

21, 22 (LC); single Fox Sparrows, on the ACBC, at Orchard Park Oct. 1, Nov. 1 (Saville), and at E. Amherst Oct. 17 (DF); and Lincoln's Sparrow: 2 on the ACBC, 4 in Hume Sept. 13 (KP), one banded at Alfred Sept. 28 (EB), and one, late, at Times Beach Oct. 24 (DF). A Lapland Longspur arr at Times Beach Oct. 24 (DF) and the first Snow Buntings were 25 at Cheektowaga the same day (R. Hull).

Addendum: Noteworthy sightings not included in the Region 1 Summer report are: a rare **BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER** at Clarence Aug. 15 (DF+); one more **WILSON'S PHALAROPE** at Iroquois NWR Aug. 8 (AM,WM); another **WHITE-EYED VIREO** at Newstead Aug. 20 (DF); the first Pine Warbler of fall migration at Alfred Aug. 29 (CK); and a Connecticut Warbler at Times Beach Aug. 29 (Foster).

Amity Lake, Belmont, New York 14813

REGION 2 – GENESEE

RICHARD O'HARA

Following a cool, wet summer, we have had a cold but rather dry fall. September was mild, but October was one of the coldest on record here, and November was remarkably consistent—steady cold and lots of birds but without very pronounced waves—especially of early waterfowl and most passerine species. An exception was a heavy incursion of gulls and some diving ducks in mid-November. Water levels on Lake Ontario dropped belatedly producing a few good records of late shore birds. So far, the flight of most cyclical winter visitants has been poor except for Northern Shrike and Pine Siskin which has been only fair. Some of the finches are almost entirely absent, and the Snowy Owl is still unreported to date.

Rarities: Eared Grebe, Harlequin Duck, King Rail, Hudsonian Godwit, Whimbrel, Red Phalarope, Purple Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Pomarine Jaeger, Parasitic Jaeger, Franklin's Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Thayer's Gull, Yellow-throated Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, European Goldfinch.

Positive Trends: (1) excellent variety of species reported—except for some passerines. (2) seven reports of jaegers—both Pomarine and Parasitic—above average. (3) tremendous flight of gulls—ten species noted. (4) many Northern Shrikes. (5) good variety of warblers—some species in good numbers.

Negative Trends: (1) rather poor flight of dabbling ducks. (2) no Peregrines. (3) shore bird habitat poor—most numbers low. (4) no Snowy Owls—few Rough-legged Hawks. (5) few winter finches to date.

Abbreviations: BB—Braddocks Bay; DP—Durand Park; EL—East Lakeshore; GOS—Genesee Ornithological Society; HP—Hamlin Park; IBO—Irondequoit Bay Outlet; mob—many observers; MP—Mendon Ponds; NC—Northrup Creek; OB—Ontario Beach; PB—Point Breeze; RBA—Rochester Birding Association; SB—Sodus Bay; WP—Webster Park.

Observers Cited: Roger Clark, Jerry Czech, Frank and Robert Dobson, Kay Doris, Arlene and John Foster, Neil Henderson, Al Kemnitzner, J. Lillard, Walter C. Listman, Warren Lloyd, Neil Moon, Don Nelson, Richard O'Hara, Chip Perrigo, Pat Reister, Jean Shelly, Robert and Sue Spahn, William Symonds, Dave, Mike and Tom Tetlow, Robert Thomen, Kenneth Winkler, Gijs Woldke.

LOONS—DUCKS: Red-throated Loon max. 6—Nov. 14 (low). Red-necked Grebe, only 4

reports, all singles, Oct. 19 to Nov. 25. **EARED GREBE**, one, Oct. 10 BB (CP). Double-crested Cormorant, max. 4—Oct. 28 BB (NH). Great Egret—last Oct. 10 IB (WL). Whistling Swan several reports—max. 10—Oct. 20. Brant—peak day Oct. 26—hundreds reported flying by several parties. Snow Goose, max. 4 (blue)—Oct. 26 HB (KD *et al.*).

