

2 Baird's Sandpipers were reported at Sherburne 8/7 and 3 more at the same place 8/14 (R. & S. White).

A flock of 25 Ring-billed Gulls was at Oquaga Lake near Deposit 8/5 (Wilson). Gulls of any kind are rarely seen in this region during the summer months. A Least Tern was at Norwich 8/16 (R. & S. White).

A Barred Owl was heard near Norwich 8/28 at 6 p.m. (R., S. & L. White).

GOATSUCKERS — SHRIKES: Our last Nighthawk was seen 9/7 at Endwell, near Binghamton, (Bemont) and the last Chimney Swift was at Boland's Marsh 9/11 (Triple Cities Naturalists' Club).

The first Sapsucker of the season was near Binghamton 9/18 (TCNC). The last Phoebe was at Norwich 10/21 (R. White) and the last Wood Pewee near Binghamton 9/26 (H. Marsi).

Our first Red-breasted Nuthatch was at Norwich 9/25 (S. White). This is the only report of the species received from anywhere except the Deposit area where the first one arrived 10/1 and the woods were literally full of them all through the month of November. Mr. Wilson writes that he has never known them to be so common.

An early Brown Creeper was at Norwich 8/31 (R. White).

The last large flocks of Robins were observed near Binghamton 10/24 (H. Marsi) although there were several later reports of individual birds. The last Olive-backed Thrush was at Oxford 10/27 (Stratton) and 3 Bluebirds 11/11 at Choconut Center near Binghamton (Sheffields) were the last of that species.

Our first Golden-crowned Kinglets were 5 at Norwich 9/25 (S. White). All Ruby-crowned Kinglet reports fell between 9/21 and 10/23. Two American Pipits were at Norwich 9/12 (R. White).

A Northern Shrike was seen 11/24 and another 11/25, both in the general vicinity of Coventry but about 2 miles apart (Mrs. Nodecker). A Migrant Shrike was at Preston 8/18 (R. & S. White).

VIREOS — WARBLERS: A Red-eyed Vireo was still feeding an almost fully grown young one near Norwich 8/31 (R. White).

A very late Black and White Warbler was at Oxford 11/15 (Stratton). The first fall Nashville Warbler was at Norwich 9/11 (R. & S. White) and the species was reported fairly frequently until 10/10 when the last one was seen near Binghamton (H. Marsi). Several Parula Warblers seen 10/1 near Deposit were the last ones (Wilson). There was one Cape May Warbler report turned in all fall and that from the Binghamton area 9/18 (TCNC). An early Myrtle Warbler was at Guilford 8/28 (R. & S. White). A late Blackburnian Warbler was at Oxford 10/24 (Stratton) and a late Chestnut-sided Warbler was seen near Binghamton 10/17 (H. Marsi). A Yellow-breasted Chat was singing 9/18 in the Binghamton area (TCNC).

BLACKBIRDS — SPARROWS: A large flock (½ mile long) of Redwings was seen migrating over Oxford 10/12 (Stratton). The last flock noted was at Unadilla 10/24 and was comprised of 150-200 birds (Wisner).

Evening Grosbeaks have been present around Unadilla since 11/4 (Wisner), 11/11 at Deposit (Wilson) and 11/28 at Oxford. None had been reported around Binghamton by the end of the month. White-crowned Sparrows migrated thru during the first 9 days of October. A single bird seen 11/6 at Chenango Valley State Park near Binghamton (TCNC) was the lone exception reported.

