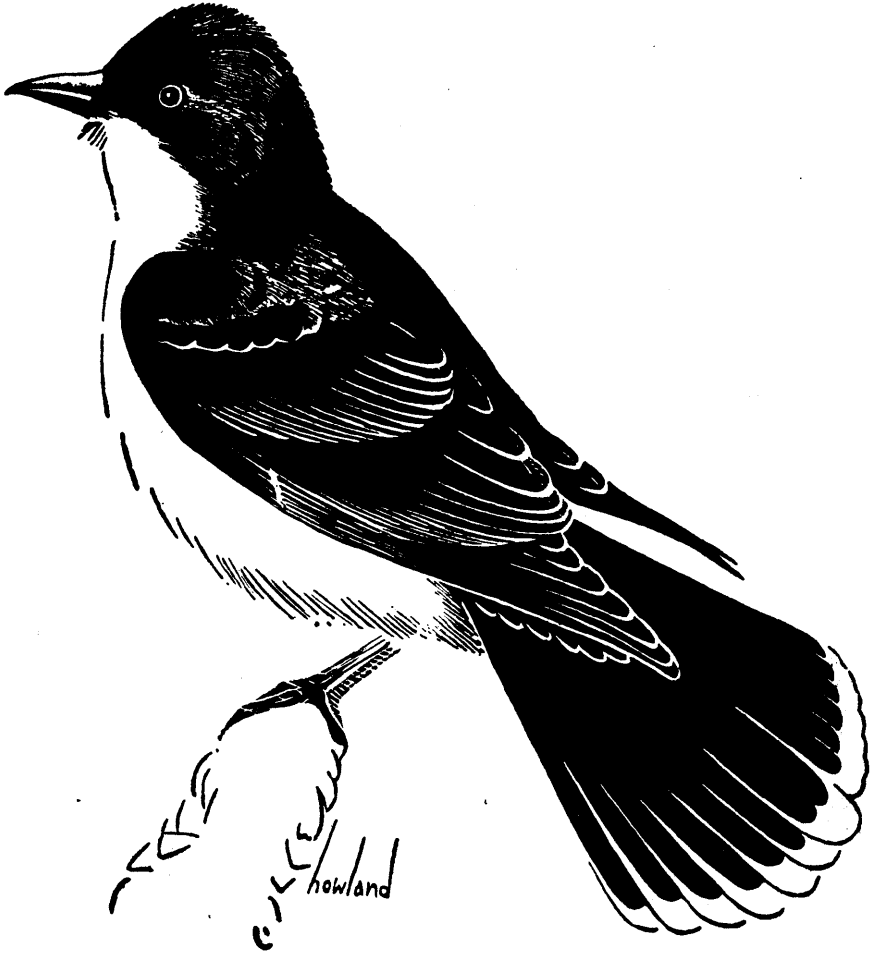


# *The* **KINGBIRD**



VOL. XXIV, NO. 1

JANUARY • 1974

FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS, INC.

**THE KINGBIRD**, published four times a year (January, May, July and October), is a publication of The Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, Inc., which has been organized to further the study of bird life and to disseminate knowledge thereof, to educate the public in the need of conserving natural resources and to encourage the establishment and maintenance of sanctuaries and protected areas. Individual member's dues are \$5.00 annually. A member wishing to make an additional contribution may become a Sustaining Member (\$7.50), a Supporting Member (\$10), or a Life Member (\$100 — "payable over a four-year period in equal installments," if member so desires). Student membership \$3.00. KINGBIRD subscription for non-members \$6.00 per year on calendar year basis only. Single copies: \$1.50 All memberships are for the calendar year and begin with January of the year in which the member joins. Memberships beginning after the first of the year include back issues for that year.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP should be sent to the chairman of the membership committee, Mrs. Myrna Hemmerick, P.O. Box 203, Setauket, N.Y. 11733. Send CHANGES OF ADDRESS to the Treasurer, Mr. Stephen B. Dempsey, 533 Chestnut St., West Hempstead, N.Y. 11552. Order SINGLE COPIES, BACK NUMBERS, and REPLACEMENT COPIES from Frederick C. Dittrich, 20 Drumlins Terrace, Syracuse, N.Y. 13224.

Publication office is 20 Drumlins Terrace, Syracuse, N.Y. 13224.

Second class postage paid at Syracuse, N.Y.



# The KINGBIRD

PUBLICATION OF THE FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS, INC.

Vol. XXIV No. 1

January, 1974

1-45

## CONTENTS

President's Page .....	Gordon M. Meade, M.D.	2
Waterbird Colonies of Long Island, New York		
I. Introduction .....	Michael Gochfeld	3
Birds and Our Environment .....	Edgar M. Reilly, Jr.	8
1974 Annual Meeting Notice .....		10
New Members .....		11
Field Notes		
Great Cormorant at Oswego Harbor, New York .....	Margaret S. Rusk	12
Black-necked Stilt at Town of Perinton, Monroe County, New York .....	Michael Tetlow	13
Additional Data on Razorbill Specimen .....	James Tate, Jr.	14
Swainson's Warbler in Central Park, New York, New York .....	Hugh McGuinness and Peter Polshak	14
Highlights of the Fall Season .....	Fritz Scheider	15
Regional Reports .....		17

*Editor* — JOSEPH W. TAYLOR

*Associate Editors*

*Field Notes* — SALLY HOYT SPOFFORD

*Regional Reports* — FRITZ SCHEIDER

*Assistant Editor* — DOUGLAS KIBBE

*Editorial Board*

ALLEN H. BENTON

EUGENE EISENMANN

STEPHEN W. EATON

DAVID B. PEAKALL

DOROTHY W. McILROY

FRITZ SCHEIDER

*Circulation Manager* — FREDERICK C. DITTRICH

*Cover Design* — DOUGLAS L. HOWLAND

## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Looking back over the more than twenty-five years since the boring days of the Federation in the late 1940's, I see that it has had a healthy growth and achieved a vital place in New York birding. Member clubs have tripled in number, individual members have increased many fold, the Kingbird has become an outstanding state ornithological publication, and the annual meetings have served to acquaint birders state-wide with each other and with the rich variety of the state avifauna and birding territory.

But as I come back into the Federation after almost twenty years out of its affairs, I sense a distressful feeling among some members that the Federation has come to rest on center, that it is not moving forward, that it does not meet its members needs — in short, that it needs revitalizing. I hear questions about the need for such an organization, about the usefulness and appeal of its activities, about what it might be doing that it is not.

As your new president, coming back to a responsibility I held in 1948-50, I find the expression of these queries, not a basis of pessimism but rather as a sign that its members value the Federation, that they want it to continue to prosper and grow, and to make a significant contribution to birding and birders in New York State.

With this in mind, I earnestly invite member clubs and individual members to convey to me their views on the questions of which I've spoken, and on what they conceive as the most appropriate and useful objectives and activities for the Federation. I look forward to hearing from many of you. And there is a real need for volunteers who will help in conducting our activities.

*Gordon M. Meade, M.D.*

# WATERBIRD COLONIES OF LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK

## I. — Introduction

MICHAEL GOCHFELD

Long Island has become increasingly a part of urban New York City, and as more and more commercial enterprises move from urban to suburban quarters, the urbanization of the remaining parts of the Island will continue at the present or even at an accelerated pace. It is perhaps remarkable that a number of species of waterbird continue to breed and even thrive on Long Island. A periodic review of the status and population changes of all avian, or for that matter of other vertebrate, species would be desirable. It is, however, now feasible to provide such information for the colonial birds, since these lend themselves readily to surveys. Once a colony is located the population can be estimated, and subsequent observations can be made in following years. Changes in populations of colonial birds are easier to detect than for solitary ones, although care must be taken not to confuse short-termed fluctuations with long-term trends. Moreover, colonial birds are in particular jeopardy since a relatively localized, small-scale project involving draining, ditching, clearing or construction, could eliminate a large number of birds.

There is considerable reason to voice concern over the status of waterbirds of New York. Common and Roseate Terns (*Sterna hirundo* and *S. dougalli*) have shown an increased incidence of certain developmental abnormalities in the past few years (Gochfeld 1971, Hays and Risebrough 1972). These abnormalities are apparently due to one or more environmental contaminants. The New York estuarine system receives industrial and residential effluent from probably 11 million people of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut, and Hays and Risebrough (1972) considered Long Island Sound among the most polluted salt water areas of the world. Use of insecticides in agricultural and residential areas, although recently reduced, has placed a long-lived burden of chlorinated hydrocarbon compounds on the various ecosystems of Long Island. Moreover, the New York metropolitan area is heavily industrial, and high concentrations of mercury and polychlorinated biphenyl compounds, and no doubt many other yet unidentified compounds, are present in local waters.

Chlorinated hydrocarbon compounds have been implicated in reproductive failure, particularly through egg-shell thinning, in a variety of raptorial and fish-eating species (Anderson et al 1969, Hickey 1968, Hickey and Anderson 1968, Blus et al. 1971, Ratcliffe 1970, Cooke 1973). In California, severe eggshell thinning has been associated recently with reproductive failure in Common Egrets *Egretta alba* (Faber et al.

1972) and despite generally increasing populations of egrets and some herons in the Ntw York area, it is important to pay close attention to the productivity of these species. The dramatic population explosion of Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*) and range extension of Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*), Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*), Little Blue Heron (*Florida caerulea*) and Louisiana Heron (*Hydranassa tricolor* (Post 1961), may tend to overshadow the marked decline in Black-crowned Night Herons (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) (see Allen 1937).

The reproductive success of Ospreys (*Pandion haliaetus*) has been a matter of considerable concern. The Gardiner's Island colony, formerly probably the largest in the world, declined from 300+ pairs to fewer than 40 (Finch 1970), a decline linked to pesticides by Ames (1966.) In recent years I have found thin-shelled and shell-less eggs in two Common Tern colonies, and the productivity of this species will have to be monitored carefully in the future.

In addition to the hazards posed by chemical contamination, the loss of suitable nesting grounds to various forms of human activities is proceeding rather rapidly on Long Island. Although many nesting grounds of terns, gulls, and herons, are now on reserves or park lands, and free from industrial or residential development, the recreational use of such lands is growing at an alarming rate. New parking lots and beach facilities, have eliminated tern colonies at Jones Beach and Fire Island, while picnics and beach parties have resulted in the failure of other colonies.

The current series of reports will document the present status and recent history of colonies of waterbirds on Long Island. Although much information has appeared irregularly in *The Kingbird* or in *Audubon Field Notes* and *American Birds*, the present reports will attempt to correct some inaccuracies and to demonstrate trends rather than emphasizing the yearly fluctuations. Hopefully such reports will encourage people to monitor the reproductive success of existing colonies and to be alert to new colonies. Although there is already abundant evidence demonstrating the need for environmental protection measures, there is adequate justification for continued monitoring. Not only is it crucial to recognize downward trends, but it is helpful to recognize upward trends, particularly when these follow the enforcement of conservation measures.

The main colonial species nesting on Long Island are the Gulls, Terns and Skimmers (Laridae, Rynchopidae), the Herons, Egrets and Ibis (Ardeidae, Threshkiornithidae) and the Osprey (Pandionidae). The Skimmer and several species of Herons have colonized or re-colonized Long Island in the past 30 years (e.g. Post 1961), and were mainly southern in their distribution. Terns were abundant breeders in the last century, but were nearly exterminated near the turn of the

century for the millinery trade. Their populations have recovered, and seem to be stable in the last decade. However, since Nisbet (1973) has shown that the Massachusetts colonies of Common Terns have declined markedly in the past 30 years, we cannot afford to be complacent about the future of Long Island terns. One Larid species, the Laughing Gull (*Larus atrisilla*) which nested on Long Island until 1890 (Bull 1964) has not been known to breed since, although it is a common migrant. Moreover, its New England breeding population is also declining (Nisbet 1971), and the species no longer nests on its traditional site, Muskeget Island (Finch 1972).

Two northerly species, the Herring Gull (*L. argentatus*) and more recently the Great Black-backed Gull (*L. marinus*) have colonized Long Island, and their populations are continuing to grow as part of what seems to be a world-wide population explosion involving several Gull species. The population expansion of Herring Gulls has been described in detail by Kadlec and Drury (1968). Gulls do prey on nestlings of other species (and on their own as well) (Hatch 1970, Bent 1921, Parsons 1971), but in my experience this is not a major problem on Long Island. They do, however, pre-empt the breeding grounds of terns and smaller gulls (Nisbet 1971). One species, the Least Tern (*Sterna albifrons*) seems to be declining rather rapidly on Long Island (Gochfeld 1973), as it has done elsewhere. One major colony was covered by a parking lot, but another significant factor seems to be interference by beach buggies. It is apparent that the populations of many of our colonial species are in a state of flux, and it is these changes that the present series of reports should document.

Since 1964 I have studied terns in colonies in the Jones Beach State Park area of Nassau County and adjacent Suffolk County. I have examined various aspects of the life history of several species, and in addition I have banded large numbers of young to study their survival rates and factors causing and influencing mortality (Gochfeld 1966, 1971, 1973, in press). More extensive work has been conducted by the Gull Island Committee of the Linnaean Society of New York on Great Gull Island off Orient Point, and much of this work has been discussed by Neilbrun (1970), Pessino (1970), Cooper et al 1970, and Hays (1970.) Many other field workers have conducted studies at other colonies: Ospreys (D. Puleston), herons and ibis (H. Hays, T. H. Davis), Common and Roseate Terns (H. Hays, M. LeCroy, J. Greenlaw, J. Grafton, R. Kremer), Herring and Great Black-backed Gulls (D. B. Ford), Least Terns (D. Duffy), and this is only a partial list of the most recent investigations. Perhaps the most extensive current studies of tern biology are being conducted by Dr. I.C.T. Nisbet in colonies in Massachusetts.

During my field work I have seen the rise and decline of a number

of colonies. Even within a single season there is considerable inter-colony movement of breeding terns, particularly after a first nesting attempt has been thwarted. Thus measuring the overall population of breeding terns, requires work at several colonies during a single season.

Hopefully other persons who have worked in waterbird colonies will be able to contribute similar reports to this series. These reports can be updated by annual accounts. Not only are our fish-eating birds closely depend on the preservation of the estuarine ecosystem, but most commercially-sought fish are either directly or remotely estuarine-dependent. Thus data contributing to the preservation of this ecosystem has far-reaching implications.

My first reports, which will start with the May, 1974, *Kingbird*, will concern colonies in the Jones Beach area.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many people have studied or banded colonial birds on Long Island and have kindly provided me at least a brief account of their experiences. I particularly wish to thank R. Arbib, P.A. Buckley, J. Bull, T. H. Davis, D. B. Ford, J. S. Greenlaw, F. Heath, R. Kremer, A. J. Lauro, M. LeCroy, E. Levene, and R. Wolk. R. Gochfeld, J. Grafton, and D. Ponsolle, were my most frequent field associates, while numerous biology students from Queens College, Flushing, New York, assisted in the field at one time or another.

*Division of Environmental Health Sciences, Columbia University School of Public Health, New York 10032, and Department of Ornithology, American Museum of Natural History, New York 10024.*

#### LITERATURE CITED

- Allen, R. P. 1937. Black-crowned Night Heron colonies on Long Island. Proc. Linn. Soc. New York 49:43-53.
- Ames, P. L. 1966. DDT residues in the eggs of the Osprey in the northeastern United States and their relation to nestling success. J. Appl. Ecology 3 (Suppl): 87-97.
- Anderson, D. W., J. J. Hickey, R. W. Risebrough, D. F. Hughes, and R. E. Christensens. 1969. Significance of chlorinated hydrocarbon residues to breeding pelicans and cormorants. Can. Field Nat. 83:91-112.
- Bent, A.C. 1921. Life histories of North American Gulls and Terns. U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 113.
- Blus, L. J., R. G. Heath, C. D. Gish, A. A. Belisle and R. M. Prouty. 1971. Eggshell thinning in the Brown Pelican: implication of DDE. BioScience 21:1213-1215.
- Bull, J. 1964. Birds of the New York Area. Harper & Row, New York.
- Cooke, A. S. 1973. Shell thinning in avian eggs by environmental pollutants. Environ. Pollution 4:85-152.
- Cooper, D., H. Hays and C. Pessino. 1970. Breeding of the Common and Roseate Terns on Great Gull Island. Proc. Linnaean Soc. New York 71:83-104.



- Faber, R.A., R. W. Risebrough and H. M. Pratt. 1972. Organochlorines and mercury in Common Egrets and Great Blue Herons. *Environ. Pollution* 3:111-122.
- Finch, D. W. 1970, 1972. Nesting Season – northeastern maritime region. *Audubon Field Notes* 24:659-665; *American Birds* 26:832-837.
- Gochfeld, M. 1966. Mortality among the Common Terns of the Short Beach, L. I. Colony. *Linnaean News-Letter* 19(9):1-3.
- Gochfeld, M. 1971. Premature featherloss – a “new disease” of Common Terns on Long Island, N.Y. *Kingbird* 21:206-211.
- Gochfeld, 1973. Effect of artefact pollution on the viability of seabird colonies on Long Island, New York. *Environ. Pollut.* 4:1-6.
- Gochfeld, M. in press. Incidence of developmental defects in Common Terns (*Sterna hirundo*) of western Long Island, New York.
- Hatch, J. 1970. Predation and piracy by gulls at a ternery in Maine. *Auk* 87:244-254.
- Hays, H. 1970. Great Gull Island report on nesting species 1967-1968. *Proc. Linnaean Society of New York*, 71:105-118.
- Hays, H. and R. W. Risebrough. 1972. Pollutant concentrations in abnormal young terns from Long Island Sound. *Auk* 89:19-35.
- Heilbrun, L. H. 1970. Great Gull Island, its history and biology. *Proc. Linnaean Society of New York*. 71:55-79.
- Hickey, J. J. (editor) 1968. Peregrine Falcon Populations. Their biology and decline. Univ. Wisconsin Press, Madison.
- Hickey, J. J. and D. W. Anderson. 1968. Chlorinated hydrocarbons and eggshell changes in raptorial and fish-eating birds. *Science* 162:271-274.
- Kadlec, J. A. and W. H. Drury jr. 1968. Structure of the New England Herring Gull population. *Ecology* 49:644-676.
- Nisbet, I.C.T. 1971. The Laughing Gull in the North East. *American Birds* 25:677-683.
- Nisbet, I. C. T. 1973. Terns in Massachusetts: Present numbers and historical changes. *Bird Banding* 44:27-55.
- Parsons, J. 1971. Cannibalism in Herring Gulls. *Brit. Birds* 64:528-537.
- Post, P. W. 1961 Range extensions of herons in the northeastern United States 73:390-393.
- Post, P. W. 1962. Glossy Ibis breeding in New York. *Auk* 79:120-121.
- Post, W., F. Enders and T. H. Davis. 1970. The breeding status of the Glossy Ibis in New York. *Kingbird* 20:3-6.
- Ratcliffe, D. A. 1970. Changes attributable to pesticides in egg breakage frequency and eggshell thickness in some British Birds. *J. Appl Ecology* 7:67-107.

## BIRDS AND OUR ENVIRONMENT

EDGAR M. REILLY, JR.

One might insist that there is only one environment and that it is the same for both birds and mankind. But this is only true as far as the basic requirements (air, water and land) are concerned. Actually every animal and plant species has its own special environmental requirements for survival. Man can destroy his own environment but as long as air, water and land exist he cannot destroy *the* environment; he might destroy all life in *the* environment but *it* will still survive — receptive to any form of life.

Unfortunately man has a tendency to either destroy some species in their environment or to destroy particular parts of other species' environment so that those species perish. Oddly enough, the exterminated species were more often valuable to man, rather than pests. All too often the pest species survive and multiply, as witness the Norway Rat and, to get to the birds, how about the House Sparrow and the Starling? Why does this happen so often? Why is it seemingly impossible for man to share the environment without destroying vital parts of the environments of certain birds? When a species dies (becomes extinct) hasn't man lost something from his own environment?

All these questions have definite answers; taking them in the order presented will make each ensuing question a little easier to answer — and to understand. The House Sparrow and the Starling are primary examples of what man considers pests; they are common, noisy, dirty (or seemingly so), live amongst people, eating items spilled or wasted by or stolen from man. They thrive despite many efforts to extirpate them in the United States. Both species were introduced to North America by well-intentioned, but biologically-ignorant, people. Had man known more about *all living* things and about the two species in particular, he would not have brought them here intentionally; and had they arrived accidentally they might not have spread so rapidly and abundantly. Why? Because in natural invasions the new species generally brings along its own natural enemies: diseases, parasites, predators (at least they follow quickly) and these enemies keep populations from exploding.

