

counts of Field Sparrows were 16 at Apopka, *Orange* 6 Mar (MG, JG) and 12 at L.A.R.A. 14 Mar (HR). A lingering Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow was in song at Pine I., *Hernando* 29 Apr (A&BH), while 30 singing Seaside Sparrows within the last 300 m of CR-361, *Dixie* 22 Apr (JHI) made an impressive breeding total. Lincoln's Sparrow reports were 2 at Paynes Prairie 9 Mar (AK, RR) and singles at Frog Pond to 2 Apr (RD) and Emerald Marsh to 6 Apr (JP). Twenty-two White-crowned Sparrows at Apopka 6 Mar (MG, JG) was an impressive count, while Dark-eyed Juncos were found at Spring Hill, *Hernando* 8 Mar (PY) and Gainesville 11 Mar—1 Apr (MJ). L.A.R.A. supported 209 Northern Cardinals 17 Mar, 9 singing Painted Buntings 9 May, 2 Dickcissels 21 Apr, and an amazing 7060 Bobolinks 1 May (HR). Wintering Painted Buntings lingered at feeders at Tallahassee to 5 Apr (BBu) and Jacksonville to 30 Apr (PP). Two male Dickcissels were on territory at Frog Pond 12 Apr—31 May+ (MG et al.); Florida's only documented breeding records were established at L.A.R.A. in 1999.

A Yellow-headed Blackbird appeared at Frog Pond for a single day 9 Mar (PB et al.). Shiny Cowbirds were rather widespread, with 7 or 8 singles from Eastpoint to Dry Tortugas (v. o.). Bronzed Cowbirds were found at three sites: up to 6 at Tampa 6–22 Mar (LS, DW), 2 at Apalachicola in mid-Mar (KM), and 2 at Lakeland 30 Mar (RW). An Orchard Oriole arrived at Eastpoint 22 Mar (SK). A House Finch nest at Ft. Lauderdale produced five nestlings 8 Apr (SE); it is not known whether these birds represent local escapees or birds from northern populations. A **Common Redpoll**, unverified in Florida, was photographed (facing away from the camera) at a feeder at Land O' Lakes, *Pasco* 15 Mar (DB), but the F.O.S.R.C. ruled that a *Carpodacus* finch could not be ruled out from the photograph. A Pine Siskin appeared at a Tallahassee feeder 5–6 Mar (DHo).

Cited contributors and compilers of the Florida Ornithological Society Field Observations Committee: Bruce H. Anderson, Andy Bankert (ABa), Brad Bergstrom (BBe), Mark Berney, Adrian Binns (ABi), Paul Bithorn, Jeff Bouton (JeB), John H. Boyd III (JHB), Dave Bowman, Barbara Buford (BBu), Sunny Bynum, Jim Cavanagh, Carol Clark, Linda Cooper, Robin Diaz, Simon Dingfelder, Terry Doyle, Jack Dozier, Kathi Ellsworth, Susan Epps, Michael Evans, Charlie Ewell, Paul Fellers, Jill Gaetzi, Murray Gardler, Wally George, Dave Goodwin, Roger Grimshaw, Al and Bev Hansen, Jim Harris

(JHa), Dale Henderson (DHe), Ted Hendrickson, John Hintermister (JHi), Jackie Holstein (JaH), Brian Hope, Joan Hope (JoH), David Houle (DHo), Sid Johnson, Marcy Jones, Dean and Sally Jue, Sheila Klink, Andy Kratter, Jerry Krummrich, Ed Kwater, Paul Lehman, Sharon Lockwood, Holly Lovell, David Lysinger, Lorne Malo (LoM), Mike Manetz (Mma), Larry Manfredi (LaM), Vince McGrath, Mike McMillian (MMc), Keith McMullen, Joe McNichols (JMc), Michael Meisenburg (MMe), Gail Menk, John Murphy (JMu), Stephen Nesbitt, Dennis Olle, Tom

Palmer, Rich Paul, David Powell, Peggy Powell, Bill Pranty, John Puschock, Kurt Radamaker, Matt Reid, Dottie Robbins, Bryant Roberts, Harry Robinson, Rex Rowan, Joyce Rudd, Fran Rutkovsky, Lilian Saul, John Seginak, David Simpson, Parks Small, Gary Sprandel (GSp), April and Monte Stickle, Gene Stoccardo (GSt), Paul Sykes (PSy), Pete Timmer, Ken Tracey, Linda Tracey, Chris Tucker, Doug Wassmer, Ray Webb, Chuck Weber, Meret Wilson, Paul Young, Wilfred Yusek, Gina Zimmerman.