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REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

FRITZ SCHEIDER

August was wet, September and the 1st half of Oct. were mild, the latter half of Oct. windy and rainy, November windy and cold. Hurricane "Connie" in August had no *observed* avian effects in the area. Certain fall migrants came thru in much greater numbers, namely: loons, grebes, scoters, and Amer. and Red-breasted Mergansers — best numbers in many years; shorebirds — good to very good but left abruptly in mid-Oct.; warblers and sparrows — counts much above expected fall counts. On the other hand, certain groups were seen in fewer numbers than usual, namely: geese, dabbling ducks and the Scaup-Redhead group — fair to poor to very poor; flycatchers and swallows — at best, only a fair flight. Certain species of those

groups passing in the greatest numbers were notably scarce, eg. Ruddy Turnstone and Red-backed Sandpiper, Blue-headed Vireo, Palm Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Fox Sparrow. Brant and Forsters Tern, rare but regular species at Sandy Pond for the past 4 years, were unrecorded there, despite more intensive field work.

A notable feature of the autumn movement was the frequency of fall singing, especially in White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows. The mouse population appears to be on the upswing after last year's low.

LOONS — DUCKS: Common Loon — high fall count is 175, 11/6, Sandy Pond. Red-throated Loon — 3, 11/6, same place; 1, 11/13, south shore of Oneida Lake is 1st recent inland record. Red-necked Grebe — 3 (all Nov.) reports, the highest, 30, 11/6, off Sandy Pond. Horned Grebe — common to very common this fall; peak count is 350, 11/24, Oneida Lake. Pied-billed Grebe — the high of 300, 11/13, Oneida Lake will probably stand for years. Double-cr. Cormorant — 1, 10/9, Sunset Lake, Oneida (H. P. Nodecker) is an unusual "inland", i.e., away from Lake Ontario, report. American Egret — 7, 9/17, Shackleton Point, Oneida Lake (E. Evans, M. Bitz) is last date.

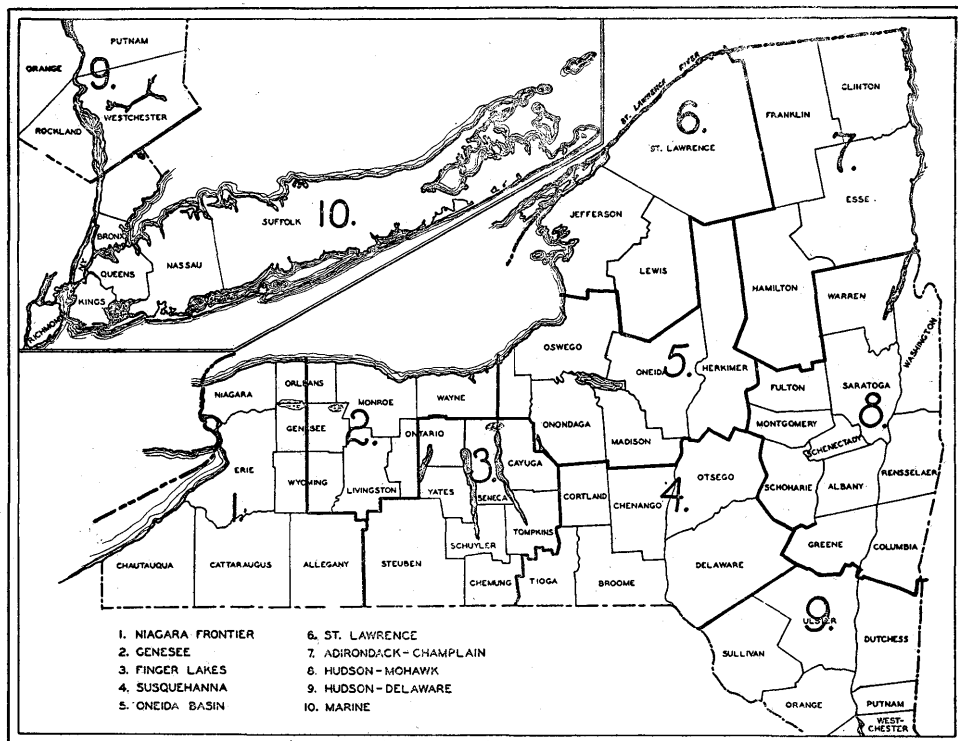
Canada Geese — 1st arrivals, 25, 9/22, Westernville (Mrs. F. W. May); high count of 1500 at Mud Lake, Onon. Co., though better than last year, is still a poor showing. Brant — unreported. Gadwall — 2 fall records, both from NW Onon. Co.; 1 on 11/13, Clay Swamp, is our latest date. Pintail and Green-winged Teal — both reported seldom and in low numbers; Blue-winged Teal — 1, 11/6, Selkirk, (L. Chamberlaine) is late. Baldpate — the only transient dabbler in numbers above common. Shoveller — 1 female, 11/24, Mud Lake, is our latest date. Wood Duck — more late birds than ever before; Scaup — Redhead group — except for Ring-necked Duck (high of 700, 11/20, Mud Lake), this group, especially Scaup, came thru in greatly reduced numbers. Canvasbacks were only 20% of last year's numbers. Buffle-head — better than average numbers (70 on 2 days). Scoters — excellent flight of all 3 along Lake Ontario with both American and Surf reported from Mud (on 10/8 and Oneida (on 11/20) Lakes. Ruddy Duck — by numbers, actually a common duck with high of 65, 11/24, but reports are all from Oneida and Mud Lake, none along Lake Ontario.

