

REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

M. S. RUSK AND C. G. SPIES

With the last major snowsquall April 6 and no May snow, this spring seemed less tardy than some recent ones; nevertheless, the cold kept ice on Otisco Lake until April 20, the latest ever. April 15 was a flight day for both hawks and passerines; April 29-May 2 was probably the best passerine wave period, yielding several early arrival dates, but May 13 and 20-22 with their high counts were also very good. April 22 and May 14 rainstorms helped keep lakes and creeks high through the spring.

Some ornithological positives were: a record count of Red-necked Grebe (though the species wasn't as widespread as last year); some white heron sightings; good Black Duck counts (Mallard: Black Duck ratio for spring 1:4); high numbers of Gadwall, including good counts of it and Shoveler in the eastern part of the region; an encouraging count of Redhead and a record flight of Red-breasted Merganser, as well as some late diving duck departures which helped swell the regional big run list; high counts of some raptors—Turkey Vulture, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Marsh Hawk, and Sparrow Hawk; a record count of Lesser Yellow-legs in a generally mediocre shorebird flight; unusually many reports of Iceland Gull and high counts of Great Black-backed Gull; good tallies at Derby hill of Red-headed Woodpecker and Eastern Bluebird (two hole-nesters hard-pressed recently by various environmental factors; a record flight—in both numbers and locations—of Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, and high counts of both kinglets; some good warbler peak counts, though, except for the very heavy flights of Cape May and Myrtle, high warbler numbers weren't sustained through the season; massive return flights of some winter finch species; heavy migration past Derby hill of Baltimore Oriole and Chipping Sparrow; and persistence into spring of the western winter feeder visitants (see rarities list below).

Negatives were: the lack of Glossy Ibis (contrasted with the presence of southern white herons); poor counts of both teal and Common Merganser; low Derby hill tallies of Goshawk, Broad-winged Hawk, and Pigeon Hawk; poor numbers of some shorebirds and terns; extreme scarcity of most swallow species; low counts of some warblers; and scarcity of Grasshopper and Henslow's Sparrows, which usually are first found here in spring on their breeding locations.

Rarities are: Snowy Egret, Willet, Wilson's Phalarope, Black-headed Gull, Monk Parakeet, Varied Thrush, Prairie Warbler, Orchard Oriole, Black-headed Grosbeak, Oregon Junco, Clay-colored Sparrow, and Harris' Sparrow.

It was of interest to have had for this report duck counts from the eastern part of the region to compare with Seneca River, Lake Ontario, and Oneida Lake counts, and Adirondack arrival dates to compare with those from down-region. Needed are more complete Derby hill counts of the more abundant passerines, e.g. black icterids: the counts given herein are probably spuriously low.

In this report are March arrival dates but not June dates. All Derby hill data were compiled by Gerald A. Smith; more detailed hawk information including June departures will appear in a field note by him.

The Lake Ontario dead bird surveys (done by walking the entire Region 5 shore—Cayuga and Oswego Counties—and checking every specimen found) have yielded some interesting comparisons, e.g. numbers of dead vs. live White-winged Scoter and other waterfowl, and Herring and Ringbilled Gull.

Abbreviations: Adir—Adirondack; Cam—Camillus Twp areas—S Cam: Ninemile Creek and tributaries from Sweets Crossing to Camillus, N Cam: Erie Canal and vicinity from Memphis to Amboy; DBS—dead bird surveys along L Ont shore of Region 5, the 1st Apr 29-30, the 2nd May 27-Jun 4; DH—Derby Hill, Sage Creek,

and vicinity on L Ont near Texas; FH—Fair Haven Beach State Park, Little Sodus Bay, and vicinity; FR—Fox Ridge impoundments area near Montezuma; HIGMA—Howland Island State Game Management Area near Port Byron; MB—McIntyres Bluff on L Ont, Sterling Valley Creek, and vicinity on L Ont near Sterling Valley; NM—Niagara Mohawk Visitors' Center on L Ont, and vicinity near Lakeview; NP—Ninemile Point on L Ont near Lycoming; NPT—NW portion of Pompey Twp; Onon—Onondaga; Ont—Ontario; PS—Peat Swamp and vicinity in Clay Twp; PSS—Peter Scott Swamp, Sixmile Creek, and vicinity near Phoenix; RC—Rice Creek and vicinity between Oswego Center and Fruit Valley; SP—North Pond, South Pond, and the sand dunes on L Ont near Sandy Pond; SRF—Seneca River flats from Montezuma to HIGMA; SSP—Selkirk Shores State Park and vicinity near Port Ontario; Syr—Syracuse; TRGMA—Three Rivers State Game Management Area near Baldwinsville; WBOC—W Branch Onon Creek and vicinity near S Onon.

Observers: B. Barnum, V. Billings, A. & W. Brosseau, M. Brown, G. & M. Church, J. Cooper, D. W. Crumb, F. C. Dittrich, C. & E. Farnham, E. M. Freeborn, G. R. Maxwell, B. & S. Peebles, M. S. Rusk, S. Sage, F. G. Scheider, B. Schneckenburger, M. & B. Schneider, G. A. Smith, C. G. Spies, R. J. Sutliff, A. K. Steinbacher, J. & E. VanDresar, R. & J. VanScoy, C. & R. Wernick

Corrigenda: *Kingbird* XXI: 2, May 1972, Region 5 report—p. 95, The editors' thanks to...Ferd LaFrance...; p. 96, Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 ad Jan 30; Sparrow Hawk: none Feb 8 Oneida L HS...; Virginia Rail: ...5 found huddled together dead Jan 8; Bonaparte's Gull: ...1 ad Jan 16 in the harbor at Oswego (Spies) is the 1st report later than Dec 21 (1969) or earlier than Mar 17, *except for Jan-Feb 1958*; p. 97, Horned Lark: max 100 Jan 21...; Baltimore Oriole: ...at least 4 other unsatisfactory reports; p. 98, Common Redpoll: max single-party count 300 Jan 23 NPT; Pine Siskin: max 100 Dec 1-7 Dart L; *HARRIS' SPARROW*: 1 ad 1st week of Dec through period at feeder in Syr....

