

September 15 at Lima (JF); Field Sparrow 50, same place and date (JF); Slate-colored Junco 500, October 14-15 at MB (WCL). A single Lincoln's Sparrow was seen in Webster on October 16 (JM). One Oregon Junco appeared at Sunderlin's residence in Webster on October 11 and was still present on the 30th (MAS).

The first Snow Bunting was noted at OB on October 24 (GOS), a bit late, and the best count was 60 to 70 moving east at Round Pond on November 1 (RO'H).

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

DOROTHY McILROY AND SALLY HOYT SPOFFORD

Except for August, the entire period was warmer than usual and November was much wetter than normally. September 21-26 was unusually warm with temperatures more like July and August. On October 16 and 17 there was a remarkably heavy early snowfall, 4-6 inches in the Finger Lakes area, followed by the first hard freeze, October 17, about ten days to two weeks later than normal. Precipitation in November was rain instead of snow. In the Ithaca area, 3.47 inches of rain fell during the first half of November, the normal amount for the entire month being 3.04 inches. The first real cold and snow did not occur until November 24-25.

Seed and fruit crops were generally plentiful, wild apple and grape being especially heavy.

At MNWR, the Canada Goose peak equalled last year's record high. Peak numbers for Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Redhead, Ring-neck, Ruddy Duck and Hooded Merganser were way up from last year, the teal and Ruddy Duck spectacularly so; Pintail, Shoveler, Canvasback and Scaup were in slightly better numbers than last year; Common Merganser was down and Green-winged Teal back down after last fall's unusually high number.

Land bird migration was noted September 13-15, (especially thrushes and warblers) and September 24-26. Following the snow and cold front October 16-17, many Robins appeared. The cold wave of November 24 brought ducks into the Watkins Glen area, including at least 100 Oldsquaw. Good weather during migration kept tower kills at Elmira low, the only large numbers being 77 on September 15 and 60 on October 14. The year's total was 220 birds of 37 species (300 of 44 species in '69); two new species were added October 14: a Whip-poor-will and two Chipping Sparrows. The kill included six Yellow-bellied Flycatchers and 143 warblers of 21 species. More Bluebird reports this fall than for the past few years.

Large areas of trees were cut beyond both ends of the Tompkins County airport runways, near Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary, changing the habitat from woods to what will probably be brushy fields.

An American Flamingo appeared at MNWR on November 18 (DM, mob), probably the same one reported in September south of Holcomb, at Iroquois Refuge and in mid-October at Verona Beach on Oneida Lake. It stayed at Montezuma until Nov 23, was seen flying west of Syracuse, found at Onondaga Lake where it finally died. On November 25 the specimen was brought to the Laboratory of Ornithology where an autopsy was performed. The whole body was covered with diesel oil; trachea and windpipe were coated with light oil and a clot of waxy material found in the digestive tract just ahead of the gizzard. Such clots are usually associated with ingestion of petroleum products. From the condition of the scales on the tarsus, James Tate suggests it was an escape, although the plumage was in excellent condition.

An immature Golden Eagle, starved and weak, was picked up near Howland's Island on Nov 12, taken to MNWR, and then to Sapsucker Woods. Walter Spofford, with the assistance of Jim Grier, succeeded in restoring it to health and strength — the eagle ate approximately two pounds of meat daily. (Under supervision of the

U.S. F. and W. Service, in cooperation with the U.S. Forestry Service, the Spoffords took this rare bird to a known wintering eagle ground in the southern Appalachians in December and released it.)

Rarities included Red-throated Loon, Cattle Egret, Snowy Egret, Golden Eagle, Marbled Godwit, Connecticut Warbler, House Finch, Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Clay-colored Sparrow (in tower kill at Elmira).

Observers: WEB—Walter E. Benning; MB—Mollie Briant; JB—Jack Brubaker; MC—Mildred Comar; VD—Vernon Dewey, WMG—William M. Groesbeck; FG—Frank Guthrie; ML—Malcolm Lerch; DL—Doris Long; DM—Dorothy McIlroy; DBP—David Peakall; SHS—Sally H. Spofford; WRS—Walter R. Spofford; MS—Margaret Shepherd; ST—Stanley Temple.

Area Compilers: Walter Benning, Jack Brubaker, Vernon Dewey, William Groesbeck, Frank Guthrie, Wilfred Howard, Doris Long, Jayson Walker and Mary Welles.

Localities: Cay L—Cayuga Lake; WD—Waterloo Dump; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge.

