

REGION 5—ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

Matt Perry

3787 Dawes Ave., Clinton, NY 13323
mperry63@roadrunner.com

David Wheeler

20 Waterbury Dr., North Syracuse, NY 13212
tigger64@aol.com

The Spring 2014 season continued where winter left off and on a decidedly cold note. In March the average temperature in Syracuse was 25.7° F, an amazing 8.5° cooler than normal. A high for the month of 52° occurred on the 28th, while a low of -8° was logged on the 12th. The rainfall total for March was 3.48", which is 0.5" above average. Snowfall in Syracuse was 21.7", with 12" falling during a single storm on 13 March. The highest wind recorded was 44 mph from the NW on 14 March. In April the average temperature in Syracuse was 46°, 0.9° cooler than normal. The rain total for that month was 4.64", 1.45" above average. Only about 0.5" of snow/ice fell for the month. Peak wind was from the southeast at 41 mph on 14 April. With an average temperature of 60.4°, May was close to 3° warmer than normal. A high temperature of 86° was recorded in Syracuse on the 27th. The total rainfall for May was 3.71", about 0.5" above average. The peak wind speed measured was from the south at 51 mph and occurred on 14 May.

The starvation event involving fish-eating waterfowl, discussed in the Winter 2013-14 Region 5 report, continued into March. There were a few reports of diving ducks behaving strangely and otherwise suffering the effects of starvation. One Red-breasted Merganser was seen with a crayfish—seemingly puzzled about how to eat it. During this period several Greater Scaup were brought to Jean and Leonard Soprano of Kindred Kingdoms wildlife rehabilitation in Pennellville. Reportedly it was mostly Red-breasted Mergansers and scaup that were affected, but one notable victim was a male **Harlequin Duck**. The bird had been observed by many as it swam in the Oswego River below the uppermost dam but was ultimately found dead on 9 March. Mary Magistro, the original finder, saw the duck floating by rocks on the east shore and enlisted the help of a nearby fisherman to retrieve it. Thanks to Magistro's quick action, the mounted specimen of the Harlequin Duck can now be viewed by the public at Rice Creek Field Station in Oswego. Open water spots in the Region, mainly Oswego Harbor, Oneida Lake at Brewerton, and several spots on Onondaga Lake, grew larger during the second half of March. Lake Ontario near-shore ice was controlled by wind direction, often iced-in early in the morning but mostly open after a day of south winds. Generally, ice was slow to depart the Region and impatient birders had to keep checking their favorite hotspots hoping to see staging areas develop. It seems that many of us have become spoiled by nearly two decades of having so much reliably ice-free water available in early spring. Lakes throughout the Region remained largely frozen until the first and second weeks of April, when a breakup was finally underway. In the Adirondacks, the breakup happened a little later in the month. Thankfully when the ice was gone there was still some waterfowl around to see, but high counts no doubt suffered from ducks over-flying the Region.

Derby Hill saw the Region's highest numbers of Snow Geese, though nothing approaching last year's count. Some were observed reversing course, having passed in the morning only to return later in the day upon finding snow-covered fields to our north. Snowfall in March kept most geese out of the usual staging area in fields around Pennellville. A respectable 83,600 flew over on the peak flight day of 29 March; compare this date with the big flight date in 2013, 12 March. The eastern part of the Region saw little movement of Snow Geese. Ross's Goose was reported in two locations, while there were at least 14 records of Cackling Goose. Dave Wheeler and Jim Tarolli found a **Greater White-fronted Goose** with a small group of Canada Geese while observing an excellent evening roost flight at Onondaga Lake on 22 March. Ben Griffith also saw one flying with Canadas in Fabius on 28 March. Trumpeter Swans were found in several areas and again returned to the marsh on CR-6 in Volney. Most Tundra Swan reports came from western Oneida Lake with a max number of 58 at Brewerton on 27 March.

Dabbling duck numbers were unremarkable this period, most probably due to our late ice-out dates, which may have been nearly concurrent with the melting of ice on some northern breeding grounds and led to the Region being

overflowed. Eurasian Wigeon was found at the CR-6 location by Wayne Fidler, and two were briefly seen together at Phillips Point on the northwestern shore of Oneida Lake on 16 April. On 6 April Bill Purcell counted an impressive 420 Northern Pintail flying over West Monroe. Diving duck high counts also were not exceptional. A respectable 62 Canvasbacks were on Oneida Lake in Brewerton on 18 March, as the open-water spot began to grow. All three scoter species were reported, but only White-winged Scoters in any number. The maximum count of 127 was found by Bill Purcell at the Phillips Point watch site. On 8 March, two female **Barrow's Goldeneye** were found by Dave Wheeler at Brewerton. The birds were separable from Common Goldeneye but easily missed due to distance, chop, diving, or other factors. At least one of the birds remained until 10 March.

There were only six reports of Red-throated Loon, all single birds. A high count of 63 Common Loons was recorded at Phillips Point on 5 May. Just the day before, Gary Lee noted the arrival of the first loon on its breeding grounds in the Adirondacks. On 21 May, Lee observed one sitting on a nest at Gray Lake. Pied-billed Grebe numbers were generally low and in some locations the species was missed altogether. Numbers of Horned and Red-necked Grebes were decent but not remarkable. More encouraging were the multiple and fairly widespread reports of American Bittern. Their inimitable calls were heard and even a few possibly mated pairs were seen in several area marshes, including where the species has not been known to breed in years. Single Least Bitterns were reported from Clay Marsh, Three Rivers WMA, and Verona. Interestingly, a cooperative Least Bittern called late in the season (on multiple nights) from the marsh at Derby Hill. Nesting? A new Great Blue Heron rookery with 10 active nests was found in the Tully area by Natalia Garcia. Three other previously known rookeries continue to be well populated—most notably the one at Sterling Nature Center, which this year featured a nesting Great Horned Owl among the breeding herons. This would seem to be a popular idea, since another Great Horned Owl also commandeered a heron nest in the rookery at the Great Swamp Conservancy in Canastota. It would seem that “Great” birds think alike. On 28 March, 83 Great Blues migrated over Derby Hill on strong southeast winds, an excellent number. Two **Snowy Egrets** accompanied two Great Egrets passing the Hill on 16 May.

Steve Kolbe returned for a second season as official Hawk Counter at Derby Hill, bringing his passion for counting every bird that went by between “morning flight”, hawk flight, and “evening flight”. The data was captured on hawk watch field sheets, but never entered into eBird due to a lengthy internet-connection outage at the cottage. A tremendous loss! Otherwise, the spring hawk flight produced good numbers of raptors and new season and single-day records for both Turkey Vulture and Bald Eagle. Once winter let go, vultures moved in big numbers producing 4318 birds at the South Lookout on 2 April for an epic flight besting the previous day-high by almost 1600 birds. 22,438 TVs for the season smashed the previous record of 15,894 set the previous year. The

increase is thought to have two causes: 1) lack of TV movement during horrendous March weather caused birds to “pile up” to our south, then flood the Ontario lakeshore at first opportunity; and 2) the overall harshness of the winter, starting at the end of November, allowed fewer TVs than usual to remain to our north. Three Black Vultures were also seen, typical now for Derby Hill. Derby's third-ever **SWALLOW-TAILED KITE** passed low and slow on 14 May and was seen from the bluff as it made the turn to head north. It may not have gotten far though, with the species reported a few days later in the Finger Lakes area of Geneva NY. Same bird? We will never know, but hopefully this almost surreal species is on its way to becoming an expected visitor to the Great Lakes.

680 migrant Bald Eagles for the season is a new record for Derby Hill, with 9 May producing an incredible 91 birds alone. Many of these are presumed to be southern nesters of the current year, recently fledged and now wandering north. 71 Golden Eagles is well above average, with three 7-Golden days including 9 May, which is an extremely late date for such a count. Even ten years ago, May rarely produced more than one Golden for the entire month. Red-shouldered and Rough-legged Hawk numbers were again down. A big late-season flight of juvenile Broad-winged Hawks never materialized, and the peak flight of adults was on 1 May. Wheeler and Kolbe were afield this day and also observed this Broad-wing mega-flight from Fort Ontario in Oswego and at several vantage points in Fair Haven. If only more observers could have been in place to monitor this flight from different lakeshore locations. Officially, Bill Purcell logged 4051 Broad-wings at Derby but the lack of usual observers present always hurts when it coincides with a massive, overwhelming movement of birds at different heights, trajectories etc. Merlin counts continue to rise, and a pair was even thought to nest in the Selkirk Shores area. Birds were seen in May carrying prey, presumably to nestlings. The hawkwatch totals for Derby Hill are presented with the Spring Highlights and Arrival Dates tables, and full data are available on Hawkcount.org. Detailed analysis of species known or suspected to be in decline is beyond the scope of this report.

