

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 winter of 2017-'18 came on fast and hard. Many of the Region's ponds and lakes froze up tight during the second week of December. Serious snow accumulations were a factor by the end of the second week and bone-chilling cold arrived in the final week of the month. In Syracuse the mean temperature for December was 24.1°F, which is 5.3° lower than normal. Temperatures in Old Forge in the Adirondacks bottomed out at -30° on 28 December. In Syracuse the snowfall total for the month was 34.2", only 1.5" higher than the average. January was cold and snowier than December, with a mean temperature in Syracuse of 21.5°, 2.1° below the historical average. In Verona, taking part in the Oneida CBC on 1 January, Bill Purcell reported a temperature of -20°. On the same day, in Old Forge, Gary Lee's thermometer read, -32°. In Syracuse, snowfall for January measured 44.5", which is 10" above normal. The arctic trend reversed in February, with a substantial late-month thaw. The average temperature for the month was 32.2°, 6.3° higher than normal. Snowfall in Syracuse measured 23.6", which is 1.7" lower than average for the month.

Harsh conditions and early freeze-ups of many water bodies pushed most geese out of the Region during the second week of December, which is somewhat earlier than usual. This made waterfowl relatively scarce for the Region's CBCs. However, by mid-December the snow did serve to concentrate songbirds at feeding stations. In late December and early January, reports of grounded loons, grebes, and some diving ducks began coming in from the Region's wildlife rehabilitators. Oneida Lake froze at least by the end of December as did Otisco Lake and about two-thirds of Skaneateles Lake. On 19 February the maximum amount of ice coverage recorded on Lake Ontario was 82%. A warm up during the last week of February and winds from favorable directions held the promise of an early spring, or at least that's how some birds interpreted it. Waterfowl, some raptors, American Woodcocks, and blackbirds poured into the Region.

Waterfowl numbers and diversity were for the most part unremarkable this season. Away from the eastern portion of the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge that lies within Region 5, dabbling duck numbers were low. Diving ducks concentrated in expected ice-free havens such as the Oswego River and Harbor and parts of Onondaga and Skaneateles Lakes. Single **Greater White-**

fronted Geese were found at several locations, including Cazenovia and Onondaga Lakes. On 4 December David Wheeler reported a possible Barnacle x Cackling Goose hybrid. The bird was associating with three Cackling Geese on Cazenovia Lake. Most likely the same bird had been seen in mid-November on Seneca Lake. 850 Redheads at Skaneateles Lake on 20 January was a good count for the location. A maximum number of 1082 Redheads tallied at Onondaga Lake on 19 February was even more impressive. Other *Aythya* species were not as remarkable, and modest high counts came from bays on Lake Ontario. Wheeler found six Black Scoters together on Onondaga Lake on 24 December, an excellent count for the spot. None were adult males. In February, Long-tailed Ducks were found in large rafts at Oswego Harbor and Fair Haven. Bill Purcell found two female King Eiders at Oswego on 3 January. 203 Hooded Mergansers at Sandy Pond on 9 December is notable, as is 200 at Onondaga Lake on 17-20 December. 2500 Common Mergansers were tallied at Onondaga Lake on Christmas Day. As mentioned above, this was not a good winter for loons. Fast-forming ice puts them in real jeopardy. Reports of several groundings came from the Region's wildlife rehabilitators. Known casualties are likely representative of a larger hidden toll.

Two wintering **Black Vultures** joined the usual Turkey Vultures in the Jamesville area this winter. The vultures are attracted to the county compost pile and roadkill dump near the old quarry. Tony Shrimpton has for several years observed the birds at their roost site in Fayetteville. This year he noted the Black version were indeed accompanying Turkey Vultures on their daily commute. Black Vulture as a winterer is an interesting phenomenon also noted in the Ithaca area and Niagara River—might they be harbingers of a year-round resident population developing in Region 5? Despite the harsh weather, five Turkey Vultures were found by Ernest Williams and party while participating in the Clinton CBC in the towns of Kirkland and Marshal on 16 December. The birds continued through the season. At the same time other typical wintering raptors like Rough-legged Hawk, American Kestrel, and Northern Harrier were thin on the ground and even missing from some traditional areas. Reports of Golden Eagle, including several adults, came from nine areas. Wintering Golden Eagles in the Region are typically juveniles. On 28 February, eight each of Red-shouldered and Rough-legged Hawks migrated past Derby Hill.