Ontario



Matthew L. Holder
Jacques Whitford Environment Limited
1200 Denison Street
Markham, Ontario L3R 8G6
(mholder@jacqueswhitford.com)

Although every spring seems to have some peculiarity with respect to timing of migration and weather conditions, this spring was certainly aberrant. Unseasonably warm weather in February and parts of March was followed by snow and much colder temperatures throughout much of the spring. A brief and bizarre heat wave in mid-April was followed by snowstorms in some areas a few days later, but warmth returned to Ontario toward the end of May. Delays in the progression of the season were apparent in local flora, with

flowering dates of many species appearing to be two to four weeks behind the norm; this was mirrored by many returning birds. However, although migration was somewhat delayed by the weather, returning dates for most species were close to normal.

Certainly in some areas, unusual mixtures of wintering birds and returning migrants provided memorable day lists. While some birds lingered much later than usual in southern areas, other returning species were noted in southern Ontario on record early dates. May 9 produced an amazing event of reverse migration at Pelee I. and Point Pelee, with thousands of birds migrating southward in response to cool temperatures and thick fog. For those who were present despite the conditions, the movement was astounding.

Abbreviations: B.S.C. (Bird Studies Canada); C.A. (Conservation Area); C.W.S. (Canadian Wildlife Service); L.P.B.O. (Long Point Bird Observatory); N.P.H. (Niagara Peninsula Hawkwatch); N.W.A. (National Wildlife Area?); O.B.R.C. (Ontario Bird Records Committee); O.F.O. (Ontario Field Ornithologists); P.E.Pt. (Prince Edward Point, *Prince Edward*); T.C.B.O. (Thunder Cape Bird Observatory). Place names in *italics* refer to districts and regional municipalities as well as to counties.

LOONS THROUGH WATERFOWL

Movements of Red-throated Loons were notable during Apr and May, with 23 noted in Thuckson's Bay, Whitby, *Durham* 16 May (DBa, MC), 4 at Whitewater L., *Sudbury* on the same day (CBe), and a final tally of 10 birds at Long Point during the two months (L.P.B.O.). A lake-watch at Bonnibrae Point in Oshawa, *Durham* revealed a Pacific Loon 17 Apr (THo). *Prince Edward's* first confirmed **Yellow-billed Loon** was at Ostrander Point 19 May (MHE, HE, RBS, RDW). Long Point's 2nd March record of Eared Grebe was provided by one found 29 Mar (SR, WD); other single birds were at Ashbridge's Bay in Toronto 7-21 Apr (EMcK, m. ob.), at Thunder Bay 5 May (BHa), and at Bruce Mines S.L., *Algoma* 19 May (*vide* BK). A pair of Western Grebes was at Rainy River 20 Apr (DHE).

Pelicans made their presence known in Ontario this spring. Numbers of American White Pelicans peaked in *Thunder Bay* at 50 birds at Boulevard L. 19 Apr (JLi), while s. Ontario had scattered sightings, including one off the Burlington Lakeshore, *Halton* 15-20 May (BGr, m. ob.), 3 flying over Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* 16 May (DR), and 3 over Rondeau P.P., *Chatham—Kent* 18 May (PSB et al.) What looked to the naked eye like a weird heron approaching East Beach on 19 May turned out to be Pt. Pelee's first **Brown Pelican** once binoculars were trained on it (PSB, BRH, DAM et al.). The imm. was seen flying from East Beach to the Tip, then flew northward out of sight

An American Bittern seen at Holiday Beach, *Essex* 9 Mar (DJW) was a record-early arrival for Ontario, followed by another early bittern at Arkell, *Wellington* 17 Mar (SM). A Snowy Egret was at Melbourne, *Middlesex* 27 Apr (DD et al.), while another joined 3 Great Egrets flying over the Pelee Marsh Tower 22 May (DBu). An ad. Little Blue Heron was at the Blenheim S.L., *Chatham—Kent* 3 May (RGT), and single imms. were at Kingston, *Frontenac* 16 May (RDW) and at Pt. Pelee 18 May (AW et al.). Single Cattle Egrets were at scattered locales in s. Ontario, with one n. to Thunder Bay 14-16 May (MM).

