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eBird lists Grasshopper Sparrows as being seen at Oregon Ridge during Spring and Fall migration.
Picture by Marty Brazeau

Conservation Corner by Dave Votta
**Cromwell Valley Park: Working for
Better Meadow Habitat Management**



Cromwell Valley Park is one of my favorite birding hotspots in Baltimore County because of the diversity of habitats that can be found in the park. The park sits upon 426 acres and includes sloped mid-successional forests, lowland riparian forests adjacent to Minebank Run, proximity to Loch Raven Reservoir where on a clear day you can see raptors and waterfowl fly over, and open meadows. Meadow habitat makes up approximately 95 acres (22%) within Cromwell Valley Park. Meadows are essential ecosystems that support a wide array of flora and fauna when managed effectively. However, the entirety of the meadow habitat within the park has been getting clear cut annually by the county.

The practice of mass mowing of meadows, especially without proper management strategies, can have detrimental impacts on the ecological balance, particularly affecting bird habitat and breeding. Mass mowing of meadows results in the loss of habitat for ground-nesting bird species. This practice destroys the protective cover provided by the tall grasses, rendering nests more susceptible to predation.

Various studies have shown a decline in bird populations in areas where meadows are frequently mowed, including a reduction in the numbers of grassland birds, such as bobolinks, meadowlarks, and various sparrow species. Disturbance caused by frequent mowing can disrupt breeding patterns, leading to a decline in reproductive success and low survival rates for birds. In early March 2023, with much displeasure from the Cromwell Valley Park Nature Council, the meadows at the park were mowed once again.

Continued on next page

Chip Notes banner picture of Eastern Meadowlarks flying, Bill Hubick

This sparked the nature council to reach out to the Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks to have a meeting regarding the management of the meadow habitat in the park. Cromwell Valley Park is a park where the majority of visitors come to spend time in nature and explore. It is not a park with athletic fields and playgrounds where everything needs to get mowed regularly; it is a park that fosters the community's relationship with nature and should be managed to maximize the diversity of habitats in the park. The meeting included members from the Cromwell Valley Nature Council, Baltimore County Recreation and Parks, and Baltimore County Property Management.

During the meeting the nature council explained to the county how mowing all the meadows at once negatively impacts an entire ecosystem within the park and proposed a cyclical mowing schedule for the meadows. Adopting cyclical mowing practices, which involves mowing meadows in rotation, has proven to be a more suitable alternative to mass mowing. This approach allows birds to breed and raise their young successfully in one section of the meadow while providing sufficient time for the growth of grasses and other vegetation in the remaining sections, ensuring habitat availability throughout the breeding season. Additionally, an effective management plan for meadow habitats should include the promotion of natural plant succession. This means allowing certain areas of the meadow to develop into dense, taller vegetation, which in turn creates a diverse habitat structure and increases the availability of food for birds.

The Baltimore County Department of Recreation and Parks and the Cromwell Valley Park Nature Council are currently in the process of working together to finalize a cyclical mowing schedule for the meadows within the park. Each meadow is being numbered and on odd years the odd numbered meadows will be mowed and on even years the even numbered meadows will be mowed. The hope is that starting next year, half of the meadow habitat within the park will be left untouched allowing the grassland bird species and other animals the food sources, nesting areas, and protection that the meadows provide. By adopting cyclical mowing practices and implementing effective meadow habitat management strategies, we can mitigate the negative consequences and promote a healthier bird population in Cromwell Valley Park. Safeguarding these habitats is not only essential for the well-being of bird species but also for the overall ecological health and sustainability of meadow ecosystems.

Cromwell Valley Park Meadow Birds



American Goldfinch



American Kestrel



Bobolink

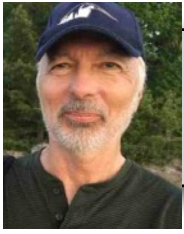


Palm Warbler

Photos: Bill Hubick



Cromwell Valley Meadow
Picture: Dave Votta



President's Corner by Joe Corcoran

A great year for the Baltimore Bird Club!



