

be an interesting process. All reports of Lincoln's Sparrow were from D.I., where there were singles Oct. 14 & 27, and two Nov. 4 (all DE, LM). Dark-eyed Juncos were more frequent than in recent years in n. areas of the Region, and one at Melbourne Nov. 19+ (BB, v.o.) was s. of the species normal range.

The only Yellow-head Blackbird reported was at St. Petersburg Oct. 11-16 (BPa, v.o.). Two Brewer's Blackbirds at T.R.S.T.P., Nov. 15-16 (JL, v.o.) were the only reported. The 6 reports of single Shiny Cowbirds (v.o.) may have been encouragingly few. The two reports of Bullock's Oriole, Oct 8 at H.H.S.P. (AF, BP, MM) and Oct. 26 at T.R.S.T.P. (JC), were both problematic females. The continued expansion of the House Finch was documented by three at A.B.S., Oct. 31 (KT, MG). Small numbers of Pine Siskins were reported in the Big Bend area in the last 3 weeks of the period (v.o.). Very early Am. Goldfinches were reported in Gilchrist, where a male in alternate plumage was present Aug. 27-30 (JA, RA), and another was at s. Jacksonville Aug. 31 (JCo).

**Contributors and observers:** James Allison, Ruth Allison, Lynn Atherton, Steve Backes, Ted Below, L Berkow, Wes Biggs, Paul Blair, Reed Bowman, G. Bretz, Bob Brown, Dana Byran, Ron Card (RCa), Jim Cavanagh, Roger Clark, Julie Cocke (JCo), Buck Cooper, Linda Cooper, Fritz Davis, Mark Dolan, Jack Dozier, Bob Duncan, Charles DuToit, Eric Egensteiner, Duncan Evered, Paul Fellers, Judy Fsher, Artie Fleischer, Dot Freeman, Mary Garvin, Chuck Geanangel, M. Ginsberg (MGi), Dave Harder, Dale Henderson (DHe), Bill Hills, Shirley Hills, John Hintermister, Wayne Hoffman, Kelly Holland, Harry Hooper (HHo), Brian Hope, Joan Hope, Larry Hopkins, Howard Horn, Dean Jue, Salley Jue, Mary Keim, Jerry Krummich, Howard Langridge, Jay LaVia, Manny Lopez, Lorne Malo (LMa), LyLa Messick, Larry Manfredi (LMn), J. Marbuger, Doug McBride, M. McMillian, Gail Menk, LyLa Messick, Richard Miller, Don Morrow (DMo), Barbara Muschlitz, Kris Nelson, Robert Norten, Paul O'Brien, Bruce Parkhurst (BPa), Richard Poole, Peggy Powell, Bill Pranty, Nancy Prine, Diane Reed, Cathy Reno, Bryant Roberts, Ted Robinson, Rex Rowan, Debbi Shelley, Christine Small, Parks Small, P. William Smith, Ron Smith, Susan Smith, Betty Smyth, Randy Snyder (RSn), D. Steadman, Keith Tarvin, T. Taylor (TTa), Pete Timmer, Tadziu Trotsky, Noel Wamer, Ray Webb, Chuck Weber (CWe), Terry West, George Weymouth,

Maggie Wheeler (MWh), Marge Wilkinson, Charlotte Wilson, Glen Woolfenden (GWo), Tom Workman (TWO).

—Noel Wamer, 502 E. Georgia St., Tallahassee, FL 32303 and Bill Pranty, Archbold Biological Station, P.O. Box 2057, Lake Placid, FL 33862.

# Ontario Region

## RON RIDOUT

Weather during the season threatened to be an exact repeat of the fall of 1994, with warm, relatively dry weather predominating until the beginning of November. At that point, old man winter awakened from his long summer nap and blew his icy breath across the Region. Temperatures plummeted and early snowfalls were widespread, even across the southernmost parts of the province.

Trends worth noting included the southward movement of some northern owls, likely due to heavy and persistent snowfall in the north, and a steady movement of several winter finches into the southern regions. The most obvious push was made by Northern Shrikes, which appeared in record numbers across the south.

Noteworthy rarities included Magnificent Frigatebird, Black-tailed Godwit, Ross' Gull, Least Tern, and White-winged Dove. All rarities mentioned in this report



are subject to the approval of the Ontario Bird Records Committee.

Abbreviations: Pelee (*Pt. Pelee N.P. and vicinity*); P.E.Pt. (*Prince Edward Pt.*); L.P.B.O. (*Long Pt. Bird Observatory*); O.B.R.C. (*Ontario Bird Records Committee*); T.C.B.O. (*Thunder Cape Bird Observatory*); Algonquin, Presqu'ile, and Rondeau are Provincial Parks. Place names in italics refer to counties, districts, or regional municipalities.