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: arr Apr 1, 1 DH; Adir arr Apr 28, 1 Dart L near Big Moose; max 80 Apr 30 DH, NP and 77 Apr 19 DH. Red-throated Loon: only report was 1 on 2nd DBS, which had been dead 3 or 4 weeks. Red-necked Grebe: arr Apr 2, 1 Brewerton; max 18 Apr 9 Brewerton (FGS)—record high for spring; dep Apr 18, 1 Brewerton—early, especially with such high numbers; only report away from Oneida L was 1 on 2nd DBS. Horned Grebe: arr Mar 12, 1 DH; max 42 Apr 2 Brewerton. Pied-billed Grebe: arr Mar 21, 2 DH; max 10 Apr 16 SP.

Great Blue Heron: arr Mar 21, 3 DH; max 32 Apr 11 DH—seems good. Green Heron: arr Apr 23, 2 Eaton, 1 FH, 1 PSS—unusually widespread for a somewhat early arr; max 11 May 20 DH. Cattle Egret: only reports in period were 1 May 4 RC (GRM) and 1 May 14-15 Utica (J&EV)—more than usual. Common Egret: only period report 2 May 8 RC (GRM)—fewer than usual. *SNOWY EGRET*: 1 Apr 29 PS (FGS)—6th regional record. Black-crowned Night Heron: only reports were 1 Apr 18 Oswego and 3 Apr 30 SSSP. Least Bittern: arr Apr 20, 1 Utica (VB)—appears to be record early date; max 2 May 19 Oriskany—seems low; 1 about 1 week deceased on 2nd DBS was possibly a late migrant. American Bittern: arr Apr 19, 1 Jacksonburg near Herkimer—somewhat late; max 5s Apr 30 DH, NP, PSS and May 20 PSS, SP.

Whistling Swan: only report was 2 Apr 1 SRF—less than usual. Canada Goose: arr Mar 1, 21 Eaton—early; max 10,000 Mar 23 SRF, HIGMA and 13,630 Apr 2 Cross L near Jacks Reef, SRF to FH, of which 13,000 were at Cross L. Snow Goose: arr Mar 22, 1 Brewerton; max 100 Mar 31 DH—good; dep May 2, 1 TRGMA—late. Blue Goose: arr Mar 23, 1 FH; max 100 Apr 1 SRF; dep Apr 23, 2 SSSP. Mallard: Adir arr Apr 19 when 6 joined the 11 wintering at Dart L; max 308 Apr 1 at various Oneida L areas and the Chittenango Creek floodlands near Kirkville may not be true migrants but rather dispersal of the wintering flock at Brewerton. Black

Duck: Adir arr Apr 15, 2 Dart L; max 1330 Apr 8 PSS, SRF, HIGMA, FH is the best spring count since 1965 and much better than this winter's max. Gadwall: arr Feb 17, 1 Syr—very early, and Mar 12, 2 FH; max 55 Mar 23 FH (FGS)—record high spring count; 15 Apr 15 Utica is very good for an area E of the L Ont watershed. Pintail: arr Mar 1, 4 DH; max 1700 Mar 25 SRF, HIGMA. Green-winged Teal: arr Mar 16, 3 WBOC; max 151 Apr 29 DH, PSS, PS; max E of L Ont basin 16 Apr 18 Jacksonburg—seems low. Blue-winged Teal: arr Mar 23, 6 SRF; max 36 Apr 23 Victory, FH, PSS; max E of L Ont basin 9 Apr 23 Eaton—seems very low. American Widgeon: arr Mar 1, 1 Syr—late; max 100 Apr 2 SSSP, Brewerton, SRF. Shoveler: arr Mar 23, 2 SRF; max 12 Apr 18 PSS; 6 Apr 21 Utica, 2 May 9 Eaton, 4 May 13 Utica, and 4 May 19 Oriskany are far more reports than usual from areas E of the L Ont basin. Wood Duck: arr Mar 11, 2 Baldwinsville and Mar 12, 2 DH; max 22 Apr 18 Jacksonburg.

Redhead: arr Feb 17, 5 Syr; max 75 Mar 28 SRF—best spring count since 1961 with 1968's 70 the only comparable tally; dep May 20, 1 E of Oswego; none reported E of L Ont basin. Ring-necked Duck: arr Feb 17, 1 Syr; max 525 Apr 2 DH, SSSP, Brewerton, SRF—high; max E of L Ont basin only 8 Apr 25 Oriskany; dep May 13, 6 PSS—somewhat late. Canvasback: arr Feb 27, 3 Brewerton; max 198 Apr 2 SSSP, Brewerton, SRF—low, but the best spring count since 1968; dep Apr 23, 3 FH; none reported E of L Ont basin. Greater Scaup: arr Feb 27, 3 Brewerton; max 4020 Apr 2 DH, SSSP, Brewerton, SRF—fewer than last year but still good; dep May 24, 12 FH—late; only 5 on 1st and 8 on 2nd DBS. Lesser Scaup: arr Mar 12, 2 DH; max 370 Apr 13 DH, SSSP, Brewerton; max E of L Ont basin 26 Apr 3 Oriskany; dep May 28, 8 E of Oswego—late; none on DBSs. Common Goldeneye: arr Mar 12, 445 Brewerton, L Ont areas; max 556 Apr 2 DH, SSSP, Brewerton, SRF; dep May 24, 1 FH—late; none E of L Ont basin and only 1 on each DBS. Buffhead: arr Mar 5, 43 Oswego R, L Ont areas; max 92 Apr 1 SRF, FH, DH, SSSP; only 2 on 2nd DBS.

