

# JANUARY 2016 RECORDS

Notable sightings this month include Cackling Goose, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Northern Shrike. Some common species are not mentioned.

## Waterfowl:

**Snow Goose:** 20 records, avg 9 each. FIRST 3/1 Andrew Haight Rd. MR MAX 110/2 yd Red Oaks BL

**Cackling Goose:** 2 records, 1/12 Redwing Bkmm CP; 1/13 redwing

**Wood Duck:** 9 records, avg 2 each. LAST 1/30 Sylvan Lk MR; MAX 5/22 Sylvan Lk CP

**Gadwall:** 4 records, avg 3 each. FIRST 4/3 Wapp Lk MK; LAST 4/31 Coleman Stn Rd HVRT pond JR; MAX 4 on 2 records

**American Wigeon:** 6 records, avg 2 each. LAST 1/22 Sylvan Lk CP; MAX 3 on 4 records

**American Black Duck:** 68 records, avg 6 each. MAX 34/2 The Fly CP

**American Black Duck x Mallard** (hybrid): 2/16 Camby Rd Verbank DK

**Northern Shoveler:** 1/1 The Fly MR; 1/2 The Fly CP

**Northern Pintail:** 7 records, avg 3 each. LAST 1/26 Reagan Rd Millerton CV; MAX 9/1 The Fly MR

**Green-winged Teal:** 1/24 Waryas Pk, Poughkeepsie New York AMP

**Ring-necked Duck:** 45 records, avg 28 each. LAST 1m/31 Hillside Lk. BJM; MAX 160/24 Sylvan Lk HT, CP

**Greater Scaup:** 8 records, avg 4 each. LAST 5/30 Sylvan Lk MR; MAX 9/28 Sylvan Lk WC

**Lesser Scaup:** 9 records, avg 3 each. FIRST 2/7 Mills SP SJ; LAST 4/30 Sylvan Lk MR; MAX 4 on 2 records

**Long-tailed Duck:** 8 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/23 Waryas Pk, Poughkeepsie Bma; LAST 1/25 Shadows parking lot GP

**Bufflehead:** 1/9 St. Nicholas Rd DS

**Common Goldeneye:** 15 records, avg 10 each. FIRST 18/3 Mills Mansion, Hyde Pk CV; LAST 1/27 Sylvan Lk CP, SJ; MAX 70/24 Mills Mansion, Hyde Pk CV

**Hooded Merganser:** 51 records, avg 5 each. MAX 30/30 Sylvan Lk MR

**Common Merganser:** 100 records, avg 11 each. MAX 206/8 Dennings Pt AMP

**Ruddy Duck:** 5 records, avg 3 each. FIRST 8/2 Round Pd, Amenia CP; LAST 2/30 Sylvan Lk MR; MAX 8/2 Round Pd, Amenia CP

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** 15 records, avg 40 each. FIRST 2/2 Dover Plains CP; LAST Date 30, 2 records.; MAX 200/9 Dover Plains JJ

**Wild Turkey:** 19 records, avg 18 each. MAX 60/29 Stissing Mountain Rd, Pine Plains CV

**Common Loon:** 4/16 Dennings Pt MR

**Pied-billed Grebe:** 4 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/1 DRT AL; LAST 1/22 Upton Lk CPHorned Grebe: 2 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/20 Whaley Lk CP; LAST 1/21 Whaley Lk Pawling SJ

**Double-crested Cormorant:** 1/1 Beacon Waterfront Pk KH

## Marsh Dwellers:

**Great Blue Heron:** 17 records, avg 1 each. LAST 1/31 TSF MP; MAX 2 on 3 records

## Vultures, Hawks, Eagles and Allies

**Black Vulture:** 17 records, avg 6 each. FIRST 2/2 Dover Plains DK; LAST 2/31 Dover Plains DK; MAX 20/6 Millbrook Schl FT, CV, AMP

**Turkey Vulture:** 4 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/5 Westage Fishkill MN

**Golden Eagle:** 17 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/2 Ten Mile River, Dover CV; LAST 1/30 Dover Plains MR; MAX 2 on 5 records

**Northern Harrier:** 33 records, avg 1 each. LAST 1/31 Thompson Pd CB; MAX 4/3 Conklin Hill Rd., Stanfordville DK

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** 16 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/1 Pleasant Ridge Rd, Wingdale BMA, AMP; LAST 1/30 Dover Plains MR; MAX 2/2 Dover Plains DK

**Cooper's Hawk:** 38 records, avg 1 each. LAST 2/30 Dover Plains MR; MAX 3/1 Dover Plains MR

**Bald Eagle:** 116 records, avg 4 each. MAX 25/12 Dover Plains DK

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** 21 records, avg 1 each. LAST 1/30 12578 Mansells BMA; MAX 2/8 Hibernia Rd, DK

**Red-tailed Hawk:** 141 records, avg 3 each. MAX 26/27 Dover Plains MR

**American Coot:** 23 records, avg 4 each. FIRST 14/1 Whaley Lk HT, CP; LAST 2/28 Sylvan Lk WC; MAX 21/23 Whaley Lk MR

## Gulls:

**Ring-billed Gull:** 108 records, avg 34 each. MAX 350/4 Beacon Waterfront Pk CV

**Herring Gull:** 32 records, avg 8 each. FIRST 10/1 Beacon Waterfront Pk KH; LAST 1/30 Sylvan Lk MR; MAX 36 on 2 records

**Great Black-backed Gull:** 18 records, avg 6 each. FIRST 3/1 Beacon Waterfront Pk KH; LAST 2/27 Bowdoin Pk CV, FT, CP; MAX 22/4 Beacon Waterfront Pk CV

## Owls:

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** 5 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/1 Poughquag Church St. CP, HT; LAST 1/18 Cruger I. Rd SR

**Great Horned Owl:** 5 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/14 Cobb Ridge SR; LAST 1/27 Nellie Hill Preserve MR; MAX 2 on 2 records

**Barred Owl:** 8 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/7 Stony Kill Fm Environmental Ed. Ctr., Gardens Fmstead Ln, AL; MAX 2/31 Rowe Rd MR

**Short-eared Owl:** 1/4 Baird Pk EF

**Belted Kingfisher:** 17 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/1 CIES MF; LAST 2/30 CIES MF; MAX 2 on 2 records

## Woodpeckers:

**Red-bellied, Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers:** Good numbers

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** 17 records, avg 1 each. LAST 1/28 Pok yd MK; MAX 2 on 2 records

**Northern Flicker:** 35 records, avg 1 each. LAST 1/31 LaGrangeville EF; MAX 4 on 2 records

**Pileated Woodpecker:** 48 records, avg 1 each. MAX 4/20 Mills Mansion, CV, FT, AMP

## WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016

**American Kestrel:** 18 records, avg 1 each. LAST Date 27, 2 records.; MAX 1 on 18 records

**Merlin:** 5 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/1 Beyer Drive, Poughquag AMP, BMa; LAST 1/30 Montgomery PI JB; MAX 2/8 Beyer Drive Poughquag CP

**Peregrine Falcon:** 12 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/2 Dover Plains DK

**Northern Shrike:** 1/31 Wappingers Falls Maloney R BCA

**Blue Jay:** 175 records, avg 4 each. MAX 34/25 Rombout Rd PIVAl CV

**American Crow:** 208 records, avg 73 each. MAX 10000/9 Shadows Restaurant Pking Lot, Poughkeepsie CV

**Fish Crow:** 12 records, avg 4 each. FIRST 1/2 Beacon Waterfront Pk KH; LAST 2/27 Bowdoin Pk CV, FT; MAX 24/9 Wappingers Falls - Big Lots KH

**Common Raven:** 43 records, avg 2 each. LAST 1/30 Dover Plains MR; MAX 11/11 Ten Mile River, Dover CV

**Horned Lark:** 10 records, avg 57 each. FIRST 22/13 Greig Fm SR; LAST 70/25 Salt Pt Tpk near Hollow Rd, Clinton Corners AMP; MAX 125/14 O'Leary Fm, Salt Pt BMa

**Brown Creeper:** 21 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/1 62 Baxter Rd, Red Hook DG; LAST 1/30 Rowe Rd Feeders MR; MAX 2 on 5 records

**Winter Wren:** 3 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 1/2 Reese Sanctuary KH; LAST 2/24 Norrie Pt SP AMP

**Carolina Wren:** 35 records, avg 1 each. LAST Date 31, 2 records.; MAX 2 on 7 records

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** 1/24 Blithewood PS

**Eastern Bluebird:** 79 records, avg 4 each. LAST 2/31 Dover Plains DK; MAX 12 on 2 records

**American Robin:** 86 records, avg 20 each. LAST 4/30 Tivoli Bays WMA--Cruger Island Rd. JB; MAX 150 on 2 records

**Northern Mockingbird:** 62 records, avg 1 each. LAST 2/31 Dover Plains DK; MAX 5/30 TSF MP

**European Starling:** 97 records, avg 60 each. LAST 10/31 Dover Plains DK; MAX 1000/7 Hudson Plaza/Pok Plaza wires Rt.9. Pok. AJM

**Cedar Waxwing:** 13 recds, avg 14 each. MAX 40/1 CIES MF

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** 6 records, avg 3 each. LAST 1/27 Bower Pk CV; MAX 8/2 Arborio Drive, PV (.6miles) BMa

**American Tree Sparrow:** 36 records, avg 4 each. LAST 2/30 CIES MF; MAX 16/3 Andrew Haight Rd AMP

**Field Sparrow:** 1/28 yd Clinton Hollow JS

**Savannah Sparrow:** 3 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/10 Haight Rd, Amenia CV; LAST 1/31 O'Leary Fm, Salt Pt MR; MAX 1 on 3 records

**Fox Sparrow:** 5 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/8 Reese Pk KH; LAST 1/31 Dover Plains DK **Song Sparrow:** 46 records, avg 2 each. LAST 2/30 Woodlea Rd, Salt Pt (.8miles) BMa; MAX 18/25 Rombout Rd PIVAl CV

**Swamp Sparrow:** 3 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 4/1 Buttercup JM; LAST 1/24 Norrie Pt SP AMP; MAX 4/1 Buttercup JM

**White-throated Sparrow:** 101 records, avg 4 each. MAX 19/27 Bowdoin Pk CV, FT

**White-crowned Sparrow:** 3 records, avg 3 each. LAST 4/21 Papa and Mom home JP; MAX 4 on 2 records

**Dark-eyed Junco:** 221 records, avg 12 each. MAX 150/26 Willow Brook Fm, Millerton CV

**Northern Cardinal:** 99 records, avg 2 each. LAST 2/31 Dover Plains DK; MAX 14/19 12578 Mansells BMa

**Red-winged Blackbird:** 9 records, avg 167 each. LAST 1000/30 Rt 343 MR; MAX 1000/30 Rt 343 MR

**Rusty Blackbird:** 2 records, avg 10 each. FIRST 18/3 Twin Island Lk DK, BMa; LAST 1/6 Millbrook Schl CV, FT, AMP; MAX 18/3 Twin Island Lk DK, BMa

**Common Grackle:** 7 records, avg 144 each. FIRST 3/15 near Verbank BB; MAX 500 on 2 records

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** 19 records, avg 97 each. FIRST 15/1 yd Poughquag CP, HT; LAST 6/31 LaGrangeville EF; MAX 1000/25 Baird Pk CV

### Finches:

**House Finch:** 98 records, avg 7 each. MAX 30/29 yd LaGrange CV

**Purple Finch:** 12 records, avg 4 each. FIRST 2/2 Sand Hill Rd, Dover CV; MAX 14 on 2 records

**American Goldfinch:** 101 records, avg 8 each MAX 62/23 Ring Rd Salt Pt LM

**Observers:** Collin Adkins (CA); Ajit Antony (AA); Liza Antony (LA); John Askildsen (JA); Bob & Cyd Averill (BCA); Christina Baal (CB); Robert Bate (RB); Jay Boll (JB); Barbara Butler (BB); Jamie Collins (JC); William Cook (WC); Scott Fackenthall (SF); Michael Fargione (MF); Claudius Feger (CF); Eamon Freiburger (EF); Mary Gall (MG); David Grover (DG); Richard Guthrie (RG); Ken Harris (KH); David Hayes (DH); Jim Hengeveld (JH); Susan Hengeveld (SH); Elizabeth Jamison (EJ); Jesse Jaycox (JJ); Susan Joseph (SJ); Maha Katnani (MK); Deborah Kral (DK); Aimee Labarr (AL); Bill Lenhart (BL); Barbara Mansell (BMa); Liz Martens (LM); Michael Mayer (MM); John McBride (JM); Leigh McBride (LM); Allan Michelin (AJM); Barbara Michelin (BJM); Michael Newhouse (MN); Gina Palmer (GP); Jerome Paul (JP); Mona Payton (MP); Alan Peterson (AP); Jami St. Pierre (JP); Carena Pooth (CP); Adrienne Popko (AMP); Morgan Rich (MR); Susan Rogers (SR); Jane Rossman (JR); Dick Ryley (DR); Matthew Rymkiewicz (MR); The Salmons (TS); Kathryn Schneider (KS); Denise Smith (DS); Marian Sole (MS); Edmond Spaeth (ES); Jennifer Stengle (JS); Peter Stewart (PS); Herb Thompson (HT); Field Trip (FT); Chet Vincent (CV); Laura Weir (LW)

**Abbreviations:** HVRT – Hudson Valley Rail Trail, TSF – The Southlands farm

Compiler – Barry Haydasz

## FEBRUARY 2016 RECORDS

What a contrast with last February's weather! There was little snow – a few 2-3 inchers and some dustings now and then. Temps were mostly very mild for February, yet the coldest period of the winter occurred from the 12<sup>th</sup> thru the 15<sup>th</sup>, with lows below zero each night. A noisy thunder storm on the 24<sup>th</sup> produced over 2 inches of rain and a high over 60 degrees. The mild weather and lack of slippery footing made for pleasant birding. However the rain and snow targeted Wednesdays. All Wednesday field trips except Andrew Haight Road on the 10<sup>th</sup> were cancelled due to weather. The Great Backyard Bird Count occurred on the 12<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup> (the coldest days) and participants reported their counts in eBird. About 45% of the reports for February were from this time period.

**WATERFOWL** – Temperatures were high enough to allow some ponds and streams to remain open much of the time. There was some ice in the river, but it never froze all the way across. Many more waterfowl species were found than last year. Returning in normal numbers were **Wood Duck**, **Gadwall**, **American Wigeon**, **Green-winged Teal**, and **Ring-necked Duck**. **Northern Pintail** continued its increase. A few **Ruddy Ducks** returned to Sylvan Lk, Twin Island Lk, and Hunns Lake after several years' absence.

**Greater White-fronted Goose**: 1/5-6 Hunn's Lake found by AMP, 1/11 Round Pd CV, 1/17 Reagan Rd CV – could be a single bird moving around.

**Snow Goose**: reports from O'Leary Farm, Salt Point, Baird Pk, Stissing Pond, Clinton Corners

**Cackling Goose**: 3/29 McEnroe Puddle, Sharon Stn Rd, Amenia CV.

**Tundra Swan**: 2/23 Rt 9G/308 flying east JCLi; Then a flock of 6 was found by CP, HT Feb 28<sup>th</sup> and continued into March, at Round Pond and McEnroe's Puddle.

**Canvasback**: 9/23 Tivoli South Bay MG (only record). We don't find them every year.

**Greater and Lesser Scaups** appeared together at Sylvan Lake during the first week, up to 5 of each CP.

The usual single sighting of **Bufflehead** was at Madam Brett this year, 2/26 swimming just below the falls JM.

**Common Goldeneye**: 1/8, 7/10 Mills Mansion CP, CV; 2/29 Ryder Pd DK, BMA

**Hooded Merganser**: Scattered reports of 2-8; 10/12 Sylvan Lk CP

**Common Merganser**: HRA Lake reported several hundred in the Hudson from New Hamburg to Beacon. Scattered small groups were found with the largest 41/29 McEnroe's Puddle, AMP.

**Wild Turkey**: 14 records, avg 14 each. Most 38/27 Quaker Hill, Pawling SM

**Common Loon**: 1/27-29 Hunns Lk, MR, then mob. Unusual in February.

**Pied-billed Grebe**: 1/13 Millbrook JA; 1/29 Twin Island Lk, Pine Plains CV, DK. Had been absent the past few icy Februaries.

**Black Vulture**: The roost at the Trevor Zoo has increased to cause concern about damage to facilities and disease risk to the Zoo collection. The USDA removed 40 birds of the 120

there this month. In 1993 we were still sending rare bird reports about Black Vultures to NYSARC.

**Turkey Vulture**: They have returned after mostly departing the area in January as usual.

### RAPTORS

The **Golden Eagles** in Dover attracted many birder visits to the area, where other raptors were also observed. The Golden Eagles were 2 immatures. There were also numbers of **Bald Eagles** (up to 12). Up to 8 Bald Eagles were also seen in the Pine Plains area and at Tivoli Bays. JW saw a Golden Eagle several times flying in the Tymor Park area. Other raptors reported from the Dover area were **Northern Harrier**, **Sharp-shinned Hawk**, **Cooper's Hawk**, **Red-tailed Hawk** (up to 15). Perhaps the warm weather kept the **Rough-legged Hawks** up north as we only reported 2 sightings --1/14 Layton Rd, Stanfordville JA; 1/27 Nellie Hill JGa. **Red-shouldered Hawks** appeared in 1s and 2s all over, with most 3/4 Maloney Rd CP

**Killdeer**: arrived on time on the 25<sup>th</sup>. 2/25 Overlook Park CV, then several reports after. Last year they didn't appear until March.

**American Woodcock**: 2/26 Daley Rd, Lagrange HT; 4/28 104 Bedell Rd, Poughkeepsie CF. Earlier than 2014 or 2015.

**Mourning Dove**: 69/17 Andrew Haight Rd. FT

**OWLS** – only one report each for **Eastern Screech** and **Great Horned Owl**, both on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Barred Owl** was more vocal with 1-2 in 7 locations.

**Belted Kingfisher**: 6 records. 1/4 Maloney Rd CP; 1/23 CIES MF; rest after that.

**Woodpeckers** in normal numbers. **Red-bellied** and **Downy** most abundant; **Northern Flicker** and **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** the least numerous.

**FALCONS** – no Merlin reports in February

**American Kestrel**: 8 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/4 Ehmer Fm CP; LAST 1/28 Strever Fm JM; 1/6 StonyKill FT, AMP, BMA; 1/6 Waterbury Hill Rd BB.

**Peregrine Falcon**: 5 records, avg 1 each. 1/7 Dover Plains JA, BMA; 1/11 Reagan Rd Millerton "Stooped and dueled with Harrier 5 or 6 times-very fun to see. Also stooped on Rock Pigeons 8-10 times but did not hit any. It looked like a young Peregrine to me." CV; 1/21 Bowdoin Pk DK

**Fish Crow**: 13 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 2/1 Millbrook BB; LAST 1/28 StonyKill AL; MAX 4/20 Beacon Dock DP

**Common Raven**: MAX 10/29 Dover Plains SJ; 8/5 Tivoli Bays WMA--Bard campus SD; several reports of 5-8 or so from Dover

**Horned Lark**: 11 records, avg 71 each. FIRST 75/2 O'Leary Fm, Salt Pt LM; LAST 10/25 O'Leary Fm, Salt Pt BMA; MAX 200/14 Millerton, Morse Hill Rd HT, CP; 200/11 Reagan Rd Millerton CV.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet**: 1/26 Hudson River, South Bay MS. **Eastern Bluebird**: MAX 28/6 Dover Plains MR; also 11/28 CIES MF; 8/1 Dover Plains CP; 7/28 Nellie Hill Preserve HK, MR, MY, BW, AR; 8/6 StonyKill FT, AMP.

**American Robin**: 125/27 Thompson Pd CV; 125/21 yd Millbrook JA.

**Gray Catbird**: 1/6 Dennings Pt PM.

**Northern Mockingbird**: 6/20 Berkshire Rd, Dover JJ, MFi.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**: 6 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 1/1 Berkshire Rd, Dover CP; MAX 3/28 Vassar Fm CV

## WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016

**American Tree Sparrow:** reported all month. MAX 40/28 Buttercup foraging on main path in large flock MR; 7/15 yd Millbrook JA. Many other reports of fewer than 10.

**Field Sparrow:** 1/15 330 Walsh Rd MD.

**Savannah Sparrow:** 5/14 Tamarack Lk HT, CP.

**Fox Sparrow:** 1/9 yd Wingdale SM; 2/11 Berkshire Rd, Dover DK; 2/14 Kennels Rd CP, HT; 1/13 Seaman Rd Stormville CP.

**Swamp Sparrow:** 1/7 Harlem Valley Rail Trl Amenia CP, HT; 1/22 Wilderstein Historic Site, Rhinebeck DK.

**White-throated Sparrow:** 175 records, avg 5 each. MAX 35/14 Reservoir Rd Staatsburg DW; The rest of the reports are fewer than 10.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** 1/12 Rt. 9D & I 84, Fishkill AL;

LAST 1/15 Reagan Rd Millerton DK; MAX 2/14 Reagan Rd JR;

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** 1/7 Harlem Valley Rail Trl Amenia HT, CP. A very unusual winter find. Last winter record was 1992. Well described.

**BLACKBIRDS** – several reports of 200 in mixed flocks and single-species (**Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird**) flocks.

**Red-winged Blackbird:** 48 records, avg 22 each. FIRST 12/7 Emans Rd HT, CP; MAX 500/27 Thompson Pd roosting location CV; 200/12 Tamarack Lk DK.

**Rusty Blackbird:** 6 records, avg 3 each. FIRST 2/8 Fishkill-300 Westage Business Center Dr MN; LAST 1/28 Buttercup MR; MAX 8/27 Milan Recreation Pk JM;

**Purple Finch:** 29 records, avg 2 each. MAX 15/28 Buttercup MR.

**Red Crossbill:** 2/23 Upton Lake Christian School, Clinton Corners JCli (only record).

Compiler – Barbara Butler

**OBSERVERS** -- Patricia Aitken; Kristen Aloisi; Anne Arent; Kathleen Ashman; John Askildsen (JA); Judy Atwood; Eric Auld; Bob & Cyd Averill; Elizabeth Axley; Christina Baal; Hannah Baird; Connie Bakall; Andrew Baksh; Marion Baldauf; Irene Barth; Robert Bate; Edward Becher; Jon Bernard; Natalie Bliss; Barbara Butler (BB); Ellen Calamari; Sara Campbell; Andrea Ceonzo; Jenny Chen; Jim Clinton (JCli); Anthony Collerton; Dylan Cox; Elizabeth Culp; Sophie D'Anieri (SD); Chris Dawson; Rock Delliquanti; Judith Dollenmayer; Ashley Dorsch; Ian Drury; Darlynn Dunn; Mark Dunn (MD); Dennis Dunning; Sara Xing Eisenberg; Lizzy Elliott; Scott Fackenthall; Dan Fannon; Michael Fargione (MF); Claudius Feger (CF); Jane Ferguson; Mark Fitzsimmons (MFi); Erin Flanagan; Brendan Fogarty; John Forestson; Michael Fraatz; Devin Fraleigh; Eamon Freiburger; Klaudia Frizzell; Douglas Futuyma; John Gaglione (JGa); Jesse Galasso; Kelley Garcia; Alex Gilchrist; John Gluth; Jean Green; David Grover; Melissa Guevara (MG); Richard Guthrie; Ken Harris; David Hayes; Tara Henne; Griffin Van Horne; Jesse Jaycox; Owen Johansson; Heidi Johnson; Arthur Jones; Linda De Jong; Susan Joseph; Maha Katnani; Emma Kelsick; Kieran Kennedy; John Kent; Hj Kim; Nicoline Kiwiet; Jill Koop; Deborah Kral (DK); Pola Kuhn; Carol Kushner; Aimee Labarr (AL); Bill Lenhart; Louise Leske; Ronald Lorefice; Tristan Lowery; David Lund; Katherine Mackey; Barbara Mansell (BMa); Bill Maple; Liz Martens; Sariena Masiero (SM); John McBride (JM); Paul Merle (PM); Cathy Michael; Allan Michelin; Barb Michelin; Barb & Allan Michelin; Michael Newhouse (MN); Roosevelt-

Vanderbilt NHS; Olivia Niedzialek; Mary Nisley; Bruce Nott; J Osterhout; Edwin Osujaki; Mona Payton; Jami St. Pierre; Carena Pooth (CP); Adrienne Popko (AMP); Deborah Powell; Laurie Preisendanz; Robert Quickle; Alexandra Ratay; Jane Rausch; Cornelia Read; Morgan Rich (MRi); Bruce Robertson; Jane Rossman (JR); Olivia Rothberg; Paul Rubin; Matthew Rymkiewicz (MR); Leah S; Barbara Shapley; Edmond Spaeth; Marco Spodek; Jennifer Stengle; Martie Stothoff; Kaitlin Sudol; Sharon Sullivan; Herb Thompson; Doreen Tignanelli; Stacy Tomaselli; Johanna Tomik; Carol Tompkins; Mike Tompkins; Alan Tousignant; Waterman Field Trip; Susan Tveekrem; Anne Vajsabel; Tricia van Oers; Chet Vincent (CV); Ellen Waggener; Ryan Walsh; Paula Ward; Bob Washburn; Dan Whalen; Wendell Wilkinson; Olivia Williams; John Winkler; Michael Yuan; Michael Zelig.

