

Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher" should read "A nest of the Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher" (Vol. 4, No. 2, p. 45, line 44) — "(Schaffner, Fish, Axtell)" should read "(Schaffner, Fisk, Axtell)". (Vol. 5, No. 1, p. 14, line 17) — "Standard" should read "Stannards Corners".

48 Dartmouth Avenue, Buffalo 15

REGION 2 — GENESEE

HOWARD S. MILLER

The past winter was relatively mild, with only February showing steady winter weather. December and January were both above average in temperature. February was sharply below normal, and March, due to three very cold days at the very beginning, averaged slightly below normal. A three-day "heat wave" Mar 28-30 brought the best **early** hawk flight the area has ever experienced plus a heavy movement of land birds. Precipitation and snowfall were both below average except in February. Snowfall for the entire season was only 64 inches, in contrast to 89 inches the previous winter and over 160 inches the two preceding winters (1958-59 and 1959-60).

Outstanding birds reported during the period included King Eider, Boreal Chickadee, Bohemian Waxwing, Dickcissel, and Oregon Junco. White-winged gulls were scarce. A promising fall influx of Snowy Owls dwindled, and the northern finches were represented mainly by good numbers of Evening and Pine Grosbeaks.

Loons — Ducks: Red-thr. Loon — one Dec 17 off Russell Station (Listman); one (early migrant) Mar 17-19 Braddock's Bay (GOS hike). Red-necked Grebe — one Dec 23 off Sea Breeze (Kemnitzer). Pied-billed Grebe — two lingered on Conesus Lake until Dec 23 (Listman); one Irondequoit Bay until Dec 28 (Kemnitzer). Great Blue Heron — one Dec 30 (Barlow, McKinney) and one Mar. 13 (Lank), both at Long Pond. Green Heron — one (injured) at a farm pond near Avon until Dec 5, but not later (Haller). Whistling Swan — scarce in the area this spring; one Mar 24-25 at Groveland (Tetlow et al); one Mar 25 near Avon (Haller et al). Canada Goose — one at Summerville Jan 13-14 (Carlson et al); one Jan 14 near Point Breeze (Listman); the spring flight of this species was good, high count 7500 moving past Braddock's Bay Mar 29 (Listman). No Blue or Snow Geese were reported in the area.

Gadwall — one Dec 12 Long Pond (Listman); one Mar 11 Ellison Park (Davis); two Mar 25 Groveland Flats (Listman). Pintail — two wintered on the Genesee River with a large flock of Mallards and Blacks that fed on waste grain mash from a nearby brewery; 1300 Groveland Flats Mar 24 (Tetlow). Green-winged Teal — a male present with other dabbling ducks on the Genesee River Dec 30 - Jan 14 (Starling et al). Blue-winged Teal — two Mar 24 (rather early) Buck Pond (O'Hara et al). Shoveler — two Mar 25 Groveland Flats (Listman). Wood Duck — 150 Groveland Flats Mar 24 (Tetlow). Canvasback — 300 Dec 23 Conesus Lake (Listman et al); 90 Feb 14 Sodus Bay (Kemnitzer); 12 Feb 21 Genesee River (O'Hara). Greater Scaup — 1100 Genesee River Feb 17 (Listman). Oldsquaw — 1300 off Sea Breeze Jan 14 (Foster). King Eider — season's only report was a single bird near Point Breeze Jan 14 (Listman). Surf Scoter — two Dec 10 off Sea Breeze (Kemnitzer, Lloyd); one on the Genesee River Jan 14-28 (Starling et al). Ruddy Duck — one Dec 28 Irondequoit Bay (Kemnitzer); one on the Genesee River from Feb 18 until well into Mar (Leo Miller et al).

Hawks — Owls: Turkey Vulture — three at Webster Mar 29, first this spring (Lloyd, Sunderlin). Goshawk — one Dec 6 Barre (Listman); one Mar 10 near Avon (Haller); two Mar 29 Braddock's Bay (during the hawk flight) (Listman). Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks — occasional winter reports, with more of the Cooper's; 35 Sharp-sh. and 40 Cooper's Mar 29 Braddock's Bay (Listman). Red-tailed and Rough-legged Hawks were relatively scarce along the Lake Ontario plain this past winter, possibly due to a small rodent population, but were much commoner inland with max. counts 17 Red-tailed Feb 11 Reed Road area (Foster,

Tetlow) and five Rough-legged Feb 10 same locality (Zeitler); 150 Red-tails Braddock's Bay Mar 29 (Listman). Red-shouldered Hawk — Mar 17 (first) Hamlin Park (GOS hike); **275** Mar 29 Braddock's Bay (Listman, Tetlow). Bald Eagle — one adult Summerville Mar 19 (Maley); four immatures Braddock's Bay Mar 29 (Listman, Tetlow); immature Buck Pond Mar 30 (Doherty, Schmanke). Pigeon Hawk — one Webster Mar 29 (Lloyd, Sunderlin).

