

THE BOBOLINK.®

FALL 2009 • VOLUME 13, NUMBER 3



Greetings to Everyone!

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As I write this letter, winter is upon us in full fury. Birding seems to have slowed down, but there are still good birds to be found, if you are willing to face the cold wind and snow!

Rarities found in the Bobolink area so far this winter include an Allen's Hummingbird found close to Sugarcreek. This bird had been coming to a feeder at Mae Miller's residence since early October, but word didn't get out until the day before Thanksgiving. It was first thought to be a Rufous Hummingbird until it was banded and turned out to be Ohio's first record of Allen's Hummingbird, if accepted by the Ohio Bird Records Committee. More information on this bird can be found elsewhere in this issue and in the upcoming Winter issue.

Other rarities this winter included a White-winged Dove in western Holmes County, a Glaucous Gull at Berlin Reservoir, a Golden Eagle at The Wilds, a Yellow Warbler, a Yellow-throated Warbler, a record-high count of Sandhill Cranes at Funk Bottoms in early December, and the now famous Purple Martin that stayed at the Cunningham Road location in southern Wayne County until January 10th. This gave the Bobolink area a record of Purple Martin in every month of the year. Watch for more details in the Winter issue.

But this is not the Winter issue yet and I'm supposed to be writing for the Fall issue. This was one of the most memorable years of fall birding ever here in Holmes County!

Fall birding can be fun and rewarding and the fall of 2009 was no exception. Fall migration starts in July, with shorebirds and the first movement of songbirds, and can last into December with Sandhill Cranes, Common Loons, and other waterfowl, including geese. On Saturday, October 10th, we had our third Annual Non-Sunday Bobolink Area Big Sit, held the day before the national Big Sit. We follow the same rules as the national Big Sit and it is always a highlight of the fall season.

In November, I decided to see how many species I could get for the month in the state. I didn't break any records, but still got 121 species and had some nice November birds, including Holmes County's first Common Raven, a few Red-throated Loons, including a flyover at our place, Red-necked Grebe, Purple Martin, Barn Swallow, and Nashville Warbler, and lots of other birds. I only had seven full days of birding and a few partial days. So I believe it is very possible to find 140 species in November if someone put in more time.

It would have been impossible to go to the places that I went if it wasn't for some good friends. They helped me by taking me to Lake

Erie a few times, including eastern and western Lake Erie, Woodbury Wildlife Area, and many other places. One memorable morning, Bruce Glick and I were standing on the banks of Wellington Reservoir looking at a nice variety of hundreds of waterfowl on the water. The sun started to rise, turning the clouds in the west into golden serenity. Birds started to fly everywhere and it wasn't long until we saw our first Common Loons of the day, soon followed by more. Also thousands of gulls flew over and we spotted a fast-flying Red-throated Loon. To top it all off, a nice flock of Tundra Swans came flying right over us, calling as they flew. One of those moments that you never forget!

The biggest highlight of the fall season for the Bobolink area, and possibly the whole state, was the Northern Wheatear that showed up at Emery Yoder's residence on September 12th. I had been on the phone when Emery came dashing into our drive with the horse and buggy. I thought at first that something must be wrong! But it didn't take him long to say that he had a very exciting bird at his place and he thought it was a Northern Wheatear! It took me only a few seconds to grab a scope, binoculars, notepad, and pen. I got on his buggy and off we went! I think his horse must have detected that something pretty unusual was happening, as it didn't need any urging but ran full tilt ahead until we got to Emery's place. My cousin Henry and his boys were already there (they had been on their way to Mr. Hope when Emery flagged them down on the way over to my place and told them about the wheatear). We weren't off the buggy yet when they informed us that the bird was still there. After a quick look, it was confirmed that this definitely was a Northern Wheatear. We watched it and took some notes, and soon decided it was time to let some more birders know. It didn't take long to get a lot more people interested. See Emery's article elsewhere in this issue.

I hope everyone gets out and has some good birding this spring. If anyone is interested in helping on the annual spring Bobolink area waterfowl count held sometime after mid-March, contact The Bobolink and let us know what lake or reservoir you would like to cover and we will assign an area to you. An actual date will not be chosen until closer to the time.

And again, as always, we welcome any questions, comments, bird & nature related stories, reports, photos, sketches, etc. for The Bobolink.

Hope to see you in the field!

—Robert Hershberger

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After the abnormally cool early summer, the months of August and September were marked by generally uneventful weather and near normal temperatures and precipitation, and both were ushered out by strong cold fronts near month's end. October, then, seemed more like a typical November, with lots of cool, cloudy weather, especially the first three weeks, whereas November was more October-like, with sunny days, little rainfall, and was nearly five degrees above normal.

As for the birds, the first good cold front of the season on August 28-29 brought a good movement of passerines, with James F. Yoder tallying 15 species of warblers near Saltillo, including Golden-winged. The nighthawk flight kicked into gear with a four-digit flight observed in Coshocton County on September 3.

While most of September seemed slow bird-wise, the Bird of the Season showed up during this period, when a Northern Wheatear appeared practically on Emery Yoder's doorstep near Bunker Hill on September 12, after a period of northeast winds. This very entertaining bird delighted hundreds of birders during its four-day visit.



Kevin Kline examines a Yellow Rail near Walnut Creek on 10/21/09. Photo by Greg Miller

After a period of humid weather, a sharp cold front on September 25 brought with it the season's strongest movement of neotropical migrants. In northeast Coshocton County and elsewhere the birding was exceptional during and after the front's passage. Ed Schlabbach, who was out birding during this time, judged the action as slow on the 24th, good on the 25th, and phenomenal on the 26th. Adam Yoder wrote: "On 9/26 there was a huge fallout of passerines, with five flocks of 80-150 birds. Had nineteen species of warblers. One of my better days of birding locally." Birding was still good on 9/27, with Aden Yoder reporting good numbers at The Wilderness Center, and Emery Yoder considering it his best day of the season. Amazing numbers of calling migrating thrushes were tallied in Coshocton County in the pre-dawn hours of September 25.

A small army of birders at Funk Bottoms on October 3 proved that hotspot's potential by ferreting out 12 Sedge Wrens, a record for fall migrants, and an excellent count of 6-8 Nelson's Sparrows.

A Yellow Rail in late October north of Walnut Creek that got its legs clipped by a hay mower proved once again that whenever there's a Yellow Rail sighting there's a story to go with it. This bird played hide-and-seek in the mowed and windrowed hay for a couple of days before it finally disappeared.

On November 1, Leon Miller, who had long been trying to set a new local Red-tailed Hawk record, finally got his day, with a flight of 42 RT's (more than twice the old mark), with five Red-shouldered Hawks mixed in for good measure.

The nice November weather enticed a few already late birds to just continue hanging on. The last young of a late-nesting pair of Barn Swallows near Bunker Hill finally left on November 11. At a location near Maysville, two Purple Martins stayed on until November 1, when one departed while the other continued through the month and well into the winter season, surviving on mealworm handouts.

A November headliner was a Common Raven that stunned Robert Hersherberger on his birding foray near Mt. Hope on the 26th for a first modern-day Holmes County raven record. Another good November find was a Northern Saw-whet Owl on the 8th near Fredericksburg.

We have come to expect a few hummingbirds of the *Selasphorus* genus in our region each year in mid-to-late fall and this year was no exception, as three Rufous Hummingbirds showed up during this period. When news of a fourth hummingbird a few miles west of Sugarcreek in Holmes County came to light around Thanksgiving, everyone expected it to be another Rufous, but when hummer expert Allen Chartier from Michigan came to band and examine the bird in early December, he discovered that it was actually a much rarer Allen's Hummingbird, a first for Ohio. Additional details about this bird will be forthcoming in the Winter issue.

So until then, thanks as always for your reports, and good birding.

—Robert Schlabbach



Snow Goose near Smithville in Wayne County on 10/7/09. Photo by Linda Stoller

Snow Goose - There were 5 reports, all of singles except for 4 flyovers nr. Mt. Hope on 11/30 (MH). The loners were noted behind the Mbg. Save-N-Serve on 8/31 (BG), at Smithville on 10/7 (Linda Stoller), at Lake Buckhorn on 11/28 (JEY,BG), and in a flock of 100 Canada Geese flyovers nr. Apple Creek on 10/2 (AM).

Canada Goose - Local concentrations were reported of around 250 at Funk on 8/2 (SS), and a combined 625 at Prairie Lane and Funk on 11/14 (JFY). Some high overhead "non-locals" were noted migrating late in the season, including 16 nr. S.C. on 11/27 (ES).

Mute Swan - This "invader" seems to be staying in check at least for now. 6-8 were noted at KWA during mid-to-late November (SS,JFY).

<**Trumpeter Swan**> - SS reported 1 at KWA on 10/10, and 1 at Prairie Lane on 11/29.

Tundra Swan - In contrast to some years when the majority of swans pass through in a few days' time, this fall good numbers of flyovers were noted on several days during the last 2 weeks of November. Earliest were 8 nr. New Bedford on 11/1 (AHY) and 2 nr. W.C. on 11/1 (JFY), then none until 11/16 when the season's high count of 295 was made in e. Holmes County (Marvin Miller), and 100 were observed s. of Fbg. (Joseph Miller, fide RBA). Low numbers (25 or fewer) were tallied on 11/17,18,20, and 21, including a few flocks heard after dark. Big flight days occurred again on 11/27 when 265 were tallied nr. Layland (JMH,AHY), and 115 nr. Mt. Hope (MH), and on 11/30 when the peak counts were of 152 nr. Mt. Hope (MH), and 87 nr. W.C. (Wilbur Miller fide LM).

Wood Duck - On a long Rails to Trails ride from Holmesville to Killbuck on 9/25, BG tallied a fine total of 144. AY reported good counts of 109 at TWC on 10/3 and 60+ at the BCD backwaters on 10/10. 42 were tallied on the Richland B&O Trail on 9/8 (GC).

Gadwall - Reports were of 2 at the BCD backwaters on 10/10 (JAM), 6 nr. The Wilds on 11/29 (Craig Moore) and 6 at Berlin Res. on 11/30 (Craig Holt).

American Wigeon - Scarce, with 3 at Funk on

10/3 (JEY,AHY,DHY), 2 at the BCD backwaters on 10/10 (JAM), and 8 at CFR on 10/28 (JH).

American Black Duck - 15+ were at KWA on 11/5 (RH). 4 flyover migrants were spotted nr. W.C. on 11/27 (LM,MY). Several others reports of 1-2.

Blue-winged Teal - SS found 1 at Prairie Lane on 8/18, 12 at an Ashland County wetland on 8/30, 20 at SFP on 9/27, and the last 8 at Funk on 10/9. RH noted 10 at Funk on 10/3.

Northern Shoveler - The only reports were of 1 at SFP on 10/1 (SS), 2 at SFP on 10/3 (ES), and 1 flyby nr. Layland on 11/27 (AHY).

Northern Pintail - 1 was noted at SFP on 10/3 (AHY,DHY,JEY) and 1 at the BCB backwaters on 10/10 (JAM).

Green-winged Teal - Earliest were 3 at Prairie Lane on 8/18 (SS). Max. was 46 at SFP on 10/3 (JEY,AHY,DHY). Also of note were 27 along the Bike Trail nr. Mbg. on 11/21 (RH) and 33 at Funk on 11/29 (SS).

Canvasback - CFR hosted 7 on 11/21 (ALT). 1 was noted at PHL on 11/28 (JH,SS).

Redhead - Joining the "Cans" were 8 Redheads at CFR on 11/21 (ALT) and 3 on 11/28 (JH).

Ring-necked Duck - 10 were noted at PHL on 11/10 (BG), while SS eked out 1 at Funk on 11/17. 56 were counted at a gravel pit in Lexington on 11/21 (ALT) and a nice flock of 300 was observed at The Wilds on 11/27 (Scott Albaugh).

Greater Scaup - Slipped through the cracks with no reports.

Lesser Scaup - Noted at CFR where JH reported 16 on 10/28, 100 flyovers on 11/27, and 35 on 11/30; at PHL where 5 were seen on 11/5 (RH,BG) and 5 on 11/19 (SS); and at Berlin Res. where 52 were counted on 11/30 (Craig Holt).

Surf Scoter - 1 was at a pond close to Millersburg on 11/6/09. Reported by Diane Van Schoyck.



Surf Scoter near Millersburg on 11/6/09. Photo by Diane Van Schoyck

Black Scoter - 3 female Blacks at Berlin Res. on 11/30 (Craig Holt).

Bufflehead - BG noted 1 at CFR on 11/10, with numbers there surging to 40 on 11/16 and a high of 74 on 11/27 (JH). SS noted 4 at PHL on 11/19 and 2 at CML on 11/28.

Common Goldeneye - The only report was of 1 at CFR on 11/19 (RH,SS).

Hooded Merganser - High count was 38 at CFR on 11/21 (ALT), with 18 still there on 11/27 (JH). The only other 2-digit count was of 10 at PHL on 11/19 (SS).

Red-breasted Merganser - The only report was of 3 at CFR from 11/3-30 (JH).

Ruddy Duck - At CFR, 7 were present on 10/11, followed by the high of 39 on 11/3, dwindling to 12 by month's end (JH). SS found 20 at CML on 11/28, 13 on the same date at PHL, and 1 at Shreve Lake on 11/29.

Ruffed Grouse - Fittingly for this severely declining species, 1 was found dead e. of Alliance on 10/6 (BnM). The only live one reported was one heard drumming nr. Trail on 8/1 (JFY).

