

of migrants. This does not necessarily mean that bird populations were up to what was considered normal in the decade of the 30's — we really don't have enough accurate data to know just what "normal" is. Since migrants change their routes from year to year guided mostly by weather factors, do not adhere to strict time schedules, and may often escape observation, which is as variable as the birds activities, a compilation of migration data over just one state or local area are not sufficient to base forecasts of a silent spring.

Our regional reports do indicate that the population trend in most waterfowl is downward especially loons, grebes, and diving ducks. Canada Geese were plentiful and good-sized flocks were reported from all regions. Indications are that the resident populations of "parkway" geese from the southeastern counties are increasing and spreading their breeding range.

Breeding data are much more meaningful than migration gleanings. The fun of spring census day might be considered as leading into the more rewarding pleasures of a breeding bird census.

House Finches were recorded in several areas, indication of a possible range expansion which should be watched carefully by FNYSBC members and clubs. Red Crossbills and Evening Grosbeaks remained later than usual in some regions. It is tragic to note that Peregrine Falcons and Pigeon Hawks are limned as rarities — are loons and grebes soon to be so noted? Flycatchers, especially the smaller species as the Least, are noted as below usual numbers in several regions — we hope this is local and temporary but must watch carefully.

Unfortunately the reports of the spring season from Regions 1 and 4 had not arrived in time to be included in this summary. We are grateful for the reports which did arrive and urge each of you to read the summaries included at the start of each listing — they are, in many ways more important than the mere listing of a name.

N.Y.S. Museum, Albany, N.Y. 12224

REGION 1 — NIAGARA FRONTIER

ROBERT A. SUNDELL

Report for period August 16–November 30.

While August was nearly three degrees warmer than average and slightly more than one half inch deficient in rainfall, northwesterly winds from the 20th to the 22nd cooled the area slightly. September was nearly one degree above normal and slightly more than an inch below average in precipitation. Both temperature and precipitation were nearly normal during October. Temperatures were normal in November while precipitation ranged from one half inch above normal in the Buffalo area to several inches above average in Franklinville, Cattaraugus County, where two blizzards at mid-month resulted in a snow depth reading of seventeen inches on the 21st.

Significant occurrences or trends noted were: (1) the continuing decline of loons, grebes and herons (except the Great Blue), (2) one of the best fall flights of Canada Geese in recent years, (3) a mediocre or poor showing of most other species of waterfowl, (4) disappointing numbers of birds of prey except for the total of vultures, Red-tailed and Marsh Hawks on the October 12 region-wide fall count (which may well represent the fair weather conditions and unusually large number of observers [214] rather than actual population increases), (5) an extremely poor showing of rails except the American Coot, (6) another interesting but modest shorebird flight, (7) an excellent but not outstanding showing of gulls, (8) fair to poor flights of most of the insectivorous passerine groups, (9) the beginning of one of the outstanding winter finch flights of recent years with all species reported except the Pine Grosbeak, (10) exceptionally high counts of the Chipping and White-throated Sparrows.

Rarities of particular interest were Eared Grebe, European Widgeon, Marbled Godwit, Laughing Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Common Raven, Boreal Chickadee and Dickcissel.

Abbreviations: Bflo—Buffalo; BOSFC—Buffalo Ornithological Society Fall Count; Chaut—Chautauqua; INWR—Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge; OO—Oak Orchard; Ont—Ontario.

Contributors: RFA—Robert F. Andrie; TLB—Thomas L. Bourne; EB—Elizabeth Brooks; LDS—Lou and Doris Burton; DD—Dorothy Danner; PH—Paul Hess; GI—Gregory Inskip; HEJ—Harris E. Johnson; JK—Joseph Kikta; WHK—Walter and Harriette Klabunde; WAM—Willard and Alice McKale; HDM—Harold D. Mitchell; EP—Elizabeth Pillsbury; FMR—Frances M. Rew; AR—Archie Richardson; RR—Robert Rycbczynski; RAS—Robert A. Sundell; GW—Gertrude Webster.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: continuing to decline—max fall count 4 Nov 9 Chaut L (FMR). Red-throated Loon: rare migrant—1 Oct 29 to Nov 15 Red House L (mob); 2 Nov 9 Pt Chaut (RAS). Red-necked Grebe: singles Oct 29, Nov 6 Hamburg Town Pk (RFA, TLB), Nov 11 Bay View (PH, Gregory Hammond). Horned Grebe: arr 9 Oct 12 scattered localities BOSFC. **EARED GREBE:** 1 Nov 25 Hamburg Town Pk (TLB). Double-crested Cormorant: 3 Oct 4 Dunkirk Harbor (WHK); 1 Oct 9 OO area (NDM, Wendling); 1 Oct 21 Hamburg Town Pk (TLB). Great Blue Heron: 116 Oct 12 scattered localities BOSFC. Common Egret: four reports of singles during Aug in Bflo area (mob); singles Aug 12, Sep 18 Beaver Meadow Refuge at North Java (DD).

