

16 Saranac L (HD); ten Apr 18 Tupper L (AA); Apr 15 Ray B "not as common as last year" (JK); Piseco L (DMcI). Fox Sparrow: Apr 8 thru 16 Ray B (JK); one May 1 Tupper L (AA); gone from Saranac L May 4 (ED). Lincoln's Sparrow: May 8 & 12 Ray B (JK). Swamp Sparrow: Tupper L, Saranac L and Ray B after Apr 18. Song Sparrow: one Apr 2 Saranac L (EA); throughout period Ray B (JK); one Apr 11 Tupper L (MK); Piseco L (DMcI). Snow Bunting: flock of 20 Apr 6 Tupper L (AA).

Trudeau Road, Saranac Lake

REGION 8 — MOHAWK - HUDSON

PETER P. WICKHAM

This spring was once again quite dry. Precipitation at Albany totaled 2.17 in. during Apr and 1.31 in. for May, 0.60 and 2.16 in. below normal, respectively. Although Apr, with an average of 45.7°, was very close to the normal in temperature. May was a warm month, with temperatures averaging 61.7°, 3.8° above normal.

Ducks and geese were observed in average numbers early in the period. An unusual number of species were recorded well into May, although some observers felt the bulk of the waterfowl left a little earlier than usual. The very dry conditions prevailing in May made the spring shorebird flight in Region 8 an outstanding one.

Despite a series of pleasant days at the end of Apr and the beginning of May, the bulk of the landbirds did not appear until May 6-10. Observers reported good numbers of many species on May 9 and 10 especially. It seems likely that a storm passing south of the Region at the beginning of May held back many migrants for a few days, as birds usually appearing first in very early May were reported generally 3-4 days later this year. Few "waves" were noted after that culmination on May 9-10, as days continued to be sunny and pleasant, and the birds were not detained.

The spring migration of warblers was generally disappointing. Despite the wide variety of species reported, most observers saw few individuals, even of some rather common species. Although this was very likely due partly to the lack of rain or even cloud cover on many nights, still even nesting warblers seemed less common in a number of local areas.

An interesting result of the influx of finches over the past winter was the number of late records of these birds; especially noteworthy were the many reports of lingering Evening Grosbeaks and Red Crossbills.

Unusual or rare species reported during the period included Red-thr Loon, Cattle Egret, Brant, Snow Goose, Shoveller, Goshawk, Bald Eagle, King Rail, Iceland Gull, Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker, Boreal Chickadee, Carolina Wren, Short-billed Marsh Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Prothonotary Warbler, Brewster's Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Orchard Oriole and Dickcissel. In addition, a House Finch was recorded in the Region for the first time, and two sandpipers which were probably Baird's Sandpipers were reported.

Abbreviations used: arr — arrived; BCM — Black Creek Marshes; br — breasted; Co — County; Colu — Columbia; com — common; cr — crowned; L — Lake; LK — Lisha Kill; max — maximum count; n — necked; Nisk — Niskayuna; nr — near; NWW — Niskayuna Wide Waters; pr — pair; R — River; Res — Reservoir; SCR — Stony Creek Reservoir; SL — Saratoga Lake; Tomh — Tomhannock; thr — throated; w — winged; WR — Water-vliet Reservoir.

Observers: ADBC — Alan Devoe Bird Club; GCBC — Greene County Bird Club; SBC — Schenectady Bird Club; GA — Gus Angst; GB — Guy Bartlett; TB, AB — Tom & Arlene Brown; LB, VB — Lee & Virginia

Burland; JHB, BB — James & Barbara Bush; JC — Juanita Cooke; HE — Hazel Eddy; PE, GE — Paul & Georgia Erlenbach; JF — John Fuller; AG — Aden Gokay; EH — Esly Hallenbeck; BH — Barrington Havens; MK — Marcia Kent; CK — Clarissa Ketcham; JP, EP — John & Eloise Payne; SP — Stephanie Podrazik; ER — Eleanor Radke; EMR — Dr. Edgar M. Reilly, Jr.; WBS — Walton B. Sabin; BRS — Benton Seguin; RS, MLS — Robert & Mary Lou Shedd; FS, MS — Fred & Myra Smilow; HT — Henry Thurston; DJT — Dr. Donald Tucker; BW — Beverly Waite; RW — Robert Wernick; PPW — Peter Wickham; RPY — Robert Yunick; NZ — Naomi Zimmer; also, B-S-H, Guy Bartlett, Benton Seguin & Barringer Havens.

