

The Todd Nuthatch



Indiana, PA

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Todd Bird Club
www.toddbirdclub.org

August 2016

Meetings

Todd Bird Club meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month, September through April, at Blue Spruce Lodge in Blue Spruce County Park, located just off Route 110 east of the town of Ernest. Arrive by 7:00, early enough to socialize. Refreshments are provided at each of our meetings. In May we hold our banquet meeting which starts at 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 6 – Cris Hamilton, a retired teacher, was fortunate to take several trips during 2015 to visit some very special islands. She traveled in July to Iceland, which is, of course, an island. After landing in Reykjavik, the group of eight, including six students, one instructor, and his wife, headed to the north central area of Iceland and then took a ferry to another island, Grimsý Island, which sits partially within the Arctic Circle. The group spent nine glorious days living together in a bed & breakfast type place and photographing Atlantic Puffins, Black-legged Kittiwakes, terns, sheep, and Icelandic horses. The Atlantic Puffins were the big draw as they were feeding chicks. Can one see the chicks? You'll have to wait to find out.

Late November and into December took Cris to the Falkland Islands, off the coast of South America, for an amazing look at how people live there, the interesting weather patterns they experience, and the fun wildlife and

birds that live there. Following that week with a relatively small group of people and an excellent guide, who lives in Alaska, the group met up with a few more people.

Approximately 75 guests, plus ship staff, and expedition staff boarded the Ortelius, an expedition ship, for the trek from Stanley, in the East Falkland Islands, to South Georgia Island, about 800 miles to the east. This is considered Sub-Antarctica. The scenery there was more spectacular than one could even imagine, and the group had many opportunities to photograph everything from penguins to albatrosses to literally tons of blubber — more blubber (elephant seals) than most people will ever see in a lifetime. Many harbors were visited, a variety of weather was encountered, and one could see the remains of the whaling business in the small town of Grytviken, where Sir Ernest Henry Shackleton is buried.



Cris Hamilton enjoyed photographing the Atlantic Puffins as they were feeding young.



Cris photographed this Silvery Grebe on Long Pond in the Falkland Islands.

Have you ever seen the feet of a King Penguin? Have you ever ridden in a zodiac in the South Atlantic Ocean in the wind, rain, and freezing temperatures? Did you know that the Wandering Albatross has a wingspan of almost twelve feet? For these and even more fun facts and photos, we hope to see you on Tuesday, September 6 for the photographic presentation of "Island Birds and Friends!"

Tuesday, October 4 – Todd Bird Club member Ed Donley will present “Landscaping with Native Plants for Birds” at our October meeting. He will discuss why we should include native plants in our gardens to support birds. Most bird species depend on insects and other invertebrates as a source of protein and fat. Herbivorous insects comprise a large portion of that diet. These insects feed almost exclusively on native plants. So, birds indirectly rely on native plants. Ed will describe some of the details of these relationships. You can take some free native plant seedlings home with you to plant in your own garden.

Ed has been transforming his rural property with native plants to support wildlife. For a preview of this program, participate in the Todd Bird Club’s October 1 outing at his property.

Tuesday, November 1 – Lisa Meadows, Environmental Education Specialist at Yellow Creek State Park, will be the evening’s speaker. (*See Lisa’s bio below.*) She will present “Whose fur is it anyway?” which is based on an old game show with the comedian Drew Carey. One of the best ways that kids and adults learn is through experiential learning. This is an old-fashioned guessing game where participants work in teams to figure out which fur, fin, or feather matches a PA Animal. Most people think it is relatively simple...yet start to laugh when they realize how challenging it is. After participants are finished with their guessing, we will go over their answers and share some little known facts about PA Wild Animals. In my two years of teaching this program, not one team has gotten 100% on their answers. Let’s see if the Todd Bird Club members can best our park visitors in their quest. Can’t wait to see you on November 1.

Welcome, Lisa Meadows, Our Yellow Creek Environmental Ed. Specialist (EES)

[Editor’s Note: Lisa Meadows replaced Mike Shaffer at Yellow Creek this past year. We welcome her to Todd Bird Club.]

Lisa writes:

“My very first bird was a huge Osprey hovering over a small lake. The bird dived head first into the water and disappeared. I was shocked. Then the Osprey popped her head out and started treading water. Three seconds later, she exploded out of the water carrying off a big carp to a pine tree. I was mesmerized at the age of 20 by Birds of Prey. I took the round-about way of becoming an EES. The first 13 years of my career I worked in social work with part-time jobs teaching outdoor education.

“I really loved biology and environmental education while I was in college but was told there were no jobs in that field. I spent nearly every summer working at camps or nature centers in central PA and out West leading education programs. Instead of doing my senior thesis in my major of psychology, I chose to do a field study on birds and small wetlands. It was fascinating heading out several mornings in the snow, rain, and fog to count birds. I went on to complete a Master’s Degree in Social Work from Marywood University. Social Work has a lot in common with Ecology by looking at how humans interact with their environment. My degree gave me many of the necessary skills needed to excel in Environmental Education, such as reading an audience, developing partnerships, researching information, and relating to a variety of people.

“I burned out in social work in 2013 and decided to change fields. I returned to my favorite long-time employer, River Quest, teaching the environmental science programs on the three rivers of Pittsburgh. I took a four-month internship with Student Conservation Association in Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge, West Virginia, learning all about visitor services. When I finished my internship, I took several civil services tests for PA State Parks. In 2014, I landed a position as an Environmental Interpretative Technician with Raccoon Creek State Park in Beaver County, leading school, campground, and adventure programs. I was very lucky to work with two great mentors at the park who helped me to hone my skills as an educator. In 2015, I took over the Yellow Creek State Park Environmental Education Specialist position. This park was the perfect fit for me as an Important Birding Area, a healthy lake for outdoor recreation, and many wonderful volunteers and groups like the Todd Bird Club, PA Game Commission, Penn State Master Gardeners, and Friends of the Parks. Everybody has been so welcoming and friendly to a “newbie” educator.

“I’m so happy to be here!

– Lisa Meadows, EES Yellow Creek State Park”

From the President's Desk...

If you haven't noticed (that means you were some place other than in western Pennsylvania) it has been a hot, and for the most part, a dry, summer. If you have done any birding this summer, I bet you started early and by 10:00 a.m. or so, you were thinking about air conditioning. I know personally I have been thinking about buying more window air conditioners, but change is in the air. Believe it or not, migration has begun. At Yellow Creek there are mudflats, and the first of the migrating Least Sandpipers have been recorded in the past weeks. Solitary Sandpipers, Lesser Yellowlegs, and Semiplumbed Plovers are on the move and have been noted at Yellow Creek. With the start of migration in mind, take a look at the outings planned for the coming months. Yes, fall is a busy time, but plan to participate in some of the outings.

Over this past year Todd has supported and worked on a number of projects. At the end of last year with the support of the Todd Bird Club, Eagle Scout Jack Ferguson completed the construction of a Chimney Swift tower located in Blue Spruce County Park. And in May this year another Eagle Scout project was completed with Todd's support. Scout Ian Strittmatter replaced the steps leading to the waterfowl observatory at Yellow Creek State Park. Now we owe it to these young guys to check out their work, so make it a point to visit these projects in the coming months.

One other Todd project is in progress. You may have observed that the Purple Martin house that was located just off the beach area at Yellow Creek State Park is no longer there. About two years ago the house and pole were removed from the beach location. Purple Martins have never used this house! With that in mind, Todd took on as a project relocating and refurbishing the house and pole. Lee Carnahan has been doing the lion's share of work on the project. He picked up the house, located the pole at the park's maintenance building, and hauled both to his home and worked to refurbish them.



Thanks to Ian Strittmatter and the construction of the new steps, the Yellow Creek observatory is accessible once again.



Thanks to Lee Carnahan, the Purple Martin pole, winch, and nest box have been relocated on the north shore and refurbished.



Lee with help installed the pole at its new location in the open area just to the side of the sailboat launch on the north shore of the lake. Lee also attached the house to the pole at a later date. But he is still working to make the house more attractive for Purple Martins. He has reconfigured some of the openings to make it better suited for martins and updated the nesting inserts to make it easier to clean out the apartments. In addition, he has added perches to the top of the house. Plans are underway to add gourd houses to the complex with the hope of attracting Purple Martins. This year we hoped to attract any birds, but we were surprised to find that only wasps nested in the box this year!

Now as promised in the last newsletter, here's a Phoebe update. First off, I have to apologize to my wife Emry as she tells me I should not talk so much about our granddaughter, but I can not help it. Hey, I will talk about her to anyone who will listen and I will even talk to people who will not listen! This little girl may not realize it now but she has both Grammy and Grandpop wrapped around her little chubby finger! Yes, Mom and Pop Fuller (Todd members Tom & Elise) had Phoebe out on her first birding outing this spring before she was even a month old. And on that outing one of her very first birds on her life list was a Bald Eagle. It is going to be interesting to see her life list before she even knows what a life list is. She is now five months old, and from all indications she is going to be a "zinger." Most of her crying is caused by frustration. She wants to do things, but she has not gotten everything figured out yet, and that frustrates her. One thing that I have found fascinating is Phoebe has already taken notice of her mom and dad's iPad. With modern day kids' interest in electronics, the human species is going through a change. I will keep you all updated on Phoebe.

Tom Glover

(Photos on this page by Tom Glover)

Outings

Tuesday morning outings, mostly at Yellow Creek, will continue till deer season. Please check below as two of our Tuesdays are scheduled elsewhere. For the others, meet at 8:00 a.m. at the park office located on Route 259 just off Route 422 east of Indiana. Early comers are invited to meet at the pavilion on the north shore shortly after dawn. Everyone –from beginner to expert birder – is welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Lee Carnahan (724-388-4667) or Margaret Higbee (724-354-3493).