I needed to pick a topic for this Chip Notes edition and I was stuck so I reviewed all of our Board meeting minutes from the last club year (September to August), took some notes, and reviewed our program book. Quickly I noticed that wow, do we conduct a lot of activities, especially a vast array of trips! What an awesome job Toby Gingerich, Peter Lev, and just recently Mirat Shah and previously Nancy O'Hara have done on our Trip Committee!

We're going to go by the numbers. Out of the 148 events (not counting Board meetings) listed in our program last year, there were:



Picture: Marty Brazeau

September Sunday birding from a canoe at Days Cove

View the Days Cove Canoe Youtube video: [Click here!](#)

148 Baltimore Bird Club Events Last Year!

- 61 Baltimore City Standard Field Trips - Wyman Park, Patterson Park, Herring Run Park, etc., many in partnership with Audubon. (Loch Raven, Cromwell Valley Park, Soldier's Delight, Marshy Point Nature Center walks with Mary and Brent, and more)
- 8 Special Trips Out of City/County (Bombay Hook NWR, Blackwater NWR, Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center and more)
- 10 Family Trips: Designed for younger birders with topics covered like Migration, Bird Banding, Horseshoe Crabs, Bald Eagles, Bats and more, at locations like Dupont Nature Center in Delaware, Conowingo Dam, Cylburn Arboretum, and local wild areas. (Thanks to our Youth leader, Daisy Sudano who really gets the younger birders excited about birds and nature with her games, activities, and lively presentations.)
- 2 Birding by Canoe Trips: A special treat to explore less accessible marsh habitat, Thanks Sam Tillman
- 3 Habitat Walks: These are combination habitat study and explanation along with experiencing the birds who use the subject habitat, organized by our Conservation Committee led by Carol Shreter.
- 7 Lectures: Organized very well by Neville Fernandes with topics like:
 - An Introduction to Empidonax Flycatchers and Their Identification
 - Migration Biology and What That Teaches Us About Our Conservation Efforts
 - We had special lectures by Tiffany Kersten on her "Birdie Big Year" and the trials of birding as a woman.

- 3 Citizen Science Bird Counts: Not one, but two Audubon Christmas Bird Counts organized by our special expert birder Libby Errickson and a May Count for MOS (Maryland Ornithological Society), ditto Libby
- 2 Maryland 3rd Breeding Bird Atlas Training and Blockbusting walks: Kudos to Paul and Elise Kreiss and Mike Hudson.
- 1 Big Sit: Alyssia Church and Libby too.
- 1 Smithsonian Ornithology Tour: Including information on the research being done on bird strikes on planes and their effects by tour leader Sarah Luttrell
- 1 Club Picnic: Another success on beautiful, protected property hosted wonderfully by Devi Abbott



We had fun at the Baltimore Bird Club Picnic June 3, 2023 at 12:00 - 4:00p.m.

Picnic pictures by Lou Taylor & Joe Corcoran



While birders were feeding on potluck goodies, orioles were also feeding their fledglings insects in a nearby tulip tree.

*Oriole photos by
Marty Brazeau*

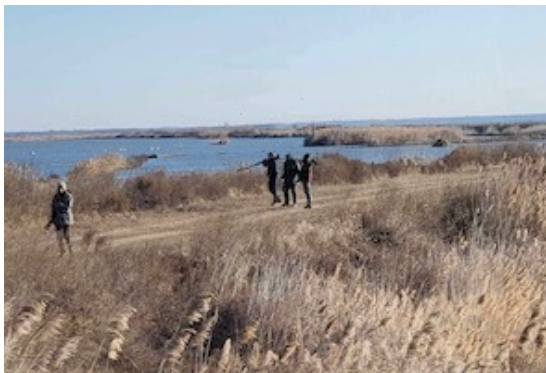
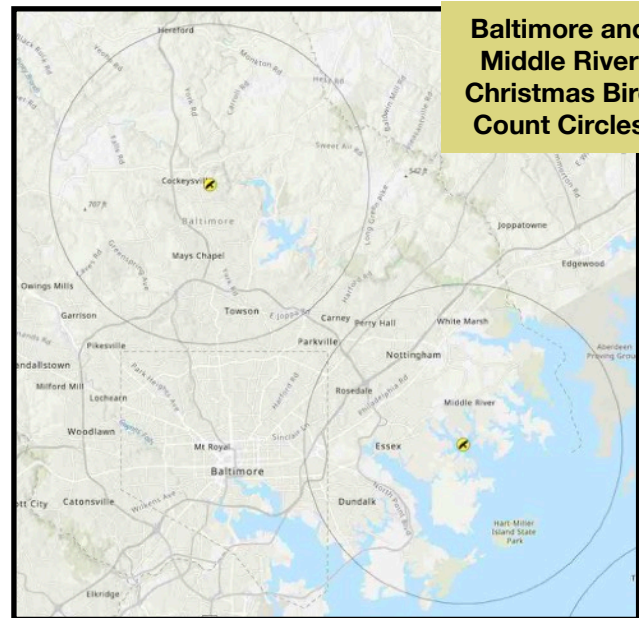


