

Moriah Oct. 11 (Bea Guyett). **SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN**: 1 Ausable Point Sept. 17 (PW,SS), seems to be a first fall record for the region. Eastern Bluebird: at least 28 from Tupper to L.C. Water Pipit: 12 Tupper Sept. 30 (CD); 35 Lake Placid Oct. 15 (DN). Northern Shrike: 1 Paul Smiths early Nov.; 1 Tupper early Nov. (BF); 1 Lake Placid Nov. 2 (Mike DiNunzio).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER: bright yellow under tail coverts and faint streaks on breast noted on bird at Platts Nov. 15 (PW); observer knows the species as a wintering bird on coast of North Carolina; this is a first for Clinton Co. Yellow-rumped Warbler: 1-2 Tupper Sept. 12 thru Nov. 12 (CD). Pine Warbler: 2 Ham Sept. 4 (B&DS); 1 Tupper Sept. 13 (CD). Palm Warbler: 1 Tupper Sept. 13 (CD). **CONNECTICUT WARBLER**: 1 imm carefully examined in hand and banded Aug. 27 Indian Lake (RMC) seems to be a first record for Hamilton Co. GC found 1 at E'town Sept. 24 for a first Essex Co. record. Wilson's Warbler: 1 adult male photographed Platts Sept. 8 (RP); 1 Tupper Sept. 12 (CD); 2 E'town Sept. 23 (GC).

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: Cardinal: several CV as well as 1 Saranac Lake Nov. 3 (MK); 1 Tupper Nov. 29 (MV). House Finch: 5 Platts Oct. 22 through period (PW). Pine Grosbeak: widely reported with max 15 Saranac Lake Sept. 15 (RM). Good numbers of all the usual winter finches reported. Vesper Sparrow: 1 E'town Sept. 23 (GC); 1 Lake Placid Oct. 15 (DN) for a grand total of two in the four county area. Fox Sparrow: 2 Tupper Oct. 13 (CD); 1 Ausable Point Oct. 16 (SS,PW); 1 E'town Oct. 21 (mob).

Paul Smiths, New York 12970

REGION 8 — HUDSON-MOHAWK

RICHARD P. GUTHRIE

While the temperatures for the fall of 1977 were nearly normal, precipitation at 15.4 in. (39.1 cm.) for the period was almost double the normal 8.6 in. (21.8 cm.). Frequent foul weather through the latter half of September and the early part of October may have been the cause of a number of delayed departures. Record or near-record late dates for several species are reported by some observers.

Waterfowl reports are rather low, notably Common Loon. Hopefully, this may be merely the result of fewer visits to larger water bodies by birders, rather than population problems.

On the positive side, raptors continue to show encouraging signs of improvement, especially as reflected in Peter Kerlinger's reports from his many hours atop the Helderbergs at Camp Pinnacle.

Highlights of the 1977 species reported this season are: Brant, Golden Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Glaucous Gull, Iceland Gull, Barn Owl, Gray Jay, Common Raven, Bohemian Waxwing.

Abbreviations used here are: NBalt—New Baltimore; ColCo—Columbia County; C'ton—Castleton; VF—Vischer Ferry; SL—Saratoga Lake; HR—Hudson River; PalRav—Palmer's Ravine; TomRes—Tomhannock Reservoir.

Contributors include: K. Able; V. Bingman; J. Bush; A. & T. Brown; P. Connor; J. Cook; J. Davis; K. Dunham; P. Feinberg; B. & H. Gardina; A. & M. Giddings; W. Gorman; E. Grace; M. Gruett; R. Guthrie; P. Kerlinger; E. Mansell; T. Palmer; W. B. Sabin; L. Thomas; M. & W. Ulner; R. Yunick.

