

by June 3 (DK); individuals were also noted Apr. 12 near Allegany Reservoir (FE) and Apr. 19 at Hamburg (TB).

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: Three Prothonotary Warblers—still rare—appeared on the BOSMaC while one to two were seen several times in May in the usual Iroquois NWR area. The uncommon Brewster's Warbler (Hybrid) was back on its nesting grounds May 15–27 at Amity L., Belmont (VP) and three were recorded on the BOSMaC. A Nashville Warbler's nest, first for Allegany Co., discovered Apr. 25 in Amity north of Scio, was found empty and damaged June 3 (VP). With three also on the BOSMaC, singles of the rare Parula Warbler appeared in May in five locations. An alternate yearly fluctuation in numbers of the Yellow-rumped Warbler is noted at Farmersville Station where this season 66 were banded, over twice the 1974 total there (DC, JC). Four "Myrtles" were seen late, May 31, on their breeding grounds at Alfred (EB). The very scarce Cerulean Warbler, with 16 on the BOSMaC, was found in two areas: one May 13 near Frewsburg (EP) and two May 16 at Iroquois NWR (JM, Rebovich). A Pine Warbler, exceptionally rare in spring, was banded Apr. 23 at Farmersville Station (DC, JC) and another appeared very, very late, May 20, at the Allegheny Reservoir Rd. (FE, EP). Unusual for the area, a late **PRAIRIE WARBLER** at Alfred May 14 was near where 2 adults were seen feeding 2 young last summer. The uncommon Yellow-breasted Chat appeared as one on the BOSMaC; one was banded at Farmersville Station May 12 (DC, JC); and five others were noted in four areas.

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: Northern Orioles were exceptionally abundant this year, and 2761 Evening Grosbeaks on the BOSApC was nearly twice last year's figure. Two areas reported the very rare **HOUSE FINCH**: Belmont, with two Apr. 16 and one Apr. 23–25 (DB, LB), an expansion of its usual territory, and Hamburg, with two Apr. 22 (Foster *et al*). Two Red Crossbills, which were very scarce this year, were seen at Scio on the BOSMaC, and one came to a feeder Apr. 28 in Hamburg (Skrzypek). Grasshopper Sparrow numbers were higher than usual, but still lower than Savannahs, on the L. Ont. Plains (DK). The most outstanding bird this season was the rare, and exceedingly difficult to identify, **LE CONTE'S SPARROW** studied Apr. 6 at Belvidere, Allegany Co., by Bruce and Robert Smalley, whose verification "write-ups" were accepted by BOS Statisticians. Henslow's Sparrows were up in number. An exceptionally late, disabled Tree Sparrow came to a Wellsville feeder daily, May 10–21 (Larson). Lincoln's Sparrow was more widely reported than common and three were banded May 12–25 at Farmersville Station (DC, JC).

Addendum: Omitted from the Winter report (*Kingbird*, May 1975, Region 1) was the rare **COMMON RAVEN**, seen Mar. 6 at Hamburg Airport (TB).

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REGION 2 – GENESEE

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April and May were almost direct opposites this spring. The former was cold—6° below average, while the latter was 6° above normal. A record snowfall in early April was hard on such vulnerable species as woodcock, phoebe, Tree Swallow, robin, and Fox Sparrow.

Foliage progressed slowly until mid-May when a sudden heat wave forced both vegetation and migration to a rapid climax. Late May was generally rather poor especially since shorebirds were scarce.

In general the flight of waterfowl was good in April but ended early; hawks were slow but a high surge on May 2nd was heartening and most species showed continued slow improvement. Good shorebird habitat was very scarce and so these birds were poorly reported here. Passerine species, notably warblers and vireos, were quite spotty but most were present in pretty good numbers for a rather short time in mid-May.

Rarities: Snowy Egret, Swainson's Hawk, Golden Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, King Rail, Golden Plover, Franklin's Gull, kittiwake, Acadian Flycatcher, Worm-eating Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Connecticut Warbler, and Western Meadowlark.

Positive Features: (1) Fine flight of Common Loons and most ducks, (2) Good variety of raptors—some species in encouraging numbers, (3) High counts of Winter Wrens and both kinglets, (4) 34 species of warblers, (5) Continued reports of some southern species—i.e. Acadian Flycatcher, Worm-eating Warbler, Orchard Oriole.

Negative Trends: (1) Poor flight of Red-breasted Mergansers, (2) Apparent failure of Bald Eagle nest again, (3) Poor reports of most shorebirds and both Common and Caspian Tern, (4) Probable loss of some April migrants in cold weather, (5) Weak flight of swallows along Lake Ontario, (6) Scarcity of some migrant thrushes and Loggerhead Shrike, (7) No Short-billed Marsh Wrens and very few Vesper Sparrows.

