

indicative of a poor nesting year for this insectivorous species (RDR). Purple Martin: 1000 (est), Aug 13, roost in Eggertsville, Erie Co (HDM). Tufted Titmouse: one, Jun 6-7, Hamburg (TLB)—only report. Red-breasted Nuthatch: one, Jun 7 and 25, and three, Jul 9, McCarty Hill (RFA et al). Mockingbird: one, Jun 19, Hamburg (TLB)—only report.

Robin: A study of the data gathered from observing some 30 Robin nests reveals several noteworthy contrasts: 1) in suburban Bflo the average number of eggs per nest was four; however, most of the pairs under study successfully fledged only 2-3 young; 2) in areas away from suburban Buffalo the average number of eggs per nest was three and most of the pairs studied successfully hatched and fledged all their eggs. It seems apparent from this small-scale study that some factor is present which is preventing eggs from hatching in suburban Bflo (Spraying with insecticides?) (RDR). Swainson's Thrush: one (dead), Jul 25, Snyder, Erie Co (RB)—species is not known to nest within many miles of this locality, hence it is best considered a straggler. Eastern Bluebird: fairly successful this nesting season, with the gradual increase of recent years still evident. Golden-crowned Kinglet: two summering individuals, Jun 7 and 25 and one, Jul 9, McCarty Hill (RFA et al). Loggerhead Shrike: one, Jun 13, Lyndonville (WAS, GMS)—only report. Starling: 200 (est), Aug 13, Eggertsville roost (HDM).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Myrtle Warbler: one summering individual, Jun 5 (RDR et al) and Jul 9 (RFA), McCarty Hill. *Prairie Warbler*: one singing male, Jun 25 and 27, McClure Hollow, Catt Co (RFA et al). Yellow-breasted Chat: two, Jul 29, Belmont (LDB).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Common Grackle: 1000, Aug 11, over Hamburg (TLB); 2500 (est), Aug 13, Eggertsville roost (HDM). *House Finch*: ad male, often heard singing, came to a feeding station for sunflower seeds at the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. Armstrong on Burbank Drive, Snyder (suburban Bflo), Jun 18-late Jul; during Jul it was observed by most of the active field observers of the Region (RFA, HDM, RB et al) and it was photographed on Jul 8 (HDM); this is the first known record for the Region.

*Erratum*: Vol. XV, No. 3, p. 164—Harris' Sparrow: this bird was last seen on May 12 (HDM).

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## REGION 2 — GENESEE

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Temperatures for the whole period averaged below normal, with July showing the greatest deviation, more than 4 degrees below normal. The summer, especially the early part, was very dry. June had less than one-quarter of the average rainfall; July a little over half, while the first half of August had somewhat less than normal rainfall. Moderate drought conditions prevailed during the whole period.

The most outstanding birds reported included Wilson's Phalarope, Little Gull, Barn Owl and Clay-colored Sparrow.

Observers: JB—John Brummer; JD—James Doherty; MF—Miss Margaret Foley; JF—John Foster; WH—William Hartrampf; AEK—Allen E. Kemnitzer; BK—Mrs. Beatrice Kemnitzer; ML—Mrs. Mary Lairn; GL—Dr. Gerhardt Leubner; WCL—Walter C. Listman; MM—Mrs. Margaret McGee; TM—Mrs. Thelma McNett; AM—Alfred Maley; HSM—Howard S. Miller; RTO—Richard T. O'Hara; AAS—Alfred A. Starling; MS—Mrs. Maryanne Sunderlin; ST—Stephen Taylor; TET—Thomas E. Tetlow.

Place abbreviations: BB—Braddock's Bay; CL—Canadice Lake; EL—East Lakeshore; HBP—Hamlin Beach Park; PMP—Powder Mill Park; WLS—West Lakeshore; WS—West Spit.

**LOONS—DUCKS:** A Common Loon was on Hemlock L June 1 (AM) and one was on Sodus Bay from July 2–21 (AEK). There is absolutely no indication of nesting in either case. Eleven Black-crowned Night Herons were seen along the WLS June 25 (ST). With the recent decrease of this species, this may be considered a good count. There were several reports of out-of-season ducks. These included a Gadwall at BB June 22 (WCL), an American Widgeon at BB June 26 (WCL), a Shoveler at Shore Acres July 29 (WCL), a Hooded Merganser, which may nest locally, at Webster July 26 (AEK) and another at Shore Acres July 29 (WCL), a Common Merganser along the EL June 6 (AEK). Max for Wood Duck were 24 along the WL June 25 (ST) and 11 at Palmyra June 30 (WH).

