

ly when contrasted with last year's invasion of finches. As long term records for the finches show typical two and four year cycles, this situation was to be expected. Highlights included: Red-winged Blackbird: Max 40,000 Greece Oct. 22; good House Finch counts: 42 Brighton Oct. 3 (JC); and 25 Brighton Oct. (F, J & LMy); Com. Redpoll: one BB Oct. 27; and one Penfield Oct. 27, early; Dark-eyed Junco: max 361 H Oct. 15; Tree Sparrow: one Sodus Oct. 14, early; Lapland Longspur: 45 K Oct. 26, a good early count; and Snow Bunting: 200 K and Greece Oct. 13 and 27, good numbers.

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REGION 3 – FINGER LAKES

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Fall 1978 was mild and dry with beautiful Indian summer weather in early November. The fall migration was, in general, rather unexciting and uneventful.

Seasonal positives: 1. A very small TV tower kill at Elmira contrasted with last year's slaughter there. 2. The experiment in "hacking" young Bald Eagles at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge was continued with four eaglets successfully fledged. 3. A big Common Loon flight at the southern end of Cayuga and Seneca Lakes November 12-15. 4. Canada Geese numbers hit a new fall high at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. 5. More Ruffed Grouse reports. 6. Carolina Wrens showed up in a few places after being nearly wiped out by two bad winters. 7. Good numbers of Northern Shrikes. 8. House Finches continued their wildfire spread and became much a part of the avian scene in some localities. 9. Good natural food supplies.

Seasonal negatives: 1. Increasing scarcity of white herons with the only representative of this group being a single Great Egret at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge on the first day of the period. 2. While Red-tailed Hawks are not threatened, two observers felt that their numbers were down. 3. The Ring-necked Pheasant appears to be a disappearing species. 4. At best, shorebirding could only be classed as fair. 5. Kinglets, especially Golden-crowned, hard to find. 6. Relatively few winter finches.

Rarities: White Pelican, Wood Stork, Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, Sandhill Crane, Hudsonian Godwit, Red Phalarope, Glaucous Gull, Olive-sided Flycatcher.

Abbreviations: Cay–Cayuga; L–lake; MNWR–Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; seminar–the weekly seminar at the Laboratory of Ornithology; Sen–Seneca; SP–State Park; * (starred)–details on file.

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LOONS–DUCKS: Common Loon: 26 Cay L Oct. 8; a heavy flight Nov. 12-15 with 121 at Myers and Long Point and 50 at Sampson SP on Nov. 12, 114 at Taughannock SP on Nov. 13, 400 on the south end of Cay L. Nov. 14 and 410 flying over Watkins Glen on Nov. 15.

Pied-billed Grebe migrants showed up on the Chemung R. Sept. 7. **WHITE PELICAN**: the three birds, which have been seen in the area sporadically since May 7, were last reported at MNWR on Sept. 24 by a group of birders on their way home from the Federation meeting in Rochester. Double-crested Cormorant: two MNWR during Sept.; one Cay L. Nov. 19. Green Heron: two late birds, one at Elmira Oct. 20 and one at Michigan Hollow Nov. 9. Cattle Egret: five at Watkins Glen and one at Ovid both late Oct. Great Egret: reduced to a single individual at MNWR which was last seen Sept. 1. Black-crowned Night Heron: a late individual at MNWR Nov. 1. **WOOD STORK**: a single bird observed, both flying and standing, near Geneva on Sept. 12 by Bernice Hilfiker*, Paris Trail* and Holly Conteyou. Each observer saw the bird independently of the others and each identified it independently. Whistling Swan: one Branchport Nov. 15; three Aurora Nov. 16; one to five MNWR Nov. 16-18. Canada Goose: migration started early during the first week of Sept. Peaked at MNWR at 46,000 on Oct. 9. Still 20,000 on Cay L. Nov. 12. Brant: reported from MNWR Oct. 28 and Nov. 11, from Union Springs Oct. 28 and two at Ithaca Nov. 5. Snow Goose: three Phelps Oct. 3-Nov. 26; peak 15 MNWR Nov. 20 (both morphs).