Sunday, August 21 – Annual Todd Bird Club picnic at the home of Dan and Marcy Cunkelman. Please bring a covered dish to share and your own lawn chairs. Marcy will provide sloppy joes, buns, paper products, non-diet drinks, and insect repellent. If you prefer diet drinks, bring your own. Please do not wear insect repellent or perfume. Natural repellent will be provided if needed. You may RSVP by phone at 724-459-7229 or e-mail at plant4nature@gmail.com.

Saturday, August 27 – Conneaut Harbor, Ohio, led by Roger and Margaret Higbee. We will spend a good part of the day at this shorebird mecca then bird our way home. Plans are to leave Indiana at 6:00 a.m. If you plan to attend, contact the Higbees for details (724-354-3493).

Saturday, September 3 – Blue Spruce County Park outing, led by John Taylor (724-357-4469). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the first large parking lot just past the park office. This is our annual outing for fall warblers and other migrants.

Saturday, September 10 – Yellow Creek State Park, led by Lee Carnahan (724-388-4667). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the park office.

September 16-18 – Delaware trip. Former Todd Bird Club President Steve Graff who now lives in Delaware will lead this outing. Plans are to meet near Dover on Friday the 16th of September and bird through Sunday the 18th. Possible locations include Bombay Hook, Port Mahon, Ted Harvey Conservation Area, Cape Henlopen State Park, Mispillion Point, and Prime Hook. Contact Roger or Margaret Higbee (724-354-3493) for further details.

Saturday, September 17- Waterworks Conservation Area and Gary Ferrence's Farm, led by Sue Dickson (724-388-5000). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Waterworks.

Tuesday, September 20 – Moraine State Park, led by Mike Shaffer and Kati Edmiston. Meet on the south shore at the non-powered boat launch at 8:00 a.m. If you would

like to carpool, contact the Higbees (724-354-3493). Targets will be fall warblers and other migrants.

Saturday, September 24 – Yellow Creek State Park, led by Tom Glover (tomnglover@comcast.net). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the park office.

Saturday, October 1 – Ed Donley's farm at 1243 Five Points Road, Indiana, PA 15701. Take 422 west toward Kittanning for 3.5 miles from Indiana. Turn right onto Five Points Road (look for the small green and white Myers Nursery sign). Stay on Five Points Road for 1.2 miles and look for three gravel drives on the left that access Five Points Road all at the same place (note there is a yellow pipe gate on the middle drive). Ed's drive is the one on the left. Meet at his farm at 8:00 a.m.

Saturday & Sunday, October 8-9 – *Birdwatcher's Digest's* Big Sit. Create your own 17-foot-diameter circle, then count all the birds you see, or find a pre-existing circle to join. Our state has led the whole world with the most circle in past years.

Saturday, October 15 – Yellow Creek State Park, led by Gloria Lamer (724-349-1159). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the park office.

Tuesday, October 18 – Hawk watch trip to the Allegheny Front. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Yellow Creek State Park office to carpool or meet at the hawk watch at 9:15 a.m. For information contact Roger or Margaret Higbee (724-354-3493). Bring something to sit on and dress warmly as it is often cold and windy on the Front. Please bring your lunch.

Saturday, October 22 – Mahoning Shadow Trail, 342 Water Street, Punxsutawney, PA 15767, led by Tom Glover (tomnglover@comcast.net). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the sewage treatment plant trailhead parking lot. This section of the trail has 50 well preserved, over-100-year-old coke ovens. Directions: take US 119 north from Indiana; just before Punxsutawney turn left onto PA Rt. 436. After about 1¾ miles turn right after crossing the bridge onto North Main St. In a short distance, turn right onto Grace Way, across from the Kwik Fill station, and then turn right onto Water St. Water St. follows the Mahoning Creek and takes you to the treatment plant parking lot.

Saturday, October 29 – Yellow Creek State Park, led by Lee Carnahan (724-388-4667). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the park office.

(continued on page 18)

Hiking the Redbank Valley Trail

by Flo McGuire

Last spring on a Todd Bird Club outing, Margaret and Roger Higbee mentioned that they had been hiking and birding sections of trails in the Rails-to-Trails System. Jim and I thought that sounded like fun — we joined them on part of the Armstrong Trail one day, walking along the Allegheny River toward East Brady, until we thought we were halfway to lunchtime and turned around. So, we went 4.2 miles (according to our pedometers) but covered only 2.1 miles of the trail. This got us to thinking, we could walk twice as far if we had one vehicle at the other end.



Flo and Jim McGuire and Roger Higbee hike the Redbank Valley Trail just prior to their bear sighting.

Then Jim and I went to the website TrailLink.org, where we could browse the trail map for trails between our respective homes at Creekside and Tionesta. We found a real gem -- the Redbank Valley Trail, from Brookville to the Allegheny River (41 miles), and a spur which goes from Lawsonham to Sligo (9 miles). This trail was awarded the 2014 Trail of the Year by Pennsylvania's Department of Conservation & Natural Resources. The trail is well-maintained with a crushed limestone surface, except for the spur, where improvements are underway.

We started on June 29 at Brookville, Milepost 41, and soon had a routine – we would meet at 8:00 a.m. at the endpoint of the day's journey, leave one car and travel in the other car to the beginning point. We were equipped with water, snacks, cameras, and of course binoculars. That first day we walked 4.5 miles in about 5 hours, then went to Subway for lunch. It was a good birding day — we tallied 47 species, and confirmed 10. These included a Northern Rough-winged Swallow feeding young, a Blue-headed Vireo nest building, a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher feeding young, and a Dark-eyed Junco carrying food.

Our second hike on July 3 was the birdiest day we had, with 50 species. Highlights here were an Ovenbird fledgling, Eastern Towhees copulating, and a Cooper's Hawk carrying food. Again we ended the day with lunch at Subway.

On all of these treks, Margaret was both birding and "mothing" — whenever she saw a moth, she would adjust her camera to get proper lighting for a macro photo, to verify the species. She added several moths to the county lists for Jefferson, Clarion, and Armstrong for the

BAMONA website, www.butterfliesandmoths.org.

July 10 was another good day, with 38 species, including seven confirmed breeding. We noted our only Willow Flycatcher, our only Black-and-white Warbler, and four Warbling Vireos. At one point on this hike Margaret walked over to a pretty yellow wildflower and exclaimed "Evening Primrose, and

here's a Primrose Moth!" There was indeed a pink and yellow moth on the yellow primrose. Margaret said that she has been checking every evening primrose she's seen for several years in the hopes of finding this moth. I know I have a lot to learn about lepidoptera, but this one is easy even for me to remember!

One major town along our route (besides Brookville, large enough to have a Subway) was New Bethlehem, which is approximately centered on the main part of the trail. On this more developed section we encountered the most other hikers, but the variety of birds was not diminished; we tallied 38 species, including two Warbling Vireos, a Purple Finch and an Osprey. As we got farther away from the towns, we would sometimes see only a few other hikers or bikers all morning, sometimes none! As our foursome hiked through the summer and fall, each day as lunchtime approached, we all seemed to start craving a sub from Subway. Luckily there are enough Subways situated near the trail.

We traveled one of the longest and most remote sections of the trail on July 20 — it was 6 miles between parking areas. We birded three counties that day — as we crossed from Jefferson into Clarion County, the Redbank Creek became the boundary with Armstrong County, so any birds seen or heard across the creek would be counted for Armstrong. We kept all this data straight for our eBird reporting. This was another good day for birds, also a white-striped black moth, but all of these were forgotten when we looked up ahead and saw a black bear ambling down the trail barely 200 feet in front of us! He must have sensed our presence, and quickly disappeared into the woods below.

On September 2 we heard “babies” in the vegetation on the bank next to the trail; they proved to be a brood of Ruffed Grouse which must have recently fledged. September 23 was another long stretch, 6.8 miles; although we had only 33 species that day, these included our only Red-shouldered Hawk, Tennessee Warbler, and Bay-breasted Warbler.

On our eighth hike, October 16, we got to the Allegheny River, Milepost 0! This was another good birding day, with our only Swainson’s Thrush and Winter Wren, and 30 Yellow-rumped Warblers. But we had traversed only 40 of the 41 miles, because a one-mile section near Mayport had been under construction. We scheduled our last walk of the year on October 30 to finish this mile. (We actually traveled five miles that day, or it would have been too early for lunch.) This was the day I got to see one of my favorite birds, a Brown Creeper. We also had an interesting side-trip after this hike, going to a private home near Brookville where a Rufous Hummingbird had been reported. We were fortunate to see and photograph this beautiful western bird.

The pleasant weather in March 2016 prompted us to go back to do the spur, a nine-mile section perpendicular to

the main section, going from Lawsonham to Sligo. We would split it into two days. Unfortunately, the pleasant weather was gone when we got there. On the first day, one of us who was not prepared, was freezing! On April 7, the very last day of our 50-mile trek, I was glad to be wearing my warmest winter clothes and hiking boots. This was probably our most challenging day, with the rough surface, cold temperatures, intermittent rain, and 3% grade (up!), but the birding was wonderful — we listed 39 species, adding American Kestrel, Field Sparrow, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Brown-headed Cowbird, Fox Sparrow, and Brown Thrasher to the trail list, and we also saw an American Crow sitting on a nest, for another confirmation of breeding.