We should also understand what a pest species is. It is not just a plant or animal which annoys us or is poisonous to us; it is also able to survive in relatively close proximity to man and to take advantage of many things in man's particular environment. Both birds can stand the smog, dirt, and noise of our biggest cities. They even huddle during the winter months near chimneys and other warm parts of our buildings. They are great scavengers about our garbage cans. They are

wary of man but their quick movements to evade man are not nervous, ulcer-producing reactions to the hustle and bustle in our cities. One of the most man-annoying attributes they possess, is the ability to ignore or survive the control measures we have tried so far.

Why does this sort of thing happen so often? Well, we're not as smart as we think we are and errors of the past are often repeated because "we think we know how now" or else "it can't happen with this species." The role of the Great Auk, the dodos (there were more than one species of these), and the Passenger Pigeon, not to mention the Eskimo Curlew, has been that of common wild animal species useful to man at the table and now they are no more. A chicken farmer does not butcher each year because he knows the productivity of his flock. There were many signs that we were taking too big a harvest of the now extinct wild birds but perhaps man thought God would provide. God provided the proof that man had better watch the world in his temporal care a lot better. A recent TV show had a man telling the interviewer that "we've always killed whales here and eaten some of the meat. Why can't we continue to do this even if they are getting scarcer?" That man still knows too little and acts too selfishly is the only answer we can provide for the question.

Why can't we share the environment? We can if we want to make the effort. The Whooping Crane will probably soon become extinct — it was always a rare species and its environmental desires too concise. Any disturbance on its breeding or wintering grounds results in nervous flurries. Lone pairs nesting in remote regions were always at the mercy of predators. Yet man has shown he could help this species survive despite the natural handicaps. We could help maintain more of our attractive native birds in abundance if we protected our natural areas better. We could use attractive native trees, shrubs and plants about our rural and suburban homes instead of sometimes sterile, usually non-bird-food-producing exotic plants. In our area the Hemlock produces highly desirable food for Siskins, crossbills and other finches; so why Norway Spruce, Blue Spruce, etc. which these birds can seldom use? Beautiful gardens exist without excessive use of insecticides and part of the beauty of such gardens is the picture of nature at work. Birds are a big part of a beautiful garden — their songs from high in the maples or low in the shrubbery indicate the presence of insect-eating friends and not just a pretty song. We spray against all kinds of garden pests and hardly ever produce the perfect blemish-free flower — what we do with our sprays is to drive out our friends. One reason for the scarcity of the lovely Bluebird is that we demand "perfect" apples from the supermarkets. To get the more perfect apple the orchardist must spray at least fifteen times a year. If the Bluebirds

can survive the spraying, they soon succumb to the shortage of insects. And the orchards which once supported hundreds of Bluebirds have now become a mecca for Blackbirds, Starlings, Cowbirds and other "pest" species, attracted by the abundance of "perfect" fruit. We're caught in our own machinations; we *have* to spray our orchards because we've killed off the natural controls so that the unchecked orchard insects run rampant unless sprayed.

The fate of all species, like that of all individuals, is to eventually die. They may evolve into new species or, like the dinosaurs, simply disappear from the face of the earth. Theoretically man could manage his environment so that only the plants and animals directly useful to him survive; every living thing would have its exact role and place. Some agricultural experts have made such forecasts — even while admitting that they couldn't eliminate some of our most serious agricultural pests. Who would select those who were to remain? Would the beautiful orioles be eliminated because they ate some of our fruit? We might look at the present record and note that the population of many bird species are alarmingly low. They have yet to appear on the endangered species lists but the roster includes the House Wren, the Yellowthroat, the Redstart, the Hermit Thrush, the Baltimore Oriole, the Bluebird, the Red-tailed Hawk, the Spotted Sandpiper and others — all friends; all attractive; all part of our more pleasant scenes. Strangely missing, in fact becoming more abundant, are the Red-winged Blackbird, the Common Grackle, the Starling; all predominantly pests. When our friends have disappeared and only the "select" few remain will not man have lost something more than the material things: his soul?

*Old Chatham, New York 12136*

## 1974 ANNUAL MEETING

The Jamestown Audubon Society and the Lake Erie Bird Club will host the 27th Annual Meeting of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs on October 18-20, 1974. Headquarters for the meeting will be the Holiday Inn of Dunkirk-Fredonia.

In addition to the papers read at the annual meeting, it is planned to hold workshops on bird identification. If you have an idea for a group of birds which you would like to have included, or if you would like to lead such a workshop, or if you have any suggestion as to someone who might be especially well qualified to lead a workshop, please contact: Allen H. Benton, Department of Biology, State University College, Fredonia, New York 14063

## NEW MEMBERS

The Federation welcomes the following new members, individuals and clubs, who have joined during 1973. (Henceforth lists of new members will be published quarterly. Ed.)

- Adams, Samuel H., 14 Stormy View Rd., Ithaca, N.Y. 14850  
Audin, Mrs. Ruth, 50 Stanford Dr., Rochester, N.Y. 14610  
S Blauvelt, Lester, Cobb Rd., Lacona, N.Y. 13083  
R Brubaker, John, Seneca Lodge, Watkins Glen, N.Y. 14891  
\*\*Butler, Dr. Hugh H., 165 Shoreham Dr., Rochester, N.Y. 14618  
Carlson, Douglas Q., Box 142, Fredonia, N.Y. 14063  
Cassidy, Mr. E. J., 2428 Matthews Ave., Bronx, N.Y. 10467  
Chamberlaine, Lee B., Box 139, Henderson, N.Y. 13650  
S Champlin, Mark, 164 Brampton Rd., Syracuse, N.Y. 13205  
S Clark, Miss Luanne, 136-39 41st Ave., Flushing, N.Y. 11355  
Cooke, Warren, c/o Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy, 46th Floor, 1 Chase  
Manhattan Plaza, N.Y. 10015  
Davidson, Arthur, 33 Pardam Knoll, Miller Place, N.Y. 11764  
Drennan, Mrs. Matthew, 110 Bleecker St., N.Y. 10012  
Farrey, Declan W., 304 Ringold St., Peekskill, N.Y. 10566  
Finn, Dr. William F., 3 Aspen Gate, Manhasset, N.Y. 11030  
Freer, Valerie M., R.D. #1, Box 21G, Ellenville, N.Y. 12428  
Goldstein, Arthur, 76 Beach Rd., Great Neck, N.Y. 11023  
Hannisian, Mrs. Michael, 211 Franklin Rd., Denville, N. Jersey 07834  
Hills, Charles F., 3052 Burr St., Fairchild, Conn. 06430  
Hobart, Alexander C., 928 Goodrich St., Uniondale, N.Y. 11553  
R Holman, Mrs. James, R.D. #1, Cayuta, N.Y. 14824  
Horel, Mrs. James, 6881 Woodchuck Hill Rd., Fayetteville, N.Y. 13066  
Jones, Major Morgan V., III, Box 57, Seneca Army Depot, Romulus, N.Y. 14541  
Jorgensen, Sally, R.D. 1, Box 54, Blackbrook Rd., Seneca Falls, N.Y. 13148  
R Key, Mrs. James W., 52 Tree Tops Lane, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603  
Klattenberg, Marcia M., R.D. #3, Oswego, N.Y. 13126  
Lichtenstein, Mrs. Henry, 150-48 Ninth Ave., Whitestone, N.Y. 11357  
Lowe, Dana C., 190 Park Ave., Merrick, N.Y. 11566  
Maloney, Margaret, 424 Church St., North Syracuse, N.Y. 13212  
\* Mitchell, Dr. Charles W., 8 Broadway Rd., Plattsburgh, N.Y. 12901  
Molyneaux, Mrs. Erwin H., 551 Beahan Rd., Rochester, N.Y. 14624  
Murphy, Keith, 729 Erie Station Rd., West Henrietta, N.Y. 14586  
Neff, Mrs. Lillian, Box 7, Mountainville, N.Y. 10950  
S Nelson, Donald W., General Delivery, Monroe, N.Y. 10950  
O'Connor, Robert H., Owasco Terrace, Auburn, N.Y. 13021  
Parker, Haywood Jr., 52 Washington Rd., Pittsford, N.Y. 14534  
Peterson, John M. C., Box 300, Essex, N.Y. 12935  
R Riley, Thomas M., 4110 Bishop Hill Rd., Marcellus, N.Y. 13108  
Robertson, John A. 581 Lake Rr., Webster, N.Y. 14580  
Shields, Lillian, 49 West 32nd St., New York, N.Y. 10001  
Skelly, Mrs. Earl, 29 Midvale Terrace, Rochester, N.Y. 14619  
Slatkin, Carole, 2001 Sherman Ave., Evanston, Illinois 60201  
Stahlberg, Mrs. Barbara, Hinman Rd., Barneveld, N.Y. 13304  
Tkach, Miss Helen, 131 Joralemon St., Brooklyn N.Y. 11201  
Tripp, John H., Box 523, Circleville, N.Y. 10919

Valentine, Allen E., 75 Brooklea Dr., East Aurora, N.Y. 14052  
Ziminski, Stanley W., 225 Ontario Ave., Massapequa, N.Y. 11758

Goudy Wildlife Club, Newburgh Chapter, 267 Grand St., Newburgh, N.Y. 12550  
Moraine Audubon Society, Box 61, Farmingville, N.Y. 11738

	P Patron	F Founder	
*** Life Member	** Supporting Member	* Sustaining Member	
S Student Member	Others - Annual	R Re-installed Member	

## NORTH AMERICAN HAWK MIGRATION CONFERENCE

The North American Hawk Migration Conference will be held in Syracuse April 18-21, 1974. Much valuable research on hawk migration has been done by individuals and organizations over the past 40 years, but little work has been done so far to correlate these studies. The purpose of the Conference therefore is to gather under one roof hawk-watchers from all over eastern North America to exchange observations on hawk migration, to set standards on record keeping, and to agree on ways of sharing and collating information on a continuing basis.

The Onondaga Audubon Society will act as host for the Conference, and Dr. Pershing B. Hofslund of the University of Minnesota is acting as Program Chairman.

Anyone interested in attending the Conference or in receiving more information about it should get in touch with the host committee chairman, Dorothy W. Crumb, 3983 Gates Road North, Jamesville N.Y. 13078

## FIELD NOTES

**Great Cormorant at Oswego Harbor, New York:** Since May 1970 it has been known locally that the stationary buoys on the breakwaters in Oswego Harbor are favorite resting places of spring-migrant Double-crested Cormorants. Accordingly, on our "big run" May 19, 1973, when I arrived at the west harbor with Steve Grossman and R. D. Jenks, I immediately checked the buoys for this uncommon migrant, and noted that there were two cormorants perched on a distant one, off Fort Ontario in the east harbor. I had barely time to note, with 9X binoculars, that one cormorant seemed larger than the other, when the larger flew, giving a fleeting uncertain glimpse of an oval white patch on its flank. Tentatively dismissing this as a possible psycho-optical illusion, I postponed 'scope scrutiny of the remaining cormorant for closer range at Fort Ontario.

When we reached the Fort Ontario overlook, a cormorant was still or again on the buoy. Remembering the white flank patch impression (a feature I had never seen in life, as my experience with Great Cormorant had been with winter individuals on the Atlantic coast) I checked with 30X 'scope for a flank patch on *this* cormorant. Under a clear sky, looking north at approximately 1 P.M., about 0.75 mile away, I barely but distinctly discerned an oval white flank patch, confirming this to be an adult Great Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) in breeding plumage.

Shortly, C.G. Spies arrived and confirmed the identification. With other observers we watched the Great Cormorant until about 4:00 P.M. The flank patch became more visible as the bird changed position in preening, and was also seen when it

flew. Other fieldmarks noted were the light (not bright yellow) bill and throat, the all-black appearance of the plumage other than flank patches and throat, and the apparently large size (although there was no other bird in the near vicinity for direct comparison.)

A (or "the") Great Cormorant was seen at Oswego Harbor later in the day by F. C. Scheider and others, and on May 20 by Schieder and by Spies and myself. The intriguing possibility remains that my initial sighting was of two Great Cormorants.

May 19th was a day of diminishing NW wind, and the 20th one of rain on a SE wind. The evening of the 18th had been rainy, with strong wind off Lake Ontario.

Dayton Stoner in *Ornithology of the Oneida Lake Region* (1932) lists two nineteenth century Great Cormorant specimens from Oneida Lake, and W. Earl Godfrey in *The Birds of Canada* (1966) notes a nineteenth century Toronto record. I have found no twentieth century Great Lakes area records. Unfortunately no photos were obtained of the 1973 Oswego bird.

Margaret S. Rusk, 242 W. Calthrop Ave., Syracuse, N.Y. 13205

**Black-necked Stilt at Town of Perinton, Monroe County, New York:** On June 3, 1973 a Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) was observed at the corner of Wakeman Road and Rt 31F in the Town of Perinton, 3 miles east of the village of Fairport, Monroe County. It was standing on a small island in a farm pond of approximately 3/4 acres. The time was approximately 9:00 a.m. and light conditions were excellent.

Although this was a "life bird" for me, the shape and contrasting white and black pattern left no doubt as to its identity. The black of the back extended from the crown to the tip of the tail, including the wings, while the white extended from the forehead to the under tail coverts. The legs were very long and light red; the bill black and seemed slightly upturned. The light and distance were such that even the red iris was visible with 10X binoculars.

Some references state that the female has a brownish cast to the back. If this is the case, I would be inclined to call this bird a male.

The bird was observed by at least 20 persons including the farm manager who stated that it was also present on June 2.

Michael Tetlow, 545 Macedon Center Road, Fairport, New York 14450

Editor's note: This appears to be the first record for a Black-necked Stilt for western New York—Regions 1, 2, 3 and 5. While the photographs taken of it are readily recognizable, they are not of sufficient quality for publication. JWT.

**Additional data on the Razonbill specimen:** — Recently the body of the Razonbill (*Alca torda*) reported as the first inland specimen for New York (Cutright, N.J. 1973. Kingbird 23:138-140) was given to me. The body had been frozen since the skin was removed for mounting. Dissection revealed that the bird was a non-breeding male, with testes measuring 5 mm X 2 mm. The bright yellow mouth lining of an adult bird was present. However, characters of the bill and plumage indicate that the bird was in the first winter.

All internal organs were intact and free of gross lesions except that the lungs and lateral airsacs were blackened with the sporulating hyphae of *Aspergillus*. *Aspergillus*, a fungal disease of birds (and mammals) is caused by *Aspergillus fumigatus*, a near relative of black bread mold. This disease, reported from many

kinds of birds, affects water birds frequently. This slowly developing affliction would probably ultimately been responsible for the death of the Razonbill.

A partial skeleton has been prepared from the body and is deposited in my collection as JLT number 646.

James Tate, Jr. Department of Natural Resources, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, 14850

**Swainson's Warbler in Central Park, New York, New York:** On 11 May, 1973 a Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*) was found in the "Ramble" about fifty feet south of "Warbler Rock" in Central Park, New York Co., N.Y. at 7:30 a.m. It was discovered and positively identified by the authors.

It was initially found beneath a large bush where we studied it for about five minutes; it then disappeared. At about 12:00 noon Davis Finch rediscovered the bird in a nearby patch of Japanese Knotweed where the bird remained for the day.

We were able to study the bird at a distance of about ten feet feeding beneath the bush in a thick dead leaf ground covering. It foraged like a Towhee shuffling its feet and poking its bill among the leaves. One characteristic peculiar to this individual was that it trembled while it searched for food. This trembling is said to be diagnostic of this species by Brooke Meanly in his paper, the "Natural History of the Swainson's Warbler" (North American Fauna, No. 69, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, 1971)

During the day of the sighting about thirty-five people, including John Bull, Robert Arbib, Thomas Davis, and Roger Pasquier, saw this bird. The weather conditions preceding this discovery were extremely favorable. There had been seven days of north-easterly winds which had seriously hindered the migration. During the night of May 10-11 the winds shifted to the south and opened the bottle-neck. On May 11 there were, in Central Park, three or four Worm-Eating Warblers, two Hooded Warblers, and two Yellow-breasted Chats.

There are two previous records for Swainson's Warbler in New York State — one seen May 5 and 6, 1950, at Prospect Park, Kings County (Bull, 1964, *Birds of the New York Area*, Harper & Row) and one seen May 6, 1963, at the Bronx Botanical Gardens, Bronx County (Bull, 1970, *Supplement to Birds of the New York Area*, Proceedings of the Linnaean Society, of New York)

Many thanks to Tom Davis for his assistance in the preparation of this note.

Hugh McGuinness, 22 East 8 Street, N.Y., N.Y., 10003

Peter Polshek, 42 West 9 Street, N.Y., N.Y., 10011



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE FALL SEASON

Fritz Scheider

A warm dry, fall generated few flights, much increased shorebird habitat which was but lightly used, and an array of tardy migrants thru October. Snowstorms in certain sectors triggered the exodus of many late-staying birds (dabbling ducks, icterids, sparrows and November landbirding seemed uniformly thin (vide infra).

Numbers of loons and grebes seemed reduced in 2,3,4,5,6,9 but coastal counts were not available for comparison. They like the Canada Geese may have flown right over (marked decrease of Canada Goose numbers in 2,3,5 with definitely better numbers, but still as fly-overs, in 6,7,8,9). Brant staged only a modest flight upstate (2,5) and were unreported otherwise. Ducks have reached disastrously low numbers (2,3,5,7,8,9) with slightly better numbers reported in Region 6 — it seems to involve virtually all groups — dabblers, Aythya, scoters, mergansers' even the northern breeders such as Common Golden-eye, Bufflehead and Oldsquaw; the paucity of Wood Duck (3,5,7,8) is particularly striking.

Increased numbers of Goshawk (? an echo to the massive incursion of '72-'73) were noted but the scarcity of Cooper's and Sharp-shinned Hawks continues. Only Red-tailed Hawks seem to be holding up in numbers and the passage of other Buteos was minimally noted with one brilliant exception — the impressive hawk migration tallies in Region 9 (q.v.). Rough-legged Hawk were very scarce (2,3,4,7,9) and Snowy Owl even scarcer (2,3,5,8) indicating no major incursions of tundra raptors for this winter. Ring-necked Pheasant have declined tremendously because of 1) cessation of stocking programs by the state, 2) hunting, and 3) changes in local farming and land-use practices.

Shorebird variety seemed uniformly good but the numbers appeared much reduced particularly amongst the scarcer "peep" sandpipers, i.e. White-rumped, Baird's and Western Sandpipers. Large areas of available habitat in October and early November sported nothing but a few Dunlin and an occasional Killdeer. A jaeger flight on Lake Ontario (2,5) was sauce to an impressive array and variety of gulls there and on the St. Lawrence River but no "inland" occurrences of same were detected. The presence of November Glaucous and Iceland Gulls presages a good "white-winged" gull winter.

Large groups of migrating Common Nighthawk were reported (2,3,6,9); this is particularly strange in view of their decline as breeders in many areas of the state. Red-bellied Woodpecker are definitely spreading (3,5,9) with the upstate birds undoubtedly advancing from

the Genesee River and Seneca River lowlands and the Region 9 birds working north thru New Jersey.

Swallow numbers were decreased (2,3,4,5,6,8) and very early departures were the rule, this despite the better feeding conditions of the warm, dry fall. The paucity of winter landbirds, particularly chickadees, nuthatches, creepers, and to a lesser extent, Tree Sparrows and Dark-eyed Juncos, was mentioned by many observers and Red-breasted Nuthatches were particularly conspicuous by their absence, even in the Adirondack (5,6,7,8) sectors. Tufted Titmouse continue to expand (2,3, even into 7) but the really rising Southerner is the Carolina Wren with increasing reports from most sectors (2,3,4,5,7,8,9). Hermit Thrush numbers seemed high this fall (4,5,7) but most other thrushes were noted mainly as fly-overs and the Eastern Bluebird continued very scarce (3,5,9 with slightly better tallies in 4 and 7). Northern Shrike invaded (2,3,4,5,6,7,8) with numerous late October and early November records.

The warbler migration was fair to heavy (3,5,8,9), especially so in Tennessee, Cape May, Magnolia, and Bay-breasted Warblers but with reduced numbers of Yellow-rumped Warbler and American Redstart; numerous late warblers (2,4,5,8,9) attest to the mild fall but appropriate parallels (tardy shorebirds, flycatchers, swallows, vireos) to this were not evident. Above average flights of Scarlet Tanager and Rose-breasted Gdosbeak (4,5) were noted along with continued Cardinal (5,6) and House Finch (2,3,5,8) expansion, the latter less explosively than one would have thought considering the acres of suburbia it has to exploit. A fair flight of winter finches – Evening Grosbeak (2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9), Pine Siskin (2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9), Red Crossbill (2,3,4,5,6,7,8) with lesser numbers of Common Redpoll (2,5) – may brighten the birding doldrums of January, February, and March and enliven the finch sections of various Christmas Bird Counts.

Only one report (9) mentioned Monk Parakeet – perhaps the New York State extirpation program is working. If we could only eliminate snowmobiles as readily!

