

-4 May 6 WLS (ROH); 6 May 27 BB (MOB). *WILLET*: 1 May 20 BB (JT et al). Greater Yellowlegs: 23 May 29 WLS (GOS). Dunlin: 1 April 17 WLS (K. Doris, M. Magee, D. Wilton) this is slightly early for our area. *MARBLED GODWIT*: 1 May 17-19 WLS (J&TM et al). *HUDSONIAN GODWIT*: 1 May 20 BB (JCL.TT). *WILSON'S PHALAROPE*: 1 May 6 WLS (MG); 2 May 20 Carlton (WCL et al). Glaucous Gull: 1 April 22 BB (GOS); 1 May 6 DEP (MT&TT); 1 May 15 DEP (PD). Iceland Gull: 1 May 13 DEP (PD). Common and Caspian Terns were in low numbers throughout the period, while Black Terns were present in very good numbers. The not too often found nest of a Long-eared Owl was discovered in Greece April 7 (NM, ME, DT) - by mid May it was deserted and presumably unsuccessful. Saw-whet Owl: 1 April 7 Greece (NM, ME, DT); 1 May 9 BB (MC, F. Berbig).

GOATSUCKERS - STARLINGS: Whip-poor-will was scarce as a migrant and Common Nighthawk still seems low in numbers - loss of habitat due to urban renewal could be the reason. All resident woodpeckers reported in good numbers. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 May 27 WLS (WL, MAS); 1 May 27 WEB (WL, MAS); 1 May 30 Pittsford (GM). *BOREAL CHICKADEE*: 2 April 21 BB (MT); 1 April 22 BB (GOS); 1 May 2 WP (MT.TT). Carolina Wren: the pair that spent the winter in Rochester were successful in their nesting attempt and were repored to have been feeding in mid May (F. Myers).

VIREOS - WARBLERS: *WHITE-EYED VIREO*: 1 April 26 BB (JCL, H. Steinhauser); 1 May 11-13 DEP (K. Doris, D. Wilton et al). *WORM-EATING WARBLER*: 1 May 12 Irondequoit (NM, ME, DT) this infrequent warbler was last reported from our area in Sept 1969. *YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER*: 1 May 2 BB (GM) last reported in April 1958. Pine Warbler: 1 May 22 Powder Mill Park (K. Doris, A. Stear) this is a very late report and apparently not a possible nesting bird as it has been unreported since. *PRAIRIE WARBLER*: 1 May 13 Greece (J&JC). *CONNECTICUT WARBLER*: 1 May 11 Fairport (F. Phelps).

BLACKBIRDS - SPARROWS: The Western Meadowlark present for several years has been unreported this season. *YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD*: 1 May 16 WEB (Carol Czech et al), this first year breeding male was obliging enough to get caught in a duck pen where it was observed by several people before escaping some five hours later. *ORCHARD ORIOLE*: 2 May 12-31 Carlton (WL), this is the second year the birds were observed nesting in the area.. Rusty Blackbird: reported from several areas in good numbers - max 200 May 2 Scottsville (NM). *SUMMER TANAGER*: 1 May 22 BB (GOS) first report since May 1947. Evening Grosbeak: reported in good numbers throughout period - we had a total of 35 reports with a max of 175 May 2 DEP (J&TM). Purple Finch also are being reported in good numbers. *HOUSE FINCH*: 1 May 11 Penfield (F. Munson); 1 May 13, 15 Fairport (F. Phelps); 1 May 24, 25 WEB (A&B Kemnitzer). Pine Siskin and Red Crossbill were also reported throughout the period, 14 and 8 reports respectively.

545 Macedon Center Road, Fairport, New York 14450

REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

DOROTHY W. McILROY

April temperature averaged 1 or 2 degrees warmer than normal, rainfall was somewhat above normal. Cool and wet weather in the first half, with snow on the 10th. was balanced by an unusually warm, dry, sunny period around Easter,

April 22, with a high of 80 degrees. One expected birds to arrive early, but they didn't. May averaged 3 to 4 degrees below normal, with much cloudy weather and frequent light rains, although total rainfall was slightly below normal. On May 17 the latest measurable snowfall ever recorded left 1 to 3 inches in the Finger Lakes. Temperatures were low enough so that in some areas snow stayed on the ground for a couple of days.

