

150 on November 20 at BB (WCL). Pine Grosbeak was noted only once, at IC a group of 6 was seen on October 25 (J&TM). Goldfinches were quite widespread but not spectacular this fall as far as numbers are concerned.

Nothing unusual was noted in the sparrow family this fall. The best flock of Snow Bunting reported was 125 on November 25 along the WL (GP); otherwise numbers were rather small for this somewhat erratic species.

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

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Temperatures were warm in August and September, warmer in October, coupled with a very dry period with below normal rainfall the same period. November saw a return to "normal" temperatures and precipitation. There was no frost until November 5, the latest date in recording history for a first freeze, and this meant late fruit crops and late fall of leaves. Curiously, this did not seem to influence migration particularly. Warblers did not remain around to glean insects from these late-clinging leaves. mid-November was quite wintry, and good snow on November 21-22 remained on the ground for some days.

With Evening Grosbeaks, Pine Siskins, Rough-legged Hawks and a scattering of Snowy Owls reported early, it looked as if this might be a fine winter for the birder. However, the build-up did not occur, as might have been expected, toward the end of the period. There were no marked flights of raptors, except a small one at Elmira on Sep 24 with 13 in 15 minutes, and no marked migration of land birds, except a light flight Oct 14-15 (JT). But Canada Geese were abundant — good flight dates were Sep 21, 24, 29-30, Oct 3, 7 and 29. Of note were more Brant than usual, White-fronted Goose, Bar-headed Goose, White-eyed Vireo and Connecticut Warbler.

The TV tower at Elmira (see previous years) was checked by Wilfred Howard every few days from Aug 30 to mid-November. The first "big" kill was between Sep 13 and 16, which is when the largest kill has been in the past, — this year just 71 birds. The largest kill was on Sep 30 when 225 individuals of 25 species were picked up. A very late kill occurred on Oct 28 when 78 birds, chiefly fringillids and kinglets, were involved. A Red-eyed Vireo on Nov 2 was a late record. The total tower kill was as follows:

Green Heron 1, Virginia Rail 1, Eastern Phoebe 1, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher 4, Empidonax sp. 5, Brown Creeper 1, Winter Wren 1, House Wren 1, Catbird 1, Brown Thrasher 1, Wood Thrush 2, Hermit Thrush 1, Swainson's Thrush 4, Gray-cheeked Thrush 3, Golden-crowned Kinglet 22, Ruby-crowned Kinglet 3, Yellow-throated Vireo 1, Solitary Vireo 4, Red-eyed Vireo 18, Philadelphia Vireo 1, Black-&-white Warbler 9, Tennessee Warbler 22, Orange-crowned Warbler 1, Nashville Warbler 12, Parula Warbler 6, Yellow Warbler 1, Magnolia Warbler 37, Cape May Warbler 2, Black-throated Blue Warbler 17, Myrtle Warbler 12, Black-throated Green Warbler 27, Blackburnian Warbler 19, Chestnut-sided Warbler 10, Bay-breasted Warbler 23, Blackpoll Warbler 84, Pine Warbler 1, Palm Warbler 3, Ovenbird 41, Scarlet Tanager 2, Rose-breasted Grosbeak 2, Purple Finch 1, Slate-colored Junco 10, Tree Sparrow 1, Chipping Sparrow 7, White-throated Sparrow 8, Fox Sparrow 1, Lincoln's Sparrow 2, Swamp Sparrow 2, Song Sparrow 7 Unidentified 65.

Abbreviations: Cay L.—Cayuga Lake; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; Sen L.—Seneca Lake; Schuy. Co.—Schuyler County; SWS—Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary; WD—Waterloo Dump.

Area compilers: Betty Ammerman, Walter Benning, Jack Brubaker, William Groesbeck, Frank Guthrie, Martin Phillips, James Tate, Jayson Walker, Mary Welles.

