

231 BCC; ten CCC; nine DOCC; 60 TCC; 30 to 50 at Norwich during Jan. and Feb. Com. Redpoll: four DOCC; the only report all season. Pine Siskin: one BCC, the only report all season. Am. Goldfinch: 121 BCC; one CCC; 23 DOCC; 256 TCC; present all period but not in large numbers. Red Crossbill: 12 DOCC, the only report all period. Rufous-sided Towhee: one BCC; Binghamton Dec. 19, one Delhi Dec. 13 to the end of Feb. Dark-eyed Junco: 115 BCC; one CCC; 36 DOCC; 170 TCC. Tree Sparrow: 125 BCC; 36 CCC; 67 DOCC; 101 TCC; numbers noticeably down. Chipping Sparrow: one BCC (LB, DB), seen again at feeder the next day then not again before the end of the period. White-crowned Sparrow: two DOCC; one Norwich Feb. 16 (JL). White-throated Sparrow: 12 BCC; two TCC; regulars at several Triple Cities and Owego feeders; six at Norwich Feb. 23. Song Sparrow: 16 BCC; five CCC; seven TCC; only very few other reports. Snow Bunting: 40 CCC, the only report all season.

710 University Ave., Endwell, New York 13760

REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

GENE HUGGINS

The winter season can be best summed up as having been very mild for the Region in comparison to the three past winters. The area did not begin to experience winter with any degree of severity until the third week of January. Until that time, the ground remained largely free of snow, along with lakes and rivers remaining free of ice.

The total snowfall for the month of December was 13.8", which is about half the average 26.0" we normally receive during this month, and certainly a big difference from the record 40.9" we received in December, 1978. Snowfall accumulation for January was 24.5", closer to the average snowfall of 26.3", and in striking contrast to the 72.2" we experienced in January, 1978. February's snowfall came to 28.1", slightly above the average 26.9". Total snowfall for the season amounted to 71.5" by the end of February. Temperatures on the average remained mild for the season with record breaking highs occurring on December 11th, 63 degrees F., and on December 12th, 61 degrees F. It was not until the end of February that we began to experience below zero temperatures.

Positives for the winter include: Wintering flocks of Canada Geese resting and feeding in harvested cornfields in the southern highlands; continued expansion of the Red-bellied Woodpecker to the northern and eastern parts of the Region; and range extensions for the Tufted Titmouse into valleys which go into the Tug Hill Plateau and southern highlands from the Mohawk Valley; a very large flock of American Robins roosting in the vicinity of Onondaga Hill; the appearance of Brown Thrasher, Hermit Thrush, Common Yellowthroat and Northern Oriole in the latter part of the season; increased expansion in range and numbers of House Finch.

Negatives for the winter include: No Short-eared Owls, only one Snowy Owl and two reports of the Barred Owl: very low numbers of Goshawk and Rough-legged Hawk; only five Ring-necked Pheasants reported for the period; very low

numbers of the following species: Red-breasted Nuthatch, both kinglet species, Northern Shrike, Evening Grosbeak, Tree Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow and Snow Bunting; and no major winter finch invasion.

Observers: Ben Burtt Feeder Survey; Gerald Church (GC); Bob Evans; Shirley Glessner; Gene Huggins (GH); Jay Lehman; Bob Long; B. & S. Peebles; Marge S. Rusk (MSR); Gerald Smith (GS); Mandy Stooks; Jim & Elba VanDresar; Gary Webb.

Abbreviations: FH—Fair Haven; Higma—Howland's Island Game Management Area; LOL—Lake Ontario littoral; LSB—Little Sodus Bay; Oswego CBC—Oswego Christmas Bird Count; OsH—Oswego Harbor; SKCBC—Skaneateles Christmas Bird Count; SyCBC—Syracuse Christmas Bird Count.

Observations for which no observer is listed should be credited to F. G. Scheider.

