

Eastern Highlands & Upper Ohio River Valley



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In the east, a lack of storms and their attendant fallouts left birders listless (in more ways than one), while the west was hit by a barrage of fierce storms through May, affording better-than-average fallouts of migrants. Banding stations provide a similar but less anecdotal perspective: while Powdermill Nature Reserve in sw. Pennsylvania had its fourth lowest total of birds banded in 42 years, Black Swamp Bird Observatory in northwestern Ohio

had fifteen-year-high or near-high counts of 11 warbler species alone. Favorable winds on the heels of protracted inclement weather typically open the flood gates of migration, as was observed 26–28 March and 18–20 April, when several outstanding concentrations and early arrivals were detected. Although high water levels reduced shorebird habitat and early departure of ice on Lake Erie cut the gull season short, this was nevertheless one of the more exciting spring migrations in years, with several Regional and many state rarities.

Abbreviations: B.S.B.O. (Black Swamp B.O.); Hoover (Hoover Res., *Delaware/Franklin*, OH); B.C.S.P. (Buck Creek S. P., *Clark*, OH); B.I.W.A. (Big Island W.A., *Marion*, OH); Killbuck (Killbuck Marsh W.A., *Wayne/Holmes*, OH); K.P.W.A. (Killdeer Plains W.A., *Marion/Wyandot*, OH); Magee (Magee Marsh W.A. and Crane Creek S.P., *Ottawa/Lucas*, OH); Metzger (Metzger Marsh W.A., *Lucas*, OH); Middle Creek (Middle Creek W.M.A., *Lancaster/Lebanon*, PA); O.N.W.R. (Ottawa N.W.R., *Ottawa/Lucas*, OH); P.I.S.P. (Presque Isle S.P., *Erie* PA); Shawnee (Shawnee S. F., *Scioto/Adams*, OH); S.G.L. (State Game Lands); Y.C.S.P. (Yellow Creek S.P., *Indiana*, PA).

LOONS THROUGH VULTURES

Ohio's 6 Red-throated Loons spanned 9–25 Apr, while singles lingered in *Bucks*, PA 29 May (AM) and *L. Ontelaunee*, Berks, PA 31 May (MSP). The largest grounding of Common Loons left 111 birds at *L. Ontelaunee* 3–4 Apr (RK). A concentration of 200 Horned Grebes at Hoover 19 Mar (RTh) was the Region's largest. In contrast to last spring's record flight, Red-necked Grebes were in normal numbers 7 Mar–26 Apr, with a high count of 5 at Memorial L., *Lebanon*, PA 15 Mar (G. Randall) and 4 each in Ohio and West Virginia. A late bird appeared in *Paulding*, OH 5 May (D&MD). Ohio hosted 9 Eared Grebes, all singles from as many counties 6 Mar–9 Apr (m.ob.). Two were e. to *L. Ontelaunee* (RK) and *Lancaster*, PA (T. Raub), both 11 Apr.

Single American White Pelicans were recorded in five w. Pennsylvania counties 25 Mar–27 May. Across 10 Ohio counties, 25–31 birds included high counts of 6–7 birds in *Stark*, OH 28 Mar–10 Apr (DJ, R. Macko, m.ob.) and 7 at Metzger 17 Apr (D. Friedman), with one or more remaining through 16 May (R&SH). Six birds at B.C.S.P. 17 May (JK) were perhaps on their way to Moncove L., WV, where a flock of 6 appeared 18–19 May (J. Anderson). The species is not annual in West Virginia ...yet! Upstaging the white pelican flight, a **Brown Pelican** 3–9 May on an Ohio gravel pit in *Greene* was the most widely viewed in that state's history (D. Shuler, TB, m.ob.). Great Cormorants were at Martin's Creek Quarry, *Northampton*, PA 9 Mar (M. Schall).

