

THE CLEVELAND BIRD CALENDAR

*A Quarterly Journal of Bird Sightings from the Cleveland Region
Since 1905*



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The Cleveland Bird Calendar was founded in 1905 by Francis H. Herrick of the Western Reserve University. It is published quarterly by the Kirtland Bird Club and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

The purpose of the Calendar is:

To provide information on the movement of birds through the Cleveland region.

To monitor population densities of resident birds.

To help determine patterns of vagrancy for rarely encountered species.

Readers are encouraged to make every effort to identify and help preserve sensitive habitats and migrant stopover points.

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We welcome your participation. Readers are encouraged to submit field reports, artwork, papers, digital photographs and corrections to: Fred Dinkelbach, 6320-406 Greenwood Parkway, Sagamore Hills, Ohio 44067 or e-mail: seasonalreports@kirtlandbirdclub.org.

For sightings, A.O.U. taxonomical sequence and electronic media are appreciated. In order to publish the correct information, please label all e-mailed photos: `bird_location_date_photographer.jpg`. Seasonal report forms are available at: www.kirtlandbirdclub.org/cbc/cbc.htm. All submissions are archived at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

Due dates for seasonal field reports are:

Winter - March 10

Spring - June 10

Summer - September 10

Autumn - December 10

Front Cover. American Bittern, North Chagrin Reservation, 9-8-2008, photographed by Tim Krynak.

Back Cover. Savannah Sparrows, Frohring Meadows, Geauga County, 9-23-2008, photographed by Linda Gilbert.

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If you would also like to be a contributor to this important records journal, please contact the Kirtland Bird Club at 216-556-0700.



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In This Issue

Fred Dinkelbach

Reported this season were all three Phalaropes, two of which were seen at the Lorain Harbor impoundment. The quality shorebird habitat at this location took a hit in 1999 when the impoundment was used for its intended purpose: receiving the spoils of periodic harbor dredging. In recent years this site has once again proved hospitable for shorebirds and this time around, with a wide path around the perimeter, hospitable for birders as well. Fifteen shorebird species were found here dating the fall of 2008, with Semipalmated Plovers on September 1st, a Purple Sandpiper on November 14th, and with Short-billed Dowitcher, Black-bellied Plover and all five peeps in between. And not only shorebirds: Kestrel, Sora, Screech and Short-eared Owl, Pipit, Orange-crowned Warbler, and Lincoln's, Fox and Nelson's Sparrows were also seen here. Nearby the harbor itself hosted Laughing and Lesser Black-backed Gulls as well as Pomerine and Parasitic Jaegers.

In general for the season, sparrow numbers were good, with all of the grassland species reported from multiple lakefront and inland locations. Greg Bennett's inland waterfowl birding was as prolific as ever. Birders are slowly beginning to report from Elmwood Wetlands Preserve in Lorain, a new 25-acre park located on North Ridge Road west of Broadway. Usually Hayes Road in Geauga County has sightings of winter raptors by late fall; none were reported for this fall of 2008. Birders anticipating upcoming winter visitors marveled at the beginning of a memorable siskin and crossbill irruption in the succeeding winter and spring months. While comments about disappointing fall warbler numbers came from more than a few observers, Julie West banded a good variety of late migrants, including warblers, at Shaker Lakes Nature Center.

Potential birds not reported for the fall of 2008 were Northern Bobwhite, Least Bittern, Common Moorhen, Hudsonian Godwit, Red Knot, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, Thayer's Gull, Black Tern, Long-eared Owl, Eastern Kingbird, Cliff Swallow, Pine Warbler and Clay-colored Sparrow.



Red-necked Phalarope (left), 9-21-2008, and Wilson's Phalarope (with Killdeer), 9-26-2008, Lorain Harbor Impoundment

Gabe Leidy

Weather Report, Fall 2008

Dwight W. Chasar

September. Temperatures averaged 66.1°, 2.8° above normal. The high was 92° on the 3rd and the low 47° on the 11th and 17th. Lake Erie was 72° on the 1st and eased down to 68° by the 30th. Rain occurred over 10 days and totaled 3.79 inches, 0.02 inches above normal. The greatest 24 hour rainfall was 1.34 inches on the 12-13th.

October. Temperatures averaged 51.5°, 0.7° below normal. The highest was 82° on the 12th and the lowest 28° on the 30th. Rain occurred over 12 days and totaled 2.60 inches, a departure of only 0.13 inches below normal. The greatest 24 hour fall was 0.99 inches on the 15-16th. There was a trace of snow. Lake Erie water cooled to 56° by the 31st.

November. Temperatures averaged 40.2°, 1.6° below normal. The highest was 72° on the 5th and 6th and the lowest 13° on the 23rd. Occurring over 17 days, precipitation totaled 3.97 inches, 0.59 inches above normal. The greatest 24 hour fall was 1.44 inches on the 15th. There were 10.1 inches of solid precipitation. Lake Erie temperature dropped to 44° by the end of the month.

Sightings Location Key

Boston. CVNP Towpath near Boston Mills Road and Boston Store, 1/10 of a mile east of Riverview Road (Summit Co.).

Bradstreet's Landing. Rocky River lakefront (Cuyahoga Co.).

Burke. Burke Lakefront Airport, Cleveland.

CVNP. Cuyahoga Valley National Park (Summit-Cuyahoga Cos.).

Deep Lock. Deep Lock Quarry, part of the Summit County Metroparks in the CVNP, south of Peninsula.

Dike 14. Private property on Cleveland's lakefront at Gordon Park, open to birding only on special occasions.

Elmwood Wetlands Preserve. North side of North Ridge Road, city of Lorain.

Frohring Meadows. Geauga Park District. Planted with prairie plants; a wet meadow habitat with low areas holding water; good for shorebirds (Bainbridge, Geauga Co.).

Gordon Park. Lakefront marina/park east of E. 72nd Street, Cleveland.

HBSP/Headlands. Unless otherwise stated, Headlands Beach State Park and surrounding area, from Fairport Harbor and Headlands Dunes State Nature Preserve in the east to Shipman Pond, Zimmerman Trail and adjacent Mentor Marsh State Nature Preserve (also known as Mentor Lagoons) (Lake Co.).

Ira Road. CVNP north of Riverview and Ira Roads; a large beaver marsh bisected by the towpath boardwalk (Summit Co.).

Jaite. The wetlands and early-succession fields surrounding the intersection of Highland and Riverview Roads in the CVNP (Brecksville-Peninsula, Cuyahoga-Summit Cos.).

LaDue. Reservoir between Auburn Center and Welshfield in southern Geauga Co.

Lake View Cemetery. East of University Circle, Cleveland.

Long Lake. Portage Lakes, southern Summit Co.

Lorain Harbor/Impoundment. City of Lorain, east of the mouth of the Black River; east of the harbor is a dredge spoil impoundment area that in some years provides excellent shorebird habitat.

MP. Abbreviation for Metroparks or Metro Parks.

NC. Abbreviation for Nature Center.

Nesmith Lake. Portage Lakes, southern Summit Co.

Nimisila. Reservoir in southern Summit Co.

Sandy Ridge. A large artificial wetland in North Ridgeville known for easily seen waterfowl, rails, moorhens and cranes (Lorain Co.).

Shaker Lakes. Shaker Heights, Cuyahoga Co.

Sims Park. Euclid, Cuyahoga Co.

SP. Abbreviation for State Park.

Station Road. CVNP towpath trailhead area south of Rt. 82 at Riverview Road, including the Pinery Narrows heron rookery (Brecksville, Cuyahoga Co.).

Summit Lake. South of Akron.

Terra Vista. A naturally restored site of a former sand and gravel quarry near the Canal Visitors Center in the CVNP at Tinkers Creek Road; currently an early-succession field with trails, utility right-of-ways and small wetland areas. (Valley View, Cuyahoga Co.).

Turkeyfoot Lake. Part of Portage Lakes, southern Summit Co.

Wellington Upground Reservoir. Lorain Co.

Wendy Park. Cleveland Lakefront State Park at Whiskey Island, just east of the mouth of the Cuyahoga.

West Creek Reservation. Cleveland Metroparks, Parma.

Wilbeth Road. An urban migrant trap south of Akron where the Ohio Canal runs along the un-restored towpath; wetlands to the east and a landfill to the west (Summit Co.).

Wildwood Park. Cleveland Lakefront State Park at Neff Road (Cuyahoga Co.).

Sightings Highlights

Noteworthy species, numbers, or dates are underlined>.

Snow Goose. A Lesser-race individual was spotted behind Stow High School on 9/21 (GC). On 10/9 one white-morph joined over 50 Canada Geese feeding in the grass at an industrial park in Cuyahoga Falls (DV). On 10/13 a blue-morph was seen at Sandy Ridge, having remained since September (TF). Thirty were spotted from Edgewater Beach on 11/28 (GL).

Brant. On 10/31 a single bird was flying west along the lakefront at Rocky River (JB).

Cackling Goose. From 11/5 through 11/8 one was seen at Whitehaven Memorial Park Cemetery (Mayfield, Cuyahoga Co.) (DAC, FL, GL).

Canada Goose. On 11/22 500 were counted at Headlands (RH).

Mute Swan. Five were reliably seen at Headlands throughout the season (RH).

