

REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

M. S. RUSK AND F. G. SCHEIDER

Hot August finally ameliorated in the fourth week. With the onset of cooler weather, scattered showers, and intermittent cold fronts, fall migrants appeared abruptly (warblers q.v.). September, though disappointing in Pintails, hawks, certain shore birds and gulls, was richly rewarding in thrushes, vireos, and warblers with a marked movement of all three Sep 22-24. October was wet, very warm, and unusually windless with misty, foggy mornings on Oct 1-2, 13 that produced floods of thrushes, kinglets, later warblers, and sparrows. Cold snaps Oct 26 and at the onset of Nov sparked the dabbling duck-shorebird-icterid-sparrow exodus. A steady procession of southwest winds throughout Nov (even into mid-Dec) made it one of the warmest Novembers of record—the abundance of late departure dates of the various insectivores attests to this. November closed wetly but warmly with all major ponds and marshes open, although on Dec 1 six to 48 inches of snow and zero temperatures dramatically announced the beginning of winter.

Birding positives for fall include 1) a good L Ontario flight of Brant; 2) a very heavy flight of migrant dabbling ducks, low only in Pintail; 3) an excellent fall flight of Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, all three scoters, and Coot; 4) a good inland, i.e. away from L Ontario, flight of shorebirds; 5) delayed departures of many insectivores (flycatchers, swallows, warblers, Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak q.v.); 6) an explosion of Tufted Titmouse; 7) an excellent fall warbler migration; 8) a very heavy Oct sparrow flight; and 9) greatly increased numbers of certain regular but scarce fall migrants, eg. Orange-crowned Warbler, Lincoln's Sparrow.

On the negative were 1) a marked scarcity of Common Loons; 2) a complete absence of white herons; 3) a reduced flight of Canada Geese; 4) a very poor flight of all Aythya diving ducks; 5) the continued decline of all accipiters, Red-shouldered Hawk, Osprey, and Harrier; 6) a paucity of Screech Owls; 7) low counts of certain normally abundant passerines—Phoebe, Crow, Tree Swallow, Long-billed Marsh Wren; 8) the virtual absence of any winter finches; and 9) no evidence of any northern raptor (Goshawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Snowy or Short-eared Owls, Northern Shrike) irruption.

Fall rarities again demand division into two groups: first, those rare but regular species, often found only by diligent searching in particular habitats or with particular wind conditions—Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Purple Sandpiper, Hudsonian Godwit, all three phalaropes, Parasitic Jaeger, Mockingbird, and Connecticut Warbler; second, those that are rare and most irregular in any fall—Eared Grebe, Black-backed Woodpecker, Worm-eating Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Dickcissel, and Clay-colored Sparrow.

Abbreviations: BBFS—B. Burt's feeder survey the first week of Nov; DH—Derby Hill near Texas; FHBSP—Fair Haven Beach State Park; FR—sugar beet settling impoundments of Empire Sugar Refinery Co. at Fox Ridge s. of Howland's Island; HIGMA—Howland's Island Game Management Area, Port Byron; N Syr—North Syracuse; Onon L—Onondaga Lake; SB—Sylvan Beach; S & VB—Sylvan and Verona Beach, Oneida Lake; SP—Sandy Pond; SSSP—Selkirk Shores State Park near Pulaski; Syr—Syracuse; TRGMA—Three Rivers Game Management Area near Baldwinsville; VB—Verona Beach.