Wild Turkey - LD noted 16 on his Cosh. County farm on 11/9 and 12 nr. Stillwell on 11/27.

Red-throated Loon - A few were detected during a narrow window in late November. Jay McGowan spotted one at CFR on 11/25. At least one observer tried unsuccessfully for it the next day. Then on 11/28, JH found it or a different one at CFR. ALT was able to observe it in the same scope view with a Common Loon. RH furnished good details on one spotted while skywatching s. of Mt. Hope on 11/27.

Common Loon - Always one of the most reported species as skywatching continues to increase in coverage and popularity in our region. Earliest was 1 at Atwood Lake on 9/16 (THay), followed by 1 at PHL on 10/11 (SS). A few flyovers were noted on 10/17, with 3 nr. New Bedford (JEY) and 2 nr. Bunker Hill (EY). Things then kicked into gear on 11/11 when JFY and MY tallied 58 nr. W.C. and RH had 51 s. of Mt. Hope. RH followed that up with a count of 130 on 11/17. After a 9-day lull, W.C. watchers had a good 3-day spurt with tallies of 57-63 on 11/26, 171 on 11/27 (both LM,JFY,MY) and the single-day high of 248 on 11/28, when the aforementioned trio was joined by AEM,WEM,DHM,&SHM. ES also picked up the action nr. S.C., with counts of 112 on 11/27 and 182 on 11/28. MH still tallied 117 on 11/30 nr. Mt. Hope, when he actually heard some of the loons calling. CFR hosted 19 on 11/19 (RH,SS) and 22 on 11/20 (JH).

Pied-billed Grebe - There were numerous reports of up to 8, plus the max. of 14 at CFR on 11/21 (ALT).

Horned Grebe - Noted at CFR where JH had 5 on 11/16 and ALT found 15 on 11/28, and at PHL

where 3 were present on 11/28 (SS).

Red-necked Grebe - 1 was a good find at PHL on 11/28 (GC,JH,SS).

Double-crested Cormorant - A few returned in August, with 12 at Knox Lake on 8/8 and around 40 there on 8/20 (SS), and a single bird at the BCD backwaters on 8/15 (JEY). Most of the top counts of flyovers were made in early-to-mid October by "Big-sitters" and skywatchers. 255 were tallied nr. S.C. on 10/10 (ES), and 199 nr. W.C., also on 10/10 (LM,JFY,MY). JEY counted 115 nr. New Bedford on 10/17, and JFY and MY had a good-late season tally of 200 on 11/26 nr. W.C. There were 4 other counts in the 70-95 range from 10/10-11/1.

American Bittern - 1 spotted by ALT nr. his home in w. Richland County on 10/17 was an excellent find. It or another one was found at the same location on the rather late date of 11/22 (ALT).

Great Blue Heron - Berlin Res. attracted 64 on 10/14 (BnM).

Great Egret - Berlin Res. hosted the max. of 26 on 9/15 (BnM). The high count at SFP was 13 on 9/30 (SS). Prairie Lane hosted 8 on 8/1 (SS). PY observed 2 separate individuals on his farm



Cattle Egret and friend in Knox County on 11/11/09. Photo by *Su Snyder*

nr. Fbg. on 9/1. The latest were 3 flybys nr. Apple Creek on 10/26 (AM).

Cattle Egret - Kelly Benish photographed one in Harrison County on 10/29. Sightings in recent years have clarified this species' November migration period. One was found nr. Butler on 11/9 by the Junior Nisley family and photographed by SS on 11/11. Another was e. of Farmerstown on 11/20 (Paul Hershberger, fide RS).

Green Heron - High count was 6 on both 8/3 and 9/3 on the Richland County B and O Trail (GC). One calling after dark was the 61st and final species on JEY and others' Big Sit nr. New Bedford on 10/10. A late flyby was w. of Holmesville on 10/24 (KK).

Black-crowned Night-Heron - 1 on PY's farm nr.

Fbg. on 8/27 was considered unusual. 1 stayed at a location n. of W.C. from 9/5-25 (John&Marty Yoder,AEM,DHM,WEM). 2 were detected at PHL on 9/26 (SS,JFY). 1 had a short stay s. of New Bedford from 10/5 (DHY) to 10/7 (AHY).

Black Vulture - Continues to be widely reported. The ne. corner of Holmes County, especially in the area from n. of W.C. to just s. of Mt. Hope had a regular presence of BVs, with a max. of 29 n. of W.C. on 9/12 (AEM,WEM) and several counts of around 15 in the Bunker Hill and Mt. Hope areas in November (EY,RH). HM tallied 20 at Danville on 9/16. At their winter stronghold at Lake Buckhorn, 50+ were noted on 11/28 (BG).

Turkey Vulture - BG tallied 300+ at the Lake Buckhorn roosting area on 11/28. A sizable movement was underway on 11/1, when EY estimated 150-180 kettling together nr. Bunker Hill and ES counted 45 migrants nr. S.C. Also of note were 35 migrants nr. W.C. on 10/18 (LM) and a group of 125 over the BCD backwaters on 10/10 (AY).

Osprey - There were numerous reports of single migrant flyovers, with the earliest on 8/25 nr. W.C. (JAM) and the latest on 10/17 in s. Holmes County (JEY). Max. count was 3 at Atwood Lake on 9/16 (THay), with 2 noted at Knox Lake on 8/22 (JFY) and 8/30 (SS), and 2 at PHL on 9/1 (SS).

Bald Eagle - Continues to be a conservation success story. Reported by 17 observers, many on multiple dates and mostly in ones and twos. The Big Sit effort on 10/10 gave a nice snapshot of the Bald Eagle picture, with 6 s. of New Bedford (AHY,DHYJEY), 4 at the BCD backwaters (AY), 3 nr. S.C. (ES), and 2 s. of Mt. Hope (RH). One wonders what attracts eagles to the Greer area in sw. Holmes/ne. Knox Counties, where 6 were reported on 10/16 (John Menard fide RBA).

Northern Harrier - A few filtered into the region in August, with 1 on the 15th nr. Mt. Eaton (AY) and singles on the 30th at Funk (SS) and nr. New Bedford (AHY). The only September report was 1 nr. S.C. on the 16th (ES). Still scarce later, with a max. of 2 flyby migrants nr. W.C. on 10/11 (LM).

Sharp-shinned Hawk - A successful nesting pair nr. BG's home nr. Mbg. produced regular sightings of 2-3 from 8/1-9/27. The Big Sit date of 10/10 stood out, with reports of 6 nr. S.C. (ES), 5 nr. W.C. (LM,AEM,WEM,MY), and 3 at the BCD backwaters (AY). AHY spotted 5 nr. New Bedford on 11/1.

Cooper's Hawk - Top migrant counts were of 5 nr. W.C. on 10/10 (WEM), 3 nr. S.C. on 10/10 (ES), 3 at the Norma Johnson Center on 10/13 (RS), and 4 nr. New Bedford on 11/1 (AHY).

Red-shouldered Hawk - LM, JFY, and MY reported an excellent count of 5 migrants on

11/1 nr. W.C. For the season, LM spotted 8 from 10/10-11/27. There were numerous other reports, mainly of singles, including some juveniles early in the season that were not actively migrating.

Broad-winged Hawk - Scarce as usual in the fall. Singles were seen n. of W.C. on 9/10 and 9/12 (AEM,WEM). 1 nr. S.C. on 10/10 (ES) was exceptionally late.

Red-tailed Hawk - A good early movement of RTs occurred on 10/10 when LM, JFY, and MY broke the local record by 1, with a tally of 18 nr. W.C. The trio then blew away the record with a whopping 42 on 11/1, including 25 in one hour. Also of note were W.C. area reports of 8 on 10/10 (AEM), 7 on 10/25 (JFY), and 14 nr. S.C. on 11/1 (ES).

Rough-legged Hawk - Seemed scarce. An early arrival was nr. W.C. on 10/11 (JFY,MY), with another W.C. area sighting on 10/21 (RH), and 1 nr. Apple Creek on 10/26 (AM). All November reports were of singles except for 2 in Wayne County on 11/7 (RH).

Golden Eagle - An adult on 10/10 was KK and SW's Big Sit highlight. 2 sightings s. of Mt. Hope were a treat for the Hershbergers. First was a sub-adult on 10/18 (MH), then a juvenile on 11/1 (Allen Hershberger, fide MH). HM noted 2 a few miles w. of Dover nr. Crooked Run Road on 10/20. Both birds came flying in, passed through circling vultures, and continued on south. Returned to The Wilds by 11/27 (Scott Albaugh).

American Kestrel - SS tallied 5 at Funk on 9/2. An early migrant was nr. S.C. on 8/31 (ES), with 3 noted at W.C. on 10/10 (AEM,LM) and 3 nr. Mt. Hope on 11/1 (RH). Jesse Hershberger watched one snatch a goldfinch at a feeder nr. Mt. Hope on 10/24 (fide MH).

Merlin - There were 12 reports, all of singles. The earliest and only pre-October sighting was on 9/12 at Atwood Lake (LS). A few were still spotted late in the season on 11/27 and 11/28. One on 10/12 nr. Zoar (Dan Kramer) was during Merlin "prime time" and came from a seldom-reported locale.

Peregrine Falcon - A good showing with about 15 sightings. ES spotted the earliest on 9/17 and the latest on 10/28, plus 1 on 10/5 and 2 on 10/10—all nr. his home nr. S.C. On 10/3, 1 was at Funk (ES,AHY,DHY,JEY,MY) and 1 nr. W.C. (LM,JFY), with another nr. W.C. on 10/10 (LM,JFY,MY). Others were nr. Apple Creek on 9/20 (AM), S.C. on 9/27 (LS), at Alliance on 9/30 (BnM), nr. Mt. Hope on 10/11 (MH), nr. New Bedford on 10/17 (JEY), in w. Richland County on 10/25 (ALT), and one at SFP on 10/27 that scared up all the shorebirds there (SS).

Virginia Rail - The only reports were of 1 at Funk on 10/3 (ES,JFY,MY) and 1 heard at the rail

marsh n. of Mbg. on 11/29 (RH).

Sora - 1 was detected at Funk on 10/3 (ES). 1 was seen along a small pond close to Orrville on the late date of 11/18 (Cristy Raber, fide RBA).

Yellow Rail - 1 was a nice surprise in an alfalfa field n. of W.C. on 10/19 (TH). It actually had its legs mangled by the hay mower, proving its reluctance to fly in the daytime unless absolutely forced to. It then played hide and seek in the mowed and windrowed hay the next 2 days and was seen by a number of observers before disappearing.

Common Moorhen - SS reported 1 at Funk on 9/3, 3 there on 9/30, and 3 at KWA on 10/9. On his Rails-to-Trails forays, BG spotted 2 n. of Mbg. on 8/31 and 1 nr. Killbuck on 11/6.

American Coot - Big numbers were at KWA, with a max. of 800-1000 on 11/2 (AEM,WEM). Other counts of note were 30 at Prairie Lane on 10/9 (SS), 20 at the BCD backwaters on 10/10 (JAM), and around 200 at PHL on 11/19 (SS).

Sandhill Crane - Big numbers again at Funk, building up to a high of 110 on 11/28 (SS)—this was 2 less than the record set last year. 21 flyovers at Prairie Lane on 8/2 was a good early total (SS). Sightings away from Funk and KWA included 1 at Berlin Res. on 8/28 for BnM's first in that area, 6 flyovers n. of W.C. on 10/17 (TH), and 3 flyovers nr. S.C. on 11/30 (RS). A strong statewide movement of cranes occurred during late November into December.

Black-bellied Plover - All reports: 1 at Funk on 8/15 (JFY) and 8/22 (SS), 3 at Berlin Res. on 8/26 (Bob Lane), 1 staying at SFP on 9/27-10/1 (SS), and 1 at a large construction site sw. of S.C. from 10/3 -10/5 (RS).

American Golden-Plover - Had a nearly continuous presence at Funk from 8/15 (JFY) to 10/3 (many observers), with top counts of 14 on 9/6 (SS) and 27 on 9/9 ((Ken Ostermiller). Singles were noted at Berlin Res. on 8/26 (BnM), 9/8 (Gregory Bennett), and 9/21 (Craig Holt). A construction site sw. of S.C. hosted 1 on 9/8 (RS), 2 on 9/9 (RS), and 1 on 9/10 (LS,JFY). 5 were at The Plains n. of Berlin on 9/10 (MH) and 1 nr. Trail on 9/18 (AEM,WEM).

Semipalmated Plover - Max. was 10 at Berlin

Res. on 9/7 (BnM). 5 were noted at Prairie Lane 8/5 (SS) and 8/8 (JFY), 2 were at SFP on 9/22 (SS), and 1 stayed at a lagoon nr. Trail from 9/10-12 (JFY,MY).

Killdeer - Several large counts were made at Funk, with 1000+ reported on 8/15 and 250 still there on 11/14 (both JFY). Also of note were 173 on a farm field nr. S.C. on 9/3 (RS) and 245 at Berlin Res. on 9/7 (BnM). There were good numbers still around in late November, including a count of 86 in a field nr. Mt. Hope on 11/26 (RH).

American Avocet - GC,SS,JH, and Roger Troutman were in the right place at the right time to see 3 of these rarities at CFR on 8/3. They were only around for about an hour for the 2nd Richland County record.

Greater Yellowlegs - SS spotted the max. of 14 at SFP on 10/24, the last 4 at Prairie Lane on 11/8, and also had 4 at Funk on 9/7. JFY noted 6 flyovers on 10/24 nr. W.C. Several other reports of 1-2.

