

Swallow 2 April 8 (early) (DM&TT).

Blue Jay—max. 2000 May 16 (F&RD). Crow—max. 1500 March 20 (CP). House Wren—arrived April 19 (EV). Winter Wren—possible nesting May 19—Maplewood PK (RS). Carolina Wren—many reports. Long-billed Marsh Wren 1 April 20 (KD *et al.*) (early). Short-billed Marsh Wren—a few—first on May 23. Brown Thrasher—scarce—arrived April 17 (late). Wood Thrush arrived early April 22. Hermit Thrush—late—only one before April. Eastern Bluebird—max. 8 April 27. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher—many reports after April 16. Cedar Wax-wing unbelievably scarce until very late May. Northern Shrike—last April 4. Loggerhead Shrike may be nesting again in Hamlin (F&RD).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: White-eyed Vireo—3 reports April 22 (TT), May 1 (RM) and May 15 (J&SS *et al.*). Solitary Vireo—first April 16. Red-eyed Vireo—first April 22—very early.

The warbler flight was good overall and in some cases excellent. Early records include: Black-and-white Warblers—April 22, Yellow Warbler—April 17, Black-throated Green—April 16, Blackburnian—April 22, and Hooded—April 24. Pine Warbler April 3, early.

A total of 32 species was reported, plus one hybrid-Brewster's. Highlights include Orange-crowned 2 reports, WORM-EATING 2 reports and Prairie 3 reports. The only Kentucky (heard only) is unverified to date—May 23 (JT). Connecticut unreported. The peak date was May 23. Song was poor on many cool, cloudy days, but counts were impressive for Blue-winged (increasing), Cape May, Yellow-rumped and Bay-breasted. Golden-winged, Parula (as usual recently), Blackpoll and Hooded were low in numbers.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: A roost contained 200,000 Red-winged Blackbirds and 40,000 Common Grackles in Chili April 16 (JS). A male Yellow-headed Blackbird was seen on April 16 in Gates (EA). Three separate ORCHARD ORIOLES were reported from May 15-25 all along the WL. One pair was nest building in Kendall (H&G Beaver). A SUMMER TANAGER male and possibly a female were present May 21-23 Kendall N.Y. (H&GB *et al.*). At least 6 House Finches are still near HP (FM) and two or three others were noted elsewhere.

Evening Grosbeaks, Purple Finches and Pine Siskins moved through in good numbers. A Red Crossbill in DP on May 17 (TT). Henslow's Sparrow arrival April 29 was normal; Grasshopper Sparrows—scarce until late May, then numerous. Vesper Sparrows are still very scarce—max. 8 on April 11 EL (R&RKB). The last Dark-eyed Junco was May 23. White-crowned Sparrows passed through very quickly and Fox Sparrows were reported only in very small numbers. A late Lapland Longspur was seen on May 23 near Scottsville (G&SM *et al.*).

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

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Snow began to disappear by early March and very little fell after the 20th. Unusually warm spring weather started the last week of March with temperatures in the 60's F (15-20° C) continuing through most of April. April 18-25 was very warm, temperatures into the 80's F (27+° C). Then a sudden change brought back cold weather that persisted through May. March averaged about 4° F warmer than normal, April about normal, May 4° F below normal. No record lows were set, but the days were extremely cool with much less sunshine than usual. In spite of frequent rains, precipitation was slightly below normal for May.

Trees and spring flowers burst into leaf and bloom during the April warmth. Small numbers of migrants appeared early, geese and ducks left the last week of the month. Return of cold weather kept spring blossoms fresh for weeks and slowed the arrival of the main body of migrants. Warblers trickled through, then there was a late big rush May 26 and 27.

On rainy April 25 with the change in weather Elmira had a red-letter birding day. Several species of ducks, shorebirds, gulls and terns were seen on the Chemung River and ponds, including White-winged Scoters, a female Common Eider and an Arctic Tern. Elmira also reported a Golden Eagle, Iceland Gull in mid-May and Brewer's Blackbird. Ithaca had a rash of more southern species, including White-eyed Vireo and Worm-eating, Yellow-throated and Kentucky Warblers. Geneva had a Golden Eagle, Purple Sandpipers and Avocet. Glossy Ibis were seen at Watkins Glen. Boreal Chickadees stayed until April.

Abbreviations: MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; PY—Penn Yan-Keuka; SAD—Seneca Army Depot; * (starred)—details on file.