Our 50-mile journey included stunning scenery, with waterfalls, historical bridges, a stone tunnel, rhododendron-covered ravines, deciduous woods, reclaimed strip mine property, and, of course, the Redbank Creek itself. Over eleven hikes, I tallied 439 bird sightings of 92 different species. The Redbank Valley Trail was a lot of fun to hike — it provided new habitats and new birds every day, plus a nice sense of accomplishment at the end.

Antigua Revisited

by Steve Graff

Can you say Bananaquit, Bananaquit, Bananaquit three times fast??? Over and over and over all day long??? Bananaquit is surprisingly not the national bird – that would be the Magnificent Frigatebird.

The island boasts having 365 beaches – one for each day of the year, and their license plate says that Antigua is “the land of sea and sun.” Bananaquit. The island was formerly under British control but has since gained its independence. Antiguans still drive on the left side of their very narrow, rough roads.

Let me start at the beginning. My friend Brian was awarded a trip to Antigua through his work, and he was able to take one additional person – *lucky me!!!!* When we started scheduling flights, we found the cheapest direct flight was from New York City’s Kennedy Airport.

On Wednesday, April 13, 2016, we drove to New York City to stay the night, for we were to report to the airport at 5:30 a.m. the next day. On the way to the hotel, we



“Oh, it’s just another Bananaquit...”

conveniently drove past Jamaica Bay/Gateway National Recreation Area where we saw Brant, Ring-billed Gulls, Herring Gulls, Great Black-backed Gulls, Northern Gannets, Rock Pigeons, European Starlings, Mallards, Common Grackles, Osprey, and Double-crested Cormorants.

We arrived in Antigua (which is pronounced An-tee-ga) around noon, and while walking past some windows we could see Cattle Egrets following a lawn mower on the tarmac. After exiting the building, the first bird outside was a Carib Grackle then a Gray Kingbird. It was time to get the shuttle to the resort called Curtain Bluff. En route we saw Cattle Egrets, Great Egrets, Snowy Egrets,

Common Moorhens, and Gray Kingbirds.

Our room was right on the beach, so while sitting on our patio and walking around the resort, we noticed Bananaquit, Bananaquit, Bananaquit, Brown Pelican, a Brown Booby, and a fly-by Red-billed Tropicbird, Bananaquit, Bananaquit, Bananaquit, Zenaida Dove, Green-throated

Carib, Lesser Antillean Bullfinch, Laughing Gull, Gray Kingbird, Antillean-crested Hummingbird, Royal Tern, Little Blue Heron, Black-faced Grassquit, and Common Ground-Dove. Bananaquit, Bananaquit, Bananaquit. In a palm tree right outside our patio a White-crowned Pigeon was nesting. We observed the “changing of the guard,” so to speak, several times during our visit.



The third bird we saw on Antigua was a Gray Kingbird.

Down at the Beach Bar, an open-air building, the Bananaquits would fly in and land on the bar looking for insects right beside us. And I mean only twelve inches away! They were also nesting on top of the support for the ceiling fan which we noticed when one of the Bananaquits flew up to feed the babies in the nest. Bananaquit.

The next day, Friday, April 15, waking up and stepping out onto our beach patio was amazing as we watched the White-crowned Pigeons, Bananaquits, Magnificent Frigatebirds, Royal Terns, and Laughing Gulls, as well as the beautiful beach and the tropical Caribbean ocean. Going to breakfast turned out to be just as exciting. Walking 100 feet to the resort’s open-air restaurant with Bananaquit, Bananaquit, Bananaquit, Lesser Antillean Bullfinch, Black-faced Grassquit, Common Ground-Doves, Bananaquit, Bananaquit, Bananaquit, and Green-throated Carib flying about is just amazing. Attempting to eat with a Zenaida Dove walking around our feet and other birds flying about the shrubs near the veranda was almost impossible. I couldn’t even eat breakfast! (Yeah, right! My missing a chance to stuff my face and look at birds at the same time? Ha ha!) Bananaquit, Bananaquit, Bananaquit.

We had signed up for a land safari trip that day which took us to points on the island including Nelson’s Dock Yard in Freeman’s Bay, The Block House, Shirley’s Heights (from which you can see Eric Clapton’s huge mansion!), Betty’s Hope, Devil’s Bridge, and past a donkey sanctuary. Of course I took the binos along and looked for birds the whole time. So, that whole day we listed Brown Pelican, Magnificent Frigatebird, Laughing Gull, Royal Tern, Little Blue Heron, Great Egret, Cattle Egret, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Black-necked Stilt, White-cheeked Pintail, West Indian Whistling-Duck, White-crowned Pigeon, White-winged Dove, Common Ground-Dove, Zenaida Dove, Antillean Crested Hummingbird, Green-throated Carib, Gray Kingbird, Tropical Mockingbird, Black-whiskered Vireo, Bananaquit, Bananaquit, Bananaquit, Carib Grackle, Black-faced Grassquit, Lesser Antillean Bullfinch, and a Greater Yellowlegs.

On a mammal/reptile note, someone decided to import Mongoose to the island thinking that they would eat the rats and mice. Well, they didn’t think that through very well. Mongoose are active during the day (I saw three), and the rats are active at night. So, the Mongoose did not go after the rats but instead preyed on a small native snake which was eaten to extinction on the island. I was very disappointed, but my traveling companion was very, very, very pleased to hear there were no

longer any snakes on the island!!! Bananaquit.

At night, we heard a cute little frog chirping all through the edge vegetation. It was the Lesser Antillean Whistling Frog (*Eleutherodactylus johnstonei*). We did get to see one. This small frog is about the size of a Spring Peeper. Bananaquit. Hermit Crabs also inhabit the island along with Watt’s Anoles, Leach’s Anoles, and Velvety Free-tailed Bats. And did I mention Bananaquit?

Saturday, April 16, we had signed up for a catamaran trip to go snorkeling at a coral reef. So, first thing in the morning, we woke up, stepped outside to the lovely view, went to breakfast, Bananaquit, Bananaquit, Bananaquit, White-crowned Pigeon, Common Ground-Dove, Zenaida Dove, Black-faced Grassquit, Lesser Antillean Bullfinch, Bananaquit. We eventually arrived at St. Johns Harbor where we boarded the boat. Laughing Gull, Royal Tern, Brown Pelican, Magnificent Frigatebird, a Brown Booby, Least Tern, Osprey, and Red-billed Tropicbird were birds seen from the boat.

Snorkeling for the first time was amazing!!! So many colorful fish!!! Only thing is, I now know how a lobster feels. We also forgot to put sun screen lotion on our backs! OUCH!!!

On our way back from the coral reef, we pulled into Yepton Beach where we found Bananaquit, Laughing Gull, White-crowned Pigeon, Zenaida Dove, Common Ground-Dove, Little Blue Heron, Magnificent Frigatebird, Black-faced Grassquit, Lesser Antillean Bullfinch, Gray Kingbird, Yellow Warbler, Antillean Crested Hummingbird, Green-throated Carib, and finally a Purple-throated Carib, and Caribbean Elaenia...and, of course, more Bananaquits.

The next day, we flew back to New York City and then drove back to Delaware. I woke up the following day with no Bananaquits. The island has not been commercialized (yet), and the main income to the island comes from the tourist trade. April is toward the end of their dry period, so

(continued on page 12)

Indiana PAMC Tidbits

The Todd Bird Club began participating in the PAMC, the Pennsylvania Migration Count, in 1992; this count had previously been known as the NAMC, the North American Migration Count. Pennsylvania is one of the few states that still participates in counting birds on the second Saturday in May.

Since 1992 an amazing variety of species have been seen in *Indiana* on the day of the count – a total of 223 species plus two hybrids. Last year I typed all of our results into a spread sheet to which I added this year’s data. Over the 24-year period, the following 84 species have occurred on every count.

Canada Goose	Pileated Woodpecker	American Robin	Eastern Towhee
Wood Duck	American Kestrel	Gray Catbird	Chipping Sparrow
Mallard	Eastern Phoebe	Northern Mockingbird	Field Sparrow
Ring-necked Pheasant	Great Crested Flycatcher	Brown Thrasher	Savannah Sparrow
Wild Turkey	Eastern Kingbird	European Starling	Song Sparrow
Common Loon	White-eyed Vireo	Ovenbird	White-crowned Sparrow
Great Blue Heron	Yellow-throated Vireo	Louisiana Waterthrush	Scarlet Tanager
Green Heron	Blue-headed Vireo	Blue-winged Warbler	Northern Cardinal
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Red-eyed Vireo	Black-and-white Warbler	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Red-tailed Hawk	Blue Jay	Kentucky Warbler	Indigo Bunting
Killdeer	American Crow	Common Yellowthroat	Bobolink
Spotted Sandpiper	Tree Swallow	Hooded Warbler	Red-winged Blackbird
Rock Pigeon	No. Rough-winged Swallow	American Redstart	Eastern Meadowlark
Mourning Dove	Barn Swallow	Cerulean Warbler	Common Grackle
Chimney Swift	Black-capped Chickadee	Northern Parula	Brown-headed Cowbird
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Tufted Titmouse	Magnolia Warbler	Orchard Oriole
Belted Kingfisher	White-breasted Nuthatch	Blackburnian Warbler	Baltimore Oriole
Red-bellied Woodpecker	Carolina Wren	Yellow Warbler	Purple Finch
Downy Woodpecker	House Wren	Chestnut-sided Warbler	House Finch
Hairy Woodpecker	Eastern Bluebird	Prairie Warbler	American Goldfinch
Northern Flicker	Wood Thrush	Black-throated Green Warbler	House Sparrow

Eighteen species have been observed only once (see table below), and another 13 only twice. Last year White-throated Sparrow was on the list above as seen every year and Gray-cheeked Thrush on the “only twice” list. This year we failed to see White-throated Sparrow, so it was deleted from the list above as it had been seen every year till 2016 when we missed it. Another species was deleted from the “only seen twice list” as we spotted a Gray-cheeked Thrush for the third time this year since the count’s beginning.

