

lfm 2 banded Sept 30 VFWM (CMPY). Swamp Sparrow: "scarcest in 8 years at VFWM" (CMPY). Snow Bunting: very scarce 1 Nov 18 T Res (HMBC).

Edgewood Dr. Averill Park, N.Y. 12018

REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

August and September were dryer than usual, but by the time October and especially November had passed, all records for the latter month had been broken. In the Ulster area, 11.08 in. were recorded in November. The temperature cooled as expected with killing frosts coming late in September.

Precipitation came largely on the weekends keeping many birders at home. For many watchers, however, the conclusion was largely an uneventful season. Some flights were poorer than expected. Hawks were down, and most passerines were lower than usual. Certain exceptions were encountered as the report will show. The increase of House Finches in the Poughkeepsie area has led some Waterman Bird Club people to suggest a study of competition between them and the House Sparrow which seems to be down in areas common to both.

Observers cited: RFD—Robert F. Deed; FG—Florence Germond; CFH—Charles F. Hills; WH—William Howe; AJ—Alice Jones; JK—Jerome Kerner; MJK—Mary & Jim Key; HM—Helen Manson; KDN—Ken & Dan Niven; JCO—John C. Orth; EP—Eleanor Pink; RP—Dr. Robert Pyle; WTS—William & Trixie Strauss; EDT—Edward D. Treacy; MVW—Marion VanWagner.

Abbreviations: mob—many observers; Dutch—Dutchess Co.; Oran—Orange Co.; Rock—Rockland Co.; Sull—Sullivan Co.; Ulst—Ulster Co.; West—Westchester Co.; WBC—Waterman Bird Club; Pok—Poughkeepsie.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: 1 Oct 17 L Tiorati; 3 Oct 21 Rondout Res; 3 Sept 24 Bedford; 2 Nov 23 Croton Pt; more than usual. Horned Grebe: more than usual; first Oct 8 Kiamesha L. Double-crested Cormorant: only 1 Nov 20 Croton Pt. (WH). Great Blue Heron: numbers good late Aug; tapered off to end of period. Little Blue Heron: only 1 Sept 11 Hackensack Cr at West Nyack (Dave Hill & Eric Single); Bob Deed reports this the second record in 10 yrs for what was once "the most common of the white herons in Rock." Snowy Egret: 13 Aug 17 Croton Pt, decreased to 3 Aug 25, remained till Sept 4 (WH). Black-crowned Night Heron: 1 Sept 1 Dutch (MJK). Yellow-crowned Night Heron: 1 Aug 10–16 Pok (MJK). Mute Swan: only report 2 ad and 4 imm at Iona Is; species refuses to spread northward into Oran. Canada Goose: excellent flight starting in late Aug and continuing to mid-Oct. Snow Goose: good movement; 250 Oct 25 Wawarsing (JCO); 300 Oct 28 Millbrook; 5000 Oct 30 Pok (AJ); 95 Nov 4 Verbank; 150 Nov 6 Pok; 1 Nov 26 Millbrook. Blue Goose: an unprecedented 50 Nov 6 Pok (AJ, MJK, MVW). Gadwall: rare, 1 Nov 25 Tarrytown Res (WH). Pintail: uncommon but regular; 3 Oct 18 Tamarack Sw; 1 Oct 25 Amenia (WTS). Green-winged Teal: 1 early date of Aug 23 Croton Pt (WH); normal to better fall movement. Blue-winged Teal: summers in small numbers; 5 Aug 23 Croton Pt (WH); max 44 Sept 16 Monticello (KDN). American Widgeon: good numbers on L Tiorati from mid-Nov to mid-Dec (JCO); reported most other parts in Nov. Shoveler: only 1 Oct 1 Rockland L. Wood Duck: down in Palisades Park but normal elsewhere; max 40 Oct 19 at Norrie Pt, Dutch (HM). Redhead: always rare; only report 3 Nov 1–6 Clove Valley, Dutch. Ring-necked Duck: 21 thru Nov in Dutch, all inland from Hudson R. Canvasback: numbers good on Hudson thru Nov; nothing like the thousands of a decade or two ago; ab 100 off Iona Is and Jones Pt and