## MARCH 2016 RECORDS

We sailed into spring having enjoyed a winter almost entirely devoid of the usual rigors of snow and ice. We laughed at a minor snowfall on the second full day of spring, and by the end of the month we were in shirtsleeves, enjoying temperatures in the 70s. Unlike February, March even brought us benign weather every Wednesday for our club trips!

Last year, many spring migrants were slow in arriving after a very long, hard winter. This year we have been delighting in early arrivals instead.

107 species were reported. The highlights included first-ever March records for **Sandhill Crane**, **Northern Rough-winged Swallow** and **Louisiana Waterthrush**. In addition, reliable new location was discovered for **Red-headed Woodpecker**. There was also one report of **Iceland Gull**.

A note on terminology used to describe observations: A *report* is a sighting appearing on an individual eBird checklist or other list that we received. A *record*, on the other hand, may include multiple *reports* of the same bird(s) observed by multiple people on the same day. An effort has been made to combine duplicate reports, including those that result when eBird checklists are “shared.” In this report you will read mostly about records rather than reports.

Finally, a request: If it is at all possible for you to enter your records into eBird, please do so. We now process many more records than even a few years ago (this report is based on almost 6,000 individual sightings). Once you get used to it, it's easier to report your sightings to eBird from day to day than to face the chore of pulling together a non-eBird report at the end of the month. And it sure will make it easier for us to include your sightings in the club's records and reports if you make the switch to eBird. Thank you!

**WATERFOWL.** There wasn't much ice on the river or on inland lakes and ponds this year. As a result, some of our “hottest” spots for cold weather birding were...well, not so hot. Winter and migrating waterfowl did not have to search for open water, so they were more scattered and less predictable than in most years. Nonetheless, plenty of **migrating and returning ducks and geese** were found by the county's diligent observers. Birders reported good numbers of **Wood Duck**, **American Wigeon**, **American Black Duck**, **Northern Pintail**, **Green-winged Teal**, **Ring-necked Duck**, **Bufflehead**, **Hooded Merganser**, and **Common Merganser**, all showing up no later than the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Additional goodies in the waterfowl category included: **GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE**: 1/7 Round Pd Amenica CV

**Snow Goose**: Bard/Cruger Island, 1/11 & 2/25.

**BRANT**: 1/30 Clove Branch Rd DT

**TUNDRA SWAN**: 6 birds found on Round Pond in Amenica February 28<sup>th</sup> continued into March, last reported on the 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Gadwall**: 3/13 Round Pd Amenica MR.

**BLUE-WINGED TEAL**: 2/7 HVRT Sharon Stn CV, CP

**NORTHERN SHOVELER**: 2/29-30 Mashomack DK, BMa

**Lesser Scaup**: 4/17 Redwing Beekman CP; 3/18

Annandale-on-Hudson PK; 3/21 Red Hook-Bard College SE

**LONG-TAILED DUCK**: 1/15-19 Sylvan Lk CP, BB

**Common Goldeneye**: 77/1 Mills CV, 4/2 Dennings Pt FT, 9 other records on inland lakes, the last one on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Ruddy Duck**: Round Pond only: 1/2 DK, 2/13 MR.

**Conspicuously absent** (just like last year) was **Canvasback**.

### GALLINACEOUS BIRDS, GREBES, and HERONS.

**Ring-necked Pheasants** were listed on many reports, although these are not “countable” as wild birds, since Dutchess is peppered with hunting preserves that regularly replenish their “huntee” population. **Wild Turkeys** appear to be down slightly this year, possibly due to the almost continuous deep snow last winter, which made it hard for them to find food and survive at that time. This March we had 17 records averaging 5 each, the highest count being 26/27 Pok Rural Cemetery CP/HT. **Pied-billed Grebe**, reported only once last March, is back to normal with 7 records in 5 locations. **Great Blue Herons** were seen from the 10<sup>th</sup> on, active at various heronries around the county by the 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Double-crested Cormorant**, missing last March, was back: 1/24 Wilderstein DK; 1/25 Velie Rd (Red Wing Pd) DK; 1/31 Ryder Pd DK.

**VULTURES.** **Black Vultures**, a rarity in any season as recently as 25 years ago, have been sighted here and there throughout the winter and were spotted in even higher numbers this March than last (38 records vs 22). **Turkey Vultures** were reported all month (107 records, avg 3 each).

**EAGLES and HAWKS.** **Bald Eagles** are doing very well: 68 records, avg 3 each, highest 17/13 Dover Plains JA – surpassing last year's avg of 2 and maximum of 8. There were 10 records of **Golden Eagle**, all in Dover except 1/30 Mashomack BMa. **Northern Harrier** was relatively abundant this year (20 records vs 8 last year). Looking at historical data, this year indeed appears to be exceptional for this species – or is it just because eBird is gaining ground as the listing tool of choice for more and more birders? **Sharp-shinned** and **Cooper's Hawks** were both reported throughout the month, but there were nearly twice as many records of Cooper's as Sharp-shinned (20 vs 11). **BROAD-WINGED HAWK** was a surprisingly early arrival, with John Winkler reporting 40/18 in Amenica. There was only one other report of a possible Broad-wing on the 31<sup>st</sup> from Kateri

## WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016

Kosek. **Red-shouldered and Red-tailed Hawks** were normal, with 34 and 158 reports respectively. There were no **Rough-legged Hawks** reported, their paucity most likely due to the mild winter, as Barbara Butler had already conjectured in last month's records report.

**COOTS.** There were 12 records of **American Coot**, the first and highest being 14/5 Whaley Lk DK. All other records were 1-3 each.

**CRANES.** The first-ever March county records for **Sandhill Crane** came in via the Hudson River Almanac (2/8 flyover Amenia Jane Rossman) and the Mid-Hudson Birds mailing list (2/12 flyover Fishkill Russ O'Malley).

**SHOREBIRDS.** **Killdeer**, which had arrived in February, were reliably vocal and visible throughout March (46 records, avg 2 each, highest 5/21 Overlook Pk CV). **Wilson's Snipe** was more abundant than usual, with 6 records. The first was 1/23 Shunpike DK and the last & highest was 15/31 Strever Fm CV. **American Woodcock** was reported throughout the month (2/1 Millbrook JA; highest 4/18 Daley Rd BJM).

**GULLS.** **Ring-billed Gulls** were plentiful as usual with sightings of as many as 125. The highest count of **Herring Gulls**, on the other hand, was only 8 (vs 85 last year). That drop in the maximum is most likely related to the lack of ice that would normally result in concentrating gulls into limited areas, or maybe it was just that no one was at the right place at the right time! There were also 4 records of 1 **Great Black-backed Gull** each, and one **ICELAND GULL** was reported at Beacon Waterfront Park on March 2<sup>nd</sup> by KH.

**OWLS.** Our 3 usual owls were reported. There were one record of **Eastern Screech-Owl**, three of **Great Horned**, and seven of **Barred**.

**KINGFISHER.** There were 32 records of **Belted Kingfisher**, quite a jump from last year's 10. Another result of the lack of ice this year?

**WOODPECKERS** were well reported as usual: **Red-bellied** and **Downy** 131 and 123 records respectively; **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** 10 records; **Hairy** 43 records; **Northern Flicker** 60 records (vs 14 last year!); **Pileated** 50 records. A very exciting development this year is the March 20th discovery of a pair of **RED-HEADED WOODPECKERS** at the Mudder Kill Swamp in Red Hook by Justin Schmidt (communicated to us via our Facebook page, and then relayed via PEEPS, email, and website). Subsequent sightings were 1/23 CP and 2/24 BMa.

**FALCON** reports included 15 records of **American Kestrel** and 4 of **Peregrine Falcon**. There were NO reports of **Merlin**.

**PASSERINES** are our largest order of birds. Their big northward push gets underway in April/May, but the excitement begins in March. The biggest surprises were the **first-ever March records** for two species. First, a pair of **NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOWS** was found busily gathering nesting material on the 27<sup>th</sup> on Reagan Road, by Carena Pooth and Herb Thompson. Second, two **LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSHES** were found at Wilcox Park on the 31<sup>st</sup> by Janet Allison. Other harbingers of spring delighted us as well. **Eastern Phoebe:** 1/9 JA was the first of 72 records for the month. **Tree Swallows** were on 50 records from the 12<sup>th</sup> through the 31<sup>st</sup>. Chet Vincent found a **Gray Catbird** at Indian Lake in Millerton on the 20<sup>th</sup> (the only record). For warbler-lovers, the bright yellow **Pine Warbler** (1/30 Lakeside Park KH) is a delightful preview of coming attractions. **Yellow-rumped Warbler**, strangely absent all winter, returned: 1/13 Dover MO, NO; 1/29 Locust Grove KH; 2/30 HVRT Coleman Stn FT. Other fun spring birds included:

**Eastern Towhee:** 1/1 Peach Hill CF; then 4 other records.  
**Chipping Sparrow:** 1/23 Buttercup East DK; then 6 others.  
**Field Sparrow:** 16 records, avg 2 each. Earliest 1/4 Annandale-on-Hudson PK.  
**Eastern Meadowlark:** Earliest 1/10 N. Mabbettsville Rd CV; 5 other records.

**CORVIDS.** Our two least common birds in this family are **Fish Crow** (27 records vs 32 last year) and **Common Raven** (31 records, up from 17 last year). The others are **American Crow** (194 records; the highest count only 75/2 Dover DK) and **Blue Jay**, seen in normal numbers.

There was only one report of **Horned Lark:** 1/12 Rockefeller Ln EA. A mild, snow-free season is once again implicated (but we'll take it!).

The following species will likely disappear from our area in April: **American Tree Sparrow** (24 records, avg 3 each. LAST 2/30 HVRT Coleman Stn FT); **Fox Sparrow** (19 records 11<sup>th</sup> thru 30th); **White-throated Sparrow** (diminishing numbers; 64 records thru end of month); **Dark-eyed Junco** (148 records, highest 45/13 Sharon Stn Rd, Amenia JA).

Observers also recorded **Brown Creeper** (8 records); **Golden-crowned Kinglet** (7 records, earliest 1/12 Shaw Swamp JA); **Hermit Thrush** (1/2 Dennings Pt FT followed by 3 other records); **Cedar Waxwing** (11 records, avg 7 each) **Field Sparrow** (16 records 4<sup>th</sup> thru end of month); **Savannah Sparrow** (only one record - 1/6 HVRT Coleman Stn CP/HT); **Swamp Sparrow** (6 records; earliest 1/7 Buttercup West BMa); **White-crowned Sparrow** (5 records, earliest 3/3 Millerton CV); **Purple Finch** (LOTS! 35 records throughout the month).

**WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016**

**RUSTY BLACKBIRD:** There were 16 records averaging 2 each, starting with 1/7 KK. It is particularly important for us to identify and report this species. According to eBird, “over the past 50 years, the Rusty Blackbird has declined more significantly than any other North American landbird.” 2016 is the third year of the Rusty Blackbird Spring Migration Blitz, and all of you whose Rusty Blackbird sightings were entered into eBird can feel good that your data contributed to this important project.

**Red-winged Blackbird:** 179 records, avg 24, highest 2000/13 Mashomack CV.

**Common Grackle:** 103 records, avg 26 each, highest 1000/20 HVRT-Coleman Stn Rd, Millerton CV.

Or send via US mail to Debi Kral,  
156 Ludlow Woods Rd., Stanfordville, NY 12581

There were **NO REPORTS** of **Winter Wren, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Common Redpoll, or Pine Siskin.**

Finally, many common birds were reported as usual:  
**Mallard, Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin** (highest 110/1 Peach Hill CF), **Northern Mockingbird, European Starling, Song Sparrow, Northern Cardinal, Brown-headed Cowbird, House Finch, American Goldfinch** (highest 60/7 yd Salt Pt BMA), and **House Sparrow.**

**OBSERVERS:** Janet Allison (JAlI); John Askildsen (JA); Bob & Cyd Averill; Elizabeth Axley; Christina Baal; Sue Barth; Robert Bate; Barbara Butler (BB); Jenny Chen; Waterman Bird Club (FT); Rock Delliquanti (RD); John & Abby Dux; Sara Xing Eisenberg; Lizzy Elliott; Scott Fackenthall; Michael Fargione (MF); Claudius Feger (CF); Ken Feustel; Suzy Feustel; Eamon Freiburger; Klaudia Frizzell; Mary Gall; Annatje Gilbert; David Grover; Melissa Guevara; Ken Harris (KH); David Hayes; Brenda Inskeep; Jesse Jaycox; Susan Joseph; Maha Katnani; Emma Kelsick; John Kent; Bernie Kester; Kateri Kosek (KK); Deborah Kral (DK); Pola Kuhn (PK); Aimee LaBarr; Barbara Mansell (BMA); Liz Martens; Sariena Masiero; John McBride; Allan Michelin; Barbara Michelin (BJM); Jay Mills; Celeste Morien; Olivia Niedzialek; Meg Ocampo (MO); Nathan O'Reilly (NO); Edwin Osujaki; Mona Payton; Anders Peltomaa; Carena Pooth (CP); Adrienne Popko; Scott Prichard; Matthew Rymkiewicz (MR); Tom Schaefer; Kathryn Schneider; Elisa Shaw; Edmond Spaeth; Jami St. Pierre; Jennifer Stengle; Martie Stothoff; Dan Tallman (DT); Lili Taylor; Herb Thompson (HT); Griffin van Horne; Tricia van Oers; Chet Vincent (CV); Susan Ward; Colleen Williams; Olivia Williams; Thomas Williams; John Winkler (JW)

- Carena Pooth, March Records Editor

**Please e-mail April records to  
records1@watermanbirdclub.org**

## APRIL 2016 RECORDS

In April we have our last sightings of birds that spend the winter with us – winter finches (but not this winter!) and waterfowl. Then we begin welcoming back the old friends who left us last fall, looking dull and a bit disheveled. They return in fresh, colorful plumage.

After the benign weather of March, the first week of April brought 5 inches of snow and 3 nights of temps in the 20s and below. That flattened the blooming daffodils and nipped the buds on the fruit trees coaxed into opening by the warm March. The month ended with more normal temps, but less than 2/3 of the normal precipitation.

### Waterfowl

Blue-winged Teal: up to 5 at HVRT Sharon Station, last 2/29. Shovelers, Pintails, Green-winged Teal, Ring-necked Ducks and Buffleheads in the usual places. Pintails last seen on the 6<sup>th</sup> and Bufflehead last on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Others stayed into the last week of April. Ruddy Duck counts vary widely year to year. They've been scarce the past few years and this year were found only at Round Pd CP and Woodward Hill Rd, last on the 17<sup>th</sup>. JM, BMa, MR. Some Common and Hooded Mergansers stay to nest here. Most Hooded - 10/15 Wingdale, Lk Weil CP, most Common - 25/15 Montgomery PI SR.

### Gallinaceous Birds, Grebes, and Herons

Ruffed Grouse: only report - 1/28 Poets Walk PD. Turkeys were reported all month. Max - 18/6 Dutchess Co. Airpt BJM. Common Loon and Pied-billed Grebe - normal. Horned Grebe: 1/18-12 Sylvan Lk CP. American Bittern: first reports on the 25<sup>th</sup> from HVRT Sharon Station CV, and Tivoli Bays SR. Great Egret only one - 1/15 Rt 9G south of N Cross Rd DW. Green Heron arrived on the 22<sup>nd</sup> at Buttercup JM and Overlook Park CV.

### Eagles and Hawks

Osprey arrived on the 8<sup>th</sup> in Clinton Corners BMa, most 2/27 Mashomack CV; 2/28 Whortlekill BJM. Northern Harrier well reported. Most 2/12 Greig Fm SR. Bald Eagles reports were wide-spread as they began nesting activities. 42 reports of 1-3. The Golden Eagles have moved on. Broad-winged Hawks moved through in small numbers of 10 or fewer. 10/23 Millbrook HRA Lake. Few will stay to nest.

### Marsh Dwellers

Virginia Rail: First report on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Most at Sharon Station Rd 3/36 CV. Common Gallinule returned on the 22<sup>nd</sup> to Amenia, reported by BMa, SJ, CV, CP. American Coots stayed through the 27<sup>th</sup>.

### Shorebirds

Wilson's Snipe: Strever Farm Rd had the most 18/8 SJ; also 3/4 Beaver Dam, Shunpike Rd CV and others.

American Woodcocks were found along Daley Road in Lagrange 3/8 BJM and were heard/seen through the month there.

### Gulls

Bonaparte's Gull: 1/14 Round Pond DF, JR. These gulls don't appear often here. This one was in breeding plumage with the black head.

### Owls

CV found a gray phase Eastern Screech Owl south of Pine Plains on the 7<sup>th</sup>, reported through the month by several others. Only 2 records of Great Horned Owl, 1/1 Lagrange CV and 2/17 Red Hook SR. Normal Barred Owl reports, most 3/28 CIES MF.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 5 records, first 1/22 yd Hyde Park HRA Juras; max 2/25 yd Wapp BAM.

### Woodpeckers

The Red-headed Woodpecker pair found last month at Mudder Kill Swamp in Rhinebeck was reported through April. Other reports of singles from Peach Hill 1/30 MR and Rushmore Rd in East Fishkill 1/27 EJ. We rarely have more than one bird or pair at a time in the county (that we know about).

### Falcons

The Tymor Park field trip began with a Peregrine on the ground, defeathering then eating a flicker 1/13 FT. Also reported from 4 other places. Only one Merlin report 1/2 Long Dock Pk Beacon MM. Good American Kestrel reports including 6/8 Flint Hill Rd. Amenia DK with 4 actively hunting the hayfields and 2 (m/f) perched on utility wires.

### Flycatchers

The only ones arriving in April were Least 2/30 W Clove Mtn Rd, Union Vale BB; Great Crested 1/28 Peach Hill CF, CP; and Eastern Kingbird 2/27 Rushmore Rd EJ, first.

### Vireos

White-eyed Vireo beat the earliest date by one day 1/27 Peach Hill SR. Then found by others there through month-end. Other vireos arrived as expected in late April.

### Swallows

Northern Rough-winged and Tree arrived in March. Purple Martin arrived 4/16 Rt. 82 Stanfordville CP. Barn Swallows first reported on 1/13 Tymor Pk FT. NO reports of Cliff or Bank Swallows in April.

### Creepers and Wrens and Kinglets

Brown Creeper most 4/20 DRT Lk Walton FT. House Wren arrived on 1/16 Buttercup MR and peaked at 11/30 Peach Hill SJ. Winter Wren was found in 4 locations beginning on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Marsh Wren: 1/22 Vassar Farm MK; 2/25 Tivoli Bays SR; 1/30 AT boardwalk Pawling BJM. Carolina Wren – well reported. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher arrived 1/2 CIES CV, DK; MAX 6/27 Buttercup West FT. Both Kinglets were around all month, with many more Ruby-crowns (most 20/30 Peach Hill SJ) than Golden-crowns (most 5/30 Mills/Hopeland JCo).



## WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016

### Thrushes

Eastern Bluebird: Many reports, most 11/15 CIES KH  
The first Veery - 1/28 Peach Hill SJ. The first Wood Thrush - 2/24 Mashomack CV. Hermit Thrushes were around all month, many reports, most 6/15 CIES KH and 6/16 Buttercup MR.

American Pipit: 1/4 Deer Haven Farm Sharon Station Rd CV (only record).

Cedar Waxwing: 30+ records. Several flocks of 30.

### WARBLERS

Yellow-rumped Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, and Pine Warbler appeared in March. Palms arrived on April 1<sup>st</sup> and stayed the month with the largest counts (15-20) from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup>.

The rest are in order of first report...

Black-throated Green Warbler: 1/21 DRT Lk Walton JM

Black-and-white Warbler: 2/22 Buttercup East CP, 2/22 Montgomery PI SR

Yellow Warbler: 1/22 Vassar Farm MK

Blue-winged Warbler: 1/23 Peach Hill DK

Nashville Warbler: 1/23 Peach Hill DK

Northern Parula: 1/23 Peach Hill DK

Northern Waterthrush: 1/25 HVRT Sharon Stn CV

Common Yellowthroat: 2/25 HVRT Sharon Stn CV

Ovenbird: 2/26 Upton Lk Christian Schl JCLI

Golden-winged Warbler: 1/28 Peach Hill JCLI

Cape May Warbler: 1/28 Peach Hill JCLI

Chestnut-sided Warbler: 2/28 Peach Hill ESh

Black-throated Blue Warbler: 3/28 Peach Hill SJ

Prairie Warbler: 1/28 Peach Hill DK, CF, JCLI

Worm-eating Warbler: 1/28 Duell Hollow Rd AMP

Hooded Warbler: 1/28 Duell Hollow Rd AMP

American Redstart: 1/29 Buttercup East DK, 1/29 Ferncliff SR

Magnolia Warbler: 1/29 White Pond Rd, Stormville EA

Blackburnian Warbler: 1/29 Peach Hill JM, BMA, AMP

More warblers to come in May...

### Sparrows

Eastern Towhee: many records, avg 4 each, most 24/30 Peach Hill JA.

American Tree Sparrow: last seen on 1/22 Montgomery PI SR, most 5/13 Tymor Pk FT.

Vesper Sparrow: 2/12 Greig Fm SR; 1/15 CIES KH.

Fox Sparrow: 9 records, 1/4 yd Millbrook JA; 3/8 Peach Hill CV; 3/9 Fowler Rd JCLI; 2/14 Tivoli Bays Cruger Island Rd DG.

White-crowned Sparrow: 7 records, avg 2 each. 1/6 Millbrook Schl FT; 2/13 Reagan Rd CV; 2/25 HVRT Sharon Stn DK; 5/28 Poets Walk PD.

Dark-eyed Juncos were still around at month-end, but in smaller numbers than the 20s and 40s during the first week.

### Tanager, Grosbeak

Scarlet Tanager: Unusual for April... 1/28 CIES MF; 1/30 Pawling Nature Reserve FT.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 20+ reports. First 1/22 near Verbank BB; 4/29 Peach Hill CP; 4/30 W Clove Mtn Rd, Union Vale BB.

### Blackbirds and Finches

Bobolink: 1/27 Buttercup West CF (only record).

Eastern Meadowlark: 8 records, 2/4 Reagan Rd CV; 1/13 Tymor Pk FT; 1/23 Buttercup MR; 1/15 HVRT Sharon Stn SJ.  
Rusty Blackbird: 30 records, avg 4 each. First 25/1 CIES BMA; 3/6 Millbrook Schl FT; 6/10 Thompson Pd SR; 4/29 DRT, Lake Walton BJM; several other places. Good reports for the Rusty Blackbird Spring Migration Blitz.  
Orchard Oriole: 4 records all at Peach Hill. First 2/25 Peach Hill CF; Last 1/30 Peach Hill MR, ESh.  
Baltimore Oriole: 6 records, avg 1 each. First 1/24 Amenia-Old Route 22 TS; Max 3/30 Peach Hill JA.  
Purple Finch: 29 records, avg 2 each. Max 12/4 Patricia Ln, Clinton Corners JAll; 6/17 Rhinebeck MP.  
Pine Siskin: only 2 records. First 2/9 Fowler Rd JCLI; LAST 2/10 Red Hook-Bard College RD

**Observers** – Janet Allison (JAll); Elaine Andersen (EA), John Askildsen (JA); Elizabeth Axley; Christina Baal; Barbara Butler (BB); Binnie Chase; Jim Clinton (JCLI); Jamie Collins (JCo); Rock Delliquanti (RD); Lisa Dellwo; Philippa Dunne (PD); John & Abby Dux; Scott Fackenthal; Michael Fargione; Claudius Feger (CF); Bill Fiero; Melissa Fischer; Dorothy Fleury (DF); Eamon Freiburger; Rod G; Mary Gall; Elijah Goodwin; David Grover (DG); Tyler Hallman; Ken Harris (KH); David Hayes; Elizabeth Jamison (EJ); Jesse Jaycox; Susan Joseph (SJ); Maha Katnani (MK); Emma Kelsick; Deborah Kral (DK); Aimee Labarr; Maury Lacher; Gary Lovett; Barbara Mansell (BMA); Liz Martens; John McBride (JM); Allan Michelin; Barb Michelin (BJM); Barb & Allan Michelin (BAM); Michael Mungoven (MM); Edwin Osujaki; Mona Payton (MP); Carena Pooth (CP); Adrienne Popko (AMP); Laurie Preisendanz; Scott Prichard; Susan Rogers (SR); Jane Rossman (JR); Matthew Rymkiewicz (MR); Leah S; Tom Schaefer (TS), William Schlesinger; Kathryn Schneider; Ken Schneider; Elisa Shaw (ESh); Edmond Spaeth; Jami St. Pierre; Evelyn Stevenson; Peter Stewart; Charlene Tarsa; Herb Thompson; Robert Tierney; Chet Vincent (CV); Ernie Welch; Deb Weltsch; Dan Whalen (DW); Paula Whittingham

FT – Waterman Bird Club Field Trip 6<sup>th</sup> Millbrook School, 13<sup>th</sup> Tymor Park, 20<sup>th</sup> DRT Lake Walton, 23<sup>rd</sup> Bontecou Swamp, 27<sup>th</sup> Buttercup West, 30<sup>th</sup> Pawling Nature Reserve  
HRA – Hudson River Almanac, followed by observer

### Abbreviations

CIES – Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies

DRT – Dutchess Rail Trail

HVRT – Harlem Valley Rail Trail

**Notation:** "3/15" means that 3 birds are reported on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April.

**April Records Editor** – Barbara Butler

*Please enter your sightings in eBird if at all possible. Otherwise e-mail June records to records1@watermanbirdclub.org*

*Or send via US mail to Barb Michelin, 23 Hi View Rd, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590*

## MAY 2016 RECORDS

Again this May, Buttercup, Peach Hill, and the Harlem Valley Rail Trail around Sharon Station Road were most intensely birded. Visits to many other places were also fruitful.

