

birds. Cerulean Warbler: numbers down, but reported sparingly from usual locations in Dutch and Oran. Blackpoll Warbler: very low numbers compared with most years. Pine Warbler: best showing in east West in many years. At least eight reports there, four from Dutch and three in Oran. Last at Bashakill May 13 and Black Rock Forest May 14. Ovenbird: first May 2 Bashakill. **KENTUCKY WARBLER**: more than ever before. One Rye Nature Center May 13-19; one Armonk May 17; one Marshlands Conservancy May 26. A singing male seen at Dunderberg Mt. May 17; one seen and heard Shunpike Dutch May 14-22; and another Cedar Valley May 20; one Mine Rd., USMA May 14. Mourning Warbler: the usual few reports. One Mine Rd. USMA May 14-16; another Winding Hills Pk., Montgomery May 17; a pair at Bashakill May 24.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: First migrant blackbirds arr. Mar. 6, 7; almost three weeks late. Bobolink: also late, but one at Salt Point May 4 was early. Heavy influx May 12-14. **ORCHARD ORIOLE**: always rare. An imm. in Dutch Apr. 20 was very early. One at P'kpsie May 2 and two at different parts of Stanfordville May 18-21, one Galeville May 17; and two Mine Rd. USMA May 24. No. Oriole: one Mar. 31 at Applewood Dutch was early (Czecher Terhune). **SUMMER TANAGER**: an ad. male calling at Rye Nature Center May 16 and a sub-adult male at Winding Hills Pk., Montgomery May 15 could be the first records for the Region. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: exc. numbers and on time. Indigo Bunting: A very early male Apr. 29-30 at Stissing. Evening Grosbeak: numbers very low as they were all winter. Last, a single bird on Waterman Census May 17. Purple Finch: numbers low with the exception of 20-30 month of May in Dutch. House Finch: huge numbers of last year diminished greatly this spring, but certainly not threatened. 145 on Waterman Census May 17 was up from 74 in 1979 and the first two in 1965. Rufous-sided Towhee: several made it thru the winter. One near Pleasant Valley was singing from Mar. 8. Grasshopper Sparrow: usual few at Westbrookville from May 6. Dutch birds arr. May 14. Dark-eyed Junco: last May 8 at Pine Ridge, Wappingers, and May 3 at Ft. Montgomery. Tree Sparrow: numbers severely down thru winter into spring. Last Rye Apr. 22 and Pleasant Valley Apr. 9. White-crowned Sparrow: arr Wawarsing Apr. 8. Last migrant near P'kpsie May 20. White-throated Sparrow: last migrant left P'kpsie area May 20. Lincoln's Sparrow: usual few reports, one Palisades May 9, another Wawarsing May 10, another Red Hook May 12, another Pleasant Valley May 15-16, and one at Vassar Farms May 11. Snow Bunting: only report four birds in Dutch Mar. 15.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, NY 10928

REGION 10 — MARINE

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The first day of the spring season was the coldest day of the winter with a reading of 10° F, the "most frigid March 1st in 29 years," said the National Weather Service. March went on to become the wettest March in 104 years, with precipitation totaling 10.41 inches against an average of 3.73. April continued the pattern with 8.26 inches of rain (average 3.30) the second wettest in history, thereby ending fears of drought as a result of the dry winter. Temperatures were average in March and two degrees warmer than average during April. The May rains were largely confined to weekdays giving weekend birders a break this year.

Warbler migration seemed good this year, and more widespread, in compari-

son with the last few years. The woods were devastated in some places by severe defoliation from "inch" worms and Gypsy Moth caterpillars.

Bird clubs received details of the Breeding Bird Atlas project from Gil Raynor, Region 10 coordinator, in May and began planning for this ambitious project. It will be interesting to see if additional locations for rare breeders such as the Yellow-throated Vireo and certain warblers will be found with more intensive and systematic coverage of suitable areas.

