

The warbler family produced a number of notable records. The Cape May Warbler was found breeding in the Adirondacks, the only previous record of this species breeding in the state was in 1947 (Carleton, Auk 65(4):607). A Black-throated Gray Warbler was seen in Westchester county. This was the second occurrence of this western species in the state this year. The rare recessive hybrid, the so-called Lawrence's Warbler, was found breeding with a Blue-winged Warbler, also in Westchester county. The Cerulian Warbler was recorded on Long Island where it is rare.

The shorebird migration was well underway by the end of the period. The migration was extremely poor at Rochester but seemed normal elsewhere with the lower water-levels improving 'shorebirding' in areas where the family is normally absent. These conditions produced the second record of a White-rumped Sandpiper for Rockland county. A Ruff turned up for the third year running at Syracuse and, more normally, it was recorded on Long Island. Hudsonian Godwit, also scarce upstate, was recorded at Syracuse. Wilson Phalarope was noted in regions 3 and 10.

A pair of Canvanbacks bred at Montezuma; they were free-flying but presumably originated from a nearby game management area where clip winged birds are reared. Wigeon near Massena had their best ever breeding season. This species is only known to bred in a few areas and apparently the Massena area was the only one in which it was successful this year.

To mention a few other notable records: Brown Pelicans were seen on Long Island, Black Rail apparently bred in region 4. The occurrence of Gray-colored Sparrows this summer in the Adirondacks is detailed in the field note section. This adds another item to the strange occurrence of this species well outside its normal range. This species has been known to hybridize with Chipping Sparrows (Storer, Wilson Bull 66,143; McIlroy, Kingbird 11 (1):7) although there was no evidence of hybridization in the Adirondack record this summer.

REGION 1—NIAGARA FRONTIER

RICHARD C. ROSCHE

Although most weather elements averaged about normal during the period according to official Weather Bureau records at Buffalo, the word "normal" is hardly appropriate or applicable in describing conditions in most areas of Western New York. Precipitation, usually occurring in scattered showers at this time of the year, was generally scarce in most sections. Drought was the rule rather than the exception, especially in early summer, and numerous agricultural activities suffered continuous and serious setbacks. Numerous outbreaks of cool Canadian air during June and July resulted in an unusual number of relatively cool nights and comfortably warm days. In general, the temperature-humidity index was low throughout the period. The frequent periods of hot, sultry days, so characteristic of summer in this region, were very few and of short duration.

The nesting season, greatly aided by the exceptionally warm and pleasant month of May, was termed very successful by a number of field observers. Waterbirds — herons, ducks, rails, etc. — appeared to have experienced the most successful nesting season of the past several years. Brood success of most species appeared to be high. During late July and early August there was some evidence of exceptionally early "migration" or "wandering" among several small passerine species typical of areas farther to the north. Unfortunately records from the New York State areas of the territory covered by local field observers do not indicate this trend that was probably induced by the earlier than usual completion of nesting

activities coupled with favorable weather conditions to bring them southward, i.e. large masses of polar air moving southward.

Abbreviations used below are as follows: OOGMA — Oak Orchard Game Management Area.

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Loons — Ducks: Common Loon: late birds — 1, Jun 17, Attica Reservoir (KPA et al) and 1, Jun 25, Niagara Falls (AS). Great Blue Heron: previously unreported nesting location — Coes Road, Town of Stockton, Chaut. Co., seven nests containing young Jun 9 (LB, NB et al). Common Egret: 1, June 17, OOGMA (RCR et al); no other reports. Black-crowned Night Heron: 1, Jul 8, near Hamburg (HDM et al). Green-winged Teal: good numbers of summering birds for second consecutive year at OOGMA — 5 (maximum count), Jun 17 (KPA et al). American Widgeon: 1, Jun 16, Langford (few summer records for Southern Erie County) (TLB). White-winged Scoter: 1, Jun 17, Lake Ontario at Shadigee (RCR) — an extremely late date according to existing records but non-nesting individuals probably would be found regularly during summer on Lake Ontario shores if they were less disturbed and with regular and systematic coverage by observers. Hooded Merganser: female with brood of 4 downy young, Jun 9, Beaujean Road near Mayville, Chaut. Co. (new nesting location) (EP et al); 1, Jun 17, OOGMA (KPA et al); 1, Jul 18, Hamburg (TLB).

Hawks — Owls: Turkey Vulture: nest containing 2 young in cave formed by conglomerate outcropping in deciduous woodland, early Jul, Town of Humphrey, Catt. Co. (Fide SWE) — first known nest for southern tier counties and first for region since the late 1930's. Bald Eagle: 1 adult, Jun 27, over Busti, Chaut. Co. (EP) — only report. Upland Plover: flocks of 12, Jul 7, Town of Lancaster (GGW) and 10, Jul 23, Town of Marilla (RCR et al) seem indicative of good nesting success. Lesser Yellowlegs: 150, Jul 20, Tiffet St., Buffalo (KPA et al) — roosting on cinder flats at dusk; three Greater Yellowlegs and four Pectoral Sandpipers were also included in this shore bird concentration. Common Tern: about 750 pair, Jun 18, nesting on rock jetty in Niagara River off Buckhorn Island State Park (AS) — a new nesting location this year. Caspian Tern: 1, Jul 18, Lake Erie at Hamburg (rare on south shore of Lake Erie in summer) (TLB). Barn Owl: 4 young at nest, Jul 7, Hamburg (TLB et al).

