

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

European Goldfinch allowed more leisurely and close range viewing, and a written description was submitted. Also rarities in the Region, although not unprecedented, were a Kentucky Warbler and a White-eyed Vireo. The late dates attached to a couple of Northern Shrike reports make one wonder if one and possibly two Loggerhead Shrikes weren't missed?

Abbreviation used: O-P-M—Oneonta-Portlandville-Milford area.

Observers: Merton Bean, Jr.; Les Bemont (LB); Michael Bennett (MB); Bruce Bozdos; William Breidinger (WB); Jack Brownell (JB); Campus (Ithaca) Club Bird Study Group; Sally Carey (SC); Alvin Carpenter (AC); Lynn Clark; Mildred Clark (MC); Ann Cloutier; M. J. Corey; Jackie Covert; Anna and Marilyn Davis; Mary Dobinsky (MD); Jane Doig; Sadie Dorber (SD); Diane Drabo (DD); Ruth Enck (RE); Polly and Earl Getkin; M. Gordon; John Gustafson; Shirley Hartman; Hugh Havens; Elva Hawken (EH); Diantha Hempted; Philip Houck (PH); Pauline Hovemeyer (PH); Claude Howard (CH); Henry Kathman (HK); Paul Kelsey (PK); John Knapik; Margaret Layton; Jay Lehman (JL); Florence Linaberry; Leona McDowell (LMcD); Laurie Markowitz (LM); Harriet Marsi; Rick Marsi; Donald Miller; John New (JN); Francis O'Leary; Peter Petokas; James Riley; Harriet Robinson; Betty Rosher; Randy Ross; Robert & Jean Saunders; Mary Sheffield (MS); Robert Sheffield; Kenneth Stalter; Lori Stalter; Chris Theophanis; William Toner (WT); Elizabeth Washburn; Connie Wilkins; Kathryn Wilson (KW); Tom and Beryl Wilson.

LOONS—DUCKS: Com. Loon: first report Apr. 12 from Oneonta-Portlandville area; last reports were four in O-P-M and one in Walton area May 17; three other reports of single birds, all from the same areas. Horned Grebe: 43 at Whitney Point and 13 O-P-M Apr. 12; Apr. 19 Whitney Point the only other date. Pied-billed Grebe: one Portlandville Apr. 12, first; May 5 Oneonta Reservoir, last; four other reports, including one from Whitney Point and one from Norwich, of one or two birds each. Double-crested Cormorant: one flying along river at Binghamton Mar. 23 (CH). Great Blue Heron: 38 in two heronries in Cortland Co. Mar. 29 (WT); 21 counted O-P-M May 17, otherwise frequent but scattered reports of one to three birds in Apr. and May. Green Heron: one at Emmons, near Oneonta, Apr. 12 (JB) and one at Portlandville Apr. 24 (MD, KW), both early; next report May 4, Whistling Swan: one at Chenango, in Cortland Co., May 25 (PK) was very late and the only one reported all season. Canada Goose: Mar. 1 Candor, the first migrants; heavy flights Mar. 9 to 28, the best count Mar. 20 at Binghamton—49 flocks in two hours with up to 200 in each (AC); 175 or more May 3 at Choconut Center evidently still migrants; 21 counted in O-P-M May 17. Mallard: ubiquitous as usual; 36 in the O-P-M May 17. Black Duck: five Mar. reports from Cannonsville, Binghamton, Truxton, Sherburne and Upper Lisle; the one later report May 18 Binghamton area (EH *et al.*). Pintail: Mar. 20 Chenango, the only report. Green-winged Teal: Mar. 29 Whitney Point, first date; four at Upper Lisle Apr. 13 and small numbers in O-P-M May 1 to 17. Blue-winged Teal: Apr. 1 Chenango Bridge, first date; one O-P-M May 17 the only one after Apr. 27; best count 12 or more Apr. 13 Upper Lisle. Am. Wigeon: four reports from Mar. 29 Chenango Bridge to May 18 Whitney Point. Wood Duck: Mar. 20 Truxton, first spring report. Ring-necked Duck: Mar. 19 Cortland to Apr. 17 Portlandville; 14 at Portlandville Apr. 5 was the best count reported. Canvasback: Mar. 24 Truxton, the only report. Greater Scaup: three at Sherburne Mar. 23; two at Norwich Apr. 13. Com. Goldeneye: one Apr. 5 Portlandville, the last date. Bufflehead: Mar. 31 Chenango Bridge; two Apr. 12 O-P-M; the only reports. Oldsquaw: eight at Whitney Point and two O-P-M Apr. 12; 24 Apr. 15 Plymouth Reservoir, near Norwich, was best count and last date. White-winged Scoter: Mar. 10 Endwell; one Apr. 12 Whitney Point; two May 26 Whitney Point (MS). Black Scoter: two Apr. 12 O-P-M, the only report. Ruddy Duck: one Apr. 13 Mead's Pond, n. of Norwich (JL). Hooded Merganser: Mar. 10 Endwell; Apr. 4 Whitney Point; only one other report, from the southern tip of Skaneateles Lake, between. Com. Merganser: 47 Mar. 4. Cannonsville, the best count; frequent reports until May 17 O-P-M.