### Loons to Ibises

A strong movement of Red-throated Loons across the south included a record 490 passing by Hamilton's Van Wagner's Beach Nov. 19 (RD *et al.*). Sightings of Pacifics included one inland at Waterloo Oct. 17–18 (JH, v.o.), two at Sarnia Oct. 29 (DR), and one reported in the gorge below Niagara Falls Nov. 11 (JW, TN). High numbers of Pied-billed Grebes included record counts of 75 at Pelee Oct. 11 (AW, ARy) and 129 at Rondeau Sept. 28 (KB, JB). Tallies of 110 Horned Grebes on L. Ontario at Stoney Cr., Nov. 19 (RD, v.o.) and 250 at Wicklow Oct. 31 (J&CG) were the highest noted of this declining species. A census of molting Red-neckeds along the n. shore of Manitoulin I. recorded 1250 Sept. 15 (BS). Sightings of Eared Grebes totaled 9, well above the average fall number.

A single imm. N. Gannet seen on several occasions between Nov. 1–27 on the w.

end of L. Ontario (m.ob.) drifted as far east as Presqu'ile Nov. 2 (DS, DM). Another immature seen at Turkey Pt. *Haldimand Norfolk*, in late October (MH) and Nov. 12 (S&CW), as well at Fort Erie Nov. 17 (CM, BP), furnished one of L. Erie's few records. Hamilton's summering pair of Am. White Pelicans remained until Oct. 21 (m.ob.), while two appeared at Rondeau Oct. 18 and lasted until Oct. 23 before being shot by hunters (*vide* KB). One at Red Rock Oct. 12 (JWi) was quite late that far north. Ever-increasing Double-crested Cormorants notched impressive numbers with 6000 at P.E.Pt., Oct. 15 (K.F.N.) and a record 8600 at Pelee Sept. 19 (AW). A **Magnificent Frigatebird**, which frequented the Michigan side of L. St. Clair in October, was seen Oct. 28 on the Canadian side (TB *et al.*). Another was seen in Lanark on Mississippi L., Oct. 15 (DG, K&KH, SB) and west of Dalhousie L., Oct. 30 (DSP). The timing of both birds roughly coincided with the passage of hurricane *Opal* through the province Oct. 5.

Good numbers of Great Egrets included 150 on L. St. Clair at the Thames R. mouth Aug. 15 (PAW), plus individuals in the north at Cloudy L., *Algoma*, Aug. 7 (FE, RF), Thunder Bay Aug. 20 (TT, NE), and Sudbury Sept. 1–Oct. 1 (m.ob.). The only Little Blue Heron was at Long Pt., Aug. 12 (GG). Cattle Egrets well to the north included two at Haley Station, *Renfrew*, Aug. 18 (FB), two at Sault Ste.

Marie (EC, DT) and one at Kynock, *Algoma*, (GR), both Oct. 24. A juv. Yellow-crowned Night-Heron at Hamilton Aug. 2 (RD) provided an unusual fall record. *Plegadis* ibis sightings included unidentified birds in the Toronto area Sept. 17 & 21 and Oct. 28 (v.o.), all of which could have been the same bird, plus a positively identified Glossy at Hamilton Sept. 19 & 28 (BC, v.o.).

### Waterfowl to Raptors

Reflecting a continental trend, high numbers of Snow Geese included 115 at Pelee Oct. 30–31 (AW), 350 at Wolfe I., *Frontenac*, Oct. 9 (K.F.N.), and >1000 over the Goulais R., *Algoma*, Oct. 28 (MO). Single Ross' Geese were reported near the mouth of the Rainy R., *Rainy River*, Sept. 14 (MJ) and Sarnia Nov. 11–30 (*vide* KO). A Brant on Wildwood L., *Oxford*, Nov. 25 (JMH) furnished that inland county's 2nd record. Considered a rare transient or winter resident, single *hutchinsii* Canada Geese were observed at Wildwood L., Sept. 26 (JMH) and Pelee Oct. 11 (AW, ARy). High numbers of waterfowl included 816 Green-winged Teal at Long Pt., Oct. 26 (RK), 300 at Bell's I., *Frontenac*, Oct. 18 (K.F.N.), and 270 at Dundas Marsh Oct. 29 (RD, BCh, KM); 711 N. Pintail at Long Pt., Oct. 26 (RK); 80 Blue-winged Teal at Bracebridge Sept. 16 (WC); 225 N. Shoveler at Hamilton Oct. 7 (RD, v.o.); 1400 Gadwall at Long Pt., Nov. 5 (RK); 13,282 Am. Wigeon at Long

**Table 1. Hawk totals at three Ontario stations, Autumn 1995. Long-term averages are indicated for each station.**

	Cranberry Marsh <sup>1</sup>		Hawk Cliff <sup>2</sup>		Holiday Beach <sup>3</sup>	
	1995	1990–94	1995	1982–94	1995	1982–94
Turkey Vulture	644	1559	3761	3876	16471	10781
Osprey	57	74	192	106	199	105
Bald Eagle	27	17	82	36	53	36
N. Harrier	157	234	1115	930	1342	1014
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1310	1735	6831	8712	15376	14020
Cooper's Hawk	57	97	816	925	769	709
N. Goshawk	49	26	104	40	59	39
Red-shouldered Hawk	28	98	394	226	915	1129
Broad-winged Hawk	1477	7283	12825	12700	22431	44646
Red-tailed Hawk	1303	1127	3507	3326	11590	7096
Rough-legged Hawk	119	77	108	40	173	144
Golden Eagle	21	10	56	29	76	48
Am. Kestrel	479	769	3588	2764	4930	3760
Merlin	50	43	145	64	121	48
Peregrine	15	28	132	37	83	30
Unidentified	171	280	41	639	59	175
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>5965</b>	<b>13458</b>	<b>33697</b>	<b>34450</b>	<b>74647</b>	<b>83778</b>