Although the single *Plegadis* ibis seen flying

at Prince Edward Pt., *Prince Edward* 14 Apr was commendably left unidentified (AHe), others were identified to species, including 7 **Glossy Ibis** at Melbourne, *Middlesex* 23-29 Apr (RP) and singles at Rondeau Bay, *Chatham—Kent* 26 Apr (JBU, KB), Port Hope, *Northumberland* 27-28 Apr (RL), and Amherst I. 15 May (DSa). Ottawa's 3rd **Black Vulture** was seen flying w. over Mer Bleue C.A. 27 Apr (LS), almost exactly one year after Ottawa's 2nd record observed 28 Apr 2001. Another Black Vulture was at Elmbrook, *Prince Edward* 10 Apr (JD).

The **Ross's Goose** at Selkirk P.P., *Norfolk* stayed 28 Feb—8 Mar (JK, DS, JM); an incredible tally of 11 birds at Kingsville, *Essex* 5 Mar (DJW) was followed by a single Ross's at Hillman Marsh, *Essex* 22 Mar (DJW), Pelee's 4th spring record. The flock of 112 Brant at Cobourg Harbour, *Northumberland* 26 Apr was a significant count for the date (CEG, JEG), and 29 Apr—10 May, 114 Brant were noted at Whitewater L., *Sudbury* (CBe et al.), while 21 were at Kelley L., *Sudbury* 18 May (JL). Twenty Brant at Big Cr. N.W.A., *Norfolk* 22 May was the largest flock ever recorded at Long Point (SW); a single bird flying at the Tip 14 May was only Pt. Pelee's 3rd spring record (DBr, JB). Two Greater White-fronted Geese were at Hurkett, *Thunder Bay* 27 Apr (AH), and another 2 were near Bourget, *Prescott-Russell* 6 Apr (BB, CL), with one remaining the next day (TH). Other singles were at Mission I., *Thunder Bay*, Townsend S.L., *Norfolk* and Barrie I., *Manitoulin*. Up to 3000 Snow Geese could be found at Alfred S.L., *Prescott-Russell* 25 Apr—10 May (RCL, JHS), a very late date for a flock of this size in e. Ontario.

Interesting hybrids were at Hillman Marsh, *Essex* during Mar, which included a male Mallard x Northern Pintail present from late Feb to 6 Mar (DJW et al.), and a male Northern Shoveler x Blue-winged Teal there 27-30 Mar (DJW, AW), which was joined by a 2nd male 30 Mar (DJW); one of these males remained until 6 Apr. Pt. Pelee's 2nd Tufted Duck was an ad. male at Hillman Beach 10 Mar (AW). An ad. male King Eider was off Stoney Cr., *Hamilton* until 11 Mar (m. ob.), and a first-year male remained off Stoney Cr. until at least 7 Apr (BRH). The 3rd King Eider for Manitoulin I. was a female at Sheguiandah Bay 17 May (CBe, JBe, ST). An unusually high count for *Sudbury* was of 300+ Long-tailed Ducks tallied at Whitewater L. 16 May (CBe, JL). Three Barrow's Goldeneyes remained in the Ottawa area into Mar, the latest to 6 Apr at Strathcona Park, *Ottawa-Carleton* (m. ob.). The total of 980 Ruddy Ducks at Hillman Marsh, *Essex* 25 Apr was remarkable (AW).