Loons — Ducks: Com Loon: reported throughout period to May 16, SL (WBS, PPW). **Red-thr Loon:** one, SL, Apr 25 (B-S-H). **Red-n Grebe:** four reported Apr 19-25 (B-S-H) and one very late one at SL May 16 (WBS, PPW). **Horned Grebe:** Last May 1, SL (BRS), max 60, SL, Apr 25 (B-S-H). **Pied-billed Grebe:** more than last year, max 28 Apr 5 (GB, BH). **Great Blue Heron:** very few seen. **Com Egret:** one reported at Claverack Apr 16 (HT); another at Chatham Apr 22 (EMR) and a third at Basic Res Apr 26 (WBS); a fourth was at SCR May 16-17 (SP). **Cattle Egret:** a flock of 15-20 appeared on a farm nr Broadalbin May 6 and were photographed (fide L. Stoner). This was the only report. **Green Heron:** arr late; one in Canaan Apr 18 (JP, EP), but others arr in a marked wave Apr 28-30. **American Bittern:** one reported Apr 12, Round L (B-S-H), but most arr Apr 24 and thereafter. **Canada Goose:** many flocks observed, last May 24 (TB, AB, JC). **Brant:** two flocks observed flying over and one on the water in Greene Co, May 16-18 (JHB, BB); a flock flew over Slingerlands May 16 (WBS, DJT). **Snow Goose:** one flew over Meadowvale with a flock of Canada Geese Apr 17 (MLS) only observation. **Gadwall:** a pr was at SCR Apr 8-12 (EH, HE). **American Widgeon:** most left by mid-Apr, but two were at SCR through May 16 (PPW, WBS). **Pintail:** good numbers, last Apr 23 (GB, BH). **Green-w Teal:** last May 7, SCR (B-S-H). **Blue-w Teal:** large influx about Apr 10; few appeared to remain in the area to breed. **Shoveller:** one male seen Apr 11, SL (SBC). **Redhead:** one pr was at SCR Apr 2-5 (B-S-H), (EH), and another pr was at NWW May 16 (DJT, PPW, WBS). **Ring-n Duck:** appeared in good numbers to May 3 (B-S-H). **Canvasback:** several reports, early Apr, max 40 SL Apr 2 (BRS); last SCR Apr 26 (GA). **Scaup:** seen regularly through May 16 (SBC). **Com Goldeneye:** seen up to May 3, SL (B-S-H). **Bufflehead:** relatively few reported, last May 1 (BRS). **Oldsquaw:** a brief appearance; fourteen were at SL Apr 22 (B-S-H), six were there Apr 23 (GB, BH) and one was at Alcove Res Apr 26 (WBS). **White-w Scoter:** one was at Lock 7, Mohawk R, Apr 22 (BRS). **Ruddy Duck:** one, SL Apr 22 (BRS). **Hooded Merganser:** a number of reports, last May 16 (GA). **Com Merganser:** seen well into May, last May 16, WR, (WBS, PPW) and May 23, NWW (PPW). **Red-br Merganser:** reported up to May 16, WR and SL (B-S-H).

