

birds Nov 27 Salt Point. Vesper Sparrow: several reports in Oct from West; and 2 Nov 7 at Croton Pt (BH). Slate-colored Junco: first reports from Oran and Dutch Sept 17; numbers excellent as usual thru end of season. Tree Sparrow: arr late and in very sparse numbers; first Oct 27 in Dutch; no real numbers until late Nov. Chipping Sparrow: last, Nov 7, 4 at Croton Pt. White-crowned Sparrow: first, 2 Sept 20 Amenia (TS); several others reported the first two weeks of Oct. Fox Sparrow: first, Oct 13; good numbers thru rest of month esp in Dutch and West. Lincoln Sparrow: 1 Oct 3 Wawarsing; 1 Oct 7 Croton Pt; 2 Pleasantville and 1 Hawthorne Oct 9; 1 Oct 5 and another Oct 6-7 in Dutch (B,TS). Song Sparrow: continues high but lower than last year. Snow Bunting: first Oct 31 Piermont Pier (RFD); several Nov 16 West Point; 26 Nov 19 Kensico Res; 12 Nov 24 Pleasant Valley.

Winter reports due no later than Apr 5

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, N.Y. 10928

REGION 10 — MARINE

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This will be one of our longer introductions to any seasonal report we have yet written for the *Kingbird*. We feel it is time to leave the stilted structure which results from merely recording sightings. Our future impetus will be toward more editorial analyses, and in attempting to present meaningful statements out of the ever-increasing supply of raw data fed to us by the burgeoning ranks of Region 10 birders. Our remarks below regarding the Monk Parakeet invite further discussion and, we hope, action. The records resulting from Hurricane Doria and a Cox's Ledge pelagic trip, instead of being presented in traditional, rigid AOU order, have been isolated to better highlight significant meteorological influences. A short summary of a migration field project undertaken by a group of birders, advertises what can be accomplished by the more curious observer, especially when joined by others of his (or her) kind.

The Monk Parakeet (*Myiopsitta monachus*) is fast becoming established in our area as a result of an undetermined number of escapes. (see John Bull, 1971, Monk Parakeets in the New York City Region, *Linnaean News-Letter*, 25 (1).) This year there were three instances of young being raised in the New York City area: 1) Lordship, Conn. (*American Birds*, 25 (5): 839); 2) Staten Island (H. H. Cleaves, 1971, The Monk Parakeet Invades Staten Island. *Proceedings of the Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences*, 26 (2): 53-57.) and 3) Valley Stream, Nassau County, NY (verb. comm. John Bull). This species is native to South America to 40° south latitude (R. M. deSchaunsee, 1966, *The Species of Birds of South America and their Distribution*, Livingston Publishing Company, Narberth, Penna.). In the temperate zone of Argentina, it is considered a severe agricultural pest and bounties are paid to control its numbers (verb. comm. Dr. Michael Gochfeld). Cleaves (op cit) comments that these parakeets have been observed feeding on pears and apples on Staten Island. New York State does not need another introduced pest species, no matter how exotically interesting it may be. Your editors herein urge the elimination of all free-flying Monk Parakeets before their increasing numbers rate them as economic and ecological pests. Let's not wait until they become too difficult to eliminate — or even control — as in Argentina.

Hurricane Doria swept inland into North Carolina on August 28. Five hundred miles further north, on coastal Long Island, southerly winds reaching a maximum of 40 M.P.H. were recorded. Being on the outer fringe of the storm, few exotics

were recorded, the following list being comprised largely of pelagics driven inshore:

Leach's Petrel: 7 Aug 28 Point O' Woods, Fire Island (S. Hopkins, C. Terhune); Aug 28 Shinnecock Inlet (MK) — photographed; 3 Aug 28 off Great Gull Island (RP).

Wilson's Petrel: max 200 Aug 28 Point O' Woods, Fire Island (S. Hopkins, C. Terhune).

Sooty Tern: adult Aug 28 Riis Park (BB, WB); 2 adults Aug 28 Great Gull Island (mob) — one weakened bird was captured, banded, photographed, and released.

Cox's Ledge, a cod fishing area some 40 miles ESE of Montauk Point, continues as a prime spot for pelagic birds. This September 11, a Linnaean Society sponsored field trip recorded 20 species in very foggy, near windless conditions. Several gull — jaeger encounters were witnessed, and in addition to pelagics, a number of disoriented passerines are included on the following list: 1 Greater Shearwater; 1 Leach's Petrel; 38 Wilson's Petrel; 1 Gannet; 4 Duck sp.; 1 Greater Yellowlegs; 1 shorebird sp. (dowitcher?); 33 Northern Phalarope; 2 Phalarope sp.; 17 Pomarine Jaeger (mostly adults, only one dark-phased bird); 8 Parasitic Jaeger (mostly sub-adults); 9 jaeger sp.; 6 Great Black-backed Gull; 70+ Herring Gull; 1 Ring-billed Gull; 3 Common Tern; 1 Magnolia Warbler; 1 Cape May Warbler; 1 Palm Warbler; 2 Northern Waterthrush; 3 American Redstart; 6 Warbler sp.; 1 Redwing (female); 3 Baltimore Oriole (together); 1 Bobolink. (L. Balch, C. Clark, TD, S. Dempsey, G. Litell, L. Marsh, T. Mason, J. Sanders, B. Smith, W. Tweit).

