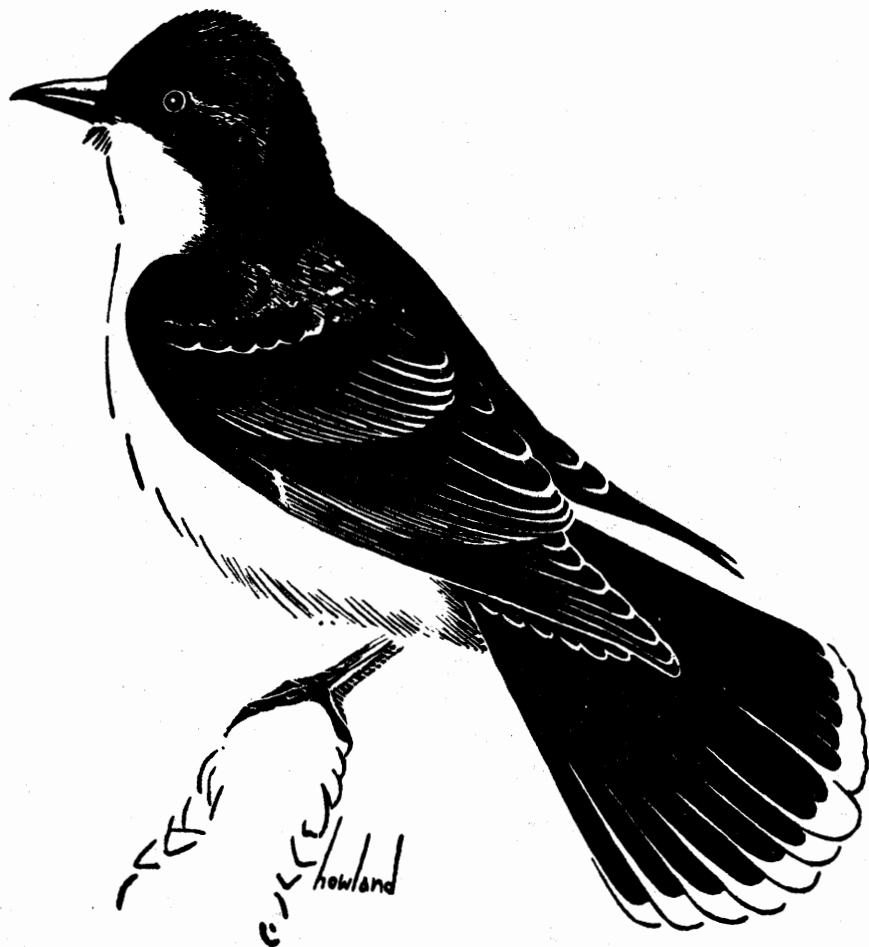


The **KINGBIRD**



VOL. XXX, NO. 3

SUMMER • 1980

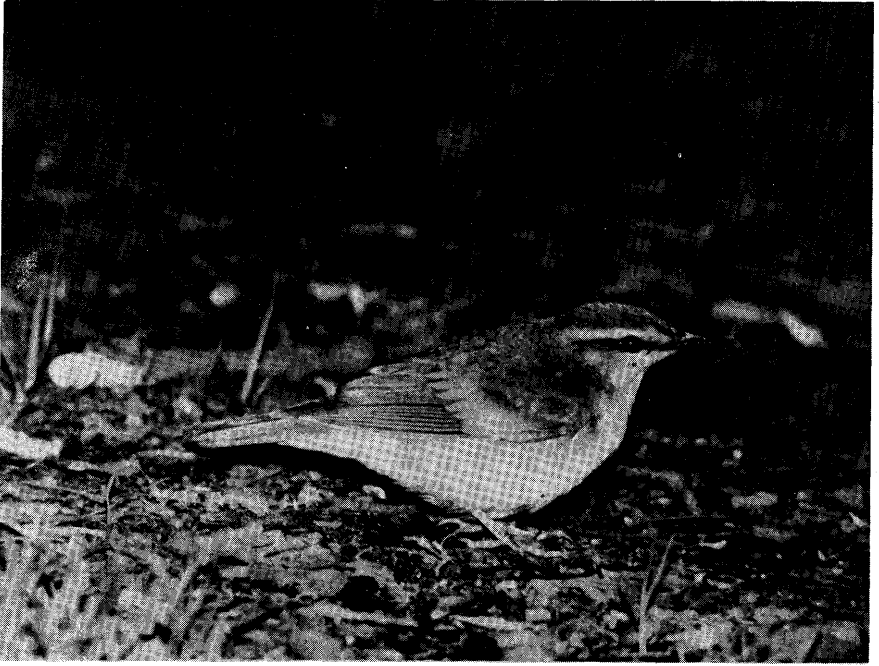
FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS, INC.

THE KINGBIRD (ISSN 0023-1606), published four times a year (Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall) 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 \$8.00 annually. Other membership classes are: Family Membership (\$10), Supporting Member (\$15), or a Life Member (\$150)—“payable over a four-year period in equal installments,” if member so desires. Student membership \$3.00. *THE KINGBIRD* institutional subscriptions: \$9.00 per year on calendar year basis only. Single copies: \$2.25. 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. John W. Forness, 3086 Haskell Rd., R.D. 2, Cuba, N.Y. 14727. Order SINGLE COPIES, BACK NUMBERS, and REPLACEMENT COPIES from Mrs. Constance N. Wilkins, 4000 West Road, Cortland, N. Y. 13045

Publication office is 4000 West Rd., Cortland, N.Y. 13045.
Second class postage paid at Cortland, N.Y.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to C. N. Wilkins, 4000 West Rd., Cortland, N.Y. 13045.



11 May 1979

Swainson's Warbler
Central Park, New York Co.
© 1979 Arthur Swoger

PHOTOGRAPHS OF NEW YORK STATE RARITIES
36. SWAINSON'S WARBLER

PETER W. POST

The Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*) occupies two disjunct breeding areas: the "... river floodplain forests and swamps of the South Atlantic and Gulf Coast Plains, and ... the rich moist woods of the Mixed Mesophytic forest ... of the Southern Appalachians" (B. Meanley, 1971, *Natural History of the Swainson's Warbler*, N. American Fauna No. 69, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, U.S. Government Printing Office, Wash., D.C., p. 13). It reaches its northernmost limit in the Pocomoke River Swamp along the eastern shore of Maryland and Delaware. The occurrence of Swainson's Warbler as a breeding bird in the Cedar Swamp of southern New Jersey is a distinct possibility, but is as yet unconfirmed (C. Leck, personal communication). Swainson's Warbler has been recorded ten times in the northeast; eight times in New York and twice in New Jersey:

1. Prospect Park, Kings Co., 5-6 May 1950, Geoffrey Carleton, William T. Helmuth, Irwin Alperin, and Robert Grant (*Wilson Bull.* 64: 109-110, 1952).
2. Bronx Botanical Garden, Bronx Co., 6 May 1963, Edward J. Maguire, William Hackett, Geoffrey Carleton, Peter W. Post, and Joseph L. Horowitz (*Aud. Field Notes* 17: 393, 1963).
3. Central Park, New York Co., 11 May 1963, Hugh McGuinness, Peter Polshek, Herbert D. Hale, *et al.* (*Proc. Linn. Soc. N.Y.*, No. 72 [1971-74], p. 81).
4. Tobay Beach, Nassau Co., 20 May 1973, mist-netted by Anthony J. Lauro; photograph by Paul A. Buckley appears in *Amer. Birds* 27: 841, 1973.
5. Forest Park, Queens Co., 10 May 1975, Thomas H. Davis, John Carabella, Elaine Cook, Stephen Dempsey, Michael Gochfeld, Michael Kleinbaum, and Tom Robben (*Kingbird* 25: 86-87, 1975).
6. Burgeson Sanctuary, Chataqua Co., 13 May 1975, mist-netted by A. and Doris Richardson; photograph by Archie Richardson appears in *Kingbird* 25: 204-205, 1975.
7. Bronx Botanical Gardens, Bronx Co., 27 April 1977, Daniel Rafferty, John Oswald, Edward J. Maguire, Felix Pappalardi, Theodore Peszell, Jean Knolles, Max Schechtman, and Ernest Howsler

- (*Amer. Birds* 31: 982, 1977; E. Maguire, personal communication).
8. Linwood, Atlantic Co., New Jersey, 23 May 1968, mist-netted by William E. Savell; photograph appears in *EBBA News* 31: 159, 1968.
 9. Island Beach State Park, Ocean Co., New Jersey, 17 May 1979, mist-netted by Fred Lesser (*N.J. Aud., Records N.J. Birds* 5 (3): 47, 1979; *Amer. Birds* 33: 757, 1979).
 10. On 9 May 1979 the author was birding in Central Park, New York City. About 0900 he came across Timothy Stiles, a new birder, who reported that he had just seen what he believed to be a Swainson's Warbler. Approximately a half-hour later and about a hundred feet from Stiles' observation, Wilma Bauman caught a glimpse of a warbler, among the Japanese knotweed, with a brown cap, eyeline, and long, sharply-pointed bill which she felt could have been the bird. Despite extensive searching it could not be located again that day or on the next. Upon hearing this story, Martin Sohmer told of having seen a Swainson's Warbler, elsewhere in the Ramble, two days previously, on 7 May. Because he was alone and because he could not find the bird again after his initial observation, he did not report it at the time.

About noon on the 11th, the author was birding near the Azalea Pond with Sheila Rosenberg when we saw a Swainson's Warbler. We immediately spread the word throughout the Ramble, went to the boathouse to telephone everyone we could think of who might want to see the bird, and sent someone to get Arthur Swoger, whom I knew was photographing birds at the base of the Point, and who obtained the marvelous photograph reproduced here.

Thus, a Swainson's Warbler was reported seen in Central Park on 7, 9 and 11 May, but not on 8 or 10 May. The possibility exists that more than one individual was in the park that week; but of course this is speculation.

The 11 May bird was seen by dozens of people, some of whom were fortunate to hear it sing. It remained until dark, never straying more than six feet from the edge of the eastern end of the pond; an area it actively defended against occasional intruders such as Northern Waterthrushes. The occupation of a feeding territory was also characteristic of the previous Central Park and Bronx Park occurrences.

The Swainson's Warbler spent most of its time on the ground probing beneath the leaf litter. It would lift dead leaves with its bill,

seize whatever insects it could find underneath, and withdraw to let the leaf fall back in place; a method of feeding unique among parulids (Meanley, *op. cit.* pp. 74-75). The bird also continuously exhibited the characteristic "shivering" motion of the body, especially the wings and tail, which Meanley (*op. cit.* p. 77) has described as a "quivering or tremulous movement."

The 27 April to 23 May dates of occurrence in the northeastern United States suggests individuals that had migrated from wintering areas and that overshot the breeding grounds.

Note that six of the records cited above are from the heavily birded New York City parks, whereas the remaining four occurrences were of individuals whose presence was unknown until they were mist-netted by bird-banders, suggesting that this secretive species probably occurs more often in our area than the records indicate.

I thank Thomas H. Davis, Edward J. Maguire and Charles Leck for contributing information on the previous records in New York and New Jersey.

Dermatology Division, Department of Medicine, Cornell University Medical College, 1300 York Avenue, New York, NY 10021

THE FEEDER SURVEY AND TRENDS IN CENTRAL NEW YORK CARDINAL POPULATIONS

HAROLD E. BURTT and BENJAMIN P. BURTT

INTRODUCTION

Observations based on our Feeder Survey have been mentioned briefly in the Regional Reports from Region 5 for many years. The present article has two objectives: to describe our method for evaluating trends in winter bird populations, and to show the validity of this method by applying it to a *known* population trend, the increase in the population of Cardinals (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) in our region in recent years. A brief report will also be given of changes in the Cardinal population at feeders from month to month during the winter.

THE METHOD

The Feeder Survey method enlists the cooperation of readers of a "Bird Notes" column in the *Syracuse Sunday Herald American*. During a designated week the participants report the maximum number of birds of each species observed at or near the feeder at any one time. This procedure yields a definitely *known* number of birds and avoids the danger of counting the same bird more than once. It involves, of course, only a sample of the population in the region. That is, it does not provide the total number of birds living in a given area, but, as with all survey methods, the observed trends and changes in the sample should reflect the trends and changes in the population.

The region covered by the survey is determined primarily by the circulation of the newspaper and covers an area of central New York about 50 miles in radius around Syracuse. It does extend, however, about 120 miles northeasterly into the sparsely settled Adirondack region. In terms of the Reporting Regions listed on the inside back cover of *The Kingbird*, the data are drawn largely from Region 5, but with quite a few cases from Region 6 and some from the northern part of Region 4 and the eastern part of Region 3.

After all the reports for the week have been received, those from obviously incompetent observers are discarded and then a random sample of 100 is drawn for analysis.

Data have been gathered for the winter populations during the first week of November, December, January, February, March and April beginning with November, 1959. The data through April 1979

provide a sample of 12,000 reports for analysis.

With the 100 reports for a given week, the "known" numbers for a given species are totalled to yield a November total, a December total, *etc.* The sum of the six monthly totals yields what we call the winter total for a given year.

POPULATION CHANGES FROM YEAR TO YEAR

While trends in bird populations can be detected by informal observations and impressions gained from field trips, more useful data can be obtained, as in the Feeder Survey, by using many more observers who count the numbers seen in one standardized way. The validity of the Feeder Survey can be evaluated to some extent by applying it to a population trend that is already known.

It is generally accepted that the Cardinal has increased and spread markedly in New York State, especially within the past two or three decades (Bull, 1974). It would thus be worthwhile to inspect the Feeder Survey data for the Cardinal and see if they reflect this trend.

The winter totals described above are computed for the Cardinal and are plotted in Figure 1. Years are on the horizontal axis and winter totals on the vertical axis. While there are fluctuations from year to year, the upward trend of the curve is apparent. The average winter total for the 20 years is 1303. The upward trend may be shown more clearly by fitting a straight line (regression line) to the curve by the method of least squares—the heavy straight line in the figure. The slope of this line is 38.4. This slope is statistically significant (t -test, $p < 0.001$). This means that the total for the winter increases by 38.4 birds each successive year. Putting it another way, the 38.4 is 2.95% of the average 1303. Thus the winter population has increased by about 3% each successive year.

During the last 15 years of this general trend, there is a suggestion of a somewhat regular cyclic change. Peaks in the population occur every four or five years and each of these is followed by a very low population the following winter. Then there is a slow increase over the next four or five years until the next peak is reached. The cause of the cycles is not clear. We are not aware of any corresponding cycle in food supply.

The plotted data appear to rise less rapidly in the later years of the Survey. This may be shown by obtaining a regression line for just the last eleven years. Its slope is only 1.2% of the average and

TOTAL OF CARDINALS FOR 6 WINTER MONTHS

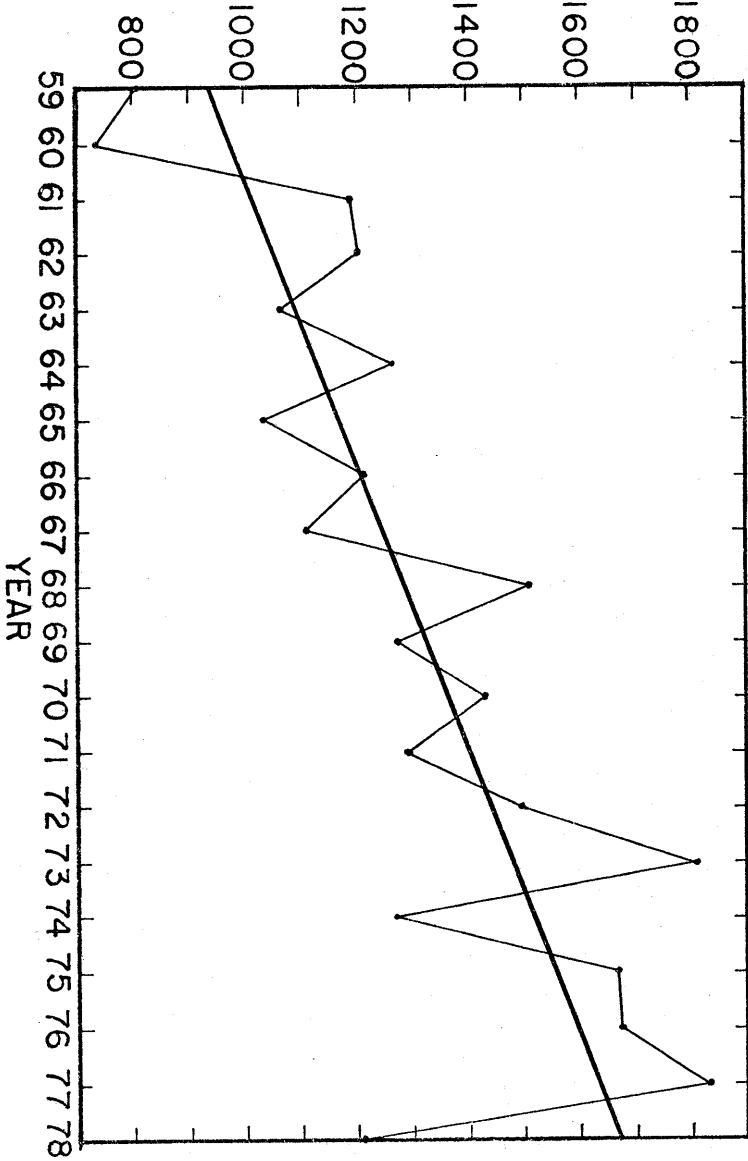


Figure 1. Trends in winter population of cardinals at 100 feeders from 1959 to 1978. The straight regression line was fitted to the data by the method of least squares (the year listed is the year the winter began); i.e., the winter of 1968 is the winter that began in December, 1968.

furthermore is not statistically significant ($p > 0.20$). Evidently, the Cardinal population is beginning to level off.

Another indication of the usefulness of the Feeder Survey is available. The Bureau of Wildlife of the Department of Environmental Conservation in its 1978 Program Management Plan for the Pheasant, notes the decline in the Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) population, particularly in the primary range which lies west of Onondaga County. In our area, the Survey data show that during the past 13 years, the winter population of pheasants has decreased 9½% each successive year. More detail will be published elsewhere.

These two examples showing that the Feeder Survey detects trends that are otherwise known, lends credence to this method.

Another figure of some interest is the number of feeders (out of 100) that report any bird at all of a given species. This figure (percent) indicates how widely distributed a species is in the region. We recorded this figure for only the last eleven years of the project. Averaging the six monthly percents for each year for the Cardinal yields 80 for '68-'69, 69 for '69-'70, etc. with an average for the 11 years of 75. In other words, Cardinals appear at 75% of the feeders. We plotted a curve for the 11 years like that in Figure 1 and derived the regression line, but its slope was not statistically significant ($p =$ about 0.50). Thus the distribution of Cardinals throughout the region did not increase during the 11 years although the number of birds showed a modest increase (supra).

Another useful statistic is the number of birds per occupied feeder. Reducing the average winter population of 1303 to an average monthly figure of 217 and dividing this by 75 gives 2.9 Cardinals at the average feeder simultaneously. This statistic will distinguish species that move about in considerable numbers (flocks) from those that are more solitary.

CHANGES DURING THE WINTER SEASON

The Cardinal population at feeding stations according to the Feeder Survey does not remain constant throughout the winter. Table 1 gives the 20-year average total for each month.

Table 1
Average Monthly Total

November	144	February	292
December	191	March	235
January	261	April	181

There is an obvious increase from November through February followed by a decrease. This is quite consistent through the years, for the December total is greater than that for November in 18 of the 20 years, while January and February are greater than November in all 20 years.

Two factors may contribute to this change through the winter. During the late fall, natural seeds are still plentiful, but with the advent of snow cover, such food becomes more difficult to find and the birds turn more to the feeders. Also young birds of the year may be gradually learning the location of feeders. As the snow melts in the spring and more wild food becomes available again, the birds spend a smaller fraction of their time at feeders.

It should be emphasized that these changes during the winter do not invalidate conclusions as to comparative winter totals like those discussed above. In fact, for the most part a year with a comparative large November total also has a large December total and *vice versa*.

CONCLUSIONS

The Feeder Survey method for evaluating changes in winter bird populations has been described and it has been found to yield the expected results for the Cardinal where there has been a known increase in the past thirty years. During an average winter the Cardinal population at feeders has been found to increase from November through February and to decline in March and April. Our next step will be to present Feeder Survey data for many other species. In several cases, there has been a steady increase in a given species, and in others such as Evening Grosbeaks, the winter population from year to year is cyclic. Such changes can be clearly seen from data gathered through the Feeder Survey.

LITERATURE CITED

Bull, John. 1974. *Birds of New York State*. Doubleday/Natural History Press, Garden City, NY, pp. 546-7.

6161 Smokey Hollow Rd., Jamesville, NY 13078

A GREAT GRAY OWL FOUND DEAD ON LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK

CARL SAFINA

During the unprecedented irruption of 1978-1979 at least two Great Gray Owls (*Strix nebulosa*) reached Long Island. These were the first confirmed occurrences of this species on Long Island since 1902. The first of these birds was seen many times between December 1978 and the end of March 1979. On 17 March, 1979, a second specimen was discovered dead on the north shore of Long Island at Centerport Beach (See Wheat, in press, 1979).

The bird was delivered to the Huntington Audubon Society, where the following measurements were made by S. Ruppert:

Overall length	673 mm.
Wing cord	445
Tail length	330
Tarsus	115
Wing Span	1295
Cere	33
Weight	1058 g.

These measurements correspond closely with the averages listed by Chapman (1934) for body, wing, and tail lengths. The weight falls midway between the averages of 900 g. for males and 1200 g. for females reported for 19 pairs of Great Gray Owls in Sweden by Hoglund and Lansgren (1968). The wing length falls within Godfrey's (1966) range for females in Canada but is greater than that for males. Since internal decomposition made examination difficult and no gonads were found, this is the best indication of the bird's probable sex.

I had the opportunity to examine the owl and to mount the skin. The radius and ulna of the right wing were exposed and some muscle was absent from that wing and shoulder, suggesting attack by scavengers. No other puncture wounds were present, but there were several small lesions on the legs which appeared to have resulted from decomposition. Although body fat reserves were absent, there was no evidence of depletion of the breast muscles.

The skull was fully ossified. That the owl may have been a sub-adult is indicated by several lighter, non-consecutive secondaries in each wing, the relative color of which corresponds to Grossman and

Hamelt's (1964) description of juvenal versus adult plumages.

An autopsy performed by Basil Tangredi, D.V.M., revealed no evidence of shot and no evident cause of death.

The mounted skin will be displayed at the Theodore Roosevelt Audubon Sanctuary in Oyster Bay, Long Island, New York.

My appreciation goes to Michael Gochfeld for his constructive comments on the manuscript.

REFERENCES

- Chapman, F. M. 1934. *Birds of Eastern North America*. D. Appleton-Century Co., New York.
- Godfrey, W. E. 1966. *The Birds of Canada*. National Museum of Canada Bulletin No. 203. Ottawa. p. 217.
- Grossman, M. L. and J. Hamlet. 1964. *Birds of Prey of the World*. Bonanza Books, New York. p. 454. .
- Hoglund, N. H. and E. Lansgren. 1968. The Great Gray Owl and its prey in Sweden. *Viltrevy* 5: 363-421.

Scully Sanctuary, 306 South Bay Ave., Islip, NY 11751

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF NEW YORK STATE ORNITHOLOGY FOR 1978

Assembled by the Bibliography Committee of the Federation of New York State Bird Clubs

JOHN BELKNAP, STEPHEN W. EATON, KENNETH C. PARKES,
and ALLEN H. BENTON (Chairman)

In 1979, Dr. Sally Spofford resigned the chairmanship of the Bibliography Committee, after many years of service. The present committee wishes to express their appreciation for her help with this year's bibliography. Reginald Hartwell also contributed some references to this list.

This is a 1977 item which missed last year's list, but which is sufficiently important that we feel it should be noted:

Pettingill, O. S. Guide to bird finding east of the Mississippi. 2nd ed. Oxford Univ. Press, N.Y., xxvii and 689 pp.

Andrle, Robert F. Ruby-crowned Kinglet breeding in Cattaraugus County. *Kingbird* 28: 29-30.

Anonymous. Birds in the snow: New York City Christmas Count. *New Yorker* 54: 27-30.

Anonymous. It's all for the birds: National Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Count. *Time* 111: 48.

Anonymous. Seventy-eighth Christmas Bird Count: New York State. *American Birds* 32: 468-469, 510, 516-536.

Ash, Jim. Noddy Tern on Long Island. *Kingbird* 28: 31-32.

Baker, Myron C., and Stanley F. Fox. Dominance, survival and enzyme polymorphism in Dark-eyed Juncos (*Junco hyemalis*). *Evolution* 32: 697-711.

Beim, Carol. Mysterious callers of the wilderness (Common Loon). *New York State Conservationist* 33 (1): 22-24.

Bemont, Leslie E. Region 4: Susquehanna. *Kingbird* 28: 44-47, 110-112, 176-180, 243-245.

Benning, W. E. Region 3: Finger Lakes. *Kingbird* 28: 42-44, 173-176, 240-242.

Boise, Cheryl M. Federation spring migration survey. *Kingbird*: 28: 27-28.

Brooks, Elizabeth W. Winter bird population study. (Allegany Co.) *American Birds* 32: 24.

Brooks, Elizabeth W. Breeding bird census (Allegany Co.) *American Birds* 32: 69.

- Brooks, Elizabeth W. Notes on June sightings. *Allegany County Bird Club News* 12: 84-85.
- Brooks, Elizabeth. A nest of the Prairie Warbler in Allegany County. *Prothonotary* 44: 144.
- Brooks, Elizabeth W. Alfred Station, New York, 421-0774: In Atlantic Flyway Review: Region IV. *North American Bird Bander* 3: 177.
- Buckalew, John H. Tree Sparrow recovery and return. *North American Bird Bander* 3: 27.
- Buckley, Francine G., Michael Gochfeld and P. A. Buckley. Breeding Laughing Gulls return to Long Island. *Kingbird* 28: 203-207.
- Buckley, P. A., Robert O. Paxton and David A. Cutler. Regional reports: Hudson-Delaware Region. *American Birds* 32: 182-189, 326-331, 983-987.
- Bull, John. Fruit eating by Western Kingbirds. *Linnaean News-Letter* 31 (9): 3.
- Burton, Doris. Late Pine Siskins. *Allegany County Bird Club News*, 12: 86.
- Burton, Lou L. Great Blue Heronry site visited. *Allegany County Bird Club News* 12: 68.
- Carleton, Geoffrey, and Maris D. Murphy. Nighthawk kettling with hawk. *Linnaean News-Letter* 32 (6): 3.
- Chamberlaine, Lee B. Region 6: St. Lawrence. *Kingbird* 28: 50-52, 115-118, 185-188, 250-253.
- Clark, Arthur R. Erie County television tower casualties: 1978. *Prothonotary* 44: 186-189.
- Clark, Donald F. Farmersville Station, New York 422-0782. In Atlantic Flyway Review: Region IV. *North American Bird Bander* 3: 177.
- Connor, Jeff. Osprey trapped by water chestnut. *Auk* 95: 610-611.
- Covert, James. Averill Park, New York 423-0733. In Atlantic Flyway Review: Region II. *North American Bird Bander* 3: 174.
- Crowell, Kenneth L. Breeding bird census (St. Lawrence Co.) *American Birds* 32: 74.
- Crumb, Dorothy W. Hoary Redpoll in Onondaga County. *Kingbird* 28: 91-93.
- Cutright, Noel J., and Kate Redmond. Ornithological happenings in Woodstock, New York. *North American Bird Bander* 3: 35-38.