LOONS—DUCKS: Com. Loon: one on Dec. 2-13, LOL; Red-throated Loon: two along the LOL near Derby H. Dec. 2-Jan. 20; Red-necked Grebe: one on Skaneateles L. east side Jan. 5 (MSR) and one on SyCBC Dec. 15; Horned Grebe: max 24 along the Oswego R. & LOL Jan. 6; Pied-billed Grebe: max two/day with a total of seven reported for the period; Double-crested Cormorant: two at OsH Dec. 2-Jan. 6 (MSR); Great Blue Heron: one-two/day until Jan. 27 with a total of eight reported for the period; Canada Goose: max 6,305 on Waterfowl Survey Jan. 5 (mob); Brant: two at OsH Dec. 2-22; Mallard: max 1,275 on Waterfowl Survey Jan. 5 (mob); Black Duck: max 147 on Waterfowl Survey Jan. 5 (mob); Gadwall: max 45 on OsH Feb. 9 (MSR); Pintail: max six at FH & LSB Dec. 2; Green-winged Teal: max five at FH & LSB Dec. 2, with one female along Meadowbrook, Syracuse Jan. 1 (GH); Am. Wigeon: max 19 FH & LSB Dec. 2; No. Shoveler: max seven SyCBC Dec. 15; Wood Duck: one in s. Madison Co. Jan. 6 (GC) and one in Fulton Feb. 9 (MSR); Redhead: max 18 Waterfowl Survey Jan. 5; Ring-necked Duck: max 27 FH & LSB Dec. 2; Canvasback: max 48 OsH Feb. 10; Greater Scaup: max 609 OsH & FH Feb. 24; Lesser Scaup: max 14 FH & LSB Jan. 20; Com. Goldeneye: max 850 along the Seneca, Oneida and Oswego Rivers Feb. 18; **BARROW'S GOLDENEYE:** one adult male in the OsH area intermittently from Dec. 22-Feb. 10 (mob); Bufflehead: max 88 OsH area Feb. 9; Oldsquaw: max 157 Waterfowl Survey Jan. 6; King Eider: one female OsH Dec. 22 (MSR); White-winged Scoter: max five Oswego CBC Dec. 16 (mob); Surf Scoter: max three Oswego CBC Dec. 16 (mob); Ruddy Duck: max 223 SyCBC declining to one by Jan. 27; Hooded Merganser: max 56 FH & LSB Dec. 2, declining to two/day; Com. Merganser: max 1,750 OsH Jan. 27 (MSR); Red-breasted Merganser: max 560 LOL Dec. 2 declining to two/day at the end of period.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Accipiters continue to show low numbers as in the previous year. Goshawk: very poor with a total of three for the period; Sharp-shinned Hawk: one/day with a total of 11 for the period; Cooper's Hawk: one/day with a total of 10 for the period; Red-tailed Hawk: max 23 Schroepfel Tn. Jan. 27 (GS); Rough-legged Hawk: max 14 Schroepfel Tn. Dec. 2 (GS); Bald Eagle: one sub-adult bird at OsH and area Feb. 9-26 (mob); Marsh Hawk: max 22 Schroepfel Tn. Dec. 5 (GS), last one Jan. 26; Am. Kestrel: max ten Schroepfel Tn. Dec. 9 (GS); Ruffed Grouse: one to eight/day; Ring-necked Pheasant: only five reported for the Region, still in suburban areas but declining fast; Am. Coot: max 132 FH & LSB Dec. 2, with a max four at the end of period; Killdeer: max five LOL Dec. 2, with one from the Steuben Valley, Oneida Co. Feb. 27 (E. VanDresar); Purple Sandpiper: one at FH & LSB Dec. 2, none afterwards; Glaucous Gull: max five-OsH Jan. 6 (MSR); Iceland Gull: one-two/day LOL Dec. 22 thru the period; Great Black-backed Gull: max 262 OsH Feb. 18 (GH); Herring Gull: max 3,000 Jan. 6 to a max 761 by the end of the period; Ring-billed Gull: max 8,000 Jan. 6 and persisting in good numbers to the end of the period.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: max 124, an unusual number for the

