The **74th Dayton Audubon Christmas Bird Count** was held on the cold, snowy, and icy January 3rd. Due to the dedicated efforts of the participants, 76 species were sighted and 7708 individuals were counted. This is the second highest species count in the last decade for the Dayton Christmas Bird Count.

After 74 years, a new species was recorded when a Greater Black-backed Gull was seen at Eastwood Lake.

Four species bested previous high numbers on the count. They included 58 Hooded Mergansers, 7 Ruddy Ducks, 872 Horned Larks, and 21 Lapland Longspurs.

Other highlights of the Christmas count included a Common Loon, a Tundra Swan, 1 Green-winged Teal, 3 Northern Pintails, 1 Shoveler, 2 American Wigeon, 1 Ring-necked Duck, 4 Goldeneyes, a Northern Harrier, a dark phase Rough-legged Hawk, 3 Pheasants, a Killdeer, a Common Snipe, 22 Bonaparte’s Gulls, 10 Belted Kingfishers, a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 5 Pileated Woodpeckers, 28 Carolina Wrens, 2 Winter Wrens, 6 Golden-crowned Kinglets, 23 Eastern Bluebirds, 2 Hermit Thrushes, 292 Robins, 1 American Pipit, 40 Cedar Waxwings, 307 Tree Sparrows, 2 Field Sparrows, 3 Fox Sparrows, and 5 Eastern Meadowlarks.

Also seen on January 3, but not within the count circle, were 45 Sandhill Cranes. They were seen flying high over Kettering.

A Peregrine Falcon was observed on January 1 near the Dayton Airport.

A few Rusty Blackbirds are being seen at area feeders.
Highlights of this week's report include:

- Snow Bunting
- Lapland Longspurs
- Black-crowned Night-Heron
- Common Snipe

Snow Buntings have made a noticeable appearance in the Dayton area. They have been reported at feeders near Englewood, the Dayton airport, Tipp City, and in Troy. They have also been observed along Manning Road and State Route 725 near Germantown MetroPark. A few Lapland Longspurs have also been observed along Manning Road, and at a feeder near Spring Valley.

A Black-crowned Night-Heron was seen on January 9 in Dayton, just below Steele Dam near the eastern warm water inlet. Also seen downtown was a Common Snipe, which was observed along the Great Miami River near Franciscan hospital.

Another Common Snipe was observed on January 10 along the north dike at Spring Valley Wildlife Area.

A good variety of waterfowl has been seen in downtown Dayton this week, the majority of which was along the Great Miami River from the Washington St. bridge south to East and West River Roads. Sightings have included Green-winged Teal, Black Ducks, Mallards, a Pintail, Shovelers, Redheads, Canvasbacks, Ring-necked Ducks, Greater and Lesser Scaup, Buffleheads, Hooded and Common
Southwestern Ohio (Dayton) Rare Bird Alert

Mergansers, Pied-billed and Horned Grebes, and American Coots.

Three Fox Sparrows have been attending the feeders at Germantown MetroPark; and Fox Sparrows have also been observed at backyard feeders in Englewood, Charleston Falls, and near Bruckner Nature Center.

Other sightings from area feeders have included Eastern Towhees, Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, and Rusty Blackbirds.

The next Dayton Audubon Field Trip will be to Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area on Saturday, January 30. Participants should meet at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot by the reservoir. For more information on this field trip, call the leaders, John and Karen Shrader at 436-3664.

To report rare, unusual, or first-of-the-season bird sightings in the Dayton area, call Charlie or Betty Berry at (937)836-3022 or Charlotte Mathena at (937)433-2167.

This Dayton Audubon Rare Bird Alert is updated periodically. For last-minute updates, call the Dayton Audubon Hotline at (937)277-6446.
Highlights of this week's report include:

- Harlequin Duck
- Glaucous Gulls
- Great Black-backed Gull

A first-winter male Harlequin Duck has been observed on the Great Miami River in Sidney. The duck has been present since January 11th or 12th, and was still present on the 16th. To reach this area from Dayton, take I-75 north to Exit 90, or Fair Road. Go right for about two miles, where the road comes to a Y-intersection. Angle right onto Water Street. Follow this street until it deadends into Miami Street. Go right about four blocks to house number 732. Turn left on a small lane just past this house. It leads to a parking lot in front of playground equipment. Park, and proceed through the woods straight ahead to the river. The Harlequin Duck has been sitting on the ice at that location.

On January 16, an adult Great Black-backed Gull and three Glaucous Gulls were seen in downtown Dayton. This is unprecedented for our area. The Great Black-backed Gull and two of the Glaucous Gulls were observed at the confluence of the Great Miami and Mad Rivers. This can be viewed from Deeds Road or from the Korean War Memorial off of Riverside Drive. The other Glaucous Gull was seen a little further upstream at the Steele Dam.

Snow Buntings made a noticeable appearance in the Dayton area last week. They were reported at feeders near Englewood, the Dayton airport, Tipp City, and in Troy. They have also been observed along Manning Road and State Route 725 near Germantown MetroPark. A few Lapland Longspurs have
also been observed along Manning Road, and at a feeder near Spring Valley.

A Black-crowned Night-Heron was seen on January 9 in Dayton, just below the Steele Dam near the eastern warm water inlet. Also seen downtown was a Common Snipe, which was observed along the Great Miami River near Franciscan hospital.

Another Common Snipe was observed on January 10 along the north dike at Spring Valley Wildlife Area.

There has been a good variety of waterfowl in downtown Dayton this week, the majority of which was seen along the Great Miami River from the Washington St. bridge south to East and West River Roads. Sightings have included Green-winged Teal, Black Ducks, Mallards, Pintail, Shovelers, Redheads, Canvasbacks, Ring-necked Ducks, Greater and Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Ruddy Ducks, Hooded and Common Mergansers, Pied-billed and Horned Grebes, and American Coots.

Three Fox Sparrows have been attending the feeders at Germantown MetroPark; and Fox Sparrows have also been observed at backyard feeders in Englewood, Charleston Falls, and near Bruckner Nature Center.

