

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.

RD 1 Box 159, Feura Bush, N.Y. 12067

REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

HELEN C. MANSON

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

interest. Many waterfowl and shorebirds stop there on migration and some stay to breed along with Tree Swallows, Red-winged Blackbirds and rails. A pair of Otter were seen there in early May. The dam left by the departing Beaver is somewhat weakened and may, in time, lower the water level. The surrounding fields are filled with Bobolinks, meadowlarks, Savannah Sparrows and other interesting birds.

Contributors: John Askisen, Barbara Butler, Frank Brown, Lysle Brinke, Tom Burke, Walter Friton, Florence Germond, Thelma Haight, Alice Jones, Jim and Mary Key, Jed Kiel, Helen Manson, Doris Metraux, Barbara Michelin, Eleanor Pink, Selden Spencer, John P. Tramontano, Edward Treacy, Marion VanWagner, Otis Waterman, Mary Yegella.

Abbreviations: Basha-Bashakill Wetlands; EMBC-Edgar Mearns Bird Club; HMMHW-Hawk Mountain Hawk Watch; Mland-Marshlands Sanctuary, Rye; MPHWW-Mount Peter Hawk Watch; SCAS-Sullivan Audubon Society; 6MS - 6 1/2 Mile Sanctuary; WMC-Waterman May Census 14 May.

LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: one Rhinecliff 26 Mar (OTW), Ashokan Res 26 Mar (SS), ten migrating past Mt Peter 16 Apr (JPT), one Basha 16 Mar (EMBC), late date. Pied-billed Grebe: one New Hamburg 16 Mar, many others. Horned Grebe: one near Newburgh 21 May (EMBC), two Ryder Pd 26 Mar (BB), max 58 Rye 26 Apr (JA). Double-crested Cormorant: three WMC, one over Basha 20 May (EMBC). Am. Bittern: one WMC, one 5 May (SS) also seen Mland 21 May; are they so scarce or just go unreported? Least Bittern: three Basha 20-21 May (EMBC) permitted many exceptionally close views; returned to George I P, Montrose after many years absence (JA). Great Blue Heron: on nests 2 Apr, nine active nests Tamarack, two nests Carpenter Hill 26 Mar, seven to eight active nests near Stewart Field (ET). Great Egret: Basha 23 Apr-7 May. Snowy Egret: one Basha 7 May, one 5 May (SS). Little Blue Heron: one calico phase Mland mid May (AJ). Cattle Egret: one 30 May Pleasant Valley (AJ), one 16 May Castleton Farm (ET), one 17 May Goshen. Green-backed Heron: 11 WMC. Black-crowned Night-Heron: one Rye mid May (JA), one 6MS 19 May (EMBC). Glossy Ibis: regular visitor, arr Rye 13 May (JA). Mute Swan: increasing in numbers and nesting throughout Region. Greater White-fronted Goose: one 2 Mar with flock of Canada Geese (HM). Snow Goose: many good flights. Brant: 30 on 20 May (EMBC), two flocks 150 each 7:30 PM 18 May (ET), 100+ over Stissing 22 May. Canada Goose: many continue to winter. Wood Duck: max 20 come in daily Stissing, a sight to behold; breeding abundantly SULL, ORAN, Basha. Green-winged Teal: well reported throughout Region, max 19 6MS 19 Mar, 25 North Bay 26 Mar (OTW). Am. Black Duck: large numbers Hudson R bays and inland ponds. Mallard: common all over Region. N. Pintail: 14 6MS 19 Mar, nine Vanderburg Cove 19 Mar (OTW). Blue-winged Teal: two WMC, six Craft Pd 27 Apr (BM). N. Shoveler: one WMC. Gadwall: max three Wappingers Creek and L, Craft Pd through 29 Mar (MVW), two Rhinebeck 16 Mar. Am. Wigeon: max ten 6MS 19 Mar, six Wappingers L 5 Mar, four North Bay 6 Mar. Canvasback: good numbers following ice break up in Hudson R. Redhead: none. Ring-necked Duck: 19 DUTC 3 Mar many afterwards at inland ponds. Greater Scaup: three Ryder Pd 26 Mar (BB). Lesser Scaup: one Christie Pd 23 Mar (HM), none reported from Hudson R. Oldsquaw: one Traver Pd 27 Mar (MY). Black Scoter: low numbers WEST (JA), White-winged Scoter: low numbers WEST (JA). Com. Goldeneye: max 100 Esopus 7 Mar, low. Bufflehead: max seven reported DUTC Mar, few Ulst. Hooded Merganser: over 70 from inland ponds DUTC, 15 Basha 27 Mar. Com. Merganser: numerous Hudson R Mar, 60 L Carmel 27 Apr (FB). Red-breasted Merganser: one Esopus 7 Mar, one North Bay 26 Mar (OTW). Ruddy Duck: pair Wappingers L 5-16 Mar, one 21 May Cornwall Bay.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: **Black Vulture**: two just below Mt Peter 11 & 20 Mar, two Bear Mt 9 Mar (WF). Osprey: max 12 Basha 24 Apr, pair remained through May may attempt

