

Chip Notes

BALTIMORE BIRD CLUB NEWSLETTER



SUMMER 2018 No. 404

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Phoenix Wildlife Center Rising from the Ashes

By Joan Cwi



No, the Phoenix Wildlife Center did not burn down, but it certainly is taking off! Like its name implies, our favorite wildlife rehabilitation center is getting a new life. Most of you have probably heard about this animal rehab center, either because you've taken a rescued animal there to be treated, or you know that is where Lights Out Baltimore takes the injured birds and bats found downtown. A little background first.

About 20 years ago, Kathy Woods and her husband Hugh Simmons bought a 2.5-acre property along Manor Road in Phoenix, Maryland. There Kathy began her career as a certified wildlife rehabilitator caring for native birds, mammals and reptiles, as well as educating the public on wildlife issues. For a fun, in-depth story, consult the Baltimore Sun reference below. Without salary, Kathy has run the rehab center out of their house for all this time. That was probably OK when there were only 40 animals at a time, but times they have a changed and now they routinely treat 150 or so animals simultaneously, consuming their living quarters! And, of course, Kathy doesn't do all this work alone—she runs her organization with the help of a dedicated group of volunteers who donate their time to help rescue, rehabilitate, and return these animals to the wild. So it was time to look elsewhere.



Continued on page 8

Rescued Whip-poor-will



WELCOME!

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

Andrea Albertini Baltimore
Jennifer Griffiths Baltimore
Kirsten and John Held..... Baltimore
Steve Fauser..... Cockeysville

Devi Abbott Timonium
Terry Aman Towson
Carleen Davis New Freedom, PA

President's Corner

by Peter Lev



Partnerships with Baltimore County and BGE

Over the last few months, BBC has arranged with Baltimore County and Baltimore Gas & Electric to monitor birds at environmental remediation sites. Baltimore County is investing a great deal of time and money in stream restoration—creating marsh and meadow to slow down streams after heavy rain or snow. BGE is letting some right-of-way corridors become meadows—encouraging wildlife and saving on mowing costs. Neither organization is solely about increasing wildlife habitat, but their actions do have that effect and therefore should be supported. BBC can provide support by documenting that a large (and diverse) number of birds will use restored wetlands and meadows.

The model for surveying birds and other wildlife comes from Keith Costley, who has been visiting a stream restoration site in his Baltimore County neighborhood for a few years. Keith has observed and photographed birds plus snakes, amphibians, butterflies, etc. in a one-acre plot of stream, wetland and meadow between backyards. Who knew that Northern Pintails, Yellow-crowned Night Herons and more than one hundred additional bird species would come to such a tiny area? Inspired by Keith, Carol Schreter arranged a site visit to his local patch attended by Keith, Carol, Judy Harding and me. We talked to Dennis Genito, Baltimore County supervisor for the site, and asked if there were other stream restoration sites suitable for bird surveys. Dennis responded a few weeks later with a list of nine locations. I'm pleased to report that all nine spots are now being monitored by birders.

The BGE connection was made by Carol at the opening of Lynne Parks' art exhibit "Birdland and the Anthropocene." A representative from BGE, one of the exhibit sponsors, mentioned in his remarks that BGE was experimenting with meadow habitat. Carol followed up, and as a result Keith Costley, Debbie

Terry and I met with Rafael Olazagasti of BGE at the right-of-way near Mt. Vista Park. We received only one site to monitor from BGE, but it's a good one, with meadow, wetland, and small ponds. Birders are now welcome on this right-of-way, but please check with Keith, Debbie or me to learn the borders of the site and how to report your findings.

I suspect we'll learn from these projects that a little bit of habitat restoration has major benefits for birds. But it's too early to speak about results; right now we are enjoying the process.

Conservation CORNER

Lights Out Baltimore Successes!

