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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Every so often someone who should know better makes a statement implying that research is about over and that man now has learned all there is to know about birds or even science in general. Almost immediately, as though the statement may have triggered it, research blossoms forth with new ideas and in new directions. We have been gathering data about the birds of this State for generations and can give very good descriptions of the ranges of bird species within the State as well as reasons for the fluctuation of these ranges. We have considerable data on the behavior of our bird species to go with information on molts, nesting, food habits and so forth. Now the expanding human population is such that many bird species are threatened with loss of habitat as well as death by poisons intended for other biota.

We suddenly find that we can furnish community planners, who are interested in conserving our native fauna and flora as well as attractive natural areas, only generalizations. What are the minimum habitat requirements of any species? Are there key plants which signal, by their disappearance, the elimination of a certain bird species? What are the noise, air, and water pollution tolerances of any bird species? We may recommend that a certain saltwater marsh on Long Island be preserved in the hopes that the Seaside Sparrow will continue to nest therein — but will the birds really remain? — is the marsh too small? — is the noise or disturbance factor at a tolerable level? From these few sample questions one may see that we now need new parameters for some of our ornithological research. We need re-evaluation of old data and more species specific information than we now have. We know the plants furnishing food and shelter for the Seaside Sparrow but what size marsh would produce sufficient food and shelter plants and what factors affect this flora we don't know well enough.

Sadly, economics-minded planners, politicians, and general public are often unwilling or unable to set aside large areas based on generalities. Today large enough areas still exist in some metropolitan zones but all under the eye of some developer or industry. We can most effectively protect such natural areas by gathering *now* enough precise data to prove our case. Marsh species seem to be under the most imminent threat and there is yet time to measure the exact size and to note the prevailing plant and terrain conditions, especially where the rarer native species still exist, so this data will allow us to present better facts for the protection of other marshes and natural areas. There are some facts which only a professional could gather, but facts are what we need, and any small datum collected by even the rawest amateur could be most useful. It is something, we think, all our members and member clubs should consider.

Edgar M. Reilly, Jr.

A STUDY OF A TREE SWALLOW COLONY OVER WATER

ROBERT P. YUNICK

INTRODUCTION

A five-year nest box study of a Tree Swallow (Iridoprocne bicolor) colony was conducted in a flooded game management area to determine how a lack of competition from other hole-nesting species, and a generally predator-free environment would affect the reproductive rate of this species. The reproductive efficiency is compared to that of some terrestial colonies already reported in the literature.

While the water level of the ponds in the area kept the nest boxes generally predator-free for three years, low water levels in the last two years allowed climbing quadrupeds access to the trees to which the nest boxes were attached, and the extent of Raccoon (*Procyon lotor*) damage to the nests was assayed.

Since the peripheral boundries of the colony were constant during the study, and the density of available houses therein varied as did the occupancy rate, it was possible to compare fledging success with nesting density.

An additional intention of presenting these nesting data is to record the breeding productivity of the area in its present rural condition, in order to compare at some future date the affect on Tree Swallow productivity of 1) suburban housing adjacent to the area which is in the process of reaching construction in 1971; and 2) the influence of an expected change in the area brought about by anticipated mounting human recreational needs.

DATA COLLECTION

This study was conducted at the Vischer Ferry Game Management Area operated by the N.Y.S. Dept. of Environmental Conservation in southern Saratoga County ten miles east of Schenectady, N.Y. at coordinates 424–0734. The area consists of 810 acres adjacent to and mostly within the flood plain of the Mohawk River at about 190 feet elevation. One-half of the area consists of shallow ponds and marsh, and the remainder is flat, brushy, once-cultivated farm land that is in varying stage of regrowth. The area has been managed since 1935, and since 1950 it has been partially flooded and managed primarily for water fowl and pheasant hunting. The recent water level is the result of dike construction and a new spillway that was installed in 1950. At that time, flooding killed many trees. Through the aid of woodpeckers and aging, these trees became usable nesting sites for the Tree Swallow.

In 1966 nest boxes were made available to the already existing colony. The boxes were fastened at three to six feet above water level to dead trees standing in the ponds. The boxes had openings of 1½-1½ in. At first

the boxes were a top-opening model having a 5 \times 5-in. floor and the hole typically 4 in. above the floor (total inner volume of 160 cu. in.). Starting in the second year, an alternate and more handy side-opening box was used to expand the colony and replace missing boxes, which were many due to vandalism by users of the area. The latter box had a $3\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$ -in. floor with the opening 6 in. above the floor (total inner volume of 135 cu. in.).

The boxes were visited for replacement and repair either in late-February or very early March while the ice was still safe. By late-March, the Tree Swallows returned as the ice was thawing. Starting in mid- or late May, depending on the advance of the season, when egg laying was in progress, the first inspection of the boxes was made by boat. All of the boxes were inspected typically five or six times until they became vacant in July. Data on clutch size, hatching success, mortality and fledging success were gathered. In the first three years, eggs were not marked; however, marking became a standard practice in 1969. The data are summarized in Tables I, II, III and IV. Young and, where possible, adults were banded.

The extremities of the colony covered an area of about 25 acres that was approximately rectangular in shape (about 750×1350 ft.). Almost centered in this rectangle was a rectangular nine-acre peninsula which was usually planted in corn for pheasants and which was surrounded along its shore by cattail, loosestrife and alder. Thus the colony encompassed 16 acres of pond surface in the approximate shape of a letter "U."

DISCUSSION OF DATA

A. Nest Box Availability and Occupancy — Table I gives a summary of the number of nest boxes that were available and the extent to which they were used. In part, the difference between the number of boxes available in May and Feb.-Mar. is the result of the loss of trees due to wind and ice. This Table does not show, however, the extent of damage by humans that occurred mainly during the winter, and in part between Feb. and May. In the winter of 1967–68 alone about 20 boxes were torn down and/or stolen by ice skaters. A total of 135 boxes was erected in the five years in order to maintain the numbers indicated in Table I.

Two events have a bearing on data in this Table. In January 1967 the Conservation Department made a substantial cutting of the trees in the colony. While the cutting eliminated many of the natural nesting sites, the occupancy level in 1967 showed little difference from that of 1966, indicating that perhaps most of the natural sites had been evacuated in favor of the boxes in 1966.

Secondly, in the winter of 1970, another colony was begun about one-half mile from the first. On this second pond, 26 boxes were erected supplying 21 potential nest sites in May. Nine nests resulted (42.8 percent occupancy) and only one of these is believed to have fledged young.

TABLE I
NEST BOX OCCUPANCY AND DENSITY

						Average
	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	or Total
Boxes available in FebMar	34	50	54	51	54	243
Boxes available in May	31	36	37	46	42	192
Boxes unused	4	5	5	9	15	38
Percent unused	12.9	13.9	13.5	19.5	35.8	19.8
Boxes with incomplete nests*	4	5	1	7	3	20
Percentage incomplete	12.9	13.9	2.7	15.2	7.1	10.4
Boxes with eggs	23	26	31	30	24	134
Percentage with eggs	74.2	72.2	83.8	65.3	57.2	69.8
Occupancies per acre**	0.92	1.04	1.24	1.20	0.96	1.06

^{*} An "incomplete nest" is one consisting of grass and other building material which did not reach the stage of having feathers added or eggs laid.

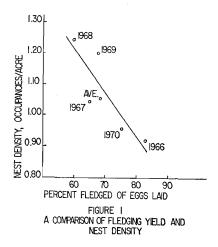
** An "occupancy" is defined as a nest with eggs.

All percentages in this Table are based on the number of boxes available in May.

The other eight were destroyed by Raccoons. This destruction is discussed in detail later. None of the data from this second colony is included in this study. However, the affect of starting the second colony is evident by noting the greatly increased number of unused boxes for the year 1970. Apparently the second colony served as a pressure release for the first one. This matter was explored further by examining the relationship between nest density and productivity.

The nesting density ("occupancies per acre," last line of Table I) was obtained by dividing the number of boxes with eggs by 25 acres. This nest density was then plotted against nesting productivity, which was measured in terms of the percentage of eggs laid that produced fledglings (line 15 of Table II), to give Figure I. The plot shows that as nesting density increased progressively from 1966 to the 1968–69 period, the colony's productive efficiency declined. Then by providing additional nest sites outside the confines of the colony, as occurred in 1970, the nest density declined to nearly the 1966 level and nesting productivity increased commensurately.

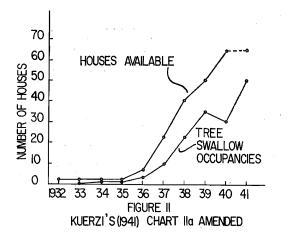
Since there is a wealth of published breeding data on the Tree Swallow, mostly gathered in the 1930's, these data were consulted to determine if a similar relationship existed in other colonies. Of particular interest are the monumental works of Austin and Low (1932), Low (1933, 1934), Chapman (1935, 1939, 1955) and Kuerzi (1941). In consulting these authors it is not always possible to make direct comparisons, because colonial size and box densities are not always apparent in their papers. Nonetheless, their data do provide some insight on this matter.

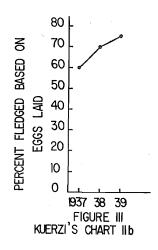


Low's colony at the Austin Ornithological Research Station on Cape Cod began in 1931 with 98 boxes in an area that had had very few natural nest sites. In that year there were 61 occupancies (plus one renesting). The station occupied one square mile (638 acres) but it is not apparent whether the boxes were distributed to the edges of the station or were grouped in one area. The colony fledged 56.5 percent of the eggs laid. In 1932, the number of boxes available was 444 and there were 113 occupancies (plus two renestings) with a fledging rate of 60.0 percent. Thus a 4.5-times increase in the number of boxes produced 1.9 times as many occupancies and gave a nearly comparable fledging rate, unlike the Vischer Ferry colony. In 1933 there were 387 boxes at the main station and 113 of these were occupied. The fledging rate was only 38.0 percent, and in great part the poor success was due to mortality attributable to unfavorable weather. In four years, this colony exhibited a sharp increase from four pairs in 1930 to 61 pairs in 1931 to 113 pairs in 1932, only to level off at that figure for 1933 with a decrease in productivity.

Kuerzi's (1941) colony at Kent, Conn. demonstrated a similar, though not so rapid increase in size, but a different change in breeding efficiency. Starting with three houses on one acre in 1932, he obtained his first nesting pair in 1934, and had one pair also in 1935. In 1936 he had seven houses and three occupancies. For the 1937 season and thereafter he had a total of 3¼ acres. The data on the number of available houses and occupancies through 1941 are given in Figure II. In Figure III are Kuerzi's reproductive efficiency data. Figures II and III are adaptations of Kuerzi's Charts IIa and b (1941).

Kuerzi's data on reproductvie efficiency are quite contrary to those gathered at Vischer Ferry, for as his colony became more dense over the

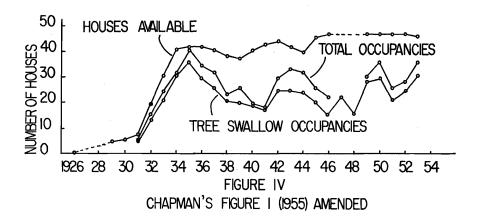




three-year period, its reproductive efficiency increased. These and other data cited later indicate that Kuerzi did indeed have a very fertile colony. The mere fact that he housed 50 pairs of Tree Swallows on 3¼ acres is unprecedented. In his paper he commented on this as follows: "So far, there has been no tendency for the rate of increase to level off, as was found to be the case at Princeton (referring to Chapman's colony). This probably indicates that at Kent there is an ample supply of Tree Swallows passing through each spring, and that the sole limiting factor is availability of nesting boxes."

A look at Chapman's (1939, 1955) occupancy data and consideration of colony age offer a possible explanation for the difference between the data of Low and Kuerzi and that from Vischer Ferry. Chapman's upland farmland colony at about 1100 feet elevation stabilized at 37 to 46 available houses on an approximately 17-acre plot. Prior to 1937, the houses had been distributed over a wider area whose boundries varied somewhat from year to year. Chapman acquired the farm in 1926 when no Tree Twallows were known to be breeding in the area. He started the colony in 1927 with a "few" boxes. Subsequent data on his houses are given in Figure IV which is a modification of his Figure I (1955) including data from 1930 on and showing the number and occupancy of houses he had available at Princeton, Mass.

Chapman's colony, like Kuerzi's, started slowly and then experienced a pronounced rise in occupancy, taking eight years to achieve maximum occupancy (Kuerzi's also took eight years to reach its 1941 maximum, but data beyond that year are not reported) at which point Chapman's colony began a six-year decline and then more or less stabilized. It is



especially interesting that Kuerzi's colony was prospering during the declining year of Chapman's colony, for the two colonies are only 100 miles away from one another.

If one allows about five years after flooding at Vischer Ferry for the trees to have died and aged sufficiently to provide suitable sites for Tree Swallow nesting, the Vischer Ferry colony was approximately 12 years old when this nest box study began. In all likelihood it was a stable colony when this study began. It is believed that for this reason the Vischer Ferry colony responded negatively to additional houses and became less productive as nesting density increased. Low's and Kuerzi's colonies did not respond in the same way, because they were new and expanding colonies. It would appear that factors other than house availability, as indicated by Kuerzi, have a bearing. Competition and density among other things make colonial survival a complex matter.

During the five years these boxes were observed, there was only one indication of attempted use by any other hole-nesting species. In that one case in 1968, a pair of House Sparrows (Passer domesticus) competed for a house, and due to the death of the female sparrow in the box, the Tree Swallows won out and used the box. This pair of House Sparrows was believed to be the same pair that nested in a tree hollow in a cattail marsh immediately adjacent the colony the year before (Yunick, 1968). House Wrens (Troglodytes aegon), though found in the area, did not venture out over water to compete for any of the boxes. Evidence of the typical twig gathering habit of this species was never found. Starlings (Sturnus vulgaris) nested in some of the larger tree holes, but never gave any indication of attempting to use the swallow boxes. Thus it appeared that the only competition for the use of these boxes was that of the Tree Swallows among themselves.

TABLE II EGG, HATCHING AND FLEDGING DATA

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	Average or Total	Average or Total including predation
Eggs laid	116	134	162	109	61	582	683
Clutches	23	25	30	22	10	110	132
Eggs per clutch	5.0	5.4	5.4	5.0	6.1	5.3	5.2
Eggs hatched	103	105	125	79	52	464	512
Percentage hatched	88.8	78.3	77.1	72.5	85.3	79.8	75.0
Eggs unhatched	9	15	21	13	1	59	81
Percentage unhatched	7.8	11.2	13.0	11.9	1.6	10.1	11.9
Eggs unaccounted for	4	14	16	17	8	59	90
Percentage unaccounted							
for	3.4	10.5	9.9	15.6	13.1	10.1	13.1
Died in nest	7	18	22	4	4	55	57
Percentage died	6.8	17.1	17.6	5.1	7.7	11.9	11.1
Young unaccounted for .	0	0	9	2	2	13	54
Percentage unaccounted							
for	0.0	0.0	7.2	2.5	3.8	2.8	10.5
Believed fledged	96	87	96	73	46	398	398
Percentage fledged on							
eggs laid	82.7	64.9	59.2	67.6	75.4	68.3	58.3
Percentage fledged on							
eggs hatched	93.2	82.8	76.8	92.4	88.5	85.8	77.7
Fledged per clutch	4.17	3.48	3.20	3.32	4.60	3.62	3.02
Raccoon predation,							
percent of clutches	0.0	0.0	3.2	26.7	56.5	_	_

^{*} All data listed above for the years 1966-70 and the first "Total" column are from first nestings only, and exclude data from boxes attacked by Raccoons.

B. Clutch Size. — Table II summarizes part of the data on clutch size. In addition, a comparison is made in Table III of clutch size distribution for several colonies. All of the clutches included from this study were first nestings. Nine renesting attempts gave an average of 3.7 egg per clutch. Except for the egg distribution data of Mason, the data show that five- and six-clutches account for about 70–80 percent of the clutches laid.

In two cases eight eggs were found in a box. In one case egg marking proved it to be the result of two separate layings. In the other case, two different egg shapes pointed suspiciously to two separate nestings; however, the data from this box were excluded from comparison.

C. Hatching Success, Nestling Mortality and Fledging Success — These data are summarized in Table II, wherein year-to-year variations in these data are assesable. All young were identified by banding once they were old enough to carry a band. Head counts of the occupants of the boxes were conducted as the young developed. Also, unhatched eggs

^{**} This "Total" column summarizes data on all clutches including those preyed upon by Raccoons.

were noted, dead birds were removed, and missing birds were recorded. When a nest was finally vacated, it was examined to determine whether the nest appeared to be normal, i.e., not dishevelled by a predator. The nesting material was examined on removal for unhatched eggs and dead birds that may have been buried in the nesting material. The number of occupants found on the next-to-last inspection, minus any dead birds, was counted as "believed fledged."

A comparion of clutch size, hatching, mortality and fledging data for this colony with those of five other colonies is given in Table IV.

TABLE III CLUTCH SIZE DISTRIBUTION

Source	No. of Clutches	Pe	ercent	age H	aving	the Fo	llowing	g Egg	g Cou	ınts
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Low (1932, 1933) .	195	0.5	2.1	5.6	19.0	51.8	16.9	4.1	0.0	0.0
Chapman (1955)	147	0.0	0.7	8.8	12.9	40.8	30.6	4.8	0.7	0.7
Mason (1968)	121	3.3	5.8	10.7	30.6	31.4	16.5	1.7	0.0	0.0
Kuerzi (1941)	68	0.0	0.0	2.9	14.7	44.1	35.4	2.9	0.0	0.0
This Study	131	2.3	1.5	3.8	10.7	36.7	39.7	5.3	0.0	0.0

TABLE IV
A COMPARISON OF COLONY PRODUCTIVITY

	This Study	Chapman	Weydemeyer	Kuerzi	Low	Mason*
Percentage eggs hatched	79.8	79.5	98.5	72.1	83.7	71.6
Percentage died	11.9	24.6	3.8	1.6	41.0	2.1
Percentage fledged on						
eggs laid	68.3	60.0	94.7	70.5	49.4	70.3
Eggs laid per clutch	5.3	5.2	6.2	5.2	4.9	5.2
Fledged per clutch	3.62	3.11	5.90	4.46	2.39	3.62
Clutches	110	285	52	68	290	26
Years of study	5	12	8	3	3	2

^{*} For purposes of comparison in the Table Mason's data for only 1940 and 1941 were used.

Except for Weydemeyer's colony in Montana, the clutch size and hatching success at these various colonies were quite comparable indicating a practically uniform breeding potential despite the variability in habitat at the four colonies. The nestling mortality, however, is quite variable with the Vischer Ferry data in between the extremes.

The percentage of young fledged, based on the number of eggs laid, is also fairly constant if one excludes Low's colony where mortality was

exceptionally high, and Weydemeyer's colony where hatching and

fledging success were very high.

Thus, it is apparent that when the pond level was sufficient to protect these boxes from Raccoons, this colony over water which was free from competition from other hole-nesting species produced Tree Swallows at a rate comparable to that of terrestial colonies where competition from House Wrens and Eastern Bluebirds (Sialia sialis sialis) was present.

D. Predation — When the ponds were at normal water levels, practically every box was protected from terrestial predators. In 1966 and 1967 the nesting occurred undisturbed. In 1968, one nest near the shoreline was destroyed by a Raccoon. In 1969, the retaining dike was opened in an attempt to drain the area to aid in waterfowl management. The water level dropped about three feet and allowed access to numerous box-supporting trees. Raccoons destroyed every nest that was accessible. In 1970, continued effort to dry the ponds and expose their soil to bacterial action led to drastically low water levels, and again Raccoons destroyed every accessible nest totalling over one-half of those present. Only those boxes at the centers of the ponds where some water prevailed were protected.

Raccoons typically left their tracks in the mud beneath the tree and all over the box to which they clung to reach in and remove the contents. Frequently the mud from their paws caused some of the removed nesting material to stick all over the outside of the box. The nest inside would be completely dishevelled. As such, their damage was very characteristic and easily recognized. Given the opportunity, these creatures appear capable of destroying the eggs or nestlings of an entire colony.

Only one other form of predation was observed. For at least four of the five years, a pair of Sparrow Hawks (*Falco sparverius*) nested in a cavity atop one of the taller trees. During swallow fledging time one of these birds was seen to capture a fledgling in flight. No evidence was ever found to indicate that these birds preyed upon young or adults in the boxes. Weydemeyer (1935) commented that Sparrow Hawks nested in the presence of his colony without interference, except for one male that developed the habit of nest robbing.

E. The Habitat and its Future — For at least the last ten years the Vischer Ferry Game Management Area has given the appearance of being in an essentially static state. Much of the dead timber has fallen, but otherwise seems unchanged. Water levels have been nearly the same except for very low water in 1964 and more recently in 1969–70. The 1964 low water was the result of an intense drought. The area relies on spring flooding, snow run off, rain and two very small creeks for water. Usually the creeks run dry in the summer. The area is expected to be drained again in 1971 and reflooded in the fall of 1971.

One of the inlet creeks is planned to be the outlet for the sewage treatment system of a 300-house development being planned adjacent to the northeast corner of the area. The effluent will only aggravate an already fertile situation in the ponds. At present only four houses adjoin the area on an upstream side of the lay of the land. Within a mile to the north, east and west are less than 15 dwellings. To the south lies the Mohawk River. Included among these dwellings are three farms.

No known spraying of the immediate management area has been done, although one nearby apple farm has undergone annual spraying. Information is being gathered on these aspects of the treatment of the area.

Recreationally the area is used for fishing in the spring and hunting in the fall. At all seasons it is used on weekends for a variety of activities including snow shoeing, canoeing, hiking and bird watching. It is expected that these activities will grow in popularity and displace the hunting and fishing as the prime attractions of the area. Possibly at some future date the area will be managed for these activities. What affect this might have on the wildlife remains to be determined.

Acknowledgment — I wish to thank the following individuals who have assisted in various ways with this project. They are Asa Smith, Region 6 Game Manager, now retired, of the N.Y.S.D.E.C. who granted permission to use the area; Walton B. Sabin and Stephen Brown also of the N.Y.S.D.E.C. for various courtesies; David Stoner in whose shop the original boxes were built and who assisted with the nest box inspection in 1966; Peter J. Yunick in whose shop most of the boxes were constructed and repaired and who built a great number of boxes for use in 1970 for this project and others; Will D. Merritt, Jr. whose shop was used and who assisted with construction of the boxes used in 1969; and Guy Bartlett for the loan of bibliographic material.

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HARRIET L. DELAFIELD

Harriet L. Delafield died suddenly on February 15 at her home in Saranac Lake. For seven years, from January 1964 through July, 1970, she was Region 7 editor of *The Kingbird*. The wildness of much of the Adirondacks and the small number of permanent-resident birders, supplemented by a fluctuating group of visitors who send in reports for a day or a season at irregular times from odd places, make this a difficult Region to report. Harriet did it well. Somehow, she managed to find regular reporters from several communities to give continuity to her reports. And her copy always came in on time, most welcome to the writer of "Highlights" and the Kingbird editor.

Health brought Harriet from New York City and Long Island, where she had been an active birder, to the Saranac Lake area in 1957. For the last four years she had contributed a column of nature notes to the Lake Placid News, "Mountains and Meadows," about the birds and flowers, sunrises and seasons at Saranac Lake and elsewhere. Occasionally she would send me a copy of one that covered some special bird news. They

were delightful reading.

Although she had been a Federation member since 1961, she attended annual meetings only occasionally, partly because of her health; therefore many of us did not get to know her well. Probably few of us outside of the Saranac Lake and New York City areas knew that she was a trained singer or that her writing was not confined to weather summaries for reporting periods and species data. She wrote poetry which appeared in several publications and nature sketches for the Hampton *Chronicle* which were later published in book form.

Harriet made a major contribution to The Kingbird. We shall miss her.

Dorothy W. McIlroy

THE TURKEY VULTURE IN NEW YORK STATE

JOHN B. BELKNAP

Early in this century when Elon Howard Eaton wrote his monumental treatise on the birds of the State, the Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*) was a somewhat infrequent visitor and no breeding records had been established. Since then there has been a marked change in the incidence of this species, increases being particularly apparent during the past twenty years. Throughout the warmer months of the year the Turkey Vulture can be seen in many parts of the State, and we now have a scattering of breeding records, dating from 1925.

Although the initial breeding record comes from Westchester County, it was in western New York that the Turkey Vulture began to appear in numbers. During the 1930's they were being reported regularly at Oak Orchard Swamp in Genesee County. By that time the species had become established in that portion of the Province of Ontario lying north of Lake Erie and the expansion into western New York may have come from that area.

The following table gives the nestings in New York State known to the writer:

Year	Locality	Authority
1925	Lewisboro, Westchester County	Bird Lore 28:175
1927	Tonawanda Swamp, Orleans County	Beardslee and Mitchell (1965)
c.1928	Bergen Swamp, Genesee County	Gardner Bump
1934	Long Mountain Harriman State	
	Park, Orange County	W. H. Carr
1938	Lyndonville, Orleans County	William Smith
1939	Millbrook Mountain, Ulster	
	County	Daniel Smiley
1942-4	Ulster County	Daniel Smiley
1955	Rockland County	John C. Orth
1957	Davenport, Delaware County	Burland
c.1958	Blooming Grove, Orange County	Martha Earl
1962	Humphrey, Cattaraugus County	Audubon Field Notes 16:473
1964-70	Marengo Swamp, Wayne County	Kingbird XVII:20
1967	Picton Island, Jefferson County	Kingbird XVIII:25
1968	Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge,	•
	Orleans County	Kingbird XIX:22

It will be noted that most of these have been documented. It is not surprising that the list is short, since Turkey Vulture nests are difficult to locate. Most have been found in rocky hill terrain or in extensive swamps, both favorite nesting sites for the species. In addition to the fourteen nesting records listed I have been advised by Harold Mitchell that two

downy young, recently out of the nest, were found in Oak Orchard

Swamp by William Jameson on June 18, 1938.

It will also be noted that the sites in western New York were mainly in extensive swampy areas, while those in the southeastern part of the State were in hilly country. Of particular interest is the site in Marengo Swamp, Wayne County, used annually since 1964. A detailed account by Walter Benning is given in *The Kingbird 17: 20–21 1967*, on observations of this nest in 1966.

Although the Turkey Vulture probably should not be considered a true migrant, a definite seasonal movement is very apparent in the State. Birds leave for more temperate regions in the autumn, although there have been scattered sightings in winter in the southernmost parts of the State. Spring and fall movement can be noted at various "Hawk Lookouts." In this connection spring counts at Derby Hill in Oswego County are of interest. Totals are recorded below.

1963-30	1966–79	1969-278
1964–77	1967–162	1970–181
1965-40	1968-81	

A number of reasons have been advanced for the range extension of the Turkey Vulture during this century. The general conclusion is that it is a biologically successful species and is able to find sufficient food in the northeast except during the coldest months.

