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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 (June-July)-August 25 Autumn (Aug.-Nov.)-December 25	Please send all reports to: Bill Whan 223 E. Tulane Road Columbus, OH 43202 billwhan@columbus.rr.com
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On the Cover: A black-and-white reproduction does little justice to this neon wonder. Gabe Hostetler caught on film this moment of the green violet-ear's visit to a feeder in Holmes Co. on 16 Aug.

Fall 2005 Overview and Reports

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A hot, wet August and September were followed by an average October. November's first half was quite warm, prompting some late stays—a cuckoo on the 11th, and three very late vireos, one a state record—with a second half abnormally cold. Some interesting bird phenomena of the season can be ascribed to extreme weather. On 31 August, the eye of the sprawling gyre of Hurricane Katrina passed through Ohio; while it brought no waifs from the Gulf except perhaps for a jaeger and several laughing gulls at reservoirs, it perturbed the movements of long-distance migrants, grounding remarkable numbers of shorebirds at Conneaut Harbor for a few hours, blowing black terns and red-necked phalaropes all over the state, and perhaps influencing other odd occurrences, such as 30+ buff-breasted sandpipers at a single site, and a state-wide movement of loons. Certainly the day before Katrina had bestowed avian riches in Tennessee: reported were bridled and sooty and royal terns, black skimmer, magnificent frigatebird, greater shearwater, and south polar skua! Back in Ohio, November's unrelenting western winds, and of course the continuation of the longest hurricane season in history, defied normal expectations and brought surprises.

Plentiful open water to the north made ducks tardy in arriving. Numbers of warblers and other neotropical migrants were disappointing by most accounts; judging by so many heard passing overhead in September, they simply had little reason to set down in Ohio. Shorebirds put on a better show than usual; this came about when human control of water levels benefited them: on purpose at ONWR, and then as a by-product of profligate lawn-watering at places supplied by reservoirs such as Hoover and Berlin, while Conneaut did its part as always.

A total of 18 review species reported this season was much better than average, but phenomenal were three potentially new to the Ohio list, underlined in the list that follows: Ross's goose (three), cackling goose (three), northern gannet, magnificent frigatebird (potential fifth state record), glossy ibis (6), *Plegadis* ibis sp. (three), yellow rail, piping plover (two), ruff (four), parasitic jaeger (two), white-winged dove (potential third state record), green violet-ear, rufous hummingbird (seven), *Selasphorus* hummingbird sp. (nine), Anna's hummingbird, gray flycatcher (potential second state record), western kingbird, black-billed magpie (two: potential fourth state record), cave swallow (dozens), and black-throated gray warbler. Predicted irruptions of northern species—snowy owls, raptors, winter finches, etc.—did not come to pass during the period, except for a good red-breasted nuthatch flight in many parts of the state.

It is fascinating to hear believers in an apocalyptic theory of history—such as the former Interior Secretary who saw little point in preserving the