

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: two early-Sept. reports. Olive-sided Flycatcher: one NB Sept. 20. Blue Jay: reported as abundant in migration mid-Sept. into Nov. Black-capped Chickadee: apparently not an invasion year; however, some increase in numbers at RY's feeder at Jenny Lake, Sar. Co. in Nov. **BOREAL CHICKADEE:** one at a feeder Galway, Schenectady Co. Oct. 24 (*fide* RLF). Tufted Titmouse: reported from some unusual places, such as Berne and Buskirk; very numerous in the more familiar places. Red-breasted Nuthatch: a few scattered reports mid-Sept. thru; no incursion this year. Brown Creeper: seems slightly more numerous this year. Winter Wren: only two mid-Oct. reports. Swainson's Thrush: banner year! 54 banded Sept. at NB; many heard flying over at night especially Sept. 12, 13 & 21 (PC). Gray-cheeked Thrush: quite the contrary—very few reports. Eastern Bluebird: scattered reports from NB, Chatham, Albany, Pine Bush and Schodack mid-Oct. thru mid-Nov. Water Pipit: Pine Bush, TomRes, and ColCo. mid-Oct. to early Nov. Northern Shrike: Oct. 20 thru.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: Sept. 17 thru Oct. 14. **PHILADELPHIA VIREO:** one Schodack Ctr. Sept. 16 (PC); three banded NB Sept. 16-21. Warbling Vireo: no reports. Do they all vacate before Sept., or do they, in their unobtrusive demeanor, escape our attention? Warblers: Black-and-white: not as numerous as in the past, very few reports received. Tennessee: the population boom continues; reported as most numerous Sept. warbler by several observers; 89 banded in Sept. at NB; three in Oct. N. Parula: somewhat increased this season. Bay-breasted: unusually high number of reports. Prairie: three scattered mid-Sept. reports.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: last reported Sept. 24 Schodack. Rusty Blackbird: widely reported and in good numbers mid to late Oct. Evening Grosbeak: in modest numbers Oct. 15 thru. Purple Finch: groups of 20 or so mid-Sept. thru mid-Oct.; then they just went away. House Finch: much reduced, RY reports only 26 banded this season vs 162 last year at this time; does the pendulum swing? Pine Grosbeak: a few reports mid-Nov. Pine Siskin: only two reports Oct. 25 Pinnacle; Nov. 2 Pine Bush. Vesper Sparrow: still reported regularly in some ColCo locales. Dark-eyed Junco: very abundant at both Jenny Lake and Schenectady, 191 banded (RY); not so in NB, only 12 banded there. White-throated Sparrow: numbers normal, 96 banded Schen. (RY); 179 NB mid-Sept. thru early Nov. Lincoln's Sparrow: five banded NB thru Sept. 22; also Ghent thru mid Oct. Snow Bunting: Nov. 6 thru; max 100+ Nov. 12 Castleton (JC).

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

REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

The fall season was marked primarily by its dryness. Lakes and reservoirs were very low, and intermittent streams dried up completely. Temperatures were rather even throughout the period, and somewhat on the warm side. Frosts came late and the only snow fell the last week of November with a maximum of three inches. It was probably the uneventful weather pattern that led to the uneventful migration. No marked waves were experienced, yet the birds did move thru. The warblers that started in August continued thru October with only a few dates when numbers were increased. Dutchess County reported 27 species of warblers for the season, but the numbers and variety of marsh and shorebirds were down. Hawks moved thru in even numbers, with only two big

days for Broad-winged Hawks. Several reporters noted the larger than usual crop of fruits and seeds in spite of the dryness of the season.

The few exotics that turned up more than made up for the dull season. The bird of the period if not the year (for the whole state) was the California Gull at Rockland Lake. It was a first for the state, and a second for the East coast; the other being an adult in Florida last April. While looking for the California Gull, Tony Lauro found and photographed a Lesser Black-backed Gull, a first for the Region. Another birder thought he saw a Mew Gull there in early November, but it was later identified as a runt Ring-billed. All the gull activity rather took the sheen off the White Pelican which stayed on Askokan Reservoir for a day in October, but it was an excellent find nevertheless.

