

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Snowy Owl: none. Barred Owl: reported regularly in the Ithaca area but none elsewhere; present all season and territorial YBSF (Melin). Com. Nighthawk: max 50 Elmira 2 Sep. Chimney Swift: max 50 Elmira 4 Sep. Red-headed Woodpecker: none.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Horned Lark: present all season in agricultural areas. Fish Crow: regularly reported SP Oct-Nov. Com. Raven: *intro*. Red-breasted Nuthatch: no irruption evident. Carolina Wren: present all season QCM & Elmira but none elsewhere. Winter Wren: one FLNF 28 Sep; regular all season Ithaca area. Sedge Wren: one Ithaca (Blue Grass Lane) 22 Sep (*fide* McIlroy). Marsh Wren: one Dryden Lake 26 Sep; five singing Waneta Lake 4 Oct. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: last 2 Sep. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: *intro*. Golden-crowned Kinglet: *intro*. E. Bluebird: widespread all season. Hermit Thrush: *intro*. N. Mockingbird: present all season Ithaca area, including one albino at Brooktondale; none elsewhere. Water Pipit: *intro*. Cedar Waxwing: widespread all season. N. Shrike: one SWS 25 Oct. Loggerhead Shrike: none.

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: Orange-crowned Warbler: one SWS 28 Sep. Pine Warbler: 5 Harris Hill 24 Sep. Palm Warbler: one QCM 17 & 20 Sep. **Prothonotary Warbler**: one Six Mile Creek 19 Sep. *Oporornis* warblers: none. Hooded Warbler: male SWS 12 Sep, present since August (DS).

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: **Clay-colored Sparrow**: one Cornell Ag. Quad. 21 Sep (R. Titus, *fide* McIlroy). Am. Tree sparrow: *intro*. Vesper Sparrow: one near Cayuta Lake 4 Oct. Grasshopper Sparrow: none. Henslow's Sparrow: one Bluegrass Lane 22 Sep. **Sharp-tailed Sparrow**: *intro*. Lincoln's Sparrow: one Bluegrass Lane 22 Sep. White-crowned Sparrow: widespread during Oct. Snow Bunting: arrived in the Ithaca area around 7 Nov; not reported elsewhere. Rusty Blackbird: 14 CP 4 Oct, nine WG area 31 Oct. N. Oriole: none reported.

449 Irish Settlement Road, Freeville, NY 13068

REGION 4 - SUSQUEHANNA

JAY G. LEHMAN

In contrast to the hot summer, September at Binghamton was cool. There were twenty one days with below average mean temperatures. A record low temperature of 39°F was recorded on 6 Sep, and 34°F on 29 Sep tied the previous low for that date. The only major respite from cool fall weather was created by the remnants of Hurricane Gilbert from 18 to 20 Sep, when temperatures averaged 7-9° above normal. The summer drought continued. September ended with only 2.05 inches of rain, well below the average of 3.32. October started with a short-lived three-day warming trend from 30 Sep to 2 Oct, which was followed by twelve cold days with mean temperatures ranging from 1-16° below normal. A welcome but short Indian Summer from 15 to 18 Oct was followed by continuous, unbroken days of below average temperatures to the end of the month - and snow! On 22 Oct 4.5 inches of snow was recorded at Link Field weather station breaking the previous October record of 2.6 inches. It was worse in Chenango County were up to 8 inches were reported in the Norwich-Sherburne area. At month's end Halloween tricked us with a record low of 19°F, beating the previous low of 22°F in 1965. In October there were 4.9 inches of snow and 2.58 inches of precipitation which is slightly below the norm of 3.00 inches. While October

tricked us with weather like November, there was nothing tricky or earth-shattering about November, unless one includes the earthquake of 26 Nov which shook the Region. A short three-day warming trend from 4 to 6 Nov and a five day Indian Summer from 13 to 17 Nov were interspersed between fourteen days with below average mean temperatures. The month ended warmer with a week of above average mean temperatures. Precipitation was 2.93 inches, about normal for the month.

