

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
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On the Cover: Long-billed Curlew - Holmes Co., 1 October 1999. Photo by Bruce Glick.

Autumn 1999 Overview

by Bill Whan

The fall season hung around like a pumpkin neglected on the porch, fermenting, then puckering and falling in upon itself, till it had endured long past its prime and its appointed time. Once again the season was unusually warm and dry, bidding to establish a significantly lengthy trend, especially for temperatures. Here in the central part of the state, for example, in no month over the past two years has the average temperature failed to exceed historical averages by at least two—and as much as 11.1—degrees Fahrenheit. This fall, fewer storm systems grounded fewer southbound migrants, allowing more than usual to pass unnoticed, and fewer of the sought-after but generally regular strays (e.g., eared grebe, ibis spp., parasitic jaeger, Sabine's gull, etc.) were driven our way by the weather.

On the other hand, lower Lake Erie levels (September's level was 1.4 feet lower than that of September '98, and 2.3 feet lower than that of September '97) did attract more migrant shorebirds. Record numbers (see the BSBO report in this issue) showed up on undiked portions of the lakeshore, such as near Sheldon Marsh and Conneaut harbor, and reduced flow, due to drought in the interior, further transformed the estuaries of waterways like Crane Creek and the Huron River into spectacular wader habitat. Inland, many areas wet in spring were dry by mid-August, but large bodies of water shrank, with choice spots like Berlin Reservoir inviting numbers of shorebirds that rivaled the throngs at places like Crane Creek.

For passerines, experienced observers reported a rather thin but protracted fall migration. Few falls or big counts were noticed, and lower peaks than usual seemed to be balanced by a migration that lasted long enough to set some records and near-records for late occurrences. Encouraging or not—depending upon whether one roots for birds or for trees—were regional outbreaks of spruce budworms, leading to better numbers of the Cape May warblers so scarce in recent years. Banding data in West Virginia confirmed that they, along with fellow budworm-specialists Tennessee and bay-breasted warblers, were indeed more numerous than the most recent ten-year average, though still 30% below the long-term average.

Few of the predicted record tide of waterfowl appeared during the period, seemingly at least in part because unfrozen northern waters induced them to linger, and also because the prairie potholes of mid-continent produced the bulk of this year's increase. Eastern Canada—which produces most of the ducks and geese passing through Ohio—had a correspondingly less productive breeding season. Larid rarities were few, though a pomarine jaeger near Cincinnati was rare enough to suit anyone. Franklin's gulls, even if their numbers fell short of last fall's, made a good showing, and the beleaguered black tern undertook an excellent twelve-day statewide sweep—excellent, that is, by the meager standards of recent years.

The disadvantageous placement, for purposes of fall hawk-watching, of Lake Erie does not excuse the low numbers of raptors reported in the state of late. Compare our paltry numbers of broad-winged hawks with the staggering 501,000 counted on 17 Sept only 30 miles to our north at Lake Erie MP in Michigan. Where do these birds go, if not through Ohio? Reports to Southeast Michigan Raptor Research added up to 665,512 raptors this fall, with record numbers of sharp-shinned, broad-winged, and Swainson's hawks (14), golden eagles (245), and peregrine falcons (93). Much of

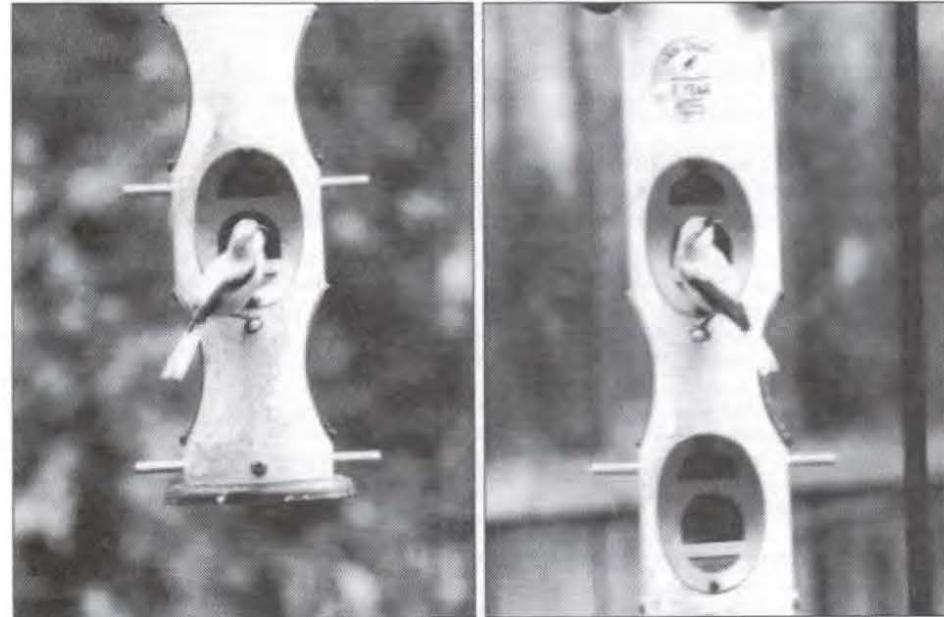
Ohio's overall deficit is doubtless a matter of geography, as most of our northern border is dominated by Lake Erie, where the concentrating effect of the lakefront on raptors unwilling to cross wide stretches of water is much less marked here in the fall because Ohio is then on the side opposite the birds' approach. Raptors less choosy about crossing lakes, such as accipiters and falcons, were seen in promising numbers by the few who systematically looked for them on the lakeshore.

Apparently it was shortfalls in certain seed crops in Canada that compelled a significant invasion—or at least a promising beginning for one—of boreal passersines: crossbills, some grosbeaks, and large numbers of siskins and redpolls, as well as shrikes. A massive movement of red-breasted nuthatches very early in the season may have presaged that of the “winter finches” later, even though it was not perhaps of record proportions locally; time will tell if 1989-90’s counts of the species on CBCs (75 on that for Grand Rapids/Waterville, 68 on that for Mohican SP) will be equaled next season. Hawk Mountain in Pennsylvania reported the highest counts of purple finches in years, but their numbers seemed fairly normal in Ohio. The Cornell Lab observed a frequent correlation between numbers of northern shrikes and those of snowy owls, but the owls have yet to show up here, even though it should be a good shrike year. As for crossbills, reds are more widespread in our region, breeding in the mountains even well to our south, but this season white-wings took over, and were reported as far south as Fort Worth, Texas, to the west, and to the east in southeastern Virginia.

A decent number of rarities were found this fall. Eleven Review Species were reported, and for eight of them details were sent to the Ohio Bird Records Committee; those for whom the documentation was sufficiently diagnostic are included in the OBRC report later in this issue as accepted; others did not adequately verify the occurrences of the species in question, and still others are undergoing further examination or awaiting new information. Most would agree the season’s best bird was a long-billed curlew, found by alert birders of Holmes County in October. A couple of occurrences of species—pomarine jaeger and Philadelphia vireo—which, while not on the Review list, were of considerable interest because the jaeger was seen so far from Lake Erie, and the vireo found so late in the year, were sent in for inclusion in the official record, and subsequently accepted.

A few irrepressible words about volunteers are added in closing. People who freely offer their time, their results from birding, and their expertise make everything this magazine covers possible. Here’s one example: twelve separate observers went out in seven counties on 3 November this year, often in driving snow, and happened to report the number of tundra swans they’d seen. While perhaps not vitally important individually, in the aggregate their observations helped us to see a major movement of 725+ swans, accompanied by a storm front, across the state on that day. Curious birders are discovering fall hawk-watching sites, migrant traps for passersines, techniques for finding certain birds, old records we hadn’t taken account of, and once in a while even a new species for the state list. If you are impressed with the bird reports we pass along from the Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge census, or the Black Swamp Bird Observatory censuses, or the Audubon Society’s Christmas Bird Counts, get in touch with these organizations to add your efforts. *The Ohio Cardinal*, like your local birding publication, depends on volunteer efforts: reports of birds seen, photographs and artwork, articles and notes. If you benefit from the information others share with you, consider adding to our shared knowledge some of your own.

The following reports follow the taxonomic order of the 7th edition of *The AOU Checklist of North American Birds* (1998). Underlined names of species indicate those on the OBRC Review List; adequate documentation is needed to add reports of these species to the official state records. County names are supplied for certain locations, and appear *italicized*. Other abbreviations should be readily understood, with the possible exceptions of the following: CBC=Christmas Bird Count; CVNRA=Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area; *fide*=“in trust of,” said of data conveyed on behalf of another; Killbuck=Killbuck Wildlife Area; Killdeer=Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area; Magee=Magee Marsh Wildlife Area; Metzger=Metzger Marsh Wildlife Area; MP=Metropark; m obs=many observers; MWF=Miami-Whitewater Forest; MWL=Miami-Whitewater Wetlands; NWR=National Wildlife Refuge; OBRC=Ohio Bird Records Committee; ONWRC=monthly census conducted at Ottawa, reported herein by E. Pierce; Ottawa=Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge; Res=reservoir; Res’n=reservation; RTLS=Ravenna Training and Logistics Site, referring herein to a Portage site surveyed by L. Rosche *et al.*; SF=State Forest; SNP=State Nature Preserve; SP=State Park; WA=Wildlife Area; ~=approximately.



This odd-plumaged chickadee visited a Cincinnati feeder in November 1999. Photo by Hank Armstrong.

The Reports

Red-throated Loon: Better than average numbers, and during a narrow span: J. Pogačnik had the first at Lakeshore MP, *Lake*, on 3 Nov, then four there on 14 Nov, two on 15 Nov, and another on the 29th. Of 14 smaller loons seen on 7 Nov at Old Woman Ck, *Erie*, V. Fazio was confident at least four were of this species. Two significant inland records in the west were one on Paulding Res on 17 Nov (**M&D Dunakin**) and two on Bresler Res, *Allen*, on 22 Nov (J. Ruedisueli). One was a flyby over *Holmes* on 29 Nov (E. Schlabach).

