

SHORT-EARED OWL: Onondaga Audubon Society members report one seen on Pt Pen on Aug 16. Normally considered a winter visitor, the possibility of breeding is raised. There is a 1960 record of nesting on Wolfe Island.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Whip-poor-will: last, Sep 19 (AA). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last, Sep 25 (FC). Belted Kingfisher: last, Nov 26 (JB). Hybrid Flicker (Yellow -x Red-shafted): Sep 21 Adams Cove (DG). Great Crested Flycatcher: last, Oct 1 (RW). Tree Swallow: last, Oct 3 (JB). Bank Swallow: last, Oct 12 (DG), late. Black-capped Chickadee: 30 on Oct 10 ED (FGS). House Wren: last, Sep 21 (DG). Winter Wren: one Oct 10 ED (FGS). Hermit Thrush: last, Nov 2 (DG). Swainson's Thrush: last, Oct 2 (AA). Gray-cheeked Thrush: last, Sep 29 (AA). Eastern Bluebird: two Sep 14 ED (FGS); DG reports highest numbers for Oct (total of 16 on three weekends) in some years—an encouraging sign. Northern Shrike: several reported in Nov; two at feeders in Wat area attempted to prey on small birds.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: the following vireo and warbler records are last dates seen. Vireos—Yellow-throated, Sep 8 (RW); Solitary, Oct 10 ED (FGS); Red-eyed, Oct 9 (AA); Philadelphia, Sep 29 (AA); Warbling, Oct 5 (AA). Warblers—Nashville, Sep 29 (DG); Magnolia, Sep 21 (DG); Cape May, Sep 21 (RW); Black-throated Blue, Sep 28 (RW); Myrtle, Oct 25 (AA); Black-throated Green, Sep 21 (DG); Bay-breasted, Oct 11 (AA); Blackpoll, Oct 11 (AA); Pine, Oct 9 (AA); Palm, two (one Yellow and one Western) Oct 10 ED (FGS); Ovenbird, Sep 21 (DG); Yellowthroat, Sep 21 (DG); Wilson's, Sep 21 (DG). On Oct 10 FGS saw 40 Myrtle Warblers at ED.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Baltimore Oriole: one Nov 30 Wat (DG), late. Rusty Blackbird: last, Nov 11 (DG). Cardinal: appears to be on increase in Jeff Co; adult with three fledglings at feeder Aug 18 (AA); late nesting—two young in nest Aug 31, left nest Sep 3 (*vide* DG). Evening Grosbeak: a few reported in Oct, seen many localities in Nov. Pine Grosbeak: seen in a number of places in Jeff Co in Nov. Tree Sparrow: first fall, Oct 26 (DG), Oct 27 (AA). Lincoln's Sparrow: Oct 5 Wat (AA). Lapland Longspur: Oct 10 Pillar Pt (DG). Snow Bunting: first, Oct 25 (RW).

Last dates for sparrows are: Savannah, Oct 26 (DG); Vesper, Oct 26 (DG); Chipping, Oct 19 (AA,DG); Field, Oct 20 (AA); White-crowned, Oct 19 (DG) White-throated, Nov 20 (DG); Fox, Nov 11 (DG); Swamp, two Oct 10 ED (FGS).

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REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK — CHAMPLAIN

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The last two weeks in August were quite normal for Region 7. In other words they were fairly cold with scattered frosts which frustrated many a gardener. The thermometer at our house read 38 degrees at 8:30 a.m. on August 19th.

But by September normality in weather ended and October and November seemed to vie with one another in abnormality of different natures. September was unusually warm. In fact it was the first in eleven years of records that no frost was recorded for the month at the Hilltop Meteorological Observatory at Ray Brook, according to Bob Kampf. The high for the month was 81 degrees, rainfall was below normal and wind velocities were light.

October was extraordinarily warm and fine with only one-fourth-of-an-inch of snow on the 30th and 31st instead of the average three inches for the month.

