

season; unreported elsewhere. White-winged Crossbill: many reports from all areas of region, most of single or only a few. Rufous-sided Towhee: 1 Dec 29 near New Paltz. Savannah Sparrow: 3 Feb 6 Salt Point (MVW); 25 on RCC, all at Piermont Pier. White-crowned Sparrow: 2 at feeder of WTS in Amenia thru Jan; 3 on RCC at New City (James Bloor), 7th time on that count; 3 on MCC. Fox Sparrow: 1 Feb 23 Pleasant Valley; a very poor showing dur Mar for the second year in a row. Swamp Sparrow: 1 thru season at Stissing (TH). Snow Bunting: usual few winter birds; max 20-60 month of Jan in vic of Gretna Rd, Dutch.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, N.Y. 10928

FALL REPORT RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR JANUARY ISSUE

REGION 10 — MARINE

HUGH D. MCGUINNESS

September and the first half of October were mild in Region 10, as the weather was dominated by a series of slow, easterly-moving, high pressure systems. The accompanying light winds were almost invariably from the northwest, and often petered out leaving the region stagnant and unseasonably warm. Without chilly nights the fall migration began quietly, and early migrants seemed to trickle through our area. However, during the closing of October and the first three weeks of November the nights became cold, and the northwest winds howled at 20-40 mph. During these bitter days great throngs of wind-drifted migrants were seen along the coast with most spectacular flights of cowbirds, grackles, blackbirds, and finches.

Perhaps the most surprising flight of this period was that of the Red Crossbill. Crossbill incursions of the past have often been betrayed by exceptionally early arrivals. This year there were no early reports. Instead, hordes of Red Crossbills staged an abrupt and brief appearance. Arriving on Oct 27, they reached their peak on Nov 6, and — with the exception of a few small flocks — had moved through our area by Thanksgiving. Data pertaining to the numbers of crossbills in previous incursions is lacking, however; the 1900+ recorded on Nov 6 is a new maxima for the region, and indicates that the movement must be one of the most massive ever recorded.

Record numbers of Buff-breasted Sandpiper highlighted the early fall. On Aug 24, 25 were found on a farm field at Halsey Lane, Bridgehampton. Over the next two weeks the numbers diminished, and the birds disappeared. A larger flock of 55 to 75 birds was found a few miles to the east at Sagaponack on Sept 9 (entirely new flock? — ed.). Numbers slowly decreased, and 20 seen on Sept 22, was the last report received.

The potato beetle, *Lepitnotarsa decemlineata*, seems to have been the food source responsible for the lengthy stay of the Buff-breasts. Abundant in the potato fields, the beetles were uprooted from their plants during plowing, and remained plentiful for only a few days after the harvest. At Halsey Lane the field was plowed on the last two days of August, and within a week the Buff-breasts had disappeared. The fields at Sagaponack were never plowed, but both the birds and the beetles were gone by early October. The correlation between the insects and the birds is further evidenced, since the Buff-breasts were never seen in fields laying fallow or replanted with winter rye.

Other birds more common than usual this season were: Cattle Egret; Stilt Sandpiper; Wilson's Phalarope; Laughing Gull; Red-headed Woodpecker; Pine

Siskin; Purple Finch; and White-crowned Sparrow. Less common: Cooper's Hawk; Forester's Tern; Black Tern; Brown Creeper; Red-breasted Nuthatch; and Black-throated Green Warbler.

Rare birds included in this report are. Fulmar; Leach's Storm-Petrel; Golden Eagle; Avocet; Chuck-Will's-Widow; Scissor-tailed Flycatcher; Yellow-headed Blackbird; Clay-colored Sparrow; and Harris' Sparrow.

Abbreviations: CRSP—Connetquot River State Park; CP—Central Park; DPt—Democrat Point, F.I.; FIL—Fire Island Lighthouse; GB—Gilgo Beach; GGI—Great Gull Island; JB—Jones Beach; JBWR—Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge; MP—Montauk Point; OB—Oak Beach; RiP—Riis Park; TPS—Tobay Pond Sanctuary.