Hooded Merganser — 2, 9/17, Verona Beach, are 1st fall birds; very scarce until last 2 weeks of Nov.; high of 100 on 11/24. American and Red-breasted Mergansers — 9000 on 11/6 on Lake Ontario with 1 loose flock of 5000 off the Oswego bluffs.

HAWKS — OWLS No flight of accipiters and small falcons reported from the Sandy Pond dunes in Sept. but there were no strong NW winds on the week-ends. Broad-winged Hawk and Harrier — reports of singles (Mrs. F. W. M. W. R. Spofford, F. S.) of these species in known unoccupied areas in early and mid-August may represent post-breeding wanderers or, more likely, the vanguard of the fall flight. Rough-legged Hawk — 1st date, 1 dark phase bird on 11/6, near Baldwinsville; 5 already reported for Nov. Osprey — about twice as many records this fall; high of 3, 9/11, Sandy Pond; last date, 1, 10/15, Sylvan Beach, being harassed by a Ring-billed Gull, as it sought to carry a large fish against a strong E wind. Peregrine Falcon — 3, 10/9, Sandy Pond, (1 of the 3, an immature, judging by its unmarked cream-puff crown, pale coloration, and remarkable tameness, was probably an Arctic bird — W. R. S.). Merlin — 1 female, 9/15, Onondaga Valley (L. C.) is the only fall report.

Ringer Plover — 1, 11/5, Verona Beach, is our latest. Golden Plover — 5 reports (9/11 - 9/25) with 30, 9/18, near Phoenix, as the Regional peak count. Ruddy Turnstone — a check of all reports shows this species as a **rare** migrant this season. Wilson's Snipe — few reported, but dates range from early July to mid-Oct. Hudsonian Curlew — 2 reports with 1, 9/17, Bridgeport, the 1st recent record away from Lake Ontario. Spotted Sand. — 1, 10/9, Verona Beach (the Ackleys) is quite late. Solitary Sandp. — up to 5/day in one small pool near Constantia in late August. Greater Yellow-legs — last reported, 1, on 11/6, is an early "last date" for this species. Knot — only 1, 8/18, at Sylvan Beach; despite better coverage, none at Sandy Ponds. Baird's Sandp. — a minor wave passed thru in early Sept. with a high of 7, 9/12, Onondaga Lake; a remarkable last date is 1, 10/15, Sylvan Beach. Red-backed Sand. — very poor flight; high count is just 6 on 10/2, Sandy Pond; no Nov. records. More Dowitchers and White-rumped Sandp. were reported, but in

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a limited period — 8/10 to 9/12. Stilt Sandp. — only 1 report, of 4, 9/11, Onondaga Lake. Western Sand. — 2 reports, both from Sylvan Beach; none from the Sandy Pond strip. Northern Phalarope — just 1 reported, 9/3, Sandy Pond Inlet (R. McKinney).

