

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.

265 Carling Road, Rochester, New York 14610

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

of September until the water level was raised to facilitate the duck hunters. In all, 27 species were observed. Elsewhere in the region there was little shore-birding.

The sighting of a possible Fish Crow (no vocalizations heard but a good description filed) at Elmira, added to the presence of the species at Ithaca for the past three years, raises the question of a possible range extension for the bird.

Another plus was the banding of 26 Gray-cheeked Thrushes at Penn Yan by Malcolm Lerch.

Northern finches were the big disappointment of the season. Two reports each of a few Evening Grosbeaks and Purple Finches, single sightings of Common Redpoll, Pine Siskin and Red Crossbill and no Pine Grosbeaks or White-winged Crossbills sum up the story of the season.

A total of 453+ birds (of 42 species) were killed at the WSYE-TV tower in Elmira this fall. Of these 236, including 17 species of warblers and 13 others, died on the night of Oct. 2-3.

Rarities include Louisiana Heron, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Forster's Tern, Wheatear and Bohemian Waxwing.

Abbreviations: Cay—Cayuga; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; PY—Penn Yan-Keuka; ThP—Thatcher's Pinnacles near West Danby; * (starred)—details on file.

Compilers and contributors: Walter E. Benning; Michael Braun; Jack Brubaker (Watkins Glen); James Gibson (Ithaca); Robert Gustafson (MNWR); Bernice Hilfiker; Wilfred Howard; Malcolm Lerch (PY); F. G. Scheider; Jeffery Walters; Mary Welles (Elmira).

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: up to 10 seen on Cay L. Pied-billed Grebe: max 100 MNWR Sept. 1. Double-crested Cormorant: Ithaca 3 Sept. 9 and 1 Oct. 2; 1 MNWR Sept. 21. Great Egret: 4 MNWR thru Sept. 25. Snowy Egret: 1 MNWR Sept. 19. **LOUISIANA HERON:** the bird previously reported at MNWR remained thru Sept. 9. Least Bittern: singles MNWR Sept. 24 and Oct. 4. Whistling Swan: 2 adults and 1 immature Branchport Nov. 16. Canada Goose: migrants began coming into the region Sept. 17; max MNWR 22,000 Oct. 11. Brant: 1 Horseheads Oct. 6; immature Ithaca Oct. 28. Snow Goose: 100 MNWR Oct. 24; 30 Elmira Oct. 3.

The max duck counts as taken by the refuge personnel at MNWR are as follows: Mallard: 8,000 Nov. 1. Black: 2,000 Nov. 15. Gadwall: 1,000 Oct. 26. Pintail: 500 Oct. 21. Green-winged Teal: 8,000 Oct. 20. Blue-winged Teal: 3,000 Sept. 15. Am. Wigeon: 8,000 Oct. 1. N. Shoveler: 500 Oct. 1. Wood Duck: 2,500 Sept. 30. Redhead: 100 Nov. 3. Ring-necked Duck: 50 Oct. 20. Canvasback: 50 Oct. 27. Scaup: none. Bufflehead: 40 Oct. 20. Ruddy: 80 Nov. 11. Am. Goldeneye: 2 Nov. 30. Hooded Merganser: 200 Nov. 10. Com. Merganser: 400 Nov. 23.

Other regional duck records: Mallard: 500 Clifton Springs Oct. 1; 300 Camp Dittmer, Phelps Nov. 11. Black: 100 Sheldrake Nov. 26; 50 Clifton Springs late Nov. Wood Duck: 20 Texas Hollow Sanctuary Oct. 1. Redhead: 600 Sheldrake Oct. 10; 500 PY Nov. Canvasback: 20 Union Springs Nov. 4. Greater Scaup: 2 Cay L SP Oct. 10. Lesser Scaup: 10 Cay L Oct. 10. Com. Goldeneye: 7 at Sheldrake Nov. 26. Bufflehead: 11 Cay L Oct. 30. Oldsquaw: female Elmira Nov. 17; 10 at Sheldrake Nov. 26. Red-breasted Merganser: female south end Cay L Sept. 28-Oct. 10.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: 6 migrating Clyde Oct. 17 and 1 Oct. 22. Hawks: Goshawk: 1 Elmira Oct. 18; 1 MNWR Nov. 1. Sharp-shinned: 9 individuals seen at Ithaca, Elmira and ThP. Cooper's: singles at ThP and Elmira; 2 around feeders at Watkins Glen. Red-shouldered: 1 ThP Sept. 18 only report. Broad-winged: ThP Sept. 8-22; 1 Ithaca Oct. 1. Rough-legged: reported from Myers Pt., Varick, Elmira, PY, Clyde and Altay; earliest Nov. 13. Marsh: 1-3 MNWR; singles at Pine City, Elmira, ThP, Hayt's Corners, Long Point; 10

reports from Watkins Glen. Osprey: 2 MNWR Sept.; singles at Elmira, ThP, Myers Pt. and LaMoka L. **PEREGRINE**: immatures at MNWR Sept. 6 and Oct. 10 and at Hayt's Corners Oct. 1. Merlin: 1 Seneca Army Depot Aug. 28 by Morgan Jones on his last birding excursion before transferring to Texas.