Christmas Bird Count & May Count By Libby Errickson



Community science has been one of the most important tools for collecting data for ornithological research for over a century. By merely submitting a checklist to eBird, one is participating in community science and contributing to a dataset used by researchers all over the world for studies aimed toward bird conservation. In addition to regularly submitting data to eBird, each year Baltimore Bird Club members contribute to two large-scale bird counts: Audubon's Christmas Bird Count (CBC) and the Maryland Ornithological Society (MOS)'s May Count.

The Christmas Bird Count began with 25 count circles on December 25, 1900. Today, the event is sponsored by the National Audubon Society and consists of thousands of count circles and countless participants across the Americas. The data collected during each CBC contributes to one of the longest-running, most consistent bird population datasets in existence. This data is used to assess changes in bird populations throughout North America and is one of the primary reasons researchers have been able to track the declines (and a few subsequent recoveries!) of many bird species over the past century. The first step in addressing conservation issues is figuring out they exist, and the CBC is an integral tool in the conservation efforts of birds in North America.



Christmas Bird Count on Hart Miller Island

We have two 15-mile diameter CBC circles in Baltimore County/City. The Middle River CBC took place on December 18, 2022, when 31 local birders collectively covered 130 miles on foot and by car to tally as many birds as possible over the course of the day. We were able to include Hart-Miller Island for the second year in a row (see Spring 2022 Chip Notes for a summary of 2021's Hart-Miller Island CBC, the first in over a decade), and once again it did not disappoint, with 9,243 ducks of 13 different species counted on the waters both within and surrounding the island.

For the entire Middle River CBC circle, a total of 105 species were tallied consisting of over 36,000 individual birds. Highlights included two uncommon winter residents for the area: a Tennessee Warbler found by Peter Martin along Virginia Avenue in Essex, and a Northern Rough-winged Swallow found by Nico Sarbanes at the Back River Waste Water Treatment Facility (access to which was granted to BBC only for the CBC). continued next page



Northern rough-winged Swallow, left and Tennessee Warbler, photos by Bill Hubick

Christmas Bird Count & May Count

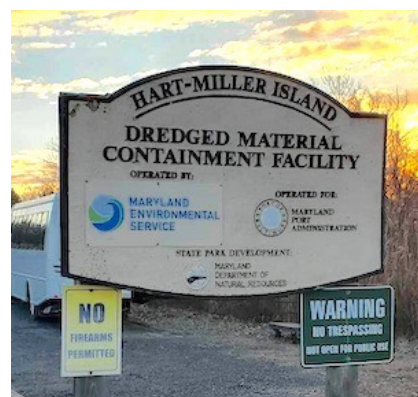
By Libby Errickson (continued)

Baltimore birders rang in the new year with the Loch Raven CBC on January 1, 2023. The count consisted of 44 participants who collectively covered 85 miles by foot and car within the 15-mile diameter circle. While no species particularly out of the ordinary were detected, notably high counts for several of our regularly-occurring species were detected compared to previous CBCs. High counts were detected most commonly among waterfowl species, such as Gadwall (98), American Black Duck (77), Mallard (209), Green-winged Teal (53), Redhead (238), Hooded Merganser (288), and Common Merganser (752). In addition, four Greater Scaup (which are rarely found inland), nine Wild Turkeys, 7 Common Ravens, 59 Field Sparrows, and 20 Purple Finches were flagged as “high” for the Loch Raven CBC. In total, 82 species of over 13,000 individuals were tallied.

