

winged Swallow: first in May. Barn Swallow: first in Henderson May 2. Purple Martin: first arrivals Apr. 26; in Henderson and vicinity—may be down? Red-breasted Nuthatch: one May 24. Few thereafter. Brown Creeper: abundant in Canton at St. Lawrence Univ. Natural Area. House Wren: very common this year even in Tug Hill sections. Winter Wren: no reports. Long-billed Marsh Wren: increasing at Wilson Hill (J. VanRiet). Short-billed Marsh Wren: no reports. Mockingbird: one El Dorado May 24 (Walkers); one Farrell Road near Evans Mills May 27 (R. Brouse). Gray Catbird: first May 8. Brown Thrasher: three May 10 Henderson—late. Am. Robin: first young of the year left nest on May 22. E. Bluebird: one near Harrisville Mar. 29 (R. Brouse); two near Mannsville-Hagen Rd. (M. Wiggins); pairs nesting in Parishville, So. Colton and No. Russell (K. Crowell). **BLUE-GRAY GNAT-CATCHER**: one Upper and Lower Lakes May 9 at close range by E. Morrison and D. Turin—only previous record in St. Lawrence Co. was at Piercefield in May 1977 by K. Crowell. Cedar Waxwing: 500 Dry Hill Mar. 9; increasing thru period. Loggerhead Shrike: none reported although last year's nesting locations were checked.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: one Thompson Park in Watertown May 23 (R. & J. Walker). Red-eyed Vireo: numbers seem down. Warbling Vireo: very, very common. Golden-winged Warbler: two Pierrepont May 17 (K. Crowell); one Macomb May 22 (K. Crowell). Nashville Warbler: May 25. Yellow: very abundant. Magnolia: May 25. Cape May: May 10 to May 27. Black-throated Blue: May 25. Blackburnian: abundant. Chestnut-sided: May 25. Bay-breasted: May 11 to May 24. Blackpoll: Upper and Lower Lakes May 17; Colton May 20. Pine: in Canton Apr. 22; one DeGrasse May 31 (K. Crowell). Ovenbird: may be a slight decrease in numbers? Louisiana Waterthrush: one at Washington Park near Adams May 15 (R. & J. Walker). Wilson's Warbler: one Canton May 14 (J. Phillips). Canada: May 25. Am. Redstart: very common.

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: E. Meadowlark: numbers are down. N. Oriole: arrived May 5, numbers are up. Com. Grackle: very common. Brown-headed Cowbird: numbers in Henderson are coming back. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arrived May 6. Evening Grosbeak: over 1000 banded Mar.-May (F. Clinch); decreasing thru and last May 23. Purple Finch: increasing thru period. House Finch: three at feeder on Dry Hill Apr.-May. Pine Grosbeak: last Mar. 3. Com. Redpoll: last on Mar. 19. Pine Siskin: 197 banded Mar. 1 thru May 8; large numbers in the Henderson area May 5-14. Am. Goldfinch: in normal numbers. Savannah Sparrow: low numbers in Henderson; fair numbers in Canton and vicinity. **GRASSHOPPER SPARROW**: one Farrell Road near Evans Mills May 27 (R. Brouse). Henslow's Sparrow: one Perch River May 27 (R. Brouse); one Farrell Road near Evans Mills May 27. Vesper Sparrow: none reported. Dark-eyed Junco: a few moving thru on Apr. 5 and 25. Tree Sparrow: last on Mar. 31. Chipping Sparrow: some increase in numbers in Henderson area. Field Sparrow: returning late. White-crowned Sparrow: first on May 5; last seen on May 22. White-throated Sparrow: in numbers around May 6 increasing thru.

Box 139, Henderson, New York 13650

REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

THEODORE D. MACK

There was nothing especially unusual about the weather. We had a little snow in March and the temperature often seemed to be a reasonable 26° F. at Paul Smiths. Stuart Hall, our TV weatherman, had Adirondack locations as coldest in the nation for a few April days.

The beginning of May was quite dry. A fire burned approximately twenty acres in a rather inaccessible part of the canoe area before it was contained with help of Paul Smiths College forestry students and others. Perhaps a twenty acre burn in a mature forest area is a blessing. Old growth forest has a limited number of plants and animals in the temperate zone of North America. The burn should encourage forbs and bring in some clearing and brush loving species from Mourning Warbler to deer.