Red-breasted Merganser: eight at Whitney Point Apr. 12 and four May 5 Oneonta Reservoir, the only reports.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: one Apr. 1 Delhi; twelve May 17 O-P-M, max. Goshawk: one Apr. 20 Plymouth Reservoir (JL); May 20 Cortland. Sharp-shinned Hawk: seven reports. Cooper's Hawk: five reports. Red-tailed Hawk: 30 O-P-M May 17 in all day count; numerous other reports. Red-shouldered Hawk: four O-P-M May 17; four other reports, the first Apr. 20 at Plymouth Reservoir. Broad-winged Hawk: one Apr. 4 Delhi; next report Apr. 19 Endwell; one more Apr. report, then regular from May 3; best count ten May 17 O-P-M. Rough-legged Hawk: half a dozen Mar. and Apr. reports of one to three birds each, the last two birds Apr. 22 Chenango. Bald Eagle: seven in view at one time, with actual number probably somewhat higher, Mar. 4 Cannonsville (SD); three Apr. 16 at East Meredith (HK). Marsh Hawk: two March, four Apr. and two May reports. Osprey: two Mar. 2 in Cortland area (LM) and two Mar. 13 Delhi (SC), both early; next report three Apr. 12 Portlandville then 14 more reports of one to five birds to May 17 from all reporting parts of the Region; one final bird May 26 at Oneonta. **GYRFALCON:** one bird Mar. 28 over Ingraham Hill s. of Binghamton—light-colored but not white, larger than Peregrine—direct flight, but hovered briefly once—shape of falcon—went directly overhead, about 40 feet up—in sight at most 15 to 20 seconds, in clear sunny weather (CH). Am. Kestrel: 30 O-P-M May 17; common and well-distributed all period as usual. Merlin: one May 28 Delhi (MC), no details. Ruffed Grouse: 18 O-P-M May 17; numbers increased over previous few years. Bobwhite: one May 17 O-P-M; May 21 Vestal Center. Ring-necked Pheasant: one male Mar. 8 North Norwich, one Apr. 27 Vestal; two May 17 O-P-M; one May 31 Portlandville-Milford; that's all! Turkey: up to 30 all season at Delhi; also at Virgil in Cortland Co. Mar. 23; at Kirkwood several times in Apr. and O-P-M between May 12 and 16. Virginia Rail: one May 17 O-P-M. Semipalmated Plover: one May 17 O-P-M; May 18 Binghamton. Killdeer: migrants Mar. 18 Vestal and regular after Apr. 1; 47 O-P-M May 17. Am. Woodcock: Mar. 18 s. of Binghamton, first migrants. Com. Snipe: one Apr. 12 O-P-M, first date; nine Apr. 19 Norwich, best count; five May 17 O-P-M. Upland Sandpiper: May 20 Cortland, the only report. Spotted Sandpiper: Apr. 20 Chenango Forks, first date; next report May 1; 44 May 17 O-P-M. Solitary Sandpiper: two May 1 O-P-M, first date; May 20 Cortland, the eleventh and last report; eight May 17 O-P-M, max. Greater Yellowlegs: Apr. 27 Whitney Point; three scattered reports May 10 and 11; one May 24 O-P-M; that's all. Lesser Yellowlegs: May 18 Whitney Point, the only report. Least Sandpiper: two May 17 O-P-M; six or more May 18 Whitney Point. Dunlin: one May 18 Whitney Point. Semipalmated Sandpiper: three May 17 O-P-M. Herring Gull: regular to Mar. 10, then scattered reports, the last May 18 Binghamton and Whitney Point. Ring-billed Gull: "thousands" of migrants, caught by a change in wind direction, congregated at Binghamton and along the Susquehanna River to Endicott Mar. 9, but were mostly gone the next day. Bonaparte's Gull: 37 at Homer Apr. 16, but no others. Com. Tern: one Apr. 24 and May 14 O-P-M.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: they seem to be everywhere. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: May 20 O-P-M; only four more reports in May; but still better than most of the last few years. Black-billed Cuckoo: one May 13 Norwich; ten more May reports. Screech Owl: two May 17 O-P-M and reported twice in Norwich area during the period, but that's all! Barred Owl: two heard at Shindigin Hollow in n. Tioga Co. May 13; one May 17 O-P-M. Whip-poor-will: May 1 at Hinmans Corners, No. of Binghamton; Com. Nighthawk: one May 12 Norwich, first date; also at Oneonta and Binghamton. Chimney Swift: five Apr. 24 Cortland; next report six May 3. Norwich; 51 May 17 O-P-M. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: one May 8 Delhi. Com. Flicker: one Mar. 23 Homer; 79 May 17 O-P-M. Pileated Woodpecker: ten May 17 O-P-M; six other reports of from one to three birds each. Red-bellied Woodpecker: Mar. 30 a pair in n.w. Cortland Co.; one Apr. 14 and 15 at Truxton. Red-headed Woodpecker: one previously reported at Truxton last seen Apr. 7. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: one Apr. 4 Delhi, the first date; regular reports of one to five birds from then to

