

Provincetown, MA May 25 (RA, ph.). Conversely, a Louisiana in Harvard, MA Mar. 28 (ES) was a week early.

A wintering W. Tanager was last seen at a Belmont, MA feeder Mar. 18 (G. Speck). Since the fall of 1992, when Cape Cod was hit with a mini-invasion of Painted Buntings, several individuals of this previously irregular s. species have occurred annually in s.e. Massachusetts. An over-wintering male in Brewster remained at a feeder until Mar. 10 (A. Furman), another or the same male was reported from Truro May 31 (M. Minnerath), and a female visited a feeder in Westport, MA Apr. 4-9 at a residence owned, coincidentally, by another A. (Alicia) Furman, who is unrelated to the aforementioned A. Furman in Brewster!

A wintering Dickcissel in Dartmouth, MA was last seen Mar. 25 (E. Nielsen), another was in Newport, RI Mar. 12-17 (B&W Gearhart), and most interesting was a singing ♂ Dickcissel found in Bridport, VT May 20 that continued to defend a territory into June (K. Brock, S. Jackson *et al.*). A Green-tailed Towhee, providing roughly the 10th state record, was discovered in Marblehead, MA Apr. 1 (J. Smith). More birders would have seen it that day, but some waited for corroboration for fear of becoming part of an April Fools joke. Luckily, the bird remained at least through Apr. 28. A wintering "spotted" Rufous-sided Towhee departed Acushnet, MA on or around Apr. 15 (M. LaBossiere).

Among a minimum of six Clay-colored Sparrows in the Region, two singing males discovered in late May remained into June. One of these was in Bridport, VT (B. Gilbert), and the other was in Windsor, CT (P. Desjardins). In Massachusetts, two single Lark Sparrows that probably spent the win-

ter locally were at feeders in Peabody Mar. 14-25 (*vide* B.O.), and Amesbury Apr. 22-25 (R. Peacock). During spring migration in New England, numbers of migrant White-crowned Sparrows can vary widely between years. This year's flight was particularly heavy, as evidenced by the following totals: 11 in New Milford, CT (CW); > 50 throughout the spring in w. Massachusetts (*vide* SK); nearly 100 in e. Massachusetts, including maximum single locale/single day tallies, within roughly a 10-day period in mid-May, of 11 in Nantucket, 13 at Plum Island, 15 in Hingham, and 20 on Martha's Vineyard (*vide* M.A.S.). Two wintering Harris' Sparrows, one in Hopkinton, MA (J. Gordon, G. Gove), and the other at Nantucket, MA (E. Van Dyne *et al.*), remained until May 2 and May 15, respectively. Two "Oregon" Dark-eyed Juncos included a bird in Boston May 13-14 (L. Jefferson *et al.*), and one reported as a "pink-sided" in Chester, NH Mar. 14-22 (A&BD).

Single Yellow-headed Blackbirds were reported from Middleboro, MA Mar. 26 (J. Hepburn), and Niantic, CT Mar. 15-23 (J. Hajesy, *vide* FM). The provenance of a Eur. Goldfinch in Grand Isle, VT May 3 (J. Mapes), as with all those before it, will remain suspect.

Corrigendum

The Black-tailed Godwit reported as first appearing Apr. 19 last year, actually first appeared May 19.

Subregional editors (boldfaced), contributors (italics), and observers: R. Abrams, K.

Anderson, *J. Berry*, *Bird Observer* (B.O.), *L. Brinker*, *A. & B. Delorey*, **D. DeLuca** (New Hampshire), **J. Despres** (Maine), **R. Donovan**, **D. Emerson** (Rhode Island), **R. A. Forster** (e. Mass.), **G. Hanisek** (Conn.), **D. Hoag**, **S. Kellogg** (w. Mass.), **V. Laux**, **M. Lynch**, **F. Mantlik** (Conn.), **C. Marantz**, *Massachusetts Audubon Society* (M.A.S.), **S. Mirick**, **S. Perkins**, **S. Pollock** (SPo), **J. Peterson** (Vermont), **D. Provencher**, **C. Raitchel**, **M. Rines** (e. Mass.), **E. Salmela**, **R. Stymeist** (e. Mass.), **W. Townsend** (Maine), *Vermont Institute of Natural Sciences* (V.I.N.S.), **B. & P. Vickery**, **C. Wood**.