A Purple Sandpiper was found at Oswego Harbor on 28 December but not seen again. A late American Woodcock was found on 17 December; February birds are early spring migrants. A **Black-legged Kittiwake** found by David Wheeler and Deborah Dohne at Onondaga Lake on 17 December was unusual for that site. After the unusually cold weather of early January, massive numbers of gulls began to collect at Onondaga Lake and along the Seneca and Oswego Rivers. While on a non-birding visit to Oswego on 16 January, Wheeler found a second Regional record **SLATY-BACKED GULL** on the Oswego River. He had no scope or camera with him at the time, but was able to contact Mary Magistro who arrived in minutes with proper optics. The gull was subsequently

seen at several sites along the Oswego and Seneca Rivers through 7 February and is likely the same bird sighted thereafter on Van Cleef Lake in Seneca Falls (R3). On 18 January a Regional first **MEW GULL** was identified by Jay McGowan on the Oswego River in Minetto. The rarity was first seen sleeping on the ice above the dam and was picked from a flock of Ring-billed Gulls when it briefly raised its head and revealed its short bill. The bird remained at the site for two days and was viewed and photographed by many birders who noted its most conspicuous feature to be a pink wash to the underparts. A consensus formed that the bird was likely of the European form called “Common Gull” rather than the subspecies of western North America. A notable maximum number of 16 Iceland Gulls was tallied on the Seneca River at Baldwinsville on 3 February. Gregg Dashnau noted the spot became exceptional after January's deep freeze, and kept careful daily watch of the goings-on and reported banded gulls.

There were less than twenty reports of Eastern Screech-Owls this period. Wildlife Rehabilitator Jean Soprano received one that was struck by a vehicle in Baldwinsville on 12 February. There were several other reports of vehicle impacts involving other owl species. Soprano reported four cases of Snowy Owls being struck by vehicles and one instance of an individual that had become trapped inside a building in Syracuse. This seems a high number of casualties. A decent maximum of four Snowys was reported at Oswego Harbor on 5 December. One birder speculated that the lack of them in Fairfield (Herkimer County) could be related to the area's large number of wind turbines. There were only three reports of Short-eared Owls this period. None lingered. Individual Northern Saw-whet Owls were found in Remsen and Clay. One Red-headed Woodpecker was photographed at Verona Beach State Park on 1 January, while a pair wintered at a New Haven property owned by Dave Babb. Reports of Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers came from 14 locations. Only a few of those occurred in February. As referenced above, American Kestrels were somewhat harder to come by this winter. There were also relatively few reports of Merlins in January. Perhaps the harsh December compelled them to move further south. Peregrine Falcons were reported primarily from expected locations. Resident pairs in Syracuse and Utica were in place through the period. The Utica pair purportedly dealt with more than one interloper in February. One banded adult female engaged in a ledge display with the resident male on 21 February. According to the intruder's band information, she originated from a nest in Springfield Massachusetts and was banded in May of 2016. The same individual was photographed in Rome on 9 September, 2017.

Northern Shrikes were reported from some of the expected areas, but none were reliable finds. A maximum number of 21 Common Ravens in Dolgeville on 17 December was notable as were the 16 tallied in the Town of Nelson on 26 January. The species' presence in Region 5 continues to increase. Numbers of wintering Red-breasted Nuthatches were good in appropriate habitat due to the Region's significant cone crop. Single Hermit Thrushes were reported from four areas. At Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary in Kirkland, one was seen on multiple

occasions from 14-31 December. It was often seen associating with Eastern Bluebirds as they partook of the fruit from winterberry bushes. A juvenile **Indigo Bunting** was seen and photographed at a Syracuse bird feeder on 30 December. There were no subsequent reports of the bird. Significant numbers of blackbirds began returning in the last week of February as did many ducks. Winter finches were largely a disappointment for most of us. However, those that didn't mind traveling to the outskirts of the Region—both north and south—were occasionally rewarded for their efforts. There were five reports of Common Redpolls including from New Woodstock, where 12 were counted on 19 December. By mid-February small flocks of Red Crossbills started being reported in the Adirondacks and in the Adirondack foothills; no doubt taking advantage of the area's substantial cone crop. Observers were often seeing the crossbills as they gritted on roadsides. There were no reports of Evening Grosbeak.

