

REGION 8 – HUDSON-MOHAWK

ED REILLY

March ambled in like the proverbial lamb after a very mild February and only snarled a bit on leaving. April denied the promises of March by being generally wet, cloudy, and cool, even thrusting late frosts and snowstorms over the Region. According to the weatherman we had the wettest April in 125 years. April showers brought May showers, the wettest May since 1972 and more than 4.6 times as much rain as we experienced last year. Rain in the period March to 31 May totalled nearly 15 inches, streams and water tables were filled and there was considerable flooding. Winds of more than 20 mph were recorded on two days but averaged about eight or nine mph through the period in which we also had frost on 6, 12, 17 and 28 May. Weatherwise, a poor spring. The worst spring (and summer) on record was in the year 1816 when ice and frost were recorded in Maine up to mid-July. We have no records of birds' arrivals for 1816, but spring migration this year was confused, confusing, and somewhat erratic. Cloudy, rainy, and cool weather persisted right to the last day of May.

Those species whose migratory movements are governed more by the amounts and accessibility of foods, that move northward snapping at the heels of winter, may have suffered with the sudden reversals when snow, ice, and wintry blasts returned for varying periods. Perhaps the confusion was forecast when a Killdeer was sighted flying across I90 during a windy snow flurry on 17 Feb, as early as I've ever seen them, after days of relatively balmy weather. Eastern Phoebe, which usually arrive here when the breaking of the ice on the streams releases swarms of stoneflies and other aquatic insects into the air from their watery nymphal stages, were not reported until 19 April by Tom Palmer and elsewhere, not until May. My own observations indicate that the phoebes' population is low, at least in this area. House Wrens are still not as abundant as they were some ten years ago. Scanning the Region Eight reports back to the spring of 1954 when we first began using the present geographical boundaries, we find almost all the changes are due to variations in the weather patterns, or perhaps fewer observers covering a somewhat smaller area. Some birds are extending their ranges farther north and some are faced with declining populations or environmental changes. The increase in the numbers of observers means more areas are covered more completely by better equipped and perhaps more knowledgeable birders, which means that better statistics are available to protect those birds which need it and lend much more credence to those statements made to the general public and to legislative bodies.

Craig Thompson reported two interesting single birds which appeared at his feeder: an example of *Junco hyemalis oreganus* which used to be called the Oregon Junco (and still is) before it was recognized as conspecific with the Dark-eyed Junco; this bird was also seen by R. Budliger. Of even more interest was a xanthochroid Evening Grosbeak, a grosbeak lacking dark pigment in its plumage, making it appear almost entirely yellow. Craig advertised the grosbeak in the *Ravena Press Herald* and several residents of Coeymans Hollow responded when they saw the bird at their feeder. The "Oregon Junco" was noted from 1/30/83-3/30/83 and the xanthochroid Evening Grosbeak from 2/10/83-3/8/83. Such individual birds allow birders the chance of observing local movements, telling how

far such birds move in a single day or in a short period of time. Since xanthochroidism is usually genetically fixed, it will be interesting to note if any progeny with at least partial xanthochroidism appear in the area in the year to follow.

We hope this summer and the years that follow will bring great birding. Remember, if you find evidence of any species breeding within the boundaries of the State of New York you will send us the details: dates, exact locality (geographically), description of nest and its location (if seen), eggs, young, and any other details, so that we may make sure it reaches the Birding Atlas. Please do not assume others may have reported it.

Abbreviations: CR—Century Run (followed by date 14 May or 21 May and number of groups reporting the species); HR—Hudson River somewhere between Hudson and Albany.

Observers: Vi & Bill Able, Roberta Bernstein, Belinda Bingham, Fran Bogausch, Arlene & Tom Brown, Burrell Buffington, Janet Carroll, Bill Cleveland, Charles Cobb, Juanita Cook, Bill Cook, Mike Crevier, Sandy Custer, Rena Dodd, Kate Dunham, N. & M. Fancher, Peter Feinberg, Barbara & Hugo Gardina, Carl George, Elisabeth Grace, W. & Monte Gruett, Andrew & Richard Guthrie, Becky Halberton, Peter Hunt, C. W. Huntley, M. Kuhrt, Betty Laros, J. Loughner, Sam Madison, Dana Mather, Robert McCullough, Tom Palmer, Walt Sabin, Shirley & A. Schadow, Henry Stebbins, Emmy Thomee, Craig Thompson, Marion & Bill Ulmer, Robert Yunick.

