

2 Nov, to 150/day by late Nov. Pine Siskin: arr DH 2 Oct, very few after early Nov. Red Crossbill: six near SP 26 Nov only report. White-winged Crossbill: several small flocks 31 Oct to 8 Nov. Rufous-sided Towhee: last Clay 2 Nov. Savannah Sparrow: last SP 15 Oct. Vesper Sparrow: last SP 31 Oct. Dark-eyed Junco: arr SP 18 Sept, max only 139 Lysander 11 Oct. Am. Tree Sparrow: arr SP 31 Oct, to 35/day in Nov. Chipping Sparrow: max 45 Lysander 5 Oct, last there 12 Oct. Field Sparrow: last Clay 2 Nov. White-crowned Sparrow: arr SP 24 Sept, max 40's in Oct, last Clay 2 Nov. White-throated Sparrow: arr SP 12 Sept, max 400/day in early Oct. Fox Sparrow: small numbers 12 Oct to 10 Nov. Lincoln's Sparrow: small number 16 Sept. to 12 Oct. Swamp Sparrow: last southern Madison Co. 14 Nov. Lapland Longspur: one Clay 3 Nov only report. Snow Bunting: arr FH 11 Oct.

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REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

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My assuming the Region 6 editorship from veteran Lee Chamberlaine shifts the center of gravity to the east. Both human and avian populations seem to center in the Watertown-Eastern Lake Ontario area, albeit strongly cantilevered by J. VanRiet's report from Massena. Waterfowl, raptors, and shorebirds are especially well reported by Gerry Smith at El Dorado Beach and Lee Chamberlaine in Henderson. Sightings from Canton and vicinity come primarily from the St. Lawrence University community with notable contributions from Mildred and Everett Howard. During the fall period there were no reports from Lewis or southern St. Lawrence Counties. I hope to encourage more participation from birders throughout the region.

A year ago, Lee Chamberlaine wrote that the fall of 1980 was even wetter than that of 1979. That seems like a hard act to follow, but September and October of 1981 were so dismal that one wonders when and how the birds winged South. Moreover, due to frosts in May, it is a poor year in some localities for berries, apples and mast.

The first frost occurred on 21 September at Barnes Corners. October was raw with temperatures often in the 40's; through 12 October it was glorious Indian summer. November was drier and sometimes warmer. The first snow was 6-7 November; one inch in Watertown, two to three inches in Canton. During the second week in November ponds skimmed over with ice.

During the period there were three rains exceeding one inch: 1.43 in (3.63 cm) 10 September; 1.23 (3.12 cm) 23 September; and 1.69 in (4.29 cm) 29 October. Maximum and minimum temperatures for each month in Canton were September: max 79° F (25° C) on 1 September, min 36° F (2° C) 25 September. (It was 22° F [-6° C] in Watertown 30 September.) October: max 68° F (20° C) 14 October, min 22° F (-6° C) 13 October. November: max 64° F (18° C) 5 November, min 14° F (-10° C) 9 November.

To summarize the fall migration, flights of Canada Geese peaked the third week of October when there were four reports of Brant. Puddle ducks peaked in early September and were largely gone by mid-October. Surf Scoters were seen

off El Dorado Beach in early October, and Hooded Mergansers at Perch Lake in mid-November. Red-tailed Hawks were abundant; while there were scattered sightings of all other species of diurnal raptors, except Peregrine Falcon and Golden Eagle. Shorebirds declined during the second half of September and were largely gone by mid-October. There were few reports on passerine migration, which seems to have extended through October. Shrikes and winter finches were first sighted in early October, followed by open country wintering raptors, including several Short-eared Owls.

On the negative side, there were no reported loons and few grebes; no departure dates for flycatchers, wrens or summer sparrows; and very little on swallows or thrushes.

Rarities: two Whimbrels, two Western Sandpipers and a Merlin were spotted at El Dorado Beach, and a Black-legged Kittiwake at Massena.

Abbreviations: ad—adult; arr—arrival; EIDB—El Dorado Beach Preserve, Lake Ontario; Jeff Co.—Jefferson County; PRWMA—Perch River Wildlife Mgt. Area; RMPD—Robert Moses Power Dam, Massena; St. Law Co.—St. Lawrence County; ULLWMA—Upper and Lower Lakes Wildlife Mgt. Area.

