

common thru period thru region. Cardinal: common thru period thru region. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: common thru period thru region. Indigo Bunting: common thru period thru region. Purple Finch: common thru period thru region. House Finch: common in Broome Co. thru period; absent in Chenango Co. In Oneonta a pair nested but left end of July (KW). Am. Goldfinch: common thru period thru region. Rufous-sided Towhee: common thru period thru region. Savannah Sparrow: common thru period thru region. Grasshopper Sparrow: 13 reports; seven Broome Co., two McDonough BBS, one Coventryville BBS, three Chenango Co. **HENSLOW'S SPARROW**: Banner year; five locations reported; in Broome Co. a definite search was undertaken with 35 sites carefully selected and studied; four of these produced Henslow's Sparrows. "At site 5, three singing males were observed. Two of these were seen with females. At site 29, two singing males were heard, one of which was observed. At site 30, one singing male was observed and at site 31 at least six singing males were heard, one of which was observed. A common characteristic of all four sites was 'pure or nearly pure herbaceous communities with long, unbroken view to the horizon'" (AP). The fifth location was found near Plymouth, Chenango Co. It was visited twice in July and twice in early Aug. A total of six singing males were heard. The habitat was "dry fields, for about 5 years not cut, poor quality hay, little Timothy, Bent and Orchard Grass, low blackberries and Virginia Creeper occasionally" (JL). Vesper Sparrow: 14 reports, nine OPM five Chenango Co. Dark-eyed Junco: 39 reports thru period thru region. Chipping Sparrow: common thru period thru region. Field Sparrow: common thru period thru region; of 71 banded Aug Vestal 67 were imm. White-throated Sparrow: 45 reports; three Broome Co.; 12 Chenango Co., one Coventryville BBS, six McDonough BBS, 23 OPM. Swamp Sparrow: 35 reports, thru period thru region. Song Sparrow: common thru period thru region; of 330 banded Aug Vestal 322 were imm.

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REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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Summer 1982 was more notable for ornithological events than for its weather. June and August both were cold. June was the eleventh coldest and twelfth wettest on record at Syracuse, with lows of 47° F on 12 and 27 June and rainfall almost one-and-a-half inches above average. July was generally more favorable even though temperatures were more extreme than in June. July rainfall was about three-quarters of an inch above average at Syracuse, but almost all of it came in storms on 7, 18 and 28 July. The net result was very dry conditions by the end of the month. August, the fourth coldest ever at Syracuse, had a low of 43° F on 28 August. The month also was quite dry, with nearly an inch less rainfall than average. The cool weather did not seem to affect plant life, insects or birds adversely. Fruit and berry crops were especially heavy, a notable contrast to last summer's failure.

Work on the Atlas was much intensified. As of this writing, data from about 170 blocks had been reported, with almost 50 contributors yet to report. Now there has been some work in at least one block of every square in the Region except one square in Cayuga Co. and several in remote Herkimer Co. Onondaga and Oswego Counties are approaching the point where some data is available from every block. This effort has begun to yield some surprises, the most notable of which is the rediscovery of nesting Prothonotary Warblers in the Region. In

addition, significant new localities for Cerulean and Pine Warblers were found north of Oneida Lake, and at least one Orchard Oriole and a Clay-colored Sparrow also turned up. The prize for effort spent in a block now goes to block 4177B south of Oneida Lake, where over 2100 man-hours of work were directed by Dr. John Confer! Needless to say, "adequate" coverage was achieved. A Prairie Warbler, strangely absent as a Regional nesting bird, was found on a Fish and Wildlife Service Breeding Bird Survey. At least three species were added to the list of confirmed Regional nesters this season, and about four were added to the total list of species encountered while atlasing in this Region.

The summer reporting season straddles both migration periods. A few late northbound shorebirds were found through mid-June, while the first southbound shorebirds appeared at the very end of that month. In spite of a general lack of habitat, most of the expected species had been found by the end of August, though numbers were unimpressive. Landbird migration was similarly complicated. Tennessee, Blackburnian, Bay-breasted and Blackpoll Warblers were noted informally in Syracuse during the first week of June, and southbound Yellow Warblers were conspicuous by early July. Almost all of our warblers, as well as many other landbird species, had been found as definite migrants by late August. In contrast, several June Atlas reports are difficult to interpret because they could have been straggling migrants. Birds like these probably will require high-level confirmation of nesting status, especially when they are marginal members of a Regional avifauna. This summer, Tennessee Warbler provides a particularly good example of this potential atlasing pitfall.

A total of 195 species plus one hybrid were reported this summer. Prothonotary Warbler and Clay-colored Sparrow were the only true rarities found, but other unusual species reported were: Great Egret, Whimbrel, Willet, Forster's Tern, Common Raven, Prairie Warbler and Orchard Oriole. Pine Siskin provided an unusual mid-summer, lowland record. While there was little change in the status of most species from last year, a surprising miss for the summer was Northern Parula. Yellow-breasted Chat apparently did not nest in the Region this year.

