

## REGION 1 — NIAGARA FRONTIER

### Mike Morgante

6405 Woodberry Court, East Amherst, NY 14051  
morgm@roadrunner.com

### James Pawlicki

70 Gaslight Trail, Williamsville, NY 14221  
jmpawli10@gmail.com

September 2013 was a welcome start to the fall season in Western New York and featured an even mix of summer-like heat and cooler late fall conditions. The average temperature was 61.4° F, 0.8° below normal, while monthly precipitation at Buffalo-Niagara International Airport was 3.53", 0.37" above normal. October was warm and wet before turning cooler during the last ten days. The average temperature was 54.2°, 3.4° above normal, and the monthly precipitation was 7.00", 3.48" above normal. November was cold and snowy with the passage of several low pressure systems bringing strong winds and lake effect snow to parts of the Region. The average temperature was 37.6°, 3.1° below normal, and the monthly precipitation was 2.93", 1.08" below normal. Snowfall for November came in at 10.0", 2.1" above normal. Weather information was obtained from National Weather Service monthly summaries for the Buffalo-Niagara International Airport.

This fall season will long be remembered for the two exceptional rarities that appeared to the delight of birders well beyond this Region. Jim Pawlicki was stunned to find an adult **Brown Booby** at Buffalo Harbor and, later, on the Niagara River during wet and windy weather on 7 October. The booby was then viewed daily through at least 22 October, although it was not always easy to locate. On most days it seemed that the bird spent the morning hours foraging out on Lake Erie before returning to the harbor in the afternoon to rest on Donnelly's Breakwall and later roost with Double-crested Cormorants on the nearby Reef Lighthouse. This is one of only a few inland records of this species in eastern North America and was a first for the Great Lakes. Please see Pawlicki's article in this issue of *The Kingbird* for more details regarding the occurrence.

While scanning gulls along the Niagara River shoreline at Beaver Island SP on the afternoon of 20 November, Vicki Rothman was surprised to find a medium-sized, orange-billed tern. Realizing it was not a late Caspian Tern she turned her thoughts to Royal Tern, but it still did not look right. After other birders showed up in response to her calls, the identification of **Elegant Tern** was arrived at. Like the initial Brown Booby sighting six weeks earlier, many birders hoped that the tern would be sighted the next day. When it was found the next morning at nearby Squaw Island in Buffalo, the chase was on for many. The tern was observed frequently over the next few days and was often seen sitting at the end of Squaw Island pier or foraging in the Black Rock Canal with Bonaparte's Gulls and several lingering Common Terns. This was another Regional first, only the second record for the state, and, like the Brown Booby, easily among the rarest birds ever to occur in the western New York region.

A **Ross's Goose** was photographed in Java on 7 November. There were two reports of **Greater White-fronted Goose**, possibly representing the same bird. **Cackling Geese** were reported in lower numbers than the last few years, but still increasing in overall reports. There were two reports of **Harlequin Duck** on Lake Ontario. Birders spending time at the tower at Erie Basin Marina scoping for the Brown Booby came up with some good counts of Surf and Black Scoters for the location. The drake **Barrow's Goldeneye** at Point Breeze in late November was thought likely to be the same bird present in recent years. Ruddy Duck numbers at Batavia WWTP peaked in late October. For the second consecutive year, Willie D'Anna identified an adult **Pacific Loon** migrating on Lake Ontario in mid-October, marking only the fourth Regional record. At least one **Eared Grebe** stuck around most of the fall at Batavia WWTP, where the species is regular in fall.

An adult **Northern Gannet** was sighted by several parties as it flew west along the Lake Ontario shore on 5 October. Based on times of observation by D'Anna's party at Golden Hill SP, Pawlicki at Fort Niagara SP, and then Hamilton area birders at Van Wagner's Beach, Ontario, the gannet flew 60 miles in two hours. This is believed to be the first report of an adult in our Region and could represent the same bird that had been sighted at several locations on Lake Ontario for over a year.

**Black Vultures** were observed at Lewiston throughout the fall, with a maximum count of six. Rough-legged Hawks seemed to be back in regular numbers after the dearth of them of last year. **Bald Eagles** continue to expand in numbers in all seasons. Tim Baird documented a Regional maximum of 83 on 27 October at Allegheny Reservoir and nearby Allegany River. Baird remarked that the eagles were mostly sitting on the exposed gravel of the draining reservoir.

