

Maritimes. Six Kentucky Warblers in Massachusetts and 1 in Rhode Island were reported in the period May 12–June 4. An early Hooded Warbler appeared at Cohasset, Mass., Apr. 8 (Judith Bauer, fide RPE), and 2 others were seen at Sable I. May 16 (JB & DAW, fide IAMcL) and June 12–14 (IAMcL).

**ICTERIDS, TANAGERS**—A singing W. Meadowlark at Rowley, Mass. May 8–22, was seen by many observers, and constituted the sixth Regional record since June of 1969, all of them having occurred in the rather limited area from Cape Cod to s. Maine. Orchard Orioles were said by observers in Connecticut, Rhode Island and Massachusetts to be unusually abundant this spring, and much as last spring, a number of them reached the Maritimes, no fewer than 9 in Nova Scotia and 1 in New Brunswick in the period May 16–28. A bird identified as **Black-cowled Oriole**, (*Icterus dominicensis*) was well seen at Seal I., N.S. on May 24 by Ben Doane, whose sketches and detailed description are quite convincing. The bird had a solid black back and tail, conspicuous black wings, black hood extending far down on the breast, and lemon yellow underparts. The report is all the more credible since another West Indian species, the Cave Swallow, was collected there the previous week. A W. Tanager was seen at Duxbury, Mass., May 29 (JWL, fide RPE), 3 separate Scarlet Tanagers reached Cape Breton and another reached Sable I., all in the period May 12–June 1, and Summer Tanagers were distributed in a typically sparse fashion in s. New England, 1 in Rhode Island and 6 in Massachusetts in the period May 10–29.

**FRINGILLIDS**—Spring migrant Blue Grosbeaks numbered 13, as compared with 3 in 1969 and 2 in 1970. This year's birds were 8 in Massachusetts and 5 in Nova Scotia, in the period April 6–June 4, and it is interesting to note the near simultaneous arrival of 2 at Nantucket, Apr. 25 (EA), 2 at Cape Sable, Apr. 25 (SS, fide PRD) and 1 at Sable I., April 27 (JB & WTS, fide IAMcL). At least 10 Indigo Buntings also reached Nova Scotia, occurring at 5 localities in the period Apr. 9–June 10. A total of 6 House Finches in North Hampton and Rye, N.H., May 8 (DJA & DWF) were indicative of the species' continued increase along the New England coast north of Massachusetts. Eur. Goldfinches of unknown origin continue to turn up in the Region, and 3 individuals appeared in a rather brief period this spring, in Massachusetts at Gloucester, Apr. 19–20 (Ann Robinson, fide RPE) and at Holden, Apr. 21 (RSJ, fide RPE), and in New Hampshire at Plaistow, Rockingham Co., May 1–4 (Eleanor Wright, fide RPE). A ♂ Lark Bunting in West Newbury, Mass., June 2–5 (JFK, RAF) was unique this spring. The Green-tailed Towhee mentioned in the previous report was last seen in Westport, Mass. May 1 (FK). Also unique was a Lark Sparrow at Hampton, N.H., May 6 (EWP & LGP). Vagrant Field Sparrows reached Sable I.

May 2 (JB, fide IAMcL) and May 16 (JB & DAW, fide IAMcL), and the season's first Song Sparrow arrived there Apr. 2, followed by a sharp peak of 90 on Apr. 4. Interestingly, on the latter date a remarkable concentration estimated at 1000 birds was found at Plum I., Mass. (CAG & MLG).

