

VIREOS—SPARROWS: White-eyed Vireo: reported nesting in the New Paltz area (Robert Pyle); regularly obs on Mine Rd, USMA thru Jun 8 (JG). Yellow-throated Vireo: almost unreported. Red-eyed Vireo: normal. Warblers: most resident species normal; numbers off in Putn. Worm-eating Warbler: 2 Jun nesting reports in Dutch (WBC); obs regularly thru period on the south side of the Torn, USMA (JG). Brewsters Warbler: 1 Aug 2 USMA (JG). Nashville Warbler: singing Jun 15 near Is Pd, Harriman St Pk (GB). Magnolia Warbler: 1 Aug 9 USMA (JG). Black-throated Blue Warbler: heard Jun 15 near Is Pd, Harriman St Pk (GB). Cerulean Warbler: last obs Jun 21 near Weyant's Pd, USMA (JG). Blackburnian Warbler: 1 obs Jul 6 carrying food near Stissing Mt, Dutch. Blackpoll Warbler: 1 Jun 1 Dutch (FG). Prairie Warbler: good numbers of last spring persisted thru summer; WBC reports 10 to 15 pr nesting in Dutch. Northern Waterthrush: obs Jun 21 and again on Aug 2 on USMA (JG). Hooded Warbler: last obs July 12 near the Torn, USMA very likely breeds there. Canada Warbler: 2 probable migrants Aug 9 at Weyant's Pd, USMA a very early date (JG); 1 Jun 15 near Is Pd, Harriman St Pk (GB). Red-winged Blackbird: excellent numbers; BBS-2 reports 359 spread over 33 stops. Baltimore Oriole: in good numbers despite loss of elms; 28 birds in 23 stops on BBS-1. Common Grackle: extremely abundant in Putn and No West where BB-3 found 144 feeding on "white moths." Scarlet Tanager: generally normal. Cardinal: JO reports numbers up in the Wawarsing area; BBS-3 produced 16 in West; but generally low thru rest of Region. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: JO reports numbers better than usual at Wawarsing. Indigo Bunting: generally good locally. Purple Finch: WBC reports 8-10 pr all summer in Dutch. House Finch: WBC reports noticeable increase in Aug, 1 feeder had a flock estimated at 25; first nesting in Monticello area (Ken Niven); 2 obs in Greenville, Oran on BBS-1. Grasshopper Sparrow: numbers normal in Dutch, 8-10 pr all summer; BBS-1 found 3 in usual location near West-town. Vesper Sparrow: seemed quite scarce. Slate-colored Junco: heard calling Jun 15 near Is Pd, Harriman St Pk (GB); obs nesting in a cavity in a yellow birch about 8 ft from the ground on SlideMt (FH).

Autumn reports due Dec 5.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, 10928

REGION 10 — MARINE

THOMAS H. DAVIS AND LEE MORGAN

Once again the summer report is largely drawn from notes taken on Gardiner's Island. Dennis Puleston visited the island June 4-7 and July 2-7 to study the Osprey population. His report not only documents an encouraging number of young Ospreys fledged this year, but also breeding Marsh Hawks, Oystercatchers, Long-eared Owl, and impressive numbers of waterfowl. A heron colony contained breeding Glossy Ibis and Cattle Egret, the first record for New York State. The future of Gardiner' Island as the bird paradise it is today depends on continued maintenance as a non-public area with limited access to serious researchers. It is hoped the island will remain in the capable trust of the concerned Gardiner family.

In a move to advertise the declining numbers of breeding colonial species, we have decided to report on colonies in the introduction rather than under the appropriate family, where the significance is lost among numerous other reports. We petition all observers to visit, census (even guesstimate) numbers of nests and forward reports to us (with exact locations) to make the colonial bird report as complete as possible. The census figures in the following reports are all numbers of breeding pairs:

I. Heron Colonies

1. Jones Beach State Park (west of parking field #3), Jun 9 (TD)
Common Egret 20; Snowy Egret 8; Black-crowned Night Heron 15; Glossy Ibis 12.
2. Oak Island (west of Captree Island), Jul 24 (PB, B. Ward)
Little Blue Heron 3; *CATTLE EGRET* one; Common Egret 2; Snowy Egret 75; Black-crowned Night Heron 100; *GLOSSY IBIS* 4—the Cattle Egret nesting is the first for New York State. Two young unable to fly were seen on the July visit (see Field Note in this issue). The breeding Glossy Ibis have extended their range approximately 80 miles from Oak Beach, their previous northern-most nesting location on the East coast.
3. Gardiner's Island, Jun 4-7 and Jul 2-7 (DP, et al)
Little Blue Heron 3; *Cattle Egret* one; Common Egret 2; Snowy Egret 75; Black-crowned Night Heron 100; *Glossy Ibis* 4—the Cattle Egret nesting is the first for New York State. Two young unable to fly were seen on the July visit (see Field Note in this issue). The breeding Glossy Ibis have extended their range approximately 80 miles from Oak Beach, their previous northern-most nesting location on the East coast.

