

30 Sept., Nashville Warbler 1 Sept., Magnolia Warbler 30 Sept., Cape May Warbler 16 Sept., Black-throated Green Warbler 5 Sept., Yellow-rumped Warbler 30 Sept., Black-throated Blue Warbler 16 Sept., and Am. Redstart 29 Sept. (CD). An Ovenbird was singing at Paradox 11 Sept., where an adult Com. Yellowthroat was in full song 2 Sept. (MB). A migrant Wilson's Warbler was at Tupper L. 13 Sept. (CD).

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Also in song at Paradox were a Scarlet Tanager 24 Sept. and Rose-breasted Grosbeak 13 Sept. (MB), with an imm. of the latter at Tupper L. to 18 Sept. (CD). Am. Tree Sparrows arr. Cedar R. and Tupper L. in early Nov., widely reported thereafter. Last Chipping Sparrow was at Tupper L. 27 Oct., where a Lincoln's Sparrow was seen 12 Sept. (CD). An off-key White-throated Sparrow was in song near Paradox 29 Sept. (MB). Tupper L. had five White-crowned Sparrows 30 Sept., with one remaining until 17 Oct. (CD). Almost no mention was made of Dark-eyed Juncos as Sept. residents or Oct. migrants; suddenly in Nov. flocks became abundant, with reports from Cedar R., Elizabethtown, Paradox, and Tupper L., and remaining into winter. Snow Buntings were also widely reported, although flock sizes were generally small: 12 on the shore of Low's L. 30 Oct. (WC), 60 bathing at the Westport beach 3 Nov. (GC), one along Rt. 8 near Hoffmeister 6 Nov.; two along the Boquet R. outside Elizabethtown 13 Nov. (EJ, JP); and one near Newcomb (WC). An adult Red-winged Blackbird showed up at Owl's Head feeders 20 Nov. (JT) and 22 Nov. (AH). Tupper L. had 100 Com. Grackles 23 Oct. (CD). A female-type N. Oriole at a Tupper L. feeder 26 Nov. had been present daily for about two weeks previously (CD). Four Pine Grosbeaks were seen near the Cedar R. in early Nov. (RM) and 50 were in Mountain View 29 Nov. (AH). Purple Finch: scattered reports from Cedar R., Elizabethtown, Owl's Head, Paradox, and Tupper L. House Finch: 14 at a Tupper L. feeder 26 Nov. (CD) reflect the continued inland and upland expansion of a species first reported in the Region just a decade ago. Red Crossbill: small flock in spruces near Paul Smiths College early Sept., large flock of about 100 in hemlocks near Cold Brook, south of Saranac L., 8 Sept. (GTC). The first Confirmed records of White-winged Crossbills in five years of Atlas field work came at Bloomingdale Bog 11 Sept. (CB, JP), Owl Pate 10 Oct. (MB), and Sabattis Rd. Bog 25 Nov. (CD); white-wings were also sighted or heard near Chubb R. Swamp, Cold Brook-Sperry Pond, Madawaska, and Teboville Rd. between Sept. and Nov. The only Com. Redpolls were found near Paradox 13 Nov., among a mixed feeding flock of siskins and goldfinches. Pine Siskins and Am. Goldfinches had been feeding on white birch near Paradox since 1 Nov., and were widely reported thereafter. The first reports of flocking Evening Grosbeaks came from Cedar R., Paradox, and Tupper L. in early Nov., but as the season progressed observers were in agreement that numbers at feeders and in the forests seemed lower than in recent years at the same period. Finally, a House Sparrow was spotted entering the back of an oblong street lamp in Malone on 22 Oct. (JT).

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

There is no REGION 8 report, as *The Kingbird* has no Region 8 editor at the present time.

REGION 9 – DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

As fall seasons go this one was relatively mild. The first and third weeks of September were cooler than average, but were more than balanced by the second

and fourth weeks which were quite warm. Precipitation was well below average, with only a thunder shower on the 3rd and less than an inch on the 15th. Temperatures in October were below normal for the first week only, with the rest of the month being quite warm. 1 October brought about an inch of rain with another inch on 29 October. Another one-quarter inch on the 22nd and 23rd brought the precipitation for the month to slightly above average. November highs and lows were evenly scattered thru the month to bring the mean temperature within a tenth of a degree of normal. Rainfall was slightly below normal, and no snow was reported in the Region thru the period.