Oldsquaw: max 16 Apr 16 FH—low; dep May 20, 1 male SSSP—late; only 1 on each DBS. White-winged Scoter: max 100 Apr 30 DH, NP; dep May 28, 2 Oswego—very late; an amazing 173 on the 1st and 498 on the 2nd DBS were apparently victims of a disease which had little or no effect on other Aythyinae. Surf Scoter: only report was a sick female May 20–25 SP (RJS et al)—the latest ever noted in spring (previously Mar 6, 1955). Ruddy Duck: arr Apr 5, 1 Bridgeport; max 6 Apr 13 Oswego; dep May 20, 1 FR. Hooded Merganser: arr Mar 21, 4 DH and 8 Brewerton—late; max 43 Apr 2 DH, SSSP, Brewerton, SRF; E of L Ont drainage, max 18 Apr 18 Jacksonburg. Common Merganser: Adir arr Apr 19, Dart L; max 116 Apr 2 Cross L, FH—very low; max E of L Ont drainage was 31 Apr 18 Jacksonburg; dep May 22, 1 sick bird SP—late; 1 on 1st DBS. Red-breasted Merganser: max 6000 Apr 16 FH (FGS) ties record high spring count from 1957; max E of L Ont basin 8 Apr 16–23 Eaton; only 4 on each DBS.

HAWKS—OWLS—Turkey Vulture: arr Mar 31, 1 DH; max 57 Apr 12 DH—2nd best count ever noted there; dep May 31, 1 DH (GAS)—ties record late date if the bird is a true migrant. Goshawk: arr Feb 27, 1 DH; max 6s Mar 31 and Apr 1 DH—very low; dep Apr 30, 1 DH. Sharp-shinned Hawk: arr Mar 21, 5 DH; max 1002 Apr 15 DH—very high. Cooper's Hawk: arr Mar 12, 1 DH; max 30 Apr 1 DH; dep May 6, 1 DH. Red-tailed Hawk: arr Mar 2, 2 DH; max 803 Apr 12 DH (DWC,C&EF,GAS)—record high count. Red-shouldered Hawk: arr Mar 12, 4 DH; max 131 Mar 21 DH; dep May 20, 3 MB (CGS,MSR, et al)—record late. Broad-winged Hawk: arr Apr 15, 3 DH; max 3337 Apr 18 DH—low. Rough-legged Hawk: arr Mar 2, 1 DH; max 55 Apr 18 DH (DWC, F. LaFrance, GAS)—record high; dep May 20, 1 light phase DH (EMF,GAS) and 1 light phase FH (FGS)—ties record late. Golden Eagle: arr Mar 12, 1 ad near Fernwood (DWC)—record late; total of 7 for the spring, 1 ad and 6 imm. Bald Eagle: arr Apr 4, 1 Dart L

(BB); max 2 ad Apr 18 DH and 2 imm FR (EMF,GAS); dep May 20, 1 imm MB (FCD et al); total of 10 including 4 ad and 4 imm. Marsh Hawk: arr Mar 2, 1 DH — early; max 146 Apr 15 DH (DWC,GAS) — record high. Osprey: arr Apr 12, 2 DH and 1 TRGMA — late; max 28 Apr 29 DH. Peregrine Falcon: 3 reports, 1 ad Apr 18 DH (C&EF,GAS), 1 imm Apr 19 near SSSP (J. Propst), 1 imm May 14 DH (GAS) — the last a record late date. Pigeon Hawk: arr Apr 13, 1 DH (C&EF,GAS) — late; max and dep 3 Apr 18 DH (DWC, F. LaFrance, GAS); total of 6 birds — low. Sparrow Hawk: arr Mar 2, 1 DH (GAS) ties record early; max 296 Apr 15 DH (DWC,GAS) — record high.

Ruffed Grouse: max 6s Apr 16 Eaton and May 20 Pompey and Fabius Twps — low. Bobwhite: only report 1 May 20 FH — newly reported location. Ring-necked Pheasant: max 8 May 20 Pompey and Fabius Twps — low. Virginia Rail: arr Mar 21, 1 Oswego (CW) — record early; max 3s Apr 28 Utica and May 14 FR — low. Sora: arr Apr 30, 2 PSS; max 10 May 14 near Conquest, FR — good. Common Gallinule: arr Apr 16, 2 FH; max 10s May 14–27 Utica and May 20 DH to NM. American Coot: arr Mar 23, 6 FH; max 29 Apr 23 FH; dep May 20, 1 Syr; only 1 on 1st DBS.

Semipalmated Plover: arr May 13, 2 PSS — late; max 38 May 22 SP, PSS — good. Killdeer: arr Feb 29, 1 Oswego; max 248 Apr 13 DH (GAS) — record high. Black-bellied Plover: arr and max May 7, 2 SRF — early but a poor max. Ruddy Turnstone: arr May 20, 1 FH; max 13s May 25 SP and May 27 FH. American Woodcock: arr Mar 19, 1 NPT; max 9 Apr 1 Cicero Swamp, SSSP. Common Snipe: arr Mar 25, 1 Brewerton; max 40 Apr 8 SRF — good. Upland Plover: arr Apr 21, 4 E of Lafayette; max 5 Apr 29 DH. Spotted Sandpiper: arr Apr 20, 1 Holland Patent; max 14 May 31 W of Lakeview. Solitary Sandpiper: arr Apr 25, 2 N Cam; max 7 May 7 N Cam; dep May 28, 1 NP.