November made up in fury for the glory of the past two months. In a graphic quote from Bob Kampf we find, "Weatherwise November 1968 might just as well be erased from the mind as quickly as one can do it." Region 7, at least in the northern Adirondacks, had three feet of snow and, as far as could be estimated, only three-and-one-half days of maximum sunshine. What an adjustment for avifauna!

The cone, nut and berry crop is practically negligible this year. In fact one expert terms it "disastrous." Finches seem to have been noticeably affected by this shortage. I hope better conditions exist elsewhere. The October warmth seems to have kept some species later and some late singing was noted.

Most of our rarities took off for the south before the worst weather as did the great skeins of Canada Geese. In noting the numbers of geese on the reports, it is possible that some of the individual reports may have been overlapped by the Conservation Department report but, of course, even they could not observe every flock so I think the picture comes out a very true one.

Spruce Grouse seem to be trying to extend their range; Cold River and Derrick are new sites as was Elk Lake last summer. It is to be hoped that this winter, ever-increasing in ferocity, will not discourage them once more.

The many Common Ravens noted in the report may find this boisterous climate reminiscent of their more northern habitats, though where they may be finding food is a mystery. People and refuse cans seemed to be so much a complement to their warm weather diet.

The two Red-headed Woodpeckers were worthy of note. They, too, were gone by November 1st.

That most remarkable find of Geoffrey Carleton's, the Tufted Titmouse, showed great good sense in starting south on October 28th. May it have a quick and uninterrupted journey, even though it may not have so very far to go!

The fact that we had four warbler waves reported on August 3rd, September 27th, October 5th and October 21st, was encouraging in view of the fact that no waves were reported in the area last fall. The flight on October 5th seems to have been particularly spectacular. Mr. and Mrs. Greenleaf Chase report that the birds went over their house at the edge of the woods on Lower Saranac Lake from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. in varying numbers with the highest concentrations at the two hours above mentioned. Neither of them had ever seen anything like it.

Why so many Cardinals came and why some are staying with us is incomprehensible. We know the feeder people are very conscientious and hope they will survive. Perhaps next summer a breeding record!

As always, I wish to extend my thanks to reporters from other regions who visit Region 7 in the fall and send us their knowledgeable and interesting lists for the time they are here.

Observers: EA—Elizabeth Anderson; CC—Creta Chase; GC—Geoffrey Carleton; GTC—Greenleaf T. Chase; ED—Ethel Dyer; HD—Harriet Delafield; EG—Ed Gardephe; RH—Robert Hagar; JK—Joseph Keji; MK—Marguerite Kingsbury; FL—Ferdinand LaFrance; GM—Gordon Meade; DM—Dorothy McIlroy; RM—Ruth Meier; RMS—Robert and Mary Sheffield; IW—Isabel Williams; DY—David Young.

Abbreviations: B—Brook; P—Pond; B'dale—Bloomingdale; E'town—Elizabethtown; MD—Madawaska; RB—Ray Brook; SL—Saranac Lake; TL—Tupper Lake.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: three Sep 23–28 Rollins P near Fish Creek (RMS); two Piseco Oct 19–22 (DM); two half-grown young Duck P near Loon L Aug 19, pair Bay P near Paul Smiths Oct 31 (GTC). Great Blue Heron: one Aug 25 Osgood R near TL, one Weller P TL Sep 1 (RM); one Sep 25 Rollins P (RMS); one Aug 18 Mad (GM). Am. Bittern: one Sep 30 Moody (RM). Canada Goose: Oct 4 thru 30, 5374 in 74 flocks Essex and Franklin from Rockefeller Pk, Paul Smiths to Whallons Bay L Champlain (Conservation Dept annual report); 60 Oct 5 RB, 16 Oct 20 TL (MK); 62 Oct 8 RB (JK); many flocks E'town Oct 8 and 20

