

Vassar Hosp and as many as 8 along Hudson in Dutch; 4 thru late May at Croton Pt; 1 Cornwall May 11. Red-breasted Nuthatch: better than usual, persisted thru southern parts thru end of May. House Wren: 1 Apr 19 was early. Long-billed Marsh Wren: numerous at Croton Pt with 12 singing on May 28. Mockingbird: an unusual 65 on WCC, which avg 20. Wood Thrush: first Apr 25, Monticello normal numbers. Swainson's Thrush: only 6 on WCC, numbers seem normal elsewhere. Gray-cheeked Thrush: 1 May 10 Bashakill. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: numbers normal, one late singing bird May 30 at Weyants Pd. Cedar Waxwing: numbers good in sporadic flocks.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: Most dates and numbers were normal. Only exceptions are listed here. White-eyed Vireo: only report 1 May 25 Amenia (WTS). Solitary Vireo: very few, most 3rd week of Apr, first Apr 23. Philadelphia Vireo: only 3 reports, first May 12 Grahamsville; another May 21 near Poughkeepsie, a third May 25 Bashakill. Golden-winged Warbler: 20 on WCC. Blue-winged Warbler: 90 on WCC, 2 early date of Apr 15 at L Sebago. Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler: 1 late date of May 27 Westmorland Sanct. Cerulean Warbler: at usual nesting locations but in very poor numbers. Blackburnian Warbler: only 4 on WCC, normal elsewhere. **PINE WARBLER:** 3 MCC near Highland Res, Middletown, unconfirmed report in same location and time last year, nesting should be investigated (J. Tramontano, J. Tripp). Prairie Warbler: 45 on WCC is unusually high. Northern Waterthrush: first Apr 25, 2 Tamarack Sw. Louisiana Waterthrush: 1 Apr 15 Pond Gut. Mourning Warbler: 1 May 20 Bashakill; 1 singing from 6:00 a.m. — 6:45 a.m. May 22 along Wappingers Cr, Pleasant Valley (EP). Wilson's Warbler: normal thru most of region except Dutch where only reports were 8 on WCC.

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: excellent numbers thru region. Orchard Oriole: usual few. Cardinal: 90 on WCC where avg is usually 50. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 150 on WCC, avg usually 80. Indigo Bunting: generally late and few. Dickcissel: one of last report remained at Chester thru mid-Apr. Evening Grosbeak: good numbers well into May, last May 21. Pine Grosbeak: unusual flock of about 25 at L Mohonk May 10 (a very late date). Red Crossbill: scattered reports thru most of region; small flocks of 2 or 3 except in Middletown where J. Tramontano had about 12-15 at his feeder (thistle seed) thru much of Apr to mid-May. Grasshopper Sparrow: 2 unusually early date of May 2 in Dutch (AJ). Tree Sparrow: 1 May 7 East Park (Tom Gilbert); 4 on WCC, 3 Cary Arboretum (Forest Romero) and another same date and location (W,TS), second time on that count, last in 1963. White-throated Sparrow: good numbers, last migrant May 30 Weyants Pd, singing. Fox Sparrow: unusually scarce, unreported from most areas; 1 very late date of May 13 Castle Pt. (Forest and Aline Romero). Lincoln Sparrow: only reports 1 Apr 15 Bashakill (A,BM) and another Apr 29 at feeder in Poughkeepsie (Otis Waterman); another month of Apr at Amenia (W,TS).

Summer reports due Sept 1

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, N.Y. 10928

REGION 10 — MARINE

THOMAS H. DAVIS and LEE MORGAN

Spring Pelagic Trips

It would be an understatement to say that there has been an upsurge of interest in pelagic birding these past few years. Jaded landlubbing birders have taken drama-mine to search for new avifaunal thrills exploring the oceanic unknown. This spring

groups of birders paid \$20 apiece to suffer through 24 hours by boat to Hudson Canyon and back. This area is located approximately 80 miles east of Barnegat Inlet, New Jersey. It lies along the 100 fathom line, the edge of the Continental Shelf. Several commercial sport fishing boats visit the area on a weekly basis, lured by large catches of Tilefish that inhabit the narrow continental slope zone. What attracts the birders is quite obvious from the reports below. In addition, the earliest visit ever was made to Cox's Ledge, 40 miles ESE of Montauk Point. The list of still another pelagic trip taken off Jones Beach stands in startling testimony to the more constant productiveness of the other areas.

Cox's Ledge, May .6: 2 Common Loons, 19 Sooty Shearwaters, 60 Wilson's Petrels, 4 Gannets, 4 Black-bellied Plovers, 50 Red and 70 Northern Phalaropes, 10 Great Black-backed Gulls and 20 Common Terns (JA, TD, PL, RS, B. HINÉS, R. Ferren, G. Rose, K. Kelley et al).