Lesser Yellowlegs - Lesser in stature but usually greater in numbers, Lessers peaked at Funk on 9/7, with a count of 78 (SS). Berlin Res. hosted 36 on 9/2 (BnM) and 30 on 9/5 (JFY). 12 were at a wetland in Ashland County on 9/26 (SS). The latest report was of 15 at SFP on 10/31 (RH).

Solitary Sandpiper - 42 at an Ashland County dairy farm on 8/10 (GC) was an exceptional count. JFY tallied 9 at a S.C. area lagoon on 8/11 and 14 at BCD on 8/19. BnM noted 9 at Berlin Res. on 8/31. Latest was 1 heard calling during the pre-dawn hours of 10/10 nr. S.C. (ES).



Solitary Sandpiper at Malabar Farm on 10/10/09. Photo by Cheryl Harner

Spotted Sandpiper - Unremarkable, with no more than 2 at any location. 1 was still at SFP on 10/17 (SS).

Upland Sandpiper - A flyover at Funk on 8/1 was a treat for JEY, AHY, and DHY. 1 was in a recently harvested hayfield, with a large group of Killdeer on 8/6 nr. S.C. (RS). A group of 3 spent a few hours in a mowed hayfield nr. W.C. on 8/27 (AEM,WEM).

Ruddy Turnstone - The only report was of 4 at Berlin Res. on 9/14 (BnM).

Sanderling - The only report was of a juvenile that spent 9/11-14 at a large construction site sw. of S.C. (RS,LS,JFY,MY). On the evening of 9/11, it appeared briefly in a short hayfield on R.S.'s farm when it, along with a flock of Killdeer, was flushed from the construction site.

Semipalmated Sandpiper - Had a continuous presence at a lagoon nr. Trail from 8/18-9/22, with a max. of 7 on 8/26 and 9/1 (JFY,MY). The high of 40 was at Berlin Res. on 8/28 (BnM). Max. at SFP was 6 on the rather late date of 11/5 (BG,RH). Numerous other reports of 1-5.

Least Sandpiper - Max. was 70 at Berlin Res. on 8/26 (BnM). A lagoon nr. Trail hosted Least from 8/16-10/13, with a high of 20 on 9/5 (JFY,MY). Many reports came from SFP, with highs of 12 on 9/26 (JFY), 12 on 10/3 (ES), 14 on 10/11 (SS), and 6 still there on 11/28 (SS). SS noted 13 at the Ayes Farm nr. Perrysville on 8/8. 7-12 were noted at Funk, Prairie Lane, and BCD.

White-rumped Sandpiper - JFY sorted out 3 at Berlin Res. on 9/5.

Baird's Sandpiper - Found only at Berlin Res., where BnM spotted 3 on 8/28, and at a large construction site sw. of S.C., where 2 were present briefly on the evening of 9/9 (RS).

Pectoral Sandpiper - SFP hosted 21 on 10/3 (ES), 49 on 10/17 (SS), and 1 lingerer on 11/28 (SS). Max. at Berlin Res. was 25 on 8/28 (BnM). 2 were noted at a lagoon nr. Trail on 9/12-13 (JFY).

Dunlin - Must have found SFP to their liking, where SS noted 8 on 10/11, 65 on 10/29, 1 on 11/29, and RH tallied the max. of 95 on 10/31. Other reports were of 25 at Prairie Lane on 10/24 and 9 at Funk on 11/21 (both SS), 15 at Berlin Res. on 9/14 (BnM), and 1 nr. Winesburg on 10/31 (SHM,DHM).

Stilt Sandpiper - One of the stars of the SFP crowd, with reports of 8 on 9/30 (KK) and 4-5 from 10/1-10/3 (SS,ES,JMH). SS spotted a nice group of 14 at Funk on 9/7. Elsewhere, MY noted 1 at BCD on 8/7 and BnM had 3 at Berlin Res. on 9/2. Latest were 2 at SFP on 10/27 (SS).

Buff-breasted Sandpiper - This prize was detected at Berlin Res. on 8/28 (BnM), 9/7 (BnM), and 9/8 (Gregory Bennett). 1 showed up at SFP on 9/20 (KK,DK).



Sandhill Cranes at Funk Bottoms WA on 11/28/09. Photo by Su Snyder

Short-billed Dowitcher - All reports. Singles were noted at Berlin Res. on 8/31 (BnM) and 9/21 (Craig Holt). SS found 1 at Funk on 9/7 and 4 at SFP on 9/9-10. 1 was nr. Shiloh in Richland County on 9/5 (JH).

Long-billed Dowitcher - Reported by several observers at SFP, where SS's regular checks yielded 9 from 10/13-20, the high of 12 on 10/24-25, 1 on 11/1, with AEM and WEM still noting 1 on 11/2. BnM found 1 at Berlin Res. on 9/14.

Wilson's Snipe - 21 probed SFP on 9/26 (SS,JFY). Of note were 9 nr. Bunker Hill on 10/18 (EY), 7 nr. Winesburg on 10/31 (SHM), and 4 nr. S.C. on 11/11 (ES).



Wilson's Snipe at Prairie Lane in Wayne County on 10/26/09. Photo by *Su Snyder*

American Woodcock - No reports.

Red-necked Phalarope - 2 spotted at CFR on 9/29 (JH) were noted as being Richland County's 2nd record. Laura Dornan discovered 1 at PHL on 10/2.

phalarope sp. - A distant bird at Berlin Res. on 9/17 (BnM) was unidentifiable as to species.

Laughing Gull - A juvenile was a good find on the Richland County section of PHL from 9/21-24 (JH).

Franklin's Gull - 1 put in an early appearance at PHL on 9/30 (JH,SS), while 1 at CFR on 11/26 (JH) was Richland County's latest record. Both were 1st cycle birds.

Bonaparte's Gull - Earliest were 15 at PHL on 9/30 (SS), with numbers there swelling to 300+ on 11/5 (RH) and 11/10 (BG). The only other reports were singles at BCD backwaters on 10/10 (JAM) and nr. Apple Creek, also on 10/10 (AMT).



Bonaparte's Gull at Pleasant Hill Lake on 10/22/09. Photo by *Sue Evanoff*

Ring-billed Gull - A big movement was underway on 11/21, when 650 were noted in the Ragersville Bottoms (ES) and 600 were at CFR (ALT). RH was surprised to find only 1 at PHL on 11/1. 156-179 flyovers were tallied nr. W.C. on 11/27 (LM,JFY,MY).

Herring Gull - 15 were at PHL on 9/30 (SS). 6 joined the Ring-bill throng nr. Ragersville on 11/21 (ES). A minor component of the 11/27 waterbird movement, 26 were spotted nr. W.C. (JFY,MY) and 20 nr. Mt. Hope (RH).

Lesser Black-backed Gull - Noted sporadically at CFR, where 1 adult was present from 9/27-10/7 and again on 10/14 (JH), and 2 adults and a 2nd cycle bird were present on 10/17 (JH). A 1st cycle bird was IDed at PHL on 9/30 (SS,GC,Cheryl Harner). 1 was sorted out of the large gull crowd in the Ragersville Valley on 11/21 (ES) for Tusc. County's first record.

Caspian Tern - A sizable group staged at Knox Lake, with counts of 20+ on 8/1 (Charles Bombaci), 22 on 8/8 (SS), and 13 on 8/22 (JFY). Also on 8/22, JFY noted 6 at PHL. 2 were at Wright Marsh on 8/1 (JFY,AHY,DHY), with 1 at Prairie Lane on 8/8 (JFY), 1 at Berlin Res. on 8/26 (Bob Lane), and 2 at Funk on 9/2 (SS).

Common Tern - SS spotted 4 at Prairie Lane on 8/2, while JFY noted 1 at PHL on 8/22.

Forster's Tern - 1 joined the Common Tern at PHL on 8/22 (JFY).

Black Tern - 2 at PHL completed a tern "grand slam" for JFY on 8/22.

Mourning Dove - On 10/8, JFY observed an odd-looking one with completely white primaries on both wings.

Eurasian Collared-Dove - The one from the summer season was still present s. of Baltic on 8/12 (AHY).

Black-billed Cuckoo - The only reports were of 3 at BMM on 8/15 (ES), 1 nr. S.C. on 9/19 (ES), and 1 nr. W.C. on 9/2 (WEM).

Yellow-billed Cuckoo - ES tallied 5 at BMM on 8/15, when he had both Yellow-billed and Black-billed vocalizing. AY detected 3 nr. Mt. Eaton on 9/20. Singles were still noted nr. Mt. Hope on 10/1 (RH) and nr. New Bedford on the late date of 10/17 (JFY).

Barn Owl - Owls that seemed to be "just passing thru" were detected in PY's barn nr. Fbg. on 11/26-27 and in MH's yard nr. Mt. Hope on 11/30.

Great Horned Owl - There were numerous reports, as this species continues to make its comeback from the West Nile Virus.

Northern Saw-whet Owl - John Troyer found this secretive species sitting 10 feet up in a beech tree nr. Fbg. on 11/8, ranking as one of the season's better finds.

Common Nighthawk - Is there really a "nighthawk alley" s. of New Bedford? Once again, AHY,DHY, and JMH witnessed a huge flight there, with a count of 1038 on 9/3 and a follow-up of 202 there on 9/4 (AHY). 9/3 was clearly the peak day elsewhere as well, with counts of 246 nr. W.C. (AEM,WEM), 111 on the B&O Trail in Richland County (GC), and 330 nr. S.C., where 160 had been tallied a day earlier as well (ES). First arrival was on 8/16 nr. Mt. Hope (MH), with 23 nr. Bunker Hill on 8/27 (EY) being the top August count. There were still a few around in late September, including 8 s. of New Bedford on 9/23 (JMH) and 1 nr. S.C. on 9/29 (LS). Quite late was 1 nw. of W.C. on 10/10 (SHM,DHM,AEM).

Chimney Swift - Max. count was 500 at PHL on 9/26 (JFY). Good numbers were still around well into October, including 250 in Richland County on 10/3 (ALT), hundreds over Twin City Hospital in Dennison on 10/9 (HM), 41 at Norma Johnson Center on 10/13 (RS), several counts of 6-13 on 10/18, and 2-3 nr. W.C. on 10/25 (JAM,JFY).

Ruby-throated Hummingbird - Several were still attending feeders up to 9/27-9/29. October sightings were as follows: 1 on 10/1 nr. Apple Creek (AM), 1 nr. Mbg. on 10/1 (BG), 2-3 nr. Holmesville on 10/3 (EW), 2 nr. Bellville on 10/4 (ALT), and 1 in Musk. County on 10/7 (Bob Evans).

Rufous Hummingbird - Three showed up in the Bobolink area this fall. 1 at Tim Sage's feeder nr. Loudonville was banded on 10/20 and determined to be an adult female. Its arrival date was uncertain, possibly around mid-September, and it left around 11/1 (fide SS). 1 frequented Junior Nisley's feeder nr. Butler from 10/14-18. By studying the photographs, hummer expert Allen Chartier determined it was indeed a Rufous but was unable to tell the age or gender (fide SS). Then, last but not least, an adult male first showed up at Jacob Kanagy's place nr. Shreve on 10/24, staying until 11/9. This colorful bird put on quite a show and was seen by many birders.

Allen's Hummingbird - At Mrs. Mae Miller's house in Holmes County, about 3 miles w. of S.C., one hummer stayed after all the Ruby-throats had left. With the onset of cold weather around Thanksgiving, she contacted BG about her hummer. When he checked it out, he confirmed it was a *Selasphorus* hummingbird, fully expecting it to be a Rufous, as all *Selasphorus* hummers previously identified to species in Ohio have proven to be. When hummer expert Allen Chartier came and captured, banded, measured, and photographed the bird in early December, he was delighted to discover that it was actually an immature male Allen's Hummingbird, the first

ever for Ohio. More details will follow in the Winter issue.

Red-headed Woodpecker - SS observed a group of 12 busy stashing away acorns along Messner Road at the KWA on 10/27. After not having any around for nearly 2 months, one, a juvenile, showed up in a small woodlot at the edge of RS's farm for one day only on 11/18.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - First arrival was on 9/23 nr. New Bedford (AHY), followed by 2 nr. W.C. on 9/25 (WEM). All later reports were of singles.

Northern Flicker - MH noted a concentration of 20 nr. Mt. Hope on 9/13, including 10 in one tree.

Olive-sided Flycatcher - 6 reports, all of singles, was a fairly typical season's worth. PY enjoyed a scope view of 1 nr. Fbg. on 8/23, 1 was nr. S.C. on 8/29 (ES), 1 was at Alliance on 9/7 (BnM), the Mt. Hope area hosted 1 on 9/12 (MH) and 1 on 9/19 (Mark Weaver, fide RBA), and 1 was nr. Bunker Hill on 9/13 (Jim Heflich and Patty Kellner, fide EY and LS).

Eastern Wood-Pewee - 20+ in ne. Cosh. County on 9/26 (AHY), where only 4 were found a day earlier (ES), was an impressive count and indicative of a strong migratory movement. Tail-enders were singles nr. Mt. Eaton on 10/4 (AY), nr. Apple Creek on 10/8 (AM) and 10/10 (AMT), and nr. Mt. Hope on 10/11 (MH).

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher - First report was on 8/22 nr. S.C. (ES). 2 were seen nr. Saltillo on 8/30 (JFY,MY) and 2 nr. New Bedford on 9/8 (JEY). Quite late was 1 at Funk on 10/3 (JFY). There were 10 additional reports of singles from 8/28-9/26.

