

last Elizabethtown 22 Apr only reports. Lincoln's Sparrow: *intro*. Snow Bunting: Marion R. 27 Mar last report. N. Oriole: *intro*. White-winged Crossbill: singles at Paul Smith and Vermontville feeders 18 Mar only reports. Com. Redpoll: max 100 Owls Head 26 Mar, last there 4 Apr. Pine Siskin: flocks of migrants CH to 6 May, dwindling numbers remained at feeders through May. House Sparrow: transient female at feeder 2.5 mi. ne Elizabethtown 17 Apr.

Discovery Farm, RD 1, Elizabethtown, NY 12932

REGION 8 — HUDSON-MOHAWK

LINDA ARMSTRONG

Plenty of sunshine and below normal amounts of precipitation during the early part of March enabled birders to shake the freezing winter blues and go outside looking for first arrivals. Sure enough, the first Killdeer arrived, followed closely by American Woodcock and Common Snipe. When the month closed with cold, nasty temperatures, we certainly wondered why the Tree Swallows didn't reverse directions and head back to warmer conditions. Then the first week of April brought smiles as above normal temperatures prevailed. The first Osprey arrived and many a yard was filled with the song of Ruby-crowned Kinglets. However, the wonderful weather was not to continue, and the remainder of the month was chilly. Although there were many, many days with some form of precipitation, the month totals was actually below normal. By the end of the month, Region 8 yards were filled with a mixture of winter and spring sparrows, and there were migrants to be found if birders looked hard enough. Of course May is the month of our primary migration activity. Precipitation totals for May were below normal, while temperatures were above normal with the warmest days at the end of the month. Unfortunately, reports from Region 8 observers do not illustrate a fun-filled migration for birders. In fact the most frequently reported total on a given day for a warbler species was one, only a single representative of a species had been found. There was not one single report of a tree 'dripping' with migrants.

During the spring season, Region 8 did experience a notable invasion of Pine Siskins and a few observers kept tallies throughout. Tom Palmer's yard in the Town of Florida supported a large flock and on one particular day 99 birds were banded. Alan Mapes reported flocks of up to 60 at Five Rivers, Barbara Putnam described flocks of 30 and more at feeders in Glens Falls, Laura Meade kept records of many flocks numbering up to 100 in various locations in the Hague area, and Linda Armstrong fed thistle seeds to flocks numbering close to 100 all season in Clarksville. Robert Yunick reported numbers banded in his Schenectady yard: 67 in Feb, 74 in Mar, 1999 in Apr and 1012 in May, along with 1100 recaptures. During April banding days in both Schenectady and Florida, birds were found with eggs in their oviducts. He reports this to be a first in his experience for the month of April. He then found the first young in his yard on 29 Apr and caught a record of 34 young of the year from 29 Apr to 19 May.

Contributors: Ethel Andrus, Malcolm Archard, Linda Armstrong, Joseph Bach, Penny Bolton, Richard Bolton, Beth Brunet, Michelle Brunet, Paul Connor, Bill Cook (BCK), Edward Crabbs, Bruce Craig, Anthony DeFranco, David DeFranco, Richard Dykstra, Jean Feibusch, Imogene Frasier, Thomas James, Chad Jordon, David Lawrence, Alan Mapes, Kevin McGrath, Laura Meade, Cathy Nast, Tom Palmer, Barbara Putnam, Elton Rising, Mark Rutkowski, Jim Sotis, Joyce Thyrring, Jamie Trudeau, Ken Yaw, Robert Yunick.

Abbreviations: FREC-Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Delmar; CGCC-Columbia Green County Community College; RVWB-Rip Van Winkle Bridge.

LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: arr Stuyvesant 9 Apr and Hague 21 Apr, all subsequent reports late May. Pied-Billed Grebe: arr Churchtown 2 Apr. Horned Grebe: only report a pair Hague Bay 17 and 21 Apr. Double-crested Cormorant: arr four Greenport 6 Apr, reported s part of Region only. Am. Bittern: reported from FREC and Black Creek Marsh only after 20 May. Least Bittern: sole report six Vosburgh's Marsh 21 May. Great Blue Blue Heron: arr Schodack Landing 20 March, then commonly seen. Great Egret: sole report Hudson 13 May. Black-crowned Night-Heron: sole report FREC 1 May. Mute Swan: one or two Chrysler Pd and Embough Bay after 5 Apr. Snow Goose: max 75 Embough Bay 17 Apr, last Jabe Pd 14 May. Brant: two reports, 100 Schoharie 15 May, 110 Embough Bay 21 May. Canada Goose: 1000 arr Cocksackie 5 Mar, numerous nesting locations. Wood Duck: nesting at numerous locations. Green-winged Teal: single report six Churchtown 22 Mar. Am. Black Duck: arr Livingston 4 Mar. N. Pintail: seven WASH 26 Mar, one FREC 29 Mar. Blue-winged Teal: two FREC 29 Mar, then two ALBA 21 May. Am. Wigeon: sole report Schodack Landing 23 and 30 Mar. Canvasback: max 500 RVWB 29 Mar. Redhead: sole report Churchtown 15 Mar. Ring-necked Duck: arr four Cocksackie 5 Mar. Greater Scaup: female Greenport 29 Mar (BCK). White-winged Scoter: sole report one Tomhannock Res 27 Mar. Com. Goldeneye: reported Cocksackie, Schuylerville and Stuyvesant Mar. Bufflehead: arr opposite ends of Region Greenport and Hague Bay 29 Mar. Hooded Merganser: arr four Castleton 7 Mar, then Bell's Pd, Churchtown, Schuylerville, FREC, WASH, Hague Bay. Com. Merganser: arr 18 Cocksackie 5 Mar.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: arr Cocksackie 5 Mar. Osprey: reported as late as 31 May FREC. Bald Eagle: two Cocksackie 5 Mar, one Hague 20 Mar, pair Eagleville Bridge Mar, one CGCC 2 Apr, one Hague 15 Apr, and imm Basic Res 21 May. N. Harrier: arr Greenport 3 Mar then numerous sightings through early Apr. Sharp-shinned Hawk: almost daily Clarksville feeder Mar and Apr, six other locations during same months. Cooper's Hawk: most frequently seen T Florida, two from mid Apr to late May. N. Goshawk: pair nesting again this year Thacher P. Red-shouldered Hawk: one late May Jenny L (RY) where not been seen in many years; also reported frequently Cherry Plain. Broad-winged Hawk: nesting pair Ballston Spa Country Club, only other reports end of May from WARR, Hague, Florida, none seen at Jenny L where normally common. Rough-legged Hawk: single report ten Cocksackie 5 Mar. Am. Kestrel: common through period. Merlin: single report one Vosburgh's Marsh 7 May (BCK). Ruffed Grouse: male displaying Greenport 9 Mar; ad with y Florida 26 May. Wild Turkey: typical numbers reported Churchtown, Schuylerville, Clarksville, Schoharie. Virginia Rail: actively calling and defending territories Black Creek Marsh 21 May, four Ancramdale 14 May, four Vosburgh's Marsh 21 May, one Florida 21 May. Sora: arr Vosburgh's Marsh 7 May, then Vosburgh's, Gallatin, Florida and Black Creek Marsh end of May. Com. Moorhen: sole report Carter L 14 May. Semipalmated Plover: single location ten Basic Res 21 May. Killdeer: arr Castleton, CGCC and Niskayuna 7 Mar. Greater Yellowlegs: two Ancram 14 May. Solitary Sandpiper: four singles Cherry Plain 7 May, Ancram 14 May, Shushan 15 May, Basic Res 21 May. Spotted Sandpiper: Warrensburg Fish Hatchery 8 May. Upland Sandpiper: arr Amsterdam 27 Apr, additional birds arr 14 May. Least Sandpiper: three locations, two Ancram 14 May, two GREE and eight Basic Res 21 May. Dunlin: sole