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YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!
PARTICIPATE IN THE 1999 GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT
FOR INFORMATION, GO TO BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

Highlights of this week's report include:

- Red-throated Loon
- Bald Eagle

A Red-throated Loon and two Common Loons were seen at Caesar Creek Lake on the 18th of January. The Red-throated Loon has not been seen since, but a Common Loon was still present on the 23rd. Other birds on the lake included Common Goldeneyes, and Horned and Pied-billed Grebes.

An adult Bald Eagle was observed at Englewood MetroPark on January 17.

On January 19, a Mute Swan was observed on the Eastwood fishing lake.

The last report of the Glaucous Gull in downtown Dayton along the river was on the 19th.

On the Great Miami River in Middletown near the route 121 bridge on the 24th, there were 50 Redheads, 6 Canvasbacks, Gadwall, Black Ducks, Lesser Scaup, and Northern Pintails.

On the Great Miami River in West Carrollton on the 24th, there was a pair of Northern Pintails,
Canvasbacks, Redheads, and several hundred Canada Geese and Mallards.

The next Dayton Audubon Field Trip will be to Killdeer Plains Wildlife Area on Saturday, January 30. Participants should meet at 9:00 a.m. in the parking lot by the reservoir. For more information on this field trip, call the leaders, John and Karen Shrader at (937)436-3664.

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Southwestern Ohio (Dayton) Rare Bird Alert

February 1, 1999

Compiled by Charlotte Mathena
Yellow Warbler Photo by Jim Simpson

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HAVE FUN AND HELP A GOOD CAUSE
PARTICIPATE IN THE 1999 GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT
FOR INFORMATION, GO TO BACKYARD BIRD COUNT
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Highlights of this week’s report include:

- Saw-whet Owl
- Long-eared Owl
- Snow Goose

The Western Grebe and Little Gull which have been present at East Fork State Park since January 22 were still present as of the afternoon of February 1. This park is in Clermont County east of Cincinnati off of Route 125, from which you turn north onto Bantam Road and follow signs to the park and then to the beach. The birds have regularly been seen off to the left side of the beach.

Sightings at Englewood MetroPark this week have included a Saw-whet Owl and a Long-eared Owl.

In Middletown on the Great Miami River near the Route 122 bridge, a Snow Goose (white phase) was seen on January 26, as well as Greater Scaup, Common Goldeneyes, Bufflehead, and Ring-necked Ducks.

Turkey Vultures occasionally have been spotted around the Miami Valley this past week. This is about a month earlier than their usual appearance in our area.

Sightings at Eastwood Hydrobowl this week have included Horned and Pied-billed Grebes, Hooded Mergansers, Common Goldeneyes, and some Bonaparte’s Gulls.
Southwestern Ohio (Dayton) Rare Bird Alert

February 9, 1999

Compiled by Charlotte Mathena

Yellow Warbler Photo by Jim Simpson

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HAVE FUN AND HELP A GOOD CAUSE
PARTICIPATE IN THE 1999 GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT
FOR INFORMATION, GO TO BACKYARD BIRD COUNT
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Highlights of this week's report include:

- Mute Swans
- Long-eared Owls
- Bald Eagles

On February 4, twelve first-year Mute Swans were seen on Wright-Patterson Air Force base near the flight line.

On February 7, Long-eared Owls were observed at Sycamore State Park.

An adult Bald Eagle was observed on the Great Miami River in Middletown on February 6. Another Bald Eagle was seen at Englewood MetroPark on February 9.

A pair of Wood Ducks was observed on a pond behind the garden center on Indian Ripple Road on February 5 and 6.

A Northern Harrier and a Barred Owl were observed at Spring Valley Wildlife Area on February 7. Other Barred Owls were reported at Englewood MetroPark and Bruckner Nature Center this week.

No further reports were received.
Dayton Audubon Society

Southwestern Ohio (Dayton)
Rare Bird Alert

February 23, 1999

Compiled by Charlotte Mathena
Yellow Warbler Photo by Jim Simpson

Highlights of this week’s report include:

- American Woodcock
- Dayton Audubon Field Trip on Saturday, March 6 to the Oxbow of the Miami River

The last two weeks have produced little new in the area. Of interest was an American Woodcock at Spring Valley Wildlife Area on February 19. Good numbers of Red-winged Blackbirds were seen at Spring Valley on February 11, and a few Turkey Vultures have been observed flying overhead. A small group of Northern Shovelers were on the lake there.

Things are relatively quiet in the Eastwood area, but a Great Horned Owl was seen at the park, and a few Common Goldeneyes were seen on the hydrobowl.

Sightings in and around C. J. Brown Reservoir this week included a Red-shouldered Hawk, Killdeer, Gadwalls, Redheads, Buffleheads, Shovelers, Lesser Scaup, Ring-necked Ducks, and Savannah Sparrows.

A Field Sparrow has been observed at a feeder in Huber Heights, and the pair of Peregrine Falcons in downtown Dayton is being seen on Second Street.

The next Dayton Audubon Field Trip will be to the Oxbow of the Miami River on Saturday, March 6. Participants should meet at 9:00 a.m. in Lawrenceburg, IN. For further information, call the leader, Jim Simpson, at (937)433-3649.
Highlights of this week's report include:

- Bald Eagle
- Various Waterfowl
- Dayton Audubon Field Trip on Saturday, March 6 to the Oxbow of the Miami River

An adult Bald Eagle was observed at Englewood MetroPark on March 1.

The waterfowl migration has been evident this week. Small rafts of Redheads have been seen on several area ponds. Red-breasted Mergansers have appeared throughout the area.

Sightings at Eastwood Lake this week have included Lesser Scaup, Common Goldeneyes, Common, Red-breasted, and Hooded Mergansers, at least 10 Horned Grebes, Pied-billed Grebes, and American Coots. Wood Ducks were observed in Eastwood Park.

At Spring Valley Wildlife Area, there was a pair of Mute Swans, and Northern Shovelers.

At Caesar Creek, there were Ring-necked Ducks, Lesser Scaup, Mallards, and Red-breasted Mergansers. Eastern Bluebirds and Yellow-rumped Warblers were also seen in that area.

No further reports have been received.