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LOONS—DUCKS: Com. Loon—none reported. Horned Grebe: ten Black River Bay 29 Nov (JRW). Double-crested Cormorant: last one at Henderson Harbor 17 Oct (LC); at EIDB influx early Sept, max 60 on 11 Sept; scarce in Oct, last 3 Nov (GS); one at Pillar Pt 15 Nov (JRW). Great Blue Heron: nine reports for Canton area, last seen were three at ULLWMA 24 Oct; one at Adams 2 Nov; last one at Henderson 10 Nov. Green Heron: one at our farm pond Pierrepont for a week early Sept; one ULLWMA 24 Oct (MH). Mute Swan: one PRWMA 27 Oct. Canada Goose: first report, Potsdam 24 Sept (D. McKentley); moving in Canton area 21-23 Oct, 3000-4000 PRWMA 25 Oct; 3000 Perch Lake, 1000 Henderson Pond 24 Nov (LC). Brant: 250 Pt. Peninsula and 300 over Watertown 21 Oct (LC); 180 ULLWMA 21 Oct (JIGreen); 36 in cornfield Pierrepont 26 Oct (KC). Snow Goose: four PRWMA 27 Oct (LC). Puddle ducks, reported from EIDB by G. Smith unless otherwise noted—Mallard: max 345 on 1 Sept. Black Duck: max 35 on 1 Sept. Green-winged Teal: max 30 on 4 Sept; last six 10 Oct. Blue-winged Teal: peak late Aug; last one 7 Oct, ULLWMA 15 Oct (P. Slingluff). Am. Wigeon: arr 5 Sept. No. Shoveler: eight PRWMA 7 Oct (LC). Ring-necked Duck: 40 PRWMA 7 Oct; ten ULLWMA 4 Nov. Greater Scaup and Lesser Scaup: first PRWMA 7 Oct; 400 on 29 Nov (JRW). R. Brouse reports 10,000 scaup and Com. Goldeneye at Black River Bay 15 Nov. Com. Goldeneye: 200-400 per day EIDB thru Nov. Bufflehead: 50 Black River Bay 29 Nov. Oldsquaw: on Black River Bay 29 Nov (JRW). Surf Scoter: 100-200 per day EIDB first half Oct (GS). Hooded Merganser: eight Perch Lake 19 Nov (LC). Com. Merganser: 100 Perch Lake 19 Nov.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Goshawk: one four mi. n. of Watertown 15 Nov (RB); one So. Colton 30 Nov (D. Sibley). Turkey Vulture: two Mannsville 8 Oct (RB). Sharp-shinned Hawk: max EIDB five on 12 Sept (GS); one near Henderson (LC); one Pierrepont 18 Oct (KC). Cooper's Hawk: male Mannsville 10 Sept (RB); scattered singles at EIDB, three early Oct (GS); one over Watertown (LC). Red-tailed Hawk: common thru period; many imm So. Jeff Co. (LC) and St. Law Co. (KC); four migrating at Canton 4 Oct (W. Chaisson). Red-shouldered Hawk: arr EIDB 10 Sept—very early (GS). Rough-legged Hawk: first near Henderson 11 Oct (LC); influx to Lake Ontario region (Sackets Harbor, Rodman, Henderson,