A Blue Jay migration watch was maintained this fall by eight members of the Lyman Langdon Audubon Society under the leadership of Al Bell. At Garvies Point, Glen Cove, observations of a half hour or longer were made on 18 days between Sept 11 and Oct 11, for a total of 33 hours of watching. Flights were observed on 10 of the 18 days, and a total of 2209 jays were counted. All flights took place exclusively during the morning hours, being over by noon. Following are the four best days:

Oct 3	3 hrs	no wind	325 jays
Oct 4	3 hrs	E wind	374 jays
Oct 5	4 hrs	W wind	472 jays
Oct 9	2½ hrs	SW wind	461 jays

— from LLAS *Bulletin* 20 (3):6.

Rarities included in this report are Arctic Loon, Eared Grebe, Sabine's Gull, Raven, 2 Audubon's Warblers (one netted, banded and photographed; the other observed and photographed), Yellow-headed Blackbird, Green-tailed Towhee (specimen), Lark Bunting, and Oregon Junco (banded). High counts were recorded for Brown Creeper and Golden-crowned Kinglet. Great Cormorant set a new arrival date, and Ruff, Yellow-throated Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, Blackburnian Warbler, and Summer Tanager set new departure dates. A minor "winter finch" flight included every northern species excepting only the accidental Hoary Redpoll, and a major Snowy Owl invasion was under way by the end of the period.

Observers frequently cited: BB—Bill Baumann; WB—Wilma Baumann; PB—Paul Buckley; JB—John Bull; TD—Tom Davis; DF_i—Davis Finch; DF—Darrel Ford; FH—Fred Heath; HH—Helen Hirshbein; GK—Georges Kleinbaum; MK—Michel Kleinbaum; AL—Anthony Lauro; TL—Tom Love; HM—Hugh McInnes; RP—Roger Pasquier; DP—Dennis Puleston; LS—Laurie Schore; JY—John Yrizarry.

Abbreviations: AMNH—American Museum of Natural History; JBWR—Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge; Jones—Jones Beach State Park.

LOONS—DUCKS: *ARCTIC LOON*: Nov 26–27 Point O' Woods, Fire Island (S. Hopkins) — on the 27th studied with 20× scope at a distance of 200 yards and with Red-throated Loons nearby for comparison. "Description: Extremely dark on

top and side of head down to and just past the eye, equally dark hind neck and on side of neck to median, and equally dark on back — the darkest winter loon; have ever seen... bill straight, rather blunt tipped, like the half-sized bill of a Common Loon. Line of gape straight, with upper and lower mandibles appearing about symmetrical. The head was carried at a slight upward angle, but the bill was in a straight line with the head, and had no upward slant of its own. The overall size of the bird was that of a Red-throated, but I thought the head and neck were less snaky... Flight: The wing amplitude was obviously less than the deep amplitude of the Red-throated, but close to the amplitude of the Common Loon. In fact, were the subject to pass down the coast amongst migrating loons, it would undoubtedly be called a Common Loon on its shallow wing beat.' — extracted from a 2 page typewritten account. The editors feel it is quite reasonable to expect Arctic Loons from eastern Canada to occur at times, perhaps even regularly, in very small numbers in the northeastern US in winter. The difficulty in identifying an Arctic, the even greater difficulty in collecting supposed Arctics, precludes any conclusive statement. Griscom's *Birds of Massachusetts* (Peabody Museum, Salem, 1955) mentions the Arctic Loon as "apparently a regular winter visitant... seen by numerous observers with experience of the species" but relegates it to the hypothetical section "in the absence of a specimen," citing possible confusion with small, immature Common Loon Specimens. *EARED GREBE*: Oct 22 JBWR (DFi) — 10th consecutive year reported at this locality. Great Cormorant: arr Sep 10 Great Gull Island (RP) — earliest Regional record.

HAWKS—OWLS: Golden Eagle: Sep 21 Breezy Point (LS, BB, WB); Nov 15–16 Jones (F. Mengels). Osprey: belated summer report (DP) — 17 fledgelings from 34 nests at Gardiner's Island; 13 fledgelings from 5 nests at Shelter Island. Sparrow Hawk: 300+ Sep 21 Breezy Point (LS, BB, WB). Marbled Godwit: Nov 22 Tobay Pond (LS, WB). Ruff: Nov 6 (R. Plunkett) — latest regional record. American Avocet: Oct 10 Shinnecock Inlet (HM).