—*Simon Perkins, Massachusetts Audubon Society, Lincoln, MA 01773*

Hudson-Delaware Region

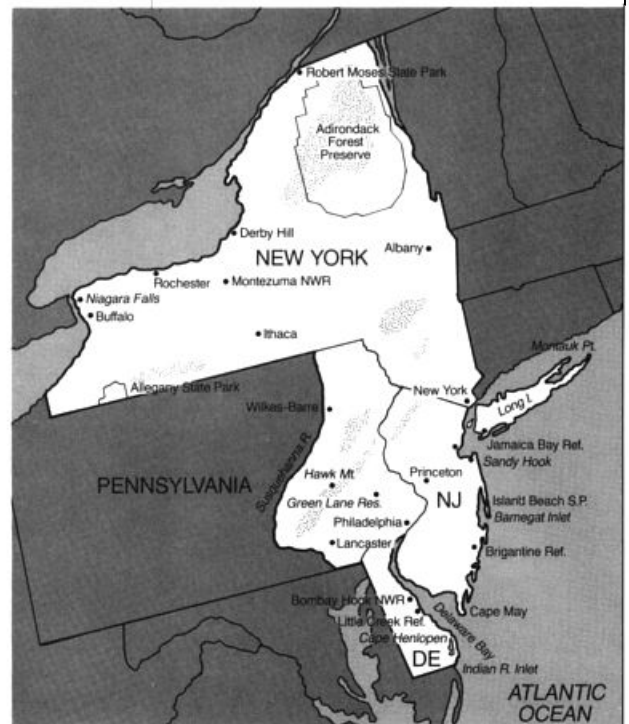
WILLIAM J. BOYLE, JR., ROBERT O. PAXTON, AND DAVID A. CUTLER

Spring 1995 continued the trend of the previous two seasons over most of the Region, as the weather was generally mild but dry. Upstate New York was somewhat cooler than usual, but the rest of our area enjoyed one of the finest springs in many years. Birding, too, was excellent, although somewhat spotty, as birders reported some of the best waves of warblers and other passerine migrants encountered in recent years. In contrast to recent years, when the migration has seemed to be creeping to earlier and earlier dates, the major flights occurred more or less on schedule. Indicative of the quality of the season was the staggering total of 225 species recorded in New Jersey in a single day by a Canadian team on the World Series of Birding May 13.

The unusually dry weather approached drought conditions in some areas, and contributed to a major forest fire in the New Jersey Pine Barrens. More than 20,000 acres burned in the state's largest fire in more than 30 years. Reservoirs and lakes were low as



In Bridport, Vermont, this male Dickcissel was singing on territory from May 20, 1995, into June. Photograph/Scott Jackson.



the hot summer season began, but the resulting exposed shoreline produced some good inland shorebirding. Pelagic birding was the best in years, especially a spectacular trip out of Montauk to Block Canyon on March 4 that encountered record numbers of alcids. Other trips off New Jersey and Delaware were also productive.

A modest collection of rarities was highlighted by the continuing presence of the Northern Lapwing and the reappearance of a Ross' Gull on Long Island, plus two other brief sightings of Ross' Gull. Other vagrants of note included Pacific Loon, Anhinga, Franklin's Gull, White-winged Tern, continuing Varied Thrush, Painted Bunting, and a possible Yellow-footed Gull off Delaware.

Abbreviations: Braddock Bay (*Braddock Bay S.P. and vicinity, Monroe, NY*); Bombay Hook (*Bombay Hook N.W.R., near Smyrna, DE*); Brig (*Brigantine Unit, Forsythe N.W.R., Atlantic, NJ*); Cape Henlopen (*Cape Henlopen State Park, Sussex, DE*); Derby Hill (*Derby Hill Bird Observatory, near Mexico, Oswego, NY*); Green Lane (*Green Lane Res., Montgomery, PA*); Hamlin Beach (*Hamlin Beach S.P. and adjacent lakeshore, Monroe, NY*); Jamaica Bay (*Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, Queens, NYC*); LI (*Long Island, NY*); Little Creek (*Little Creek W.M.A., Kent, DE*); Montezuma (*Montezuma N.W.R., at the n. end of L. Cayuga, Seneca, NY*); Port Mahon (*marshes and bayside along road e. of Little Creek, Kent, DE*); Sandy Hook (*Sandy Hook Unit, Gateway Nat'l Recreation Area, Monmouth, NJ*); D.R.B.C. (*Delaware Rare Birds Committee*); N.J.B.R.C. (*New Jersey Bird Records Committee*); N.Y.S.A.R.C. (*New York State Avian Rarities Committee*); and P.O.R.C. (*Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee*).