Tundra Swan. Flocks of up to 80 were seen throughout November at HBSP (RH). On Bass Lake in Geauga County 250-300 were seen on 11/11 (LG). That same day a flock of 40 was seen near Cleveland Public Power moving east along the

lakefront (DJH). Over 258 were seen over Berlin Reservoir on 11/16 and 236 at Springfield Lake in Summit County on 11/22 (GB).

Wood Duck. Ira Road had a peak of 48 on 10/6; the latest sighting there was ten on 11/17 (TMR).

Approximately 60 were counted at Atwater (Portage Co.) on 10/26 (GB). On 11/9 eight were seen in a raft of six Surf and six Black Scoters at Edgewater SP (GL). On 11/30 there were 24 at North Chagrin Reservation (SV).

Gadwall. On 10/16, ten were found at HBSP (RH) and 65 at Sandy Ridge (RSH). On 10/30 ten were seen at Tinkers Creek State Nature Preserve (Portage Co.) (DAC). On 11/19 at least 32 were seen at LaDue (DB).

American Wigeon. The only reports were single birds at Headlands on 10/2 and 10/16 (RH), fifty at Sandy Ridge on 10/26 (RSH) and seven at LaDue on 11/19 (DB).

American Black Duck. All reports: 2 on 10/15 at Station Rd. (DAC). 3 on 10/21 at HBSP (RH). 5 on 10/25 at Ira Rd. (DAC). 9 on 10/26 at Sandy Ridge (RSH).

1 on 10/27 at Ira Rd. (TMR).

4 on 10/29 at HBSP (RH).

3 on 10/30 at Station Rd. (DAC).

3 on 10/31 at Sims Park (JB).

1 on 11/2 at Sandy Ridge (CW).

1 on 11/2 in Wellington (CW).

1 on 11/10 at Ira Rd. (TMR).

3 on 11/12 at HBSP (RH).

4 on 11/13 at Wildwood SP (NA).

20 on 11/14 at HBSP (RH).

12 on 11/15 at HBSP (RH).

6 on 11/17 at HBSP (RH).

3 on 11/19 at LaDue (DB).

15 on 11/19 at HBSP (RH).

3 on 11/22 at North Perry (JP).

14 on 11/22 at HBSP (RH).

18 on 11/23 at HBSP (RH).

Mallard. Headlands' counts of 15 to 80 throughout the season (RH) were typical for most complete reports. At Sandy Ridge 240 were counted on 10/26 (RSH). At Wingfoot Lake in Southwest Portage County, 475 were seen on 11/22 (GB).

Blue-winged Teal. Wilbeth Road had twelve on 9/8 (GB). On 9/14 HBSP had a count of 22; a single individual remained the next day; these were the only observations at HBSP for the season (RH).

Northern Shoveler. On 10/26 there were 41 found at Sandy Ridge (RSH). Six were seen at Headlands on 10/29 (RH). On 11/19 Summit Lake had 28 (GB).

Northern Pintail. Seven were seen on 10/26 at Sandy Ridge (RSH). Headlands had 20 on 10/21 and 40 on 10/29 (RH). A juvenile was noted at both Nesmith Lake and Wilbeth Road (within two miles) on 10/2 through 11/1, possibly the same bird (GB).

Green-winged Teal. LaDue had 49 on 10/20 (RSH). Sandy Ridge had an estimate of 278 birds on 10/26 (RSH) while Headlands had 225 on 10/29 (RH). Atypically scarce in November with only two reports submitted: four birds at LaDue on 11/8 (LG) and one lingering there on 11/19 (DB).

Canvasback. A single bird on 10/29 was Headlands' only report (RH).



Cackling Goose, Whitehaven Cemetery, Cuyahoga Co., 11-7-2008

Gabe Leidy

Inland, five were seen at Wellington's Up-ground Reservoir on 11/8 and one at O'Brien Cemetery in Hudson on 11/23 (GB).

Redhead. Wellington Up-ground Reservoir had five on 11/8 (GB).

Ray Hannikman tallied 12 at HBSP on 11/16, one of only three days he found this species at this site (RH).

Ring-necked Duck. Headlands' highest count was twelve on 10/29 (RH). Summit Lake had 114 on 11/30 (GB).

Greater Scaup. At Headlands eight were seen on 10/29, which was, like the Redhead and Ring-necked, one of only three days this species was found there (RH).

Lesser Scaup. HBSP had its first sighting, a single bird, on 9/25 and counts as high as 30 over the period from 10/29 to 11/24 (RH). At Wildwood Park three were counted on 10/19, with at least nine at Sims Park on 11/1 (NA).

Harlequin Duck. A male was spotted at E. 72nd Street on 11/28 (SV). Two flew along the lake at North Perry on 11/16; first was a female by itself, later one male was seen among six Buffleheads (JP). On 11/30 another was spotted just west of Wildwood Park during a pelagic birding boat trip (JP).

Surf Scoter. Earliest report was three at Headlands on 10/10 (RH). Eight were counted on 10/26 at Sims Park (NA). November sightings included six on 11/9 at Edgewater SP (GL) and ten at Headlands on 11/29 (RH).

White-winged Scoter. HBSP had four on 10/29 (RH). Sims Park had one on 11/23 (NA) and again on 11/27 (CC) while Burke had three on 11/27 (CW).

Black Scoter. Forty on 10/25 was HBSP's highest count; 20 were found there on 11/29 (RH). Sims Park had 14 on 11/5 (CC) and 22 on 11/8 (NA); this location hosted 10 to 20 birds throughout November. Six were seen in a mixed Scoter-Wood Duck raft on 11/9 at Edgewater SP (GL).

Long-tailed Duck. Three were seen at Headlands on 11/27, the only report from that location (RH). One female was seen on 11/27 to 11/29 at Edgewater SP (GL, BF, PL).



Harlequin Duck, East 72nd Street, Cuyahoga Co., 11-27-2008

Gabe Leidy

Bufflehead. Headlands had 40 on both 10/29 and 11/11 (RH). On 11/13, 23 were found at Sims Park (NA).

Twelve were seen at Rocky River on 11/23 (CC) and again on 11/29 (SV).

Common Goldeneye. A drake was found on 11/10 at Springfield Lake (Summit Co.) (GB). On 11/16 there were eight at HBSP (RH). Sims Park had 45 on 11/6 (NA) and 30 on 11/27 (CC).

Hooded Merganser. Headlands' numbers peaked at 50 on 11/11 (RH). Summit Lake had 83 on 11/23; Nimisila had 74 on 11/27 (GB). Twelve were at LaDue on 11/19 (DB).

Common Merganser. Seen on only four occasions at HBSP: the first report of 16 birds on 10/19 was not only relatively early but also the highest count reported there (RH). Two were found at Sims Park on both 11/1 (NA) and 11/27 (CC).

Red-breasted Merganser. On 9/16 an early individual was seen off the beach in North Perry (JP). Peak fall numbers at Headlands were 1800 on 11/18, 2500 on 11/19 and 1900 on 11/24 (RH).

Ruddy Duck. An early sighting on 9/6 was one adult at Mogadore Reservoir (GB). Seven were seen in

Northfield on 10/25 (DAC). On 10/26 there were over 245 at Oberlin City Reservoir in Lorain County (PL, BF). Twelve on 10/29 was HBSP's highest count (RH).

Ruffed Grouse. A definite rarity for our area, one was spotted in Kirtland on 9/27 (HP *fide* LR).

Wild Turkey. On 10/2 five were spotted in the CVNP (HO); fourteen were counted there on 11/1 (LD).

Red-throated Loon. Single birds were found at both HBSP and Painesville Township Park on 10/21 (RH, JT, SW). Emil Bacik had two at Headlands on 11/17 (EB *fide* RH).

Common Loon. A very early flyover of a single bird was observed on Lake Erie from Headlands Beach on 9/9 (RH); later in the season, on 11/17, a combined total of over 860 birds were viewed there, the vast majority moving east to west (EB, JT *fide* RH).

Pied-billed Grebe. The strongest showing was late in the season. Greg Bennett found large inland numbers:

45 at Nimisila on 10/17, 22 at Summit Lake on 11/12 and 34 at Nimisila on 11/21 (GB). Five was the highest season count at HBSP, noted on 11/17 (RH). Four were counted at Ira Road on 11/24 (TMR).

Horned Grebe. Inland, Turkeyfoot Lake had three on 10/17, while twelve were counted at Summit Lake on 11/18 (GB). A count of 119 was observed from North Perry on 11/15 (JP). Headlands had four single-bird sightings from 10/22 to 11/19 (RH). Eighteen were found at Sims Park on 11/13 (NA).

Red-necked Grebe. One was located at Mentor Lagoons on Lake Erie on 10/25 (JT, RH, SW). Two were seen from North Perry on 11/15 (JP).

Eared Grebe. On 11/15 one was found near North Perry (JP).

Northern Gannet. The Avon Lake power plant area hosted one bird on 11/17 (GL).

Double-crested Cormorant. A season high of 400 was observed at Headlands on 10/22 (RH).

American Bittern. One remained at North Chagrin NC from 9/7 through 9/10 (TK).

Great Blue Heron. Scattered reports. Nine were seen on 11/9 at HBSP (RH).

Great Egret. North Reservoir in Summit County had a bird remain from 9/30 to 10/4 (GB). One was present at Sandy Ridge on 11/2 (CW).

Green Heron. On 10/8 Shaker Lakes had a late sighting (JW).

