

confirmed with a family group of one to three Carlton July 19-Aug. 6 (FD, mob).

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: A very high count of Red-eyed Vireo was: 93 LP June 7 (JCI, JSK). Among the many warblers reported from the higher elevations of the Region in June, most interesting were: Blue-winged Warbler: 25 LP June 3 (TT); 31 LP June 7 (JCI, JSK); and an incredible 72 LP June 30 (RC, WS); and N. Parula: one LP June (mob). Suggestive of a return to breeding in the Region were **PRAIRIE WARBLER:** two singing males Honeoye Lake June 18 (RS); one Mendon Ponds Park June 19-20 (SaT); and one LP June 23 (W & HK). A Yellow-breasted Chat pair was frequently monitored: Greece June 27-Aug. 23. There were no early fall warbler migration dates of particular interest.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Orchard Orioles were, as usual for the last few years: one to four PB June-Aug. 3; plus a singing male Webster July 1 (CP). A very rare summer record was **EVENING GROSBEAK:** one Ellison Park July 12-13 (J & GD), a female visiting a feeder. House Finch has reached the stage where few observers go out of their way to find or report it. The usual colonies were reported, but only for June. Late, vagrant or breeding? Pine Siskin records were: to a max. of 11 Irondequoit June (ME); two BB June 30 (F & RD, RO); and one Webster July 25. The high count for Vesper Sparrow was: four Hamlin July 31. In the higher elevation part of the Region Dark-eyed Junco was reported: one Canadice Lake at 900' (270m) June 10 (RBA). Late migrant sparrows were represented by White-crowned Sparrow: one WL June 6 (KD, mob); and White-throated Sparrow: one Greece June 6 (KG).

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REGION 3 - FINGER LAKES

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The summer was a bit on the cool side until mid-July when it turned hot and continued generally warm thru August. At Ithaca, August 1978 was the warmest August in five years. It was a generally dry and sunny summer with the rainfall coming in the early days of each month.

Probably the outstanding feature of a rather quiet season, ornithologically speaking, was the continued presence of three White Pelicans at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. Southern herons visiting the Region were limited to a single Great Egret and an immature Glossy Ibis, both at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. Good numbers of Black-billed Cuckoos were reported. No reports of Carolina Wrens were received. Eastern Bluebirds appear to have slipped back again. House Finches continued to increase and spread. They are now a well established part of the avifauna of the entire Region.

The period closed with a huge flight of Common Nighthawks at Elmira on the evenings of August 27 and 28. Also at Elmira, there was an audible movement on the nights of August 30 and 31, with thrush notes heard on the 31st.

Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, normally the principal shorebirding area in the Region, had only a limited amount of mudflats. About a dozen species used the area, all common except for the Long-billed Dowitcher and the

Wilson's Phalarope. Another dozen species, normally present but in small numbers, were not found this year. Elmira had little shorebirding, but Ithaca had some activity at the airport pond.

Rarities: White Pelican, Glossy Ibis, possible Sandhill Crane, Western Sandpiper, Forster's Tern, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Orchard Oriole and a probable Blue Grosbeak.

Abbreviations: Cay—Cayuga; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; Sen—Seneca; * (starred)—details on file.

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LOONS—DUCKS: WHITE PELICAN: as reported in the last issue of *The Kingbird*, three birds appeared at MNWR on May 7. They were seen sporadically all summer and were still around at the end of the period. Great Blue Heron: the Marengo Swamp colony had about 130 active nests. Great Egret: only report was one at MNWR Aug. 23. Black-crowned Night Heron: Elmira had but a single sighting this year on Aug. 17. Nested at MNWR as usual. **GLOSSY IBIS:** an immature at MNWR Jul. 28 (WB) and Aug. 25 (G & M Shepherd).