- Davis, Thomas H. The 1977 New York rare bird alert. *Linnaean News-Letter* 31 (9): 4.
- Davis, Thomas H. Pelagic birding trips to Cox's Ledge from Montauk Point, Long Island. *Kingbird* 28: 131-149.
- Davis, Thomas H. and Anthony J. Lauro. Anhinga in Nassau County. *Kingbird* 28: 3-4.
- DeBenedictis, Paul. Region 5: Oneida Lake Basin. *Kingbird* 28: 47-50.
- Delehanty, Charlie. Photographs of New York State Rarities: Western Grebe (St. Lawrence Co.). *Kingbird* 28: 208-209.
- Demong, Natalie J. and Stephen T. Emlen. Radar tracking of experimentally released migrant birds. *Bird-Banding* 49: 342-359.
- Dennis, John V. The much buffeted birdlife of big cities. *N.Y.S. Conservationist* 32 (6): 6-9.
- Dexter, Ralph W. Recoveries of Herring Gulls banded at Cape Ann, Massachusetts. *North American Bird Bander* 3: 52-54.
- DiCostanzo, Joseph. Great Gull Island: Migrants banded in 1977. *Linnaean News-Letter* 31 (8): 1-3.
- DiCostanzo, Joseph. Great Gull Island: Migrants banded in 1978. *Linnaean News-Letter* 32 (6): 1-3.
- DiCostanzo, Joseph. Occurrences of the Common Tern in the interior of South America. *Bird-Banding* 49: 248-251.
- DiCostanzo, Joseph, Richard E. Harrison and John O. Biderman. Photographs of New York State Rarities: Townsend's Warbler. *Kingbird* 28: 150-151.
- Dolbeer, Richard A. Movement and migration patterns of Red-winged Blackbirds; a continental overview. *Bird-Banding* 49: 17-34.
- Edinger, Bruce B. Winter population bird study (Rockland Co.). *American Birds* 32: 46.
- Fletcher, Lauriel E. and Douglas G. Smith. Some parameters of song important in conspecific recognition by Gray Catbirds. *Auk* 95: 338-347.
- Fox, G. A., A. P. Gilman, D. B. Peakall and F. W. Anderka. Behavioral abnormalities of nesting Lake Ontario Herring Gulls. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 42: 477-483.
- Freer, Valerie M. Ellenville, New York 414-0742. In Atlantic Flyway Review: Region II. *North American Bird Bander* 3: 174-175.

- Gilman, A. P., D. J. Hallett, G. A. Fox, L. S. Allen, W. J. Learning and D. B. Peakall. Effects of injected organochlorides on naturally incubated Herring Gull eggs. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 42: 484-493.
- Gochfeld, Michael. Incubation behaviour in Common Terns: influence of wind speed and direction on orientation of incubating adults. *Animal Behaviour* 26: 848-851.
- Gochfeld, Michael. Observations of feeding ecology and behavior of Common Terns. *Kingbird* 28: 84-90.
- Gochfeld, Michael. Behavioral adjustments to flightlessness by Meadowlarks and Terns. *Condor* 80: 251-252.
- Greenlaw, Jon S. The relation of breeding schedule and clutch size to food supply in the Rufous-sided Towhee. *Condor* 80: 24-33.
- Guthrie, Richard P. Region 8: Hudson-Mohawk. *Kingbird* 28: 54-56, 120-122, 190-193, 255-257.
- Haymes, Gerard T. and Hans Blokpoel. Seasonal distribution and site tenacity of the Great Lakes Common Tern. *Bird-Banding* 49: 142-151.
- Hirschbein, Helen. Leucistic Yellow-billed Cuckoo. *Linnaean Newsletter* 31 (8): 4.
- Kelley, John E. III and Roland A. Levy. Lead shot poisoning. *N.Y.S. Conservationist* 32 (6): 30-33, 48.
- Kelsey, Paul. The age-old mystery of wildlife cycles. *N.Y.S. Conservationist* 33 (2): 28-31.
- Kibbe, Douglas. Regional reports: Niagara-Champlain Region. *American Birds* 32: 200-203, 346-349, 1001-1004, 1157-1159.
- Lauro, Anthony J. Region 10: Marine. *Kingbird* 28: 61-64.
- Levin, Ted. Dance of the Hawks. *N.Y.S. Conservationist* 33 (2): 2-5.
- Lindberg, Allan J. Overwintering and nesting of the Long-eared Owl at Muttontown Park and Preserve, East Norwich, Long Island. *Kingbird* 28: 77-83.
- Mack, Theodore D. Region 7: Adirondack-Champlain. *Kingbird* 28: 52-54, 118-120, 188-190, 253-255.
- Marsi, Harriet. Binghamton, New York 420-0755. In *Atlantic Flyway Review: Region II. North American Bird Bander* 3: 175.
- Maxwell, George R. Breeding Bird Census (Oswego County). *American Birds* 32: 53-54.

- Maxwell, George R. and Gerald A. Smith. Breeding Bird Census (Jefferson County). *American Birds* 32: 54.
- Maxwell, George R. and Gerald A. Smith. Breeding Bird Census (St. Lawrence County). *American Birds* 32: 54-55.
- McCarthy, Eugene. New York's last chance wildlife. *N.Y.S. Conservationist* 33 (3): 2-8.
- McIlroy, Dorothy. Region 3: Finger Lakes. *Kingbird* 28: 107-109.
- Middleton, Raymond J. Pine Siskin/Redpoll invasion, 1977-78 at Norristown, Pennsylvania. *North American Bird Bander* 3: 103.
- Miller, Lynne M. and Joanna Burger. Factors affecting nesting success of the Glossy Ibis. *Auk* 95: 353-361.
- Mudge, Eugene T. Futes and Ice Ducks at Montauk: recently discovered field notes by Robert Cushman Murphy. *Linnaean News-Letter* 32 (1): 1-3.
- Munoff, Joseph. Tyto—the better mousetrap. *N.Y.S. Conservationist* 32 (4): 11-13.
- Mutchler, Thomas. Banding at the window. *North American Bird Bander* 3: 107.
- Nelson, Lawrence S. The Wild Turkeys of Allegany. *N.Y.S. Conservationist* 32 (5): 19.
- Nickerson, Dan. Wilson's Warbler nests in New York State. *Kingbird* 28: 215-220.
- Nisbet, I. C. T. Population models for Common Terns in Massachusetts. *Bird-Banding* 49: 50-58.
- Pharo, Lawrence. An interesting winter with Evening Grosbeaks. *North American Bird Bander* 3: 5.
- Pitzrick, Vivian M. Winter population bird study (Allegany County). *American Birds* 32: 45.
- Pitzrick, Vivian M. Region 1: Niagara Frontier. *Kingbird* 28: 35-39, 100-104, 164-168, 234-237.
- Pitzrick, Vivian M. Highlights of the summer season. *Kingbird* 28: 230-233.
- Pitzrick, Vivian M. A late White-throated Sparrow. *Allegany County Bird Club News* 12: 86.
- Poole, Alan. Ospreys in New York. *N.Y.S. Conservationist* 33 (3): 5.
- Powell, George V. N. and H. Lee Jones. An observation of polygyny in the Common Yellowthroat. *Wilson Bulletin* 90: 656-657.

- Puleston, Dennis, Brookhaven, L.I., New York 404-0725. In Atlantic Flyway Review, Region III. *North American Bird Bander* 3: 34.
- Raynor, Gilbert. Manorville, L.I., New York 405-0724. In Atlantic Flyway Review, Region III. *North American Bird Bander* 3: 34.
- Raynor, Gilbert. Manorville, L.I., New York 405-0724. In Atlantic Flyway Review, Region III. *North American Bird Bander* 3: 128.
- Raynor, Gilbert. In memorium—S. Leroy Wilcox 9 Oct. 1899-13 Aug. 1978. *North American Bird Bander* 3: 170-171.
- Rebovich, William. The Eastern Wild Turkey in Genesee County. *Prothonotary* 44: 56-57.
- Reilly, E. M., Jr. Lillian C. Stoner (Obituary) *Kingbird* 28: 158.
- Rew, Frances M. Winter bird population study (Chautauqua County). *American Birds* 32: 32.
- Richard, Hannalore and Sam Chevalier. Brown Boobies at Riis Park, Queens County. *Kingbird* 28: 32.
- Riexinger, Patricia, William T. Corbett and William Sharick. Hooded Merganser breeding in Schoharie County. *Kingbird* 28: 30-31.
- Sabin, Walton B. New York State waterfowl count, January 1978. *Kingbird* 28: 210-214.
- Salzman, Eric. Owl Pond. *Linnaean News-Letter* 32 (1): 3-4.
- Scheider, Fritz. Region 5: Oneida Lake Basin. *Kingbird* 28: 112-115, 180-185, 246-250.
- Sedwitz, Walter. Concerning nesting House Sparrows. *Linnaean News-Letter* 32 (3): 1-2.
- Sedwitz, Walter. Possible cold weather feeding habit of Rough-winged Swallows. *Linnaean News-Letter* 32 (4): 1.
- Shoumatoff, A. Science takes up medieval sport to help Peregrines: re-introduction program on Shawangunk Ridge, New York. *Smithsonian* 9: 58-65.
- Slack, Roy S. An unusual Black-capped Chickadee at Phoenix, New York. *North American Bird Bander* 3: 56-57.
- Slack, Roy S. Life expectancy of newer-issue size 1-A bands. *North American Bird Bander* 3: 99.
- Smart, Robert W. Highlights of the fall season. *Kingbird* 28: 33-35.
- Smart, Robert W. Highlights of the winter season. *Kingbird* 28: 97-100.

- Smart, Robert W. Highlights of the spring season. *Kingbird* 28: 162-164.
- Smith, Gerald A. and David G. Muir. Derby Hill spring hawk migration update. *Kingbird* 28: 5-26.
- Smith, P. William, Robert O. Paxton, and David O. Cutler. Regional reports: Hudson-Delaware region. *American Birds* 32: 1142-1147.
- Spahn, Robert. Region 2: Genesee. *Kingbird* 28: 39-41, 104-107, 168-172, 237-240.
- Spahn, Robert. Red-necked Grebe invasion. *Kingbird* 28: 95-96.
- Spahn, Robert. The ability of a Saw-whet Owl to see by day. *Kingbird* 28: 161.
- Spencer, Barbara J. Region 10: Marine. *Kingbird* 28: 125-128, 197-200, 260-264.
- Spitzer, P. R., *et al.* Productivity of Ospreys in Connecticut-Long Island increases as DDE residues decline. *Science* 202: 333-335.
- Stapleton, James. Breeding bird census (Ulster County). *American Birds* 32: 54.
- Sunderlin, Mary Ann. Bill-cleaning behavior in White-winged Crossbills. *Kingbird* 28: 94.
- Threlfall, William. Dispersal of Herring Gulls from the Witless Bay Sea Bird Sanctuary, Newfoundland. *Bird-Banding* 49: 116-124.
- Treacy, Edward D. Region 9: Delaware-Hudson. *Kingbird* 28: 56-60, 122-125, 194-197, 257-259.
- Trimm, H. Wayne. Sketch book look at bird flight. *N.Y.S. Conservationist* 32 (5): third cover.
- Welles, Mary. TV tower kill at Elmira. *Kingbird* 28: 159-161.
- Yeaton, Samuel C. Golden Eagle over Anthony's Nose. *N.Y.S. Conservationist* 33 (3): 12-15.
- Yunick, Robert P. Photographs of New York State rarities: Black Guillemot. (Essex County). *Kingbird* 28: 67-69.
- Yunick, Robert P. The balance at the feeder. *North American Bird Bander* 3: 48-51.

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

Unusual nesting site of Yellow-rumped Warbler: On 18 May 1980 a hotel guest reported a Yellow-rumped Warbler (*Dendroica coronata*) building a nest on a balcony outside Room 329 of the Mohonk Mountain House at Mohonk Lake, New Paltz, Ulster County. I pursued the report with skepticism, expecting to find an Eastern Phoebe or Barn Swallow, but the guest was right. The nest was located on a horizontal wooden beam that supports the roof eave of a balcony on the northwest side of the Mountain House building. The distance to the ground was 35 feet. The nest itself was always in shade, and the surrounding woodwork was a medium green color. The male and female were both seen. The female, when flushed, would perch on a rocking chair a few feet away. On 27 May the nest contained four eggs, and on 2 June five. The eggs had hatched by 11 June, and two young were seen flying from the nest on 20 June.

Bull (*Birds of New York State*, 1974, p. 486) states that the species is a "common breeder at higher elevations, but rare southward; most numerous in the Adirondacks." Harrison (*A Field Guide to Birds' Nests*, 1975, p. 186) says that nests are typically in conifers, occasionally in deciduous trees. Twenty feet is an average height above ground, and four or five eggs are usual.

The Yellow-rumped Warbler has made news at Mohonk Lake once before. At the turn of the century, according to Bull, it was confined as a breeding bird to the Adirondacks and Catskills, and was first reported nesting outside the mountains, in Clinton Co., in 1922. In 1952 it was discovered nesting at Mohonk Lake and the nearby Lake Awosting (elevations 1,250 and 1,867 feet), these being the southernmost nest records in New York State. If this adaptation to a man-made structure is more than a fluke, the comparative safety of such a nest site could conceivably lead to a further expansion of range and population.

Bradley Snyder, The Mohonk Trust, New Paltz, NY 12561

Yellow-headed Blackbird at Derby Hill, Oswego County, New York: At about 9:15 EST on 3 May 1980, the author was bird banding in a field on Derby Hill, near the Lake Ontario shore. From a blind, I noted a flock of eight or ten icterids flying eastward, several hundred feet in front of the blind and approximately 30 feet above hilltop level. The flock consisted of Common Grackles (*Quiscalus quiscula*) and several Brown-headed Cowbirds (*Molothrus ater*). One bird, however, was easily recognizable as an adult male Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*). I stepped out of the blind and was clearly able to see the yellow head and breast and the white wing patches without the aid of binoculars, as the bird passed over the hill.

The Yellow-headed Blackbird has been recorded on at least two dozen occasions in New York State (Bull, *Birds of New York State*, 1974). A mid-summer record of this species at Lacona, Oswego Co., 6-13 July 1969, and a spring record at Tonawanda, Erie Co., 5-17 May 1967 were reported by Bull (1974). Other more recent spring sightings include: Centereach, Suffolk Co., 19 Feb.-25 April 1978; E. Walden, Orange Co., 16 Apr. 1978; Rochester, Monroe Co., 20 April 1978; Endicott, Broome Co., 20 May 1979; and W. Sayville, Suffolk Co., 17 March-15 April 1979. There is also a fall record of two individuals at Sandy Pond, Oswego Co., 4 September 1978 (see Regional Reports, *Kingbird*). In view of these records and the observation reported here, it seems that this species is a regular, although rare, spring migrant in New York State. To the author's knowledge, this sighting constitutes the third record of the species in Oswego County.

Roy S. Slack, Terrestrial Environmental Specialists, Inc., Phoenix, NY 13135

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SPRING SEASON

MANNY LEVINE

For the last two years, this department has been written by various guest editors from different parts of the state. Just about the time this issue was being readied, John Farrand and I made the painful discovery that neither of us had invited anyone to write the "Highlights." That meant that one of us would have to do it. We argued mightily. I lost.

After brooding about it for awhile, I decided to use my editorial prerogative and do these "Highlights" a bit differently. I believe that most people read the "Highlights," their own region in detail, and perhaps, the introductions to other regions in the state. This time, other than finding specific reference to a couple of spectacular records, later in this report the reader will have to work his way through each region to find out what happened in the state this spring. The time spent will be well worth it, and a complete perusal of the state's regions should become a quarterly habit.

Most birders are aware of an official list of "Endangered" species, compiled by the U.S. Dept. of the Interior, and including such birds as the California Condor, Whooping Crane, Bald Eagle, and Peregrine Falcon. The publicity surrounding these "Endangered" species has certainly made its impression upon anyone even faintly interested in nature and conservation. However, there is another list that cries out for attention, and that is the "Blue List" compiled by Robert Arbib of *American Birds*. The species appearing on that list are those whose populations seem to be declining and which therefore should be monitored. If you wish to find out exactly how and why each of these species was placed on this list, I refer you to *American Birds*, Vol. 33, No. 6, p. 830-835.

For the purpose of this "Highlights," I will attempt a correlation of the New York spring season with the "Blue List" of 1980, skipping of course those species on the list that are extralimital. As you read on, you may be surprised at some of the birds listed, but please keep in mind that the list is compiled on a national and not a state basis.

Common Loon—Three regions in our state normally see enough migrants to permit an evaluation. Region 1 refers to a poor flight, Region 2 a fair flight, and Region 10 omits any reference to the species at all. Region 7, where the species has historically been a com-

mon breeder, suggests that human intrusion is taking its toll.

Red-necked Grebe—Region 1 and Region 2 advise that the spring flight was “good,” and “excellent,” respectively.

Double-crested Cormorant—Region 5 uses the adjective “moderate,” Region 6 says “increasing,” Region 8 says “regular,” and numbers were good in Region 10.

Great Blue Heron—Regions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 specifically point out increases. However, the other five regions do not list a single record. It is hoped that this is a case of observers simply not reporting its presence and I suggest that the regional editors might in the future make specific requests on this and other species.

Black-crowned Night Heron—Only Region 3 makes a positive statement. There is no mention in Region 10. Presumably this is simply because observers were more interested in warblers.

Least Bittern—It is hard to get a reading on such a secretive bird. Seven regions did not record the species. The total number of sightings in the state is six individuals.

American Bittern—Region 5 reports the species “still in low numbers,” Region 8 notes “many reported,” while Region 9 says “unusually scarce.”

Black Duck—Region 3’s Montezuma high figure of 900 is not very impressive. Region 5 simply states, “all ducks in low numbers,” and Region 6 says, “still decreasing.” This hard-to-miss species is not even listed in five of our regions.

Canvasback—This handsome diving duck is of course a winter visitor and not a spring migrant. Again, Montezuma numbers are not high. The zero listing in Region 6 is deemed “unusual.”

Turkey Vulture—Arbib points out that only in the Northeast is this bird showing no evidence of a decline. This is borne out by the remarks in each region of New York State, with increasing numbers in all regions. It is even mentioned on Long Island in Region 10, where it is indeed an unusual sight.

Sharp-shinned Hawk—The encouraging trend of recent spectacular fall flights is reflected in high spring counts.

Cooper’s Hawk—Another encouraging spring of good numbers.

Red-shouldered Hawk—The picture is mixed, with a “doing well” in Region 1, a “decrease” in Region 2, “resident birds scarce” in Region 7, five reports in Region 8, and a few more reports than usual in Region 9.

Marsh Hawk—Seems to be holding steady throughout the state. Region 10 of course is the fall stronghold for this species, but even so it is surprising that not one bird was recorded in Region 10 this spring.

Osprey—A pair nesting in Montezuma represents the first known nesting in Central New York. Region 10, of course, is the important nesting area in New York, and in that region the recovery of the Osprey continues apace. Perhaps this bird may soon come off the “Blue List.”

American Kestrel—Derby Hill had fairly good numbers this spring and Region 6 commented favorably. However, there were seven regions that did not list the bird at all. In view of its inclusion on the “Blue List,” I would hope that in future seasons, the editors will prod their observers for reports on this species.

Merlin—It is hard to get a reading on a species that is so rare a spring migrant and does not breed in the state. Only Region 9 makes any comment, other than listing a number, and the comment is, “more reports than ever.” I wonder how many were American Kestrels?

Bobwhite—For decades this bird has been rare in New York State. This spring’s reports point out just how rare, even discounting the higher elevations where it has never occurred. Only Region 4 and Region 9 report the species, and the grand total is only two.

King Rail—Never a bird readily observed, it is mentioned only in Region 3. Certainly its declining habitat plays a part.

Piping Plover—This plaintive voiced March migrant is really not expected anywhere but Region 10. One did show up in Region 3, but nowhere in the Region 10 summary will you find the name listed. Let us hope that this reflects the season’s concentration on “dickey” birds, and not the true picture.

Common Tern—Region 2 says “scarce,” Region 4 reports two birds, Region 5 gives only an arrival date, and Region 8 says “a few.” Let’s look at Region 10, because that’s where they all are, but nary a one is reported. Hopefully, the breeding season report will give us better information and correct this oversight.

Roseate Tern—Only Region 10 would be involved here, and again we come up with nothing. I am sure this is merely a lack of input that will be corrected in the next issue.

Least Tern—Not a single bird of this species was reported this spring in the entire state.

Black Tern—Region 2 states, “numbers seem good in marsh breeding areas,” Region 5 comments that the bird was seen in normal numbers, Region 1 just gives a number (13), and Region 8 mentions “a few.”

Yellow-billed Cuckoo—Of course this has always been absent at higher elevations, but one would think that this caterpillar killer would be having an excellent spring in the rest of the state. Only Region 4 and Region 9 comment on excellent numbers.

Barn Owl—Specifically, one bird in Region 2 and two birds in Region 8, with Region 9 stating “normal.” What is “normal”?

Long-eared Owl—This is an exact repeat of the previous species, which means that both of these species went unreported in seven of our ten regions.

Short-eared Owl—Due to its diurnal habits, this should be a little easier to get a reading on, but the results are not much better, with only four regions in the state reporting.

Whip-poor-will—Reported in seven of the state’s ten regions, but only in very small numbers.

Common Nighthawk—Region 2 says, “dismally low,” Region 4 reports four, Region 5 says “scarce,” Region 6 says “one only,” while Region 8 and Region 9 give us hope with “numerous reports” and “good spring flight” respectively.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird—This one is frightening. Region 4 reports one, Region 5 says, “scarce,” Region 6 lists two, and Region 9 says, “very few,” and that is it for the state.

Red-headed Woodpecker—Region 5 should provide the bulk of the reports, but only had eight sightings. Region 1 had a dozen records, and there is a smattering of other records throughout the rest of the state.

Hairy Woodpecker—Region 1 comes up with an encouraging “lots of . . .,” and Region 6 says, “some improvement,” but several other regions don’t record the bird at all.

Eastern Phoebe—It is heartening to read, “numbers up” in Region 1, “seemingly completely recovered” in Region 4, “more than last year” in Region 6, and “up in numbers” in Region 9. How are we to interpret the lack of any mention in Regions 2, 3, 8 and 10?

Willow Flycatcher—This species, of course, represents a special identification problem, but based on where the bird should occur in New York State, Region 1, 2, 3, 8 and 10 say nothing. Region 5 gives only an arrival date, and Region 9 says, “up in numbers.”

Least Flycatcher—Sit up and take notice—Region 4 gives us the number 48, Region 5 uses the adjective “widespread,” and Region 6 alludes to one bird. The rest of the state—a blank.

Purple Martin—Always absent at higher elevation, only Region 3 says anything encouraging. Region 10 is most gloomy on this one.

Eastern Bluebird—Region 1, “doing beautifully,” Region 2 for some reason is silent, Region 3 comments favorably, Region 4, “encouraging numbers,” Region 5 and Region 7 are negative, Region 8 positive and Region 9 says, “good nestings,” but reports heavy losses due to blowflies.

Winter Wren—Region 1 reports that the count is up. No other region gives us such hope.

Carolina Wren—Region 9 advises that the species seems to be coming back strong. No other region makes any other comments, but of course the bird never did occur at higher elevations or in the northern part of the state.

Golden-crowned Kinglet—Regions 1, 2, and 3 report glowingly on the bird. Region 7, which should be a plus, makes no mention.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet—Identical to the above, except of course that this mite is not expected in Region 7.

Loggerhead Shrike—A few scattered reports throughout the state. Most birders have been made aware of the recent scarcity of this species in New York State, and are no doubt on the lookout for it.

Warbling Vireo—Region 1 lists the first nesting for the region, region 4 says, “more than usual,” Region 6 says, “very abundant,” Region 7, “well-represented” and Region 9 “numbers up.” That’s encouraging.

Yellow Warbler—Surprised this is on the list? Well don’t be, as you won’t find it listed in fully seven out of the state’s ten regions.

Yellow-breasted Chat—Never very widely distributed in the state, this report only mentions about a half-dozen birds.

Eastern Meadowlark—Another one you might question? Don’t, because it is missing from eight of the ten regions.

Grasshopper Sparrow—Never very numerous in the state except on Long Island, it is distressing that it receives no mention in Region 10. There are scattered reports from Regions 1, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 9.

Henslow’s Sparrow—Hardly ever reported away from its breeding grounds and a localized breeder at that, only Region 2 reports “good count,” with four other regions reporting too.

Vesper Sparrow—Six regions mention this species. The most dis-

turbing comment is from Region 1 which gives the figure 25 and points out that last year's count was 226. Region 3 uses the words, "very low," and Region 6 the adjective, "poor."

I am sure that I am going to get protests from various people who will point out that many of the birds on this "Blue List" are species that eager spring birders just don't pay any attention to, in their quest for the unusual and the rare. That may be correct, but I would suggest that the regional editors make an effort to have their observers report on all of the avifauna, as this is one of the purposes of *The Kingbird*, to get as true an overall picture as is possible.

Speaking of the "unusual and rare," mention must be made of the White-fronted Geese in Regions 1, 2, and 5, the Barrow's Goldeneyes in Regions 1, 6 and 9, Swainson's Hawks in Regions 2 and 5, a Gyrfalcon in Region 5, a Spruce Grouse in Region 6, LeConte's Sparrow in Region 3, and White-faced Ibis, White Ibis and Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in Region 10.

