

migrant at Central Pk, Schenectady Jun 4 (BRS); a fall migrant at WR Aug 14 (PPW). Bank Swallow: 901 banded at a colony near Scotia compared with 828 last year; an additional 130 returnees were recovered; good nesting success—apparently partly due to a lack of interference with the cliff nesting area during the breeding season—resulted in an earlier exodus than last year, peaking about Jun 25 (RPY). Cliff Swallow: appeared as common as the Barn Swallow in the Warrensburg-Thurman area Jul 11 (SBC); quite uncommon in most lowland areas. Purple Martin: a colony of four pairs located in the Poestenkill area (M. Kilcawley), a new location.

Boreal Chickadee: one seen and heard in the spruce area at the top of Crane Mt. (ca. 3200 ft. elevation) in northern Warren Co Jul 11 (PPW). Tufted Titmouse: reported from several localities throughout period. Red-breasted Nuthatch: fairly common in usual upland nesting areas. *Mockingbird*: two conclusive breeding records—a pair nested in South Schodack and was seen with 2–3 young birds (ADBC), and a pair was seen in Altamont with two young just ready to leave a nest on Jul 8 (BW). This nest, surprisingly, was located in a forty-foot tree about 8 ft. off the ground. There were several additional reports indicative of the influx noted this spring. Hermit Thrush: common in the usual nesting areas, with 15 heard at Crane Mt. Jul 11 (SBC). Eastern Bluebird: about as common as in 1964. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: a pair on Schodack Island near Castleton Aug 1 (PPW). Swainson's Thrush: at Berlin Mt. Jun 27 and at Crane Mt. Jul 11 (SBC). No shrikes were seen.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: reported only from JL (bsh). Black-and-white Warbler: few reports—seemed unusually scarce. No Parula Warblers were reported. *Cape May Warbler*: one seen in the northwestern corner of Saratoga Co Aug 1, very early (WBS). *Cerulean Warbler*: a singing male was one of a pair observed Aug 1, Schodack Island near Castleton in a grove of tall poplar a few feet from the Hudson R. (PPW). Northern Waterthrush: in mid-Jul at JL (bsh). Mourning Warbler: at least three pair with young in the JL area Jul 15–17 (bsh). Yellow-breasted Chat: at least two heard in the Meadowdale area during Jun (SBC).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: holding its own as a nesting species; migrants noted from Aug 1 on. Evening Grosbeak: a flock of 15, containing male and female birds, near Lock 7 on the north side of the Mohawk R June 4 (BRS)—a most unusual record; nested in the JL area as usual. Purple Finch: seemed widespread and unusually common during Jun and Jul. Grasshopper Sparrow: very scarce, only report from the Catskill area (JHB). Henslow's Sparrow: no reports. White-throated Sparrow: reported from Consalus Vly and from upland areas just south of Saratoga L in Jun and Jul as well as from the usual nesting places farther north or at higher elevation.

12 Columbia Drive, East Greenbush, N.Y. 12061

REGION 9 — DELAWARE — HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

About half of the usual number of contributors have forwarded notes to your reporter and, with the usual lack of birding in summer, this report is quite brief. Several active birders have remarked that numbers seemed

to be at low ebb for a number of species. Such birds as the usually common Red-eyed Vireo and Redstart were quite uncommon; some trips produced none.

Temperatures were normal. June was warm with July somewhat cooler. The drought continues well into its fourth year. In June and July there was about one third of the expected average precipitation, but a few good thunderstorms in August made the first half of the month more normal. Surprisingly, foliage is in very good condition and berries and seeds seem to be in abundance.

Contributors: WBC—Waterman Bird Club; EA—Ethel Abrams; GD—George Decker; R, LD—Robert & Louise Deed; M, JD—Margaret and John Dye; FG—Florence Germond; SG—Stanley Grierson; P, TH—Paul & Thelma Haight; FH—Fred Hough; PJ—Paul Jeheber; MK—Mary Key; FK—Fran Kniep; Dr. HM—Dr. Heinz Meng HM—Helen Manson; EP—Eleanor Pink; F, RS—Frank & Ruth Steffens; TS—Trixie Strauss; JT—James Todd; ET—Edward Treacy; SU—Sarah Uhelyi; OW—Otis Waterman; BW—Barbara Whitcomb.

Abbreviations: Dutch—Dutchess County; Oran—Orange County; Rock—Rockland County; Ulst—Ulster County; West—Westchester County.