The authors are appalled that in this modern era some raptors are still shot. Jean Soprano reports two birds suffering from gunshot wounds were brought to her. A vulture which came in on 30 March had a black head and is not “too early” for a Black Vulture. Hit with buckshot, the bird took refuge in a barn where the property owner subsequently found it and brought in for rehabilitation. It was unable to recover and was euthanized on 11 April. A Short-eared Owl, also hit by buckshot, was found close to shore of the Salmon River in Pulaski on 10 April. The bird persisted for a while under treatment, but ultimately had to be euthanized on 30 May. It is a federal offense to kill these species and birders are encouraged to be alert and to report any suspected case to the appropriate authorities.

With the proliferation of Osprey, there may now be a housing crisis, or more appropriately, a platform crisis in the Region. According to some contributors, Osprey seen fighting over breeding territory is becoming more

frequent. One particularly feisty male had been fighting with six other Osprey near a Liverpool nest site. The bird was injured and brought for rehabilitation and subsequently released. Fifteen or so reports of Northern Goshawk is not too bad for our Region in modern times. All but two were presumed migrants and seen flying along the Lake Ontario shoreline. After a strong winter showing around open water, Bald Eagles staging/lingering included 28 tallied at Cross Lake by Judy Wright on 28 March and 23 at Onondaga Lake on the 11th and 13th of that same month.

A pair of Soras was reported at Woodman Pond near Hamilton in mid-May. Perhaps they remained to breed, which is noteworthy in a county with little marshland. Ten reports of Upland Sandpiper came mostly from usual spots: the airport in Fulton and northern Oneida County. In the latter region there may be a glimmer of hope for the species to be rebounding. Recent changes in agricultural practices in the area may be preserving more of this bird's breeding habitat. Hopefully more info will emerge for the summer report. Derby Hill also played host to an Uppie at the South Lookout, and a very late migrant passed the hill on 29 May. The Region has little proper shorebird habitat, and thus these were found in only modest numbers in the usual areas. Bill Purcell observed a flock of 71 **Whimbrel** from his Phillips Point watch site early in the morning of 21 May. Whimbrel and other shorebirds are thought to overnight on the smaller rocky islands on Oneida Lake, then take flight around sunrise traveling west and off the lake to points north. Many of these may pass the highly-productive Whimbrel watch site at Toronto (see OntarioBirds in late May for counts). Mid-morning on 26 May, Kevin McGann and Dave Wheeler watched a flock of 56 **Red Knot** on the far island visible from Constantia. The knots were then seen flying west where Purcell had just arrived to see them pass in a "V" formation. At least 400 Dunlin were also on the islands that day. No matter what way you look at it, it is a good number. On 19 April Jerry Case tallied 58 Wilson's Snipe in a wet agricultural field on Ditch Bank Road in the Canastota area. Snipe numbers had been building there for several days. American Woodcock populations around the Region seem relatively healthy these days and many observers reported seeing and/or hearing them. In Albion, Zachary Wakeman was out on snowshoes on the evening of 6 March when he noted two woodcocks performing flight displays with two feet of snow on the ground! The only shorebirds that passed Derby Hill in any number were Killdeer and Solitary Sandpiper. An American Golden Plover overwintered by Jean Soprano was released in the Montezuma area. Hopefully it was not the same one seen by Kolbe and Wheeler being chased for several minutes by a Peregrine Falcon. If so, it had not lost any of its evasive agility.

Generally, gull numbers were not exceptional and there were no great rarities confirmed this period. Birding in horrendous weather in mid-March, Wheeler found a medium-sized gull at the Syracuse Inner Harbor that had no markings on its plain yellow bill, and a seemingly dark eye in direct comparison to Ring-bills in a large flock hunkered down on the snow. The birds were tightly

packed against extreme cold, high wind, and blowing snow, but several digiscoped photos were intriguing if not conclusive for **Mew Gull**. Attempts to find the bird on better-weather days were not successful. Wheeler felt that without seeing the mantle color and other features under better conditions, an odd Ring-billed Gull couldn't be ruled out, and thus "invalidated" his own sighting in eBird. Iceland, Lesser-backed, and Glaucous Gulls all continued at expected locations, with a few singles of the former two species hanging around into late May. Andrea Burke carefully described a **Little Gull** on Oneida Lake on 22 March. Small, pale gulls should always be checked carefully since Ross's Gull is a possibility. Caspian Tern would seem to be increasing as a migrant in our Region. This is reflected both in high counts and in how widespread the sightings have become. Counts of over 100 birds are not impossible at Oswego in May. Since many continue into summer one could wonder if they are all non-breeding adults. Two early Forster's Terns were spotted by Steve Kolbe as they flew west off the bluff at Derby Hill on 5 April. For the next two days there was a single Forster's reported at Onondaga Lake.

Numbers of both cuckoo species were down this season, and many birders missed them entirely. Few people complained about outbreaks of Tent Caterpillars or Gypsy Moths, the latter species said to be suppressed by cold winters, and this is almost certainly a factor in cuckoo numbers. Interestingly, one of the most significant tallies of Black-billed Cuckoos for the season comes to us by way of the newly-installed Peregrine Falcon nest in downtown Utica. After their eggs began hatching on 18 May, the adult male falcon was seen bringing several Black-billed Cuckoos back to the nest. For these falcons, cuckoos were more common fare than Rock Pigeons! Where were they getting them? After the winter period's unprecedented abundance of Snowy Owls, it's no surprise that numbers remained through March and a few stayed even to the end of the period. The high agricultural land in Fairfield provided us with a maximum count of five on three different dates in March, and three were still being seen at the Syracuse Airport as late as 26 March. Singles were found in many other places around the Region. One unfortunate Snowy Owl was injured when it attempted to land on top of a building at the Griffiss Business Park in Rome and impaled its wing on a lightning rod. The distressed bird was noticed in a timely manner and a DEC Wildlife Biologist carried out a successful rescue. Fortunately the wing was not seriously damaged and after treatment the bird was released. Reports of single Long-eared Owls came from Three Rivers WMA, Camden, Verona, and Syracuse. The latter sighting involved a seriously injured bird that was brought in for rehabilitation but later euthanized. A hard-to-find but regular species on the Ontario lakeshore, Long-eared Owl was missed this year. Virtually no reports of Screech Owl except on Birdathon was surprising. Four reports of Northern Saw-whet Owl is not bad for the Region. Two singles were found in central Herkimer County, which could be considered an unusual location for this species.

Wayne Fidler kept vigil for Common Nighthawks at Derby Hill but the numbers were disappointing compared with last year. Spring 2013 may have been anomalous and this year “normal”, but it is unknown if weather factors or population regulate lakeshore counts, almost certainly both. At Three Rivers WMA Gregg Dashnau kept a running tally of the species. By the end of the period his count reached 93 birds, which he considered a conservative estimate and a decent number for an inland watch. Eastern Whip-poor-will continues to hold on at its traditional haunts; it was found at six locations this spring. Barbara and Larry Hall had a high count of five on 27 May in Salisbury, central Herkimer County. Whips arrive to our Region earlier than nighthawks so at that date they may be breeders.

Red-headed Woodpeckers are scarce in the Region but at least nine presumed-migrants passed Derby Hill. Several inland sites, including Lysander and Verona, had not seen the birds return by the end of the period. June arrival is not out of the question as the species has been known to sometimes show up mid-summer. On 13 April Steve Kolbe recorded a total of 1356 Northern Flickers flying over Derby Hill, while on 9 May Dave Wheeler photographed a bird whose entire outer wing, five primaries, had red shafts while its inner wing feathers had yellow shafts. Intergrade? Probably not. The overlap zone between these two forms of Flicker has been extensively studied and research has revealed that head pattern is most important in identifying intergrades: red mustache (males) on gray face with no red nape crescent on Red-shafted; black mustache (males) on brown face with red nape crescent on Yellow-shafted. Known intergrades show a mix of these characters. Blocks of differently-colored feathers result from the bird's diet while molting, with true intergrades showing uniform feather color somewhere between red and yellow. Most fly-by flickers can't be examined carefully but the increased use of DSLR cameras may eventually shed light on the status of intergrades in the eastern US.