LOON—DUCKS: Common Loon: 1 Oct 18 MNWR (WEB); 19 Nov 2 Cay L s. of Aurora being harassed by gulls (DM); 1 still at MNWR Nov 22. *RED-THROATED LOON*: 1 Oct 21 to at least Nov 19 MNWR (mob). Horned Grebe: first Oct 13 Stewart Park Ithaca (DM); max 12 Cay L Nov 23 (DBP). Pied-billed Grebe: max 400 last week Aug MNWR. Double-crested Cormorant: 2 Aug 16-Sep 14, 4 Sep 14–27 MNWR (WEB). Great Blue Heron: max 60 last week Aug MNWR; singles reported to end of period. Green Heron: max 75 last of Aug MNWR. *CATTLE EGRET*: 1 Oct 29 near Himrod, Keuka Pk area (Hunt Wheelers); 4 Nov 5 and 1 Nov 13–14 n. of Horseheads (WH). Common Egret: max 7 Aug 16 MNWR (WEB). *SNOWY EGRET*: 3 Sep 4 MNWR (fide VD). Black-crowned Night Heron: max 50 Aug 31 MNWR; last (rather late) Nov 19 (SHS). Least Bittern: max 5 Aug 31 MNWR. American Bittern: singles seen through period MNWR (WEB); almost no other reports.

Whistling Swan: first, 1 Oct 18 Lowe Pond near Elmira (fide WH); max 20 Nov 28 MNWR (WEB). Canada Goose: max MNWR 10,000 week of Nov 28. Brant: imm Nov 5 Montour Falls (JB): individuals seen over MNWR in Nov. Snow Goose: max MNWR 25 week of Oct 26. Blue Goose: imm shot late Oct near Odessa (fide JB); max MNWR 7 in Nov (WEB). Most dabbling ducks left MNWR Nov 24 with the freeze-up. Peak counts of ducks at MNWR and week of peak numbers (VD): Mallard 15,000 Nov 23; Black 5000 Nov 23; Gadwall 2450 Sep 28 to Oct 26; Pintail 3000 Nov 2 to Nov 23; Green-winged Teal 550 Oct 12 to 25 (6500 in '69); Blue-winged Teal: 8000 Sep 21 & 28 (41 in '69); American Widgeon 10,000 Nov 2–23; Ring-neck: 1000 Oct 19 to Nov 16; Canvasback 500 Nov 16–30; Scaup 500 Nov 16 & 23; Common Goldeneye 50 Nov 23; Bufflehead 100 Nov 9–23; Ruddy 500 Nov 2–16 (25 in '69); Hooded Merganser 1000 Nov 23 (150 in '69); Common Merganser: 100 Nov 16–Nov 30.

Other duck reports: Wood Duck: 200, mostly males, Oct 4 nr Elmira (Stasches), most still there Nov 19. Ring-necked Duck and Scaup: first Oct 3 MNWR (WEB). Common Goldeneye: first, 10, week of Oct 26 MNWR (WEB). Bufflehead: first, 10, week of Oct 19 MNWR (VD). Oldsquaw: first Nov 8 Penn Yan Marsh (F. Orcutt) early; 100 Nov 24 Watkins Glen (JB). Common Merganser: first, 5, MNWR week of Oct 19.

HAWKS—OWLS: Little migration of hawks was noted at Waterloo, Watkins Glen and Keuka Park. Flight noticed at Etna Sep 19. Accipiters seemed to be more in evidence in Watkins area (JB). Turkey Vulture: 2 Oct 29 MNWR (WEB). Goshawk: imm male mid-Aug Brooktondale (W Longaker); ad male Aug 18 Brooktondale (ST). Cooper's Hawk: at least 8 trapped at Ithaca Game Farm; 1 seen Nov 30 Taughannock (DBP). Sharp-shinned Hawk: first report of the year for Elmira,

