

"common this year" last Oct 14 Ray B (JK). Blackburnian Warbler: Aug 17 & 20 Saranac L (GM); last Sept 18 Ray B (JK). Chestnut-sided Warbler: three young, one adult Tupper L Aug 19 (MK); one "moulting male" Raquette Falls Aug 21 (CS&DT); one Aug 26 Saranac L (GM); one Sept 6 Ray B (JK). Bay-breasted Warbler: one Sept 11 & 30 Ray B (JK). Blackpoll Warbler: one Aug 27 & 28 Saranac L (GM); one Aug 29 Sunmount (GC). Ovenbird: one seen frequently until Aug 27 Saranac L (GM); one Sept 10 Ray B (JK). Mourning Warbler: one Aug 31 Ray B (JK). Yellowthroat: the most often recorded warbler of Region 7, last Oct 2 Ray B (JK). Wilson's Warbler: one Sept 13 & 14 Ray B (JK). Canada Warbler: Aug 19 & 27 Saranac L (GM); one Aug 27, 31 & Sept 23 Ray B (JK). American Redstart: Aug 17, 20 & 26 Saranac L (GM); last Oct 5 Ray B (JK).

Blackbirds — Sparrows: Bobolink: one flying over Madawska Aug 20 (GM). Eastern Meadowlark: ten Norman's Ridge Oct 20 (EA&HD). Red-winged Blackbird: 50 Aug 25, last two Nov 24 Saranac L (HD); 70 Sept 30, last Nov 21 Ray B (JK); also reported from Raquette R and Tupper L. Baltimore Oriole: nine Aug 20 Saranac L (GM); one Tupper L Aug 23 (MK). Rusty Blackbird: 15 Oct 14 Ray B (JK); one Pine P Sept 1 (GM). Common Grackle: all areas. Brown-headed Cowbird: reported from all areas but in small numbers. Scarlet Tanager: three Aug 9 Saranac L (GM); one Aug 27 Saranac L (HD); three Aug 22 Tupper L (AA); one Sept 3 Ray B (JK). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: one Aug 20 Saranac L (GM); one Sept 19 Ray B (JK). Dickcissel: one at Tupper L feeder as late as Nov 20 (AA&MK). Evening Grosbeak: few thru period all areas; 35 Nov 7 Ray B (JK). Purple Finch: reported only from Ray B & Saranac L in very small numbers. Pine Grosbeak: one Nov 22 Ray B (JK). Pine Siskin: only large flock reported Aug 18 & 19 Raquette L (CS&DT). American Goldfinch: most numerous finch of fall and winter all areas. Crossbills: Dr. Meade says "noteworthy that I neither saw nor heard a single crossbill of either species"; one Red Crossbill Sept 19, 24 & Oct 17 Ray B (JK). Savannah Sparrow: one Sept 12 Ray B (JK). Vesper Sparrow: one Sept 30 Ray B (JK); six Oct 20 Saranac L (HD). Slate-colored Junco: very small numbers in all areas except Raquette R where CS&DT found them "abundant everywhere". Tree Sparrow: three Nov 10 Ray B (JK); one Saranac L Nov 24 (HD). Chipping Sparrow: good numbers Ray B, Saranac L & Sunmount. White-crowned Sparrow: six Sept 28 for nine days Pine St Saranac L (E Dyer); two to ten Trudeau Rd Oct 10 thru Nov 1 (HD); adult Lewis Sept 26 (GC); few Oct 6 to 17 Ray B (JK); few Oct 19 Sunmount (AA). White-throated Sparrow: few reported all areas until mid-October. Fox Sparrow: one Oct 12 Ray B (JK); one Aug 22 Raquette R (CS&DT); one Oct 18 thru 23 Tupper L feeder (AA). Lincoln Sparrow: one Aug 26 near Elk L (GM). Swamp Sparrow: Aug 16, 19 & 20 Saranac L (GM); one Aug 17 thru Sept 24 Ray B (JK). Song Sparrow: good numbers thru Oct all areas. Trudeau Road, Saranac Lake.

