

max only 110 Apr. 2 with last date there May 15 ten. Pine Grosbeak: the last of a mini-flight—19 Mar. 3 near Eaton (G. Church). House Finch: expansion accelerating—pairs now at seven sites in Syr., and also in Utica, N. Syr., and Oswego. **LARK BUNTING**: a gorgeous male in full breeding plumage and song May 19-22 Wampsville (M., B., and S. Peebles, mob), the first regional record.

Most local sparrows seem much reduced in numbers with even the ubiquitous Chipping and Song Sparrows showing lower tallies. Meadow or grassland sparrows seemed particularly low—max are Savannah Sparrow 12 May 16 Clay, Grasshopper Sparrow singles only, Henslow's Sparrow two May 9 near Canastota, Vesper Sparrow three Mar. 31 Pleasant L near Phoenix. Similarly scarce were Fox Sparrow—max four Apr. 2 Clay with the last noted Apr. 20 two also Clay.

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: a singing bird with White-crowned Sparrows May 15 Mexico Point West (M. Rusk), only the fifth local record. White-crowned Sparrow: arr May 1 three near Chittenango and also two DH; like the warblers, very few in the next ten days but a heavy migration May 13-19 with max 295 May 16 LOL woodlots. Song Sparrow: max 110 Mar. 12 DH and 90 Mar. 26 DH—Scott Swamp—much reduced, particularly if compared with last year's very high tallies. Snow Bunting: max 600 Mar. 19 Skyline Dr. near Oriskany Falls; last noted Apr. 9 110 same area (late for so many).

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REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

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Spring of 1977 came early in the lowlands but winter hung on in the Tug Hill and Adirondack sections with snow present into late April. The May snowstorm missed most of the lower-lying sections in the Region. Temperatures ranged from 20° F to the mid 60°s F (-6° C to 15° C).

May brought cool and dry conditions with very little rainfall—the opposite of last year. Lake levels dropped 2 feet below last year's and waterfowl nesting success was much improved from last year.

Rarities for the period were Red-throated Loon, Red-necked Grebe, Cattle Egret, Least Bittern, Red-shouldered Hawk, both eagles, Am. Golden Plover, Whimbrel, Marbled Godwit, Short-billed Marsh Wren, Bohemian Waxwing, House Finch, Grasshopper Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow and Clay-colored Sparrow.

Contributors: Lee B. Chamberlaine (LBC); Frank A. Clinch (FAC); Kenneth L. Crowell (KLC); Charles Devan; Richard Esden; Aizel LaFave; John Sandwick; Joe A. VanRiet (JAV); Robert C. and June Walker (RCW).

Abbreviations: ED—Eldorado Shores; LWMA—Lakeview WMA; PRWMA—Perch River WMA; RMPD—Robert Moses Power Dam; RMSP—Robert Moses State Park; SLR—St. Lawrence River; ULLWMA—Upper and Lower Lakes WMA; WHWMA—Wilson Hill WMA.

Corrigenda: Vol. XXVII, No. 1, p. 49, Remove **LAUGHING GULL**: 1 ED Sept. 11 (TLC), at request of observer.

LOONS—DUCKS: Com. Loon: many reports; new location ULLWMA May 25; some new nesting locations also. **RED-THROATED LOON**: pair Nichols Isl WHWMA May 27 good description (JAV). **RED-NECKED GREBE**: 4 Pillar Pt. Apr. 17 (RCW). **Horned Grebe**: 1 only May 7 (JAV). **Pied-billed Grebe**: arrived WHWMA Apr. 15. **Double-crested**