Sulfur Springs) last week of Oct (RB, GS, JRW); 10-15 per day (dark phase two to one) So. Jeff Co. 21 Oct thru (LC). Bald Eagle: PRWMA—one ad 15 Oct (S. Cameron) pr ad 25 Oct (LC), one imm 26 Oct (S. Brown); pr harassing waterfowl at Perch Lake 19 Nov (LC). Marsh Hawk: fairly common thru period—"many" in Jeff Co. (LC), two pr and four singles (RB, JRW); one pr, three singles in St. Law Co.; last Rodman 29 Nov (RB). Osprey: four singles EIDB 5-22 Sept (GS, RJW); one Stony Creek near EIDB 11 Oct (LC). MERLIN: one EIDB 6 Oct (GS); one possible in Canton 2 Oct (KC). Am. Kestrel: EIDB three 4 Oct (GS), one to three per day thru (RB, LC); one Canton 23 Nov. Ruffed Grouse: numbers still up in Jeff Co. (LC); down from last two years in St. Law Co. (KC)—take your choice! The following shorebirds are from EIDB by G. Smith unless otherwise noted. Semipalmated Plover: six on 7 Sept (RB); three per day in Sept; dep. 10 Oct. Killdeer: 2 dep. 31 Oct. Am. Golden Plover: one only 13 Sept. Black-bellied Plover: one to three per day Sept-Oct; max nine on 20-25 Oct; dep. 31 Oct. Ruddy Turnstone: nine on 27 Sept (RB); imm 7-25 Sept; max 22 on 12 Sept. Am. Woodcock: last 4 Nov, early (LC). WHIMBREL: singles 9 Sept and 8 Oct late (GS). Spotted Sandpiper: dep. 13 Sept. Greater Yellowlegs: only one to two per day at irregular intervals thru Sept; dep. 16 Sept. Red Knot: one to two imm per day thru 9 Sept. Purple Sandpiper: one 31 Oct; 3 and 29 Nov; two on 12 Nov. White-rumped Sandpiper: scarce, one 13 Oct. Baird's Sandpiper: one to three per day thru 29 Sept. Least Sandpiper: decline after mid-Sept; dep. 3 Oct. Dunlin: arr 16 Sept; six to ten per day to mid Oct, 160-200 per day to 5 Nov; max 310 on 31 Oct; dep. 14 Nov. Short-billed Dowitcher: dep. 1 Sept. Stilt Sandpiper: two dep. 29 Sept. Semipalmated Sandpiper: 420 on 7 Sept; rapid decline 10-15 Sept; dep. 7 Oct. WESTERN SANDPIPER: 8 Sept, 3 Oct. Sanderling: 45 on 11 Sept; 20-25 per day thru early Oct; dep. 10 Oct. Parasitic Jaeger: 55 on 29 Sept; dep. 28 Nov—late record. Glaucous Gull: one imm at RMPD 26 Nov (JVR). BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE: one imm RMPD 26 Nov (JVR). Herring Gull: none reported?! Ring-billed Gull: still common at end of period—daily flights from Lake Ontario and back (LC). Bonaparte's Gull: max 32 on 7 Sept. Common Tern: 100 EIDB 7 Sept (JRW); dep. three on 15 Sept. Caspian Tern: three EIDB 9 Sept (RB); dep. 15 Sept. Black Tern: max three on 1 Sept; dep. 7 Sept.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Great Horned Owl: heard three in Henderson (LC); frequent sightings at ULLWMA (P. VanDongen); one Canton 4 Nov (D. Newton). Snowy Owl: one at Cape Vincent 6 Nov (D. Faulkingham); one male at Pillar Pt. 15 Nov (RB); two on Point Peninsula 29 Nov (JRW). Barred Owl: calling at ULLWMA early Oct (MH). Short-eared Owl: one Ashland WMA injured (LC); two near Chaumont 29 Nov (JRW). Saw-whet Owl: road-kill near Canton 10 Nov (J. Green). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: EIDB 9 Sept (RB); one in Canton thru 2 Oct (MEH). Belted Kingfisher: one EIDB 9 Sept (RB). Pileated Woodpecker: 11 singles in region thru period (EB, KC, LC, NL). Red-bellied Woodpecker: male thru and female 12 Oct in Henderson (LC). Red-headed Woodpecker: five (two pr ad, one imm) Sandy Creek Rd, Ellisburg (S. Stevens *vide* LC). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: two singles Canton. Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers: singles and pairs thru in Canton area—Hairy more common.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Horned Lark: ten Canton 2 Oct (KC); 60 Henderson Pond 3 Oct (LC); flock Pierrepont 9 & 17 Nov. Tree Swallow: 20 Henderson 21 Sept, eight Paddy Hill 20 Oct—sitting in road for warmth (LC); one four mi. n. of Watertown 15 Nov—late! (RB). Com. Crow: 70 Ray's Bay, L. Ontario 12 Oct; 3000 near Watertown moving ENE 12 Oct; 100 Henderson 12 Nov. Black-capped Chickadee: several flocks of four to eight in Canton area. BOREAL CHICKADEE: Canton at feeder 20 Oct (KC); S. Colton 30 Nov (D. Sibley). TUFTED TITMOUSE: one Henderson at feeder 19 Oct thru (LC), previously reported only (?) from Colwell Pond in So. Jeff Co. Canton 19 Oct (M&E Howard); first (?) record in St. Law Co.; photographed (several Dec. sightings in Canton). White-breasted Nuthatch: singles in Canton-Pierrepont area 15 Oct thru. Red-breasted Nuthatch: one Henderson 10 Oct; one Canton 7 Nov. Brown Creeper: three Henderson 11 Oct moving with kinglets (LC); one Canton thru (MEH). Mockingbird: EIDB 9 Sept (RB). Brown