WILLET: 1 report, 1 in winter plumage May 30–Jun 1 NM (FCD,MSR, et al). Greater Yellowlegs: arr Apr 1, 1 SRF; max 20 Apr 29 DH, PSS. Lesser Yellowlegs: arr Apr 19, 2 DH — late; max 65 May 7 SRF (FGS) — record high for spring; dep May 22, 1 SP. Knot: 1 report, 1 May 25 SP. Pectoral Sandpiper: arr Apr 16, 7 PSS; max 43 Apr 30 PSS, PS; dep May 13, 4 PSS — early. White-rumped Sandpiper: arr May 22, 2 PSS; max 2 May 24 PSS. Least Sandpiper: arr Apr 30, 1 PSS; max 45 May 22 SP, PSS. Dunlin: arr May 11, 2 NM — late compared with recent years; max 11 May 20 DH. Short-billed Dowitcher: arr and max May 16, 4 NM; dep May 30, 2 NM. Semipalmated Sandpiper: arr May 16, 2 PSS; max 15 May 31 NM. Sanderling: 2 reports, 1 May 24 FH and 1 May 24 PSS — poor flight. *WILSON'S PHALAROPE*: 1 report, a male in breeding plumage May 28–31 N M(EMF,GAS, et al) is only 4th regional spring record.

Glaucous Gull: 2 reports, 1 imm Apr 6 Bridgeport and 1 imm Apr 16 FH; also 1 on each DBS. Iceland Gull: an unusual 4 reports, 1 Apr 1 FH, 1 Apr 6 Bridgeport, 2 Apr 9 Brewerton, 1 May 20 SP (F. LaFrance, FJS) — the last very late but the 3rd May record of the species. Great Black-backed Gull: Apr max 80 Apr 16 SP and May max 25 May 20 SP are very high for so late; 4 on 1st and 1 on 2nd DBS. Herring Gull: max 236 Apr 1 SRF, FH to SSSP; 28 on 1st and 17 on 2nd DBS. Ring-billed Gull: max 6235 Apr 1 SRF, FH to DH; 17 on 1st and 8 on 2nd DBS. *BLACK-HEADED GULL*: 1 ad in breeding plumage Apr 1 SRF (FGS, P. DeBenedictis) — 2nd regional record and the 1st for spring. Bonaparte's Gull: arr Mar 25, 1 FH; max 15 May 12 Lakeview. Common Tern: arr Apr 30, 7 DH and 1 SP — late; max 220 May 20 Oswego to SSSP. Caspian Tern: arr Apr 19, 2 DH — early; max 4 May 11 NM — low. Black Tern: arr May 7, 2 Onon L — late; max 16 May 14 DH — low.

Rock Dove: DH migrants — arr Mar 20, 2; max 160 May 14 (GAS) — amazingly high; dep May 20, 1; 2 on 1st and 5 on 2nd DBS may have been trans-L Ont migrants. Mourning Dove: arr Mar 1, 6 DH; max 27 Apr 1 SRF, FH, DH and 26 May 11 Cam, Onon Hill, NP, NM. *MONK PARAKEET*: the 1st regional report

was 1 Apr 29 DH (FGS) that didn't appear to be a recent escape. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: only 1 report, 1 May 23 S Cam — late. Black-billed Cuckoo: arr May 1, 1 New Hartford (VB) — record early; 6 single birds were the only reports all period.

Screech Owl: reported at only 4 sites, near Victory, NPT, and 2 at Eaton — poor. Great Horned Owl: reported at 10 sites, SSSP, DH, FH, Rams Gulch near Jamesville, NPT, N Cam, Bolivar near Kirkville, Oneida, and Eaton. Snowy Owl: 4 singles in period, the last Apr 11 Sy airport — no Apr reports from Oneida L where species usually concentrates following an incursion. Barred Owl: 3 sites, near Cato, near HIGMA, and Carpenter Pond near Fabius. Long-eared Owl: 2 reports, 1 Apr 23 Syr (G. Ward, P. DeBenedictis) and 1 Apr 30 NP (FGS); also 1 on 2nd DBS. Short-eared Owl: 1 Apr 15 DH (E. Estoff et al) is only report.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Whip-poor-will: arr Apr 29, 2 New Hartford; max 8 May 20 W Vienna Twp — good. Common Nighthawk: arr May 18, 2 and 1 by different parties in S Syr; max 2s through period. Chimney Swift: arr Apr 28, 1 DH — a little late; max 83 May 12 DH; dep May 29, 4 DH. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr May 11, 1 dead NP — late; max 24 May 21 SP, NM, PSS — good. Belted Kingfisher: arr Mar 21, 1 DH — early; max 7 Apr 12 DH. Yellow-shafted Flicker: arr Apr 1, 10 HIGMA, FH, DH; Adir arr Apr 13, 4 Dart L; max 420 Apr 29 DH, SSSP, PSS, PS; last passing DH May 20, 2. Pileated Woodpecker: 1-2 per day from at least 17 sites in most parts of the region. Red-bellied Woodpecker: max 6 May 4 S Cam, HIGMA; also reported from Oswego, Sterling, Jacks Reef, N Cam, Bridgeport. Red-headed Woodpecker: arr Apr 16, 1 near HIGMA — early; max 12 May 13 DH — high; DH total for May was 30 birds. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: arr Apr 8, 1 HIGMA; max 3 per day from various places — low; dep May 13, 1 DH. Hairy Woodpecker: max 8 Apr 13-19 Dart L; few migrants noted at DH. Downy Woodpecker: max 11 Apr 25 NPT; few migrants at DH.

