

Penn Yan and 5 ISBC are the only reports. Purple Martin: mixed reports; good, but under 1976, at MNWR; 3 houses well occupied at Phelps; scattered pairs elsewhere. White-breasted Nuthatch: harder to find than usual. Red-breasted Nuthatch: 3 ISBC; 4 Union Springs Aug. 16; 1 Watkins Glen Aug. 19; fewer at Tanglewood, Elmira. Carolina Wren: 2 ISBC; 1 singing at Phelps only reports. Mockingbird: 2 TBBS; 2 GSBC; 14 ISBC. Eastern Bluebird: fewer reports of sightings or nests than last year. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 2 GSBC; 1 ISBC; nested at Reeders Creek, Sen Co.; 1 MNWR Aug. 16. Golden-crowned Kinglet: present all summer at Tanglewood (WO). Cedar Waxwing: at Phelps a pair built a nest on top of last year's Am. Goldfinch nest. Loggerhead Shrike: no reports.

VIREOS-WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: reported from Ithaca area only. Philadelphia: 1 Ithaca Aug. 25. Warbling: 31 GSBC; 21 ISBC. No waves of warblers had come thru but by the end of the period the expected species had been found in small numbers. Yellow-rumped Warblers were at Tanglewood, Elmira all summer. Resident Yellows and Common Yellowthroats were in good numbers.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Orchard Oriole: 1 ISBC. **WESTERN TANAGER:** a possible sighting Ithaca Aug. 21 (JG)*. Cardinal: 32 TBBS; 60 GSBC; 125 ISBC. Purple Finch: 22 ISBC and many scattered reports. House Finch: expanding at an accelerated rate in most of the Region; 30 found roosting in a spruce tree in Elmira. Am. Goldfinch: abundant, even non-birders were asking where all the "wild canaries" came from. Savannah Sparrow: 22 GSBC; 31 ISBC; several commented on reduced numbers. Grasshopper Sparrow: 3 TBBS; 1 GSBC; 3 ISBC; numbers up at Horseheads. Henslow's Sparrow: 8 ISBC. Vesper Sparrow: continues to be reported very sparingly; 3 GSBC; 1 King Ferry Aug. 16, 3 Penn Yan. Dark-eyed Junco: 15 ISBC. White-throated Sparrow: 1 singing thru July at Tanglewood, Elmira. Song Sparrow: back down to normal on TBBS after last year's extreme high; ML had banded very few by the end of the period compared to last year's abundance; generally still found in good numbers.

R. D. 2, Clyde, New York 14433

REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

LESLIE E. BEMONT

Again a substantial portion of the data available for the summer season was contained in the results from the Fish and Wildlife Service Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) routes run in the Region. With the help of Danny Bystrak, the data from 12 of the 13 routes are available at this writing with the Vestal Center route the only one missing. 10,389 individuals of 103 species were recorded on these 12 routes, compared to 11,288 individuals of 109 species on 13 routes in 1976. After a simple arithmetic adjustment to compensate for the missing route, there was a decrease of only 0.3 per cent in individuals.

Using the same adjustment on a species by species basis, but only considering species that had counts of 30 or more one year or the other, 4 species decreased and 8 species increased by a third or more. The losers (and per cent loss) were Eastern Phoebe (42), Killdeer (38), House Wren (36) and Rufous-sided Towhee (33). Gainers (and per cent gain) were Purple Finch (225), Bank Swallow (95), Yellow-throated Vireo (87), Tree Swallow (62), Black-capped Chickadee (44), Scarlet Tanager (36), Chimney Swift (35) and Downy Woodpecker (34). No claims of statistical significance are being made for any species, but the colonial nature of Bank Swallows makes that result highly questionable. Only the Purple Finch and Yellow-throated Vireo increases were noticeable in other reports received for the period.

The composite results for each species found on at least one of the 12 routes is reported in the form "(54,11)", meaning 54 birds reported on 11 surveys.