Hawks — Owls: **Goshawk:** two late records — one Apr 18, Old Chatham (ADBC) and one Apr 26, Meadowdale (GB, BRS). **Sharp-shinned Hawk:** only five reports, three Apr 24-28 (B-S-H). **Cooper's Hawk:** two reports, one Alcove Res Apr 12 (WBS) and one nr Albany Airport Apr 27 (RW). **Red-shouldered Hawk:** ten reports, mostly singles, scattered through period. **Red-tailed Hawk:** seems somewhat more com this year than last. **Broad-w Hawk:** some migrants noted Apr 18-May 10, no large flocks. **Rough-legged Hawk:** one, Kinderhook, Apr 1 (last) (ER) and one Apr 5 (GB, BH). **Bald Eagle:** two reports — one at WR Apr 25 (JF) and one at SCR (BRS et al.) May 7-16, both adults. **Marsh Hawk:** eleven reports to mid-May. **Osprey:** early report Apr 4, Emboght (GCBC); appeared in several areas Apr 12-14 and then reported to May 16, SCR (B-S-H). **Peregrine Falcon:** one seen over Wolf Hollow May 10 (SBC) lone report. **Bob-white:** reports received from Canaan, Emboght, Meadowdale and Nisk. **King Rail:** one was seen well at BCM May 17 (L. Thomas). **Virginia Rail:** first, BCM Apr 18 (EH); few reports. **Sora:** reported from BCM Apr 22 (BRS) — May 16 (SBC); also reported from Greene and Colu Co May 16 (GCBC, ADBC). **Com Gallinule:** few reports, first Apr 4, BCM (EH) and Apr 5, Coxsackie (C. Thorne), very

early; next reports were after Apr 20. American Coot: only two reports — one Apr 24, SCR (WBS) and one May 16, Green Co (GCBC). Semipalmated Plover: more than fifteen reported from May 16, Vly Creek Res (HE, JF, B. Hicks) through end of period. Upland Plover: few reports, first May 16 (SBC). Spotted Sandpiper: arr in marked wave last week of Apr, first Apr 23 (GB, BH). Solitary Sandpiper: first, May 8 (late), SL (B-S-H) and Defreestville (PPW). Greater Yellow-legs: reports sprinkled throughout period from Apr 4, Emboght (GCBC) — May 24, Meadowdale (B-S-H). Lesser Yellow-legs: at least five reports from May 16 (SBC) — May 31 (RPY). Pectoral Sandpiper: 1-4 reported at Meadowdale, Apr 24-May 1 (HE et al); also at Nisk May 16 (HE, JF, B. Hicks). Least Sandpiper: reported May 16 (many areas) to end of period, max 40 May 18 (BRS). Banding of 44 of these nr Scotia on six dates produced only three repeats on dates other than that of capture, even though large numbers of the species were maintained throughout the latter half of May at the locality, showing a rapid, continuous movement through the area (RPY). A similar pattern was shown by banding results with Semipalmated Plover. Semipalmated Sandpiper, and Spotted Sandpiper. Dunlin: three were observed nr Scotia May 28; one was banded and remained through May 31 (RPY). Semipalmated Sandpiper: mostly 1-2 reported, May 16, Nisk (HE, JF, B. Hicks) — May 29 (RPY), but 23 were banded the evening of May 28 (RPY). **Baird's Sandpiper:** two birds, probably of this species, were observed in the company of Pectoral and Least Sandpipers at Nisk May 16 (H. Arnold, B. Hicks et al.). Unfortunately others were not able to find the birds later. **Iceland Gull:** one was at SL Apr 23 (GB, BH). Great Black-backed Gull: a few were reported, last May 7 (B-S-H). Bonaparte's Gull: reported from Apr 12-May 7, SL (B-S-H) in small numbers; most reports Apr 18-26. Com Tern: first reported at Queechy and SL Apr 22 (AG, BRS); several other reports in late Apr, early May, last May 24, NWW (GB, BH). Black Tern: three reports, all SL, May 9-16, max 8 (PPW et al.). Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr May 7, Meadowdale (RS, MLS); seen in good numbers. Black-billed Cuckoo: arr May 8, Catskill (JHB, BB) and BCM (B-S-H). No unusual owls were reported.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Whip-poor-will: a very early first report, Apr 9, Palenville (Jean Hervey); several reported late Apr and afterwards. Nighthawk: two early reports: one Apr 29, Chatham Center (David & Esther Knoll) and one May 2, South Schodack (JC); most arr after May 15. Chimney Swift: first Apr 24, Catskill (BB) and Apr 27, Chatham (ER). Ruby-thr Hummingbird: first May 6, Scotia (RPY); a large influx late in May. Pileated Woodpecker: good numbers reported from all sections. Red-headed Woodpecker: several reports: one, Meadowdale, May 10-11 (BW, RS, MLS); one, Chatham Center, May 10 (*fide* PPW); one, Washington Park, Albany, May 16 (B. Hipple et al.); and one, Kiskatom, May 16 (JHB, BB). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: first Apr 2, Colu Co (ADBC), with several observed Apr 11-12; last migrant May 16, Gallupville (HE, NZ, EH). **Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker:** This species was reported at Karner May 8 (H. Winn et al.) and at Nisk May 9 (HE et al.); the localities are about 10 miles apart, so that both observation could refer to the same individual. Kingbird: first observed May 1, BCM (BRS), but most arr from May 7 on. Crested Flycatcher: first May 3 (SBC) with many reports over the next few days. Trail's Flycatcher: first May 16, BCM (SBC) and thereafter. Least Flycatcher: first Apr 23, Ghent (PE, GE) and Apr 27, Greenville (CK), but most appeared in early May. Wood Pewee: first May 10, Colu Co (ADBC) and May 16 elsewhere in Region 8; relatively few were reported. Olive-sided Flycatcher: only one reported during period — May 16, Colu Co (ADBC). Tree Swallow: numbers rapidly built up Apr 5-11, and remained high throughout period. Bank Swallow: first Apr 17 (WBS, BH, GB), widely seen by end of Apr. At one especially large colony nr Scotia, 606 nest holes were counted on May 23, and a careful estimation based on banded swallows indicated about 1175 adults present (RPY). Rough-w Swallow: first Apr 17, Catskill (JHB) and widely the following week. Barn Swallow: first Apr 11, Canaan (JP, EP) and Apr 14, Rotterdam Jc (RPY), with many reports the following week. Cliff Swallow: first Apr 25, BCM (SBC); few