Acknowledgement – I with to thank John Bull of the American Museum of Natural History who supplied a number of breeding records.

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REPORT ON GREAT GULL ISLAND: SUMMER, 1970

DAVID C. DUFFY

The summer of 1969 (Kingbird XX(4):168; 1970) indicated that Great Gull Island, Suffolk County, N.Y. is an excellent location for the detection of bird movements during the summer months and for unusual migrants. The summer of 1970 confirmed this as the following list indicates. The birds noted are either unusual because of the time of year or because they are out of place on a small. treeless island.

American Sparrow Hawk: June 30; July 9; July 25.

Purple Sandpiper: This species lingered in decreasing numbers until June 11 when the last one was seen. This is not a summer record, but instead represents a spring migration extreme. On July 16, Alan Poole observed 3 feeding on the South Beach of the island (Poole, in prep.) The birds were photographed by the author. This is the fourth July record for the New York City area and the second for Great Gull Island (Bull, Birds of the New York City Area, Harper and Row, 1964).

Great Crested Flycatcher: June 22–23; July 3. It is unlikely that the birds are breeders as the island is treeless.

Traill's Flycatcher: June 20; July 3. Bull believes that some individuals of this species migrate early as indicated by banding done by Lanyon and Gill. The Great Gull Island birds may be extreme examples of this or summer vagrants.

Cliff Swallow: May 30; June 29, identified by Roger Pasquier. This species is listed by Bull as "scarcew here it does not breed, particularly along the coast." The last known nesting on Long Island was in 1924. The birds may be vagrants, or they may have come from a colony that is presently unknown, perhaps Gardiner's Island, but more probably a ruined coastal defense site located on a small island three miles SW of Great Gull. Hopefully we will be able to investigate this summer.

Swainson's Thrush: 2 on June 16. 1 netted on July 3. Bull mentions no previous July records for the area. As the species breeds in the Berkshires (NH) and higher altitudes generally, its presence in early July is unexplainable on an island with a maximum elevation of 35 feet.

White-Eyed Vireo: July 2.

Louisiana Waterthrush: August 25. Bull lists it as "very rare along the coast." He believes that it migrates through interior river valleys and avoids the beaches, especially during the Fall. This bird was netted after a day of precipitation, with a heavy fog beginning.

Mourning Warbler: June 11, male; generally rare on the eastern end of Long Island, this is one of the latest records for the New York city area. Summer Tanager: June 5-6, a second year male in changing plumage.

None of the summer records mentioned could have bred on the island. It is too small for most species to escape detection, and its treeless, exposed terrain inhabited by 5,000 terns similarly rules out many of the birds as possible breeders.

The summer visitants and most of the migrants, Louisiana Waterthrush excepted, do not seem to have been the result of bad weather or high winds. Before the first week in July when the Swainson's Thrush, Great Crested Flycatcher, Traill's Flycatcher, White Eyed Vireo all cocurred, there had been no significantly bad weather for the preceding two weeks.

These results seem to back up the conclusions of my previous paper: that there is a large and generally unidentified population of non-breeding birds which has, in most areas, not been distinguished from the resident, breeding population.

My thanks to all who helped both with the field work and the preparation of this paper.

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THE NORTH AMERICAN NEST RECORD CARD PROGRAM

The North American Nest Record Card Program conducted by the Laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell now receives over 20,000 records annually from over 800 contributors. Nearly 100 regional centers throughout the continent help coordinate the distribution and collection of cards. The Program, which was begun by the Laboratory in 1965 and is now under the directorship of Dr. David B. Peakall, collects, processes and stores on computer tapes and memory discs information on the nesting biology of birds. Several studies, based on data from the Program, have been completed. Of particular interest is a recent paper by Dr. Peakall "The Eastern Bluebird: Its Breeding Season, Clutch Size, and Nesting Success." (*The Living Bird*, 9: 239–256, 1970). A limited number of reprints of this paper are available from the Laboratory.

The Program seeks information on nesting data on all species of birds, both historical and current. At the present time, however, it is engaged in a study of the geographical variation of the clutch-size of the Robin, Barn Swallow and Eastern Phoebe and is, therefore, particularly anxious to receive nesting information on these three species.

Anyone interested in contributing to the Program may obtain blank nest record cards with instructions for using them by writing directly to the Nest Record Card Program at the Laboratory.

Laboratory of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850

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Corrections or omissions should be called to the attention of the Bibliography Committee: Sally Hoyt Spofford, Chairman, John B. Belknap, Allen H. Benton, and Kenneth C. Parkes.

FIELD NOTES

A Misplaced Petrel. Petrels are pelage birds ranging widely over the world's oceans, and are rarely seen on land except on islands where nesting takes place. The occurrence of a petrel at an inland point is purely fortuitous.

A petrel found near Mt. Morris in Livingston County, N.Y. in the spring of 1880 was the subject of considerable speculation until its true identity 'Pterodroma inaxpectata' was determined many years later. Details as to its discovery can be found in Eaton (1909) and Bent (1922) and will not be repeated here. The bird was sent to a taxidermist in Concord, N.H. for mounting. The specimen, wings outstretched, appeared shortly thereafter in the window of a natural history store in Boston, Massachusetts.

It was soon spotted by a sharp eyed ornithologist, William Brewster of Cambridge. Brewster, then twenty-eight years of age, was already a leader in American ornithology, having been the moving spirit in the formation of the Nuttall Club and later one of the founders of the American Ornithologists Union. Recognizing it to be something out of the ordinary, Brewster purchased the specimen, reporting the occurrence in the NOC Bulletin (1881) unler the title "Critical Notes on a Petrel New to North America."

Believing it to belong to a species unknown to science he proposed the name Scaled Petrel (Aestrelata scalaris) giving a detailed description in the "Auk" (1886). For years the specimen was considered the only one extant and was so designated in the third edition of the AOU Checklist (1910). Later it was determined that the Scaled Petrel of Brewster belongs to a south Pacific species that had been known since 1844. The confusion stemmed from the fact that the Livingston County bird was an immature lith somewhat different markings from an adult Pterodroma inexpectata. It has, at various times, been called the Scaled, Peale and Mottled Petrel. Breeding is restricted to the New Zealand area and the normal oceanic range is the south Pacific between the thirtieth parallel and the Antarctic continent. Some birds of this species range as far as the Alaskan Peninsula, and there are a few records from the Pacific coast of North America. It would appear that the Livingston County bird had wandered some five thousand miles from home.

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Cliff Swallow Nest in Active Bank Swallow Colony: On June 30, 1970, in Powder Mill Park, Monroe County, N.Y., while I was looking over the cliff containing Bank Swallow nests I saw the nest of a Cliff Swallow (Petrochelidon pyrrhonota) among those of the Bank Swallows (Riparia riparia). It was constructed of small "pellets" fastened together. I couldn't tell if the "pellets" constituted the entire nest or if they formed a rim around a hole which had been previously excavated by Bank Swallows. I watched the nest from about 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. The adult bird(s) did not re-

turn to the nest very often. When one did return it usually sat in the opening facing out for a few minutes before flying away again. After the departure of what I assumed was an adult, another bird, which I assumed was an immature, would come from inside the nest to sit in the opening until an adult returned. I couldn't tell if an adult fed an immature and I couldn't be sure that there were more than a total of two birds (adult and immature).

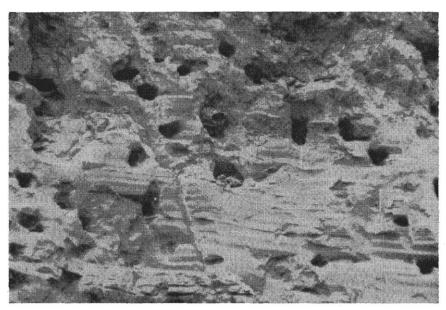
On both the adult and the immature I saw the light forehead, the bluish head, and the reddish throat. I didn't see the buffy rump because when an adult flew it was lost in a cloud of Bank Swallows, but once, just as one left the opening, I was able

to see its square-cut tail from below.

The cliff is approximately 30' to 40' high and nearly vertical. It is composed of very fine powder-like sand. There are about 200 Bank Swallow holes, most of which were in use at that time. The Cliff Swallow nest was quite high up, but not at the top.

A day or two later Reginald W. Hartwell took two telephoto pictures of the nest.

In October I looked for the nest again but there was no sign of it.



Cliff Swallow nest among Bank Swallow nests. Powder Mill Park, Monroe County, N.Y. Photographs by Reginald W. Hartwell.

Gertrude L. Davis, 203 Collingsworth Drive, Rochester, N.Y., 14625

Rodent Killing by Common Grackle: On January 14, 1971, as we watched our feeding area from the kitchen window, we were surprised to see a Common Grackle attack and apparently kill a small rodent under a large blue spruce in the yard. The grackle grabbed the rodent by the neck and slammed it against the ground several times, then pecked at it. The bird then disappeared from view under and behind the tree. Upon investigating shortly afterward, we could find no remains, and since there had been no cats or dogs in the yard, we assume the grackle took its prey with it as it flew off. This rodent appeared to be the size of a large mouse, brown, with a short tail, probably a meadow mouse. We had seen it on other occasions around the cracked corn which had spilled from one of the feeders. (We haven't seen it since, I might add!) This is the first such behavior we have ever witnessed in the Common Grackle. It would be interesting to know whether or not the bird actually consumed the rodent.

Betty Strath, Odessa, N.Y.

Sharp-tailed Sparrow Lays Dwarf Eggs: Abnormal wild bird eggs are rerely reported. For the domestic hen, Romanoff and Romanoff (*The Avian Egg*, 258, 1949) found five dwarf eggs per 10,000 laid, and they considered the dwarf egg to be the most common abnormal egg except for that with two yells

most common abnormal egg except for that with two yolks.

On 19 June 1970 at Tobay, Jones Beach, New York, I found a Sharp-tailed Sparrow ($Ammospiza\ caudacuta$) nest with two abnormally small eggs. They measure 12.4 mm \times 10.6 mm and 15.2 mm \times 12.6 mm. Hill (in Bent, U.S. Natl, Mus. Bull., 237:801, 1968) gives the average dimensions of 105 Sharp-tailed Sparrow eggs as 19.4 mm \times 14.6 mm, with two eggs having the smallest dimensions measuring 17.8 mm \times 15.2 mm and 20.8 mm \times 13.2 mm.

Clutches with two dwarf eggs are rarer than those with only one: of 200 domestic hens that laid dwarf eggs, 89% laid but one and 11% laid two or more (Romanoff

and Romanoff, op. cit., 258).

The shape of the two Sharp-tailed Sparrow eggs is prolate-spheroidal, their shape indices (breadth/length \times 100) being 86 (smaller egg) and 83. A prolate-spheroidal egg has an average shape index of 80, while the other common shape of dwarf eggs, cylindrical, has an average shape index of 53 (Romanoff and Romanoff, op. cit., 259). The color pattern of the eggs is normal.

The nest was located on the ground, under some Spike-Grass (*Distichlis spicata*), and the two eggs, the only ones I could find, had been spilled out of the nest. The larger egg had been punctured and was dried out. The smaller egg contained yolk,

but was not examined for an embryo. -

William Post, Department of Zoology, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, N.C. 27607

Clay-colored Sparrow Nesting in Western New York: In recent years, several records suggest the incursion of the Clay-colored Sparrow (Spizella pallida) as a breeding species in western New York. One or two individuals had been sighted in Amherst in July 1969¹ and in Irondequoit and Braddocks Bay in May of 1969.² In the summer of 1970, a pair of Clay-colored Sparrows established the first western New York breeding record in a Scotch Pine Christmas tree plantation near Alfred, New York.

The 23-acre Scotch Pine plantation is located at 2300' elevation near Foster Lake, about 2 miles west-southwest of Alfred and is used as a site for a summer Breeding Bird Census.³ During July 1969, the author felt certain of hearing the song of a

¹ Kingbird, XIX:215.

² Kingbird, XIX:151.

³ For a detailed description of the census area see Audubon Field Notes, 23:743.

Clay-colored Sparrow on three different occasions but was never able to find the elusive bird. On May 17, 1970, Clarence Klingensmith made the first positive identification of a male Clay-colored Sparrow in this Scotch Pine plantation. His careful and detailed description of the bird appeared in the Allegany County Bird Club News of June 1970.⁴ Several other members of the Allegany County Bird Club observed the bird with its striped crown, brown cheek patch, and unstreaked light gray breast as it remained in the area, perching on Scotch Pine trees and singing its characteristic low-pitched buzzes. Although attempts to photograph the bird were unsuccessful, Lou and Doris Burton were able to record its songo n tape.

The male continued to sing throughout May and was carefully studied on June 2, 6, and 8. Activity was confined to an area of about one square acre containing rows of 4–6′ Scotch Pine trees interspersed with grasses and an occasional bramble thicket. This area is prime nesting territory for both Chipping and Song Sparrows. During the week of June 10–16, an extensive search in the area failed to turn up either the adult or a nest. However, on June 24 and 25, both the male and female were flushed from the Scotch Pine undergrowth and studied carefully. The adults were extremely agitated by human presence, uttering the alarm notes 'tsit sit' repeatedly. Both adults were observed with food in their mouths, in most cases small caterpillars, darting into the undergrowth where young birds were heard calling.

It is interesting to note that the dates of possible onset of incubation of these Claycolored Sparrows (June 10), (as evidenced by the sudden cessation of song by the male), and the date the adults were first observed feeding young out of the nest (June 24) correspond quite favorably with the average dates for incubation given by Fox in his study of seven nesting pairs of Clay-colored Sparrows in Saskatchewan,

Canada, in 1959.5

Throughout July and early August, a thorough search of the area failed to produce any evidence of a second nesting; neither the adults nor the young were observed after June 25.

Elizabe'h W. Brooks, Water Wells Road, Alfred Station, N.Y. 14803

Ed. Note: Attention is called also to the article "Possible Hybridization between a Clay-colored Sparrow and a Chipping Sparrow at Ithaca" *Kingbird* XI (1):7–11 by Mrs. Malcolm McIlroy.

⁴ Allegany County Bird Club News, IV (6):3.

⁵ Fox, Glen A. "A Contribution to the Life History of the Clay-colored Sparrow." Auk, 78:221–224.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WINTER SEASON

FRITZ SCHEIDER

Everybody agrees — it was a long, cold, snowy, rough winter. Record snowfalls were achieved (if you can call that an achievement) in Rochester, Ithaca, Syracuse, Binghamton, and Albany and the Adirondacks Sector was a problem area all by itself. Read the Region 7 report for a short description of winter non-birding! And as bad as the winter was, March — "our first month of spring" — compounded the meteorological felony with unseasonable cold and at least two blizzards. This hibernal heritage left the fields capped with foot thick snow cover and the ponds, lakes, and rivers plugged with record thick layers of ice. March saw precious little in the way of migration and massive tardiness of migrants was the rule, not the exception. Similarly everyone agreed it was the best non-finch winter in decades. A few Evening Grosbeaks and a noccasional Purple Finch were all that were about to remind one that there was such a group as winter finches.

A residue of Red-throated Loons (1,4,5,8,9) and a few Eared Grebes (1,3,5,8) highlighted the divers section of the checklist. The spring Canada Goose flight was described as only poor or fair in most areas but Region 3 had 100,000 plus in late March with some spillage of this great anserine horde into Region 5. Many more Blue and Snow Geese were reported in late March upstate and, exceptionally, a few of either Blue or Snow Geese wintered (1,2,3). Despite the severity of the winter, both Gadwall (1,2,5) and American Widgeon (1,3) seemed up in wintering numbers but the Black Duck winter picture seems one of steady and marked decline.

King Eiders were reported in above average or record numbers upstate (1,2,5 with a specimen in 3) and Hooded Merganser winter numbers increased slightly (3,5), rather surprising in view of the severe continuous freezing. Common Merganser numbers were down in all the western sectors but increased numbers (? increased concentration) were noted in Region 6 on small sections of the St. Lawrence River.

Only two raptores showed enough numbers and consistence to merit comment — high counts of Red-tailed Hawks, well above average, were noted in Regions 2,3,5,6,8,9, this despite the deep snow cover. However, the Rough-legged Hawks, normally regular if not common wintering birds in Region 3,5,6, were reported in reduced numbers there but increased somewhat in Region 8 and 9 where normally scarce and very high tallies were noted in parts of Region 1.

The mild November weather may have deluded some of the half-hardy shorebirds as more December reports of Killdeer (2,4,5,8,9) and Common Snipe were received and some few of these individuals were known to have wintered over successfully. Glaucous Gull tallies seemed low on the Great Lakes and the single exception of 24 in Region 6 again probably reflects concentration secondary to the severe icing of the St. Lawrence River. Great Black-backed Gull numbers appeared decreased in both Region 2 and 5 and this should be carefully watched in further winters to see if it is an ice-dependent phenomenon. It would have been interesting to know if the marine counts of this species had gone up sharply with the severe weather upstate.

Uniformly (1 thru 9) reported were increased tallies of Mourning Doves, this despite the deep snow. Reports of feeding stations supporting sizable flocks of Mourning Doves seem a new feature in upstate birding. No major concentrations of Short-eared Owls appeared and no Snowy Owl flight could be said to have occurred although a few individuals were noted (1,2,3,5,6).

Yellow-shafted Flicker tallies upstate, particularly Christmas Count figures, were quite high and lesser numbers of Sapsucker were reported. Both species, where found, seemed to survive the winter rather well. However, Red-breasted Nuthatches (1 thru 9) and Golden-crowned Kinglet (2,3,5,7,8) were reported very scarce, mirroring the absence of winter finches and further enlarging the birding dullness of this winter past. The one positive chord in the dismal symphony of the many absent northern species was struck by the abundance of Northern Shrikes (1,2, 3,5,8,9 but curiously not in 6!).

Most Christmas counts had good numbers of Eastern Meadowlarks but their survival thru January's deep and persistent snow was almost nil; in contrast, the increased numbers of wintering Icterids, particularly Redwinged Blackbirds and Brown-headed Cowbirds, seemed to fare rather well as they readily utilized feeders (1,2,4).

Sustaining the advances of the past decade, Cardinals continue to spread and numbers in known occupied areas appear to be rising (1,3,4, 5,6); whether the severe deep snow will cut back this advance for the next one or two years should be watched closely. The reports of winter finches consist of many negatives and the occasional finch that showed its feathers was most likely Goldfinch (low numbers in 4 thru 9 but numbers described as average or above in 1 thru 3) or the advancing House Finch (3,4,5,8,9) which will undoubtedly become an attractive nuisance upstate in ten to fifteen years. Like the shorebirds, many half-hardy sparrows, notably White-throated, Song, and Swamp Sparrows, attempted to winter - those with feeder fodder and good cover nearby seemed to do well but the field-found birds of the numerous Christmas Counts were virtually gone by late January and by mid-February even Tree Sparrows were sparse in the snow-rich hinterlands. Perhaps a true incursion of Oregon Juncos occurred this winter or perhaps these stray birds were concentrated in feeder situations; either way, almost all sectors had at least one Oregon Junco reported and some had several.

Rarities for the season - and some were most unseasonal! - included

Barrow's Goldeneye (3,5), Harlequin Duck (5), Common Eider (1,2), Turkey Vulture (7), Black-headed Gull (1), Great Gray Owl (8), Black-backed Woodpecker (6), Common Raven (7), Boreal Chickadee (1,3, — perhaps a shadow flight of the '69-'70 incursion), Varied Thrush (9), Wood Thrush (3), Western Meadowlark (3), Yellow-headed Blackbird (2), and Bullock's Oriole (4,9).

A perfect score for regional summaries was marred by the absence of one from Region 10 – c'est dommage!

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(Editor's Note: The Region 10 report was excusably slightly late, but apparently no copy was sent to Dr. Scheider. The report, however, speaks for itself. I.W.T.

REGION 1 — NIAGARA FRONTIER

ROBERT A. SUNDELL

Except for December (nearly normal temperature and precipitation), this winter was one of the coldest in recent years. The first three months of the year were several degrees below normal resulting in the accumulation of an unusually thick ice cover over most water. Snowfall was close to normal for the period. Brief thaws in late February and mid-March brought a few migrants but winter-like conditions quickly returned. Waterfowl appeared to be the only category of birds migrating in widespread and substantial numbers during their usual time schedules. The wintry weather and unfavorable winds severely retarded most of the other regular or occasional March migrants.

Significant points or trends to note from the report are (1) a fine variety but small numbers of the larger fish eating species such as loons, grebes, cormorants and herons, (2) an insignificant maximum count of Canada Geese compared with the past several years, (3) average numbers of many species of ducks, (4) exceptional counts of Rough-legged Hawks in an area where they are usually rare, (5) small numbers of many species of gulls but a good variety nevertheless, (6) small numbers of owls, (7) high Christmas Count numbers of Mourning Doves and Blue Jays, (8) a superb flight of Northern Shrikes which could not be documented due to lack of time, (9) a very poor flight of winter finches except for the Evening Grosbeak, (10) high Christmas Count totals of the Cardinal, Slate-colored Junco and Tree, White-throated and Song Sparrows plus the Snow Bunting.

Rare species reported were Eared Grebe, Barrow's Goldeneye, Black-headed Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Boreal Chickadee and House Finch.

Abbreviations: Bflo-Buffalo; BOS-Buffalo Ornithological Society; CC-Christmas Count; Chaut-Chautauqua; imm-immature; INWR-Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge; Nia-Niagara; NYSFBC-New York State Federation of Bird Clubs; Ont-Ontario.

Contributors: TLB—Thomas L. Bourne; RB—Richard Brownstein; DOC—Douglas O. Carlson; LMC—Lincoln and Marian Crone; FE—Flora Elderkin WHK—Walter and Harriette Klabunde; WAM—Willard and Alice McKale; JSM—John S. Morse; CMN—Charles and Martha Neel; EP—Emily Potter; A(D)R—Archie (and Doris) Richardson; WGS—William and George Smith; RAS—Robert A. Sundell.

LOONS-DUCKS: Common Loons are virtually unknown after Dec in recent years so individuals Jan 8 INWR (JSM et al) and Jan 14 Hamburg Town Park (TLB) and

2 on the Nia R off Grand Island Jan 10 (Vaughan) are noteworthy, as is a Redthroated Loon Dec 3 on Cassadaga L (DOC). 2 Red-necked Grebes were seen between Feb 4 and Mar 15 in Dunkirk Harbor by several different parties. An EARED GREBE was compared with Horned Grebes on L Erie near Dunkirk Dec 1 (DOC). A Double-crested Cormorant was also seen there Dec 2 (FE) and Dec 5, 6 (DOC). The Great Blue Heron is scarcest during Feb with individuals this year on Feb 2 INWR (JSM) and Feb 6 Silver Creek (Mangano) and a light return flight throughout the region during mid and late Mar. The only Black-crowned Night Heron reported was a returning migrant Mar 30 East Eden Pond (TLB).

Whistling Swans were seen on Chaut L with 77 Dec 1 Stow, 60 Dec 2 Mayville and 120 Dec 2 Prendergast Point, 9 Dec 10 Mayville (FE) and 1 walking on the ice Jan 1 Mayville (EP); early returning migrants were 7 Feb 27 Buckhorn Island State Park on the Nia R (Reckhow); the Mar flight was very poor with a maximum count of 114 on the Allegheny Reservoir at Onoville on Mar 28 (Gulvin). Canada Geese remained at INWR through mid Jan with 1200 Jan 1, 360 Jan 9 and 35 Jan 16 (JSM, Olsen); 3500 had returned there by Feb 27 (JSM et al) and the maximum count was 18,000 Mar 6 (WAM, LMC). 6 Snow Geese Mar 18 and 2 Blue Geese Mar 18, 28 were maximum numbers at INWR; 8 Snows and 7 Blues Mar 28 over Fredonia (RAS, Maggio) were observed at an unusual location; an imm Blue Goose in Dunkirk Harbor from an 24 through the end of the period seen by numerous observers represents the first wintering bird for western New York.

Most species of ducks were present in average numbers for recent years. 39 Gadwall were recorded on the NYSFBC annual waterfowl count, the second highest total; this included at least 2 which wintered at Dunkirk Harbor, the only regular winter location beside the Nia R. American Widgeon were again present in large numbers during early winter - 300 Dec 3 above Nia Falls (Freitag), 167 Dec 26 BOSCC, 150 Jan 10 NYSFBC waterfowl count. Late Shovelers were reported Dec 1, 2 Dunkirk (DOC) and Dec 2 INWR (JSM). Wood Ducks were well represented with 4 Dec 27 on the Jamestown CC where an adult male wintered with a flock of Mallards and single reports from Dunkirk Harbor, INWR and Bflo. Exceptionally high counts of Common Goldeneye 2759 Dec 26 MOSCC and Bufflehead 2220 Dec 26 BOSCC were obtained. A female BARROW'S GOLDENEYE was present from Nov 21 until at least Feb 20 just above Nia Falls and was seen by many birders. The flightless male COMMON EIDER present at Chippawa, Ont from Dec 1969 was last seen Jan 10; it had been closely observed and photographed by many observers but was never known to have crossed into New York State waters. King Eiders were present in small numbers on the Nia R from Dec 6 through the end of the period with a female in Dunkirk Harbor from Feb 6-27.

HAWKS-OWLS: Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks were scattered throughout the region in numbers slightly above those of the past several winters. Also as in recent years there were excellent numbers of Red-tailed Hawks wintering. The Red-shouldered Hawk is always rare during the winter months; an individual appeared at the INWR Dec 30 CC and Jan 1 (JSM, Howes); the first returning migrants were seen there Feb 26, 27 (JSM et al). Rough-legged Hawks were well represented in the usual wintering area on the L Ont plain; they were unaccountably common south of Stockton in Chaut Co where usually rare with peak counts of 84 Feb 27 and 71 Feb 28 (DOC; Buck, Rew; CMN, ADR). The slowly vanishing Bald Eagle was reported from three locations – imm Dec 15 and Jan 17 INWR (JSM; Waldstein), adult on the ice of Chaut L at Mayville Jan 1 (EP), imm Mar 13 Lakeview (TLB).

American Coot: 300 Dec 10 Chaut L (FE), maximum winter count 35 Feb 20, 26 Dunkirk Harbor (FE). Midwinter Killdeer are always rare; 1 was seen at Bemus Point Feb 1-12 (Reiber) while the first migrants were 4 Feb 23 at Dunkirk (DOC) with a peak noted Mar 14 where 56 were seen flying over Point Gratiot

(Hess) and Mar 15 with 59 over Hamburg Township (RB et al). American Woodcock were first observed with 2 Mar 15 Alfred area (Klingensmith). The usual midwinter records of Common Snipe were 2 Dec 27 Jamestown CC, 5 Jan 22 (DOC) and 5 Jan 24 (RAS, AR) Towerville.

Gulls were impressive as usual, although most species were present in smaller numbers than is most recent years. The maximum count of Glaucous Gulls was 4 Dec 30 at Squaw Island, Bflo (RFA, Byron). A BLACK-HEADED GULL was reported on 6 days in Dec (19–31) on the Nia R opposite Bflo (many observers) and up to 2 were present in Dunkirk Harbor from Jan 17–24 (many observers). At least 2 Little Gulls were seen along the Nia R through Jan 10. An imm BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE was observed in Dunkirk Harbor on Jan 8 (William and Mary Kraetz), Jan 15 (CMN), Feb 2 (DOC) and Feb 15 (Moes, Campbell).