Observers frequently cited: JA—James Ash; WB—Wilma Baumann; JB—John Black PAB—Paul A. Buckley; THD—Thomas H. Davis; DWF—Davis W. Finch; DBF—Darrel B. Ford; RG—Robert Giffen; RH—Robert Hines; HH—Helen Hirschbein; MK—Michel Kleinbaum; AL—Anthony Lauro; LL—Legs Lehman; EL—Emmanuel Levine; HM—Hugh McGuinness; RP—Roger Pasquier; ROP—Robert O. Paxton; PP—Peter Polsek; DP—Dennis Puleston, GSR—Gilbert S. Raynor; GR—George Rose; LJS—Lore J. Schore; RWS—Robert W. Smart; BW—Berna Weissman; M(any) OB(servers).

PELAGIC TRIPS: Cox's Ledge, a marine formation lying 40 miles ESE of Montauk Point was visited five times this fall on: Aug 25 (H. Axtell, D. Edwards, J. Machado, et al); Sept 2 (THD, S. Keith, HM, RWS, J. Tucker); Sept 16 (THD, DWF, RWS, et al); Sept 22 (PA, RH); Oct 6 (THD, RH, HM, PP, et al).

Table 1 — Results of Cox's Ledge Trips.

	Aug 25	Sept 2	Sept 16	Sept 22	Oct 6
<i>FULMAR</i>			1		
Cory's Shearwater	100	35	35	1	9
Greater Shearwater	100		350	5	15
Manx	1			1	
Leach's Storm-petrel	2				
Wilson's Storm-petrel	230+	400	60	15	
Gannett				1	2
Red Phalarope		23		5	12
Northern Phalarope		15		1	22
Pomarine Jaeger	2	4	35	10	6
Parasitic Jaeger			14	6	
Uni. Jaeger			2	1	
Black-legged Kittiwake	1		1		

The *FULMAR*, a light phased individual, passed off the stern of the boat, coming as close as 75-100 yards. This was only the fourth record for Region 10. *LEACH'S STORM-PETREL* is always rare, and were the only reports for 1973. The Kittiwakes seen on Aug 25 and Sept 16 were the earliest regional records by 26 and 4 days respectively. The 51 Jaegers seen on Sept 16 in every conceivable plumage was a high count. With two reports, Manx Shearwater is proving to be a regular visitor at this location each fall.

LOONS—DUCKS: Red-necked Grebe: Nov 19 through period Sore Thumb THD, PP). Great Cormorant: Sep 21 JBWR (DWF); Sep 22 FIL (THD et al); (9 Sep 26 DPt (HM, ROP)-there was one Double-crested in the flock; all three reports are very early being rare before late Oct. Double-crested Cormorant: one imm through period at JBWR. Cattle Egret: "seen all summer at JBWR flying to

roost" (JA) - max 59 Sep 26 (HM, ROP); Great Egret through period at JBWR. Snowy Egret: through period at JBWR and JB. Little Blue Heron; max 35 Sep reports all white immatures. Glossy Ibis: through late Nov at JBWR.

Whistling Swan: 3 Nov 24 Hook Pond (LL, HM, BW); 7 Nov 24 RiP (GR); 11 Nov 25 Hook Pd (R. Viet). Snow Goose: blue phase; 40 Oct 6 Point-O-Woods Fire Island (S. Hopkins)-two flocks; 14 Oct 16 JB (LJS)-two flocks; both numbers excellent, the former being unprecedented. European Wigeon: Nov 25 Hook Pd (R. Viet). Canvasback: male Sep 17-19 JBWR (JA, HM, ROP); earliest record by 11 days. Oldsquaw: Oct 18 Fire Island (WB, LJS); early. Harlequin Duck: 3 Nov 3 MP (JA, RH); seasons only report. Common Eider: Sep 15-22 DPt (THD, AL et al)-bird summered at this location; arr. Oct 30 MP (JA, RH); also at MP 8 Nov 3; 300 Nov 24. King Eider: Sep 26 DPt (HM, ROP); previous early date Sep 30, however it is impossible to determine whether this bird was a migrant or a summer vagrant; Nov 11 through period Sore Thumb (THD, AL, PP)-possibly the Sep. bird; 3 Nov 17 MP (GSR); also MP 3 Nov 24; 4 Nov 25. Common Merganser: arr Nov 17 JBWR (HM); 2 Nov 22 through period JBWR (THD); uncommon on Long Island.

