

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: one PTwn 21 May, early; one Ward Twn, Alle, 30 May. E. Wood-Pewee: one Pt Gratiot 14 May. Acadian Flycatcher: arr Portland Twn, Chau, 17 May; one Villanova Twn, Chau, 23 May; six PTwn 28 May. Willow Flycatcher: arr INWR and TFNP 16 May; one Amity Twn, Alle, 26 May. Carolina Wren: one Eden 29 Mar; one Pt Gratiot 29 Apr; pair Vandalia entire period. Varied Thrush: one Old Glenwood Rd, Aurora Twn, Erie, 14-22 Mar (BC, mob). Water Pipit: arr six over Ripley 25 Mar; 20 PTwn 4 May. Loggerhead Shrike: none.

VIREOS-WARBLERS: Philadelphia Vireo: arr three TFNP 19 May. Blue-winged Warbler: arr two PTwn 5 May. Brewster's Warbler: one PTwn 24 May. Black-throated Blue Warbler: only report one Pt Gratiot 10 May. **YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER**: one singing Science L, Allegany SP, 24 May (DC), fourth consecutive year. Pine Warbler: one TFNP 2 May; one Lewiston 16 May. Prairie Warbler: five-six Carroll Twn, Chau, 15 May; two Ward Twn, Alle, 16 & 30 May; three Amity Twn, Alle, 29 May. Cerulean Warbler: four South Valley, Catt, 15 May. Prothonotary Warbler: one TFNP 26 and 28 Apr. **SWAINSON'S WARBLER**: *intro*. Louisiana Waterthrush: arr Wales, Erie, 19 Apr. **KENTUCKY WARBLER**: near Shongo 17 May (TB). Yellow-breasted Chat: one Amity Twn, Alle, 13 May; two PTwn 23-24 May.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Grasshopper Sparrow: arr Carroll Twn, Chau, 15 May; three-four PTwn 19 & 23 May; one INWR 24 May; one Amity Twn, Alle, 25 May; one Ward Twn, Alle, 31 May. Henslow's Sparrow: arr PTwn 8 May; max five 19 May, still scarce. Lincoln's Sparrow: reported five localities (BOS). Lapland Longspur: two Portland Twn and Chau Twn 1 Apr, late. Rusty Blackbird: arr Tonawanda Twn, Erie, 22 Mar; one INWR 3 May, late. Pine Siskin: one to eight Amity L 1-27 May, latest; five other reports (BOS). Evening Grosbeak: ten-125 Wales, Erie, 1-9 May, late.

Ten Mile Road, Allegany, New York 14706

REGION 2 – GENESEE

KEVIN C. GRIFFITH

A cursory glance at this report might suggest that the 1987 season left something to be desired. For certain, meteorological conditions placed restraints on the migration. But proper conditions did prevail in the long run and produced some good birding. Volume and intensity were lacking in some cases, but the species total was good and there were some definite highlights this season.

March set the tone for a much of the season. Slow moving, modified polar high pressure cells produced nearly two full weeks of light, northerly winds or winds that were so light that the lake breeze could dominate. Flight days which included bulk of the March migration were recorded 6-8 and 24-30 Mar. The 1.98 inches of precipitation for the month was only slightly below normal. This pattern of polar high pressure cells continued into April. The average temperature was 3.7 above normal at 49.7. Precipitation was 1.04 inches above normal with a total of 3.68 inches. The weather may have been responsible for the lateness of some

arrivals. Breaks in the passage of the frontal systems did create some good flight days. Of particular note was 27 Apr when a record 41,184 raptors passed the Braddock Bay Hawk Watch. Southerly winds picked up and negated any lake breeze. The breeze later shifted to southwest and improved the conditions. What had been a poor April due to weather conditions soon became a banner month. May started out as the essence of mediocrity. Temperatures generally were above normal and the rainfall was a paltry 1.19 inches, less than half of the normal total. The temperatures peaked at 94 on 30 May. The warm breezes brought some respectable flight days and some good species were recorded, including several over-shoots from the south.