1 Sep 3 (E. Knapp). Red-tailed Hawk: several shot near Ithaca during hunting season, including one of the very dark race (WRS); up to 11 at MNWR in Nov (WEB). Broad-winged Hawk: scattered migration reported, 63 went over Etna Sep 19 (WRS); several seen going over Elmira TV tower same day (WH,DL). Rough-legged Hawk: first Oct 29 Dryden (DBP); quite a few Nov records; max 6 Nov 19 MNWR. **GOLDEN EAGLE**: imm Nov 12 nr MNWR (See introductory remarks.) Bald Eagle: imm seen off and on MNWR, last seen Nov 14 (WEB). Marsh Hawk: singles seen at MNWR during period; only one fall report Ithaca area, that of 1 over Etna Sep 19 (SHS). Osprey: first, 2 Aug 26 MNWR, last seen there Sep 20 (WEB); 1 Etna Oct 2 until found shot Oct 15, subsequently died (SHS). Peregrine Falcon: imm Sep 29 nr Dryden (T Cade); 1 Oct 28 Ithaca (Dr. Fabricant) chasing pigeons at Cornell Avian Disease Lab; 1 Oct 31 Elmira (WH,DL). Pigeon Hawk: 1 Sept report MNWR; imm male Oct 19 Etna (WRS); 1 Oct 29 s of Aurora (DM). Sparrow Hawk: 9 between Ithaca and Newark Nov 30, a high count (DBP).

Ruffed Grouse: reports mixed, some say population still way down, others report good numbers. Ring-necked Pheasant: late reports indicate people did not see as many this fall as anticipated from abundance last June; plentiful in King Ferry area. Turkeys apparently did fairly well this year.

Virginia Rail: max MNWR 7 Aug 16, last 1 Sep 14 (WEB). Sora: last 1 MNWR Sep 27 (WEB). Coot: max 5000 weeks of Nov 2 & 9 MNWR; max s end Cay L 220 Nov 30 (DBP).

High water left little shorebird habitat anywhere in the Region. The shallow area at MNWR was way out from the dike, making identification of the 'peep' difficult or impossible. Fewer shorebirds were found at the Waterloo Dump area where settling basins were created at the adjacent canning factory instead of spraying the effluent out on a field as was done in the last two years. Unless otherwise noted, shorebird records are from MNWR and by WEB. Semipalmated Plover: max 20 Aug 16 and 22; last, 1 Sep 20. Killdeer: last, 15 Nov 22. Golden Plover: 1 first, Aug 29; max 20 Sep 20 WD (WEB); 2 Oct 9 and 13 Warren Rd Ponds Ithaca (DM). Black-bellied Plover: max 13 Sep 19; last 2 Sep 26. Woodcock: 20 Aug 31 MNWR (VD); numbers good Ithaca area (P. Kelsey); up to 5/day during hunting season in Nov in Watkins area (JB). Common Snipe: max 17 Nov 14. Solitary Sandpiper: 2 Aug 16 MNWR (VD); last, 1 Sep 30 WD (WEB). Greater Yellowlegs: max 20 Sep 4; last, 1 Nov 30 Sheldrake (DBP). Lesser Yellowlegs: max 123 Aug 16; last, 5 Nov 14. Knot: only record, 1 Aug 16. Pectoral Sandpiper: max 55 Aug 22; last, 1 Nov 21 WD (WEB). White-rumped Sandpiper: 1 Oct 13 Warren Rd Pds Ithaca (DM); 1 Nov 19 MNWR (F. G. Scheider); 1 Nov 22. Least Sandpiper: max 38 Aug 22; last, 2 Nov 21 WD (WEB). Dunlin: first, 5 Sep 19; max 70 Nov 8 WD (WEB); 1 still present MNWR Nov 29. Short-billed Dowitcher: max 40 Aug 22; last 4 Nov 7. Long-Billed Dowitcher: first, 1 Oct 4; max 16 Oct 8 (VD); last, 2 Nov 14. Stilt Sandpiper: unusually good year: 1 Aug 29 (VD); max 48 Sep 16; 1 Oct 6 (MS, MC). Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 1 Sep 1 Rushville beet cannery ponds, Keuka area (fide FC, 10 observers). **MARbled GODWIT**: 1 Aug 27 to Sep 11 (WEB,mob) verification report on file, second Cay Basin record. Hudsonian Godwit: 1 Oct 3 seen till Nov 1. Wilson's Phalarope: single seen to Sep 20. Northern Phalarope: first, 3 Aug 16 (VD); max 8 Sep 5; last, 2 Oct 4.

Great Black-backed Gull: first, 2 Sep 9 MNWR. Caspian Tern: only two reports: 2 Aug 16 MNWR (WEB); 1 Sep 19 Watkins Glen (JB). Short-eared Owl: 1 Oct 24 near Elmira (M. Welles) flushed in cornfield. Saw-whet Owl: 1 mid-Oct Beam Hill Rd. near Dryden (Riker).

