

REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

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The fall 1982 season was unusually mild. September and October were warm and dry, while November was exceptionally wet. The first killing frost came to Syracuse ten days late on 26 October, and no severely cold weather arrived until the third week of November. Snowfall was under three inches in Syracuse at the end of the season. Everywhere seed, cone and berry crops were exceptionally heavy, and there seemed little reason for wild birds to visit feeders. A prevalence of southerly winds in the early part of the season is why so few heavy migration days were reported. The best period was 26 September to 29 September, when a passing front left Syracuse dripping with migrants. Unfortunately no observers were able to exploit this grounding. After this date only small numbers of migrant warblers and vireos were found and most species had departed in early October. The generally mild weather no doubt is responsible for the very late reports of Olive-sided Flycatcher, Wood Thrush, Solitary and Red-eyed Vireo, Black-throated Blue Warbler and Bobolink obtained this season.

Gene Huggins reports a possible new fall hawk watch locality on the Tassel Hill ridge east of Waterville, Madison Co. He observed 73 raptors passing in less than three hours on 17 October. Elsewhere, wintering raptors were low in numbers and seldom persistent; no rodent outbreaks were evident. All winter incursive landbirds were either absent or low in numbers and late in arriving, so the coming winter looks to be a dull season. Swallows, Yellow-rumped Warbler, American Tree Sparrow and Dark-eyed Junco were notably scarce in observers' reports, and the latter two species likewise were at record lows in the October and November feeder surveys conducted by Ben Burtt. Not all species were so affected, as Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Golden-crowned Kinglet and Vesper Sparrow produced their best flights in recent years. Waterfowl numbers generally were unimpressive and diving ducks were outright scarce. Perhaps this is more due to the mild fall than to a population trend. Shorebirds were similarly reduced in numbers, though high arctic breeders seem to have been less affected than were low arctic species. Excepting Little Gull, there were almost no rarities in this usually productive family.

The event of the fall was the mid-October seabird incursion, which brought moderate numbers of Red Phalarope and jaegers, record numbers of Black-legged Kittiwake (boldfaced this season solely because of their numbers), and a first modern live regional alcid! Most of the flight was associated with the quick passage of cold fronts, and mild weather thereafter led observers to expect an end to the flight. However, a strong front just before Thanksgiving brought more phalaropes, jaegers and kittiwakes, and the first live Northern Gannet for our region. A fuller account of the flight is in preparation by F. G. Scheider. A total of 226 species plus one hybrid were reported this fall. A mid-September field trip to Woods Lake Bog produced all of our breeding boreal species except Three-toed Woodpecker. The great rarities of the season were Northern Gannet, Long-billed Dowitcher, Black-legged Kittiwake and Thick-billed Murre. A number of less exceptional rarities rounded out the season: Whimbrel, Hudsonian Godwit, Purple Sandpiper, Little Gull, Forster's Tern and Connecticut Warbler. Short-billed Dowitcher, Black-billed Cuckoo, and Northern Rough-winged Swallow were surprising misses this season.

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Abbreviations: arr—arrival; LSB—Little Sodus Bay and vicinity near Fairhaven, Cayuga Co; LOL—Lake Ontario littoral in Oswego Co.; max—maximum(a); mob—multiple observers; NYSARC—report of New York State Avian Records Committee; Onon—Onondaga; SP—Sandy Pond, Oswego Co.; SVB—Sylvan and Verona Beach, Oneida Co.; twsp—township.

