

June and six active nests here (EB); Cerulean Warbler: singles in Town of Pomfret and Scio Twp in June; Ovenbird: a nest with eggs on the Fredonia campus in June (AB); N. Waterthrush: two nests, each with four eggs: near Red House 17 June (TB) and e. of Forestville 17 June (AB, TM); Louisiana Waterthrush: 11 birds, total, from six areas, including an imm at Allegany SP 29 June (TB); Hooded Warbler: four (N+) on BBC and a female near Barcelona 14 Aug (RS) only reports; and Yellow-breasted Chat: one (H) on BBC; max five in the Town of Pomfret 21 June to 8 July (TM, AS, RS) and carrying food for young here 7 July (TM); and a pair and nest with three eggs near Red House 14 and 17 June, and young 26 June (TB).

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Although seen here in the spring, the **CLAY-COLORED SPARROW** at the Dunkirk-Fredonia Airport thru 17 July (TM, AS, MVJ) apparently failed to nest. A quick look at other noteworthy sparrows includes: Grasshopper Sparrow: max eight near Alfred during July, the "most ever" (EB) and ten, total, in six other locations: Henslow's Sparrow: two in the Town of Busti and an adult with three imm e. of Bemus Pt. 13 July (RS, EP+), new location, max six near Alfred in July (EB), and one to three in Twps of Scio, Pomfret and Villenova; Swamp Sparrow: nest with four eggs near Red House 4 June (TB); and White-throated Sparrow: one (N+) on BBC; two on Abbs; one to two in Alfred, Ward, West Almond and Almond Twps, Allegany Co., during June and July (EB, CK, VP); nest with four eggs in last year's territory on Reddy Rd., Amity Twp., 2 July (VP); and nest with three eggs in swamp near Red House 9 June (TB). An **ORCHARD ORIOLE** was verified in the Town of Hamburg 11 June (ARC, AS) and a migrant female appeared at Burgeson Sanct. 31 July (DG), seldom seen after the nesting season. Although the Purple Finch tallied only 14 (L) on BBC, 78 were banded at Farmersville Sta. during the season. For the prolific House Finch, a better criterion of status than the breeding surveys, 90 (H+) on BBC and 17 on Abbs, are banding records for the season: over 500 in Fredonia with 92% this year's young (MVJ), and 96 at Farmersville Sta. (DC). Imagine, along with Terry Mosher, "500 write-ups!!?" Fortunately this species no longer requires a verification report. Is winter this close upon us that Evening Grosbeaks have arrived already? One was seen in Alfred 15 Aug and two were there the next day (EB)—nearly two months early!

Amity Lake, Belmont, New York 14813

REGION 2 — GENESEE

KEVIN C. GRIFFITH

The summer performed before a host of local groups. To sunworshippers and beachcombers she was the heroine, to farmers the villain, and to birders the unpredictable double agent. She produced a good breeding season with robins and doves fostering three to four broods, yet some species went unrecorded as breeders. Some new species, on the other hand, were confirmed as breeders in the region. Prevailing southerly winds brought warm, humid air to the region, but southern wanderers were nearly nonexistent. The performance ran for three months. Act One, June, was relatively normal with an average temperature of 66.7° F. Precipitation was a meager .38 inches below normal at 2.4 inches. Act

Two, July, was quite a different season. Dryness moved on stage and refused to leave until the waning moments. If not for the last two days of the month, a new record would have been established. The average temperature was 73.8° F—2.5° above normal. The real story was the 1.13 inches of precipitation. This amounted to less than half the average rainfall for July. The heat persisted as the finale neared. The temperature was up 1.2° with an average temperature of 70.7° F, yet August made up for July dryness with 5.43 inches of precipitation—2.23 inches above the norm. As a result, the show closed amidst mixed reviews.

On the positive side of trends for the season was the successful nesting season. Least Bitterns were up, showing that they are possibly more common than one might expect along the lakeshore marshes. Waterfowl had a good season with Wood Ducks having a banner year. Resident raptor populations were very good. American Kestrel broods were evident along many roads and highways. Virginia Rails seemed to expand into some new areas. They were reported from numerous new locations such as tiny ponds with limited marsh vegetation. Tern populations were on the up side towards the middle and end of the period prompting a "five" tern species day at Braddock Bay—a remarkable inland record. The nesting of a Northern Saw-whet in Bergen Swamp must be looked at favorably. Acadian Flycatchers expanded in the region. Red-breasted Nuthatches were fairly numerous towards the end of the period—a finch winter forecast? The presence of White-eyed Vireo during the early part of the season led to speculation of breeding. June reports of Brewer's Blackbirds created additional speculation. Purple Finches were well above recent levels of abundance. All-in-all, a most positive look at the season.