LOONS—DUCKS: Com. Loon: two Vosburgh Marsh 2 Apr; one L Taghkanic 24 Apr; CR 14 one Queechy Lake; CR 21 one Alcove Res. Horned Grebe: one HR 19 May. Pied-billed Grebe: two at Castleton 27 and 29 May, one at Bear Swamp, Carlisle 21 May. Double-crested Cormorant: CR Cocksackie 21 May, Embough Bay 7 May, three HR 24 Apr, three HR 20 May. Am. Bittern: one HR 3 May, one Copake 11 May; one Black Creek Marsh CR 21 May. Least Bittern: one Copake 20 May; one CR Black Creek Marsh 21 May. Great Blue Heron: HR Mar 26; one Central Bridge 12 Apr; one Elizaville 1 May; one Ancramdale 19 May; two Copake 25 May; CR six+ 21 May. Great Egret: one Old Chatham 20 May. Snowy Egret: one at Vischer's Ferry by Madison and Sabin CR 21 May. Green-backed Heron: one 29 Apr HR; one at Old Chatham 30 Apr; one Claverack 8 May; one Ancramdale 19 May; one CR 21 May. Tundra Swan: two Cocksackie 19 Mar. Snow Goose: several at Castleton HR 14 Mar; 85 headed south at Castleton, HR 4 Apr. Canada Goose: four Vosburgh Marsh 2 Apr; several downy young at Churchtown 8 May; Central Bridge 22 Apr; two at Central Bridge on Mohawk River 17 Mar; CR (5) 21 May; two Copake 25 May. Wood Duck: four Vosburgh Marsh 2 Apr; four HR 13 Apr; CR (6) 21 May; two Copake 11 May; several HR Mar 26. Green-winged Teal: four Vosburgh Marsh 2 Apr. Brant: reported by two parties CR 21 May. Am. Black Duck: earliest report four at Stockport, HR 26 Mar; all but one party reported them CR 14 and 21. Mallard: several at Stockport, HR 26 Mar; by all parties CR 14 and 21. N. Pintail: one reported at Stockport, HR 26 Mar. Blue-winged Teal: seen at Castleton 6 & 31 Mar; four Vosburgh Marsh 2 Apr. Am. Wigeon: seen HR 2 & 13 Apr and 3, 27 & 29 May. Canvasback: seen HR 3 Mar; and 2,000+ at Clermont 14 Mar. Redhead: seen HR 5 Mar; one HR Germantown 7 Apr; and by one party (Madison and Sabin) on CR 21 May. Ring-necked Duck: seen HR 3 & 5 Mar; eight at Cocksackie 20 Mar; and by one party on CR 21 May. Greater Scaup: reported on HR 5 & 26 Mar; 50 on HR at Germantown 7 Apr; and on CR by three parties 21 May. Lesser Scaup: ten at Cocksackie 20 Mar; one at Stockport 26 Mar. White-winged Scoter: Douglas Allen and Michael DiGiorgio reported one on 22 May in the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club area. Com. Goldeneye: reported on HR 5 and 26 Mar at Stockport. Bufflehead: reported but once on HR 26 Mar. Hooded Merganser: two males and one female were reported 11 Mar by Tom Palmer and on HR they were reported 5 Mar; and more or less continuously 13-22 Mar. Com. Merganser: 30 reported on Mohawk River on 3 Mar (8); on 11 Mar (30); and on 17 Mar (6); all by Tom Palmer, 20 were at Stockport (HR) 26 Mar and several 5 Mar; they were also reported at Schoharie Creek, Central Bridge and others in May by Bill Cleveland; Yunick reported 13 on Saratoga Lake 19 Mar. and two on Jenny Lake 9 Apr.

