

May 2 DEP (JS); 1 May 5 DEP (R&SO); 1 May 15 Geece (R. Spahn). *PRAIRIE WARBLER*: 1, 2 May 11-17 Greece (K. Doris, D. Wilton, L. Trainor). Although Louisiana Waterthrush can be expected in the southern part of our region, it is noteworthy to find one along the lake shore, finding three is rare indeed; 1 April 13 Iron. (D. Tremmel); 1 April 28 BB (D. Vollmer et al); 1 May 15 WEB (J&T McNett). *KENTUCKY WARBLER*: 1 May 15 BB (D&L Skiff, WL, MAS, R. White), if our records are accurate, this is the first report since June 1954. *CONNECTICUT WARBLERS* 1 May 15 WEB J&T McNett); 1 May 23 Greece (NH, R. Ladwig); 1 May 31 Greece (R. Spahn).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: 1 April 26 Bergen (E&BM), this is an early date for our region. *ORCHARD ORIOLE*: 2 May 19 Kendall (WCL et al), this bird has nested successfully in the same area in past years. Evening Grosbeak: several reports throughout period, max 15, last reported May 22. Reports of House Finch are becoming more frequent, but no nesting reports were received thru the end of period. No reports of Pine Grosbeak. *HOARY REDPOLL*: 2 April 4-13 Perinton (F. Phelps). There were 11 reports of Common Redpoll in April (max 6) and no reports in May. Pine Siskin: many reports throughout period (max 44) last reported May 22. Red Crossbill: 3 May 18 Powder Mill Park (Museum Bird Spotters); 1-4 May 16-31 Brighton (M. Schmale); 10 all month Penfield (F. Munson). White-winged Crossbill: no report in April and only two in May (max 8). Lapland Longspur: 1 May 29 Parma (MC, CP).

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

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While April averaged a little above normal in temperature, there were wide swings in the daily readings with high temperatures at the start, in the middle and at the close of the month and cold periods in between. Precipitation, mostly in the first half, was about normal with snow (11 inches at Ithaca and 2 at Montezuma) on the 8th and 9th. Cloudy, cool and rainy characterized May with a warm spell at mid-month. Total rainfall was about normal and temperature average 3 degrees below normal. Migration was delayed and "waves" were largely absent.

Snow Geese continued to increase in numbers at Montezuma Refuge but the Canada Goose peak, which reached 70,000 in 1972, was only half that number. Maximum counts of migrant dabbling ducks, which had reached an unbelievable low last year, rebounded strongly. Diving ducks were a different story. Continued declines have brought them almost to the vanishing point. The marsh nesting birds continue in very low numbers since the destruction of their broods by Agnes in 1972.

Good shorebird habitat was minimal at Montezuma but the frequent rains kept parts of the Waterloo dump most attractive to these migrants. May rains also produced temporary pools in farm fields some of which had surprising visitors such as 18 Ruddy Turnstones on such a pond north of Geneva.

Savannah, Vesper and Swamp sparrows were difficult to find all spring while Field Sparrows inundated the fields in early May.

Two new species have been added to the Cayuga Basin list, the Cinnamon Teal which visited Montezuma Refuge and the Fish Crow which spent several weeks in the Cayuga Heights section of Ithaca. Field notes will appear on each.

Other rarities include Brant, Ruff (2), Hudsonian Godwit (2), Prairie Warbler,

Connecticut Warbler and Dickcissel.

We regret that failure to receive reports from the southern half of the Region limits this report very largely to a documentation of the spring migration in the northern half.

Abbreviations: arr—arrival; Cay—Cayuga; Cly—Clyde; Co—County; EOSBD—Eaton Ornithological Society Big Day; JP—Junius Ponds; L—Lake; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; SAD—Seneca Army Depot; Sen—Seneca; Schy—Schuyler; WD—Waterloo Dump.