<sup>1</sup> (JBa *et al.* 1995 Aug. 26–Nov. 30, 60 days)

<sup>2</sup> (RH *et al.* 1995 Sept. 1–Dec. 30, 121 days)

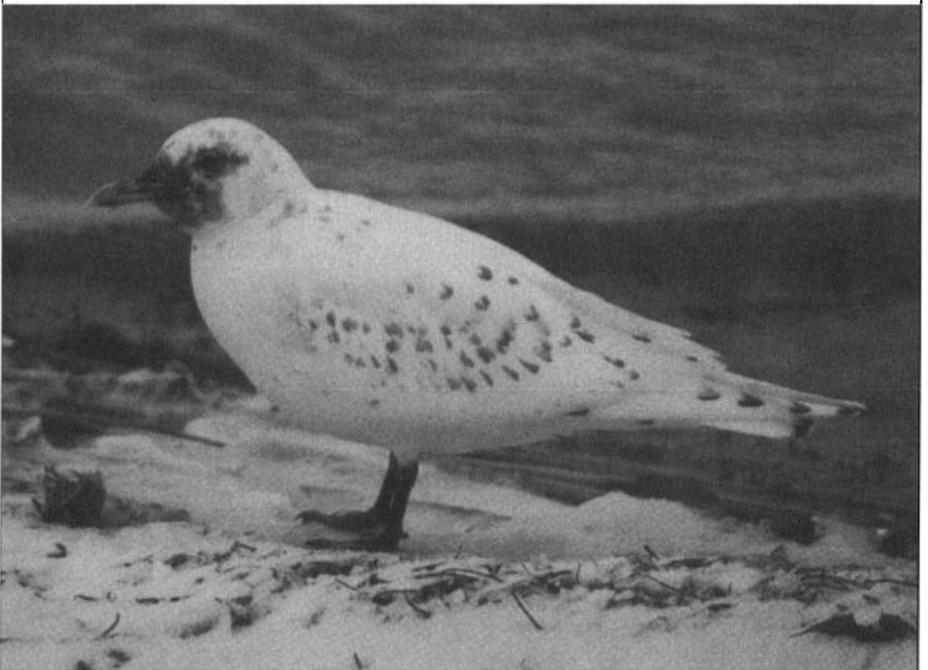
<sup>3</sup> (RB *et al.* 1995 Aug. 15–Dec. 4, 112 days)

Pt., Oct. 26 (RK), and 5000 at Kingston Oct. 22 (K.F.N.). Diving duck counts included 13,050 Canvasbacks at Long Pt., Nov. 28 (RK)—down considerably from previous years; 4584 Ring-necked Ducks at Long Pt., Nov. 9 (RK); 31,600 scaup at Long Pt., Oct. 26 (RK); 10,000 Oldsquaw at P.E.Pt., Nov. 5 (RS); 1860 Com. Goldeneye off Winona Nov. 5 (WS, JC, JD); and 3033 Ruddy Ducks at Long Pt., Nov. 9 (RK).

Unusual species included a lone Eur. Wigeon at Long Pt., Oct. 18–Nov. 2 (PP, v.o.); the north's first Tufted Duck at Thunder Bay Oct. 7–29 (GGo, m.ob.); a Com. Eider off Winona Oct. 20 (DG, WS); King Eiders at Kettle Pt., *Lambton*, Oct. 15 (AR) and Presqu'île Nov. 6 (CC); 13 different Harlequins, including  $\leq$ four at Sault Ste. Marie from Oct. 10+ (TW, EC), and two at Cook's Bay, *Manitoulin*, Oct. 1–2 (DB); and a ♂ Barrow's Goldeneye at Ottawa from Nov. 14+ (BD, m.ob.) and a female at Hamilton Nov. 19 (GC).

Raptors moved through the Region in near-average numbers. Results of the monitoring effort at the 3 established sites in the south are summarized in Table 1. The trend for Turkey Vultures to remain later was evidenced by consistent tallies late into November, particularly at Holiday Beach, *Essex*. While overall numbers dropped to 21,298 from over 27,000 in 1994, there was no cause for concern. The only Black Vulture of 1995 was reported e. of Peter's Corners Oct. 14 (D&RW). An Osprey at Guelph Nov. 30 (GM) was extremely late. Bald Eagle passage numbers dropped to 236, though the species experienced a record breeding season across the province. These reductions likely reflect the weather conditions experienced at the monitoring sites and not an actual trend. Northern Goshawks moved S in good numbers. The first migrant was noted at Bracebridge Sept. 16 (WC).

