

Hooded Warbler: one male IC Nov. 1 (NH, mob); and Am. Redstart: one imm. Brighton Nov. 23, 26 (AWo).

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: 60 BB Sept. 30 (FDo), was an impressive late count. The bird of the season was **BOAT-TAILED GRACKLE** (*Quiscalus major torreyi*): one male Greece Nov. 26 thru (MD, RS—photos, DSI, mob), a first Regional and upstate record. Details will be published in *The Kingbird*. The rest of the blackbird passage was not particularly noteworthy for dates or numbers except for Com. Grackle: 10,000+ Webster Oct. 11 (WLI, MAS). Late Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were: one female D Nov. 9; and one imm male Webster Nov. 13. The winter finches were all reported in at least small numbers. The single Hoary Redpoll report was not adequately documented. Among the more interesting records were: Pine Grosbeak: three D Nov. 8, first report; Com. Redpoll: 70 Webster Nov. 3 (CC, mob), early; Pine Siskin: 300+ WL Oct. 11, much larger counts could have been obtained with dedication; Red Crossbill: two to six D Nov. 15 thru; and White-winged Crossbill: 13 IC Nov. 29, first. Scattered late Rufous-sided Towhees were reported thru Nov. A **DARK-EYED "OREGON" JUNCO**: OB Nov. 27 (CC, NM, FDa), was well described. Sparrows were typical in both dates and numbers except for unusually large flocks of both White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows, unfortunately not enumerated by any of the reporters. A very early Lapland Longspur was: one Webster Sept. 13 (WLI), one of very few for the season. Snow Bunting appeared in good numbers early: 200 H Oct. 19; and 500 Greece Nov. 7 (NH).

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

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Summer weather, warm and dry, extended well into September. October turned cold, below normal, with the first hard freeze October 10th. Rainfall was normal but most of it came late in the month. November was cool and dry with even less sunshine than the small amount which is normal. November 17th and 18th brought five to ten inches of snow.

This quarter's report is being compiled without the benefit of the usual fine report from the Elmira area.

There were very few comments on "waves" of migrants. Hilfiker did mention a good movement of vireos and warblers along the east side of Seneca Lake September 4th. The Cornell Ornithology Class found a movement of hawks on their trip to Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge on October 7th. Confer noted many White-throated Sparrows moving through the Ithaca area September 30th to October 5th.

The berry and seed crop was good, but cones were scarce.

Seasonal positives: 1) the highest number of white herons, though still very low, in a number of years, 2) a raft of 9,000 Redheads and 700 Canvasbacks on Cayuga Lake, 3) hawk numbers are inching slowly upward for most of the crash species; fair fall incursion of Rough-legs, 4) with some lowering of water levels at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge late in the migratory season, there was

an increase in shorebird numbers, 5) Ruffed Grouse on the upswing, 6) Fish Crows remain at Ithaca, 7) much improved numbers of Red-breasted Nuthatches after last year's paucity, 8) Winter and Carolina Wrens and the kinglets which were decimated by recent severe winters are making a comeback, albeit slowly, 9) Eastern Bluebirds had a good year but, in view of the species up-and-down history, one's optimism must be tempered with caution, 10) winter finches, which have arrived to date in appreciable numbers, are Evening Grosbeak, Purple Finch and Pine Siskin, 11) after some horrendous TV tower kills at Elmira in recent years, it is almost unbelievable that the total count for this year from Aug. 29 to Oct. 15 was only 45 birds with a peak of 17 birds on Sept. 13.

Seasonal negatives: 1) few bittern reports, 2) Ring-necked Pheasants still very low, 3) poor swallow migration other than Tree and Barn, 4) the Monterey Common Ravens went unreported—no birds or just no reports?, 5) only two Warbling Vireo reports; again, no birds or no reports?, 6) a poor sparrow migration in general. The meadow sparrows were scarce, not a single Vesper reported. Only a few small groups of Tree Sparrows and no sizeable flocks. White-crowns below normal. The sparrows seemed to leave early. Perhaps the cold weather of Oct. moved them through quickly, as they were absent after mid-Oct. from the hedgerows that normally team with them.

Abbreviations: Co—County; L—lake; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; Schy—Schuyler; Sem—weekly Laboratory of Ornithology seminar; Sen—Seneca; SP—State Park.

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LOONS—DUCKS: Com. Loon: reported from Keuka, Sen. and Cay. L. with a max of 15 flying over Watkins Glen Nov. 8. Red-necked Grebe: no reports. Horned Grebe: scarce on Keuka L, relatively few on Cay. L but many on Sen. L last of Nov. Double-crested Cormorant: more than usual during Sept. at Ithaca and MNWR with up to nine, mostly imm., at MNWR. Great Blue Heron: widely reported. Cattle Egret: one S. Danby Sept. 11 (Glenn Grossman). Great Egret: regular at MNWR to Oct. 7 with ten on Sept. 11 the best number since 1975. SNOWY EGRET: the three at MNWR reported in Aug. continued until Sept. 5. This equals the record number of Sept. 4, 1970. Black-crowned Night Heron: two imm at Ithaca in early Sept. Least Bittern: none reported. Am. Bittern: three MNWR reports in Sept. and Oct. and one at Watkins Glen Oct. 10. Brant: one with Canada Geese Sen. L SP Oct. 24.