II. Gull Colonies

1. North side of Loop Causeway, near Pt. Lookout, Jun 3, 9 (TD)
Great Black-backed Gull 1; Herring Gull 350+/-50.
2. Jones Beach State Park (west of parking field #3) Jun 9 (TD)
Great Black-backed Gull 2-3; Herring Gull 150+/-30.
3. West Inlet Island, north of Moriches Inlet (DP)
Herring Gull "about 75"—gulls have apparently bred here alongside terns for several years, although this fact not documented previously.

III. Tern and skimmer Colonies

1. Breezy Pt., Queens County Jun 27, Jul 12, 26 (TD, F. Heath)
Common Tern 2000+; Least Tern 50; Black Skimmer 2—about 300-500 nests were lost in early July to a grass fire. A fisherman claimed that young boys had maliciously set the fire "to see what effect it would have on the birds."
2. South side of Loop Causeway, near Pt. Lookout, Jun 3, 9 (TD)
Common Tern 250; Least Tern 70; Black Skimmer 12.
3. North side of Loop Causeway, near Pt. Lookout, Jun 9 (TD)
Common Tern 8—nesting at periphery of an established gull colony, the nearest gull's nest being but 25 yards from one tern's nest.
4. Jones Beach State Park, West End, many visits (M. Gochfeld)
Common Tern 1600; Roseate Tern 4; Black Skimmer 30.
5. West Inlet Island, north of Moriches Inlet (DP)
"several hundred pairs of terns laid eggs, but no young were raised due probably entirely to rat predation."
Note: last summer's report included colonies at Grass Island and Fox Island, both west of Captree Island. It was noted that birds attempting to nest here were extremely heavily harrassed by visiting pleasure boaters. The inevitable consequence was that "no terns nested on either island this year." (DF)

The Mourning Dove is a species which has experienced a phenomenal growth in numbers in recent years. Roy Latham, an active field ornithologist at Orient over the last 70 years, has documented this increase in a recent article "The Mourning Dove at Orient, Long Island" (*Engelhardtia*, Vol 3 (1): 1, 1970). "From 1900 to 1920, this dove was so scarce that to record one... in a year was a noted observation. By 1925, the Mourning Dove had become regular and common. In recent years, the daily number at the ground feeding plot on my farm has generally ranged

from ten to twenty and the maximum of thirty. Before 1925, no Mourning Doves were recorded nesting at Orient, but, now three or more pairs nest in my yard every year. April and May are usually the months for the first nests at Orient. Prior to 1970, my earliest egg records were found during late March and early April. On 9 March, 1970 I found a nest with eggs eight feet above the ground in a red cedar in a yard. The earliest egg date given by Bull (*Birds of the New York Area*, Harper and Row, New York, 1964) was 20 March."

The probable reason for the species increase in the 1920's was an end to indiscriminate hunting practices and also perhaps, to climatological factors. The real explosion in numbers since the late 1950's, however, seems directly linked to an increase in winter bird feeders. Bull's book (*loc. cit.*) includes data up to 1963; since then other earlier local egg dates published in the *Kingbird* were 16 March and 14 March. This trend toward nesting earlier might be a reaction to increased population pressures, although warmer weather and an increased number of observers cannot be ruled out as contributing factors.

Rarities included in this report are Sabine's Gull, Chuck-will's-widow and a belated Brown Pelican record. A Western Tanager put in an unseasonal late June appearance.

Contributors frequently cited: PB—Paul Buckley; TD—Thomas Davis; DF—Darrel Ford; RG—Robert Giffen; MK—Michel Kleinbaum; AL—Anthony Lauro; WN—William Norse; DP—Dennis Puleston; BS—Barbara Spencer.

LOONS—DUCKS: *BROWN PELICAN*: belated report—one flying out of Moriches Inlet Aug 11, 1969 (BS)—only 10 previous records, the last in 1962. Gannet: sub-adult, Jul 26 Jones (MK)—now regularly reported in Jul and Aug. Glossy Ibis: max 88 Jul 26 Hempstead Lake State Park (S. Dempsey). Canada Goose: "at least 100 prs. breeding on Gardiner's Island." (DP). Gadwall: "the commonest breeding duck on Gardiner's Island, at least 100 prs." (DP). Pintail: 3 Jul 28 Jamaica Bay Refuge (WN)—has not been proven to breed since 1962.

