

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.

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REGION 5 – ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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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.

Because the primary value of most of the records received is the comparative dates of arrival, maxima and departure, localities have generally been omitted; as usual the vast majority are from along Lake Ontario. Observations for which no observer is listed should be credited to F. G. Scheider; observations from the Oneida hawk lookout near Vernon were compiled by B. and S. Peebles. Abbreviations: arr—arrival; DH—Derby Hill; EOP—end of period; ESOL—east shore Oneida Lake; LOL—Lake Ontario littoral; max—maximum; mob—multiple observers; OHL—Oneida hawk lookout; SP—Sandy Pond. Observers: D. W. Ackley, K. & S. Blackshaw; G. & M. Church, K. Coyle, D. W. Crumb, P. DeBenedictis, B. & D. DeSimone, B. & S. Peebles, M. S. Rusk, F. G. Scheider, G. A. Smith, M. Stooks, E. VanDresar, R. & S. White.

LOONS—DUCKS: All loon and grebe species with low maxima; only 2 Red-throated Loons (late Nov.) and 4 Red-necked Grebes (29 Oct.-6 Nov.) were reported—sparse. Pied-billed Grebe continued very scarce, max. 8 on 18 Sept. Double-crested Cormorant: max 41 SP, 4 Sept. (high), last 30 Oct., all LOL. Green Heron: last 25 Sept. Only 3 Black-crowned Night Herons reported LOL, 22-25 Sept. Am. Bittern: last 6 Oct. Canada Goose: fall influx began late Sept., max 4500 LOL on 7 Oct.; 1720 reported from OHL, max 780 on 17 Oct. Brant: arr. DH on 15 Oct. 780 on 17 Oct. (GAS), max 5600 on 5 Nov., stragglers to EOP. Snow Goose: 450±50 Delta Lake 10 Nov. departed 18 Nov. (OHL); 16 (3 Blues) near Clinton 20 Nov. (DeSimone); an impressive showing for a species sometimes missed in the fall. Dabblers: generally low maxima (e.g., Pintail, 200 on 22 Oct.; Am. Wigeon, 100 on 7 Oct.), and few stragglers to EOP. Diving ducks showed typical arrival dates but generally low maxima, except Greater Scaup—*i.e.*, Redhead, 74 on 24 Nov. (MSR); Canvasback, 27 on 11 Nov.; Greater Scaup, 12,000 DH on 6 Nov., Lesser Scaup, 66 on 23 Nov. (G&MC); most species in low numbers at EOP. Sea ducks: ditto; maxima: C. Goldeneye, 525 on 20 Nov.; Bufflehead, 70 on 6 Nov.; Oldsquaw, 265 on 19 Nov. (GAS); White-winged Scoter, 550 on 15 Oct.; Surf Scoter, 200 on 15 Oct.; Black Scoter, 140 on 12 Oct. (GAS). King Eider: singles DH, 30 Oct., 19-20 Nov. Ruddy Duck: large concentration on Beaver Lake peaked at 140, 17-20 Nov. (mob). Mergansers: numbers as for diving ducks; e.g., Red-breasted Merganser, max. only 6200 on 6 Nov.