nesting on platform provided by D.E.C.; over 100 each HMHW and MPHW. Bald Eagle: two MPHW, continued reports of pairs at Rio Res, may be nesting attempt, single adult continues to occupy a secluded part of Basha (JPT). N. Harrier: 12 MPHW, 33 HMHW. Sharp-shinned Hawk: 457 HMHW, 111 MPHW; many reported at feeders. Cooper's Hawk: nesting Bangall Rd, DUTC, 21 HMHW. N. Goshawk: one Basha 20 May, pair central DUTC, possibly nesting. Red-shouldered Hawk: 16 HMHW, five MPHW, two Parksville, SULL (SCAS). Broad-winged Hawk: 200+ HMHW, 500+ MPHW. Rough-legged Hawk: excellent numbers Warren Sod Farms through Mar, one HMHW. Am. Kestrel: 11 MPHW, 62 HMHW, seen in N Salem and Pound Ridge, scarce (JA). Merlin: 22 HMHW, female Basha 21 May (JPT), one Millbrook 7 May (OTW). Peregrine Falcon: three HMHW, *intro*. Ring-necked Pheasant: few reports. Ruffed Grouse: low in DUTC. Wild Turkey: continues on the increase in all areas, 24 outside Middletown 5 Mar (EMBC). N. Bobwhite: scattered reports DUTC. Virginia Rail: one Thompson Pd 2 Apr (EP), one Millbrook School Marsh 16 Apr, two WMC. Sora: four WMC; at Mlands all May. Com. Moorhen: three WMC. Black-bellied Plover: Mlands in May. Am. Oystercatcher: two Rye 4 May (JA). Greater Yellowlegs: three 19 Mar Vanderburg Cove (OTW), one Mlands 12 Apr. Lesser Yellowlegs: one Meadowlands 12 Apr, two 10 May Beaver Dam (HM). Solitary Sandpiper: 21 WMC. Upland Sandpiper: two 21 May Warren Sod Farm (JPT). Whimbrel: one Mlands 27 May (JA). Red Knot: Mlands 27 May. White-rumped Sandpiper: five Mlands 27 May. Purple Sandpiper: to mid May. Dunlin: Mlands 27 May. Short-billed Dowitcher: 24 Goshen 21 May, Pound Ridge late Apr. Com. Snipe: one Pound Ridge late Apr, one Pleasant Valley 7 Mar, 14 Salt Pt 21 May (EP). Am. Woodcock: one on lawn 3 Mar (FB); good reports DUTC. Bonaparte's Gull: two flocks totaling 25 birds Mt Peter 26 Apr (ET), flock of 25 Cornwall Bay 25 Apr. Iceland Gull: ad Esopus 7 Mar (EP), imm Rondout Res 6 Mar (EMBC), second yr Playland 23 Apr. Lesser Black-backed Gull: two Playland P 1 May. **Caspian Tern**: two Basha 21 May (JPT). **Black Tern**: two 30 Apr, one Basha 21 May (EMBC).