Acadian Flycatcher - 3 made it into October, with reports on 10/3 nr. Holmesville (JEY), 10/4 nr. Baltic (JFY,MY), and 10/5 nr. New Bedford (JMH), and 2 was seen regularly w. of Holmesville on KK's hunting premises until 10/24.

Alder Flycatcher - On 8/29, AM noted 2 juveniles from the summer nesting nr. Apple Creek.

Willow Flycatcher - The only report after mid-August was 1 on 9/3 nr. New Bedford (AHY).

Least Flycatcher - RS noted 1 on 8/1 nr. S.C. for the earliest. Tail-enders were 1 nr. Mt. Hope on 10/4 (RH), 1 at Funk on 10/6 (AM), and 1 nr. New Bedford on 10/8 (JMH). AHY had a total of 15 birds for the season s. of New Bedford, with a peak of 5 on 8/22.

Eastern Phoebe - AHY reported the high count of 17 on 9/26 in ne. Cosh. County. AHY also had the only phoebe lingering after the normal departure date, with 1 nr. Layland on 11/26-27.

Great Crested Flycatcher - The only September reports were of 1 nr. W.C. on 9/14 (AEM,WEM) and 1 nr. Apple Creek on 9/22 (AMT).

Eastern Kingbird - An early evening movement of 10 birds was noted nr. W.C. on 8/25 (RS). JFY still noted 4 nr. Trail on 8/29. Only 1 made it into September, with a 9/3 sighting nr. S.C. (ES).

Northern Shrike - On the early side and totally unexpected was 1 at the "Yellow Rail site" n. of W.C. on 10/24 (TH).

White-eyed Vireo - 9 were tallied in ne. Cosh. County on 9/5 for the high count (AHY), with 2 still being noted there on 9/25 (ES). 1 was reported at Carrie Lane at the KWA on 10/11 (Willis Brubaker, fide RBA).

Yellow-throated Vireo - 4 were spotted at TWC on 9/15 (AY) and 3 in ne. Cosh. County on 9/24 (ES). Latest was 1 nr. Apple Creek on 9/29 (AMT).

Blue-headed Vireo - First report was on 9/20 nr. Fbg. (PY), with the latest also nr. Fbg. on 10/27 (JEM). ALT had one in his front yard nr. Bellville on 10/25 and MH saw 1 nr. Mt. Hope on 10/25. High count was 5 on 9/27 in ne. Cosh. County (JEY,AHY). Additionally, there were 10 reports of 1-2 from 9/24-10/24.

Warbling Vireo - 1 on 10/8 s. of New Bedford (AHY) was on the late side, with 1 nr. S.C. on 10/24 (ES) being very tardy.

Philadelphia Vireo - A good showing, with 19 reports of around 30 birds. 1 showed up on the early side s. of New Bedford on 8/23 (JMH), with that area also hosting the high of 4-5 on 9/26 and 2 on 9/27 (both JEY,AHY), with 3 being noted in the same area on 9/25 (ES). AY reported counts of 3 at the Norma Johnson Center on 9/16 and 3 at TWC on the same day. LS found 2 nr. Ragersville on 9/19. There were 10 more reports, all of singles, from 8/29-9/27.

Red-eyed Vireo - 8 were detected n. of W.C. on 9/11 (AEM,WEM). The Apple Creek area hosted the latest, with 1 on 10/6 (AMT) and 1 on 10/7 (AM).

Blue Jay - Must have been on the move on 10/1 when RH tallied 49 nr. Mt. Hope and LM had 39 nr. W.C.

American Crow - Hundreds were reported on the move from late October to early November. RH reported thousands nr. the intersection of Routes 83 and 36 in Coshocton, where large roosts have occurred in the past.

Common Raven - A species that is slowly penetrating the state from the east. On Thanksgiving Day, 11/26, after getting a pair of Great Horned Owls to respond to his recording and then fly out into a narrow strip of trees, RH

was stunned to have a raven fly in right above him and start croaking! He was able to compare it to a smaller crow that was chasing it. The raven landed on a tree branch, displaying and croaking at the GHOs, then flew off. This is Holmes County's first modern-day record. Further east, Scott Pendleton spotted one nr. the Harrison County airport on 11/21.

Horned Lark - Small flocks were starting to form in late November, with RH noting groups of up to 25 nr. Mt. Hope.

Purple Martin - Mostly gone by late August - early September. as usual, with a lingering immature still in Cosh. County on 9/26 (AHY) and 1 at Funk on 10/3 (ES,RH). At the Atlee Yoder residence along Cunningham Road se. of Maysville in Wayne County, 2 hardy (foolhardy?) individuals persisted up to 11/1, when 1 departed or perished, while the other stayed and survived on mealworm handouts and was still around into the winter season for the latest ever Ohio record.



Late Purple Martin in Wayne County on 11/12/09. Photo by Bruce Glick

Tree Swallow - High counts were of 175 nr. Baltic on 9/11 (JFY) and 150 in ne. Cosh. County on 9/26 (AHY). There were still some around until mid-October, with 1 being observed at Mansfield on 10/25 (Andy M. Troyer).

Northern Rough-winged Swallow - The only report after early August was of 3 nr. Mt. Hope on 9/30 (MH).

Bank Swallow - High count was 15 nr. New Bedford on 8/12 (AHY). Latest reports were of 1 nr. S.C. on 8/29 (RS) and 3 nr. Apple Creek on 9/2 (AM).

Cliff Swallow - The only reports were of 93 detected in a corn field nr. Mt. Eaton on 8/1 (AY), and of the last one exiting PY's sizable colony nr. Fbg. on 8/23.

Barn Swallow - High count was 200+ nr. W.C. on 8/21 (AEM,WEM). Most had departed by 9/22, with 1 still nr. S.C. on 9/30 (RS) and up to 50 in the Funk and KWA areas on 10/3 (JEY,et.al). 1 was at Wright Marsh on 10/10 (Willis Brubaker), and 1 at the BCD backwaters on 10/10 (AY). An extremely late nesting took place nr. Bunker Hill at David Wengerd's place where the adults and 1 young that had just fledged were observed on 11/7 (MH). The last young bird left on 11/11 (David Wengerd).

Black-capped Chickadee - Definitely not an invasion year, with only 3 reports of 1-2 during 11/1-11/21.

Red-breasted Nuthatch - Also not an irruption year for this species. The few reports were of 1 s. of New Bedford on 9/27 (DHY), 1 nr. Mbg. on 10/1 (BG), 1 nr. Mt. Hope on 10/11 (MH), 1 in a corn field with yellow-rumps and blackbirds nr. Fbg. on 10/29 (JEM), 2 at Kidron Park on 11/12 (RH), and 6 at Byer's Woods nr. Ashland on 11/28 (SS).

Brown Creeper - AHY detected 3 at KWA on 8/1, all breeding birds that were still singing. The first migrant showed up on 9/20 nr. W.C. (JFY), with others following on 9/27-28. Max. was 9 at TWC on 11/7 (AY).

House Wren - RH still had 6 nr. Mt. Hope n 10/1. 1 was still nr. Apple Creek on 10/15 (AM) and 1 nr. New Bedford on 10/24 (AHY).

Winter Wren - 1 in Cosh. County on 9/25 (ES) beat the rush, with many others following on 9/26-27. There were lots of reports of up to 3, with the max. of 4 nr. Winesburg on 11/30 (MiH).

Sedge Wren - A group of birders including RH,ES,JMH,AHY,MY,&JEY detected at least 12 at Funk on 10/3. This is a truly mind-boggling number! 1 was noted n. of Dundee on 8/7 (JFY), 8/12 (LS,JFY), and 9/13 (DHM).

Marsh Wren - Getting right in to the heart of the matter, AHY heard 15 while boating at Wright Marsh from 1:00-3:00AM on 8/1. 15+ were detected at Funk on 10/3 (ES,RH). Away from the strongholds, migrants were noted below the spillway at CFR on 10/3 (ALT), nr. New Bedford on 10/6 (DHY), and in a soybean field nr. W.C. on 10/10 (JFY,MY).

Golden-crowned Kinglet - Arrived on 10/4, with 1 nr. S.C. (ES) and 3 nr. Mt. Hope (RH). Max. was 6 nr. Bunker Hill on 10/18 (EY).

Ruby-crowned Kinglet - Earliest was 1 at the Norma Johnson Center on 9/16 (AY). AHY reported a good count of 28 on 10/17 in ne. Cosh. County. Also of note were 9 at TWC on 10/17 (AY). Latest was 1 on 11/8 nr. Apple Creek (AMT).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - JMH spotted 12 nr. New Bedford on 8/23. All had departed by early September except for 1 nr. New Bedford on 9/21 (DHY) and 1 nr. Mt. Hope on 9/27 (MH).

Eastern Bluebird - MH spotted 25 migrants flying south on 10/25 nr. Mt. Hope.

Veery - Scarce as usual in the fall. The only reports were of 1 in ne. Cosh. County on 9/11 (AHY) and singles nr. W.C. on 9/27 (AEM) and 10/1 (WEM).

Gray-cheeked Thrush - AHY and DHY had an exceptional count of 42 heard in the pre-dawn hours of 9/25 in ne. Cosh. County. There were numerous reports of up to 5, mainly in September. The earliest 3 were noted on 8/29 nr. W.C. (JFY), with 1 still at TWC on 10/7 (AY) and 1 in Cosh. County on 10/10 (AHY).

Swainson's Thrush - Several good counts of calling pre-dawn flyovers were reported, including 38 nr. W.C. on 8/29 (JFY), a whopping 254 in ne. Cosh. County on 9/25 (AHY,DHY), followed by 94 there a day later (AHY). Max. count of grounded birds was 12 nr. Apple Creek on 9/13 (AMT). 6 pre-dawn callers were still heard nr. S.C. on 10/10 (ES), with 4 noted at BCD backwaters, also on 10/10 (AY), for the latest reports.

Hermit Thrush - An extremely early arrival was well seen and heard on 9/6 sw. of Baltic (JEY,AHY). ES found 2 nr. S.C. on 10/17, while MH observed 3 eating pokeberries nr. Mt. Hope on 10/25. All other reports were of singles, spanning the period from 9/29-11/3.

Wood Thrush - MH still detected 4 nr. Mt. Hope on 9/27. Latest one was seen w. of Holmesville on 10/3 (KK).

Northern Wheatear - The star of the season was a wheatear that showed up in Emery Yoder's yard nr. Bunker Hill on the morning of 9/12. This totally obliging individual stayed for 4 days, entertaining hundreds of birders from all over Ohio, and well beyond, who came to see it. This was Ohio's third, and the first for the Bobolink region.

American Robin - High counts of robins on their evening flights to roost were of 1900 on 9/4 nr. S.C. and 1959 on 9/22 in W.C. (AEM,WEM). For the season, AEM and WEM tallied 10,712.

Gray Catbird - Late lingerers were detected nr. Fbg. on 11/15 (JEM) and nr. Apple Creek on 11/22 (AM,AMT).

Brown Thrasher - Tail-enders were 2 nr. New Bedford on 10/8 (DHY) and 1 nr. S.C. on 10/12 (RS).

Northern Mockingbird - RH's survey with ½ mile of his house yielded 11 on 10/1.

American Pipit - Singles arrived at Funk on 10/3 (ES) and nr. S.C. on 10/5 (RS). Highest counts were 200 nr. Mt. Eaton on 10/28 (AY) and 120 nr. W.C. on 11/15 (JFY).

Cedar Waxwing - A nest still held young on 9/27 nr. New Bedford (AHY). Good numbers were present thru the season. 400+ were in ne. Cosh. County on 9/3 (AHY), with 300 in Richland County on 10/3 (ALT). 100+ were nr. Holmesville on 11/8 (EW) and 200+ thru

November nr. Winesburg (Levi J. Miller).

Blue-winged Warbler - Birds considered to be migrants in ne. Cosh. County were seen on 8/9 and 8/27 (JEY), 9/12 (ES), and a total of 5 from 8/3-9/10 (AHY). JFY spotted 2 nr. Saltillo on 8/29 and JEM found 1 nr. Fbg. on 9/7.

Golden-winged Warbler - 3 sightings of this favorite: nr. Saltillo on 8/29 (JFY), in Alliance on 9/7 (BnM), and nr. Baltic on 9/11 (AHY).

"Brewster's" Warbler - JEY spotted this hybrid on 8/13 nr. New Bedford.

Tennessee Warbler - Quite early was 1 nr. S.C. on 8/8 (ES). Tremendous numbers were seen in ne. Cosh. County during a late September fallout, with counts of 31 on 9/25 (ES), 63 on 9/26 (AHY), and a seasonal total of 164 from 8/23-9/30 (AHY). 4 were still in the area on 10/4 (JMH). High count elsewhere was 8 nr. S.C. on 9/19 (ES). Latest was 1 nr. Apple Creek on 10/10 (AM).

Orange-crowned Warbler - 1 was early on 8/16 at the Norma Johnson Center (AY). Other September reports were on the 22nd at Alliance (BnM) and the 23rd nr. New Bedford (AHY). MH found OC's on 3 dates from 10/4-11/1 nr. Mt. Hope. AM had sightings on 10/12 and 10/15 nr. Apple Creek. There were 6 more reports, all of singles, from 10/3-10/17.

Nashville Warbler - AY found 1 at TWC on 8/29 for the earliest. Top counts were 13 in ne. Cosh. County on 9/25 and 14 nr. S.C. on 9/26 (both ES), and 13 nr. Apple Creek on 10/4 (AMT). RH furnished details for a very tardy one n. of Berlin on 11/29.