Early arrival dates among the ducks are getting hard to pinpoint with so many species now summering here, but the following reports are of interest: Ring-necked Duck 3 Sept. 26; Canvasback 3 Sept. 25; Greater Scaup 2 Sept. 11; Oldsquaw 4 Sept. 10; both Black Scoter and Surf Scoter Sept. 28. Also noteworthy are a very early **HARLEQUIN DUCK** Oct. 16 PB (CP) and high counts of 27 Ruddy Ducks at SB Oct. 10 (TT *et al.*) and 17 at HP Oct. 28 (GOS) as well as 1400 Oldsquaw and 800 White-winged Scoters IBO Nov. 14 (AK). Hooded and Red-breasted Mergansers numbers were also good.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: A Goshawk on Sept. 6 (early) was the first of 4 reported (JC). Sharp-shinned Hawk was noted 10 times and Cooper's Hawk 6 times this fall. The first Rough-legged Hawk was early Sept. 5 EL (WL *et al.*) but only a few were seen this fall. An adult Bald Eagle was seen at Mt. Morris Nov. 6 (KW). Single Merlins were reported on Sept. 16, 19 and 21, all near the lakeshore. Peregrine—no reports.

A **KING RAIL**, rare here, was well described and compared to nearby Common Gallinules for size Sept. 1 HP (GW). At least 28 species of shore birds appeared here in spite of rather poor conditions for them, but numbers were rather low in most cases. The best records were: Am. Golden Plover 80 Lima Sept. 12 (A&JF) and 100 Sept. 15. Hamlin (CP), **HUDSONIAN GODWIT** 1 Oct. 5 BB (RBA) and 1 Oct. 17 OB (R&SS). **WHIMBREL** max 3. Sept. 15 WL (WS), Northern Phalarope—several reports, 1-2 birds Sept. 4-15 WL. **RED PHALAROPE** 1 Oct. 28 IBO (AK). Long-billed Dowitcher Oct. 30 to Nov. 7 (last) NC (NM *et al.*), **PURPLE SANDPIPER** 1 Oct. 30 R&SS, Western Sandpiper 1 Oct. 5 (last), **BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER**, max. 5 (very good) Sept. 16-25 Kendall (mob).

Red Knots were scarce this fall, but Baird's Sandpipers were widespread, max. 4. Pomarine Jaeger—4 reports Oct. 10-24 WL (RBA), **PARASITIC JAEGER**—3 reports, 1-2 Oct. 10-16 WL (RBA)—both more than usual.

Gulls were truly spectacular. Thousands of Herring, Ring-billed and Bonaparte's Gulls—max. 6000 est. Nov. 28 (F&RD)—were joined by hundreds of Great Black-backed Gulls. Sharp-eyed observers also noted several Little Gulls, 3 **FRANKLIN'S GULLS** Nov. 21-26 (RC *et al.*) and 3 **BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKES**—2 on Nov. 8 BB (WCL) and 1 on Nov. 23 HP (CP). **THAYER'S GULLS**—noted in August were again reported and carefully described—3 ad. Sept. 1-7 Kendall (CP *et al.*). The first Glaucous Gulls were two seen Nov. 25 and 2 early Iceland Gulls were noted on Oct. 28 WP (AK). Most observers felt that a huge die-off of minnows, obvious on many beaches, attracted the gulls to this region.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: A Long-eared Owl Sept. 11 at BB was very early (CP). Another was found dead on Nov. 3 at HP. The first Short-eared Owls appeared Nov. 13—4 birds near HP (RC&WS). Snowy Owl—no reports.

