

seen May 9 at Schenectady (Eddy, Hallenbeck, et al), May 10 at Burnt Hills (Foote), and May 13 at Schenectady (Eddy, Hicks, et al). Black and White Warbler — April 26 at Red Rock (Smilow), Worm-eating Warbler — May 10 at Indian Ladder (Sabin), Golden-winged Warbler — May 9 at Slingerlands (Sabin), Blue-winged Warbler — May 13 at Altamont (Waite), Poestenkill (Kilcawley), and Alcove Reservoir (Sabin), Lawrence's Warbler — May 13 in Columbia County (ADBC) and May 19 at Scotia (fide Foote), Tennessee Warbler — May 9 at New Concord (Radke), Nashville Warbler — May 9 at Central Park (Eddy, Hallenbeck), Parula Warbler — none reported, Yellow Warbler — April 27 at Black Creek Marshes (Zimmer), Magnolia Warbler — May 10 at Indian Ladder (Sabin), at Burnt Hills (Foote), and Loudonville (French), Black-throated Green Warbler — May 9 at Slingerlands (Sabin), Myrtle Warbler — April 8 at Chatham (Reilly), Black-throated Blue Warbler — May 9 at Schenectady (Eddy, Hallenbeck), Blackburnian Warbler — May 9 at Schenectady (Eddy, Hallenbeck), et al, Cerulean Warbler — May 13 at Gallupville (Zimmer), Chestnut-sided Warbler — May 9 at Slingerlands (Sabin) and Schenectady (Eddy, Hallenbeck, et al), Bay-breasted Warbler — May 2 at Loudonville (French), Black-poll Warbler — May 13 at Schenectady (Eddy, Hicks, et al), Pine Warbler — April 27 at Schenectady (Eddy), Prairie Warbler — May 13 at Karners (many observers), and Columbia County (ADBC), Palm Warbler — May 9 at Schenectady (Eddy, Hallenbeck, et al), Ovenbird — May 9 at Slingerlands (Sabin), Northern Waterthrush — May 10 at Burnt Hills (Foote), Louisiana Waterthrush — April 24 at Red Rock (Smilow), Mourning Warbler — May 13 at Taborton (Kilcawley), Northern Yellowthroat — May 9 at Slingerlands (Sabin), Yellow-breasted Chat — May 13 at Karners (Baker) and Poestenkill (Kilcawley), Wilson's Warbler — May 9 at Ghent (Erlenchbach), Canada Warbler — May 10 at Burnt Hills (Foote), and Redstart — May 9 at Loudonville (French).

Blackbirds — Sparrows: The earliest date for Bobolinks appears to be May 11 at Meadowdale when an estimated 20 birds were present (Sabin). Baltimore Orioles were first reported on April 15 at Nassau (Shineman). However, they did not become common until after May 8 in most areas. Rusty Blackbirds were seen on April 9 at the Black Creek Marshes (Sabin), April 30 at Ghent (Erlenchbach), and a very late migrant on May 27 at Ghent (Erlenchbach). Scarlet Tanagers became quite common after May 9 when two were seen at Schenectady (Eddy, Hallenbeck, et al). Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were widely reported as arriving in most areas on May 9. Indigo Buntings on the other hand did not arrive until May 11 in many areas. Evening Grosbeaks were present in many areas throughout April with the last report coming from Canaan on May 13 (Gokay). Purple Finches have been very sporadic, but consistently so. Pine Siskins have been commoner than usual with the latest report being of two birds at Indian Ladder on May 10 (Sabin). Goldfinches have been very common. The erratic and irregular Red Crossbill has been rather widely reported from April 6 at Claverack (Reeve) to May 21 at Gallupville (Zimmer). The first Towhees were seen on April 30 at Watervliet Reservoir (SBC field trip). Savannah Sparrows arrived in numbers after mid-April, and Vesper Sparrow after April 9 at Black Creek Marshes (Sabin). Grasshopper and Henslow's Sparrows were first recorded on May 13 (Sabin) and May 1 at Nassau (Shineman) respectively. Juncos were present generally throughout the region throughout April and to mid-May. A very late Tree Sparrow was recorded on May 13 at a feeder in Averill Park (Farney). A few White-crowned Sparrows went through in the last week of April but the majority of them arrived in the first 10 days of May. White-throated Sparrows lingered to May 3 at Slingerlands. Fox Sparrows were present until April 23 in Columbia County (ADBC). A Lincoln's Sparrow was present at Ghent from April 6-13 (Erlenchbach).