(GC); weather turned cold Piseco with north wind night of Oct 20, temp not over 50 degrees Oct 21, 910 geese seen in nine flocks, four other flocks heard (DM); 30 SL Oct 23 (ED); 100-300 Oct 26-28 Inlet (FF). Snow Goose: 200 Kings Bay near Plattsburg Nov 17 (GTC). Black Duck: two Aug 23 RB (JK); four Sep 28 Fall Stream near Piseco (DM); one Oct 20 TL (MK); several first 2 weeks in Nov Kings Bay (Maryland *fide* GTC); three Oct 26 Inlet (FL). Wood Duck: two Aug 18 Mad (GM); two Sep 28 Fall Stream Piseco (DM). Ring-necked Duck: eight Aug 18 L Colby, SL (EA,HD). Scaup: several, first two weeks in Nov Kings Bay (Maryland *fide* GTC). Hooded Merganser: two Deer P near Piseco Sep 26 (DM); one Oct 24 RB (JK); one Oct 26 Inlet (FL); one Brook P, SL Aug 23 (EA,HD).

HAWKS—OWLS: Goshawk: one Nicholville Nov 7 (GTC). Red-tailed Hawk: one migrating adult Piseco Sep 27 (DM). Red-shouldered Hawk: one Mad Aug 18 (GM). Rough-legged Hawk: one Westport Oct 28 (GC); one SL Oct 5 (GTC). Bald Eagle: pair Split Rock Range Oct 5 (Kolodski *fide* GTC). Marsh Hawk: one s of Malone Nov 4 (MK); one Aug 18 Mad (GM); one Sep 25 SL (HD). Osprey: one Sep 24 Rollins P (RMS); one Sep 28 Piseco (DM); one over Saranac R near SL Sep 30 (EA,HD). Sparrow Hawk: four Mad Aug 18 (GM); two Aug 30 thru Sep 25 SL (HD). Spruce Grouse: one female Aug 31 Mad (J. Meade); one Derrick, one Cold River second week Oct (Reid *fide* GTC). Ruffed Grouse: one or two thru period TL (RM); one Aug 31 Mad (J. Meade); one Oct 14 E'town (EA,HD); one Oct 15 RB (JK); two Oct 26 thru Nov 3 Inlet (FL). Killdeer: one Malone, one Massena, two s of Massena Sep 9 (MK); one Nov 26 L Alice (EG). Am. Woodcock: several thru Oct 30 TL (RM). Spotted Sandpiper: two Rollins P Sep 25 (RMS). Lesser Yellowlegs: one Aug 18 Mad (GM). Herring Gull: one Aug 19, one Oct 23 RB (JK). Great Horned Owl: one Sep 23 & 24 Rollins P (RMS); one L Alice near West Chazy Nov 26 (EG). Snowy Owl: two Nov 12 Kings Bay (EG). Barred Owl: two "gave great concerts" Rollins P Sep 23-28 (RMS); one Oct 26 Inlet (FL).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Common Nighthawk: one on flying-ant day over barns outside of SL routed by swallows Aug 23, one SL Sep 6 (EA); one Aug 16 RB (JK). Chimney Swift: few Aug 16 thru 22 RB (JK); one Aug 19 SL (HD). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: one thru Sep 22 SL (EA,HD); few thru Aug 25 TL (RM); one thru Sep 1 RB (JK). Belted Kingfisher: one Aug 18 TL (RM); one Aug 18 Little L Colby SL, one Aug 29 Fish Creek on way to Saranac Inn Aug 29 & Sep 3, one SL Nov 3 (EA,HD); one Rollins P Sep 24-27 (RMS); two Sep 25-29, three Oct 19-22 Piseco (DM); one Aug 21 RB (JK). Yellow-shafted Flicker: largest number reported 20 B'dale to Vermontville Aug 27 (ED); common Sep 8-10 & 25-29 Piseco (DM); otherwise only small numbers reported; last, one SL and few TL Sep 28 (HD,RM). Pileated Woodpecker: one Sep 23-28 Rollins P (RMS); one Oct 2 Moody (RM); one to three Inlet Oct 26 thru Nov 3 (FL); one Ampersand Bay Nov 4 (GTC); one SL Nov 16 (EA,HD). **RED-HEADED WOODPECKER:** one imm Oct 31 & Nov 1 RB (MK); one first two weeks Oct B'dale (GTC). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: one to three all areas until Sep 29. Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers: small numbers all areas. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: one adult male, good details, Oct 26 (*fide* FL); one Matumbla Mt near Piercefield Nov 10 (GTC).