REGION 8 — MOHAWK-HUDSON

PETER P. WICKHAM

The long drought which has afflicted this region continued throughout the period. The early part of the fall was cooler than normal, with temperatures in Aug (at Albany) averaging 66.2°, 3.8° below normal. Temperatures in Sept and Oct averaged 61.0° and 49.2°, 0.6° and 1.6° below normal, respectively, whereas in Nov, temperatures averaged 41.4°, 2.3° above normal. Nov was the eighth consecutive month of sub-normal precipitation and at the end of the month at Albany, yearly precipitation totaled 18.3 in, 14.3 in below normal.

Due to the long dry period, marshes and reservoirs became parched and dry. Very few marsh birds such as rails and gallinules were reported. Hawks were again seen in very low numbers, and the fall warbler migration was, on the whole, a disappointing one. On the other hand, many ducks were seen,

with the number of Redhead notably on the rise. Large groups of blackbirds were ubiquitous in early fall. Sandpipers and plovers were again seen widely and in good numbers, although perhaps slightly less than those of a year ago. In contrast with 1963, the finch pattern is totally different, with very few reports of Evening Grosbeaks or Pine Siskins and none of any crossbills. However, an "invasion" of Snowy Owls does appear probable this winter.

Among the more unusual species recorded were included Little Blue Heron, Least Bittern, Shoveler, Golden Plover, Black-bellied Plover, Dowitcher, Stilt Sandpiper, Orange-crowned Warbler, Orchard Oriole and Lincoln's Sparrow.

Abbreviations. ADBC-Alan Devoe Bird Club; GCBC-Green County Bird Club; SBC-Schenectady Bird Club; approx-approximately; arr-arrived; br-breasted; Co-County; Colu-Columbia; com-common; cr-crowned; imm-immature; l-lake; max-maximum; MR-Mohawk River; n-necked; nr-near; R-River; Renss-Rensselaer; res-reservoir; RL-Round Lake; SCR-Stony Creek Reservoir; SL-Saratoga Lake; thr-throated; TR-Tomhannock Reservoir; VFG-Vischer Ferry Game Management Area; w-winged; WR-Watervleit Reservoir.

Observers: GB-Guy Bartlett; HB-Hortense Barton; JHB-James Bush; LB, VB-Lee & Virginia Burland; JC-Juanita Cook; HE-Hazel Eddy; PE, GE-Paul & Georgia Erlenbach; MWF-Mabel French; AG-Aden Gokay; EH-Esly Hallenbeck; MJ-Mary Johnston; MK-Marcia Kent; ML-Mary Lynch; MDM-Mary Mickie; JP, EP-John and Eloise Payne; EMR-Dr. Edgar M. Reilly, Jr.; WBS-Walton Sabin; BRS-Benton Seguin; DJT-Dr. Donald Tucker; PPW-Peter Wickham; RPY-Robert Yunick; B-S-H-Bartlett, Seguin and Barry Havens.

Loons — **Ducks**: Com Loon: first Oct 3, SL (BRS); relatively few observed, max 6 Oct 18, SL (BRS). Red-thr Loon: only two reports — one, Nov 15, SL (SBC) and a flock of about 50, SL, late Nov (EH). Red-n Grebe: one at SL and two at RL Oct 18 (EH, BRS); one at SL Nov 4 (EH). Horned Grebe: first Oct 18, SL (BRS) throughout period, up to 100 at SL in late Oct and Nov. Pied-billed Grebe: two at Old Pond, Chatham, Sept 20 and live there Oct 17 (ADBC); only other reports — two, WR, Sept 9 (PPW); one, RL, Sept 13 (DJT); three, Tuttle's Marsh, Oct 6 (MDM); one, SL, Nov 14 (B-S-H). Great Blue Heron: fair numbers throughout Region in Sept; max 17 Sept 16, VFG (EH); last Nov 29, SCR (B-S-H). Com Egret: only reports — one at WR Aug 22 (SBC) and Sept 9 (PPW), and one at VFG through Sept 9 (DJT). **Little Blue Heron**: an adult, Old Chatham Aug 22 (EMR). Green Heron: reported to Oct 4, SCR (BRS). Black-cr Night Heron: few reported, mostly imm, only from Jenny L (GB) and VFG (SBC); last, four (max), Sept 20, VFG (EH). American Bittern: very few reported, last Sep 26, WR (BRS). **Least Bittern**: only report — one banded and photographed at WR Aug 22 (RPY et al). **Flamingo**: one was discovered along the shore of the Hudson R nr Cossackie Nov 14; the bird was able to fly and was seen by numerous observers in this vicinity until it was captured Nov 25 and turned over (alive) to the Delmar Game Farm; it seems probable that this bird is non-feral, although its origin has not been determined with certainty.