By Lindsay Jacks

During the winter months, members of Lights Out Baltimore usually enjoy the downtime before the bustle of spring migration. This winter, however, proved to be a busy yet exciting time for us. In February, we became official partners with Waterfront Partnership Baltimore (WFP), expanding our monitoring efforts from 20-25 buildings to over 60. This is tremendous news since we have never had the ability to monitor Harbor East and Fell's Point before cleaning crews arrived to discard any deceased birds or remove the injured ones. Now, with the help of WFP, their staff will be assisting LOB by collecting the dead birds on their daily cleaning routines and rescuing any injured birds during this spring migration. In early March, the WFP operations supervisors were trained on how to safely handle the injured and dead birds. Each day, if any injured or dead birds are found, they can secure and hand over the birds to LOB members. By the beginning of April, the WFP staff had already rescued two American Woodcocks, a White-throated Sparrow, and a female Mallard, all of which have been successfully released after rehabilitation at Phoenix Wildlife Center.

In addition to the WFP partnership, LOB worked with the Baltimore Ravens and Maryland Stadium Authority

Continued on next page



(MSA) to protect birds migrating through Baltimore. In February 2017, the Baltimore Ravens came out with an upgrade design to add static pillars of white light to give a “civic gesture” to the stadium. LOB immediately contacted MSA to set up a meeting to discuss the lighting upgrades and educate about the threats of light pollution for migratory birds. We also assembled a local team with Audubon Maryland-DC, Maryland Bird Conservation Partnership, and US Fish and Wildlife (USFWS), along with state and national support from Maryland Ornithological Society, American Bird Conservancy, and Cornell.

After three meetings, in March 2018, Dick Cass of the Ravens informed us that the beacon lights have officially been cut from the design. This is a



Rescued Woodcock

monumental decision from a NFL team to change a design for the benefit of migratory birds in Baltimore like our beloved Baltimore Orioles. The Baltimore Ravens have led the path for other teams

and stadiums to develop truly sustainable designs that don't negatively impact wildlife. This decision also supports Baltimore as a recognized USFWS Urban Bird Treaty city and resonates as a win for the Ravens team and the bird ravens too. Go Ravens!

Baltimore Beyond Plastic

By Claire Wayner

Back in the fall, I wrote about the enormous potential for making changes through state and local policy in the midst of the party-fueled paralysis wracking our current national politics. I'm pleased to report that a student group called Baltimore Beyond Plastic, with which I have been working, achieved a significant local win when Mayor Catherine Pugh signed a Baltimore Styrofoam food packaging ban into law this past Thursday (April 19). The law will go into effect on November 19, 2019, after an 18-month transition period, giving businesses that use Styrofoam containers (e.g., restaurants, corner stores, take-out establishments, etc.) plenty of time to identify alternative containers that are more environmentally friendly (e.g., those made out of paper, compostable materials, or recyclable plastic). This is a wonderful example of what can happen after dedicated advocacy.

Styrofoam is an especially toxic form of litter and makes up 35% of the total litter stream entering Baltimore's Inner Harbor, where it can pose a threat to birds and other wildlife, making it critical that we switch to better and safer containers. My student group spent over seven months lobbying city council members and the mayor, and to see such a success like this just goes to show how much more legislation we can pass to encourage conservation and environmental action on the city level. Also crucial to the campaign were other Baltimore nonprofits, including Blue Water Baltimore, Trash Free Maryland, Waterfront Partnership, and Healthy Harbor Initiative (with Mr. Trash Wheel). For more information on Baltimore Beyond Plastic, you can visit our webpage at <http://www.bmorebeyondplastic.org/>.



Birdbits.....

