

In 1949/50 the reports of Cardinal were confined to the lower Hudson (Rockland County with 35 individuals had the highest count in the state), western Long Island and the Lake Ontario—Lake Erie coastal plain. The overall rise both in Region 10 and upstate was steady over the next decade but has remained approximately constant over the last five years. However, during this period there has been some filling in of areas where the species had been scarce, for instance at Fort Plain there was a large increase in the winter of 1965/66. In several instances small numbers have been recorded in an area for a few years followed by a rapid increase to a higher level. For example the cardinal was first recorded on the Schenectady count in 1956 and the numbers remained low until 1960/61 when there was a sharp rise. Thirty or so individuals were recorded on each count since, until this winter when 69 were found. The pattern in Troy was similar with the first record in 1958/59, followed by a plateau of 30–40 individuals over the period 1962/63 to 1965/66 and then a record count of 95 this year.

The Brewer's Blackbird collected in Region 1 is the first specimen for the state, and indeed for the northeastern United States. There have been a number of sight records of this difficult species but the nearest specimens have been Ohio and the Carolinas. Eared Grebes were reported in Regions 1, 2, & 3 and there were more records than usual of both eiders along the Great Lakes. Other rarities included Lark Bunting from Region 1 (first upstate record), Lesser Black-backed Gull (Regions 3 & 5), a full plumage male Painted Bunting and a Varied Thrush (Region 8), and Region 10 produced a Tufted Duck, Lapwing, and Bridled Tern.

The above completes, for me, five years of writing 'The Highlights of the Season'. I would like to thank all those who have borne my questions about their records so patiently.

Upstate Medical Center, 766 Irving Avenue, Syracuse, N.Y. 13210

Abbreviations used in regional reports: arr—arrival, arrived; Co—County; imm—immature; L—Lake; max—maximum one-day count; mob—many observers; Pk—Park; Pt—Point; R—River; Rd—Road.

REGION 1 — NIAGARA FRONTIER

ROBERT A. SUNDELL

In general, December and January were characterized by above average temperature, particularly for a week in mid-January, and by subnormal precipitation. A notable exception occurred during early December when two violent lake-effect blizzards deposited from 50 to 60 inches of snow in the Mayville-Hartfield area of Chautauqua County. February and March brought temperatures several degrees below the average. On February 16 a severe cold wave and accompanying high winds resulted in freezing of much open water, including Lake Erie, and tem-

peratures and precipitation for the next month continued considerably below average. Temperature moderation became evident during the second half of March (especially the last week), although no unusually warm readings were recorded, and ice remained on many bodies of water until late in the month.

Certain trends noted during recent years continued, such as the increasing number of Blue Geese during the spring migration and the decline of the formerly large flocks of Canvasbacks wintering on the Niagara River. More Gadwalls, King Eiders and American Coot occurred than ever before during the winter. Fewer Rough-legged Hawks than usual were observed. Attesting to the generally moderate early and midwinter weather, with the Gadwall and Coot, was a large flock of Bonaparte's Gulls in Dunkirk Harbor during late January and early February. Also several Purple Sandpipers were sporadically observed there throughout the winter. About 12 Snowy Owls gave rise to approximately 25 reports. For the second successive winter, a Pine Warbler has frequented a feeder near Dunkirk (note to follow). Although all of the winter finches were reported, numbers generally were very low.

The first indication of migration for many early spring species came between March 9 and 12. A substantial movement involving waterfowl, hawks, a few shorebirds and many land birds (particularly Robins, Starlings and blackbirds) occurred during the last week of March.

Records of interest included Eared Grebe, King Eider, Golden Eagle, Black-headed Gull, Little Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Pine Warbler, Western Meadowlark and Chipping Sparrow. Of particular significance were the first successful wintering of a Brant, another observation of the Barnacle Goose (the first since 1963 but the seventh since 1953), the first New York State specimen of the Brewers' Blackbird, and the first upstate record of the Lark Bunting (all others have come from Long Island or the New York City area).