The 400 Red-shouldered Hawks at P.E.Pt., Oct. 21 (K.F.N.) were an exceptional number for that location. Numbers elsewhere were about average. Sightings of Swainson's Hawks fell within the normal migration window and included singles at P.E.Pt., Sept. 7 (S&AT), Hawk Cliff, *Elgin*, Sept. 9 (RH), and Cranberry Marsh Sept. 11 (JBa). Red-tailed numbers were above average, and away from the 3 sites included counts of 1000 at P.E.Pt., Oct. 21 (K.F.N.) and 1268 at Toronto Oct. 29 (NM, RY). Subspecific sightings involved a rufous *calurus* at Paris Oct. 18 (WL), another *calurus* at Hamilton Nov. 8 (BDu), and a "Kriders" at Holiday Beach, *Essex*, Sept. 23 (ARy). Rough-leggeds moved S in above-average numbers, with



**Immature Ivory Gull on the Lake Dore shoreline near Pembroke, Ontario, November 14, 1995. The "dirty-faced" look is typical of young birds of this species. Photograph/Kayo Roy.**

the first birds in the south at Chelmsford Oct. 7 (JL) and Brighton Oct. 7 (DM). A steady passage of Golden Eagles resulted in a new high of 234 counted across the province. The highest one-day count of 10 was achieved at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham*, Oct. 29 (m.ob.). Numbers of Merlins increased in all areas. A count of 50 birds flying in off L. Erie at Long Pt., Oct. 6 (SV) set a local one-day record and may represent a provincial high as well. Peregrine sightings totaled an amazing 309 birds in the south, close to double 1994's total. Seven Gyrfalcons in the south included a gray bird at Copper Cliff Nov. 7 (CB, JL), a dark bird at Sault Ste. Marie Nov. 9+ (RC, m.ob.), a gray bird at Thunder Bay Nov. 18 joined by another by the end of the month (m.ob.), a white individual at Burpee Twp., *Manitoulin*, Nov. 24 (RT), a gray bird at Fort Erie Nov. 26 (GC), and another white one at Daisy L., *Sudbury*, Nov. 28 (RSe).

#### **Rails to Shorebirds**

Lone Yellow Rails discovered in passage included one at Pelee Oct. 11–12 (ARy *et al.*) and another at Corbett Cr., *Durham*, Oct. 29 (MB). Interestingly, >100 Soras were recorded at Rondeau Sept. 16 (PAW), where only one–two were noted during the breeding season. Not one, but two injured Purple Gallinules were captured and taken to rehabilitation centers: one at Verona Sept. 23 (KC) and the other at Toronto Oct. 4 (DP). Good numbers of Am. Coots were widely reported in the south, with a maximum of 1200 at Long Pt., Nov. 2 (PP). Sandhill Crane numbers went through the roof with 1664 birds

reported. Peak counts included 450 at Kapuskasing Sept. 23 (EC), 340 on Manitoulin I., Oct. 17 (JL), and 300 in Arran Twp., *Bruce*, Nov. 7 (WK).

High counts of shorebirds included 1775 Killdeers passing Holiday Beach Oct. 23 (AC) and nine Marbled Godwits at Long Pt., Aug. 17 (JDi). Perhaps most surprising were the numbers of Baird's Sandpipers recorded across the south: 257 birds. Record tallies involved 31 at Presqu'île Aug. 23 (DM, DS), 32 at Pelee Aug. 29 (AW, KM, v.o.), 48 at Ridgeway Sept. 3 (AW), and a remarkable 117 at Copper Cliff Aug. 24 (CB, JL). Record-late local departures included a Semipalmated Plover at Pelee Oct. 28–Nov. 4 (AW), a Greater Yellowlegs at Wildwood L., Nov. 25 (JMH), a Solitary Sandpiper at Presqu'île Oct. 1 (WE, v.o.), a Semipalmated Sandpiper at Turkey Pt., Nov. 13 (RR, DGa), and single Stilt Sandpipers at Wildwood L., Oct. 30 (JMH) and Long Pt., Nov. 1 (PP). Unusual species included an Am. Avocet at Long Pt., Aug. 5 (JDi), lone Willets at Pelee Aug. 15 (RDa, v.o.) and Misery Bay, *Manitoulin*, Sept. 16 (DB) plus two at Kingsville Aug. 17 (*vide* KO), individual Marbled Godwits at Rondeau Sept. 10 (m.ob.) and Pickering Oct. 11–18 (JMS, m.ob.), and a Curlew Sandpiper at Cranberry Marsh Aug. 5 (MB, v.o.). Ontario's first **Black-tailed Godwit** was observed for a brief time at the Non-quon lagoons, *Durham*, Sept. 10 (AB *et*



**Juvenile Sabine's Gull at the Nonquon sewage ponds at Port Perry, Ontario, September 11, 1995. Photograph/Kayo Roy.**

*al.*) In the uncommon category, W. Sandpiper sightings totaled 9, all singles in various locales in the south; Purples numbered 11, highlighted by a record-early bird at Pelee Sept. 23 (SD, AF, TS); Buff-breasted tallied 45 with a maximum of 25 at Pelee Aug. 24 (AW); and Red Phalaropes totaled 13.