Ducks: the maximum counts reported by the MNWR personnel are as follows:

Mallard	4,000 Aug. 31	Blue-winged Teal	700 Aug. 31
Black	350 Jun. 30	Am. Wigeon	75 Aug. 31
Gadwall	500 Aug. 31	N. Shoveler	150 Aug. 31
Pintail	50 Aug. 31	Wood Duck	1,100 Aug. 31
Green-winged Teal	500 Aug. 31	Hooded Merganser	50 Aug. 31

Common Goldeneye: one Sen L Aug. 9. Lesser Scaup: Cay L Jul. 3. Hooded Merganser: six females with 15-20 young on a small pond at Elmira. Common Merganser: one Sen L Aug. 3. Red-breasted Merganser: one Sen L Aug. 3.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Goshawk: two young fledged from a nest south of Brooktondale (DM). Red-shouldered Hawk: nest located in Cay Co (J. Spencer). Marsh Hawk: reported from Geneva, Cohocton and MNWR. Osprey: singles at MNWR Jun. 8 and 13 and last half of Aug.; one at Elmira Aug. 29. Ring-necked Pheasant: Lerch called them normal in Yates Co. but in much of the Region they were considered scarce or very scarce. Turkey: a nest at Crosby, Yates Co. was broken up. **SANDHILL CRANE:** beginning with a report of bird at MNWR on Apr. 22 (D. Strayer & J. Bondue) there have been a series of unconfirmed sightings of this species mostly at MNWR. W. Koch gave a good report of one flying there on Jun. 10. The latest report is of a sighting at Hopewell in Ontario Co. on Aug. 7 by Charles Crouse. In view of the unconfirmed nature of these reports, the record must be labeled as a possible sighting. Shorebirds: unless otherwise noted all records are from MNWR. Semipalmated Plover: one Jun. 3; one Tompkins Co. Airport Aug. 2. Upland Sandpiper: reported from Elmira, Second Milo, Yates Co. and Tompkins Co. Fairground; two young raised at Etna. Solitary Sandpiper: reported from three areas in Tompkins Co. including a partial albino at Monkey Run. Greater Yellowlegs: one Jun. 8 and one to five Jul.-Aug. Lesser Yellowlegs: one Jun. 15; up to 64 Jul.-Aug. Pectoral Sandpiper: one to five Jul.-Aug.; three Tompkins Co. Airport Aug. 2. Least Sandpiper: max 21 Jul. 15; two Tompkins Co. Airport Aug. 2. Short-billed Dowitcher: 17 max Aug. 8. Long-billed Dowitcher: three Aug. 14 max. 12 Aug. 31. Formerly this species did not appear until Sept. but in the past three years they have been found by mid-Aug. Stilt Sandpiper: 20 max on Jul. 27 was a higher number than usual for Jul. Many were in breeding plumage. **WESTERN SANDPIPER:** three Tompkins Co. Airport Aug. 2 (W. Howe)*. Wilson's Phalarope: one Aug. 5 and 20. **FORSTER'S TERN:** one MNWR Jul. 25 (S. Sabo). Caspian Tern: three Cay L Aug. 7; three MNWR Aug. 12.

PIGEONS--WOODPECKERS: Ringed Turtle Dove: one fed with Mourning Doves in a yard at Jacksonville Jul. 11-18. This was no doubt an escaped bird but it made an interesting change in the local avifauna. Black-billed Cuckoo: several widely separated reports during the summer. Long-eared Owl: this seldom-reported species was found in a pine plantation on Niemi Rd. near Tompkins Co. Airport on Jul. 1 and remained there about three weeks (W. Dilger). Whip-poor-will: one calling at Elmira Jun. 6-13 (T. Bates). Com. Night-hawk: "hundreds" migrating at Elmira on the evenings of Aug. 27 and 28. The air was "filled with them east of the city all the way to Rte. 17 and north to Horseheads." Belted Kingfisher: increased numbers around Cohocton. Red-headed Woodpecker: numerous reports along the northern edge of the Region. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: a pair at Ellis Hollow Jul. 12 where they have nested previously.