First week was rainy, but May ended below normal in rainfall. Maple, apple, and birch leaves were fully deployed shortly after census (the 14<sup>th</sup>). Up through the 3<sup>rd</sup> week temps had been below average, so leaves were still not fully out on ashes, walnuts, sycamores and oaks. The last week was HOT.

**Geese and Ducks** - The only remaining migrants left after the first week when the rain stopped. Summer residents are in the usual numbers and places. (**Canada Goose, Mute Swan, Wood Duck, American Black Duck, Mallard, Hooded and Common Merganser**)

**Other Waterbirds** - Usual reports for **Common Loon, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Pied-billed Grebe**: 1/7, 1/22 HVRT Amenia HT, CP; **American Bittern**: one report from Tivoli Bays and 5 reports of one each from HVRT Amenia. **Least Bittern**: 1/22 HVRT Amenia HT, CP (only record). **Great Egret**: 3 reports from the 1<sup>st</sup> through the 14<sup>th</sup>. **Green Heron**: most 3/25 HVRT Amenia BMA **Virginia Rail**: reported from 2 places in the HVRT, Thompson Pond, Millbrook area, and Crown Maple Farm, Dover. **Common Gallinule**: reported all month from HVRT Amenia; most 3/19 CP, 1 pair seen south of bench and 1 bird vocalizing north of bench.

**Hawks** - Normal for May – both **vultures, Sharp-shinned, Cooper's, Bald Eagle** (amazing we are now so casual about this bird), **Red-shouldered, Red-tailed, Osprey**: most 3/4 Norrie Pt SP SJ; **Mississippi Kite**: 1/30 CIES JA (only record). A flyover, giving little time for identification and no chance for other observations. **Northern Harrier**: Last 1/14 Bard Campus EA; 1/14 Stonybrook Rd, Red Hook EO. **Broad-winged Hawk**: Most 8/7 Buttercup East RB; From DK on the 20<sup>th</sup>, on Duell Rd Stanfordville a Red-shouldered Hawk was chased by Broad-winged Hawk near Utility Cut.

**Shorebirds** - Our summer resident shorebirds, **Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, and American Woodcock**, arrived on schedule in the usual numbers. One woodcock came to an unfortunate end: 1/14 Vassar Fm ET, In middle of gravel road. Taken by red-tailed hawk within 2 minutes of sighting. **Semipalmated Plover**: 1/19 Millbrook Schl JAIL (only record). **Semipalmated Sandpiper**: 1/16 Red Hook Golf Course JClo (only record). Other migrant shorebirds with arrival & departure dates – **Solitary Sandpiper** (3<sup>rd</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>), **Greater Yellowlegs** (1<sup>st</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>), **Lesser Yellowlegs** (7<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup>), **Least Sandpiper** (7<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>)

**Terns** - Terns are pretty uncommon here, but after a flurry of tern reports along the Hudson near Kingston, we checked spots from the eastern riverbank. From Norrie Point and the gazebo near the Norrie campground 2-6 **Forster's Terns** were

observed on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> by SJ, CP, BMA, BB. At the Rhinecliff dock on the 5<sup>th</sup> SR saw 2 **Caspian Terns** flying out from the lighthouse at Kingston. Not sure if they crossed to the middle of the river. Also on the 5<sup>th</sup> DK found a **Common Tern** at Mashomack in Pine Plains, far from the river.

**Cuckoos** - We found nearly twice as many **Yellow-billeds** as **Black-billeds**, arriving on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> respectively. They were all over the county, but the highest counts 3-5 were at Peach Hill.

**Owls** - On the Woodcock watch at CIES in April, we listened to 2 pair of **Great Horned Owls** calling, one from the Wappinger Creek area. On the 23<sup>rd</sup>, CP and BB found a young one along the creek. A good year for the owls at Cary. Only 1 **Eastern Screech Owl** report, but many from the very vocal **Barred Owls**.

**Common Nighthawks** were seen from the 14<sup>th</sup> through the 29<sup>th</sup> in 8 different places. **Eastern Whip-poor-will** continues at the Dover location, with 3 observations from the 14<sup>th</sup> to month-end.

**Chimney Swifts, Ruby-throated Hummingbirds and Belted Kingfisher** are all widespread.

**Woodpeckers** - **Red-headed Woodpeckers** continue to appear at multiple locations: again at Peach Hill, plus new places, CIES, Cruger Island Rd, and Buttercup. Will they stay to nest in some of these places? Other woodpeckers are listed in order of frequency (most to least) for the month. **Red-bellied, Downy, Flicker, Pileated, Hairy, and Sapsucker**.

**Falcons** - Most **American Kestrel** reports were from CIES, and also found at Buttercup, and 4 other places. Only one **Merlin** report -- 1/14 Bard Campus EO. **Peregrines** were found in 2 places, 1/4 Cruger Island Rd SR, 2/9 Waryas Pk KH.

**Flycatchers** - **Olive-sided Flycatcher**: 1/13 Annandale-on-Hudson PK (only record). **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**: 1/17 Wappingers Lk - Rural Cemetery KH (only record). Some springs we have a few more reports of these 2 species, but never many. **Eastern Wood-Pewee** arrived on the 14<sup>th</sup> and peaked at 11/26 Purgatory Hill Pawling TV. **Acadian Flycatcher** arrived 1/18 Nuclear Lk FT. Also 1/25 Deep Hollow Rd, Wassaic HT, CP and 1/29 Pawling Nature Rsv TL, CW, TWi, JK, NR, plus 4 other reports. **Alder Flycatcher** was First found on the 14<sup>th</sup> in Millbrook area, then at Peach Hill, Buttercup, HVRT Amenia, and 2/29 CIES JA. **Willow Flycatcher** First report 2/9 Peach Hill JCli then in normal numbers. **Great Crested, Least, and Eastern Kingbird**, and **Eastern Phoebe** arrived before May and continue to be seen and heard around the county.

**Vireos** - **Warbling Vireos** were especially vocal this May and seemed to be everywhere; most 20/10 Thompson Pd CP, SR, AMP; 18/20 Crown Maple farm TW. Up to 3 **White-eyed Vireos** spent most of the month at Peach Hill, plus 1/19 Buttercup West DK. **Red-eyed, Yellow-throated and Blue-headed Vireos** in the usual numbers.

**Swallows** - Large congregations of **Tree Swallows** (50-75) were noted in flight over wetlands at HVRT Amenia and Tivoli

## WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016

Bays. There are active **Purple Martin** boxes in the Verbank and Millbrook areas. **Cliff Swallows**: a colony on Tower Hill Road, Millbrook; 4/10 under a bridge on a Poughkeepsie golf course BCA. **Bank Swallow** colony - 200/14 Wassaic BB.

**Wrens** – The only report of **Winter Wren** came from Deep Hollow Road on the 14<sup>th</sup> (census). **Marsh Wrens** sang at Tivoli Bays (6/13) and also Madam Brett, Thompson Pd and HVRT Amenia.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** are nest building. The Last **Golden-crowned Kinglet** report was on the 7<sup>th</sup>. **Ruby-crowns** stayed through the 14<sup>th</sup> with a high count of 9/10 Peach Hill ESH.

**Thrushes** - To see **Eastern Bluebirds**, volunteer to be a nestbox trail monitor and be rewarded by seeing bluebirds, as BJM did – 38 of them on her trail run on the 13<sup>th</sup>. **Veeries** are singing many places, most 21/25 Deep Hollow Rd, Wassaic CP, HT. Good **Swainson's Thrush** reports - First 1/5 CIES NS; Last 1/29 CIES JA; Most 4/16 Reese Sanctuary KH; 3/11 Peach Hill CF. Fewer reports of **Hermit Thrush**. 4/3 Pawling Nature Rsv MS, but not found on later trips there, where they usually nest. Later in the month reports came from Wilcox Park and Thompson Pond and several other locations.

**Brown Thrasher**: Nearly as abundant as **Mockingbirds**. A nice development. Most 8/8 Peach Hill JA; 4/29 CIES JA, also at Buttercup and Hopeland. **Gray Catbirds** remain the most common mimic.

**Cedar Waxwing**: Most 75/21 Peach Hill MR.

**WARBLERS** - Peach Hill was again the place with the most warbler reports. It's good habitat for the birds and frequently birded in May. Buttercup also turned up many good warblers found by the many birders who visited. After several early arrivals in April, only 8 species and a subspecies put in their first appearance in May.

**Migrant warblers** – The warblers that pass through our area bound for the Adirondacks and Canada, give us a short opportunity to see them in breeding plumage.

**Tennessee Warbler**: 27 records, avg 3 each. First 2/8 Peach Hill BMA; Last 1/29 CIES JA; Most: 7/11 Peach Hill CP; 7/20 Peach Hill EF, BMA.

**Nashville Warbler**: 28 records, avg 2 each. Arrived in April; Last 1/24 Ludlow Woods Rd DK; Most 5/8 Peach Hill BMA

**Mourning Warbler**: 1/21 Buttercup East SR, CP, BMA; 1/22 Peach Hill CF; 1/27 LaGrangeville EF

**Cape May Warbler**: 7 records First 2/8 Peach Hill BMA; 1/14 yd Wappingers BJM; 1/17 Valley Farm Rd BMA; Last 1/19 Buttercup West DK.

**Northern Parula**: 37 records, avg 2 each. First 1/1 Peach Hill SB; Last 1/29 CIES JA; Most 6/14 Dennings Pt SJo.

**Magnolia Warbler**: 47 records, avg 2 each. Arrived in April; Last 1/24 yd Wappingers BJM; Most 7/17 Peach Hill CP

**Bay-breasted Warbler**: 6 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 1/7 Reese Pk KH; LAST 1/18 Locust Hill Fm - Pd DH; Most 4/18 Peach Hill DG.

**Blackpoll Warbler**: 25 records, avg 2 each. First 1/13 Millbrook AMP; Last 2/27 LaGrangeville EF; Most 4/20 Peach Hill EF, BMA; 4/22 Peach Hill CF; 3/25 HVRT Amenia CF.

**Palm Warbler**: 17 records, avg 3 each. Arrived in April with good #s of 15-20; Last 2/14 Dennings Pt SJo; Most 7/5 Peach Hill DG.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**: 96 records, avg 6 each. Arrived in mid-March after none in the winter.; Last 3/19 HVRT Amenia CP; Most 34/9 HVRT Coleman Stn JAll.

**Wilson's Warbler**: 8 records. First 2/10 Stony Kill KH; 1/10 Mills SP/Hopeland PST; 1/14 Tower Hill Rd, Millbrook BMA; Last 1/20 Peach Hill CP, BMA, SR.

**Yellow-breasted Chat**: 1/29 CIES JA (only record). One seen and heard. First, heard typical song, of whistles, hoots, chortles and spishes, etc. Then observed bird "T'd up" in a small tree, some 40 feet away in perfect view at eye level in perfect low, shrub, scrub habitat. Bird was lemon yellow-breasted below, greenish-olive backed, gray head with white lores. Bird quickly disappeared, not to be relocated thereafter, despite searching.

**Summer Resident Warblers** – Many of them continue on north, but some spend the summer here to raise their young.

**Golden/Blue-wing complex**: **Golden-winged Warbler**, found at Peach Hill in April, was sighted 2 more times there, the latest on the 9<sup>th</sup> by Jim Clinton. Jim and CF found a **Brewster's Warbler** (hybrid) there also on the 9<sup>th</sup>. The dominant **Blue-winged Warblers**: Most 20/11 Peach Hill CF; 20/22 Buttercup MR.

For the rest of the summer residents, only the maximum count(s) for May is shown.

**Ovenbird**: 15/20 Crown Maple farm TW; 20/31 Pawling Nature Rsv KH.

**Worm-eating Warbler**: 6/12 Berkshire Rd, Dover Plains BMA.

**Louisiana Waterthrush**: 6/22 Tower Hill Rd CP, HT.

**Northern Waterthrush**: 3/19 Millbrook Schl JAll.

**Black-and-white Warbler**: 8/8 Buttercup MR.

**Common Yellowthroat**: 67/14 Millbrook AMP Census route.

**Hooded Warbler**: 12/12 Berkshire Rd, Dover Plains BMA.

**American Redstart**: 20/10 Thompson Pd AMP, CP, SR;

24/14 Pocket Rd/Mt Beacon Monument Rd MK, DK; 20/28 Buttercup MR.

**Cerulean Warbler**: 4/14 SE Mountain Rd MR.

**Blackburnian Warbler**: 6/8 Peach Hill JA; LAST 1/22 Deep Hollow Rd MR, where they nest.

**Yellow Warbler**: 25/8 Buttercup MR; 20/19 Millbrook School JAll.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler**: 22/21 Buttercup East CP; 12/20 Crown Maple farm TW.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler**: 8/8 Peach Hill JA; LAST 2/31 Pawling Nature Rsv KH, where they nest.

**Pine Warbler**: 7/23 CIES CP.

**Prairie Warbler**: 10/10 Mills SP/Hopeland PST; 8/21 Salisbury Tpk Power Line Cut MR.

**Black-throated Green Warbler**: 10/25 Deep Hollow Rd, Wassaic CP, HT.

**Canada Warbler**: 2/14 Bard Campus EA; 2/17 Peach Hill SJ, BMA; 1/19 Rudd Pd Iron Mine Pd Area CP; Last 1/21 Crown Maple farm TW. An uncommon breeder in the county.

**Sparrows** - **Chipping**, **Field**, **Song**, and **Swamp Sparrows** all well reported in their habitats.

**Grasshopper Sparrow**: 1/4 Andrew Haight Rd DR; 4/13 Rockefeller Ln BMA, SR; 3/19 Rockefeller Ln CP

**Dark-eyed Junco**: Last report 1/9 Peach Hill DW; no reports from places where they usually nest.

## WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016

**White-crowned Sparrow:** 14 records, most 4/8 Cruger Island Rd SR; Last 1/15 Buttercup EF.

**White-throated Sparrow:** Most 50/10 Mills SP/Hopeland PST; Last 1/22 Buttercup East JAI; 1/22 Deep Hollow Rd MR.

**Savannah Sparrow:** 20 records, avg 3 each. Most 13/14 Southlands JClo; also 3/8 Peach Hill JA; 6/25 Rockefeller Ln HT, CP.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** 7 records, First 2/8 Peach Hill DK; 1/10 Buttercup East DK; Most 3/15 Peach Hill EF; Last 1/20 Mills SP/Hopeland SR.

**Eastern Towhee:** Widespread. Can be quite numerous in proper habitat, eg. 23/8 Peach Hill JA.

**Grosbeaks, Tanager - Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and Indigo Buntings** provided colorful views with some high numbers. At her Verbank feeders BB had 12 grosbeaks on the 15th, 8 males and one time and later 4 females together. MR had 30 buntings at Buttercup on the 28<sup>th</sup>. **Scarlet Tanagers** give colorful views when you can find them.

### Blackbirds

**Bobolink:** most 16/31 Southlands MP; 15/14 Burger Hill JClo; 10/25 Pine Plains, Schultz Hill Rd JW, CP, HT; plus other places

**Eastern Meadowlark:** Smaller #s in fewer places than Bobolinks. Most 4/21 Southlands MP; 3/31 Southlands MP; also at Strever Farm Road, Burger Hill.

**Rusty Blackbird:** 1/1 Buttercup MR; 2/3 Pawling Nature Rsv MS

**Orchard Oriole:** Peach Hill had the most (6/11 Peach Hill FT), but they are found in many places around the county as they continue the increase we've seen over the past several years.

**Baltimore Oriole:** about 10 each reported from Southlands, Peach Hill, Nuclear Lk, and Bowdoin Pk.

### Finches

**Pine Siskin:** 2/24 Milan feeder SJ – a surprise for late May, after a winter with few of them. Photographed. Several of us were lucky to have **Purple Finches** at our feeders, plus 4/14 Beacon JClo.

These common birds were in normal numbers: **Wild Turkey, Ring-necked Pheasant** (released birds), **Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch** (but NO Red-breasted!), **House Finch**.

**Observers** – Janet Allison (JAI); Jody Apap; John Askildsen (JA); Bob & Cyd Averill (BCA); Elizabeth Axley (EA); Ryan Bass (RB); Steve Bauer; Barbara Butler (BB); Jim Clinton (JCI); Jim Closs (JClo); Jamie Collins; Mark DeDea; Rock Delliquanti; John & Abby Dux; Sara Xing Eisenberg; Gregory Esch; Michael Fargione; Claudius Feger (CF); Melissa Fischer; Dorothy Fleury; Eamon Freiburger (EF); Mary Gall; Carole Griffiths; David Grover (DG); Richard Guthrie; Ken Harris (KH); David Hayes; Sebastian Jones (SJo); Susan Joseph (SJ); Maha Katnani (MK); John Kent (JK); Aija Konrad; Deborah Kral (DK); Pola Kuhn (PK); Aimee Labarr; Tristan Lowery (TL); Barbara Mansell (BMA); Frank Margiotta; Liz Martens; Sariena Masiero; John McBride; Allan Michelin; Barb Michelin (BJM); Barb & Allan Michelin; Cecilia Mulry; Edwin Osujaki (EO); Mona Payton; Carena Pooth (CP); Adrienne Popko (AMP); Laurie Preisendanz; Jessica Prockup; Josh Redinger; Neal

Reilly (NR); Susan Rogers (SR); John Roosenberg; Dick Ryley (DR); Matthew Rymkiewicz (MR); Leah S; Robert Sager; Kathryn Schneider; Nathan Senner (NS); Elisa Shaw (ESh); Phil Shea; Dominic Sherony; Marian Sole (MS); Edmond Spaeth; Jami St. Pierre; Peter Stewart (PSt); Tyler Stewart; Eileen Stickle; Elizabeth Thiele (ET); Herb Thompson (HT); Kenneth Thompson; Robert Tierney; Tricia van Oers (TV); Jane Waters (JW); Todd Watkins (TW); Ernie Welch; Deb Weltsch; Paula Whittingham; Colleen Williams (CW); Thomas Williams (TWi)

FT – Waterman Bird Club Field Trip: 5<sup>th</sup> Ferncliff Forest, 11<sup>th</sup> Peach Hill, 18<sup>th</sup> Nuclear Lake, 25<sup>th</sup> Bowdoin Park.

The May Census was held the 14<sup>th</sup>. Some put their sightings in eBird and a few appear here. The full May Census report appears in [this issue??](#).

### Abbreviations

CIES – Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies

HVRT – Harlem Valley Rail Trail

**Notation:** “3/15” means that 3 birds are reported on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May.

**May Records Editor** – Barbara Butler

*Please enter your sightings in eBird if at all possible.*

*Otherwise e-mail records to [records1@watermanbirdclub.org](mailto:records1@watermanbirdclub.org)*

*For June records, complete your eBird entries or send by email by July 3<sup>rd</sup>. For July records, by August 3<sup>rd</sup>.*

*Or send via US mail to*

*Barb Michelin, 23 Hi View Rd, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590 for June,  
Barbara Butler, 55 Old Camby Rd, Verbank, NY 12585 for July.*

## JUNE 2016 RECORDS

June is the month that migrant birds come to Dutchess County to start building nest, laying eggs and feeding their young.

June started out warmer than usual with temperatures in the low to mid 80's with hot and humid weather through most of the month. This year we started our June field trips at 7:30am and was glad to finish by mid-morning on most trips.

**Waterfowl** - There was only two reports of goslings for **Canada Goose**. Young were also reported for **Wood Ducks** and **Mallard**. **Mute Swan**: (4 records) MAX: 7/10 Wapp. Lk. KH.

**American Black Duck**: 3/18 Wingdale SM (only record).

**Hooded Merganser**: 4/1 Rockefeller Univ Field Research Ctr FT (only record).

**Common Merganser**: 5 records, avg 2 ea. 1/1 CIES BB; 4/4 female & 3 young by North bridge CIES Lowlands, JA; LAST 2/30 imm. Millbrook Schl Rd DK; (Most reports from CIES)

**Wild Turkey**: Good numbers - MAX: 14/18 Clinton-Schultz Hill Rd (Parents & 12 juveniles) GL, JL.

**Common Loon**: 1/2 Rhinecliff Amtrak Stn Pking (North) PST (only record). COMMENTS: PST/2: Adult nonbreeding, preening a bunch, no diving, watched for about 15 minutes.

**Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron**: Good numbers reported with at least 5 Great Blue Heron heronries in the county. NOTABLE for Great Blue Heron - 37/20 Mudder Kill Swamp CP.

**Least Bittern**: 3 records - 1/7 Amenia-Harlem Valley Rail Trl LP; 1/8 HVRT Coleman Stn. FT; 1/14 Tivoli Bays SR.

**Hawks – Both Vultures, Bald Eagle, Sharp-shinned (2 reports), Cooper's (6 reports), Red-shouldered (9 reports) and Red-tailed Hawk** were well reported. **Bald Eagle**: Two of 3 nest with young along the river were reported in the Almanac and **Red-shouldered Hawk** feeding 2 young at PNR reported by CP

**Osprey**: 6 records, avg 1 ea. 1/2 Rhinecliff Amtrak Stn Pking (North) PST; 2/17 nest River south of Beacon BAM; LAST 1/21 Clinton-Deer Ridge Dr GL, JL.

**Northern Goshawk**: 1/4 Clove Rd near Mack Rd AP (only record).

**Broad-winged Hawk**: 4 records - 1/6 Red Hook Golf Course MP; 1/7 Yd Milan-Brooklyn Heights Rd SJ; 1/24 Nuclear Lk KH; 1/30 Clinton Town Hall, Centre Rd, BMA.

**Marsh birds - Virginia Rail**: 4 records, avg 2 ea. 1/8 HVRT Coleman Stn FT, 2/18 Adult & imm. App Trl Pawling BB; 4/25 pair with 2 young HVRT Amenia JA, AS, PL, SH, TM; 1/26 Mudder Kill Swamp CP, HT.

**Sora**: 2 records - 2/2 Mudder Kill Swamp SR; 1/24 Mudder Kill swamp, Lower Hook Rd AP.

**Common Gallinule**: 3 records - 1/7 Amenia-Harlem Valley Rail Trl LP; 1/8 HVRT Coleman Stn FT; 1/25 HVRT Amenia AS, DV, SH, TM, JA, PL.

**Shorebirds - Killdeer**: 29 records, avg 3 ea. 6/15 Red Hook Golf Course MP; 6/15 Southlands MP; pair with 3 young noted at Tivoili Bays/29 SR.

**Gulls – Reported along the river. Ring-billed Gull**: 5 records, **Herring Gull**: 3 records, **Great Black-backed Gull**: 5/22 Newburgh-Beacon Bridge CH (only record).

**Cuckoos - Yellow-billed Cuckoo**: 14 records, avg 1 ea. 1/1 Val-Kill BMA, LM; LAST 1/26 CIES MF.

**Black-billed Cuckoo**: 5 records, 1/1 Rockefeller Univ Field Research Ctr FT; LAST 1/24 Ludlow Woods Rd DK.

**Owls - Eastern Screech-Owl**: 1/20 Bangall Rd., Millbrook NY DK (only record).

**Great Horned Owl**: 1/22 CIES KH (only record).

**Barred Owl**: 8 records, avg 2 ea. 5/2 Dover Stone Church LF; 3/23 DRT near Lk Walton Rd MeF, RSo; 4/23 Mills SP/Hopeland - adults observed actively hunting, 2 immatures high in locust trees hissing, watching and making short flights towards waiting adult, DK

**Common Nighthawk**: 1/18 Pleasant Ridge Rd, Wingdale AMP (only record).

**Eastern Whip-poor-will**: 2/2 Ridge Rd bridges at Cooperstown Rd CF (only record).

**Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird & Belted Kingfisher**: Good numbers reported by most observers.

**Woodpeckers** -All are well reported with young being fed by **Red-bellied, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy, Hairy and Pileated Woodpeckers** by most observers.

**Red-headed Woodpecker**: 1/11 Silver Lake Rd Power Line Cut MR

**Falcons - American Kestrel**: 8 records, avg 1 ea. most: 2/22 CIES KH; 1/24 male near Kestrel box Ludlow Woods Rd. DK

**Flycatchers - Eastern Wood-Pewee Least, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested and Eastern Kingbird** were well reported with **Phoebe, Kingbird** noted with young.

**Alder Flycatcher**: 3 records - 2/19 Millbrook Schl MR; 1/21 Mills SP/Hopeland KM; 1/25 HVRT Amenia AS, JA, PL, TM, DV, SH

**Willow Flycatcher**: 16 records, avg 2 ea. 2/1 CIES BB; MAX 6/8 HVRT Coleman Stn FT; 5/18 App Trl Pawling BB; 5/19 Millbrook Schl MR.

**Vireos - Yellow-throated, Warbling and Red-eyed Vireos** were well reported. **Warbling Vireo** young were noted.

**Blue-headed Vireo**: 9 records, avg 1 ea. 2/2 Dover Stone Church LF; 2/24 CIES BMA; LAST Date 25<sup>th</sup> -2 records.

**American Crow**: well reported with 8/26 Schultz Hill young begging for food CP, HT.

**Fish Crow**: 17 records, avg 3 ea. 1/1 Millbrook BB; LAST 5/27 New Hamburg waterfront KH; MAX 8/15 Madam Brett Pk FT; numbers seem to be increasing thru county and found at malls and plazas along with American Crows.

