

numbers, shortly after May 1, but an oddly marked male (yellow line over eye, yellow marks extending up side of face) appeared at my feeder in Etna on Apr 14, and remained for two days, eating, of all things, peanuts. It was photographed and observed by two others, J. Weske and D. McIlroy. However, it remains a question whether this was a possible Bullock's-Baltimore hybrid. Orchard Oriole: two, May 29, Trumansburg, and Interlaken (EAF). Grackles, Cowbirds and Redwings: enormously abundant everywhere. Scarlet Tanagers: noted more commonly than some years. Indigo Buntings: abundant. Dickcissel: two Apr 29, near Odessa (BS). One, during April, at feeder in Ithaca. Evening Grosbeaks: most left last week in April. Purple Finch: abundant everywhere in May. Pine Siskins: abundant at feeders, after May 8. Goldfinches: continued abundant at feeders, as in winter. Red Crossbills: not yet found breeding, but several cases of courtship feeding were noted, and small numbers were seen in several areas of Region until late May. Henslow's Sparrow: one, Apr 15, Moravia, found injured, died shortly. Specimen brought to Cornell. Extremely early record for species — followed strong south winds. No conspicuous White-throat and White-crown migration around Ithaca.

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REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

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April average close to normal with respect to temperature but was decidedly wet while May was warm and dry. Weatherwise this must be counted as an early spring. The last officially recorded freezing temperature of the period came April 16 and the last snow of any consequence April 4. The heaviest rainfall of the period came April 30, so although May rainfall was only about one-third of normal the dryness had had no untoward effects by the end of the month.

The higher level of water behind the Whitney Point Flood Control Dam seems to have attracted the largest number and best variety of water fowl ever in the region, and also the longest stay ever for some diving species, notably Lesser Scaup, Common Goldeneye, Hooded and Red-breasted Merganser. It is perhaps premature to credit the higher water level at one place with all this since it also proved to be highly attractive to bird watchers, resulting in a substantial decrease in the coverage of other areas in the region. Regular coverage of these other areas might have shown this to have been a generally better than normal waterfowl spring. It will be interesting to see what other regions have to report along these lines.

The land bird migration ran a little ahead of last year, with most species arriving one to four days earlier, but there were also a few species that returned a little late. There was one second hand report of "a million swallows" at Whitney Point April 20 that was picked up while nearly a thousand were in sight in the same place five days later. With little really adverse weather to dam them up, warblers came through in a relatively steady stream with no pronounced waves.

Our first Wilson's Phalaropes and our second House Finch and Red-bellied Woodpecker appear to top the list of rarities, but a possible Golden Eagle deserves mention. Several reports of Turkeys and Bobwhites give hope that their respective stocking programs may yet succeed.

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Anne Stratton; DW — Don Weber; MW — Mildred White; R, SW — Ruth and Sally White; EW — Mrs. E. Williams; RW — Ruth Williams; SW — Stuart Wilson; HW — Herbert Wisner; WPR — Whitney Point Reservoir; Max — maximum.

Loon — Ducks: Common Loon: three, Apr 3, Norwich (R, SW); 21 flying over Skyline in Tioga Co the same day and lesser numbers several other days in Apr (RW); Skyline May 1 (last) (RW); still at WPR May 31 (MS). Red-necked Grebe: Apr 12, WPR (MS, RS, BB); two, Apr 19 and three, Apr 25, also at WPR (MS); only reports. Horned Grebe: Apr 1, Owego (TBC) to May 17 in Triple Cities area (NC); 12, (Max.) Apr 11 at WPR (MS). Pied-billed Grebe: fairly regular reports from Apr 9 to 26 (last). Great Blue Heron: two, heronries in Owego area active (RW); also one at Scott in Cort Co with 17 nests (JG). Green Heron: one, Apr 11, Sherburne (R, SW), early; common after May 4. Common Egret: two, May 27, Endwell (LB), only report. Least Bittern: three, Apr 21, Binghamton (CH) and again Apr 30; an infrequently reported species in the region. American Bittern: one, Apr 16, Ingraham Hill (CH), the first.