LOONS—DUCKS: Red-throated Loon: arr SP 10 Oct, max nine LOL on 25 Nov. Com. Loon: arr Onon Lake 5 Sept, max 25 DH on 16 Oct. Pied-billed Grebe: to eight/day. Horned Grebe: arr Onon Lake 5 Oct, max 43 LSB on 31 Oct, low. Red-necked Grebe: one-three/day LOL 14 to 31 Oct. NORTHERN GANNET: imm DH 24 Nov (GW, NYSARC) and Oswego 28 Nov (DWC, NYSARC) is third regional record, first of a live bird. Double-crested Cormorant: new regional max 217 DH on 16 Oct. Am. Bittern: last DH 10-15 Oct is only report for Fall period. Green-backed Heron: last SP 30 Sept. Black-crowned Night-Heron: imm SP on 3 Sept. Tundra Swan: three SP on 11 Nov. Mute Swan: one LSB 24 Oct to 21 Nov. Snow Goose: ten white morph DH 10 Oct; one blue morph Sangerfield 17 Oct. Canada Goose: max 6,200 DH on 10 Oct. Brant: arr 185 DH on 21 Oct, max 1,400 LSB on 24 Oct and 950 DH on 7 Nov. Wood Duck: max 197 Peter Scott Swamp 18 Sept, last Sterling twsp 31 Oct. Green-winged Teal: max 30 Onon Lake on 1 Oct, last LSB on 21 Nov. Am. Black Duck: max 182 DH on 16 Oct. Mallard: max 314 LSB on 21 Nov. No. Pintail: max 250 DH on 21 Oct. Blue-winged Teal: max 45 SVB on 4 Sept. No. Shoveler: four reported 3 to 16 Oct. Gadwall: max 44 LSB mid-Oct to mid-Nov. Am. Wigeon: max 150 LOL on 28 Oct. Canvasback: arr DH on 16 Oct, max 14 LSB 8 Nov, very low. Redhead: arr DH 15 Oct, max 33 Beaver Lake on 31 Oct, low. Ring-necked Duck: arr Sterling 20 Sept, max 47 LSB 25 to 28 Oct, low. Greater Scaup: arr SP 15 Sept, max 2,350 DH on 15 Oct. Lesser Scaup: arr Onon Lake 2 Oct, max 25 LOL on 11 Nov. Oldsquaw: arr DH 16 Oct, max 188 DH 25 Nov, very low. Black Scoter: arr and max 70 DH 15 Oct. Surf Scoter: arr SP 3 Oct, max 377 SP on 15 Oct. White-winged Scoter: arr SP on 3 Sept, max 550 DH on 16 Oct. Com. Goldeneye: arr DH 16 Oct, max 151 LSB on 7 Nov, very low. Bufflehead: arr DH on 16 Oct, max 38 DH on 6 Nov, very low. Hooded Merganser: max 42 Beaver Lake on 21 Nov. Com. Merganser: arr SP 15 Sept, max 30 Beaver Lake on 21 Nov, low. Red-breasted Merganser: arr SP on 30 Sept, max 3,500 LOL on 4 Nov. Ruddy Duck: arr Beaver Lake 5 Oct, new regional max 328 there on 31 Oct (FGS).