Abbreviations: Alleg—Allegany; Belm—Belmont; Bflo—Buffalo; BAS—Buffalo Audubon Society; BOS—Buffalo Ornithological Society; Catt—Cattaraugus; Chaut—Chautauqua; CC—Christmas Count; FWC—Federation Waterfowl Count; Gen—Genesee; Han—Hanover Township, Chautauqua County; INWR—Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge; Nia—Niagara; Ont—Ontario; OOGMA—Oak Orchard Game Management Area; opp—opposite; Orl—Orleans; TGMA—Tonawanda Game Management Area.

Contributors: DA—Dan Anderson; RFA—Robert F. Andrie; HHA—Harold H. Axtell; PB—Paul Benham; AHB—Allen H. Benton; JB—Joanna Burger; TLB—Thomas L. Bourne; RB—Richard Brownstein; LDB—Lou and Doris Burton; DB—Richard Byron; DD—Dorothy Danner; AD—Adrian Dorst; SWE—Stephen W. Eaton; FE—Flora Elderkin; MME—Mary Louise and Marjorie Emerson; AF—Arthur Freitag; JG—Joseph Grzybowski; GH—Gregory Hammond; PH—Paul Hess; AH—Annabelle Hiller; LFK—Lewis F. Kibler; WHK—Walter and Harriette Klabunde; JK—Joseph Kikta; DSK—David S. Kreig; HDM—Harold D. Mitchell; EMP—Elizabeth M. Pillsbury; JP—James Potter; FMR—Frances M. Rew; AR—Archie Richardson; RR—Robert Rybczynski; DS—Daniel Salisbury; WGS—William and George Smith; RAS—Robert A. Sundell; JT—Joseph Thill; EAU—Edward and Alice Ulrich.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: formerly regular during winter in small numbers on Niagara River and Lake Erie, now very scarce (pesticides?; other pollutants?)—one Dec 10 Niagara Gorge, Ont. (HDM et al); one Dec 28, Jan 7 Dunkirk Harbor (FE, WM, EMP, RAS); one Mar 28 Upper Nia R opp Bflo, probably first migrant (RFA, DB). Red-throated Loon: rare in winter; one Jan 8 Upper Nia R (HHA). Red-necked Grebe: rare in winter; one Jan 7 Dunkirk Harbor (FE, EMP) two Mar 20, one through Mar 24 Celeron (RAS, LFK, AR); one, Mar 20 and 25 Dunkirk Harbor (FE, AH, AR, RAS). Horned Grebe: five Dec 3 Cuba Lake (LDB); 12 Jan 2 Dunkirk Harbor (Dunkirk CC); one Chaut L Outlet at James-

town (RAS). EARED GREBE: one, Jan 2-4 Bflo Harbor (JK, HHA). Pied-billed Grebe: five at widely scattered localities during first week of Dec; one, Jan 2 Dunkirk Harbor (Dunkirk CC) and 8 (RAS, LFK); migrants—two Mar 8 Celeron (John Borst), one, Mar 10 Fillmore (LDB), six Mar 25 Chaut L Outlet at Jamestown (RAS, LFK). Great Blue Heron: four birds on two of six area CCs; rare during late winter away from Nia R—one Jan 30 Scio (LDB), one Feb 2 Falconer (AR). Black-crowned Night Heron: one to three throughout most of period South Pk, Bflo; one Jan 13 Grand Island (PB); six Mar 31 Nia Falls (WHK). Whistling Swan: eight Jan 8 Dunkirk Harbor (RAS, LFK); three, Dec 1 through Jan 15 Celeron; spring migration—four Mar 11 OOGMA (MME), six Mar 19 Upper Nia R (WHK), total of 1362 counted Mar 20 southern end Chaut L (FE, AH, RAS), 225 Mar over Riverside (FE). Canada Goose: one or two on Nia R noted a few times; 15 Dec 3 Shadigee, Orl Co (WGS); one Jan 2 Hamburg (BASCC); spring migration—nine Mar 2 Lakeview, Erie Co (TLB), small numbers Mar 10 and 11 throughout Region (mob), 10000 Mar 18 INWR (WHK et al), 20900 Mar 29 OOGMA (JG, GH); 11000 Mar 29 Yates Township, Orl Co (JG, GH). BRANT: first successful wintering in Region—one, Jan 21 through end of period Dunkirk Harbor (mob), photographs obtained (AMB). BARNACLE GOOSE: one Mar 29 Yates Township, Orl Co (JG, GH). Snow Goose: singles, Mar 12 INWR (PB), Lyndonville (WGS), TGMA (McKales); 11 Mar 27 Shelby Sinks (DS, AD); nine Mar 31 TGMA (PB, DS). Blue Goose: one Mar 11 TGMA (MME); 59 Mar 27 Shelby Sinks (DS, AD).