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Whip-poor-will: 1, Jun 18, Hamburg (TLB) — rare in summer in this region. Red-headed Woodpecker: more common and widely distributed than during past several years. Acadian Flycatcher: 1, Jun 16, Cattaraugus Indian Reservation at Versailles (KPA) — rare in summer. Tufted Titmouse: 1, Jun 29, Wanakah (KPA et al) — only report. Caroline Wren: 2, Jun 2, Cattaraugus Indian Reservation (KPA); 1, Jul 16, Hamburg (TLB); 2, Aug 12, Point Gratiot (RCR et al) — these records seem to indicate a slight comeback into the region along the south shore of Lake Erie. Short-billed Marsh Wren: more abundant and widely distributed than during the past several years; 6 (Maximum count), Jul 1, Morton Corners (WWB). Mockingbird: a pair successfully raised two broods at Lewiston, Niagara Co.; the first brood of 4 young left the nest Jul 2; second brood of 2-3 young left Aug 2-3 (AH). Another nest contained 4 eggs Jun 4 at Shadigee, Orleans Co. (WAS). A nest containing one young was located at Eden, Erie Co. Jul 22 (RWR et al). The recent influx of Mockingbirds into the region is reflected in this unprecedented number of nesting pairs. Eastern Bluebird: no noticeable change in abundance over the past two seasons. Loggerhead Shrike: 1, Jun 4, Hamburg (TLB); 1-2 noted throughout the period at Derby (WWB) — rare summer nesting species.

Vireos — Warblers: "Brewster's" Warbler: one bird observed Jun 3, 6 and 16 at Cattaraugus Indian Reservation (RCR, KPA). Reports of this hybrid become increasingly more infrequent each year. Myrtle and Pine Warbler: a nest containing two young cowbirds (?) was being tended by an apparent male Myrtle Warbler and an apparent female Pine Warbler Jun 3 at Aellegany State Park. The nest, which was later collected, appears to be that of a Myrtle Warbler (HHA et al).

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Western Meadowlark: a singing bird, first found May 20 in the Town of Marilla, Erie Co. remained there throughout the period (GGW et al). Orchard Oriole: 1, Jun 21 and Jul 19, Hamburg (TLB) — rare during summer in this region.

Corrigenda: Cattle Egret: 1, May 6, three miles south of Batavia, Genesee Co. (Masons) — first record for this region.

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REGION 2 — GENESEE

HOWARD S. MILLER

Temperatures for the first month of the period were about normal, but thereafter were constantly below normal. Rainfall for June and the first half of August was above normal, but July was a relatively dry month. At no time did drought conditions prevail in our area.

Outstanding birds recorded included Whimbrel, Little Gull, Forster's Tern and Dickcissel. The area had its first record of nesting Evening Grosbeaks. Green-winged Teal, Broad-winged Hawk, and Red-breasted Nuthatch were present during the summer.

Initials of regular observers: JF — John Foster, AEK — Allen E. Kemnitzner, WCL — Walter C Listman, WL — Warren Lloyd, JM — Joseph McNett, TM — (Mrs.) Thelma McNett, HSM — Howard S. Miller, RTO — Richard T. O'Hara, AES — Alfred E. Starling, MS — (Mrs.) Maryann Sunderlin, TET — Thomas E. Tetlow, PW — Dr. Paul Weld. G.O.S. — Genesee Ornithological Society.

Initials of places regularly used: BB — Braddock's Bay, EAM — Elmwood Avenue Marsh, M — Manitou, PMP — Powder Mill Park, SA — Shore Acres, SB — Sodus Bay, Y — York (Linwood).

Loons — Ducks: A Common Loon was on Canadice Lake Aug 5 (Al Maley). Either this bird or another of the same species spent the summer of 1961 on this lake. Only one bird has been present and there is no evidence of nesting. Herons of all species have seemed scarce this summer. A brood of young Least Bittern were banded at Ling Pond (Robert McKinney). A pair of Pintail were at EAM Jun 9 (AES). They were not seen subsequently. A pair of Green-winged Teal were in the same place from Jun 1 into Jul (JF et al) and were probably nesting.

Hawks — Owls: An adult Broad-winged Hawk was at PMP Jul 7 (AES). This bird is very rare or absent in summer in our area. Bald Eagles were unreported but an Osprey was at SB Jul 23 (Dwight Chamberlin et al). Ruffed Grouse are reported to have had a successful nesting season in the hill country south of Rochester. At least three Bobwhite that were released at Y last fall were heard there Jun 17 (GOS hike).

Seventy-five Ruddy Turnstones, 200 Semi-palmated Sandpipers, and 30 Sand-erlings were migrating past BB June 2 (GOS hike). The fall flight of shorebirds was almost nonexistent in the Rochester area due to unfavorable feeding conditions. Single Whimbrel were at SB Jul 24 and Aug 3 (JF). A Little Gull was at M Jul 28 (WCL, TET), and a Forster's Tern was at the same place the previous day (WCL. One hundred Mourning Doves were at Bushnell's Basin Jul 7 (AES). An Adult and two young Long-eared Owls were at Y Jun 17 (GOS hike).

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: A Pileated Woodpecker was near SB Aug 5 (JF). It had not been reported from this area previously. Red-headed Woodpeckers were reported during the period from Summerville, Irondequoit, and SB; as well as from the more usual range south of Rochester. An adult and two young Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were at PMP Jun 30 (RTO et al) and seven adults and immatures were there Jul 8 (AEK, WL). This is the only place in the Rochester area where this bird is known to nest regularly, and the above numbers may indicate an increase in the nesting birds.

About six Cliff Swallows were attempting to nest on a barn near Bergen Jun 10 (Robert McKinney). We have no further reports as to the success or failure of the nesting. A pair of Tufted Titmouse brought their young to the TM and MS feeders in Webster early in July, and another family group appeared near the Militz feeder in Penfield Aug 4. Two Red-breasted Nuthatches were in Durand-Eastman Park Jul 4 (HSM, AES). While a nest has not actually been found, it seems that this species has nested in this area for the last couple of years.