### Jaegers to Owls

Pomarine Jaeger sightings numbered 3, all on the w. end of L. Ontario, Nov. 1 (WS, v.o.), Nov. 9 (KHa), and Nov. 27 (M&RP). Parasitics totaled 26, most from the w. end of L. Ontario, while another ten individuals were unidentified to species. Sightings of Laughing Gulls reached an above-average 3 with singles at Rouge Beach, *Durham*, Sept. 6 (JMS, MW), Pelee Sept. 7 (AW, JWn, MHe), and Fort Erie



**Least Tern on the Lake Erie shoreline near Sweet's Corners, Ontario, November 5, 1995. Third record for the province. Photograph/Kayo Roy.**

Oct. 24 (GB). Reports of Franklin's Gulls in the south dropped to 2, one each at Amherst I., *Lennox Addington*, Aug. 27 (JE, RDW) and Queenston Nov. 12–26 (m.ob.). Little Gulls numbered just 46 birds, with a peak of 16 at Turkey Pt., Nov. 19 (RR) and only one bird on the Niagara R. during the fall. One inland at L. Dore, *Renfrew*, Aug. 25 (CM, KHo) was noteworthy. The lone Com. Black-headed Gull was seen off Winona Oct. 22 (LE).

For the 4th consecutive autumn, a California Gull turned up on the Niagara R., Nov. 25 & 29 (WD, m.ob.). Lesser Black-backed reversed 1994's slide, totaling 45 sightings with 13 along the Niagara R., Nov. 12–26 (m.ob.) and 11 at Nepean between Sept. 12–Nov. 10 (BD). Three Glaucous Gulls at Maple Sept. 21 (GBe) were extremely early. Black-legged Kittiwakes rebounded to 25 reported after 2 dismal autumns. The most notable was a bird at L. Dore Nov. 17 (CM, KHo). A **Ross' Gull** delighted observers along the Niagara R., Nov. 12, 13, 19 & 25 (GC, m.ob.). One at Port Weller (likely the same bird) Nov. 27 (MEH) was the 3rd at that location in less than a year. Sabine's sightings tallied 13, including a record-early bird at Hamilton Aug. 27 (RD, KM, AA) and birds inland at Nonquon Sept. 9 (RPi, Ji *et al.*) and Strathroy Nov. 12 (KG). One off Pt. Clark, *Bruce*, Oct. 15 (DF) furnished that county's 2nd record. The first Ivory Gull since 1990 lingered at L. Dore Nov. 12–19 (MF, KHo, v.o.). An imm. **Least Tern**, the province's 3rd, was found on L. Erie near Sweet's Corners Nov. 4–7 (JM, m.ob.). A Black Tern at Niagara Falls Nov. 23 (WD, v.o.) was very late.

Ontario's 5th **White-winged Dove** was

seen at T.C.B.O., *Thunder Bay*, Aug. 16 (JWo, DO). A Yellow-billed Cuckoo killed by a Sharp-shinned Hawk at T.C.B.O., Sept. 26 was well n. of the usual range. Though a Snowy Owl at Caledon East Oct. 8 (PG) was very early, reports totaled just four birds by period's end. Northern Hawk Owls were reported at Massey Sept. 24 (CS), Barrie I., *Manitoulin*, Oct. 23 (DB), Elliott L., Nov. 14 (EM), Echo Bay and vicinity Nov. 19 & 26 (EA, DW), and Swift Current Nov. 26 (CB). Six Boreal Owls on Amherst I., Nov. 1–26 (AS, m.ob.) portended a good winter irruption.

### Goatsuckers to Horned Lark

A count of 300 Com. Nighthawks at Thornhill Aug. 2 (TH) was the only large total of this declining species. Considered rare in that area, a Whip-poor-will was seen at Atikokan Sept. 4 (DGr). While the last Ruby-throated Hummingbird was at Hamilton Oct. 15 (JMe), a ♂ Rufous appeared at Owen Sound Oct. 17 (DY, m.ob.) and remained until Nov. 28, setting a record-late provincial date. While Red-headed Woodpeckers have declined across the province the last few years, Red-bellieds are expanding rapidly. Sightings n. of the breeding range totaled >40 birds, with five in *Algoma* (EC) and two in *Sudbury* (JL). A count of 454 Downy Woodpeckers at T.C.B.O., Oct. 26 was the peak of a very strong movement of that species there. Very early and unusual was a Three-toed Woodpecker at a feeder in St. Charles Aug. 22–31 (RM).