RAPTORS THROUGH SHOREBIRDS

An imm. **Mississippi Kite** was at West Beach, Pt. Pelee 24 May (JAND et al.). The Niagara Peninsula Hawkwatch at Beamer C.A., *Niagara* recorded a **Swainson's Hawk** 18 Apr (NPH) and a dark-morph **Ferruginous Hawk** 25 Apr (N.P.H.). Several Golden Eagles were reported across s. Ontario, including one at a roadkill near Tea L. in Algonquin P.P., *Nipissing* 14 Apr (AC, JR). A late Gyrfalcon was at Kelley L., *Sudbury* 9 Apr (CBe).

The Sandhill Crane migration through Manitoulin I. started 1 Apr, with the first crane soon followed by 53 on 11 Apr (m. ob.) In *Sudbury*, the peak was in the Massey area, with 69 cranes there 11 Apr (EMe). Although Sandhill Cranes were suspected of breeding at Pt. Pelee last year, a nest with one egg was discovered 11 Apr at the s. end of Pelee Marsh, confirming breeding and providing the first breeding record for Pt. Pelee (CBr et al.) The pair remained at the marsh 10 Apr—31 May+

A **Snowy Plover** pleased many birders during its stay on Amherst I. 24-31 May+ (OFO field trip). Sightings of the endangered Piping Plover included one with color bands at Darlington P.P., *Durham* 1-3 May (THo, JV), another unbanded bird there in mid-May (JV et al.), and one at Tollgate Ponds, *Hamilton* 21-24 May (DS, m. ob.). American Avocets in the Pelee area included 10 at Leamington Beach 2 May (JO et al.), one at Hillman Marsh 3 May (JHI et al.), and 7 there 6 May (MWJ, BDH, DEO, KEO), but these were overshadowed by the 40 at Rondeau Bay, *Chatham—Kent* 26 Apr (BW et al.).

A very early Greater Yellowlegs was at Osaca, *Northumberland* 16 Mar (RFR, EK), and a Lesser Yellowlegs arrived at Sturgeon Cr. on the same date (PDP et al.). The Pelee area had good numbers of Willets in May, the largest counts being 26 at Sturgeon Cr., *Essex* 2 May (FJU et al.) and 12 at Hillman Marsh, *Essex* 3 May (FB), with others across s. Ontario and singles n. to Whitefish Cr. near Sault Ste Marie 4 May (BK), and Mission I., *Thunder Bay* 12 May (GW). In the fields w. of Hillman Marsh, *Essex*, the 1600 Pectoral Sandpipers provided a record high count for the Pelee area (AW). A **Curlew Sandpiper** visited Smithville S.L., *Niagara* 16 May (CEd, DRD, TC) *Durham* hosted a black Ruff in a flooded field near Udora 20-21 May (BHe, JV) and a Reeve at Nonquon S.L. 25 May (AD).

GULLS THROUGH WOODPECKERS

Coinciding with the mid-Apr heat-wave, an ad. Laughing Gull was found at the Trail Road Landfill, *Ottawa—Carleton* 20 Apr, only to disappear during the colder temperatures and

snowstorm that hit the area several days later (BB, BC, CL). At least 2 Laughing Gulls were in the Long Point area, with observations at the Tip 16, 19 & 24 May (L.P.B.O.), at Long Point P.P. 16-8 May (KBU, m. ob.), and near Selkirk P.P., *Norfolk* 18 May (MCR, DSh, S.McG); a second-summer bird was at Wheatley Harbour and Sturgeon Cr., *Essex* 12-13 May (GTH et al.), and an ad. was spotted near South Cayuga, *Haldimand* 19 May (RD). A Franklin's Gull was in the Pelee Onion Fields 12 May (PAR, BC), and another was near Hoover Pt., *Norfolk* 16 and 18 May (JM et al.). A count of 99 Little Gulls at Oshawa Second Marsh 24 Apr (THo) was record-high for the Greater Toronto Area. Single Black-headed Gulls were at Niagara-on-the-L, *Niagara* 14 Apr (GBe), Darlington P.P., *Durham* 1 May (THo), and Thickson's Bay, *Durham* 22 May (MC, DBa). The 4th Point Pelee Mew Gull, an ad. *brachyrhynchus* (cf. *N. A B* 56: 251) continued at Wheatley Harbour through 8 Mar (AW). At Hillman Marsh, *Essex* 29 Mar, another ad. Mew Gull, considered to be a different individual due to its darker head and neck streaking, furnished Pt. Pelee's 5th record (DJW). As a result of a gale-force w. wind the day before, approximately 18,000 Ring-billed Gulls were noted flying s. along Hillman Marsh, *Essex* (AW). The third-winter Herring Gull x Great Black-backed Gull hybrid present at Hillman Marsh 9 Feb was present again at the same site 2 Mar (DJW et al.). Numbers of Lesser Black-backed Gulls were higher than usual in the Pelee area, with a peak of 2 at Hillman Marsh 28 Mar (DJW), one of which showed characters of the subspecies *intermedius*. The Tip of Pt. Pelee had some exceptional counts of terns this spring, with 6500 Common Terns there 15 May (FJU, AW et al.).