LOONS-DUCKS: Common Loon: only two reports, 20 TomRes Oct. 15 and 1 SL Nov. 22. Red-throated Loon: 2 TomRes Oct. 15, a welcome report. Red-necked Grebe: 1 SL Nov. 29, also welcome. Horned Grebe: 4 TomRes Oct. 15, only report. Double-crested Cormorant: 1 Stockport Sta. Oct. 2 and Oct. 8; also 1 NBalt Oct. 1. Great Blue Heron: surprisingly few reports; thru Oct. 23 (JC). Black-crowned Night Heron: 2 Vosburgh's Marsh Sept. 24 (RPG). Canada Goose: max 2,000 Oct. 15 TomRes and 1,200 same day, Old Chatham; also 800+ Nov. 8 ColCo and numerous other flocks of 50 to 150. **BRANT:** 1 Mohawk River at Crescent Nov. (KA). Snow Goose: a blizzard of some 3,000 TomRes Oct. 15 (incl. 4 blue morphs); a flurry of up to 200 Ohm's Pond thru Oct. with 90 remaining at least until Nov. 24. Gadwall: 3 Vosburg Sept. 24. Green-winged and Blue-winged Teal: very few reports. Greater Scaup: 5 HR Nov. 20 and 4 SL Nov. 22 (RPG). Lesser Scaup: 2 SL Nov. 22 (RPG); and 5 Mariaville Lake Nov. 25 (TP). Common Goldeneye: 40 Lake George Nov. 22. Oldsquaw: 2 L. Taghkanic Oct. 23 (early) (ATB); and 3 SL Nov. 29 (VB). White-winged Scoter: 2 HR-NBalt. Oct. 10 (earlyish); 20 TomRes Oct. 15; and 40 SL Nov. 22. Black Scoter: 4 TomRes Oct. 15; 5 SL Nov. 22 (RPG) and 2 SL Nov. 29 (VB). Ruddy Duck: 2 TomRes Oct. 15; 10 L. Taghkanic Oct. 23 (ATB); 4 SL Nov. 29 (VB,PK) higher than usual.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Goshawk: PK reports a total of 34 from the Helderberg Hawk Watch with max of 12 Oct. 23 and 10 Nov. 12. Sharp-shinned Hawk: 14 scattered reports are overshadowed by PK's 319 total with a max of 70 on Sept. 29. Cooper's Hawk: 9 scattered reports and 7 from PK's hawk watch . . . hmmm! Red-tailed Hawk: 401 from PK's efforts, is impressive especially with almost half the total (191) passing over on Oct. 23. Red-shouldered Hawk: Sept. 7 Old Chatham; PK reports a total of 50 with a max of 28 on Oct. 23. Broad-winged Hawk: PK's total 800 watch with max of 292 on Sept. 14 and 145 on Sept. 18. Rough-legged Hawks filtered in early this fall with JC spotting a very early one Oct. 4 at C'ton; JB, 1 Oct. 17 at Catskill; and WBS 1 from the Pinnacle Oct. 23; PK only 1 Oct. 27. **GOLDEN EAGLE:** 1 (ad) Palenville Nov. 14 (W. Robinson) and a probable Golden Oct. 23 Pinnacle (PK). Osprey: at least 14 reported. **PEREGRINE FALCON:** 1 Guilderland Center, Albany County, Oct. 10 (KA). Merlin: 4 reports of this interesting rarity: 1 Sept. 22 VF (KA, VB); 2 Cocksackie Flats Sept. 24 (1 feasting on what resembled a Common Yellowthroat) (RPG) and 1 flying low along the HR at Albany Oct. 3 (PC). Am. Kestrel: aside from 86 from the Pinnacle, reports seem down. Ruffed Grouse: reports increasing. Ring-necked Pheasant: maintaining a few areas but may be decreasing overall. Turkey: a few in ColCo and a few appeared in several spots in Lake Luzerne (LT). Common Gallinule: only report 1 Rensselaer Oct. 15 (PC). Killdeer: max 110+ in one field vic. TomRes Oct. 15. Black-bellied Plover: Oct. 24 to 26 Hudson (ATB). Common Snipe: max 10 Staats Isl. Oct. 30 (PC). Solitary Sandpiper: 1 probable very late indiv. (heard only) Nov. 6, Schodack Cent. (PC). Dunlin: 2 vic. TomRes Oct. 15 (WG *et al.*). **GLAUCOUS GULL:** 1 Colonie Nov. 22 (RPG). **ICELAND GULL:** 2 Cohoes Nov. 22 (KA); 1 SL Nov. 22 (RPG). Herring Gull and Ring-billed Gull: concentrations at Pattersonville, Colonie, TomRes, SL, and HR at Albany. Bonaparte's Gull: only 1 report HR NBalt. Oct. 7. Common Tern: HR at NBalt. Sept. 24-26.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Yellow-billed Cuckoo: thru to Sept. 22. **BARN OWL:** 3 fledged from window ledge nest site in downtown Cocksackie mid-Sept. (RPG); also 1 C'ton vic. Oct. 6 (JC). Barred Owl: 1 Spencertown, Sept. 5 (EM); 1 Thompson Lake Oct. 2. Common Nighthawk: 2 late to Oct. 5 at Schenectady (WG). Chimney Swift: Oct. 4 (late) C'ton (JC). Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 Sept. 3, 4 Palmer's Rav. (TP) and 1 C'ton vic. Oct. 21 (JC).