Mallard: 1473 (FWC). Black Duck: 1265 (FWC). Gadwall: more than ever before during winter—54 (FWC); most of Nia R birds on Ont side; 53 Dec 26 (BOSCC); ten Feb 5; ten Feb 18 Dunkirk Harbor (RAS, FMR, EAU). Pintail: 56 Dec 26 Nia R (BOSCC); 49 (FWC); nine Mar 12 Riverside, Chaut Co (RAS et al); 1800 Mar 29 OOGMA (JG, GH). Green-winged Teal: two, mid Jan (FWC); six Mar 26 Newstead (EAU); 22 Mar 27 Riverside (FE, EMP). Blue-winged Teal: very rare later than Oct—one Dec 17 Alfred (Klingensmith); six Mar 27 Riverside (FE, EMP). American Widgeon: largest number ever during winter—173 Dec 26 Nia R (BOSCC); 334 mid Jan (FWC); two Mar 10 Celeron (RAS); one Mar 17 Belfast (LDB); 100 Mar 29 OOGMA (JG, GH). Shoveler: one Mar 27 Shelby Sinks (DS, AD); three Mar 27 Riverside (FE, EMP, RAS). Wood Duck: one Dec 8 through Feb 28 Forest Lawn Cemetery, Bflo (HDM, AF); adult male Dec 28, Jan 2 (mob, Dunkirk CC); one Mar 20 Belm (LDB). Redhead: larger numbers than usual during winter—316 mid Jan (FWC). Ring-necked Duck: one or two on Nia R most of period; migrants from mid Mar on; 48 Mar 29 Riverside (AR). Canvasback: fewer wintering on Nia R than formerly—5000 Dec 26 (BOSCC); 2565 mid Jan (FWC). Bufflehead: largest numbers recorded—424 Dec 26 (BOSCC); 425 mid Jan (FWC). KING EIDER: largest numbers ever recorded; most around end of Nia R on L Ont; 22 Jan 14 (DS); 18 Jan 16 (Arthur Clark et al); 26 mid Jan (including Nia R Gorge) (RB, JB, WHK); seven Mar 11 (PB); some on L Erie including south shore where rare—three Dec 15 Bayview (TLB); one, Dec 26 (RAS, DA), Jan 2 (FMR), Jan 7 (FMR, Dorothy Buck) Dunkirk Harbor. White-winged Scoter: largest number reported on midwinter waterfowl count—328 (FWC). Ruddy Duck: a few individuals during Dec and Jan; one throughout period at Dunkirk Harbor (mob); last fall, eight Dec 3 Cuba Lake (LDB); first spring, one Mar 25 Celeron, increased to ten Mar 31 (RAS). Hooded Merganser: 33 Dec 18 Mayville (FMR, Rathbun); six Mar 11 Riverside (J. Culvin), increased to 20 Mar 27 (AR). Common Merganser: excellent showing on Nia R—11500 Dec 26 (BOSCC); 13944 mid Jan (FWC).