Observers: DWA—D. W. Ackley; WEB—W. E. Benning; GLC—G. L. Church; MLE—M. L. Estoff; FLF—F. LaFrance; KGH—K. G. Hanson; SH—S. Hosler, Jr.; CLM—G. L. Maclean; DBP—D. B. Peakall; B & SP—B. & S. Peebles; JWP—J. W. Propst; MSR—M. S. Rusk; FGS—F. G. Scheider; IS—I. Stone; RT—R. Thomas; J & EVD—J. & E. VanDresar.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: arr Oct 1 DH; very scarce thru fall, max five Nov 19 DH and singles only reported from Oneida L. Red-throated Loon: more common than the Common with nine Sep 27 (DWA) and 12 Oct 21 DH (JWP, MLE); one on Oneida L (rare here) Nov 18. Horned Grebe: max 40 (low) Oct 24 DH (JWP); scarce on Oneida L. EARED GREBE: one studied repeatedly Sep 8–13 FR (MLE, JWP, W. Thurber, FGS, DBP, mob). Double-crested Cormorant: single fall report Sep 16 DH (JWP). Great Blue Heron: five-six/day thru fall; no high counts even from the drawn-down ponds at HIGMA. No white herons reported. Green Heron: max 26 Aug 17 Scott Swamp and 22 Aug 18 Clay Swamp (MSR); last Oct 7 Boliver. Black-crowned Night Heron: last, an imm Nov 12 (late) FR. Am. Bittern: max five Sep 1 SP (FGS) and Aug 17 Scott Swamp—somewhat better than fall 1965.

Whistling Swan: one Nov 6 near Ilion (*fide* KGH); otherwise unreported. Canada Goose: very poor flight, max 2000 Oct 30 HIGMA (MSR) and 1200 Oct 18 Woodman's Pond (GLC); Beaver L and Oneida L tallies only hundreds. Brant: arr Oct 15 and max 2500 Oct 29, DH (JWP, MLE, MSR); three Oct 29 Onon L (C. Spies); single (? injured bird) still present Nov 13 DH. Snow and Blue Goose: only reports one Snow Oct 15 DH (*fide* JWP) and two Blue Oct 21 Skaneateles L (SH).

Dabbling ducks—excellent flight in HIGMA-FR area and along L Ontario; other small marshes (e.g. Clay Swamp) and Oneida L so infested with hunters that no concentrations developed. Mallard and Black Duck: max 1500 Mallard and 700 Black (low), both Oct 16 FR-HIGMA. Gadwall: max 160 Nov 10 HIGMA; also noted at FHBSP in lesser numbers (five-ten day) thru Nov. Pintail: arr Aug 30 FR; poor fall flight, max 140 combined tally SP-HIGMA Oct 6. Green-winged and Blue-winged Teal: superb flight, max 650 Sep 5–11 and 700 (a record) Sep 8, both FR; Oct tallies of Green-winged much lower (20–50/day) and dep Nov 13 (early); Blue-winged dep Nov 20 (? injured bird). Am. Widgeon: max 2000 Oct 6 HIGMA-FR; 200–400/day at Beaver L (FGS); 400 Nov 18 FHBSP (JWP); very scarce SP-DH (max 50—low!—Oct 29). Wood Duck: max 591 Oct 6 Scott Swamp (MSR); 40 Oct 13 Woodman's Pond (GLC); last Oct 29 (early) DH (JWP).

Redhead: arr Oct 2 Beaver L; max 300 Oct 16 HIGMA-FR; *unreported* from Oneida L. Ring-necked Duck: arr Sep 18 Otisco L; max 340 Oct 13 Beaver L and 300 Nov 13–18 there (JWP). Canvasback: max 30 Nov 6 Beaver L—fantastically low; no Oneida L rafts reported thru Nov—mild weather, too much hunting, or no birds? Both Scaup low—max 700 Greater and 200 Lesser; not one count for entire fall of 1000 in a day. Common Goldeneye: max 1200 Nov 16 (JWP) and 750 Nov 23 both DH. Bufflehead: arr Oct 13 FR; heavy L Ontario flight, max 350 (record tally) Nov 16 DH; lesser numbers (35–70/day) thru Nov with 32 Nov 17 at FR. Oldsquaw: arr Oct 20 and max 720 Oct 29, both DH (JWP); small numbers reported from shallow ponds at FR, HIGMA, and Woodman's Pond (GLC) in mid-Nov.