Loons to Herons

There were some excellent flights of loons, both inland and along the coast. A flock of 25 Red-throated Loons at Cape Henlopen Apr. 23 included one in full breeding plumage, a rare sight in Delaware (D.O.S.). Even more impressive was a collection of 140 Com. Loons on L. Carey, *Wyoming*, PA Apr. 9 (S. Zeunen); many other smaller groups were noted on n.e. Pennsylvania lakes that weekend (*vide* WR). A Pacific Loon in breeding plumage at Hamlin Beach Apr. 14 was an outstanding local rarity (WS), and another was inland at Spruce Run Res., *Hunterdon*, NJ May 6–13 (DF *et al.*). As in the winter, Red-necked Grebes failed to echo the massive flight of 1994, with only a few along the s. coast and *maxima* on L. Ontario of 47 at Yates, *Orleans* (WDn) and 57 at Hamlin Beach (WS) in early April. The season's Eared Grebes were

both in New York at Nassau Beach, LI, Mar. 19–25 (SW, m.ob.) and Oneida L., Apr. 2–7 (M. Rusk *et al.*).

The Mar. 4 pelagic trip from Montauk recorded 58 N. Fulmars, numbers not seen since the days of the Russian fishing fleets in the 1970s; three were seen the same day off Delaware, where there are few records. The annual Memorial Day Weekend pelagic trip out of Barnegat Light, NJ May 27 also tallied an excellent 30 fulmars, as well as good numbers of both Greater and Sooty shearwaters, plus a Manx and a Cory's shearwater. Sooty Shearwaters were seen in small numbers from land in late May at Avalon and Cape May Pt., and from several spots on the s. shore of Long Island. About 20 Leach's Storm-Petrels were found among the flocks of Wilson's on the Barnegat Light pelagic.

There were few reports of Brown Pelicans during the spring, but three made it as far east as Jones Beach, LI, Apr. 30 (A. Berlan). Not only does the wintering flock of Great Cormorants in the Delaware R. n. of Philadelphia continue to grow, as noted in winter, but they are staying longer; 20 were still at Riverton, *Burlington*, NJ Apr. 17, and a few lingered into mid-May (TBa). Crumb and Throckmorton summarized the magnitude of the population explosion of Double-crested Cormorant in the Oneida L. Basin of central New York by referring to totals from past springs. In the 1960s the totals were typically one–ten, in the 1970s 10–20, and in the 1980s ≤ 1000 for the season. On May 13, S. Adair counted 3120 on L. Oswego. An ad. ♂ Anhinga soaring over the Nanticoke R., 4 mi west of Laurel, *Sussex*, DE Apr. 23 provided the first state record with multiple observers (APE, D.O.S.).

Great Egret appears to be attempting a range expansion into upstate New York. A pair was seen at a possible nest site in a Great Blue Heron colony at Toad Harbor on L. Oneida near W. Monroe, *Oswego*, in May, and 2 pairs were apparently nesting in a

heronry on Motor I. in the Niagara R. n. of Buffalo (WW). There are no known nesting sites away from coastal areas. A Snowy Egret at Wilkes-Barre, PA Apr. 2 was unusual and early, and others were unexpected in w. New York at East Avon, *Livingston*, Montezuma, and Oak Orchard W.M.A., *Genesee*, all in mid-May. Even more unusual was a Tricolored Heron at Lansing, *Tompkins*, NY May 13–16 (TN, m.ob.). Wandering Little Blue Herons were at Green Lane Apr. 17, nearby Upper Perkiomen Valley May 1, and at Derby Hill May 22 (BSu). One–two Cattle Egrets at Tupper L., NY in the Adirondacks was more remarkable because of the dramatic decline in this species as a breeding bird in the Region within the past decade (W. Jenkins, RH).

Waterfowl

The waterfowl migration was early and generally uneventful. Among the usual scattering of Greater White-fronted Geese were one with Canadas near Milton, *Sussex*, DE in early March (E.B.N.T.), one at Rye, *Westchester*, NY Mar. 2–4 (TWB), and several in upstate New York, including a group of six at Yates, *Orleans*, Mar. 12 (D&D Suggs). A Barnacle Goose, origin unknown, was with a large flock of Canada Geese at Hamlin Mar. 12 (RM). The Two Ross' Geese at Sharptown, *Salem*, NJ remained into early March, but other individuals were found at L. Ontelaunee, *Berks*, PA Mar. 23 (JHo, KC) and between the Chazy Rivers on L. Champlain, *Clinton*, Apr. 3 (BK).

Green-winged Teal of the Eurasian subspecies were more prevalent than usual, with one at Bombay Hook (MG, BP), four in s. New Jersey, and two on Long Island, all in March. Eurasian Wigeons were also noted in good numbers, with a total of about 15 coming from every part of the Region. Highlights were one at L. Ontelaunee Mar. 23 (JHo, KC) and ≤ 3 at Montezuma in May. Up to two Tufted Ducks remained in



Two male Tufted Ducks (the two black-backed birds together at center) at the Shrewsbury River, New Jersey, in March 1995. Reports of this species in the northeast rarely involve more than single individuals, but this was an unusually good season for the species. Photograph/Erik Breden.

the Shrewsbury R., *Monmouth*, NJ to at least Mar. 23 (v.o.), and another was at E. Islip, LI, Mar. 26–Apr. 2 (P. Murphy). A drake at Long Point S.P., *Jefferson*, NY Apr. 1, was a first for the St. Lawrence region (N. Leone).

