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Ontario Region

RON RIDOUT

It seemed that the winter of 1995-1996 would never end as it continued well into April and, in the northern regions, mid-May. Indeed, the season across the province was the coldest and wettest on record in nearly 50 years. Early to mid-spring migrants arrived in Ontario two to three weeks late on average and, for the most part, without any large waves noticed. The exception to this occurred May 18, when a warm front from the south pushed slowly into Ontario. The accompanying showers forced most migrants to ground, providing one of the best migratory fallouts in several years across a broad portion of the province. This date is mentioned repeatedly throughout this report.

Waterfowl numbers built in late March on the lower Great Lakes, but with such cold conditions were unable to move farther north, as open water could not be

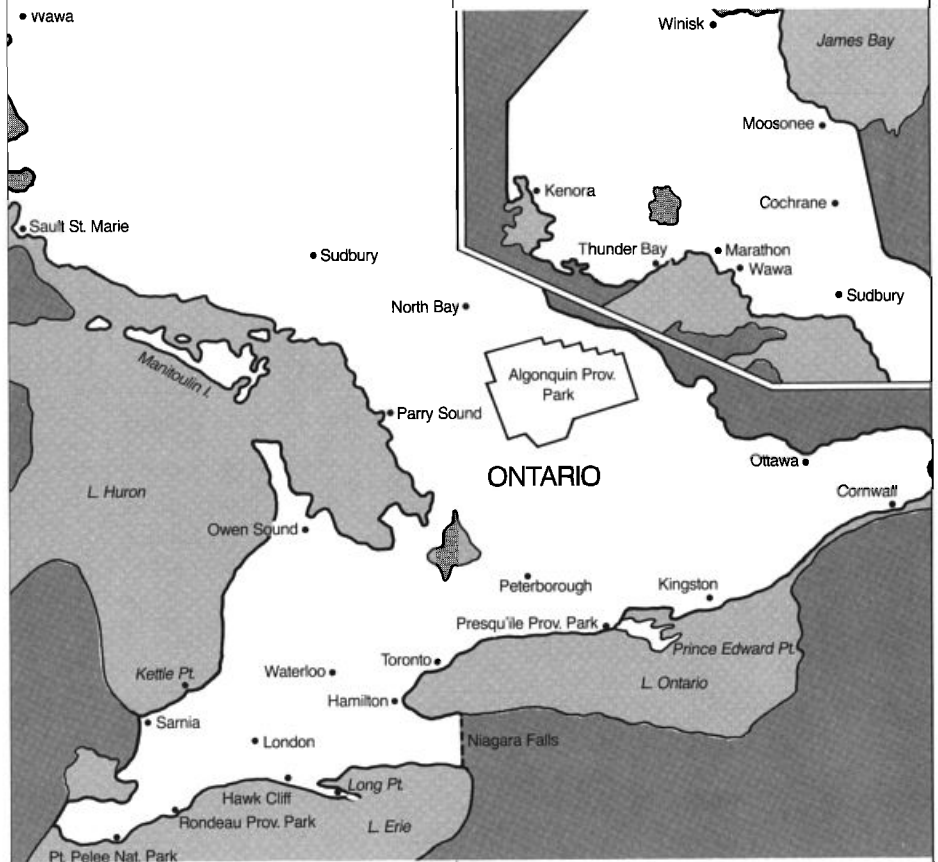
found until late April on many lakes and, in the north, not until mid-May! The result was some very large numbers of waterfowl found in the south well into May.

While the season passed without any additions to the provincial list, outstanding rarities reported included Black-necked Stilt, Say's Phoebe, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Lazuli Bunting, two different Painted Buntings, and Spotted Towhee. 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., Prince Edward*); L.P.B.O. (*Long Pt. Bird Observatory, Norfolk*); 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 Herons