HAWKS—OWLS: Hawk flight on lake plains last six days of Mar—Turkey Vulture: three Mar 27 Han (JG et al); one Mar 27 OOGMA (AD, DS); ten Mar 30 Oak Orchard area (AF et al). Goshawk: one, Feb 4, Mar 9 Eden (David Bigelow; TLB); one on nesting territory Mar 12 northwest of Olean (SWE). Sharp-shinned

and Cooper's Hawks: a few scattered individuals during winter; light flight late in Mar; Sharp-shin—12 Mar 27 and 11 Mar 31, Han (JG et al); Cooper's—12 Mar 27 Han (JG et al). Red-tailed Hawk: good wintering populations around Buffalo, small numbers elsewhere—38 Dec 26 (BOSCC); 16 Jan 2 Hamburg area (BASCC); spring movement last six days of Mar, max 81 Mar 27 Han (JG et al). Red-shouldered Hawk: one Jan 14 Lewiston (RB, JB); spring movement, light early Mar; heavy late Mar—one Mar 4 Hamburg (TLB); one Mar 5 Riverside (Ray Fox); max 185 Mar 27 Han (JG et al). Rough-legged Hawk: wintering population low, migrants during Mar—four Jan 14 Ransomville (WHK); six Mar 27 Han (JG et al). GOLDEN EAGLE: one imm, Mar 18 and 27 INWR (DS, AD, RR et al). Bald Eagle: sub adult, imm Feb Mar Navy Is, Ont nest on Nia R; adult Mar 30 Mayville (JP); imm Mar 31 INWR (PB, DS). Marsh Hawk: wintering population low—three Dec 26 (BOSCC), three Jan 6 Lyndonville (WGS); migrants during Mar—eight Mar 11 Lyndonville (WGS), 18 Mar 27 and 11 Mar 31 Han (JG et al). Pigeon Hawk: one Mar 28 Lakeview (TLB); one Mar 30 Yates Township, Orl Co (PH, HDM et al). Sparrow Hawk: well scattered but concentrations well below normal—14 Dec 26 (BOSCC); 13 Jan 2 Hamburg area (BASCC).

Coot: 100 Dec 3 Cuba Lake, three until Jan 15 (LDB); more than ever before throughout winter—max 45 mid Jan (FWC); 30 Feb 11 Dunkirk Harbor (RAS LFK). Killdeer: a few winter records including one, Feb 16, 17 Wellsville (LDB); widespread arr throughout area Mar 10, 11; max 90 Mar 25 Lakeview (HHA). Woodcock: arr, five Mar 10 Cheektowaga (RR, JK). Common Snipe: three Dec 26, Jan 1 Frewsburg (Gulvin, Jamestown CC); a few migrants last ten days of Mar. Greater Yellowlegs: one Mar 31 TGMA (PB, DS). PURPLE SANDPIPER: successfully wintered again (1963-64) at Dunkirk Harbor—one Dec 26 (RAS, DA), two Jan 2 (Dunkirk CC), three Feb 10 (FE, AH) and Feb 11 (RAS, LFK), two Feb 18 (FMR et al), one Feb 19 (RAS, AR). Pectoral Sandpiper: four Mar 29 INWR (EAU). Gulls: small numbers of Glaucous, max seven Jan 17 Squaw Island, Bflo (Arthur Clark) and Iceland, max five Feb 5 Queenston. Ont opp Lewiston; Herring: 27000 Dec 26 (BOSCC); Ring-billed: 8000 Jan 28 Dunkirk Harbor (FMR); BLACK-HEADED GULL: one Jan 8, Feb 11 Queenston, Ont (DS et al). Bonaparte's Gull: unusually large midwinter concentration in Dunkirk Harbor—2500 Jan 28 (FMR), 500 Feb 11 (RAS, LFK). LITTLE GULL: one Dec 10 (PB, DS), Dec 11 (WHK), Jan 1 (PB et al) Queenston, Ont—Lewiston; two Feb 11 (RAS, LFK), one Feb 12 (FE) Dunkirk Harbor, BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE: one collected Jan 11 Bflo Harbor (RFA).