The Maryland May Count has been hosted by the Maryland Ornithological Society for over 50 years. It takes place every year on the second Saturday or the following Sunday of May, during a time when bird diversity is at its maximum. By mid-May, many of Maryland’s breeding species have returned to their breeding grounds while many other neotropical migrants are continuing to pass through on their journey north.

The May Count is different from the CBC in that there is no set circle participants need to stay within; instead, we try our best to cover as many of Baltimore City and County’s hotspots as possible and any bird seen within the City and County on count day is included. We conducted the Baltimore count on May 13, 2023, also the Cornell Lab of Ornithology’s Global Big Day. There were 115 observers that contributed to our totals, 53 of which were new birders participating in guided group tours as part of Patterson Park Audubon’s Baltimore Birding Weekend. In total, birders covered over 100 miles by car and on foot in order to tally 9,562 individuals of 158 species.

This total included 28 warbler species, the stars of spring migration. Many other neotropical migrants were observed, such as Baltimore and Orchard Orioles, Scarlet and Summer Tanagers, Rose-breasted and Blue Grosbeaks, and both Swainson’s and Gray-cheeked Thrush. Participants were encouraged to document any breeding behavior observed to contribute to the Maryland-DC Breeding Bird Atlas, which was in its 4th year this year.



Redhead, Bill Hubick



Common Mergansers, Bill Hubick



Hooded Merganser, Bill Hubick

The Big Sit! By Libby Errickson

Leaders
Libby Errickson,
left, and Alyssia
Church with the
final list



Another fun event Baltimore Bird Club members participated in during the past year was **The Big Sit!** During one of the first weekends in October, participants from all over the world do their best to count as many species as they can from within a 17-foot diameter circle. The event is a little bit competitive between circles and participants must adhere to strict rules. Birds can be detected from outside the circle as long as someone within the circle is able to see or hear it, and participants are allowed to leave the circle in order to confirm the identification of a bird detected from within the circle.

The **Baltimore Bird Club Big Sit** was held on October 8, 2022 for the first time since 2003. We set up our circle along the beach at North Point State Park, hoping to give ourselves access to both forested and shoreline habitats as well as the Chesapeake Bay. Throughout the course of the day, 13 birders came for varying lengths of time to help the team detect new species. Highlights included loose flocks of migrant warblers coming in off the bay in the early morning, a Cliff Swallow, a Common Nighthawk, and a significant raptor flight consisting of American Kestrels, Sharp-shinned Hawks, Cooper's Hawks, and Northern Harriers. Our final species of the day, a Royal Tern was also a notable highlight. By the end of the day, we counted 64 species from our circle—not bad for our first Big Sit in a of couple decades!



Participating in these events is a fun way to both contribute to bird population data as well as spend time getting to know other local birders, and the Baltimore Bird Club welcomes birders of all skill levels to participate. Anyone interested in participating in the Middle River and/or Loch Raven Christmas Bird Counts, the Maryland May Count, or the Big Sit can express their interest in an email to Libby Errickson at Elizabeth.Errickson@gmail.com.

BIRDING ADVENTURE IN ECUADOR by Marty Brazeau



Nancy Butowski feeding a hummer



Marty Brazeau



Guide: Ben Lucking



Ecuador Birds video link: [Click here!](#)

My friend Nancy and I traveled to Ecuador to watch and film birds at three lodges for 13 days, March 3-16, 2023. We were led by a young birder prodigy guide Ben Lucking for ten days while visiting Guango and Casa San Isidro Lodges. We observed Gray-breasted Mountain Toucans on the east side of the Andes and then were entertained by Pale-billed Mountain Toucans on the west side of the Andes at Bella Vista Bird Lodge. We saw quite a few of Ecuador's 125 colorful hummingbirds feeding on flowers and visiting feeders. We marveled at the diverse array of colorful tanagers displaying their acrobatic behaviors high up in the canopy. You can watch my video, linked above, to see all the fascinating birds featured in this article.



