

FLYCATCHERS-STARLINGS: Purple Martin: present Seneca L & Cayuga L SP. N. Rough-winged Swallow: nested Southport along South Creek. Bank Swallow: two colonies Pine City, no other reports. Cliff Swallow: nested beneath bridges Elmira. Fish Crow: *intro*. Marsh Wren: one carrying nesting material Horseheads Swamp 10 Jun. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: scarce. Veery: scarce. Hermit Thrush: scarce.

VIREOS-WARBLED: White-eyed Vireo: *intro*. Yellow-throated Vireo: nested Elmira. Blue-winged Warbler: two singing males near YBSF June (CKM). Golden-winged warbler: scarce. Prairie Warbler: nested Elmira (DC). Prothonotary Warbler: none. Hooded Warbler: single report, female Ringwood Preserve, Ithaca, 30 Jul.

TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Rufous-sided Towhee: present along gas & electric right-of-ways between Ithaca & Dryden (CKM). Henslow's Sparrow: *intro*. Grasshopper Sparrow: *intro*. N. Oriole: *intro*. Orchard Oriole: *intro*. Red Crossbill: *intro*.

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[The Region 4 report had not arrived in time for this issue of The Kingbird — The Editor.]

REGION 5 - ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

GENE HUGGINS

This summer will be remembered for its less intense heat and humidity as compared to last year's excessives. Precipitation was well above average in June, preventing farmers from cutting and drying their hay. Normal weather conditions prevailed for the remainder of the season. The area's first substantial cold front arrived on 28 Jul. The only dry period occurred at the end of August.

Northern Harrier had a partly successful nesting attempt in the Town of Clay, where one young bird fledged. Unfortunately, two adults had to leave their nest site in the Town of Manlius because of human disturbance. No nesting Ospreys were reported in the Region this year.

Late spring migrants included six species of shorebirds, N. Parula and Blackpoll Warblers on a rainy and foggy 2 Jun morning at Sandy Pond. The first fall arrival of shorebirds on 22 Jul was notably later than most years; high water levels left most shorebird sites unsuitable earlier this season. Unfortunately, Delta Lake near Rome did not have exposed mudflats, but its shallow waters did provide excellent foraging for Great Egrets. Weed removal on the beaches at the end of Oneida L greatly reduced shorebird numbers there. Plowed fields south and east of Oneida Lake along with the drainage of some bait ponds in the Town of Clay were the only areas to see shorebirds inland. Although Com. Nighthawks were very scarce, an encouraging flight occurred over Syracuse on the last day of August. The same day brought an impressive flight of warblers along the eastern shore of Oneida Lake, fifteen species with Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green and Magnolia Warblers predominating.

Other notable records from the summer period include an Oldsquaw on Oneida Lake during the month of June for the region's second summer record (C.G.Spies *fide* MSR). Two Peregrine Falcons were observed from Bald Mtn.

north of Old Forge on 31 Jul. The most unusual shorebirds were **Willet**, **Whimbrel** and **Wilson's Phalarope**, and two **Little Gulls** appeared at Sandy Pond toward the season's end. Equal numbers of both cuckoo species were found at widely separate localities. An **Acadian Flycatcher** was located near Hastings, Oswego Co. on 5 Jun and a second bird observed near Erieville, Madison Co. on 11 Jul, constituting the first records since 1985. The arrival of a **Blackpoll Warbler** at Erieville in s Madison Co. on 4 Aug surpassed our old record early by six days. Abundant cones on several species of conifers were attracting good numbers of **White-winged Crossbill** in northern **Herkimer Co.** and smaller numbers in s Madison Co. A total of 185 species, and one hybrid, were reported during the season.

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Abbreviations: DH - Derby Hill, OSWE; FH - Fairhaven, Little Sodus Bay and vicinity, CAYU; LOL - Lake Ontario littoral, OSWE; SPd - Sandy Pond, OSWE; SVB- Sylvan and Verona Beach, ONEI; Syr - Syracuse.

LOONS-DUCKS: Com. Loon: single adults at Hinckley and North L, two young at Nick's L and one young bird at Moss L. Double-crested Cormorant: max 132 Oneida L 27 Aug. Am. Bittern: two FH 6 Jun, two N Gage ONEI 19 Jun, one SPd 2 Jun. Great Egret: max 5 Delta L 23 Jul, last 16 Aug with one at Verona and one at Verona Beach in the same time period. Green-backed Heron: max six Oneida L 27 Aug. Wood Duck: max 25 Delta L 6 Aug. Green-winged Teal: eight T Clay 28 Aug. Am. Black Duck: eight T Clay 27 Aug. Blue-winged Teal: arr SVB 4 Jun. Gadwall: one Long I, Oneida L 22 Jun. Oldsquaw: *intro*. Com. Merganser: max 13 Limekiln L. Red-breasted Merganser: last SPd 2 Jun.

