

(first) Sep 15, SWS (FR); three, Sep 28, SWS (SFH). Long-billed Marsh Wren: reported as abundant at MNWR; last date Sep 20. Mockingbird: at least four reports in Ithaca area. Robins: very abundant in hedgerows all fall; flocks reported eating Phytolacca berries, Sep 20, Ithaca (EGA); with drought making it difficult to get worms, they sought all available fruit. Wood Thrushes: 12, counted along $\frac{1}{2}$ mile trail in SWS, Sep 8 (DAL). Bluebirds: reported absent at Waterloo, but in Ithaca area more reported than for last several fall seasons; largest flock 15, Sep 24, edge of SWS (DAL). Pipit: scattered reports; last date Nov 15, MNWR (CM). Cedar Waxwing: abundant. Loggerhead Shrike: two reports in Ithaca area; one, MNWR, Sep 20 (RF et al).

Vireos — Warblers: Solitary Vireo: one, Oct 13 (last date) (DM). Philadelphia Vireo: one, Aug 23 (early), MNWR (WEB). Warbler migration poor at Keuka (FG). Prothonotary Warbler: one (rare in Region outside of MNWR), Sep 30, SWS, (FR). Orange-crowned Warbler: one, Oct 27 (last date), Waterloo (JW). Myrtle Warbler: (peak) "hundreds", 3rd week Sep, Stewart Park, Ithaca (FR). Connecticut Warbler: two, Sep 27, s.w. corner Cay L (RW). Elmira TV tower kill of warblers, Sep 13-22 included:

8 Black-and-white	13 Chestnut-sided	1 Chat
16 Tennessee	33 Bay-breasted	6 Wilson's
12 Nashville	5 Blackpoll	9 Canada
39 Magnolia	49 Ovenbirds	3 Redstarts
5 Black-throated Blue	6 N. Waterthrush	
17 Black-throated Green	2 Mourning	244 individuals of 18
6 Blackburnian	14 Yellowthroats	species

Blackbirds — Sparrows: A report from the Eaton Bird Club (Geneva-Waterloo area) indicates that the Icterid flight in that area was irregular — the largest flock of Redwings was estimated at 10,000, other flocks much smaller, with periods of no flocks in same area; grackles were more numerous, but also flocked through irregularly; cowbirds were in better numbers this fall than last. Baltimore Oriole: one at Grinnell feeder in Ithaca in late November is a late date; an early December report two miles away may have been the same individual. Three Scarlet Tanagers and one Rose-breasted Grosbeak were included in the Elmira Tower kill reported above. Dickcissel: one, Sep 11, Etna (EM). White-throated Sparrows: abundant in Geneva area, scarce at Ithaca; few seem to be wintering. Lincoln's Sparrow: seven in Elmira TV kill, Elmira, Sep 19. Lapland Longspurs: two, Oct 17 (first), MNWR (FS). Snow Buntings: two, Oct 17 (first), MNWR (FS).

Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca

REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

LESLIE E. BEMONT

The drought that we shared with much of the northeast continued through the middle of November. Precipitation was roughly normal during the latter half of November, but, of course, did little to offset the driest May through October period on record. There were no measurable snowfalls. Temperatures averaged on the cool side, but close to normal, through October, but November was decidedly warmer than normal. There were scattered frosts in mid September but general freezing temperatures were delayed until October 6.

One of the more significant observations during the period was the detection of a major flight of Broad-winged Hawks. No less than four September Rough-legged Hawk reports from different areas were puzzling to say the least. It will be interesting to know if other regions report a similar occurrence. The two Saw-whet Owl records during the period bring the total for the year to five, more than for the previous twelve years together. It seems probable that this reflects a genuine population increase,

although the possibility that observer education is responsible cannot be denied.

The song bird migration was primarily a steady diffuse movement as might be expected from the generally uniform weather conditions, although there were noticeable "waves" around Sep 19 and Sep 29. There were some later than normal last dates but the migration as a whole did not seem significantly late. "Winter finches" were conspicuous by their almost complete absence.

A Western Kingbird and some Northern Phalaropes were the only rarities.

Contributors: LB-L. Bemont, DB-Dewey Bendle, RB-Robert Burland, GC-Gail Corderman, C&JD-Carlton and Jeanne Davis, M&AD-Marilyn and Anna Davis, RD-Robert Dirig, AE-Anna Evelein, CG-Clinton Gerould, SG-Selena Gorton, JG-John Gustafson, CH-Claude Howard, FL-Florence Linaberry, HM-Harriet Marsi, JO-Jack Osadchey, RP-Robert Pantle, R&JS-Robert and Jean Saunders, R&MS-Robert and Mary Sheffield, RS-Ray Short, E&NW-Elizabeth and Newell Washburn, DW-Don Weber, MW-Mildred White, R&SW-Ruth and Sally White, EW-Evelyn Williams, RW-Ruth Williams, SW-Stuart Wilson, and HW-Herbert Wisner.