Eastern Kingbird: arr Apr 30, 1 SP and 1 PSS; max 50 May 24 FH, NM. Great Crested Flycatcher: arr Apr 30, 1 DH; max 10 May 22 SP, NP. Eastern Phoebe: arr Mar 26, 1 near Oswego; max 15 Apr 18 DH — low. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr May 16, 1 Oswego; only other reports were 1 May 19 Onon Hill and 1 May 21 SP. Traill's Flycatcher: "fitz-bew" type: arr May 3, 1 near Apulia — very early; max 4 May 31 Nedrow. "we-bé-o" type: arr May 12, 1 White L near Fayetteville; singles only through period. Least Flycatcher: arr May 2, 1 SSSP; max 25 May 24 FH, RC, NM. Eastern Wood Pewee: arr May 19, 1 S Cam, 1 Eaton, 2 Oriskany — very late; max 10 May 25 SP — low. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 2 reports, 1 May 12 Rams Gulch — early, and 1 May 26 near Colosse. Horned Lark: arr Jan 28, 7 NPT; max 375 Apr 15 DH; away from L Ont max were 80 Apr 22 WBOC and 35 Apr 23 NPT; dep May 23, 1 Dart L.

Tree Swallow: arr Mar 21, 2 DH; Adir arr Apr 15, 7 Dart L; max 900 Apr 20 DH, SSSP, PSS — very low. Bank Swallow: arr Apr 15, 1 DH; Adir arr May 12, 6 Dart L; max 410 May 22 SP, SSSP, NP — very low. Rough-winged Swallow: arr Apr 15, 4 DH; max 26 May 7 S Cam, FH — low. Barn Swallow: arr Apr 11, 1 Oswego; Adir arr Apr 30, 12 Dart L; max 400 May 6 S Cam, NM, NP, DH and 400 May 24 FH, NM — very low. Cliff Swallow: arr Apr 15, 9 DH; max 24s May 13 and 31 DH. Purple Martin: arr Apr 13, 3 DH and 2 Oswego; max 35 May 24 FH were breeding birds.

Blue Jay: 1st noticeable DH migration Apr 30, 5; again an impressive DH max 3653 May 13 with May DH total 7913. Common Crow: at DH 1st migrants noted Feb 27, 18; Mar total there 25,077 with peak of 7855 Mar 2 and 5800 Mar 20; Apr total there 3369. Black-capped Chickadee: max 50 Apr 1-19 Dart L and max passing DH only 39 Apr 18 — indicative of virtually no migration. Tufted Titmouse: 1 May 6 at a new site Oneida is only report. White-breasted Nuthatch: max 34 Apr 18 DH — a light flight. Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 5 May 22 SSSP, NP;

max at DH only 4 May 13 — a very light flight. Brown Creeper: max 32 Apr 20 DH, SSSP and 31 Apr 30 DH, NP, PSS — good flight. House Wren: arr Apr 25, 1 NPT; max 32 May 11 S Cam, DH, NP — very high. Winter Wren: very widespread arr Apr 16 with 4 FH, 2 SP, 1 Syr, 3 Eaton; max 18s Apr 20 SSSP to NM, Apr 25 Syr, Apr 30 DH, NP. Carolina Wren: only period report is 1 Jordan (Mrs. G. Gannett). Long-billed Marsh Wren: arr May 6, 1 WBOC; max 10 May 20 FH.

Mockingbird: max 3 May 17 DeWitt; 7 other single birds reported from DH, Oswego, Makyes Rd in Onon Twp, NPT, Syr, and 2 sites in N Syr. Catbird: arr Apr 23, 2 SSSP — early; max 32 May 22 SP to NP, PSS. Brown Thrasher: arr Apr 16, 1 NPT; max 13 May 2 Syr — good. Robin: arr Feb 27, 2 Clay; Adir arr Apr 19, 50 Dart L; Mar max 570 Mar 23 FH; Apr max 3041 Apr 13 DH — very high; Apr total DH 5191. *VARIED THRUSH*: last date for the Bridgeport male (cf. winter 1971–72 Region 5 *Kingbird* report) was Apr 12. Wood Thrush: arr Apr 21, 2 Oneida — early; max 37 May 20 Pompey and Fabius Twps — good. Hermit Thrush: arr Apr 16, 2 NPT and 2 FH; max 19 Apr 30 NPT — good; dep May 11, 1 Syr. Swainson's Thrush: arr May 12, 1 Tully; max 18 May 16 NP; dep May 26, 2 Syr. Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr May 16, 1 NP; singles only reported. Veery: arr Apr 25, 1 Syr — early; max 20 May 22 SSSP, NP. Eastern Bluebird: arr Mar 18, 2 DH; max 38 Apr 15 DH; Apr total at DH 55 — very good in comparison with recent years.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr Apr 24, 2 S Bay; max 14 Apr 30 DH, NP (FGS) — unprecedented count for a L Ont location; 1–5 per day widely reported from previously known locations, i.e. L Ont sites from FH to SSSP, Duck L near Spring L, HIGMA, Whiskey Hollow near Jacks Reef, PSS, N Cam, S Cam, Fayetteville, Skaneateles, NPT, and Oneida; also 2 newly reported areas, Eaton with 1 May 9 and Ilion Gorge with 2 May 3; last L Ont (presumably migrant) report May 20, 3 near Fruit Valley. Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr Apr 2, 3 Brewerton; max 200 Apr 30 DH, NP (FGS) — record high, with no former spring count in excess of 100; dep May 22, 1 NP (FGS) — record late. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Mar 30, 1 Eaton (G&MC) — record early; max 120 Apr 30 DH, NP — high; dep May 27, 1 MB. Water Pipit: arr Mar 25, 18 WBOC; max 49 Mar 26 WBOC — low. Cedar Waxwing: max 800 May 30 DH — very high. Northern Shrike: no Apr reports from DH; dep Apr 12, 1 Lakeport (B&SP) — late. Loggerhead Shrike: arr Mar 26, 3 Cicero to Brewerton and 1 WBOC; max 5 Apr 18 DH; total of 4 in Mar and 16 in Apr at DH; dep Apr 21, 1 DH. Starling: 1st DH migrants Feb 12, 130; max 6255 Apr 13 DH; DH totals — 3360 in Mar, 13,455 in Apr, 788 in May — low.