An Olive-sided Flycatcher at Hodge's Pond, *Oxford*, Nov. 2 (JMH) set a record-late provincial date. An Alder at Pelee Sept. 24 (AW) was record late there. Eighty-seven E. Phoebes at Toronto Sept. 28 (NM, AA) provided a good tally for any location. Ontario's 2nd Say's Phoebe of 1995 was photographed at Amherstburg Sept. 10 (RB). Individual W. Kingbirds were at Hillman Marsh, *Essex*, Sept. 7 (AW) and Burlington Sept. 16 (WS, RPa). A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Pelee Sept. 12–Oct. 15 (THu, m.ob.) provided that area's first fall record, while another at T.C.B.O., Oct. 12 represented that location's 3rd overall. A count of 1000 Horned Larks at Ottawa Oct. 27 (BD) was a record number there and a good count anywhere in the province.

### Jays to Shrikes

Gray Jay passage at T.C.B.O. began early and was above average, with a peak of 20 Oct. 18. One at Perth Nov. 12 (PR) was s.e. of range. Blue Jay migration at Pelee began record early, with five there Sept. 8 (AW), while the close to 400,000 season



**Scissor-tailed Flycatcher at Sturgeon Creek near Point Pelee, Ontario, September 24, 1995. Photograph/Alan Wormington.**

total at Holiday Beach was well above average (AC). A Black-billed Magpie caught in a trap near Moosonee Nov. 15 (EH) was well out of range. Passage of Black-capped Chickadees was strong in all regions, particularly the northwest. Counts of 1900 at P.E.Pt., Nov. 5 (K.F.N.) and 3712 at T.C.B.O., Oct. 12 were noteworthy. Boreal Chickadees moved in the northwest throughout October, with a peak of 111 at T.C.B.O., Oct. 12. One at P.E.Pt., Nov. 5 (K.F.N.) was the only reported s. of range. Southward movement of Red-breasted Nuthatches was also noted on a wide front. A Carolina Wren at Owen Sound Nov. 5 (PM) was notable. High numbers of kinglets included 5000 Golden-crowneds and 3000 Ruby-crowneds at Pelee Oct. 31 (KM, JK), 600 Golden-crowneds at L.P.B.O., Oct. 23, and 500 Golden-crowneds and 500 Ruby-crowneds at Toronto Sept. 28 (NM, AA). A record 43 Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were tallied at Pelee Aug. 25 (AW).

Sightings of N. Wheatears increased for the 3rd consecutive fall with 4 individual occurrences, including Amherst I., Sept. 11 (R&BRi, v.o.), Sydenham Sept. 23 (KC), Ottawa Oct. 11 (FR, v.o.), and Oshawa Oct. 15 (ED, v.o.). The bird at Sydenham was captured in an exhausted state and taken to a rehabilitator, where it died. An autopsy revealed that an ingested earwig had clamped shut the bird's glottis with its pincers. Townsend's Solitaire sightings met the autumn average with singles at Long Pt., Oct. 13 (DGk, v.o.) and Silver Islet, *Thunder Bay*, Nov. 23

(WZ). A Swainson's Thrush at Trout L., *Nipissing*, Nov. 20 (RTa) was exceptionally late in the north and, for that matter, anywhere in the province. On the flip side, a Hermit at Wildwood L., Aug. 5 (JMH) was record early there. Passage of Am. Robins was strong on a wide front, with noteworthy counts of 1980 at T.C.B.O., Oct. 12 and 2000 at L.P.B.O., Oct. 29. Single Varied Thrushes were at Atikokan Sept. 26 (DGr), Marathon Nov. 4-30 (WCl), Mokomon Nov. 4-18 (NE, m.ob.), and Goulbourn Twp., *Ottawa Carleton*, Nov. 26 (CBe). A Gray Catbird managed to last at an Atikokan feeder at least until the end of the season (WN, DE). An Am. Pipit at Long Pt., Aug. 2 (DBu) was record early in the south, while 510 at Pelee Nov. 13 (AW) were notable. A record-early Bohemian Waxwing at Atikokan Sept. 7 (DGr) presaged a widespread movement into the south by late October. Cedar Waxwings vacated the south early, with a peak of 2000 at L.P.B.O., Aug. 17. Northern Shrikes began a widespread invasion in late October, and by late November numbers of birds were visible in many localities across the south. The lone Loggerhead Shrike was late at Howe I., *Frontenac*, Oct. 14.

#### **Vireos to Finches**

A spectacular fallout of migrants, particularly vireos and warblers, was experienced at Pelee Sept. 8 (AW, MHe, JWn). Results are tabulated in Table 2. Other notable numbers included 125 Tennessee Warblers at T.C.B.O., Aug. 16; 110 Magnolias at L.P.B.O., Sept. 8; 72 Cape Mays at T.C.B.O., Aug. 6; 1000 Yellow-rumpeds at L.P.B.O., Oct. 16 and 2500 at P.E.Pt.,