Loons — Ducks: Common Loon: 7 counted Oct 24 and 27, Oct 30 flying over Skyline Park (RW). Pied-billed Grebe: more frequent reports than usual; 12 to 14, Oct 11, Whitney Point (R&MS) was the best concentration and the latest date. Green Heron: Oct 3, Owego (MW), the last. Common Egret: Aug 16, Whitney Point (HM, et al); Aug 30, Owego (MW, CG); 1, Aug 31, Whitney Point (SG); Sep 22, Owego (DB). Black-crowned Night Heron: Aug 26, Owego (MW, CG); Oct 3, Owego area (RW); the only reports. American Bittern: Oct 4, Whitney Point (R&MS), the last; not many.

Canada Goose: Sep 8, Cortland (JG) and Nov 13, Owego (EW), the first and last fall migrants reported; average numbers were reported with max 750, Oct 23, Binghamton (RS). Brant: large flock, Nov 2, Apalachin (CG), no details. Pintail: 1 immature, from Sep 20 to Nov 14, Owego (RW); the only one reported. Green-winged Teal: 3, Nov 1, Whitney Point (R&MS); 8, Nov 14, Owego (RW); the only reports after Sep 28. Blue-winged Teal: small numbers thru Sep 19. Wood Duck: "abundant until about mid Oct" at Lounsberry (MW). Redhead: Sep 10, Blodgett Mills in Cortland Co. (A. Knight); 1, Nov 27 and 29, Chenango Valley State Park (M&AD); the only ones reported. Canvasback: 4, Aug 21, Hancock (RD). Lesser Scaup: Sep 10, Blodgett Mills (A. Knight); the only scaup report. Bufflehead: 4, Nov 8, Norwich (R&SW); Nov 22, Owego (RW). White-winged Scoter: 4, Sep 1, Whitney Point (SG). Common Scoter: 24, Oct 11, Whitney Point (R&MS). Hooded Merganser: small flocks on Bowman Lake near McDonough in Chenango Co, on St. John's Pond near Castle Creek and at Chenango Valley State Park in Nov. Common Merganser: 3, Nov 29, Chenango Valley State Park (M&AD), the first of the season.

Hawks — Owls: Turkey Vulture: 60 in two "flocks", Aug 19, Hancock (RD), an unprecedented concentration in this Region; regular reports from Hancock plus occasional reports from the Owego area, Charlotte Valley in southeastern Otsego Co (RB) and Unadilla (HW). Cooper's Hawk: records from this Region do not reflect the decrease in numbers reported in other regions earlier in the year, although the number of reports is never large. Red-tailed Hawk: daily counts in the twenties at Owego in late Oct (RW). Red-shouldered Hawk: Oct 3, Whitney Point (SG), the last; not many. Broad-winged Hawk: 2335, Sept 12, Owego (RW), counted flying over in 90 minutes — only 10 the next day; much the best hawk flight reported in the Region during the last 12 years; Oct 3, Hinman's Corners (R&JS), the last one. Rough-legged Hawk: 1, Sep 5, Whitney Point (SG), seen hovering — dark belly band and black outer tail band — also observed perched on a telephone pole at close range; Sep 6 thru 8, Greene (C&JD), no details; 1, Sep 7, Owego (MW, CG), no details; 1, Sep 26, Charlotteville (RB), seen perched at close range — light phase, the dark belly band just barely

discernable, the terminal tail band very narrow, white rump patch; the next Oct 26; several Nov records. Bald Eagle: 1, Sep 30, Hancock (RD). Marsh Hawk: fairly frequent reports from Aug 16 thru Oct 11. Osprey: 2, Aug 23, Chenango Bridge (SG), the first fall migrants; numbers increasing during Sep to peak in first half of Oct; Oct 18, Chenango Forks (M&AD), the last. Sparrow Hawk: scarce all fall in most of the Region.