Ducks: the maximum counts at MNWR as reported by personnel there is as follows:

Mallard	18,000	Nov. 30	Wood Duck	2,000	Nov. 1
Black Duck	8,000	Nov. 30	Redhead	100	Oct. 31
Gadwall	1,000	Oct. 15	Ring-necked Duck	100	Oct. 31
Pintail	400	Nov. 1	Canvasback	100	Nov. 30
Green-winged Teal	2,500	Oct. 31	Bufflehead	100	Oct. 31
Blue-winged Teal	3,000	Oct. 1	Com. Merganser	200	Nov. 30
Am. Wigeon	9,000	Oct. 10	Hooded Merganser	300	Nov. 30
N. Shoveler	600	Nov. 20			

Surf Scoter: reported at seminar Oct. 30. Black Scoter: male Elmira Nov. 7-11 (WH *et al.*, *fide* MW); 18 Stewart Park Nov. 14 (DM *et al.*). Ruddy Duck: a few MNWR Nov; one Myers Nov. 8.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: a late record MNWR Oct. 31. Goshawk: one Throop Oct. 7; reported seminar Oct. 30 and Nov. 27; one Montour Falls Nov. 16. Sharp-shinned Hawk: reported at every seminar; one Elmira Sept. 8; one Watkins Glen Nov. 12. Cooper's Hawk: reported at every seminar; at Elmira one on Sept. 2 and two on Sept. 29; one Throop Sept. 8. Red-shouldered: only report was a single bird seen at Elmira. Rough-legged Hawk: one at Penn Yan in Sept. is the earliest report. Scattered reports in Oct. and Nov. Bald Eagle: adult Brooktondale Sept. 9 (Confer); adult Bath Sept. 16 (Macaulay *fide* Pitzrick). Marsh Hawk: one to three MNWR thru the period. Osprey: one MNWR during Sept.; one Phelps Sept. 20; one Elmira Oct. 30; one Ithaca Nov. 3-4. **PEREGRINE FALCON**: one MNWR Sept. 26 (Cade). **MERLIN**: one Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary Nov. 11 (H. Lapham). Ruffed Grouse: drumming birds reported from Phelps, Wayland and Elmira during Nov. Ring-necked Pheasant: almost no reports and they indicate the birds are very scarce. Turkey: reported at four seminars; also from near Big Flats and Horseheads; one in a cemetery at Penn Yan the week before Thanksgiving. Did this bird have a premonition? **SANDHILL CRANE**: The persistent, but unconfirmed, reports of a bird of this species at MNWR continued into Oct. On Oct. 31 D. McIlroy*, M. Shepherd, *et al.* saw and confirmed the presence of the bird. This is the third record of the species at MNWR. Shorebirds: unless otherwise indicated the following records are from MNWR. Semipalmated Plover: max 19 Sept. 19; a late bird on Nov. 3. Am. Golden Plover: up to three during Oct. to Nov. 15. Black-bellied Plover: last one Nov. 6. Greater Yellowlegs: max seven Sept. 30 and last one Nov. 15. Lesser Yellowlegs: max 50 Waterloo dump Sept. 1. Pectoral Sandpiper: one Chemung R. Sept. 10; max 15 Oct. 9; three late birds, one at Myers Nov. 12 and two MNWR Nov. 19. White-rumped Sandpiper: singles Sept. 19, Oct. 18, Nov. 16-17. Baird's: singles Sept. 8-9 and 24. Short-billed Dowitcher: max 18 Sept. 1; last five Nov. 6. Long-billed Dowitcher: max 18 Oct. 3; last one Nov. 17. **HUDSONIAN GODWIT**: one Tompkins Co. airport Oct.