Mourning Dove: record numbers on several CCs—42 Jan 1 (Jamestown CC), 89 Jan 2 (Hamburg CC), 24 Jan 2 (Scio CC); also 54 Jan 6 Elma (DD); migrants arr Mar 11 on—max 107 Mar 25 Lakeview (HHA). Owls: Barn: one, Feb 18, 26, Mar 11, 29 Wilson Cemetery (WHK et al); one Mar 26 Hamburg (TLB). Snowy: see comment in preliminary remarks; most along lakeshores but two penetrated hills—one Dec 19 Mayville (JP), one Jan 1 Busti (Jamestown CC). Short-eared: most reports from Grand Island, max 15 Jan 13 (G. Webster, Wolfe), and Lyndonville max 8 Jan through Mar (WGS). Saw-whet: one Mar 14 Hamburg (TLB); one Mar 16 Belm (Arling Saunders); one Mar 24 Ten Mile Hollow, Catt Co, calling about noon on overcast day (SWE).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Belted Kingfisher: unusually large winter count—12, Jan (Scio CC, Alleg Co). Yellow-shafted Flicker: a few scattered birds, except seven Dec 26 (BOSCC), 3 Jan 2 (Hamburg BASCC); migration during Mar negligible. Red-bellied Woodpecker: now regular throughout lower Gen R Valley; unusual locality—one Mar 2 Hamburg (TLB). Red-headed Woodpecker: one imm Jan 1 (Jamestown CC) through 10 (mob); two Jan 2 Hamburg (BASCC), Jan 4 (TLB et al). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: arr, one Mar 29 Silver Creek (PB). Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: none. Eastern Phoebe: arr, one Mar 25 Lyndonville (WGS).

Horned Lark: *E. a. alpestris*—one to four, Jan through Mar Elma (DD, Mrs. H. C. Schafer); eleven other reports, mostly singles (max four) Feb 1 to Mar 18, from Eden, Ont plain, Sinclairville, Cassadaga, Belm, Lancaster, Springbrook and Newfane; *E. a. praticola*—100 Feb 12 Elma (McKales); 300 Feb 12 Cassadaga (FE). Tree Swallow: arr Mar 27–20 OOGMA (DS); four Sheridan (JG et al); one Riverside (EMP). Common Crow: roost Town of Nia, max 5000 Jan (WHK). Tufted Titmouse: small numbers mostly at feeders well scattered—max 13 Jan 2 Hamburg (BASCC). White-breasted Nuthatch: max 217 Jan 2 (Scio CC); 114 Jan 2 Hamburg (BASCC). Red-breasted Nuthatch: eight Jan 2 Hamburg (BASCC). Brown Creeper: max 24 Dec 26 (BOSCC). Winter Wren: not reported during winter! arr, one Mar 28 Athol Springs (TLB); one Mar 31 Dunkirk (JG). Carolina Wren: one Dec 26 Grand Island (BOSCC); one Jan 8 through Feb 17 Fluvanna at feeder (mob). Mockingbird: one Jan 1 through Mar 31 Jamestown at feeder (mob); one Feb 19 Lockport (DS). Brown Thrasher: one Jan 2 Hamburg (BASCC). Robin: scattered reports of individuals or small flocks—max 16 Jan 2 Hamburg (BASCC); arr, three Mar 2 Wellsville (LDB); 400 Mar 11, 1850 Mar 27 South Shore L Erie (JG). Eastern Bluebird: unusually early—one Feb 12 Lakeview (RR et al), one male Feb 12 Busti at feeder with House Sparrows (Swanson fide RAS); not widely distributed until last week of Mar. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: one, Dec 15 through Jan 9 Dunkirk at feeder (mob); two Jan 2 Hamburg (BASCC). Water Pipit: arr, 20 Mar 12 Alfred (Klingensmith); several reports last week of Mar—max 49 Mar 30 Hamburg (JG). Cedar Waxwing: small to moderate flocks through period scattered throughout Region—max 70 Jan 1 Lancaster (JK); 70 Jan 18 Lakeview (TLB). Northern Shrike: well distributed throughout Region during period; recorded on three of six CC's; max four Feb 26 Ont plain (WHK). Loggerhead Shrike: arr, one Mar 19 OOGMA (PH, JT). Starling: 30000 Dec 26 (BOSCC); substantial migration last week of Mar along south shore of L Erie.