Seasonal rarities include White-fronted Goose (3), Whimbrel (5,6), Purple Sandpiper (2,5,6), Buff-breasted Sandpiper (9), Pomarine Jaeger (2,5), Black-legged Kittiwake (5,6), Acadian Flycatcher (4), Bohemian Waxwing (3), Prothonotary Warbler (2) and Summer Tanager (2).

No reports from 1 and 10 make the state-wide summary incomplete and difficult especially regarding waterfowl, gulls and western strays. Let's hear it from 1 and 10!

*417 South Main Street North Syracuse, New York 13212*

## REGION 2 — GENESEE

THOMAS E. TETLOW

The fluctuation of temperature in the Rochester area during the last half of August produced both near record highs and lows and ended with above average temperature. Rainfall was below normal. September and October followed the same pattern—above average temperature and below normal rainfall. November was the only exception with almost 4 inches of rain, one inch above normal. Temperature for November remained above average. For the first time in several years, Rochester had only a trace of snow during the recording period. Rainfall for the year totaled 25.5 inches—4 inches below the average.

The receding water level of Lake Ontario has again opened up many areas to shorebirds. Braddock's Bay is reported to be the best that it has been in many years.

Rarities Include: Red-necked Grebe, Cattle Egret, Peregrine Falcon, Purple sandpiper, Red Phalarope, Pomarine Jaeger, Little Gull, White-eyed Vireo, Prothonotary Warbler, Summer Tanager, Dickcissel, House Finch.

Abbreviations: BB—Braddock's Bay; DEP—Durand Eastman Park; HAM—Hamlin; HBP—Hamlin Beach State Park; IBO—Irondequoit Bay Outlet; WEB—Webster; WLS—West Lakeshore; WP—Webster Park.

Observers: AK—Allen Kemnitzer; EV—Edna Vollmer; GOS—Genessee Ornithological Society; GP—Glen Perrige III; JCL—Julie Claffey; J&JC—Jack and Joyce Connor; JS—Jean Skelly; MAS—Mary Ann Sunderlin; NP—Neil Prosser; RD—Robert Dobson; RO'H—Richard O'Hara; SO'H—Steve O'Hara; WL—Walt Listman; WLL—Warren Lloyd.

LOONS—DUCKS: No high counts of Common Loon reported; they were unreported until the second half of October; thereafter they could be seen at almost any overlook through the end of the period. Red-throated Loon: only one report, 16 Nov 18 WP (AK). *RED-NECKED GREBE*: 1 Oct 21 Hamlin (RD). Horned and Pied-billed Grebes present in average numbers. Double-crested Cormorant: 1 Sept 24 DEP (JCL); 1 Sept 30 BB (JS); 1 Nov 4 IBO (AK). *CATTLE EGRET*: 2 Aug 21 BB (RO'H); this was the last report of the birds that have been with us since mid-April; how long before they'll nest? The flight of Canada Geese passed through almost unnoticed; no large numbers were reported; a few small rafts were still being reported from Lake Ontario at the end of the period. Unlike last year, we did have a Brant flight this year, max 2000 Oct 29 BB (JCL&EV); there were several reports of considerably smaller numbers. Two Snow Geese were present in Mendon Ponds Park Nov 1-15 (GP&G Davis et al); and 2 Nov 11 BB (R&SO'H). There were no high counts on any of the local ducks, and with only a few exceptions, migrants were reported in small numbers. At least 3 veteran observers have mentioned that the diving ducks seem to be staying well offshore, possibly due to the effects of the high water on the lake bottom and in turn to its effect on the marine life. Shoveler: 8 Aug 23 WEB (WLL); a very good count for this time of year. Wood Ducks reported in very low numbers. Common Goldeneye: max 700 Nov 4 HBP (NP). Bufflehead: max 250 Nov 4 HBP (NP). White-winged Scoter was present in good numbers. Surf Scoter: max 200 Oct 29 WLS (JCL&EV); Black Scoter: max 1800 Oct 29 WLS (JCL&EV); a single raft of an estimated 750 birds was seen off DEP Nov 30 (GP). Ruddy Ducks and Hooded Merganser were both reported in low numbers; only 2 reports each; all single birds.

HAWKS—OWLS: Reports of Goshawks were numerous—20 for the period, 17 in Nov alone; most reports were from the WEB area where J. Czech carries

on his banding operations, but written and oral reports indicate that they are almost common throughout the region. There were 13 reports of Sharp-shinned Hawks; 5 in Nov; 4 in Oct; 3 in Sept; 1 in Aug; all but 2 of these from the lakeshore. Cooper's Hawk: 9 reports all from the lakeshore; 1 Nov; 3 Oct; 3 Sept; 2 Aug. Red-tailed Hawk: local birds seem to be doing very well; a small flight was observed over BB 26 when (WL) counted 127; this is a good count in our region for a fall flight. Rough-legged Hawk: 3 Nov 21 IBO (AK); 1 Nov 21 and 22 WEB (J Czech); these birds were apparently all migrants. *PEREGRINE FALCON*: 1 Oct 16 Pittsford (GP); 1 Oct 17 Carlton (WL); 1 Oct 22 DEP (P Dutcher). Reports from local hunters would indicate that the population of Ring-necked Pheasant has declined rapidly in our region since the end of the state stocking program. Although the quality of fall shorebirds was good, quality was poor considering the favorable habitat; among the more noteworthy records were Killdeer: 250 Aug 11 WLS (R&SO'H). American Golden Plover: 52 Nov 7 Lima (B Perrigo&EV); 1 Nov 22 BB (J&JC). Black-bellied Plovers were present in small numbers from mid-Aug thru the end of period. *PURPLE SANDPIPER*: 1 Oct 20 HBP (GOS); 3 Nov 5 BB (JCL&EV). White-rumped and Baird's Sandpiper were unreported. *RED PHALAROPE*: 1 Nov 3 & 4 WP (AK); 1 Nov 11 IBO (WLL&MAS); 1 Nov 25 88 (J&JC). Both Jaegers were reported in above normal numbers; *POMARINE JAEGER*: 1 Sept 6 Carlton (WL); 1 Oct 7 BB (WL); 2 Nov 15 HBP (GP); 1 Nov 17 IBO (AK). Parasitic Jaeger: 1 Nov 15 HBP (GP); 3 Nov 21 IBO (AK). White-winged Gulls were unreported and Great Black-backed Gulls are down in numbers as compared to last year, but not below their average. Bonaparte's Gulls were present in good numbers throughout Nov with counts of 200 common off IBO. *LITTLE GULL*: 1 Sept 16 Charlotte Beach (NP); 2 Sept 18 Charlotte Beach (K Doris et al); 1 Oct 4 WLS (WL); 1 Oct 8 WLS (JCU); 1-4 Nov 19-30 IBO (AK et al). Snowy Owl: only 1 report for the period; 1 Nov 17-18 BB (JC); unreported since.

**GOATSUCKERS—STARLINGS**: Common Nighthawk: a group of 32 migrants was seen over Rochester Aug 28 (JS). Among the Woodpeckers and Flycatchers, reports would indicate no drastic changes in population. Oct did not produce the large concentrations of Swallows that normally occur along the lakeshore. Tree Swallows were reported in the hundreds instead of in the thousands that are present in a normal year. Tufted Titmouse, along with the Carolina Wren, have both shown good population increases in the region; Titmouse reports are too numerous to list and 8 Carolina Wrens were reported in August. Short-billed Marsh Wren: only 1 report; a single bird at BB Sept 16-17 (B Molyneaux et al). Northern Shrike was first reported on Nov 5 when a single bird was seen in WEB (AK); and there were at least 4 present on the WLS Nov 18 (G Meade).

**VIREOS—WARBLERS**: At least 2 flights were noted; 1 occurring in the last week of Aug on 90-plus degree days and a spectacular nocturnal flight on Sept 24. *WHITE-EYED VIREO*: 1 Sept 12 WEB (D Spear et al); reported only twice before in fall. *PROTHONOTARY WARBLER*: 1 Sept 20 Greece (B Molyneaux & JS); rare in our region in the spring; first fall report. Yellow Warbler: 1 Nov 27 BB (M Magee & A Stear et al); previous late date was Oct 28. Orange-crowned Warbler: 1 Oct 7 DEP (RO'H).

**BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS**: Rusty Blackbird: present in large numbers in Sept; several reports in the hundreds. *SUMMER TANAGER*: female 1 Sept 21 WEB (WLL); all field marks noted; I believe this is our first fall record. *DICKCISSEL*: 1 Aug 24 WEB (D Skiff); previously reported from same location; 1 Sept 4 Fairport (B Olin). Evening Grosbeak: 1 Aug 7 WEB (J&T McNett); only report for Aug, but reported in small numbers Sept thru end of period.

Purple Finch: reported in good numbers. *HOUSE FINCH*: 1 Oct 3 Leroy (T Adamson); 1 Nov 10 Palmyra (W Hartranft); still no population explosion. No reports of Pine Grosbeak. Common Redpoll: 12 Nov 18 (G Meade); 20 Nov 23 WLS (R&SO'H). Pine Siskin and Red Crossbill have been reported in good numbers since mid-Oct, Siskin being the more common. Only 1 report of White-winged Crossbill: 1 Nov 18 BB (JC). Lapland Longspur: 1 Oct 23 HBP (K Doris & D Wilton); 1 Nov 11 HAM (R&SO'H). Snow Buntings were reported in fair numbers from areas west of Rochester, but there have been no inland reports.

545 Macedon Center Road, Fairport, New York 14450

## REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

W. E. BENNING

The period as a whole was warmer and drier than usual. Very hot weather in late August and continuing into early September was followed by a cold spell. At Ithaca the first freeze occurred on September 21, ten days to two weeks early, but in some parts of the Region even tender garden plants were not killed until late October. We experienced the mildest November with the least snow in several years. Stream flow was below normal and ponds and reservoirs below their normal levels at the end of the period.

Observers commented on the lack of migrating waterfowl. The absence of cold weather may have held them in the North later than usual.

Shorebird records were largely from Montezuma Refuge. The amount of suitable habitat there was much restricted and only small numbers of the more common species were present. Seldom is there a Fall season when several of the rarer species do not show up at Montezuma but such was not the case this Fall. Dunlin were a month late in arriving and very few in number.

The Carolina Wren appears to be on the upswing. Malcolm Lerch had a Connecticut Warbler among the 700 plus warblers he banded. The first authenticated nesting of the House Finch in Ithaca occurred this year.

At Elmira there were heavy migrations on the nights of September 23 and 24 but with relatively small kills at the TV tower. Much larger kills totaling 445 birds occurred on September 27 and 28.

Rarities included White-fronted Goose, Peregrine, King Rail, Bohemian Waxwing, White-eyed Vireo and Connecticut Warbler.

Abbreviations: Cay — Cayuga; Co — County; JP — Junius Ponds in northern Seneca County; L — Lake; MNWR — Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; SM — Savannah mucklands; SAD — Seneca Army Depot; Sen — Seneca; Schy — Schuyler; WD — Waterloo dump.

Area compilers and observers: WEB — W. E. Benning; JB — Jack Brubaker (Watkins); COS — Cornell ornithology seminars; FG — Frank Guthrie (Keuka); RG — Robert Gustafson (MNWR); WH — Wilfred Howell; MJ — Morgan Jones (SAD); RSJ — Richard and Sally Jorgensen; DM — Dorothy McIlroy (Ithaca); MRP — Montezuma Refuge personnel; JJS — James and Judy Stewart; BS — Betty Strath; JT — James Tate; JW — Jayson Walger; (Waterloo); JWS — Jack Weiss; MW — Mary Welles (Elmira).

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon; 13 Oct 30 Cay L. Horned Grebe: first Nov 12 (COS). Pied-billed Grebe: present at MNWR thruout period with 6 birds still incubating in mid-Aug; max 250 (MRP). Double-crested Cormorant: 2 Sep 1

Waneta L (JB). Great Blue Heron; few still present at MNWR at end of period; max 175 (MRP). Green Heron: max MNWR (MRP). Cattle Egret: Oct 30 and Nov 1 N of Watkins (Art Kopp fide JB). Great Egret: 1-3 MNWR thru Sep. Black-crowned Night Heron: max 65 MNWR (MRP); last report Nov 12 (COS). Least Bittern: max 20 MNWR (MRP). American Bittern: max 15 MNWR (MRP); last mid-Oct Schy Co (JB).

Whistling Swan; 15 about Nov 10 Cayuta L (BS). The MRP report the max goose numbers at MNWR as follows: Canada: 8,000 down from 12,000 in 1972; Snow (white morph) 25, (blue morph) 20. Max duck counts at MNWR as reported by MRP: Mallard 10,000; Black; 3,000; Gadwall: 800; Pintail: 300; Green-winged Teal: 4,000; Blue-winged Teal: 2,000; American Wigeon: 2,500; Shoveler: 300; Wood Duck: 600; Redhead: 15; Ring-necked: 30; 15; Hooded Merganser: 200; Common Merganser: 300.

Other waterfowl records: *WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE*: 1 Nov 5, 6 and 9 with Canadas at Sheldrake, Cay L (JT et al). Usual numbers of Mallards, Blacks and Green-winged Teal on the Barge Canal and ponds at Waterloo (JW). Wood Duck: scare in the Keuka L area (FG); down at Elmira (MW). Redhead: 20 Oct 30 MNWR (WEB); 2 Oct 23 Elmira (WH); 3 Sep 1 Sen L at Watkins Glen (BS); 1 Oct 11 JP (JJS). Canvasback: 62 Oct 30 MNWR (WEB) only report. Lesser Scaup: 1 Oct 10 Elmira (MW). Common Goldeneye: first on Sen L Nov 14 (JWs) with normal numbers thereafter. Black Scoter: 2 Nov 2 Sen L at Watkins Glen (JB). Hooded Merganser: 75 Nov 26 Waneta L (JB). Red-breasted Merganser: 8 Nov 2 Sen L at Watkins Glen (JB).

*HAWKS-OWLS*: Turkey Vulture: 2 Oct 19 JP (JJS). Goshawk: 1 Nov 14 Watkins Glen (JB). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 Texas Hollow Sanctuary; 1 Oct 19 JP (JJS). Red-tailed Hawk: "fewer" at Elmira; "best numbers in years" at Watkins; "down slightly" at SAD; "usual numbers" at Waterloo. Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 Aug 29 Connecticut Hill (JB); 1 Oct 17 JP (JJS). Broad-winged Hawk: reported Oct 22 and Nov 5 rather late (COS); several reports during migration from Schy Co. Rough-legged Hawk: 1 Oct 16 SAD (MJ); 1 Oct 28 Hawley (WH); 1 MNWR (MRP). Bald Eagle: 1 immature Sep 16 MNWR (WEB). Marsh Hawk: max 5 MNWR (MRP); reported from Schy Co. Elmira and at COS. Osprey: 1 during Oct in Keuka area; 1 Sep 18 Watkins Glen; 1-2 at MNWR until Sep 21. *PEREGRINE*: a dark-backed, strongly marked bird sighted 5 times Sep 15-22 on East Lake Road south of Geneva was apparently attracted by large numbers of feral Rock Doves (JWs). American Kestrel: good numbers thruout the area. Ring-necked Pheasant: reported in good numbers in the northern part of the region. *KING RAIL*: 1 Aug 19 MNWR (Vernon Dewey fide RG) no details. The MRP count of rails was Virginia Rail: 150; Sora: 40. Common Gallinule: max 80 MNWR (MRP); good number at Watkins Marsh. American Coot: max 1500 MNWR (MRP).

NOTE: Unless otherwise designated shorebird records are by WEB at MNWR. Semipalmated Plover: max 5 Aug 12-14; last Oct 12. Killdeer: 44 Aug 22 WD; max 110 MNWR (MRP); last 4 Nov 9. American Golden Plover: 15-20 in mid-Sep on plowed field near JP (JJS); 1 Aug 27 WD. Black-bellied Plover: first 2 Sep 9 WD; up to 8 MNWR; 2 Oct 23 Elmira (WH). Ruddy Turnstone: 1 Nov 22 SM only record. American Woodcock: JWs and MJ independently noted heavy migration along the east shore of Sen L on several evenings in late Sep and early Oct; last report Oct 29 (COS). Common Snipe: max 42 Oct 31 WD. Upland Sandpiper: 3 Sep Holding Point, Elmira (WH). Ruddy Turnstone: 1 Nov 22 WD. Spotted Sandpiper: last 2 Sep 11; 3 Aug 26 WD. Solitary Sandpiper: last dates 2 Sep 11 MNWR and 3 Aug 27 WD. Greater Yellowlegs: last dates

4 Nov 2 Sen L (JB); 1 Nov 4 Seneca Falls (RSJ); max 120 MNWR (MRP). Lesser Yellowlegs: max 67 Sep 15; 27 Aug 22; WD; 34 Sep 7 SM; last dates 2 Oct 30; 17 Oct 30 WD; 3 Oct 23 SM. Pectoral Sandpiper: max 60 Oct 12; 27 Aug 22 WD; 35 Sept 7 SM; last 2 Oct 30; 17 Oct 30 WD; 1 Nov 9 SM. Least Sandpiper: max 28 MNWR (MRP); last dates 2 Aug 26; 2 Aug 27 WD both very early; 3 Nov 9 SM. Dunlin: numbers, especially at MNWR, very low and late in arriving; first 1 Oct 12 and max 12 Oct 30; first 1 Sep 23 and max 85 Nov 9 SM. Short-billed Dowitcher: 1 Oct 18 SAD (MJ); max 31 MNWR (MRP); last 12 Oct 24. Long-billed Dowitcher: 1-3 Sep 9-15; 1 Oct 24 SM. Stilt Sandpiper: max 22 Sep 7; 6 Aug 27 WD. Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 200 Aug 18; 107 Sep 7 SM; last 77 Sep 23 SM. Wilson's Phalarope: max 4 Aug 26; last 1 Sep 20 WD. Northern Phalarope: 1 Nov 11 Sen L (MJ).

Great Black-backed Gull; 1 at Watkins on Sen L was the first there in several years (JB); 2 Oct 30 MNWR. Herring Gull: 50 MNWR (MRP); 200 regular at WD. Ring-billed Gull: 150 MNWR (MRP); up to 500 regular at WD. Caspian Tern: 2 Sep 1 Sen L (JB). Black Tern: 60 MNWR (MRP). Yellow-billed Cuckoo: reported Oct 22 (COS). Black-billed Cuckoo; reported Oct 1 (COS). Screech Owl: 1 Oct 20 Waterloo (JW); very abundant at SAD in late Sep and Oct with 5 calling at once (MJ). Great Horned Owl: reported thruout the Region. Short-eared Owl: 1 last week in Oct near Lansing (B Rhodes fide DM); 3 MNWR (MRP). Saw-whet Owl: 1 found dead at Art Kopp farm Schy Co (JB); Nov 5 (COS).

**GOATSUCKERS--STARLINGS:** Common Nighthawk: 200-300 migrating over Elmira 6 PM Aug 25 (WH); 1 Aug 24 Waterloo (JW); last reported Oct 1 (COS). Chimney Swift: "hundreds" over the Chemung River at Elmira Aug 25 (WH). Red-bellied Woodpecker: several new locations in the Ithaca area (DM) but missing at SAD after mid Sep. Red-headed Woodpecker: 2 reports from Schy Co (JB); 2 adults and 1 immature near Lansing Nov 2 (JT); immature last 2 weeks of Nov at Hannon feeder in Ithaca (DM). Eastern Kingbird: 1 Sep 20 WD (WEB). Eastern Phoebe: last report Oct 15 (COS). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher; 1 Oct 10 Penn Yan (FG). Eastern Wood Pewee: last Oct 6 MNWR. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 Aug 18 and 1 Sep 12 Penn Yan (FG) only reports. Horned Lark: generally scarce; 20 Oct 25 Elmira (WH). Tree Swallow: heavy migration noted Sep 30 and Oct 7 at MNWR; last Oct 21. Bank Swallow: last Sep 16 MNWR. Rough-winged Swallow: last report Oct 15 (COS). Barn Swallow: last 28 Sep 16 MNWR. Cliff Swallow: only report Oct 1 (COS). Purple Martin: last Aug 21 MNWR. At Penn Yan FG reported all swallows left early. Blue Jay: heavy migration Sep 28 SAD (MJ). Tufted Titmouse; numbers high locally at SAD (MJ). Red-breasted Nuthatch: scattered reports from all areas. Winter Wren: 1 Oct 12 JP (JJS); seen thruout Oct in Ithaca area. Carolina Wren: increases reported from Elmira and Ithaca; 1 in the editor's dooryard Oct 21 was a first. Long-billed Marsh Wren: 1 16 MNWR; last reported Oct 1 (COS). Mockingbird: 1 Sep 20 SAD (MJ).

