

Golden-crowned Kinglet: small flocks, Saranac Apr 20-21 (HD). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Chazy Apr 22. Water Pipit: 18, unusually good record, May 9; two May 10 and 16 May 11; Raybrook May 11 (Keji). Loggerhead Shrike: many records in the Saranac area in Apr (HD). Northern Shrike: Chazy Apr 8 & 14 (FS).

Vireos — Warblers: Blue-headed Vireo: arr Saranac May 15. Red-eyed Vireo: Saranac May 15; Chazy May 19. Warbling Vireo: arr Keeseville May 11. Black & White Warbler: at Chazy May 19 and Tupper May 20. Tennessee: at Chazy & Saranac May 19. Nashville: Saranac May 15; Chazy May 27. Parula: arr Saranac May 18, seen near last years' nest May 27 (HD). Yellow: Saranac May 9. Magnolia: arr Saranac May 15; Chazy May 19. Black-throated Blue: Saranac May 18. Myrtle: arr Saranac Apr 27. Black-throated Green: Paul Smiths May 7, back in numbers at Saranac by May 16. Bay-breasted: Saranac May 17. Blackburnian: Saranac May 16; Chazy May 19. Chestnut-sided: Saranac May 14; Chazy May 19. Ovenbird: one Saranac May 16. Northern Waterthrush: Saranac May 16; Chazy May 19. Mourning Warbler: arr Saranac May 17. Yellowthroat: Saranac May 13. Canada: Saranac May 13. Redstart: Saranac May 13; Chazy May 19.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Bobolink: arr Sunmount and Chazy May 14, 20; Saranac May 16. Baltimore Oriole: arr Keeseville May 15, Saranac May 17. Grackle: large numbers at Saranac in late Apr. Scarlet Tanager: L Alice May 16; Saranac May 17. At Trembleau Mt. on Apr 21, 17 grosbeaks were seen 'budding' in an elm tree. Upon observation they appeared to be Black-headed Grosbeaks. An attempt to collect a specimen was unsuccessful so the record is only probable since I am unfamiliar with the species (TL). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Saranac May 15. Indigo Bunting: arr L Alice May 19. Evening Grosbeak: at Saranac the last flock of ten May 19; last pair, May 24; still present at the end of period at L Alice. Purple Finch: Keeseville Apr 27, reported as very late returning at Saranac, 17 (peak number) May 7. Redpoll: Keeseville Apr 2; L Alice Apr 5. Pine Siskin: near Port Kent May 19. Goldfinch: arr Chazy Apr 21; Saranac May 5. Red Crossbill: Apr 22 Raybrook (Keji).

Savannah Sparrow: Keeseville Apr 3. Vesper Sparrow: back early Apr, Saranac. Tree Sparrow: good numbers through Apr at Saranac, last, May 9. Chipping: arr L Alice Apr 22; Keeseville and Raybrook Apr 28. Field: Keeseville Apr 5. White-crowned: arr Saranac Apr 30; max. ten May 9; last May 23. White-throated: arr Saranac Apr 26. Fox Sparrow: reported Apr 1-26, more records than usual (HD). Song Sparrow: peak during period, 24, Apr 2, migration about over by Apr 22. Snow Bunting: Saranac Apr 4 (last). Lapland Longspur: in early April every flock of Horned Larks had three — five Longspurs mixed within, there was probably several hundred Longspurs in the area. Keeseville.

REGION 8 — MOHAWK-HUDSON

WALTON B. SABIN

April weather statistically was close to normal. However most of the rainfall occurred during the first half of the month with the result that dry weather set in rapidly and from the 17th through the 28th it became increasingly dry. During this period unusually windy days with low humidity produced a very serious fire hazard and many forest and grass fires developed. The highest temperature of the month, 91°, occurred on the 27th, the lowest of 21° on the 4th and the average for the month was 47.0° +0.8° above normal. Precipitation totaled 3.25", or 0.48" above normal. May was one of the driest months on record with total precipitation of 1.40", or 2.07" below normal. Soil moisture was well below normal at the close of the month and crops and gardens were showing definite need of rain. Lawns were beginning to show brown. Scattered frost occurred in the area on the 10th and 12th when many areas suffered widespread damage to early plants. There was a heat wave May 18-20 with record high temperatures. All in all it was a warm dry spring.

