



# The Flyer

## Newsletter of the Williamsburg Bird Club

Vol. 35, No. 2

[www.williamsburgbirdclub.org](http://www.williamsburgbirdclub.org)

February 2012



### President's Corner By Shirley Devan

What's in your backyard? We love to hear your reports at the Bird Club meetings and in the newsletters when you send your sightings to Fred Blystone. Keep up the good work!

You can contribute your backyard data to the Great Backyard Bird Count February 17–20. Anyone can participate in this free event and you don't have to register anywhere. Watch and count birds for at least 15 minutes on any day from February 17–20, 2012. Enter your results at [www.birdcount.org](http://www.birdcount.org), where you can watch as the tallies grow across the continent.

The winter of 2011–2012 has been strange indeed. I hardly ever have a House Finch at my feeders this year. Usually they mob the area. So far I've not had a Ruby-crowned Kinglet at my feeder—or an Eastern Bluebird. These regulars are scarce so far. I've heard others report similar circumstances in their yards.

When we **all** submit our backyard birds to the Great Backyard Bird Count, this great mass of data from all over North America tells scientists what's happening across the country. They can spot important trends across the years and in regions. It's citizen science at its best. Mark your calendars now for February 17–20.

By the way, Wild Birds Unlimited is a national sponsor of this event, as is the National Audubon Society, Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Bird Studies Canada.

Be sure to stock up on your birdseed at the local Wild Birds Unlimited store where owners George and Val Copping donate a percentage of club members' purchases back to the Bird Club. Be sure to tell them you're a member!

### Welcome to New Members

David Taylor, Ken & Nancy Barnhart and Ruth & Deane Gordon

### February Meeting

Join us Wednesday, February 15 for *Everglades: Birds, Gators, and More*, a photographic, video, and audio journey in the

Everglades as described by Dean Shostak, Certified VA Master Naturalist, who led a group of 22 Bird Club members, Master Naturalists and Colonial Nature Photo Club members on nature expedition to the Everglades in mid-January. The group ventured out on dawn and dusk kayak trips, slough slogs, swamp walks, and swamp buggies to experience everything the Everglades offered.

We'll enjoy Dean's stories along with participants' exquisite photos, video and audio of birds, gators, crocodiles, frogs, turtles, butterflies, and more.

Plan to join us on February at 7:30 PM in **Room 150, Millington Hall** on the W&M campus. Virginia Boyles and Marilyn Adair will be providing the refreshments.

**Don't forget to use your parking permit.**

### February Field Trips

Ernie Banks used to say "it's a great day for a ball game; let's play two!" Geoff Giles, our Field Trip Leader, went for three this month.

#### February 18th WBC Field Trip to Dutch Gap!

Winter ducks are in, including shovellers, Gadwalls, wiigeons, ring-necks, Wood Ducks and much more. Viewing platforms afford good looks and photo opportunities for



these beautiful winter visitors. This is an easy one hour drive or carpool that should not be missed for the winter birds. In addition to the waterfowl impoundments we will walk

through some great habitat including mixed woodlands and marsh. Meet at 7:30 AM at Colony Square Shopping Center to form carpools.

#### Another CBBT Birding by Boat trip on February 19!

Once again the Bird Club's Field Trip Coordinator, Geoff Giles, has chartered the Bay Princess, a large comfortable boat, for an eye-level look at the bay ducks, scoters, shore birds and seabirds plus other wonderful species such as the harbor seals, dolphins, and whales (which were seen in

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## Updated Summary of Bird Data

The latest version of Bill Williams' *Summary of Local Bird Data through 2011: Williamsburg, James City County, York County, Hog Island WMA, Surry County* can be downloaded from our website.

## Wild Birds Unlimited

Don't forget that the WBC receives a 5% rebate on the pre-tax amount our members spend at Wild Birds Unlimited in Monticello Marketplace. You do have to let them know that you are a member.

## Sale thru February 18.

January). Photo opportunities should be very good from the boat. We will work with the captain and our trip leader to go where the birds and wildlife are—around the tunnel islands and perhaps south to the Ft. Story area.