Compilers and contributors: Walter E. Benning, Jack Brubaker (Watkins Glen), James Gibson, Robert Gustafson (MNWR), Bernice Hilfiker, Wilfred Howard, Morgan Jones (SAD), Elaine Kibbe (Ithaca), Malcolm Lerch (PY), Thomas Riley, Jeffrey Walters—JW, Jayson Walker, Mary Welles (Elmira).

LOONS—DUCKS: Red-necked Grebe: 1 Aurora Mar. 5. Horned Grebe: left before end of April. Pied-billed Grebe: very few PY, none Penn Yan marsh. Double-crested Cormorant: 1-2 MNWR May 8 thru, usually only occasional sightings. Great Blue Heron: 60 Addison heronry; 50 Bently Creek heronry south of Wellsville Apr. 10. Great Egret: 1 MNWR May 6. **SNOWY EGRET:** 2 MNWR May 15, "saw bill and feet" (TR). Least Bittern: only report 1 Watkins marsh May 16. Am. Bittern: 3 locations PY after being very scarce in late years; max 20 MNWR May 31. **GLOSSY IBIS:** 2 flying over Watkins marsh May 16 (JB).

Whistling Swan: high max 96 on flooded mucklands north of MNWR Mar. 14. Canada Goose: max 85,000 MNWR Apr. 16, gone by Apr. 30, early; 4 with red bands around base of neck near Geneva Mar. 14 (JW). Snow Goose: max continues high, 8,000 MNWR Apr. 1. WEB commented that "with much water on neighboring mucklands ducks were dispersed over them as well as MNWR. Probably near normal numbers of dabbling ducks. Diving ducks in small numbers." The list of duck maxima at MNWR is omitted as not representing normal conditions. Black Duck: much scarcer Elmira, also down PY. Gadwall: increasing PY, pairs at Branchport, Dresden and Penn Yan. Ring-necked Duck: good recovery from recent lows PY. **COMMON EIDER:** 1 female Elmira Apr. 25 (B. Ostrander, WH)*—field note later. White-winged Scoter: 13 MNWR Apr. 16, high for there. Surf Scoter: 1 Cayuga L. Mar. 13 (P. Dubowy).

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: 1-8 MNWR and Marengo Apr. 8 thru. Sharp-shinned Hawk: regularly reported Ithaca, 2 reports Elmira, 1 each Watkins and SAD. Cooper's Hawk: regular Ithaca but scarce; 1 Elmira May 16; Niles May 1 and 15. Red-shouldered Hawk: 2 active nests Ithaca. **GOLDEN EAGLE:** 1 adult over S. Mountain Elmira May 14 (WH, G. Rowley), second record in 26 years; 1 Tyre May 23 feeding on freshly dead raccoon (D. Larson). Peregrine Falcon: 1 Ithaca May 18 (S. Sabo). Turkey: presence at SAD confirmed by tracks, 3 seen near Willard State Hospital. Ring-necked Pheasant: good comeback from recent low population PY. Am. Coot: Max 400 MNWR May 1; only 2 reports Elmira, both Mar.

Twenty species of shorebirds were reported in spite of high water. Ruddy Turnstone: 16 Myers, Cayuga L. May 28, high; 40 Geneva May 27 seen from boat. Upland Sandpiper: Dryden Apr. 18 (P. Kelsey), early. **PURPLE SANDPIPER:** 2 Geneva May 27 (M. Menuhin) by seawall where they could be seen only from a boat. White-rumped Sandpiper: 1 MNWR May 13 (WEB); 1 Big Flats, Elmira May 15 (T. Bates). Dunlin: max 220 MNWR May 20. **AM. AVOCET:** 1 near Lyons May 20 (M. Menuhin *vide* MJ). Wilson's Phalarope: 2 MNWR

May 13, 1 on May 15. **ICELAND GULL**: second year bird Elmira May 11-17 (WH, mob). **ARCTIC TERN**: 1 Elmira Apr. 25 (WH, B. Ostrander, MW)* (written description submitted). **Caspian Tern**: 10 Elmira Apr. 25.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: **Yellow-billed Cuckoo**: 5 singles, scarce. **Black-billed Cuckoo**: good numbers. **Screech Owl**: normal except none PY. **Saw-whet Owl**: Reading Center Mar., Apr. (A. Kopp); 1 Ithaca Apr. 22 (S. Sabo). **Whip-poor-will**: only report 1 near Elmira May 4.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: **E. Kingbird** and **Great Crested Flycatcher**: first May 8, late. **E. Phoebe**: numbers low; 24 pairs SAD compared to 31 in '75 and 37 in '74, 5 nests parasitized by cowbirds, only 3 successfully. **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**: 1 Ithaca May 27. **Alder Flycatcher**: 4 on territory in 2 acres Tompkins Co. airport. **Willow Flycatcher**: seemed scarcer Elmira. **Olive-sided Flycatcher**: singles Ithaca May 15, 22, 24, more than usual.

