruffed Grouse Wild Turkey Northern Bobwhite Virginia Rail		- 2 2 - CW 7 - 1	1 - 3 2 1 3 2 1 - 3 19 - 2 - 160 47 1 16 254 31 - 810CW 15 100 7 1 - 9 3 - 2 - 1*
American Coot Sandhill Crane Killdeer Dunlin Common Snipe	20 35 - 2 23 46 -98CW 3	9 27 - 1 - 2 - 67 1 - 9 - 30 - 6 - 1 - 1 3 - 1	47 34 26 45 - 2
American Woodcock Bonaparte's Gull Ring-billed Gull Herring Gull gull, sp.	150 1 600 1021 - 559 2 11 - 4	253 467 16 1838 2 2 - 18 1826 144 4 1 3 1	100 130
Rock Dove Mourning Dove Eastern Screech-Owl Great Horned Owl Barred Owl	368 46 154 138 239 90 96 249 2 4 3 2 1	220 2010 313 98 25 207 30 44 254 1205 96 684 1003 469 117 145 996 369 223 583 958 553 1 2 9 - 16 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 5 1 7 9 6 6 - 1 2 1 2 2 3 1	109 340 526 75 325 503 205 185 241 27 806 259 527 191 380 69 86 59 464 1032 1257 261 151 903 1068 223 402 10 1750 46 1337 212 795 63 512 151 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
ong-eared Owl Short-eared Owl Belted Kingfisher Red-headed Woodpecker Red-bellied Woodpecker	3 3 1 2 1 - 2 - 10 11 4 4	3 12 7 5 - 7 2 1 1 33 17 - 1 4 30 1 1 2 CW - 25 27 18 26 15 36 25 18 10 234 43	14 7 8 7 6 15 4 1 6 20 2 10 7 2 2 15 3 2 - 1 CW 9 - 29 - 5 2 - 20 1 52 26 78 38 21 84 36 29 33 4 304 7 64 20 162 8 - 18
ellow-beilied Sapsucker Downy Woodpecker Iairy Woodpecker Iorthern Flicker Pileated Woodpecker	56 46 25 39 14 - 12 6 2 11 6 1	- 1 - - 15 4 24 127 88 61 84 76 32 25 42 338 202 4 16 4 6 8 7 6 5 3 40 22 16 42 43 23 21 9 11 3 21 122 41 3 2 2 5 - 13 5 1 1 23 6	2 3 1 - 5 - 3 - 1 - 1 5 5 57 51 113 59 27 169 46 53 62 10 437 16 103 31 277 9 42 7 10 8 15 6 4 20 42 6 8 CW 83 1 17 6 68 2 9 17 29 16 36 14 18 33 43 4 26 - 111 10 35 10 62 3 14 13 10 5 3 6 3 7 27 22 22 3 61 7 46 20 22 3 26 3