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: A total of 97 hrs. observation on 31 days at OHL produced 2401 raptors, about 1/3 Sharp-shinned; 1/3 Broad-wings, 1/5 Red-tails. Turkey Vulture: max and last, 6 on 13 Oct. Goshawk: only 3 reported, none OHL. Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 90 DH, 24 Sept., and 286 OHL, 27 Sept. Cooper's Hawk: max 16 OHL, 4 Oct., only 1-2/day elsewhere. Red-tailed Hawk: max 60 DH, 9 Sept. (GAS); 31 DH, 13 Oct.; and 161 OHL, 20 Oct. Red-shouldered Hawk: max 28 OHL, 20 Oct.; last there on 29 Oct. Broad-winged Hawk: max 75 DH, 24 Sept. (GAS); and 174 OHL, 27 Sept.; last 4 Oct. (4, OHL). Rough-legged Hawk: arr 18 Oct., only 2-3/day thereafter. Marsh Hawk: max 13 SP, 6 Nov. and 12 OHL, 20 Oct. Osprey: max 8 SP, 25 Sept.; and 5 OHL, 27 Sept.; last 5 Nov. No eagles reported. Merlin: 5 reported, 22 Sept. to 20 Oct. Am. Kestrel: max 18 SP, 25 Sept.; and 23 OHL, 27 Sept. Peregrine Falcon: 1, DH, 17 Oct. (GAS). Sora unreported, and no Virginia Rail or C. Gallinule after late Sept. Am. Coot: max 70's Beaver Lake, Oct. (mob). Semipalmated Plover: last 3 Nov. Killdeer: max 90 on 19 Sept. Am. Golden Plover: arr 1 Sept. (3), max 28 on 22 Sept., last 5 Nov.; most LOL. Black-bellied Plover: max 7 mid-Oct.; last 6 Nov. Ruddy Turnstone: only 8 reported, last 29 Sept. (early!), most ESOL. Hudsonian Godwit: singles ESOL 21 Oct. and 31 Oct.-6 Nov. (DKA, mob). Upland Sandpiper: last 5 Sept. Spotted Sandpiper: last 6 Oct. Solitary Sandpiper: last 2 Oct. Greater Yellowlegs: last 9 Nov. (3). Lesser Yellowlegs: last 6 Nov. (Coyle). C. Snipe: max 71, Clay Swamp, 31 Oct. Short-billed Dowitcher: only 3 reported, last 5 Sept. (early!). Red Knot: 4 reported, last 6 Oct. Pectoral Sandpiper: max 26 on 16 Sept.; last 19 Oct. White-rumped Sandpiper: only 5 reported, last 6 Nov. Baird's Sandpiper: only 2 (low!) reported, last 12 Sept. (early!). Least Sandpiper: departed early Oct., then 1 straggler SP on 6 Nov. Purple Sandpiper: singles Fair Haven 31 Oct. and 17 Nov. Dunlin: arr 25 Sept. max 22 (low!) 17 Oct., last 24 Nov. (3 USR). Semipalmated Sandpiper: last 7 Oct. Western Sandpiper: 1-2 ESOL, 14-16