In spite of the warm April, swallow arrivals were not unusually early. **Cliff Swallow**: Elmira's only record Apr. 25, not seen elsewhere until mid-May; 1 pair PY nesting in Barn Swallow colony; small colony Monterey, seen Tyrone and Alpine. **Purple Martin**: first, 30 MNWR Apr. 7, cold and rain in early May caused some deaths but by May 30 numbers were back up.

Raven: 2 Monterey May 16 (JB) where they were first seen in 1974. **Fish Crow**: 2 again reported Ithaca early Mar. thru. **BOREAL CHICKADEE**: last, 2 Elmira first week of Apr. 1 Ithaca Apr. 5. A chickadee was heard singing the Carolina Chickadee song at Tompkins Co. airport in Mar. (P. Dobowy), species remains a question as the bird was neither captured nor recorded. **Am. Robin**: numbers seem unusually high. **Swainson's Thrush**: 1 Dryden L. Apr. 18 (P. Kelsey), extremely early; several other reports in May. **Gray-cheeked Thrush**: 1 Ithaca April 19 (JG)*, another early May. **E. Bluebird**: grackle predation on eggs observed in Elmira; good numbers PY as more boxes are put up; SAD population continues to increase, 23 pairs but 4 early broods wiped out in cold and rain May 17-19. **Water Pipit**: max 200 Elmira Apr. 6, 250 Ithaca Apr. 10. **N. Shrike**: 3 Ithaca reports to early Apr. **Loggerhead Shrike**: 1 Ithaca Apr. 22 (C. Strickland).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: **WHITE-EYED VIREO**: 1 heard and seen Ithaca May 8 (T. Gilman)*, another May 16 (JG); Elmira May 15. **Red-eyed Vireo**: scarce Penn Yan, none netted (ML). **Philadelphia Vireo**: singles Ithaca May 10, Elmira May 15, Waterloo May 17, Geneva May 23.

WORM-EATING WARBLER: 2 singing males Ithaca May 15 (R. Howard, T. Gilman)*. **LAWRENCE'S WARBLER**: 2 singing males Ithaca May 8, 1 thru; 1 Burdett May 15 to last weekend May (J. Bardeen, mob). **Brewster's**: several Ithaca early May thru; Elmira May 14, 15; 1 PY. **Orange-crowned**: 1 Horseheads May 15 (WH). **Magnolia**: 1 near Union Springs Apr. 18 (B. Wesley), early. **YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER**: 1 singing male Upper Buttermilk Ithaca Apr. 19 thru (K. Rosenberg, mob), song recorded. **Pine**: late and scarce. **Prairie**: Ithaca May 6, 16; 3 locations Elmira. **Palm**: first, May 1 Ithaca, late. **KENTUCKY WARBLER**: 1 singing male Ithaca May 13 (B. Howe)*. **Hooded**: 1 Elmira May 11, 15.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: **Bobolink**: good numbers, especially Elmira and Clifton Springs. **ORCHARD ORIOLE**: immature male Elmira May 15 (WH). **BREWER'S BLACK-BIRD**: male seen and heard Horseheads Apr. 5 (WH)* (written description submitted). **Rose-breasted Grosbeak**: abundant Ithaca early May. **Evening Grosbeak**: numbers increased late Apr. with large flocks reported into May, most left by May 25. **House Finch**: 2 at feeder near Keuka Park. **Red Crossbill**: nest with 4 eggs found on ground after severe windstorm Elmira Apr. 10 probably of this species; 10 Penn Yan May 1; 12-15 at Ithaca feeder May 17; pair Odessa May 25.