**Common Raven**: 17 records, avg 1 ea. 1/1 Rockefeller Univ Field Research Ctr FT; LAST 1/25 Buttercup West TM, DV, JA, PL, SH, AS; MAX 4/19 Silver Lake Rd Power Line Cut MR.

## WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016

**Swallows – Tree and Barn** were well reported with nesting noted.

**Purple Martin:** 2 records - 3/2 Clinton Corners Rd AP; 5/8 Stanford SJ.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** 10 records, avg 5 ea. 2/5 Shunpike marsh HT, CP; 1/13 Reese Sanctuary KH; 8/11 Val-Kill DC; LAST 2/29 Buttercup West FT; MAX 15/15 Madam Brett Pk FT.

**Bank Swallow:** 2 records, 2/2 Poughkeepsie Rowing Club DWe; 1/25 Amenia-Flint Hill Rd PL, JA, TM, AS, DV, SH.

**Cliff Swallow:** 3 records - 10/8 Hosner Mtn. Rd HT; X/19 Hosner Mtn. Rd SG; 2/30 Tymor Pk FT.

**Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wrens, House Wren and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** were well reported with young noted.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** 8 records, avg 1 ea. 2/18 Wingdale SM; 1/22, 24, 25, 27, 29 & 30 CIES by KH, DK, MF, BH, BMa, CP; 1/30 Finberg home, Annandale SR.

**Brown Creeper:** 2 records - 1/22 CIES KH; 1/25 CIES MR.

**Winter Wren:** 4 records - 1/12 Deep Hollow Rd (Turkey Hollow), Wassaic FT; 1/13 Quaker Lake Rd CP; 1/18 Wingdale SM; 3/25 Deep Hollow Rd SH, PL, JA, AS, TM, DV.

**Marsh Wren:** 5 records, avg 3 ea. 3/14 & 4/29 Tivoli Bays SR; 2/15 Madam Brett Pk FT; 2/25 HVRT Amenia SH, DV, TM, AS, JA, PL; 6/26 Vanderburgh Cove CP, HT.

**Thrushes - Good numbers for Eastern Bluebird (BBT-** some doing good but many trail monitors are having problems with House Sparrows this year] **Veery, Wood Thrush, Northern Mockingbird** and young noted for **Robin and Catbird** by many observers.

**Hermit Thrush:** 5 records, avg 2 ea. 1/2 Dover Stone Church LF; 3/3 yd. Clinton Corners JAlI; LAST Date 18<sup>th</sup> - 2 records.; MAX 4/13 PNR 3 young birds seen on the trail; they showed gape flange of immature bird. Adult singing about 150 yards away fairly continuously CP.

**Brown Thrasher:** 29 records, avg 2 ea. 1/1 BBT/Humeston BJM; 3/7 Amenia-Harlem Valley Rail Trl LP; 1/29 Linden Ave JAp; MAX 6/16 Mills SP/Hopeland JH; MIN 1 on 16 records.

**Cedar Waxwing:** Well reported -113 records, avg 5 ea. MAX 25/4 Rowe Rd MR; 25/4 Salisbury Tpke Power Line Cut MR; adults/5 feeding young in serviceberry tree in Fishkill SFa; 20/18 Mills SP/Hopeland MR.

**Warblers – Ovenbird, Blue-winged, Black and White, Yellow, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Redstart, Prairie and Common Yellowthroat** were well reported.

**Worm-eating Warbler:** 11 records, avg 2 ea. 1/1 Rockefeller Univ Field Research Ctr FT; 1/25 Deep Hollow Rd PL, JA, AS, DV; MAX 5/18 Wingdale SM;

**Louisiana Waterthrush:** Good numbers - 18 records, avg 2 ea. MAX 3/5 Deep Hollow Rd, Wassaic CP, HT.

**Northern Waterthrush:** 2 records - 1/18 Wingdale SM; 1/21 Slocum-Mostachetti Prsv BB.

**Hooded Warbler:** 9 records, avg 3 ea. 2/1 Rockefeller Univ Field Research Ctr FT; 3/13 Quaker Lake Rd CP; 5/22 Nellie Hill CF; MAX 8/13 PNR CP.

**Cerulean Warbler:** 2 records - 1/8 HVRT Coleman Stn FT; 1/15 near Bannermans Island KH.

**Northern Parula Warbler:** 1/18 Buttercup West GL, JL (only record).

**Magnolia Warbler:** 2/22 Nellie Hill, Dover Plains FT.

**Blackburnian Warbler:** 2/2 Dover Stone Church LF; 4/25 Deep Hollow Rd. AS, SH, DV, TM, JA, PL.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** 1/18 Depot Hill CP; 1/21 Dennings Pt AL.

**Pine Warbler:** 12 records, avg 2 ea. 2/1 CIES BH; 2/14 Tivoli Bays SR; 1/20 Roger Perry Prsv WL; 2/29 Tymor Pk FT; MAX 4/25 CIES MR (6 reports are from CIES).

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** 15 records, avg 2 ea. 1/1 CIES BH; 4/2 Dover Stone Church LF; 4/13 PNR CP; 1/29 CIES BH; MAX 5/26 Deep Hollow Rd, Wassaic CP, HT.

**Yellow-breasted Chat:** 11 records - 1/12 Hopeland CM; LAST: 1/26 Mills SP/Hopeland CP, HT; all reports @ Hopeland and still being seen up to July 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Sparrows - Good numbers for Eastern Towhee, Chipping (with young noted) and Song & Field Sparrows - no young noted.**

**Savannah Sparrow:** 6 records, avg 2 ea. 4/14 daily early month TSF, then more difficult to see Southlands MP; 3/16 Rockefeller Ln CP; 2/26 Pine Plains, Schultz Hill Rd HT, CP; **Grasshopper Sparrow:** 2 records, 1/15 Pine Plains, Schultz Hill Rd JW; 2/26 Pine Plains, Schultz Hill Rd HT, CP.

**Swamp Sparrow:** 26 records, avg 2 ea. 1/2 Mudder Kill Swamp SR; 6/18 App Trl Pawling BB; 5/18 Buttercup West JL, GL; MAX 8/19 Millbrook Schl MR.

**Grosbeaks - Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting** were well reported. **Northern Cardinal** high numbers with young noted.

**Blackbirds – Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle** were in good numbers and feeding young noted. **Brown-headed Cowbirds** were well reported.

**Bobolink:** 16 records, avg 8 ea. at least 20 daily early month, at least 14 daily late month, all Southlands MP; 10/26 Pine Plains, Schultz Hill Rd HT, CP; 10/29 Buttercup West FT.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** 6 records, avg 1 ea. 1/7 Amenia-Harlem Valley Rail Trl LP; 1/8 HVRT Coleman Stn FT; 1/18: h sev. times field Dut. Co. Airport Wapp. BJM; 1/25 Amenia-Flint Hill Rd TM, DV, PL, SH, JA, AS; LAST 1/29 Buttercup West FT;

**Orchard Oriole:** 26 records, avg 2 ea. 2/7 Amenia-Harlem Valley Rail Trl LP; 3/8 HVRT Coleman Stn - One was a 2nd year male FT; 2/23 Mills SP/Hopeland - male feeding fledgling DK; 3/25 Poet's Walk Pk BMa; LAST 1/30 Tymor Pk FT, AMP; MAX 8/15 Madam Brett Pk FT.

**Baltimore Oriole:** 96 records, avg 2 ea. 6/1 Rockefeller Univ Field Research Ctr FT; COMMENTS 4/2 Poughkeepsie Rowing Club - 4 adults in two areas & heard peeping from nest, but couldn't see it DWe; 5/4 Nuclear Lk - One in nest seemed to be on eggs RS; MAX 10/8 HVRT Coleman Stn FT; 10/18 Pleasant Ridge Rd, Wingdale AMP; 6/19 CIES DK.

**Finch – House Finch and American Goldfinch** were well reported with young **House Finch** noted.

**Purple Finch:** 9 records, avg 2 ea. 2/15 Ludlow Woods Rd - female am, male briefly appeared at feeder @ 6pm DK; 3/4 & 4/16 near Verbank BB; LAST 2/26 near Verbank BB.

**OBSERVERS:** Janet Allison (JAlI); Jody Apap (JAp); John Askildsen (JA); James Boyce (JB); Barbara Butler (BB); Shane Butler (SB); Bernie Carr (BC); Cesar Castillo (CC); Gary Chapin (GC); Jim Clinton (JClI); Jim Closs (JClo); Waterman

## WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016

Bird Club (FT); Jonathan Cobb (JC); Dominic Colucci (DC); Dave & Pat Croft (DPC); Patrick Dechon (PD); Scott Fackenthall (SFa); Michael Fargione (MF); Larry Federman (LF); Claudius Feger (CF); Melissa Fischer (MeF); Mark Fitzsimmons (MFi); Eamon Freiburger (EF); Steve Golladay (SG); John Haas (JH); Carla And Bill Hall (CH); Sarah Hansen (SH); Ken Harris (KH); Barry Haydasz (BH); David Hayes (DH); Jesse Jaycox (JJ); Susan Joseph (SJ); Doug Keller (DKe); John Kent (JK); Deborah Kral (DK); Aimee Labarr (AL); Gary Leavens (GL); Janet Leavens (JL); Paul Lewis (PL); Naomi Lloyd (NL); Wayne Longbottom (WL); Barbara Mansell (BMa); Liz Martens (LM); Sarena Masiero (SM); John McBride (JM); Curt McDermott (CM); Austen McNulty (AM); Allan Michelin (AJM); Barb Michelin (BJM); Barb & Allan Michelin (BAM); Karen Miller (KM); Tia Murphy (TM); Michael Newhouse (MN); Mona Payton (MP); Alan Peterson (AP); Carena Pooth (CP); Adrienne Popko (AMP); Jay Powell (JP); Laurie Preisendanz (LP); Ricki Ravitts (RR); Susan Rogers (SR); Matthew Rymkiewicz (MR); Robert Sager (RS); Kathryn Schneider (KS); Steve Schuyler (SS); Rory Solan (RSo); Edmond Spaeth (ES); Peter Stewart (PSt); Anne Swaim (AS); Herb Thompson (HT); Jane Waters (JW); Laura Weir (LW); Ernie Welch (EW); Deb Weltsch (DWe); Paula Whittingham (PW); Colleen Williams (CW); Thomas Williams (TWi); Angus Wilson (AW); Debbie Van Zyl (DZ)

**Abbreviations:** BBT – Bluebird Trail, CIES – Cary Institute of Ecostems Studies, PNR – Pawling Nature Resv, RHGC – Red Hook Golf Course, TSF – The Southlands Farm

**Field Trips:** 6/1 – Rockefeller Univ. Field Research Sta., 6/8 – HVRT/Coleman Sta. Rd., Jun. 15 – Madam Brett, 6/22 – Nellie Hill, 6/29 – Buttercup West

*-Compiler: Barbara Michelin*

## JULY 2016 RECORDS

We began the month with a tornado warning, which happily did not come true. The month was quite dry with the warmest days during the last week. By month-end small ponds had dried up, including Strever Farm pond.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> Sue Treacy alerted Deb Kral on Facebook to a collection of egrets and herons at a pond on Hunns Lake Road. Deb got the word out and birders converged the next day. The birds generated considerable discussion on identification between Snowy Egret and Little Blue Heron. The birds have continued through Aug 10<sup>th</sup> at least. Some interesting reports have come from birders visiting Mt Beacon and Brace Mountain, high elevation locations in opposite corners of the county.

**Waterfowl** – **Canada Goose**, **Mute Swan**, **Wood Duck**, and **Mallard**, our resident waterfowl, were raising young. Only one report each for **American Black Duck** and **Common Merganser** and none for Hooded Merganser.

**Ruffed Grouse**: 2/4 Mt. Beacon Monument Rd. PS (only record). Flushed a pair. I saw them fly up the hill into the woods and followed them. I flushed them out again and got a good look at them to confirm that they were grouse. (Ruffed Grouse have become very scarce in the county.)

**Wild Turkey**: poults seen around the county.

**Double-crested Cormorant**: 1-4 along the river several places and 1-2 at Sylvan and Tamarack lakes.

**Wading birds** – **Great Blue Heron** and **Green Heron** were here in the usual numbers.

**Great Egret**: arrived 1/8 Wapp Lk JClo; 7/17 Wapp Lk CP, HT; 6/31 Goose Chase Pd on Hunns Lake Rd DK, CP, HT, BMa, EF, MR; also at CIES, Tivoli Bays, Tamarack, HVRT Sharon Stn

**Snowy Egret**: 4/31 Goose Chase Pd on Hunns Lake Rd DK, CP, HT, BMa. Not found in the county every year.

**Little Blue Heron**: 1/31 Goose Chase Pd on Hunns Lake Rd DK, HT, CP, BMa. Even scarcer in Dutchess than Snowy Egrets. Having the 2 species together allowed study of the identifying field marks. Several of the eBird checklists (DK, CP, BMa, SJ) have good photos and commentary. Both species continued into early August.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron**: 1/16 Clinton Hollow JSP (only record). Flying along Wappingers Creek

**Raptors** – With the expansion of **Osprey** nesting to the east, west, south and north of Dutchess, we've been expecting (hoping) a nest would be found here. The last documented nest for Dutchess was in 1923. A nest was found south of Beacon by Mearns Bird Club members and reported to us by Ken McDermott June 10<sup>th</sup>. July 14<sup>th</sup> CP photographed the nest containing 2 young being fed by the parents. With this nest and another at Kingston Point we have more Osprey sightings than usual for July.

**Northern Harrier**: 1/27 flying over Tamarack Preserve FT, JClo, JCLI. unusual for July

No nesting noted for **Black and Turkey Vultures**, **Sharp-shinned** and **Cooper's Hawks**. Young **Red-tailed Hawks** were calling many places and harassed by Blue Jays at

Buttercup MR. BJM found a **Red-shouldered Hawk** feeding 2 young at New Hackensack Church on the 10<sup>th</sup>. HF is hosting a family of **Broad-winged Hawks** in the woods near her house. Broad-wing summer reports have been declining, so this family is welcome.

**Marsh birds** - **Sora**: 1/3 Mudder Kill Swamp Rhinebeck HT, CP. Where are the bittern and gallinule reports????

### **Shorebirds** –

**Killdeer**: usual reports, including 3 babies on the 4<sup>th</sup> Southlands MP.

**Spotted Sandpiper**: 1/22 juvenile photographed Bog Hollow DF; 10 other reports

**Solitary Sandpiper**: 1/3 Strever Farm Pd, Pine Plains HT, CP. An earlier than usual arrival; Most 5/31 Goose Chase Pd CP, HT, EF, BMa. Others from the Rt 199 farm pond in Pine Plains, Thompson Pd, and AT Pawling.

**Least Sandpiper**: Arrived 1/3 Strever Farm Pd, Pine Plains HT, CP – earlier than usual. Most 18/31 Fm Pd, Rt199, Pine Plains CP, HT; 8 other reports

**Short-billed Dowitcher**: 1/10 Farm Pond, Rt199, Pine Plains found by CP, HT, observed by several others; 1/27 HVRT Sharon Stn DK. SB Dowitchers are infrequent visitors to Dutchess and none in mid-summer. eBird entries for both sightings have photos, see Pooth, Joseph, Kral checklists. Comment from BMa about the bird -- on the 10<sup>th</sup>: "What a beautiful bird. The sewing behavior was observed while the bird foraged for food in the muddy grass."

**Cuckoos**: **Yellow-billed** - 2 reports from Dennings Pt and **Black-billed** – 1 report from Mabbettville JA

**Barred Owl**: DK had 3/26 in Stanford yard. 2/4 Hopeland JJ, MFi, PN. 2 fledglings observed perched in relatively low branches of small trees in forested area N of pond. Both were still showing a small bit of down. Responded to our presence with much hissing. No sign of parent birds in immediate area. Usual reports for **Mourning Dove**, **Eastern Screech Owl**, **Great Horned Owl**, **Chimney Swift**, **Ruby-throated Hummingbird**, and **Belted Kingfisher**.

**Red-bellied**, **Downy**, **Hairy**, and **Pileated Woodpecker**, **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** and **Northern Flicker**: normal numbers with many comments about young being fed.

**Falcons** - **American Kestrel**: 5/16 Buttercup JA; 4/10 Rockefeller Ln CP, HT; 2/20 CIES MF, plus others.

**Peregrine Falcon**: X/2 Poet's Walk ParkMDD; 1/13 Waryas Park KH.

**Flycatchers** – good numbers for **Eastern Wood-Pewee**, **Willow Flycatcher**, **Eastern Phoebe**, **Great Crested Flycatcher** and **Eastern Kingbird**. Only 4 reports for **Least Flycatcher**: 2/4 CIES MF; 1/28 CIES DK; 1/17 Slate Dock Rd, Rhinecliff CP, HT; 1/22 Mabbettville yard JA.

**Acadian Flycatcher**: 2/2 JA; 2/3 AL both sightings from the Pond Gut section of Taconic-Hereford MUA; 1/21 Pawling Nature Reserve KH.

**Vireos** – Good numbers of **Yellow-throated**, **Warbling**, **Red-eyed Vireos**. 3 reports for our least common vireo, **Blue-headed** in Pond Gut and Tamarack Preserve.



## WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016

**Jays and Crows** are widespread. CP and HT found an impressive 18 **Common Ravens** at McEnroe's compost facility on the 24th.

**Swallows** – Good reports of our abundant **Tree** and **Barn Swallows**. The high counts for others are -- **Northern Rough-winged Swallow** 15/11 Tivoli Bays WMA SR; **Bank Swallow**: 4/5 Red Hook Golf Course JClo; 4/21 App Trl Pawling KH. Only one report of **Purple Martin**: 1/26 Mills SP KS Single individual, not an adult, vocalizing and flying alone over river. **Cliff Swallow**: 32/3 with 14 nest w/4 juv fed nests and on fence Hosner Mt. Rd. East Fishkill BAM – the only colony we've found in the county this year. Also reports of 1 each at Tivoli Bays and Pawling.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch**: 2 reports from CIES and 3 from yards.

**Brown Creeper**: 1/2 Pond Gut JA (only record).

**Wrens** – Good counts for **House** and **Carolina Wrens**. **Winter Wren**: 1/2 Pond Gut JA; 2/27 Tamarack Preserve FT; **Marsh Wren**: 29/11 Tivoli Bays SS; 3/15 Vanderburgh Cove SJ; 5/17 Thompson Pd MR; 4/24 Lower Sharon Stn Rd HT, CP. **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**: Good reports through the month. Most 6/2 Taconic-Hereford MUA, Pond Gut section JA.

**Thrushes** – **Eastern Bluebirds** continue producing young in nest boxes. Normal numbers for **Veery**, **Wood Thrush**, and **American Robin**. **Hermit Thrush**: 4/3 Brace Mtn. EF; 2/21 Pawling Nature Rsv KH.

**Mimics** – **Gray Catbirds** are everywhere. **Northern Mockingbirds** are less widespread. **Brown Thrasher**: 4/4 Mills SP/Hopeland MFi, PN, JJ Observed adult feeding honeysuckle berry to fledgling; 3/16 Buttercup JA; 4/17 Purgatory Hill Pawling TV, and others

**Cedar Waxwing**: Many reports of small groups, most 18/27 Tamarack Preserve FT.

**Warblers**– **Yellow Warblers** and **Common Yellowthroat** were the most abundant. Less frequently reported (up to 15 reports) – **Ovenbird**, **Worm-eating Warbler**, **Louisiana Waterthrush**, **Blue-winged Warbler**, **Black-and-white Warbler**, **American Redstart**, **Pine Warbler**, **Prairie Warbler**, **Black-throated Green Warbler**.

**Northern Waterthrush**: 1/14 Breakneck Ridge South Train Stop CP

**Hooded Warbler**: 1/2 Wingdale yd SM; 3/21 Pawling Nature Reserve KH.

**Cerulean Warbler**: 1/4 Mt. Beacon Monument Rd. PS. Never saw one of these on Mt. Beacon before. I've been hiking this trail forever and this is the first one.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler**: 1/4 Mills SP/Hopeland PN, JJ, MFi; 1/28 Clinton Nature Trl BMA.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler**: 1/15 Dennings Pt AL.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler**: 1/20 Dennings Pt FT an unusual summer appearance.

**Canada Warbler**: 2/21 Pawling Nature Rsv KH.

**Yellow-breasted Chat**: 15 sightings of 1 bird from June 12<sup>th</sup> through July 15<sup>th</sup> Mills SP - Hopeland area. Found by Curt

McDermott. This is the same location where 1-3 were present in 2015 from June 4<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Sparrows** -- **Chipping Sparrow**, **Field Sparrow**, **Song Sparrow**, **Swamp Sparrow**, **Eastern Towhee** all well reported with young noted.

**Dark-eyed Junco**: 2/3 Brace Mtn. EF.

**Savannah Sparrow**: 2/15 Southlands MP

**Grosbeaks** -- **Scarlet Tanager**: widespread with 2 reports of feeding Cowbird young. **Northern Cardinal**, **Rose-breasted Grosbeak**, **Indigo Bunting** well reported with counts up to 8 on field trips.

**Blackbirds** -- **Red-winged Blackbird**, **Common Grackle**, **Brown-headed Cowbird** abundant, beginning to form large flocks.

**Bobolink**: 10 daily early month, then less easily seen or heard later month, ~6 daily, all Southlands MP; 2/19 Buttercup MR F/imm in meadow before far marsh; 6/21 App Trl Pawling KH; 5/3 Rowe Rd MR.

**Eastern Meadowlark**: 1/15 Espie Fm, 850 Van Wagner Rd BMA.

**Orchard Oriole**: 2/20 Dennings Pt FT; 5/19 Peach Hill DWe; 2/17 Purgatory Hill Pawling TV; 3/18 Fm Pd, Rt199, Pine Plains MR, plus others.

**Baltimore Oriole**: many reports, most 8/16 CIES FT.

**Finches** – Many reports of **House Finch**, **American Goldfinch**, **House Sparrow**. **Purple Finch**: 2/10 Fm Pd, Rt199, Pine Plains MR; 2/17 Purgatory Hill Pawling TV, plus others.

### Observers –

John Askildsen (JA); Josh Berman (JB); Barbara Butler (BB); Michael Carozza (MC); Jim Clinton (JCli); Jim Closs (JClo); Waterman Bird Club (FT); Mark DeDea (MDD); Scott Fackenthall (SFa); Michael Fargione (MF); Claudius Feger (CF); Mark Fitzsimmons (MFi); Dorothy Fleury (DF); Eamon Freiburger (EF); Harriet Furey (HF); Ken Harris (KH); Barry Haydasz (BH); Jesse Jaycox (JJ); Susan Joseph (SJ); Maha Katnani (MK); Alexander Koonce (AK); Deborah Kral (DK); Aimee Labarr (AL); Patrick Lister (PL); Barbara Mansell (BMA); Frank Margiotta (FM); Liz Martens (LM); Sariena Masiero (SM); John McBride (JM); Allan Michelin (AJM); Barb Michelin (BJM); Barb & Allan Michelin (BAM); Hannah Miller (HM); Paul Novak (PN); Mona Payton (MP); Carena Pooth (CP); Adrienne Popko (AMP); Susan Rogers (SR); Matthew Rymkiewicz (MR); Kathryn Schneider (KS); Steve Schuyler (SS); Phil Shea (PS); Edmond Spaeth (ES); Jami St. Pierre (JSP); Nancy Swanson (NS); Herb Thompson (HT); Tricia van Oers (TV); Allan Welby (AW); Ernie Welch (EW); Deb Weltsch (DWe); The Wildlab (TW)

FT – Waterman Bird Club Field Trip

6<sup>th</sup> Redwing Rec Area, LaGrange, 13<sup>th</sup> Vanderbilt Mansion, 16<sup>th</sup> Cary IES, 20<sup>th</sup> Dennings Point, 23<sup>rd</sup> Vassar Farm, 27<sup>th</sup> Tamarack Preserve.

### Location abbreviations

CIES - Cary IES, Millbrook

HVRT - Harlem Valley Rail Trail

SP – State Park

Editor - Barbara Butler

## AUGUST 2018 RECORDS

August is the month when we look forward to migration activity beginning to pick up. While there were no real surprises in store for us, slow and steady might be a good way to describe this month's birding. The rainy weather during the first half of the month kept water levels up, and variety and numbers of shorebird species down. Lush summer vegetation showed no signs of typical August wilt or "die-back", so birds were tougher to see, especially marsh birds. Migrating birds will have plenty to eat, though.

After mid-month when the rains slowed down, if you were looking out your window into some of that lush vegetation bearing fruit (as member Deb Tracy-Kral was), you might have had the same proverbial "bird's eye view" of warblers on the move as she did- proof that nature was still in charge despite what had been looking like a quiet month.

### WATERFOWL –

**Canada Goose, Mute Swan, Mallard** were reported in average numbers.

**Wood Duck:** 25 records. MAX 56/23 Schoolhouse Rd Swamp Heronry BMA; NOTABLES: 25/3 Pond- Bulls Head Rd. Clinton Corners-204-210 County Rd 19 SJ.

**American Black Duck:** 3 records, avg 3 each. MAX 7/2 The Fly DK.

**Mallard x American Black Duck** (hybrid): 2/21 Mashomack CP (only record).

**Green-winged Teal:** 3/6 Red Schoolhouse Rd, Fishkill FI (only record).

### UPLAND GAME BIRDS –

**Wild Turkey:** 22 records, avg. 7 each. MAX 23/21 Fm & Home Center SC.

### PIGEONS AND DOVES –

**Rock Pigeon and Mourning Dove** were reported in expected numbers.

### CUCKOOS –

**Yellow-billed Cuckoo:** 11 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/2 Pd Gut AL; LAST 1/25 Kral yd Stanfordville DK.

