

on May 7 (Bourne) and three Dunlins on Grand Island Apr 27 (Webb, Drobits) mark the first migrants of these species. No Woodcock were reported in March and the first observation to come to our attention is of one near Hamburg Apr 8 (Bourne). This was also the situation with the Greater Yellowlegs, the first being reported on Apr 5 at East Eden (Bourne). Usually these species arrive well before the beginning of April. Noteworthy is the report of an Iceland Gull on Apr 25 near Dunkirk (Bourne). Common Terns were first noted at Buffalo on Apr 18 when 450 were seen in Buffalo Harbor (Mitchell). Two Caspian Terns on Apr 16 in Buffalo Harbor (Bourne) were the first migrants seen.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: No Phoebees were reported in March; the first were noted on Apr 6 at Dunkirk (Brockner) and at Olean (Eaton). They also are quite scarce through a large part of the region. Indicative of this is a report from Eaton at Olean that they arrived there a week late and only five pairs appeared, this representing 50% of the number of pairs nesting during his four years of observation. Blue jays migrated along the south shore of Lake Erie in high numbers during the period. On Apr 19 at Lakeview 130 flew past in less than an hour (Andrie). On May 10 a total of 100 Blue Jays were observed along this shore (Brockner). On both occasions the wind was southerly, the previous night mostly clear and cool and the maximum temperature considerably higher than the day before. It is always interesting to compare weather conditions under such circumstances and especially to check the weather maps as often significant correlations and perhaps worthwhile deductions can be made. A Mockingbird in full song at Chestnut Ridge on May 15 (Bourne) leads to speculation as to whether it nested. The general scarcity of Bluebirds in the region continues and is a subject for discussion and concern. If such is the case in other regions there probably is a major factor involved.

Vireos — Warblers: Most species of warblers and vireos were few in number as were many other small land bird migrants. A Solitary Vireo on Apr 20 at Olean (Eaton) is one of the earlier dates for the species in the region as is a Yellow Warbler on Apr 23 at Gainsville (Smith). From reports of various observers it appears that "waves" occurred on May 11, 14, 15, and 17. The migration on May 17 seemed to be rather pronounced, 19 species of warblers being reported from Buffalo (Brockner) and 13 species at Niagara Falls (Heilborn). Even on these days, however, there were fewer than usual of each species and in general May produced a rather poor migration. A Kentucky Warbler in Buffalo May 17 (Nathan) is an interesting observation of a bird that is very rare in the region.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Common Grackles were present in above normal abundance during the period. On Apr 6 a flight of 8,200 Icterids, about half Redwinged Blackbirds, was observed along the south shore of Lake Erie (Brockner). A changing male Summer Tanager was present in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Buffalo from May 14-16 (Webster) and was well seen by many observers. Cardinals are very conspicuous this spring and seem to be more common than usual. Flocks of Evening Grosbeaks continued to frequent feeders during most of the period, the last individuals being reported at Gainsville May 21 (Smith). Both White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows were reported as being very low in numbers during the migration.

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REGION 2 — GENESEE

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The first three weeks of April produced frustrating birding. There were no really warm days, and the wind direction was wrong much of the time. Most land birds were rather late in arriving and also were scarce except for short periods. The 20th brought the first good wave, when a few hawk flights developed and there was a good wave of small land birds which brought numbers of species which should have appeared a week or ten days previous. The last week of the month showed a good migration of water birds but still a retarded movement of land birds. The weekend of the Federation meeting (May 2-4) showed a fairly good number of birds present on Saturday, at least locally, against a background of inclement weather.

The next day showed little. The next weekend brought a good hawk flight on the 11th plus a good wave of land birds. On this date all the regular early and mid-season warblers were present in numbers along with the other early May migrants and a few early arrivals of the later species, such as Swainson's Thrush and Indigo Bunting. May 15 was apparently the peak day of the whole spring migration, large numbers of almost all species except a few of the very latest migrants being present. On this day one observer recorded twenty-four species of warblers. Large numbers of birds were present May 17, but on the 18th (the day of the spring census) there was a sharp falling off in numbers. The next weekend was rather barren, but the last weekend of the month showed a very good shorebird flight plus a good migration of late flycatchers and warblers.