Baltimore Bird Club Elections for 2018-2019

At the April 3rd Lecture, the Baltimore Bird Club attendees voted unanimously for next year's (September 2018-August 2019) Board members, as recommended by the Board of Directors. The slate was very similar to last year's, with the exception that Cathy Czajkowski replaces Jill Kessler as a BBC Director. Below is the new slate:

Officers

President: Peter Lev

Vice President: Kevin Graff

Treasurer: Richard Krejci

Recording Secretary: Mary Shock

BBC Directors

Cathy Czajkowski

Nancy O'Hara

Debbie Terry

State (MOS) Directors

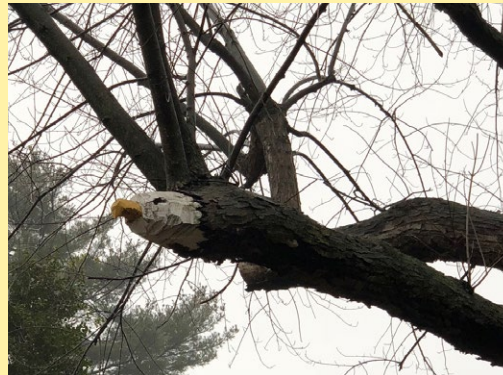
Joan Cwi

Mary Anne Fluke

Mark Linardi

Eagle Tree

Sometimes you see birds in the strangest places! If you get a chance, drive by 908 Stevenson Lane and take a look at this innovative way to paint a tree.



Thought for the Day



Return to Saint Marks National Wildlife Refuge in Florida

By Jim Highsaw and Linda Prentice

During February 12–16, 2018, we made our third visit to the St. Marks NWR in northwest Florida, south of Tallahassee. We also made a side trip to Wakulla Springs State Park. The birding was excellent, photo opportunities were good and the weather was favorable. Lunches were available at an oyster place near the Refuge and in restaurants in St. Marks.

After a leisurely 2 and 1/2 days drive down from Baltimore, we reached the Refuge about 2 pm and then spent a couple of hours birding along the 7-mile Lighthouse Road. Sightings included a variety of ducks, herons, egrets, an ibis, two Bald Eagles at their nest, and numerous Coots, Moorhens and Pied-billed Grebes. We found a Palm Warbler in addition to Yellow-rumped Warblers.

During the next two days we drove out to the St. Marks Lighthouse a number of times, and walked on the trail behind the Visitor Center and on the Tower Trail (formerly the Mounds Trail). The drives on the Lighthouse Road produced Black-crowned Night Herons, Red-breasted Mergansers, nine species of ducks, a Belted Kingfisher and a Brown Pelican, in addition to most of the species seen on the first day. The trail behind the Visitor Center was good for

Hermit Thrushes, White-eyed Vireos, Pine Warblers and Common Yellowthroats.

The Tower Trail produced Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, Eastern Towhees, Pileated Woodpeckers,

a Hermit Thrush, a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Ruby-crowned Kinglets and Yellow-rumped Warblers.

On the fourth day we did a side trip to Wakulla Springs State Park. We walked part of the nature trail, and birded along the Wakulla River and on the grounds around the old Lodge, which dates to 1937. We enjoyed looking at more Pileateds, a Hermit Thrush, some White Ibises and an Anhinga, and had a very pleasant lunch in the dining room of the old Lodge.

We spent the last day on the Lighthouse Road, taking photos and looking at shorebirds and sparrows. Then we headed back to Baltimore with some good photos and three species we had never seen in Florida—Canvasback Duck, Bufflehead and Swamp Sparrow.