**Black-billed Cuckoo:** 1/18 DRT Lk Walton AS, DV; 1/19 Dennings Pt AS, DV. 1/21 Dennings Pt AL;

### NIGHTJARS –

**Common Nighthawk:** 6 records. FIRST 1/5 Red Flynn Drive, Beacon FI; LAST Date 23, 2 records; MAX 16/20 190 Old Sylvan Lake Rd, Hopewell Junction JB; NOTABLES: 5/19 Pooth yd Poughquag CP; 7/22 Wappingers Falls Home DV.

### SWIFTS and HUMMINGBIRDS –

**Chimney Swift:** 22 records. FIRST 8/3 FDRNHS MK; LAST 2/31 Peach Hill AL; MAX 20/9 Millbrook BB; NOTABLES: 15/28 Depot Hill CP.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** 120 records, avg 2 each. LAST Date 31, 6 records; MAX 8/22 HVRT Sharon Stn MS, KS; NOTABLES: 6/1 Michelin yd Wapp BAM "3f/3m feeders".

### RAILS and GALLINULES –

**Virginia Rail:** 1/18 DRT Lk Walton AS, DV (only record).

**Common Gallinule:** 4 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 2/6 HVRT Sharon Stn AM; LAST 3/28 HVRT Sharon Stn AM; MAX 3/28 HVRT Sharon Stn AM.

### SHOREBIRDS and GULLS –

**Killdeer:** 33 records, avg. 8 each. FIRST Date 3, 2 records.; LAST 12/31 Strever Fm CP; MAX 28/18 Route 82 Polo Field MR.

**Least Sandpiper:** 13 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 2/3 Strever Fm CP; LAST 2/31 Strever Fm CP; MAX 5/18 Strever Fm MR; NOTABLES: 2/13 Salt Pt Tpk - Pderosa Pd BMA.

**Spotted Sandpiper:** 7 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/5 Strever Fm CP, HT; LAST 1/29 Tymor Pk AM; MAX 2/15 DRT - Van Wyck Ln FT; .

**Solitary Sandpiper** (all reports are from Strever Farm): 19 records, avg 3 each. FIRST 5/3 Strever Fm CP; LAST 1/31 Strever Fm CP; MAX 6/17 Strever Fm SJ.

**Greater Yellowlegs :** 3 records. FIRST 1/3 Strever Fm CP; LAST 5/31 Strever Fm CP;

**Lesser Yellowlegs** (all reports are from Strever Farm), 6 records: FIRST 1/3 Strever Fm MR; LAST 3/30 Strever Fm CP; MAX 6/29 Strever Fm CP;

**Ring-billed Gull:** 9 records, avg 8 each. FIRST Date 5, 3 records.; LAST 2/30 Tivoli Bays SR; MAX 32/20 Mills-Norrie SP SJ.

**Herring Gull:** 1/19 Dennings Pt AS, DV (only record).

**Double-crested Cormorant:** 16 records, avg . 4 each. FIRST 1/5 9D, Beacon FI; LAST 1/30 Tivoli Bays SR; MAX 28/15 Hudson River, Staatsburg SJ.

### HERONS and ALLIES –

**Great Blue Heron:** 73 records. MAX 9/4 Wapp Lk AM.

**Great Egret:** 27 records (also at Mashomack and 6 other places), avg 4 each. FIRST Date 1, 2 records.; LAST Date 30, 2 records.; MAX 18/7 Wappinger Crk tidewater HD; NOTABLES: 9/6 Bowdoin Pk SJ; 9/30 Tivoli Bays SR.

**Green Heron:** 37 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 2/1 Wapp Crk AM; LAST 1/31 Payton yd Rhinebeck MP; MAX 8/21 Hillside Lk BJM; NOTABLES: 7/18 DRT Lk Walton DV, AS; 6/24 Dennings Pt AL.

**Black-crowned Night-Heron:** 3 records, avg 3 each. FIRST Date 1, 2 records.; LAST 4/2 Bowdoin Pk BB, LK.

### RAPTORS –

**Black Vulture:** 3 records. FIRST 1/22 HVRT Sharon Stn KS, MS; LAST 3/29 CIES Lowlands DK.

**Turkey Vulture:** 53 records. MAX 11/27 Travis Rd, Hyde Pk LM.

**Osprey:** 3 records . 2/15 Hudson River, Staatsburg SJ; 1/19 Dennings Pt AS, DV; 1/20 Mills-Norrie SP SJ.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk:** 1/21 Wappingers Falls Home DV (only record).

**Cooper's Hawk:** 20 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/6 HVRT Sharon Stn AM; LAST 1/30 Michelin yd Wapp AJM; MAX 2/21 Wappingers Falls Home DV.

**Bald Eagle:** 15 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 2/1 Bowdoin Pk AM; LAST Date 30, 2 records.; MAX 4/23 Tivoli Bays Cruger Island Rd BD.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** 17 records. FIRST 2/2 Kral yd Stanfordville DK, "2 immatures vocalizing and flying together";

## WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016

LAST 1/27 Pd Gut Rd, PI Valley DK; NOTABLES: 2/8 Nuclear Lk CP.

**Broad-winged Hawk:** 5 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/2 Payton yd Rhinebeck MP; LAST 1/25 Nellie Hill PC.

**Red-tailed Hawk:** 65 records, avg 1 each. MAX 4/25 Milan Hill Hawkwatch JS.

### OWLS –

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** 1/28 Bog Hollow yd DF (only record).

**Great Horned Owl:** 1/26 Roosevelt Vanderbilt Home, Hyde Pk JG (only record).

**Barred Owl:** 24 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/1 Kral yd Stanfordville DK; LAST 1/31 Kral yd Stanfordville DK.

**KINGFISHERS AND WOODPECKERS – Downy, Hairy, Red-bellied, and Pileated Woodpeckers and Northern Flickers** were all reported in normal numbers.

**Belted Kingfisher:** 28 records. NOTABLES: 2/2 Gidley Rd. AL; 2/15 DRT - Van Wyck Ln FT.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** 9 records. MAX 2/13 Nuclear Lk CP.

**FALCONS –** There was a good showing of falcons for August.

**American Kestrel:** 14 records. NOTABLES: 2/12 Haight Rd, Amenia DK; 2/21 Ludlow Woods Rd DK.

**Merlin:** 1/31 N Parliman AM (only record).

**Peregrine Falcon:** 2 records. 1/15 Tivoli Bays DC; 1/20 Rockefeller Ln CP.

### FLYCATCHERS –

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** 97 records, avg 2 each. LAST Date 31, 4 records. MAX 8/26 Peach Hill SC; NOTABLES: 7/12 Thompson Pd FT; 7/16 Depot Hill CP.

**Alder Flycatcher:** 1/2 Pd Gut AL (only record).

**Willow Flycatcher:** 2 records. 1/10 Andrew Haight Rd. CP; 1/13 West Clove Mtn. Rd, Pd AM.

**Alder/Willow Flycatcher (Traill's Flycatcher):** 4 records, avg 1 each. LAST Date 31, 2 records.

**Least Flycatcher:** 4 records. FIRST 1/12 Southlands MP; LAST 1/30 Depot Hill CP.

**Eastern Phoebe:** 77 records, avg 2 each. NOTABLES: 6/19 Buttercup MR; 6/26 CIES Lowlands CP, HT.

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** 23 records. LAST Date 31, 2 records.; MAX 3/19 Dennings Pt DV, AS.

**Eastern Kingbird:** 51 records, avg 2 each. LAST 2/31 Andrew Haight Rd. DK; MAX 10/22 HVRT Sharon Stn KS, MS. NOTABLES: 6/30 Tivoli Bays SR.

6 records of **Empidonax** and 3 records of **Tyrannidae** flycatchers were also submitted. Certain species in this family are difficult to identify at this time of year when they do not vocalize.

### VIREOS –

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** 9 records, avg 1 each. LAST 2/30 Depot Hill CP.

**Blue-headed Vireo:** 2 records. 1/4 Wapp Lk AM; 1/15 Tivoli Bays DC.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** 1/25 Milan Hill Hawkwatch JS (only record).

**Warbling Vireo:** 15 records, avg 2 each. LAST 6/30 Depot Hill CP.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** 59 records, avg 2 each. LAST Date 31, 4 records.; MAX 9/30 Depot Hill CP. 8/8 Nuclear Lk CP.

### JAYS and CROWS – Blue Jays and American Crows

continue to have robust populations.

**Fish Crow:** 6 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 1/2 Bowdoin Pk BB; LAST 1/22 HVRT Sharon Stn KS, MS; MAX 4/6 Red Schoolhouse Rd, Fishkill Fl.

**Common Raven:** 20 records. FIRST 1/2 Pd Gut AL; LAST 1/30 Depot Hill CP; MAX 5/13 Depot Hill CP.

### SWALLOWS –

**Purple Martin:** 3 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 1/5 Washington Ave, Beacon Fl; LAST Date 31, 2 records.; MAX 3/31 Depot Hill CP.

**Tree Swallow:** 68 records. LAST 5/31 Depot Hill DK; MAX 400/28 HVRT Coleman Stn JK, "Some in the air, and massive quantity on power lines." NOTABLES: 250/5 Twin Island Lk MR.

**Barn Swallow:** 50 records. LAST 10/29 Tymor Pk AM; MAX 62/12 Southlands MP.

**Cliff Swallow:** 1/6 Wappingers Falls Home DV (only record).

**CHICKADEES and NUTHATCHES – Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse and White-breasted Nuthatch** numbers remain strong.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** 4 records, avg.1 each. FIRST 1/16 Depot Hill CP; LAST 1/28 Joseph yd Milan SJ; MAX 2/26 Kral yd Stanfordville DK.

### WRENS –

**House Wren:** 57 records, avg. 2 each. MAX 10/8 Buttercup East DK.

**Winter Wren:** 1/12 Deep Hollow Rd DK (only record).

**Marsh Wren:** 4 records, avg. 1 each. LAST 1/30 Tivoli Bays SR; NOTABLES: 1/15 Burger Hill DC; 1/26 CIES Lowlands CF, HT, CP.

**Carolina Wren:** 63 records. MAX 6/21 Dennings Pt AL.

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** 16 records, avg .2 each. FIRST 1/2 Pd Gut AL; LAST 1/26 Peach Hill SC; MAX 6/19 Dennings Pt DV, AS.

**THRUSHES and MIMICS – Eastern Bluebirds, American Robins, Gray Catbirds, and Northern Mockingbirds** prevail in strong numbers.

**Brown Thrasher:** 4 records. 1/3 Woodstock Rd, Millbrook SJ; 1/13 Field, Waterbury Hill Rd. AM; 1/20 Peach Hill SC; LAST 1/22 HVRT Sharon Stn KS, MS.

**Veery:** 30 records, avg 1 each. LAST Date 31, 2 records; NOTABLES: 3/26 CIES Lowlands HT, CP.

**Hermit Thrush:** 3 records. 1/2 Pd Gut AL; 1/21 Dennings Pt AL; 1/25 Nellie Hill PC.

**Wood Thrush:** 20 records, avg 1 each. LAST Date 30, 2 records.; MAX 3/6 Pleasant Valley TO.

**STARLINGS and WAXWINGS –** normal numbers

### FINCHES –

**House Finch:** 103 records, avg 5 each. MAX 23/14 Martens yd Salt Pt LM.

**Purple Finch:** 6 records, avg 2 each. FIRST Date 1,2 records.; LAST 1/24 Wappingers Falls Home DV, "pair at the feeder"; MAX 6/1 Kral yd Stanfordville DK.

## WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016

**American Goldfinch**- everywhere!

### SPARROWS and ALLIES –

**Chipping Sparrow**: 90 records. MAX 40/19 Dennings Pt DV, AS “conservative estimate of large flock in grasses below solar panels at park entrance” ; NOTABLES: 24/25 Red Hook Golf Club MP.

**Field Sparrow**: 26 records, avg 2 each. LAST 1/31 Peach Hill AL; MAX 7/5 Buttercup MR.

**Dark-eyed Junco**: 1/4 Pok TO (only record).

**Savannah Sparrow**: 2 records. 3/12 Southlands MP; 1/25 Andrew Haight Rd. DK

**Song Sparrow**: 103 records, avg 2 each. MAX 12/5 Buttercup MR.

**Swamp Sparrow**: 9 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/4 Bog Hollow yd DF; LAST 1/24 Buttercup PST; MAX 3/19 HVRT Sharon Stn HT, CP.

**Eastern Towhee**: 35 records, avg 3 each. FIRST 2/3 Woodstock Rd, Millbrook SJ; LAST 8/31 Peach Hill AL. NOTABLES: 7/16 Depot Hill CP.

### BLACKBIRDS –

**Bobolink**: 6 records, avg 10 each. FIRST 40/5 Field, Waterbury Hill Rd. AM, “I thought it was only a handful of birds until the flock flew from the grass further back in the field. Estimate. I checked this field a number of times this summer

and never saw any bobolink so this is certainly a migrating flock”; LAST 3/27 Milan Hill Hawkwatch JS; NOTABLES: 2/12 Southlands MP; 2/15 Burger Hill DC.

**Eastern Meadowlark**: 4/13 Field, Waterbury Hill Rd. AM (only record).

**Orchard Oriole**: 1/18 CIES Lowlands CP, BB (only record).

**Baltimore Oriole**: 36 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 2/7 Wappingers Falls Home DV; LAST 2/31 Peach Hill AL; MAX 10/19 Dennings Pt DV, AS; NOTABLES: 6/26 Peach Hill SC, “several juveniles”.

**Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird**: flocks of 75 -120+ noted.

### WOOD WARBLERS –

**Ovenbird**: 5 records. 5 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/2 Pd Gut AL; LAST 1/28 Kral yd Stanfordville DK; NOTABLES: 1/12 Deep Hollow Rd DK; 1/22 HVRT Sharon Stn MS.

**Worm-eating Warbler**: 1/19 Dennings Pt AS, DV (only record).

**Blue-winged Warbler**: 10 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 1/12 Deep Hollow Rd DK; LAST 1/30 Kral yd Stanfordville DK; MAX 4/19 Dennings Pt DV, AS.

**Black-and-white Warbler**: 14 records, avg 1 each. LAST Date 31, 3 records.; MAX 2/21 Dennings Pt AL.

**Tennessee Warbler**: 1/20 Kral yd Stanfordville DK (only record).

**Nashville Warbler**: 5 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/15 Tivoli Bays DC; LAST 2/29 Wappingers Falls Home DV; MAX 2/29 Wappingers Falls Home DV.

**Common Yellowthroat**: 32 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 1/2 Pd Gut AL; LAST 2/31 Peach Hill AL; MAX 4/20 Peach Hill SC.

**Hooded Warbler**: 2 records. X/4 E Cedar Ln, Rhinebeck DS; 1/25 Nellie Hill PC.

**American Redstart**: 33 records, avg. 2 each. LAST Date 31, 6 records.; MAX 4/19 Dennings Pt AS, DV. NOTABLES: 3/30 Michelin yd Wapp, “m/f/juv crab apple tree & birdbath yd”.

**Cape May Warbler**: 6/19 Dennings Pt AS, DV (only record).

**Northern Parula**: 1/26 Peach Hill SC (only record).

**Magnolia Warbler**: 7 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/15 DRT - Van Wyck Ln FT; LAST 1/31 Peach Hill AL; MAX 2/29 Wappingers Falls Home DV.

**Blackburnian Warbler**: 1/24 Kral yd Stanfordville DK; 1/30 Depot Hill CP.

**Yellow Warbler**: 10 records. LAST 1/29 Wappingers Falls Home DV; MAX 6/19 Dennings Pt DV, AS.

**Chestnut-sided Warbler**: 23 records. LAST Date 31, 2 records.; MAX 4/17 Depot Hill CP.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler**: 1/30 Depot Hill CP (only record).

**Pine Warbler**: 2 records. 1/30 Depot Hill CP; 1/31 Wappingers Falls Home DV.

**Prairie Warbler**: 3 record. 1/16 Depot Hill CP; 2/25 Nellie Hill PC; 1/26 Peach Hill SC.

**Black-throated Green Warbler**: 5 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 1/20 Kral yd Stanfordville DK; LAST Date 31, 2 records; NOTABLES: 2/25 West Clove Mtn. Rd, Pd AM.

**Canada Warbler**: 14 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/11 Kral yd Stanfordville DK; LAST Date 31, 3 records; NOTABLES: 2/13 Nuclear Lk CP; 2/30 Depot Hill CP.

**Wilson's Warbler**: 1/24 Wappingers Falls Home DV (only record).

### TANAGERS, CARDINALS, and ALLIES –

**Scarlet Tanager**: 32 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/1 Kral yd Stanfordville DK; LAST 4/30 Depot Hill CP; MAX 4/30 Depot Hill CP.

**Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Buntings, and House Sparrows** were well-represented in their customary locations.

**55 OBSERVERS** - Hra Dana Layton Et Al (HA); Dennis Anderson (DA); Jodi Brodsky (JB); Barbara Butler (BB); Sean Carroll (SC); David Chernack (DC); Paul Clarke (PC); Jim Closs (JClo); Waterman Bird Club (FT); Jamie Collins (JCo); Brian Delpizzo (BD); Claudius Feger (CF); Dot Fleury (DF); Ken & Carol Fredericks (KCF); Laura Gaudette (LG); James Grieshaber (JG); Richard Guthrie (RG); Ken Harris (KH); Barry Haydasz (BH); David Hayes (DH); Susan Iannucci (SI); Frank Izaguirre (FI); Susan Joseph (SJ); Jeffrey Kimball (JK); Linda Kleinhenz (LK); Aija Konrad (AK); Deborah Kral (DK); Aimee Labarr (AL); Anthony Macchiarola (AM); Barbara Mansell (BMA); Liz Martens (LM); Allan Michelin (AJM); Barb Michelin (BJM); Barb & Allan Michelin (BAM); Stefan Mutchnick (SM); Tom O'Connell (TO); Mona Payton (MP); Carena Pooth (CP); Susan Rogers (SR); Matthew Rymkiewicz (MR); Jen Schlauch (JS); Kathryn Schneider (KS); Delia Small (DS); J.A. Smith (JS); Marian Sole (MS); Edmond Spaeth (ES); Peter Stewart (PSt); Anne Swaim (AS); Paul Taillie (PT); Herb Thompson (HT); Debbie van Zyl (DV); Matthew Voelker (MV); Laura Weir (LW); Ernie Welch (EW); Deborah Weltsch (DW)

*Editor- Susan Joseph*

## SEPTEMBER 2016 RECORDS

The first half of September was very warm, with daytime thermometer readings in the 80s and 90s. Temperatures then began to moderate, with one last burst of 80+ degree temperatures before the end of the month. With our area about 9 inches behind in rainfall totals this summer, the scant inch that fell in September did not help to replenish local streams, ponds, and lakes. Water levels continued to recede following the dry conditions in July and August. As a result, favorite shorebird and waterfowl locations attracted fewer and fewer species.

September was not without excitement, however! The Bird of the Month was undoubtedly the **Evening Grosbeak**, which teased us with nearly split second sightings by several very lucky birders:- Debi Kral, Ken Harris, and Adrienne Popko. Ron Pittaway, the renowned Ontario researcher who each year forecasts the movements of irruptive northern finches, explains that a poor crop of tree seeds will send Evening Grosbeaks and other northern finch species southward during the colder months in search of food. Perhaps these unusual sightings are a preview of an exciting season to come. Evening Grosbeaks favor black oil sunflower seed, so keep your feeders filled and your fingers crossed!

Other noteworthy birds this month include the **Black-bellied Plover** seen and photographed mid-month on Round Pond in Amenia. The last record for a Black-bellied Plover was of a single individual located in early September, 2013 at Grieg Farm. **Vesper Sparrows**, spotted by Jim Clinton (JBNHS FT) and Maha Katnani (Stony Kill) are uncommon, with fall sightings occurring only a few times each year.

### WATERFOWL

Our most common waterfowl, **Canada Goose**, **Mute Swan**, **Wood Duck**, and **Mallard** were present in normal numbers this month.

**American Wigeon**: 2/28 Beacon Waterfront Park CR (only record)

**American Black Duck**: 1/11 DD, 3/17 MR –Buttercup Sanctuary; 2/28, Beacon Waterfront Park, CR.

**Blue-winged Teal**: 2/29 DRT Route 55 MK (only record)

**Green-winged Teal**: 3 records from HT, CP, MK; MAX 6/18, Wapp Lake HT, CP

**Hooded Merganser**: 4/17, Lake Weil, Wingdale, CP

### GALLINACEOUS BIRDS, GREBES AND HERONS

**Ring-necked Pheasant**: 1/26 Poughkeepsie, 1/28 Lafayetteville MUA--Wilbur Flats Rd LM

**Wild Turkey**: 18 records, FIRST 8/1 BlueHill/Shenandoah Rd field ES; LAST 19/30 yd Salt Pt BMa; MAX 23/5 Ludlow Woods Rd DK.

**Pied-billed Grebe**: 3/4 The Fly HT, CP; 1/7 Nuclear Lk AMP, FT; 1/20 Nuclear Lk CP; 1/27 Wapp Lk SJ;.

**Double-crested Cormorant**: 15 records; FIRST 2/3 Waryas Pk KH; LAST 1/28 Dennings Pt JJ; NOTABLES: 3/18 Wapp Lk CP, HT; 3/24 Beacon Waterfront Pk CP; 3/26 Reese Sanctuary KH.

**Great Blue Heron**: 75 records, avg 1 each; NOTABLES: 3/12 Tamarack Lk DK; 3/24 Wapp Crk CP; 3/26 Bowdoin Pk AL; 3/28 HVRT Amenia CP.

**Great Egret**: continuing in good numbers- most sightings were reported from Tamarack Lake; FIRST 8/1 Tamarack Lk DK; LAST 2/28 Dennings Pt JJ; MAX 9/20 Tamarack Lk DK; NOTABLES: 3/5 Bowdoin Pk KH.

**Green Heron**: 22 records, FIRST 1/1 Farm Pond, Rt199, Pine Plains SJ; LAST 1/28 Hillside Lk BAM;

**Black-crowned Night-Heron**: 4/23 Bowdoin Pk ESt (only record)

### OSPREY- VULTURES

**Osprey**: 7 records, 1/5 Hunns Lk DK; 1/8 Hudson near Beacon KM; 1/12 Tamarack Lk DK; 1/27 Pollepel Island / Bannerman Castle, Fishkill CR; LAST 1/28 Dennings Pt JJ.

**Black Vulture**: 13 records, MAX 22/12 Millbrook Schl DK.

**Turkey Vulture**: 94 records, NOTABLES: 6/5 Reese Sanctuary KH; 6/28 HVRT Sharon Stn FT, JClo, AL.

### EAGLES and HAWKS

**Northern Harrier**: 7 records, 1/3 Greig Fm JBFT, DK, MR; 1/19 Carvel Lk Pine Plains, SJ; 1/28 HVRT Sharon Stn FT, AL, JClo; 1/29 Ludlow Woods Rd DK; 1/30 HVRT Sharon Stn JR.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk**: 9 records, 1/7 Nuclear Lk AMP, FT;; 2/24 Buttercup MR "One on each side. First @ Warb Hill, adult being harassed by jays. Other was near lot on west side, also chased by jays"; 1/30 Allen Rd Salt Pt BMa

**Cooper's Hawk**: 1/1 Wappingers yd BAM; LAST 1/30 Allen Rd Salt Pt BMa; MAX 3/27 Peach Hill BB

**Bald Eagle**: 10 records, MAX 3/18 Round Pd Amenia DK.

**Red-shouldered Hawk**: 23 records, avg 1 each; NOTABLE: 2/14 Vassar Fm FT, AMP; 2/26 Winnakee Nature Prsv SS; 2/29 Upton Lk Christian Schl JCli.

**Broad-winged Hawk**: 8 records, LAST 1/25 Buttercup MR; MAX 27/21 Peach Hill AMP, FT

**Red-tailed Hawk**: 69 records; MAX 6/4 Bangall-Amenia Rd. DK

### MARSH DWELLERS

**Common Gallinule**: 1/18 HVRT Sharon Stn DK; 1/30 HVRT Sharon Stn JR;

### SHOREBIRDS AND GULLS

**Black-bellied Plover**: 3 records-1/17 JR; 1/18, CP, HT, SJ, DK; LAST 1/19 BMa, AMP; All sightings of a single individual at Round Pond, Amenia

**Killdeer**: 23 records, NOTABLES: 9/2 South Hills Mall KH; 18/5 Rt 82 Polo Field Pine Plains MR; 21/18 Round Pd Amenia CP, HT.

**Spotted Sandpiper**: 4 records- FIRST 1/3 Tymor Pk BB; LAST 1/27 CIES KH; MAX 3/7 Tymor Pk AL

**Solitary Sandpiper**: 8 records, 1/1 Shunpike Millbrook DK; LAST 1/23 near Verbank BB; NOTABLES: 3/3 Tymor Pk BB; 3/5 Buttercup West DK.

**Lesser Yellowlegs**: 3 records, FIRST 1/3 Tymor Pk BB; LAST 1/19 Round Pd Amenia BMa, AMP; MAX 3/18 Round Pd Amenia DK, HT, CP, SJ

**Least Sandpiper**: 11 records FIRST 1/1 Fm Pd, Rt199, Pine Plains SJ; LAST 2/19 Round Pd Amenia BMa, AMP; MAX 9/18 Round Pd Amenia HT, CP; NOTABLES: 8/3 Tymor Pk BB.