Perhaps the outstanding records for this period were the Yellow-throated Warbler (*albiflora*?) on April 20, three records of the Glossy Ibis, the Yellow-crowned Night Heron and Harris' Sparrow on May 11, the Eared Grebe on May 17-18 and the Snowy Egret on May 25.

Loons — Ducks: There was a good flight of both species of loons this spring, maximum counts being three hundred Common Loons and five hundred Red-throated Loons on Apr 19 on the east lake shore (Kemnitzer). The same observer also had an unprecedented count of **eleven hundred** Red-necked Grebes on Apr 4 in the same area. An Eared Grebe in full summer plumage was seen May 17-18 at Webster Park (Kemnitzers et al). Pied-billed Grebes have seemed rather scarce this spring, perhaps due in part to the low water level. Three Double-crested Cormorants were seen Apr 20 at Hamlin Park and two were at Manitou May 10. These seem to be our only records this spring. After not being recorded in our area all of last year, one to four Common Egrets were recorded on dates ranging from Apr 25 to May 25 at Braddock's Bay (Listman et al). One bird was seen at the Rotary Sunshine Camp pond May 1 (Barlow). A Snowy Egret was seen at Braddock's May 25 (Tanghe, Listman et al). An adult Yellow-crowned Night Heron was seen May 11 at Island Cottage woods (Tanghe). No Least Bitterns have been reported this year. A Glossy Ibis was reported Apr 19 at Webster Park (Kemnitzer, Listman), at Tryon Park May 18 (Miller) and May 22 at Island Cottage (McKinney). A Whistling Swan was reported Apr 20 at Buck Pond (Dobson), two birds were seen at Manitou May 11 (Listman), and another single bird was seen at Sandy Creek May 17 (Starling, Holland). Twelve thousand Canada Geese were seen at Hamlin Park and westward Apr 20 (Listman). From one to eight Common Brant were present at Braddock's from May 17 to 31. A banded Snow Goose was observed at the Irondequoit Bay outlet Apr 19 (Kemnitzer). Three birds of the same species were seen on the lake near Cowsucker Creek May 17 (O'Hara, Miller). Two Blue Geese were at Shore Acres Apr 26, and seven birds were with the Snow Geese May 17 near Cowsucker Creek (O'Hara, Miller). Black Ducks seem sharply down in numbers in this area. No Gadwall or European Widgeon were reported during the period. Twenty-five Wood Duck were seen at Ling Road and Island Cottage Apr 27 (Tanghe, Dobson). Three Common Goldeneye were at Manitou May 27 (Listman). One hundred Oldsquaw were seen off Sea Breeze May 17 (Kemnitzer) and eight White-winged Scoters were seen May 31 at Shore Acres by the same observer. Twenty-five Ruddy Ducks were seen along the east lake shore Apr 27 and four were seen at Cobb's Hill Lake Apr 19. A Common Merganser was seen May 18 at Manitou (Listman).

Hawks — Owls: Seven hundred fifty Sharp-shinned Hawks and one thousand Broad-winged Hawks on May 11 at the Hawk Lookout were the peak numbers of these two species. Ten Red-shouldered Hawks were seen at Sodus Bay Apr 5 and a pair is nesting in Genesee Valley Park (Schamke). Two late Rough-legged Hawks were seen May 18 at the Hawk Lookout. Seven Bald Eagles on May 11 at the Hawk Lookout was the high count of the season. Several other reports of single birds have been received. A Peregrine Falcon was seen May 11 at Island Cottage (Listman); two more birds of the same species were seen May 16 at Manitou by the same observer, and another was seen May 18 at the Hawk Lookout. A Pigeon Hawk was seen Apr 27 at Braddock's (Listman). Another bird of this species was seen May 18 at Webster Park and another at Flynn Road May 25, both by Tanghe.