No swans reported. Canada Goose: many flocks observed throughout period, no outstanding concentrations. Brant: flock of 40 at SL Oct 3 (BRS); one bird (probably the same individual) at SL Oct 25 (WBS, PPW) — Nov 4 (EH). Snow Goose: eight at TR Nov 14 (PPW, David Stoner); 26 at SL Nov 15 (BRS); no other reports. Gadwall: only report — four, SCR, Oct 3 (SBC). American Widgeon: reported Sept 12 (DJT) — Nov 1 (BRS) in small numbers. Pintail: few reports; last Nov 22, TR (RPY). Green-w Teal: throughout period to Nov 21 (B-S-H); max 500 Oct 3, SCR (SBC). Blue-w Teal: reported to Oct 11, Renss Co (SBC). Shoveler: only report — one ♂, SCR, Oct 24 (EH). Wood Duck: most departed early Oct; last Oct 25, Collins L (EH). Redhead: good migration observed at SL Nov 7-29; max 38 Nov 29 (B-H-S). Ring-n Duck: only reports Nov 26 and

29, SL (B-S-H), in contrast to 1963. Canvasback: good migration observed at SL, Oct 25 (EH) — Nov 29 (B-S-H), max 20 Nov 7 (B-S-H). Scaup: observed Oct 3, SCR (SBC) to end of period; max 200 SL Nov 15 (SBC). Goldeneye: first Oct 24 (EH) — end of period; 300 at SL at end of period (B-S-H). Bufflehead: first Oct 25, SL (EH, WBS, PPW) through end of period, max 40 Nov 1 SL (BRS). Oldsquaw: first Oct 31, MR (BRS); seen throughout Nov at SL, max 14 Nov 14 (B-S-H). White-w Scoter: several reports, mostly 2-6 individuals, Oct 18 (BRS) — end of period; max 14 Oct 25, SL (BRS). Surf Scoter: 1-2 at SL Nov 1 (BRS) — Nov 22 (B-S-H). Com Scoter: two at Lock 7, MR, Oct 18, and nine there Oct 23 (EH); reports from SL include two, Oct 25 (WBS, PPW); ten, Oct 31 (BRS); four Nov 8 (B-S-H); two Nov 15 (SBC). Ruddy Duck: fewer than last year; Oct 24 (EH) — Nov 22 (B-S-H); max 27 Oct 25, RL and SL (WBS, PPW). Hooded Merganser: at least 15 at SCR Oct 4 (WBS, DJT); others reported Oct 31 — end of period; max 30 TR Nov 22 (RPY). Com Merganser: one Oct 18; others arr during Nov, fewer than usual; max 56, Alcove Res Nov 22 (SBC). Red-br Merganser: first Oct 18 (EH); most arr during Nov; max 25 SL Nov 15 (SBC).

Hawks — Owls: Turkey Vulture: last seen at Westerlo Oct 1 (MK) and in Greene Co Oct 2 (JHB), although recorded in Colu Co at Canaan Oct 23 (AG) and at Ghent Nov 15 (PE, GE). Sharp-shinned Hawk: at least three, following what appeared to be a regular migration route, observed at Karner Sept 13 (WBS, PPW); four others reported in Sept (ADBC); others — Oct 18, Melrose (RPY), and Nov 21 (B-S-H). Cooper's Hawk: only one, nr VFG Sept 13 (EH). Red-tailed Hawk: reported throughout period, but not com. Red-shouldered Hawk: only six reports scattered through period. Broad-w Hawk: very few reports, no flights seen. Rough-legged Hawk: several reported toward end of period; first reports — one Oct 23, SCR (EH) and one (killed by a car) picked up nr Cocksackie Oct 24 (Molly White). Marsh Hawk: several reported into Oct; max five Aug 23 nr Berne (MJ, ML); no Nov reports. Osprey: migrants reported through Oct 11 (SBC). Peregrine Falcon: one at WR Sept 26 (BRS) — only report. Sparrow Hawk: most areas report fewer individuals than usual. Virginia Rail: only reports during period, Aug 15, VFG, two (EH); adult with imm, VFG, Aug 25 (DJT); one Sept 24, Vly (JHB). Sora: one imm picked up in a yard in Sept the only report (fide B. Waite). Com Gallinule: only report — one Aug 15, VFG (EH). American Coot: first reported Sept 20, Vly (JHB) and Sept 26, WR (BRS); a flock of approx 50 at SL Oct 18 grew to approx 150 by Nov 1, then decreased somewhat after Nov 15; flock of 12 at Alcove Res Nov 22 (SBC).