Northern Parula - At the ne. Cosh. County hotspot, ES found 2 on 9/25 and AHY had 3 on 9/26. JFY saw 2 nr. W.C. on 9/20. Earliest was 1 nr. New Bedford on 8/23 (AHY,JMH), with the last one seen nr. Apple Creek on 10/4 (AMT). 4 other singles were reported.

Yellow Warbler - Max. was 4 nr. S.C. on 8/2, with 1 still noted there on 9/7 (ES). A late bird was discovered ne. of W.C. on 10/10 (SHM).

Chestnut-sided Warbler - Earliest were sightings nr. Apple Creek on 8/28 (AMT), nr. Saltillo on 8/29 (JFY), and a good count of 12 at TWC on 8/29 (AY). AHY saw 18 for the season from 8/31-9/27. A very tardy individual was nr. Winesburg on 10/29 (MiH).

Magnolia Warbler - First appeared on 8/27 nr. Apple Creek (AMT), with many showing up on 8/29. The top counts were of 35 nr. Apple Creek on 9/10 (AM), 19 at Norma Johnson Center on 9/16 (AY), 21 at TWC on 9/26 (AY), 40 in ne. Cosh. County on 9/25 (ES), and 44 there on 9/26 (AHY). For the season, AHY's total was 149 from 9/5-9/29. Still quite a few were around up

A few fireflies were lighting their lights. The nighttime calls and songs of insects had already begun on this early August evening. The light of the nearly full moon was countering the deepening dusk. We were sitting on lawn chairs inside the open doors of the shed looking intently at the six-inch square opening in the siding of the farm barn, forty yards away.

From the nest box inside the square hole came an occasional raspy, begging call of a young Barn Owl. We sat and waited. Suddenly, seemingly out of nowhere, a Barn Owl came silently flying in and perched on the edge of the roof above the hole. The raspy shrieks from within intensified. We could not tell if the owl on the roof was one of the parents or was one of the four young owls of this clutch of six that had already fledged.

Another owl came fluttering over the cornfield, turned, and landed on a fence post. The begging from the nest was getting really intense now. A third owl appeared, coming in over the hay field, flying directly up to the hole and entered. We could faintly see in the dim light a dark object in the grip of its talons. This was certainly a parent and probably with a meadow vole. The begging youngster was finally quiet.

For the next quarter hour we observed some more Barn Owl activities. One owl landed on the racks of a hay wagon outside the shed where we sat. We held our breath! Soon it turned its monkey face in our direction and saw us. With a loud raspy screech, it flapped silently away. One even briefly entered the shed we were in through another open door.

Finally we had to leave. We were thrilled that we had had the opportunity of getting a brief glimpse of the nightly activities of a Barn Owl family.

Throughout history, Barn Owls have often been associated with superstition. Because of their preference for abandoned buildings, their nocturnal habits, their raspy screams, and to some, a ghostly appearance, Barn Owls have likely scared the wits out of unsuspecting folks on occasion. However, to us with an interest in natural history, Barn Owls are very interesting creatures. They are also very valuable to farmers for all the rodents they consume.

Barn Owls are the most widespread of all owls. They are found throughout the world, including most the United States. Barn Owls apparently did not arrive in Ohio until after the forests were cleared in the mid 1800s. Their numbers increased until they were fairly common throughout the state in the 1930s to 1940s. After that they began declining, and by the time of the first Ohio Breeding Bird Atlas Survey from 1982 to 1987, only 17 confirmed nestings were found in Ohio. Their decline was probably due to increased row crop cultivation, fewer suitable nesting sites, and to the use of pesticides which reduced their food supply.

Currently in the Bobolink area of northeast inland Ohio, Barn Owls are rare to locally uncommon breeders. Here in eastern Holmes County, they are probably as common as anywhere in the state. In 2006 as many as 35 nests were known in Holmes County. An increase in grass-based farming and especially the installation of nest boxes in barns throughout the area has contributed to the increase in recent years. An increasingly familiar sight locally is the small square hole in the siding of large barns, indicating a nest box inside.

Barn Owls usually begin nesting in March or April, but will nest any time of year if food is available. Normal clutch size is 4 to 7 eggs, rarely up to 12 or so. Eggs are laid 2 to 3 days apart

and incubation starts as soon as the first egg is laid. So when the owls have hatched, their age will vary, with the oldest being as much as two weeks older than the youngest. The oldest gets fed first, so if there is a food shortage, the youngest will die and be eaten by the oldest. After the young are on their own, they often move to other areas, sometimes great distances away.

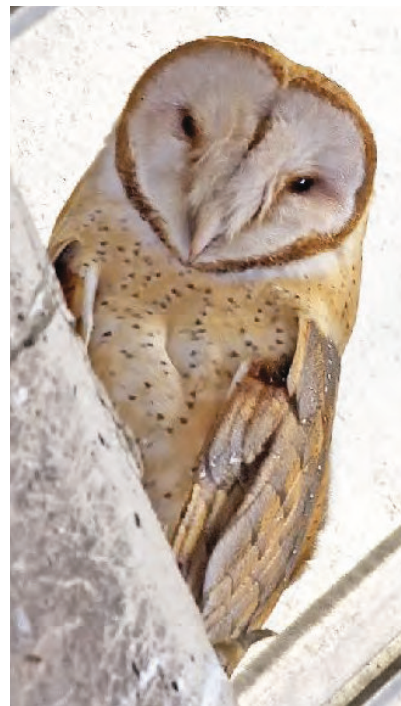
Barn Owls usually migrate to areas with milder weather conditions in winter. In recent winters, however, many owls have been staying in our area. This can be a mistake, as a few times in recent winters we

have had a significant snow cover followed by freezing rain, resulting in an ice crust on top of the snow, trapping the mice underneath. Several days later numerous Barn Owls were found starved to death.

Barn Owls feed on rodents, mainly meadow voles, but also mice and rats, and occasionally other small mammals or birds. They hunt by sight and sound. They have exceptional hearing abilities. Their ears are located on each side of the head, one higher than the other, enabling them to pinpoint a sound with accuracy. Experiments have proven that owls can catch mice in total darkness.

To enjoy Barn Owls, find a farmer who has owls nesting in his barn or better yet, install a nest box of your own. The Ohio Division of Wildlife has the specifications. If you do manage to attract Barn Owls, take time to observe them and you may be able to experience Barn Owls as beautiful, amazing birds, and not as spooky ghosts of haunted houses.

—Michael Hershberger



Barn Owl in Holmes County.
Photo by Bob Roach

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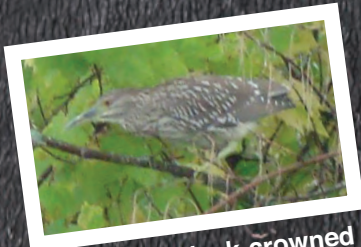
Photo Gallery



This yellow cardinal first appeared at a feeder in Muskingum County January through April 2009. It showed up again in October 2009 and is still present as of March 2010. Photos by *Thomas Ruggles*



Adult male Rufous Hummingbird near Shreve in Wayne County on 10/24/09. Photo by *Su Snyder*



Immature Black-crowned Night-Heron at Pleasant Hill Lake on 9/12/09. Photo by *Su Snyder*



Rose-breasted Grosbeak along Rails to Trails near Millersburg in late August 2009. Photo by *Bruce Glick*



Northern Wheatear Near Bunker Hill on 9/12/09. Photo by *Bruce Glick*



Rufous Hummingbird near Loudonville in Ashland County on 10/22/09. Photo by *Sue Evanoff*



Black-throated Blue Warbler at TWC feeders on 10/17/09. Photo by *Sue Evanoff*



Barred Owl in Ashland County on 8/12/09. Photo by *Linda*



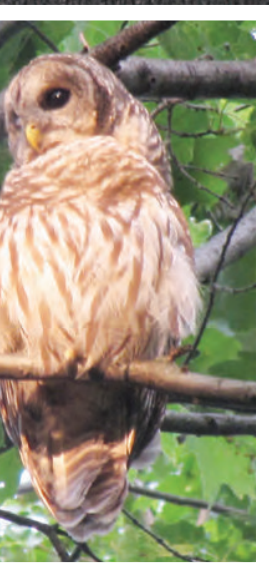
Fox Sparrow along Rails to Trails near Millersburg on 11/10/09. Photo by *Bruce Glick*.



Chimney Swifts nested in a school's outhouse this year near Shreve. The nests were about 7 feet off the floor. Photos courtesy of *Joni Hostetler*



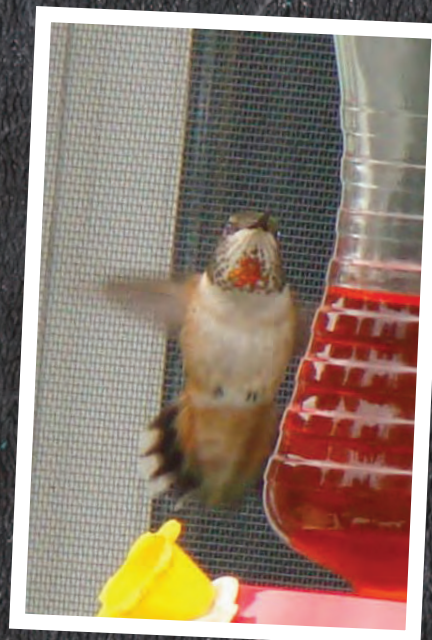
Yellow Rail near Walnut Creek on 10/21/09. Photo by *Gabe Leidy*



owl in Orrville in Wayne on 8/13/09. Photo by *Linda Stoller*



Cattle Egret in Harrison County on 10/29/09. Photo by *Kelly Benish*



Rufous Hummingbird at Junior Nisley's place near Butler in Knox County on 10/16/09. Photo by *Su Snyder*

In our five years of married life, I have told my wife time and again I'd like to find a really out-of-the-ordinary bird—a bird so rare that we would need to pave our driveway for the hordes of birders which would come to see it. The driveway didn't get paved, but I did get my wish of finding a rare bird. Fortunately, the weather was dry so the driveway was in good shape for the 650-plus birders who came to see the 4-day wonder of the Northern Wheatear from September 12th to the 15th.

For almost everyone who came to see the wheatear, it was seen in the first few minutes they were here looking. In its 4-day stay here, it fed along all 3 buildings, was in our old greenhouse, hopped onto the shop porch, and got as close as five feet to a birder as it looked for crickets.

We were busy last summer making changes on our property including building a new house, making a new driveway around the shop building, and on July 21 a boom truck unloaded a load of logs along side of our new driveway.

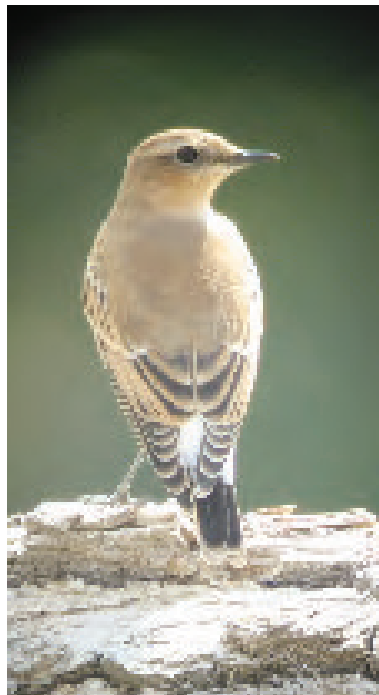
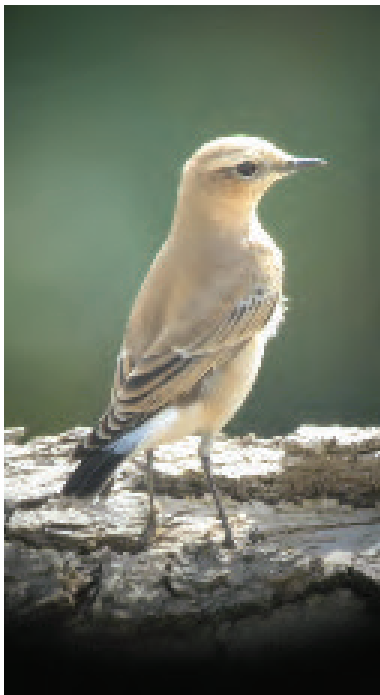
On September 12 at 6:30AM, while going from our shop to the house, I stopped and listened for the peep-peep calls of the thrushes I heard on most September mornings at dawn. Migration was definitely in high gear and I heard as many as on any morning yet so far this season. I tried to imagine what actually all flies over our property on a migratory night like this. Most likely some real surprises—and a surprise we had!

At 8:00 I unraveled a green tarp on our new driveway to get ready to wash potatoes. I was about 30 feet away from the log pile. Suddenly a bird flew from the ground to the logs, calling some alarm-type chirps. It was a brown

bird, with lots of white in the tail, and the tail bobbing. At first I thought it was probably just a different looking Palm Warbler, then the eye line and thin black bill made me think of a pipit, also a tail-bobbing bird.

I backed away to the new house cellar, where we had moved temporarily a week earlier. My wife was at the door with the binoculars, as she had seen my actions. I told her there might be a Northern Wheatear on the log pile and asked her to get the "Sibley's". I went to look again. There it was on the logs. While sitting, the bird appeared quite plain, as I looked from head to tail for any showy field marks. My wife came out with the "Sibley's" and saw the bird right away. She handed me the field guide and, almost in a daze, I thought "Where is the wheatear in here?" I flipped it open close to the bluebirds and found it right away. There it was—a very good match. I asked my wife to give me the binoculars and to please go get the scope. A scope was needed for detailed documentation views. As I was getting set up, the bird moved farther away, showing its unusual black and white tail. Then it flew to the west end of our future greenhouse. It seemed to be a moving-through bird. Suddenly a bird flew up from somewhere and went upward and into the southwest skies and disappeared. That must have been it. With a feeling of dismay I watched it go.