Going one step further from the "unusual and rare" to the hair-raising, take a look at Region 2 and you will find New York State's first records for the Ferruginous Hawk and for Hutton's Vireo. I write this very matter-of-factly but I assure you this is not the way I reacted when I first read the report. Both of these records have been submitted to NYSARC, as well as several other records from Region 2 and from other regions as well. NYSARC action on 1980 records will be reported in *The Kingbird* in 1981. As pointed out in Vol. 28, No. 2, p. 75 of *The Kingbird*, the publication of a record in the Regional Reports does not imply that NYSARC has approved the record, or even that the record has been submitted to NYSARC. Records appearing in the Regional Reports have been approved by a regional editor. It is hoped that certain records will be submitted to NYSARC, but this is entirely up to the observer.

585 Mead Terrace, South Hempstead, NY 11550

REGION 1 – NIAGARA FRONTIER

VIVIAN MILLS FITZTRICK

While the winter just past was relatively mild and snow free, to hone the mind, as weather change is supposed to do, and to remind us that our Temperate Zone can be stubbornly intemperate, March came in with the three coldest readings of the winter, breaking records with sub-zero temperatures of down to 14° F. (25.6° C.) below. Milder weather beginning in mid-month failed to bring the mean temperature above 26.2° F. (-3.2° C.) by the 28th, making this the fifth coldest March in thirty-five years of Olean records. At Wellsville, precipitation was near normal, the light snowfalls never accumulating to cause problems. Although the Great Lakes shipping season opened March 24th, the earliest ever, small lakes were icebound until April 4th. April was slightly warmer and drier than usual. However, May was very warm and dry with temperatures averaging 2.2° F. (1.2° C.) above normal and precipitation 2.4 inches (6.1 cm.) below normal.

Although some observers noted that migration was about a week late and there were few early arrivals, variety was excellent. The dry weather stunted foliage making nest finding easier, especially during the nesting boom the final week of May. The spring rabbit production was the best in years and woodchucks and chipmunks were plentiful. But squirrels, mice and voles were seldom seen.

Positives of the spring include: 1) good reports of the Great Blue and Green Herons and an excellent Whistling Swan flight; 2) widespread Turkey Vultures and Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks; Red-shouldered and Broad-winged Hawks doing well; Marsh Hawks holding steady; and Ospreys thriving; 3) fair numbers of Ruffed Grouse and a good Turkey population; 4) lots of Hairy Woodpeckers; 5) many Great Crested Flycatchers, and Eastern Phoebe barely holding their own; 6) a few more titmice; 7) three "first nesting" documentations for Allegany County; 8) the Brown Creeper count up and the Eastern Bluebird doing beautifully; 9) better kinglet numbers with a strong late April flight of the Ruby-crowned; 10) an increasing Warbling Vireo population and a good warbler flight in early May with more than usual Bay-breasted; 11) a lusty Rusty Blackbird flight; and 12) an abundance of Purple Finches, and continued augmentation of House Finch territory.

Negatives of the spring include: 1) a poor flight of loons and grebes, and only one Double-crested Cormorant; 2) a disappointing duck season; 3) continued low numbers of Red-tailed Hawks, and a drop in the American Kestrel population; 4) chronically few Ring-necked Pheasants; 5) Killdeer less common, and smaller numbers of the American Woodcock; 6) scarcity of Yellow-billed Cuckoos and Screech Owls; 7) no improvement in Horned Lark numbers, and a drop in swallow populations; 8) a weak flight of the Red-breasted Nuthatch, and low wren and Mockingbird tallies; 9) shrikes almost out of the picture; 10) little improvement in status of the Eastern Meadowlark; 11) not so many Evening Grosbeaks, and a poor Pine Siskin flight; and 12) practically no Vesper Sparrows, only here and there a Fox Sparrow, and a continued reduced Song Sparrow population.

Rarities include Cattle Egret, White-fronted Goose, Barrow's Goldeneye, Gos-hawk, Bald Eagle, Whimbrel, Saw-whet Owl, Acadian Flycatcher, Common Raven, Prairie Warbler, Yellow-headed Blackbird and Clay-colored Sparrow.

Abbreviations: AC—April 13 Regional bird census, directed by the Buffalo Ornithological Society (BOS hereafter); EEC—Environmental Education Center; GMA or WMA—Game or Wildlife Management Area; NC, NP or NS—Nature Center, Preserve or Sanctuary; NWR—National Wildlife Refuge; Res—Reservoir; SF or SP—State Forest or Park.

Contributors: Michael Allen, Robert Andrie, Sharon Baumgardner, Elizabeth Brooks, Doris Burton, Lou Burton, Donald Clark, Jane Clark, Ed Curtis (Weather Data, Wellsville Water and Light), Christine Ferrand, Helen Graves, Harland Hale, Dolly Hawkins, Matthew Hotchkiss, Doris Hurlburt, Claribel James, David Junkin II, Clarence Klingensmith, Erma Larson, Katherine Palmer, Raymond Pitzrick, Vivian Pitzrick, Frances Rew, Ann Scott (AnS), Earl Schriver, James VanScoy, Regina VanScoy; and initiated observers: Victor Carpenter, Arthur R. Clark (ARC), Dorothy Danner, Stephen Eaton, Flora Elderkin, Marcy Foster, Fred Meyer ("Bird Notes," *Olean Times Herald*), Alice McKale, Willard McKale, Harold Mitchell, John Morse, Odmund Olsen, Arthur Schaffner, Michael Zebehy.

LOONS—DUCKS: It was a very poor spring Com. Loon flight with only 17 on the AC and other reports totaling 16 birds from eight locations, while Red-necked Grebes numbered 18 on the AC and one was found at South Dayton Apr. 18, and the max of the Horned Grebe flight was but 35 at Langford Pond Apr. 18. When Mrs. Palmer saw the Double-crested Cormorant at Keeney Swamp Apr. 30 (KP, H. Morse), she exclaimed, "I don't believe it!" It is a rare sight here as was the CATTLE EGRET at Alabama May 14 (JM). Other noteworthy long-legged waders include: two Great Egrets on the AC plus seven others, total, from five areas; ten Black-crowned Night Herons in the Buffalo and Grand Island areas (none on the AC); and single Am. Bitterns at three Allegany Co. locations, near Farmersville Sta. and at Tonawanda WMA, all during May. High counts from the Whistling Swan flight were 500 at Celoron Mar. 20, 215 at Clarence Sinks Mar. 23, 105 at Cuba L. Mar. 24 and 122 at Newstead Sinks Mar. 26. The Canada Goose migration peaked at 39,000 at Iroquois NWR Apr. 1, while several nestings were noted: a pair at Beaver Meadow EEC in Apr., the pair under the Clarks' living room window again at Farmersville Sta. in Apr., and four pairs in Hume Twp. producing a total of 13 yg. in May. A WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE was found for the AC, marking the fifth consecutive year for the species in our Region. In addition to 25 Snow Geese (morph?) found near Alfred Mar. 20, singles of the white morph were at Newstead Sinks Mar. 26 and in the Town of Yates Apr. 20, and max three in the Oak Orchard-Iroquois wildlife complex from late Mar. through Apr. "Blues" consisted of one at Oakfield Mar. 30, two at Iroquois MWR Mar. 27 and three in the Town of Yates Apr. 20. In general it was a poor duck season, with those on the AC numbering higher than last year: Gadwall—54, Pintail—472, Blue-winged Teal—411, No. Shoveler—82, Redhead—203, Canvasback—1253, Lesser Scaup—3020, and Ruddy Duck—18. Max. reports, with a few additional notes, for spring ducks were: Mallard, 32 at Cuba L. Mar. 27; Black Duck, 16 in Amity Twp. Mar. 4, 111 on the AC, and 12 yg. with ad at Scio May 18; Gadwall, 16 at Buckhorn Is. SP May 10; Pintail, 16 at Iroquois NWR Mar. 11; Green-winged Teal, 30 at Tonawanda WMA Apr. 6; Blue-winged Teal, 40 at Randolph Apr. 8; Am. Wigeon, eight at Cuba Marsh Mar. 24; No. Shoveler, 20 at Randolph Apr. 8; Wood Duck, nine in Hume Twp. Apr. 25 and 14 yg. here with ad. May 28; Redhead, 56 at Celoron Mar. 16; Ring-necked Duck, 40 at Celoron Mar. 16; Canvasback, 1253 on the AC (no other reports); Greater Scaup, 534 on the AC (only report); Lesser Scaup, nine near Wellsville Apr. 5; Com. Goldeneye, 260 at Celoron Mar. 8; BARROW'S GOLDENEYE, singles at Niagara Falls irregularly Mar. 1-15 (RA, MF, AS) and at Celoron Mar. 8 (AS), probably the same birds that appeared here during the winter; Bufflehead, 25 on the Allegheny R. (Portville-Vandalia) Apr. 2; Oldsquaw, 14 at Amity L. Apr. 12; White-winged Scoter, ten at Cuba L. May 1; Ruddy Duck, 32 at Silver Creek Res. Apr. 18, plus eight other birds, total, from

three locations; Hooded Merganser, 18 at Silver Creek Res. Apr. 18; Com. Merganser, 500 at Dunkirk Harbor Mar. 8 (also two in Hume Twp. May 11 suggesting possible breeding); Red-breasted Merganser, 3500 at Dunkirk Harbor Mar. 23 (FR)—a goodly number!

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Maxima from hawk flights, one day reports, and all over Pinehurst except as otherwise noted were: Turkey Vulture, 124 on Apr. 7; Sharp-shinned Hawk, 273 at Hanover May 3; Red-tailed Hawk, 39 at Hanover May 3; Broad-winged Hawk, 1037 at Hanover May 3; Rough-legged Hawk, two on Apr. 7 (last for season over Pinehurst, one on Apr. 26); Marsh Hawk, three at Hanover Apr. 20; Osprey, four at Hanover May 3; and Am. Kestrel, 32 on Apr. 17. Five **GOSHAWK** nests were reported from Allegany Co., with five nestlings banded (DB, LB, ES, VP); one failed when a Great Horned Owl killed the three yg. and ad. on the nest (ES). Single nests were also reported from Cattaraugus and Erie Counties (MA, RA); other single birds were identified at Eggertsville Mar. 8 (AM, WM), at Farmersville Sta. Mar. 20 (DC), in Alma Twp. Mar. 23 (G. Smith, D. King), and at New Albion May 25 (Chapple). Resident Sharp-shinned Hawks numbered 13 from 12 locations and Cooper's, 16 from 11 areas. A nest of the latter in Allegany Co. had five nestlings in late May (ES, VP). Although here also, two nests of the Red-shouldered Hawk produced at least two nestlings each, at another a dead ad. was found, the victim of a Great Horned Owl (ES, DH, EB). Closing out a mediocre Rough-legged Hawk year were spring reports well into Apr. of only 15 birds counted from nine locations. A **BALD EAGLE** was recorded on the AC and up to three (imm.) were seen irregularly at the Iroquois-Oak Orchard complex from Mar. 20 to 26 (JM, OO, AS+). 13 widespread locations reported a total 17 Marsh Hawks, and 16 Ospreys were found on the AC as well as 21, usually singles, from 16 areas, throughout Apr. and May. Always exciting to see are the secretive rails with sharp-eyed observers finding: Virginia Rail, singles at Iroquois NWR Apr. 23 (JM) and Kent Switch Apr. 26 (FR, Buck); and Sora, one at Burgeson Sanctuary May 12 (FE). The only reports of the Com. Gallinule were two at Clarence May 4 (AM, WM) and one at Tiff Farm NP May 25 (HM+), and of the Am. Coot, singles at Tonawanda WMA Apr. 9 and at Amity L. Apr. 12. As usual, the spring shorebird flight was rather dull, but with a few bright spots, including: **WHIMBREL**, one at St. Bonaventure Univ. May 22 (SE+, *vide* FM), first in Cattaraugus Co. since 1953; Upland Sandpiper, two on the AC, singles over Pinehurst Apr. 20 and at Kiantone May 21 and two at Java Center Apr. 27; Solitary Sandpiper, one early at Clarence Apr. 20 (Wendlings); White-rumped Sandpiper, two at Tiff Farm NP May 25 (HM+); Dunlin, one early at Riverside Apr. 5 (FE) and one at Cuba L. May 18 (SB)—unusual for the Southern Tier. Some interesting larids for the season were: Glaucous Gull, seven birds, total, from five locations; Iceland Gull, one on the AC at Strawberry Is., Niagara R., Apr. 13 (AS, MZ); Caspian Tern, two at Langford Pond Apr. 20 and one at Iroquois NWR Apr. 25; and Black Tern, 13 birds, total, in three areas of the Southern Tier.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Although the Black-billed Cuckoo was widespread, only one Yellow-billed was reported, in Amity Twp. May 22. Near Alfred two yg. Great Horned Owls were banded and a Barred Owl nest with two yg. was found (EB, ES). Other notable owl reports include: Screech Owl, one at Farmersville Sta. Apr. 26, the only one; Snowy Owl, a single bird on Grand Is. Mar. 17; Short-eared Owl, five on the AC; **SAW-WHET OWL**, one in the town of Sheridan Mar. 14 (Freeland). A single Whip-poor-will for the Region was found at Iroquois NWR May 15 (OO). A nice flight of the Com. Flicker was observed with max 94 over Pinehurst Apr. 20 (AS, ARC), while three Red-headed Woodpeckers were tallied on the AC and nine were totaled from five sites in May.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Noteworthy among flycatcher reports were: E. Kingbird, 85 over Pinehurst May 17; **ACADIAN FLYCATCHER**, one at Times Beach, Buffalo, May 20 (RA, MF); Olive-sided Flycatcher, singles at the Allegheny Res. May 12 and at Forestville May 31; and E. Phoebe, 113 on the AC (60 last yr.). A Tree Swallow arrived early at Iroquois NWR—Mar. 20 (OO). A flight of Blue Jays occurred over Pinehurst with a total of 2082 birds for May 17, 22 and 23 (AS, ARC). Single **COMMON RAVENS** were

found in three separate locations near Bolivar May 4 (D. & E. King, G. Smith). Although the Tufted Titmouse is doing slightly better with ten areas reporting a total of 18 birds, some other species are not, as shown by these notes: Winter Wren, eight on the AC (better than the four last yr.) and only one other, at Alfred Apr. 29; Carolina Wren, singles at Medina Mar. 1-31, Allenberg Bog May 3 and Forest Lawn May 4; Long-billed Marsh Wren, singles at Beaver Meadow EEC May 18 (DJ) and at Tiff Farm NP May 25 (HM+); Short-billed Marsh Wren, one at Iroquois NWR May 31 (RA+); and Mockingbird, three on the AC (five last yr.), two near Alfred Apr. 11 and singles in Amity Twp. and at Friendship May 23. Tally on the AC for the Brown Creeper was 97 (23 last yr.) and documented for the first time in Allegany Co. was a nest of this species near Amity L. on May 3 (VP). Although we feel that these figures are far from complete, reports for the E. Bluebird are heartwarming: 54 birds on the AC (18 last yr.), a total of 71 ads. from 25 areas, and nestings: eleven pairs in the Amity L. area (fledging 35 yg.), and single pairs in Hume Twp. (three yg. fledged), near Wellsville (at least two nestlings & three eggs), and at Farmersville Sta. and Petrolia. Three locations reported a total of five Blue-gray Gnatcatchers. Kinglet numbers improved a bit with 162 Golden-crowned on the AC (61 last yr.) and six on the Alfred breeding territory in May (EB) while there were 28 Ruby-crowned on the AC (none last yr.) and max of the flight was 25 near Alfred Apr. 26 (CK). 1083 Cedar Waxwings appeared over Pinehurst May 23 (AS, ARC). Shrikes were absent except for a Northern at Allenberg Bog Mar. 8 and 9 (Chapples) and four Loggerheads on the AC.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: A Yellow-throated Vireo appeared at Spring Brook May 5 and three on the 31st (DD) and a Philadelphia Vireo was seen at Beaver Meadow EEC May 19 (DJ). Another first for Allegany Co. was documentation of a Warbling Vireo's nest a mile south of Belmont, 45 feet up in a sugar maple tree on May 20 (VP). Making it an exciting warbler season were: Nashville Warbler, up to ten near Alfred and 14 in the Amity L. area during May; No. Parula, singles in three locations; Yellow-rumped Warbler, back on nesting grounds, two pairs near Alfred Sta. (EB, CK) and one on Reddy Rd., north of Amity L. (VP) in May; Cerulean Warbler, singles in Amity Twp. May 12 and 29 and at Iroquois NWR May 16; Blackpoll Warbler, at least eight counted from seven locations; Pine Warbler, one late, in the town of Porter May 26 (AM, WM) plus three other singles; **PRAIRIE WARBLEDER**, one at Tiff Farm NP May 11 (RA+), three near Alfred, late, May 12-30 (EB, CK) and three, also late, on Reddy Rd. north of Amity L. May 22 (VP); No. Waterthrush, 12 from seven sites; Louisiana Waterthrush, singles at Friendship Apr. 21 and 22 (Compton, SB), at Houghton irregularly, Apr. 26-May 13 (VC) and near Alfred May 12 (CK); Yellow-breasted Chat, two on the Allegany Co. census May 18; and a Hooded Warbler near Alfred May 14 (CK).

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Max of the fine Rusty Blackbird flight was 125 at Eggertsville Apr. 9. Generally very small numbers of the E. Meadowlark were reported, with 369 on the AC, but one appeared at Beaver Meadow EEC Apr. 20, where it is uncommon (DJ). A **YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD** was seen at Derby Apr. 26 (Kirchners). Only 945 Evening Grosbeaks were tallied on the AC (3277 last yr.) and although max for the season was 200 in Wales Mar. 22, total reported bandings were only eight at Limestone (RV), 25 at Farmersville Sta. (DC) and 27 at Alfred Sta. (EB). Highest single count of the now common House Finch was 50 at Scio Mar. 30 (VP, RP), while the first-documented nest for this species for Allegany Co. was spotted by J. Jordan in a juniper at Burtons', Belmont, Apr. 21 and produced at least one yg. (DB, LB); another House Finch nest was found in Stannards May 11 (HG) and a third was discovered in Friendship May 3 (Comptons). Good numbers of the Am. Goldfinch were around all season with a flight of 200 over Pinehurst May 17 (AS, ARC). In addition to the max six Red Crossbills found in Alfred Sta. areas irregularly May 3-24 (CK, EB) were eight at Wilson Cemetery May 26 (AM, WM). Noteworthy sparrow reports include: Grasshopper Sparrow, singles at Beaver Meadow EEC May 24, near Alfred irregularly May 13-28, and in Amity Twp. May 23 with two at the last location

on May 27; Henslow's Sparrow, max four in each of two Alfred areas May 5-31, and one at Iroquois NWR May 6; and Vesper Sparrow, 25 on the AC (226 last yr.), singles in the town of Newstead Apr. 9 and near Alfred May 25 and 28, and two at Amity L. Apr. 20. The western form of the Dark-eyed Junco, tentatively identified as *Junco hyemalis cismontanus* and banded at Limestone last winter, was still seen at the feeder there in late Mar. (RV). A CLAY-COLORED SPARROW was identified at Hamburg May 1 (ARC, McNeil) while the Chipping Sparrow, banded in Feb. at the Burtons' in Belmont and which spent the winter there, was seen there through Apr. (DB, LB). The Fox Sparrow numbered only 21 on the AC (165 last yr.) with other reports totaling 16 birds from eight areas, while the Lincoln's Sparrow wintering in Wellsville was still there May 3 (EL); five others of the latter species were reported from four sites. Last of the Snow Buntings for the season were 80 at Riverside Mar. 12 and ten at Alfred Mar. 20.

Amity Lake, Belmont, NY 14813

REGION 2 – GENESEE

ROBERT SPAHN

This was a season of bland, uniform weather. Following the warm winter, spring, too, averaged warmer than usual. There were no major storms and few significant peaks or valleys in temperature; it simply gradually warmed from winter through to early summer. In March and April, the average high temperatures were a bit below normal, but lows were above enough to hold the averages $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1° F. above normal. May was more than 2° F. warmer than average. Throughout the period precipitation was below normal with only two significant snowfalls, March 14 and 22, and rain or brief showers on only 17 days, totalling 5.2 inches (13.2 cm) of moisture for the season. Warm spikes in the flat pattern occurred on March 19 and 28, April 7 and 21, and May 3, 17, 23 and 31.

Regional birding records generally matched the weather pattern—flat! Migrants dribbled through at average to late dates with few major waves. The hawk flight saw only one really exciting day, and even then the birds passed on a wide front with significant numbers seen over 10 miles inland from the lakeshore. With a friendly year-listing contest in progress, many observers spent much time in the field and a large number of unusual records resulted, most with many corroborating observers. There were a few very early arrival dates, an unusually large number of western vagrants, a few southern overshoots, and one of the best single-day shorebird flights on record. Included among the vagrants were two new state records, a regional first, and several birds seen less than five times previously in the spring. The lack of southern migrants overshooting is probably due to no warm nights or strong S-SW winds until well after they should have been on breeding territories. The western vagrants may be associated with the massive pushes of warm air through the west and midwest well up into Canada with fronts from Alaska then sweeping down across the top of these to our area, cutting off the early warm weather, but possibly picking up western overshooting migrants.

With the migration late and few finches about, the local Big Day date seemed ill-timed at May 18, but the combination of a warm day and SW winds to 11 P.M. on the 17th followed by rain until dawn and switching E to SE winds all day resulted in the best shorebird flight in recent memory and several party counts exceeding 170, with 183 as a high "single party" total. The regional total will certainly reach a new high. The total shorebird picture will be documented later, when all reports can be compiled and analyzed.

The observations on trends which follow once again warrant a reminder of their strong and not really well understood ties to weather patterns and observer activity. Positives include: good waterfowl, generally, though most moved out early; excellent Canada Goose counts; another good, increased hawk total, in spite of a lack of exciting single days; the good shorebird day, in spite of lack of good habitat; good peak days for many passerine migrants; both kinglets back to very good numbers; and Henslow's and Grasshopper Sparrows good in appropriate habitat. Negatives include: the fishing mob scene from late March to May, eliminating any chance of inshore resting or feeding by waterfowl on Lake Ontario; very high lake levels, in spite of little rainfall or snow cover—seaway effect; gulls low; Common and Caspian Terns scarce; Winter Wren low; Loggerhead Shrike still low; too few good passerine migrant days; and a lack of the usual large flocks of passerines moving along the lakeshore. Illustrative of observer effects is few Virginia or Sora Rails reported, yet any stop at a marsh with tape produced a response this spring.

Rarities: Snowy Egret, Glossy Ibis, White-fronted Goose, Swainson's Hawk, Ferruginous Hawk, Sandhill Crane, Willet, Stilt Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit, phalarope sp. (probably No.), Barn Owl, Common Raven, White-eyed Vireo, Hutton's Vireo, Prothonotary Warbler, Townsend's Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Connecticut Warbler, Western Meadowlark, Yellow-headed Blackbird, Western Tanager, and Summer Tanager.

Abbreviations: BB—Braddock Bay State Park; H—Town of Hamlin; HP—Hogan Point (Bill's Point), Greece; IC—Island Cottage Woods, Greece; K—Kendall; LP—Letchworth State Park; and WL—West Lakeshore.

Observers: Ron & Kay Ballard, Doug Bassett, John Brown, Jean Browning, Nancy Boudrie, Bill, Brad & Steve Carlson, Mike Carlson, Carolyn & Roger Cass, Julie Claffey, Anne Clarridge, Roger Clark, Bob & Dottie Coffee, Bill Colman, Paul Conklin, Mike Davids, Fritz Davis, Gertrude Davis, Frank & Robert Dobson, Jeff & Joan Dodge, Jim & Kay Doris, June Feder, Arlieen & John Foster, Dick Garnham, Genesee Ornithological Society, Kevin Griffith, Robert & Sandra Hazen, Norm Henderson, Øivind Jensen, Doug Keim¹, Allen & Bea Kemnitzer, Bob & Jane Kesselring, C. Knobel, John Koopmans, Bob & Charlotte Ladwig, Edith Lank, Jim Lenhard¹, David Levy, Walter Listman, Warren Lloyd, Hayward Madden, Peg Magee, Frank & Mary Mattei, Margaret & Robert McKinney, Mike McKeon, Gordon Meade, Hyde Miller, Ann Miranian, Laura & Neil Moon, Jane Morris, Richard O'Hara, Bernie Olin, Chip Perrigo, Mike & Tom Peter, Pat Reister, Rochester Birding Association, Marge Schmale, Dominic Sherony, Jeanne & Sharon Skelly, Robert & Susan Spahn, Ann Stear, Helen Steinhäuser, Harriet Stride, Brian, Dan, David, Allan & Grace Strong¹, Mary Ann Sunderlin, William Symonds, Sarah Talpey, Steve Taylor, David, Mike & Tom Tetlow, Bob Thomen, Mike Tunison, Ann & Joe Watson, Eleanor Weld, Paul Weld, Kinsley Whittum¹, Munro Will, Doris Wilton, Alice Wood, and Peter Zachmann. P.O.S. = 1. Big Day Groups: G1 = Dawn Anthony, Ø. Jensen, W. Lloyd, R. Spahn, & M. A. Sunderlin; G2 = Tom Hamp-

son, Bob Herndon, Allan Klonick, G. Meade, Steve Oresman, & Joe Taylor; G3 = K. Griffith, D. & S. Sibley, & Clay Taylor; and G4 = M. Carlson, R. Clark, C. Ferrigo, W. Symonds, and S. Taylor.

LOONS-DUCKS: The loon flight was only fair with most birds passing far offshore with the large number of boats certainly a factor. The Com. Loon max. was 200+ E. lakeshore Apr. 21. Red-throated Loon was very scarce: one Webster May 18, was late. Red-necked Grebe numbers were good again: 68 H. Mar. 28; 135 Parma Mar. 29 (CP,RCI); 74 Webster Mar. 30; and 32 Greece Apr. 3. Horned Grebe was fairly good, Pied-billed Grebe low again, particularly by May. Records of 1-2 Double-crested Cormorant were scattered thru from mid-May on. The heron family was generally relatively scarce except for Great Blue and Green. Cattle Egret: one H May 10; and 1-2 HP May 11-17, appeared only briefly again. Great Egret appeared early: one BB Mar. 25 (RL, mob); and 1-2 were seen sporadically thru. There was only a single **SNOWY EGRET:** IC May 11 (mob). The first **GLOSSY IBIS** in several years was: one ad. H May 2 (RS, mob); and BB May 3 (R & KB, PR), undoubtedly the same bird. Waterfowl were generally unspectacular, in average March dates and out by early April except for breeders and very few stragglers. Interesting records include: Whistling Swan: 55 BB Mar. 23; and 60 K Mar. 29; Canada Goose: 40,000 BB Mar. 20 (AK), the best in memory at this location; **WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE:** 13 BB Mar. 6-13 (MD, mob), a new state high count; one imm. Pt. Breeze Mar. 26 (MD, WS); and one ad. Pt. Breeze Apr. 19 (RCI, MD, CP); Brant: 25 Webster May 18; and 150 Perinton May 18 (G1, mob); Snow Goose: one H May 1-11 (mob), late; Pintail: max 1200 K Mar. 23 (F & RDo); Ring-necked Duck: max 175 WL Mar. 30; and Com. Merganser: one pair LP May 18 (WS).

