

pairs Amity and Ward Twns May (VP), production on first nesting poor. Hermit Thrush: one Lake Erie SP 8 Mar, wintering bird; arr TFNP 1 Apr. Wood Thrush: arr Pomfret Twn 30 Apr. Gray Catbird: arr Westfield 19 Apr. N. Mockingbird: one Dunkirk 1 Mar; three Porter Twn 2 Mar. Brown Thrasher: arr Belmont 18 Apr. Water Pipit: arr Somerset Twn 6 Apr; 80 Ripley 12 Apr; max 95 Pomfret Twn 10 May, late. N. Shrike: four localities Mar.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: Solitary Vireo: arr BWS and Carrollton Twn 19 Apr. Yellow-throated Vireo: arr INWR 17 May. Warbling Vireo: arr Amity Twn 22 Apr. Philadelphia Vireo: arr INWR 10 May. Red-eyed Vireo: arr Carrollton Twn 6 May. Blue-winged Warbler: arr Amity L 30 Apr (VP!). Golden-winged Warbler: arr three Cold Spring Twn 10 May; one "Brewster's" Warbler: TWMA 17 May; one "Lawrence's" Warbler: Cold Spring 10 May (TM, mob!). Tennessee Warbler: arr Wales 9 May. Orange-crowned Warbler: arr Goat I 15 May. Nashville Warbler: arr Pomfret 27 Apr. N. Parula: arr INWR 11 May. Yellow Warbler: arr Amity Twn 27 Apr. Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr Amity Twn and Goat I 7 May. Magnolia Warbler: arr Forest Lawn Buffalo 6 May. Cape May Warbler: arr TFNP 6 May. Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr TFNP 11 May; one Ward Twn 24 May, very scarce this year in breeding areas. Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr Hamburg Twn 1 Apr. Black-throated Green Warbler: arr Pomfret Twn and Silver Creek 25 Apr. Blackburnian Warbler: arr Carrollton 24 Apr. **YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER:** one Quaker Run, Science L, ASP, after 24 May (WD, RB, mob), where nested 1984. Pine Warbler: arr Farmersville Sta 10 Apr, at feeder; one INWR 20 Apr. Prairie Warbler: arr Amity Twn 14 May; five Carrollton Twn, Chau, 17 May. Palm Warbler: arr Lake Erie SP 28 Apr. Bay-breasted Warbler: arr TFNP 11 May. Blackpoll Warbler: arr INWR 17 May. Cerulean Warbler: arr Goat I 7 May. Am. Redstart: arr two Amity L 29 Apr. Prothonotary Warbler: arr Farmersville Sta 7 May, banded, very early (DC); two INWR 31 May (DE). Ovenbird: arr Amity Twn 29 Apr (VP!). N. Waterthrush: arr TFNP 1 May. Louisiana Waterthrush: arr Carrollton Twn, Catt, 19 Apr; Amity Twn 21 Apr. Kentucky Warbler: one Salamanca Twn 18 May (TB). Mourning Warbler: arr Orchard Park 7 May. Com. Yellowthroat: arr Canadaway Creek Nature Sanctuary 4 May. Hooded Warbler: arr Carrollton Twn, Catt, 7 May. Wilson's Warbler: arr TFNP 15 May. Canada Warbler: one Portland Twn 11 May, only report. Yellow-breasted Chat: one Amity Twn 7-31 May; two Pomfret Twn 24 May.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr Pomfret and Amity Twn 14 May. Rufous-sided Towhee: arr Belmont 8 Apr. Chipping Sparrow: arr Pomfret 8 Apr. Vesper Sparrow: arr Amity L 1 Apr; max seven Pomfret Twn 4 Apr; six other reports BOS region. Savannah Sparrow: arr N. Boston 23 Mar. Grasshopper Sparrow: arr Amity L 21 Apr. Fox Sparrow: arr Amity Twn 21 Mar. Lincoln's Sparrow: arr Forest Lawn, Buffalo, 6 May. Bobolink: arr Scio and Pomfret 1 May. **YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD:** one Mayville 11 Apr (Luensman!). **BREWER'S BLACKBIRD:** one Fissell Rd, Kiantone Twn (RS, mob). Orchard Oriole: S. Valley Twn 10-17 May on 1985 territory (TM, mob). Evening Grosbeak: last Belmont 20 May, late.