reports. **Purple Martin**: first reported at Linlithgo quite early, Apr 6 (TB, AB); reported later at Nisk Apr 25 (B-S-H) and Corinth (GB). **Boreal Chickadee**: one was seen and heard at Tomh Apr 17 (WBS et al.). **Tufted Titmouse**: nesting in several areas, although not common. Adults were observed feeding young at LK May 3 (SBC). **Red-br Nuthatch**: few migrants observed, although present in the usual breeding areas. **Brown Creeper**: a fairly heavy flight was noted by several observers over the latter half of Apr. **House Wren**: first Apr 24, Nisk (HE); widespread by May 1. **Winter Wren**: only two migrants reported, in mid-Apr. **Carolina Wren**: one was seen May 12 at Catskill (BB) in a locality where the species has bred previously, but it did not return. **Long-billed Marsh-Wren**: appeared very late and in low numbers in all reporting areas, first May 10, Castleton (JC). **Short-billed Marsh-Wren**: a singing individual was seen at BCM May 16 (SBC) for the only record. **Mockingbird**: reported from New Concord, South Schodack, Catskill, Greenville and Athens, but no reports of individuals much north of Colu and Greene Co during the period have reached me. **Catbird**: first May 2, several areas, widely by May 7. **Brown Thrasher**: first Apr 18, Palenville (GCBC) and Apr 23, Westerlo (MK) with a marked influx the last week of Apr. **Wood Thrush**: first Apr 28, Catskill (JHB, BB) and Scotia (RPY), many reported May 1-4. **Hermit Thrush**: few migrants observed, first Apr 5 (GB, BH), most Apr 19-May 10. **Swainson's Thrush**: several reports, May 7 (BRS) — May 22 (RW). **Gray-cheeked Thrush**: four reported, May 7 (BRS) — May 16 (PPW, WBS, DJT). **Veery**: reported very early — Apr 25 — at Colonie (JF et al.) but most appeared from May 6 on. **Golden-cr Kinglet**: very few reports, Apr 19-26 (B-S-H); most observers reported none. **Ruby-cr Kinglet**: a good flight Apr 14 (EH) — May 16 (several reports), max 45 Apr 25 (PPW). **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**: an unprecedented flight, at least nine reported, first reports May 6. Two pr were reported nesting nr Voorheesville (SBC); the nest of one of these was found. Another pr was at Kiskatom May 16 and thereafter (JHB, BB) and still another pr was observed May 13 along Rte 30, Schoharie Co (HE, NZ, EH). Another (single) was observed May 17, Central Park, Schenectady (BRS). **Water Pipit**: three reports: a small flock, Apr 26, BCM (BRS, GB); 40, May 16, Kiskatom (JHB, BB); and a flock remained at Ghent through May 16 (PE, GE). **Migrant Shrike**: one was observed singing nr Catskill Apr 11 (JHB). The individual which wintered nr Round L was still present there on May 16 (B-S-H). A third shrike (sp?) was observed May 16, Colu Co (ADBC).