HAWKS—ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: the earliest was reported on HR 14 Mar; intermittently in Col Co to 31 May. Osprey: one reported Lake Taghkanic 29 Apr., others 1-14 May HR, Ghent, Old Chatham. N. Harrier: seen HR, Castleton 3, 17, 24 & 30 Mar; Vosburgh Marsh 2 Apr; Cocksackie 30 Apr; Esperance 18 Apr; and CR 21 May; HR 1-14 May. Sharp-shinned Hawk: seen intermittently at Ghent, Old Chatham, Castleton, 1-20 Mar; 4-26 Apr; also at Castleton 26-29 May; Claverack 16 May; Vosburgh's Marsh 2 Apr. Cooper's Hawk: seen at Ghent, Castleton, Kinderhook 6 & 12 Mar; and at Old Chatham 9 and 18 Apr; one banded at Vischer's Ferry 13 May. N. Goshawk: one seen near HR 26 Mar; another 14 May. Red-shouldered Hawk: one near HR 26 Mar; one Alcoa Res CR 21 May, four at Clermont 27 Apr. Broad-winged Hawk: reported 9 Apr at Jenny Lake, later a pair exhibiting territorial behavior 14 & 15 May; 22 Apr at Kinderhook; one at Lake Taghkanic 29 Apr; another at Old Chatham 30 Apr; an imm was seen in Gallatinville 18 May; seen CR 21 May and in Old Chatham 20, 24 & 25 May; and at Central Bridge 7 May. Red-tailed Hawk: two at HR 26 Mar, three at Vosburgh's Marsh 2 Apr; CR 14 & 21 May by most parties. Rough-legged Hawk: along HR and at Castleton 3, 17, 24, & 30 Mar; one late at Castleton 29 Apr. Am. Kestrel: a female reported at Florida and then for remainder of period 6 Mar-31 May; reported intermittently by birders in remainder of Region Eight. Merlin: a banded adult female was seen in Yunick's yard 26 Apr. Ring-necked Pheasant: seen Castleton 4-27 Apr; one Elizaville 1 May; Churchtown 8 May. Ruffed Grouse: one near HR 26 Mar; Churchtown 8 May; one Jenny Lake 22 May; at Central Bridge throughout Mar, Apr, May; CR 21 May by most parties; population seems low. Wild Turkey: single birds and small flocks reported Spencertown and Old Chatham 5 & 14-30 Mar, and from same places and East Greenbush 9-29 Apr; Churchtown 8 May. N. Bobwhite: seen by only two groups CR 21 May. Virginia Rail: reported one HR 12 May; two Ancramdale 19 May; one Claverack 24 May; and by five groups CR 21 May. Sora: three, one nesting, Ancramdale 19 May; one Claverack 24 May; CR by four groups 21 May. Com. Moorhen: reported by five parties CR 21 May and one seen at Copake 25 May. Killdeer: Old Chatham, Spencertown, HR 6, 19-28 Mar; Hudson 15 Mar; nest with eggs Lindenwald (Kinderhook) and at Blue Stores 22 May; downy young at Copake 26 May; present through most of area Apr-May. Greater Yellowlegs: one CR 14 May; reported by one group CR 21 May; one Livingston 22 May. Lesser Yellowlegs: one reported CR 14 May. Solitary Sandpiper: one Ghent 28 Apr; one Claverack 3 May; seen intermittently 1-23 May at Ghent and Old Chatham; by two groups CR 21 May; several CR 14 May. Spotted Sandpiper: HR 21-24 and 28 Apr; two Lake Taghkanic 29 Apr; HR, Nassau, and Ghent 1, 5, 12, 14 May; CR 21 May and 14 May. Upland Sandpiper: Montgomery Co CR 21 May. Semipalmated Sandpiper: one CR, HR 14 May. Pectoral Sandpiper: one CR 21 May. Com. Snipe: one Ghent 28 Apr; 1 May; CR 21 May. Am. Woodcock: Muitzeskill, Spencertown, Ghent 4, 17, 21 Mar; Muitzeskill 15 Apr; Muitzeskill, Old Chatham 12, 14, 15 May; CR 21 May, female with three young at Copake 25 May. Bonaparte's Gull: at Saratoga Lake CR 21 May. Least Sandpiper: CR on HR 14 May; CR 21 May by three parties; three at Livingston 22 May. Ring-billed Gull: several HR 5 & 26 Mar; c. 100 Cocksackie 20 Mar; two Stockport 26 Mar; c. 300 Claverack 25-28 Mar; CR 21 May; HR 30-31 May. Herring Gull: HR 1-31 Mar; 50 Cocksackie 20 Mar. Great Black-backed Gull: two at Stockport 26 Mar; HR 1-30 Apr; CR 21 May by three groups; HR 21, 30 May. Com. Tern: CR at Saratoga Lake 21 May. Black Tern: CR by one party 21 May.