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 1 Sept. 24 NBalt. E. Wood Pewee: thru Sept. 28 (late) C'ton (JC). Tree Swallow: late leaving with 50 at TomRes Oct. 15 (WG) and 4 C'ton Oct. 19 (JC). Bank Swallow: generally gone by Sept. 24. Rough-winged Swallow: a record late bird seen sitting on a wire Oct. 3 C'ton (JC). Barn Swallow: thru Sept. 30 (JC). Cliff Swallow: no reports. Purple Martin: extremely late—several were

seen on a wire in Kinderhook (near the site of a large breeding colony) on Oct. 21 (JC). **COMMON RAVEN**: 1 seen and heard while being harassed by crows TomRes Oct. 15 (WG, MG). **Black-capped Chickadee**: RPY reports an early movement of major proportions by the end of Nov. in the Jenny Lake region. **Red-breasted Nuthatch**: a mild influx Sept.-Oct. **House Wren**: two late sightings Oct. 1 and Oct. 7 at Ghent were probably the same individual (BHG). **Winter Wren**: only two reports Sept. 22 VF (KA), and Oct. 2 PalRav (TP). **Carolina Wren**: no reports. **Long-billed Marsh Wren**: only report is a late Oct. 8 individual at Stockport Station (KD,ATV, *et al.*). **Gray-cheeked Thrush**: only report Sept. 25 (WG). **E. Bluebird**: reports from Old Chatham, Catskill and PalRav. **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**: 2 NBalt. Sept. 10 (RPG). **BOHEMIAN WAXWING**: reported at Jenny Lake feeder Nov. 17 (*fide* RPY). **Northern Shrike**: 1 in fruitless pursuit of Downy Woodpecker Nov. 17 Greenville (RPG); 1 in pursuit of Yellow-rumped Warbler Nov. 25 PalRav (TP); four other reports.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: **Red-eyed Vireo**: an Oct. 21 individual-late-C'ton (JC). A **Magnolia Warbler** on Oct. 11 at C'ton was getting late (JC). **Blackburnian Warbler**: three behind-time individuals: Sept. 22, Old Chatham, Sept. 24 E. Greenbush, Sept. 24, Vosburgh's. **Pine Warbler**: only report Sept. 28 C'ton (JC). **Ovenbird**: a lingerer Sept. 24 Old Chatham (KD,EG).

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: **Northern Oriole**: 1 late adult male Nov. 12 and Nov. 29 SL (VB, PK). **Rusty Blackbird**: a good year; max 145 Staats Isl. Oct. 30 (PC). **Scarlet Tanager**: an extremely late 3 remaining thru Nov. 14 C'ton were viewed thru a window at very close range (3 ft.) (JC). **Rose-breasted Grosbeak**: 1 remained thru Oct. 12 (late) C'ton (JC). **Indigo Bunting**: thru Sept. 21 (late) Ghent (BHG). **Purple Finch**: moderate influx in late Sept. at JL apparently dispersed after that. **House Finch**: continued steady increase and expansion. **Evening Grosbeak**: early Sept. (LT) thru. **Pine Siskin**: despite reports of "massive coastal movements," reported only lightly here from mid-Oct. thru. **Red Crossbill**: 1 Pinnacle Oct. 23 (WBS) and 1 JL Nov. 5 (RPY). **Tree Sparrow**: from an early Oct. 22 indiv. thru (PC). **White-crowned Sparrow**: max 17 E. Greenbush Oct. 16 (PC). **White-throated Sparrow**: max 400 Schodack Cent. Oct. 16 (PC). **Fox Sparrow**: good numbers, mainly mid-Oct. **Lincoln's Sparrow**: Sept. 10 thru Oct. 10, Ghent (BHG). **Swamp Sparrow**: max 20 E. Greenbush Oct. 16 (PC). **Song Sparrow**: max 50 Staats Isl. Oct. 16 (PC). **Snow Bunting**: 8 Pinnacle, Oct. 29 (AL).

P.O. Box 46, New Baltimore, New York 12124

REGION 9 - DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

The principal weather feature this fall was rain. September started out dry with some light precipitation, enough to discourage birders, but not enough to break the summer drought until the last week, when over 5 inches fell in less than 4 days, causing considerable flooding. Wet weather then continued thru October and November, especially on week-ends when most birders would have been afield. November saw 20 days with some precipitation, and another period of flooding when over 5 inches fell on November 6 and 7. There was no appreciable snow until Thanksgiving week-end, and then only in the highlands.

The period saw one of the best goose migrations with Snows in unprecedented numbers. Ducks, however, were fewer than usual. Stewart Airport at Newburgh continues to be a mecca for shorebirds, with the rare Buff-breasted, Baird's and Hudsonian Godwit making appearances along with several species that might be expected. Week-end hawk watchers