The general quality of the migration was fair. Numbers were low for some species and generally were late. The total number of species was good. There were only a few good migration days and the bulk of the migrants passed on those few days. Loons were evident in good numbers on Lake Ontario late into the season. The highlight was an *arctica*-type loon in breeding plumage seen at close range from shore in the town of Greece by the Regional editor on 5 May. Whether it was an Arctic or a Pacific Loon was not established, but based on probability it most likely was the latter. Red-necked Grebes returned in numbers once again and peaked at over 400 individuals on 24 Mar. Herons and egrets were generally late and scarce, and no rarities were reported until late May. These included Snowy Egret, Little Blue Heron and Glossy Ibis. Waterfowl were scarce for the most part. Tundra Swan was nearly nonexistent, as was Snow Goose. American Wigeon was extremely scarce. American Black Duck seemed to do only slightly better than in recent years. Increased boat and fishing activity along the lakeshore and in Braddock Bay seemed to scatter the concentrations of ducks that traditionally gather there in the spring.

Good hawk flight days were fewer in number than in recent years, but the total number of individuals for the season was staggering. The total by the end of May was over 100,000. The 27th of April turned out to be the best day of the season. Of the over 40,000 raptors counted that day, single day records were established for a number of species: 207 Cooper's Hawks, 4,375 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 1163 Red-tailed Hawks and 34,818 Broad-winged Hawks. The record single day total for Osprey with a tally of 57 came May 22. On that same day a subadult **MISSISSIPPI KITE** accompanied some Broad-winged Hawks over the Hawk Watch for the third Regional record and on 30 May the first ever **SWALLOW-TAILED KITE** was recorded at the Hawk Lookout. This brought the seasonal total of raptor species to 19, including a **BLACK VULTURE** and two **SWAINSON'S HAWKS**.

Once again **SANDHILL CRANE** put in a good showing. As many as ten individuals were observed. One variation from last year was their flight direction. This year they were observed moving predominantly east while last year west was the general pattern. Echoing recent years, the shorebird migration was poor. Species generally were late and numbers were low. Once again there was a lack of habitat due to high water levels on Lake Ontario and very few flooded fields nearby. Few unusual gulls were reported. There were a few Glaucous and Iceland Gulls left over from the winter season, and a Franklin's Gull seen along the west lakeshore on 22 May was the most unusual gull of the season. Terns can be summarized in a word - scarce.

Owls made quite a good showing this season. Snowy Owls were still present at the beginning of the season. A **BOREAL OWL** was found on 6 Mar along Curtis Road in Parma in a pine-spruce plantation by Martha Reinhardt and Nancy Boudrie for the seventh Monroe County record. The bird was very cooperative and seen by many birders. Most of the Monroe County records have come within a two week period from the end of February to the beginning of March. This also was a good spring for Saw-whet Owls. They were found in good numbers along Manitou Beach Road in Greece. Short-eared Owls were found in the Region throughout the spring season and were still present at the end of May. They were numerous during the winter season, and they have found suitable habitat. This may be the year that they stay in the Region and breed.

The passerine migration was uneventful. While there were a few rarities and the species total was respectable, once again numbers were low. The early development of foliage made some species difficult to see. Coupled with generally late arrivals, condition for viewing for passerines in trees and shrubs were somewhat less than desirable. A highlight was the appearance of two **FISH CROWS** at Braddock Bay. Clay Taylor and Dave Tetlow, both experienced with the species, heard them calling on 10 May and were able to make the identification. This is a species that we may be seeing and hearing more of in the not so distant future. Also on the positive side was the sighting of White-eyed Vireo, a regular but rare spring visitor to the Region. Two species found in good numbers were Prairie Warbler and Olive-sided Flycatcher. The former seemed to establish territories in the Region. Other unusual warbler reports included Worm-eating, Kentucky and Connecticut Warblers.

A number of species seemed to be low in numbers and infrequently sighted. Common Nighthawk appeared to be down after a couple of years of good numbers. Whip-poor-will was scarce once again and seems to have vacated a once traditional location. Sedge Wren did not return to last year's breeding location along the lakeshore and were unreported in migration. Gray-cheeked Thrush were very difficult to find and Swainson's Thrush seemed to be fewer in number. The Loggerhead Shrike population was once again nearly nonexistent. A single bird appeared to be setting up a territory at a former breeding location, but left after a brief attempt. Perhaps it was unable to attract a mate. Warblers that appeared to be low in numbers included Golden-winged, Black-and-white and Ovenbird, and overall warbler numbers were not good. Some sparrow species, notably White-throated, White-crowned and Lincoln's Sparrows, may have moved through the Region early or were just low in number.

