

birds of the season are the **"YELLOW" PALM WARBLERS**: pair Black Brook bog 23 June (TS), nest located 6 July (DN, JP, TS; photos on file High Peaks Audubon); nest with one egg 8 July (TS), used nest collected 24 Aug (EJ, JP; AMNH 17922); first nesting record for New York State. Bay-breasted Warbler: still not CO although recorded in 18 blocks. Blackpoll Warbler: looking better, at 58 blocks, two CO; first Clinton Co. record from Lyon Mt. (BB, L & TO). **CERULEAN WARBLER**: singing male at Moriah 3:00 to 4:15 p.m. on 11 June (GC; also TB, NM). Louisiana Waterthrush: now 14 blocks, three CO, suggesting that a few observers are learning this bird of brooks, with records from all four cos. Wilson's Warbler: transient Saranac Lake 13 Aug (RH). Yellow-breasted Chat: Wadhams mid-July (DS).

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: N. Cardinal: 85 blocks, 21 CO, seems fairly representative. Vesper Sparrow is being sadly overlooked by observers in northern farm country, based upon the experience of blockbusters, with records from only 57 blocks, 11 CO. Grasshopper Sparrow: only four blocks, first CO from Cadyville (BB, TO). Lincoln's Sparrow is the Region Seven success story, now recorded in 117 blocks, 36 CO (Bull noted just 14 breeding localities in this region). Rusty Blackbird: 68 blocks, 29 CO, following this summer; rather hard to find, easy to Confirm once located. House Finch: now 41 blocks, 14 CO, mainly in the Champlain Valley. Red Crossbill: 15 blocks, one CO. White-winged Crossbill: unconfirmed, only eight blocks. Evening Grosbeak: many 1983 reports of this widely-distributed species from the Sacandaga to Canada, from the Fulton chain to Champlain, and currently recorded in 108 blocks, 19 CO. Finally, House Sparrows are apparently much less widely distributed than starlings, having shown up in 162 blocks, with 94 of those CO.

Discovery Farm, R.D. 1, Elizabethtown, New York 12932

REGION 8 — HUDSON-MOHAWK

ED REILLY

June was warm and dry although there was a light frost on the ninth; July was generally warm and humid, and August was just a bit cooler. It rained on seven days in August, but there were occasional thunderstorms. Apparently the weather in July and August was uncomfortable for humans as we received fewer reports than usual—my own outings were restricted to short trips in my home area.

July is also a quiet month as most birds have stopped their territorial singing and August is worse, if possible. The woods and fields are not silent as there are various calls to be heard; birds and other animals must still communicate their alarms and let the others of the species know where the individuals are. Nests may still be located and even late reports are welcomed by the Atlas teams, so send them in. You may enjoy practicing nest identification using the newly published guide in the Peterson series.

Only 142 species were reported and many species which have been noted in the past summers apparently evaded our observers. A Short-eared Owl still lingers in the Ghent area according to Hugo and Barbara Gardina; Fish Crows nested near Castleton as noted by Paul Connor; Worm-eating Warblers appa-

rently bred near Weed Mines according to Dick Guthrie and Bill Cook; and a Yellow-headed Blackbird flew over Rte. 23, either in Greene or Columbia Cos. Larry Biegel reports a Swallow-tailed Kite seen at Catskill (*vide* Dick Guthrie). An unconfirmed sighting of a Golden Eagle at West Athens by Irene Halliday is "one of those things." We report these sightings in our local papers as a means of alerting members to keep their eyes open for possible confirmation.

Observers: Vi & Bill Able, Roberta Bernstein, Fran Bogausch, Arlene & Tom Brown, Janet Carroll, Bill Cleveland, Juanita Cook, Bill Cook, Rena Dodd, Kate Dunham, Peter Feinberg, Barbara & Hugo Gardina, Elisabeth Grace, Andrew & Richard Guthrie, Betty Laros, Tom Palmer, Shirley & A. Schadow, Marion & Bill Ulmer, Robert Yunick.

LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: flying over Ancram 8 June. Double-crested Cormorant: one Greendale on Hudson R, one Hudson 7 July. Great Blue Heron: one Claverack 5 June; two Chrysler Pond 20 June; one S. Gilboa 22 June; two E. Taghkanic 29 June; three near Boston Cor 23 July; one Jenny L 22 July; two near Ghent 1, 20, 24 July; one Old Chatham 29 July. Great Egret: one South Bay at Hudson 2 Aug. Green-backed Heron: three Boston Cor 15 June; one Greendale on Hudson R 16 June; three Claverack 21 June; two Gilboa 22 June; four Hillsdale 24 July; three Spaulding Furn 29 July; throughout Columbia Co by most observers; and at Central Br thru period. Mute Swan: an escaped pet seen frequently at Oom's Pond thru season. Canada Goose: two family groups at Chrysler Pond 8 June; several at Ghent and Oom's Pond 3, 16, 17, 22, 29 July and into Sept. Wood Duck: four Ancramdale 22 July; one Boston Cor 23 July; four Hillsdale 24 July; nine Gallatinville 29 July; one near Jenny L at Miners' Mill Vly during July. Green-winged Teal: a male at Boston Cor 20 June. Am. Black Duck: nesting at Boston Cor along with pair of Black x Mallard cross 20 June; Ghent 3, 17, 19, 20 July. Mallard: pair at Ancram 8 June; 20 at Greendale on Hudson 16 June; nesting Boston Cor 20 June; at Central Br thru period; at Ghent 3, 17, 19, 20 July; at Jenny L one of three pairs raised young 19 June and later. Canvasback: sighted on Hudson 22 and 31 July. Com. Merganser: on Schoharie Creek female plus 12 young in July by S & A Schadow.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: one Ancram 8 June; one Martindale 11 June; one Boston Cor 18 June; one being chased by Red-winged Blackbirds at Spaulding Furn 25 June; six circling Weed Mines 20 July; one seen Schoharie Co. mid-Aug; Central Br June to 31 July; thru season by many observers in Columbia Co. Osprey: one Rip van Winkle bridge over Hudson 4 Aug; one Embough Bay, Catskill 14 Aug; Schoharie Co. mid-Aug; Sharp-shinned Hawk; one Ghent 4 July; one at Old Chatham 22 July and another 29 July. Cooper's Hawk: adult carrying food for young at E. Taghkanic 29 June; Bob Yunick banded a second year male 7 Aug, also saw singles 5-7 Aug; one found dead at Queechy Lake 31 July. Broad-winged Hawk: nest with three young at Churchtown 3-8 July; Bob Yunick reports it heard and seen thru period. Red-tailed Hawk: three L Taghkanic 6 June; fledgling Boston Cor 23 July; thru period at Central Br; occasionally thru season by most observers in Columbia Co. Am. Kestrel: one Ancram 8 June; adult carrying small rodent Spaulding Furn 25 June; two W. Taghkanic 17 July; family of three Martindale 2 July; at Central Br occasionally thru season and also in Columbia Co. by most observers. Ring-necked Pheasant: two calling Claverack 13 June; two Livingston 13 June; reported occasionally thru season and area of Columbia Co. Ruffed Grouse: male displaying Claverack 13 June; drumming at Hillsdale 24 July; at Central Br thru season; often thru season by several observers in Columbia Co. Wild Turkey: less young noted in Churchtown area possibly due to cold spring. Virginia Rail: one Weed Mines 20 July; on 31 July at Spaulding Furn; one 14 Aug at Embough Bay, Catskill. Killdeer: six Elizaville 3 June; 1 June-31 Aug at Central Br; seen by many observers thru Columbia Co. 1 June-31 Aug. Solitary Sandpiper: one Boston Cor 23 July; one Central Br 1 Aug; in Columbia Co. 17, 22, 29 July. Spotted Sandpiper: two Elizaville 3 June; adult and fledgling Greendale 15 July; two Hillsdale 24 July; thru season at Central Br with nest and four eggs seen, then three young. Com.