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Rather than publish partial totals, the tally for the Braddock Bay hawk watch will wait for completion of the observations on June 30 and will appear with the summer report. Again L. & N. Moon, a few faithful helpers, and many occasional passers-by have provided daily coverage from late Feb. In spite of the lack of really big days, the total raptor count has reached a new high. Major changes from last year are large increases in Sharp-shinned Hawk and Broad-winged Hawk and a decrease in Red-shouldered. Most of the other species fall within normal data scatter (in fact, the apparently significant changes may also eventually be found to lie within reasonable annual or longer term cyclical bounds). Other than the Hawk Lookout birds, interesting raptor reports include: **SWAINSON'S HAWK:** one ad. K Apr. 25 (WL); **FERRUGINOUS HAWK:** one ad. light phase Parma May 3 (MD, KG, RS), a first state record; Golden Eagle: four records; Bald Eagle: nine birds, including the Hemlock Lake pair; Osprey: 14 HP Apr. 27 (F & RDo), in only one-and-a-half hours; Peregrine Falcon: four reports; and Merlin: eight birds. Ring-necked Pheasant continues low while Turkey was found near Sodus Bay and in the towns of Wheatland, Scottsville, and Murray in addition to previous reporting localities. Once again **SANDHILL CRANE** passed thru: one BB May 26 (SH, MD, RDo, mob), probably to be expected annually. Rails were very poorly reported, but indicative of their abundance is Virginia Rail: eight IC Apr. 12, at a single point. The wintering Virginia Rails and Sora were reported from Mendon Ponds Park thru mid-March. While shorebird habitat is poor, the list of noteworthy records is long, primarily reflecting the large flight of May 18. Of particular note are: Am. Golden Plover: six BB May 18; Black-bellied Plover: one HP Apr. 23, early; and max 15 HP & BB May 18 (G1); **WHIMBREL:** total 100 lakeshore May 18 (several groups); **WILLET:** one BB May 18 (G3); one HP May 18 (G3, mob); and one Summerville May 18 (G1); Lesser Yellowlegs: max 80 H May 3 (F & RDo, mob); White-rumped Sandpiper: max seven H May 18; Least Sandpiper: one Perinton Apr. 23, early; and max 100+ WL May 18 (GL); Dunlin: 10 H Apr. 8 (MD), early; Short-billed Dowitcher: 1000+ WL May 18 (G4); and 600+ WL May 18 (G1), very high spring counts inland; **STILT SANDPIPER:** one H May 18 (G1, mob); one K May 18 (mob); and two HP May 18 (mob); Western Sandpiper: one Perinton May 12, 18 (RS, mob); and one Carlton May 18 (G2); **MARBLED GODWIT:** one H May 9 (RS, mob); Wilson's Phalarope: eight birds, including two pairs, in Perinton and Hamlin, the latter present more than a week, May 22-31; and **PHALAROPE**

(sp.), probably No.: one Sweden Apr. 6 (JKo, BM), description strongly suggesting No. though Red not entirely eliminated; in any case, an unprecedented inland phalarope date. Gulls and terns were uninspiring, at best. There were only five Glaucous Gull reports, with one ad. BB May 13 (MD), late. The single Iceland Gull appeared at BB Apr. 29. The only Little Gull was: one ad. BB May 25. Com. and Caspian Terns were quite scarce this spring. Interestingly, Forster's Tern appeared first with two to three BB Apr. 11-12 a first date and sporadic sightings from then thru. Black Tern: three HP May 2, was a bit early; their numbers seem good in marsh breeding areas.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: The least exciting group this season. Owls of note were: **BARN OWL:** one BB Apr. 8 (MD, KG-photo), always a good find; **Snowy Owl:** one Henrietta thru Mar. 22; **Long-eared Owl:** one K May 17-18 (RCl, mob), usually little reported after April; and **Short-eared Owl:** max 15 H thru Mar. 15. The rest of the group expected in western New York were all reported, but in usual numbers at normal dates. Many birders and casual observers did note an apparent boom in Mourning Doves, particularly in residential areas. Com. Nighthawk remains at the dismally low levels of the past several years.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: While generally a bit late arriving, flycatchers were in good numbers. Records of note include: **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** six banded Manitou May 31 (RM); **Acadian Flycatcher:** two Bergen Swamp May 24 thru (MD, RS, mob), at the breeding area of the past several years; and two calling IC May 31 (RS, DT), regular at that location at that date; and **Olive-sided Flycatcher:** numerous reports May 11 thru. Among the swallows, **Cliff Swallow:** one Greece Mar. 22 (RDo), was a state record early date, appearing sitting on a tree limb in a feeder area during a snow storm; and 15 nests BB by late May, is an encouraging increase; and **Purple Martin:** one BB Mar. 20 (L & NM), was very early. The Blue Jay and crow flights along the lakeshore were noted, but not enumerated. For the third time in the past four springs a single **COMMON RAVEN:** Greece Mar. 15 (RCl), was observed passing. **Winter Wrens** were few. **Carolina Wren** popped up at a few different locations during migration. **Short-billed Marsh Wren:** one IC May 5 (KG-photo), was very early; and two **Scottsville** May 24, was their first appearance at a regular breeding area. One **Gray Catbird:** IC Apr. 9, might be considered an early migrant. **Thrushes** were generally normal, with only **Swainson's Thrush:** one Durand-Eastman Apr. 27, a bit early. Both kinglets appeared in good numbers over an extended period, rebounding well from lows of the past several years. **Water Pipit:** 150 H May 13, was a good count. **Loggerhead Shrike** remains low with only a few migrants noted at typical lakeshore locations.

VIREOS-WARBLED: Arrival dates were average to late in this group. There were no March records at all, no April vireos, and few April warblers. Many of the species enjoyed excellent peak days, but these were few. Once again, the overall picture was one of limited numbers. Among the interesting vireo records were: **WHITE-EYED VIREO;** one Murray May 18 (KD, mob); **HUTTON'S VIREO:** one Brighton May 6 (JeD), a new state record, observed at close range and studied carefully by a former California birder well acquainted with the field marks and separation from kinglets; **Philadelphia Vireo:** one Irondequoit Bay May 7 (RS), very early, chased off by a gnatcatcher; and three in one tree Manitou May 29. The warblers accounted for many interesting, bright spots in this dull spring: **PROTHONOTARY WARBLER:** one IC May 11 (WLi); and one **Scottsville** May 18 (JT); **Orange-crowned Warbler:** five records WL May 10-18, certainly a regular, though rare visitor here; **Cape May Warbler:** one IC Apr. 20 (WLi, MAS), a very early date; **TOWNSEND'S WARBLER:** one sub-ad. male BB Apr. 20 (PR, RS, NM, mob), a new regional record, identifiable photos by KG and JSk; and one ad. male IC May 19 (R & JK), well-described; the usual few **Pine Warblers** recorded along the lakeshore Apr. 20-early May and at LP breeding areas May 17 thru; **Prairie Warbler:** 1-3 **Canadie** May 17 thru at the breeding colony location, and one IC May 18 (JT); **Palm Warbler:** 15 IC May 5, a good count, typical of local pockets of abundance this year; **Louisiana Waterthrush:** one IC May 14 (NH, PR, mob), a rare lakeplain appearance; **KENTUCKY WARBLER:** one Manitou May 29 (RS), a sharp contrast to last

year's plenty; CONNECTICUT WARBLER: one IC May 23 (RS, mob), singing, taped by FDo, responded well to its own voice; and one BB May 25 (MD, mob), again singing; Mourning Warbler was numerous the last week of May; and Wilson's Warbler: one IC May 6, was very early.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: one K Apr. 28, was a bit early; they were very common this spring. There were three WESTERN MEADOWLARKS: one K Apr. 4 (CP); one K May 9 (NH); and one Pultneyville May 14 thru (FDa, mob), seen courting and attempting copulation with an E. Meadowlark May 15 (R & SS). YELLOW-HEADED BLACK-BIRD: one male Honeoye Apr. 21 (CK), was this season's only report. Orchard Oriole appeared at several locations: 2-4 Pt. Breeze May 10 thru, at the usual breeding area; one H May 11 (M & RM); one IC May 17 (CP, CC); and one BB May 24 (WLi). Another western vagrant was WESTERN TANAGER: one male Irondequoit May 6 (VM, D, *fide* R & SS—identifiable photo), apparently only the second regional record; another male was rumored from Pittsford a few days later, but not verified. From the south appeared SUMMER TANAGER: one male LP May 18 (PC, DB), well-described. House Finch continues to boom with reports received of numbers of birds in new and old locations scattered all over the Region. The "winter" finches remained very scarce. Interesting was Red Crossbill: 10 Irondequoit May 18-20 (MTu). There were few noteworthy sparrow reports, though all of the expected species were recorded. The most interesting representatives were: Henslow's Sparrow: 25 HP May 4, a good count for one large field; Fox Sparrow: one Manitou May 18 (SO), a very late date; and Lincoln's Sparrow: one IC May 4 (CP, mob), very early.

As a caution to those who might attempt a seasonal species tally, for whatever reason, from the necessarily sketchy data here and in the other regional reports, the regional seasonal total was 259, bearing no resemblance to the total of the above records.

716 High Tower Way, Webster, NY 14580

REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

W. E. BENNING

March, perhaps, came the closest to being a normal month in an otherwise very mild and snowless winter. Spring was rather backward during April with consistent, cold northwest winds. May brought more normal temperatures but was decidedly dry.

Seasonal positives: 1) Highest number of Snow Geese (both morphs) ever at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. *The Kingbird* report of 1960 shows 56 at the Refuge. This number increased to 1,000 in 1970 and 15,000 in 1980. A remarkable species success story or just a change of flyway? 2) a pair of Ospreys incubating at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. Bull's *Birds of New York State* shows no previous nesting records for central New York. 3) More Black-billed Cuckoo reports. 4) An abundance of Barn Swallows and American Robins. 5) Encouraging reports of more Eastern Bluebirds nesting in Tompkins County. 6) A spreading tide of House Finches.

Seasonal negatives: A delayed migration with much of the passerine movement being late, especially the flycatchers, swallows, vireos and warblers. Many species

were one to two weeks late. 2) very low numbers of dabbling ducks. No large flocks of scaup. 3) A disastrous shorebird season. There was little available mud-flat habitat in the Region. Elmira provided most of the records. While most of the common species were seen, there were very few individuals of most species. 4) Scarcity of Rough-winged and Cliff Swallows. 5) Thrush numbers appear to be down. 6) Low numbers of most warblers. Only Yellow, Yellow-rumped and Common Yellowthroat were in any numbers. No "warbler waves" reported by anyone.

Rarities: Louisiana Heron, Peregrine, King Rail, Piping Plover, Laughing Gull, Fish Crow, Yellow-throated, Kentucky and Connecticut Warblers, Orchard Oriole, Blue Grosbeak, Dickcissel, LeConte's Sparrow.

Abbreviations: Cay—Cayuga; Co—County; EOSBD—Eaton Ornithological Society Big Day May 17; L—lake; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; Sen—Seneca; * starred—details on file.

Contributors and compilers: W. E. Benning; Vernon Dewey (MNWR); Bernice Hilfiker; Wilfred Howard; Herbert and Polly Keating; Malcolm Lerch (Penn Yan); Dorothy McIlroy (Ithaca); Mary Welles (Elmira).

LOONS—DUCKS: Com. Loon: five reports from Elmira; 15 on Cay L May 17; eight still on Keuka L at Branchport May 26. Red-necked Grebe: one Sheldrake Apr. 20. Double-crested Cormorant: one Milliken Station, Cay L Apr. 18; up to five at MNWR thru the period. Great Blue Heron: 45 EOSBD. Green Heron: 14 EOSBD. LOUISIANA HERON: two flying over Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary May 6 (R. Brooks)*. Black-crowned Night Heron: numbers at MNWR appear to be up a bit. Least Bittern: one Ithaca airport ponds Apr. 22; one Michigan Hollow May 6; one Cornell Fish Ponds May 21.

The following waterfowl numbers were furnished by the MNWR personnel:

Whistling Swan	15	Apr. 15	Wood Duck	700	Mar. 31
Snow Goose	15,000	Apr. 30	Redhead	150	Mar. 31
Canada Goose	55,000	Apr. 30	Ring-necked Duck	200	Mar. 31
Mallard	2,400	Mar. 31	Canvasback	50	Mar. 31
Black Duck	900	Mar. 31	Greater Scaup	40	Mar. 31
Gadwall	500	Mar. 31	Com. Goldeneye	150	Mar. 31
Pintail	2,000	Mar. 31	Bufflehead	125	Mar. 31
Green-winged Teal	500	Apr. 30	Ruddy Duck	45	Mar. 31
Blue-winged Teal	500	Mar. 31	Com. Merganser	300	Mar. 31
Am. Wigeon	1,500	Mar. 31	Hooded Merganser	150	Mar. 31
No. Shoveler	200	Apr. 30			

Brant: 14 Branchport May 18-19. Ducks: Ring-necked: 18 Elmira Mar. 29. Oldsquaw: two Elmira Apr. 9; 14 Dryden L Apr. 12; nine MNWR Apr. 18. White-winged Scoter: one Sheldrake Apr. 6; two Dryden L Apr. 12. Surf Scoter: Sheldrake Apr. 20.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: above average numbers in the northern part of the Region. 40 migrating north of MNWR May 31. Goshawk: a nest at Ithaca and one south of Brooktondale were both abandoned. Sharp-shinned Hawk: one EOSBD; one Elmira May 17; also reported at Ithaca. Cooper's Hawk: reported regularly at Ithaca; three EOSBD. Red-tailed Hawk: nesting at Phelps; an albino bird on a nest at Ithaca. Red-shouldered Hawk: one Elmira Apr. 8 and an active nest near Groton. Rough-legged Hawk: one Penn Yan in March; last report was Mar. 25 at Ithaca. Bald Eagle: imm. at MNWR May 5. Marsh Hawk: singles at MNWR Apr. 7 and 18; reported regularly at Cornell seminars. Osprey: one Elmira Apr. 16; two Ditmer Scout Camp near Phelps May 17; a pair is incubating on a nest at MNWR. PEREGRINE: one Ithaca airport pond Apr. 24 (J. Hines)*. Merlin: one Ithaca air-

port Apr. 3 (Lynn Oliphant). Ring-necked Pheasant: 11 EOSBD. Turkey: a flock of 14 reported at Elmira (A. Smith); Carol Fenton observed courtship display near Newfield. **KING RAIL**: one answered a tape recording near a Michigan Hollow beaver pond May 17 (Confer *et al*)*. Am. Coot: max 300 MNWR May 31. **PIPING PLOVER**: one Elmira May 6 (MW)*. Black-bellied Plover: two MNWR May 31. Upland Sandpiper: two early birds at Elmira Apr. 21; one Etna Apr. 26. Greater Yellowlegs: 15 Potter May 4. Pectoral Sandpiper: one Elmira Apr. 5. Short-billed Dowitcher: 25 Elmira May 13. **LAUGHING GULL**: one at Stewart Park in Ithaca Apr. 26 (J. Erickson)*. Bonaparte's Gull: 30 south of Canoga Apr. 13, 52 Elmira Apr. 15, 150-200 Cay L Apr. 17; 40 Sen L May 17.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Yellow-billed Cuckoo: reported from Ithaca May 12 and MNWR May 17. Black-billed Cuckoo: numerous reports during May. Great Horned Owl: two young in a nest near Phelps Apr. 22; two fledged from a Red-tailed Hawk's old nest near Wellsburg. Barred Owl: heard regularly at Erin and Ithaca; one May 17 at North end of eastern shore of Sen L. Whip-poor-will: one Ithaca May 13; two Elmira May 17; also heard south of Brooktondale but none at Penn Yan this spring. Com. Nighthawk: seen at Ithaca May 13 and Elmira May 17. Red-bellied Woodpecker: 25 EOSBD. Red-headed Woodpecker: an overwintering bird remained at a Phelps feeder until Apr. 25; a pair at Reeder's Creek, Sen Co. was observed to excavate four nesting holes.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Great Crested Flycatcher: 37 EOSBD. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: one Elmira May 18 (Dick Clements). Olive-sided Flycatcher: one Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary May 9; one Elmira May 14. Tree Swallow: the first birds were at Sheldrake Mar. 29 but they did not come in large numbers until Apr. 13. Bank Swallow: also arrived late; colonies at Burt Place, Ithaca, Slaterville Wildlife Preserve, Junius Ponds and in gravel pits east of Phelps. Rough-winged Swallow: very few reports; Cliff Swallow: four pairs nesting at Corning Community College; only other report was from Freeville May 13. Purple Martin: at one location in Elmira, which normally has martins, they came but then moved on. This was repeated several times during the migration. The houses at MNWR were well-filled. **FISH CROW**: heard regularly in Ithaca. Red-breasted Nuthatch: very scarce; the EOSBD found three and one remained at an Ithaca feeder until May 19. Winter Wren: several reports from the Elmira area. Carolina Wren: a few reports from Ithaca including a new location on May 29; one Elmira May 17. Long-billed Marsh Wren: one at Elmira May 5 was the first there in several years. Mockingbird: a pair seen in the Town of Varick, Sen Co. where they nested last year. Gray Catbird: one Cay Heights Mar. 29 was early. Wood Thrush: two early birds at Ithaca Apr. 13. Swainson's Thrush: one at Elmira Apr. 21 was early (Glenna Rowley). Gray-cheeked Thrush: one arrived early at Ithaca on Apr. 23 (R. Bonney)*. Eastern Bluebird: reports of nesting pairs are encouraging with two at Trumansburg and the probability of up to three more, four pairs near Ithaca, one on Connecticut Hill, one south of Perry City, one south of Newark and a pair with fledged young at Junius Ponds. Also a male was south of Clyde May 15 and 22, two at Breeseport and six tallied on the Elmira Big Day. Golden-crowned Kinglet: improving but still rather scarce. Three were still present at Tanglewood, Elmira on May 17. Water Pipit: many over the weekend of Mar. 23 at Ithaca and along Cay L. No. Shrike: one Elmira Mar. 22. Loggerhead Shrike: one Connecticut Hill Mar. 10 (L. McGuire); one Elmira May 28.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: White-eyed Vireo: at Ithaca one May 11 (Brook & Litwin) and one May 24 (S. Sabo); one Elmira May 17 (M. Welles). Philadelphia: at Ithaca May 10 and two later sightings; one Elmira May 17; two EOSBD. Warblers: Prothonotary: no reports. Worm-eating: Elmira May 6 and 17. Brewster's hybrid: one Guyanoga Valley, Yates Co; one Elmira May 14 and two May 17; one Phelps May 17. Yellow-rumped: wintering birds stayed at feeders near Clyde until Mar. 11 and at Phelps until Mar. 17. **YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER**: one May 7 Ithaca (V. Briggs & B. Mai); one Michigan Hollow May 17. Prairie: one singing at Branchport May 18 thru the period; reports from several areas around Elmira. **KENTUCKY WARBLER**: one Ditmer Scout Camp near Phelps May 17 (P. Trail).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER: one Ithaca May 4 (J. Erickson); one Connecticut Hill May 17. In addition to the above species the following were seen in the Region but in small numbers for most species: Vireos: Yellow-throated, Solitary, Red-eyed, Warbling. Warblers: Black-and-white, Golden-winged, Blue-winged. Tennessee, Orange-crowned, Nashville, No. Parula, Yellow (in abundance), Magnolia, Cape May, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Cerulean, Blackburnian, Chestnut-sided, Bay-breasted, Blackpoll, Pine, Palm, Ovenbird, No. Waterthrush, Louisiana Waterthrush, Mourning, Com. Yellowthroat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Hooded, Wilson's, Canada, Am. Redstart.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: 26 EOSBD. E. Meadowlark: down in numbers; only 16 EOSBD. **ORCHARD ORIOLE:** one EOSBD (P. Trail). Rusty Blackbird: few in number and departed early. **BLUE GROSBEAK:** one Ithaca May 1 (Jean Crump)*. **DICK-CISSEL:** one at feeder near Clifton Springs photographed Apr. 9 (P. Trail); also a delayed report of a bird photographed at an Ithaca feeder Dec. 20, 1979 (J. Lyons). Evening Grosbeak: small numbers present until mid-May; a singing male remained at Waterloo until the end of the period but no evidence of nesting. Purple Finch: widespread reports of small numbers. Red Crossbill: several at Ithaca Apr. 4 constituted the only report for the year. Grasshopper Sparrow: one EOSBD; ten Elmira Big Day May 17; also reported from Ithaca. **LE CONTE'S SPARROW:** one Connecticut Hill May 17 (J. Bandfield)* report submitted to NYSARC. Henslow's Sparrow: the only reports come from Ithaca. Vesper Sparrow: very low numbers but perhaps the decline has been halted. Tree Sparrow: after low numbers all winter the birds departed for their breeding grounds early. Lincoln's Sparrow: singles at Elmira May 7, Ithaca May 10 and Horseheads May 17.

RD 2, 793 Tyre Rd., Clyde, NY 14433

REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

LESLIE E. BEMONT

March started out with sub-zero temperatures but they were gone within a day or so. In fact temperatures were mild and seasonal pretty much all period, except for a few days in mid-April when temperatures were unusually high and again around May 6 and May 24 when they reached the 80's. Precipitation averaged on the low side, particularly in March and April, but there was a modest wet spell in mid-May.

The waterfowl migration was either skimpy or poorly reported, but the land bird migration was reasonably heavy. A few species such as Swainson's Thrush and Cape May Warbler were scarce, and of course the winter shortage of finches meant no siskins or redpolls to migrate back north, but generally the volume of migrants was good. That good volume is more apparent when adding up the score later than it was in the field at the time, since there were no spectacular waves. The spring count done at Oneonta May 17, with the number of individuals found of each species recorded, provided the best quantitative data for the season.

The two outstanding rarities for the period were a Gyrfalcon and a European Goldfinch. The Gyrfalcon was reported and described over the phone by a reliable observer, but, unfortunately, was only in view a very short time. The

European Goldfinch allowed more leisurely and close range viewing, and a written description was submitted. Also rarities in the Region, although not unprecedented, were a Kentucky Warbler and a White-eyed Vireo. The late dates attached to a couple of Northern Shrike reports make one wonder if one and possibly two Loggerhead Shrikes weren't missed?

Abbreviation used: O-P-M—Oneonta-Portlandville-Milford area.

Observers: Merton Bean, Jr.; Les Bemont (LB); Michael Bennett (MB); Bruce Bozdos; William Breidinger (WB); Jack Brownell (JB); Campus (Ithaca) Club Bird Study Group; Sally Carey (SC); Alvin Carpenter (AC); Lynn Clark; Mildred Clark (MC); Ann Cloutier; M. J. Corey; Jackie Covert; Anna and Marilyn Davis; Mary Dobinsky (MD); Jane Doig; Sadie Dorber (SD); Diane Drabo (DD); Ruth Enck (RE); Polly and Earl Getkin; M. Gordon; John Gustafson; Shirley Hartman; Hugh Havens; Elva Hawken (EH); Diantha Hemped; Philip Houck (PH); Pauline Hovemeyer (PH); Claude Howard (CH); Henry Kathman (HK); Paul Kelsey (PK); John Knapik; Margaret Layton; Jay Lehman (JL); Florence Linaberry; Leona McDowell (LMcD); Laurie Markowitz (LM); Harriet Marsi; Rick Marsi; Donald Miller; John New (JN); Francis O'Leary; Peter Petokas; James Riley; Harriet Robinson; Betty Rosher; Randy Ross; Robert & Jean Saunders; Mary Sheffield (MS); Robert Sheffield; Kenneth Stalter; Lori Stalter; Chris Theophanis; William Toner (WT); Elizabeth Washburn; Connie Wilkins; Kathryn Wilson (KW); Tom and Beryl Wilson.

LOONS—DUCKS: Com. Loon: first report Apr. 12 from Oneonta-Portlandville area; last reports were four in O-P-M and one in Walton area May 17; three other reports of single birds, all from the same areas. Horned Grebe: 43 at Whitney Point and 13 O-P-M Apr. 12; Apr. 19 Whitney Point the only other date. Pied-billed Grebe: one Portlandville Apr. 12, first; May 5 Oneonta Reservoir, last; four other reports, including one from Whitney Point and one from Norwich, of one or two birds each. Double-crested Cormorant: one flying along river at Binghamton Mar. 23 (CH). Great Blue Heron: 38 in two heronries in Cortland Co. Mar. 29 (WT); 21 counted O-P-M May 17, otherwise frequent but scattered reports of one to three birds in Apr. and May. Green Heron: one at Emmons, near Oneonta, Apr. 12 (JB) and one at Portlandville Apr. 24 (MD, KW), both early; next report May 4. Whistling Swan: one at Chenango, in Cortland Co., May 25 (PK) was very late and the only one reported all season. Canada Goose: Mar. 1 Candor, the first migrants; heavy flights Mar. 9 to 28, the best count Mar. 20 at Binghamton—49 flocks in two hours with up to 200 in each (AC); 175 or more May 3 at Choconut Center evidently still migrants; 21 counted in O-P-M May 17. Mallard: ubiquitous as usual; 36 in the O-P-M May 17. Black Duck: five Mar. reports from Cannonsville, Binghamton, Truxton, Sherburne and Upper Lisle; the one later report May 18 Binghamton area (EH *et al.*). Pintail: Mar. 20 Chenango, the only report. Green-winged Teal: Mar. 29 Whitney Point, first date; four at Upper Lisle Apr. 13 and small numbers in O-P-M May 1 to 17. Blue-winged Teal: Apr. 1 Chenango Bridge, first date; one O-P-M May 17 the only one after Apr. 27; best count 12 or more Apr. 13 Upper Lisle. Am. Wigeon: four reports from Mar. 29 Chenango Bridge to May 18 Whitney Point. Wood Duck: Mar. 20 Truxton, first spring report. Ring-necked Duck: Mar. 19 Cortland to Apr. 17 Portlandville; 14 at Portlandville Apr. 5 was the best count reported. Canvasback: Mar. 24 Truxton, the only report. Greater Scaup: three at Sherburne Mar. 23; two at Norwich Apr. 13. Com. Goldeneye: one Apr. 5 Portlandville, the last date. Bufflehead: Mar. 31 Chenango Bridge; two Apr. 12 O-P-M; the only reports. Oldsquaw: eight at Whitney Point and two O-P-M Apr. 12; 24 Apr. 15 Plymouth Reservoir, near Norwich, was best count and last date. White-winged Scoter: Mar. 10 Endwell; one Apr. 12 Whitney Point; two May 26 Whitney Point (MS). Black Scoter: two Apr. 12 O-P-M, the only report. Ruddy Duck: one Apr. 13 Mead's Pond, n. of Norwich (JL). Hooded Merganser: Mar. 10 Endwell; Apr. 4 Whitney Point; only one other report, from the southern tip of Skaneateles Lake, between. Com. Merganser: 47 Mar. 4. Cannonsville, the best count; frequent reports until May 17 O-P-M.