Observers: MC—Michael Carlson; JC—Julie Claffey; JC—Jerry Cych; GD—Gertrude Davies; FD—Frank Dobson; RD—Robert Dobson; KD—Kay Doris; ME—Michael Elders; A&JF—Arlene & John Foster; GOS—Genesee Ornithological Society; WH—William Hartmanft; NH—Norm Henderson; K&IJ—Kathy & Ian Johnson; AK—Al Kemnietzer; WCL—Walter C. Listman; WL—Warren Lloyd; m. ob.—many observers; RM—Robert McKinney; R&SO—Richard & Stephen O'Hara; RS—Robert Spahn; JS—Jean Shelly; MS—Mary Sprague; MAS—Mary Ann Sunderbin; ST—Sara Talpey; M&TT—Tom Tetlow; DT—David Tremmel; EW—Eleanor Weld; RW—Robert Weld.

Localities: BB—Braddocks Bay; DP—Durand Park; EL—East lakeshore; HL—Hemlock Lake; IB—Irondequoit Bay; IC—Island Cottage; MB—Manitaw Beach; MP—Mendon Ponds; RR—Reed Road; RM—Rose's Marsh; WHP—West Hill Preserve; WL—West lakeshore.

LOONS—DUCKS: A fine flight of Common Loons occurred on April 17 when 632 were counted on E.L. (A.K.&R&SO). Red-throated Loons were scarce—last one May 17 (W.L.). One D.C. Cormorant was at M.B., April 28 (N.H.). The first Great Egrets were two on April 18—best count was 7. Five Cattle Egrets were at B.B. on April 19—a very windy day, while the first SNOWY EGRETS were two there on April 25. The best count of Black-crowned Night Herons was 54 at R.M. May 25 (J.S.). In general most herons seem to be present in pretty good numbers.

An inland count of 53 Whistling Swans at Fowlerville is good. April 1. (A.&J.F.). Snow Geese continue to increase—best local report was 25, April 12, W.L. (R.D.). Unusually good counts of ducks include: 300 Blacks, April 6 (M.C.), 35 Gadwalls, April 8 (K.D. *et al.*), 500 Canvasbacks, April 6 (F.&R.D.). Red-breasted Mergansers were gone early and were also poor in number.

HAWKS—OWLS: April hawk flights were disappointing chiefly due to cold weather and adverse winds. Nevertheless some good counts were reported including the following:

Turkey Vulture	April 16	52	B.B.
Sharp-shinned Hawk	April 19	400	B.B.
Red-tailed Hawk	April 19	167	B.B.
Rough-legged Hawk	April 19	24	B.B.
American Kestrel	April 18	51	B.B.

The bulk of Broad-winged Hawks came through on May 2 when 9,110 were seen at B.B. (T.T.). Best bird honors go to our first accepted SWAINSON'S HAWK, well seen on the

same day in Webster (W.L.&M.S.). This report lends some credence to 2 birds last spring, neither of which was formally reported with details. In addition there were an unprecedented 4 **GOLDEN EAGLES** noted in the same vicinity on May 5 (J.C.) and two other dates elsewhere. Four reports of Bald Eagles came in—one or two birds each from April 12 to May 31, and the local pair were again at the nest near H.L. (m. ob.). **PEREGRINE FALCON** was noted 5 times—April 19 to May 17—one bird each time, and **MERLIN** 3 times including two birds on April 19 at B.B. (S.T. *et al.*). The best count of Osprey was 22 on May 2, B.B. (D.N.&R.K.).

Ruffed Grouse were noted at R.R. May 14 and 18 (J.C.&J.S.). Our first **KING RAIL** in several years was seen at close range on April 26 at I.C. (R.S.). We have only a few noteworthy records of shorebirds this spring, even the common species were rather scarce. A single **GOLDEN PLOVER** was at B.B. on April 18, however (W.L.) and 15 Black-bellied Plovers appeared inland on May 28 in Perinton along with 110 Dunlins (M.&D.T.). Four Red Knots and one White-rumped Sandpiper were in Kendall on May 31 (L.&K.J.) while a Short-billed Dowitcher was also there on May 19 (W.L.). The only Wilson Phalarope so far was in Carlton on May 18 (J.F. *et al.*).

A **FRANKLIN'S GULL** was seen on April 13 at B.B. (K.&I.J.) and a **BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE** was at I.B. on April 6 (R.S.). Owl records were not too frequent this spring but do include 5 Long-eared Owls on April 19 near B.B. and a few other single reports of this species and also Saw-whet Owls. No Barn Owls again this year to date. Great Horned and Screech Owls—a few each.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: The usual few migrant Whip-poor-wills were noted along the lakeshore in late April and May. A migrant flock of 20+ Nighthawks were reported in late May (I.S.). Sapsuckers were very scarce until late April when a large number were present for a very few days. E. Kingbirds were slow to appear in numbers and phoebes were almost entirely absent in many parts of this region. An E. Wood Pewee on May 3rd at I.C. (M.T.&R.W.) is one of the earliest dates ever reported here. Two records of **ACADIAN FLYCATCHER** are unusual here—May 24 at I.C. (M.C.) and May 25 at R.R. (J.S. *et al.*). The usually rare Olive-sided Flycatcher was noted 5 times—May 13–21, (G.D. *et al.*).