Migration of geese and ducks was early, peak goose population occurring in March instead of April, and most migrant geese and ducks had left before the end of April. Duck numbers were low. High water in most areas left little habitat for shorebirds. The exception was Montezuma Refuge, where the Main Pool was drained replacing duck habitat with shorebird mud flats. Many of the remaining puddles were so far out that identification, especially of "peeps", was often impossible except right after rain when here were temporary puddles near the dike. Small landbird migration tended to be late showing up in numbers. Most warbler species were 4 days to a week or more late.

Unusual sightings were 2 Ruffs and an Avocet at MNWR, Little Gull and Black-billed Magpie (an escape?). A Long-eared Owl nested near Ithaca.

Contributors and area compilers: WEB—Walter Benning; JB—Jack Brubaker, Watkins; NC—Noel Cutright; Frank Guthrie, Keuka; Robert Gustafson, Wildlife Biologist at MNWR, all MNWR records not otherwise attributed are from his Refuge report; WH—Wilfred Howard; MJ—Maj. Morgan Jones; DK—Doug Kibbe; DM—Dorothy McIlroy; DP—David Peakall; JT—James Tate; JW—Jayson Walker; MW—Mary Welles, Elmira.

Abbreviations: Cay—Cayuga; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; Sen L—Seneca Lake; THS—Texas Hollow Sanctuary, Schuyler County.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: 6 Apr 5 Lamoka L (JB); max 38 May 7 and May 17 Cay L (Dr. VanDyke). Red-necked Grebe: adult in full breeding plumage May 13 Cay L. Horned Grebe: large rafts, one of 80 birds, Apr 7 Cay L (NC); last - May 19 Sen L (MJ). Double-breasted Cormorant: only report Apr 25 Stewart Pk Ithaca. Great Blue Heron: max 33 May 15 MNWR. Green Heron: first 2 Apr 4 MNWR. Cattle Egret: 1 May 12 near Catherine (B. Strath). Great Egret: 1 May 5 MNWR. Black-crowned Night Heron: first Apr 19 MNWR, max 30 there May 30; none Elmira area again this year. GLOSSY IBIS: May 7-14 MNWR, max 7 May 13 (mob); 8 Apr 28 flying over Yatesville (M. Lerch et al), first Yates County record, 3 Apr 29 feeding near there.

Apr peak for geese at MNWR, Apr 12—Canada 37,000, Snow 900, Blue 1200, all below Mar peaks. Brant: 2 Apr 10 Seneca Army Depot (T. Mort fide MJ). Peak duck numbers MNWR compared with recent years: Mallard 240 Apr 4 usually 1000-1500), Black 230 Apr 4 (Mar peak 300, previous low 500 in '71), Shoveler 120 Apr 4 (previous low 280 in '70). Most Pintails had left before Apr 1. In contrast, Galwall 600 Apr 23 was highest ever and Green-winged Teal 1200 Apr 4 was about double usual number. European Wigeon: 1 Apr 30 MNWR. Almost no Redheads and Canvasbacks were at MNWR during Apr and May. No Canvasbacks were reported at Elmira this spring. Ring-necked Duck: present on many small ponds Cay Basin early Apr, max MNWR 100 Apr 4; in Elmira only 2 sightings during entire spring migration in contrast to past 2 years when many were reported. Oldsquaw: max 42 Apr 26 Sen L (MJ). White-winged Scoter: male Apr 10 Cay L (NC,DK); 1 May 4-6 Elmira (WH). Surf Scoter: 35 Apr 10 Cay L (NC,DK).

