

year's plenty; **CONNECTICUT WARBLER**: one IC May 23 (RS, mob), singing, taped by FDo, responded well to its own voice; and one BB May 25 (MD, mob), again singing; Mourning Warbler was numerous the last week of May; and Wilson's Warbler: one IC May 6, was very early.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: one K Apr. 28, was a bit early; they were very common this spring. There were three **WESTERN MEADOWLARKS**: one K Apr. 4 (CP); one K May 9 (NH); and one Pultneyville May 14 thru (FDa, mob), seen courting and attempting copulation with an E. Meadowlark May 15 (R & SS). **YELLOW-HEADED BLACK-BIRD**: one male Honeoye Apr. 21 (CK), was this season's only report. Orchard Oriole appeared at several locations: 2-4 Pt. Breeze May 10 thru, at the usual breeding area; one H May 11 (M & RM); one IC May 17 (CP, CC); and one BB May 24 (WLi). Another western vagrant was **WESTERN TANAGER**: one male Irondequoit May 6 (VM, D, *fide* R & SS—identifiable photo), apparently only the second regional record; another male was rumored from Pittsford a few days later, but not verified. From the south appeared **SUMMER TANAGER**: one male LP May 18 (PC, DB), well-described. House Finch continues to boom with reports received of numbers of birds in new and old locations scattered all over the Region. The "winter" finches remained very scarce. Interesting was Red Crossbill: 10 Irondequoit May 18-20 (MTu). There were few noteworthy sparrow reports, though all of the expected species were recorded. The most interesting representatives were: Henslow's Sparrow: 25 HP May 4, a good count for one large field; Fox Sparrow: one Manitou May 18 (SO), a very late date; and Lincoln's Sparrow: one IC May 4 (CP, mob), very early.

As a caution to those who might attempt a seasonal species tally, for whatever reason, from the necessarily sketchy data here and in the other regional reports, the regional seasonal total was 259, bearing no resemblance to the total of the above records.

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

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March, perhaps, came the closest to being a normal month in an otherwise very mild and snowless winter. Spring was rather backward during April with consistent, cold northwest winds. May brought more normal temperatures but was decidedly dry.

Seasonal positives: 1) Highest number of Snow Geese (both morphs) ever at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. *The Kingbird* report of 1960 shows 56 at the Refuge. This number increased to 1,000 in 1970 and 15,000 in 1980. A remarkable species success story or just a change of flyway? 2) a pair of Ospreys incubating at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. Bull's *Birds of New York State* shows no previous nesting records for central New York. 3) More Black-billed Cuckoo reports. 4) An abundance of Barn Swallows and American Robins. 5) Encouraging reports of more Eastern Bluebirds nesting in Tompkins County. 6) A spreading tide of House Finches.

Seasonal negatives: A delayed migration with much of the passerine movement being late, especially the flycatchers, swallows, vireos and warblers. Many species

were one to two weeks late. 2) very low numbers of dabbling ducks. No large flocks of scaup. 3) A disastrous shorebird season. There was little available mud-flat habitat in the Region. Elmira provided most of the records. While most of the common species were seen, there were very few individuals of most species. 4) Scarcity of Rough-winged and Cliff Swallows. 5) Thrush numbers appear to be down. 6) Low numbers of most warblers. Only Yellow, Yellow-rumped and Common Yellowthroat were in any numbers. No "warbler waves" reported by anyone.

Rarities: Louisiana Heron, Peregrine, King Rail, Piping Plover, Laughing Gull, Fish Crow, Yellow-throated, Kentucky and Connecticut Warblers, Orchard Oriole, Blue Grosbeak, Dickcissel, LeConte's Sparrow.

Abbreviations: Cay—Cayuga; Co—County; EOSBD—Eaton Ornithological Society Big Day May 17; L—lake; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; Sen—Seneca; * starred—details on file.

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LOONS—DUCKS: Com. Loon: five reports from Elmira; 15 on Cay L May 17; eight still on Keuka L at Branchport May 26. Red-necked Grebe: one Sheldrake Apr. 20. Double-crested Cormorant: one Milliken Station, Cay L Apr. 18; up to five at MNWR thru the period. Great Blue Heron: 45 EOSBD. Green Heron: 14 EOSBD. LOUISIANA HERON: two flying over Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary May 6 (R. Brooks)*. Black-crowned Night Heron: numbers at MNWR appear to be up a bit. Least Bittern: one Ithaca airport ponds Apr. 22; one Michigan Hollow May 6; one Cornell Fish Ponds May 21.