A Ruffed Grouse was seen at Pultneyville May 18 (Kemnitzer et al). A Virginia Rail was reported at Round Pond May 4 (Federation trip), and several birds of this species were later reported. No reports of Soras have been received. A Black-bellied Plover seen at Manitou May 24 (Starling, Miller) is the only report received this year. Forty-six Ruddy Turnstones reported May 31 at Salmon Creek by Kemnitzer is a high count for this species. Six Upland Plover were reported Apr 29 at Manitou (Listman) and four were seen the same day at Avon (Haller). Thirty Greater Yellowlegs May 7 at Avon (Haller) and twenty Lesser Yellowlegs May 15 in the same place and by the same observer were high counts. Three Knots at Manitou May 30-31 (Tanghe et al) and one bird at the Irondequoit Bay outlet May 30 were the first records of this bird which is not at all common in this area in the spring. A flock of thirty-six Pectoral Sandpipers was seen Apr 19 at the back of Buck Pond (Starling, Miller). Two White-rumped Sandpipers were seen May 23 at Salmon Creek (Listman). Fifty Dunlin at Manitou May 30 (Listman) and seventy-five of the same species May 30 at Buck Pond (Moons) were high counts. One Short-billed Dowitcher on the two dates of Apr 27 and May 17 at Manitou (Listman) and another May 24 at Buck Pond (Starling, Miller) constitute our only records this spring. Until about three years ago this bird was almost unheard of as a spring migrant in our area. Then for about two years it occurred in some numbers as a spring migrant. Is it now returning to its former status? Twenty-six Sanderlings on May 30 at the Irondequoit Bay outlet (Kemnitzer) is a very high spring count for this species which usually is far from common at this season. No Phalaropes were reported. A Glaucous Gull was reported Apr 26 and May 10 at Braddock's Bay and an Iceland Gull was reported from the same place Apr 14 and May 22. A Great Black-tailed Gull was seen at Manitou May 25 (Listman) and a Little Gull was seen at Braddock's Bay May 15 by the same observer. Twenty Caspian Tern on Apr 21 at Braddock's (Listman) is a good spring count of this species.

A Barn Owl was seen Apr 19 in a barn in Charlotte (Dobson). It was reported to have spent most of the winter there. A few days later it was shot by irresponsible youths living in the vicinity. Another bird of this species was heard at Scottsville Apr 28 (Brown). A Barred Owl was seen and heard May 24 in Bergen Swamp (McKinney, Barlow). A Long-eared Owl was reported west of Manitou May 17. No Saw-Whet Owls were reported during the period.

Swifts — Shrikes: A Pileated Woodpecker was reported May 4 on Hogan Point Road east of Braddock's (Kemnitzer). A pair of Red-headed Woodpeckers have returned to their nesting area at Manitou, and another pair seems to be ready to nest at Island Cottage. This species seems to be increasing to some extent along the lake shore. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, which were scarce last spring, appeared in much larger numbers this year, with six birds being seen Apr 20. Ten Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were seen May 28 around Manitou (Listman) and eight were seen in the same general area May 31. An Olive-sided Flycatcher was seen May 16 in the Hawk Lookout woods (Listman) and two of this species were seen west of Manitou May 31 (Listman, O'Hara, Miller). Two thousand Blue Jays were seen migrating at Manitou May 16 (Listman). A Tufted Titmouse was seen at Forest Lawn May 18 (Kemnitzer) in a location where it has already nested. A pair of Red-breasted Nuthatches was found feeding young in Bergen Swamp May 24 (McKinney). A Winter Wren was singing in Bergen Swamp May 24 (McKinney). A Carolina Wren was reported May 18 at Forest Lawn (Kemnitzer). Apparently a few birds at least of this species were lucky enough to find feeders during the severe winter just past, as it does not seem possible that a rather delicate, ground-feeding bird such as this could survive in a natural state. A Short-billed Marsh Wren was reported May 18 (Jones et al) and two were reported May 30 near Buck Pond (McKinney). Mockingbirds, the few wintering birds having undoubtedly been wiped out last winter, have reappeared as single individuals this spring, the records being as follows: near Kendall Apr 20, on Pinnacle Hill May, in Greece May 9-11, and east of Shore Acres May 18. Ten Brown Thrashers were seen west of Durand May 10 (Starling, Miller). Swainson's Thrushes seemed somewhat down in numbers this spring, as did Hermit Thrushes and Bluebirds. Four Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were reported from White Haven May 18 (Jones). Water Pipits, which had been completely missing earlier in the spring, appeared in fair numbers in May, the largest count being one hundred birds May 10 around Braddock's (Starling, Miller). Two hundred Cedar Waxwings were reported from Highland Park May 2 (Starling). A late Northern Shrike was seen Apr 12 southeast of Braddock's (Starling, Miller).

