

Hawks — Owls:

So far we have been unable to find any evidence of hawk flyways in the Adirondacks. If any readers have ever found any such points, the information would be welcomed for further study.

Spruce Grouse reports continue in small but steady fashion each year now suggesting that the bird may be slowly extending itself. Ruffed Grouse showed some evidence of a beginning decline after the peak of the past two years.

Parasitic Jaeger appeared on December 13th off Au Sable Point on Lake Champlain (Lesperance). May have been related to storm condition over New England just preceding.

On the same date and at the same place as the Jaeger, Mr. Lesperance saw a single Dovekie. Two most unusual records for this region.

Swifts — Shrikes:

Mrs. R. E. Mason of Essex, N. Y., had a Carolina Wren at her feeder eating suet from mid-October until at least November 20th. She was able to band the bird. This is our first proven report for this species in the area.

Cedar Waxwings were unusually plentiful in Saranac Lake area this fall, where there was an abundant crop of mountain ash fruit.

Northern Shrikes have been unseen this winter.

Vireos — Warblers:

No observations of note.

Blackbirds — Sparrows:

Evening Grosbeaks were present in Saranac Lake in small numbers all summer, where they unquestionably are breeding. Several observations of young being fed by adults at feeding stations. A heavy flight was noted moving south over De Bar Mountain November 21st to 23rd but they apparently went right on through central area as there was no increase in numbers until mid January. Since then the birds have markedly increased. Very few banded birds among present population.

Redpolls and Snow Buntings present in good numbers since mid November.

Pine Siskins started arriving in October with a particularly heavy influx on October 28th at Saranac Lake and Tupper Lake.

Both Crossbills fairly common since early September. No Pine Grosbeaks this season.

White-throated Sparrow has wintered as usual in Saranac Lake.

Christmas Census in Saranac Lake - Lake Placid area on December 28th yielded 20 species with no unusual findings. A census on Christmas day by Thomas Lesperance in the Port Kent region along Lake Champlain yielded 23 species including a flock of 15 Snow Geese, Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker, Mourning Dove and Goshawk.

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REGION 6 — MOHAWK VALLEY

October and the first half of November were cooler than usual, and exceedingly dry; no appreciable precipitation occurred for a period of 25 days in October. The latter part of November and December were considerably warmer than average, with above normal precipitation. A crest flight occurred on September 27, following a cold front of the previous day. Saratoga Lake was open or partially open through December.

Loons — Ducks:

Grebes were recorded in about usual numbers at Saratoga Lake and Niskayuna; a Red-necked Grebe on Oct. 13 at the lake; Horned Grebe, 10 on Oct. 13 and 27 on Nov. 1; 50 Pied-billed Grebes at Niskayuna Oct. 19. A flock of 12 Canada Geese on the Dec. 27 Christmas Count typified a tendency toward summer hold-overs. Pintails were reported on Nov. 11 and Dec. 28. A flock of 25 Teal, comprising both Blue-winged and Green-winged, was observed at Saratoga Lake Oct. 12. Four Canvas-backs were seen here Nov. 2, and others reported in early Dec. Ruddy Duck seen Nov. 16 and Dec. 10, the latest local record (Hallenbeck).

Hawks — Owls:

Peregrine Falcon: one Oct. 4 (Stone) and one Nov. 2 (Bartlett). Wilson's Snipe appears to be becoming more common, with several rather late records thru Nov. 2. A Northern Phalarope, rare here, was observed in shallow water at the edge of Saratoga Lake Nov. 1, and remained in the same locality thru Nov. 5 (Turrentine et al). Several flocks of Mourning Doves have been observed during the winter, including one on the Schenectady Christmas Count, Dec. 27. The latest recent record of Black-billed Cuckoo was obtained at Niskayuna Oct. 4 (Stone). One record of Snowy Owl, in late Nov.

Swifts — Shrikes:

Ruby-throated Hummingbird, record late date Oct. 9 at Loudonville (French). Belted Kingfisher reported on Troy Christmas Count Dec. 28. A Pileated Woodpecker was seen in Central Park, Schenectady on Oct. 19. Latest date for Acadian Flycatcher Sept. 29. Also latest date since 1916 for Tree Swallow, three on Oct. 4 and one Oct. 5 (Stone). Winter Wren was observed in greater numbers than usual. Long-billed Marsh Wren recorded on Nov. 1, a record late date; also ten were reported on Oct. 5. American Robin reported on Dec. 17 and Dec. 27. Bluebirds were notable by their absence. The Schenectady Christmas Count included a Ruby-crowned Kinglet; another late date for Water Pipit — Nov. 9.

Vireos — Warblers:

Vireos and warblers set new records for late migrants:
Solitary Vireo, Oct. 18, latest recent record (Hallenbeck).
Red-eyed Vireo, Oct. 6, equals record (Yunick).
Philadelphia Vireo, Oct. 3, local record (French).
Yellow Warbler, Oct. 5, latest record (Hallenbeck).
Cape May Warbler, Oct. 8, local record (Yunick).
Black-throated Blue Warbler, Oct. 8, record (French).
Black-throated Green Warbler, Nov. 3, very late; record (French).
Pine Warbler, dead immature found Oct. 12, latest recent record (Baker).
Common Yellowthroat, Oct. 19, and record late transient Oct. 26 (Stone).

Blackbirds — Sparrows:

Red-winged Blackbird and Purple Grackle reported on Christmas Census. Record late date for Indigo Bunting, Oct. 5. A Dickcissel was reported at a feeder in Amsterdam. Evening Grosbeak began arriving in late Dec., few in number. Common Redpolls on Nov. 1 were early. Twelve Pine Siskins reported Dec. 22. Late dates for Lincoln's Sparrow were Oct. 4 and 11. There have been several records of wintering Swamp Sparrows.

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REGION 7 — NEW YORK

After an early threat of a rigorous winter late in the fall, the weather moderated unseasonably. Many January days stayed above freezing, and some produced afternoon temperatures in the 50's. Rockland County underwent a severe but localized ice storm on Jan. 9-10 that may have extirpated Carolina wrens as in 1935-36.

Christmas counts were sensational — except for groups who chanced to pick Dec. 21, a day of rain and fog. Bear Mountain - Harriman Park set a new record of 41 species, **Rockland Audubon Society** a new high of 70 species. **Sullivan County Audubon Society** census Dec. 27 listed 26 species. Early winter was marked by unusually high number of Grebes, Ducks, Bald Eagles, Brown Creepers, Hermit Thrushes, Cedar Waxwings, Starlings, Pine Siskins, Juncos — and by relative scarcity of northern visitors.

The Kingbird