Night Heron Photo
by Linda Prentice



St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge

Costa Rica Trip Report

By Marcia Watson & Donna Finnegan

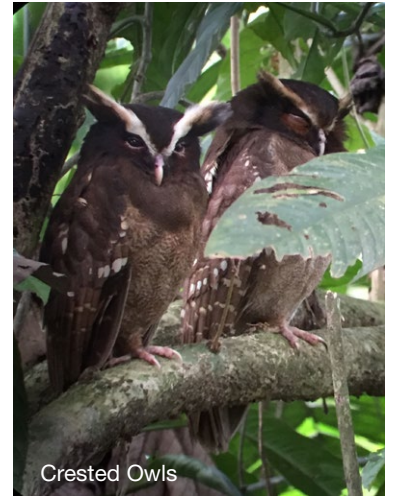
Twelve members of the Baltimore Bird Club journeyed to Costa Rica for an intensive birding tour this past February. The trip, organized by Kevin Graff, was Kevin's third to Costa Rica with tour guide Mario Cordoba of Crescentia Expeditions. Mario has led several other trips for members of the Baltimore Bird Club as well as for other MOS chapters. Participants in the February trip included Donna Finnegan and Marty Wright, Mary Anne and Mark Fluke, Martin Granbom, Jane Holloway, Elise and Paul Kreiss, Matt Lince, Joe Supik, and Marcia Watson.

Kevin did a great job working with Mario to design a tour that would maximize the opportunities to see as many species as possible. And the strategy worked! Collectively, the group observed 338 species of birds during the 11-day, 10-night trip. Some of the better-known places that we visited included Rancho Naturalista, La Selva Biological Station, the Cachi area, Tapanti National Park, the Savegre Valley, Los Quetzales National Park, the Sarapiquí area, and the Arenal Volcano and Lake Area. There were also many impromptu roadside stops.

Highlights included several Ornate Hawk-eagles, including one on a nest feeding young, and another consuming the remains of a Chestnut-headed Oropendula; several sightings of Laughing Falcons; an entire group of soaring King Vultures; a relatively good view of the elusive Great Tinamou, on the ground in a thicket, just about 20 feet from our group; dynamite views of a pair of Crested Owls and at a nearby site,



an adult Spectacled Owl with an immature by its side; the requisite Resplendent Quetzal, the most sought-after of Costa Rica birds; not one but two Sunbitterns, well-seen on a river; several species of trogons and motmots; a female Purple-crowned Fairy (one of the hummingbirds) on its nest high in a tree; 16 species of Furnariidae, an interesting family of forest birds including woodcreepers, foliage-gleaners and others (who can resist a bird called the Striped Woodhaunter?); 29 species of tyrant flycatchers; and 11 species of wrens. The avian diversity was overwhelming at times.



Crested Owls

Each place we visited had their own special suite of hummingbirds, and we saw 29 of Costa Rica's 52 species. The names themselves are dazzling: Snowcap, Green Hermit, Band-tailed Barbthroat, Long-billed Hermit, Stripe-throated Hermit, Brown Violetear, Green Thorntail, Green-breasted Mango, Green-crowned Brilliant, Talamanca Hummingbird, Fiery-throated Hummingbird, Purple-throated Mountain Gem, White-throated Mountain Gem, Violet Sabrewing, Volcano Hummingbird, Scintillant Hummingbird, Violet-headed Hummingbird, Scaly-breasted Hummingbird, Stripe-tailed Hummingbird, Black-bellied Hummingbird, Blue-chested Hummingbird, Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer, Violet-crowned Woodnymph, Steely-vented Hummingbird and the ever-present White-necked Jacobin.

Some of our local species were found wintering in Costa Rica: House Sparrow; House Wren; Northern Rough-winged Swallow; Gray Catbird; Northern Mockingbird; Wood Thrush; Baltimore Oriole; Summer Tanager; and a whole bunch of warblers: Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Golden-winged, Black-and-white, Tennessee, Kentucky, American Redstart, Yellow, Chestnut-sided, Black-throated Green, and Wilson's.

A special treat was a dawn visit at Rancho Naturalista to a special light set-up that they use to attract

insects during the night: at dawn, a number of birds visit to scoop up the insects for breakfast. Here we had great looks at a number of shy forest birds that are normally difficult to see, among them Red-throated Ant-Tanager, Plain Antvireo, Plain-brown Woodcreeper, Streak-headed Woodcreeper, Buff-throated Foliage-gleaner, Rufous Motmot and Gartered Trogon.