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Abbreviations: arr--fall arrival; BBS--breeding bird survey; last--last of the spring; LOL--Lake Ontario littoral; max--maximum(a); mob--multiple observers; NPT--northern Pompey township; Onon--Onondaga; SP--Sandy Pond, Oswego Co.; SVB--Sylvan-Verona Beach, Oneida Co.; Twp--township.

LOONS--DUCKS: Com. Loon: only reports from Adirondack lakes in Herkimer Co. Pied-billed Grebe: single SP on 4 Aug only report. Double-crested Cormorant: last Onon Lake on 1 June, arr LOL on 11 July, next on 12 Aug. Great Egret: one near Biddlecum, Oswego Co., on 13 June (MSR). Black-crowned Night Heron: 30 in Snake Swamp, Oswego Co., all summer, still not nesting (GM); single Clay Marsh on 10 July. Least Bittern: noted at Clay Marsh, Utica Marsh and SP, all traditional localities. Gadwall: arr SP 14 Aug. Pintail: single Onon Lake on 14 July, arr SVB on 29 Aug. Am. Wigeon: single Clay Marsh on 10 July. No. Shoveler: arr Onon Lake 28 July. Greater Scaup: last Onon Lake on 13 June. Com. Goldeneye: male in block 4986A (Herkimer Co.) on 11 June, a possible nesting bird. Hooded Merganser: arr LOL on 26 Aug. Com. Merganser: two McKeever BBS only report.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Red-shouldered Hawk: nest reported Rome sand plains, though the Atlas reveals it commoner in this Region than most observers suspect. Marsh Hawk: male near Oneida on 6 June only (*fide* DA); arr female SP on 22 July. Osprey: arr SVB on 29 Aug. Semipalmated Plover: arr SP on 20 July, max 12 at SVB on 27 Aug. Am. Golden Plover: arr (four) Biddlecum on 22 Aug. Black-bellied Plover: arr Onon Lake on 2 Aug but only two or three others noted. Ruddy Turnstone: arr Onon Lake on 15 July, about six reported. Upland Sandpiper: max 11 both near Bridgeport and Oneida in July. Whimbrel: one Pool's Brook Marsh, Onon Co., on 22 Aug (MSR). Willet: one briefly at Onon Lake on 17 Aug (GH). Greater Yellowlegs: last at Biddlecum 6 June, arr Tug Hill Plateau, Oswego Co., 15 Aug. Lesser Yellowlegs: arr Onon Lake on 30 June, max 38 there on 19 July. Solitary Sandpiper: arr (two) Redfield Twsp, Oswego Co., on 18 July, very few reported. Red Knot: arr SVB on 26 Aug. Pectoral Sandpiper: arr Onon Lake on 19 July, next and max seven there on 1 Aug. White-rumped Sandpiper: arr Onon Lake on 2 Aug, and three or four more reported are a better total than most recent summers. Baird's Sandpiper: adult arr Onon Lake on 6 Aug (FGS), all others seen being imm as is typical of the east coast. Least Sandpiper: arr (six) Onon Lake on 30 June, max 46 there on 18 July. Semipalmated Sandpiper: last (five) Onon Lake on 13 June, arr there 10 July, max 110 there on 28 July. Western Sandpiper: two/three per day Onon Lake after 27 Aug. Sanderling: arr Onon Lake on 18 July. Stilt Sandpiper: adult arr Onon Lake 23-28 July, then one SVB on 29 Aug, very scarce! Short-billed Dowitcher: arr Onon Lake on 10 July max 32 there on 18 July. Bonaparte's Gull: arr SP on 8 July, where very scarce this summer. Forster's Tern: one SP 12-16 Aug (DWC, JH, FGS). Caspian Tern: arr Onon Lake 30 July, max 20 there on 15 Aug. Black Tern: max seven SP in July.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Yellow-billed Cuckoo: only four reliable reports all summer. Black-billed Cuckoo: widespread and conspicuous through early August. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 15 Redfield Twsp on 18 July is from our center of abundance.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr Tug Hill Plateau on 15 Aug. Olive-sided Flycatcher: two very late town of Onon on 24 June (JH), arr LOL on 19 Aug. Bank Swallow: max 1100 SP on 7 Aug. Barn Swallow: max 800 SP on 28 Aug. Com. Raven: one Old Forge on 24 June (DWC, JH). Tufted Titmouse: fledged young at Baltimore Woods in July (*fide* MSR) and near Oneida (*fide* DWC) is a rare confirmed Regional nesting. Red-breasted Nuthatch: no migrants! Winter Wren: max eight Woods Lake Bog on 19 June. Short-billed Marsh Wren: town of Onon on 16 June (JH). Mockingbird: bred Kenwood, Oneida Co., (*fide* DKA), one of the few Regional nestings away from Syracuse. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: appeared less abundant but as widespread as last summer. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: only reported from known Adirondack breeding sites in Herkimer Co.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Philadelphia Vireo: one in block 4986C on 11 June (*fide* DWC) is possible new nesting species for Region. Black-and-white Warbler: arr (seven) SP on 31 July. **PROTHONOTARY WARBLER:** nest found Delta Lake 26 June to 11 July (DWC, mob), first confirmed nest in the Region since 1963 and at a new nesting locality for New York State; our colony at Oneida Lake disappeared shortly after 1968. Tennessee Warbler: adult and imm Redfield Twsp on 18 July would suggest nesting had not other imm been located in two improbable blocks within the next five days! Our record early arr is 12 July (two years). However, this site deserves more attention earlier in the season to establish the status of Tennessee Warbler in the Tug Hill Plateau. Nashville Warbler: arr SP on 31 July, but almost no other certain migrants. Yellow Warbler: max 62 SP on 7 Aug. Magnolia Warbler: arr SP on 26 Aug. Cape May Warbler: arr SP on 14 Aug. Black-throated Blue Warbler: male Tully Valley in June is surprisingly low altitude for summering bird; arr SP on 14 Aug. Black-throated Green Warbler: arr SP on 26 Aug. Cerulean Warbler: one near Panther Lake, Oswego Co., on 13 June is a new locality north of Oneida Lake; migrant reported 7 Aug. from Stone Road, Oswego Co. Blackburnian Warbler: arr SP on 14 Aug. Chestnut-sided Warbler: ditto. Bay-breasted Warbler: one in block 4986A on 10 June is a possible nester; arr 15 Aug. Tug Hill Plateau. Blackpoll Warbler: one in Block 4986A as above; arr SP on 28