The number of species seen on the counts has varied from 135, seen in 1992, the count’s first year, to 161 in 2005. The average number of species seen prior to 2016 was 147. This year we were one over the low of 135 species. Total numbers of individuals have ranged from the 2014

low of 9092 to the 2001 high of 17,263. The average number of individuals, prior to this year’s count, was 12,564. Adding in this year’s data brings our average down to 12,442. This year we tallied the third lowest number now on record, 9496.

One factor influencing the fluctuations in the species seen is the date. The count is always the second Saturday in May, which means it can range between May 8 and May 14. The earlier the count, the better the chance for lingering waterfowl. The later counts are better for passage migrants. Participant effort and weather, too, are determining factors.

Thanks to all who have participated to make our counts successful!

Species Seen Only Once on PAMC

The year of the sighting is in parentheses.

Ross’s Goose (2000)	Black Scoter (1998)	Black-crowned Night-Heron (1999)	Rufous/Allen’s Hummingbird (2008)
Gadwall (2002)	Long-tailed Duck (1998)	Golden Eagle (2005)	Marsh Wren (1995)
American Wigeon (1992)	Common Goldeneye (1994)	Northern Goshawk (2002)	Prothonotary Warbler (1995)
American Black Duck (2002)	Red-necked Grebe (1994)	Common Gallinule (2006)	Summer Tanager (1996)
Surf Scoter (2004)	Least Bittern (1997)		Red Crossbill (1998)

Indiana Pennsylvania Migration Count 2016

Canada Goose	252	Great Crested Flycatcher	7	Hooded Warbler	68
Mute Swan	3	Eastern Kingbird	23	American Redstart	72
Wood Duck	26	White-eyed Vireo	5	Cape May Warbler	2
Mallard	55	Yellow-throated Vireo	8	Cerulean Warbler	11
Ring-necked Duck	3	Blue-headed Vireo	19	Northern Parula	2
Lesser Scaup	2	Warbling Vireo	8	Magnolia Warbler	16
Common Merganser	3	Red-eyed Vireo	259	Bay-breasted Warbler	7
Ring-necked Pheasant	1	Blue Jay	165	Blackburnian Warbler	8
Ruffed Grouse	2	American Crow	372	Yellow Warbler	128
Wild Turkey	69	Common Raven	3	Chestnut-sided Warbler	26
Common Loon	2	Horned Lark	21	Blackpoll Warbler	9
Double-crested Cormorant	3	Purple Martin	24	Black-throated Blue Warbler	1
Great Blue Heron	20	Tree Swallow	123	Palm Warbler	1
Green Heron	11	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	112	Yellow-rumped Warbler	5
Turkey Vulture	74	Bank Swallow	4	Yellow-throated Warbler	2
Bald Eagle	2	Cliff Swallow	7	Prairie Warbler	10
Northern Harrier	1	Barn Swallow	436	Black-throated Green Warbler	38
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	Black-capped Chickadee	88	Canada Warbler	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	Tufted Titmouse	61	Wilson's Warbler	1
Broad-winged Hawk	4	White-breasted Nuthatch	32	Eastern Towhee	264
Red-tailed Hawk	21	House Wren	36	Chipping Sparrow	203
American Coot	3	Carolina Wren	24	Field Sparrow	55
Killdeer	49	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	24	Vesper Sparrow	1
Spotted Sandpiper	21	Golden-crowned Kinglet	2	Savannah Sparrow	6
Solitary Sandpiper	1	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	Grasshopper Sparrow	7
Least Sandpiper	6	Eastern Bluebird	68	Henslow's Sparrow	8
American Woodcock	10	Veery	1	Song Sparrow	231
Rock Pigeon	39	Gray-cheeked Thrush	1	Swamp Sparrow	13
Mourning Dove	268	Swainson's Thrush	5	White-crowned Sparrow	9
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	7	Hermit Thrush	8	Dark-eyed Junco	3
Black-billed Cuckoo	10	Wood Thrush	218	Scarlet Tanager	79
Great Horned Owl	1	American Robin	1011	Northern Cardinal	190
Chimney Swift	178	Gray Catbird	210	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	80
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	57	Northern Mockingbird	17	Indigo Bunting	133
Belted Kingfisher	3	Brown Thrasher	33	Bobolink	18
Red-bellied Woodpecker	59	European Starling	471	Red-winged Blackbird	630
Downy Woodpecker	40	Cedar Waxwing	60	Eastern Meadowlark	32
Hairy Woodpecker	13	Ovenbird	235	Common Grackle	487
Northern Flicker	58	Louisiana Waterthrush	3	Brown-headed Cowbird	65
Pileated Woodpecker	29	Northern Waterthrush	1	Orchard Oriole	12
American Kestrel	7	Blue-winged Warbler	11	Baltimore Oriole	93
Eastern Wood-Pewee	13	Black-and-white Warbler	16	House Finch	71
Acadian Flycatcher	12	Tennessee Warbler	32	Purple Finch	11
Willow Flycatcher	11	Nashville Warbler	2	American Goldfinch	204
Least Flycatcher	3	Kentucky Warbler	3	House Sparrow	200
Eastern Phoebe	45	Common Yellowthroat	215		

Total Number of Species = 137
Total Number of Individuals = 9,497

Observer Effort

Indiana

Total Party Hours 179.37
Total Party Miles 791.43

Observers = 56

Armstrong

Total Party Hours 18.36
Total Party Miles 38.5

Observers = 6

Total Observers = 59

Armstrong Pennsylvania Migration Count 2016

Canada Goose	27	Warbling Vireo	2	Common Yellowthroat	32
Mallard	1	Red-eyed Vireo	20	Hooded Warbler	4
Common Merganser	2	Blue Jay	17	American Redstart	5
Wild Turkey	2	American Crow	32	Magnolia Warbler	1
Great Blue Heron	2	Common Raven	4	Yellow Warbler	27
Turkey Vulture	3	Horned Lark	2	Chestnut-sided Warbler	1
Osprey	1	Purple Martin	7	Black-throated Green Warbler	1
Bald Eagle	1	Tree Swallow	5	Eastern Towhee	40
Red-tailed Hawk	5	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	6	Chipping Sparrow	6
Killdeer	9	Barn Swallow	59	Field Sparrow	11
Spotted Sandpiper	1	Black-capped Chickadee	8	Savannah Sparrow	1
American Woodcock	6	Tufted Titmouse	14	Song Sparrow	36
Rock Pigeon	16	White-breasted Nuthatch	3	Swamp Sparrow	2
Mourning Dove	23	House Wren	2	Scarlet Tanager	5
Chimney Swift	19	Carolina Wren	4	Northern Cardinal	30
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	10	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	3	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	5
Belted Kingfisher	4	Eastern Bluebird	15	Indigo Bunting	6
Red-bellied Woodpecker	9	Wood Thrush	26	Bobolink	3
Downy Woodpecker	12	American Robin	93	Red-winged Blackbird	88
Hairy Woodpecker	6	Gray Catbird	40	Eastern Meadowlark	9
Northern Flicker	4	Northern Mockingbird	4	Common Grackle	41
Pileated Woodpecker	2	European Starling	75	Brown-headed Cowbird	16
Eastern Wood-Pewee	2	American Pipit	3	Orchard Oriole	2
Acadian Flycatcher	4	Ovenbird	13	Baltimore Oriole	12
Eastern Phoebe	4	Louisiana Waterthrush	1	House Finch	5
Eastern Kingbird	2	Blue-winged Warbler	3	American Goldfinch	39
White-eyed Vireo	1	Black-and-white Warbler	2	House Sparrow	13

Total Number of Species = 81
Total Number of Individuals = 1,082

PA Migration Count Participants

Pat Andrascik	Steve Gosser	Joseph Pumford
Cayla Arthurs	Carol Guba	*Lynn Ramage
Sharon Baldrige	Alicia Hall	*Theo Rickert
Alice Beatty	**Margaret Higbee	Cindy Rogers
Sid Blair	**Roger Higbee	Nancy Smeltzer
Lee Carnahan	Pat Johner	Patrick Snickles
Roger Carnahan	Gloria Lamer	Linda Stormer
Chuck Condron	Dennis Lauffer	Luke Stormer
Joanne Condron	Rita Lippert	Rodger Stormer
Marcy Cunkelman	Mary A. Little	Garrett Strittmatter
Sue Dickson	Howard Mandigo	Mark Strittmatter
Ed Donley	Beth Marshall	John Taylor
Kurt Dudt	Ken Marshall	Mary Lu Tucker
Joy Fairbanks	Bruce Mehus	*Josie Valasek
Gary Ferrence	Helen Mehus	**Marge Van Tassel
Betsy Fetterman	Marilyn Moore	Daniel Winstead
Tom Fetterman	Nancy Murphy	Ray Winstead
Barb Fletcher	Beth Nestor	Jan Woodard
Jud Glover	Sandra Newell	Jim Woodard
Tom Glover	Sara Pulliam	

Above are listed the Indiana observers without asterisks. Those with one asterisk are the Armstrong observers; those with two asterisks submitted data for both Indiana and Armstrong. Thanks to all who participated!