Migrant American Bitterns were popular at P.I.S.P., where 49 were recorded 18 Apr–9 May (BCO, JM). A Least Bittern 31 May at Boaz Marsh, *Wood*, WV was a good find (J. Benedetti). An apparent **Great Blue Heron** × **Great Egret** was present at Canonsburg L., *Washington*, PA during Apr (ph. GM, ph. MF, m.ob.). A Great Egret at Hinckley, *Medina* 11 Mar beat the buzzards back to their famous roost for an early report for ne. Ohio (R. Hinkle). Inland Ohio Snowy Egrets were in *Scioto* 20 Apr (RR) and *Darke* 29 Apr (S. Miller), while on *L. Erie* one was e. to P.I.S.P. 1 May (JM). Little Blue Herons were notable 14 Apr in Cleveland (S. Zadar) and 25–26 May at Gilmore Ponds, *Butler*, OH (MB). Four could be found in Pennsylvania 8 May (*vide* BE). A Tricolored Heron visited Pipe Creek W.A., *Erie*, OH (CC) 31 May. After arriving 10 Apr in *Preston*, WV (GF), interior Cattle Egrets appeared at six Pennsylvania and four Ohio sites 10 Apr–28 May. Yellow-crowned Night-Herons wandered n. to Lake 20 May (RH) and *Medina*, OH 1 May (R&SH). Glossy Ibis were found 7

May in Bucks, PA (J. Hartley) and 8–17 May in Chester, PA (LL et al.). A pair was noted 2 May at Middle Creek (BC, m.ob.). Single Ohio White-faced Ibis were found at B.I.W.A. 1 May (BSp, J. Grabmeier, PG) and in Ottawa 12–14 May (JS, ES, m.ob.). A *Plegadis* ibis was seen 1 May flying along the Ohio R. Allegheny, PA (C. Tague, S. Varley). A Black Vulture was in Cuyahoga, OH 25 Mar (LRi); there are fewer than 10 records for the s. shore of L. Erie. The seasonal passage of 8000 Turkey Vultures along the s. shore of L. Erie was about average.



A species annual and increasing in Pennsylvania, this American White Pelican at Black Swamp, Lawrence County 26 March 2004 was one of five found in the state this spring. Photograph by Bill Etter.

WATERFOWL

A Black-bellied Whistling Duck present in Montgomery, OH 30 May (ph. Holly & Jason Schlotman) fits the recent pattern of dispersal for this expanding species. A flock of 12 Greater White-fronted Geese was at Deer Creek W.A., Fayette/Pickaway OH 25–28 Mar (B. Bosstic, DS et al.). Otherwise, singles or pairs were noted in Pennsylvania from Bucks, Indiana, Centre, and Westmoreland. The ice thaw at L. Ontelaunee, PA brought about a “grand waterfowl spectacle” 6–7 Mar. More than 80,000 Snow Geese were present, many identifiable as Greater Snow Geese neck-collared at Bylot I., n. of Baffin I., Nuvavut, Canada, with a single Lesser Snow Goose banded near Banks I., Northwest Territories (RK). Pennsylvania Game Commission staff estimated 170,000 Snow Geese at Middle Creek 1–10 Mar. A late bird was still present 31 May at Octoraro Res., Chester, PA (LL). Eleven Ross’s Geese at Middle Creek 1 Mar–3 Apr (R. Miller, GM ph., DW) included 2 blue morphs. Another was detected 28 Mar–5 Apr at Mercer W.A., Mercer, OH. (J. Bowers, m.ob.).

Mute Swans continue to spread unabated into Ohio, having tested waters away from L. Erie since 1990. Pairs were noted at several new locations into late Mar, most notably on a nest in Allen 9 Apr (M. Moser), a dubious first for w.-cen. Ohio. Eleven birds at O.N.W.R. 2 May (E. Pierce) were equally disturbing. Tundra Swans numbered up to 1800 from Metzger w. to Toledo 1 Mar (K. Meeks), with

600 into late Mar (BW). Interior sites recorded 496 at Y.C.S.P. 9 Mar (MHi et al.) and 200 at Blue Marsh L., Berks, PA 2 Mar (J. Silagy). One appeared s. to Berkeley, WV (MO).

Four reports of male Eurasian Wigeons included singles in Ohio 27–28 Mar at K.P.W.A. (DO, DS) and 11 Apr at Mallard Club Marsh W.A., Lucas (JP), with singles in Pennsylvania 8 Mar at Clay Hill Rd., Franklin (R. Reeder, DW) and 1 Apr at Somerset L., Somerset (S. Bastian). The 1250 American Wigeons at Metzger 15



A third state record, this female Tufted Duck delighted many Pennsylvania birders at State Game Lands 56 in Bucks County (here 29 March 2004). Photograph by Thomas Ford-Hutchinson.