Sub-regional editors, contributors (both in bold-face), observers and other abbreviations—**Dennis J. Abbott**, Peter Alden, H. Cook Anderson, R. Ross Anderson, **Edith Andrews**, Wallace Bailey, Jerome J. Barry, Kenneth Bates, Larry S. Benjamin, Grace Bissell, Bradford G. Blodget, Arthur C. Borrer, Jean Boulva, Connie Casas, **David S. Christie**, Hamilton Coolidge, **Davis H. Crompton**, **Severyn S. Dana**, Mabelle Davenport, **Paul J. Desjardins**, **Robert C. Dewire**, Benjamin K. Doane, **Phyllis R. Dobson**, Paul K. Donahue, Kimball C. Elkins, **Ruth P. Emery**, Davis W. Finch, Richard A. Forster, **Constance D. Gallagher**, Murray L. Gardler, Carl A. Goodrich III, H. Warren Harrington, Jr., Karsten Hartel, Rodney S. Jenkins, Cecil L. Johnston, Bennett R. Keenan, Joseph F. Kenneally, Jr., Katherine B. Kinsey, **Frances Kirkaldy**, Douglas L. Kraus, **Reynold T. Larsen**, Donald Wickerson Lent, Joseph W. Lund, Francis MacKinnon, Sara MacLean, Ian A. McLaren, Paul S. Miliotis, Eric L. Mills, Wayne P. Neily, Ian C. T. Nisbet, **Robert A. Norris**, John J. O'Connell, Peter A. Pearce, Frances Perry, **Wayne R. Petersen**, Elisabeth W. Phinney, Leon G. Phinney, Betty Reid, Tudor Richards, **Eloise A. Saunders**, **Wilford J. Schultz**, E. Manning Sears, **Robert W. Smart**, Sidney Smith, Wayne T. Stobo, Edward V. Thompson, **William C. Townsend**, Dallas Wait, Daniel A. Welsh, **Henry T. Wiggin**, George Wilson, James G. Wilson, Charles Wood, Manomet (Mass.) Bird Observatory, v.o., various observers.—**DAVIS W. FINCH**, Knoll Creek Farm, Route 376, Hopewell Junction, N.Y. 12533.

## HUDSON–ST. LAWRENCE REGION / Ned R. Boyajian

Continuing cold, the prevalence of adverse winds, and in the north, substantial amounts of snowfall well into April, resulted in one of the slowest, latest springs in recent years. As is usually the case, it was the birdwatchers, rather than the birds, who suffered most. Though there was evidence of some delay in the return of populations, two or three to ten days, depending on species and locale, what was missed most sorely was the occurrence of flights or waves during the period May 3 through 16; usually the high point of the season. Actually, most of April was reasonably normal. The first major delay occurred during the last week of the month when species normally returning at that time did not appear in numbers until the first few days of May. Major flights during this period were:

April 4. Widespread flight of Snow/Blue Geese, Seneca River Flats, N.Y., 800 (GS), Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge, L.I. (J.B.W.R.) 50 (E & KA)

Alpine, Bergen Co., N.J., 42, plus an extremely early Purple Martin (NB).

April 10. Derby Hill, Oswego Co., N.Y., 1152 Raptors of 10 species, season highs of 16 Great Blue Herons and 961 Am. Crows (GS); Dutchess Co., N.Y., 36 Pintails, a very high local count (EP, TS & MV); Schenectady, heavy waterfowl movement (RY); New Haven Co., Conn., 3550 Double-crested Cormorants, a Com. Teal and a Eur. Widgeon (NP); Long Island, a very early Semipalmated Plover at Robert Moses State Park (E & KA); Alpine, season high of 11 Great Blue Herons, 5100 passerines in two hours (NB).



April 24-25. Onota L., Berkshire Co., Mass., several Common and 1 Red-throated Loons, 25 Red-necked Grebes, usually 1 per year, (in autumn,) 50 Horned Grebes (RG); New Haven Co., an early Black-and-white Warbler and Parula Warbler (NP); Long Island, 5000 scoters of three species (BBC); Alpine, first heavy movement of Blue Jays, 1732 in two hours (NB).

