

Sandpiper 16 NC Sept. 24 (JS); AMERICAN AVOCET 1 NC Sept. 6 (RBA); Northern Phalarope 1 NC Sept. 17 (R&SS). The only reports of jaegers are of one POMARINE BB Oct. 4 (CP) and one PARASITIC Oct. 16 HB (CP). White-winged gulls are unreported to date. The best count so far on Bonaparte's Gulls is 1800 passing IBO Nov. 14 (ST); Little Gull 8 reports—max. 3. Forster's Tern—best count ever was 10 birds Sept. 4 IBO (ST)—many reports of 4-6 birds. Common Tern—max. 65, somewhat improved.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Three Snowy Owls were noted, the first on Nov. 8 (RL). Single Short-eared and Saw-whet Owls occurred, the latter a dead bird on Oct. 25 (DL). The last nighthawk was seen Oct. 5 (TT). A rather late sapsucker was still in DP on Nov. 16 (MAS&WCL).

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: The third Region Two WESTERN KINGBIRD ever was found by M&TT and seen by Mob in Macdon Sept. 20. A late Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was noted on Sept. 28 at BB (R&SS). More Olive-sided Flycatchers than usual were reported, a total of 5. A count of 1,500 Tree Swallows was made at WL on Sept. 21 (RBA) and 5 late Purple Martins were still at LP on Oct. 12 (RT). A large irruption of Black-capped Chickadees occurred on WL in late October—peak count was 2,280 on the 15th at BB (JS).

A roost of 3,000 Am. Robins in MP Nov. 11 (JF) is noteworthy as is the count of 27 E. Bluebirds on Oct. 5 BH (RBA). Best count of Water Pipit this fall was 180 in Perinton (TT). The first Northern Shrike was seen on Oct. 30 (JS) while 7 was the high count on Nov. 30 WL (F&RD). A Starling roost at MP was estimated at 100,000 Nov. 11 (J&AF) and another was in Chili—75,000 Nov. 5 (JS).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: These birds lingered late into October after a heavy early flight. They apparently enjoyed good breeding success this summer. Unusual records include: Black-and-white Warbler Nov. 1 (late) DP (PW), ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER 1 Sept. 26 (JCI), Pine Warbler Oct. 3 (late) at Allen's Creek (RT), CONNECTICUT WARBLER—two Oct. reports. A total of 19 species of warblers in October indicates how late they stayed. A Palm Warbler was still at PB on Nov. 11 (J&WCL). A report of 2 Prothonotary Warblers in early October seems extremely late . . . but this year who knows?

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: It was a good fall for several species of northern finches although not for all species, and the flight showed signs of dropping off after mid-November. Evening Grosbeak peaked at 150 in HP Nov. 17 (WS). Purple Finches were present in small numbers and while House Finches spread to one or two new areas they are not yet regular or common in this region. Pine Grosbeaks were found first on Oct. 25 at HP (R&SS). The first Redpoll was noted in Chili Nov. 8 (JS) while Red Crossbills appeared on Oct. 17 HP (CP). A high count of 125 was made there on Nov. 6 (JCI *et. al.*). The only White-winged Crossbills were 3 on Nov. 22 in DP (RBA).

Late sparrows include Savannah Nov. 2 NC (R&RD) and a singing Lincoln's Nov. 12 in Webster (DS). No longspurs were reported but Snow Buntings were widely noted after mid-October—best counts were 300 in Webster Nov. 9 (DS) and 500 on WL Oct. 31 (JE).

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

W. E. BENNING

Since the last Region 3 report covered only up to August 15, this report will cover from August 15 thru November 30. Hereafter, reports will conform to the new three month period.

August temperatures were normal with heavy rains in the last week. September was more like November with cloudy, dark, dreary days, a minimum of sunshine and low day-time temperatures. The remnants of Hurricane Eloise brought heavy rains September 24-26. October was mild and warm. Temperatures averaged 2 degrees F (1°C) above normal. While the northern part of the region escaped a killing frost until October 27, much of it was hit on October 3. Rainfall was normal. November brought the sunshine we missed in September. The temperature averaged 6 degrees F (3.3°C) above normal for the warmest November, at Ithaca, since 1948.

The TV tower kill at Elmira was relatively light with two exceptions. On September 18 and 19, 800 birds of 40 species were picked up. Among these were 16 Yellow-bellied Flycatchers, 30 Swainson's Thrushes, 48 Red-eyed and 7 Philadelphia Vireos, 190 Bay-breasted and 110 Magnolia Warblers, 80 Ovenbirds, 2 Mourning Warblers, a Yellow-breasted Chat and 3 Lincoln's Sparrows. The other disastrous day was September 20 when 100 birds of 20 species, largely warblers but including a Virginia Rail, were killed.