HAWKS-OWLS: Hawk flights in Region 10 generally occur along the barrier beaches during northwest winds. Lehman reports a similar phenomena, of hawks using the coastline to guide themselves southward, in Larchmont located on the northwestern side of Long Island Sound. Turkey Vulture: Sep 16 JB (AL)-very rare on Long Island; Nov 4&10 Larchmont (LL et al). Goshawk: A substantial number of reports from the coast reflected the high numbers recorded inland; for the second straight year, Goshawk, normally rare in fall, was reported throughout the region; arr Nov 3 Lawrence (M. Horowitz); LL reports 8 in Larchmont in six days of watching during Nov with max 5 Nov 10; most reports between Nov 3 and 19 with only a few lingering; 2 through period JBWR. Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 26 Sep 28 Fire I (EL); 21 Sep 28 RiP (HM). Cooper's Hawk: generally unreported; LL had 1 in Larchmont (Oct 13) in eleven days of watching; 4 Sep 28 Fire I (EL); 4 Sep 28 RiP (HM). Red-tailed Hawk; max 68 Nov 11 Larchmont (LL). Red-shouldered Hawk: Sep 28 RiP (HM)-very rare on coast; max 14 Nov 11, 12 Nov 17 Larchmont (LL)-seasons total at Larchmont 47, which is outstanding for our area. Rough-legged Hawk: Nov 12 TPS (WB, LJS)-only report. **GOLDEN EAGLE:** adult Nov 3 Larchmont (LL). Bald Eagle: Nov 17 Hither Hills (JB). Osprey: max 39 Sep 28 RiP (HM); RG reports a rather late nesting attempt at CRSP. The nest was discovered by Gil Bergen on Aug 24, and was almost complete at that time. Both parents continued work until Sep 9, and remained in the park until late Oct. DP termed this a frustration nest, a nest built after a previously unsuccessful attempt; this is the most western nesting by Ospreys on Long I in recent years. Peregrine Falcon: seems to be holding steady numbers over last few years; max 6 Oct 5 Quogue Wildlife Refuge (C. Helms). Merlin: 34 Sep 28 Fire I (EL) 29 Sep 28 RiP (HM). American Kestrel: 425 Sep 28 Fire I (EL); 308 Sep RiP (HM).

Semipalmated Plover: dep Nov 22 JBWR (THD et al). Golden Plover: 300 Sep 10 Sagaponack (PAB, C. McKeever, GSR). Spotted Sandpiper: Nov 18-24 Montauk (GSR). Baird's Sandpiper: Sep 8 JBWR (RH); Nov 23 Sagaponack (PAB, ROP)-one of the latest records, this bird was reported to have an injured leg. Stilt Sandpiper: high numbers in general this fall; 110 Aug 10 OB (PAB, ROP); 40 Sep 17 JBWR (DWF, HM); Nov 7 TPS (HM, ROP). **BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER:** arr 25 Aug 24 Water Mill (D. Clem et al); also at this location 16 Sep 1, 20 Sep 10 (PAB, C McKeever, GSR); also at Sag 50 Sep 15; 30 Sep 16; 20 Sep 22; only other reports were at JBWR Sep 3 (E&L Mills); Sep 12-13 (mob). Marbled Godwit: Sep 7 JBWR (LL) Oct 21 JBWR (E. Treacy). Hudsonian Godwit; numbers down from last year; sporadic at JBWR whereas in previous falls

it had become quite regular; 2 Sep 29 JBWR (mob); Oct 22 JBWR (E. Treacy). **AVOCET**: Sep 19-26, Oct, 10-14 JBWR (JA, HM, ROP). Wilson's Phalarope: extraordinary numbers throughout the northeast; 10 Aug 10 OB PAB, ROP); 2 Aug 19-26 JBWR (mob); Sep 9 JBWR (H. Wellander); Sep 15-19 JBWR (mob).