Ruffed Grouse: "very abundant", Charlotteville (RB). Bobwhite: "2 flocks at Candor and 1 at Stanton Hill" (AE). Turkey: "still being reported in 4 different areas — Candor, South Owego and two locations near Owego" (RW). Coot: Oct 3, Owego (J. Shuler) and Oct 25, Owego (MW, CG), the first and last; several reports between with 14, Oct 11, Whitney Point (R&MS), the highest count. Killdeer: common to Nov 15; 1, Nov 29, Norwich (R&SW). Black-bellied Plover: 3, Sep 5, Binghamton (CH). Golden Plover: Sep 2 and 11, Endwell (FL). Woodcock: another at wet spot in residential area back yard Sep 15 thru 19, Binghamton (Mrs. Elton); still at Candor in late Nov (DW). Common Snipe: 10, Aug 30, Sherburne (R&SW) and 10 or more, Oct 4, Whitney Point (R&MS), the best counts of fairly numerous records; Nov 19, Candor (DW), the last. Spotted Sandpiper: Oct 30, Homer (JG); 3, Nov 14, Whitney Point (SG); both very late with no details provided. Solitary Sandpiper: none after Aug 26. Greater Yellowlegs: scattered reports to Oct 23, Owego (RW, MW). Lesser Yellowlegs: very few; Oct 21, Owego (MW), the last. Pectoral Sandpiper: "many", Sep 26, Upper Lisle (M&AD), the first; several other reports of good numbers to Oct 20, Binghamton (RS). Least Sandpiper: very few after mid Aug; Sep 27, Whitney Point (R&MS), the last. Dunlin: 8 or more, Sep 27, Whitney Point (R&MS), the only report. Short-billed Dowitcher: 10 or more, Sep 1 and 5, Whitney Point (SG), the only reports. Semi-palmated Sandpiper: a few scattered reports to Oct 10. Sanderling: Aug 20, Owego (MW), the only report. Northern Phalarope: 3, Sep 26, Upper Lisle (M&AD), black eye patch and black on top of head, black needle like bill, otherwise white on head, breast and belly and back gray, — swimming, lively — a first record for Region; 1, still there Sep 27, (R&MS). Ring-billed Gull: flock of 300 or so, Homer, Nov 6 to 9 (JG); a few other scattered reports. Common Tern: thru Aug, Skaneateles Lake (JO).

Mourning Dove: a very sharp decline in numbers after mid Aug; almost no reports. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Oct 9, Whitney Point (HM, FL), the last. Black-billed Cuckoo: Sep 21, Owego (MW), our last. Screech Owl: a few more than in previous years. Snowy Owl: 1, Nov 23, near Stamford in eastern Delaware Co. (J. New), collected; 1, Nov 24, Binghamton (T. Van Buskirk). Barred Owl: 1, Aug 19, Hancock (RD); Aug 20, Candor (DW); Sep 28, Unadilla (HW). Saw-whet Owl: 1, Sep 3, Binghamton (HM), killed flying against window; Nov 7, Ingraham Hill (CH).

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Whip-poor-will: one thru Sep, Owego (AE). Nighthawk: Sep 21, Owego (MW), the last. Chimney Swift: none reported after Sep 4, Green (C&JD). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Sep 29, Owego (RW), an early last date. Yellow-shafted Flicker: 100's, Sep 16, Charlotteville (RB); common until mid Oct; last report Oct 30, Owego (AE). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Oct 15, Cortland (JG), the last one; small numbers all fall until then. Eastern Kingbird: mostly gone after Aug 31; 3, Sep 13, Center Valley (RB) and Sep 14, Chenango Valley State Park (M&AD), the last ones. Western Kingbird: 1, Sep 30, Owego (Mrs. C. Hills), observed at close range with 7 x 50 binoculars — "yellowish breast and white side tail markings were noted, also the face markings were visible" — identified with aid of "Peterson". Great Crested Flycatcher: none after Aug 24. Eastern Phoebe: regular to Oct 18; Nov 8, Homer (JG), the last. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: Sep 5, Ingraham Hill (CH); 1, Sep 13, Endwell (LB, HM, GC). Wood Pewee: Sep 27, Ingraham Hill (CH). Olive-sided Flycatcher: 10 or more at one time, Aug 29, Ingraham Hill (CH); 1, Sep 19, Choconut Center (R&MS). Tree Swallow: large flocks Aug 31; last straggler Sep 27, Upper Lisle (M&AD). Barn Swallow: essentially all gone after Sep 9; Oct 6,

Owego (Thelma Taylor), the only later report. Cliff Swallow: 6, Sep 9, Norwich (R&SW). Blue Jay: numbers remain high. Tufted Titmouse: reported at several feeders around Hancock and Deposit (SW); at two locations in Cortland (C. Wilkins, F. O'Leary); 2, Nov 1 and 21, Endwell (E&NW). Red-breasted Nuthatch: very scarce, only two reports. House Wren: Oct 11, Chenango Forks (M&AD). Winter Wren: 2, Sep 17, Ingraham Hill (CH); Oct 28, Chenango Forks (M&AD); several reports between. Long-billed Marsh Wren: 1, Sep 20, Oxford (R&SW); Sep 31, South Owego (DB).