As predicted in our last report, the fruit and seed crop was excellent both here and farther north. At the end of the period, northern finches had not arrived and, with the abundance of food in their breeding range, might well never come. White egrets were few, but Double-crested Cormorants, which were so common during the summer, remained thru the period in good numbers. Geese flights were excellent, but ducks were generally poor. Most hawk watches had close to their best season ever. Shorebirds were good on the reservoirs and sod farms. Owls were normal – hard to find. No one reported any large flocks of migrant nighthawks anywhere in the Region. Flycatchers were normal, but swallows were down from their usual large numbers. Most reporters felt warblers were low, but there were a few good days. Your reporter ran into a wave of Tennessees and Cape Mays in Bear Mt. Park on 7 Sept., and Bob Deed had excellent numbers and variety on 4 Sept. in S. Nyack. Frank Murphy found peak numbers in the Kingston area on 12-13 Sept. Blackbirds failed to put on their grand flights, but are hardly endangered. Rarities in the report include: Black Vulture, Yellow Rail, Hudsonian Godwit, Three-toed Woodpecker, and Yellow-headed Blackbird.

As this report is readied for mailing, we received notice of the passing of Benton "Beezer" Seguin on 28 Dec. 1984. It would be inconceivable not to mention his loss in these pages to which he contributed so much over the years. In your reporter's thirty-five years of birding he has never met a more dedicated birder. Beezer's consummate skill was achieved through sixty years of patient field work. A trip anywhere in the northwestern part of the Region would invariably find him parked along a remote roadside, listening to and listing his latest discoveries. In recent years his advanced illness prevented his straying far from his auto, but his keen eye and ear made it unnecessary to do so. In the last ten years most of the rarities turned up in Orange Co. were largely his. All New York State birders are diminished by his passing, and we here in Orange Co., who learned so much from him, will especially miss him. . . . Peace . . .

Contributors and observers cited: John Askildsen, Al Brayton, Tom Burke, Judy Cinquina, Harry Darrow, Robert F. Deed, Liz and Lew Dumont, Valerie Freer, Helen Manson, Adam Martin, Frank Murphy, Eleanor Pink, Brian Schiefer, John Stellwagen, Robert Terwilliger, John Tramontano, Ed Treacy, and Berna Weissman.

Abbreviations: Ashokan–Ashokan Reservoir; BSHW–Butler Sanctuary Hawk Watch; HMHW–Hook Mt. Hawk Watch; MC–Marshlands Conservancy, Rye; MPHWW–Mt. Peter Hawk Watch; PL–Playland, Rye; WSF–Warren Sod Farm, Pine Island. Note: Hook Mountain Hawk Watch data is incomplete and unofficial.

