

Green Warbler: two Mt. Hope Cemetery 13 Oct. Blackburnian Warbler: one Chili 13 Oct. Pine Warbler: one DE 6 Sept, one IC (date not known), Bay-breasted Warbler: one IC 3 Oct. Blackpoll Warbler: one Webster 3 Oct. Black-and-white Warbler: one Webster 3 Oct. Am. Redstart: very late, one Penfield 24 Nov (DS). Ovenbird: one Seneca Park 11 Oct. Connecticut Warbler: one Greece 7 Sept. Com. Yellowthroat: two WL 3 Oct. Hooded Warbler: one Greece 14 Sept, one H 16 Sept. Yellow-breasted Chat: one Greece 9 Sept.

TANAGERS—HOUSE SPARROWS: Rufous-sided Towhee: two Mendon Ponds 14 Nov. Am. Tree Sparrow: very good numbers. Fox Sparrow: three reports during Nov. Lincoln's Sparrow: several reports of single birds. Lapland Longspur: three Carlton 24 Oct. Snow Bunting: good flights, but numbers smaller than recent years. Bobolink: last report, one Hogan Pt. 12 Oct. Rusty Blackbird: very good numbers, max 1,000 Greece 31 Oct. Pine Grosbeak: four Henrietta 14 Nov. House Finch: still expanding continuously and rapidly. Evening Grosbeak: minor flight.

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

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Fall 1982 brought generally fine weather with no frosts until after mid-October, and with many beautiful Indian summer days. November averaged three degrees F above normal at Ithaca. October was very dry, no snow until Thanksgiving and only a little then. The fine weather probably accounts for the many late sightings of passerines.

While most observers felt that warblers were scarce, S. F. Kahl hit the jackpot. On the evening of 31 August he heard the calls of many warblers migrating overhead. What he found the next morning at Venice in Cayuga County is tabulated in the main body of the report.

Seasonal positives: 1) a good Common Loon movement; 2) an amazing 180,000 Mallards at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge with excellent counts of most dabblers; 3) increasing reports of Turkey Vultures, Ospreys, Northern Harriers and accipiters. Northern Harriers were reported at a greater number of the Cornell seminars than any other raptor except Red-tailed Hawk and American Kestrel; 4) continued success of Wild Turkey both in increased numbers and spread of territory; 5) Eastern Bluebirds holding their gains; 6) a slight increase in Vesper Sparrow sightings suggests a glimmer of hope for this beleaguered species; 7) more Lincoln Sparrow reports than usual.

Seasonal negatives: 1) continuing signs of a decline in Red-tailed Hawk and American Kestrel numbers; 2) few Rough-legged Hawks except in the Elmira area where they were "all over" in November; 3) very low numbers of Common Moorhen; 4) continued scarcity of Horned Larks; 5) small numbers of migrating warblers; 6) Am. Tree Sparrows arriving late and in miniscule numbers; 7) no winter finches except for a few Purple Finches and Evening Grosbeaks.

Abbreviations: Cay—Cayuga; Co—County, L—Lake; max—maximum; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; Ow—Owasco; Schy—Schuyler; seminar—Laboratory of Ornithology Monday night seminars at Ithaca; Sen—Seneca; *(starred)—details on file.

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LOONS—DUCKS: Com. Loon: a good fall for this species. The summering birds on Sen L continued thru the fall. The earliest migrants were 11 at Long Point Park, Cay L 27 Sept; max on Cay L 44 at Aurora 31 Oct; up to three on Ow L early Oct; present Keuka L Oct and Nov; 20 south end Sen L 15 Nov. Pied-billed Grebe: scarce. Red-necked Grebe: Ithaca 19 Sept early. NO. GANNET: flying over Ithaca 30 Nov (Karen Confer)*. No previous Region 3 records. AM. WHITE PELICAN: the bird present at MNWR since early June was last seen 31 Oct. Double-crested Cormorant: the last of the birds which summered at MNWR was seen 23 Oct; one with a dangling line and fishhook appeared at Sapsucker Woods Sanctuary, Ithaca, in Sept. Am. Bittern: only reports were two from Penn Yan in Sept. Least Bittern: no reports. Great Blue Heron: up at Penn Yan; otherwise about normal. Great Egret: three at MNWR with last 18 Oct. Green-backed Heron: eight Ow Flats 5 Sept. Black-crowned Night-Heron: last one an imm at MNWR 31 Oct. Tundra Swan: four Cayuta L 6 Nov. Snow Goose: one white morph MNWR during Oct; one Phelps 19 Nov; two Sen L 30 Nov; one blue morph Union Springs 28 Oct. Brant: Cay L 2 Nov; 58 Ithaca and 120 at Sheldrake. Canada Goose: big flight day at Elmira 29 Sept extending into the night; thousands on the Finger Lakes and MNWR feeding on the surrounding farmlands.