the end of the period and from all reporting parts of the Region; 22 O-P-M May 17.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Eastern Kingbird: May 5 Oneonta, first date; 54 May 17 O-P-M. Great Crested Flycatcher: one May 4 Delhi; next reports May 12; 27 O-P-M May 17. Eastern Phoebe: Apr. 2 Vestal Center several days late, but seemingly completely recovered from their low of a few years ago. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: one May 31 Norwich, calling. Acadian Flycatcher: one May 24 Hamden, in Delaware Co. (MC, *et al.*), five observers, but no other details. Alder Flycatcher: one May 24 Norwich, the only report. Willow Flycatcher: one May 19 Norwich and May 26 Whitney Point. Least Flycatcher: first date May 5 Binghamton; 48 O-P-M May 17. Eastern Wood Pewee: one May 1 Portlandville-Oneonta (MD, KW), extremely early but no details. Olive-sided Flycatcher: one May 31 Choconut Center. Horned Lark: 72 Mar. 1 Milford and 10 Mar. 16 Homer, probably migrants. Tree Swallow: first date Mar. 23, five at Sherburne and one at Oneonta; Apr. 12 over 200 at Portlandville and over 100 elsewhere in O-P-M. Bank Swallow: first date Apr. 27 Upper Lisle. Rough-winged Swallow: two Apr. 27 Norwich. Barn Swallow: 15 O-P-M Apr. 12; next date Apr. 17. Cliff Swallow: 20 or more at Portlandville May 6 and several later May dates. Purple Martin: one May 4 Norwich; 16 O-P-M May 17; May 20 Cortland Co. Red-breasted Nuthatch: two Mar. 9 Norwich; no more until one May 15 and seven May 17 O-P-M. Brown Creeper: one singing Mar. 9 Norwich; six May 17 O-P-M. House Wren: first date Apr. 22 Chenango Forks. Winter Wren: one singing Apr. 24 to May 14 Milford; May 20 Cortland Co. Mockingbird: one Apr. 10 Oneonta; one May 1 Delhi; two May 3 Norwich; two May 17 O-P-M; May 31 Binghamton and Choconut Center. Gray Catbird: Apr. 20 Vestal; few until regular from May 7. Brown Thrasher: Apr. 23 Choconut Center. Am. Robin: probably migrants from Mar. 1 but certainly by Mar. 19. Wood Thrush: one May 1 Oneonta-Portlandville. Hermit Thrush: one Apr. 17 O-P-M; ten May 17 O-P-M; five other reports from Broome and Cortland Cos. and Delhi. Swainson's Thrush: one May 17 O-P-M; one May 20 Delhi; one May 24 Norwich; that's all! Gray-cheeked Thrush: May 17 Chenango Forks; one May 17 O-P-M; one May 24 Norwich. Veery: one May 1 Delhi. Eastern Bluebird: one Mar. 31 O-P-M, first date; regular and in encouraging numbers after Apr. 12; 18 O-P-M May 17. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: May 4 Chenango Valley State Park; one May 4 Preble Swamp, nest found May 10; six May 17 O-P-M. Golden-crowned Kinglet: one still at Norwich May 4. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: one singing at Norwich Apr. 7; frequent reports thru May 10; one still at O-P-M May 17 and Vestal May 18. Water Pipit: 30 Sherburne Mar. 23; six Franklin Apr. 23; four Norwich May 9. Cedar Waxwing: very few until ten O-P-M May 17, then becoming reasonably common by the end of May. No. Shrike: one Milford Mar. 1; Apr. 19 Homer (WT); one May 17 Hamden (LMcD, PH).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: WHITE-EYED VIREO: one May 10 Cortland (WB), "about five minutes of good sightings on him" by an observer experienced with the species in New Jersey and Virginia—only four or five previous records of the species in the Region. Yellow-throated Vireo: May 4 Chenango Forks; more reports than usual and 18 O-P-M May 17. Solitary Vireo: four Apr. 24 O-P-M; 19 O-P-M May 17. Red-eyed Vireo: one May 6 O-P-M. Warbling Vireo: one May 5 Delhi; more than usual; 18 O-P-M May 17. Black-and-white Warbler: one May 2 Cortland; numerous reports; 18 O-P-M May 17. Golden-winged Warbler: May 10 Choconut Center; eight reports in May, all from Oneonta and the Triple Cities. Blue-winged Warbler: May 7 Vestal Center; 16 reports in May from nearly all parts of the Region. "Brewster's" Warbler: two May 17 O-P-M. Tennessee Warbler: three O-P-M May 14 and same day Choconut Center; 23 O-P-M May 17; none after May 24. Nashville Warbler: one May 6 Delhi; a late first date but quite common later. No. Parula: May 16 O-P-M; one May 16 Norwich; May 20 Cortland; that's all. Yellow Warbler: one singing Apr. 27 Vestal; next report May 1, regular and common from May 3. Magnolia Warbler: four May 12 O-P-M and one same day Norwich. Cape May Warbler: May 13 Shindigin Hollow and Chenango Forks; five May 17 O-P-M; 1 Delhi May 17; two reports May 18 Binghamton area; that's all. Black-throated Blue Warbler: May 1 Bear Swamp, s. of Binghamton; no more until May 11; 27 O-P-M May 17; at Delhi May 20 a pair courting and copulating—a couple of days later a