Positive notes for the season include: 1) an encouraging number of Ospreys returning to the North Fork, with birds back on previously occupied nests, and activity around new nests on platforms erected by Paul Stoutenburgh. Sixteen active Osprey nests were reported from Shelter Island. 2) numbers of Orchard Orioles have increased in the northern Nassau area. 3) good numbers of Northern Orioles were widely distributed. 4) a good flight of Gannets took place along the south shore beaches during the last week in April. 5) warbler movements were rewarding to observers.

Negative aspects of the season include: 1) Pied-billed Grebe and Least Bittern have all but disappeared as resident birds on Long Island. 2) a sparse shorebird flight—peak numbers at Jamaica Bay in late May were about 500 birds versus 10,000 last year. 3) Wood Ducks are increasingly scarce in some areas including Van Cortlandt Park.

Rarities include: White-faced Ibis, White Ibis, Black-necked Stilt, and Scissor-tailed Flycatcher.

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LOONS-DUCKS: A single Pied-billed Grebe was present in May at Jamaica Bay; five in Glen Cove Apr. 15 were migrants (AL). Two Sooty Shearwaters were seen from the beach at Democrat Point, Fire Island, May 11 along with 40 Gannets (AJL). A big flight of Gannets was noted by the same observer Apr. 23 at Mecox with over 200 adults passing by in less than an hour. Double-crested Cormorants were moving across the area in mid-April with these flights noted: 26 at Muttontown Apr. 16 (AL), 25 over Sea Cliff Apr. 19 (AMB), over 1500 were flying east along the south shore in flocks of 200 to 300 birds (WS) the same day. A Cattle Egret was seen in Easthampton Apr. 13, (RA), and in Montauk Apr. 26 (GSR). Egrets were present in their roosts in numbers by Apr. 19 (WS), while a Snowy Egret Mar. 23 at Shinnecock was early (GSR). A Little Blue Heron was seen at Shinnecock Apr. 3 (WL); two were at Tobay Pond Apr. 19 (WS), and another was reported Apr. 20 at Montauk (GSR). An imm. Yellow-crowned Night Heron Mar. 16 at Hempstead Lake was early, or may have wintered (EL). One in Forest Park May 11 roosting near the "water hole" was a first for that closely watched spot. One or two adult **WHITE-FACED IBIS** returned to Jamaica Bay Refuge Apr. 6 and were present through the period (THD *et al.*). An adult **WHITE IBIS** was found at Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, May 17 (O. and R. Possner, R. Rosenblum). While Mute Swans breed on almost every pond in Nassau and Suffolk counties, two individuals at Jerome Reservoir in the Bronx Apr. 24 (WS), and one at Jamaica Bay May 31 were in unusual locations. A flock of 50 Snow Geese flew over Sea Cliff Mar. 24 (AMB). A more generalized and larger movement took place Apr. 5: 200 in Port Washington (GQ), and Apr. 6: 400 in three flocks in Glen Cove (RC), 325 later in the morning (AL, LL), and

500 in Sea Cliff in the later afternoon (AMB). These north shore locations are close together on Hempstead Harbor, and appear to be on a regular fall and spring flight path for Snow Geese. Also on Apr. 6 more than 1000 Snow Geese were seen at Jamaica Bay (THD). A belated report of a female European Wigeon present and photographed in Baldwin in late Jan. was received (THD). A drake was seen at Sagaponack Apr. 3, the latest spring date this year (AJL). Last sighting of Am. Wigeon was May 6, and of Buffleheads Apr. 20, both in Glen Cove (RC). 1255 Canvasbacks at Jerome Reservoir Mar. 7 was the high count there (WS). A maximum of 17 Lesser Scaup was at Spuyten Duyvil Mar. 15 (WS). A female Harlequin Duck at Jamaica Bay Refuge May 11 seems to be the first Long Island record away from the outer coast (J. DiCostanzo, T. W. Burke, J. Keil *et al.*). Hooded Mergansers reached a maximum of 21 Mar. 8 at Hempstead Lake where they were last seen Apr. 20 (SBD). Sixteen Com. Mergansers were in the same location Mar. 8; a pair was last seen there Mar. 23 (SBD).