Grasshopper Sparrow: first, Ithaca May 15, late, numbers good. **Henslow's Sparrow**: scarce Ithaca, 3 or 4 singing males on location end of May; 1 Elmira May 15 first in several years. **Vesper Sparrow**: very scarce PY, noticeable decline Clifton Springs, but more seen

during migration Ithaca than last few years. Dark-eyed Junco (OREGON): 1 Elmira Mar. 21, 22 (D. Long). Tree Sparrow: 1 Ithaca May 16, very late (M. Braun)*. Harris' Sparrow: 1 adult feeding with White-crowned Sparrows Ithaca for several days around May 20 (Mrs. H. Kellogg); not confirmed but description good. White-crowned Sparrow: scarce Penn Yan, ML netted only 10, usually about 100.

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REGION 4 -- SUSQUEHANNA

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Late March and most of April averaged rather warm, which presumably accounted for some unusually early records, i.e. Purple Martin and Northern Oriole. May, however, turned cold and wet and several common migrants, notably Yellow-rumped Warblers and Dark-eyed Juncos, responded by remaining in relatively large numbers until late in the month.

Tufted Titmice, Carolina Wrens and Mockingbirds showed no noticeable decrease after the severe January weather.

Rarities during the period included a Cerulean Warbler and a Yellow-headed Blackbird.

Special abbreviations: Bing-Binghamton; Port-Portlandville; WP-Whitney Point.

Observers: Jeanette and Cutler Baldwin; Jean Barnes; Reynolds Bennett; Mrs. R. J. Bookhout; Anne Casselberry; Mildred Clarke; Gail Corderman; Glenys Curran; Anna and Marilyn Davis; Louise and Warren Dean; Mary Dobinsky; J. Doig; Sadie Dorber; Clinton Gerould; Claire Gottschall; S. Hartman; Elva Hawken; Claude Howard; Cindy Kirch; Florence Linaberry; S. MacPherson; Esther Mains; Harriet Marsi; Rick Marsi; P. and D. Martin; Bud Meade; Mary Ann Middleton; Robert Pantle; Roger Pratt; Robert, Jean and Jim Saunders; Mary Sheffield; Lee Stockton; Josephine Tuttle; E. and F. Vermilya; Elizabeth Washburn; Donald Weber; Cora Wellman; Mildred White; Ruth and Sally White; Elinor Whitson; Evelyn Williams; Kathryn Wilson; Irene Wright.

LOONS-DUCKS: Common Loon: 5 Goodyear L Mar. 21; 3 other reports, last at Norwich Apr. 16. Red-necked Grebe: 3 Norwich Apr. 16. Horned Grebe: 1 Crumhorn, Otsego Co. Apr. 17 last of 13 reports. Pied-billed Grebe: 10 reports from Mar. 20 WP to May 16 Owego. Double-crested Cormorant: May 17 WP (FL, HM). Great Blue Heron: migrants arriving Mar. 19. Green Heron: Apr. 26 Owego; next report May 6. Black-crowned Night Heron: 2 flying over Ingraham Hill May 3, s. of Bing. Am. Bittern: 1 Laurens, Otsego Co. Apr. 18; Apr. 30 Vestal; no others. Mute Swan: 1 on Mirror L at Owego during Mar. and Apr. Whistling Swan: up to 5 WP Mar. 5 to 21; 1 Chenango Bridge Mar. 8; 1 Port. May 8 and 9. Canada Goose: large flocks (100 plus) until May 4. Brant: "large flock" May 1 (J,CB). Gadwall: 1 WP Mar. 14 (RM); 2 Norwich Apr. 16 (R,SW), Green-winged Teal: WP 8 on Mar. 23 and 2 Apr. 11; no others. Blue-winged Teal: Mar. 20 WP; 11 more reports to Apr. 24 then only May 16 Owego. Redhead: Mar. 20 Owego, the only report. Ring-necked Duck: 1 near Port. Mar. 3, first migrant; 55 Apr. 10, max; May 8 last date. Canvasback: 22 WP Mar. 14, max; also reported from Port., Oneonta and Owego; last date Apr. 5. Scaup: Apr. 4 over 20 WP max; last date May 1 Owego; Greater specifically identified at Owego during Mar. and Apr.; Lesser reported at Owego, Oneonta area, WP and Norwich. Common Goldeneye: last date Apr. 10 Oneonta area. Bufflehead: Mar. 22 Owego, first; 8 WP Apr. 4 max; 2 WP Apr. 11 last; no others. Oldsquaw: 1 Norwich Apr. 16; also at Owego in Apr. White-winged Scoter: Apr. 4 WP; 2 Candor Apr. 10; last date May 9. Ruddy Duck: 8 Green-