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Ohio Big Week
Naturalist Journeys Nature and Birding Tour - Bird List
May 4-10, 2014

Guide Dan Donaldson, with 9 participants: Michele & Stephen, David, MJ, Johanne,
Kathy, Susan, Susan, and Pat.

List compiled by Dan Donaldson: 150 Bird Species (including 30 Warblers!)

Common Loon: 1 on Lake Erie from Kelley's Island ferry

Pied Billed: several on Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge and other quiet waters

Double Crested Cormorant: Very common on nearly any open water in region

Great Blue Heron: common with 100+ seen wading and flying daily

Great Egret: common daily with 100s of individuals seen

Green Heron: (4) observed at very close range over several days of trip

Black Crowned Night Heron: (5) four flying in formation along Ottawa NWR and one roosting above quarry trail on Kelley's Island

Turkey Vulture: seen daily, quite common

Canada Goose: very common with many individuals and pairs observed with goslings

Mute Swan: (2) pair observed at Metzger Marsh Wildlife Area

Trumpeter Swan: observed 5 of 6 days. Many flying (and trumpeting) from marsh units throughout the Magee Marsh and Ottawa NWR where they were re-introduced in 2006

Wood Duck: many individuals seen in local ponds (including our lodge) and in forested woodlots

Gadwall: (4) seen in Ottawa NWR wetlands

Mallard: common throughout the area and observed daily

Blue-Winged Teal: (8-10) observed in pairs throughout the week

Northern Shoveler: a few pairs observed on Ottawa NWR driving tour

Northern Pintail: (2) one pair during Ottawa NWR driving tour

Redhead: one individual seen at Kelley's Island ferry docks

Ring-necked Duck: (15-20) observed in Maumee bay from the state park lodge

Greater and Lesser Scaup: many observed in rafts on Lake Erie

Red-breasted Merganser: (many individual seen from the shore of Lake Erie

Osprey: (1) only observed for the trip from Magee Marsh board walk. Osprey are usually more common this time of year.

Bald Eagle: a true success story in this region, many nesting pair and individuals observed. One pair nested above the Magee Marsh parking lot causing one section to be closed

Northern Harrier: (1) beautiful views of hunting female along ODNR Grasslands Unit while we were searching for Lapland Longspurs

Sharp-shinned Hawk: several individuals observed above Magee marsh and hunting woodlots in the area

Cooper's Hawk: several individuals seen along with the sharp-shinned hawks

Red-shouldered Hawk: (1) Soaring over Lark Sparrow meadows at Oak Openings Metropark (Toledo)

Broad-winged Hawk: (2) migrating broad-wing hawks observed cruising treetops in Magee marsh.

Red-tailed Hawk: numerous and observed daily

Virginia Rail: (1) individual briefly heard while driving Metzger Marsh Wildlife area

Sora: (2) fantastic close range looks and photographs from Magee Marsh board walk of a most cooperative bird.

Common Moorhen: (2) observed in Metzger Marsh Wildlife Area

American Coot: Numerous and active, seen daily

Sandhill Crane: (3) pairs of Sandhill Cranes observed in the Ottawa NWR and Magee region

American Golden Plover: (50+) Beautiful looks in breeding plumage along agricultural fields

Killdeer: Limited numbers but great viewing at Ottawa NWR

Greater Yellowlegs: numerous in several mixed flocks mixed with lesser yellowlegs at several marshes

Lesser Yellowlegs: also numerous in marsh units in the region

Solitary Sandpiper: (1) one cooperative individual in agricultural ditch along Ottawa NWR

Ruddy Turnstone: (1) molting individual on Lake Erie Shore during our lunch break at Magee Marsh

Least Sandpiper: several individuals at close range on the Ottawa NWR driving tour

Dunlin: Our most numerous shorebird with sightings in nearly every shallow marsh area

Common Snipe: (3) individuals mixed in with yellowleg flocks at Metzger Marsh wildlife area

American Woodcock: Several individuals, including a one on a nest in the parking lot area of Magee Marsh

Bonaparte's Gull: Small flocks along Lake Erie and Kelley's Island

Ring-billed Gull: Common on Ohio's Lake Erie shore and inland lakes

Herring Gull: Numerous and in beautiful clean and white breeding plumage

Caspian Tern: Several individuals working the lake shoreline and larger wetland areas. Beautiful views of flocks resting on mudflats at Metzger Marsh Wildlife Area

Common Tern: seen often flying between Magee Marsh and Lake Erie as there is a nesting as there have been nesting platforms anchored in open water marshes at Magee

Rock Pigeon: Numerous sighting along agricultural fields and roadways

Black-billed Cuckoo: (1) Terrific sighting from Magee Marsh board walk tower

Eastern Screech Owl: (1) One owl was seen daily roosting in the same spot along the board walk at Magee Marsh, often drawing in various warbler and sparrow species to mob it.