Common Loon: One on Findlay Res on 2 Oct (D. Linzell, G. Fluke) may well have been one reported by B. Hardesty there on 3 Aug. Four arrived at Pymatuning Res, *Ashtabula*, on 10 Oct (C. Holt). The bulk of arriving birds appeared during the fourth week of Oct, with 83 birds reported Oct 23-25. One in alternate plumage was off Huron on 3 Nov (J. Hammond, D. Sanders). 83 were flying over *Holmes* on 15 Nov. High count was at least 760 birds in a dawn flight off Old Woman Ck, *Erie*, 7 Nov (V. Fazio).

Pied-billed Grebe: The first reported migrants were two at Findlay Res on 7 Sept (B. Hardesty), and four at East Fork SP on 9 Sept, where their numbers grew to 30 by 22 Oct (both H. Armstrong). No huge numbers reported: 21 were on the *Portage* lakes on 11 Oct (L. Rosehe), 32 on the Magee census on 17 Oct (H&S Hiris), and 38 on the ONWR census on 7 Nov.

Horned Grebe: No one claimed its numbers as above average this season. 28 were at Wilmington Res on 2 Oct (L. Gara) for the earliest report, and the high count was 94 at Lakeshore MP on 12 Nov (J. Pogačnik).

Red-necked Grebe: Skimpy numbers, but not unusually so. The best find was one at Alum Ck Res, *Delaware*, on 20 Oct (B. Shively). A basic-plumaged bird was at E 55th St in Cleveland 24 Oct (C. Rieker), and J. Pogačnik had two at Lakeshore MP on 12 Nov.

Eared Grebe: Only one report—one at Pymatuning Res on 10 Oct (C. Holt).

American White Pelican: The Ottawa duo continued from July to at least 3 Oct (T. Kemp, G. Links). One was off East Harbor SP on 20 Nov (J. Hammond *et al.*), and three spent a couple of days in Dayton after being found by R. Dennier (*fide* C. Mathena) for a nice inland record.

Double-crested Cormorant: Four were at Buck Ck SP on 14 Aug, swelling to 100 the following day (D. Overacker), and 407 were censused on Kelley's Isl by 20 Aug (T. Bartlett). Inland high was 1775 at Miamitown, *Hamilton*, on 3 Oct (P. Wharton). On Lake Erie, the largest numbers were encountered during a two-day period, 1000+ at Headlands Beach SP (B. Winger *et al.*) and ~5000 off S. Bass Isl (S. Wulkowicz), both on 24 Oct, after 9000+ at East Harbor SP on 23 Oct (J. Pogačnik).

American Bittern: This species can be seen well past the end of the period, but this fall's few reports were early: one in Carroll on 14-15 Aug (L&E Schlabach), one at Sheldon Marsh SNP on 23 Aug (P. Sherwood), one on the dunes at Headlands Beach SP on 29 Aug (R. Hannikman), quite possibly the same bird at the same place the following day (H. Petruschke), and one at Paint Ck WA, *Highland*, on 13 Sept (R. Kolde).

Least Bittern: Three were reported on the Magee census of 19 Sept (H&S Hiris).

Great Blue Heron: High count was 194 on 1 Aug on the ONWR census. Inland, 49 were at Mosquito Lk WA on 28 Oct (D. Ferris). As late as 29 Nov 75 were at East Harbor SP (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner).

Great Egret: Migrants showed up in Aug well inland, with seven on the 15th at Greenlawn Dam, Columbus (R. Cressman), three in *Tuscarawas* on the 21st (E. Schlabach), and one on the 26th at Alum Ck SP (B. Shively). High numbers were at ONWR, with census counts of 200 on 1 Aug diminishing only to 177 on 3 Oct. Six were at Indian Ck, *Brown*, on 1 Sept (L. Gara), ten at Berlin Res on 6 Sept (C. Holt), six at Mosquito Lk WA on 19 Sept (C. Holt), and 12 at Killdeer on 11 Oct (B. Shively). Latest report two at Ottawa on 28 Nov (J. Pogačnik).

Snowy Egret: Strangely few reports. The four Ottawa censuses found only one bird, on 5 Sept. J. Pogačnik had one at Medusa Marsh on 22 Aug, and two there on 19 Sept. Up to five were at Pipe Ck WA during the third week of Aug (P. Sherwood).

Little Blue Heron: An immature was at Hueston Wds SP on 11 Aug (D. Russell, J. Dansard), and another was at ONWR on 14 Aug (B. Whan *et al.*). P. Sherwood had three at Pipe Ck WA on 13 Aug.

Cattle Egret: Nine were seen on the ONWR census on 1 Aug. A bird in the cloverleaf of I-71 and I-76 in *Medina* (J. Dunn) persisted there till at least 26 Aug (G. Emmert, S. Veres). Three were near Medusa Marsh on 19 Sept (J. Pogačnik), and an immature was in Seneca on 30-31 Oct (V. Fazio).

Green Heron: Fifteen migrants were at Indian Ck, *Brown*, on 2 Aug (L. Gara). High count was 20 at Buckeye Lk (S. Landes) on 7 Sept. Latish was a bird in *Mahoning* on 29 Sept (N. Brundage), and decided so were one in *Hancock* on 12 Oct (S. Ross, K. Noblet), and one on 16 Oct at Gordon Pk, Cleveland (S. Zadar).

Black-crowned Night-Heron: Inland, R. Cressman had two ad and 2 juv at Greenlawn Dam in Columbus on 15 Aug, and 3 ad and 3 juv there on the 18th. Two ad and two juv were at Buckeye Lk on 26 Aug (G. Buckey). High count was 48 on the ONWR census on 1 Aug, and 47 were roosting at Turning Point Isl off Sandusky on 29 Nov (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner); one immature was found on 30 Nov in Oliver Twp, *Adams*, (C. Bedel), consorting with exotic pinioned waterfowl. From 1-7 birds were at the traditional Merwin St location in Cleveland between 11 Sept and 26 Oct (P. Lozano).

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: Not a good year, with very few reports from traditional haunts. An immature was reported at Greenlawn Dam on 18 Aug (R. Cressman).

Ibis sp.: The only *Plegadis* report was of one on 26 Sept in Lorain (T. Gilliland, m obs, *fide* P. Lozano).

Black Vulture: ~150 reported in the usual areas. Three were over Buckeye Lk on 26 Aug (G. Buckey). 35 in *Holmes* on 28 Nov may have been a record county high (J. Beechy).

Turkey Vulture: Nine were over Kelley's Isl on the 20 Aug census (T. Bartlett). High count was ~500 on 13 Oct at Acton Lk, the flock joined by a soaring short-eared owl (D. Russell). Nov reports for the northern counties included one on the 12th at the CVNRA (M. Gallaway, C. Rieker), one on the 25th at the Cleveland Zoo (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner), and two on the CVNRA on the 28th (D&A Chasar).

Greater White-fronted Goose: Versus last fall's 150+ birds, no reports this year.

Snow Goose: 82 birds reported statewide, at seven locations. Earliest were one white and four blue morphs at Kelley's Isl on 25 Sept (J. Pogačnik).

Canada Goose: K. Metcalf noted neckbands of the first Hudson Bay migrants in *Cuyahoga* on 14 Sept. 1018 were counted at Magee on 19 Sept (H&S Hiris).

Mute Swan: Some signs of increase. D. Conover reported six south of Dayton on 25 Sept. Numbers were heftiest at East Harbor SP, where R. Harlan and Sa. Wagner had 30 on 29 Nov; earlier, J. Pogačnik noted no fewer than 70 on 2 Nov at the same locale.

Tundra Swan: Numbers overall were not exceptional. J. Brumfield reported the summering bird at Sheldon Marsh was still present on 21 Aug. First migrants were reported on 22 Oct—14 at Ladue (A. Fondrk) and 22 at Gordon Pk (C. Rieker). Extraordinary was a massive statewide movement on 3 Nov: D. Best reported big flights of 325+ during a snowstorm at five Geauga locations, the Dunakins 135 in *Paulding*, W. Shively 21 at Killdeer, the Hochadels 180 in Trumbull, D. Ferris 80 at Ladue, and S. Wulkowicz the arrival at S. Bass Isl of 13 birds which stayed the month.

Wood Duck: Customarily widespread, warm weather encouraged lingerers, as two on the CVNRA (D&A Chasar) and one in Geauga (H. Hendrickson), both on 28 Nov.

Gadwall: 28 birds reported in Aug included one in *Paulding* (M&D Dunakin), 3 at Ottawa (J. Pogačnik), and one at Sheldon Marsh SNP (Z. Baker). ~900 were counted by V. Fazio on 26 Oct at Ottawa, and

the much smaller Medusa Marsh hosted ~250 on 11 Nov (M. Gallaway, C. Rieker) and ~150 on 29 Nov (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner).

American Wigeon: Early on, one was at Big Island WA on 16 Aug (Z. Baker, B. Barchus) and two at Killbuck on the 30th (S. Snyder). High count was 4232 on the 17 Oct Magee census (H&S Hiris).

American Black Duck: Seven on the ONWR census on 5 Sept may have been local breeders; the provenance of one at Buck Ck SP (D. Overacker) the following day is more inscrutable. High count was ~600 at Ottawa on 26 Oct (V. Fazio).

Mallard: 825 were seen on the ONWR census of 5 Sept, then ~2500 on V. Fazio's big waterfowl day there on 26 Oct. Magee Marsh censuses tallied 670 on 19 Sept, 1489 on 17 Oct, and 1217 on 21 Nov (H&S Hiris).

Blue-winged Teal: A bird was on the Paulding Sewage Lagoons from 28 Aug to 8 Oct (D&M Dunakin). Twenty were at Mosquito Lk WA on 4 Sept (D&J Hochadel), then 565 at Ottawa for the census the following day. Latest report was one at East Harbor SP on 20 Nov (J. Hammond *et al.*).

Northern Shoveler: Six were seen as early as 21 Aug at Berlin Res (C. Holt). High count was a healthy 778 on the Magee census of 17 Oct (H&S Hiris). A single male was seen on 23 Oct off S. Bass Isl, where the species is "extremely rare" according to veteran observer S. Wulkowicz.

Northern Pintail: High count was 305 birds at Ottawa on 31 Oct (V. Fazio). Inland numbers seemed unusually sparse.

