

of May 14 (Sabin et al). Undoubtedly the most unusual record for April was that of the eight Bohemian Waxwings seen at Chatham Center on Apr 5 (Silvernail) and referred to above. A Northern Shrike was carefully identified near the Delmar Game Farm on Apr 12 (Sabin).

Vireos — Warblers: Yellow-throated Vireos were first noted at Slingerlands on May 3 (Reilly). Solitary Vireos were present from Apr 14 at Chatham (Reilly) to at least May 14 at Indian Ladder (Sabin et al). Red-eyed Vireos arrived at Gallupville on May 8 (Zimmer); the Philadelphia Vireo was at Troy on May 15 (Austin), and Warbling Vireos were at Slingerlands (Sabin) and Gallupville (Zimmer) on May 6.

The warbler migration besides being unspectacular because there were no waves was also lacking in any rarities. Twenty-nine species plus one hybrid were recorded. The following species of warblers were first noted on the dates and at the places indicated: Black and White, Apr 23, Wolf Hollow (Angst); Worm-eating, May 8, Indian Ladder (Sabin et al); Golden-winged, May 3 Slingerlands (Sabin); Blue-winged, May 14, Alcove Reservoir (Sabin et al); Lawrence's, May 7, Nassau (Shineman); Tennessee, May 8, Burnt Hills (Foote); Orange-crowned, May 14, Rayville (Reilly); Nashville, Apr 29, Chatham (Radke); Parula, May 10, Slingerlands (Sabin); Yellow, Apr 26, Chatham (Alan Devoe Bird Club); Magnolia, May 20, Delmar (Parker, Sabin); Cape May, May 14, New Salem (Sabin et al); Black-throated Blue, May 8, Indian Ladder (Sabin et al); Myrtle, Apr 13, Chatham (ADBC); Black-throated Green, Apr 16, Nassau (Turner); Cerulean, May 8, Gallupville (Zimmer); Blackburnian, May 7, Rosendale Road, Niskayuna (Angst, Hallenbeck); Chestnut-sided, May 8, Indian Ladder (Sabin et al); Bay-breasted, May 25, Delmar (Parker); Blackpoll, May 20, Delmar (Parker, Sabin); Pine, Apr 24, Tomhannock Reservoir (Angst, Sabin); Prairie, no first date available at this writing; Palm, Apr 16, Old Chatham (Barten); Ovenbird, May 4, Slingerlands (Sabin); Northern Waterthrush, May 1, Meadowdale (Sabin); Louisiana Waterthrush, Apr 22, Red Rock (Smilow); Mourning May 27, Red Rock (Smilow); Common Yellowthroat, May 1, Watervliet Reservoir (SBC); Canada, May 17, Slingerlands (Sabin), and Redstart, May 5, Slingerlands (Sabin).

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Bobolinks arrived at Meadowdale on May 1 (Parker, Sabin), and Baltimore Orioles and Scarlet Tanagers generally put in an appearance on May 4 and 5 respectively. The last Rusty Blackbirds and Evening Grosbeaks were seen along the Hudson River below Albany (SBC) and at Meadowdale (Parker, Sabin) on Apr 9 and May 21 respectively. Early Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and Indigo Buntings were seen Apr 26 at Ghent (Erlenbach) and Apr 29 at Hillsdale (Curtis) respectively. About 25 Pine Grosbeaks were observed at Ghent on Apr 30 (Erlenbach), and the last Redpoll was seen on May 1 at Hillsdale (Fremd). Pine Siskins were not reported after Apr 29 at Delmar (Madison). Unquestionably, the May record of the month was that of the Red Crossbills at Gallupville on May 29 (Zimmer). A Towhee was seen at Slingerlands on Apr 11 (Grace). Grasshopper Sparrows were first seen at Nassau on Apr 20 (Turner), Henslow's Sparrows at Slingerlands on Apr 28 (Sabin), and Chipping Sparrows at Slingerlands on Apr 9 (Sabin). The last Tree Sparrow was seen at Gallupville on May 4 (Zimmer). Fox Sparrows arrived generally on Apr 3, and the last one was seen May 12 at Hillsdale (Fremd). Swamp Sparrows were first noted on Apr 23 at Vischer Ferry (Hallenbeck). A few late Snow Buntings were seen on Apr 1 and 2 at Hillsdale (Fremd).

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REGION 9 — DELAWARE - HUDSON

FRED N. HOUGH

Following the late March migration there was a gradual catch-up of incoming birds during April, a stable unstormy month this year. This was encouraging as migration dates became near normal with some being earlier than usual. This in turn, however, was short-lived for a disconcerting note broke into the enthusiasm of most birders on the lookout for the May waves of migrants. Migration at this time entered into a "drifting in" of species, and there just did not appear to be any spectacular waves to bolster excitement and run up the high scores. This led to the unanimous agreement that our spring migration was definitely off, but it should be added that disappointment did not rule the whole period for there were many pleasant and interesting finds. We missed our waves, but most birds are here, some up and some down, and we again turn our thoughts to wondering what's ahead for the nesting season.