Mockingbird: Sep 23, Chanango Forks (M&AD); 2 Oct 27, Unadilla (HW); Nov 30, Owego (RD). Catbird: common right up to Oct 9, Binghamton (HM), the last date. Brown Thrasher: 1, Nov 3, Binghamton (RS). Robin: regular to the end of the period. Wood Thrush: Oct 13, Endwell (FL). Hermit Thrush: mostly gone after Oct 18; 1 banded, Nov 13, Binghamton (HM). Swainson's Thrush: most reports between Sep 13 and Oct 1; Oct 22, Binghamton (HM). Gray-cheeked Thrush: 9 reports, including several banding records, from Sep 20 to Oct 15 in the Triple Cities area (NC). Veery: few after Aug 23. Eastern Bluebird: good numbers thru the end of Oct with a few late migrants during the first 10 days of Nov. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Sep 7 and Oct 1, Owego (MW), no details. Golden-crowned Kinglet: Oct 2, Ingraham Hill (CH), the first; common from Oct 16 to Oct 31; a few Nov records. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 1, Sep 13, Endwell (LB, HM, et al), the first; common to Oct 31 then no more. Water Pipit: Sep 27 and Oct 4, Whitney Point (R&MS).

Vireos — Warblers: Yellow-throated Vireo; Sep 22, Owego (MW) and Chenango Forks (M&AD). Solitary Vireo: very few; 1 banded, Oct 18, Endwell (LB, RP), the last. Red-eyed Vireo: common to Oct 2, then none. Philadelphia Vireo: Sep 13, Unadilla (HW) and Owego (RW); Sep 23, Ingraham Hill (CH); Sep 27, Binghamton (HM). Warbling Vireo: Sep 21, Unadilla (HW); several Sep reports of singing. Black-and-white Warbler: to Sep 20, Ingraham Hill (CH) and Binghamton (HM). Worm-eating Warbler: 1, Aug 18, Hancock (RD). Golden-winged Warbler: Aug 27, Chenango Forks (M&AD), the last report. Blue-winged Warbler: Sep 5, Chenango Forks (M&AD). Tennessee Warbler: all reports between Sep 13 and Sep 19; reasonably good numbers. Nashville Warbler: Oct 6, Owego (RW); quite a few. Parula Warbler: 2, Sep 29, Choconut Center (R&MS), the last. Yellow Warbler: only 3 reports after mid Aug; Sep 7, Whitney Point (SG), the last. Magnolia Warbler: Aug 29 to Oct 3 in good numbers; counts of 25 and 33, Sep 19 and 20 respectively, Choconut Center (R&MS). Cape May Warbler: 3 reports; Sep 14, Ingraham Hill (CH), the first; Oct 3, Owego (RW), the last. Black-throated Blue Warbler: to Oct 8, Ingraham Hill (CH). Myrtle Warbler: Sep 9 to Oct 29; Oct 14 and 17, Ingraham Hill (CH), "woods full". Black-throated Green Warbler: to Oct 8, Ingraham Hill (CH). Blackburnian Warbler: none after Sep 29. Chestnut-sided Warbler: to Sep 25, Ingraham Hill (CH). Bay-breasted Warbler: Sep 13, Owego (RW), the only report. Blackpoll Warbler: 1, Sep 13, banded at Endwell (RP), the first; 1, Oct 4, banded at Binghamton (HM), the last; quite a few between. Pine Warbler: Sep 13 and 20, Owego (RW). Palm Warbler: 3, Oct 3, Choconut Center (R&MS); Oct 8, Ingraham Hill (CH); the only ones. Ovenbird: to Oct 1, Ingraham Hill (CH). Northern Waterthrush: Sep 30, Owego (RW); Oct 4, Whitney Point (R&MS); the only reports. Connecticut Warbler: Sep 14, Owego (RW); Sep 23, Willow Point (CH). Mourning Warbler: 1, Sep 29, Choconut Center (R&MS); Oct 8, Owego (RW); the only ones. Yellowthroat: common to the end of Sep; 3 Oct reports; Oct 22, Owego (RW), the last. Yellow-breasted Chat: to Sep 26, Newark Valley (Louise Dean). Wilson's Warbler: quite a few from Sep 3 to 30, mostly Sep 13 to 20 and Sep 28 to 30. Canada Warbler: 2, Sep 13, Unadilla (HW); Sep 26, Owego (RW); the only ones after Aug 23. Red-start: to Oct 2, Ingraham Hill (CH).