The next Dayton Audubon Field Trip will be to the Oxbow of the Miami River on Saturday, March 6. Participants should meet at 9:00 a.m. in Lawrenceburg, IN. For further information, call the leader, Jim Simpson, at (937)433-3649.
Dayton Audubon Society

Southwestern Ohio (Dayton)
Rare Bird Alert

March 10, 1999

Compiled by Charlotte Mathena
Yellow Warbler Photo by Jim Simpson

Highlights of this week's report include:

- Snow Buntings
- Waterfowl Migration
- Dayton Audubon Field Trip on Saturday, March 20
- Dayton Audubon Field Trip on Sunday, March 21

On March 10, a large flock of Horned Larks, which included numerous Snow Buntings and Lapland Longspurs, was seen near Tipp City on Childrens Road off of Route 571.

A Fox Sparrow and an adult Bald Eagle were seen from a residential yard just north of Englewood MetroPark on March 9. In the park on the 10th, there were Ruddy Ducks and Hooded Mergansers, as well as Eastern Bluebirds, Brown Creepers, and White-throated Sparrows. Earlier in the week there were Ring-necked Ducks, Lesser Scaup, American Wigeon, and Wood Ducks on the Englewood Lake.

The Waterfowl Migration has continued all this week. Sightings at Huffman MetroPark included Northern Pintails and Redheads.


At Hueston Woods State Park there were Hooded and Red-breasted Mergansers, Common Goldeneyes, Ruddy Ducks, Bufflehead, and Horned Grebes, plus lots of Turkey Vultures.
At Rocky Fork Lake on the 6th, there were 2 Mute Swans, Ruddy Ducks, Lesser Scaup, Red-breasted Mergansers, and a few Buffleheads, plus large numbers of American Coots.

A Rusty Blackbird and a Field Sparrow were noted at an area feeder on the 10th.

The next Dayton Audubon Field Trip will be on Saturday, March 20 to C. J. Brown Reservoir, and the walk will begin at 8:30 a.m. Participants should meet at the parking lot by the beach. For further information, call the leaders, John and Karen Shrader at (937)436-3664.

On Sunday, March 21, the Field Trip will be to Englewood MetroPark, and will begin at 8:30 a.m. Participants should meet in the parking lot at the east end of the dam on Route 40. The field trip will be to some new areas of the Englewood MetroPark. For further information, call the leader, Dave Nolin at (937)426-9302.

To report rare, unusual, or first-of-the-season bird sightings in the Dayton area, call Charlie or Betty Berry at (937)836-3022 or Charlotte Mathena at (937)433-2167.

This Dayton Audubon Rare Bird Alert is updated weekly, or more often if warranted. For last-minute updates, call the Dayton Audubon Hotline at (937)277-6446.
Southwestern Ohio (Dayton) Rare Bird Alert

March 16, 1999

Compiled by Charlotte Mathena
Yellow Warbler Photo by Jim Simpson

Highlights of this week's report include:

- Turkeys
- Lapland Longspurs
- Snow Buntings
- Waterfowl
- Dayton Audubon Program on March 17 at Cox Arboretum
- Dayton Audubon Field Trip on Saturday, March 20
- Dayton Audubon Field Trip on Sunday, March 21

On March 14, eight Turkeys were seen in a corn field near the Clinton-Greene county line on New Burlington Road about 3/4 mile from Eleazer Road.

About 13 Lapland Longspurs were seen along Paintersville Road near Spring Valley on the 14th. Also on the 14th, twenty Lapland Longspurs and six Snow Buntings were seen along Hussey Road, which runs off of U.S. Route 68 between Xenia and Wilmington.

Sightings at Spring Valley Wildlife Area this week included Green-winged Teal, Northern Pintails, Shovelers, American Wigeon, Bufflehead, and Ring-necked Ducks.

At C. J. Brown Reservoir on the 14th, there were Horned Grebes, as well as Green-winged Teal, Black Ducks, Pintails, Shovelers, Gadwall, American Wigeon, Redheads, Ring-necked Ducks, Lesser Scaup, Common Goldeneyes, Buffleheads, and Hooded, Common, and Red-breasted Mergansers. On the 9th at C. J. Brown, 5 Sandhill Cranes were observed.
At Cowan Lake on the 16th, there were Horned Grebes, Green-winged Teal, Shovelers, American Wigeon, Redheads, Ring-necked Ducks, Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, and all three Merganser species.

The next Dayton Audubon program will be at Cox Arboretum at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 17. Gary Imwalle, the manager of Spring Valley Wildlife Area, will speak on the return of the Ospreys.

The next **Dayton Audubon Field Trip** will be on **Saturday, March 20 to C. J. Brown Reservoir**, and will begin at 8:30 a.m. Participants should meet at the parking lot by the beach. For further information, call the leaders, John and Karen Shrader at (937)436-3664.

**On Sunday, March 21, the Field Trip will be to Englewood MetroPark**, and will begin at 8:30 a.m. Participants should meet in the parking lot at the east end of the dam on U.S. Route 40. The field trip will be to some new areas of Englewood MetroPark. For further information, call the leader, Dave Nolin at (937)426-9302.

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Highlights of this week's report include:

- Eastern Phoebe
- Tree Swallows
- Blue-winged Teal

The arrival of spring has been accompanied by the spring arrival of several species.

An Eastern Phoebe was seen on the 20th near the Caesar Creek Gorge.

Tree Swallows, which were first noted on the 17th, appeared to be widespread by the weekend, with sightings at Spring Valley Wildlife Area, Huffman MetroPark, Eastwood Lake, and Englewood MetroPark.

Blue-winged Teal were observed at Spring Valley Wildlife Area on the 20th, as well as a Ruddy Duck, Northern Shovelers, American Wigeon, Buffleheads, Ring-necked Ducks, Wood Ducks, Lesser Scaup, Redheads, Mute Swans, Pied-billed Grebes, and large numbers of American Coots. Of special interest was a Black Vulture seen soaring overhead in the afternoon. Yellow-rumped Warblers were also increased in numbers.

Sightings at Eastwood Lake on the 22nd included Common Loon, Red-breasted Mergansers, a Ruddy Duck, Horned and Pied-billed Grebes, Bufflehead, and Hooded Mergansers.

