

Vireos — Warblers: White-eyed Vireo: 1, May 12, Hamburg (TLB). A brief study of April warbler reports beginning in 1947 shows several interesting items that make April 1962 especially outstanding warbler-wise. A total of 17 species of warblers were reported in April 1962. The highest previous total since 1947 was 13 species in 1949. The average over the 16 year period is eight species. Five species were observed in April this year for the first time since 1947 — Golden-winged, Black-throated Gray, Chestnut-sided, Prairie and Ovenbird. Prothonotary Warbler: 1 (singing male), May 4, Hamburg (TLB); 7, May 17 and 4, May 20 at OOGMA (regular breeding locality) (HDM, RB et al). Golden-winged Warbler: 1, Apr 30 (unusually early), Hamburg, (TLB). "Brewster's" Warbler: 1, Tonawanda Indian Reservation, May 30 (BN et al). Orange-crowned Warbler: 1, Apr 30 (unusually early), Silver Creek (RB et al). Black-throated Gray Warbler: 1, (singing male), Apr 28-29, near Portland, Chautauqua Co. (HDM et al); the second record for the region, the first being for May 11, 1930 at OOGMA. Cerulean Warbler: 1, Apr 29 (unusually early), near Portland (RCR et al). Pine Warbler: 1, Apr 21, Hamburg (TLB); 1, Apr 28, Angola (GGW et al); 1, Apr 30, near Portland (RB et al). Prairie Warbler: influx in late April and early May is unprecedented here; 1, Apr 29, near Portland (KPA et al); 1, Apr 29, Point Gratiot (KPA et al); 1, May 6, near Lake Erie State Park (RCR et al). Palm Warbler: 75 (unusually high number), Apr 29, Dunkirk-Portland area (KPA et al). Ovenbird: 1, Apr 29, Clarence (MW); 1, Apr 30, Hamburg (KPA). Connecticut Warbler: 1, May 26, Delaware Park, Buffalo (BN et al); 1, May 28, near Youngstown (RCR). Mourning Warbler: most observers thought this species was more abundant than in recent years. American Redstart: 2, Apr 28 (unusually early), near Portland (RP et al).

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Black-headed Grosbeak: the bird noted in the last report at a feeding station near Holland, Erie Co. remained there until Apr 8 (DD). Evening Grosbeak: flocks gradually diminished in number during May in the Hamburg-East Aurora area where they are usually most abundant; most birds had left by May 17-18; flight along south shore of Lake Erie occurred Apr 26-30 and May 12-15; maximum count of 180, May 12, over Lake View (KPA). Pine Grosbeak: 1, Apr 5, near Jamestown (CB); 3, Apr 8, OOGMA (HDM et al). Common Redpoll: 3, Apr 1 (last date), Hamburg (KPA). Pine Siskin: no reports. Red Crossbill: 3, Apr 21, Hamburg (TLB). Lark Sparrow: 1 (adult), May 2-3, Dunkirk (AS et al); first record in recent years. Slate-colored Junco: 2000 estimated (unusually high count), Apr 1, between Jamestown and Dunkirk (RP et al).

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REGION 2—GENESEE

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The first two weeks of the period were very cold. Five inches of snow fell in Rochester on April 1, and snow flurries were frequent until the 15th, with heavier snowfall in the hill country to the south. A warming trend then started on the 16th and the rest of April was above average, temperaturewise. The first two weeks of May were average but a torrid spell occurred from the 14th to 21st, bringing four days of 90°, and three other days of high 80°. The last ten days of the month were nearer normal, but even so, the month was the third hottest May in Rochester Weather Bureau records. Precipitation for both months was slightly below normal.

The migration of land birds was well behind average until April 21. On this date, an early April migrant like the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was nearly if not completely absent. However, a marked wave arrived on the night of Apr 21-22 and, spurred by above average temperatures, the migration was ahead of average by the end of the month. The weekend of Apr 28-29 produced probably the best April birding this area has ever seen.