Mourning Doves were present in extraordinary numbers on area CCs continuing a trend of recent years: 255 Dec 27 Hamburg – East Aurora, 179 Dec 26 Scio, 119

Dec 26 Grand Island (BOS), 118 Dec 30 INWR, 109 Dec 26 Jamestown.

There were the usual small numbers of owl reports other than the Screech, Great Horned and Barred. 3 Barn Owls were recorded—Dec 26 Grand Island (BOS) CC, Feb 14 Hamburg (TLB), Feb 21 Wilson (WAM et al). The first Snowy Owl was observed perched on a fencepost along the Thruway just west of Batavia Nov 10 (Riley); 1 frequented the Lyndonville area Jan 1–24 (WGS); at least 3 were recognized in the Oak Orchard—Shadigee area Feb 6–25 (WGS). The only Longeared Owls reported were Dec 6 Youngstown (WHK et al), Dec 29 Hamburg (TLB), Mar 14 Youngstown (Wendlings et al). The maximum count of Short-aared Owls was 22 at Lyndonville between Mar 16 and 29 (WGS).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: An exceptionally large winter concentration of the Yellow-shafted Flicker was 23 Dec 30 INWR CC. The influence of the weather on CCs was again dramatized by the absence of the Pileated Woodpecker from the Fredonia and Jamestown lists although known to be present in both circles. Both the Red-headed Woodpecker and Yellow-bellied Sapsicker are rare during the winter months; the former was represented by 2 Dec 30 INWR CC, 1 Jan 1 Fredonia CC and 2 Jan 3 and Mar 14 Fort Nia State Park with a possible winter holdover Mar 26 Derby; the sapsucker was reported Dec 26 Allegany County CC, Dec 5-Jan 30 Lewiston (WHK) and Jan 15–22 Stafford Township (Masons).

An exceptionally large winter count of Horned Larks for the Southern Tier hill

country was 146 Dec 26 Jamestown CC.

A Tree Swallow Mar 18 Frewsburg (FE) was four days earlier than usual. Unusually large numbers of Blue Jays were again recorded on area CCs: 684 Dec 26 Allegany County, 442 Dec 26 Jamestown, 297 Dec 26 Grand Island (BOS), 246 Dec 27 Hamburg — East Aurora. A roost of the Common Crow at West Seneca was estimated at 7000 birds Mar 27 (LMC).

A BOREAL CHICKADEE wintered in a cemetery in Pendleton Township, Nia Co with verification reports for Nov 29, Jan 3 and Feb 7 (WAM). Tufted Titmice were reported in very large numbers on two CCs 67 Dec 27 Hamburg-East Aurora, 37 Dec 27 Jamestown. As this was a particularly poor winter for the Red-breasted Nuthatch which was widely and sparsely distributed, the concentration of 27 Dec 27 on the Hamburg-East Aurora CC was particularly noteworthy. 4 Winter Wrens is about twice the total often reported during the winter months; the first spring migrant was noted Mar 31 at Toad Hollow (TLB). Single Carolina Wrens were noted on Dec 26 on the Allegany Co and Jamestown CCs with 3 Dec 27 on the Hamburg-East Aurora CC; 1 survived through Feb at a feeder at Spring Brook (Danner). At least 12 Mockingbirds were reported from 9 scattered localities mostly in the greater Bflo area. The only Catbird was seen Dec 27 on the Hamburg-East Aurora CC. 3 Brown Thrashers were reported from widely scattered locations including two CC records.

The maximum midwinter report of Robins was a flock of 20 Jan 10 at Somerset

(WAM); starting in mid-Mar substantial numbers were recorded in Chaut Co. A Hermit Thrush on Mar 7 at Hamburg (TLB) could represent an unusually early spring migrant or a wintering survivor. The usual late Feb arrival dates for the Eastern Bluebird were Feb 25 Hamburg (TLB) and Feb 27 Clymer (FE). The only Ruby-crowned Kinglet was seen on the Allegany Co CC Dec 26. The Water Pipit arrived on Mar 21 with 17 at Fredonia (DOC) and a second flock of 19 Mar 30 in the Conewango area (Swanson, Bates). An excellent flight of Northern Shrikes developed in Nov and was sustained throughout the winter. The Loggerhead Shrike arrived at the Oak Orchard Game Management Area on Mar 21 (RB et al).

VIREOS—SPARROWS: An unseasonably large flock of up to 25 Redwinged Blackbirds frequented a feeder in Belmont during Dec and Jan (LDB); starting on Feo 26 flocks of 100 or more began to penetrate the Southern Tier. The latest Rusty Blackbirds were 1 Dec 20–24 at Kenmore (Benham), 6 Dec 26 Allegany Co CC and 1 Dec 27 Jamestown CC. A few Common Grackles were observed on most of the area CCs and 4 were still at feeders in Jan; in late Feb the first migrants returned including 200 Feb 27 at the West Seneca roost (LMC). Good sized flocks of Brown-headed Cowbirds were found on several CCs: 142 Dec 26 Allegany Co, 56 Dec 27 Jamestown, 21 Dec 27 Olean; up to 30 came to a feeder in Jamestown Feb 10–20 (RAS); small numbers of migrants were noted during Mar returning with other blackbirds.

The Cardinal continues its fantastic population explosion which is well documented by CC figures; totals: 310 Dec 27 Jamestown, 302 Dec 27 Hamburg-East Aurora, 162 Dec 26 Grand Island (BOS), 129 Dec 26 Scio. Evening Grosbeak: a scattering in the Bflo suburbs and on the L Ont plain and a few in Chaut and Cattaraugus Cos with a heavy concentration in Allegany Co; 147 Dec 26 Scio CC, 131 Dec 26 Allegany Co CC. HOUSE FINCH: imm male or female at feeder Dec 4, 6 and Mar 7 in Amherst (RB). Common Redpoll: 4 reports including 50 Dec 26 Allegany Co CC and 15 Jan 22 Batavia (Seamans). Pine Siskin: only 2 reports — 25 Dec 26 Scio CC, 1 Dec 27 Hamburg-East Aurora CC. American Goldfinch: 3 fair CC totals — 171 Dec 26 Allegany Co, 150 Dec 27 Hamburg-East Aurora, 95 Dec 27 Jamestown. Red Crossbill: only report 2 Dec 16 North Boston (TLB). White-winged Crossbill: only report 7 Mar 12 Boston (TLB).

4 Savannah Sparrows observed Mar 21 at Clarence (WAM) were 5 days earlier than average. Late Vesper Sparrows were recorded on the Jamestown CC Dec 27 and the same bird Dec 28 near Frewsburg (RAS, Kibler), on the Fredonia CC Jan 1 and on Jan 10 a Eden (TLB). There were several very high CC totals of the Slatecolored Junco: 485 Dec 27 Hamburg-East Aurora, 442 Dec 26 Allegany Co, 258 Dec 27 Jamestown. Tree Sparrows were also recorded on area CCs in high numbers: 1083 Dec 26 Allegany Co, 1005 Dec 26 Grand Island (BOS), 902 Dec 27 INWR, 482 Dec 27 Hamburg-East Aurora, 457 Dec 26 Jamestown. A Chipping Sparrow, always rare in the winter, was reported Dec 27 on the Hamburg-East Aurora CC. There were more Dec and Jan reports of the White-crowned Sparrow than usual with individuals and small flocks scattered throughout the region with a maximum of 20 Dec 26 on the Allegany Co CC. The CC numbers of White-throated Sparrows were truly amazing: 96 Dec 27 Hamburg-East Aurora, 46 Dec 26 Allegany Co, 35 Dec 27 Jamestown, 26 Dec 26 Grand Island (BOS). Sone Sparrow totals on CCs were likewise exceptionally high: 78 Dec 26 Grand Island (BOS), 47 Dec 27 Jamestown. Lapland Longspurs showed up in an unexpected locality when 3 were observed Dec 27 on the Jamestown CC; maximum count of 13 Feb 2 at Fredonia (DOC) is very low. Several excellent CC totals of the Snow Bunting were recorded: 1454 Dec 26 Allegany Co, 1100 Dec 27 Jamestown, 968 Dec 26 Scio.

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REGION 2 — GENESEE

RICHARD T. O'HARA

This was definitely an old-fashioned winter—long, cold and plenty of snow and ice. It all began about Thanksgiving time and never let up for more than a day or two at a time until after April 1. Temperatures averaged below normal each month, although there were not many below zero readings. Several severe storms were accompanied by high winds in January, February and March. Snowfall was well over 140 inches in Rochester, the second heaviest total in over a century of records. Nor did it ever get a chance to melt very much, so that at this writing, mid-April, the woods and hedgerows are still not entirely snow free. The ice on local ponds and bays was still largely there on April 1, therefore; migrant waterfowl found only a few places to concentrate in the region.

Nevertheless, it was an interesting winter in several respects. The Christmas counts were excellent and many late-lingering species stayed over into January. Our reports of wintering hawks were encouraging even though Rough-legs were almost missing until the return flights of March. Ducks were forced to concentrate on large open bodies of water, especially Canandaigua Lake and Lake Ontario where they were well observed. Birds were forced into feeders or other known sheltered areas and held close by the harsh weather conditions, so perhaps fewer than usual escaped ob-

servation. And, finally, in spite of three or four bad storms which blocked roads and closed schools, there were many fine days when local birders were active, and many reported their finds regularly which is most helpful in giving an accurate and complete summary.

The most notable negative factor, as was anticipated in the fall, was the almost

total lack of finches. In March, migration was very spotty and irregular for reasons mentioned above, but the earliest movement was noted as usual in late February. About mid-March and again near the end of the month, flights were observed including waterfowl, hawks, Crows, Robins, and blackbirds; but at month's end, the season was somewhat retarded, especially for ground feeding species such as Killdeer,

Meadowlark, and sparrows.

Among the most unusual records were: Snow Goose, Common Eider, King Eider, Goshawk, Golden Eagle, Bald Eagle, Turkey, Virginia Rail, Purple Sandpiper, Little Gull, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Dickcissel, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Oregon Junco and Field Sparrow.

Observers: JC—Jerry Czeck; GD—Gertrude Davis; JD—James Doherty; JF—ohn Foster; GOS—Genesee Ornithological Society; AK—Allen Kemnitzer; WCL—Walter C. Listman; LLCC—Little Lakes Christmas Count; WL—Warren Lloyd; TM—Thelma McNett; LM—Laura Moon; RO'H—Richard O'Hara; CP—Chip Perrige; RCC—Rochester Christmas Count; ST—Sara Talpey; TT—Thomas Tetlow; PW—Paul Weld.

Locations: BB—Braddock's Bay; Can L—Canandaigua Lake; CL—Conesus Lake; DEP—Durand Eastman :ark; EL—East Lakeshore; CR—Genesee River; IB—Irondequoit Bay; MB—Manitou Beach; MP—Mendon Ponds; RS—Russell Station; SB—Sodus Bay; WP—Webster Park.

LOONS—DUCKS: A single Common Loon on December 27 was the season's last (RCC), while Red-throated Loons were noted on December 20 at MB (WCL) and on December 26 at EL (JC). Neither was noted again in the early return flights before April 1. A single Red-necked Grebe was at WP (AK) on December 12. Horned and Pied-billed Grebes were seen occasionally, with 15 of the latter on CL (TT) on December 5 before it froze over.

A few Great Blue Herons were noted in December on both of the local Christmas counts, and the first to reappear in the Spring was one on March 14 on the lower GR (GOS). The last Whistling Swan were seen at BB on December 21, 4 birds, while

the first Spring record was 32 birds on March 14 at WP (WL); a fine count of 127 was made on flooded land near Groveland on March 28 (CP et al).

Canada Geese were first reported on February 20, a flock of 12 birds at RS (JD); and large numbers came in the last weekend in February when 2,500 were counted on IB (CP). Both Mallard and Black Duck were up sharply on the Christmas Census; and there was at least one winter report each or Gadwall, Pintail, Green-winged Teal and American Widgeon. The first Shoveller was one at BB on March 10 (WL); and Wood Duck appeared on March 20, a single bird on the lower GR (GOS).

The best winter count of Redheads was 1,500 at Can L (WL) on February 7; while another flock of 150 was noted at SB on March 14 (GOS). Fewer Canvasback were observed on Can L this winter with only 100 on January 10 being the high count (RO'H); at SB 170 were noted on March 14 (GOS). Three Ring-necked Ducks on February 3 at RS (GOS) were rather unusual both for time and place; but 175 at Groveland on March 28 (CP) was far the highest count. A few Lesser Scaup were identified in the usual winter flock of several hundred Greater Scaup at Summerville (GOS). Oldsquaw were scarce along the lake again although they may have only moved further out as the ice built up. No unusual uounts of scoters were made after the Christmas Count of 941 White-winged and 4 Common Scoters. Both Eiders were noted in December at MB and elsewhere (WL et al). 3 Ruddy Duck were rather unusual at Summerville on March 21 (JD). The flight of Hooded Merganser was good on several days in March; but wintering Common and Redbreasted Merganser both seemed relatively scarce all winter.

HAWKS—OWLS: A good variety of wintering raptors was present in this region, and beginning on February 27 several days brought early migrants along the Lake Ontario shoreline. All three accipiters seemed up in numbers again this winter. Goshawks were widespread-reported from at least 5 separate locations and by many different observers; perhaps the most frequent observations were made at MP as last year (CP). Up to 4 Cooper's Hawks were frequenting the Webster area in February (JC). Single Sharp-shinned Hawks were noted at Macedon and Webster in January by TT and TM. Red-tailed Hawks were not common near the west Lake shore, perhaps due to heavy snow, but were very common inland; one observer noted 22 on a drive between Scottsville and Perry on January 24 (TT); while another count of 22 was made near Geneseo on March 28 (JD et al). A single Rough-legged Hawk was seen at MP on January 16 (CP).

The resident Bald Eagles were still present on January 3 (LLCC). An unusual record of 12 Marsh Hawks on Nations Road near Geneseo on March 21 no doubt represented mostly recent arrivals (JF, TT). Sparrow Hawks were present in good numbers this winter despite the snow conditions, although they were not as common as the Red-tails.

The best of the early records of migrant hawks in February and March are as follows:

Species	Date	No.	Location	Observers
*Turkey Vulture	Mar. 27	1	Montezuma	TT
Goshawk	Mar. 27	1	E. Port Bay	TT
*Red-sh. Hawk	Mar. 15	7	E. Lakeshore	WL
Rough-l. Hawk	Mar. 27	19	Wayne Co.	TT
Rough-l. Hawk	Feb. 27	12	Braddocks Bay	CP
*Golden Eagle	Mar. 14	1	Webster Park	WL
*Bald Eagle	Mar. 20	1	Charlotte	Connor et al
Bald Eagle	Mar. 28	2	Hemlock Lake	RO'H
Marsh Hawk	Feb. 28	7	Braddocks Bay	CP

^{*} First report of the year

A single Turkey was seen on Rt. 64 near Bristol on January 10 (RO'H). Pheasants were well reported on the Christmas Counts. A Virginia Rail survived at least until January 10 at MP (CP). About 40 Coot were wintering on the lower end of CL (RO'H).

Shorebirds made the best showing ever on Christmas Counts in this region with 4 species still present on December 27; these were Common Snipe, Purple Sandpiper, Dunlin, and Red Phalarope. In addition, 3 Common Snipe were noted in Greece on January 9 (WL); and 3 Killdeer were at Lima all through February (JF). The first migrant Woodcock were reported on March 15 from Webster (White) and Palmyra (Hartranft). A single Lesser Yellowlegs was early on March 28 at Nations Road (CP et al).

A few Glaucous and Icelands Gulls were seen off and on with the usual large flocks of Herring Gulls at Irondequoit Bay and Braddocks Bay. Except for 3 Glaucous on the Christmas Count December 27, only single birds were noted, and it is difficult to say how many may have been present. Great Black-backed Gulls were again rather low in numbers. Bonaparte's Gulls stayed until the very end of December, but only one single bird was noted thereafter RS (WL); this bird was still present on February 8 – very unusual in this region.

Mourning Doves continue to increase and are now quite common as a winter bird

here. Each year a new high is reached on our Christmas Counts.

Owls were rather scarce or poorly reported after the Christmas Counts. However, on both of those Counts, Screech Owls and Great Horned Owls were impressive with 13 and 16 of the former and 26 and 18 of the latter heard or seen. 2 Snowy Owls frequented BB off and on, and 1 was still there at the end of March; otherwise this bird was unreported. 2 Long-eared Owls were found in Seneca Park on the Rochester Christmas Count; while a good flock of 16 Short-eared Owls was present on Nations Road in March (ST et al). This is the same area where hawks were concentrated and no doubt was the scene of a high rodent population — a good demonstration of the value of these persecuted birds!

GOATSUCKERS-STARLINGS: While a few Kingfishers were reported this winter as usual, the first one that was probably a migrant was not noted until March 28, Nations Road (JD); like many of the other normal March arrivals, they were still not well distributed on April 1.

The same comment is as true of the Flicker as of the Kingfisher. A fine count of 12 Red-bellied Woodpeckers and 6 Red-headed Woodpeckers was made in the Nations Road area on March 28 (JD et al). The same list included 3 Pileated Woodpeckers. This land is part of the Wadsworth estate and is largely undisturbed open wood lots and pastures with many large old oaks. A Yellow-bellied Sappsucker was noted in Irondequoit on January 30 (LM).

A large winter flock of Horned Larks with Snow Buntings and Lapland Longspurs seen on January 16 near Shore Acres contained mostly the northern subspecies of larks, although a few pale birds were included (RO'H).

No reports of Phoebe had been received before April 1. Likewise Tree Swallows were still absent at the end of the period. The Crow roost near Mt. Hope Cemetery was down to less than 2,000 birds; this compares to some 15,000 birds ten years ago; it is possible that the overall population of this species is not reduced drastically over a wide area, but the impression of local observers is that the decline is very real and somewhat alarming.

A Brown Thrasher was present at a feeder in Greece from January 15–25 (Beane). The greatest single flock of Robins noted among many wintering flocks was 250 on December 13 in DEP (JD). 2 Bluebirds were seen in Fairport on January 3 (JF). 2 Hermit Thrushes were noted on the Rochester Christmas Count. Only a few reports of Golden-crowned Kinglets were received after the Christmas Count; apparently they were scarce, as was the Red-breasted Nuthatch this year.

The first Water Pipits this spring were noted on March 21, a flock of 80 birds on Nations Road (JF, TT); a late fall report of 1 bird December 6 at BB (WCL). Cedar Waxwings were not noted as frequently as most years but a count of 300 on February 21 in Webster was unusually large (WL). Northern Shrikes was more common than usual early in the winter — a new high of 11 being noted on the Rochester Christmas Count, December 27; later when the snow deepened, they were less common but still regular.

VIREOS-WARBLERS: No reports, even on the Christmas Counts other than Myrtle Warblers which again wintered at MP; the high count was 7 (CP).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Meadowlark was one of the laggards noted above this spring; after a count of 9 on the LLCC and a single on the Rochester Christmas Count, few were seen before the last week in March. One of the highlights of the winter was the appearance of one adult and one immature Yellow-headed Blackbird in a large flock of wintering redwings, grackles, and cowbirds in Pittsford; the adult bird was seen at least twice, January 19 and 31 (Newman) and the immature bird once (CP); there are only one or two other records for this species locally, although we have been expecting to see it appear more often as it has apparently done in other areas of the northeast recently; this wintering blackbird flock contained at least 250 redwings, 150 grackles, and 300 cowbirds.

Spring flights of blackbirds, especially Redwings, did begin in late February but were then abruptly halted until almost mid-March by the return of severe weather;

by the end of March, however, they were becoming as evident as ever!

A Dickcissel came regularly to a feeder in Webster from early December to January 16 (Donaldsons).

All of the northern finches were scarce or entirely absent this year. One observer noted a few Purple Finches in DEP on December 7 (PW); and a few others appeared at a feeder in Penfield during most of March (GD). Evening Grosbeaks were noted on both Christmas Counts, and occasionally thereafter, but many observers saw none at all. Goldfinches were well distributed with one exceptional flock of 500 seen on Nations Road, March 28 (CP). 2 Redpolls and 2 Pine Siskins on the RCC were about the only records of either species. No Pine Grosbeak nor either crossbill were reported this season.

A single Rufous-sided Towhee was noted on each Christmas Count — none thereafter. One of our very few winter Savannah Sparrows was reported on the LLCC on January 3. A record high count of 8 Field Sparrows was made on the Rochester Christmas Count while 4 others appeared on the LLCC. Both White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows also appeared on both Counts, the latter in record numbers

on RCC.

The Oregon Junco reported in October and November was still appearing irregularly at the end of winter (MS). Swamp and Song Sparrows seemed scarcer than usual, no doubt due to the heavy snow cover.

Several good flocks of Lapland Longspurs and Snow Buntings were reported; about 30 of the former on January 16 at Shore Acres (RO'H), and 1,250 of the latter March 21 in Lima (Fosters) being the largest numbers.

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

DOROTHY MCILROY AND SALLY HOYT SPOFFORD

The warm weather of November lasted into early December. Complete freeze-up of Montezuma Refuge occurred on Dec. 7, causing an exodus of the waterfowl. After mid-December it was a hard winter with above normal snowfall, 90 inches in Ithaca compared with the usual 75 inches, with heavy snowfalls occurring in early

February and early March. Although temperatures did not drop to extreme lows, minimum in Ithaca only about -10 degrees, there was steady unrelenting cold with no January thaw. In spite of the warmest February since 1960 and a big thaw in the latter half of the month, snow remained on the ground and ice stayed on the ponds. March was the coldest and snowiest in about 15 years, resulting in unusually deep snow cover in late March. MNWR was still 80% frozen on April 5. In late March the mucklands along Route 31 north of MNWR, flooded by heavy run-off from the deep snow cover, provided resting and feeding places for large numbers of waterfowl.

Warm south winds in late Feb. brought large flocks of Canada Geese pouring in, especially on Feb. 26, a week to ten days early. There was an estimated 100,000 geese on Cayuga Lake, MNWR and the flooded mucklands in late March.

Winter finches never did appear: no Pine Grosbeaks, crossbills or siskins, very few redpoll reports. A few flocks of Evening Grosbeaks and small flocks of Snow Buntings were scattered thru the Region; a tew Lapland Longspurs were reported. Rough-legged Hawks were present in fair numbers, but it was definitely not an invasion year. There were a few Snowy and Short-eared Owls. Red-breasted Nuthatches and Golden-crowned Kinglets were scarce, as were wintering icterids. But unusually large numbers of White-throated and Song Sparrows wintered, there were more flickers than usual; several Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers wintered, and there were more reports of small flocks of bluebirds than in recent years, good news indeed.

Rarities included Eared Grebe, Barrow's Goldeneye, King Eider, Boreal Chickadee, Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Wood Thrush, Western Meadowlark, Oregon Junco and Chipping Sparrow.

Abbreviations: Cay—Cayuga; CC—Christmas Count; JWC—Waterfowl Census Jan. 16 and 17; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; Sen—Seneca; SWS—Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary; WatG—Watkins Glen.

Area compilers: Walter Benning, Jack Brubaker, William Groesbeck, Frank Guthrie, Martin Phillips, James Tate, Mary Welles.

Obervers. BA—Betty Ammerman; WEB—Walter Benning; JB—Jack Brubaker; WMG—William Groesbeck; FG—Frank Guthrie; WH—Wilifred Howard; DM—Dorothy McIlroy; DBP—David Peakall, MSP—Martin Phillips; MS—Mary Smith; SHS, WRS—Sally and Walter Spofford; BS—Betty Strath; JT—James Tate; MW—Mary Welles; mob—many observers. We welcome new coverabe in Bath area by Betty Ammermand and Jean Doren Rezelman.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: 5 Dec 8 flying south over Etna (SHS); 2 Jan 8 Cay L (DM); 2 JWC Canandaigua L; 2 sightings Sen L (JB). Red-necked Grebe: 1 Feb 15–22 WatG (JB); 1 Mar 29 Cay Inlet (DM, mob) stayed several days, 2 seen one day (D. Auer). EARED GREBE: 1 Jan 1 MNWR CC (Dittrick, Mullen, Waldstein), report filed. Horned Grebe: 167 JWC, high. Pied-billed Grebe: 39 JWC, high; several wintered Cay L. Great Blue Heron: 5 wintered on Clyde R n. of MNWR (MSP); 1 imm Dec 26 CC, Montour airport; 1 Jan 1 Elmira CC. Whistling Swan: 18 at MNWR Dec 5, late (WEB) left soon after; 1 Feb 7 Cay L at Aurora (G. Archibald); spring max MNWR, 16 Mar 27 (WEB); 6 Mar 20 and 1 Mar 30 Chemung R at Elmira (WH).

Canada Goose: most of the 2,000 Jan 10 Cay L aerial survey (B. Griffin, JT) apparently left before JWC when only 183 were counted in the whole Region; numbers began to build up in mid-Feb with an enormous influx Feb 26. Brant: 2 reported Nov 30 Stewart Pk, Ithaca (DBP) stayed thru first few days of Dec. Snow Goose: 1 Dec 5 MNWR (WEB); an imm apparently wintered with Canada Geese on Cay L, reported Jan 10 (R. Williams), Feb 12 (DM), unusual. Blue Goose: 1 Jan 15 Cay L (JT) also unusual; numbers of Snows and Blues began building up in late Mar on the mucklands along Rte. 31; 2 Snows and 3 Blues Mar 22, 23 Chemung

R at Elmira (MS, mob) were a first record for Blues and only the second time Snows have landed there.