The lowered water levels at Montezuma Refuge, which had supplied good shorebird habitat during the summer, continued into the fall. From August 23 thru September 3 the shorebirding was excellent. At least 23 species were present including the rare Buff-breasted Sandpiper and a record number of phalaropes with 3 Wilson's and 17 Northern's present on September 1. The heavy rains of Eloise inundated the mudflats but produced pools in the field by the headquarters. For several days up to 20 Hudsonian Godwits, plus other more common shorebirds, fed there. The same rains flooded parts of Stewart Park in Ithaca attracting many gulls and shorebirds including a Franklin's Gull and 3 Red Phalaropes.

Whatever the reason, there were several late nesting reports. A House Wren was still feeding young in a birdhouse on Reeder's Creek, Seneca Co. at the end of August. Nearly fledged young were found in a Carolina Wren's nest in a hanging porch box at Perry's Point, Seneca Lake on October 2. Three mild winters in succession have given the Carolina Wren an opportunity to build up all over the region. At Horseheads a third brood of Eastern Bluebirds was about to leave the nest on September 23 and a fledgling Cardinal was being fed at Elmira on the same day.

Several unusual concentrations of birds were noted. Ring-billed Gulls at the Waterloo Dump and on the plowed fields about Penn Yan were in unusually large numbers in both cases. On November 5 there were 1000 Common Crows on the fields at Dutch Hill, Elmira. Flocks of 2000 plus Starlings were observed on fields near Clyde, Union Springs, and at a roost at the Seneca Army Depot.

In general the migration seemed a little early. Lerch, in his banding operations at Penn Yan, noted warblers moving thru early.

Rarities: Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Red Phalarope, Franklin's Gull, Fish Crow, Boreal Chickadee.

Abbreviations: Cay—Cayuga; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; SAD—Seneca Army Depot; Sen—Seneca; Tomp—Tompkins, * (starred)—verifying report filed.

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LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: 45 Cay. L. at Aurora Nov. 2 (PD, DM); 8 lb. bird killed at Elmira TV tower Nov. 17 (MW). Double-crested Cormorant: 1 Canoga Nov. 17. Cattle Egret: 2 Reeder's Creek Sen. Co. Oct. 27 (MJ). Great Egret: 12 MNWR Sept. 26. Black-crowned Night Heron: 1 MNWR Nov. 8 (M. Menuhin). Least Bittern: 1 SAD mid-Sept.; 1 MNWR Oct. 13. American Bittern: 30 MNWR Sept. 1 (RG). Whistling Swan: 1 MNWR Oct. 30. Canada Goose: 50 Elmira Aug. 31 early (MW). Brant: up to 500 Stewart

Park Ithaca late Oct. Snow Goose: 250 Sen. L. Oct. 19 (BH); 100 MNWR Oct. 30.

The max. duck populations at MNWR were as follows: Mallard: 18,000 Oct. 16; Black: 5,000 Oct. 16; Gadwall: 2,000 Oct. 16; Pintail: 3,000 Oct. 23; Green-winged Teal: 8,000 Oct. 16; Blue-winged Teal 5,000 Sept. 30; Am. Wigeon: 11,000 Oct. 16; N. Shoveler: 750 Oct. 16; Wood Duck: 3,000 Oct. 1; Redhead: 2,000 Nov. 8; Ring-necked Duck: 20 Oct. 20; Canvasback: 40 Nov. 8; Lesser Scaup: 500 Nov. 8; Bufflehead: 20 Nov. 26; Ruddy Duck: 80 Oct. 30; Am. Goldeneye: none; Hooded Merganser: 200 Nov. 17; Common Merganser: 150 Nov. 29.