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: last DH 23 Oct. Osprey: last Mexico Pt, Oswego Co 24 Oct. Bald Eagle: imm evidently untagged DH 21 Oct (GAS). No. Harrier: to three/day through 11 Nov. No. Goshawk: one LOL 11 Nov only report for fall. Red-shouldered Hawk: one SP on 17 Oct, only report. Broad-winged Hawk: last (three) town of Webb, Herkimer Co, 12 Sept. Rough-legged Hawk: arr SP 7 Oct, max six LOL on 30 Oct. Merlin: two reported mid-Sept. Peregrine Falcon: seven imms reported 17 Sept to 7 Oct. Virginia Rail: last Cay 1 Nov. Sora: last Amboy 8 Sept. Com. Moorhen: last SP 10 Oct. Am. Coot: max 82 LSB on 7 Nov. Lesser Golden-Plover: about eight reported through 28 Sept, scarce and early departure. Black-bellied Plover: last (two) SP on 8 Nov. Semipalmated Plover: max 20 SVB 11 Sept, last there 31 Oct. Killdeer: max 120 LOL on 9 Sept. Greater Yellowlegs: last SP 25 Nov. Lesser Yellowlegs: last Sterling twsp on 24 Oct. Solitary Sandpiper: one or two per day, last Three Rivers Game Management Area on 9 Oct (FGS) rather late. Spotted Sandpiper: last Onon Lake 26 Sept, early departure. Upland Sandpiper: last (five) Lakeport, Madison Co, 5 Sept (JH). Whimbrel: one SP 9 to 11 Sept (FGS). Hudsonian Godwit: 24 briefly at Onon Lake 15 Sept (FGS, JH), two near Caudenoy, Onon Co., ca. 10 to 15 Oct (mob). Ruddy Turnstone: to four/day, last SVB on 2 Nov. Red Knot: up to five SVB through 29 Sept. Sanderling: max 75 SP 21 Sept, last there 14 Nov. Semipalmated Sandpiper: last SVB 23 Oct (DKA), late. Western Sandpiper: three Onon Lake 1 Sept, two there the next day. Least Sandpiper: last SP on 14 Oct. White-rumped Sandpiper: about six reported through 8 Nov. Baird's Sandpiper: max 7 SP 3 Sept, last SP on 21 Oct. Pectoral Sandpiper: max only ten Onon Lake 5 Oct, last SVB on 8 Nov. Purple Sandpiper: one DH 24 Nov (GW) and two LSB 28 Nov (DWC). Dunlin: arr SP 9 Sept, max 103 DH on 21 Oct,

last LSB on 18 Nov. Stilt Sandpiper: only three reported, last SVB on 14 Oct. **LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER**: one by call SP 11 Sept (FGS), second report in last decade. Am. Woodcock: last SP on 6 Nov. Wilson's Phalarope: imms Onon Lake 1 to 4 Sept and 15 Sept, two Biddlecomb, Oswego Co 3 Oct (JH), record late. Red-necked Phalarope: one Onon Lake 7 Sept, another SP 16 Sept, five DH on 21 Oct. Red Phalarope: at least 13 reported LOL 17 Oct to 25 Nov, max 6 SP on 21 Oct. Pomarine Jaeger: four singles DH 15 Oct to 24 Nov. Parasitic Jaeger: total of 44 (plus three unidentified), most DH, 4 Oct to 24 Nov, max 21 on 15 Oct. Little Gull: adult SVB 4 Sept (FGS), adult and subadult SP 25 Sept to 3 Oct (mob), adult DH 10 to 15 Oct, and two adults, one subadult DH on 24 Nov (GW). Glaucous Gull: very late arr SP on 25 Nov, only report. **BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE**: unprecedented incursion—one SP 16 Sept, total of 132 DH and SP 10 Oct to 23 Oct, and 13 DH on 24 Nov (GW); the previous regional max was 15 in 1981. Com. Tern: max 550 SP on 16 Sept, last DH on 15 Oct. Forster's Tern: two SP on 30 Sept, three DH on 15 Oct. Caspian Tern: last SP on 30 Oct. Black Tern: five reported, last SP on 21 Sept. And yes, Virginia, there is a regional alcid! A **THICK-BILLED MURRE** landed off DH 21 Oct (FGS, JH, GAS, NYSARC)!

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Cucloos: none. Com. Nighthawk: last SP 5 Sept. Chimney Swift: last Sterling twsp 26 Sept. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: last DH 23 Sept. Red-headed Woodpecker: two reported. Red-bellied Woodpecker: 16 Sterling twsp on 26 Sept is new regional max. Yellowbellied Sapsucker: arr Syr 12 Sept, max 16 Sterling twsp on 26 Sept, last Boonville on 1 Nov best flight since 1977. No. Flicker: max 51 Sterling twsp on 26 Sept.