It also goes without saying that the bird feeding tables and hummingbird feeders at many of our hotels and wayside stops offered a never-ending feast of birds. Toucans and aracari were easily seen, coming in to feed on bananas and other fruits, competing with several kinds of tanagers, including the ever-present and impressive Passerini's, Blue-gray Tanagers, and spectacular Golden-hooded and Bay-headed Tanagers.

It was also fun to learn about the other local fauna. We were awed by Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth and Brown-throated Three-toed Sloth, including some with young; a Northern Tamandua anteater, high in a tree (who knew anteaters climb trees?); White-faced Capuchins and Mantled Howler Monkeys; Red-tailed, Variegated and Pygmy Squirrels; agoutis; coatis; Neotropical River Otters; and a quick view of a Tayra (a kind of weasel). We had close encounters with two kinds of bats: Long-nosed Bats and Honduran White Bats. The Long-Nosed Bats spent the days roosting in the rafters of the open-air restaurant at one of our hotels, and spent the evenings buzzing our tables. Jose Perez Arrieta (known as Copé), a local naturalist and artist, took us to see the Honduran White Bats, which stole the show: it was a group of five small bats, each looking like a fuzzy golf ball with pink ears and pink nose, snuggled together on the underside of a leaf just inches from our faces! There were also huge Green Iguanas that lounged high in the treetops, Helmeted and Striped Basilisks, Green Spiny Lizards, and amazingly—Strawberry Poison Dart Frogs.

The scenery of Costa Rica is magnificent. Hulking volcanoes were almost always visible, and we

had spectacular views of Turrialba and Arenal Volcanoes from two of our hotels as well as a 100 ft. waterfall cascading to a natural pool at another. The lush forests were notable for their diversity of plant species: some large trees were encrusted with numerous species of epiphytic bromeliads and orchids. One of our hotels featured views of mountain valleys, lushly forested slopes, crystal clear rivers flowing over rocky beds, picturesque farms—all made for great scenic photo opportunities. From atop 500-ft. long, 230-ft. high, bouncy suspended rope bridges, we thrilled to other unique, if hair-raising, views of Arenal Lake, the tropical canopy and a tree-top birds. YIKES!

In addition to the beautiful places we stayed, have we mentioned the food!? Many countries other than the US typically serve modest portions. Not so in Costa Rica. The “plato tipico” for lunch or dinner consists of rice and beans, a fresh vegetable medley, a choice of fish or meat, chayote (a kind of squash), potatoes or noodles, always served with freshly-squeezed fruit juice. Breakfast consists of rice and beans along with scrambled eggs, fried plantains, fresh grapefruit, fresh papaya, a selection of fresh fruit juice, and the excellent local Costa Rican shade-grown coffee. In fact, much of our birding was done in or near coffee plantations, which are pesticide-free and host a good assortment of resident and migrant birds.



Honduran White Bats

We were all especially grateful for the skills of our driver, Luis Morales, who kept us safe on the twisting mountain roads. Luis is a formidable birder in his own right, and he and Mario pooled their knowledge to get us to the birds safely and comfortably!

Thanks to Kevin's meticulous note-keeping and his diligence in entering our sightings in eBird, our group generated over 125 separate eBird checklists for our birding adventures. Great birding, congenial company, delicious food, spectacular scenery—it was a birder's dream come true.



Raptor Mews, outside

Phoenix Wildlife Center continued

In 2013 they found the perfect site located within Gunpowder Falls State Park on Sweet Air Road in Baldwin, a mere 1.2 miles from their current home. The property includes over 223 acres of land, a farmhouse (built in 1882!), a barn (in which vultures once nested), and plenty of open land for cages. But this was state-owned land, and it took three years of tedious negotiations with legislators to finalize a deal. But they succeeded! In 2016 they signed a 15-year lease to rent the property for \$1 a year, with a 10-year renewal clause. They plan to move the rehabilitation center into these new quarters by this August. On a recent visit, we saw workers who were busy repairing the farmhouse. And Kathy and Hugh will

finally have a home to themselves (and their own crew of domesticated animals that include dogs, cats and a parrot).