Mar (R&SH) was a good ground-based tally. A prolific seasonal passage by Northern Pintails through Ohio was marked by counts of 450 birds at Grand River W.A., Trumbull 6 Mar (D. Hochadel), 610 at Funk Bottoms W.A., Wayne 22 Mar (BG), and 900 at B.I.W.A. 21–23 Mar (MP, R. Troutman). A male Common (Eurasian Green-winged) Teal was present 2–19 Mar at Belleville, Mifflin, PA (J. Irvin

Zook, ph. B. Fowles et al.). Redheads staged a remarkable migration through Ohio, with 1500 at Deer Creek Res., Pickaway, OH 1 Mar (N. Smith). The same day, an outstanding 3500 birds were estimated from Metzger (K. Meeks), with 2500 remaining 15 Mar (R&SH). By comparison, a paltry flock of 3000 Lesser Scaup on Maumee Bay 15 Mar (R&SH) was the best reported. Counts of 700 at Wellington Res., Lorain (R&SH) and 1000 at Hoover (RTh) in mid-Mar, and 1350 along the Susquehanna R., Dauphin, PA 9 Apr (DH), were representative of the inland flight.

Mid-Mar Ring-necked Duck passage through Ohio peaked with 1050 in Portage (LR) and 1390 at Killbuck (BG), while Pennsylvania fared better, with 1500 19 Mar at Conneaut Marsh, Crawford (R.F. Leberman). A female Tufted Duck present at S.G.L. 56, Bucks 22–28 Mar will be Pennsylvania’s 3rd record if accepted (AM, ph. T. Ford-Hutchinson, m.ob.). The maximum Bufflehead count was 638 at Y.C.S.P. 27 Mar (LC), while one on the Shenandoah R. 16 Apr was late for the e. Panhandle of West Virginia (MO).

High counts of Long-tailed Duck in Pennsylvania came 9 Apr, with 98 on the Susquehanna R., Dauphin (DH) and 62 at Y.C.S.P. (LC). Eight Ohio reports 20 Mar–9 Apr peaked with 45 at La Due Res., Portage (JB), while up to 2 birds 13 & 27 Mar were on the Shenandoah R., WV (C. Del-Colle, MO). A late-season bird washed up dead at Peach Bottom Village, Lancaster, PA 16 May (B. Schutsky). White-winged Scoters were reported in Ohio 27 Mar–4 Apr from Summit and Stark, with a pair in Lucas 27–28 Apr (DS). In Pennsylvania,

one was present at P.I.S.P. (D. Snyder, Joyce Hoffman) and 6 along the Susquehanna R., Dauphin 9 Apr (DH). The only Black Scoter was a bird at Maumee Bay, Lucas, OH 11 Apr (JP). Surf Scoters favored inland Ohio, with 11 reports of 45 birds 14 Mar–8 Apr, while May provided peak Pennsylvania flocks of 6 at Y.C.S.P. 4–18 May (MHi) and 7 at P.I.S.P. through 23 May (BCo). A wintering bird in Wet-



Whimbrels are rare migrants through Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia, with most records coming from the shores of Lake Erie or the lower Susquehanna River. Whimbrels seen in other locales are often associated with storms, as this bird was on 26 May 2004 in Northampton Township, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Photograph by Adrian Binns.

zel, WV tarried until 5 Mar (W. Jarrell). Common Mergansers numbered 400 off Magee 2 Mar (Z. Baker). Several good flights of Red-breasted Merganser were tallied in Lake, OH (JP), with the peak of 2500 coming 28 Mar and 1200 remaining 1 May. Interior flocks of 500 set down on Hoover (RTh) and L. Arthur, Butler, PA (P. Hess et al.) in mid-Mar. Singles lingered until 29 May in Chester, PA (LL) and 30 May in Wyandot, OH (R&SH). The Ruddy Duck flight was weak in the west, with only 450 birds in Stark, OH 9 Apr (S. Jackson), but 500 along the Susquehanna R, Dauphin, PA 9 Apr (DH) was exceptional in the east. The species lingered through 27 May on the Monongahela R. at Granville, WV (JBo).