LOONS—DUCKS: Pied-billed Grebe: one young riding parent's back at Tomahawk L, May 31 (BW)—unusual in southern part of Region in summer; one where the Moodna meets the Hudson at Cornwall, Jul 8 (MD, EA). Great Blue Heron: single birds sparingly reported throughout period; only breeding report, nine active nests in the Tamarack Swamp area of Dutch where 17 were found last year. Green Heron: numbers better than usual. Little Blue Heron: max six at Brown's Pond, Newburgh on Aug 9; Rock had its only record for the past three years—one at L DeForest, Jul 23 (F, RS). Common Egret: no reports in Dutch, and comparatively few elsewhere; max four near Newburgh, Aug 3 (MD, EA); first, Jul 28–30 at Middletown (FK). Snowy Egret: usual summer wanderers failed to appear—not a single bird reported. *Yellow-crowned Night Heron*: first record for Ulst, one at New Paltz Jul 27 (Dr. HM). Least Bittern: reported regularly at Moodna Marsh, Cornwall throughout period. American Bittern: two young at Briarcliff Farms, Pine Plains Jul 22 (FG). Mute Swan: unreported outside of Rock, where as many as 60 were found; Rockland L had about a dozen nests (RD). Canada Goose: more nesting birds reported this past spring than usual, survival through the summer good, but some mortality was noted; 66 on L DeForest Aug 10 (F, RS). Resident population of ducks fared well. In Aug more than 50 Blacks and Mallards were feeding in the Hudson at Cornwall, with 20–30 Wood Ducks nearby in Moodna Creek. Numbers were up elsewhere as well; 40 young Wood Ducks were reported feeding nightly near Pine Plains throughout Jun. No teal reported.

HAWKS—OWLS: Most species of hawks were holding their own, but several species did show some fluctuation. Turkey Vulture: down in numbers throughout Dutch, but generally normal elsewhere. Sharp-shinned Hawk: one at Cornwall Aug 12 (MD, EA). Red-tailed Hawk: numbers down in Dutch, but normal elsewhere. Broad-winged Hawk: sparingly reported, but believed to be normal. *Bald Eagle*: usually unreported in summer; one ad along the Hudson south of Haverstraw on Jul 18, observed several times in that vicinity during the next several weeks. (F, RS) Sparrow Hawk: scarce throughout Region. An interesting incident of a young one falling from a nest at South Salem, West. Since it was impossible to replace the bird,

it was put into another nest containing four young at Katonah. Apparently the bird was accepted and survived (SG). Rails: no reports. Common Gallinule: two young at Armenia, Dutch in Jul (TS). Semipalmated Plover: about a half dozen were to be found at the north end of L DeForest by Jul 23 (F, RS); only a few single birds reported elsewhere during Aug. Killdeer: normal. Common Snipe: only report, one at Newburgh Aug 3 (MD, EA). Spotted Sandpiper: numbers good throughout Region. Greater Yellowlegs: max 57 at Brown's Pond, Newburgh Aug 9 (MD, EA)—unprecedented number for one location. Pectoral Sandpiper: one Jul 23 (early) at L DeForest (F, RS). Least Sandpiper: first, Aug 3 (MD). Short-billed Dowitcher: record number of 28 at the n. end of L DeForest Aug 10 (R, LD). Numbers of gulls were higher than usual. Ring-billed Gull: very numerous. Great Black-backed Gull: about 15 throughout the period in the Cornwall area. Laughing Gull: numbers better than usual. Both species of cuckoos reported down except in the Mohonk area of Ulst where they seemed to be better than normal. Mourning Dove: numbers normal to better. Owls: normal numbers; Al and Barbara Merritt had a Great Horned in their backyard at Cornwall on Aug 4 & 5, another was found at West Point on Aug 15 (M, JD).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Pileated Woodpecker: regularly observed feeding on the ground at the home of E. Finch in South Salem, West. Flycatchers: numbers good, especially Kingbird. Traill's Flycatcher: returned to the usual nesting area at Moodna Marsh, Cornwall (MD). Wood Pewee: down in Dutch, but normal to better elsewhere. Olive-sided Flycatcher: very early migrant on July 29 at Chester (SU). Horned Lark: only reports, two at Salt Point, and six to eight at Pine Plains, Dutch during July. Tree Swallows: numbers excellent; 112 young banded in Dutch during Jun and Jul by TH. Birds were occupying Bluebird houses. Thousands of swallows flocked in late July. Several hundred were on the wires at Tri-Loba Sanctuary, Katonah Jul 26 (SG), and all species except the Rough-winged were seen at Clove Valley, Dutch Jul 29 (GD, HM). Cliff Swallow: seven pairs nested at Upton L, Dutch (FG). Purple Martin: one bird at Rondout Res. Jul 18 (FH).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: one June 26 near Standfordville (FG et al)—first summer record for Dutch since 1929, previous late spring record Jun 5. Brown Creeper: nesting records for the southern part of Region are scarce, and usually restricted to the higher elevations of the Palisades Interstate Pk. Two records merit mention: A pair nesting at South Salem, West on June 12 (SG); nest with five eggs destroyed Jun 24. Another pair nesting at Centenary, Rock, May 10 (F, RS); an undetermined number of young left the nest on Jun 8. Winter Wren: unreported. Carolina Wren: reported from Rock and Ulst; numbers very low, but better than in recent years. Mockingbird: continues to increase, now noticeably in the northern part of the Region, with several breeding reports for Ulst, and at least eight pairs nesting in Dutch. Robin: first breeding record for the summit of Slide Mt., Ulst (FH). Hermit Thrush: four at Bald Mt. near Wingdale, Dutch June 19, and another at Standfordville were the only reports. Bluebird: about 140 young in WBC Bluebird houses, 100 banded; 32 houses were used once, and 11 had a second nesting. Cedar Waxwing: unusually abundant along the Hudson at Cornwall where they fed on assorted berries.