Observers: BA—Betty Ammerman; WEB—Walter E. Benning; MB—Mollie Briant; JBr—Jack Brubaker; CC—Cornell Campus Club Class; KF—Kay Fudge; FG—Frank Guthrie; WG—William Groesbeck; TH—Tom Howe; WH—Wilfred Howard; DK—Doug Kibbee; PK—Peter Kaestner; PMK—Paul M. Kelsey; ML—Malcolm Lerch; DM—Dorothy McIlroy; MRP—Montezuma Refuge Personnel; FO—Francis Orcutt; FGS—Fritz Scheider; OS—Cornell Ornithology Seminar report; SHS—Sally Hoyt Spofford; JT—James Tate; JW—Jayson Walker; MW—Mary Welles; RW—Ruth Williams.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: For second year better counts on Cay L than for previous years—first 2 Oct 5, max 62 Nov 20, high (DM); missing on Keuka L, however. Pied-billed Grebe: max 64 Oct 9 MNWR (WEB); high 33 Sen L and 15 Waneta L Oct 24 (JBr). Double-crested Cormorant: 3 Cay L Oct 27 (DM), other reports of singles in Oct. Great Blue Heron: some remained late; 1 Chemung R Nov 26 (WH). Green Heron: decline noted Keuka area (FG), also seemed scarce at Ithaca. Common Egret: 4 Aug 18 Sharon L nr Horseheads (E Ruggles) unusual; max 7 Sep 1 MNWR, 1 still present (late) Oct 30 (WEB). Black-crowned Night Heron: frequent sightings all fall MNWR. Least Bittern: frequent sightings by various observers esp in Aug MNWR. American Bittern: fewer sightings than usual, last date Nov 1 (OS). Glossy Ibis: no reports. Whistling Swan: 4 (2 ad, 2 imm) Nov 2 MNWR (CC), 1 there for two weeks; 4 (same?) Slaterville e. of Ithaca Nov 22 and several days following. Canada Goose: very heavy flights noted this fall; first, 30 over Conn Hill s.w. of Ithaca Sep 21 (J Caslick); Bath on Sep 24 and 29 (BA); Elmira flights Sep 21, 30 and Oct 7; Keuka late Sep, early Oct, still 200 end Nov (FG); lots low in fog Oct 3 Hornell (WG); thousands on Cay L Oct 28, noted moving in fog Oct 29; MNWR peak of 18,000 was nearly double the '70 record high of 10,000. Brant: more reports this fall than normally; flock over Dryden Oct 17 (J Snelling); 31 s. end Cay L Oct 27 (DM); 34 on Sen L Oct 26, 7 remaining for a few days (JBr); 1 Nov 5 Penn Yan (FO). **WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE:** 2 Nov 28 MNWR (Asst. Mgrs. Mullen and Kipp). Snow Goose: 5 end of Nov MNWR (MRP). Blue Goose: peak 12 Oct 30 MNWR (WEB). **BAR-HEADED GOOSE:** 1 Oct 7 Seneca Flats (DM), 1 MNWR Oct 16–17 (WEG, mob) undoubtedly an escape; second record.

MRP report that flooded Storage Pool and its excellent growth of cattail and smartweed was used heavily by ducks, up to 30,000 flying in each evening. Freeze of Nov 7–9 saw many dabblers leaving. MRP reports following peak counts and dates for waterfowl at MNWR: Mallard: 10,000 mid-Nov; still 5,000 end of Nov. Black: 5,000 early Oct on. Gadwall: 2,500 all Oct. American Widgeon: 10,000 mid-Oct; Pintail: 2500 all Oct. Green-winged Teal: 6,000 mid-Nov. Blue-winged Teal: 8,000 last week Sep to mid-Oct. Shoveler: 1,000 last half Oct, early Nov. Wood: 2,000 during Oct. Redhead 100 (low) mid-Oct to mid-Nov. Ring-necked Duck: 500 mid-Oct. Canvasback: 100 (low) early Oct to mid-Nov. Scaup: 50 Oct and Nov. Common Goldeneye: 50 mid-Oct on. Bufflehead: 500 early Nov on. Ruddy: 100 early Nov. Oldsquaw: 2 in Nov. Hooded Merganser: 1,000 early Nov. Common Merganser: 500 most of Nov. This is a nearly 90 per cent decrease in Redheads and Canvasbacks. Except for Pintails, most dabbling ducks were in higher numbers there this year.

Other waterfowl reports of interest: Oldsquaw (rather early and always uncommon) first week Nov Cay L; Nov 1 Chemung R (WH); 1 Nov 16 Hornell Reservoir (WG). Bufflehead: 8 Nov 7 Welles pond nr Horseheads (MW). Common Scoter: this species, rarest of the three in the Finger Lakes, was the most common this fall; approx 100, with a few Surfs in flock, Cay L end of Oct; 27. (5 m, 22 f)