Development of the west shore and inner harbor area of Onondaga Lake continues. Tall hotels and residences near completion and the long strip on Van Rensselaer St. is being graded and prepared for construction. What fate lies for the fields on Solar St.? While the lands adjacent to the lake continue to be altered in too many places and ways to list, the lake itself is hopefully cleaner and continues to be incredibly important to wintering and migratory waterfowl. Deborah Dohne kept almost daily track of the goings-on and documented them in eBird and in a winter-season summary she provided the *Kingbird* Regional report editors. After the extreme weather of January, Onondaga Lake began attracting large numbers of our three common gull species, including 229 Great Black-backed Gulls counted on 19 February. This is by far the largest concentration of the species in our area. Common Merganser counts numbered in the 1000-2500 range for much of the period and were joined by about 100 Red-breasted Mergansers, a much bigger number than typical for the lake. Dohne also observed 1000+ Redhead and many scaup during February and noted 600 Mallards on 19 January. The impressive concentration of waterfowl held three Snowy Owls through much of the season. They were often seen standing on the ice and flying to shoreline perches.

A total of 129 species and four hybrids was found this period, which is four less than the most recent decade's average. The highlights included: Greater White-fronted Goose, King Eider, **Black Vulture**, **Golden Eagle**, Red-shouldered Hawk, Purple Sandpiper, American Woodcock, **Black-legged Kittiwake**, Bonaparte's Gull, **MEW GULL**, **SLATY-BACKED GULL**, Lesser Black-backed Gull, **Snowy Owl**, Short-eared Owl, N. Saw-whet Owl, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Fox Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, **Indigo Bunting**, and Red Crossbill.

The winter season produced 36,336 eBird records, which were processed by Swan Hummingbird v4.02.

CONTRIBUTORS

Dennis Anderson, David Babb, Sue Boettger, Carla Bregman, Joseph Brin, Matthew Brown, Ken & Rose Burdick (KRB), Andrea Burke, Bernie Carr, Gerald Case, Dave Cesari, Gary Chapin, Richard Cohen, Karl Curtis, Jim D'Angelo, Gregg Dashnau, Rose DeNeve, Deborah Dohne, Elizabeth Frascatore, John Germain, Bill Gruenbaum, Barbara & Larry Hall (BLH), Gene Huggins, Timothy Johnston, Renee Kittleman, Steve Kinne, Gary Lee, Jason Lusier, Mary Magistro (MM), Sue March, Kevin McGann, Jay McGowan, Thomas McKay, Gary Meyers, David Nash, Kevin Pace, Matt Perry, Scott Peterson, Bill Purcell, Everet Regal, Margaret Rusk, Deb Saltis, Livia Santana, Stephanie & Thomas Schmidt, Mickey Scilingo, Ida Sheppard, Gerald Smith, Sheila Smith, Jean Soprano, Chris Spagnoli, Jim Tarolli (JTa), Judy Thurber (JT), Matt Voelker, Bill Wallauer, Drew Weber (DWe), David Wheeler (DW), Brian White, Derek J White (DJW), Ernest Williams, Robert G. Williams III, Matt Young.

ABBREVIATIONS

BLNC – Beaver Lake Nature Center, Baldwinsville; **Brew** – Brewerton; **Bville** – Baldwinsville; **Canas** – Canastota; **CM** – Clay Marsh, Clay; **DB** – Ditch Bank Rd & vicinity, T Sullivan/Lenox; **DH** – Derby Hill, T Mexico; **Dolge** – Dolgeville, HERK; **FH** – Fair Haven, Little Sodus Bay, and vicinity; **GLSP** – Green Lakes SP, Fayetteville; **HI** – Howland I WMA; **MNWR east** – Montezuma NWR, CAYU; **OF** – Old Forge; **OLC** – Onondaga L Creekwalk; **OneiL** – Oneida L; **OnonL** – Onondaga L; **OswH** – Oswego Harbor; **PPt** – Oneida L at Phillips Pt, W Monroe; **RCFS** – Rice Creek Field Station, Oswego; **SFNS** – Spring Farm Nature Sanctuary, Kirkland; **SH** – Southern Highlands of ONON & MADI; **Skan** – Skaneateles; **SNC** – Sterling Nature Center; **SP** – Sandy Pd and vicinity; **SSSP** – Selkirk Shores SP; **SVB** – Sylvan/Verona Beach; **Syr** – Syracuse; **TR** – Three Rivers WMA, Lysander; **WP** – Woodman Pd, Hamilton.