652 Kenwood Avenue, Slingerlands

REGION 9 — DELAWARE — HUDSON

FRED N. HOUGH

Continuing on from March the advancement of spring remained somewhat backward, staying any chance of an early season. Patches of snow could still be found in the higher Catskills even to the end of May. The effects of the variable weather on migration were not deeply pronounced, and yet it undoubtedly influenced some species to show early while others were retarded. It all presented a mixed-up picture best termed as a normal season surrounded by early and late dates.

One of the best migration waves of the period came on May 9 and 10 with the old veritable "flood of migrants" passing through the region. There seems no question that this year presented more satisfying results for birders than did last.

Loons — Ducks: Al Feldman and his waterfowl watching activities about the Ashokan Res. in Ulster Co. added a new species to the county list in April. This was a Western Grebe spotted on the 17th and carefully studied. The occurrence of Cattle Egrets in parts of the region again attracted attention. Martha Earl noted two near Goshen, Orange Co., on May 24 in the same general area as previously reported by her. Down below in Rockland County Bob Deed saw one near New City on May 27.

There were many good flights of Canada Geese up the Hudson Valley. As late as May 24 and 25 large flights were seen in Westchester Co. (Emily Kosakowski, Victoria Kosak, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Grierson).

Brant were conspicuous in several counties. Large numbers were seen in Rockland (Bob Deed). In Ulster about 500 were flying north overland on May 18, and another estimated 500 were over Dutchess Co. on May 26 (T. Haight, T. Gilbert). Several observations were made on the flights of Snow Geese during April. The northward flight of ducks in general left it impossible to render an accurate conclusion as to their status. Eleanor Pink had a Green-winged Teal in central Dutchess County on the late date of May 14.

Hawks — Owls: Most of the hawk flights were probably usual except for some notable late dates of departure set by the Rough-legged. One was seen over Stone Ridge, Ulster Co., on Apr 14, migrating in an undulating fashion against a brisk northerly wind. Maratha Earl saw another down in Orange Co. on Apr 16, and the last one reported from this region came from over in Dutchess County where F. Germond made the observation on Apr 24. The Bald Eagle was reported at Several points.

The Black-bellied Plover, usually missed in the spring migration here, was found in two instances during May. Joseph Morlan made Rockland County's first spring record with the finding of four at Piermont Pier on May 13. At Pleasant Valley in Dutchess Co. Otis Waterman et al saw the species on May 18. One Upland Plover was reported at Iona Island, near Bear Mountain, on Apr 26 (John Orth). Mr. Orth observed an Iceland Gull, an uncommon bird about this region, near Iona Island on Apr 2 and 7. The Bonaparte's Gull was reported in early April in the Cornwall area of Orange County (E.A. Mearns Bird Club) and in the Ashokan Reservoir area of Ulster County during late April and early May (A. Feldman, H. Dunbar, R. Pyle). A Common Tern was seen flying over the Ashokan Res. on Apr 26 (A. Feldman). The Black Tern appeared in Pleasant Valley, Dutchess County, on May 14 (B. Whiting) and was reported again at Pine Plains on May 16 (L. Palmatier).

The number of cuckoos in migration seemed to be very good this year. An early Yellow-billed appeared in Dutchess County on Apr 28 (K. and R. Davis). Owls were, for the most part, inconspicuous. A Long-eared Owl was found nesting near New Paltz, Ulster County (Robert Pyle), and the Saw-whet heard at Kripplebush, Ulster County, during March continued on to mid-April (F. Hough).

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: The Common Nighthawk appeared to show more concentration on the west side of the Hudson than on the east. Some unprecedented early arrival Hummingbirds were reported. Mrs. Javius Matsumoto reported a male on Apr 28 near Carmel, Putnam County (it was hit by a car but not killed), but the earliest date comes from just south of our region on Staten Island where the Ruby-throat was seen on Apr 14 and 15 (Donald Deed). Some Kingbirds were extremely early in Orange County with one at Balmville on Apr 7 (E. K. Holden) and another near Newburgh on Apr 8 (Paul Jeheber). A rather early Crested Flycatcher appeared at Sterling Forest, Rockland County, on Apr 28 (R. Deed). Martha Earl reported the arrival of the first Barn Swallow in her area of Orange County on Apr 14. Thomas Parker's small colony of Purple Martins returned again this year on Apr 15 at his residence in Armonk, Westchester County. Other Martins were found near New Paltz, Ulster County (R. Pyle).

