

(Mrs. Wm. Grierson). Goldfinch: average to better. Red Crossbill: five Apr 14 near Beacon (JK); five Apr 28 Poughkeepsie (AJ). White-winged Crossbill: five Apr 5 & 6 Pleasant Valley (EP); two Mt. Kisco May 20 (SG). Rufous-sided Towhee: first Apr 18 Middletown, (Barbara Peters); low thru Apr, normal May. Savannah Sparrow: normal to better; migration peak 20 Apr 28 & 29; max 22 May 15 (WBC). Grasshopper Sparrow: low as usual, only three or four reported. Vesper Sparrow: 50 Dutch Apr 28. Slate-colored Junco: lower than usual; resident birds in Dutch thru May. Tree Sparrow: last May 4 Stissing, Dutch (TH). Field Sparrow: late—first Apr 17 Oran (ID). White-crowned Sparrow: few Apr reports; numbers average to less in May. White-throated Sparrow: most in years; very many last week Apr, first week May. Fox Sparrow: left later than usual; late dates Apr 12 USMA, Oran (ET), Apr 23 Washington, Dutch (F. Germond). Lincoln's Sparrow: one May 8 Red Oaks Mill (JK); one May 11 Poughquog (EB); two May 14 USMA (ET).

Summer reports due no later than Aug 25.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, N.Y. 10928

REGION 10 — MARINE

THOMAS H. DAVIS AND FRED HEATH

If anything, this spring was characterized by its unusually cold weather. May temperatures were far below normal from the 7th to the 19th, on May 10 it dropped into the mid-30's during the night. Rainfall was above average, a hindrance to good birding, but perhaps a needed blessing to our breeding bird population.

Good coastal waves were encountered on April 28 and May 1. On the night preceding the former date a northward flow of tropical air had been pushed out over the ocean. It stopped just south of Long Island on the morning of the 24th where it met colder air causing rain. Few observers were on the coast this day but a good variety of unusually early migrants were seen—Whimbrel, Wilson's Phalarope, Common Nighthawk, four Eastern Kingbirds, Hooded Warbler and Indigo Bunting.

On May 1 the situation was somewhat the same—an advancing warm front collided with a cold front, the ensuing rain forced birds down along the coast. Dick Cohen recorded this as his best day at Atlantic Beach this spring. His netting total included ten Black-and-white Warblers and he also saw 18 Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, all males, flying west along the beach. Other notable sightings along the coast this day included: Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-throated Vireo, Prothonotary Warbler and Fox Sparrow.

The morning of May 20 featured "classic" conditions for a wave—the previous two weeks had been cold and wet with little movement, a warm front had passed over during the night and a thick morning fog was present to ground birds. At his home in Woodhaven, on western Long Island, Tom Davis noted dozens of warblers flying in random directions at sunrise. All of these birds seemed to be in a state of confusion. Ned Boyajian, in the Palisades, New Jersey, reported hundreds of warblers flying north along the west side of the Hudson River during the early morning hours. On the east side of the river in Central Park it was equally good. Guy Tudor compiled a list of 94 species (only two species short of the all time record) seen in the park this day by a half dozen observers. The list included 27 species of warblers of which the following were notably abundant: Parula, Magnolia, Bay-breasted, Blackpoll, Ovenbird, Yellowthroat, Canada and Redstart. The following day and May 23 were also exceptional and the prevailing fair weather brought good numbers of migrants nearly every day thru the end of the month.

No notable rarities were reported this spring. In fact it is interesting to note which regular rarities were scarce or lacking—Golden-winged, Yellow-throated, Cerulean and Kentucky Warblers, Orchard Oriole, Summer Tanager and Blue Grosbeak.

Billy Norse, an active observer who birds nearly every day saw only one gnatcatcher and one Lincoln's Sparrow all spring. Breeding birds provided much of the interest—several new early egg dates (in spite of the cold weather), heavy Purple Martin mortality on eastern Long Island (resulting from the cold weather) and a possible attempt at nesting of Evening Grosbeaks near Dennis Puleston's feeder in Brookhaven.

Abbreviations used: JBWR—Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge; FBT—Federation Boat Trip; LBT—Linnaean Boat Trip. For the following locations only the first word is used: Central Park, Jones Beach State Park, Inwood Hill Park.

Contributors frequently cited: FB—Frank Bader; RC—Richard Cohen; TD—Thomas Davis; AD—Adrian Dignan; FE—Frank Enders; LE—Leonard Epstein; RF—Robert Fisher; HH—Helen Hays; FH—Fred Heath; WN—William Norse; RP—Richard Plunkett; DP—Dennis Puleston; BT—Benjamin Trimble; JT—Joanne Trimble; CW—Cornelius Ward.

LOONS—DUCKS: Sooty Shearwater: five plus, May 17 Jones (BT); three May 21 Fire Is (LE); three May 22 FBT; eight May 29 LBT. Cannet: six (including two adults) May 22 FBT. Green Heron: max 30 plus, May 20 Central (mob). Cattle Egret: three May 8–21 Lawrence (R. Arbib et al); three May 22–31 JBWR (L. Morgan et al)—compare dates. Snowy Egret: May 7 Forest Park (TD, FB); May 29 Inwood (WN)—first for park; on April 16 about ten nests containing an egg apiece were found at Lawrence Marsh (TD, BT, JT)—earliest Regional egg date; young noted at Lawrence on May 12 (HH). Glossy Ibis: 16 arr at Lawrence on Apr 16 (TD, BT, JT); on May 3 four nests found—two with one egg, two with two eggs (HH)—earliest Regional egg date. Snow Goose: max 200 Apr 4 Seaford (A. Van Sant). Black Duck: nine broods with 53 young, May 21 JBWR (LE). Canvasback: a female remained at Highland Pk Reservoir until May 15, (FB, TD); pair May 15 Lawrence (TD). Bufflehead: 200 plus, May 14 JBWR (LE et al)—amazing number for such a late date; several individuals still present May 31. Harlequin Duck: the wintering drake at Pt Lookout last seen Apr 3 (FB). Common Goldeneye: female to at least May 22 JBWR (BT, JT).