Cormorant: many reports Lake Ontario and SLR; numbers seem up considerably from previous years (LBC). Great Blue Heron: good numbers—new rookeries located. Green Heron: good numbers. **CATTLE EGRET**: 1 near Ellisburg May 13 (FAC); 3 Dexter May 31. **GREAT EGRET**: 3 PRWMA May 23 (C. Devan). Black-crowned Night Heron: very common in Henderson and Lakeview areas this year—numbers up (LBC). **LEAST BITTERN**: 1 RMPD pond May 11 (JAV); 2 LWMA May 30 (RCW); Am. Bittern: numbers up? Whistling Swan: 1 PRWMA May 24 (C. Devan); same May 30 (RCW). Canada Goose: arrived WHWMA Mar. 10; 4,700 Croil Isl 1,500 RMPD Apr. 18; nesting everywhere WHWMA to RMPD—first young May 9 (JAV); better nesting success PRWMA than last year (LBC); two sets of goslings Henderson Pond (R. Esden). Brant: 110 May 20; 1 May 24; 6 May 25; 5 May 26; 39 May 27 all SLR (JAV). Snow Goose: 1 Apr. 18; 2 (one blue morph) Apr. 27 (JAV). Mallard: all over the Region—high brood production. Black: 4 to 6 per day end of May many nesting. Gadwall: 10 to 12 per day end of May (JAC); 2 PRWMA May 3 (RCW). Pintail: 6 Mar. 28; 22 Mar. 29; 60 Mar. 30; 100 Apr. 2; 1 pair Croil Isl May 26—very few locals (JAV). Green-winged Teal: 9 May 11; 5 May 14; 1 May 24—only ones seen (JAV). Blue-winged Teal: 2 to 4 per day (JAV); LWMA loaded with nesters (LBC). Am. Wigeon: 10 to 12 a day (JAV). No. Shoveler: 2 May 3 only ones seen (JAV). Wood Duck: very few seen (JAC); many, many in Henderson and lakeshore marshes (LBC). Redhead: 2 Mar. 5; 4 Mar. 20; 4 May 4; 9 May 23; 1 May 25—only ones seen (JAV). Ring-necked Duck: 8 PRWMA Mar. 26. Canvasback: 15 Mar. 20; 97 Mar. 28; 16 Mar. 31 all SLR; 2 PRWMA Mar. 26 (RCW). Greater Scaup: max 1,200 RMPD Mar. 28; 1 pair SLR May 23 (JAV). Com. Goldeneye: 6 Apr. 29; 1 RMPD May 14 seen flying (JAV). Bufflehead: 1 Mar. 28; 6 Apr. 10; courtship Apr. 17; 5 pair Apr. 18; 10 pair Apr. 29; 3 May 23. Oldsquaw: 5 RMPD Apr. 20. Ruddy Duck: 1 WHWMA Apr. 13; 1 Croil Isl May 23; 2 WHWMA May 24—all males (JAC). Hooded Merganser: 3 Mar. 26 PRWMA; 2 Mar. 28; 2 Apr. 18. Com. Merganser: 2 to 3 a day; pair Croil Isl May 23 & May 27; 1 pair off WHWMA May 27. Red-breasted Merganser: 11 RMPD May 4; 1 pair SLR off Coles Crk Marina May 30 (JAV).

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: 3 Henderson Apr. 18 (LBC); 1 Redwood May 28. Goshawk: new nest location with 3 young Indian Lakes vicinity (A. LaFave). Sharp-shinned: 1 Mar. 29; 1 Apr. 28; 1 May 1 (JAV). Cooper's: none observed. Red-tailed: in good numbers. **RED-SHOULDERED**: 1 Henderson Harbor Mar. 12 (RCW); 1 SLR Mar. 29 (JAV) *seldom reported*. Broad-winged: 18 Apr. 27; 1 RMSP May 6. Rough-legged: 3 Mar. 26; 1 Mar. 29; 1 Apr. 27—late. **GOLDEN EAGLE**: 1 immature RMSP 2:45 p.m. Mar. 29—Derby Hill leftover (JAV). **BALD EAGLE**: 2 RMSP in with Golden above Mar. 29 (JAV); 2 immature Raquette River 3 mi west of Massena (JAV); 1 Blake Reservoir Raquette River So. Colton May 1 (J. Sandwick). Marsh Hawk: 4 reported—numbers not what they use to be. Osprey: many many sightings throughout Region. Am. Kestrel: regular thru. Ruffed Grouse: 2 or 3 per day drumming. Gray Partridge: 2 Chaumont Mar. 26; 2 Sulphur Springs May 23 (RCW); possibly some improvement in numbers from previous 3 years (LBC). Virginia Rail: 1 Dennison Rd. May 7; 3 Grantville May 14. Sora: 2 Eisenhower Lock swamp May 7; 2 May 14. Com. Gallinule: 1 May 2; 1 May 5. Am. Coot: 1 Apr. 29; 1 Croil Isl May 23. Semipalmated Plover: 3 May 23; 5 May 24. Killdeer—March 19. **AM. GOLDEN PLOVER**: 1 Croil Isl summer plumage May 25 (JAV). Black-bellied Plover: 1 May 20; 1 May 25; 1 Croil Isl May 27; 1 ED May 30. Ruddy Turnstone: 1 Croil Isl; 19 Long Sault Isl; 2 off Koffer Dam May 29. Com. Snipe: 3 Apr. 12. **WHIMBREL**: 1 ED May 30 (RCW). Upland Sandpiper: 2 Harverstock Farm Apr. 29; seems to be up from previous two years (LBC). Spotted Sandpiper: 2 May 1; 1 or 2 every 300 yds. along SLR shorelines. Greater Yellowlegs: 1 May 1; 1 WHWMA May 15. Lesser Yellowlegs: 1 Apr. 15. Red Knot: 1 island off Koffer Dam May 25; 28 Croil Isl May 28 (JAV). Pectoral Sandpiper: 50 Baggs Corners Apr. 17 (RCW). Least Sandpiper: 5 May 20; 5 May 23; 4 May 27; 2 May 28; 5 May 29 all SLR. Dunlin: 1 WHWMA Apr. 15 winter plumage moulting; 2 Long Sault Isl May 28. Short-billed Dowitcher: 2 Croil Isl May 27 (JAV). Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 24 Bradford Point WHWMA May 27. **MARBLED GODWIT**: 1 on sandbar off Coles Creek Marina May 27 (JAV)—a Regional