Negatively speaking, which again seems to be of less magnitude, American Bittern populations were down slightly. The scarcity of suitable habitat may have been responsible for the meager shorebird totals. Both cuckoo species were down in numbers along the lakeshore, while Alder Flycatchers were nearly absent from the same area. No reports of Sedge Wren were received during the period. This is a continuation of recent trends. Henslow's Sparrows were absent from some known breeding sights.

Rarities: Ruff, Royal Tern, White-eyed Vireo and Brewer's Blackbird.

Abbreviations: A—Avon area; B—Bergen Swamp; BB—Braddock Bay, CH—Ontario Beach, Charlotte; G—Greece, H—Hamlin Beach State Park, HH—Harriet Hollister-Spencer Park; HL—Honeoye Lake; IB—Irondequoit Bay; K—Kendall; L—Letchworth State Park; WL—West Lakeshore, W—Webster; RS—Russell Station.

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LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: reports of this species showed some interesting tendencies. June produced a rather large group of late birds with 40 H 3 June and one H 23-24 Aug was an early migrant report. Pied-billed Grebe: confirmed breeding was finally attained

with two separate reports of broods. Horned Grebe put in an early appearance with three H 25 Aug. Double-crested Cormorants appeared regularly in July with up to six daily at BB throughout the period and max of 28 WL 15 Aug. Am. Bittern: generally down this season. Least Bittern: they had a good year along the lakeshore with a max of nine G 16 July. Black-crowned Night-Herons remained stable yet low. Glossy Ibis: an imm, one WL 22 July (MD, KG, WS), was the only report of a wandering wader. Mute Swan: one K off and on thru the period acted wild but is of unknown origin. Brant: one BB 5-11 June was a surprise straggler. Canada Goose: a number of individuals and small groups spent the summer in the region. Wood Duck: a good breeding season was signaled with the appearance of large numbers along the west lakeshore. Green-winged Teal: one WL June was either late or summering. N. Pintail: one H 12 Aug was an early migrant. Lesser Scaup: one WL 4 June and one WL 23 July may have been the same summering individual, six H 25 Aug were most likely migrants. Oldsquaw: one H 3 June, late. White-winged Scoter: this species has been seen along the lakeshore in nearly every month, 18 H 3 June were late birds. No reports came from July but one H 12 Aug was the first fall sighting. Com. Goldeneye: one RS 29 Aug was an early individual. Com. Merganser: one H 9 Aug may have been one of the local breeders from the lower Genesee River. Red-breasted Merganser: 25 H 3 June was a high count for such a late spring date, one BB 5 Aug was the first fall report. Ruddy Duck: one G 1 June was late for spring, one BB 27 Aug was an early fall report.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vultures continue to increase in the region with more frequent sightings to the lakeshore. Osprey: one BB 23 July and at other times during the period was an uncommon occurrence in the region. Accipiter reports were encouraging. Cooper's Hawk: one W 17 July, one W 31 July. N. Goshawk: nesting pair HH, one BB 13 Aug. A Red-shouldered Hawk sighting, one HL 12 June, was unusual for the period. Am. Kestrel had a banner year. Merlin: one A 17 Aug was the only other falcon report. The shorebird flight began as usual in July, but the magnitude was less than exciting. Lack of habitat may have been a major factor. Still, the variety was good and there were some interesting reports. Willet: one H 14 Aug (MD, WS). Upland Sandpiper: ten Monroe County Airport 7 Aug (CC). Whimbrel: one H 27 July (WS), two BB 1 Aug, one H 1-25 Aug (MD, WS). Red Knot: one H 30 (RO), first of fall, two H 13 Aug (JB, CC), two to four H 18-24 Aug (MD, WS) lower than usual. Western Sandpiper: one B 2 June (WS), one WL 2 Aug (KG), one H 24 Aug (WS). Baird's Sandpiper: several reports. Buff-breasted Sandpiper: 4 Point Breeze 31 Aug (MD, WS), low. **RUFF:** one Perinton 5 June (RS), good spring record. Wilson's Phalarope: one K 27 July (WS). Parasitic Jaeger: early searching this year produced an early sighting, one H 27 Aug (MD). The gull situation along the lakeshore was relatively normal, but the terns were in the process of a noteworthy season. Two observers recorded five species on a single day at BB in Aug. Caspian Tern: max 40 BB 18, 27 Aug. **ROYAL TERN:** one BB 31 July (MD, WL *et al.*), photos (KG), reported again 1-2 Aug. Undoubtedly this was the bird of the season for Region 2. It was cooperative enough to allow photographs with Caspians and lingered long enough for additional observations. Com. Tern: max 25 BB 29 July. Forster's Tern: max 11 CH 20 Aug. Black Tern: a good number of individuals were reported through the end of the period.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Cuckoos were down in general. E. Screech-Owl: an interesting occurrence was 25-30 Highland Park 13-16 June (OJ, DL), mostly imm flying about at dusk. N. Saw-whet: one B 14 June (WS) still further signals the likelihood that breeding occurs in the region. Com. Nighthawk: good numbers continued to be seen, max 47 G 2 June. Whip-poor-will: one W 1-31 July was an unusual report along the lakeshore. Red-headed Woodpecker: good number of reports from the area. N. Flicker: they're everywhere—a very successful nesting season.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: some late spring reports came from June, one WL 4 June, one L 5 June, one Livingston Co. Park 5 June; and the first of the fall was reported two Riverside Cemetery 27-30 Aug. Acadian Flycatcher: this species