HAWKS—ALCIDS: More sightings than usual of Turkey Vultures occurred on the north shore: two Apr. 23 in Glen Cove (AL), one in Muttontown May 2 (AL), one perched in a tree in Cold Springs Harbor May 5 (RC), one flying south over Roslyn May 11 (BJS, GQ), and farther east, one in Ridge May 2 (H. Halma), and one in Manorville the same day (GSR). One Sharp-shinned Hawk was seen Apr. 19 in Wading River (GSR). Three were flying overhead in Central Park May 4 (FF *et al.*). Late Goshawks were reported Apr. 30-May 1 in Central Park (M. Sohmer *et al.*) and May 3 in Forest Park (BJS). Apr. 23 a Cooper's Hawk was harassing a Great Horned Owl in Muttontown; on May 7 the Cooper's was seen again (AL). Two Red-shouldered Hawks were sighted in Yaphank Mar. 24 (GSR). A pair of Broad-winged Hawks were seen defending territory against a Red-tailed Hawk in Muttontown Apr. 18 where a nest of the Broad-winged was located May 16 (AL). Other scattered reports of Broad-winged represented migrants. Repeated reports of Ospreys in the north shore area around Mill Neck suggest that breeding attempts are a possibility. Am. Oystercatchers started moving into the area in March: two were at Tobay on the 16th (R. Laskowski) four were there on the 23rd (WL), one at Hampton Bays the 22nd (RA), and four at Shinnecock the 23rd (GSR). Twenty oystercatchers were at Shinnecock by Apr. 3 (WL). An Am. Golden Plover stayed at Jamaica Bay from Apr. 26 through mid-May. Fifteen birds represented a good concentration of Am. Woodcocks at Muttontown Apr. 18 (AL). This bird is probably more abundant than generally realized. Scattered reports of Whimbrels were received. Two were at Shinnecock Apr. 19, and May 11 (GSR). Three were at Tobay Apr. 19 (WL, WS); a single bird was seen at Westhampton Beach May 27 (BJS). Three Upland Sandpipers were found at Baiting Hollow May 3 (GSR, RA). Two Upland Sandpipers remain in the much disturbed location near the Nassau Coliseum in Hempstead on a remnant of the Hempstead Plain (May 25, J. Popp). One or more Upland Sandpipers can often be seen from the highway at the Westhampton Airport north of the entrance. Fifty Greater Yellowlegs at Mecox Apr. 23 was a good count (AJL). Reeves were present at Jamaica Bay Apr. 26-27, and May 1-2 (photographed by THD). A Ruff was at Sagaponack May 20 (AJL). Three BLACK-NECKED STILTS on Apr. 12 were in Greenlawn (*vide* A. McKay) and four were present in a grassy pond in Cold Spring Harbor Apr. 14-19 (J. Ricks *et al.*), probably the same birds. A maximum of 17,000 Red Phalaropes were seen Apr. 18 in the Hudson Canyon region (R. A. Rowlett); a pair was at Jamaica Bay Apr. 29 (S. Schaefer). In contrast to the large number of Red Phalaropes at Hudson Canyon, only 12 No. Phalaropes were seen by Rowlett Apr. 18. A single No. Phalarope was at Jamaica Bay May 23 (T. Stiles). Many observers saw a female Wilson's Phalarope at Jamaica Bay between May 23 and 31. A single Parasitic Jaeger was seen from Democrat Point, Fire Island May 18 (AJL). A Glaucous Gull was at Orient Mar. 15 (GSR), and a first-year Iceland Gull was at Jones Beach Mar. 23 (WL). A breeding-plumaged Black-headed Gull was seen in Fire Island Inlet Apr. 3 (P. Lehman) among Bonaparte's Gulls. The first Laughing Gulls were reported from Sands Point Mar. 23 (GQ); 52 were there Apr. 8. Up to three adults and an imm. Little Gull were reported from Fire Island Inlet Apr. 3 (P. Lehman) and Apr. 13 (AJL). What might be

