

Vireos — Warblers: Solitary Vireos were reported as less plentiful this year in the Saranac Lake area (Delafield). At Raybrook young Solitary Vireos were molested and killed by Blue Jays (Keji). Red eyed Vireos were generally common. Keeseville area a pair of Red-eyed Vireos nested. In the lower branch of a box alder over a driveway, but the nesting was unsuccessful due to parasitism by Cowbirds. In a late migrant wave on Jun 8 at Saranac Lake a Philadelphia Vireo was carefully indentified by Delafield and Mrs. R. Cooper of the Province of Quebec Society for the Protection of Birds.

Warbler reports by Delehanty at Tupper Lake on Jun 1 and 4 included Blackpoll, Black and White, Redstart, Yellowthroat, Blackburnian, Chestnut-sided, and Yellow. Amstutz reported the following nesting species from the same general area: Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Nashville, Chestnut-sided, Canada, Ovenbird, Yellowthroat, Myrtle, Wilson's, Blackburnian, Parula, Mourning and Redstart. Delafield reported the following at or near Saranac Lake: Black and White, Nashville, Parula, Yellow (nested Denny Park), Magnolia, Black-throated Blue, Myrtle, Black-throated Green, Chestnut-sided, Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Yellowthroat, Canada, and Redstart.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Bobolinks were found nesting on Mt. Pisgah on Jun 15, and ten immatures were seen at Norman's Ridge on Aug 6 (Delafield). Bobolinks were also reported from Tupper Lake on Jun 7 (Delehanty). Redwings were numerous along the Saranac River through July, and numbers of Grackles in the same general area appeared to be growing (Delafield). Scarlet Tanagers also appeared to be in good numbers there. At Keeseville Baltimore Orioles were common as nesters, but Amstutz reported them as infrequent nesters in Tupper Lake and Sabattis Road.

At Saranac Lake Evening Grosbeaks were present throughout the summer, and there were many feeder reports in numbers from two to ten or more (Delafield). The same situation was reported at Tupper Lake, where young Evening Grosbeaks were seen at feeders (Amstutz). A few nesting pairs of Pine Siskins were noted at Saranac Lake, and Purple Finches were in normal numbers there (Delafield). These Two species were reported from Tupper Lake on Jun 8 (Delehanty).

Several small groups of White-crowned Sparrows were seen, and others were noted singly. The usual sparrows were present in their normal good numbers.

Keeseville

REGION 8 — MOHAWK-HUDSON

WALTON B. SABIN

The summer up until Aug 15 was primarily in name only. Temperature-wise it was close to normal. This would have been fine but July, when most vacations start, was a whopping 1½ inches above normal rainfall, at 4.78 inches. This, as a result, spoiled many outdoor activities, including birding. August was quite dry, in contrast, and slightly cooler. All in all it was far from a pleasant summer. There were no outstanding observations made during the period.

Loons — Owls: Two Pied-billed Grebes were observed at Niskayuna Widewaters on Aug 1 (Eddy, Hallenbeck) for the only report of this species. Great Blue Herons were seen: one Jul 15 (Clark, Hallenbeck), four on Aug 6 and two Aug. 13 (Hallenbeck) all at Vischer Ferry. No Common Egrets were noted during the period of this report. Two American Bitterns were seen at Vischer Ferry on Aug 6 (Hallenbeck). Mallards and Black Ducks were widely reported. Green-winged Teal were reported on Jun 19 at Canaan (Pool) and on Jul 14 (3) also at Canaan (Gokay). Reporters did not say if they thought this species might have nested. On Jul 8, one adult and 10 immature Blue-winged Teal were seen at the Black Creek Marshes (Clark, Hallenbeck). Wood Ducks were also widely reported, many with birds of the year. The only Hooded Merganser report was of one seen on Jun 13 at Canaan (Gokay). The only Turkey Vultures reported was of a group of seven seen on Jul 27 at Old Chatham in a field feeding on dead woodchucks (Alan Devoe Bird Club record). A Sharp-shinned Hawk was observed Aug 12 near Westerlo (Kent) and a couple of Cooper's Hawks in Columbia County during August (ADBC records). Red-tailed Hawks apparently nested near Westerlo (Kent). Broad-winged Hawks were seen on Jun 17 (2) at Canaan (ADBC record), Jul 4 (2) again at Canaan (Gokay) and Jul 14 (1) at Ghent (Erlenbach). The only Marsh Hawk report comes from near Pottersville on Aug 4 (Kent). An Osprey was observed Jul 31 also near Pottersville (Kent). A Duck Hawk was seen on Jul 22 at the Black Creek Marshes (Hallenbeck). Could this species have nested on the Helderberg escarpment nearby? It did years ago. As

