

CAPE MAY, MYRTLES, and REDSTARTS. No reports of ORANGE-CROWNED or CONNECTICUT.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: BOBOLINK: last date, one Sept 30, Sandy Pond (Sabin). MEADOWLARK: like the Flicker, many are attempting to winter (flocks up to 20). A blackbird-starling roost at Clay Swamp, Onondaga Co. increased from 30,000 in mid-Sept to 80,000 in mid-Oct (40% RED-WINGS, 40% STARLINGS); the sharp mid-Nov drop in numbers came with the Nov 8-12 freezing spell.

PURPLE FINCH: fall counts very low (2-5/day) and no late Nov records. GOLD-FINCH: the late Sept to early Nov movement was numerically impressive (flocks up to 150+ and was commented on my many. Fall sparrows can be nearly divided into two major groups: (1) excellent fall numbers of SONG, SWAMP, FIELD, VESPER, and WHITE-CROWNED in that order of abundance; (2) below par were CHIPPING and SAVANNAH SPARROWS and especially low were WHITE-THROATED SPARROWS and SLATE-COLORED JUNCOS; high flock counts of the last two are 30 and 25 respectively! Late Nov reports of JUNCO are sparse. FOX SPARROW: first fall arrival on Sep 26, Selkirk; fall numbers scant. LINCOLN'S SPARROW: small flight (three to six/day) Sep 26 to Oct 5 at Selkirk (Evans).

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REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

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Loons — Ducks: HORNED GREBES were first seen Oct 5 and were found along Lake Ontario until the end of Nov. LEAST BITTERN—Sep 10 at Russell. RUDDY DUCK—12 at Black River Bay Oct 19. OLD SQUAW—several off Cape Vincent and Stony Point in late Nov.

Hawks — Owls: ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK—at Madrid Oct 17, an early date for St. Lawrence County. Belknap says it was the best flight in several years. They seem to keep close to the lake while moving south. They were seen to the end of Nov. BALD EAGLE—near Redwood (J. Blake). On Oct 3 a DUCK HAWK was seen sitting on a rock in Grasse River near Madrid. PIGEON HAWK—at Stony Point Sep 13 (Belknap). COOT—Nov 13 at Red Mill and several hundred at Lakeview Marsh near Ellisburg Oct 29 and one still there Nov 20. BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER—several the first half of Sep and one at Stony Point Sep 8. VIRGINIA RAIL—Oct 3 at Madrid. GOLDEN PLOVER—one at Stony Creek Outlet Sep 9. Among the birds seen by David Gordon on Sep 8 and 9 at Stony Point were: HUDSONIAN CURLEW, DOWITCHER and RUDDY TURNSTONE. RED-BACKED SANDPIPER—one in marsh at Perch Lake Refuge. SOLITARY SANDPIPER Oct 3 at Madrid. With other species nearby for comparison Nichols saw four WESTERN SANDPIPERS on mossy rocks in the Grasse River at Morley, and one at Madrid the next two days. KILLDEER and MOURNING DOVE—Nov 28 at Waddington. LEAST SANDPIPER—Sep 1 at Madrid. WILSON'S PHALAROPE and NORTHERN PHALAROPE—at Perch Lake Refuge Aug 19 (Gordon). A PARASITIC JAEGER was reported by Harold Evans at Point Peninsula Sep 9. BONAPARTE'S GULL—one at Point Peninsula Sep 9, and 20 at Southwick's Beach Nov 20 which it late (Belknap). BLACK-BACKED GULL—first Sep 18 and several at Chaumont Bay in late Nov. CASPIAN TERN—ten at Stony Point Outlet Sep 5. No Snowy Owls were reported. SHORT-EARED OWLS—late Nov near Philadelphia.

Swifts — Shrikes: YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER—Sep 10 at Madrid. LEAST FLYCATCHER—Sep 19 at Madrid. HOUSE WREN—Sep 29 near Carthage. LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN—Oct 3 at Waddington. One of the most interesting records is that of a MOCKINGBIRD which appeared at the feeder of Mr. and Mrs. Coppernoll near Morristown on the St. Lawrence River on November 25. This was first reported by Louise Blake of Potsdam. The identification was confirmed by John Belknap who saw the Mockingbird at close range at the feeder Dec 9. There were a few BLUEBIRDS seen this summer. Three were near Watertown Nov 21 (Nelson). NORTHERN SHRIKE—first seen Oct 29.

Warblers — Sparrows: WARBLING VIREO—Sep 19 at Madrid. MYRTLE WARBLERS were seen only in small numbers at Madrid from Sep 28 to Oct 17, but were common at Watertown. BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER—Oct 3 at Waddington. OVENBIRD—Sep 29 near Carthage. CANADA WARBLER—Sept 10 at Madrid. MEADOWLARKS—late November at Potsdam and Watertown. WHITE-CROWNED and WHITE-THROATED SPARROWS stayed near Potsdam for more than two weeks. WHITE-CROWNED SPARROWS stayed around Watertown for only a short time. Two large flocks of EVENING GROSBEAKS have been seen near Potsdam and eight were at Madrid Nov 14, but none since. No Evening Grosbeaks have been reported in Jefferson County. TREE SPARROWS came early to Potsdam and to Madrid Oct 3 also early. They were common in Nov (Belknap).

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REGION 7—ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

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In a year which will no doubt set records for unseasonable weather, the ebbing months held true to form. September, October and early November were on the average warmer than July and August. Late insect hatches held over large flights of insectivorous species that normally would have been forced farther south. Warblers and thrushes were rather unmelodiously trying to repeat their spring songs. Many of the common species were still present when we hunted during the last week of October. Maximum for November was 70 degrees, minimum 5 degrees; the drop coming at the end of the month. There were 18 totally clear, balmy days in November, but successive snows at the end of the month accumulated to six inches.

Loons — Ducks: COMMON LOONS were not as conspicuous this fall, probably due to the very dry summer which depleted smaller ponds and lakes to an alarming extent. HORNED GREBES, migrants not affected by local conditions, were in greater numbers. Contrary to early reports, ducks were in this locale in only average numbers. CANVASBACKS and BALDPATES for the first time came through in sufficient numbers to make the record. Few REDHEADS were reported, against last year's good populations. In order of abundance, puddle species were: BLACK, BLUE-WINGED TEAL, PINTAIL, MALLARD, WOOD DUCK and BALDPATE; divers: GOLDEN-EYE, GREATER SCAUP, BUFFLEHEAD, WHITE-WINGED SCOTER, and CANVASBACK. Both CANADA and SNOW GEESE were very common from early Nov. Smaller numbers of SNOWS continued until last reported Dec 9 at Au Sable Point.

Shrikes — Sparrows: Both SHRIKES have been common in this area, especially in the vicinity of the larger marshes. The first record of CANADA JAY in this immediate area comes from Upper Jay. First report of ARCTIC THREE-TOED WOODPECKER Dec 8, when a friend brought me a specimen. PILEATED, HAIRY and DOWNY WOODPECKERS common, CREEPERS, NUTHATCHES fairly common, BLUE JAYS ever present. PURPLE FINCHES and GOLDFINCHES have been very common. TREE SPARROWS have not been as evident as other years.

Keeseville