The Dayton Audubon Society Rare Bird Alert will be getting a new phone number. You may try the new number which is (937) 640-BIRD(2473).
Southwestern Ohio (Dayton) Rare Bird Alert

March 30, 1999

Compiled by Charlotte Mathena
Yellow Warbler Photo by Jim Simpson

Highlights of this week's report include:

- Osprey
- Purple Martin
- Shorebirds

An Osprey was seen at Cowan Lake on March 28, as well as 6 Common Loons, and Ruddy Ducks.

Another Osprey was seen at Spring Valley Wildlife Area on March 30. If anyone sees Osprey at Spring Valley that have colored bands on their legs, they are asked to report the sighting to Gary Imwalle at (937) 488-3115.

A Purple Martin was seen at Spring Valley Wildlife Area on the 27th, and a few days earlier a few Rough-winged Swallows were seen among the many Tree Swallows there. Other sightings at Spring Valley on the 27th included a Common Snipe, Eastern Phoebe, numerous Yellow-rumped Warblers, a Swamp Sparrow, Rusty Blackbirds, and plenty of waterfowl - Ruddy Ducks, Bufflehead, Green and Blue-winged Teal, Northern Pintails, Northern Shovelers, American Wigeon, Ring-necked Ducks, Lesser Scaup, Gadwalls, Wood Ducks, and lots of American Coots.

A few Shorebirds are being seen in the area. Fifteen Pectoral Sandpipers and a Lesser Yellowlegs were seen at C. J. Brown Reservoir at the north end on the 30th. And another Lesser Yellowlegs was seen at Englewood MetroPark on the 29th. Double-crested Cormorants were also present there.

You are reminded that this phone number for the Southwestern Ohio (Dayton) Rare Bird Alert is being changed. The new phone number will be (937) 640-BIRD(2473). Please call the new number.
First-of-the-Season sightings this week included:

- Blue-headed Vireo
- American Bittern
- Louisiana Waterthrush
- Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

An exceptionally early **Blue-headed Vireo** was seen at Spring Valley Wildlife Area on April 4. An **American Bittern** was seen there on the 2nd. Other sightings at Spring Valley over the weekend included Common Snipe, Rough-winged and Tree Swallows, Eastern Phoebe, Brown Thrashers, Yellow-rumped Warblers, Field, White-crowned, and Swamp Sparrows, and numerous Rusty Blackbirds.

Sightings in Caesar Creek Gorge on the 4th included **Louisiana Waterthrush**, 2 Winter Wrens, a few Purple Martins, Eastern Phoebes, Brown Thrasher, and Hermit Thrush.

At Sugarcreek MetroPark on the 5th, a **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** was seen, as well as Winter Wrens, Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, Golden-crowned Kinglets, and Eastern Bluebirds.

Sightings at the north end of C. J. Brown Reservoir on the 4th included 17 Pectoral Sandpipers, 7 Lesser Yellowlegs, 2 Least Sandpipers, and 1 Dowitcher, presumed to be a Long-billed. Double-crested Cormorants were also seen at the lake.

At Kiser Lake on March 31, sightings included Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Golden-crowned Kinglets, and Blue-winged Teal.
A Chipping Sparrow was reported from an area feeder on April 3.

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Highlights of this week's report include:

- Snowy Egret
- Yellow-crowned Night-Heron
- Little Blue Heron
- Prairie, Black-and-white, and Black-throated Green Warblers

On April 11, a Snowy Egret was observed at St. Marys Fish Hatchery. Two Forster's Terns were also seen there.

On April 8, a Yellow-crowned Night-Heron made a one-day appearance at Englewood MetroPark. On April 6, an adult Little Blue Heron also made a one-day appearance at Englewood MetroPark. Other sightings at Englewood on the 9th included Purple Martin, and Bank, Barn, Rough-winged, and Tree Swallows.

An unusually early Prairie Warbler was seen at Sugarcreek MetroPark on the 11th, as well as 2 Black-throated Green Warblers, a Yellow-throated Warbler, both Ruby- and Golden-crowned Kinglets, a Winter Wren, and a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.

Sightings at Spring Valley Wildlife Area on April 10 and 11 included Black-and-white and Yellow-throated Warblers, Sora and Virginia Rails, Osprey, Brown Thrashers, Rusty Blackbirds, and Swamp Sparrows.

Sightings at Caesar Creek Gorge over the weekend included a pair of Louisiana Waterthrushes, and a
Black-throated Green Warbler. A Chimney Swift was seen at Caesar Creek on the 10th.

A Vesper Sparrow was seen on the 9th on Hodge Road near C. J. Brown Reservoir.

At Glen Compton Reserve in Green County, a Black-and-white Warbler and a Yellow-throated Warbler, and both Ruby- and Golden-crowned Kinglets were seen on the 11th.

Shorebirds seen in our area to date include Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Common Snipe, and Pectoral, Least, Solitary, and Spotted Sandpipers.

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Highlights of this week's report include:

- Blackburnian and Prothonotary Warblers
- Four Species of Vireos
- Henslow's Sparrow
- Oldsquaw

The spring migration took a very positive turn on the 22nd with many migrants being seen around the Dayton area, but primarily at Spring Valley Wildlife Area. Sightings included Prothonotary, Blackburnian, Nashville, Parula, Palm, Yellow, Black-and-white, and Yellow-throated Warblers, and a Common Yellowthroat. Four species of Vireos were seen, including Warbling, Yellow-throated, White-eyed, and Blue-headed. A house Wren was also seen.

On the 18th, a Henslow's Sparrow was singing in the cold at Twin Creek MetroPark.

A lingering winter visitor was a female Oldsquaw seen at Bressler Reservoir near Lima on the 18th. Ruddy Ducks, Lesser Scaup, and Bufflehead were also seen there, as well as an American Pipit.

At St. Marys Fish Hatchery on the 18th, there were 13 Caspian Terns, a Forster's Tern, and a Cliff Swallow.