Cost is \$25 per person. Your check is your reservation. Sign up early so we can be sure to have enough people for the trip to go—we need 30. Reservations will be taken on a first come, first served basis until the trip is filled.

Please make checks (\$25.00 per person) payable to “Williamsburg Bird Club” and mail to Geoff Giles, PO Box 133, Lightfoot, VA 23090. Include your email address and cell phone # so he can get back to you to confirm departure location and contact you if plans change. For additional info, contact Geoff at [Tylerandal2@aol.com](mailto:Tylerandal2@aol.com) or 757-645-8716.

## Island Hopping CBBT with HRBC:

Our sister club, Hampton Roads Bird Club, has organized a Saturday, 25 February 2012 trip by car to each of the islands of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel, and has been kind enough to offer us fifteen spots on this extraordinary trip for only \$10.00 per person. After birding the Bay from the Virginia Beach side to Fisherman's Island, the trip will continue, for those who are interested, to a few birding hotspots on the Eastern Shore. Got oystercatchers? Eurasian collared dove?

If you wish to make this trip, don't wait to sign up. First come, first served for this one! Trip must be prepaid by HRBC, so if we don't fill our slots early, we will have to give up our reserved spaces. It should be a great trip, rain or shine, and some unique birding opportunities are very possible. To sign up for this trip, contact Geoff by email at [tylerandal2@aol.com](mailto:tylerandal2@aol.com) or by phone at 757-645-8716.

## January Sightings

Report your backyard birds and local sightings to Fred Blystone at 229-4346 or [fmb19481@verizon.net](mailto:fmb19481@verizon.net). If you encounter interesting birds on your vacation/travels, please share!

**January 1** Bill Williams reports the **Western Tanager** is still coming to his feeder. (The tanager was seen everyday in January except when Bill was out of town Jan 17–22)

**January 1** Shirley Devan reported that a balmy New Year's Day afternoon attracted 36 birders to the boardwalk at Greensprings Trail for the “Bird Show”. Twenty-eight species of birds were seen, with the highlights being Northern Pintails and Green-winged Teal.

**January 2** Tom Armour reports “lots of ducks on the pond at The Vineyards today—8 Mallards, 30 Ring-necked Ducks, 22 Bufflehead, 8 Hooded Mergansers and the usual 40+ Canada Geese.”

**January 6** From Dave Lee: “This morning Phyllis and I saw two (2) pairs of bald eagles engaged in nest refurbishment chores—one on Jamestown Island on the nest in front of the visitors center and the other at the nest across from Archers hope pullout. We've seen no activity at the nest on College Creek near the hawk watch. At Archers Hope we also saw a very nice male Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.”

**January 7** From Bill Williams: “Birding with Bob Anderson and Mitchell Byrd this morning one each Pomarine and Parasitic jaeger were seen off 84th Street in Virginia Beach among hundreds of Bonaparte’s Gulls, occasional Northern Gannets, Forster’s Terns and the expected Herring, Ring-billed and Great Black-backed gulls. The Pomarine landed on the water then drifted southeast with the tide before talking flight again. Jaegers on a west wind—very interesting. At every stop from 84th Street to Rudee Inlet at least one Lesser Black-backed gull was noted, with a peak of 7–8 at 65th Street! Lots of Red-throated Loons, but no scoters.”

**January 9** From Gus Hall: “Stumbled onto the Virginia Beach Iceland Gull on January 9th, at 40th Street. Found it more quickly identifiable than in Iceland itself, as the common American race has wingtips not pure white but often barred with light gray.”

**January 12** Bill Williams lists 73 species seen during the survey done at Craney Island Disposal Area, including 156 Canvasbacks, 583 Red-breasted Mergansers, 2406 Ruddy-Ducks, 100 Horned Grebes and 24 Least Sandpipers.