Hudson Canyon, May 27: 50 Sooty and 175 Greater Shearwaters, 17 Leach's and 2000+ Wilson's Petrels, 1 Gannet, 75 Red and 10 Northern Phalaropes, 18 Pomarine and 4 Parasitic Jaegers, 2 unidentified paegers, 3 Herring Gulls, 7 unidentified terns, 1 Barn Swallow, 1 unidentified thrush and 1 Canada Warbler (Urner Ornith. Club, R. Kane, B. Smith, A. Keith et al).

20-25 miles off Jones Beach, June 10: 1 Sooty and 1 Greater Shearwater, and 100+ Wilson's Petrels (H. Wellander et al).

Hudson Canyon, June 17: 8 Sooty and 844 Greater Shearwaters, 166 unidentified shearwaters 2 Leachs' and 1382 Wilson's Petrels and 1 Parasitic Jaeger (Bob Smith et al).

The more notable rarities included in this report are Purple Gallinule, Black-necked Stilt, 2 Chuck-Will's-widows, 2 Swainson's Warblers and Boat-tailed Grackle. New arrival dates were recorded for Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Acadian Flycatcher, Yellow-throated Vireo, Cape May Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Hooded Warbler and Indigo Bunting.

Observers Frequently Cited: JA—Jim Ash; WB—Wilma Baumann; PB—Paul Buckley; TD—Thomas Davis; DF—Darrel Ford; RG—Robert Giffen; HH—Helen Hirschbein; PL—Paul Lehman; EL—Emmanuel Levine; RP—Roger Pasquier; DP—Dennis Puleston; LS—Lore Schore; RS—Robert Smart; CW—Cornelius Ward.

Abbreviations: JBWR—Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge; FIL—Fire Island Light.

LOONS—DUCKS: Cattle Egret: 2 May 20 Central Pk (D. Edwards, K. Berlin)—first Park record. Canada Goose: "a very large population on Gardiner's Island, at least 300 nesting pairs estimated." (DP). Gadwall: "this is now the commonest breeding duck on Gardiner's Island, I estimate close to 100 pairs." (DP). Canvasback: May 27 Mecox Bay (TD, RS, PL)—very late, summering? Harlequin Duck: male, Apr 20 Jones Inlet (PB)—very late.

HAWKS—OWLS: Osprey: "this bird is still having much lack of reproductive success. On the mainland very few viable nests. On Gardiner's Island, 33 active nests this year, but some chick and egg disappearance already. I will have a better idea of the number of fledged young by early July, but it does not look promising at this juncture, although there should be more than the disarously low total of 5 young from 34 active nests last year. I believe much of the chick mortality last year resulted from Hurricane Agnes." (DP). American Kestrel: in urban Manhattan a pair nested near Wooster and Houston Streets. (S. Drennan), in suburban Queens a pair nested atop an apartment house at 85th Road and 96th street. (TD), and on Suffolk County's barrier beach a pair nested at Fire Island Lighthouse (DF).

Black Rail: 2 or 3 birds were heard calling at 2200 on May 12 at Oak Beach marsh (TD, RS, PL, D. Finch). PURPLE GALLINULE: May 17 Cranberry Bog Nature Preserve, Riverhead (Eric Salzman). BLACK-NECKED STILT: Apr 20-25

JBWR (mob) — one or more reported on Long Island last year . . . we'll wait till next year before jumping to conclusions. Wilson's Phalarope: female, May 14 Dongan Hills, Staten Island (J. Tobin). Royal Tern: 2 May 28 JBWR (JA) — very early, seen following a storm. Mourning Dove: nest with one egg, Mar 13, Commack (RG) — very early; earlier local egg dates in recent years are probably a natural response to increase population pressures. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Apr 11 Commack (RG) — earliest Regional record.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW: May 11–16 FIL (DF et al) — banded and photographed; injured bird found May 21 at Kennedy International Airport (A. Moorhouse) — died, specimen to American Museum where sexed as a female, the 10th and 11th State records respectively. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Apr 21 Greenwood Cemetery (fide TD) — very early. Great Crested Flycatcher: Apr 21 Hempstead Lake State Pk (EL) — extremely early. Acadian Flycatcher: singing bird May 4 Tackapausha Preserve (D. Lowe) — earliest Regional record.

VIREOS — WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: 2 Apr 19 Hempstead Lake State Pk (EL) — earliest Regional record. Solitary Vireo: banded May 30 FIL (PB) — extremely late.

Prothonotary Warbler: 18 reports Apr 9 — June 2; early reports included 1 at Alley Pond Pk Apr 9–11 (WP, LS), 1 found dead at Lloyd Neck Apr 11 (A. McKay), and 1 at Mill Neck on Apr 15 (A. Bell); 12 birds were noted Apr 24 — May 4; late migrants were seen at Forest Pk on May 27 (JA), and at Belmont Lake State Pk on June 2 (R. Plunkett); this season's total more than doubles the previous high of 8 Prothonotaries in the spring of 1970. SWAINSON'S WARBLER: May 11 Central Pk (Hugh McGuiness, Peter Polshak, D. Finch, J. Bull, R. Arbib, TD et al); another, banded, May 20 Tobay Sanctuary (A. Lauro) — photographed by PB. More complete details of these 3rd and 4th State records will hopefully be forthcoming.