the same four birds were at the West End Coast Guard station at Jones Beach Apr. 10 (AW). Single Little Gulls were reported as follows: one ad. Mar. 1 at Shinnecock (GSR), one ad. at Zach's Bay Mar. 16 (ML), and an imm. at Jones Inlet Apr. 18 (PG), and another imm. at Jamaica Bay May 31 (K. Brady *et al.*). Three Gull-billed Terns, two apparently a pair, were seen at Jones Beach parking lot, two on May 10 (ML). A single Gull-billed Tern was seen May 1 at Democrat Point (AJL). Two Royal Terns were seen at Westhampton Beach May 27 (BJS) and at Mecox May 30 (WS). Perhaps the Royal Tern will be found breeding on Long Island this year. A maximum of 12 Caspian Terns was reported from Mecox Apr. 26 (GSR); six were there Apr. 27, two on May 6 (RA). Two Black Skimmers Mar. 22 at Bay Shore were very early (G. Coheleach, *vide* J. Bull).

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Calling Chuck-will's-widows were heard in mid-May at Oak Beach (THD *et al.*), and at Springs May 26 (P. Polshek), a new location. Seven Com. Nighthawks were uncommon in the spring at Sands Point (GQ). A concentration of 16 Chimney Swifts at Van Cortlandt Park May 28 was also unusual in the spring (WS). Red-headed Woodpeckers were located at Alley Pond Park May 6 (A. Townsend) and at Forest Park May 10-11. One was seen at Forest Park June 1 (G. Tudor).

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: A SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER was present at Tobay May 28 (H. Moses). The earliest Eastern Phoebe reported was in Glen Cove Mar. 22 (RC). A Yellow-bellied Flycatcher at Muttontown May 13 was early (AL). Acadian Flycatchers arrived in a number of locations May 18 with one at Alley Pond, one at Sands Point May 19, and one in Mill Neck May 31. A singing Alder Flycatcher in Mill Neck the same day was unusual (BJS). Cliff Swallows were sighted Apr. 19 at Moriches Inlet (APC), and at Sands Point May 18 (GQ). A Purple Martin Mar. 9 at Jones Beach was extremely early (R. Hines). A Purple Martin scout was seen Mar. 31 inspecting housing facilities in Orient (W. Godfrey) and Apr. 6 in Bohemia where seven in a mixed flock arrived Apr. 13 (R. Landwehr). Breeding colonies of martins are much reduced in numbers on Long Island. The Landwehr colony may be the only one remaining in the Islip area with 22 individuals (RJL). Two Eastern Bluebirds were at Upton Mar. 20, the only report received (GSR). Apr. 26 marked an influx of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers over a wide front with reports from many locations ranging from Forest Park to Montauk. Earlier arrivals of gnatcatchers were Apr. 13 and 14.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: A White-eyed Vireo Mar. 30 at Hempstead Lake was very early (AW, S. Schiff). This individual might be the same bird that arrived very early in the same location last year. Yellow-throated Vireos were seen in migration on Long Island; relatively few remain to breed. One was present in Manorville May 13 and 16 (GSR), one was moving through Mill Neck Apr. 27, and Forest Park Apr. 26 (BJS). Prothonotary Warblers were reported Apr. 22 in Brookville (J. Little *vide* RC), May 3 in Alley Park (H. Roth, L. Plotnick), and May 9 in Yaphank (GSR). A "Lawrence's" Warbler was found in Central Park May 4 (FF *et al.*). An early Tennessee Warbler was found in Cold Spring Harbor Apr. 17 (T. Stiles, R. Hines). Orange-crowned Warblers were seen Apr. 20 in Prospect Park (M. Sohmer *et al.*), and Apr. 23 at the Jones Beach fishing station (WL). Fifteen or more reports of Cerulean Warblers were received including two different birds in Deer Park May 6 (FF), a bird banded on Fire Island May 11 (D. Ford), and individuals May 3 and 16 in Manorville (GSR). Yellow-throated Warblers (possibly one wandering bird?) were reported Apr. 15 at Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn (P. Pane), Apr. 30 in Forest Park (J. and JP Latil), and May 12 in Kissena Park, Queens (G. Dadone, W. Reilly, M. Stapleton). The previously reported Ovenbird, which ate bird seed provided by V. Moore in Southold all winter, was last seen Mar. 16. Its irregular appearance at the feeder in Mar. seemed to be directly related to the occurrence of weather near freezing or below. Kentucky Warblers were numerous this year with more than fifteen reports from NYC and Long Island. Some of these males seemed to be territorial. The earliest was seen May 3 at Hempstead Lake (BJS). Two Kentuckys were in Forest Park from May 11 on for an extended stay. Two were at Alley Pond Park, one in