Thrushes: JB reports a heavy influx of several species of thrushes along the Texas Hollow Road Sep 28. Last reports on thrushes at COS were as follows: Wood: Oct 15. Swainson's: Oct 15; Gray-cheeked: Oct 1. Veery: Oct 15. Hermit: 1 Nov 10 JP (JJS). Bluebird; at Penn Yan FG reports flocks of 20-25; at Elmira 10 were seen at Mt. Zoar (WH); 1 nestbox at Stasches Wildlife Sanctuary produced 3 broods but other boxes which produced birds last year were not used; few reports at Ithaca this Fall; 1 Nov 18 JP (JJS). Kinglets: good migration of both Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned. Water Pipit: very few at MNWR; flock of 100 south of Aurora seen mobbing and chasing Starlings. (DM). **BOHEMIAN WAXWING:** Nov 18 Cornell Campus (Tom Howe fide DM). Northern Shrike: 1 Oct 8 SAD (WEB); 1 Oct 15 (COS). Loggerhead Shrike: 1

Nov 11 in Norma Hood's yard on Prospect Hill Road, Elmira chasing birds at the feeder (MW) late date; 1 Aug 17 Cayuta L (JB).

VIREO-WARBLEDERS: Following are the vireos and warblers banded by Malcolm Lerch of Penn Yan.

Species	Total	First date	Last date
Solitary Vireo .....	2	Sep 21	Sep 29
Red-eyed Vireo .....	42	Sep 4	Sep 27
Philadelphia Vireo .....	15	Sep 4	Sep 28
Warbling Vireo .....	2	Sep 21	Sep 29
Black-and-white Warbler .....	5	Aug 2	Aug 5
Blue-winged Warbler .....	2	Aug 2	Aug 16
Tennessee Warbler .....	27	Aug 9	Oct 1
Nashville Warbler .....	31	Aug 31	Sep 29
Yellow Warbler .....	60	Aug 17	Sep 1
Magnolia Warbler .....	85	Aug 21	Sep 29
Cape May Warbler .....	20	Aug 17	Sep 12
Black-throated Blue Warbler .....	11	Aug 24	Sep 28
Yellow-rumped Warbler .....	29	Sep 28	Oct 31
Black-throated Green Warbler .....	23	Aug 29	Sep 29
Blackburnian Warbler .....	5	Aug 29	Sep 12
Chestnut-sided Warbler .....	11	Aug 21	Sep 27
Bay-breasted Warbler .....	61	Aug 24	Aug 24
Blackpoll Warbler .....	33	Sep 6	Oct 4
Western Palm 2 .....	2	Sep 28	Sep 28
Yellow Palm 2 .....	1	Sep 26	Sep 29
Ovenbird .....	44	Sep 26	Sep 28
Northern Waterthrush .....	3	Aug 26	Sep 10
Connecticut Warbler .....	1	Sep 10	Sep 10
Mourning Warbler .....	1	Sep 21	Sep 21
Common Yellowthroat .....	49	Sep 21	Sep 28
Wilson's Warbler .....	13	Aug 24	Sep 26
Canada Warbler .....	9	Aug 24	Sep 20
Redstart .....	12	Aug 24	Sep 27

Other vireo and warbler records: unless otherwise noted these are the latest dates on which the species was reported at the COS sessions. *WHITE-EYED VIREO*: 4 including immatures "evidently a family" Sep 11 Elmira (MW). Solitary Vireo: 1 Oct 21 MNWR (WEB). Red-eyed Vireo: Oct 1. Tennessee Warblers: Oct 1 and Nov 5; Orange-crowned Warblers: 1 Sep 9 in WH's yard Elmira; Nashville Warbler: 1 Oct 9 JP (JJS); Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian and Mourning Warblers: all Oct 1; Magnolia Warbler: Oct 22; Cape May Warbler: Sep 25; 1 Nov 14 Stewart Park, Ithaca in with Yellow-rumped Warblers (Mollie Briant et al); Bay-breasted Warbler: Oct 8; Pine Warbler: several Sep 1 Elmira migrating with Chipping Sparrows (WH); Palm Warbler: Oct 15; Common Yellowthroat: Oct 15; Wilson's Warbler: 1 Aug 31 Elmira (WH); 1 Aug 29 Waterloo (JW); Redstart: Oct 9 Ithaca (DM).

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: Fall plumaged birds present at WD thru Sep 9. The usual Fall flocking of "blackbirds" i.e. redwings, grackles, starlings and cowbirds was reported from various parts of the Region. Rusty Blackbird: first 6 Oct 12 MNWR and last 1 Nov 7. Scarlet Tanager: 2 Oct 22 Watkins Glen State Park (JB); 1 Oct 20 JP (JJS). Evening Grosbeak: began to appear in late Oct thruout the Region. House Finch: first Ithaca nesting; 2 nests on First St.; young seen; up to 11 birds visiting Pat Hannon's feeder on West Hill. Pine Siskin:



first reported Oct 15 (COS); Oct 23 Schy Co. (JB). Red Crossbill: first report Oct 29 (COS). White-winged Crossbill: Oct 23 Cornell Campus (Tom Howe fide DM.) Rufous-sided Towhee: 1 Oct 8 Sen Co. Savannah Sparrow: last Oct 12 MNWR. Grasshopper and Henslow's Sparrows: both decreasing in Penn Yan area (FG). Vesper Sparrow: last Oct 25 Elmira (WH). Dark-eyed Junco: good movement in Sen Co area. Tree Sparrow first report Oct 29 (COS). White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows: both appeared at MNWR Sep 30; generally good numbers. Fox Sparrows: first Oct 8 (COS); 2 Oct 19 JP (JJS). Lincoln's Sparrow: reported Oct 1 and 8 (COS); found in TV kills at Elmira. Swamp Sparrow: last Oct 30 MNWR. Snow Bunting: first Oct 28 MNWR Cayuga Bird Club; regular thereafter in small numbers.

RD 2 Clyde, N.Y. 14433

## REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

LESLIE E. BEMONT

Temperatures for the period averaged slightly above normal and precipitation slightly below. Notable temperature dips occurred Aug 22, Sep 8 and 21, Oct 17 and Nov 4 and 20 with the first freezing temperatures recorded Oct 31. The first appreciable snowfall came Nov 10 but the ground remained essentially bare to the end of the period.

The waterfowl and shorebird migrations were very lightly reported, either for lack of birds or lack of observers. Some of the irregular species for this Region, e.g. snow goose, brant and pectoral sandpiper, were, nevertheless, found. Among the raptors bald eagles outnumbered broad-winged hawks in reports received, a remarkable situation whatever the explanation. The small land bird migration was reasonably heavy with hermit and Swainson's thrushes, both kinglets, several Dendroica warblers and tanagers well represented in at least parts of the Region. Winter bird arrivals were pretty well restricted to evening grosbeaks and pine siskins, but they, at least, were in good numbers.

Rarities: Barn Owl, Acadian Flycatchers, White-eyed Vireo.

Abbreviations: Bing—Binghamton; EB—East Branch, in Delaware County; CC—Choconut Center; CF—Chenango Forks; NV—Newark Valley; SOFH—South Otselic Fish Hatchery; WP—Whitney Point.

Observers initials: C,JB—Cutler & Jeannette Baldwin; MB—Margaret Bowman; GC—Gail Corderman; MC—Mildred Clark; A,MD—Anna & Marilyn Davis; W,LD—Warren & Louise Dean; MD—Mary Dobinsky; EH—Elva Hawken; LH—Louise Hover; CH—Claude Howard; FL—Florence Linaberry; D, ML—Dwight & Margaret Lynch; HM—Harriet Marsi; R,RP—Robert & Rita Pantle; KS—Kay Sanford; MS—Mary Sheffield; DW—Don Weber; CW—Cora Wellman; R,SW—Routh & Sally White; KW—Kathryn Wilson; IW—Irene Wright.

LOONS—DUCKS Common Loon: 5 reports, all from Otsego and Delaware Counties, max 4 Oct 5 Pepaction Reservoir (MB), last Nov 23 Goodyear Lake (IW). Horned Grebe: Sep 25 Owego (C,JB), no others. Pied-billed Grebe: Sep 9 Owego (D,ML); Sep 30 WP (MS). Great Blue Heron: 19 reports; Nov 9 NV (W,LD), the last. Green Heron: 2 Sep 21 at Emmons, near Oneonta (MD), latest. Whistling Swan: Nov 24 Bing (Helen Carpenter). Canada Goose: migrants from Sep 16 to Oct 25, peak days Sep 30 and Oct 6. Brant: 40 Oct 22 near Oneonta (KS). Snow Goose: 9 Oct 31 flying over Ingraham Hill south of Bing (CH). Wood Duck: about 200 Oct 28 Candor (DW), the last report. Black Scoter: Oct 22 near Oneonta (KS). Common Merganser: 13 Aug 22 on Beaverkill (MB).

Red-breasted Merganser: a female from Aug thru Nov 7 at Candor (DW).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: 26 Oct 7 Cannonsville Reservoir (R,SW). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 3 reports, from NV and Owego. Cooper's Hawk: Sep 27 Owego (C,JB), the only report. Red-tailed Hawk: at least 30 reports. Red-shouldered Hawk: 3 Otsego County reports and 2 Tioga County reports. Broad-winged Hawk: Oct 6 NV (D,ML), the last of only 4 reports. Bald Eagle: 1 Aug 18 over Otsego Lake (Bob Darr); Aug 25 NV (LH); 2 Oct 5 Owego (C,JB); 1 Oct '11 Spencer Lake (Agnes Orbison); 1 Nov 1 Owego (Dewey Bendle). Marsh Hawk: 4 reports. Osprey: 10 reports, the last 1 Sep 30 WP (MS). Bobwhite: heard calling regularly during the last 2 weeks of Aug at NV (LH, W,LD, D,ML). Turkey: 30 Oct 29 west of Endicott (C,JB), the best count; 3 other Tioga County records. Virginia Rail: Sep 15 Ingraham Hill (CH), the only report all year. Semipalmated Plover: 1 Aug 26 SOFH (R,SW), the only report all year. Killdeer: 16 still at Candor Nov 11 (DW). American Woodcock; 6 early the morning of Sep 28 appeared to be newly arrived migrants (MB); a late report Nov 5 NV (D,ML). Common Snipe: 2 Aug 26 Sherburne (R,SW); Oct 6 CC just north of Johnson City (MS). Spotted Sandpiper: 1 Sep 18 Oneonta (IW), last date. Solitary Sandpiper: Aug 24 Milford area (MD). Greater Yellowlegs: Sep 16 WP (MS); 2 Nov 2 Sherburne (R,SW), the only reports. Lesser Yellowlegs: 1 Sep 8 SOFH (R,SW), the only report all year. Pectoral Sandpiper: 1 Aug 19 SOFH (R,SW). Least Sandpiper: 1 Aug 19 Sherburne (R,SW), the only fall report. Semipalmated Sandpiper: 11 Aug 19 COFH and 2 Aug 26 Sherburne (R,SW); no others. Herring Gull: more or less regular after Oct 23 around Bing. Ring-billed Gull: Sep 3 WP (MS); Oct 15, 17, 18 and Nov 4 NV (LH). Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 1 Sep 16 EB (MB), the last. Black-billed Cuckoo: Aug 31 CF (A,MD), the last. Barn Owl: Oct 23 Lounsbury, along Susquehanna River below Owego (R. Burton, HM). Screech Owl: the higher number of reports of the past couple of years continues. Great Horned Owl: reasonably common, as usual. Barred Owl: Nov 2 south of Bing (GC, Warren Corderman, Eugene Kirch). Saw-whet Owl: 1 Oct 22 Vestal (GC), banded.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Nighthawk: Sep 5 Owego (C,JB), last. Chimney Swift: Sep 11 Endwell (Les Bemont), last. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Sep 29 CF (A,MD). Common Flicker: a female Nov 11 Candor (DW), the only report after Oct 20. Pileated Woodpecker: 10 reports. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Oct 15 CF (A,MD). Great Crested Flycatcher: Sep 21 Emmons (MD), very late. Eastern Phoebe: 1 Nov 3 Colliersville area (MD, KW), the only report after Oct 16. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 7 banded from Aug 22 to Sep 27 Vestal, Bing and Candor (EH, GC, R,RP, HM); only 1 other report, Aug 30 CF (A,MD). Acadian Flycatcher: 1 Aug 25 Bing (HM) and 1 Aug 27 Candor (R,RP), both banded and measured carefully. Traill's Flycatcher: 5 banded Sep 9 Bing (HM), the last report. Least Flycatcher: Sep 28 Owego (C,JB). Wood Pewee: Sep NV (LH). Olive-sided Flycatcher: Aug 15 CC (Robert Sheffield, MS); 1 Aug 28 Delhi (MC). Tree Swallow: Sep 15 Milford (MD, CW, KW). Bank Swallow: Sep 1 Milford (CW, KW, MD). Barn Swallow: Sep 19 Emmons (MD). Cliff Swallow: Sep 15 Milford (MD, CW, KW). Purple Martin: Aug 21 Owego (D,ML). Tufted Titmouse: 1 Oct 24 DeLancey, near Delhi (MC); also continuing reports from CF, Vestal, Oneonta, Owego and Endwell. Red-breasted Nuthatch: the usual small numbers. House Wren: last date Oct 6 at CC (MS) and Milford (MD, KW). Winter Wren: 1 Sep 19 Bing (HM), banded; Oct 21 Candor (DW); 10 intervening records. Carolina Wren: bird at EB still present Oct 16; 2 at CF Nov 23 (A,MD); Nov 27 near Vestal (Helen Hubbard); also reported from Owego. Mockingbird: Sep 29 and regularly to the end of the period Owego (C,JB, R. Bennett); Oct 25 and daily Oneonta (E. & F. Vermilya); Oct 30 Oneonta (IW);

singing most of Oct at Endwell (FL); I banded Oct 8 Vestal (GC). Gray Catbird: Oct 19 Owego (C,JB), the only report after Oct 10. Brown Thrasher: 1 banded Oct 11 Vestal (GC), the only report after Sep 30. Robin: moderate sized flocks until about Nov. 3, small numbers to at least Nov 25. Wood Thrush: Oct 4 CF (A,MD). Hermit Thrush: 1 Sep 14 EB (MB); 45 banded at Bing and Vestal from Sep 30 to Oct 22 (HM, EH, GC); several other reports. Swainson's Thrush: 1 Aug 28 Vestal (GC); heard migrating seemingly all night from Aug 23 to Aug 28 CC (MS); 1 Oct 31 Vestal (GC), last date; 19 banded in Bing and Vestal. Grey-cheeked Thrush: 1 Sep 15 EB (MB); 4 banding reports, the last Oct 9 Vestal (EH). Veery: 1 banded Sep 16 Vestal (EH), the later of only 2 Sep records. Eastern Bluebird. "more than usual, this fall—10 in all" at Norwich (R,SW); Nov 20 Candor (R,RP), the only report after Oct 13. Blue-grey Gnatcatcher: Sep 29 Owego (C,JB), unusual in fall. Golden-crowned Kinglet: 1 banded Sep 26 Candor (R,RP), the first date; unusually numerous from then until the end of the period. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Sep 15 EB (MB), first date; common all during Oct; Nov 10 Oneonta (IW), last date.

VIREOS—WARBLERS. White-eyed Vireo: Sep 9 NV (LH), "yellowish goggles, light underparts". Yellow-throated Vireo: Sep 20 NV (LH). Solitary Vireo: 2 banded Oct 10 Bing (HM) were the last reported. Red-eyed Vireo: 17 Sep 7 EB (MB), the highest count; 51 banded at Bing, Vestal and Candor (HM, GC, EH, R,RP) thru Oct 9, the last date. Philadelphia Vireo: 1 Sep 27 and 1 Oct 22, both banded, Bing (HM). Warbling Vireo: Sep 18 NV (LH). Black-and-white Warbler: 2 Sep 26 EB (MB). Golden-winged Warbler: Aug 31 CF (A,MD). Brewster's Warbler: 1 banded Aug 31 Bing (HM). Blue-winged Warbler: Aug 24 CF (A,MD) 1 banded Sep 9 Bing (HM). Tennessee Warbler: 3 Aug 22 EB (MB) the first and 9 Sep 15 at the same place were the highest count; 3 banded Oct 10 Bing (HM), the last date; quite numerous reports. Nashville Warbler: 1 banded Oct 9 Vestal (GC), the last. Parula Warbler: 1 Bing (HM), first; 1 Sep 27 EB (MB). last; 6 others reported. Yellow Warbler: Sep 8 NV (LH). Magnolia Warbler: 25 banded by Oct 10 (HM, GC, EH, R,RP), the last date; other reports fairly numerous. Cape May Warbler: 1 Aug 30 EB (MB); 1 Oct 4 Vestal (GC); 24 intervening reports, an unusually high number. Black-throated Blue Warbler: 1 Oct 16 EB (MB), the last of 13 reported, 11 before Sep 29. Yellow-rumped Warbler: seemed scarce at EB; elsewhere present from Aug 23 Oneonta (IW) to Nov 6 Owego (C,JB); particularly numerous from Sep 29 thru Oct, when 88 banded at Bing and Vestal. Black-throated Green Warbler: 2 banded Oct 9 Vestal (GC), the last; quite numerous from Sep 9 to 29, with peak numbers Sep 16. Blackburnian Warbler: Sep 29 Portlandville (MD. CW, KW). Chestnut-sided Warbler: 2 Nov 3 Colliersville area (MD, KW), extremely late and only report after Oct 6. Bay-breasted Warbler: 1 banded Oct 5 Vestal (GC), the only report after Sep 27. Blackpoll Warbler: 24 banded from Sep 2 to Oct 10 at Bing, Vestal and Candor (HM, GC, EH, R,RP); only 2 other reports. Pine Warbler: 1 banded Sep 5 Bing (HM) and 1 seen Oct 1 Oneonta (IW); no others. Prairie Warbler: 3 banded Sep 3 Vestal Center (EH). Palm Warbler: Sep 15 Milford area (MD, CW, KW); 1 banded Oct 25 Vestal (EH), the last; 3 others banded. Ovenbird: 1 banded Oct 8 Vestal (GC), the only report after Sep 30. Northern Waterthrush: 1 banded Sep 29 Vestal (EH), the last; the only other reports from EB (MB). Louisiana Waterthrush: Aug 28 to 31 NV (LH, et. al.), the only report. Mourning Warbler: 1 Sep 16 EB (MB); 1 banded Sep 17 and another Sep 25 Bing (HM). Common Yellowthroat: common all thru Sep; 4 Oct reports, the last report of 4 birds Oct 24 Delhi (MC). Wilson's Warbler: 1 banded Aug 21 Bing (HM), first date; 3 Sep 26 EB (MB), last date; 17 more reported 13 of them banded. Canada Warbler: 1 banded Oct 9 Vestal (EH); the only report after Sep 17. American Redstart: 1 Sep 27 EB (MB), last.

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: 39 counted at Berkshire Aug 29 (D,ML); 200-300 in 2 adjacent cornfields Milford Sep 1 (CW, KW, MD); Sep 8 Berkshire (D,ML), last date. Eastern Meadowlark: 2 Nov 30 Candor (R,RP), the only report after Oct 23; seemed scarce. Northern Oriole: Sep 19 Emmons (MD). Rusty Blackbird: Aug 20 Oneonta (IW); Nov 3 CC (MS) and Oneonta (IW); 5 intervening reports. Scarlet Tanager: 1 banded Oct 2 Vestal (EH), the last report and 1 of 26 banded at Bing and Vestal from Sep 16 (EH, HM, GC); other reports numerous all thru Sep. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 18 Sep 13, best count, and 1 Oct 4, last record, EB (MB). Indigo Bunting: 3 banded Oct 7 Bing (HM), the only report after Sep 26; none too common. Evening Grosbeak: 28 Oct 27 Oneonta (IW) then reported regularly in almost all parts of the Region for the rest of the period. Purple Finch: present in most of Region all period in moderate numbers; 60 banded in Bing and Vestal (HM, GC, EH). House Finch: 10 banded Vestal Aug (GC) and present there thru Oct; in Oct "many" regularly Endwell (FL). Pine Siskin: 2 banded Candor in mid Jul (R,RP), 1 with brood patch; 5 banded Oct 6 Vestal (GC), the first fall record; 13 more reports scattered thru Oct and Nov. American Goldfinch: regular all period, but in large numbers. Red Crossbill: Nov 7 Candor (DW). Rufous-sided Twohee: Oct 21 last date, 3 localities. Savannah Sparrow: 1 banded Oct 9 Vestal (EH). Vesper Sparrow: Oct 10 NV (D,ML). Dark-eyed Junco: large numbers from Oct 9 to Nov 14; at Endwell "largest flocks I have ever seen, feeding briefly in backyard" Oct (FL). Tree Sparrow: 2 Oct 28 Delhi (MC) and same date Owego. Chipping Sparrow: still at Delhi Nov 24 (MC); latest elsewhere Oct 20. Field Sparrow: Nov 3 Colliersville (MD, KW). White-crowned Sparrow: Sep 22 Vestal (EH) and 1 still there Nov 30; elsewhere, except Nov 14 Delhi (MC), gone after Oct 26. White-throated Sparrow: in numbers Sep 29 to Nov 11; 187 banded Bing And Vestal. Fox Sparrow: Oct 28 CC (MS); Nov 14 Candor (R,RP); 3 intervening reports. Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 Sep 6 EB (BM); Oct 14 CC (MS); 5 intervening reports.