Red-throated Loon reports totaled 139, with a peak of 32 at Pt. Clark, *Bruce*, Apr. 27 (B&DF) and 60 at Hamilton Apr. 20 (JO). These lower-than-usual numbers may have been the result of the cool spring, or it may be that high counts in recent years at these hotspots may have been anomalies. The lone Pacific Loon of



the period was reported off Mississagi Light, *Manitoulin*, May 23 (JN). As a result of the late ice breakup, Com. Loons moved into the north in a rush, with exceptional counts of 632 at Misery Bay, *Manitoulin*, May 5 (JN) and 1500 at L. of the Woods, *Rainy R.*, May 11 (RS, DE). Paradoxically, one rushed the season at Sault Ste. Marie Mar. 25 (EC). An early Pied-billed Grebe was seen at Port Colborne Mar. 8 (BC), while a Horned was found at L. Catchewanooka, *Peterborough*, Mar. 11 (PB). High counts of Horneds included 112 at Niagara Falls Apr. 12 (RK, MJ), 120 at Rondeau Apr. 30 (SC), 180 at Burlington Apr. 21 (KM, RDa), and 500 at L. of the Woods May 11 (RS, DE). Good counts of Red-neckeds involved 300 at L. of the Woods May 11 (RS, DE), 420 at Burlington Apr. 8 (MJe), and 1429 at Cobourg Apr. 11 (LW). Six Eared Grebes in the south included individuals at Mountsberg C.A., *Wellington*, Apr. 18 (R&DFr), Townsend Apr. 25 (RP), Port Robinson May 11 (RK, MJ), and three at Tavistock May 28 (JMH *et al.*), while five in the north included two at Emo May 11 (DE), one at T.C.B.C.O., May 15 (JW, DO), and two at Rainy R., May 24 (DE). The only W. Grebe of the period lingered for sometime at Grand Bend Apr. 28–May 14 (Tv *et al.*).

While 11 different reports of Am. White Pelicans, widely scattered across the south, undoubtedly involved some duplication of birds, it is clear there was a notable displacement of this species *e.* of its normal migratory path. Two-hundred gathered on the only open water on the Rainy R. near Fort Frances Apr. 13 (RS, DE). Usually found in low numbers, an estimated 25 Am. Bitterns at Walpole I., *Lambton*, May 9 (GC) was a notable count. A Great Blue Heron at Algonquin Mar. 25 (GL) was record early there. Its prospects for survival were somewhat tenuous. Great Egret sightings away from the southwest totaled 13, with the most noteworthy involving singles at Thunder Bay May 11 (LS *et al.*) and New Liskeard Apr. 30 (LT). Snowy reports involved singles at Essex Apr. 21–23 (MWa *et al.*), Rondeau May 4 (PAW, KB, JB, SC), NW Aldborough, *Elgin*, May 5–6 (NH, HL), Kingston May 13–14 (MS), St. Clair N.W.A., *Kent*, May 19 (MSt), s. of Niagara Falls May 24 (SW), Oshawa May 25–28 (m.ob.), and Blenheim May 30–31 (KB, RH). The lone Little Blue Heron of the spring was found at Comber May 3 (AC, JBe). Five Tricoloreds represented a substantial increase over recent yearly totals. Individuals were reported at Oshawa Apr. 27 and May 4–5 (SL,

m.ob.), near S. Lancaster May 11–31 (GH *et al.*), St. Clair N.W.A., May 17–18 (C&CM), Toronto May 23 (GB), and Kingston May 25–26 (A&EB *et al.*). Of the 22 Cattle Egrets observed, the most notable was at Indian Pt., *Manitoulin*, May 27 (DB). The rest were confined to the usual s.w. region. An above-average three Yellow-crowned Night-Herons included birds at Wheatley May 21 (AW) and Toronto May 25 (LM), plus a report of one as far north as L. Rosseau, *Muskoka*, May 17 (DM). Glossy Ibis well n. of the usual range included two at Kinmount May 5 (DBr) for *Haliburton's* first record, plus one at Alfred May 24–31 (JBo, v.o.). *Plegadis* ibis reported included two at Windsor Apr. 26 (BS) and one flying by Eric Beach May 9 (JB, KB).

Waterfowl to Raptors

With most of the usual staging areas frozen, Tundra Swans spread across the southwest, utilizing whatever habitat was available. Peak numbers of 500 at Hamilton Mar. 25 (m.ob.), 1330 at Hillman Marsh, *Essex*, Mar. 28–29 (AW, CMd), and 8500 at Rondeau Mar. 24 (JB, KB) were good counts for those areas, while <1000 at Long Point and 7000 at Grand Bend Mar. 30 (AR) were well below normal for those 2 major stopovers. As the Trumpeter Swan re-introduction program takes hold, reports from new locales continue to increase. Individuals were reported from Espanola May 4 (m.ob.) and Beachville, *Oxford*, May 7 (JMH), while a pair lingered on c. *Manitoulin I.* from Apr. 20+ (DB, TL, v.o.). Down substantially from 1995's record high, 11 Greater White-fronted Geese involved three at Willow Grove, *Haldimand*, Mar. 13 (DS, v.o.) and five at Alliston Apr. 21 (JS), plus singles near Lakefield Mar. 24 (TS, RG), Hillman Marsh Mar. 27 (AW), and Pelee I., Apr. 14 (EM). Combined with the previous season's two birds, single Ross' Geese at Komoka Mar. 10 (TB, WL) and Toronto Mar. 18–19 (ZS, TS) matched recent spring totals.

