

one on WMC. Wilson's Warbler: KM reports them as the only warbler in greater than usual numbers. He found as many as three at a time on each trip in May. Canada Warbler: numbers low except in the Peekamoose Mt. Rd. area where FM found them common, first Mine Rd USMA 8 May.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: in their usual places and numbers at the end of the period. Two pair at Rockland L 12 May inc to 150 the next day. A similar flock at Thiels a few hours later may well have been the same birds. E. Meadowlark: continues its low decline. **WESTERN MEADOWLARK:** a report of one at Stewart Airport 12 May, but no details—could be our third Orange record. Orchard Oriole: more than usual, at least seven in Dutch and 11 from Rock, three from Oran and one from Sull. Scarlet Tanager: numbers way down from recent years, late arriving. Indigo Bunting: usual locations and numbers, an extremely early bird was at a Rye feeder from 18-27 Apr. Purple Finch: continues to decline, now a hard bird to find in the wild. House Finch: too many, WMC had 143 with the first two birds appearing on that count in 1965. Pine Grosbeak: last in Dutch 6 Apr. **HOARY REDPOLL:** one occasionally turns up one if he looks at enough Commons. MVW had one of each at her feeder in Pleasant Valley 19-20 Mar, obs by many. Com. Redpoll: last at Pleasant Valley 11 Apr. Exc numbers thru Mar and at feeders dur and after the 6 Apr storm. Pine Siskin: exc numbers continued thru May, a few still around at the end of the period. Breeding should be looked for since it has occurred south of us on Staten I. Crossbills: both species well represented in Mar. More White-wings than Red, but the latter well-represented. Last report a flock of eight Reds in the Town of Ramapo 26 Mar. Savannah Sparrow: one Mine Rd USMA 25 Apr was an unusual location. Grasshopper Sparrow: sev reports at Galeville Airport, Wallkill. **HENSLOW'S SPARROW:** back at Galeville Airport this year. Three or four there thru June, and one reporter had as many as 15 birds. Dark-eyed Junco: last Mine Rd USMA 24 Apr. Tree Sparrow: left most areas by 17-19 Apr. Chipping Sparrow: the wintering bird at Vaughn Morrison's feeder in Wappingers Falls remained thru Mar. Spring arr in Dutch 7, 8 Apr. White-crowned Sparrow: peak 13-14 May when six to eight birds were reported by sev birders independently. Last reports in Dutch 22, 24 May, WMC had 20. Lincoln's Sparrow: a few more than usual. First two birds on WMC, last one at Dunderberg Mt. 26 May. Snow Bunting: last 300 in Dutch 9 Mar, and 25 at Sull Co Comm Coll 12 Mar.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, New York 10928

REGION 10 — MARINE

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The season got off to a slow start, with eight out of the first ten days of March being colder than normal. The weather then heated up rapidly over the next few days with the warmest day of the month the 12th. This warm spell brought in many early migrants. Temperatures stayed above normal for most of the rest of the month except for a brief cold snap on the 27th and 28th, with the temperature dropping to 22° F. on 28 March, the coldest reading of the month. But this was just a taste of things to come. March closed warmer than normal with a monthly average less than a degree above normal. This warm spell spilled over into early April. On the 4th things started to get cold again and on the 6th the blizzard hit. Over nine and a half inches of snow fell in New York City and temperatures dropped to record lows. The daily mean for 7 April was

23° below normal. The temperature warmed up gradually over the next five days and the snow didn't last long. Most of the rest of April was above normal, so the monthly average temperature was less than a degree below normal. May was warm, the temperature averaging 1.8 degrees above normal. Rainfall was a little more than an inch below normal in March and May and a bit more than two inches above normal in April. So the season as a whole was a little on the plus side in rain.