Good news for our two larger falcons—reports of breeding Merlin in the Region continue to increase. At least four pairs were confirmed breeding this spring and there are other instances of probable breeding. For the second consecutive year, Mickey Scilingo was able to watch a nesting pair in a large White Pine across the street from his Constantia residence. Peregrine Falcon nests were occupied in Syracuse and Utica this period. In 2013, a nest box was installed on the 15th story ledge of the Adirondack Bank Building in downtown Utica. A new resident pair accepted the box and began making nest scrapes in it in March 2014. Ultimately three of four eggs hatched, much to the pleasure of all those that worked so hard to make the Utica nest site a reality. It was the first-ever record of the species successfully hatching young in that city, and the summer report will contain the latest news. Woodcock, along with cuckoo, is apparently a favorite menu item for Utica's Peregrine Falcons, as a few were seen being brought into the nest box and fed to the eyases.

Recognizing that their migration continues into June, there were few reports of Olive-sided and Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. Acadian Flycatcher

arrived on its breeding grounds at Whiskey Hollow on 13 May. Another Acadian was found on 29 May at Mexico Point by Wheeler and Kolbe. The bird was calling from an appropriately-dark hemlock woods, but may be a migrant that overshot its destination. Another found at Sterling Nature Center by the same duo is also a question mark. On 29 March, Chris Spagnoli thought at first he was listening to a first-of-season Tree Swallow, but pursued the sound and found a vocalizing Northern Shrike. Birders usually assume the species seldom sings/calls away from its northern breeding grounds, but during migration they occasionally make noise in the form of shrieks, whistles or trills. Fish Crows were found at long-standing haunts around Onondaga Lake, and a credible report came from southern Herkimer County. Sight-only identification of Fish Crow is difficult business requiring excellent looks or photographs. The two-note nasal “uh-uh” is distinctive but can sometimes be approximated by American Crows, especially young and especially in single-note call. Birders are cautioned to listen carefully and consider time of year. On 10 April in Marcellus, Sue March watched an American Crow swoop down like a raptor on a rabbit sitting in her yard. It came in with its feet extended, but then upon landing realized it lacked the appropriate equipment and proceeded to strike at the rabbit with its bill. The rabbit made a clean getaway, much to the crow’s regret.

Both Northern Rough-winged and Bank Swallow reports were low this period, but as previously discussed, counts from Derby Hill are not included. Cliff Swallows continue to nest under a few area bridges and buildings. Gregg Dashnau reported that following nest removal from one building in Clay, the birds started anew in a nearby strip mall. Only two or possibly three other colonies were reported as active this period. Winter Wren was missed this season at Derby Hill and seemed to be scarce generally, prompting the authors to ask “where were the Winter Wrens this spring?” Though some observers noted the usual migrants, Matt Perry at Spring Farm Nature Preserve in Clinton believed that their resident population never showed up. In last summer’s Region 5 report, the authors wondered if significant flooding in the eastern part of the Region during June 2013 may have destroyed nests of Winter Wren breeding close to woodland streams and swamps. Even if the nests were flooded, adult birds should have escaped. Was the harsh winter throughout most of the eastern US a factor also? Scarce on the Ontario lakeshore, a Carolina Wren lingered a few days at Derby Hill starting on 7 April.

Mockingbirds seemed more common than usual, and a presumptive migrant passed Derby Hill on 13 May. A pair of American Pipits at Sunset Bay Park seemed very late on 27 May. Transient thrushes were more elusive than normal this spring. Birders don’t expect to find many Gray-cheeked Thrushes, but migrating Swainson’s Thrush are not usually as hard to come by. A late-May flight of Eastern Bluebirds was seen again at Derby Hill. Most appeared to be adults and Perry speculated that bluebirds ousted by House Sparrows or Tree Swallows from their boxes might eventually concentrate on the Ontario

lakeshore, as they did two months earlier in late March, on their way to look for other nesting sites. Bluebird flock photos taken by Wheeler in May but examined much after-the-fact showed a pale blue, gray-headed bluebird. Opinions were mixed among birders as to whether it could be a Mountain Bluebird or just another variation of Eastern.

Photographs of flying birds during “morning flight” at Derby Hill played a strong role this season. Kolbe, Wheeler, and Jim Tarolli manned the North Lookout early-mornings in May and took thousands of photos of actively-migrating passerines during the first three hours after sunrise. While some night-migrating songbirds land at first light, many turn east when encountering the Ontario lakeshore and continue flying. Overall, morning flights are dominated by a few species: Baltimore Oriole, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, grackles, robins, and blackbirds, Scarlet Tanager, warblers, Indigo Bunting, American Goldfinch, Eastern Bluebird, plus smaller numbers of vireos, etc. Brown thrushes, wrens, and sparrows are seldom seen continuing into daylight. Careful observing turned up some unusual and unusually late birds. Two (male and female) Lapland Longspurs flew by Derby Hill on 9 May, nearly a month after the last sighting.

Peak counts of migrant warblers were quite low with a few exceptions. Louisiana Waterthrush, though still a dependable early-arriving species, continues to become scarcer even on its long established breeding grounds. Also of concern, only one of 17 reports of Golden-winged Warbler was away from the Lake Ontario shoreline, a good indication that all but one were north-bound migrants. Birders are encouraged to try to see/photograph any suspected Golden-wing Warblers, since all birds in the complex may seemingly sing any of the songs. A **“Lawrence’s” Warbler** was found in Fulton at the Great Bear Recreation Area. The rare hybrid was first seen on 12 May by Andrew VanNorstrand and remained through the end of the period for other birders to enjoy. Lawrence’s has been at Great Bear before. Same bird? Three excellent warbler species were discovered on 10 May, much to the delight of the Onondaga Audubon Society’s annual Birdfest attendees. Very rare on the Ontario lakeshore, an accommodating **Prothonotary Warbler** gave amazing life-looks on the bluff and in the flowering tree in front of the cottage. It remained conspicuous and easily-seen all day! Also found was a Prairie Warbler and a very cooperative Orange-crowned Warbler, always uncommon and inconspicuous. Prothonotary went unreported from the traditional spot at Toad Harbor. The area has a lot of habitat unreachable on foot, and lack of effort due to the Derby Hill bird may be another factor. High counts of 25 American Redstarts were tallied both at Oswego and Howland Island on 13 May and 17 May, respectively. Cerulean Warbler initially showed up at some former breeding locations like Whiskey Hollow and Verona Beach SP but seemed to move on rather than breed. On 9 May, Steve Kolbe photographed an ultra-rare-for-the-lakeshore **Cerulean** as it passed Derby Hill. Wheeler noted having never seen Cerulean or Prothonotary in 15 years birding Derby Hill. A maximum of five Bay-breasted Warblers on 14 May at Spring Farm Nature Preserve in

Kirkland is not so remarkable, but what is more interesting is how long the Bay-breasted and other warbler species lingered in one stand of mature and second-growth forest. Perry speculated that a significant outbreak of Winter Moth (*Operophtera brumata*) caterpillars were responsible for keeping the birds in the same tract for around 2½ weeks. The small foliage-eating larvae were devoured by warblers, vireos, tanagers, and their allies. It was an all-you-can-eat buffet and some birds like the Bay-breasted just didn't want to leave it. A high count of 49 Yellow Warblers was found by Dave Nash at Clay Marsh on 17 May. Blackpoll numbers were low this period, with a maximum of only seven in Fulton on 21 May. Derby Hill saw a maximum number of 25 Palm Warblers on 10 May. Also at Derby, Kolbe counted 32 Pine Warblers on 13 April, definitely a good number for that species. Prairie Warblers, primarily singles, were reported from seven different locations. Wilson's Warbler was noticeably absent from some birders' species lists. Few reports came from Noyes Sanctuary this spring. Early in the season, many ticks were reported from the spot, and few birders seem to have ventured in.

There is more evidence that Clay-colored Sparrows may be trying Region 5 on for size. The species arrived on its new breeding grounds at Spring Farm Nature Preserve in Kirkland on 6 May and by the 12th males were vying for territory. Jerry Case turned up possible nesters at Green Lakes SP, a first there, and a report came from another possible location in Camden. Derby Hill enjoyed three different birds. Dave Wheeler listened at length to interesting song variations given by a Clay-colored Sparrow in the hedgerows. He reported that the vocalizations ranged from a high "Golden-winged Warbler" buzzy-type to low, almost "Rough-winged Swallow" flatulent-type, and a number of tones in between. Birders reported Grasshopper Sparrows at the DeWitt landfill and several other traditional locations. Marshall Iliff found a **Henslow's Sparrow** at the landfill spot on 10-11 May and substantiated the record with an audio recording. The habitat seems marginal at best for the bird as a breeder. Reports of Lincoln's Sparrow were not plentiful this period; mostly singles were seen. A White-crowned Sparrow continued from winter into March at the Dolgeville residence of Barbara and Larry Hall. The bird could fly, but the Hall's thought it had a wing injury.