Green-winged Teal: August birds included two at Ottawa on the 7th, probably some of the local breeders, and ten at Mosquito Lk WA on the 23rd (J&D Hochadel), and one at the Grand River WA on the 28th (N. Barber). High count was 1400 on 3 Oct's ONWR census. 65 were at Greenlawn Dam in Columbus on 3 Nov (R. Cressman). Late in the period on 28 Nov, two were on the CVNRA (A&D Chasar) and one in Lorain (T. Gilliland, *fide* P. Lozano).

Canvasback: Earliest reported was in Mahoning (N. Brundage) on 29 Sept, followed by one on 4 Oct in Paulding (M&D Dunakin). 59 was an excellent count in Hancock (B. Hardesty) on 26 Oct. Statewide high was 107 on 3 Nov at Lakeshore MP (J. Pogaenik).

Redhead: Scarce. Six passed Lakeshore MP on 30 Sept (J. Pogaenik), and 4 Oct brought a bird to Paulding (D&M Dunakin) and one to Mentor (L. Rosche). Pogaenik noted six on 14 Oct at Lakeshore, and C. Holt found 15 on Wellington Res, Lorain, on 22 Nov.

Ring-necked Duck: First noted were three at Mogadore Res on 27 Sept (L. Rosche). Numbers burgeoned later, as the same observer found the following in Shalersville Twp, Portage: 220 on 17 Oct, 1060 on 27 Oct, and 1200 on 13 Nov.

Greater Scaup: On 17 Oct, J. Pogaenik had two at Lakeshore MP, and the Dunakins two at Paulding Res. One was off Sherod Pk in Vermilion on 3 Nov (J. Hammond), two at Wellington Res on 13 Nov (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner), and one at Buck Ck SP on 28 Nov (D. Overacker), with another near Dayton the same day (K. Gaskill). That's it.

Lesser Scaup: One was at Ottawa on 4 Sept (A. Goloda), and one on the ONWR census the following day; the census found only one there on 7 Nov. J. Pogaenik had 46 at Lakeshore MP 14 Oct, and R. Harlan and Sa. Wagner 600 at East Harbor SP 29 Nov.

Surf Scoter: 86 birds reported. High count, and earliest, was 29 adults passing Lakeshore MP on 7 Oct (J. Pogaenik). Latest of period was 2 off Headlands Beach SP on 28 Nov (L. Rosche, R. Hannikman). No inland reports.

White-winged Scoter: Down from last fall's 33 birds, a more normal 10 this year, all in November, the highest count five males and a female at Ottawa on the 6th (V. Fazio).

Black Scoter: 36 birds in 19 reports, beginning with five birds at Headlands Beach SP on 14 Oct (K. Metcalf). C. Holt had ten birds at Conneaut on 3 Oct.

Oldsquaw: It seems the rising tide of nomenclatural insipidity will soon reduce this bird's name to "long-tailed duck," but we will retain the old one here until the last possible minute. Nine birds total: three on 24 Oct at Huron (D. Sanders), one at Lakeshore MP on 15 Nov (J. Pogaenik), four at Huron on 18 Nov (D. Horn), and a female at East Fork SP on 25 Nov (D. Timberlake).

Bufflehead: The first reported was far inland at Wilmington Res, with a significant 28 birds on 1 Oct (L. Gara). On 5 Oct the first was noted at the Lake, off S. Bass Isl, by D. Sanders; numbers there grew to ~500 by 18 Nov (S. Wulkowicz). That the islands are an important area for this species seemed further supported by discovery of a record 938 birds off Kelley's Isl on 20 Nov (T. Bartlett).

Common Goldeneye: Sparse in this warm fall. A few showed up during the third week of October—one at Lakeshore on the 14th (J. Pogaenik), 13 at Magee on the 17th (H&S Hiris), and one at Findlay on the 19th (B. Hardesty)—but by the end of the period the high count was only 30 on Mosquito Lk WA on 7 Nov (C. Holt).

Hooded Merganser: The first apparent migrant showed up 14 Oct at Lakeshore (J. Pogaenik); the high count was 290 birds at Lk Rockwell, Portage 25 Nov (L. Rosche).

Common Merganser: Characteristically small fall numbers, the first, six at Lakeshore on 14 Oct (J. Pogaenik). High count was only 40 females on 20 Nov at East Harbor SP (J. Hammond *et al.*).

Red-breasted Merganser: A bird was regularly seen off E 55th St in Cleveland from late July through Aug (P. Lozano, m obs). The first migrant was off Lakeshore MP on 23 Sept (J. Pogaenik). By Nov, numbers of passing birds tried the patience of counters; two who persisted were V. Fazio, who tallied ~42,000 off Old Woman Ck on 7 Nov in 40 minutes, and J. Pogaenik, who counted 23,670 off Lakeshore MP on 25 Nov.

Ruddy Duck: A probable summering bird was at Beach City Dam, Tuscarawas, on 12 Aug (L. Yoder), as may have been two seen on Sandusky Bay on 13 Sept (J. Hammond, B. Conlon). Big numbers as usual were at inland reservoirs: ~2000 at Mogadore on 29 Oct (L. Rosche), 750 at Bresler and 1000 at Metzger, both Allen, on 13 Nov (D. Dister), and 500 the same day at Wellington, Lorain, by R. Harlan and Sa. Wagner.

Osprey: 59 sightings reported. Holiday Beach MBO in MI reported the species down 40% from the average. August records here—the 2nd at Sheldon Marsh (M. Zuilhof), two on the 7th at Medusa Marsh (N. Lindberg), one at Findlay on the 10th (B. Hardesty), one on the 15th at Millstone Hills GC, Huron (G. Emmert), one at Berlin Res on the 16th (C. Holt), one at EFSP on the 27th (H. Armstrong)—may represent spillover from Wildlife's reintroduction program. The latest report was on a bird at Ottawa on 6 Nov (V. Fazio).

Bald Eagle: 73 sightings reported. High count was on the ONWR census of 5 Sept, with 20 imm and 2 adults noted.

Northern Harrier: 123 sightings reported. August birds make one wonder about Ohio breeding; much needs to be learned here. An adult male was in Marion on 7 Aug (N. Lindberg), an imm at MWW on the 11th (P. Wharton), one in Hancock on the 17th (B. Hardesty), and one in Portage on the 24th (C. Holt). High counts were 16 by the ONWR census on 7 Nov, and 16 at Killdeer on 30 Nov (R. Semper).

Sharp-shinned Hawk: 137 sightings reported. One early migrant popped up at Mosquito Lk WA on 16 Aug (D&J Hochadel). High count was 39 on a hawk census at Kelley's Isl on 2 Oct (K. Metcalf), a spot excellent for accipiters and falcons this season.

Northern Goshawk: One report, an imm on 20 Nov on Kelley's Isl (T. Bartlett). Holiday Beach MBO reported this species' numbers were 50% below average this fall.

Red-shouldered Hawk: Migrants seem to have passed unnoticed here. High count was 8 on the CVNRA survey (*fide D. Chasar*) of 18 Sept.

Broad-winged Hawk: L. Rosche had one on the RTLS 8 Sept, J. Pogacnik five at Lakeshore MP 17 Sept, then one 27 Sept at Girdled Rd Res'n, Lake. Galling is the record 501,000 birds at Lake Erie MP in Michigan on 17 Sept, all or most of which probably passed unnoticed through Ohio. A good find was a pair of broadwings over Clermont on the very late date of 29 Oct, heard calling and satisfactorily described by D. Morse.

Red-tailed Hawk: High count was 15 at Oak Openings MP on 7 Nov (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner). Two dark-morph birds were reported, one at Ottawa on 6 Nov (V. Fazio) and another in Toledo on 26 Nov (J. Grabmeier). Ken Brock estimates that one of every 200 redtails in the Middlewestern Prairie region is of the dark form. E. Young (*fide D. Best*), on the other hand, reported a very pale individual in Montville Twp, Geauga, through the period and for the second year in a row.

Rough-legged Hawk: Scarcer than last year. Migrants passing through SE Michigan were reportedly 43% below average numbers. Here, 42 sightings were reported. K. Metcalf reported the species made a good showing in the NE, but any good numbers in the grasslands south of there seem to have gone unnoticed; the coming season will tell.

Golden Eagle: A very good showing regionally. SE Michigan hawk-watchers reported the species at double the average numbers, with 245 sightings. C. Rieker described an imm over Parma 24 Oct, three days before hawk-watchers tallied a record 43 at Lk Erie MP in Michigan. R. Schlabach had an imm over his farm in Holmes 25 Oct. L. Rosche had an imm over the RTLS on 27 Oct, and M. Dunakin found another over Antwerp, Paulding, on 1 Nov. M. McAllister a subadult over West Union, Adams on 5 Nov, and D. Sanders, J. Hammond, and B. Whan a subadult over Oak Openings MP on 8 Nov.

American Kestrel: Numbers were below average at the SE Mich watch sites, but L. Rosche stated the species "seems to be improving" at the other end of the state in the NE. High count was 28 on 24 Aug in Hancock (*fide B. Hardesty*).

Merlin: Sighting by sighting, numbers added to an excellent 43 in Ohio. August sightings—on the 3rd at Findlay (B. Hardesty), the 25th in Clermont (D. Morse), and the 29th at The Wilds, Muskingum (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner) encourage dreams the species will resume nesting in the state.

Peregrine Falcon: 41 birds sighted, from 6 Aug at MW (J. Rakestraw) to the end of the period. The best show may have been along the old Cedar Pt Causeway on 25 Oct, where one was seen by R. Harlan and Sa. Wagner carrying a still-living male cardinal, itself chased by two adult bald eagles.

Wild Turkey: Maximum was 50 on 17 Nov in Perintown, Clermont, by K. Michels. Dry weather—and lots of seventeen-year cicadas—benefited poult, whose ratio relative to hens increased by 60% over last year. The fall turkey kill was 3071 birds in 25 counties, up 149% from last year. The first statewide spring hunting season will be 24 Apr-14 May.

Ruffed Grouse: Few reports. ODW censused 1829 turkey hunters, who in 5520 hours afield in Sept encountered only 150 grouse, down 17% from last year.

Yellow Rail: Two reports of this elusive species. One, on 14 Aug at Big Island WA, was documented for the OBRC, which is still considering the matter; the other, one on 30 Sept at Gordon Pk (D. Sanders, J. Hammond), was accepted by the OBRC.