Baird's Sandpipers seemed to peak in late August and early September. Five at Batavia WWTP on 2 September are consistent with this recent trend. Two along the Allegany River in Salamanca were unexpected for the location. Two **Long-billed Dowitchers** documented at Oak Orchard WMA on 19 September represented the only report this season. The highlight of the fall

shorebird season was a **Red Phalarope** found by Andy Guthrie at Oak Orchard WMA on 19 September.

As usual, Bonaparte's Gulls were seen in good numbers on the Niagara River in November, especially when blown in with strong southwesterly winds. At least two juvenile Black-legged Kittiwakes were found among them in November, and the maximum Little Gull count was five. A juvenile **Sabine's Gull** was sighted with Bonaparte's Gulls at Barcelona Harbor on 19-20 November. A **Franklin's Gull** at Point Breeze in September was a good find by Rich Guthrie, and at least two were present on the Niagara River in November. Jim Pawlicki photographed an early adult Thayer's Gull at Niagara Falls SP on 29 October. The strong winds on 7 October brought at least five Parasitic and one Pomarine Jaeger to Buffalo Harbor. There were scattered reports of Parasitic throughout the season, and another Pomarine was documented flying past Golden Hill SP on 8 October.

David Junkin's fall **Northern Saw-whet Owl** banding took place once again at his property in Wethersfield where the season total was 29. His banding efforts over the years illustrate just how under-reported the species can be even during the peak migration period. Matt Zymanek responded to a call of a deceased **Barn Owl** at the ramp to Route 400 in West Seneca on 20 October, the first report in the Region since December 2009. The specimen was not banded and therefore was not a breeding program release from nearby Hawk Creek Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in East Aurora. There were several observations of **Short-eared Owls**, the first seen on the relatively early date of 6 October at Hamburg Town Park on the Lake Erie shore. Others were reported from traditional wintering sites in Niagara and Orleans Counties, as well as potential wintering sites in Erie and Chautauqua Counties where reported less frequently. **Snowy Owls** showed up at several locations starting the last week of November, with five reports of at least seven different individuals. This would turn out to be the start of the largest irruption of Snowy Owls into the northeast in recent decades.

A **White-eyed Vireo** found and photographed by Troy and Nicole Ploger at Tiff Nature Preserve on 28 October continued the trend of recent fall occurrences. This was the ninth fall occurrence of the species in the last ten years, and is the Region's second latest record.

Celeste Morien led a field trip to observe **Purple Martins** at Buckhorn Island SP on 7 September and reported 4,500 returning to the roost at dusk. Numbers of lingering **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** were seen once again above Niagara Falls in late October and early November, with a maximum of 84 at Goat Island on 10 November. Unexpected were four November observations of late **Tree Swallows** in Genesee County. The two individuals seen by Joe Mitchell on 24 November at Gypsum Pond in Oakfield are the second latest recorded in the Region.

Warbler highlights were limited to a male **Golden-winged Warbler** found on 31 August and seen again on 1 September at Amherst SP. A **Clay-colored Sparrow** documented by Richard Salembier at Amherst SP on 28 September is the Region's latest record and only the sixth for the fall period. Up to four

**Nelson's Sparrows** were found in late September and early October along the bike path adjacent to the SUNY Buffalo North Campus in Amherst, a location that had hosted this species in 2003 and 2004. A late **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** was seen at the feeders of Gail Russell in the town of Gowanda on 13-14 November. This is the third latest and fourth November record of the species. Photographs showed the bird as a female with whitish, heavily streaked underparts and a uniform pale bill, features that eliminated the possibility of Black-headed Grosbeak.

As predicted by Ron Pittaway's Winter Finch Forecast, northern irruptive finches were nearly non-existent this fall. There was only a single report of **Common Redpoll** at Beaver Island SP and three reports of **Pine Siskins**. **Purple Finches** were also relatively scarce.

The 78<sup>th</sup> annual BOS October Count was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> and compiled by Marcie Jacklin. It was a relatively mild, calm day. The count recorded 166 species, with one first count record (Brown Booby) and two third count records (Greater White-fronted Goose, Black Vulture). There were eight record high counts (103 Gadwall, 861 Common Loon, 6724 Double-crested Cormorant, 55 Great Egret, 3 Black Vulture, 34 Bald Eagle, 36 Pileated Woodpecker, and 73 Carolina Wren) and no record low counts.