May 1-2. Derby Hill, 7000 Raptors of 14 species, including 1 Golden Eagle, 3 imm. and 1 adult Bald Eagle, 1 Peregrine Falcon; Brooklyn, L.I., individuals of Warbling Vireo, Worm-eating Warbler, Cerulean Warbler and Louisiana Water-thrush (MA, RC, & ES) the first three quite early and all four rare for the locale; Alpine, season high of 36 Com. Loons, 118 Raptors of 9 species including 1 adult Bald Eagle and 1 Peregrine Falcon, 2500 gulls of 3 species, 6200 Blue Jays, 425 Myrtle and 315 unidentified warblers (NB); Bangor, Northampton Co., Pa., 500 Canada Geese, 3 White-winged Scoters, 300 Blue Jays, 300-400 low-flying warblers, mostly Myrtles (DE).

For the next fourteen days, although birds arrived in a steady trickle, and several rarities were sighted, birding in a quantitative sense was

quite dull. On May 17, a fairly widespread "catch-up" movement occurred and from then through early June things were about normal, with especially good flights May 23-24 and 27-28.

**SOUTHERN SPECIES.** Though far less extensive than last year, an incursion of southern land-birds did occur. Acadian Flycatcher: 3 banded at the Fire Island Research Station, L.I. (PB, RP, HH, et al.). Prothonotary Warbler: only 1, at New Haven, May 15 (NP). Kentucky Warbler: 1 as early as May 9, Alley Pond Park, L.I. (KW), 10 in the last few days of May including 4 banded at the Gedney Brook Sanctuary, Westchester Co., N.Y. (PL) and 1 as far north as Dutchess Co. (EP, et al.). Orchard Oriole: appeared in numbers which seemed all out of proportion to the very limited breeding population, e.g., 15 banded at F.I.R.S. through May, 34 in 12 hours at Alpine, May 22-29 (NB) 40 other scattered reports, north to Dutchess Co. Summer Tanager: 4 banded at F.I.R.S., late April through May 27, a pair at New Haven, May 14 (NP) and 1, Staten Island, May 27 (AM, HF & MW).

**LOONS, GREBES, TUBENOSES, CORMORANTS, HERONS, IBISES**—A total of 3 Red-throated Loons in Dutchess Co. May 8-15 (JD, FG & EP) and another at Alpine, May 2 (LSNY) was a good number for the Hudson R. Red-necked Grebes were also in good numbers inland. In addition to the Onota L. birds, there were 4 in the Syracuse area Apr. 16-20 (GS). On the other hand, many observers commented on the scarcity of Pied-billed Grebes, e.g. 1-2 a day in the Syracuse area (GS) and only 1 in Berkshire Co. for the season (RG), both very low counts. A Sooty Shearwater picked up dead on May 26 at Fire Island and another seen in the same locale, June 2, along with 3 Wilson's Petrels (RP) were the only pelagic species reported so far. Double-crested Cormorants were in better-than-average numbers in the Hudson Valley, e.g. 18 at Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co., May 16 (DF & AJ) and a total of 47, Apr. 18-May 22 at Alpine (NB). A total of 3 Com. Egrets in the Syracuse area, May 5-16, was a good count for the locale. During the same period, about 20 Cattle Egrets were seen in the Region, including 3 in Dutchess Co., May 16 (R.T.W.B.C.) and 8 on Gardiner's I., L.I., May 8 (DP). There was also 1 as early as Apr. 16 at Bangor, Pa. (DE). Little Blue Herons were also numerous. About 40 were reported, including 1 as far north as Dutchess Co., May 15 (DF & AJ). Other heron reports of note were a Green Heron, May 9-31 at St. Augustin, Que. (GH) and a Black-crowned Night Heron at Richmond, Berkshire Co., Mass., May 6 (RG). Both are quite unusual for the locales. Even more unusual was an unprecedented northward incursion of Glossy Ibis. About 30 were reported in the Syracuse area, the first one appearing on the flight of Apr. 25; the remainder May 16-17 (FS, GS, et al.). In addition, there were 5 at Sheffield, Berkshire Co.,

May 14; the first in the county since 1 was seen in 1966 (RG). At Alpine, 47 in two flocks were seen May 13, the first ever noted there in some 450 hours of observation.