**HAWKS—OWLS:** A Red-shouldered Hawk was at CL June 12 (GOS hike) and three Broad-winged Hawks were seen at Letchworth Pk June 5 (WCL). Nesting in these two areas is to be expected. An albino Killdeer was in Fairport July 31 (AEK, BK). Several late straggling shorebirds were recorded. These included a Black-bellied Plover on the WS June 24 (WCL), two Knots on WS June 11 (WCL), a White-rumped Sandpiper at Sodus Bay June 6 (AEK); a Dunlin June 30, five Western Sandpipers June 13, and a Sanderling June 1, all on the WS (WCL). Sanderling: four on the East Spit of BB July 25 (WCL); 15 July 27 and 25 Aug 4 at Sodus Point (AEK). A Wilson's Phalarope was at a small pond near Fairport July 12 (JF, TET). A sub-adult Great Black-backed Gull was at BB June 20 (JD, HSM). Usually several, mostly imm, are reported during a summer. A large concentration of Ring-billed Gulls, estimated at 20,000 birds, was reported from near Shore Acres Aug 5 (WCL). One to four Little Gulls, including an ad in breeding plumage, frequented the WS for much of the summer but disappeared early in August when most of the Bonaparte's Gulls which they were associating with left.

A pair of Barn Owls nested in a silo in Parma and hatched six young. However, the two ad birds were killed early in July by some unknown person or persons. Three of the young birds were found dead and the three remaining young were given to Mrs. Sarah Telpy in an attempt to raise them. Two died but the third bird was thriving at last accounts. Another Barn Owl was seen in an old barn near Mendon from June 8 (JD, HSM) to July 29 (HSM, RTO). The structure was in such dilapidated condition that it was impossible to investigate but there is a good possibility that the bird had young. They have been reported from this location for the last three years.

**GOATSUCKERS—STARLING:** Three Whip-poor-wills were heard in HSP June 5 (MF), and one was heard in Bushnell Basin June 14 (ML). Twelve Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were netted and banded at Manitou June 6 (GL), and one was seen and heard in the Bristol Hills July 11 (AEK, BK). While there are no nesting records for our area, this last record could possibly refer to a breeding bird as this location is in high country. An Olive-sided Flycatcher was seen at CL June 3 (AM). Seven pairs of Cliff Swallows were found nesting on a small storage building near CL early in June (AM).

Five Red-breasted Nuthatches were in DEP June 25 (ST). While no nest has actually been found, it seems probable that this species nests in the extensive coniferous groves planted in this park. Three Hermit Thrushes were at CL June 3 (AM). This species nests regularly in this high country. High counts of Eastern Bluebirds were eight at CL June 3 (AM) and 10 at PMP June 19 (AAS et al). The species seems to have continued its modest increase this year, both as a breeder and migrant. Eight Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were reported from PMP June 19 (AAS et al). This species is increasing locally. A very out-of-season Water Pipit was seen at the WS on Aug 2 (WCL).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: A singing male Brewster's Warbler was in PMP June 19 (JB, ST). A Parula Warbler was in Letchworth Pk June 5 (WCL). A Blackburnian Warbler was in PMP July 16 (TM, MS). While the species is not known to nest there, it does nest fairly close by. A belated Blackpoll Warbler was at Manitou June 22 (WCL).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: A high count of 30 Grasshopper Sparrows was made at HBP June 6 (MF, MM). A singing Clay-colored Sparrow was found just west of Shore Acres on Walker Rd south of the Parkway July 4 (JD, Michael Doherty, William Doherty & HSM). It was present until at least July 10 and was carefully studied by several other observers. This is our area's third record of this species, all within the past five years. A very late White-crowned Sparrow was at Manitou June 11-13 (WCL).

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## REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

SALLY HOYT SPOFFORD

The drought continued (some light rains, but accumulation sub-normal) and temperatures averaged below-normal. There was no period of extreme heat. Ground nesters seemed fairly successful, but there were many reports of failures of nests of insect-eaters, for which there may be several explanations, possibly inter-related. Fruit production appears to be below that of last summer, though reasonably good. Except for Red-tailed Hawks, the raptors were almost absent as breeding birds.

Montezuma Refuge had a slight increase in over-all productivity of waterfowl, although not as many Canada Geese, nor Redheads. Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary had an increase in numbers of broods of Mallards and Wood Ducks, but the broods averaged smaller, 2-5 ducklings. The breeding bird census of Sapsucker Woods showed a slight increase in Wood Pewees, Catbirds, Red-eyed and Yellow-throated Vireos, Ovenbirds, Yellowthroats and Grackles, with a decrease in Tree Swallows, Wood Thrushes, and Veeries.

Montezuma produced excellent shore-birding again this year, beginning July 1. I am indebted to Walter Benning for the following description: "The birds were mostly concentrated on the Main Pool near