Oct. 8 (K.F.N.); 238 Palms at T.C.B.O., Sept. 13; 220 Blackpolls at L.P.B.O., Sept. 14; and 147 Am. Redstarts at T.C.B.O., Aug. 16. Very-late migrants included a record-late Philadelphia Vireo at Pelee Nov. 12 (AW, JF), a Nashville at Delta Nov. 15+ (THa), a Yellow at Niagara Falls Nov. 19-24 (WW, RSp, m.ob.), a Black-throated Green at Hamilton Nov. 5 (JO), a Pine at Uxbridge Nov. 23 (MW), a Palm at Presqu'ile Nov. 5 (FH), an Am. Redstart at Algonquin Oct. 9 (CJ, CR), an Ovenbird at Kitchener Nov. 30 (HW), a Wilson's Warbler at Peterborough Nov. 6 (FH), and a Yellow-breasted Chat at Kingsville Nov. 9 (DK). Unusual or rare species included a Blue-winged Warbler at North Bay Sept. 2 (RTa), Long Pt.'s first Kirtland's Warbler Sept. 4 (JBo, MD), a provincially record-late Worm-eating at Leamington Nov. 26-Dec. 2 (AW, m.ob.), a Connecticut at Cook's Dock, *Manitoulin*, Sept. 9 (DB, TL), and a Yellow-breasted Chat at Silver Islet Oct. 7-10 (GH).

*Durham's* first W. Tanager was discovered at Pickering Oct. 15 (MHo, AK). Ongoing evidence of the N. Cardinal's ever-expanding range included a female at Thunder Bay Aug. 21 (DMu), a male at Matachewan Oct. 28-Nov. 1 (LT), and three birds in Kirkland L. in October (LT). An imm. Rose-breasted Grosbeak at Warton Nov. 30 (MWi) was notably late. A ♂ Black-headed Grosbeak at Sault St. Marie Sept. 2 (EC, TW) provided Ontario's 2nd record in 1995 after several

**Table 2. An Exceptional One Day Count Pt. Pelee, ON Sept. 8, 1995 (AW, MHe, JWn)**

Great Crested Flycatcher	28
Warbling Vireo	18
Philadelphia Vireo	34
Red-eyed Vireo	250*
Tennessee Warbler	15
Nashville Warbler	130*
Northern Parula	8*
Chestnut-sided Warbler	25
Magnolia Warbler	130
Cape May Warbler	45
Black-throated Blue Warbler	45
Blackburnian Warbler	41
Prairie Warbler	1
Palm Warbler	20
Black-and-white Warbler	40
American Redstart	90
Ovenbird	40
Mourning Warbler	4
Common Yellowthroat	75
Wilson's Warbler	60
Canada Warbler	25

\* record number

years of none. The ♂ Blue Grosbeak present at Cedar Springs all summer was last seen Sept. 4 (PAW). An Indigo Bunting at Toronto Nov. 17 (AA) was exceptionally late. Dickcissel sightings included one at Presqu'île Aug. 23 (DM, DS), two at Pelee Sept. 19 (AW), one there Sept. 25 (AW, D&MWe), one at Long Pt., Sept. 25 (PP), one at Pickering (MB, JMc), and one near Arkona Nov. 12 (PC). A "spotted" Rufous-sided Towhee furnished Pelee's 2nd record of this rumored soon-to-be split subspecies Oct. 18 (MHe). Lone Lark Sparrows were at T.C.B.O., Aug. 30 (JWo, DO) and L.P.B.O., Sept. 12 (SV). A record-early Sharp-tailed Sparrow at Hillman Marsh Sept. 16 (CD, RBe) foretold things to come. A slog through the marsh Oct. 8 turned up a record 16 individuals of this difficult-to-see species (AW). Lone Fox and White-throated sparrows at Matachewan Nov. 27–Dec. 19 and Nov. 29 respectively (LT) were extremely late at that n. locale. White-throated passage in the south was above average, with a peak of 2500 at Toronto Oct. 20 (RY). A White-crowned at Perth Aug. 6 (CT) was record early there. A total 3516 Dark-eyed Juncos at T.C.B.O., Oct. 12 was the peak of a very heavy movement there. Single "Oregons" were at Pelee Oct. 18 (MHe) and Nov. 26 (AW), Waterloo Nov. 13 (TC, JH), and Dorland Nov. 19 (JMH). A well-documented *aikeni* (including photos of the tail feathers) was banded at Wingham Oct. 17 (JM), providing the first substantiated record of this subspecies in the province. A Lapland Longspur at Bracebridge Sept. 16 (WC) was very early.

Rusty Blackbirds were noted in some very high numbers, including 320 at Pelee Nov. 26 (AW), 750 very early at L.P.B.O., Sept. 29, and 1000 at Holiday Beach Nov. 4 (AC). A Brewer's at Beachville, Oxford, Oct. 17 (JMH) was unusual there. Late N. Orioles were recorded at Toronto Oct. 22 (HK) and Tupperville Nov. 19 (RBr). Several winter finches moved S in reasonable numbers. Pine Grosbeaks were noted by late October, with an exceptional high of 800 at Pinery P.P., *Lambton*, Nov. 5 (AR, v.o.). While Purple Finches were noted across the south in August, the peak of the exodus occurred in early November. Movements of what were thought to be sedentary House Finches were exceptional, with counts as high as 1883 at Toronto Oct. 30 (NM, RY) and over >4000 at Burlington Oct. 11 (RDa). While occasional early sightings of crossbills were reported in the south, such as a Red at Long Pt., Aug. 9 (PP) and four White-winged at Ajax Aug. 10 (DBa), numbers never materialized. Even in the north both