Semipalmated Plover: at VFG and SCR to Sept 27 (BRS); max 6 Sept 12 (EH). Killdeer: very numerous during Aug and Sept with a few lingering to end of period. **Golden Plover:** twelve on a field in East Greenbush Sept 7 (LB) and were seen by many observers to Sept 16, when one still remained; two at North Chatham Sept 9 (possibly from the aforementioned flock); three on a mudflat at SCR Oct 3 (PPW); one in a plowed field nr Latham Oct 4 (PPW). **Black-bellied Plover:** one at SCR Sept 6 and 26 (EH) and Sept 12 (DJT); these may not have been the same individual, since repeated trips by these and other observers during this period did not regularly find these birds. Woodcock: probable migrants observed Aug 17, Niskayuna (HE) — Oct 22 (RPY). Com Snipe: to Oct 25, SL (WBS, PPW). Upland Plover: last Aug 26, Craig School (DJT) — a nesting area. Spotted Sandpiper: good numbers in Aug and Sept; last Oct 11, VFG (EH). Solitary Sandpiper: many in Aug-Sept; last Oct 3 (BRS). Greater Yellowlegs: fairly com, Aug-Oct; last Oct 31 (BRS, EH). Lesser Yellowlegs: more com than preceding species in most areas Aug-Sept; last Oct 25, Lock 7, MR (EH). Pectoral Sandpiper: to Oct 31 (BRS, EH); max 45, SCR, Oct 3 (PPW). Least Sandpiper: widely reported; last Oct 31 (BRS). Dunlin: few reports; one at Old Pond Sept 24 and Oct 17 (MDM); one at SCR Oct 3-4 (PPW, WBS, BRS); one at SL Oct 25 (WBS, PPW). **Dowitcher:** one feeding with a flock of Green-w Teal Oct 12, Vly (JHB). **Stilt Sandpiper:**

one in fall plumage at VFG Sept 7 was compared with Lesser Yellowlegs and convincingly described (DJT). Semi-palmated Sandpiper: many reports, last Oct 28, SCR (EH). Sanderling: one at WR Sept 26 (BRS) and Oct 25 (EH). Great Black-backed Gull: only report one, SL, Nov 29 (B-S-H). Herring and Ring-billed Gulls less com than usual, although one group of 800 gulls was feeding on dead fish at TR Nov 22 (RPY). Bonaparte's Gull: only report—two, SL, Oct 8 (BRS).

Both species of cuckoos reported through Sept; last Yellow-billed Cuckoo Oct 10, Ghent (PE, GE); last Black-billed Cuckoo Oct 3, SCR (SBC). Four species of owl reported during the period — the regular Screech, Horned and Barred Owl reports, and the vanguard of a Snowy Owl incursion. Snowy Owls appeared at Brookview and Muitzeskill Oct 28 and 29 (ADBC) and Schenectady Nov 4; at least four others were reported from Albany, Coeymans and Schenectady during Nov.