The ♂ Harlequin Duck that wintered at Sandy Hook lingered into early May, but departed before the World Series of Birding May 13. Another Harlequin was a one-day wonder at Union Springs on Cayuga L., NY Mar. 23 (BP, † to N.Y.S.A.R.C.), and a remarkably late one was at the mouth of the Genesee R., Rochester, May 24 (RM, RO, RGS). A pair of Barrow's Goldeneyes were at Sandy Pond, *Oswego*, Mar. 26 (B. Purcell).

Raptors to Cranes

The regularly manned hawk watches had good seasons, especially Derby Hill, which set records for 10 of the 14 usual species. The Sandy Hook count was not done for the first time in over a decade; Braddock Bay was down slightly from average due mainly to unfavorable winds. Black Vultures continue to spread up the Hudson Valley in s. New York, and are now regular in small numbers as far n. as *Ulster*. Nesting Osprey made news, with a pair at Webb Royce Swamp building the first non-platform nest in the Champlain Valley and another pair at a nest in Frawley Stadium in downtown Wilmington, DE!

An Am. Swallow-tailed Kite was at Tuckahoe, *Cape May*, NJ Apr. 22 (J. Miller), but the find of the raptor season was a pair of Swallow-taileds along the *Berks/Lancaster* line near Adamstown, PA May 23. They stayed in the area, and were joined by a 3rd Swallow-tailed and two–three Mississippi kites May 27 (JHe, m.ob.); all were still present at season's end. In New Jersey, in addition to the usual smattering of Mississippi Kites around Cape May in late May, reports included one at Allaire S.P., *Monmouth*, Apr. 24 (JHd), one in *Salem* Apr. 20 & 23 (WDa), and one at Thompson Park, *Monmouth*, May 25 (TBa). Other reports came from Brandywine Creek S.P., *New Castle*, DE May 20 (ES) and Hampton Bays, LI, the same day (H. McGuinness).

Derby Hill counted a record 101 Bald Eagles for the season, and a total 8 nest in *Cape May* and *Cumberland*, NJ produced 18 young, a modern high. Braddock Bay and Derby Hill each had a Swainson's Hawk, the former Apr. 23 (RCI) and the latter surprisingly late May 21 (BSu). Derby Hill tallied a staggering 19,531 Red-tailed Hawks for the season, apparently the highest total ever recorded anywhere, including an incredible 4591 Apr. 11 (BSu). Golden Eagles also did well at Derby Hill (55) and at Mt. Pleasant, *Tompkins*, NY, which had 26 Mar. 12–13 (TN).

Merlins only recently began breeding in the Adirondacks, but seem to be spreading and were reported from 2 new potential nest sites in late May. Wintering Gyrfalcons at Buffalo and Plattsburgh, NY were last reported during the first week of March.

Calling Yellow Rails were reported independently by 2 World Series of Birding groups from the Great Swamp N.W.R., *Morris*, NJ early on the morning of May 13; although this species has occurred there rarely in the past, all previous reports are from October. Calling Black Rails were found at many of their usual sites in coastal New Jersey and Delaware, including one seen several times at Bombay Hook. The latter bird was coaxed into view with a tape recorder, an activity that is illegal in New Jersey, where the species is considered threatened. King Rails were likewise found at a number of inland spots in Delaware and New Jersey, but one at Hamlin Beach was an outstanding find for the Genesee Ornithological Society Big Day Team May 20 (*vide* RGS).

A Sandhill Crane at Cape May Apr. 1 (R. Wilson) may have been the same one that appeared over Dennis, *Cape May*, Apr. 9 (*vide* PL). Another spent the morning at a Green Acres site in Warren, *Somerset*, NJ May 6 (ph. MN). The wintering bird at Mecox, LI, was last reported Mar. 18 (m.ob.), and a single was a rarity for *Erie*, NY at Hamburg Apr. 16 (F. Rew, RA). Braddock Bay had seven for the season, while Derby Hill recorded five.

Shorebirds

The Northern Lapwing discovered during January at Mecox, LI, remained until at least Mar. 18 (m.ob.). A small scattering of Am. Golden-Plovers appeared at diverse sites from Delaware to upstate New York. A few were around Bombay Hook all of April, but one at Whitesbog, *Burlington*, NJ Apr. 9 (L. Little) and another at the new Walkill N.W.R., *Sussex*, NJ (SA) for a month in April and May were unusual. The only report from upstate New York was at Montezuma May 26 (DSh). Black-necked Stilts built to 70 at Little Creek, Apr. 22, presaging their appearance farther north later in the season.