WATERFOWL - VULTURES

Greater White-fronted Goose: Cazenovia 4 Dec (DW); OnonL 20, 28 Jan (MN, DW, DD); Fulton 20, 27 Jan (SR, mob).
Snow Goose: last 8 Cross Lake 30 Dec; arr 1200 Tully 21 Feb; max 18000 Cato 28 Feb.
Cackling Goose: max 9 Port Byron 28 Feb; seven other reports of singles.
Barnacle Goose x Cackling Goose: Cazenovia 4 Dec (DW), putative.
Canada Goose: 2500 WP 3 Dec; max 2650 DH 28 Feb.

Snow Goose x Canada Goose: Bville 4 Jan (KB).

Mute Swan: 16 OLC 8 Jan; max 63 FH 17 Feb.

Trumpeter Swan: max 8 FH 20 Dec; 4 OLC 1 Jan; 4 Brew 18 Feb; several other locs.

Tundra Swan: max 130 PPt 6 Dec; 112 Port Byron 28 Feb.

Wood Duck: max 11 TR 25 Feb; 7 DH 28 Feb; very few in Dec.

Gadwall: max 49 FH 8 Dec; 12 OLC 19 Feb.

Am. Wigeon: 75 Port Byron 24 Feb; max 140 MNWR east 26 Feb.

Am. Black Duck: 37 Mohawk 18 Dec; 33 Bville 4 Jan; max 50 OnonL 28 Feb.
Mallard: max 800 OnonL 17 Dec; 630 Bville 4 Jan.
Am. Black Duck x Mallard: OswH 16 Jan.
N. Shoveler: last 3 OLC 18 Dec; arr OLC 7 Feb; 7 WP 3 Dec; 10 Canas 9 Dec;
N. Pintail: last 7 WP 12 Dec; arr 9 Canas 25 Feb; max 2800 MNWR east 26 Feb (BP), great number.
Green-winged Teal: max 6 WP 6 Dec; last 3 WP 12 Dec; arr 2 Richfield Springs 12 Feb; low numbers.
Redhead: 580 FH 20 Dec; 850 Skan 20 Jan; max 1082 OnonL 19 Feb (DD), good number.
Canvasback: 10 Brew 24 Feb; max 14 OnonL 28 Feb; small numbers from three other locs.
Ring-necked Duck: max 475 WP 6 Dec; 175 Brew 24 Feb.
Greater Scaup: max 450 FH 13 Feb; 300 OswH 14 Feb.
Lesser Scaup: max 143 Oswego 17 Dec; 60 OnonL 28 Feb; relatively poor numbers.
Greater/Lesser Scaup: max 240 OswH 10 Feb.
Aythya species: max 500 SVB 9 Dec & 500 OnonL 25 Feb.
King Eider: 2 f. Oswego 3 Jan (BP, ph), one remained thru 9 Jan; f. Phoenix 7 – 11 Jan (GD, mob, ph).
Surf Scoter: OswH 19 Jan – 10 Feb; Fulton 25 – 26 Jan; Scriba 19 Feb; only reports.
White-winged Scoter: max 97 OswH 23 Feb.
Black Scoter: max 6 OnonL 24 Dec; Skan 20 Jan; OswH 25 Jan; only reports.
Long-tailed Duck: 250 OswH 3 Feb; max 800 FH 13 Feb (KM), good number.
Bufflehead: max 50 Tuscarora Lake 2 Dec; 31 Port Ontario 25 Feb.
Com. Goldeneye: max 295 FH 20 Dec; 220 Brew 24 Feb.
Hooded Merganser: max 203 SP 9 Dec (BP); 200 OnonL 17 – 20 Dec (DD, DW), great numbers.
Com. Merganser: 2000 Cross Lake 23 Jan (KM); max 2500 OnonL 25 Feb (DWe); good numbers.
Red-breasted Merganser: max 455 OswH 20 Dec; 122 DH 17 Jan.
Ruddy Duck: max 6 WP 1 Dec; last 2 OnonL 20 Dec; arr 2 Brew 21 Feb; very low numbers.
Ring-necked Pheasant: max 5 Canas 1 Jan; singles 8 locs.
Ruffed Grouse: max 3 Norway 13 Dec & OF 16 Dec & Fabius 21 Jan; 2 WP 26 Feb.
Wild Turkey: 43 Dolge 27 Dec; 52 DB 3 Jan;