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Black-billed Cuckoo: good reports in May. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: numbers up most of region. E. Screech-Owl: few wintering; one chased by crows Carmel (FB). Great Horned Owl: nest with one large y Buttercup Sanctuary 27 Apr, observed throughout period. Barred Owl: several reports. Short-eared Owl: still being seen 15 Mar (SS). Com. Nighthawk: Middletown 16 May (EMBC), seven WMC. Whip-poor-will: few arr Basha 20 May, two WBC. Chimney Swift: arr at colony in Foster Homestead, Carmel 1 May where continuous nesting for 50 years (FB). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: many at feeders. Red-headed Woodpecker: all season Milton Pt Rye, left 14 May, remain very local and secretive (JPT); confirmed nesting Rhinebeck, one Verbank 15 May, one Hyde Park mid Apr, bumper crop for DUTC. Red-bellied Woodpecker: continues to increase. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: few noted in DUTC Mar and Apr. Pileated Woodpecker: well reported.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: one Cary Arboretum 7 May, early; one singing Crumb Elbow Cem 31 May (JMK); one Pound Ridge 15-17-May. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: one Mlands 21 May (TB LB). Acadian Flycatcher: two vocalizing Basha 20 May (EMBC), one Mlands 21 May, one Pound Ridge 22 May, one Verbank 24 May (BB), one Deep Hollow 26 May (MVW). Alder Flycatcher: one Pound Ridge 22 May, one Middletown 20 May (EMBC). Willow Flycatcher: widely noted 20 May (EMBC). E. Kingbird: 97 WMC. Horned Lark: March migrants widely noted, no breeding pairs noted (JPT). Purple Martin: small colonies established throughout Region. Bank Swallow: good numbers. Cliff Swallow: good numbers and nesting in ULST and SULL, none in DUTC. Fish Crow: flock of 22 over Middletown 5 Apr talking and flying north, first major occurrence away from waterways and first evidence of migration; At least two pair Basha. Com. Raven: pair observed from Bear Mt 9 Mar, one seen three times, perched as close as 25 ft 23 Apr (DM, WF). Red-breasted Nuthatch: seven reports SULL,

at a number of feeders DUTC. Brown Creeper: on feeder lists Feb and Mar; two Basha 2 Apr. Winter Wren: one 21 May Basha, several places in DUTC. Marsh Wren: 14 WMC, common. most marshes SULL and ORAN. Golden-crowned Kinglet: excellent Mt Peter passage 16 Apr. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: widespread Apr through mid May. **N. Wheatear:** *intro*. E. Bluebird: continues to be a success story, nest with four eggs 31 Mar, earliest on record (FG). Gray-cheeked Thrush: none. Swainson's Thrush: good migration, peak DUTC 10-16 May, ORAN and SULL 15-21 May. Hermit Thrush: one Buttercup Sanctuary 17 Apr, singing Basha 21 May, two in song West Point 21 May (EMBC). Am. Robin: returned Cornwall 8 Mar (FB), singing on territory Highland Falls 9 Mar (ET). Gray Catbird: one DUTC 29 Apr. Brown Thrasher: seem not as plentiful DUTC. Water Pipit: none. Cedar Waxwing: five 16 Apr Cruger I.(HM), very scarce DUTC.