Loons — Ducks: Common Loons and Pied-billed Grebes began to appear in the region in numbers during early April. Two counties added the Cattle Egret to their list of birds, as a first record — Dutchess County and Rockland County. These were seen in April. The not often reported Little Blue Heron was found at Crugers Island, Dutchess County, by Otis Waterman, Brother Michael et al and constitutes the first record in recent years. There was a heavy flight of Canada Geese seen over the Dutchess County area on May 24 (Ralph Waterman Bird Club). This seems late for large flocks. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Steffens observed some sizeable flocks of Brant during mid-May over the Hudson River in Rockland County. About 100 Snow Geese were spotted over Bedford Village, Westchester Co., on Apr 7 by Joseph Parker and Eric Dammeyer. On Apr 12 another flock of these birds was seen over Katonah, Westchester Co., by William Russell, who noticed a couple of Blue Geese with them. In general most ducks were reported in average numbers.

Hawks — Owls: Rare in this region is the Black Vulture, the more southern relative of our common Turkey Vulture. Two were seen near Pine Plains, up in Dutchess County, on May 2 by H. Van Wagner, J. Beck, M. and J. Keyes, and T. Brau. This is also a first county record for Dutchess. As usual there was little comment on the migrating hawks. Ed Treacy has located at least three nesting Red-tails in the highlands area of Orange County. The last Rough-legged Hawk reported was seen in the Dutchess Co. area on Apr 10 (F. Germond, E. Pink).

A Sora was found near Pine Plains, Dutchess Co., on May 16 (T. Haight). The Common Snipe was observed more often than usual in our region this spring. Two Pectoral Sandpipers were spotted at Pine Plains by M. Van Wagner and E. Pink on May 14. A Least Sandpiper was also seen in Dutchess Co. on Apr 30 by T. Haight and F. Germond. A Dunlin was found by a small brook near the center of New City, Rockland County, on May 8 by Mr. and Mrs. F. Steffens. Back in Dutchess County G. Decker et al located a flock of about 15 Semipalmated Sandpipers near Swamp River on May 15. A lone Sanderling was found on the Hudson shore near Haverstraw, Rockland Co., on May 15 (Steffens). The Bonaparte's Gull was noted in two areas this spring — Orange County (Treacy, Pembleton) and Ulster County (A. Feldman). A Common Tern was seen near Grassy Point in Rockland Co. on May 14, an early date (Mr. and Mrs. R. Deed).

From all indications the Mourning Dove population in the region was good. Both cuckoos surprised us with some early arrival dates this year. Two Yellow-billed Cuckoos were noted by Mr. and Mrs. R. Deed on the early date of Apr 29 near Blauvelt, Rockland County, and another early one was observed near New Paltz, Ulster Co., on Apr 30 by Dr. Robert Pyle. The Black-billed Cuckoo even preceded the Yellow-billed. One found near Stone Ridge, Ulster County, on Apr 27 (F. Hough) constitutes the earliest county record. Cuckoos in general seemed more common this season which might be due to the high infestation of tent caterpillars.

At Balsam Lake Mountain, in Ulster County and deep in the Catskills, Dan Smiley and I found the Saw-whet Owl on a very probable nesting site (May 14.) The bird heard spent most of the night calling, but unfortunately we were unable to complete the details of the record. We hope to pursue it further.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Nighthawk flights in the region were very good. An early Chimney Swift was seen in Rockland County on Apr 23 (Eugene Brown). Ruby-throated Hummingbirds seemed scarce in migration. The Red-bellied Woodpecker put in an appearance in Putnam Co. near Carmel on May 4 and 5 was checked at a feeder by Mabel Little who knows the bird. Another or the same bird was found in nearby Westchester County at Briarcliff on May 17 (fide Lester Walsh). Both are firsts for the counties. The usual woodpeckers were about in normal numbers. The flycatcher flights were not impressive. A very early Rough-winged Swallow was observed near Brown's Pond, Newburgh, Orange Co., on Apr 9 (E. A. Mearns Bird Club), and an early Barn Swallow appeared Apr 4 at Winona Lake, Newburgh, and was seen by E. Holden. Purple Martins were reported in four of the counties: Armonk, Westchester Co. (T. Parker); near Walkkill, Orange Co. (Clare Hoyt); Dutchess Co. (report of Mr. and Mrs. James Keyes), and New Paltz, Ulster Co. (Robert Pyle). Most of these came in during the latter part of April. The Fish Crow was seen west of New Paltz, several miles from the Hudson River, on two occasions during April (R. Pyle). On May 17 a Carolina Chickadee was discovered at the feeder of Paul Wolf, Putnam Valley, Westchester County, and was checked by the Bedford Audubon Society. The bird was also photographed. A Red-breasted Nuthatch lingered until at least May 18 at the feeder of Marjorie Hopper in Upper Nyack, Rockland County. Some House Wrens came in early this year, at Lomontville, Ulster Co., on