Waterfowl Censu; was taken Jan 16 and 17, very cold and windy. It showed decreases for Black Ducks (1070), Redheads (6417) and Scaup (only 712); increases in Horned and Pied-billed Grebes, Gadwall (30), Ring-necked Duck (7), Canvasback (1819), Common Goldeneye (549), Bufflehead (257), Hooded Merganser (18), Common Merganser (57), Red-breasted Merganser (6) and Coot. Pintail: first Mar 14 SWS (B. Temple). Green-winged Teal: 1 JWC Sen L (BS); next report, 4 Mar 17 Cass Pk, Ithaca (DM, M. Briant). Blue-winged Teal; first, 3 Mar 16 WatG (JB). American Widgeon: up to 66 most of winter on Cay L (WEB), more than usual. Shoveler: first, 1 Mar 31 MNWR (WEB). Wood Duck: 5 JWC, SWS. Ring-necked Duck: many more than usual Mar 15 thru period Elmira (MW). BARROW'S GOLDENEYE: 1 male JWC Canandaigua L. Oldsquaw: few reports; singles Dec 26 WatG CC (JB); Jan 11 Sen L n end (WEB); Mar 29 Elmira (MW); 14 Jan 8 Cay L (DM). KING EIDER: juvenal male killed by hunter at Myers, Cay L, in Dec, careass brought to Cornell, specimen in Cornell collection (fide JT). Ruddy Duck: first, 1 female Mar 29 Cay Inlet (DM).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: first Mar 29 SWS (W. Dilger). Goshawk: several winter records Ithaca area, several sightings in Dec near Elmira (E. Knapp). Cooper's Hawk: reported regularly Ithaca area; Odessa in Jan (BS); 1 Elmira in Feb (WH); 2 regular at WatG feeders (JB). Sharp-shinned Hawk: Jan 16 Hector (BS); 1 Dec 30 and Feb 19 Etna (SHS); 1 in Feb Cayuga Hts, Ithaca (F. Marcham). Red-tailed Hawk: astonishing 105 Jan 1 MNWR CC; good numbers everywhere except Elmira. Red-shouldered Hawk: 2 Feb 19 Ithaca about a mile apart (WRS, S. Temple) early. Broad-winged Hawk: first Mar 23 Ithaca (Temples). Rough-legged Hawk: up to 4 n Sen Co. (WEB); 7 Jan 1 MNWR CC; only 2 reports each WatG and Keuka; a few reports Ithaca. Bald Eagle: 1 Dec 5 MNWR (WEB); imm Jan 10 near Canoga (R. Williams); adult Jan 31 Varna e of Ithaca (B. Clark). Marsh Hawk: 1 Dec 8 and Mar 13 Elmira (WH); 1 most of winter Watkins Marsh (JB); max 12 females and 3 males Mar 23 MNWR (MSP). Pigeon Hawk: 1 Mar 31 MNWR (MSP), only report. Sparrow Hawk: 28 Jan 1 MNWR CC, high; 17 Jan 1 Elmira CC, also high; 10 Jan 1 Ithaca CC.

Ring-necked Pheasant: reports of sizable numbers at feeders, maybe because of deep snow; after the winter, numbers appeared down somewhat (P. Kelsey). Turkey: numbers probably the same, but dispersed and more wary, perhaps because of a hunting season and snowmobile pressure (P. Kelsey). American Coot: 1167 JWC, double 1970 count. Killdeer: Jan 1 CC's – 2 Elmira, 1 Ithaca; first spring record Mar 16 WatC (JB). American Woodcock: first Mar 10 Ithaca (M. Marion), several more reports during next few days. Common Snipe: first Mar 10 Etna (JT).

Greater Yellowlegs: first Mar 18 Sen R flats (F. Scheider).

Gull population at s end of Cay L definitely down this winter, probably due to dump closing; no certain sighting of Lesser Black-backed Gull. Glaucous Gull: 1 first year bird Dec 14 Ithaca (DM.) Iceland Gull 1 Jan 1 Elmira CC; 1 Mar 1 Ithaca (DM.) Mourning Dove: good numbers on CC's — 266 Jan 1 Elmira, 109 Jan 1 MNWR, 154 Jan 1 Ithaca; WEB reported numbers went way down at Clyde after heavy Jan snow. Snowy Owl: scarce: 1 Jan 1, 2, 6 and 1 Mar 31 MNWR (WEB); 1 Keuka in Feb (FG). Long-eared Owl: 1 Jan 1—6 Newman Golf Course, Ithaca; 1 trapped in Feb Ithaca Game Farm, died; 1 in Feb Keuka (FG). Short-eared Owl: 3 Jan 3 Waterloo (J. Walker); up to 6 Jan 6 on, Watts Rd, Sen Co. (WEB); 1 Jan 1 Elmira CC; 1 in Jan Penn Yan (M. Lerch); 10 Mar 22 to Apr 1 MNWR (MSP). Saw-whet Owl: 1 found dead Mar 10 near MNWR entrance (MSP).

GOATSUCKERS-STARLING: Yellow-shafted Flicker: 11 Dec 26 WatG CC; 2 or 3 Ithaca area; 1 report Elmira. Red-bellied Woodpecker: 2 Odessa (BS); 1 to 3 Clyde (WEB); several Keuka thru Feb (FG); 1 Dec 26 Waterloo (J. Walker); 2

Dec 26 WatG CC. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 5 winter reports -1 Jan 8 Elmira (MS); 3 at feeders in Ithaca; injured 1, *nuchalis* race, Jan 19 Ithaca, brought to Ornithology Lab. died a week and a half later as a result of a ruptured brain artery.

Ea tern Phoebe: first, 1 Mar 17 Elmira (Stasche). Horned Lark: seemed scarce Jan and Feb, numbers increased late Feb; flock of 500 plus Dec 29 Hornell (FG). Tree Swallow: first, Mar 16 n of MNWR (D. Crumb et al). Common Crow: first migrants noted Feb 21 MNWR (WEB). Black-capped Chickadee: partial albino in Jan at R. Grow feeder near Clyde, checked by WEB, had "snow white head with random flecking of black in cap and bib areas which are normally solid black." BOREAL CHICKADEEs 2 Dec 25 Elmira (Andrus). Tufted Titmouse: increased numbers on CC's – 35 Jan 1 Elmira, 19 Jan 1 Ithaca, 7 Dec 26 WatG. Red-breasted Nuthatch: scarce; 1 Jan 1 Elmira CC compared with 15 last year; only 2 or 3 reported Ithaca feeders; only 1 record Keuka (FG). Winter Wren: only reports, 4 singles in Ithaca area – Dec 16 (Simmers), Jan 5 Peruville (J. Patterson), Feb 26 (DM), 1 in Mar. Carolina Wren: numbers seemed slightly up except WatG where there were only 2 on Dec 26 CC compared with 7 last year; 4 in Ithaca, more than for several years; 4 Jan 1 Elmira CC; pair Keuka (FG). Long-billed Marsh Wren: 2 Dec 26 CC Watkins Marsh (JB).

Mockingbird: sighted at two new locations Ithaca area; 5 Dec 26 WatG CC compared with 2 last year. CATBIRD: 2 reports Ithaca, 1 Dec 8 (Shepherd) and 1 Jan 13 (Mrs. Gartlein). BROWN THRASHER: 1 most of winter Pine City near Elmira (MacWhorter, fide MW); 2 Jan 1 Ithaca CC; 1 Feb 6 Ithaca (Mrs. Little). Robin: first sizable flock, 50 Feb 7 Ithaca (F. Marcham). WOOD THRUSH: 1 Dec 5 Elmira (MS), very late. Hermit Thrush: two winter records, 1 mid-Jan Odessa (BS), 1 Jan 26 Ithaca (C. White). Eastern Bluebird: more reports then for several years; a pair Dec 26 WatG CC; flock of 20 Jan 10 n of Branchport (fide M. Lerch) and groups of 4 to 10 seen there other dates; flock of 25 in Dec Keuka and several groups of 6 to 9 thereafter (FG); 2 Jan 18 on, Glenwood School, Ithaca (Mrs. Dengler); flock of 8 to 10 males Mar 22 Elmira (Stasche). Golden-crowned Kinglet: scarce; 3 Dec 26 WatG CC (12 last year); 5 Jan 1 Elmira CC (14 last year). Northern Shrike: fair numbers; 4 reports of singles Waterloo-Clyde area (WEB); 1 record each Elmira, Keuka, WatG, several reports Ithaca. Starling: 4722 at roost on Cornell Campus Jan 1 Ithaca CC; albino Mar 25 Lansing n of Ithaca (Mrs. Drake).

VIREOS—SPARROWS: No Myrtle Warbler reports. Few redwings, grackles or cowbirds wintered; these began returning Feb 26 except Hornell where no Redwinged Blackbirds had arrived by Mar 31. Eastern Meadowlark: high count of 35 Jan 1 Elmira CC. WESTERN MEADOWLARK: 1 Mar 16 on, Brooktondale (Temples), song and call heard. Baltimore Oriole: 1 Dec 15 Elmira (Stasche). Rusty Blackbird: 2 Jan 1 Elmira CC; 1 Jan 6 MNWR (WEB).

Cardinal: numbers apparently up; 171 Dec 26 WatG CC, more than ever before; 166 Jan 1 Elmira CC; 198 Jan 1 Ithaca CC. ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK: present at feeder, not seen after Dec 16, Hornell (WMG) — no details, could it have been a Black-headed? Evening Grosbeak: scarce everywhere, although a few flocks reported throughout Region. Purple Finch: very few reports during winter; max 10 Jan 2 Montour Falls (JB); only exception a report of "larger numbers than in four preceding winters" Feb 22 on, at a feeder in Bath (BA). House Finch: 5 Jan 1 Elmira CC, probably a few more than this in area (MW); 2 males Feb 22 on, Ithaca (Mrs. Crysler, DM). Common Redpoll: only reports, a few at MNWR in early Dec; 1 Dec 26 WatG CC; Feb 18 Ithaca (N. States). American Goldfinch: many reports from entire Region. Rufous-sided Towhee: singles all winter at two feeders two miles apart Hornell (FG); 2 wintered at WatG (JB); 1 Jan 1 Elmira CC; 1 in Jan Ithaca.

Savannah Sparrow: 1 Dec 14 Ithaca, late (DM). Vesper Sparrow: 1 Dec 30 near Elmira (WH); 1 Jan 10 w of Sheldrake (WEB). OREGON JUNCO: 1 late Dec

thru early Jan Elmira (WH). Tree Sparrow: large flocks into Jan, numbers decreased as snow became deeper. CHIPPING SPARROW: 1 Jan 1 Ithaca CC. Field Sparrow: at least one sighting each month of period Keuka (FG), unusual; 1 Jan 3 on, Aurora (Ann Burch); 2 Dec 26 WatG CC; 6 Jan 1 Elmira CC, more than usual. White-crowned Sparrow: 3 Dec reports of single imm birds and 1 Jan 1 CC at Elmira; 1 Jan 29 s of Ithaca. White-throated Sparrow: more than usual wintered at feeders throughout area; CC numbers—67 Dec 26 WatG, 43 Jan 1 Ithaca, 33 Jan 1 Elmira. Fox Sparrow: 1 each Dec 26 WatG CC, Jan 1 Elmira CC; first spring report, Mar 11 Elmira (MS). Swamp Sparrow: 10 Dec 26 WatG CC, all-time high. Song Sparrow: more than usual wintered as indicated by CC numbers—88 MNWR, 44 Elmira, 35 WatG, 34 Ithaca. Lapland Longspur: first, 2 Jan 16 King Ferry (WRS); several other reports Ithaca, 1 report each Elmira, Waterloo, Clyde. Snow Bunting: only small flocks noted in most of Region; largest flock 1,000 Elmira.

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REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

LESLIE E. BEMONT

Snowcover was constant from December 13 through February, officially never less than 6 inches from December 14 on. Then in March it really snowed, establishing a new record for total snowfall in that month, and including one storm that brought 22 inches. Temperatures averaged below normal all season but particularly so during January and the first few days of February. A promising warming trend was developing in late February, only to be wipted out by March.

Weatherwise severe and birdwise dull! It was one of the poorest winter finch years in the last twenty, and no single species of that group made even a normal showing. Mockingbirds apparently held their own but made no obvious gain in numbers.

Tufted Titmice evidently did increase.

Of the northern raptors only the Rough-legged Hawk was present in numbers, apparently in spite of the snowcover. Goshawk reports continue to be encouraging. One Snowy Owl and 5 Northern Shrikes, if the latter can be allowed in the group for discussion purposes, complete the picture.

A Bullock's Oriole, the first for the region, was the real rarity of the season, with

only a Red-throated Loon and a Baltimore Oriole as runners-up.

Abbreviations; Bing—Binghamton; BCC—Binghamton Christmas Count, December 27; DOAS—Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society; OCC—Oneonta Christmas Count, January 2; WFC—Waterfowl Census.

Observers: WA-William Altman; DB-Don Bemont; LB-Les Bemont; LC-Mrs. Lynn Clarke; GC-Gail Corderman; A,MD-Anna and Marilyn Davis; EF-Elizabeth Feldhusen; RK-Roger Karns; HM-Harriet Marsi; JM-John Merriam; MS-Mary Sheffield; R,SW-Ruth and Sally White; KW-Kathryn Wilson.

LOONS-DUCKS: Red-throated Loon: 1 Feb 19 Bing (LB, HM, GC), lit in parking lot of large industrial plant during noon hour—banded and released on river. Pied-billed Grebe: 1 Jan 17 Sidney (Robert & Jeanne Saunders); 1 Jan 17 Oneonta (KW, EF), both on WFC. Great Blue Heron: 1 BCC; 1 Jan 7 Hamden, on Delaware River (Kay Sanford); first migrant Mar 21 Vestal (RK, L. Majka). Canada Goose: 1 Jan 9 Schenevus (D. Huntington), and daily thereafter; migrants Feb 26 Vestal (R. Fuller). Mallard: 6 BCC; 63 WFC. Black Duck: 56 BCC; 4 OCC; 55 WFC. Pintail: Feb 21 Sherburne (JM). Green-winged Teal: Mar 20 Greene (A, MD). Blue-winged Teal: Mar 20 Greene (A, MD). American Widgeon: 20 Mar 14 Endwell (LB, DB). Wood Duck: Feb 21 Sherburne (JM). Redhead: 1 Feb 21 Sherburne (JM), the only report. Ring-necked Duck: Mar 28 Chenango Forks (MS,

A, MD). Canvasback: 1 Mar 14 Endwell (LB, DB), the only positive report. Common Goldeneye: 31 WFC. White-winged Scoter: 1 female Jan 17 Oneonta area (KW, EF). Hooded Merganser: Mar 28 Chenango Forks (MS, A, MD) and Vestal (RK). Common Merganser: 77 WFC. Red-breasted Merganser: Mar 20 Upper Lisle (A, MD).

HAWKS-OWLS: Turkey Vulture: 1 Mar 28 Pepacton Dam (EF). Goshawk: 1 Dec 12 Choconut Center, north of Johnson City, (MS), 2 on Jan 17 - one brown and one gray and 6 other sightings of one or the other of the two through Mar; 1 Feb 12 Norwich :R, SW); I Feb 27 just south of Bing (Claire Gottschall). Sharpshinned Hawk: Dec 22 Delhi (LC), the only report. Red-tailed Hawk: 5 BCC; 20 CC; apparent migrants after Feb 24. Rough-legged Hawk: 3 BCC; 1 OCC; 2 Dec 19 Norwich (R, SW), "singles seen all winter;" 5 or more Jan 15 Killawog (Claude Howard). Bald Eagle: Mar 14 and again Mar 26 Cannonsville Reservoir (LC). Marsh Hawk: 1 BCC; 1 Mar 5 Oxford (Anne Stratton); Mar 21 and 28 Oneonta area (Louella Gridley, KW, Wright); no others. Sparrow Hawk: 22 BCC; 3 OCC. Ruffed Grouse. 6 BCC; 3 OCC. Bobwhite: 1 Dec 24 Oneonta (WA), a covey released in the area last fall. Ring-necked Pheasant: 81 BCC; 1 OCC. Turkey: Feb 18 near Broome County Airport (B. Larkin). Killdeer: Feb 22 Delhi (LC). American Woodcock: Mar 7 Bing (HM). Herring Gull: 33 BCC. Mourning Dove: 46 BCC; 15 OCC; fairly numerous reports of wintering birds. Screech Owl: 2 BCC; 3 others reported, I heard frequently at Vestal during winter (GC) and once only at Choconut Center (MS) and at Oneonta (Mrs. C. Jacobi). Great Horned Owl: 20 BCC; 1 OCC. Snowy Owl: 1 Jan 15 Killawog (Claude Howard). Barred Owl: 1 BCC; Feb 20 south of Bing (GC).

GOATSUCKERS-STARLING: Belted Kingfisher: 4 BCC; 4 OCC. Yellowshafted Flicker: Dec 19 Choconut Center (MS) and again Jan 31; Feb 26 Vestal (Elva Hawkins). Pileated Woodpecker: 2 BCC; 3 OCC; 1 Feb and 1 Mar report. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 1 OCC, the only winter record. Hairy Woodpecker: 30 BCC; 37 OCC. Downy Woodpecker: 94 BCC; 76 OCC. Horned Lark: Dec 14 Delhi (LC); 66 Mar 10 Sherburne (DOAS); no other reports. Blue Jay: 357 BCC; 311 OCC. Common Crow: 302 BCC; 473 OCC. Black-capped Chickadee: 550 BCC; 492 OCC. Tufted Titmouse: 29 BCC; 2 OCC; almost all feeders reporting from the Triple Cities area had one present at least part of the winter. White-breasted Nuthatch: 97 BCC; 85 OCC. Red-breasted Nuthatch: 6 BCC; 4 OCC. Brown Creeper: 29 BCC; 7 OCC. Carolina Wren: 1 BCC. Mockingbird: 8 BCC; 1 OCC; also "a few during winter" at Delhi (LC). Robin: 4 BCC; 1 OCC; Feb 14 Bing (JM); regular in some areas after Feb 20. Eastern Bluebird: Mar 3 Friendsville in nearby Pennsylvania (Claire Gottschall); next report Mar 25 Delhi (LC). Golden-crowned Kinglet: 27 BCC; 2 OCC. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 1 Jan 17 Emmons, near Oneonta (KW, EF). Cedar Waxwing: 77 BCC; 1 OCC. Northern Shrike: Dec 12 Vestal (CC); 1 Feb 21 Oxford (R, SW) and only 3 intervening reports. Starling: 2452 BCC; 1142 OCC.

VIREOS—SPARROWS: House Sparrow: 702 BCC; 828 OCC. Eastern Meadow-lark: 1 Dec 18 Vestal Center (Elizabeth Washburn); 21 Dec 19 Sherburne (R, SW); 5 or more Dec 19 near Brisben (MS); no more until Mar 6 Choconut Center (MS). Redwinged Blackbird: 1 BCC; 9 OCC; common from Feb 27. BULLOCK'S ORIOLE: 1 OCC, first seen at Thanksgiving and last seen Jan 24, many observers. Baltimore Oriole: 1 BCC. Common Grackle: 8 OCC; 1 Dec 24 Oneonta (WA); next report Feb 16 Oneonta (WA); common after Mar 10; Mar 29 "hundreds" between 5:45 and 6:15 p.m. Oneonta (Mrs. Richard Bookout). Brown-headed Cowbird: 48 OCC; several earlier reports, but no more until Mar 2. Cardinal: 229 BCC; 55 OCC; several reports of large wintering flocks, the largest 33 on BCC (DB, B. Krmenec). Evening Grosbeak: 7 BCC; 98 OCC; small flocks present at Oneonta, Norwich and Delhi all winter but almost none in the Triple Cities area. Purple Finch: 1 OCC;

3 other reports, 2 from Oneonta and 1 from Delhi. House Finch: 2 BCC at the locality where they bred last summer. Common Redpoll: 2 BCC; 2 Jan 1 Oneonta (WA); 12 Feb 16 Bing (JM); the only reports. American Goldfinch: 39 BCC; 22 OCC; present all winter but numbers much reduced from previous years. Rufoussided Towhee: 1 BCC; 1 OCC; Mar 10 Sherburne (DOAS). Slate-colored Junco: 150 BCC; 46 OCC; present in reasonably good numbers all winter. Tree Sparrow: 459 BCC; 161 OCC; at least 2 observers noted a marked decrease from last year. Field Sparrow: 1 Mar 15 Oneonta (WA); 2 Mar 21 Vestal (RK, L. Majka); no others. White-throated Sparrow: 4 BCC; 22 OCC, a surprisingly high count; present all winter at least 2 feeders in the Triple Cities area. Fox Sparrow: Mar 8 Vestal (GC), Oneonta (Mrs. Charles Hamwey) and West Davenport, near Oneonta (Mrs. Dorothy House); common from then until the end of the period. Swamp Sparrow: 3 BCC (Paul Kalka). Song Sparrow: 40 BCC; 5 OCC; migrants readily noticeable about Mar 10. Lapland Longspur: "a flock — was seen between Christmas and New Year," Delhi (LC). Snow Bunting: 33 BCC; 128 OCC; 3 other Dec-Jan reports, then none until 2 small flocks at New Berlin Mar 8 (Anne Stratton) and 6 on DOAS field trip to Sherburne.

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REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

M. S. Rusk and C. G. Spies

Although, as usual, the first heavy snows fell during Christmas Count period (causing one count postponement) and snow cover in the Adirondacks was over 2 feet by year's end, in the central and southern parts of the Region it was a relatively open winter until the Mar 4–5 blizzard. The total snowfall for the winter was an all-time record, but in Jan and Feb there were melting and rainy (including Jan thunderstorms) periods, causing flooding of rivers and swamps and apparently enabling such half-hardies as Killdeer, Common Snipe, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-Shafted Flicker, Winter Wren, Hermit Thrush, and several emberizines to persist, though most of these species showed some drop-off in numbers through the winter. The Feb 14–15 sleet storm (with ice still sheathing branches and twigs for a half week thereafter) was probably the cut-off point for some half-hardies. The effect on half-hardies of the Mar blizzard is hard to assess, as some early migrants (Robin, icterids) had already returned during the S wind push Feb 27–28.

It was difficult to obtain high counts on the white-winged gulls in the Oswego R system (perhaps many more were present than were seen) since they tended not to be in the flooded, ice-free, river, and were often out of scope range on the ice pack in

the farther harbor instead of on the nearer breakwalls or at the dump.

An indication of the great amount of snow which fell is that, despite the earlier flooding during warm periods in Jan and Feb, when the Mar blizzard snow began to melt in the second half of Mar, the Seneca R and other floodlands were again brimming.

No large roost of black icterids was detected this winter.

Besides the above-mentioned species and groups, others in good numbers include: Pied-billed Grebe; Canada Goose (Mar migrants, not wintering numbers); Blue and Snow Goose (a Mar hint of a fine spring flight); Mallard and Gadwall among the dabblers; the sea ducks King Eider and White-winged Scoter (for the second successive year, and higher this year than last); Cooper's and Marsh Hawk (both up slightly, probably for different reasons); Snowy Owl (a noticeable incursion for the first time since 1966–67); Red-bellied Woodpecker, Tufted Titmouse, and Cardinal (increased reports of these southern species).

In low numbers were: Black Duck (especially in contrast with Mallard) and Pintail; Redhead, Canvasback, and Common Merganser (still very low); Rough-legged Hawk, Boreal Chickadee; the winter finches (some species absent, others with only one or two reports).

Rarities for the period are Eared Grebe, Barrow's Goldeneye, Harlequin Duck,

and Oregon Junco.

Abbreviations: BBFS—Dr. B. P. Burtt's feeder survey, conducted the first week of each winter month, with all numbers given per 100 reports; BM—Big Moose; CC—Christmas Count (Syr Dec 26; Oswego Dec 27; Old Forge Dec 29; HIGMA, i.e. the northeast quarter of Montezuma, Jan 1; Oneida Jan 2); DH—Derby hill on L Ont near Texas; FH—Fair Haven Beach State Park, Little Sodus Bay, and vicinity; HIGMA—Howland Island Game Management Area near Port Byron; NM—Niagara Mohawk Visitors' Center near Lakeview, and vicinity; NPT—northwest quarter of Pompey Twp; Onon—Onondaga; Ont—Ontario; SPT—southern half of Pompey Twp; SRF—Seneca R flats in Montezuma Twp; Syr—Syracuse; WFC—Waterfowl Census Jan 9–17.

Observers (initials appear after rare or difficult to identify species): B. Barnum (BB), V. Billings (VB), A. M. Carter, D. W. Crumb (DWC), D. A. Dawley, P. A. DeBenedictis (PAD), F. C. Dittrich, E. M. Freeborn (EMF), K. G. Hanson, F. J. Lafrance (FJL), G. Maxwell, B. & S. Peebles, J. W. Propst, (JWP), M. S. Rusk (MSR), F. G. Scheider (FGS), K. A. Slotnick (KAS), G. A. Smith (GAS), C. G. Spies (CGS), E. M. Starr, R. J. Sutliff (RJS), J. & E. VanDresar, C. & B. Wernick. The editors' thanks once again to those who gave their time to help with the compilation: Jayne Humbert, Ferdinand LaFrance, Jean Propst, Fritz Scheider, and Gerry Smith.

Corrigenda: Kingbird XX:4, October 1970, Region 5 report — p. 195, Short-billed Dowitcher: Jul 14, I Onon L; p. 196, Great Black-backed Gull: last noted Jun 19; p. 198, Wood Thrush: . . . 25 Clinton. XXI:1, January 1971, Region 5 report — p. 26, Blue-winged Teal: . . . dep Oct 29, I FH; p. 29, Western Sandpiper: . . . 1 Aug 17–18 NM; p. 30, Least Flycatcner: . . . dep Oct 1, 2 DH to SP; p. 31, Brown Creeper: . . several report of I-6 in residential Syr; Addenda: Kingbird XXI:1, January 1971, Region 5 report — Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr Aug 15, 1 SPT. Blue-winged Warbler: dep Sep 7, 1 SPT (FJL).

The entire Derby Hill hawk migration will be included in the spring period report.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: dep Dec 26, 1 Onon L; max in period 2 Dec 5 NM. Red-throated Loon: dep Jan 2, 1 NM; only others were 1 Dec 12 Oneida L and 2 Dec 26 Onon L. Red-necked Grebe: dep Dec 27, 2 Onon L; only others were 1 Dec 5 Onon L and 1 Dec 10–12 Oneida L. Horned Grebe: max in period 70 Dec 5 Onon L—high, but winter max 7 WFC and max at Oswego only 6 Dec 18. EARED GREBE: 1 Dec 10–13 Oneida L at Bernhard Bay (FGS, mob) third Regional record. Pied-billed Grebe: winter max 19 WFC—record high, and 13 Oswego CC—record for that CC; arr Mar 20 with 10 Oswego, 2 FH, 2 SRF. Great Blue Heron: winter reports were 1 Dec 18-Jan 24 Fulton-Minetto, 4 HIGMA CC, 1 Feb 6–23 DeWitt; arr Mar 14, 1 Syr.