**Pectoral Sandpiper**: 1/1 Fm Pd, Rt199, Pine Plains SJ (only record). BB - last sighting of this bird, first located 8/28

**Ring-billed Gull**: 13 records, MAX 25/24 Beacon Waterfront Pk CP

## WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016

**Herring Gull:** 1/24 Beacon Waterfront Pk CP; 1/28 Beacon Waterfront Pk CR

**Great Black-backed Gull:** 2/3 Waryas Pk KH (only record).

**Shorebird Species:** probable Baird's Sandpiper seen by KH on the 2nd in South Hills Mall parking lot and adjacent grassy area. "Sounded like a Pectoral. Light brown, dark legs. The streaking doesn't go down as far as it does on a Pectoral." Several members reviewed the blurry photo and considered other species. Baird's was most likely, but they were unable to make a positive ID.

**Rock Pigeon:** 14 records, MAX 157/3 Greig Fm JBFT, JCli

**Mourning Dove:** 82 records, MAX 17/11 Reese Sanc. KH

### OWLS

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** 1/1 Fowler rd JCli (only record).

**Great Horned Owl:** 1/13 yd Salt Pt BMa; 1/23 near Verbank BB

**Barred Owl:** 14 records, FIRST 2/2 Stanford yd DK; LAST 3/29 Milan yd SJ

**Common Nighthawk:** 2 records, 2/1 Fowler Rd JCli; 1/23 Arlington High Schl EF

**Chimney Swift:** 5 records, LAST 1/26 Bowdoin Pk AL; MAX 12/5 Vassar Fm EW; NOTABLES: 10/17 Reese Pk KH.

**Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** 41 records, avg 2 each, LAST 1/27 Milan yd; MAX 6/4 Buttercup MR, SR

**Belted Kingfisher:** 30 records, MAX 3 reported twice

### WOODPECKERS

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** 1/2 Buttercup JM (only record).

**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** 101 records, NOTABLES: 9/14 Vassar Fm FT, AMP.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** 22 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 2/2 Nuclear Lk CP; MAX 4/22 Nuclear Lk CP; ;LAST 3/28 HVRT Coleman Stn JClo, AL, FT.

**Downy Woodpecker:** 104 records NOTABLES: 7/23 Allen Rd Salt Pt BMa; 7/24 Buttercup MR.

**Hairy Woodpecker:** 51 records.; MAX 4/26 Winnakee Nature Prsv SS

**Northern Flicker:** 90 records, avg 2 each NOTABLES: 12/21 Peach Hill AMP, FT.

**Pileated Woodpecker:** 58 records, avg 1 each, NOTABLES: 3/16 Depot Hill CP; 3/23 Allen Rd Salt Pt BMa.

### FALCONS

**American Kestrel:** 19 records, FIRST 1/1 Fowler rd JCli; LAST Date 29, 3 records; MAX 4/4 Bangall-Amenia Rd. DK "together on utility wire"

**Merlin:** 6 records, 1/3 Buttercup MR; 1/5 Rt 82 Polo Field Pine Plains MR; 1/10 Wapp Falls KH; LAST 1/27 CIES DK;

**Peregrine Falcon:** 1/1 Andrew Haight Rd DK; 1/18 Clove Rd AMP

### FLYCATCHERS

**Eastern Wood-Pewee:** 38 records, LAST 1/26 Winnakee Nature Prsv SS; MAX 7/10 Buttercup MR

**Yellow-bellied Flycatcher:** 1/7 Myers Corner Rd. BAM; 1/7 Fischer home, Wappingers BAM;

**Willow Flycatcher:** 1/5 Southlands MP (only record).

**Eastern Phoebe:** 94 records, MAX 25/4 Buttercup MR,SR;

**Great Crested Flycatcher:** 10 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 1/4 Twin Island Lk SR, MR; LAST 1/29 Peach Hill BMa; MAX 8/25 Buttercup KK

**Eastern Kingbird:** 1/17 Buttercup West JCli (only record).

### VIREOS

**White-eyed Vireo:** 5 records, FIRST 1/1 Andrew Haight Rd DK; LAST 1/28 Stony Kill KH; MAX 2/15 Buttercup East AL

**Yellow-throated Vireo:** 15 records, MAX 6/5 Buttercup MR; LAST 1/17 Nuclear Lake AL

**Blue-headed Vireo:** 12 records, FIRST 1/2 Fishkill Ridge JJ; LAST Date 1/29 Peach Hill BMA; MAX 6/24 Buttercup MR

**Warbling Vireo:** FIRST 1/2 Nuclear Lk CP; LAST 1/29 Peach Hill BMa; MAX 4/17 Nuclear Lk AL; NOTABLES: 3/10 Buttercup MR; 3/14 Vassar Fm AMP, FT.

**Philadelphia Vireo:** 1/12 Mabbettville yd AMP; 1/28 HVRT Sharon Stn FT, CP, JClo, AL.

**Red-eyed Vireo:** FIRST 4/2 Nuclear Lk CP; LAST 1/29 Stony Kill Fm, Sierra Trl AL; MAX 12/5 Buttercup West CP.

### CORVIDS

This conspicuous group was well-represented. 8 reports of Fish Crow included a MAX of 10/13, Fishkill, BAM. Common Raven continue to become more "common", with over 30 reports throughout the month, most of one or two individuals except for the 3/28, HVRT, reported by Mary Gall.

### SWALLOWS

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow:** 8/2 Buttercup JM; 2/3 Greig Fm JBFT, JCli.

**Tree Swallow:** 35/1 Fm Pd, Rt199, Pine Plains SJ; LAST 2/23 Ludlow Woods Rd DK; MAX 75/18 Round Pd Amenia CP, HT; NOTABLES: 60/3 Greig Fm CP; 60/19 Carvel Lk Pine Plains SJ.

**Bank Swallow:** 4/3 Greig Fm JBFT, JCli

**Barn Swallow:** 2/1 Fowler rd JCli; LAST 2/24 I-84 / US-9, Fishkill CR; MAX 68/3 Greig Fm JBFT, JCli

**Cliff Swallow:** 1/3 Greig Fm JBFT, JCli (only record).

### NUTHATCHES, CREEPERS, WRENS & KINGLETS

**Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, and White-breasted Nuthatch** were present in normal numbers.

**Red-breasted Nuthatches**, which are being seen in greater than usual numbers since August, continued to push south through our region. There were 37 reports of mostly 1-2 individuals, with a max of 4/24 FDRNHS (KH), 3/23/Allen Rd. (BMa), and 3/28 Rhinebeck (JP)

**Brown Creeper:** 4 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/7 Nuclear Lk AMP, FT, CF; LAST 1/27 CIES KH; MAX 2/21 CIES BH

**House Wren:** FIRST 1/2 Depot Hill CP; LAST 1/28 Rhinebeck JP; MAX 8/12 Peach Hill CP

**Winter Wren:** 1/25 Rhinebeck-215 Mill Rd JP (only record).

**Marsh Wren:** 1/3 Buttercup MR (only record).

**Carolina Wren:** 2/1 Wappingers yd BAM; LAST 2/30 Allen Rd Salt Pt BMa

**Blue-gray Gnatcatcher:** 1/20 Stony Kill Fm, Sierra Trl AL; 1/22 Stanford yd DK; 1/27 Peach Hill BB; LAST 1/29 Peach Hill BMa;

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** 6 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/ 26 Buttercup West JL; Winnakee Nature Prsv SS; MAX 2/27 CIES KH; 2/28 HVRT MG.; LAST 1/29 Allen Rd Salt Pt BMa

## WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** 14 records, avg. 3 each; 1/17 Buttercup West JCli; 4/28 HVRT Coleman Stn JClo, FT, AL  
LAST 2/30 Allen Rd Salt Pt BMa; MAX 9/25 Buttercup MR

### THRUSHES

**Eastern Bluebird:** 47 records, avg 4 each. NOTABLES: 17/23 Allen Rd Salt Pt BMa.

**Veery:** 4 records, avg 1 each. LAST 1/11 Buttercup MR; all sightings at Buttercup

**Gray-cheeked Thrush:** 1/17 Buttercup West JCli (only record).

**Swainson's Thrush:** 1/6 Cary IES Lowlands AMP; 1/22 Depot Hill CP; LAST 1/26 Buttercup West JL; 1/26 Winnakee Nature Prsv SS

**Hermit Thrush:** 1/26 Bowdoin Pk AL (only record).

**Wood Thrush:** 6 records, FIRST 1/3 Taconic-Hereford MUA CP; LAST 1/25 Reese Pk KH; MAX 2/11 Reese Sanctuary KH

**American Robin:** 79 records NOTABLES: 30/3 Greig Fm MR; 25/14 Vassar Fm AMP, FT.

### MIMICS

**Gray Catbird:** 115 records, NOTABLES: 30/14 Vassar Fm FT, AMP; 40/21 Peach Hill AMP, FT, CP; 40/26 Buttercup West JL

**Brown Thrasher:** 6 records MAX 3/14 Vassar Fm AMP, FT;

**Northern Mockingbird:** 31 records, MAX 13/14 Vassar Fm CP; NOTABLES: 10/21 Peach Hill FT, AMP; 8/23 Stony Kill CP.

**European Starling:** 90/1 Fm Pd, Rt199, Pine Plains SJ; LAST 45/30 Allen Rd Salt Pt BMa; MAX 800/12 Gretna Rd Pleasant Valley SJ

**American Pipit:** 1/23 Stony Kill CP (only record).

**Cedar Waxwing:** 61 records, MAX 100/5 Buttercup MR; NOTABLES: 59/14 Vassar Fm AMP, FT; 62/28 HVRT Coleman Stn AL, FT, JClo.

### WARBLERS

The end of September saw a rapid departure of many species in this group. **Ovenbirds, Cape May, Canada, Bay-breasted, and Blackburnian Warblers** have all departed the region. Add to that list **Chestnut-sided, Prairie and Wilson's Warblers**, who have also fled to warmer climes, although one or two stragglers are still possible into early October. Some warbler species such as **Pine, Palm** and **Blackpoll Warblers** will linger as long as mid- to-late October, but will be increasingly difficult to detect.

**Ovenbird:** 1/3 Taconic-Hereford MUA CP (only record).

**Black-and-white Warbler:** 18 records, FIRST 3/3 Taconic-Hereford MUA CP; LAST 1/26 Reese Sanctuary KH  
NOTABLES: 3/7 Nuclear Lk AMP, FT, CF.

**Tennessee Warbler:** 7 records, FIRST 1/2 Nuclear Lk CP; LAST 2/29 Stanford yd DK

**Nashville Warbler:** 11 records, FIRST 2/2 Depot Hill CP; LAST 1/30 Allen Rd Salt Pt BMa; MAX: 2/12 Stony Kill KB

**Common Yellowthroat:** 52 records, LAST 1/29 Peach Hill BMa; NOTABLES: 12/17 Buttercup MR "Incl 1 male with full mask" 12/24 Buttercup MR; 12/25 Buttercup MR.

**American Redstart:** 39 records, MAX 9/5 Buttercup MR; NOTABLE: 5/16 Depot Hill CP.

**Cape May Warbler:** 1/18 Wappingers yd BAM (only record).

**Northern Parula:** 26 records, FIRST 1/2 Nuclear Lk CP; LAST 1/29 Upton Lk Christian Schl JCli; NOTABLES: 5/17 Buttercup MR; 5/22 Depot Hill CP.

**Magnolia Warbler:** 31 records, avg 2 each; LAST Date 29, 2 records.; NOTABLES: 5/21 Peach Hill AMP, FT; 6/24 Buttercup MR; 6/25 Buttercup MR.

**Bay-breasted Warbler:** 4 records, FIRST 1/22 Nuclear Lk CP; LAST 1/28 Stony Kill KH; NOTABLES: 1/24 Wappingers yd "winter plumage at birdbath 11:30am yd" BAM

**Blackburnian Warbler:** 7 records, FIRST 1/2 Nuclear Lk CP; 1/3 Taconic-Hereford MUA CP; 1/5 Buttercup MR; LAST 1/28 Stony Kill KH

**Yellow Warbler** 1/10 Buttercup MR; 2/23 Allen Rd Salt Pt.BMa

**Chestnut-sided Warbler:** 12 records, LAST 1/24 B'cup MR; MAX 3/2 Nuclear Lk CP; 3/5 B'cup MR; 3/12 Stony Kill KB.

**Blackpoll Warbler:** 6 records, 3/22 Depot Hill CP; LAST 1/28 CIES AL; 1/28 Stony Kill KH.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** 9 records, FIRST 1/6 Nuclear Lk CP; LAST 1/28 CIES AL; MAX 3/23 Depot Hill CP

**Palm Warbler:** FIRST 2/15 Stony Kill KH; MAX 6/26 Vassar Fm EW; 6/28 Stony Kill KH.

**Pine Warbler:** 4 records. FIRST 3/7 Tymor Pk AL; 2/21 Peach Hill FT, AMP; LAST 1/24 Buttercup MR

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** 15 records, FIRST 1/21 Peach Hill FT, AMP; LAST 30<sup>th</sup>; MAX 6/28 HVRT Sharon Stn JClo, AL, FT; NOTABLE: 3/29 Peach Hill BMa.

**Prairie Warbler:** 1/17 Buttercup West JCli; 1/24 Buttercup MR

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** 25 records, LAST 1/29

Stanford yd DK; MAX 7/25 Buttercup MR

**Canada Warbler:** 1/3 Tac-Hrfd MUA CP; 1/12 Peach Hill CP.

**Wilson's Warbler:** 1/15 Depot Hill CP; 1/18 Wappinger yd ESti

### SPARROWS

Our most common sparrows, **Chipping, Field, White-throated** and **Song Sparrows** were present in normal numbers.

**Dark-eyed Junco:** 4 records, FIRST 1/1 Bog Hollow yard  
DF "first in yd since early May". DF usually has some all summer, nesting; 1/13 Depot Hill CP.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** FIRST 2/12 Mabbettsville yd AMP; 1/28 Stony Kill KH; LAST 1/29 Upton Lk Christian Schl JCli.

**Vesper Sparrow:** 3/3 Greig Fm JBFT, JCli; 1/23 Stony Kill MK.

**Savannah Sparrow:** 9 records, avg 6; MAX 33/3 Greig Fm JBFT, JCli; NOTABLES: 9/18 Southlands MP.

**Lincoln's Sparrow:** 8 records, 2/17 Buttercup MR; 1/21 Peach Hill FT, AMP; 1/23 Stony Kill MK; 1/27 CIES KH; LAST 1/30 Allen Rd Salt Pt BMa

**Swamp Sparrow:** 11 records, FIRST 1/3 Buttercup MR; LAST 5/27 CIES KH; NOTABLES: 3/26 Buttercup West JL.

**Eastern Towhee:** 48 records, LAST 1/30 Allen Rd Salt Pt BMa; MAX 15/27 Peach Hill BB;

### TANAGERS and GROSBEAKS

**Scarlet Tanager:** FIRST 1/1 Andrew Haight Rd DK; LAST 1/28 HVRT Coleman Stn CP, AL, FT, JClo; MAX 6/5, 5/10 Buttercup MR .

**Northern Cardinal:** 80 records, MAX 11/1 Wapp. yd BAM.

**Rose-breasted Grosbeak:** 28 records, LAST 1/28 Stony Kill KH; MAX 4/4 Buttercup SR, MR.

**Indigo Bunting:** 3 records; 2/21 Peach Hill AMP, FT; 1/21 Peach Hill CF, CP; LAST 1/25 Rhinebeck-215 Mill Rd JP

### BLACKBIRDS and FINCHES

**Bobolink:** 6 records, LAST 1/25 Stony Kill CP; MAX 6/3 Greig Fm JBFT, JCli;

## WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016

**Red-winged Blackbird:** LAST 30/29 Peach Hill BMA;

NOTABLES: 13/3 Greig Fm JBFT, JCLi; 20/28 HVRT Sharon Stn JClo, FT, AL.

**Rusty Blackbird:** 3 records, MAX 50/28 HVRT Coleman Stn AL, FT, JClo.

**Common Grackle:** LAST 200/30 Allen Rd Salt Pt BMA; MAX 400/22 Depot Hill CP.

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** 3 records, LAST 40/25 Southlands MP.

**Baltimore Oriole:** 1/2 Nuclear Lk CP; 2/3 Greig Fm JBFT.

**House Finch:** 41 records, avg 3 each

**Purple Finch:** 13 records, avg 2 each; MAX 4/24 Wappingers yd BAM; NOTABLES: 2/4 CIES CP, HT; 2/4 near Verbank BB

**American Goldfinch:** 115 records,; MAX 60/12 Peach Hill CP; MAX 30/4 Vassar Farm HT,CP; 50/11 Reese Pk KH.

**Evening Grosbeak:** 1/12 Stanford yd DK "in company of RBGR; large yellow bird, black wings, large white wing patch (unmistakable), photographed - eating black oil sunflower seeds approx a minute at feeder, neither seen since"; 1/17 Reese Pk KH; 1/18 Clove Rd AMP.

**House Sparrow:** MAX 150/4 Vassar Fm HT, CP

### Observers:

Elizabeth Axley (EAX); Kyle Bardwell (KB); Barbara Butler (BB); Jim Clinton (JCLi); Jim Closs (JClo); Diane Duffus (DD); Scott Fackenthall (SFa); Claudius Feger (CF); Melissa Fischer (MeF); Dot Fleury (DF); Eamon Freiburger (EF); Mary Gall (MG); Ken Harris (KH); Barry Haydasz (BH); Jesse Jaycox (JJ); Jessie Johns (JJo); Susan Joseph (SJ); Kyle Kassmann (KK); Maha Katnani (MK); Deborah Kral (DK); Aimee Labarr (AL); Janet Leavens (JL); Barbara Mansell (BMA); Eleanor Marr (EM); Liz Martens (LM); John McBride (JM); Ken Mcdermott (KM); Allan Michelin (AJM); Barb & Allan Michelin (BAM); Barb Michelin (BJM); Hannah Miller (HM); Edwin Osujaki (EO); John Pancake (JP); Mona Payton (MP); Carena Pooth (CP); Adrienne Popko (AMP); Susan Rogers (SR); Carlos Ross (CR); Jane Rossman (JR); Matthew Rymkiewicz (MR); Edmond Spaeth (ES); Jami St. Pierre (JSP); Evelyn Stevenson (EST); Eileen Stickle (ESTi); Sherman Suter (SS); Herb Thompson (HT); Ernie Welch (EW); Deb Weltsch (DWe)

Waterman Bird Club Field Trip (FT); JBNHS Field Trip (JBFT)

**Editor:** Susan Joseph



## OCTOBER 2016 RECORDS

*data compilation & report by Carena Pooth*

(Correction made to Pine Warbler entry to remove 5/12 Stonykill – they were Palm Warblers. eBird entry error.)

42 observers reported a combined total of 145 species.

**BEST BIRDS** this month were **Red Phalarope**, **Sandhill Crane**, and **Gray-cheeked Thrush**. Details below.

**WEATHER.** Like last October, this month was very dry with rain only on the 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>, totaling about 2.5 inches for the entire month in most areas. Temperatures ranged from 25 to 84, dipping below freezing on only 4 nights.

### ARE WE IN FOR A GOOD “FINCH” WINTER?

This year's Winter Finch Forecast by Ron Pittaway of Ontario Field Ornithologists notes early movement of **Red-breasted Nuthatches** and **Purple Finches** starting in August and “a much larger than usual flight of **jays** from mid-September to mid-October.” These predictions are borne out by our numbers; note also that there have already been a few sightings of **Pine Siskins**. Evening Grosbeaks are expected in the Adirondacks and a few single individuals were spotted in Dutchess in September – none in October, though.

**WATERFOWL.** Migration is underway, although there were no **scoters** or **Buffleheads** yet. Common year-round geese and ducks dabbled about in good numbers: **Canada Goose**, **Mute Swan**, **Wood Duck**, and **Mallard**. Others that we had seen in September continued passing through in October.

**American Wigeon:** 8 records from the 12<sup>th</sup> on  
**Blue-winged Teal** 1/5 Buttercup West CV, FT, AMP; 1/7 DRT Titusville - Rt55 KCF

**Green-winged Teal** 16 records throughout the month

**Hooded Merganser:** 3 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 2/19 Ryder Pond DH; LAST 1/30 Round Pond Amenia HT, CP

**FOS** (first of season) waterfowl that showed up in October:  
**Greater White-fronted Goose:** **Unusual for October** – 1/16 Ryder Pond CV; 1/18 Ryder Pd CV, JClI; 1/28-30 Pawling (private) found by Michael & Gordon Douglas JU

**Snow Goose:** There were 4 records. Susan Joseph commented on the 23 she saw on the 9<sup>th</sup>: “flyovers; white geese smaller than Canadas; lacked ponderous flight pattern of Canada Geese; passed over in a long ragged line; harsh, quick honking distinctly different than Canada's; flying north! Scott Lenhart saw a blue (aka dark) morph at Abel's Pond. According to Crossley, “white outnumber blue 100:1 in the East.” The data: 23/9 yd Milan SJ; 2/10 E Fishkill--Stormville Rest Area MS; 1/15 & 24 (blue morph) Abel's Pd SL.

**Brant:** Only one sighting: 3/22 Chelsea Yacht Club DF

**Cackling Goose:** 1/11 Round Pd Amenia HT, CP

**Gadwall:** 2/8 lower Wapp. Crk BJM

**Northern Shoveler:** 1/30 Round Pd Amenia CP, HT.

**Northern Pintail:** 3/8 Wapp Lk BJM; 2/17 Tivoli Bays South Bay SR

**Redhead:** Susan Rogers had the first October sighting since 1965 for this species. Happy Halloween! 2/31 Tivoli Bays SR

**Ring-necked Duck:** 18 records, avg 12 each. FIRST 1/6 Wapp Lk KH; LARGEST FLOCKS: 51/16 Ryder Pd CV; 23/25 Ryder Pd BMA; 20/30 Thompson Pd MR.

**Greater Scaup:** The first ever definitive October record for the species! 1/17 Hunns LakeDK. There have probably been other October occurrences, but before the advent of high-powered scopes and high quality digital photography, birders were usually unable to positively ID Greater vs. Lesser Scaups at a distance. **Common Merganser:** 3 records, FIRST 1/14 Round Pd Amenia CV. **Ruddy Duck:** 35 records, avg 27 each. Sylvan Lake had the most, building from 4 on the 13<sup>th</sup> to 93 on the 31<sup>st</sup> CP.

**GALLINACEOUS BIRDS.** **Ruffed Grouse** is a sighting to celebrate in any month these days. Debi Kral found one on the 5<sup>th</sup> at Buttercup East. **Ring-necked Pheasant** was listed on 2 reports (Bard Campus and Ryder Pond), although these are almost certainly not “countable” as wild birds, since Dutchess is peppered with hunting preserves that regularly replenish their “huntee” population. **Wild Turkeys**, were strutting their stuff as usual: 11 records, avg 19 each including 18/9 yd Salt Pt BMA; 25/9 Stanfordville DK; 21/18 Verbank DK; 21/21 Tyrell Rd, Millbrook DK; 42/28 N Clove Rd DK.

**LOONS, GREBES, CORMORANTS, HERONS.** **Common Loon** is very unusual for October (most recently 2015 and before that 2002). One was hanging out on Sylvan Lake from the 17<sup>th</sup> through the 31<sup>st</sup> and continued into early November, when this species is more likely. Found by CP and also seen by BM, CF, HT. Also unusual in this group was a **Red-necked Grebe** that spent half a very windy day on Sylvan Lake on the 28<sup>th</sup>, reported by only Barb Mansell and Carena Pooth. Adrienne Popko saw 3 **Pied-billed Grebes** there the same day, but for the month as a whole there were fewer of this species in Dutchess than in recent years, with only 12 records vs. 30 last year. **Double-Crested Cormorants** were reported throughout the month, as were **Great Blue Herons**. **Great Egrets** are getting easier to find every year, it seems. This October there were 15 records (vs. 3 last year). The Fly got pretty dry (muddy) in October, offering great heron habitat. On October 10<sup>th</sup>, Deb Kral found 14 Great Blues and 4 Great Egrets there. **Green Heron** turned up 3 times: 1/5 Reese Pk KH; 1/8 Wappinger Creek BJM, 1/11 Tivoli Bays SR.

**OSPREY, VULTURES.** **Osprey** reports were normal with 9 records avg 1 each. **Black** and **Turkey Vultures** were likewise as expected – 18 records of Black and 115 records of Turkey Vulture.

**EAGLES, HAWKS.** The first **Golden Eagle** of the season (an immature) was reported in Dover, seen by Deb Kral on the 29<sup>th</sup> and Dawn Brunell on the 30<sup>th</sup>. **Bald Eagle** has enjoyed quite a resurgence and very happily we are no longer surprised by as many as 28 records avg 2 each. There were 24 records of **Northern Harrier** throughout the month; this is always a great bird to see, and the species seems to be doing well in recent years. **Broad-winged Hawks** have been migrating, but 2 stragglers were spotted in October: 1/6 Peach Hill AL; 1/27 Beacon JClo. Other raptors were reported in good numbers: **Sharp-shinned** and **Cooper's Hawks** (our common accipiters); **Red-shouldered** and **Red-tailed Hawks** (our common buteos).