Common Nighthawk—peak 32 over Rochester Sept. 6 (DN). A very late one was at Honeoye Falls on Oct. 16 (AF). Chimney Swift also stayed very late in Penfield—40 noted Oct. 8, and one on Oct. 19 (RT). Common Flickers staged a good flight—200 on Sept. 28 was the high count and a Pileated Woodpecker at BB on Sept. 19 is an unusual location.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: A very late E. Phoebe was seen near Genesee Nov. 14 (D,M&TT). A few Yellow-bellied Flycatchers and one Olive-sided Flycatcher were noted in September. Swallows disappeared early, and numbers were not very high. Red-breasted Nuthatches were reported only in small numbers, also. A very late House Wren was in Lima Nov. 14 (A&JF). Both Swainson's and Gray-cheeked Thrushes were rather early and common for a time in mid-September. The last report of each was Oct. 17 (late). A count of 300 Water Pipit on Oct. 4 is good WL (WS). Northern Shrikes came early—first Oct. 26—and

in good numbers. A single Loggerhead Shrike was present Sept. 4 WL (WS) and another was in Hamlin Oct. 30 (R&SS).

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: The flight of these species was steady and for some species good, but there were no really heavy waves due to mild weather in September. October produced some unusual late dates and November two spectacular ones. Most outstanding were the **YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER** at BB Sept. 4 (WCL) a first fall record here, and a **KENTUCKY WARBLER** Sept. 14 (WL) Webster. Other noteworthy reports include: 5 Orange-crowned Warblers Sept. 3-15 (early) and 2 on Nov. 28 MP (A&JF)—very late, Pine Warbler 1 Sept. 4 Webster (WL), Connecticut Warbler—4 reports (high) Sept. 11-19, and 2 Am. Redstarts (imm. and female) MP Nov. 28 new late date (A&JF).

Warblers noted in unusual numbers include: Cape May, max. 25, Black-throated Blue, max. 25, Bay-breasted, max. 60, Blackpoll, max. 45. In addition, late reports were: Tennessee Warbler Oct. 12, Pine Warbler Oct. 21 and Louisiana Waterthrush Oct. 8 Penfield (RT)—very late but well described.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: No really large flocks of blackbirds were reported except Starlings—are they declining? A count of 500 Rusty Blackbirds at WL is good, however (F&RD). A report of 30 Rose-breasted Grosbeaks at IC Sept. 16 is high (JS). House Finches—3 stations, known in Rochester area now. Evening Grosbeaks—only one report—very low. Purple Finch—small numbers but widespread. 500 Am. Goldfinches is a high count Nov. 4 Hamlin (JS,PR). A **EUROPEAN GOLDFINCH** again appeared in Penfield Nov. 23 (JL). Common Redpoll—3 reports Oct. 15-30, max. 10. Pine Grosbeak—2 reports—both Oct. 30, 1 and 2 birds only. Red Crossbill—4 Oct. 30 DP (RO). White-winged Crossbill—1 Nov. 8 Brockport (GW) only records. This is certainly not the year for northern finches thus far.

Sparrows were rather poorly reported except for very large numbers of White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows at the end of September with peaks of 250 and 1500 respectively. A single "Oregon" Junco was noted in Lima Nov. 24 (AF). A few Fox Sparrows and one early Lapland Longspur accompanied them. Snow Buntings were present after mid-October in small flocks.

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

W. E. BENNING

Brrr-r-r. The fall season was one of the coldest on record with September, October and November temperatures averaging, respectively, 4°, 7° and 6° F. (2°, 4°, and 3° C) below normal. A killing frost occurred on September 21. Light snows came in late October and flurries continued thru November with the ground white by Thanksgiving. Precipitation was normal in September. Heavy rains fell October 9-10. November precipitation was below normal.

The number of hawk sightings, excluding Red-tails and Am. Kestrels which are doing well, encourages one to feel cautiously optimistic about their future. However, the increase in sightings may be more apparent than real as one third of them came from Thatcher's Pinnacles, a recently discovered hawk migration watching spot near West Danby. Another raptor plus was the pair of Barn Owls that successfully fledged a brood at Odessa.

Shore-birding at Tschache Pool, Montezuma Refuge, was excellent during the first half