As I looked at the picture again, I was sure that it had to have been a Northern Wheatear. But seeing it for only two minutes, I had not been satisfied. Finally after three minutes or so, we walked toward the spot we had seen it last and, to our amazement, the bird flew up and we saw it fly over the old greenhouse—a very memorable view in



Northern Wheatear near Bunker Hill on 9/14/09.
Photos by Linda Stoller



Northern Wheatear near Bunker Hill on 9/12/09
Photo by Bruce Glick

to 10/4, with 1 remaining until 10/8 nr. Apple Creek (AMT).

Cape May Warbler - AM's regular checks of Kidron Park rewarded him with the earliest on 8/24, the max of 7 on 9/13, and the latest on 10/7. Also of note were 4 nr. S.C. on 9/7 (ES) and 6 in ne. Cosh. County on 9/21 (AHY).

Black-throated Blue Warbler - PY found 2 on 8/31 nr. Fbg. for the only August report. MH spotted 3 males in one tree nr. Mt. Hope on 9/10 and had a singing bird nr. Glenmont on 9/26. Max. was 8 in ne. Cosh. County on 9/25 (ES), and 5 there on 9/27 (AHY). On the late side were singles at Kidron Park on 10/11 (AM) and at TWC on 10/17 (SS).

Yellow-rumped Warbler - 2 nr. New Bedford on 9/20 (JMH) beat the next ones by 10 days. Highest counts were 70 nr. Apple Creek on 10/15 (AM), 67 in ne. Cosh. County on 10/17 (AHY), and 31 at TWC on 10/24 (AY).

Black-throated Green Warbler - First migrant showed up on 8/28 nr. Apple Creek (AMT), where 15 were still present on 10/4. On 9/25 ES tallied 17 in ne. Cosh. County, with numbers burgeoning to 53 a day later (AHY). AHY's season total was 126 from 9/11-10/11. Also of note were 8 at the Norma Johnson Center on 9/16 (AY), 9 at TWC on 9/26 (AY), and 8 nr. New Bedford on 10/4 (JMH). EY still noted 1 nr. Bunker Hill on 10/18.

Blackburnian Warbler - Northeast Cosh. County hosted the earliest 1 on 8/22, 5 on 9/12, and 23 for the season from 8/22-9/29 (AHY). 6 were at TWC on 8/29 (AY), 5 at Kidron Park on 9/10 (AM), and 4 nr. Saltillo on 8/29 (JFY). 1 was still at Kidron Park on 10/10 (AM).

Yellow-throated Warbler - At PHL, 1 was still present on 9/26 (JFY). A hardy and determined individual visited a feeder nr. Fbg. on 11/6 and 11/16, and again in early December (David Kline, fide PY).

Pine Warbler - 3 reports, all of singles: in ne. Cosh. County on 9/23 (AHY), in MH's yard nr. Mt. Hope on 9/27, and at Kidron Park from 10/6-10/10 (AM).

Prairie Warbler - The only report of this southerner was of 1 nr. S.C. on 9/7 (ES).

Palm Warbler - Low numbers reported. RS found the earliest on 9/18 and the latest on 10/12, both nr. S.C. Max. was 3 nr. Mt. Eaton on 10/1 (AY).

Bay-breasted Warbler - At the ne. Cosh. County hotspot, ES found 2 on 9/24 and 6 on 9/25, and AY tallied 10 on 9/26 and a total of 26 for the season from 9/6-29. AY noted 5 at Norma Johnson Center on 9/16 and 10 at TWC on 9/26. First arrival was at Kidron Park on 8/29 (AM), and the latest nr. Apple Creek on 10/12 (AMT).

Blackpoll Warbler - Usually one of our most common warblers in mid-to-late September just before the Yellow-rumps show up, this year Blackpoll numbers were way down. At the ne. Cosh. County fallout event on the big day of 9/26, AHY could find only 3, and had 16 total for the season from 9/6-10/5. AY found a fairly early one at TWC on 8/23 and had the single day high of 7 at Norma Johnson Center on 9/16. Last was 1 w. of Holmesville on 10/24 (KK).

Cerulean Warbler - JEY detected migrants nr. New Bedford on 8/18 and 8/22. 1 at TWC on 8/29 was still singing (AY).

Black-and-white Warbler - Can return quite early as evidenced by 2 nr. Apple Creek on 8/2 (AMT), with 1 still being noted there on 10/12, and also the max. of 9 there on 9/13. AHY found 7 in ne. Cosh. County on 9/26.

American Redstart - BG noted 1 along Rails-to-Trails s. of Mbg. on 8/3. Top counts were of 7 at Norma Johnson Center on 9/16 and 11 at TWC on 9/26 (both AY), and 5 nr. Saltillo on 8/29 (JFY). Also of note were reports from ne. Cosh. County of 4 on 9/25 (ES) and 3 on 9/26 (AHY). Latest sightings were on 10/10, with 1 nr. Apple Creek (AMT) and 1 nr. W.C. (JFY).

Prothonotary Warbler - Eked into the fall season, with 1 along Rails-to-Trails s. of Mbg. on 8/3 (BG) and 1 at Barrs Mills on 8/16 (Duane Yoder, fide RBA).

Ovenbird - DHY tallied 8 in ne. Cosh. County on 9/24. AY found 5 at Norma Johnson Center on 9/16. Near Apple Creek, AM counted 6 on 9/29 and still found 1 on 10/11.

Northern Waterthrush - Near Apple Creek, 1 was present on 9/5 (AMT) and 1 on 9/28-29 (AM). In the ne. Cosh. County area, JMH found 1 on 9/8 and 2 on 9/26, and AHY detected 5 on 9/26, 1 on 9/29, and 1 on 10/1. 1 was nr. Baltic on 9/27 (JEY).

Kentucky Warbler - Reports of migrants were of 1 nr. New Bedford on 8/12, 2 in ne. Cosh. County on 8/22, and 1 there on 9/11 (all AHY), 1 was nr. Apple Creek on 9/10 (AM) and a well-described male nr. Apple Creek on 10/11 (AMT).

Connecticut Warbler - 9/27 was the day for this rare skulker. MY spotted a female or immature nr. W.C. and DHY glimpsed an immature at the edge of a pasture field nr. New Bedford.

Mourning Warbler - 10 reports, all of single birds. 1 was nr. Fbg. on 8/23 (PY). AMT had sightings nr. Apple Creek on 8/28, 8/30, and 9/9. 1 was nr. Saltillo on 9/12 (MY) and 9/13 (JFY), 1 was nr. Mt. Hope on 9/13 (MH), and the ne. Cosh. County area hosted an adult male on 9/25 (ES), a female on 9/26 (AHY), and a male on 9/27 (JEY,AHY,DHY).

Common Yellowthroat - Underreported. Max. was 6 nr. Saltillo on 8/29 (JFY). Latest was 1 n.of S.C. on 10/12 (ES).

Hooded Warbler - There were 8 reports of single birds from 8/8 (a migrant nr. S.C. -ES) to 10-5 (one nr. Apple Creek-AMT), plus 3 nr. W.C. on 8/29 (AEM) and 5 in ne. Cosh. County on 9/27 (AHY).

Wilson's Warbler - 14 reports, all of singles—2 in late August, 5 in September, and 7 in October which seemed unusually high at the tail-end of this species' migration. There were 4 reports on 10/4 at scattered locations, followed by the latest one on 10/7 nr. Apple Creek (AM).

Canada Warbler - All reports: 2 in ne. Cosh. County on 8/23 (JMH,AHY), 1 there on 8/31 (AHY), 1 nr. Saltillo on 8/29 (JFY), and 3 at TWC on 8/29 (AY).

Yellow-breasted Chat - Charles Bombaci noted this species at Knox Lake on 8/1.

Scarlet Tanager - Latest by a week were singles nr. Apple Creek on 10/4 (AMT) and nr. Baltic, also on 10/4 (MY,JFY).

American Tree Sparrow - 1 on 10/31 w. of Winesburg (SHM,DHM) was the first arrival, followed by singles a day later nr. Mt. Hope (RH) and on the Holmes County Bike Trail (HM). On 11/3, LD tallied 38 on his Cosh. County farm.

Chipping Sparrow - HM counted 20 in her yard e. of Ragersville on 9/1. 1 was still nr. New Bedford on 11/1 (AHY).

Clay-colored Sparrow - The bird present nr. W.C. during spring and summer was still around on 8/8 (TH).

Field Sparrow - 20+ were tallied nr. Mt. Hope on 10/1 (RH). AHY noted 31 nr. New Bedford on 10/17. 12 joined the Tree Sparrows on LD's farm in Cosh. County on 11/30.

Vesper Sparrow - Reports of fall migrant were as follows: 1 nr. Mt. Eaton on 10/4 (AY), 1 nr. New Bedford on 10/21 (DHY), 1 nr. Mt Hope on 11/1 (RH), and singles nr. New Bedford on 11/1 and 11/15 (JEY).

Savannah Sparrow - Perhaps not as plentiful as in some recent years. High count was 15 nr. W.C. on 10/4 and 10/18 (JAM). 8 s. of Mt. Hope on 11/26 (RH) was a good late count.

Grasshopper Sparrow - JFY detected 1 of these scarce fall migrants on 10/10 nr. W.C. Five in a weedy tomato patch and adjacent weedy field nr. Winesburg on 10/21 (MiH) was an exceptional number.

LeConte's Sparrow - RS got a glimpse of one

along a small creek on his farm nr. S.C. while taking his cows to pasture on the morning of 10/27. This very cooperative individual was well seen by eight other birders that afternoon and evening, but had disappeared by the next morning.

Nelson's Sparrow - A concerted effort at Funk turned up 6-8 on 10/3 (JMH,RH,ES,AHY,JEY,JFY,MY). Also on 10/3, LM was rewarded with 1 in a soybean field nr. W.C. At the site of the former "Mosquito Park" in Barrs Mills, 1 was ferreted out by AEM and WEM on 10/11.

Fox Sparrow - First arrivals were on 10/15, with sightings in Alliance (Shari Jackson) and nr. Apple Creek (AM). HM spotted 2 in her yard e. of Ragersville on 11/14. Max. was 5 s. of New Bedford on 11/29 (Atlee Burkholder). All other reports were of singles.

Lincoln's Sparrow - Earliest was 1 nr. Ragersville on 9/19 (LS). Made a good showing nr. Mt. Eaton, where AM tallied 6 on 9/20, the max. of 18 on 10/1, and a late one that was well seen and heard on 11/22. LM spotted 6 nr. W.C. on 10/3. There were a host of reports of 1-4 from 9/20-10/29.

Swamp Sparrow - Max. was only 6 nr. W.C. on 10/25 (DHM). JFY had 2 bean field migrants nr. W.C. on 10/24.

White-throated Sparrow - LS found 2 nr. Ragersville on 9/19, nearly a week before others started showing up. AHY rounded up 87 in ne. Cosh. County on 10/17.

White-crowned Sparrow - 1 was nr. W.C. on 9/23 (TH), followed by 2 nr. Mt. Hope on 9/27 (MH). No sizable groups were reported.

Dark-eyed Junco - Showed up s. of Mt. Hope on 10/1 (RH). EY tallied 52 nr. Bunker Hill on 10/18.

Lapland Longspur - AM had the lion's share of Laps with counts of 1 on 10/15, 12 on 11/16, and 8 on 11/22—all nr. Apple Creek. Singles were nr. New Bedford on 11/1 (AHY), at Calmoutier on 11/7 (RH), and nr. W.C. on 11/27 (LM).

Snow Bunting - One just made it, appearing on 11/30 s. of New Bedford (Mose Barkman, fide RBA).

Rose-breasted Grosbeak - 9 were tallied nr. Saltillo on 8/29 (JFY). Rose-breasts were part of the big fallout in ne. Cosh. County, with a count of 36 on 9/26 (AHY), where ES had found only 3 a day earlier. Departed early, with the last report on 9/29 nr. S.C. (ES).

Blue Grosbeak - 4 scattered early-season reports, but none from the traditional site at Leighley Hill Road. 1 was heard singing at Prairie Lane on 8/1 (JEY,AHY,DHY), and was still there on

8/8 (JFY,MY) and on 8/12 (SS). A female or immature was s. of New Bedford on 8/3 (AHY), 1 was along Grasser Road w. of New Philadelphia on 8/4 (HM), and 1 nr. Baltic on 8/5 (Roy Keim, fide RBA).

Indigo Bunting - JFY counted 5 in a soybean field nr. W.C. on 9/27. Persisted in the S.C. area, with 2 on 10/4, 1 on 10/12, and 1 on 10/21 (all RS).

Dickcissel - 2 reports—both on 9/13. JEY found an immature female nr. New Bedford and ALT spotted a female in a weedy bean field nr. Bellville.

Bobolink - Typical counts at the peak of migration were of 85 nr. Apple Creek on 8/27 (AM), 65 nr. S.C. on 8/31 (ES), 90 n. of W.C. on 9/1 (JFY), and the max. of 158 flyovers nr. Mt. Hope on 9/6 (RH). Staged in a weedy soybean field nr. W.C. late in the season, with counts of 110 on 9/27 (JFY), 61 on 10/3 (LM), 18 on 10/10 (JFY,MY), and 1 still there on 10/24 (JFY).