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REGION 2 – GENESEE

KEVIN C. GRIFFITH

This spring produced a number of very different highlights. There were very early arrivals, good totals and many unusual species. A few negative trends also

could be attributed to weather conditions. March was very warm, with temperatures averaging 3.7° above normal, but dry, with precipitation 0.7 inches below the average of 1.9 inches. April was a month of contrasts, with rain as well as snow. There were very warm days as well as very cold days. The early part of the month brought us some very early arrivals, but unfavorable conditions later in the month kept some of the expected April arrivals from returning on schedule. May was warm, with a monthly average 2.9° above normal. It also was relatively dry at 1.64 inches of rain, 0.94 inches below average. How did this weather affect the migration? Overall, the migration was better than last year but it still didn't reach the magnitude of past years. It was easy to recognize the features which were significant.

An **AM. WHITE PELICAN** was carefully studied along the lakeshore. This species occurs only sporadically in the Region. Southern herons were scarce. While there were a couple of rarities – a **LITTLE BLUE HERON** at Braddock Bay on 18 May and an adult **YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON** along a creek in the Hamlin area on 13 Apr, the number of individuals was down and Great Egret, a relatively frequent species, was virtually unreported. Most waterfowl seemed just to fly past the Region. Totals generally were below normal. Tundra Swan numbers were down – the maximum 240 at Braddock Bay on 25 Mar, but this may have been partly due to the warm weather in early March when strong south winds could have passed them through. Braddock Bay also produced two Greater White-fronted Geese on 18 Mar. This now appears to be a typical total for the season. One puzzler was a probable male Cinnamon x Blue-winged Teal hybrid studied and photographed extensively by Frank Dobson on 29 Mar. It exhibited features of both species. Unfortunately, it didn't linger and provide for further study. It was a very good spring for **SANDHILL CRANE**. No less than ten different birds were seen at Braddock Bay between 28 Mar and 18 May.

There were some very good hawk flights in March. Six days of strong south to southwest winds brought excellent numbers of raptors. Bad flight conditions probably caused poor Broad-winged Hawk totals in April. Fortunately May compensated for those conditions. Frank Nicoletti manned the Braddock Bay Hawk Lookout this spring and added valuable data to the existing base as well as some unusual sightings. He recorded the third and fourth Regional **BLACK VULTURE** on 31 Mar. This species was seen again at two different locations on 7 May. One was seen at Braddock Bay by Clay Taylor, Bill Symonds and Sharon Skelly, and probably the same individual was spotted by Kevin Griffith about an hour and a half later farther along the lakeshore. Fishing in the Dansville area was ornithologically profitable for David Butler, who observed an adult **AM. SWALLOW-TAILED KITE** on 25 Apr. Bald Eagles were definitely on the increase, with 53 reports (maxima of five on 15 and 18 May) from the Hawk Lookout and numerous other reports. Of special note was a very early Broad-winged Hawk at Braddock Bay on 26 Mar. This immature may have wintered farther north than usual. Three **SWAINSON'S HAWKS** were reported, a light and a dark morph at Braddock Bay on 7 Apr and another light morph was found by Robert Spahn in Hamlin on 19 Apr. Subspecies of Red-tailed Hawk were reported this season included five **KRIDER'S RED-TAILED HAWK**, one banded at the Roches-

ter Hawk Banding station, and two dark morphs, presumably *calurus*, in Apr. Five Peregrine Falcons passed the Hawk Lookout and there were four reports from other locations. This continues its encouraging trend for increasing sightings.

The early shorebird flight was a positive feature of the season. A couple of unexpected species as well as good totals were found. Of special note was a Lesser Golden-Plover at Braddock Bay on 7 Mar. Few are found in the spring, especially so early. An outstanding flight of Lesser Yellowlegs at Braddock Bay began on 21 Mar and peaked with 520+ on 3 May. Pectoral Sandpiper numbers were excellent, with a maximum of 1000+ at Braddock Bay on 12 Apr. While the early shorebird flight was good, the May flight was not. Numbers were down and some species were missed. The shorebird rarity of the season was a **RUFF** at Hogan Point on 17 May by Robert McKinney and Richard O'Hara.

A first-winter **THAYER'S GULL**, the only individual reported this season, was seen regularly in Braddock Bay after 17 May. Iceland and Glaucous Gulls lingered through the season, with four reports of six Iceland Gull to 9 Apr and a straggler at Charlotte on 21 May and three Glaucous Gull reports between 23 Apr and 11 May. Continuing a downward trend were the very low numbers of Common and Forster's Tern along the lakeshore. A real find for the Region was an **ARCTIC TERN** carefully studied at close range by Frank Nicoletti at Braddock Bay on 20 May; details are on file with the editor.