Canada Goose: heavy flights continued all through Apr with the last substantial numbers recorded May 7; stragglers still present at WPR May 30 and Owego May 31. Gadwall: two, Apr 25, WPR (MS). Pintail: Apr 9, WPR (HM, FL), the last. Green-winged Teal: regular reports to Apr 30, then only May 17, WPR (NC). Blue-winged Teal: regular to Apr 30; infrequent May reports. European Widgeon: one, Apr 4, WPR (MS), presumably the same bird that was reported in the last issue. American Widgeon: regular reports to Apr 25; later report May 17 (NC). Shoveler: Apr 23, three, at WPR (HM, FL), four at Owego (SL) and two at Owego, probably part of the group of four (MW, CG). Wood Duck: two adults with 10 young, May 30, Chenango Forks (M, AD); also reported nesting in Cort Co. Red-head: six, Apr 11 (last), WPR (MS). Ring-necked Duck: up to 200 reported at WPR much of Apr; two there May 2 (MS), the last except for one on a small pond near Owego for the last 10 days of May. Canvasback: two, Apr 5 (last), WPR (MS). Lesser Scaup: at WPR through May 2; the only later report May 17 (NC). Common Goldeneye: regular in small numbers at WPR through May 2; the only later report May 17 (NC). Bufflehead: regular at WPR through Apr to May 2; "most I've ever seen at Whitney Point", Apr 25 and 26 (MS); May 6, Candor (DW), the last. Old Squaw: small numbers at WPR through Apr to May 2; also reported at Norwich and Owego. White-winged Scoter: 10, Apr 18, WPR (NC); May 17, WPR (NC); only reports. Hooded Merganser: a few at WPR through Apr 24; two, females or immatures May 24 (last), WPR (MS). Common Merganser: regular through Apr 26; May 17 (NC), the only later report. Red-breasted Merganser: a few at WPR through Apr 18; also six, Apr 3, Norwich (R, SW); two, still at WPR, May 30.

Hawks — Owls: Turkey Vulture: Apr 5 and 13, WPR (RW, CG, MW); one, Apr 12, Oxford (H. Nodacker); also regular at Deposit (SW) and Hancock (RD). Goshawk: May 10, Pharsalia (TBC). Broad-winged Hawk: one, Apr 4, Oxford (AS), very early, no details; regular reports from Apr 16; nest building at Binghamton, May 20 (CH). Rough-legged Hawk: Apr 26 (last), Johnson City (FL). Bald Eagle: May 17, Cortland (WB). Golden Eagle: Apr 5, WPR (CG, MW, RW), "large bird — had white on tail, but not as far up rump as rough-leg, — a very good look with 7 x 50 binoculars." Marsh Hawk: reasonably frequent reports until May 17 (last), then no more. Osprey: one, Apr 9, Hancock (RD); peak numbers Apr 23 to 27; May 9 (last), WPR and Choconut Center (MS). Bobwhite: one, May 9, near Sherburne Game Farm (R, SW); also reported at Marathon and East Homer in Cort Co. Turkey: one, Apr 9, two miles east of Apalachin (SL), check for domesticated turkeys in area revealed none; Apr 13, Owego (Mrs. V. Hudson); Apr 14, west of Owego (Mary Middaugh); Apr 14, South Owego (EW); May 12, Candor (DW). Sora: May 17, Apalachin (SL, LB). Common Gallinule: May 17, Triple Cities area (NC), only report. American Coot: two, Apr 11, WPR (MS); regular reports through May 30 but never in large numbers.

Semi-palmated Plover: May 17, Triple Cities area (NC), to end of period. Black-bellied Plover: May 17, Triple Cities area (NC); still at WPR May 30 and 31 (MS). Woodcock: common; one, adult with four chicks, May 3, Endwell (RP, GC), banded. Common Snipe: reported at Sherburne (R, SW), Newark Valley (LD), Cortland (WB) and in the Triple Cities area. Upland Plover: May 17, Homer (JG), only report. Spotted Sandpiper: Apr 11, Candor (DW); no more until Apr 18. Solitary Sandpiper: Apr 19, Vestal (HM) then none until May 3. Greater Yellowlegs: Apr 25, WPR (MS); scattered reports to May 24. Lesser Yellowlegs: four, Apr 18, WPR (NC) and regular there until Apr 30; no more until May 16 at Homer (JG) and Candor (DW) and May 17 in the Triple Cities area (NC). Pectoral Sandpiper: eight, Apr 18, WPR (NC) and May 17, WPR (NC); only reports. Least Sandpiper: May 15, Owego (MW, RW); at Cortland and in Triple Cities area to end of month. Dunlin: May 17, WPR (MS), to end of month. Semi-palmated Sandpiper: May 17, Triple Cities area (NC); only report. Wilson's Phalarope: a pair, May 17, Binghamton (LB), at approximately 15 foot range, close enough to hear soft little grunting noise that came only infrequently — jet black glossy legs and bill, female had white on top of head and neck and on under parts separated by black eye line or cheek patch blending into chestnut neck stripe — back, wings and tail dark pearly gray with patches of chestnut on back, male much duller, almost non-descript in comparison — observed for about 15 minutes and then for another 10 minutes after about 45 minutes — foraging along a small shallow stream through bulldozed ground — did not swim.