**WATERFOWL**—An unusual occurrence for the Vischer Ferry Game Management Area, Saratoga Co., N.Y. was a pair of Mute Swans, present from Apr. 16 through mid-May (RY). Eight Brant at St. Augustin, Que., May 17, were more than are usually present that late in the season (GH). A Snow Goose on Point View Reservoir, Passaic Co., N.J., Apr. 29 was unusual (RRo). The species is usually noted in that part of the State only sporadically as an overhead migrant. Much rarer was a **White-fronted Goose** carefully identified at Southaven, L.I., May 7 (DP). There are less than a dozen records of legitimately wild birds in the New York City area. The Gadwall, though now nesting locally on the St. Lawrence, is still quite rare around Quebec City where 1 was seen, May 4 (GH). Pairs of Red-heads were seen Apr. 11 at Cheshire, New Haven Co. Conn. (WS & GDu) and May 5 at St. Augustin (GH). Although unusual in either location, this species has been increasing somewhat in the East partly due to stocking. At Hillsdale, Berkshire Co., Mass., a pair of Ring-necked Ducks was seen on May 30, a late enough date to suggest a possible nesting (RG). The first recorded **Tufted Duck** for the Oneida L. Basin was present at Nine-Mile Point, L. Ontario, Apr. 8-10 (FS). A pair of Buffleheads nesting at the Gale Meadows Empoundment Area, Windham Co., Vt. was a new record for that locale (WN). Oldsquaws lingered in numbers later than usual. There was 1 Apr. 16, at Lincoln Park, Passaic Co., N.J. (RRo) an unusual location, 11 May 6 and 1 May 22 at Lordship, New Haven Co. (MH & DT) and the very high total of **240** May 22 at St. Augustin (GH). A Com. Merganser at Cruger's I., May 15 and another at Rhinebeck, May 16, both in Dutchess Co. were also quite late (DF & AJ).

**RAPTORS, GROUSE**—On May 15, a Goshawk was seen at Stissing Mt., Dutchess Co. close to where a pair bred last year (TS). The Red-shouldered Hawk, in a disastrous decline for many years, may be recovering slightly. Several nestings were reported from Berkshire Co. and from 5-6 scattered locations elsewhere in the Region. In addition to the May 1 bird, an imm. Golden Eagle was seen at Derby Hill, Apr. 12 (GS) and another at West Orange, N.J., Apr. 22 (BL & RR). A Peregrine Falcon, always a rarity inland in spring, was seen at Great Swamp, N.J., May 29 (PM). A light but widespread movement of Merlins reached the Region, Apr. 28-29. A total of 8 was reported from scattered localities on Long Island, n.e. New Jersey and n. New York. Ruffed Grouse continued to be reported from places in New Jersey where it had been long absent or very rare. One was seen at East Brunswick, Middlesex Co., May 29 (GC) and 5 drumming ♂♂ heard

and several of both sexes were seen along the Palisades in n.e. Bergen Co. (NB).