King Rail: Three reports of this locally troubled species: one at Calvin's Pond, Mahoning, a nice find on 29 Sept (C. Keppler), as were one on 22 Aug at Ottawa (J. Lehman), and one at Sheldon Marsh SNP on 12 Oct (L. Sediak).

Sora: Only 32 birds reported. One on 19 Aug on S. Bass Isl was a good find (S. Wulkowicz). High count 12-15 at Killbuck 25 Sept (J. Beechy).

Common Moorhen: 29 sightings reported, the latest on 8 Oct at Killbuck (S. Snyder); high count was 2 ad and 9 juv at Metzger Marsh WA on 5 Aug (D&J Hoffman).

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American Coot: Magee had 1034 on 19 Sept, then 8204 on 17 Oct (H&S Hiris); Ottawa had 104 on 5 Sept and 1045 on 3 Oct on the census. 100+ were at Metzger Marsh WA on 16 Sept (B&A Tonoff). Inland, ~600 were at Killbuck 27 Oct, diminishing to 9 at the end of the period (S. Snyder), and ~500 at Camp Dennison, Hamilton 26 Nov (B. Stanley).

Sandhill Crane: Numbers were down from last fall—less than 400—and many reports were early. One remained from the previous period at Lorain airport (P. Jones); the same observer noted the usual pair at Killbuck on 15 Aug. Two adults and one imm were extensively traced by Geauga birders through Auburn Twp from 27 Aug through the end of the period (D. Ferris, D. Best, B. Faber, L. Rosche, A. Fondrk, *et al.*). High count was of ~150 in Champaign east of Urbana (*fide D. Daniel*).

Black-bellied Plover: 271 sightings reported, nearly all at Ottawa, Sheldon Marsh, Berlin Res, and Conneaut. One appeared at Conneaut on 4 Aug (J&M McConnor), and the last reported were 18 at Ottawa on 13 Nov (V. Fazio). Maximum was 48 at Ottawa on 26 Oct, same observer.

American Golden-Plover: One distinctive individual moped around the far side of the Medusa Marsh mudflats from 14 Aug to at least 4 Sept for a long stay (D. Linzell, *et al.*). The latest reported was one at Sheldon Marsh SNP on 10 Nov (J. Hammond, D. Sanders). High count inland was of 38 at the Vanlue Sewage Ponds, Hancock (K. Noblet), and by Lake Erie 70 were found at Ottawa on 1 Nov (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner).

Semipalmented Plover: Southbound migrants continued from the previous period, with peaks of 35+ at Sheldon Marsh SNP on 12 Sept (J. McCoy), and 55 on the Ottawa census of 3 Oct. The last laggard was at Ottawa on 1 Nov (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner).

Piping Plover: Even a single report is precious these days, as was one from the Huron River flats on 5 Sept, a basic-plumaged bird; the record is now with the OBRC.

Killdeer: Good numbers at mudflats statewide. 560 were on the Ottawa census of 1 Aug, 502 at Berlin Res on 13 Aug (B. Morrison), and ~300 at Ottawa on 19 Aug (J. Hammond, D. Sanders). At the end of the period they were still going strong, with 130 at Buck Ck SP 21 Nov (D. Overacker) and 200+ at Lk Cowan the 28th (R. Sempier).

American Avocet: At least 22 birds reported. At Bombay Hook NWR in Delaware, a traditional staging-area, a record 1056 were recorded, versus 610 last fall (*fide A. Hill*). D. Overacker found four at Buck Ck SP on 15 Aug, but the high count was five at Sheldon Marsh SNP on 26 Aug (*fide P. Sherwood*). The last, a female, was reported on 3 Nov at Conneaut (J. Pogaenik).

Greater Yellowlegs: Thirty were at Medusa Marsh on 1 Aug (D&J Hoffman), and 47 on the Ottawa census the same day. The latest report was of eight birds at Killdeer on 16 Nov (H. Nagy, M. Lynd).

Lesser Yellowlegs: 160 were counted on the 1 Aug Ottawa census, and 135 on the Huron R flats on 29 Aug (C. Holt). Late, one was still at Killdeer on 14 Nov (V. Fazio), and the last hurrah was of 13 birds at Magee on the 21st (H&S Hiris).

Solitary Sandpiper: As with many shorebirds this season, Ottawa and Berlin Res vied for the high count, in this case with 11 on the 1 Aug Ottawa count and 12 at Berlin on the 7th (C. Holt). Quite late was one at Conneaut on 30 Oct (J. Pogaenik), but not long after a 21 Oct bird at Spring Valley WA (J. Rakestraw).

Willet: As many as 20 birds reported, none specified as adults. One inland report—1 Aug at MW (*fide N. Keller*). None reported at Berlin Res. Many were significantly late, especially at Ottawa, with the following reports: one on 3 Oct (T. Kemp, G. Links), one on 16 Oct (J. Haw), one on 31 Oct (V. Fazio), two 3 Nov (J. Hammond), and one as late as 13 Nov (V. Fazio).

Spotted Sandpiper: Ottawa and Berlin Res contested for high counts, tying at 41—1 Aug on Ottawa's census and 8 Aug at Berlin (B. Morrison). One on 23 Oct at Buck Ck SP (D. Overacker) was latish, but one seen by S. Wulkowicz on S. Bass Isl on 1 Nov takes the cake.

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Upland Sandpiper: The usual few fall reports included one 5 Aug in *Paulding* (**M&D Dunakin**), one 10 Aug in Painesville (**J. Pogaenik**), one 14 Aug at Big Island WA (**D. St. John**), and one there on 8 Sept (**G. Kelley**).

Whimbrel: An average showing except for Rosche's flock; all reports follow: four at Headlands Beach SP 14 Aug (**R. Hannikman**), one at Sheldon Marsh 19-21 Aug (**D. Sanders, L. Yoder**), 20 on the RTLS on 24 Aug (**L. Rosche**), one at Arcola Ck, *Lake*, 30 Aug (**J. Pogaenik**), one imm 1-3 Sept at Conneaut (**G. Meszaros**), one at Walnut Beach on 6 Sept (**J. Pogaenik**), and one at Conneaut on 9 Sept (**B&A Toneff**).

Long-billed Curlew: First verified record since 1983, a bird spent 1-2 Oct in *Holmes* (**B. Glick** ph, m obs). Accepted by the OBRC. As long ago as 1882, Wheaton regarded the species as a rare migrant and only possible as a breeder.

Hudsonian Godwit: Probably at least 26 individuals of this elegant species this fall. Birds were at Ottawa from 19 Aug (three seen by **J. Hammond** and **D. Sanders**) to 1 Nov (two seen by **R. Harlan** and **Sa. Wagner**), with a high of five on 3 Oct (Ottawa census). Birds at Sheldon Marsh SNP grew from four on 19 Aug (**J. Hammond**) to seven on the 24th (**T&B Sponseller**), to eight on the 26th (**P. Sherwood**), with seven seen on the 27th (**D. St. John**). On 28 Aug, four showed up at Hoover Res, *Delaware* (**R. Thorn**), reinforced to eight birds by the 29th (**B. Royse**), the number probably not coincidental. Elsewhere, one was at Walnut Beach, *Ashtabula*, for **J. Pogaenik** on 6 Sept, and a calling flock of 16 treated **K. Miller** to great looks at Berlin Res on 19 August (excellent details supplied); again, one wonders about the coincidence with the Ottawa and Sheldon sightings the same day, as the Berlin birds were not relocated.

Marbled Godwit: Marbleds followed their congeners to Ottawa, with one on 28 Aug (**J. McCoy**) and the latest on 31 Oct by **V. Fazio**, as well as to Sheldon Marsh, with two on 18 Aug (**D. Sanders, R. Harlan, et al.**), with one remaining until at least 14 Sept (**Z. Baker**). The only other bird was reported by **P. Miller**, who saw one in *Ottawa* while waiting for a ferry on 12 Sept.

Ruddy Turnstone: A paltry showing; all reports follow. One Clark Lk 24 Aug and one Buck Ck SP on 27 Aug (**D. Overacker**), one 2 Sept at Sheldon (**J. McCoy**), two Sheldon Marsh 4 Sept (**B. Whan et al.**), two at Conneaut on 5 Sept (**C. Holt**), one 7 Sept at Conneaut (**B&A Toneff**), three to five Headlands Beach SP on 14-16 Sept (**R. Hannikman**), one at Killdeer on 29 Sept (**J. Hammond, D. Sanders**), one 14 Oct at Headlands (**K. Metcalf**), and two 24 Oct S. Bass Isl (**S. Wulkowicz**).

Red Knot: All reports: one 1 Aug ONWR census and one same day at Medusa (**J&D Hoffman**), 5 ad at Conneaut on 8 Aug (**C. Holt**), and one Conneaut 15 Aug (**J. Pogaenik**), one at Sheldon 23 Aug (**B. Conlon**), two at Sheldon on 3 Sept (**J. Lehman**), four at Conneaut on 4 Sept (**J. Pogaenik**), a juv at Walnut Beach on 5 Sept (**C. Holt**), one on the Ottawa census on 5 Sept, one at Sheldon on 12 Sept (**J. McCoy**), and two on the Huron R flats on 20 Sept (**J. McCoy**).

Sanderling: A good season, beginning on 1 Aug at MWW (*fide N. Keller*) to the quite late date of 13 Nov at Conneaut (**J. Pogaenik**). Inland, one was at Caesar Ck SP on 19 Aug (**L. Gara**), birds were present at Buck Ck SP on nine visits between 27 Aug and 2 Oct, with a peak of 18 on 17 Sept (**D. Overacker**), and four were on the Findlay Res dikes on 24 Sept (**B. Hardesty**). Forty birds were at Headlands Beach SP on 14 Aug (**R. Hannikman**), where thirty still lingered on 18 Sept (**L. Rosche, Hannikman**); the high count was 46 at Sheldon Marsh SNP on 25 Sept (**E. Pierce**).

Semipalmated Sandpiper: With mudflats abundant, all the expected peeps were present in good numbers. This species occurred statewide in shorebird concentrations. High count was ~300 on the Crane Creek flats at Ottawa on 27 Aug (**V. Fazio**). A late bird, apparently injured, was at East Harbor SP on 16 Oct (**V. Fazio**).

Western Sandpiper: As many as 20 birds reported, but ID can be tricky after molt, though far more likely than the preceding species in Oct and Nov. High count was six on the Ottawa census of 1 Aug. The latest report was of one at Ottawa on 1 Nov (**R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner**).