FLYCATCHERS--STARLINGS: **YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER:** two at Penn Yan Jul. 29, one Aug. 12 and one Aug. 30 (ML). **OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER:** one Elmira Jun. 4 (R. Knapp). Swallows: Tree and Bank Swallows generally reported down with Rough-wingeds scarce and Cliff Swallows very scarce. Barn Swallows doing well except at Cohocton where they too are reported down. Purple Martin: had reasonably good breeding success at MNWR; no reports from other contributors; on Aug. 21 near Tyre 1300 birds were counted on telephone wires. Carolina Wren: no reports: Two successive "killer" winters have played havoc with this species. Mockingbird: a nest was found at Varick Jul. 16. Hermit Thrush: one at Penn Yan Aug. 17. Swainson's Thrush: one at Penn Yan Jul. 24. Eastern Bluebird: this scarce species seems even more scarce altho 12 were seen at Elmira Aug. 31. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: widely reported thru the period; adult and young noted at MNWR Aug. 5. Water Pipit: one found on the Orleans Breeding Bird Census Jun. 10 late (R. Spahn).

VIREOS--WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: more than the usual number of reports especially from the northern part of the Region. Philadelphia Vireo: one Penn Yan Aug. 17 early (ML). Warblers: Black-and-white: one singing Elmira Jul. 4. Golden-winged: feeding young at Elmira. Blue-winged: Phelps Jun. 11; Penn Yan Aug. 6, 19, 20; Etna Aug. 9. "Brewster's" hybrid: two Elmira Jul. 16 (D. Clements). Tennessee: Penn Yan Jul. 16. Nashville: Penn Yan Jul. 25. Yellow: abundant. Magnolia: Penn Yan Aug. 20. Black-throated Blue: Penn Yan Aug. 21. Yellow-rumped: Penn Yan Aug. 10 early. Black-throated Green: Cohocton. Cerulean: Phelps Jun. 11 and Jul. 16; Ellis Hollow Jun. 29. Blackburnian: one Orleans Breeding Bird Census Jun. 10; one Phelps Jun. 11; one Ithaca Jul. 11. Chestnut-sided: Penn Yan Aug. 20. Blackpoll: one Orleans Breeding Bird Census Jun. 10. Prairie: Connecticut Hill Jun. 1; singing birds at a new location on Town Line Rd. south of Ithaca; colony of about 10 birds near Montour Falls. Ovenbird: Penn Yan Aug. 17. Northern Waterthrush: Penn Yan Aug. 13. Louisiana Waterthrush: young able to fly were being fed on a porch in Elmira; Penn Yan Jul. 19. Yellow-breasted Chat: one Cay Heights Jul. 6 and 9; one Reading Center thru the period. Wilson's: one Town of Varick, Sen. Co. Aug. 22. Canada: Penn Yan Jul. 20; Town of Varick Aug. 13; MNWR Aug. 31. The above warbler records from Penn Yan are the first dates on which the species was netted and banded by Malcolm Lerch.

WEAVERS--SPARROWS: **ORCHARD ORIOLE:** immature male singing Town of Varick Jun. 4. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: widely reported. **BLUE GROSBEAK:** a probable male at Freeville. A good description given but otherwise unconfirmed (Lynn Bradt)*. Indigo Bunting: numerous and widespread reports. Purple Finch: pair at Oaks Corners Jun. 18; reported from Clifton Springs and Cohocton. Pine Siskin: one at feeder at Clyde Aug. 6-9. A summer lingerer or an early fall visitor? White-winged Crossbill: female and singing male along Six Mile Creek, Ithaca Jul. 8 (SS). Vesper Sparrow: continues very scarce. Dark-eyed Junco: nested in the Guyanoga gullies Yates Co.; reported from Cohocton. White-throated Sparrow: singing in the Mt. Zoar area, Elmira, where they have nested.

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