Red-breasted Merganser: eight at Whitney Point Apr. 12 and four May 5 Oneonta Reservoir, the only reports.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: one Apr. 1 Delhi; twelve May 17 O-P-M, max. Goshawk: one Apr. 20 Plymouth Reservoir (JL); May 20 Cortland. Sharp-shinned Hawk: seven reports. Cooper's Hawk: five reports. Red-tailed Hawk: 30 O-P-M May 17 in all day count; numerous other reports. Red-shouldered Hawk: four O-P-M May 17; four other reports, the first Apr. 20 at Plymouth Reservoir. Broad-winged Hawk: one Apr. 4 Delhi; next report Apr. 19 Endwell; one more Apr. report, then regular from May 3; best count ten May 17 O-P-M. Rough-legged Hawk: half a dozen Mar. and Apr. reports of one to three birds each, the last two birds Apr. 22 Cheningo. Bald Eagle: seven in view at one time, with actual number probably somewhat higher, Mar. 4 Cannonsville (SD); three Apr. 16 at East Meredith (HK). Marsh Hawk: two March, four Apr. and two May reports. Osprey: two Mar. 2 in Cortland area (LM) and two Mar. 13 Delhi (SC), both early; next report three Apr. 12 Portlandville then 14 more reports of one to five birds to May 17 from all reporting parts of the Region; one final bird May 26 at Oneonta. **GYRFALCON:** one bird Mar. 28 over Ingraham Hill s. of Binghamton—light-colored but not white, larger than Peregrine—direct flight, but hovered briefly once—shape of falcon—went directly overhead, about 40 feet up—in sight at most 15 to 20 seconds, in clear sunny weather (CH). Am. Kestrel: 30 O-P-M May 17; common and well-distributed all period as usual. Merlin: one May 28 Delhi (MC), no details. Ruffed Grouse: 18 O-P-M May 17; numbers increased over previous few years. Bobwhite: one May 17 O-P-M; May 21 Vestal Center. Ring-necked Pheasant: one male Mar. 8 North Norwich, one Apr. 27 Vestal; two May 17 O-P-M; one May 31 Portlandville-Milford; that's all! Turkey: up to 30 all season at Delhi; also at Virgil in Cortland Co. Mar. 23; at Kirkwood several times in Apr. and O-P-M between May 12 and 16. Virginia Rail: one May 17 O-P-M. Semipalmated Plover: one May 17 O-P-M; May 18 Binghamton. Killdeer: migrants Mar. 18 Vestal and regular after Apr. 1; 47 O-P-M May 17. Am. Woodcock: Mar. 18 s. of Binghamton, first migrants. Com. Snipe: one Apr. 12 O-P-M, first date; nine Apr. 19 Norwich, best count; five May 17 O-P-M. Upland Sandpiper: May 20 Cortland, the only report. Spotted Sandpiper: Apr. 20 Chenango Forks, first date; next report May 1; 44 May 17 O-P-M. Solitary Sandpiper: two May 1 O-P-M, first date; May 20 Cortland, the eleventh and last report; eight May 17 O-P-M, max. Greater Yellowlegs: Apr. 27 Whitney Point; three scattered reports May 10 and 11; one May 24 O-P-M; that's all. Lesser Yellowlegs: May 18 Whitney Point, the only report. Least Sandpiper: two May 17 O-P-M; six or more May 18 Whitney Point. Dunlin: one May 18 Whitney Point. Semipalmated Sandpiper: three May 17 O-P-M. Herring Gull: regular to Mar. 10, then scattered reports, the last May 18 Binghamton and Whitney Point. Ring-billed Gull: "thousands" of migrants, caught by a change in wind direction, congregated at Binghamton and along the Susquehanna River to Endicott Mar. 9, but were mostly gone the next day. Bonaparte's Gull: 37 at Homer Apr. 16, but no others. Com. Tern: one Apr. 24 and May 14 O-P-M.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: they seem to be everywhere. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: May 20 O-P-M; only four more reports in May; but still better than most of the last few years. Black-billed Cuckoo: one May 13 Norwich; ten more May reports. Screech Owl: two May 17 O-P-M and reported twice in Norwich area during the period, but that's all! Barred Owl: two heard at Shindigin Hollow in n. Tioga Co. May 13; one May 17 O-P-M. Whip-poor-will: May 1 at Hinmans Corners, No. of Binghamton; Com. Nighthawk: one May 12 Norwich, first date; also at Oneonta and Binghamton. Chimney Swift: five Apr. 24 Cortland; next report six May 3. Norwich; 51 May 17 O-P-M. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: one May 8 Delhi. Com. Flicker: one Mar. 23 Homer; 79 May 17 O-P-M. Pileated Woodpecker: ten May 17 O-P-M; six other reports of from one to three birds each. Red-bellied Woodpecker: Mar. 30 a pair in n.w. Cortland Co.; one Apr. 14 and 15 at Truxton. Red-headed Woodpecker: one previously reported at Truxton last seen Apr. 7. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: one Apr. 4 Delhi, the first date; regular reports of one to five birds from then to

the end of the period and from all reporting parts of the Region; 22 O-P-M May 17.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Eastern Kingbird: May 5 Oneonta, first date; 54 May 17 O-P-M. Great Crested Flycatcher: one May 4 Delhi; next reports May 12; 27 O-P-M May 17. Eastern Phoebe: Apr. 2 Vestal Center several days late, but seemingly completely recovered from their low of a few years ago. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: one May 31 Norwich, calling. Acadian Flycatcher: one May 24 Hamden, in Delaware Co. (MC, *et al.*), five observers, but no other details. Alder Flycatcher: one May 24 Norwich, the only report. Willow Flycatcher: one May 19 Norwich and May 26 Whitney Point. Least Flycatcher: first date May 5 Binghamton; 48 O-P-M May 17. Eastern Wood Pewee: one May 1 Portlandville-Oneonta (MD, KW), extremely early but no details. Olive-sided Flycatcher: one May 31 Choconut Center. Horned Lark: 72 Mar. 1 Milford and 10 Mar. 16 Homer, probably migrants. Tree Swallow: first date Mar. 23, five at Sherburne and one at Oneonta; Apr. 12 over 200 at Portlandville and over 100 elsewhere in O-P-M. Bank Swallow: first date Apr. 27 Upper Lisle. Rough-winged Swallow: two Apr. 27 Norwich. Barn Swallow: 15 O-P-M Apr. 12; next date Apr. 17. Cliff Swallow: 20 or more at Portlandville May 6 and several later May dates. Purple Martin: one May 4 Norwich; 16 O-P-M May 17; May 20 Cortland Co. Red-breasted Nuthatch: two Mar. 9 Norwich; no more until one May 15 and seven May 17 O-P-M. Brown Creeper: one singing Mar. 9 Norwich; six May 17 O-P-M. House Wren: first date Apr. 22 Chenango Forks. Winter Wren: one singing Apr. 24 to May 14 Milford; May 20 Cortland Co. Mockingbird: one Apr. 10 Oneonta; one May 1 Delhi; two May 3 Norwich; two May 17 O-P-M; May 31 Binghamton and Choconut Center. Gray Catbird: Apr. 20 Vestal; few until regular from May 7. Brown Thrasher: Apr. 23 Choconut Center. Am. Robin: probably migrants from Mar. 1 but certainly by Mar. 19. Wood Thrush: one May 1 Oneonta-Portlandville. Hermit Thrush: one Apr. 17 O-P-M; ten May 17 O-P-M; five other reports from Broome and Cortland Cos. and Delhi. Swainson's Thrush: one May 17 O-P-M; one May 20 Delhi; one May 24 Norwich; that's all! Gray-cheeked Thrush: May 17 Chenango Forks; one May 17 O-P-M; one May 24 Norwich. Veery: one May 1 Delhi. Eastern Bluebird: one Mar. 31 O-P-M, first date; regular and in encouraging numbers after Apr. 12; 18 O-P-M May 17. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: May 4 Chenango Valley State Park; one May 4 Preble Swamp, nest found May 10; six May 17 O-P-M. Golden-crowned Kinglet: one still at Norwich May 4. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: one singing at Norwich Apr. 7; frequent reports thru May 10; one still at O-P-M May 17 and Vestal May 18. Water Pipit: 30 Sherburne Mar. 23; six Franklin Apr. 23; four Norwich May 9. Cedar Waxwing: very few until ten O-P-M May 17, then becoming reasonably common by the end of May. No. Shrike: one Milford Mar. 1; Apr. 19 Homer (WT); one May 17 Hamden (LMcD, PH).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: WHITE-EYED VIREO: one May 10 Cortland (WB), "about five minutes of good sightings on him" by an observer experienced with the species in New Jersey and Virginia—only four or five previous records of the species in the Region. Yellow-throated Vireo: May 4 Chenango Forks; more reports than usual and 18 O-P-M May 17. Solitary Vireo: four Apr. 24 O-P-M; 19 O-P-M May 17. Red-eyed Vireo: one May 6 O-P-M. Warbling Vireo: one May 5 Delhi; more than usual; 18 O-P-M May 17. Black-and-white Warbler: one May 2 Cortland; numerous reports; 18 O-P-M May 17. Golden-winged Warbler: May 10 Choconut Center; eight reports in May, all from Oneonta and the Triple Cities. Blue-winged Warbler: May 7 Vestal Center; 16 reports in May from nearly all parts of the Region. "Brewster's" Warbler: two May 17 O-P-M. Tennessee Warbler: three O-P-M May 14 and same day Choconut Center; 23 O-P-M May 17; none after May 24. Nashville Warbler: one May 6 Delhi; a late first date but quite common later. No. Parula: May 16 O-P-M; one May 16 Norwich; May 20 Cortland; that's all. Yellow Warbler: one singing Apr. 27 Vestal; next report May 1, regular and common from May 3. Magnolia Warbler: four May 12 O-P-M and one same day Norwich. Cape May Warbler: May 13 Shindigin Hollow and Chenango Forks; five May 17 O-P-M; 1 Delhi May 17; two reports May 18 Binghamton area; that's all. Black-throated Blue Warbler: May 1 Bear Swamp, s. of Binghamton; no more until May 11; 27 O-P-M May 17; at Delhi May 20 a pair courting and copulating—a couple of days later a

nest was found containing three eggs, plus a cowbird egg. Yellow-rumped Warbler: five O-P-M Apr. 24 apparently the first migrants; common until May 18, then only the two at Oneonta-Portlandville May 24. Black-throated Green Warbler: May 7 Vestal Center. Black-burnian Warbler: May 5 Binghamton. Chestnut-sided Warbler: several reports May 10, the first date; 84 O-P-M May 17. Bay-breasted Warbler: three May 12 O-P-M; ten O-P-M May 17, five other reports and gone after May 20. Blackpoll Warbler: two May 17 O-P-M, first date; still at Norwich May 31. Pine Warbler: five O-P-M May 17, the only report. Palm Warbler: Apr. 26 Cortland, the only report. Prairie Warbler: May 24 Choconut Center and May 25 Vestal Center, the only May reports. Ovenbird: Apr. 27 Vestal Center. No. Waterthrush: May 4 Chenango Valley State Park; 25 O-P-M May 17. Louisiana Waterthrush: Apr. 17 Hinman's Corners. **KENTUCKY WARBLER**: one May 20 (MB, *vide* JN)—difficult to see, but sang all afternoon—song recordings reviewed before and after confirmation trip. Mourning Warbler: one May 14 O-P-M May 17; May 31 Choconut Center. Com. Yellowthroat: several reports May 5; 226 May 17 O-P-M. Wilson's Warbler: May 11 Cortland; two May 17 O-P-M; May 18 Binghamton, Canada Warbler: two May 10 O-P-M. Am. Redstart: one May 3 Delhi.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: May 6 O-P-M and Homer; 108 May 17 O-P-M. Eastern Meadowlark: Mar. 23 Homer; a little more common than in recent years. No. Oriole: May 4 Norwich. Orchard Oriole: May 20 Cortland. Rusty Blackbird: one May 11 Upper Lisle, the only report. Com. Grackle: common from Mar. 8. Brown-headed Cowbird: four Mar. 7 Norwich, first migrants. Scarlet Tanager: May 5 Cortland; 66 O-P-M May 17. Cardinal: 36 O-P-M May 17. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: one May 3 Delhi; 91 May 17 O-P-M; quite common. Indigo Bunting: May 5 Cortland (PhH), very early but no details; next report May 15 Chenango Forks. Evening Grosbeak: 40 or so May 4 Norwich, but last date May 16 O-P-M. Purple Finch: migrants Mar. 7, but most common from Apr. 16 to May 12. House Finch: 15 Norwich May 4, a singing male census within the city limits; 14 O-P-M May 17; 10 or more Cortland May 11. Pine Grosbeak: one May 2 at Otego (RE); the only report for the year so far. European Goldfinch: one Apr. 19 Delhi (SC); at a feeder four to five feet from a window—red, black and white around head, light brown back and black and yellow wings noted—stayed one afternoon and evening and then left. Red Crossbill: May 16 O-P-M, the only one during the period. Rufous-sided Towhee: Apr. 7 Cortland; next report two Apr. 19 Norwich; regular after Apr. 26. Savannah Sparrow: one Apr. 17 Delhi; 14 O-P-M May 17. Grasshopper Sparrow: May 20 Cortland; May 25 Choconut Center; the only reports. Vesper Sparrow: five Apr. 12 O-P-M; Apr. 27 Homer; one May 17 Delhi; repeat records in O-P-M but no other reports. Dark-eyed Junco: migrants and wintering birds considerably thinned out by Apr. 24, but 38 O-P-M May 17; last date May 24 but probably breeders. Tree Sparrow: the rather slim migration mostly over by Mar. 31; Apr. 10 Delhi and Apr. 13 Upper Lisle, the last. Chipping Sparrow: Mar. 8 Endwell (LB), apparently the bird reported on the Binghamton Christmas Census, banded and then disappeared again; Apr. 2 Kirkwood (DD); Apr. 14 Chenango Birdge (MS); full scale migration Apr. 19. Field Sparrow: Mar. 27 Vestal; one Apr. 6 Delhi; full migration Apr. 18. White-crowned Sparrow: one Apr. 29 Delhi; next record May 6 Kirkwood; last date May 19 also at Kirkwood; 31 O-P-M May 17. White-throated Sparrow: so many wintering birds the beginning of migration obscured, but it seemed evident about Apr. 19; 66 O-P-M May 17 and still at Choconut Center May 25. Fox Sparrow: one Mar. 27 Delhi and three reports of one bird each Apr. 10 to 19 at Norwich. Swamp Sparrow: one Mar. 9 Sherburne; no more until Apr. 12; 23 O-P-M May 17. Song Sparrow: first thin wave of migrants Mar. 1 O-P-M and Vestal, but not in full swing until Mar. 18. Snow Bunting: Mar. 1 near Johnson City and seven Mar. 16 Homer.

710 University Ave., Endwell, NY 13760

REGION 5 – ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

PAUL A. DeBENEDICTIS

A very mild Winter was followed by a cool, damp early Spring, and generally fine weather in May—a combination not entirely conducive to good birding. March and early April were a seemingly endless succession of rainy weekends, as often as not followed by flight days during the early mid-week. Oh, such frustrating weather! A long spell of northerly winds during late April and early May left the Lake Ontario littoral devoid of bird concentrations, but mild temperatures during this period encouraged the awakening of buds. Once again the leaves arrived before the insectivorous birds did, and this was another Spring for hunting warblers amid the foliage. The middle two weeks of May were a succession of good flight days; the worst flight day was 17 May, the date of the Regional Big Run! One easily got the impression that most of the migration was compressed into this short period, although most of the earlier arriving species had appeared on their nesting grounds before then. May ended in a week of the most delightful weather. Migrant birds, finding no reason to stop, passed over us and the usual late rushes of shorebirds, Tennessee Warblers, and Blackpolls did not occur.

Derby Hill once again received nearly continual coverage by Gerald A. Smith, and surprised everyone by producing between 55,000 and 56,000 raptors even though birds were seldom concentrated along the shore of Lake Ontario by southerly winds. April 26 produced the highest ever single day hawk total for Derby Hill—about 19,000 birds—on west northwest winds! Most hawks passed one to three miles inland, and would have been missed had not Smith spent most of the Springs observing from the “south lookout.” However, Smith comments that Sharp-shinned Hawks and Ospreys (in particular) appear to hold to the shore even in unfavorable winds, and may have been undercounted relative to the other species for this reason.

Establishment of a salmon fishery on Lake Ontario has impacted local water-bird populations in two ways. First, Alewife populations no longer build to the levels that caused kills to carpet Lake Ontario's beaches with dead fish each Spring. Numbers of fish-eating birds appear to have declined in proportion to the lower numbers of Alewife, and now are consistently lower than were reported a decade ago. The second impact is indirect. As soon as the rivers and bays feeding Lake Ontario are free of ice, an armada of small fishing boats cross the lake, particularly from Mexico Bay east, where most waterfowl concentrations traditionally occurred. Waterfowl do not tolerate this degree of disturbance, and vanish with the fleet's arrival. The mild winter only accelerated the inevitable conflict, and virtually no waterfowl concentrations were seen on Lake Ontario after late March. However, all observers agree that even at inland sites the waterfowl flight was exceptionally poor, probably even more so than can be explained by the generally open conditions that prevailed everywhere this Spring.

“Southern” herons were little in evidence, and no good sites for shorebirds were found this season. Sapsuckers, Winter and Carolina Wrens, Red-breasted

Nuthatches, and Hermit Thrushes remained scarce, but most observers felt that the two kinglets continue to improve in numbers; daily maxima for both species were about 30 birds this Spring. Impressive numbers of warblers came only from Oakwood Cemetery in Syracuse, 19-22 May. "Winter finches," as expected, were almost nonexistent. Grassland sparrows of all species were slow in arriving and low in numbers; no large concentrations of the other sparrows were found.

In spite of a lackluster flight, a surprising number of rarities were detected. The most outstanding of these include: White-fronted Goose, Swainson's Hawk, Gyrfalcon, Sandhill Crane, Stilt Sandpiper, Ruff, Great Gray Owl, Worm-eating and Kentucky Warblers, and Western Meadowlark. A total of 231 species (plus 2 additional forms) were reported.

Abbreviations: arr—arrival; DH—Derby Hill; LOL—Lake Ontario littoral; LSB—Little Sodus Bay and vicinity; max—maximum; mob—multiple observers; NYSARC—details to N.Y. State Avian Records Committee; SP—Sandy Pond and vicinity; StMC—St. Mary's Cemetery, DeWitt; Syr—Syracuse, *—photographed by.

Contributors: G. Church, K. Coyle, D. W. Crumb, P. DeBenedictis, R. Evans, S. Glessner, J. A. Lehman, R. E. Long, B. S. Peebles, M. S. Rusk, F. G. Scheider, G. A. Smith (for Derby Hill Bird Observatory), M. Stooks, E. VanDresar. Although most observations have not been credited to save space, this report would have been impossible without the most appreciated contributions of the above.

LOONS—DUCKS: Com. Loon: arr 3 Apr., max two on 20 Apr., both DH. Red-throated Loon: last 28 Mar., LOL, probably overwintering birds. Red-necked Grebe: only one reported. Double-crested Cormorant: 38 reported LOL 26 Apr. to 20 May. Green Heron: arr DH 6 May. Cattle Egret: singles DH 10 Apr. and 17 May. Least Bittern: only two reports SP after 22 May. Am. Bittern: still in very low numbers. Black-crowned Night Heron: singles 24 Apr. (Butterfly Swamp) and 20 May (SP) only—very scarce. Whistling Swan: two ad. Port Byron, one imm. LSB on 23 Mar. only reports. Canada Goose: omnipresent, max 8,000 DH 26 Apr. Brant: total about 650, most DH, 17 to 26 May, max 600 on 17 May. **WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE**: ad. Woodman's Pond, Madison Co., 19 Apr. (JL); the description suggests *flavirostris*. All ducks in low numbers, the only rarity a King Eider, LOL 16 Mar. (FGS).

HAWKS—ALCIDS: The commoner DH raptors are tabulated below.

Summary of Derby Hill Raptor Census

Species	Arrived	Maximum/Date	Last	Total
Turkey Vulture	10 Mar.	213/7 Apr.	17 May*	948
Goshawk	6 Mar.	5/28 Mar.	2 May	35
Sharp-shinned	10 Mar.	1,133/8 Apr.	11 May*	7,994
Cooper's	10 Mar.	58/28 Mar.	3 May	618
Red-tailed	20 Feb.	1,418/20 Mar.	26 Apr.*	7,809
Red-shouldered	10 Mar.	357/20 Mar.	8 Apr.*	1,208
Broad-winged	8 Apr.	14,301/26 Apr.	31 May*	34,047
Rough-legged	20 Feb.	27/8 Apr.	3 May	247
Golden Eagle	19 Mar.	5/28 Mar.	3 May	18
Bald Eagle	6 Mar.	5/20 Mar.	31 May*	12
Marsh Hawk	10 Mar.	85/8 Apr.	11 May*	518
Osprey	4 Apr.	42/26 Apr.	30 May*	275
Merlin	1 Apr.	2/30 Apr.	11 May	12
Am. Kestrel	10 Mar.	91/8 Apr.	2 May*	420

*—still passing on 31 May, 90% by date listed.

SWAINSON'S HAWK: light phase ad. 24 May (FGS—NYSARC), third DH record, GYR-

FALCON: "white phase," 19 Mar. (GS, T. Carrolan), 2nd DH record. **Peregrine:** single DH 11 May was only report! **SANDHILL CRANE:** ad. DH 26 Apr. (mob, *DWC, NYSARC). **Black-bellied Plover:** only 14 birds in two reports on 18 May. **Ruddy Turnstone:** only report SP 18 May. **Upland and Spotted Sandpipers:** both arr DH 20 Apr. **Greater Yellowlegs:** arr. Onondaga L. 10 Apr. (late), last LSB 19 May. **Lesser Yellowlegs:** arr. 19 LOL Apr. (very late), last LSB 19 May. **Red Knot, White-rumped Sandpiper and Sanderling** went unreported. **Pectoral Sandpiper:** seasonal total of seven (!) 29 Mar-20 May—amazingly low! **Short-billed Dowitcher:** only .10 reported 11 to 29 May. **STILT SANDPIPER:** two near Rome 10 May (SG)—first local Spring record; the brief description suggests partial breeding plumage and is hard to attribute to any other species. **Ruff:** female Port Byron 29 Mar. (FGS, mob). **Glaucous and Iceland Gulls:** last LOL 16 Mar. (early), **Bonaparte's Gull:** only seven reported 13 Apr.-17 May, low. **Com. Tern:** arr. 19 Apr. DH. **Caspian Tern:** arr. 24 Apr., one to two day in late May, all DH. **Black Tern:** arr. 10 May DH, only one to four day thereafter.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: **GREAT GRAY OWL:** Rt. 3 one mi. s. DH 10 Apr. (mob, banded Ed Hinkle, *DWC, NYSARC); later struck by car but recovered and sent to J. and M. Forness, who reported it to have been quite emaciated. It might well have not survived were it more cognizant of traffic! **Whip-poor-will:** arr. Pleasant Lake, Oswego Co., 10 May. **Com. Nighthawk:** arr. Syr. 15 May, scarce thereafter. **Chimney Swift:** arr. 20 Apr. DH **Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** arr. 11 May DH, scarce. **Red-headed Woodpecker:** only eight reports after 11 May. **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** migrants 12 Mar. to 6 May, only one report of more than 2/day.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: **Eastern Kingbird, Great Crested Flycatcher:** both arr 6 May, the first DH, the latter StMC. **Eastern Phoebe:** arr. DH 20 Mar., one to six day thereafter. **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** singles LOL 18 and 29 May, very scarce. **Willow Flycatcher:** arr. DH 16 May. **Alder Flycatcher:** arr. DH 21 May. **Least Flycatcher:** arr 5 May, widespread but a week late. **Eastern Wood Pewee:** arr DH 16 May. **Olive-sided Flycatcher:** only two reported, the first 24 May. **Swallows** generally in low numbers as migrants, arrival dates (all DH except first) are: **Tree—**19 Mar. (LSB), **Bank—**8 Apr., **Rough-winged—**6 Apr., **Barn—**9 Apr., **Cliff—**12 Apr., **Purple Martin—**4 Apr. **Com. Crow:** DH total ca. 40,400, max 18,550 on 10 Mar. **Black-capped Chickadee:** 10-15/day at DH in late Apr. **Red-breasted Nuthatch:** total of six reported 20 Apr. to 18 May. **House Wren:** arr. DH 26 Apr. **Winter Wren:** migrants 30 Mar. to 20 May, max five LOL on 20 Apr. **Carolina Wren:** only report a single StMC in Mar. (REL). **Long-billed Marsh Wren:** arr. Scott Swamp 10 May, numbers slightly improved over last year. **Gray Catbird:** arr. Eaton 6 Apr. **Brown Thrasher:** arr. LOL 20 Apr. **Am. Robin:** max 5,500 DH on 4 Apr. **Wood Thrush:** arr. StMC 5 May. **Hermit Thrush:** migrants 19 Apr. (late) to 15 May, max only 4. **Swainson's Thrush:** arr StMC 5 May. **Gray-cheeked Thrush:** arr. StMC 15 May. **Veery:** arr StMC 5 May. **Eastern Bluebird:** DH totals only 15, low. **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** arr. DH 20 Apr. **Water Pipit:** max 32 near Rome (SG) on 11 May. **No. Shrike:** last 23 Mar. at LSB. **Loggerhead Shrike:** ONLY report DH on 10 Apr. (FGS).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Few impressive maxima for these groups. Arrival dates of the early species were generally late, while the later arriving species tended to appear more nearly on schedule, and all migrants very scarce after about 22 May, a week earlier than usual. **WORM-EATING WARBLER:** single Labrador Pond 5 May (DWC, KC). Only one hybrid **Blue-winged X Golden-winged Warbler** reported. **Tennessee Warbler:** arr. Pompey 5 May, early. **No. Parula:** commoner than usual (10-12/day in early May) **Syr. Mourning Warbler:** arr. StMC 17 May, scarce as migrants. **KENTUCKY WARBLER:** single StMC 12-24 May (REL, mob). **Yellow-breasted Chat:** single Camillus after 15 May only report. **Hooded Warbler:** arr. 17 May, continued local increase evidenced by max. of six near Fair Haven on 26 May.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: **Bobolink:** arr. DH 5 May. **WESTERN MEADOWLARK:** 26 May LSB (FGS), first since 1976. **Red-winged Blackbird:** arr. Clay Marsh 9 Mar., max

1,000,000 DH on 20 Mar. Northern Oriole: arr DH 9 Mar. Orchard Oriole: two pairs returned to Minoa 15 May (*vide* KC). Rusty Blackbird: last 17 May. Com. Grackle: arr. Syr. 9 Mar., max. 50,000 DH on 20 Mar. Brown-headed Cowbird: arr. Syr. 14 Mar. Scarlet Tanager: arr. DH 11 May. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr. StMC 6 May. Indigo Bunting: arr. Camillus 15 May. Evening Grosbeak: scarce, last 24 May. Purple Finch: arr. 10 Apr., max 40 LOL 11 May. House Finch: record max 120 Syr. early Mar., outliers from Eaton, Holland Patent, Oswego, Pompey, and Rome. Pine Siskin: single StMC (Onon. Aud. Soc.) late Apr. only report. Red Crossbill: two Big Moose on 1 Mar. (MS) and two Labrador on 24 Apr. (DWC) only reports. Rufous-sided Towhee: arr. DH 20 Mar., low numbers all Spring. Grasshopper Sparrow: only report 22 May, late and low! Henslow's Sparrow: only report 18 May, likewise. Tree Sparrow: last LOL 29 Apr., early. Chipping Sparrow: arr. DH 20 Apr. Field Sparrow: arr. DH 10 Apr. White-crowned Sparrow: arr. Syr. 6 May, last LOL 20 May, scarce. White-throated Sparrow: migrants *ca.* 15 Apr. to 20 May, no concentrations. Lincoln's Sparrow: migrants LOL 10-24 May. Swamp Sparrow: arr. Scott Swamp 10 Apr. Lapland Longspur: three reported, last DH 1 Apr. Snow Bunting: last DH 1 Apr.