**SHOREBIRDS, GULLS**—An Am. Oystercatcher was seen at J.B.W.R., May 14 (WN), an unusual place for this outer-beach species. An Am. Golden Plover at the same place, May 4 (DF) and another at Milford, Conn., May 23 (NP) were the only ones of the season. An Upland Plover, presumably a migrant, was seen on an airport at Whippany, Morris Co., N.J., Apr. 17 (GM). A Solitary Sandpiper was seen at Topsham, Orange Co., Vt. on the rather early date of Apr. 11 (A & EM), perhaps a result of the Apr. 9-10 flight. At South Windsor, Hartford Co., Conn., 2 Lesser Yellowlegs, rather rare in spring especially inland, were seen on the very early date of May 6 (PD). At Bangor, Pa., a Willet was seen on May 9, an unusual find so far up the Delaware (DE). A flock of 25 White-rumped Sandpipers at Oak Beach, L. I., May 27, was a good spring season count (LR, fide RP). Single Dunlins were twice recorded at Bangor, Pa., May 23 and June 3 (DE). A **Hudsonian Godwit**, extremely rare in spring anywhere in the Region, was seen at Milford, Conn., May 23 (NP). Topping this was a **Bar-tailed Godwit**, seen May 10 (BC) and again May 12 (DP) at Moriches Inlet, L. I. There is only one other Regional record, also from Long Island. Another rarity for Connecticut was a **Black-necked Stilt** at Hammonasset State Park, May 28 (MF & WS). There was a Wilson's Phalarope, always a rarity in spring, at Lakeland, Oswego, N.Y., May 6-7 (FS) and another at South Windsor, Conn., May 8-12 (PD & CN). Late-lingering Glaucous Gulls were reported from J.B.W.R., 1, May 4 (DF), Overpeck Creek, N.J., 1, May 16 (NB & B & JT) and Quebec City, 2, May 22 (GH). Although Little Gulls are reported from South Amboy, N.J. with some frequency, the remarkable total of **16** there May 22 through early June, was a Regional record by a wide margin (m.ob). In this period, 2 were also present at Mecox Bay, L. I. (DP).

**DOVE, PARROT, OWL, NIGHTJAR, WOODPECKERS, FLYCATCHERS**—The Mourning Dove continued to increase at Topsham, Vt., where it was unreported before 1956. There were 1-2 daily through May, the most ever recorded there (A & EM). Several colonies of Monk Parakeets were reported from the New York metropolitan area, and on May 16 a parrot fitting the description of this species was seen as far east on Long Island as Sunken Meadow State Park (RW). A Saw-whet Owl, heard calling throughout May at Winhall, Windham Co., Vt., may have been nesting (WN). For the third year in a row, a Chuck-will's-widow was heard calling at Islip, L.I.; this year on June 3 (DP, et al.). A number of observers reported that Yellow-shafted Flickers seemed scarce this season. At Alpine, the season high, on Apr. 24, was only 96 vs. a norm of

250-300 (NB). However, at Derby Hill, 336 were noted on Apr. 13 (GS). The **Red-bellied Woodpecker** nested for the first time in Connecticut where a pair was discovered in Fairfield Co. on the Greenwich-Stamford line, Apr. 24 (GD). The species also continued to increase on Long Island, where 3 pairs bred, 1 at Mill Neck (BS) and 2 in Suffolk Co. (DP). **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** were numerous in late May, e.g., 14 banded at Gedney Brook, May 21-31 (PL), 1 in a backyard in Schenectady, May 26 (RY), a total of 7 in three locations in n.e. Bergen Co., May 24 (NB) plus 15-20 scattered reports elsewhere, including n.e. Long Island (L.L.A.S.) but not the south shore (fide PB).

**RAVEN, THRASHER, ROBIN, GNATCATCHER, PIPIT, WAXWING**—Two pairs of Com. Ravens nested in Windham Co. where ravens have been increasing steadily, and are now quite regular year-round in certain favored locales (WN). A total of 5 **Brown Thrashers** at Quebec City during May (GH) was an exceptional number so far north. Many reports attested to the current high population level of Robins. They were more numerous than usual at Topsham, Vt. (A & EM) and the Syracuse area, where the high at Derby Hill was 947 on Apr. 28 (GS). At Alpine, where the season total was 7600, a phenomenal flight occurred on Apr. 18, when 2712 were seen in 1½ hours, pushing north against a 20 mph NNW wind (NB). **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** continued to press northward. From 1 to 3 migrants were reported for most major areas north to mid-Region, with the furthest penetrations along the major valleys, e.g., to Hartford and Schenectady. Five positive and 3 possible nestings were reported, one of the latter at Schenectady (RY). A count of 200+ **Water Pipits** at Orient, L.I.; Apr. 15 (DP) was an exceptionally high spring count for the downstate New York area. From time to time this species has been seen in late spring or early summer in suitable mountaintop habitat in the Region, but to date actual nesting has not been established. This year there was 1 on Camel's Hump Mt., Vt., May 29 (D & EK). **Migrant Cedar Waxwings** were abundant in Bergen Co. along the Palisades where 784 were recorded in 16 hours, May 22-June 7 (NB).

