

a light colored bill, about the size of a Scarlet Tanager. It had no crest, and no black markings on wings, head or anywhere else." Single Evening Grosbeaks Apr 16 near Frewsburg (Jamestown Audubon Society) and Apr 23 at Springville (True) were the only reports. Purple Finches occurred in greater numbers than usual during April and early May. Pine Siskins, in general, appeared to have moved out of the region by mid April. However, scattered birds were reported, primarily in the Southern Tier, through the end of the period. A pair of Siskins was observed constructing a nest Apr 15 near Jamestown. A visit two weeks later revealed that the partially completed nest had been abandoned (Kibler). Red Crossbills continued to be observed throughout the region in unprecedented numbers. Several were known to be still visiting feeding trays at the end of May. Four White-winged Crossbills were noted Apr 29 in the South Dayton region (Webster et al) and flocks of 35 and 75 were observed in the Java area May 6 and 21 respectively (Rosche). A Sharp-tailed Sparrow, rare at any time in this region but especially so in spring, was studied Apr 21 on the edge of a small pond in the town of Boston (Bourne). About 300 Snow Buntings and four Lapland Longspurs were observed Apr 2 near Albion (Brockners). Ten buntings were observed well Apr 16, an unusually late date, as they fed on the edges of a snowbank in the town of Wethersfield (Rosche).
48 Dartmouth Avenue, Buffalo 15

REGION 2 — GENESEE

HOWARD S. MILLER

April was cold and wet. There was at least some rain on most days, and there was light snow on several days early in the month. The maximum temperature was only 65°. The first half of May was warm and wet; a three-day "heat wave" from May 13-15 produced a high reading of 88° on the latter date. Late May fell back into the pattern of April, cool and wet, with a low temperature of 36° on May 30. Rainfall for the first five months of the year has been over two inches above normal, most of the excess having come during April and May. Crop planting was delayed, and the water level of the lake and surrounding ponds and bays was rather high.

Development of vegetation was retarded until the mid-May warm spell when it caught up in a rush. The spring migration probably reached its peak on May 13-15 although an all-time record count of 202 species was reached on May 22.

The flight of Common Loons was barely normal, and the numbers of Red-throated Loons and Red-necked Grebes were light, the latter species being especially scarce. The peak of the spring duck flight was reached April 8-9. Peak hawk flights were recorded April 27 and 29 and May 15. While the high water along the lake rendered most areas unsuitable for shorebirds, two sizeable rain-water ponds west of Manitou and another flooded area near Perry produced good counts of almost all the regular shorebirds.

Outstanding birds seen during the period included Cattle Egret, Common Teal, Goshawk, Wilson's Phalarope, Little Gull, Bohemian Waxwing, and Oregon Junco.

Loons — Ducks: Twenty-five Common Loons seen May 9 along the west lake-shore (Listman) appeared to be the spring's high count. The maximum count of Red-throated Loons was 27 at Webster Park on Apr 30 (Lloyd); this compares with the usual spring peak count of thousands. A Red-necked Grebe seen at Summer-ville Apr 7 (O'Hara, Miller) and another at Manitou Apr 9 (Listman) were the only spring records. Two Double-crested Cormorants were sighted at Manitou on Apr 16, and single birds were there on Apr 22 and May 24 (Listman). Dobson's report of one at Braddock's May 7 completed the spring's record for this species.

A Cattle Egret was seen May 21 in Clarkson (Starling, Taylor, et al). This is our third area record in the last two years, all three records coming within an

area of about a mile. A Common Egret seen Apr 29-30 at Mendon Ponds (Starling, Tetlow) and one seen May 14 at Hamlin Beach (Schmanke) were our only spring records of this bird. An early Least Bittern was seen May 6 at the Elmwood Ave. marsh (Foster, Tetlow).