Snipe: seen thru June at Central Br. Am. Woodcock: one Elizaville 3 June; one Old Chatham 8 July. Ring-billed Gull: five at Hudson R near Greendale 16 June; at Efner L 10 July and 21 Aug; several at Ghent 16 July. Herring Gull: two on Hudson 7 July; Jenny L in small numbers 21 Aug. Great Black-backed Gull: two on Hudson 7 July.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Rock Dove: 20 Ancramdale 8 June; reported thru season and areas by most observers. Mourning Dove: reported thru areas and season by most observers. Black-billed Cuckoo: pair courting at Elizaville 3 June; one at Ghent 10 July; one at Canaan 12 July; one at Old Chatham 16 and 17 July. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: one E. Taghkanic 29 June; very few caterpillars noted. E. Screech-Owl: two at Chrysler Pond in Copake 19 June; one at Copake Falls 16 July; four W. Taghkanic 17 July. Great Horned Owl: one fledgling harassed by kingbirds in Ancramdale Swamp 22 July; one Hillsdale 24 July; one present July and Aug at Central Br; noted in Old Chatham 3, 4, 10 July. Barred Owl: reported by Yunick as present at Jenny L June-Aug. Short-eared Owl: reported at Ghent 21, 29, 30, 31 July. Whip-poor-will: two singing at Chrysler Pond 19 June. Chimney Swift: six Claverack 4 June; one Hillsdale 24 July; noted at Scotia 10 Aug; many at Central Br 1 June-31 Aug; several in Chatham 4 and 5 July and at Old Chatham 22, 25, 31 July. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: one W. Taghkanic 1 June by Burrell Buffington; male on territory Martindale 11 June; one Greendale 15 July; one Manorton 3 Aug; four Hudson 5 Aug; three Clermont 10 Aug; seen thru season at Central Br; observed 18, 23 June, 16 July, and 23, 24 Aug at E. Glenville; occasionally thru period by several observers in Columbia Co. Belted Kingfisher: one W. Taghkanic 1 June by Burrell Buffington; five Boston Cor 15 June; carrying food for young at Greendale 17 June; thru at E. Glenville 1-30 June; thru season at Jenny L; occasionally thru season by several observers in Columbia Co. Red-headed Woodpecker: thru season at Central Br by Bill Cleveland; pair at Smith Pond 4 July by K. Dunham & E. Grace. Red-bellied Woodpecker: adult carrying food Ancramdale 24 June; three at Ancram 28 July. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: at Jenny L 31 July and 14 and 28 Aug; at Old Chatham 2, 12, 23 July. Downy Woodpecker: one L Taghkanic 6 June; thru season at E. Glenville; and at Central Br; according to Bob Yunick populations of both Hairy and Downy were lower than usual; seen thru season by most observers in Columbia Co. Hairy Woodpecker: female at Claverack 13 June; one Boston Cor 23 July; at E. Glenville 5 July; at Central Br thru June-Aug. Ghent 3 July, Chatham 6, 17 July, and Old Chatham 21, 29 July. N. Flicker: three L Taghkanic 6 June; nesting thru s. Columbia Co; at E. Glenville 15-31 Aug; Central Br 1 June-31 Sept; nesting Jenny L; thru season in Columbia Co. Pileated Woodpecker: at W. Taghkanic 1 June; two Craryville 10 June; one W. Copake 19 June; two Livingston 23 June; thru season at Jenny L by Bob Yunick.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: at Palmer L 22 July by Yunick. E. Wood-Pewee: two Elizaville 3 June; nesting thru s. Columbia Co; at Central Br thru season; thru June & July at Jenny L; Palmer's L 22 July; Central Br thru season; thru season in Columbia Co by most observers. Alder Flycatcher; one Gilboa 22 June; five on breeding territories Boston Cor 23 July; one Hillsdale 24 July; four breeding territories Ancram 28 July. Willow Flycatcher: two Gilboa 22 June; at Ghent 3, 17, 21, 29 July. Least Flycatcher: female on nest L Taghkanic 6 June; E. Glenville 23, 24 Aug; thru season Schenectady and Jenny L by Yunick; Old Chatham 4, 17 July. E. Phoebe: nest at Elizaville 3 June; Central Br thru June; thru season at Jenny L; Ghent 3, 8 July; Chatham 17; Canaan 28 July. Great Crested Flycatcher; pair courting L. Taghkanic 6 June; on nest Chrysler Pond 1 June; nest plus young Claverack 8 July; E. Glenville 23, 24 Aug; Central Br thru June-July; Old Chatham 4, 16 July; Canaan 17, 23 July. E. Kingbird: three Ancram 8 June; nesting pair Mellenville 1 July; nesting Claverack 8 July; Central Br 1 June-31 Aug; bred raised two broods at Jenny L late July; thru season Central Br; Columbia Co by most observers thru. Horned Lark: two Boston Cor 20 June; Ghent 3 July. Purple Martin: female at Boston Cor 15 June. Tree Swallow; nest in Martin house Elizaville 3 June; about 350 Chrysler Pond 28 July; thru season at Central Br, E Glenville, Jenny L, and Columbia Co. N. Rough-winged Swallow: one Chrysler Pond 1 June; Central Br thru June. Bank Swallow: about 15 in