## CONTRIBUTORS

Tim Baird, Sue Barth (SBa), Jim Berry, Steve Brenner (SBr), Mark Cassell, Seaghan Coleman, Willie D'Anna, Kurt Fox, Andy Guthrie, Rich Guthrie, Ron and Sue Hacker, Doug Happ, Janet Hardy, Linda Holmes, David Junkin, Tom Kerr, Scott Kruitbosch, Hans Kunze, Jim and Karen Landau, Tim Lenz (TiL), Twan Leenders (TwL), David Mark, Kim Marie Markel, Jay McGowan (JMc), Joe Mitchell (JMi), Celeste Morien (CMo), Brian Morse, Carl Mrozek (CMr), Tom and Sue O'Donnell, James Pawlicki, Gavin Platt, Betsy Potter, Troy and Nicole Ploger, Victoria Rothman, Gail Russell, Richard Salembier, Debbie Sharon, Rick Thomas, Gale VerHague, William Watson, Jonathan Weber (JWe), Jim Wojewodski (JWo), Peter Yoerg, Matt Zymanek.

## ABBREVIATIONS

AmSP – Amherst SP, ERIE; BeSP – Beaver I SP, ERIE; BMAC – Beaver Meadow Audubon Center, WYOM; BOSOC – Buffalo Ornithological Society 13 Oct Count; BufH – Buffalo Harbor, ERIE; BuSP – Buckhorn I SP, ERIE; BWWTP – Batavia Waste Water Treatment Plant, GENE; ChauL – Chautauqua L, CHAU; DH – Dunkirk Harbor, CHAU; DHSP – Devil's Hole SP, NIAG; FLC – Forest Lawn Cemetery, Buffalo, ERIE; FNSP – Fort Niagara SP, NIAG; GHSP – Golden Hill SP, NIAG; INWR – Iroquois NWR, GENE/ORLE; JDSP – Joseph Davis SP, NIAG; LBSP – Lakeside Beach SP, ORLE; NF – Niagara Falls, NIAG; LESP – Lake Erie SP, CHAU; NFSP – Niagara Falls SP, NIAG; NPP – Niagara Power Project on Niagara R, NIAG; NR – Niagara R, ERIE/NIAG; OOWMA – Oak Orchard WMA, ORLE/GENE; PB – Point

Breeze, ORLE; RTPI – Roger Tory Peterson Institute, Jamestown, CHAU; SPNS – Sinking Ponds Nature Sanctuary, ERIE; TBNP – Times Beach NP, Buffalo, ERIE; Tifft NP – Tifft Nature Preserve, Buffalo, ERIE; Tillman WMA – Tillman Road WMA, ERIE; TWMA – Tonawanda WMA, GENE/NIAG; WFWMA – Watts Flatts WMA, CHAU; WoBSP – Woodlawn Beach SP, ERIE; WTSP – Wilson-Tuscarora SP, NIAG.

**Greater White-fronted Goose:** arr

Lyndonville ORLE 13-18 Oct (CMo); Yates ORLE 26 Oct (JP, WD); only reports.

**Snow Goose:** arr INWR 18 Sep; 2 Jamestown CHAU 24 Sep; 2 Hamburg ERIE 8 Oct; Findley L CHAU 12 Oct; 3, 4 Oakfield GENE 21 Oct, 16 Nov; 3 SPNS 3 Nov; DH 28 Nov.

**ROSS'S GOOSE (R1):** Java WYOM 7 Nov (TK, photo), rare.

**Brant:** arr 382 Shadigee ORLE 5 Oct (SBA, DH); 52 PB 6 Oct; 3, 3 BufH 6, 22 Oct; 57 GHSP 18 Oct; 6 Olcott NIAG 20 Oct; 4 Irving CHAU 23 Oct; last Wilson NIAG 3 Nov.

**Cackling Goose:** arr 2, 6 BMAC 11, 12 Oct (TK, DM); max 6, 7 Oakfield GENE 21, 30 Oct; 3 OOWMA 16 Nov; 4, 4 INWR 21, 25 Nov; 3 SPNS 28 Nov; 3 PB 29 Nov; three other reports of singles.