Vireos — Warblers: **Yellow-thr Vireo**: first May 7, several localities. **Solitary Vireo**: first Apr 29, Red Rock (FS, MS); a marked wave May 7-10. **Red-eyed Vireo**: first May 4, Schodack Center (LB, VB), widespread by May 10. **Philadelphia Vireo**: only two reports, both May 16 (SBC). **Warbling Vireo**: one was singing, Nisk, Apr 29 (PPW); a marked influx occurred on May 4-5, several areas. **Black and White Warbler**: relatively few observed, first Apr 27, Meadowdale (MLS) and Greenville (CK). **Prothonotary Warbler**: one was observed May 16 at Old Chatham (EMR), the first record for this region in several years. **Worm-eating Warbler**: reported at Indian Ladder as usual, May 16 on (SBC) and also from Ghent May 11 (PE, GE) and at Kiskatom May 16 (BB). **Golden-w Warbler**: first May 4, New Concord (ER) with many reported May 7-9. **Blue-w Warbler**: seen May 7, Troy (PPW) and New Concord (ER) and in more localities than usual May 8-10. **Brewster's Warbler**: one was seen nr LK, May 13 and again May 16 (SBC). No other reports of hybrids. **Tennessee Warbler**: first May 8, Vischer Ferry (B-S-H) with a marked wave May 9-10, last May 17 (B-S-H). **Orange-cr Warbler**: a singing bird was reported at the ADBC Sanctuary, Old Chatham, May 9 (ER, AG, LB, VB). **Nashville Warbler**: first May 1, Ghent (ADBC) and May 3, LK (SBC). **Parula Warbler**: more reported than usual, first May 6, Schenectady (B-H-S). **Yellow Warbler**: first Apr 25, Ghent (PE, GE) and in several localities Apr 26-29. **Magnolia Warbler**: May 5, Schenectady — May 24, Indian Ladder (B-S-H), few reported. **Cape May Warbler**: May 7 (several observers) — May 16 (SBC). **Black-thr Blue Warbler**: first May 4, Schenectady (BRS), very few reported. **Myrtle Warbler**: first