Sept. (mob). Sanderling: max 40, 16 Sept.; last 3 SP and 1 Shackleton Pt., Oneida Lake (MSR) on 11 Nov. Stilt Sandpiper: last 14 Sept. (Coyle, early!). Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 2 SP, 4 Sept.; and 1 ESOL 15-16 Sept. (DKA). Northern and Wilson's Phalarope: none! Red Phalarope: 1-2 ESOL, 29 Sept. to 1 Oct. (mob; photo'd DLC), 1, Pleasant Point, 230 at Kidneys (*vide* MSR), 2-3 SP, 17-25 Nov. (mob). Parasitic Jaeger: 66 reported from DH between 22 Aug. and 11 Nov., max 29 on 3 Sept. (GAS). LONG-TAILED JAEGER: adult DH 3 Sept. (see "Notes and Observations," this issue by GAS). Glaucous Gull: 1 on 13 Oct. was only report. Iceland Gull: arr. 19 Nov.; 2 others reported. Black-legged Kittiwake: lone immatures SP on 6 Oct. (early) and 19 Nov. Common Tern: last DH on 22 Oct. Forster's Tern: 2 at SP on 11 Sept. (MSR). Caspian Tern: last on 19 Sept. (4).

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Black-billed Cuckoo: only 3 reported, last 25 Sept.; no Yellow-billed. The only scarcer owls reported were 1 Long-eared, Clinton, 22 Nov. (DeSimones) and 2 Short-eared, LOL in Oct. A Whip-poor-will was noted at a breeding site as late as 8 Sept. (B&SP). C. Nighthawk: last in Syracuse 4 Oct. (PDeB). Chimney Swift: last 29 Sept. Ruby-throated Hummingbird appeared at the VanDresar feeder in Holland Patent 7 Nov. Red-bellied Woodpecker showed continued increase, with good numbers in traditional areas and new reporting localities as far east as Chittenango (*vide* MSR). Only single Red-headed Woodpeckers were noted. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 31 on 22 Sept., last 15 Oct.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Departure dates for flycatchers: E. Kingbird, 19 Sept.; Great Crested, 20 Sept.; E. Phoebe, 21 Oct. (Coyle); Yellow-bellied, 25 Sept.; "Trail's," 22 Sept.; Least, 22 Sept.; E. Wood Pewee, 6 Oct.; Olive-sided, 24 Sept. Late fall maxima and departure dates of swallows were: Tree, max 7000 on 22 Sept., last 8 on 15 Oct. (MSR); Bank, max and last 200 on 5 Sept.; Barn, max 300 on 4 Sept., last on 8 Oct.; Cliff, last 5 on 25 Sept.; Purple Martin, last 2 on 25 Sept. Blue Jay, light flight; max 250 DH on 19 Sept. and 234 OHL on 27 Sept.; 535 noted from OHL for season. C. Crow: LOL max 3500 on 13 Oct., 3000 on 20 Oct., 2500 on 29 Oct. Black-capped Chickadee: evidently a good flight, max at DH 300 on 29 Oct. (GAS) and 400 on 30 Oct. Red-breasted Nuthatch: light flight, max 26 on 4 Sept. House Wren: last 6 on 29 Sept. Winter Wren: arr 17 Sept. (2), max 7 on 17 Oct., last 27 Oct. for a species that often overwinters. Carolina Wren: only 1 reported, SP, 4-20 Sept. Long-billed Marsh Wren: last 21 Oct. Short-billed Marsh Wren: one in Hannibal Twosp 7 Oct. Gray Catbird: last substantiated on 8 Oct., reputed later. Brown Thrasher: last on 21 Oct. Am. Robin: no significant incursion, max 110 on 6 Nov. Wood Thrush: last on 23 Sept. (MSR). Hermit Thrush: arr 19 Sept., max 48 on 7 Oct. Swainson's Thrush: max 34 on 18 Sept., last 7 Oct. Gray-cheeked Thrush: only 5 reported, mid-Sept. Veery: last 23 Sept. (MSR). E. Bluebird: only 4 reported, last 20 Nov., Fair Haven. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: last 18 Sept. Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr 18 Sept., max only 25 on 21 Oct. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr 17 Sept., max only 45 on 7 Oct., last 9 Nov. (MSR). Water Pipit: arr 17 Sept. (30), max 110 on 6 Nov., last 25 Nov. (MSR). Bohemian Waxwing: 3-4 with Cedars on Syracuse Univ. campus (L. L. Wolf, *vide* PDeB) 14 Nov., not seen later. N. Shrike: arr 20 Oct.; only 1-3/day thereafter but reported by almost all observers, so evidently a good flight.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Daily maxima for this group were consistently low, and departure dates tended to be quite early. Only departure dates are given in the following account unless specifically noted otherwise. Vireos: Yellow-throated, 22 Sept.; Solitary, 14 Oct. (1 each by Coyle and DeSimone); Red-eyed, 5 Oct. (MSR); Philadelphia, max 12 on 18 Sept., last 9 on 22 Sept.; Warbling, 7 Oct. Warblers: Black-and-white, 25 Sept. (3); Blue-winged, only report 1 Sept.; Golden-winged, 5 Sept.; Tennessee, 18 Oct.; Orange-crowned, arr 9 Sept., last and max 3 on 13 Oct.; Nashville, 29 Oct. (late); N. Parula, 11 Oct.; Yellow, 29 Sept.; Magnolia, 29 Sept. (3); Cape May, 29 Sept. (3); Black-throated Blue, 28 Sept.; Myrtle, max 305 on 22 Sept., last 9 Nov.; Black-throated Green, max 120 on 22 Sept., last 18 Oct.; Blackburnian: 25 Sept. (3); Chestnut-sided, 25 Sept. (3); Bay-breasted, 25 Sept.;