Black-crowned Night-Heron. On 9/9 six were found at Shaker Lakes (LD). At Wildwood Park four immature birds were seen on 10/14 (NA). On 11/1 an immature was located at Wilbeth Road (GB). The downtown Cleveland Merwin Street counts were 28 on 11/9 and 63 on 11/16 (PL, BF).

Turkey Vulture. At the Ravenna Arsenal 40 were spotted on 9/4 (FL). Headlands had 120 on 10/3 (RH). Three immature birds were spotted in Sagamore Hills on 10/12 (DAC), where a late individual was seen on 11/19 (CW).

Osprey. On 9/1 one was spotted east of Dike 14 (DJH). Shaker Lakes had a sighting of one bird on 9/15 (JW). At HBSP single birds were seen almost daily through 10/6; two were seen there on 9/22 (RH).

Bald Eagle. Not mentioned are those spotted near known nests. On 9/11 one was seen over Lakewood (DJH). Seen throughout the season at Headlands with as many as three on 10/5 and again on 10/22 (RH). On 9/20 at the CVNP Canal Visitor Center there were separate sightings of an adult and a fourth-year bird (FL). Also in the CVNP a pair was seen on 11/10 at Ira Road (TMR). On 11/16 an adult was perched in the trees on the south side of I-480 between Lee and Warrensville Roads (LGa).

Northern Harrier. Single birds were spotted on 10/5, 10/13 and on 11/5 at HBSP (RH). One was sighted at Burke on 11/27 (CW). On 11/22 an immature in Deerfield (Portage Co.) was chased by a young Bald Eagle (GB). One was seen flying through a South Russell backyard on 11/27 (LG).

Sharp-shinned Hawk. Few reports. The Romitos had one at Ira Road on 9/8 (TMR). Headlands reported single-bird sightings from 10/19 to 11/23 (RH). On 10/31 one was seen at Jaite (CW).

Cooper's Hawk. Headlands had a sighting of one bird most days throughout the season except on 10/30, when 40 were counted that day (RH). Clyde Witt had five November sightings in the Calendar area (CW).

Red-shouldered Hawk. Sightings of single birds were present in all complete reports; the CVNP had the only counts of two birds in a day and also the only November sightings (HO, TMR).

Broad-winged Hawk. In Chardon Township one was seen on a utility wire on 9/8 (DB). One was spotted on 9/20 during the CVNP Fall Census (DAC).

Red-tailed Hawk. Typically common. Three were seen at the Ravenna Arsenal on 9/4 (FL).

Rough-legged Hawk. On 11/29 one was spotted at Headlands (RH).

American Kestrel. All reports:

- 1 on 9/28 at Lorain Impoundment (JB).
- 2 on 10/18 at Burke (PL).
- 1 male on 10/26 at Oberlin Reservoir, Lorain Co. (PL, BF).
- 2 on 10/26 near Lorain Co. airport (PL, BF).
- 1 on 10/31 at HBSP (RH).
- 1 on 11/2 in Wellington (CW).
- 1 on 11/8 at Burke (SV).
- 1 on 11/11 in the CVNP (CW).
- 1 on 11/17 at HBSP (RH).
- 1 on 11/23 at Burke (SV).
- 1 on 11/24 at HBSP (RH).
- 2 on 11/27 at Burke (CC).
- 2 on 11/29 at Burke (CC).
- 1 on 11/30 in Bay Village at a feeder, seen catching a House Sparrow (DL).

Merlin. One hunted over Dike 14 on 9/1 (DJH). An individual was seen at Headlands on most days between 9/11 and 11/8 (RH). Ira Road had a sighting on 10/13 (TMR). Two birds, one male and one female, were found at Calvary Cemetery in Garfield Heights on 10/20; on 11/1 only the female could be found there (LGa). One could be found at the top of an oak near the Lake View Cemetery maintenance area on 11/1 and was subsequently seen in the general area the remainder of the month (DJH). On 11/30 one was spotted flying from Dike 14 to the outer breakwall on Lake Erie (JP).

Peregrine Falcon. An impressive five individuals were counted over Headlands Beach on 10/1 (RH, JT, SW, EB). An adult was seen at Berlin Reservoir on 11/9 (GB). At Burke on 11/28, one was observed standing on a runway tearing apart its meal while another perched on a nearby light post (GL).

Virginia Rail. Headlands had two observations, one on 10/13 and one on 10/25 (RH). None were reported from their common locations in the CVNP.

Sora. The Richfield Coliseum site grasslands had one on 9/20 (GL). Noted until mid-October at HBSP, where the highest count was four on 10/10 (RH). Lorain Impoundment had exceptional numbers with the improved habitat: One on 9/23 (SV); 11 on 9/17, 13 on 9/21 and finally two on 10/12 (GL).

American Coot. At Nimisila 178 were counted on 10/17 (GB). Headlands numbers peaked at 13 on 10/20 (RH).

Sandhill Crane. At LaDue four were observed on 10/20 (RSH), seven on 11/19 (DB) and four on 11/29 (LG).

Black-bellied Plover. HBSP had eight on 9/6; the last sighting there was of two on 11/8 (RH). On 10/19 Lorain Harbor's dredge impoundment had a single bird (CC); another single sighting occurred there on 10/26 followed by two on 11/9 (GL).

American Golden-Plover. Three were spotted at Headlands on 9/30; their last date of the season (RH).

Semipalmated Plover. At Lorain Harbor nine were seen on 9/1 (GB) and 26 on 9/21 (GL). HBSP's last sighting was one on 10/18 (RH).

Killdeer. Typical numbers, with no reports of more than ten birds on a single day.

American Avocet. Emil Bacik found five birds loafing on the HBSP beach on 10/9 with the birds remaining for most of the morning (EB *vide* RH).

Spotted Sandpiper. A straggler was found on 10/15 at Wildwood Park (NA).

Solitary Sandpiper. The only reports were of two at Station Road on 9/3 (DAC) and one at HBSP on 9/9 (RH).

Greater Yellowlegs. Late migrants included one on 10/26 at Lorain

Impoundment (GL), one at HBSP on 10/28 (RH), one at Sandy Ridge on 11/2 (CW) and ten found at West Branch State Park (Portage Co.) on 11/9 (GB).

Lesser Yellowlegs. Single birds were found at HBSP on 9/2 and, the latest reported, on 10/2 (RH). The Ravenna Arsenal had a sighting on 9/4 (FL). Eight were counted on 9/12 at West Branch State Park (Portage Co.) (GC). One was found on 9/13 at Lorain Harbor (SV).

Whimbrel. One individual remained for several hours on the beach of the HBSP State Nature Preserve on 9/5 (EB *vide* RH).

Ruddy Turnstone. Headlands had three sightings: one bird on 9/6, two on 9/9 and one on 9/16 (RH).

Sanderling. Seen nearly every day at Headlands with double-digit numbers, Sanderlings wrapped up their migration there with a peak count of 30 birds on 10/29 (RH).

Semipalmated Sandpiper. The only report from HBSP was a sighting of one on 9/6 (RH). Lorain Impoundment had 30 on 9/7 (JB).

Western Sandpiper. Two juveniles were seen on 9/3 at the Lorain Impoundment (GL).

Least Sandpiper. Twenty-five were found on 9/7 at the Lorain

Impoundment (JB).

White-rumped Sandpiper. On 9/3 two adults were discovered at the Lorain Impoundment (GL).

Baird's Sandpiper. At the Lorain Impoundment three juveniles were seen on 9/3; a single bird was later seen there on 9/17 (GL). Two were seen on 9/5 at Headlands and one on 9/6 (RH).

Pectoral Sandpiper. Four were counted on 9/15 at HBSP; the last date was on 10/1, with one bird seen (RH).

Purple Sandpiper. One was found at Lorain Harbor on 11/14 (GL). One to two birds frequented the HBSP breakwall from 11/19 to 11/24. They were so tame they occasionally fed, quite literally, at the feet of the birders and hunters (RH, EB, JT, SW).

Dunlin. On 10/12 two were found at the Lorain Impoundment (GL). One to four birds were seen on four separate occasions in October at Headlands, but on 10/29 287 were counted (RH).

Stilt Sandpiper. On 9/7 one bird made an appearance at Lorain Impoundment (JB). On 11/2 one was spotted at Sandy Ridge; although stragglers have been reported in November in Ohio, this sighting is



Sandhill Cranes, LaDue Reservoir, Geauga Co., 11-29-2008

Linda Gilbert

later than previous area late-fall record of 10/23 set in 1986 (CW).

Short-billed Dowitcher. On 9/21 one was seen at Lorain Impoundment (GL).

Wilson's Snipe. Twelve were seen at the Aberdeen Business Park (Golf View Lane, Highland Heights) on 10/16 (PL). The Richfield Coliseum site, a favorite fall location for this bird, hosted five on 10/18 (GL). One was seen there from 10/5 to 11/1 (DAC). HBSP had reports of one seen on various dates in October (RH). Five were seen at Frohring Meadows on 11/5 (LG).

American Woodcock. The CVNP Canal Visitor Center had one at dusk on 9/6 where it was seen landing in the grass south of the parking area before subsequently taking off (FL). Another was found nearby at Terra Vista on 9/20 (FL). Late for HBSP, one was seen there on 11/7 (RH).

