

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

flocks, some quite late, May 21 for Ulst and May 21-25 for Oran. This species bred again in Oran for the second year, and also in West; three young were observed with their parents at Stillwell Lake, USMA (J & MD); the same number were at Cross River Res (SOG). Snow Goose: two flocks (700 birds), Apr 5, Dover Plains, Dutch (G. Decker). Brant: many reports, particularly heavy flights May 18, 20, 22 (WBC-MBC). Resident ducks seemed normal in numbers. Green-winged Teal: one remained through May at Pine Plains, Dutch (V. Parkhurst). Blue-winged Teal: Mar 28 (early date) Congers Lake, Rock (Dr. Marjorie Hopper-MH). Wood Duck: Population good throughout region. Scaup: stayed late, May 11 Basher Kill (ID); through June 2 Tomahawk Lake (ME). Bufflehead: one pair, Byram Lake, Mt. Kisco (SOG). Old Squaw: one, Stillwell Lake, Mar 31; two pair Apr 7 Washington Lake, Newburg (MBC); 15 at Crugers Is Apr 16 (BM). White-winged Scoter; one male, Cross River Res May 20 (SOG); first report for this area. Ruddy Duck: 11 on Basher Kill Apr 18 (ID). Common Merganser: 35 at Crugers Is during Apr, two remained to May 12 (BM). Red-breasted Merganser: one female at Highland Res May 9 (ID).

Hawks — Owls: Apr 20 was a big day for hawks in Oran, (J & MD) noted Red-tails, Red-shouldered, Broad-wings, Rough-legs, Cooper's and Sparrow Hawks. Buteous populations are normal, but Accipiter reports are scarce. Rough-legged Hawk: three Apr 19 at Amenia (H. Manson); one May 12 at Crugers Is (very late) (BM). Bald Eagle: Spring reports are rare, but we have two; one over Bedfordville, Apr 23 (M. Powers); one over USMA May 19 (Edward D. Treacy-EDT). Marsh Hawk: reports were few. Osprey: also down in numbers. Ruffed Grouse: population normal. Rail reports were normal, and several reports of Florida Gallinule came in. Coot: one (only record) at Millbrook, Dutch Apr 18 (WBC). Wilson's Snipe: migration normal, adult with young carefully observed near Pawling May 27 (J & MK); first breeding for Dutch. Shorebird movements through the region were normal, with some species such as Yellowlegs better than average. Gulls were normal with immature Black-backs once more in evidence after very low numbers during the winter. Terns made a mark this spring, with Common Terns reported from Basher Kill May 2 (ID), and Crugers Is. Apr 30 (BM); this bird is rarely reported in spring. Black Tern: one from Dutch on May 5 (BM) and one May 12 (TH): four at Basher Kill, May 9 (ID); always rare and unknown in spring throughout much of the region. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: above normal in Ulst., but normal in Dutch though late in arrival. Owls: Usual reports throughout region.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Whip-poor-will: Apr 25 (first) in Ulst and Apr 26 (first) in Dutch and West; seem to be more numerous this year than last. Night-hawk: arrival later than usual, May 14 at Poughkeepsie (W. Claire, Jr.-WC); numbers normal to below thereafter (WBC). Chimney Swift; arrived Apr 26 at Mt. Kisco, West (J. Malone), but late throughout rest of region. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Early record set for Ulst, one at Kripplebush Apr 29 (F. Hough); otherwise late and generally scarce. Pileated Woodpecker: "More every year!" (OW). Red-headed Woodpecker: This Oran resident is recorded more and more frequently in Rock and Dutch; one at Tappan May 12 (MH); one May 16 at Wappingers Falls. Wood Pewee: scarce throughout region, Apr 20, early date for Dutch (WC). Olive-sided Flycatcher: very rare in spring; two at Blooming Grove, Oran, May 18 (ME). Horned Lark: nested in Dutch, three eggs in nest two of which hatched Apr 19 and were destroyed Apr 23 (WC), for third straight year. Swallows: Most species seem to be down in numbers, no unusual dates reported. Purple Martin: New colonies established locally in Oran and West; well established in most counties except Rock, no colonies there in years. Blue Jays: populations back to normal in most areas after winter without them; heavy flights were reported during the first half of May. Tufted Titmouse: numbers on the increase in the northern part of region; generally stable in the southern part. Red-breasted Nuthatch: well represented throughout region in Apr and May; usually rare after Apr. House Wren: generally late, but populations on the rise after low ebb of several years ago. Long-billed Marsh Wren: numbers down this year, areas that supported dozens in the past now have three or four residents (WBC). Mockingbird: recorded in every county, breeding in most although restricted to one or two pairs; this species too is extending northward. Robin: real influx in Rock Apr 2 (Ed. Gamble); more than plentiful. Wood Thrush: Apr 26 (first) in Dutch (WC), and Apr 26 in Ulst at Lake Mohonk (D. Smiley). Swainson's Thrush: numbers very low this spring, unobserved