Worm-eating Warbler: Apr 15–21 Lawrence (HH, CW) — very early. "Lawrence's Warbler": May 3 — through period, Yaphank (DP et al) — "on territory, presumably the same bird as present here last spring." Orange-crowned Warbler: banded May 2–4 FIL (R. Paxton et al); May 12 Central Pk (RP et al) — a very rare *spring* migrant. Cape May Warbler: Apr 22 Jones Beach State Pk (EL, A. Lauro) — earliest Regional record. Cerulean Warbler: "a singing male on territory during May in mature woodland at Yaphank" (DP) — this species is not known to breed on Long Island. Yellow-throated Warbler: May 8 Clark Sanctuary (LS) — only report. Bay-breasted Warbler: male Apr 29–30 Alley Pond Pk (WB, LS, J. Kane) — earliest Regional record. Northern Waterthrush: Apr 17 Hempstead Lake State Pk (EL) — very early. Kentucky Warbler: 3 reports . . . May 11–12 Alley Pond Pk (M. Gochfeld et al); May 12 JBWR (B. Spencer); May 19 Bronx Pk (E. Maguire). Hooded Warbler: male Apr 5 JBWR (S. Elliot) — earliest Regional record.

BLACKBIRDS — SPARROWS: Boat-tailed Grackle: male, May 12 Gilgo Beach (F. Heath) — seen from a speeding car, the bird's silhouette caused the observer to stop, thinking it might be a magpie! Summer Tanager: 10 individuals reported . . . male Apr 15 Patchogue (J. A. Black); sub-adult male Apr 28 FIL (DF) — banded; male May 5 Elmont (R. Berlinger); female May 5 Alley Pond Pk (A. Bell, O. Dunning); May 6 College Pt (Kotch); May 8 Forest Pk (Latils); male May 19 Forest Pk (mob); sub-adult male Jun 2 Belmont Lake State Pk (P. Post, TD et al) — extremely late.

Blue Grosbeak: 5 individuals reported . . . male Apr 15–21 JBWR (mob); male Apr 18 Gilgo Beach (R. Paxton); female Apr 29 FIL (DF) — banded; female May 13 Mamaroneck (R. Arbib et al); female May 19 Alley Pond Pk (mob). Indigo Bunting: male Apr 10–12 Brightwaters (B. Wollcoff, F. File, J. Smith) — at feeder, ties earliest Regional record. Dickcissel: singing male May 27 Ft Hamilton, Bklyn (Mrs. Orpen); May 30 FIL (PB) — Dickcissels were unreported as spring migrants

prior to 1962, including the above reports, there are now 9 spring records scattered through the month of May to as late as the 30th. White-throated Sparrow: max 2000 May 1 Jones – Captree (EL) – highest Regional count.

Note; Please send fall reports by Dec 8.

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WINTER REPORTS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR MAY ISSUE

REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

This had to be one of the mildest winters on record. Snowfall was far below normal with less than two inches reported from most areas in Dec., and no really big storms after that. What Dec. lacked in snow it made up for in rain; more than twice the normal. Temperatures were moderate and rarely approached the zero mark anywhere in the region. The Hudson R. froze late, and was free of ice by the first week of March.

The lack of ice and snow cover failed to concentrate many species, giving one the impression of lower numbers. A mild autumn and early winter made many of our migrants linger longer than usual and unprecedented numbers of some species remained through the season: eg. Ring-necked Duck, Green-winged Teal, Vulture, Virginia Rail, Woodcock, Sapsucker, Fish Crow, Mimids, Myrtle Warbler, Towhee.

Northern finches varied strangely. Evening and Pine Grosbeaks were in excellent numbers early, and good thru the rest of the season. Only 1 or 2 Redpolls were reported and they are doubtful. Few White-winged Crossbills were reported but a good number of Red were scattered thru theregion. Pine Siskin were reported good in some areas, but absent for the season in others. Shrikes put on the best show yet with unprecedented numbers of both species. Usually one or two are considered good.

Corrigendum: *Kingbird* XXIII, No. 1, Jan. 1973, Region report p. 65 "Snow Goose: . . . 5000 Oct 30 Pok (AJ)" should read "...550 Oct 30 Pok (AJ)".

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.

Observers cited: DF-Davis Finch; WH-William Howe; AJ-Alice Jones; JMK-Jim and Mary Key; HM-Helen Manson; A,BM-Al and Barbara Merritt; JCO-John C. Orth; B,TS-Bill and Trixie Strauss; JT-Dr. John Tramontano; MVW-Marion Van-Wagner; OW-Otis Waterman.

LOONS-DUCKS: Loon: None reported. Horned Grebe: 2 Dec 6 near Verbank, Dutch were very late. No spring migrants reported thru end of period. Pied-billed Grebe: Good numbers thru Jan. 5 Rock L. Jan 1; 3 Katonah Jan 24. *DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT*: 1 Hudson R. (PCC), no details. Great Blue Heron: RCC for 4th time in 26 counts; 10 returned Tamarack Swamp by Mar 24; earliest