Least Sandpiper: ~50 were at MWW at the beginning of the period on 1 Aug (**P. Wharton**). Good numbers statewide where habitat allowed, with a high of ~200 at Sheldon Marsh on 14 Aug (**D. Linzell et al.**). In a warm fall, birds lingered, with five at Killdeer on 1 Nov (**R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner**), eight at Toussaint WA on the 13th (**V. Fazio**), and three at Buck Ck SP on the 20th (**D. Overacker**).

White-rumped Sandpiper: Over sixty reported. One was at Ottawa on 19 Aug, then five by the 8th (**J. Hammond, D. Sanders**). Two to five were seen at Conneaut from 23 Aug (**G. Meszaros**) and 3 Oct (**P. Lozano, C. Holt, m obs**). At Berlin Res, five on 13 Sept (**K. Miller**) grew to 24 by 9 Sept and then to 27 on 15 Sept, some remaining through the 20th (**B. Morrison**). Seven were at Killdeer as soon as mud appearing on Pond 27 on 23 Sept (**B. Conlon**). Numbers at Sheldon grew from one on 29 Aug (**J. Brumfield**) to four on 13 Sept (**J. Hammond**). Latest report was five on 1 Nov at Ottawa (**R. Harlan, S. Wagner**).

Baird's Sandpiper: In good numbers and widespread. Three rarely-seen adults were at Conneaut on 4 Aug (**N. Barber**). One to two were reported at Winton Wds, *Hamilton*, on 6 Aug (**J. Lehman, L. Gara**). Birds were present from 20 Aug to 12 Sept at Buck Ck SP, peaking at two on 12 Sept (**D. Overacker**). High count was nine at Sheldon on 11 Sept (**J. McCoy**), and the latest report was from Killdeer on 13 Nov by **D. Overacker**.

Pectoral Sandpiper: Close to two thousand reported. Inland ~100 were at MWW on 1 Aug (**P. Wharton**). ~500 were at the Lake at Sheldon Marsh on 14 Aug (**J. Hammond et al.**). They stayed late as well: **V. Fazio** had six at Ottawa on 6 Nov. and four at Killdeer on the 14th; one was found by **D. Overacker** at Buck Ck SP on 20 Nov.

Purple Sandpiper: Large numbers of this species, it has recently been learned, pass the winter north of the Arctic Circle; hence, it is no surprise few showed up in our torrid clime. All reports: one at Conneaut on 3 Nov (**J. Pogaenik**), two at Kelley's Isl on 16 Nov (**P. Hayes**), one at Huron on 22-24 Nov (**R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner, J. Hammond, et al.**), and one on 28 Nov at Walnut Beach, *Ashtabula* (**C. Holt**).

Dunlin: Customarily plentiful. Over 25,000 counted on the BSBO surveys this fall. An early one was at Buck Ck SP on 11 Sept (**D. Overacker**), two were at Hoover Res, *Delaware*, on the 23rd (**J. Hammond, S. Landes**), and a juv was at Wooster on 25-26 Sept (**S. Snyder**). High count was 1600+ at Ottawa on 26 Oct (**V. Fazio**), and birds remained to the end of the period, with **R. Cressman** reporting five at Pickerington Ponds, *Franklin*, on 29 Nov.

Stilt Sandpiper: Hundreds reported. In the south, one was at MWW on 3 Aug (**N. Cade**), and groups of from two to five at Clark Lk between 23 Aug and 30 Aug (**D. Overacker**); there was one at Englewood MP in Dayton on 2 Oct (**D. Dister**). 20 were at Hoover Res on 28 Aug (**R. Thorn**), and the high count was 36 at Ottawa on 27 Aug (**V. Fazio**, who also reported the latest three birds on 25 Oct at Killdeer).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper: An excellent flight, with over 40 birds reported. Two very early birds returned during the previous period, but the first in fall was one on 24 Aug at Buck Ck SP (**D. Overacker**), where two were noted 4 Sept. Conneaut had varying numbers (at least three—**G. Meszaros**) between 29 Aug and 18 Sept (**B&A Toneff, D&J Hoffman, B. Barrett, m obs**). At Berlin Res, one bird on 3 Sept (**K. Miller**) grew to three on 7 Sept, and one remained on the 12th (**B. Morrison**). As many as six were at Sheldon, as on 11 Sept (**J. McCoy**), and **B. Hardesty** had five on 4 Sept and two on 21 Sept at the Findlay Res. Last report was of two birds at Killdeer on 2 Oct (**R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner**).

Ruff: Three reports, one undocumented. Documentation of a bird on 5 Sept at Ottawa (**C. Crofts**) was accepted by the OBRC, as was one reported on 14 Aug at Sheldon Marsh SNP (**B. Whan**).

Short-billed Dowitcher: Decent numbers, after a good flight of adults in July. Ottawa claimed the high count with 160 birds on 27 Aug (**V. Fazio**), and 127 on 5 Sept during the census. The last noted was 1 Oct at Headlands Beach SP (**R. Hannikman**).

Long-billed Dowitcher: A few adults appeared in late July. The southernmost bird was seen 1 Aug at MWW (**P. Wharton**). High count was 125 juveniles on 17 Oct at Ottawa (**C. Holt**). **J. Hammond** and **D. Sanders** reported the last of them, 15 at Ottawa on 3 Nov.

Common Snipe: High count was 96+ at Killdeer on 14 Nov (V. Fazio). That the species is hardy is attested to by 17 birds at Cowan Lk on 28 Nov (L. Gara), and nine on the 30th at Killdeer (R. Sempier).

American Woodcock: Only six reports, the latest of a dead bird found on a downtown sidewalk in Columbus on 4 Nov (B. Royse).

Wilson's Phalarope: All reports follow. Single birds were at MWW (*fide* N. Keller) and at Ottawa on the census on 1 Aug, where a bird was reported on the 7th by J. Szanto. One was on the Huron R flats on the 25th (D. Sanders), and two at Ottawa on the 26th (V. Fazio), with at least one remaining until the 28th (G. DeMars, J. Haw). One was at Conneaut on 4 Sept (J. Pogaenik), and one at Mosquito Lk WA on 12 Sept (C. Holt).

Red-necked Phalarope: All reports follow. One was at Conneaut on 10 Aug (K. Metcalf). J. Hammond saw one at Ottawa on 18 Aug, and two there the following day. One at Sheldon Marsh (B. Conlon, T&B Sponseller) on 23 Aug had become two by the 26th (L. Feix). By the 26th, four were at Ottawa (V. Fazio), two remaining on the 29th at which date one showed up in *Delaware* at Hoover Res (B. Royse). Three were on the Huron R flats on 15 Sept (D. Sanders, D. Burton), one at Berlin Res on the 18th (C. Holt), one at Killbuck on the 22nd (S. Snyder), and one at Walnut Beach on the 23rd (J. Pogaenik). At Sheldon Marsh, the latter observer had five on 28 Aug, and five other phalarope sp. seen there on 12 Sept were thought to be this sp. (J. McCoy); only one remained on the 17th (J. Hammond, B. Whan).

Red Phalarope: All reports follow. A juv was seen by G. Meszaros at Conneaut on 1 Oct, where J. Pogaenik had the same or another bird on the 17th. D. Sanders reported an imm at Sheldon Marsh on 24 Oct, and two were found there the following day by R. Harlan and Sa. Wagner. Two were off Kelley's Isl on 4 Nov (P. Hayes), and a bird was seen off East Harbor SP on the 7th (J. Pogaenik).

Pomarine Jaeger: Over a dozen birds reported. H. Armstrong and J. Lehman discovered the best, a bird at East Fork SP, Clermont, on 30 Oct. The third verified inland record for the state, it performed for observers until a cold front on 15 Nov moved it on. The documentation for the report was accepted by the OBRC. The other reports spanned the whole of October, the last—and maximum—report of five birds, four dark and one light morph, off Huron on 28 Nov (J. Pogaenik).

Parasitic Jaeger: One report. Documentation of a bird off the Lake shoreline on 30 Sept is with the OBRC. Jon Dunn (pers. comm.) points out that pomarines predominate, as juveniles, here from late Oct on; parasitic and long-tailed sightings begin in late Aug, when too few birders are looking for larids over Lake Erie, hence perhaps a recent trend for poms to outnumber parasitic jaegers, despite the latter's historically higher numbers. Another factor for the current disparity may be recent advances in field ID of pomarines, which may be revealing their truer proportions in this very difficult group.

Long-tailed Jaeger: Documentation of an imm bird off the Lake shoreline on 22 Oct is with the OBRC.

Jaeger sp.: One 9 Nov at Eastlake (N. Barber), and four off Metzger Marsh on 11 Nov (M. Gallaway, C. Rieker, *fide* V. Fazio).

Laughing Gull: One juv at Conneaut on 15 Aug (J. Pogaenik, ph G. Meszaros), and a molting adult off Sheldon Marsh SNP on 23 Aug (B. Conlon) constituted all reports.

Franklin's Gull: 50+ birds reported. H. Armstrong reported the first eight on 1 Oct at East Fork SP, whereupon they disappeared. The same day L. Gara found 16 at Caesar Ck SP, a flock that dwindled to a single bird by 22 Oct. Not far away, D. Overacker noticed five at Buck Ck SP on the 3rd, one of which stayed around till the 30th. G. Buckey had 24 on Buckeye Lk on the 4th. One at Greenlawn Dam in Columbus stayed from 24 Oct (R. Cressman) to at least 8 Nov (C. Gambill). J. Pogaenik had the latest bird, one at Eastlake on 22 Nov.

Little Gull: A juv was at Sheldon Marsh on 18 Aug (D. Burton, D. Sanders); the next reported by D. Sanders and J. Hammond at Headlands Beach SP on 6 Oct. Five more birds were noted, all at the Lake, the last on 13 Nov at Lakeshore MP (J. Pogaenik).

Bonaparte's Gull: Undiminished in numbers through the end of the period. 100+ were at Sheldon Marsh on 3 Aug (M. Zuilhof). 9600 were off Lakeshore MP on 30 Sept (J. Pogaenik) and on 27 Nov M. Busam estimated 3000 off Huron.