	W. Central Region	Central Region	South- west Region	Unglaciated Region
htti	Clark Co. 12/17/94 (44) Grand Lake St. Marys 12/18/94 (41) Greenville 12/18/94 (43) Indian Lake	Buckeye Lake 12/17/94 (56) Columbus 12/18/94 (55) Delaware Reservoir 12/18/94 (52) Hovore Reservoir 11/2/95 (53) Killdeer Plains 11/195 (50) Kingston 11/195 (58) Lancaster 12/31/94 (57) Mt. Gilead 12/31/94 (51) O'Shaughnessy Reservoir 12/17/94 (54)	Cincinnati 12/26/94 (65) Dayton 12/18/94 (60) East Fork Lake S.P. 12/31/94 (67) Hamilton-Fairfield 12/17/94 (62) Ohio River (IN-KY-OH) 12/17/94 (64) Oxford 12/17/94 (61) Paint Creek Area 12/18/94 (66) Western Hamilton Co.	Adams Co. 12/17/94 (82) Athens 12/17/94 (78) Baaver Valley 12/17/94 (84) Cadiz 1/2/95 (72) Millersburg 12/17/94 (83) New Lexington 12/26/94 (75) Parkersburg (W-OH) 12/17/94 (70) Parkersburg (W-OH) 12/17/94 (70) Steubenville 12/17/94 (71) Washington Co. 12/17/94 (77) Zanesville 12/17/94 (77)
woodpecker, sp. Eastern Phoebe Horned Lark Barn Swallow Blue Jay	20 3 105 17 31 61 24 29	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 15 117 214 126 87 118 110 82 54 102	1 20 - 110 29 - 70 7 269 33 132 24 15 63 10 85	2 2 2 206 7 24 13 673 206 7 223 168 112 20 838 69 154 211 365 16 300 51
American Crow Black-capped Chickadee Carolina Chickadee chickadee, sp. Tufted Titmouse	10000 5 14 45 4 117 B0 50 26 	150 1115 100 107 124 624 203 65 146 145 145 147 131 171 146 147	2655 188 137 344 383 148 263 5896 1500 526 246 207 423 165 40 1020 597 119 76 60 169 63 33 375	640 267 412 260 915 155 403 378 979 109 242 107 - - - - 26 38 - - 16 - 1 19 143 188 140 15 713 10 127 100 370 24 118 - - - 62 - 284 - 42 - 23 - 143 85 94 5 607 11 174 102 327 21 70 20
Red-breasted Nuthatch White-breasted Nuthatch Brown Creeper Carolina Wren House Wren	5 22 24 15 16 9 22 9 4 8 9 1	- 3 2 - 1 - - - 27 66 63 57 63 58 32 30 18 3 75 10 2 11 18 5 - - 8 23 10 7 1 11 9 3 1	3 1 1 1 154 100 16 24 54 20 19 55 43 80 8 12 8 9 6 30 222 49 68 39 112 11 14 163	1 3 1 1 - 7
Winter Wren Marsh Wren Golden-crowned Kinglet Ruby-crowned Kinglet Eastern Bluebird	5 2 - 2 - 1 - 6 - 1 3CW	9 7 1 2 - 49 2 - 2 2 1 1 30 20 88 26 - 104 50 7 5	2 1 2 2 2 1 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 51 5	CW 1 2 1 4 2 1 1 1 - 1 - 1 CW* 61 29 93 - 73 7 29 13 70 2 59 - 1 7 7 201 69 181 14 436 53 137 75 312 12 33 11
Hermit Thrush American Robin Gray Catbird Northern Mockingbird Brown Thrasher	10 - 1 - 3 1	66 61 11 2 8 3 — 1 — 1CW 1 — 9 9 17 3 8 17 3 5 — 1	5 2207 749 260 210 200 423 10 692 1 1* 125 10 12 19 23 6 2 35	CW 1 4 1 4 4 4 291 3 5 10 61 2 42 29 406 17 18 22 11 25 1 51 4 57 26 29 6 3 1 - 1
American Pipit Cedar Waxwing Northern Shrike Loggerhead Shrike Shrike, sp.	87 - 1 -	- 6 231 5 1	17 52 115 - 1 47 - 3	CW* 9* 2 122 4 113 32 - 2 22 - 68 - 1* CW - CW - 1CW
European Starling Yellow-rumped Warbler Common Yellowthroat Northern Cardinal Rufous-sided Towhee	9000 400 826 2793	2138 3896 4961 1013 1269 4934 205 578 3058 - 4 20 - 5 - 5 - 1 110 755 223 155 111 242 179 73 119 3 3 1 1 - 1 4 1 -	6301 1602 2079 12452 2791 864 767 33663 10 23 - 5 - 3 16 2549 377 366 268 615 142 100 1191 65 3 7 4 43 2 1 14	1221 550 3454 171 2417 267 1906 722 3602 552 166 1912 150 3 14 - 4 1 27 2 7 - - - - 323 345 250 22 1644 105 361 146 1334 12 178 67 3 29 24 - 112 1 32 9 26 - 67 -
American Tree Sparrow Chipping Sparrow Field Sparrow Gavannah Sparrow Fox Sparrow	46 63 50 121 2	60 26 359 21 252 110 13 19 55 1 12 - 19 12 - 1	165 110 111 39 123 40 14 70 9 32 30 21 1 5 26 1 7 3	25 6 58 14 843 17 10 - 769 - 1 14 - 14 - 3 - 3 - 25 9 21 - 20 4 2 2 62 - 13 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 4