2016 PAMC Highlights

Rain was the name of the game for a portion of the day. Several groups birding near bodies of water had hoped that the rain would create a fallout. Tom and Jud Glover pulled into Hemlock Lake with that unmaterialized hope. On the opposite shore waiting for the downpour to cease, Roger and I also sat. Still other groups logically called it quits till the rain abated.

Near to her home in Brush Valley Twp., Pat Andrascik found one of the only two Nashville Warblers as well as a Common Raven.

Cayla Arthurs and Ray and Daniel Winstead started their day at Blue Spruce where by 10:15, they had already listed 47 species including half of the count's Ruffed Grouse.

Alice Beatty and Gloria Lamer at Yellow Creek listed the only Lesser Scaup and Ring-necked Ducks. In addition, they found the count's lone Northern Waterthrush and the one Palm Warbler. Their 11 hours in the field, covering Pine Twp. and portions of Brush Valley, provided a healthy portion of all the species' totals.

Covering much of Blacklick and Center Twp., Lee and Roger Carnahan and Dennis Lauffer listed 90 species, including the only Sharp-shinned Hawk, two-thirds of the count's Blackpoll Warblers, and more than half of the Tennessee Warblers. Their twelve hours in the field added a good portion of the numbers listed.

Some of the highlights for Marcy Cunkelman and Steve Gosser, who birded Young and Conemaugh Twp., were their 11 Cerulean Warblers and 8 Henslow's Sparrows. The sparrows at West Lebanon were especially surprising since so much of the land is now planted in corn. They also added the only Ring-necked Pheasant and Black-throated Blue Warbler. They spent a most productive 16 hours in the field.

Sue Dickson submitted six excellent lists from various locations with the only Broad-winged Hawk on nest and the lone Solitary Sandpiper. They spent a most productive 16 hours in the field. She later joined forces with Ray and Daniel Winstead to bird Gary Ferrence's property. When they arrived Gary already had started a list.

Ed Donley, John Taylor, and Mark and Garrett Strittmatter in West Wheatfield Twp. spotted the day's only 2 Yellow-throated Warblers, more than half of the Bay-breasted Warblers, and a third of both the Louisiana Waterthrushes and Kentucky Warblers. In the afternoon, Ed and John headed to Washington and Rayne Twp. to round out their list.

In Cherryhill Twp. Tom and Betsy Fetterman found the only Northern Harrier and more than a third of both the Spotted Sandpipers and Bobolinks.

Birding in Grant and Canoe Twp., the land of Ovenbirds, Tom and Jud Glover listed a quarter of the count's Ovenbirds! (What else???) In addition, in the land "in between," they found almost half of the Grasshopper Sparrows.

Ken and Beth Marshall, birding around their farm in Center and Blacklick Twp. found a quarter of our Hermit Thrushes. Beth commented that it is too bad that we don't do "count week" for the PAMC as she'd had a Fish Crow in downtown Indiana sitting on the courthouse.

Joseph Pumford listed two of the Bay-breasted Warblers and half of the Cape May Warblers noted in Indiana.

The Stormer family – Rodger, Linda, and Luke – came through with a nice list including our only Great Horned Owl.

In Armstrong County, Theo Rickert submitted lists from five locations including SGL 247 where he listed eight of the ten warbler species found in *Armstrong*.

Marge Van Tassel visited Mahoning Creek Dam in *Indiana* where she added the count's solitary Wilson's Warbler. She also focused on eight Armstrong locations providing much of the Armstrong data, including an Osprey along Creek Road, two Common Mergansers at Cochran's Mill, and an American Pipit near Worthington,

For Roger and me, our highlights came at Hemlock Lake where a Common Loon did drop in during the downpour. After the rain, a walk along the lake on the east shore yielded both a Gray-cheeked Thrush and a Swainson's. Because of our diabetic cat, we had to be home by 6:30, so after giving Nash his shot, we headed to nearby Elderton in Armstrong County where we ended the day adding 2 American Pipits and 6 American Woodcocks..

Thanks to all who participated. I'm sorry I did not mention everyone above, but each and every observer contributed to the count. We appreciate all your efforts and the data you turned in. Next year's count will be on May 13! Plan ahead.

Good birding!

Margaret Higbee

A Determined Grouse

by Geoff Malosh

[Editor's Note: On May 30, 2016, Geoff Malosh ran a Breeding Bird Survey route which passes through Ohiopyle in Fayette County. Afterwards, he drove back to Ohiopyle State Park for some photography. Geoff's encounter with a Ruffed Grouse follows.]

... as I was driving a dirt road through a wooded area, a Ruffed Grouse flew out of the woods and right onto the front of my car. At first I thought I had just hit it, so I stated backing up, but the bird didn't appear in the road ahead of me. I wasn't really sure what was going on, so I backed up a little more quickly, and realized the bird was actually now in the road running after the car as I backed it up. When I'd stop it became very interested mainly in the tires or took to just circling around the front of the car. I assumed there were chicks nearby prompting the bird to take on this hyper-aggressive posture. The thing was, I must have backed the car up three hundred yards but the grouse wouldn't give up. I figured once I was far enough away it would give up and hightail it back into the woods, but that didn't happen.

Eventually I got out of the car with the camera, and the bird of course decided to come after me now. This back and forth with my trying to open enough distance to get a picture and the bird trying to steal the camera went on for a few minutes, before it perked up quickly and then retreated to the woods along the roadside. It was as if it had suddenly woken up and realized what it was doing. It never got into its most aggressive posture with feathers flared out, but it certainly was fearless (or maybe reckless). I figured the show was over, but as soon as I got back into the car, the grouse came right back out onto the road and chased after the car again! If I were to get at least along-



Geoff got a great headshot of this hothead Ruffed Grouse.

side it and speed up, it just flew after the car until it hit the doors with its wings and then blocked the road again. (This was a rough dirt road, so I couldn't exactly go 40 mph.) If I got out of the car, it would go and sit patiently in the first row of trees again. When I got back in, out it came again. This repeated one or two more times until I finally got ahead of it for good and got out of there. Hopefully the next car it tried to attack was so kind.

At one point another car stopped, too, with the bird in the middle of the road ahead of our cars, and he tried honking it out of the way, but the grouse would have none of it. I got out and just told him to ease forward, the bird wouldn't let him run it over if he didn't accelerate suddenly, and it would probably return to chasing me anyway which would give him a good opportunity for his getaway. He got out, too, and asked, "Is that a turkey?" I said, "No, it's a Ruffed Grouse," at which news he got back into his car and promptly told his wife, "It's a turkey, just like I thought." Anyway, he got safely off leaving me alone with this crazy miniature turkey again.

"Of course I'd heard of Ruffed Grouse attacking humans while defending young (though I had never personally witnessed it), but I have never heard of one fixating on a car the way this bird did, and defending such a long stretch of road, too. Has anyone else ever seen this behavior taken to this kind of extreme before?"

Antigua Revisited

(continued from page 8)

much of the vegetation was brown. Travel to Antigua is not recommended during the rainy/hurricane season.

I did have some misses because we did not bird the entire island: Ruddy Quail-Dove, Mangrove Cuckoo, Caribbean

Coot, Brown Noddy, Bridled Tern, Sooty Tern, Antillean Euphonia, Caribbean Martin, and Pearly-eyed Thrasher. Maybe next time...Bananaquit!

Indiana - Armstrong - Cambria County – Spring 2016

Please submit your reports at the end of each month to Margaret Higbee, 3119 Creekside Road, Indiana, PA 15701-7934 or e-mail to bcoriole@windstream.net or marghigbee@gmail.com.

Abbreviations: Armstrong Trail (AT), Blue Spruce County Park (BS), Breeding Bird Survey (BBS), Clarksburg (CB), Creek Road, *Armstrong* (CR), Crooked Creek (CC), Hemlock Lake (HL), Indiana (IN), Indiana University of PA (IUP), Lewisville (LV), Lock and Dam 8 (L&D 8), Pennsylvania Migration Count (PAMC), Prince Gallitzin (PG), Roaring Run Trail (RRT), Shelocta (SH), Waterworks Conservation Area (WCA), West Lebanon (WL), Yellow Creek (YC).

Seven **Snow Geese** were a nice find at PG 3/6 (RL). A **Cackling Goose** was photographed at YC 3/1 (MH, RH, DK). The report of 2 **Trumpeter Swans** at PG on 3/6 (RL) and again 4/6 (JS) was a first county record. **Tundra Swans** moved quickly through the region between 3/3 (MC) and 3/20 (LC, PF, TG, GL), when the last 3 were observed at HL. The high counts were 100 over LV 3/6 (MC), 130 over YC the same day (TR), and 205 at PG 3/8 (JS).



The Cackling Goose in the foreground is accompanied by two Canada Geese behind.

Photo by Margaret Higbee.

Almost all maxima were much lower than last year which we also considered low. Only small numbers of **Wood**



This pair of Wood Ducks was present at CC March 18.