Contributors and area compilers: WB—Walter Benning; JB—Jack Brubaker (Watkins Glen); RG—Robert Gustafson (MNWR); FG—Frank Guthrie (Keuka); MJ—Morgan Jones (SAD); JJS—James and Judy Stewart.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: reported from Sen L only. Horned Grebe: 1 Apr 27 MNWR. Pied-billed Grebe: scarce at SAD, Keuka L and MNWR. Great Blue Heron: 30 nests in Addison heronry and 165 in Marengo Swamp. Green Heron: arr 1 May 4 and max 8 MNWR; generally down. Great Egret: 2 MNWR (RG). Black-crowned Night Heron: max 4 MNWR; otherwise unreported. American Bittern: arr May 5 MNWR; max 8. Whistling Swan: a few birds lingered on Cayuta L into May; 4 MNWR. Canada Goose: migrants at MNWR remained a week later than usual; peaked at 35,000; last date at Keuka L May 19 (FG) late. Brant: 2 May 19 Sen L (EOSBD). Snow Goose: 3,500 peak at MNWR; ratio of blue morph to white about 3 to 1.

Peak duck counts by personnel at MNWR show the following: Mallard: 3,500. Black 20,000. Gadwall: 2,000. Pintail: 2,000. Green-winged Teal: 3,000. Blue-winged Teal: 3,000. American Wigeon: 1,000. Shoveler: 800. Wood Duck: 400. Redhead: 10. Ring-necked Duck: 200. Canvasback: 2. Lesser Scaup: 20. Bufflehead: 10. Ruddy: 20. American Goldeneye: 4. Hooded Merganser: 50. Red-breasted Merganser: 4. Common Merganser 40.

CINNAMON TEAL: 1 male Apr 1-3 MNWR (M. Haramis, WB, RG et al).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: arr 1 Apr 2 SAD (MJ); max 11 May 5 MNWR (WB). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 Apr 2 Oaks Corners and 1 Apr 25 JP (both JJS). Cooper's Hawk: 2 thruout period at JP (JJS). Red-tailed Hawk: good numbers continue. Red-shouldered Hawk: adult May 5 and immature May 6 JP (both JJS); 1 feeding on chipmunk near Watkins Glen (JB). Broad-winged Hawk: 1 Apr 20 and 1 May 5 (JJS). Bald Eagle adult and immature during May MNWR (RG). Marsh Hawk: 1-3 at MNWR thruout period; reported from Hector area (JB). American Kestrel: good numbers; 20 at MNWR (RG). Ruffed Grouse: down in Keuka area (FG); max at JP (JJS). Ring-necked Pheasant: numbers up at JP; about the same at MNWR; down in Keuka area. Turkey: increasing at Keuka with 3 sightings. Virginia and Sora Rails: both reported from Watkins-Montour march. Common Gallinule: very scarce; arr 1 Apr 17 MNWR (WB); max 4 MNWR and 3 May 27 WD. American Coot: scarce; max 60 MNWR (RG).

Semipalmated Plover: arr 1 May 5 MNWR; max 12 May 26 WD (WB) and 20 May 23 at farm pond north of Geneva (JJS). Killdeer: usual numbers; max 30 MNWR (RG). Black-bellied Plover: arr 1 May 25 near Waterloo (JJS); 2 May 26 WD (WB); 2 May 27 at pond north of Geneva (JJS). Ruddy Turnstone: arr 18 May 29 at pond along Rt 14 north of Geneva (JJS). American Woodcock: 4 at MNWR (RG); calling at JP (JJS). Common Snipe: 15 MNWR; "winnowing" during May north of MNWR. Upland Sandpiper: arr 1 May 27 near WD (L. Proskine). Spotted Sandpiper: arr 3 May 4 MNWR; max 20 MNWR. Solitary Sandpiper: arr 2 Apr 30 along Clyde River (WB). Greater Yellowlegs: arr 1 Apr 27 Waterloo area; max 8 May 19 MNWR. Lesser Yellowlegs: arr 18 May 5 MNWR; last 1 May 28 WD. Pectoral Sandpiper: arr 5 May 19 MNWR (JJS);

last 1 May 27 WD. White-rumped Sandpiper: arr 10 May 25 WD; max 52 May 28 WD (WB). Least Sandpiper: arr 4 May 12 MNWR; max 40 MNWR (RG). Dunlin: arr 85 May 19 MNWR (WB); max 112 EOSBD. Semipalmated Sandpiper: arr 8 May 19 MNWR; max 20 May 25 WD. *HUDSONIAN GODWIT*: 2 May 19 MNWR (WB); a very buffy individual probably an immature; 1 May 25-27 WD (WB, JJS, MJ et al).