RAPTORS THROUGH CRANES

Single Swallow-tailed Kites graced the skies over the Rose Tree Park Hawkwatch, Delaware, PA 23 Apr (J. Lockyer) and New Paris, Bedford, PA 17 May (ph. B. Zematis). With a few birds annual in spring in Pennsylvania since 1999, Mississippi Kite sightings this year increased sharply, with 11 birds reported 17 Apr–18 May. With the exception of a bird in Union (MHi, RHi), all were in the east, including 2 at Hawk Mt. 17 Apr (D. Hughes & M. Wlasniewski). In Ohio, up to 2 birds were reported in Hamilton 17 & 31 May (P. Wharton, RN). The hawkwatchers at B.S.B.O. counted a record 257 Bald Eagles for the season. Greater numbers inland included 15 at Pleasant Hill Res., Ashland, OH 6 Mar (J. Herman). A late Ohio Northern Goshawk in Cuyahoga 28 Apr (LRi) was superseded by a bird in Bucks,

PA 8 May, where unprecedented on such a late date (G. Campbell). A season's worth of Broad-winged Hawks, 1800+, passed over the B.S.B.O. hawkwatchers at Magee 18 Apr (J. Schultz et al.). Setting a record for ne. Ohio was a tally of 1644 in Lake the same day (JP). All told, more than 5100 birds were tallied skirting L. Erie through the spring. Likewise, the count of 1000+ Red-shouldered Hawks detected this season was exceptional. Rough-legged Hawks numbered an impressive 25 at The Wilds, Muskingum 21 Mar (JL), with a late bird in Defiance 25 Apr (J. Yochum). The 3 wintering Golden

Eagles at The Wilds extended their stay into late Mar (JL, m.ob.). The 179 American Kestrels passing hawkwatchers at Conneaut, Ashtabula, OH 25 Mar provided a state record tally (BG et al.). The Prairie Falcon from the winter season was last reported from its Muskingum haunt 7 Mar (J. McCormac). Two King Rails, a species listed as Endangered in the state, were heard at Quakertown Swamp, Bucks, PA 24 Apr+. An Ohio report of one King Rail came from Wayne. Summer resident pairs of Sandhill Cranes returned to their Lorain, Wayne, and Geauga sites in Ohio in Mar. Four birds near Lodi, Medina, OH in late Apr (JB) were prospecting nest sites. Migrants through the Western Basin totaled 22, half the expected and little more than the 21 in w. Pennsylvania, Lawrence 6 Mar (MV).

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH TERNS

A flock of 400+ Black-bellied Plovers passed through Chester, PA 24 May (LL). Two Semipalmated Plovers at B.C.S.P 8 Apr (JK) were early. Exceedingly rare away from L. Erie, a Piping Plover 25 Apr at Rocky Fork L., Highland, OH (ph. T. Shively) was astonishing. Black-necked Stilts caused a stir in the Region, with an unprecedented 5 reported. Ohio singles were at Hueston Woods S. P., Butler/Preble 8 May (A. Bess, J. Joskula) and Pipe Creek W.A., Erie 22 May (JS), with a pair at B.I.W.A. 20 May (JK, m.ob.). Another was present at Dunnings Creek Wetlands, Bedford, PA (†S. Dick). A flock of 12 American Avocets appeared in Lake, OH



Most Willets in Pennsylvania are singles found along the shores of Lake Erie; these five (certainly western *inornatus*) on the Ohio River at Dashield's Dam, Allegheny County on 5 May 2004 were unusual both for the location and number. Photograph by Geoff Malosh.

19 Apr (RH et al.). A lone bird was present at Metzger 8 May (J. Duerr). The 90 Greater Yellowlegs at B.I.W.A. 9 Apr (BW) and 165 at Funk Bottoms W.A., Wayne 12 Apr (JB) were high. A Willet flock in Ohio numbered 11 birds in *Hocking* 29 Apr, with singles in *Paulding*, *Lucas*, and *Preble/Butler*. Pennsylvania high counts include 5 along the Ohio R., *Allegheny* 5 May (MV et al.) and 5 at Crooked Creek S.P., *Armstrong* 6 May (J. & J. Valasek). Whimbrels put on a show in Pennsylvania: 51 were found along the Susquehanna R. at Columbia, *Lancaster*, PA 24 May (J. Book), with an amazing 250+ there 26 May (JH, NP, A. Guarente); on the same date, 6 were at Dunnings Creek Wetlands, *Bedford* (†T. Dick), and a single bird was in *Bucks*, PA (ph. A. Binns). A flock of 31 passed Lakeshore Metropark, *Lake*, OH 23 May (JP). Rare in spring, a Marbled Godwit was at Middle Creek 26 Apr (J. Binder).