Ducks were noted (v.o.) with the high tally of 21 at YC 5/17 (LC, SD, TG, MH, KRe, JT, KT, RW). YC harbored 66 **Gadwalls** 3/6 (TR); on 4/12, 12 stopped at PG (JS) and 6 at KR (MH, RH) while last spotted were 12 on 4/19 (LC, MH, RH, DK, GL, JT) at YC. March 1 (MH, RH, DK) produced the first flock of 27 **American Wigeons** in the open water at YC; 8 were found at CC 3/7 (MVT); 33 visited PG 3/8 (JS); last reports mentioned 2 on 4/12 (TB, LC, PF, TG, MH, RH, LH, DK, GL, RN, KT) at YC and 3 on 4/17 (J&SD) at PG. The respective high **American Black Duck** and **Mallard** counts were 20 and 39, both 3/6 (TR) at YC; other Mallard maxima were 36 at PG 3/6 (MH, RH) and 21 at KR 4/12 (MH, RH). First 2 **Blue-winged Teal** were photographed at CC 3/7 (MVT); 35 were noted at PG 3/11 (JS); 2 arrived 3/22 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DK, SS, JT, KT) at YC where YC's high tally of 20 occurred 4/12 (TB, LC *et al*). **Northern Shovelers** migrated through between 3/1 (MH, RH, DK) and 4/12 (TB, LC *et al*); 8 visited CC 3/19 (SG, TR, MVT); the top count of 16 occurred 3/8 (LC, PF, TG, DK, GL, RN) at YC. Nineteen **Northern Pintails** was the high number at YC 3/1 (MH, RH, DK), and they remained through the next day (MC); 11 stopped at PG 3/8 (JS); last 7 were noted 3/11 (SG) at YC. High **Green-winged Teal** count was 19 on 3/6 (TR) at YC; 4 were n. of L&D 8 on 4/16 (TR).

This year's high tally of only 9 **Canvasbacks** at YC on 3/11 (SG) was disappointing; PG, however, harbored 57 on 3/8 (JS). **Redheads** peaked at 105 on 3/8 (LC, PF, TG, DK, GL, RN) at YC; the same day (JS) 11 were at PG. March 1 yielded the high YC **Ring-necked Duck** count of 155 (MH, RH, DK); 285 were at PG 3/8 (JS); KR's high was 20 on 4/12 (MH, RH); at least one drake remained on YC lake through the end of the quarter (LC). **Greater Scaup** were scarce this spring at YC with the only reports of 2 on 3/1 (MH, RH, DK) and 3 on 3/12 (J&LC); one stopped at Rosston 3/19 (TR) while **Lesser Scaup** reached highs 33 at CC 3/13 (TR), 80 at PG 4/12 (JS), and 74 at YC, also 4/12 (TB, LC *et al*). Lingering through the end of the season was one drake which joined up with the remaining Ring-necked Duck on Dragonfly Pond at YC. A single **Long-tailed Duck** was spotted at YC 4/12 (TB, LC *et al*). **Buffleheads** peaked on 4/12 at 121 at YC (TB, LC *et al*), 175 at PG (JS), and 28 at KR (MH, RH); last sighting of 3 occurred 5/10 (LC, SD, TG, GL, JT) at YC. The only **Common Goldeneye** reports mentioned one on 3/6 (TR) and 15 on 3/11 (SG) at YC.

Hooded Merganser maxima included 36 at KR 3/8 (MH, RH), 38 at PG 3/11 (JS), and a mere 8 at YC 3/19 (TB, LC, TG, MH, RH, GL). **Common Mergansers** were much more widespread than usual with sightings at ten *Armstrong* locations and seven *Indiana* locations; KR harbored 39 on 3/8 (MH, RH). **Red-breasted Mergansers** moved through YC between 3/6 (TR) and 5/4 (SG); PG hosted 16 on 3/31 (JS) and 14 on 4/17 (J&SD); peak numbers were 81 at YC 4/9 (MH, RH) and 138 at KR 4/12 (MH, RH). The high **Ruddy Duck** count of 293 occurred 4/12 (TB, LC *et al*) at YC; 45 was PG's top count 4/12 (JS); last noted was one at YC 5/17 (LC, SD *et al*).

YC hosted a single **Red-throated Loon** 4/16 (JD). **Common Loons** arrived 3/8 (MH, RH) at KR, 3/26 (JS) at PG, and 4/19 (LC, MH *et al*) at YC where 2 remained through 5/24 (PF, TG, MH, RH, DK, GL); top counts were 44 on 4/4 (TA) and 32 on 4/30 (JS), both at PG, 18 at KR 4/12 (MH, RH), and 12 at YC 5/3 (LC, TG, GL, DM, KT); the PAMC yielded only 2 including one at YC (AB, GL) and one at HL (MH, RH). **Pied-billed Grebes** did not arrive at YC in large numbers this spring with a high of only 10 on 4/12 (TB, LC *et al*); 3 were found at RT 3/26 (TR); 6 was the high at HL 4/6 (AK, JK). **Horned Grebes** moved through the area between 3/6 (TR) and 4/19 (LC, MH *et al*) with the high counts of 23 at YC 4/12 (TB, LC *et al*), 13 at KR 3/21 (MH, RH), and 11 at PG 4/12 (JS).

Top **Double-crested Cormorant** tallies were 107 at YC 4/12 (TB, LC *et al*) and 69 at PG 5/2 (TA). Twelve nests and 15 **Great Blue Herons** were visible at the Crooked Creek herony 4/7 (MH, RH). Single **Great Egrets** popped up near Leechburg 4/6 (MVT); at KR 4/7 (TB) and 4/9 (SG); and at IUP (JT), at YC (TB, LC *et al*), and at Altmeyer's Pond (MH, RH), all 4/12; another was found at the VFW in IN 5/23 (AB, DB, CL, GL). **Green Heron** appeared 4/15 (JS) at PG but in *Indiana* and *Armstrong* were almost two weeks late in arriving this year; first were seen 4/30, both near SH (MH) and along the AT n. of L&D 8 (TR), and 5/3 (LC, TG *et al*) at YC. Highlight of the season was an



Steve Gosser photographed this adult Glossy Ibis at the Indiana farm pond.



A wet field near West Lebanon provided resting habitat for this migrating Black-bellied Plover.

Photo by Tony Bruno



This American Golden Plover also benefited from the West Lebanon field.

Photo by Tony Bruno



The West Lebanon field also yielded these three Dunlin.

Photo by Steve Gosser

adult **Glossy Ibis** found 4/15 (DL) at a farm pond near IN; the bird was seen later that evening (LC, MH, RH) and ph. the next day (SG); this is the seventh county record.

A **Black Vulture** at PG was unusual 5/7 (TA) and 5/29 (RL). Continuing the pattern set last year of an earlier arrival, first **Osprey** appeared at YC 3/19 (TB, LC, TG, MH, RH, GL); prior to last year the earliest date on record had been 3/24/2011 (GL); last year's YC arrival date was 3/17; *Armstrong's* first was found near KR 3/29 (SGr); PG's first appeared 4/15 (JS).

Single **Northern Harriers** were sighted between 3/6 (MH, RH) and 3/18 (TA) at PG, between 3/20 (MVT) and 5/8 (TR) in the Worthington area, and 4/6 (MVT) at West Lebanon and at Elders Ridge; individuals were noted at YC 4/9 (MH, RH) and 4/19 (LC, MH *et al*); another was found at WL 5/22 (SG). Earliest **Broad-winged Hawks** were seen at YC 4/13 (HC, DJM), along the Ghost Town Trail near Saylor Park 4/16 (MH, RH), and at PG 4/17 (TA); the Forest Manor birds were observed repairing last year's nest 4/18 (SD); a kettle of 22 over IUP 4/22 (JT) was impressive. A **Rough-legged Hawk** was found at HL 3/20 (AK, JK). A **Golden Eagle**, the seventh county record, was sighted at YC by six observers 3/20 (FR, KR).

Three **Virginia Rails** were present at PG 4/30 (JS). **American Coot** high was 140 at YC 4/12 (TB, LC *et al*). Four **Sandhill Cranes** flew over the Worthington area 3/15 (MVT).

A **Black-bellied Plover** and an **American Golden Plover**, accompanied by 3 **Semipalmated Plovers**,

were ph. near WL 5/22 (TB, SG). YC yielded 2 of the latter 5/23 (DP) and one the following day (PF, TG, *et al*). **Spotted Sandpiper** first appeared in Croyle Twp. 4/18 (MHu), at PG 4/24 (RL), and at YC 5/3 (LC, TG *et al*); one attempted to nest again this year at WCA but the nest was possibly mowed out (fide DL). First **Solitary Sandpipers** stopped at YC 4/19 (LC, MH *et al*); one was at KCAC 4/23 (JT); 2 were at PG 5/8 (JS); last were found at WCA 5/14 (SD) and at PG 5/18 (TA). **Greater Yellowlegs** visited YC

between 4/5 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DK, KT) and 5/7 (LC, KD, MH, RH, GL, FM, JM, JT, PT, KT, RW) with a maximum of 10 on 5/4 (SG); one stopped at PG 5/8 (TA). **Lesser Yellowlegs** moved through YC between 3/29 (SD, TG, DK) and 5/4 (SG), when 5 were tallied; 4 visited the ER strips 4/30 (TB, MH, RH). Three **Dunlin** were also ph. at WL 5/22 (TB, SG). Twelve **Least Sandpipers** flew by the WCA 5/8 (DL) but didn't land. Single **Semipalmated Sandpipers** were sighted at YC 5/12 (KRe) and 5/23 (DP). A **Wilson's Snipe** was found at PG 3/1 (JS); 3 visited KCAC 4/10 (JT); PG once again harbored one 4/15 (JS); another was in Croyle Twp. 4/22 (MHu) while one found 5/10 (LC, SD, TG, GL, JT) was YC's lone report.

Two to 3 **American Woodcocks** were displaying near LV 3/4-18 (MC); 2 were peenting at PG 3/6 (MH, RH); 5 were calling near Creekside 4/11 (MH, RH); 6 were still actively peenting at YC 4/28 (MH, RH).