Although it was not seen, the call of a **Eurasian Collared-Dove** was heard by a knowledgeable birder at Long Point P.P., *Norfolk* 29 May (DL). If accepted by the O.B.R.C., this would represent the first record for Long Point. The first record for the Pelee area since 1983, a **Barn Owl** was an exciting find at Hillman Marsh 24 Mar (DSi). Four nests occupied by Northern Hawk Owls were found along Hwy. 527 near Thunder Bay (NGE, DW), and 8 Boreal Owls were a highlight on an Atikokan owl survey in *Rainy River* DATE (*vide* DHE). The **Lewis's Woodpecker** remained near Wooler, *Hastings* through to the end of Mar at least (m. ob.). The female Red-bellied Woodpecker at a Minnitaki, *Thunder Bay* feeder 17 May was noteworthy (CE).

FLYCATCHERS THROUGH WAXWINGS

Possibly Ontario's earliest record of Willow Flycatcher, 2 were at the Tip of Point Pelee 6

May (AW et al.). An imm. **Vermilion Flycatcher** at West Beach 7 May will be Pt. Pelee's first record if accepted by the O.B.R.C. (DRD). Thunder Cape Bird Observatory recorded a Western Kingbird in late May (T.C.B.O.).

While doing surveys in Algonquin P.P. for the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas, observers found a Loggerhead Shrike at L. Opeongo 30 May (FN et al.), the first for the park since 1987. Very early were 3 Warbling Vireos at the Tip of Pt. Pelee 25 Apr (FJU, AW). Long Pt.'s earliest spring record of Red-eyed Vireo was furnished by 2 seen at Old Cut 17 Apr (L.P.B.O.), followed by one at the Tip of Pt. Pelee the next day (MEC). Pt. Pelee's 7th **Fish Crow** was at old Camp Henry Beach 13 May (OA).

The 60 pairs of Tufted Titmice found in *Lambton* during Apr almost doubled last year's total (AHR). The wintering **Bewick's Wren** at Massey, *Sudbury* reappeared 4-11 Mar (EMe). A male Mountain Bluebird was on Hwy 527, *Thunder Bay* 14 Apr (NGE). The Townsend's Solitaire at Meadowvale, *Peel* 9 Apr (MCh, LN) was likely the same individual seen there in Dec and Jan. The solitaire at Pt. Pelee 11-15 May was exceptionally late (RPo, FPo), contrasting with the very early Swainson's Thrush at Pelee 18 Apr (MEC). Paletta Park in Burlington, *Halton* hosted a male Varied Thrush 11-12 Apr (BG, LG), and one at Thunder Bay frequented the vicinity until Mar (CH). Unusual for *Sudbury*, 3 Northern Mockingbirds were at Azelda 20 May (CBL). Other Northern Mockingbirds were found across Ontario, including a record-early spring migrant at Pt. Pelee 11-12 April (HP, AHR) followed by a remarkable total of 17 birds counted in the area up to the end of May. A highlight of the banding season at Thunder Cape Bird Observatory, *Thunder Bay*, a **Sage Thrasher** was caught in a Heligoland trap 15 May (T.C.B.O.); after banding and release, it was not seen again. Also remarkable was a one day count of 36 Brown Thrashers at Pt. Pelee 17 Apr (MEC).