VIREOS—WARBLERS : Yellow-throated Vireo: arr May 6, 1 S Cam — late; max 9 May 18 N Cam. Solitary Vireo: arr Apr 30, 1 DH and 1 NPT; max 5 May 7 Syr; dep May 21, 1 SP. Red-eyed Vireo: arr Apr 24, 1 S Bay (B&SP) — record early; max 28 May 24 FH, NM. Philadelphia Vireo: arr May 13, 1 S Cam; max 2 May 21 SP; dep May 24, 1 FH; total of 7 for season. Warbling Vireo: arr May 1, 1 Dart L where uncommon; max 20 May 20 SP, SSSP.

Black-and-white Warbler: arr Apr 29, 1 Syr; max 10 May 16 NP. Golden-winged Warbler: arr May 6, 1 S Cam; max 7 May 23 S Cam. Blue-winged Warbler: arr May 16, 1 NP and 1 N Cam; no more than 1 per day reported — very low. Brewster's Warbler: arr May 13, 1 S Cam; max 2 May 16 S Cam; away from S Cam the only report was 1 May 26 near Colosse. Tennessee Warbler: arr May 13, 1 NP — late; max 18 May 21 SP — low; dep May 27, 1 Oswego. Orange-crowned Warbler: arr May 6, 1 NP; max 4 May 11 Onon Hill, NP; dep May 21, 1 near Pompey Center. Nashville Warbler: arr Apr 30, 2 NP; max 9 May 13 Utica — low, but a wide date range for smaller numbers; dep May 25, 1 NP. Parula Warbler: arr May 2, 1 NPT (DWC) — ties record early date; Adir arr May 18, 3 Dart L; max 7 May 30 Dart L, but away from Adir max was only 2s; dep May 25, 1 NP.

Yellow Warbler: arr Apr 30, 1 Belgium and 1 DH; max 109 May 18 N Cam. Magnolia Warbler: arr May 2, 2 NPT; max 24 May 21 SP; dep May 29, 1 W of Oswego Center. Cape May Warbler: arr Apr 30, 1 NP (B. Williams et al) — record early; max 28 May 16 Onon Hill (FGS) — record high; dep May 30, 1 Dart L (bb) — record late. Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr May 2, 2 Syr, NP, 2 at another site in Syr, and 3 NPT; max 16 May 21 SP; dep May 25, 1 NP. Myrtle Warbler: arr Apr 18, 1 Holland Patent; Adir arr Apr 30, 2 Dart L; max 310 May 13 DH — very high; other high counts were 250 May 6 S Cam, N Cam, DH to NM, 250 May 7 Labrador Pond near Apulia, NPT, 116 May 7 Syr, and 100 May 2 Rainbow Shores near SP; dep May 27, 1 FH. Black-throated Green Warbler: arr Apr 30, 7 DH and 2 NP; max 32 May 21 SP; dep May 29, 1 DH. Cerulean Warbler: arr May 13, 6 S Cam, N Cam and 1 Oswego — late; max 9 May 18 N Cam — low. Blackburnian Warbler: arr May 7, 2 Syr; Adir arr May 15, 1 Dart L; max 41 May 21 SP — very high; dep May 25, 3 SP. Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr May 3, 1 NPT; max 9 May 20 SP — low. Bay-breasted Warbler: arr May 13, 6 S Cam, 2 Syr, 2 Utica, 1 Mexico Pt, and 4 DH — amazingly widespread arr; max 60 May 22 SP to NP — very good; dep May 25, 8 SP. Blackpoll Warbler: arr May 11, 2 Marcy — early; max 12 May 25 SP, SSSP — poor. Pine Warbler: arr Apr 23, 1 NP; max 5 Apr 30 DH, NP (FGS) — record high for this species more often found on territory in the region. *PRAIRIE WARBLER*: 3 reports, all males, 1 May 2 NPT (DWC), 1 May 6 DH (DWC), and 1 May 13 S Cam (T. Harland, U. Boggs fide FGS) — in past 18 years no more than 1 per spring. Palm Warbler: arr Apr 29, 2 NP — late; max 7s Apr 30, May 6, May 11 at DH, NP; dep May 14, 1 DH.