**January 15** Geoff Giles and Marilyn & John Adair were among the participants in the HRBC walk at Newport News Park led by Jane Frigo. There were 48 species identified during the morning, including 6 species of woodpeckers, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Brown Creeper and a FOS Fox Sparrow.

**January 20** Lois Leeth reports from Florida: “Birding was rewarding at the local hangouts—1 common Black headed Gull, 1 Laughing Gull, 250 Ring -Billed Gulls, 14 Mallards, 12 White Ibis, 15 American Coots, 2 Anhinga (my favorite water bird), 1 Hooded Merganser, 12 Wood Storks, 3 Eurasian Collared Doves and 2 ducks that resembled Lesser Scaup.”

**January 22** Jeanne and Tom Armour saw 5 Common Goldeneye (3 males and 2 females) on the York River just east of Yorktown.

**January 23** Shirley Devan had 22 species of her birds in her yard this morning, the most notable of which was a Chipping Sparrow.

**January 26** From Shirley Devan: “Geoff Giles and I ventured down to Back Bay NWR this afternoon. Recorded 41 species in our walk over the dunes to the beach and then around the trail along the ditches (can’t remember the name of that trail). Highlights were the large number of dolphins feeding near shore at the beach. They were surrounded by large rafts of Red-breasted Mergansers. Also spotted several Red-throated Loons and Horned Grebes and two Brown Pelicans. Quite a few Northern Gan-

nets feeding as well (only counted those near the shore). The pond behind the observation platform supported the expected species of winter ducks. Back Bay itself (scoped from parking lot) had several hundred Tundra Swans plus winter ducks. The bird of the day for me was Redhead duck (2)—a year bird!”

**January 29** Among other birds Bill Williams recorded while on Jamestown Island were a Lesser Black-backed Gull, a Marsh Wren and 2 Horned Larks.

**January 30** Jim Booth called to report 100+ Northern Gannets just south of the Coleman Bridge in Yorktown.

## **Hummingbirds Banded in Williamsburg**

**By Bill Williams**

Bruce Peterjohn, Chief of the Bird Banding Laboratory in Laurel, Maryland, banded 2 Williamsburg hummingbirds on Saturday, January 28. Both were Ruby-throated Hummingbirds. One banded in Governor’s Land was a second-year female; the other, banded in Powhatan Secondary, was a second-year male. (All birds have a birthday on January 1, so these 2 were hatched last summer). According to Mr. Peterjohn “Both banding attempts were conducted without any problems, both birds flew off strongly and the [Powhatan Secondary] bird was back in the yard within 10 minutes of banding.” These represent the first confirmed winter records for Ruby-throated Hummingbirds in the Colonial Historic Triangle.

Bruce subsequently wrote, “I will be curious to see if wintering Ruby-throateds start to become more frequent in the Williamsburg area in future winters. Their winter range has expanded throughout the coastal Carolinas and I would suspect that they could also survive the winters in se. Virginia. I am very interested in documenting their winter range expansion in the mid-Atlantic region. The wintering birds in the Carolinas are not part of a resident population. The banded winter birds disappear during the summer and none of the summer residents have been captured in the winter. We would like to know where these wintering Ruby-throateds are coming from, and hopefully banding will answer that question in the future.”

These most recent bandings came on the heels of the banding of a second-year female Rufous Hummingbird in Ford’s Colony on January 15. That young lady also returned to the feeder within minutes of being released. She constituted the seventh confirmed record for Rufous Hummingbird in our area.

Thanks to George and Valerie Copping at Wild Birds Unlimited for helping us connect the dots to make these

additions to our local bird knowledge. As the note from Mr. Peterjohn suggests, we have much to learn about wintering hummingbirds and we are a most important link in making that happen.