Red-winged Blackbird - SHM tallied 2700 nr. W.C. on 11/22.



Lots of blackbirds near Killbuck on 10/24/09. Photo by Marcella Hawkins

Eastern Meadowlark - Highest counts were of 18 nr. W.C. on 10/18 (JAM) and 23 in one flock nr. Farmerstown on 10/25 (Reuben Barkman). MH noted a few still around thru the end of the period nr. Mt. Hope.

Rusty Blackbird - AY tallied 7 at TWC on 10/24 and a good count of around 100 nr. Mt. Eaton on 11/27. RH noted 6 on 11/1, 36 on 11/10, and 20+ on 11/29—all nr. Mt. Hope, and 22 along Cunningham Road in Wayne County on 11/7.

Common Grackle - Several reports of 1000-2000+ at scattered locations, mainly from 10/20-11/11.

Brown-headed Cowbird - WEM noted an albino nr. W.C. on 8/5.

Orchard Oriole - AY noted 3 at Wright Marsh

on 8/1. ES spotted a group of 3 in a cornfield nr. S.C. on 8/8.

Baltimore Oriole - High counts were of 17 on 8/23 nr. New Bedford (JMH) and 10 at BMM on 8/15 (ES). Tail-enders were 1 nr. New Bedford on 9/10 (AHY) and 1 nr. S.C. on 9/13 (Keith Schlabach, fide ES).

Purple Finch - Reports were as follows: 1 singing in HM's yard e. of Ragersville on 10/3, 5 at TWC on 10/24 (AY) and 1 there on 11/21 (SS), 5 singles nr. Mt. Eaton from 10/26-11/8 (AMT), 14 flybys nr. New Bedford on 11/1 and 16 on 11/6 (AHY), 1 flyby nr. W.C. on 11/1 (JFY) and 3 there on 11/20 (JFY,LM), 1 at EY's feeder nr. Bunker Hill on 11/10, 4 at LD's feeder in Cosh. County on 11/10 and 2 there on 11/29-30, and 1 at a feeder s. of New Bedford on 11/23 (Atlee Burkholder).

Pine Siskin - Almost none after last year's big flight. DHY spotted 1 flyby nr. New Bedford on 11/6 and AHY had 2 there on 11/15.

American Goldfinch - A flock of 30+ stayed around EW's place s. of Holmesville for 2 weeks starting on 9/23.

—Robert Schlabach

TAKING WING

How fast
the clouds are moving.
A Turkey Vulture
glides on wind.
His wings form a V
for poems to pass through.
Speak your poem
aloud to the sky.
Let it take wing
and lift you
like a bird.

—Elaine D. Snively

flight. This time it landed on the fence. Then it flew 12 feet away and began feeding on the ground. In the next field across the fence, my brother Marty was disking. My wife took a big detour around the bird to get my brother.

I continued watching the bird, hoping it wouldn't decide to move on before Marty had a chance to see it. Its actions were similar to the bluebirds that were also there, flying from post to post, then to the ground getting something to eat. Marty soon came and saw it through the scope right away. Just about then it flew toward us, back to the log pile. We had a nice side view of it in flight, with good lighting and only 20 feet away. We didn't dare get too close as we didn't want to scare it away for good. For documentation we wanted some more people to see it and somebody to get photos.

Plans were made. While Marty took his disking team to the barn, I went to the pasture and caught Dora, our fastest horse. Marty would go to Time & Optics while I kept watch on the bird. Dora was dirty, but I just quickly harnessed and hitched her up, no brushing off dirt this morning. But Marty wasn't back yet, so I made the 1 ½ mile trip to Time & Optics and luckily Robert Hershberger was at home. He quickly made some phone calls, got his birding gear, and jumped on my open buggy.

When we got back, we were not disappointed. A buggy rig was tied to the hitching post and about 5 people were taking turns looking through our scope and seeing the wheatear. I had met a family on the road to Time & Optics and told them what was going on. They had beaten us back. Rob & Sandy Harlan were in the first car to arrive. They just happened to stop at Time & Optics and the bird seemed to be well worth their time to drive over. They didn't have a camera along, so it was very interesting to listen and watch as Rob called off field marks and Sandy wrote them down. I realized that not every rare bird might be so cooperative. It sure was great having one of Ohio's best birders in our front yard documenting the wheatear. Like the Harlans, many other Ohio birders came that I had never met before, but recognized their names from bird reports and articles in the Ohio Cardinal and other publications.

The more the people started coming, the more the wheatear seemed to show off, and all day it stayed right in the same area. Its four perching places were the log pile, dirt pile, stacked-up firewood, and fences. Observing was mostly done from 25-50 yards away. It fed on small unidentifiable insects and also on crickets, including some of the big black ones along the shop building. At 2:00 a birder suggested going on the other side of the building for better light. There the action went on until dark. Also at this spot were my 90 tomato plants. They soon caught the attention of birders and I picked the ripe ones and sold them all.

The sign-in guest log was adding up. I counted nine

motorized vehicles, a buggy, and some bikes in the driveway at one time. Birders were coming and going all the time. By dark, 207 people had signed up and I know of at least 8 that did not sign in.

My plan had been to start cutting the log pile that day, but with such an out-of-the-ordinary bird on it, I gladly postponed the job. I barely took time to eat. At 12:30 and 6:30, I grabbed a little something on the go. It was after dark by the time the goat finally got milked. The next morning was church and we had plans to be gone almost all day. Before I went to bed, I made a few signs to put up to help any birders that would come to see the wheatear while we were gone.

On Sunday morning while it was still dark, I got our other horse, Smoky, from the pasture behind the log pile. I didn't use the small white gate by the logs. I took him out way up on the other end. If the bird was roosting in the logs, I didn't want to scare it. I didn't see the bird when I hitched the horse to the buggy at 7:15. At 7:30, my wife, our two little girls, and I walked to the log pile and there it was.

I put out the signs and went up on our new house porch where I could see the bird. I could now add Northern Wheatear to my "seen from porch" list, if I ever started one. I wrote in the log that it was seen at 7:30 and just then two people came walking up the driveway. We had a short visit and they said they were from Pennsylvania. Now it was time to go. My wife was making sure we wouldn't be late for church. I had just gotten on the buggy when a third birder arrived. I asked him if he was a local person and he said "No, I'm from West Virginia." He was a very kind person and didn't want to be a bother to us. I told him we couldn't be home and good luck.

We came home at 5:30. There was only one car in the driveway and the people were ready to leave. The driver said the bird was still there and everyone had had very good looks. I could hardly believe it as I counted the names on the guest log—another 130 people had signed in. Some of the names I knew, and some not. Many were birders I have never met. I'm sorry I could not be home to welcome everyone. I hope everyone got good looks at the wheatear.

No one else came for the next hour. I took the opportunity to enjoy the bird the way I do most birding—by myself. It was standing very upright on the driveway. It was doing some quick wing flicking and tail bobbing while it ran here and there gleaning insects. At times it gave double and single wren-like chirps, but not very frequently. It was moving farther from the logs than yesterday and was also using higher perches—on the shop roof and the house's porch. It even caught a cricket along the north side of our new house.

That evening, 6 more birders came to see the wheatear. All the visitors certainly did not make it shy. Several times

it flew less than 20 feet from where we were to grab a small insect. With the evening light on it, it put on quite a show.

Monday was another vacation day for me, as there was somebody here at all times from 7:30am until dark. This year there were a lot of tent caterpillars on our trees. So I clipped a few branches with masses of caterpillars, thinking the bird might like them. I laid them on the driveway next to the logs. It pecked at them, but did not seem to eat any. Then it did something I hadn't seen before. It stood on those branches with fanned-out wings. I thought it might be trying to make insects jump up, but I don't know why it did it. We then caught some crickets, which seemed to be its favorite food. When the wheatear was watching, we'd throw one out and it would get it most of the time. It was very easy to train. I thought of Purple Martin people who feed crickets to martins on cold April days—something I have never done. The problem here was that crickets were getting scarce and hard for us to catch.

Finally at 4:00, I got my potatoes all washed. That's the problem with being on vacation—work doesn't get done.

Tuesday, 9/15, was the main moving day for our household material from the shop to our new house. My wife's relatives were here, 4 buggy loads. They were not rare bird chasers, but they still wanted to see the bird. We could not find it until 10:00, when some Toledo birders found it. This day its foraging area was mostly in front of the upper barn. There was firewood stacked there and a flower garden surrounded by a border of sandstones. It seemed to find more insects here. It also seemed to watch the people, with his head held at an angle. How I wished somebody would bring crickets for it. Sure enough, at mid-afternoon, a birder brought 23 store-bought ones that did not look like native ones. But I guess the wheatear wasn't really native either. We usually fed 3 or 4 at a time. Out of the 23, I'd say he ate 20 of the crickets. Thanks to the birder who brought them.

A memorable view was when it stretched out all wing and tail feathers on the cement slab in front of the upper barn. The black T showed nicely in its tail. It stayed liked that for about a minute or so, sunning itself. It had its bill open due to the heat.

Wednesday morning, there were people here from Michigan, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia, but no wheatear. With no different weather patterns, the thought had been that it would surely stay another day, but we never found it again. It was not an easy day for me, with people coming all that distance and no wheatear.

I have also chased rarities and ended up missing them. I still remember the Hoary Redpoll and Ross's Goose trips, both birds that I missed.

According to *The Birds of Ohio* by Bruce G. Peterjohn, there are only 2 previous records of Northern Wheatear in Ohio. The first was on January 4, 1988 in a frozen marsh near Lake Erie in Ottawa County. It roosted in the marsh and apparently lived on spiders and insects on the boat docks. It was present through January 21. Ohio's second Northern Wheatear was discovered at Big Island Wildlife Area on November 9, 1998. It stayed at this location through November 18 and was seen by many birders as it foraged in disturbed weedy fields. Peterjohn further states that: "Wheatears are very rare, but regular visitors to eastern North America, mainly along the Atlantic Coast in autumn. Small numbers have also been detected as spring migrants, but there are exceptionally few winter records from our continent."

Unofficially, however, another record has come to light. At noon on the first day the wheatear was here, Greg Miller, a long-time Holmes County birder told me that this isn't the first Holmes County record of a wheatear. He and his dad, Bruce Miller, saw a first year or adult female wheatear in 1969, during the first week in April, while looking for sparrows along a rural road in eastern Holmes County near the Wayne County line. It was seen on a fence post for 10 minutes and then in flight. A second attempt to see it, with Jim Miller, was unsuccessful. Had this sighting been reported and accepted, it would have been the first state record and only spring record for Ohio.

This bird came in September, the most likely time of year for it to show up in Ohio. I have not heard what age the experts say the bird was, an adult female or a young bird.

We gladly hosted the people and the bird and the experience will not soon be forgotten. Hopefully the wheatear made its way back to its own kind.

Thanks to all the birders that were here. Thanks also for the many thank-you cards that came from all over, the donations, nature books, and the wheatear pictures. Bob and Denise Lane, the magpie people from Damascus, gave us different bird materials, including the Sept./Oct. issue of *Birdwatcher's Digest*, which contained a wheatear story. A few Octobers back, an Amish farm in Pennsylvania also hosted a wheatear for 4 days.

During the 6 years that we have lived here, this was bird #174. Other rarities we've seen include Eurasian Collared-Dove, Red-throated Loon, Golden Eagle, Dickcissel, and Sedge Wren. Marty's farm and our property average 145 species per year. Warbler species average 26 per year and we've seen a total of 31 species of warblers.

—Emery Yoder

We had several great skywatching days this fall at Walnut Creek.

The first was on October 10th, when the weather seemed right to possibly see a few migrating hawks, or maybe even a Peregrine Falcon or Merlin. Quite to our surprise, Red-tails were on the move despite the relatively early date. Eighteen Red-tails, five Sharp-shinned, an Osprey, one immature Bald Eagle, three Kestrels, one Red-shouldered Hawk, one Peregrine Falcon, and 199 Double-crested Cormorants were counted actively migrating.

November 1st brought ideal conditions and provided a record breaker for Red-tailed Hawk migrants. I was joined by James F. Yoder, Mark Yoder, Eddie Yoder, and my son Wilbur. Little did we know what we were about to witness when we saw the first juvenile Red-tail pass through at 10:45AM. Over the course of the next half hour, a half dozen Red-tails were counted moving through to the south. At this point, I started getting the feeling that we might be in for an interesting afternoon.

In the next hour from 11:30 to 12:30, 25 Red-tails were tallied, easily eclipsing the previous high count in only one hour. Four of our five Red-shouldered Hawks were also counted this hour, including several beautiful adult birds. The rest of this buteo flight was pretty much over by 3:00.

The total migrants for the date are as follows: 42 Red-tails, five Red-shouldered Hawks, one Cooper's Hawk, one immature Bald Eagle, 191 American Crows, and three

Belted Kingfishers.

There are several factors involved in witnessing a good autumn inland hawk count (away from leading lines such as mountain ridges or lakeshores). One is having several sharp-eyed, very patient friends to help—not only to help spot potential migrants, but also to help “follow through” Red-tails. In other words, watching a bird until it passes well to the south, being reasonably sure that it isn't a local bird. You also need to be constantly aware of when cold fronts are to cross the area, because the weather following these systems is usually conducive for good hawking weather.