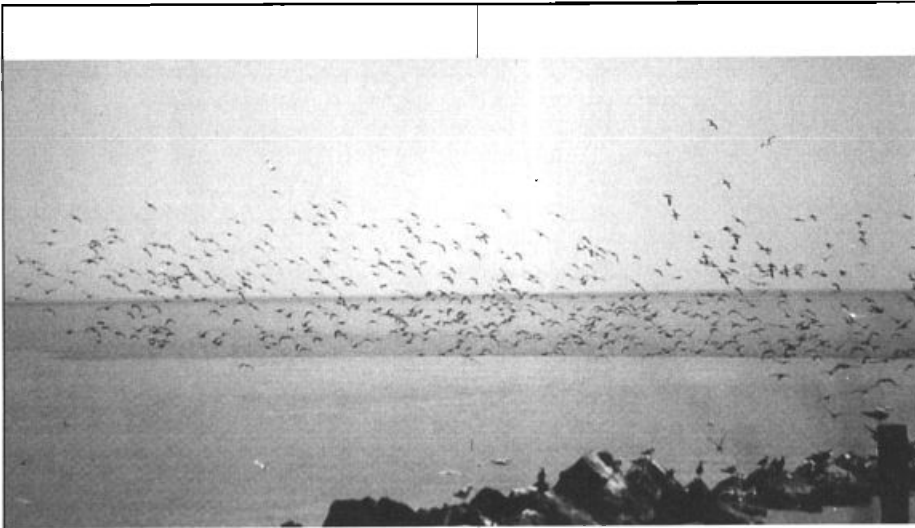
Waterfowl totals were particularly low for most species, due mainly to ice cover on protected bodies of water, even in the south. The lone exception was a record count of 850 Green-winged Teal at Pelee Apr. 8 & 19 (AW). Species of note included a report of a Cinnamon Teal at Big L., *Manitoulin*, May 17 (DFe); single ♂ Eur. Wigeons at Holiday Beach, *Essex*, Mar. 17 (DMa), Long Pt., Mar. 31–Apr. 6 (m.ob.), Newmarket Apr. 15 (GBe), P.E.Pt., Apr. 25 (EMa), Ruscom Shores, *Essex*, Apr. 27 (PP, ES), Thurso May 4 (LS), plus Ontario's 3rd female at Hillman Marsh

Mar. 30 (AW); single ♂ Tufted Ducks at Kingston, remaining from the winter to Mar. 15 (m.ob.), Harrow Apr. 16–17 (J&DG), and Hamilton May 4 (KM, RDa); a ♀ Com. Eider at Stoney Creek Mar. 12, joined by two others Mar. 21, all remaining to Apr. 6 (RD, KH, m.ob.); 11 Harlequin Ducks, including one at Deer Bay, *Peterborough*, May 4 (JA), ≤five males at Sault Ste. Marie throughout the period (m.ob.); and a lone Barrow's Goldeneye at Lakefield Mar. 24–31 (Tbi, v.o.).

Ontario's yearly Black Vulture appeared at Rondeau May 21 (S&DT, AJ). An Am Swallow-tailed Kite was seen at 2 different locations near Rockton Apr. 28 (PS, SCL, TT), including a wild game park, where it buzzed the bird of prey demonstration in progress, delighting the audience and the birder present. Three different Mississippi Kites, all at Pelee, were observed May 11–12 (v.o.), May 15 (KM, RW), and May 19–21 (K&GA). Four different Swainson's Hawks, well-above the spring average, included one each at Beamer C.A., *Niagara*, Apr. 18 (N.PH.), Tilbury May 11 (WLa), Pelee May 11–12 (AW *et al.*), and Rainy R., May 23 (GC). A Red-tailed observed at Dorland Mar. 21 was identified as *calurus* (JMH). The 62 Golden Eagles reported far exceeded any previous spring's total, while the 30 Peregrine Falcons met recent spring averages. By period's end, nests were well underway on downtown buildings in London, Hamilton, Toronto, and Ottawa.