Thrasher: Rodman 22 Nov (N. Leone). Am. Robin: Henderson in red cedar 10 Oct; flock Canton 11-12 Oct. E. Bluebird: two Pierrepont 20 Sept—normally see 8-12 (KC). Grey Catbird: Canton early Oct. BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER: Canton 1 Sept (J. Green), third sighting in eastern St. Law Co. I saw one in Piercefield 30 May 1978, and one was observed by L. Morrison and D. Turin (*vide* KC) at Indian Creek Nature Center ULLWMA 24 Apr 1981; see also *Kingbird* 31 (4): 252 (1981). Golden-crowned Kinglet: flock Henderson 11 Oct; one 7 Nov (LC). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: four in mixed flock with Brown Creeper Henderson 12 Oct. Both kinglets in Canton 4 Oct (MEH). Water Pipit: 35 Canton 26 Oct; none from Jeff Co! Cedar Waxwing: 30 EIDB 20 Sept (RB); decreasing thru (LC). No. Shrike: first Canton 13 Nov, took bird from feeder (MEH); one Henderson 30 Oct (LC); one imm 15 Nov (RB) and one 29 Nov (LC) at Pillar Pt; one Dry Hill at feeder 15 & 30 Nov (JRW).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Warbling Vireo: Canton 4 Oct with kinglets and Nashville Warbler (MEH). Yellow-rumped: first Pierrepont 19 Sept (KC); Henderson six on 10 and 12 Oct (LC). Nashville: one Canton 4 Oct (MEH). Bay-breasted: one EIDB 5 Sept (JRW).

WEAVERS—SPARROWS: E. Meadowlark: many Canton-Pierrepont area 1-4 Oct; five Fargo 5 Nov (LC); one Pillar Pt 15 Nov (RB). Red-winged Blackbird: 400 Canton 25 Oct; one thru 5 Nov at feeder (MEH). Rusty Blackbird: one male Canton 29 Oct (MEH). Blackbirds: over one million—mostly Red-winged; also Com. Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Starling—left PRWMA 24 Oct (LC). Scarlet Tanager: female Pierrepont 20 Sept (KC). Cardinal: pair in Henderson at feeder thru (LC); one pair Morely 20 Nov and two to four pairs in Canton thru; family group in early Sept suggests first successful breeding in Canton; female S. Colton (J. Green) implies range extension toward Adirondack region. Evening Grosbeak: first in Jeff Co. Dry Hill 4 Oct (JRW); first in Canton two males 9 Oct; flocks of 20-30 20 Oct thru. HOUSE FINCH: pair at feeder in Canton 5 Oct, first sighting in Canton area (MEH & D. Sibley), photographed. Pine Grosbeak: four (one female, three male) Ty-lerville 4 Nov; two imm feeding on high bush Cranberry in PRWMA 19 Nov (LC). Com. Redpoll: first in St. Law Co., Clare 10 Nov. Pine Siskin: Canton 8 Oct at feeder (MEH). Am. Goldfinch: flocks of 20-40 Pierrepont 1-4 Oct. Purple Finch, Com. Redpoll, Pine Siskin and Am. Goldfinch Henderson increasing thru (LC). Rufous-sided Towhee: one in Canton thru early Oct (MEH). Dark-eyed Junco: scarce (LC); many moving thru Canton area 22-26 Oct (KC). Tree Sparrow: first Henderson 6 Oct, scarce (LC). White-crowned Sparrow: first imm 30 Sept, ad 5 Oct, max 12 Oct, dep. 15 Oct (LC). White-throated Sparrow: arr 20 Sept; max 12 Oct, last 19 Oct; small groups Canton-Pierrepont 26-28 Oct. Snow Bunting: first three in Henderson Harbor 30 Oct (LC).

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REGION 7 – ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

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High lake levels from heavy fall rains covered much of the shorebird mudflats. Mark Gretch reports that Clinton County had both fewer species and numbers representing this group than usual because of high water in Lake Champlain. The same wet season was favorable for waterfowl however, and many species were present. The first migrant Canada Geese were 20 over Tupper Lake 8 October with migrant numbers of that area peaking 24 October.