Eastern Kingbird: one Aug 18, two Aug 31, one Sep 24 SL (EA,HD). Eastern Phoebe: good numbers all areas; one, late, Oct 5 RB (GTC). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: two near summit of Whiteface Mt Aug 16 (RH). Eastern Wood Pewee: one singing Aug 31 Kiwassa (GM); one Aug 16 thru Sep 1 RB (JK). Horned Lark: 12 third week of Oct RB (GTC). Bank Swallow: ten Sep 8-10 Piseco (DM); one Aug 16 RB (JK). Barn Swallow: Mad Aug 18 (GM); 20 Aug 30, three Sep 2 RB

(JK); Sep 8-10 Piseco (DM); 40 Sep 2, four Sep 6 SL (EA,HD). Cliff Swallow: few Aug 16-24 RB (JK). PURPLE MARTIN: five Aug 31 Westport (GC). Gray Jay: four Aug 31 Mad (J. Meade); no numbers Whitney Pk, just s of TL Oct 4 & 7 (RM); two to four daily Oct 26 thru Nov 3 Uncas Trail Inlet (FL). Blue Jay: common, too many to be counted Sep 11 SL (HD). COMMON RAVEN: two Cascades Sep 12, GC and party watched them soar and play almost as if in courtship flight; one Rocky Peak Ridge near St Huberts Oct 20; eight near summit of Wright Peak "in a loose flock, snow, ice and tempest blowing under overcast skies" Oct 26 (GC); one Spruce Hill on way to E'town Sep 15 (GTC); two Matumbula Mt Sep 15 (*fide* GTC), one Spruce Hill Oct 2 (EA). Common Crow: small numbers all areas; largest number 21 from SL to Paul Smiths and back Aug 29 (EA,HD). Black-capped Chickadee: flocks of varying sizes all areas; 40 Mad Aug 18 (GM). Boreal Chickadee: 20 Aug 18 Mad (GM); one Slush P near Paul Smiths Sep 21 (EA&HD); one or two daily Uncas Trail Inlet Oct 26 thru Nov 3 (FL); one Oct 22 RB (GTC). TUFTED TITMOUSE: "first heard squeak, then chatter, then saw it, moving south in trackside trees 5 miles s of Westport" Oct 28 (GC). White-breasted and Red-breasted Nuthatches: two to four of each usually seen in a day's birding, nine to ten Red-breasted Oct 26 thru Nov 3 Inlet (FL). Brown Creeper: one Aug 29 thru Nov 24 RB (JK); one many days Oct 26 thru Nov 3 Inlet (FL); seen and heard sing "full song but a bit rusty" Rollins P Oct 26 & 27 (RMS). Winter Wren: late, one Oct 26 Inlet (FL).