**Mute Swan:** 6 Wilson NIAG 25 Oct; 5 WTSP 4 Nov; max 8 Lewiston NR 10 Nov.

**Trumpeter Swan:** OOWMA 16-22 Sep (WW, CMo), only report.

**Tundra Swan:** arr 4 BOSOC; INWR 24 Oct; 9, 31 ChauL 27 Oct, 9 Nov; max 64, 169 BeSP 8, 23 Nov.

**Wood Duck:** max 135 BWWTWP 2 Sep; 133, 100 INWR 5, 18 Sep (CMo).

**Gadwall:** 56, 55 Tifft NP 30 Oct, 3 Nov; max 79 INWR 10 Nov.

**Am. Black Duck:** max 32 GHSP 5 Oct, migrants.

**Blue-winged Teal:** max 100 INWR 22 Sep; last BWWTWP 16 Nov.

**N. Shoveler:** max 181, 192 BWWTWP 11, 30 Oct.

**N. Pintail:** max 272 GHSP 5 Oct (WD, CMo), migrants; 250, 217 INWR 22 Oct, 10 Nov.

**Green-winged Teal:** 527 OOWMA 19 Sep (WD); max 565 GHSP 28 Oct (WD), good count for migrants; 411 INWR 10 Nov.

**Canvasback:** arr S Dayton CATT 19 Oct; few reports.

**Redhead:** TBNP 3, 5 Sep; OOWMA 19 Sep; 40 Hamburg ERIE 8 Oct; 17 S Dayton CATT 19 Oct; max 42 ChauL 17 Nov; 28 DH 25 Nov.

**Ring-necked Duck:** Tifft NP thru 1-30 Sep; arr BWWTWP 5 Sep; OOWMA 22 Sep; max 103 INWR 3 Nov.

**Greater Scaup:** arr Wilson NIAG 12 Sep; max 500 NF 23 Nov.

**Lesser Scaup:** arr Tifft NP 15 Sep; 105 GHSP 27 Oct; max 590 ChauL 17 Nov (JB).

**Harlequin Duck:** GHSP 17 Oct (BP, CMo); 2 FNSP 24 Nov (JP); only reports.

**Surf Scoter:** arr 8, max 80 BufH 7, 19 Oct; 7, 11 GHSP 8 Oct, 18 Nov; 13 Hamburg ERIE 8 Oct; BeSP 27 Oct; BWWTWP 30 Oct; 23 BufH 1 Nov.

**White-winged Scoter:** Wilson NIAG 5 Sep; max 318 GHSP 27 Oct; 6 BeSP 20 Nov.

**Black Scoter:** arr 1, max 15 BufH 7 Oct, 7 Nov; 7, 14 GHSP 18, 27 Oct; 3 ChauL 8 Nov; 5, 14 DH 6, 20 Nov.

**Long-tailed Duck:** arr BufH 22 Sep (SBA, DH), early; max 390 BufH 27 Oct.

**Bufflehead:** arr 3 BOSOC; max 1,620 BufH 14 Nov.

**Com. Goldeneye:** arr BOSOC; GHSP 24 Oct.

**BARROW'S GOLDENEYE (R1):** PB 29 Nov (SBA, CMo), likely long returning male.

**Hooded Merganser:** max 103, 118 ChauL 16, 17 Nov; 111 DH 20 Nov.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** max 3950, 8000 BufH 7, 18 Nov; 2146 DH 11 Nov.

**Ruddy Duck:** max 2452, 2081 BWWTWP 27, 30 Oct; 97, 211 ChauL 27 Oct, 16 Nov; 100 S Dayton CATT 29 Oct.

**Red-throated Loon:** arr 5 BOSOC; 1, 1 BufH 17 Oct, 14 Nov; max 63, 55 GHSP 15, 19 Nov; DH 18 Nov.

**PACIFIC LOON:** ad GHSP 18 Oct (WD! NYSARC), flyby; only 4th Reg record.

**Com. Loon:** 2, 4 GHSP 13, 14 Sep; Lancaster ERIE 13 Sep; max 274 GHSP 27 Oct.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** 16, 16 BuSP 7 Sep, 18 Oct; max 23, 68 ChauL 25 Oct, 8 Nov.