We would be seriously remiss if we did not mention the mid-October passing of one of the most beloved birders in the area, Mrs. George Little of Carmel. Mabel was our only reporter from the Putnam-Upper Westchester area, and she contributed records to this column since its beginning many years ago. She was an inveterate birder of paramount skill, and will be sorely missed. To exemplify her dedication, she made last year's waterfowl count while on her way to and from N.Y.C. for therapy. Birding in the Region will be the poorer without her.

Contributors and observers cited: Al Brayton, Tom Burke, Robert F. Deed, Florence Germond, Dick Guthrie, William Howe, Mary & Jim Key, Helen Manson, Adam Martin, Ken McDermott, Frank Murphy, Jack Orth, Eleanor Pink, Benton Seguin, William & Trixie Strauss, Stiles Thomas, John Tramontano, Edward D. Treacy, Berna Weissman.

Abbreviations: The first four or five letters of each county; Ashokan—Ashokan Reservoir; CB—Cornwall Bay; MC—Marshlands Conservancy, Rye; PL—Playland, Rye; PP—Piermont Pier; SA—Stewart Airport, Newburgh.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: Three over Hook Mt. Sept. 23. 28 Ashokan Sept. 27, inc to more than 40 by Nov. 4. 17 on CB Nov. 8 was an unusually large number for that location. Red-throated Loon: one MC Oct. 8; five CB Nov. 8, last one there Nov. 14 (BS). Only one reported from Ashokan Nov. 4 where more could be expected. **RED-NECKED GREBE:** always rare, one Nov. 4 Ashokan (AB). Horned Grebe: three Kensico Nov. 22; 20 Ashokan Nov. 24. **WHITE PELICAN:** one on Ashokan at dusk Nov. 21. Observed again next day (R. Terwiliger, AB, FM, EDT). Was not obs again after that date. Great Cormorant: from Oct. 9 on LI Sound. Equalled the decreasing Double-crested by month's end. Double-crested Cormorant: five on CB Sept. 6, decreased to four by Oct. 27. First at PP Aug. 28. Peaked at 107 there Sept. 28. Last there Oct. 12. Great Egret: usual scattered fall appearances. Mostly singles except for four at CB Sept. 2. Snowy Egret: max seven Croton Pt. Sept. 16 (KM). Black-crowned Night Heron: one imm PP Aug. 28. Yellow-crowned Night Heron: last at MC Oct. 7. Mute Swan: continues its increase. 22 in Croton Bay Nov. 24. 14 at CB Nov. 28 was unusual that far up river. Canada Goose: large numbers of spring persisted thru period. Exc. migration in Oct. Max 2,000-3,000 Oct. 15 at Tamarack and Parshalls, Dutch. Brant: only report 40 CB Nov. 4. Snow Goose: six at MC Oct. 14; one Amenia Nov. 4. Gadwall: Rock had its highest count ever with 19 on L Tappan Nov. 1. Three at PL Oct. 15 were unusual there. Green-winged Teal: two at L Tappan, Rock, on early date of Sept. 19. Am. Wigeon: max 29 Iona I, Nov. 4. No. Shoveler: four females at Rock L Oct. 5 was the second earliest date for that county. Redhead: first two Hudson R near Newburgh Nov. 4. Five CB Nov. 5. Ring-necked Duck: arr most areas after mid-Nov. In less than normal numbers. Canvasback: ab 60 at PL by end of Oct. Max 846 on Hudson at Newburgh Nov. 16. Greater Scaup: ab 500 at PL by end of Oct. Lesser Scaup: arr after mid-Nov. in less than normal numbers. Bufflehead: max 90 CB Nov. 8. Oldsquaw: always

rare, five Nov. 10 at CB, one Ashokan Nov. 26, one Hunn's L, Dutch Nov. 8. White-winged Scoter: first at PL Nov. 29. Arr at Hyde Park on Nov. 5, four birds decreased to one by Nov. 10. Surf Scoter: one at PL Oct. 13. Black Scoter: first eight Ashokan Oct. 27. 22 at CB Nov. 4. 30 at Quaker L, Dutch Oct. 24 and 73 on Hudson at Newburgh Nov. 16. More than usual. Ruddy Duck: 100-150 on Rockland L by Oct. 30. 40 on Orange L Nov. 4. Hooded Merganser: peaked at PL with 20, Oct. 29. 60 at Kenozia L, Hurley Nov. 24. Common Merganser: two Kensico Nov. 22. 13 Croton Pt. Nov. 24. Red-breasted Merganser: sev at PL by Oct. 29.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: The following were the only two Hawk Watch reports received:

	Hook Mountain, Nyack	Mt. Peter, Warwick
Goshawk	6	3
Sharp-shinned Hawk	4,217	1,074
Cooper's Hawk	64	20
Red-tailed Hawk	292	103
Red-shouldered Hawk	109	23
Broad-winged Hawk	12,074	5,524
Golden Eagle	6	0
Bald Eagle	7	0
Marsh Hawk	158	46
Osprey	205	102
Peregrine Falcon	0	0
Merlin	27	3
Am. Kestrel	632	216
Unidentified	144	104
Total	17,942	7,221

Turkey Vulture: one Nov. 2 Billings, Dutch. Another at Dunderberg Nov. 2 was late. Goshawk: one Sept. 15 at Canoe Hill, Dutch, remained one week (FG). Broad-winged Hawk: Hook Mt. reported 4,378 Sept. 13 and 4,339 Sept. 20. 1200 over Mohonk Sept. 14. Rough-legged Hawk: more than usual migrants. Two winter residents arr Galeville Airport, Wallkill Nov. 18 (KM). Golden Eagle: all five Oct. birds at Hook Mt. were imm. One Nov. 2 at Stockbriar, south of Thompson Pd, Dutch. One Nov. 5 Mohonk. Bald Eagle: one East Park, Sept. 6 and another Dutchess Hill Sept. 14. All seven birds at Hook Mt. were imm. Merlin: single birds on three separate days at MC first week of Oct. Clapper Rail: up to four continued at MC thru Oct. Am. Coot: max 150 Croton Bay Nov. 24. Am. Golden Plover: well reported at SA from Sept. 16 to Oct. 29. Max there 120 Oct. 15. Black-bellied Plover: max 4 SA Sept. 1 Single birds thru Sept. to Oct. with last two Oct. 29. Ruddy Turnstone: one Sept. 4-6 CB. Am. Woodcock: one in display flight at Kingston Radio Tower Oct. 19 (AB). Upland Sandpiper: first migrant Sept. 1-16 at SA. Max 17 there Sept. 4. Pectoral Sandpiper: first seven SA Sept. 20. Max there 16 Oct. 8. Last two Nov. 8 at Brown's Pond, N'brg. White-rumped Sandpiper: one PP Sept. 12. **BAIRD'S SANDPIPER:** another good fall season at SA. First Sept. 23-Oct. when four were seen (BS). Dunlin: 50 Ashokan Oct. 14. **STILT SANDPIPER:** third record for Rock, one at PP Sept. 27. (RFD, V. Schwartz). Semipalmated Sandpiper: after a high at PP in early Aug, the number dropped to 12 by Sept. 12 with the last there Sept. 29. **BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER:** first two, adults, at SA Sept. 17. Three imm there Sept. 27 inc to five Sept. 30 and ten Oct. 1. **MARBLED GODWIT:** first record for Oran, one Sept. 16 SA. Obs for 15 min. by BS. **HUDSONIAN GODWIT:** 18 at SA Oct. 5 (BS). **ICELAND GULL:** one second year bird at CB Sept. 26 was extremely early. Two at CP Nov. 24 were more normal. One was a first year bird and the other a second year. **LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL:** one observed and photographed at Rockland L by A. Lauro was the first record for the Region. Herring Gull: max 8000 Croton Pt. Nov. 24 (WH). **CALIFORNIA GULL:** one ad in winter plumage at Rockland L from Oct. 4 thru period. First observed by Berna Weissman, and since by hundreds of birders. Bonaparte's Gull: only