Whistling Swan: 1 Mar 30–31 Peat Swamp near Clay (R. Gould, JWP) only report in period. Canada Goose: dep Dec 26, 2 Syr; none on WFC and only winter report was from Dart L near BM with 20 Dec 7 dropping to 6 Dec 28–Mar 29, B. Barnum; on Feb 26 Syr, Oswego, DH; in Onon Co numbers heard night of Mar 15–16 and seen Mar 16; max in period 18,000 Mar 28 SRF (JWP)—extremely high. Brant: dep Dec 19, 1 or 2 Lakeview, NM. Snow Goose: arr and max in period Mar 18, 45 SRF. Blue Goose: arr and max in period Mar 18, 255 SRF. Mallard: winter max 1388 WFC—highest ever; 741 Jan 30 Brewerton, Baldwinsville, Caughdenoy, Phoenix; Mar max 500 Mar 28 SRF and 425

Mar 29 DH. Black Duck: winter max 247 WFC – lowest ever; 218 Feb 7 Onon L, HIGMA; Mar max 465 Mar 25 SRF, DH and 375 Mar 29 DH. Gadwall: max 16 Jan 24-Feb 7 Oswego – ties last winter's record max but the high count sustained longer in '71; arr Mar 18, 8 FH; Mar max 24 Mar 25 FH. Pintail: winter max 6 Feb 7 Baldwinsville, Oswego – lower than some recent years, probably due to severe flooding of Seneca-Oswego river system which obliterated their river bank feeding areas; arr Feb 28, 1 Pompey Twp; Mar max 1200 Mar 18 SRF – good. Green-winged Teal: dep Dec 6, 1 Onon L; arr Mar 15, 4 DH; Mar max 22 Mar 31 Peat Swamp. Bluewinged Teal: no wintering reports; arr Mar 1, 1 Oneida L at Brewerton; Mar max 30 Mar 28 SRF. American Widgeon: dep Dec 13, 2 Oneida L; none wintering; arr Mar 1, 1 Oneida L at Brewerton; Mar max 50 Mar 28 SRF – low. Shoveler: only reports are 1 Dec 26 Peat Swamp, 2 Dec 26 Onon L, 1 Jan 10 Baldwinsville, and 1 Jan 18 Caughdenoy. Wood Duck: dep Jan 3, 1 Baldwinsville; none wintered; arr Mar 13, 1 S Onon; Mar max 12 Mar 20 SRF and 12 Mar 25 DH, SRF.

Redhead: winter max 16 Feb 18 Oswego - very low; arr Mar 11, 1 Syr; Mar max 54 Mar 20 FH and 50 Mar 18, FH, SRF. Ring-necked Duck: dep Dec 6, 1 Onon L; only winter report 1 Feb 4-Mar 7 Baldwinsville; arr Mar 15, 9 DH and 1 Brewerton; Mar max 170 Mar 18 SRF, FH. Canvasback: winter max 12 Feb 18 Oswego very low; arr Feb 26, 1 DH; Mar max 152 Mar 29, DH, Brewerton. Scaup: winter max 2520 Feb 3 Oswego R, L Ont; Mar max 4900 Mar 29 DH. Lesser Scaup: winter max 20 Feb 6 Oswego, Common Goldeneye: winter max 1140 WFC; 900 Jan 24 Baldwinsville, Oswego R FH; Mar max 780 Mar 29 DH. BARROW'S GOLDEN-EYE: only report is an ad male Mar 18-20 FH (FGS) - ninth Regional record and sixth spring report. Bufflehead: winter max 108 WFC; 83 Dec 18 Oswego R, L Ont; Mar max 40 Mar 18 FH and 38 Mar 27 FH. Oldsquaw: winter max 330 WFC – second highest WFC tally; 250 Jan 17 L Ont from Oswego to DH; Mar max 14 Mar 15 Oswego and 10 Mar 20 FH. HARLEQUIN DUCK: only report is an ad male Mar 18-20 FH (FGS) - eighth Regional record and second spring report. King Eider: 1 Dec 19 NM; up to 18 (7 im male, 11 female) Dec 27, with a date range 3 Dec 3 to 2 Mar 20, all Oswego - twice the previous winter high (in 1960). Whitewinged Scoter: 1 Dec 2 Utica; winter max 115 Feb 18 Oswego (FGS) - record winter high since 75 in 1970. Surf Scoter: only reports 4 Dec 5 NM, 1 Dec 19-26 Onon L, I Jan 2-Feb 27 Oswego. Common Scoter: only reports 3 Dec 1 Onon L, 8 Dec 2-1 Jan 2 Oswego, 1 Jan 10-11 NM. Ruddy Duck: dep Dec 18, 8 Onon L; none wintering; arr Feb 18, 1, and Mar 12, 2, both Oswego. Hooded Merganser: dep Dec 10, 23 Oneida L; winter max 6 WFC and 9 Jan 24 Oswego R; arr Mar 13, 1 S Onon; Mar max 46 Mar 27 DH, SSSP. Common Merganser: winter max 1000 Feb 7 Oswego; Mar max 119 Mar 21 Cross L near Baldwinsville - both counts very low, continuing a downward trend begun in 1966. Red-breasted Merganser: winter max 63 Feb 27 Oswego; Mar max 26 Mar 7 Oswego.

HAWKS-OWLS: Turkey Vulture: arr Mar 28, 1 Parish and 1 HIGMA. Goshawk: 10 Dec, 9 Jan, and 4 Feb reports from 21 observers — a small irruption. Sharpshinned Hawk: 3 Dec, 6 Jan, and 1 Feb reports from 21 observers — an improvement on recent years' reports. Cooper's Hawk: 9 Dec, 9 Jan, and 1 Feb reports from 21 observers — slightly better than recent years. Red-tailed Hawk: max 74 Syr CC — twice the average; 11 Jan 20 Syr dump, 10 Feb 11 Cicero Twp, 11 Mar 18 SRF are all excellent counts. Red-shouldered Hawk: only reports 1 ad Dec 26-Feb 11 Cicero Swamp (RJS, FJL, GAS) and 1 ad Jan 23-Mar 2 Pompey Twp (FJL, DWC). Rough-legged Hawk: max 14 Syr CC; singles only in Jan — surprising in comparison with the sustained numbers of Red-tailed Hawk, and despite melting and flooding which should have exposed the mice. Bald Eagle: 1 ad Dec 3 SP (FGS), 1 probably 4th year Dec 5 Jamesville (FJL), and 1 ad Feb 2 Baldwinsville (S. Hosler) are only reports. Marsh Hawk: 1 Dec 5 Clay Twp, 2 Dec 26 Syr CC, 1 Jan 31 S Onon, 1 Feb 12 Lafayette Twp are only winter reports — slightly more than in recent years,

possibly due to frequent melting of snow cover. Sparrow Hawk: max 20 Syr CC; 4

Ĵan 24 Oswego Co; only 3 per day in Feb.

Ruffed Grouse: max 9 Oswego CC; 5 Feb 27 Clayville; 3 Dec 25-Mar 20 Holland Patent. Ring-necked Pheasant: max 91 Oneida CC; 84 Syr CC; 16 Jan 7 DeWitt, Fayetteville. Virginia Rail: only report is 1 Dec 26-Jan 7 Fayetteville (FGS) seventh winter record. American Coot: Dec max 78 Dec 10 Onon L; winter max 9 Jan 24 Baldwinsville, Oswego; arr and Mar max 32 Mar 18 SRF, FH.

Killdeer: winter max 10 Feb 4 DeWitt, Fayetteville is unusually high; other winter reports were 1 Dec 27 Hannibal Twp and 2 Feb 18 Cardiff; arr Feb 26, 3 DH; Mar max 60 Mar 14 and 50 Mar 15 both DH. Black-bellied Plover: a report of 1 Mar 21 near Brewerton (C & E Farnham) is unprecedented with May 10, 1969 the next earliest date. American Woodcock: dep Dec 2, 1 NPT; arr Mar 15, 1 Syr; Mar max 9 Mar 28 HIGMA. Common Snipe: winter max 7 Mar 6 DeWitt — record winter count and first time for more than one bird per place; arr Mar 14, 1 Lakeport; Mar max 2 Mar 26 S Onon and 2 Mar 27 near Chittenango. Greater Yellowlegs: arr Mar 18, 1 near Port Byron — early; singles only in Mar. Dunlin: dep Dec 5, 1 Sandy Pond.

Glaucous Gull: max 10 Jan 24 Oswego; counts from other localities are 5 Jan 1 Onon L and 1 Jan 16 Skaneateles L. Iceland Gull: arr Dec 18, 1 Onon L; max 9 Jan 24 Oswego; dep Mar 25, 2 FH, Oswego. Great Black-backed Gull: max 166 Jan 18 Oswego R, L Ont – twice last winter's counts but still low compared with the early sixties. Herring Gull: max 8000 Feb 18 Oswego. Ring-billed Gull: Dec max 3000 Dec 3 Sandy Pond and 3200 Dec 10 Oneida L; counts at Oswego dropped from nearly 1500 Dec 13 to 1000 Jan 24, and to 50 Feb 3 and 90 Feb 6, but were up to 1000 again Feb 18; Mar max 15,000 Mar 18 and 12,000 Mar 28, both FH. Bonaparte's Gull: Dec max 71 Dec 12 Oneida L and dep Dec 14, 12 Oneida L — good numbers for Dec. Rock Dove: winter max 245 Jan 11 Fulton to Oswego. Mourning Dove: winter max 301 Oneida CC; other counts are 25 Feb 4 Baldwinsville, 32 Dec 3 Brewerton, 34 Dec 12 Canastota, 38 all winter Oneida, 24 Feb 19 Herkimer.

Screech Owl: CCs 4 Syr, 1 Oswego, 2 HIGMA, 1 Oneida; only other reports are of 2 Utica sites and 2 Pompey Twp sites. Great Horned Owl: 12 Syr CC, 1 Oswego CC, 13 HIGMA CC—the last high; other reports from Holland Patent, New Hartford, Oneida, 2 sites near Bridgeport, 3 sites in Pompey Twp, Minetto, and DH. Snowy Owl: at least 7, and possibly 11, birds reported from Fernwood, Oswego, Oneida L, Syr airport, Onon L, and Marcy. Barred Owl: 1 Syr CC and 1 HIGMA CC; other reports from BM, Camroden, Floyd, Utica, New Hartford, Verona Beach State Park, near Camillus, and Cross L. Short-eared Owl: 1–5 Dec 3–14 Syr airport and 1 Dec 27 Utica are only reports. Saw-whet Owl: 1 found dead Jan 3 S Onon and 1 Jan 29 Brewerton are only reports.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Belted Kingfisher: winter max 5 Dec 26 Syr CC and 3 Jan 7 DeWitt; arr Mar 21, 1 Bridgeport; Mar max 2 Mar 28 Syr. Yellow-shafted Flicker: winter max 27 HIGMA CC and 25 Syr CC — high, and an individual day's count of 5 Dec 12 Syr; Mar max 3 Mar 6 DeWitt, indicating some winter drop-off. Pileated Woodpecker: max 4 HIGMA CC and otherwise no more than 2 per day. Red-bellied Woodpecker: max 14 HIGMA CC and no more than 2 per day otherwise; reported from Oswego, near Brewerton, near Bridgeport, Skaneateles, Camillus, NPT, Amber, 2 sites near S Onon, near Tully, near Onon Hill. Red-headed Woodpecker: only report is 1 all winter Oneida. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 2 Syr CC, 1 Oneida CC, and 1 Jan 9 Syr are only reports. Hairy Woodpecker: max 59 Oneida CC; otherwise no more than 6 per day. Downy Woodpecker: max 139 Oneida CC; no more than 14 per day otherwise.

Eastern Phoebe: arr Mar 31, 1 N Syr. Horned Lark: winter max 49 Oneida CC and 13 Dec 20 SPT; arr Feb 7, 10 Port Ontario; Mar max 180 Mar 3 Canastota and 100 Mar 13 Pompey Twp — only a fair flight. Tree Swallow: arr Mar 28, 1 DH. Gray Jay: only report is 1 ad Feb 21-Mar 14 BM dump. Blue Jay: max 254 Oneida CC

and 34 Mar 14 Webb and Forestport Twps, about half at BM dump. Common Crow: max 304 Syr CC and roost counts 1110 Dec 1 near Otisco Valley and 2234 Feb 5 Onon Hill (13,000 there Jan '64); migration underway by Feb 18 with 6 DH; Mar max for DH 9989 Mar 15 and 7190 Mar 14, with total migrants there 3644 in Feb and 19,663 in Mar.

Black-capped Chickadee: max 439 Oneida CC, 130 Jan 25 S Onon Co, and 95 Feb 21 near BM; field tallies were usually only 15–40 per day, but Mar BBFS was 735, the highest count ever and twice the usual Mar BBFS. Boreal Chickadee: 1 Old Forge CC is only report. Tufted Titmouse: 1 Syr CC and 8 Oneida CC; also reported from near Texas, N Syr, Baldwinsville, SPT, near Skaneateles, Skaneateles, FH – a light incursion. White-breasted Nuthatch: max 75 Oneida CC; 22 Mar 14 Webb and Forestport Twps (N.B. highest individual day's count from Adirondacks) and 12 Jan 25 S Onon Co; otherwist tallies were only 2–6 per day. Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 18 Old Forge CC; 8 Feb 21 near BM and 6 Mar 17 Onon Hill – fair numbers in both the Adirondacks and elsewhere. Brown Creeper: max 28 HIGMA CC and 10 Mar 12 Onon Hill; only 7 Old Forge CC, with counts of 0 or 1 for other trips to that area – somewhat lower than in recent years, especially in the Adirondacks. Winter Wren: max 5 Syr CC dropping to 1 by Feb 4; only other reports were 1 Dec 21-Mar 17 Onon Hill and 1 Jan 1 Marcellus. Mockingbird: 4 Syr and 1 Oneida CCs. Brown Thrasher: dep Dec 20, 1 near Onon Hill.

Robin: 13 Syr CC and 10 Oswego CC; winter max 72 Dec 16 and 33 Feb 7, both S Onon — high; arr Feb 27, 1 N Syr; Mar max 318 Mar 27 DH. Hermit Thrush: 1–3 Dec 12-Feb 14 Onon Hill (EMF) apparently did not survive the Feb 14 ice storm — only report. Eastern Bluebird: arr Mar 28, 2 near Port Ontario — late; Mar max 4 Mar 29 Oswego.

Golden-crowned Kingle:: 2 Oswego and 4 HIGMA but missed on the other 3 CCs; max a few counts of 3–4 through winter in lower areas; only 1 once near BM. Water Pipit: dep Dec 19, 1 NM (MSR) record late by a month (Nov 17 '68); arr Mar 21, 6 Clockville. Cedar Waxwing: Dec max 260 Dec 1 Onon L but CC max only 75 Syr and missed on HIGMA and Old Forge CCs; still down in Jan and Feb with monthly maxima 25 Jan 29 Brewerton and 32 Feb 21 near Amber. Northern Shrike: an excellent year with 2–15 on CCs though none on Old Forge; other reports 18 Dec, 42 Jan, 22 Feg, 10 Mar (not including L Ont migrants) from 21 observers. Loggerhead Shrike: arr Feb 26, 1, and Mar 7, 1, both DH; no more than 1 per day in Mar. Starling: winter max 15,000 Syr CC and 2350 Dec 1 Onon L; first migrants passing DH were 641 Feb 26 and a max of 1600 there Feb 27.

VIREOS—SPARROWS: Myrtle Warbler: 1 at 3 neighboring Sherrill feeders from about Dec 18 to mid-Jan. Yellowthroat: 1 to Dec 7 New Hartford (VB). House Sparrow: winter max 1669 Oneida CC and 200 Jan 4–5 Onon L; apparent migrants passing DH with the first 2 Mar 20 and no more than 2 per day the rest of the month.

Eastern Meadowlark: only CC reports were 4 Syr and 7 Oneida; Dec max 15 Dec 12 near Phoenix; only Jan reports 1 Jan 5 Schuyler Twp and 2 Jan 14 Hamilton, and no Feb reports — as usual, none persisted as snow became deeper; arr Mar 6, 1 DeWitt; Mar max 28 Mar 25 DH. Redwinged Blackbird: Dec max 250 Dec 1 Van Buren Twp; only CC reports 18 Syr and 8 Oneida; winter max only 35 Jan 7 Fayetteville, but 1 Mar 13—14 Old Forge; arr Feb 28, 15 DH; Mar max 22,600 Mar 27 DH. Rusty Blackbird: only winter reports 1 Dec 21-Jan 1 DeWitt and 1 Dec 26 at a dump in Cicero Swamp; arr Mar 3, 1 NPT; Mar max 62 Mar 30 S Onon. Common Grackle: only CC report 3 Syr; Dec max 18 Dec 5 Clay and Cicero Twps; Jan max 2 Jan 23 Canastota and singles only in Feb; arr Feb 27 with 2 Oswego, I NPT, and 1 Oneida; Mar max 2000 Mar 18 SRF. Brown-headed Cowbird: only CC reports 10 Syr and 5 Oneida; winter max 40 Dec 13 N shore Oneida L, 3 Jan 7 Holland Patent, and surprisingly 8 Mar 13—14 Old Forge, BML; arr Feb 28, 2 Onon Hill and 1 Otisco L; Mar max 387 Mar 27 DH.

Cardinal: CCs 121 Syr, 16 Oswego, 44 HIGMA, 81 Oneida; not noted on Old

Forge CC but 4 reported there in period (fide B. Barnum); winter max 23 Jan 25-Mar 13 S Onon, 21 Feb 19 NPT, and 408 Feb BBFS is the highest ever tallied. Evening Grosbeak: CCs were 4 Syr, 16 Oswego, 59 Old Forge, 54 Oneida; winter max by month were 50 Dec 14 near Tully, 24 Jan 26 Prospect, 7 Feb 26 Ilion, 24 Mar 19 Brewerton — a very light flight. Purple Finch: only CC report was 5 Syr; only 1—6 thru winter, reported from FH, N Syr, Brewerton, BM; no Mar flight. House Finch: missed on CCs; first noted 1 Feb 8 (PAD) and max 9 Feb 12-Mar 31 (MSR, M. Thomas, CGS) both Syr. Common Redpoll: only report 30 Jan 3 near Baldwins-ville (C. & E. Farnham). American Goldfinch: noted on all CCs with max 110 Syr; winter max by month 12 Dec 5 Clay Twp, 15 Jan 10 Baldwinsville, 7 all Feb Syr, but usually only singles were noted in field through winter; yet BBFS indicates better than average tallies with 130 Dec, 167 Jan, 233 Feb, 569 Mar (highest Feb in 10

years and highest Mar ever); Mar max 33 Mar 1-31 near Tully.

Rufous-sided Towhee: only CC report was 1 Syr which persisted all winter; other winter reports were 1 Dec 19 Scriba Twp, 1 Dec 27 near SW Oswego, 1 Jan 3 near Jamesville, and a remarkable 7 in early Jan Skaneateles (fide H. Aspinwall). Savannah Sparrow: 1 Feb 2-Mar 15 Oswego (FGS) the second winter record, is especially remarkable for its persistence and adaptation to feeding and roosting at a grain elevator on an exposed pier in the harbor. Slate-colored Junco: on all CCs except Old Forge with max 59 Syr; winter max by month 12 Dec 9 Oswego, 35 Jan 9 Onon Hill, 12 Feb 5 Herkimer and Feb 23 Oswego, 14 Mar 18 Syr; arr Mar 28, 1 SPT. OREGON JUNCO: 1 Jan 26-Mar 4 and Mar 20-Apr 2 (probably same bird) N. Syr (D. Felker, fide KAS), 1 Mar 18 (possibly the N Syr bird) near Cicero Center (Schneider, fide KAS); 1 Mar 27-28 SPT (FJL). Tree Sparrow: noted on all CCs with max 646 Oneida; max by month 64 Dec 20 SPT, 100 Jan 17 Oswego R, L Ont, 112 Feb 7 HIGMA, 100 Mar 11 Oswego. Field Sparrow: only report is 1 Dec 26 Fayetteville (T. M. Riley). White-crowned Sparrow: only reports were 3 Oneida CC (1 of which persisted thru winter) and 1 Feb 6 DeWitt (MSR). White-throated Sparrow: on all CCs with max 28 Syr; max by month 16 Dec 1 Camillus Twp, 8 Jan 1 NPT, 6 Feb 6 Onon Hill, 11 Mar 13 Onon Hill - seem to be higher-thanaverage counts, and numbers held up well thru winter at least in S part of Region; interestingly, one Syr feeder had 16-9 White-throated Sparrows Dec-Mar and no Song Sparrow, and in the field in S Onon C. White-throated: Song ratio was about 3:1. Fox Sparrow: only winter report 1 Dec 26 near Brewerton did not persist; arr Mar 7, 1 Sherrill. Swamp Sparrow: CCs were 28 Syr - record high (previously 6 in 1964, 1959), 1 Oswego (first since 1957), and 2 HIGMA; this species did not persist as there was only one later report, 1 Jan 7 DeWitt (FGS). Song Sparrow: on 4 CCs (missed on Old Forge where it has yet to be found) with max 100 Syr - record high; individual field maxima 8 Dec 21 DeWitt, 14 Jan 23 Canastota, DeWitt, 3 Feb 6 DeWitt; arr Mar 13, 7 S Onon Co. Lapland Longspur: only 2 reports were 1 Dec 26 DeWitt (fall dep?) and 1 Feb 19 NPT (spring arr?). Snow Bunting: on all CCs with max 553 Syr; maxima by month 200 Dec 14 near Bridgeport, 150 Jan 24 Stockbridge Falls, 150 Feb 19 NPT, 1000 around Mar 20 NPT and 500 around Mar 22 SPT.

242 W. Calthrop Ave., Syracuse 13205

REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

Frank A. Clinch

The 1970-71 winter season will be remembered for the abundance of snow and the scarcity of birds. At the end of December the snow was 15 inches deep in northern Jefferson County. More snow fell in January. February brought much snow and

some rain. The precipitation that month was twice the normal amount. The March snowfall was 30 inches greater than the average for March. In one 24-hour period, March 3–4, 19 inches of snow fell. Temperatures averaged below normal, but there were brief periods of thawing. By the first of March the melting and freezing again made the snow very compact with a record high water content. The snow was so firm and hard that walking on it was easy. There was some thawing starting about March 14, but the snow went very slowly. In the woods the snow was still very deep at the end of March. In places at the side of the road where the snow had been piled up, it was still five or six feet high. The last day of March the Perch River Game Management Area was entirely covered with ice and sno.w

Birds seemed rather scarce, especially at feeders. There were only small numbers of Evening Grosbeak, but no Redpolls, Pine Siskins or Red Crossbills. Snowy Owls were scarce. Two Christmas Counts produced only 28 species for each count.

Abbreviations: WCC-Watertown Christmas Count, Watertown, Dec 26; WICC-Wellesey Isand Christmas Count, Wellesley Island region. Jan 2.

Observers: JB-John Belknap; LC-Lee Chamberlaine; FC-Frank A. Clinch; NL-Nick Leone; RW-Robert and June Walker.

LOONS-DUCKS: Horned Grebe: last Dec 10 Henderson Bay (JB). Great Blue Heron: Mar 21. Canada Goose: 300 Mar 28 Henderson Pond. Mallard: 50 Jan 15 Massena. Black Duck: 160 Massena. Common Goldeneye: 60 Massena. Oldsquaw: 12 Dec 19 Pillar Pt. Hooded Merganser: Mar 31 Henderson Harbor (NL). Common Merganser: 2500 Jan 15 at Power Dam, Massena (RW).

HAWKS-OWLS: Turkey Vulture: Mar 28 early (NL). Goshawk: at least 3 or 4 during winter. Sharp-shinned Hawk: Jan 2 Omar (Wolfe). Cooper's Hawk: 3 during winter. Red-tailed Hawk: 7 WCC, 12 WICC. Rough-legged Hawk: a dozen just south and west of Watertown all winter; 12 Jan 3 Pt Peninsula; 10 WICC; but this hawk was scarce most places. Marsh Hawk: Feb 27 (RW). Sparrow Hawk: rather scarce until late Mar; 1 WCC none WICC. Gray Partridge: 55 WCC; 9 WICC; numbers down from two or three years ago. Turkey: 32 WICC; about 55 believed to be on Wellesley Island. Killdeer: 3 Mar 14. Woodcock: first heard Mar 20 (LC) (RW); more than the usual number seen the last week in Mar, since they were easily seen on the few spots free of snow. Glaucous Gull: 24 Jan 15 Massena (RW). Great Black-backed Gull: one WICC; many in Jan at Massena. Mourning Dove: a dozen until early Mar at a corncrib near Bwornville. Great Horned Owl: 2 or 3 seen or heard. Barred Owl: 1 Feb 1 near Watertown (NL). Short-eared Owl: near Clayton Dec 18 was the only one seen (JB). Saw-whet Owl: Mar 13 one spent most of the day on a feeder in Watertown (Dake), found dead next day, no evidence of injury, but perhaps ti had difficulty getting food because of the deep snow. Snowy Owl: 2 in Jan at Pt Peninsula; and 1 the middle of Jan in southern Jefferson County; JB saw none.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLINGS: Yellow-shafted Flicker: one spent the winter in Watertown in the section where one wintered a year ago. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: a male and a female Jan 12 at Joseph A. Blake, Jr. Wildlife Sanctuary (Wolfe) (FC) — they were flaking off the bark of tamarack trees, and Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers were doing the same; a male Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker was seen the same place Mar 19–20. Horned Lark: about average numbers, more common the latter part of Feb. Blue Jay; 16 Mar 1 at a feeder (RW). Crow: around Watertown most of winter, more in late Feb. Tufted Titmouse: 1 previously reported in Carthage was last seen Dec 5 after a stay of about a month. White-breasted Nuthatch: 6 WICC; at feeders all winter. Red-breasted Nuthatch: 2 Feb 7. Brown Creeper: 3 WICC. Robin: 59 WCC, a record number, 50 of these in Thompson Park where 42 were counted as they flew across a road, there were still others, so the estimate was at least 50 (FC); no Robins could be found there

six days later; Robins began to return about Mar 15. Hermit Thrush: Jan 2 Watertown, late (NL). Bluebird: 4 Mar 29 Rodman (Soule). Golden-crowned Kinglet: 6 Dec 28. Cedar Waxwing: a few small flocks during winter. Northern Shrike: 3 WCC; 2 WICC; only about average numbers this winter. Starling: heavy movement last two weeks of Mar.

VIREOS—SPARROWS: Meadowlark: Mar 16. Redwinged Blackbird: 50 Feb 27 near Watertown; many last half of Mar. Cowbird: 7 WICC. Cardinal: numbers remain about the same or slightly more. Evening Grosbeak: 30 WCC; seen less often and in smaller numbers than last year. Purple Finch: 5 Jan 3 near Watertown, but very few seen. Common Redpoll: none. Pine Siskin: none. Goldfinch: 10 Mar 6; a few began to appear at feeders late in Mar. Rufous-sided Towhee: a male at a feeder at Adams Cove at least to Jan 1; another from time to time at a feeder near Carthage at least into Feb. Slate-colored Junco: 2 WCC; 1 Jan 15 at a feeder; and 2 or 3 others during winter, with numbers increasing late in Mar. White-throated Sparrow: 2 or 3 at feeders most of winter. Song Sparrow: Mar 31. Lapland Longspur: Jan 2, 2 with Horned Larks; later 2 with Snow Buntings. Snow Bunting: 115 WICC; several flocks first part of winter.

173 Haley St., Watertown, New York 13601

REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK — CHAMPLAIN

THEODORE D. MACK

This past winter in the Adirondack area has been exceptionally severe. The latter half of December and much of January and February consisted of below zero days or nights or both. Temperatures of minus 20 to 30 degrees and sometimes more occurred day after day. March was little better, bringing below zero nights and our worst snow storm of the season on March 5. As of April 24, 165½ inches of snow had been recorded at Bay Pond near Paul Smiths, and it was still falling although finally melting afternoons.

