

(HW). HOUSE FINCHES produced well: one yg at D. Baker's feeder, Olean June 18 (SE), one yg at Eggertsville July 31 (AM,WM) and 3 yg irregularly at Belmont July 1-Aug 31 (DB,LB). Am. Goldfinches tallied 337(L-) on BBS; 28 nests fledged only 47 yg in Amity (VP). A total 75 Red Crossbills in 3 locations stayed through June 11.

On BBS no sparrows rated an "H+," but "L-" were: 408 Savannah, zero Henslow's (absent for 1st time), 13 Vesper, 139 Field, and 836 Song; 5 Grasshopper rated "L". Low on Abbs was Vesper Sparrow: 5(-). A White-throated Sparrow's nest watched near Alfred was abandoned (EB). A single Lincoln's Sparrow arrived early near Barker Aug. 25 (DK).

CORRECTION: In *The Kingbird* Vol. XXVI No. 3 p. 156, the "7 collared birds . . . noted in 2 areas" should read: "7 collared birds (5 Whistling Swans and 2 Canada Geese) were noted in 2 areas; and Canada Geese reported in Hume . . ." My thanks to LB for spotting this.

Amity Lake, Belmont, New York 14813

REGION 2 — GENESEE

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Summer was cooler, cloudier, and wetter than usual. Only 2 days of 90° F (32+° C) temperature occurred while rainfall totaled more than 3 inches (7.6 cm) above average. July was especially wet and cloudy while August contained the only dry stretch from the 14th to the 28th.

Water levels remained very high so that many shorebirds were scarce. Good numbers of herons and some waterfowl seem to reflect good breeding conditions. Some species of perching birds were delayed in nesting and ground nesters may have been hurt by the damp, cool weather.

The late spring flight did not extend as far into June as usual nor did the fall warbler flight begin as early as last summer. Shorebirding was better in August than in July and by the end of the month, good numbers of migrant insectivores were being seen.

Positive trends: (1) Continued breeding success of local herons and ducks, (2) Second location for nesting Goshawk, (3) Reappearance of Acadian Flycatcher as a nesting species, (4) Prospering Cliff Swallow and Short-billed Marsh Wren colonies, (5) Good numbers of some returning warblers in late August, (6) Slight improvement in status of short-tailed sparrows.

Negative trends: (1) Few Pied-billed Grebes again, (2) No improvement in Marsh Hawks or Red-shouldered Hawks, (3) Bald Eagle nest failed again, (4) Poor shorebird habitat, (5) Local tern reports low—i.e. Common Tern and Black Tern, (6) Chimney Swift declining—Com. Nighthawk virtually gone as a breeder, (7) Damp, cool weather may have hurt breeding insectivores, (8) Vesper Sparrow only slightly better.

Rarities: Wood Stork, Bald Eagle, Willet, Ruff, Acadian Flycatcher, Prairie Warbler, Orchard Oriole, Red Crossbill, Fox Sparrow.

Abbreviations: BS—Bergen Swamp, BB—Braddock's Bay, HL—Hemlock Lake, IC—Island Cottage, PB—Point Breeze, WL—West Lakeshore.

Observers: Mike Carlson, Julie Claffey, Roger Clark, Frank and Robert Dobson, Kay Doris, Arlene and John Foster, Genesee Ornithological Society, Allen Kemnitzer, Dave

Linehan, James and Walter Listman, Joe and Thelma McNutt, Many Observers, Richard O'Hara, Chip Perrigo, Rochester Birding Association, Jean Shelby, Robert and Sue Spahn, Ann Stear, James Street, Sarah Talpery, David, Mike and Tom Tetlow, Robert Thoman, Doris Wiltow.

LOONS-DUCKS: Pied-billed Grebe still scarce. Several Double-crested Cormorants noted in June and early July. Cattle Egret—at least 4 thru July. Great Egret—2 in late August WL (MOB). **WOOD STORK**—2nd regional record—2 birds flying on WL July 6—well seen (J&TM). Glossy Ibis—last June 4 3 birds BB (JS). Whistling Swan—one until June 13 in Hamlin (AK & RO). Canada Goose reported every month—breeding?

Unusual duck reports—all on WL unless otherwise noted. Gadwall—max. 11, one adult and 10 young; Pintail—3 July 31, Perinton (TT); Green-winged Teal; American Wigeon; No. Shoveler—2 reports; Redhead—2 reports; Lesser Scaup; C. Goldeneye 1 BB (MOB); Bufflehead—up to 3 (MOB); Ruddy Duck—2 reports; Hooded Merganser—August, all month; (RD *et al.*); Red-breasted Merganser—1 June 13 (AK & RO). This lingering trend may lead to future breeding in some cases and deserves close watching.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Goshawk apparently nesting at BS (DL *et al.*) as well as Honeoye Lake (CP *et al.*). Sharp-shinned Hawk—5 reports, Cooper's Hawk only one. Red-shouldered Hawk one in early June and three singles in late August—no evidence of breeding. Broad-winged Hawk—2 single August records. Rough-legged Hawk—last June 8 Hamlin (WL). **BALD EAGLE**—one imm June 8 BB (JC *et al.*) and one ad June 22 Kendall (KD *et al.*).

Late spring shorebird reports include: Black-bellied Plover June 8, Gr. Yellowlegs June 12, Wilson's Phalarope—1 or 2 remained to June 17 (WL *et al.*). Another was in Perinton June 17 and 18 (M&DT)—no nesting evidence as yet. Eight Upland Sandpipers in Avon June 13 (GOS) was the best count. Three were in Carlton July 11 (AS *et al.*).