Rails to Gulls

Migrant Yellow Rails included one at Hillman Marsh May 15 (*vide* AW), two near Millgrove May 26 (RD, BCh), and one at Rondeau May 28 (SC). Several King Rails were reported from Pelee, Rondeau, St. Clair N.W.A., and Long Pt., while one at Presqu'île May 17 (J&JT) was quite rare there. No migrant Piping Plovers were observed in the south, a sad testament to the species' plight. The one ray of hope was a pair that appeared to be established at L. of the Woods May 31 (DE). Long Pt.'s first Black-necked Stilt was observed briefly May 28 (WC). American Avocets included seven at Hillman Marsh May 15 (RPo, m.ob.) and one at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham*, May 21 (m.ob.). A Greater Yellowlegs at Long Pt., Mar. 21 (JM) was very early given the wintery conditions, and 20 days ahead of the next earliest arrival. Willet sightings totaled 79 birds, with a peak of 18 at Dundas May 2 (RP, IS) and wayward birds involving two at Amherst I., *Lennox Addington*, May 6 (AS, B&Rri), another there May 19 (K.F.N.), one at P.E.Pt. the same day



At Port Stanley, Ontario, some 2000 Whimbrels were present May 21, 1996; this photo shows nearly 500 of them. Photograph/Lorne Spicer.

(K.F.N.), and one at T.C.B.O., May 7. Whimbrel totals were meager in most of the usual locales, with the big exception of a one-day count of 2220 near Port Bruce May 21 (LSp). Of the 16 Hudsonian Godwits (well above the last decade's average), seven at Ferndale May 20 (DF, DTa) and one at Embrun May 26–June 3 (PBr) were the most noteworthy. Marbleds also greatly exceeded their spring average, with 21 birds recorded.

A flock of 350 Ruddy Turnstones at Erie Beach May 22 (JB) provided an exceptional spring count. A Semipalmated Sandpiper at Smithville Apr. 30 (RD) was very early. Sightings of W. Sandpipers included one at Maple May 15 (GBE) and two each at Emo May 23 (GC) and Kin-cardine May 27 (AM). Even rarer in spring, single Baird's were seen at Amherst I., May 3 (B&RRi) and Thunder Bay May 25 (NE). A Purple at Cobourg May 31 (VB) was quite late. The only Curlew Sandpiper was at Casselman May 26–27 (CL, v.o.). A Buff-breasted at Pelee May 16 (AJa) furnished a rare spring record. A single Ruff at Nonquon, *Durham*, May 7–8 (GF, MH) reversed the recent trend of increasing spring totals.

Laughing Gull sightings included one (possibly two) at Pelee May 24–25 & 31 (KS, MC), an adult and immature at Port Glasgow May 26 (HL), and an adult at Amherst I., May 28 (WCu, RSa). The lone Franklin's was at Nepean May 22 (BD). As in recent years, peak spring Little Gull numbers came from L. Ontario, including 60 at Oshawa Apr. 29 (JJ) and 78 at Niagara-on-the-Lake Apr. 5 (GBy). Black-headed observations included singles at Harrow Apr. 21 (GCo), Townsend May 4 (CMc), Ft. Erie May 5 (DC), and

Pelee May 13–28 (AW, JH). Lesser Black-backed numbered 22 in various locales across the south. Rare for spring, Black-legged Kittiwake sightings involved individuals at Long Pt., May 15 (GG), Pelee May 17 (AW *et al.*), and Cobourg May 22 (J&CGo).

Terns to Flycatchers

The first Caspian Tern arrived quite early at P.E.Pt., Mar. 24 (K.F.N.). A count of 900 Com. Terns at Pelee May 13 (AW *et al.*) was an exceptional spring total. Great Gray Owl sightings totaled >600 birds across s. Ontario during March. This conservative estimate places this past winter's s. invasion as likely the largest ever experienced in the province. Reasons for the highest counts in March are not entirely clear, but may have been related to dwindling food supplies forcing the birds to concentrate in areas where rodent populations were still dense and to hunt for extended periods during the increasing daylight hours, making them more visible. As a result of the forced exodus of several owl species from the north during the winter, volunteers conducting surveys for L.P.B.O.'s provincial Nocturnal Owl Survey recorded virtually no owls calling on territory in the north. Boreal Owls reached seven individuals on Amherst I. in March, with the last bird remaining until Apr. 20 (AS).