many as six Virginia Ralis and four Common Gallinules were reported from the Black Creek Marshes during the period (Hallenbeck) while a single bird of the former species was seen on June 12 at Chatham Center (Shineman). Killdeer, Woodcock, Common Snipe and Spotted Sandpipers were widely reported. Two Upland Plovers at Germantown first half of July were suspected of having nested (Miller). A Least Sandpiper was seen on July 31 near Pottersville, on the Schroon River (Kent). This probably was a southbound migrant. Herring and Ring-billed Gulls were both reported. Mourning Doves and both species of cuckoos were commonly reported as being quite numerous. The Screech and Great Horned Owls were the only species in this group that were reported. Both of these species, of course, are permanent residents.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Whippoorwills were present to at least August 10 near Pottersville where it is a summer resident (Kent). Nighthawks were seen migrating July 23 when 15 were noted at Pottersville (Kent). Chimney Swifts and Hummingbirds were still present at the close of the period. A Red-headed Woodpecker spent the month of June at Chatham Center (Knoll). Kingbirds, Crested Flycatchers, and Wood Pewees were widely reported. The last Traill's Flycatcher reported was on August 13 at Vischer Ferry (Hallenbeck). Yellow-bellied and Olive-sided Flycatchers were reported as nesting near Pilot Knob on Lake George in July (Holmes). No Least Flycatchers were reported after July 6 at Wolf Hollow (Hallenbeck). All swallows except Rough-winged which were not reported were still present on August 15. Tufted Titmouse reports were wholly from Columbia County. Two were present all the month of June at West Ghent, but noted only once in July in the same area on the 14th (Erlenbach). In August two birds were present to the 15th at Hudson (Thompson). Red-breasted Nuthatches again nested at Chatham (Reilly), near Pottersville (Kent), and at Warrensburg (Hallenbeck). A Brown Creeper on July 17 near Pottersville is probably a summer resident (Kent). No Carolina Wrens were reported. The uncommon Short-billed Marsh Wren was noted on July 22 at the Black Creek Marshes (Clark, Hallenbeck) for the only report. Mockingbirds are scarier this year. One during the first week of July at Castleton (Cook) was the only one reported. Bluebirds are reported a little bit more often. Several broods were raised near Westerlo this summer (Kent). The nomadic Cedar Waxwing was seen in several areas throughout the latter half of the period.

Vireos — Sparrows: No unusual vireos reported. All resident species were still with us at the close of the period. The Blue-winged and Golden-winged Warblers were again present in Columbia County. Among the hybrids, however, only the Lawrence's Warbler was reported. Singles were reported throughout June from Nassau (Shineman) and West Ghent (Erlenbach). A Nashville Warbler at Chatham on June 20 (Reilly) may have been a summer resident. One on August 12 at Black Creek Marshes (Hallenbeck) was most certainly a fall migrant. Worm-eating and Black-throated Blue Warblers nested at Indian Ladder in the Helderbergs (Waite) as did both Blackburnian Warbler and Louisiana Waterthrush at Red Rock and Chatham (Smilow, Radke). Blackpoll Warblers, on their way north, lingered to June 17 in several places in Columbia County (Radke, et al). A Pine Warbler at Red Rock on August 10 was most certainly a southbound migrant (Smilow). Yellow-breasted Chats were reported as follows: 1 - June 24 at Chatham (Reilly), 1 - July 22 at Black Creek Marshes (Clark, Hallenbeck), and 1 August 8 and 15 at Old Chatham (Barten). There were no real warbler waves of southbound migrants prior to August 15. Last reported Bobolinks were on August 5 at Black Creek Marshes (Hallenbeck). Large flocks of blackbirds of all species were beginning to build up at the close of the period. Orchard Orioles were reported from just one area Castleton, this summer. From July 1 to 14 a first year male was seen and heard (Cook); on July 26, three olive-green plumaged birds (probably a female and two immatures) were observed (Cook, Radke), and on August 7 an immature plumaged male bird was seen (Cook). Cardinals appear to be pretty well established in the region below the Mohawk River. There have been a few reports also in southern Saratoga County and northern Rensselaer County. An erratic Pine Siskin was seen at Canaan on August 2 (Gokay). Henslow's Sparrows were observed up to August 5 at the Black Creek Marshes (Hallenbeck). Junco was a summer resident again at Indian Ladder, Thacher Park (Sabin).