Wilson's Phalarope. An adult was spotted at the Lorain Impoundment on 9/27 (GL).

Red-necked Phalarope. One was found at the Lorain Harbor impoundment on 9/13 (SV) and on 9/21 (GL).

Red Phalarope. One bird sped by the Mentor Lagoons on 10/28 (JT *vide* RH).

Black-legged Kittiwake. An immature bird was spotted from North Perry on 11/10 and again on 11/16 (JP).

Sabine's Gull. Jerry Talkington spotted a bird far out over Lake Erie as it fed with several Bonaparte's Gulls on 9/19 (*vide* RH).

Bonaparte's Gull. Most of Ray Hannikman's counts at Headlands were over a thousand; 1200 were observed on 9/17 and the season ended with the peak of 11,000 on 11/28 (RH). At Lorain Harbor 2000 were seen on 11/29 (CC). Inland at Berlin Reservoir approximately 500 were counted on 11/16 (GB). Except for HBSP, all reports were in November.

Black-headed Gull. An adult was found at Wendy Park on 11/8 (GL). Certainly one of the fall birding highlights at Headlands Beach was the continued presence of both adult winter and first-winter Black-headed Gulls from 11/11 through 11/27. Observers felt, based on plumage

characteristics, that three, possibly four, birds may have been involved in the sightings (RH, JT, SW).

Little Gull. A good year for this gull, all reports were either adults or first-years, when specified. The season's maximum count at Headlands occurred on 9/21 with four or five adults noted (JT, EB, RH, SW) and between one and three were present on most days the entire season (GL, RH); five were seen there on 11/17 (GL). A first-year bird was found at Wendy Park on 11/8 (GL). On 11/28 Edgewater Park had an adult (GL).

Laughing Gull. On 11/8 one was found at Lorain Harbor (BW).

Franklin's Gull. On 11/8 two were found at Wellington Reservoir (GB). One was found in Lorain County on 11/16 in a field with other gulls (BF, PL). One first-winter bird was found at the mouth of the Grand River from 11/11 through 11/27 (JT, RH).

Ring-billed Gull. At Turkeyfoot Lake 750 were seen on 11/8 (GB). Usually 500 or more were counted at HBSP with 1000 on 9/13 and 1100 on 11/16 (RH). Lorain Harbor had 6000 and Avon Lake Power Plant had 1500, both on 11/19 (CC).

Herring Gull. Headlands had a season high of 350 on 11/9 (RH). Thousands were seen at E. 72nd Street on 11/27 (CC).

Iceland Gull. A single third-year bird was found at Avon Lake Power Plant on 11/28 (JB).

Lesser Black-backed Gull. There were early sightings of single birds at HBSP on 9/13 and 9/29 (RH). Lorain Harbor had one on 11/19 (CC). An immature bird was found at E. 72nd Street on 11/27 (LR).

Glaucous Gull. A first-year bird was found at E. 55th Street on 11/28 (GL).

Great Black-backed Gull. Several were always present at Headlands with a high of eight on 11/22 (RH).

Caspian Tern. Sighted through the end of September at HBSP with a high count of four on 9/22 (RH). Long Lake had one on 10/4 (GB).

Common Tern. Except for a single bird on 11/9, Headlands' sightings were all in September with a



Front to back: Little Gull, Bonaparte's Gull and Ring-billed Gull, Headlands, Lake Co., 9-27-2008

Gabe Leidy

noteworthy 300 on 9/29 (RH). West Branch Reservoir had 23 on 9/15 (GB).

Forster's Tern. HBSP had one on 9/13, three on 10/11 and one on 10/29 (RH).

Pomarine Jaeger. At Headlands single birds were found on 11/11 (RH, JT) and 11/27 (EB, JT *fide* RH). Lorain Harbor had a sighting on 11/14 (GL). On 11/28 one was seen at Edgewater Park (GL).

Parasitic Jaeger. Birds were seen from HBSP beginning 10/21 (JT *fide* RH); on 11/27 three were seen from the breakwall past the lighthouse (EB *fide* RH). Two were seen at Lorain Harbor on 11/14 (GL).

Rock Pigeon. Typical numbers; 120 were seen at the Euclid Beach Park area on 11/30 (NA).

Mourning Dove. Counts of up to 40 were common at Headlands throughout the period (RH). Ira Road had 24 on 10/13 (TMR).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Lorain County's Elmwood Wetlands Preserve had one on 9/1 (GB). On 9/20 two were found at Deep Lock (TMR).

Black-billed Cuckoo. The only report was one that provided long looks on 9/7 at Hemlock Creek Picnic Area in the Bedford Reservation (FL).

Eastern Screech-Owl. Two were observed at HBSP on 9/1 (RH). On 10/19 one was discovered at the Lorain Harbor dredge spoil impoundment (CC). Redlock in the CVNP had one on 10/23 (DAC).

Great Horned Owl. One was heard in a Westlake neighborhood on 9/8 (CC). Headlands had three observed on 11/13 (RH). Two were found in Sagamore Hills on 11/27 (CW).

Snowy Owl. One was spotted at Burke from 11/22 through 11/29 (many obs.).

Barred Owl. Only two reports: one was observed at the Shaker Lakes NC on 9/3 and again on 9/10 (JW),

and Bedford Reservation's Button Road field had two heard calling at dusk on 9/11 (FL).

Short-eared Owl. The Richfield Coliseum site had one seen on 10/6 and on 11/1 (DAC). A migrant was found at Lorain Harbor impoundment on 10/12 (GL). Emil Bacik discovered one at HBSP on 11/17 (EB *fide* RH).

Northern Saw-whet Owl. On 11/30 this typically obliging bird allowed itself to be photographed at Dike 14 (GL).



N. Saw-whet Owl, Dike 14, Cuyahoga Co., 11-30-2008

Gabe Leidy

Common Nighthawk. All reports:
1 on 9/1 at Shaker Lakes NC (JW).
1 on 9/2 at HBSP (RH).
6 on 9/2 at Jaite (DAC).
40 on 9/4 at Nimisila (RSH).
60 on 9/5 at Nimisila (GB).
100 on 9/4 at Kirtland Hills, flying from 20 to 120 feet, not traveling in any discernable direction (*fide* BFa).
15 on 9/5 at Turkeyfoot Lake (GB).
1 on 9/5 at Shaker Lakes NC (JW).
2 on 9/6 at CVNP Canal Visitor Center (FL).
1 on 9/6 in Valley View (DAC).
2 on 9/9 at HBSP (RH).
2 on 9/11 at Blossom Music Ctr. (GB).
40 on 9/11 at Bedford's Button Rd. field (FL).
20 on 9/14 at Akron's Portage Country Club (GB).

125+ on 9/14 at Sharon Center, Medina Co. (JB).
3 on 9/17 at Station Rd. (FL).
3 on 9/19 at Long Lake (GB).
8 on 9/20 at Akron's Portage Country Club (GB).
2 on 9/20 at Deep Lock (TMR).
1 on 9/20 at HBSP (RH).

Chimney Swift. In a five-minute period on 9/3 Julie West counted 170 birds as they flew over the Shaker Lakes NC (JW). On 9/16 near North Reservoir 240 were tallied (GB). The peak day at Headlands was 9/30 with 400 counted; the last day was 10/9 with 60 birds (RH). At Nesmith Lake over 80 were seen on 10/9 (GB). A Bedford Heights chimney popular for its high nesting numbers still had 450 on 10/5 – by 10/19 they were no longer seen (DAC).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Seven on 9/10 was HBSP's highest count (RH). Latest sightings, both on 9/29, were one at Shaker Lakes NC (JW) and another in Sagamore Hills (CW).

Belted Kingfisher. Counts of up to three were common at Ira Road the entire season (TMR).

Red-headed Woodpecker. Station Road had at least seven (including three immature birds) on 9/3; one could still be found there on 10/13 (DAC). HBSP had one bird seen on four dates in September (RH).

Red-bellied Woodpecker. Very Common. Headlands had eight on 9/1 (RH). On 9/20 ten were seen at Deep Lock (TMR). On 10/10 an 8.5 mile trek through the lower CVNP resulted in 16 birds (DV).

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. On 9/25 two were spotted at the Boston area of the CVNP (HO). Six were seen at HBSP on 10/2 and five on 10/6 (RH). Shaker Lakes NC had two banded on 10/6 (JW). At Cascade Valley MP in Akron one was seen on 11/23 (GB).



Cave Swallows, Bradstreet's Landing, Cuyahoga Co., 11-9-2008
Gabe Leidy

Downy Woodpecker. Expected counts, highest was nine on both 9/20 and 11/17 at Ira Road (TMR).

Hairy Woodpecker. One or two were present in most complete reports the entire season. Headlands had three on 10/1 (RH).

Northern Flicker. On 10/1 twenty were tallied at Headlands; the last sighting was four on 11/5 (RH).

Pileated Woodpecker. One or two birds were present in most complete reports, mainly from the CVNP and throughout the season.

Olive-sided Flycatcher. Single birds were located at Mentor Lagoons on 9/4, 9/8 and 9/12 (RH, JT). One was banded at Shaker Lakes NC on 9/10 (JW).

Eastern Wood-Pewee. Among late-migrant reports were an immature located at O'Brien Cemetery in Hudson on 10/3 (GB); Lorain Impoundment had one on 10/5 (GL).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. On 9/5 one was banded at Shaker Lakes NC (JW). At Headlands, two were counted on 9/6 (GL, SV) and one on 9/15 (RH).