PIGEONS—WOODPECKERS: Rock Dove: reported in Region throughout period. Mourning Dove: 11 Ghent 26 Mar; generally reported throughout Columbia Co entire period. Black-billed Cuckoo: CR 14 and 21 May. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: CR 14 and 21 May. E. Screech-Owl: two Snyderville 5 May; CR 21 May; one Claverack 23 May; Castleton, Ghent, Old Chatham 14, 25, 28 May. Great Horned Owl: at Ghent and Old Chatham 5, 6, 17 Mar; two young in nest Claverack 12 May; CR, 21 May; Hudson and Old Chatham 13-28 May. Barred Owl: Old Chatham 14 May; one heard Hillsdale 16 May; CR by four groups 21 May. Com. Nighthawk: CR by three parties 21 May; ten at Copake 25 May; Ghent and Hudson 28-30 May. Whip-poor-will: one Snyderville 4 May; CR by one party 21 May. Chimney Swift: seen at Central Bridge 24 Apr; at Ghent, Hudson, Old Chatham 29-30 Apr; mating at Gallatinville 18 May; CR at Old Chatham 14 May and by all seven groups 21 May. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: CR 14 May; and by five parties 21 May; Central Bridge 15

May; one Hollowville 16 May. Belted Kingfisher: reported 18 Mar. at Old Chatham; 7 Apr at Cobleskill; one at Claverack 29 Apr; one Elizaville 1 May; CR Columbia Co 14 May and five parties 21 May. Red-headed Woodpecker: at Coxsackie Flats Apr-May; CR 14 May and by one party 21 May. Red-bellied Woodpecker: at Hudson 14 Mar; at Ghent 11 May; Clermont State Park 3 May; one Gallatinville 18 May; one Ancramdale 19 May; two nest-building at Copake 11 May; CR 14 and 21 May. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: one seen Hudson CR 14 May. Downy Woodpecker: seen throughout period, five banded 26 Mar. Hairy Woodpecker: generally throughout area and period; one banded Powell Sanctuary 26 Mar; CR 14 and 21 May. N. Flicker: reported from Ghent and Hudson 6, 8-31 Mar; Taghkanic 16-29 Apr; CR 14 May and by all seven parties 21 May. Pileated Woodpecker: seen in Hudson and Canaan 16-28 Mar; one Claverack 16 May; CR 14 May and by four parties 21 May.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: E. Wood-Pewee: seen Old Chatham, Castleton 14-31 May; Claverack 23 May; CR 14 May and by five groups 21 May. Alder Flycatcher: Copake 26 May. Willow Flycatcher: Ghent 29 Apr and 1-28 May; CR by three parties 21 May. Least Flycatcher: reported Old Chatham 8, 14 May; Gallatinville 18 May; CR by all parties 21 May. E. Phoebe: Ghent 4 Apr, Central Bridge 7 May; Ghent, Castleton, Old Chatham 1-14 May; nesting at Gallatinville 18 May; CR by all parties 21 May. Great Crested Flycatcher: at Churchtown 8 May; Central Bridge 3 May; Old Chatham 14 May (CR); CR seven parties 21 May. E. Kingbird: seen Kinderhook 29-30 Apr; Central Bridge 7 May; Snyderville 4 May; CR by all parties 14 & 21 May. Horned Lark: reported from Ghent, Kinderhook, Castleton 1 & 6 Mar, and 20-30 Apr; Copake 25 May; CR by two groups 21 May. Purple Martin: at Kinderhook 9 & 14 May; CR by three parties 21 May. Tree Swallow: Central Bridge 2 Apr; Lake