Addendum: Editor's note — the following additional summer records were received from Mr. Sabin just at press time: Common Egret and Least Bittern at Vischer Ferry on August 6; Iceland Gull and Bonaparte's Gull just north of Albany on June 21. — 652 Kenwood Avenue, Slingerlands

REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

FRED N. HOUGH

Weather for the period was close to normal and quite like last summer in that showers helped to hold down any severe drought. Again, summer birding activity was at low ebb, but from the appearances gathered it was near normal season for our nesting species. Bluebirds still continued on the scarce side, and such birds as the Starling and Grackle were in many instances a downright nuisance with their immense numbers. The greatest concentration of these birds seems to follow the lowland and river-bottom areas. This, of course, makes the Hudson Valley ideal.

Loons — Ducks: Mr. and Mrs. John Dye found a Pied-billed Grebe with six young on Jul 8 in an area of Orange Co. known as the Cornwall Bay Marsh. The species nests sparingly in the region and is an interesting bird to study. Least Bitterns were found at the Tri-Loba Hill Sanctuary, Katonah, Westchester Co., on Jul 21 (Mr. and Mrs. Hersh Rogosin; Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Grierson). Another record came from Dutchess Co. where E. Pink and E. Skidmore saw one at Thompson Pond on Jul 26. To find nests requires a bit of stamina and care.

The Canada Goose was reported nesting in the Bear Mt. area of Orange Co. (Ed. Treacy fide Dye), and it was also seen on the Rondout Res. in Ulster Co. during July (C. Young, W. Claire).

Hawks — Owls: Hawks seemed to be about in their usual summer numbers. Wandering Caspian Terns were seen in the region during June. One was seen at Crugar's Island, Dutchess Co., on Jun 18 (Br. Michael), and another was over the Ashokan Reservoir in Ulster Co. on Jun 30 (Al Feldman).

The Yellow-billed Cuckoo showed a good population in Ulster County this year, and we suspect it may have been the same in other areas too. There were no reports on the Barn Owl from this region.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Whip-poor-wills were heard throughout the summer near Kripplebush, Ulster County (F. Hough. Members of the Edgar Mearns Bird Club of Orange Co. feel there is an increase in the number of nesting Red-headed Woodpeckers in this area. Ned Kurtz found the species nesting also near New Paltz, Ulster County. Horned Larks were found nesting on the grounds of two IBM plants in the region, one at Kingston in Ulster Co. (Jeanette Dunn, H. Dunbar) and one at Poughkeepsie in Dutchess County (W. Claire). Henry Dunbar wonders whether IBM supplies nesting Horned Larks at all its plants.

A pair of Cliff Swallows nested again at Bull's Mill, Orange Co., (Martha Earl), and the colonies at the Ashokan Reservoir were apparently successful (Al Feldman). Purple Martins have occupied about six houses erected along the Hudson River area in Dutchess Co. (Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club).

Red-breasted Nuthatches were seen along parts of the Shawangunk range in Ulster Co. during various times in the nesting season, which makes us suspect they are occasionally nesting here (F. Hough, D. Smiley). No one reported any abundance of Bluebirds. One pair showed up at Mohonk Lake, Ulster Co., briefly during early summer, and Dan Smiley states that this was the first time he had seen Bluebirds in the vicinity of the Mountain House. He speculates that the species might be gradually adapting to remoter areas for nesting.

Vireos — Warblers: A White-eyed Vireo was seen by Stanley Grierson near Armonk, Westchester County, on Jun 7.

Little is ever reported on the nesting population of Yellow-throated Vireos in this Valley. We wonder just how much change might be occurring in its status.

Most of the warblers were about in their usual numbers. A Kentucky Warbler was found near Pomona, Westchester County, during early June (H. Kelsey), but no evidence of nesting was found. In a study of the birds of the Catskills the Yellow-throat's nesting territory was again found to range high on the slopes of some of the mountains checked (Hough, Smiley).

Blackbirds — Sparrows: The House Sparrow continued in its predation on Japanese beetles.

The most unusual report of the season was that of Mr. and Mrs. Jamie King made through Robert Deed. They reported about 40 Evening Grosbeaks in the yard