The last few days of March caused some species to come north the first week in April, much earlier than usual. After this things reverted back to normal with another period of influx during the last week of the month. May waves were by and large non-existent with peaks and troughs pretty much leveled off. The only excep-

tion to this apparently occurred on May 15 when many observers reported great numbers of migrating warblers, etc., passing through. Region 8 was briefly invaded by Cattle Egrets, apparently splinter groups from those moving up the Middle Atlantic and New England coasts. Rare unusual, or uncommon species reported during this period, in addition to the Cattle Egrets, were: Snowy Egret, European Teal, Barrow's Goldeneye, Black Vulture, Red-shafted Flicker, Summer Tanager, and Blue Grosbeak.

Abbreviations used: — Alan Devoe Bird Club-ADBC; Greene County Bird Club-GCBC; Schenectady Bird Club-SBC; Black Creek Marshes-BICr Marsh; Niskayuna Widewaters-Nisk Nw; Road-Rd; County-Co.; River-R.

Loons — Ducks: Loon: one Apr 6, Saratoga Lake before all the ice was gone out (Donald J. Tucker-DJT): 14 May 19 at Alcove Res (Walton B. Sabin-WBS, R. F. Korn, H. Ingraham, P. P. Wickham-PPW). Red-thr. Loon: one May 19, Alcove Res (WBS et al). Horned Grebe: two Apr 2, Vly Creek Res (Mary L. Shedd-MLS); six May 6, Niskayuna Widewaters (Gus Angst-GA, Esly Hallenbeck-EH). Pied-b. Grebe: two Apr 4 Stony Creek Res (Hazel Eddy-HE); one Apr 4 BI Cr Marsh (MLS). Great Blue Heron: one Apr 4 Hudson (Henry Thurston-HT). Common Egret: ten May 15 at Catskill (James H Bush-JHB). Snowy Egret: one May 4 at Nisk Ww (EH). Cattle Egret: 12 Apr 26 at Claverack (HT); 20 Apr 30 at Selkirk (Helen Budlong); 14 May 1 Scotia (EH); two May 12 at S. Schdack (George Mesick); newspaper reports indicated possibly as many as 40 birds were in the Glens Falls area in Apr-probably this species, judging by sketchy descriptions. Green Heron: one Apr 27 at Ghent (Georgia Erlendbach-GE). Black-cr, Nt. Heron: one May 5 Claverack (HT). Am. Bittern: one May 5 at BI Cr Marsh (MLS). Canada Goose: 23 Apr 4 Nick Ww (HE); heavy flights on Apr 22, 23 (many observers); 1500+ May 20 at Claverack (HT). Snow Geese: 50 Apr 4 at Stockport (Marjorie Foote-MF); 25 Apr 6 Stockport (fide HT); four Apr 7 at Round L and 100+ at Glens Falls (fide Marcia Kent-MK); 40+ Apr 8 at Cohoes (fide WBS); 11 Apr 19 at Crescent Bridge (fide MK). Black Duck: nest with nine eggs Apr 26 at Karner Rd in Colonie (John Fuller-JF). Am. Widgeon: six Apr 19 at BI Cr Marsh (Phil Clark, EH). Pintail: one May 6 Stony Creek Res (DJT). Green-w Teal: one May 19 on Century Run (SBC). European Teal: one Apr 5 at Vischer Ferry (DJT); "this single bird was in company with Green-w Teal, the horizontal wing stripe readily seen, observed at distances of 20 yards for about 15 minutes, was apparently courting the same female as a male Green-w Teal"; first record of this species for region 8. Shoveler: two Apr 21 at Vosburgh marsh, Coxsackie (GCBC). Redhead: two May 19 Vly Creek Res, these may not have been stocked birds (WBS et al). Ring-nk Duck: one May 6 Stony Creek Res (DJT). Canvasback: two Apr 4 Stony Creek Res (HE, EH). Greater Scaup: one identified out of flock of 30 scaup Apr 6 Saratoga L (DJT). Lesser scaup: one May 6 Stony Creek Res (EH). Scaup Duck, Species (?): one female May 27 Sacandaga Res (WBS, Robert Shedd). Common Goldeneye: seven Apr 25 Alcove Res (MK). Barrow's Goldeneye: adult male Apr 20 Saratoga L (MLS). Bufflehead: six Apr 6 Saratoga L (DJT); six May 6 at Nisk. Ww (EH). Oldsquaw: one May 6 Nisk Ww (WBS et al). White-w. Scoter: one May 6 Stony Creek Res (EH). Surf Scoter: two May 6 Stony Creek Res (GA, EH). Red-br Merganser: four Apr 4 Vischer Ferry (EH); eight May 6 at Nisk Ww (WBS et al).