Small numbers of all diving ducks except Oldsquaw reported from the lakes in the region. White-winged Scoter: 100 Sen. L. Nov. 9 (BH). Surf Scoter: 1-3 birds reported from Cay. and Sen. L. Black Scoter: 25 Cay. L. Nov. 18 (J. Duncan); female Sen. L. Nov. 23-30. Red-breasted Merganser: 1 Cay. L. Nov. 2 only report.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: more than the usual number of Oct. reports; injured bird found at Lab. of Ornithology Nov. 13; 1 Elmira Nov. 18 (MW). Goshawk: 1 Elmira Oct.-Nov.; 1 Sen. Falls late Nov. Sharp-shinned Hawk: Nov. reports from SAD, Phelps, Niles, Elmira. Cooper's Hawk: 6 reports widely scattered including an immature killed striking a window in Elmira. Red-shouldered Hawk: Ithaca Sept.-Oct. (JG); 1-2 per week after Nov. 15 SAD. Broad-winged Hawk: 4 Long Point Sept. 28 (RLL). Rough-legged Hawk: 1 dark phase Oct. 10 (TR); 8 widely scattered Nov. reports. Bald Eagle: immature MNWR Aug.-Sept. Marsh Hawk: sightings at 8 localities; max. 3 SAD. Osprey: 1-2 MNWR thru Oct. **PEREGRINE FALCON:** immature MNWR Aug. 10 (MJ *et al.*)*; adult Aug. 17 MNWR (K. Coyle *et al.*); immature Clifton Springs Nov. 22 (P. Trail). **MERLIN:** singles SAD Aug. 30 and Sept. 21 (MJ)*. Turkey: Singles several times in Nov. in Elmira. Common Gallinule: 150 MNWR Aug. 15. Am. Coot: 6,000 MNWR Nov. 20 (RG).

All shorebird records are from MNWR unless otherwise noted. Semipalmated Plover: max. 40 Aug. 12. Killdeer: 75 Aug. 30; 60-70 Ithaca Oct. 2. Am. Golden Plover: 1-2 Aug. 27-Sept. 28. Black-bellied Plover: max. 20 Sept. 23; 5 Horseheads Sept. 28. Ruddy Turnstone: 1-3 Aug. 17-Sept. 4. Am. Woodcock: only 3 reports. Com. Snipe: scarce. Spotted Sandpiper: 8 Aug. 25. Solitary Sandpiper: thru Aug. 27. Greater Yellowlegs: max. 400 Sept. 15. Lesser Yellowlegs: 300 Sept. 15. Red Knot: up to 6 Aug. 26-Sept. 6. Pectoral Sandpiper: max. 150 Aug. 31; 30 Ithaca Sept. 27-29. White-rumped Sandpiper: 4 Sept. 3; 1-3 Sept. 28-30. Baird's Sandpiper: up to 10 Aug. 23-27. Least Sandpiper: max. 50 Aug. 15. Dunlin: few, max. 11. Short-billed Dowitcher: max. 18. Long-billed Dowitcher: 2-9 and probably more of this difficult to distinguish species present Aug. 28-Nov. 9 (WB, H. Axtell, RLL *et al.*)*. Stilt Sandpiper: max. 16 Aug. 17. Semipalmated Sandpiper: max. 1,200 Aug. 15. **BUFF-BREADED SANDPIPER:** 1-3 Aug. 23-27 (N. Moon *et al.*). Hudsonian Godwit: singles Aug. 31, Sept. 19-20 and Oct. 25; up to 20 Sept. 28-Oct. 2; 10 Sept. 27. Sanderling: 2 Aug. 24-Sept. 2. **RED PHALAROPE:** 3 Stewart Park Sept. 27 (K. Kaufmann, E. Cook, RLL, JG)*. Wilson's Phalarope: max. 4 thru Sept. 10. Northern Phalarope: max. 17 thru Sept. 23; 1 Ithaca Sept. 27.

FRANKLIN'S GULL: 1 Ithaca Sept. 27 (RLL, M. Braun)*. Bonaparte's Gull: 2 Ithaca Sept. 27. Caspian Tern: 1-2 MNWR Aug. 26-Sept. 28.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 1 MNWR Oct. 11; 1 Reeder's Creek Aug. 19. Black-billed Cuckoo: 1 Monkey Run Sept. 29; 1 MNWR Oct. 12. Snowy Owl: singles at MNWR, north end Cay. L., Interlaken all in Nov. Long-eared Owl: 1 Ithaca Nov. 6 (S. Sabo). Short-eared Owl: 3 Interlaken Nov. 16; few in SAD area. Common Night-hawk: numerous migrating flocks noted at MNWR, Penn Yan, Ithaca, Elmira, Aug. 24-Sept. 27.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Eastern Kingbird: 1 Ovid Nov. 3 very late (W. Warne). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 20 banded Penn Yan, high (ML); 16 killed TV tower Elmira. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 banded Penn Yan Aug. 19 (ML). 1 Ithaca Sept. 9 (JG)*. **FISH**