Whistling Swan: fall flight poorly observed—max 220 Nov 30 Chaut L (Robert Rappole). Canada Goose: excellent fall flight with flocks of 300 or more over at least six areas; max counts 2000 at OO area Oct 10 (WHK) and 1635 Oct 14 over Foster L, Alfred (EB et al). Brant: 3 Oct 16 Barcelona (Montgomery fide RAS). Snow Goose: 1 Oct 12 OO area (HDM et al) BOSFC. Mallard: 1108 Oct 12 BOSFC. Black Duck: 438 Oct 12 BOSFC. Green-winged Teal: 40 Sep 18 INWR (Arthur Freitag); 155 Oct 12 BOSFC. Blue-winged Teal: 100 Oct 4 Frewsburg (WHK); 500 Oct 10 OO area (WHK). **EUROPEAN WIDGEON:** rare in recent years—1 Oct 12 OO area (PH et al) BOSFC. American Widgeon: 900 Oct 10 OO area (WHK). Redhead: arr unusually early 3 Aug 26 Bflo Harbor (RR, JK). Greater Scaup: 2000 Oct 27 L Ont at Four Mile Creek State Pk (WHK). White-winged Scoter: 25 Sep 24 Hamburg Town Pk (TLB). Surf Scoter: 10 Oct 26 Chaut L, Mayville (RAS et al). Ruddy Duck: 400 Nov 9 Chaut L (RAS).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: 55 Oct 12 BOSFC. Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks: a few individuals at widely scattered locations from Aug through Oct. Red-tailed Hawk: 176 Oct 12 BOSFC. Red-shouldered Hawk: 14 Oct 12 BOSFC. Broad-winged Hawk: a few individuals during mid Sep; last 1 Oct 12 BOSFC. Rough-legged Hawk: 1 Aug 12 Batavia (George Buckland) represents either a sum-

mering bird or an unusually early fall migrant. Bald Eagle: singles Aug 11 imm over Hamburg (TLB), Aug 16 imm at Alden (Websters), Oct 12 BOSFC; Oct 27 over Kenmore (GW). Marsh Hawk: 47 Oct 12 BOSFC. Osprey: individuals at many localities between Aug 11 and Oct 12.

Rails had a very poor fall showing except for American Coot, numbers of which again appeared at the northern end of Chaut L—2 Sep 9 Prendergast Pt (EP, Ora Swanson); 55 Sep 28 (RAS), 2500 Oct 26 (RAS), 1800 Nov 9 (FMR) all at Mayville.

American Golden Plover: singles arr Aug 21 Hamburg Township (TLB) and Aug 22 Prendergast Pt (William Robinson). Black-bellied Plover: arr 1 Aug 8 Prendergast Pt (RAS). Solitary Sandpiper: arr early—1 Jul 9 Prendergast Pt (AR). Willet: 1 Aug 26 (JK, RR) intermittently through Oct 23 Bflo Harbor and 2 Sep 2–19 (mob); also singles Sep 6–8 Canadaway Creek (mob) and Oct 28 Hamburg Town Pk (RFA)—very late. Knot: arr 1 Aug 20 Hamburg Town Pk (TLB). Pectoral Sandpiper: arr 1 Jul 8 Prendergast Pt (AR). Waite-rumped Sandpiper: rare away from Great Lakes shore line—2 Sep 4 Wellsville (LDB). Baird's Sandpiper: 2 Sep 2 Prendergast Pt (RAS); singles there until Sep 9 (mob); singles Sep 6, 11 Hamburg Town Pk (TLB). Short-billed Dowitcher; unusually scarce—1 Aug 8 Athol Springs (TLB)—only report. Stilt Sandpiper: arr 1 Jul 16 Prendergast Pt (AR). *MARBLED GODWIT*: extremely rare—1 Aug 29 INWR (Morse). Red Phalarope: 1 Oct 27 Hamburg Town Pk (TLB); a phalarope Nov 29 at Prendergast Pt on Chaut L (EP) would also be this species according to the date.