HAWKS-OWLS: Turkey Vulture: first 3 Apr 5 Ithaca (P. Allan); more than usual reports Watkins area. Goshawk: mid Apr near Ithaca; adult Apr 12 THS (JB); 1 Apr 23 Harris Hill Elmira (WH). Sharp-shinned Hawk: reported regularly in Ithaca in Apr; only 1 report Elmira. Cooper's Hawk: 1 seen regularly Ithaca; active nest near THS (JB); 2 reports Elmira. Red-shouldered Hawk: none Elmira until June; reported Sapsucker Woods- airport area Ithaca and Connecticut Hill. Broad-winged Hawk: reported in Watkins area at Burnt Hill, Texas Hollow and Connecticut Hill after migration, all possible breeding areas (JB). Bald Eagle: seen irregularly MNWR; adult May 13 near Cayuta (JB); 1 May 12. Elmira. Osprey: fewer than last year Elmira; good migration Ithaca.

Virginia Rail: late at Elmira, not seen until May 12. Sora: first Apr 19 MNWR (M. Hughes); not seen near Elmira until May 12. Common Gallinule: very scarce at MNWR—result of poor nesting success last June—; late arr Elmira, May 12; "high population" in Montour-Watkins Marsh in May (JB). Coot: also scarce MNWR; only Elmira report 1 Apr 14.

Some of the shorebird records from MNWR, reported by WEB unless otherwise noted: Semipalmated Plover max 12 May 22; Golden Plover May 13 (NC,DK et al) and May 24; Black-bellied Plover max 45 May 22; Ruddy Turnstone 2 May 13 (NC et al), max 19 May 22; Solitary Sandpiper max 50 May 5 (MJ); Whimbrel 1 May 29; Red Knot 1 Apr 24, early (M. Shepherd, DM), max 74 May 21—"by far the largtst number I have never seen at MNWR"—WEB; Pectoral Sandpiper max 40 Apr 18 (NC); Least Sandpiper max 50 May 22; Dunlin max 440 May 22; Stilt Sandpiper 1 May 21; Semipalmated Sandpiper max 1500 May 29; *RUFF* imm male May 13 (NC,DK et al), male in full breeding plumage May 18; *AVOCET* May 21-24; Wilson's Phalarope May 22 (R. Chipley). There were few shorebird reports from elsewhere. Blackbellied Plover and Ruddy Turnstone: 1 each May 30 Horseheads (WH). Upland Sandpiper: first Apr 20 Dryden (DP); few and late Elmira where much of their nesting ground has been occupied by HUD trailers since the flood and where trailers have been removed, hayfields have been cut leaving little long grass habitat (MW). White-rumped Sandpiper: 2 May 31 Elmira (WH).

Bonaparte's Gull: max 170 Apr 10 Cay L (NC). *LITTLE GULL*: 2 adults May 13 Canoga Marsh Cay L. (J. Horne, DM et al); adult and imm May 22 MNWR (S. Sage, T. Dittrich). Black Tern: first Apr 1 Sheldrake (JT), very early; max 75 May 14 MNWR. Caspian Tern: only report 2 May 7 MNWR. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: first May 6 Ithaca; not reported Elmira until May 19; none Keuka. Black-billed Cuckoo: first May 12 Elmira, late; only 2 records Keuka; several Ithaca reports. *BARN OWL*: May 17 Waterloo (IW); May 19 near Geneva (M. Cain). Great Horned Owl: several nests Cay Basin; nest at Caton, one young fell out and was taken to Lab of Ornithology; nest with 2 or 3 young Sampson St Pk, Sen L (MJ). *LONG-EARED OWL*: nest at Ithaca, first in several years; May 19 Geneva area. Short-eared Owl: at least 1 at Watts Rd s of Waterloo until mid Apr.

GOATSUCKERS-STARLING: Whip-poor-will: 1 May 12 Catlin, Elmira's only record, formerly heard in 2 or 3 other places there; 1 May 28 Altay s of Dundee. Common Nighthawk: very scarce; first 2 May 13 Ithaca; only 1 record each Elmira and Penn Yan. Chimney Swift: general arrival in numbers Apr 22-27. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: very scarce. Red-headed Woodpecker: 2 Elmira reports; a number of Ithaca reports including 2 nesting reports; several locations Watkins area. Eastern Kingbird: first May 2 Elmira, about a week late; numbers seem to be low. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 2 May 6 Ringwood e of Ithaca, still there May 13 (G. & M. Shepherd), often missed. Alder Flycatcher: first May 6 near Ithaca (JT); none Elmira where formerly there were many. Willow Flycatcher: May 29 near Ithaca (P. P. Kellogg). Eastern Wood Pewee: very late

arr Keuka, not until May 30. Olive-sided Flycatcher: May 31 Michigan Hollow s of Ithaca: first Apr 16 Dryden; numbers low Cay Basin; fewer nesting birds at southern Sen L locations; only scattered pairs Sen L n. part.

BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE: 1 Apr 15 Dryden (Mrs. Stanley Fox, mob) stayed for several days-an escape? DK observed it from across the street with 30x scope, could see no sign of wear around base of bill or at ends of tail feathers as would be expected on an escape. Red-breasted Nuthatch: at Watkins, several at lower elevations than usual in late May, possibly nesting. Long-billed Marsh Wren: first May 7 MNWR (Fland, Small), very late. Short-billed Marsh Wren: May 13 Ithaca (JT). No marsh wren reports at Elmira. Gray Catbird: after one very early ar report in Ithaca, not seen in numbers until late Apr. Wood Thrush: somewhat late in arriving in numbers. Hermit Thrush: first Apr 14 Elmira, very late. Gray-cheeked Thrush: first May 8 Catlin; only other report May 19 near Geneva. Veery: another very late arrival, first May 9 Ithaca. Eastern Bluebird: good nesting reports Keuka. Golden-crowned Kinglet: present May 13 Burnt Hill near Watkins where it has recently been present all summer. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: good numbers early May. Loggerhead Shrike: 2 Apr reports Cay Basin the only ones.

VIREOS-WARBLERS: White-eyed Vireo: 1 May 12 Elmira; 1 May 19 Kendaia Creek near Sen L (MJ). Red-eyed Vireo: first May 11 Ithaca. late; good numbers after mid May. Philadelphia Vireo: one report, May 12 Elmira.

WARBLERS-Prothonotary Warbler: 1 May 12 near Keuka (M. Thompson, V. Whitaker) first record for that area, only one for Region. Worm-eating Warbler: 1 May 12 Elmira. Golden-winged Warbler: fewer than Blue-winged in Elmira, a reversal of former ratio; scarce Ithaca. Blue-winged Warbler: becoming common Keuka. Brewster's Warbler: first record in Keuka area May 16. Lawrence's Warbler: 1 May 12 Elmira. Parula Warbler: scarce and late. Cape May Warbler: good numbers, first May 13. Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler: fewer than usual Apr and early May. Cerulean Warbler: none Elmira; only 1 May 13 Cay Basin census at Camp Barton, present later at MNWR in good numbers and at Taughannock St. Pk. Bay-breasted Warbler: late, first May 13 Ithaca; none until May 19 Watkins. Blackpoll Warbler: good numbers last week of May. Pine Warbler: scarce and very late, not reported until May except for the only Watkins sighting Apr 7 (JB). Prairie Warbler: reported only from Elmira, first May 2. Louisiana Waterthrush: first Apr 20 Ithaca, 2 weeks late. Yellowthroat: several successfully wintered Watkins Marsh; one picked up in downtown Elmira May 22 in a comatose condition, with an enlarged tick on the breast protruding through the feathers, was dead next morning. Yellow-breasted Chat: first May 11 Ithaca; not reported until May 23 Elmira; has moved into brushy area near Tompkins Co airport where woods was cut a few years ago for runway approach. Wilson's Warbler: none in Elmira where they are usually fairly common; a number of Ithaca reports. Canada Warbler: none seen in Elmira area, apparently normal elsewhere.