At C. J. Brown Reservoir on the 18th, there were Dunlin, and on nearby Hodge Road, there were Savannah and Vesper Sparrows.
At Eastwood Lake this week there has been both male and female Purple Martins, and all the Swallows: Cliff, Bank, Barn, Rough-winged, and Tree. At Eastwood Park, Pine Warblers were seen on the 12th, 13th, and 22nd.

A few Broad-winged Hawks have been reported from the area.

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April 26, 1999

Compiled by Charlotte Mathena
Yellow Warbler Photo by Jim Simpson

There have been many spring arrivals this week, one of which was a fairly early Hummingbird seen at a feeder in Englewood on the 23rd and 24th. A Rose-breasted Grosbeak was noted in an area yard on the 25th. House Wrens have become widespread in the last week.

Sightings at Fort Ancient on the 24th included Orchard and Baltimore Orioles, Solitary and Yellow-throated Vireos, Swainson's Thrush, Pine Warbler, and Louisiana Waterthrush.

Sightings at Spring Valley Wildlife Area this weekend included Wood Thrush, Eastern Kingbird, Northern Parula, Prothonotary Warbler, Black-throated Green, Yellow, Palm, and Yellow-rumped Warblers, Solitary, White-eyed, and Warbling Vireos, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Osprey and Broad-winged Hawk, and Sora and Virginia Rails.

Sightings around Caesar Creek included Prairie Warbler and Louisiana Waterthrushes on the 25th.

A Turkey was seen off Centerville Road about one mile west of Route 42 on the 24th.

Sightings at Sugarcreek MetroPark on the 24th included Yellow-throated and White-eyed Vireos, Swainson's and Hermit Thrushes, Yellow-throated Warbler, and a half dozen Northern Parulas.

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Highlights of this week's report include:

- Glossy Ibis
- Least Bittern
- Other Spring Arrivals

A **Glossy Ibis** was observed the evening of April 29 as it dropped into Spring Valley Wildlife Area. The ibis was not seen the following morning, or at any subsequent time.

A **Least Bittern** was well observed on May 2 as it walked at the edge of the marsh near the trail to the boardwalk at Spring Valley Wildlife Area. Other Spring Valley sightings included Eastern Kingbird, Baltimore and Orchard Orioles, Yellowthroated, White-eyed and Warbling Vireos, and some Warblers: Prothonotary, Blackthroated Blue, Blackandwhite, Palm, Yellow, Common Yellowthroat, and Yellowthroated. Several Wood Thrushes were calling, and two Green Herons were observed, as well as Sora and Virginia Rails.

Recorded at Fort Ancient State Memorial on May 1 were Scarlet and Summer Tanagers, and Wormeating Warbler.

Henslow's Sparrows were heard at Twin Creek MetroPark on the 1st.

At Sugarcreek MetroPark on May 1 and 2, there were just a few warblers: Kentucky, Nashville, Blackandwhite, Northern Parula, Louisiana Waterthrush, Yellowthroated, Blackthroated Green, and Common Yellowthroat. Vireos there included Blueheaded, Redeyed, and Whiteeyed. Hermit, Wood,
and Swainson's Thrushes were seen, as well as a Broad-winged Hawk, and a couple of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds.

Prairie Warblers were singing in the red feeders in many areas around Caesar Creek and Germantown MetroPark.

The Dayton Audubon Birdathon on April 30 and May 1 netted a total of 158 species of birds, including a few species of warblers.

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Dayton Audubon Society

Southwestern Ohio (Dayton) Rare Bird Alert

May 12, 1999

Compiled by Charlotte Mathena
Yellow Warbler Photo by Jim Simpson

Highlights of this week's report include:

- Little Blue Heron
- Mourning Warbler
- Many Migrants

An adult Little Blue Heron put in a short appearance at Spring Valley Wildlife Area on May 4.

A Mourning Warbler was observed near Cricket Holler on the 7th.

Throughout the area, spring arrivals have been noted. Least Sandpipers, Spotted Sandpipers, and Semipalmated Plovers have been observed at the Cowan Lake spillway.

Ruby-throated Hummingbirds are being reported from several local feeders.

Least Flycatchers, Eastern Wood Pewees, and Great Crested Flycatchers are now fairly numerous in our area.

Thrushes, such as Veery, Gray-cheeked, Swainson's, and Wood Thrush have all been observed in the local area this past week.

Thirty-four species of warblers have been reported in our area so far this spring.

Both Summer and Scarlet Tanagers have been seen, as well as Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, and Orchard
and Baltimore Orioles.

Five Great Egrets were observed at Englewood MetroPark on the 11th.

The local birding should remain excellent throughout the coming week.

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Dayton Audubon Society

Southwestern Ohio (Dayton) Rare Bird Alert

May 23, 1999

Compiled by Charlotte Mathena
Yellow Warbler Photo by Jim Simpson

Highlights of this week's report include:

- Purple Gallinule
- White-rumped Sandpiper
- Bell's Vireo
- Sedge Wren
- Henslow's Sparrow

A Purple Gallinule was observed on May 22 and 23 in the wetlands area at Miami Whitewater Park, which is in the western portion of Hamilton County. Least Bittern and Olive-sided Flycatcher were also seen at Miami Whitewater.

A White-rumped Sandpiper was observed at St. Marys Fish Hatchery on the 22nd. Also seen at the hatchery were 47 Dunlin, 60 Semipalmated Plovers, 21 Least Sandpipers, and 6 Spotted Sandpipers.

A Bell's Vireo was noted at Buck Creek State Park on the 21st. The bird was located off Road 2, 70 yards past the second intersection with Looping Road 3. No parking is allowed on the road. The nearest parking lot to this area is on Road 3.

At Twin Creek MetroPark on the 23rd, a Sedge Wren and a Henslow's Sparrow were observed south of the parking lot.

At Spring Valley Wildlife Area on the 17th, both American Bittern and Least Bittern were seen from the observation tower.
Highlights of this week’s report include:

- Bell's Vireo
- Sedge Wren
- Cliff Swallows

The **Bell's Vireo** was seen again at Buck Creek State Park on May 30. The vireo was in the same location, which is on the left side of Road No. 2, about 50 to 70 yards past the second intersection with Road No. 3. You cannot park along Road No. 2, so park in the designated parking spots on Road No. 3 and walk to the location. North of Buck Creek State Park, on Hodge and Yeazell Roads, Bobolinks were seen, as well as Vesper and Grasshopper Sparrows, lots of Savannah Sparrows, and a few Red-headed Woodpeckers.