Ring-billed Gull: Inland, 400 were at Berlin Res on 14 Aug (S. Snyder, L. Yoder), growing to ~1500 by 14 Sept (B. Morrison).

Herring Gull: E. Pierce estimated 4000 at Lorain and Avon Lk on 27 Oct. C. Holt reported the first juveniles at Conneaut on 8 Aug.

Thayer's Gull: An adult at Eastlake on 25 Nov was noticed by J. Pogaenik; on the 29th N. Barber re-found it, as well as a second-winter bird.

Iceland Gull: No reports, unless lumpers want to count the preceding birds.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: Probably more than a dozen birds along the Lakefront. Good numbers included four at Eastlake on 24 Nov (K. Metcalf) and three at Lorain from 27-29 Nov (K. Mock et al.).

Great Black-backed Gull: Maximum was 127 birds at Lorain on 27 Oct (V. Fazio). Inland, an imm at Greenlawn Dam in Columbus, where the species has occurred before, was discovered on 27 Oct by C. Gambill.

Sabine's Gull: One report, of a juv at Conneaut on 23 Sept (J. Pogaenik).

Black-legged Kittiwake: One report: a juv at Lakeshore MP on 2 Nov (J. Pogaenik).

Caspian Tern: Seemed normal, but maximum was disappointing: 37 at Kelley's Isl on 20 Aug (T. Bartlett). Latest reported were singles on 3 Nov at Huron (J. Hammond, D. Sanders) and at Conneaut (J. Pogaenik, R. Hannikman).

Common Tern: Nest sites protected by USF&WS and ODW had a record 61 nests at Ottawa, with 47 young, and a second-best 119, with no young surviving, at Pipe Ck WA. Maximum was 1270 at Pt Clinton on 19 Sept (V. Fazio). Latest report was 29 Nov, one at Lorain, by R. Harlan and Sa. Wagner.

Forster's Tern: ~300 were at Ottawa on 13 Sept (J. Hammond), and 420 at Pt Clinton on 19 Sept (V. Fazio). A single bird was at East Harbor SP on 20 Nov (J. Hammond).

Black Tern: Over 150 birds reported, from at least 20 locations. The first was seen on the Ottawa census on 1 Aug, but large numbers appeared statewide between 25 Aug and 5 Sept, with a maximum of 28 birds at Lake Logan (D. St. John); sightings during this interval came from Conneaut to Ottawa to the Cincinnati area. The last was reported from Ottawa on 20 Sept (J. McCoy). Here are only two reports from twenty years ago in *The Ohio Cardinal*: ~600 on 17 Aug at Cleveland, and ~150 at Ottawa on 5 Aug.

Common Ground-Dove: This species, which would be a first state record, was reported on the CVNRA on 5-6 Nov. Documentation, including photographs, was submitted to the OBRC, where a decision is pending.

Black-billed Cuckoo: Few reports, the latest from Highland on 25 Sept (D. Overacker).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Two very late sightings were noteworthy, both on 27 Oct by L. Grove at Rockbridge, Hocking, and N. Cade at Spring Grove Cemetery, Hamilton.

Barn Owl: 115 young fledged in 33 ODW-monitored nests, compared to the record 145 last year in 45 nests. Shortfall may be due to low meadow vole numbers during drought.

Snowy Owl: An imm was reported at Lorain on 25 Nov (J. Pogaenik) but not relocated.

Long-eared Owl: Two found on the Kelley's Isl census of 20 Nov (T. Bartlett).

Short-eared Owl: Over 40 birds reported, the first by E. Pierce in Gordon Pk on 9 Oct, where numbers grew to seven by the end of the month (B. Finkelstein *et al.*, *fide* P. Lozano), the maximum reported.

Northern Saw-whet Owl: J. Pogacnik had one at Lakeshore MP on 28 Oct. Three birds, two of them dead (presumably killed by predators), were found at Gordon Pk on 10 Nov (S. Zadar, *et al.*). A headless owl was found in Lima the same day by M. Busam. Ohioans might have missed a lot of live ones, as neighboring states reported record numbers; one station in Pennsylvania had banded 730 of this species by 18 Nov this fall (*fide* S. Wiedensaul).

Common Nighthawk: High count was ~400 over Holmes on 6 Sept (E. Schlabach), and the latest was one over Lake George on 3 Oct (L. Rosche).

Chimney Swift: Maximum was ~1000 over Rocky River Res'n (S. Ranahan). Latest reported was 2 Nov at Port Clinton (J. Pogacnik).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: A good year, by all accounts; Rosche judged them "as humerous as I can recall." During Sept, D. Daniel had as many as 10 at a time at her feeders in Logan. Several Oct reports, but Pogacnik had one at Lakeshore on 1 Nov that he judged probably of this species.

Selasphorus sp.: B. Winger had a female at Horseshoe Lk. Cuyahoga, on 27 Aug sporting the distinctive tail markings, and M. Schurman reported one from Hilliard, Franklin, on 3 Aug (*fide* J. Hammond).

Red-headed Woodpecker: S. Wulkowicz had one on S. Bass Isl on 4 Sept and 13 Oct. Goll Woods SNP, Fulton, hosted over 20 on 7 Nov (E. Durbin).

Red-bellied Woodpecker: 29 were on the Hancock survey of 3 Aug (B Hardesty *et al.*), and 60 on that for the CVNRA on 18 Sept (D. Chasar *et al.*).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Earliest migrant was reported at Euclid Beach on 11 Sept (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner). A late bird was in Columbus on 24 Nov (J. Mills); a few winter.

Northern Flicker: Big numbers were 80 at Headlands on 18 Sept (L. Rosche, R. Hannikman) and 150+ at Killdeer on 26 Sept (R. Sempier).

Olive-sided Flycatcher: First report from Lakeshore MP on 8 Aug (J. Pogacnik), then one in Tuscarawas on 14 Aug (E. Schlabach). Singing birds were in Cuyahoga on 27 Aug (B. Winger) and Johstown, Licking, on 12 Sept (M. Skinner), the latest on the following day in Massillon (W. Sarno). Total of thirteen birds reported.

Eastern Wood-Pewee: During October, L. Yoder had one the 9th in Holmes, O. Debre one the following day at the MWW, when F. Greenland found one in Cleveland.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Twelve reports for this tough fall ID; the first two birds at Mill Stream Run on 9 Aug (S. Zadar), the last 22 Sept at Gilmore Ponds by M. Busam.

Willow Flycatcher: Four reports of migrants, all late, the latest 17 and 19 Sept at Gilmore Ponds (M. Busam).

Least Flycatcher: Maximum eight at Johnson's Island 30 Aug (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner); late was one at Headlands on 2 Oct (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner).

Eastern Phoebe: Late at Lake Erie was one at Lakeshore MP on 19 Nov (J. Pogacnik).

Great-crested Flycatcher: Latest report: Concord Twp, Lake, 7 Oct (J. Pogacnik).

Western Kingbird: Documentation of two birds at The Wilds, Muskingum on 6 Aug is being recirculated by the OBRC.

Northern Shrike: A good fall, with as many as 25 birds. L. Rosche saw shrikes on 11 occasions, and at eight widely-separated sectors, at the RTLS during the period. Sightings ranged from 30 Oct at Headlands (K. Metcalf) to the end of the period. Southermost were at least two at Killdeer on 28 Nov (G. Stauffer) and one on 3 Nov at the same Holmes site visited by the species for the fifth year (L. Yoder). One was banded in Sandusky on 14 Nov by T. Kashmer.

Shrike sp.: One seen at Spring Valley WA on 12 Nov (K. Beal), and another on the CVNRA on 22 Nov (J. Adams, *fide* M. Zehnder).

White-eyed Vireo: One at Sheldon continued to sing through at least 4 Sept (B. Whan). Rosche counted 23 on the RTLS on 8 Sept. Late in the north was an imm on 8-9 Oct at Headlands (L. Rosche) and one on the 19th in Hancock (S. Ross, *fide* B. Hardesty).

Bell's Vireo: One at Barkcamp SP, Belmont, on 10 Aug (M. Patten). See article herein.

Yellow-throated Vireo: Maximum 12 on the RTLS 8 Sept (L. Rosche). Late birds: one in Zaleski SF 10 Oct (D. St. John) and one in Adams on 12 Oct (B. Lund).

Blue-headed Vireo: 18 Oct reports, the latest on the 31st in Holmes (E. Schlabach).

Warbling Vireo: Maximum 20 at Headlands on 18 Sept (L. Rosche, R. Hannikman). Latest 6 Oct in the Zaleski SF (D. St. John).

Philadelphia Vireo: Several Aug reports: the 15th, 21st, and 29th at Headlands (R. Hannikman), 20 Aug at Kelley's Isl (T. Bartlett), and one banded at Navarre Marsh on the 31st (M. Shieldcastle). K. Metcalf discovered a record late bird on 18 Nov, last seen by B. Winger on the 24th, at N. Chagrin Res'n; compare last Nov's bird at same location.

Red-eyed Vireo: Maximum migrants 12 on 12 Sept at Headlands (L. Rosche, R. Hannikman). Last reported 10 Oct in Zaleski SF (D. St. John).

American Crow: F. Renfrow reported a roost in Cincinnati numbering over 30,000 on 18 Nov. R. Harlan and Sa. Wagner saw 2200 going N to SW over Oak Openings MP on 7 Nov.

Purple Martin: Maximum 350 at S. Bass Isl 28 Aug (S. Wulkowicz), latest three on 10 Oct at Big Island WA (C. Gambill).

Tree Swallow: V. Fazio had 2200 at Killdeer on 1 Sept, and D. Overacker ~5000 at Big Island on the 18th. Last report 26 Oct at Ottawa (V. Fazio).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: For record late departure, see next period for birds of 3-4 Dec.

Bank Swallow: Maximum 770 over Metzger Marsh on 25 Aug (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner), and latest were two birds on 25 Sept at MWW (J. Lehman).

Cliff Swallow: Buck Ck SP's first nest apparently fledged one young (D. Overacker). Latest report was of a bird on 18 Sept at Big Island WA (D. Overacker).

Barn Swallow: Latest reported were five on 12 Oct over Findlay Res (B. Hardesty).

Carolina Chickadee: N. Cade had 200+ in the Mitchell Mem. Forest, Hamilton, 27 Nov.