Taghkanic 29 Apr; CR all parties 14 & 21 May. N. Rough-winged Swallow: in Hudson 27 Apr; Howes Cave 7 May; Hudson 21-30 May; nesting in sandbank at Copake 26 May; CR by six groups 21 May. Bank Swallow: Copake 11 May; Old Chatham, Nassau, Ghent CR 14 May; Ancramdale 19 May; CR by six parties 21 May. Cliff Swallow: Castleton, Ghent, East Nassau 14-31 May; one Copake 20 May; CR by three parties 21 May. Barn Swallow: Ghent 24 Apr; Central Bridge 4 May; Lake Taghkanic 29 Apr; CR 14 May all parties, 21 May six parties. Blue Jay: reported throughout Region Mar-May and by all parties on both CRs 14 & 21 May. Am. Crow: over Region throughout period and on both CRs no unusual numbers. Fish Crow: HR 4-30 Apr and CR four on HR near Castleton. Com. Raven: one reported by E. Mansell of Spencertown and also by Jack Shea from National Wildlife at Spencertown on 5 May will need further verification to be accepted according to the rules; the species is apparently making a comeback in the northeast. Black-capped Chickadee: throughout season and Region, 61 banded at Powell Sanctuary 26 Mar. Tufted Titmouse: apparently now a regular resident species in Region Eight at least as far north as the Mohawk Valley, found nesting at Clermont State Park 3 May. Red-breasted Nuthatch: one Powell Sanctuary 26 Mar and reported there 1 & 14 May; CR seen by five parties 21 May. White-breasted Nuthatch: present throughout Mar-May and reported by all parties in both CRs 14 and 21 May. Brown Creeper: reported in Castleton, Canaan, Old Chatham 1-31 Mar; singing Powell Sanctuary 26 Mar; one Taghkanic 30 Apr; in Columbia Co 1-31 May and on CR 14 May and 21 May by five groups. House Wren: present at Spencertown 30 Apr; nesting Elizaville 1 May and Churchtown 8 May; Columbia Co 1-31 May and reported by all parties in CRs 14 and 21 May. Winter Wren: at Schoharie 13 May; Hillsdale and Old Chatham 14 May; CR by three groups 21 May. Sedge Wren: reported at Black Creek during CR 21 May. Marsh Wren: at Castleton 14, 29, 30 May and on CR by four parties 21 May. Golden-crowned Kinglet: at Castleton 7 Mar; at Old Chatham 1, 2 May; Central Bridge 21 Apr; CR 14 May and by a single group 21 May. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: at Hudson, Castleton, Ghent 20 Mar; Central Bridge 22 Apr; Lake Taghkanic 29 Apr; Ghent 1-7 May; and by one group CR 21 May. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: two at Clermont 3 May; two at Gallatinville 18 May; one Ancramdale 19 May; and reported at Central Bridge 4 May; three groups reported it CR 21 May; and at Castleton 14, 25-30 May. E. Bluebird: at Hudson, Old Chatham, Spencertown 3-9 Apr and 1-31 May; nesting at Copake 25 May; CR most groups 14 May and six groups 21 May. Veery: at Castleton, Hudson, East Nassau 3-29 May; Claverack and Seward 21 May; Copake Falls 17 May; one Gallatinville 18 May; CR by six groups 21 May. Gray-cheeked Thrush: at Hudson 23 Apr; the only report. Swainson's Thrush: two at Copake 11 May, one singing