The owl flight was better than recent years. Excitement was high with the return of **BOREAL OWL** to the Region. Martha Reinhardt located one at Manitou on 4 Mar. It was seen again the next day. Most likely a second individual was found at the same location by Bob Beal on 15 Mar. Photographs of both birds are being compared to see if they are separate individuals. Many observers searched the location in vain after the fifth. Weather favorable for migration probably let the first bird move out of the area between these dates, but what is the likelihood that a second individual of such rare occurrence would appear at the same location as the first? The season also proved to be a good one for N. Saw-whet Owls. A total of 22 were banded by the Rochester Raptor Banding Project and there were many other reports, the first at Manitou on 4 Mar.

In recent years Common Nighthawks have been reported in good numbers, but such was not the case this year. The maximum was only 40 in Rochester on 20 May. Whip-poor-will also was scarce. The bird of the season was a male **BLACK-CHINNED HUMMINGBIRD** carefully observed by Mike Tetlow at Huron on 25 May. A detailed report is on file with the Rochester Birding Association and the NYSARC.

The passerine migration was fueled by some May warm spells and the passage of strong frontal systems during the month. The variety of passerines was good and there were several rarities, but totals for many species once again seemed to be down. We must wait to see what the totals are on their nesting grounds. Wood and Gray-cheeked Thrush seemed much scarcer than usual. This is especially alarming from a species as common as the Wood Thrush. Sedge Wren has been scarce in recent years but made a good showing this spring. A very early individual was found at Braddock Bay on 25 Apr and two appeared to be setting

up territory at Point Breeze in May. Continuing to plummet was Loggerhead Shrike.

The early May warbler flight was poor. Some species were very scarce, most notably Northern Parula. While the warbler flight was generally lackluster, some interesting species were reported. A Yellow-throated Warbler was in Ellison Park on 3 May; it now seems to be reported annually. Prothonotary Warbler at Braddock Bay on 5 May and Island Cottage Woods on 24-29 May are from lakeshore sites, where reports have been few and far between in recent years. Two Worm-eating Warblers were at Island Cottage Woods, the first on 29 Apr and the other from 18 to 20 May; it also has become regular in spring. Kentucky Warblers were reported on seven dates in May from three different locations, undoubtedly the best spring for this species in recent years. It also was a good spring for Connecticut Warbler sightings, with one at Hamlin Beach on 16 May and a male captured and banded at Manitou on the same date.

Scarlet Tanager was below normal in number like last year. While respectable numbers were found for some grassland sparrows, Henslow's Sparrows were difficult to find even at traditional sites. Its first report from Avon on 18 May probably is not the real arrival date. The sparrow of the season was a Clay-colored Sparrow observed in Greece on 1 May by Bob Dobson. **YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRDS** continue to appear, with a female at Braddock Bay on 7 Apr and an adult male there on 15 Apr. Sightings of **BREWER'S BLACKBIRD** continue this spring, but there were many fewer reports than in past years – a male at Parma 30 Mar, one to three at Hamlin from 12 to 19 Apr and a male at Braddock Bay on 5 May. Red Crossbills persisted from the winter, even though it was a mediocre finch winter. Three at Manitou on 29 Mar were considered late until one appeared at a feeder in Lima from 5 to 12 Apr. There was a tremendous Evening Grosbeak flight along the lakeshore in May as well.

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Abbreviations: BB—Braddock Bay; C—Charlotte; CH—Cobb's Hill; FH—Frisbee Hill; HB—Hamlin Beach; IB—Irondequoit Bay; ICW—Island Cottage Woods; LSP—Letchworth State Park; PB—Point Breeze; WL—West Lakeshore.