Bonaparte's Gulls migrated through the region between 3/12 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, KT, EY) and 5/17 (LC, SD *et al*) with peak numbers of 24 at PG 4/12 (JS), 36 at YC 4/19 (LC, MH *et al*), 28 at KR 4/6 (MVT), and 24 at HL on 4/6 (AK, JK). The largest flocks of **Ring-billed Gulls** contained 50 in farm fields nw of Elderton 3/2 (SH) and 30 individuals at YC 4/12 (TB, LC *et al*). Two **Herring Gulls** stopped at PG 3/5 (TA); CC hosted a singleton 3/13 (TR); 4 were at Kittanning 4/7 (MH, RH). Three **Caspian Terns** put in their appearances at YC on 4/12 (LC, SD *et al*) and 2 popped in on 5/4 (SG). A **Common Tern** stopped at YC 5/4 (SG). **Forster's Terns** were present at YC on seven dates, starting 4/12 (LC, SD *et al*) through 5/20 (TG, GL, KT), when 23 were counted; PG harbored one 4/30 (JS), 2 on 5/1 (RL) and 5/2 (TA), and one 5/22 (RL).



Steve Gosser photographed this Common Tern at YC on May 4.

First **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** arrived near LV 5/5 (MC); **Black-billed Cuckoo** was first noted 5/6 both on CR (MVT) and at YC (AW).

Eastern Screech-Owl was listed only near SGL 247 on 3/4 (TR). **Great Horned Owls** were noted at six *Armstrong* and one *Indiana* location. **Barred Owls** were most consistently found near Nolo on numerous dates between 3/2 (AB) and 5/25 (AB, DB) with as many as 3 calling at one time on 3/3 (AB).

With few reports the last few years, it was great to have 4 **Common Nighthawk** reports this season, all single birds between 5/10 (DL) when one was found in IN and 5/27 (MC) when a silent bird flew over a yard near LV. First **Chimney Swifts** returned 4/19 (JT) at IUP, 4/22 (TR) at SGL 247, and 4/25 (JS) at PG. First **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** were spotted near IN 4/22 (SD) and near Leechburg 4/30 (MVT).

Most **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** moved through our area with sightings between 3/26 (MH, RH, FOP) and 4/15 (JS), but one visited a yard near IN 3/10 (SD) and one remained at PG 5/8 (RL). A Nolo yard continues to be a **Northern Flicker** magnet with the report of 17 on 4/11 (CL, GL).

A **Merlin** was seen at IUP 3/29, 4/7 (JT) and at Mack Park 5/23-27 (DL). The Manorville **Peregrine** was spotted 4/15 (TR); another was reported between Marion Center and Rochester Mills 5/29 (RS).

The WCA yielded the season's lone **Olive-sided Flycatcher** 5/19 (DL). An early **Eastern Wood-Pewee** was at IN 5/5 (JP). Twelve **Acadian Flycatchers** and 11 **Willow Flycatchers** had returned to various parts of *Indiana* 5/14 (v.o.). One **Alder Flycatcher** was found at YC 5/31 (TG). First **Least Flycatcher** arrived at YC 5/7 (LC, KD *et al*). **Eastern Phoebes** were spotted first at Nolo 3/7 (AB, DB), at YC 3/8 (LC, PF, TG, DK, GL, RN), and at Cochran's Mill 3/14 (MVT). **Great Crested Flycatcher** appeared first near LV 5/2 (MC) and at SGL 247 on 5/8 (TR). First **Eastern Kingbirds** were observed at YC 4/19 (LC, MH *et al*), the second earliest date on record; the earliest was 4/16/2013 (LC), but normal dates of return are 10-15 days later. Three had returned to PG by 4/30 (JS).

The **Northern Shrike** reported at PG last season was seen again 3/6 (MH, RH) and 3/11 (JS).

Dates of return for vireos included 4/22 (JT) for **White-eyed Vireo** at IUP; 4/30 for **Yellow-throated Vireo** near WL (TB, MH), at CC (SG), and CR (SG); 4/16 (DJ) for **Blue-headed** at YC; 4/30 for **Warbling** along the RRT (KSJ) and the AT n. of L&D 8 (TR); and 5/3 (MVT) at both CC and Polka Hollow and 5/7 (MC) near LV for Red-eyed Vireo. PG yielded the season's only **Philadelphia Vireo** 5/30 (TA, LG). Two **Fish Crows** were first noted 3/9 (PJ) in IN; one was present 3/23 (JT) at IUP, where 2 were seen the next day (JT).

A flock of 74 **Horned Larks** was observed at the Patton wind farm 4/9 (DG, JS).

Purple Martins arrived at PG 4/13 (JS); 10 were counted 4/18 (J&SD). YC yielded the first 3 **Tree Swallows** 3/8 (LC, PF, TG, DK, GL, RN). First **Northern Rough-winged Swallow** was found at YC 3/26 (MH, RH, FOP); PG's first were 2 on 4/15 (JS). Six **Bank Swallows** arrived at PG 4/30 (JS); the only 4 **Bank Swallows** in *Indiana* were listed on the PAMC 5/14 (v.o.). Few **Cliff Swallows** were reported this season with one at YC 4/5 (LC, TG, MH, RH,

DK, KT), up to 25 at PG 5/1 (RL), 7 in *Indiana* on 5/14 (v.o.), and one at BS 5/15 (MH, RH). Date of return for **Barn Swallows** was 4/1 (LC, MH, RH, DK, GL, LM) at YC.

One **Red-breasted Nuthatch** visited a feeder near SH 3/3 (MH, RH), and another was spotted at YC 3/20 (FR, KR) and 4/9, 5/4 (SG); 2 were near Dunlo 5/13 (LG). The first **House Wren** arrived 4/16 (MH RH) at Saylor Park; CC's first occurred 4/30 (SG). First **Winter Wrens** popped up at YC 4/9 (SG) and at CC 4/10 (SG). April 16 was the date of return for **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** along CR (SG), at YC (DJ), near LV (MC), and at Saylor Park (MH, RH). An extremely early (or wintering) **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** appeared near LV 3/12 (MC); the next were found 4/8 (MH, RH) at BS, 4/9 (SG) at YC, and 4/15, both at CC (TR) and at PG (JS).

One **Veery** was noted 5/14 (MH, RH) at SGL 174; a single **Gray-cheeked Thrush** was found at HL 5/14 (MH, RH). **Swainson's Thrush** reports included one near Reservoir Hill 5/12 (PJ), one s. of Johnstown 5/13 (LG), and 7 on the PAMC (v.o.). A **Hermit Thrush** was at YC 4/12 (HC); the only other reports mentioned one near Reservoir Hill 5/24 (PJ) and 8 on the PAMC (v.o.). First **Wood Thrushes** arrived 4/26 (MC) near LV and 5/1 (MH, RH) at KR. IUP yielded the first **Gray Catbird** 4/25 (JT) and PG, the first **Brown Thrasher** 3/30 (TA); IN's first thrasher was spotted 3/31 (SD).

Twelve **American Pipits** stopped at HL 4/3 (AK, JK) while single birds were found 4/9 at the Patton wind farm (DG, JS), at KR (SG), and at YC (MH, RH); 5 were spotted the next day (RL) at PG. The Patton wind farm also harbored 2 **Lapland Longspurs** 4/9 (DG, JS).

First **Ovenbird** was heard singing at IN 4/25 (JP); *Armstrong's* first returned 4/30 (SG), both at CC and on CR. A **Worm-eating Warbler** near Loretto 5/21 (DMo) comprised the entire report for this species. **Louisiana Waterthrush** returned to YC 4/12 (HC) and to Polka Hollow (MVT) and CR (SG) 4/16. **Northern Waterthrushes** were listed at IN 4/27, 29 (JP), at YC on 5/17, 24 (m.ob), and s.e. of Clarksburg 5/19 (MH, RH, JT). Single **Golden-winged Warblers** were sighted 4/30 (PF) along the RRT, 5/1 (LC) at YC, and 5/14 (CA, DW, RW) at BS. A "**Lawrence's warbler**" was found near WL 5/22 (TB, SG) at the same location where it had been seen last year. First dates included 4/25 (MC) for **Blue-winged Warbler** and 4/30 (MC) for **Black-and-white Warbler**, both near LV; Blue-wings returned 4/30 (SG, TR) to various *Armstrong* locations. Five Black-and-whites were found 4/25 (MH, RH) n. of Templeton. **Tennessee Warblers** moved through the region between 5/10 (LC, SD, TG, GL, JT) and 5/24 (MC) with a total of 32 on the PAMC (v.o.). First 2 **Nashville Warblers** visited BS 4/27 (TB); one was at SGL 247 on 4/29 (TR); 1-4 stopped near LV between 5/4-12 (MC). A **Mourning Warbler** was a welcomed find at BS 5/15 (MH, RH). **Kentucky Warblers** continue in low numbers with few reports; first seen were individuals 5/7, both near LV (MC) and at YC (MH, RH). Other first dates included 4/25 (MH, RH) north of Kittanning and 4/26 (SD) at WCA for **Common Yellowthroat**; 4/29 (TR) at SGL 247

and 5/2, both near LV (MC) and at Nolo (GL), for **Hooded Warbler**; and 4/27 both at Nolo (GL) and at BS (TB) and 4/30, both along the AT n. of L&D 8 (TR) and along CR (SG) for **American Redstart**.



Marge Van Tassel found this cooperative American Redstart along Creek Road on May 3.