VIREOS-WARBLERS: White-eyed Vireo: one Mine Rd 21 May (EMBC), one Vassar Farm 8 May (JMK), one Millbrook 7 May (OTW). Solitary Vireo: one in song at highest elevation West Point 21 May (EMBC), may breed in chestnut-oak woods (JPT). Yellow-throated Vireo: fairly common. Warbling Vireo: very common. Philadelphia Vireo: one Basha 14 and 21 May. Red-eyed Vireo: late arriving in DUTC but widespread. Blue-winged Warbler: arr DUTC 30 Apr, over 100 WMC Golden-winged Warbler: one Pound Ridge 15 May, one Croton 10 May (JK) "Brewster's" Warbler: one WBC. Tennessee Warbler: good migration 14-19 May. Orange-crowned Warbler: one singing Tallman Mountain SP 16 May, observed well for 5 min (Nick Helmi). Nashville Warbler: few noted (JPT). N. Parula: twenty WMC. Yellow Warbler: widespread. Chestnut-sided Warbler: widespread and common. Magnolia Warbler: few noted (JPT), scarce. Cape May Warbler: scarce. Yellow-rumped Warbler: good numbers Apr, few through May. Black-throated Green Warbler: did not seem plentiful. Blackburnian Warbler: never plentiful. Pine Warbler: becoming increasingly more common in Pine groves WEST, good numbers DUTC late Apr. Prairie Warbler: arr DUTC 1 May, few noted ORAN and SULL, common most areas. Palm Warbler: one 12 Apr Vassar Farm. Bay-breasted Warbler: one 19 May, 15 WMC. Blackpoll Warbler: very few, seven WMC. Cerulean Warbler: one Rye 23 May, one Mamaroneck 10 May, two-four Basha, several places DUTC. Black-and-white Warbler: fairly plentiful most areas. Am. Redstart: plentiful. Prothonotary Warbler: male Pound Ridge 12 May (J. VanValkenburg), two WEST 22 May. Worm-eating Warbler: one Tyrell Rd 9 May (EP) few others, one Basha 21 May. Ovenbird: plentiful. N. Waterthrush: reported all areas. Louisiana Waterthrush: two 11 Apr, few noted SULL and ORAN. Kentucky Warbler: few Rye Nature Cent and Gorges through May, one WMC. Mourning Warbler: scattered Rye late May. Hooded Warbler: uncommon, two pair WEST. Wilson's Warbler: fairly widespread. Canada Warbler: 12 WMC. Yellow-breasted Chat: only report WEST.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Summer Tanager: *intro*. Scarlet Tanager: a striking orange colored variant Croton Pt P 23 May (ET). Indigo Bunting: numerous Mine Rd, singing males every few yards (ET). Rufous-sided Towhee: one very early SULL 13 Feb wintered?, most arrived end of Apr. Am. Tree Sparrow: seem to have left most places 24 Apr. Chipping Sparrow: one 19 & 21 Mar (B Voight), very early, one 4 Apr (EMBC); by mid Apr they were everywhere. Vesper Sparrow: never many; one Pawling 4-8 Apr. Savannah Sparrow: few early Apr. Grasshopper Sparrow: one 27 May (MVW); singing in good numbers Galesville Airport (ET). Sharp-tailed Sparrow: at Mland by 14 May. Seaside Sparrow: Mland 12 May. Fox Sparrow: at many feeders mid Mar to early Apr. Swamp Sparrow: good numbers in DUTC. White-throated Sparrow: left mid May most areas. White-crowned Sparrow: very, very few; two WMC. Bobolink: seem to have arrived ULST and DUTC 5 May; very good nesting population. E. Meadowlark: nesting well in farmlands; arr Middletown 9 Mar. Rusty Blackbird: few Mar and Apr. Orchard Oriole: one Montrose 21-23 May (JA); pair Stissing 13 May, possible nesting; few Basha 26 May. N. Oriole: late arriving ULST 5 May. Pine Grosbeak: one Warwarsing 17 Mar (SCAS)

Purple Finch: few noted (JPT), good numbers at feeders Apr into early May. Red Crossbill: five Kent 15 May, settling in for night in white pines; ten Fishkill 8 and 27 Apr (K McDermott); 12 Amenia 1 Apr, ten 4 Mar, 22 Middletown 5 Mar (JPT). Com. Redpoll: 15 Middletown 1 Mar (JPT), one at feeder Wappingers Falls 4 Mar, two Pawling 5 Mar. Evening Grosbeak: common SULL in Mar, none ORAN, 50 at feeder Pawling Apr.

—Moores Mills, RD 4 Pleasant Valley, NY 12569

[There is no Region 10 report. The new editors for Region 10 are Al Wollin, 4 Meadow Lane, Rockville Centre, NY 11570 and Seymour Schiff, 603 Mead Terrace, S. Hempstead, NY 11550. Please help them to a good start by submitting your reports as early as possible.]

It is with deep sorrow that we report the passing of Constance Wilkins on 16 September 1988 after a brief hospitalization. While all involved with the operations of the Federation may take small solace in knowing that, before she left us, Connie knew how very much we all appreciated everything that she has contributed to our organization, we once again affirm, Thanks, you are and will be missed.