

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

May 7-24, the latter, last seen on Federation field trip. Canada Goose: well reported through mid-Apr; one large flock seen and heard over Greenville Oran May 7; two pairs of breeding birds at West Point; appeared for the first time in Dutch at Briarcliff (TH). Brant: first flights, 1500 May 12 and 500 more May 13 over Highland Falls (JG) and 600 May 13 over Pleasantville, West (BA). A "heavy" flight over Dutch May 16 (AJ, MK). Snow Goose: a flock of about 70 including one Blue Goose over Bedford, West Apr 12, (SD); 150 same date over Hawthorne (BA). Pintail: six, Lk DeForest Apr 4, second latest date for Rock (RD); several dozen at Goshen, Oran, present, until Apr 25 (MBC). Green-winged Teal: Numbers appear to be normal; one June 2 (very late) Amenia, Dutch (W, TS). Blue-winged Teal: numbers normal; two May 16 (last) Pine Plains, Dutch (VP). Am. Widgeon: usual numbers to better than average. **Shoveller:** Only a few have ever been reported from Region 9; two Apr 20 at Crugers Is were the first in Dutch since 1956 (JB); two Apr 3-25, Goshen. **Ring-necked Duck:** left most areas early, Apr 26 (last). Am. Goldeneye: left most areas early, except a female at Piermont Pier Rock, May 14 (next to latest date) (RD). Bufflehead: Apr 8 (last), Dutch; most left early. Oldsquaw: one Apr 18 (no other), Tomahawk Lk (MBC). Mergansers: Red-breasted absent; Common and Hooded both left early; Hooded last seen Apr 3 at White Plains (VP) and Common Apr 30 Crugers Is (AJ).

Hawks — Owls: MBC reports the hawk situation poor in Oran this season, and it would appear this was the case throughout the region. Sharp-shinned Hawk: one, Vassar College Apr 18 (EP); one May 5, Millerton (OW); no other reports. Cooper's Hawk: Only two reports, both from Dutch. Broad-winged Hawk: not noticeably different in most areas except in Dutch where they had the biggest spring flight in ten years; fiftyfive, Vassar College, Apr 18 (MV, EP) and an even larger number at the same hour at Dover Plains (GD). **Golden Eagle:** one (imm) May 25, flying over Mountainville School, Oran (all field marks observed) (MD, MC). Bald Eagle: lingered later than usual; single birds Apr 24 and May 2 in Dutch; Apr 25 in Oran; two May 15 in Sull; there were more than the usual number of early Apr dates in Oran (MBC). Marsh Hawk: reports from Dutch, only; three in Apr and two in May. Peregrine Falcon: one, May 17 in vicinity of Rio Res Sull (EM). Ruffed Grouse: Numbers better than average, 20 May 16 WBC census compared with an average of eight over the last seven years. Bobwhite: more reported in Dutch than in the last two years; five May 13, Triloba Hill Sanct, in Katonah (RG). Virginia Rail: normal in Dutch but down elsewhere, one report only from Rock and none from the other counties. Sora: None! Common Gallinule: arr Baher Kill Apr 24 (RJ) where they are regular breeders; only other reports from Dutch May 16 (first); three June 2 Amenia (WBC). Semipalmated Plover: rare in spring; one May 17 Basher Kill (KN). Black-bellied Plover: rare in spring; second spring record for Rock, one May 14 Piermont Pier (RD), this is the seventh record for Rock. Common Snipe: two (only) May 10 Rock; one May 17 Basher Kill; seven Apr 1 and two May 16 from Dutch. Breeding of this species in Region 9 has never been proven, but the May dates make it worth investigating. Upland Plover: two (together) Apr 25 Bullville, Oran (ET, PJ). Spotted Sandpiper: Apr 18 (early) Pawling (WBC), normal numbers. Solitary Sandpiper: no Apr reports; May 1 (first) Pleasant Valley (MK); 15 May 16 WBC census. Greater Yellowlegs: Apr 5 (early) Millbrook; nine, WBC census. Lesser Yellowlegs: one May 16 (late) Pine Plains (VP). Least Sandpiper: only two reports, but numbers were high on WBC census May 16; about 100 May 14 Piermont Pier (RD). Semipalmated Sandpiper: none reported. Northern Phalarope: unconfirmed report of two on the Hudson at Croton Pt. May 23 (WH).