To date, the Phoenix Wildlife Center depended upon donors to fund their operational expenses. All labor, including Kathy's, was volunteered. While the rental price of the new facility was certainly right, how could a non-profit 501(c)3 afford the costs associated with rehabbing the farmhouse and barn, as well as building other needed structures? Never underestimate the skill of team Woods & Simmons! They started a Capital Campaign and received a bond bill for \$100,000 with matching funds to raise the estimated \$275,000 needed to make the facility

into a first-class rehabilitation center. In addition, people and organizations have donated all sorts of things, ranging from towels and sheets to paving the driveway, installing a security system and a propane tank, and contributing 5 tons of gravel to put in the outdoor enclosures.

The Farmhouse—Total Renovation Cost \$180,000: The two-story farmhouse needs extensive renovation. The house has 6 rooms. On the first floor these will be used as an intake/education space, kitchen, and nursery for baby animals. The second floor has a room for older injured animals, a surgery/exam/xray room, and a room for animals that could have rabies (such as raccoons, bats, skunks). See the floorplans for details.

Outdoor Enclosures— Total Renovation Cost \$25,000: As patients mature, they are moved from indoor incubators to outside enclosures as the next step before release. These will be predator-safe enclosures for recovering mammals, songbirds and waterfowl.

Raptor Mews— Cost \$38,000: One enclosure has been completed and is already in use—the



Raptor Mews, inside

Raptor Mews. It contains 7 large rooms for raptor rehabilitation. It is currently home to 2 Barred Owls, 2 Screech Owls, a Red-tailed Hawk and a Bald Eagle. Notice how the walls are slatted so fresh air can come in.

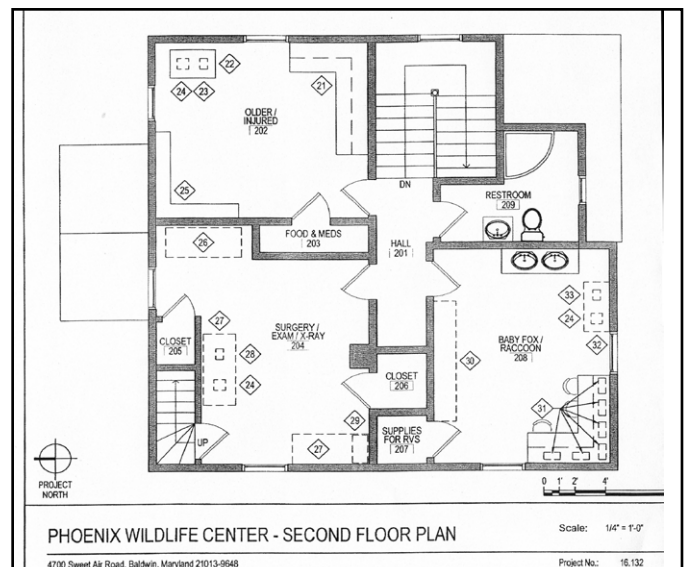
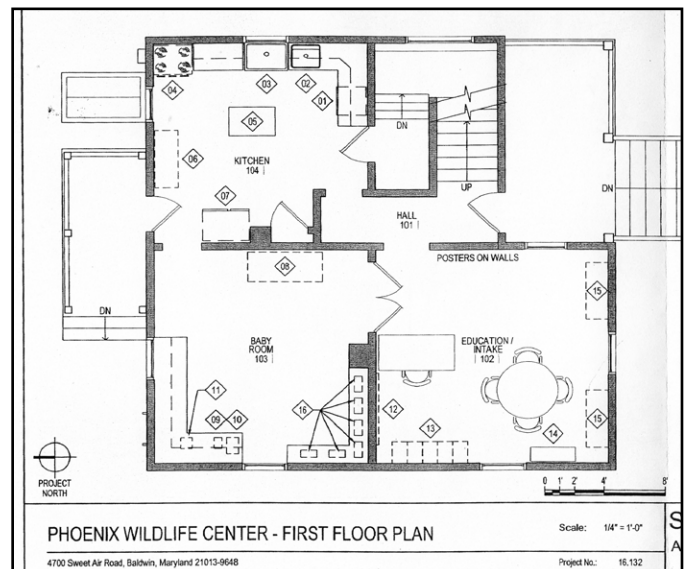
Barn—Total Renovation Cost \$16,400: The barn now has a new roof and windows and is currently being used for storage of larger items. It still needs new stairs to the upper story and a new concrete floor. Future plans might include possible transition cages for a quarantine