Hawks — Owls: Black Vulture: group of 12 seen May 18 near Casleton (Lee Burland-LB), who is thoroughly familiar with this species. Goshawk: one Apr 8 & 21 at Old Chatham (LB, E. M. Reilly-EMR); the latter bird was observed to strike, kill and eat a Ruffed Grouse. Red-should. Hawk: one Apr 15 Stony Creek Res. (EH). Broad-w. Hawk: one in Columbia Co. Apr 6 (ADBC). Rough-leg. Hawk: last one May 12 Old Chatham (Fed. of N Y St Bird Clubs). Bald Eagle: one Apr 18 at Hudson (HT); one May 6 at Medusa (MK). Osprey: one Apr 7 (first) near Stockport (SBC). Virginia Rail: one Apr 8 (first) BI Cr Marsh (MLS). Sora: two Apr 27 BI Cr Marsh (PPW, Beverly Waite-BW). Com. Gallinule: one Apr 28 BI Cr Marsh (PPW et al). Coot: one Apr 21 BI Cr Marsh (MLS); one May 12 Vischer Ferry (Mabel W. French). Semipalmated Plover: one May 19 Niskayuna (Alice Holmes). Black-bell. Plover: one May 1 Nisk Ww (HE, EH). Com. Snipe: peak around May 6 when 10 were seen and flushed at Nisk Ww. (DJT et al). Upland Plover: first one Apr Delmar (fide WBS). Spotted Snodpiper: generally reported first Apr 29. Solitary Sandpiper: one Apr 28 BI Cr Marsh (WBS, PPW). Greater Yellowlegs: three Apr 29

Ghent (C. Mapes). Lesser Yellowlegs: three Apr 20 along the Mohawk R (DJT). Pectoral Sandpiper: one May 6 Nisk Ww. (WBS et al). White-rump. Sandpiper: one Apr 28 at Catskill (GCBC). Least Sandpiper: one May 5 Nisk Ww. (MF). Dunlin: one Apr 5 BI Cr Marsh (HE). Semipalm. Sandpiper: one May 19 Nisk Ww. (L. Stoner). Western Sandpiper: five May 19 Nisk Ww. (MF, EH). Black-b Gull: a late first year bird May 6 Nisk Ww. (WBS et al). Bonaparte's Gull: three Apr 2 on Mohawk R. (EH); one May 6 Nisk Ww. (DJT et al). Com. Tern: one Apr 29 Nisk Ww. (DJT). Black Tern: three May 9 at Lock 7 (PC, EH). Yellow-b Cuckoo: one May 3 (first) Ghent (GE). Black-b Cuckoo: one May 11 (first) Catskill (JHB). Barn Owl: one found shot Apr 23 at Karner Rd, Colonie (JF); one May 18 in old church tower in Claverack (HT). Saw-whet Owl: Apr 20 to May 2 Karner Rd, Colonie (JF).

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Whip-poor-will: one May 7 near Westerlo (MK). Night-hawk: three Apr 9 (early) Duaneburg (HE); one Apr 23 & 27 Westerlo (MK). Chimney Swift: Apr 21 Ghent (GE). Hummingbird: one May 6 Loudonville (M. W. French). Red-shafted Flicker: one May 5 at Preston Hollow (fide V. Haskins). Red-head. Woodpecker: one May 19 at Indian Ladder (B. Hicks). Yellow-b Sapsucker: four Apr 9 in Columbia Co (ADBC). Kingbird: one Apr 8 Lawrenceville, Greene Co (JHB); one May 1 Ghent (GE). Crested Flycatcher: two Apr 26 & 30 near Westerlo (MK); one May 1 Ghent (GE). Yellow-b Flycatcher: one May 4 Nisk Ww. (EH). Trail's Flycatcher: several May 18 BI Cr Marsh (BW). Least Flycatcher: two May 5 Old Chatham (PPW). Wood Pewee: one Apr 1 (early) Catskill (JHB); one Apr 21 Ghent (GE); one Apr 29 River Rd., Nisk. (SBC). Olive-s Flycatcher: one May 12 Old Chatham (ADBC); one May 19 at Nassau and near Voorheesville (BS, WBS et al, respectively); one May 22 Catskill (JHB).