Along with Swallow-tailed Kite as a strong candidate for bird-of-the-season, a male **PAINTED BUNTING** was found by Kellie Lukaczyk on 18 April at her feeders in the city of Oswego. Lukaczyk had just gotten back from a visit to Florida where she had seen a female of the species but missed the brightly-colored male. Certainly the last thing she expected to see upon her return home was a male Painted Bunting in all its spring glory at her own bird feeder! Lukaczyk immediately took many pictures and got the word out through eBird, but the bird did not remain for others to enjoy. A week or so later a male Painted Bunting was found north of Toronto at a feeder, and sometime after that one was reported from the Finger Lakes Region. Same bird? Congratulations to Kellie on a once-in-a-lifetime bird for NY. One might ask what a Painted

Bunting was doing in Oswego ten days before the first Indigo Buntings are expected to arrive, but movement of the two species is probably not related. In other great bunting news, a feeder-watcher in Clinton observed five male Indigo Buntings feeding together, an unusual sight.

Again this year, most Orchard Oriole sightings were in the western part of the Region. Derby Hill had an excellent 14 individuals (both sexes) with seven passing on 9 May. Is the species expanding its range farther north? Winter irruptive species, including Common Redpoll, Pine Siskin, Bohemian Waxwing, Evening Grosbeak, Red-breasted Nuthatch, and Black-capped Chickadee, were practically nonexistent this season. This is an excellent illustration that seed crop availability, not severe winter weather, is what drives these irruptions. Even Blue Jay flights as seen at Derby Hill were much reduced. One Common Redpoll visited a birdfeeder in Dolgeville on 7 March, and there were reports of single Pine Siskins in Camden and Skaneateles. Purple Finch barely qualifies as a winter finch, and this season they too seemed to avoid most of the Region. Some were reported from the home of Linda Salter in the Southern Highlands, always a hotspot for species.

This season a total of 249 species and three hybrids was reported, which is five above the 10-year average for the Region. Highlights of the season included: Greater White-fronted Goose, Ross's Goose, Eurasian Wigeon, **Harlequin Duck**, **Barrow's Goldeneye**, **Snowy Egret**, **Black Vulture**, **SWALLOW-TAILED KITE**, Whimbrel, **Red Knot**, **Little Gull**, Forster's Tern, Snowy Owl, Long-eared Owl, Short-eared Owl, "Lawrence's" Warbler, **Prothonotary Warbler**, **Henslow's Sparrow**, and **PAINTED BUNTING**.

Spring 2014 produced 70,432 eBird records for Region 5, and these were processed by Swan Swan Hummingbird v4.02. Reports were contributed by 280 people.

CONTRIBUTORS

Ginny Alfano, Dennis Anderson, Betty Armbruster, Gustave Axelson, Stephan Baker, Jessie Barry (JBA), Brenda Best (BB), Sue Boettcher, Phillip Bon, Carla Bregman, Steve Brenner, Joseph Brin (JB), Todd Brown, Matt Brunelle, Shannon Buckley, Ken & Rose Burdick (KRB), Mike Burger, Andrea Burke, Joe Carey, Bernie Carr (BC), Jerry Case (JC), Ken Chaisson, David Cesari, Richard Cohen, Rosanne Costello, Jim D'Angelo, Greg Dashnau (GD), Rose DeNeve, Charles Eldermire, Wayne Fidler (WF), Elizabeth Frascatore, Christopher Gainey, Derek Green, Ben Griffith (BeG), Lewis Grove, Bill Gruenbaum, Barbara & Larry Hall (BLH), Eddie Harlow, Gene Huggins, Pamela Hunt, Marshal Iliff, Stefan Karkuff (SKa), Steve Kolbe (SK), Rich & Mary Kowalski, Jonathan Kresge, Ruth Kuryla, Joshua LaCelle (JaL), Josiah LaCelle (JhL), Robbie LaCelle (RL), Alex Lamoreaux, Sean Lanigan (SL), Jerry Lazarczyk, Gary Lee (GL), Tim Lenz, Kellie Lukaczyk, Mark Magistro (MaM), Mary Magistro (MM), Nick Mangold, Anne Mayville (AM), Kevin McGann (KM), Jay McGowan (JM), Tom McKay, Gary Meyers, Wilma Mount, David Nash (DN), Michele Neligan, David Nicosia, Mitch Nusbaum (MNU), Michael O'Brien, Kevin Pace, Heather Perretta, Matt Perry (MP), John Pumilio, Bill Purcell (BP), Paul Richardson, Thomas Riley, Paul Rodewald, John Rogers (JR), Ken

Rosenberg, Margaret Rusk, Nicholas Ryan, Thomas Ryan, Chris Sagnoli, Linda Salter (LS), Livia Santana (LSa), Cheri Sassman, Sean Scanlon, Mark Scheel, Thomas Schmidt (TSc), Mickey Scilingo (MS), Ida Sheppard, Tony Shrimpton (TS), Gerald Smith, Sheila Smith, Jean Soprano, Chris Spagnoli (CS), Robert Spahn, Maureen Staloff, Lynn Stemp, Chris Stranger, Jesse Swift, Jim Tarolli (JT), Andrea Thomen, Faith Thomson, Judy Thurber, Fran Vanderveer, Andrew Van Norstrand (AVN), Tom Vawter, Lance Verderame, Matt Voelker (MV), Zachary Wakeman, Brad Walker, Drew Weber (DWe), Justine Weber (JWe), David Wheeler (DW), Brian White, Tim Whitens, Andrea Wiggins (AW), Robert G. Williams III (RW), Chris Wood (CW), Judy Wright, Ken Zoller.

ABBREVIATIONS

ADK – Adirondacks, n. HERK; BLNC – Beaver L Nature Center, Baldwinsville; Brew – Oneida L at Brewerton; Bville – Baldwinsville; BW – Baltimore Woods, Marcellus; Cam – Camden, ONEI; Canas – Canastota; Caz – Cazenovia; CM – Clay Marsh, Clay; Const – Oneida L at Constantia; CS – Central Square; DB – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox; DH – Derby Hill, T Mexico; Dolge – Dolgeville, HERK; Dville – Durhamville; Ff – Fairfield, HERK; FH – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and vicinity; Fville – Fayetteville; GB – Great Bear Rec Area, Fulton; HA – Hancock International Airport, Syracuse; Ham – Hamilton, MADI; Hast – Hast, OSWE; HF – Highland Forest, Tully; Port Byron; HV – Happy Valley WMA, Parish; LOL – Lake Ontario Lakeshore; LOnt – Lake Ontario; MCL – Madison County Landfill, T Lincoln; NHar – New Hartford; NS – Noyes Sanctuary; OF – Old Forge; OLC – Onondaga Lake Creekwalk, Syracuse; OneiL – Oneida L; OnonL – Onondaga L; OswH – Oswego Harbor; OswR – Oswego River, Oswego; PPt – Oneida L at Phillips Pt, W Monroe; Pville – Pennellville; SBP – Sunset Bay P, Scriba; Sfield – Sangerfield, ONEI; SFNS – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; SH – Southern Highlands of Onondaga & Madison Co.; Skan – Skaneateles; SNC – Sterling Nature Center, Sterling; SP – Sandy Pd and vicinity; SSSP – Selkirk Shores SP; Syr – Syracuse; TR – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; UM – Utica Marsh; VBSP – Verona Beach SP and vicinity; WH – Whiskey Hollow, WM – West Monroe; WP – Woodman Pd, Ham. Wville – Waterville, s. ONEI; WW – West Winfield, s. HERK.

WHISTLING-DUCKS - VULTURES

Greater White-fronted Goose: OnonL 22 Mar (JT, DW); Fabius 28 Mar (BeG).

Snow Goose: arr 20 Mar; max 83600 DH 29 Mar (SK, BP); 3300 Skan 1 Apr; 8 Skan 22 May.

Ross's Goose: DH 29 Mar (BP, DW); 2 Cam 2 Apr (JaL, JhL); only reports.

Brant: arr PPt 13 May; max 1920 PPt 22 May; 1500 DH 26 May; last 45 Phoenix 30 May.

Cackling Goose: max 5 Utica 22 Mar (MI); 4 DH 1 Apr (SK); last GB 13 Apr (GD); 10 other singles.

Canada Goose: 2500 Little Falls 31 Mar; max 4700 DH 1 Apr; 2600 WM 3 Apr.

Mute Swan: 4 Brew 2 Mar; 9 OLC 4 Mar; max 34 FH 18 Mar.

Trumpeter Swan: 10 Brew 9 Mar (WF); 4 HI 9 Mar (TL); 3 TR 24 Apr, 1 May (GD).

Tundra Swan: max 58 Brew 27 Mar; last 9 PPt 9 Apr, 20 reports mostly from w. OneiL.

