

Stony Clove, near Hunter Mt. (PPW, MDG), new locality. Yellow-breasted Chat: only one—Jun 20, Cobleskill F&WBBS (WBS).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Cardinal: observed nesting in several new areas. *HOUSE FINCH*: a pair came to a Niskayuna feeder through early summer and into Aug (Gus Angst)—first summer record for the Region. Henslow's Sparrow: no reports for second summer in succession. White-throated Sparrow: a singing adult was present at VFG through Jun and Jul, but no evidence of nesting was found (RPY).

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REGION 9 — DELAWARE — HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

The usual lack of birding encountered each summer was so marked this season that more than half of our correspondents were unable to report. Only single reports were received from Westchester, Putnam, Dutchess, Orange and Ulster Counties, with none of the others being heard from. Those reporting had much less than their usual quantity of information with a good portion of that being of no real significance. Thus the brevity of this report.

Weather took a marked turn from the drought conditions of previous years. Temperature remained near normal after a very cold May. July brought 7 inches of rainfall in the New York City area, which was three inches above normal. August rainfall was recorded as 6.9 inches, the largest since 1933, and made the sixth month of above average precipitation.

With the water came the expected increase in foliage, lush to the point of discouraging bird watching. An exception to the above was observed in the higher elevations of the Hudson Highlands where defoliation apparently by the Gypsy Moth had laid many of the mountains bare.

Contributors: WBC—Waterman Bird Club; FG—Florence Germond; SG—Stanley Grierson; FH—Fred Hough; PJ—Paul Jeheber; JM—J Marsh; B, AM—Barbara & Al Merritt; EDT—Edward D. Treacy; EP—Eleanor Pink; SU—Sarah Uhelyi.

Abbreviations: C-on-H—Cornwall-on-Hudson; USMA—U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.; Dutch—Dutchess Co; Oran—Orange Co; Ulst—Ulster Co; West—Westchester Co; Putn—Putnam Co.

LOONS—DUCKS: Pied-billed Grebe: only reports, three in June, one in Jul, Dutch. Double-crested Cormorant: did not summer as in last few years on Hudson R at Cornwall; two, Crugers Is., Jun 4 (FG, JM, EP). Great Blue Heron: seven nests, 21 birds inc. adults and young at Tamarack Swamp, Millbrook, Dutch Jun 27; at least two regularly reported C-on-H thru Aug. Green Heron: unusually common thru season. Common Egret: one Jun 19 and one Jul 25, C-on-H (B, AM). Snowy Egret: three Jun 9 and one Jun 28, C-on-H (A. BM). Black-crowned Night Heron: one adult Vassar College Aug 3 (WBC). *YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON*: first Dutch record—one adult Jun 28–30 Stissing Rd, Stanfordville (Donna Haight *vide* Thelma Haight, mob). Least Bittern: one regularly reported

from Jun 19 Moodna Marsh, C-on-H (PJ, A. BM). American Bittern: one Jun 6 Mine Rd, USMA (PJ). Good numbers of nesting Mallard, Black and Wood Ducks. Max at C-on-H Aug 6 were: Mallard, 42; Black, 17; Wood 21 (A, BM).

HAWKS-OWLS: Turkey Vulture: nothing unusual, regularly reported. Red-tailed Hawk: numbers stable. Broad-winged Hawk: none reported from Dutch, several scattered reports elsewhere, numbers probably normal. **BALD EAGLE:** very rare in summer—one adult Jun 24 flying over Stissing and Little Stissing Mt. Dutch (Otis Waterman, George Rose, John Meyer). Bobwhite: seems more plentiful in Dutch, none elsewhere. Virginia Rail: this species and the Sora were calling regularly thru Jul at Tri-Loba Hill Sanct., Katonah, West (SG); two adult and two imm at Moodna Marsh, C-on-H Aug 15 (PJ). Am. Woodcock: also heard at Tri-Loba Sanct thru July; one adult with five imm at C-on-H Jun 11 (Earl Zuill); one with three smaller young close behind flying over Kripplebush, Ulst Jul 31 (FH). Spotted Sandpiper: common as usual; max seven Aug 6 C-on-H (A, BM). Yellowlegs: three Jul 25 and regularly thereafter C-on-H. **BONAPARTE'S GULL:** very rare in summer—two Aug 3-6, C-on-H (A, MB). Black Tern: very rarely reported till this year; after the good numbers of last spring, two Jun 9 C-on-H (EDT). Cuckoos: both species very low, unreported from many areas; only reports, one Yellow-billed Jun 18-19; one Black-billed Jun 9 USMA (PJ). Owls: few specific records, but several correspondents report both Horned and Screech calling thru Aug; numbers appear to be good. **LONG-EARED OWL:** one, E. Park, Dutch, first week of Jun (Mr. & Mrs. Tom Gilbert) - unusual for this late date.