**Horned Grebe:** 7 Wilson NIAG 29 Sep; max 107 Barcelona Harbor CHAU 9 Nov; 62 DH 20 Nov.

**Red-necked Grebe:** 2 Wilson NIAG 5 Sep (WD); max 11, 11 GHSP 27 Oct, 15 Nov.

**Eared Grebe:** BWWTWP 8, 27 Oct, 16 Nov; annual at this location.

**BROWN BOOBY:** ad fem BufH 7-22 Oct (JP! Mob, NYSARC); 1st for Reg and Great Lakes; *intro*.

**N. Gannet:** ad GHSP, FNSP (WD!, JP!) 5 Oct, believed to be first record of adult in Reg; traveled 60 miles west in two hours to Van Wagner's Beach, Ont.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** 681 BuSP 2 Sep; 670 DH 2 Oct; max 4800 BufH 20 Oct (D&DS), many high counts during Brown Booby searches.

**Am. Bittern:** Tift NP 8 Sep; INWR 14 Sep; OOWMA 21 Sep; only reports.

**Least Bittern:** 2, 2 Tift NP 9, 15 Sep (SBA); only reports.

**Great Egret:** max 171, 183 OOWMA 16, 19 Sep (WW), roost location; 166, 166 INWR 22 Sep, 22 Oct (CMo); last Cambria NIAG 16 Nov (JP).

**Green Heron:** last ChauL 15 Oct.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** 2, 1, 1 DH 16, 23, 28 Nov; has wintered here in recent years; only reports beyond Oct.

**Black Vulture:** 6, 5, 4, 6 Lewiston NIAG 12, 14 Sep, 25 Oct, 5 Nov; regularly seen at this location; JDSP 14 Sep (TK, SC).

**Turkey Vulture:** 13 FNSP 24 Nov; only location besides Lewiston NR beyond Oct.

## HAWKS - ALCIDS

**Osprey:** last INWR 18 Oct.

**Bald Eagle:** 16, 16 INWR 24 Sep, 24 Oct (CMo); 34 BOSOC, record high for long-running count; max 83, 55, 58 Allegheny Res CATT 27, 29 Oct, 10 Nov (TB), record counts for Reg.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** 5 BOSOC; no reports beyond Oct.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** last 2 BOSOC.

**Rough-legged Hawk:** arr Wheatfield NIAG 22 Oct.

**Virginia Rail:** last Jamestown CHAU 15 Oct.

**Sora:** CSWMA 14 Sep; AmSP 16 Sep, migrant; last 3 BWWT 28 Sep.

**Com. Gallinule:** last 3 INWR 22 Oct.

**Am. Coot:** max 830 ChauL 8 Nov (TwL); 115 INWR 16 Nov; 307 DH 20 Nov.

**Sandhill Crane:** 2, 3 OOWMA 19 Sep, 11 Oct; 3, 5, 4, 5 INWR 10, 24 Sep, 10, 19 Oct; RTPI 20 Nov (SK, TwL), flyover.

**Black-bellied Plover:** 3 Porter NIAG 21 Sep; TBNP 12 Oct; last BOSOC; only reports.

**Am. Golden-Plover:** 4, 1 Newstead ERIE 4, 5 Sep; 3 Lewiston Res NIAG 12 Sep; 2, 3 BufH 12, 22 Sep; Porter NIAG 21 Sep; 2 INWR 24 Sep; last BOSOC.

**Semipalmated Plover:** last BufH 14 Oct.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** last Amherst ERIE 24 Oct.

**Solitary Sandpiper:** last INWR 21 Sep.

**Greater Yellowlegs:** max 8, 8 INWR 12, 24 Sep; last INWR 21 Nov.

**Lesser Yellowlegs:** max 45 OOWMA 19 Sep; last 5 S Dayton CATT 3 Nov.

**Stilt Sandpiper:** 2 OOWMA 12 Oct (KF); last INWR 22 Oct (CMo, SBA); only reports.

**Sanderling:** max 9 PB 1 Sep; 3 DH 5 Sep; 2, 2, 1 BufH 14 Sep, 8, 17 Oct; 2 Wilson NIAG 5 Oct.

**Dunlin:** arr Porter NIAG 21 Sep; OOWMA; max 52 INWR 30 Oct.

**Baird's Sandpiper:** max 5 BWWT 2 Sep; 2 Salamanca CATT 14, 16 Sep (TiL), rare in county; only reports.

**Least Sandpiper:** last 2 INWR 21 Oct (JMi).

**White-rumped Sandpiper:** Porter NIAG 21 Sep (JP); only report.

**Pectoral Sandpiper:** max 13 INWR 18 Sep; last 8 BWWT 6 INWR 30 Oct.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper:** max 60 BWWT 16 Sep.