Bank Swallow: several May 6 Nisk Ww. (PPW et al). Barn Swallow: one Apr 12 Ghent (GE); one Apr 14 Saratoga L (SBC). Cliff Swallow: one May 12 Burnt Hills (MF). Purple Martin: seven Apr 29 River Rd., Nisk. (SBC). Boreal Chickadee: two Apr 13 (last) near Rensselaerville (fide WBS); one remained until Apr 24 at Broderick St., Colonie (JF). House Wren: one Apr 26 Catskill (JHB); generally reported Apr 27. Winter Wren: one Apr 20 Karner Rd., Colonie (JF); singing male May 11 at Indian Ladder where it usually nests (WBS); at least two singing males May 27 at Crane Mt., Warren Co (WBS, R. Shedd). Long-b Marsh Wren: several Apr 28 BI Cr Marsh (WBS et al). Mockingbird: in Apr at Ghent and Claverack (GE, HT respect.); one May 17 Catskill (JHB); one May 25 to 31 S. Schodack (ADBC). Catbird: one present all winter, Dec. 6 to Apr 27, when migrants arrived, Broderick St. Colonie (JF). Brown Thrasher: one Apr 26 Ghent (GE). Wood Thrush: one Apr 3 (early) Old Chatham (EMR); one Apr 24 Durham (V. Haskins); one May 2 Defreestville (PPW). Hermit Thrush: one Apr 25 Schenectady (DJT). Swainson's Thrush: May 19 in Albany Co (SBC). Veery: one May 4 Kiskaton (JHB). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: one May 4 near New Salem (fide WBS); one May 6 River Rd., Niskayuna (GA, EH); two May 22 Mossy Hill Rd, Catskill (JHB). Golden-cr Kinglet: one May 27 Crane Mt., Warren Co where it may nest (RS, WBS). Ruby-cr Kinglet one May 14 Ghent (GE). Water Pipit: 30 Apr 5 BI Cr Marsh (MLS); May 4 (last) at Ghent (GE). Loggerhead Shrike: one Apr 3 near Westerlo (MK); one Apr 6 at Albany airport (DJT).

Vireos — Warblers: Yellow-th Vireo: one May 5 Burnt Hills (MF). Solitary Vireo: one Apr 24 Schenectady (HE, EH). Red-eyed Vireo: May 12 (first) Old Chatham (ADBC). Warbling Vireo: two Apr 29 Vischer Ferry (DJT).

Warbler arrival dates were as follows: Black & White: Apr 27 at Red Rock (M. Smilow); Worm-eating: May 11 Indian Ladder (WBS). Golden-winged: May 6 generally. Blue-winged: May 5 Ghent (GE). Brewster's: May 12 Indian Ladder (SBC). Tennessee: May 14 Ghent (GE). Nashville: Apr 29 Defreestville (PPW). Parula: Apr 28 Slingerlands (PPW). Yellow: Apr 1 (early) Catskill (JHB); Apr 16 at Nassau (B. Shineman). Magnolia: May 11 at Vly Creek Res (WBS). Cape May: May 6 River Rd Nisk. (GA) and Defreestville (PPW). Black-thr Blue: Apr 30 Catskill (JHB). Myrtle: Apr 24 BI Cr Marsh (MLS). Black-thr Green: May 4 Troy (PPW). Blackburnian: Apr 29 River Rd., Nisk. (DJT). Chestnut-s: May 6 River Rd., Nisk. (GA). Bay-br: May 10 Catskill (JHB). Blackpoll: May 19 Claverack (HT) and Indian Ladder (MLS). Pine: Apr 26 Old Chatham (LB). Prairie: May 7 Catskill (JHB). Palm: Apr 24 BI Cr Marsh (MLS). Ovenbird: Apr 29 near New Salem (fide WBS). Nor. Waterthrush: Apr 29 River Rd., Nisk. (DJT). La. Waterthrush: Apr 18

Red Rock (MS). Kentucky: May 16 & 19 Ghent (GE). Connecticut: May 6 Old Chatham (ADBC). Yellowthroat: Apr 29 Catskill (JHB). Yellowlbr Chat: two May 19 Bl Cr Marsh (WBS et al). Wilson's: May 5 Catskill (JHB). Canda: May 12 Old Chatham (ADBC). Redstart: May 1 Ghent (GE).

