

BOHEMIAN WAXWING: an impressive irruption which crested (?waxed) in Dec. waned in Jan.—100 Dec. 13, 115 Dec. 14 near Port Ontario with lesser numbers there until the end of the month; however, the flight quickly moved on as berries became snow covered and Jan. and Feb. tallies were of the one-two/day type and usually noted in small groups of Cedar Waxwings. Northern Shrike: 22 individuals in Dec., 12 in Jan., and 8 in Feb., a perfect reflection of their decline thru the season here with the loss of mice and the rising snow.

WARBLERS—VIREOS: Yellow-rumped Warblers and Common Yellowthroat reported in Dec. on the earlier Christmas Counts but none survived to be recorded in Jan.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: NORTHERN ORIOLE: adult male in breeding plumage Dec. 7 near SSSP, the landbird equivalent of those crazy Dec. Spotted Sandpipers. First influx of migrant Icterids (Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird) Feb. 19-21 with 85,000+ Feb. 29 at Onondaga L. Rusty Blackbird: one-three/day at marsh springs and sewage seeps in Fayetteville-DeWitt area.

Winter finches were varied and moderately abundant thru Dec. but Jan. and Feb. tallies, aside from Evening Grosbeak and Common Redpoll, were wretchedly low. High tallies for Evening Grosbeak were 125 Dec. 12 and 27 and for Common Redpoll 200+ Jan. and Feb., all at Pompey. Pine Grosbeaks in variable numbers—77 Jan. 25 near Brookfield, 125 Jan. 2 near Fabius, “large flocks” at Holland Patent; however, scarce (six-25/day) on the Ontario lake plain. Other winter finches very scarce—Purple Finch usually singles, one flock of 15; Pine Siskin max. 36 Jan. 17 near Pompey; American Goldfinch 75 Dec. 17-Jan. 1 Pompey; Red Crossbill 43 Dec. 14 SSSP; White-winged Crossbill none.

Wintering half-hardy sparrows severely reduced by the persistent cold and deep snow of Jan. and early Feb.—peak field, i.e., non-feeder, numbers for comparison are White-throated Sparrow—Dec. 16, Jan. eight, Feb. one; for Swamp Sparrow—Dec. five, Jan. two, Feb. none; for Song Sparrow (usually the toughest of the lot)—Dec. 21, Jan. nine, Feb. four.

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REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

LEE B. CHAMBERLAINE

Winter of 1975-76 was more severe than the previous three years. Temperatures ranged from a minus 40° F (4.4° C) to an unheard of 61° F (16° C) in February. Sub-zero temperatures were the rule and snowfall was a little behind last year's with up to 40 inches (1 m) at higher elevations at the end of the period—even with rain and thaws.

Winter finches were a disappointment to say the least, but many late hangers-on made up for the slack in finches. Ducks were better than last year and gulls in Massena just keep increasing.

Some real gems that upped enthusiasm if not the temperature were Red-necked Grebe, Long-eared & Short-eared Owl, and Bohemian Waxwing.

Localities: B-D—Brownville-Dexter; DH—Dry Hill; PP—Pillar Point; PtP—Pt. Peninsula; RMPD—Robt. Moses Power Dam; SB—Sherwins Bay; WI—Wellesley Island; WCC—Watertown Christmas Count.

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LOONS—DUCKS: Com. Loon: 1 SB Dec. 14. **RED-NECKED GREBE:** 1 Lewis Co.

along Black River on ground—photographed and released Stony Pt. Jan. 30 (LBC). Horned Grebe: 6 between SB & PP Dec. 14. Great Blue Heron: 1 Woodville Dec. 5 (LBC); 1 WCC Dec. 20 (Dick Brouse).

