

Pipit: reported from MNWR, Sen Co.; Ithaca and Elmira from Oct. 19-Nov. 13; max 50 Elmira Oct. 19. Cedar Waxwing: 400 Ithaca. Northern Shrike: singles at Aurora Oct. 3 and Nov. 21; 1 Penn Yan Oct.; 1 Clyde Nov. 6.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Very few sightings of species in either group. Among the vireos only the Red-eyed, Philadelphia (1 Penn Yan Sept.) and Warbling (1 singing Ithaca Sept. 11) were reported. Warblers: sightings of 16 species were reported including Black-and-white, Tennessee, Nashville, N. Parula, Magnolia, Cape May, Yellow-rumped (Myrtle), Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, Chestnut-sided, Bay-breasted, Blackpoll, Ovenbird, Com. Yellowthroat, Wilson's and Am. Redstart. The TV tower kill at Elmira included all of these species plus eight others—Orange-crowned, Yellow, Black-throated Blue, N. Waterthrush, Connecticut, Mourning, Yellow-breasted Chat and Canada.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: Rusty Blackbird: 1 Sept. 17 MNWR and from Oct. 19 on. Com. Grackle: 3,000 Elmira Nov. 8. **BREWER'S BLACKBIRD:** a bird feeding with cowbirds at Wilfred Howell's feeder in Elmira during snowstorm on Nov. 13 must be listed as possible due to lack of confirming details. Scarlet Tanager: singles Sept. 11 and 18 at Ithaca; 1 Sen Co. Sept. 18. Evening Grosbeak: many and widespread reports beginning with a single bird at Watkins Glen on Sept. 5 and continuing thru the period. Purple Finch: Ithaca Sept. 18; MNWR Oct. 19-26. House Finch: this species continues to spread its range and increase in numbers. In the Watkins Glen-Odesa area most feeders now are visited by House Finches. Pine Siskin: small flock Watkins Glen Oct. 20; Penn Yan Oct. 29. Am. Goldfinch: adult feeding young Ithaca Sept. 18. Red Crossbill: 1 Ithaca Nov. 3 (Howe *vide* DM). White-winged Crossbill: 3 Ithaca Nov. 5; 9 Nov. 13 Union Springs. Sparrows: Vesper: 5 Elmira Nov. 11 only report. Dark-eyed Junco (**OREGON SSP**): 1 Howard feeder Elmira Nov. 17-18. White-crowned: 1 Clyde Sept. 17 early. White-throated: arr Sen Co. Sept. 17 and Ithaca Sept. 18. Fox: 1 Watkins Glen marsh Nov. 6 and 10; 1 at feeder Ithaca 13 and 2 Nov. 27. Lincoln's: 1 Ithaca Sept. 15 (Confer); 1 singing Elmira Oct. 11 (MW). Lapland Longspur: 2 Ithaca Nov. 5; 1 Aurora Nov. 13; 3 Sen Co. Nov. 13. Snow Bunting: 1 Watkins Glen Sept. 5 very early (JB); 30 Sen Co. Nov. 13; 3 large flocks Elmira Nov. 13.

R.D. 2, Clyde, New York 14433

REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

LESLIE E. BEMONT

More rain fell in the Susquehanna Region during Sept. than in any previous month on record, and the rains continued well into Oct. An early snowfall Oct. 17 melted quickly and was followed by a rather unsettled period of two to three weeks that could be called nice weather only by comparison with what went before. The really fair days were too scattered for any one period to be convincingly labeled Indian Summer. Nov. was typically cold, wet and overcast until more lasting wintery conditions arrived for the last week.

For the first time, the results of the fall migration hawk count at Franklin Mountain, coordinated by Mike Bennett, were available in their entirety for use in this regional report. Observations were made for one to six hours on most days between Aug. 30 and Nov. 14. Not too surprisingly, the resulting species counts provide an entirely different picture of hawk migration in the region than the casual observations from other years.

A second special project, almost daily mist netting of small land birds for banding, was conducted just south and west of Binghamton by Harriet Marsi through Oct. 27. Combining species counts from that operation with those from a similar but less regular operation

conducted by Gail Corderman in Vestal, within 2 miles to the west, provides an interesting sampling of the migration. Banding totals indicate a migration peak Sept. 20-21, which correlates reasonably well with a large movement of Chipping and Field Sparrows noted at Delhi. On the other hand, a large movement of warblers noted at Crumhorn Mountain, east of Oneonta, Sept. 4, is not mirrored in the banding results at all.

The only real rarity for the period was the Golden Eagle included in the Franklin Mountain hawk watch totals.