Virginia Rail: 7 MNWR Sept. 1. Sora: 15 MNWR Sept. 17. Am. Coot: 8,000 MNWR Oct. 30.

Shore birds: unless otherwise noted all records are from MNWR. Semipalmated Plover: max 105 Sept. 1. Killdeer: last 5 Myers Pt. Nov. 17. Am. Golden Plover: 1-20 thru Oct. 6; 1 Horseheads Oct. 9. Black-bellied Plover: 1-8 thru Oct. 6; 1 Horseheads Sept. 4-5 and Oct. 9. Ruddy Turnstone: 1-2 Sept. 5-19; 2 Horseheads Oct. 9. Com. Snipe: up to 30 in Sept.; 3 Ithaca Oct. 4. Spotted Sandpiper: 2 Myers Pt. Oct. 10 late. Greater Yellowlegs: 200 Sept. 19. Lesser Yellowlegs: 200 early Sept. Red Knot: 1 Sept. 18. Pectoral Sandpiper: up to 400 early Sept. White-rumped Sandpiper: 250 Sept. 5. Baird's Sandpiper: 1-11 thru Sept. 21. Least Sandpiper: 200 early Sept. Dunlin: 40 Sept. 24; 2 Horseheads Oct. 9; 2 Ithaca Oct. 28; 1 Myers Pt. Nov. 17. Short-billed Dowitcher: 110 Sept. 5. Long-billed Dowitcher: 35 Sept. 17 (FGS); 12 Waterloo dump Oct. 10. Stilt Sandpiper: up to 40 thru Sept. 21. Semipalmated Sandpiper: 500 Sept. 5. Western Sandpiper: 15 Sept. 9. **BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER**: 1-2 Sept. 11-17. Hudsonian Godwit: 1-2 Sept. 11-20; 1 old Clyde River channel Savannah mucklands Sept. 19. Sanderling: 3-7 Sept. 3-17; 12 Ithaca Sept. 10. Wilson's Phalarope: 2 thru Sept. 18. Northern Phalarope: 5 thru Sept. 19.

Great Black-backed Gull: 1-5 reported from MNWR, Cay L and Seneca L. Herring Gull: 1000 MNWR Nov. 23. Ring-billed Gull: 200 Horseheads Oct. 24; 500 plus Waterloo dump thru. **FORSTER'S TERN**: 2 MNWR Sept. 2-5 (FGS, WEB *et al.*). Common Tern: 10 Elmira Oct. 8-9; 1 Ithaca Sept. 10. Caspian Tern: 1 MNWR Sept. 5.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 1 Varick Sept. 6; 2 banded PY Sept. 29 and Oct. 3. Black-billed Cuckoo: 1 MNWR Sept. 1. Barn Owl: 3 young fledged in Sept. from nest in the Odessa Baptist church steeple. Barred Owl: 2 Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary; 1 Ithaca Game Farm. Long-eared Owl: 1 Six Mile Creek (Steve Sabo). Saw-whet Owl: 1 Townsend Nov. Common Nighthawk: 100 plus migrating Elmira Sept. 8-9. Chimney Swift: 130 migrating ThP Sept. 8. Red-bellied Woodpecker: reports from MNWR, Elmira, Myers Pt., Hayt's Corners. Red-headed Woodpecker: Reeder's Creek, Seneca Co. thru; 3 migrating ThP Sept. 14.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: **OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER**: 1 ThP Sept. 18 (Cay Bird Club). Swallows: Bank: small numbers only. Rough-winged: 200 Seneca River inlet Oct. 10 otherwise very few. Barn: 1 Ithaca Oct. 10. Cliff: 1 Ithaca Sept. 10 only report.

COMMON RAVEN: 1 Sugar Hill Schuyler Co. Nov. 11 (JB); hunters report hearing them call in the Monterey area. Com. Crow: 150 migrating Junius Ponds Seneca Co. Oct. 17 and 200 at Elmira Oct.-Nov. **FISH CROW**: 1 possible at Elmira Nov. 20 good description but no vocalizations (MW)*. Red-breasted Nuthatch: few reports. Winter Wren: 1 Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary Oct. 16; 2 Ithaca Oct. 23; 1 Watkins Glen Nov. Carolina Wren: widely scattered reports. Short-billed Marsh Wren: thru Sept. 24 MNWR. Gray Catbird: "weak" bird near Burdett end of Nov. into Dec. (J. Bardeen). Brown Thrasher: 1 at Ithaca feeder late Nov. Gray-cheeked Thrush: 1 Ithaca Oct. 19; Lerch banded 26 PY. Eastern Bluebird: several reports from Elmira and Watkins Glen; no others. **WHEATEAR**: 1 south of Aurora Sept. 24 (Steve Sabo)*. Water Pipit: 70 Ithaca Oct. 23. Cedar Waxwing: 350 banded PY (ML); widespread reports of small flocks. **BOHEMIAN WAXWING**: 5-10 with Cedar Waxwings at Branchport Nov. 27 (Mr. and Mrs. Kirk Burtch *fide* ML). N. Shrike: singles at Ithaca, Clyde, Long Pt. and Townsend from Nov. 6 on.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: A small wave of vireos and warblers on Sept. 12 was detected at Clifton Springs and Elmira. Otherwise no waves were reported. There were no late departure dates noted. Lerch banded 23 species of warblers. Generally an unexciting migration.