**VIREOS, WARBLERS**—At F.I.R.S., 3 **White-eyed Vireos** were banded during the season, and another was seen as far north as Dutchess Co. on May 17 (DF). This species has always been rare as a migrant and is declining as a breeder also, as are all the vireos. About 25 migrant **Worm-eating Warblers** were reported, many more than usual. Of special note were 3 at F.I.R.S., May 9-15, where it is especially rare, and 5 at La Grange, Dutchess Co., May 17, a remarkable count for the locale (DF). For the past few seasons several **Golden-winged Warblers** have been reported in suitable nesting habitat in n.c. Vermont. This year 3-4 singing ♂♂, but no ♀♀ were observed in the Saxton River area

(D & EK). Four **Blue-winged X Golden-winged** hybrids were reported, all ♂♂. "Brewster" type, East Wallingford, Conn., May 24 (IB, WS, et al.). "Lawrence" types, Pine Plains, Dutchess Co., N.Y., May 22-24 (JD & TH), Mahwah, N.J., May 7, song type **Blue-winged** (E & KA), Parsippany, N.J., May 7 to end of period, song type usually B-w., occasionally G-w., acted like a breeder, seen with ♀ **Blue-winged** (GM, et al.). The **Orange-crowned Warbler**, normally extremely rare and irregular in spring, was seen on three occasions; May 5, Bergen Co. (VB, et al., May 12 F.I.R.S., and May 8, Dutchess Co. (EP, et al.). **Migrant Cerulean Warblers** were not as numerous as they have been in some years, only about 10, but were seen in some remarkable places. In addition to the Brooklyn bird there were 2 on Staten Island, May 5-10 (MW, et al.) and 1 at F.I.R.S., May 27. On June 4, a ♀ **Connecticut Warbler** was carefully identified and banded at F.I.R.S. There have been only 3-4 other spring records in the New York City area in the past thirty years. On May 24, a total of 128 **Canada Warblers** from three locations within ten miles in e. Bergen Co., was an extremely high count (NB).

**ICTERIDS, FINCHES**—At Jones Beach, a **Boat-tailed Grackle** was carefully identified on Apr. 17 (BC, et al.). This could conceivably have been the bird present at Far Rockaway earlier in the year. There are only 2-3 other records for the New York City area. At Quebec City, 35-40 **Baltimore Orioles** were seen May 16-31 (GH) an unusually high number. The season high at Alpine was 96 on May 22, rather a late peak date (NB). A **Eur. Goldfinch** was present at a feeder in Brookhaven, L.I., Apr. 21-23 (DP). For a discussion of such records, see AFN 24:488. At Lincoln Park, N.J., 25 **Savannah Sparrows** were seen on Apr. 16 (RRo) a good spring count for the locale. On Apr. 13, 500 **Slate-colored Juncos** in ¾ mile were seen at Topsham, Vt. (A & EM), a good Regional count at any season. A late-lingering individual of this species was seen at J.B.W.R. on May 4 (DF). **Single Am. Tree Sparrows** were reported on the very late dates of May 5 at Standfordville, Dutchess Co. (FG) and May 10 at South Windsor, Conn. (PD). There were two very interesting sparrow reports from F.I.R.S. One was a **Clay-colored Sparrow** on May 5, one of the very few spring records for the southern part of the Region. The other was a **Fox Sparrow** on the very late date of May 12. More interestingly, the bird, though not yet sub-specifically identified, was of one of the western races, none of which have even been taken in the New York City area. A **Lapland Longspur** was seen at Milford Point, Conn. on Apr. 16 (NBC) and another at Jones Beach, May 29 (PL). Both were notably late dates, especially the latter, which surpassed the previous New York City area record by twenty days.