25 May; at Old Chatham 21 May; reported by two parties CR 21 May. Hermit Thrush: at Central Bridge 21 Apr; Castleton 7, 10, 13, 14 May; one Churchtown 8 May; two Copake Falls 17 May; CR by two groups 21 May. Wood Thrush: Hudson, Muitzeskill, Old Chatham 3-31 May; two Snyderville 4 May; Schoharie 13 May; by all seven groups CR 21 May. Am. Robin: at Central Bridge Mar-May; at Florida, Montgomery Co 11, 13, 17 Mar to 31 May; seven at Powell Sanctuary 26 Mar; albinistic male holding territory at Germantown 4-10 Apr; all parties on CRs 14 and 21 May; very common everywhere. Gray Catbird: Central Bridge 3-31 May; about the same elsewhere in Region, but arrived later than usual and in smaller numbers; CRs by all parties both 14 & 21 May. N. Mockingbird: Lake Taghkanic 18 Apr; n. Columbia Co present Mar-May; Guilderland 30 Apr; CRs all parties 14 May, four parties 21 May; Brown Thrasher: Old Chatham 1 May; Central Bridge 2 May; one Claverack 3 May; one Snyderville 4 May; CRs two parties 14 May, five parties 21 May; numbers seem low. Water Pipit: one Cossackie Flats 30 Apr; CR four Langley Rd., Montgomery Co, 21 May. Cedar Waxwing: one Stockport 26 Mar; Spencertown 22, 23 Mar; ten Copake 25 May; Old Chatham, Ghent, Hudson 1-31 May. European Starling: present in Region Mar-May.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: one Spencertown 27 Apr; one Saratoga Springs 4 May; Copake 11 May; Ancramdale 19 May; CR 14 May and by six parties 21 May. Yellow-throated Vireo: CR 14 May; CR 21 May by five parties; Copake 25 May. Warbling Vireo: Snyderville 4 May; Claverack 10 May; Gallatinville 18 May; Copake 25 May; Ancramdale 19 May; CR 14 May and by six parties 21 May. Red-eyed Vireo: Snyderville 4 May; Claverack 10 May; Martindale 16 May; Copake 20-25 May; Old Chatham, Kinderhook, Hudson 14, 21, 27, 29 May; CR by six parties 21 May. Blue-winged Warbler: at Elizaville 1 May; Clermont 3 May; Gallatinville 18 May; Churchtown 8 May; Martindale 16 May; Copake Falls 17 May; Copake 25 May; CR two parties 14 May and six groups 21 May. Golden-winged Warbler: New Baltimore 20 May; Castleton 28, 30 May; CR by three parties 21 May. Tennessee Warbler: Spencertown 14, 16 May; CR by four groups 21 May. Nashville Warbler: at Central Bridge 7 May; Castleton 14, 25, 29 May; two at Copake Falls 17 May; Ancramdale 19 May; CR by five parties 21 May. N. Parula: at Schoharie 13 May; CR by one party 14 May; and by one party 21 May. Yellow Warbler: Elizaville 1 May; Snyderville 4 May; Hudson 12 May; Claverack 23 May; Gallatinville 18 May; Martindale 16 May; Copake Falls 17 May; Copake 25 May; CRs by almost all parties 14 & 21 May. Chestnut-sided Warbler: Clermont 3 May; Hudson 12 May; Schoharie 13 May; Gallatinville 18 May; Martindale 16 May; Copake Falls 17 May; Claverack 23 May; Copake 25 May; CR 14 May and by six groups 21 May. Magnolia Warbler: Castleton, Old Chatham 1-31 May intermittently; Copake 20 May; CR by two groups 21 May. Cape May Warbler: Muitzeskill, Castleton 11-31 May; at Schoharie 13 May; CR by four parties 21 May. Black-throated Blue Warbler: Hudson, Chatham, Castleton 29-30 Apr; Old Chatham 8, 11, 12, 14 May; Copake 11 May; Gallatinville 18 May CR by four parties 21 May. Yellow-rumped Warbler: at Central Bridge 18 Mar. through Apr and May; Churchtown 8 May; Martindale 16 May; Gallatinville 18 May; both CRs by all groups. Black-throated Green Warbler: at Hudson 30 Apr; Central Bridge 3 May; Castleton 14 May; Gallatinville 18 May; Claverack 23 May; CRs most groups 14 & 21 May. Blackburnian Warbler: at Central Bridge 3 May; Muitzeskill, Castleton 8-25 May; Martindale 16 May; Copake Falls 17 May; CRs two groups 14 May and six groups 21 May. Pine Warbler: Clermont 3 May; CR by two groups 21 May. Prairie Warbler: Hudson, Old Chatham 1-26 May; Clermont 3 May; Elizaville 1 May; Churchtown 8 May; Copake Falls 17 May; Claverack 23 May; Copake 25 May; CR by four parties 21 May. Palm Warbler: Central Bridge 27 Apr; Spencertown, Hudson 27-30 Apr; Castleton 14, 20, 21 May. Bay-breasted Warbler: Castleton 14, 23-25 May; Sharon 21 May; Gallatinville 18 May; CR five groups 21 May. Blackpoll Warbler: Central Bridge 18 May; Castleton, Hudson 22-31 May; Copake 25 May; CR by four groups 21 May. Cerulean Warbler: Schoharie 13 May; CR n. Schoharie Co. 21 May. Black-and-white Warbler: at Old Chatham, Hudson 29-30 May; Central Bridge 3 May; Snyderville 4 May; Churchtown 8 May; Gallatinville 18 May; Copake 25 May; CR by four parties 21 May. Am. Redstart: Old Chatham 1-31 May; Central Bridge 3 May; Snyderville 4 May; Churchtown 8 May; Copake Falls 17 May; Gallatinville 18 May; Copake 25 May; CR by six parties 21 May. Worm-eating Warbler: on CR by two parties 21 May. Ovenbird: at Clermont and Central Bridge 3 May; East Nassau, Hudson 8, 11, 14 May; Churchtown 8 May; Martindale 16 May;