Two Willets were found at Montezuma May 21–22, a rare spring sighting for upstate New York (B. Evans *et al.*), and birders searching for the Am. Swallow-tailed Kites in Pennsylvania on the evening of May 23 witnessed an extraordinary sunset flight of >270 Whimbrel, an unprecedented number for the state (JHe, EW *et al.*). A Sanderling at Sodus Bay, *Wayne*, NY was both early and unexpected for the spring in the Oneida Basin region (P. DeBenedictis), and equally unusual for upstate New York were

W. Sandpipers at E. Aurora, *Erie*, May 30 (L. Holmes), and Montezuma May 29–30 (RGS, RO *et al.*).

Two Curlew Sandpipers were at Bombay Hook in May (MG, BP, m.ob.), and another was a first for *New Castle*, DE at the newly discovered shorebird spot at Port of Wilmington (M. Smith). The only other Curlew Sandpipers were singles at Brig., May 3–7 (v.o.), and at Jamaica Bay May 13 (S. Gollo-day). Bombay Hook had one–two Ruffs from Mar. 25 (B&NM) until late May, and others were at Woodland Beach Apr. 11 (WW) and Port Mahon May 23. Up to four Ruffs were at the traditional Pedricktown, *Salem*, NJ site in April, but proved quite elusive; a breeding plumaged male was at Cape May May 18–22 (v.o.). The only New York report came from Shinnecock Inlet May 6–9 (TL *et al.*).

A pair of Wilson's Phalaropes returned for a 3rd year to the nesting area near the mouth of the Chazy Rivers, *Clinton*, NY (BK), but were otherwise scarce. In addition to a few offshore reports of Red and Red-necked phalaropes, a ♀ Red-necked Phalarope already in breeding plumage was a surprise visitor to Dryden L., *Tompkins*, NY Apr. 13 (BP, m.ob.) and another was at Oak Orchard W.M.A., May 21–29 (R. Wagner, J. Filor *et al.*).

Gulls to Alcids

A Long-tailed Jaeger was seen from shore near Shinnecock Inlet, LI, May 21 (TL *et al.*), but the class of the family was a cooperative Great Skua that entertained the troops on the Mar. 3 pelagic trip for half an hour. Equally cooperative, but far more frequently encountered, was a South Polar Skua seen on the Barnegat Light trip May 27. Inland Laughing Gulls were at the Conejohela Flats, *Lancaster*, PA May 20 (EW, TG), at Yates, *Orleans*, NY May 21 (WW, R. Brock),



On the pelagic trip from Montauk, New York, to Block Canyon March 4, 1995, this Great Skua was among the highlights. Photograph/Mike Cooper.

and at the mouth of the Genesee R., Rochester, May 28 (DSh, M. Tetlow). The latter 2 records are from L. Ontario, where the species is very uncommon. One of the best gulls of the season was an ad. Franklin's Gull found along the Susquehanna R. near Columbia, Lancaster, PA May 15 (JHe), which, unfortunately, could not be relocated.

Inland Little Gulls were again found in Pennsylvania, although not in the numbers seen last spring. One was in the Susquehanna at Washington Boro, Lancaster, Mar. 26 (EW), and two were on L. Ontelaunee, Berks, Apr. 25 (JHe, m.ob.). Only one was reported from New Jersey and a few were on e. Long Island, but \leq five were at Pt. Lookout, Nassau, LI, in mid-March. Record numbers of Little Gulls were recorded at the mouth of the Niagara R. in late March and early April, with the top total being 37 Apr. 7 (GB, WDn), and two were unexpected visitors to Montezuma Apr. 29–May 1 (SK *et al.*). Common Black-headed Gulls, on the other hand, were rather scarce, with only about 7 reports for the season.

An ad. Ross' Gull, almost certainly the same bird that occurred there last spring, appeared at Pt. Lookout Mar. 12, 5 days earlier than last year. It again proved to be quite elusive, and was seen sporadically through Apr. 13 (RKu *et al.*). What may have been the same bird was seen at Fire I. Inlet, Apr. 16 (A. Wilson), and yet another report came from upstate at Rochester Apr. 23 (RGS, † to N.Y.S.A.R.C.). Up to six Roseate Terns hung out around Cape May Point in early May, and a pair were present in a Com. Tern colony at Barnegat Light later in the month.

An ad. White-winged Tern appeared at Bombay Hook May 19 and remained throughout the summer (FR, PV). This is the first spring record for Delaware, where the species occurs almost annually in July and August. Black Terns were reported in modest numbers from coastal areas, but >40 at Iroquois N.W.R., Orleans, NY May 15, was the highest count there since the 1960s (WDn). What was presumably the same thoroughly lost Black Skimmer was on the Susquehanna R. at Columbia and late in the day at the Conejohela Flats May 20 (B. Carl, EW, TG).