species were irregularly distributed. Not so Com. Redpolls. The flight began early, with three at Burlington Sept. 11 (BPo), and lasted through the period. Most interesting was the passage at T.C.B.O., which began instantly Oct. 23 with 855 tallied (none seen previous) and peaked Oct. 26 at 1666. Hoary sightings included one at T.C.B.O., Oct. 26 (NE), one at Algonquin Oct. 28 (RTo), two *hornemanni* there Nov. 5 (JS), one at Tobermory Nov. 9 (DWi), and one at Burlington Nov. 30 (RD). It seemed that many Am. Goldfinches left the province during the period. A peak count of 4548 at Holiday Beach Oct. 8 (AC) was noteworthy.

**Subregional editors (boldface), contributors (italics), and cited observers:** A. Adamo, E. Aitken, *R. Andrie*, D. Bailey, **M. Bain**, *J. Barker* (JBa), D. Barry (DBa), C. Bell, R. Bell (RBe), G. Bellerby, C. Bennett (CBe), G. Bennett (GBe), S. Bennett, *R. Benoit*, F. Blackstein, J. Bowles (JBo), T. Broadwell, A. Brodin, R. Brown (RBr), J. Burk, **K. Burk**, *P. Burke*, D. Burton (DBu), *G. Carpentier* (GCa), P. Chapman, B. Charlton (BCh), *A. Chartier*, B. Cherièrè, **T. Cheskey**, K. Chubb, W. Climie (WCl), G. Coady, R. Cohen, J. Cram, **W. Crins**, C. Cunningham, E. **Czerwinski**, *D. Bucknell* (DBl), W. D'Anna, R. Dawson (RDa), C. De LaTorre, J. Dierschke (JDi), **B. DiLabio**, S. Dinsmore, **R. Dobos**, J. Dowall, M. Drenth, B. Duncan (BDu), E. Dunhill, W. Edmunds, F. Edwards, **D. Elder**, J. Ellis, **N. Escott**, **D. Fidler**, A. Fix, M. Fluegel, J. Flynn, R. Frost, D. Gardiner (DGa), G. Gibson, G. Gooding (GGo), J. & C. *Goodwin*, D. Graham (DGr), D. Graham, D. Gralak (DGk), P. Graydon, K. Grundy, K. Hannah (KHa), K. & K. Hawes, T. Hazelaar (THa), M.E. Hebb, M. Heindel (MHe), F. Helleiner, T. Hofmann, G. Holborn, M. Holder (MHo), **J.M. Holdsworth**, *K. Hoopes* (KHo), *R. Hubert*, J. Hummel, *E. Hunter*, M. Hunter, T. Hurst (THu), J. Iron, M. Johnson, C. Jones, J. Keenleyside, H. Kerr, A. Kingsley, W. Kingston, Kingston Field Naturalists, *R. Knapton*, D. Kraus, **S. LaForest**, W. Lamond, T. Land, **J. Lemon**, **J. Macey** (JMa), J. McIntosh (JMc), K. McLaughlin, D. McRae, E. Meissner, G. Meredith, J. Merriman (JMe), **A. Mess**, C. Michener (CMi), P. Middleton, J. Miles, R. Moratz, C. Mueller, D. Munro (DMu), N. Murr, W. Nash, *J. Nicholson*, T. Nix, D. Okines, J. Olmsted, K. Overman, M. O'Connor, D. Panagakos, R. Parr (RPa), R. Pittaway (RPi), M. & R. Planck, B. Pomfret (BPo), B. Potter, **P. Prior**, G. Rahn, **P. Read** (PRE), F. Reid, P. Richardson, **A. Rider**, R.

Ridout, R. & B. Ripley (R&BRi), C. Rothfels, **K. Roy**, D. Rupert, A. Ryff (ARy), **D. Sadler** (DSa), T. Schantz, R. Seine (RSe), D. Shanahan, J. Skevington, C. Smith, **R. Smith** (RSm), W. Smith, **M. Smout**, R. Spahn (RSp), J.M. Speirs, D. St. Pierre, A. Stewart, R. Stewart, B. Stout, **R. Tafel** (RTa), **L. Taman**, R. Tasker, C. Thompson, *J. & J. Thomson*, T. Tough, **T. Tozer** (RTo), A. & S. Treganza, D. Trivers, S. Votier, H. Walker, T. Walker, W. Watson, **R.D. Weir**, J. Wells, D. & M. West (D&MWe), D. & R. Westmore (D&RWf), M. Wiercinski (MWi), D. Wilkes (DWi), J. Williams (JWi), D. Wilshire, J. Wilson (JWn), M. Wilson, *J. Wojnowski* (JWo), C. & S. Wood, P.A. Woodliffe, **A. Wormington**, **B. Wyatt**, D. Yeo, R. Yukich, W. Zarowski.

—Ron Ridout, Long Pt. Bird Observatory, P.O. Box 160, Port Rowan, ON, Canada NOE 1M0.