HAWKS—OWLS: Marsh Hawk: 2 prs raised a total of 5 young on Gardiner's Island (DP). Osprey: "This year 25 young were fledged on Gardiner's Island, the same total as last year, but a lot better than 1966, when only 3 young were fledged. The situation on Long Island itself is still very poor. Only 2 young out of 10 nests on the North Fork, 3 young out of 12 nests on the South Fork, and only one young for the rest of Long Island." (DP). American Oystercatcher: estimated 30 prs breeding on Gardiner's Island (DP). Long-billed Dowitcher: adult, Jul 28 Jamaica Bay Refuge (WN)—"in full breeding plumage, barred sides seen, call heard"—early. Stilt Sandpiper: max 50 Jul 28 Jamaica Bay Refuge (WN). American Avocet: Jul 17 Mecox Bay (PB, C. McKeever)—note an increased number of reports since the fall of 1968. Wilson's Phalarope: female Jun 19 Jones (W. Friton); Jul 28—thru period Jamaica Bay Refuge (WN, et al). Parasitic Jaeger: 2 adults Jul 9 Peconic (K. Malone)—rare at this season and in Long Island Sound, probably non-breeders. *SABINE'S GULL*: adult Aug 25 Mecox Bay (BS); Royal Tern: Jun 13 Belport (DP)—early. Long-eared Owl: pr with young Jul 15 Gardiner's Island (R. T. Peterson).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Chuck-will's-widow: 2nd week of Jun—Jul 21, Islip (R. and L. Hollins, RG, R. Budliger, DF, PB)—calling bird, seen once by PB; this location one mile from the one where an individual was reported last year on May 27–30, 3rd Regional record. Brown Creeper: nest with young Jun 6 Oakdale (AL, RG)—has not been reported breeding on Long Island since 1963. Eastern Bluebird: pr feeding young Jun 6 Oakdale (AL)—very rare breeder on Long Island, we know of no other recent records.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Western Tanager: adult male May 9 Central Park (S. Bahrt)—color photographed, seen there again on Jun 22 (R. Pasquier).

AN OPINION: Barbara Spencer writes "...last summer I saw a Black-billed Magpie here in Sea Cliff on Aug 23. It has been seen ...for about a month before that. I just recently confirmed that it was indeed an escape. Shortly after August the bird disappeared from the Sea Cliff area. On Oct 29 I saw a magpie at Jones Beach, as did many others. Inasmuch as the Jones bird stayed around in an aimless way into January, and its appearance followed the disappearance of the Sea Cliff bird, I submit that it is a tenable hypotheiss that they are one in the same. At any rate, these facts cast doubt upon the Jones bird's status as a migrant."

Note: Please submit fall reports before Dec. 10.

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SURVEY OF CLUB PERIODICALS

ALICE E. ULRICH

Mrs. Ulrich, Chairman of the Bulletin Exchange Committee, has made a survey of Federation member clubs to determine which publish periodicals which they are willing to exchange with other clubs. Her report follows:

<i>Club</i>	<i>Name of Periodical</i>	<i>Exchange</i>	<i>Person to receive exchange</i>
Alan Devoe Bird Club	The Warbler	Yes	Miss Mary Mickle, Center St., Chatham, N.Y. 12037
Allegany County Bird Club	Allegany County Bird Club News	Yes	Mr. Lou L. Burton, John St., Belmont, N.Y. 14813
Auburn Bird Club of Cayuga County	No periodical at present		
Baldwin Bird Club	Long Island Naturalists	Yes	Mr. Alexander Hobart, 928 Goodrich St., Uniondale, N.Y.
Brooklyn Bird Nature Club	The Clapper Rail	Yes	Mr. Robert Clermont, 48 St., St. Marks Pl., Staten Island, N.Y. 10301
Buffalo Audubon Society	Audubon Outlook	Yes	Mr. Robert Hull, 254 Hedstrum Dr., Buffalo, N.Y. 14226
Buffalo Ornithological Society	The Prothonotary	Yes	Miss Margaret Wendling 87 Garrison Road, Williamsville, N.Y. 14221
Burroughs Audubon Nature Club	The Tanager	Yes	Mrs. Rachel M. Lanphere, 135 Meigs St., Rochester, N.Y. 14607
Cayuga Bird Club	No periodical at present		
Chemung Valley Audubon Society	Chemung Valley Aud. Soc. Bulletin	Yes	Miss Wilifred Howard, Coburn St., Elmira, N.Y. 14904