To illustrate this point, Ed Schlabach provided me with some history of the weather preceding this day. October 18th seemed to me to be a perfect day for migrating raptors, but in spite of some effort we only managed to count five Red-tails and one Red-shouldered as migrants. There were lots of birds in the air, but they seemed reluctant to move. The period from October 19-25 was generally unseasonably warm, with SW winds every day except the 23rd, which was rainy with east winds. The 28th brought a cold front, but too much cloudiness for a buteo's liking. So there was a full two-week period with hardly any favorable hawk migration weather leading up to November 1st. So by then it was high time to move.

So watch the weather patterns and keep looking up! Good hawking.

—Leon Miller

THE THIRD ANNUAL NON-SUNDAY BOBOLINK AREA BIG SIT

The official Big Sit is always on the second Sunday in October. The Non-Sunday Big Sit was started in The Bobolink area in 2007 for birders who either chose not to or were unavailable to participate in the Sunday Big Sit.

The General Rules for the Non-Sunday Big Sit are: 1) pick a 17-foot diameter circle anywhere in the Bobolink area; 2) count birds from inside that circle from midnight to midnight; and 3) two people have to see or hear the bird from inside the 17-foot circle to have it count.

This year on Saturday, October 10, 2009, 7 parties joined in, compared to 6 last year and only 2 the first year. Here are this year's results:

Team #1

12 members of the Ed and Leroy Schlabach families
Location: 1 mile southwest of Sugar Creek
Time Spent in Circle: 12 hr.
Bird Species Counted: 59

First Bird: 6:18AM-Swainson's Thrush

Last Bird: 8:21PM-Great Horned Owl

Found By This Team Only: Merlin, Nashville Warbler

Found By This and Only One Other Team: Osprey, Broad-winged Hawk, Solitary Sandpiper, Peregrine Falcon, Hermit Thrush,

Team #2

Willis Brubaker and Leroy E. Yoder

Location: Killbuck Marsh Wildlife Area, end of Carrie Lane overlooking Wright Marsh

Time Spent in Circle: 6 hr., 30 min.

Bird Species Counted: 54

First Bird: 7:40AM-American Robin

Last Bird: 11:05AM-Hooded Merganser

Found By This Team Only: Northern Shoveler, Hooded Merganser, Sora,

Found By This and Only One Other Team: Ring-necked Duck, Sandhill Crane, Barn Swallow, Gray Catbird,

Common Yellowthroat

Team #3

Levi Yoder, Aden Yoder, Joseph H. Yoder, and Bill Jackson

Location: South of Kaylor Road, along Sugar Creek in Wayne Twp, in Tuscarawas County

Time Spent in Circle: 14 hr., 30 min.

Bird Species Counted: 64

First Bird: 6:00AM-Canada Goose

Last Bird: 7:43PM-Eastern Screech-Owl

Found By This Team Only: Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Found By This and Only One Other Team: Peregrine Falcon, Solitary Sandpiper, Barred Owl, Barn Swallow, Brown Creeper, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Hermit Thrush, Orange-crowned Warbler, Common Yellowthroat

Team #4

The Robert Hershberger family

Location: TR 629 between CR 77 & TR 652, south of Mt. Hope

Time Spent in Circle: 12 hr., 10 min.

Bird Species Counted: 49

First Bird: 6:05AM-Eastern Screech-Owl

Last Bird: 2:30PM-Hairy Woodpecker

Found By This Team Only: Wild Turkey, Red-headed Woodpecker, Black-throated Green Warbler

Found By This and Only One Other Team: none

Team #5

Adam Yoder, David Yoder, James Yoder, Edward Yoder, and Nathan Yoder

Location: TR 237, 2½ miles southeast of New Bedford

Time Spent in Circle: 13 hr., 45 min.

Bird Species Counted: 61

First Bird: 5:58AM-Swainson's Thrush

Last Bird: 7:20PM-Green Heron

Found By This Team Only: Green Heron, Northern Harrier, Blackpoll Warbler, Indigo Bunting

Found By This and Only One Other Team: Osprey, Wilson's Snipe, Golden-crowned Kinglet

Team #6

Jeffrey Miller and James Mast

Location: Kaylon Road, Beach City Backwaters

Time Spent in Circle: 9 hr., 15 min.

Bird Species Counted: 53

First Bird: 7:34AM-Wood Duck

Last Bird: 3:00PM-Green-winged Teal

Found By This Team Only: none

Found By This and Only One Other Team: Orange-crowned Warbler

Team #7

Kevin Kline, Samuel Weaver, and Matthew Weaver

Location: Force Road, Killbuck Marsh Wildlife Area

Time Spent in Circle: 12 hr.

Bird Species Counted: 76

First Bird: 7:10AM-Great Horned Owl

Last Bird: 7:06PM-Eastern Screech-Owl

Found By This Team Only: American Black Duck, Golden Eagle, Pectoral Sandpiper, Lincoln Sparrow, Rusty Blackbird, Purple Finch

Found By This and Only One Other Team: Ring-necked Duck, Broad-winged Hawk, Sandhill Crane, Wilson's Snipe, Barred Owl, Brown Creeper, Gray Catbird

Birds found in 2007 & 2008 but missed this year were: Blue-winged Teal, Tennessee Warbler, Savannah Sparrow, and Dark-eyed Junco.

This year a total of 99 species (3 more than last year) were reported, with 24 species, including Double-crested Cormorant, seen by all 7 teams. Nineteen species were new to this year's count: Ring-necked Duck, Green Heron, Osprey, Broad-winged Hawk, Golden Eagle, Bonaparte's Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Herring Gull, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Solitary Sandpiper, Wild Turkey, Barn Swallow, Nashville Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Blackpoll Warbler, Indigo Bunting, and Purple Finch, for a total of 121 species for the 3 years.

This year's high count was 76 species by Kevin Kline, Samuel Weaver, and Matthew Weaver, who counted from a circle along Force Road at the Killbuck Marsh Wildlife Area. This place has been the site of the high count all three years of this event.

If you are interested in participating in the 2010 Non-Sunday Bobolink Area Big Sit scheduled for Saturday, October 9, 2010, please send your name and address to Robert Hershberger, Attn: Big Sit, 6954 C.R. 77, Millersburg, Ohio 44654 or call 330-674-0210 for more information.

Unlike most summers, I was not around to travel all across Ohio and enjoy its breeding birds. Instead, I spent the summer in New Hampshire, working on a project studying Black-throated Blue Warbler demography near the White Mountains.

A typical day began at 5:00 in the morning. After a quick breakfast and after making the final preparations for the day, we would drive the few miles to our three elevation plots. I would then have to walk a mile up the steep mountain slope to get to the highest elevation plot, known as the Ridge.

It wasn't till we made it to the top, dripping with sweat and exhausted, that we noticed the weather. The Ridge was always cold. It was a rare occasion when the temperature on our arrival was above 60 degrees. To top this off, the Ridge was usually very windy, enhancing the effect of the low temperatures as the wind blew through your wet clothing.

Nearly as predictable as the cold temperatures was the fact that the Ridge would be soaking wet. In the early mornings the clouds would cover the top of the Ridge. This fog would condense on the leaves and completely soak everything. Sometimes it would even "rain" off the leaves, meaning often it was raining on the Ridge even though it was dry everywhere else in the area.

Despite the elements, our job was to find Black-throated Blue Warbler nests and so we set off in different directions to do exactly that. This is easier said than done. Although the warblers nest in places that should be very findable, only a foot or so off the ground, the thick vegetation made the nests difficult to see. If you did not find the birds building the nest, it was almost impossible to find until they began feeding young. This leaves a good deal of time when finding the nest is nothing but frustrating and nearly impossible.

At the end of the day we would meet up and share our victories and frustrations with each other as we hiked down the mountain. Most days, we would come back soaking wet and cold, often successful, but always with at least one nest that managed to elude us.



Ryan Steiner holding a female Black-throated Blue Warbler. Photo by Anna Potter

As you are reading this description of my daily experience, you may be wondering how I did not go crazy! Yet, if I am honest, I would have to say this was one of the best summers of my life. I loved every minute of the work and would do it all again in a heartbeat! So just how does one avoid the "blues" when working in the conditions I was subjected to?

The answer is as simple as just doing the work. The birds themselves are an incredible reward and erase any discomfort from your mind. I cannot describe the excitement of finding a female building a nest. Watching the warblers as they caringly feed and protect their young is unforgettable. When a nest is depredated your heart breaks with the parent birds. When a nest fledges and you find the adorable fledglings exploring their new world, you are as proud as you would be if you had raised them yourself. And at the end of the day, no matter how wet and cold you are, you are happy. You know that every bit of information you gathered throughout the day will be used to assure that these miracles of nature will persist into the future. In the end, there is nothing more rewarding than that.

—Ryan Steiner

Third Annual Bobolink Area Big Day — Saturday, May 15, 2010

Teams of birders are invited to participate in the Second Annual Bobolink Area Big Day sponsored by Time & Optics, Ltd. for 24 hours from midnight-midnight on Saturday, May 15, 2010. On the following Monday, May 17, at 6:30PM we will get together and go over the results at the meeting building beside Time and Optics. A \$5 per person registration fee will cover the costs of the Big Day and refreshments for Monday.

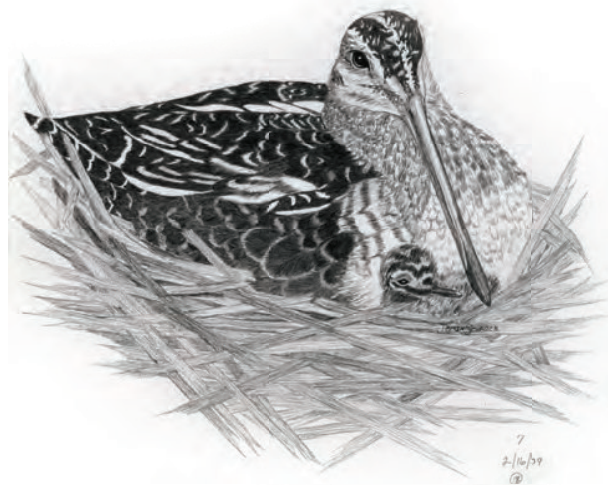
There will be two divisions: one which includes the use of motorized vehicles, and one which does not. However, birders in the second category may use vans, etc., only to transport them (and their bicycles if they like) to a starting point and back. This allows all birders equal opportunities to bike, etc., no matter where they live. Teams may consist of 2-6 birders.

For more information and a registration form, please contact Robert Hershberger at Time & Optics, Ltd., 6954 CR 77, Millersburg, OH 44654, 330-674-0210. Deadline for registration is May 9, 2010.

Correction from Spring 2009

The 13 Black-throated Blue Warblers reported on 5/8 by AMT nr. Apple Creek were Black-throated Green Warblers.

Bird drawings by Jamin Schrock.



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Ohio Bird Records Committee

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Initials-Contributors

RBA	Rare Bird Alert
GC	Gary Cowell, Jr. - Lucas
LD	Leo Deininger - Killbuck
BG	Bruce Glick - Mbg.
THay	Tom Hay - Sherrodsville
JH	John Herman - Crestline
MiH	Micah Hershberger - Dundee
MH	Michael Hershberger - Mt. Hope
RH	Robert Hershberger - Mt. Hope
TH	Tim Hochstetler - W.C.
JMH	Jacob M. Hostetler - Fresno
DK	Dennis Kline - Holmesville
KK	Kevin Kline - Holmesville
HM	Hallie Mason - New Philadelphia
AM	Aaron Miller - Apple Creek
AEM	Alvin E. Miller - Mbg.
DHM	David H. Miller - S.C.
JAM	Jeffrey A. Miller - S.C.
JEM	Jonas E. Miller - Fbg.
LM	Leon Miller - W.C.
SHM	Steven H. Miller - S.C.
WEM	Wayne E Miller - Mbg.
BnM	Ben Morrison - Alliance
ES	Ed Schlabach - S.C.
LS	Leroy A. Schlabach - S.C.
RS	Robert Schlabach - S.C.
SS	Su Snyder - Wooster
ALT	Albert L. Troyer - Bellville
ATr	Allen Troyer - Shreve
AMT	Andy & Marty Troyer - Apple Creek
EW	Elma Wengerd - Mbg.
AHY	Adam H. Yoder - Fresno
AY	Aden Yoder - Dundee
DHY	David H. Yoder - Fresno
EY	Emery A. Yoder - Bunker Hill
JEY	James E. Yoder - Baltic
JFY	James F. Yoder - Mbg.
MY	Mark Yoder - Mbg.
PY	Perry Yoder - Fbg.

Abbreviations

BCD	Beach City Dam/backwater
BMM	Barrs Mills Marsh
CML	Charles Mill Lake
CFR	Clear Fork Reservoir
Cosh.	Coshocton
Fbg.	Fredericksburg
Funk	Funk Bottoms Wildlife Area
imm.	immature
KWA	Killbuck Marsh Wildlife Area
max.	maximum
Mbg.	Millersburg
Mohican	Mohican State Park & Forest
Musk.	Muskingum
nr.	near
PHL	Pleasant Hill Lake (Ashland/Richland)
RBA	Rare Bird Alert
SFP	Shreve Fish Pond - n. of Shreve
S.C.	Sugarcreek
TWC	The Wilderness Center (Stark)
Tusc.	Tuscarawas
W.C.	Walnut Creek
WWA	Woodbury Wildlife Area (Cosh.)

Photo Quiz

Can you name the species pictured below? ➡



➡ Answer to Photo Quiz in the Summer 2009 issue: Broad-winged Hawk in juvenile plumage at the Wooster Memorial Park on 8/16/09. Photo by Kelly Benish

Answer in next issue.

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