

A few observations of Golden Eagles, Bald Eagles, and Peregrine Falcons highlighted the fall migration of birds of prey. A fair number of Goshawks were reported, but numbers of Rough-legged Hawks were down in most sections indicating a poor flight for these winter visitors. Snowy Owls were unreported.

High water levels in lakes and ponds had its negative effect on shore-birding during the summer, but receding shorelines and newly exposed mudflats later in the season resulted in more favorable conditions. Region 5 reported an outstanding flight of Red Phalaropes in late October and early November. An American Oystercatcher on November 15 at Moriches Inlet, Region 10, established a new late regional record for this species.

The fall season did not lack for gull records. Noteworthy were the rather widespread observations of Black-legged Kittiwakes. Although a small number of this species are sighted with some regularity by patient observers in the fall along Lake Ontario shore, this year's scattering of records in several regions was most unusual for this oceanic species. The Lesser Black-backed Gull was reported at Ithaca for the seventh consecutive year. Other gull records of interest were: Sabine's Gull, Franklin's Gull, Laughing Gull, and more than usual number of Little Gulls.

Following is a partial list of other noteworthy occurrences and rarities, some recorded in several regions: Harris' Sparrow, Western Kingbird, Dickcissel, Common Raven, Eared Grebe, Great Cormorant, White Pelican, White Ibis, Sooty Tern, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, and Bullock's Oriole. A careful reading of the regional summaries will add many more to this list of highlights of an exceptionally productive fall season.

It is regretted that the Region 1 report was not available for inclusion in this issue.

969 Five Mile Line Road, Webster, New York 14580

REGION 1 — NIAGARA FRONTIER

No report. This report period will be included in the May issue.

REGION 2 — GENESEE

RICHARD T. O'HARA

Due to the sudden, untimely death of Howard Miller on December 14, 1968, this summary may be somewhat less complete than usual.

Water levels in the ponds and bays of the Lake Ontario shoreline remained quite high through the late summer but began dropping quite rapidly in the early fall. By late October, good mud flats were exposed on the West Spit at Braddocks Bay, but by this time, of course, most species of shorebirds were present only in dwindling numbers.