another 100 off Dutch in the Hudson. Greater Scaup: ab 40 thru Nov on the Hudson off Dutch; 20 Nov 20 Croton Pt. Lesser Scaup: 3 Nov 10 Barrytown; 6 Nov 25 Tarrytown Res. Common Goldeneye: very few, all late Nov. Bufflehead: 18 Nov 5 Tarrytown Res; 35 Nov 23 same place; 6 Nov 13 Kiamesha L only 12 reported in Dutch thru Nov. Oldsquaw: 6 Oct 19 flying N up Hudson in Dutch (HM, AJ); 2 Nov 4 Pine Plains (EP, MVW); 1 Nov 10 Barrytown (MJK). White-winged Scoter: only a few; 5 Oct 19 were being hunted on Hudson off Dutch as observers watched (AJ, HM). Surf Scoter: 4 Oct 19 Kiamesha L. Common Scoter: rare, 6 reports from Oct 8-Nov 15; max 65 Oct 19 Kiamesha L (KDN). Ruddy Duck: only reports, all early Nov. Hooded Merganser: arr Oct 10 Rockland L; remained thru end of period. Common Merganser: first Oct 27 Hudson R off Dutch; numbers good on L Tiorati from mid-Nov to mid-Dec. Red-breasted Merganser: only report 2 Nov 20 Croton Pt (WH).

HAWKS—OWLS:

	Hook Mt Hawk Watch 55 days Sept 4 – Oct 31 reported by E & L Mills		Mt Peter Hawk Watch 37 days Sept 4 – Oct 29 reported by R Rogers	
	Total	Max	Total	Max
Goshawk	30	4 Oct 19 & 20	4	3 Oct 10
Sharp-sh	1660	213 Sept 23	469	116 Oct 14
Cooper's	44	8 Sept 23	31	7 Oct 14
R-tailed	252	44 Oct 23	202	55 Oct 15
R-shouldered	48	9 Oct 16	9	4 Oct 15
B-winged	1127	500 Sept 15	7158	1547 Sept 16
Gold Eagle	2	1 imm Oct 18, ad Sept 28	1	1 Oct 9
Bald Eagle	1	1 ad Sept 10	2	1 Sept 17, Oct 13
Unident Eagle	1		1	
Marsh	102	17 Sept 15	33	5 Oct 14
Osprey	120	25 Sept 20	89	13 Sept 19
Peregrine	6		3	
Pigeon	7		4	2 Oct 15
	316	38 Sept 23	168	25 Oct 13
Unident.	58		66	
Total	3774		8241 inc 1 Rough-legged	

Turkey Vulture: usual good numbers; lingered late into Nov with 3 Nov 3 Standfordville; 1 Nov 6 Fishkill Plains. Goshawk: 1 Oct 21 Sackett L (KDN); 1 killed at Millbrook School in Oct when it flew into cage containing ducks; 1 Oct 31 Hunn's L (MK et al); 9 Nov 6 Hook Mt; 15 Nov 16 Hook Mt (Ed & Lana Mills). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 40 Sept 23 Mt Aspetong, Bedford; 16 Sept 24 same place (WH). Red-tailed Hawk: max 70 Oct 30 Dutchess Hill near Pok (WBC). Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 Aug 20 over Tappan Zee Bridge toll booths (RFD); WBC reports 3 in Oct and 3 in Nov. Broad-winged Hawk: 3 very late date of Oct 21 New Paltz (CFH). Rough-legged Hawk: more than usual; first Oct 5 & 6 in Dutch; usual widely scattered few thru end of period. Bald Eagle: 3 Oct 17 at Mongaup Res, Sull (KDN), will probably spend the winter; on Sept 10 Alan Heinsohn of Valley Cottage obs 4, (2 ad) over his boat on the Tappan Zee; only 1 bird reported from nearby Hook Mt that date. Marsh Hawk: usual scattered reports thru season. Peregrine Falcon: 1 Sept 4 Croton Pt (WH). Pigeon Hawk: 1 Oct 14 Wawarsing (JCO). Ruffed Grouse: particularly scarce about Mohonk L (Dan Smiley); would appear