Pomarine Jaeger: max 25 Oct 2 DPt (PAB); Nov 10, 11 GGI (DWF, H. Hays, R. E. Harrison). **Parasitic Jaeger**: max 25 Oct 2 DPt (PAB); Nov 10 GGI (DWF). **Glaucous Gull**: second year bird Sep 7 through period JBWR (MK). **Laughing Gull**: 800 Oct 27 GGI (DWF); 1000+ Nov 3 MP (JA, RH); 600 Nov 10 GGI (DWF)-70% yearlings; high-numbers for such late dates; through period at many places including MP, DPt, JBWR. **Common Tern**: 45 Nov 3 Montauk Harbor (JA, RH); 6 Nov 24 Montauk Harbor (LL, HM, BW); very late for so many. **Royal Tern**: arr 3 Aug 3 Shinnecock (GSR); max 32 Oct 7 Shinnecock (THD et al). **Caspian Tern**: Sep 15 DPt (AL); 2 Sep 29 RiP (JA, RH); Oct 14 DPt (AL); 3 Oct 27 Jones Inlet ((LL et al)-late. **Dovekie**: Nov 17 MP (JB)-only alcid this period. **Yellow-billed Cuckoo**: Oct 30 RiP (HM)-late. **Snowy Owl**: Nov 17 Montauk (JB)-only report. **Barred Owl**: mid Oct through period Bronx Park. **Saw-whet Owl**: Sep 30 Greenwich Village (R. Holt et al)-early.

GOATSUCKERS-STARLINGS: **CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOW**: found dead and badly decomposed on road Nov 18 Cedar Beach (D. Ewert, M. Gochfeld, MK)-bill and wing saved from which the species was determined; the bird had been dead about 5-6 weeks, making this the first fall record, **Ruby-throated Hummingbird**: Nov 23 Larchmont (S. Berliner)-latest record by 13 days. **Red-headed Woodpecker**: the number of reports may indicate an optimistic future for this bird in Region 10. Recorded almost every day of Oct, with some staying through period at feeders. arr Sep 9 FIL (HM et al); max 2 Oct 18 JB, FI (MB, LJS). **Western Kingbird**: 5 individuals reported; dates from Sep 13 through period. **SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHERS** Oct 24-25 Yaphank (GSR). **Barn Swallow**: Nov 3 MP (JA, RH); 4 Nov 4 Larchmont (LL)-late. **House Wren**: Nov 17 RiP (HM). **American Robin**: 5000+ Oct 27 FIL (THD et al); 4800 Nov 10 RiP (JA, RH). **Wood Thrush**: Nov 4 CP (RP). **Water Pipit**: 2 Sep 15 Sagaponack (THD, DWF, RWS et al)-early. **Northern Shrike**: Nov 24 Montauk (GSR)-only report. **Loggerhead Shrike**: Aug 27 Sagaponack (B. Spencer); Sep 13 GB (ROP); Sep 29 RiP (E. Daly; Oct 20 Mecox (JA).

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: **Yellow-throated Vireo**: Oct 4 FIL (HM, ROP). **Red-eyed Vireo**: Nov 10 FIL (DBF)-late. **Golden-winged Warbler**: Aug 17 Commack (RG)-rare on Long I, especially in fall. **Tennessee Warbler**: 2 Oct 27 FIL (THD et al)-late. **Orange-crowned Warbler**: 10 individuals reported; arr Sep 8 Sagaponack (AL)-very early; 8 reported between Oct 21-28 with max 3 Oct 21 TPS (AL). **Parula Warbler**: Nov 10 Montauk (M. V. Barnhill). **Yellow Warbler**: Oct 7 Montauk (HM). **Magnolia Warbler**: Oct 27 FIL (THD et al). **Cape May Warbler**: this bird continues its increase as a migrant in Region 10. There are no numbers available, but it was reported that on one day in late Sep the banding station at FIL netted over 100 of these birds. **Yellow-throated Warbler**: Sep 27 GB (ROP)-very rare in fall. **Chestnut-sided Warbler**: Oct 27 FIL (DBF). **Pine Warbler**: 5 Sep 29 FIL (DBF) very high for so late. **Louisiana Waterthrush**: Aug 16 Manorville (GSR)-rare on L.I. **Kentucky Warbler**: Sep 7 TPS (R. Kelly); Sep 30 TPS (AL). **Connecticut Warbler**: 4 reports Sep 13-29 3 at FiL 1 at RiP. **Mourning Warbler**: max 3 Sep 9 FIL (THD et al). **Yellow-breasted Chat**: 10 individuals from Sep 12-Nov 11; max 3 Oct FIL (HM, ROP). **Hooded Warbler**: Aug 25-Sep 7 JBWR (RH, LL, GR). **Wilson's Warbler**: Nov 3 CP (RP) Nov 10 Montauk (M. V. Barnhill); **Canada Warbler**: Oct 4 FIL (HM, ROP).