306 Kensington Place, Syracuse, NY 13210

REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

LEE CHAMBERLAINE

Spring 1980 tended to be similar to the winter, that is, it was hard pressed to determine what it was going to do from day to day. Temperature extremes were -30° F to the mid-80's. On March 14th a total of seven inches of snow fell in the Watertown area. April was a cool month and a fairly wet one, while May was cool and dry with lake levels in Lake Ontario dropping through the period.

Trends for the period which were very evident were: Improvement in Sharpshinned Hawk but Cooper's still low; Bald Eagles still improving; Marsh Hawk showing a vast improvement; Black Terns seemed to be holding their own on selected large wetlands; Mourning Doves are building to pre-winter 77-78 numbers; Short-eared Owls seem to be popping up all over the Lake plain; Common Nighthawks continue in trouble; Red-bellied Woodpeckers continue to tease the local birders; Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were down from their normal numbers; Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers continue to come back; Eastern Phoebe's are building back; Red-breasted Nuthatches continued scarce; Loggerhead Shrikes improved near Watertown—but none were seen in Massena; Warblers and sparrows moved through and never bothered stopping.

Increased coverage of the St. Lawrence River by VanRiet indicated migration along the river in a magnitude not suspected except by a few.

Rarities for the period included Cattle Egret; Barrow's Goldeneye, Spruce Grouse, Black-headed Gull, Tufted Titmouse, and Louisiana Waterthrush.

Contributors: Stewart Brown, Tom Carrolan, Robert Cerwonka, Lee Chamberlaine, Frank Clinch, Kenneth Crowell, Charles Devan, David Hamelin, Nick Leone, Steve Prievo, Albert Schiavone, Joe VanRiet, Bob and June Walker, Louis Wallace.

LOONS—DUCKS: Com. Loon: one Wilson Hill Apr. 21 to May 17; two Perch River

May 21; many individual reports. Red-necked Grebe: one Morristown, St. Lawrence River (SLR) Apr. 26; a pair at Coles Creek SLR Apr. 26 (J. VanRiet). Horned Grebe: 48 Morristown-SLR Apr. 26; 11 Coles Creek-SLR same date; three Point Peninsula May 9; considerable improvement. Pied-billed Grebe: six heard calling Wilson Hill May 1; one Brasher State Forest May 3; seven heard Upper and Lower Lakes May 7; improvement from last year. Double-crested Cormorant: one Henderson Harbor Apr. 21; one Point Peninsula May 9; 17 El Dorado May 18; 14 El Dorado May 21; numbers seem to be still increasing. Great Blue Heron: first on Mar. 23, numbers are way up and production appears very high. Green Heron: about in normal numbers. CATTLE EGRET: one Sherwin's Bay May 9; one Point Peninsula May (Walkers). Great Egret: one near Lakeview Apr. 26 (N. Leone); two Wilson Hill May 12 (J. VanRiet). Black-crowned Night Heron: a few in Henderson Harbor. Am. Bittern: first Wiley Dondero Channel Apr. 8. Canada Goose: perhaps arrival in numbers a little behind but not by much. Brant: one El Dorado May 21 (L. Chamberlaine). Snow Goose: one Perch River Apr. 19 (R. Cerwonka), one Robt. Moses Dam May 30 (J. VanRiet). Mallard: broods of young all over the lake plain. Black Duck: 12 Hawkins Point Mar. 7; still decreasing. Gadwall: two Point Peninsula May 9; 73 Wilson Hill May 12. Pintail: six Sulphur Springs Mar. 23; 20 SLR Apr. 9; one Point Peninsula May 9; one Wilson Hill May 12. Green-winged Teal: two pair Wilson Hill May 1. Blue-winged Teal: about as common as ever. Am. Wigeon: eight Perch River Apr. 5; six Perch River Apr. 12; 12 Wilson Hill May 12; four Wilson Hill May 21. No. Shoveler: six Perch River Apr. 5; VanRiet saw none during the period on SLR. Wood Duck: numbers seem down from previous two years? Redhead: two Hawkins Point-SLR Mar. 7; four Wilson Hill Apr. 23; three males May 24. Ring-necked Duck: 40 max. Apr. 19; last date May 10 Wilson Hill. Canvasback: May 10 at Upper and Lower Lakes; VanRiet saw none for the period which is unusual. Greater Scaup: four Wilson Hill Apr. 23. Lesser Scaup: max. 13 on May 5; last date one bird Wilson Hill May 21. Com. Goldeneye: 464 Robt. Moses Dam Mar. 3; seven Wilson Hill May 10; last date four Wilson Hill May 12. BARROW'S GOLDENEYE: one female Robt. Moses Dam Mar. 4 (J. VanRiet). Bufflehead: max. 16 on May 1; eight on May 5; last date May 12. Oldsquaw: two in Morristown area—only report for period. White-winged Scoter: mixed flock of 35 with Surf Scoter Perch Lake-Perch River May 17 (S. Brown). Surf Scoter: one Sherwin's Bay May 9 (Walkers). Hooded Merganser: one Robt. Moses Dam Mar. 4; one Three Mile Point Mar. 23; 11 Wilson Hill Apr. 11; six Wilson Hill May 5; two May 12. Com. Merganser: 113 Robt. Moses Dam Mar. 4; six Wilson Hill May 10; one Wilson Hill May 12. Red-breasted Merganser: two Perch River Apr. 12; 15 Robt. Moses Dam May 8; two May 8 last date.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: one near Depauville Mar. 4; still increasing—a common species on the Lake Ontario plain. Goshawk: a pair over Robt. Moses Park Apr. 8. Sharp-shinned: one Henderson Apr. 6; three Canton May 6; one Pierrepont May 20; over 40 migrants for the season in Massena area (J. VanRiet); a vast improvement and encouraging. Cooper's: one Canton Apr. 25 (K. Crowell). Red-tailed: not in the numbers that occurred last year. Red-shouldered: one near Littlejohn, Town of Worth-Tug Hill May 24 (Walkers); six migrants through Massena area for period (J. VanRiet). Broad-winged: three Upper and Lower Lakes Apr. 22; 47 Canton Apr. 26 (*vide* K. Crowell); 400 in 90 minutes along highway (NY 37) Massena to Ogdensburg area (J. VanRiet); with each passing year and increased coverage it is becoming more evident that movement along the SLR is much heavier than any of us had imagined. Rough-legged: three Robt. Moses Park Mar. 2; three Hawkins Point Mar. 7; 23 Point Peninsula Mar. 8; three Pillar Point-Point Peninsula Mar. 23. Bald Eagle: one ad. Polly's Gut-SLR Mar. 17 (J. VanRiet); one adult Hedgehog Rapids-Raquette River Apr. 4-6 (*vide* S. Brown); three (ages unknown) Carry Flow Reservoir Apr. 24—soaring to great heights and then spiralling down over Catamount Mountain (L. Wallace); one near Pierrepont Manor on I-81 sitting on dead tree in wetland (A. Schiavone). Marsh Hawk: many, many observations—individuals and pairs—very encouraging. Osprey: one Potsdam Apr. 11; two Lakeview Apr. 20; one Colton Apr. 21; eight Massena Apr. 26; six Canton May 6; one near Littlejohn May 24. Am. Kestrel: more common early in period

and decreasing as nesting time starts; broods hatched toward end of period; 16 pairs resident in Massena area. **SPRUCE GROUSE**: one at close range Sevey's Corners May 12 (C. Paine & F. Shaw); this location is a known habitat. Ruffed Grouse: appears to still be in abundant numbers. Gray Partridge: 12 Point Peninsula Mar. 8; two pair in Massena area March and April—holding on in St. Lawrence Co. Turkey: five ad. females and five juvenile females released in St. Lawrence Co., Town of Maccomb, Mar. 5 (L. Chamberlaine). Virginia Rail: one Brasher State Forest May 3; three Robt. Moses Park May 13; one Brandy Brook May 29. Sora: three Grantville May 20; one Brasher Center May 27. Com. Gallinule: three Wilson Hill May 1; five Upper and Lower Lakes May 7; more than usual numbers at Perch River. Am. Coot: one Upper and Lower Lakes May 7. Semipalmated Plover: max. eight El Dorado May 26. Killdeer: returned Henderson area Mar. 20 and Massena area Mar. 23. Black-bellied Plover: one El Dorado May 26 (Walkers). Am. Woodcock: Apr. 1 through. Com. Snipe: arrived Massena area Apr. 9; many in courtship flight Perch River Apr. 12. Upland Sandpiper: first near Brownville May 18; one near Watertown on May 27; one only in Massena area Haverstock Rd. May 31. Spotted Sandpiper: one May 15 near Sears Pond. Lesser Yellowlegs: six Perch River Apr. 13. Glaucous Gull: 39 Robt. Moses Dam Mar. 4; 20 same Mar. 19; one—last date same Mar. 27 (J. VanRiet). Iceland: three Robt. Moses Dam Mar. 4; two same Mar. 19; one same Mar. 27. Great Black-backed: 60 Robt. Moses Dam Mar. 19. Herring Gull: 147 Robt. Moses Dam Mar. 10; three same Apr. 17. Ring-billed: arrived in Massena Mar. 10; thousands over Henderson on Apr. 4 heading toward Little Galloo Island. **BLACK-HEADED GULL**: one ad. Perch River near Perch River Village May 18 & 22 (Walkers & N. Leone); a bird of similar description was seen at this same location last year but identification was not firm in everyone's mind; therefore it was not reported last year. Bonaparte's Gull: 14 SLR Apr. 15; four SLR Apr. 17; five imm. Robt. Moses Dam middle of May. Com. Tern: arrival in Massena area five Apr. 26; there were 82 nests with three eggs each (one had five) on navigation marker no. 54 SLR (J. VanRiet). Caspian Tern: one Sherwin's Bay May 9; one El Dorado May 18. Black Tern: one Wilson Hill May 7—only bird here for period; six Perch River May 19; four Lakeview May 20, two El Dorado May 21; six Lakeview May 21.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: still building to pre-winter 77-78 numbers. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: one Dry Hill May 31. Black-billed Cuckoo: one heard Dry Hill mid-May. Screech Owl: none reported. Great Horned Owl: nest Upper & Lower Lakes Apr. 3—fledged young May 17. Snowy Owl: one Three Mile Point Mar. 8; one at Robt. Moses Dam till Mar. 20. Short-eared Owl: three Point Peninsula Mar. 8; two Chaumont May 9. Whip-poor-will: May 2, Pierrepont; May 15 Pierrepont; May 17 Dry Hill; May 22 Pierrepont and May 23 Pierrepont; a seldom-reported species. Com. Nighthawk: one only Henderson May 23; one heard Watertown May 28. Chimney Swift: first in Henderson May 7. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: only two sightings during May. Belted Kingfisher: one Henderson Mar. 5; arrived in Massena Apr. 6. Com. Flicker: arriving Massena Mar. 24; 12 West Stockholm Apr. 25. Pileated: one Pierrepont Mar. 30; pair Robt. Moses Park Apr. 8; one Wilson Hill May 1; one Sevey's Corners May 9; pair at Coles Creek-SLR end of period. Red-bellied: one at Watertown feeder till Mar. 28; one at Henderson till Apr. 10. Red-headed: one May 20 Colwell Pond-Lakeview; one Dry Hill May 21. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: one Polly's Gut SLR Apr. 8; one Louisville Apr. 21; one Wilson Hill May 1; one Louisville May 9; not seen in normal numbers. Hairy: 13 for the period in Massena area; some improvements in the Henderson area. Downy: 19 for the period in Massena area; some improvement in this species also in Henderson vicinity.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: E. Kingbird: arrived Upper & Lower Lakes on May 7 and in numbers Point Peninsula May 9. Great Crested Flycatcher: arrived in Massena area May 7. E. Phoebe: more than last year—recovering well. Alder Flycatcher: returned to Massena by May 26; many near Littlejohn tract May 24. Willow Flycatcher: one near Watertown May 31; none in Massena area for period. Least Flycatcher: May 5 Watertown; returned in Massena May 7. E. Wood Pewee: first heard in Massena May 26; a few days earlier in Water-

town. Olive-sided Flycatcher: one Bonaparte Lake Bog May 21 (T. Carrolan). Horned Lark: a poor ten for the season in Massena area Mar. 15; Watertown and vicinity even poorer. Tree Swallow: eight Massena Apr. 5; first in Henderson Apr. 6; 200 Robt. Moses Dam Apr. 15. Rough-winged Swallow: returned in Massena vicinity by Apr. 22. Barn Swallow: returned Robt. Moses Dam Apr. 15. Cliff Swallow: returned Apr. 15, abundant in the Massena area—nesting on dams and barns. Purple Martin: arrived Apr. 20. **GRAY JAY**: one Sevey's Corners May 9 (*fide* K. Crowell). **TUFTED TITMOUSE**: one at Watertown feeder Mar. 7 to Mar. 15 (Dot Nagel). White-breasted Nuthatch: some improvement from last year in Henderson. Red-breasted Nuthatch: two Washington Park May 21; one Brasher Center May 27. Brown Creeper: at four locations in Massena area; one Apr. 18 & 22 Jefferson Community College (JCC). House Wren: first Apr. 30; first in Massena May 8. Winter Wren: no reports. Carolina Wren: no reports. Long-billed Marsh Wren: one Wilson Hill May 7—early. Mockingbird: one Potsdam May 25 (R. Cerwonka). Gray Catbird: arrival May 8. Brown Thrasher: arrived Apr. 30. Am. Robin: very, very common—nests everywhere in May. Wood Thrush: first heard at Wilson Hill on May 7. Hermit Thrush: resident at Wilson Hill on Apr. 26. Swainson's Thrush: one Thompson Park-Watertown May 17; one Canton May 22. Veery: arrival May 11. E. Bluebird: only one for season in Massena area at Chase Mills; two birds heard Brownville Mar. 26; pair Pierrepont Apr. 29; single male Pierrepont May 7; two pairs near Black River May; a pair near Watertown May; one bird near DePaulville; pair with five young near Munns Corners late May; nesting pair Carthage mid-May; single Sears Pond-Salmon River Rd. May 28 (Lucille Grant & Steve Prievo). Golden-crowned Kinglet: in Massena area only six migrants for the period; two Henderson Apr. 6; one JCC Apr. 18. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: numerous migrants in Massena area; one JCC Apr. 21. Water Pipit: seven on May 7—only ones for season. Cedar Waxwing: increasing in number toward end of period—more than last year. Loggerhead Shrike: one near Brownville May 4 (Walker); same May 18 and 19 (Walker and Carrolan).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: one Upper and Lower Lakes May 17 (T. Goss & K. Crowell). Solitary Vireo: one Blake Sanctuary May 17 (Walkers). Red-eyed Vireo: returned May 15. Philadelphia Vireo: seen at close range and recorded at Canton on May 22 (K. Crowell). Warbling Vireo: first heard first week in May—very abundant. Black-and-white Warbler: returned May 7. Golden-winged: individuals heard near Canton on May 17, 20 and 24; one near Littlejohn on May 24. "Brewster's" Warbler: one VanBrocklin Rd. near Diamond May 24 (Walkers & Leone). Tennessee: one Point Peninsula May 9; only about six migrants for the season in Massena area. Nashville: two or three residents per day in Massena. Yellow: in about normal numbers; arrived at Coles Creek-SLR May 7. Magnolia: one near Littlejohn May 24; only one migrant in Massena area. Cape May: one JCC May 20. Black-throated Blue: one only for the season in Massena area at Brasher State Forest May 27, near Littlejohn on May 24. Yellow-rumped: one Apr. 17; 30 Wilson Hill Apr. 29; nesting at Brasher State Forest and Wilson Hill. Black-throated Green: in Massena one only Wilson Hill May 17. Bay-breasted: two Blake Sanctuary May 17; one near Littlejohn May 24. Black-poll: Pierrepont May 24 & 25. Pine: one JCC Apr. 21-24; pair Wilson Hill May; four Brasher State Forest May 3; one at St. Lawrence University area Canton May 22-27, possibly a resident (W. Chaisson & K. Crowell). Palm: one JCC May 6; none seen in Massena area. No. Waterthrush: one Brasher Center May 27—rather rare in Massena area. **LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH**: one Washington Park (Tug Hill transition) May 21 (Walkers). Mourning: probably nesting at Brasher Center and Coles Creek-SLR (J. VanRiet). Com. Yellowthroat: arrived in Massena May 11. Wilson's: one only in Massena area near Grantville May 20; one near Littlejohn May 24; Canada: one Blake Sanctuary May 26; one Coles Creek-SLR May 26. Am. Redstart: arrival May 7—very abundant.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: arrived Upper and Lower Lakes May 7—very abundant this year. E. Meadowlark: arrived in Massena area Mar. 22. Red-winged Blackbird: arrived in Henderson Mar. 20; in Potsdam Mar. 28. Scarlet Tanager: on time in normal num-

bers. Cardinal: five males, two with females in Canton; one in Massena Apr. 11. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arrived at Robt. Moses Park May 8. Indigo Bunting: arrived late at very end of period. Evening Grosbeak: 300 Robinson Creek-SLR Apr. 5; 300 Polly's Gut-SLR Apr. 8; last on May 13. Purple Finch: decreasing through period in Massena—increased through period in Henderson. House Finch: a few (up to 4-5) at a time all through period at Clinch residence in Watertown (F. Clinch). Am. Goldfinch: regularly at feeders and small flocks in early May. Red Crossbill: two Brasher State Forest May 3. Savannah Sparrow: arrived Massena area Apr. 17; more common in Henderson area. Vesper Sparrow: a total of ten in Massena area—in twos mainly Apr. 15-Apr. 26—poor (J. VanRiet); three Three Mile Point May 4; none in Henderson area. Dark-eyed Junco: max. in Massena 40 on Apr. 26; decreasing through. Tree Sparrow: three to six per day in Massena area Mar. 9 to Apr. 21; last May 15—very late. Chipping Sparrow: arrived Apr. 25—very numerous this year. Field Sparrow: passing through Massena area on Apr. 18—a rather rare breeder in Massena area (J. VanRiet); somewhat increased in Henderson vicinity from last year—common in this area. White-crowned: arrived in Henderson May 7—only in numbers along eastern Lake Ontario shore and inland for a mile; last on May 14—very rapid migration through Region. White-throated: arrived Apr. 8; some improvement in numbers from last year. Fox Sparrow: 20 Canton May 6; none seen in Massena area or Watertown. Swamp Sparrow: very common at Lakeview and vicinity. Song Sparrow: arrived Mar. 6 in Henderson; Mar. 21 in Massena area. Snow Bunting: max. 40 on Mar. 15—last seen Apr. 6.

Box 139, Henderson, NY 13650

REGION 7 – ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

THEODORE D. MACK

There were no unusual weather conditions to affect birds, being quite an ordinary spring with conditions milder than usual. Some early arrival dates were noted. The ice went out of Lower St. Regis Lake late during the day on April 19 with loons arriving the next day.

The bare road policy for the Winter Olympics meant thousands of tons of salt on roads that are ordinarily very lightly salted and sanded. The plows threw salt spray up to thirty feet high, which killed foliage on roadside conifers. Large trees should recover but small ones are dead. Birds probably will not be harmed by this, and some woodpeckers may even benefit by new feeding or nesting sites if they are not hit by traffic. The highway departments will probably remove some trees, hopefully before they age enough to be actually occupied by cavity nesting species.

An excellent hawk watch at Coot Hill on April 19 recorded 102 hawks of eleven species. Braddocks Bay and Derby Hill make this look rather insignificant but we just do not have such concentrated flights as those locations.

Clinton County is receiving better coverage now. An adult male Golden-winged Warbler was at Lake Alice near Chazy. Six Blue-gray Gnatcatchers near Ausable Marsh were among the more southern rarities noted.

Contributors: Deborah Anson, Bob & Helen Booth, Mrs. John Bobak, Paul Buckley, Geoffrey Carleton, Bernard Carman, Carl Cerasoli, Charlcie Delehanty, J. D. Delehanty,

Lang Elliott, Cobin Fink, Merle Gilbert, Bill Goslin, Mark Gretch, High Peaks Audubon Society, Elspeth Johnson, Hal Klein, Ferdinand LaFrance, Angelo LaMariana, Sally & Sandy Mace, Ted Mack, Margaret & Bob McKinney, Norman Mason, Charlie Mitchell, John Parke, Ray Payson, Mike Peterson, Kevin Robbins, William Rutherford, Walt Sabin, Carole Slatkin, Chris Spies, Pat Tabor, Katherine Tabor, Don & Jan Timmons, Armand Vailancourt, Margaret Vetter, Marice Villeneuve, Carl Woodard.

LOONS—DUCKS: Betty Hedges had a Common Loon on Raquette Lake the day after ice went out at that location. Two were on Black Pond at Paul Smiths where they used to breed but the influx of fishermen seemed to be too much for them. They left after a few days. Three Double-crested Cormorants were at Crown Point May 10. Ferd's Bog had a Green Heron the same date. A Great Egret was at the state game area near the two Chazy Rivers April 18 and 20 (MG). A Least Bittern was at Ticonderoga Marsh May 17 (EJ, MP, D & JT). Am. Bittern: none at Tupper Marsh but several near Paul Smiths and other areas. Canada Goose: seven rested on frozen Raquette Pond March 21; nine returned to Raquette River at Tupper, down from twenty last year. One was on a farm pond at Whallonsburg May 17, and one was Mud Pond at Onchiota May 24. Perhaps these two were victims of lead poisoning. It only takes a few lead shot ingested to cause serious problems. Seven Brant were headed north near Ironville May 16. Several banders saw a pair of Gadwalls April 27 at Ti Marsh. Blue-winged Teal were noted at Tupper Lake May 24 (CD). They are rare inland away from farm country. Ring-necked Duck numbers are down in the Paul Smiths area. Tupper Marsh seems to have only two pair. Fifty Canvasbacks were at Port Henry in a lead about 200 feet long Feb. 29. These diminished to three individuals by Mar. 22. A few Com. Goldeneyes were scattered about the Paul Smiths area in May. Red-breasted Mergansers were seen along Lake Champlain from Mar. 17 to May 13.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: 12 at the hawk watch Apr. 19 at Coot Hill. In addition to other migrants of that species in Champlain Valley there were two at Tupper Lake Apr. 21, one at Paul Smiths in April and another over Onchiota in early June. Goshawk: two Apr. 19 at Coot Hill; one doing a courtship flight Apr. 26 at Essex and one at Indian Lake May 25. Sharp-shinned Hawk: 16 reported. Cooper's Hawk: 10 reported of which GC saw four. Red-shouldered Hawk: seven reported but mostly as migrants. Resident birds are scarce. Charlie Delehanty had two adult Bald Eagles Mar. 27 and an imm. Apr. 12 at Tupper Marsh. There were four adults reported by a beaver trapper from the Raquette River below Tupper Lake. An adult was over Osgood Pond at Paul Smiths Apr. 15 (CC). One adult passed over Coot Hill Apr. 19. SSM saw an adult and an imm. at Lake Marion May 10. Eleven Marsh Hawks were seen from Gabriels and Tupper Lake to Whallonsburg where CS saw an apparently mated pair. Osprey: 11 were seen May 3 from Chazy Landing to Ausable Marsh. One has been at Tupper Lake and three early inland birds were at Paul Smiths Mar. 27 (WR). Nine others were seen including one at Chubb River nest May 25 (Hi Pk Aud). Merlin: one at Coot Hill hawk watch Apr. 19 (Hi Pk Aud); one near Essex Apr. 22 (J Pa); one at Moriah May 4 (GC). On Mar. 20 an imm. Peregrine Falcon swooped several times at an iced-in Mallard decoy near Whallonsburg (CS). Six Ring-necked Pheasants wintered at a Tupper Lake feeder. Virginia Rail, Sora, and Common Gallinule were listed for the May 17 Essex County Big Day count. A Semipalmated Plover was at Ticonderoga May 17 (EJ, MP, DT, JT) and another at Tupper Lake May 24 (CD). GC discovered a Black-bellied Plover at Westport May 21. These last two species are more apt to be encountered as fall migrants. Am. Woodcock was reported as scarce in the Champlain Valley and Tupper Lake, but Paul Smiths had quite a few. There were good numbers of Com. Snipe but they were not windowing very much. You had to get out close to the habitat to find them. There were three Champlain Valley reports of Solitary Sandpipers and one was at Ferd's Bog on May 10 (FL, CS). Greater Yellowlegs were at Paul Smiths and Crown Point. A late Lesser Yellowlegs was seen by GC May 19 at Essex Station. A late Least Sandpiper was at Tupper Lake May 24 (CD). Four Semipalmated Sandpipers were with flocks of Least Sandpipers at Essex Station

May 19 (EJ, MP). Only report of Black Terns was one May 14 at Tupper and up to three there since (CD).