area and a learning center to train wildlife first responders in the safe handling and transport of wildlife, as well as for educational programs.

This is a pretty exciting time at the Phoenix Wildlife Center. You might want to check out their website to see how things are progressing. And, you might also want to send a donation to help out this worthy cause!

<http://phoenixwildlifecentermd.org>

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/features/baltimore-insider-blog/bs-fe-phoenix-wildlife-rescue-owls-20180411-story.html>



Field Trip Reports

Compiled by Kevin Graff

Bird Photos by Bill Hubick



FEB 10– LOCH RAVEN POINT & DAMS – A pleasant winter morning...sunny, no winds and temperatures in the upper 30s. Adult and juvenile Bald Eagles were seen at “the point” and the secondary dam. At the point we saw approximately 600 Common Mergansers and between the dams we had hyper close up looks at American Wigeons, Gadwalls, Ring-necked Ducks, Hooded Mergansers and Buffleheads. 26 species. 9 participants. Leaders: Peter Lev and Debbie Terry.

FEB 24– PATUXENT RIVER

NAVAL AIR STATION – Very foggy almost entire time. Limited view of river and bay due to fog but we managed to see close-up views of Tundra Swans, Ring-necked Ducks, both scaups, Long-tailed Ducks, Buffleheads, Common Goldeneyes, Red-breasted Mergansers, Ruddy Ducks and



Short-eared Owl

Horned Grebes. Out on the abandoned runway, we counted 32 Killdeer and 26 Wilson’s Snipes in the wet fields, as well as nice views of several Northern Harriers on a perch, 3 SHORT-EARED OWLS, 8 Horned Larks and 28 Eastern Meadowlarks. Afterward some of us enjoyed a good lunch at Seabreeze Restaurant (home of famous Kelp Gull). 48 species. 9 participants. Coordinator: Kevin Graff.

MAR 17– LITTLE GULL CHASE – We started off at Weavers Marine (with permission) where we scanned the river at the end of a private pier and saw several Ruddy Ducks, Horned Grebes, Double-crested Cormorants, Coots and 2 Ospreys. Then to Diamond Point Flats where we counted 97 Bonaparte’s Gulls, 1 Black-headed Gull (stayed for several weeks), 280 Ring-billed Gulls, 21 Herring Gulls, 1 Iceland Gull and 5 Great Black-backed Gulls. Sadly, no Little Gull to be found. 35 species. 4 participants. Leader: Kevin Graff.

MAR 27– PHOENIX POND – Cold and cloudy. Pair of Black Ducks, Woodcocks heard calling, and Kingfisher calling from the pond. Then to Paper Mill Flats where we had 15 Green-winged Teals. 41 species. 10 participants. Coordinator: Kevin Graff.

APR 1– DAYS COVE – At the beginning of the walk, some of us saw 3 tom Wild Turkeys, a lot



Glaucous Gull

of Wood Ducks all over the pond, several Ospreys, lots of Eagles, a 1st winter GLAUCOUS GULL flyover seen by all (may be the same bird seen at landfill recently),

several Phoebe, nearly 200 Tree Swallows swirling over the pond, 3 warbler species (Palm, Pine and Yellow-rumped), lots of Towhees. 54 species. 13 participants. Leader: Kevin Graff.

APR 3– PHOENIX POND – Almost no one wanted to show up due to possible rain, but there was not a drop during the walk. Common Loon flying north, a flock of 10 Double-crested Cormorants also flying, a Sapsucker, both Kinglets, and a nice view of a Hermit Thrush. A side trip to Paper Mill Flats provided additional birds—both Teals, Ring-necked Ducks, Killdeer. 40 species. 3 participants. Coordinator: Kevin Graff.

APR 10– PHOENIX POND – It was cold at the start of the walk, 37 degrees. Common Loons flying north, an Osprey soaring over the river, unexpectedly a Bonaparte's Gull flying upriver, both Kinglets, really good view of several Waxwings, 4 warbler species:



Hooded Merganser

Louisiana Waterthrush, Palm Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler and Yellow-throated Warbler. Then we took a side trip to Paper Mill Flats and saw some additional birds: Green-winged Teal, Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Pied-billed Grebe, Killdeer, very early Cliff Swallow. 54 species. 9 participants. Coordinator: Kevin Graff.

APR 14–FORT SMALLWOOD – Note: this trip was postponed a week because of weather. Hawks were flying very high, and often being blocked by the sun. Good looks at Ospreys, Bald Eagles, accipiters, and merlins. An early Eastern Kingbird was flagged by eBird. Thanks to Sue Ricciardi and Lynn Davidson for welcoming us at the hawkwatch. 36 species. 2 participants.

APR 17– PHOENIX POND – At the beginning of the walk, we saw several loose flocks of Common Loons flying north, a Barred Owl was heard calling across the river, a great look at Yellow-throated Vireo (we were expecting Blue-



Yellow-throated Vireo

headed this time of year), a good look at 3 very late Golden-crowned Kinglets, and 4 warbler species: Louisiana Waterthrush, Common Yellowthroat, Palm Warbler and Yellow-rumped Warbler. 46 species. 7 participants. Coordinator:

Kevin Graff.

APR 21– JUG BAY – We started our walk at 9 am at the visitor's center and walked along the main path for about 1/4 mile. Debbie and Lou Taylor led the group, which really enjoyed the 60 degree sunny weather. We actually had our jackets off before noon! We observed a mated pair of Ospreys in a nest off the first deck, close to the visitor's center. We watched the Ospreys



Brown Thrasher

switching positions in the nest. A little farther down the path we saw 2 recently arrived Ovenbirds,

several Black and White Warblers, and 6 Common Yellowthroats. There were also many of the usuals for this time of year as well, including 2 Brown Thrashers, 2 Northern Parulas and 4 Towhees. After about an hour we went onto a different trail that lead us to a dock where boats are kept. We had some nice surprises on the way: one Greater Yellowlegs and one White-eyed Vireo. By noon we had about 60 species and walked 3 miles. 60 species. 10 participants. Leaders: Debbie and Lou Taylor.

APR 24– PHOENIX POND – Another cloudy day. It was a bit slow but there was a nice variety. We saw a female Gadwall flying upriver, had brief looks at a Great Crested Flycatcher, a late Winter Wren (seen by all), dozens of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers all over the place, and 5 warbler species: Northern Waterthrush, Common Yellowthroat, Northern Parula, Yellow-rumped Warbler and Pine Warbler. In addition we spotted White-throated Sparrows still here in good numbers (several singing) and a heard-only Indigo Bunting. The worst thing was seeing 14 cowbirds. 45 species. 6 participants. Coordinator: Kevin Graff

BALTIMORE BIRD CLUB
<http://baltimorebirdclub.org>

A Chapter of

MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
4915 Greenspring Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21209

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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:**

July 24, 2018



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+
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$35.00	\$17.00	\$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Household	\$45.00	\$22.50	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining	\$100.00	\$5.00	\$5.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Junior*	\$10.00		

* 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