A high count of 300 Horned Larks was made on April 6 at W.L. (F.&R.D.). Swallow flights were poor along the lake and some species seemed late, especially Bank Swallows. Winter Wrens were reported in better numbers than usual and Carolina Wrens seem to have survived the late April storm well.

In general migrant thrushes were uncommon. The Hermit Thrush, like so many April migrants, was delayed and appeared in number only after mid-April. Only a few Grey-cheeked Thrushes were seen and like the Swainson's Thrush they left early. Bluebirds showed no noticeable improvement. The first Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was seen on April 19—fairly early—B.B. (G.O.S.).

Kinglets staged a good flight—both species were common over a long period. Few pipits were noted and mostly in small numbers. Loggerhead Shrikes were scarce, but a bird in Kendall on May 18 may indicate a nesting pair (R.S.).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: A White-eyed Vireo was singing in D.P. from May 11 to 17 (D.K. *et al.*). This bird is now seen every spring here. A **WORM-EATING WARBLER** was in Maplewood Park on May 9 (R.S.). This is a possible nesting area but the bird did not stay. **ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLERS** were noted 3 times, May 13 to 21—more than usual (R.O. *et al.*). Parula Warblers were again scarce with only singles reported. Cape May Warblers were excellent—up to 10 per day (R.M.). A Cerulean Warbler on May 3 was early (J.C. *et al.*) as was a Blackpoll on May 13 (E.W. *et al.*). Pine Warblers were noted 3 times (M.T. *et al.*) while **PRAIRIE WARBLER** was seen only once, May 10 (K.&I.J.). A Louisiana Waterthrush was on breeding ground at H.L. on April 30 (T.T.) and the Northern Waterthrush was also first noted on April 30 (N.H.). A new station for Yellow-breasted Chats was

located at W.H.P. (W.H.) and Hooded Warblers made a better appearance than usual in recent years—4 reports from May 15 to 31. Only one **CONNECTICUT WARBLER** this spring—M.P. (S.T.).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: The only **WESTERN MEADOWLARK** this spring was a singing bird in Kendall on May 18 (W.L. *et al.*). It was still present a week later. Three Orchard Orioles returned to the region's only known nesting site in Carlton on May 11 (W.L.). A very early Northern Oriole was at B.B. on April 22 (m. ob.). Two hundred Rusty Blackbirds on April 19 is a good spring count, B.B. (R.&M.Mc.).

The last Common Redpoll in a poor season was noted on April 5 in Webster (A.&B.K.). Pine Siskins, however, were still being seen in Irondequoit on May 31 (M.E.&D.T.). This could be a nesting area. Many observers noted the great scarcity of Vesper Sparrows but most other species appeared normal. Fox Sparrows however were in poor numbers this year with the last one seen on May 11 (M.A.S.). A report of 500 Snow Buntings on April 6 is a late record for so many, W.L. (F.&R.D.).

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

DOROTHY W. MCILROY

The coldest April on record, averaging 9 degrees below normal, was followed by the warmest May since 1934. The week of April 5-11 averaged 17 degrees below normal! The April 3-5 blizzard left several inches of snow in the southern areas, but the northern part had about 2 feet, which did not completely disappear until April 20. So many geese moved from refrozen Montezuma Refuge to the Barge Canal that it was blanketed from shore to shore. Strong, cold, northwest winds persisted most of the month. After mid-April a slow, steady warming trend brought 70 degree temperatures in late April and over 80 after May 18. Precipitation in April was less than 50% of normal; May total was about normal, occurring as heavy rains separated by long dry spells.

The April snow brought birds flocking to feeders, especially Song Sparrows and blackbirds that had already arrived in numbers. Ten wild turkeys were seen in a barnyard near Elmira April 3. Morgan Jones reported "three robins eating seeds at the Larson's window-shelf feeder in Tyre on April 6, a sure sign of desperation." Savannah, Grasshopper and Vesper Sparrows came to feeders near Elmira, and the only redpolls for the period were seen at feeders during the snow. Many Fox Sparrows came to feeders and fed in flocks along roadsides. Early phoebe arrivals disappeared. Within four days phoebes were back in Ithaca, but Walter Benning considered this a disaster species, with only three sightings all spring; J. Walters saw none at Clifton Springs between March 31 and May 2; although nesting was somewhat delayed at Seneca Army Depot, Morgan Jones had 31 pairs nesting in his study area (37 pairs in '74 and 28 in '73). Early Tree Swallows disappeared and the numbers of Tree and Barn Swallows were low until late April.

The Eaton Ornithological Society census May 18 reported only 132 species, including 15 warbler species instead of the usual 25. Warblers had moved out with warm south winds on Saturday, and new migrants did not arrive until Monday. Two good finds were a Barn Owl at Fayette where they have nested for two years (7 young fledged in '74) and a group of 10 Short-billed Marsh Wrens found by the Jorgensens along the railroad causeway at the