Parasitic Jaeger: singles Oct 22, Nov 12 Hamburg Town Pk (TLB). Glaucous and Iceland Gulls: 2 of each species Nov 24 Lewiston (Axtells); single Iceland Gulls Nov 8, 25 Hamburg Town Pk (TLB). *LAUGHING GULL*: well marked imm Sep 7–10 Prendergast Pt (mob). Franklin's Gull: singles Sep 9 Woodlawn (TLB), Nov 11 Lewiston (WHK). Bonaparte's Gull: max 11,000 Oct 29, 30 Lewiston (WHK). Little Gull: singles and pairs along Bflo waterfront and Niagara R Sep through Nov (mob); singles Oct 16 Bay View and Oct 24 Hamburg Town Pk (TLB); max 3 Oct 29 Lewiston (WHK). *BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE*: imm Nov 4 Hamburg Town Pk (TLB); imm freshly dead on L Erie shore at Canadaway Creek Nov 29 (RAS)—specimen deposited in collection at Biology Department, State University College at Fredonia. Short-eared Owl: probably very early migrant—1 Aug 18 Lakeview (TLB); 10 Nov 26 Youngstown (WHK).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Common Nighthawk: poor flight with no large concentrations reported; last 1 Oct 13 over Eggertsville (WAM). Eastern Kingbird: about two to three weeks later than usual departure—1 Oct 12 Oak Orchard (HDM et al); 1 Oct 12 Silver Creek (FMR, Joan Boyd). Barn Swallow: late dep 1 Oct 12 Oak Orchard (HDM et al). Purple Martin: max counts at roost in Jamestown—50 Aug 7, 50 Aug 16 (Clarence Beal). Blue Jay: very heavy fall flight—1871 Oct 12 BOSFC. *COMMON RAVEN*: 2 Oct 20 over Chestnut Ridge Pk (TLB)—while still very rare, recent reports suggest an increase in the frequency with which this species is occurring. *BOREAL CHICKADEE*: 1 Nov 5, 15 Como Pk, Lancaster (RR, JK et al); 3 Nov 9 Amherst (GI). Red-breasted Nuthatch: excellent flight starting in late Aug with numbers of birds well scattered throughout region; 132 Oct 12 BOSFC. Carolina Wren: singles in five locations.

Robin: excellent fall count—8770 Oct 12 BOSFC. Wood Thrush: about one week later than usual departure—singles Oct 23 Alfred (Klingensmith et al); Oct 23 Eggertsville (WAM). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: nearly three weeks later than usual departure—1 Oct 12 Wilson (WHK). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: excellent fall total—676 Oct 12 BOSFC. Water Pipit: good fall flight—434 Oct 12 BOSFC; 150 Oct 19 Clarence Township, Erie County (Wendlings); last 1 Nov 22 Silver Creek (R. H. Hesselbart). Northern Shrike: singles Nov 2 Ellicottville (Reeves); Nov 9 Lewiston (WHK); Nov 15 Riverside (NEJ et al). Loggerhead Shrike: 1 Aug 22 Boston (TLB.)

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Rather poor migration in general except the October flight which was somewhat heavier than usual. In most areas birds seemed to drift through in relatively small numbers although an average number of species was reported. Solitary Vireo: last 1 Nov 2 Alfred (EB). Philadelphia Vireo: arr 1 Aug 23 Alfred (EB). Warbling Vireo: last 1 Sep 29 Springbrook (DD).