There were small waves of early migrants accompanying warm spells on 12-14 March and 24-25 April, but much of May was disappointing. The banding station at Tobay experienced its only "wave day" on 16 May, with Common Yellowthroats predominating, but this wave wasn't much in evidence elsewhere. The banding station on Great Gull Island experienced a small wave on 30-31 May but nothing out of the ordinary was recorded. Staten Island picked up several nesting records: Red-tailed Hawk, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and Pine Siskin—all found by one very diligent couple. In addition to the siskins, Red Crossbills also lingered on Long Island to nest.

Rarities, several lingering from the winter, were: Swallow-tailed Kite, Pileated Woodpecker, Varied Thrush, Swainson's Warbler and Harris' Sparrow.

Abbreviations: LI—Long Island; SI—Staten Island; JBWR—Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge.

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LOONS—DUCKS: There was at least a small flight of loons 15 May with six Common and two Red-throated Loons reported at JBWR (GD, MD, *et al.*) and a Red-throated in partial breeding plumage at Baiting Hollow, a first there (RA). The winter season reported no Red-necked Grebes, but at least four and possibly five were reported in Mar: one at Jones Inlet 6 Mar (R. Kelly, *et al.*, *fide* GD); two in winter plumage at Jerome Park Reservoir 15 Mar, one of those or a third bird in changing plumage there 21 Mar (WS); and one at the Marine Bridge at the mouth of Jamaica Bay 29 Mar (M. & A. Penzer, *fide* LS). Several movements of Gannets were noted from the south shore in early to mid-May; 40-50 were seen off Shinnecock 9 May and another 14 noted there 15 May (GSR); also on 15 May eight-12 off Cedar Beach (GD, MD, *et al.*) and three there the following day (JD, AS). Flocks of Double-crested Cormorants were noted flying eastward past Great Gull Island at the mouth of Long Island Sound on 24 Apr (JD). The earliest returning Great Egrets reported were three birds at the Goethal's Bridge Pond, SI, on 24 Mar (GB). A Cattle Egret seen flying north over the Hudson R. at Riverdale 5 May was a first record for one active observer in the area (WS). A warm spell 12-14 Mar brought the first Glossy Ibis: two were found at Goethal's Bridge Pond 13 Mar (GB) and others at JBWR 14 Mar (PWP), both dates near records. It is always interesting to note movements of birds that appear to be connected with weather patterns. In the spring we usually think of bird movements being related to warming temperatures, but the following two cases are just the reverse. On 23 May a total of 575 Brant were noted passing over Riverdale, in the Bronx (WS); 23 and 24 May average the two coldest days of the month with the daily average 12° below normal both days. On 27 Mar over 250 Snow Geese were noted passing over Riverdale (WS), as in the case above 27 and 28 Mar were among the coldest days of the month, the daily average 12° below normal on both days. Wood Ducks are never common on the outer beaches, but individuals were reported at Tobay 16 May and 30 May (AJL). A male "Eurasian" Green-winged Teal was found at Hourglass Pond, SI, on 28 Mar (B. Schiefer, *fide* GB). A male Tufted Duck was reported at the Central Park Reservoir 5 Apr (D. Knowler, *fide* THD). A subadult male and

a female King Eider were found in a spring concentration of scoters off Great Gull Island on 25 Apr (JD); the eiders were seen intermittently there until 25 May (JD), the same day another subadult male was noted at Rye (T. W. Burke, *vide* THD). The previously mentioned concentration of scoters at Great Gull Island was approximately 15,000 birds on 25 Apr (JD); about 50% were White-wings, 40% Black and the remaining Surf. The concentration dwindled gradually to about 5000 birds on 19 May and 500 on 27 May (JD). Five male Harlequin Ducks were at Montauk 4 Apr (S. Terrill, *vide* THD).