Wood Duck: 22 Utica 30 Mar; max 25 DH 1 Apr; 18 TR 3 Apr; 21 CM 17 May.

Gadwall: 15 OnonL 11 Apr; 11 Skan 13 Apr, high for loc; max 34 PPt 16 April; last DH 26 May.

EURASIAN WIGEON (R5): m. PPt 14–19 Apr (BP, mob, ph); 2 PPt 16 Apr (PB); m. Fulton 18–19 Apr (TW) & Volney 22 Apr–1 May (WF, mob), presumably same bird.

Am. Wigeon: 50 DH 2 Apr; 50 OneiL 11 Apr; max 63 Volney 16 Apr; last 4 Const 26 May.

Am. Black Duck: max 80 Brew 18 Mar; 64 OneiL 22 Mar; 50 DH 22 Mar, 2 Apr.

Mallard: max 200 Oswego 1 Mar, 200 Bville 6 Mar, 200 TR 31 Mar.

Am. Black Duck X Mallard: HI 28 Mar, only report.

Blue-winged Teal: arr DB 3 Apr; max 10 Volney 26 Apr; relatively low numbers.

N. Shoveler: first 4 OLC 8 Mar; max 20 GSC 17 Apr; 15 Canas 27 Apr; last 2 WW 7 May.

N. Pintail: 125 Canas 6 Apr; max 420 WM 6 Apr; 400 Phoenix 9 Apr; last 6 Volney 7 May.

Green-winged Teal: arr DH 22 Mar; max 190 WM 6, 9 Apr; 131 CM 6 Apr; last WP 9 May.

Canvasback: 22 Brew 17 Mar; max 62 Brew 18 Mar; 7 Skan 1 Apr, high for loc; last OnonL 16 Apr.

Redhead: max 330 OnonL 9 Mar; 275 Brew 18 Mar; 122 Bville 5 Mar; last 3 Skan 29 Apr.

Ring-necked Duck: 350 DH 2 Apr (WF); 340 SP 8 Apr; 225 PPt 16 Apr; last 3 WP 9 May.

Greater Scaup: max 450 OswR 2 Mar; 130 SP 8 Apr; last 6 PPt 21 May.

Lesser Scaup: 200 OswR 1 Mar; 200 OnonL 11 Apr; max 800 Const 24 Apr; last WP 21 May.

Greater/Lesser Scaup: 500 OnonL 5 Apr; 400 OneiL 6 Apr; max 900 PPt 5 May.

HARLEQUIN DUCK (R5): m. OswR 1–9 Mar (MM, mob, ph), died from starvation, *intro*.

Surf Scoter: arr Brew 27 Mar (BB, MV); max 6 PPt 26 Apr (BP); all 6 reports from w. OneiL.

White-winged Scoter: 85 OswH 2 Mar; max 127 PPt 13 May; last 2 Const 25 May.

Black Scoter: Oswego 6 Mar (MaM); PPt 19 Apr (BP, KM).

scoter species: 3 Skan 28 Apr.

Long-tailed Duck: max 100 OswH 18 Mar; 65 PPt 15 Apr; 60 DH 26 Apr; last 2 PPt 26 May.

Bufflehead: max 400 OneiL 11 Apr; 250 SP 11 Apr; 200 OnonL 11 Apr 200 Const 24 Apr.

Com. Goldeneye: 250 OswH 1 Mar; 250 OneiL 8 Mar; max 300 OneiL 22 Mar; last 2 GB 13 May.

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE (R5): 2 f. Brew 8 Mar (DW!, mob, ph), one remained thru 10 Mar.

Hooded Merganser: 30 OLC 11 Mar; max 76 Phoenix 22 Mar; 30 UM 32 Mar; 34 Volney 5 Apr.

Com. Merganser: max 1180 OLC 4 Mar; 167 Bville 9 Mar; 150 Brew 19 Mar.

Red-breasted Merganser: 111 DH 5 Apr; 100 OneiL 11 Apr; 115 SBP 26 Apr; last DH 26 May.

Ruddy Duck: arr 5 OneiL 11 Apr; max 17 BLNC 19 Apr; 3 Volney 13 May; last SBP 17 May.

N. Bobwhite: Vernon 24 May, presumed release.

Ring-necked Pheasant: 2 DH 19 Mar at least

one thru; 2 TR 9 Apr; 2 GLSP 13 Apr.

Ruffed Grouse: max 4 SH 12 Apr, 3 May, 4 Sfield 17 May; 3 SFNS 9, 23, 27 May; good numbers.

Wild Turkey: 40 DH 8, 9 Mar; 41 Whitestown 9 Mar; 59 Elbridge 14 Mar; max 100 SH 19 Mar.

Red-throated Loon: singles Skan, DH, OneiL, SBP; only six reports.

Com. Loon: arr LOL 1 Apr; max 63 PPt 5 May; 38 SNC 13 Apr; Gray Lake, ADK 21 May, on nest.

Pied-billed Grebe: arr OLC 25 Mar; OF 2 Apr; max 8 Brew 6 Apr; 6 Volney 16 Apr; low numbers.

Horned Grebe: 40 OnonL 11 Apr; 30 OneiL 11 Apr; 30 SNC 13 Apr; max 49 PPt 28 Apr; last PPt 17 May.

Red-necked Grebe: arr Bville 6 Mar; 32 OnonL 11 Apr, 1 May; max 34 PPt 28 Apr; last 3 PPt 13 May.

Double-crested Cormorant: 500 OnonL 13 Apr; max 560 PPt 3 May.

Am. Bittern: arr Phoenix 11 Apr; max 4 Phoenix 5 May; pairs WP, WM, Verona & CM; good showing.

Least Bittern: arr TR 6 May (DA); Verona 8 May (BB); CM 8 May (DN); DH late-May holding territory.

Great Blue Heron: 26 DH 22 Mar; max 83 DH 28 Mar; 20 Biddlecum 27 Apr, at rookery; Tully 8 May, rookery, 10 active nests; 23 SNC 13 May at rookery.

Great Egret: arr CM 1 Apr; 2 Lee Center 25 Apr; 2 DH 10, 16 May; max 3 Volney 17 May; last Verona 28 May; low numbers.

SNOWY EGRET (R5): 2 DH 16 May (SK!), with 2 Great Egret.

Green Heron: arr Syr 18 Apr; 6 DeWitt 13 May; max 8 DH 21 May; 4 Verona 27 May.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: Volney 27 Apr & 18 May; OLC 29 Apr; SBP 14 May.

HAWKS - LARIDS

Black Vulture: DH 5, 14, 27 Apr (SK, mob).

Turkey Vulture: 1345 DH 1 Apr; 120 OswH 1 Apr; max 4318 DH 2 Apr; 254 SNC 13 Apr.

Osprey: arr Fulton 26 Mar; 18 SNC 13 Apr; max 86 DH 9 May.

SWALLOW-TAILED KITE: DH 14 May (SK, DW, NYSARC, ph), 3rd Reg record, *intro*.

N. Harrier: max 39 DH 10 Apr; 23 SNC 13 Apr.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: 40 SNC 13 Apr; max 605 DH 10 Apr; 5 SBP 9 May.

Cooper's Hawk: max 38 DH 19 Mar; 35 SNC

13 Apr.

N. Goshawk: max 2 DH 10 Apr; mostly singles 7 Mar – 27 Apr, all but 2 of 15 reports from LOL.

accipiter species: max 20 SNC 13 Apr.

Bald Eagle: 23 OLC 11, 17 Mar; 38 Cross Lake 28 Mar, impressive number; Const 18 Apr, on nest; max 91 DH 9 May.

Red-shouldered Hawk: max 110 DH 1 Apr; 7 Verona 1 May; a few singles in ONEI & HERK.

Broad-winged Hawk: arr Verona 10 Apr; 13 SNC 13 Apr; 27 SBP 22 Apr; max 4051 DH 1 May.

Red-tailed Hawk: max 862 DH 13 Apr; 157 SNC 13 Apr.

Rough-legged Hawk: max 25 DH 1 Apr; last Cam 29 Apr; most records from OSWE.

Golden Eagle: max 7 DH 7, 19 Mar & 9 May, very high num for dates.

Virginia Rail: arr Volney & Dville 11 Apr; 2 Tully 19 Apr; max 3 Phoenix 27 Apr & CM 17 May; 2 DH 28 May.

Sora: arr TR & Phoenix 27 Apr; 2 WP 12 May; 2 CM 17 May; generally low numbers.

Com. Gallinule: arr 3 Volney 16 Apr; max 9 Volney 7 May; mostly singles and low numbers.

Am. Coot: 13 Bville 6 Mar; max 10 OnonL 17, 22 Mar.