max 54 Richland 17 Jan.
Red-throated Loon: max 4 FH 3 Dec; OswH 20-24 Feb; only reports.
Com. Loon: max 5 OswH 4 Dec; 4 OnonL 24 Dec; Rome 27 Dec (JS), grounded; Boonville 31 Dec, vehicle impact; Remsen 11 Jan (JS), vehicle impact; low numbers.
Pied-billed Grebe: max 6 OnonL 9 Dec & 6 OLC 11 Feb; almost all reports from OnonL.
Horned Grebe: 3 FH 3 Dec; max 10 OnonL 12 Jan; Hannibal 7 Jan (JS), expired; Camden 8 Jan (JS), expired.
Red-necked Grebe: max 3 FH 3 Dec & 3 OswH 9 Dec; OswH 6 Jan (JS), grounded; reports from three other locs.
Double-crested Cormorant: 45 OnonL 2 Dec – 9 Jan; max 54 Bville 8 Feb.
Great Blue Heron: 6 Bville 14 Jan; max 9 OLC 29 Jan.
BLACK VULTURE (R5): Fayetteville 4 Dec (DJW); Jamesville 15 Jan (DW); max 2 Jamesville 1 Feb thru (KM, DD, mob). Seen roosting with Turkey Vultures in Fayetteville (TS).
Turkey Vulture: 5 Kirkland 16 Dec (EW), unusual wintering loc; 34 Jamesville 17 Feb; max 65 DH 28 Feb.

HAWKS - LARIDS

Golden Eagle: singles, including several ads from nine locs, all but one apparently wintering.
Bald Eagle: max 40 Cross Lake 23 Jan (KM); 22 Bville 15 Jan; 22 Memphis 26 Jan.
N. Harrier: max 2 Tully 9 Dec; singles from 17 other locs: few in Jan.
Sharp-shinned Hawk: max 2 DH 28 Feb; widespread reports of singles.
Cooper's Hawk: 2 GLSP 2 Dec; 2 Manlius 6 Dec; max 3 CM 16 Dec; 2 Marcellus 30 Dec; 2 DeRuyter 25 Jan; 2 DH 28 Feb.
N. Goshawk: ad. Mindenville, HERK 14 Feb; ad Remsen 17 Feb; only reports.
Red-shouldered Hawk: SFNS 19 Jan; 2 Lafayette 11 Feb; max 8 DH 28 Feb; only reports.
Red-tailed Hawk: 6 Richfield Springs 17 Feb; max 23 DH 28 Feb.
Rough-legged Hawk: 4 Middleville 17 Feb; 3 Richfield Springs 17 Feb; max 8 DH 21 Feb; relatively few reports from expected areas.
Am. Coot: max 28 OnonL 9 Dec; last GLSP 29 Dec; arr Oswego 24 Feb.
Killdeer: last 2 OnonL 9 Dec; arr OLC & TR 21 Feb; max 5 Meridian 28 Feb.
Purple Sandpiper: Oswego 28 Dec (JG, ER,

ph), late.

Am. Woodcock: CM 16 Dec (DN); arr TR 27 Feb, only reports.

Black-legged Kittiwake: OnonL 17 Dec (DD, DW).

Bonaparte's Gull: max 10 OneiL 9 Dec; last OnonL 22 Jan; only two other reports.

MEW GULL (R5): Minetto 18-19 Jan (JM!, mob, ph), 1st Reg rec.

Iceland Gull: max 16 Bville 3 Feb (GD); most consistent presence on the Seneca River at Bville.

Ring-billed Gull: max 1500 SVB 6 Dec & 1500 Port Byron 22 Feb.

Herring Gull: 1500 SVB 6 Dec; max 3000 Bville 21 Jan.

Lesser Black-backed Gull: max 5 Bville 22 Jan; OnonL mid-Jan thru.

SLATY-BACKED GULL (R5): Oswego 16 Jan (DW!, mob, ph); individual seen from Fulton to OswH on Oswego river and on Seneca River at Bville, last seen at Bville 7 Feb, 2nd Reg rec, *intro*.