The **Sedge Wren** was seen again at Twin Creek MetroPark on May 28. The bird was located southwest of the parking lot.

A Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was seen in a local yard on May 30.

A colony of nesting **Cliff Swallows**, about 100 of them, was observed under the loft bridge over the Great Miami River in the most southwest corner of the state. The bridge is on Route 50 near the small town of Elizabethtown, Ohio.

Sightings at the Oxbow on May 28 included a Snowy Egret and 3 Common Egrets, a few Semipalmated Plovers, and a Summer Tanager.
An American Woodcock and four of her young were observed scurrying along the side of the road at Caesar Creek State Park on the May 31.

Of interest was the observation of a Common Loon in the North Park fishing lake of Englewood MetroPark on May 31.

A few Late migrating warblers were noted on the 27th at Aullwood Audubon Center. They included Wilson's and Canada Warblers, and a pair of Mourning Warblers.

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Southwestern Ohio (Dayton)
Rare Bird Alert

June 23, 1999

Compiled by Charlotte Mathena
Yellow Warbler Photo by Jim Simpson

Highlights of this week's report include:

- Black Vulture
- Cliff Swallows

A Black Vulture was seen on Grant Road by Buck Creek State Park on June 20. This was the first Clark County record for Black Vulture. Other sightings at Buck Creek State Park on the 20th included a Cliff Swallow nest, which was under the walkway to the tower that controls the water release at the corner of the dam. Also noted in the woods along Buck Creek below the dam were three American Redstarts. On June 12, a Laughing Gull was observed on the beach at Buck Creek State Park.

Other Cliff Swallows were observed at St. Marys Fish Hatchery on the 20th. Four or five pairs were apparently trying to nest on the maintenance building there.

No further reports have been received.

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Highlights of this week's report include:

- Marsh Wrens
- Dickcissels

Marsh Wrens have been seen from the boardwalk at Spring Valley Wildlife Area for the last couple of weeks.

Singing Dickcissels were observed at Huffman Prairie on Wright Patterson Air Force Base on July 9. Other summertime residents noted in that area were Willow Flycatchers, Barn and Rough-winged Swallows, Common Yellow throats, Indigo Buntings, Eastern Meadowlarks, and Savannah Sparrows.

On the beach at C. J. Brown Reservoir there were 16 Least Sandpipers and a Spotted Sandpiper on July 11. Five or six Cliff Swallows were seen flying near the tower by the dam.

No further reports have been received.

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Highlights of this week’s report include:

- Sedge Wrens
- Shorebirds

A singing Sedge Wren was observed at Englewood MetroPark on July 24. It was on the left side of the road about 70 yards past the horse stable. Other Sedge Wrens were reported at Carriage Hill MetroPark. They were in the prairie past the lake.

Three Great Egrets were seen at Englewood MetroPark on the 26th. Other sightings there included Eastern Wood-Pewees, Scarlet Tanagers, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Bluebirds, Green Heron, and lots of Great Blue Herons.

Shorebirds are starting to move through the area, such as Least Sandpipers, Lesser Yellowlegs, Solitary, Pectoral, and Spotted Sandpipers. These can be found when, and wherever, proper habitat can be located, such as at Englewood MetroPark, C. J. Brown Reservoir, and along the Great Miami River.

No further birding reports were received.

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Dayton Audubon Society

Southwestern Ohio (Dayton) Rare Bird Alert

August 8, 1999

Compiled by Charlotte Mathena
Yellow Warbler Photo by Jim Simpson

Highlights of this week's report include:

- Black Terns
- Shore Birds
- Sedge Wren

On August 8, two Black Terns were observed at St. Marys Fish Hatchery. Also present there were Caspian Terns, Bonaparte's Gulls, Green Heron, Great Egrets, and Spotted Sandpipers. None of the hatchery ponds were drawn down on the 8th, thus no shorebird habitat. In a nearby weed and berry patch, Eastern Kingbirds and Baltimore Orioles were observed.

At Englewood MetroPark there are extensive mudflats. Present on the 8th were Lesser Yellowlegs, Pectoral, Least, Semipalmated, and Solitary Sandpipers, and Semipalmated Plovers. Several Great Egrets were present. Throughout the week at Englewood, there were Barred Owl, Yellow-billed Cuckoos, Wood Thrushes, Eastern Wood-Pewees, Indigo Buntings, and Eastern Bluebirds.

On August 1, a Sedge Wren was seen and heard in the prairie at Sugarcreek MetroPark.

Ospreys have been released at Spring Valley Wildlife Area. If anyone in that area observes any Osprey with wing tags, they are asked to report the color of the tag, and number if visible. Sightings can be recorded at the office on Roxanna-New Burlington Road. The office is the last building on the right before reaching Pence-Jones Road.
Several migrating warblers have been observed in our area this week. They include Black-and-white, Blackburnian, Cape May, Magnolia, American Redstart, and Tennessee warblers, plus several Common Yellowthroats.

Some shorebirds have also been noted in the area. A Sanderling was seen on the Caesar Creek beach on August 19.

Reports from C. J. Brown Reservoir beach on August 21 included Least, Semipalmated, and Baird's Sandpipers. On the 20th, on the same beach, there was one each of Lesser Yellowlegs, Greater Yellowlegs, Least, Semipalmated and Spotted Sandpipers, and a Semipalmated Plover. Also on that beach were Caspian and Forster's Terns.

Other recent woodland sightings have included Black- and Yellow-billed Cuckoos, Baltimore Orioles, lots of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, Eastern Wood-Pewees, and young Pileated Woodpeckers.

Great Egrets are still present at Englewood MetroPark, but the mudflats there are quite dried out.

A few migrating Nighthawks have been evident on recent evenings. Increasing numbers of Nighthawks should be seen over the next couple of weeks.