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr 1 Sep 13 Forest Lawn Cemetery, Bflo (HDM et al); late 1 Nov 22 Athol Springs (Wilma Csont). Nashville Warbler: 2 imm with 2 adults Aug 17 Foster Marsh, Alfred (EB). Parula Warbler: 3 from Bflo area. Black-throated Blue Warbler: about two weeks later than usual departure—1 Nov 8–10 at feeder in Lewiston (WHK). Palm Warbler: last 1 Nov 9 Bflo (RR). Connecticut Warbler: specimen Sep 18 TV Tower, Jamestown (Kibler); 1 Sep 18 Lakeside Cemetery, Hamburg (TLB). Hooded Warbler: last 2 Sep 28 Spring Brook (DD).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Baltimore Oriole: about five weeks later than usual departure date—1 at feeder Oct 22, 23 Belmont (LDB). Scarlet Tanager: 9 Oct 12 BOSFC—unusually large number for mid-Oct date. Cardinal: 265 Oct 12 BOSFC compared with 227 on 1968 count. Indigo Bunting: late imm Oct 12 Riverside Marsh (RAS). *DICKCISSEL*: 1 or 2 at feeders with House Sparrows in three widely separated localities—1 Sep 29 intermittently until Nov 27 Belmont (LDB), 2 Oct 30–Nov 3 at same feeder; 1 Nov 5 Wilson (GW et al); adult male Nov 16, 17, 19, 20 Fredonia (F. M. Hall). Evening Grosbeak: arr 1 Oct 12 Hamburg BOSFC; widely scattered throughout region south of Bflo and suburbs during Nov—max 65 Nov 9 Snyder (WAM, Armstrongs). Common Redpoll: region-wide distribution in small flocks during Nov—arr 2 Nov 5 Wilson (GW et al); max 35 Nov 22 Barcelona (RAS). Pine Siskin: excellent fall flight throughout region but particularly heavy along L Ont during early Nov—355 Oct 12 BOSFC; 450 Nov 8 Youngstown (WHK); 200 Nov 9 Olcott (WHK). American Goldfinch: highest Oct total—4872 Oct 12 BOSFC. Red Crossbill: region-wide distribution in small flocks starting in late Oct—arr 8 Oct 28 Como Pk, Lancaster (JK); max 56 Nov 11 Amherst (GI, Zehr). White-winged Crossbill: sparsely distributed throughout region in very small numbers—arr 1 Oct 30 Como Pk, Lancaster (JK); max 6 Nov 8 Snyder (HDM). Rufous-sided Towhee: excellent Oct total—265 Oct 12 BOSFC.

Chipping Sparrow: fine fall flight—250 (5 flocks) Sep 29 Wellsville (LDB); 536 Oct 12 BOSFC; last 1 at feeder Nov 16 Belmont (LDB). White-throated Sparrow: very strong early Oct flight—2378 Oct 12 BOSFC. Lapland Longspur: 3 Nov 15 Riverside (HEJ et al). Snow Bunting: max 400 Nov 28 Ellery Center (Otto Carlson).

Report for period December 1–March 31.

Although there were few record-breaking low temperatures, the winter of 1969–70 will be remembered as a cold one. Approximate temperature averages were about three degrees below normal for December, seven degrees below normal for January, slightly more than one half degree above the norm for February and nearly one and one half degrees below normal for March. Precipitation averaged slightly above normal for December but from three quarters of an inch to one and one half inches below normal for January, February and March. With much water remaining frozen until April combined with a fairly dry month of March, migration in nearly all groups of birds was retarded either moderately or substantially.

Certain trends were determined, as follows: (1) the continuing scarcity of loons and grebes, (2) a very poor (poorly observed ?) spring flight of Whistling Swans, (3) below average numbers of Canada Geese and a very poor showing of Blue Geese (compared with the last three years), (4) highly variable Christmas count totals for other waterfowl, (5) a few substantial Christmas count totals for hawks and a count of 76

Short-eared Owls but otherwise disappointing numbers for the birds of prey, (6) smaller numbers of individuals and rarities among the gulls (except the kittiwake), (7) enormous counts of Blue Jays and Black-capped Chickadees, (8) substantial Christmas count totals of Tufted Titmouse and Red-breasted Nuthatch, (9) a continuing increase in Cardinals as seen in Christmas count figures, (10) a fine showing of Evening Grosbeaks, (11) one of the best flights ever of Common Redpoll with many visiting feeders, (12) fair to excellent counts of most sparrows.

Of particular interest are the first Varied Thrushes ever reported from the region. Other rarities noted were the Mute Swan, Harlequin Duck, Common and King Eiders, Black-legged Kittiwake, Boreal Chickadee, Dickcissel and Hoary Redpoll. Unseasonal occurrences were those of the Brant, Loggerhead Shrike, Pine Warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak and Chipping Sparrow.

Abbreviations: Bflo—Buffalo; BOS—Buffalo Ornithological Society; CC—Christmas count; Chaut L—Chautauqua Lake; FWC—Federation Waterfowl Count; INWR—Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge; mob—many observers; Nia—Niagara; Ont—Ontario; OO—Oak Orchard.