Under these conditions many birds left the area. A bird trip with a total of four species was a big day in January. Even Blue Jays and Chickadees became very scarce. Robert Hagar said he was elated to see something on the feeder one day, a mouse. Another person reported no birds at all at feeder all winter. Greenleaf Chase stated that this winter "had perhaps the lightest movement of winter finches during the past 25 years." No movement of Chickadees from the north seemed to occur by mid-December. Crossbills, Siskins, and Redpolls were scarce. Goldfinches increased after March first and a slight Chickadee and noticeable Blue Jay increase occurred early in March."

The Turkey Vulture was our notable bird for the period. He was either lost or very optimistic about the weather.

Observers: DB—Dirck Benson; GTC—Greenleaf Chase; DC—Darius Collins; HD—Helen Deuel; SE—Stephen Everett; PF—Paul French; TM—Ted Mack.

Abbreviations: AB—Ampersand Bay; L—lake; Mtn—mountain; P—pond; PS—Paul Smiths; RB—Ray Brook; SL—Saranac Lake.

LOONS-DUCKS: Canada Goose: 30 Mar 8 RB (DB). Snow Goose: 6 Mar 16 L Colby (John Duquette).

HAWKS-OWLS: TURKEY VULTURE: 1 Mar 22 Upper Jay, red head clearly seen (DC). Goshawk: 2 Feb 28 Chazy (GTC). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 Dec 6 PS (SE). Rough-legged Hawk: 2 Jan 4-Feb 2 Witherbee (SE); 1 Mar 16 Crown Point (GTC). Ruffed Grouse: 1 Mar AB (GTC). Gray Partridge: 11 Feb 28 Chazy.

(GTC). Great Blue Heron: 1 SL (DC). Woodcock: 1 arrived Mar 23 PS too early to survive (SE). Screech Owl: 1 Feb 20 PS (SE). Great Horned Owl: 1 Mar 6 PS (SE). Barred Owl: 1 Feb 20 Newcomb (TM).

GOATSUCKERS-STARLING: Pileated Woodpecker: 2 Mar 28 AB (GTC). Hairy Woodpecker: 1 Dec 28 St. Regis Mtn (TM); 1 Mar 13 Moody P (DB); 2 Jan-Mar AB (GTC). Downy Woodpecker: 2 Jan-Feb Moody P (DB); 2 Jan-Mar AB (GTC). Horned Lark: 25 Feb 2 Witherbee (SE); 25 Feb 18 Malone (SE); 5 Feb 20 passing over L Clear (TM); 3 Feb 26 PS (SE). Blue Jay: absent from much of the woods during much of period, high count of 6 Jan thru Mar AB (GTC). RAVEN: 1 Mar 28 Mineville (Francis Singer). Common Crow: first report 1 Feb 27 L Colby (GTC); 6 Mar 2 RB (DB); 22 Mar 13 L Clear (TM); 60 Mar 27 L Clear (TM). Black-capped Chickadee: scarce, maximum 5 thruout period PS (TM). Boreal Chickadee: only report, 5 L Colden Ranger Cabin Feb 18 and 19 (Martin Pfeiffer). White-breasted Nuthatch: scarce, maximum 3 Dec 28 St. Regis Mtn (TM); 1 PS (SE); 2 Jan thru Mar AB (GTC). Red-breasted Nuthatch: 1 or 2 at various feeders in several areas thru period. Robin: 1 Mar 16 Port Henry (GTC). Brown Creeper: 1 Feb 28 AB (GTC); 1 Jan 15 PS (SE). Golden-crowned Kinglet: 1 Feb 8–10 PS (SE). Northern Shrike: 1 Feb 26 RB (GTC); 1 Feb 28 Chazy (GTC); 1 Mar 15 Elizabethtown (PF).

VIREOS—SPARROWS: Redwinged Blackbird: 75 Mar 16 Port Henry (GTC); 10 Mar 15 PS (SE); 50 Mar 26 Bloomingdale (TM). Rusty Blackbird: first report, 1 Mar 15 PS (SE). Common Grackle: first report, 2 Mar 15 PS (SE). Brown-headed Cowbird: 8 Feb 2 Witherbee (SE). CARDINAL: 2 thru period Elizabethtown (PF); 1 Mar 16 Westport (GTC). Evening Grosbeaks: scarce in many areas, maximum 100 Feb 3 PS (SE); 40 thru Mar Saranac Inn (HD). Purple Finch: 1 thru Mar Saranac Inn (HD); 1 Mar 27 PS (TM); 3 Mar 28 Moody P (DB). Pine Grosbeak: only report, 1 Feb 2 Witherbee (SE). Common Redpoll: 2 Mar 12 PS (SE). Pine Siskin: 2 Feb 18 Malone (SE). Goldfinch: 35 Feb 17 AB (GTC); 25 Mar 27 Saranac Inn (TM). Red Crossbill: 30 Mar 1 Milbank Park (DB). White-winged Crossbill: no reports. Slate-colored Junco: no reports. Tree Sparrow: maximum 7 Jan thru Mar AB (GTC). WHITE-THROATED SPARROW: 1 Dec 9 PS (SE). Song Sparrow: first report 1 Mar 27 PS (TM). Lapland Longspur: 2 Feb 18 Malone (SE). Snow Bunting: 5 Jan 18 PS (SE); 60 Feb 2 Whitherbee (SE); 10 Feb 26 Witherbee (SE); 6 Feb 27 RB (GTC); 7 Crown Point Mar 16 (GTC).

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REGION 8 — MOHAWK-HUDSON

RICHARD E. PHILION

The winter of 1970–71 was a long, cold, and snowy one. This year the heavy snow began before Christmas and lasted on the ground until April. There was 43.8 inches of snow that fell in the Albany area during the month of December, 15.2 inches in January, 17.6 in February and 32 inches in March. By the end of March the total snow for the season was within an inch and a half of the all time record for seasonal snowfall at Albany. The record was 110 inches. It was another cold winter with temperature several degrees below normal in December, January, and March, with January 8.8° below normal for the month. Five new low temperature records were set at Albany Airport during the month of January including a –28° which is the lowest ever recorded there in any month or year. February averaged a little warmer and turned out to be 1.7° above normal. Ponds and lakes were covered with snow and ice by the end of March.

Most striking this year, aside from the weather, was the near absence of winter finches which only last year were found in near record numbers. No complaints were heard this year over the ravenous eating habits of Evening Grosbeaks at home feeders. Apparently, a plentiful seed crop in the more northern regions inhibited the mass migrations which occurred over the past two years. Both Crossbills went unreported while Purple Finches, Pine Grosbeaks and Redpolls were extremely scarce. Even Goldlinches were lower in number especially in December and January. Less regrettably the Starling population declined to a third of last year.

Increases in the population of Mourning Doves, Mockingbirds, Northern Shrikes, Ring-necked Pheasants and Song Sparrows were apparent from Christmas Count

reports

Rare species recorded this year were a Golden Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Great Gray Owl (first record for region 8 in over 50 years, banded, photographed and seen by many), and an Oregon Junco.

Abbreviations: Ca—Castleton; Ch—Chatham; Cox—Coxsackie; Ctk—Catskill; EG—East Greenbush; GR—Greenville; HF—Hudson Falls; HR—Hudson River; LK—lock MR—Mohawk River; NE Col—Northeast Columbia County; Nisk—Niskayuna; NWW—Niskayuna Wide Waters; PM—Poentic Marshes; RL—Round Lake; SL—Saratoga Lake; Sch—Schodack; Sch Cntr—Schodack Center; SS—Stockport Station Marshes; SCR—Stony Creek Reservoir; Sp—Spencertown; TR—Tomhannock Reservoir; TCC—Troy Christmas Count; VFWM—Vischer Ferry Wildlife Management Area; WG—West Ghent; GCC—Greene County Christmas Count; SCC—Schenectady Christmas Count; SRCC—Southern Rensselaer Christmas Count; fsm—first spring migrants.

Observers: DA—D. Allen; GB—G. Bartlett; T&AB—T&A. Brown; L&VB—L&V Burland; JB—J. Bush; PC—P. Connor; GE—G. Erlenback; P&GE—P&G. Erlenback; MJF—M. J. Ford; M&A—M&A. Giddings; MDG—M. D. Gruett; MK—M. Kent; CK—C. Ketcham; EM—E. Mansell; WM—W. Merritt; MM—M. Mickle; REP—R. E. Philion; EP—E. Powell; EMR—E. M. Reilly, Jr.; WBS—W. B. Sabin; BRS—B. R. Seguin; S&RS—S&R. Silverman; B&HT—B&H. Tullar; M&WU—M&W. Ulmer; BW—B. Waite; RPY—R. P. Yunick; HMBC—Hudson Mohawk Bird Club field trip; mob—many observers.

LOONS-DUCKS: Common Loon: 1 Dec 5 SL (BRS); 1 Jan 10 HF (WBS). Red-throated Loon: 1 Jan 10 LK6 Champlain Canal (WBS). Horned Grebe: 20 Dec 5 SL (BRS); 1 Jan 2-30, Cohoes (DA); 5 Mar 31 NWW (DA). Pied-billed Grebe: 1 Dec 5 SL (BRS); 2 Jan 2-10 Cohoes (DA); 1 Jan 10 HF (WBS); 2 Mar 16 NE Col (RD); 4 Mar 20 SS (DA). Great Blue Heron: 1 Mar 20 SS (DA); generally reported one week later. Canada Goose: fsm Feb 15-28 SS (S&RS, T&AB); 200 Mar 31 NWW (DA). Snow Goose: 11 Dec 19 WG (P&GE); 20 Dec 20 SL (BRS). Mallard: throughout winter; 500 Jan 10 HR (Duck count). Black duck: throughout winter; 475 Jan 10 HR (Duck count). Pintail: 2 in Jan Cohoes (BRS); 12 Mar 20 SS (DA). Green-winged Teal: 2 Dec 5 SCR (BRS); 6 Mar 20 SS (DA). Bluewinged Teal: 1 female TCC Waterford, seen at 15 feet in small stream, made no effort to fly, probably injured (DA, Peter Leeds); 10 Mar 20 SS (DA). American Widgeon: 1 female Dec 19 on Bozenkill, possibly crippled (BRS); 1 Mar 28 SCR (DA). Wood Duck: 1 Dec 5 SL (BRS); 2 Mar 20 SS (REP). Ring-necked Duck: 1 Dec 5 SL (BRS); fsm Mar 27 LK 7 MR (BRS). Canvasback: 6 Dec 5 SL (BRS). Scaup Duck: 20 Lesser Dec 20 SL (BRS); 1 TCC Cohoes; 2 wintered at Troy (BRS); 1 female Greater Jan 10 Thomson, on Champlain Canal (WBS); fsm Mar 27 LK 7 MR (BRS). Common Goldeneye: 200 Dec 20 SL (BRS); 2 TCC Cohoes; 30 Jan 10 Corinth (WBS); fsm Mar 14 LK 7 MR (BRS); 50 Mar 20 SS (DA). Bufflehead: 14 Dec 20 SL (BRS); 1 TCC Cohoes; 2 wintered at Cohoes (BRS); fsm Mar 28 LK 7 MR (BRS). Oldsquaw: 1 Dec 5 SL (BRS); 1 TCC Cohoes, present through [an 30 (DA). White-winged Scoter: 1 Dec 12 SL (BRS); fsm Mar 21 LK 7

MR (BRS). Ruddy Duck: 1 female Dec 5 SCR (BRS). Hooded Merganser: 5 Dec 5 RL (BRS); 1 TCC Cohoes; 8 Mar 20 SS (DA). Common Merganser: 4 Dec 5 NWW (MJF); 1 Dec 20 SL (BRS); 2 TCC; 2 SRCC; 1 Feb 28 HR, below Albany (MM); 35 Mar 6 HR, below Albany (DA). Red-breasted Merganser: 1 Dec 5 LK 6 MR (BRS); 6 Mar 31 NWW (DA).

HAWKS-OWLS: Turkey Vulture: 1 Feb 20 SS (S&RS) very early; 1 Mar 27 Ctk (JB). Goshawk: 1 SCC; 2 TCC; 1 Feb 24 Ch (M&WU); 1 Mar 1 Gr (CK); 1 Mar 20–26 Ch (M&A). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 Jan 13–19 Old Ch (B&HT); 1 Jan 27 Ctk (JB); Jan 31 EG (MDG); 1 Feb 27 TR (HMBC); 1 Mar 24 Sp (EM). Cooper's Hawk: 1 Dec 20, Jan 17 (BRS); 3 TCC; 1 Jan 30 Gr (CK); 1 Mar 20 SS (DA). Red-tailed Hawk: fairly good numbers—19 SCC; 19 SRCC; 11 GCC; 36 TCC. Red-shouldered Hawk: 2 Dec 7 NE Col (RD); 1 TCC; 1 Feb 1-18 Ca (JC); 1 Mar 17 Cox (IB); 1 Mar 26 VFWM (WBS); 1 Mar 26 Sch Cntr (PC). Broadwinged Hawk: I Mar 13 Ch (M&AG) very early; I Mar 21 LK 7 MR (BRS); 1 Mar 28 NWW (BRS). Rough-legged Hawk: 2 Dec 4 So Schtdy (DA); 1 Dec 19 CK (JB); 4 SCC; 2 SRCC; 11GCC; 5 TCG; 1 dark phase wintered Selkirk (WBS). GOLDEN EAGLE: 1 Mar 30 Spier Falls on HR (fide MK). Marsh Hawk: 1 SRCC; 1 Feb 28 WG (GE); 1 Mar 7, 10 Ch (EP); 1 Mar 14 Sch Cntr (PC); 1 Mar 18 Ctk ([B); 1 Mar 28 Sch Cntr (PC). PEREGRINE FALCON: 1 Feb 14 Gr (CK). Sparrow Hawk: 17 SCC; 19 SRCC; 6 GCC; 19 TCC; wintered in usual numbers. Ruffed Grouse and Pheasant: reported quite generally. Bobwhite: not reported. American Coot: 2 Dec 5 NWW (MJF); 1 Dec 20 SL (BRS); 1 Mar 22 Athens (JB). Killdeer: fsm Feb 28 Ca (JC) and WG (GE); 5 Mar 15 Nisk (RPY). Woodcock: 1 Mar 1 Gr (CK) early; 1 Mar 6 SS (S&RS) and Sch (L&VB); 1 Mar 16 Schtdy; 1 Mar 18 VFWM (WM); 4 Mar 27 PM (fide DA); 1 arr 28 Sch Cntr (PC). Common Snipe: 1 SCC. Great Black-backed Gull: 12 Dec 20 SL (BRS); 1 Feb 28 HR, below Albany (MM and T&AB); 6 Mar 6 SS (DA). Herring Gull: a few present throughout winter whenever HR was open; 50 Mar 6 SS (DA); 300 Mar 17 Cox (JB). Ring-billed Gull: 20 Dec 5 NWW (MJF); 1 Feb 28 HR, below Albany (MM and T&AB); 100 Mar 6 SS (DA). Bonaparte's Gull: 1 Dec 5 SL (BRS). Mourning Dove: 276 SCC; 255 SRCC; 44 GCC; 394 TCC. Snowy Owl: 1 Mar 26 thru 31 Settle's Hill Altamont (BW); Screech, Great Horned and Barred Owls: reported from usual areas; 1 Barred Mar 10 Schtdy, unusual location for Owl (GB). GREAT GRAY OWL: 1 Feb 24-Mar 20 Half Moon (mob), banded and photographed Mar 10, first record for Region 8 in over 50 years. Long-eared Owl: 1 SRCC, shot by grouse hunter in front of HMBC observers, "thought it was a partridge when it flew from pine tree." Short-eared Owl: 1 Dec 26 Sch (P&GE). Saw-whet Owl: 1 Feb 3 Saratoga Co (BRS); 1 Feb 13 Columbia Co. (EMR); 1 Mar 25 VFWM (WM).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLINGS: Belted Kingfisher: several wintered in area; 1 SRCC, 1 TCC, 2 SCC. Yellow-shafted Flicker: few wintered; 1 SCC, scattered individuals thru period. Pileated Woodpecker: several reported on Christmas Counts. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: none reported. Hairy Woodpecker: common; max 57 SRCC. Downy Woodpecker: common; 130 TCC; 131 SRCC. Eastern Phoebe: no winter reports; fsm Mar 28 Ghent (DA). Horned Lark: largest flock 55 (Northern race) Halfmoon (DA); Christmas Count numbers greater than last year, max 388 SRCC. Tree Swallow: none reported thru period. Blue Jay: seemed scarce at many feeders yet Christmas Count totals comparable to last year. Common Crow: usual number wintered; max 857 SCC. Black-capped Chickasee: max 50 Feb 27 TR (HMBC). Tufted Titmouse: regularly reported by most observers; max 24 SRCC. White-breasted Nuthatch: common; max 135 TCC higher than most years. Redbreasted Nuthatch: scarce, few reports; max 10 SRCC. Brown Creeper: occasional reports; max 17 SRCC. Winter Wren: 2 reports, 1 GCC, 1 TCC .Mockingbrid: observed over area in increased numbers; 25 on 3 Christmas Counts compared with 6

last year. Robin: a few wintered; migrants from mid-March on. Hermit Thrush: only one report, 1 GCC. Eastern Bluebird: a few wintered in southern counties; migrants from mid-March on. Golden-crowned Kinglet: a few wintered; max 19 TCC. Rubycrowned Kinglet: 1 Feb 27 TR (HMBC); 3 SRCC. Cedar Wasxwing: few wintered; most reports in December and at end of period; max 20 SCC. Northern Shrike: 8 reports throughout area, 6 on Christmas Counts compared to only 1 last year. Starling: numbers significantly down, max 2098 TCC compared to 7117 SRCC last year.

VIREOS-SPARROWS: Eastern Meadowlark: a few winter reports. Redwinged Blackbird: first migrant Feb 26 GR (CK); waves by Mar 1. Baltimore Oriole: 1 reported at Ch Dec 26-Jan 17 (MM). Rusty Blackbird: only report, 1 at feeder in GR (CK). Common Grackle: last fall migrants, 50 Dec 1 Columbia Co.; a few winter reports; first spring arrivals, 10 Feb 28 Sch (PC) and at Nisk (RPY). Brownheaded Cowbird: some winter reports; first spring migrants Mar 17 in Mariaville (DA). Evening Grosbeak: very few; one flock of about 65 during most of winter in Averill Park area (REP). Purple Finch: few wintered; 4 at feeder Mar 27 at Nisk (RPY). House Finch: 1 pair Mar 21 Nisk (RPY). Pine Grosbeak: only report -1 Jan 17 at Berne (MK). Common Redpoll: very scarce; 22 Jan 2 TCC and 1 Mar 26 Spencertown (EM). Pine Siskin: only report 1 Dec 27 SRCC. American Goldfinch: winter population lower than usual. Rufous-sided Towhee: 3 Dec reports from Columbia, Rensselaer and Greene Cos. (P&GE, SRCC, M. Bush). Savannah Sparrow: 2 reported at a feeder Jan 17 in French Hollow (BRS). Vesper Sparrow: 1 Dec 27 EG (W. Gorman) and 4 Jan 2, 5, 25 Ca (J. Cook). OREGON JÜNCO: 1 reported at feeder [an 3 Latham (GB). Field Sparrow: a few wintered mainly in Columbia Co. White-crowned Sparrow: 3 reports - 1 Dec 27 at Rensselaer (J. Baum), 1 Dec 29 Athens (M. Bush) and 1 Feb 1-24 in Ch (L&VB, EP). White-throated Sparrow: fewer reports than usual. Fox Sparrow: first migrant Mar 9 Ctk (IB); many reports but low numbers beginning Mar 20. Swamp Sparrow: a few Christmas Count reports. Song Sparrow: rather numerous especially in lowlands along the Hudson River. Lapland Longspur: 7 individuals seen with Horned Larks on Christmas Counts. Snow Bunting: several large flocks (max 150) reported throughout winter.

Edgewood Dr. Rd. 3, Averill Park, N.Y. 12018

REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

Temperatures for the season averaged well below freezing, with one extended period of sub-zero weather in late January and early February. A minimum of minus sixteen degrees was reported in Ulst. Snow remained on the ground throughout the season with December dropping the highest amount; better than 32 inches. March was slightly warmer than usual, but there were sufficient cold spells to retard the advance of spring. Most bodies of water were frozen long before the Federation Waterfowl Count in mid-January. The Hudson River was frozen to its very southern limits. Thaw came in late February and progressed rapidly; freeing the river of ice to the northern limits or the region by the end of that month. Local ice fishermen report ponds in the Highlands frozen to depths of better han 17 inches. Many ponds in he higher elevations were still frozen thru the end of the period.

Resident species were relatively normal with few exceptiois. Northern visitors were scarce. Winter finches did not arrive in any substantial numbers, and very few were reported on local Christmas counts. The first wave of spring migrants arrived about Feb 27 and another movement was reported about Mar 16. Generally water-

fowl were in good supply except in the dead of winter due to ice. Hawks were exceptionally well represented with a much larger influx of Roughlegs than usual.

Your reporter wishes to take this opportunity to thank Mr. William Grierson of Mt. Kisco who took over the chore of reporting Westchester Co. records due to the illness of his wife, Mildred, our regular reporter. Thanks are also due Major John Getgood who so ably compiled records in the vicinity of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point for the past several years. He has been reassinged and will be leaving the area in June.

Observers cited: MB—Martin Borko; JD—Jeff Daley; RFD—Robert F. Deed; FG—Florence Germond; DF—Davis Finch; BG—Bernd Gravenstein; SG—Stanley Grierson; JG—Maj. John Getgood; TH—Thelma Haight; FH—Fred Hough; PJ—Paul Jeheber; AJ—Alice Jones; HM—Helen Manson; MK—Mary and Jim Key; PM—Philip Meisner; JO—John C. Orth; EP—Eleanor Pink; AP—Alma Polhemus; RP—Dr. Robert Pyle; R,FS—Ruth and Frank Steffens; W,TS—William and Trizie Strauss; CT—Czecker Terhune; JT—John Tramontano; RV—Ruth VanEtten; MVW—Marion VanWagner.

Area Compilers: Robert F. Deed, Martin Borko, Mr. & Mrs. William Grierson, Fred Hough, Al Merritt, Eleanor Pink, Otis Waterman, Major John Getgood, John C.

Orth, Iris Dean, John Tramontano.

Abbreviations: mob—many observers; Dutch—Dutchess Co. Oran—Orange Co.; Rock—Rockland Co.; Sull—Sullivan Co; Ulst—Ulster Co.; West—Westchester Co.; USMA—U.S. Military Academy at West Point, WBC—Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club of Dutchess Co.; Special Counts: BCC—John Burroughs Natural History Society Christmas Count in the vicinity of New Paltz Dec 27; MCC—Edgar A. Mearns Bird Club of Orange Co. Christmas Count in eastern Orange Co. Dec 27; RCC—Rockland Audubon Society Christmas Count in most of Rockland Co, Dec 27; BMCC—Bear Mountain Park Christmas Count Jan 2; WCC—Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club Christmas Count in western Dutchess Co. Jan 2; FWC—Federation Waterfowl Count Jan 9–17.

LOONS-DUCKS: Common Loon: 1 Dec 4 Rhinebeck (MK); 1 Dec 3 and 11 Nyack (AP). Red-throated Loon: 2 Dec 4 Rhinebeck on the Hudson R; 1 on Hudson at Nyack on RCC was the second record for that count. RED-NECKED GREBE: very rarely reported; 1 Mar 30 Vanderburgh Cove, Hudson R in Dutch (AJ, HM). Horned Grebe: appeared on Hudson with the thaw; 2 Feb 25 Cornwall Bay; numbers continued to increase thru end of period. Great Blue Heron: usually absent thru winter; 1 Feb 4 Dover, Dutch (Mary Yegella); 5 Mar 21 Tamarack Swamp, Dutch, breeds there (EP). COMMON EGRET: rarely reported in spring; 1 Mar 29 Rockland L. (PM). Mute Swan: 24 on RCC; 8 on FWC; several wintered along Hudson shore at Jones Pt. WHISTLING SWAN: 1 Dec 10 on Hudson off Nyack; carefully observed by AP who is familiar with the species. Canada Goose: WBC reports 300 dur Dec, 50 in Jan, but 0 in Feb; first migrants 15 over Katonah, West (Rugh & Heather Grierson); late Mar saw nesting birds on most of the Lakes in the Highlands; they are becoming more and more numerous in recent years. Snow Goose: late fall migrants reported No 28 from Rockland L. 500 birds observed there; 1 Dec 3 Vanderburgh Cove; and 1 Dec 5 Verbank, both Dutch (MVW, M,JK). Mallard and Black Duck: WBC reports numbers down, but normal elsewhere; Bob Deed reports tham abundant along the Hudson in Rock and along Sparkill Cr; late Dec had more than 200 Blacks at Rio and Mongaup Reservoirs in Sull until ice drove them out. Gadwall: 1 Dec 20 Rock L (RS), continued thru RCC. Pintail: more winter reports than usual; sev in Dutch, driven out by ice, 3 returned Mar 10 and increased to about 20 by the end of the period; MB reports 1 Dec 25 at Rio Reservoir, very late. Green-winged Teal: lingered later than usual; 9 Jan 2 on Congers Lake, Rock (BG), seen later but in smaller numbers; 4 Feb 25 Rockland L (PM); spring migrants were back by Mar 17 in Dutch, numbers continued to increase thru end of period. Blue-

winged Teal: 5 Mar 30 Vanderbugrh Cove (AI), American Widgeon: 17 Dec 18 Rockland L (PM), common there by Feb 28; first reports Dutch Mar 17. Shoveler: 3 Jan 2 Rockland L (BG); also 1 at Lederle Labs, Pearl River thru Dec (FS). Wood Duck: absent from FWC but 2 on MCC; 3 Dec 27 and Jan 25 at Armonk; common by Feb 28 at Rockland L; 2 spring arr March 2 in Dutch. Redhead: as many as 14 March 16 on Rockland L, remained thru end of period (JOO; 1 Feb 12 Standfordville, Dutch (FG). Ring-necked Duck: 2 Dec 18 Rockland L (PM); a remarkable 291 on FWC, most from Putn and West; 4 migrants arr Mar 6 Dutch, max 27 on Mar 27, numbers lower than usual thru Mar. Canvasback: 1 on the Hudson in Dutch on the WCC was the second cenus record; spring migrant appeared Feb 25 on Cornwall Bay, 5 birds increased to 16 by Mar 2, several continued to end of period, about 30 Mar 4 at Jones Pt (JO). Greater Scaup: 75 Mar 17 at Beacon on the Hudson R (WBC). Lesser Scaup: 1 Mar 16 Hudson R, Dutch, 2 Mar 17, 6 Mar 31. Common Goldeneye: 42 on FWC was well above 9 of last year but nothing like the highs of a few years ago. Bufflehead: numbers good; reported by the scores on Rockland L and the Hudson R off Rock, COMMON SCOTER: 2 Mar 27 Crugers Is (Herb Saltford). Ruddy Duck: 17 on FWC, none reported the past 2 years on that count; 18 Dec 18 Rockland L (PM). Hooded Merganser: 10 wintering birds on FWC is low but within normal limits; first migrants in Dutch Mar 1, these 3 birds inc to 25 Mar 27 (WBC). Common Merganser: numbers better than recent years; peak 72 Mar 24 and 89 Mar 27 on Hudson R in Dutch. Red-breasted Merganser: first Mar 13 Denning's Pt, Dutch (WBC); peak 8 Mar 20; last 6 Cornwall Bay Mar 27; 1 the same date Hyde Park, and 4 Mar 31 Vanderburgh Cove.