Glaucous Gull: max 4 Oswego 16 – 18 Jan & 4 Bville 9 – 10 Feb; last OLC 23 Feb.

Great Black-backed Gull: 125 Bville 10 Feb; max 229 OnonL 19 Feb.

Herring x Great Black-backed Gull: Fulton 1 – 3 Feb; Phoenix 14 Feb, same individual.

Gull species: max 1000 OnonL 28 Jan.

PIGEONS - PARROTS

Rock Pigeon: max 300 Lakeland 21 – 24 Jan; 225 Tully 17 Feb.

Mourning Dove: max 128 Dolge 21 Jan.

E. Screech-Owl: 3 HI 18 Dec; max 4 Skan 31 Dec; 3 South Bay 1 Jan; Bville 12 Feb (JS), vehicle impact; singles from 13 other areas.

Great Horned Owl: 2 TR 8 Dec; 2 Nelson 14 Dec – 28 Jan; Syr 11 Jan (JS), vehicle impact; 2 SNC 13 Jan.

Snowy Owl: Ilion 2 Dec (DS), vehicle strike, treated and released; max 4 OswH 5 Dec; Syr 6 Dec (JS), died from injuries; Bville 24 Dec (JS), vehicle impact; Syr 27 Dec (JS), trapped in building; Syr 2 Jan (JS), injured; 3 Solvay 18 Jan thru.

Barred Owl: 2 Vienna 1 Jan; 2 TR 27 Feb; singles at eight other locs.

Short-eared Owl: arr Syracuse Airport 16 Dec; Pompey 26 Feb; Tully 11 Jan; only reports.

N. Saw-whet Owl: Remsen 26 Dec; Clay 23 – 27 Feb; only reports.

Belted Kingfisher: 2 OnonL 20 Dec; 2 Richfield Springs 21 Dec.

Red-headed Woodpecker: VB 1 Jan; 2 NH Dec thru; only reports.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: max 7 Fayetteville 16 Dec & 7 SH 11 Feb; 5 BLNC 6 Feb.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max 2 Syr 16 Dec; singles at 13 other locs; four reports in Feb.

Downy Woodpecker: max 8 RCFS 17 Dec; 7 SP 22 Feb.

Hairy Woodpecker: max 4 Dolgeville 16 Dec – 4 Jan; SP 22 Feb.

N. Flicker: 4 FH 8 Dec; max 5 Syr 3 Jan; 4 TR 27 Feb.

Pileated Woodpecker: 2 Sterling 21 Dec; 2 Skan 31 Dec; 2 SH 9 Jan; 2 GLSP 11 Feb; 2 TR 27 Feb.

Am. Kestrel: max 2 Mindenville 30 Dec; 2 OnonL 17 Feb; 2 DH 28 Feb.

Merlin: 2 DH 27 Feb; singles at more than 15 other locs; few reports in Jan.

Peregrine Falcon: pairs hold territory Syr & Utica thru; singles at five other locs; max 3 Utica 21 Feb (MP, ph), pair interact with banded ad f. interloper, *intro*.

FLYCATCHERS - WAXWINGS

N. Shrike: around 20 reports of singles mostly in expected areas.

Blue Jay: max 31 Syr 15 Feb; 20 Westmoreland 19 Feb; 16 Dolge 23 Feb.

Am. Crow: 4152 DH 21 Feb; max 10000 Syr 26 Feb.

Fish Crow: 2 Bville 18 Dec – 12 Jan; max 5 Syr 20 Jan.

Com. Raven: 11 Fairfield 10 Dec; max 21 Dolge 17 Dec (BLH), good number; 16 Nelson 26 Jan.

Horned Lark: 70 Paris 15 Dec; max 175 Lebanon, MAD 16 Dec.

Black-capped Chickadee: max 60 New Woodstock CBC 29 Dec; 46 Forestport 17 Feb.

Tufted Titmouse: max 9 SFNS 16 Dec; 7 Fayetteville 26 Feb.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: max 18 Boylston 9 Dec (BP), good number; 8 Forestport 17 Feb.

White-breasted Nuthatch: 8 SFNS 16 Dec; max 14 HI 12 Feb.

Brown Creeper: 2 BLNC 9 – 24 Dec; 2 Kirkland 16 Dec; 2 Vienna 1 Jan; 2 GLSP 17 Feb.