Jaeger — a fine sub-adult, light-phase bird was seen chasing gulls on 9/10, Sylvan Beach (F. S.) and an immature was seen 9/, Sandy Pond (R. M., F. S.). Bonaparte's Gull — the August and early Sept. counts at the eastern end of Oneida Lake were normal, but the late Oct. and Nov. counts were less than half the usual number. Common Tern — 75 on 10/9, Oneida Lake, is surprising (the Ontario birds had left 3 weeks before), but 1, 11/15 near Bridgeport on Oneida Lake is our latest by far. Snowy Owl — 1, 3rd week of Nov. near Oneida (fide P. Paquette) is the only report. Short-eared Owl — none reported to date. Saw-whet Owl — 1 with an injured wing was captured with a lab coat on roof of Syracuse U. Chemistry Building, 11/15, by Dr. B. P. Burtt.

SWIFTS — SHRIKES: Flicker — fall peak from the Sandy Pond area is 27, 9/18, actually an only fair count for that time and place. Red-headed Woodpecker — 1, 8/23, East Floyd, Oneida Co. (Mrs. F. W. M., Mrs. H. Aspinwall) is probably a post-breeding wanderer, but the 3 adults and 2 immatures on 9/15, Onondaga Valley (Mrs. G. Chamberlaine) seems to indicate a new and successful breeding station. Sapsucker — very poor numbers this season. Crested Flyc. — last date, 1, 9/18, Sandy Pond. Yellow-bellied Flyc. — 2 on 9/18, 1 at Sandy Pond, 1 at Syracuse, are late. No Olive-sided Flyc. reported. Tree Swallow — 1, 10/16, Sandy Pond (M. Wrangell) is last report; none had been reported for 3 weeks before that weekend of strong E winds. Black-capped Chickadee — there were indications of

a light flight along the Sandy Pond dunes in the 1st half of Oct.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: Extremely scarce all fall; 3 is the best single-day count. Brown Creeper — several reports of flocks of 12-15 in early and mid-Oct. Fall House Wren counts are quite low, reflecting the low summer numbers; conversely, the Winter Wren came thru in good numbers (for a wren). Carolina Wren — 2 new stations for this recent invader, 1-2 at Skaneateles in Nov. (L. H. Hiscock, Miss R. Seaman), 1 at Sandy Pond regularly from 9/3 to 11/24, the last date of

Wood Thrush: 1, 10/3, Westernville (Mrs. F. W. M.) is somewhat late. Hermit Thrush — peak fall counts fall in a very short period, 10/ - 10/18. Gray-cheeked Thrush — Dr. B. P. B. banded 3 between 9/13 - 9/16 at Syracuse. Olive-backed Thrush — the fall flight was poor and numbers heard passing over on only one night. Golden-crowned Kinglet — flight again only fair, never above common. Ruby-crowned Kinglet — short, but heavy flight (100 peak on 10/9) in 1st 2 weeks of Oct. Pipit — 1st date is 10, on 9/3, Sandy Pond. Gray Shrike — 1st arrival is an adult, 11/13, Clay Swamp; 6 reported from that date to end of period. Loggerhead Shrike — an adult on 11/12, south of Sandy Pond (L. C., M. W., F. S.) is late.

VIREOS — WARBLERS: Blue-headed Vireo — unrecorded from most areas; where reported, singles only. Philadelphia Vireo — 1, 10/10, Kenwood, Oneida (H. P. N.) is a late departure date. Warbling Vireo — persistent singing noted until late date, 9/18, South Bay, Oneida Lake.