The end of May is the time of the Big Day Counts when people try to run up a big list of birds identified in one 24 hour period. This is a game that is a lot of fun. A person can try to break his own record each year or compete with others. It seems that each May some species missed on the list should not be hard to find. House Sparrow has a habit of eluding at least one Franklin County Big Day List each year. Perhaps another year this crew will get lucky with a search of Saranac Lake earlier in the day.

Contributors: Elizabeth Anderson; Merry E. Baker; Tim Barnett; Dirck and Mary Benson; Geoffrey Carleton; Karl Cerasoli; Nancy Craig; Charlie Delehanty; Mike DiNunzio; Steve Everett; Colin Fink; Mark Gretch; Robert Hagar; Elspeth Johnson; Harold Klein; Ferdinand LaFrance; Ted Mack; Norman Mason; Robert McKinney; Terry and Louise O'Connell; John "Mike" Peterson; William Rutherford; Carole Slatkin; Chris Spies; Don Timmons.

LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: scarce or absent in Indian Lake area. One was on Tupper Lake where the current from the Bog River Falls opens the lake ice, on Apr. 4 (CD). Another loon was on Rickerson Brook at Gabriels on the same date (KC). A brook loon is almost always translated as unknown duck, possibly Hooded Merganser, but this really was a loon. The still water there opens before ice is out of the lakes. It is long enough for a loon to take off from and has a good supply of trout which in turn may have a generous dose of pesticides from the nearby agriculture. Several others were noted including one in flight at Ferd's Bog, a pair on the duck pond at Duane, and two pair on Upper St. Regis Lake. There were only two Pied billed Grebes: one at Tupper Apr. 11; one at Port Henry Apr. 12. A few spring Double-crested Cormorants were on Lake Champlain. CS found one at Crown Point as early as Apr. 18. Least Bittern was seen in the Champlain Valley. Am. Bittern was scarce. 50 Canada Geese arrived at Tupper Mar. 28. About 22 local birds were there and seven goslings were seen May 27 (CD). Over 1,000 were at Essex Apr. 15 (NC, CF). Mark Gretch had good numbers of Snow Geese in Clinton Co. Mar. 29 thru May 3 with a max of 46 Apr. 4. Only one dark-phase bird was seen there. Ten Pintails arrived at Clinton Co. Mar. 14 and later the max. was about 100 (MG). CD had a pair of Green-winged Teal Apr. 12 at Panther Marsh as well as a few Blue-winged Teal thru the period. The latter are unusual so far from Lake Champlain farm country. An early male Am. Wigeon was in Clinton Co. Mar. 27 and a few stayed thru the period (MG). Four of this species were at Tupper Marsh Apr. 11. A No. Shoveler, always a good find in this Region, arrived in no. Clinton Co. Mar. 27. The last of this species was seen May 27. Max. was five (MG). The same area had two Redheads Apr. 28 and three May 12. There were many pairs of local Ring-necked Ducks near Paul Smiths. The first migrants at Tupper were 15 on Apr. 2. A transient Greater Scaup stopped at Moody Pond in Saranac Lake, looking rather out of place on so small a pond (MB, DB). A Lesser Scaup was on Lower St. Regis Lake near some Greater Yellowlegs Apr. 11 (KC). KC watched a male **BARROW'S GOLDENEYE** with an unidentified female Goldeneye for one hour on Bear Pond Apr. 22. A male Com. Goldeneye was near for comparison. Oldsquaws were heard talking as they passed over Gabriels at night. A White-winged Scoter was on Lower St. Regis Lake Apr. 12 (KC). There seemed to be fewer resident Hooded Mergansers than usual except in the canoe area. Some previously occupied territory was vacant unless the birds were quietly nesting the last days of May. Next month may disclose more. A pair of Red-breasted Mergansers was in no. Clinton Co. May 22 on Champlain (MG).

