

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Blue Jay: R. Yunick reports them more numerous than usual at Jenny Lake; hundreds flying over NB each evening thru Sept. **COMMON RAVEN:** one Stephentown Sept. 30 (DR) probably a "spillover" from the increasing population in the Berkshires, in western Massachusetts. Tufted Titmouse: curiously being reported as increasing and widespread in the interior highlands, i.e. Cambridge and Tarborton, yet may be decreasing in the river valleys. Carolina Wren: one Palmers Ravine Nov. 12. Hermit Thrush: somewhat scarce with only three reports. Swainson's Thrush: hundreds overhead through the early hours of night, Sept. 11, 13, 16, 19 & 23 Schodack Ctr. (PC). E. Bluebird: 23 Oct. 17 Stephentown (RR). Water Pipit: Sept. 24 thru Oct. 26; max 100 Oct. 8 Cox Flats. No. Shrike: certainly not as numerous as last year, only one report Nov. 16 Cambridge (ND).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: WHITE-EYED VIREO: one imm. banded NB Sept. 15; seen thru Sept. 22. Tennessee Warbler: 26 banded at NB in Sept., compare with 89 for the same efforts last year. Wilson's Warbler: few reports include a late individual Oct. 7 at Coeymans (AG).

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: only report one Cox Flats Sept. 8. Evening Grosbeak and Purple Finch: sparse with only a few scattered reports. House Finch: R. Yunick reports a continued increase at his Schenectady yard, having banded 143 from mid-Sept. thru Nov. Red Crossbill: only report is of one in flight over Jenny Lake Nov. 23 (RPY). Vesper Sparrow: two Oct. 21 Cox Flats—only report. Lincoln's Sparrow: three banded NB Sept. Lapland Longspur: a very early individual Oct. 8 at Cox Flats followed by three others by Oct. 21. Snow Bunting: an early Oct. 21 Cox Flats; also Nov. 3 Castleton and Nov. 23 L. Taghkanic, regular thereafter.

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REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

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The weather bureau said this was one of the warmest autumns of the century. Most people did not realize it however, since there were a few cold days. The first and last weeks of Sept. and Oct. were unusually cold, but the middle of these months were on the balmy side. November was less variable, but warmer than usual. Katyids were calling far into October in spite of a three inch snow-fall on October 10, which broke down trees and branches still laden with green leaves. Precipitation was normal, with rainy days scattered rather evenly thru the period.

The big news for the period was the exotics brought into the Region by tropical storm "David" on Sept. 6. (Tropical storm "Frederic" a week later was uneventful.) Sooty Terns were found all along the Hudson, with a maximum of six adults and two immatures at New Hamburg. Farther down stream at Dobbs Ferry, Berna Weissman was looking at a Sooty Shearwater in addition to Sooty Terns, and also at Least Terns, Forster's Terns, Black Terns, and Northern Phalaropes.

A remarkable event on the lower Hudson was the invasion of Forster's Terns in late October, which continued to mid-November. Formerly this species was

recorded only after tropical storms carried them inland from the ocean front, but no storms were in the area at this time.

Hawk movements at the two major hawk watches did not appear to be impressive; but when analyzed, a number of previous records were broken. Mt. Peter established new highs for six species, and tied one. All this in spite of a total count equal to half their previous high. Hook Mt. had one new high of 11 Peregrines, a heartening report. Except for a few Evening Grosbeaks, no winter finches had appeared by the end of the period. Waterfowl went thru in excellent numbers and variety. Shorebirds were generally poor everywhere except at Lake Tappan in Rockland, which was unusually low; and at the Warren Turf Farm near Pine Island, Orange. Stewart Airport was also good considering the continuing disturbance of heavy equipment lengthening runways and in general tearing up the place. Warbler movements were largely as expected with only a few exceptions noted in the report. Fringillids were low, especially sparrows.

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Abbreviations: The first few letters of each county; Ashokan—Ashokan Reservoir; CB—Cornwall Bay; CP—Croton Point; MC—Marshlands Conservancy; PL—Playland, Rye; PP—Piermont Pier; RN—Rye Nature Center; WTF—Warren Turf Farm, Pine Island.