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Highlights of this week's report include:

- Buff-breasted Sandpiper
- Baird's Sandpiper

A **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** was observed on the beach at C. J. Brown Reservoir on September 3. It was observed several other days in the grassy areas around the beach. A **Baird's Sandpiper** was also seen on the beach there on the 3rd.

Shorebirds seen at the Caesar Creek beach on the 1st included Least, Semipalmated, and Spotted Sandpipers, and Semipalmated Plover.

Eight Black Terns were seen at Cowan Lake on August 25, and on the same day there were 4 Common Terns at Caesar Creek.

A few migrating warblers continue to be seen in the area. On September 4 at Sugarcreek MetroPark, there were Black-throated Blue, Magnolia, and Black-and-white Warblers, Red-eyed Vireo, Yellow-billed Cuckoos, Swainson's Thrushes, Wood Thrushes, and numbers of Cedar Waxwings.

Red-breasted Nuthatches have made a fall appearance in the area, and have been reported at several area feeders.

On September 2, along the Little Miami River near Spring Valley, Osprey were seen.
Sightings at Englewood MetroPark recently included Great Egrets, and some warblers; Black-throated Blue, American Redstart, Magnolia, Chestnut-sided, Nashville, Tennessee, and Black-and-white, plus lots of Cedar Waxwings.

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Southwestern Ohio (Dayton) Rare Bird Alert

Dayton Audubon Society

Southwestern Ohio (Dayton)
Rare Bird Alert

September 14, 1999

Compiled by Charlotte Mathena
Yellow Warbler Photo by Jim Simpson

Highlights of this week's report include:

- American Avocet
- Baird's Sandpiper

Three American Avocets were observed at Englewood MetroPark the afternoon and evening of September 7. They were not present there the following day.

Sightings on the beach at C. J. Brown Reservoir the morning of September 11 included a Baird's Sandpiper and eight Sanderlings.

An Osprey was spotted over the Great Miami River near West Carrollton on the 9th.

Sightings at Englewood MetroPark this weekend included American Redstart and Bay-breasted Warblers, Yellow-throated and Red-eyed Vireos, Swainson's Thrush and Eastern Bluebird, Great Crested Flycatcher, and Yellow-billed Cuckoos.

Red-breasted Nuthatches continue to be reported from many area feeders.

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Highlights of this week’s report include:

- Buff-breasted Sandpipers
- Broad-winged Hawks
- Baird's Sandpipers

Four Buff-breasted Sandpipers were seen on September 18 on the causeway at the Metzger and Ferguson Reservoirs, which are near Lima.

A kettle of Broad-winged Hawks was observed near Bruckner Nature Center on the 18th. A single bird was seen on the 20th in south Dayton, and another Broad-winged was seen near Wolf Creek on the 20th.

At St. Marys Fish Hatchery, seven ponds have been drained, but they were too dry for shorebird habitat. But an American Golden Plover was seen there on the 19th, as well as Green Herons, Great Egrets, and Spotted Sandpipers. At the small beach next to the nearby marina, 2 Baird's Sandpipers, 6 Pectoral Sandpipers, and 2 Semipalmated Sandpipers were seen on the 19th.

An adult Bald Eagle was seen near Bruckner Nature Center and the Stillwater River on the 21st.

At Englewood MetroPark on the 18th, there were Black-and-white, Black-throated Green, American Redstart, and Nashville Warblers. In the north part of Englewood MetroPark along Martindale Road, three Opsreys were seen on the 22nd.

Sightings at Sugarcreek MetroPark on the 18th included American Redstart, Bay-breasted Warblers,
Common Yellowthroats, and Blue-headed Vireo.

Sightings at Eastwood MetroPark on the 22nd included Blackburnian, Bay-breasted, Black-throated Green, and Magnolia Warblers.

There have been a couple of reports of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks attending local feeders this week.

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Dayton Audubon Society

Southwestern Ohio (Dayton)
Rare Bird Alert

October 3, 1999

Compiled by Charlotte Mathena

**Highlights** of this week's report include:

- Franklin's Gulls
- Golden Plover

Sixteen **Franklin's Gulls** were seen on the beach at Caesar Creek Lake on October 1. The morning of October 3, seven of the Franklin's Gulls were still present on the beach. Also, there were 3 Palm Warblers on the beach. Other sightings at Caesar Creek on the 3rd included 2 Ospreys, about 400 migrating Double-crested Cormorants, and 10 or so Yellow-rumped Warblers.

Sightings at St. Marys Fish Hatchery on the 2nd included 1 **Golden Plover**, 2 Common Snipe, about 30 Pectoral Sandpipers, 3 Least and 1 Semipalmated Sandpiper, and about 20 Green-winged Teal and 2 Blue-winged Teal.

Fall arrivals noted this week included Dark-eyed Juncos, White-throated Sparrows, Brown creepers, Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, and Golden-crowned Kinglets.

Other recent area sightings of interest include Ovenbirds, Black-throated Green, Bay-breasted, Blackpoll and Yellow-rumped Warblers, Eastern Phoebes, Eastern Wood-Pewees, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Swainson's Thrushes, Red-headed Woodpecker, and a few Broad-winged Hawks.

A Hummingbird was still observed at a feeder on the 3rd.

Red-breasted Nuthatches are fairly widespread and are being reported from many area feeders.
Two Franklin's Gulls were still present on the beach at Caesar Creek Lake on October 15. Franklin's Gulls in varying numbers have been present on the beach at Caesar Creek since October 1. Also, on the 15th, seven American Pipits were seen near the beach.

On October 16 at Spring Valley Wildlife Area, a few American Pipits were seen, as well as Pectoral Sandpipers, Green-winged and Blue-winged Teal, Palm and Yellow-rumped Warblers, Rusty Blackbirds, and White-crowned, White-throated, and Lincoln's Sparrows.

On October 17, Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were still being seen at two area feeders.

At Englewood MetroPark on the 16th, sightings included Hermit Thrush, Eastern Bluebirds, Golden-crowned Kinglets, and Yellow-rumped Warblers.

A couple of Winter Wrens were spotted on the 12th near Ludlow Falls.