Herring Gull: only very scattered reports since Apr 1. Ring-billed Gull: present in moderate numbers around most water all during the period — 70 (max.), May 9, WPR (MS). Bonaparte's Gull: one, Apr 6, Endwell (LB) to May 17, Triple Cities area (NC); 50 or more, Apr 23, Owego (MW, CG), the largest concentration. Common Tern: Apr 23, WPR (HM, FL) to May 31, WPR (MS); only two reports between. Black Tern: Apr 24, Owego (RW); May 17, Triple Cities area (NC); only reports. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: one, May 12, Oxford (AS) and one, May 12, Ingraham Hill (CH); "very common this year throughout county", Cortland (JG); fairly common elsewhere, too. Black-billed Cuckoo: May 10, Binghamton (MS); also common. Screech Owl: not many. Barred Owl: Apr 17, 18, 23 and May 6, Hancock (RD); one, May 11, Chenango Forks (M, AD).

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Whip-poor-will: one, May 10 to 21 then two, May 22 and 29, Hinman's Corners (RS, JS); May 16, East Homer, (Janet Greenfield); May 30, Owego (AE). Nighthawk: one, May 13, Binghamton (Elinor Whitson); also reported at Owego, Cortland and Unadilla. Chimney Swift: Apr 19, Unadilla (HW) and Conklin Forks (P, PK); Apr 24, Binghamton, large flock going to roost in a chimney (Marilyn Davis). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: May 1, early, Owego (AE), one, May 7, Oxford (AS). Belted Kingfisher: more common after Apr 3. Yellow-shafted Flicker: regular after Apr 2; common after Apr 7. Pileated Woodpecker: fairly frequent reports. Red-bellied Woodpecker: one, May 3, Buckhorn Lake in Otsego Co (HW). Red-headed Woodpecker: one, Apr 23, Ingraham Hill (CH); May 1, Owego (AE); one, May 17, Sherburne (R, SW), in same area where present for the last few years; May 17, Whitney Point (MS); May 18, Endwell (FL), another area where reported in the last few years. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: one, Apr 8, Hancock (RD), second report this spring; common from Apr 12 to Apr 26; fairly frequent but more scattered May reports.

Kingbird: Apr 23, Owego (Patty Williams), early, no details: next reported May 5, Hancock (RD) and Greene (C, JD). Great Crested Flycatcher: May 5, Chenango Forks (M, AD), Hinman's Corners (RS, JS) and Ingraham Hill (CH); common. Eastern Phoebe: generally in reasonably good numbers but at Unadilla "not at all common" (HW). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: one, May 12, Binghamton (CH); three other reports. Trail's Flycatcher: May 16, Homer (JG); also in Triple Cities area. Least Flycatcher: May 2, WPR and Choconut Center (MS). Wood Pewee: May 10,