The first part of May produced nothing much in the way of definite waves. Peak numbers were probably reached on the 13 and 20, but these movements were confined entirely to the lakeshore; and inland areas had relatively poor migratory movements. The weekend of May 27-28 produced little and Decoration Day produced the usual late-arriving cuckoos, flycatchers, and a few warblers.

Among the outstanding birds reported were Western Grebe, Cattle Egret, Snowy Egret, Glossy Ibis, an unprecedented flight of Whimbrels, White-eyed Vireo, Worm-eating Warbler and Dickcissel.

The following abbreviations are used below: L Ont — Lake Ontario; Pultn — Pultneyville; HSP — Hamlin State Park; Web P — Webster Park; HL — Hawk Lookout.

Loons — Ducks: The peak of the spring loon flight was reached Apr 26 when 350 Common and 150 Red-throated Loons were at Pultn (B & Al E. Kemnitzer). A few of the former were present on L Ont until the end of the period, and three of the latter were at Web. P May 12 (AEK). Two Red-necked Grebes at Port Bay Apr 8 (AEK) were our only report for this species. 1200 Horned Grebe between Irondequoit Bay and Web P Apr 23 (AEK) was a high peak count for this species. A Western Grebe was carefully studied under favorable conditions at Pultn Apr 26 (B & AEK).

The first Cattle Egret of the year was at Parma Apr 28 (Richard T O'Hara et al). Several other reports of single birds were received, a flock of 15 at Scottsville May 17 (Mrs. Jeanne Haller) and 9 at Clarkson May 18 (Mr. and Mrs. Howard Neugle). A Common Egret at Braddock's Bay Apr 26 (Walter C. Listman) and one at Long Pond Apr 28 (John Foster et al). A Snowy Egret at Manitou May 13 (WCL et al). A Glossy Ibis at Manitou Apr 26 (WCL), and two were seen in the same general area Apr 29 — May 7 (Stephen B. Oresman et al).

Whistling Swans were comparatively scarce, a flock of seven on the Groveland Flats May 5 (JH) being the largest number reported. Two weeks later the area was bone dry. Brant were likewise scarce, a flock seen well out in L Ont off Manitou May 20 (Joseph Taylor et al) being the only report. Snow and Blue Geese were unreported. An European Widgeon was in the Parma vicinity Apr 28-May 7 (Howard S. Miller et al). 5 Common Goldeneyes at Manitou May 19 (RTO et al). This is a rather late date for this number.

Hawks — Owls: The peak dates for the April hawk flights were the 22 and 25. In May, the birds "dribbled" through on almost constant S W winds. Peak counts were: Turkey Vulture — 22 at HL Apr 22 (Gerald Rising et al); Sharp-shinned Hawk — 350 same place and same date; Broad-winger Hawk — 3400 HL Apr 25 (AEK et al); Rough-legged Hawk — 58 HL Apr 21 (GOS hike). This seemed to be an unfavorable day for a hawk flight with a WNW wind. An adult Bald Eagle was near Avon Apr 6 (JH). A max. of three immatures at HL Apr 25 (AEK et al). Single Peregrine Falcons were along the west lakeshore May 7, 12 and 25 (RTO et al). An early Pigeon Hawk was at Sodus Bay Apr 8 (AEK), one at Pultn Apr 22 (AEK) and one at Manitou May 13 (JT et al).

The early part of the spring shorebird flight was at least average, with good numbers of both Yellowlegs and Pectoral Sandpipers present. The late May flight, in contrast to a year ago, was disappointing. An Am. Golden Plover, a rare spring migrant in our area, was in Parma May 13 (AEK). Two Black-bellied Plover, usually a fairly common spring migrant, were in Clarkson May 19 (HSM et al). A single Whimbrel was at Manitou May 26 (WCL) and an unprecedented flock of 120 was migrating past Web P the next day (AEK). A very early White-rumped Sandpiper was with a small flock of Pectoral Sandpipers in Clarkson Apr 28 (RTO et al). A Baird's Sandpiper, an accidental spring migrant in this area, was carefully observed at Manitou May 11 (WCL). An Iceland Gull, rare all winter, was at Manitou May 26 (HSM et al). A Little Gull was at Web P May 27 (AEK).