White-winged Scoter: arr Oct 6; max 800 Oct 11 DH, lesser numbers (20–60/day) to late Nov. Surf and Common Scoter: flight not up to last year's—max 1420 mixed Surf and Common Oct 29 (MLE, JWP, MSR), plus 240 Common including 100 males and 35 Surf with three males (first adult male Surf for Region) Oct 20, all DH (FGS, GLM). Ruddy Duck: max 20 Duck L Cay Co Nov 20 (MRS). Red-breasted Merganser: arr Oct 2 SP; max 9340 Oct 29 DH; an appalling slaughter of this species at both SP and FHBSP with dozens of killed and maimed birds left to rot.

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: last Sep 12 (early) DH. Goshawk: singles only— one imm Oct 20 Tully and one imm Nov 23 DH (both JWP). Cooper's Hawk: total *four* for entire period (24 observers). Sharp-shinned Hawk: total fall count ten, a miserable score! Red-tailed Hawk: counts seven-nine/day in the abandoned farmland near FR; 11 migrants noted Tully Oct 20 (JWP). Red-shouldered Hawk: scarce but with wide date range, Sep 8–Nov 17. Rough-legged Hawk: first, a dark phase, Nov 6 at DH; max four Nov 13 DH-SSSP, but usually singles only thru Nov. Bald

Eagle: only report one Sep 25 Holland Patent (EVD). Marsh Hawk: first migrants Aug 21 Pompey (FLF); max six Nov 13 DH. Osprey: down markedly; total of *three* for entire fall—very low; two of the most active birders had *none* all fall. Peregrine: two imm reported—Oct 9 SP (EMstarr) and Oct 13 FR (FGS), the latter an Arctic bird. Merlin: one female Sep 8–14 FR hunting shorebirds (mob); one DH Sep 12; none reported migrating down dunes at SP. Sparrow Hawk: first migrants Sep 1 Lyons Pond (DWA); 21 with one Harrier in two hours moving down SP dunes on SE wind Sep 19 (FGS). Coot: very heavy flight—first Oct 1; counts 100–500/day SP, Oneida L. FHBSP, HIGMA, Woodman's Pond thru Nov; max 1300 Oct 13 Beaver L—HIGMA; still present widely and in numbers thru last week of Nov.

Semipalmated Plover: max 25 Aug 17 Onon L and Aug 28 S & VB; scarce thru the last two weeks of Sep, last Oct 9 (early). Killdeer: numerous small flocks reported, max 64 Oct 2 Woodman's Pond (GLC) but no 100 plus flocks noted; present to Nov 21. Golden Plover: now regular, even occasionally abundant at the Syr Airport with max 80 Sep 24–Oct 2 there, widely reported in Region (FR, Oneida, Rome) but very scarce along L Ontario; sharp drop in numbers in early Oct; last Nov 12 two imm Syr Airport. Black-bellied Plover: late, heavy fall flight with 37 Oct 4 Syr Airport and 45 Oct 7 FR; like the Golden a marked decline in second week of Oct; last Nov 13 one SP. Ruddy Turnstone: very scarce—max five Sep 24 S & VB; departed early—Oct 7 one FR.