Turquoise Jay



Inca Jay



Pale-billed Mountain Toucan



Gray-breasted Mountain Toucan



Rufous-crowned
Tody Flycatcher



Gorgeted Sunangel



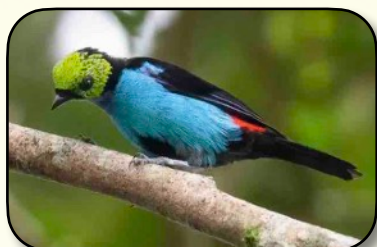
White-bellied Woodstar



Peruvian Racket-tail



Violet-tailed Sylph



Paradise Tanager, Ben Lucking



Golden Tanager



Flame-faced Tanager



Blue-winged Mountain Tanager

More Birds filmed by Marty Brazeau in Ecuador....



Golden-headed Quetzal:
spotted at Casa San Isidro



Masked Trogon: found on
Eastern and Western
Andean slopes



Green-backed Trogon:
found in the Eastern lowlands.



Pearled Treerunner



Canada Warbler



Blackburnian Warbler

After breakfast I filmed the warblers above at Casa San Isidro feeding on moths attracted to blue-light illuminated screens.



Russet-backed Oropendola



Barbet Pictures: Ben Lucking

Ben pointed out this **Lemon-throated Barbet** high in a tree.



Torrent Duck family



Adult male **Torrent Duck** swimming upstream against the raging rapids!

Every morning at 8:30 AM, a Casa San Isidro guide puts out meal worms on a log to attract a **White-bellied Antpitta**. It came out! I filmed it!

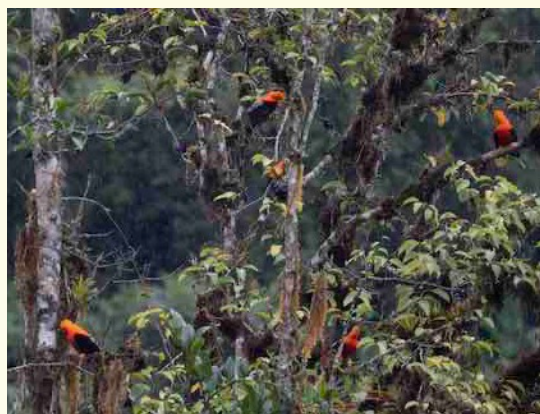


Photo by Marty Brazeau



Photo by Ben Lucking



Photo by Ben Lucking

Guide Ben, Nancy, and I traveled from Casa San Isidro to a large **Andean Cock of the Rock** lek located at a private sanctuary. Our car followed a local guide riding a motorcycle up a rain soaked road. A stream flooded the road that was below the lek. Nancy stayed in the car while I took off my shoes and crossed the stream wearing a poncho with my camera gear in a plastic bag. Ben and I hiked up the hill and followed a trail to a tented platform to film the birds during a downpour. We hiked on a Casa San Isidro trail a few days later where Nancy was finally able to see several of these orange birds with the puffed up head feathers.

Welcome New Members!

A warm welcome to the Baltimore Bird Club! We hope you enjoy a wonderfully birdy autumn observing migrating warblers and raptors here in Baltimore, or wherever your travels take you this season.

Here are the new members --

Ava (Penny) Budacz ... Baltimore
Jonathan Cheng ... Baltimore
Molly Cohn ... Baltimore
Edward Hirsch ... Baltimore
Megan Johnson ... Baltimore
Tenille O'Connor ... Baltimore
Suvarna Punalekar ... Baltimore
Kathleen Siren & James May ... Baltimore
Alyssia Church & Kristopher McDaniel ... Bel Air
Susan Seidman ... Fallston
Amy and Robert Lombardi ... Parkville
Bill Frost ... New Freedom, PA

April 23, 2023

Chinquapin Run Park

Leader: Sam Tillman

This was the first bird club walk ever at this location, which only became a hotspot in 2022, and we had an excellent turn out. Though we had a chilly start, and the bugs and birds were slow to rise, we ended up with 42 species. We walked nearly the entirety of the park, which starts at Northern Parkway on the north end, and made it almost to Loch Raven Drive - a stretch that contains open fields, mature forest, and the recently restored Chinquapin Run stream bed. This hotspot had very few eBird checklists and so adding new species for the park was very much a goal for the day. Things got off to a fast start when two Common Loons flew overhead, before adding Double-crested Cormorant, Osprey, Purple Finch, and **Blue-winged Warbler** (one of only three warblers for the day, but the nineteenth for the park). These additions pushed the park species count over 100 (to 102), a personal goal this year!