Apr 10 (Dunbars), in Dutchess Co. Apr 16 (RWBC), and in Rockland Co. Apr 18 (H. Kelsey). Mockingbirds continued to be reported in most of the counties of our region. The Brown Thrasher put in an early appearance in Rockland County, being seen on Apr 15 by Homer Kelsey. The Wood Thrush was also reported early in Rockland Co., one at West Nyack on Apr 22 (Ed Gamble). The Swainson's Thrush was thought to be scarce by most observers. The Bicknell's Thrush arrived on Balsam Lake Mountain, Ulster Co., on May 21 (F. Hough, D. Smiley). The Veery seemed scarce also. Again, the Bluebird population was disappointingly low. Another nesting record of the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was made in Rockland Co. with the discovery of a nest at Tomkins Cove on May 7 by Isler and Connor. Little comment was received on either of the kinglets. Cedar Waxwings were not about in any pronounced numbers.

Vireos — Warblers: None of the vireos attracted special attention during the spring flights. About the only wave of warblers was noted around May 17. Outside of that there was no exciting show of mass flights among these little birds, although some did enter the region at an early date. Most counties reported the Worm-eating Warbler to be more common than usual; they arrived early too — in Rockland on Apr 30 (Isler, Connor) and in Westchester on the same date (L. Walsh). An Orange-crowned Warbler was seen by Margaret Dye at Cornwall-on-the-Hudson on Apr 20. The Parula Warbler arrived in Westchester on Apr 23 (L. Walsh), a very early date. Isler saw a Parula in Rockland on the following day. The bird was also reported early in Dutchess County (RWBC). The Myrtle Warbler usually presents itself in good numbers during migration through the Hudson Valley, but for some reason they made little show this year. The Cerulean Warbler was again found in Dutchess and Ulster Counties. The Blackpoll was first noted in Rockland on May 7 (Isler, Connor). Many Prairie Warblers came into the region early, the first being reported from the Westchester County area on Apr 26 (L. Walsh). They were first noted in Rockland County Apr 29 (Deeds). Redstarts made an early recorded date for Rockland Co. with one at Congers on Apr 24 (M. Hopper). The Yellowthroat arrived at its nesting site at Kripplebush, Ulster Co., on Apr 30 (F. Hough).

Blackbirds — Sparrows: The Orchard Oriole arrived in the Nauraushaun area of Rockland Co. on Apr 30 (M. Isler, R. Connor). The species was also found at Red Oaks Mill, near Poughkeepsie, Dutchess Co., on nesting site (W. Clare), and an immature male was heard singing near Dover Plains in Dutchess Co. on May 15 (G. Decker et al). The Baltimores seemed as common as ever. Martha Earl discovered a Purple Finch nesting in a spruce tree in a locality near Newburgh, Orange County. Mrs. Earl also reported the Redpoll putting in one of its last appearances on Apr 19 in the Orange County area, but the amazingly late departure date for this bird was made down in Rockland County where one stayed until May 10 (Mrs. Adolph Meyer). Two White-winged Crossbills were seen in the balsam atop Balsam Lake Mountain on May 21 and were of interest (F. Hough).

The Savannah Sparrow arrived at Kripplebush, Ulster County, on its usual date of Apr 12 (F. Hough). Dr. Andrew Weir reported Tree Sparrows as late as Apr 17 in South Salem, Westchester County. Mr. and Mrs. William Grierson noted a sizeable number of early Chipping Sparrows on Apr 3 near Mt. Kisco, Westchester County. The White-crowned Sparrow was found at Stone Ridge, Ulster County, on Apr 27, an exceptionally early date (F. Hough), and an even earlier record was from Cornwall-on-the-Hudson Apr 25 (Margaret Dye).

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REGION 10 — MARINE

JOHN J. ELLIOTT

There were few warblers before the middle of May, but there were several good flights in the latter half of the month. Pine and Prairie Warblers, almost nonexistent last year, showed considerable gains on eastern Long Island. A scarcity of Phoebe's, Bluebirds, and Winter Wrens was apparent. Ruby-crowned Kinglets seemed fairly common, but House Wrens were still comparatively scarce.