Unprecedented numbers of alcids were encountered on the Mar. 4 pelagic trip out of Montauk. More than 300 Dovekies was an impressive total, but the 13 Com. Murres was easily the highest one-day count ever for New York waters. Two Thick-billed Murres and 71 Razorbills added spice to the trip, but an incredible 58 Atlantic Puffins, also a record, was the most striking tally. Delaware birders had similar good birding from fishing boats out of Cape May; peak totals included 24 Dovekies May 11 (CC *et al.*), one



Atlantic Puffin near Block Canyon, off Montauk, New York, March 4, 1995. No fewer than 58 puffins were seen on this day's pelagic trip, an all-time high for New York. Photograph/Mike Cooper.

Thick-billed Murre May 4 (FR, BL), 21 Razorbills May 4 (FR, BL), and 25 Atlantic Puffins May 11 (A. Brady, CC, T. McGrath). An imm. Atlantic Puffin was a highlight of the Barnegat Light pelagic May 27.

Doves to Shrikes

A White-winged Dove, a species being reported with increasing frequency in the Region, visited a feeder in Long Beach, Nassau, LI, My 20–26 (E&L Eaton *et al.*). Rare in the Niagara Frontier region was a migrant Barn Owl at Wilson-Tuscarora S.P., Niagara, NY Mar. 29 (B. Potter, WDn, E. Schopp). In one of those moments that birders dream of, Kelling had both Three-toed and Black-backed woodpeckers in the same tree at Ferd's Bog, Hamilton, NY Mar. 22 (SK).

Several of the World Series of Birding teams were fortunate to spot a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Brig May 13, but it was not seen thereafter. Cliff Swallows returned to their new nesting site near Odessa, New Castle, DE in early May, and a pair of Com. Ravens nested again on a microwave transmission tower at High Point S.P., Sussex, NJ. A Winter Wren was a late migrant in Lancaster, PA May 1 (EW), but more surprising was a pair found nesting at South Mountain, Lehigh, PA later in the month (J. Puschock), a first for the area. Sedge Wrens were reported from at least 4 areas in coastal Delaware, and one at Walkill N.W.R., May 12 was suggestive of nesting (SA).

The Varied Thrush that wintered in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn remained until at least Mar. 24, and was seen by most of the active birders of the New York City area. A Loggerhead Shrike, now an extremely uncommon migrant, was in Commercial Township, Cumberland, NJ Apr. 4 (PD), and another shrike, likely a Loggerhead, was at Pennington, Mercer, NJ Apr. 9 (K. Reid-Green) & 11 (P. Wedeking). In upstate New York, where they are now equally rare, a Log-

gerhead Shrike was at Latham, Albany, Apr. 29 (WE, NM).

Vireos to Warblers

Favorable spring weather produced a generally excellent migration over most of the Region, one of the best in many years according to some observers. The best dates varied according to location, but the period of May 11–15 was outstanding. There was a massive fallout of warblers and other passerines at Cape Henlopen and adjacent areas of the Delaware coast the morning of May 11 (APE, NP *et al.*). Poor weather contributed to another major fallout the next day at Central Park, New York City, where at least 29 species of warbler were present, and Harrison experienced a big flight in w. New Jersey the same day. Bill Murphy, who was out almost every day in early and mid-May at Fort Washington S.P., Montgomery, PA called it an outstanding migration. May 19 was a big day in the Albany area (WGE, NLM), while E. Brooks banded 252 Magnolia Warblers at Manitou, Monroe, NY May 17 alone.

A Philadelphia Vireo was a rare spring migrant at Cape May May 11 (DSi), and another was at Milford, Hunterdon, NJ May 29 (BM); three were reported from the New York City area in mid-May, also well above normal. Yellow-throated Warblers made news at a couple of spots: one at Crown Point, Essex, NY was a first for that regular banding site in the Champlain Valley (GL), and another at Wilkes-Barre, PA Apr. 22–24 was a first for Luzerne (F. Pacolitch *et al.*). An exceptional (for spring) four Connecticut Warblers were reported, all from upstate New York, scattered from east to west. One was at Wadhams, Essex, May 18 (DSp), another at the town of Ohio, Herkimer, May 20 (DD, † to N.Y.S.A.R.C.), a third was banded at Manitou May 25 (EB), and another at Tiff Nature Preserve, Buffalo, May 14 (J&L Rachlin).