The most astounding news of the fall was a belated report of breeding Common Loons on Chenango Lake this summer. Marty Conklin reported to Chad Covey that "two loons were seen from early May throughout the summer. They had two fluffy dark young with the adults. The loons called throughout the mating season, and one bird disappeared in mid August. "Fowl" play (Chad's pun) is suspected. On its northern, more isolated end Chenango Lake has an island that may be suitable for loon nesting. The western end of the island is very low to the water with some vegetation for cover. Unfortunately, we will have to wait for another year to confirm breeding. Despite the efforts of the Chenango Bird Club to get people on the lake to report unusual sightings, it seems that they never do until its too late. Consequently, our lament is always "we should have been there last week, month, or year."

Fall is the best time to see waterfowl in this Region, and this fall was no exception, probably due to the early cold weather in October and lots of field work. Double-crested Cormorant, Snow Goose, Green-winged Teal, Canvasback, and White-winged Scoter were seen for the fifth time since 1978. One **Brant**, the first reported in eleven years, was seen at Oneonta Reservoir by Mary Dobinsky on 21 and 25 October. Ring-necked Duck, Common Goldeneye, Red-breasted Merganser, and Ruddy Duck were reported for the seventh fall in eleven. Blue-winged Teal and Oldsquaw were seen for the fourth and sixth time, respectively, since 1978. Large numbers of Bufflehead and Hooded Merganser were seen in October.

There were no fall sightings of northward wandering long-legged waders, but there were a few bright spots. A **Black-crowned Night-Heron** was seen at Vestal by Finch Hollow Nature center Staff on 2 Sep for only the second fall record since 1978. An American Bittern was sighted for only the second time in eleven years. Other waterbirds were scarce, due to low water levels as well as the draining of a beaver dam at North Norwich, where many species were found last year. Of the rails, just a few Common Moorhens and American Coots were reported this fall. Shorebirds made an excellent showing due to low water in reservoirs and beaver dams. Eleven species sighted ties the record high for the past eleven years, which was set in 1983 and 1987. Lesser Golden-Plover, and Semipalmated and Pectoral Sandpiper are reported for the third, fifth, and third time, respectively, since 1978. A well-described **Western Sandpiper** was reported at Whitney Point Reservoir on 7 Oct by Harriet Marsi and Bruce Bozdos, providing the first Regional record in eleven years. Common Snipe was seen in highest numbers since 1978.

Raptor reports were encouraging for this Region, which has no regularly maintained hawk watches. All the expected species were reported except Red-shouldered Hawk, which has been seen only once in eight years and four times in the last eleven. Turkey Vulture continued to increase both in the number of reports received and in the highest counts per day. Reports of Bald Eagles were

the second highest in eleven years. Goshawk was reported for the second consecutive year after two consecutive misses. Hurrah! Two sightings of Golden Eagle in one fall was the highest and only the third fall report in eleven years. None of the rarer falcons were reported. Regional reporters made up for low numbers by reporting unusual behavioral observations. Near Oneonta on 14 Sep Mary Dobinsky "noted an immature Red-tailed hawk perched and calling. Soon an adult appeared. The young hawk left its perch and the two flew a couple of circles together. Suddenly, the adult dropped a snake. Without missing a wing beat, the immature caught the snake in midair and returned to its perch." At North Norwich on 24 Sep, Jay Lehman saw an immature Northern Harrier chase to no avail a Ruffed Grouse flushed from the marsh edge. Bill Toner reported that a Northern Harrier captured a blackbird from a flock of about 1,000 at dusk at McGraw on 7 Sep. At North Norwich Jay Lehman saw a Sharp-shinned Hawk attack a Cooper's Hawk at tree-top level on 29 Oct.

There were mixed reports of birds dependent on flying insects. Chimney Swifts were reported in considerably lower numbers than last year, probably due to the dry summer and cool weather in September causing fewer insect hatches, whereas Bank and Cliff Swallows and Olive-sided and Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were seen for the fourth, third, fifth and seventh time in eleven falls. This may be attributed to field observers learning to visit lowland marshes in September where insects are more abundant. Marsh Wren reports also remained high due to lowland marshbirding. Southern species continue to do well. Northern Mockingbird, Carolina Wren, and Tufted Titmouse are reported from their usual Southern Tier locations as well as in northern sites in Chenango County. Hooded Warbler and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher were reported for only the second and third fall, respectively, since 1978. Only Red-bellied Woodpecker reports were fewer than last year.