GOATSUCKERS-STARLING: Common Nighthawk: small flight at Hornell—first 2 Sep 2, consecutive day counts 12, 3, 24, 7, 6, 4 (Sep 8) none thereafter; max reported 50 Sep 4 Elmira (A. Orbison); 2 Sep 15 Etna (WRS); no record Keuka. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 1 near Ithaca Sep 24 drank beer from glass (Hoff-

man); 1 Sep 28 on roses Etna (SHS). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: last, 1 imm Nov 22 Burdett (JB). Red-bellied Woodpecker: at feeder in Odessa Oct and Nov (B. Strath). Red-headed Woodpecker: report received late of 3 young raised on Wells College Campus, Aurora; 2 adults and 2 imm early Sep Watkins Glen (JB). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 1 banded Aug 22, another Aug 29 Penn Yan (ML); 6 killed Elmira TV tower (WH).

Numbers of migrating swallows were down: Tree: max 2000 Sep 22 MNWR (WEB); last Oct 12 Dryden L (DBP). Bank: max 500 Aug 27 and Sep 9 and last Sep 27 MNWR (WEB). Rough-winged: last, 1 Oct 3 MNWR (WEB) Barn: last, 1 Oct 9 MNWR (G. A. Smith, Ted Dittrich). Cliff: 1 Sep 9 MNWR (WEB).

Red-breasted Nuthatch: no flight; regular late Oct and Nov Watkins Glen State Pk (JB); 1 Oct 14 at feeder Ithaca (DM); 1 Oct and Nov at feeder in Newfield (H. Ostrowski). Winter Wren: scarce; 1 Oct 15 near Etna (WRS); 1 Newman Golf Course, Ithaca (MB). Carolina Wren: 1 report, early Oct Keuka (FG). Hermit Thrush: last Nov 14 Watkins Glen (JB). Swainson's Thrush: 50 banded Penn Yan (ML). Gray-cheeked Thrush: 30 banded Penn Yan (ML). Eastern Bluebird: late report of 2 nesting areas, at Arkport and North Hornell (fide WMG) in nest boxes at new developments 1400-1500 ft. elevation; more numerous Keuka area, 52 observations (FG); 8 Sep 5 Trumansburg (WEB); flock Sep 11 Havana Glen nr Montour Falls (M. Secor); 50 Sep 19 Beers Hill Rd nr Elmira (G. Wilcox); 50 Oct 4 nr Breeseport (WH, J. Beatty); 15 or more into first week Nov Ithaca area (W. Smith.)

Golden-crowned Kinglet: first Oct 4 Warren Rd Pds Ithaca (DBP); 48 banded Penn Yan (ML). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 12 Oct 12 Ithaca (DBP); 40 banded Penn Yan (ML). Water Pipit: several reports of small flocks n of Ithaca early Oct. Cedar Waxwing: abundant, many reports Ithaca, Hornell, Watkins, Keuka (flocks up to 25). Northern Shrike: 1 Nov 29 nr Dryden (T. Cade); another report same week Ithaca area. Loggerhead Shrike: 1 late Aug Keuka (FG); otherwise missing.

VIREOS-WARBLED: Solitary Vireo: 1 banded Oct 9 Penn Yan (ML). Red-eyed Vireo: 6 Sep 15 Dryden L (DBP). Philadelphia Vireo: 3 banded Aug 29 Penn Yan (ML); 1 Oct 6 s of Aurora (MS, mob).

Golden-winged Warbler: male Aug 16 and 26 MNWR (WEB). Nashville: last, Oct 6 Dryden L (DBP). **YELLOW WARBLER**: very late record, Nov 11 MNWR (H. Axtell), verification report on file. Magnolia, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, Bay-breasted and Palm (3) last date Oct 8 Bald Hill Rd s of Ithaca (MC,MS). Myrtle: a few still present mid-Nov. Chestnut-sided: last Oct 6 s of Aurora (MB). Blackpoll: last, week of Oct 6. Ovenbird: last, 1 Sep 20 MNWR (WEB). Connecticut: rare, 1 banded Sep 19 Penn Yan (ML); imm Oct 1 Sapsucker Woods (MC,MS). Mourning: 1 banded Sep 19, 2 banded in Oct Penn Yan (ML). Canada: last, 1 Sep 20 MNWR (WEB). American Redstart: last Sep 30 Dryden (DBP).