by many active birders. Veery: Apr 5 (very early date) in Dutch (WC); first week in May usual arrival date. Bluebird: remains very scarce throughout region. Waterman Bird Club is conducting an all out campaign to provide nest sites, they note 23 birds in Apr, and numbers definitely up by end of period. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: phenomenal increase for a very rare species; two, suspected nesting on Crugers Is; two at Sterling Forest, Tuxedo; **four** pair at Basher Kill (ID), one of which was feeding young in the nest June 1 (MD); two pair at Weyant's Pond, USMA, here one pair built a nest twice from the same materials. After moving the nest the second time it could not be relocated; **three** pair found in Rock; two pairs near Congers (Bob Deed); one pair near Tomking Cove (MI), this pair was found where it nested in 1960 and 1957. Pipit: Apr 29 (very late date) near Mountainville, Oran (J&MD).

Vireos — Warblers: Vireos were generally normal throughout the region except for the Solitary which was lower than usual. Red-eyes were late arriving, but became normal. Warbling Vireos may be slightly above normal. Warblers came through in "drips and drabs, with no apparent large waves." (OW). Blackpolls which are generally regarded as harbingers of the end of migration were reported in Oran, Rock, and West as early as Apr 29, in Dutch May 3. The RAS "Break-a-Hundred" weekend of May 19 & 20 was by no means the peak time that it should have been. One week later, 13 species of warblers were listed by Homer Kelsey in Ramapo, and on the same date Bob and Louise Deed saw a dozen Bay-breasted and eight Black-throated Blue Warblers in less than hour in South Nyack. The WBC has provided excellent notes on the status of warblers in their area. Listed early arrivals were: Worm-eating, Blue-winger, Yellow, Magnolia, Cape May, Cerulean and Blackpoll. Most other species were late. Listed as scarce were: Tennessee, Nashville, Magnolia, Cape May, Myrtle, Blackburnian, Chestnut-sided, Bay-breasted, Yellow-breasted Chat, Wilson's and Canada. Cerulean Warbler: four at Basher Kill May 17 (P. Moon). Connecticut Warbler: one May 6 in Dutch (J & M Key—J&MK).

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Bobolink: two, May 3 (early date) at Hawthorne, West (B. Augustine). Numbers normal to better than average throughout region. Orchard Orioles: Still scarce, but one or two birds noted in every county but Putn. Baltimore Orioles: Apr 11 (very early date) at Warwick, Oran (H. Alexander). Rusty Blackbird: Last reported on May 12 (late date); four at Crugers Is (BM). Cowbird: appears to be more numerous this year than last (if that's possible). Scarlet Tanager: majority arrived late, and seem to be down in numbers. **Summer Tanager:** one female on May 26 at Crugers Is (BM & Brother Austin), first record for Dutch. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: generally late throughout region, numbers normal. Indigo Bunting: reported as abundant in Putn (ML); a short distance to the north the WBC noted them as late and quite scarce; none were reported on their May 13 census. Evening Grosbeak: one of these years this species is going to forget to leave. Their departure date seems to get later each spring, May 27 in Ulst; still in Dutch at the end of season; May 13 in western Oran and May 24 in eastern Oran; May 15 in Rock and May 19 in West. House Finch: one (second record for Dutch) Apr 5 at Overlook Heights (PG). Pine Grosbeak: last date for Dutch Apr 8 and for Oran, May 7. Redpoll: Apr 8 (very late date) Cornwall (D. Taylor). Pine Siskin: Scarce throughout winter and spring; last reported Apr 26 at Cornwall (MD). Grasshopper Sparrow: population normal in Dutch (WBC). Iris Dean reports that this species used to be common in the Greenville area of Oran, but that this year she had her first record (May 3) since 1954. Vesper Sparrow: numbers are down, particularly in Dutch. Slate-colored Junco: last reported May 13 Dutch (WBC). Oregon Junco: the wintering bird finally left Cornwall home of (MD) on Apr 2; one Apr 30 at Crugers Is (BM). Tree Sparrow: Apr 20 (last date) Dutch (E. Pink et al). Chipping Sparrow: Apr 2 (early date) at Balmville, Oran (BH). White-crowned Sparrow: numbers up over last three or four years. Fox Sparrow: Apr 23 last date in Dutch (FG). Lincoln's Sparrow: two from Ulst; one from Dutch; one from Oran; seems to pass through in better numbers than expected. This is born out by banding records of (ME); many birds are overlooked as Song Sparrows.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls