

Chip Notes

BALTIMORE BIRD CLUB NEWSLETTER



SPRING 2017 No. 399

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

My Big Year 20161, 8, 9

Welcome New Members1

President's Corner

Christmas Count2, 7

Conservation Corner

Interested in Banding Birds?2

My South Texas Trip3

Bird Bits 2017

Covered Dish Dinner4

Certificates of Appreciation4

Middle River Xmas Count5

Wisdom, Baltimore & Moonbird ...6

Bird Drawing Class6

Watching Birds

During Migration7

Field Trip Reports10, 11

BBC Info and Application12



My Big Year 2016, Part 1: The People, the Places, the Birds...

Story and photos by Hugh David Fleischmann

In this two-part article, David (the name he goes by) Fleischmann, a BBC member, entertains and enlightens us about his "Big Year" adventures in 2016. It is exhausting just to read about his effort. Please read on here, and again in the Summer Chip Notes to see if he achieves his self-imposed goals.



Greg Miller and David (on right)

I should have known something about 2016 was going to be different from the very first week. On January 7th, I made my second trip of 2016 followed shortly thereafter by a third trip in nine days to see the Vermilion Flycatcher and Loggerhead Shrike spotted across the Bay Bridge in Kent County. I didn't know what it meant at the time, but I had a feeling. Soon thereafter I decided that I was going to **try and make it in the top 10 birders in Maryland**. According to eBird, I would need to see over 300 species during the year, so I had a lot of work ahead of me!

So when did I decide to change my goals, or more appropriately, add an additional goal on top of my already ambitious goal of 300 plus birds in Maryland? That happened sometime in the middle of May, just after I returned from an amazing five-day trip with Anthony Vanschoor to Magee Marsh in Ohio, the true Warbler capital of the world—warblers literally are dripping off the trees! Nevertheless, I only added two birds here—Orange-crowned Warbler and Clay-colored Sparrow—to take my year list to 225. But, what I did not see in new species was made up for

Continued on page 8

WELCOME!

A warm Baltimore Bird Club welcome goes out to the following members who have joined us since the Winter Chip Notes was published. Thanks for joining, We look forward to seeing you out there on our birding trips and at our meetings.

From Baltimore

Gill Myers Baltimore

Kayla Thanner Baltimore

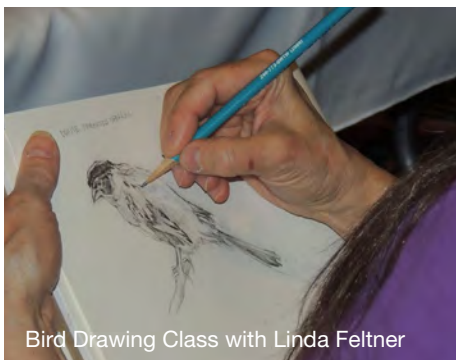
Kim Tomko Baltimore

From Other Cities

Gene Ricks Glyndon

Tsvetan Nikolov Reisterstown

Colleen Lamont & Patrick Chaul.. Towson



Bird Drawing Class with Linda Feltner

President's Corner by Peter Lev



Christmas Count

The Audubon Christmas Bird Count is an old and distinguished citizen science project, tracking changes in bird populations since 1901. But it's also great fun to be out with friends, trying to pull a long list of species from a defined territory. I've covered the same territory, North Point State Park and vicinity, for at least ten years. I should know

where the birds are, yet each year they surprise me. Here are some notes on the 2016 count, occurring on Saturday, December 31st.

6:58 am: I pull into the little park at Millers Island Boulevard and Baylight Avenue. Nancy O'Hara is already there. We walk down Baylight at dawn, hearing a few robins and sparrows. The first bird I see is small and light-breasted, but hard to ID (not much daylight). I stare and stare and finally confirm a Ruby-crowned Kinglet.

7:45: Nancy and I are near the mouth of Back River. We see a huge, distant raft of ducks in front of a wooded peninsula. This is exciting. I used to

Continued on page 7

Conservation CORNER

Interested in Banding Birds?

By Katie Lautar

Baltimore Green Space partners with communities to preserve and support community gardens, forest patches, pocket parks and other open spaces managed by city residents. See more about them at <http://baltimoregreenspace.org>

Baltimore Green Space, in partnership with UMBC scientist Colin Studds, will host a Bird Banding Training on April 2nd at 9 a.m. The training will include demonstrations of mist netting, how to measure and weigh birds, how to determine their age, and more. We'll discuss the many ways that bird banding has improved our understanding of bird biology and conservation.

Colin will also describe his planned research in association with Baltimore Green Space to study how birds use urban forests while on migration. He plans to capture migrating birds and fit them

with small radio tags that will send a signal to receivers placed in forest patches throughout Baltimore, allowing him to track their movements. The study will give us new information about the importance of urban forests to sustain the amazing phenomenon of bird migration. Colin has studied bird migration around the world, from Australia to Sweden. When he's not doing research in Baltimore, Colin studies overwintering birds in the Caribbean. One such study looks at how climate change is affecting the timing of spring migration for species like the American Redstart. Location is TBA. Registration is first-come first-served, as we can only handle a limited number of folks. The location will be shared with all accepted registrants. Registrants should wear closed-toed shoes, long sleeves, and long pants. Register now: write to Katherine@baltimoregreenspace.org or call 443-608-0353.



An overwintering American Redstart, Jamaica

My South Texas Trip

by Peter Lev

Peter Lev (BBC) and Dave Larkin (Harford Club) attended the Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival in Harlingen, Texas on Nov. 2-7, 2016. We visited the King Ranch, Santa Ana NWR, Laguna Atascosa NWR, Estero Llano State Park, and South Padre Island Bird and Nature Center. Estero Llano was the birdiest spot; our group had 86 species between 7:00 and 10:30 am in warm, dusty conditions. 100 species in a day at Estero Llano is very possible.

The Rio Grande Valley festival was founded by a group of birders including Father Tom Pincelli, a Catholic priest who has worked for decades to bring birders and tourist dollars to one of the poorest areas of the state. It's working! Hundreds of people attended this year, and the vendor area was packed with equipment, books, clothing, and birding guides from near and far (one was from Portugal). The festival will even feed you simple dinners for a one-time fee of \$25, though you have to wait in line. My only complaint is that most of the groups visiting the hotspots are large, about forty people. Even if you split this number in two for the actual birding (which usually happened), twenty in a group is not ideal. Nevertheless, we found our target birds.

Some of the highlights: King Ranch has the largest population of Ferruginous Pygmy Owls in the United States. We located a perched owl in a few minutes, and we had both Audubon's and Altamira Orioles near the owl spot. On the entrance road to Laguna Atascosa we saw an Aplomado Falcon on a wire. Buff-



Aplomado Falcon by Bill Hubick.
Taken near Brownsville, Texas

breasted Hummingbird is supposed to be easy, but it eluded us until Nov. 6; then we saw another one on Nov. 7. Roadrunner is not a rare bird, but as Northerners we enjoyed seeing one at Laguna Atascosa. Estero Llano had Fulvous Whistling Ducks and two Common Pauragues that have been roosting on the ground in exactly the same place for years.

Peter and Dave went on their own to the South Padre Island Bird and Nature Center, which turned out to be a great spot. Water from a wastewater



treatment plant is released into a marsh, creating a wonderland for birds. There are similar places in South Florida. Our shorebird list for the South Padre Center was Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, Long-billed Curlew, Ruddy Turnstone, Stilt Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Western Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, Spotted Sandpiper, and Western Willet. Franklin's Gulls and Laughing Gulls were abundant, so one could compare. At one point Peter clapped his hands and three Virginia Rails answered. Then we saw two large, brightly-plumaged rails that we thought were Kings, but the local birders (on eBird) insist they are Clappers.

Peter had eight life birds for the trip. Dave had lived in Texas many years ago so he wasn't expecting lifers, but the Aplomado Falcon was probably new for him. If you haven't birded South Texas before you could easily add twenty species to your life list. The Rio Grande Valley Birding Festival is a good way to get acquainted or re-acquainted with the birds of this area.



Birdbits.....

2017 Covered Dish Dinner



Our annual Covered Dish Dinner was a little different this year. First of all, we were not able to reserve the Cylburn Voller Center because the Arboretum is hosting a large photographic exhibition on *The New American Garden: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow* featuring the work of Wolfgang Oehme and James Van Sweden. You should try to see it if you can. It will be there through March 26th.

So we reserved the Greenhouse Classroom instead, with a little trepidation because it can only seat 70 people. We also changed the time to afternoon because parking is more limited and we didn't want people to walk a distance from the main parking lot in the dark. But, we were pleasantly surprised—72 of our members joined us to hear Mark Johnson entertain us with his stories about birding in Trinidad and Tobago.

So we reserved the Greenhouse Classroom instead, with a little trepidation because it can only seat 70 people. We also changed the time to afternoon because parking is more limited and we didn't want people to walk a distance from the main parking lot in the dark. But, we were pleasantly surprised—72 of our members joined us to hear Mark Johnson entertain us with his stories about birding in Trinidad and Tobago.

Certificates of Appreciation Awardees

Peter Lev, our new President, awarded several certificates of appreciation at our annual dinner. Awards were given to Debbie Terry, Joe Lewandowski, Mary Gruver-Byers and Brent Byers for "Outstanding Service," and past president Joan Cwi was given a "Special Award" for her service to the BBC as President and for other activities. But most special were our awards to two junior birders—Josie Kalbfleisch and Kayla Thanner. Kayla could not make the award ceremony, but Josie just positively beamed as she received her loaded backpack.



President Peter Lev with Kayla Thanner.

Middle River Christmas Bird Count, December 31, 2017

In the President's Corner, Peter Lev gave you a wonderful taste of what it is like to participate in the Christmas Bird Count. Here are some cumulative data on the overall effort. First, many thanks to Kevin Graff for organizing the effort, and to the 35 observers who spent their time counting birds on this cold winter day. In summary, the effort consisted of:

- Hours on Foot: 55 hr, 19 min
- Hours by car: 5 hr, 55 min
- Miles on Foot: 30.4
- Miles by Car: 162.3
- Feeder watchers: 2
- Owling: 20 min

In total, we found 94 species, the most unusual being Marsh Wren, Short-eared Owl, Horned Grebe, Common Goldeneye, and Canvasback. The ever-prolific European Starling (2204) was outnumbered by both the Canada Goose (2326) and Ruddy Duck (4349)!

A reporter from the Chesapeake Bay Program accompanied some of our birders, and wrote an excellent article about the Count and took some fantastic photos to accompany the article. If you want to learn more/see more, check out these websites. Photos below taken from article.



Some of the 4349 Ruddy Ducks seen during the Count.



Keith Costley, Debbie Dayan-Blumenthal Taylor and Debbie Terry searching for shore birds in 2015.

http://www.chesapeakebay.net/blog/post/photo_essay_birders_of_a_feather_flock_together

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/29388462@N06/sets/72157675743403213>

Wisdom, Baltimore and Moonbird updates

In Chip Notes, we have been following a few exceptional birds for many years. Here is the latest update.

Wisdom, the Laysan Albatross banded at the Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge by Chan Robbins in 1956 has done it again! At the tender age of 66, she has successfully hatched another chick!



Wisdom and her most recent egg.

Undoubtedly you remember Baltimore, the Snowy Owl captured at Martin Marietta Airport and given a transmitter that the Baltimore Bird Club paid for—hence he was named



Snowy Owl Baltimore, 2015

after us. Project Snowstorm has been following Baltimore for three years now, two of which he was wearing a transmitter. Baltimore came back online Christmas Day, 2016 allowing his summer data to be transmitted. There are no transmission towers in the north of Canada, so transmission has to wait until the owls return further south. So, Baltimore is safe! And since he is three years old, he may have nested last summer.

As of this writing, transmissions show he is wintering on the Canada border, much near where he spent last winter. Project Snowstorm plans on letting us know when they receive the data about his summer activities. If you become a member of Project Snowstorm, you will automatically get frequent, fascinating updates on all the Snowy Owls being tracked.

Meanwhile, follow our namesake at: <http://www.projectsnowstorm.org/posts/baltimore-four-peat/>

Alas, Moonbird, Red Knott B95, has not been seen the last couple of years after appearing every spring at the Delaware Bay for more than two decades. He was last spotted in Argentina two years ago (at the age of 22 years-old—about three times older than the average Red Knott!) RIP, Moonbird.



Red Knott Moonbird, B95—RIP

Bird Drawing Class with Linda Feltner!

Patuxent Research Refuge National Visitor Center. April 21, 22 & 23, 2017 / 9am–4 pm. Guild of Natural Science Illustrators (GNSI) DC chapter hosts a 3-day Bird Drawing workshop by wildlife artist Linda Feltner. All levels welcome. Learn about bird anatomy and draw live birds in class. Registration required.

For information and registration, visit <https://gnsi.org/event/workshop/bird-drawing-linda-feltner> or contact Joel Floyd at 240-432-7496.

LOCATION:

Patuxent Research Refuge
National Wildlife Visitor Center
10901 Scarlet Tanager Loop
Laurel, MD 20708-4027

President's Corner cont'd

have big numbers of Lesser Scaup and Ruddy Duck in my territory, but last year there were almost none. We drive as close as possible, then bushwhack to the shoreline near the ducks. We count 83 Lesser Scaup and about 1600 Ruddy Duck.

9:30: Miller's Island Boulevard near Baylight is alive with small birds: Chickadee, Titmouse, Goldfinch, House Finch, Carolina Wren, Song, Swamp and White-throated Sparrow. The best find is 3 American Tree Sparrows in the short grass bordering the road. I don't see this species every count.



Photo by Bill Hubick.

10:20: We meet Mary Anne Fluke and Simon Best at North Point SP. They've been birding a bit farther south in the Fort Howard area and we've arranged to walk the Black Marsh Trail together. Black Marsh can be a great spot—last year we had 3 Red-headed Woodpeckers. This year it is slow but... I clap my hands several times and a Virginia Rail answers. I suspect Virginia Rail is here all winter, but I haven't heard one on a Christmas Count for several years.

12:00: Simon and Mary Anne leave to check out an inland pond, while Nancy and I adjourn to WaWa for coffee.

1:30: The wind has picked up, so passerines are hiding. Nancy and I are on the North Point SP bayfront, watching a few dozen ducks bob and dive in choppy conditions. Most of them are Buffleheads and Ruddies. I see two female Scaup and call them Lessers, because I usually see Lessers at this location. Big mistake. Later I remember the birds were kind of large, and one had a lot of white around the bill. They could have been Greater Scaup. I change the ID to

"Scaup sp," admitting uncertainty. Birding can be difficult; perhaps that's why we love it.

2:45: We're seeing no new birds, so Nancy and I call it a day.

Over the next twenty-four hours Mary Anne and Nancy share eBird checklists with me. Both teams in the North Point sector had good days, and our lists complement each other! Simon and Mary Anne had Golden-crowned Kinglet, Nancy and I had Ruby-crowned. We had sparrows, they had almost none. They had puddle ducks that we missed. The final list for North Point sector shows 60 species, a very good result.

I am psyched for next year.

Also see Bird Bits for summary of the Middle River Christmas Bird Count results.

Watching Birds During Spring Migration

A Community College of Baltimore County Continuing Education Course

Get outside and observe "bird traffic" during Spring migration as you team up with other fledgling birders of various skill levels. Longtime BBC bird club member, Marty Brazeau, will be leading the class. Use binoculars and scopes to observe birds up close.

- Field guides and cell phone apps will enable you to identify birds.
- Each hike will focus on a birding skill.
- You will keep a life list of the birds observed.
- Learn how to use the eBird website to record birds you see and contribute bird data online.

Cost \$159. Sign up for the class at this web address:

<http://www.ccbcmd.edu/Programs-and-Courses-Finder/course/FIT/054>

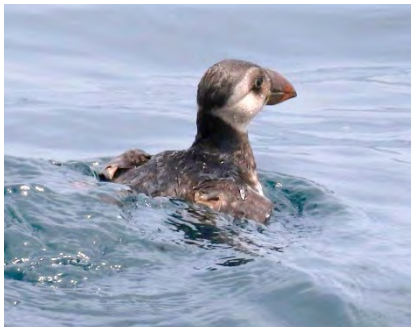
For more information, please contact Marty at **443-595-8694** or tropicbirder56@gmail.com

My Big Year 2016, Part 1 continued

with amazing views and picture opportunities of 22 different Warbler species, many close enough to touch.

Something inside me was setting off alarms. This new fuel sparked an immense desire to see and photograph more birds, specifically birds that I have never seen before. So the quest was on. A daunting task indeed, was ahead of me. My plan was in action. ***I would now also try to see 500 bird species in the USA at the same time I was trying to see 300 in Maryland.*** A plan of attack was required. For anyone who knows me well, I sometimes get obsessive about things that interest me and I can get pretty crazy. Just look at my National Wildlife Federation “oasis”,* or my birding book collection (over 200 titles in three short years), or my love of birds in general. It goes beyond a casual hobby or past time.

With the plan in hand and two lofty goals, there was not much time to relax. I had to act quickly. If I was to get 300 species in Maryland, I would need a pelagic trip or a “Paulagic” trip as it were, because in this case the trip I chose is one being guided by Paul Guris. There are only a couple trips a year that cover Maryland waters and the next one was in two weeks. As I had never been on a pelagic trip, much less an overnight Paulagic trip as this one was, I was a little apprehensive.



Atlantic Puffin

I did not know what to expect. The whole sleeping on a boat and having to bring all the food, water and necessities required for an overnight boating trip with minimal amenities was entirely new to me. Thankfully, my friend and nature photographer/story teller, Middleton Evans, was gracious enough to take me under his wing, and show me the ropes. What an incredible trip it was. Besides the 14 new lifer bird species I acquired, there were many mammals and fish species seen. Multiple species of dolphins, whales and Portuguese man-

of-war were amazing highlights. An Atlantic Puffin was extremely cool to see and remains one of my favorite birds of the entire year.

Next stop was to see the few birds that are normally easily seen in Western Maryland, as they all breed there. Ryan Johnson and I spent two full days scouring all of the hotspots in Allegany and Garrett Counties in search of Golden-winged Warbler, Henslow’s Sparrow, Ruffed Grouse and Alder Flycatcher. All four should have been relatively easy to tick, but as birders know, birds have wings and aren’t always where they are supposed to be. We got the first two birds but dipped on the final two. And still, after an entire year traveling around the country, these two birds remain two of my nemesis birds.

This is when it went from crazy to insane. After a couple more trips to Maryland’s Eastern Shore and many local jaunts, the next step of this journey would test the resolve of the best of birders and travelers alike. I began to research where and when I could still find a lot of new birds. Since I missed the spring season in some of the major areas, of the country like Arizona and Texas, I would have to pick the right locations where I could maximize new birds. Off to south Florida it was. I spent a week there birding various areas. I was led by guides Angel Abreau and Mariel Abreau, from Nature Is Awesome Tours. So 28 different locations in three days, 2000 miles and 4000 pictures later, I had 35 new life birds and was officially addicted.

One more local trip was in store, as the eastern shore of Maryland has some awesome birding in late summer. So one weekend, Randy Kimmett and I planned a birding trip; we were joined with Frank Marengi and his very knowledgeable girlfriend, Jennifer Dwyer. They are amazing people and a great time was had by all. Ticked off Saltmarsh Sparrow by 6:05 AM and then it was off to Assateague Island to take my second multi-mile hike in the torturous cooking sand to search for the elusive Piping Plover. Two miles later—success! Last time I searched for this elusive plover it was six miles with no success, so I truly earned the Piping Plover.

Sunday was just as amazing and Jeff Shenot joined Randy and me. I have known Jeff for a couple of years and he is just a great guy. He enjoys birding so much it exudes from his every pore. He is very easy to get along with and, oh so determined. We started Sunday at 7 AM at Skimmer Island and had a lifer, a Sandwich Tern, by 7:05 AM. Our second lifer of the day, and fourth total for two days, was Whimbrel. And we did not miss out on the Black Tern irruption that occurred throughout most of Maryland's inland and coastal waterways. We had seven Black Terns hawking directly off shore for 20 minutes of viewing. Jeff had mentioned that he was alerted to a huge irruption of Black Terns, coming through Cape May, and they were coming this way. I don't even think Jeff could have anticipated the vast numbers and locations they occurred in, throughout the next day or so. Actually Jeff probably expected this! They were seen all over Maryland.

We ended the weekend in Somerset County, Maryland, at Deal Island on Green Dumpster Road. This location is now my favorite spot in all of Maryland. It is one of the coolest habitats I have ever been to. It's hard to explain but it is a huge water conservation marsh with man-made channels of water that allow the water to get through the entire marsh. It is like a giant maze of water and grasses that stretch on forever. And plenty of interesting shorebirds abound. I highly recommend this spot.

At this point I am at 355 USA species in 2016 and well on my way, but considering it is now August, I have some ground to make up. Let the fun begin! Next stop was the birding mecca of America—southeast Arizona. I knew this would be a great trip as I had never been west of the Mississippi, and there are over 500 possible birds, that can be seen on the other side of the “Mighty Mississippi.” I was really looking forward to this part of the adventure so I hired Greg Miller, who was played by Jack Black in the movie, “The Big Year.” Greg and I spent six days traversing the extremely diverse landscape of Arizona. From the mountains to the desert, from the mercury reading 50 degrees to 106 degrees, the one thing in common is a lot of open

undeveloped space. Until my final trip to California, Arizona had the distinction of my favorite landscape seen this year. Having never been to such a large state, it was almost overwhelming to see this much land, with no human beings for miles in all directions. At some points we drove for two to three hours on what they call “major highways” without seeing a house and sometimes, even a car. Most of these roads were dirt roads. They had to build huge dips and mounds in the roads so you can get high enough when the sudden monsoon rains flush through. You cannot really imagine how quickly the weather can change out in the valley.



Greater Roadrunner

My final tally in Arizona was 72 lifer and year species, including my four most sought after species: Elegant Trogon, Red-faced Warbler, Greater Roadrunner and the rare Hummingbird, the Plain-capped Starthroat, a very rare vagrant from Mexico and an ABA Code 4 rarity. The rarest rating is a Code 6, which means extinct (remaining survivors are held in captivity, or released birds are not yet re-established—www.listing.aba.org) I had a Code 5 and a Code 6 this year, as well as several 3's and 4's.

Will David succeed in identifying 300 Maryland species and 500 USA species as certified by ABA? Stay tuned—his story will be continued in the Summer edition of Chip Notes.

**Editor note: David informs me that what he means by “my NWF oasis” is the National Wildlife Federation certified habitat he created in his back yard, which he considers his oasis. It includes 35 feeders, 25 nesting boxes, an fruit orchard, a meadow, two ponds, a stream, 40,000 pounds of rocks, and a lot of birds.*

Field Trip Reports

Compiled by Kevin Graff



OCT 18–CROMWELL VALLEY PARK—It took persistence but most in our group saw (at least glimpsed) an Orange-crowned Warbler in the brushy area near the Willow Grove bridge. A Wilson’s Warbler was spotted. Palm Warblers and Ruby-crowned Kinglets were numerous. Very busy areas alternated with rather quiet stretches but overall it was a very satisfying walk! 43 species. 21 participants. Leader: Mary Chetelat.

OCT 25–CROMWELL VALLEY PARK—Lovely cool temperature and fall colors indicate fall warbler migration is almost over. We saw two warbler species, Palm and Yellow-rumped. The changing season brought Purple Finches, Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets as well as great looks at Hermit Thrush. A lovely morning to be with friends looking at birds. 45 species. 15 participants. Leader: Debbie Terry.



Cromwell Valley Park

OCT 30–HYDES ROAD PARK—A partly cloudy cool morning, temperature around 58 degrees cleared and warmed over the course of the walk. At Hydes Road Park there is a perimeter trail that runs between the tree line and an extensive grass and scrub field on the west and south sides of the park. Walking around the perimeter and then the inside margin of the field completes a one-mile loop.

Ruby- and Golden-crowned Kinglets, Song and Swamp Sparrows were present in good numbers. Highlights were definitely the extended scope views of White-crowned Sparrows and a perched Merlin.

Other passerines included Eastern

Towhee, Dark-eyed Junco, and Chipping, Field, and White-throated Sparrows. Other raptors were Bald Eagle, Sharp-shinned Hawk and Red-shouldered Hawk. 40 species. 17 participants. Leader: Hugh Simmons.

NOV 20–PAPER MILL FLATS and

ASHLAND TRAIL—Very cold and windy. Winds gusting up to 40 mph. At the “flats” We saw 2 species of shorebirds...Killdeer and a Yellowlegs and a great looks at Green-winged Teal. Because the high winds at the flats were keeping most passerines low, the group decided to explore trails off of the NCR Trail. Located some great future birding spots. Leader: Debbie Terry.



Fox Sparrow
Photo by Lou Taylor

DEC 3–MASONVILLE COVE & WEST

COVINGTON PARK–This was a really nice trip: good people, good birds, even good food (light breakfast at Masonville Cove Environmental Education Center

before we went birding). Bird of the day was Rusty Blackbird: one individual perched at the top of a tree and was seen by all. We



Rusty Blackbird
Photo by Lou Taylor

also saw Canvasback, Fox Sparrow,

Red-shouldered Hawk and Bald Eagle. After Masonville we stopped at West Covington Park, where we added American Kestrel to the trip list. 42 species. 21 participants. Leader: Tim Carney. Coordinator: Peter Lev.

JAN 1–OLD PICNIC AREA TRAIL–Slow day on this annual start of your new year birding but we managed to get mixed raft of ducks, coots and grebes including 14 Redhead. Everyone got a good look at one of three Brown Creepers and two Hermit Thrushes. 37 species. 17 participants. Leader: Kevin Graff.

JAN 15–LOCH RAVEN POINT & DAMS–Birders met at Loch Raven Point. We saw most of the expected January waterfowl...Redheads, Common and Hooded Mergansers, Buffleheads, Ring-necked Ducks, Wigeons and Horned Grebes. At the secondary dam we had close looks at Gadwalls, a juvenile Bald Eagle perched on a branch over the road and five Great Blue Herons resting in a sunlit pine tree. A lovely Sunday morning. 36 degrees–ice melting off leaves and branches. 35 species. 7 participants. Leader: Debbie Terry.



Source - Google Earth

Loch Raven Dam

BALTIMORE BIRD CLUB
http://baltimorebirdclub.org

A Chapter of

MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
4915 Greenspring Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21209

Chip Notes, newsletter of the Baltimore Bird Club,
is published quarterly. Current issue: Spring 2017

Joan Cwi, Editor
David Nelson, Design

Submit materials to
Joan Cwi – jafjsc@verizon.net

Moving or email change?
Send update to
Terry Ross at tross@ubalt.edu

**Deadlines for submitting articles
for upcoming issues:**

April 24, 2017



Baltimore Bird Club APPLICATION

Membership year is September 1–August 31. New members only joining after March 1 may pay half-year rate. A full year's dues received after April 30 will be applied to the next membership year.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Benefits include membership in the BBC and Maryland Ornithological Society (MOS), free field trips, quarterly BBC and MOS newsletters sent electronically, lectures and other events.

Check dues category and circle amount sent.

Category	1-YR	½ YR	Chapter Only+
Individual	\$35.00	\$17.00	\$15.00
Household	\$45.00	\$22.50	\$20.00
Sustaining	\$100.00		
Junior*	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$5.00

* Through 17: record age here ____

+Chapter Only membership is available to MOS members who are already members of another MOS chapter or who are MOS life members.

Mail completed application with check payable to:
Baltimore Bird Club, Attn: Membership Chairman,
4915 Greenspring Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21209