Nov 1 Chemung R (WH); 1 MNWR Nov 13, 14; 1 Oct 25 Lamoka L w. of Watkins Glen (JBr).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: last (late) 2 Oct 24 MNWR (WEB). Goshawk: 1 Sep 18 Horseheads (Emory Knapp); almost no other reports. Sharp-shinned Hawk: few reports; 1 nr Shindagin Hollow s.e. Ithaca Oct 8 (FGS). Cooper's Hawk: 4 sightings in Region. Red-tailed Hawk: very good numbers. Red-shouldered Hawk: very few; 1 over Etna Nov 23, late (SHS). Broad-winged Hawk: not much of a flight noted locally, except 30 over Ithaca Sep 11 (Edward Humu-lock), 6 Sep 21 (CC), individuals until first week Oct. Rough-legged Hawk: 1 Sep 13 MNWR (MRP) early; first Schuy Co Nov 3 (JBr); a melanistic bird MNWR Nov 14 (WEB); scattered reports in Cay L Basin Oct and Nov. Bald Eagle: 1 adult Ovid Sep 11 (Brewers, Sincebaughs); last date at MNWR Oct 5. Marsh Hawk: encouraging number of sightings of singles throughout period incl Sep 21, 28, Nov 16 Ithaca; 10 Nov 1 MNWR (MRP); 1 Nov 26 Chemung R (WH); 2 near Watkins Glen (JBr). Osprey: 2 Aug thru Oct 7 MNWR; 1 Sep 10 Ithaca Marina (DK); 1 late Sep Fall Creek at Etna; 1 Oct 25 s. end Lamoka L (JBr). Peregrine: 1 spent several hours at SWS Sep 28 apparently watching ducks (mob); one Oct 7 King Ferry (DM et al). Pigeon Hawk: no sightings. Sparrow Hawk: good numbers everywhere.

Ruffed Grouse: slightly better than last few years (PMK). Bobwhite: only report was of female picked up emaciated in Etna late Nov, fed up and released, seen several days (SHS). Turkey: reported Oct 12 nr Cameron (BA) — new location; five Oct 10 Camp Barton on w. shore Cay L (George Dyke); other scattered reports s.e. Ithaca; seem reasonably good numbers in Conn. Hill area (PMK). Virginia Rail: few reports. Sora: hundreds, in fact an est. 1000, on Storage Pool MNWR in Oct, compared with almost no Virginias (MRP). Coot: max 2,000 mid-Oct thru Nov MNWR, down from last year.

The following shorebird reports are from MNWR by WEB unless otherwise noted. Semipalmated Plover: 17 max Sep 1, last 1 Nov. 3 Killdeer: high 50–60 Nov 27 Rhodes Farm, Elmira (WH); 40 Oct 10 WD (WEB). American Golden Plover: singles Sep 1, Oct 21, Nov 14 MNWR; s.w. cor Cay L Sep 21 (CC); Keuka L Oct 9 (FG). Black-bellied Plover: 12 max Nov 2 MNWR (CC). Ruddy Turnstone: 2 Aug 25; 2 sightings s. end Sen L, unusual (JBr). American Woodcock: Oct 29 Keuka, late date (FG). Common Snipe: 40 max Oct 10 WD (WEB). Whimbrel: no reports. Solitary Sandpiper: seemed scarce everywhere. Greater Yellowlegs: 14 max Sep 14; last 1 Nov 14. Lesser Yellowlegs: 40 max Oct 10 WD (WEB); last 5 Oct 23; absent at Keuka. Pectoral Sandpiper: 40 max Oct 10 WD (WEB); last 1 Oct 27. Baird's Sandpiper: always uncommon, max 4 Aug 25; 2 Oct 6–7 Salsman Rd and Rte 414, Waterloo (JW); 1 Oct 10 WD (WEB). Least Sandpiper: 64 max Aug 25. Dunlin: 30 max Oct 22 and 27, last Nov 20. Short-billed Dowitcher: 66 max Aug 22. Long-billed Dowitcher: 2 Sep 19 MNWR (FGS); 1 Sep 29 (SHS). Stilt Sandpiper: 27 max Sep 11. Semipalmated Sandpiper: 63 max Sep 14. Hudsonian Godwit: 1 Aug 14–21; 4 Sep 12 MNWR (RW); 2 Oct 6–10 WD (one crippled) (WEB); 2 Oct 6–7 Salsman Rd and Rte 414 (JW). Sanderling: 1 Aug 22. Northern Phalarope: 4 Rushville beet-settling plant Aug 18–29 (ML); 1 Aug 28 Watkins Glen Marsh, unusual (JBr). Wilson's Phalarope: 3 Sep 1 MNWR (WEB).

