

rd. Brownville May 18-27 (TLC). White-crowned Sparrow: May 2. Swamp Sparrow: Apr. 15. Lapland Longspur: 11 Baggs Corners Mar. 17. Snow Bunting: 20 Baggs Corners Mar. 17; last Mar. 17.

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REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK—CHAMPLAIN

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Spring weather was variable. April had several unseasonably warm days. The birds were not fooled by this, however, and did not arrive too early for their own good. May was cold for the most part with 10 inches of snow closing the road between Lake Placid and Saranac Lake on May 19. The wet snow brought down newly leaved aspen and bent many red pines to the ground. Many balsams lost their tops.

I know of one Ovenbird and two Wood Thrush nests that were abandoned because of snow, but these were without eggs so the birds probably rebuilt a few days later when snow melted. Scarlet Tanagers were weak to the point of being unafraid of humans, but most made it by catching insects on the ground under evergreens. Woodcock also headed for these areas and to the spring seeps.

The Essex and Franklin County spring counts each had over a hundred species. These are fine tallies for the North Country. The help of each who took part was important and made these days successful.

Abbreviations: Cham—Champlain; Chazy Ldg—Chazy Landing; E'town—Elizabethtown; PS—Paul Smiths; Platts—Plattsburgh; Ti—Ticonderoga; Tup Marsh—Tupper Lake Marsh.

Observers: Deborah Anson, Teresa Anson, Helen & Robert Booth, David Cate, Geoffrey Carleton, Charlie Delehanty, High Peaks Audubon Society, Richard Guthrie, Robert Hagar, Dr. Marguerite Kingsbury, Hal Klein, Don Knies, Ferdinand LaFrance, Ted Mack, Margaret and Robert McKinney, John and Betsy MacMillan, Lawrence Master, Ruth Meier, Dan Nickerson, John M. C. Peterson, William Peterson, Pat Tabor, Phil Warren.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: good numbers of residents. Horned Grebe: first Feb. 22 Essex (DN). Pied-billed Grebe: 1 Whallon's Bay L Cham Mar. 27 (HiPkAu); 1 Tup L Apr. 15 (MK). Green Heron was seen at many Adirondack areas where it is usually absent. Cattle Egret is doing well on Four Bros Is. One found by RH May 2 was displaying for a white bleach bottle near Saranac L. CD saw one May 7 at Tup Marsh. American Bittern: good numbers. Canada Goose: large concentrations L Cham thru Apr. Brant: max May 9 Chazy Ldg 130 (H&RB). Several small flocks of Snow Geese were on L Cham. More inland Mallards showed up than usual. This would be a rare breeder if found on forest water where the Black Duck is to be expected. Usual numbers of Black Ducks breeding with 9 downy young swimming behind adult May 22 near PS; 8,000 transients L Cham Apr. 16 (JP,WP). Pintail: regular L Cham migrant with max 17 Essex Mar. 15 (HiPkAu). Green-winged Teal: 2 Essex Mar. 27 (HiPkAu); 2 PS Apr. 18. Northern Shoveler: regular L Cham with max 8 Chazy Ldg Apr. 15 (PW). Redhead: all season until May 15 L Cham (PW). Ring-necked Duck: 16 Tup Marsh Apr. 9 (CD) and several breeders near PS. Several Lesser Scaup seen with Greater on L Cham. **BARROW'S GOLDENEYE**: a female with bright orange bill, gray body and white neck ring was carefully documented Mar. 6 at Essex (DN, JP, GR, PT); a male Apr. 18 Chazy Ldg well described (Jan Parker). Scoter: 6 Lincoln P Apr. 19 (DN)—one was White-winged and the others not seen so well.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: HiPkAu recorded 439 hawks from their lookouts near L Cham. Turkey Vulture: at least 25 so a breeding record may occur. Cooper's Hawk: 1 Essex Mar. 26 (JP); 1 Minerva May 23 (TM); 1 Wadhams May 23 (DN, JP). Bald Eagle: 2 L Cham (HiPkAu). Marsh Hawk: only 5 reported including an early 1 Mar. 9 Westport (PT). Osprey: at least 10, mostly migrants but 2 were on Bear P nest at PS. Virginia Rail: sev from PS to Platts. Sora: 1 Essex May 15 (HiPkAu). American Woodcock: good numbers altho those nesting where birders and others let their cats run loose don't fare too well; Pettingill in his thesis mentioned one cat that killed at least 18 in one season. Common Snipe: 2 early birds Ti Apr. 7 (BMac). Semipalmated Plover: 3 Chazy Ldg May 3 (PW). Black-bellied Plover: 3 Chazy Ldg May 20 (PW). Upland Sandpiper: first May 15 Platts where they bred last year (PW). Least Sandpiper: a few L Cham and inland to PS. Dunlin: 1 in spring plumage May 20 Chazy Ldg (PW). Short-billed Dowitcher: 10 seen close as well as 65 in one flock flying that were definitely dowitchers and presumed also to be this species. Bonaparte's Gull: max 65 May 9 Platts (PW). Black Tern: 1 Tup Marsh May 30 (CD); 5 L Alice May 31 (PW, HK).