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: **YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD**: Sep 15-17 Lawrence (HH). **Red-winged Blackbird**: 28,000 Nov 10. RiP (JA, RH). **Orchard**

Oriole: often unrecorded in fall, for the second time an immature male has been observed at an extremely late date; previous record Nov 20-Dec 11 1966 RiP; this year imm male Nov 24 RiP (M. Sohmer). Cowbird: 19,000 Nov 10 RiP (JA, RH). Scarlet Tanager: 2 Oct 27 FIL, JB (DBF, LL).

Blue Grosbeak: 9 individuals reported from Sep 15-Nov 11 North Hills (A. Summers); max 2 Oct 5 Larchmont (LL). Dickcissel: continues to prove itself to be a regular migrant on the outer beaches in Sep and Oct; max 8 Oct 4 FIL (HM, ROP); 5 Oct 18 JB, FIL (WB, LJS). Evening Grosbeak: arr 60 Nov 4 Larchmont (LL); not reaching the outer beaches until 8 Nov 10 RiP (JA, RH); 5 Nov 10 DPt (THD, AL); coastal max 11 Nov 17 RiP (HM). Purple Finch: exceptional flight both inland and on coast; 400 each day Nov 3, 4 Larchmont (LL) compared to 40 each day Nov 3, 4 RiP (JA, RH, HM); 200+ Nov 6 RiP (THD, HM et al); 250 Nov 10 RiP (JA, RH); 250+ Nov 11 RiP (JA, HM); 600 Nov 17 RiP (HM)—highest regional maxima. Common Redpoll: 15 Oct 27 Commack (RG)-only report. Pine Siskin: excellent flight; arr 18 Oct 6 Cox's Ledge (THD et al); 12 Oct 7 MP (THD et al); peaking second week of Oct; 800 Oct 10 FIL (HM, ROP, PP); 1100+ Oct 17 FIL (HM, ROP); numbers dwindling until early Nov; 100 Oct 24 FIL (HM, ROP); 500+ Oct 27 FIL (THD, HM, PP); 800 Nov 3 RiP (HM, GR) 700+ Nov 6 RiP (THD, HM et al); 880 Nov 7 FIL (HM, ROP); numbers decreased rapidly, and during the last week of Nov only a few flocks remained. American Goldfinch: no great numbers until after first freezing spell in late Oct; 600 Nov 3 Larchmont (LL); 665 Nov 7 FIL (HM, ROP). Red Crossbill: arr Oct 27 FIL (PAB); 20 Oct 27 JBWR (RP); 25+ Oct 28 RiP (JA); 60+ Oct 30 RiP (HM); 85+ Nov 3 RiP (HM, GR); 150+ Nov 4 RiP (JA, RH); 600 Nov 5 E Patchogue (C. Tveekrem); 1900+ Nov 6 RiP (JA, THD, RH, HM, GR); 760 Nov 7 FIL (HM, ROP); 500 Nov 10 RiP (JA, RH); 300 Nov 10 FIL (THD); 350 Nov 11 RiP (JA, HM); 400 Nov 18 JB; only a few scattered flocks after Thanksgiving. White-winged Crossbill: arr 4 Nov 11 FIL (DBF et al); 2 Nov 22 Manhasset (HM).

Savannah Sparrow: Ipswich race; arr Oct 28 CGI (DWF); Henslow's Sparrow: Oct 27 RiP (JA, RH, GR)-very rare in area. Lark Sparrow: 4 individuals from Sep 8-Oct 22. Tree Sparrow: Oct 9 OB (M. Brown, W. Post)-mistnetted, earliest record by 1 day. CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: Oct 1 RiP (HM). HARRIS' SPARROW: imm Oct 22 TPS (LJS). White-crowned Sparrow: above normal numbers; during the first three weeks of Oct it was not unusual to see up to 40 in a day; max 100+ Oct 20 Montauk (JA).

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