710 University Ave., Endwell, N.Y., 13760

## REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

FRITZ G. SCHEIDER

Late August, September, and early October had warmer weather—less rain than usual, few sharp cold fronts, and only occasional migrant waves (see warblers). The expected thrush-kinglet-late warbler-sparrow flights of the first half of October never materialized as few rapid, massive cold fronts passed thru in that period. From mid-October to early November severe northwest windstorms made for exciting waterbird watching along Lake Ontario but late October landbirding was dull and became even more so after a slippery snowfall of six to twelve inches in early November. Landbirds thru November seemed amazingly scarce and the few winter finches that had arrived were so thinly distributed that nothing approaching an irruption could be identified. The combination of early waterfowl hunting and minimal habitat may explain the scarcity of later shorebirds. The local cone and berry crops appear non-existent except for a few ornamentals and even weed seed production looks reduced—?? flattened by the early wet snow??

Positives for the season include 1) increased numbers of Double-crested Cormorants; 2) an incursion of King Eider; 3) good variety, though poor numbers, of shorebirds; 4) a spectacular jaeger flight; 5) an impressive array, both in numbers and in species, of gulls; 6) continued spread of Red-bellied Woodpecker; 7) an incursion of Northern Shrikes; 8) an excellent flight of Gray Cat-

bird, Hermit Thrush, and Philadelphia Vireo; 9) occasional warbler waves (Sep 9,13,15,20,23, & 27 but strangely none noted in Oct) with some species (q.v.) showing notable numbers briefly; 10) good numbers of migrant Scarlet Tanager and Rose-breasted Grosbeak; 11) a fair flight of some winter finches (Evening Grosbeak, Common Redpoll, Pine Siskin, Red Crossbill), more notable for variety of species than actual numbers of birds.

Negatives are 1) very low counts of loons and grebes; 2) a waterfowl flight that can only be described as a disaster—and for all major groups—geese, dabblers, Aythya, scoters, mergansers; 3) continues decline of most raptors, especially Accipiters and Falcons, with very poor numbers of Rough-legged Hawks to boot; 4) continued decline in Ring-necked Pheasants; 5) low numbers of many common shorebirds (see tabulation); 6) a change in numbers of terns, again for the worse; 7) low numbers of Red-headed Woodpeckers and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker; 8) an extreme scarcity of Arctic-breeding field birds (Horned Lark, Water Pipit, Savannah Sparrow, Lapland Longspur; 9) a dearth of swallows; 10) a drop in numbers of certain northern breeders—Winter Wren, Swainson's and Gray-cheeked Thrushes, Solitary Vireo; 11) very few Eastern Bluebirds; 12) low to middling counts of both kinglets; 13) low tallies of marsh-associated passerines—Long-billed Marsh Wren, Yellowthroat, Swamp Sparrow; 14) extremely low counts of most transient sparrows.

Seasonal rarities, the spice to birding and the inconstant to every birding trip, includer Whistling Swan, King Eider, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Whimbrel, Purple Sandpiper, Hudsonian Godwit, all three phalaropes, two species of jaegers, Black-headed, Franklin's, and Little Gulls, Black-legged Kittiwake, Yellow-breasted Chat, Connecticut Warbler, and White-winged Crossbill.

Initialed observers: GC—Gerald Church; DWC—Dorothy W Crumb; PAD—Paul A DeBenedictis; C&EF—C and E Farnham; FL—Fred LaFrance; JWP—Jean W Propst; B&SP—B and S Peebles; MSR—Marge Rusk; FGS—Fritz G Scheider; GAS—Gerald A Smith; R&CW—R and C Wernick.

Initialed localities: DH—Derby Hill near Texas; HIGMA—Howland's Island GMA near Port Byron; LOL—Lake Ontario littoral; LSB—Little Sodus Bay near Fair Haven; NPT—northern Pompey Township; Onon L—Onondaga Lake; SSSP—Selkirk Shores State Park near Port Ontario; SP & SPI—Sandy Pond and Sandy Pond Inlet; S Onon—South Onondaga, west of LaFayette; Sylvan B or SB—Sylvan and Verona Beaches, east end of Oneida Lake; L—Lake.

LOON—DUCKS: Common Loon: arr Sep 14 one Sylvan Beach; max 11 (very low) LOL Oct 28. Red-throated Loon: total of eight Oct 30 thru Nov 28 from both L Ontario and Oneida L. Red-necked Grebe: singles only Oct 21 DH (B. Brosseau) and Nov 11 Oneida L (R & J Van Scoy). Horned Grebe: max 22 (very low) on both Nov 13 and 23 LOL (GAS, DWC). Eared Grebe: single Nov 15–18 LSB (PAD,DWC,FGS) is second record this year. Pied-billed Grebe: max nine, probably parents with a brood, Aug 19 Old Fly, Pompey (FL); very scarce this fall with only one-six/day and many observers had none.

Great Egret: two singles Aug 26 to Sep 23, very scarce. Green Heron: max 25 (low) Aug 26 Utica Marsh (B&SP); dep date Oct 20 one Eaton (GC). Least Bittern: only report is two Sep 5 DeWitt Marsh (K. Coyle). American Bittern: very scarce—max only four Sep 16 SP; most observers had only one-two/day.

WHISTLING SWAN: two ad and an imm Nov 11—Dec 7 Lewis Point, Oneida L (B&SP, mob), only report. Canada Goose: strictly a fly-over migration—max 4075 over Oswego Oct 2 (R&CW); local ground tallies very low—110–250/day and most refuge areas had virtually none. American Brant: arr date Oct 20 475 DH (GAS); poor numbers with max only 800+ Oct 30 Oneida L (D. Ackley); very scarce in Nov—max 200 Nov 4 L Ontario (PAD). Snow Goose: only report 40 Nov 9 over Fabius (R. Benson).

Mallard: counts only in hundreds with best numbers from Eaton—380 Nov 25 (GC); however, Black Ducks even scarcer with all counts below 100—max 95 Nov 25 Eaton (GC). Pintail: max only 500 DH Sep 16 (GAS); otherwise, very scarce, but present to end of period. Green-winged Teal: max only 40 Pond Hundred near Fair Haven Nov 18. Blue-winged Teal: max only 67 Sep 15; very scarce along Oneida L—max 21 Sep 14—where normally in the hundreds—?? a victim of Dutch Duck Plague?? American Wigeon: max 210 (very low) Oct 13 Beaver L; present to end of period in small numbers. Wood Duck: very scarce—(six—12/day) thru Sep and Oct; five years ago this species was counted in the hundreds.

Redhead: very scarce—seven—16/day with max a mere 32 Oct 21 north shore of Oneida L (MSR). Ring-necked Duck: arr date Oct 6 (late) two DH; max only 160 Oct 13 Beaver L; many small lakes, eg. Tully Lake, had none this fall. Canvasback: incredibly scarce—six—eight/day with max only 12 Nov 4 Eaton (GC). Greater Scaup: arr date Sep 16 one SP; max 1100 Oct 14 DH; Oneida L numbers very low—90—200/day—where formerly in the thousands. Common Goldeneye: one female Sep 30 (early) SP (PAD; max 250 Nov 4 LOL (PAD); scarce on both Oneida L and Onon L. Oldsquaw: arr Oct 20 one DH (GAS); max 75 Nov 29 DH, LOL; scarce along LOL and at Oneida L. King Eider: fall flight began Oct 14 one DH (record arr date); one—two/day thru Nov along L Ontario but no “inland” records so far. White-winged Scoter: max 180 Oct 30 Oneida L (JWP). Surf Scoter: arr Sep 23 (early) five SPI (PAD); max 47 Oct 14 DH. Black Scoter: 200 Oct 30 Sylvan B (—WP), a high count away from L Ontario. Ruddy Duck: max a miserable nine Oct 28 Eaton (GC), very scarce otherwise—one—six/day. Red-breasted Merganser: arr Sep 16 one DH (MSR, GAS) with max 2350 (low) Nov 10 LOL, primarily Fair Haven and Oswego.

HAWKS—OWLS: Sharp-shinned Hawk: arr Aug 19 one Sp dunes; 19 individuals (quite scarce) from 17 observers thru period; even scarcer are the 12 Cooper's Hawks from the name 17 birders. Red-tailed Hawk: six—14/day thru Oct and Nov; max 28 Clay Hawk Survey Route Nov 17 (GAS). Only Red-shouldered Hawk were two Sep 15 Onondaga Hill (MSR). Broad-winged Hawk: very scarce migrant this fall—only three—12/day with the last bird noted Sep 21 (early) NPT (DWC). Rough-legged Hawk: arr Oct 20 one SSSP (C&EF); very few thereafter with only one—two/day, mostly from the Pulaski—Mexico area, and most observers had none. *BALD EAGLES* only report an imm Aug 30 Shackleton Pt, Oneida L (P. Laible). Harrier: arr Aug 18 one Tully (JWP); max four both Sep 11 SP and Oct 11 NPT (DWC); last noted Nov 24 one Pompey (FL). *PEREGRINE FALCON*: only reports an imm Sep 15 SP (FL, R. Sutliff) is the only fall report.

Ruffed Grouse: max 11 Oct 21 SSSP and LOL, scarce otherwise. Ring-necked Pheasant: very scarce—one—two/day with max only nine on both Oct 3 Syr and Oct 28 Eaton; with the continued decline of diversified farming and the astounding suburbia, this handsome adventive will soon be an historical bygone. Sora: max seven Sep 5 with last Sep 30 one, both DeWitt Marsh (K. Coyle). Common Gallinule: max 18 Aug 16 SP and Pond Hundred; last noted Nov 11 (late) one Eaton (GC).

Two single *HUDSONIAN GODWIT* (Sep 14 Onon L; Oct 6 SPI) and two *WHIMBREL* (Aug 19, Sep 9 both SPI) were noted. *PURPLE SANDPIPER*: only report is one Nov 11 LSB—very scarce this fall. Western Sandpiper: several singles—SP, Sylvan B, Onon L—to dep date Oct 26.

In the shorebird tabulation note 1) the paucity of “peep” sandpipers, 2) the markedly reduced numbers of Golden Plover, Solitary Sandpiper, and Sanderling, 3) the very few Nov dep dates—only nine species; usually there are twelve or more.

*Shorebird Species*

Semipalmated Plover  
 Killdeer  
 Golden Plover  
 Black-bellied Plover  
 Ruddy Turnstone  
 American Woodstock  
 Common Snipe  
 Spotted Sandpiper  
 Solitary Sandpiper  
 Greater Yellowlegs  
 Lesser Yellowlegs  
 Red Knot  
 Pectoral Sandpiper  
 White-rumped Sandpiper  
 Baird's Sandpiper  
 Least Sandpiper  
 Dunlin  
 Short-billed Dowitcher  
 Stilt Sandpiper  
 Semipalmated Sandpiper  
 Sanderling  
*Red Phalarope*  
*Wilson's Phalarope*  
*Northern Phalarope*

*Arrival Date*

Jul 15, three, Onon L  
 ---  
 Aug 23, one, Tubbs Rd  
 Aug 10, one, Onon L  
 Jul 25, one, Onon L  
 ---  
 ---  
 ---  
 Jul 7, one, Onon L  
 Jul 10, three, Onon L  
 Jul 1, one, Onon L  
 Jul 15, one, Onon L  
 Jul 1, one, Onon L  
 Aug 26, three, Utica Marsh  
 Sep 6, one, Onon L  
 Jul 4, three, Onon L  
 Aug 26, one, SPI  
 Jul 10, six, Onon L  
 Jul 11, one, Onon L  
 Jul 9, three, Onon L  
 Jul 10, one, Onon L  
 Nov 8, four, SP  
 Aug 5, one, Onon L  
 Aug 20, two, Onon L

*Maxima*

22, Aug 21, Onon L  
 118, Aug 26, Tubbs Rd  
 19, Sep 12, Durhamville  
 35, Sep 20, Onon L  
 32, Sep 14, Onon L & SB  
 5, Oct 10, NPT  
 50, Oct 27, Scott Swamp  
 60, Jul 11, Onon L  
 9, Aug 11 DeWitt Marsh  
 18, Oct 31, Scott Swamp  
 53, Aug 22, Onon L  
 5, Sep 26, SB  
 33, Sep 20, SP, Onon L  
 3, Aug 26, Utica Marsh  
 3, Sep 9, Onon L  
 107, Jul 21, Onon L  
 62, Oct 28, SSSP  
 31, Aug 19, Onon L  
 31, Sep 6, Onon L  
 275, Aug 22, Onon L  
 75, Sep 9, SP, Onon L  
 5, Nov 18, Oswego  
 2, Sep 16, Onon L  
 4, Aug 22, Onon L

*Departure Date*

Oct 17, two, SB  
 Dec 15, four, DeWitt  
 Sep 30, two, Onon L  
 Nov 15, one, LSB  
 Oct 28, one, Oswego  
 Nov 5, one, NPT  
 Nov 17, one, Clay Swamp  
 Sep 30, one, Onon L  
 Sep 8, one, DeWitt  
 Nov 2, one, SSSP  
 Oct 28, one, DeWitt Marsh  
 Sep 30, one, SP  
 Nov 9, one, SB  
 Sep 13, one, Onon L  
 Sep 30, one, Onon L  
 Oct 3, three, SB  
 Nov 26, one, Onon L  
 Sep 14, one, Onon L  
 Sep 26, four, Onon L  
 Oct 25, one, Onon L  
 Nov 11, four, SPI  
 Nov 18, five, Oswego  
 Sep 16, two, Onon L  
 Sep 23, one, Onon L

*POMARINE JAEGER*: two immatures in direct comparison with numerous Parasitics Oct 14 DH (PAD,FGS,GAS). *PARASITIC JAEGER*: a superb flight-first bird a dark phase adult Aug 25 SPI (AGS,CGSpies); max 80+ (a regional record) mostly light phase adults and immatures DH, SP Oct 14 (PAD,FGS,GAS); last noted four Nov 29 DH, Pleasant Pt (DWC,FGS).

Glaucous Gull: arr Nov 10 a 1st year bird Oswego Dump (FGS). Iceland Gull: arr an imm Nov 4 DH (PAD). Great Black-backed Gull: arr Sep 16 three SPI; max 65 Nov 18 DH, Oswego, LSB. Herring Gull: max 3800 Nov 29 DH, Oswego on fierce NW lake storm. Ring-billed Gull: huge flight of 5000 $\neq$  Oct 14 DH, SSSP, SP; large numbers—3000 to 4000/day—thru Nov at Oswego. *LITTLE GULL*: two intermittently Aug 30 to Sep SPI (mob); also an ad Nov 10 off DH (FGS). *BLACK-HEADED GULL*: two individuals, both ad, one Sep 15 to Oct 28 SPI (FGS) and one Oswego Harbor Nov 15-17 (PAD). *FRANKLIN'S GULL*: an imm SPI Sep 23 (PAD,FGS) is the only record this fall. *BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE*: single immus at both DH and SSSP Nov 29 (FGS,DWC), only fall record.

Common Tern: max 150 Sylvan B Sep 9 (GC); dep date Nov 9 six Oneida L (C&EF). Caspian Tern: max 36 Aug 23 SPI; dep date Sep 30 (early) two SPI (PAD). Black Tern: incredibly scarce this fall—max only 12 SPI Aug 25 with dep date Sep 23 two Onondaga L (FGS).

Black-billed Cuckoo: one dead Oct 4 (late) NPT (DWC,PAD). Great Horned Owl: new location west shore of LBS Nov 15. Snowy Owl: two singles to date—one Nov 15 LSB and one downtown Syr (on the cupola of the County Courthouse) Nov 29—not a flight year but better than nothing.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Common Nighthawk: 71 Aug 26 Syr (JWP) with dep date Sep 27 one south side of Syr (C&EF). Chimney Swift: max 36 Aug 27 Syr; dep date Sep 27 (early) one each Syr and Pompey. Belted Kingfisher: one—five/day thru Oct; singles present thru Nov.

Common Flicker: max 32 (low) Sep 23 SP area; however, many persisting into Nov. Pileated Woodpecker: one west shore LSB Nov 15 is a new location. Red-bellied Woodpecker: one—two/day in various woodlots west of Oswego (R&CW); also three Oct LSB; expanding into the wooded swamps and woodlots of the Ontario lakeplain. Red-headed Woodpecker: very scarce—and getting scarcer!—total of nine individuals for entire fall (17 observers). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: arr Sep 6 (early) four Tully (JWP); max only ten (low) Sep SP area.

Eastern Kingbird: fall max 12 Aug 19 SP; dep date Oct 6 (late) one near Mexico (E Freeborn). Great Crested Flycatcher: dep date Sep 23 one each NPT and HIGHA. Eastern Phoebe: max nine Sep 23 SP area; dep date 30 one NPT (somewhat early). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 24 individuals Aug 16 to Oct 12 (very late). Least Flycatcher: max six Sep Hogsback Rd near Navarino (JWP); dep date Oct 12 (very late) one NPT (DWC). Eastern Wood Pewee: max 21 Aug 25 SP, LOL, Stone Rd; dep date Oct 7 one LSB. Olive-sided Flycatcher: seven individuals noted, all between Aug 16 and Sep 6.

Horned Lark: extraordinarily scarce—max only 80 Nov 18 near SSSP; most counts only four—20/day. Tree Swallow: max 2150 (very low) Sep 20 SP, SSSP; dep date Oct 16 (very early) one Oswego (R&CW). Bank Swallow: max 800 (very low) Aug 26 SP; dep date Sep 30 one SP (PAD). Barn Swallow: extraordinarily low—max 1100 Aug 25 LOL with dep date Oct 6 one SPI (E Freeborn). Cliff Swallow: max 189 (high) Aug 23 Canastota (B&SP) with dep date Sep 23 (slightly late) one SP. Purple Martin: max 900 Aug 26 SP; dep date Sep two SP.

Tufted Titmouse: present at Pleasant Pt one Nov 29 and Oneida L one Oct 21; not as common as three or four years ago and definitely not expanding like



Mockingbird and Cardinal. Red-breasted Nuthatch: very very scarce—max only seven Oct 14 Syr (M Champlin). Brown Creeper: like Red-breasted Nuthatch, very scarce—one-seven/day with no flight days recorded despite increased LOL coverage.

Winter Wren: arr Sep 13 on SP; max ten (very low) Sep 30 SP (SAD). Carolina Wren: two Oct 21 Oneida L and one Syr thru Nov; may be increasing after long period of low numbers.. Long-billed Marsh Wren: max a mere six (very low) Sep 23 SP area; date dep Oct 24 oce NPT (DWC).

Gray Catbird: max 38 (high) Sep 24 Pratt's Falls (JWP); last date Nov 26 one NPT (DWC), very late. Brown Thrasher: one-six/day; dep daee Nov 11 one NPT. Hermit Thrush: arr Sep 8 one SP dunes; max 31 Oct 6 SP, SSSP; dep date Nov 15 one Syr (JWP). Swainson's Thrush: arr Sep 8 (late) one SP; max only 13 Sep 9 SP, SSSP with dep date Oct 28 one Syr—a poor to middling flight. Gray-checked Thrush: arr Sep 8 one SP; max three (very low) Sep 15 Nine Mile Pt with dep date Oct 9 (early) one Syr. Veery: very scarce—one-three/day with many observers seeing none!—dep date Sep 22 one Highland Forest (B Brosseau). Eastern Bluebird: incredibly scarce—total of 11 individuals for entire fall (17 observers).

Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr Sep 17 six SP dunes; max 135 Oct 10 and 130 Oct 26, both NPT. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr date Sep 9 (late) one SP; max 75 Sep 30 SP (PAD); generally low numbers throughout the fall with dep rate Nov 12 one each both Syr and NPT. Water Pipit: arr date Sep 13 one SPI; very scarce thru fall—max 150 Oct 24 NPT with most counts only three—14/day; dep date Nov 18 one LOL (M Champlin). Northern Shrike: arr an imm (dead in road) Oct 31 near Texas (GAS); one-three/day thru Nov for most observers—a good flight.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: arr date Aug 23 (early) one Halliday Rd near Parish (FGS); terrible fall flight with max only four Oct 8 NPT; most observers only one-two/day with dep date Oct 18 (early) one Syr. Red-eyed Vireo: max 36 Aug 23 SP, Stone Rd., Mexico Point West with dep date Oct 7 one LSB. Philadelphia Vireo: excellent fall flight—arr Aug 5 one SP dunes; max eight Sep 15 SP, SSP, LOL; dep date Oct 11 one NPT (DWC). Warbling Vireo: max 13 Aug 19 SP dunes with dep date Sep 28 (late) one NPT; most observers thought this species, like Solitary Vireo, very scarce this fall.

