

REGION 9 – CENTRAL NEW YORK

The Christmas census conducted by the Eaton Bird Club, Geneva, N. Y., was taken on Dec. 30, and 40 species were recorded. The following is a summary of winter records in this area:

LOONS – DUCKS:

1 Common Loon, Skaneateles Lake, Jan. 13 (Terry) and Seneca Lake, Nov. 18 (Gambrell); few Horned Grebes on Seneca Lake by Oct. 21 but remained all winter – 7 seen March 2 (Gambrell), also seen on Cayuga and Ontario Lakes Jan. 1 and Feb. 3 (Scheider and Minor); Canada Geese began moving south in numbers by early in October (75 seen Sept. 27, Gambrell). Mallards and Blacks moved on to Seneca Lake, about 75 and 500, respectively, in late October and have remained all winter. Some movement by these species March 2 even though the ice is still present. Ring-necked Duck, 2 on Seneca Lake, Jan. 27 (Terrys) and 1 on Feb. 24, Oswego River (Kate et al.). Redheads, Canvasbacks and Scaups arrived on Seneca Lake Oct. 21. Numbers increased to approximately 2000 - 3000 Redheads, 25 - 50 Canvasbacks, 600 - 1,000 Lesser and 25 - 900 Greater Scaup. Small numbers of Buffle-head (5 - 20), American Golden-eye (25 - 100) wintered on lake; 1 Ruddy Duck observed Jan. 20; very few American and Red-breasted Merganser, Old Squaw observed during winter (Eaton Bird Club). Similar species were recorded on Oneida Lake (Minor and Scheider) and also 2 Wood Duck, 1 Green-winged Teal, 2 Ring-necked Duck and 13 Hooded Merganser on Nov. 25. Canvas-back, Redhead, Old Squaw on Finger Lakes, Ontario, Oswego River Jan. 13 - Feb. 10 (Syracuse Audubon Soc.).

HAWKS – OWLS:

Red-tailed Hawks present all winter in numbers; 8 in Seneca Ordnance area, Kendaia, on March 2 (Hartzell and Gambrell); courting late Feb. - early March, Marcellus (Flynn); Red-shoulder, 6 on Nov. 9, also 1 on Nov. 22 and 1 Feb. 3 (Gambrell); Rough-legged Hawk, 1 on Feb. 2, Marcellus (Flynn) and several around Cazenovia in mid-December (Trimm) and also common in Seneca Ordnance and Sampson (2 seen Jan. 19, 8 on Feb. 24, 2 on March 2 – Hartzell, Ward, Gambrell); Marsh Hawk, 1 on Feb. 3 and March 2, Geneva (Gambrell); Sparrow Hawk present all winter near Geneva (2 - 6); Goshawk, 1 on Dec. 30 at Fayetteville (Spofford); Cooper's Hawk, 3 on Jan. 1, Syracuse (Kate, Woolf, Scheider, Flynn), also 1 at Fayetteville on Dec. 18 (Spofford), 2 on Jan. 1, Cicero Swamp (Coons), 2 at Onondaga Valley, Jan. 2 (Mrs. Terry); 1 Pigeon Hawk, Otisco Lake, March 2 (Spofford).

1 Killdeer, Sylvan Beach, Nov. 25 (Minor and Scheider), also Jan. 1, Onondaga Lake (Flynn, Scheider); Coot (10 - 25) wintered north end Seneca Lake (Gambrell); Great-black backed Gulls (1 - 5) wintered on Seneca Lake (2 last seen March 2); 2 Bonaparte's Gull on Oct. 21, Geneva (Gambrell) and 33 at Sylvan Beach on Nov. 25 (Minor and Scheider); 1 Common Tern Seneca Lake Oct. 21 (Gambrell). Mourning Dove winter rec-

ords are 1 on Nov. 5, 4 on Jan. 19, 1 on Feb. 20 and 25 in Geneva-Phelps area (Gambrell) and 2 at Oakwood Cemetery (Woolf et al.).