The following waterfowl numbers were furnished by the MNWR personnel:

Whistling Swan	15	Apr. 15	Wood Duck	700	Mar. 31
Snow Goose	15,000	Apr. 30	Redhead	150	Mar. 31
Canada Goose	55,000	Apr. 30	Ring-necked Duck	200	Mar. 31
Mallard	2,400	Mar. 31	Canvasback	50	Mar. 31
Black Duck	900	Mar. 31	Greater Scaup	40	Mar. 31
Gadwall	500	Mar. 31	Com. Goldeneye	150	Mar. 31
Pintail	2,000	Mar. 31	Bufflehead	125	Mar. 31
Green-winged Teal	500	Apr. 30	Ruddy Duck	45	Mar. 31
Blue-winged Teal	500	Mar. 31	Com. Merganser	300	Mar. 31
Am. Wigeon	1,500	Mar. 31	Hooded Merganser	150	Mar. 31
No. Shoveler	200	Apr. 30			

Brant: 14 Branchport May 18-19. Ducks: Ring-necked: 18 Elmira Mar. 29. Oldsquaw: two Elmira Apr. 9; 14 Dryden L Apr. 12; nine MNWR Apr. 18. White-winged Scoter: one Sheldrake Apr. 6; two Dryden L Apr. 12. Surf Scoter: Sheldrake Apr. 20.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: above average numbers in the northern part of the Region. 40 migrating north of MNWR May 31. Goshawk: a nest at Ithaca and one south of Brooktondale were both abandoned. Sharp-shinned Hawk: one EOSBD; one Elmira May 17; also reported at Ithaca. Cooper's Hawk: reported regularly at Ithaca; three EOSBD. Red-tailed Hawk: nesting at Phelps; an albino bird on a nest at Ithaca. Red-shouldered Hawk: one Elmira Apr. 8 and an active nest near Groton. Rough-legged Hawk: one Penn Yan in March; last report was Mar. 25 at Ithaca. Bald Eagle: imm. at MNWR May 5. Marsh Hawk: singles at MNWR Apr. 7 and 18; reported regularly at Cornell seminars. Osprey: one Elmira Apr. 16; two Ditmer Scout Camp near Phelps May 17; a pair is incubating on a nest at MNWR. PEREGRINE: one Ithaca airport pond Apr. 24 (J. Hines)*. Merlin: one Ithaca air-