Tanagers to Finches

A ♀ Painted Bunting at Higbee Beach, Cape May, May 15 provided an unusual spring record of a species that is occurring with increasing frequency in the Region (PL, SF). Only two Dickcissels were reported, one at New Hartford, Oneida, NY Apr. 26 (F. Merrill), and another prospecting at a soon-to-be-developed farm field near Moorestown, Burlington, NJ May 26 (WDa). A Blue Grosbeak with a flock of Indigo Buntings at Derby Hill May 21 may be the first verified sighting from the Oneida L. basin (BSu, † to N.Y.S.A.R.C.).

The ♀ "Spotted" Rufous-sided Towhee, a subspecies that may soon be split, remained from the fall through at least Mar. 25 (v.o.), and a male was seen briefly at Mad Horse

Creek W.M.A., Salem, NJ Mar. 19 (WDa, D. Merkh). A Henslow's Sparrow was heard at Rehoboth Beach, DE May 13 (APE), and 4–5 pairs were at a traditional nest site at W. Nicholson, Wyoming, PA in May (WR). The usual scattered reports came from the few remaining breeding areas in upstate New York. Seaside Sparrows have reportedly undergone a precipitous decline on Long Island (*vide* E. Salzman); observers along the other coastal areas should keep an eye on this locally abundant species.

A bizarre possible Yellow-headed x Red-winged blackbird hybrid visited Koch's feeder in Easton, PA Mar. 16–17; it had blotches of yellow on the head, and one red and one white epaulet. There were at least three Yellow-headed Blackbirds in Salem, NJ in March–April, one at Kestrel Haven, Burdett, Schuylers, NY Mar. 25 (J. Gregoire), and another at Tiff Nature Preserve Apr. 30–May 20 (WW, RA *et al.*). Three Brewer's Blackbirds remained at Leipsic, Kent, DE to Mar. 27 (NP), one was at Kestrel Haven May 2, and another was at Hamlin Beach May 21 (G.O.S. Big Day Team). Up to four Boar-tailed Grackles at Helmetta, Middlesex, NJ Apr 8–9, were far from tidewater (T. Ostrand, P. Adams.)

As noted in the winter report, Red-crossbills were widespread in the Adirondacks February–March. Yunick collected a total of 27 road-kill specimens in the 2 months and measured most of them to be *L. c. minor* from the Pacific Northwest, plus a few of the local *L. c. neogaea* (RPY). White-winged Crossbills were also abundant, and Yunick found a dead juvenile young of the year at Arietta, Hamilton, Mar. 26.

Observers (Subregional compilers in bold-face): Robert Andrie (Buffalo area), Scott Angus, John Askildsen, Peter Bacinski, Tom Bailey (TBA; coastal NJ: 87 Wyndham Place, Robbinsville, NJ 08691), Andy Baldelli, Gordon Bellerby, Irving Black (n.e. NJ: Eagle Rock Village, Bldg. 26, Apt. 8B, Budd Lake, NJ 07828), R. J. Blicharz, Frank Bonnano (Rockland, NY: 71 Richard Court, Pomona, NY 10970), Elizabeth Brooks, P. A. Buckley, T. W. Burke (New York Rare Bird Alert), Colin Campbell, Lee B. Chamberlaine (St. Lawrence Region, NY: P.O. Box 139, Henderson, NY 13650), Rob Clemens (RCI), Kevin Crilley, Richard Crossley (RCr), K. L. Crowell, Dorothy Crumb (Oneida L. Basin, NY: 3983 Gates Road, Jamesville, NY 13078), William D'Anna (WDn, Niagara Frontier, NY: 2257 Cayuga Dr. Ext., Niagara Falls, NY 14304), Ward Dasey (WDA, s.w. NJ: 29 Ark Road, Medford, NJ 08055), Delmarva Ornithological Society, Dean DiTomasso, Mary Dobinsky (Susquehanna Region, NY: 7 Spencer Drive, Oneonta, NY