Common Night Hawk: One photogenic nighthawk spent an entire day roosting over the parking lot of Magee Marsh

Chimney Swift: Common along the marshes and Lake Erie shore feeding on midges

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: (1) one flyby on Magee Marsh boardwalk

Belted Kingfisher: Several individuals seen, especially along marsh channels

Red-bellied Woodpecker: Common in the region and easily found in the large Cottonwoods that grow along the shoreline

Hairy Woodpecker: (1) The window on wildlife at Oak Openings Metropark provided up close and personal looks at this beautiful woodpecker

Downy Woodpecker: Common and always announcing their presence with their whinny-like call. One nesting pair located along Magee Marsh boardwalk

Northern Flicker: only a few individuals seen as they were just arriving to the area from their wintering areas along the Gulf of Mexico

Willow Flycatcher: One individual heard by some of our group.

Least Flycatcher: Abundant and actively feeding in most any woodlot in the region. Their chibbit call was heard constantly.

Eastern Pheobe: Commonly seen and heard on several buildings in the area

Great Crested Flycatcher: Seen and heard most days with especially good looks at Magee Marsh

Eastern Kingbird: Very common to the area but always beautiful and active

White-eyed Vireo: (1) one individual seen by some at Magee Marsh Boardwalk

Yellow-throated Vireo: Abundant this year with great looks and photographs of individuals daily

Blue-headed Vireo: Also abundant and seen every day of our trip.

Warbling Vireo: many, many these vocal vireos seen daily. By far the most numerous Vireo of the trip

Philadelphia Vireo: (3) a less common vireo that gave us great opportunities to compare plumage and song

Red-eyed Vireo: many arriving on scene at Magee Marsh for the last couple days of our trip

Blue Jay: many flocks of 30-50 birds migrating along the lakeshore refusing to fly over open water

American Crow: several individuals seen from various locations

Horned Lark: Common year-round resident in the area were easily found in the agricultural fields in the surrounding area

Purple Martin: numerous, America's most wanted bird was well represented feeding on midges within mixed flocks of swallows

Tree Swallow: abundant as the most common swallow in the area and the exclusive nest box resident in the area

Northern Rough-winged Swallow: few, individuals picked from flocks of feeding tree swallows at Metzger Marsh Wildlife area

Barn Swallow: Numerous and common in the Magee Marsh and Lakeshore areas

Black-capped Chickadee: Common in Ohio, but rare in the northwest corner of the state. We did locate a few in local woodlots

Tufted Titmouse: Several individuals at Oak Openings forest and nearby woodlots. Another woodland bird that can be difficult to find in western Ohio's agriculture areas

Red-breasted Nuthatch: (2) We were lucky to catch a couple of these beautiful little birds feeding up for their lake crossing at Magee Marsh

White-breasted Nuthatch: One individual found by some of the group on the Magee Marsh boardwalk

Carolina Wren: Loud and Proud, this little charmer was found and heard daily at nearly all locations

House Wren: Commonly found nesting in throughout the region in old woodpecker cavities. 3 nesting pair often seen on Magee Marsh boardwalk

Winter Wren: (4-6) These tiny chocolate colored "mouse-birds" are always a treat on the boardwalk at Magee Marsh

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Abundant the first few days of our trip but more difficult to find the last day or two, always cause a hesitation when expecting warblers

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: In abundance, heard and seen everyday.

Eastern Bluebird: Rare in the marsh areas but found in good numbers at Oak Openings Metropark

Veery: Well represented and found nearly daily, the cleanest plumage of all the thrushes.