Blue-winged Warbler, Bill Hubick

May 4, 2023

Orioles at Cromwell Valley Park

Leader: Mark Linardi

Fifteen participants. Mourning Dove, Chimney Swift, Solitary Sandpiper, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Eastern Phoebe, Eastern Kingbird, White-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Common Raven, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, White-breasted Nuthatch, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, House Wren, Carolina Wren, European Starling, Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, House Sparrow, House Finch, American Goldfinch, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Orchard Oriole (18), Baltimore Oriole (20), Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Grackle, Black-and-white Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Yellow Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Northern Cardinal, Indigo Bunting.



Watch 218 birds found in Maryland and the Eastern United States on your computer or big screen TV!

[Click here!](#)

Created by Baltimore Bird Club Educational Outreach Specialist Marty Brazeau

May 6, 2023

Druid Hill Park

Leader: Toby Pessoa Gingerich.

Canada Goose, Mallard, Rock Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Chimney Swift, Ring-Billed Gull, Common Loon, Double-crested Cormorant, Turkey Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, American Kestrel, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Yellow-throated Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Blue Jay, Fish Crow, American Crow, Tufted Titmouse, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, White-breasted Nuthatch, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, House Wren, Carolina Wren, European Starling, Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, Eastern Bluebird, Veery, Wood Thrush, American Robin, House Sparrow, House Finch, American Goldfinch Chipping Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Baltimore Oriole, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Grackle, Ovenbird, Black-and-white Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Cape May Warbler, Northern Parula, Yellow Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Palm Warbler, Pine Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak.

May 9, 2023

Lake Roland

Leader: Mark Linardi

Fifteen participants. Wood Duck, Mallard, Mourning Dove, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Least Sandpiper, Great Blue Heron, Osprey, Red-shouldered Hawk, Belted Kingfisher, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Acadian Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, White-eyed Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, White-breasted Nuthatch, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Carolina Wren, European Starling, Gray Catbird, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, House Sparrow, American Goldfinch, Chipping Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Grackle, Northern Waterthrush, Black-and-white Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Northern Parula, Magnolia Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Northern Cardinal, Indigo Bunting.

May 14, 2023. **Special Report**

DuPont Nature Center

Leader: Daisy Sudano.

This was my annual trip for youth birders to the DuPont Nature Center to see horseshoe crabs and shorebirds. The weather was beautiful and the high tide was just perfect for seeing horseshoe crabs laying eggs that helped feed flocks of migrating shorebirds. On a day that the DuPont Nature Center was closed, I set up my horseshoe crab and shorebird information on the viewing deck and was able to share information about birds to young birders as well as nature center visitors.



Red Knot with a Laughing Gull, Bill Hubick

I was able to chat with many people, including Walter, Nancy, and Norma from the Kent County Bird Club. Expert birder Walter helped identify 13 species. Highlights included the Royal Tern, Spotted Sandpiper, Dunlin, Red Knot, Black Neck Stilt, Oyster Catcher, Black-Bellied Plover, and the elusive Clapper Rail.

The viewing deck, open from dawn to dusk, is a good place for "flocks of birders" to set up scopes and view thousands of birds. Friendly birders invited non-birders to peer through scopes to witness flocks of sandpipers. I helped describe the birds observed. This was a real thrill as many had NO idea that there were so many diverse and numerous birds on Delaware beaches. It was a delight to see their reactions. Two Cylburn Arboretum friends heard me talk about this trip at Cylburn Market Day and showed up while I was describing how horseshoe crabs eggs are a primary food source for shorebirds. A couple from Michigan asked if they could follow us during our drive along Bay Avenue which has areas to park and walk up to the beach for firsthand viewing. It was fun showing everyone the horseshoe crabs up close. We tried to save many of the upside down crabs by following the motto "Just flip'em!" found on the signs along the beach. It was fun showing young birders the horseshoe crabs up close.