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture is usually an uncommon bird on LI, but five reports were received from Apr to mid-May: 1 Apr—Upton (W. Graves, *vide* GSR), 10 Apr—Mutton-town Res. (*vide* THD), 20 Apr and 15 May—Wading River (RA) and 13 May—Forest Park (GD). A **SWALLOW-TAILED KITE** was reported over Pelham Bay Park on 26 May (P. Root, *vide* THD). Following scattered reports in the winter only one Goshawk was reported, at VanCortlandt Park on 2 Mar (WS). On 15 Apr a nesting pair of Red-tailed Hawks was found at Latourette Park, the first nesting record on SI (W. & N. Siebenheller, *vide* GB, THD). Three Merlins passed over Great Gull Island on 25 Apr (JD, *et al.*). The same warm spell that brought Glossy Ibis brought the first pair of Am. Oystercatchers to Shinnecock Inlet on 14 Mar (*vide* THD). Eight Semipalmated Plovers were found at the Jones Beach Coast Guard Station 20 Mar, a near record early date (GD, MD, *et al.*). A flock of 18 Willets was noted flying over JBWR on 29 May (THD). Four Upland Sandpipers were noted at Westhampton airfield 3 May (E. Salzman, *vide* GSR); others returned to their isolated breeding locality at Hofstra College 13 May (P. Gillen, *vide* THD). A pair of Ruffs, with the male in breeding plumage, was found at Oak Beach marsh 16 May (ROP, *et al.*). The May high count of Purple Sandpipers on Great Gull Island was 20 on 10 May (*vide* JD). A No. Phalarope was at JBWR on 30 May (*vide* THD). Two Wilson's Phalaropes were noted at JBWR during May: a male 13 May (GD) and a female 16 May (mob); another Wilson's was at Oak Beach marsh 23 May (ROP). A first-year Glaucous Gull was seen with Herring and Great Black-backed Gulls on the Hudson R., at Riverdale on 14 May (WS). An Iceland Gull was found at JBWR on 1 Apr (GSR). Lesser Black-backed Gulls are no longer found in mid-winter only, with single adults reported at Montauk Pt. 4 Apr (S. Terrill, *vide* THD) and Central Park Reservoir 10 Apr (PWP, *vide* THD). An adult Black-headed Gull was found at Jones Inlet on 10 Apr (D. Houle, *vide* THD). The first flock of Com. Terns (50) arrived at Great Gull Island on 25 Apr, the warmest day of the month (JD). A Caspian Tern was seen resting on grass with Herring Gulls at Miller Field, SI, on 23 May (H. Flamm, *vide* GB). A Razorbill was present at Montauk Pt. 14-21 Mar (G. Tudor, *et al.*).

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Chuck-will's-widow: one was at Forest Park 1 May (GD) and one to two birds were reported intermittently at Manorville 7-23 May (GSR). A somewhat early Com. Nighthawk was found roosting alongside railroad tracks at Hither Hills on 24 Apr (GSR). A very early Chimney Swift was seen over Flagg Pd., SI, on 4 Apr (GB). The winter's **PILEATED WOODPECKER** lingered at Forest Park until 1 May (*vide* THD). What was probably the same bird was seen at Shu Swamp, Mill Neck, on 8 May (mob).

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: The previously mentioned warm spell on 12-14 Mar brought many arriving E. Phoebe with it. Some of these birds, however, undoubtedly fell victim to the Apr blizzard. One observer reported that most nesting phoebes did not reappear after the storm (GSR). The earliest reported Acadian Flycatcher was at Upton on 26 May (GSR). Three were banded on Great Gull Island on 30 May (JD). After the high counts of chickadees and titmice this winter, some spring return flight was to be expected, Black-capped Chickadees and Tufted Titmice were passing through Great Gull Island on 24-25 Apr (JD); titmice, particularly, are rare there. Black-caps were suspected of breeding at Tobay (AJL). An injured Red-breasted Nuthatch lingered at JBWR till 30 May (R. Kelly, *vide* THD). Am. Robins were noted moving through Riverdale 11 Apr, a few days after the blizzard (WS). The **VARIED THRUSH** on Orient noted in the winter report stayed until mid-Apr (GSR). An extremely early Gray-cheeked Thrush was found in Central Park on 25 Apr (J. Farrand, *vide* THD); another was banded at Tobay on 30 May where they are very

rare in the spring (AJL). A pair of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers was found nesting at the High Rock Conservation Center on 17 May for a first SI nesting record (W. & N. Siebenheller, *vide* GB).