A Saw-Whet Owl, rare this spring, was at HSP Apr 8 (GOS hike). The bird was caught and photographed.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Common Nighthawk arrived May 14 and, due to the steady hot weather was common within a few days. Pileated Woodpecker — one May 14 Seneca Park, Rochester (Peter Zachmann). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker did not arrive until Apr 20, one of the latest arrival dates on record. Olive-sided Flycatchers — frequently reported with max. of three May 30 along the west lakeshore (Alfred Starling et al). Tufted Titmice were reported several times, but the Carolina Wren was unreported. Singing Short-billed Marsh Wrens were heard in several places where the species has been unreported for some time.

A Mockingbird was reported several times in the Manitou area (Leo Miller et al) and three were in Webster May 27 (AEK). Both Swainson's and Graycheeked Thrushes seemed to be very scarce, with only a relatively few of the former reported. Only one report of the latter was received, a single bird in Island Cottage woods May 20 (David H. Perry). Eastern Blue birds seemed up in numbers slightly. Single pairs nested in Webster, Mendon and Parma. Five were at Manitou May 30 (WCL). Cedar Waxwings — 175 at Durand Apr 28 (Joseph and Thelma McNett), and good numbers were reported late in the period.

Vireos — Warblers: A White-eyed Vireo was carefully observed at Island Cottage Woods May 19 (Frank Schmanke et al) and a very early Philadelphia Vireo was at Letchworth May 5 (JF). A Worm-eating Warbler along the river bank near Cottage St. in Rochester May 1 (Thomas E. Tetlow et al). Three Blue-winged Warblers were at Letchworth May 5 (Mrs. Sue Clark et al). An Orange-crowned Warbler was at Manitou Apr 28 (RTO et al) and another was in the same place May 14 (WCL). Parula Warblers seemed scarce. Blackpoll Warblers arrived early, with 15 in the Island Cottage area on May 20 (J & TM). Pine Warblers were reported frequently with two at Manitou Apr 29 (Robert White et al). Single Prairie Warblers were in Braddock's Bay area May 6, 12, and 26, (Miss Margaret Foley et al). 25 Palm Warblers in Durand-Eastman Park May 5 (Bruce Brown et al) is a high count. The only report of the Connecticut Warbler was one bird in Island Cottage Woods May 20 (DP). Two pairs of Yellow-breasted Chats nested in Mendon Ponds Park (AS) but otherwise the species seemed rather scarce.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: An adult male Dickcissel was at a feeder on Lake Road, Webster, May 16 (J & TM et al). There was a heavy spring flight of Evening Grosbeaks, with a high count of 300 at Manitou May 13 (Robert G. McKinney). The last straggler was seen in the same place May 24 (WCL). The last Common Redpoll was at Manitou Apr 22 (WCL). Pine Siskins were very scarce, only a few scattered birds being reported. This was in sharp contrast to a year ago when they were reported in flocks of hundreds. No Crossbills were reported. Slate-colored Juncos seemed very common, with flocks of over a hundred birds being reported around mid April. An adult Oregon Junco was at a feeder on Lake Road, Webster, from Apr 2-15 (Mrs. Maryann Sunderlin et al). A very, very late Tree Sparrow was at Manitou May 20 (John Brown et al).

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

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April was fairly normal in rainfall and temperature until the last week. From April 25, through the first week in May, a hot spell brought in the migrants following cold, wet weather from Apr 20-25. This period was followed by a few days, May 8-14, when there seemed to be no birds — the early arrivals had left, (no new ones came until mid-May. In most areas, no warbler wave was noted, but at Jasper, trees were alive with warblers May 14 and 15 (Margeson). Certain Warblers were unusually scarce as Cape Mays and Black-throated Greens.

In the over-all picture, migration was not far different from normal, except that some birds seemed to come in ahead of schedule (Cuckoos, Pewees, most Swallows, Baltimore Orioles, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and the 'field' Sparrows), while others were late (Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Catbirds, Swainson's Thrushes).