Philadelphia Vireo: 17 banded by Lerch PY; singles Ithaca Oct. 3 and 19. Orange-crowned Warbler: 1 banded PY by Lerch. Magnolia, Cape May, Black-throated Blue, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green, Bay-breasted, Blackpoll and Canada were the most frequently reported warblers. N. Waterthrush: 1 Reeder's Creek Sept. 5; 1 Ithaca Sept. 9. Com. Yellowthroat: some observers felt that numbers were down.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Eastern Meadowlark: scarce. N. Oriole: 1 Elmira eating grapes Nov. 2. Rusty Blackbird: Lerch banded but 1 at PY; many MNWR Nov. 2. Brown-headed Cowbird: 700 MNWR Sept. 5. Evening Grosbeak: 8 flying over Odessa Nov. 29; a few in Elmira. Purple Finch: a few at Ithaca and Elmira feeders. House Finch: at 3 PY feeders; Ithaca feeder numbers down; at 3 feeders, one with 12-15 birds, in Watkins Glen. Com. Redpoll: 1 at feeder Elmira Nov. 4. Pine Siskin: 2 Ithaca Oct. 16. Am. Goldfinch: flocks up to 100. Red Crossbill: 1 at feeder Odessa Nov. 29.

Sparrows: Savannah: only 6 reports. Vesper: 1 MNWR Oct. 4 only report. Dark-eyed Junco: good migration. Tree Sparrow: first Nov. 4. Clyde; good numbers but mostly singles or small flocks. White-crowned: first Ithaca Oct. 2; immature banded PY Nov. 29. White-throated: Sept. 18 thru; good movement. Fox: 1 Reeder's Creek Seneca Co. Oct. 17; 1 Clifton Springs Oct. 23. Lincoln's: 1 MNWR Sept. 1 a month early; 1 Ithaca Oct. 3. Snow Bunting: first MNWR Oct. 18, sighted at Clifton Springs, Myers Pt. and a max of 100 at Lowman Nov. 21 (Kay Fudge).

R. D. 2, Clyde, N.Y. 14433

REGION 4 - SUSQUEHANNA

ELIZABETH WASHBURN for LESLIE BEMONT

Fall was progressively colder than normal, from 1.6° C (3° F) lower in September to 4° C (7° F) in November, just opposite from the fall of 1975. Precipitation was higher than normal in September and October, with heavy rain on the 9th contributing most of the excess 8.4 cm. (3.3 in.) that fell in October. November was a bit drier than usual, with 2.5 cm. (1 in.) below normal, and only occasional light snowfalls until late in the month. However, there was no noticeable early influx of northern birds as a result of the wintry weather. Unusual species for the period were: Black Scoter, Short-billed Dowitcher, Barred Owl and Long-eared Owl.

Observers: Leslie Bemont (LB), Mildred Clark (MC), Gail Corderman (GC), Anna and Marilyn Davis (A,MD), Mary Dobinsky (MD), Sadie Dorber (SD), Elva Hawken (EH), Claude Howard (CH), Cindy Kirch (CK), Margaret Layton, Robert Leahy, Arthur Levy (AL), Rick Marsi (RM), Leona McDowell (LM), E. McVinney (EM), Kay Perkins (KP), Mary Sheffield (MS), Elizabeth Washburn (EW), Cora Wellman (CW), Beryl Wilson, Kathryn Wilson (KW), Irene Wright (IW), "Weed Walkers" (WW).

LOONS-DUCKS: Common Loon: 1 Goodyear Lake Oct. 22 (IW); 2 Otsego Lake Nov. 14 (MD,KW). Red-necked Grebe: 1 Milford Sept. 18 (MD,CW). Pied-billed Grebe: several. Green Heron: last report Oct. 2. Whistling Swan: 1 Portlandville Nov. 27 (MD,KW). Canada Goose: 25 Greenwood Park (RM); 49 Whitney Point (MS), last report. Green-winged Teal: 1 Milford Pond Nov. 27 (MD,KW), last report. Canvasback: Whitney Point Nov. 20 (A,MD). Bufflehead: Whitney Point Nov. 13 (A,MD). Oldsquaw: 4 Whitney Point Oct. 27 (WW). BLACK SCOTER: 14 Goodyear Lake Oct. 11 (IW). Common Merganser: Whitney Point Nov. 13 (A,MD). Red-breasted Merganser: many Whitney Point Oct. 27 (WW).