Catbird: one thru Sep 24 SL (HD); Sep 17 RB (JK); two Sep 25-29 Piseco (DM). Robin: stayed on into Nov in most areas; one Nov 26 SL (HD). Hermit Thrush: two Mad Aug 18 (GM); one singing E'town Sep 19 (GC); one RB Oct 31 (JK); two Oct 26 & 27 Inlet (FL). Swainson's Thrush: one Sep 23 thru 28 Rollins P (RMS); one transient E'town Aug 31 (GC). Veery: one Aug 29 RB (JK); one E'town Sep 2 (GC). Eastern Bluebird: one singing Ticondaroga Oct 18 (MK); last heard singing Aug 23 SL, four thru Oct 23, one Oct 30 SL (EA,HD). Golden-crowned Kinglet: 12 Mad Aug 18 (GM); six at 4400 feet Whiteface Mt. Aug 16 (RH); one Aug 29 SL, three Whiteface Mt below tollgate Sep 13 (EA,HD); two RB Sep 3 thru Nov 16 (JK); two Sep 23 thru 28 Rollins P (RMS); four to eight Inlet Oct 26 thru Nov 3 (FL). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: one Aug 18 Little L Colby SL, we were entranced with this little individual who wore a yellow crown, Peterson says: "Occasional males have yellow crowns," we found no mention of this fact in other sources (EA,HD); one near summit Whiteface Mt Aug 16 (RH); one Sep 1 thru Oct 12, two Sep 4 RB (JK); seen and heard sing Sep 24 Rollins P (RMS). Water Pipit: small flocks mid-Sep Gabriels (DY). Cedar Waxwing: stayed into Sep most areas; 30 Piseco Sep 25-29 (DM). Loggerhead Shrike: one, carefully studied, L Colby Sep 3 (HD). Starling: 40 Sep 1 RB (JK); 100 Sep 13, 150 Sep 15, last Nov 22 all SL (EA,HD).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: several, some singing Sep 23-28 Rollins P (RMS); one E'town Oct 12 (GC). Red-eyed Vireo: one singing Aug 23 and Aug 30 after killing frost SL (EA,HD); no number Mad Aug 18 (GM); one Aug 24 thru Sep 20 RB (JK); one E'town Oct 25 (GC).

Warblers: Black-and-white: one Sep 19 RB (JK); Tennessee: one Sep 8 Jay (RH). Nashville: two Aug 20 thru Sep 14 RB (JK); one Piseco Sep 8-10 (DM); one SL Aug 29 (HD). Parula: one Aug 31 RB (JK). Magnolia: three Mad Aug 18 (GM); one Sep 5 RB (JK); several Sep 8-10 Piseco (DM). Cape May: one Sep 25-29 Piseco (DM). Black-throated Blue: Aug 3 thru Sep 27 TL (RM); male Aug 16 near summit of Whiteface Mt (RH); two, Sep 8-10 and 25-28 Piseco (DM); one Sep 27 Rollins P (RMS); two E'town Oct 2 (GC); some identified in mixed warbler flock SL Oct 21 (CC,GTC). Myrtle: one to four all areas Aug 18 thru Oct 30, 30 Oct 5 RB (MK). Black-throated Green: one Aug 26 thru Oct 1 RB (JK); two Rollins P Sep 23 (RMS); two Sep 25-29 Piseco (DM). Blackburnian: one Sep 5 &

14 RB (JK); several Sep 8-10 Piseco (DM). Chestnut-sided: one Aug 30 RB (JK). Bay-breasted: one transient E'town Aug 30 (GC). Ovenbird: one Sep 19 RB (JK); one singing Aug 31 Kiwassa (GM). Yellowthroat: no numbers Aug 18 Mad (GM); one Aug 21 RB (JK); one Sep 3 L Colby, one singing Sep 8 SL (HD); several Sep 8-10 Piseco (DM). Canada: one Aug 30 RB (JK). American Redstart: one Sep 5 RB (JK); two Sep 25-29 Piseco (DM).