Binghamton (MS). Olive-sided Flycatcher: May 30, Whitney Point (MS, R, SW). Tree Swallow: common after Apr 11. Bank Swallow: Apr 19, Owego (RW, EW). Rough-winged Swallow: Apr 25, WPR (MS) and Chenango Forks (M, AD). Barn Swallow: one, Apr 11, WPR (MS); regular from Apr 16; May 4, Hancock (RD), gathering mud from puddles for nests. Cliff Swallow: Apr 23, WPR (HW, FL). Purple Martin: another report of 10 to 15, Mar 25 at Hillcrest, also followed by cold weather casualties — one found in very weakened condition, was fed angleworms and eggs, and kept indoors each night and released each morning for about a week when it finally seemed to regain its strength (Fred Fargo). Blue Jay: May 2, Endwell (NC), numerous small flocks of migrants observed flying over. Boreal Chickadee: May 2, Owego (Mrs. Harold Colby), last report of bird present at feeder since Feb. 25. Tufted Titmouse: throughout period at Chenango Forks (M, AD); Apr 28, Endwell (FL); one, May 22, Norwich (AS). Red-breasted Nuthatch: May 17, Triple Cities area (NC), the last of fairly numerous reports. Brown Creeper: rather frequent reports for such an inconspicuous species; reported singing in several localities and still present at the end of the period. House Wren: Apr 18, Binghamton (HM); numbers continue to improve a little each year. Winter Wren: two, Apr 10, Ingraham Hill (CH); best numbers in several years; a nesting record at Hancock (RD). Long-billed Marsh Wren: six, May 24, Sherburne (R, SW), the only report and not remotely indicative of the late arrival date. Mockingbird: Apr 19, Castle Creek (MS); one, May 3, Buckhorn Lake (HW) in area since Jan; May 5, two different Owego locations (Louise Cole, Dewey Bendle). Catbird: Apr 27, Owego (RW); the next ones May 1. Brown Thrasher: one, Apr 8 and 9, Oxford (AS); next ones Apr 17; "fewer than usual, it seems", Cort Co (JG). Wood Thrush: two, Apr 22, Oxford (MS); next one Apr 27. Hermit Thrush: one, Apr 13, Ingraham Hill (CH); reasonably frequent reports to May 17; still at Whitney Point May 31. Swainson's Thrush: one, May 12, Ingraham Hill (CH); only report! Gray-cheeked Thrush: May 7, Chenango Bridge (S. Gorton); May 16, Owego (EW); May 17, Triple Cities area, two reports (NC). Veery: one, Ingraham Hill (CH) and one, Owego (MW, CG) May 3. Bluebird: 15 known nesting pairs in Cort Co (JG). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Apr 19, Hinman's Corners (RS, JS), early; then from Apr 27 to May 16, reports from Owego (RW), Candor (DW), Buckhorn Lake (HW), Cortland (WB, Connie Wilkins) and several localities in the Triple Cities area. Golden-crowned Kinglet: last reported May 1, Owego (AE). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: Apr 12, Owego (EW) to May 15, Endwell (LB). Water Pipit: Apr 26, Candor (DW) and May 4, Owego (MW, CG); both times in very large numbers but no other reports.

Vireos — Warblers: Yellow-throated Vireo: one, Unadilla (HW) and one, Binghamton (CH) May 4. Solitary Vireo: one, Apr 17, Ingraham Hill (CH). Red-eyed Vireo: May 4, Owego (RW). Philadelphia Vireo: May 8, Chenango Forks (M, AD); May 15, Newark Valley (LD). Warbling Vireo: May 1, Owego, (RW); less common than in previous years in Unadilla (HW) and in the Triple Cities area (LB). Warblers: Black and White Apr 27, Chenango Forks (M, AD) and Hinman's Corners (RS, JS). Worm-eating: May 5, Owego, (RW), only report. Golden-winged: May 5, Chenango Forks (M, AD), fairly numerous reports. Brewster's, one May 21, Ingraham Hill (CH), the only one. Blue-winged: May 5, Chenango Forks (M, AD), seemingly more than in previous years but nowhere near as numerous as golden-wings. Tennessee: one, May 5, Binghamton (CH); May 23 (last). Orange-crowned: May 3, Owego (MW, CG), the only one. Nashville: one, May 1, Ingraham Hill (CH). Parula: May 7, Chenango Forks (M, AD); May 10 quite a few reported moving through tree tops at Norwich (R, SW); May 17 (last), Triple Cities area. Yellow: one, Apr 23, Binghamton (Ray Short), earliest report; common after May 2. Magnolia: one May 4, Binghamton (CH); quite a few until May 22. Cape May: May 7, Chenango Forks (M, AD); not too many, May 17 (last). Black-throated Blue: one, May 4, Binghamton (CH); fairly numerous until May 11, then only scattered reports, but still present at Whitney Point May 31 (MS). Myrtle: one, Apr 18, WPR (NC), first migrant; May 19 (last), Chenango Forks (M, AD);