Swainson's Thrush: Seen daily and very cooperative for comparison as they fed with hermits and wood thrushes along the Magee boardwalk

Hermit Thrush: seen on 3 of 5 days, the contrasting tail color so helpful in identification

Wood Thrush: Common for us this week with stunning views and great feeding behavior observed nearly everyday

American Robin: seen daily in large numbers and in nesting pairs
Gray Catbird: prolific, seen everyday
European Starling: commonly seen throughout the area
American Pipit: (2) Always a joy to see these high arctic breeders working mudflats alongside shorebirds.
Blue-winged Warbler: (1) usually common, but elusive this week. Seen by only a few in the group
Golden-winged Warbler: (1) reported by many but seen by only a few in our group
Tennessee Warbler: Several seen but especially good looks right outside the Black Swamp Bird Observatory building
Orange-crowned Warbler: seen 3 of 5 days and difficult to ID.
Nashville Warbler: Abundant and singing non-stop in nearly every tree it seems
Northern Parula: Observed in good numbers after arriving later in the week; one of the most beautiful warblers
Yellow Warbler: Very common and bold often flying inches from people
Chestnut-sided Warbler: Abundant and seen daily
Magnolia Warbler: beautiful and abundant throughout the week
Cape May Warbler: In good numbers with stunning views along the Ottawa Estuary Trail
Black-throated Blue Warbler: Abundant, males during the beginning of the week, females more common the last couple days
Yellow-rumped Warbler: seen daily
Black-throated Green Warbler: abundant, seen and heard all days
Blackburnian Warbler: abundant with great looks at close range
Yellow-throated Warbler: (1) Only one cooperative individual found near the entrance to the boardwalk at Magee Marsh
Prairie Warbler: one beautiful individual tracked down by Pat on our first day of trip
Palm Warbler: Numerous and seen daily
Bay-breasted Warbler: Numerous as a wave of migrants came in the 2 days of the trip
Blackpoll Warbler: Numerous, arriving only by the last day of trip
Cerulean Warbler: (1) stunning female feeding low in the willows along the Ottawa Estuary trail
Black and White Warbler: abundant and seen every day
American Redstart: Numerous adult, first year males and females for great looks throughout the trip
Prothonotary Warbler: (4) 2 nesting pairs on Magee boardwalk pleased the crowds
Ovenbird: Prolific and seen all days at close range. One of the best years for ovenbird in memory
Northern Waterthrush: Only a few, but great looks at these water creepers
Mourning Warbler: (4) Always a show stopper. Fantastic viewing and photographing
Common Yellowthroat: Abundant and ever present in most wetland areas, males and females
Hooded Warbler: Several individuals on Magee Marsh Boardwalk
Wilson's Warbler: A few arriving late in the week
Canada Warbler: Seen and photographed often
Scarlet Tanager: Numerous males throughout wooded areas of our travels
Eastern Towhee: several seen and many heard singing throughout the week
Chipping Sparrow: Common and seen daily
Field Sparrow: Common and can be found in most any grassy field in the area
Lark Sparrow: Great views of this uncommon Ohio bird nesting in a remnant prairie at Oak Openings Metropark
Savannah Sparrow: a few individuals found in agricultural fields (corn stubble)
Song Sparrow: Commonly found in field hedgerows throughout the region

Lincoln's Sparrow: several individuals found slinking in dark wetland areas around Magee Marsh boardwalk

Swamp Sparrow: Common in our wetland areas throughout the area

White-throated Sparrow: Abundant and often found kicking up leaf litter with the thrushes

White-crowned Sparrow: Good numbers arriving the last two days of the trip. Great comparisons to white-throated sparrows

Dark-eyed Junco: Several individuals; one, a hold out migrant, visited the Maumee Bay Lodge during our dinner

Northern Cardinal: Common Ohio Bird can be seen and heard near most any shrubby area

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Abundant and in good numbers on Magee boardwalk

Indigo Bunting: Several individuals, elusive at first but in good numbers the last couple days, especially at Magee

Red-winged Black Bird: Abundant, seen daily

Eastern Meadowlark: A few individuals arriving late, but good looks at that bright yellow breeding plumage

Common Grackle: Seen daily, in the sky and in the leaf litter along wetlands

Brown-headed Cowbird: Always present, seen daily

Baltimore Oriole: Incredibly numerous, calling from everywhere

House Finch: Not as common as expected but found on 3 days

American Goldfinch: Common and found every day in bright yellow breeding plumage

House Sparrow: Seen daily