HAWKS-OWLS: Turkey Vulture: are early again this year; first Feb 25 over Queensboro Area of Bear Mt State Park; most residents in area by Mar 17. Goshawk: 1 Dec 19 Hopewell Jct. (DF); observed there again Jan 16 and 18; 1 dur Jan and Feb at Stissing, Dutch (TH); 1 Dec 25 flying low over Tri-Loba Hill Sanct, Katonah (SG). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 3 Jan reports in Dutch; 1 in Feb; MB reports 1 Mar 16 at Wurtsboro, Sull. Cooper's Hawk: more reports than usual; WCC had 2, their first record in 13 years; 1 was in Pleasantville, West Dec 24 (Marshall Howe); another Jan 12 at Tri-Loba Hill Sanct; 1 Mar 22 Hyde Park; and another Jan 1, and Mar 30 at Bashakill. Red-tailed Hawk: numbers better than recent years; 24 on MBC; max of 33 on WCC and 14 on RCC; 10 obs in Hamptonburgh area Feb 28. Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 Dec 27 High Falls, Ulst (Bob and Ev Rifenberg); 1 Jan 30 New Paltz (RP); an imm Feb 28 at Mt Hope, Oran; and an ad Mar 26 at Bashakill. Rough-legged Hawk: more wintering birds than usual, reported from most areas; max 8 Mar 30 at Chester, Oran (RV). Bald Eagle: virtually absent from the Highlands where it has been a regular winter resident in past years; none reported on any Christmas Counts; best records from Sull where 3 were at Bashakill Mar 26; 2 at Rio and Mongaup Reservoirs Dec 25; and 1 at Bashakill Dec 25. Marsh Hawk: observed frequently at Piermont Marsh where they formerly wintered but had been absent for years; 1 obs 2 times dur Dec at Kripplebush, (FH); 1 Mar 30 Bashakill (IT). Sparrow Hawk: 7 Mar 23 Bashakill (IT); numbers better than usual thru season. Ruffed Grouse: very few reports, continues low; one note of interest occurred on Jan 10 when an adult male went thru 2 panes of glass in a window and was nursed back to health and released by Stan Grierson. Bobwhite: all reports Dutch, 1 in Dec and 8 in Jan. Ring-necked Pheasant: numbers continue down; WBC reports numbers lowest since 1963. Common Gallinule: 1 Dec 18 Rockland L (PM). Coot: numbers increased well since lows of a few years ago; Dec 18 saw 75 on Rockland L where they have been numerous thru the winter. Killdeer: usual report of single wintering birds; inc noticeable in Dutch from Mar 20 on; RCC had a new high of 10. Woodcock: 1 Feb 5 Katonah (Ed Kurka); usual courting birds obs by mid-March. Common Snipe: singles reported on Dec 18, Jan 16, and Feb 15 in Dutch; 1 killed by a cat Mar 16 at Tri-Loba Hill Sanct, Katonah (SG); 13 Mar 30 at one small wet spot in Chester (RV). Gulls: a strong movement of Herring and Ring-bills inland away from the Hudson with the advent of spring thaw, many reports from the farm land of Oran and Sull; WCC had a record low of 4 gulls due to closing of the Beacon Dump a few years ago. White-winged gulls: Marshall Howe obs 3 Iceland and 2 Glaucous Jan 1 at Croton Point; a single Iceland Mar 21 at Rockland L (RFS), third record for Rock. Great Black-backed Gull: AJ lists between 75 and 100 thru Mar on Hudson off Dutch, these are good numbers for this far north on River. Ring-billed Gull: peaks in early Mar, 100 on Mar 6 and 200 Mar 15. (AJ) Mourning Dove: highest numbers in years; as many as 60 at Bashakill from Dec thru Mar, previous highs from 10–12 (MB); most Christmas Counts markedly increased over last year; MCC, 229 compared to 54 last year; WCC, 349 to 205; RCC, 314. Screech Owl: normal to better. Great Horned Owl: more reported than usual; 1 Feb 17 on nest near Croton Falls Res (Les LeViness). Snowy Owl: only report 1 Dec 27 Amenia (FG; TH; W, TS). Long-eared Owl: 3 on MCC was new to that count; I Mar 11 New City, Rock (Anne Epple). Short-eared Owl: 1 MCC.

GOATSUCKERS-STARLING: Belted Kingfisher: numbers low as expected due to ice. Flicker: more reports than usual in winter, on most Christmas Counts, several remained in specific territories all winter; missed on RCC for the first time in 24 counts. Pileated Woodpecker: about usual, sporadic reports thru season. RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER: more wintering than usual; 2 Jan 1-2 at same feeder in New City; another two miles away at the same time; the 14th occurrence in Rock with all but five since Jan 1, 1968; 2 more, male and female, at the home of Mrs. John Arfmann in Ridgebury, Oran from Christmas to end of period; 4 reports from Dutch, 3 in Dec and 1 in Mar. Red-headed Woodpecker: absent from usual areas in Oran; Mar 6 south of Spring Valley, Rock had been there since last summer (RS); 1 Jan 15-16 East Park, Dutch. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 1 Dec 25 feeding on apples at Fowlerville, Sull (MB); 1 on BMCC. Eastern Phoebe: 1 Mar 16 (FG); 1 Mar 18 (ID), both Dutch; scarce until the last week of Mar when numbers were normal. Tree Swallow: an unusual early influx; a small flock Mar 16 over Stone Ridge, Ulst; 150 Mar 16 at USMA (JG); 4 Mar 19 Cross River, West (Ruth Grierson). Blue Jay: well up over last year; most Christmas counts 2 or 3 times normal. Common Crow: lower than last year; noticable movement Mar 16 in Ulst. Fish Crow: all reports Dutch, I Feb, 8 Mar, 7 of the latter near Poughkeepsie. Parids: both chickadee and titmouse normal to better. White-breasted Nuthatch: numbers about double on most Christmas counts. Red-breasted Nuthatch: wintered near Kripplebush (FH); very few elsewhere; only 1 in Dutch Feb 10 at Hyde Park (CT); another wintered near Monticello (Ruth Pokorny). HOUSE WREN: 1 Dec 1 Plass Rd Pleasant Valley, Dutch (CT, MVW), normally a record to be dismissed but not when reported by these two excellent birders. Winter Wren: very few reports, most in Dec; single birds from most counties. Carolina Wren: has not recovered from kills of the last two years; only 2 reports: 1 Dec 28 South Salem, West and 1 Mar 14-15 Cornwall, Oran. Long-billed Marsh Wren: 1 RCC was the fifth record for that count. Mockingbird: numbers stabilized; good reports of residents from most areas and on most Christmas Counts. WCC had first record in 1960, the 36 reported there this year were twice last years high count; RCC reports 43; MCC 13. Catbird. usual few; WBC had 3 in Dec and 1 in Jan; another Jan 24 at Katonah, West. Brown Thrasher: not usually reported in winter, more than ever before; I Feb 24 South Salem (Mary Knapp); 1 MCC was a new species for that count; 1 Mar 29 Cornwall. Robin: more than usual; first mig Feb 23; usual numbers thru Mar; plentiful by end of season. VARIED THRUSH: I at the home of the Rev. and Mrs. Donald Weisner of Katonah, arr Feb 14 and remained thru Mar 15 (mob); on Feb 26-27 another was obs in Thornwood, 15 miles from Katonah where the other bird was still in residence (Bob Petras, Dan Blum) HERMIT THRUSH: 1 Dec 29 Salt Point, Dutch (CT, MVW). Eastern Bluebird: several winter records in the vic of Katonah, New

Bedford areas of West; WBC reports better than usual numbers thru winter, 10 in Dec, 6 in Jan, 19 in Feb, 16 in Mar; first return to USMA Mar 9 (PJ). Goldencrowned Kinglet: RFD reports numbers better than in recent years thru Rock; appears the same thru rest of region. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: only report 1 Dec 18 Greenville, Oran (Iris Dean). Cedar Waxwing: 38 on WCC was first record since 1966; only other report Jan 10 from New Paltz (Hans Weber). Northern Shrike: more than usual; 4 Dec 18-Mar 14 from Dutch; 1 Mar 11 at Middletown; 1 Mar 14 Wurtsboro. Starling: continues very high; more than doubled on BCC.

VIREOS-SPARROWS: Myrtle Warbler: BMCC reports 3; RCC dropped to 0 from a high of 280 in 1952, due largely to disappearance of favorite habitat, bayberry, which has fallen victim to suburbanization. YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT: 1 Dec 27 Amenia (TH, FG). Icterids: On a foggy, drizzly Feb 27 an estimated 2500 (70% grackles, 30% redwings and cowbirds) passed over Nyack in less than an hour, movement ceased abruptly as the fog began to lift (RFD). Eastern Meadowlark: numbers down, a few reports thru season; a flock of 20 Mar 20 in Dutch. Redwinged Blackbird: usual winter birds especially in south; a large movement Feb 25-27; thousands in West; first females Mar 9. BULLOCK'S ORIOLE: A young male Dec 8 at the feeder of Mrs. Mary Ordway, New Paltz (fide Heinz Meng.) Rusty Blackbird: 4 wintered at Stissing, Dutch; and another 4 at Poughkeepsie; Stissing birds left Mar 4; migrants arr Pleasant Valley Mar 7-10 (JD); numbers low thru end of period. Common Grackle: usual winter records; first mig Feb 18 Greenville (Iris Dean); numbers excellent from then to end of season. Cowbird: numbers usite low (if that seems possible); the only exception is a remarkable 1500 in the New Paltz area on BCC. Cardinal: MB reports numbers up in Sull; 162 on WCC beats prev record of 125 in 1966, only 79 in that count in 1969; normal thru rest of region. Evening Grosbeak: not a year for this species; 2 or slightly more on most Christmas Counts; most birders went for long periods of time without seeing any. Purple Finch: very few reports, far outnumbered by the following species. House Finch: reported on every Christmas count in region; WCC reports a tripling of the count from last year to a total of 64, first reported in 1965; RCC had 47. Pine Grosbeak: 4 Mar 7 at feeder in Hyde Park (AJ); 2 on MCC; and 2 on BMCC only other reports. Common Redpoll: 5 on WCC (AI); 2 Ian 9 East Park, Dutch (AI). Pine Siskin: 1 Dec 16-Jan 1 Vassar Coll, 1 WCC only other report. Goldfinch: down thru region; inc somewhat in Mar. Rufous-sided Towhee: usual few on Christmas Counts, several regularly thru period. Savannah Sparrow: 2 on WCC spent the winter. Vesper Sparrow: 7 on MCC; 4 WCC; none thru rest of period. Slate-colored Junco: numbers up over 1968-69; 519 on MCC was more than double 1969 count. Tree Sparrow: also more numerous, but not abundant. CHIPPING SPARROW: 1 Dec 17 Cornwall feeder (Al & Barbara Merritt). Field Sparrow: usual winter birds; numbers good in Dutch where 30 were reported from Dec-Feb; none there in Mar. Fox Sparrow: 1 thru Jan Amenia (W, TS); first mig Mar 3 at Wurtsboro; numbers normal thru Mar. Swamp Sparrow: 2 in Dutch; only 4 others reported. Song Sparrow: excellent numbers; 142 on WCC compared with 92 last year, they usually average 50; RCC had 210; MCC 72. Snow Bunting: 14 Dec 30 Rockland L; 35 Dec 23-29 Salt Point (CT); 9 MCC; and 12 Jan 5 at Wurtsboro.

Spring reports due no later than June 5. Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, N.Y. 10928

REGION 10 - MARINE

THOMAS M. DAVIS AND LEE MORGAN

Boston has had it for years. Buffalo was the first in this state, but finally a Rare Bird Alert telephone service has been initiated in the prolific New York City region. By dialing Area Code 516, then 485–2170, you will receive a two minute recording detailing current noteworthy observations from the area outlined in John Bull's "Birds of the New York Area." Birders wishing to report rarities should telephone details to one of the following people:

In New York City - Tom Davis (212) 847-0860; 6-7:30 PM, weekdays.

Nassau and Suffolk Counties – Mona Boch (516) 581-4630; 7 AM - 9 PM, every day.

Westchester, Putnam, and Rockland Counties — Bob Arbib (914) 698–0188; 6–10 PM, weekdays, and all day Saturday and Sunday.

Northern New Jersey - Richard Kane (201) 759-8262; 7-10 PM, every day.

CHRISTMAS COUNTS

For the first time, count data is presented separately from the main body of the winter report. The editors feel this will make year-to-year comparisons easier, but we have a further reason for such separation. The care taken to validate count sightings is lower than at other seasons. The competitive spirit, the "piling-on" to pad lists detracts much from the credibility of many rarities. We do not mean to imply that *all* rarities are "count-inspired" and therefore suspect, but merely that the informal competition lowers normal standards of acceptance. At any rate, as hsa so often been said, "Christmas Counts are fun."

Data from 7 local counts was made available for this report:

- 1. Brooklyn -12/26-80 spp.: Rarities included 6 Double-crested Cormorants, a Pigeon Hawk, and a Red-bellied Woodpecker. A count of 100,000 Herring Gulls is quite likely erroneous, as it exceeds their previous high by threefold.
- Bronx 12/27–107 spp.: Count highs included 1607 Canada Geese, 8 Ruddy Turnstones, 825 Mourning Doves and 62 Vesper Sparrows. Reported rarities were Lesser Black-backed Gull (see column for details), and an adult Broadwinged Hawk, that sounded more like a Red-shouldered from the sketchy description reported.
- 3. Captree 12/26–130 spp.: Still 1, with no outstanding rarities, numbers not available.
- Central Suffolk 12/26–120 spp.: Rarities included Snowy Egret, Pigeon Hawk, and Northern Waterthrush. High counts included 907 Mourning Doves, 234 House Finches (still spreading eastward on Long Island), and 52 Vesper Sparrows.
- 5. Montauk 1/2–127 spp.: Rarities included Eared Grebe (E. Mills), Pectoral Sandpiper (2 observers but no details) and a *Pheucticus* grosbeak (D. Ford). Highs included 25 Rough-legged Hawks (some duplication?), 30 Carolina Wrens (all on Gardiner's Island) and 121 House Finches (previous high 66).
- 6. Northern Nassau -12/27-109 spp.: Sole rarity a Snowy Egret. Count highs included 1114 Mourning Doves, 133 Mockingbirds, 1141 Robins (twice the previous high) and 636 House Finches.
- 7. Smithtown -12/27-94 spp.: No outstanding rarities or counts rather unpretentious, but honest-looking.

Rarities included in this report are Arctic Loon, Tufted Duck (2), Skua, Lesser Black-backed Gull (4), Ash-throated Flycatcher, Bell's Vireo and Brewer's Blackbird. Little Blue Heron and Willet were reported for the first time in midwinter. Glossy Ibis continues to arrive earlier each year, and an Oregon Junco set a new late date.

Observers frequently cited: PB-Paul Buckley; WF-Walter Friton; MH-Myrna Hemmerick; SH-Steve Hopkins; MK-Michel Kleinbaum; DP-Dennis Puleston; WR

-William Reeves; AW-Alvin Wollin.

LOONS-DUCKS: ARCTIC LOON: Jan 26 Pt Lookout (Kevin Malone) — "As it passed within fifty feet of where I was standing, I noticed the following field marks: the bill was noticeably straight and thin and the bird never held its head on a slightly upward angle as is typical of a Red-throated Loon. The head and the top part of the back of the neck was a dark slate-gray; also, this dark coloration appeared to extend farther down on the sides of the face to below the eye. The back of the neck appeared black, being conspicuously different than the head and back. The back of the bird was uniformly dark gray but was not in any way spotted like a Red-throated. Instead, it had a very noticeable light edging which gave it a scaled ecect." Extracted from a longer field note. It is difficult to put the stamp of approval on this species in winter plumage, but collecting suspected Arctics would likely prove their occasional occurence.

Little Blue Heron: 3 adults Dec 3 Tobay (AW) — extremely late; Jan 12 Jones (O. Dunning, A. Summers) — first midwinter record. Clossy Ibis: arr Mar 13 (6) at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge (H. Johnson) — earliest Regional record. Whistling Swan: pair wintered on Lower Carmen's River (DP et al); also wintered at Mill Neck (mob). Blue Goose: 1 wintered at Southaven with 6 Snow Geese (mob). European Teal: 3 drakes reported — Jan 9 into Mar Belmont Lake State Park (mob); Feb 11 Mill Neck (B. Spencer); Mar 28 Tobay (M. Boch). TUFTED DUCK: what may well be the same drake as last year returned to a small pond near Oakdale in Jan (R. Griffin et al), present to early Mar; also a drake was seen on the East River off Ward's Island from late Jan-Mar 14 (B. and W. Baumann, E. and L. Mills, D. Finch) — possibly the same drake that has frequented the Hudson River since 1966.

HAWKS-OWLS: Turkey Vulture: Dec 30 Glen Cove (R. Johansen); Feb 15 Pelham Bay Park (H. Honig) – early migrant. Golden Eagle: Feb 8 Islip (DP). Black-bellied Plover: 110 Dec 16 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge (WF) - late for such large numbers. Willet: Jan 30 Shinnecock Inlet (WR) - first midwinter record. Knot: 50 Nov 30 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge (WF); 15 Jan 31 Mecox (fide WR). Marbled Godwit. Nov 30 Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge (WF). SKUA: Nov 27 Pt O'Woods Fire Island (SH) - seen harrassing Herring Gulls close to shore the day of a big Gannet movement - observer previously familiar with this species. Iceland Gull: max 9 plus Feb 13 Central Park reservoir (E. Mills) — includes 2 adults and 2 "kumlieni." LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL: four reports — adult Dec 27-mid Jan Pelham Bay Park (PB, MK et al); sub-adult Jan 3 Jones (L. Morgan) - bill and legs noted; adult Jan 30 Jones (A. Lauro); adult Feb 3 Pt. Lookout (B. Spencer) -"sitting in parking lot, close range, with Great Black-backs." Black-headed Gull: adult Feb 15 Central Park reservoir (Mrs. E. Mills) - "first here in 2 years;" also reported from Montauk, Jones Inlet and Staten Island Ferry. Bonaparte's Gull: 2000 plus were present at Fire Island Inlet through the month of March (mob) - an adult Little Gull was also reported with this flock.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Western Kingbird: Dec 3 Jones (AW). ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER: Dec 5–7 Larchmont (Sidney Bahrt, Robert Arbib, Helene Tetrault, Nancy Ross) – photographed by S.B., copy on file at AMNH where confirmed by John Bull and Dr. Wesley Lanyon, first State record.

VIREOS—SPARROWS: Baltimore Oriole: 5 Long Island Jan-Mar feeder reports received BREWER'S BLACKBIRD: male Dec 30-jan 1 North Pelham (Dr. Alex-

andra Klo's) — "seen at feeder — purplish head, greenish cast to body, iris white." Dickcissel: Dec 20-Feb 27 Malverne (A. Brandebury). Pine Grosbeak: only report — 2 males Mar 28 Pt. O'Woods, Fire Island (SH). Oregon Junco: Apr 5 Setauket (MH) — "dark slate-gray hood, darker than Slate-colored's, sharply contrasting with dark brown back; sides pinkish brown," latest Regional record.

Addendum: accidentally deleted from January report—BELL'S VIREO: imm female Sep 26 Fire Island Light (D. Ford, PB et al)—collected for AMNH.

Note: Please have spring reports in by June 8. Thomas H. Davis, Jr. 8613 85th Street, Woodhaven, New York 11421 Lee Morgan 4 Windsor Lane, East Northport, New York 11731

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	Chernick, Miss Pauline, 69 High St., Monticello, N.Y. 12701	1065
	Church, Gerald, Main St., Eaton, N.Y. 13334	1065
	Cioffi, Ralph A., 25 Carpenter St., Glen Cove, N.Y. 11542	1066
	Clork Dowald E 179 West Circuit Plud Vermore NV 14017	1064
	Clark, Donald F., 178 West Girard Blvd., Kenmore, N.Y. 14217	1967
***	Clark, Mrs. Lynn, R.D. #2, Delhi, N.Y. 13753	1004
***	Cleaves, Howard H., 8 Maretzek Court, Staten Island, N.Y. 10309	1904
*	Clements, H. Everest, 35 Argyle St., Rochester, N.Y. 14607	1950
	Clinch, Frank A., 173 Haley St., Watertown, N.Y. 13601	1955
	Cohen, Richard, 133 Broome Ave., Atlantic Beach, N.Y. 11509	
	Comar, Mrs. Cyril, 8 Highland Pk., Ithaca, N.Y. 14850	1960
	Common, Dr. J. Robert, Andover, N.Y. 14806	1958
	Conklin, Mrs. Louis K., Valley Park, Owego N.Y. 13827	1971
	Connor, John F., Jr., 215 Gardiner Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14611	1970
	Connor, Paul F., 1506 Sunset Rd., Castleton, N.Y. 12033	1960
	Conolly, Mrs. Joseph B., Jr., 68 Wheatley Rd. Glen Head, N.Y. 11545	
	Corderman, Mrs. J. Warren, 3612 Pinecrest Rd., Vestal, N.Y. 13850	1964
	Creighton, Mrs. James A., 78 Union St., Hamburg, N.Y. 14075	1951
	Crumb, Mrs. Dorothy W., 3983 Gates Rd., Jamesville, N.Y. 13078	
	Cubberley, M., Andes, N.Y. 13731	
	Curtis, Mrs. C. Robert, Box 356, Hamilton, N.Y. 13346	
	Cypher, Miss Velma I., 16 Mohegan Rd., Ossining, N.Y. 10562	1060 1901
	Cypner, was veima 1., 10 Monegan Rd., Ossining, N.1. 10502	1900

Daniels, Mrs. R. A., 31 Howard St., Norwich, N.Y. 13815	
*Darrow, Harry N., 1470 Midland Ave., Bronxville, N.Y. 10708	
Dauvergne, Mrs. Leone, 64 Jerome St., Lindenhurst, N.Y. 11757	
Davis, Clair, R.D. #1, Maryland, N.Y. 12116	1971
Davis, Thomas H. Jr., 8613–85th St., Woodhaven, N.Y. 11421	1965
Dean, Mrs. James, R.D. 2, Port Jervis, N.Y. 12771	
Deed, Robert F., 50 Clinton Ave., Nyack, N.Y. 10960	1951
½***Dempsey, Stephen B., 533 Chestnut St., West Hempstead, N.Y. 11552	1966
**Desmond, Hon. Thomas C., 94 Broadway, Newburgh, N.Y. 12550	1951
	1957
Dignan, Adrian J., 98 Hillside Ave., Freeport, N.Y. 11520	
Dittrich, Dr. Frederick C., 20 Drumlins Terrace, Syracuse, N.Y. 13224 Dodge, Harold A., S-7428 Back Creek Rd., Hamburg, N.Y. 14075	1966
Doering, Herbert R., 900 Palmer Rd., Bronxville, N.Y. 10708	
Doherty, James, J., 689 Grand Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14609	
Dolan, Donald E., University Club, 26 Broadway, Rochester, N.Y. 14607.	1963
Dorfman, Mrs. Edwin, 2515 Stoney Point Rd., Grand Island, N.Y. 14072.	1970
Dove, Mrs. William C., P.O. Box 763, New Suffolk Ave.,	
Mattituck, N.Y. 11952	
Dowse, Mrs. Edmund, Jr., 25 Lochnavar Parkway, Pittsford, N.Y. 14534 Dubke, Kenneth H., 3302 Navajo Drive, Chattanooga, Tenn. 37411	
Dunning, Orville M., 22 Longridge Rd., Plandome, N.Y. 11030	1960
Dye, Mrs. John, 307 West Street Rd., West Chester, Pa. 19380	
Eaton, Dr. Stephen W., Biology Dept., St. Bonaventure University,	
St. Bonaventure, N.Y. 14778	1953
Elliott, Mrs. John J., 3994 Park Ave., Seaford, N.Y. 11783	1964
English, Mrs. William J., 35½ Lincoln Ave., Amsterdam, N.Y. 12010	1951
Erlenbach, Mrs. Paul, Erlen Acres, Ghent, N.Y. 12075	
Estoff, Mrs. W. D., 136 Remington Ave., Apt. J, Syracuse, N.Y. 13210 Evans, Mrs. Orry R., 7575 Forest Drive, Pulaski, N.Y. 13142	
Facklam, Miss Rose W., 30 Harwood Dr., Snyder, N.Y. 14226	
***Feldhusen, Miss Elizabeth A., 891 Union St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11215	1950
Felle, Mrs. Henry, R.D. 1, Griffith Rd., Phelps, N.Y. 14532	1959
File, Mrs. Frances, 252 West 9th St., Deer Park, N.Y. 11729	1968
Finch, Davis W., Knoll Creek Farm, Rte. 376,	
Hopewell Junction, N.Y. 12533	1970
Finlay, Mrs. Peter, 37 Sayles St., Alfred, N.Y. 14802	1968
**Fisk, Mrs. Bradley, P.O. Box 308, South Orleans, Mass. 02662	1952
Fitzgerald, Mrs. Gerald, 454 East Main St., Amsterdam, N.Y. 12010	
Foote, Foster F., Route 15, Box 15, Webster Crossing, N.Y. 14584	
Foster, John, 1768 Elm St., Lima, N.Y. 14485	
Franz, Raymond J., 1064 Boncliff Dr., Alden, N.Y. 14004	
Freeborn, Eric, 110 Shirley Drive, Syracuse, N.Y. 13207	1968
Freeman, Harold, 48-24 Glenwood St., Little Neck, N.Y. 11362	1966
Friton, Walter, 3065 Grand Concourse, Bronx, N.Y. 10468	1971
Fruson, George P., 2 Cleveland Ave., Glen Head, N.Y. 11545	1963
Fuller, Mrs. John L., 633 Harvard St., Vestal, N.Y. 13850	
Garland, Leonard J., 260–73 73rd Ave., Floral Park, N.Y. 11004	1951
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Gewecke, Mrs. Elizabeth, 3614 Princeton Dr. North, Wantagh, N.Y. 11793 Gilchrist, Earl H., Bloomington, N.Y. 12411 Gillespie, Mrs. Harold J., 4673 Vestal Parkway East, M.R. 98, Binghamton, N.Y. 13903 Ginter, Arthur, Box 344 R.D. #1, Mayfield, N.Y. 12117 Goebel, Herman, 78–52 80th St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11227 Goff, Dr. Milton R., 95 Landing Rd. North, Rochester, N.Y. 14625 Gokay, Aden L., Stony Kill Rd., Canaan, N.Y. 12029 Goldman, Harry, 41 Mohican St., Glens Falls, N.Y. 12801 Good, Earl M., 5 Seaman Neck Rd., Dix Hills, N.Y. 11746 Goossen, Catherine K., Newark Rd., Sodus, N.Y. 14551 Gordon, David C., 1347 Sherman St., Watertown, N.Y. 13601 †Grace, Mrs. Charles J., Wells Rd., RFD, Cheshire, Mass. 01225 Grattan, Dr. Paul, 60 Third St., Waterford, N.Y. 12188 Green, Charles H., 9 Barrington Park, Rochester, N.Y. 14607 Greenig, Robert M., 5167 Winterton Drive, Fayetteville, N.Y. 13066 **Greenman, Miss Nancie, 11 Campus Dr. East, Apt. 3, Buffalo, N.Y. 14226	1961 1969 1963 1970 1964 1970 1951 1950 1960 1963 1960 1970 1965 1948 1963 1964 1969 1958
***Grinnell, Lawrence I., 710 Triphammer Rd., Ithaca, N.Y. 14850 Groesbeck, W. M., 376 Seneca Rd., Hornell, N.Y. 14843 Grover, Victor E., 29 S. Hamilton St., Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12601 Grzybowski, Joseph F., 9 Redlein Drive, Lancaster, N.Y. 14086 Gustafson, Dr. John A., R.D. #1, Homer, N.Y. 13077 Guthrie, Prof. Frank K., P.O. Box 335, Keuka Park, N.Y. 14478	1954 1957 1955 1963 1971 1960 1954
Hallenbeck, Esly, 14 Washington Rd., Scotia, N.Y. 12302 Haller, Mrs. Jean, Meadowood, West Rush, N.Y. 14587 Hamer, Nannette, Lacona, N.Y. 13083 Hampson, Thomas M., 5 South Fitzhugh St., Rochester, N.Y. 14614 ***Hanson, Kenneth G., 106 South 5th Ave., Ilion, N.Y. 13357 Hartwell, Reginald W., 525 Averill Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14607 Harwood, Michael, P.O. Box 51, Washington, Conn. 06793	
Hawken, Elua H., R.D. 2, Echo Rd., Vestal, N.Y. 13850	1969
Hennessy, Wesley J., 3 Creiff Lane, New City, N.Y. 10956 Hevey, Lena A., 100 Murray St., Binghamton, N.Y. 13905 Hickox, Mrs. R. D., 15 South Hills Dr., New Hartford, N.Y. 13413 Hicks, Betty, 15 Schuyler Ave., Latham, N.Y. 12110 Hill, Miss Clara M., 168 C Kenville Rd., Buffalo, N.Y. 14215 Hiller, Miss Annabelle B., 57 Charles St., Jamestown, N.Y. 14701	1967 1955 1968 1961 1951 1951 1967
*Hirschbein, Miss Helen, 296 Cedarhurst Ave., Cedarhurst, N.Y. 11516	1962