12 (W. Howe*). **RED PHALAROPE**: one Stewart Park Oct. 17-20 (K. Rosenberg*). Wilson's Phalarope: one Waterloo dump Sept. 1. **GLAUCOUS GULL**: one King Ferry Nov. 25 (Confer). Caspian Tern: one Stewart Park Sept. 24; two MNWR Sept. 8. Black Tern: reported at seminar Oct. 2 late.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Saw-whet Owl: one Cornell Campus Oct. 25 (D. Gray). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: present at the Shepherds in Ithaca until Oct. 1. Late. Red-headed Woodpecker: reported at seminar Oct. 30; one along Clyde R. Nov. 1-4. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: fewer than normal reports at seminar; three Elmira Sept. 20; one Penn Yan thru Nov.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: E. Wood Pewee: Ithaca Oct. 10-11 late. **OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER**: one Sept. 19 (Confer). Tree Swallow: at Cayuga Marsh W. Howe and W. Bridgeland saw an estimated 20,000 flying south; 1,000 observed on the beach at Sen L. SP Oct. 15 (BH); 150 on the wires at Tyre, Sen. Co. Oct. 22. Bank Swallow: many swallows, predominantly Banks, at Elmira Sept. 10. Red-breasted Nuthatch: reported from Newark, Texas Hollow Sanctuary, Guyanoga Valley and in numbers from Elmira. Carolina Wren: several seen at Ithaca feeders; one heard calling near Watkins Glen; no other reports. Gray Catbird: a late bird at Ithaca Oct. 28. Am. Robin: several hundred were at the Confer's residence at Brooktondale on Oct. 8 and 100 at the same place Oct. 11; at Elmira large flocks were at Harris Hill Sept. 16 and Mt. Zoar Sept. 18. Wood Thrush: one Ithaca Nov. 2, late. Hermit Thrush: one Ithaca Oct. 24; two Phelps Nov. 29 late. Swainson's Thrush: more than usual reports at the seminars; one Clyde R. Nov. 8 late. E. Bluebird: 10-15 Elmira Sept. 15; scattered reports from Camp Barton, Clyde, Penn Yan, Burdette and Seneca Co. Kinglets: both species were very scarce. Schuyler Co. had its first Golden-crowned report in nearly a year. Water Pipit: 80 King Ferry Nov. 12; few other reports. Northern Shrike: earliest report was one at Throop Oct. 17; later reported from Sen. Co. Oct. 28, Ithaca, Sampson SP Nov. 12, Aurora Nov. 16, MNWR Nov. 16 and Watkins Glen Nov. 12.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: Vireos: Red-eyed: one Ithaca Oct. 22 late. Philadelphia: one Throop Sept. 11 and one Elmira Oct. 2. Warblers: M. Lerch's comment that the only warbler which was numerous was the "Myrtle" and that there were no rarities about sums up the warbler migration in the Region. The following 21 species were reported within the Region: Black-and-white, Tennessee, Nashville, N. Parula, Yellow, Magnolia, Cape May, Black-throated Blue, Yellow-rumped ("Myrtle"), Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, Bay-breasted, Blackpoll, Pine (several singing at Elmira Sept. 1), Prairie, Palm, Ovenbird, Com. Yellowthroat, Wilson's, Canada, Am. Redstart.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Scarlet Tanager: a family was still feeding young at Elmira on Sept. 2. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: a flock of 40 was observed at Elmira feeding on tree seeds; a late bird at Throop Oct. 9. Indigo Bunting: one Throop Oct. 7 late. Evening Grosbeak: rather widespread reports of small numbers moving in from Oct. 25 to Nov. 15 but then they seemed to disappear. Purple Finch: reported as plentiful in Elmira but few reports from elsewhere. House Finch: this species is becoming abundant in those areas where it first became established such as Ithaca, Watkins Glen and Elmira where flocks of 20-25 birds are coming to feeders. It is now found in small numbers in much of the Region. Pine Siskin: a few reports from Oct. 8 on. Am. Goldfinch: 67 visited the Hagland feeders in Ithaca on Nov. 21. Red Crossbill: 20 Ithaca Oct. 31 only report. Sparrows: Grasshopper: at Throop until Oct. 2. Vesper: reported at five seminars this fall compared to no reports in fall 1977 and two each in 1976 and 1975; found in small numbers widely distributed in cornfields at Throop during Oct. Tree Sparrow: first reported Oct. 8 but still in small numbers only at the end of the period. Lincoln's Sparrow: seen at Throop Oct. 2 and 7. Snow Bunting: 20 MNWR Nov. 1; 20 Elmira Nov. 8 and 35-40 Nov. 14.

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