Below are the peak numbers of gulls as reported by the MNWR personnel: Great Black-backed 4; Herring: 250; Ring-billed: 300. Bonaparte's Gull: 20 May 9 Sen L (JJS); 10 May 11 MNWR (WB); 30 at Hammondsport for several weeks (FG). Common Tern: 1 May 16 MNWR; max 2. Black Tern: arr 10 May 5 MNWR; max 50; low. Mourning Dove: continues in good numbers. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: "more common this year" (JB); only report. Black-billed Cuckoo: 1 May 26 JP (JJS); 3 May 19 EOSBD. Screech Owl: 2 MNWR (RG). Great Horned Owl: 8 MNWR (RG); pair at JP hatched 2 young and fledged 1 (JJS). Short-eared Owl: 1 MNWR (RG).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Common Nighthawk: arr May 20 Phelps; 2 May 22 (JJS). Chimney Swift: arr 3 May 7 Cay L (WB). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: few reports; 4 May 19 EOSBD. Belted Kingfisher: 7 May 19 EOSBD. Common Flicker normal numbers. Pileated Woodpecker: reported from MNWR, JP and Geneva areas. Red-bellied Woodpecker: continues to increase; 10 May 19 EOSBD. Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 Apr 20 Burdette (JB); 1 May 15 Cly; 1 May 17 Phelps. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: arr 1 Apr 17 Cly. Eastern Kingbird: arr 1 May 8 JP (JJS). Great Crested Flycatcher: arr May 9 Cly. Eastern Phoebe: arr 1 Apr 4 MNWR. Willow Flycatcher: arr 1 May 16 MNWR. Least Flycatcher: arr 1 May 2 MNWR. Eastern Wood Pewee: arr 1 May 14 JP (JJS). Horned Lark: continues scarce.

FG reports all swallows down in the Keuka area. Tree Swallow: arr 10 Apr 3 MNWR; MJ reports 14 nesting boxes occupied at SAD compared to 7 last year; however, he found 12 dead birds in unused houses; at JP birds were feeding on bayberries during cool periods when there was little insect activity. Bank Swallow: arr 2 Apr 20 Waterloo (JJS); colony at Cly (new in 1973) continues at about 50 nests; new colony at Tyre near MNWR has 100 plus nests. Rough-winged Swallow: arr Apr 27 MNWR. Barn Swallow: arr 3 Apr 20 Waterloo; abundant. Cliff Swallow: 1 report near Reading Center (JB). Purple Martin: arr 1 Apr 3 MNWR; 40 birds occupying all 3 houses at MNWR is the best in several years.

FISH CROW single bird first seen and heard by Lori and Alan Hahn in Cayuga Heights Mar 16; vocalizations later taped and compared to those of Fish Crow appeared to be identical; first record for Cay Basin; field note to be published. Tufted Titmouse: 4 MNWR (RG); 1 Apr 26 (JJS); 3 May 19 EOSBD. Red-breasted Nuthatch: scarce; single birds reported Schy Co, Keuka area and JP. House Wren: arr 1 Apr 28 Cly. Winter Wren: seen at JP Apr 4-20 (JJS); singing at 2 locations in mid-May near Cayuta L (JB). Carolina Wren: 1 May 7 Trumansburg (WB). Long-billed Marsh Wren: arr 1 Apr 27 MNWR; regular in Watkins-Montour marsh (JB). Mockingbird: 3 sightings in Keuka area; 3 locations in central Sen Co with 4 birds at Sampson State Park May 19 (MJ). Gray Catbird: 4 found in a gully off Rice Rd near Trumansburg Apr 13 (L. Proskine); very early migrants or overwintering birds? Brown Thrasher: arr 2 May 5 JP (JJS). Wood Thrush: arr 1 May 5 MNWR; 28 May 19 EOSBD. Hermit Thrush: arr 1 Apr 27 MNWR; 1 May 11 Keuka (FG). Swainson's Thrush; 1 May 17 MNWR. Gray-cheeked Thrush: 1 May 19 EOSBD. Bluebird: "quite a few nesting pairs" Schy Co (JB); several boxes occupied in Trumansburg area (L. Proskine); 2 pair at JP with at least one nesting; at Keuka cool weather resulted in poor nesting conditions. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: "scarce" at Keuka but otherwise up in numbers.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr 2 Apr 4 MNWR. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: numerous. Water Pipit: 2 May 10 Waterloo.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: arr 1 May 8 JP (JJS). Solitary Vireo: arr 1 May 8 JP (JJS). Red-eyed Vireo: scarce at Keuka but good numbers elsewhere. Philadelphia Vireo: unusual numbers of this uncommon migrant; MJ found 5 in 200 yards along Kendaia Creek at SAD on May 19; FG reports 3 sightings in the Keuka area; WB found single birds at MNWR on May 1 and 19 and at JP on May 22. Warbling Vireo: arr 1 May 5 Cly; numbers "doubled or tripled" over 1973 at SAD (MJ).