GOATSUCKERS-STARLING: Chimney Swift: numbers down in Ulst and Putn. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: reported scarce in both Dutch and Ulst. Belted Kingfisher: regularly sighted C-on-H; two adults and three imm there Jun 19. Eastern Kingbird: numbers lower than last year but still good; one albino caused a stir at Stanfordville Jun 10-Aug 14 (FG)-see field note. Wood Pewee: reported scarce in Dutch, but normal elsewhere; numbers increasing in the L Mohonk area of Ulst. Good season for both Barn and Cliff Swallows. The latter nesting in its usual locations. Very heavy movement of Barn, Cliff and Tree Swallows thru late Jul and Aug. Several reports of poor nesting of Tree Swallows due largely to cold and rain. Purple Martin: Very few due to cold; many former colonies not established this year; left Pine Plains about Jul 31. Black-capped Chickadee: continues scarce in some local areas. Red-breasted Nuthatch: only report one Jun 10, Poughkeepsie (Alice Jones). Brown Creeper: one pair Jun 11 S. Salem, West, in same location where a pair nested in 1965 (Mr. & Mrs. Donald Wood); no nesting reported this year. House Wren: normal abundance. Carolina Wren: unusually rare of late years; one report—two at Crugers Is. Jun 4 (EP, et al). Mockingbird: reported nesting in most usual locations; continues to increase. Catbird: good numbers of young, reported; late nestings at Kripplebush, with young off nest on Aug 12, another left unhatched eggs on Aug 21 (FH). Robin: usual abundance, nested again on summit of Slide Mt. in Catskills (FH). Bluebird: no noticeable increase, and very likely a decrease in numbers; WBC nesting report for 1967 shows 41 nests with 163 eggs laid, and 107 young hatched, but only 88 birds left the nest—not very good (FG).

VIREOS-SPARROWS: Vireos and Warblers continue scarce for fourth or fifth year. Red-eyed Vireo seemed about as plentiful as the lesser abundant Warbling. Cerulean Warbler: still nesting at Crugers Is near Barrytown and on Mt. Rutens Rd near Rhinebeck; no accurate count made, but indications are numbers down slightly (WBC). Ovenbird: lower numbers than former years. Mourning Warbler: one killed striking window at Lewisboro School S. Salem, Jun 1 (SG); last date for good spring migration, one Jun 3 near Stanfordville. Yellow-breasted Chat: none reported; numbers must be seriously low. Bobolink: good quantities in usual nesting

areas. *WESTERN MEADOWLARK*: bird reported in spring last checked Jun 10, may have remained much later. (EDT). Orchard Oriole: one first year male Jun 12, Salt Pt, Dutch; nested again at Kripplebush; new nest site at Chester, Oran where pair observed Jun 3, with three young leaving nest Jul 6 (SU). Baltimore Oriole: reported down in Putn and Dutch. Scarlet Tanager: even scarcer than low numbers of last year. Cardinal: normal. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: no unusual change from previous years. Indigo Bunting: scarce in some areas; low in usually well populated USMA. Purple Finch: usual nesters in Putn and Dutch; about half a dozen pairs of this species and the same number of House Finch reported from Dutch. Rufous-sided Towhee: slightly less than usual. Grasshopper Sparrow: "Good population in Pine Plains area, Hyde Pk, and Dutch Co Airport" (WBC).

Autumn notes due no later than Dec 5.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls 10928

REGION 10 — MARINE

THOMAS H. DAVIS AND FRED HEATH

The wet, cold spring gradually turned into the wet, cool summer. Precipitation throughout the period remained high (wettest summer since 1938) and temperatures remained low. As could be expected in such a situation, nesting activity averaged about two weeks later than normal. In many cases breeding birds, particularly passerines, were found to be way down in numbers. Dr. Lanyon reports that for the first time not a single Pewee, Kingbird, Song Sparrow or Chipping Sparrow bred at Kalbfleisch Research Station. It was noticed that swallows had been hard hit. Bank Swallows at Gardiner's Island being a good example (see body of report). Whether low temperatures and wet conditions discouraged nesting or caused large scale breeding population mortality is a matter of conjecture, but we can be sure the weather played a significant role.

Despite poor showings by other species, the cuckoos seemed to do extremely well. They were noted as "in high numbers" at Kalbfleisch and Heckscher State Park. The Glossy Ibis also did well this year, its breeding numbers still rising.

Again this year Mr. Robert Gardiner allowed a visit to his island by a field work team from the Linnean Society. The island was divided into five areas with Tom Davis, Frank Enders, Fred Heath, Ben and Joanne Trimble, each taking an area. Arthur Swoger was the team's roving photographer. A large percentage of this report contains information from this interesting island.

Complete information on most of the heron, gull and tern colonies is presented as usual in capsule form.

Rarities recorded included Audubon's Shearwater, Skua, Long-eared Owl breeding record and Boat-tailed Grackle, a holdover from the spring.