FLYCATCHERS—STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: three reported, last Syr on 9 Oct (MSR), very late. E. Wood-Pewee: last SP 30 Sept. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: last Sterling twsp 26 Sept. Willow Flycatcher: last Onon Lake 4 Sept. Least Flycatcher: last Clay 25 Sept. E. Phoebe: last Sterling twsp 24 Oct. Great Crested Flycatcher: last LOL on 11 Sept, early departure. E. Kingbird: last Onon Lake on 20 Sept. Horned Lark: max 30 SP on 30 Oct, rather low. Purple Martin: last SP 6 Sept, early departure. Tree Swallow: max 700 SP 16 Sept is very low, last LSB 14 Nov. Bank Swallow: last SP 16 Sept. Cliff Swallow: last SP 21 Sept, late. Barn Swallow: scarce, last SP 3 Oct. Blue Jay: max 300 Sterling twsp 26 Sept. Am. Crow: max 200 SP on 30 Oct. Black-capped Chickadee: max 150 DH on 28 Oct. Tufted Titmouse: max five Sterling twsp on 31 Oct, but not as common as last fall. Red-breasted Nuthatch: to six/day after 5 Sept, scarce but widespread. Brown Creeper: to ten/day after 9 Sept. House Wren: last Lysander 9 Oct. Winter Wren: to eight/day 6 Sept to 7 Nov. Marsh Wren: last Clay 19 Oct. Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr LOL 11 Sept, max 70 there on 15 Oct. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr SP on 11 Sept, max 31 there 15 Oct, last LSB and Holland Patent on 7 Nov, scarce. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: last LSB on 1 Oct. E. Bluebird: about 14 reported through 18 Nov. Veery: last LOL 11 Sept. Gray-cheeked Thrush: last LSB 1 Oct. Swainson's Thrush: ditto. Hermit Thrush: to 11/day 25 Sept to 24 Oct. Wood Thrush: last Clay 1 Oct, then one very late at Selkirk Shores State Park on 30 Oct (FGS). Am. Robin: max 300 LOL on 28 Oct. Gray Catbird: last Syr and DH on 19 Oct. Brown Thrasher: last Clay 30 Sept. Water Pipit: to 24/day after 5 Sept. No. Shrike: singles Beaver Lake 24 Oct and Clay 1 Nov.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: last (three) SVB 11 Oct, then one Holland Patent on 2 Nov (MS). Yellow-throated Vireo: last Sterling twsp 26 Sept. Warbling Vireo: last Clay 29 Sept. Philadelphia Vireo: to seven/day, last LOL 3 Oct. Red-eyed Vireo: last LOL 4 Oct, then one very late at Nine Mile Point on 7 Nov (FGS, MSR). "Brewster's" Warbler: two singles LOL 5 and 6 Sept. Tennessee Warbler: max 59 town of Webb on 12 Sept, last SP 3 Oct. Orange-crowned Warbler: only three reported 5 to 14 Oct. Nashville Warbler: last Sterling twsp 7 Oct. No. Parula: last SP 3 Oct. Yellow Warbler: last SP 11 Sept, early departure. Chestnut-sided Warbler: last Clay 25 Sept. Magnolia Warbler: max 41 Sterling twsp, last SP 11 Oct. Cape May Warbler: last Sterling twsp 26 Sept. Black-throated Blue Warbler: last Lysander 5 Oct, then a male Pompey twsp 2 Nov (DWC), record late by one day. Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 108 town of Webb 12 Sept (a nesting area) and 69 LOL on 9 Oct, last Holland Patent on 30 Nov, rather scarce. Black-throated Green Warbler: max 63 SVB on