Black-capped Chickadee: E. Schlabach announced a "major invasion" in Holmes, with 12 on 30 Oct; L. Yoder reported two 5 Sept, another 16 Oct, then "many" in Holmes. A first-record bird for Kentucky stayed for weeks during the period (J. Dunn).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: A bird on 1 Aug at Lakeshore MP (J. Pogacnik) seemed early for a migrant. Elsewhere, nuthatches flooded south in late Aug along a broad front; by 5 Sept, 15 could be found at

the Cincinnati Nature Ctr (W. Hull), and by 2 Oct 30+ on Kelley's Isl (V. Fazio), then by the end of the period 40+ in Mitchell Mem. Forest, Hamilton (N. Cade). A. Goloda saw one on a pelagic trip 20 mi off Virginia on 12 Sept, and the species apparently reached oil-drilling platforms in the Gulf of Mexico in Nov.

Carolina Wren: Unchallenged by severe winters, slowly increasing. One was at Conneaut on 5 Sept (C. Holt), and 25 were on the CVNRA survey of 18 Sept (D. Chasar *et al.*). Rosche regards the species as "common in Portage County."

Winter Wren: First migrant reported on 14 Sept at Headlands Beach SP (L. Rosche, R. Hannikman).

Sedge Wren: Still singing on breeding grounds until at least 14 Aug (J. Hammond *et al.*) at Killdeer. Latest migrant report from 2 Oct at Headlands (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner).

Marsh Wren: 22 on the Ottawa census of 1 Aug, only 3 there on that for 5 Sept. A late bird was at Geneva SP on 13 Nov (J. Pogacnik).

Golden-crowned Kinglet: A bird on 30 Aug at Johnson's Isl was pretty early (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner). High count was 50 on 9 Oct at Headlands Beach SP (L. Rosche, R. Hannikman). *

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Remarkably early were four at Sheldon Marsh 19 Aug (J. Hammond, D. Sanders). 60 were at Headlands 9 Oct (L. Rosche, R. Hannikman). Bookending the Sheldon birds was a late departure at Buck Ck SP 20 Nov (D. Overacker).

Veery: Migrants were first noted on 22 Aug with two at Headlands (P. Lozano *et al.*). M. Shieldcastle banded one at Navarre Marsh on 30 Aug. The latest reported came from Lakeshore on 3 Oct (J. Pogacnik).

Gray-cheeked Thrush: First migrants reported at Headlands on 22 Aug by the Lozano party, and the latest came from Headlands as well, three on 9 Oct (L. Rosche, R. Hannikman).

Swainson's Thrush: First southbound report was from Shawnee Lookout on 31 Aug (L. Peyton). D. St. John found 49 birds in the Zaleski SF on 14 Sept. Late date was a remarkable 26 Oct bird at Big Creek Res'n, Cuyahoga, for S. Zadar.

Hermit Thrush: First migrant noted was on 18 Sept at Lakeshore MP (J. Pogacnik). As many as 12 were seen on 11 Nov at East Harbor SP (M. Gallaway, C. Rieker). Six were seen and heard on 27 Nov in the Mitchell Memorial Forest (N. Cade).

American Robin: On a big thrush day, N. Cade saw 2500 on 27 Nov with the above sp.

Gray Catbird: ~10 showed up at Headlands on 20 Aug (N. Barber). 40 remained on the RTLS through 8 Sept (L. Rosche), and one was on the old Cedar Pt causeway on 29 Nov (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner).

Northern Mockingbird: Up north, Harlan and Wagner had one on 2 Oct at Headlands, the Hoffmans the first Cleveland Hts record on 12 Oct, and M. Gallaway and C. Rieker one in the CVNRA on 12 Nov. Gordon Pk's perennial pair persisted (m obs).

Brown Thrasher: First migrants at Conneaut on 26 Sept (C. Holt). L. Yoder reported one quite late in Holmes on 14 Nov.

American Pipit: First migrants were two on 2 Sept at Big Isl WA (C. Bombaci). High counts in Holmes, with ~100 on 24 Oct by E. Schlabach and 133 on 13 Nov by L. Yoder.

Blue-winged Warbler: D. St. John noted the last in Zaleski SF on 29 Sept, but one lingered till 11 Oct at Hell Hollow, Lake (J. Pogacnik).

Golden-winged Warbler: Fall reports, all of which follow, outnumbered spring's. One at MWF 31 Aug (L. Peyton), one in Cols 1 Sept (S. Landes), one on the RTLS 8 Sept (L. Rosche), a female at Euclid

Beach 11 Sept (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner), one at Magee 15 Sept (D. Sanders), and there on the 17th (B. McGuire), same day at Rocky River MP (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner), and on 20 Sept in Worthington (B. Master) and at Magee (J. McCoy).

Tennessee Warbler: A migrant was at Headlands 16 Aug (H. Petruschke). High count was 53 at Zaleski SF on 15 Sept (D. St. John). Latest 19 Oct. Geauga (K. Metcalf).

Orange-crowned Warbler: Over 40 reported, from 12 counties, the first 2 at the RTLS on 15 Sept (L. Rosche), the last on 23 Oct at MW (N. Cade).

Nashville Warbler: Migrants arrived late Aug, the first at Lakeshore MP on the 27th (J. Pogacnik). Maxima six in Columbus (B. Royse) and six in Cleveland (P. Lozano), both on 14 Oct. Last report 27 Oct in N. Chagrin Res'n (K. Metcalf).

Northern Parula: An early migrant was at Sheldon Marsh on 15 Aug (P. Lozano), and the latest reported on 9 Oct at the same locale (G. Fluke, *et al.*).

Yellow Warbler: Already in passage by the beginning of the period, with 50 at Lakeshore MP on 1 Aug (J. Pogacnik), when 63 were counted on the Ottawa census; nevertheless, one lingered till 9 Oct at Headlands Beach SP (K. Metcalf).

Chestnut-sided Warbler: On 15 Aug. P. Lozano had six at Sheldon Marsh. High count was L. Rosche's and R. Hannikman's 15 at Headlands 18 Sept; last one Magee census 17 Oct (H&S Hiris).

Magnolia Warbler: First migrant on 15 Aug in Holmes (E. Schlabach). 14 were at Mentor Lagoons on 14 Sept (L. Rosche, R. Hannikman), and last on 26 Oct at Whiskey Isl (P. Lozano).

Cape May Warbler: Recovering somewhat. First bird: P. Lozano at Sheldon 15 Aug; last 17 Nov in Parma by C. Rieker. L. Rosche had 45 on the RTLS during the period.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: Two arrived Headlands 22 Aug (B. Winger); three were at Magee on 17 Oct (H&S Hiris). Max three at Rocky River 14 Sept (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner).

Yellow-rumped Warbler: MA&T Romito had a very early bird 9 Aug on the CVNRA; we have only 21 other Aug records. 300 were counted in the same RTLS area on 9 Oct (L. Rosche), where they remained through the end of the period.

Black-throated Green Warbler: A bird arrived on 10 Aug at the MWF (L. Peyton). Highs of 10 were at Firestone MP 28 Sept (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner), in Bexley, Franklin, 3 Oct (J. Grabmeier), and in the Zaleski SF 14 Oct (D. St. John).

Blackburnian Warbler: Earliest was on 10 Aug at the MWF (L. Peyton), and latest 30 Sept at Edgewater Pk, Cuyahoga (P. Lozano).

Yellow-throated Warbler: Latest report was of one in Columbus on 3 Oct. (B. Royse).

Pine Warbler: Migrants present from 1 Sept to 9 Oct, noted at both dates in Lakeshore MP (J. Pogacnik). One was still in song at Lk Rockwell on 18 Sept (L. Rosche).

Prairie Warbler: The latest report was of one in full song 27 Sept in Adams (P. Whan).

Palm Warbler: P. Lozano had an early on at Sheldon Marsh on 15 Aug. High count six at Whiskey Isl (T&MA Romito) on 2 Oct. E. Schlabach had the latest, of the eastern race *hypochrysea*, in Holmes on 28 Oct.

Bay-breasted Warbler: Vanguard was two at Kelley's Isl 20 Aug (T. Bartlett). High count 12 at Headlands & Mentor Lagoons on 14 Sept (L. Rosche, R. Hannikman). Latest were two birds at Magee on 17 Oct (H&S Hiris).

Blackpoll Warbler: Good numbers. First reported on 31 Aug at the MWF (L. Peyton), 30 to 40 were tallied at Headlands by 11 Sept by K. Metcalf, and the last were singles on 26 Oct at Whiskey Isl (P. Lozano) and at East Harbor SP (V. Fazio).

Cerulean Warbler: Several sang until at least 10 Aug at the MWF (L. Peyton). No later report than 10 Sept, when D. Styer had two at Shawnee Lookout, Hamilton.

Black-and-white Warbler: Passed mostly unnoticed, it seemed. Latest report was of one on 5 Oct at the Cincinnati Nature Ctr (W. Hull).

American Redstart: 42 were counted on 14 Sept at the Mentor Lagoons (L. Rosche, R. Hannikman). Latest bird was one in the Zaleski SF on 14 Oct (D. St. John).

Ovenbird: The last report came from Holmes for 16 Oct (L. Yoder).

Northern Waterthrush: On 5 Aug, the Dunakins recorded their earliest *Paulding* arrival, and M. Zehnder reported the tardiest at the CVNRA on 11 Oct.

Louisiana Waterthrush: A bird on the RTLS on 15 Sept was Rosche's latest ever there, "but one was found on the 18th on the CVNRA survey (*fide* D. Chasar).

Kentucky Warbler: On 15 Aug, L. Yoder had a migrant in *Holmes*, and the last was noted in the Zaleski SF on 11 Sept (D. St. John).

Connecticut Warbler: Eight birds reported, the first banded at Navarre Marsh on 29 Aug (M. Shieldcastle), the last in Cleveland on 19 Sept (P. Lozano).

Mourning Warbler: 10 birds reported between 22 Aug at Headlands (R. Hannikman) and 4 Oct in Columbus (B. Royse). One banded at Navarre 19 Sept (M. Shieldcastle).

Common Yellowthroat: Highest 15 at the MWW on 25 Sept (J. Lehman). No unusual lingering birds, the latest on 13 Nov at Geneva SP (J. Pogačnik).