Great Black-backed Gull: first Sep 10 Cay L (DK); singles MNWR Oct 13 on; none s. end Sen L. Herring and Ring-billed Gulls: normal numbers Cay L. Common Tern: 9 max Aug 28 Watkins Glen (JBr); 1 Sep 21 s. end Cay L, prob. last (CC). Caspian Tern: scattered reports Aug and Sep, max 6 Sep 15 Sen L (JBr). Black Tern: 2 MNWR and 7 Watkins Glen Aug 28 prob. last. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 1 report only. Snowy Owl: 1 Nov 13–14 downtown Elmira; 1 mid-Nov Italy Valley

(CSturdevant); 1 Arkport Nov 30 (fide WG). Short-eared Owl: 1 Nov 24 stone quarry on Watts Rd in n. Sen county (WEB).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: The paucity of Nighthawk reports is distressing; 1 at Keuka Oct 2 (late) was only record there for year (ML); at Hornell, where a flight usually is noted, 2 went over Sep 1 and 3 on Sep 3 (WG); better numbers at Elmira: 15 on Aug 25 (KF), 35–50 Sep 6 (WH). Chimney Swifts were noted migrating low in numbers of 10–20/min Oct 4 at WD (WEB). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last at Bath mid-Sep (BA); several late reports: 1 Sep 22 Etna (R Hance), 2 Oct 16 Elmira (M. Guinan), 1 until Sep 26 Ithaca (RFarrell). Pileated Woodpecker: increasing number of reports in more settled areas, possibly from food supply offered by dead elms. Red-bellied Woodpecker: scattered reports, no increase. Red-headed Woodpecker: increase continues, noted as up at Keuka.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 1 Sep 11 SWS (TH), only report except for the 4 in the Elmira TV tower kill. Eastern Wood Pewee: fewer late reports than usual; last Oct 13 Waterloo (JW). Tree Swallow: large flocks noted Oct 17, 25 and 30 MNWR, various observers. Bank Swallow: 1,000 Sep 1, last few Sep 6 MNWR (WEB). Rough-winged Swallow: last Sep 11. Barn Swallow: last Sep 14. Purple Martin: last Aug 29 MNWR (WEB). Common Crow: moving in numbers last week Oct (WEB). Red-breasted Nuthatch: first indications were that they might be numerous this year, but fewer noted as season advanced; first 6 Harris Hill Elmira Sep 24 (WH). Brown Creeper: good numbers. House Wren: last Oct 5 nr Tompkins Co airport (MB). Carolina Wren: individuals at three locations in Tompkins Co, all new — Etna Sep 14 and thereafter (SHS); Cascadilla Gorge, Cornell Campus Oct 2 (PK); Forest Home Ithaca Oct 17 (E Little); 2 Schuy Co (JBr). Winter Wren: 10 Oct 8 Monkey Run e. of Ithaca (FGS). Long-billed Marsh Wren: last Oct 11 (OS). Catbird: last Nov 12 Burdett (J Bardeen). Hermit Thrush: last Nov 8 Watkins Glen (JBr). Swainson's Thrush: no marked migration noted. Gray-cheeked Thrush: 1 banded Penn Yan Sep 18 (ML). Eastern Bluebird: many observers reported better numbers this fall; several flocks of 20–25 at Penn Yan; several noted for week in Nov at Meyers (J Fenner). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: good numbers Oct 9–10 at Lerch banding station Pen Yan. Only 1 shrike report, Shrike sp. Nov 29 Elmira (N Hood).

VIREOS—WARBLERS :WHITE-EYED VIREO: 1 Oct 9 netted and banded Penn Yan (ML), first in Keuka area since May 1947. Solitary Vireo: last Oct 18 (OS). Philadelphia Vireo: 1 Sep 18 netted and banded Penn Yan (ML).

Few warbler reports, no pronounced waves. At Keuka, FG noted no record of Cape May, Cerulean, Palm, Parula, Yellow-breasted Chat or either Waterthrush, Myrtle Warbler: last Nov 16 Ithaca (CC). Black-throated Green Warbler: numbers at Elmira Sep 21 (WH); last Nov 8 n. of Trumansburg (PK). Blackpoll Warbler: 10 max Oct 3 Ithaca (PK). Canada Warbler: Nov 1, late (OS). The following are first capture dates by ML at banding station at Penn Yan: Black-and-white Sep 18; Tennessee Sep 12; Orange-crowned Oct 2, Oct 16 (late); Nashville Sep 12; Black-throated Blue Sep 25; Blackburnian Sep 12; Bay-breasted Sep 4; Blackpoll Sep 12; *CONNECTICUT* Sep 25; Mourning Sep 12; Wilson's Aug 29.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Large mixed flocks of blackbirds and Starlings streamed into MNWR every night until about Nov 12 (WEB). Eastern Meadowlark: 40–50 Nov 27 Rhodes Farm Big Flats (WH), rather late date although some always over-winter. Rusty Blackbird: few reports, but perhaps overlooked. Baltimore Oriole: no late records. Brown-headed Cowbird: 200 Nov 21 at Benning feeder Clyde; small flocks same time in Etna, disappeared when snow melted.