CROW: the bird resident in Ithaca for 18 months was last heard Sept. 16 (L. Hahn). **BOREAL CHICKADEE:** 1-4 Union Springs Nov. 1 thru (PB, EK)*; 3 Ithaca Game Farm Rd. Nov. 12 and 2 Monkey Run; 2 S. Danby (DM). Short-billed Marsh Wren: 1 MNWR Aug. 25 (JG); 1 MNWR Sept. 7 (S. Sabo). Am. Robin: heavy movement MNWR Oct. 3 and Niles Oct. 19. Swainson's Thrush: 159 banded Penn Yan (ML). Gray-cheeked Thrush: 1 MNWR Oct. 16 (WB); 4 Elmira TV tower kill Sept. 24. E. Bluebird: reported from Clyde, MNWR, SAD, Penn Yan, Guyanoga Valley, Horseheads. Kinglets: good movement of both species. Water Pipit: max. 75 King Ferry Nov. 15. Northern Shrike: 1 New Hope Oct. 30; 1 Ithaca Oct. 17.

VIREOS-WARBLED: Solitary Vireo: 1 singing W. Danby Oct. 22; 1 Turkey Hill both late. Philadelphia Vireo: 14 banded Penn Yan (ML); 2 Ithaca Oct. 4; 7 Elmira TV tower kill. Good warbler migration with the following species sighted: Black-and-white, Golden-winged, 1 Elmira TV tower kill. Tennessee: 68 banded Penn Yan. Orange-crowned: 1 banded Penn Yan Oct. 4; 1 Monkey Run Oct. 8. Nashville. N. Parula. Yellow. Magnolia: 157 banded Penn Yan. Cape May. Black-throated Blue. Yellow-rumped. Black-throated Green. Blackburnian. Chestnut-sided. Bay-breasted: 129 banded Penn Yan. Blackpoll. Prairie: 1 Ithaca Sept. 14 (S. Sabo). Palm. Ovenbird. Connecticut: 1 Reeder's Creek Aug. 29 (BH) no confirming details; 1 Ithaca Sept. 8 (J. Maugans fide EK). Mourning. Com. Yellowthroat: scarce. Yellow-breasted Chat. Wilson's. Canada. Am. Redstart: scarce.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: N. Oriole: at Penn Yan ML had 25 in his mist nets at one time Aug. 11; male Stewart Park Nov. 7 very late (JG). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 1 Ithaca Nov. 3-10 late (K. Rosenberg). Evening Grosbeak: widespread reports with first Ithaca Sept. 13. Purple Finch: widespread reports of small numbers. House Finch: up to 45 at feeder in Ithaca; 2 males and a female at feeder for first Geneva record (K. Bond). Pine Grosbeak: 1 Ithaca Nov. 7; female Elmira Nov. 21. Com. Redpoll: few scattered individuals. Pine Siskin: Ithaca Sept. 26 (EK); 65 Niles Nov. 11. Crossbills: none.

Sharp-tailed Sparrow: 1 MNWR Oct. 19 no details (S. Sabo). Vesper Sparrow: only 2 sightings. Tree Sparrow: 1 Clifton Springs Oct. 18 (JW); widespread in small groups thereafter. White-crowned Sparrow: Oct. 3-Nov. 28 good numbers; some mentioned many immatures. White-throated Sparrow: first Ithaca Aug. 20 early; heavy movements MNWR Oct. 10 and Niles Oct. 19. Fox Sparrow: 2 Turkey Hill Oct. 28; 2 Union Springs Nov. 1; singing Elmira Nov. 2. Lincoln's Sparrow: 3 Elmira TV tower kill Sept. 18; 2 Clyde Oct. 4; 2 Niles Oct. 25. Snow Bunting: first MNWR Oct. 20; scattered reports of small numbers; 100 Elmira Nov. 22.

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REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

ELIZABETH WASHBURN for LESLIE BEMONT

September was somewhat cooler and considerably wetter than normal. October generally lived up to its reputation as a perfect month weatherwise. November outdid itself with temperatures averaging 7-8°F (4-4.5°C) above normal, breaking records from the 3rd through 10th with a high of 72°F (22°C) on the 7th; rainfall was slightly below normal and snowfall about half the usual amount. However, the unseasonable warmth seems to have had little effect on bird activities, as the main migrations were long since past and it was still early for the influx of northern birds. Unusual species for the period were: Red-throated Loon, Baird's Sandpiper, Barred Owl, Boreal Chickadee and last but not least, a Yellow-throated Warbler.