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: Red-winged Blackbird: 10,000 Oct 20 Waterloo (JW). Several large flocks of icterids, some mixed, some pure Redwing Nov 2 near n end Cay L (MB,DM). Baltimore Oriole: 1 Nov 12 near Townsend (JB), late. Orchard Oriole: Ithaca bird (see previous reports) last seen Aug 18 (V. Hannan). Rusty Blackbird: 50 plus Nov 21 MNWR (WEB). Common Grackle: 25,000 Oct 18 nr Waterloo (JW).

Few reports of winter finches during period. Evening Grosbeak: first, 2 Oct 29 Watkins Glen (JB); scattered reports in Nov, max 12 Nov 4 Elmira (WH) and Nov 11 W Dryden (DBP). **HOUSE FINCH**: pair Oct 25 Elmira at feeder (WH), probably same pair reported at nearby feeder Nov 21 on (H. Snyder). **SHARP-TAILED SPARROW**: 1 Sep 29 MNWR (WEB). Vesper Sparrow: reported until mid-Nov Ithaca. Tree Sparrow: first Oct 24 Dryden (DBP). Chipping and Field Sparrows: last Nov 10 sw corner Cay L (MB,DM). **CLAY-COLORED SPARROW**: 1 Oct 18 killed at Elmira TV tower, specimen saved. White-crowned Sparrow:

numerous Oct 29 Dryden (M. Baker); scarce Keuka area, only 2 banded Penn Yan (ML). White-throated Sparrow: over 100 banded Penn Yan (ML). Fox Sparrow: last Nov 17 Elmira (R. Knapp). Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 Oct 6 n of Ithaca (MB,MS); 2 banded Oct at Penn Yan (ML). Lapland Longspur: first, 1 Oct 31 Harris Hill Elmira (WH,DL). Snow Bunting: first, 2 Oct 28 MNWR (T. Carrolan, G. Randorf); largest flock reported, 75-100 Oct 31 Dutch Hill Elmira (WH,DL).

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REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

LESLIE E. BEMONT

This being the first report from the Susquehanna Region in four issues it is more concerned with recording some of the more important reports that have accumulated in a full year than with the fall migration, the normal subject matter in this issue. One of the more obvious features of this neglected fall migration that can be reported in a minimum of space is the almost complete absence of incoming "winter finches." Only a very few Evening Grosbeaks have been reported so far to go with our more or less permanent resident Purple Finches and Goldfinches. Even the latter two species are less than abundant suggesting a colorless winter at the feeders.

Two seemingly contradictory trends that have been with us for a number of years seem accentuated when we look at a whole year's records at one time: namely, the extension of the range of some more southerly species into our area and the presence of more and more of several more northerly breeding species during the summer. There can be no doubt that the increase of Cardinals, Mockingbirds and Tufted Titmice is real, over the years, and possibly we should consider Barred Owls and Turkey Vultures from the same point of view. The last two years might even make us optimistic about Kentucky Warblers also moving in, but that is probably too much to hope for. We should remember that Carolina Wrens and Yellow-breasted Chats never seem to quite make it.

The increase in the number of northern species reported in the summer time could, however, be the result of observer education and better coverage, particularly since these species are usually reported from more remote locations and higher elevations. The number of Golden-crowned Kinglets, Myrtle Warblers, Red-breasted Nuthatches and White-throated Sparrows being reported now makes that hard to believe, however. Some of the other species that can be considered in this group are Common Mergansers, Goshawks and Hermit, Swainson's and Gray-cheeked Thrushes. Only the Common Mergansers can really be considered to be extending their range.

Another trend of an entirely different nature is the increase in the number of House Finches. We now have our first breeding record and seem to be approaching the population explosion that has been close to inevitable since the success of the species introduction to the east coast.

Many of the species reported below would normally be listed as rarities but perhaps the Sandhill Crane and the Purple Gallinule should head the list, with the Blue Grosbeak not far behind. The almost identical circumstances under which a Double-crested Cormorant, a species seldom reported in the Region, and the Purple Gallinule, a species never before reported in the Region, were obtained is just an unexplainable coincidence.

Observers Initials: MB—Margaret Coon Bowman; LC—Mrs. Lynn Clark; GC—Gail Corderman; MC—Mitchel Cubberly; A,MD—Anna & Marilyn Davis; EF—Elizabeth Feldhusen; CG—Clinton Gerould; JAG—John A. Gustafson; CH—Claude Howard; VH—Virginia Hudson; RK—Richard Kaskan; ML—Margaret Lynch; M,DL—Margaret & Dwight Lynch; JN—John New; MS—Mary Sheffield; DW—Donald Weber; CW—