**Long-billed Dowitcher:** 2 OOWMA 19 Sep (CMo, WD), only report.

**Wilson's Snipe:** max 12 OOWMA 19 Sep.

**Am. Woodcock:** Birdsall ALLE 29 Oct; Buffalo ERIE 17 Nov (CMr), found freshly dead near Peregrine nest location.

**Red Phalarope:** OOWMA 19-20 Sep (AG, mob), excellent find, very rare inland.

**Pomarine Jaeger:** BufH 7 Oct (JP); GHSP 8 Oct (WD); rare.

**Parasitic Jaeger:** 1, 1, 2 Wilson NIAG 30 Sep, 1, 2 Oct (WD); 3 FNSP 5 Oct (JP); 2, max 5, 1, 1 BufH 7 Oct, 1, 10, 18 Nov (BM, WD, JP, SBr).

**jaeger species:** five reports L Ontario & BufH.

**Black-legged Kittiwake:** 1 – 2 Buffalo NR 10–13 Nov (JP, SBA, WD); DHSP 25 Nov (BP, WD).

**Sabine's Gull:** Barcelona Harbor CHAU 19, 20 Nov (JP, SK), only report.

**Bonaparte's Gull:** max 10,000 Buffalo NR 18 Nov (WW); 1500 Barcelona Harbor CHAU 22 Nov.

**Black-headed Gull:** no reports.

**Little Gull:** max 5, 5 Buffalo ERIE 27 Oct, 1 Nov (JP, WD).

**FRANKLIN'S GULL:** PB 18 Sep (RG); DHSP 31 Oct – 9 Nov (WD, BP); 1-2 Buffalo NR 10-21 Nov (JP, mob), one Buffalo bird same as one seen at DHSP.

**THAYER'S GULL:** NPP 29 Oct (JP!, ph); several undocumented reports from NPP and NF in late Nov.

**Iceland Gull:** arr Lewiston Res NIAG 29 Oct; max 4 Lewiston NR 24 Nov.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** max 7 Lewiston Res NIAG 20 Sep (WW, JP); Buffalo ERIE 7

Oct; BuSP 18 Oct; 5 NFSP 29 Oct; BWWTp 30 Oct (WW), rare inland; 6 Barcelona Harbor CHAU 10 Nov (SK).

**Glaucous Gull:** arr DHSP 5 Nov; 2 GHSP 19 Nov; 3, 3 Lewiston NR 27, 29 Nov; DH 28 Nov.

**Caspian Tern:** last 2 GHSP 22 Sep.

**ELEGANT TERN:** BeSP, Buffalo NR 20-23 Nov (VR, JP!, WD!, mob, NYSARC); 1st for Reg, 2nd for State, *intro*.

**Com. Tern:** 42 Wilson NIAG 2 Oct; 20 BeSP 27 Oct; max 56 – 3 Buffalo NR 1-25 Nov (mob); 2 FNFS 18 Nov (CMo, WD).

**Forster's Tern:** 3 FNFS 12 Sep (JP, WW); GHSP 27 Oct (WD); only reports.

## PIGEONS – PARROTS

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** NFSP 14 Sep (SBa, DH), only report.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** NFSP 14 Sep (SBa, DH), only report.

**BARN OWL (R1):** deceased West Seneca ERIE 20 Oct (MZ), unbanded, first record since 2009.

**Snowy Owl:** arr Olcott NIAG 20 Nov (JWe); N Java WYOM 23 Nov (HK, JH); 1-2 various NIAG locations 29-30 Nov (R&SH, J&KL, S&TO, RT, JWo); start of major irruption thru Dec.

**Short-eared Owl:** arr Hamburg ERIE 6 Oct (DH); GHSP 24 Oct (WD, SBa); 4, 2 Shelby ORLE 26, 30 Nov (S&TO, CMo, SBa) 6 Jamestown Airport CHAU 29 Nov (JB, TwL); 7 Alden ERIE 29 Nov (MC); more reports Oct-Nov than recent years.