Common Snipe: in contrast to fall '65, a marked flight; max 57 Sep 10 FR; numerous lower counts from HIGMA, Clay Swamp, Scott Swamp, and SP-SSSP; last Nov 17 one FR. Upland Plover: last Aug 27 (very early) Syr Airport. Solitary Sandpiper: many singles reported; max five Sep 5 FR; last, one Oct 16 FR, very nearly a record dep date. Greater Yellowlegs: scarce thru fall—max 12 Oct 20 FR—HIGMA; majority of reports two-four day; dep Nov 3 (early) Otisco L (JWP). Lesser Yellowlegs: heavy flight; max 120 Sep 1 FR; numerous (10–30/day) to third week of Oct; last Nov 17 (very late) FR. Knot: one Sep 17–18 S & VB (B & SP)—one report. Purple Sandpiper: best fall flight in five years—total of seven birds in five reports Nov 5–19 at SP, FHBSP, and Lakeview, all on L Ontario (MSR, JWP, FGS). Pectoral Sandpiper: also a heavy flight—40–65/day Sep 1–11, protracted stay—flocks of 10–20 noted to Oct 20, and a late dep date—Nov 17 FR; like all "mud" sandpipers this year, rather scarce along L Ontario. White-rumped Sandpiper: max six Sep 1 Onon L and five (all imm) Oct 16 FR; last, Oct 20 (early) one FR. Baird's Sandpiper: fall arr Aug 21 one Onon L; poor flight, max four Aug 24 Onon L and only one-three/day thru Sep; dep Oct 16 (early) one FR. Least Sandpiper: Sep tallies poor—max 35 Sep 1 Onon L with most gone by Sep 22; however, dep date Oct 20 one FR was late. Dunlin: arr Sep 1 one SP; very heavy flight at FR—320 Oct 23, 170 Nov 6; counts much lower (20–60/day) at both SP and S & VB; as usual the place with the highest tallies also had the latest report—dep Nov 20 five FR.

Short-billed Dowitcher: max for entire fall 22 Sep 1 FR—surprising in view of the normal Jul-Aug movement of this species; last Oct 24, a bird with a crippled leg near Texas (FGS). Long-billed Dowitcher: arr Oct 6, max 11 Oct 6 and seven Oct 23, two present until Nov 6 (late), all FR. Stilt Sandpiper: very poor late Aug and Sep showing; max Oct 6, 40, the majority imm, at FR; 20–30/day noted there until dep Oct 20, 30 birds (late for so large a number). Semipalmated Sandpiper: normally the most abundant shorebird but nowhere reported in large numbers this fall—max 185 Aug 29 Onon L; very sharp decline noted in last third of Sep; dep date Nov 13 (very late) one SP. Western Sandpiper: total of six different birds reported Sep 1–18 at Lyons Pond (DWA, BLC) and FR (WEB); unreported from both Onon L and SP (sites previously regularly frequented by this species); no Oct reports. Hudsonian Godwit: scarce—only report two imm Sep 20 FR (GLM, FGS). Ruff: unreported. Sanderling: flock counts at SP low (20/30 day) with best tallies 60–100 Sep 10–28 from S & VB (mob); a drop in numbers in last week of Sep but scattered birds reported to dep Nov 20 one FGBSP (MSR).

Red Phalarope: one Sep 29 to Oct 1 FR (FGS, mob); one Oct 11 DH (JWP); unreported in Nov, normally the best month. Wilson's Phalarope: first two Aug 30 (MSR), max four Sep 2-5 (mob) and dep Sep 25 two (WEB), all FR; unreported elsewhere! Northern Phalarope: one-two/day—total probably eight birds—at SP Lyons Pond, near Texas, and Onon L Aug 25 to Oct 6; last Oct 12 (early) one S & VB (R & S White).

Parasitic Jaeger: four reports, all from the DH-SSSP area of L Ontario—first, an imm SSSP Aug 3 (DBP) headed inland over the lakeshore woods; four Oct 5 DH (JWP); four headed overland toward Mexico Oct 6; last, two Oct 20 DH, passing west toward Oswego (FGS, GLM). Glaucous Gull: one only, 2nd year bird, Nov 5 (early) SP (MSR). Great Black-backed Gull: scattered birds thru Sep and Oct but only about 50 plus from Oct 29 on at SP; a definite arr date for FR Oct 16. Bonaparte's Gull: 25-50/day mid-Sep to early Nov at S & VB. Common Tern: numbers down at SP—200-250/day thru Sep; 1000 plus at S & VB Sep 24-26 (DWA, mob); dep Oct 11 (early) DH (JWP). Caspian Tern: max 30 Aug 20 SP (MSR); last, one Oct 15 (late) Oneida L. Black Tern: numbers down thru Aug; max 12 Sep 1, which was also the dep date—very early.