Blue Jays were the only "resident" bird showing significant fall movements. Bill Toner saw about 25 apparently migrating at McGraw on 9 Sep. No Pine Siskins were seen for only the second fall in eleven years, and there was no invasion of finches. Evening Grosbeaks arrived rather late and in very small numbers.

Perhaps the cool September also decreased the number of passerines. Banding reports were very discouraging. At Newark Valley Judy Bell reported the poorest fall banding in the six year history of the station as indicated by the lowest total number of birds caught despite an increase in the number of nets used. Only Gray Catbirds were banded in above average numbers, while the lowest totals were recorded for Common Yellowthroat, and Song, Swamp, and Lincoln's Sparrow. At Vestal Harriet Marsi and Gail Kirch reported that warbler counts were low, especially for Tennessee, Nashville, and Blackpoll Warblers. Canada Warbler was last seen at Vestal Center on 3 Sep, earliest departure date since 1961. In contrast, the only Yellow Warbler was reported at Newark Valley on 3 Oct, and Cape May Warblers were seen at Windsor on 29 Oct, the latest departure dates for both species since 1961. Pine Warbler was seen for the third consecutive year and the sixth fall in eleven. Very high numbers of Palm Warblers appeared with reports at five sites in September and at two sites in October.

Other tidbits of note include the lowest number of Indigo Buntings reported since 1984 and the earliest Am. Tree Sparrow arrival, the earliest departure date for Vesper Sparrow, and the latest departure date for Eastern Meadowlark since

1978. Chipping Sparrows stayed somewhat later than the norm for the past eleven years. The highest number of Rusty Blackbirds in eleven years was seen. A **Brewer's Blackbird**, reported without identifying details by Anna Casselberry and Sadie Dorber at a feeder in Deposit on 26 Nov, is only the second fall record since 1978. A late Northern Oriole showed up at Juanita Angle's feeder in South Oxford on 28 Nov and stayed until the end of the month.

The species list of 170 ties that of 1987 as the highest in eleven falls. **Black-crowned Night-Heron**, **Brant**, **Western Sandpiper**, and **Brewer's Blackbird** are rarities. Much of this report was prepared from field reports of Mary Dobinsky (Oneonta area (OPM)), Mildred Clark (Delhi), Jay Lehman (Norwich and North Norwich), and banding records from Newark Valley and Vestal provided by Judy Bell, and Harriet Marsi and Gail Kirch, respectively.

Observers: Juanita Angle, Rich Anthony, Les Bemont, Bruce Bozdos, Cutler & Jeanette Baldwin, Don & Judy Bell, Reynolds Bennett, B. Breidinger, Chenango Bird Club (CBC), Mildred Clark, Bart Cormier, Chad Covey, Marilyn Davis (MDv), Mary Dobinsky, Sadie Dorber, Carl Eastwood, Margaret Ferranti, Esther Graves, Shirley Hartman, R. Howard, Gail Kirch, Nancy Kirch, Margaret Layton, Jay & Chris Lehman, Florence Linaberry, W. Lloyd, Harriet Marsi, Bud & Evelyn Mead, M. Musci, S. O'Connell, Robert & Rita Pantle, Marie Petuh, Halliday Pierce, K. Scott, Joe Sedlacek, Ed Sidote, K. Stalter, Shane Stalter, D. Sterling, Tioga Bird Club (TBC), E. Titus, William Toner, George Wade, Elizabeth Washburn, Don Windsor, Anne Whitaker, Crystal Wright.

Abbreviations: ChFk - Chenango Forks; ChL - Chenango Lake; CRes - Canonsville Reservoir; FHNC - Finch Hollow Nature Center; JCity - Johnson City; NVal - Newark Valley; OPM - Oneonta, Portlandville, Milford; ORes - Oneonta Reservoir; REEC - Rogers Environmental Education Center; VSpr - Valonia Springs; VestC - Vestal Center; WPres - Whitney Point Reservoir.

LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: *intro*; arr ChL 3 Sep (DW,CE); last five WPres 21 Oct (MDv). Pied-billed Grebe: arr OPM 7 Sep; max six Millbrook Res Sep-Oct (CC); last Hunts Pd SP 11 Nov (CC). Double-crested Cormorant: arr Millbrook Res 10 Sep (CC); last one WPres 6 Nov (MDv). Am. Bittern: only one TiOG Sep (D&JB). Great Blue Heron: max six OPM 7 & 10 Sep, decreasing to one/week, last Marathon 28 Nov (MDv). Green-backed Heron: max two Norwich 5 Sep; last Portlandville. **Black-crowned Night-Heron**: *intro*. Snow Goose: seven ChFk 7 Sep (MDv). **Brant**: *intro*. Canada Goose: max 15 flocks of ca 100 Catatonk 14 Oct (JS); last Marathon 28 Nov (MDv). Wood Duck: max 15 N Norwich 6 Sep; last TiOG (D&JB). Green-winged Teal: arr FHNC 6 Oct; max & last four CRes 26 Nov (MP). Am. Black Duck: arr FHNC 2 Sep; max 40 CRes 26 Nov (MP). Mallard: max 40 Otsego L 12 Nov (MD) & CRes 26 Nov (MP). Blue-winged Teal: singles/week to mid Sep; last two ORes 6 Oct. Canvasback: only one TiOG Nov (RB). Ring-necked Duck: max four White's Pd 29 Oct & Geneganslet L 30 Oct (JL); last one ChL 26 Nov (DW). Scaup (sp): Marathon 10-28 Nov (MDv). White-winged Scoter: three WPres 21 Nov (MDv), unusual. Com. Goldeneye: arr ORes 31 Oct; max three there 18 Nov. Bufflehead: arr three ORes 20 Oct; max 30 on six lakes CHEN 29 & 30 Oct (JL); last Marathon 27 Nov (MDv). Hooded Merganser: max 26 Bowman L SP 30 Oct (JL); last six there 25 Nov (DW). Com. Merganser: arr five S Oxford 3 Sep (DW,CE), early; max 55 Bowman L SP 19 Nov, high (DW,CE). Red-breasted Merganser: only eight WPres 29 Oct (MDv). Ruddy Duck: arr eight WPres 29 Oct (MDv); last five Plymouth Res 19 Nov (DW,CE).

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: max 40 Franklin 16 Sep (SS); last TiOG 30 Oct (TBC). Osprey: max three N Norwich 6 Sep; one to two/week until last TiOG (C&JB). Bald Eagle: singles CRes 18 Sep (MP,ME,NK) and Vestal 27 Sep (WL); last imm CRes 26 Nov (MP). N. Harrier: max three McGraw 23 Sep & 14 Oct (BT); one to three/week until last imm OPM 25 Oct; *intro*. Sharp-shinned Hawk: peak count four at three sites/week late

Sep; decreasing until last Norwich 11 Nov (DW); *intro.* Cooper's Hawk: four to five/month through Oct, last Guilford 12 Nov (DW,CC,CE). N. Goshawk: only one N Norwich 8 Oct. Broad-winged Hawk: max & last two N Norwich. Red-tailed Hawk: three to four sites/week; max 5 OPM 14 Sep; *intro.* Rough-legged Hawk: arr Oxford 12 Nov (DW,CC,CE); max two Bowman L SP 25 Nov (DW). Golden Eagle: singles Owego 24 Sep (SD) & New Berlin 10 Sep (CC). Am. Kestrel: max 14 OPM 28 Sep, decreasing to five reports/month Nov. Ring-necked Pheasant: at two to four sites/month, high. Ruffed Grouse: eight to 14 reports/month. Wild Turkey: max 40 OPM 14 Sep; reports increasing through Nov. Com. Moorhen: only one TiOG Oct (C&JB). Am. Coot: arr Portlandville 10 Oct; max & last two Owego, good count. Lesser Golden-Plover: only one TiOG 7 Sep (C&JB), uncommon. Killdeer: max 32 Norwich 9 Sep (DW); last TiOG 29 Oct. Greater Yellowlegs: arr one ORes 3 Sep; max two N Norwich 11 Sep; last there. Lesser Yellowlegs: max & last two ORes. Solitary Sandpiper: singles two sites until last ORes 7 Sep. Spotted Sandpiper: singles/week at ORes until mid Sep. Semipalmated Sandpiper: only TiOG Sep (C&JB). **W. Sandpiper:** *intro.* Pectoral Sandpiper: arr & max three N Norwich 24 Sep (DW,CE,EG); last two ORes 15 to 28 Oct, uncommon. Com. Snipe: arr two N Norwich 11 Sep; max three there 1 Oct (DW); last three New Berlin 22 Oct (CC). Am. Woodcock: one to two sites/month. Ring-billed Gull: max 300 Otsego L 11 Nov (MD). Herring Gull: regular at three to five sites/month; max five Otsego L 1 Nov (MD).