WARBLERS THROUGH FINCHES

A very early Blue-winged Warbler was found at Pt. Pelee 16 Apr (RMcL, FDW), and one was n. to Manitoulin I. 25 May (CBe). Lawrence's Warblers included a male near Westover, *Hamilton* 5 May (BCh) and a territorial male at Dundas Valley, *Hamilton* 8 May onwards (BWY, m.ob.). Record-early warblers included a female Tennessee at Kingston, *Frontenac* 17 Apr (RF, MTi) and a male at the Tip of Pt. Pelee 18 Apr (RJM, BH), an Orange-crowned at the Tip of Pt. Pelee 12 Apr (LP), a Black-and-white at Tremblay Beach, *Essex* 22 Mar (CB), a male American Redstart at Pt. Pelee 25

Apr (AW), and a male Prothonotary Warbler at Tilden's Woods, Pt. Pelee 16-17 Apr (AW). Other early warblers included a Northern Parula near Hillman Marsh, *Essex* (AW) and another at Pt. Pelee (FJU), both on 16 Apr, a male Prairie Warbler at Pt. Pelee 16 Apr (AW); single Ovenbirds at Pt. Pelee 16 Apr (ACP) and Kelso, *Halton* 17 Apr (JGB); and a Common Yellowthroat at Pt. Pelee 17 Apr (AW). A Black-throated Blue Warbler showing characteristics of the Appalachian race was seen at Presqu'île P.P., *Northumberland* 7 May (DM). A male Audubon's Warbler was at Rondeau P.P., *Chatham—Kent* 14 Apr (SC), and a Yellow-rumped Warbler at Thickson's Woods, *Durham* 5 May showed characteristics of an intergrade between Audubon's and Myrtle subspecies (DWO, MJCB). Ontario's 5th **Hermit Warbler** was at Sparrow Field, Pt. Pelee 30 Apr (PAR et al.), the area's 2nd record. The Tip of Long Point produced a Yellow-throated Warbler 16 May (MH et al.), while others were at Pt. Pelee 10-11 (SH), 14 (RGT et al.), 25-26 (GB, DB), & 26 May (TRP), and at P. E. Pt. on the very early dates of 19-21 Apr (EM et al.). The Kirtland's Warbler at East Beach, Pt. Pelee was either a female or an imm male (DKS), but the individual at Sleepy Hollow on the same day was a female (MT), followed by a male at the DeLaurier Trail 19 May (TRP). Worm-eating Warblers were scarcely reported this spring, with single birds at Pt. Pelee 19 Apr (AHR, CBU), Port Weller, *Niagara* 5 May (GBe), St. Williams Forest, *Norfolk* 11 May (MLH), and in London, *Middlesex* (SP).

A female Summer Tanager was n. to Chippewa Park, *Thunder Bay* 4 May (AH), an ad. male was at Old Cut, Long Point 15 May (L.P.B.O.), and other singles were at P.E. Pt. 16 May (RKE, KFE), Oshawa Second Marsh 17 May (THo), Long Point P.P. 23-28 May (m. ob.), and Rondeau P.P. 26 May (BAM, SC); a high sum of up to 12 Summer Tanagers was noted at Pelee in Apr and May (m. ob.). A male Western Tanager was in the Sault Ste. Marie area 26 Apr—17 May (*vide* BK), and another was at Pelee I. 9 & 20 May (PJ), while a female was photographed at a Rossport, *Thunder Bay* feeder 25 May (DSp).