Acadian Flycatcher. Two were seen on 9/20 during the CVNP Fall Census (DAC).

Least Flycatcher. One was banded at Shaker Lakes NC on 9/26 (JW). On 10/8 a very late individual was found in the trees along the HBSP breakwall (EB, JT *fide* RH).

Eastern Phoebe. Two were found at Jaite on 10/13 (DAC). On 10/31 one was seen at Wildwood Park (NA). Latest report was a bird found at HBSP on 11/22 (RH).

Great Crested Flycatcher. On 9/8 one was seen at Shaker Lakes NC (JW). Headlands' latest sighting was one on 9/14 (RH).

Northern Shrike. Single birds were found along the HBSP Wake Robin Trail on 10/23 and on 10/28 and at Mentor Lagoons on 11/21 and on 11/23 (JT *fide* RH). Frohring Meadows hosted one on 11/14 (*fide* LG).

White-eyed Vireo. Two birds were counted on both 9/8 and 9/15 at Ira Road (TMR). A straggler was banded on 10/15 at Shaker Lakes NC (JW).

Yellow-throated Vireo. On 9/8 two were found at Ira Road; two more were seen at Deep Lock on 9/20 (TMR). A single bird was spotted on 9/18 at Station Road (DAC).

Blue-headed Vireo. At Shaker Lakes NC one was banded on 9/5, four on 9/26 and one on 10/6 (JW). On 9/20 one was seen near the CVNP Canal Visitor Center (FL). Observers saw one to two at Headlands with the last season sighting of one on 10/29 (RH).

Warbling Vireo. Latest report from HBSP was a single bird on 10/25 (RH).

Philadelphia Vireo. One was both seen and heard at Hemlock Creek Picnic Area in the Bedford Reservation on 9/7 (FL). Twelve were sighted on 9/16 at Headlands where they were seen throughout September (RH). In the CVNP, one was spotted on 9/18 at Station Road (DAC).

Red-eyed Vireo. On 9/1 one was seen feeding a cowbird at Lorain County's Elmwood Wetlands Preserve (GB). HBSP had 14 on 9/11; the last sighting there was one on 10/7 (RH). In the CVNP the latest report was one on 10/10 (DV).

Blue Jay. Migrants caused numbers to peak in September. On 9/20 in the CVNP, 21 were counted at the Canal Visitor Center and 17 at Terra Vista (FL). On 9/21, 90 was the season high at Headlands (RH).

American Crow. Highest counts were 128 on 10/10 in the CVNP (DV), 46 on 10/13 at Ira Road (TMR), 44 on 10/23 at Boston in the CVNP (HO) and 54 on 11/10 at Ira Road (TMR).

Horned Lark. The only reports were from Headlands: two were seen on 9/17 (RH), one on both 10/18 and 10/23 (RH), and an immature bird on 11/23 (CC).

Purple Martin. Forty were counted at Headlands on 9/1 (RH). Over 1,000 were counted at their annual staging location at the south end of Nimisila

Reservoir on the evening of 9/4 (RSH).

Tree Swallow. On 11/10 a single bird, the latest sighting reported, was seen with the Rough-winged at Nimisila (see below) (RSH).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow. The previous late fall record of 10/20 in 2002 was broken twice this season. The Harlans found a late flock of 35 at Sandy Ridge on 10/26, after making a careful check to make sure they were not the more likely Tree Swallows; as they were being observed a few called occasionally but most were silent (RSH). Later, at Nimisila on 11/10, one was seen with a Tree Swallow (RSH).

Bank Swallow. The only reported sighting was a very late individual at Sandy Ridge on 9/21 (PL).

Cave Swallow. Many observers were treated to views of up to seven birds on 11/9 and 11/10 at Bradstreet's Landing. On 11/14 John Pogacnik had two more along the lakefront at North Perry (JP).

Barn Swallow. Latest sighting was on 10/17 with one found at Nimisila (GB).

Black-capped Chickadee. Twenty-three were counted on both 9/20 at Deep Lock and on 10/6 at Ira Road (TMR). In the CVNP's expansive Christmas Tree Farm area near Peninsula, 50 were counted on 10/24 (DAC).

Tufted Titmouse. Exceptional were 19 counted on 10/12 from the Oak Hill Trail in the CVNP (SV). Most reports had six or less on any given day.

Red-breasted Nuthatch. Scattered reports of single birds throughout the area and throughout the season. The Headlands area had two on 9/20 (RSH). Single birds were observed the same day in Macedonia (FL) and Deep Lock (TMR).

White-breasted Nuthatch. Among high counts were 18 on 9/20 at Peninsula's Deep Lock and 13 on 10/6 at Ira Road (TMR). Eight were counted at Boston in the CVNP on 10/9 (HO).

Brown Creeper. Five were seen at Deep Lock on 9/20 (TMR). At least 12 were seen at Wildwood Park on 10/4 (NA). On both 10/6 and 10/12 eight were counted at HBSP (RH).

Carolina Wren. As many as eight were seen throughout the season at Ira Road (TMR). Eight were observed on 9/14 at Headlands (RH). Ten were counted in the CVNP's Boston area on 9/11 (HO).

House Wren. Three were found on 10/25 at Dike 14 (GL). Wildwood Park had a late straggler on 11/1 (NA).

Winter Wren. Shaker Lakes NC's earliest banded bird was one on 9/22 (JW). Present the entire season at Headlands: the highest count was nine on 10/6 (RH). In the CVNP, one was seen at Kendall Lake on 10/23 and another at Ira Road on 10/25 (DAC). On 10/25 eleven were seen at Dike 14 (GL).

Sedge Wren. Daily censuses of Headlands' Wake Robin Trail by Jerry Talkington and Suzanne Wagner yielded a maximum of three of these secretive little birds on 10/3 (*vide* RH). Two were found in the nearby State Nature Preserve on 10/5 (RH, EB).

Marsh Wren. More reports than previous recent years. One to four could be found at HBSP through 10/22; seven were counted there on 10/3 (RH). At Jaite three were seen on 9/29, at the Richfield Coliseum site two on 10/2 and one was seen at Dike 14 on 10/25 (GL).

Golden-crowned Kinglet. After two early migrants had been seen at Headlands on 9/20 (RSH), a season peak count of 30 was reported there on 10/6 (RH). On 10/17 six were banded at Shaker Lakes NC (JW). Ten were counted at CVNP's Horseshoe Pond area on 10/24 (DAC).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet. Headlands started its season with one on 9/11; the numbers grew to 25 on 10/6 and the season ended with one on 11/18 (RH). On 10/5 five were observed at Dike 14/Gordon Park (CC). At

Shaker Lakes NC the highest counts were five on both 10/6 and 10/24 (JW).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. The only reports were five observed on 9/2 and one on 9/14 at HBSP (RH).

Eastern Bluebird. Very high numbers were reported for the season from the CVNP. Hope Orr's band of birders had 19 on 9/25, 46 on 10/9, 32 on 10/23 and 21 on 11/6, all from the Boston towpath (HO). A noteworthy 62 were counted at Jaite on 10/18 (GL), with 37 on 11/23 at the same site (FL).

Veery. One was spotted on 9/10 at Shaker Lakes NC (JW). Headlands had one seen on three separate days until 9/20 (RH). On 9/22 one was seen at Ira Road (TMR).

Gray-cheeked Thrush. Four were seen at Headlands on 9/11; one to two birds were found there until 10/9 (RH). On 9/21, five were counted at Rocky River MP (RSH) and at least one in a Cleveland Heights backyard (DJH). On 9/28 one was seen at Wildwood Park (NA).

Swainson's Thrush. At least six calling migrants were heard over Nesmith Lake before dawn on 9/6 (GB). On 9/16 nine were seen at HBSP (RH). On 9/26 eleven were found at Shaker Lakes NC; the last report there was one on 10/17 (JW).

Hermit Thrush. The CVNP had sightings of one at Kendall Lake on 10/23 and one at Horseshoe Pond on 10/24 (DAC). Fifty was the highest number for one day, reported on 10/28 from Headlands (RH). On 11/27 one was located at Nimisila (GB).

Wood Thrush. Headlands had sightings of single birds on four days until 9/28 (RH). Two birds were observed at Rocky River MP on 9/21 (RSH). At Shaker Lakes NC one was seen on 9/29 (JW).

American Robin. Over 200 were observed at Shaker Lakes on 11/17 (LD) and again on 11/23 (SV). Flocks of 10 to 100 birds were reported from throughout the region, primarily earlier in the season.

Gray Catbird. At Ira Road 35 were counted on 9/8 (TMR). On 9/20 fifteen were counted at the CVNP Canal Visitor Center area (FL). Stragglers included one at Jaite on 10/20 (DAC) and one at Elmwood Wetlands Preserve in Lorain on 11/8 (GB).

Northern Mockingbird. Up to three birds, representing both adults and juveniles, were seen at the northern Summit County Hike & Bike trail and nearby Sagamore Hills throughout the season (CW, DAC). Headlands had one to two birds seen occasionally the entire season (RH).

Brown Thrasher. Two were seen at Wildwood Park on 9/28 (NA). One to four birds were found at HBSP until 10/1 (RH).