was more widespread in the region this summer; two B thru the period (WS), one Island Cottage Woods 1 June (CC), one L 18 June (ST), three Durand-Eastman Park 23 July (RS), adults feeding young. Swallows did well after an early arrival this spring was greeted with a brief cold snap. Bank Swallow: max 7,000 BB 14 Aug. Cliff Swallow: nested again at BB, new nest location also reported further west on the lakeshore. Barn Swallow: max 300 WL 15-19 Aug. Black-capped Chickadee: a great breeding year. Carolina Wren: they're holding their own in the region with regular reports of individuals and family groups. Sedge Wren: no reports. Swainson's Thrush: one Cobb's Hill 8 June, late migrant; one HH 12 June, nesting?, one H 29 Aug, first of fall. Hermit Thrush: one HH 4, 12 June, traditional haunt. Am. Robin: large numbers everywhere, multiple broods were the rule. Loggerhead Shrike: one BB 19 Aug (MD), not very encouraging.

VIREOS-WARBLED: WHITE-EYED VIREO: one IB 4, 10 June (RS), the bird was singing regularly but no nesting was confirmed. Tennessee Warbler: one G 1 June, late spring report; one W 17 July, first of fall? Orange-crowned Warbler: one Riverside Cemetery 28 Aug (ST), first fall report. N. Parula: one Cobb's Hill 9 Aug, first fall report. Cape May Warbler: one H 25 Aug, first fall report. Black-throated Blue Warbler: one L 5, 18 June, uncommon nester. Prairie Warbler: one B 18-19 June (R & SS, B & PC), new location. Bay-breasted Warbler: one Mt. Hope area 1 June, late spring migrant; one WL 13 Aug, fall arrival. Blackpoll Warbler: one G 1 June, late spring report; one BB 19 Aug, fall arrival. Kentucky Warbler: one L 5 June (mob), nesting? Wilson's Warbler: one G 19 Aug, first fall report. Yellow-breasted Chat: one L 5 June, one Mendon Ponds 1-30 June.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Rose-breasted Grosbeak: good nesting season. Vesper Sparrow: few reports. Savannah Sparrow: abundant along the lakeshore. Henslow's Sparrow: colony at L, absent from other nesting localities. White-throated Sparrow: one Parma 31 July, first fall report. Dark-eyed Junco: one BB 22 July, fall arrival. Western Meadowlark: present thru the period at Pt. Breeze site. **BREWER'S BLACKBIRD:** two Hamlin 3 June (MD), one female 4 June (MD, KG); latest report for the species ever in the area; confirmed nesting may not be too far away. Orchard Oriole: successful nesting at traditional Pt. Breeze site, one Canadice 1 June. Pine Siskin: one W 17 July, interesting report.

61 Grandview Lane, Rochester, New York 14612

REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

W. E. BENNING

The cold wet weather of spring continued into early June, but on 10 June summer arrived in full force. The period was hot and dry except for a brief cold spell in late June, a cool break the second week in July and the same in August. Otherwise the temperature was in the 80's or 90's almost every day. There was little rain—mostly spotty—after early June until August.

Summer reports were meager. It was too hot for birding except for the most avid and dedicated people and they were busy Atlasing. The Atlas program did bring us reports from Steuben County, an area from which we have received very few records in recent years.