Ovenbird: arr May 2, 2 Syr; Adir arr May 18, 6 Dart L; max 30 May 16 NP (DWC) — record high. Northern Waterthrush: arr Apr 30, 2 DH; max 4s May 13 Toad Harbor near W Monroe, May 3 and May 20 NPT; dep May 24, 1 FH. Louisiana Waterthrush: arr Apr 26, 1 Cheese Factory Gulf near Delphi Falls; max 2s through period. Mourning Warbler: arr May 18, 1 N Cam; max 3 May 25 SSP, SP, Colosse area. Yellowthroat: arr May 2, 1 Syr, 1 NPT, 1 SSSP; max 22 May 24 FH, NM. Hooded Warbler: arr May 20, 1 NP; max 4 May 22 NP. Wilson's Warbler: arr May 17, 3 DeWitt — late; max 8 May 21 SP. Canada Warbler: arr May 13, 3 S Cam; Adir arr May 18, 3 Dart L; max 10 May 22 NP to SP — low; dep May 25, 9 SP. American Redstart: arr Apr 30, 1 DH and 1 NPT — early; Adir arr May 18, 7 Dart L; max 71 May 13 DH — high.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: arr Apr 30, 1 DH; max 230 May 14 DH. Eastern Meadowlark: arr Mar 1, 2 DH; max 230 Apr 30 DH, NP, PSS; flight at DH was small with only 155 in Apr and 30 in May. Western Meadowlark: 1 report from Oneida Co without sufficient details to eliminate the possibility of a hybrid. (M. Stooks). Red-winged Blackbird: arr Mar 1, 475 DH; Adir arr Mar 14 1 Dart L; max 50,000 Mar 23 SRF, FH, 59,000 Apr 12 DH, and 50,000 Apr 15 DH; DH totals by month were 7258 in Mar, 135,689 in Apr, 2809 in May. *ORCHARD ORIOLE*: an imm male May 31 NPT (DWC, C&EF) is only period report. Baltimore Oriole: arr Apr 30, 1 DH; max 574 May 13 DH — very high. Rusty Blackbird: arr Mar 7, 2 Jordan; Adir arr Mar 24, 1 Dart L; max 106 Apr 23 PSS and 50 Apr 2 SRF. Common Grackle: arr Mar 2, 4 DH, 19 Oneida, 1 New Hartford; Mar max 400 Mar 23 SRF; Apr max 12,000 Apr 15 DH; DH totals by month were 285 in Mar, 29,743 in Apr, 631 in May. Brown-headed Cowbird: arr Feb 21, 1 Ilion and Feb 26, 1 Nedrow; Adir arr Mar 24, 1 Dart L; max 6550 Apr 11 DH; DH totals by month were 20 in Mar, 14,432 in Apr, 600 in May.

Scarlet Tanager: arr May 4, 1 S Cam; max 15 May 24 FH. Cardinal: max 20 May 6 S Cam, N Cam. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr May 2, 2 Syr and 1 Oswego; max 35 May 13 DH and 24 May 24 FH, NM. *BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK*: in Oriskany the last date was Apr 7 and in Camillus May 7 (cf. winter 1971–72

Region 5 *Kingbird* report). Indigo Bunting: arr May 9, 1 Eaton; max 9 May 24 FH, NM. Dickcissel: 1 male May 24 Oswego (CW) — no details. Evening Grosbeak: the central New York feeder survey tallied 1700 per 100 feeders in the 1st week of Mar and 1400 per 100 feeders in the 1st week of Apr (B. Burtt) — both very high; field max in Apr was 350 Apr 30 DH, NP and in May 930 May 14 DH — very high; dep May 20, 4 DH — early for a flight year. Purple Finch: good counts indicative of migration were 22 May 5 Green Lakes State Park near Fayetteville, 16 May 6 Oneida, 29 May 6 N Cam, the max 31 May 13 DH, and 24 May 20 Pompey and Fabius Twps. House Finch: 1-4 per day Apr 17-May 15 at 3 sites in Syr. Pine Grosbeak: max 10 Apr 1 Dart L and dep Apr 8, 5 there (BB) — record late. Common Redpoll: the central New York feeder survey tallied 2400 per 100 feeders in the 1st week of Apr (B. Burtt) — about 5 times the previous Apr high in 1970; 1st migrants at DH were 4 Feb 27, the Mar max was 100 Mar 30, and the Apr max was 1250 Apr 15, all DH; Apr total at DH 4310; dep Apr 29, 2 Oswego. Pine Siskin: max 151 May 13 DH; non-L Ont area max 67 May 7 Syr and 60 Apr 28 Cedarville; dep May 24, 12 FH and 6 Oswego. American Goldfinch: max 1064 May 14 DH; away from L Ont no count exceeded 110. Red Crossbill: arr Mar 12, 12 NPT; max 19 Mar 18-29 NPT; dep Apr 12, 4 DH.

Rufous-sided Towhee: arr Apr 13, 1 Oswego; max 22 May 20 Pompey and Fabius Twps are probably breeding birds. Savannah Sparrow: arr Apr 1, 2 DH; max 45 Apr 23 NPT. Grasshopper Sparrow: arr May 14, 1 Emerson — late; max 2 May 25 Sandy Creek — low. Henslow's Sparrow: arr and max May 13, 3 Omara Rd near W Monroe — late and low. Vesper Sparrow: arr Apr 11, 1 near Texas — very late; max 22 Apr 23 NPT. Slate-colored Junco: max 300 Apr 13 Oswego, 310 Apr 20 DH, SSSP, PSS, 300 Apr 22 N Bay; dep May 24, 1 ad FH. OREGON JUNCO: 1 male Apr 8 FH (FGS, PAD). Tree Sparrow: max 100 Apr 12 Cedarville; dep May 10, 3 NPT (DWC), 2 Oswego (GRM) — record late. Chipping Sparrow: arr Apr 16, 1 Syr and 1 DH; Adir arr Apr 19, 3 Dart L; max 204 May 13 DH — very high. CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: 1 report, 1 May 10 DH (J. Propst) — 4th regional record. Field Sparrow: arr Mar 31, 1 Dart L; max 46 Apr 20 PSS, DH, SSSP.