European Starling. Typical of large autumn flocks of this species were the 220 seen in the CVNP on 9/11 (HO), 155 at Ira Road on 9/15 (TMR) and 390 counted at Cain Park in Cleveland Heights on 11/22 (SV).

American Pipit. Two were found on 10/11 at the Lorain Impoundment (CC). On 10/31 ten were seen near Wadsworth (RSH). After mostly single birds had been seen beginning 9/21, a massive movement was

witnessed on 11/3 with 450 counted at Headlands between the State Nature Preserve and Mentor Lagoons (JT, SW, RH).

Cedar Waxwing. The CVNP had the most large flocks; 115 were counted in the Boston area on 9/11 (HO), the Chasars had 75 on 9/13 at Terra Vista (DAC) and 148 were seen at Ira Road on 9/29 where flocks of up to a hundred could be seen throughout the season (TMR). Fifty were counted on 11/8 at North Chagrin Reservation (GL).

Blue-winged Warbler. One was found at HBSP on 9/6 (GL). On 9/15 one was seen at Ira Road (TMR).

Lawrence's Warbler. This hybrid was seen and heard in a shrub thicket at the edge of Lake Kelso at Burton Wetlands (Geauga Co.) on 9/7 (BFa *fide* DB).

Tennessee Warbler. Most reports were from September. Ray Hannikman's group's first November HBSP record was found by Jerry Talkington on 11/1 at the Wake Robin Trail (*fide* RH) (Latest CBC area record is 11/4 in 1978).

Orange-crowned Warbler. One was seen at Wendy Park on 10/4 (BF). On 10/5 there was one at Lorain

Impoundment (GL). Two were spotted at HBSP on both 10/28 and 10/30 (RH).

Nashville Warbler. At Headlands 14 were counted on 9/24 (RH). Two were spotted at Gordon Park/Dike 14 on 10/5 (CC). One was banded on 10/15 at Shaker Lakes NC (JW).

Northern Parula. A migrant appeared in Bedford Reservation on 9/7 (FL). On 10/4 one was seen at Sims Park (NA). At Dike 14 one was spotted on 10/5 (GL). Mostly single birds were found at Headlands until 10/12 (RH).

Yellow Warbler. HBSP was the only location with sightings; twelve were seen on 9/1 and the last sighting was one on 9/23 (RH).

Chestnut-sided Warbler. Ten were counted at Headlands on 9/16 where usually one bird was seen throughout September and two birds on 10/6 (RH). Late individuals included one at Ira Road on 10/6 (TMR) and two at Wildwood Park on 10/23 (NA).

Magnolia Warbler. Twenty were counted at HBSP on 9/16 and again on 9/20 (RH). On 9/26 eight were banded at Shaker Lakes NC (JW). The last sighting from the CVNP Boston area was one on 10/23 (HO).

Cape May Warbler. On 9/17 one was seen at the CVNP's Kendall Lake (PC). On 9/22 ten were observed at Headlands; the last migrant seen

Comments on the Season – Headlands Beach State Park / Mentor Lagoons, Fall 2008

Ray Hannikman

It was the fall, specifically the month of November, of the Black-headed Gull at Headlands Beach State Park. First found on November 11th, both first-winter and adult-winter Black-headed Gulls were observed on several dates from November 17th through the 29th. Previous HBSP records had been one-day wonders or birds that were difficult to locate. Also, enough cannot be said about the continuous coverage of Mentor Marsh's Wake Robin Trail by Jerry Talkington and Suzanne Wagner. Due to their efforts this location has become the place in the Cleveland area to observe (glimpse?) both Le Conte's and Nelson's Sparrows. Other fall highlights were several observations of Pomerine and Parasitic Jaegers, near record or record HBSP counts of Common Loon, American Pipit and Yellow-rumped Warbler, and the beginnings of a White-winged Crossbill incursion both at HBSP and at other locations in the Cleveland area. On the downside, two mainstays of fall migration – waterfowl and warblers – were, at best, lackluster. Even though an excellent total of twenty species of ducks was recorded on the early date of October 29th, overall numbers of ducks seemed small, perhaps due to unfavorable winds from the westerly/south-westerly direction. Warblers also disappointed as daily coverage failed to turn up any Mourning Warblers, and Orange-crowned Warbler was not recorded until October 28th! We who have been fortunate to bird HBSP regularly during the past several years have found many good birds, but also wonder in amazement about how that tiny Sedge Wren found Wake Robin Trail, about how many Bonaparte's Gulls were really before our eyes, or about how many perils lie ahead for those Blackpoll Warblers heading south.

there was one on 10/22 (RH).
Black-throated Blue Warbler. On 9/17 three were seen at Kendall Lake in the CVNP (PC). While most migrants pass through in September, HBSP had five counted on 10/6 and one on 11/13 (RH), Wildwood Park had one on 10/12 (NA) and one was banded on 10/13 at Shaker Lakes NC (JW).

Yellow-rumped Warbler. As expected, mid-October saw the peak migration for this bird. On 10/12, 700 were tallied at Headlands with another 300 witnessed the following day (RH). At Shaker Lakes NC, 41 were banded on 10/13 (JW). At the CVNP Boston towpath area 55 were counted on 10/9 and 61 on 10/16 (HO).

Black-throated Green Warbler. Kendall Lake in the CVNP had four on 9/17 (PC). Ten were seen on 9/24 at Headlands (RH). Wildwood Park had a single sighting on 10/12 (NA). A new Headlands area November record was a single bird at Veteran's Park on 11/2 (RH, JT).

Blackburnian Warbler. The only reports were two on 9/6 at Mogadore Reservoir (GB) and two at HBSP on 9/24 (RH).

Yellow-throated Warbler. Late stragglers reported were one at Ira Road on 9/15 (TMR) and two at Station Road on 9/18 (DAC).

Palm Warbler. Headlands had six on 9/16 (RH). On 10/9 twelve were observed at Boston in the CVNP (HO). Two were seen on 10/9 in Richfield and one was found at Dike 14 on 10/14 (DAC).

Bay-breasted Warbler. On 9/7 one was seen in Bedford Reservation (FL). One on 9/8 was the last migrant banded at Shaker Lakes NC (JW). Seen nearly daily at Headlands, the highest count was five on 9/24 and the last migrant was one on 10/6 (RH).

Blackpoll Warbler. HBSP had double-digit counts the latter half of September with 20 on 9/16 (RH). Five were found on 9/17 at Kendall Lake in the CVNP (PC). One was banded at Shaker Lakes NC on both 9/17 and 10/15 (JW).

Black-and-white Warbler. Four were counted on 9/17 at Headlands (RH).

Latest migrants included one at Wildwood Park on 10/7 (NA) and one in the CVNP Boston area on 10/9 (HO).

American Redstart. Ten were observed at HBSP on both 9/11 and 9/16; the last sighting was two on 10/6 (RH). One was banded on 10/6 at Shaker Lakes NC (JW).

Ovenbird. Four were seen on 9/16 at Headlands; their latest migrant was one on 10/10 (RH).

Northern Waterthrush. Only reported from Headlands; one to two were seen on three separate dates in September and a late migrant was spotted on 10/28 (RH).

Connecticut Warbler. Jerry Talkington found one at HBSP's Wake Robin Trail on 9/25 and 9/28 (JT *fide* RH).

Mourning Warbler. One was banded on 9/15 at Shaker Lakes NC (JW).

Common Yellowthroat. At Boston in the CVNP 15 were counted on 9/25 (HO). Late sightings were one in Sagamore Hills on 10/12 (DAC) and two at HBSP on 10/15 (RH).

Hooded Warbler. On 9/20 three were found at Deep Lock (TMR). Headland's last sighting was one on 9/29 (RH).

Wilson's Warbler. On 9/3 eight were counted at HBSP (RH). Late migrants were one at Dike 14/Gordon Park on 10/5 (CC), one at Headlands on 10/6 (RH) and one seen on 10/10 from the CVNP's Carriage Trail (CW).

Canada Warbler. On 9/8 one was banded at Shaker Lakes NC (JW). Headlands' sightings included two on 9/11 and one on 9/23 (RH).

Yellow-breasted Chat. On 9/20 one was found on the CVNP Fall Census at Jaite (DAC).

Eastern Towhee. The Romitos had one to four birds on most of their Ira Road walks (TMR). Six were counted at Dike 14 on 10/25 (GL).

American Tree Sparrow. Typical numbers; forty were seen at Jaite on 11/23 (FL).

Chipping Sparrow. Forty were counted at HBSP on 9/25; their latest sighting was three on 11/19 (RH). Two late birds were seen on 11/6 at

Lake View Cemetery (DJH). In South Russell one lingered at a feeder at least until 11/24 (LG).

Field Sparrow. On 10/20 five were observed at Jaite (DAC). At the Lorain Impoundment ten were counted on 10/12 (GL). The last sighting at Headlands was one on 11/27 (RH).

Vesper Sparrow. At the Richfield Coliseum grasslands one was seen on 10/2 and two on 10/18 (GL). Headlands had a single bird seen on both 10/28 and 10/29 (RH).

Savannah Sparrow. At Frohring Meadows 26 were banded on 9/23 (LG). On 10/24 one was banded at Shaker Lakes NC (JW). Headlands had at least one seen through the end of October; one was also spotted there on 11/27 (RH).

Grasshopper Sparrow. At the Richfield Coliseum site one juvenile was found on 9/20 (GL). On 10/3 one was seen at HBSP (RH).