Cuckoos: very scarce; total for period five Yellow-billed with the last Oct 14 (FLF) and 11 Black-billed, the last Sep 28.

Screech Owl: total of 15 reported by 24 observers—singles at Tully, Utica, Oneida, Holland Patent, Fayetteville, HIGMA, Pleasant L, Pompey, Beaver L, and N Syr; two at Eaton; three at Otisco L (mob)—but this was only with diligent effort on the part of the observers. Horned Owl: max four Eaton; one-two/day noted widely. Snowy Owl: single at Fayetteville last week of Nov (*fide* JRHaugh). Barred Owl: two at Ilion Oct 17 (KGH), apparently a permanent location.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Nighthawk: flock of 19 Aug 28 Lyons Pond (B & SP); last Sep 7 (very early) Pompey (FLF). Chimney Swift: dep Sep 30, 60 at FR (MLE, JWP), late for so large a number. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 11, to mid-Sep, Pompey (FLF); nine Aug 31 Fish Gulf (JWP) and ten Sep 1 SP; last Sep 22 (early) Fish Gulf. Yellow-shafted Flicker: heavy flight, 16-55/day, Sep 17-Oct 13; many scattered birds thru Oct, Nov numbers definitely up. Red-bellied Woodpecker: new sites Wampsville (B & SP), Otisco L (Bickal), TRGMA (FGS), and Liverpool (DBP)—thus, continuing spread documented. Red-headed Woodpecker: four noted, FHBSP, DH, SSSP, SP, Aug 30-Oct 16 (MSR, DBP). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: generally scarce thru fall; max six Sep 13 Ilion (KGH); last an adult male Oct 17 N Syr. Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers: numbers definitely up in dying elm woods at HIGMA (FGS), Oneida L, and Ilion (KGH) but lesser numbers in and s. of Syr. Black-backed Woodpecker: one Pulaski Nov 25-30 (E. Evans).

E. Kingbird: max 12 Aug 29 SSSP; last Sep 27 (late) Fish Gulf (both JWP). Crested Flycatcher: dep Sep 17 Pompey (FLF). Phoebe: max 11 Sep 22 Fish Gulf; last one Oct 23 N Syr (FGS). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 14 noted, Aug 8 N Syr to Oct 13 (record late date) Syr (JWP). E. Wood Pewee: max 30 SP-SSSP Aug 27, dep Oct 15 SP (both MSR). Olive-sided Flycatcher: total of six Aug 18-Sep 5 Pompey (FLF); last Sep 9 New Haven (IS, RT).

The mild fall with persistence of flying insects, notably mosquitoes, created conditions for many lingering insectivores, particularly swallows. Swallow dep dates: Tree Oct 20, Bank Oct 1, Barn Oct 20, Rough-winged Oct 20, Cliff Sep 30, and Purple Martin Oct 1, the last three record late dates. Swallow max include 7000+ Barn Aug 21 Clay Swamp (DBP), 500 Tree (phenomenally low) Oct 1 FR, 4000 Bank Sep 1 FR, 250 Purple Martin Sep 11 (a good tally for that date) SP.

Common Crow: peak flight 2500 Nov 2 SSSP (JWP); no other reports over 1000/day, most tallies below 100/day (very low). Tufted Titmouse: an autumnal explosion of records involving 28+ birds—Sherrill, Syr, Baldwinsville, Otisco L, Fayetteville, Cazenovia, Mexico, Pulaski, Orwell (two pairs), Eaton, Hamilton, Skaneateles,

Jamesville, Brewerton and Beaver L. Red-breasted Nuthatch: very light fall flight—first Sep 1 SP, with one-three/day to Oct 17 New Haven (IS, RT). Brown Creeper: 18–30/day Sep 25–Oct 16; Nov counts lower but two-five/day regularly noted. Winter Wren: first Pompey Sep 10 (FLF) and SP Sep 11; max 20 Oct 2 SP and DH (mob); still moving thru to Nov 15 Syr (MSR). Long-billed Marsh Wren: scarce thru fall, max five Aug 17 Scott Swamp; last, one Oct 2 (early) SP.