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: more plentiful than usual in Keuka area. Orchard Oriole: pair present again near Keuka; Ithaca pair missing. Scarlet Tanager: late and scarce Keuka; late arr elsewhere, not until May 10. Evening Grosbeak: a few still present at end of May in Ithaca. **DICKCISSED:** male May 15-17 at feeders near Elmira. House Finch: juvenals sighted at two locations in Elmira area; pair in Ithaca; male singing near Watkins Glen Apr 22; first record Keuka area Apr 24. Pine Grosbeak: 2 early Apr reports. Pine Siskins: seen regularly, last May 27 W Danby. Red Crossbill: a few in Ithaca to end of period; they left other parts of the Region May 12-24. Grasshopper Sparrow: scarce nearly everywhere; not reported in Elmira until May 8, no

record Keuka area until June; several at Tompkins County airport and other reports in Ithaca area. Henslow's Sparrow: very scarce; only 1 location in Elmira area; none Keuka; a few Cay Basin. *HARRIS' SPARROW*: the one at Phipps feeder in Ithaca since Dec 12 was last seen May 14.

419 Triphammer Rd., Ithaca, N.Y. 14850

REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

LESLIE E. BEMONT

April averaged a little above normal temperature and precipitation. April 8 to 15 produced sub-freezing temperatures every night and 1 3-inch snowfall but the next week was well above normal in temperature. May was almost uniformly cold and wet. Nearly 2 inches of snow fell May 17-18.

Mrs. Margaret Bowman, reporting from East Branch in Delaware County, writes, "To say that the spring migration viewed from the ground was sparse this year is putting it mildly", and she provides comparative figures. During eighteen days in the field in May '73 she recorded 60 individuals of 14 migrant species of warblers, while 14 days of May '72 produced 211 individuals of the same species. The writer noted some of the highest chip counts during the evening were in the last week of May, so perhaps volume was recouped late when no one was watching.

One migrant species that was noticeably more common than usual was the Cape May Warbler. The non-migrant House Finch also continues to increase and Evening Grosbeaks, Pine Siskins and Red Crossbills lingered in appreciable numbers all through May. Another Goshawk nest and one, possibly two, more Prairie Warbler summer sites were encouraging.

Rarities, at least for the Susquehanna Region, included a Double-crested Cormorant, a small flock of Surf Scoters and a Kentucky Warbler. An Orange-crowned Warbler and a Pine Warbler may belong on that list, although one suspects they are more common in the Region than historical records indicate.

Abbreviations: Bing-Binghamton; WP-Whitney Point.

Observers initials: J,CB-Jeanette and Cutler Baldwin; LB-Les Bernant; MB-Margaret Bowman; LC-Mrs. Lynn Clark; GC-Gail Corderman; A,MD-Anna and Marilyn Davis; W,LD-Warren and Louise Dean; MD-Mary Dobinsky; CG-Claire Gottschall; SH-Shirley Hartman; EH Elva Hawken; CH-Claude Howard; D,ML-Dwight and Margaret Lynch; HM-Harriet Marsi; R,RP-Robert and Rite Pantle; MS-Mary Sheffield; EW-Elizabeth Washburn; DW-Don Weber; CW-Cora Wellman; R,SW-Ruth and Sally White; KW-Kathryn Wilson.

LOONS-DUCKS: Common Loon: 2 May 23 still at Crumhorn Lake, near Oneonta (CW, MD), eclipse plumage. Horned Grebe: Apr 6 Candor (DW); 2 Apr 22 WP (MS); only 2 reports between. Pied-billed Grebe: Apr 14 WP (MS), the last report. Double-crested Cormorant: May 13 WP (MS), seldom seen here. Great Blue Heron: Apr 21 Candor (R,RP) and Owego (J,CB), early. Black-crowned Night Heron: seen several times flying over Ingraham Hill, south of Bing, in mid May (CH). Green-winged Teal: 2 Apr 4 Oneonta (KW, et al), the only report. American Widgeon: Apr 17 Candor (DW), last date. Ring-necked Duck: 10 May 12 Portlandville, near Oneonta, (KW, MD), latest report by 3 weeks. Lesser Scaup: Apr 1 Owego (J,CB). Common Goldeneye: Apr 7 Owego (J,CB), latest. Bufflehead: 1 Apr 4 Oneonta (KW, et. al.); 3 Apr 12 Chenango Bridge (A,MD); 2 reports between. Oldsquaw: Apr 6 Owego (D,ML); 3 Apr 14 WP (MS). Surf Scoter: 4 May 13 WP (MS), 7 or more the next day