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: ca 5-25 daily; max 45 OPM 4 Oct. Black-billed Cuckoo: only one Masonville 18 Sep (MP,MF,NK). E. Screech-Owl: singles monthly TiOG. Great Horned Owl: two sites Sep; three sites Oct-Nov. Barred Owl: singles TiOG & Windsor Sep; max & last two Catatonk 14 Oct (JS). Com. Nighthawk: max 30 JCity 8 Sep (MP); last three there 10 Sep (MP). Chimney Swift: singles Norwich 5 Sep & last TiOG. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: max three Delhi 5 Sep; three sites/week until last two Norwich. Belted Kingfisher: max 25 reports Sep; decreasing to seven Nov. Red-bellied Woodpecker: singles monthly TiOG. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: five reports Sep, max two; last singles Delhi & OPM 4 Oct. N. Flicker: max ten REEC 6 Sep (JL) & OPM 14 Sep; last one CHEN 24 Nov (DW), late. Pileated Woodpecker: max twelve sites Oct.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Olive-sided Flycatcher: only one N Norwich 6 Sep. E. Wood-Pewee: max four Milford 10 Sep; at one to four sites/week Sep. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: only one N Norwich. Traill's Flycatcher: three N Norwich 6 Sep. Least Flycatcher: one to two/week at four sites to 24 Sep; max two Norwich. E. Phoebe: max seven N Norwich 6 Sep; last FHNC. Great Crested Flycatcher: only one N Colesville (JS). E. Kingbird: max three N Norwich 6 Sep; last two OPM. Horned Lark: several VSpr 12 Nov. Tree Swallow: max 25 N Norwich 6 Sep; last 8 Owego (MP,MK,NK) & one N Norwich. Bank Swallow: only six N Norwich 6 Sep. Cliff Swallow: only three N Norwich 6 Sep, late. Barn Swallow: max 25 N Norwich 6 Sep; last Sherburne (JL). Tufted Titmouse: at six to seven sites/month, max two. Red-breasted Nuthatch: at six to seven sites Sep-Oct decreasing to five sites Nov, max two. Brown Creeper: three singles Norwich Sep; two at five sites Oct; last Norwich 23 Nov (DW). Carolina Wren: at Norwich & four sites BROO- TiOG Sep-Oct; TiOG Nov; last Norwich 6 Nov, high. House Wren: at six sites Sep, max two; three singles Oct; last banded Vestal. Winter Wren: max three Norwich 5 Sep; four to five reports/month Sep-Oct; last banded Vestal 17 Oct. Marsh Wren: max two N Norwich 11 Sep; singles there 24 Sep & 8 Oct, high. Golden-crowned Kinglet: increasing to ca 15 reports/month Nov, max three. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr singles Norwich & Vestal (HM,GK) 24 Sep; peak 27 reports at 17 sites Oct; last VSpr 27 Nov. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: TiOG Sep (C&JB); last two OPM, good count. E. Bluebird: widely reported in good numbers; max 16 Masonville 18 Sep & OPM 22 Sep; last TiOG Nov (D&JB). Veery: four singles at Vestal (HM,GK) & Norwich to 10 Sep. Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr Norwich 6 Sep; singles at three sites until last one banded NVal 3 Oct, good count. Swainson's Thrush: arr banded Vestal 14 Sep; eleven reports until last banded

Vestal, high. Hermit Thrush: arr Owego 11 Sep (MP,ME,NK); eleven singles at seven sites until last banded Vestal 16 Oct. Wood Thrush: many reports Sep, max four; two reports Oct, last two Catatonk (JS). Am. Robin: max 49 N Norwich 29 Oct; last one VSpr 26 Nov. Gray Catbird: max ten OPM 8 Sep; decreasing to singles/week late Oct. N. Mockingbird: three to four sites/month BROO- TiOG. Brown Thrasher: four singles at three sites Sep; one report Oct. Water Pipit: only four N Norwich 29 Oct. Cedar Waxwing: max 95 N Norwich 6 Sep; last six OPM 31 Oct.