13820), Jeff Dodge (JDg), Jim Dowdell (JDo), Pete Dunne, A. P. Ednie (*New Castle and Kent*, DE: 59 Lawson Ave., Claymont, DE 19703), Early Bird Nature Tours (E.B.-N.T.), Vincent Elia, W. G. Ellison, Brett Ewald, Steve Farbotnick, Shawneen Finnegan, G. A. Franchois, W. W. Frech (*Sussex*, DE: Carr. Rt. 3, Box 1144, Lewes, DE 19958), G. L. Freed, Don Freiday, Tom Garner, Jane Graves (Hudson-Mohawk, NY: Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866), K. C. Griffith (Genesee Region, NY: 61 Grandview Lane, Rochester, NY 14612), Mary Gustafson, Barb & Frank Haas, Robert Hagar, Tom Halliwell, John Hanyak, David Harrison (DHa, n.w. NJ: 126 Westchester Terrace, Annandale, NJ 08801, Jonathan Heller (JHe), Jim Herder (JHd), Armas Hill, Jason Horn (JHo), Rich Kane (RKa), Steve Kelling (Finger Lakes Region, NY: Applied Physics, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14850), Arlene Koch (Lehigh Valley, PA: 1375 Raubsville Rd., Easton, PA 18042), Bill Krueger, Robert Kurtz (RKu), Bruce Lantz, Laurie Larson (n.c. NJ: 69 Alexander St., Princeton, NJ 08540), Tony Lauro, Gary Lee, Paul Lehman, Larry Lewis, Bob Machover, Glen & Eileen Mahler (GEM), Robert Marcotte, N. L. Martin, Fred Mears, August Mirabella, Bill & Naomi Murphy (BNM), Mike Newlon, Tom Nix, R. O'Hara, Tom Parsons, Bruce Peterjohn, J. M. C. Peterson (Adirondack-Champlain Region, NY: Discovery Farm, RD 1, Elizabethtown, NY 12932), Vivian Pitzrick, Bard Prentiss, Nick Pulcinella, William Reid (n.e. PA: 73 W. Ross St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702), Gerald R. Rising (Niagara Frontier Region, NY: 295 Robinhill Drive, Williamsville, NY 14211), Rochester Birding Association, Frank Rohrbacher, J. W. Russell, Steve Santner (SSa), Sy Schiff (Long Island: 603 Mead Terrace, S. Hempstead, NY 11550), R. M. Schutsky, Bill Seng (BSe), Dominic Sherony (DSH), Ellen Short, David Sibley (DSi), Brad Silfies, J. L. Skolnicki, Steve Sobosinki (SSo), R. G. Spahn (Genesee Ornithological Society), Dean Spaulding (DSp), Brian Sullivan (BSu), Clay Sutton, Pat Sutton, Joe Swertinski, William Symonds, Phil Vanderhorst, Brian Vernacchio, Steve Walter, William Watson, Jeff Wells, Rick Wiltraut, Eric Witmer, Al Wollin (Long Island: 4 Meadow Lane, Rockville Center, NY 11570), Brian & Mary Wood (BMW), R. P. Yunick, Jim Zamos, Louise Zemaitis. Many other observers who sent reports to us or their Regional compilers could not be listed, but their contributions are gratefully acknowledged.

—William J. Boyle, Jr., 14 Crown Drive, Warren, NJ 07059; Robert O. Paxton, 460 Riverside Dr., Apt. 72, New York, NY 10027; and David A. Cutler, 1110 Rock Creek Dr., Wyncote, PA 19095.

Middle Atlantic Coast Region

MICHAEL O'BRIEN, EUGENE J. SCARPULLA, AND JIM STASZ

March and April were warmer and drier than normal, but May was cooler and wetter. As a result, many passerine species arrived early, but the bulk of the flight was delayed by weather in May. Several cold fronts with rain grounded many migrants on the coast, resulting in the best passerine flight in recent memory, according to Dyke. Elsewhere, numbers of migrants were as low as ever. Reporting reached an all time low as well. Our sincere thanks to all those who submitted notes to us and who reported sightings to the Voice of the Naturalist and the Virginia Birdline.

Abbreviations: Bay (*Chesapeake Bay*); Black (*Blackwater N. W.R.*); C.B.B.T. (*Chesapeake Bay Bridge and Tunnel*); Chinc. (*Chincoteague N. W.R.*); D.C. (*District of Columbia*); P.N.A.S. (*Patuxent Naval Air Station*).

Grebes to Ibises

An ad. Pied-billed Grebe with four young was noted in Denton *Caroline*, MD May 15 (MWH) for one of the few Maryland breeding records away from Deal I. Horned Grebe numbers were way up this spring: counts of 1000 on the Patapsco R., Mar. 23 (SR), 225 at Belleview, *Talbot*, Mar. 30 (HTA), and 100 at Morgantown, *Charles*, Apr. 16 (GJ) reflect the species' historical abundance here. Three reports of Red-necked Grebe Mar. 11–Apr. 16 (v.o.) was about average. The only Eared Grebe was one at Seneca May 2–3 (MAT, DC, MO *et al.*), the 2nd for *Montgomery*, MD.

Northern Gannets continue to use not only the Bay but also its tributaries. This year, 40 were far up the Potomac R. at Cobb I., Apr. 1 (GJ), a record count for *Charles*. American White Pelicans were notably absent from their usual Chinc. haunts, but one was at Broad Cr., *Prince George's*, May 31 (S Archer, †) for a rare Maryland sighting and the first for *Prince George's*. A Great Cormorant at Conowingo Dam Apr. 18 (EJS, EB) was the only one away from the coast. Two-hundred Double-crested Cormorants at Sycamore Landing Apr. 9 was an excep-