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Two Great Horned Owls, one on a nest, were at Crown Point Feb. 20 (GC, NM) and two were calling at Westport Apr. 20 (EJ, NP). Barred Owls are common enough. Two Saw-whet Owls were calling at Paul Smiths in late April and early May. There were three Champlain Valley Whip-poor-wills. Six Com. Nighthawks were at the Brandon Burn. Two early Chimney Swifts were at Plattsburgh Apr. 24 (CM). An early Com. Flicker was at Tupper Apr. 6. Pileated Woodpeckers were in the usual one to three a day numbers. CS found a pair of Red-headed Woodpeckers at Whallonsburg May 12. Charlie Delehanty had a problem feeding woodpeckers at Tupper Lake when a Black Bear discovered her suet feeder May 4. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: one Lake Alice Mar. 29 (MG); two Ferd's Bog May 11 and digging a nest hole (FL, CS); one Onchiota May 24; one Chubb River May 25. Two Northern Three-toed Woodpeckers were at Ferd's Bog May 10 (FL, CS).

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: M & B McK found 12 Great Crested Flycatchers at Indian Lake May 24. The Franklin County Big Day count resulted in one Eastern Phoebe and one Eastern Wood Pewee for a party of three that ended up with 89 species. There seems to be a scarcity of these two birds unless they just were not calling. An extremely early Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was seen and later compared to an Eastern Phoebe Apr. 8 at New Russia. Bird was not heard (KT, PT). Two were noted May 26 in the Seward Range (M & B McK). There were fair numbers of Alder Flycatchers. They tend to be overlooked or not heard. Olive-sided Flycatcher was in fair numbers. An early arrival was at Ferd's Bog May 11 (FL, CS). Purple Martin was on the Essex Big Day list for May 17. This species seems to be restricted to the Champlain Valley and lower elevations. Two Gray Jays ate part of a cheese and grape jelly sandwich at Onchiota May 24 as their reward for contributing to the Franklin Co. count. Com. Raven: Gabriels, Paul Smiths, Indian Lake, Raquette Lake, Tupper Lake, Essex and Moriah are some of the places this species was seen. You should be able to see and hear ravens any day at the Brighton Town Dump at Gabriels. On Monday, Wednesday and Saturday from 9-5 you can drive in. This species has increased dramatically. Four migrant Com. Crows were over Moriah Feb. 14 (GC). This is one of the first signs of spring. Boreal Chickadees were at Onchiota and Ferd's Bog as well as the higher elevations. Two Tufted Titmice were at a Willsboro feeder through late Mar. (CF); one was at Pointe au Roche (MG); one at Plattsburgh (AM). Mockingbird: five were reported including one Apr. 14 at Crown Point (GC); one the same place at nest with eggs May 17 (EJ, MP, DT, JT); one Raybrook in late May (TM); and one in Elizabethtown May 20 (GC). An early Brown Thrasher was at Moriah Apr. 14 (MV). An early Wood Thrush was near the same village Apr. 12 (EJ, JT). The Champlain Valley and Tupper Lake had a few Eastern Bluebirds but none were found at Brandon Burn where they were in past seasons. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: one Ausable Point Apr. 19 (MG); a pair Apr. 27 and May 17 at Ti; pair building a nest May 4 and on it May 9; six individuals Ausable Marsh May 3 (CM, RP); pair at Willsboro May 22 (MP, mob). Water Pipit seems to have been unrecorded. A large flock of Bohemian Waxwings was at Beekmantown Mar. 23 (HK, KR).

VIREOS-WARBLED: GC found a Yellow-throated Vireo in the Champlain Valley May 17. FL and CS had 32 Solitary Vireos in an eight-mile hike near Ferd's Bog on May 10. Warbling Vireos were well represented in the Champlain Valley and at St. Regis Falls in May. There were plenty of Black-and-white Warblers. The Golden-winged Warbler at Lake Alice was seen on the early date of May 11 (CM, RP). The first Tennessee Warbler showed up May 11 at Crown Point (EJ, MP). 79 Yellow-rumped Warblers were at Ferd's Bog area May 10. HK had a female at Beekmantown Mar. 15. Three singing Cape May Warblers in spruce forest at Chubb River seemed to be on territory (EJ, MP). There were good numbers of Blackburnian Warblers. Eight Bay-breasted Warblers were at Indian Lake May 24 (M & B McK). The McKinneys also counted 15 Blackpoll Warblers in the Seward Range May 26.

Pine, Prairie and Palm Warblers seem to have been missed. On Apr. 21 No. Waterthrushes were at Auger Pond to set a new early date. MP found a Louisiana Waterthrush singing at an Elizabethtown brook from May 12 through 20. The Chapman family found a Wilson's Warbler at Newcomb May 17 and an ad. male was at Paul Smiths May 24 (DA, BG, TM). 12 Canada Warblers were at Indian Lake May 24 (M & B McK). DA found an early Am. Redstart at Paul Smiths on Apr. 27.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Two late female Bobolinks passed over Elizabethtown May 27 (GC, MP). Rusty Blackbird was reported from Chubb River and Ferd's Bog. An early Scarlet Tanager was at Moriah Apr. 16 (MV). Five Cardinals wintered at Tupper Lake feeders. There were a lot of Purple Finches in the Region. Three Pine Grosbeaks were at Franklin Falls Mar. 9. Red Crossbills were seen at the Chubb River. Rufous-sided Towhee was not reported on the Essex Co. count. Sparrows were scarce. Vesper Sparrow: one was at Tupper Apr. 12 and two were seen on the Essex count. Two Fox Sparrows were at Paul Smiths Mar. 27 (WR) and one was at Rouses Point Apr. 20. No others were reported. There are lots of Lincoln's Sparrows. A Song Sparrow banded Aug. 17 at Elizabethtown returned Apr. 21. Elspeth Johnson found a Lapland Longspur with about 25 Horned Larks at Essex Mar. 17.

Paul Smiths, NY 12970

REGION 8 - HUDSON-MOHAWK

RICHARD P. GUTHRIE

After the mild winter weather, spring came in rather harshly at first with a -20 F (-29 C) in central Saratoga County on March 2nd, and zero readings from the milder parts of the Region. The snowstorm on March 13th measured 17 inches in western Albany County and lesser amounts through the Region, approaching the total snowfall for the entire winter. A heavy rain on the 21st of March dropped nine inches of rain on the northern Catskills, yet less than a quarter inch fell in Washington County that day. The balance of the season was more pleasant, with above normal temperatures and ample rainfall. Spring bird migration started early and produced a few interesting early records. However, the mainstream of migration was about on time or perhaps a bit late. The unusual late season heavy snows in the south may have delayed northbound movement. Or was it Mt. St. Helen's fault?

The big birding event of the season, the annual Guy Bartlett Century Run, was a phenomenal success. Bob Yunick reports, "Perfect weather and the enthusiasm of 38 observers combined on May 17th, 1980 to produce a spectacular, all time record list of 180 species and one hybrid for the (Hudson-Mohawk) club's 35th consecutive Century Run . . . This year everything came together to crush the previous record of 168 species set in 1971 by 42 observers. Never before, in recent years, have so many rare species been recorded on a Century Run. Using those species that have been recorded in ten or fewer years as the criterion for rarity, there were eighteen species and one hybrid in that category . . . In addition there were a remarkable 33 species reported by one group only. That number exceeds the 30 seen by all groups." Rarities for the season

were: Little Blue Heron, Snowy Egret, Short-billed Marsh Wren, Prothonotary Warbler, "Lawrence's" Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler.

Contributors: Ken Able, V. & W. Able, Dean Amadon, Arlene & Tom Brown, Paul Connor, Bill Cook, Juanita Cook, Nancy Dennis, Kate Dunham, Norman Francher, Barbara & Hugo Gardina, Elisabeth Grace, Andrew Guthrie, Richard P. Guthrie, Philip Ingalls, Nancy Kern, Carolyn & Ron LaForce, E. Mansell, Al Mapes, R. Mein, M. Mickle, Lois Norton, Tom Palmer, Alice Ross, Bill Schuster, Al & Shirley Shadow, M. & W. Ulmer and Robert P. Yunick.

LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: well reported on the Century Run but few reported elsewhere. Red-throated Loon: one found on the Century Run on Sacandaga Lake (TP). Double-crested Cormorant: six at New Baltimore on Apr. 11 were a little early; regular thereafter. Green Heron: one Apr. 17 at Siena College Campus; one banded at Vischer Ferry May 10 (RPY). **LITTLE BLUE HERON:** one on the Century Run (new species to the composite list) was found at Basic Reservoir (AR *et al.*). Great Egret: one at Papscanee Creek and another at Stoney Point Flats on Apr. 20 were earlier than usual. **SNOWY EGRET:** one May 21 at a horse farm pond near Guilderland (KA). Am. Bittern: Apr. 13 Scotia and Apr. 17 Central Bridge were the first of many reported through the period. Canada Goose: early groups passing through were probably from nearby wintering areas; migrants reported from Mar. 15 through mid-May. Brant: small flocks were found by each of three Century Run groups at widely scattered locations; other reports sparse. Snow Goose: Apr. 2 was the magic date for this species with two to three thousand flying over Albany (P. Feinberg) and 500+ at New Baltimore and 5-Rivers. Oldsquaw: a late drake on Alcove Reservoir was found on the Century Run. White-winged Scoter: a few through to the Century Run with one each at New Baltimore and Sacandaga. Ruddy Duck: one on Round Lake for the Century Run count.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Sharp-shinned Hawk: 17 reported. Cooper's Hawk: 11 reported including a territorial pair at Jenny Lake (RPY). Red-shouldered Hawk: five reports. Rough-legged Hawk: last seen Apr. 20. Osprey: first report Apr. 11 at Vosburghs with 15 at Staats Isl. and 11 at New Baltimore on Apr. 20. Peregrine Falcon: seen on the Century Run for the first time since 1949! Shorebirds were well represented this season especially on the Century Run. Semipalmated Plover: three CR groups. Solitary Sandpiper: six CR groups. Greater Yellowlegs: two groups. Lesser Yellowlegs: several reports beginning with a very early Apr. 19 (JC). Pectoral Sandpiper: one CR group. Least Sandpiper: four groups. Dunlin: one at a small rain pond off Wolf Rd., Colonie, May 21 in the company of about 35 others of mixed species. Short-billed Dowitcher: a flock of 40 on the Mohawk River was found by two CR groups. Semipalmated Sandpiper: one May 21 on Wolf Rd. Iceland Gull: one at Colonie Dump Apr. 1 and 17. Bonaparte's Gull: two Century Run groups found some at different locations. Com. Tern: same story, two groups with separate reports of a few. Black Tern: three groups found the same bunch on Saratoga Lake for the Century Run.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: RPY reports these much more abundant in his area this year, having banded 29 in Apr. and May compared to about eight a year average. Female on nest Mar. 27 (RPY). Barn Owl: the Coxsackie pair came through to help in the Century Run effort once again. Barred Owl: four at Jenny Lake mid-Apr. Long-eared Owl: pair reported nesting in Berne in early May. Saw-whet Owl: one at Lake Luzerne for the Century Run; the only report. Com. Nighthawk: numerous reports May 2 thru. Red-headed Woodpecker: doing well at Palmer's Ravine with a pair nesting again this year.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: only report is of one found on the Century Run. Cliff Swallow: a large colony was located at Cairo on the Greene Co. garage; a smaller group nests at the Alcove Church. Purple Martin: the large colony persists at Kinderhook Lake with 50+ nesting. The group at Comeau's may be dwindling, with only

one pair seen there on the Century Run. Fish Crow: two Cementon Apr. 1. Carolina Wren: one at Cementon Mar. 28 only report. **SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN**: this species has been very hard to locate lately so it is noteworthy that two groups found separate birds on the Century Run. Eastern Bluebird: well-reported with six on the Century Run and numerous others around; eggs laid Apr. 25 Cambridge (ND). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: continues to increase in number in the area; max. eight Apr. 28 and one pair building a nest at Black-creek Marsh May 9 (R. Marx). A shrike (sp.?) paid a brief visit to a Chatham feeder Mar. 13.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: continues what seems to be a slow increase in numbers and range expansion. Solitary Vireo: in contrast, seems to be decreasing somewhat. As a group, the warblers were well represented in variety but poor in volume. Many species were noted by only one or two observers with one or two individuals constituting the entire season's report. The birds seemed to have skipped right over our area. **PROTHONOTARY WARBLER**: Columbia Co. had its second Prothonotary in as many years, this time in Ghent May 17-19 (B & HG). Other warblers reported were: Worm-eating: the Indian Ladder bird was back again to the relief of three Century Run groups. Golden-winged: only one CR group was able to locate this otherwise fairly common bird. "Brewster's": four reported from widely separated locations including one at the same location along the Colonie bike trail where one was located last year. "**LAWRENCE'S**" **WARBLER**: one very persistent male at 5-Rivers Environmental Education Center was found on May 8 by Bill Lawson. **ORANGE-CROWNED**: found on the Century Run for the second time, the last one being in 1959. **YELLOW-THROATED**: one seen briefly at E. Glenville May 9, unfortunately did not stay around (S. Shadow). Cerulean: one singing on Campbell Isl. May 10 (PC). Pine: only one reported on the CR; two or three reports from the Albany Pine Bush. Prairie: widespread and increasing in numbers lately. Louisiana Waterthrush: a very early singing bird was at 5-Rivers Apr. 12 (AM). Mourning Warbler: a transient banded in 1978 was recaptured at Vischer Ferry again this year on May 17 (RPY). Yellow-breasted Chat: only one report of one on the Century Run.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Orchard Oriole: reported from Cocksackie and Chatham, both mid-May. No. Oriole: a female banded at Vischer Ferry in 1972 was recaptured there May 17 making it almost nine years old, at least! Indigo Bunting: a record early arrival date was set by a male visiting a feeder at Siena College on Apr. 16 staying around for only four days (A. Ross). Grasshopper Sparrow: a singing male was found at Cocksackie mid-May (KA); and a small colony of about six pairs was at the Exit 26 (Rotterdam) Interchange late-May (PC). Henslow's Sparrow: in addition to the 5-Rivers colony, reports come from Black-creek Marsh and Altamont. Vesper Sparrow: seven reports received—often goes unreported. Lincoln's Sparrow: only one group reported this species on the Century Run; 11 banded at Vischer Ferry in May. Snow Bunting: 50 Apr. 15 Schoharie Tpk. (C & R LaForce).

Remember Dial-A-Bird for Hudson-Mohawk area bird news at 518-377-9600.

Box 46, New Baltimore, NY 12124

REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

In most ways this was a relatively normal spring in terms of weather, foliage and birds. The drought of last winter ended in mid-March with a heavy wet snow of about six inches on March 13-14. April was wet with more than three inches of rain on the ninth. Widespread flooding occurred throughout the Region, es-

pecially along some of the Catskill streams. April temperatures were rather cool through mid-month, and then were normal to above. At least one day of each weekend in May was rainy. Foliage was about a week early.

Most March migrants were late. Blackbirds, which usually arrive in late February, did not arrive until the end of the first week of March. The first big warbler movements did not occur until May 3, 4 and 5. Several other smaller movements were noted later in the month. The hawk watch at Hook Mt. was manned 31 days from Feb. 14 thru May 10. The results are in the report. Most birders felt that warbler movements were excellent even though several species were far below normal. Several active birders reported seeing only one or a few Bay-breasteds, Blackburnians or Magnolias. Wading birds were poor in numbers, although there were a few less common species found. The shorebird migration was almost nonexistent, but several good reports did come from central Orange. Rarities included in the report are: Red-necked Grebe, Little Blue Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Glossy Ibis, Barrow's Goldeneye, Peregrine, Willet, both white-winged gulls, California Gull, Short-billed Marsh Wren, Prothonotary Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Orchard Oriole and Summer Tanager.

Contributors and observers cited: Al Brayton, Tom Burke, Barbara Butler, Robert F. Deed, Walter Friton, Florence Germond, Mary & Jim Key, Helen Manson, Ken & Joan McDermott, Brian Schiefer, Benton Seguin, Selden Spencer, John Tramontano, Marion Van Wagner, Otis Waterman, Hans Weber.

Abbreviations used: First four or five letters of each county; CB—Cornwall Bay; MC—Marshlands Conservancy, Rye; mob—many observers; PL—Playland, Rye; USMA—U. S. Military Academy at West Point.

LOONS—DUCKS: Com. Loon: the usual few high flying migrants dur May. No unusual concentrations. **RED-NECKED GREBE:** one Orange L Mar. 29; inc. to two by Mar. 30 (Diane Bradley, mob). One Ashokan Apr. 7 (AB). Horned Grebe: passed thru in good numbers. One Bashakill May 31 was very late (BS). Double-crested Cormorant: one Kingston Pt. Apr. 5 was very early, but more normal were the five on the Hudson off Dunderberg May 10 (EDT). Green Heron: one Kingston Apr. 15 was early. **LITTLE BLUE HERON:** an ad. May 17-18 near Goshen was most unusual (mob). Cattle Egret: only report five at Purchase May 23. Great Egret: always uncommon in spring, one Kingston Pt. May 13 (AB). Black-crowned Night Heron: one Piermont May 31, another Goshen May 17. **YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON:** returned to MC by Apr. 19. At least five nests there in May. Am. Bittern: unusually scarce. **GLOSSY IBIS:** always rare. Rock had its sixth record with one bird at Piermont Pier Apr. 20 (Peter Derven). Mute Swan: continues to increase. Numbers excellent. Nesting now on many ponds in the northern part of the Region. Several pairs on the nest by the last week of March, with young hatched by the first week of May. Eleven non-breeders on the Hudson at CB on May 28. Canada Goose: once again numbers were extremely high. Max 3,000 to 5,000 at Amenia and Pine Plains in March. Breeding everywhere, but mortality in young was very high. Brant: one at Amenia Apr. 4-5 was unusual that early. More than 3,000 obs. over Mine Rd. USMA May 16. 60 birds still there on May 20. Snow Goose: more than 400 over Hook Mt. Apr. 6. Obs. same date over Kingston at 10:15 p.m. where they reflected city lights (AB). 83 at Wawarsing Apr. 2, and more than 100 over Wappingers Falls Apr. 20. Three birds at Amenia Mar. 11 may well have wintered in the area. Gadwall: more wintering birds on Rock L than ever before. Max 26 there by Mar. 23. Pintail: better than usual numbers. Max. 10 at Goshen Mar. 23. No. Shoveler: two pair at Goshen Apr. 15. Wood Duck: residents in good numbers by end of period. Max. 24 on Bear Mt. Lakes Apr. 5 (BS). Excellent use of nest boxes at Bashakill by end of period. Redhead: always rare, first Mar. 12 at Wappingers Cr. max eight Kays Pd. Dutch Mar. 28.

Last four there Mar. 31. Ring-necked Duck: arr. Mar. 10 Orange L; max 77 there Mar. 23. Last report Bashakill May 2. Canvasback: max. more than 2,000 Esopus Meadow Mar. 9. Last there Apr. 6. Lesser Scaup: max. 30 CB Mar. 26. Com. Goldeneye: exc. numbers in Mar. max. 71 near Vanderburgh Cove Mar. 25. **BARROW'S GOLDENEYE**: a male and female at Ashokan Apr. 2 (AB), remained in area thru Apr. 5 (mob). Oldsquaw: 8 at Montgomery Mar. 29. Last, a male at Orange L May 14 was quite late. Hooded Merganser: a female at Bashakill May 13 and another May 23 near Tamarack were both near Wood Duck boxes. No breeding proven. Com. Merganser: rose to "encouraging numbers; the best in 25 years." (RD). 500 at Stony Pt. Jan. 30 inc to more than 700 by Mar. 3. Red-breasted Merganser: six Ashokan Mar. 17 were normal. A pair on the Hudson off Dutch Apr. 6, and six at CB Apr. 5.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: The 31 day hawk watch at Hook Mt. from Feb. 14 thru May 10 had the following results: Goshawk: 1; Sharp-shinned: 293; Cooper's: 6; Red-tailed: 92, Red-shouldered: 42; Broad-winged: 1,383 (max, 771 on May 2); Marsh Hawk: eight; Osprey: 34; **PEREGRINE**: one Apr. 26; Merlin: four; Am. Kestrel: 384 (208 on Apr. 12); Unidentified: 26; Total 2,287. Turkey Vulture: first arr at N.J. border Mar. 4. In excellent numbers by mid-Mar. Goshawk: several scattered reports each month thru Region. Numbers slightly better than usual. Sharp-shinned Hawk: the bird that hunted the Pleasant Valley feeder of MVW remained thru Apr. Cooper's Hawk: more than usual, but numbers very low. Red-tailed Hawk: more than usual. Many active nests by Mar. 20. One melanistic bird in Dutch May 11. Red-shouldered Hawk: a few more reports than usual; two at Moonbeams Sanct., Howells, could be a mated pair. Broad-winged Hawk: many reports of nests. First migrants arr. early, Apr. 12-14. Rough-legged Hawk: two at Hyde Park Apr. 21 were quite late, especially interesting since so few were reported last winter. Bald Eagle: one ad. over Stillwell L Apr. 27 (Mr. & Mrs. A. J. Treacy) and an imm. over P'kpsie May 24 (Tom Storey). **PEREGRINE FALCON**: flashed by an office window in Purchase on Apr. 10 (John Gee). Merlin: more reports than ever. One Verbank Apr. 25 was pursuing a Mockingbird. Ruffed Grouse: numbers up thru Region. Must be the high in their cycle. Bobwhite: only report one near Stissing Apr. 23. Still hanging on. Turkey: more reports than ever from all regions. Finally reported from southern part of Region with one near Palisades P'kway in Pomona in early Mar., and a female sitting on 17 eggs in northern West. (Berna Weissman). Clapper Rail: heard at MC on Apr. 23. Virginia Rail: as many as five at Iona Is. Apr. 6. One at Stissing Mar. 21 was still there from winter. Black-bellied Plover: only report one Sharon Sta. Apr. 29. Am. Woodcock: usual numbers in usual areas. Com. Snipe: ab 35 along Black Meadow Rd., Chester, Apr. 7. Upland Sandpiper: first two arr. Stewart Airport Apr. 29, a week late. Several still there at end of period; four est. Blue Chip Farm, Wallkill by May 8. Solitary Sandpiper: an early bird at Purchase Apr. 20. **WILLET**: unusual anytime, one Bashakill May 6 (BS). Purple Sandpiper: 21 at MC Apr. 19. Pectoral Sandpiper: all reports Dutch. First May 5, max eight May 11, last four East Pk. May 14 (MVW). Short-billed Dowitcher: five at Goshen May 16, always rare inland. **GLAUCOUS GULL**: one Stony Pt. Mar. 30 (EDT). **ICELAND GULL**: one uptown Kingston area, away from the Hudson Mar. 2-10 (Bob Terwilliger). Great Black-backed Gull: outnumbered Herrings by five to one in the mid-Hudson area. **CALIFORNIA GULL**: the Rockland L bird was observed again Mar. 26 and 29. Now in excellent ad. plumage. Ring-billed Gull: more than 100 birds working a Dutch Co. farm in Mar. Abundant all month there. Laughing Gull: in varying numbers along L.I. Sound from Apr. 6. Bonaparte's Gull: good numbers along L.I. Sound thru Apr. Usual early Apr. birds reported from CB, max 30 there Apr. 8, 28 on Ashokan Apr. 14.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Mourning Doves: seem more abund. than ever. Exc. numbers. Cuckoos: exc. numbers. Even more than last year. A wealth of Tent Caterpillars dur. Apr. and May, and what appears to be a banner year for Gypsy Moths should be very supportive. Look for even larger numbers next year. Owls: in spite of critical comments by last winter's Highlights editor, numbers of all species continue steady, with no exceptional fluctuations in numbers, if anything more reports this season. Great Horned: nesting in the

Pond Gut area of Dutch, in the same nest used two years ago which was used by a Goshawk three years ago. Young left by Apr. 23. Barred: sev. reports. One at Highland Falls May 20 where it had never been heard before. Breeding pairs at Winding Hills Pk., Montgomery, and at Walden where the parents were obs successfully defending a single young against dogs. Whip-poor-will: arr. sev. areas third week of Apr.; numbers normal. Com. Nighthawk: good spring flight, max 51 at PL May 19. Chimney Swift: first early May, about two wks late. Numbers normal. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: missed by many, very few reports. Best number 14 on Waterman Census, May 17. Pileated Woodpecker: BS reports numbers up in Oran with five or six birds each trip. Most reporters feel numbers low. Red-bellied Woodpecker: holding its own, and possibly increasing. Red-headed Woodpecker: Pearl River bird of last winter was found dead in Feb., probably a cat. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: very few.