Sandhill Crane: arr CM 21 Mar (DW, ph); max 5 DH 2, 3 Apr & 9 May; 3 CM 13 Apr; last DH 25 May.

Black-bellied Plover: arr Const 25 May; max 35 Const 27 May; last 20 Const 30 May; all reports OneiL.

Semipalmated Plover: arr HI 5 May; 4 DB 14, 16 May; max 7 Bville 16 May; 14 other sightings.

Killdeer: arr 5 DH 10 Mar; 10 Cicero 22 Mar; max 75 DH 1 Apr; 17 WM 3 Apr.

Spotted Sandpiper: arr 22 Apr; 6 DB 17 May; 6 Fulton 21 May; max 8 OnonL 23 May.

Solitary Sandpiper: arr Lysander 26 Apr; 3 Volney 7 May & Oriskany 7 May; 3 Little Falls 8 May; max 6 DH 9 May; 3 OnonL 18 May; last Minoa 27 May.

Greater Yellowlegs: arr TR 3 Apr; max 21 DB 4 May; 15 TR 4 May; 15 HI 5 May; last 2 Const 25 May.

Lesser Yellowlegs: arr Fulton 11 Apr; max 6 Volney 4 May; 5 DB 4 May; 4 DH 10 May; last UM 28 May.

Greater/Lesser Yellowlegs: max 8 Volney 11 Apr; 7 Pville 11 May.

Upland Sandpiper: arr Fulton 11 Apr (WF); 2

Fulton 28 Apr, 17 May; max 3 Deerfield 17 May (BB, MV); 10 reports from OSWE & n. ONEI.

Whimbrel: max 71 PPt 21 May (BP!), only report.

Ruddy Turnstone: arr OnonL 17 May (DWe); max 12 Const 27 May (BP, DW); only reports.

Red Knot: max 56 Const 26 May (KM, DW, BP), only report.

Sanderling: Const 26 May, only report.

Dunlin: arr 3 OneiL 14 Apr; max 400 Const 26 May (KM); 130 PPt 26 May; all sightings OneiL.

Least Sandpiper: arr Kirkville 24 Apr; max 34 Pville 16 May; 25 OnonL 16 May; 8 DB 21 May.

Pectoral Sandpiper: arr CS 9 Apr; 2 Chittenango 11 Apr; 2 Volney 11 Apr; max 5 Const 25 May; 8 reports.

Semipalmated Sandpiper: arr OnonL 16 May; 10 DB 25 May; max 50 PPt 26 May; 40 Const 26 May; 15 reports.

peep species: max 500 Const 30 May (DW).

Short-billed Dowitcher: max 3 OnonL 16 May, only report.

Short-billed/Long-billed Dowitcher: 2 Const 30 May.

Wilson's Snipe: arr TR 21 Apr; 10 Volney 12 Apr; max 58 DB 19 Apr (GC!); 6 Litchfield 25 Apr.

Am. Woodcock: arr 2 Albion 7 Mar; 6 TR 20, 25 May; 6 DH 1 Apr; Rome 6 Apr, nest; max 11 TR 19 May.

shorebird species: max 30 DH 26 May.

Bonaparte's Gull: arr 33 OswH 5 Apr; 141 Skan 12 Apr; max 157 PPt 1 May.

Ring-billed Gull: max 2500 DH 22 Mar; 2000 DB 14 Apr; 1300 FH 29 May.

Herring Gull: max 600 OnonL 8 Mar; 400 DH 22 Mar; 250 OswH 26, 27 May.

Iceland Gull: max 9 OnonL 8 Mar; 2 DH 22 Mar; 2 DB 26 Mar; last OswH 27 May; 20 reports.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: Pville 7 Apr; max 4 DB 14 Apr; OnonL 24 Mar; last OswH 26 May.

Glaucous Gull: OnonL 8 Mar; OLC 18 Mar; OswH 18 Mar; DH 22 Mar; last OswH 12 Apr.

Great Black-backed Gull: 33 Bville 5 Mar; max 80 OLC 9 Mar; 50 DH 22 Mar.

larus species: 30 Brew 30 Mar; max 330 Const 4 May.

gull species: max 200 OnonL 6 Apr; 70 Otisco Lake 16 Apr.

Caspian Tern: arr OnonL 5 Apr; 88 OneiL 4 May; 220 OswH 26 May; 145 FH 29 May;

good numbers.

Black Tern: arr PPt 2 May (BP); max 6 SSSP 17 May (CS); 5 OswH 24 May (AVN); 20 more reports.

Com. Tern: arr OswH 5 Apr; 32 PPt 2 May; max 60 Fulton 16 May; 35 OneIL 22 May.

Forster's Tern: max 2 DH 5 Apr (KB, MaM, BP), early; OnonL 6, 7 Apr (GD, DWe); only reports.

Com./Forster's Tern: Skan 11 Apr.

sterna species: max 5 WP 4 May.

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Rock Pigeon: 95 Madison 10 Mar; 90 Brew 21 Mar; max 100 Bville 31 Mar.

Mourning Dove: 42 Dolge 10 Mar; max 70 DH 1 Apr.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo: arr SFNS 10 May; singles TR, DH, Hast, Dolge, Cam, GLSP; around 10 reports.

Black-billed Cuckoo: arr GLSP 10 May; max 2 HI 20 May & SFNS 20, 22 May; low numbers.

E. Screech-Owl: SBP 17 May; Bville 17 May; only reports; why so few?

Great Horned Owl: SNC 13 Mar, breeding; 3 Canas 29 Mar–28 Apr, breeding; low numbers.

Snowy Owl: max 5 Ff 9, 24, 29 Mar (TSc, GL); Rome 10 Mar (JS), rehab, *intro*; 3 HA 26 Mar (CW, JBa); last Bville 26 May (JB, KM); many reports.

Barred Owl: 2 TR 20 Mar; max 3 WM 9 May & DH 27 May; 2 OF 27 May; around 100 reports.

Long-eared Owl: TR 9, 17 Mar (JB); Syr 29 Mar (JS) *intro*; Cam 6 May (JaL, JhL); Verona 17 May (BB, MV).

Short-eared Owl: Poland 1 Mar (HP); DH 7 Apr (DWe); max 2 Dville 9 Apr (BB); Pulaski 10 Apr (JS), *intro*.

N. Saw-whet Owl: Ff 18 Mar (EH); BLNC thru 29 Mar (GD, JB, mob); Verona 6 Apr (MV); Dolge 19 Apr (LH).

Com. Nighthawk: arr 2 SBP 9 May; max 28 DH 29 May; 23 TR 29 May (GD).

E. Whip-poor-will: arr Syr 21 Apr; 3 Cam 11, 26 May; max 5 Salisbury 27 May; 6 sites.

Chimney Swift: arr DH 21 Apr; max 49 Mexico 18 May; 31 Skan 23 May; 25 Dolge 27 May.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: arr SH 4 May; max 6 DH 9, 14 May; 5 Whitestown 24 May.

Belted Kingfisher: Bville 4 Mar, taken by Cooper's Hawk (JB); max 11 DH 13 Apr; 5 SNC 13 Apr.

Red-headed Woodpecker: SH 9 Mar; arr 6

Apr; max 3 SNC 7 May; 3 SBP 8 May; 2 DH 11 May; one away from LOnt.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: max 8 GLSP 18 Apr; 6 TR 1 May; 6 SFNS 7, 9 May; 7 GB 11 May.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Little Falls 4 Mar; 7 DH 13 Apr; 8 VBSP 20 Apr; max 9 SFNS 9 May.

Downy Woodpecker: 7 Skan 2 Apr; 6 BLNC 19 Apr; 6 SFNS 7, 11, 13 May; max 11 CM 17 May.

Hairy Woodpecker: max 5 HI 6 May, 5 SFNS 18 May.

N. Flicker: 160 DH 11 Apr; **max 1640** DH 13 Apr; 68 SNC 13 Apr.

Pileated Woodpecker: max 5 VBSP 20 Apr; 4 SBP 20 Apr; 4 DH 27 Apr.

Am. Kestrel: 48 DH 29 Apr; max 96 DH 14 Apr; 5 FH 1 May (DW).

Merlin: max 7 DH 19 Mar & 14 Apr; 2 Deerfield 24 Apr; 2 Const 4 May, breeding; 2 Verona 19 May, breeding; 2 OF 20 May; 2 DH late May, carrying prey, thought nesting SSSP.

Peregrine Falcon: max 4 DH 9 May (SK); Breeding confirmed in Syr and Utica, 1st CO breeding record.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

Olive-sided Flycatcher: Cam 18 May; Sterling 21 May; only reports.