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: sev at towns including 1 Tup L Mar 6 (RM). Saw-whet Owl: at least 3 from PS to E'town. Ruby-throated Hummingbird in fine numbers. Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 Platts May 12 (Ed Hale); 1 Heart L May 14 (DC); 1 Westport in May; 1 Upper Jay last week of May (JMac). Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: at least 3 pairs near PS; 1 Panther Peak May 31 (M&RMc).

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: max 8 Santanoni Mtn. May 29 (M&RMc). Alder Flycatcher: good numbers. Eastern Wood Pewee: very scarce inland. Olive-sided Flycatcher: good numbers. Raven: 3 active nests with 3 young in two of them; max 6 at the third nest May 13 (MK); 1 E'town late Mar (GC); 1 on Apr. 18 over my house croaking and trying to elude a crow (Cathy & TM). Black-capped Chickadee: 150 migrants L Cham May 9 (PW). Brown Creeper: max 10 Ferd's Bog May 8 (FL). Short-billed Marsh Wren: 1 seen and heard Peru May 29 (Charlie Mitchell). Mockingbird: at least 28 from PS and L Placid to L Cham including the 10 pair at Platts. Hermit Thrush: good numbers. Swainson's Thrush: excellent numbers after being scarce the last two years. **BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER:** 1 Ti May 15 (HiPkAu) and a new breeding bird for region with the discovery of a nest with young of the species, 50 feet up in an elm on Schuyler Is L Cham by (JP, PT, DA, TA) on May 29; this is an extension of 100 miles to northern limits of range; details sent to *Kingbird* editor. Loggerhead Shrike: 1 Platts Mar. 28 (PW, DK) carefully identified and recognized as out of season; 2 Saranac L Apr. 3 at 50 feet with scope, no breast markings, bright coloration noted, etc. by (RH) who also saw a Northern Shrike Apr. 24 at Schroon L. Another Loggerhead, Westport Apr. 15 (DA, DN, JP, PT).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: 1 Wickham Marsh May 29 (JP)—rare. Solitary Vireo: very common. Philadelphia Vireo: 1 Saranac L May 6 (RH); 1 Saranac L May 24 (MK). Many early dates for warblers were noted. The snow of May 19 which stayed a few days made interesting warbler watching. Black-and-white Warbler: 1 E'town Apr. 22 (GC)—early. Magnolia Warbler: 1 E'town May 3 (GC)—early. Cape May Warbler: excellent numbers of transients. Lots of Blackburnian and Chestnut-sided. Bay-breasted is usually scarce but was exceptionally hard to find. Prairie Warbler: 1 singing male Crown Pt May 11 (JP). Palm Warbler: everyone saw several. Louisiana Waterthrush: 1 E'town Apr. 22 (GC). Mourning Warbler: more than usual breeders. Canada Warbler: fewer than normal PS area.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: Orchard Oriole: 1 immature male Ti May 9 (B&JMac); 1 adult male Crown Pt. May 9 (DN, JP); 1 female Crown Pt May 10 (JP). They are there every year at the proper season for nesting. Rusty Blackbird: good numbers. **SUMMER TANAGER:** 1 singing changing male E'town May 30 (GC). Full details to *Kingbird* editor. Pine Grosbeak: last 1 Lewis Apr. 21 (DN). Pine Siskin: many small flocks in May; 18 Saranac L May 22 (MK). Lincoln's Sparrow: excellent year with birds using new areas.

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