1 Barn Owl on Dec. 30, Kirkville (Flynn); also 1 at Kendaia on Dec. 30 (Ward and Hoskins), and Feb. 3, 24 and March 2. 3 Great horned Owls on Jan. 27; 6 Long-eared and 3 Short-eared Owls Jan. 27 (Gambrell and Ward), 6 Long-eared on Feb. 3, 15 on Feb. 24, and 5 on March 3; also 9 Short-eared Owls Feb. 24 and 11 on March 2 (Gambrell, Hartzell, Ward, Ellis). All observed at Seneca Ordnance and Sampson area. 1 Barred Owl on Jan. 6 (flying on bright, sunny day, Oneida Lake — Scheider). 1 Flicker and 1 pair Pileated Woodpeckers, Green Lakes State Park on Dec. 23 and Jan. 1 (Spofford).

SWIFTS — SHRIKES:

3 Brown-capped Chickadee, Clark's Reservation (Scheider); Red-breasted Nuthatch at Geneva and Syracuse, Oct. 17 into early January. Brown Creeper frequently seen, Geneva, Dec. and Jan. Hairy Woodpecker common at feeding station during winter (Miss Holtby); Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers (courting) several records from mid-Feb. to early March; Ruffed Grouse late Feb. and early March, backyard in center of Syracuse — 3 seen at one time (Mrs. Kate and Miss Woolf).

THRUSHES — WARBLERS:

Few reports of Golden-crowned Kinglets received. Several wintering records of Robin, Onondaga Valley Dec. 20 (Terrys) and 1 at Newark on Jan. 29 (Gambrell). 1 Catbird at feeding station, Geneva, Nov. 18 - Jan. 25 (Miss Wilson). Cardinals are spending the winter in Geneva — 5 were seen at feeding station at one time on Jan. 4 (Gambrells); 1 Bluebird reported Jan. 6, South Onondaga (Terrys).

BLACKBIRDS — SPARROWS:

25 Evening Grosbeaks, Waterloo from Jan. 3 - Feb. 5 (Walker, Ward), 1 at Geneva, Oct. 20 (Gambrell, Roland.). Scattered reports of 1-13 seen in Syracuse, Oneida Lake and Mattydale, Nov. 11 - Jan. 6 (Flynn, Scheider, Minor, Kate, Woolf); Pine Grosbeaks — numerous reports of small flocks in Oneida Lake region and flocks of 6 - 35 reported between Nov. 28 and Jan. 17 from Cazenovia, Constantia, Fayetteville and Thornden Park. Purple Finch, Pine Siskin, Redpoll, Crossbills and Slate-colored Junco all quite scarce (Syracuse). 4 Swamp Sparrows, Cicero Swamp, Jan. 1 (Coons); 1 White-throated Sparrow last reported on Oct. 20 and 1 immature White-crowned Sparrow on Oct. 19; 2 Tree-Sparrows on Nov. 23 (Gambrells). 50 Lapland Longspur, Penn Yan on Feb. 25 (Wards); 50 Snow Buntings on Feb. 19 and 22 (Mrs. Gambrell) and 200 - 300 same area on Feb. 25 (Wards).

Recent or unusual reports. 1 Robin, E. Seneca Turnpike, Jan. 7 (Bruce) and one Geneva March 6 (Wards); 1 Bluebird, north side Syracuse, Feb. 17 (Scheider). "1 Mocking bird seen intermittently since Dec. 1 in the Fayetteville area — seen regularly thru late Jan. and early Feb., last seen on

Feb. 12, first identified by Mrs. Evans — the bird was quite fat and gave every indication of being healthy, well-fed and normal". Above report in letter from Friz Scheider, 151 7th North St., Syracuse 8, N. Y. First Bronzed Grackle report in Geneva, March 11 (Gambrell). Cardinal — reported from 6 or 7 spots in Syracuse where they have not been seen before

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BANDING EVENING GROSBEAKS

It is especially interesting to note that from October 31 to January 7, 1952, Mrs. Gerald Fitzgerald has banded 635 Evening Grosbeaks. She has had recoveries from the following places: Port Credit, Ontario, Canada; Hardwick, Mass.; Pleasant Volley Sanctuary, Lenox, Mass.; and one from Lewiston, Me. From the latter, a male, No. 40-232907, banded Feb. 4, 1947 by Mrs. Geo. E. Ramsdell. The Fish and Wildlife have not yet sent in a report on the other recoveries made. Mrs. Fitzgerald has received word from Mrs. Eleanor Dater of Ramsey, N. J. and from Mr. Bruce Yeager of Northumberland, Pa., that they have recovered birds which she has banded. One was found with a broken wing, illustrating perils of migration.

Mrs. I. A. Rosa

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