Great Black-backed Gull: Apr 25 (last report), Dutch; non-breeding residents remain along the Hudson just to the south. **Common Tern:** one Apr. 25 (rare in spring), Crugers Is (AJ, PG); two May 17 near Hyde Park (MV). **Black Tern:** unreported in spring; three May 9 at Home Farm Pond, AMENIA (W, TS); more than one (no number given) May 10, Hurleyville,

Sull (KN). Mourning Dove: population higher than in recent years. Cuckoos: a good year for both species, but especially the Yellow-billed. Bob Deed counted six in two hours in Orangeville and Blauvelt; the equivalent of a full day's birding a few years ago. Owls: Screech, Great Horned and Barred normal. WBC had three Great Horned nests under surveillance during Apr.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Both species of Goatsuckers down in Rock, but normal to better elsewhere. Chimney Swift: Apr 18 (first), Dutch, with a heavy flight ton Apr 24. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: May 1 (early date) (MK); numbers normal. **Red-bellied Woodpecker:** The bird previously reported at Garnerville, Rock attracted a mate Apr 24 and appeared to be nesting in a high hole in a tree near the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Froman. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: only reports, four Apr in Dutch. Kingbird: Apr 26 (early) Tarrytown (JM), numbers average to higher. Great Crested Flycatcher: May 1 (first), Wappingers Falls; numbers good; better than 100 on WBC census May 16: five year average is 40. Phoebe: plentiful. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: two May 10 Washington Hollow (FG); one, May 16, Pine Plains (MV). Trail's Flycatcher: "more numerous than I have ever known it to be" (RD); numbers up throughout the region. Wood Pewee: normal numbers, May 7 (first) (JS). Olive-sided Flycatcher: one May 15 near Pearl River (RD). Horned Lark: usual residents; a new location near Spring Valley; two birds, one singing, June 4 (HK). Swallows: dates normal; 1000s of Tree at Basher Kill Apr 5 (ID). Rough-winged arr Apr 18 (early) Forestburgh, Sull (KN). Barn arr Apr 14 at Liberty (JK). Purple Martins were at Mt. Hope, Oran Apr 13, but arr a month later in Dutch, May 12. Fish Crow: two Apr 18, Vassar College and remained through May 23 (EP et al). Boreal Chickadee: those of last winter remained until Apr 6 at West Park, Ulst and until Apr 1 at Hawthorne (BA). Tufted Titmouse: Ulst population reported high (FH). Red-breasted Nuthatch: seven Apr records last in Dutch, May 13 (last) (EP); May 14 (last) in Rock (GB). Winter Wren: well reported in Dutch; May 3 (latest) Swan Lk, Sull (EM). Mockingbird: reported from all counties but West; continues to increase; at least six birds are known to be in Oranetown, Rock, alone. Wood Thrush: arr Apr 16, Moore's Mills, Dutch, numbers normal thereafter. Gray-cheeked Thrush: numbers good, reported from most counties. Bluebird: 20 on the census to an average of 12 in Dutch; 29 young were banded by the end of the period. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: continues to spread and increase; at least 12 were observed at West Point May 2 (MBC); nesting activity has been observed in Dutch and Oran. Golden-crowned Kinglet: scarce in Apr, no May reports. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: noticeable flight Apr 25. Pipit: generally scarce; one Chester May 1 (SU); and on Federation trip May 24 (latest) from Dutch.

