

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

*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 of the state. Report forms are not a necessity but will be supplied upon request. Unusual species should be documented, and forms to do so are available upon request from the Editor, Publisher, and Records Committee Secretary.

### Seasonal Report Due Dates

Winter (Dec.-Feb.) - March 25  
Spring (Mar.-May) - June 25  
Summer (Jun.-Jul.) - August 25  
Fall (Aug.-Nov.) - December 25

### Please send all reports to:

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## Subscriptions

The subscription rate for one year (four issues) is \$15.00. Please send all subscription and change of address requests to:

*The Ohio Cardinal*  
c/o Edwin C. Pierce  
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## The Ohio Cardinal

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*On the cover: Northern Wheatear* - Big Island Wildlife Area, Marion Co., 9 November 1999. Photo by Vic Fazio.

## A Note from the Editor

The magazine you hold is a missing link. Over recent years, *The Ohio Cardinal* fell behind schedule; issues eventually appeared, but the seasons they covered had faded in readers' memories. In the spring of 1999, we envisioned that a former editor would continue issuing back numbers through that for summer of 1998, and the current editor would re-establish regular and prompt publication of new ones. This plan is working, but it left issues for fall of 1998 and winter of 1998-99 in a sort of limbo, from which the present omnibus issue rescues them at last.

Vol. 22, Nos. 1&2 is pre-eminently the work of guest editor Bob Conlon, whose skills have been of great service to *The Ohio Cardinal* in the past, and are once again amply—one may well say doubly—displayed herein. Once again we feature Ned Keller's customarily elegant review of the season's Christmas Bird Counts. We offer several articles: Don Burton's elucidation of last year's strange waterbird fallout, Jeff Grabmeier's strategies for birding Lake La Su An WA, and Frank Renfrow's account of the avian treasures of the Hocking Hills.

Three issues remain, and we are pleased they are in the competent hands of Vic Fazio; he tells us two numbers, bound as one like this one, are planned to go to the printer in April, and the final one in August. Subscribers should understand that none of these back issues is free, either for us or for them. All subscriptions bring four issues of *The Ohio Cardinal*; because back issues count among those four, a subscription may last less than a year, at least for a while to come. This reminds us to remind readers that our bulk mailing license (which reduces our expenses and keeps subscription prices down) does not permit the forwarding of issues if you change your mailing address; please be sure to notify the Publisher if you move, so that your issues continue uninterrupted. We hope you will be able to sort out the flocks of Cardinals on your porch into the old ones and the new, and will enjoy and profit from them all.

*Bill Whan*



These photos of a Purple Sandpiper at Headlands Beach State Park, Lake Co., were taken on 28 November 1998. The photo on the right could have been used as a troublesome photo quiz, but we decided against it. Photos by Bob Finkelstein.