colony Ancram 8 June; colony of about 100 Claverack 10 July; thru June Central Br; Old Chatham 24 July. Cliff Swallow: one Conesville 22 June; four E. Taghkanic 30 July; Old Chatham 4, 10, 31 July. Barn Swallow: two Ancram 8 June; breeding thru Columbia Co; Central Br and E Glenville thru season. Blue Jay: thru areas and season E Glenville, Central Br, Jenny L (42 banded by Yunick), and Columbia Co. Am. Crow: flock of 30 Snyderville 4 June; nest with young Spaulding Furn 25 June; thru season and areas E. Glenville, Central Br and Columbia Co. Fish Crow: nest found at Castleton 2 July by Paul Connor (full details to Atlas). Black-capped Chickadee: one Ancram 8 June; breeding thru Columbia Co; thru season at E Glenville, Central Br, and Jenny L (14 + 10 returns banding by Yunick at Jenny L) where nest found 12 June and another 19 June, almost none reported at Jenny L during June and early July then great increase—almost an invasion. Tufted Titmouse: one Boston Cor 15 June; adult carrying food Greendale 17 June; fledgling Claverack 21 June; E. Glenville 27 July, 23 & 27 Aug; occasionally thru season and area by several observers Columbia Co. Red-breasted Nuthatch: one Earlton 22 June; bred Jenny L 26 June, seven banded, population low. White-breasted Nuthatch: nesting Chrysler Pond 1 June; E Glenville 1, 5 July and 24 Aug; thru season Central Br; bred Jenny L 1 July two banded; thru Columbia Co and season by several observers. Brown Creeper: carrying food Churchtown 5 June; seen 16 July Old Chatham. House Wren: pair nesting W. Taghkanic 5 June; ten Hudson 9 June; E. Glenville June and early July; Central Br thru season; thru area and season Columbia Co. Winter Wren: Old Chatham 16 & 23 July. Marsh Wren: one Ancram 8 June; four Hudson 7 July. Golden-crowned Kinglet: one at Jenny L by Yunick. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: one Columbia-Greene CC 7 July; five Hudson 5 Aug; four Clermont 10 Aug; one Embough Bay, Catskill 14 Aug. E. Bluebird: pair courting L. Taghkanic 6 June; pair Boston Cor 20 June; nesting S. Gilboa 22 June; male Spaulding Furn 25 June; fledglings Mellenville 1 July; pair Copake Falls 16 July; four Gallatinville 29 July; thru season and two nests found at Central Br; Jenny L 10 July. Veery: nest with eggs W. Taghkanic 5 June by Burrell Burrington; carrying food W. Copake 19 June and Hillsdale 18 June; E. Glenville 18 June; thru season at Jenny L. Gray-cheeked Thrush: Canaan 12-14, 17 July. Hermit Thrush: singing S. Gilboa 22 June; thru season at Jenny L. Wood Thrush: one Ancram 8 June; 1 June-23 Aug. E. Glenville; at Central Br thru season; thru season at Jenny L and in most areas by most observers in Columbia Co. Am. Robin: nest and three young Elizaville 3 June; E. Glenville and Central Br thru season; thru season and area by most observers in Columbia Co. Gray Catbird: 15 Ancram 8 June; E. Glenville and Central Br thru season; thru Columbia Co. area and season by all observers. N. Mockingbird: one L. Taghkanic 6 June; Hudson 9 June; three Greendale 16 June; W. Glenville 18 June; Old Chatham, Chatham, Canaan 3, 4, 22, 29, 31 July. Brown Thrasher: pair courting Churchtown 5 June; one Greendale 16 June; three Gilboa 22 June; three Copake Falls 16 June; Central Br thru June and July; Old Chatham, Canaan 25, 29, 30 July. Cedar Waxwing: two Elizaville 3 June; flock L. Taghkanic 6 June; female on nest Chrysler Pond 20 June; on nest Ancramdale 24 June; Central Br thru season; Jenny L thru Aug; thru area and season Columbia Co. European Starling: carrying food Ancram 8 June; thru season and areas E. Glenville, Central Br. and Columbia Co.