**CONTRIBUTORS**—D. Addison, Elisabeth & Karl Anderson, Manny Arias, Irston Barnes, Vita



RICHARD B. FISCHER began, as many photographers do, or did, by snapping a Brownie box camera as a child. His first picture, at age 9, was prophetically of a Robin's nest. Serious photography began at 14. His subjects are varied in the field of nature: trees, wildflowers, amphibians, reptiles, birds. Many of his photographs have been published in magazines, and his well-known monograph on the Chimney Swift is liberally illustrated with his photographs. "For me," he says, "photography is an outlet for creative energy. Not only do I get much-needed recharging of emotional batteries in photographing nature, but I also learn a great deal about my subjects." Fischer, on the faculty of the New York State College of Agriculture, Cornell University, has taught courses in nature photography. Dick Fischer's equipment includes a Speed Graphic (only rarely now) and an Exakta. Lenses range from 28 mm through 250 mm. "Tripod a must." A Heiland Strobonar 91-A is used for strobe lighting.

The five young Screech owls were taken with an Exakta with 50 mm Tessar lens; lighting was with two Strobonar lamps.



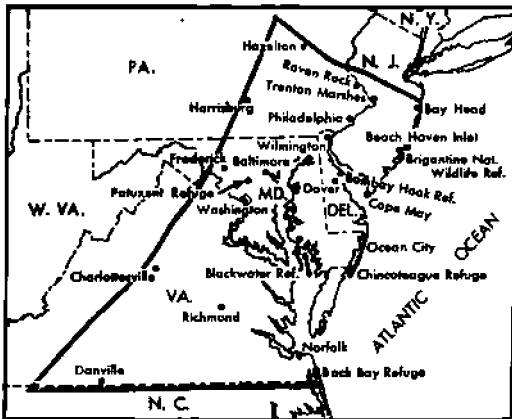
SIDNEY BAHRT, of Larchmont, New York, came late to bird photography (his wife's love of birds finally infected him) but in the five years he has been pursuing his new avocation, he has photographed 228 species—all in color. Proprietor of an art studio, Sid can be found almost any lunch hour in spring, roaming New York's Central Park, his Celestron 800 mm lens at the ready. He uses a Nikon F and a Pentax Spotmatic cameras, equipped with the Celestron or a 300 mm Pentax Takumar. The Nikon is equipped with a motor drive, rapid focus, and gunstock of his own design. Bahrt says "In all my photographs an attempt is made to capture the mood of the bird in its natural environment. Composition and color are my first considerations. I do not photograph for identification, therefore flash and other devices are not used. The lenses and equipment I have improvised give me mobility and freedom, plus the added challenge of working in a very limited depth of field."

The Red-winged Blackbird was photographed at Rye, N. Y. with Nikon F and Celestron lens. Exposure: 1/500 second at f:9 on High Speed Ektachrome, using available light.

Blauvelt, Ned Boyajian, Brooklyn Bird Club, Paul Buckley, Robert Clermont, Gary Cohen, Barbara Conolly, Jeffrey Daley, George Daniels, Paul Desjardins, (GDu) Gary Dunn, Orville Dunning, David Edwards, Davis Finch, Howard Fischer, Michael Fritz, Florence Germond, Robert Goodrich, Thelma Haight, Gerard Harvey, Michael Harwood, Howard Honig, Alice Jones, Mary Key, Donald & Elaine Kibbe, Paul Lehman, Linnaean Society of New York, Lyman Langdon Audubon Society, Boris Lyzak, Alison & Elisabeth Macdonald, Glenn Mahler, Anna Meyer, Paul Murtagh, New Haven Bird Club, Charles Nielsen, William Norse, Robert Paxton, Elinor Pink, Noble Proctor, Dennis Puleston, Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club, Lou Rems, (RRO) Richard Rosche, Richard Ryan, Fritz Scheider, Wilford Schultz, Gerald Smith, Paul Smith, Barbara Spencer, Ken Stier, Trixie Strauss, Esther Swayer, David Titus, Ben & Joanne Trimble, Marion Van Wagner, Fritz Waterman, Otis Waterman, Robert Wehle, Mathilde Weingartner, Ken Wilson, Robert Yunick. — **NED R. BOYAJIAN**, 9 Reading Terrace, Fair Lawn, N.J. 07410.