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Bobolink: one May 2 Bl Cr. Marsh (JF). Orchard Oriole: one Apr 29 Catskill (E. Rusack); pair May 12 on, started nest building May 19 at Castleton (J. Cook). Baltimore Oriole: one Apr 19 Schenectady (HE). Rusty Blackbird: one May 11 Wolf Hollow (MF). Scarlet Tanager: one May 5 Slingerlands (WBS). Summer Tanager: one May 6 Embough, Catskill (GCBC). Rose-br Grosbeak: one Apr 29 Ghent (GE). Blue Grosbeak: one adult male May 6 Delmar (fide, A. H. Benton); one first year male May 21 near New Salem fide (WBS). Indigo Bunting: one Apr 25 Durham (V. Haskins); one Apr 26 Catskill (JHB). Evening Grosbeak: last one recorded May 22 in Columbia Co (ADBC). Redpoll: one Apr 28 Bl Cr Marsh (BW et al); one May 19 L. Taghkanic (T. Brown). Pine Siskin: six May 17 Castleton (LB). Towhee: one Apr 3 Old Chatham (EMR).

Savannah Sparrow: one Apr 3 Old Chatham (EMR). Grasshopper Sparrow: one May 6 Castleton (LB). Henslow's Sparrow: several May 6 Bl Cr Marsh (WBS et al). Slate-col. Junco: last migrant May 14 in most areas. Oregon Junco: the wintering bird reported last period remained until Apr 14 at Broderick St., Colonie (JF). Tree Sparrow: last one May 8 Old Chatham (EMR). White-cr Sparrow: one immature Apr 2 Schenectady (HE); one Apr 17 Chatham (E. La Pointe); Last seen May 22 in Columbia Co (ADBC). White-thr Sparrow: several Apr 9 Albany (L. Novak). Fox Sparrow: one May 25 (very late) Catskill (JHB). Lincoln's Sparrow: one Apr 15 (only report) Catskill (JHB). — 652 Kenwood Avenue, Slingerlands

REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

The Warming trend that started in March continued into April to make this one of the more pleasurable springs of recent years. When winter cold departed, it remained departed. In precipitation, April was near normal, but May was very dry. Weather-wise, conditions were relatively constant which probably accounts for the broad, steady flow of migrant birds without a real peak noted. Fred Hough calls the season "unexciting", and Bob Deed refers to it as "dull". It was not without its exciting moments, however, if not in numbers then in "finds". The Gnatcatcher population is like never before with reports from every county but Ulster and Putnam. Loons, northern ducks and northern finches lingered extremely long and the Cattle Egret was reported more often than before.

**Abbreviations used in this report are: each county-first four letters, Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Sullivan, Ulster and Westchester; island-ls; Reservoir-res; Mearns' Bird Club-MBC; Waterman Bird Club-WBC; Rockland Audubon Society-RAS.

Loons — Ducks: Common Loon: Arrived on time throughout the area, but lingered late; two on Highland Res. near Middletown, Oran, May 8, (Iris Dean-ID); two, on Tomahawk Lake near Washingtonville, Oran, May 19 (MBC); two on Cross River Res., West. (Stanley O Grierson-SOG); one on Washington Lake, Newburgh (Martha Earl-ME). Red-throated Loon: Always a rarity in the region; one at Kay's Pond, Pleasant Valley, Dutch on Apr 15 (O. Waterman-OW); first record in Dutch in ten years. Red-necked Grebe: one at Upton Lake, Dutch on Apr 1 (F. Germond-FG). Pied-billed Grebe: normal numbers, arrived late in Dutch; heard calling throughout Apr on the Basher Kill, Sull (ID); an adult with ten young observed there (Margaret Dye-MD) and (B. Peters) (no date). Double-crested Cormorant: one at Crugers ls, Dutch May 12, (Brother Michael-BM), always rare. Great Blue Heron: three pair nesting in Dutch (WBC). Cattle Egret: one in full breeding plumage at Viola, Rock, May 1-4 (J. LeMaire); two at Bedford Hills, West, May 16-20 (SOG). Common Egret: one at Harvey School, Katonah May 8 (Mrs. L. Smith); an unusual bird for the area in spring. Green Heron: numbers seem to be down (WBC). Black-crowned Night Heron: usual arrival in Dutch at Crugers ls, three birds. American Bittern: two reported from Dutch, one Apr 13 (T. Haight-TH); one Apr 20 (BM). Least Bittern: one May 7, Basher Kill (ID) and another, same place, May 26 (MBC). Mute Swan: nine on Tomahawk Lake Apr 7 (MBC); population generally up throughout region. Canada Goose: Heavy migration third week of Apr; many reports of migrant