E. Wood-Pewee: arr WP 7 May; max 5 WH 15 May, WP 30 May, & Cam 31 May; 4 SFNS 26 May.

Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr DH & SBP 17 May; OnonL 21 May; Oswego 22 May; only reports.

Acadian Flycatcher: arr WH 13 May (DA), thru; Mexico 29 May (DW), poss breeder; only reports.

Alder Flycatcher: arr Bville 13 May; max 8 OF 27 May; 5 SFNS 27 May.

Willow Flycatcher: arr Pompey 3 May; max 11 CM 17 May; 5 UM 28 May; 8 NHar 29 May.

Least Flycatcher: arr Skan 1 May; 7 Cam 5, 22 May; max 9 CM 9 May; 8 WP 12 May.

E. Phoebe: arr Clay 8 Mar; 6 TR 9 Apr; max 14 DH 13 Apr; 6 Clay 17 May.

Great Crested Flycatcher: arr GB 3 May; 6 VBSP 10, 30 May; max 11 CM 17 May; 6 Ilion 26 May.

E. Kingbird: arr Bville 23 Apr; 6 BLNC 6 May; 7 TR 7 May; 8 SNC 7 May; max 15 DH 9 May.

N. Shrike: TR 8–25 Mar (GD) & 6 Apr; last Verona 8 Apr; around 15 individuals.

Yellow-throated Vireo: arr 2 TR 6 May; 3 HI 10 May; max 4 WH 14 May; 3 BLNC 29 May; 3 VBSP 30 May.

Blue-headed Vireo: arr Cam 21 Apr; 5 Cam 8 May; 5 HF 11 May; max 6 OF 17 May.

Warbling Vireo: arr OnonL 1 May; 8 TR 11, 15 May; max 10 Fville 12 May, 10 WP 27 May.

Philadelphia Vireo: arr Cam 9 May; 2 ea DH, Cam, GLSP 10–13 May; last SH 27 May.

Red-eyed Vireo: arr Fville 3 May; 27 Cam 22 May; max 30 Happy Valley 22 May; 25 OF 22 May.

Blue Jay: 25 TR 8 Mar; 30 SBP 5 May; 25 SFNS 6 May; max 242 DH 10 May, very low num, *intro*; 25 SNC 13 May.

Am. Crow: max 4871 GLSP 7 Mar (JC); 1660 DH 7 Mar (SK).

Fish Crow: max 8 OnonL 22 Mar; most reports from OnonL; singles s. HERK, unusual loc.

Com. Raven: 3 WM 3 Mar; 6 DH 18 Mar; pairs SFNS, VBSP, Manlius, Const, SBP; 5 OF 21 May.

Horned Lark: 82 Pompey 2 Mar; 55 Manheim 2 Mar; max 90 Elbridge 14 Mar; 60 DH 1 Apr.

Purple Martin: arr DH 5 Apr; 9 Oneil 14 May; max 12 DH 30 May & Const 30 May.

Tree Swallow: arr Canas 19 Mar; 400 Fulton 16 Apr; max 500 Phoenix 19 Apr; 496 DH 1 May.

N. Rough-winged Swallow: arr Bville 7 Apr; 8 Little Falls 19 Apr; max 12 OLC 1 May; low counts.

Bank Swallow: arr DH 20 Apr; max 20 Syr 24 May; 14 Litchfield 28 May.

Cliff Swallow: arr DH 13 Apr; 10 Verona 28 Apr; 7 BLNC, TR 2–4 May; 12 Clay 19, 27 May, breeding.

Barn Swallow: arr Wville 3 Apr; 25 Volney 26 Apr; max 60 BLNC 2 May; 30 DH 23 May.

swallow species: max 500 DH 25 Apr; 125 DeWitt 9 May.

Black-capped Chickadee: 25 Ff 23 Mar; 25 SFNS 2 Mar, 19 Apr; max 29 Cam 1 May.

Tufted Titmouse: 6 Bville 3 Apr; 6 GLSP 3 May; max 8 SFNS 6, 8 May.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: 5 SH 12 Apr; max 7 CM 13 Apr; 3 VBSP 20 Apr; 4 SSSP 11 May.

White-breasted Nuthatch: max 6 Cam, Sterling, GLSP, SFNS 2 Mar – 10 May.

Brown Creeper: max 5 GB 6 Apr; 4 BLNC 7 Apr; 5 NS 16 Apr; 4 Cam 1 May; very few on LOL.

Carolina Wren: 2 Fville 2 Mar; 2 DeWitt 16 Apr; max 3 Minoa 25 Apr, 2 May; DH 7 Apr, rare at loc.

House Wren: arr Camden 14 Apr; max 8 SFNS

17–24 May & Clay 17 May; 4 UM 17 May; 5 Caz 24 May.

Winter Wren: WP 6 Mar; 2 GB 13 Apr; max 5 Cleveland 17 May; 2 WH 11–22 May; low numbers.

Marsh Wren: arr DeWitt 9 May; 3 Pulaski 10 May; max 9 CM 17 May; 3 WP 19 May; 5 Verona 26 May; 3 TR 30 May.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr DH 12 Apr; 6 DeWitt 3 May; 7 TR 4 May; max 11 CM 17 May.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: 10 BLNC 11 Apr; 8 Cam 11 Apr; 10 CM 13 Apr; max 20 NS 19 Apr.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr Cam 11 Apr; 20 CM 27 Apr; max 25 NS & GB 3 May; 20 BLNC 2 May; last 17 May.

E. Bluebird: 5 Clinton 7 Mar; 6 TR 27 Mar; max 35 DH 15 May; 5 Dolge 18–22 May; 5 SH 22 May.

Veery: arr Cam 4 May; 7 Oswego 12 May; 6 TR 14 May; max 9 CM 17 May; 6 SFNS 23, 26 May.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: arr SBP 19 May; max 2 HI 20 May; Syr 21 May; only reports.

Swainson's Thrush: arr SFNS 9 May; max 3 SBP 14, 17 May; 2 OF, Cam, BLNC 18–21 May.

Hermit Thrush: arr Brew 6 Apr; 7 CM 13 Apr; max 12 Cam 1 May; 10 TR 1 May; 7 SBP 1 May.

Wood Thrush: arr OLC 1 May; 12 SFNS 14 May; max 20 CM 17 May; 11 Sfield 17 May; 10 Ham 17 May.

Am. Robin: 100 TR 8 Mar; 200 DeWitt 14 Mar; 901 DH 18 Mar; 2500 DH 1 Apr.

Gray Catbird: SFNS 1 Mar; arr DeWitt 13 Apr; max 20 WP 11 May & SBP 14 May; max 37 CM 17 May.

N. Mockingbird: 3 DeWitt 1 Mar; max 4 Skan 8 Mar; 3 HA 22 Mar; 3 GLSP 13 Apr; DH 13 May, app migrant; most near Syr.

Brown Thrasher: arr Fville, SBP 13 Apr; max 5 GLSP 3 May & Solvay 5 May; 4 DH 10 May.

European Starling: max est 2000 Ham 14 Mar, DH 1 Apr, & MCL 1 Apr.

Am. Pipit: arr Cam 7 Apr; 30 Bville 22 Apr; max 45 DB 21 May; last 2 SBP 27 May.

Cedar Waxwing: 46 Marcellus 4 Apr; 42 SNC 8 Mar; 50 TR 8 Mar; max 500 DH 1 Apr.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: 2 Elbridge 14 Mar (KB); 2 Dolge 19 Mar (BLH); last 2 DH 9 May (SK, JT, DW).

Snow Bunting: 200 Otisco Lake 11 Mar; max

500 Pville 22 Mar; 105 Manheim 31 Mar; last 2 DH 7 Apr.

Ovenbird: arr TR 1 May; 13 Rome 9 May; max 29 GB 11 May; 18 Sfield 17 May; 16 OF 27 May.

Louisiana Waterthrush: arr Marcellus 14 Apr; 2 Canas 19 Apr; 2 Cam 1 May; 2 Poland 17 May; 2 Ilion 26 May; few reports.

N. Waterthrush: arr Fabius 26 Apr; 9 Cicero 4 May; 8 TR 8 May; max 16 BLNS 6 May; 7 Fville 12 May.

Golden-winged Warbler: arr DH 9 May; 6 or 7 individuals, all but one near LOL, some heard-only.

Blue-winged Warbler: arr Ham 6 May; 6 SFNS 9 May & GB 11 May; 10 HI 20 May; max 13 Verona 24 May.

“Brewster’s” Warbler: arr VBSP 10 May; GB 12 May; TR 13, 15 May.

“Lawrence’s” Warbler: GB 12–30 May (JB, AV, mob), poss returning individual.