Warblers: All reporters comment on the numbers of warblers this fall; although 16 species of this group were recorded for the 1st half of Oct., an almost complete lack of reports (except Myrtle) after this would indicate an abrupt departure, a situation consonant with the sharp change of weather about that time. Black-&-white and Tennessee — 1 and 3 respectively on 10/8 are late dates. Orange-crowned — 4 birds reported between 9/18 - 10/16. Parula — 1, 10/9, is late; 1 on 9/10, Sylvan Beach, engaged in repeated singing. Magnolia — 2 on 10/8, Syracuse, attest to the mild weather of early Oct. Blackthroated Blue — 1 male in high plumage, on 10/9, Verona Beach, is last date. Myrtle & Black-poll — both noteworthy for numbers (500 for each on 9/18) and departure dates — 1, 10/25, and 1, 10/9 respectively, both of which are early. Blackburnian and Chestnut-sided — both scarce in the small land bird flights along Sandy Pond, but noted in numbers at Oneida (H. P. N.) with departure dates 9/13 and 9/18 in that order. Bay-breasted — 1 on 10/8, Syracuse, and 1, 10/9, Verona Beach, are quite late. Pine — only report is 3, 10/18 - 20, Syracuse. Palm — scarce; none in the latter half of Oct. Northern Water-thrush — 1 on 10/9, Sandy Pond, is our "latest date ever". Connecticut — 1, 9/17, near Bridgeport; a flock of 7 on 10/10, Selkirk (E. E.); an actually freak date is an adult male trapped and banded on 7/13 at Syracuse (B. P. B.). Wilson's — 1st date is 8/23, Rome; a few in the 1st ½ of Sept. at Oneida & Sandy Pond, with 2, 9/18, at the latter area as the last. Canada — just 3 Sept. records, the latest, 9/13, Westernville.

BLACKBIRDS — FRINGILLIDS: A roost of 30,000 Icterids at Clay Swamp contained 10% Cowbirds on 9/16. Rusty Blackbird — not reported until 10/2; probably reflects lack of observers, not tardiness of the Rusties. Scarlet Tanager — up to 8/day at Oneida in mid-Sept.; last date — 1, 10/8, Syracuse. Rose-breasted Grosbeak — both this and the Baltimore Oriole were seen in numbers thru the last 3 weeks of Sept. at Oneida & Westernville, but were very scarce in the Sandy Pond-Selkirk Area.

Evening Grosbeak: 1st reported on 10/23, Onondaga Valley; seen in small numbers (1-10) to mid-Nov. First date for Redpolls is 10, 11/6, and for Pine Siskins, 9, 10.2, both from Sandy Pond. Grasshopper Sparrow — an adult carefully observed on 10/8 near Baldwinville (M. W., F. S.). Henslow's Sparrow — 1 singing on 9/16, Clay Swamp; 1 adult on 10/8, Three Rivers GMA. The above 2 species' October dates are record late dates. Tree Sparrow — 1st arrivals in at South Onondaga and Oneida on 10/23; some were singing on the last weekend of Oct. White-crowned Sparrow — an excellent flight with 1st arrivals on 9/18, peak of 200 on 10/8, and last date on 10/20. White-throated Sparrow virtually swarmed thru the area; 1st birds on 9/11 at Sandy Pond (the ones that appear there are practically certain to be migrants; whereas areas around Oneida Lake receive strays from the birds that breed north & east of the lake); 100/day thru 1st 3 weeks of Oct., and then a sudden drop in numbers in the last week of that month; few Nov. reports. Fox Sparrow — only singles, 10/8 - 11/3; completely missed in many areas. Lincoln's Sparrow — at least 8 reported (9/18 - 10/18), 2 of which were banded, 1 on 9/28, Syracuse, (B. P. B.), 1 on 10/18, Oneida, (H. P. N.). Snow Bunting — earliest report is 55 on 10/1, Oswego bluffs.

Correction to the Regional Report in Vol. V, No. 3, p. 87 — Knot — 1 on 6/2, 2 on 6/5, Sandy Pond.