There was a noticeable movement of Blue Jays through Rockland County during parts of May (RAS), and a few were apparently still migrating up in Ulster County near the end of the month (F. Hough). Red-breasted Nuthatches were

absent from nearly all reports. The Mockingbird status seems to be about the same at this point. One was seen in Kingston, Ulster County, during May (Arthur Cragin), which is in the northern environs of our region. A rather early Wood Thrush showed up in Lomontville, Ulster County, on Apr 26 (H. and I. Dunbar). Observations of the Swainson's Thrush during migration were more numerous this year. The Bicknell's Thrush was just arriving on Slide Mountain May 20 (F. Hough, D. Smiley). Our Bluebird population still remained on the meagre side to suit our pleasure in this lovely bird. Mrs. Javius Matsumoto of Chappaqua, Westchester Co., reported her first brood of Bluebirds were off the nest on Apr 30. There was a definite increase in the number of Blue-gray Gnatcatcher reports for this season. Most of these were in early May - Westchester (Mrs. John Lentz), Rockland (R. Deed, E. Brown, J. Orth), Orange (Mrs. John Dye), and Dutchess (F. Germond) Brother Michael O. Waterman, B. Whiting). Brother Michael reported nesting attempts on Cruger's Island. It was also seen in Putnam County by Mrs. George Little and in Sullivan County. Kenneth Niven reported complete nesting success of the Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher at Westbrookville. This was a first record for Sullivan. Cedar Waxwings were rather inconspicuous during this migrating period.

Vireos — Warblers: The Brewster's Warbler was reported on two occasions — at Bedford Village, Westchester County, on May 13 (Mrs. John Bennett) and near Carmel, Putnam County, on May 12 (Mabel Little). One of the most difficult of all warblers to identify is the Orange-crowned. Many a migration passes without a single record, but occasionally an alert observer is able to spot one. The solitary record we have for this spring is credited to Brother Michael who found this warbler on Cruger's Island, Dutchess Co., on Apr 26. Cerulean Warblers were reported in their usual habitat in Dutchess and Ulster Counties. A good find was the Yellow-throated Warbler at Barrytown, Dutchess County, on May 11 by Brother Michael and Otis Waterman. Blackpoll Warblers were arriving on Slide Mountain in Ulster County on May 20 (Hough, Smiley). Of interest is another record of the Kentucky Warbler in the upper parts of our region. This one was seen by T. Strauss on May 8 in Dutchess County. Most observers felt that this was a pretty good warbler year.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: The first Baltimore Oriole was reported by Margaret Dye on Apr 26 at Cornwall-on-Hudson, Orange County. Cardinals were plentiful all around and promised a good nesting season. A very early Indigo Bunting showed up at West Nyack, Rockland County, on Apr 17 and was seen by Dr. and Mrs. Richard Weindling. Fair numbers of Pine Siskins were noted during their movements through this part of the state.

The erratic Red Crossbill gave us a better show this year than they usually do. One was in Mt. Kisco, Westchester Co., on Apr 10 (Mrs. Henry Yoars), and on Apr 15 ten more were seen in the general vicinity (Douglas Orbison). Mrs. Joseph Malone found them still around Tarrytown, Westchester Co., on May 4, and Mrs. Wm. Murphy saw a few at Pound Ridge, Westchester Co., on May 14. The Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club found this Crossbill in fair abundance in Dutchess County during the last of April and early May. In Ulster County they were seen near Slide Mountain, in the Catskills, on May 20 (Hough, Smiley). In contrast to the Red Crossbill the White-winged Crossbill was all but unreported; the one observation was made near Naponach, Ulster County, where Chandler Young saw three on Apr 12. A Junco was still at Cornwall, Orange County, on May 29 arrival date for this species. She reported the first one at Blooming Grove, Orange (M. Dye). Mrs. Robert Earl's alertness for Lincoln's Sparrow netted her an early arrival date for this species. She reported the first one at Blooming Grove, Orange County, on Apr 25. Elsewhere the scanty reports indicated a more normal flight; the species was at Krumville, Ulster County, on May 6 (Hough), and one was banded at Mohonk Lake, Ulster County, on May 7 (Smiley).

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