The warbler tabulation, especially the maxima, reveal the major foci of warbler watching, i.e. northern Pompey Township and the Sandy Pond dunes—Selkirk Shores State Park sector, this fall. The paucity of Golden-winged and Blue-winged Warblers is matched by the very low counts of Blackburnian and Chestnut-sided Warblers, Ovenbird, Northern Water-thrush, and Wilson's Warblers. Large numbers of Tennessee, Cape May, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Bay-brested, and Canada Warblers were tallied but most were noted in a few brief sharp waves in the third quarter of Sep. Note the numerous October and a few Nox dep dates for the various species, quite in contrast to the earlier than normal departures of most shorebirds.

Rare warblers include a *YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT* Sep 26 NPT, a *CONNECTICUT WARBLER* Oct 5-6 NPT, and a Hooded Warbler Aug 5 NPT (all DWC); also four Pine Warblers Sep 8—Oct 1 with none later than that—usually seen thru the first half of Oct, sometimes later.

**BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS:** Bobolink: scarce—max only 18 Aug 25 NPT (DWC); dep date Oct 13 (late) one Beaver L (FGS). Redwinged Blackbird: max 8500 (low) Oct 7 DH—should be noted in the hundreds of thousands. Northern Oriole: max

*Warbler Species*

Black-and-white  
 Golden-winged  
 Blue-winged  
 Tennessee  
 Orange-crowned  
 Nashville  
 Parula  
 Yellow  
 Magnolia  
 Cape May  
 Black-throated Blue  
 Yellow-rumped  
 Black-throated Green  
 Blackburnian  
 Chestnut-sided  
 Bay-breasted  
 Blackpoll  
 Palm  
 Ovenbird  
 Northern Waterthrush  
 Mourning  
 Yellowthroat  
 Wilson's  
 Canada  
 Redstart

*Arrival Date*

Aug 5, two, SP  
 Aug 3, one, Scott Swamp  
 Aug 15, one, Hogsback Rd  
 Aug 19, two, SP  
 Sep 23, two, SP  
 Aug 18, one, Pompey  
 Aug 19, one, SP dunes  
 Jul 4, two, N Syr  
 Aug 5, one, SP  
 Aug 19, eight, SP dunes  
 Aug 30, one, Onon L  
 Aug 5, three, SP dunes  
 Aug 11, one, N Manilus  
 Aug 5, one, SSSP  
 Aug 5, three, SP  
 Aug 5, eight, SP dunes  
 Aug 17, one, NPT  
 Sep 16, three, Fair Haven  
 Aug 25, one, SP dunes  
 Aug 5, three, SP dunes  
 Aug 23, one, Mexico Pt.W.  
 Aug 19, 13, SP dunes  
 Aug 5, two, SP dunes  
 Aug 5, one, SP dunes  
 Aug 5, one, DeWitt Marsh

*Maxima*

9, Sep 27, NPT  
 2, Aug 25, Stone Rd  
 2, Aug 22&27, S. Onon, Pompey  
 31, Sep 20, NPT  
 2, Sep 23, SP  
 17, Sep 20, NPT  
 9, Sept 23, SP  
 107, Aug 19, SP dunes  
 39, Sep 13, NPT  
 43, Sep 13, NPT  
 23, Sep 27, NPT  
 129, Oct 7, LOL  
 161, Sep 27, NPT  
 8, Sep 15, NPT  
 5, Sep 15, both SSSP & NPT  
 63, Sep 15, NPT  
 28, Sep 13, NPT  
 9, Oct 7, LSB, Oswego  
 11, Sep 23, NPT  
 3, Aug 5, SP dunes  
 2, Sep 28, Pompey  
 20, Sep 23, SP  
 13, Sep 13, NPT  
 10, Aug 23, SP Stone Rd  
 19, Sep 15, NPT

*Departure Date*

Sep 28, two, NPT  
 Sep 9, one, SSSP  
 Sep 19, one, Pompey  
 Oct 13, one, NPT  
 Oct 22, one, Pompey  
 Oct 13, one, NPT  
 Oct 8, one, NPT  
 Sep 23, one, SP  
 Oct 13, one, NPT  
 Oct 9, one, NPT  
 Oct 13, two, NPT  
 Nov 16, one, NPT  
 Oct 13, three, NPT  
 Sep 27, one, NPT  
 Oct 8, one, NPT  
 Sep 29, one, N Syr  
 Oct 3, one each NPT & Manilus  
 Nov 9, one, NPT  
 Oct 3, one, NPT  
 Oct 6, one, SP  
 Oct 3, one, Pompey  
 Nov 15, one, LSB  
 Oct 9, one, Syr  
 Oct 1, one, Pompey  
 Oct 10, one, NPT

eight (low) Aug SP dunes; last noted Sep 23 one HIGMA (MSR). Rusty Blackbird: arr Sep 23 (late) four SP; max 145 Oct 28 DH; present thru end of period.

Scarlet Tanager: max 14 Sep 15 SP, SSP; dep date Oct 5 (early) one Pompey. Cardinal increasing numbers along L Ontario; counts of ten-12/day there now numerous. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: fairly good flight—max 15 Sep 12 Fish Gulf and again 15 Sep 20 SSSP, Tubbs Rd; dep date Oct 18 (late) one Syr (JWP).

Evening Grosbeak: arr Oct 25 one NPT—unusual as first birds are almost always from the Ontario lakeshore; small flocks (four-12/day) thereafter but no big flocks noted away from feeders. House Finch: only reports are two Oct 28 and one Nov 17 both Syr but at different loci. Common Redpoll: present but scarce—arr Oct 27 nine plus LOL (DWC); counts one-14/day thereafter but very few indeed. Pine Siskin: arr Sep 6 one Tully; scattered birds thru Oct with max 45 Nov 23 NPT. American Goldfinch: large flocks everywhere this fall—daily counts 100-150/day with max 250 Oct 31 DH. Red Crossbill: few small flocks in Nov with max 25 Nov 14 NPT. *WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL*: only report is one sick bird (eventually died) Nov 11 near Tully—no flocks reported and the few Red Crossbill flocks seen well were “clean”, i.e., no admixture of White-winged.

Savannah Sparrow: max 30 Oct 7 LOL, scarce otherwise with dep date Oct 31 three Nine Mile Pt. Vesper Sparrow: incredibly scarce this fall—mostly one-three/day with the max a miserable 11 Oct 20 near Eaton (GC). Dark-eyed Junco: arr Sep 13 one SP dunes; generally low in numbers with max 230 Oct 19 W Lake Rd near Oswego (R&CW). Tree Sparrow: arr Oct 17 six Nine Mile Pt (DWC); mostly small flocks (ten-30/day) with max 400 Nov 11 Tully. Chipping Sparrow: very scarce—max only 16 (very low) Oct 13 Beaver L; dep date Nov 16, a feeder-supported bird, NPT. Field Sparrow: max 26 Oct 13 Beaver L; scarce otherwise with most counts only one-five/day. White-crowned Sparrow: arr Sep 22 (late) one Fair Haven; very poor flight with max only 71 Oct 7 LOL. White-throated Sparrow: arr Aug 5 (very early) two SP dunes; max 254 Oct 7 LOL; numerous Nov birds reported. Fox Sparrow: arr Sep 30 one SP (PAD); max 40 Oct 30 NPT (good count but less than last year's peak) with dep date Nov 16 one NPT. Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Aug 21 (very early) one NPT (JWP); max six Sep 28 NPT with dep date Oct 22 (early) one NPT. Swamp Sparrow: max 32 Sep 30 Clay Swamp, scarce otherwise with dep date Nov 11 four Eaton (GC). Song Sparrow: slow, protracted fall flight with max 137 (low) Oct 7 LOL. Lapland Longspur: arr Sep 16 (tries record arr date) one with max 22 Oct 21 both Nine Mile Pt. Snow Bunting: arr Oct 17 two Nine Mile Pt area; most counts 20-150/day with max 1200 Nov 18 Oswego to DH.

417 South Main Street North Syracuse, New York 13212

## REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

LEE B. CHAMBERLAINE

Fall of 1973 was dry with rather warm weather. Fall colors appeared early in the foliage probably due to dry conditions. Colder weather held off until November and snowfall was almost non-existent.

Lake Ontario water levels continued to drop and expose shoreline resulting in excellent shorebird observations.

Noteworthy observations for the period include unusual numbers and variety of

waterfowl, hawks (Merlin), shorebirds (Golden Plover—Whimbrel—Purple Sandpiper—Bairds Sandpiper), gulls (White-winged Gull—Black-Legged Kittiwake), owls (Long-eared) and early winter migrants.

Abbreviations: ED—Eldorado Shores; PRWMA—Perch River Wildlife Management Area; WHWMA—Wilson Hill Wildlife Management Area; RM—Robert Moses State Park and Power Dam; SLR—St. Lawrence River; HB—Hunter's Bag Oct. 1—Nov. 4 totals for first half waterfowl season (LC); mob—many observers.

Observers: JB—John Belknap; RB—Richard Brouse; TC—Tom Carrolan; LC—Lee Chamberlaine; FC—Frank Clinch; NL—Nick Leone; RS—Robert and Mary Sheffield; JV—Joe VanRiet; RW—Robert and June Walker.

Corrigenda: KINGBIRD XXIII, No. 2, May 1973, p. 103, Common Merganser: 3700 Jan. 16 RM (not WH).

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: 2 Oct 16; 2 Oct 24; 1 Nov 18; 1 Nov 25. RED-THROATED LOON: 1 Oct 24 (JV). Horned Grebe: 2 Nov 25 Sherwins Bay. Double-crested Cormorant: 6 Aug 30 Gull Island (LC); 24 Sept 6 Little Galloo Island (LC); 3 Sept 8 ED (NL); 5 Sept 15 ED (NL); 1 Sept 21 ED (NL). Great Blue Heron: 1 Nov 25 Sportsmens Club, Watertown (NL). Green Heron: 1 Sept 9 (NL). American Bittern: Sept. 18. Canada Goose: present through period; resident population at PRWMA remains stable. Brant: 1 Nov 12 ED (TC); 1 Nov 16 ED (NL). Mallard: 736 PRWMA—HB; 181 WHWMA—HB. Black Duck: 141 PRWMA—HB; 102 WHWMA—HB. Black-Mallard Hybrid: 1 PRWMA—HB. GADWALL: 456 Sept 8 ED (NL) WHWMA—HB; 6 Nov 30 RM pond (JV). Pintail: 37 PRMA—HB; 28 WHWMA—HB. Green-winged Teal: 263 PRWMA—HB; 31 WHWMA—HB. American Wigeon: 75 PRWMA—HB; 142 WHMA—HB; 6 Nov 25 RM pond (JV). Northern Shoveler: 265 Sept 17 RM pond (JV); 16 PRWMA—HB. Wood Duck: 10 Sept 29 WHWMA (JV); 432 PRWMA—HB; 12 WHWMA—HB. Redhead: 15 ± PRWMA (TC); Nov 25 last date—high numbers WHWMA this season estimate of 1000 maximum (JV). Ring-necked Duck: 15 PRWMA—HB; 59 WHWMA—HB; 800 Nov 10 RM pond (JV); still present end Nov RM pond (JV). Canvasback; 2 Oct 21 WHWMA (JV); 2 Oct 28 SLR (JV); 9 Nov 4 PRWMA (TC). Greater Scaup: 23 WHWMA—HB; 2000 ± Nov 25 Black River Bay (RW). Lesser Scaup: 14 WHWMA—HB; 9 PRWMA—HB. Common Goldeneye: 1 WHWMA—HB; 4 Oct 25 Raquette River (JV). Nov 4 PRWMA (NL); 100 Nov ED (TC).

Bufflehead: 1 Oct 2 WHWMA—HB (JV); 10 Nov 8 ED. Oldsquaw: 1 Nov 3 WHWMA—HB; 10 Nov 8 ED; 40-50 Nov 25 Black River Bay (RW). White-winged Scoter: 2 WHWMA—BH; 1 PRWMA—HB; 7-8 Nov 18 Pillar Point (NL). Surf Scoter: 1 female Nov 8 ED (TC); Black Scoter: 1 Nov 8 ED (TC); 1 Nov 16 SLR (JV); 3 females Nov 16 ED (NL); 6 females Nov 18 ED and Pillar Point (NL). Ruddy Duck: 2 PRWMA—HB; 1 WHWMA—HB; 5 Nov 4 PRWMA (TC). Hooded Merganser: 9 PRWMA—HB; 25 WHWMA—HB; 90 Nov 10 (JV); 21 Nov 26 PRWMA (TC). Common Merganser: 1 Sept 7; 320 Oct 30; 3400 Nov 17 RM (JV).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: 2 Sept 7 near Gouverneur; 1 Sept 7 ED; 1 Oct 8 (RW). Goshawk: 1 Nov 16 ED; 1 Nov 25 Stony Point. Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 Sept 15 ED (TC). Cooper's Hawk: 1 Oct 9 Dry Hill Rd. (RW). Red-tailed Hawk: 4 Oct 9 Dry Hill Rd; 5 Oct 27 RM. Rough-legged Hawk: 1 Oct 28 (JB); 1, black phase, Oct 30 Thousand Island Bridge (A LaFave); 2 Nov 10, 1 light and 1 dark (JV); 6 Nov 21 (JB). Marsh Hawk: Nov 21 (JB). Osprey: 1 Sept 15 ED; 2 Sept 15 ED; 2 Sept 15 (JV); 1 Oct 17 Massawepie Lake, St. Lawrence Co (B. Buffington). MERLIN: 1 Sept 19 female or immature hunting shorebirds ED (TC). Kestrel: around through period. Ruffed Grouse: more plentiful than previous 3 years. Gray Partridge: 13 in 3 coveys Aug 19; 1 Nov 2 no St.

Lawrence Co (JV); numbers still low. Virginia Rail: 1 Sept 19 Dennison Rd (JV); 1 Sept 19 RM (JV). Common Gallinule: 1 Sept 19. Coot: 96 Oct 21 WHWMA (JV); still there Nov 4. Semipalmated Plover: Sept 29. Killdeer: 140 Oct 25 (JV); 1 Nov 29, late. *GOLDEN PLOVER*: 2 Sept 8 SLR (JV); 1 Sept 9 WHWMA (JV). Black-bellied Plover: 3 Sept 7 (JV); 17 Sept 15; 2 Nov 22 (JV). Ruddy Turnstone: Oct 5 ED (NL). Woodcock: maximum numbers around Nov 4; last date Nov 15. Common Snipe: 23 Sept 15; 4 Oct 20, last date (JV). *WHIMBREL*: 1 Sept 2 ED (NL); 1 Sept 7–Sept 9 ED (NL). Spotted Sandpiper: Sept 28, last date. Solitary Sandpiper: 1 Aug 31 Brasher State Forest gravel pit (D. Allen). Greater Yellowlegs: 6 Nov 3 WHWMA (JV); 1 Nov 16 ED (NL). Lesser Yellowlegs: Oct 20, last date. Red Knot: 1 Sept 2–Sept 2 ED (NL); 1 Sept 8 ED (NL). *PURPLE SANDPIPER*: 1 Nov 24 ED (RW); 1 Nov 25 ED (NL) (TC). Pectoral Sandpiper: 19 Sept 18 (JV); 6 Oct 20 (JV). *BAIRD'S SANDPIPER*: 1 Sept 14–Sept 15 ED (NL); 1 Sept 21 ED (NL). Least Sandpiper: Sept 9 ED. Dunlin: 9 Nov 4; 1 Nov 24 ED (RM). Short-billed Dowitcher: 2 Sept 3 ED (NL); 1 Sept 21 ED (NL). Least Sandpiper: Sept 9 ED. Dunlin: 9 Nov 4; 1 Nov 24 ED (RW). Short-billed Dowitcher: 2 Sept ED (NL). Semipalmated Sandpiper: Oct 5. *WESTERN SANDPIPER*: 1 Sept 2–Sept 3 ED (NL) (TC). Sanderling: 16 Oct 28; 4 Nov 4 (JV). *RED PHALAROPE*: 1 Aug 26 ED (RW); 4 Nov 10 ED (RW); 2 Nov 12 ED (TC).

*WHITE-WINGED GULL*: 1 present at RM Nov 21 and Nov 24; 2 Nov 30 could not tell species for sure (JV). Great Black-backed Gull: 1 Aug 29 (JV); 2 Sept 8 regular from then on (JV); 20 Nov 21 Pt Peninsula (TC). Herring Gull: thru period. Ring-billed Gull: through period. Bonaparte's Gull: 4 Aug 19 RM (JV); 2 Aug 26 ED (RW); 50+ Sept 16 present end of Nov. *BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE*: 1 immature Nov 30–Dec 1 RM on outside of a flock of Herring, Ring-billed and Bonaparte's Gulls; observed for aver 11/2 hours 20 x Balscope; was quite aggressive and would take an occasional stab at Ringbill (JV). Common Tern: 2 Oct 14, last date. Caspian Tern: Sept 22 Ed. Black Tern: 1 Aug 18 WHWMA, last date.

Screech Owl: heard throughout period. *LONG-EARED OWL*: 1 Nov 11 Jefferson Community College (NL) (mob); 1 Nov 27 same location (NL).

*GOATSUCKERS*–*STARLINGS*: Common Nighthawk: 150± Aug 19 6:30 pm circling over Gouverneur; similar concentrations in previous years but not as large concentration; no doubt preparing to move south (JB); 1 Sept 26 downtown Massena rather late (JV). Chimney Swift: 5 Sept 10 late. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Sept 10 last date. Belted Kingfisher: Sept 29. Common Flicker–Oct 21 last date. Pileated Woodpecker: 1 Sept 15 ED (TC); 1 Nov 11 JA Blake Sanctuary (NL). Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 (1 adult 1 imm.) Sept 13 and 14. (JV); numbers of individuals in Henderson area seem down from previous years. Eastern Kingbird: Aug 19 last date. Eastern Phoebe: Oct 6 last date. Eastern Wood Pewee: Sept 9 last date.

Tree Swallow: Sept 23 last date; Oct 7 10 mi NE of Region 6 in Quebec (JV). Bank Swallow: Sept 15 last date. Barn Swallow: Sept 15 last date. Cliff Swallow: Aug 26 last date. Purple Martin Sept 3 last date. House Wren: Sept 15 last date.

Winter Wren: Oct 17 and Oct 20 (FC). Long-billed Marsh Wren: 3 Sept 15 last date. Catbird: Oct 20 WHWMA (JV) late. Wood Thrush: Oct 23 last date. Hermit Thrush: 2 Oct 23, last date (FC). Eastern Bluebird: Oct 24 (JB). Golden-crowned Kinglet: Oct 16. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Oct 13. Water Pipit: 16 Sept 27 (JV); 1 Nov 16 ED (NL). Northern Shrike: Oct 15 early (JB).

*VIREOS*–*WARBLERS*: Red-eyed Vireo: 2 Oct 3, last date. Philadelphia Vireo: Sept 9. Warbling Vireo: Sept 9, last date. Black-and-white Warbler: 2 Sept 11, last date. Nashville Warbler: Oct 22, last date. Magnolia Warbler: Sept 19, last

date. Cape May Warbler: 1 Sept 2; 1 Sept 14-15; 2 Sept 21, last date. Black-throated Blue Warbler: Sept 23, last date. Yellow-rumped Warbler: Oct 27, last date. Black-throated Green Warbler: Sept 17, last date. Blackburnian Warbler: Sept 9, last date. Chestnut-sided Warbler: Sept 23, last date. Pine Warbler: Sept 14-15, last dates. Palm Warbler: Oct 19, last date. Ovenbird: 2 Sept 9, last date. Northern Waterthrush: Sept 17, last date. Yellowthroat: Sept 15, last date. Canada Warbler: Aug 31, last date. American Redstart: 2 Sept 12, last date.

**BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS:** Bobolink: not as abundant as previous years. Eastern Meadowlark: Oct 14, last date. Redwinged Blackbird: not as abundant as previous years; corn damage not as high as usual. Northern Oriole: Sept 3, last date. Rusty Blackbird: 2 Oct 20 WHWMA. Scarlet Tanager: Sept 12, last date. Cardinal: seem to be more numerous in Adams and Henderson areas (LC); 2 Nov 17 feeder in Winthrop (JV); 1 Nov 18 feeder in Massena (JV). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Sept 9, last date. Evening Grosbeak: Oct 30, first date; numbers increasing through period. Purple Finch: Oct 20. Pine Siskin: 50+ Nov 18 Henderson (LC); American Goldfinch: 50+ Oct 25. Red Crossbill: 1 Oct 30 feeder Watertown (L. Grant). Rufous-sided Towhee: Oct 3, last date. Savannah Sparrow: Nov 3. Dark-eyed Junco: 2 Sept 12, first date; Nov 11, last date. Tree Sparrow: Oct 18, first date. Chipping Sparrow: Aug 19, last date. White-crowned Sparrow: Sept 22, first date; tapering off Oct 24. White-throated Sparrow: numbers tapering off Oct 24. Fox Sparrow: Nov 4. *LINCOLN'S SPARROW*: 1 Sept 29 WHWA (JV); 3 Sept 30; 1 Oct; 1 Oct 3 singing and recorded (JV). Swamp Sparrow: Oct 23, last date. Snow Bunting: 10 Oct 24 SLR (JV).

Box 139, Henderson, New York 13650

## REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

THEODORE D. MACK

August was hot and dry with this trend continuing into early September when the mercury hit 88.5, a 16 year record high. The remainder of the month was cool with 4 frosts. October was warm until the 27th when temperatures in the low 30's began. November was normal except for the fact that repeated warm days with rain occurred which kept the ground free of snow. This probably made it easier for birds to find food.

A most important event for this 4 county area is the formation of the High Peaks Audubon Society which is a chapter of the National Audubon Society. John M. C. (Mike) Peterson is editor for the club's newsletter. The address is: P. O. Box 300, Essex, N.Y. 12936. This most welcome occurrence will increase observations, especially for the winter months and give coverage of Schroon Lake and Lake Champlain, areas which tended to be neglected in the recent past.

Observers: BB—Bruce Beehler; JB—Jean Beck; MB—Maurice Broun; GC—Geoffrey Carleton; GTC—Greenleaf T. Chase; Hi Pk Au—High Peaks Audubon Society; FL—Ferdinand LaFrance; DMc—Dorothy McIlroy; TM—Ted Mack; NM—Norman Mason; GM—Gordon Meade; RM—Ruth Meier; EP—Elizabeth Peterson; JP—John Peterson; B&DR—Bob & Doris Rubens; WR—William Rutherford.

Abbreviations: BTP—Brown Tract Ponds area; Bar P—Barnum Pond near PS; Bloom—Bloomingdale, including Sar River to town of Sar L; Bul—Bulwagga Bay on L Cham; E'town—Elizabethtown; FF—Franklin Falls; Five P—Five Ponds area; Goodnow Flow near Newcomb; L—lake; L Cham—Lake Champlain; Mad—Madawaska Pond area near PS; P—pond; Pi L—Pisco Lake; PS—Paul Smiths; Sar—Saranac; Tup L—Tupper Lake; West—Westport; Wills—Willsboro.

LOONS-DUCKS: Common Loon: 1 Aug 16 L Colby, Sar L (BB); 3 Sep 19 Pi L (DMc); several regularly Nov L Cham (JP). Horned Grebe: 7 Nov Wills (JP). Pied-billed Grebe 1 Aug 20 Bar P (TM). Great Blue Heron: 1 Aug 16 Tup L (BB); 2 Aug 29 PS (TM); 6 Sep 8 Bloom (TM); 1 late bird Nov 7 West (GC). Green Heron: 1 Sep 11 Bloom (TM). American Bittern: 1 Sep 8 Bloom (TM); 1 Sep 15 Bloom (TM). Canada Goose: 12 Aug 17 Tup L (RM)—probably 2 local broods; the Conservation Department has tried to start geese breeding in several areas; 18 wedges of 50-100 birds Oct 18 over Schroon L on which some stopped to rest (Hi Pk Au); 2000 Oct 24 Sar Inn (TM). Black Duck: 15 Aug 18 Slush P. (TM); 15 Sep 11 Bloom (TM). Blue-winged Teal: 1 Aug 18 Slush P (TM); 3 Sep 8 Bloom (TM); 10 Sep 11 Bloom (TM). Wood Duck: 12 Aug 20 Bar P (TM); 10 Sep 11 Bloom (TM). Ring-necked Duck: 14 Aug 20 Bar P (TM). Common Goldeneye: 30 Nov 9 Essex (JP). Oldsquaw: 1 Nov 7 Crown Pt (NM,GC). White-winged Scoter: 2 Nov 7 Bul (GC,NM). Surf Scoter: 1 Nov 7 Bul (GC,NM). Black Scoter: 50 Nov 7 Bul (GC,NM). Hooded Merganser: 3 Sep 8 Bloom (TM); 3 Oct 31. BTP (FL). Common Merganser: rather scarce—3 adults and 9 young still unable to fly Sep 19 Pi L (DMc). Red-breasted Merganser: Nov 8 Crown Pt (NM).

HAWKS-OWLS: Turkey Vulture: 2 Nov 2 West (JP). Goshawk: 1 Aug 23 Wills (JP); 1 Oct 27 Bloom (TM); 1 Nov 17 Mt Matumbla, Tup L (WR). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 Sep 8 Bloom (TM); 1 Nov 11 Essex (EP). Red-tailed Hawk: 1 Sep 8 Bloom (TM); 1 Sep 28 Pi L (DMc); 2 Oct 27 Bloom (TM). Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 Nov 26 E'town (GC). Broad-winged Hawk: 1 Sep 3 PS (TM). Rough-legged Hawk: 1, light phase, Nov 18 Essex (NM, JP); 1, dark phase, Nov 19 Crown Pt (NM, JP). Bald Eagle: 1 immature Aug 19 FF (TM). Osprey: 1 Sep 20 PS (TM); 1 Sep 22 L Eaton (TM); 1 Sep 30 Spy L (DMc). American Kestrel: 1 Sep 20 L Pleasant (DMc); 1 Oct 28 Schroon L (JB). Spruce Grouse: 7 broods were reported to GTC for Aug from Gale; he knows the area as Spruce Grouse habitat and feels the observer is probably correct in his identification; the fact that this new area is posted is probably beneficial to the birds; 1 Sep 30 Gale (MB). Ruffed Grouse: max 7 Goodnow (TM). Killdeer: 3 Aug 30 PS (TM); 8 Bloom (TM). American Woodcock: several seen in PS area; 1 late bird Oct 22 West (JP). Common Snipe: 1 Sep 1 PS (TM); 2 Sep 4 PS (TM); 5 Sep 8 Bloom (TM). Greater Yellowlegs: 3 Sep 1 PS (TM). Least Sandpiper: 3 Aug 20 Bar P (TM). Great Black-backed Gull: 1 adult Nov 20 West (JP, EP)—unusual for this area; 1 Nov 30 West (GC)—probably same bird. Common Tern: 2 Aug Ticonderoga Creek, L Cham (Hi Pk Au). Black Tern: 2 Aug L Cham (Hi Pk Au). Great Horned Owl: 1 Sep 4 PS (TM); 1 Oct 22 Sar Inn (TM); 2 Nov 12 E'town (JB). Barred Owl: 1 Aug 21 Slush P (TM); 2 Sep 1 PS (TM); 1 Oct 12 Goodnow (TM); 1 Oct 27 BTP (FL); 1 Nov 24 Mt Matumbla, Tup L (WR).

GOATSUCKERS-STARLING: Whip-poor-will: not reported. Common Nighthawk: 1 Aug 23 Hadley P, Wills (JP)—when the nighthawk was flushed, it came under lengthy attack by a Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Belted Kingfisher: max 10 Sep 8 Bloom (TM); last report Nov 13 Wickham Marsh (GC). Pileated Woodpecker: an unusually large number of reports. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: 1 Oct 7 Five P (B&DR; 1 Oct 23 Buck Hill, PS (Lang Elliot); 2 Oct 29 BTP (FL). Northern Tree-toed Woodpecker: 1 Oct 28 BTP (FL); 1 Nov 11 Yard Mt (TM)—ladder back clearly seen and bird watched for 5 minutes as it fed in a large dead red spruce. Eastern Kingbird: last report 1 Sep 8 Bloom (TM). Great Crested Flycatcher: last report 1 Sep 8 Bloom (TM). Eastern Phoebe: 3 Sep 8 Bloom (TM). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 1 Aug 23 Wills (JP). Least Flycatcher: 1 said chebec 3 times Sep 1 PS (TM—seemed unusual to hear

one call this time of year. Eastern Wood Pewee: 1 very late bird Sep 23 E'town (GC). Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 Aug 23 Wills (JP). Horned Lark: 14 Nov 15 PS (TM). Gray Jay: 1 Aug 18 Brandon (GM,TM); 3 Sep 26 Brandon (MB,TM); 2 Oct 7 Five P (B&DR); 2 Oct 28 BTP (FL). Blue Jay: 30 Sep 8 Bloom (TM); 12 Oct 28 BTP (FL). Common Raven: 1 young bird dead in an empty 55 gallon drum in Aug near Adirondack Loj (Orra Phelps); he was not shot and had apparently dropped in to get a scrap but could not get out; 2 Sep Cascade L (Hi Pk Au); 1 Sep Cascade L (GTC); 1 Nov 11 Yard Mt—calling and flying toward Cascade L (TM); 1 Nov 18 over James P, PS—croaked 3 times while traveling in direction of High Peaks area; seen flying high and steadily until lost from view. Common Crow: 50 plus Aug 16 Sar L airport (BB). Black-capped Chickadee: 17 Oct 28, 36 Oct 30, 20 Nov 1 BTP (FL). Boreal Chickadee: 1 Oct 26, 2 Oct 30 BTP (FL); 3 Nov 11 summit of Yard Mt (TM); 1 Nov 17 Hurricane Mt (EP,JP). Tufted Titmouse: 1 Oct West at a feeder (August Gabel)—an unusual bird for this area; one was seen Oct 28, 1968 in West by GC. White-breasted Nuthatch: max 12 Oct 27 BTP (FL). Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 7 Oct 27 BTP (FL). Brown Creeper: max 5 Oct 31 BTP (FL). Winter Wren: max 3 Sep 30 L Pleasant (DMc). Carolina Wren: 1 visiting suet feeder Nov Port Henry (Elizabeth Sherlock)—no details, but has been seen in past years in this general area. Mockingbird: 2 Aug Pelfishire Rd, Moriah (Hi Pk Au). Hermit Thrush: 30 Sep 30 Slush P (TM). Eastern Bluebird: 9 Aug 18 Brandon (GM,TM)—2 of these were in a nest box and clad only in pin feathers; reported as plentiful at Schroon L with a last date of Oct 18 (JB). Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 14 Oct 30 BTP (FL). Water Pipit: 20 Oct 19 Wallonsburg (JP). Cedar Waxwing: 50 Sep 8 Bloom (TM). Northern Shrike: 4 occurrences Oct 26-Nov 22 E'town (GC).

VIREOS—WARBLED: Solitary Vireo: 1 Oct 4 Essex (Hi Pk Au). Philadelphia Vireo: 1 very late bird Sep 23 E'town (GC). Cape May Warbler: 2 Oct 12 L Eaton (B&DR). Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 20 Sep 8 Bloom (TM). Blackpoll Warbler: 1 early transient Aug 18 Brandon (GM); 4 Sep 19 Pi L (DMc). Wilson's Warbler: 1 Aug 23 Wills (JP). DMc had 4 species of warbler Sep 19, the last date for warbler observations at Pi L.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Eastern Meadowlark: 1 transient Oct 17 PS (TM). Rusty Blackbird: 2 Sep 8 Bloom (TM). Common Grackle: 1 Nov 18 still at an Essex feeder (JP). Cardinal: seen in Moriah, West, and Essex during period (Hi Pk Au). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 2 Sep 8 Bloom (TM); 1 very late bird Oct 3 E'town (GC). Evening Grosbeak: first large flock 45 Oct 29 Tup L (HM). Purple Finch: see thru Oct at feeder Tup L—none since (RM). Pine Siskin: several Oct 7 Essex (Hi Pk Au); several Oct 12 Five P (B&DR). Red Crossbill: 25 Aug 16 Mad (BB,TM); 10 Oct 27 Bloom (TM); 45 Oct 28 E'town (GC). White-winged Crossbill: 1 Nov 16 West (NM). Rufous-sided Towhee: 1 Sep 30 Wills (Hi Pk Au). Dark-eyed Junco: max 6 Oct 26 BTP (FL). Tree Sparrow: first arrivals appeared Oct 27 BTP, PS, and Tup L. White-throated Sparrow: 2 late birds—1 birds—1 Oct 28 BTP (FL); 1 Nov 19 Essex (Hi Pk Au). Swamp Sparrow: 1 Oct 30 BTP (FL). Snow Bunting: 2 Oct 19 Gale (GTC); several Oct 26 Essex (JP); 5 Oct 28 FF (TM); 9 BTP (FL); 35 Nov 29 PS TM).

P. O. Box 125, Paul Smiths, New York 12970



## REGION 8 HUDSON-MOHAWK

RICHARD E. PHILION

Despite warm weather in late August and early September the warbler migration appeared normal at VFWM area. October, with a mean temperature of 51° was normal for the month. A 74° on the 24th equalled the previous high for that date. November was also seasonably mild with a mean temperature of 39.8°, and only a miniscule amount of snowfall was reported (Albany Airport).

Waterfowl migration except for Canada Geese appeared spotty and boreal species were definitely scarcer than last year.

Less commonly reported species for our region were Surf Scoter, Snowy Owl, Carolina Wren, Connecticut Warbler and Lapland Longspur.

Abbreviations: M'ville-Mariaville; NWW—Niskayuna Wide Waters; RS—Reist Sanctuary; R&SL—Round & Saratoga Lakes; SE Mont Co.—SE Montgomery County; VFWM—Vischer Ferry Wildlife Management.

Observers cited are: ADBC—Alan Devoe Bird Club, DA—Doug Allen; JC—J. Cook; CMPY—refers to banders at VFWM—J. Convert, W. Merritt, R. Pantle, R. P. Yunick; MF—Mabel French; B&HG—B&H Gardina; M&AG—M&A Giddings; HMBC—Hudson Mohawk Bird Club; MM—M. Mickle; RP—R. Philion; H&HT—H—B Tullar; PRY—RP. Yunick.

LOONS—DUCKS: 4 Nov 4 R&SL (HMBC). Red-throated Loon: 1 Nov 4 R&SL (HMBC); 1 Nov 17 NWW (HMBC). Pied-billed Grebe: thru period but numbers appear down from previous years. Great Blue Heron: Aug 1—Sept 27 ADBC; 1 Oct 21 (HMBC). Green Heron: 1fm 1 Oct 21 ADBC. Snow Goose: Oct 25 Ghent (B&HG); 100 Oct 2 Selkirk (E. McCullough). Pintail: Oct 3 thru 15 Castleton Blue-winged Teal: 1 Oct 8 Castleton (JC). American Wigeon: 1 Nov 4 R&SL (HMBC). Wood Duck: 1 Sept 29 Ghent (B&HG); 1 Oct 25 Castleton (JC). Ring-necked Duck: 1 Nov 26 Chatham (MM). Canvasback: 5 Nov 4 R&SL (HMBC). Greater Scaup: 30 Nov 4 R&SL (HMBC). Lesser Scaup: 20 Nov 4 R&SL (HMBC). Common Goldeneye: 1 Nov 4 R&SL (HMBC); 25 Nov 23 Lake George (RP). Bufflehead: 5 Nov R&SL (HMBC). Oldsquaw: 3 Nov 4 R&SL (HMBC). Surf Scoter; 34 Oct 29 Queechey Lake (MM). Black Scoter: 25 between Oct 6 & 12 Fawn Lake (fide E. McCullough). Hooded Merganser: 1 Nov 4 R&SL (HMBC). Common Merganser: Oct 7 Castleton (JC); 2 Nov 23 Lake George (RP).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: 1 Sept 8 M'ville (HMBC). Goshawk: 1 Oct 8 Castleton (JC). Cooper's Hawk: 1 Oct 27 Chatham (H&B Tullar). Red-tailed Hawk: several reports thru period. Red-shouldered Hawk: 3 Sept 8 M'ville (HMBC); 1 Sept 28 M'ville (DA). Broad-winged Hawk: 6 Sept 8 M'ville (HMBC); 1 Oct 5 Castleton (JC). Marsh Hawk: 1 Sept 15 JL (RPY); 24 Oct 21 Chatham (MM & JC); Nov ADBC. Osprey: Sept 29. American Coot: Oct 18 thru 29 Chatham & Ooms Pd (H&BT; MM); 11 Nov 10 thru 26 Ooms Pd (MM). Semipalmated Plover: 1 Sept 8 M'ville (HMBC); 1fm 1 Sept 24 M'ville (DA). American Woodcock: 1 Oct 28 Chatham (H&BT). Common Snipe: thru period, 1fm 1 Nov 10 Chatham (M&AG). Solitary Sandpiper: Sept 3 Ghent (B&HG). Greater Yellowlegs: 1fm 1 Oct 30 M'ville (DA). Lesser Yellowlegs: 1fm 1 Oct 29 M'ville (DA). Pectoral Sandpiper: 1 Oct 4 & 11 M'ville (DA). Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 1 Sept 14 Chatham (T. Brush). Screech Owl: 3 Sept 7 and 1 caught Oct 3 JL (RPY). Snowy Owl: 1fm 1 Nov 21 Albany (Television news report). Short-eared Owl: a flight of about 150 seen at dusk Nov 27 heading south in the vicinity of Indian Ladder Drive-in Theatre (Steve

Browne to WBS). Saw-whet Owl: new max of 5 banded, 1 Oct 6 and 4 Oct 21 VFWM (CMPY).

GOATSUCKERS--STARLING: Common Nighthawk: 1 Sept 25 Loudonville (MF); late report 3 Oct 15 Castleton (JC). Chimney Swift: lfm 1 Oct 3 Averill Park (RP). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 1 Sept 25 Loudonville (MF); lfm 1 banded Sept 29 VFWM (CMPY). Red-headed Woodpecker: 2 Sept 11 SE Mont. Co.; 1 Oct 31 M'ville (DA). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 1 Sept 30 Loudonville (MF). Great Crested Flycatcher: lfm 1 Oct 1 Castleton (JC). Eastern Phoebe: 2 Sept 8 M'ville (HMBC; lfm 1 Nov 15 Chatham (M&AG). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: lfm 1 banded Sept 29 VFWM (CMPY). Eastern Wood Pewee: lfm 1 Oct 1 Castleton (JC). Least Flycatcher: 1 banded Oct 6, the first October record in 10 years at VFWM (CMPY). Horned Lark: 52 Oct 24 Castleton (JC). Tree Swallow: lfm 1 Sept 20 M'ville (DA). Bank Swallow: lfm 1 Sept 15 M'ville (DA). Barn Swallow: lfm 5 Sept 15 M'ville (DA). Cliff Swallow: lfm 1 Sept 19 Chatham (T. Brush). House Wren: lfm 1 Oct 24 Castleton (JC). Winter Wren: a new max of 34 banded at VFWM (CMPY). Carolina Wren: 2 Oct 3 heard at VFWM, 1 caught but escaped Oct 13 VFWM (CMPY). Mockingbird: reported thru period. Gray Catbird: 1 Oct 30 Ghent (B&HG). Wood Thrush: lfm 1 Oct 6 Castleton (JC). Veery: lfm 1 Oct 9 Ghent (B&HG). Golden-crowned Kinglet: numerous thru period. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 30 banded Oct 6 VFWM (CMPY). Water Pipit: max 13 Oct 19 M'ville (DA). Northern Shrike: ffm 1 Nov 7 M'ville (DA).

VIREOS--WARBLERS: Red-eyed Vireo: max 5 banded Sept 8, lfm 1 Oct 13 banded at VFWM (CMPY). Warbling Vireo: 3 banded Sept 8 VFWM (CMPY). Black-and-white Warbler: lfm 3 Sept 22 RS (HMBC). Tennessee Warbler: 2 Sept 22 RS (HMBC). Nashville Warbler: lfm 1 banded Oct 6 VFWM (CMPY). Parula Warbler: lfm 1 Sept 22 RS (HMBC). Yellow Warbler: lfm 1 Sept 29 Chatham (T. Brush). Magnolia Warbler: 1 lfm Oct 3 M'ville (DA). Cape May Warbler: max 12 Sept 21 M'ville (DA); 6 Sept 22 RS (HMBC). Black-throated Blue Warbler: lfm 1 Oct 3 M'ville (DA). Yellow-rumped Warbler: lfm 1 Nov 17 NWW (HMBC). Black-throated Green Warbler: 6 Sept 22 RS (HMBC); lfm 1 Oct 3 Castleton (JC). Chestnut-sided Warbler: lfm 1 Oct 7 Chatham (H&B Tullar). Bay-breasted Warbler: 2 Sept 22 RS (HMBC). Blackpoll Warbler: max 15 Sept 21 Loudonville (MF); 6 Sept 22 RS (HMBC). Pine Warbler: 1 Oct 4 Castleton (JC). Palm Warbler: 1 Sept 26 Ghent (B&HG). Ovenbird: lfm 1 banded Oct 6 VFWM (CMPY). Connecticut Warbler: 1 Oct 1 M'ville (DA). Mourning Warbler: lfm 1 banded Sept 28 VFWM (CMPY). Yellowthroat: 4 banded Oct 14 VFWM (CMPY). Yellow-breasted Chat: 1 banded Oct 6 VFWM (CMPY). Wilson's Warbler: 1 banded Sept 29 VFWM (CMPY). Canada Warbler: 1 Sept 28 banded VFWM (CMPY). American Redstart: 1 Sept 29 banded VFWM (CMPY).