FLYCATCHERS--STARLINGS: Phoebe, Eastern Wood Pewees and Willow Flycatchers were up in numbers, but Eastern Kingbirds and Great Crested Flycatchers were down to ab. 10% of normal. An early Eastern Phoebe was at Hook Mt. Mar. 19. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: one PL May 17 was early, another at Forest Glen near P'kpsie May 13-19. Acadian Flycatcher: fewer than in recent years, but still good. Only one in Bashakill May 24 where sev. pair nested in recent years. Two Pond Gut May 31, and one Rye Nature Center May 17. Willow Flycatcher: first near Washingtonville May 21. At least five at Bashakill to end of period. Olive-sided Flycatcher: an early bird at Cruger's Is. May 10, and one on Gidley Rd., Dutch May 6. Tree Swallow: first Hook Mt. Mar. 20. An unusual event of nine found dead in a bluebird box, and ten in another in Dutch dur. May. Barn Swallow: first Apr. 3 Hook Mt. Cliff Swallow: only a few reported. Usual colonies in central Oran seem abandoned (BS). Purple Martin: first Apr. 3 Hook Mt. Arr. Bullville, Apr. 4. Blue Jay: residents continue low, but good migration obs. first half of May. Fish Crow: more than usual; exc. in eastern Oran. Max 11 Mar. 27 at Washington L., Newburgh. Red-breasted Nuthatch: only report one in Dutch Apr. 30. Brown Creeper: max ten in song at Ashokan Apr. 3. House Wren: five in the Rye area Apr. 13. Winter Wren: one at MC Apr. 6 and another in song near Mine Rd., USMA May 10. Carolina Wren: numbers came thru the mild winter well. An adult feeding two fledglings at Dunderberg May 17. Long-billed Marsh Wren: first PL Apr. 29. **SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN:** one Shunpike, Town of Washington, Dutch May 14-18. Responded to tape by singing steadily (FG, mob). Gray Catbird: several winter birds made it to spring. Migrants arr. on time. Gray-cheeked Thrush: none reported from Rock. One P'kpsie May 9 was the only report. Eastern Bluebird: first young hatched May 1 in Dutch, 76 nestlings banded by end of period there. Appear to be heavy losses due to Blow Flies. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr on schedule thru Region Apr. 12-13. Golden-crowned Kinglet: six reports from Dutch dur first week of Apr. No reports of nesters as we've had recently.

VIREOS--WARBLERS: White-eyed Vireo: always a good find, one Mine Rd., USMA from May 7-14. Three reports from Dutch: one Pawling May 3, and two others Forest Glen and Skidmore Sanct. May 13. Yellow-throated Vireo: seems down compared to recent years. Solitary Vireo: numbers up; at least ten in the Thompson Pd. area Apr. 23, and 14 reports dur. May in Dutch. Warbling Vireo: numbers up compared to highs of recent years. RFD found eight on May 19 and six on May 23. **PROTHONOTARY WARBLER:** more than ever before, with several in the northern part of the Region. One singing steadily May 12 near Red Hook (FG, MVW, EP). Another May 7 behind Hurley Town Hall (AB). One at Palisades, Rock May 30; and one at Rye Nature Center May 30. Worm-eating Warbler: best numbers in some years. Two or three found regularly at Black Rock Forest near Cornwall, and another thru early May at Bashakill. Several reports from Rock. "Brewster's" Warbler: one Cruger's Is. May 10 (AB). "Lawrence's" Warbler: a singing male obs on Mine Rd., USMA May 12 (KM). Obs there again May 19 (EDT). Tennessee and Nashville Warblers: lower than usual. No. Parula: BS says numbers good although several observers missed them entirely. Cape May Warbler: never really abundant. One or two found by most birders on most trips. Yellow-rumped Warbler: four reports from Dutch dur Mar. Possibly wintering

birds. Cerulean Warbler: numbers down, but reported sparingly from usual locations in Dutch and Oran. Blackpoll Warbler: very low numbers compared with most years. Pine Warbler: best showing in east West in many years. At least eight reports there, four from Dutch and three in Oran. Last at Bashakill May 13 and Black Rock Forest May 14. Ovenbird: first May 2 Bashakill. **KENTUCKY WARBLER**: more than ever before. One Rye Nature Center May 13-19; one Armonk May 17; one Marshlands Conservancy May 26. A singing male seen at Dunderberg Mt. May 17; one seen and heard Shunpike Dutch May 14-22; and another Cedar Valley May 20; one Mine Rd., USMA May 14. Mourning Warbler: the usual few reports. One Mine Rd. USMA May 14-16; another Winding Hills Pk., Montgomery May 17; a pair at Bashakill May 24.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: First migrant blackbirds arr. Mar. 6, 7; almost three weeks late. Bobolink: also late, but one at Salt Point May 4 was early. Heavy influx May 12-14. **ORCHARD ORIOLE**: always rare. An imm. in Dutch Apr. 20 was very early. One at P'kpsie May 2 and two at different parts of Stanfordville May 18-21, one Galeville May 17; and two Mine Rd. USMA May 24. No. Oriole: one Mar. 31 at Applewood Dutch was early (Czecher Terhune). **SUMMER TANAGER**: an ad. male calling at Rye Nature Center May 16 and a sub-adult male at Winding Hills Pk., Montgomery May 15 could be the first records for the Region. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: exc. numbers and on time. Indigo Bunting: A very early male Apr. 29-30 at Stissing. Evening Grosbeak: numbers very low as they were all winter. Last, a single bird on Waterman Census May 17. Purple Finch: numbers low with the exception of 20-30 month of May in Dutch. House Finch: huge numbers of last year diminished greatly this spring, but certainly not threatened. 145 on Waterman Census May 17 was up from 74 in 1979 and the first two in 1965. Rufous-sided Towhee: several made it thru the winter. One near Pleasant Valley was singing from Mar. 8. Grasshopper Sparrow: usual few at Westbrookville from May 6. Dutch birds arr. May 14. Dark-eyed Junco: last May 8 at Pine Ridge, Wappingers, and May 3 at Ft. Montgomery. Tree Sparrow: numbers severely down thru winter into spring. Last Rye Apr. 22 and Pleasant Valley Apr. 9. White-crowned Sparrow: arr Wawarsing Apr. 8. Last migrant near P'kpsie May 20. White-throated Sparrow: last migrant left P'kpsie area May 20. Lincoln's Sparrow: usual few reports, one Palisades May 9, another Wawarsing May 10, another Red Hook May 12, another Pleasant Valley May 15-16, and one at Vassar Farms May 11. Snow Bunting: only report four birds in Dutch Mar. 15.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, NY 10928

REGION 10 – MARINE

BARBARA J. SPENCER

The first day of the spring season was the coldest day of the winter with a reading of 10° F, the "most frigid March 1st in 29 years," said the National Weather Service. March went on to become the wettest March in 104 years, with precipitation totaling 10.41 inches against an average of 3.73. April continued the pattern with 8.26 inches of rain (average 3.30) the second wettest in history, thereby ending fears of drought as a result of the dry winter. Temperatures were average in March and two degrees warmer than average during April. The May rains were largely confined to weekdays giving weekend birders a break this year.

Warbler migration seemed good this year, and more widespread, in compari-

son with the last few years. The woods were devastated in some places by severe defoliation from "inch" worms and Gypsy Moth caterpillars.

Bird clubs received details of the Breeding Bird Atlas project from Gil Raynor, Region 10 coordinator, in May and began planning for this ambitious project. It will be interesting to see if additional locations for rare breeders such as the Yellow-throated Vireo and certain warblers will be found with more intensive and systematic coverage of suitable areas.

Positive notes for the season include: 1) an encouraging number of Ospreys returning to the North Fork, with birds back on previously occupied nests, and activity around new nests on platforms erected by Paul Stoutenburgh. Sixteen active Osprey nests were reported from Shelter Island. 2) numbers of Orchard Orioles have increased in the northern Nassau area. 3) good numbers of Northern Orioles were widely distributed. 4) a good flight of Gannets took place along the south shore beaches during the last week in April. 5) warbler movements were rewarding to observers.

Negative aspects of the season include: 1) Pied-billed Grebe and Least Bittern have all but disappeared as resident birds on Long Island. 2) a sparse shorebird flight—peak numbers at Jamaica Bay in late May were about 500 birds versus 10,000 last year. 3) Wood Ducks are increasingly scarce in some areas including Van Cortlandt Park.

Rarities include: White-faced Ibis, White Ibis, Black-necked Stilt, and Scissor-tailed Flycatcher.

Contributors and initialed observers: Robert Adamo, Albert M. Bell, Ralph Cioffi, Arthur P. Cooley, Thomas H. Davis, Stephen B. Dempsey, Aline Dove, Frances File, Paul Gillen, William Lamoureaux, R. J. Laskowski, Anthony J. Lauro, Emanuel Levine, Millard Lindauer, Alan Lindberg, Lois Lindberg, Glenn Quinn, Gilbert S. Raynor, Walter Sedwitz, Barbara J. Spencer, Al Wollin.

LOONS—DUCKS: A single Pied-billed Grebe was present in May at Jamaica Bay; five in Glen Cove Apr. 15 were migrants (AL). Two Sooty Shearwaters were seen from the beach at Democrat Point, Fire Island, May 11 along with 40 Gannets (AJL). A big flight of Gannets was noted by the same observer Apr. 23 at Mecox with over 200 adults passing by in less than an hour. Double-crested Cormorants were moving across the area in mid-April with these flights noted: 26 at Muttontown Apr. 16 (AL), 25 over Sea Cliff Apr. 19 (AMB), over 1500 were flying east along the south shore in flocks of 200 to 300 birds (WS) the same day. A Cattle Egret was seen in Easthampton Apr. 13, (RA), and in Montauk Apr. 26 (GSR). Egrets were present in their roosts in numbers by Apr. 19 (WS), while a Snowy Egret Mar. 23 at Shinnecock was early (GSR). A Little Blue Heron was seen at Shinnecock Apr. 3 (WL); two were at Tobay Pond Apr. 19 (WS), and another was reported Apr. 20 at Montauk (GSR). An imm. Yellow-crowned Night Heron Mar. 16 at Hempstead Lake was early, or may have wintered (EL). One in Forest Park May 11 roosting near the "water hole" was a first for that closely watched spot. One or two adult **WHITE-FACED IBIS** returned to Jamaica Bay Refuge Apr. 6 and were present through the period (THD *et al.*). An adult **WHITE IBIS** was found at Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, May 17 (O. and R. Possner, R. Rosenblum). While Mute Swans breed on almost every pond in Nassau and Suffolk counties, two individuals at Jerome Reservoir in the Bronx Apr. 24 (WS), and one at Jamaica Bay May 31 were in unusual locations. A flock of 50 Snow Geese flew over Sea Cliff Mar. 24 (AMB). A more generalized and larger movement took place Apr. 5: 200 in Port Washington (GQ), and Apr. 6: 400 in three flocks in Glen Cove (RC), 325 later in the morning (AL, LL), and

500 in Sea Cliff in the later afternoon (AMB). These north shore locations are close together on Hempstead Harbor, and appear to be on a regular fall and spring flight path for Snow Geese. Also on Apr. 6 more than 1000 Snow Geese were seen at Jamaica Bay (THD). A belated report of a female European Wigeon present and photographed in Baldwin in late Jan. was received (THD). A drake was seen at Sagaponack Apr. 3, the latest spring date this year (AJL). Last sighting of Am. Wigeon was May 6, and of Buffleheads Apr. 20, both in Glen Cove (RC). 1255 Canvasbacks at Jerome Reservoir Mar. 7 was the high count there (WS). A maximum of 17 Lesser Scaup was at Spuyten Duyvil Mar. 15 (WS). A female Harlequin Duck at Jamaica Bay Refuge May 11 seems to be the first Long Island record away from the outer coast (J. DiCostanzo, T. W. Burke, J. Keil *et al.*). Hooded Mergansers reached a maximum of 21 Mar. 8 at Hempstead Lake where they were last seen Apr. 20 (SBD). Sixteen Com. Mergansers were in the same location Mar. 8; a pair was last seen there Mar. 23 (SBD).

HAWKS—ALCIDS: More sightings than usual of Turkey Vultures occurred on the north shore: two Apr. 23 in Glen Cove (AL), one in Muttontown May 2 (AL), one perched in a tree in Cold Springs Harbor May 5 (RC), one flying south over Roslyn May 11 (BJS, GQ), and farther east, one in Ridge May 2 (H. Halma), and one in Manorville the same day (GSR). One Sharp-shinned Hawk was seen Apr. 19 in Wading River (GSR). Three were flying overhead in Central Park May 4 (FF *et al.*). Late Goshawks were reported Apr. 30-May 1 in Central Park (M. Sohmer *et al.*) and May 3 in Forest Park (BJS). Apr. 23 a Cooper's Hawk was harassing a Great Horned Owl in Muttontown; on May 7 the Cooper's was seen again (AL). Two Red-shouldered Hawks were sighted in Yaphank Mar. 24 (GSR). A pair of Broad-winged Hawks were seen defending territory against a Red-tailed Hawk in Muttontown Apr. 18 where a nest of the Broad-winged was located May 16 (AL). Other scattered reports of Broad-wingeds represented migrants. Repeated reports of Ospreys in the north shore area around Mill Neck suggest that breeding attempts are a possibility. Am. Oystercatchers started moving into the area in March: two were at Tobay on the 16th (R. Laskowski) four were there on the 23rd (WL), one at Hampton Bays the 22nd (RA), and four at Shinnecock the 23rd (GSR). Twenty oystercatchers were at Shinnecock by Apr. 3 (WL). An Am. Golden Plover stayed at Jamaica Bay from Apr. 26 through mid-May. Fifteen birds represented a good concentration of Am. Woodcocks at Muttontown Apr. 18 (AL). This bird is probably more abundant than generally realized. Scattered reports of Whimbrels were received. Two were at Shinnecock Apr. 19, and May 11 (GSR). Three were at Tobay Apr. 19 (WL, WS); a single bird was seen at Westhampton Beach May 27 (BJS). Three Upland Sandpipers were found at Baiting Hollow May 3 (GSR, RA). Two Upland Sandpipers remain in the much disturbed location near the Nassau Coliseum in Hempstead on a remnant of the Hempstead Plain (May 25, J. Popp). One or more Upland Sandpipers can often be seen from the highway at the Westhampton Airport north of the entrance. Fifty Greater Yellowlegs at Mecox Apr. 23 was a good count (AJL). Reeves were present at Jamaica Bay Apr. 26-27, and May 1-2 (photographed by THD). A Ruff was at Sagaponack May 20 (AJL). Three BLACK-NECKED STILTS on Apr. 12 were in Greenlawn (*vide* A. McKay) and four were present in a grassy pond in Cold Spring Harbor Apr. 14-19 (J. Ricks *et al.*), probably the same birds. A maximum of 17,000 Red Phalaropes were seen Apr. 18 in the Hudson Canyon region (R. A. Rowlett); a pair was at Jamaica Bay Apr. 29 (S. Schaefer). In contrast to the large number of Red Phalaropes at Hudson Canyon, only 12 No. Phalaropes were seen by Rowlett Apr. 18. A single No. Phalarope was at Jamaica Bay May 23 (T. Stiles). Many observers saw a female Wilson's Phalarope at Jamaica Bay between May 23 and 31. A single Parasitic Jaeger was seen from Democrat Point, Fire Island May 18 (AJL). A Glaucous Gull was at Orient Mar. 15 (GSR), and a first-year Iceland Gull was at Jones Beach Mar. 23 (WL). A breeding-plumaged Black-headed Gull was seen in Fire Island Inlet Apr. 3 (P. Lehman) among Bonaparte's Gulls. The first Laughing Gulls were reported from Sands Point Mar. 23 (GQ); 52 were there Apr. 8. Up to three adults and an imm. Little Gull were reported from Fire Island Inlet Apr. 3 (P. Lehman) and Apr. 13 (AJL). What might be

the same four birds were at the West End Coast Guard station at Jones Beach Apr. 10 (AW). Single Little Gulls were reported as follows: one ad. Mar. 1 at Shinnecock (GSR), one ad. at Zach's Bay Mar. 16 (ML), and an imm. at Jones Inlet Apr. 18 (PG), and another imm. at Jamaica Bay May 31 (K. Brady *et al.*). Three Gull-billed Terns, two apparently a pair, were seen at Jones Beach parking lot, two on May 10 (ML). A single Gull-billed Tern was seen May 1 at Democrat Point (AJL). Two Royal Terns were seen at Westhampton Beach May 27 (BJS) and at Mecox May 30 (WS). Perhaps the Royal Tern will be found breeding on Long Island this year. A maximum of 12 Caspian Terns was reported from Mecox Apr. 26 (GSR); six were there Apr. 27, two on May 6 (RA). Two Black Skimmers Mar. 22 at Bay Shore were very early (G. Coheleach, *vide* J. Bull).

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Calling Chuck-will's-widows were heard in mid-May at Oak Beach (THD *et al.*), and at Springs May 26 (P. Polshek), a new location. Seven Com. Nighthawks were uncommon in the spring at Sands Point (GQ). A concentration of 16 Chimney Swifts at Van Cortlandt Park May 28 was also unusual in the spring (WS). Red-headed Woodpeckers were located at Alley Pond Park May 6 (A. Townsend) and at Forest Park May 10-11. One was seen at Forest Park June 1 (G. Tudor).

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: A SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER was present at Tobay May 28 (H. Moses). The earliest Eastern Phoebe reported was in Glen Cove Mar. 22 (RC). A Yellow-bellied Flycatcher at Muttontown May 13 was early (AL). Acadian Flycatchers arrived in a number of locations May 18 with one at Alley Pond, one at Sands Point May 19, and one in Mill Neck May 31. A singing Alder Flycatcher in Mill Neck the same day was unusual (BJS). Cliff Swallows were sighted Apr. 19 at Moriches Inlet (APC), and at Sands Point May 18 (GQ). A Purple Martin Mar. 9 at Jones Beach was extremely early (R. Hines). A Purple Martin scout was seen Mar. 31 inspecting housing facilities in Orient (W. Godfrey) and Apr. 6 in Bohemia where seven in a mixed flock arrived Apr. 13 (R. Landwher). Breeding colonies of martins are much reduced in numbers on Long Island. The Landwher colony may be the only one remaining in the Islip area with 22 individuals (RJJ). Two Eastern Bluebirds were at Upton Mar. 20, the only report received (GSR). Apr. 26 marked an influx of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers over a wide front with reports from many locations ranging from Forest Park to Montauk. Earlier arrivals of gnatcatchers were Apr. 13 and 14.

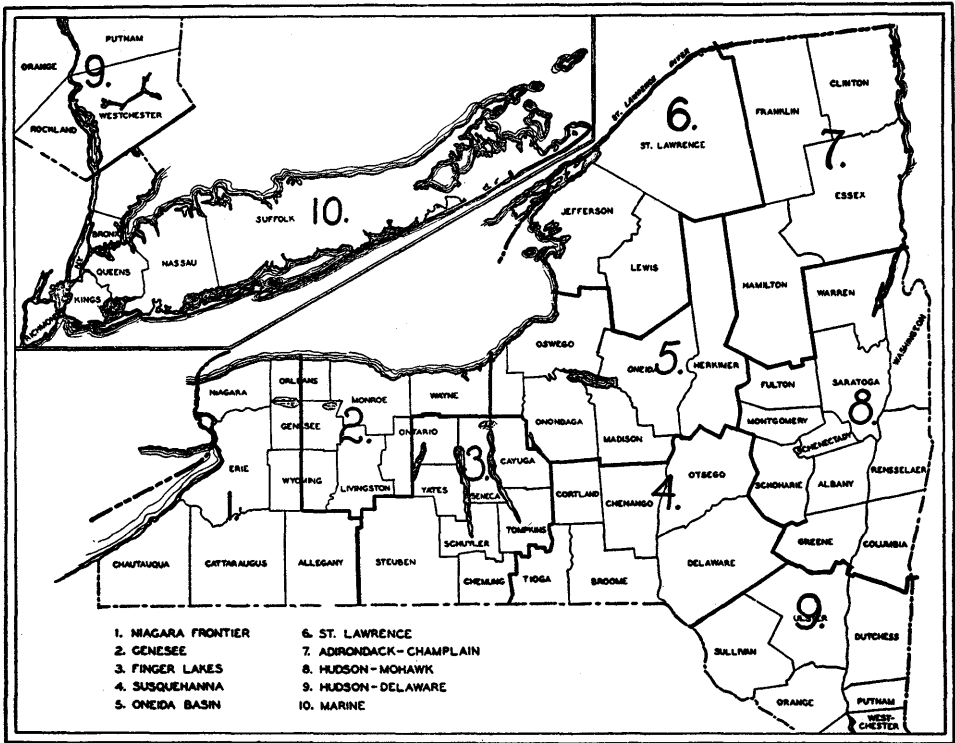
VIREOS—WARBLERS: A White-eyed Vireo Mar. 30 at Hempstead Lake was very early (AW, S. Schiff). This individual might be the same bird that arrived very early in the same location last year. Yellow-throated Vireos were seen in migration on Long Island; relatively few remain to breed. One was present in Manorville May 13 and 16 (GSR), one was moving through Mill Neck Apr. 27, and Forest Park Apr. 26 (BJS). Prothonotary Warblers were reported Apr. 22 in Brookville (J. Little *vide* RC), May 3 in Alley Park (H. Roth, L. Plotnick), and May 9 in Yaphank (GSR). A "Lawrence's" Warbler was found in Central Park May 4 (FF *et al.*). An early Tennessee Warbler was found in Cold Spring Harbor Apr. 17 (T. Stiles, R. Hines). Orange-crowned Warblers were seen Apr. 20 in Prospect Park (M. Sohmer *et al.*), and Apr. 23 at the Jones Beach fishing station (WL). Fifteen or more reports of Cerulean Warblers were received including two different birds in Deer Park May 6 (FF), a bird banded on Fire Island May 11 (D. Ford), and individuals May 3 and 16 in Manorville (GSR). Yellow-throated Warblers (possibly one wandering bird?) were reported Apr. 15 at Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn (P. Pane), Apr. 30 in Forest Park (J. and JP Latil), and May 12 in Kissena Park, Queens (G. Dadone, W. Reilly, M. Stapleton). The previously reported Ovenbird, which ate bird seed provided by V. Moore in Southold all winter, was last seen Mar. 16. Its irregular appearance at the feeder in Mar. seemed to be directly related to the occurrence of weather near freezing or below. Kentucky Warblers were numerous this year with more than fifteen reports from NYC and Long Island. Some of these males seemed to be territorial. The earliest was seen May 3 at Hempstead Lake (BJS). Two Kentuckys were in Forest Park from May 11 on for an extended stay. Two were at Alley Pond Park, one in

Belmont Lake State Park May 14 (FF), an individual was singing in Yaphank May 17 (FF), and another was in Massapequa the same day (K. Meyer, E. Zahn). A Kentucky in Sands Point was first heard and seen May 16 and continued in the area for two weeks (BJS, GQ). Breeding attempts seem imminent. Among Hooded Warbler reports, a male singing in the woods at Yaphank May 7, 9, 12 (GSR) and 17 (FF) sounds like a territorial bird. A Mourning Warbler found singing at Alley Pond May 24 was accompanied by a female (BJS, RC). A maximum of five Mourning Warblers were found in Forest Park June 1 (G. Tudor). Two territorial Yellow-breasted Chats were heard at Muttontown May 31 where two pairs probably bred last year (AL).

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Several reports of migrating Bobolinks were received—ten were seen in Manorville May 14 (GSR), a flock visited a backyard in Port Washington May 19 (B. Forquor), and eight or more Bobolinks were present at Alley Pond Park for a couple of days, first noticed May 17 (AMB, RC). Orchard Orioles seem to be enjoying prosperity in northern Nassau, or birders are becoming more aware of them. Two pairs were found in Glen Cove (RC), one pair in Cold Spring Harbor (H. McClure, F. McDonough), a pair in Muttontown (AL, LL). Single males were noted in Calverton May 16 (GSR), Forest Park May 10 (BJS), and a singing male was present in Babylon June 8-15 (FF). Summer Tanagers were widely reported: two were seen at Jones Beach fishing station May 4 (WL), and adult male was in Forest Park May 10. A male remained in Belmont Lake State Park May 12-13 (FF), a male was at Jamaica Bay May 14 (S. Birnbach). A male was seen by many observers in Alley Pond Park May 17 (H. Roth), a female was found at Jamaica Bay May 17 (S. Rosenberg), a male May 18 at Greenwood Cemetery (J. Yrizarry), a male May 24-June 1 Forest Park, seen by many, and a female May 24 in Central Park (N. Halmi). This is another species of southern affinity which seems on the verge of extending its range to Long Island. A female Blue Grosbeak was found at a second story window feeder in Cedarhurst Apr. 26 (H. Hirschbein, J. Williams). Another female was seen May 11 by W. Reilly *et al.* in Alley Park May 18. A European Goldfinch of undetermined origin was present at the Vakay feeder in Eastport Mar. 25-31 (*vide* GSR). An adult male Dickcissel was located in Belmont Lake Park May 14 (FF *et al.*), an unusual spring record. A Lark Sparrow, also unusual in the spring, was found at Saltaire, Fire Island May 2 (H. Levinson). A Clay-colored Sparrow was identified Mar. 16 in comparison with study skins; the bird first appeared at a feeder in Port Washington in Jan. (J. Lamoureaux). A late White-crowned Sparrow was found at Tobay May 3 (SBD). A Lincoln's Sparrow present from Mar. 16 to mid-April at a feeder in Jamaica Bay (THD *et al.*) probably wintered in the area. One in Glen Cove May 15 was a migrant not often seen in the spring (RC).

154 Dayton St., Sea Cliff, NY 11579

REPORTING REGIONS



For descriptions of Regions see Kingbird Vol. IV Nos. 1 and 2

REPORTING DEADLINES

Winter Season: December, January, February

Deadline is March 7

Spring Season: March, April, May

Deadline is June 7

Summer Season: June, July, August

Deadline is September 7

Fall Season: September, October, November

Deadline is December 7

FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS, INC.

1980 Officers

President

Martin Borko Biology Dept., OCCC, Middletown, N.Y. 10940

Vice-President

Morgan Jones 184 Temple Street, Fredonia, N.Y. 14063

Corresponding Secretary

Kate Dunham Old Albany Turnpike, Old Chatham, N.Y. 12136

Recording Secretary

Harriet Marsi Friendsville Stage, Binghamton, N.Y. 13903

Treasurer

John W. Forness 3086 Haskell Rd., R.D. 2, Cuba, N.Y. 14727

Co-Editors of THE KINGBIRD

Emanuel Levine, 585 Mead Terrace, South Hempstead, N.Y. 11550

John Farrand, Jr., American Museum of Natural History, New York, N.Y. 11024

Appointed Committees

Editor of New York Birders: Maxwell C. Wheat, Jr.,
333 Bedell St., Freeport, N.Y. 11520

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

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

Bibliography: Allen Benton, 292 Water St., Fredonia, N.Y. 14063

Conservation: Karen Slotnick, 211 Tolbert Dr., North Syracuse, N.Y. 13212

John J. Elliott Memorial Committee: John L. Bull, Eugene Eisenmann,
John Farrand, Jr., Emanuel Levine, Joseph W. Taylor

Finance Committee: William Vaughn, Chairman; John Forness, Richard A. Sloss

Lillian C. Stoner Fund Committee: Richard A. Sloss, Chairman;
John Confer, William Reeves

Elected Committees

Auditing: Irving Cantor, Donald Clark

Nominating: Stephen Dempsey, Chairman; Gordon Meade, Bill Lee