HAWKS—ALCIDS: A very early Turkey Vulture was at Lewis Mar. 16 (TB, MD). Two were over Tupper Marsh Apr. 12 and 12 were seen on a Coot Hill hawk watch Apr. 16. Three Cooper's Hawks were seen. A pair of Red-tailed Hawks seen other years did not return to Tupper. There were at least seven Red-shouldered Hawks in the Paul Smiths to Gabriels area and it looks as though three pairs were on territory. One was at Ferd's Bog May 2. This species has been very scarce in recent past years. A Rough-legged Hawk was over Tupper Marsh Mar. 4 (CD). The Delehantys had the luck to see an adult Bald Eagle feeding on the ice at Raquette Pond in Tupper on Mar. 1. Three otters had fun pestering it for about 45 minutes. On Mar. 28 there was an adult and imm. and the next day another adult joined them. Apr. 1 was the last day all were seen together. On Apr. 20 the last bird, the imm., left. Single Bald Eagles at Derrick and Bay Pond could well have been one of these birds. A dead deer on the ice at Derrick was used by an eagle. An adult was at Inlet May 3 (Vernon Mathis). About ten Marsh Hawks were reported. CS had a courting pair at Essex. The Bear Pond Ospreys were at the nest Apr. 12. The first Virginia Rail reported was at Lake Alice May 3. No. Clinton Co. had a Com. Gallinule May 12. An Am. Coot was there Apr. 1 and two Apr. 13 (both species MG). Both are rare in the Region. Semipalmated Plover moved in the 21 and 22 of May. CD had eight on the 22 at Little Wolf Pond beach in Tupper. MG had five in no. Clinton Co. the previous day. They are seen in Clinton Co. and rarely at Tupper in spring. An exceptionally early Com. Snipe was at Franklin Falls Apr. 4 (KC). The following are no. Clinton Co. shorebirds reported by Mark Gretch. There is some good spring shorebirding there. Woodcock chicks May 2; five Solitary Sandpipers May 16; two Greater Yellowlegs Apr. 11; ten Pectoral Sandpipers Apr. 25; five White-rumped Sandpipers May 27; five Least Sandpipers May 12; ten Dunlin May 22; and two Short-billed Dowitchers May 21. **WILSON'S PHALAROPE:** at the mouth of the Great Chazy River Mark Gretch saw a female that fed to within forty feet of him. He felt that two birds were present so returned the next day and by May 27 Charles Mitchell, Harold Klein, and others had confirmed the identification and noted a male bird in the area. A Solitary Sandpiper was at Paul Smiths May 6 (KC). Several Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers were at Tupper Marsh May 23. Early Least Sandpipers were at Cadyville May 9 (T and LO). Black Tern: Tupper had one May 13 and two May 23 while no. Clinton Co. had one May 30.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: There were more Mourning Doves than usual in interior areas such as Paul Smiths. Yellow-billed Cuckoo was reported from Essex Co. May 16. A Screech Owl was both seen and heard at Paul Smiths Apr. 4 (KC). They are extremely rare here away from the Champlain and St. Lawrence Valleys. A few Great Horned Owls were heard in inland areas including Paul Smiths. A late Snowy Owl was in Clinton Co. Apr. 24-26 (MG, T & LO, HK). Long-eared Owl was reported Apr. 10 near Elizabethtown (EJ, JP) and from Little Long Pond at Paul Smiths on Memorial Day weekend (SE). The mouth of the Great Chazy River had two Short-eared Owls Apr. 10 and one Apr. 19 (MG). Saw-whet Owls were all over the Region thru the period. Whip-poor-wills were in the Champlain Valley and at least one was on the Brandon Burn. JP had one use a mist net pole as a singing perch at Crown Point! Com. Nighthawk was at Brandon Burn and over Saranac Lake Village. There are plenty of Chimney Swifts and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds. The first hummer reported was at Paul Smiths May 13 (WR). A pair of Belted Kingfishers started a nest in my back yard sand bank using the television aerial as a perch but they soon relocated when they realized humans lived so close. Black-backed Three-toed Woodpeckers: one Bear Pond at Paul Smiths Apr. 12 (KC); one Ferd's Bog May 3 (FL, CSp), and a female the same day at Lake Alice at 220 feet of elevation (MG). Northern Three-toed Woodpecker: pair digging a nest May 3 at Ferd's Bog (CSp, FL) and a male in no. Clinton Co. at 230 feet elevation May 6 (MG).