LOONS-DUCKS: Red-throated Loon: max 100 JB 13 Apr, last Kendall 24 May, quite late. Com. Loon: last Kendall 24 May. Pied-billed Grebe: arr Greece 12 Mar. Horned Grebe: last Kendall 24 May. Red-necked Grebe: arr three Manitou 7 Apr, max 21 Greece 10 Apr, last there 2 May. Am. Bittern: arr BB 2 Apr. Least Bittern: arr BB 7 Apr. Great

Egret: arr two BB 30 Apr. Cattle Egret: arr Greece 23 Apr, one Hogan Pt 8 May, one HB 24 May, average year for this species. Black-crowned Night-Heron: arr Greece 12 Apr, max 18 BB 14 May. Snow Goose: arr three Parma 12 Mar. Green-winged Teal: arr two IB 9 Mar. N. Shoveler: arr two BB 18 Mar. Ring-necked Duck: max 200 Greece 16 Mar. Gr. Scaup: last BB 24-25 May. Oldsquaw: max 250 WL 11 May, good total for May. Black Scoter: arr two females WL 1 Mar; max six WL 11 May, good numbers for season. Com. Goldeneye: last WL 18 May. Bufflehead: last Kendall 25 May. Ruddy Duck: arr two BB 22 Mar.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: arr LSP 1 Mar, max 718 BB 7 Apr. Osprey: arr WL 29 Mar, max 56 BB 16 May. N. Harrier: max 81 BB 7 Apr. Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 1618 BB 29 Apr. Cooper's Hawk: max 135 BB 7 Apr. N. Goshawk: max eight BB 19 Mar. Red-shouldered Hawk: arr three BB 15 Mar, max 465 BB 25 Mar, very good flight. Broad-winged Hawk: max 5327 BB 16 May. Red-tailed Hawk: max 1145 BB 19 Mar. Rough-legged Hawk: max 82 BB 19 Mar. Golden Eagle: arr BB 16 Mar, max three BB 27 Apr. Am. Kestrel: max 186 BB 25 Mar. Merlin: max five BB 5 May. Wild Turkey: one Palmyra 28 Apr (HS), new location. Virginia Rail: arr BB 7 Apr, very early. Sora: arr BB 11 Apr, very early. Com. Moorhen: arr two Greece 10 Apr., Black-bellied Plover: arr three BB 29 Apr, max 46 BB 19-20 May. Semipalmated Plover: arr BB 29 Apr, max 18 WL 20 May. Gr. Yellowlegs: arr BB 19 Mar. Solitary Sandpiper: arr BB 16 Apr, max 51 BB 3 May. Spotted Sandpiper: arr BB 20 Apr. Upland Sandpiper: arr two BB 23 Apr, max six BB 3 May. Whimbrel: arr 30 Manitou 22 May. Ruddy Turnstone: arr widespread 18 May. Semipalmated Sandpiper: arr HB 10 May, max 66 WL 30 May. W. Sandpiper: arr HB 15 May. Least Sandpiper: arr four Byron 29 Mar. White-rumped Sandpiper: arr one Perinton 14 May. Pectoral Sandpiper: arr 12 BB 23 Mar, max 1000+ BB 12 Apr. Dunlin: arr two WL 12 Apr, max 75 WL 20 May. Short-billed Dowitcher: arr HB 4 Apr, early. Com. Snipe: arr BB 2 Mar. Am. Woodcock: arr three Webster 18 Mar. Wilson's Phalarope: one WL 20 May. Caspian Tern: arr three IB 14 Apr. Com. Tern: arr two BB 21 Apr. Forster's Tern: arr BB 15 Apr. Black Tern: arr three BB 1 May.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Black-billed Cuckoo: arr Manitou 15 May. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr two LSP 30 May, late. Long-eared Owl: arr Manitou 23 Mar. Com. Night-hawk: arr eight Rochester 15 May. Whip-poor-will: arr ICW 5 May. Chimney Swift: arr ICW 25 Apr. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr Penfield 4 May.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr two Bushnell's Basin 9 May. E. Wood-Pewee: arr Highland Park 14 May. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr Manitou 15 May. Acadian Flycatcher: arr ICW 18 May. Alder Flycatcher: arr two LSP and one ICW 18 May. Willow Flycatcher: arr several sites 10 May. Least Flycatcher: arr ICW 28 Apr. E. Phoebe: arr Greece 27 Mar. Great Crested Flycatcher: arr Penfield 30 Apr. E. Kingbird: arr Hunt Hollow 1 May. Tree Swallow: arr several sites 19 Mar. N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr BB 7 Apr. Bank Swallow: arr BB 7 Apr. Cliff Swallow: arr BB 7 Apr. Barn Swallow: arr BB 6 Apr. Blue Jay: max 15,000+ 16 May. Am. Crow: max 13,000+ BB 19 Mar. Boreal Chickadee: one BB 30 Apr. House Wren: arr Greece 26 Apr. Winter Wren: arr Manitou 28 Mar. Marsh Wren: arr Greece 27 Apr. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr WL 2 Apr. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr ICW 20 Apr. Veery: arr ICW 6 May. Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr Manitou 15 May. Swainson's Thrush: arr ICW 10 May. Hermit Thrush: arr Manitou 28 Mar. Wood Thrush: arr ICW 29 Apr. Brown Thrasher: arr BB 10 Apr. Water Pipit: arr BB 23 Mar. Bohemian Waxwing: max three Brighton 4 Mar, three M 1-10 Mar. Loggerhead Shrike: arr Greece 18 Mar.