OswegoCBC Dec. 16 (mob); Screech Owl: one to three/day; Great Horned Owl: one to four/day; Snowy Owl: one near Munnsville thru the period, the only one for the Region (GC); Barred Owl: one along Stone Rd. Oswego Co. Jan. 20 and on the SKCBC Dec. 23; Belted Kingfisher: one-two/day with a notable record of one in Holland Patent, Bob Evans; Com. Flicker: max 20 SKCBC Dec. 23; Red-bellied Woodpecker: max 15 SKCBC (Camillus area) Dec. 23, now found in Holland Patent and in the Sauquoit Valley of Oneida Co.; Red-headed Woodpecker: a total of four for the Region, but only three survived, one imm was eaten by a Sharp-shinned Hawk in Oneida (B. & S. Peebles); Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: only two for the Region, one on the south side of Syracuse and one in Ilion; Hairy Woodpecker: max 14 SKCBC Dec. 23; Downy Woodpecker: max 44 SKCBC Dec. 23.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Horned Lark: max 290 s. Madison Co. Feb. 26 (GC); Blue Jay: max 68 SKCBC Dec. 23, not very plentiful; Com. Crow: max 206 Feb. 18; Black-capped Chickadee: max 96 Higma Jan. 1 (mob); Tufted Titmouse: expanding in the last twelve years, an approx. total of 47 birds from 24 different localities ranging as far north as Holland Patent and Sandy Pd. to as far east as the Sauquoit Valley; Red-breasted Nuthatch: one to four/day very scarce for the season; House Wren: one in Fayetteville Jan. 27; Winter Wren: one in the Camillus Valley Dec. 23; Carolina Wren: one at the home of Mrs. Charles Riley DeWitt Rd. Dec. 6 and one in Oneida; Mockingbird: a total of 12 reported for the Region with one in Westernville Feb. 2 (Shirley Glessner); Brown Thrasher: one at the feeder of Mr. Warren Kompe, Mattydale Feb. 3; Am. Robin: an astounding 3,450 roosting on Onondaga Hill the first week of Jan. to a few hundred by the end of Feb (GS); Hermit Thrush: one at FH & LSB. Dec. 2, one on the SyCBC Dec. 15, and one at the home of Susan Blackshaw Feb. 12; Golden-crowned Kinglet: one-five/day LOL Feb. 23; Ruby-crowned Kinglet: only one at Higma Jan. 1; Cedar Waxwing: max 130 FH & LSB Dec. 2; No. Shrike: a total of seven birds for the Region, very, very scarce this winter.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-rumped Warbler: max three SKCBC Dec. 23; Com. Yellowthroat: one on the SyCBC Dec. 15 and one at Higma Jan. 1.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: Eastern Meadowlark: max seven SyCBC Dec. 15; Red-winged Blackbird: max 201 SyCBC Dec. 15, with one in Holland Patent Jan. 1 (E. VanDresar); **NORTHERN ORIOLE:** one in N.Y. Mills, Oneida Co. (Gary Webb); and one at the feeder of Mr. Warren Kompe Mattydale Feb. 1; Brown-headed Cowbird: max 208 Onondaga Valley Feb. 3; Evening Grosbeak: no exceptional numbers for the period, max 108 in the Rome area Feb. 23 (Shirley Glessner); Am. Goldfinch: max 34 Oneida Feb. 17 (B. & S. Peebles); Rufous-sided Towhee: a total of four reported for the Region, three in Onon. Co. and one in Oswego Co.; Tree Sparrow: max 163 SKCBC Dec. 23 (mob); Field Sparrow: one each from both the SyCBC & SKCBC Dec. 15, Dec. 23; Swamp Sparrow: one/day reported up to Jan. 1, none afterwards; Song Sparrow: max 23 SKCBC Dec. 23 with one to four/day after Jan. 1; Snow Bunting: max 42 s. Madison Co. Jan. 20 (GC).

1000 Crawford Ave., Syracuse, New York 13224

REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

LEE CHAMBERLAINE

The winter of 1979-80 was the mildest seen in a long time. Snow was almost nonexistent by normal winter standards. No major snowstorms were evident except in those sections of Lewis County on the Tug Hill Plateau, and even then the