Vireos — Warblers: Margaret Dye reports warbler waves on May 7, 8, and 9 Cornwall area, Oran, which coincided with those reported in Dutch by OW and Rockland by BD. Smaller movements, May 14 in Rock and May 24 in Dutch. Yellow-throated Vireo: numbers up in Dutch with better than double the average number on WBC census; numbers down in Rock but normal elsewhere. Solitary Vireo: numbers low and arr was late; Apr 25 in Dutch. Warbling Vireo: numbers way up in Rock (RD); 45 on WBC census compared to an average of 12 over the last six years. Warblers: Black-and-white: Apr 18 (early) on Low Tor near Haverstraw (RD). Brewster's: one, May 15 New Paltz area (RP). Lawrence's: May 5 Poughkeepsie (MK); May 9 Pleasantville (BA). Nashville: Apr 27, Pine Plains (TH); scarce. Yellow: Apr 27, Neversink, Sull (PC). Cape May: scarce in Dutch; above average numbers in Rock; normal elsewhere; a good movement on May 14. Black-throated Blue: May 6, Moore's Mills (HM); went through early, a few or none after May 16. Myrtle: Apr 15, Basher Kill; fewer than usual. Black-throated Green: numbers low in Oran and Rock, but near normal in Dutch: Apr 25 (first) Pine Plains (WBC). Cerulean: returned to usual locales; no increase except for Dutch where Mt. Rutsen residents seem to be expanding. Blackburnian: May 7 Rhinecliff (AJ); none after May 16. **Yellow-throated**

Warbler: two from Dutch; one Apr 28-30, Poughkeepsie (MK); May 14 Hyde Park (AJ). Chestnut-sided: three times higher than usual on WBC census: May 6 (first) Poughkeepsie (MK); this species very much reduced in Rock (RD). Bay-breasted: May 7 Crugers Is (BD); average numbers. Pine: Apr 15 Innisfree (AJ); two May 16 (very late) (WBC). Prairie: Apr 28, Stanfordville (FG). Waterthrush: both species arr Apr 18. Louisiana normal, but Northern low. None of the latter species in Rock. Mourning: one (only report) May 9, Cornwall (B, AM). Yellow-breasted Chat: none reported, last year's residents failed to return to their usual territories. Hooded: also missing from its usual haunts. Redstart: numbers reduced compared to other years.

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Bobolink: May 5, (earliest) Dutch; late in Oran, May 11 (first). Orchard Oriole: one returned to its Stone Ridge nest site May 6; one High Falls Ulst (FH); this species is reported from four areas in Dutch, some adults and other immatures. Indigo Bunting: Arr May 7 Poughkeepsie; 45 compared with an average of six for the past six years, WBC census. Evening Grosbeak: last reports, May 8 Sull, May 9 Oran, and May 10 Dutch. House Finch: Cornwall Mar 30 to Apr 23 (B, AM) and Stanfordville Apr 11 (FG); this species has summered for the second year at Nyack (RD). Goldfinch: good numbers of winter population persisted through the spring with an exceptional influx May 7, Dutch (OW). Red Crossbills: May 4-10, Hawthorne (from two to ten) (BA); eight Apr 25, Pine Plains (WBC); two, Red Oaks Mill Apr 28 (TB) and several for three weeks prior to May 16 at Pleasant Valley (EP), all Dutch. White-winged Crossbill: two Apr 25 Pine Plains (WBC). Savannah Sparrow: Mar 28, Monticello. Slate-colored Junco: one or two pair nesting at Dover Plains (MK); a late migrant May 9 at Liberty (KN). **Oregon Junco:** Wintering bird last seen at Cornwall, May 10 (M, JD). White-throated Sparrow: numbers reduced all spring. Fox Sparrow: May 16 (last and very late) Amenia (WTS). Lincoln Sparrow: May 16, Lagrangeville (MK); May 10, Hawthorne (BA).

Corrigendum: **Kingbird, XIV (2) 119:** The Broad-winged Hawk seen on Dec 22 was **not** seen by Eugene Eisenmann. This bird was reported on the Bronx—Westchester Christmas Count and the record belongs in the region ten report.

Note: Contributors are requested to have their reports of the Summer season in Sept 5.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls 10928

Corrigendum: In *Kingbird*, XIII, 139, *The Common Loon in New York State*, Map 2 shows a recent breeding record in Orange County. On pg. 140 Highland Reservoir, Orange County, is listed as questionable, and should have been so designated on the map. Breeding has not been proved for this location.

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