VIREOS-WARBLERS: Solitary Vireo: 11 singles Sep; three singles until last banded Vestal Oct. Warbling Vireo: three reports Sep; max & last three N Norwich. Red-eyed Vireo: max eight OPM 8 Sep; decreasing to three singles/week mid Oct. Blue-winged Warbler: only singles ChFk (MDv) & Norwich (CBC). Tennessee Warbler: at four sites Sep, max two Norwich; three singles Oct. Nashville Warbler: ten singles at four sites Sep; two singles Vestal Oct. Yellow Warbler: *intro*. Chestnut-sided Warbler: at six sites Sep; max four Norwich 5 Sep; last one Delhi. Magnolia Warbler: eleven reports at four sites Sep; max four banded Vestal 22 Sep, last banded Vestal. Cape May Warbler: six reports Norwich Sep, max three on 9 Sep; *intro*. Black-throated Blue Warbler: max two Norwich 5 Sep; two singles until last BROO (MP,ME,NK). Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 15 N Norwich 8 Oct; last two OPM 17 Oct. Black-throated Green Warbler: max six OPM 14 Sep, decreasing to two singles Oct. Blackburnian Warbler: at three sites Sep, max six OPM 8 & 14 Sep; last Pharsalia GMA (DW). Pine Warbler: only one Norwich 5 Sep, unusual. Palm Warbler: arr FHNC 6 Sep; max ten Hamden 10 Sep, very high!; eleven in four reports until last banded Vestal 11 Oct, excellent. Bay-breasted Warbler: six in five reports at four sites Sep, max two. Blackpoll Warbler: arr one OPM 18 Sep; last there. Black-and-white Warbler: singles at two sites; last two Norwich. Am. Redstart: max two Upper Lisle P 3 Sep (MP,NK,EW); singles three sites until last at ChFk. Ovenbird: nine in eight reports at three sites, last banded Vestal. N. Waterthrush: two singles banded Vestal Sep. Mourning Warbler: two singles banded Vestal; last 22 Sep. Com. Yellowthroat: max ten OPM 4 Oct; five singles at four sites until last banded Vestal. Hooded Warbler: max four Norwich 5 Sep; last there 10 Sep, numerous and late. Wilson's Warbler: arr two banded Vestal 3 Sep; ten at four sites until last banded NVal. Canada Warbler: *intro*.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Scarlet Tanager: max five Norwich 5 Sep; eleven at seven sites until last Delhi. N. Cardinal: widespread up to three at several sites/week, doing well. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: max six N Norwich 11 Sep; last two there. Indigo Bunting: two singles Norwich 5 & 25 Sep. Rufous-sided Towhee: max seven Norwich 5 Sep; at two to four sites/week Oct, max two; two singles ChFk Nov. Am. Tree Sparrow: singles OPM 7 Oct, very early, & FHNC 29 Oct; at three to four sites/week after 11 Nov, max eight. Chipping Sparrow: max 25 OPM 4 Oct; last few VSpr 12 Nov. Field Sparrow: max eight OPM 4 Oct; last VestC 22 Oct. Vesper Sparrow: only one N Norwich 6 Sep. Savannah Sparrow: max 15 N Norwich 6 Sep; last few OPM 7 Oct. Fox Sparrow: arr Vestal 14 Oct; last VestC 7 Nov. Song Sparrow: decreasing to seven reports Nov; last WPres 14 Nov (MDv). Lincoln's Sparrow: four singles until last banded NVal. Swamp Sparrow: max eight N Norwich 24 Sep; last two there 29 Oct. White-throated Sparrow: migration peak 14 reports/week at seven sites, max 12; last VestC 21 Nov (SD). White-crowned Sparrow: arr Delhi 27 Sep; max 14 OPM 7 Oct; last VestC (SD). Dark-eyed Junco: peak at seven sights 6-12 Nov, max nine. Snow Bunting: arr Port Crane 5 Nov (DS). Bobolink: max 13 N Norwich 6 Sep; last five there. Red-winged Blackbird: max 300 OPM 15 Oct; last 12 S New Berlin 19 Nov (DW). E. Meadowlark: max six FHNC 7 Oct; last five OPM 8 Nov, late. Rusty Blackbird: arr six N Norwich 24 Sep; last & max 40 there 29 Oct, very high. **Brewer's Blackbird**: *intro*. Com. Grackle: max 100 OPM 5 Oct; last TiOG Nov (TBC). Brown-headed Cowbird: max 50 OPM 30 Sep; last TiOG Nov (GW). N. Oriole: one to three daily until last Delhi, *intro*. Purple Finch: max four N Norwich 22 Oct; at four sites Nov until last Oneonta 24 Nov. House Finch: increasing