Observers: Cutler & Jeanette Baldwin (C,JB); Jean Barnes; Jean & Mike Bennett; Reynolds Bennett (RB); F. Bookout; Salley Carey; Lynn Clark; Mildred Clark; V. Converse; Gail Corderman (GC); Anna & Marilyn Davis (A,MD); Louise & Warren Dean; Mary Dobinsky (MD); Sadie Dorber (SD); Don Erbe; A. Gallow (AG); A. Hayes; Claude Howard; Florence Linaberry; L. McDowell; Harriet Marsi (HM); Bud & Evelyn Mead; Robert Pantle (RP); Booth Perkins; Kay Perkins; Mary Sheffield (MS); E. B. & F. B. Vermilya; Lillian Warren; Elizabeth Washburn; Don Weber; Cora Wellman (CW); Kathryn Wilson (KW); Irene Wright (IW).

Abbreviations used: Bing—Binghamton; FM—Franklin Mountain.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: 2 Pepacton Reservoir Oct. 25; Nov. 6 Oneonta Reservoir. Pied-billed Grebe: 1 Crumhorn Lake, east of Oneonta, Sept. 7; Oct. 22 Milford. Great Blue Heron: a confused immature was taken into custody near a bar and spent a late Aug. night in the Oneonta Police Headquarters—after being the object of some hilarity and receiving the nickname "Hubert," it was released in more normal habitat; last report Oct. 27 Owego. Green Heron: only 3 Sept. reports, the latest Sept. 11. Common Egret: Sept. 22 and again Sept. 24, 1 at Laurens, near Oneonta. Mute Swan: 1 Portlandville Sept. 4 and 5 (IW). Canada Goose: first migrants Sept. 15 but peak numbers, in the thousands, Oct. 7; frequent reports throughout Oct. and to Nov. 25. Snow Goose: 75 Milford Nov. 6 (MD); 100-150 West Delhi Nov. 14 (AG); 11 Whitney Point Nov. 25 (A,MD). Mallard: numerous reports as usual. Black Duck: Nov. 5 Whitney Point (A,MD), the only fall report. Canvasback: 1 on a farm pond near Oneonta Nov. 12 (MD, KW), the only one. Bufflehead: 1 Oxford Nov. 5; 6 there Nov. 13 and 8 at Delhi Nov. 9, the highest counts of only 5 reports. Common Scoter: two flocks totalling 67 birds at Whitney Point Oct. 24 (MS); a very high count for this region. Hooded Merganser: Oct. 22 Owego (C,JB); 8 Whitney Point Nov. 25, the highest count. Common Merganser: 26 Bear Spring Mountain, in Delaware Co., Oct. 6, the first of several reports; early for region in those numbers.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: nine in Sept. and nine in Oct. at FM, the last Oct. 23; 12 Delhi Sept. 29 the highest daily count. Goshawk: two in Sept. and 16 in Oct. at FM, 4 max Oct. 13. Sharp-shinned Hawk: at FM 234 in Sept. and 241 in Oct.—30 or more 7 different days Sept. 15 to Oct. 12. Cooper's Hawk: only four all fall at FM, three Sept. 3 and one Sept. 15; two perched Portlandville Sept. 11; two other reports. Red-tailed Hawk: at FM 46 in Sept. 1320 in Oct. and 34 in Nov.—275 highest count Oct. 23. Red-shouldered Hawk: one Crumhorn Sept. 4; at FM one on Oct. 5, one on Oct. 6 and two Oct. 14; no others. Broad-winged Hawk: at FM 1040 in Sept. and 23 in Oct.—331 the best daily count Sept. 15 and Oct. 23 the last date. GOLDEN EAGLE: one adult FM Oct. 27. Marsh Hawk: FM five in Sept. two in Oct. and one in Nov. Osprey: 16 in Sept. and six in Oct. at FM—never more than two in a day and Oct. 15, the last date. Am. Kestrel: 19 in Sept. and 16 in Oct. FM, but they evidently do not particularly favor that location as there was no dearth of them in other areas. Turkey: six at Big Island near Oneonta Sept. 26; also at Kirkwood in the Bing. area and in the Owego area. Killdeer: six still at Oxford Nov. 25. Black-bellied Plover: Oct. 20 Mirror Lake, near Owego, (C,JB), no details. Pectoral Sandpiper: Sept. 25 Owego (J,CB). Herring Gull: 20 Otsego Lake Sept. 25, first of the season.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Yellow-billed Cuckoo: Sept. 15 Crumhorn, the only fall record. Black-billed Cuckoo: Sept. 6 Owego, the only fall record. Screech Owl: five reports,