Early Least Sandpipers were detected 28 Mar in *Scioto*, OH and at B.C.S.P. (DO). Storm-driven Least at Longwood Gardens, *Chester*, PA 8 May (LL) numbered 235. A Western Sandpiper accompanied a Baird's Sandpiper 31 May at Metzger (R&SH), the latter affording one of very few documented spring reports for Ohio. Observers in w.-cen. Ohio saw 1600 Pectoral Sandpipers at B.I.W.A. 9 Apr (BW) grow to 2100 by 30 Apr (VF). Two Upland Sandpipers in *Mason*, WV 27 Mar (WA et al.) were early. Notable shorebird counts inland include a flock of 400 Dunlin at B.I.W.A. 13 May (PG) and 155 Short-billed Dowitchers at Gilmore



Always a treat in the East, this female Wilson's Phalarope graced the Newton campus of La Salle University, Bucks County, Pennsylvania on 18 May 2004. Photograph by Alan Brady.

Ponds, *Butler*, OH (MB). The largest Dunlin flock for L. Erie was a modest 1000+ birds 15 Mar at Metzger (R&SH). A Curlew Sandpiper, Pennsylvania's 2nd, was a one-day wonder at Martin's Creek, *Northampton*, PA 13 May (ph., †RW, vt. JH). A flight of Stilt Sandpipers in Ohio 29 Apr–11 May produced birds at B.I.W.A. (m.ob.), at Hueston Woods S.P., *Butler/Preble* (D. Russell, A. Bess), and in *Lucas* (m.ob.). One in *Mason*, WV 13 Apr was early (WA et al.). American Woodcocks arrived late in sw. Ohio 29 Feb. This did not apparently delay breeding, as a nest with chicks was discovered 6 Apr at Possum Creek Metropark in

Dayton (T. Klak). Wilson's Phalaropes at O.N.W.R. 27 Apr and *Wyandot*, OH 8 May were migrants, but 3 at B.I.W.A. in May were on recent breeding grounds. Single Wilson's Phalaropes were in *Bucks*, PA 17–18 May (G. Dewaghe & S. Schur) and 31 May (CR), respectively. Single Red-necked Phalaropes were at L. Ontelaunee 16 May (RK, BCk, RC) and Elverson S.T.P., *Chester* 22 May (BCk, RC, ph. NP et al.).

A count along the Ohio in *Allegheny* 10 Apr produced an astonishing 1512 Bonaparte's Gulls (DW et al.). A late bird lingered at Struble L., *Chester*, PA 29 May (LL), where a Franklin's Gull had been 24 May (G. Saunders, LL, †NP, vt. RW). The lower Susquehanna R. and P.I.S.P. produced 6 Little Gulls 29 Mar–2 May (BC, DH, JM, P. Robinson). A California Gull at P.I.S.P. 15 Mar (ph., †JM) would be Pennsylvania's 2nd. Gull numbers peaked along the Central Basin 13 Mar, with some 15,000 Ring-billed Gulls and 3000+ Herring Gulls noted in passage. One Thayer's Gull was reported as part of this movement. Four Iceland Gulls in the Central Basin 6 Mar–8 Apr are the norm, but inland reports from *Geauga*, OH (C. Holt), *Lorain*, OH (C. Pierce), and *Northampton*, PA 21 Mar–10 Apr (D. DeReamus) are still noteworthy. The 12 L. Erie reports of 15 Ohio Lesser Black-backed Gulls were expected, but interior birds are still exciting. Spanning 14 Mar–8 Apr, 3 were in *Stark* (T. Spenseller), 2 in *Knox* (J. Larson), and one each in *Ashland* and *Medina* (R&SH). Remarkably, se. Pennsylvania continues to be the continental stronghold for the species, and periodic counts at Nock-



This adult Curlew Sandpiper at Martin's Creek Power Plant, Northampton County, Pennsylvania 31 May 2004 furnished a second state record. Photograph from videotape by Jason Horn.