to Nov; max 55 JCity 20 Nov, abundant at feeders! Am. Goldfinch: increasing at feeders in Nov; max 20 OPM 18 Nov. Evening Grosbeak: arr Norwich 3 Nov, late; max 20 New Berlin 19 Nov, very scarce.

RD2, Box 68C, Norwich, New York 13815

[The following report arrived too late to be included in the previous issue of the Kingbird]

REGION 4 - SUSQUEHANNA

JAY G. LEHMAN

Hot! Hot! Hot! This summer was hot, but it began cool and dry. At Binghamton the average daily mean temperature was 1.3° below the norm of 63°F, and only 1.05 inches of rain fell, which is 2.6 inches below normal. Daily temperatures were like a roller coaster ride. The eight days through 11 Jun had mean temperatures averaging 8 below normal; a record low of 39°F equaled the previous low for 10 Jun. An abrupt heat wave followed for eleven days with record highs of 91, 90, and 91°F on 14, 15, and 22 Jun, respectively, then the temperature plummeted. From 24 Jun to 2 Jul there were eight days with mean temperatures averaging almost 10° below normal. Record lows of 48, 46, 47, and 44°F were recorded from 28 Jun through 1 Jul. Immediately thereafter the temperature roller coaster zoomed upward. Between 6 and 16 Jul there were eight days with high temperatures between 88 and 98°F. Record highs of 92, 91, 95, 94, and 98°F were reported for 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 16 Jul, respectively, the last record being the highest temperature at the Link Field weather station since records have been kept there. This July was the hottest since 1955 with average high temperatures of 84.1°F, 5.7°F above the norm. The only respite from this heat was the rain that started about mid-month, ending the drought, and which totalled 4.94 inches by the end of month, nearly 1.5 inches above normal. August was very similar to July, hot and dry at the beginning and wet after 23 Aug. There were ten days with daily highs of 87 to 91°F until 15 Aug. Record highs of 90, 88, 89, 87, and 91°F were reported on 2, 10, 11, 12, and 13 Aug respectively. The month ended with more normal temperatures and 5.22 inches of rain, well above the average of 3.35 inches.

In view of the hot weather it was surprising that a Common Loon, which normally spends summers in the cool north, stayed in Chenango County through the summer. Perhaps, loons are crazy! Pied-billed Grebe was reported for only the fifth time since 1979. Common Mergansers are doing well in Otsego and Delaware Counties. We missed American and Least Bittern as usual, but Atlas data suggest that we probably are not covering the proper habitat in our normal birding. On the positive side there are reports of northward vacationing long-legged waders. Two **Great Egrets** were reported. The one seen at Brick Pond near Owego 20 Jun by Jack Knapik and Margaret Layton was probably the same bird reported by Rick Marsi on 6 Aug along the Susquehanna River near Owego and by Dick Clements near Nichols on 25 Aug. A second report at Delhi on 29 Jun was probably a different bird. A well-described **Glossy Ibis**, only the third report for the Region, was seen by Dick Clements near Apalachin on 25 Aug. Since the