Cardinal: late Sep broods still being fed into first week Oct. Evening Grosbeak: small flocks noted during fall, but not seeming to remain in localities; 20 Oct 3 first Canisteo (fide WG); noted first week Nov Elmira (WH), Caton (Stasches'),

Keuka (FG), mid-Nov Dryden, Etna, Ithaca, Bath, late Nov Waterloo. House Finch: 2 locations Nov 22 Elmira, no recent Ithaca or Etna sightings. Pine Siskin: flock in birches in Oct, Elmira (H Woodward); small flock Nov 3 on, Watkins Glen (JBr); 25 Nov 14 Clyde (WEB). American Goldfinch: large flocks; of interest is that wintering goldfinches have become regular visitors at feeders, throughout Region; this was not the case 20 years ago. White-winged Crossbill: 3 Nov 8 Conn Hill (fide OS). Sharp-tailed Sparrow: 1 Sep 21 s.w. corner Cay L, quite uncommon (MB). Vesper Sparrow: last, end Oct Ithaca, Bath; 1 Nov 8 top of Mt. Zoar, Elmira (WH); 1 Nov 22 MNWR (WEB). Chipping Sparrow: 1 Nov 30, late, Ithaca (MB). White-crowned Sparrow: migrating in numbers first week Oct; some lingered into Nov at feeders. White-throated Sparrow: present to end of period; numbers eating wild grapes Nov 3 Chemung R Elmira (WH); 103 banded Oct 2-3 Penn Yan (ML). Lapland Longspur: 1 only, Nov 27 Rhodes Farm Big Flats (WH). Snow Bunting: 1 Oct 27 Watkins Glen (JBr); 6 Oct 30 MNWR (WEB).

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REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

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Mild weather lasted all the way through October but in early November there was an abrupt change to persistently wintry conditions. There were a few light snowfalls during the earlier weeks of November, but none were really significant until the major storm of November 25 that hit much of the northeast.

The waterfowl, shorebird and raptor migrations were largely unreported but banding results and other field work suggest a rather heavy small land bird migration, particularly in the latter part of September. Cape May Warbler totals, especially, were astounding.

Abbreviations: CF—Chenango Forks; EB—East Branch, in Delaware County.

Observers: MB—Margaret Bowman; GC—Gail Corderman; A,MD—Anna and Marilyn Davis; CG—Clinton Gerould; SH—Shirley Hartman; EH—Elva Hawkin; FL—Florence Linaberry; HM—Harriet Marsi; MS—Mary Sheffield; MW—Mildred White; R,SW—Ruth and Sally White; KW—Kathryn Wilson; DOAS—Delaware-Otsego Audubon Society Field Trip.

LOONS—DUCKS: Horned Grebe: 2 Nov 7 Owego (MW, CG). Pied-billed Grebe: 3 records, Aug 28 and Oct 24 Owego (MW, CG) and Nov 7 CF (A,MD). Great Blue Heron: fairly frequent sightings; last date Oct 17 Whitney Point (MS). Green Heron: none after 1 at EB Sep 7 (MB). Canada Goose: first fall migrants Sep 25 CF (A,MD); bulk of migrants went through between Sep 30 and Oct 23; the only ones reported after Oct 30 were 100 Nov 27 and 50 Nov 28 at Wells Bridge (Mr. Dibble). Wood Duck: 23 Oct 10 Norwich (R,SW). Common Goldeneye: Nov 7 CF (A,MD). Bufflehead: 3 reports; 10 at Owego Nov 7 (MW, CG) the best count. Oldsquaw: 2 Nov 2 Owego (MW, CG). Common Scoter: 21 Oct 24 at Guilford Lake and 30 Oct 27 at Norwich (R,SW). Common Merganser: 21 Oct 3 EB (MB).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: 1 Oct 9 EB (MB), the last; also reported from Oneonta, Andes and Cannonsville Reservoir. Goshawk: Aug 21 south of Binghamton (GC, E. Kirch, W. Corderman), seen and heard; Aug 28 at North Fenton in Broome County (W. R. Williams); 1 Sep 20 at Morris near Oneonta (Mr. Fiske); Nov 22 1 in brown plumage at Choconut Center (MS), appeared to be in