Blackpoll, max 32 on 18 Sept. last 7 on 25 Sept.; Pine, 1 report 17 Sept.; Palm, 7 reported, 17 Sept.-7 Oct. (4); Ovenbird, 25 Sept. (3 localities); N. Waterthrush, 5 Sept.; Mourning, 5 Sept.; Connecticut, singles, Pompey late Sept. (DWC), Fair Haven, 25 Sept.; C. Yellowthroat, 30 Oct.; Hooded, 5 Sept. (3); Wilson's, 25 Sept.; Canada, 18 Sept.; Am. Redstart, 25 Sept. (4).

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: last 19 Sept. Redwinged Blackbird: first significant flight along LOL 11 Oct. (6000,GAS), "millions!" (with Grackles) in an almost overwhelming exodus on 20 Oct., yet still 16,000 on 29 Oct. and 7000 on 6 Nov. Yellow-headed Blackbird: 2 SP on 4 Sept. are first local fall record. Northern Oriole: last 2 on 5 Sept. Rusty Blackbird: arr 22 Sept., max 700 on 29 Sept., singles only after 10 Nov. C. Grackle: "millions" with Redwinged Blackbirds on 20 Oct., 3000 LOL 29 Oct., virtually absent after 9 Nov. Brown-headed Cowbird: max 300 on 7 Oct. Scarlet Tanager: last 7 Oct. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last 7 Oct. Indigo Bunting: last 25 Sept. Dickcissel: immature in Syracuse after 26 Nov. (photo'd PDeB). Evening Grosbeak: arr 24 Sept., abundant by early Nov., when feeder survey (*fide* MSR) gave second highest total ever for Nov. Purple Finch: last 31 Oct. House Finch: continued expansion in Syracuse area, reported Clay, New York Mills, and Ilion in November. Pine Grosbeak: arr 29 Oct. (2 localities), major incursion suggested by counts of 20-30/day by EOP. C. Redpoll: no details for late Sept. reports, none Oct., then 149 on 19 Nov. Pine Siskin: arr 25 Sept. (MSR), max 60 on 29 Oct. Am. Goldfinch: max 350 LOL on 29 Oct. Red Crossbill: only a few, Pompey twship, in Nov. (DWC). White-winged Crossbill: arr 30 Oct., occasional to EOP. Rufous-sided Towhee: last 21 Oct. Savannah Sparrow: only 1-6/day, last 3 Nov. Vesper Sparrow: 15 Holland Patent 17 Oct. (VanDresar) was only respectable count. Dark-eyed Junco: arr 18 Sept., max 380 on 11 Oct. Tree Sparrow: arr. 19 Oct., max 75 on 6 Nov. Chipping Sparrow: max 110 on 16 Sept., last 30 Oct. White-crowned Sparrow: arr 18 Sept., max 114 on 7 Oct., last 2 on 21 Oct. White-throated Sparrow: max 650 on 7 Oct. Fox Sparrow: 1-7/day between 7 and 17 Oct. Lincoln's Sparrow: arr 4 Sept., max 9 on 7 Oct., last 21 Oct. Song Sparrow: max 300 on 7 Oct. Lapland Longspur: 1-4 after 13 Oct. Snow Bunting: arr 15 Oct. to counts of 300 by 30 Oct. (MSR) and 15 Nov. (Stooks).

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REGION 6 - ST. LAWRENCE

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Fall of 1977 can best be described as *very, very wet*. Temperatures ranged from 78° F (25° C) to 30° F (-1° C). Winter held off for most of the period and November was warmer than usual with Lake Ontario harbors staying open.

Indications for a winter finch invasion and arctic raptors came early. Waterfowl were encouraging, shorebirds could have been better and rarities made a good showing.

Rarities for the period were Merlin; Am. Golden Plover; Baird's Sandpiper; Little Gull; Black-legged Kittiwake; Gray Jay; and Common Raven. The weather didn't cooperate but the birds did and a few wet hours afield were rewarding.

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