At St. Marys Fish Hatchery on the 11th, there was good shorebird habitat, but few shorebirds. Shorebirds seen that day included 2 Dunlin, 25 Pectoral Sandpipers, a Least Sandpiper, and a Greater Yellowlegs, plus 4 Mute Swans.

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Complied by Charlotte Mathena

Highlights of this week's report include:

- Common Loons
- Pine Siskins

On October 24 at Caesar Creek Lake, 15 Common Loons were observed, plus a few Horned Grebes and 29 Ruddy Ducks. A lingering Tree Swallow was seen, as well as a Tree Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrows, and Yellow-rumped Warblers. At another area of Caesar Creek on the 24th, there were 6 Common Snipe and a Pectoral Sandpiper.

Sightings at Spring Valley Wildlife Area over the past week include American Pipits, Common Snipe, Pectoral Sandpipers, Rusty Blackbirds, and Purple Finch.

A Pine Siskin was observed on a feeder near Spring Valley on the 23rd and 24th. Other Pine Siskins were seen at a feeder near Ludlow Falls on the 28th. Four Purple Finches were observed at that same feeding station on the 24th.

At Englewood MetroPark on the 23rd, sightings included Lesser Scaup, Green-winged Teal, Ruddy Ducks, Horned Grebes, a Northern Harrier, and Eastern Bluebirds.

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Compiled by Charlotte Mathena

**Highlights** of this week's report include:

- Black Scoter
- Tundra Swans
- Fox Sparrows

At Caesar Creek Lake on November 4, a female **Black Scoter** was observed off of Harveysburg Road, but this bird has not been relocated. Other sightings at Caesar Creek included Horned Grebe, Pied-billed Grebes, 20 Common Loons, and Lesser Scaup.

At Englewood MetroPark on the 4th, there were 10 **Tundra Swans**, Northern Pintails, Ruddy Ducks, Black Ducks, Lesser Scaup, and many Coots.

Sightings at Spring Valley Wildlife Area on October 31 included a pair of **Fox Sparrows**, multiple Swamp Sparrows, White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows, and good numbers of Rusty Blackbirds.

Other **Fox Sparrows** were noted near Ludlow Falls on the 3rd.

A Common Crane has been seen among the many Sandhill Cranes at Jasper Pulaski Park in northwest Indiana. The Common Crane has been present for over a week. For current information on this bird, call the Indiana Rare Bird Alert at 317-259-0911, or check the Indiana internet site.

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Compiled by Charlotte Mathena

Highlights of this week's report include:

- White Pelicans

Today, November 26, three White Pelicans were observed at the well-field lakes east of the Eastwood Hydrobowl. The well-field lakes are on the south side of State Route 4 between Harshman Road and the State Route 444 exit. The Pelicans can be seen from Route 4, but be advised that you may be ticketed if you pull off to the berm on Route 4 to observe these birds. There were numerous Bonaparte's Gulls near the Pelicans.

At the Eastwood Hydrobowl, there was one small raft of waterfowl that included Ruddy Ducks, a Northern Shoveler, and some Horned Grebes. At the Eastwood Park ponds, there were 23 Gadwall. Large flocks of Robins were observed in both areas.

Ducks observed at the Wilmington Reservoir on the 23rd included Ruddy Ducks, 44 Hooded Mergansers, 8 Lesser Scaup, 4 Buffleheads, a few Red-breasted Mergansers, and 3 Pied-billed Grebes.

A Fox Sparrow was seen at Englewood MetroPark on the 25th.

Of interest was the large number of 91 Common Loons that were present at Caesar Creek on November 11.

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Dayton Audubon Society
Southwestern Ohio (Dayton)
Rare Bird Alert

December 8, 1999

Compiled by Charlotte Mathena

Seventy-five to one hundred Sandhill Cranes were seen flying over north Dayton on November 29. This time of year, between Thanksgiving and Christmas, is the best opportunity to catch a glimpse of migrating Sandhill Cranes in the Dayton area.

Unusual was the presence of a Gray Catbird in Englewood MetroPark on the late date of November 30. Recent sightings at that MetroPark include Barred and Great Horned Owls, Brown Creepers, Eastern Bluebirds, and a few Black Ducks in with all the Mallards.

At Bruckner Nature Center, Pine Siskins are coming to the feeders; and near there, on December 1, a Merlin was seen.

Sightings around Wilmington on December 1 included Canvasbacks, Ring-necked Ducks, Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Hooded Mergansers, and Ruddy and Black Ducks.

The annual Dayton Audubon Christmas Bird Count will be held on Sunday, January 2.

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Seventy-five Sandhill Cranes were observed at the east end of Cowan Lake the early morning of December 10. The Sandhill Cranes departed the area by 8:00 a.m. the next morning.

Ten Tundra Swans were observed at Englewood MetroPark on December 14, but were not there the following day.

Sightings at C. J. Brown Reservoir on December 11 included a Surf Scoter, 2 Tundra Swans, 2 Common Loons, Black Ducks and Hooded Mergansers, Gadwall, a Ring-necked Duck, a Lesser Scaup, a pair of Common Goldeneyes, and a few Buffleheads.

At Caesar Creek on the 12th, there were 200 Cedar Waxwings; and on the lake there were 10 Common Loons, 32 Ruddy Ducks, and some Horned Grebes. Red-shouldered Hawks were seen nearby.

The annual Dayton Audubon Christmas Bird Count will be held on Sunday, January 2. Details can be found in the Yellow Warbler.

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Dayton Audubon Society

Southwestern Ohio (Dayton) Rare Bird Alert

December 29, 1999

Compiled by Charlotte Mathena

Four Oldsquaws made a brief appearance at Eastwood Lake on December 17. Ruddy Ducks and Buffleheads were also present that day.

On Christmas day, more than 100 Sandhill Cranes were observed in flight near Carlisle. Other Sandhill Cranes were observed in flight near Caesar Creek the previous week.

On the Springfield Christmas Bird Count, 58 species of birds were found. That included 3 Least Sandpipers, 11 Common Snipe, and approximately 20,000 Crows.

The annual Dayton Audubon Christmas Bird Count will be held on Sunday, January 2, 2000. For details on this event, see the Yellow Warbler.

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