Seven Whistling Swans were seen at Groveland Apr 7 (Listman). Six were noted Apr 29 at Cranberry Pond (Starling et al), and three lingered at Shore Acres until May 21 (Taylor et al). Some 1500 Canada Geese were seen near Avon Apr 15 (Haller), and 750 were reported Apr 23 along the west lakeshore (Lloyd). Four Blue Geese were observed on the Groveland Flats Apr 29 (Listman). Three Brant which appeared on May 26 at Braddock's Bay (Listman) and remained until the end of the month were the only ones reported this spring.

Robert Dobson, a reliable observer, reported a Common (European) Teal Apr 5 at Oak Orchard (Stafford's Pond). The bird was with a large flock of Green-winged Teal, and Dobson had ample time to observe and compare it with the common species at a reasonable distance both with binoculars and scope. He sent me a complete verification report which leaves no doubt as to the correct identification of the bird.

Ten Shovelers, ten Redheads, 60 Ring-necked Ducks, and 15 Canvasbacks were seen on the Groveland Flats Apr 7, and two Bufflehead and a Ruddy Duck were there on May 29 (Listman). Five thousand Red-breasted Mergansers were seen migrating past Manitou on Apr 15 (Listman).

Hawks — Owls: Sixteen Turkey Vultures seen Apr 23 at the Hawk Lookout (Listman et al) was the high spring count for this species. A Goshawk was seen Apr 22 in Clarkson (Foster et al), and another was sighted at Flynn Road on Apr 27 (Maurice Broun et al). Sharp-shinned Hawks seemed down in numbers, with the high count being only 80 on May 7 at Webster Park and vicinity (Lloyd). Some 3500 Broad-winged Hawks at Flynn Road Apr 27 (Broun et al), 3300 at Durand Apr 29 (Dobson), and 1850 at the Hawk Lookout on May 15 (Listman) were the peak counts for this species. Three Bald Eagles at Manitou Apr 29 (Dobson) and four at the Hawk Lookout May 15 (Listman) were high counts for this species which seems to have shown a slight increase this spring. Twenty-five Marsh Hawks seen Apr 23 at the Hawk Lookout (Listman et al) was the spring's high count, as were eight Ospreys at the same place May 15 (Listman). Single Peregrine Falcons were sighted Apr 27 at Flynn Road (Broun et al), May 7 at the Hawk Lookout (Moons et al), May 17 at Braddock's (Listman), and May 21 near Hemlock Lake (Maley et al). Last year we had but one record for the area. A Pigeon Hawk was observed at Durand Apr 29 (Dobson) and another or the same bird was seen the same day at Webster Park (Lloyd).

The following represent the season's high count for the various shorebird species: 40 Semipalmated Plover at scattered points along the west lakeshore May 28 (GOS hike), 14 Black-bellied Plover at Perry May 30 (Rosche), 25 Ruddy Turnstones at Manitou May 30 (Starling), three Knots at Lighthouse Road on May 27 (O'Hara et al), ten White-rumped Sandpipers at Perry on May 28 (Rosche), 160 Least Sandpipers in Clarkson May 21 (Starling et al), 150 Dunlin along the west lakeshore May 28 (GOS hike), two Short-billed Dowitchers (a very uncommon spring migrant) in Clarkson May 20 (O'Hara et al), 100 Semipalmated Sandpipers in Clarkson May 28 (GOS hike), two Western Sandpipers in Clarkson May 28 (GOS hike), one Sanderling (a very uncommon spring migrant) in Clarkson, and one Wilson's Phalarope (a rare spring migrant) in Clarkson May 21 (GOS census).

A Glaucous Gull remained at Manitou until at least Apr 23 (Lloyd et al). A Little Gull appeared at Manitou May 21 (Listman) and was still present at the end of the month. Some 150 Common Terns were sighted at Manitou May 10 (Listman), and 11 Caspian Terns were seen at the same place on Apr 22 (O'Hara et al).

No Barn Owls were reported. A Snowy Owl remained in Webster until Apr 30 (Lloyd). Two Long-eared Owls were seen in the "owl" woods Apr 22 (O'Hara) and remained at least until Apr 27 (Schmanke). One was seen in Riverside Cemetery May 14 (Dobson), and a nest with two half-grown young was found May 16 near Canadice Lake (Maley et al). However, the nest was deserted on

May 21 from unknown causes. Eight Short-eared Owls were observed putting on an interesting flight display near Manitou Apr 1 (Starling et al). A Saw-whet Owl last seen in Salmon Creek woods Apr 1 was the only one reported in the area this year.