The return flight of the irruptive winter species was mixed. Pine Siskin and Evening Grosbeak were well reported but crossbills were scarce. Of interest was Purple Finch. This seemed to be only a fair flight year, but Purple Finch seem to be established at breeding locations in good numbers, and some locations that seemed void of them in recent years have good numbers this year.

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Abbreviations: BB - Braddock Bay, CH - Cobb's Hill, ICW - Island Cottage Woods, LSP - Letchworth State Park and WL - West Lakeshore.

LOONS-DUCKS: Red-throated Loon: max four WL 9 Apr. **PACIFIC LOON:** *intro.* Com. Loon: arr 30 BB 26 Mar. Pied-billed Grebe: arr BB 4 Mar. Horned Grebe: arr Greece 23 Mar. Red-necked Grebe: arr? WL 23 Mar, max 472 WL 24 Mar (JSk). Double-crested Cormorant: max 25-50 throughout May, varied numbers seen daily. Least Bittern: arr BB 16 May, late. Great Blue Heron: max 135 BB 9 Apr, peak flight. Snowy Egret: one BB 23-24 May. Cattle Egret: one Hamlin 4 May, only report. Black-crowned Night-Heron: arr Greece 15 Apr, max 10 BB 27 Apr. Glossy Ibis: one BB 25-26 May. Mute Swan: two along lakeshore all Mar. Brant: arr 30 Manitou 21 May. N. Shoveler: arr one BB 7 Mar. **EURASIAN WIGEON:** two BB 1-2 Apr(FN), no details to editor yet. Am. Wigeon: arr two BB 7 Mar. Canvasback: max 4000 BB 15 Mar. Ruddy Duck: arr one BB 11 Mar, max six Greece 12 May.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: max 401 BB 27 Apr very high. **BLACK VULTURE:** one BB 26 Mar (FN, WS, CT), second year in a row. Turkey Vulture: one Wayne Co 6 Mar. **AM. SWALLOW-TAILED KITE:** *intro.* **MISSISSIPPI KITE:** *intro.* Bald Eagle: at least ten individuals is good totals away from Hawk Lookout. N. Goshawk: max 11 BB 21 Apr. Red-shouldered Hawk: arr BB 6 Mar, max 624 BB 26 Mar. Broad-winged Hawk: arr BB 1 Apr; dark morph ad BB 28 Apr (CT, ROs), another 14 May (FN). **SWAINSON'S HAWK:** light morph ad BB 12 Apr (FN); light phase im BB 7 May (FN). Golden Eagle: two Webster 7 Mar (WL), one Greece 15 Apr (KG), three Webster 17 Apr(JC), one Webster 21 Apr (JC), one Webster 27 Apr (JC), one Greece 27 Apr (TP,TK), max at Hawk Lookout three Apr. Peregrine Falcon: max two BB 6 May. Sandhill Crane: at least nine individuals sighted during Apr and May. Lesser Golden-Plover: one BB 19 Apr, uncommon in spring. Upland Sandpiper: arr two Webster 25 Apr. Ruddy Turnstone: arr Irondequoit Bay 23 May. Dunlin: arr eight BB 8 Apr. Wilson's Phalarope: max three Perinton 19 May. Franklin's Gull: one WL 23 May (KG, CT, DT). Little Gull: one BB 1 Apr. Iceland Gull: 1st winter bird Greece 10 Mar; 2nd winter birds Irondequoit Bay and Greece 13 Mar; one BB 15 Apr. Glaucous Gull: 2nd winter bird Greece 12-21 Mar; 1st yr, 2nd yr, ad Greece 20 Mar; im BB 30 May. Forster's Tern: one Greece 16 May.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Yellow-billed Cuckoo: one LSP 23 May. Com. Barn-Owl: one BB 1 Apr (CT). Snowy Owl: singles Charlotte 1-4 Mar, Manitou 25-26 Mar, Hamlin 12 Apr. Short-eared Owl: two Parma all May, five Pt. Breeze all May, very late and frequenting the same location consistently. Boreal Owl: *intro.* N. Saw-whet: arr Manitou 6 Mar. Whip-poor-will: arr Manitou 9 May. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max 14 Manitou 20 May.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr two Manitou 21 May. Aca-dian Flycatcher: arr one Manitou 22 May. Fish Crow: *intro.* Ruby-crowned Kinglet: last of the season one Manitou 31 May. Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr ICW 17 May. Loggerhead Shrike: singles Sodus Bay 14 Mar, WL 14 Mar, ICW 25 Mar, WL 26 Mar, Parma 28 Mar, Kendall 11-13 Apr, Pt Breeze 12-13 Apr, and BB 15 Apr.