HARRIS' SPARROW: last date for the Syr ad (cf. winter 1971-72 Region 5 *Kingbird* report) was May 15. White-crowned Sparrow: arr Apr 2, 2 Rainbow Shores, but the next not until Apr 24, 2 Syr; max 30 May 7 NPT; dep May 24, 1 FH. White-throated Sparrow: Adir arr Apr 19, 1 Dart L; max 135 May 4 S Cam, N Cam, HIGMA; dep May 24, 2 Oswego. Fox Sparrow: arr Mar 23, 1 FH and 2 near Fayetteville; Adir arr Mar 31, 1 Dart L; max 6 Apr 23 NPT but no more than 2 per day elsewhere; dep May 7, 1 FH (FGS) — very late. Lincoln's Sparrow: arr May 2, 1 dead N Syr (R. Richardson fide FGS) — very early; max 3s May 22 SP and May 24 FH, also the dep; total of 13 birds reported. Swamp Sparrow: arr Apr 16, 3 HIGMA; max 24 May 11, S Cam, PSS. Song Sparrow: arr Mar 12, 1 Brewerton; 100 or more per day Apr 15-20 Dart L, L Ont, and Oneida R and Seneca R areas, with max of 160 Apr 16 — late. Snow Bunting: max 100 Mar 30 DH — poor; dep Apr 14, 75 NPT.

242 West Calthrop Ave., Syracuse 13205

REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

LEE B. CHAMBERLAINE

Spring 1972 was extremely late with near winter type conditions prevailing into May at higher elevations in the Region. Temperatures below freezing were common during April, and for May only the daylight hours seemed to warm up to any extent in the first half of the month.

Precipitation for early April and May was below normal, however, before the months were over rainfall was above normal. Snow cover was still 12 to 16 inches deep the last week in April in the western Adirondacks and Tug Hill Plateau.

Noteworthy for this spring was the lateness of many migrants, and when migration did start the rapidity with which many species moved through the Region.

Abbreviations: ED—El Dorado; PP—Point Peninsula; PIP—Pillar Point; PRWMA—Perch River Wildlife Management Area; TP—Thompson Park; WGS—Whetstone Gulf State Park; WI—Wellsley Island.

Observers: AL—Azel LaFave; LC—Lee Chamberlaine; FC—Frank Clinch; RW—Robert and June Walker.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: May 10, PIP; 3 in summer plumage, May 12, PP (RW); May 15, 12 to 14 at ED. Red-throated Loon: May 12, PP in winter plumage (RW). Cattle Egret: 1, May 10, PP. Canada Goose: 7000 Henderson Pond, April 28, (LC). Snow Goose: 1, April 23, with 2000 Canada Geese, Henderson area. Gadwall: 4, May 17, PRWMA (RW). Pintail: April 28. Shoveler: April 28, 10 at Henderson Pond; 6, May 17, PRWMA. Greater Scaup: 2000–3000, April 13 in St. Lawrence River. White-winged Scoter: May 10, PP and PIP.

VULTURES—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: April 10. *GOSHAWK*: May 20, on nest, WI (RW). Broad-winged Hawk: May 8. Bald Eagle: 2 adults, May 15, ED, (RW). Osprey: May 17, PRWMA. Gray Partridge: 2, May 29. Turkey: 4, May 20, WI. Virginia Rail: 2, May 6, PRWMA. Upland Plover: 2, May 7. Ring-billed Gull: in much greater quantities than previous 3 years especially on farm lands. Caspian Tern: May 10, PP (RW). Black Tern: May 7, PRWMA, (FC). Yellow-billed Cuckoo: May 20, Dry Hill, (RW). Black-billed Cuckoo: May 20, Dry Hill. Snowy Owl: April 1, late, Henderson area, (LC).

GOATSUCKERS—SHRIKES: Common Nighthawk: May 18. Chimney Swift: May 8. Belted Kingfisher: April 3. Pileated Woodpecker: May 4, Oxbow. Red-headed Woodpecker: 1, May 10, PP (RW); several (up to 6) in Henderson area (LC). *BLACK-BACKED THREE-TOED WOODPECKER*: 1, female, May 16, Dry Hill, (RW). Least Flycatcher: May 13, (RW). Olive-sided Flycatcher: May 27, WGS, (RW). *COMMON RAVEN*: seen 1st week in May in Grass Lake, Lake of the Woods and also May 25 on Indian River in Village of Theresa; probably all the same individual, (AL). Red-breasted Nuthatch: May 7. Hermit Thrush: April 18, (FC). Swainson's Thrush: May 17, (FC). Eastern Bluebird: May 9, Redwood. Loggerhead Shrike: April 29.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Warbling Vireo: May 7. *GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER*: May 19, Dry Hill, (RW). *TENNESSEE WARBLER*: 4, May 20, (RW). *ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER*: May 14, Thompson Park, Watertown, (RW). Parula Warbler: 4, May 14. *CERULEAN WARBLER*: 8–10, May 20, Knowlesville Road, (RW). Bay-breasted Warbler: May 14.

FINCHES—SPARROWS: Evening Grosbeaks: numbers decreased during April; last seen May 16, (FC) (RW). *HOARY REDPOLL*: Female trapped and banded April 5; compared with Common Redpolls in trap (FC). Common Redpoll: large numbers at feeders in first half of April; last seen April 25. Pine Siskin: last seen May 16 at feeder with Goldfinches. *GRASSHOPPER SPARROW*: May 28, Brownville (RW). *CLAY-COLORED SPARROW*: seen singing May 27, WGS, (RW). Field Sparrow: one banded April 4, early, (FC). White-crowned Sparrow: May 3; last seen May 23.

Star Route, Adams, New York, 13605