Hiscock, L. Harris, 44 West Lake St., Skaneateles, N.Y. 13152	1955
*Hissel, Erich, 11 Vermilyea Ave., New York, N.Y. 10034	1970
Hoeffler, Miss Virginia, 75 Henry St., 26-F, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201	1966
	1965
Hopper, Dr. Marjorie R., 278 North Midland Ave., Nyack, N.Y. 10960	1951
Horowitz, Joseph L., 21 Old Pawson Rd., Branford, Conn. 06405	1964
Hosler, Stuart E. Jr., 3690 Woodland Dr., Baldwinsville, N.Y. 13027	1963
Hough, Fred, Accord, N.Y. 12404	1954
Watertown, N.Y. 13601	1959
Hughes, Robert C., Box 2471, Trenton, N.J. 08607	1969
Hull, Robert E., 254 Hedstrom Dr., Buffalo, N.Y. 14226	1969
**James, Francis T., 1938 North Hudson, Chicago, Ill. 60614	
**Johnson, Ewing C., 209 Lincoln Park Dr., Syracuse, N.Y. 13203	1963 1969
Johnson, Miss Marada L., 173 Park Ave., Watertown, N.Y. 13601	1970
Jones, Mrs. David H., Knolls Rd., Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12601	1964
****Jones, Robert H., 474 Rugby Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14619	1966
**Jordan, Miss Norma M., Greenwich Rd., R.F.D. 2, Box 468,	
Bedford, N.Y. 10506	1968
Jordon, Joseph A., 14 Sherbrooke Rd., Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583	1952
***Junkin, David, The Narrows Rd., Bedford Hills, N.Y. 10507	1964
Karl, Mrs. Wm. F., 24 Mill St., Cooperstown, N.Y. 13326	1971
Karp, Prof. James P., 460 So, Main St., No, Syracuse, N.Y. 13212	1970
Kaskan, Dr. Walter E., Dept. of Chemistry, Harpur College,	
Binghamton, N.Y. 13901	1958
Keeley, Mrs. Katherine, P.O. Box 146, Patchogue, N.Y. 11772	1966
Kellogg, Dr. Peter Paul, 115 Dearborn Pl., Ithaca, N.Y. 14850	1952
Kelsey, Paul, RD. #1, Dryden, N.Y. 13053	1960
Kemnitzer, Allen E., 969 Five Mile Line Rd., Webster, N.Y. 14580 Kerner, Jerome, Hastings Dr., Grahamsville, N.Y. 12740	1951 1964
Key, Mrs. James W., 52 Tree Tops Lane, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603	1963
Kibler, Dr. Lewis F., Box 540, R.D. #2, Jamestown, N.Y. 14701	1960
**Killip, Dr. Thomas, III, New York Hospital, 525 East 68th St.,	
New York N.Y. 10021	1953
***Kingsbury, Dr. Marguerite, Ray Brook Hospital, Ray Brook, N.Y. 12977	1959
Kinkhead, Eugene, Editorial Dept., The New Yorker Magazine, Inc.,	
25 West 43rd St., New York, N.Y. 10036	1970
Klabunde, Walter, 4923 Creek Rd., Lewiston, N.Y. 14092	1951
Klingensmith, Clarence, 89 N. Main St., Alfred, N.Y. 14802**Klonick, Allan S., 111Rowland Parkway, Rochester, N.Y. 14610	1965 1950
Knapp, Emery, Kiser Rd., R.D. 2, Horseheads, N.Y. 14845	1969
***Knight, T. Spencer, 1133 So. Main St., Newark, N.Y. 14513	1962
Krepp, Kenneth, 31–22 46th St., Long Island City, N.Y. 11103	1970
Krieg, David, 19 Grove St., New Paltz, N.Y. 12561	1963
Kwartowitz, Mrs. Seymour, 1366 New York Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11203	1969
Ladwig, Raymond E., 347 Electric Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14613	1964
LaFrance, Ferdinand, R.D. #2, Manlius, N.Y. 13104	1967
Lane, Arthur C., 26 Sapsucker Woods Rd., Ithaca, N.Y. 14850	1960
	1964
	1958
	1968
Lauro, Anthony J., 9 DeSoto Rd., Amityville, N.Y. 11701	1050
Lerch, Malcolm J., R.D. #5, Penn Yan, N.Y. 14527	1900

Leubner, Dr. Gerard W., 151 Upland Dr., Rochester, N.Y. 14617 ****Levine, Emanuel, 585 Mead Ter., South Hempstead, N.Y. 11550 Liebich, Mrs. Warner P., 16 N. Helderberg Pkwy.,	1951 1958
Slingerlands, N.Y. 12159 Linaberry, Mrs. Harold, 616 Sunset Dr., Endwell, N.Y. 13760 Linch, Miss Mary, Box 263, R.D. #2, Altamont, N.Y. 12009 Listman, Walter C., 68 Ontario Blvd., R.D. #2, Hilton, N.Y. 14468 Little, Dr. Ethel E., 217 Forest Home Dr., Ithaca, N.Y. 14850 Little, Randolph S., 1C 37 Bell Telephone Laboratories, 6200 East	1964 1957
Lloyd, Warren, 1756 Ridge Rd., Webster, N.Y. 14580	1969 1966 1952
Mack, Theodore D., P.O. Box 125, Paul Smiths, N.Y. 12970	1966 1956 1948
Michigan, 48104 Mallam, Whitney W., 974 Ridge Rd., Lewiston, N.Y. 14092 Malone, Kevin J., 22 Victoria Rd., North Babylon, N.Y. 11703 Manson, Mrs. Martin, Moore's Mills, Pleasant Valley, N.Y. 12569 *Marsi, Mrs. Frederick V., Friendsville Stage, Binghamton, N.Y. 13903 Maxwell, George R., II, Lake Shore Rd., R.D. #3, Oswego, N.Y. 13126 May, Mrs. Frederic W., 2812 North Kent Rd., Broomall, Pa. 19008 McBride, Asa D., 329 Rock Beach Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14617 McBride, Edward R., R.D. #3, Box 601, Monticello, N.Y. 12701 McChesney, Donald S., 207 Wynthrop Rd., Solvay, N.Y. 13209 McGroskery, Mrs. J. H., R.D. #2, Mud Lake Rd., Fulton, N.Y. 13069 McGregor, Mrs. Bruce C., Ellenburg Depot, N.Y. 12935	1963 1970 1966 1958 1967 1953 1964 1965 1958 1969 1954
***McIlroy, Mrs. Malcolm S., 419 Triphammer Rd., Ithaca, N.Y. 14850 McKeever, Christopher K., 63 Main St., East Hampton, N.Y. 11937 McKinney, Robert G., 198 Parkview Dr., Rochester, N.Y. 14625 *McLaughlin, Harold A., 31 Forbus St., Apt. C-1, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12601 McMullen, Mrs. Andrew, 8 Norwood Rd., Northport, N.Y. 11768 †**Meade, Dr. Gordon M., 27 Mill Valley Rd., Pittsford, N.Y. 14534 Melum, Mrs. Jerald H., Remsen's Lane, R.F.D. #1, Oyster Bay, N.Y. 11771	1967 1951 1965 1962 1948
Meng, Prof. Heinz, 10 Joalyn Rd., New Paltz, N.Y. 12561 **Merchant, Douglas, 118 Wheatland Center Rd., Clifton, N.Y. 14431 Meritt, James K., 809 Saratoga Ter., Whitman Square, Blackwood, N.J. 08012 Meyer, Frederick C., 609 Bishop St., Olean, N.Y. 14760 Meyer, Paul R., 160 Lee Ave., Yonkers, N.Y. 10705 Meyerricks, Dr. Andrew J., Dept. of Biological Sciences,	1971 1955 1954 1969
University of Southern Florida, Tampa, Fla. 33620 Mickle, Miss Mary D., 42 Centre St., Chatham, N.Y. 12037 Millevolte, Miss Rose E., 4 Oakleaf Court, Cold Spring Hills, Huntington, N.Y. 11743 Mills, Dudley H., 19 Pound Hollow Rd., Glen Head, N.Y. 11545 Mills, Mrs. Edward, 1391 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10029 **Minor, William F., 410 East Franklin St., Fayetteville, N.Y. 13066	1958 1967 1961 1968

Moessinger, William F., 99 Driscoll Ave., Rockville Center, N.Y. 11570	1953 1961 1966 1963 1950 1967 1964 1950 1956 1961 1950 1950 1951 1954
O'Hara, Richard T., 265 Carling Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14610	1963 1951 1967 1951
Palmer, Mrs. Katherine, Fillmore, N.Y. 14735	1968 1962 1963
***Palmer, Wayne N., 1351 Burrstone Rd., Utica, N.Y. 13502 *Paquette, Paul R., 173 Skinner Rd., Kenwood, Oneida, N.Y. 13421 Parker, James E., R.D. #1, Redwood, N.Y. 13679 Parkes, Dr. Kenneth C., Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213 Parks, Mrs. Irene, 10 Edna Dr., Syosset, N.Y. 11791 Parsons, Mrs. Lawrence, Box 177, Sandy Creek, N.Y. 13145 Patterson, James E., R.D. #1, Groton, N.Y. 13073 Peakall, Dr. David B., 257 Virgil Rd., R.D. #1, Dryden, N.Y. 1305 Peebles, Mrs. Manuel L., R.D. 1, Oneida, N.Y. 13421 Pembleton, Hugh F., Trescott St., Dix Hills, N.Y. 11746	1951 1953 1969 1951 1965 1961 1961 1961 1965 1965
Pettigrew, Rita, 16 Sage Rd., Waterford, N.Y. 12188	1968 1965
Peyser, Mrs. Kate, Old Sleepy Hollow Rd., Briarcliff Manor, N.Y. 10510	1962

Potter, Rev. James, West Lake Rd., Mayville, N.Y. 14757	3 L
Quayle, Mrs. Harry, 2554 East 22 St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11235	7
Rafferty, Daniel, 2411 Nebb Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10468	593122331712313391
***Rusk, Miss Margaret, 242 W. Calthrop Ave., Syracuse, N.Y. 13205 1955 Russ, Miss Nancy, 465 West 23rd St., Apt. 2-G, New York, N.Y. 10011 1966	
%***Sabin, Walton B., 652 Kenwood Ave., Slingerlands, N.Y. 12159 1958 Saltford, Herb, 6 West Winding, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12601 1962 Samson, Mrs. Charles, R.D. #2, Horseheads, N.Y. 14845 1966 Sawyer, Miss Dorothy M., R.D. #1, Unadilla, N.Y. 13849 1955 Schaffner, Art, 49 Northumberland Ave., Buffalo, N.Y. 14215 1951 Scheider, Dr. Francis G., 417 So. Main St., North Syracuse, N.Y. 13212 1954 ***Scher, Lillian, 105 Ashland Pl., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201 1962 Schlauch, Frederick C., 415 Clift St., Central Islip, N.Y. 11722 1969 Schulz, Robert L., 103–14 126th St., Richmond Hill, N.Y. 11419 1966 \$Scotland, Dr. Minnie B., 42 Continental Ave., Cohoes, N.Y. 12047 1948 \$Scott, R. Frederic, 115 Kennondale Lane, Richmond, Va. 23226 1966 \$Seeber, Edward L., Science Dept., State University College, 1300 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo, N.Y. 14222 1951 \$Seguin, Benton R., Parkwood Village, Apt. 28, R.D. #2, Mechanicsville, N.Y. 12118 1968 \$Sheffield, Robert, R.D. #5, Binghamton, N.Y. 13905 1954 \$Sheffield, Mrs. Robert, R.D. #5, Binghamton, N.Y. 13905 1955 \$Shepherd, Mrs. G. F. Jr., 101 Valley Rd., Ithaca, N.Y. 14850 1960 \$Simper, Francis J., 4382 Bussey Rd., Syracuse, N.Y. 13215 1970 <td>2651429686 1 8450015</td>	2651429686 1 8450015

Starr, Mrs. Élizabeth M., Marietta, N.Y. 13110 Stasch, Mrs. Harold, R.D. #2, Pine City, N.Y. 14871 "Stewart, Wm. R., 37 Coventry Rd., Crestview Heights,	1968
Smith, Marlin R., 515 Robertson Rd., Churchville, N.Y. 14428 *Snow, Isabel W., 46 Surrey Lane, Hempstead, N.Y. 11550 Spencer, Mrs. Barbara, 154 Dayton St., Sea Cliff, N.Y., 11579 Spencer, Mrs. Barbara, 154 Dayton St., Sea Cliff, N.Y., 11579 **Spofford, Dr. Sally Hoyt, Box 428, Etna, N.Y. 13062 **Spofford, Dr. Sally Hoyt, Box 428, Etna, N.Y. 13062 **Spofford, Dr. Walter R., Box 428, Etna, N.Y. 13062 **Spofford, Dr. Walter R., Box 428, Etna, N.Y. 13062 **Spofford, Dr. Walter R., Box 428, Etna, N.Y. 13062 **Spofford, Dr. Walter R., Box 428, Etna, N.Y. 13062 Spenkle, Robert L., 660 Penfield Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14625 **Starling, Alfred A. Jr., Marott Hotel, N. Meridian, Indianapolis, Ind. 46202 Starr, Mrs. Elizabeth M., Marietta, N.Y. 13110 Stasch, Mrs. Harold, R.D. #2, Pine City, N.Y. 14871 **Stewart, Wm. R., 37 Coventry Rd., Crestview Heights, Endicott, N.Y. 13760 Stone, Rudolph H., 171 Cabot St., Holyoke, Mass. 01040 Strath, Mrs. Betty J., Odessa, N.Y. 14869 Stratton, Mrs. Lewis H., Box 145 R.D. #2, Oxford, N.Y. 13830 Strauss, Mrs. William J., Home Farm, Amenia, N.Y. 12501 Street, Edward P. Jr., Pompey Hollow Rd., R.D. #2, Cazenovia, N.Y. 13035 **Stuart, Mrs. Lyman K. Sr., 501 W. Maple Ave., Newark, N.Y. 14513 Sturdevant, Carleton A., R.D. #1, Prattsburg, N.Y. 14873 **Sunderlin, Mrs. Mary Ann, 505 Bay Rd., Webster, N.Y. 14580 19 **Swanin, Miss Barbara, 330 Millbank Rd., Bryn Mawr, Pa. 19010 19 Swanson, Mrs. Kenneth, Box 62, Greenhurst, N.Y. 14761 19 Talpey, Mrs. William B., 3684 Clover St., Henrietta, N.Y. 14467 Tanghe, Dr. Leo J., 852 Stone Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14616 19 Tarler, Jr. Leo, J., 852 Stone Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14610 Tedow, Thomas E., 545 Macedon Center Rd., Fairport, N.Y. 144724 19 Taylor, Steve, 184 Dorchester Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14610 Tedow, Thomas E., 545 Macedon Center Rd., Fairport, N.Y. 144724 19 Thomas, Miss Ruth, Box 16, New Haven, N.Y. 10028 19 Thome, Catharine, 31 Wild Wing Park, Catskill, N.Y. 12414 Thorne, Catharine, 31 Wild Wing Park, Catskill, N.	1967
*Snyder, Robert, 8 Campus Pl., Baldwin, N.Y. 11510 19 Spencer, Mrs. Barbara, 154 Dayton St., Sea Cliff, N.Y., 11579 19 ***Spofford, Dr. Sally Hoyt, Box 428, Etna, N.Y. 13062 19 ***Spofford, Dr. Walter R., Box 428, Etna, N.Y. 13062 19 Sprenkle, Robert L., 690 Penfield Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14625 19 **Starling, Alfred A. Jr., Marott Hotel, N. Meridian, Indianapolis, Ind. 46202 19 Starr, Mrs. Elizabeth M., Marietta, N.Y. 13110 19 Stasch, Mrs. Harold, R.D. #2, Pine City, N.Y. 14871 19 **Stewart, Wm. R., 37 Coventry Rd., Crestview Heights, Endicott, N.Y. 13760 19 Stone, Rudolph H., 171 Cabot St., Holyoke, Mass. 01040 19 **Strath, Mrs. Betty J., Odessa, N.Y. 14869 19 Stratton, Mrs. Lewis H., Box 145 R.D. #2, Oxford, N.Y. 13830 19 Stratton, Mrs. Lewis H., Box 145 R.D. #2, Oxford, N.Y. 13830 19 Stratton, Mrs. Lewis H., Box 145 R.D. #2, Oxford, N.Y. 13830 19 Street, Edward P. Jr., Pompey Hollow Rd., R.D. #2, Cazenovia, N.Y. 13035 19 **Stuart, Mrs. Lyman K. Sr., 501 W. Maple Ave., Newark, N.Y. 14513 19 Sturdevant, Carleton A., R.D. #1, Prattsburg, N.Y. 14873 19 **Sundell, Robert A., 19 Chestnut St., Jamestown, N.Y. 14701 19 Sunderlin, Mrs. Mary Ann, 505 Bay Rd, Webster, N.Y. 14580 19 Suter, Dr. Chester M., Route 1, Box 174 Chatham, N.Y. 12007 19 Swanson, Mrs. Kenneth, Box 62, Greenhurst, N.Y. 14701 19 Swanson, Mrs. Kenneth, Box 62, Greenhurst, N.Y. 14701 19 Swanson, Mrs. Kenneth, Box 62, Greenhurst, N.Y. 14701 19 Swanson, Mrs. Kenneth, Box 62, Greenhurst, N.Y. 14460 19 Talpey, Mrs. William B., 3684 Clover St., Henrietta, N.Y. 11230 19 **Swanson, Mrs. Kenneth, Box 62, Greenhurst, N.Y. 14701 19 Talpey, Mrs. William B., 3684 Clover St., Henrietta, N.Y. 11460 19 Talpey, Mrs. William B., 3684 Clover St., Henrietta, N.Y. 11460 19 Talpor, Joseph Wm., 20 Parish Rd., Honeoye Falls, N.Y. 144724 19 Taylor, Joseph Wm., 20 Parish Rd., Honeoye Falls, N.Y. 144724 19 Taylor, Steve, 184 Dorchester Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14610 19 Tetlow, Thomas E., 545 Macedon Center Rd., Fairport, N.Y. 11450 19 Thomas, Miss Ruth, Box 16, New Haven, N.Y. 131	1962
Spencer, Mrs. Barbara, 154 Dayton St., Sea Cliff, N.Y., 11579 19 ***Spofford, Dr. Sally Hoyt, Box 428, Etna, N.Y. 13062 19 ***Spofford, Dr. Walter R., Box 428, Etna, N.Y. 13062 19 Sprenkle, Robert L., 690 Penfield Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14625 19 **Starling, Alfred A. Jr., Marott Hotel, N. Meridian, Indianapolis, Ind. 46202 19 Starr, Mrs. Elizabeth M., Marietta, N.Y. 13110 19 Stasch, Mrs. Harold, R.D. #2, Pine City, N.Y. 14871 19 **Stewart, Wrn. R., 37 Coventry Rd., Crestview Heights, Endicott, N.Y. 13760 19 Stone, Rudolph H., 171 Cabot St., Holyoke, Mass. 01040 19 **Stoner, Mrs. Dayton, 399 State St., Albany, N.Y. 12210 19 Stratton, Mrs. Lewis H., Box 145 R.D. #2, Oxford, N.Y. 13830 19 Strauss, Mrs. William J., Home Farm, Amenia, N.Y. 12501 19 Street, Edward P. Jr., Pompey Hollow Rd., R.D. #2, Cazenovia, N.Y. 13035 19 **Stuart, Mrs. Lyman K. Sr., 501 W. Maple Ave, Newark, N.Y. 14513 19 **Sunderlin, Mrs. Aletton A., R.D. #1, Prattsburg, N.Y. 14701 19 Sunderlin, Mrs. Mary Ann, 505 Bay Rd., Webster, N.Y. 14500 19 Sutliff, Richard J., 2206 Midland Ave., Syracuse, N.Y. 13035 19 *Swain, Miss Barbara, 330 Millbank Rd., Bryn Mawr, Pa. 19010 19 Swanson, Mrs. Kenneth, Box 62, Greenhurst, N.Y. 14742 19 Swayer, Miss Esther K., 1131 East 4th St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11230 19 Talpey, Mrs. William B., 3684 Clover St., Henrietta, N.Y. 14467 19 Tanghe, Dr. Leo J., 852 Stone Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14461 19 Tanghe, Dr. Leo, J., 852 Stone Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14461 19 Taylor, Joseph Wm., 20 Parish Rd., Honeoye Falls, N.Y. 14472 19 Taylor, Joseph Wm., 20 Parish Rd., Honeoye Falls, N.Y. 14474 19 Taylor, Joseph Wm., 20 Parish Rd., Honeoye Falls, N.Y. 14474 19 Thomas, Miss Ruth, Box 16, New Haven, N.Y. 1320 19 Thomas, Miss Ruth, Box 16, New Haven, N.Y. 13121 19 Thomas, Miss Ruth, Box 16, New Haven, N.Y. 13121 19 Thomas, Miss Ruth, Box 16, New Haven, N.Y. 13121 19 Thomas, Miss Ruth, Box 16, New Haven, N.Y. 13121 19 Thome, Catharine, 31 Wild Wing Park, Catskill, N.Y. 12414 19 Thorpe, Mrs. Robert B., 163 E. 81s St	1966
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Stuart, Mrs. Lyman K. Sr., 501 W. Maple Ave., Newark, N.Y. 14513 19 Sturdevant, Carleton A., R.D. #1, Prattsburg, N.Y. 14873 19 *Sundell, Robert A., 19 Chestnut St., Jamestown, N.Y. 14701 19 Sunderlin, Mrs. Mary Ann, 505 Bay Rd., Webster, N.Y. 14580 19 Suter, Dr. Chester M., Route 1, Box 174 Chatham, N.Y. 12037 19 Sutliff, Richard J., 2206 Midland Ave., Syracuse, N.Y. 13205 19 **Swain, Miss Barbara, 330 Millbank Rd., Bryn Mawr, Pa. 19010 19 Swanson, Mrs. Kenneth, Box 62, Greenhurst, N.Y. 14742 19 Swayer, Miss Esther K., 1131 East 4th St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11230 19 Talpey, Mrs. William B., 3684 Clover St., Henrietta, N.Y. 14467 19 Tanghe, Dr. Leo J., 852 Stone Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14616 19 Tate, Dr. James, Jr., Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Rd., Ithaca, N.Y. 14850 19 Taylor, John W., 428 Harbor Rd., Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. 11724 19 X***Taylor, Joseph Wm., 20 Parish Rd., Honeoye Falls, N.Y. 144724 19 Taylor, Steve, 184 Dorchester Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14610 190 Tetlow, Thomas E., 545 Macedon Center Rd., Fairport, N.Y. 14450 190 Tetrault, Helene, 20 Commerce St., New York, N.Y. 10014 190 Thomas, Michael J., The Gables, Silverdale, via Carnforth, Lancaster County, England 190 Thomas, Miss Ruth, Box 16, New Haven, N.Y. 13121 190 Thorne, Catharine, 31 Wild Wing Park, Catskill, N.Y. 12414 190 Thorpe, Mrs. Robert B., 163 E. 81st St., New York, N.Y. 10028 190 Thurber, Dr. Walter A., Marina Apts. #14, 101 Sycamore St., Liverpool, N.Y. 13088 190 Thurston, Henry, Claverack, N.Y. 12513 190 Toppings, Miss Anna, 412% Jackson Ave., Endicott, N.Y. 13760 190	-000
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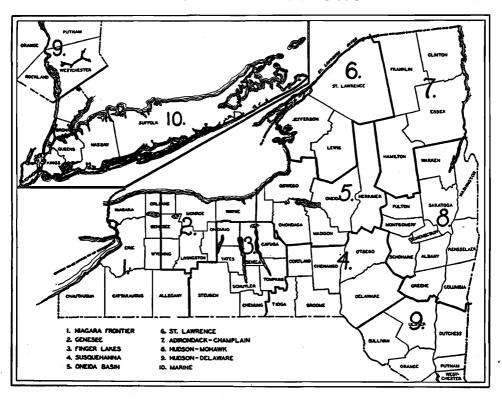
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