VIREOS-WARBLERS: WHITE-EYED VIREO: one singing ICW 11 May. Philadelphia Vireo: arr CH 8 May. Blue-winged Warbler: arr Rochester 7 May, max 43 LSP 23 May. Golden-winged Warbler: arr Manitou 11 May. Orange-crowned Warbler: singles ICW 11, 12 and 18 May and WL 23 May. Prairie Warbler: singles ICW 11 May and Mendon Ponds 20-22 May, six LSP 23, 29-31 May (two reported throughout). Cerulean Warbler: arr CH 11 May. Worm-eating Warbler: one Greece 24-25 May. Louisiana Waterthrush: arr five LSP 23 Apr. Kentucky Warbler: singles BB 22 May, ICW 23 May. Connecticut Warbler: singles Manitou 22 May, ICW 29 May. Hooded Warbler: arr ten LSP 20 May, max 49 LSP 23 May. Yellow-breasted Chat: arr Norway Road 16 May.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Scarlet Tanager: max 22 LSP 23 May. Indigo Bunting: max 56 LSP 23 May. Am. Tree Sparrow: last Manitou 20 Apr. Field Sparrow: arr WL 29 Mar. Savannah Sparrow: arr BB 29 Mar. Grasshopper Sparrow: arr Nation's Road, Avon, 3 May. Henslow's Sparrow: arr Nation's Road 3 May. Fox Sparrow: arr ICW 20 Mar. Lincoln's Sparrow: last Manitou 30 May. E. Meadowlark: max 125 BB 30 Mar. Yellow-headed Blackbird: male BB 30 Mar. Brewer's Blackbird: male Manitou 10 Apr (FN). Orchard Oriole: arr ICW 19 May. Red Crossbill: singles Mendon Ponds 13 Mar, BB 24 Mar. White-winged Crossbill: two LSP 25 Apr. Common Redpoll: max 2680 BB 24 May, 2410 BB 25 May (FN). Pine Siskin: ten Manitou 27 May, one banded had a brood patch, nesting? 61 Grandview Lane, Rochester, NY 14612

REGION 3 – FINGER LAKES

C. K. MELIN

March was significantly warmer and sunnier than normal. There was about 1 inch of precipitation in the first days of March, followed by high pressure and record high temperatures from 5 to 8 Mar. On 9 Mar, a surge of cold arctic air plunged temperatures to their lowest levels of the month, but by 13 Mar temperatures were closer to normal. The weather continued to be mild, reaching daytime highs in the 60's and 70's, until 25 Mar when it rained again. By 29 Mar, afternoon highs were again in the upper 60's and 70's. A cold front on 31 Mar brought heavy precipitation and wind gusts of 35 to 50 mph. This storm was quickly followed by another on 2 Apr, which became stationary until 8 Apr. This stalled front brought up to 3 inches of rain and caused flooding in some areas. After the front passed, temperatures warmed up to the 60's and 70's. There was more rain on 12 Apr, followed by a warm and sunny period from 19 to 21 Apr, with temperatures in the upper 70's to 80's. Two successive cold fronts on 22-23 Apr brought more seasonal temperatures and frost to many locations. During the last five days of April there was only about 1 inch of precipitation. May was one of the ten driest since 1890! Temperatures were above normal for the third month in a row. During the month there were three cold fronts, with associated thunderstorms and up to a half inch of precipitation, on 10-11, 19-20 and 22-23 May.