Long-eared Owl: Nov. 23, heard at Vestal (GC). Chimney Swift: Sept. 16 Chenango Forks, last date. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: Oct. 4 Owego, last date. Pileated Woodpecker: 12 reports in Sept. and Oct. Red-headed Woodpecker: Sept. 15 Owego.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: E. Kingbird: a late report Sept. 20 Owego. Great Crested Flycatcher: one banded Sept. 25 Vestal. Eastern Phoebe: Oct. 9 Oneonta, last date. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 10 banded in Bing. and Vestal, the last Sept. 27. Acadian Flycatcher: Sept. 5 Candor (RP); one each Sept. 8 and 20 (HM); all banded birds, identified by measurements. Least Flycatcher: last date Sept. 20 Owego. Eastern Wood Pewee: last date Sept. 25 Vestal (GC), banded. Olive-sided Flycatcher: Sept. 4 Crumhorn, the only report. Tree Swallow: 8-10 still at FM Oct. 12. Bank Swallow: Sept. 25 Owego. Rough-winged Swallow: Oct. 2 Owego, very late. Barn Swallow: Sept. 25 Owego. Purple Martin: Sept. 25 Owego. Red-breasted Nuthatch: frequent reports of one or two birds all fall, more than usual in the region. Carolina Wren: reported from Owego area, one site near Bing. and Delhi. Mockingbird: reports from two sites Endwell, one Delhi, two Oneonta and one Owego. Gray Catbird: 91 banded Bing. during Sept. and to Oct. 7—one banded Vestal Center Nov. 23 (SD), the only later report. Brown Thrasher: 1 Endwell Nov. 21, the only report after Oct. 1. Hermit Thrush: 19 banded Bing. Oct. 4 to 22. Swainson's Thrush: 50 banded Bing. Sept. 8 to Oct. 13. Gray-cheeked Thrush: 1 Sept. 25 Vestal; 4 to Oct. 12 Bing. Veery: last date Sept. 9 Candor. Golden-crowned Kinglet: first date Sept. 11 Crumhorn. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: four Oneonta Sept. 11 to Bing. Oct. 27; frequent reports between those dates. Water Pipit: nine Milford Oct. 22 (MD). Cedar Waxwing: large numbers thru Sept., "at least 300 Oct. 3 at Emmons, near Oneonta, feeding in cherry trees, dogwood, sumac, willows . . ."; smaller numbers thru Oct., but almost none in Nov. Northern Shrike: four reports, the first Nov. 6 Milford.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: at Chenango Forks until Sept. 16. Solitary Vireo: 15 Crumhorn Sept. 4; Oct. 9 Emmons. Red-eyed Vireo: 113 banded Bing. in Sept., 57 of those Sept. 19 to 21; last date Oct. 4. Philadelphia Vireo: six banded from Sept. 6 to Oct. 5 (HM). Warbling Vireo: 2 Crumhorn Mountain Oct. 8, the last. Blue-winged Warbler: one banded Sept. 2 Bing., last date. Tennessee Warbler: 32 banded Vestal Sept. and 28 banded Bing. by Oct. 7, 31 of the total Sept. 20; 20 Crumhorn Sept. 4. Nashville Warbler: last Oct. 17. No. Parula: one Crumhorn Sept. 4 (MD, CW, KW), only the second report for the year in the region. Yellow Warbler: Sept. 19 Delhi, last. Magnolia Warbler: 70 banded Sept. Bing. and Vestal combined, 32 of those Sept. 20; one Bing. Oct. 16 the last and only Oct. record. Cape May Warbler: 83 banded Bing.-Vestal in Sept., 36 of them Sept. 2 to 8 and 21 of them Sept. 19 to 21; nine Crumhorn Sept. 4; last Oct. 5. Black-throated Blue Warbler: four Crumhorn Sept. 4; five banded Vestal to Sept. 25, last date; four banded Bing. Yellow-rumped Warbler: Sept. 5 Oneonta, first fall date, to Oct. 22; 30 Delhi Sept. 19 and 72 Milford Oct. 1 the best counts. Black-throated Green Warbler: 25 Crumhorn Sept. 4; 16 banded Bing.-Vestal to Oct. 4. Blackburnian Warbler: only three Sept. reports, last Sept. 24 Vestal banded. Chestnut-sided Warbler: four banded Bing.-Vestal Sept. 20 the last date and highest count of six reports. Bay-breasted Warbler: six banded Bing. to Sept. 21; 18 banded Vestal to Oct. 4; best dates six at Crumhorn Sept. 4 and six banded Sept. 20. Blackpoll Warbler: Sept. 4 to Sept. 25, 10 banded Bing.-Vestal and two other reports. Palm Warbler: Sept. 4 Crumhorn and Sept. 18 Owego, the only reports in the region this year. Ovenbird: 24 banded Bing.-Vestal, 10 Sept. 20 and 21; Oct. 10 Kirkwood, last date. Northern Waterthrush: 4 reports, 1 bird each, to Sept. 27. Connecticut Warbler: Sept. 28 and Oct. 17 Bing. (HM), both banded. Mourning Warbler: two banded Sept. 20 and 21 Bing. Common Yellowthroat: 17 of the 33 banded were banded Sept. 20 and 21; 25 Crumhorn Sept. 4; two Portlandville Oct. 1 last date. Wilson's Warbler: six banded Bing.-Vestal; only two other reports, the last Sept. 29 Owego. Canada Warbler: four banded Bing., the last Sept. 22. Am. Redstart: six banded Bing.-Vestal, last Sept. 28.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: Northern Oriole: one Delhi, Nov. 19 to 29—"has injured