BLACKBIRDS--SPARROWS: Northern Oriole: 1 Oct 4 Castleton (JC). Rusty Blackbird: 'captured for the first time in 4 years due to flooding of banding area' (RPY); lfm 1 Oct 21 VFWM (CMPY). Scarlet Tanager: lfm 1 banded Sept 29 VFWM (CMPY). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: lfm 1 Oct 1 Ghent (B&HG). Indigo Bunting: lfm 1 Oct 2 Ghent (B&HG). Purple Finch: total of 101 banded, max 33 on Oct 6 & 13 VFWM (CMPY). House Finch: Fall banding at JL netted total 59 highest ever (RPY). Pine Siskin: 1 flock heard Nov at JL (RPY). Even ing Grosbeak: appeared at feeders early Nov but in small numbers. American Goldfinch: 'scarce at FVWM' (RPY). Red Crossbill: 1 Nov 24 Chatham (E. Powell). Savannah Sparrow: 1 Oct 3 Castleton (JC). Vesper Sparrow: 1 Oct 31 Castleton (JC). Tree Sparrow: ffm 1 banded Oct 20 VFWM (CMPY.) Chipping Sparrow: lfm 1 Nov 2 Castleton (JC). White-crowned Sparrow: 1 banded

Sept 29 VFWM (CMPY); 1 Oct 31 Castleton (JC). White-throated Sparrow: abundant; 623 banded vs 520 last year VFWM (CMPY). Fox Sparrow: ffm 1 Oct 12 Castleton (JC). Lincoln's Sparrow: 2 Oct 6 VFWM (CMPY). Lapland Longspur: 4 Nov 19 M'ville (DA). Snow Bunting: more abundant this year; max 200 Nov 19 M'ville (DA).

Edgewood Dr. Averill Park, N.Y. 12018

## REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

Temperatures for the period were generally above normal, while rainfall was lower. With the exception of one or two days in Sept, killing frosts did not appear until November. There was no snow except for a trace at the highest elevation in the Catskills. Rainfall for each month was below normal with most of what did occur coming in the form of heavy rain for one or two days each month.

There was no exceptional movements reported with the exception of a good warbler wave about the third week of Sept. Most other species passed thru in an even flow probably due to the extended fair weather.

Area Compilers: John C. Orth; Lana Mills; Robert F. Deed; AI Merritt; John Tripp; Fred Hough; Otis Waterman; Martin Borko; Noel Cutright; Peter Polshek.

Observers cited: RFD—Robert F. Deed; FG—Florence Germond; PJ—Paul Jeheber; AJ—Alice Jones; JMK—im & Mary Key; EK—Eric Kiviat; HM—Helen Manson; EP—Eleanor Pink; DS—Dan Smiley; WTS—William & Trixie Straus; CT—Czecher Terhune; EDT—Edward D. Treacy; JT—John Tripp; MVW—Marion VanWagner.

Abbreviations: First four letters of each county; MBC—Mearns Bird Club; WBC—Waterman Bird Club; USMA—U.S. Military Academy; Pok—Poughkeepsie

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: 1 Oct 5 L Tiorati; 8 Nov 25 Ashokan. Red-throated Loon: 4 Nov 17 Hudson off Dutch. Horned Grebe: 27 Nov 25 Ashokan. Double-crested Cormorant: 3 Aug 22-31 Hudson at Cornwall (PJ). Common Egret: 1 Aug 29 Goshen (only report). Black-crowned Night Heron: 1 Aug 19 near Wawarsing. Mute Swan: a pr raised 2 young at Iona Is; 4 Oct 6 Glenmere L. Canada Goose: usual large flocks thru Oct into Nov; several still on lakes at end of period. Snow Goose: flocks reported on Oct 16 Nyack; Nov 18 Rockland L; 200 Oct 26 Rockland L; 130 Oct 28 Dutchess Hill; 200 Nov 8; 450 Oct 29 Cornwall. Gadwall: 3 Nov 3-15 Millbrook. Pintail: a few every month in Dutch; 2 Sept 27 at Goshen, inc to 10 by 23. Green-winged Teal: a few thru Oct. American Wigeon: well reported thru region; Oct 14-Nov 25 at Rockland L. Wood Duck: an unusual concentration of 314 Oct 16 an a small pond at Lamont Geological Observatory, Palisades; continued in decreasing numbers thru end of period. Redhead: 1 Nov 2 and sev. Nov 13 near Rhinecliff Bridge. Ring-necked Duck: very few reported. Canvasback: 400 in Dutch dur Nov; all from Hudson, Hunn's L and Sylvan L; 300 near Rhinecliff Br. Nov 13; 220 Nov 25 Rockland L. Common Goldeneye: only report 35 Nov 25 Ashokan. Bufflehead: unreported till Nov when numbers were good. Oldsquaw: 4 Nov 10 Barrytown (JMK). White-winged Scoter: single birds Nov 15 at Beacon, Nov 25 Ashokan; 2 Oct 30 Cornwall-on-Hudson; 7 Nov 10 Barrytown; 1 18 Hohonk L. Ruddy Duck: Oct 12 Rockland L inc to 60 by Nov 26. Hooded Merganser: Oct 10 Rockland L remained thru Nov 26; 65 Nov 25 Ashokan.

HAWKS—OWLS: The table below shows the results of the Hook Mt. Hawk Watch sponsored by the Society for the Preservation of Birds of Prey from Sept 1—Dec 3. and the Mount Peter Hawk Watch sponsored by the Highland Audubon

Soc. of N.J. during Sept & Oct. Information on maximum movements was not available for Mt. Peter at the time of publication.

SPECIES	HOOK MT.			MT. PETER
	TOTAL	MAX	DATE	TOTAL
Goshawk .....	87	13	11/11	2
Sharp-shinned .....	1932	298	9/29	420
Cooper's .....	20	5	10/1	17
Red-tailed .....	462	35	11/5	206
Red-shouldered .....	146	40	10/22	9
Broad-winged .....	7762	2865	9/13	4,277
Rough-legged .....	2	2	11/18	0
Golden Eagle .....	7	1	10/1-11/15	2
Bald Eagle .....	3	1	9/8, 13, 22	1
Marsh Hawk .....	162	16	10/18	37
Osprey .....	206	24	9/21	92
Peregrine .....	2	1	9/29, 10/15	1
Merlin .....	9	2	10/6	0
Kestrel .....	354	55	10/1	176
Unidentified .....	162			78
Total .....	11,316			5,318

The above figure would indicate that numbers for most species are up this year over last; much of the increase could be due to greater numbers of observers participating in the counts, especially at Hook Mt; Red-tailed Hawks are the only species which seems to have declined, and this is borne out by the number of wintering birds established by the end of the period. Turkey Vulture: max 25 in one tree Oct 16 near Jackson's Corners Dutch; last 1 Nov 20 Amenia (WTS). Goshawk; not as numerous as last year but still well reported; 3 Oct reports in Dutch and 2 there in Nov. Broad-winged Hawk: peak movement at Dutchess Hill was Sept 17 with 1,896 and Sept 19 1,646; peak for Hook Mt. was Sept 13 with 2,865. Rough-legged Hawk: 1 in Nov at Millbrook. Golden Eagle: 1 Nov 4 Stissing Mt. (MVW). Bald Eagle: 1 Sept 28 Amenia, another Oct 26 near Dutchess Hill (Tom Gilbert); no Nov reports. Peregrine Falcon: 1 Oct 9 Goshen (JT). Merlin: 1 Oct 12 Upper Kay's Pd, Dutch (MVW). Ruffed Grouse: continues low thru region. Pheasant: severely reduced; only report 1 Hudson River State Hosp in Sept. Virginia Rail: 1 Oct 1 Rockland L. Common Gallinule: 2 ad 6 imm at Amenia in Sept (WTS). Coot: more than 500 Nov 26 at Rockland L (RFD). Killdeer: 14 Oct 4 near Goshen, 80+ Oct 7 at Plankenhorns' Dutch. Golden Plover: all reports Dutch, 1 Sept 9-12 Beaver Dam (HM) and 3 Oct 7 Plankenhorn's (AJ). Black-bellied Plover: 1 Nov 4 Piermont Pier, a new late date for Rock. Snipe: 15 Nov 25 Crugers Is (EK). Spotted Sandpiper: 1 Nov 13 Pleasant Valley (MVW), a very late date. *KNOT*: first record for Rock, 8 flew by the Hook Mt. Hawk Watch on Oct 6 and were observed by several watchers from the Linnaean Soc of N.Y., the birds were also heard calling as they flew by. Pectoral Sandpiper: 2 Aug 29 Cornwall-on-Hudson; 2 Sept 7 Dutch. *BAIRD'S SANDPIPER*: 2 Sept 9 Beaver Dam, Dutch (HM). Dunlin: 1 Nov 18 Piermont Pier, a new late date by 2 months for Rock. *BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER*: 1 Oct 17 Thompson Rd, Dutch. (mob-mid-week field trip of WBC), second record for that county, last in 1972. Laughing Gull: best year in memory for this species; 720 at Piermont Pier Aug 15, still 200 there on Nov 4. Bona-

part's Gull: 85 Nov 18 Piermont Pier. **MONK PARAKEET**: 3 Aug 16, inc to 4 by Aug 19 at Piermont; no subsequent reports. Owls; the usual reports.

**GOATSUCKERS--STARLING**: Common Nighthawk: good numbers from late Aug thru the very late date of Oct 19, the latter at Applewood, Dutch. (CT) Hummingbird: 8 Sep 26 Circleville (JT); last at Kripplebush Sept 23 and in Dutch Sept 26. Red-bellied Woodpecker: 1 dur Oct at the home of AJ in Pok; another thru Nov at Clinton Corners (FG); 1 Nov 22 Circleville (JT). Phoebe: last Nov 4 Wawarsing. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 1 Oct 8 Monticello (K & D Niven). Empidonax Flycatchers: exc movement in Dutch Sept 11, still 1 or 2 by end of month. Pewee: still feeding young out of nest at Mohonk Sept 18. (DS) Tree Swallow: usual heavy flight in Aug and Sept. Cliff Swallow: sev Aug 18 Wawarsing. Crow: roost at Hudson River State building as early as Sept with more than 200 by end of month. Red-breasted Nuthatch: sev reports from Sept and Oct, but none in Nov. Winter Wren: 2 Oct 8 and again Oct 29 at Cornwall; 1 Nov 25-29 Fort Montgomery. Carolina Wren: 5 in a 1 mile stretch Nov 11 along the foot of Hook Mt. Robin: hundreds roosting dur Sept (AJ). Wood Thrush: exc movement Sept 9; at USMA last dates Sept 28 Dutch Oct 8 Wawarsing and Oct 18 Mohonk. Grey-cheeked Thrush: 1 Oct 4 and Oct 8 in Dutch. Bluebird: usual to less. Kinglet: both species in good numbers in Ulst thru Oct; Golden-crowned remained good thru end of period. Pipit: only report 10 Oct 12 SCCC campus (Valerie Freer). Cedar Waxwing: numbers good thru Oct. at Wawarsing. Northern Shrike: all reports Dutch, 1 Oct 17 Salt Pt; 1 Oct 28 Fishkill; 1 Nov 7. Loggerhead Shrike: 1 Nov 2 Pok:

**VIREOS--WARBLERS**: White-eyed: 1 seen and heard Sept 3 along Mine Rd, USMA (EDT). Philadelphia Vireo: all reports Dutch; single birds on Sept 2, Sept 3 and Oct 1. Warblers: relatively even weather did not produce any pronounced movement; the closest thing to wave occurred from Sept 25-29 when 16 species were observed at Amenia (WTS); WBC reports fall movement better than spring with many beautiful males still in spring plumage. Orange-crowned Warbler: 1 at Pok and another Pleasant Valley Oct 1; another at Pok Oct 9. Cape May Warbler: numbers better than usual. Blackburnian Warbler: 6 Sept 2 Weyant's Rd, USMA. Blackpoll: peak of 50 Sept 27 Thompson Rd. Prairie Warbler: 1 Oct 6 Hook Mt. 1 day earlier than latest Rock record. **CONNECTICUT WARBLER**. observed in Dutch on Oct 1,4,10; 1 Sept 24-28 at Beaver Dam, and 3 banded in Sept at Millbrook School; 1 Sept 18 Cornwall. **MOURNING WARBLER**: 1 Sept 16 Pleasant Valley. Yellowthroat: 1 late date of Nov 3 at Wawarsing. Redstart: 1 Nov 4 near Stone Ridge Ulst (Peter Polshek).

**BLACKBIRDS--SPARROWS**: Redwinged Blackbird: usual fall numbers, roosting by the thousands at Hudson River State Hospital along with grackles, rusties and cowbirds. Northern (Baltimore) Oriole: last reports, 2 Sept 15 and 1 Sept 17 in Dutch. Rusty Blackbird: excellent movements in Rock on Oct 14 and 21; hundreds in Oct 25 S. Spring Valley. Cardinal; numbers strongly reduced from last year; obs feeding young Sept 1 in Dutch. Evening Grosbeak: first Oct 21, in good numbers thru Nov. Purple Finch: usual thru most of region, but reported good at Wawarsing. Pine Siskin: more than 100 Oct 13 in 2 flocks at Mt. Peter; very few for rest of season Junco: first early date of Sept 15 Weyant's Pd, USMA (EAMBC). Tree Sparrow: first Oct 28, numbers not good thru end of period. Chipping Sparrow: 3 Nov 4 Tamarack Sw, very late (JMK). White-crowned Sparrow: 5 Oct 18 on Ridge Rd, Rock. Lincoln's Sparrow: 3 Sept 22 Beaver Dam, Dutch; Sept 27 Millbrook School; 4 other Dutch records dur Oct. Snow Bunting: 2 Oct 31 on Palisades Pkwy near N.J. border; 20 Nov 17; Stone Ridge, Sull, dur Nov. in Dutch.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, N.Y. 10928

## FALL REPORT RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR OCTOBER ISSUE

### REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

LEE B. CHAMBERLAINE

The summer months of 1973 were hot and dry. Extremely dry conditions prevailed along Lake Ontario in Jefferson County and at lower elevations in the St. Lawrence River Valley. Tug Hill and higher elevations did not lack the rainfall to as great a degree and temperatures were not as high.

Lake Ontario water levels dropped about 18 inches during the period and exposed much shoreline area that had been under a high water situation. This no doubt accounted for the shorebird observations at El Dorado.

Noteworthy observation for the period were Common Loon with young, Double-crested Cormorants on Lake Ontario, increases in waterfowl produced locally, Osprey sightings and some excellent shorebird observations. The two sightings of Short-eared Owl at such a late date are also a pleasant surprise for the period. Decreases in small land bird numbers tends to indicate losses on wintering grounds or unsuccessful nestings. At this time, a choice would be entirely speculative.

**LOONS—DUCKS:** Common Loon: 2 adults and 2 young recently hatched July 26 Pine Lake eastern Lewis County; 3 August 7 Cranberry Lake (Clinch). Pied-billed Grebe: 1 adult with 7 young 14 Perch River Wildlife Management Area (PRWMA) (Belknap). Double-crested Cormorant: 18 nesting July 21 Little Galloo Island (Cameron). Canada Goose: brood production appears up at PRWMA and Wilson Hill Wildlife Management Area (WHWMA). Mallard production of local birds up over previous years. Gadwall: numbers on WHWMA still increasing. Wood Duck: local production on PRWMA and adjacent wetlands very high this year.

**HAWKS—OWLS:** Turkey Vulture: seemed scarce; saw none until August 13 (Belknap). Goshawk: sightings at Wellesley Island during the period. Osprey: 2 adults through period near Theresa; 1 adult July 21 near New Bremen; nesting success poor in Theresa area possibly one bird fledged from one of three nesting sites (LaFave). Ruffed Grouse: production up in certain locations over last year. Sora: 1 each on July 12 and August 14 PRWMA (Belknap). Semipalmated Plover: 2 August 9 El Dorado (ED). Ruddy Turnstone: 4 August 9 ED (Walker). **WHIMBREL:** 1 August 9 ED (Walker). Greater Yellowlegs: 5 August 9 ED. Least Sandpiper: 1 August 9 ED. Stilt Sandpiper: 1 August 9 ED. Ring-billed Gull: production in Henderson Harbor area appears up over last year. Bonaparte's Gull: 2 August 9 ED (Walker). Mourning Dove: numbers increasing as more and more lands are converted to corn silage in the Jefferson County area. Black-billed Cuckoo: more common than usual due to high numbers of Fall Webworm with abundant nests and caterpillars in evidence. Screech Owl: heard through period in Henderson area (Chamberlaine). **SHORT-EARED OWL:** 1 June 18 Ashland Wildlife Management Area near Three Mile Bay (Cameron); 1 July 14 Chaumont area (Walker); both very late dates.

**GOATSUCKERS—WAXWINGS:** Chimney Swift: not as abundant as previous years. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: numbers down from last year. Pileated Woodpecker: sightings through period. Red-headed Woodpecker: numbers seem down in Henderson Area. Horned Lark: more than previous years. Tree Swallow: less numerous than previous years. Bank Swallow: numbers down. Barn Swallow:

numbers down. Purple Martin: numbers down. Eastern Bluebird: 1 June 2 near Osceola. Cedar Waxwing: not as common as last year.

VIREOS-SPARROWS: Red-eyed Vireo: abundant this year. Warbling Vireo: more common than last year in Henderson area. Bobolink: not as abundant as previous years. Meadowlark: in some localities abundance is up. Redwinged Blackbird: population is down; summer flocks developed much earlier than previous years perhaps due to dry condition. Baltimore Oriole: numbers appear to be down over past two years. Common Grackle: about same levels as previous years; summer flocking earlier as noted in Redwings above. Brown-headed Cowbird: numbers down. Indigo Bunting: seemed quite numerous this year (Belknap). Purple Finch: very common in the Henderson area (Chamberlaine). Pine Siskin: 12+ June 2 and 3 Henderson. American Goldfinch: not as common as previous years. Chipping Sparrow: numbers down. Song Sparrow: numbers as usual.

Box 139, Henderson, New York 13650

# FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS, INC.

## 1974 Officers

### President

Dr. Gordon M. Meade ..... 27 Mill Valley Road, Pittsford, N.Y. 14534

### Vice President

Mr. Richard A. Sloss ..... 1300 Seawave Drive, Hewlett Harbor, N.Y. 11557

### Corresponding Secretary

Mrs. Mary Ann Sunderlin ..... 505 Bay Road, Webster, N.Y. 14580

### Recording Secretary

Mrs. Alice Jones ..... Knolls Road, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12601

### Treasurer

Mr. Stephen B. Dempsey ..... 533 Chestnut Street, West Hempstead, N.Y. 11552

---

### Editor of THE KINGBIRD

Joseph W. Taylor

20 Parish Rd., Honeoye Falls, New York 14472

### *Appointed Committees*

**Bulletin Exchange:** Mrs. Alice E. Ulrich, 193 LaSalle Ave., Buffalo, N.Y. 14214

**Conservation:** Maxwell C. Wheat, Jr., 333 Bedell St., Freeport, N.Y. 11520

**Finance:** Mrs. Dorothy McIlroy, 419 Triphammer Rd., Ithaca, N.Y. 14850

**Publicity:** Maxwell C. Wheat, Jr., 333 Bedell St., Freeport, N.Y. 11520

**Membership:** Mrs. Myrna Hemmerick, P.O. Box 203, Setauket, N.Y. 11733

**Publications and Research:** Robert S. Arbib, Jr., 226 Guion Dr., Mamaronek, N.Y. 10543

**Bibliography:** Dr. Sally Hoyt Spofford, Box 428, Etna 13062

**Bylaws:** Richard Sloss, 1300 Seawave Drive, Hewlett Harbor 11557

**Waterfowl Count:** Dr. David B. Peakall, 257 Virgil Rd., R.D. #1, Dryden, N.Y. 13053

**John J. Elliott Memorial Committee:** Cornelius J. Ward, 804 South Ocean Avenue, Freeport 11520

### *Elected Committees*

**Auditing:** Ralph Cioffi, 25 Carpenter St., Glen Cove N.Y. 11542

William B. Reeves, 107 Elberta Dr., Northport, N.Y. 11768