LOONS—DUCKS: Com. Loon: max 26, Ashokan Sept. 25, and 30 there Oct. 16. Red-throated Loon: one Ashokan Nov. 1, another there Nov. 28. One CB off and on from Nov. 1-30. One PL Oct. 15 was the earliest. Another there Oct. 29. **RED-NECKED GREBE**: four at CB Nov. 12 (BS). Horned Grebe: first Ashokan Oct. 20. Pied-billed Grebe: two unusual concentrations; eight in a group on the Hudson near Oct. 25, and for two weeks thereafter (AB), another 12 on Rockland Lake Nov. 28 (RFD). **SOOTY SHEARWATER**: one Hudson R at Dobbs Ferry Sept. 6 after tropical storm "David" (BW). Great Cormorant: one imm. seen well in flight at Stony Pt. Nov. 9 (RFD). The fourth record for Rock. By the end of Oct. arriving Great Cormorants equalled in number the departing Double-cresteds along the sound front in E. Westchester. Double-crested Cormorant: more reports along the full length of the Hudson than ever before. An unusual report of one on a small pond near Wurtsboro Nov. 14 (J, PR). Great Blue Heron: in good numbers thru Region. More than 15 at PL thru end of Oct. Green Heron: one LaGrangeville Nov. 12 was quite late (JD). Little Blue Heron: imm. at PP Sept. 10 and 15. Cattle Egret: rarely reported in fall; ten in Dutch Oct. 14. Great Egret: max nine at CP Aug. 25. Snowy Egret: max 37 at CP Aug. 25. Louisiana Heron: one late bird at MC Oct. 21. Black-crowned Night Heron: nine imm. and one ad. at PP Aug. 29. **YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON**: Last at MC Oct. 7. Mute Swan: max 34 at CB Nov. 11. Canada Goose: an unparalleled migration, EDT counted 2281 in 48 flocks over Mt. Peter Oct. 8. More than 1000 were at CB Oct. 10 and more than 5000 flew over Bashakill the same date. On Oct. 8, 12,000 were obs. from the Mohonk Hawk Watch. Brant: good flights reported. 52 over Dobbs Ferry Oct. 16, more than 200 over PP Oct. 27. 14 at CB Oct. 16 and 75 over Hook Mt. Nov. 5. Snow Goose: more than 500 at CB Nov. 10, and three in the Amenia area of Dutch Nov. 4-14. Gadwall: 11 at Rockland L Oct. 30 was that county's second highest count ever. Am. Wigeon: at the Strauss Marsh, Amenia thru period; inc. to about 50 birds by Nov. 30. Redhead: six CB Nov. 23. Canvasback: returning to the good numbers of 20 years ago. More than 800 near Kingston Pt. Nov. 24. More than 4000 at Cornwall Bay from Nov. 12, and 2000 at Iona I. Nov. 28. Bufflehead: max 250 at CB Nov. 3. Oldsquaw: max 23 CB Nov. 12. 16 Ashokan Nov. 18. From two to six at two locations in Dutch thru Nov. **COMMON EIDER**: an unexplained appearance of one female

at Quaker Lake, Dutch Oct. 15, a new bird for the county (Howard Pellet, Mary Yegella, mob). White-winged Scoter: one Tarrytown Res. for the week after Nov. 12 was unusual there. Seven near Kingston Pt. Nov. 24, two Ashokan Oct. 16, one Cruger's I. Oct. 13, one CB Nov. 23. Surf Scoter: one Rudd Pd. Dutch Oct. 19, inc. to eight Oct. 20. Black Scoter: 20 CB Oct. 11 inc. to 250 Oct. 16 and 300 Nov. 4; last 10 there Nov. 12 (BS). 16 near Beacon Nov. 8. Ruddy Duck: four Tomahawk L. Oct. 13. Hooded Merganser: max 14 Nov. 8 Pawling. Com. Merganser: first two fem. Ashokan early date of Sept. 11 (AB). Red-breasted Merganser: only inland report one CB Nov. 28 (BS).