Singing ♂ Chuck-will's-widows were heard at Pelee May 13–14 (KE) and Rondeau May 13 (PAW), while one seen at Beachville May 14 (JMH) provided Oxford's first record. A Hairy Woodpecker at Pelee May 11–14 & 26 (KO, v.o.) was quite rare at that isolated bit of forest in *Essex*. An E. Wood-Pewee at Ottawa Apr. 25 (BFy) was record early there and, for that matter, most locations in the province. Migrant Acadian Flycatchers included four at Pelee May 11–19 (m.ob.), two at Rondeau May 18 (SC, KB), and

one each at Morgan's Pt., May 17 (MARK) and Long Pt., May 18 (F&TW). As part of a large passerine influx May 18, 150 and 80 Least Flycatchers were counted at L.P.B.O. and Toronto (AA), respectively. A count of 60 E. Phoebes at Pelee Apr. 14 (AW, JMc, FU) was noteworthy. A **Say's Phoebe** at Cressy Pt., Apr. 13 (M&IF) furnished a rare spring record, as did an **Ash-throated Flycatcher** at Long Pt., May 18–20 (RRy, DA, m.ob.), providing only the 3rd provincial record. Single W. Kingbirds were recorded at Long Pt. (JK), Barwick (Jv), and Rainy R. (GC *et al.*)—all May 23, and T.C.B.O., May 29. The lone Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was at Presqu'île May 23 (WS).

Swallows to Warblers

The first Tree Swallows of the spring were, surprisingly, three at Peterborough Mar. 25 (PB). A pair of Gray Jays with two fledged young at Galesburg, *Peterborough*, May 23 (DR) was at the extreme s. limit of their provincial range. A Black-billed Magpie at P.E.Pt., May 6 (EMa) would have to be considered of questionable origin. A pair of Tufted Titmice carrying food to a nesting hole at Fisher Glen, *Norfolk*, May 23 (AM&RR) provided Long Pt.'s first breeding record. The only Bewick's Wren was at Long Pt., May 22 (RGU). Blue-gray Gnatcatchers put on a strong show, including seven at MacGregor P.P., *Bruce*, May 23 (DF, MW), ten at Sandbanks P.P., *Prince Edward*, May 15



Ash-throated Flycatcher at Long Point Provincial Park, Ontario, May 19, 1996. Photograph/Alan Wormington.

(JD), and 15 at Toronto May 18 (AA), with two birds as far north as Mississagi Light May 21 (JN). A Swainson's Thrush found at Pelee Apr. 13 (JL, JG, JWe) tied the provincial record-early date. An arriving warm front produced a count of 40 Veeries and 120 Swainson's Thrushes at Toronto May 18 (AA). The same day 40 Gray Catbirds were censused at one L.P.B.O. station. An Am. Pipit at Blenheim Mar. 10 (KB, JB) was record early there, while a count of 2000 at Ferndale May 20 (DF, DTa) must surely be close to a provincial high. High late counts of Bohemian Waxwings included 300 at Kingston Apr. 27 (VM) and 520 at Brooklin May 13 (BH). A N. Shrike at L.P.B.O., Apr. 26 was record late. Loggerheads put on a good show, with migrants noted in several locations and pairs on territory in many of the established sites. Breeding surveys in June will give a more complete picture.

White-eyed Vireos e. of the usual areas involved singles at Amherst I., May 19 (RE) and Kingston May 30 (RE). High counts of 84 Solitary and 67 Philadelphia Vireos were recorded at P.E.Pt., May 19 (EMa *et al.*), while 60 Red-eyed at L.P.B.O., May 31 represented a good count for the date. After several years of no apparent influx into the area, ten Blue-winged Warblers at P.E.Pt., May 10-19 (EMa) may mean a change in fortunes for the Golden-wingeds in the area. A Golden-winged banded at T.C.B.O., May 22 was rare in that district. Reports of "Brewster's" were fairly common, while single "Lawrence's" sightings came from Pelee May 9 (DMc) and May 13 (DV, DH), as well as P.E.Pt., May 18 (KEd). Tennessee Warblers were late in arriving and in very low numbers at both L.P.B.O. and T.C.B.O. The Orange-crowned that wintered at Port Colborne was last seen Mar. 31 (m.ob.).