Common Gallinule — one, probably injured, Dec 10 Salmon Creek (Listman). Killdeer — two wintered at Fisher's (Young). Woodcock — back in good numbers by the end of Mar and performing their interesting flight displays. Common Snipe — one wintered at Fisher's (Closs et al). Lesser Yellowlegs — one Mar 29 (early) at Braddock's Bay (Listman). Pectoral Sandpiper — three Mar 25 Grove-land Flats (Foley et al); three Braddock's Bay Mar 29 (Listman).

Glaucous Gull — one Mar 18 Sodus Bay (Peakall). Iceland Gull — one Jan 21 Summerville (Tetlow); one, possibly the same bird, Irondequoit Bay Mar 6-13 (Sunderlin et al). Great Black-backed Gull — notable are rather high counts of 60 along the lakeshore Jan 1 (Stewart) and 80 on Sodus Bay Mar 18 (Peakall). Bonaparte's Gull — two Irondequoit Bay Jan 20 (Listman).

Mourning Dove — wintered in good numbers; max. counts 100 Fowlerville Jan 1 (Listman) and 70 Penfield Jan 21 (Maley et al). Snowy Owl — one Dec 30 Rochester (Tanghe); one Feb 3 Sodus Bay (Foster et al); one around Braddock's Bay until Feb 10 (Starling et al); one in Avon area until Feb 15 (Haller); no reports after latter date. Long-eared Owl — one pair wintered near Avon (Haller); one in the "owl" woods near Braddock's Mar 10 (Carlson et al); at least seven wintered in dense conifer growth in Hamlin Park and were still present at end of period (Tetlow et al). Short-eared Owl — large concentration in Avon area early Dec, with 15 reported Dec 3 (Haller, Hyder); reports from farmers and fox hunters indicated that up to 100 may have been present early Dec; along the Lake Ontario plain this species, like the "mouse" hawks, was scarce. Saw-whet Owl — one Jan 21 Greece (Tetlow).

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Belted Kingfisher — wintered generally in small numbers, max. count three Mar 4 Penfield (Foster et al). Flicker — also wintered generally, max. count four Jan 2 Tryon Park (Miller). Pileated Woodpecker — one Dec 30 Maplewood Park Rochester (Tanghe); one Jan 21 Walworth (Spencer). Sapsucker — one Dec 18 (very late) Bushnell's Basin (Dakin). Phoebe — three Mar 29 (first) Braddock's Bay (Listman).

Horned Lark — large numbers during late Jan and Feb with max. counts 150 Feb 11 Reed Road area (Tetlow et al) and 150 Jan 21 Penfield (Maley et al); most of the birds in the large flocks were typical "alpestris" while "praticola" moved into its nesting territories slightly later. Tree Swallow — one Mar 29 (first of season) Braddock's Bay (Listman). Common Crow: 11,000 counted while going to roost Mount Hope Cemetery Rochester Dec 31 (Foley et al). Boreal Chickadee — one Hamlin Park Jan 6 (Foster et al). Tufted Titmouse — 17 counted at feeders in the Christmas Count area Dec 30; it is believed that between 30-40 birds were present at feeders in the entire region. Red-breasted Nuthatch — wintered in very small numbers. Winter Wren — two Jan 13 Fisher's (Tetlow et al). Carolina Wren — unreported since last summer. Long-billed Marsh Wren — one Tryon Park Dec 27 (Miller). Mockingbird — one Webster Dec 30 - Jan 20 (Sunderlin et al); one wintered successfully at Fisher's (Imms et al) and began singing about mid-Mar; one appeared at a feeder in Greece Feb 13-16 (Rohner). Brown Thrasher — one Forest Lawn Dec 9 (Starling et al); one, possibly same bird, Webster Feb 17 (Starling, Sunderlin). Robin — about 20 wintered in Durand, with scattered winter reports from other localities; 2,000 seen migrating past Braddock's Bay Mar 29 (Listman). Eastern Bluebird — seven near Victor Feb 22 - Mar 4 (Dakins, Whites, et al); one at Fisher's Mar 31 (Foley et al). Water Pipit — two Mar 29 Braddock's Bay (Listman); eight Mar 31 near Mendon (Tetlow et al). Bohemian Waxwing — five Durand-Eastman Park Dec 3 (Davis, Lloyd); one to three were frequently reported during Dec with the last one seen Dec 26 (Miller); one Dec 23 near Hemlock Lake with Cedar Waxwings (Foster et al); two Webster Feb 17-18 (Lloyd et al). Cedar Waxwing — widely distributed with high counts of 100 Durand-Eastman Park Dec 3 (Davis, Lloyd) and 118 in Webster Feb 18 (GOS hike). Northern Shrike — frequently reported with max. count of three along the west lakeshore Mar 24 (O'Hara et al).