Black-and-white Warbler: arr DH 22 Apr; 5 Cam 9 May; max 8 Cleveland 15 May.

Prothonotary Warbler: DH 10 May (ph, mob), very rare at loc, only report.

Tennessee Warbler: arr Cam, DB, DH, GB 9 May; max 7 SBP 20 May; 4 WH 20 May; 4 Cam 21 May; last OF 27 May.

Orange-crowned Warbler: arr SBP 9 May (BP); DH 10 May; Dville 12 May (BB); only reports.

Nashville Warbler: arr DH 27 Apr; max 10 TR 9 May; 9 CM 9 May; 6 DH 10 May; 5 SFNS 11 May.

Mourning Warbler: arr Manlius 10 May; max 4 WH 20 May; 2 GB 13, 23 May.

Com. Yellowthroat: arr Fville 3 May; max 20 GB 11 May; 34 CM 17 May; 18 Verona 25 May.

Hooded Warbler: arr SFNS 6 May; max 5 GB 11, 13 May; 4 GLSP 11 May; 4 SNC 13 May.

Am. Redstart: arr Fville 2 May; 18 DH 13 May; max 25 Oswego 13 May, HI 17 May, & CM 17 May.

Cape May Warbler: arr TR 6 May; max 4 DH 10 May; 3 SBP 12 May; 3 FH 17 May; around 25 reports.

Cerulean Warbler: arr HI 6 May; 2 Mexico 11 May; max 11 HI 17 May; 2 Ppt 23 May.

N. Parula: arr Skan 4 May; 5 SFNS 9 May; max 6 Oswego 12 May; 3 OF 17 May.

Magnolia Warbler: arr GLSP 3 May; 6 CM 9 May; 6 SFNS 9 May; max 7 Oswego 12 May.

Bay-breasted Warbler: arr SFNS 9 May; max 5 SFNS 14 May; 2 Fulton 16 May; 3 SBP 18 May.

Blackburnian Warbler: arr Pompey, SFNS 7 May; max 10 DB 9 May (TS) & OF 27 May; 9 TR 9 May; 7 SH 19 May.

Yellow Warbler: arr Bville 1 May; 25 DH 10 May; 25 TR 11 May; max 49 CM 17 May; 25 HI 17 May.

Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr OnonL 6 May; 11 TR 9 May; max 12 VBSP 10 May; 11 Erieville 14 May.

Blackpoll Warbler: arr Brookfield 11 May; max 7 Fulton 21 May; 4 SFNS 24 May; 3 NHar 29 May.

Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr WH 1 May; 7 HF 11 May; 6 HI 20 May; max 8 OF 27 May.

Palm Warbler: arr WW, Wville 13 Apr; 18 SBP 9 May; 10 Mexico 12 May; max 25 DH 10 May.

Pine Warbler: arr Dolge 6 Apr; 5 Rome 9 May; max 32 DH 13 Apr (SK); 4 Pulaski 8 May.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: 2 Hannibal 8 Mar; arr 7 Apr; 50 SBP 9 May; max 100 DH 10 May.

Prairie Warbler: arr DH 10 May; Cicero 14 May; 2 Tully 24 May; HV 17, 22 May; 3 other reports.

Black-throated Green Warbler: arr SFNS 25 Apr; max 16 SFNS 9 May; 15 TR 9 May; 12 OF 27 May.

Canada Warbler: arr BLNC, CM 9 May; 4 Erieville 14 May; max 7 Cleveland 17 May; 2 Cam 10, 22 May.

Wilson’s Warbler: arr SFNS 9 May; 3 CM 12 May; max 6 DH 22 May; 2 Ham 20 May; poor numbers.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

E. Towhee: arr Bridgewater 2 Apr; 6 SBP 13 Apr; max 10 GLSP 22 Apr; 7 TR 14 May; 5 Elbridge 27 May.

Am. Tree Sparrow: 55 Dolge 10 Mar; 20 Fulton 5 Apr; max 75 Cleveland 7 Apr; last WW 3 May.

Chipping Sparrow: arr SH 6 Apr; max 34 SBP 9 May.

Clay-colored Sparrow: arr SFNS 6 May; max 3 SFNS 12 May (MP), 3 GLSP 15 May (GC); SBP 9 May; singles DH 12, 18 May (DW), *intro.*

Field Sparrow: arr Fulton 5 Apr; 6 SFNS 27 Apr; max 7 TR 8 May; 5 Ham 14 May.

Vesper Sparrow: arr DH 7 Apr; max 6 SBP 13 Apr; 3 Canas 19 Apr; 2 Spafford 14 May; 2 WH 20 May.

Savannah Sparrow: arr CM 3 Mar; 9 Tully 11 Apr; 6 Fulton 13 Apr; max 18 SBP 13 Apr.

Grasshopper Sparrow: arr Manheim 22 Apr;

max 4 Fville 11 May; 2 Pulaski 12 May; 2 Hast 22 May.

HENSLOW'S SPARROW (R5): Fville 10, 11 May (MI), only report.

Fox Sparrow: 2 SH 9, 23 Mar; arr GLSP, SFNS, Skan, Syr 23 Mar; max 12 Cam 8 Apr; 8 CM 13 Apr; last Fville 3 May.

Song Sparrow: 35 Fulton 5 Apr; max 250 SBP 7 Apr; 80 SP 8 Apr; 39 CM 17 May.

Lincoln's Sparrow: arr TR 6 May; max 5 DH 11 May; 2 Fville 12 May; last DH 25 May; few reports.

Swamp Sparrow: Dolge 9 Mar; 16 Tully 19 Apr; 10 Phoenix 3 May; max 44 CM 17 May.

White-throated Sparrow: 15 SBP 26 Apr; 19 CM 27 Apr; max 100 Clinton 30 Apr; 13 Cam 3 May.

White-crowned Sparrow: Dolge 1 Mar; arr Dolge 29 Apr; max 70 SBP 10 May; last DH 25 May.

Dark-eyed Junco: 100 Cleveland 7 Apr; 60 SH 12 Apr; max 156 SBP 13 Apr; 67 Cam 17 Apr.

Scarlet Tanager: arr Pompey 5 May; max 15 DH 9 May; 8 SH 19 May; 7 SFNS 20, 22 May.

N. Cardinal: 13 GB 13 Apr; 19 GLSP 18 Apr; 15 Minoa 2 May; max 22 CM 17 May.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr TR 1 May; max 25 DH 9 May; 11 CM 17 May; SFNS 22 May, m. incubates.

Indigo Bunting: arr NHar 25 Apr, early; max 5 DH 9 May, Clinton 10 May, Clay 17 May & HI 31 May.

PAINTED BUNTING: m. Oswego 18 Apr at

feeder (KL!, ph, NYSARC), 3rd Reg rec, 1st male.

Bobolink: arr Verona 1 May; 200 DH 6 May; 20 Ham 13 May; 25 TR 15 May.

Red-winged Blackbird: 3200 DH 25 Mar; 2000 Bville 31 Mar; max 15000 DH 1 Apr.

E. Meadowlark: arr DH 19 Mar; 35 Canas 2 Apr; max 41 DH 13 Apr; 6 Cam 8 May; 7 Fulton 13 May.

Rusty Blackbird: arr Canas 20 Mar; max 300 DH 13 Apr; 252 TR 5 May; 240 BLNC 6 May; last 17 May.

Com. Grackle: max 10000 DH 1 Apr; 3000 CM 1 Apr; 4362 TR 3 Apr; 4000 Fulton 5 Apr.

Brown-headed Cowbird: max 500 DH 1 Apr; 44 Const 29 Apr; 30 Weaver Lake 29 Apr.

Orchard Oriole: arr Wville 5 May; max 7 DH 9 May; 2 DB 9, 14 May; 2 Bville 17 May; 2 Augusta 26 May.

Baltimore Oriole: arr Dville 2 May; max 400 DH 9 May; 20 WP 9 May; 15 HI 17 May.

blackbird species: 2000 OnonL 30 Mar.

Purple Finch: 12 SH 9 Mar; 9 SH 28 Mar; max 33 DH 13 Apr; 13 Dolge 15 Apr.

House Finch: max 15 Ham 2 Mar; 8 DH 25 Mar; 6 OnonL 3 Apr; 6 Oswego 19 Apr.

Com. Redpoll: Dolge 7 Mar, only report.

Pine Siskin: Cam 7 Apr; Skan 13 Apr; only reports.

Am. Goldfinch: 60 BLNC 21 Mar; 52 WW 15 Apr; max 83 Dolge 7 May; 40 Fville 12 May.

House Sparrow: 25 Ham 1 Mar; max 45 Utica 12 Mar; 40 OnonL 3 Apr; 20 Syr 24 Apr.

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