Winter Wren: Belgium 15 Dec; CM 16 Dec; BLNC 21 Dec; OnonL 12 Jan – 18 Feb; CM 15 Feb.

Carolina Wren: 2 Fayetteville 16 Dec – 26 Feb; 2 Cazenovia 4 Feb; 2 Manlius 21 Feb.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: 6 Gray HERK 2

Feb; max 8 Elbridge 18 Feb.

E. Bluebird: 9 Marcellus 31 Dec; max 10 RCFS 17 Dec.

Hermit Thrush: Hastings 8 Dec; SFNS 14 – 31 Dec; RCFS 17 Dec; SSSP 13 Feb.

Am. Robin: 70 Camillus 25 Jan; max 146 DH 28 Feb.

Gray Catbird: Fayetteville 16 Dec; Canas 1 Jan; DeWitt 12 Feb; only reports.

N. Mockingbird: 2 Syr 9 Jan; 2 Fayetteville 21 Dec; no reports east of Oneida Lake.

European Starling: 1000 SH 11 Jan; 450 Elbridge 18 Feb.

Cedar Waxwing: 100 SFNS 24 Feb; max 120 DH 28 Feb.

LONGSPURS - WARBLERS

Lapland Longspur: 3 Paris 16 Dec; max 4 DB 1 Jan; 3 Canas 1 Jan; 3 Fabius 8 Jan; last Van Buren 22 Jan.

Snow Bunting: 150 Marshall 3 Jan; 220 Fabius 27 Jan; 400 SH 29 Jan;

Yellow-rumped Warbler: max 4 RCFS 17 Dec & FH 3 Jan; Bville 10 Feb; only reports.

TOWHEES - WEAVERS

Am. Tree Sparrow: 34 Verona 1 Jan; 37 Dolge 7 Jan.

Fox Sparrow: SH 2 – 5 Jan, only report.

Song Sparrow: 3 SFNS 16 Dec – 10 Feb; max 5 Clay 15 Feb.

Swamp Sparrow: SFNS 14 – 15 Dec; Dolge 21 Jan – 16 Feb; N Bridgewater (ONEI) 1-2 Jan; only reports.

White-throated Sparrow: 9 SFNS 14 Dec; max 13 OnonL 21 Dec.

White-crowned Sparrow: Hannibal 17 Dec;

max 3 DB 8 Jan; RCFS 18 Feb; 9 Feb

Lafayette; only reports.

Dark-eyed Junco: 58 Mindenville 13 Dec; max 74 Dolge 12 Feb.

N. Cardinal: 16 Fayetteville 22 Jan; max 21 Elbridge 31 Jan.

INDIGO BUNTING: juv. Syr 30 Dec (via JB, ph).

E. Meadowlark: 2 DH 28 Feb, only report.

Red-winged Blackbird: 45 BLNC 5 Dec; max 3200 DH 21 Feb; 395 TR 25 Feb.

Rusty Blackbird: 4 Waterville 23 Feb, only report.

Com. Grackle: 360 BLNC 5 Dec (DN), high count for date; 100 Pennellville 23 Feb; 200 Memphis 24 Feb; max 470 TR 27 Feb.

Brown-headed Cowbird: 32 Bville 28 Dec; max 40 Elbridge 18 Feb.

Blackbird species: max 500 DH 25 Feb.

Purple Finch: 22 Salisbury 8 Dec; max 40 Forestport 17 Feb.

House Finch: max 46 Fayetteville 22 Jan; 35 Syr 22 Jan.

Com. Redpoll: 2 Camillus 27 Dec; max 12 New Woodstock 29 Dec; three other reports of singles.

Red Crossbill: first Gray (HERK) 28 Jan; 15 Forestport 17 Feb; 6 Atwell, ADK 17 Feb; 6 Ohio 17 Feb; max 9 Eagle Bay, ADK 18 Feb.

Pine Siskin: max 40 Nelson 14 Jan; 40 SH 18 Feb; 37 Cold Brook 18 Feb.

Am. Goldfinch: max 69 New Woodstock 29 Dec; 64 Forestport 17 Feb; 60 Dolge 20 Feb.

Evening Grosbeak: no reports.

House Sparrow: max 80 Syr 26 Dec; 60 Verona 1 Jan.