LOONS-DUCKS: Red-throated Loon: earliest arr PL 6 Oct. Two Ashokan thru Nov. Com. Loon: numbers on Ashokan reached more than 25 by end of period. Horned Grebe: first Ashokan 9 Oct., very few for period. Red-necked Grebe: two at Ashokan, 25-27 Nov. Great Cormorant: arr PL 31 Oct. Double-crested Cormorant: remained in excellent numbers thru period. Unusual away from Hudson. Several on lakes some miles east and west of the river. Great Egret: the poor numbers of summer continued thru the fall with only a few reports. One at Croton Point thru 9 Oct., another at Elmsford 26 Oct. was walking about in a partially flooded, abandoned drive-in theatre. Another was north of Saugerties 7 Oct. Tricolored Heron: always unusual. One PL 2 Oct. Green-backed Heron: one at Stissing 1 Nov. was late for Dutch. Yellow-crowned Night-Heron: single birds continue to appear at MC where breeding colony was destroyed by Great Horned Owls several years ago. Snow Goose: usual flights in fall. About 200 landed on Buttermilk Pd., Dutch 9 Nov. More than 220 were over Rye 30 Sept., 250 over Nyack on 5 Oct. Brant: no huge flocks but a few modest ones went over the last week of Oct. and first week of Nov. max 103 passed BSHW 25 Sept. Several reports of single birds in early Nov. Wood Duck: hundreds continued at Bashakill thru Sept., but were gone shortly after the start of hunting season in Oct. Green-winged Teal: about in modest numbers in early Oct. Max 28 Croton Point 2-9 Oct. Am. Black Duck: has made a phenomenal increase. Nearly 1,000 at Ashokan 25 Nov. N. Pintail: at least ten at 6½ Sanct. near Goshen 13 Oct., five at MC 3 Sept. Am. Wigeon: 21 at Tarrytown Res. 1 Oct., decreased to 16 by 23 Nov. 28 at Iona I. on 27 Oct. Canvasback: arr Cornwall Bay 3 Nov. with 45 birds. More than 300 at Iona I. by 23 Nov. Numbers good but not extraordinary by end of period. Redhead: nine on Neversink Res. 28 Oct. was an excellent number. One on Kiamasha L. from 30 Oct.-4 Nov. Oldsquaw: a male at Cornwall Bay 20 Oct., and a female was at Iona 27 Oct. One on Lake Oniad, Dutch 30 Oct. Black Scoter: a female was with seven Surf Scoters on Croton Pt. 2 Oct., remained there with them thru 9 Oct. White-winged Scoter: a female and two imm. were on Orange L 11 Nov. Hooded Merganser: never abundant in the Region, but more than 40 were on Kenozia L near Kingston 13 Nov. Red-breasted Merganser: only report 2 Kiamasha L 30 Oct. Ruddy Duck: well-reported but in small numbers late Oct. and early Nov., max 63 Orange L 11 Nov.

HAWKS-ALCIDS:

Hawk Watch Data	Mount Peter		Butler Sanctuary		Hook Mountain Hours and totals not available
Hours	458.2 hrs.		441.5 hrs.		
	Total	Max./date	Total	Max./date	Max./date
N. Goshawk	2	1-10/5,11/7	12	3-10/17	NA
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1438	151-9/26	2246	302-9/22	413-9/22
Cooper's Hawk	36	7-10/5	73	9-10/5	10-9/27,10/6
Red-tailed Hawk	509	76-11/2	124	26-11/3	16-10/15
Red-shouldered Hawk	76	13-10/31	59	13-11/4	4-10/16
Broad-winged Hawk	9104	4270-9/16	11490	4759-9/16	3585-9/17
Rough-legged Hawk	4	* 2-10/21	0	none	none
Golden Eagle	1	1-9/25	1	1-10/16	1-9/20, 10/23
Bald Eagle	3	** 3-9/18	13	4-9/16	2-9/2
N. Harrier	74	7-9/16	85	9-9/8,27	17-9/25
Osprey	184	28-9/16	201	27-9/16	25-9/25
Peregrine Falcon	8	** 2-10/25	NA	3-10/5	2-10/4
Merlin	2	1-9/15,23	NA	2-10/5,17	3-9/15
Am. Kestrel	137	28-9/16	380	71-9/13	43-9/25
	* ties old record	** new record	NA - not available		