VIREOS-WARBLED: Solitary Vireo: one Meduas 22 June; nest at Jenny L where reported thru season. Yellow-throated Vireo: pair nesting Ancram 8 June; pair Craryville 12 June; three Greendale 16 June. Warbling Vireo: two singing Elizaville 3 June; two singing L. Taghkanic June; four singing Boston Cor 15 June; fledgling being fed Claverack 10 July; thru season at Central Br. Red-eyed Vireo: two males singing L. Taghkanic 6 June; three Greendale 17 June; nest and four eggs Copake 27 July; thru season at Jenny L; Old Chatham 16-23 July. Blue-winged Warbler: carrying food Elizaville 3 June; W. Glenville 18 June; occasionally thru area and season Columbia Co. Golden-winged Warbler: three males singing L. Taghkanic 6 June; W. Glenville 18 June. "Brewster's" Warbler: male singing Blue-winged song Craryville 10 June; male and female W. Copake 6 June; plumages of all three varied from large yellow breast shield to none and faint wing bars to large yellow.

Tennessee Warbler: Jenny L 28 Aug. Nashville Warbler: Jenny L 14 and 28 Aug. Yellow Warbler: nesting Churchtown 5 June; carrying food Ancram 8 June; W. Glenville through June; Central Br thru June-July; thru area and season by many observers Columbia Co. Chestnut-sided Warbler: singing Snyderville 4 June; fledgling being fed Claverack 10 July; Ghent 1 July; Old Chatham 12, 14, 16, 23 July. Magnolia Warbler: two Gilboa 22 June. Yellow-rumped Warbler: gathering nesting material at Jenny L 11 June; female with brood patch at Jenny L 12 June. Black-throated Green Warbler: Jenny L 14 Aug. Blackburnian Warbler: one Gilboa 22 June; Jenny L 14 and 28 Aug; Old Chatham 4, 16 July. Prairie Warbler: male singing L. Taghkanic 6 June; eight Gallatinville 26 June; carrying food Snyderville 6 July. Bay-breasted Warbler: Jenny L 14, 19 Aug. Cerulean Warbler: over Roe-Jan Kill, Elizaville 3 June. Black-and-white Warbler: two singing Churchtown 5 June; one Elizaville 13 July; Jenny L 19, 28 Aug. Am. Redstart: one Ancram 18 June; one Hudson 9 June; eight Hudson 5 Aug; Jenny L 28 Aug; Old Chatham 1, 10, 16, 23 July. Worm-eating Warbler: two adults and two fledglings Weed Mines 20 July; one Clermont 10 Aug. Ovenbird: two Snyderville 4 June; four singing Greendale 17 June; carrying food Gallatinville 26 June; W. Glenville 18 June; Central Br thru June; nested at Jenny L and Yunick banded 25; Old Chatham 17, 23 July. N. Waterthrush: pair nesting E. Taghkanic 2 June; territorial male and nest Churchtown 5 June; one E. Taghkanic 29 June; two Greendale 15 July; Old Chatham 4, 16, 23 July. Louisiana Waterthrush: male singing L. Taghkanic 6 June; nest with eggs Ghent 1 June by Wendy Neefus; one Copake Falls 16 July; one Hollowville 2 Aug. Com. Yellowthroat: males singing Ancram 8 June; nesting thru Columbia Co; thru season at Central Br; Niskayuna 16 June; W. Glenville 18 June; E. Glenville 16 June, 5 July, 23, 24 Aug. Canada Warbler: Jenny L 14 Aug.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Scarlet Tanager: two singing Snyderville 4 June; nesting thru Columbia Co; W. Glenville 28 June, 24 Aug; thru June at Central Br; Jenny L banded 22 July and 20 Aug. N. Cardinal: pair Churchtown 5 June; nesting thru Columbia Co; W. Glenville thru season; Central Br thru season. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: one Ancram 8 June; nesting thru Columbia Co; W. Glenville thru June, 1 Aug. Jenny L up to 15 Aug, banded 52; Central Br thru season. Indigo Bunting: males singing W. Copake 19 June; Boston Cor 20 June; Gilboa 22 June; female in nest Ancramdale 24 June; two fledglings Ancramdale 22 July; six Hillsdale 24 July; Central Br thru season; W. Glenville 18 June; Old Chatham 4, 8, 12, 16, 17, 24, 20 July. Rufous-sided Towhee: pair defending territory L. Taghkanic 6 June; nest and four young Elizaville 13 July; Central Br thru June-Aug; occasionally thru season thru Columbia Co. Chipping Sparrow: nest with eggs Elizaville 3 June; nest W. Taghkanic 5 June; W. Glenville 15 June-15 Aug; Central Br thru season; Jenny L thru season but rare; Columbia Co thru and thru season occasionally. Field Sparrow: pair mating Elizaville 3 June; 20 Gallatinville 26 June; W. Glenville 18 June; Central Br thru season; Old Chatham 4, 8, 10, 16 July. Vesper Sparrow: at least four S. Gilboa 22 June; one Livingston 23 June; one Ancramdale 22 July; one Manorton 3 Aug; Ghent 3, 17, 22, 29 July. Savannah Sparrow: males singing Ancram 8 June; Craryville 10 and 12 June; at least six S. Gilboa 22 June; 20 Gallatinville 26 June. Grasshopper Sparrow: three plus singing S. Gilboa 22 June. Song Sparrow: carrying food Elizaville 3 June; through season in W. Glenville and Central Br; thru area and season Columbia Co. Swamp Sparrow: one Claverack 21 June; ten on breeding grounds Boston Cor 23 July. White-throated Sparrow: singing Boston Cor 15 June; two Gilboa 22 June; Jenny L area singing in June and common on 2nd year lumber clearings. Dark-eyed Junco: one Gilboa 22 June, Jenny L thru, 27 banded. Bobolink: nesting Snyderville 4 June; W. Taghkanic 5 June; 20 plus fledglings in one field Martindale 21 July; W. Glenville 18 June; Central Br thru season. Red-winged Blackbird: nesting thru Columbia Co; W. Glenville and Central Br thru season. E. Meadowlark: carrying food Snyderville 4 June; fledgling Hillsdale 18 June; Clifton Park 18 June; Central Br thru season. Yellow-headed Blackbird: male flew over Rte. 23 (county not mentioned) by two observers 20 July. Com. Grackle: nest with one egg W. Taghkanic 5 June; W. Glenville 15-19 June, thru Aug; Central Br thru season; Jenny L thru season;