Ap 11, SL (SBC), early. This bird was in female or imm. plumage and may have wintered nearby. Later reports from Apr 18, Castleton (JC) — May 24 (B-S-H), below usual numbers. Black-thr Green Warbler: first Apr 26, Tomh (PPW), but most appeared May 3-4 and later. Appeared very low in numbers, and absent from some areas where it previously bred. Blackburnian Warbler: first May 2, LK (B-S-H) and May 4, Meadowdale (RS, MLS). Cerulean Warbler: observed May 13, Gallupville (NZ, HE, EH), but the species is apparently not breeding in this area where it has bred for the last several years. Chestnut-sided Warbler: first May 2, Nisk (B-S-H), generally reported May 7-9. Bay-br Warbler: only five reports, from May 11, Ghent (PE, GE) — May 31, Nisk (SBC). Blackpoll Warbler: first May 11, Ghent (PE, GE) — end of period. Pine Warbler: first May 6, LK (RW), only four reports. Prairie Warbler: first May 9 (ER), New Concord, with other reports from Catskill (BB) and Karner (SBC). Palm Warbler: only five reports, all single; four were reported Apr 22-26, and one was reported May 16 (SP). Ovenbird: first May 4, Catskill (BB) and in other areas May 6-8. Northern Water-thrush: few reports, May 1-16. Louisiana Water-thrush: first Apr 23, Red Rock (FS, MS); few observed. **Kentucky Warbler**: reported again at Ghent, May 16-17 (PE, GE) — the lone report. Mourning Warbler: no migrants observed; however, the species is present in nesting habitat at Jenny L (GB). Northern Yellow-throat: first May 4, Catskill (BB) and May 6, BCM (B-S-H). Yellow-br Chat: several reports — one, BCM, May 9 and 16 (PPW et al.); one, Vischer Ferry, May 10 (B-S-H); one, nr Albany Airport, May 16 (RW); one nr Catskill May 16 (JHB, BB); and at least two nr Altamont May 16 (PPW, WBS, DJT). Wilson's Warbler: several reports, May 8, Schenectady (B-S-H); May 16 (several localities). Canada Warbler: first May 7, BCM (B-S-H); generally reported May 9 and afterwards. Red-start: first May 6, LK (RW) and May 7, Troy (PPW), and generally in the succeeding days.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Bobolink: first May 6 (B-S-H); widely observed May 8-9. Baltimore Oriole: first May 3, Colu Co (ADBC) and in other areas in a marked wave May 4-5. **Orchard Oriole**: May 8, Catskill (JHB), May 10, Ghent (PE, GE) and May 22, Nisk (PPW). Two pr reported nesting at Castleton (JC). Rusty Blackbird: a number of Apr reports, last Apr 28, BCM (MLS). One May 16 (HE, B. Hicks, JF). Scarlet Tanager: first May 8, LK (B-S-H) and widely May 11-12. Rose-br Grosbeak: several early, first Apr 25, Nisk (HE) and Apr 26, Castleton (JC). Indigo Bunting: a very early individual was reported at Castleton Apr 18 (JC); next report May 7 Catskill (JHB, BB); most birds appearing from May 10 on. **Dickcissel**: one was observed at a feeder in Canaan Apr 18 by observers familiar with the species (JP, EP). Evening Grosbeak: lingered late in good numbers, last May 16 (SBC). Purple Finch: very few observed until about Apr 20, when a noticeable influx occurred. The species was frequently reported throughout May. **House Finch**: one was seen at a feeder in Nisk Apr 29. On May 5, this male was trapped, photographed and viewed by a large number of observers (RPY et al.). To my knowledge, this is the first record of the species for Region 8, and may portend a northward extension of its range into the region. Redpoll: one very late individual was seen in a flock of Pine Siskins at Meadowdale May 16 (HE, JF, B. Hicks). Pine Siskin: a number were seen up to mid-May, last May 21, Catskill (JHB). Red Crossbill: these were observed in numbers, both at feeders and elsewhere, throughout Apr and well into May; last report May 16, Guilderland (H. Jonson). Towhee: a gradual influx from Apr 17 on, with good numbers in most areas by Apr 26. Savannah Sparrow: first Apr 12, Schodack (LB, VB) and from several areas following week. Grasshopper Sparrow: arr late, first May 6, Catskill (BB). Henslow's Sparrow: few reports, first May 7, Meadowdale (B-S-H). Vesper Sparrow: first Apr 11, several areas (SBC). Slate-colored Junco: migrants were passing through well into May, last May 29 (very late), Muitzeskill (JC). Tree Sparrow: last Apr 27, Westerlo (MK). Chipping Sparrow: first Apr 10, Nisk (HE); a marked wave occurred Apr 20-25. Field Sparrow: first Apr 7 (BB, ADBC). White-cr Sparrow: two were still at feeders in Colu Co in Apr; first migrant observed Apr 23 (EH); a marked

wave occurred May 9-11, when some observers reported seeing 10-20 individuals. White-thr Sparrow: reported throughout period, marked influx May 5-11. Fox Sparrow: many reports early Apr, last Apr 12, SL (B-S-H). Lincoln's Sparrow: only report from Colu Co May 16 (ADBC). Swamp Sparrow: quite late in appearance, first Apr 15, BCM (EH). Snow Bunting: observed at Altamont Apr 22 (late) (HE).