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Bobolink: to Sep 7, Whitney Point (R&MS, SG). Eastern Meadowlark: common to Oct 30; still at Candor, Nov 29 (RP).

Redwinged Blackbird: large flocks gone after Nov 1. Baltimore Oriole: common to Sep 10 then no more. Rusty Blackbird: 2, Oct 4, Whitney Point (R&MS); 1, Oct 19, Norwich (R&SW); 1, Nov 16, Binghamton (RS); the only reports. Common Grackle: a flock of over 1000, Oct 11, Unadilla (HW); regular until Nov 8, then scattered reports to the end of the period. Brown-headed Cowbird: only scattered reports after Sep 30, but including some moderate-sized flocks. Scarlet Tanager: regular reports to Sep 29, none thereafter. Cardinal: it appears that numbers have passed a peak and have dropped slightly, although still common. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Sep 29, Chenango Forks (M&AD), the last. Indigo Bunting: to Sep 7, Whitney Point (SG). Evening Grosbeak: 1 heard, Nov 2, Deposit (SW); small number, Nov 11, Freetown in Cortland Co (JG); 1 heard, Nov 28, Oneonta (J. New); no other reports. Purple Finch: regular, although in relatively small numbers, during Sep; thinned out drastically during Oct and were almost all gone after Oct 22. Pine Siskin: 8, Nov 27, Center Valley (RB), the only report. Goldfinch: plentiful through most of Nov, although diminishing noticeably by the end of the month. White-winged Crossbill: 3, Nov 15, Owego (RW, Y. Williams). Rufous-sided Towhee: mostly gone after Oct 15, but a few stragglers to the end of the period in several parts of the Region. Savannah Sparrow: to Oct 9, Whitney Point (HM, FL). Vesper Sparrow: Nov 30, Owego (Dorothy Raftis), eating at feeder. Slate-colored Junco: reported regularly after Oct 3 and to the end of the period. Oregon Junco: Oct 30, Ingraham Hill (CH). Tree Sparrow: Oct 10, Binghamton (RS), the first; regular after Oct 31. Chipping Sparrow: to Oct 18, Sidney (F. Quick). Field Sparrow: Nov 1, Newark Valley (L. Dean). White-crowned Sparrow: Sep 30, Candor (RP) to Oct 29, Binghamton (RS, HM) and Owego (E. Williams); 1 straggler, Nov 13, Unadilla (HW). White-throated Sparrow: migrants appeared in early Sep; common to Oct 30; a few stragglers to the end of the period. Fox Sparrow: a few very scattered reports from Oct 1 to Nov 22. Lincoln's Sparrow: Sep 26, Choconut Center (R&MS); Sep 30, Owego (RW); Oct 3, Owego (MW, CG); Oct 3, Choconut Center (R&MS); that's all the reports. Song Sparrow: thinning out after about Nov 13.

710 University Ave., Endwell 13763

REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

Fritz Scheider

Late August, unlike the preceding summer months, had a modest amount of rain. However, September reverted to the persistent drought pattern with a mere 0.75 inches (second driest September ever!) ; a cold spell (record low of 35°F September 16) may have triggered some flycatcher-vireo-warbler movement, as the next three days proved excellent for observation of migrants. October, also a dry month though less so than September, was chilly in the first two weeks; a record low of 27°F October 7 marked the date of exodus of many shorebirds and most of the insectivorous flycatchers, vireos, and warblers. However, the latter half of October was unseasonably warm, as was most of November. The drought persisted through November, resulting in the depletion of most local marshes. Low water levels at Oneida Lake and along Lake Ontario were impressive, exposing acres of mud flats (too late for many shorebirds but widely used by Snow Buntings) and linear miles of algae-covered rocky shore and shingle beach.

The rich and varied shorebird flight of July and August continued through September with a rapid drop in early October; particularly favored this fall were Sylvan and Verona Beaches at Oneida Lake, the Syracuse Airport, and Onondaga Lake. Sandy Pond regularly had good variety but smaller numbers of shorebirds than usual. Major vireo-warbler waves occurred August 29, September 6, September 11-13, September 18-19, and again September 29. A major movement of kinglets, Winter Wrens, icterids, and other later migrants inundated the Region October 17-18.