HAWKS-ALCIDS: Turkey Vulture: eight N Victory 13 Jul. Osprey: nine individuals for the season, no nesting reported. Bald Eagle: imm DH 8 Aug, Brewerton 15 Aug, and Morrisville; ad W Monroe 9 Jul. N. Harrier: *intro*. Sharp-shinned Hawk: one Hastings 23 Jul and Holland Patent. Red-shouldered Hawk: three Kasoag 18 Jun, two Sullivan MADI 8 Jul, one Third L HERK 2 Aug. Broad-winged Hawk: one Penn Mt 9 Jul, only report. Am. Kestrel: 11 reports, very scarce. **Peregrine Falcon:** two Bald Mt HERK 31 Jul, third summer report (BP). Ring-necked Pheasant: two N Victory 7 Jun, only report. Virginia Rail: one Dewitt Marsh 28 Jun, one Toad Harbour 2 Jul, one SVB 27 Aug. Com. Moorhen: six reports. Black-bellied Plover: last SPd 2 Jun; arr Canastota 20 Aug, max four. Lesser Golden-Plover: arr Canastota 18 Aug. Semipalmated Plover: last nine SPd 2 Jun; arr Canastota 12 Aug; max 11 SPd 27 Aug. Killdeer: max 104 Canastota 23 Aug. Greater Yellowlegs: arr Holland Patent 22 Jul; max ten T Clay 20 Aug. Lesser Yellowlegs: arr SVB 22 Jul; max 12 T Clay 14 Aug. Solitary Sandpiper: arr SVB 12 Aug; max five T Clay 14 Aug. **Willet:** one SPd 27 Aug, first fall report since 1985 (BP). Upland Sandpiper: nine ONEI airport 25 June. Whimbrel: two SPd 28 Aug (DWC). Ruddy Turnstone: last 88 SPd 2 Jun; arr SVB 13 Aug. Red Knot: last 18 SPd 2 Jun; arr there 29 Aug. Sanderling: last 23 SPd 2 Jun; arr SVB 22 Jul; max 11 SPd 20 Aug. Semipalmated Sandpiper: last 38 SPd 2 June; arr SVB 9 Aug, max 23 on 20 Aug. Least Sandpiper: arr SVB 22 Jul; max 14 T Clay 20 Aug. Baird's Sandpiper: arr SVB 12 Aug; max two Canastota 27 Aug. Pectoral Sandpiper: arr Sullivan 6 Aug; max eight T Clay 20 Aug. Short-billed Dowitcher: one T Clay 19-21 Aug. Com. Snipe: six Canastota 20 Aug. Wilson's Phalarope: three T Clay 19-20 Aug, first report in two years (mob). Little Gull: two SPd 27-28 Aug. Bonaparte's Gull: arr SVB 9 Aug, max 220 there 14 Aug. Caspian Tern: max 67 SPd 27 Aug. Black Tern: two reports LOL 2 Jun; imm on the breakwall SVB 24 Aug.

PIGEONS-WOODPECKERS: Mourning Dove: max 48 Sullivan 8 Jul. Black-billed

Cuckoo: about five reports. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: one Kasoag 18 Jun, one near Wetzel Rd 25 Jun, two W Monroe 16 Jul, one Pompey Hollow 16-17 July. Barred Owl: two pair with two young near Old Forge. Com. Nighthawk: max breeding population three Syr in June and three Utica in July; max 81 migrating Hookway Tract Syr 31 Aug. Chimney Swift: max 100 Oneida 12 June. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: about three reports. Red-headed Woodpecker: one SVB 4 Jun-27 Aug, only report. Black-backed Woodpecker: one near Big Moose 7 Jul and one Rockdam Trail.

FLYCATCHERS-STARLING: Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr Hastings 19 Aug. **Acadian Flycatcher:** *intro.* Least Flycatcher: max 11 Kasoag 18 Jun; arr SPd 24 Aug. Tree Swallow: max 160 SPd 27 Aug. N. Rough-winged Swallow: six Alder Creek 25 Jun. Bank Swallow: max 200 Oneida Cemetery 17 Jun. Cliff Swallow: ten at Verona 27 Aug. Barn Swallow: max 135 SPd 27 Aug. **Fish Crow:** two near Camden 10 Jul (DWC), a new location. Com. Raven: three McKeever 24 June, one Old Forge to Forestport all summer. Tufted Titmouse: two N Victory BBS 7 Jun, a first for this count. Carolina Wren: reported from Syr, T Clay and SVB. Marsh Wren: max 13 Peat Swamp 25 Jun.

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TANAGERS-WEAVERS: Scarlet Tanager: max seven SVB 27 Aug. Field Sparrow: max eight Kasoag 18 Jun. Vesper Sparrow: one N Victory 7 Jun and one Kasoag 18 Jun. Savannah Sparrow: max 13 N Gage 19 Jun. Henslow's Sparrow: two Toad H 17 Jun, three Sullivan 22 Jun, two W Monroe 2-16 Jul. Lincoln's Sparrow: two near Big Moose 7 Jul. Red Crossbill: one near Big Moose 6 Jul. White-winged Crossbill: *intro.* American Goldfinch: max 25 SVB 19 Aug. Evening Grosbeak: two near Camden 10 Jul.

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