**GALLINULES, COOTS, CRANES.** The big surprise in this group was **Sandhill Crane**, the first October record ever, even more exciting because there were EIGHT cranes! Adrienne Popko spotted them flying over on the 30<sup>th</sup> at Fowler Rd near Rt. 44, just down the road from the CIES Lowlands. Perhaps they were heading south from Montezuma NWR, where they have been known breeders since 2003? **Common Gallinule**, once again breeding in Dutchess since 2014, appeared on only one October report this year: 1/2 Harlem Valley Rail Trl - Sharon Stn Rd DK. Hopefully several pair seen this year will be back at that location next year. **American Coots** are returning from the north; there were 5 reports avg 3 each, the FOS sighting being 2/11 Sylvan Lk CP.

**SHOREBIRDS.** A surprise appearance by a **Red Phalarope** thrilled many birders on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. The bird was found foraging on the eastern edge of Hunns Lake by Carena Pooth and Herb Thompson, who sent out a PEEPS alert as soon as they had identified it. The bird actively foraged by itself for several hours almost exclusively along 100 feet of shoreline. Twice it flew farther up the lake but soon returned to its favored spot. It was a very windy day and the bird had likely been blown inland, since they usually migrate over the ocean. More than 10 other people got there in time to see the phalarope that afternoon, but by the next morning it had disappeared. This was the fourth Dutchess County record for the species; 2 previous ones occurred in October (2011 and 2014), while the first ever Dutchess record was in May 2006. Other shorebirds still passing through included **Killdeer** (23 records, avg 5 each), **Spotted Sandpiper** (1/5 Reese Pk KH), **Greater Yellowlegs** (1/14 Round Pd Amenia CV, and **American Woodcock** (1/7 Bard Campus EAx).

**GULLS.** The only gulls reported were **Ring-billed** (39 records, avg 10 each), and **Herring** (8 records, avg 1 each).

**PIGEONS, DOVES, KINGFISHER.** Very good numbers.

**OWLS.** A nice showing of three species. There was only one record of **Eastern Screech-Owl** (1/16 Ryder Pd CV). For **Great Horned Owl**, there were 5 records, avg 1 each. On the 65-degree afternoon of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, Carena Pooth heard individuals calling from 3 different locations 2 hours before sunset. They were apparently reacting to 2 **Barred Owls** that began calling first. Overall there were 15 Barred Owl records in Dutchess, avg 1 each. 5 of those records were in the Mansells' yard, a circumstance that rendered my countenance just a tad greenish when I learned of it.

**SWIFTS, HUMMINGBIRDS.** Time to head south, stragglers! **Chimney Swift:** 5 records, the last being 7/12 Drake Lk BMA. **Ruby-throated Hummingbird:** 1/1 yd Rhinebeck MP.

**WOODPECKERS** (**Red-bellied, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy, Hairy, Northern Flicker, Pileated**) doing great.

**FALCONS.** **American Kestrel** – 16 records throughout the month. **Merlin:** 1/6 Tivoli Bays WMA SR; 1/8 Tivoli WV; 1/26 DRT Titusville - Rt55 FT. **Peregrine Falcon** – Deb Kral reported 3 sightings in the Stanford area on the 10<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**PASSERINES**, the largest taxonomic order of birds, are often called "Perching Birds." Their toes are arranged in a way that

makes perching easy (three pointing forward and one pointing back). The remaining birds in this report are all passerines.

**FLYCATCHERS.** Most flycatchers had already headed south by October. There were 5 reports of **Eastern Wood-Pewee** during the first week of the month and one on the 14<sup>th</sup> at Peach Hill DWe. **Eastern Phoebe**s were still here in good numbers. There were 62 records, avg 3 each, the latest being on the club's Dutchess Rail Trail field trip on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

**VIREOS.** A very tardy (but not unheard of) **Yellow-throated Vireo** was reported from Cruger Island Rd on the 6<sup>th</sup> by Peter Stewart. **Red-eyed Vireos** are seen in October every year, and this year we had 3 records on the 1<sup>st</sup> (in 3 different places) and one more bird on the 5<sup>th</sup> at Buttercup. **Blue-headed Vireo** is a far more common fall migrant but a very beautiful one, always eyeing its surroundings through stylish white spectacles contrasting with its steel blue face. There were 12 records, avg 1 each, from the 1<sup>st</sup> through the 20<sup>th</sup>.

**CORVIDS, CHICKADEES, TITMICE, NUTHATCHES.** These are mostly very common species and they occurred in the usual numbers all over the county. The most exciting species in this group for October was **Red-breasted Nuthatch**. There were 23 records from 17 different locations – what a welcome change from last year, when there were no reports at all! Among the not-so-common corvids, there were 5 records of **Fish Crow**, avg 3 each, with a maximum of 7. **Common Ravens** continue to increase; there were 41 records. It is also worth noting that there were a lot more records of **Blue Jay** than usual (171 vs. 129 last year). This might be in keeping with Ron Pittaway's forecast (see the "finch winter" paragraph at the beginning), but we can't be sure about that!

**SWALLOWS.** Stragglers! **Tree Swallow:** 2/1 Mills SP/Hopeland SR; 1/17 Tivoli Bays Cruger Island Rd PSt. **Barn Swallow:** 2/2 Overlook Pk CP, HT

**CREEPERS, WRENS.** **Brown Creeper** is always a pleasant surprise. There were 5 records of 1-2 each from BAM, BCA, KH, FT. There were still a few **House Wrens:** 1/1,2 Buttercup MR; 1/6 Cruger Island Rd PSt; 1/26 DRT Titusville - Rt55 FT. Another wren that needs to head south for the winter is **Marsh Wren**, of which there was only one report: 1/2 HVRT Sharon Stn Rd DK. **Winter Wrens** breed in a few places in Dutchess, but most of them go further north to nest and pass through here during migration. The only October reports were 1/2, 23 Buttercup MR and 1/14 App Trl Pawling KH. While the other wrens move out, **Carolina Wrens** stay and are now visiting feeders, singing loudly to brighten even the dreariest day. There were 44 records of Carolinas throughout the month.

**KINGLETS.** **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** pass through the area in good numbers each fall. There were 57 records of 1-3 each throughout the month. **Golden-crowned Kinglets** migrate through here as well, but can be found in Dutchess throughout the winter. There were 23 records of 1-11 Golden-crowned Kinglets, the first being 1/4 Hi View Rd Wapp BJM.



**Gray-cheeked Thrush**, photo by Maha Katnani

**THRUSHES AND MIMICS.** This group is a mixed bag. Most are absent in winter. These include **Gray-cheeked**, **Swainson's**, **Hermit**, and **Wood Thrush**; **Gray Catbird**; and **Brown Thrasher**. This year we were lucky and got the two least common on that list, **Gray-cheeked Thrush** (1/17 DRT LaGrange MK) and **Swainson's Thrush** (1/1 Thompson Ln SR; 2/13 Nuclear Lk CP). There were 5 records of **Hermit Thrush**: 1/1 Mills/Hopeland SR; 1/6 Peach Hill, AL; 1/16 near Verbank BB; 1/19 CIES KH; 1/19 LaGrange CV. No one reported **Wood Thrush**, so all of those must all have left in September. **Gray Catbirds** were reported through the 26<sup>th</sup>, which is normal. **Brown Thrashers** have moved on also; this species was reported only once: 1/6 Peach Hill, AL. We look forward to seeing them again in the spring!

Others in the Mimics & Thrushes group can be found throughout the winter: **Eastern Bluebird**, **American Robin**, and **Northern Mockingbird**. Bluebirds and robins flock together as they search for and consume ripe berries on bushes and trees. There were 83 records of **American Robin**, avg 10 each (73 was the highest number). **Eastern Bluebird** was on 84 records of 1 to 16 each. There were 42 records of **Northern Mockingbird**, 1 to 6 in each.

**STARLINGS, PIPITS, WAXWINGS.** There were 78 records, of **European Starling**, a few of which had several hundred. **American Pipits** showed up in groups of 2-60; records included 60/10 Greig Fm MR; 60/30 Greig Fm MR; 50/30 Rockefeller Ln CP, HT. For **Cedar Waxwing**, there were 43 records of 1-130 each.

**SNOW BUNTING.** Just one, found on Berkshire Rd on the 26<sup>th</sup> by Sariena Masiero and Dawn Brunell (separately).

**WARBLERS.** We must bid most of these beloved gems farewell for the winter. The ones we see in October are mostly wearing their drabber "confusing fall" plumage. Still, we love to see them (and most of us enjoy the ID challenge!).

**Black-and-white Warbler:** 1/1 Thompson Ln SR; 1/2 Stony Kill Fm, Sierra Trl AL; 1/6 Cruger Island Rd PSt.

**Tennessee Warbler:** 1/1 Buttercup MR; 1/2 Overlook Pk CP; 1/6 Cruger Island Rd PSt; 1/8 Greig Fm SR, MR.

**Nashville Warbler:** 1/1 Buttercup MR; 2/1 Mills/Hopeland SR; 1/5 Buttercup West AMP, CV, FT; 1/6 Peach Hill AL.

**Common Yellowthroat:** 13 records 1<sup>st</sup> thru 17<sup>th</sup>.

**American Redstart:** 1/2 Stony Kill Fm, Sierra Trl AL

**Northern Parula:** 1/5 Buttercup West FT.

**Magnolia Warbler:** (all Buttercup) 1/2 MR; 1-2/5 FT

**Yellow Warbler:** 1/2 Overlook Pk HT, CP

**Blackpoll Warbler:** 8 records 1<sup>st</sup> thru 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-throated Blue Warbler:** (all Buttercup) 1/2 MR; 1/4 JAll; 1/5 CF

**Palm Warbler:** 36 records, 1-20 each, through the 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Pine Warbler:** 1/2 Buttercup MR; 1/3 Nuclear Lk CP

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** 80 records of 1-60 each.

**Black-throated Green Warbler:** 1/1 Buttercup MR; 2/1 Mills/Hopeland SR; 1/4 yd Stanfd DK; 1/11 Tivoli Bays EA

**Canada Warbler:** 1/1 Mills/Hopeland SR

**SPARROWS.** The least common sparrows seen in October were **Lincoln's Sparrow** (2/2 Buttercup MR; 2/2 Peach Hill KK; 3/8, 1/10 Greig Fm MR, SR; 1/23 Greig Fm MR) and **Vesper Sparrow** (flock of 5/25 TMR Fm CP). There were 32 records of **Chipping Sparrow** through the 30<sup>th</sup>, the highest being 92/12 Montgomery Place FT. **Field Sparrow** occurred on 28 records through the 29<sup>th</sup>. There were 3 records of **Fox Sparrow:** 1/25 Beacon JClo; 2/27 Cobb Ridge SR; 1/27 yd Stanford DK. **Dark-eyed Juncos** started showing up on the 4<sup>th</sup>, and the highest count was 24/26 DRT Titusville - Rt55 FT. Our other backyard winter sparrow, **White-throated Sparrow**, was everywhere all month (102 records). There were 14 records of **White-crowned Sparrow**. (Who can forget that tame little White-crown that all but hopped on our feet during the Tymor field trip on 19<sup>th</sup>?) **Song** (105 records), **Swamp** (25 records) and **Savannah** (25 records) were as expected. **Eastern Towhee** numbers were normal too.

**TANAGERS/GROSBEAKS.** A couple of lingering **Scarlet Tanagers** were reported: 1/1 Mills SP/Hopeland SR; 1/2 Stony Kill Fm, Sierra Trl AL. Other birds about to leave for winter were **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** (4/1 Mills/Hopeland SR; 4/1 Thompson Ln SR; 1/2 Buttercup MR; 1/6 yd Lagrange MG) and **Indigo Bunting** (2/1 Mills SP/Hopeland SR; 2/1 Thompson Ln SR). **Northern Cardinals** were red & normal!

**ICTERIDS/BLACKBIRDS.** Unusual sightings included **Eastern Meadowlark** (2/30 Rockefeller Ln MR ). **Rusty Blackbirds** were more numerous than usual; there were 11 records, mostly single digits but also 200/16 CP/HT: "Mixed in with hundreds of grackles, flying over low, took 3 minutes to pass through. Rusty calls heard the entire time as they flew over." Examples of other large flocks reported – **Red-winged Blackbird:** 100/2 Tamarack Lk DK; 100/16 Buttercup MR; 1000/30 Berkshire Rd Dover HT, CP. **Common Grackle:** 600/16 Wilderstein HT, CP. **MIXED FLOCKS** of grackles, red-wings, cowbirds, and starlings: 2000/20 Tamarack Lk DK; 3000/23 Tamarack Lk DK; 1500/25 Tamarack Lk BMA.

**FINCHES.** Remember that "finch forecast" at the beginning of this report? Well, check this out. There were 63 records of **House Finch** (normal) and 59 records of **Purple Finch** (way more than normal). Another good omen for winter birding is that there were 2 records of **Pine Siskin** (another irruptive species):



## WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016

3/20 near Verbank BB, 7/30 Allen Rd Salt Pt BMa. **American Goldfinches** were plentiful as usual.

### OBSERVERS:

Janet Allison (JAlI); Bob & Cyd Averill (BCA); Elizabeth Axley (EAX); Dawn Brunell; Barbara Butler (BB); Jim Clinton; Jim Closs (JClo); Waterman Bird Club (FT); Derrick Eidam; Claudius Feger (CF); Jim Ferrari; Dot Fleury (DF); Mary Gall (MG); Ken Harris (KH); Barry Haydasz; David Hayes (DH); Kyle Kassmann (KK); Maha Katnani (MK); Deborah Kral (DK); Aimee Labarr (AL); Scott Lenhart (SL); Barbara Mansell (BMa); Liz Martens; Sariena Masiero; Barb Michelin (BJM); Barb & Allan Michelin (BAM); Bruce Nott (BN); Mona Payton (MP); Carena Pooth (CP); Adrienne Popko (AMP); Susan Rogers (SR); Matthew Rymkiewicz (MR); Matthew Schenck (MS); Edmond Spaeth (ES); Peter Stewart (PSt); Herb Thompson (HT); Kevin Topping (KT); Jim Utter (JU); Chet Vincent (CV); William von Herff (WV); Ernie Welch; Deb Weltsch (DWe)

**Abbreviations:** CIES: Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies

**Please enter your records into eBird ([ebird.org](http://ebird.org)).**

Or e-mail records to **[records1@watermanbirdclub.org](mailto:records1@watermanbirdclub.org)**

Or send via US mail:

November records to Barbara Michelin, 23 Hi View Rd.,  
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590

December records to Deborah Kral, 156 Ludlow Woods Rd,  
Stanfordville, NY 12581

## NOVEMBER 2016 RECORDS

The birds of the month were Hudsonian Godwit, found at Strauss Marsh by the Northern Duck Tour. Cackling Goose was seen in a few northern county areas. At McEnroe compost in Amenia Iceland Gull and Lesser Black-backed Gull were found. Our temperatures were in the 50's the beginning of the month with frost many days. Our first snowstorm of up to 6 inches was on the 17<sup>th</sup> & second storm with 6 ½ inches was on 20<sup>th</sup>. Some permanent species were omitted from this report.

**Waterfowl: Mute Swans, Mallards and Black Ducks** were found on most lakes & ponds in good numbers. **3000/8**

**Canada Geese** were found at Round Pond and seen on most lakes and ponds in smaller numbers. **Wood Ducks** still reported in small numbers with 40/7 Lk. Walton. Migrants were slow to move south with open waters in the northern part of New York.

**Snow Goose:** 8 records of 1 ea. incl. 1/8 The Fly KS, MS; 1/19 Round Pd Amenia HT, CP; 1/19 Traver Pd BBF; 1/24 Stissing Pd DK.

**Cackling Goose:** 6 records avg. 1-2 ea: incl. 2/1&7 pds., Millbrook AMP; 2/19 Round Pd, Amenia CP, HT

**Brant:** 5 records -1/8 Overlook Park (Lagrange) CV, CP, HT, LM, MK; 1/12 Bedell Rd, CF; 1/20 Traver Pd MR.

**Gadwall:** 6 records avg. 1-4 ea: **most:** 8/1 Tivoli Bay CP.

**American Wigeon:** 10 records avg. 5 ea: **most:** 8/4 & 11/5 Round Pd. Amenia, CV & FT.

**Northern Shoveler:** 7 records mostly 1 seen at Round Pd., Amenia thru mo. by CV.

**Northern Pintail:** 12 records avg. 2 ea: **most:** 4-5 thru mo. Round Pd., Amenia MR, CV.

**Green-winged Teal:** 19 records avg. 7 ea: **most:** 30/1 Tivoli Bay, CP; 10/6 Strauss Marsh SR; 15/13 Buttercup MR.

**Ring-necked Duck:** good numbers thru mo.; **most:** 85/21 Traver Pd. CV

**Bufflehead:** 14 records avg 6 ea: **most:** 11/4 Redwing Beekman, CP; 27/22 Sylvan Lk. CP.

**Common Goldeneye:** 4/23 Wapp. Lk. KH (only record)

**Hooded Merganser:** good numbers thru mo.; **most:** 35/12 Hillside Lk. FT; 58/27 Rudd Pd. TS; 10/28 Round Pd., Amenia, CV.

**Common Merganser:** 2-14 reported in lakes & ponds by many observers & FT; **most:** 20/8 Tivoli Bay SR; 25/25 Strauss Marsh, MR.

**Red-breasted Merganser:** 3 records; 1/19, 1/28, & 2/30 Madam Brett PI AL & CP.

**Ruddy Duck:** good numbers avg. 12 ea: **most:** 50/1 Sylvan Lk CP; 48/4 & 21/5 Round Pd, Amenia CV & FT; (1 partially leucistic observed with all white head with partial white sides).

**Ring-necked Pheasant:** 2 records & probably released birds: 2/8 Rt. 44 BN; 4/26 Thompson Pd. SR.

**Ruffed Grouse:** 1/5 HVRT/Sharon St. Rd., Amenia FT (only record and has been a rare bird for years now).

**Wild Turkey:** 17 records avg. 15 ea; **most:** 32/19 O'Leary Fm BMa; 25/25 Morse Hill Rd. DK.

**Red-throated Loon:** 2 records; 1/2 Dennings Pt. FT; 1/23 south of Denning's Pt. BN.

**Common Loon:** 1/1 thru 3<sup>rd</sup> Sylvan Lk, CP.

**Pied-billed Grebe:** 1/5 Stissing Pd. FT; 2/7 & 12 Wappingers Lk. FT & CV; 1/14 Sylvan Lk. CP; 1/19 Traver Pd. BBF; 1/21 Twin Island Pd. CV.

**Double-crested Cormorant:** 5/1 Tivoli Bay CP; 43/2 Long Dock Pk Beacon KH; 1/30 Beacon Waterfront CP.

**Great Blue Heron:** 51 records; 1 ea. on most lakes & ponds; **most:** 5/5 The Fly DK.

**Great Egret:** 1/7 Wappingers Lk. SJ (only record).

**Hawks: Red-tailed Hawks** were well reported throughout the county. **Cooper's Hawk:** 16 reports and **Sharp-shinned Hawk:** 5 records avg. 1 each by many observers.

**Black Vulture:** 13 record avg. 11 ea; **most:** 22/28 HVRT/Coleman St. Rd. CV.

**Turkey Vulture:** 27 records avg. 1 ea; **most:** 5/12 Sylvan Lk CP; 12/10 Berkshire Rd. Dover, CV;

**Osprey:** 1/18 Bulls Head Rd. CP, FM & 1/19 Bulls Head Rd. GP.

**Bald Eagle:** Good numbers of 1-2 reported near water - mostly Pine Plains & through county; **most:** 3/5 Tamarack Lk. FT; 10/25 Dover, MR.

**Golden Eagle:** 1/10 & 24 Dover CV; 2/30 Dover DF.

**Northern Harrier:** 14 records avg. 1 ea: **most:** 3/16 Ludlow Woods Rd. DK.

**Red-shouldered Hawk:** 1/3 yd. Rhinebeck MP; 2/7 Allen Rd. Salt Pt. BMa; 2/11 DRT AL; 1/28 Sheffield Hill Rd. CV.

**Shorebirds: American Coot:** 7 records avg. 5 ea: **most:** 30/24 Whaley Lk. Pawling CV.

**Killdeer:** 1/3 Andrew Hight Rd. BMa; 20/5 The Fly FT; 1/8 Strauss Marsh BN; 3/8 The Fly, MS, KS.

**Hudsonian Godwit:** A surprise sighting - 1/5 Strauss Marsh FT & seen by many observers thru 8<sup>th</sup> with photographs.

**Wilson's Snipe:** 1/4 HVRT/Sharon St. Rd. CV (only record).

**Gulls: Ring-billed Gull** seen throughout county by many observers **most:** 400/20 McEnroe compost CV.

**Herring Gull:** 29 records avg. 11 ea: **most:** 60/26 Denning Pt. MR; 30/30 Beacon Waterfront Pk CP.

**Iceland Gull:** 1/4 thru mo. & 2/20 McEnroe compost by many observers.

**Lesser Black-backed Gull:** 1/20 McEnroe compost JA.

**Great Black-backed Gull:** 1-2 reported; **most:** 30/26 Denning's Pt. MR 4/30 Beacon Waterfront Pk CP.

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** 1/11-27 Strever Fm Rd, Pine Plains sev. observers; 1/25 Dailey Rd. LaGrange HT.

**Great Horned Owl:** 1-2/6 thru 23 Ludlow Woods Rd. DK; 1/8 Strauss Marsh KM.

**Barred Owl:** 1/17 & 19 Verbank BB; 1/26 Ludlow Woods Rd, Stanford DK.

**Belted Kingfisher:** 34 records mostly 1 ea: 2/7 Hillside Lk. CV; 2/19 Schhouse Rd. Swamp Heronry BMa.

**Woodpeckers: Red-bellied, Downy, Hairy Woodpeckers, Northern Flicker** - good numbers reported of 1-2 by most observers.

**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** 11 records of 1 each; **most:** 2/1 Sylvan Lk CP; 3/23 Vassar Campus FT.

**Pileated Woodpecker:** 41 records of 1-2 each; **most:** 5/27 Vassar Farm AL; 4/26 Allen Rd. Salt Pt. BMa.

## WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016

**American Kestrel:** 7 records of 1 ea; on 1/8 dueling with Sharp-shinned Hawk @ Ludlow Woods Rd. DK.

**Merlin:** 2/5 HVRT Amenia FT; 1/7 Strauss Marsh PSt; 1/16 Bowdoin Pk FT.

**Peregrine Falcon:** 1/7 Strauss Marsh PSt; 1/23 Kingston/Rhinecliff Bridge JCLi; 1/25 Coleman St. Rd. Millerton chased 1 RBGU in field across from McEnroe's Organic Farm DK.

**Northern Shrike:** 1/25 Smithfield Rd. Amenia AMP (only record).

**American Crow:** **most:** 100/13 McEnroe compost CV; 200/13 Sheffield hill Rd. CPHt; 200/20 Marshall Fm BB.

**Fish Crow:** **most** malls & 60/2 Long Dock Pk Beacon KH; 10/19 Denning's Pt. AL.

**Common Raven:** 27 records of 1-2 ea; **most:** 8/5 Andrew Haight Rd. FT; 6/23 Stissing Pd. DK.

**Horned Lark:** 8 records avg. 7 to 90 - **most:** 400/21 Morse Hill Rd. CP; 200/19 Taylor Rd. Millerton CP HT;

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** 40 records of 1 ea & reg. visits at least 4 feeders; **most:** 3/23 Vassar Campus CP.

**Brown Creeper:** 12 records of 1 ea; **most:** 3/17 DRT AL; 3/27 LaGrange CV.

**Winter Wren:** 8 records of 1 ea. incl. 1/1 Bowdoin Pk AL; 1/10 Hagantown Pk. Spackenkill MK; 1/12 Hillside Lk. FT; 3/23 Vassar Campus FT; 1/28 Dennings Pt AL.

**Carolina Wren:** 41 records; 1-3 ea; **most:** 14/23 Vassar Campus JCLi FT.

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** 11 records avg 2 ea; **most:** 5/2 Dennings PT FT.

**Ruby-Crowned Kinglet:** 12 records avg 2 ea; **most:** 4/2 Dennings Pt FT.

**American Robin, Eastern Bluebird and Cedar Waxwing** well reported and **Northern Mockingbird 1-4 reported throughout Co.** CV noted Robins 100/4 HVRT/Sharon St. Rd., MR noted Eastern Bluebirds 20/6 Greig Fm. and CV noted Cedar Waxwings 75/4 HVRT/Coleman St.

**Gray Catbird:** 1/2 Dennings Pt. FT; 1/7 Rt/ 376 East Fishkill CV; 1/7 Vassar Fm DWe.

**American Pipit:** 20/6 Greig Fm MR; 4/8 O'Leary Fm BMa; 100//13 Sheffield Hill Rd. CP DK; 100/19 Taylor Rd. Millerton JA and 2 other records.

**Lapland Longspur:** 1/19 Taylor Rd. Millerton JA (only record)  
**Snow Bunting:** 18/8 Strauss Marsh MS KS; 5/19 Taylor Rd. Millerton JA and 2 other records.

**Warblers: Common Yellowthroat:** 1/23 Vassar Campus FT; 1/24 Reese Sancturay KH.

**Palm Warbler:** 1/2 Vassar Fm DWe (only record).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** 9 records avg. 3 ea; **most:** 8/2 Dennings Pt. CF; 2/5 Mashomack FT; 2/12 Wapp. Lk. JCLi.