FLYCATCHERS—STARLING: There were good numbers of E. Kingbird, Great Crested Flycatcher, E. Phoebe, Least Flycatcher, E. Wood Pewee, and Olive-sided Flycatcher. A few Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were in the Paul Smiths area. They tend to be missed even when present. No reports of Alder Flycatcher. Rough-winged Swallow was in the Champlain

Valley. The other swallows were well-represented. Three Gray Jays were at Ferd's Bog (CSp, FL). Com. Ravens were not hard to find. Go to the Brighton Town dump in Gabriels for a guaranteed sighting and hearing, any time of year. They add something to a trip into the north woods since they have increased to the point where a canoe trip or hike will usually expose one to a calling bird. A nice wilderness sound, even at the local dump. Boreal Chickadees were widely reported. They are not hard to find in large expanses of timber even at lower elevations such as Bloomingdale and Onchiota. Winter Wren was very scarce. Carolina Wren with fledged young was at Port Henry (GC, EJ, JP). Long-billed Marsh Wren was in the Champlain Valley. Bob McKinney found a Mockingbird near Chimney Mountain at Indian Lake May 3. One was outside Saranac Lake Village and another at Gabriels in May. RH had one in Saranac Lake Apr. 18. Even Paul Smiths had one briefly. Gray Catbird arrived most places about May 9. Hermit Thrush numbers are down while Swainson's are the highest in years. An early Hermit sang at Paul Smiths Apr. 7. A few Gray-cheeked Thrushes were noted. An early E. Bluebird was seen Mar. 5 (Sally Johnson). Most reporters had a pair or so. They continue to nest at the Brandon Burn. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was in the Champlain Valley and on May 14 one was seen at Paul Smiths (KC). This is hardly to be expected here. An early Ruby-crowned Kinglet was singing near Paradox Lake Mar. 26 (MEB) and one was at Paul Smiths Apr. 7 (KC). 25 Water Pipits were in a plowed field in Clinton Co. May 6 (MG). On Apr. 16 Don Timmons found a flock of ten and another flock of 25 Bohemian Waxwings at a Coot Hill hawk watch.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: A Yellow-throated Vireo May 25 at Little Long Pond (SE) was in an unusual location. This is to be expected in the Champlain Valley however. Black-and-white Warblers were rather scarce. A Golden-winged Warbler was buzzing on territory at Paul Smiths the last week of May and was verified by three observers. I wish it luck in finding a female companion. It was on the edge of a brushy, cut over block. This is a rare species even in the Champlain Valley. Mike Peterson banded a Blue-winged Warbler May 9 at Crown Point and another unbanded bird was there May 10. Both were seen by several people. This is a new species for Essex Co. Tennessee Warbler: two at Tupper May 19 (CD); two at Little Long Pond May 25 (SE); one at Onchiota May 30 (KC, TM). No. Parula was in good numbers. Cape May Warbler was in Essex Co. May 16 and three were in Onchiota May 30 (KC, TM). One was at Paul Smiths May 16 (KC). CD had one May 19 in Tupper. Yellow-rumped Warbler heaven was Ferd's Bog May 2 when CSp and FL counted 37. KC had one at Paul Smiths Apr. 2. Chestnut-sided Warbler numbers were low. Two Bay-breasted Warblers were singing at Onchiota May 30 (KC, TM). Pine Warbler was reported from the Champlain Valley and one was catching flies in the air Apr. 28 at Tupper. A Palm Warbler was at Ferd's Bog May 2 and another was at Paul Smiths May 6. There were a few Mourning and Canada Warblers.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Bobolinks were at Tupepr, Rainbow Lake, and Bay Pond grassland near Paul Smiths. Tupper and Bay Pond had token E. Meadowlarks. As one would expect these two species are very local because of the mostly forested interior. No. Oriole numbers are good. Several Rusty Blackbirds were reported. Scarlet Tanagers and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks are in good numbers. Evening Grosbeak numbers thinned as the breeding season advanced. There are plenty of singing Purple Finches. House Finch seems to be continuing its expansion into new territory with two pairs at Saranac Lake Mar. 26 (EA) and two at Port Henry Apr. 7 (GC, NM). The last Pine Grosbeak was seen Apr. 3 by Mike Peterson who banded 364 Pine Siskins this year near Elizabethtown. A Grasshopper Sparrow was seen and heard at Jay in late May (KC) and MG had one in Clinton Co. May 30. This species is rare in the Region. There were quite a few Vesper Sparrows but Field Sparrow was scarce in inland regions. Seven Fox Sparrows were reported. Lincoln's Sparrows were in good numbers. Two lingering Snow Buntings were feeding at the Rockefeller gatehouse Apr. 4.

Paul Smiths, New York 12970