Canada Goose: 15 Dec. 30; 400 Dexter Marsh Jan. 1. Mallard: 40 RMPD Dec. 29. Black Duck: 260 RMPD Jan. 10. Gadwall: 2 RMPD Dec. 29; 12 PtP Jan. 1; 100+ Stony Point Jan. 3 (Joe Lamendola). Pintail: 2 RMPD Dec. 29. Am. Wigeon: 3 Dec. 21; 1 Feb. 21. Redhead: 2 SB Dec. 14. Canvasback: 1 Dec. 7; 2 Dec. 21; 5 WI Jan. 3; 6 PP Jan. 4; 18 PtP Jan. 11; 2 Feb. 4; 3 Feb. 8. Greater Scaup: 550 PP Dec. 14. Com. Goldeneye: 126 Jan. 10. Bufflehead: 1 Dec. 12; 1 Jan. 1; 1 Jan. 17; 2 Feb. 24. Oldsquaw: 300+ Clarks Pt. Jan. 18. **BLACK SCOTER**: 2 Chaumont Bay Dec. 14 (RCW). Com. Merganser: 4440 RMPD (JAV). Red-breasted Merganser: 1 Feb. 21.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Goshawk: 1 adult Paddy Hill Dec. 21; 1 imm. PtP Jan. 4; 1 adult PtP Jan. 11 (TLC). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 Reynolds Rd. Jan. 3 (TLC). Red-tailed Hawk: more this winter than past two. Rough-legged Hawk: 37 Chaumont Bay area Jan. 17 (RCW); 44 PtP—OAS field trip Jan. 30 (TLC & Dave Muir). **BALD EAGLE**: 1 Eel Bay Dec. 20 (C. Devan); 4 Oak Point Jan. 14 (A. LaFave); 3 (1 adult, 2 imm.) Oak Point (RCW). Marsh Hawk: 7 Chaumont—Pt. Salubrious Rd. Dec. 14 (RCW); 3 WCC Dec. 20. Am. Kestrel: many wintering; max. 6 Jan. 1. Ruffed Grouse: numbers up—27 Dec. 1 (LBC); 15 in tree Dec. 21 (JAV). Gray Partridge: more coveys than last 3 years; max. 19—Cape Vincent Jan. 17—others of 10-13 birds. **AM. COOT**—1 RMPD Dec. 21 (JAV). Turkey: 17 WI Jan. 3; 16 WI Jan. 30 OAS (TLC); game farm birds. Com. Snipe: 5 BD Feb. 28 (TLC). **GLAUCOUS GULL**: 33 (22 imm. 11 adults) Jan. 6; 7 Feb. 25 (JAV). **ICELAND GULL**: 13 imm; 2 adults RMPD Jan. 6; 29 imm. Jan. 17; 3 imm. Feb. 25 (JAV). Great Black-backed Gull: 1240 RMPD Jan. 10; 260 Feb. 1; 10 Feb. 25 (JAV). **RING-BILLED GULL**: 1 wintering RMPD (JAV).

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: more wintering than last year—not as many as 2 years ago. Screech Owl: 1 WCC Dec. 20; 1 Dec. 30; 1 Jan. 3. Great Horned Owl: 4 WCC Dec. 20; 4 Jan. 3. Snowy Owl: max. 5 PtP Jan. 1; not as many as last winter. **LONG-EARED OWL**: 1 Blake Sanctuary Feb. 21 (Nick Leone). **SHORT-EARED OWL**: 2 WCC Dec. 20 (TLC); 5 PP Dec. 28 (LBC). Com. Flicker: 1 DH Dec. 12 (RCW). Pileated Woodpecker: 3 reports.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Horned Lark: 99 WCC Dec. 20; 188 Alex. Bay Jan. 3. **GRAY JAY**: 1 Massena Dec. 30 (JAV) very unusual. Blue Jay: 90 Dec. 30 (JAV). Crow: more wintered than usual (LBC). **MOCKINGBIRD**: 1 feeding on magnolia seed thru Jan. 10 Watertown (Paul Biggers); 1 Stony Point Jan. 18 (LBC). Am. Robin: very few this winter. **BOHEMIAN WAXWING**: 400 DH Feb. 17 & 28 (RCW); 18 DH Feb. 26 (RCW). Cedar Waxwing: 8 Stony Pt. Jan. 24 (TLC). Northern Shrike: good year—more than usual—adults predominated.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: E. Meadowlark: 1 WCC (RCW); 1 Reynolds Rd. Jan. 3 (TLC); 2 near Alex. Bay Jan. 3 (TLC). Red-winged Blackbird: 1 Massena Dec. 30; 450 B-D Feb. 25. Brown-headed Cowbird: 2 Feb. 26—not many wintering. Cardinal: 44 WCC; 3 at feeders all winter Massena (JAV). Evening Grosbeak: 293 WCC; 316 Dec. 30 not as many as last year—spotty. Pine Grosbeak: 1 WCC; 12 Dec. 7; 24 Dec. 30; 7 Watertown Feb. 2. Com. Redpoll: max. 80+ PtP Jan. 4 scattered—more north of Watertown than south. Pine Siskin: 20 Dec. 13; 9 Dec. 30; 2 B-D Feb. 23. Am. Goldfinch: many small flocks wintered—up to max. 50 ± **RUFIOUS-SIDED TOWHEE**: 3 WCC (Lucile Grant)—very unusual. White-throated Sparrow: 2 WCC; 1 PtP Jan. 1. Song Sparrow: 1 WCC. Lapland Longspur: 2 near Alex. Bay Jan. 3; (TLC); 8 Reynolds Rd. Alex. Bay Jan. 3 (TLC); 2 Massena Feb. 25. Snow Bunting: max. 900/day.

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