	W. Central Central Region S											So	uth-	west Region							Unglaciated Region												
	Clark Co. 12/17/94 (44) Grand Lake St. Marys 12/18/94 (41) Greenville	12/10/34 (43) Indian Lake 12/17/94 (42)	Buckeye Lake 12/17/94 (56)	Columbus 12/18/94 (55)	Delaware Reservoir 12/19/94 (52)	Hoover Reservoir 1/2/95 (53)	Killdeer Plains 1/1/95 (50)	Kingston 1/1/95 (58)	Lancaster 12/31/94 (57)	Mt. Gilead 12/31/94 (51)	O'Shaughnessy Reservoii 12/17/94 (54)	Cincinnati 12/26/94 (65)	Dayton 12/18/94 (60)		East Fork Lake S.P. 12/31/94 (67)	Hamilton-Fairfield 12/17/94 (62)	Ohio River (IN-KY-OH) 12/17/94 (64)	Oxford 12/17/94 (61)	Paint Creek Area 12/18/94 (66)	Western Hamilton Co. 12/18/94 (63)	Adams Co. 12/17/94 (82)	Athens 12/17/94 (78)	Beaver Valley 12/17/94 (84)	Cadiz 1/2/95 (72)	Millersburg 12/17/94 (83)	New Lexington 12/26/94 (75)	Parkersburg (WV-OH) 12/17/94 (79)	Portsmouth 12/17/94 (81)	Ragersville 12/27/94 (70)	Steubenville 12/17/94 (71)	Washington Co. 12/18/94 (77)	Zanesville 12/17/94 (74)	
Song Sparrow Swamp Sparrow White-throated Sparrow White-crowned Sparrow sparrow, sp.	58 103 53 3 4 4 - 8 27 -	96 - 52 89	54 - 3 12	152 2 196 9	92 7 10 13	24 3 9 2	41 10 CW 35	196 4 11 26	35 12 7	29	33 1 11	1128 14 891 71	124 95		237 8 84 2	181 3 51 10	799 78 152 45	77 24 2	49 8 3 10	597 40 389 8	69 8 38 46	170 3 22 33	199 11 35 7	1	1044 27 77 621	10	345 4 77 4	76 1 8 17	898 12 74 324	19	108 6 49 19	16	
Dark-eyed Junco Lapland Longspur Snow Bunting Red-winged Blackbird Rusty Blackbird	76 39 71	61	80 - 27	260	177 16 3	157	47	196 67 10	129	39 CW	91	614 - 360	473 - - 3		139	138 2042 10	167	136	67 20 40	222 62	471	55 - 55 -	174 - 1020 6CW	105	791 1 3 199 7	60	209 250 1***	65	844 8 CW	33 - 4	196	14	
olackbird, sp. Common Grackle Brown headed Cowbird Purple Finch House Finch	14 CW - 218 42 133	1 - - 24	14 2 359	- 25 854	1 301	7 - 124	1 - - 100	1 757 - 515	21 2 - 276	- - 321	12 - 183	8 4 6 438	16 - 2 422		2 - 277	491 3 566	26 227	13 71 - 120	- - 14	1056 252 753	3 CW 9 346	207	504 301 224	6 61	20 1 1 - 808	- CW - 164	CW - 676	4 30 3 157	5 299	- - 12	100 250 162	6	
Common Redpoll Pine Siskin American Goldfinch House Sparrow	49 22 25 279 326 308	6 34 1439	- 15 781	272 1734	307 959	105 230	85 587	80 472	32 257	85 117	106 761	721 623	- 171 652		153 86	102 494	184 188	- 33 136	19 199	2 513 1013	8 74 136	72 52	127 161	6 37	536 2473	45 139	2 209 333	70 230	306 1386	12 33	121 100	3 43	
total species total individuals observers party hours	64 54 35 23314 4667 2275 12 13 12 34.0 25.00 2450	8	15	66 16454 44 192.00	25	20	44 7287 1 16 44.75	29	23	34 2012 3 20.00	8	81 28447 80 188.00	62 9252 55 ??	1	13	20	69 10472 12 38.00	60 5437 37 ??	62 4033 11 26.50	20	73 7357 24 76.75	53 3354 13 36.00	64 8767 22 49.75	6	80 22832 70 271.00	43 1753 6 26.50	61 9433 ?? ??	59 3247 21 ??1	52	31 1105 5 17.00	54 3576 15 49.25	41 3387 4 ??	