Black-and-white Warbler: arr May 8 JP. Golden-winged Warbler: pair May 18 Mills Rd Waterloo; 1 May 31 Avery Rd Sen Co. Blue-winged Warbler: arr 1 May 13 Cly; 1 May 26 Avery Rd Sen Co., up at Keuka. Brewster's Warbler: 1 seen in same area in Guyanoga Valley where it was found last year. Tennessee Warblers: arr 1 May 13 Cly. *ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER*: seen by Cathy Walsh, Paris and Pepper Trail May 19 on EOSBD; no verifying details. Nashville Warbler: arr 1 May 8 Cly. Parula Warbler arr 1 May 19 Keuka. Yellow Warbler: arr 1 Apr 30 Cly. Magnolia Warbler: arr 1 May 8 JP. Cape May Warbler: arr 1 May 17 Cly; M. Lerch banded more than usual at Penn Yan. Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr 6 May 9 Cly. Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler: about 20 made it thru the winter at JP; max 50 May 16 JP. Black-throated Green Warbler: arr 1 May 8 Cly. Cerulean Warbler: arr 2 May 15 Trumansburg. Blackburnian Warbler: arr 1 May 13 Cly. Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr 1 May 18 JP. Bay-breasted Warbler: arr 1 May 18 JP; seen in good numbers. Blackpoll Warbler: arr May 16 Keuka; early. Pine Warbler: May 19 EOSBD. *PRAIRIE WARBLER*: arr 2 May 8 Cly (WB). Palm Warbler: arr 1 Apr 26 JP. Ovenbird: arr 1 May 9 Cly *CONNECTICUT WARBLER*: arr 1 May 14 Keuka (Mabel Thompson); no verifying report filed. Mourning Warbler: arr 1 May 17 JP. Common Yellowthroat: arr 1 May 10 JP. Yellow-breasted Chat: pair carrying nesting materials into multiflora rose thicket on May 19 at MNWR; seen again in same thicket June 2 (WB); at 2 locations, 1 being new, near Hinman Swamp in Schy Co (JB). Wilson's Warbler: arr May 19 King Rd Sen Co. Canada Warbler: 1 May 16 JP; at Penn Yan M. Lerch banded more than usual. American Redstart: arr 1 May 16 JP.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: arr 1 May 6 Cly; reported in better than average numbers. Scarlet Tanager: arr 2 May 15 JP (JJS). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr 1 May 9 Cly. Indigo Bunting: arr 1 May 15 Trumansburg. *DICKCISSEL*: male at Robert Lamison's feeder in Ovid Apr 22-24; no verifying details filed. Evening Grosbeak: last dates May 7 Trumansburg; May 19 Keuka; May 27 Odessa. Purple Finch: 4 May 15 JP; 1 May 24 MNWR. Pine Siskin: regular to middle of May in Schy Co; present at Lamison feeder in Ovid thru week of May 5. White-winged Crossbill: Apr 26 at Keuka (FG). Rufous-sided Towhee: over 20 pairs at JP (JJS). Savannah Sparrow: scarce. Grasshopper Sparrow: singing males at 4 locations at JP (JJS). Vesper Sparrow: scarce; only 3 on EOSBD. Dark-eyed Junco; last date May 19 EOSBD. Tree Sparrow: last date Apr 19 Cly. Chipping Sparrow: good numbers. Field Sparrow: heavy migration the first week in May. White-crowned Sparrow: arr 1 May 5 Cly; last May 29 Keuka (FG). White-throated Sparrow: arr 10 Apr 27 MNWR. Swamp Sparrow: low numbers.

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