The Federation sponsored Breeding Bird Censuses also produced a goodly portion of the useable data, but the less disciplined method of data collection makes mathematical treatment inappropriate. Two censuses were run in the Region, the Delaware-Otsego Breeding Bird Census (DOBBC), which includes counts from an intensive nesting census conducted by Bob Miller (RM) and students, and the Binghamton Breeding Bird Census (Bing BBC).

Other observers: Jeanette and Cutler Baldwin (J, CB), Reynolds Bennett (RB), Gail Corderman (GC), Warren Corderman, Anna and Marilyn Davis, Louise and Warren Dean, Mary Dobinsky, Cynthia Dropp, Becky and Eugene Kirch, Evelyn Meade, John New, Robert Pantle (RP), Mary Sheffield (MS), J. Trevitt (JT), Donald Weber (DW), Cora Wellman, Ruth and Sally White (R, SW), Kathryn Wilson, Irene, Gerald and Wayne Wright.

LOONS-DUCKS: Great Blue Heron: (9,6); 1 Bing BBC; 8 DOBBC; 8 at Upper Lisle Jul. 31; 7 other reports. Green Heron: (4,2); 1 Bing BBC; 1 DOBBC; only 4 other reports, numbers have been low for 2 or 3 years. Mallard: 1 Bing BBC; 16 DOBBC. Black Duck: 1 DOBBC. Wood Duck: 4 DOBBC. Hooded Merganser: 1 female Oneonta area Aug. 4.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Sharp-shinned Hawk: 4 reports. Cooper's Hawk: (1,1) Meridale BBS; 3 other reports. Red-tailed Hawk: (6,4); 3 Bing BBC; 9 DOBBC. Red-shouldered Hawk: 1 Bing BBC; 1 DOBBC (RM); Candor Jul. 29 (DW); no others. Broad-winged Hawk: (1,1) Coventryville BBS; only 5 other reports, all from Oneonta area. Marsh Hawk: Aug. Owego (RB); Oneonta Aug. 29 (KW); no others. American Kestrel: (14,7); 15 Bing BBC; 8 DOBBC. Ruffed Grouse: (1,1); 3 DOBBC. Bobwhite: 1 DOBBC (RM). Ring-necked Pheasant: (10,1); 1 Bing BBC; no others, numbers thinning since stocking program curtailed. Turkey: 1 DOBBC (RM); sporadic reports continue, some rather close to suburban residential areas. Virginia Rail: Owego Aug. 20. Sora: Owego Aug. 25. American Coot: 1 Whitney Point Jun. 19. Killdeer: (54,11); 22 Bing BBC; 13 DOBBC. American Woodcock: (2,2); 1 DOBBC. Common Snipe: 1 Sherburne Jul. 28. Spotted Sandpiper: (7,5); 4 Bing BBC; 3 DOBBC. Solitary Sandpiper: 12 Wilber Lake Oneonta area Aug. 4; 1 South Otselic Fish Hatchery (SOFH) Aug. 24; Candor Aug. 25. Greater Yellowlegs SOFH Aug. 24. Lesser Yellowlegs: Owego Aug. 10; 2 SOFH Aug. 24. Pectoral Sandpiper: 2 Wilber Lake Aug. 4; Owego Aug. 23. Baird's Sandpiper: 1 SOFH Aug. 24 (R, SW). Least Sandpiper: 2 Jul. 28 Sherburne; 5 Aug. 24 SOFH. Semipalmated Sandpiper: 5 Sherburne Jul. 28; 10 SOFH Aug. 24; 6 Wilber Lake Aug. 4. Common Tern: 1 Whitney Point Jun. 19.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Rock Dove: (140,10); 35 Bing BBC; 14 DOBBC. Mourning Dove: (99,10); 34 Bing BBC; 20 DOBBC. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: (2,2); 1 DOBBC; only one other report. Black-billed Cuckoo: (1,1); 1 Bing BBC; 4 other reports. Horned Owl: (2,2); 2 Bing BBC; 1 DOBBC. Barred Owl: 2 DOBBC; Candor (DW). Saw-whet Owl: 1 Vestal Jun. 22 to 24, a juvenile spent nights under shrubs near a suburban driveway (JT). Whip-poor-will: at Candor (DW). Common Nighthawk: 2 DOBBC. Chimney Swift: (69,8); 13 Bing BBC; 8 DOBBC. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: (4,4); 4 DOBBC. Belted Kingfisher: (9,6); 3 Bing BBC; 5 DOBBC. Common Flicker: (72,12); 33 Bing BBC; 28 DOBBC; a "Red-shafted" x "Yellow-shafted" hybrid banded Aug. 22 Vestal. Pileated Woodpecker: (4,3); 4 DOBBC; 6 other reports. Red-headed Woodpecker: at Owego during period. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: (5,4); 4 DOBBC; 11 other reports, 6 of them Jul. 28 in the Oneonta-Portlandville area. Hairy Woodpecker: (6,5); 1 Bing BBC; 6 DOBBC. Downy Woodpecker: (31,11); 10 Bing BBC; 7 DOBBC.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Eastern Kingbird: (38,10); 16 Bing BBC; 33 DOBBC. Great Crested Flycatcher: (33,11); 9 Bing BBC; 16 DOBBC. Eastern Phoebe: (46,12); 4 Bing BBC; 28 DOBBC. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 1 Vestal Aug. 25, banded. Willow Flycatcher: (22,9); 1 Bing BBC; 2 DOBBC. Alder Flycatcher: (4,2); 1 DOBBC. Least Flycatcher: (77,12); 8 Bing BBC; 20 DOBBC. Eastern Wood Pewee: (34,12); 8 Bing BBC; 13 DOBBC. Horned Lark: (2,2); 1 Bing BBC; 1 DOBBC. Tree Swallow: (78,11); 42 Bing BBC;