Mockingbird: repeat noted at Fayetteville; singles newly noted at DeWitt (Farnhams) and at SP Aug 19 (SH). Catbird: eight-16/day Sep–early Oct; last Oct 20 Pompey (FLF) and one on BBFS at Mexico. Brown Thrasher: one Nov 12 FR (a non-feeder-dependent bird)—quite late. Robin: heavy fall flight—700 Sep 18 Syr (JWP) and 600 plus Oct 16 FR-HIGMA. Protracted flight of Swainson's and Gray-cheeked Thrushes Sep 8–Oct 14 and Sep 11–Oct 18 respectively, but only one-three/day. On Sep 19 heavy flight of thrushes, primarily Veery (100+ in an hour) and Swainson's (30+ in an hour) recorded at Syr (JWP). A Veery Oct 13 Syr (JWP) is very late. E. Bluebird: flocks of two-ten/day thru Oct; no indication of significant recovery to date.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: single migrants Aug 25 SSSP (B. Strath), Aug 31 Fish Gulf (JWP), and Sep 11 Pompey (FLF). Golden-crowned Kinglet arr Sep 14 New Haven and Ruby-crowned Aug 27 SB (J & EVD); very heavy Oct flights of both—200 Golden-crowned Oct 13 Syr with many other counts 75–100+/day Oct 2–18; 160 Ruby-crowned Oct 13 TRGMA-Beaver L, with 50–100/day Oct 2–17; in many cases kinglets, particularly Ruby-crowned, were noted in insect-laden patches of weeds and scrubby hedgerows of open farming country. Water Pipit: first Sep 11 SP; max 120–150 Oct 7–13 FR (mob) and 150 Oct 9 Syr Airport; last Nov 10 (early) FR. Northern Shrike: seven reports—Nov 12 Sherrill (DWA, MSR), Nov 13 Port Ontario (mob), five singles on BBFS—rather scarce.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: one-three/day Aug 28–Oct 10. Red-eyed Vireo: max 50 Aug 30 SSSP (DBP) and 35 Sep 8 SP; last Oct 23 three N Syr, late for multiple numbers. Philadelphia Vireo: total of 13, Aug 29–Oct 3.

Warbler migration was sporadically heavy with major waves noted Aug 25 and 30, Sep 1, 8, 14, and 18, and a very marked wave Sep 22–24; Oct flight days were Oct 1–2 and 13, both after the passage of cold fronts. The chart below emphasizes the abrupt onset of migration Aug 23–28, highlights the abundance of Black-and-white, Tennessee, Nashville, Myrtle, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, and Chestnut-sided Warblers, and underscores the scarcity of Cape May, Bay-breasted, and Blackpoll Warblers, and Ovenbird. The numerous record departure dates testify to the mildness of the fall; the majority of the Nov warblers were discovered in stream-side willow thickets, probably the best local food-shelter combination available to these delayed migrants.

Other warblers—WORM-EATING WARBLER: one well seen Oct 9 Pompey (FLF)—an extremely rare migrant and very late. Orange-crowned Warbler: arr Sep 9 (very early) one Fish Gulf (JWP); an impressive total of 19 reported this fall, the last one Oct 21 SSSP (JWP). PRAIRIE WARBLER: singles Aug 31 at SSSP (DBP) and Sep 14 Fish Gulf (JWP)—this species is a very rare migrant spring or fall locally. Connecticut Warbler: only reports—one Sep 19 SP (FGS) and two Oct 8 (late) Pompey (FLF).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: E. Meadowlark: 100 Oct 13 near Stittville (EVD); scarce thru Sep & Oct along L. Ontario. Red-winged Blackbird and Common Grackle: enormous flights of Grackles Oct 8 near Ilion (KGH) and the usual 10,000–100,000 plus Grackles and Redwings at Clay Swamp and HIGMA; these plus Cowbirds were regularly abundant until the freeze-up Oct 26–28. Baltimore Oriole: 16/day to Sep 3 Pompey (FLF); 45 Aug 27 SP-SSSP (MSR); singles at feeders in early Nov at Jamesville (Mrs. Harmon) and Baldwinsville (Mrs. W. Beall). Rusty Blackbird:

Species	Arrival Date, No.	Peak Count, Date	Departure Date, No.
Black-&-white	Aug 25, 7, SP	25, Sep 5, Ilion 13, Oct 2, SP	Oct 15, 1, SP
Golden-winged	Aug 8, 1, N Syr	4 Sep 1, SSSP	Sep 1, 4, SSSP
Tennessee	Aug 25, 1, Pompey (FLF)	40, Sep 24, Syr (JWP) & Pompey (FLF)	Oct 13, 1, Syr
Nashville	Aug 17, 2, Pompey	110, Sep 24, Syr (JWP)	Oct 16, 1, N Syr* (FGS)
Parula	Sep 7, 1, VB (JWP)	10, Sep 19, SP	Oct 12, 1, North Bay (B&SP)
Yellow	----	35, Aug 27, SP	Oct 2, 1, SP* (Stiles)
Magnolia	Aug 23, 4, SSSP	25, Sep 8, SP-SSSP	Nov 6, 1, N Syr* (FGS)
Cape May	Aug 27, 1, SP	4, Sep 23, Pompey	Nov 10, 2, HIGMA* (FGS)
Bl-thr. Blue	Aug 29, 1, SSSP (DBP)	8, Sep 24, Syr (JWP)	Oct 6, 1, Woodgate
Myrtle	Aug 27, 1, SSSP	115, Oct 2, SP-Beaver L 100+, Oct 8, VB	Nov 22, 1, N Syr
Bl-Thr Green	Aug 25, 3, SSSP	60, Sep 25, Woodgate (KGH)	Oct 13, 6, Syr
Blackburnian	Aug 4, 1, SSSP	11, Aug 31, SSSP 12, Sep 10, Pompey	Oct 13, 2, Syr
Chestnut-sided	Aug 4, 2, SSSP	20, Sep 2, SSSP (DBP)	Oct 11, 1, Syr
Bay-breasted	Aug 25, 4, SSSP	23, Sep 22, Fish Gulf	Sep 28, 1, VB
Blackpoll	Aug 25, 1, SP	15, Sep 22, Fish Gulf	Oct 10, 1, N Syr
Palm	Sep 11, 1, SP	3, Oct 13, Syr	Oct 16, 2, Nine Mi Pt**
Ovenbird	----	5, Aug 25, SSSP	Oct 1, 1, SP
N. Waterthrush	Aug 8, 1, N Syr	3, Sep 1 & 8, SP	Oct 1, 1, SP
Mourning	Aug 28, 1, SSSP	2, Sep 11, SP	Sep 19, 1, SP
Yellowthroat	----	16, Sep 5, Ilion	Nov 13, 1, Utica
Hooded	----	2, Aug 31, SSSP	Sep 11, 1, SP
Wilson's	Aug 20, 4, SP	18, Sep 8, SP-SSSP	Oct 12, 1, Pompey
Canada	Aug 16, 3, SSSP	9, Aug 25, SP-SSSP	Sep 24, 3, Syr* (JWP)
Redstart	Aug 9, 1, N Syr	40, Aug 25, SP-SSSP	Oct 3, 1, Pompey

* record departure date

** hypochrysea form

arr Sep 8 (early) one SP; max 160 Oct 16 and 85 Nov 10, both HIGMA. Scarlet Tanager: max ten Sep 8 SP-SSSP; widely reported thru Sep to Oct 10; last Oct 19 (record dep date), an adult male in winter plumage, Syr (MSR).