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REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

FRANK A. CLINCH

LOONS — DUCKS: Horned Grebe first seen Oct. 11, common in late Oct. and a few present at the end of Nov. Red-necked Grebe at Perch Lake Oct. 22. Last Pied-billed Grebe seen Nov. 25 (John B. Belknap). A late American Bittern at Madrid Nov. 1 and one seen in area Nov. 2. Great Blue Heron, more numerous than usual in early fall, perhaps indicating successful local breeding (J.B.B.). A swan (probably Whistling) was reported at Point Peninsula Nov. 9 (J. Blake).

An immature Blue Goose landed in the midst of 5,000 turkeys on the O. A. Smith farm, a few miles from Watertown, on September 21 at 7:30 A. M. The goose was attacked by the turkeys, but was rescued before serious harm resulted. The goose is being kept by the Conservation Dept. A few Blue Geese were reported shot by hunters.

Green-winged Teal were at Perch Lake Aug. 12 and two Ruddy Ducks were seen there the same day. Several thousand Scaup were seen in Black River Bay about Nov. 1. (J. B. B.). White-winged Scoters were seen in migration. The first Golden-eyes in the St. Lawrence River were at Ogdensburg Nov. 3. An Old Squaw in winter plumage was noted at Pillar Point Nov. 30.

HAWKS — OWLS: Rough-legged Hawks are reported scarce. Marsh Hawks, 6 or 8 could be seen regularly on abandoned farmland near Philadelphia until mid-November. (J. B. B.) A Duck Hawk was at Southwicks Beach Sept. 28.

Coots were seen Oct. 10 and several times along the shore of Lake Ontario in November. Florida Gallinules were numerous at Goose Bay, about 75 mid-September. Last seen Oct. 19. Sanderlings were at Perch Lake August 13 and later along Lake Ontario. A few Pectoral Sandpipers were seen Oct. 6, and a Black-bellied Plover Nov. 14, (late) (J. B. B.) Belknap saw what must have been a Dowitcher on Nov. 9 at Southwicks Beach. It was seen at fairly close range. On June 23, Charles Mason saw a Northern Phalarope, female, off Grenadier Island, Jefferson Co. A Northern Phalarope was seen near Grindstone Island in The St. Lawrence River in early August. Belknap saw a Bonaparte's Gull and four Caspian Terns at Southwicks Beach Sept. 8. A few Great Black-backed Gulls have been reported. J. Blake reports a Snowy Owl in Clayton about Nov. 9, and there have been reports of one or two others.

SWIFTS — SHRIKES: Belknap observed at least 50 Swifts enter the chimney of his home in Gouverneur on Aug. 29. Two days later they were gone. He also found Horned Larks numerous in migration in early Nov. and a few present Nov. 30. Last Tree Swallow seen Oct. 6. An Olive-backed Thrush was seen in Watertown Nov. 13. American Pipits seen Sept. 8 to Oct. 25. Shrikes (probably Northern) observed Oct. 26 and later. Most numerous of any fall writes J. B. B.

WARBLERS — SPARROWS: From Rev. Edward G. Nichols comes a report of a rarity for this section, an Orange-crowned Warbler seen by him at Madrid on Oct. 11. Two male Red-winged Blackbirds and six Grackles were still coming to a feeding station in Potsdam at the end of Nov. (L. Blake). Two Indigo Buntings were at Madrid Oct. 5. Evening Grosbeaks were seen in November near Waddington, Potsdam, Theresa, Carthage and Brownville. Pine Grosbeaks were found in Scotch pines near Henderson Oct. 2 to 11 with as many as 40 at once (Elitharp). Juncos were very abundant (J. B. B.). Tree Sparrows first seen Oct. 22 and several later records. White-crowned Sparrows stayed about five weeks in Potsdam. Three reports say that these birds were numerous this fall. Snow Buntings were seen only on Oct. 26.

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REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

THOS. A. LESPERANCE

After a very dry and cool August, much warmer weather was experienced through Oct. And as late as the middle of Nov. when we had our first snow-fall. The unseasonable weather held many species of birds here that would have gone south had conditions been normal. For instance Warblers, Tow-