BLACK VULTURE: first obs 6 Sept. when two were flying with a large flock of Turkey Vultures at the Al Turi Landfill near Goshen, remained in the area until 20 Oct. (LLD). Turkey Vulture: peaked to about 100 at Al Turi Landfill in late Sept. Bald Eagle: many reports of single birds thru period. An adult spent the summer near Lebanon L. Sull. An imm. with a yellow wing tag was at Mongaup 18 Nov. MPHWS broke its previous one day record with three on 18 Sept. Butler Sanct. had 4 on 16 Sept., with a whopping 13 for the season. Wintering birds had not arrived before the end of the period N. Harrier: one in Dutch on 20 Sept. was observed pursuing a goldfinch (MVW). Broad-winged Hawk: with a good day at one of the local hawk watches one would expect a good day at all of them since they are separated from each other by about 20 miles. This was not the case this season. MPHWS had its big day on 16 Sept., while HMHW was on 17 Sept. BSHW had big flights on both days. Harry Darrow, watcher on Bear Mt., had his big day on 18 Sept. with 4,500. Red-tailed Hawk: the passage of a strong cold front early on 2 Nov. pulled more than 200 down the Schawangunk Ridge over Port Jervis between 8 a.m. and noon, and another 100 by 4 p.m. (Neil Currie). Rough-legged Hawk: MPHWS had a record high of four for the season and a daily record high of two on 21 Oct. Golden Eagle: most hawk watches had single birds in late Sept. and early Oct. Two were at Rio Res., Sull on 19 Nov. Am. Kestrel: resident birds continue low but migrant numbers were good. Merlin: usual few on hawk watches. Two imm were at WSF 19 Sept. (JS). Peregrine Falcon: numbers continue to increase on migration. Scattered reports of single birds near Ashokan & Beacon. The eight that passed Mt. Peter during the season was an excellent number. Wild Turkey: continues its phenomenal increase. Exc. numbers reported by deer hunters. **YELLOW RAIL:** one found in a downtown alley by two window shoppers in New Rochelle on 14 Oct. was released later that day at MC in Rye (Carrie Croton). Lesser Golden-Plover: two arr Ashokan 24 Sept., with three there on 21 Oct., max 250 at WSF 24 Aug., last five there 28 Oct. Greater Yellowlegs: last two late date of 23 Nov. Baird Park, Dutch. Solitary Sandpiper: rarely reported in fall. Three reports from Dutch near Pleasant Valley 1-26 Sept. Upland Sandpiper: max 50 WSF last week of Aug., last there, two on 16 Sept. Whimbrel: one WSF 24-31 Aug. **HUDSONIAN GODWIT:** what appears to be a new record for Ulst. first seen Ashokan 10 Oct. and on five later dates, last seen 29 Oct. Baird's Sandpiper: now a yearly occurrence at WSF, three there 31 Aug. Pectoral Sandpiper: last at Ashokan 11 Nov., seven at Amawalk 4 Nov. Purple Sandpiper: seven returned to PL 31 Oct. Dunlin: not commonly reported away from L.I. Sound, eight Croton Pt. 2 Oct. Buff-breasted Sandpiper: first reported at WSF 5 Aug., eight there on 19 Sept., and six there 23 Sept. Short-billed Dowitcher: 11 at Hunn's L, Dutch 28 Oct. Laughing Gull: one very late bird at Roseton 3-11 Nov. (Bob Slechta, Joe Cullen). Bonaparte's Gull: RT had three at Ashokan in Nov. Iceland Gull: only report, one adult flying south over the Hudson at Ft. Montgomery 25 Nov. (BS). Lesser Black-backed Gull: returned to Harbor Is Pk, Mamaroneck 13 Oct.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Budgerigar: In recent years, Piermont and its environs has played host to an impressive list of exotics. Now added to that list are six of this species coming regularly to a feeder along Rt. 9W (RFD). Black-billed Cuckoo: one extremely late bird at Croton Point 8 Nov. (EDT). Com. Nighthawk: no large migrant flocks observed anywhere. Chimney Swift: last flocks observed Middletown 10 Oct. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: no count reported from the bays around Cruger Is this year, but more than 40 were observed passing the BSHW during the season. Red-headed Woodpecker: rare in the Hudson Highlands any time. One remained at the Garrison Union Free School thru the period; observed expanding in the area around Ashokan. Two nesting pairs observed there and an adult and imm. remained thru Nov. Red-bellied Woodpecker: fewer than usual, numbers appear down. Only one report from Dutch during Sept. where there are usually a dozen or so, and only two there in Oct. **THREE-TOED WOODPECKER:** one well-described female at Irvington, West. 4 Nov. (Lang Stevenson). Report forwarded to NYSARC. N. Flicker: more than 30 at Rye Nature Center 18 Sept.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: very few reports, three at Ashokan 9-12 Sept. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: two Dutch reports 16, 18 Sept., both in excellent color. E. Kingbird: six in Dutch on the late date of 23 Sept. Blue Jay: BW reports migrants down at Dobbs Ferry. Late Sept. and early Oct. counts taken over the last few years average about 3,000 per hour. This fall a count on 29 Sept. yielded 319 for a high. Other counts during the above period had less than 100. Fish Crow: RFD had an unprecedented stream of 90 flying toward the Hudson from west of Nyack, 9:15 a.m. on 29 Oct. Red-breasted Nuthatch: numbers must be down with so few reported. Brown Creeper: arr at MC 30 Sept. Golden-crowned Kinglet: numbers of this species and the Ruby-crowned are higher than usual. E. Bluebird: nestbox programs in the region continue to pay off. Florence Germond and her band of monitors in central Dutch report 135 nestings, 535 eggs, 455 hatched, 149 lost and 359 fledged. This trail has been in operation 24 years, and its effect, and that of other trails, are being shown by higher resident populations each year. Hermit Thrush: one Croton Point 8 Nov. Water Pipit: about in excellent numbers in suitable habitat, max about 300 6 Oct. at WSF. Cedar Waxwing: largest flight in the area was at Dobbs Ferry 21 Oct., more than 130 in one hour. Shrikes: None!!