Henslow's Sparrow. A bird was found at the Coliseum site on 9/21 (GL). In the CVNP north of Peninsula in a field east of the railroad tracks, one was seen on 9/27 (DV) – this is not a commonly birded area and probably warrants future exploration. One suddenly appeared on the HBSP Wake Robin Trail boardwalk and was photographed on 10/5 (JT *fide* RH).

Le Conte's Sparrow. Jerry Talkington and Suzanne Wagner found one to three individuals almost every day from 10/1 through 11/4 (*fide* RH).

Nelson's Sparrow. Gabe Leidy's sightings well-summarized the many reports this season: 9/20 (1), 10/2 (1) and 10/7 (1) at the Richfield Coliseum site; 10/1 (1) at West Creek Reservation; 10/5 (2) and 10/11 (1) at Lorain Impoundment; 10/12 (2), 10/19 (2) and 10/24 (1) at HBSP Wake Robin Trail. Likely including the same birds, one to five were present continuously along the HBSP Wake Robin Trail beginning on 9/30 and continuing through 11/4 (JT, SW *fide* RH).

Fox Sparrow. Two were found at Jaite on 10/20 (DAC) and six were observed there on 11/1 (FL). Four were counted at Headlands on 10/28 and on 10/30 (RH). On 10/30 three

were seen at Station Road (DAC). Four were seen at Twinsburg's Pond Brook MP on 11/2 (FL). On 11/9 one was seen at Lorain Impoundment (GL).

Song Sparrow. Fifty were seen at Headlands on both 9/28 and 10/28 (RH). Twenty were counted at Jaite on 10/13 (DAC). The CVNP Boston towpath area had double digit counts throughout the season; 27 were tallied on 10/30 (HO).

Lincoln's Sparrow. One to four were counted at HBSP until the end of October (RH). One was found at Lorain Impoundment on 9/17 (GL). Jaite had two on 9/20 (FL) and one on 10/13 (DAC). On 10/5 three were seen at Dike 14/Gordon Park (CC).

Swamp Sparrow. A respectable 50 were tallied at Jaite's marshlands on 9/29 (GL); 35 could still be found there on 10/13 (DAC). Headlands had double-digit counts almost daily until 11/3 with a high of 40 on 10/4 (RH). On 11/1 fifteen were seen in the Wildwood Park area (NA). Many reports for single birds in October into November, especially in the CVNP.

White-throated Sparrow. Over 35 were seen on 10/15 at Wildwood Park (NA). Counts of at least one hundred birds were made at Headlands on 10/6, 10/12 and 10/15 (RH). Fifty were counted on 10/21 from the northern Summit County Hike & Bike Trail (CW).

White-crowned Sparrow. Headlands had the earliest sighting with one on 9/1 (RH). Two early migrants were present at Lorain Impoundment on 9/17 (GL). Dike 14 had 20 on 10/5 (CC) and 75 on 10/12 (DAC). On 10/11 the Lorain Impoundment had 150 (GL).

Dark-eyed Junco. Earliest report was one at Headlands on 9/24 (RH). In the Wildwood Park area 95 were counted on 11/1 (NA).

Lapland Longspur. At Headlands, one was seen on 10/17 and two on 11/28 (RH).

Snow Bunting. Single birds were seen on 10/21 at the Richfield Coliseum grasslands and at Dike 14 (GL). Having been seen from late October at Headlands, 500 were counted in one day there on 11/17 (RH). At

Frohning Meadows 15 were seen on 11/30 (LG).

Scarlet Tanager. The only reports were from the CVNP: one on 9/11 at Boston (HO), one at Deep Lock on 9/20 (TMR) and a late individual seen on 10/10 during an 8.5 mile walk in the lower CVNP (DV).

Northern Cardinal. The expected counts; on 10/13 Ira Road had 15 (TMR) and Headlands had up to 25 (RH) seen almost daily.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak. Headlands' last report was one on 10/1 (RH).

Indigo Bunting. On 9/20 one was seen at Terra Vista (FL). One to three birds were seen at Headlands through 10/6; then a late female-plumaged bird was seen along Headlands' Fisherman's Path on 11/6 (RH).

Bobolink. Five were seen at Jaite on 9/29 (GL). Headlands had sightings of one or two birds on four dates until 9/30 (RH).

Red-winged Blackbird. At Bedford Reservation 257 were found on 9/7 (FL). At Ira Road numbers peaked at 850 on 10/13 (TMR). Jaite hosted mixed flocks of up to 2000 Red-wingeds and Common Grackles on 10/13, 10/14, 10/15 and 10/24 in evenings and early mornings (DAC). On 11/1, 450 Red-wingeds were counted there (FL).

Eastern Meadowlark. At the Richfield Coliseum site eight were counted on 10/6; the last sighting there was one on 11/1 (DAC). HBSP's only sighting was one on 10/28 (RH). On 11/23 five were seen walking on ice and poking at any emerging vegetation at Frohning Meadows; two were still seen there on 11/29 (LG).

Rusty Blackbird. All records: 25 on 10/10 at Twinsburg Ledges (CC). 6 on 10/13 at Ira Rd. (TMR). 1 on 10/17 at Shaker Lakes NC (seen, not banded) (JW). 6 on 10/20 at Ira Rd. (TMR). 40 on 10/20 at HBSP (RH). 9 on 10/20 at Mogadore Res. (GB). 12 on 10/20 at Jaite (DAC).

20 on 10/23 at Red Lock, CVNP (DAC). 20 on 10/27 at Ira Rd. (TMR). 1 on 10/28 at HBSP (RH). 3 on 10/30 at Station Road (DAC). 5 on 10/31 at O'Brien Cemetery, Hudson (GB). 20 on 10/31 in Barberton (GB). 143 on 11/3 at Ira Road (TMR). 20 on 11/9 at Mogadore Res. (GB). 4 on 11/10 at Ira Rd. (TMR). 1 on 11/11 at HBSP (RH). 1 on 11/7 at Best Preserve (LG).

Common Grackle. When reported, Grackles were seen in large flocks occurring around the end of October. At Ira Road there were 375 on 10/13 (TMR). An estimated 2500 were seen at Headlands on 10/23, the only day of the season they were observed there (RH). On 10/26 over 1000 were counted at North Chagrin MP (LD).

Brown-headed Cowbird. On 10/5 ten were counted at Dike 14/Gordon Park (CC). West Creek MP had 50 on 10/11 (RSH). HBSP had a few large flocks with 30 on 9/8, 80 on 9/13 and 40 on 11/3 (RH).

Baltimore Oriole. Only two sightings reported: one in Westlake on 9/3 (CC) and the only Headlands report was one on 9/16 (RH).

Purple Finch. Most sightings were the last half of October. One was spotted at HBSP on 10/9 (RH). Three were observed in the Indigo Lake-Hale Farm area of the CVNP on 10/13 (TMR). On 10/17 two were banded at Shaker Lakes NC (JW). Two were seen on 10/20 at Jaite (DAC). Six, one male and five females, were spotted in the CVNP on 11/9 along Wetmore Road (DV). At Mantua Bog State Nature Preserve (Portage Co.) one was found on 11/28 (GB).

House Finch. On 10/11 there were 75 at West Creek MP (RSH).

Red Crossbill. Three were seen on 11/2 at Dike 14 (GL). Single birds were heard along the HBSP Coast Guard beach on 11/16 (JT, EB *fide* RH) and at Painesville Township Park on 11/23 (JT *fide* RH).

White-winged Crossbill. A single beautiful adult male flew close to observers at the Headlands Nature

Preserve on 10/30 (JT *vide* RH). On 11/28, 75 were counted at Rocky River Park (GL). Thirty flew over three observers at the nearby Wake Robin Trail on 11/30 (JT *vide* RH). **Pine Siskin.** As a prelude to a banner winter irruption, Gabe Leidy had these high counts: on 10/19 there were 292 at HBSP's Wake Robin Trail and 254 at Dike 14, and on 11/28 there were 140 at Rocky River Park. He also had sightings of one to twenty birds throughout the area on eight separate dates from 9/28 to

10/26 (GL). Headlands had similar daily numbers beginning on 10/4 and peaking at 560 counted on 10/20 (RH). Thirty were seen at the Cleveland Zoo on 10/13 (RSH). On 10/12 ten were found at Shaker Lakes NC (JW). Fifteen were seen on 11/19 at a Sagamore Hills feeder (CW). Twenty were counted at a Euclid feeder on 11/23 (LC). At Lake View Cemetery on 11/27 a flock of 35 seemed very interested in the sweet gum trees (DJH). A Valley

City feeder hosted over 65 birds by the end of November (FG). **American Goldfinch.** Expected numbers. Highest count reported was 80 on 11/4 at HBSP (RH).

House Sparrow. Numbers were as expected.

Field Notes

Burke Airport Raptors on November 27, 2008 *Clyde Witt*

Burke Lakefront Airport was the spot to be for raptors this morning. Susan Jones and I, along with a number of others, watched a Snowy Owl as it paid little or no attention to the airplanes moving within a few feet of its position at the end of the runway. In addition to the visitor from the north, a female Northern Harrier worked the high weeds behind the owl. We also had two American Kestrels on the wires. The coolest sight was the appearance of a mature Bald Eagle, Thanksgiving dinner in its talons. It circled above us, shredding the bird, finally landing in the grass at the east end of the airport. It appeared to be resting and pecked at its meal only a couple times before laboring off to the east. We could not determine what the species-in-talon was, larger than a pigeon, but smaller than a bread box.