First—notes to editor. Sanderling: 5 SLR May 25 (1 still in winter plumage).

Glaucous Gull: 1 Mar. 5; 1 Mar. 10; 2 Mar. 15; 1 2nd yr May 29 *very late*. (JAV). Iceland Gull: 1 Mar. 5; 1 Mar. 10; 2 Mar. 15. Great Black-backed Gull: 8 to 10 immatures per day, very few mature—1 pair in courtship, regurgitating etc. May 12. Herring Gull: 10 to 12 per day. Ring-billed Gull: arrived RMPD Mar. 15—steady flight direction SW along SLR; thousands Mar. 27 into Apr. (JAV); the numbers in Henderson area are as high as I have ever seen them—inland movement to croplands go as far as peripheral Tug Hill (LBC). Bonaparte's Gull: 1 RMPD winter plumage; 2 off WHWMA May 14; 2 immatures May 23. Com. Tern: arrival May 1; 120 + pair nesting from Coles Creek to RMPD (JAV). Caspian Tern: 2 Long Sault Isl May 26. Black Tern: 8 May 4; 23 May 13; good numbers LWMA.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: down a little from previous high—Henderson area. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: 1 Dry Hill Rd, May 21 (RCW). Black-billed Cuckoo: fairly abundant this year—big caterpillar year in some areas (LBC). Whip-poor-will: Apr. 2; down in So. Colton area (L. Wallace). Com. Nighthawk: May 19. Chimney Swift: down in Henderson area (LBC). Ruby-throated Hummingbird slow in showing up—numbers about the same. Belted Kingfisher: Apr. 27. Com. Flicker: 3 Mar. 30. Pileated: 1 WHWMA May 8. Red-headed Woodpecker: one individual—Henderson area reported (LBC). Hairy Woodpecker: numbers still down—as in winter report.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: E. Kingbird: 3 May 14. Great Crested Flycatcher: 1 WHWMA May 14. E. Phoebe: not in numbers as previous years (LBC). Willow Flycatcher: 2 Brownville May 23 (RCW). Alder Flycatcher: 1 LWMA May 30 (RCW). Least Flycatcher: 2 May 12; 5 May 14 (JAV). E. Wood Pewee: numbers as usual. Horned Lark: numbers are down in most of Region.

Tree Swallow: Mar. 23. Bank Swallow: May 4; 250 + pairs nesting along SLR from Massena golf course to RMPD (JAV). Rough-winged Swallow: arrival 4 Massena Power House Alcoa Apr. 15. Barn Swallow: Apr. 20. Cliff Swallow: arrived RMPD Apr. 20 and building nests—600 + nests at RMPD Koffer Dam and Massena Intake (JAV). Purple Martin: 23 houses occupied by May 29 along SLR Wilson Hill area. Red-breasted Nuthatch: 1 or 2 per day. Brown Creeper: 1 or 2 per day. House Wren: May 3. Winter Wren: April 12; 1 May 8. Long-billed Marsh Wren: numbers up at LWMA. **SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN:** 1 WHWMA May 14 & May 29 (JAV). Mockingbird: 1 Winthrop May 18 to May 23 imitating more than 13 other species—1 hour tape available (JAV). Gray Catbird: May 17. Brown Thrasher: Apr. 30. Wood Thrush: May 8. Swainson's Thrush: 2 May 17. E. Bluebird—no reports. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 1 Piercefield Apr. 30 (KLC); rare in Region. Golden-crowned Kinglet: 1 Mar. 31; 1 Apr. 14. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: May 6; 4 May 8. Water Pipit: Canton Apr. 19.