VIREOS-WARBLERS: At least seven Prothonotary Warblers were reported: one at Sands Pt on 1 May (*vide* THD); a pair at Wolfe's Pond Pt., SI, on 2 May (GB), another at Hempstead the same day (EL, *et al.*); one at Wading River on 15 May (RA, *et al.*) and two in South Hempstead on the very late date 28 May (EL). **SWAINSON'S WARBLER** is becoming an almost annual spring migrant in recent years. This year's bird was found at Wading River (J. Clinton, *vide* GSR, THD). A "Lawrence's" Warbler was in Stony Brook 20-23 May (GSR, RA). An Orange-crowned Warbler, always a rare spring migrant in this region, was found in Central Park on 25 Apr (PWP, *vide* THD). Two Yellow-throated Warblers were reported: 20 Apr at Wolfe's Pond Park, SI (W. & N. Siebenheller, *vide* GB), and 21 Apr at Millneck (D. Thompson, *vide* THD). A record early Blackpoll was found in Central Park 25 Apr (PWP, *vide* THD). There were widespread arrivals of Pine Warblers on 14 Mar, a date that has been mentioned several times previously for other species. Kentucky Warblers were reported at Alley Pond Park 11 May (GSR); and at Forest Park 13-15 May (mob) where they are regular each spring. A female was banded 16 May at Tobay, only the second ever there (AJL). A Mourning Warbler was at Forest Park 16 May (G. Tudor, *et al.*).

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: There was a movement of Bobolinks through the region on the night of 15-16 May. Flocks were seen at Forest Park (JD, AS) and JBWR (M. Weinberger, *et al.*) on the morning of 16 May and a large flock in a buckwheat field in Patchogue 17 May (RA). A female Boat-tailed Grackle was found at VanCortlandt Park on 25 Mar for the first regional record off LI (WS). Only a few years ago any report of this species merited special notice. Summer Tanagers were widely reported, with at least seven individuals in New York City parks 25 Apr-26 May (*vide* THD). An early Rose-breasted Grosbeak was with Evening Grosbeaks and a single Blue Grosbeak at Wading River Marsh on 25 Apr (RA). Four other Blue Grosbeaks were reported: a subadult male at JBWR on 18 Apr (mob) and presumably a different subadult male there on 3-5 May (P. Gillen, *vide* THD); a male in Prospect Park on 7 May (L. Cohen) and a bird of unreported sex at Heyerdahl's Hill, SI, in late May (W. & N. Siebenheller, *vide* GB). A few of the winter's Com. Redpolls lingered until early Apr: 15 at JBWR (THD) and three at Forest Park (GD), both on 10 Apr. Pine Siskins also lingered in the region, some til mid-May at Theodore Roosevelt Sanctuary, Mutton-town Pres. and Kew Gardens (*vide* THD). On 25 Apr a nest was discovered at High Rock Conservation Center, for perhaps the first regional nesting record (W. & N. Siebenheller, *vide* GB). Another winter finch that stayed to nest this spring was Red Crossbill. Two pairs were observed building nests in mid-Apr at Connetquot River State Park, but both were apparently later abandoned (D. Houle, *vide* GSR). More successful, however, was a pair found building a nest at Manorville 12 Apr and possibly feeding young in mid-May (E. Schwarting, *vide* GSR). Another lingerer from the winter was the **HARRIS' SPARROW** at Gilgo, which remained until 10 Apr (*vide* THD).

Corrections: In the fall season report several of the totals listed for the Moses Mountain Hawk Watch were incorrect. The correct figures are: Sharp-shinned Hawk-2884 (not 56), Cooper's Hawk-56, Red-tailed Hawk-45 (not 2), and Red-shouldered Hawk-2. In addition, the Cerulean Warbler reported was found in VanCortlandt Park, not Central Park as listed. Finally, an unconfirmed report of a Baird's Sparrow on 13 Oct in VanCortlandt Park (details to NYSARC) was omitted.

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