When we had our fill and walked back to our vehicles to leave, a car with people from California pulled in. I was able to tell them all about the phenomenon. California doesn't have horseshoe crabs so I was excited to show them. As we walked up to the beach, to my surprise, the horseshoe crabs were all gone. They had found their way back into the water to wait for the next high tide. However, since it was low tide, revealing the horseshoe crab eggs, the shorebirds showed up in the thousands.



May 14, 2023

Marshy Point Nature Center

Leaders: Brent and Mary Byers

Seventeen participants. Wood Duck, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Least Tern, Great Blue Heron, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Wood Pewee, Acadian Flycatcher, Great Crested Flycatcher, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Barn Swallow, White-breasted Nuthatch, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Carolina Wren, European Starling, Eastern Bluebird, Veery, Cedar Waxwing, American Goldfinch, Eastern Towhee, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Magnolia Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Blue Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting.

May 14, 2023.

Cylburn Arboretum

Leader: Mark Linardi

Eleven participants. Mourning Dove, Chimney Swift, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Acadian Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Barn Swallow, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, House Wren, Carolina Wren, European Starling, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Northern Mockingbird, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, Cedar Waxwing, House Sparrow, House Finch, American Goldfinch, Chipping Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Grackle, Blackpoll Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Northern Cardinal.

May 20, 2023.

Piney Orchard Nature Preserve

Leaders: Debbie and Lou Taylor

The BBC visited Piney Orchard Nature Preserve, in Anne Arundel County, MD on May 20, 2023. Probably a first visit for our club to this hidden gem. The group of 10 started with a cloudy day, with 70 degrees, or so. The clouds didn't stop us from seeing and or hearing a nice variety of birds. We birded for approximately 3 miles in 3 hours or so. Hearing a Barred Owl was exciting with a few lucky individuals getting to see it. A variety of Woodpeckers, as expected, an Acadian Flycatcher, Great Crested Flycatcher, and many other seasonal birds were seen. Our Warbler sightings included Ovenbird, **Hooded**, Bay-Breasted, and Blackpoll as well as an **Indigo Bunting** with 44 species in total.



Hooded Warbler,
Marty Brazeau



Indigo Bunting,
Marty Brazeau

May 23, 2023

Lake Roland. Leader: Matthew Black

Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Mallard, Mourning Dove, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Great Blue Heron, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Black Vulture, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Acadian Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, White-breasted Nuthatch, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, House Wren, Carolina Wren, Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, Eastern Bluebird, Swainson's Thrush, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Cedar Waxwing, Chipping Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Baltimore Oriole, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Grackle, Common Yellowthroat, Magnolia Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Indigo Bunting.



Cedar Waxwing,
Marty Brazeau

May 27, 2023.

Herring Run Park

Leader: Kim Tomko.

On Saturday May 27, 2023, a group of seven participants walked the loop trail at Herring Run Park. The weather was perfect. Highlights of the trip included a Red-shouldered Hawk nestling perched on the edge of its nest, a **Cedar Waxwing** gathering dried grasses for a nest, and finding a Baltimore Oriole near its nest!

May 27, 2023

Susquehanna State Park

Leader: Toby Pessoa Gingerich

Eleven participants. Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Chimney Swift, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Red-shouldered Hawk, Belted Kingfisher, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Acadian Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, Yellow-throated Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Purple Martin, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, White-breasted Nuthatch, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Carolina Wren, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Northern Mockingbird, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Cedar Waxwing, American Goldfinch, Chipping Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Grackle, Ovenbird, Louisiana Waterthrush, Prothonotary Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, American Redstart, Cerulean Warbler, Northern Parula, Yellow Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Indigo Bunting.

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,
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Submit materials to
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Moving or email change?
Send update to
Terry Ross at trossstva@gmail.com

Deadlines for submitting articles
for upcoming issues:
October 24, 2023



Application

The membership year is September 1-August 31. New members only joining after March 1 will be members for the upcoming year as well as the remainder of the year that they enroll.

The most convenient way to join is at the Maryland Ornithological Society website using this address:
<https://mdbirds.org/join/chapters/baltimore-bird-club/#toggle-id-3>
where you may pay your dues using PayPal.

OR, you may join by mail.

Make check payable to "MOS" and mail with completed
application to:

Carol S Daugherty
MOS Treasurer
11925 Oden Court
Rockville, MD 20852