down elsewhere as well. Pheasant: 3 Ring-necked with 1 Green in Oct near Tamarack, Dutch. *CHUKAR*: 2 thru Nov at the feeder of Dr. and Mrs James Walton, Middletown (mob); WBC reports 1 Oct 1 and another Oct 27; 9-10 were reported in Nov in Dutch. *STANLEY'S CRANE*: the bird in last report remained a week and left by mid-Sept. Coot; 60 Oct 17 Neversink Res (JK). Semipalmated Plover: first Aug 15 Croton Pt; inc to 3 by Aug 21; 2 Sept 2-11 Fallkill Pk L; 3 Oct 1 Red Oaks Mill. Solitary Sandpiper: only reports 3 Aug 21-25 Croton Pt. Greater Yellowlegs: a few more than usual; last Nov 6 near Middletown. Lesser Yellowlegs: a few more than usual; last Nov 6 near Middletown. Lesser Yellowlegs: very few; last Oct 21 Cruger's Is. Pectoral Sandpiper: first Sept 22 Rondout Res; last 8 Oct 20-21 Beaver Dam, Dutch. White-rumped Sandpiper: 2 Oct 20 Kiamasha L (KDN); 1 Oct 20-27 Beaver Dam, Dutch; second record for Dutch; last report 1925. *BAIRD'S SANDPIPER*: obs almost daily thru Sept at Fallkill, Dutch (AJ). Dunlin: 1 Oct 20-27 Beaver Dam, Dutch (mob); 6 Oct 28 Kiamasha L (KDN). Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 100 Aug 23 Croton Pt; 1 still there Nov 4 (WH). *BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER*: 1 Oct 1-11 Fallkill (AJ, mob), first record for Dutch. Bonaparte's Gull: first Sept 6 Cornwall Bay; 3 same place Sept 9 (EDT); 1 Oct 9 Swan L, Sull (KDN); 1 Oct 29 Ashokan Res (RP). Black Tern: only report 1 Sept 2 Mud Pd, Dutch (KG, EP). Mourning Dove: continues plentiful. *MONK PARAKEET*: 1 Jun-end of period at Middletown, obs feeding on pears (John Tramon-tano). Black-billed Cuckoo: only report 1 Sept 2 Thompson Pd, Dutch. Great Horned Owl: usual reports from Dutch and Oran; 1 Nov 23 Croton Pt. Barred Owl: 1 Aug 18 Claryville, Sull; 2 Sept reports from Dutch. Longeared Owl: heard night of Nov 12 near Kripplebush (Fred Hough).