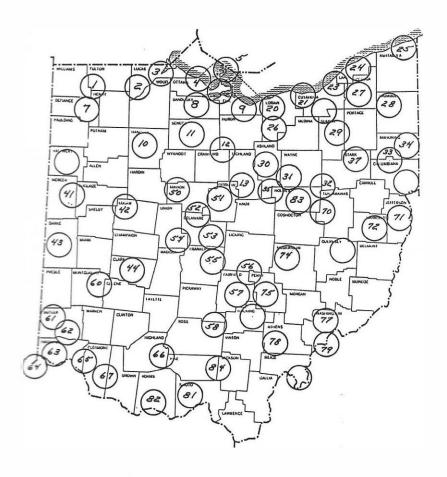
The Grapevine

Another Look at the Lapwing

A very rare bird visited Adams County on December 29 and 30, 1994. A Northern Lapwing, a native of Eurasia, provided Ohio's first record of the species. Martin McAllister, Southern Ohio Preserve Manager for ODNR's Division of Natural Areas and Preserves, first spotted the bird in a winter wheat field on Thursday, December 29 at 11:30 a.m., just west of Panhandle along Ohio 125. Martin saw it again at the same location at 12:30 p.m. At 4:00 p.m., Martin showed it to Chris Bedel, Preserve Director for the Edge of Appalachia Preserve, and to Suzanne Chouteau of Cincinnati. Chris alerted various birding hotlines, and for the next three days birders came with their binoculars and scopes hoping for a view. Only the first 20 got to see the bird because it left about 10:15 a.m. on Friday, and was not seen again. Another dozen or more people arrived throughout the day Friday, including one couple from Michigan who had driven 6.5 hours to get there. Several waited until dark but the bird did not return. Someone located a seldom-seen Loggerhead Shrike nearby and many had to settle with that as the best bird of the day. Local residents were curious but tolerant of the many cars slowly cruising the back roads; the owner of the wheat field was very cooperative about allowing birders to be on the property. I did not keep track of the birders on Saturday, but a Toledo man who stayed over to Sunday said that there were quite a few people looking for the lapwing that day, and that he saw licence plates from Georgia and Pennsylvania. Even though he did not find the lapwing, the Toledo man was able to add several birds to his life list. He was pleased enough to say that he plans to return again to see some of the other special birds for which Adams County is noted. Nature tourism is largely unrecognized and unappreciated in Adams County, but it does exist. By preserving habitat now, Adams County might be able to develop a greatly increased nature tourism business in the future. By Barbara A. Lund, 2635 Hamilton Road, Lynx, OH 45650-9714.

A Winter Pine Warbler in Wilmington

On January 23, 1995 a morning trip to fill our backyard Wilmington (Clinton Co.) bird feeder brought an exciting surprise. At those low temperatures, with snow and ice on the ground, I certainly did not expect to see a warbler fly from a nearby tree and perch within three feet of me. I was sure it was a warbler, but was uncertain about the species. I noted the warbler bill, fairly bright yellow throat, white undertail coverts, two whitish wing bars, very light streaking on the sides and front (forming a sort of necklace), and a lack of streaking on the olive-green back. It stayed around for about two minutes, giving me plenty of time to study it. After consulting with Jon Dunn and checking my field guides and warbler books, I was virtually certain that it was a Pine Warbler. On February 11, the warbler returned to make at least four trips to the feeder. That night the temperature hit five degrees below zero. It did not seem possible that the warbler could survive, but the next day it appeared again, feeding on mixed seed at the feeder and on the ground. On the 12th I shot pictures through our kitchen window, several of which were clear enough for Jon Dunn to identify it as a first-year male Pine Warbler- the first Pine Warbler in our 32 years of living at this house. Ultimately, the bird would remain into early March. I want to express thanks to Jon Dunn for helping me positively identify this bird. By Larry Gara, 21 Faculty Place, Wilmington, OH 45177.



Ohio Christmas Bird Count Map

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION if this line is checked_____

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