**N. Saw-whet Owl:** 29 banded Wethersfield WYOM 1 Oct – 4 Nov (DJ).

**Com. Nighthawk:** 1-5 at six locations CHAU, ERIE, GENE 5-15 Sep; last, max 18 OOWMA 19 Sep.

**Chimney Swift:** last 3 Buffalo ERIE BOSOC.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** last Buffalo ERIE 30 Sep.

**hummingbird sp:** deceased Buffalo State College ERIE 30 Oct (KM), thought to be fem Ruby-throated.

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** 1-4 at seven locations; more reports than in recent years.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** arr 2, max 14 AmSP 18, 23 Sep.

**Pileated Woodpecker:** Tift NP 13 Sep, unusual location.

**Merlin:** 14 loc Sep-Nov.

**Peregrine Falcon:** 10 loc Sep-Nov.

## FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

**Olive-sided Flycatcher:** FNFS 3, 5 Sep (WD, BP); last AmSP 3, 12, 13 Sep (DH, RS, WW); only reports.

**E. Wood-Pewee:** last SPNS 1 Oct.

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** AmSP 1-18 Sep; Tift NP 4 Sep; FNFS 5, 10 Sep; GHSP 13 Sep; last Pomfret CHAU 19 Sep.

**Willow Flycatcher:** last AmSP 5 Sep.

**Least Flycatcher:** last AmSP 16 Sep.

**E. Phoebe:** last TBNP 25 Oct.

**Greater Crested Flycatcher:** last 2 WoBSP 27 Sep.

**E. Kingbird:** 2 GHSP 13, 14 Sep; last 2 JDSP 14 Sep.

**N. Shrike:** arr INWR 30 Oct; six other reports.

**White-eyed Vireo:** Tift NP 28 Oct (T&NP, ph); rare in fall, late.

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** last INWR 18 Sep.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** arr AmSP 9 Sep; last Tonawanda ERIE 17 Oct.

**Warbling Vireo:** last 3 Tift NP 15 Sep.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** last AmSP 3 Oct.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** last Tift NP 16 Oct.

**Com. Raven:** 2 Squaw I ERIE 1 Nov (AG); 2 Marilla ERIE 30 Nov (LH); only reports away from Southern Tier.

**Horned Lark:** max 75 Bethany GENE 30 Nov.

**Purple Martin:** last, max 4500 BuSP 7 Sep (CMo RT, SC), known late summer roost location.

**Tree Swallow:** max 1490 TWMA 12 Oct; BWWTp 1 Nov; INWR 10 Nov; last 12, 2 Oakfield GENE 12, 24 Nov, late (JMi!).

**N. Rough-winged Swallow:** last, max 84 NFSP 10 Nov (JMc), regular location for Nov sightings.

**Bank Swallow:** last 2 TWMA 5 Oct.

**Barn Swallow:** last 4 INWR 12 Oct.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** 44 BOSOC; low numbers.

**House Wren:** last 6 BOSOC.

**Winter Wren:** arr Wilson NIAG 9 Sep; max 15 AmSP 23 Sep (RS); 3 Tift NP 30 Oct; no Nov reports.

**Marsh Wren:** last TWMA 31 Oct.

**Carolina Wren:** max 73 BOSOC, widespread and much higher than last year's count.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** last AmSP 25 Sep.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** arr AmSP 23 Sep; max 85 Forestville CHAU 3 Nov.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** arr Wilson NIAG, AmSP 5 Sep.

**Veery:** last 2 BOSOC, late.

**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** 4 rep ERIE, NIAG 5-27 Sep; Williamsville ERIE 1-4 Oct; last AmSP 10 Oct.