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls

REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

The migration, like the weather, was a gradual process with tempered flights and largely unspectacular conditions. April was normal with a fair amount of rain to break the drought that plagued the east for many months; but May brought cool temperatures and no rain until the fourteenth, when about two inches dropped in one storm. Bob Deed remarks that in Rockland County the outstanding features of the season were the influx of southern species, and the depletion (and in some instances total absence) of many insect and fish-eating species. He relates that the wood warblers are seriously down in numbers throughout Rockland County; especially the Redstart, Chestnut-sided and Hooded; and the Waterthrushes are virtually absent. This spring, having spent more hours in the field than in any of his previous thirty-six years that he has been birding, he failed to record a single Great Blue Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, Am. Bittern, Belted Kingfisher or Osprey. He feels strongly that the reason may be the cumulative effect of insecticides.

Contributors: MBC — Mearns Bird Club; WBC — Waterman Bird Club; BA — Bob Augustine; JB — Mr. and Mrs. John Bowman; GB — Gene Brown; TB — Trudy Brown; PC — Pauline Chernik; MC — Margaret Cornwell; BD — Brother Damain; ID — Iris Dean; SD — Scott Dearolf; GD — George Decker; RD — Robert F. Deed; M, JD — Margaret and John Dye; PG — Pat Garthwaite; RG — Ruth Grierson; JG — Joe Grossman; TH — Thelma Haight; WH — Mrs. Wallace R. Harper Jr.; FH — Fred Hough; RJ — Rev. Ronald James; PJ — Paul Jeheber; HK — Homer Kelsey; EM — E. McBride; WM — William McEntee; JM — Joe Malone; B, AM — B. and A. Merritt; HM — Helen Manson; KN — Ken Niven; TO — T. O'Hara; VP — Vivian Parkhurst; EP — Eleanor Pink; RP — Dr. Robert Pyle; JS — James Southward; W, TS — William and Trixie Strauss; ET — Edward D. Treacy; MV — Marion VanWagner; OW — Otis Waterman; BW — Barbara Whitcomb.

Abbreviations used: AM — American; arr — arrived; Imm — immature; Is — island; lk — lake; max — maximum; Res — reservoir; Sw — swamp.

Loons — Ducks: Common Loon: very few reported; one Tarrytown Res, Apr 18 (BA); one Stillwell Lk, Oran Apr 4; one Tomahawk Lk from Apr 1-14 (MBC). Horned Grebe: Extremely low in numbers; two, vicinity of Newburg Apr 3, 4 (M, JD); one May 4 Pleasant Valley, Dutch (MV). Pied-billed Grebe: usual migrants. Double-crested Cormorant one Apr 23 Barrytown (BD). Great Blue Heron: numbers severely down; seven (max) at Tamarack Sw rookery near Millbrook, Dutch (WBC). Green Heron: Apr 19 (earliest) in Sull and Dutch; numbers normal. Cattle Egret: Biggest year so far; eight (max) Oran; four Dutch; one Rock. **Snowy Egret:** Virtually unrecorded in spring; one Crugers Is, Dutch Apr 13-16 (WM). Black-crowned Night Heron: one, Pleasant Valley, Dutch Apr 24 (MV); another, Apr 26 Basher Kill, Sull (KN). **Yellow-crowned Night Heron:** one Apr 5 Haven Sw, Sull (KN); no previous spring records known. Least Bittern: numbers very low; only one, Pine Plains, Dutch May 16 (OW). Am. Bittern: reports from Dutch only; five in Apr and two in May (WBC). Mute Swan: one (imm), Tomahawk Lk Apr 1-14 (BW); and two reports from Dutch, one Apr 3-6 near Fishkill (OW) and one Vanderburg Cove, Rhinecliff from