At Pt. Pelee, a Lark Sparrow was at the w. side of the Tip 16 Apr (PC), and another was flushed from the roadside at Presqu'île P.P., *Northumberland* 29 May (FH). In with Horned Larks, an ad. male Lark Bunting was in North Bay 17 May (RT). Giving encouragement to this year's efforts by C.W.S. to assess their populations, up to 7 endangered Henslow's Sparrows were in the Pelee area 11 Apr—24 May (m. ob.), and one was at Long Point P.P.,

Norfolk 5 May (HM et al.). Chelmsford S.L., *Sudbury* hosted a Le Conte's Sparrow in May (CW), while single birds were at the Tip of Long Point 5 May (MH et al.) and at nearby Breakwater 16 May (L.P.B.O.). A Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow was at Wheatley Harbour 16 May (MD). In s. Ontario, Long Pt.'s Breakwater had an imm. Harris's Sparrow 2 May (SM et al.), and an ad. was along Hastings Dr., Long Point 13–15 May (m. ob.); another was at *Essex's* North Dike Road 9–12 May (GSP, EP), while one visited a feeder in Blackstock, *Durham* from late Mar to early Apr, and resurfaced again 26 Apr (HR). The basic-plumaged male **Smith's Longspur** found in Feb remained at Hagersville, *Haldimand* until 16 Mar (m. ob.). Single Blue Grosbeaks were at Pt. Pelee 7 (EB, IC, MB, JP, GC) & 9 May (RM, SMA, JPr). Pelee's 2nd **Painted Bunting** was seen by many 7–15 May at Sleepy Hollow (CN, GBo), although its elusive nature caused scores of birders to leave disappointed. Two other males surprised and delighted birders during their stay in the Sault Ste. Marie area on the same dates (*vide* BK). The Tip of Long Point had single Dickcissels on 15 and 27 May (MH).

Rare for *Thunder Bay*, a singing Eastern Meadowlark was in O'Connor Twp. 17–21 May (MZ). A Western Meadowlark was observed at Batchawana Bay, Algoma 7 May (AW), and another was in Chelmsford, *Sudbury* 20 May+ (JL). Yellow-headed Blackbirds were reported from across s. and e. Ontario (m. ob.), and a Brewer's Blackbird was at the 2nd Concession, *Norfolk* 13 Apr (L.P.B.O.), with another at the Tip, Long Point 15–16 Apr (L.P.B.O.). Approximately 4000 Baltimore Orioles were noted flying s. off the Tip of Pt. Pelee 9 May during a weather-induced reverse migration widespread in the Pelee area (BMD et al.); the 4 at Atikokan 23–26 May were the first seen in the region since 1996 (DHE).

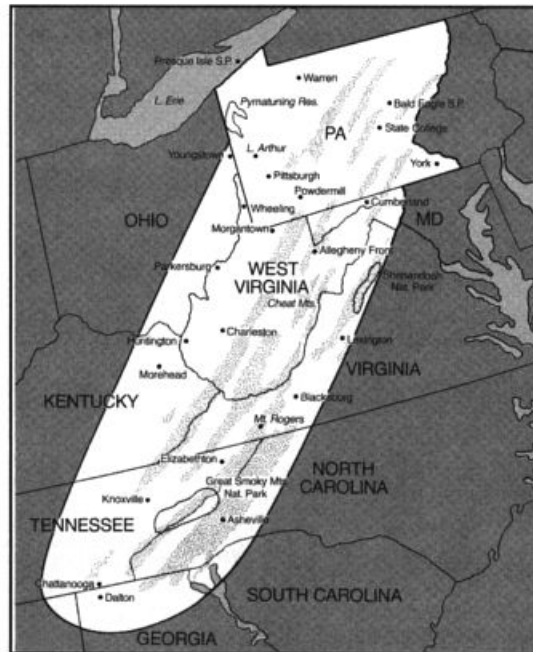
Cited observers (subregional editors in bold-face): **Bob Andrie**, F. Allin, L. Allin, O. Arian, C. Bailey, **M.J.C. Bain**, S. Bajurny, D. Balkwill, G. Balkwill, F. Baner, J. Barrett, D. Barry (DBa), D. Bascello (DBs), **C. Bell** (CBe), J. Bell (JBe), G. Bellerby (GBe), E. Biro, M. Biro, C. Blomme (CBl), G. Boyer (GBo), **B. Bracken**, D. Brown (DBr), C. Browne (CBr), C. Buck (CBu), D. Bucknell (DBu), J. Burk (JBU), K. Burk, P.S. Burke, J.G. Burrell, K. Burrell (KBu), R. Campbell, I. Cannell, M.E. Carlson, M. Carney, B. Cermak, S. Charbonneau, B. Charlton (BCh), M. Chojnaki (MCh), D. Christilaw, J. Christilaw, A. Clare, R. Clark (RCI), P. Coe, G. Cornell, J. Cram (JCr), M. Cranford (MCR), T. Crooks, R. Curry (RCu), A. Dale, M. De Abrau,