VIREOS—SPARROWS: Vireos and warblers seemed at low ebb throughout most of the Region. Red-eyed Vireo: numbers lower than any year remembered. Black-throated Green Warbler: unusual number of ten singing birds, Deep Hollow Rd, Dover Plains, Dutch, Jun 26 (OW, FG). Blackburnian Warbler: six, same location as above (EP et al); one there Jun 26 (OW). Northern Waterthrush: singing at Tamarack Swamp thru June 27; nesting still not confirmed (WBC). Yellow-breasted Chat: only report, one pair, Dover Plains thru Jun 26; continues to be unusually scarce.

Orchard Oriole: nested at Bedford, West (JT); sang daily in South Nyack "for a couple of months" till Jul 10 (RD). Baltimore Oriole: a wandering group observed on the summit of Slide Mt. Jul 11 (FH). *Bullock's Oriole*: One reported at Ridgebury, Oran Jul 22 by Mildred Arfmann. She observed the bird in good light for 30 minutes at a range of 40 feet. It was a male in breeding plumage. It had clear white wing patches, black stripe on the throat and a smaller stripe near the eye. Unfortunately the bird left before confirmation could be made by other observers. Scarlet Tanager: noticeably scarce all spring and summer. *Summer Tanager*: one observed by Dr. Heinz Meng and his class at New Paltz on Jul 20, first record for Ulst. Cardinal: nested well; two males were feeding young cowbirds at the feeder of John and Margaret Dye in Cornwall. Purple Finch: singing birds at Cornwall on June 9 (MD); between 10 and 20 young being fed in the vicinity of Pleasant Valley and Standfordville, Dutch (EP, FG). House Finch: several birds feeding regularly through the period in Mt. Kisco, West, and heard singing in South Nyack, Rock; pair observed thru Jun and Jul at Poughkeepsie; no breeding reported. Rufous-sided Towhee: plentiful. Slate-colored Junco: two Jul 22 at Dover Plains (MK).

CORRIGENDUM: Canvasback reported on Indian L in July *Kingbird* were actually on the Hudson R, and not inland as reported.

Autumn notes are due no later than Dec 5.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls 10928

REGION 10 — MARINE

THOMAS H. DAVIS and FRED HEATH

"Nearly all species . . . seemed in below-normal numbers." "Breeding birds (were) exceptionally scarce." These comments, Raynor's and Puleston's respectively, describe another poor breeding season on eastern Long Island. Very few observers reported increases of landbirds, several blamed the severe drought for the general decrease.

Gardiner's Island, seldom visited, was the subject of a two-day stay by Wesley Lanyon on June 5 and 6. He writes that "a conservative estimate of the Osprey population is 30 to 40 individuals. A number of ground nests were found to contain eggs, and several adults were observed to be incubating. No young were observed." John Bull's book mentions 21 Osprey nests in 1962, a severe decrease from the more than 150 nests reported in 1908. Lanyon also saw a number of Wild Turkeys. This species was apparently first introduced in the early 1940's and has been quite successful. They were observed in a variety of habitats, including mowed fields. A number of White-eyed Vireos and Yellow-breasted Chats, as well as two pairs of Cardinals were also seen on this visit.

Again this August both temperature and precipitation averaged below normal. This weather may have been the cause of the lack of extremely