58 DOBBC. Bank Swallow: (101,1); 203 DOBBC. Rough-winged Swallow: 1 Bing BBC. Barn Swallow: (299,12); 148 Bing BBC; 133 DOBBC. Cliff Swallow: (3,1); 32 DOBBC. Purple Martin: (4,3); 1 Bing BBC. Blue Jay: (138,12); 52 Bing BBC; 50 DOBBC. Common Crow: (435,12); 103 Bing BBC; 85 DOBBC. Black-capped Chickadee: (102,12); 46 Bing BBC; 52 DOBBC. Tufted Titmouse: (2,2); 1 Bing BBC; other reports in Broome and Tioga Cos. White-breasted Nuthatch: (11,6); 3 Bing BBC; 10 DOBBC. Red-breasted Nuthatch: (2,2); 5 DOBBC; Oneonta-Portlandville Jun. 4; 2 Pharsalia Jun. 27. Brown Creeper: 2 DOBBC. House Wren: (140,12); 75 Bing BBC; 39 DOBBC. Winter Wren: (1,1); 2 DOBBC. Carolina Wren: 2 Broome Co. and 1 Tioga Co. reports. Long-billed Marsh Wren: 10 or more South Edmeston Jun 29, "regular chorus." Short-billed Marsh Wren: 2 or more South Edmeston on Jun. 29, singing. Mockingbird: (2,2); 5 Bing BBC; 7 other reports. Gray Catbird: (160,12); 61 Bing BBC; 45 DOBBC. Brown Thrasher: (37,9); 14 Bing BBC; 5 DOBBC. Am. Robin: (645,12); 206 Bing BBC; 173 DOBBC. Wood Thrush: (214,12); 49 Bing BBC; 30 DOBBC. Hermit Thrush: (6,4); 1 Bing BBC; 3 DOBBC; 1 Laurens, near Oneonta, Aug. 9; also at Owego. Swainson's Thrush: 1 DOBBC; 1 Norwich Jun. 14, singing, and 2 Pharsalia Jun. 27 (R, SW); 1 Oneonta-Portlandville Aug. 31; the only reports so far this year in Region. Grey-cheeked Thrush: 1 DOBBC (RM). Veery: (116,12); 34 Bing BBC; 35 DOBBC. Eastern Bluebird: (6,4); 1 Bing BBC; 8 DOBBC. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 1 DOBBC (RM); Owego Aug. 30. Golden-crowned Kinglet: (1,1) Corbettville BBS; 3 Pharsalia Jun. 27 (R, SW). Cedar Waxwing: (66,11); 16 Bing BBC; 46 DOBBC. Loggerhead Shrike: 1 Maryland, east of Oneonta, Aug. 19, good details. Starling: (1410,12); 484 Bing BBC; 295 DOBBC.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: (31,9); 9 DOBBC; more frequent reports than in past years. Solitary Vireo: (5,4); 3 DOBBC; no more until 4 reports of 11 birds after Aug. 13 in Oneonta-Portlandville. Red-eyed Vireo: (208,12); 41 Bing BBC; 63 DOBBC. Warbling Vireo: (34,12); 5 Bing BBC; 9 DOBBC; 4 more Jun. reports, then none until Aug. 31. Black-and-white Warbler: (5,3); 2 Bing BBC; 3 DOBBC. Golden-winged Warbler: 1 DOBBC; 1 Oneonta area Jun. 4. Blue-winged Warbler: (2,2); 2 DOBBC; 1 Oneonta area Jun. 4; also reported from Owego. Tennessee Warbler: Aug. 13 Crumhorn area e. of Oneonta, regular reports from Oneonta area and Vestal thru month. Nashville Warbler: (1,1); 3 Bing BBC; 5 DOBBC. Northern Parula: Owego Jun. 12 (C, JB), late. Yellow Warbler: (217,12); 24 Bing BBC; 43 DOBBC. Magnolia Warbler: (3,3); 1 DOBBC. Aug. 19, the first of 3 reports from Oneonta area and the first of 9 banded at Vestal; also reported at Endwell. Black-throated Blue Warbler: (4,3); 6 DOBBC; 3 Pharsalia Jun. 27. Yellow-rumped Warbler: (2,2); 2 DOBBC; 2 Oneonta-Portlandville Jun. 4; 1 banded Aug. 12 Vestal. Black-throated Green Warbler: (12,7); 1 Bing BBC; 11 DOBBC. Blackburnian Warbler: (2,1); 1 Bing BBC; 2 DOBBC. Chestnut-sided Warbler: (44,9); 1 Bing BBC; 39 DOBBC. Bay-breasted Warbler: Portlandville Aug. 13; 2 banded Aug. 21 Vestal. Blackpoll Warbler: Owego Jun. 12. Prairie Warbler: (1,1) Corbettville BBS; Candor in Jun. (RP); 2 Choconut Center Jul. 10. Ovenbird: (64,9); 17 Bing BBC; 18 DOBBC. Northern Waterthrush: 3 DOBBC. Louisiana Waterthrush: 2 Bing BBC; 8 DOBBC. Mourning Warbler: 7 DOBBC; also at Candor. Kentucky Warbler: (2,1) McDonough BBS, no details. Common Yellowthroat: (362,12); 108 Bing BBC; 69 DOBBC. Yellow-breasted Chat: at Candor (RP); Jul 10 at Choconut Center (MS). Canada Warbler: (8,4); 15 DOBBC. American Redstart: (41,9); 1 Bing BBC; 23 DOBBC.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: House Sparrow: (444,12); 207 Bing BBC; 159 DOBBC. Bobolink: (134,12); 31 Bing BBC; 23 DOBBC. Eastern Meadowlark: (106,11); 17 Bing BBC; 11 DOBBC. Red-winged Blackbird: (1706,12); 278 Bing BBC; 820 DOBBC. Orchard Oriole: (1,1) Oneonta BBS. Northern Oriole: (120,11); 16 Bing BBC; 38 DOBBC. Common Grackle: (461,12); 320 Bing BBC; 260 DOBBC. Brown-headed Cowbird: (77,12); 24 Bing BBC; 147 DOBBC. Scarlet Tanager: (79,11); 12 Bing BBC; 41 DOBBC. Summer Tanager: (1,1) Laurens BBS, no details. Cardinal: (57,9); 46 Bing BBC; 11 DOBBC. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: (65,12); 8 Bing BBC; 34 DOBBC. Indigo Bunting: (101,11); 35 Bing BBC; 58 DOBBC.