Goatsuckers—Shrikes: Forty Yellow-shafted Flickers were seen Apr 30 in Webster Park (Lloyd). Eight Red-headed Woodpeckers seen along the west lakeshore May 13 (Schmanke et al) indicates a gradual increase of this species in our area over a few years ago. Thirty Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers seen along the west lakeshore Apr 16 (Listman) was the spring's high count for this species. Three were seen in Powder Hill Park May 30 (Tetlow et al). Eight Eastern Kingbirds and 15 Great Crested Flycatchers in scattered places in eastern Wyoming County (Rosche) emphasize the extent of the mid May migration wave. Nine Eastern Wood Pewees were seen in Letchworth Park on May 20 (Rosche), a rather early date for this number.

A Tufted Titmouse was seen at the Hawk Lookout Apr 27 (Listman et al), and two were observed near Nine Mile Point May 21 (McNetts, Sunderlin). This species seems to have decreased to a considerable extent in the area during the last year. Two Red-breasted Nuthatches were seen at Letchworth Park May 20 (Rosche), and a pair was still present at the end of the month in Durand (Foley). This may well indicate nesting, although no nest was actually found. A Carolina Wren was still present on the east side of Irondequoit Bay May 21 (Sunderlin) and may have been nesting. A Short-billed Marsh Wren seen near Shore Acres May 16 (Listman, Tetlow) was still present at the end of the month. Two Mockingbirds were observed in their previous nesting area in Webster May 21 (McNetts), and another bird was seen in Greece May 21 (Lanks). Thirty-five Catbirds and 58 Wood Thrushes were good single day's counts obtained in Letchworth Park on May 13 (Rosche). The Eastern Bluebird showed little or no increase. The peak migratory flight count along the lake was four May 16 at Braddock's (Listman, Tetlow). Single pairs nested at Webster (McNetts), at B.A.N.C. (Foley), and at LeRoy. Eight Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were seen at scattered points May 21 (GOS census), and a Golden-crowned Kinglet was noted south of Wayland the same day (Listman). Two hundred Water Pipits on both May 9 and May 16 along the west lakeshore (Listman, Tetlow) were the peak spring counts. The bird was unreported in Wyoming County (Rosche). A very late Bohemian Waxwing was seen in Durand-Eastman Park in company with a large flock of Cedar Waxwings (Foley et al)

Vireos—Warblers: A singing White-eyed Vireo was carefully observed at Manitou on May 9 (Listman). Solitary Vireos seemed more common than a year ago, with a maximum of four noted May 21 (GOS census). Philadelphia Vireos, on the other hand, seemed scarce, with only one bird reported on any checklist. Twenty-seven Warbling Vireos were reported May 21 at scattered points (GOS census).

Parula and Cape May Warblers seemed scarce. Two Cape Mays were seen at Letchworth Park May 13 (Rosche), but other than that no more than one of each species was reported on any one checklist. Exceptionally high counts of the Tennessee Warbler (250) and the Nashville Warbler (80) were made May 21 in the Avon area (Heller). Other noteworthy high counts were 60 Black-throated Green, 23 Chestnut-sided, 15 Bay-breasts, and 65 Yellowthroats, all in Letchworth Park May 13 (Rosche).