### **CCB Richmond Eagle Cam**

**By Michael Wilson, Center for Conservation Biology**

For the first time in our history the Center for Conservation Biology is providing an opportunity for the public to view bald eagle nesting behavior online. CCB has installed many cameras in eagle nests over the years for research purposes, but none have been accessible to the public over the internet. In early December a camera system was installed in a nest within the city limits of Richmond. This nest is one of 16 nests on the James River that are included in an investigation of generational conflict within the Chesapeake Bay population. Younger “floater birds” with the desire to find breeding opportunities will float from territory to territory in order to find an unoccupied space or challenge a territorial holder for that location. Combat wounds and deaths are becoming an increasingly common occurrence as these conflicts escalate within the rapidly growing eagle population. The study is being conducted by graduate student Courtney Turrin under the direction of Bryan Watts at the College of William and Mary.

Live streaming video of the Richmond nest is being made available through Ustream. The video will be available continuously through the day and night. The system has audio and is enabled with infrared sensors for night viewing. CCB is still working on some technical issues with Ustream and hope to improve picture clarity within the week.

It is our hope that the video will serve to engage the community in discussions about the ecology and conservation of bald eagles. Moderators will be on the chat from 8 AM to 8 PM to answer questions and more extensive discussion of eagles and updates can be found on Facebook.

To see live video of the nest and to learn more about the project, please visit [www.ustream.tv/richmondeagles](http://www.ustream.tv/richmondeagles).

### **The Great Backyard Bird Count**

The Great Backyard Bird Count is an annual four-day event (Friday, February 17, through Monday, February 20), that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of where the birds are across the continent. Anyone can participate, from beginning bird watchers to experts. It takes as little as 15 minutes on one day, or you can count for as long as you like each day of the event. It's free, fun, and easy—and it helps the birds.

Participants count birds anywhere for as little or as long as they wish during the four-day period. They tally the highest number of birds of each species seen together at any one time. To report their counts, they fill out an online checklist at the Great Backyard Bird Count website.

For further information please go to [www.birdsource.org/gbbc/whycount.html](http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/whycount.html)

### **Photos from a Member**



This photo of a Savannah Sparrow was taken by Fred Blystone on Turkey Island Road in Henrico County on 1/16.



This photo of a Yellow-rumped Warbler was taken by Fred Blystone on Jamestown Island on 1/24.

## Holiday Birding – Outer Banks and Chincoteague

By Shirley Devan

**Outer Banks:** The road to Pea Island had been open since mid-October and we wanted to get down there to see the winter arrivals. Steve and I met our birding/photography friends Jack and Terry Johnston in Nags Head for two days of exploring and nature just after Thanksgiving—November 26 and 27.

Our first stop was Bodie Island Lighthouse in mid afternoon, timing our visit for the late afternoon sun behind us as we stood on the observation platform overlooking the marsh. One of the most surprising encounters was with Dr. Mitchell Byrd and his friends Linda and Bob Cole of Richmond. They had the same idea and we all convened on the platform to scope out the hundreds of birds in the marsh.

Tundra Swans



By Steve Devan

Highlights were American Avocets, Northern Pintails and Tundra Swans. Also, Gadwall, American Wigeon, Little Blue Heron, Black Ducks, White Ibis, American Coots, Hooded Merganser, Green-wing Teal, Tri-color Herons, Mallards, Northern Shovelers, Great Black-back Gulls, Great Blue Heron and Ruddy Ducks. A raccoon stepped out onto the mudflats at 4 PM. As we walked back to the parking lot, Terry heard a Great Horned Owl nearby.

Sunday we headed to Pea Island NWR, where the White Pelicans were hanging out in the South Pond, per Dr. Byrd. The North Pond had been breached from the sound side during Hurricane Irene and was mostly brackish mud flats where we saw a few Dunlin, Lesser Yellowlegs, and Black-bellied Plovers close in. Four Eastern Meadowlarks foraged on the grassy bank below the trail.

The South Pond was another story! The huge White Pelicans were easy to find as were the three dozen roosting Great Egrets near the highway. Other species were Northern Harrier, Gadwall, White Ibis, Black Ducks, Pie-billed Grebes, Northern Flicker, Bald Eagle (on sound side), American Coots, Northern Cardinals, Gray Catbird, and Yellow-rumped Warblers (of course!)