BOHEMIAN WAXWING: 2 Dry Hill Rd Mar. 22 (RCW). 14 Dry Hill Mar. 28 (RCW). Cedar Waxwing: 100 Dry Hill Mar. 3 and 23. No. Shrike: last Mar. 20. Loggerhead Shrike: 2 Hogansburg May 27 (JAV).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: 1 May 1. Red-eyed Vireo: May 20. Warbling Vireo: May 4. Golden-winged Warbler: 2 Dry Hill May 21; 3 same loc. May 27 (RCW). Tennessee: 10 Thompson Pk May 16 (RCW). Nashville: 1 May 2; 4 May 3 (JAV), 2 May 8; abundant in Canton (KLC). No. Parula: 1 May 17. Yellow: 4 May 6. Cape May: 3 May 17 (JAV). 2 Thompson Pk May 16 (RCW). Black-throated Blue: May 12. Yellow-rumped: 5 Apr. 20; 30 Apr. 30; 60 May 4. Black-throated Green: May 14. Blackburnian: May 14. Chestnut-sided: May 12. Bay-breasted: May 15. Pine: 2 Apr. 20; 1 May 1 (JAV). Palm: 1 Brasher State Forest Apr. 20 (JAV). Ovenbird: May 12. Com. Yellowthroat: 2 May 14. Redstart: May 14.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: May 12; numbers may be up. No. Oriole: Apr. 29. Rusty Blackbird: Mar. 10. Scarlet Tanager: May 16. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: May 14.

Evening Grosbeak: last May 3. Purple Finch: fewer than previous year. **HOUSE FINCH:** 1 male and two females or immature males at window feeder—usually only one or two at a time during April—one male and one female or immature male banded Apr. 30—last seen May 1 (FAC). Rufous-sided Towhee: Apr. 21. Savannah Sparrow: Apr. 15.

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW: 1 Watertown Airport May 27 (FAC). **HENSLOW'S SPARROW:** 1 Watertown Airport May 27 (FAC). Vesper Sparrow: numbers down. Dark-eyed Junco: last May 1. Tree Sparrow: 14 Mar. 23; wave Mar. 25-27; last Apr. 1. Chipping Sparrow: Apr. 20; more common than last two years. **CLAY-COLORED SPARROW:** 3 males Watertown Airport May 27 (FAC). Field Sparrow: 1 Apr. 12; 1 May 12 scarce here (Massena) (JAV). White-crowned Sparrow: 4 May 6; wave May 15; more in Henderson area than previous 3 yrs.—outnumbered white-throats 3 to 1 (LBC). White-throated Sparrow: Apr. 20 diminishing May 6. Swamp Sparrow: Apr. 21. Snow Bunting: 21 Mar. 23; last 4 Mar. 26.

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REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

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March was unseasonably warm with 55° F (12.7° C) on the 13th and a fantastic 60° F (15.5° C) on the 29th. This helped shut off the snow machines a bit sooner than normal. I suspect a few people were not entirely upset at this result. By April 17th the ice was gone from most of the lakes. There were no late storms to endanger migrants.

The number of Saw-whet Owls was noteworthy. They were throughout the area from Ferd's Bog in Hamilton County to Tupper Lake and the Champlain Valley. At least 15 individuals were calling in the Paul Smiths area in March and April. Sometimes more could be heard in an evening than Barred Owls—our most common species.

A fourth Raven's nest was finally located near where Glenn Perrigo saw a Raven vanish into the ledges above the West Branch of the Ausable River near Wilmington a few years ago. Another pair seems to have taken up housekeeping near Paul Smiths but the nest has not been located.

Ospreys are nesting at Ochre Pond and Bear Pond in the canoe area as usual. It is quite a sight to see them soaring against the ledges of St. Regis Mountain.

This May was the driest in 20 years so Lake Champlain was at low levels early. This should provide excellent shorebird stopover areas for late summer. It may have helped Clinton County reach 122 species for their May Big Day.

Two additional records for nesting Blue-gray Gnatcatchers indicate both a recognition of the gnat problem in this region and a likelihood that this species is going to increase its known breeding range to new northern limits.

The hunting fraternity has released some New York Turkeys at Willsboro. Another release at Ticonderoga indicates only hunters will be to blame if this new species takes hold in our area. Hopefully it will.

Sandhill Cranes wander on occasion. It was nice to have one visit this spring. All told, it was a good migration.

Localities: Chazy Landing; Four Brothers Islands in Lake Champlain; Paul Smiths; Plattsburgh; Saranac Lake; Ticonderoga; Tupper Lake.