HAWKS—OWLS: Broad-winged Hawk: pair nesting May 21 Mastic (DP). Rough-legged Hawk: Apr 22 Brookhaven (DP)—late. Whimbrel: Apr 24 Jones (AD et al)—early; max eight May 21 Lawrence Marsh (TD, BT, JT, WH). Upland Plover: Apr 21 JBWR (WN); nesting May 22 Mitchell Field (AD). Willet: arr, four May 1 Tobay (mob). Purple Sandpiper: 200 plus, May 17 Jones (BT). Curlew Sandpiper: May 21 JBWR (H. Johnson et al). Stilt Sandpiper: two May 14 Tobay (AD)—very rare spring migrant. Wilson's Phalarope: female Apr 24–May 31 JBWR (mob); May 14 Tobay (AD). Northern Phalarope: May 8 Lawrence (R. Arbib); four May 22 FBT. Glaucous Gull: completely white bird May 29 Jones Inlet LBT. Iceland Gull: Apr 30 Van Cortlandt Pk (WN); May 22 Captree FBT—completely white bird. Common Tern: May 14 Prospect Pk (FH)—rare inland. Mourning Dove: nest with eggs Mar 16 Roslyn (E. Bull)—earliest Regional egg date. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: May 1 Jones (FE, FH)—early. Great Horned Owl: May 21–23 Central (mob)—unprecedented occurrence. Saw-whet Owl: Apr 7 JBWR (G. Murphy).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Common Nighthawk: Apr 24 Tobay (AD et al)—early. Chimney Swift: May 22 FBT, over 12 miles from nearest land. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Apr 26 Central (W. Sedwitz)—very early. Red-bellied Woodpecker: May 1 Freeport (CW); May 9 Alley Pond Pk (fide CW); May 13 Prospect (O. Raymond); May 14 Central (H. Tetrault). Red-headed Woodpecker: May 25 Yaphank (DP). Eastern Kingbird: four Apr 24 Tobay (FB, FE)—high count for such an early date; Apr 25 Central (G. Carleton); Apr 25 JBWR (R. Marx). Acadian Flycatcher: singing bird netted at Atlantic Beach May 29 (RC)—detailed

description including measurements received. Cliff Swallow: max 20 May 10 Central (mob); four May 14 Yaphank (DP)—rare coastal migrant. Purple Martin: "At Quogue they found 30 dead birds, and everyone else with Martin houses had mortalities to report. I suspect other swallows also suffered during the unusually cold and wet May" (DP). Blue Jay: 70 banded at Atlantic Beach Apr 26-May 30 with 11 on May 14 and 30 on May 20 (RC)—big flight, "usual spring total about ten individuals." White-breasted Nuthatch: migrants netted at Atlantic Beach Apr 30, May 3, 6, 7 (RC). Carolina Wren: May 13 Central (E. Gonzalez). Hermit Thrush: several late sightings—two May 20 Central (RP); May 20 City Hall Pk (RF); May 20 St Paul's Churchyard (RF). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: May 9 Jones (CW); Atlantic Beach (RC)—one seen May 7, male netted May 12, female netted May 14. Starling: May 29 LBT—about ten miles from nearest land.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: May 1 Freeport (CW)—rare migrant on Long Is. Solitary Vireo: May 21 Yaphank (DP)—late. Black-and-white Warbler: ten netted at Atlantic Beach May 1 (RC). Prothonotary Warbler: May 1 Southaven (DP)—only report. Brewster's Warbler: May 8 Central (H. Tetrault). Cerulean Warbler: male May 18 Central (RP)—only report. Kentucky Warbler: none. Connecticut Warbler: May 21 Glen Cove (R. Cioffi)—very rare spring migrant. Hooded Warbler: male Apr 24 Forest Pk (FB)—early.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Orchard Oriole: male Apr 26 Central (R. Harrison)—early. Bullock's Oriole: bird at Woodmere feeder mentioned in Winter report last seen Apr 2 (S. Sternberg). Summer Tanager: no reports. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 18 males May 1 Atlantic Beach (RC). Indigo Bunting: male Apr 24 Tobay (FE)—very early. Dickcissel: female May 20 St. Paul's Churchyard (R. Harrison). Evening Grosbeak: "about 100 birds remained at the feeder (in Brookhaven) until May 7, then they began thinning out. I saw a female carrying nesting material on May 14, but the last bird was seen on May 23" (DP). House Finch: Apr 8 Central (G. Carleton)—first record for the park; 169 were banded at Atlantic Beach during Apr (RC). Pine Siskin: May 13 Inwood (WN)—late. Red Crossbill: May 9 Jones (AD); May 18 Inwood (WN)—late. White-winged Crossbill: six May 4 Jones (J. Bull); five May 15 Jones (FB)—extremely late. Rufous-sided Towhee: peak netted at Atlantic Beach May 3-4, 22 birds (RC). Seaside Sparrow: May 8 Central (P. Tozzi, H. Tetrault, et al)—rare inland migrant. Tree Sparrow: Apr 16 Woodhaven (TD)—late. Fox Sparrow: May 1 Jones (TD)—late. Lincoln's Sparrow: netted at Atlantic Beach May 27 (RC)—late.

Note: Please have Summer reports in by September 7 (preferably a week earlier).

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