report Basic Res 21 May. Short-billed Dowitcher: 15 Embough Bay 21 May. Am. Woodcock: arr Livingston 12 Mar, eight males calling and displaying FREC 21 May. Bonaparte's Gull: two locations, one Catskill 12 May, six Basic Res mid May. Ring-billed Gull: max 75 Churchtown 18 Mar, small numbers Hague 28 May. Herring Gull: max 110 Colonie 21 May. Great Black-backed Gull: max 110 Colonie 21 May.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: widespread, normal numbers. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: sole report Schodack Center 22 May. E. Screech-Owl: calling nightly Clarksville May, gray phase roosting on woodland trail daily FREC Apr. Great Horned Owl: calling nightly Clarksville May. Barred Owl: three Jenny L 30 Apr, 15 May, one Hague 27-28 Mar, two Hague 3 May, two Saratoga 21 May. Long-eared Owl: sole report Cocksackie 5 Mar on Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club trip. Short-eared Owl: three Ft Edward Mar and Apr. Com. Nighthawk: singles Malta 13 Mar, FREC 26 May, Schodack Center 26 May. Whip-poor-will: calling Alcove 17 May, Saratoga 21 May. Hague 28 May. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: common throughout. Belted Kingfisher: present daily all year Onesquethaw Creek Clarksville, common many areas of Region in May. Red-headed Woodpecker: single males FREC 14 May and Hartford 21 May. Red-bellied Woodpecker: Vosburgh's Marsh, Ancram, Florida in May. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: four locations, Greenport 6 Apr, Florida 17 Apr, Schenectady 28 Apr, Jenny L 28 May. Downy Woodpecker: good numbers throughout. Hairy woodpecker: reported as scarce by LA, TP and RY. N. Flicker: arr CGCC and Schodack Landing 30 Mar.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: E. Wood-Pewee: arr Ancram, Carter L, Clarksville 14 May. Alder Flycatcher: single location, one FREC 28 May. Willow Flycatcher: arr two sites 20 May, then SARA 21 May, Florida 24 May, Chrysler Pd 30 May. Horned Lark: max 30 Cocksackie 5 Mar. Purple Martin: arr few in martin house Hague 11 May, then many 28 May. N. Rough-winged Swallow: one FREC 7 Apr, all other reports mid May. Bank Swallow: max 300 Embough Bay-Basic Res-Saratoga L on big day 21 May. Cliff Swallow: one Embough Bay 21 May, four Basic Res 21 May. Am. Crow: max 60 Cocksackie 5 Mar. Fish Crow: five locations, Castleton, Florida, Greenport, Poolsburg, Schenectady. Com. Raven: pair again at Thatcher P, two Hague after 8 Mar. Red-breasted Nuthatch: greater than average numbers breeding at Jenny L (RY). Carolina Wren: most frequently seen Florida 14 Mar through early Apr. Winter Wren: Hague 31 Mar, Jenny L 1 Apr and 30 May, Cherry Plain 7 May. FREC 2 and 5 Apr, Florida 30 Apr and 11 May, Thatcher P 21 May, Bear Swamp 21 May. Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr three Hague 7 Mar. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: eight Clarksville 21 Apr. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: commonly reported after arr. E. Bluebird: nestbox investigation reported Delmar, Clarksville, Livingston end of Mar. Veery: arr Florida 13 May, Hague 15 May and then throughout end of period. Gray-cheeked Thrush: sole report Schenectady (RY), first in his yard in 24 years. Swainson's Thrush: two reports, Schodack Center 11 May, FREC 12 May. Hermit Thrush: max five Cherry Plain 22 May. Cedar Waxwing: arr Shushan 15 May, nest building Battenkill 21 May. N. Shrike: last Five Rivers 21 Mar, only report.