Contributors: RFA—Robert F. Andrie; HRA—Harold and Rachel Axtell; CB—Clarence Beal; TLB—Thomas L. Bourne; EB—Elizabeth Brooks; LDB—Lou and Doris Burton; DC—Douglas Carlson; DD—Dorothy Danner; FE—Flora Elderkin; AF—Arthur Freitag; MH—Mary Hegeman; PH—Paul Hess; RHH—R. H. Hesselbart; LFK—Lewis F. Kibler; JK—Joseph Kikta; CK—Clarence Klingensmith; WHK—Walter and Harriette Klabunde; WMK—William and Mary Kraetz; WAM—Willard and Alice McKale; HDM—Harold D. Mitchell; AR—Archie Richardson; RR—Robert Rybczynski; WGS—William and George Smith; RAS—Robert A. Sundell; OS—Ora Swanson.

LOONS—DUCKS: Red-throated Loon: 1 Mar 27 flying over Nia Falls (HRA). Red-necked Grebe: 3 Jan 11 Dunkirk Harbor FWC; 1 Feb 14 Dunkirk Harbor (DC). Horned and Pied-billed Grebes: usual small wintering populations; one high count for Horned—26 Jan 11 FWC; first Pied-billed migrant 1 Mar 28 Clarence (HDM et al). Great Blue Heron: fewer in Dec and Jan than usual; rare in Feb—1 Feb 17 Sinclairville (Howard Andre); several migrants late Mar. Black-crowned Night Heron: rare during winter in recent years—2 Dec 21 Grand Island BOSCC; singles Feb 8 Youngstown cemetery (WAM), Feb 9 Hamburg (TLB).

MUTE SWAN: 1 Jan 18—Mar 31 Dunkirk Harbor (mob). Whistling Swan: very poor spring flight—arr 3 Mar 24 Celeron, Chaut L (FE); max 60 Mar 28 OO area (HDM et al). Canada Goose: 330 Dec 22 INWRCC; spring flight well below high counts of recent years—arr 14 Mar 2 INWR (Olsen); max 40,000 Mar 28 OO area (HDM et al). Brant: second winter record—imm Jan 3 across Nia R from Bflo; Jan 6 Nia Falls, Ont (HRA et al). Snow Goose: rare except in OO area—5 Mar 26 Hamburg Township (TLB); 4 Mar 28 OO area (HDM et al). Blue Goose: no large late Mar number as during last three years—max 4 Mar 28 Shelby sinks (Alice Ulrich). Black Duck: all counts down—max 483 Dec 21 BOSCC. Gadwall: highest total—62 Dec 21 BOSCC although mostly on Canadian side of Nia R; a few during Jan and Feb in Dunkirk Harbor with max 4 Jan 14 (FE). Pintail: arr 9 Mar 18 INWR (Morse); max 4000 Mar 24 OO area (DD). Green-winged Teal: unusually high winter count—10 Dec 21 BOSCC; a few migrants late Mar. American Widgeon: large numbers on last five BOSCCs—170 Dec. 21. Wood Duck: singles Dec 6 Forest Lawn Cemetery, Bflo (PH); Dec 22 INWRCC; 2 Jan 14 Belmont (LDB). Redhead: 281 Jan 11 Nia R and Dunkirk Harbor FWC. Ring-necked Duck: singles Dec 22 Bflo Harbor (JK; Jan 22 upper Nia R (RR et al). Canvasback: 6000 Dec 21 Nia R BOSCC—near average for recent years. Greater Scaup—1300 Dec 21 Nia R

BOSCC—average count. Common Goldeneye: 3200 Dec 21 Nia R BOSCC—excellent total. Bufflehead: 1100 Dec 21 Nia R BOSCC—highest CC total. Oldsquaw: 564 Dec 21 Nia R BOSCC—excellent Dec total. *HARLEQUIN DUCK*: single adult males Jan 3–Mar 28 Nia R across from Bflo (mob); Jan 29 Dunkirk Harbor (DC). *COMMON EIDER*: an imm male Dec. 18–Mar 31 molting into adult plumage during Mar across Nia R above falls at Chippawa, Ont (mob). *KING EIDER*: several during Dec on Canadian side of Nia R with max 3 Dec 6 Chippawa, Ont; imm male Jan 29 Dunkirk Harbor (DC). All counts of scoters and mergansers were very low except for 13 White-winged Scoters Dec 21, third highest total for BOSCC, and 11,000 Common Mergansers, the second highest number recorded on the BOSCC. The only Ruddy Duck report was Dec 28 upper Nia R (AF).