Goatsuckers — Shrikes: Nighthawk: last Sept 10, Scotia (DJT). Chimney Swift: few after mid-Aug; last Sept 8, VFG (PPW). Ruby-thr Hummingbird: several reports in mid-Sept; last Sept 20, VFG (EH) and Sept 22, Catskill (JHB). Yellow-shafted Flicker: very com in late Aug, early Sept; a few remained to end of period. Pileated Woodpecker: a few reports, widespread. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Sept 17 (ADBC) — Oct 3 (SBC). Eastern Kingbird: last, Sept 24, VFG (EH). Crested Flycatcher: most disappeared during Aug; last Sept 20, Castleton (JC). Phoebe: a few reports through early Oct; last Oct 13, Old Chatham (HB). **Empidonax:** several reports, Sept 7-20. Wood Pewee: last Sept 19, nr East Ghent (ADBC). Olive-sided Flycatcher: several seen late Aug, including four Aug 23, nr Berne (MJ, ML); last Sept 12 (EH). Most swallows had departed by Aug 31, although Tree, Bank, Barn and Cliff Swallows were recorded Sept 13 at RL (DJT). The only later swallow reports were of Tree Swallows — five at Castleton Oct 5 (JC) and fifteen at Vly Oct 12 (JHB) — late in this Region. Blue Jay: seemed exceptionally com this fall. Tufted Titmouse: aside from reports from Colu Co, astonishingly uncommon — only two reports. Red-br Nuthatch: first migrant Sept 13, Karner (PPW, WBS); very few reports. Brown Creeper: first migrant Sept 19, Karner (SBC); others reported from probable breeding areas, more widespread later. House Wren: disappeared during Sept; last Oct 11, Renss Co (SBC). Winter Wren: several observed, Sept 16-20; last Oct 11, Ghent (PE, GE). Carolina Wren: no reports. Long-billed Marsh-wren: last Sept 24, VFG (EH).

Mockingbird: few reports, all from Colu Co (ADBC). Catbird: several Oct reports; last Oct 25 (EH). Brown Thrasher: a few reports; last Oct 11, Renss Co (SBC). Robin: throughout period in large numbers. Wood Thrush: last reports (several) Sept 20. Hermit Thrush: few reports; last Oct 18, Melrose (RPY). Swainson's Thrush: Sept 6, Loudonville (MWF) and Sept 13, Old Chatham (HB). Gray-cheeked Thrush: one at Ghent Sept 14 (PE, GE) and one picked up dead (fresh) in Schodack Sep 27 (fide PPW). Veery: several reports late Aug; last Sept 15 (PE, GE). Bluebird: widely reported, especially in Oct, with some observers considering the species "rare", others reporting flocks of up to 20; last, Nov 22, Alcove Res (SBC). Golden-cr Kinglet: reported as early Sept migrant at Jenny L (GB); first migrants in lowland regions Oct 3, Karner (PPW). Ruby-cr Kinglet: first migrants Sept 13 (PPW, ADBC); good migration, continuing into Nov. Water Pipit: not as com as in 1963; reported Sept 24-Oct 28 (EH). Cedar Waxwing: very com in late summer and early fall, with groups of up to 100-300 reported, less com later. Northern Shrike: one nr Groom's Corners Nov 21 (B-S-H). Migrant Shrike: one at SCR Aug 21 and Sept 6 (DJT). One other shrike was at Westerlo Nov 23 (MK).

Vireos — Warblers: Yellow-thr Vireo: several reports, mid-Sept; last Sept 19, Karner (SBC). Solitary Vireo: migrants Sept 12 (LB) — Oct 3 (PPW). Red-eyed Vireo: many reports through Sept. Warbling Vireo: last Sept 18 (PE, GE). Black-and-white Warbler: last Sept 19, Karner (SBC). Tennessee Warbler: Sept 13, Karner (WBS, PPW); Sept 20, Ghent