Max waterfowl numbers at MNWR as reported by the MNWR personnel:

Geese			Ducks		
Canada	36,000	13 Oct.	Redhead	5,000	12 Nov.
Snow	3	21 Oct.	Ring-necked Duck	2,000	29 Oct.
Ducks			Greater Scaup	500	12 Nov.
Wood Duck	400	30 Sept.	Bufflehead	50	31 Oct.
Green-winged Teal	5,000	31 Oct.	Hooded Merganser	150	31 Oct.
Am. Black Duck	8,000	30 Nov.	No. Shoveler	4,500	20 Oct.
Mallard	180,000	30 Nov.	Gadwall	7,000	31 Oct.
No. Pintail	4,000	15 Nov.	Am. Wigeon	6,000	31 Oct.
Blue-winged Teal	250	10 Sept.	Com. Merganser	200	23 Nov.
Canvasback	2,000	9 Nov.	Ruddy Duck	30	31 Oct.

Wood Duck: up at Penn Yan. Am. Black Duck: four young too small to fly were seen near Big Flats 21 Nov—dig out the long Johns! Oldsquaw: Myers 25 Oct; Aurora 14 Nov. White-winged Scoter: MNWR 24 Oct; Aurora 14 Nov. Com. Goldeneye: first Cay L 15 Nov. Bufflehead: 20 Ow L 14 Nov. Com. Merganser: during July and Aug a molting male was seen on Cay L at Aurora. In the third week of Aug a molting female with three young, three-quarters grown, were found there and continued to be sighted thru 7 Oct (B. Mitchell *et al.*)*. Ruddy Duck: seven Eldridge L, Chemung Co. 5 Nov.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: more frequent and widespread reports thruout the region. Osprey: one Scipio 1 Sept; two MNWR thru Sept; one Watkins Glen 30 Sept-15 Oct; one Ithaca 3 Oct; one Camp Ditmer, Phelps 27 Oct; one Elmira 6 Nov. Bald Eagle: two Dryden L 6 Sept (D. Armstrong). No. Harrier: making a comeback in Yates Co; one Scipio 17 Oct; three Elmira 17 Nov. Sharp-shinned Hawk: reported at seven out of 11 seminars. Cooper's Hawk: up at Elmira; one Venice 24 Oct. No. Goshawk: one Watkins Glen 9 Nov; reported at Elmira. Red-shouldered Hawk: one MNWR 31 Oct (C. Melin). Broad-winged Hawk: one Watkins Glen 3 Sept. Rough-legged Hawk: first Elmira 7 Nov and frequent thereafter. Golden Eagle: one Dryden L 16 Nov (E. Krantz). Merlin: no reports. Peregrine Falcon: one MNWR 28 Sept (R. Lundface, Canada). Ring-necked Pheasant: Cay Co "few"; Ontario Co "still scarce"; Yates Co "almost gone" but up in Tompkins Co. Ruffed Grouse: at the bottom of the cycle in Cay Co but increasing in Yates Co. Wild Turkey: greater numbers and more locations; at least ten locations in Yates Co. Com. Moorhen: down drastically at MNWR and no reports elsewhere. Am. Coot: 500 MNWR 31 Oct and the usual small numbers on each of the Finger Lakes. Shorebirds: despite only small mudflat areas being available, most of the common shorebirds, but few rare ones, were reported. There was but