The following waterfowl numbers were furnished by the MNWR personnel:

Geese					
Snow (inc. blue morph)	50	Oct. 30	No. Shoveler	5,000	Oct. 29
Canada	45,000	Oct. 11	Wood Duck	700	Sept. 15
Ducks					
Mallard	40,000	Nov. 1	Redhead	75	Oct. 29
Black	12,000	Oct. 29	Ring-necked Duck	100	Oct. 31
Gadwall	3,000	Oct. 29	Canvasback	30	Oct. 31
Pintail	1,000	Oct. 29	Bufflehead	25	Nov. 10
Green-winged Teal	8,000	Oct. 29	Ruddy Duck	50	Oct. 22
Blue-winged Teal	200	Oct. 31	Hooded Merganser	150	Nov. 28
Am. Wigeon	10,000	Oct. 31	Common Merganser	250	Nov. 28
			Red-breasted Merganser	70	Nov. 28

Redhead: 500 Keuka L; 9,000 Union Springs Nov. 22 (JC). Canvasback: 700 Union Springs Nov. 22 (JC). Greater Scaup: five MNWR Nov. 22. Oldsquaw: 30 Sen. L Nov. 15. White-winged Scoter: two Sen. L Nov. 22 (BH).

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: more than the usual number of sightings up to Oct. 19 with a max of 15 at MNWR Oct. 5. Goshawk: imm Montour Falls Nov. 14. Sharp-shinned Hawk: reported on seven Sem. Cooper's Hawks reported at nine Sem. Both Cooper's and Sharp-shinned were reported hanging around feeders and picking off small birds. Red-shouldered Hawk: the only report was at the Sept. 15 Sem. Broad-winged Hawk: one MNWR Sept. 5 and two Ithaca early Sept. Rough-legged Hawk: earliest bird was at Ithaca Sept. 26. Numerous widespread reports of both light and dark phase birds in Nov. Bald Eagle: an ad. and an imm. at Enfield Sept. 14; the marked birds which were hacked at MNWR this summer were often seen there but an unmarked imm was present Nov. 6. Marsh Hawk: one or two seen occasionally at MNWR; three Nov. sightings at Watkins Glen; reported at 5 Sem. Osprey: the nesting pair and their two young were last seen at MNWR Sept. 26; one at Sapsucker Woods, Ithaca, Sept. 7 and 15. Peregrine: one at MNWR Sept. 28-Oct. 6 (P. Trail WB *et al.*). Merlin: no reports. Am. Kestrel: 15 on a trip around Cay L. (JC). Ruffed Grouse: numerous widespread reports would indicate an upswing in the population. Ring-necked Pheasant: perhaps a little improvement in this nearly extirpated species. Turkey: population up in the Penn Yan area; reported at four Sem. Am. Coot: 500 on Cay L and at MNWR Oct. 5. The following shorebird reports are from MNWR unless otherwise indicated: Killdeer: max 110 Sept. 22. Am. Golden Plover: up to eight Sept. 24-Oct. 5. Black-bellied Plover: max 18 Oct. 9 and last eight Oct. 31. Ruddy Turnstone: one Reeder's Creek, Sen. Co. Sept. 6; Ithaca Sept. 9; one MNWR Sept. 23-29. Spotted Sandpiper: one late bird Sept. 28. Greater Yellowlegs: up to five thru Oct. Lesser Yellowlegs: max 25 Sept. 22. Pectoral Sandpiper: max 100 Sept. 24. Baird's Sandpiper: two Oct. 7 (Cornell Ornithology Class). Short-billed Dowitcher: 13 May's Point north of MNWR Oct. 20. Long-billed Dowitcher: four May's Point Oct. 20. Semipalmated Sandpiper: max 56 Oct. 3; one late bird May's Point Nov. 7. Sanderling: Ithaca Sept. 5; six Sept. 22 & 24; two Oct. 7 late. Com. Tern: imm Ithaca Sept. 5.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Barn Owl: none reported. Screech Owl: reported from Watkins Glen and on six Sem. Great Horned Owl: found at four locations Schy Co. and one in Sen. Co; reported at seven Sem. Barred Owl: reported at Sem. Oct. 6 & 20. Long-eared Owl: no reports. Short-eared Owl: no reports. Saw-whet Owl: one calling during Nov. at Reading Center. Com. Nighthawk: Sem. Sept. 15. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: one Clyde Sept. 3; one Reeder's Creek Sept. 21; reported at Sem. Sept. 22. Com. Flicker: very common Ithaca area early Oct.; good numbers Schy Co. Nov. Red-headed Woodpecker: one Odessa; Clyde to Oct. 1; imm Phelps Nov. 21. Hairy Woodpecker: there were no reports of this common species or of its cousin, the Downy, probably because it is so common and widespread that reporters just pass over it as not being noteworthy.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLING: E. Phoebe: last Ithaca Oct. 11. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: one Ithaca early Sept. (JC). Tree Swallow: thousands at MNWR Sept. 24; departed early with no reports after Oct. 5. Rough-winged Swallow: 14 late birds May's Point Oct. 20. Com. Crow: flocks of up to 1,000 birds around the fields and woods west of Watkins Glen. Fish Crow: the Ithaca birds were seen to the end of the period. Black-capped Chickadee: JB counted 30 in a one-hour hike; BH comments "everywhere." Red-breasted Nuthatch: after being very scarce a year ago they are being widely reported often at feeders. Winter Wren: reported at three Sem. and one at Arnot Forest Sept. 22; still scarce but perhaps gaining a bit. Carolina Wren: still low after their recent decimation. At two Ithaca locations and one feeder in Geneva. Mockingbird: more reports especially in the Ithaca area. Am. Robin: an amazing 5,000 at MNWR from 7:30 to 8:00 A.M. Nov. 7. Gray-cheeked Thrush: one Ithaca Oct. 12. E. Bluebird: the encouraging reports of last spring and summer continued on through the fall. In Tompkins Co. there were 40 birds sighted. There were three at Clyde, two reports from Schy Co. and "more reports than usual" in the Penn Yan area. Golden-