HAWKS—OWLS: High single CC totals for Red-tailed, Marsh and Sparrow Hawks were the only bright spots in an otherwise poor showing by the diurnal birds of prey during the winter and the early spring flights. Turkey Vulture: five days earlier than usual spring arrival—1 Mar 7 Centerville (LDB). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 7 on four of seven area CCs; a single migrant in mid March. Cooper's Hawk: 5 on two of seven area CCs; at least 4 individuals around feeders during winter; 4 migrants during later half of Mar. Red-tailed Hawk: excellent CC totals at Bflo 61 Dec 21; INWR 30 Dec 22; Hamburg 38 Dec 28; poor Mar flight. Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 Dec 28 Hamburg CC; 30 Mar 28 Lyndonville area (WGS). Rough-legged Hawk; 8 Dec 28 Hamburg CC; 2 Jan–mid Mar Cherry Creek (Nick Funcello et al) where previously unknown; 1 Mar 21 Falconer (AR). Bald Eagle: imm Mar 13 over Hamburg (TLB). Marsh Hawk: 6 Dec 28 Hamburg CC; only 4 on L Ont plain during mid Mar. Osprey: 1 Mar 15 INWR (WAM)—about two weeks early. Pigeon Hawk: one month early—1 Mar 7 Riverside (Archie and Doris Richardson, Charles and Martha Neel). Sparrow Hawk: third year of increase on two CCs—51 Dec 21 BOS; 27 Dec 28 Hamburg.

American Coot: max 12 Jan 18 Dunkirk Harbor (DC). Killdeer: 1, 2 Dec 28, Feb 17 Frewsburg (RAS, OS); 1 Feb 7 Alfred (EB). American Woodcock: arr 1 Mar 11 Riverside (AR). Common Snipe: 5 Dec 28 Jamestown CC; 2 Feb 15, 17 Frewsburg (RAS, WMK; OS); 1, 3, 7 Feb 22, 27, Mar 9 Towerville (mob). Greater Yellowlegs: 1 Mar 27 Riverside (AR). Pectoral Sandpiper: 1 Mar 26 Riverside (Steve Maggio). Glaucous Gull: max 8 Jan 27 Nia R across from Bflo (RFA, Richard Byron). Iceland Gull: max 3 Jan 1 Nia Falls, Ont (RR et al). Unofficial observations of several Thayer's gulls were made on the Nia R during Dec and early Jan in the same localities where this form was collected in Dec 1967 and 1968. Bonaparte's Gull: 3200 Dec 21 Nia R BOSCC. Little Gull: 1–2 on Nia R during Dec and Jan with last Jan 20 Lewiston (RR et al). *BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE*: at least 1 imm survived entire winter on Nia R (mob), last reported Mar 27 Nia Falls, Ont (HRA); singles Dec 6 Athol Springs (TLB), Jan 11 Dunkirk Harbor (OS et al); unverified reports of up to 8 on Nia R early in Dec.

Mourning Dove: exceptionally high winter counts—415 Dec 22 INWRCC; 215 Dec 28 Hamburg CC; 115 Dec 21 BOSCC—compare these with winter counts for last four years. Screech Owl: 25 Dec 21 BOSCC—highest count ever reported due to superior coverage. Snowy Owl: three observations as last winter—singles Dec 19 Strawberry Island, Nia R (HDM); Dec 22 INWRCC; Mar 17 Hamburg (TLB). Long-eared Owl: scarce during winter for last 14 years—3 Dec records and 1 during Feb. Short-eared Owl: excellent winter count—76 Dec 30 Alden (Cy Woffling). Saw-whet Owl: singles Dec 5 Youngstown (WHK); Dec 21 Grand Island BOSCC; Feb 28 Hamburg (TLB).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Belted Kingfisher: Allegany County CC total 5 Dec 27, down from 17 last year; max 6 Dec 28 Hamburg CC. Yellow-shafted Flicker:

high CC totals—20 Dec 21 BOS; 18 Dec 22 INWR; Mar migration insignificant. Red-bellied Woodpecker: 17 Dec 27 Count for all Allegany County; imm male at feeder Dec 28 Jamestown CC. Red-headed Woodpecker: above average—6 on three of seven area CCs; singles Jan 11 Four Mile Creek State Park (WHK); Jan 20 Fort Nia (RR et al); Feb 1 Gowanda (CB et al); Mar 1 Lydonville (WOS). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: singles through Dec to Jan 29 at feeder Lewiston (WHK; Dec 21 Grand Island BOSCC; Dec 28 Hamburg CC. Eastern Phoebe. arr 1 Mar 28 Alfred (EB).