Peak counts of warblers at various locations May 18 included 30, 56, and 150 Nashvilles at L.P.B.O., Rondeau (KB), and Toronto (AA) respectively; 35, 50, and 70 Chestnut-sideds at L.P.B.O., Presqu'île (J&JT) and Rondeau (KB); 150, 195, and 250 Magnolias at L.P.B.O., Rondeau (KB), and Toronto (AA); 30, 60, and 60 Black-throated Blues at Toronto (AA), Presqu'île (J&JT), and Rondeau (KB); 1000 Yellow-rumped at Presqu'île (J&JT); 30, 42, and 150 Black-throated Greens at Toronto (AA), Rondeau (KB), and Presqu'île (J&JT); 250 Black-and-whites at Sandbanks P.P. (TSp); and 35 Blackburnians, 22 N. Waterthrushes, and 32 Canadas at Rondeau (KB). The following day (May 19), P.E.Pt. experienced the same wave, with 44

N. Parulas, 75 Cape May Warblers, 2150 Yellow-rumped, 142 Blackburnians, and 250 Bay-breasted (K.F.N.).

Individual Yellow-throated Warblers were seen at Pelee Apr. 20 (FU, JMc), Long Pt., May 10 (VD, FH), Pelee May 13 (TD), Vineland May 15 (AS), and P.E.Pt., May 19 (FB, CG). Two different Kirtland's at Pelee included a male May 10 (JL, JGh, SK) and a female May 16 (RSo, JLu, RF, MO). A survey of Prairie Warblers at the Nepton Ridge, *Peterborough*, May 29 (TDy, JA) revealed 44 singing males. A Cerulean at Scott's Cr., *Manitoulin*, May 18 (DB) was well n. of range. Regularly occurring "southern" warbler totals included 12 Prothonotarys, 24 Worm-eatings, 19 Louisiana Waterthrushes, 26 Kentucky Warblers, 80 Hoodeds, and 35 Yellow-breasted Chats. All of these continued their upward trend with the exception of Prothonotary Warbler, which slid farther towards extirpation in the province, where it is now officially designated as endangered. Southern species away from the "Carolinian zone" included single Worm-eating Warblers at Sandbanks P.P., May 15 (JD) and P.E.Pt., May 18 (TSp) & 25 (KHe), and Hoodeds at Sandbanks P.P., May 14 (JD) and P.E.Pt., May 16 (ABo).

Tanagers to Finches

Of the ten Summer Tanagers reported, more than half were away from the southwest. These included an ad. male at Ottawa May 8 (LSi), imm. males at Toronto May 17 (CMn), Gore Bay May 17-19 (GD *et al.*), Tobermory May 21 (DW, TA), and Hamilton May 22 (RDa), and a female at P.E.Pt., May 25 (JE, RDW). The wave of passerines at P.E.Pt., May 19 included 91 Scarlet Tanagers (K.F.N.). Adult ♂ Blue Grosbeaks were observed at Tobermory May 5 (DW), furnishing *Bruce's* first record; Cressy Pt., May 14-26 (MF *et al.*), and at Cedar Springs May 21-31 (SC), where a pair spent summer 1995. An ad. ♂ **Lazuli Bunting** was independently identified by 2 observers at Copetown May 18-20 (RC, B&KMi). If accepted by the O.B.R.C., it will furnish Ontario's 4th record. Two separate **Painted Buntings** included an ad. male at St. Catharines May 13 (†D&ABa) and Pelee's first, a female at Wheatley May 20-23 (JGo, JF). The **Spotted Towhee** that wintered at Hamilton was last seen May 9 (UK, m.ob.). Pelee recorded nine different Dickcissels May 11-22 (m.ob.), and elsewhere singles were at Barrie I., May 18 (RCa), Mississagi Light May 23 (JN), and Rainy R., May 24 (GC).

The cool spring influenced several Am.