Belmont Lake State Park May 14 (FF), an individual was singing in Yaphank May 17 (FF), and another was in Massapequa the same day (K. Meyer, E. Zahn). A Kentucky in Sands Point was first heard and seen May 16 and continued in the area for two weeks (BJS, GQ). Breeding attempts seem imminent. Among Hooded Warbler reports, a male singing in the woods at Yaphank May 7, 9, 12 (GSR) and 17 (FF) sounds like a territorial bird. A Mourning Warbler found singing at Alley Pond May 24 was accompanied by a female (BJS, RC). A maximum of five Mourning Warblers were found in Forest Park June 1 (G. Tudor). Two territorial Yellow-breasted Chats were heard at Muttontown May 31 where two pairs probably bred last year (AL).

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Several reports of migrating Bobolinks were received—ten were seen in Manorville May 14 (GSR), a flock visited a backyard in Port Washington May 19 (B. Forquor), and eight or more Bobolinks were present at Alley Pond Park for a couple of days, first noticed May 17 (AMB, RC). Orchard Orioles seem to be enjoying prosperity in northern Nassau, or birders are becoming more aware of them. Two pairs were found in Glen Cove (RC), one pair in Cold Spring Harbor (H. McClure, F. McDonough), a pair in Muttontown (AL, LL). Single males were noted in Calverton May 16 (GSR), Forest Park May 10 (BJS), and a singing male was present in Babylon June 8-15 (FF). Summer Tanagers were widely reported: two were seen at Jones Beach fishing station May 4 (WL), and adult male was in Forest Park May 10. A male remained in Belmont Lake State Park May 12-13 (FF), a male was at Jamaica Bay May 14 (S. Birnbach). A male was seen by many observers in Alley Pond Park May 17 (H. Roth), a female was found at Jamaica Bay May 17 (S. Rosenberg), a male May 18 at Greenwood Cemetery (J. Yrizarry), a male May 24-June 1 Forest Park, seen by many, and a female May 24 in Central Park (N. Halmi). This is another species of southern affinity which seems on the verge of extending its range to Long Island. A female Blue Grosbeak was found at a second story window feeder in Cedarhurst Apr. 26 (H. Hirschbein, J. Williams). Another female was seen May 11 by W. Reilly *et al.* in Alley Park May 18. A European Goldfinch of undetermined origin was present at the Vakay feeder in Eastport Mar. 25-31 (*fide* GSR). An adult male Dickcissel was located in Belmont Lake Park May 14 (FF *et al.*), an unusual spring record. A Lark Sparrow, also unusual in the spring, was found at Saltaire, Fire Island May 2 (H. Levinson). A Clay-colored Sparrow was identified Mar. 16 in comparison with study skins; the bird first appeared at a feeder in Port Washington in Jan. (J. Lamoureaux). A late White-crowned Sparrow was found at Tobay May 3 (SBD). A Lincoln's Sparrow present from Mar. 16 to mid-April at a feeder in Jamaica Bay (THD *et al.*) probably wintered in the area. One in Glen Cove May 15 was a migrant not often seen in the spring (RC).

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