Copake Falls 17 May; Gallatinville 18 May; Claverack 23 May; Copake 25 May; CR by six parties 21 May. N. Waterthrush: at Ghent 1 May; Spencertown 27 Apr; four at Copake, two on territories, 11 May; Hudson 12 May; Copake Falls 17 May; CRs by one party 14 May, six parties 21 May; Louisiana Waterthrush: at Churchtown 8 May; Hudson 11, 14 May; Martindale 16 May; Copake Falls 17 May; Gallatinville 18 May; CR by five parties 21 May. Connecticut Warbler: reported by one party on CR 14 May. Mourning Warbler: reported by one party at Palmer's Ravine, town of Florida 21 May. Com. Yellowthroat: at Old Chatham 1 May; Clermont, Central Bridge 3 May; Snyderville 4 May; Churchtown 8 May; Hudson 12 May; Martindale 16 May; Copake Falls 17 May; Gallatinville 18 May; Claverack 23 May; Copake 25 May; CR by all seven parties 21 May and a total of 35 banded at Vischer's Ferry. Wilson's Warbler: at Castleton 14, 23-25 May; CR by one party at Langley Rd., town of Florida, 21 May. Canada Warbler: at Copake 11 May; Old Chatham 14, 19 May; CR by five parties 21 May.

TANAGERS—WEAVERS: Scarlet Tanager: at Old Chatham 3 May; Schoharie 13 May; CR by six parties 21 May. N. Cardinal: reported more or less through Region during period and by all parties on CRs. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: at Olana 4 May; Central Bridge 7 May; CR by all parties 14 May, by all parties 21 May. Indigo Bunting: at Schoharie 13 May; CR by three parties 14 May; two at Lindenwald 15 May; CR by three parties 21 May. Dickcissel: one visited a feeder at North Chatham for at least ten days before called to attention of ADBC and confirmed 21 Apr. Rufous-sided Towhee: at Old Chatham, Hudson 28-30 Apr; Central Bridge 2 May; CR by six groups 21 May; population down. Am. Tree Sparrow: reported in Region through Mar. and at Old Chatham 17 Apr. Chipping Sparrow: at Central Bridge 22 Apr; Lake Taghkanic 29 Apr; Chatham from 1 May on; CRs reported by all parties 14 and 21 May. Field Sparrow: reported at Chatham and Kinderhook intermittently 1-27 Mar???; Churchtown, mating, 11 May; CRs by three parties 14 May and by six 21 May. Vesper Sparrow: at Ghent 14 Apr; Kinderhook 1-28 May; at Schoharie 21 May; CR by two parties 21 May. Savannah Sparrow: at Central Bridge 22 Apr; Ghent 30 Apr; Ancramdale 19 May; Copake 25 May; CRs by two parties 14 May and four parties 21 May. Grasshopper Sparrow: CRs by one party 14 May and three parties 21 May. Henslow's Sparrow: CR, locality not given, by one party 21 May. Fox Sparrow: at Spencertown, Old Chatham 19-31 Mar; Central Bridge 21 Apr and no date May. Song Sparrow: Old Chatham regular at feeder 1 Mar-24 Apr; Cocksackie 20 Mar; Central Bridge 25 Mar; Stockport 26 Mar; CRs by all parties 14 and 21 May. Lincoln's Sparrow: at Ghent 14 May; at CRs by all parties 14 and 21 May. Swamp Sparrow: at Kinderhook 1-3 Apr; one Vosburgh's Marsh 2 Apr; Ghent 14, 22 May; CRs one party 14 May, six parties 21 May. White-throated Sparrow: at Central Bridge 25 Mar; Taghkanic 16 Apr; five Lake Taghkanic 29 Apr; Old Chatham 24 May; CR by four parties 21 May. White-crowned Sparrow: at Seward 21 May; Old Chatham 24 May; CR by four parties 21 May. Dark-eyed Junco: at Powell Sanctuary, five 26 Mar; Castleton, Hudson, Old Chatham 1-14 May; CR by five parties 21 May. Snow Bunting: one at Stockport 26 Mar. Bobolink: at Central Bridge 8 May; East Nassau 14 May (CR); by six parties CR 21 May; ten at Copake 25 May. Red-winged Blackbird: at Central Bridge 7 Mar; about 3,500 between Claverack and Greenport, HR; generally throughout period and Region—seen by all CR groups 14 and 21 May. E. Meadowlark: at Claverack 15-26 Mar; Central Bridge 18 Mar; Ghent, Old Chatham, Castleton 9-31 Mar. Lake Taghkanic 29 Apr; all field parties both CRs 14 and 21 May. Com. Grackle: at HR 4 Mar; about 2,500 HR Claverack-Greenport 15 Mar; reported by all parties CRs 14 and 21 May. Brown-headed Cowbird: winters in large numbers in downtown plaza of Albany; Central Bridge 18 Mar; about 2,000 at Cocksackie 20 Mar; reported by all groups CRs 14 and 21 May. Orchard Oriole: Chatham Center 11, 14 May; at Saratoga 21 May. N. Oriole: at Chatham 29 Apr; Central Bridge 4 May; CRs by all parties 14 and 21 May. Purple Finch: at Powell Sanctuary 26 Mar and intermittently through rest of period; CR by all parties 14 May and by six parties 21 May. House Finch: generally in Region 1 Mar-31 May; by all parties both CRs 14 and 21 May. Pine Siskin: one at Florida 12 Mar only one recorded. Am. Goldfinch: generally reported intermittently through Region during period and by all parties CRs 14 and 21 May. Evening Grosbeak: a rather light winter invasion; reported well into May. House Sparrow: present Mar-May throughout Region; numbers fairly constant.