port Apr. 3 (Lynn Oliphant). Ring-necked Pheasant: 11 EOSBD. Turkey: a flock of 14 reported at Elmira (A. Smith); Carol Fenton observed courtship display near Newfield. **KING RAIL**: one answered a tape recording near a Michigan Hollow beaver pond May 17 (Confer *et al*)*. Am. Coot: max 300 MNWR May 31. **PIPING PLOVER**: one Elmira May 6 (MW)*. Black-bellied Plover: two MNWR May 31. Upland Sandpiper: two early birds at Elmira Apr. 21; one Etna Apr. 26. Greater Yellowlegs: 15 Potter May 4. Pectoral Sandpiper: one Elmira Apr. 5. Short-billed Dowitcher: 25 Elmira May 13. **LAUGHING GULL**: one at Stewart Park in Ithaca Apr. 26 (J. Erickson)*. Bonaparte's Gull: 30 south of Canoga Apr. 13, 52 Elmira Apr. 15, 150-200 Cay L Apr. 17; 40 Sen L May 17.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Yellow-billed Cuckoo: reported from Ithaca May 12 and MNWR May 17. Black-billed Cuckoo: numerous reports during May. Great Horned Owl: two young in a nest near Phelps Apr. 22; two fledged from a Red-tailed Hawk's old nest near Wellsburg. Barred Owl: heard regularly at Erin and Ithaca; one May 17 at North end of eastern shore of Sen L. Whip-poor-will: one Ithaca May 13; two Elmira May 17; also heard south of Brooktondale but none at Penn Yan this spring. Com. Nighthawk: seen at Ithaca May 13 and Elmira May 17. Red-bellied Woodpecker: 25 EOSBD. Red-headed Woodpecker: an overwintering bird remained at a Phelps feeder until Apr. 25; a pair at Reeder's Creek, Sen Co. was observed to excavate four nesting holes.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Great Crested Flycatcher: 37 EOSBD. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: one Elmira May 18 (Dick Clements). Olive-sided Flycatcher: one Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary May 9; one Elmira May 14. Tree Swallow: the first birds were at Sheldrake Mar. 29 but they did not come in large numbers until Apr. 13. Bank Swallow: also arrived late; colonies at Burr's Place, Ithaca, Slaterville Wildlife Preserve, Junius Ponds and in gravel pits east of Phelps. Rough-winged Swallow: very few reports; Cliff Swallow: four pairs nesting at Corning Community College; only other report was from Freeville May 13. Purple Martin: at one location in Elmira, which normally has martins, they came but then moved on. This was repeated several times during the migration. The houses at MNWR were well-filled. **FISH CROW**: heard regularly in Ithaca. Red-breasted Nuthatch: very scarce; the EOSBD found three and one remained at an Ithaca feeder until May 19. Winter Wren: several reports from the Elmira area. Carolina Wren: a few reports from Ithaca including a new location on May 29; one Elmira May 17. Long-billed Marsh Wren: one at Elmira May 5 was the first there in several years. Mockingbird: a pair seen in the Town of Varick, Sen Co. where they nested last year. Gray Catbird: one Cay Heights Mar. 29 was early. Wood Thrush: two early birds at Ithaca Apr. 13. Swainson's Thrush: one at Elmira Apr. 21 was early (Glenna Rowley). Gray-cheeked Thrush: one arrived early at Ithaca on Apr. 23 (R. Bonney)*. Eastern Bluebird: reports of nesting pairs are encouraging with two at Trumansburg and the probability of up to three more, four pairs near Ithaca, one on Connecticut Hill, one south of Perry City, one south of Newark and a pair with fledged young at Junius Ponds. Also a male was south of Clyde May 15 and 22, two at Breeseport and six tallied on the Elmira Big Day. Golden-crowned Kinglet: improving but still rather scarce. Three were still present at Tanglewood, Elmira on May 17. Water Pipit: many over the weekend of Mar. 23 at Ithaca and along Cay L. No. Shrike: one Elmira Mar. 22. Loggerhead Shrike: one Connecticut Hill Mar. 10 (L. McGuire); one Elmira May 28.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: White-eyed Vireo: at Ithaca one May 11 (Brook & Litwin) and one May 24 (S. Sabo); one Elmira May 17 (M. Welles). Philadelphia: at Ithaca May 10 and two later sightings; one Elmira May 17; two EOSBD. Warblers: Prothonotary: no reports. Worm-eating: Elmira May 6 and 17. Brewster's hybrid: one Guyanoga Valley, Yates Co; one Elmira May 14 and two May 17; one Phelps May 17. Yellow-rumped: wintering birds stayed at feeders near Clyde until Mar. 11 and at Phelps until Mar. 17. **YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER**: one May 7 Ithaca (V. Briggs & B. Mai); one Michigan Hollow May 17. Prairie: one singing at Branchport May 18 thru the period; reports from several areas around Elmira. **KENTUCKY WARBLER**: one Ditmer Scout Camp near Phelps May 17 (P. Trail).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER: one Ithaca May 4 (J. Erickson); one Connecticut Hill May 17. In addition to the above species the following were seen in the Region but in small numbers for most species: Vireos: Yellow-throated, Solitary, Red-eyed, Warbling. Warblers: Black-and-white, Golden-winged, Blue-winged. Tennessee, Orange-crowned, Nashville, No. Parula, Yellow (in abundance), Magnolia, Cape May, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Cerulean, Blackburnian, Chestnut-sided, Bay-breasted, Blackpoll, Pine, Palm, Ovenbird, No. Waterthrush, Louisiana Waterthrush, Mourning, Com. Yellowthroat, Yellow-breasted Chat, Hooded, Wilson's, Canada, Am. Redstart.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: 26 EOSBD. E. Meadowlark: down in numbers; only 16 EOSBD. **ORCHARD ORIOLE:** one EOSBD (P. Trail). Rusty Blackbird: few in number and departed early. **BLUE GROSBEAK:** one Ithaca May 1 (Jean Crump)*. **DICK-CISSEL:** one at feeder near Clifton Springs photographed Apr. 9 (P. Trail); also a delayed report of a bird photographed at an Ithaca feeder Dec. 20, 1979 (J. Lyons). Evening Grosbeak: small numbers present until mid-May; a singing male remained at Waterloo until the end of the period but no evidence of nesting. Purple Finch: widespread reports of small numbers. Red Crossbill: several at Ithaca Apr. 4 constituted the only report for the year. Grasshopper Sparrow: one EOSBD; ten Elmira Big Day May 17; also reported from Ithaca. **LE CONTE'S SPARROW:** one Connecticut Hill May 17 (J. Bandfield)* report submitted to NYSARC. Henslow's Sparrow: the only reports come from Ithaca. Vesper Sparrow: very low numbers but perhaps the decline has been halted. Tree Sparrow: after low numbers all winter the birds departed for their breeding grounds early. Lincoln's Sparrow: singles at Elmira May 7, Ithaca May 10 and Horseheads May 17.

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REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

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March started out with sub-zero temperatures but they were gone within a day or so. In fact temperatures were mild and seasonal pretty much all period, except for a few days in mid-April when temperatures were unusually high and again around May 6 and May 24 when they reached the 80's. Precipitation averaged on the low side, particularly in March and April, but there was a modest wet spell in mid-May.

The waterfowl migration was either skimpy or poorly reported, but the land bird migration was reasonably heavy. A few species such as Swainson's Thrush and Cape May Warbler were scarce, and of course the winter shortage of finches meant no siskins or redpolls to migrate back north, but generally the volume of migrants was good. That good volume is more apparent when adding up the score later than it was in the field at the time, since there were no spectacular waves. The spring count done at Oneonta May 17, with the number of individuals found of each species recorded, provided the best quantitative data for the season.

The two outstanding rarities for the period were a Gyrfalcon and a European Goldfinch. The Gyrfalcon was reported and described over the phone by a reliable observer, but, unfortunately, was only in view a very short time. The