Cardinal: reported in many new areas—SP, Pulaski, Woodman's Pond, Syr Airport, Holland Patent (J & EVD), New Haven, Rome, and Camden—now apparently invading the Tug Hill Plateau and sub-Adirondack sectors. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: excellent late Aug-Sep flight with 14–25/day at Pompey, SSSP, Fish Gulf, to Sep 24; last Nov 2 (record dep date) Syr (MSR). Indigo Bunting: very scarce—one-two/day to last date Oct 2 Big Moose (Mrs. B. Fisk). DICKCISSEL: a winter-plumaged male Aug 17–18 New Haven (IS, RT), first record for Region since 1964.

Winter finches have been uniformly scarce (Evening Grosbeak—six reports, Pine Siskin—one report, Red Crossbill—one report) or absent (Pine Grosbeak, Common Redpoll, White-winged Crossbill). Rufous-sided Towhee: scarce thru fall, max 18 Oct 13 TRGMA-Beaver L; dep Oct 22 (early) one N Syr, although some feeder-frequenting birds were noted on BBFS. Meadow sparrows had a protracted flight with max for Vesper 75 Oct 12–14 Holland Patent (J & EVD) and Savannah 50 Oct 13 FR and TRGMA; dep dates, Savannah Nov 13 one SSSP, Vesper Oct 23 (early) 79 Woodman's Pond (GLC), and Grasshopper Oct 9 two Syr Airport.

Slate-colored Junco: arr Sep 16 SP; 20–100/day thru late Sep and early Oct, max 800 plus Oct 13 Syr-TRGMA; scarce thru Nov, all counts below 100/day. Tree Sparrow: arr Oct 20 one Pompey; counts still low (20–60 day) but better than last year; max 140 Nov 9 Fish Gulf. CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: an adult Sep 19 SP dunes (FGS)—first Regional fall record. Chipping and Field Sparrows: max 95 and 42 respectively, both Oct 13 TRGMA-Beaver L; Field Sparrows seemed scarce this fall, more so in relation to the high tallies of other sparrows. Hordes of White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows moved thru the Region Sep 27-Oct 26; White-throated arr Aug 27 and White-crowned Sep 19, both SP; max 550 White-throats and 160 White-crowned, both Oct 13 TRGMA-Beaver L; sharp reduction in numbers with frosts of Oct 26–28. Fox Sparrow: first Oct 13 Syr (MSR, JWP); max six (low) Nov 9 Fish Gulf (JWP). Lincoln's Sparrow: a superb fall flight—first Aug 10 (record arr), one singing, HIGMA (JWP); total of 71 birds reported; last, one Oct 27 N Syr (FGS) a record dep date. Swamp and Song Sparrows: heavy Oct flight of both, max 60 Swamp and 300 Song Oct 13 TRGMA-HIGMA; 15–25 Swamp and 50–60 Song per day to freezing weather Oct 26–28. Lapland Longspur: first Sep 26 (early) Syr Airport; max six Oct 13 FR and Oct 26 Syr Airport. Snow Bunting: arr Oct 20 five FR (GLM); counts only 10–70/day thru Oct and Nov—? will these tundra finches be as scarce this winter as the virtually absent finches of the boreal forest?

Thanks are due the following report compilers: J. R. Haugh, G. L. Maclean, J. W. Propst, C. G. Spies.

Erratum: in *Kingbird* Oct 1966, p. 227, Least Bittern, delete "and two Aug 15, Lyons Pond, Madison Co."

Please have winter reports in by Apr 5.

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REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

DAVID C. GORDON

Rainfall was above average in late August with warm temperatures in daytime and cool nights. More rain, wind and cooler weather followed in September. Pleasant weather in October ended with the first frost on the 18th. Cooler weather prevailed thru the month. The first snowfall covered the ground on November 4 with wet snow