crowned Kinglet: while still below normal with no large flocks reported, all reporters agreed that the species was making a comeback with numerous widespread reports of a few individuals. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: situation similar to the Golden-crowned with better numbers than last year. Cedar Waxwing: in the Ithaca area these wanderers were scarce until Nov. when flocks up to 300 birds appeared. No. Shrike: no reports.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: for these species the number immediately following the species name is the number of Sem. at which the species was reported during the period. Vireos: White-eyed: one banded Penn Yan Oct. 15 (ML). Yellow-throated: one Owasco L Sept. 20. Solitary: four Sem. Red-eyed: four Sem. Philadelphia: three Sem; Ithaca Sept. 2, 7, 13; Owasco L Sept. 20; Sapsucker Woods Sept. 28. Warbling: Ithaca Sept. 13 and Clyde Sept. 9 only reports. Warblers: Black-and-white: two Sem.; one Owasco L Sept. 20. Blue-winged: Ithaca Sept. 2-7. Tennessee: four Sem.; one Clyde Oct. 4. Orange-crowned: one Ithaca Sept. 15 (M. Shepherd); one Clyde Oct. 4 (WB). Nashville: two Sem.; a late juvenal Stewart Park, Ithaca, Nov. 2. No. Parula: one Sem. Yellow: one Clyde Sept. 3 only report. Magnolia: two Sem. Cape May: four Sem.; reportedly more common than usual at Ithaca during Sept. Black-throated Blue: one Sem. Yellow-rumped: seven Sem. Black-throated Green: four Sem. Blackburnian: two Sem. Chestnut-sided: two Sem. Bay-breasted: two Sem. Blackpoll: one Sem. Palm: one Sem. Ovenbird: two Sem.; one Reeder's Creek Sept. 5; one MNWR Oct. 6 late. Com. Yellowthroat: four Sem. Wilson's: two Sem. Canada: two Sem. Am. Redstart: two Sem.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: E. Meadowlark: up to 30 in one day in early fall at Ithaca but relatively scarce in the northern part of the Region. No. Oriole: one Penn Yan Nov. 19. Cardinal: fledgling being fed at Ithaca Oct. 2. Evening Grosbeak: first sightings were in late Sept. with reports from Watkins Glen, Ithaca, Seneca Falls, Phelps, Wayland, Penn Yan; mostly small numbers but the Confer feeder at Brooktondale had up to 75 in Nov. Purple Finch: reported through the period; JC had up to 24 at his feeder in late Oct. until the Evening Grosbeaks came in. House Finch: continues to increase and spread. Pine Siskin: reported from Watkins Glen, Penn Yan, Ithaca, Phelps. Savannah Sparrow: reported at three Sem. Vesper Sparrow: no reports. Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco: one Ithaca Nov. 24 (D. Gray). Tree Sparrow: scarce again this year up to the end of the period. Lincoln's Sparrow: one killed at the Elmira TV tower; one Clyde Sept. 16 (WB). Snow Bunting: first bird at W. Danby Oct. 24 and thereafter reported from MNWR, Phelps, Watkins Glen and a large flock at Fayette Nov. 15.

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REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

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Temperatures averaged somewhat below normal in September and October, although there was a warm spell as October changed to November. Precipitation was also below normal. An early snow storm November 10 and approximately six inches of snow November 17-18, seemed to lend weight to the many dire predictions of a severe winter.

The goose migration started September 27, which was not surprising, but the very large numbers in the first week or ten days of that migration was surprising. As usual in this Region, the volume of reports of other migrating waterfowl and shorebirds was too small to justify any generalizations. Even coverage of the