Purple Finch: (33,9); 12 Bing BBC; 10 DOBBC; noticeably more common for the whole season than in the previous few years. House Finch: 6 Bing BBC; 2 DOBBC; 149 banded at Vestal in Jul. and Aug. (GC) and another 20 banded at Endwell. American Goldfinch: (205,12); 43 Bing BBC; 110 DOBBC. Rufous-sided Towhee: (64,11); 21 Bing BBC; 26 DOBBC. Savannah Sparrow: (83,11); 14 Bing BBC; 14 DOBBC. Grasshopper Sparrow: (6,5); 1 DOBBC; Jul. 13 and 14 at Choconut Center; no others. Henslow's Sparrow: (6,2); 1 Bing BBC; no others. Vesper Sparrow: (7,4); 2 DOBBC; only 4 other reports. Dark-eyed Junco: (14,5); 23 DOBBC; 5 Pharsalia Jun. 27. Chipping Sparrow: (186,12); 61 Bing BBC; 55 DOBBC. Field Sparrow: (136,11); 45 Bing BBC; 20 DOBBC. White-throated Sparrow: (25,6); 23 DOBBC; 11 Pharsalia Jun. 27. Swamp Sparrow: (19,6); 5 DOBBC. Song Sparrow: (416,12); 137 Bing BBC; 89 DOBBC.