Vireos — Warblers: Myrtle Warbler — one wintered in Brighton (Landsman, Lank), one at Cedar Springs, and one in Reed Road Swamp (Starling); at least six wintered near Avon (Haller). In none of these areas is any bayberry known to exist. A bird that may possibly have been a very early migrant was seen in Durand-Eastman Park Mar 29 (Miller).

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Eastern Meadowlark — wintered generally and in good numbers, with max. 15 in Greece Dec 30 (Closs) and 22 in Victor Feb 22 (Whites). Red-winged Blackbird — 20 at Dugway Jan 2 (Miller), and other small groups were seen frequently during the winter; migrating birds totalling 100 arrived in the marshes in Greece Mar 7 (Closs); an estimated 8000 migrated past Braddock's Bay Mar 29 (Listman). Grackle — two at the Dugway Jan 2 (Miller); an estimated 2000 at Braddock's Bay Mar 29 (Listman). Cowbird — wintered in good numbers, with a max. count of 100 at the Munson feeder in Penfield during Feb; an estimated 1500 at Braddock's Bay Mar 29 (Listman). Cardinal — present in good numbers everywhere, with a max. count of 17 at the Robinson feeder in Egypt. Dickcissel — one trapped and banded at the Munson feeder in Penfield Dec 11; it seems remarkable that this casual species should have occurred at this one feeder during the late fall for the last three years. Evening and Pine Grosbeak — generally distributed in good numbers, with a high count of 187 Evenings on the "Little Lakes" count Dec 23 and 113 Pines on the Christmas Count Dec 30; 25 Pines still present at the Sunderlin feeder in Webster Mar 29. Purple Finch — in contrast, almost completely absent; only report since Jan 1 a single bird at the Olin feeder in Fairport Mar 27. Common Redpoll — occurred in fair numbers, largest flock 120 in Greece Mar 10 (Carlson et al); a few other flocks of 6-12 were also reported. Pine Siskin — only report since Jan 1 was of a flock of four near Float Bridge Jan 7 (Miller). Red Crossbill — six Penfield Dec 23 (McKinney). White-winged Crossbill — 23 Canadice Lake Dec 23 (McKinney). No other crossbill reports.

Savannah Sparrow — two near Braddock's Bay Mar 31 (Listman). Vesper Sparrow — one carefully observed near Mendon Mar 4 (Foster, Maley, Miller); 12 near Braddock's Bay Mar 31 (Listman). Oregon Junco — a well-marked bird frequented a feeder in Greece from Feb 5 to at least Feb 23 (Izards et al); several other less definite reports of this species were received. Field Sparrow — three Conesus Lake Dec 23 (Listman); one near Glen Haven Jan 1 (Lloyd, Miller); first migrant reported Mar 29 near Braddock's Bay (Listman). White-crowned Sparrow — wintered in unprecedented numbers, with a high count of 20 birds at one feeder in Scottsville Mar 3 (Culver, Starling); until three years ago we had no winter records of this species (it would be interesting to know what has caused this change in the bird's wintering range). White-throated Sparrow — wintered in less spectacular, but still above-average numbers, with a high count of seven at the Dakin feeder in Bushnell's Basin Jan 31. Fox Sparrow — two near Braddock's Bay Mar 29 (Listman) and four at Webster Mar 31 (Sunderlin) represent the first arrivals. Song Sparrow — 150 Braddock's Bay area Mar 29 (Listman). Lapland Longspur — frequently reported, with a max. count of 100 near Scottsville Feb 11 (Foster, Tetlow).

54 Luella Street, Rochester 9

REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

SALLY F. HOYT

The Region experienced one of the mildest winters in many years. The total precipitation and the average temperature do not show the whole picture. There were many frequent light snowfalls, but accumulation was never more than eight inches and natural food was not buried. Temperatures averaged slightly above normal, but the noteworthy fact was that there were almost no periods of extreme cold, except on Feb 11 when it was lower than -20 in some spots. Except in Jan, prevailing winds were northwest, but not strong. Seeming scarcities of some species may not have been actualities. With natural food everywhere, birds did not have to patronize feeding stations or come close to civilization.