Aug. Prairie Warbler: one Forestport on 18 June (FGS, MSR) is a rare summer report from this Region. Pine Warbler: male singing from mature White Pines at Panther Lake is a new summering locality north of Oneida Lake. No. Waterthrush: one SP on 7 Aug. is earliest report, sure to be a migrant. Hooded Warbler: proving more widespread than expected in Tug Hill Plateau. Wilson's Warbler: arr SP on 14 Aug.

WEAVERS-SPARROWS: Orchard Oriole: male NPT 2-9 June (DWC, mob); female at nest Camillus Valley on 20 June (FGS). Evening Grosbeak: fledged young at feeder in Eagle Bay adds a confirmed nester to the Regional Atlas. Pine Siskin: two with Am. Goldfinches in Syracuse on 16 July (PDeB) suggests that some birds which nest at low altitudes may over-summer there rather than move to high elevations (where renesting would be possible). Red Crossbill: two on Cicero Center BBS on 27 June (MSR) would be surprising were not this species' erratic wanderings so well known. Grasshopper Sparrow: nesting confirmed in three blocks this summer, the first for local Atlases. CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: singing male Redfield Twsp 4-8 July (FGS) is seventh Regional record. White-throated Sparrow: arr SP on 7 Aug, the only sure migrant reported.

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REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

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Summer is a difficult season to write about. Birding moves from breeding to mid-summer dispersal to molt to early migrants; many birders are preoccupied with the Atlas project, as well as their own peregrinations, and in the latter the Crowells are no exception.

June began with clear skies, but fledglings were assailed with wind and cold rains during the third week of the month. For June the mean monthly temperature was 62°F (40 to 84°F). Total precipitation was 2.02 in with nine rainy days. July was warm and dry: mean temperature 70°F (44° to 89°F); total rain 2.4 in. with 11 rainy days. August was colder and wetter: mean temperature 65°F (42° to 84°); total rain 3.1 in., with 9 rainy days.

Based on 60 days field work (21 June thru), Gerry Smith reported good shorebird flights with stronger movement of immatures than in 1981. All sightings from Eldorado Beach Preserve are his unless otherwise indicated. He also continued a survey of the nesting status of Common Tern colonies on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River, the results of which will be published separately. Joe Van Riet sent an interesting summary of seven years BBC at Coles Creek and writes, "CCC plantations of the 1930's bring us Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Hermit Thrush, Solitary Vireo, Magnolia, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian and Pine Warblers, and Broad-winged Hawks, Sharp-shinned Hawks and Goshawks. Flooding of some of these areas by beavers has increased puddle and diving ducks, grebes, Red-shouldered Hawks, Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, etc. Those CCC people, now in their 70's, never realized the fine habitat they gave us." Van Riet also summarized the number of Atlas blocks out of 30 (!) in which he has found each of 132 species during the past three years.