HAWKS—ALCIDS: The table below shows the results of the two major hawk watches reporting:

Season	<u>Mt. Peter, Warwick</u>		Species	<u>Hook Mt., Nyack</u>		Date
	1 day	Date		1 day	Date	
<u>Total</u>	<u>maximum</u>			<u>Total</u>	<u>maximum</u>	
7*	2	10/13,20	Goshawk	9	3	10/21
1,751*	161	10/15	Sharp-shinned	4,284	273	10/14
57*	9*	9/15	Cooper's Hawk	62	12	10/14
230	38	10/26	Red-tailed	235	72	10/30
67*	16*	10/31	Red-shouldered	134	42	10/31
3,181	962	9/15	Broad-winged	11,175	3,225	9/12
3*	2*	9/ 8	Golden Eagle	5	2	10/15
2	1	9/17,19	Bald Eagle	5	1	
54	5	9/23	Marsh Hawk	209	16	10/14
157*	22*	9/15	Osprey	273	27	10/ 4
4	1		Peregrine	11*	2	10/26
11	3*	9/13	Merlin	17	6	10/ 6
394	82	10/ 8	Am. Kestrel	587	56	9/19

* New high record

Turkey Vulture: left most of area by end of Oct. one or two obs in Dutch till Nov. 23. Black Vulture: one over Hook Mt. Sept. 4 (John Irvine, mob). Second record, first was Spring 1976. Goshawk: a few other than those in Hawk Watches. Cooper's Hawk: a surprising five at MC on Oct. 14. Rough-legged Hawk: arr. at Galesville Airport after Nov. 22. Infrequently observed thereafter. Golden Eagle: several reports away from Hawk Watches; one at CP Oct. 21 was a different bird from that nearby at Butler Sanct. Oct. 20. One over MC Oct. 14, another ad at Harriman Pk. in Nov. Bald Eagle: fewer than half the number of Golden. Osprey: has recovered beautifully from lows of a decade ago. Numbers peaked at MC Oct. 7 with 15. Peregrine: the 11 at Hook Mt. this season was their best season ever, this in light of the fact they had *none* last year. An imm. on Oct. 23 had a tail streamer, possibly an antenna. Merlin: one remained at Dobbs Ferry river front for three days the first week of Oct. Three separate individuals were observed at Wawarsing from Oct. 14-Nov. 12. Four Dutch birds were obs during last half of Sept. One at Pleasant Valley was hawking song birds at a feeder on Oct. 4. Bobwhite: reported at New Paltz Sept. 7, new to that area. Turkey: continues to inc. in Ulst and holding in Dutch. Com. Gallinule: one imm. at Tarrytown Res. Oct. 5-6. Am. Coot: more than 100 on Hudson, Town of Esopus Oct. 25. 175 on Hudson at Beacon Nov. 7-30. Semipalmated Plover: very few. Most were gone from the shore of L I Sound by Sept. 6. Killdeer: max more than 50 L Tappan Sept. 18. Am. Golden Plover: 200 at WTF Sept. 15 inc. to 350 by Sept. 23. Last there 21 on Oct. 23. At SA from Sept. 1 to Nov. 10, with max of 150 Oct. 1. Upland Sandpiper: very few; at SA Sept. 1-15. Max there ten on Sept. 1. Yellowlegs: max 77 of both species at L Tappan Sept. 18. Pectoral Sandpiper: from 6-12 at WTF dur. late Sept. Last there ten on Oct. 20. At SA Sept. 21-Nov. 3, max 30 on Oct. 4 and 13. Several reports of single birds elsewhere. White-rumped Sandpiper: three at L Tappan Sept. 10 was the 10th record for Rock. **BAIRD'S SANDPIPER:** one Town of Marbletown, Ulst Sept. 24 was probably the first record for Ulst (Bob Terwil-