thru Columbia Co. Brown-headed Cowbird: males courting L. Taghkanic 6 June; fledgling fed by Yellow Warbler at Hudson 9 June; fledgling Weed Mines 20 July; W. Glenville occasionally thru; Central Br thru June; Jenny L 1 June-15 July. N. Oriole: female on nest L. Taghkanic 6 June; W. Glenville 18 June, 5 July; Central Br thru season; thru Columbia Co by most observers. Purple Finch: pair nesting E. Taghkanic 29 June; two males Martindale 21 July; Jenny L thru, 452 banded plus 150 returns; Schenectady (Yunick), 423 banded. House Finch: pair nesting L. Taghkanic 6 June; W. Glenville thru season; Central Br thru season; Jenny L thru season. Red Crossbill: Jenny L one seen 17 July. Pine Siskin: Jenny L 18 June and 3-19 July. Am. Goldfinch: males singing Ancram 8 June; building nest Livingston 23 June; W. Glenville 15 June, 5 July, 14 Aug; Central Br thru season; Jenny L occasional thru. Evening Grosbeak: female at Seward in early Aug by Charlie Cobb; male with cloacal protuberance and female with brood patch banded at Jenny L 21 May and recaptured 12 June. House Sparrow: fledged young Churchtown 5 June; W. Glenville thru season; Columbia Co thru area and season.

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REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

At the time of this writing in mid-September, the New York Weather Bureau is declaring the summer of 1983 the second hottest on record. By 19 Sept. there had been 36 days of above 90° temperatures with the record being 37 for the season ending 21 Sept. Very hot weather started with the third week of June, cooled for the rest of the month and early July, then heated up again the third week of the latter thru the second week of August. Rain fell on 3, 4 June and not again till 27, 28 July. In between were scattered thunder showers, but only a few. One to three inches of rain fell on 11, 12 August and except for the occasional thunderstorm was the only precipitation for that month. Plant life depended upon the abundant spring rains and by the end of the period many mountain tops were turning brown from lack of water.

The dearth of insects last spring continued into the dry summer, and a decrease in several insectivorous bird species was noted especially in the Mohonk area. The heavy rains of spring did bring on the development of fruit and berries as expected; and some, such as wild cherry trees, were well attended in late August by waxwings, mimids, thrushes, vireos and some warblers, especially Cape Mays. Thirty years ago the DEC eradicated a threat from water chestnuts (*Trapa natans*) on the shallow bays along the Hudson. Now, although it took a long time, the threat is back. Plants are once again blanketing prime waterfowl feeding areas such as Esopus Point and Cornwall Bay, shading the shallows and cutting off sunlight needed to support plants upon which ducks, geese and swans depend. Wandering postnuptial herons did not appear in their usual numbers in August, with only a few reports coming in. Hawks seemed to have had a