VIREOS-WARBLED: Solitary Vireo: three reports, one Schodack Center 27 Apr, ten Cherry Plain 7 and 29 May, Thatcher P 21 May. Yellow-throated Vireo: two Carter L 14 May and later pair with nest (JS). Blue-winged Warbler: arr Livingston 5 May. Golden-winged Warbler: sole report two Cairo 21 May. Tennessee Warbler: only reports Ancram, Vosburgh's Marsh, FREC, Castleton 14-21 May. Cape May Warbler: max ten FREC 13 May. Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr Hague 22 Apr. Yellow-rumped Warbler: arr Cherry Plain 18 Apr. Pine Warbler: only reports from one big day team - one Embough Bay, one Saratoga 21 May. Prairie Warbler: first songs by breeding population CGCC 13 May. Palm Warbler: sole report FREC 26 Apr. Bay-breasted Warbler: single report two WARR Bike Path 22 May. N. Waterthrush: four reports, Schodack Landing 1 May, eight Cherry Plain 7 May, one Bear Swamp 21 May, Hague 28 May. Louisiana Waterthrush: arr 16 Apr Florida, Five Rivers and Clarksville, continuing through end of period. **Kentucky Warbler**: one Cairo 21 May (BCK). Wilson's warbler: arr Ancram and FREC 12 and 14 May.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Scarlet Tanager: arr widespread 13 and 14 May. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: lower numbers banded Vischer Ferry, scarce Jenny L. Indigo Bunting: reported Florida, Hague and Schodack Center. Am. Tree Sparrow: last Clarksville and Florida 4 Apr. Field Sparrow: one FREC 10 Apr. Vesper Sparrow: three reports, Florida 13 May, Harlemville 14 May, Brookview. Savannah Sparrow: uncertain if they bred FREC this year. Grasshopper Sparrow: two locations, Florida 13 and 21 May, Saratoga Historic Park 22 May. Song Sparrow: small numbers sighted in Mar and Apr, common after 14 May. Swamp Sparrow: arr eight Castleton 6 Apr, common after 7 May. White-throated Sparrow: arr two FREC 24 Mar, sightings to end of period. White-crowned Sparrow: two reports, one Florida 11 May, one Valatie 15 May at feeder. Bobolink: arr three FREC 7 May. E. Meadowlark: arr eight Cocksackie 5 Mar, singing Glenco Mills 27 Apr. Rusty Blackbird: single location, eight Hague 7 Mar, two 23 Mar. Orchard Oriole: sole report one Vosburgh's Marsh 21 May. N. Oriole: arr Florida, Schodack Center and Bells' Pd 4 May. Purple Finch: arr Jenny L 1 Apr, small numbers Apr and May, Livingston, Florida, Thatcher P, Hague. House Finch: common at feeders in Livingston, Clarksville, Florida; another year of significant decreases in numbers banded at Jenny L (RY). Red Crossbill: max twelve CGCC 24 Mar. White-winged Crossbill: single report one Jenny L 30 May. Com. Redpoll: two locations: two Florida 13-26 Mar, three Schenectady 5 Mar.

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REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

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The fluctuating temperatures of March averaged out to be slightly colder than a year ago but slightly warmer than normal; the highest temperature was 73° on 24 Mar, the lowest 6° on 22 Mar. The ice was out of the Hudson River by mid month and out of the inland ponds a week later, when the waterfowl were moving through. The number of Canvasback was down for the second year in a row, and Blue-winged Teal were very scarce. April was dry with only 1.15 inches of participation and temperatures remained cool and unsettled. There were many days with sharp northwest wind and below freezing temperatures. Early migrants were slow arriving until a flurry of activity occurred at the end of the month. Pine Siskins and Purple Finches flocked to the feeders. May arrived wet and cool. The coolness held back the foliage until mid May. Migration was slow and peaked 14-15 May when most Spring Bird counts were held.

An adult male **Northern Wheatear** was seen at Milton Point, Rye, on 7 May. It was observed by several people and was in perfect breeding plumage. Peregrine Falcons bred on the Tappan Zee Bridge and hatched three young, the first record of breeding Peregrines in the Hudson Valley since 1951. A young male Summer Tanager was seen by Tom Burke at Rye Nature Center on 21 May, and an adult male in breeding plumage found on Butts Hollow Road by Helen Manson and Barbara Butler on 14 May was the second Dutchess County record, the first a female at Cruger Island May 1962. This adult male was observed well for about fifteen minutes. The Humpo Marsh in Ulster County continues to be of great