First **Cape May Warblers** were listed 5/8, both at PG (RL) and along the Hoodlebug Trail (DL), and 5/12 (MC) near LV; 2 were noted on 5/14, one in IN (JP) and the other on Reservoir Hill (PJ); YC yielded 2 on 5/17 (LC, SD *et al*) and the season's last occurred 5/22 (TR) at CC and 5/24 (DP) at YC. Besides the 11 **Cerulean Warblers** found on the PAMC (v.o.), the only others noted were singletons at Conemaugh Dam 4/30 (TB, SG), at Cochran's Mill 5/1 (TB), on CR between 4/30 (SG) and 5/13 (MVT), and on the SH BBS 5/28 (MH, RH). First **Northern Parulas** were listed near Templeton 4/25 (MH, RH) and near LV 5/4 (MC) while YC produced the first **Magnolia Warbler** 5/5 (SG). **Bay-breasted Warblers** moved through the region between 5/6 (AW) and 5/23 (DP). Dates of return included 5/4 (SG) at YC and 5/8 (TA, LG) at PG for **Blackburnian Warbler**; 4/25 (JS) at PG, 4/27 (TA) at YC, and 4/30 at both CR (SG) and along the AT n. of L&D 8 (TR) for **Yellow Warbler**; and 5/3, both near IN (SD) and at CC (MVT) and 5/7 (TA) at PG for **Chestnut-sided Warbler**. **Blackpoll Warblers** moved through *Indiana* between 5/11 (MC) and 5/24 (PF, TG, MH, RH, DK, GL); we received no *Armstrong* or *Cambria* Blackpoll reports. Single **Black-throated Blue Warblers** were sighted 5/3 (MVT) at CR, 5/7 (TA) at PG, 5/14 (MC) for the PAMC, and 5/30 (LG) at PG. First **Palm Warbler** was found along CR 4/30 (SG); one to 3 Palm Warblers stopped at PG between 5/1-22 (LG); 8 were counted there 5/2 (TA); 1-3 visited YC on five dates between 5/3 (LC, TG *et al*) and 5/14 (AB, GL). **Pine Warblers** were found at four *Indiana* locations this year; the first returned to YC 3/15 (LC, PF, TG, GL) then to a yard near SH 3/20 (MH, RH); one to 2 were listed at PG between 4/16 (J&SD) and 5/11 (TA); another was near Loretto 5/21 (DMo). A non-breeder in our region, **Yellow-rumped Warblers** moved through between 3/26 (MH, RH, FOP) and 5/18 (MC); top count was 17 on 4/30 (TR) n. of L&D 8. **Yellow-throated Warblers** were first spotted at Conemaugh Dam 4/17

(RHa) and at Cochran's Mill 4/20 (MH, RH). The Clarksburg area was the hotspot for **Prairie Warblers** with counts of 3 on 5/14 (MC, SG) and 6 on 5/27 (MH, RH). First **Black-throated Green Warblers** appeared along CR 4/16 (SG), near LV 4/26 (MC), and at Nolo 4/27 (GL). First **Canada Warblers** arrived near Reservoir Hill 5/11-12 (PJ); the PAMC (MH, RH) yielded 2 – one at SGL 174 and the other in *Indiana* close to the *Indiana/Armstrong* line near Elderton. Single **Wilson's Warblers** along Allen Flats Rd. 5/14 (MVT) and at YC 5/16 (TR) were the only ones noted. A **Yellow-breasted Chat** at SGL 247 on 5/8 (TR) was *Armstrong's* lone report; 2 were w. of WL 5/23 (DP); 2 others were found near CB 5/27 (MH, RH).



Roger Higbee photographed one of the YC Pine Warblers on April 2 in the main recreational area.

An **American Tree Sparrow** lingered through 4/15 (MC) near LV. **Vesper, Savannah, and Grasshopper Sparrows** are all becoming increasingly harder to find in the county. PG yielded a very early **Vesper Sparrow** 3/12 (JD). An amazing estimate of 32 to 55 Vespers were found at the Patton wind farm 4/9 (DG, JS); the only one listed in *Indiana* was near Plumville 5/14 (MM). Ten **Savannah Sparrows** accompanied the wind farm Vespers mentioned above; 2 were at Robb's Forging 4/16 (SG); first *Indiana* Savannah was spotted at YC 4/19 (LC, MH *et al*) while the PAMC (v.o.) produced only 6 other Savannahs and *Indiana's* first 7 **Grasshopper Sparrows**; PG yielded its first Grasshopper 5/8 (RL). Eight **Henslow's Sparrows** were reported before dawn at WL 5/14 (MC). The wintering **Fox Sparrow** near SH was last seen 3/2 (MH, RH); another showed up there 4/10 (MH, RH); single birds were seen at YC on four dates bracketed by 3/22 (LC *et al*) and 4/19 (LC, MH *et al*); in *Armstrong*, one was at CC 3/20 (SG) while 3 appeared at KR the next day (MH, RH); another visited SGL 247 on 4/2 (TR). A **Lincoln's Sparrow** at WCA 5/8 (DL) flew up onto a post and sat for several seconds before disappearing into the vegetation; this was the region's lone report. Four rather late **White-throated Sparrows** were last seen near LV 5/11 (MC).

White-crowned Sparrows moved through the region between 4/27 (MC) and 5/20 (MVT).

Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and Indigo Bunting all made their season's debut near LV 4/27 (MC); Nolo, however, hosted *Indiana's* first Rose-breasted Grosbeak 4/25 (CL, GL). First dates in *Armstrong* were 4/30 (SG) for the tanager on CR, 4/29 (TR) at SGL 247 for the grosbeak, and 4/30 (PF) for the bunting along the RRT.

First **Bobolinks** and **Eastern Meadowlark** were respectively observed 5/4 (SG) and 3/8 (LC, PF, TG, DK, GL, RN), both at YC.

Very few **Rusty Blackbirds** were sighted this spring. A single Rusty Blackbird was present along Plum Creek 3/21 (MH, RH). YC hosted just a few Rusties which moved through between 4/5 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DK, KT) and 4/13 (DJM), when the best count of 6 was achieved. **Orchard Orioles** 5/2 (MC) near LV, 5/3 (MVT) along CR, and 5/8 (TA) at PG were first while the first **Baltimore Orioles** had shown up 4/25 in IN (JP) and 4/30 (SG) along CR.

Interesting was the unseasonal report of a **Common Redpoll** near IN 5/16 (JB, SB); according to *The Birds of Pennsylvania* by McWilliams and Brauning, "...most leave the state by the second week of Apr with stragglers to the fourth week of Apr." Small numbers of **Pine Siskins** were present across the region. CC hosted 1-9 between 3/1 and 4/30 (SG). A flock of up to 24 siskins was present 4/10-12 (SB, JB) n. of IN. JS in Ebensburg writes that "one was very tame and came onto my hand that contained sunflower seeds." Two lingered near LV till 5/20 (MC).

Observers: Tina Alianiello, Cayla Arthurs, Alice Beatty, Dave Beatty, Jean Blair, Sid Blair, Tony Bruno, Lee Carnahan, John & Lindera Carter, Hannah Conley, Marcy Cunkelman, Sue Dickson, Josh & Susan Donaldson (J&SD), Ed Donley, Jim Dunn, Karen Durham, Patience Fisher, Tom Glover, Dave Gobert, Steve Gosser, Steve Graff (SGr), Linda Greble, Susanne Haney, Roger Hattrup (RH), Margaret Higbee, Roger Higbee, Linda Huber, Matthew Hunt (MHu), David Janetski, Pat Johner, Debbie Kalbfleisch, Avis Keener, John Keener, Clayton Lamer, Gloria Lamer, Dennis Lauffer, Renee Lubert, Flo McGuire, Jim McGuire, DJ McNeil (DJM), Lisa Meadows, Donna Meyer, Darlene Moore (DMo), Marilyn Moore, Richard Nugent, David Poortinga, Joseph Pumford, Kevin Redvay (KRe), Theo Rickert, Fabiola Rodríguez, Karli Rogers, Kate St. John, John Salvetti, Scott Simms, Russ Smiley, John Taylor, Phyllis Terchanik, Ken Truitt, Marge Van Tassel, Daniel Winstead, Ray Winstead, Andrew Wood, Ellen Yerger, Friends of the Park (FOP).



Outings

(continued from page 5)

Saturday, November 5 – Yellow Creek State Park, led by Roger and Margaret Higbee (724-354-3493). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the park office. This is our annual fall joint outing with the Three Rivers Birding Club.

This newsletter is produced four times a year by the Todd Bird Club.

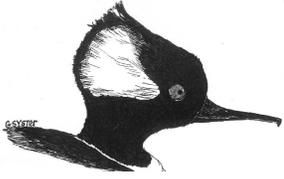
President - Tom Glover	814-938-5618	tomnglover@comcast.net
Vice President - Linda Jones	724-463-0651	joneslinda@hotmail.com
Secretary - Roger Higbee	724-354-3493	rvhigbee@windstream.net
Treasurer - Gloria Lamer	724-349-1159	wimp88@gmail.com
Publicity - Beth Nestor		bethnestor@comcast.net
Facebook - Beth Nestor		bethnestor@comcast.net
Scrapbook - Donna Meyer	724-349-2787	donna.meyer36@gmail.com
Webmaster - Ed Donley		hedonley@iup.edu
Newsletter - Margaret Higbee	724-354-3493	bcoriole@windstream.net
Outings - Lee Carnahan	724-388-4667	



Marge Van Tassel photographed this Spotted Sandpiper at Crooked Creek on May 20.

Armstrong Data

Marge Van Tassel is now the PSO compiler for Armstrong County. If you have any sightings in Armstrong County, please submit them to Marge (marvantassel@gmail.com).



Todd Bird Club
c/o Roger V. Higbee
3119 Creekside Road
Indiana, PA 15701-7934