report, one mid-Sept. on Hudson at Newburgh (KM). Caspian Tern: two PP Sept. 27. Latest for Rock.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: continues abundant. Common Night-hawk: good movement late Aug. and early Sept. Last two Oct. 11 at MC, a very late date. Chimney Swift: last Oct. 15 at MC. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last Oct. 9 at Dutch. Red-bellied Woodpecker: continues to hold its own but not increasing. One at MC Oct. 8 was unusual there near the shore. Red-headed Woodpecker: one in the parking lot of the Rye Hilton, Port Chester, Oct. 29 was a surprise. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: fewer than usual. First migrant Rye Nature Center, Sept. 25. Hairy Woodpecker: numbers reported down, esp in Rock.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Empidonax flycatchers: numbers better than usual. Olive-sided Flycatcher: reported at Wawarsing Sept. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 16. Barn Swallow: one Walkill late date of Nov. 11 (KM). Cliff Swallow: five PP Sept. 12 was a good count for there. Common Crow: more than 3000 at P'kpsie roost by end of Oct. Fish Crow: an unusual flock of 40 at SA Sept. 17 (BS). **BOREAL CHICKADEE:** Frank Murphy had one on Slide Mt. Nov. 23. Red-breasted Nuthatch: exc movement around Washington L, N'brg. Oct. 19. Not many elsewhere. Carolina Wren: three at Red Oaks Mill dur. Oct. and Nov. were using an old robin's nest in which to roost overnight (JMK). Long-billed Marsh Wren: at least three were still at MC thru Oct. Mimids: all residents were normal early in the period. A sizeable movement noted in the L Tappan area Oct. 13 (RFD). Am. Robin: more than 100 at L Welch Sept. 13. One obs at PL Sept. 21 counted 820 going to roost for the night, after he became aware of them. Wood Thrush: one late bird eating berries at Rye Nature Center Oct. 21, another at Kingston Radio Tower Oct. 18, Swainson's Thrush: in good numbers. Last Nov. 4 Salt Point. Gray-cheeked Thrush: only a few. Last Rye Nature Center Sept. 7. Veery: one Rye Nature Center Oct. 1. Eastern Bluebird: at end of period, Florence Germond still had 13 along her nesting trail near Clinton Corners, Dutch. Water Pipit: max 125 at SA, Oct. 15 (BS). Cedar Waxwing: max 90 Croton Pt. Nov. 24. In good numbers there thru period. Northern Shrike: perhaps an echo of last year's exceptional movement. Single birds near Bethel Nov. 14 and Woodstock Nov. 10. One at Pleasant Valley Nov. 26.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: White-eyed Vireo: only report, one at Purchase Sept. 17. Solitary Vireo: two at MC Oct. 15. One Amenia very late date of Nov. 6 (WTS). Red-eyed Vireo: two MC Oct. 15. **PHILADELPHIA VIREO:** more than usual. One at MC Sept. 5; one Pond Gut Sept. 1; one Stockbriar Sept. 7; and one Tamarack Swamp Sept. 21. Tennessee Warbler: one near L Tappan Oct. 13 was rather late. **ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER:** one at Thornwood, West Nov. 6 (BW). Cape May Warbler: One Kingston Nov. 1. Yellow-rumped Warbler: in unprecedented numbers in Ulst dur Oct. Last there Nov. 5. Low in Dutch, with the last there Nov. 26. One "Audubon's" form at the J. R. Clark Farm, Rt. 9W, Milton Oct. 1 (R. Adamo). Pine Warbler: one apparently sick, on the ground at Palisades, Rock Sept. 28 (RFD). Com. Yellowthroat: last very late date of Nov. 29 at Wawarsing (JO). Yellow-breasted Chat: only report, one Oct. 1 Wawarsing.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: very few reports. Max 75 at L Tappan Sept. 19. Northern Oriole: one at N'bg Nov. 11 was very late (KM). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: one very late date of Nov. 16 at Wawarsing. Evening Grosbeak: first arr mid-Oct. severely reduced in Nov. Sharp-tailed Sparrow: two remained thru mid-Oct. at MC. Seaside Sparrow: one at MC Oct. 17. Tree Sparrow: arr early in Dutch with a peak of 15 Oct. 16 near Freedom Plains. Most other areas didn't have them until Nov., with numbers very low. White-throated Sparrow: RFD reports 20 at Congers Sept. 29, later than usual. Arr in Dutch Sept. 11 with good numbers thereafter. Lincoln's Sparrow: more than usual. One at MC Oct. 8-22. At Wawarsing on nine occasions from Sept. 9 thru Oct. 15. Two at Beaver Dam, Dutch Oct. 3. Swamp Sparrow: an exc concentration of 20 at MC on Oct. 15. Snow Bunting: three at Piermont Pier, and six at Rockland L Nov. 1 (BW). Arr Ashokan Oct. 22. Many reports of small flocks of 40 to 50 thru Nov.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, N.Y. 10928