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: House Sparrow: it seems as if this species has really declined in numbers and not just that people are tired of reporting them. Bobolink: 45 Aug 16 LP (RH); one L Colby Aug 29 (HD). Eastern Meadowlark: one to three thru period, five Nov 1 SL (HD). Red-winged Blackbird: no large flocks reported, few lingered on thru Nov B'dale, TL, RB; three Nov 27 SL (HD). Baltimore Oriole: four Aug 16, one male Aug 18 TL (RM); one Aug 16 and 18 RB (JK). Rusty Blackbird: one transient E'town Sep 18 (GC); eight Rollins P Sep 23 (RMS); six Fall Stream Sep 28 (DM); one SL Nov 12-16 (CC,GTC). Common Grackle: few thru Oct, last one Nov 22 SL (EA,HD). Brown-headed Cowbird: mostly single birds reported; max 25 Nov 21 SL (HD). Scarlet Tanager: two Aug 18 Kiwassa (GM); one Sep 3-20 RB (JK); two Sep 8-10 and 25-29 Piseco (DM).

CARDINAL: extraordinary number of records—pair Moody Sep thru Nov, one male Dead Creek Flow TL Nov 22, female Nov 24 TL (RM); male Oct 18 thru Nov 23, female Oct 31 thru period B'dale (IW); one male Essex Oct 23 (GC); one female E'town Oct 25 (Mrs. R. Dawson *vide* GC); one male SL in yard Nov 12-14 (RH); pair Willsboro Nov 15 (*vide* Mason); pair Essex Nov 15, five, "a wonderful burst of red," Nov 17 (Mason). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: one Aug 28 thru Sep 15, two Sep 5 RB (JK); one call note Kiwassa Aug 31 (GM); one Sep 8-10 Piseco (DM). Evening Grosbeak: flocks of 30 to 60 Oct 26 thru period TL (RM); three Aug 22, 21 Nov 2 RB (MK); 40 Nov 29 RB (JK); one Inlet Oct 30 (FL). Purple Finch: numbers WAY down, some areas reporting none, others one to three; seen at Piseco (DM). Pine Grosbeak: one to two late Oct thru period RB (JK); one Oct 26 Gabriels (DY); four RB Nov 6, one SL Nov 11, 30 Paul Smiths to Meecham Nov 17 (GTC); two Nov 8 thru 23 SL (ED). Pine Siskin: five Nov 2 Inlet (FL). Am. Goldfinch: overlapping late-staying breeders and migrants, eight Nov 1 Inlet (FL); common Piseco Sep 8-10 and 25-29 (DM). Red Crossbill: conspicuous by absence; one Nov 4 RB (JK). Rufous-sided Towhee: one male Nov 23 thru period RB (JK). Savannah Sparrow: one Sep 5 SL (HD). Vesper Sparrow: one Aug 18 Mad (GM); one SL Sep 19, two Oct 30 (HD); one Westport Oct 28 (GC). Slate-colored Junco: another bird which has declined, two or three small flocks, about seven birds each, reported RB (GTC); largest number reported "up to 20" Nov 3 Inlet (FL); a few at Piseco (DM). Tree Sparrow: small numbers all areas from Oct 26 thru period. Chipping Sparrow: stayed in small groups all areas until late Sep. White-crowned Sparrow: 12 to 14 during four days early Oct TL (RM); one Sep 23 Rollins P (RMS). At SL first one arrived Sep 20 and the last one left Nov 3. Normally we have a flock of max eight for two or three weeks in Oct, change this year may be due to the warm Oct; there were still dandelion fluffs, which this species love, on our lawn in early Nov. White-throated Sparrow: few reports; none at Inlet late Oct, early Nov (FL); ten Sep 25-29 Piseco (DM); one Nov 4 SL "whisper song" (EA). Fox Sparrow: one Oct 19 Jay (RH). Lincoln's Sparrow: one Mad Aug 18 (GM); two transient E'town Sep 15 (GC). Swamp Sparrow: two Sep 8-10 Piseco (DM); one Oct 29 Inlet (FL). Song Sparrow: a few stragglers stayed until end of Oct; one SL Nov 24 (EA,HD). Snow Bunting: first Oct 24 Gabriels (DY); 40 Oct 28 TL (RM); large flock Nicholville Nov 17 (GTC).

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