(PE, GE). **Orange-cr Warbler**: one report, Sept. 21, Loudonville (MWF). **Nashville Warbler**: several mid-Sept reports; last Sept 19, Karner (PPW). **Parula Warbler**: Sept 16, Ghent (PE, GE); Sept 19, Karner (PPW); Sept 23, Loudonville (MWF). **Yellow Warbler**: most disappeared in late Aug; last Sept 6, VFG (EH), Sept 14, Castleton (JC), and Sept 17, Ghent (PE, GE). **Magnolia Warbler**: Aug 23 nr Berne where it may breed (MJ, ML); migrants reported Sept 13-Oct 3 (SBC). **Cape May Warbler**: no reports. **Black-thr Blue Warbler**: only report, one Oct 1-3, Ghent (PE, GE). **Myrtle Warbler**: throughout period to end of Oct (ADBC). **Black-thr Green Warbler**: many reports; last Oct 2, Ghent (PE, GE). **Blackburnian Warbler**: a few reports, Sept 1, Red Rock (JP, EF) — Oct 3, SCR (MJ, ML). **Chestnut-sided Warbler**: last Sept 19, Karner (SBC) and Sept 20, Catskill (JHB). **Bay-breasted Warbler**: Sept 13-19 in good numbers. **Blackpoll Warbler**: Sept 8 (PPW) — 30 (MWF). **Pine Warbler**: one at Old Chatham Sept 13 (LB, VB) — only record. **Prairie Warbler**: birds in a nesting area at Ghent last seen Sept 5 (PE, GE). **Palm Warbler**: several reports, Sept 12, VFG (DJT) — Oct 12, Vly (JHB). **Ovenbird**: reported Sept 7 (DJT) — Sept 25 (PE, GE). **Northern Water-thrush**: reported from mid-Aug, WR, (RPY) — Sept 20, Vly (JHB). **Yellow-throat**: last Oct 11, Renss Co (SBC). **Wilson's Warbler**: only reports — Ghent Sept 5, Sept 15 and Oct 2 (PE, GE). **Canada Warbler**: only reports, Ghent Sept 13 (PE, GE) and Old Chatham Sept 16-17 (HB). **Redstart**: migrants reported Sept 7 (DJT) — Sept 28 (MWF).

Blackbirds — **Sparrows**: **Bobolink**: irregular reports in Aug; last Sept 9, Meadowdale (PPW). **Orchard Oriole**: at breeding area in Castleton to Sept 12 (JC). **Baltimore Oriole**: reported to Sept 23, Catskill (JHB). Large flocks of Redwings, Grackles and Cowbirds were observed into mid-Nov. **Rusty Blackbird**: reported Sept 13 (EH), but most arr in Oct, when good numbers were seen; last Nov 4 (EH). **Scarlet Tanager**: several in Sept; last Oct 4, Delphus Kill (PPW, Paul Grattan). **Cardinal**: fewer generally reported during period. **Rose-br Grosbeak**: few, Sept; last Oct 3, Ghent (PE, GE). **Indigo Bunting**: last Sept 22, Ghent (PE, GE). **Evening Grosbeak**: virtually absent; only two reports during period away from breeding areas. **Purple Finch**: more com than in 1963; small groups reported from many areas. **Pine Siskin**: reported only from Colu Co in Nov (ADBC). **Goldfinch**: more com than last year, flocks of 10-200 appearing in all sections. No crossbills reported. **Towhee**: last reports Oct 29 (ADBC, GBCB). **Junco**: probable migrants appeared Oct 2, Westerlo (MK) and more widely Oct 11-20. **Tree Sparrow**: flocks appeared widely in early Nov. **Chipping Sparrow**: several reports, mid-Oct; last Oct 28 (JHB). **Field Sparrow**: last Oct 17 (ADBC). **White-cr Sparrow**: fair migration, Oct 3 (SBC) — Oct 18 (ADBC); max 12 Oct 11 (SBC). **White-thr Sparrow**: not many; last Nov 4-5, Loudonville (MWF). **Fox Sparrow**: first reports last week in Sept; last, early Nov. **Lincoln's Sparrow**: at least 3-4 present in a field at VFG Oct 4 (WBS). **Swamp Sparrow**: rather uncommon; last Oct 25, SL (WBS), PPW). **Snow Bunting**: Nov 14-22, SL (B-S-H).

12 Columbia Drive, East Greenbush

REGION 9 — DELAWARE - HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

Although temperatures seemed to be pleasant far into November, the weather bureau reports this autumn to be slightly cooler than average. The temperature change was quite gradual from day to day so that it was far into October before the first killing frosts were reported from most areas. The drought of the past two years continued with only a few inches of rain being recorded at best. The seed and berry crop was definitely affected as predicted last summer.

The migration was largely unimpressive, due probably to the even weather conditions. No major flights were recorded, and populations slowly built up and declined as they passed through.