Horned Lark: *E. a. alpestris*, few reports during Jan with max 20 Jan 19 Barker (WHK); *E. a. praticola*, max 80 Feb 22 Ont plain (WAM et al). Tree Swallow: arr 3 Mar 28 INWR (HDM et al). Blue Jay: highest CC totals—892 Dec 27 all of Allegany County; 620 Dec 27 Scio; 477 Dec 28 Jamestown; 416 Dec 28 Hamburg; 285 Dec 21 Bflo; 266 Dec 27 Olean. Common Crow: 4635 Dec 28 Hamburg CC. Black-capped Chickadee: exceptionally high numbers on CCs—1210 Dec 27 all of Allegany County; 1000 Dec 28 Jamestown; 963 Dec 28 Hamburg; 664 Dec 27 Scio; 407 Dec 21 Bflo. **BOREAL CHICKADEE**: singles at feeding stations Jan 17 Elma (RFA et al), Feb 15–Mar 19 Hamburg (mob); pairs Feb 10 North Boston (TLB), Mar 21–27 Lakewood (OS, MH). Tufted Titmouse: two very high counts—23 Dec 28 Jamestown CC; 19 Dec 28 Hamburg CC. Red-breasted Nuthatch: two exceptionally high CC totals—48 Dec 28 Hamburg; 44 Dec 28 Jamestown. Winter Wren: several Dec 21 BOSCC; 1 Dec 28 Jamestown CC. Carolina Wren: 1 at feeder Dec 2–Jan 10 Spring Brook (DD); 3 Dec 27 Allegany County Count; 1 Dec 28 Hamburg CC; 1, 2 at feeder Jan 17, 25 East Aurora (WHK et al). Mockingbird: at least 8 birds at scattered localities. Catbird: singles Dec 21 Grand Island BOSCC; at feeder Dec 26, 28 Lewiston (WHK). Brown Thrasher: 1 at feeder Nov 25–Jan 13 Jamestown (CB); 1 Dec 21 Grand Island BOSCC; 2 Dec 27 Allegany County count. Robin: scattered reports of individuals or small flocks—max 14 Dec 11 Forest Lawn Cemetery, Bflo (AF). **VARIED THRUSH**: first records for Region 1—males photographed at feeding stations in Riceville and North Tonawanda (mob), about 40 miles apart; inclusive dates not definitely established but both birds verified in mid Jan and Riceville bird stayed until at least Apr 4. Hermit Thrush: singles on two CCs—Dec 21 Grand Island BOS; Dec 28 Hamburg. Eastern Bluebird: late arr 1 Mar 13 Eden (TLB). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: very late 1 Jan 2 Alfred University campus (CK). Water Pipit: arr late 3 Mar 27 Stockton (DC). Cedar Waxwing: highest CC total—105 Dec 21 BOS; usual scattering throughout winter of small to medium flocks—max 55 Mar 1 Evans (PH et al). Northern Shrike: good scattering throughout region during winter with max 5 Dec 28 Hamburg CC. Loggerhead Shrike: very rare during winter—singles Dec 13 Silver Creek (RHH); Jan 8 (Ferrand) and Jan 21 (Larsons, Pitzrick) Wellsville. Starling: 60,000 Dec 21 BOSCC.

VIREOS—SPARROWS: Myrtle Warbler: 4 Dec 27 Allegany County count; 2 Dec 28 Hamburg CC; 1 Dec 28 Jamestown CC. Pine Warbler: imm male at feeder Nov 25–Jan 5 Lakewood (William Gordon, LFK, RAS) including Jamestown CC. Eastern Meadowlark: small numbers at scattered localities, mostly in Dec with max 18 Dec 7 Lancaster (JK). Redwinged Blackbird: scattered individuals and small flocks during Dec; unreported during Jan and Feb; first migrants, singles Mar 1 Evans and Silver Creek (PH et al); large numbers from Mar 20 on with max 1500 Mar 22 Scio (LDB). Rusty Blackbird: rare but regular in winter—1 at feeder Dec 11, Jan 11, Feb 11, 12 Belmont (LDB); 1 Feb 15, 17 Frewsburg (RAS, WMK; OS); first migrants 3 Mar 5 Frewsburg (FE). Common Grackle and Brown-headed Cowbird: small flocks and individuals during Dec with a few cowbirds wintering; small flocks of migrants in early Mar.