Good birding wherever you may be, and may I plead with those turning in reports to me to do it in check-list order, preferably the latest?
P.O. Box 21, Old Chatham, New York 12136.

REGION 9 – DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

After one of the mildest winters of the century, spring was more normal from a temperature point of view. Precipitation however, was something else. March was cold with temperatures ranging from the 30's to the 50's. April ranged from the 40's thru the 60's and on to the 70's in the first week of May. May temperatures were so mild that trees and shrubs went into full leaf in a few days, and by the end of that first week foliage was a good ten days ahead of normal development. Precipitation further helped the foliage with rain occurring on 13 out of 14 weekends. Lakes and streams were brimming over, but worse, weekend birders were discouraged from venturing forth. In spite of these adversities, some remarkable records were made.

One would have thought the warm winter would have insured a thriving insect population this spring. Just the opposite occurred. Caterpillars of all kinds were hard to find. Tent Caterpillars were very few, and oak leaves, usually riddled with holes within a week of development by a variety of inch worms were largely untouched at the end of the period. Obviously the birds which feed upon them were hard pressed to find food. Because of the precipitation however, late summer fruit and seeds should be in good supply for those species dependent upon them.

For too long Region Nine birders have watched those in Regions One and Ten come up with "mouth-watering" finds; seizing the BOTS award almost every season. This time our birders came up with two records, either of which could surely take the prize, and with a few others that could have been contenders. Two new additions to the New York State List were reported and submitted with excellent documentation to NYSARC. They were a Ross' Goose and a Black-shouldered Kite (formerly White-tailed Kite). Detailed reports of these finds are included in this issue. The Sandhill Crane and Western Meadowlark reported, although not new to the state, might well have taken the prize had there been less competition.

For most species, the season was normal. The early thaw in late February sent waterfowl thru early and fast. There were no organized hawk watches this spring. Broad-wings arrived and went thru largely unobserved. Shorebirds made a poor showing, and only a few winter finches appeared. Most species of warblers arrived the weekend of 30 April, and waves were reported the weekends of 14 May and 21 May. Luckily, most Big Days came those weekends. The Ralph T. Waterman Club racked up a respectable 151 species on the 14th, and the Mearns Club tallied 155 species on the 21st.

Rarities found in the report in addition to those already mentioned are: Red-necked Grebe, Little Blue Heron, Cattle Egret, Glossy Ibis, Greater White-fronted