common but not overwhelmingly so, as they are some years. Black-throated Green: Apr 27, Chenango Forks (M, AD); most migrants passed through between May 1 and 21; those reported at Hancock (RD) and Whitney Point (MS) in the last three days of May are probably summer residents. Blackburnian: May 2, Owego (AE) and Sidney (FQ); migrants mostly gone after May 17; presumably residents at Whitney Point May 30 (MS). Chestnut-sided: May 5, Chenango Forks (M, AD) and two, same day, Ingraham Hill (CH). Bay-breasted: five, May 9, Binghamton and Ingraham Hill (CH); Mar 17 (last). Blackpoll: May 4, Owego (RW), seems very early; next reported May 16. Pine: Apr 29, Owego (RW); one, May 1, Binghamton (CH); only reports. Prairie: May 4, heard at Deposit (SW); only report. Palm: Apr 27 and 28, Chenango Forks (M, AD); only reports. Ovenbird: one, May 1, Ingraham Hill (CH). Northern Waterthrush: Apr 26, Owego (Bendle); quite a few other reports. Louisiana Waterthrush: Apr 19, Conklin Forks (P, PK); not too many and none, so far, after May 16. Mourning Warbler: May 15, Endwell (LB); several other reports, but not many. Yellowthroat: two, Hancock (RD) and Endwell (LB) May 6. Yellow-breasted Chat: May 16, Endwell (LB); regular at one station but no other report in the region. Wilson's Warbler: one, May 8, Endwell (LB); May 23 (last). Canada Warbler: May 7, Owego (RW). American Redstart: two, Hancock (RD) and Owego (MW) May 5.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Bobolink: May 4, Candor (DW); at Cortland "numerous, even in lowland fields occasionally" (JG). Baltimore Oriole: May 1, Owego (AE); common after May 4. Scarlet Tanager: May 2, Owego (Sada Turner, James Shuler); common after May 9. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: one, May 3, Endwell (GC). Indigo Bunting: May 5, Chenango Forks (M, AD); common after May 9. Dickcissel: Apr 4 and 5, Chenango Bridge (S. Gorton); a male, Apr 18, 19 and 20, then a female, Apr 23, Hancock (Estelle and Ed Standfast). Evening Grosbeak: almost all gone after May 10; last straggler May 24, Deposit (SW). Purple Finch: became common in the Triple Cities area about Apr 13 after being almost absent since Mar 19; at Deposit "a swarm arrived Apr 19" (SW); "a common nester this year in Cort Co (JG). House Finch: one, Apr 7, Deposit (SW), a female or immature male, "like a purple finch, but slimmer, olive streaks on sides and belly wavy and fine, not heavy broken lines of triangular spots as on purple finch, no pronounced facial striping, no light stripe over eye or dark patch behind eye as in female purple finch. Dark horn color bill, a few brick red feathers on rump, otherwise olive gray. Grayish edges to feathers on back and wings. Tail forked, iris brown, legs brown. I went to the Museum of Natural History and studied the trays of House and Purple Finch skins. — photos bad, but John Bull says they appear to be female or immature male House Finch. Haven't seen it since". Pine Siskin: to May 12, Binghamton (CH). Red Crossbill: two, May 15, Owego (AE); only report since Jan. White-winged Crossbill: May 9, Binghamton (MS); two, one singing, May 10, Gilbert State Park in Otse Co (R, SW), the only reports since early Mar. Rufous-sided Towhee: Apr 14, Owego (RW); common after Apr 19. Savannah Sparrow: Apr 3, WPR (HM, GC); "many noted", Cort Co (JG). Grasshopper Sparrow: one, heard, Apr 28 (first), Endwell (LB). Henslow's Sparrow: one, Apr 30, Binghamton (CH). Vesper Sparrow: Apr 7, Binghamton (HM). Slate-colored Junco: abundant until Apr 30; "found nesting here in Apr", still coming to feeders at end of May, Deposit (SW); "nest containing 3 eggs", May 10, Hancock (RD). Oregon Junco: Apr 4 to 14, Chenango Forks (M, AD). Tree Sparrow: common to Apr 25; two, Apr 30 (last) Binghamton (Ray Short). Chipping Sparrow: Apr 16, Owego (RW). Field Sparrow: common from Apr 8. White-crowned Sparrow: Apr 15, Owego (AE); Apr 20, Endwell (FL); most common May 3 to 18 (last). White-throated Sparrow: most common from Apr 15 to May 15; May 18 (last). Fox Sparrow: about gone after Apr 21; 40 (Max), Apr 8, Hancock (RD). Lincoln's Sparrow: two, May 15, Triple Cities (GC, LB) and one, the same day and another May 17, Deposit (SW), all banded; May 17, Triple Cities (NC), the only sight record.

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