wing-putting out feed." Scarlet Tanager: 43 counted at Maryland, east of Oneonta, Sept. 2 to Oct. 5; 10 banded Bing-Vestal; last Oct. 7 Delhi. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last Oct. 7 Delhi. Evening Grosbeak: Sept. 13 Oneonta, first date; several large flocks in Oct. and seen daily all of Nov. Purple Finch: 40 banded in Sept. and nine in Oct. Bing-Vestal; few after Oct. 12 and only two Nov. reports. House Finch: regular reports Endwell, Vestal, Owego and Oneonta; one Delhi Nov. 1. Pine Grosbeak: three FM Nov. 6, the only ones. Common Redpoll: Nov. 24, Ingraham Hill, south of Bing. the only report. Pine Siskin: Oct. 9 Oneonta; next report Nov. 6 Endwell and six later reports. Am. Goldfinch: present all period, but, except for three reports of flocks of 40 or more, numbers much below recent years. Rufous-sided Towhee: last Oct. 9. Grasshopper Sparrow: Sept. 8 Owego (RB), no others. Dark-eyed Junco: common after Oct. 4. Tree Sparrow: Oct. 21 Delhi, first. Chipping Sparrow: one Delhi Nov. 27, the only report after Oct. 19; "100s" Sept. 17 Delhi. Field Sparrow: "100s" Sept. 17 Delhi. White-crowned Sparrow: Oct. 1 to Oct. 20, plus one Delhi Nov. 11. White-throated Sparrow: common after Oct. 4; still regular at several Triple Cities feeders at the end of the period. Fox Sparrow: four banded Oct. 22 Bing., first date. Lincoln's Sparrow: one Bing. and one Vestal banded Oct. 4; the only ones. Song Sparrow: noticeably less common than in previous years. Snow Bunting: 11 Maryland Nov. 1, the only report.

710 University Ave., Endwell, New York 13760

REGION 5 – ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

PAUL DeBENEDICTIS

The fall season began under mild conditions. Low water levels left marshes and mudflats in excellent conditions for shorebirds. Unfortunately, cool temperatures and heavy rain in the second half of September and early October did more than just dampen spirits. Most shorebird localities were inundated, resulting in a miserable showing of late-season shorebirds, and perhaps indirectly leading to low numbers of waterfowl. During late September, heavy movements of nocturnal migrants were evident by overhead *seeps* and *chips* almost nightly. Unfortunately, no data sufficient to delimit dates of migratory waves were submitted; perusal of peak dates will suggest some such periods. Perhaps correlated with this flight period are the generally early departure dates for many species, particularly insectivorous passerines. Although dry, mild conditions again prevailed until the last week of November, by mid-October the sparsity of bird populations left the birding scene reminiscent of early winter, relieved mainly by the anticipated vanguard of a good winter finch flight. Although berry crops were generally plentiful, cone crops were nonexistent except on occasional spruce plantings; it will be interesting to see what finches remain through the winter.

No clear population trends were evident. Waterbirds were generally scarce, warblers departed early after an unexceptional passage, and the various field sparrows remained in very low numbers. On the positive side was a good flight of cormorants and of jaegers (though perhaps only reflecting increasingly intensive observations from Derby Hill). Increasing coverage of the Oneida hawk lookout near Vernon produced good numbers of raptors, muted only by the obvious conclusion that Broad-winged Hawks seem to prefer some other route southward. The only extreme rarity reported was **LONG-TAILED JAEGER**, but a good collection of rarer shorebirds, King Eider, Black-legged Kittiwake, Bohemian Waxwing, Connecticut Warbler, Yellow-headed Blackbird, and Dickcissel added spice to a basically average fall migration.