Cardinal: increase in CC totals continues—429 Dec 27 Allegany County count; 235 Dec 28 Hamburg; 192 Dec 28 Jamestown; 158 Dec 27 Scio; 134 Dec 12 BOS.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: female at feeder Dec 7—27 Point Stockholm, Chaut L. (OS et al)—found dead on last date, specimen to Bflo Museum of Science. *DICKCISSEL*: singles at feeders with House Sparrows—Dec 4 Alfred (CK); Dec 11 Belmont (LDS); Fluvanna Dec 28 Jamestown CC; adult male mid Mar Lakewood (OS, MH et al). Evening Grosbeak: good counts in Bflo suburbs and hill country to south—454 Dec 27 Scio CC; 412 Dec 27 Allegany County count; 160 Dec 28 Jamestown CC; 109 Dec 28 Hamburg CC; 105 Dec 27 Olean CC. Purple Finch: max 20 Mar 14—29 Alfred (CK). Pine Grosbeak: 1 Jan 30 Hamburg (TLB). *HOARY REDPOLL*: singles critically identified at feeder Feb 1, 25, Mar 6 Hamburg (TLB); several unverified reports. Common Redpoll: one of best flights ever recorded with birds distributed throughout region in small to large flocks, many visiting feeders—max counts 580 Dec 21 BOSCC; 225 Dec 28 Hamburg CC. Pine Siskin: a few individuals and small flocks scattered throughout region with max 20 Dec 27 Allegany County count. American Goldfinch: only large number 218 Dec 28 Hamburg CC. Red Crossbill: individuals and small flocks sparsely distributed throughout region with some visiting feeders, max 25 Dec 28 Hamburg CC. White-winged Crossbill: same comments for Red but numbers much smaller, max 5 at feeder mid Mar Lakewood (Judy Morrell). Rufous-sided Towhee: scattering of pairs and singles at feeders throughout region, max 7 Dec 28 Hamburg CC.

Vesper Sparrow: 1 Dec 27 Allegany County count. Slate-colored Junco: high winter counts—634 Dec 27 Allegany County count; 329 Dec 28 Hamburg CC. Tree Sparrow: only unusually large number 1498 Dec 27 Allegany County count; most other counts above average. Chipping Sparrow: very rare in winter—2 Dec 28 Hamburg CC. White-crowned Sparrow: 33 Dec 27 Allegany County count; a few individuals or pairs at scattered feeders throughout winter. White-throated Sparrow: exceptionally high CC totals 42 Dec 27 Allegany County count; 35 Dec 21 Bflo; 30 Dec 28 Hamburg CC; 26 Dec 28 Jamestown CC. Fox Sparrow: 10 on five area CCs; arr 1 Mar 21 Hamburg (TLB). Swamp Sparrow: 4 Dec 28 Jamestown CC; 1 Dec 22 INWRCC; singles at feeders Dec 21—Jan 27 Silver Creek (RHH), throughout winter Jamestown (LFK). Song Sparrow: max 84 Dec 27 Allegany County count; counts in mid to low 40s at Hamburg, Jamestown, Bflo and Scio, large numbers for all of these CCs. Lapland Longspur: excellent flight in Jan on Ont plain—max 350 Jan 19 Somerset (WHK). Snow Bunting: excellent CC totals—836 Dec 22 INWR; 756 Dec 27 Allegany County count; 547 Jan 1 Dunkirk—smaller max individual count than recently, 650 Jan 19 Somerset (WHK).

19 Chestnut Street, Jamestown, N.Y. 14701

REGION 2 — GENESEE

RICHARD T. O'HARA

Overall, the weather came pretty close to average for spring in Rochester. Precipitation was somewhat above average reducing the yearly deficit from perhaps three inches at the end of March to two inches on June 1st. Temperature patterns were as varied as usual—April was generally cool until the last few days when a sudden hot spell resulted in about three weeks of progress in leaf development compressed into one week.

May then produced a return to a more slow and steady progression with migrants appearing on schedule for the most part. Several warm fronts with good south and south west winds resulted in fine flights of most regular species and many rarities.