Of the dozen or so records of Audubon's Warbler for Pennsylvania, Presque Isle State Park, where this adult male was photographed 17 April 2004, has hosted four. Photograph by Ben Coulter.

amixon S.P. by Etter and at Green Pond, Northampton by DeReamus produced astounding results. Nockamixon counts peaked 17 Mar at 237, while 224 were at Green Pond 10 Apr. A county-wide census 20 Mar totaled 341 for Bucks, PA (BE, CR et al.). We know of no site closer than Iceland that holds numbers of this order. Several apparent Lesser Black-backed x Herring Gull hybrids were also present at Nockamixon S.P. A probable Glaucous Gull x Herring Gull hybrid was photographed at Nockamixon S.P. 22 Mar (BE). Only 4 Glaucous Gulls were found in the Central Basin 6 Mar–4 Apr. A Great Black-backed Gull was inland to Geauga, OH 22 Mar. A Black Tern at Magee 18 Apr tied the 2nd earliest record for Ohio (H. Hiris). Maximum Black Tern counts of 5 in Ohio and 6 in Pennsylvania reflect recent declines.

DOVES THROUGH WAXWINGS

Mourning Dove is a minor diurnal migrant along the s. shore of L. Erie, so the 370+ recorded in passage 17–18 Apr from Lake (JP) was remarkable. A White-winged Dove was present 1 Apr at a feeder in New Castle, Lawrence, PA (C. Gonzalez et al.); this feeder also had one 15 Jun 2001. A Barn Owl found dead in Portage, OH 26 Apr had been banded as a juv. 400 km away in New York in 2001 (fide LR). The wintering Snowy Owl in Franklin, PA remained through 29 Mar (JBo). A Northern Saw-whet Owl re-

mained from the winter at K.P.W.A. 27 Mar (DO). Two calling birds at Cranesville, Preston, WV 23 May were prospective breeders (GF). Chuck-will's-widows away from their Adams, OH stronghold were in Butler, OH 7–8 May (T. Klak), Vinton, OH 10 May (B. Crow), with a 14 May bird at Magee (RN, m.ob.). A Whip-poor-will in Paulding 27 Mar was record early for nw. Ohio (D&MD). An early Chimney Swift was in Perry, OH 30 Mar (J. Faulkner).

Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers exhibited a strong and protracted migration starting 23 Mar along the L. Erie shore. A 17–18 Apr movement of Northern Flickers along L. Erie, Lake, OH (JP) totaled 585. An early Olive-sided Flycatcher 1 May at P.I.S.P. (JM) almost beat an early Eastern Wood-Pewee in Franklin, OH 26 Apr (RTh) back to the Region. Early Ohio Empidonax included an Acadian in Ross 25 Apr (M. Bowman), a Willow in Delaware 4 May (RTh), and a Yellow-bellied at Magee 6 May (K. Schieltz). Single Eastern Phoebe appeared 6 Mar in Montgomery, OH and the next day in Geauga (DJ). An Eastern Kingbird 11 Apr in Cabell, WV (G. Rankin) rounded out the early tyrant flycatcher flight. A Northern Shrike lingered through 25 Mar in Erie, PA (J. Hill). Loggerhead Shrike barely holds on in Adams, OH, where noted 9 & 31 May (L. Brumbaugh, BW). In West Virginia, the species was only reported from Berkley (MO) and Greenbriar (B. Williams). Resi-

dent Bell's Vireos returned to Ohio sites in Hamilton, Butler, and Clark. The 6 Apr arrival of a Warbling Vireo at Scioto Trail S.F., Ross, OH was rather early, as were "lots" of Blue-headed Vireos 27 Mar at Pipestem S.P., Summers, WV (D. Kodak) and one at Shawnee the next day (RR).

Held up by the inclement weather of early Apr, 9600 Tree Swallows flowed across Magee 19 Apr (VF) for a state-record tally of migrants. Unseasonable was possibly L. Erie's earliest Barn Swallow 3 Mar at P.I.S.P. (JM). The species has shown a tendency toward early arrivals in recent years; early birds this year also included singles 27 Mar in Athens and Adams along the Ohio R. Easterly Sedge Wrens included 3 in Wayne, OH 8 May (ES), a territorial bird 6 May+ in Morgantown (GF), and migrants at P.I.S.P. 11 May (BCo) and Middle Creek 19 May (T. Amico). Ruby-crowned Kinglets swept through five L. Erie counties 27–29 Mar (VF, TB, m.ob.). Blue-gray Gnatcatchers returned to Scioto and Montgomery, OH on 28 Mar. The 600+ American Robins in passage along L. Erie 18 Apr is a large number for the late date (JP). Furnishing only about the 3rd record in the past 25 years for Ohio, a Bohemian Waxwing was discovered in Summit 6–15 Mar (JB, K. Metcalf, m.ob.), following a large late-winter flight into the Northeast.