**Wilson Warbler:** 1/28 Dennings Pt. AL incl. photo (only record).

**Sparrows: White-throated, Dark-eyed Junco and Song** were well reported throughout county by most observers. CP noted 100/21 Junos at Morse Hill Rd.

**Eastern Towhee:** 1/2 Vassar Fm DWe (only record).

**American Tree Sparrow:** 18 records; **most:** 5/10 Mills SP/Hopeland KH; 6/13 Buttercup MR.

**Field Sparrow:** 2/6 Greig Fm MR; 1/8 HVRT/Coleman St. CV; 2/10 Mills SP/Hopeland KH; 2/18 Vassar Fm CV.

**Fox Sparrow:** 12 records avg. 1 ea: **most:** 2/18 Vassar Fm CV; 2/28 Dennings Pt. AL.

**White-crowned Sparrow:** 1/13 Downey Rd. Millerton CV (only record).

**Savannah Sparrow:** 1/6 Greig Fm MR; 1/13 Southland Fm MP; 1/21 Morse Hill Rd. CP.

**Swamp Sparrow:** 1/8 HVRT/Coleman St. CV; 1/12 Wapp. Lk JCLi; 2/30 Madam Brett PK Beacon AL.

**Red-winged Blackbird:** 27 records of up to 40 ea: **most:** 150/4 HVRT/Sharon St. CV; 500/5 Strauss Marsh FT.

**Rusty Blackbird:** 3/4 HVRT Sharon St. CV; 1/5 Stissing Pd. FT; 10/8 HVRT/Coleman St. CV.

**Common Grackle:** 11 records with large numbers reported; **most:** 2000/3 Huckleberry Rd. Amenia DK; 3000/4 HVRT Sharon St. CV; 800/21 Smithfield Valley Rd. Amenia CP.

**Blackbird sp.:** **most:** 1500 on 2 records; 500/6 Greig Fm MR; 200/22 Thompson Pd. CV.

**Finches: House Finch and American Goldfinch** well reported by most observers.

**Purple Finch:** 13 records avg. 2 ea: **most:** 4/1 Bowdoin Pk. AL; 5/3 LaGrange CV; 4/10 yd. Standfordville DK 4/13 Rhinebeck MP.

**Pine Siskin:** 1/4 1/10 yd. Verbank BB; 1/9 yd. Mabbettsville AMP; 1/10 yd. Standfordville DK; 1/18 Salt Pt. BMa .

**Evening Grosbeak:** 2/3 LaGrange CV (only record).

### OBSERVERS:

John Askildsen (JA); Barbara Butler (BB); Jim Clinton (JCLi); Jim Closs (JClo); Waterman Bird Club (FT); Bud & Bonnie Fair (BBF); Claudius Feger (CF); Dorothy Fleury (DF); Mary Gall (MG); Jason Gregg (JG); John Haas (JH); Ken Harris (KH); Donald Jones (DJ); Susan Joseph (SJ); Maha Katnani (MK); Deborah Kral (DK); Aimee Labarr (AL); Scott Lenhart (SL); Barbara Mansell (BMa); Frank Margiotta (FM); Liz Martens (LM); Ken McDermott (KM); Barb Michelin (BJM); Barb & Allan Michelin (BAM); Bruce Nott (BN); Gina Palmer (GP); Mona Payton (MP); Carol Pedersen (CPe); Carena Pooth (CP); Adrienne Popko (AMP); Laurie Preisendanz (LP); Susan Rogers (SR); Matthew Rymkiewicz (MR); Robert Sager (RS); Tom Schaefer (TS); Kathryn Schneider (KS); Marian Sole (MS); Edmond Spaeth (ES); Peter Stewart (PSt); Eileen Stickle (ESTi); Zach S-W (ZS); Nancy Swanson (NS); Herb Thompson (HT); Chet Vincent (CV); Deb Weltsch (DWe); Waterman Birdclub (FT);

**Field Trips:** Dennings Point – 2<sup>th</sup>, No. Dut. Waterfowl FT- 5<sup>th</sup>, Hopeland Sanctuary 9<sup>th</sup> (cancelled), So. Dut. Waterfowl FT- 12<sup>th</sup>, Bowdoin Pk. – 16<sup>th</sup>, Vassar College – 23<sup>rd</sup>, Mills Mansion – 30<sup>th</sup> (cancelled)

**Abbreviations:** Fm-farm, DRT-Dutchess Rail Trail, HVRT - Harlem Valley Rail Trail, TSF – The Southlands Farm,

Compiler: Barbara Michelin

## DECEMBER 2016 RECORDS

Weather ranged from a very cold stretch mid-month that froze many lakes and ponds to a warming trend late in the month. Several Audubon Christmas Bird counts were held in the county. Rare or notable birds seen this month included: Orchard Oriole, White-winged Scoter on Hunn's Lake, a White-fronted Goose at The Fly, a Rough-legged Hawk, a continuing Red-breasted Merganser at Madam Brett Park, and a very late Chipping Sparrow on Pitcher Lane, Red Hook.

Be sure to visit the Waterman Bird Club website or Facebook page to see images and updates on notable birds seen around the County.

**WATERFOWL** – Temperatures dropped quickly the second week of December freezing many ponds and lakes, and there was some ice north in the river. 2 reports of **Cackling Geese**: 1/9 Hunn's Lake DK and 1/22 Sylvan Lake CP. A **Greater White-fronted Goose** was amongst the Canada Geese 1/4 The Fly DK. On the 21<sup>st</sup>, Peter Stewart sighted several skeins of Snow Geese numbering over 3000 heading south over Red Hook. On the 16<sup>th</sup> many others saw/photographed a large skein of over 250 flying south over Poughkeepsie during the CBC whilst Carena and Herb found a flock of around 600 on Redwing Beekman earlier that morning. The last reported Wood Duck were 2/10 at Norrie Point (SP,CP). American Wigeon 3/9 Drake Lake (LM), Northern Pintail (max 11/1 The Fly, CV, 6/13 Round Pond (DF), Bufflehead – 5 records 2/9 Hunns Lk (Bma, SJ), Common Goldeneye – 2 records 1/20 Sylvan Lk (CP), Hooded Mergansers – high counts 61/4 Rudd Pd (DK), 46/28 Whaley Lk CP; Common Mergansers 40 records max 64/20 Norrie Pt (SP,CP) 39/1 Hunn's Lk DK, 36 Dennings Pt OB; Ruddy Duck 10 records Max 18/21 Redwing Beekman CP. It was an American Black Duck show on the 11<sup>th</sup> with 120 seen on Stissing Pond by CP,HT (33 records total, avg 12 each).



*Leucistic Canada Goose Photo by Jim Clinton*

**Wild Turkey**: 27 records, avg 21 each. MAX 62/6 Stissing Mtn Rd CV

**Pied-billed Grebe**: 1/20, 21 and 25 Sylvan Lk CP (only reports)

**Double-crested Cormorant**: 1/1 Mills SP KH; 1/3 Beacon Waterfront Pk BN

**Great Blue Heron**: 19 records, avg 1 each. MAX 3/10 Blithewood PSt; 2/5 Tamarack Lk DK.

### DIURNAL RAPTORS -

**Black Vulture**: 25 records, avg 11 each. MAX 56/28UD CBC G Tivoli JP; NOTABLES: 30/17 Rt9/Stone Church Rd PSt; 41/18 Separate Rd DK; 30/30 Morse Hill Rd CP.

**Turkey Vulture**: 2/1 Diddell Rd DK; 2/1 Madam Brett Pk DK; 2/3 yd Rhinebeck MP; 1/10 St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery PSt; 1/10 Wapp Falls BJM.

**Golden Eagle**: 2/8 Dover Plains CV (only record).

**Northern Harrier**: 19 records 1/1 Mashomack CV; 2/14 Verbank FT (holiday walk); 3/19 Mashomack CV; 3/27UD CBC D Kerley Corners PS.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk**: 12 records, avg 1 each. 1/1 Madam Brett Pk DK; 2/18 Separate Rd DK

**Cooper's Hawk**: 30 records, avg 1 each. 2/2 Berkshire Rd Dover DK; 4/14 Verbank Church (holiday walk), CR 9, Verbank  
**Accipiter sp.** 1/14 Verbank Church (holiday walk), CR 9, Verbank FT, 1/16 Hunns Lk DK

**Bald Eagle**: 65 records, avg 3 each. MAX 30/22 Dover Plains CP; NOTABLES: 8/28 Mashomack DK; 7/30 Stissing Pd DK (all were perched in same tree across the pond during a snow squall).

**Red-shouldered Hawk**: 14 records, avg 1 each. 1/3 Depot Hill CP; 1/31 Morse Hill Rd CP

**Red-tailed Hawk**: 118 records, avg 3 each. High counts: 14/9 Rt 82 at Conklin Hill Rd. Stanfordville SJ, BMA; 11/21 Dover Plains CP.

**Rough-legged Hawk**: 1/30 Morse Hill Rd CP (only record).

**Buteo sp.**: 1/10 Vassar Fm FT, CV (only record).

**American Coot**: 3 records 1/25 Sylvan Lk CP; 1/27 Stissing Pd CV; 2/28 Whaley Lk CP

**Killdeer**: 2 records 1/4 The Fly CP, HT; 2/10 Guski/Kerley Corners Pst

**Ring-billed Gull**: 56 records, NOTABLES: 150/2 McEnroe Compost CV; 180/3 Beacon Waterfront Pk BN; 150/9 Strauss Marsh CP, HT; 180/11 Sylvan Lk CP.

**Herring Gull**: 11 records 11/2 McEnroe Compost CV; 1/18 imm McEnroe Compost DK;

13/31 Dennings Pt OB; MAX 120/3 Beacon Waterfront Pk BN

**Iceland Gull**: 3 records 1/2 McEnroe Compost CV; 1/18 McEnroe Compost DE; 2/31 Beacon Waterfront CM (1st yr birds)

**Lesser Black-backed Gull**: 1/31 Dennings Pt OB (only record).

**Greater Black-backed Gull**: 9 records 7/3 Beacon Waterfront Pk BN; 2/20 Norrie Pt SP PSt, CP.

**Gull sp.**: 4 records, avg 16 each. 20/20 Norrie Pt SP PSt; 2/31 Beacon- JC

**Rock Pigeon**: well-reported High count: 95/17 Home Depot, Pok LM

**Mourning Dove**: High count: 75/29 Baird Pk DK; 60/30 Morse Hill Rd CP

## WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016

### NOCTURNAL RAPTORS -

**Eastern Screech-Owl:** 11 records; 1/31 Dennings Pt OB;  
5/27UD CBC D Kerley Corners; 3/28UD CBC G Tivoli JP.  
**Great Horned Owl:** 7 records 1/5, 2/13 Ludlow Woods Rd  
DK; 2/27UD CBC D Kerley Corners

**Barred Owl:** 7 records 1/4 Pawling RG; 2/13 yd Stanfordville  
DK; 3/27UD CBC D Kerley Corners;

**Belted Kingfisher:** 23 records NOTABLES: 2/2 Cruger Island  
Rd PST; 2/6 Hunns Lk DK

### WOODPECKERS -

**Red-headed Woodpecker:** 1/10 Strauss Marsh MR  
**Red-bellied Woodpecker:** 84 records Max: 10/31 Dennings Pt  
OB; 9/28UD CBC G Tivoli JP, JCI  
**Yellow-bellied Sapsucker:** 19 records, NOTABLES: 2/1 Mills  
SP KH; 2/1 Mills SP/Hopeland KH; 2/16 Vassar Fm Jclo.  
**Downy Woodpecker:** 88 records MAX 9/28 Norrie Pt SP FT  
**Hairy Woodpecker:** 45 records, NOTABLES: 4/14 Allen Rd  
Salt Pt BMa; 4/28 Norrie Pt SP FT.  
**Northern Flicker:** 23 records: MAX 5/28 Red Hook Golf  
Course JClo; NOTABLES: 3/14 Allen Rd Salt Pt BMa; 3/28UD  
CBC G Tivoli JP  
**Pileated Woodpecker:** 51 records NOTABLES: 4/14 Allen Rd  
Salt Pt BMa; 4/28 Norrie Pt SP FT.

### FALCONS -

**American Kestrel:** 5 records NOTABLES: 1/16 Sheffield Hill  
Rd DK; 1/21 Allen Rd Salt Pt BMa; 1/23 Noxon Rd.  
Poughkeepsie DK.  
**Merlin:** 1/8 Marist College BW; 1/16 Hunns Lk Rd. DK; 1/16  
VanWagner Rd AMP; 2/17 Mill Rd. Rhinebeck, JSch; 1/28UD  
CBC G Tivoli JP; 1/31 Southlands Foundation MP  
**Peregrine Falcon:** 9 records, only 2 reports from along the  
Hudson, the rest from the eastern county FIRST 1/4 Jordyn Ln,  
Dover CV

### THE PASSERINES -

**Eastern Phoebe:** 1/18 Ring Rd Salt Pt LM (only record).  
**Northern Shrike:** 1/9 Strauss Marsh HT, CP, CV (only record)



Northern Shrike Photo by Carena Pooth

**Blue Jay:** 123 records, avg 5 each. MAX 42/27UD CBC D  
Kerley Corners PS

**American Crow:** 136 records, avg 103 each. MAX The  
Winter roost area -10000/3 Shadows Restaurant Pking Lot,  
Poughkeepsie CV; NOTABLES: 1482/12 Salt Pt LM - there was  
a continuous stream of crows for the entire 30 minutes I  
walked. They were flying from the NE to the SW, presumably  
to the large crow roost in the City of Poughkeepsie. 500/21  
Baird Pk AMP, FT, JClo.

**Fish Crow:** 11 records MAX 10/20 Taylor Rd, Millerton CV;  
7/20 Lower Sharon Stn Rd CV; 4/21 Wappingers Falls - Big  
Lots KH.

**Common Raven:** 32 records MAX 6/24 Buttercup (very  
vocal, all together) MR; NOTABLES: 4/22 Dover Plains DK.

**Horned Lark:** 23 records FIRST 100/10 Morse Hill Rd MR;  
MAX 800/31 Morse Hill Rd CP; NOTABLES: 300/14 Verbank  
FT, CV, AMP; 200/18 Rt 22, Millerton AMP; 5/19 Overlook Pk  
CP

**Black-capped Chickadee:** 121 records MAX 58/27UD CBC D  
Kerley Corners PS

**Tufted Titmouse:** 92 records MAX 40/27UD CBC D Kerley  
Corners PS

**Red-breasted Nuthatch:** 11 records, 1/5 YARD Milan SJ;  
LAST 1/21 yd Salt Pt BMa;

**White-breasted Nuthatch:** 91 records, MAX 13/27UD CBC D  
Kerley Corners PS

**Brown Creeper:** 12 records NOTABLES: 2/15, 22 LaGrange  
CV; 2/27 Blithewood Pst.

**Carolina Wren:** NOTABLES: 3/16 DRT AL; 3/16 Vassar Fm  
JClo; 3/27UD CBC D Kerley Corners

**Golden-crowned Kinglet:** 5 records MAX 5/4 Lakeside Pk  
AS; NOTABLES: 2/28 Norrie Pt SP FT.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet:** 2/28UD CBC G Tivoli JP (only  
record).

### THRUSHES

**Eastern Bluebird:** 45 records MAX 24/27UD CBC D Kerley  
Corners PS; NOTABLES: 12/10 Vassar Fm FT, CV; 13/17  
Arborio Rd, PV LM; 5/30-31 eating Winterberries yd  
Stanfordville DK;

**Hermit Thrush:** 3 records 1/16 DRT AL; 1/18 Millerton  
DK, AJ, JR; 1/23 Buttercup MN

**American Robin:** 28 records, avg 15 each. MAX 42/23  
Vassar Fm DWe; NOTABLES: 40/15 Brenner Ridge, Pleasant  
Valley CV; 41/22 Dover Plains CP; 11/31 Dennings Pt OB;

**Northern Mockingbird:** 33 records, FIRST 2/1 Mills  
SP/Hopeland KH; LAST Date 31, 2 records.; MAX 5/27UD

CBC D Kerley Corners PS; NOTABLES: 3/10 Vassar Fm CV,  
FT; 3/17 Dutchess Hill Rd, HP LM.

**European Starling:** 75 records, avg 39 each. FIRST Date 1,  
2 records.; LAST Date 31, 7 records.; MAX 300 on 2 records;  
MIN 1 on 7 records

**American Pipit:** 2 records, avg 14 each. FIRST 1/18  
Southlands Foundation MP; LAST 28/27UD CBC D Kerley



## WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016

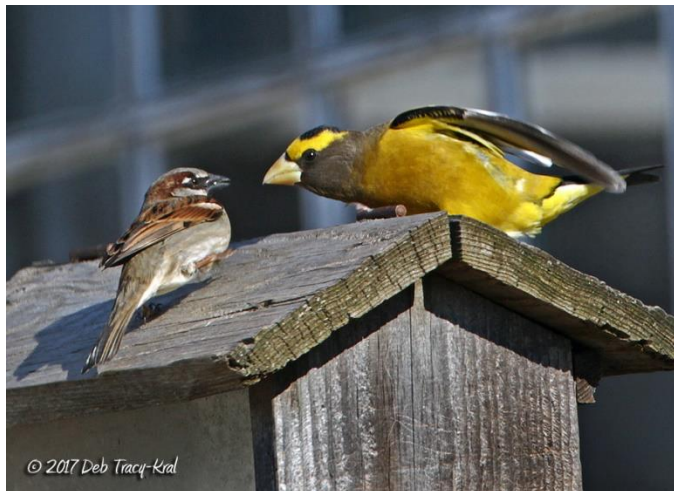
Corners PS; MAX 28/27UD CBC D Kerley Corners PS; MIN 1/18 Southlands Foundation MP

**Cedar Waxwing:** 5 records, avg 8 each. FIRST 2/1 Mills SP/Hopeland KH; LAST 10/17 Arborio Rd, PV LM; MAX 13/9 Strauss Marsh CV; MIN 2/1 Mills SP/Hopeland KH

**Common Yellowthroat:** 1/23 Buttercup MN (only record).

**Palm Warbler:** 1/27UD CBC D Kerley Corners PS (only record).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler:** 2 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/16 DRT AL; LAST 1/27UD CBC D Kerley Corners PS; MAX 1 on 2 records; MIN 1 on 2 records



*House Sparrow vs. Evening Grosbeak, Photo by Deb Kral*

### SPARROWS

**American Tree Sparrow:** 43 records, avg 4 each. FIRST 2/1 Mills SP/Hopeland KH; LAST Date 31, 5 records.; MAX 40/27UD CBC D Kerley Corners PS; MIN 1 on 18 records NOTABLES: 20/16 Downey Rd, Millerton DK; 10/30 Rockefeller Ln CP.

**Chipping Sparrow:** 1/30 Rockefeller Ln CP, CP (only record).

**Field Sparrow:** 1/14 Verbank Church (holiday walk), CR 9, Verbank CV, FT (only record).

**Fox Sparrow:** 1/22 LaGrange CV (only record).

**Dark-eyed Junco:** 147 records, avg 13 each. FIRST Date 1, 5 records.; LAST Date 31, 9 records.; MAX 100 on 2 records; MIN 1 on 9 records NOTABLES: 76/27UD CBC D Kerley Corners PS; 67/28UD CBC G Tivoli JP; 100/30 Morse Hill Rd CP; 100/31 Morse Hill Rd CP; 52/31 Southlands Foundation MP.

**White-throated Sparrow:** 68 records, avg 4 each. FIRST Date 1, 5 records.; LAST Date 31, 3 records.; MAX 23/31 Dennings Pt OB; MIN 1 on 16 records NOTABLES: 20/16 Vassar Fm JClo; 18/31 Red Hook-Budd's Corners Rd SJ.

**Savannah Sparrow:** 1/27UD CBC D Kerley Corners PS (only record).

**Song Sparrow:** 41 records, avg 2 each. FIRST Date 1, 2 records.; LAST Date 31, 5 records.; MAX 10/16 Vassar Fm JClo; MIN 1 on 18 records NOTABLES: 5/16 DRT AL; 6/21 Reagan Rd CP; 5/31 Dennings Pt OB.

**Swamp Sparrow:** 2 records, avg 1 each. FIRST 1/23 Buttercup MN; LAST 1/31 Dennings Pt OB;

**Lapland Longspur:** 1/19 Taylor Rd Area JA (only record).

**Snow Bunting:** 9 records, avg 7 each. FIRST 3/18 Rt 22, Millerton AMP; LAST Date 31, 4 records.; MAX 20/31 Budds Corners Rd, Red Hook ESh; MIN 1 on 4 records NOTABLES: 8/19 Taylor Rd Area JA; 12/31 Perotti Rd, Millerton DK; 13/31 Southlands Foundation MP.

**Northern Cardinal:** 90 records, avg 3 each. FIRST Date 1, 5 records.; LAST Date 31, 6 records.; MAX 13 on 2 records; MIN 1 on 31 records NOTABLES: 12/1 Hi View Rd Wapp BAM; 10/10 Vassar Fm FT, CV; 13/27UD CBC D Kerley Corners PS; 13/28UD CBC G Tivoli JP. COMMENTS: BAM/1: 7m/5f yd. feeders all mo.

### BLACKBIRDS

**Red-winged Blackbird:** 14 records, avg 22 each. FIRST 70/1 Mashomack CV; LAST 3/30 Morse Hill Rd CP; MAX

200/22 (mixed flock) Dover Plains DK; NOTABLES: 70/1 Mashomack CV; 15/14 Dandeneau Fm CV.

**Eastern Meadowlark:** 1/16 Coole Pk Fm, Amenia CV Mixed in with flock of Horned Lark.

**Rusty Blackbird:** 2 records, avg 2 each. FIRST 2/18 yd Rhinebeck MP; LAST 1/28UD CBC G Tivoli JP; MAX 2/18 yd Rhinebeck MP; MIN 1/28UD CBC G Tivoli JP

**Common Grackle:** 13 records, avg 297 each. FIRST 110/1 Mashomack CV; LAST 200/29 Baird Pk DK; MAX 1500/14 Dandeneau Fm CV; NOTABLES: 1500/14 Dandeneau Fm CV; 1000/21 Baird Pk AMP, FT, JClo; 1000/23 Dandeneau Fm CV.

**Brown-headed Cowbird:** 21 records FIRST 50/2 Willow Brook Fm, Millerton CV; LAST 1/30 yd Stanfordville DK; MAX 300/14 Dandeneau Fm CV; NOTABLES: 50/20 Taylor Rd, Millerton CV.

**Orchard Oriole:** 1/3 N Mabbettville Rd AMP (only record).

COMMENTS: AMP/3: female - solid yellowish color from bill to vent w gray back & 2 thin white wing bars

**Blackbird sp.:** 4 records, avg 238 each. FIRST 50/4 Berkshire Rd Dover CV; LAST 100/14 Verbank Church (holiday walk), CR 9, Verbank FT, AMP, CV; MAX 500/8 Tamarack Lk DK; MIN 50/4 Berkshire Rd Dover CV

### FINCHES -

**House Finch:** 60 records, avg 5 each. FIRST Date 1, 2 records.; LAST Date 31, 3 records.; MAX 16/27UD CBC D Kerley Corners PS;

**Pine Siskin:** 1/1 Depot Hill CP (only record).

**American Goldfinch:** 71 records, avg 6 each. MAX 36/15 yd Salt Pt BMA

**Evening Grosbeak:** 2 records, 1/20 Ring Rd Salt Pt LM; 1/21 Ring Rd Salt Pt LM

**House Sparrow:** 48 records, avg 10 each. MAX 50/2 Willow Brook Fm, Millerton CV;

### 48 OBSERVERS:

John Askildsen (JA); Oliver Burton (OB); Barbara Butler (BB); Betsy Carswell (BC); Joseph Chernek (JC); Jim Closs (JClo); Waterman Bird Club (FT); Jamie Collins (JCo); John & Abby Dux (JAD); Dianne Engleke (DE); Greg Esch (GE); Claudius Feger (CF); Dorothy Fleury (DF); Russell Gerry (RG); Ken Harris (KH); David Hayes (DH); Jesse Jaycox (JJ); Art Jones (AL); Susan Joseph (SJ); Maha Katnani (MK); Deborah Kral (DK); Aimee Labarr (AL); Bill Lenhart (BL); Barbara Mansell

**WATERMAN BIRD CLUB / COMPILED MONTHLY RECORDS / JANUARY – DECEMBER 2016**

(BMa); Liz Martens (LM); Leigh McBride (LMc); Curt Mcdermott (CM); Barb Michelin (BJM); Barb & Allan Michelin (BAM); Michael Nicosia (MN); Ilana Nilsen (IN); Bruce Nott (BN); Mona Payton (MP); Carena Pooth (CP); Adrienne Popko (AMP); Jessica Prockup (JP); Jane Rossman (JR); Matthew Rymkiewicz (MR); Justin Schmidt (JSch); Peter Schoenberger (PS); Elisa Shaw (ESh); Edmond Spaeth (ES); Jami St. Pierre (JSP); Peter Stewart (PSt); Anna Stunkel (AS); Taylor Sturm (TS); Jessica Vas (JV); Fritz Waterman (FW); Deb Weltsch (DWe); Bryan White (BW) Peter Schoenberger (PS); Elisa Shaw (ESh); Edmond Spaeth (ES); Jami St. Pierre (JSP); Peter Stewart (PSt); Anna Stunkel (AS); Taylor Sturm (TS); Jessica Vas (JV); Fritz Waterman (FW); Deb Weltsch (DWe); Bryan White (BW)

Submitted by: Deb Tracy-Kral