2008 Peregrine Falcon Nesting Success *Chad and Chris Saladin*

Location	(# Eggs) Laying Date	(# Young) Hatch Date	(# Fledged) Fledge Date
I-90 Hilliard Road Bridge	(4) ~3/18	(3) m, (1) f, 3/28	(4) 6/7
Cleveland Clinic, Euclid & E. 100 th St.	(4) 3/26	(?) ~5/4	Failed
I-90 Cuyahoga River Bridge	(4) Late March	(1) m, (2) f, 5/7	(3) 6/12 to 16
Bohn Building, E. Superior Ave.	(3) Late March	(?) ~5/6	Failed
Tower East, Shaker Hts.	(3) ~3/24	(2) ~5/11	(2) 6/19
Arcelor-Mittal Steel Plant	(4) ~4/1	(3) ~5/10	(2) 6/20 to 23
First Energy Eastlake Power Plant	(5) ~4/22	(3) m, (2) f, <6/1	By mid-July
I-480 Valley View Bridge	(4) Late March	(4) 5/8	(4) 6/9 to 17
Lorain, 21 st Street Bridge	(?) ?	(2 or more) ?	(2) 6/27
Terminal Tower	(4) 3/16	(4) 4/23	(4) 6/2
I-80 Turnpike Bridge, CVNP	-	-	Failed
Akron, Landmark Building	(4) 3/25	(3) males, 5/6	(3) 6/11 to 13
Canton, Bank One Building	(4) ~4/14	(1) m, (3) f, ~5/22	(4) 7/1 to 3
Youngstown, County Court Building	(4) ~4/1	(1) m, (2) f, 5/14	(3) 6/17

Cave Swallow Observation at Bradstreet's Landing on November 9, 2008 *Gabe Leidy*

I arrived to find five birds in sight – three birds tucked into a nook in the pier and two others perched on a ledge on the side. The two birds were a bit more active, flying around occasionally, and they eventually took off towards the east joining two other birds already in flight. The other three stayed put, occasionally jostling for position within the cranny.

September 20, 2008 CVNP Fall Bird Census Results

Dwight Chasar, CVNP Volunteer

The weather could not have been more cooperative for human comfort. There were 16 teams with 44 participants who found 113 species, second highest (115 in 2006) for this fall census. We have only kept quantitative data for individual numbers of each species for 11 years now (but this fall census has been done since the early 80s). As well, the date for the census during that time has varied from September 10 to the 23rd, so that some of the variation in species or numbers present will reflect those differences. In addition, the participants' experiences keep getting better and this leads to more findings.

Numbers of individual species were all within the normal fluctuation we have seen compared over the last 10 years except for the following: first ever for fall census were Grasshopper, Henslow's and Nelson's Sparrows at the Coliseum grasslands; good highest counts for Nashville and Blackpoll Warblers; Mourning Dove and Robin highest ever by two times. Carolina Wrens recovered from the lows in 2007 (from a previous harsh winter). The Chat was the latest ever found on a fall census. We didn't miss anything that hasn't been missed before in some previous years.

322	Canada Goose	49	Eastern Phoebe	1	Yellow-throated Warbler
77	Wood Duck	1	Great Crested Flycatcher	4	Palm Warbler
1	American Black Duck	2	White-eyed Vireo	2	Bay-breasted Warbler
92	Mallard	6	Yellow-throated Vireo	15	Blackpoll Warbler
27	Wild Turkey	2	Blue-headed Vireo	4	Black-and-white Warbler
1	Pied-billed Grebe	9	Warbling Vireo	10	American Redstart
14	Great Blue Heron	1	Philadelphia Vireo	3	Ovenbird
4	Green Heron	13	Red-eyed Vireo	1	Connecticut Warbler
40	Turkey Vulture	374	Blue Jay	23	Common Yellowthroat
1	Osprey	203	American Crow	13	Hooded Warbler
3	Bald Eagle	3	Tree Swallow	1	Yellow-breasted Chat
1	Northern Harrier	353	Black-capped Chickadee	22	Eastern Towhee
1	Sharp-shinned Hawk	133	Tufted Titmouse	26	Chipping Sparrow
10	Cooper's Hawk	15	Red-breasted Nuthatch	4	Field Sparrow
13	Red-shouldered Hawk	127	White-breasted Nuthatch	15	Savannah Sparrow
1	Broad-winged Hawk	7	Brown Creeper	1	Grasshopper Sparrow
9	Red-tailed Hawk	62	Carolina Wren	1	Henslow's Sparrow
1	Sora	19	House Wren	1	Nelson's Sparrow
22	Killdeer	2	Winter Wren	95	Song Sparrow
3	Spotted Sandpiper	6	Marsh Wren	10	Swamp Sparrow
2	Solitary Sandpiper	69	Eastern Bluebird	2	White-throated Sparrow
1	American Woodcock	3	Veery	2	Dark-eyed Junco
2	Ring-billed Gull	9	Swainson's Thrush	10	Scarlet Tanager
37	Rock Pigeon	3	Hermit Thrush	161	Northern Cardinal
278	Mourning Dove	717	American Robin	4	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
3	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	147	Gray Catbird	8	Indigo Bunting
2	Eastern Screech-Owl	660+	European Starling	3	Bobolink
5	Common Nighthawk	495	Cedar Waxwing	214	Red-winged Blackbird
264	Chimney Swift	1	Tennessee Warbler	6	Eastern Meadowlark
10	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	16	Nashville Warbler	904+	Common Grackle
15	Belted Kingfisher	2	Northern Parula	35	Brown-headed Cowbird
3	Red-headed Woodpecker	1	Yellow Warbler	2	Purple Finch
98	Red-bellied Woodpecker	3	Chestnut-sided Warbler	35	House Finch
120	Downy Woodpecker	15	Magnolia Warbler	345	American Goldfinch
22	Hairy Woodpecker	2	Cape May Warbler	95	House Sparrow
99	Northern Flicker	2	Black-throated Blue Warbler		
19	Pileated Woodpecker	3	Yellow-rumped Warbler		
12	Eastern Wood-Pewee	2	Black-thr. Green Warbler		
2	Acadian Flycatcher	1	Blackburnian Warbler		

Contributors

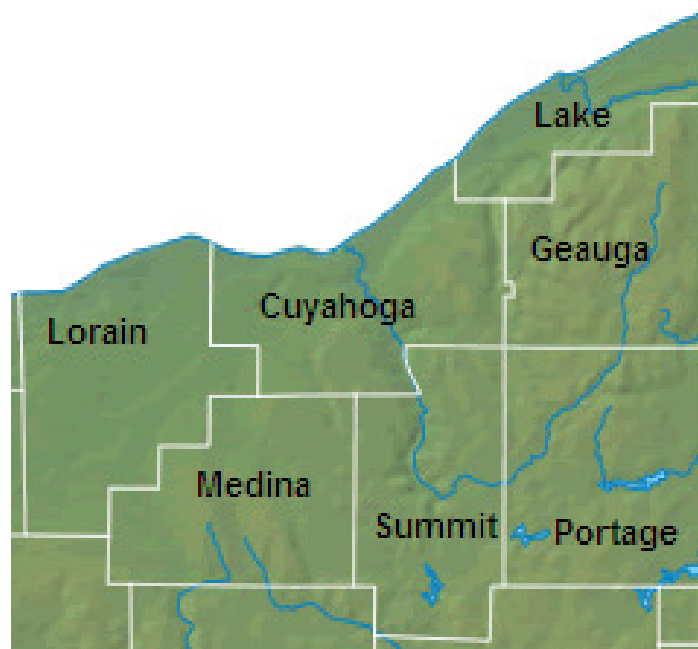
Nancy Anderson (NA)
Emil Bacik (EB)
Gregory Bennett (GB)
Dan Best (DB)
Jen Brumfield (JB) *
Craig Caldwell (CC)
Lisa Chapman (LC)
Dwight and Ann Chasar (DAC)
Pat Coy (PC) *
Greg Cudworth (GC) *
Leo Deininger (LD)
Bob Faber (BFa)
Tim Fairweather (TF)

Bob Finkelstein (BF)
Lou Gardella (LGa) *
Linda Gilbert (LG)
Frank Greenland (FG)
Ray Hannikman (RH)
Rob and Sandy Harlan (RSH)
Dick and Jean Hoffman (DJH)
Susan Jones (SJ)
Tim Krynak (TK)
David Lewis (DL)
Gabe Leidy (GL)
Fred Losi (FL)
Paula Lozano (PL) *

Hope Orr (HO)
Hans Petruschke (HP)
John Pogacnik (JP) *
Tom and Mary Anne Romito (TMR)
Larry Rosche (LR)
Jerry Talkington (JT)
Scott Van Valkenburg (SV)
Doug Vogus (DV) *
Suzanne Wagner (SW)
Julie West (JW)
Bill Whan (BW) *
Clyde Witt (CW)

* Sightings gathered from birdingonthe.net/maillinglists/ohio.html

Some submissions are received indirectly through forwarded correspondence (*fide* = "in trust of").



Cleveland Bird Calendar 7-county Area

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