WARBLERS THROUGH FINCHES

An early Nashville Warbler reached Magee 16 Apr, as did a Tennessee Warbler 19 Apr. A Magnolia Warbler was found at Hoover 15 Apr (L. Powlick). An Audubon's Warbler was detected at P.I.S.P. 17–18 Apr (ph., †BCo). Three Black-throated Green Warblers at Shawnee were part of the 28 Mar flight into s. Ohio. A Blackburnian Warbler at Granville, Licking, OH 18 Apr was quite early (S. Woolard), as was one in Lake, OH 25 Apr (LR). Yellow-throated Warblers were noted 25 Mar at Pipestem S.P., Summers, WV (J. & J. Phillips), 28 Mar across s. Ohio, and 29 Mar in Washington, PA (S. Carbol). More than 1200 male Kirtland's Warblers flew over Ohio getting to their breeding grounds this spring, but only singles were detected on the ground: in Knox 8 May (L. Hochstetler), Erie 9 May (B. Phillips), and Cuyahoga 16 May (R. Sweet, R. Nicholls). Ohio Pine Warblers appeared at feeders 1 Mar in Hocking (J. Fry) and 13 Mar in Geauga (A. Fondrk). A flock of 17–20 birds formed in Rocky River, Cuyahoga 23–24 Apr (T. Martincic, S. Wright, m.ob.). Yellow Palm Warblers appeared w. to Ohio in Lake (JP) 1 Apr and

Ottawa 29 Apr (B.S.B.O.). Early Cerulean Warbler arrivals came 17 Apr at Shawnee (BSp) and 22 Apr at P.I.S.P. (JM).

Four singing Black-and-white Warblers 23 Mar at Pipestem S.P., Summers, WV presaged an early flight into the Region. By 28 Mar, they were noted at Shawnee along the Ohio R., with one the same day near L. Erie in Seneca (TB). Well before the norm, the species was recorded widely 3 Apr across s. Ohio (m.ob.). A Prothonotary Warbler 8 Apr in Clermont was early (D. Morse, Jr.); the species was more widely noted 17–18 Apr n. to Seneca, OH (TB) and reached P.I.S.P. 22 Apr (BCo). Single Worm-eating Warblers n. to L. Erie in Lucas, Ottawa, and Seneca had their progress interrupted by mist-nets 17–18 Apr. A peak tally of 110 Ovenbirds in Shawnee 20 Apr was impressive (RR). Louisiana Waterthrushes appeared across s. Ohio and n. to Lake (JP) 26–27 Mar. A well-seen Connecticut Warbler 2 May at Indian Lake W.A., Brown, OH (J. Stenger et al.) was early.

The first Summer Tanager to reach L. Erie was in Ottawa, OH 17 Apr (B.S.B.O.). Three more were mist-netted there 6–22 May (B.S.B.O.). Ohio Clay-colored Sparrows were limited to Hamilton (F. Frick), Lake (JP), Magee (R&SH, D. Jacobs, m.ob.), and Ottawa 29 Apr–9 May (B.S.B.O.). Four in w. Pennsylvania included different singles in Allegheny 1, 13, & 30 May (MF et al., GM, MV) and P.I.S.P. 11–12 May (EK, T. & J. Cunningham). A Lark Sparrow was notable in Greene, OH 5 May (G. Miller). Cleveland hosted a Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow 22 May (CC) and a Henslow's Sparrow 19 Apr (S. Zadar). Fox Sparrows were common throughout Ohio, with up to 40 birds at Magee 5 Apr (m.ob.). Two Lincoln's Sparrows in Geauga 11 Apr were very early for ne. Ohio (H. Petruschke). The wintering Harris's Sparrows lingered in Northampton, PA to 11 Apr (RW) and in Warren, PA until 4 May (S. Stoleson). Easternmost Gambel's White-crowned Sparrows were at P.I.S.P. 30 Apr & 6 May (BC). A male Oregon Junco was present 16 Mar in Seneca, OH (VF). Lapland Longspurs staged in Wyandot, OH, with 1500 noted 2 Mar and 200 remaining 6 May (R. Counts). The only L. Erie flight was detected 7 Apr over Magee (VF), with 386 birds counted. A male Rose-breasted Grosbeak, occasionally bursting into song, adorned a L. Erie feeder 26 Mar in Avon Lake, Lorain, OH (L. Weber). In Ohio, Blue Grosbeaks appeared n. to Muskingum 19 Apr (A. Lavy) and returned to Holmes and Lucas 30 May. Males, pushing the envelope, ventured