17 Sept, last Lysander 9 Oct. Blackburnian Warbler: last Sterling twsp 26 Sept. Pine Warbler: four SVB on 17 Sept are a rare report of migrants away from LOL, last DH 23 Sept. Palm Warbler: eight reported 26 Sept to 2 Oct. Bay-breasted Warbler: max 43 SVB 17 Sept. last Sterling twsp 7 Oct. Blackpoll Warbler: last Sterling twsp 7 Oct. Black-and-white Warbler: last LSB 1 Oct. Am. Redstart: last SP 3 Oct. Ovenbird: last LSB 1 Oct. No. Waterthrush: last Sterling twsp 26 Sept. Connecticut Warbler: one SP 16 Sept (FGS, JH). Mourning Warbler: three reported (low), last Clay on 1 Oct. Com. Yellowthroat: last Sterling twsp 7 Oct, then singles Mexico Pt. 30 Oct and Clay 1 Nov. Hooded Warbler: new region max 15 Sterling twsp 3 Sept, last there 26 Sept. Wilson's Warbler: last SP 26 Sept. Canada Warbler: last SP 3 Sept.

TANAGERS—HOUSE SPARROWS: Scarlet Tanager: last Clay 9 Oct. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: last LSB 1 Oct. Indigo Bunting: last Lysander 2 Oct. Rufous-sided Towhee: last SVB 8 Nov. Am. Tree Sparrow: arr DH 28 Oct, scarce thereafter. Chipping Sparrow: last SP 21 Oct. Field Sparrow: last SP 30 Oct. Vesper Sparrow: arr LOL 4 Oct, max 15 Clay 7 Oct, last Clay 21 Oct, best flight since 1977. Savannah Sparrow: last LOL 22 Oct. Fox Sparrow: only one report away from DWC feeder. Song Sparrow: max 156 Sterling twsp 26 Sept. Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Onon Lake 11 Sept, max 11 Clay 24 Sept, last Clay 18 Oct. Swamp Sparrow: max 28 Clay 3 Oct, last there 1 Nov. White-throated Sparrow: max 350 Clay 28 Sept. White-crowned Sparrow: arr LOL 30 Sept, max 48 Lysander 7 Oct, last SP 30 Oct. Dark-eyed Junco: arr Syr 16 Sept, max 63 LSB on 1 Oct, very low. Lapland Longspur: six reported LOL after 3 Oct. Snow Bunting: arr DH 16 Sept. Bobolink: last 18 Oct Clay (FGS), record late (except a 1971 winter specimen). Red-winged Blackbird: max 3,000 Clay 3 Oct. E. Meadowlark: last Sterling twsp 24 Oct. Rusty Blackbird: arr 18 Sept, max 100 Clay 9 Oct. No. Oriole: last LOL 11 Sept. Purple Finch: arr SP 11 Sept. Am. Goldfinch: max 300 Sterling twsp 7 Oct. Evening Grosbeak: arr Sterling twsp 24 Oct, very few all fall.

Corrigenda to Kingbird Vol. 32: 202-205. No. Hawk-Owl: town of Ohio is in Herkimer Co. Redhead: date for max is 18 Mar, not 18 Apr. White-winged Scoter: 27 Oswego on 15 May in addition to birds reported. Com. Gallinule (Com. Moorhen): arr 25 Apr, not 25 Mar. Tree Swallow: arr 24 Mar, not 24 Apr. White-crowned Sparrow: arr 6 May, not 6 Apr.

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REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

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Perhaps due to the mild weather, there was a dearth of birds and birders. However, the few reports I received included a creditable complement of species (403) with encouraging representation of Blue Listed forms.

Temperatures were unusually warm and October was relatively dry; there was a good berry and mast crop. The first heavy frost occurred in Canton 23 October and the first and only snow (four inches) fell 6 November. Mean and extreme high and low temperatures (taken at the SUNY Canton ATC farm, as printed in *St. Lawrence Plaindealer*) were as follows: Sept—mean high 68° F (max 85°) mean low 48° (min 34°); Oct—high 58° F (max 72°), low 37° (min 20°); Nov—high 50° F (max 67°), low 35° (min 16°); Total precipitation was: Sept—3.78 in; Oct—1.9 in, one rainfall exceeding one inch; Nov—5.3 in, two rains exceeding one inch.

To summarize the fall migration: Canada Geese arrived 2 September, within one day of the arrival dates for the past two years; there was another good