Jaegers: daily observations to mid-Sept from Great Gull Island produced the following numbers (RP) — Pomarine: one each Sep 8, 11, and 21. Parasitic: 20, Aug 26; 20, Sep 5; max 28, Sep 4. Parasitic: max elsewhere — 35 Oct 9 Jones (DFi). *SABINE'S GULL*: adult Oct 30 Southampton (C. McKeever, fide PB) — seen flying off beach. Royal Tern: max 10 Oct 10 Shinnecock Inlet (HM). Dovekie: arr Nov 20 (3) Riis Park (BB, WB). Snowy Owl: arr Nov 7 Pelham Bay Park (J. Machado, et al); next reported Nov 15 JBWR (H. Johnson) — the precursors of a major invasion, further details in next issue. Long-eared Owl: Oct 18 Alley Pond Park (BB, WB) — early migrant. Saw-whet Owl: max 7, mist-netted, Nov 14 Fire Island Light (DF).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Common Nighthawk: Oct 15 Robt Moses State Park (DFi) — photographed, extremely late. Western Kingbird: 12 individuals reported, Sep 17–Nov 17, the only inland report was one at Bronx Park Sep 17 (Hackett) — the first record for this locale. Great Crested Flycatcher: Nov 4–6 Riis Park (DFi, JY) — extremely late. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: max 7 Aug 22 Great Gull Island (RP). *RAVEN*: Nov 23 Pelham Bay Park (D. Rafferty). Boreal Chickadee: — extremely rare on the coastal plain — 2 reported — netted, Nov 8, Brookhaven (DP); Nov 10, Great Kills Park, Staten Island (L. Mills). Brown Creeper: max 150+ Oct 9 Fire Island Light (TD) — highest regional count. Short-billed Marsh Wren: Oct 30 Southampton (B. Conolly) — a secretive migrant. Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 400+ Oct 7 Fire Island Light (TD) — highest regional count.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: White-eyed Vireo: Oct 12–21 Riis Park (TD, TL, DFi) — extremely late. Yellow-throated Vireo: Nov 3–12 Riis Park (M. Sohmer, BB, WB) — latest regional record by three weeks. Solitary Vireo: netted, Nov 14

Tobay (AL) — extremely late. Philadelphia Vireo: Nov 7 Riis Park (E. Daly) — latest regional record.

Prothonotary Warbler: Sep 8 Great Gull Island (RP); Sep 28–29 Clove Lakes Park, Staten Island (H. Fischer). "Lawrence's" Warbler: netted, Aug 16 Atlantic Beach (S. Cohen). Tennessee Warbler: netted, Nov 14 Fire Island Light (DF) — extremely late. Cape May Warbler: Nov 6 Fire Island Light (FH) — late. *AUDUBON'S WARBLER*: netted, Nov 6 Tobay (AL) — banded, photographed, and released; Nov 21 Cedar Beach (C. Ward, A. Wollin, S. Schiff) — "unbanded," photographed (CW) — photographs of both birds were shown at the Dec 14 meeting of the Linnaean Society of New York, and species verification accomplished by many familiar with the bird; second and third regional records. Blackburnian Warbler: Oct 31 Jones (GK, MK) — latest regional record. Yellow-throated Warbler: Sep 4 Borough Park, Brooklyn (E. Swayer). Connecticut Warbler: Aug 18 Glen Cove (R. Cioffi) — extremely early.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD: male, Sep 25 Fire Island Light (TD, H. Honig) Summer Tanager: 3 reported, an unusual number for the fall season — Sep 9 Tobay (A. Wollin); Oct 9 Jones (E. Levine); adult male Oct 20 Oak Beach (BB, WB, LS) — latest regional record. Blue Grosbeak: 8 individuals reported from coastal locations, Sep 2–Oct 29. Indigo Bunting: netted, Nov 14 Fire Island Light (DF, FH) — extremely late. Dickcissel: max 15+, Oct 7 Fire Island Light (TD, TL, H. Kemp) — flying west along beach, a flock of 6 was noted; 8 Oct 8 Fire Island Light (TD, DFi). Pine Grosbeak: arr Nov 13 Montauk Point (mob). Common Redpoll: arr Nov 17 (30) Fire Island Light (PB) — early, but none reported after this date through period. Pine Siskin: arr Oct 8 (2) Fire Island Light (TD, DFi). Red Crossbill: arr Nov 9 (10+) Tobay (AL) — both crossbills noted in small numbers along outer beaches following this date.

GREEN-TAILED TOWHEE: Oct 19 Scarsdale (Frank Haeni — trapped in weakened condition, later died, specimen to AMNH, first Regional record. Lark Bunting: Oct 17–31 Baxter Creek, Bronx County (R. Kane, et al) — in our region this species was recorded only 5 times to 1963; since then it has been reported 9 times; 12 of the 14 reports fall within the span Aug 31–Oct 17. *OREGON JUNCO*: Nov 6 Fire Island Light (FH, et al) — brought alive next day to AMNH where compared to specimens, "appeared to be a female *oregonus* type" (J. Bull, B. King), released in Central Park. Clay-colored Sparrow: only two reported, Oct 8–9 Fire Island Light (TD, DFi, et al); Oct 10–16 Robt Moses State Park (DFi et al).

Note; winter reports by Apr 8, please.

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