Hooded Warbler: 13 were on the CVNRA survey of 18 Sept (D. Chasar, *et al.*). A singing male was at Firestone MP, Summit, on 28 Sept, where the species is not known to nest (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner). The last was at Zaleski SF on 11 Oct (D. St. John).

Wilson's Warbler: 15 were at Headlands on 13 Sept (H. Petruschke), and two stayed as late as 5 Oct in Cleveland (F. Greenland, *fide* P. Lozano).

Canada Warbler: First noted at Headlands on 14 Aug (R. Hannikman), the species was last reported on 18 Sept in *Holmes* by L. Yoder.

Yellow-breasted Chat: The latest report came from Edgewater Pk on 5 Oct (N. Barber).

Summer Tanager: The male of the *Delaware* pair was last seen 28 Sept (J. Hammond).

Scarlet Tanager: High count was five at East Fork SP 1 Oct (H. Armstrong), and last report 6 Oct in the Zaleski SF (D. St. John).

Tanager sp.: Unarmed with binoculars, A. Goloda nevertheless saw a female tanager in a small ornamental tree in downtown Columbus well enough to note an apparent brood-patch, on the very late date of 20 Nov. This date is actually best for western tanager, but Goloda eliminated this sp.

Eastern Towhee: 50 at the RTLS 8 Sept (L. Rosche).

American Tree Sparrow: 225 were counted in Magee's census on 17 Oct (H&S Hiris).

Chipping Sparrow: High count 35 in *Tuscarawas* on 9 Oct (E. Schlabach).

Clay-colored Sparrow: One 22 Sept at Huron (D. Sanders, J. Hammond), and another in *Holmes* 7 Oct (J.J. Miller, D. Kline).

Field Sparrow: High count 140 on the RTLS on 6 Oct (L. Rosche). Twelve birds reported in November, the latest at Magee 21 Nov (H&S Hiris); persisted into winter.

Vesper Sparrow: Most departed in Oct, but one was in *Holmes* 4 Nov (E. Schlabach).

Lark Sparrow: A bird remained at Oak Openings MP on 19 Sept (J. Pogačnik), and one was reported from Paint Ck WA on 13 Sept (R. Kolde *et al.*).

Savannah Sparrow: An early migrant was at Conneaut 5 Sept (C. Holt). Maximum was 40 in Holmes on 9 Oct (E. Schlabach). One remained at Big Isl WA 14 Nov (V. Fazio).

Grasshopper Sparrow: V. Fazio noted two adults 7 Oct and one 26 Oct at Big Island.

Henslow's Sparrow: A good find outside the breeding season was one at The Wilds, *Muskingum*, 29 Aug (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner).

Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow: One was at Headlands on 14 Sept (L. Rosche, R. Hannikman), another on 29 Sept in Cleveland (N. Barber), and J. Pogačnik had two at Arcola Ck, *Lake*, one on 18 Sept and one on 5 Oct.

Fox Sparrow: Arrived 30 Sept in *Erie* (D. Sanders), *Cuyahoga* (P. Lozano), and *Lake* (J. Pogačnik). Rosche had "remarkable numbers" in the period, with 46 at the RTLS.

Song Sparrow: Big numbers were 60 in *Holmes* on 9 Oct (E. Schlabach), 104 in Magee on 17 Oct (H&S Hiris), and 50 at Gilmore Ponds on 29 Oct (D. Styer).

Lincoln's Sparrow: An early one was singing late in *Clermont* on 18 Sept (D. Morse). Thirteen were in *Holmes* on 9 Oct (E. Schlabach), and a late bird was at Gordon Pk on 13 Nov (E. Pierce).

Swamp Sparrow: Over 200 reported after migrants arrived; 36 were at Magee on 4 Nov (H&S Hiris), and the species persisted widely into the next period (m obs).

White-throated Sparrow: One was early in *Hancock* on 7 Sept (B. Von Stein, *fide* B. Hardesty). P. Lozano counted 250+ in Cleveland on 5 Oct.

White-crowned Sparrow: Noted on 22 and 29 Aug at Headlands by R. Hannikman. ~100 were at Killdeer on 10 Oct (L. Powlick) and 21 Oct in *Paulding* (Dunakins).

Dark-eyed Junco: First reported 17 Sept at Lakeshore MP (J. Pogačnik), numbers reached 30+ at Headlands Beach SP on 11 Oct. (N. Barber).

Lapland Longspur: First reported 2 Oct at Conneaut (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner), then 6 Oct at Big Isl WA (V. Fazio), and three at Headlands on 8 Oct (L. Rosche). Max 90+ in *Wood* 19 Nov (M. Anderson).

Snow Bunting: After one at Headlands on 14 Oct (K. Metcalf), 130+ birds appeared in the northern counties between 27 and 30 Oct, remaining through the period. High count was ~140 at Headlands on 17 Nov (J. Hammond).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 15 birds reported from six counties in Oct, most notably an imm that resorted to J. Pogačnik's feeder in *Lake* from 28 Oct to 9 Nov.

Indigo Bunting: Four Oct reports, the latest on the 23rd at MWW (N. Cade).

Dickcissel: Five reports from five counties in Oct. One was consorting with house sparrows in the NW at the Black Swamp Nature Ctr, *Paulding*, on the 30th (M&D Dunakin). Two Nov reports, on the 9th in *Holmes* (P. Soehnlen), and on the 20th at Maumee Bay SP (B. Conlon), again with house sparrows.

Bobolink: Latest report 6 Oct at Lorain (J. Hammond, D. Sanders).

Red-winged Blackbird: Four reports of 5000 or more, the largest 15,000 at the Killbuck roost (S. Snyder).

Eastern Meadowlark: H. Nagy found ~200 in a field in Pataskala, Licking, on 14 Nov, an uncommonly large number of migrants these days.

Western Meadowlark: One report, from Genoa, Ottawa, on 19 Sept (J. Pogačnik).

Rusty Blackbird: Four males and a female, complete with satisfactory description, were reported by N. Cade at the MWF, Hamilton, on the extraordinary date of 15 August; there is another local record of the species on 11 Aug 1984 (D. Styer et al., fide N. Keller), but only one other Aug record. The species is experiencing some stress, down about 90% over the past few decades in large portions of its breeding range (*Cons. Biol.* 13(3):533-559). Peak count was of 353 birds in three flocks at Mosquito Lk WA on the more expected date of 11 Oct (C. Babyak).

Orchard Oriole: Encompassing the entire span of the species' migration were reports from the Ottawa census: eight on 1 Aug, and one on 5 Sept.

Pine Grosbeak: In this apparently good year for winter finches, a bird was reported in Emerald Twp, Paulding, on 20 October. Documentation being recirculated by the OBRC.

Purple Finch: 80+ reports, all from the north in Sept, but 47 of the total from five SW counties. High count 20+ at East Fork SP 17 Oct (H. Armstrong). Rosche called it "widespread" in the RTLS.

Red Crossbill: One reported 1 Aug at Airport Hbr (L. Rosche, R. Hannikman). A female was at a *Summit* feeder on 21 Sept (K. Mock). One was at Oak Openings MP on 31 Oct (G. Links), reported again 7 Nov (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner). Eight were at the Mitchell Memorial Forest, Hamilton, on 7 Nov (D. Styer). Two young birds came to a *Holmes* feeder on 15 Nov. (R. Miller).

White-winged Crossbill: At least one was at Oak Openings MP on 7 Nov (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner). A mixed crossbill flock of 12 was at Mitchell Mem. Forest on 24 Nov (L. Peyton). A flock of seven at Woodlawn Cem, Toledo, on 24 Nov (D. Sanders) grew to 18 on the 29th (A. Osborn) and some remained through the period (m obs). R. Cressman had up to three in Green Lawn Cem in Columbus 27 Nov through the period. On the 30th, W. Shively had one in Bellefontaine.

Common Redpoll: A poor fruit crop brought this species south over the US from coast to coast in good numbers. 150+ were reported by the end of the period, with many more during the following one. The first two birds were reported 18-20 Oct in *Holmes* (L. Yoder). Most subsequently appeared in the northern counties, but one was near Carey in *Wyandot* on 14 Nov (K. Fredritz), a female was at a feeder in *Clermont* Oct 18-26 (D. Morse), eight were in Sycamore, *Wyandot*, on Nov 17-18 (R. Counts), and an unstated number in birches—a favored tree—in *Champaign* Nov 26-27 (R. Meyer).

Pine Siskin: One seen in *Trumbull* on 8 Aug (D&J Hochadel) may have bred locally, for the big influx came in Oct elsewhere, beginning on the 3rd at Lakeshore MP (J. Pogačnik). Eventually the first appeared in *Adams* on the 12th (B. Lund), and between then and 8 Nov 30 birds were found in eight spots in *Clermont* and *Hamilton* (fide N. Keller). J. Fry got his first in *Hocking* on 15 Oct, and had 123 at his feeders by the 23rd.

Evening Grosbeak: 22 birds reported, hardly an invasion yet. Predictably unpredictable, the first was at Magee on 17 Sept (J. Games), the next in Columbus on the 22nd (M. Skinner), then eight in *Lake* (J. Pogačnik) on the 26th, five at Findley SP on the same day (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner), one in *Clinton* on the 28th (L. Gara), one in Cincinnati on 2 Oct (G. Carey), three more the following day in *Lake* (J. Pogačnik), and finally birds found by L. Rosche on 9 Nov in the CVNRA and the following day on the RTLS.

House Sparrow: An uncomfortable 85 were at Magee Marsh on 19 Sept (H&S Hiris), belying the area's purpose for wildlife, but more expected were 150 at the Cleveland Botanical Gardens on the following day (R. Harlan, Sa. Wagner).

EXOTICS:

Black Swan: On 18 Nov, F. Renfrow reported six adult *Cygnus atratus* from the Ohio River off Covington, Kentucky. He remarks: "A small wintering population of free-flying Black Swans seems to be establishing itself along the Ohio River at Cincinnati/northern Kentucky. Started with one in Dec '96, joined by an imm bird in Feb '97, two adults returned in Nov '97, a pair with two imm Dec '98, and now there are six adults. It would be enlightening to find out where these Black Swans are summering and nesting." How many species of swans now nest in the state? How many are Ohio breeders historically?

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