VIREOS-WARBLED: Solitary Vireo: arr ICW 25 Apr. Yellow-throated Vireo: arr two Oatka Creek Park 8 May. Warbling Vireo: arr CH 27 Apr. Philadelphia Vireo: arr CH 30 Apr. Red-eyed Vireo: arr Greece 12 May. Blue-winged Warbler: arr CH 5 May. Golden-winged Warbler: arr several sites 10 May. Tennessee Warbler: arr ICW 3 May. Orange-

crowned Warbler: arr Oatka Creek Park 28 Apr. Nashville Warbler: arr BB 19 Apr. N. Parula: arr Greece 6 May. Yellow Warbler: arr BB 28 Apr. Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr CH 5 May. Magnolia Warbler: arr ICW 29 Apr. Cape May Warbler: arr Webster 6 May. Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr CH 4 May. Black-throated Green Warbler: arr three CH 28 Apr. Blackburnian Warbler: arr Greece CH 6 May. Pine Warbler: arr two ICW 25 Apr. Palm Warbler: arr ICW 29 Apr, good totals this season. Bay-breasted Warbler: arr ICW 10 May. Blackpoll Warbler: arr Greece 17 May. Cerulean Warbler: arr two Greece 6 May. Black-and-white Warbler: arr CH 28 Apr. Am. Redstart: arr Greece 6 May. Ovenbird: arr three CH 30 Apr. N. Waterthrush: arr ICW 29 Apr. Mourning Warbler: arr ICW 15 May. Com. Yellowthroat: arr ICW 1 May. Hooded Warbler: arr LSP 4 May. Wilson's Warbler: arr Manitou 16 May. Canada Warbler: arr three Murray 10 May. Yellow-breasted Chat: arr one ICW 9 May.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Scarlet Tanager: arr two Greece 6 May. Indigo Bunting: arr BB 10 May. Rufous-sided Towhee: arr Springwater 19 Mar. Am. Tree Sparrow: last three Parma 21 Apr. Chipping Sparrow: arr WL 15 Mar. Field Sparrow: arr Manitou 29 Mar. Vesper Sparrow: arr Kendall 23 Mar. Savannah Sparrow: arr HB 30 Mar. Grasshopper Sparrow: arr two HB 26 Apr. Fox Sparrow: arr Manitou 26 Mar. Lincoln's Sparrow: arr ICW 1 May. White-crowned Sparrow: arr one-two Greece 29 Apr. Snow Bunting: last 60 BB 26 Apr. Bobolink: arr two ICW 1 May. E. Meadowlark: arr BB 8 Mar. Rusty Blackbird: arr seven Manitou 15 Mar. Orchard Oriole: arr PB 18 May, probably not true arr date. N. Oriole: arr IB 29 Apr. Pine Grosbeak: last PB 17 Apr. Com. Redpoll: last two BB 19 Apr.

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REGION 3 – FINGER LAKES

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Spring 1986 was characterized by average precipitation and warmer than normal temperatures for three consecutive months. During March, both record maximum and minimum temperatures were recorded. Total March precipitation was within an inch of the long-term mean. The first storm of the month, on 6 and 7 Mar, brought snow and cold temperatures, as well as wind speeds of 20-30 miles per hour. This winter weather was broken by a warm southern front on 10 Mar, bringing temperatures to above normal with daytime highs in the 60's. Region 3 had several first spring reports of migrant species during this brief warm spell, including Wood Duck, Green-winged Teal, Ring-necked Duck, and Osprey. Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, and Brown-headed Cowbird also were reported as arriving in number. A cold front moved across the state on 11 Mar with some accompanying thunderstorms and strong winds. Rain fell, heavily at times, from 13 through 15 Mar. This inclement weather was followed by warmer than normal temperatures through 19 Mar, when another storm system moved across the state. A second pulse of migrants was reported with this warm spell, including Blue-winged Teal, Turkey Vulture, Red-shouldered