GOATSUCKERS-STARLING: Common Nighthawk: less than usual; only 4 small flocks noted in mig from last week of Aug thru first week of Sept. Chimney Swift: last 2 Oct 16 Dutch. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 6 Sept 15 at Clinton Corners, Dutch (Homer Germond); last Oct 12 Rondout Res (JK). Red-bellied Woodpecker: several persist now for several years at Ridgebury, Oran; 1 Nov 3 Clove Valley; at least 8 birds reported from Dutch from Oct thru Nov. Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 Sept 22 Palisades Park near Bear Mt.; 1 Nov 19 Millbrook. Sapsucker: very few; last Nov 22-23 Tarrytown Res. Phoebe: last Nov 1 Wawarsing (JCO). Empidonax Flycatchers: excellent movement into Oct; sev species mentioned by observers but no identifying features to substantiate. Wood Pewee: reg thru Sept in Dutch; last Oct 8 Stormville. Olive-sided Flycatcher: very few; 1 Aug 31 Green Haven; 1 Sept 5 Mine Rd USMA. Horned Lark: good numbers late Oct in Dutch; max 37 Nov 4 Croton Pt. Tree Swallow: heavy movement south Aug 26; 500 Sept 23 Pine Plains. Cliff Swallow: good numbers Aug 25-27 at Wawarsing (JCO). Common Crow: at least 2000 at Hudson R State Hospital by end of Oct. Fish Crow: obs thru Sept at Vassar Coll and Hudson R State Hosp; another Sept 30 at New Paltz. *BOREAL CHICKADEE*: only report 1 Oct 28 Anthony's Nose (Sam Yeaton). Red-breasted Nuthatch: more than usual esp in Dutch where they were they appeared to outnumber White-breasteds by 3:2. Winter Wren; better than usual. Carolina Wren: numbers coming back; widely scattered reports. Mockingbird: continues to increase. Catbird: last Nov 24 Gedney Brook Sanct. Brown Thrasher: last Nov 20 Tarrytown Res. Robin: very large flocks thru mid Oct in Dutch. Hermit Thrush: more Oct reports than usual. Swainson's Thrush: 1 Oct 1; 2 Oct 2; 1 Oct 9 (JMK). Gray-cheeked Thrush: 1 very early bird Aug 21 Red Oaks Mill (JMK); 1 Sept 13-14 same place (JMK). Bluebird: good fall movement in mid-Oct everywhere except Ulst WBC; Bluebird nesting project had 18 successful nesting out of 42 started, 70 young were realized. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: max 30 Oct 19 Suffern. Pipit: no large flocks reported but found in usual locations in mid-Oct. Cedar Waxwing: excellent numbers thru season; many flocks of considerable size. Northern Shrike: 1 Oct 31 Ponderosa, Dutch (MVW et al).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: unusually late with first 3 Sept 28. Philadelphia Vireo: 3 Dutch reports, last Sept 10. Warbling Vireo: resident in Nyack started singing Aug 28 after almost 3 month of silence (RFD). Warblers: numbers not spectacular but several early dates were recorded in the Pok area by MJK. They are: Tennessee: Aug 22,30. Magnolia: Aug 22,23. Cape May: Aug 21. Black-throated Blue: Aug 23,29,31. Blackburnian: Aug 20,30. Bay-breasted: Aug 21,27, 29. Blackpoll: Aug 25. Pine: Aug 14–19. Wilson's: Aug 27,30. Canada: Aug 24, 25,27,29. Tennessee: 1 very late date of Nov 22 Millbrook (MVW). Chat: 1 Nov 12 Pine Plains (Thelma Haight). *YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER*: 1 Sept 30 Pok (AJ). Mourning Warbler: 3 Sept reports in Dutch; 1 Sept 7–8; 1 Sept 13; 1 Sept 20. Connecticut Warbler: 1 Sept 19 Basherkill (EDT); another Sept 22 Red Oaks Mill (MJK). Pine Warbler: 2 Sept 23–25 in Dutch.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: usual large flocks and dates for Redwings, Grackles and Rusty Blackbirds, the latter was esp numerous in mid-Oct. Indigo Bunting: 2 ad, 1 imm Sept 5 Mine Rd USMA (EDT). *DICKCISSEL*: 1 Oct 27 Amenia (JMK); another possibly the same bird Oct 28–30 (WTS). Evening Grosbeak reported from all parts by end of Oct; first Millbrook Oct 10; very heavy movement from Oct 18 on; max 590 Oct 28 Dutchess Hill near Pok. Purple Finch: better than in recent years; WBC reports some areas where there are twice as many as House Finches. The latter continues to increase. Pine Grosbeak: 8 Oct 30 near Pok (JMK); good numbers most areas by end of period. Pine Siskin: 15 Oct 21 near New Paltz (CFH); Nov brought more scattered reports. Goldfinch: usual numbers. Red Crossbill: 85 Oct 21 New Paltz; 10 Oct 26 over Millbrook School; 10 Oct 28 Dutchess Hill near Pok; 30 Oct 27 Millbrook; 13 Nov 5 Tarrytown Res; more than 70 Nov 20 Pocantico Res, Briarcliff (WH). White-winged Crossbill: 10 Oct 21 New Paltz (CFH). Slate-colored Junco: first 1 Sept 9 killed on Rt 218 Storm King Mt (EDT); normal thru Oct. Tree Sparrow: first Oct 27 Dutch. Chipping Sparrow: remain in good numbers thru Oct in Dutch; last Oct 22 (MVW). White-crowned Sparrow: 6 reports, all mid to late Oct. Lincoln's Sparrow: first Sept 16; 1 Oct 2; 2 Oct 4 all Dutch; 1 Oct 21 on Cruger's Is sang 3 times (CFH). Snow Bunting: 1 Oct 30 Dutchess Hill (AJ); 8 Nov 2 Kiamesha L (KDN); a small flock near New Paltz Nov 22 (RP); 30 Nov 18 Freedom Plains, Dutch.

Winter Reports due no later than Apr 5

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, N.Y. 10928

REGION 10 — MARINE

THOMAS H. DAVIS and LEE MORGAN

Cox's Ledge, a marine formation lying 40 miles ESE of Montauk Point, remains the prime focus of local birders intent on finding pelagics. To date, 10 trips have yielded a total of 61 species, many of these being wind-drifted migrants. This fall, groups of birders visited the ledge on August 19 and September 23. The "early" trip on August 19 recorded a meager 12 species: 1 Common Loon, 12 Greater Shearwaters, 4 Cory's Shearwaters, 500+ Wilson's Petrels, 1 Whimbrel, 4 Sanderling, 1 Northern Phalarope, 1 Pomarine Jaeger, 8 Great Black-backed Gulls, 85 Herring Gulls, 4 Common Terns and a Black Tern (PB, TD et al). One of the petrels was an aberrant, showing an all white rump and tail from above, and a clearly demarcated white breast and belly—a strange bird, but almost certainly a Wilson's by its size and manner of flight.

Falling temperatures and northwest winds preceding the "late" trip on September 23 contributed to an astounding total of 35 species recorded at sea: 115 Greater