VIREOS-WARBLED: Warbling Vireo: a male singing at S. Nyack on the late date of 8 Sept. could well be the same bird that nested in the vicinity last summer. Tennessee Warbler: 10 Doodletown 7 Sept., reduced to four next day. Orange-crowned Warbler: one Bashakill 7 Oct., another Rye Nature Center 27 Oct., another MC 3 Nov. (all TWB). Single birds Dobbs Ferry 9 Oct. and 16 Oct. (BW). Yellow Warbler: BW reports good numbers at Dobbs Ferry thru Sept., max eight 20 Sept. Cape May Warbler: 20 Doodletown 7 Sept. Black-throated Blue Warbler: a male in full song, with a female, on Overlook Mt. in the Catskills 19 Sept., was still singing three hours later (FM). Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 23 in one feeding flock at Tarrytown 1 Oct. Blackburnian Warbler: max six at Rye Nature Center 1 Sept. Kentucky Warbler: one MC 1 Sept., very unusual in fall. Mourning Warbler: one Rye Nature Center 24, 25 Aug. was followed by four in the vicinity of Rye 1 Sept. Another at Bundy Hill, Dutch, 6 Sept. Connecticut Warbler: one P'kpsie 4 Sept., one Bashakill 27 Aug., another at Sleightsburgh in early Sept.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Dickcissel: an imm female Dobbs Ferry 14 Sept., and an adult female there 8, 9 Oct. One Katonah 2 Nov., another Stonykill Environmental Center 10, 11 Oct. Am. Tree Sparrow: late and scarce, arrived Sull after 7 Nov., first Saugerties 16 Nov. Chipping Sparrow: last at Bedford 2 Nov. Savannah Sparrow: max 20 Dobbs Ferry last two weeks of Oct. Grasshopper Sparrow: migrants always rare, one PL 27 Oct. Fox Sparrow: very low, two at a feeder in Pleasant Valley 4-8 Nov. Lincoln's Sparrow: several reports in early Oct. Three at MC 6 Oct. seemed to be the peak. Two Dobbs Ferry 4 Oct. and singles there on 14 Sept. and 9 Oct., also one at Stonykill 10, 11 Oct. Swamp Sparrow: max 20 Dobbs Ferry 16 Oct. Dark-eyed Junco: arr about two weeks late, but numbers good. Lapland Longspur: one PL 31 Oct., one imm. at Ashokan 28 Oct., and another at WSF the same date. Snow Bunting: 25 WSF 31 Oct., 20 Ashokan 10 Nov., and more than 100 there 18 Nov., reduced to 40 by 22 Nov. **YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD:** an adult male flying in a small flock of Redwings at MC, 17 Nov. (TWB). Rusty Blackbird: arrived at Great Vly, north of Saugerties 7 Oct., and in Dutch mid-Sept., one at MC 30 Sept. N. Oriole: one at a Mt. Kisco feeder 18 Nov. Purple Finch: even more scarce than usual, very few reports. House Finch: the most common bird at feeders, max 32 at a Wurtsboro feeder in early Nov. **RED CROSSBILL:** one reported at Pound Ridge in late Dec. (Frank Nicoletti). Pine Siskin: only report one at a feeder in Stissing 4 Nov. Evening Grosbeak: very few, heard flying over Pleasant Valley 24 Nov. three females at Stissing 25 Nov. and four females and a male there 30 Nov. were the only reports from Dutch. A few at a Liberty feeder 11 Nov. was the only report from Sull. One was at Saugerties 16 Nov.

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, New York 10928