**Swainson's Thrush:** arr 2 AmSP 3 Sep; last BuSP, AmSP 14 Oct.

**Hermit Thrush:** arr GHSP 26 Sep.

**Wood Thrush:** last 4 BOSOC.

**Gray Catbird:** last Tift NP 28 Oct.

**Brown Thrasher:** Tift NP 6 Oct; TBNP 10 Oct; last Jamestown CHAU 15 Oct.

**Am. Pipit:** arr DH 17 Sep; max 29 Barre ORLE 10 Oct; INWR 16 Nov.

### LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

**Lapland Longspur:** arr 3 BOSOC; max 12 Yates ORLE 30 Nov; 4 other rep.

**Snow Bunting:** arr 4 FNSP 25 Oct; max 1090 GHSP 15 Nov; 255 Bethany GENE 27 Nov.

**Ovenbird:** last WFWMA CHAU 29 Sep.

**N. Waterthrush:** last Boutwell Hill SF CHAU 17 Sep.

**Golden-winged Warbler:** AmSP 1 Sep (RS); rare in fall.

**Blue-winged Warbler:** last Tift NP 20 Sep.

**Blue-and-white Warbler:** last BOSOC.

**Tennessee Warbler:** last 4 BOSOC.

**Orange-crowned Warbler:** arr Tift NP 9 Sep; last AmSP 28 Oct; six other reports.

**Nashville Warbler:** last AmSP 17 Oct.

**Mourning Warbler:** Tift NP 9 Sep; last Forestville CHAU 22 Sep.

**Com. Yellowthroat:** last 4 BOSOC.

**Hooded Warbler:** last Salamanca CATT 5 Oct.

**Am. Redstart:** last 3 Tift NP 6 Oct.

**Cape May Warbler:** arr AmSP 1 Sep; max 9 FLC 10 Sep (JP); last Alden ERIE 2 Oct.

**N. Parula:** last BOSOC.

**Magnolia Warbler:** last 4 BOSOC.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** max 6 AmSP 5 Sep; last Tift NP 6 Oct.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** last BOSOC.

**Yellow Warbler:** last TBNP 22 Sep.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** last AmSP 25 Sep.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** max 35 Salamanca CATT 16 Sep (TiL); last 10 BOSOC.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** last AmSP 14 Oct.

**Palm Warbler (*D.p. palmarum*):** arr 3 Tift NP 7 Sep; last Aurora ERIE 20 Oct.

**Pine Warbler:** last 6 BOSOC.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** NFSP 16 Nov; last 2 AmSP 17 Nov.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** last BOSOC.

**Canada Warbler:** last TBNP 22 Sep.

**Wilson's Warbler:** last AISP BOSOC.

### TOWHEES – WEAVERS

**E. Towhee:** last Ashford CATT 12 Nov.

**Am. Tree Sparrow:** arr GHSP 24 Oct.

**Chipping Sparrow:** last 2 AmSP 28 Oct.

**Clay-colored Sparrow:** AmSP 28 Oct (RS!), rare in fall, record late.

**Field Sparrow:** last TBNP 25 Oct.

**Vesper Sparrow:** 2 BOSOC; last Tonawanda ERIE 25 Oct (WW); only reports.

**Savannah Sparrow:** last Lewiston NIAG 27 Nov (JP, WD).

**Nelson's Sparrow:** 2-4 Amherst ERIE 28-29 Sep, 3-6 Oct (JP, PY, mob); semi-regular location in fall.

**Fox Sparrow:** arr 2 LESP 13 Oct; GHSP 24 Oct; 8 Tift NP 30 Oct; last Ashford CATT 12 Nov.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** arr AmSP 4 Sep; max 3, last AmSP 10, 28 Oct (RS!, JP!, ph); record late by two days.

**White-throated Sparrow:** arr Wilson NIAG 10 Sep.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** arr 2 INWR 24 Sep.

**Scarlet Tanager:** last Tonawanda ERIE 5 Oct.

**N. Cardinal:** 2 + 2 fl Salamanca CATT 28 Oct (TB), late nesting.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** AmSP 5 Oct; Gowanda ERIE 13, 14 Nov (GRu, ph), late, at feeder.

**Indigo Bunting:** last Ellington CHAU 29 Sep.

**Bobolink:** max 30 TWMA 1 Sep; last INWR 24 Sep.

**E. Meadowlark:** max 12 Tillman WMA 28 Sep; 62 BOSOC; no Nov reports.

**Rusty Blackbird:** arr OOWMA 20 Sep; 53 Shelby ORLE 22 Oct; last SPNS 28 Nov.

**Com. Grackle:** 900 Grand I ERIE 4 Oct; last Lancaster ERIE 19 Nov.

**Baltimore Oriole:** last Williamsville ERIE, INWR 5 Sep.

**Purple Finch:** 134 BOSOC; few reports, not widespread.

**Com. Redpoll:** BeSP 30 Nov (DS), only report.

**Pine Siskin:** 2 BOSOC; 2 Squaw I ERIE 23 Nov (GP); 3 Forestville CHAU 24 Nov (GV); only reports.