710 University Ave., Endwell, New York 13760

REGION 5 – ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

FRITZ G. SCHEIDER

"And summer's lease hath all too short a date." This year the lease was broken in the first week of August. A wet but pleasant June ended the spring drought; July was hot and humid and actually seemed like summer; August entered—and left—cloudy, cool, and so wet that many lakes, marshes, and ponds were back to early spring water levels. Ponds that normally sported muddy margins for Solitary Sandpipers and various rails were so full only Great Blue Herons could successfully wade them. Shorebird habitat was minimal as were shorebirds. The various Breeding Bird Surveys (BBS) produced a wealth of figures documenting numerous impressions re numbers of nesting species. Ten were accomplished this year—Alder Creek June 5, Cicero Center June 12, Clinton June 5, Kasoag June 14, McKeever June 17, North Wilmurt June 15, Old Forge June 21, Oneida June 15, Oriskany Falls June 4, and Pulaski June 4. Most passerines appeared to have had excellent breeding success but water bird reproduction seemed quite variable—compare terns vs. Canada Goose and Wood Duck. And though everyone recognizes summer as the breeding season for birds, this year's summer had both amazingly late vernal migrants (*cf* Broad-winged Hawk, Cedar Waxwing, various warblers) and equally incredibly early autumnal passage birds (*cf* various shorebirds, Swainson's Thrush, warblers). In fact, there was no estival week when migrants, either coming or going, could not be found some place in the region this year.

Positives for the summer include 1) good production of Canada Goose, Blue-winged Teal, and Wood Duck; 2) expansion of the local range of Turkey Vulture; 3) good numbers of breeding Red-tailed Hawk and American Kestrel; 4) new station for American Coot; 5) remarkably early shorebird migration and a splendid incursion of Wilson's Phalarope; 6) improved numbers of breeding Red-headed Woodpecker and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker; 7) an Adirondack explosion of Red-breasted Nuthatch; 8) excellent tallies of Veery, Cedar Waxwing, Red-eyed Vireo, Northern (Baltimore) Oriole, and American Goldfinch; 9) above average numbers of Common Yellowthroat, Mourning Warbler, Hooded Warbler, and American Redstart; and 10) further range expansion of White-throated Sparrow.

Negatives include 1) low numbers of breeding Pied-billed Grebe and continued decline in Black Duck; 2) very low numbers of both bitterns; 3) continued poor breeding success for Cooper's and Red-shouldered Hawks and Marsh Hawk; 4) poor reproduction in Ruffed Grouse; 5) low tallies of many July-August shorebird migrants; 6) continued decline in Black and Common Terns; 7) further decline in both local *Caprimulgids*; 8) marked reduc-