VIREOS—SPARROWS: Myrtle Warbler: two Dec 26 Grand Island (BOSCC); one, Feb 1 through Mar 2 Jamestown (Johnson); one Feb 14 Fort Nia (JB, RB). PINE WARBLER: one Nov 12 throughout period Dunkirk (mob) photographs obtained; see introductory remarks. Eastern Meadowlark: fewer than usual on lake plains; none on Bflo and Hamburg CCs; unprecedented winter number inland, 24 Jan 1 Jamestown CC; arr, two, Mar 10 Belfast (LDB), two Mar 10 Han (JG); scattered reports small numbers Mar 11 on; 150 Mar 27 South shore L Erie (J et al). WESTERN MEADOWLARK: early—one Mar 31 Center Rd, Sheridan Township, Chaut Co (JG), second consecutive year at this locality. Red-winged Blackbird: scattered reports small numbers throughout winter; largest numbers ever CCs—16 Dec 26 Bflo, 42 Jan 1 Jamestown; some arr early Mar—one Mar 3 Franklinville (JG); substantial buildup continuing from second week on—1000 Mar 11, 12 Riverside (J. Gulvin, RAS); 3500 Mar 11 and 5200 Mar 27 South shore L Erie (JG et al). Rusty Blackbird: rare in winter—one or two birds at Belm feeder sporadically throughout (LDB); one Jan 1 (Jamestown CC); one Feb 1 OOGMA (PB); two Mar 10 Alma (LDB); arr, 25 Mar 24 Hamburg (TLB); 300 Mar 30 Yates (HDM, GH). BREWER'S BLACKBIRD: one at feeder collected Dec 24 Hamburg (RFA); previous sight record, adult male, Dec 26, 1953 Kiantone on Jamestown CC. Common Grackle: a few scattered individuals during winter; unusual winter concentrations—14 Dec 26 (BOSCC), 13 Jan 2 (Scio CC); spring arr one to 30, Mar 10 scattered localities; 1500 Mar 11, 12 Riverside (J. Gulvin, RAS); 3300 Mar 27 South shore L Erie (JG). Brown-headed Cowbird: scattered individuals and small flocks throughout Region during winter—max 100 Jan 2 (Olean CC); 54 Jan 2 (Scio CC); arr, 17 Mar 4 South Pk, Bflo (RR, JK); 150 Mar 11 and 6300 Mar 27 South shore L Erie (JG et al).

Cardinal: CCs—185 Jan 2 Scio, 140 Jan 2 Hamburg, 100 Jan 1 Jamestown, 81 Dec 26 Bflo. Evening Grosbeak: a few small to medium-sized flocks sporadically; one to 50 at feeder, Dec 15 through Mar 31 Fluvanna (Bobbie Nelson); 59 Jan 1