Two singing male Prothonotary Warblers were sighted at Oak Orchard May 21 by Jean Haller. A singing Worm-eating Warbler was observed in Rose's Marsh May 13 (Listman). Blue-winged Warbler records included one in Bergen Swamp on May 13, one in Powder Mill on May 14 (Davis, Melitz), four in Letchworth Park May 20 (Rosche), one at Conesus May 21 (Foley et al), and one in Island Cottage Woods on May 21 (McNetts et al). Three Brewster's Warblers were spotted May 21 (GOS census). An Orange-crowned Warbler was netted and banded near Manitou on May 14 (Leubner), and one was seen in Island Cottage Woods on May 21 (Sunderlin et al). Single Pine Warblers were observed near Braddock's Bay Apr 22 and 27 (Listman) and at Durand-Eastman Park Apr 30 (McNetts). A Prairie Warbler was seen at Manitou May 13 (Listman). A Louisiana Waterthrush was noted Apr 22 at Letchworth, and two were there on May 13 (Rosche). A Connecticut Warbler was reported in Rush May 14

(Oresman et al). No less than twelve reports of Yellow-breasted Chats were received from scattered localities.

Only the Kentucky Warbler and Yellow-throated Warbler were unrecorded among our more uncommon warblers.

Blackbirds—Sparrows: A singing Western Meadowlark appeared at the Rochester Country Club golf course Apr 15 (Taylor), and the bird was still present there at the end of the period.

Three Rusty Blackbirds were still at Silver Lake May 29 (Rosche). The Evening Grosbeak was unreported for the whole period. A single Common Redpoll was observed feeding with American Goldfinches in black birch trees in Island Cottage Woods May 6 (O'Hara et al). Pine Siskins were still present at the end of the period in small numbers, and a pair successfully raised a brood of young in Irondequoit (Moons). This is our area's first breeding record for this species. Thirty-one Red Crossbills were noted in scattered localities on May 21 (GOS census), and some were still present at the end of the month. One wonders if and when they are going to nest.

A spectacular flight of Vesper Sparrows occurred Apr 15-16, and hundreds must have been present along the lakeshore for those two days. A male Oregon Junco was seen at Lake and Bay Roads Apr 3 (McNetts), and another was seen at Manitou Apr 26 (Listman). One hundred fifty White-throated Sparrows May 6 (Dobson) and 100 White-crowned Sparrows May 13 (Listman) were the peak counts for these species. Lincoln's Sparrows were frequent, with a high count of four at Island Cottage Woods and Manitou on May 13 (Listman et al).

54 Luella Street, Rochester 9

REGION 3—FINGER LAKES

SALLY F. HOYT

The Finger Lakes shivered and swam through a period which, on the calendar only, was termed spring. Below freezing temperatures on May 30 and 31 weren't a real surprise, as they followed two months marked by other late freezes and wet snows. When it wasn't snowing it was raining. Total precipitation for the two months was not much below twelve inches in the Ithaca area.

Oddly enough, the effect on bird life was not as marked as might be expected. Bird-watching got an assist from the weather in that leaves were not fully out before the end of May. This served, however, to keep down the number of insects, and birds had a hard time finding food. Orioles came to suet, and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and Purple Finches found sunflower seeds on feeders, both unusual procedures in this area. There was no set pattern to arrival of vireos, and warblers were slightly late. Hummingbirds on time; Indigo Buntings were early. In general, nesting has been delayed.

Loon—Ducks: Common Loons appeared in normal numbers. One grounded during a storm is thriving (wing-clipped) on Sapsucker Woods pond. The only report of a Red-throated Loon was May 21 on Cayuga. Horned Grebes were found in numbers in the Elmira area on Apr 6 following a heavy storm the night before, and one Red-necked Grebe was sighted also. Another Red-necked Grebe was observed on Apr 30 at Interlaken Beach on Cayuga (O. Hewitt). Morse reported Pied-billed Grebes as somewhat less common at Montezuma. There were about four sightings of Double-crested Cormorants this spring — twice the normal number. Two Cattle Egrets appeared at Montezuma on Apr 29 and were seen regularly through the first week in May. Another was at Big Flats, Elmira, on May 10 (M. Smith et al) — the first for that area. Except for one Common Egret on Apr 15 at the Refuge, this species was unreported this period, unlike the last few years when several have been in evidence at the Refuge before June 1. A most unusual record was that of an adult **Yellow-crowned Night Heron** on Apr 25 in the swamp woods south of Routes 5-20 at Montezuma. Those seeing and identifying this bird were Dean Case, W. Wilcox, and Foster Helmer.