nest was found containing three eggs, plus a cowbird egg. Yellow-rumped Warbler: five O-P-M Apr. 24 apparently the first migrants; common until May 18, then only the two at Oneonta-Portlandville May 24. Black-throated Green Warbler: May 7 Vestal Center. Blackburnian Warbler: May 5 Binghamton. Chestnut-sided Warbler: several reports May 10, the first date; 84 O-P-M May 17. Bay-breasted Warbler: three May 12 O-P-M; ten O-P-M May 17, five other reports and gone after May 20. Blackpoll Warbler: two May 17 O-P-M, first date; still at Norwich May 31. Pine Warbler: five O-P-M May 17, the only report. Palm Warbler: Apr. 26 Cortland, the only report. Prairie Warbler: May 24 Choconut Center and May 25 Vestal Center, the only May reports. Ovenbird: Apr. 27 Vestal Center. No. Waterthrush: May 4 Chenango Valley State Park; 25 O-P-M May 17. Louisiana Waterthrush: Apr. 17 Hinman's Corners. **KENTUCKY WARBLER**: one May 20 (MB, *fide* JN)—difficult to see, but sang all afternoon—song recordings reviewed before and after confirmation trip. Mourning Warbler: one May 14 O-P-M May 17; May 31 Choconut Center. Com. Yellowthroat: several reports May 5; 226 May 17 O-P-M. Wilson's Warbler: May 11 Cortland; two May 17 O-P-M; May 18 Binghamton, Canada Warbler: two May 10 O-P-M. Am. Redstart: one May 3 Delhi.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: May 6 O-P-M and Homer; 108 May 17 O-P-M. Eastern Meadowlark: Mar. 23 Homer; a little more common than in recent years. No. Oriole: May 4 Norwich. Orchard Oriole: May 20 Cortland. Rusty Blackbird: one May 11 Upper Lisle, the only report. Com. Grackle: common from Mar. 8. Brown-headed Cowbird: four Mar. 7 Norwich, first migrants. Scarlet Tanager: May 5 Cortland; 66 O-P-M May 17. Cardinal: 36 O-P-M May 17. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: one May 3 Delhi; 91 May 17 O-P-M; quite common. Indigo Bunting: May 5 Cortland (PhH), very early but no details; next report May 15 Chenango Forks. Evening Grosbeak: 40 or so May 4 Norwich, but last date May 16 O-P-M. Purple Finch: migrants Mar. 7, but most common from Apr. 16 to May 12. House Finch: 15 Norwich May 4, a singing male census within the city limits; 14 O-P-M May 17; 10 or more Cortland May 11. Pine Grosbeak: one May 2 at Otego (RE); the only report for the year so far. European Goldfinch: one Apr. 19 Delhi (SC); at a feeder four to five feet from a window—red, black and white around head, light brown back and black and yellow wings noted—stayed one afternoon and evening and then left. Red Crossbill: May 16 O-P-M, the only one during the period. Rufous-sided Towhee: Apr. 7 Cortland; next report two Apr. 19 Norwich; regular after Apr. 26. Savannah Sparrow: one Apr. 17 Delhi; 14 O-P-M May 17. Grasshopper Sparrow: May 20 Cortland; May 25 Choconut Center; the only reports. Vesper Sparrow: five Apr. 12 O-P-M; Apr. 27 Homer; one May 17 Delhi; repeat records in O-P-M but no other reports. Dark-eyed Junco: migrants and wintering birds considerably thinned out by Apr. 24, but 38 O-P-M May 17; last date May 24 but probably breeders. Tree Sparrow: the rather slim migration mostly over by Mar. 31; Apr. 10 Delhi and Apr. 13 Upper Lisle, the last. Chipping Sparrow: Mar. 8 Endwell (LB), apparently the bird reported on the Binghamton Christmas Census, banded and then disappeared again; Apr. 2 Kirkwood (DD); Apr. 14 Chenango Birdge (MS); full scale migration Apr. 19. Field Sparrow: Mar. 27 Vestal; one Apr. 6 Delhi; full migration Apr. 18. White-crowned Sparrow: one Apr. 29 Delhi; next record May 6 Kirkwood; last date May 19 also at Kirkwood; 31 O-P-M May 17. White-throated Sparrow: so many wintering birds the beginning of migration obscured, but it seemed evident about Apr. 19; 66 O-P-M May 17 and still at Choconut Center May 25. Fox Sparrow: one Mar. 27 Delhi and three reports of one bird each Apr. 10 to 19 at Norwich. Swamp Sparrow: one Mar. 9 Sherburne; no more until Apr. 12; 23 O-P-M May 17. Song Sparrow: first thin wave of migrants Mar. 1 O-P-M and Vestal, but not in full swing until Mar. 18. Snow Bunting: Mar. 1 near Johnson City and seven Mar. 16 Homer.

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