Vireos — Warblers: A Philadelphia Vireo was seen May 31 at Manitou (Listman). Only about six species of warblers were present at the end of April. The first weekend in May showed a majority of the earlier warblers present, but except for Myrtles and possibly Palms they were in very small numbers. The second weekend in May saw all the regular early and mid-season warblers present in good numbers and by May 15 all the regular warblers, except possibly the Blackpoll, were at least present. Single Blue-winged Warblers were reported May 13 at Avon (Haller), at Mendon Ponds May 24 (Rising, Zeitler), and at Bergen Swamp May 24 (McKinney). A Brewster's Warbler was reported May 17 at Burroughs-Audubon Nature Sanctuary (McKinney). The only spring report of the Orange-crowned Warbler was of a single bird May 15 in the Hawk Lookout woods (Listman). Five Cape May Warblers were seen May 11 at Durand (Miller). A Yellow-throated Warbler (albicola ?) was seen Apr 20-21 on Edgewater Lane in Irondequoit (Moons, Leubner). A Prairie Warbler in Durand May 13 (G. O. S. hike) on a very poor warbler day was our only record for this species this spring. The Louisiana Waterthrush was recorded near Avon May 1 (Haller). A Connecticut Warbler was seen at the Island Cottage woods May 15 (Dobson) and another was seen at Manitou May 28 (Listman). A bird heard but not seen in the same location May 30 (McKinney) was probably but not positively this species. The Yellow-breasted Chat was reported from Leroy May 11 (Haller) and from Manitou May 18 (Listman et al) and May 25 (Taylor et al). A bird heard but not seen at Island Cottage Woods May 30 (McKinney) was probably this species.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: The Western Meadowlark was reported from Spencerport May 22-26 (Listman) and from Webster May 30-31 (Kemnitzers). A remarkable flight of six hundred fifty Baltimore Orioles flying west along the east lake shore was seen May 17 (McNett, Sunderlin). Evening Grosbeaks continued in numbers until the last two weeks of the period, our last record being of a single bird May 30 at Webster Park (Kemnitzer). Pine Siskins, which had not been previously recorded this year, occurred during the last three weeks of May in flocks of up to one hundred birds. They were still present in some numbers up to the very end of the month. No Crossbills of either species was reported. A late Slate-colored Junco was seen in the Island Cottage woods May 31. A Harris' Sparrow was carefully observed in the Island Cottage woods May 11 by the Barlows. White-crowned Sparrows were rather late in arriving but then occurred in at least normal numbers. The pensive song of the White-throated Sparrow seemed somewhat less in evidence this spring than in some years. There seemed to be more than the normal number of reports of Lincoln's Sparrows, the largest number reported in a day being eight on May 15 at Manitou (Listman).

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

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It was generally a cold, wet, frosty spring. The snow cover lingered until late in April in some areas (until April 20 in front of the Sapsucker Woods Laboratory), and the Hornell Reservoir basin was ice-locked until April 15. Most observers reported that migration was late and scanty. At Geneva, Walker heard migrants passing over at night, but few seemed to drop in to feed by day in that area. Mrs. Carter reports that weather conditions around Avoca improved at nesting time and the early nesters were having success. At Ithaca, two peak days were noted: May 11 and 12 were warm, following a period of cold rain, and birds poured in. May 19 was another good day.

It was increasingly obvious that those species which had wintered in the southern states suffered considerable losses in numbers. Robins, Hermit Thrushes, Phoebe's, Chipping Sparrows and Bluebirds, for example, were scarce. Those which went to Central or South America escaped our severe winter, although some early migrants suffered from the lingering cold and late blizzards when they reached the mid-Atlantic states.