liger). At WTF two appeared Sept. 15, inc. to three by Sept. 17. Last one there Sept. 23. Three at SA Oct. 2 reduced to two Oct. 3, 4. Dunlin: 40 SA Oct. 5. Short-billed Dowitcher: 22 at WTF Sept. 23. **STILT SANDPIPER**: two WTF Sept. 22. Semipalmated Sandpiper: peaked at L Tappan Sept. 23 with 45 birds. **WESTERN SANDPIPER**: one L Tappan Sept. 16 inc to two on Sept. 23. Only the fifth and sixth record for Rock. **BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER**: two at WTF Sept. 15 inc. to five by Sept. 23. Last there Oct. 7. First at SA two on Sept. 29. Inc. to 15 Oct. 4 (BS). Sanderling: two on beach at Kingston Pt. Sept. 23 were the only reports. **WILSON'S PHALAROPE**: first record for Rock four birds at L Tappan Sept. 15, the day after tropical storm "Frederic." One remained thru Sept. 20. **NORTHERN PHALAROPE**: 12 on Hudson at Dobbs Ferry after tropical storm "David" Sept. 6. Great Black-backed Gull: an estimated 1500 went down the Hudson at Dobbs Ferry Sept. 6 after "David" (BW). Laughing Gull: about 500 in the vicinity of Dobbs Ferry after "David." This was in contrast to extremely low numbers across the river at Piermont thru entire season. Max there was seven on Nov. 15. **CALIFORNIA GULL**: one, probably last year's bird, at Rockland L. Oct. 3, one day less than a full year after its discovery there last year (BW). Last there Nov. 7. Bonaparte's Gull: many more reports than usual. Eight at PP Nov. 19, one CB Aug. 31 was still there Sept. 1. One Ashokan Sept. 17, two Hudson at Esopus Oct. 25, three CB Nov. 27, one New Hamburg Sept. 8. **FORSTER'S TERN**: two at Dobbs Ferry after "David" Sept. 6 were normal after a storm, but the phenomenal 20 at Piermont Pier Oct. 25 was most unusual, there being no storm at the time. Their numbers peaked to 46 on Oct. 31, and the last ten left on Nov. 10 (RFD, mob). A max of nine birds were observed dur. this time at Dobbs Ferry across the river, leaving Nov. 9 (BW). Com. Tern: numbers remained low after a poor summer. Four Oct. 20 Hudson off Dutch. **SOOTY TERN**: "David" brought in two ad and one imm on the Hudson at Dobbs Ferry (BW). On Sept. 7, two ad and one imm were on the Hudson at New Hamburg (M, JK). This inc to six ad and two imm Sept. 8 (KM). Five ad were last there Sept. 9 (EDT). Five ad were at Kingston Pt. Lighthouse Sept. 8 (AB). **LEAST TERN**: only report ten after "David" at Dobbs Ferry (BW). Black Tern: five at Dobbs Ferry after "David" (BW).

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Com. Nighthawk: last report in E Westchester six at MC Oct. 13. A massive flight reported Sept. 7, one day after "David," at PL when Tom Burke and another observer tallied 1,540 in one hour. Chimney Swift: excellent numbers. Max ab 1200 over Middletown Sept. 23. Last seen there Oct. 7. More than 200 over a farm field at Pine Is. Sept. 15. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max five over Hook Mt. Sept. 5. Belted Kingfisher: several reporters mentioned numbers up. Com. Flicker: peak Oct. 14 with more than 15 at WTF. Red-bellied Woodpecker: continues a slow increase, with one or two birds in most reports.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: **WESTERN KINGBIRD**: one at Warwick Oct. 5-8 (Denis Murphy, mob). Olive-sided Flycatcher: obs four days from Sept. 3-12 at Wawarsing. **PURPLE MARTIN**: 1 hawking insects at PL on the extreme date of Oct. 28. Exceeds previous late date for the area by seven days. Fish Crow: only report one seen and heard at Highland Falls Nov. 12. Red-breasted Nuthatch: one of the poorest years on record. Only one or two reported. Brown Creeper: one of the best years on record, esp in the north of Region. M, JK were counting as many as 25 daily on the trips around Dutch in Nov. Gray Catbird: one Pleasant Valley Nov. 11-18, and another at Kingston Nov. 19 were very late. Am. Robin: several hundred feeding on berries near Kingston Radio Tower thru Oct. More than 500 at a roost near Fallkill, Dutch dur Oct. Wood Thrush: in the Rye area until Oct. 23, very late. Swainson's Thrush: also found at Rye Oct. 14. E. Bluebird: six in the Shultzeville area and four at Verbank, Dutch were probably remnants from the summer bird box project nearby. Golden-crowned Kinglet: several reports of numbers down. Water Pipit: a very poor season, max 50 SA Oct. 13, and 225 at WTF Oct. 14; 15 there till Nov. 18. No. Shrike: only report one at Galeville Airport Nov. 4. Loggerhead Shrike: one Sept. 19 at Dover Plains.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: White-eyed Vireo: two Sept. records and three Oct. records in