## MIDDLE ATLANTIC COAST REGION / F. R. Scott and David A. Cutler

Except for February, every month from January through May was colder than normal. Precipitation was rather light in March and April, but heavy rains in May brought ground water levels



up to or above normal. The key word for the spring migration in all contributors' reports was "late." Although, as always, there were a few reports of early migrants, in general the transients were late in arriving and slow in leaving, so much so, in fact, that the final chapter on the spring migration will have to come later.

An interesting example of late migration was offered by Don Kunkle, who took a tour on a clam dredge out of Wildwood, N.J. on June 6. One Barn Swallow passed the boat about 20 miles east of Indian River Inlet, Del., and an E. Wood

Pewee and a Catbird came aboard about 15 miles s.s.e. of Cape May, N.J.

Big waves of migrants were curiously lacking during the spring, although there was plenty of activity, and most waves seemed fairly local in extent. More so than usual, different species seemed to reach their peak numbers on different days. At the Island Beach, N.J. banding station there were minor waves on many days in May, the peak begin 438 birds trapped on May 18 (fide KGP). This flight included 107 Yellowthroats, 62 Ovenbirds, 38 Magnolia Warblers, and 33 American Redstarts.

**LOONS, GREBES**—The peak overland migration of Com. Loons at New Ringgold, Pa. occurred May 2 when 36 were recorded (MB). Many pelagic birds lingered till the end of the period, such as 4 Com. Loons at Ocean City, Md. and 15 Red-throated Loons at Rehoboth, Del. May 22 (JMA). A bird believed to be an adult (third-year) Arctic Loon was carefully observed at Ocean City Apr. 3 (JMA). A Red-necked Grebe spent over a month on a reservoir at Pomona, N.J. Mar. 10–Apr. 14 (JFA), and late Horned Grebes were noted at Craney I., Hampton Roads, Va. May 27 (GSG) and Bellevue, Md. May 30–31 (HTA).

**SHEARWATERS, PETREL, GANNET, CORMORANT**—Two Greater Shearwaters were seen off the jetty at Ocean City May 16 following strong onshore winds the night before (RRO). There were a number of Sooty Shearwater reports during the last half of May, the best being 6 off Virginia Beach, Va. May 22 (RLA, et al.). Fifty-one Wilson's Petrels were also counted off Virginia Beach on this date (RLA), and 3 were seen off Ocean City May 23 (PAD, et al.). A late Gannet was observed at St. John Light, N.J. in Delaware Bay May 25 (DEK), and the last 3 Great Cormorants were noted at Lewes, Del. May 8 (PAB).

**HERONS, IBISES**—There were several rather unusual records of adult Little Blue Herons inland during the spring. One was seen near Coveseville, Albemarle Co., Va. Apr. 26 (TEW), 3 at Ft. Belvoir, Va. May 8 (RRO, et al.), and 3 near Hopewell, Va. May 23 (FRS). A Snowy Egret near Charles City, Va. May 23 was also unusual so far inland (FRS). Although Byrd and Kennedy had an unusually early nest of a Snowy Egret with 2 eggs at Metomkin Inlet, Va. Apr. 24, they found that the coastal heronries in general were about 2 weeks late. At the herony near South Pt., Md. May 17, Com. Egret young were about 2 weeks old, a few Little Blue Herons had just hatched, but most of the herons had only 1 or no eggs as yet in the nests (MAB & RSK). At Hampton, Va. 7 Yellow-crowned Night Heron nests were in the active colony there in May (WPS), and 110 pairs were estimated in the Mockhorn I., Va. colony May 18 (MAB & RSK). A Yellow-crowned Night Heron at Harrisburg, Pa. May 21 was a good inland report (CJ & OKS). Byrd and Kennedy esti-