Tree Sparrows to linger late, including one at Dorland May 12 (JMH), three at L.P.B.O., May 13, one at Pelee May 14 (JZ), and one each at Toronto (RY) and Selkirk P.P. (JM), both May 15. Lone Lark Sparrows were observed at St. Williams Apr. 28-May 1 (B&GW) and Bracebridge May 17 (ASi). The only Lark Bunting observation was a female at T.C.B.O., May 21. While Pelee recorded an above-average 11 Henslow's Sparrows Apr 20-May 23 (m.ob.), these were the only sightings of this declining species. A Le Conte's Sparrow at Thunder Bay Apr. 16 (SP, BA) was record early for that n. district. One at Toronto May 13 (JMn) was considered rare. Reports of Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows in the south included singles at Pelee May 1 & 22-26 (m.ob.) and one each at Rondeau May 17 (TBe) and Toronto May 18 (AA). Individual Harris' Sparrows were at St. Williams Apr. 29-May 7 (JO, JDo), the wintering bird at Ottawa until May 7 (RGo), Rondeau May 9-14 (KB), Long Pt., May 10-19 (GG, RWi), Matachewan May 19 (LT), and T.C.B.O., May 20.

Reports of W. Meadowlarks involved individuals at Manitowaning Apr. 27 (JN), Mull, *Kent*, May 3-4 (SC, KB), Jarvis May 7+ (DG), and Elmwood May 13 (OM, DN). A ♀ Yellow-headed Blackbird at Barrie I., May 27 (RCa, DB) was rare for *Manitoulin*, while three Brewer's Blackbirds near Bridgenorth Apr. 11 (LB) and another at P.E.Pt., May 10 (RE, KEd) were well e. of range. Orchard Orioles at Evansville May 18 (DB) and Mississagi Light, *Manitoulin*, May 21 (JN) were n. of range. A count of 420 Baltimore Orioles was part of the May 19 fallout at P.E.Pt. (K.F.N.). After a good redpoll winter and the cool spring, many Com. Redpolls were recorded across the south into May. Single Hoarys were reported at Hamilton Mar 1-28 (RW), Peterborough Mar. 2 (PB), Harrietsville Apr. 5 (DMa), and Thunder Bay Apr. 27 (BR, SP).

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Appalachian Region

GEORGE A. HALL

It was the most interesting spring in many a year. Many people called it "the best migration in ———." The missing words depended upon when the speaker started birding. Indeed, in many ways at some places it was a revival of "the good old days."

Winter continued past March 1 and indeed to mid-April, even in the south. March was much colder than normal. In *Elk*, Pennsylvania, there were three days with sub-zero lows. April had close-to-normal average temperatures, but there were wide fluctuations. Early May was colder than normal, and in late May summer temperatures arrived. At Pittsburgh March rainfall was slightly in excess, while the other two months were much wetter than usual. There were heavy snowfalls in March and April, and some snow in May in northern Ohio. But precipitation was highly variable, *i.e.* Pittsburgh registered 2.95 inches in May, but Morgantown, West Virginia, had 6.54. There were two periods of heavy flooding in West Virginia.

As the season started, the so-called northern finches, which had been a feature of the winter, were still present in numbers. The cold, wet weather caused most of the early migration to be late. When the landbird migration finally got started in early May, the migrants were met by a series of cold fronts, with low temperatures and wet weather. As a result, many areas experienced heavy fallouts of grounded migrants. The late season had retarded leaf growth, so the birds were conspicuous. The most impressive of these groundings came May 10–12, which was not only a weekend, but was the weekend selected for the North American Migration Count. Despite the less-than-satisfactory weather, many observers were afield. Some got the

impression of lots of birds, but at other places no great concentrations of migrants built up, and people there felt the migration was only so-so. In the third week of May, summer weather appeared and the movement of birds subsided.

During the cold and wet early May some species must have lacked food, since many unlikely birds—such as Indigo Buntings and Rose-Breasted Grosbeaks—were coming to feeders. In one case a Black-throated Blue Warbler was seen at a hummingbird feeder.

At Powdermill Nature Reserve, 18 of 48 species were banded in numbers more than one Standard Deviation (S.D.) above normal, and only two (Wood Thrush and House Finch) were one S.D. below average (RM, RCL).

In summary, it was generally a great season. There were more genuine rarities, including two Regional firsts, than usual. Good numbers of "northern finches" remained well into April. There were some interesting individual events: large numbers of Scarlet Tanagers feeding in fields and on the roadside, ten species of warbler in one tree, a feeder with Evening Grosbeaks, Pine Siskins, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, and Indigo Buntings feeding at the same time, not to mention real "goodies," like a White-winged Dove and Painted Bunting.

Abbreviations: B.E.S.P. (*Bald Eagle S.P., Centre Co., PA*); C.M. (*Conneaut Marsh, Crawford Co., PA*); G.B.W.M.A. (*Green*