(Jamestown CC); six to 50 at feeder, Feb 1-28 Belm (LDB). Purple Finch: a few at feeders mostly in southern counties—max 23 Jan 2 (Scio CC). Pine Grosbeak: very few—six Jan 2 (Olean CC); six Jan 2 (Scio CC); two Feb 18 Dunkirk (FMR, EAU). Common Redpoll: only report—seven Mar 15 Orchard Pk (TLB). Pine Siskin: a few scattered reports—max 12, Jan 10 Hamburg (TLB). American Goldfinch: a few scattered individuals or small flocks throughout—67 Jan 1 (Jamestown CC); 42 Jan 2 Hamburg (BASCC); 26 Dec 26 (BOSCC). Red Crossbill: six Dec 8 Buckhorn Island State Pk (PB); max eight Mar 25 L Erie State Pk (RAS, AR); six reports between of one to six, total 16 birds, Chestnut Ridge Pk, Forest Lawn Cemetery, Frewsburg, Lakewood. White-winged Crossbill: one Dec 16 Chestnut Ridge Pk (TLB); five Feb 28 Hamburg (TLB). Rufous-sided Towhee: unusual winter count—15 Jan 2 Hamburg (BASCC). LARK BUNTING: one, Nov 30 through end of period Belm, at Burton feeder (mob) photographs obtained—see Field Notes.

Savannah Sparrow: arr, one Mar 23 Alabama (JG, RR); several reports from scattered localities last five days Mar. Vesper Sparrow: one Jan 22 Pt Breeze, Orl Co (HHA, Rachel C. Axtell); arr Mar 27 several localities. Slate-colored Junco: CCs—213 Jan 2 Hamburg (BAS), 173 Jan 2 Scio, 147 Jan 1 Jamestown. Tree Sparrow: fairly high midwinter populations; CCs—619 Jan 2 Scio, 522 Dec 26 Bflo, 467 Jan 1 Jamestown, 453 Jan 2 Hamburg. CHIPPING SPARROW: two Jan 1 (Jamestown CC); one Jan 2 Hamburg (BASCC). Field Sparrow: one Jan 1 (Jamestown CC); one Jan 15 Frewsburg (Ray Fox); arr Mar 29 several localities. White-crowned Sparrow: flock of 30 at Newfane Jan 8 (WHK); one adult Dec 28 Dunkirk at feeder (RAS et al); one imm Jan 14 through Feb 17 Fluvanna at feeder (RAS et al). White-throated Sparrow: a few individuals at scattered locations throughout period; max four Jan 2 (Olean CC). Fox Sparrow: one Dec 23 Jamestown (LFK). Swamp Sparrow: five Jan 1 (Jamestown CC); arr, two Mar 29 Belm (LDB); two Mar 31 Riverside (RAS). Song Sparrow: max 20, Jan 1 (Jamestown CC); migration noted from Mar 11 on, especially last seven days of Mar. Lapland Longspur: good numbers on lake plains late Jan through Mar—max 300 Feb 22 Elma (DD). Snow Bunting: good numbers throughout period mostly on lake plains—max 1000 Jan 12, 16 Elma (DD).

19 Chestnut Street, Jamestown, N.Y. 14701

REGION 2 — GENESEE

WALTER C. LISTMAN

The winter was generally mild. Conesus Lake did not freeze over until late January and this helps account for the unprecedented 26 species seen on the Waterfowl Count. Snow was a little less than normal, and high winds tended to drift it, thereby leaving large areas exposed. Few landbird rarities were observed.

The Eared Grebe was observed in three different plumages. The Whistling Swans, rather uncommon fall migrants here, were the latest ever observed. The King Eiders and Kittiwakes of Dec 3 were flying west into a stormy northwest wind.

The Common Gallinule on Jan 15 is, of course, quite noteworthy. The Red Phalarope provided our second Jan and first Feb records. White-winged Gulls were below par. There was a fair flight of Snowy Owls. Short-eared Owls were common and widespread, a general lack of "mouse-eating" hawks being noted in their territories.

The Carolina Wren remains rare. Northern Shrike was rather uncommon. Blackbirds, except meadowlarks, wintered in good numbers. Redwings and cowbirds were in record numbers and, utilizing feeders, they survived very well. Winter finches were very scarce.

Spring migration was about on schedule at the end of March.