farther n., reaching P.I.S.P. 12 May (JM) and Millcreek Twp., Erie, PA 27 May (ph. JM, S. Scholz), where found dead. The songbird of the season was Pennsylvania's 2nd Lazuli Bunting, a male that spent three days at a feeder in Oakland Mills, Juniata 27–29 Apr (ph., †A. Troyer, m.ob.). An Indigo Bunting 7 & 11 Apr at Waynesburg, PA came well before any other reports in the Region (F. Schroyer). A male Painted Bunting, first observed 7 Feb at a feeder in the village of Saginaw, York, PA, was not brought to the attention of the birding community until 24 Mar. It stayed in the neighborhood until 22 Apr (ph., m.ob.). An ASY male Painted Bunting 9 May at a Medina feeder was only the 3rd for Ohio (ph. B. Einhart). A Dickcissel was found at P.I.S.P. in late Apr (fide A. DeSarro).

migrant was seen 21 May in Lake, OH (JP).

Contributors: OHIO: Thomas Bartlett (TB), Jenny Brumfield (JB), Mike Busam (MB), Craig Caldwell (CC), Doug & Micki Dunakin (D&MD), Victor Fazio (VF), Paul Gardner (PG), Bruce Glick (BG), Ray Hannikman (RH), Rob & Sandy Harlan (R&SH), Diane Johnson (DJ), Ned Keller, John Kuenzli (JK), Jay Lehman (JL), Paula Lozano (PL), Doug Overacker (DO), Michael Packer (MP), Rick Nirshl (RN), John Pogacnik (JP), Larry Richardson (LRi), Larry Rosche (LR), Robert Royse (RR), Dan Sanders (DS), Joe Sedransk (JS), Elaine Snively (ES), Brad Sparks (BSp), Rob Thorn (RTh), Bill Whan (BW) PENNSYLVANIA: Bruce Carl (BC), Lee Carnahan (LC), Ben Coul-



This Painted Bunting showed up in Saginaw, Pennsylvania around 7 February 2004, and its presence was made public later, on 24 March (here 9 April). Photograph by Geoff Malosh.

Single male Yellow-headed Blackbirds were in Port Clinton, Ottawa, OH 30 Apr (ph. R. Arnold) and e. to Portage, OH 24 Apr (T. Johnson). Brewer's Blackbirds were recorded twice in nw. Ohio: a single in Ottawa 28 Mar (BW) and 17 in Lucas 11 Apr (JP). A European Goldfinch appeared at a feeder in White Sulphur Springs, Greenbriar, WV 10 Apr (J. Miller); its provenance is unknown. Common Redpolls peaked at Hawk Mt. 1 Mar at 160 birds (D. Barber). From the winter, "low numbers" of Evening Grosbeaks persisted in the Canaan Valley, WV through mid-Apr (GF). A late-departing

ter (BCo), Bob Cook (BCk), Ruth Cook (RC), Bill Etter (BE), Mike Fialkovich (MF), Paul Hess, Margaret Higbee (MHi), Roger Higbee (RHi), Deuanne Hoffman (DH), Jason Horn (JHr), Rudy Keller (RK), Ed Kwater (EK), Larry Lewis (LL), Geoff Malosh (GM), Jerry McWilliams (JM), August Mirabella (AM), Nick Pulcinella (NP), William Reid (WR), Cameron Rutt (CR), Michael Schall (MS), Matthew Spence (MSP), Mark Vass (MV), Dave Wilton (DW), Rick Wltraut (RW) WEST VIRGINIA: Wendell Argabrite (WA), J. Boback (JBo), Janice Emrick, Gary Felton (GF), Matt Orsie (MO). ☉