J. Dewey, W. Dey, B.M. Di Labio, **R. Dobos**, D.R. Don, J.A.N. Dowell, D. Duckworth, C. Eady, C. Edgecombe (CEd), K.F. Edwards, M.H. Edwards, R.K. Edwards, **D.H. Elder**, **N.G. Escott**, H. Evans, R. Fraser, R. Frost (RFR), B. Gapes, L. Gapes, **C.E. Goodwin**, J.E. Goodwin, D. Graham, B. Gray (BGr), S. Haig, S. Hall (SHa), B. Hamel, T. Hanrahan, B. Harding (BHa), A. Harris, A. Heagy (AHe), F. Helleiner, B. Henshaw (BHe), B.D. Hettrick, G.T. Hince, M. Hindle, T. Hoar (THo), B.R. Holden, **M.L. Holder**, C. Hudson, D. Ireland, J.H. Iron, M.W. Jennings, P. Jones, J. Keenleyside, E. Kellogg, **B. Knudsen**, R. Lake, **J. Lemon**, D. Lepage, C. Lewis, J. Lister (JLi), J. Luchesi (JLu), R. Ludkin (RLu), H. MacArthur, E. Machell, S. MacKenzie, V.P. Mackenzie, R. Mackintosh, S. Mackintosh (SMa), B.A. Mann, D.A. Martin, M. McCormick, R.J. McCoy, S. McGregor (SMcG), E. McKernan (EMcK), R. McLean (RMcL), K. McNaughton, D. McRae, E.

Meissner (EMe), **J. Miles**, L. Mousseau, J. Moynahan (JMo), N. Murr, C. Nadeau, F. Nicoll, **J. Niskanen**, L. Nuttall, D.E. Olech, K.E. Olech, J. Osburn, R.G. Payne, T.R. Pepper, E. Peterson, G.S. Peterson, J. Peterson, D. Pettit, J. Pettit (JPe), A.C. Pinch, R. Pokraka, L. Pollitz, F. Pope, R. Pope (RPo), P.D. Pratt, H. Prinsen, J. Prochaska (JPr), S. Pusey, H. Ray, **P.A. Read**, **I. Richards**, J. Richmond, **A.H. Rider**, R. Ridout, S. Rowe, D. Ruch, D. Salisbury, D. Sargeant (DSa), M. Schoenefeld, D.K. Sealy, D. Shepherd (DSH), D. Simpson (DSi), L. Sirois, J.H. Skevington, G. Slessor, B. Smith, D. Smith (DSm), J. Smith, D. Speer (DSp), R.B. Stewart, R. Tafel, M. Tate, S. Thorpe, M. Timpf (MTi), **R.G. Tozer**, F.J. Urie, J. VanderGaast, C. VanHerk, D.J. Ware, L. Watson, **R.D. Weir**, D. Welbourne, C. Whitelaw, S. Wilcox, B. Wilkie, G. Williams, **A. Wormington**, D. Worthington (DWO), F.D. Wurker, B. Wylie (BWY), M. Zettek.



Appalachia



Robert C. Leberman
Powdermill Nature Reserve
Carnegie Museum of Natural History
HC 64, Box 453
Rector, Pennsylvania 15677-9605
(rcleberm@charterpa.net)

No doubt due to unseasonably mild late winter conditions, there were indications

that spring migration got underway earlier than usual in the northern part of the Region. By the first week of March, up to 50,000 waterfowl (mostly diving ducks) already had collected on Presque Isle Bay at Erie, Pennsylvania. Later in the month, cool and rainy conditions precipitated a few heavy fallouts of waterbirds across northern Appalachia. Higher water levels in some of the Region's marshes compared