Dutch. Last there Oct. 17. Yellow-throated Vireo: one RN Sept. 8 was a rare record for this non-breeding area. Red-eyed Vireo: last in the Rye area Oct. 12. Philadelphia Vireo: exc. numbers at Bashakill. Labor Day weekend produced at least four birds and perhaps as many as eight; one at Dobbs Ferry Sept. 18, and five birds in Dutch from Sept. 1-16. Worm-eating Warbler: one at Pine Swamp, Harriman Park on the very late date of Nov. 22 beats the previous late date of Oct. 6 by a month and a half (Robert Speiser). **ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER**: one at RN on Oct. 7 and another at P'kpsie Sept. 14. Nashville Warbler: last Oct. 27 Wawarsing. Magnolia Warbler: remained at MC thru Oct. 28. Yellow-rumped Warbler: a very large movement over Hook Mt. Oct. 15. Later that day, at least 30 were found feeding in the road at Rockland L (BW); last one CB Nov. 28. Blackburnian Warbler: unusually low numbers in E Westchester; reported only to Sept. 16 there. Blackpoll Warbler; one Nov. 1-4 at Pleasant Valley was the only warbler report from Dutch in Nov. **KENTUCKY WARBLER**: one at Bashakill Sept. 2 (BS). **CONNECTICUT WARBLER**: one Bashakill Sept. 2, 1 South Salem Sept. 30 and another at RN Oct. 14. Mourning Warbler: one closely studied at RN Sept. 8. Yellow-breasted Chat: one mist netted at Ellenville Aug. 25 was the first caught there in 11 years (VF).

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Red-winged Blackbird: thousands at a roost near Fallkill Cr. Dutch dur Oct. No. Oriole: one near Rye Oct. 26, and 1 at Verbank Nov. 25, an imm male at Stissing Nov. 17. Rusty Blackbird: never abundant, the usual few flocks reported. Com. Grackle: JT estimates 14,000 on the turf at WTF Oct. 13. Brown-headed Cowbird: ab 4000 at WTF on Nov. 11. **BLUE GROSBEAK**: one at CP Nov. 28 was a female feeding with a mixed flock of sparrows (BW). Indigo Bunting: although five at Orangeburg Sept. 20 were rather late, a single bird at P'kpsie Nov. 19, 20 was way out (Jean Carter). **DICKCISSEL**: one Town of Ulster Oct. 9 (Bob Terwilliger); another Nov. 3-8 at Pleasant Valley (EP). House Finch: has become so common that reporters are not mentioning them any more. Rivals the House Sparrow in both numbers and feeding habits. Pine Siskin: none. Rufous-sided Towhee: peaked in the Nyack area Oct. 15 when at least 30 were obs on the path to Hook Mt. Two males spent the month of Nov. at a P'kpsie feeder, and two other reports came from that county in Nov. Vesper Sparrow: very few reports this Fall. Tree Sparrow: arr Dutch Oct. 11, numbers low thru period. Chipping Sparrow: one P'kpsie Nov. 6, and two Pawling Nov. 7 were quite late. White-crowned Sparrow: very few reports of a species that is often quite common in Fall. Lincoln's Sparrow: four reports from West thru mid-Oct. Max five at Wawarsing Oct. 12 (JCO). Observed on 14 different occasions from Sept. 12-Oct. 13 there. Swamp Sparrow: BW est 75 at PP Oct. 29. Song Sparrow: BW est 150 at PP Oct. 29. More than 100 at Stonykill Gardens, Dutch Oct. 13. Lapland Longspur: one with Snow Buntings at WTF Nov. 18 was the only report. Snow Bunting: a few arr last week of Oct.; 300 at WTF Nov. 23.

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REGION 10 - MARINE

BARBARA J. SPENCER

Hurricane David, which passed to the west of our area September 6th, ushered in a Fall season that brought warmer than average temperatures and above average rainfall in September and October. Several days of northwest winds during October stimulated interesting hawk flights and avoided a repeat of last year's flightless Fall. It was 73 degrees Fahrenheit on the 24th and 25th of November