

12; 3, 1; 4, 2; 5, 6; 6, 2; 7, usual here; 8, 1; 9, 1; and 10, 1. In Region 2 an American Three-toed was also found. As almost all birds were found stripping bark from dead or dying elm trees, it will be interesting to note a possible continued correlation with the advance of the Dutch elm disease.

Perhaps the best comment on the winter finches was Mrs. Fitzgerald's record of a single Evening Grosbeak all winter — she banded over 1000 last winter. It was again not a Snowy Owl year, but there were a few scattered reports. Eiders appeared on Lake Ontario in unusual numbers.

Winter records included: many Mourning Doves, Mockingbirds (Region 6, 9, 10), Thrashers (2, 8), fewer Robins than last winter, Bluebirds (2), good numbers of Shrikes, a March 15 Wilson's Warbler (4), a half dozen Chats (9, 10), a Kentucky Warbler (9), a Pine Warbler (8), many Icterids, a Baltimore Oriole (9), December Western Tanagers (3, 10), Towhees (3, 9), and a Spotted Towhee (10), Vesper Sparrows (9), and Chipping Sparrows (2, 10). GRR

REGION 1 — NIAGARA FRONTIER

CLARK S. BEARDSLEE

A very warm December was followed by a very cold January. Thus we find a spate of December records of both water and land birds which normally should not be present; while the extremely severe weather of January quickly brought winter birding back to normal. February and March gave us better than average weather. March in particular was so sunny it gave the impression that it was also warm. Humans felt that spring had come, but many of the early bird migrants, forced to spend the nights as well as the days out-of-doors were not fooled, and not only did not arrive early, but in some instances were actually late. Others, notably Swans, Pectoral Sandpipers and Robins arrived very early.

Loons — Ducks: Horned Grebes were seen up to Jan 13 in the gorge, up to Jan 8 on the Allegany River; migrants appeared Mar 10. A single Pied-billed Grebe was also observed in the gorge Jan 1, the first migrant arriving Mar 30 (Jamestown, Elderkin). Four Whistling Swans were seen Dec 4 at Bemus Point (Parker). Mealy and Parker found two at the east end of Lake Chautauqua Feb 22 and three there the next day. By Mar 12-14 groups of swans were reported from all portions of our area. First record of Canada Goose also came from L. Chautauqua, where two were seen by Elderkin Feb 24. By Mar 10 over 1000 were in the Wolcottsville-Shelby area (Wright, Brockners). By the 22nd their numbers were estimated at 28,000. From the 14th to the 31st a single Snow Goose was also noted there. A male Gadwall wintered in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo. Both teals arrived early but their numbers were disappointing. A European Widgeon was noted Mar 24 at Clarence (Brockners) and was still there at period's end. Baldpate was last noted Dec 13 and first Mar 10. Shovellers arrived rather early, Wood Duck on time. Canvasbacks wintered on the Niagara in normal thousands. A hybrid American-Barrow's Golden-eye was found dead in the gorge in March (Muma, rep. Baillie). A Harlequin Duck was first seen Mar 10 at the Falls (North) and remained at least until the 16th. King Eider records were more numerous than ever before, all from the Niagara River. All three scoters were present in small numbers through December at Niagara Falls. No less than 200 Ruddy Ducks were reported from L. Chautauqua Mar 30 (Elderkin). Hooded Mergansers arrived on time (Mar 12, Vandalia, Coleman) and in very good numbers.

Hawks — Owls: Only one Goshawk record during the period (Jan 20, Jamestown, Mealy et al.) Both McMurtry and Eaton report successful wintering by Turkeys at Wellsville and Olean; Eaton saw no less than 26 on Feb. 21. He writes that grouse started serious drumming Mar 27 (on their drumming log 75 ft. from his bedroom window). A Florida Gallinule stayed at Grand Island until Dec 22 (Schaffner), and a Coot in the gorge as late as Jan 12. Killdeer were back by Mar 9; Woodcock by Mar 22 (Gainesville, Smith); and Snipe by Mar 16 (Wellsville, McMurtry). Only one Greater Yellowlegs was reported (Mar 31, Cuba, Eaton). Pectoral Sandpipers returned very early (Mar. 24, Wolcottsville, Brockners). Glaucous, Iceland, and Kumlien's Gulls were present on the river throughout the period. Snowy Owls were reported four times, Long and Short-eared many times, Barn and Saw-whet less often than usual.

Swifts — Shrikes: Our Arctic Woodpecker invasion faded after an exciting December which gave us many records, all from Buffalo. Phoebees were surprisingly late, only one being reported in March (24th), and considering the favorable weather, the absence of Tree Swallows was puzzling. Eaton reports Tufted Titmice present all around the Olean area. Robins returned very early indeed, migrants appearing in late February and being common after Mar 5. Pipits were represented by a single flock of 70 near Lawtons Mar 31 (Andries). All four months brought many Gray Shrike records, and Loggerhead records began to come in after mid-March (early).

Vireos — Sparrows: Three flocks of wintering Meadowlarks were reported from the Lake Ontario plains in January; migrants appeared Mar 10. Red-wings were first seen in numbers Feb 25, 26, 27. A single Rusty was seen at Wellsville Mar 10 (McMurtry); numbers were seen in three locations on the 17th. Cowbirds showed up first on the latter date. This was a winter characterized by the complete absence of Evening Grosbeaks, Pine Grosbeaks, crossbills, and redpolls; a very thin scattering of Pine Siskins, Goldfinches, and Purple Finches was the best we can report. An excellent description was received from Rosche of an Oregon Junco seen by him Jan 5 at East Aurora. Snow Bunting flocks were scarce, and only one Lapland Longspur was reported.

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REGION 2 — GENESEE

HOWARD S. MILLER

December temperatures were well above average and snowfall below average until the last week when much colder and snowier weather made itself felt. This prevailed during most of January, reaching a climax on January 15 when a low of -16°F was recorded in Rochester. Even lower temperatures were reached in the surrounding country, apparently doing much damage to the fruit trees of this area. February was almost the opposite of January, averaging well above normal in temperature and below normal in snowfall. A warm spell from February 25-28 produced the first migration movement of the season, bringing in Canada Geese, Red-wings and Robins. March was above normal in temperature, reaching a high of 71°F on the 13th, but it did not produce the hoped for waves of migrants. The ground was bare for most of the month and the water level of lakes, bays and ponds is low for this time of year.

Loons — Ducks: Common Loon: nine at Conesus Dec 9, one at Sodus Dec 22 (Jones), one at Manitou Jan 19 (Listman). A Red-necked Grebe was seen from Rigney's Bluff Mar 16 (O'Hara, Miller). Horned Grebe: present in small numbers