Returning shorebirds have been scattered and in small numbers due to lack of good habitat. At times only rainwater in plowed fields was available. Early reports: Gr. Yellowlegs July 1; Semipalmated Sandpiper June 30; Least Sandpiper June 27. Other notable August records: **WILLET** August 13 BB (R&SS), **RUFF** August 14 BB (RS), Red Knot August 24 & 25, Baird's Sandpiper 1 to 5 birds all month BB (MOB). Wilson's Phalarope 1 August 10 PB (CP); Buff-breasted Sandpiper 1 to 2 August 22-29 Kendall (J&WL *et al.*).

An estimate of 15,000 Ring-billed Gulls July 18 is high WL (CP). Bonaparte's Gulls, Common Terns, except for 35 August 22 BB (CP), and even Black Terns have all been low in numbers. Forster's Tern was noted 8 times in late August—one to two birds.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Mourning Doves continue to prosper and both cuckoos were well reported.

The first Barn Owl in three years appeared in Honeoye Falls—mid-July to August 17 (A&JF *et al.*). Barred Owls were noted at Bergen Swamp and Honeoye Lake. A late migrant Long-eared Owl was at PB June 13 (AK & RO) and a Saw-whet Owl in Clarkson on June 8 and 9 is also late (RC).

Ten Whip-poor-wills at Bergen Swamp June 10 is a fine count (MC *et al.*). Breeding Com. Nighthawks dropped still lower—almost none are left. Migrants did appear both in early June and late August. Chimney Swifts—are down and bear watching.

Woodpecker reports are normal—only a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker at Honeoye Lake June 5 was noteworthy (RBA).

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Fewer Great Crested Flycatchers and E. Wood Pewees were reported. Perhaps less singing in the cool, damp weather was the cause. Noteworthy late departure dates: Yellow-bellied Flycatcher—June 8 and Olive-sided Flycatcher—June 11. Both were reported again in late August. Best of all is the pair of **ACADIAN FLYCATCH-**

ERS at BS June 14 to July 10 (DL *et al.*). Another singing male was there also.

The Cliff Swallows' new Manitou colony had 15 nests this year but most were knocked down to paint the building. July Bank Swallow flocks were smaller than usual—max. 800 WL (DW *et al.*). Brown Creepers—max. 4—July 13 BS (DL *et al.*).

Up to 8 Short-billed Marsh Wrens at SB June 27 (A&BK) and others elsewhere are encouraging reports. Only one Hermit Thrush was reported at HL and few bluebirds were noted anywhere. A max. of 15 Golden-crowned Kinglets at HL June 18 appears to indicate a growing colony there (CP). A very early Ruby-crowned Kinglet was seen August 10 IC (CP) and 2 equally early Water Pipits were noted on August 3 (DW *et al.*). One Loggerhead Shrike near BB August 15 is the only report (F&RD).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Two Solitary Vireos June 14 HL were probably nesting (Ja.S. *et al.*); migrants were seen August 13 at BB (RC) and August 18 in Penfield (RT).

Both vireo and warbler song was poor at times during the cool nesting season so that birds were often hard to find. Nesting success may have been affected. Twenty species of warblers were reported from nesting territories during June. This includes every expected species except Hooded Warbler which is very scarce here now. Among the best records were: Nashville Warbler 2 BS June 13 (MC & CP); Yellow-rumped Warbler 2 reports HL; a singing male PRAIRIE WARBLER in Rush all June (ST *et al.*).

Considering the cool June weather it is surprising that more migrant warblers did not tarry longer. After June 6 even the Blackpoll Warbler was gone. However, a vagrant Nashville Warbler appeared in Brighton July 23 (JC) and a Tennessee Warbler was singing in Webster July 5 (AK). In addition a Blackburnian Warbler was far from nesting areas July 20 WL (DW *et al.*).

Best August records include: Cape May Warbler 50 BB August 20 (CP); Pine Warbler 1 August 21 (RS); Palm Warbler 1 August 13 (CP); American Redstart 30 August 28 (CP). Several observers commented on the homogeneous groupings—one day many Tennessee Warblers, another day mostly Bay-breasted Warblers, and still another day largely Cape May Warblers, or some other species.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: Western Meadowlark—apparently gone. The ORCHARD ORIOLE nest reported in May was abandoned but the pair at PB nested again—2 ad and 4 yg July 18 (CP & RC). Red-winged Blackbirds, Common Grackles, and Brown-headed Cowbirds all seem somewhat reduced.

Indigo Bunting—prospering—good numbers everywhere. House Finch—still only a few here. A very late Evening Grosbeak June 3 WL. Also two were in Perinton on the unlikely date of July 25 (TT). The last Pine Siskins were seen on June 12 (RD). Twelve RED CROSS-BILLS on June 1 and two on July 3 at Brooklea are very late (RS)—no evidence of nesting.

Among the sparrows, improvement was reported for Henslow's Sparrows and Grasshopper Sparrows in a few locations, but they are still missing from many likely locations. Vesper Sparrows are completely gone from most former breeding areas on the lake plain, but are a little better in the hilly land south of Rochester. Perhaps more intensive cultivation of land is a factor in their sudden decline here.

Unusual sparrow reports include: White-crowned Sparrow—one singing male PB June 24 (WCL); White-throated Sparrow—two on June 5 (JS *et al.*) and August 10 (CP). A record late spring FOX SPARROW report is two birds June 3 in Webster (R&SS). A Lincoln's Sparrow on August 10 at IC (CP) is extremely early.

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