one report each of the following species: Black-bellied Plover; Lesser Golden-Plover; Solitary Sandpiper; Upland Sandpiper; one Venice 1 Sept late (SK); Ruddy Turnstone; Red Knot: MNWR 30 Sept (WB); Sanderling; Western Sandpiper: MNWR 20 Oct (WB); Baird's: Ithaca 27 and 31 Aug (Brann *et al.*); Stilt Sandpiper; Am. Woodcock; Red-necked Phalarope. Species with two to five reports were Semipalmated Plover; Greater Yellowlegs; Lesser Yellowlegs; Spotted Sandpiper; Semipalmated Sandpiper; Least Sandpiper; Pectoral Sandpiper; Dunlin; Short-billed Dowitcher. Killdeer, the most common of the region's shorebirds, was found thru the period with the max 43 at Ithaca 2 Nov. **LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL**: adult observed for 30 minutes at the Tompkins Co dump 13 Nov (J. Confer *et al.*). **GLAUCOUS GULL**: first year bird Ithaca 30 Nov. Caspian Tern: four MNWR 6 Sept. Com. Tern: reported at 13 Sept seminar.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: on 15 Nov up to 200 at Phelps were flying in a snow squall apparently quite disoriented. Barn Owl: one Ithaca 18 Sept (Disinger). E. Screech-Owl: reported at eight seminars. Great Horned Owl: numerous widespread reports would indicate this bird is doing well. Snowy Owl: no reports to the end of the period. Barred Owl: one Union Springs 14 Nov (Melin). Long-eared Owl: no reports. Short-eared Owl: no reports. Com. Nighthawk: migrating over Penn Yan 30 Aug-3 Sept with a max of 18 at one time; Elmira, as usual, remains the nighthawk migration center of the region. 250 were sighted there at 5 P.M. 1 Sept with another 100 circling the city at 7 P.M.; one late bird at Ithaca 4 Oct. Chimney Swift: one Ithaca 18 Oct late. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 15 Venice (SFK). Red-headed Woodpecker: imms at Phelps 31 Oct and Ithaca 18 Nov. Red-bellied Woodpecker: continues to spread in southern Ow Valley and with at least eight locations in Schy Co. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: a poor migration in most areas. Pileated Woodpecker: increasing Watkins Glen.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: one Elmira 1 Sept; one Ithaca 21 Sept. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: one banded Penn Yan 26 Sept (ML). **ACADIAN FLYCATCHER**: one Venice 1 Sept (SFK). Great Crested Flycatcher: one 4 Oct—late. Horned Lark: reported as scarce except in central Sen Co, a historical bastion of this species. Purple Martin: a few very late individuals in a flock of Tree Swallows at Phelps in mid-Oct. Bank Swallow: one MNWR 20 Oct late. **FISH CROW**: remained at Ithaca thru 8 Nov. Red-breasted Nuthatch: a very poor movement. Brown Creeper: a large movement in Cay Co late Nov. Carolina Wren: the only report outside of Ithaca was one at Montour Falls 23 Sept. House Wren: one north of MNWR 14 Oct late. Winter Wren: very scarce, being reported at only the 4 Oct and 1 Nov seminars; one Sen Co 24 Sept; one Elmira 15 Oct. Golden-crowned Kinglet: the general consensus from several observers is that this species is on the increase. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: increasing slowly. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: one Venice 1 Sept. E. Bluebird: widespread reports and the gains of the last two years are holding. Gray-cheeked Thrush: no reports. Swainson's Thrush: one Watkins Glen 5 Nov. late. Wood Thrush: one Ithaca Airport 20 Nov very late. Gray Catbird: Watkins Glen 3 Nov very late. Cedar Waxwing: up to 500 frequented the Ithaca College campus the first three weeks of Nov getting drunk on ornamental haw berries. Up to two dozen broke necks flying into plate glass windows. No. Shrike: one north of Ithaca 27-29 Nov. Loggerhead Shrike: no reports. European Starling: as abundant as ever or more so.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Vireos: White-eyed: one banded Ithaca 4 Oct (Gilbert and Kellog). Vireos and Warblers observed in two hours 1 Sept at Venice, Cay Co by S. F. Kahl:

Vireos		Warblers			
Yellow-throated	7	No. Parula	1	Blackburnian	15
Warbling	7	Chestnut-sided	1	Bay-breasted	14
Philadelphia	10	Magnolia	40	Blackpoll	1
Red-eyed	15	Cape May	110	Black-and-white	3
Warblers		Black-throated Blue	1	Am. Redstart	15
Tennessee	90	Yellow-rumped	1	Com. Yellowthroat	20
Nashville	5	Black-throated Green	20	Wilson's	1
				Canada	2

Warblers: Blue-winged: reported at 13 Sept seminar. Orange-crowned: one Elmira 11 Oct (Dick Clements). Yellow: last Venice 5 Sept. Yellow-rumped: 300 Venice 17 Oct. Ovenbird:

last reported at 27 Sept seminar. No. Waterthrush: last report seminar of 4 Oct. Connecticut: one banded Penn Yan 12 Sept (ML). Mourning: one banded Penn Yan (ML). Com. Yellowthroat: female Ithaca 21 Nov (B. Young). Hooded: one banded Penn Yan (ML). Warbler species missed during the period: Golden-winged; Pine; Prairie; Louisiana Waterthrush; Kentucky; Yellow-breasted Chat.

TANAGERS—HOUSE SPARROWS: Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 20 Venice 1 Sept. Indigo Bunting: 33 banded Penn Yan (ML). Am. Tree Sparrow: came very late and still very low numbers by the end of the period. Vesper Sparrow: reported at the 4 Oct seminar; 1 Scipio 28 Nov. Savannah Sparrow: 20 Venice 1 Sept. Grasshopper: reported at the 4 Oct seminar. Lincoln's Sparrow: Ithaca 4 and 18 Oct (JC); Elmira 22 Sept (WH); one Phelps 23, 27 Sept and 12 Oct (BH); seven banded Penn Yan (ML). White-throated Sparrow: good numbers in migration. White-crowned Sparrow: scarce in some areas. Snow Bunting: first Hammondsport 22 Oct; 100-150 Fayette 2 Nov; widespread reports of small flocks. Bobolink: 20 Venice 5 Sept. E. Meadowlark: scarce. No. Oriole: one late bird reported at the 15 Nov seminar. Brown-headed Cowbird: large flocks at Sen Falls during migration (HPK). Purple Finch: four Venice 10 Oct; 12 Varick 25 Oct; Schy Co Oct and Nov. House Finch: this exploding species is beginning to be regarded as a pest species by some who find that other small birds are being kept away from their feeders by the House Finches. Evening Grosbeak: first Ithaca 24 Sept; small numbers over most of the region by late Nov.

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REGION 4 – SUSQUEHANNA

HARRIET T. MARSI

After one of the wettest Junes on record, Region Four experienced a September and October so dry that a dangerous drought condition threatened. In September, Broome Co. received 1.8 inches of precipitation compared to an average 3.02 inches. In October 0.58 inches of rain fell compared to the normal rate of 2.46 inches for that month. In Oneonta, the reservoirs were so low that residents were asked to take water conservation measures. On 29 October divers there measured 12 feet of water over the reservoir intake valve. Two weeks later the city engineer estimated this down to about eight feet. The level of Chenango Lake, which feeds water to the two Norwich reservoirs, was also low. The regional fisheries manager of the Cortland Office of the DEC reported the Department keeping a watchful eye on the native trout population. In mid-November, the DEC issued a drought alert covering Region Four.

Fortunately conditions were somewhat alleviated on 31 Oct when Halloweeners were tricked by, and the rest of the population treated to, a gentle soaking rain measured as 0.41 of an inch by the National Weather Service at Broome County. This was followed on 5 November by the heaviest rainfall since June (1.73 inches) which soaked the dry countryside and somewhat revived shrunken streams. For the remainder of November precipitation was nearer to normal and weather headlines shifted to a second abnormal condition, i.e., much warmer than average temperatures. On 3 November, the National Weather Service in Broome County reported the "warmest November day ever recorded at Edwin A. Link Field" (77° F). This balmy condition continued all period, broken only occasionally. A large high pressure zone off the East Coast caused a steady flow