Back at the Visitor Center, the volunteer there told us to keep an eye on the bird feeder just outside the window. A lone Sora ventured out about every half hour to forage around under the feeder for the leftovers after the Boat-tailed Grackles had ransacked the feeder station. Sure enough, a Sora popped out in the open for a few minutes but the dark shadows and our location at the corner of the building made for an impossible camera shot.



White Pelicans

By Jack Johnston



Brown Pelican

By Terry Johnston

We left Pea Island and headed south as far as Avon, where we found refreshments and the devastation of the storm surge from the sound side during the hurricane. Houses were tilting on their foundations and porches and decks were leaning at all angles. We stopped at milepost 34 and ventured over the walkway to the ocean side where we spotted Red-throated Loons, Northern Gannets, Sanderlings, Brown Pelicans, and the ubiquitous Ring-billed Gulls.

As the sun was setting we pulled off the road just south of the Pea Island Visitor Center, where we could see birds in water near the road. Terry and Jack were focused on the sunset. With the little bit of light left in the day, I scanned the birds with my scope. That's when I saw it—an American Bittern, very close in the marsh grass. I called Terry over and encouraged her to try for photos. Through her camera lens she spotted a second bittern! I got my scope on both birds—together in the same view for a short time. The light dimmed but I could still follow the bitterns, each heading in different directions. Finally, it was too dark to see anything. The bitterns were the bird of the day and the weekend for me.

**Chincoteague:** The thousands of Snow Geese at Chincoteague NWR were calling us! After reading on the VA-Bird list serve about the incredible numbers of Snow Geese, Steve and I decided to head up there the day after Christmas. After a leisurely trip up the Eastern Shore with a stop at Willis Wharf and the Machipongo Trading Company for lunch, we arrived at the Wildlife Loop entrance right at 3 PM. We heard the Snow Geese before we saw them. We bypassed the folks taking



Northern Shovelers

By Steve Devan

pictures of horses and parked at a good spot for viewing the pond in the center of the loop. Large white geese everywhere and flying in from every direction! Mixed in were hundreds (thousands?) of Green-winged Teal and Northern Shovelers. Lesser numbers (but still a LOT) of American Wigeon, Gadwall, Mallards, and Black Ducks. Quite a few photographers and birders parked with us, including photographer friend Barbara Houston, who was there for the day. A memorable site to see and hear thousands of Snow Geese lift off at one time.

Tuesday we had to plan around a forecast of afternoon rain. We spent the morning on the beach road to and from Tom's Cove looking for shorebirds. We also walked the Black Duck Trail from the beach road over to the Wildlife Loop. Marbled Godwits and Willets dominated, with yellowlegs, Black-bellied Plovers, and the usual waterfowl suspects filling in the blanks. We did find a Northern Harrier hunting over the marsh. He made a few close passes and Steve snapped quite a few photos. I was able to capture close-in Marbled Godwits in my point-and-shoot camera. Sure enough the rain started at noon. What do birders at Chincoteague do when it rains? Eat lunch and then go for ice cream at the Island Creamery! Then a nap!

From our hotel room on the sound facing the new bridge I could spot American Oystercatchers, godwits, willets, gulls, and Boat-tailed Grackles on the sand bars at low tide under the bridge. An adult Bald Eagle flew up the channel and several Common Loons and Red-breasted Mergansers fed and dove near by.

Wednesday the forecast was for sunny skies with winds 15-20 gusting to 40 MPH. We realized most of the birding would be from the car as we headed to Tom's Cove early. Horses were feeding on the roadside and Great Egrets were still on their nighttime roost in a pine tree near the road. We could see the waves breaking on the beach from a half mile away! Still a few crazy people were out on the beach! Not us! The usual birds were in the usual spots so we headed home after a few photos of the horses and egrets. We'll go back soon!



Marbled Godwits

By Shirley Devan

## Williamsburg Bird Club Book Review

By Jeanette Navia

*Bright Wings: An Illustrated Anthology of Poems About Birds*, edited by Billy Collins, paintings by David Allen Sibley. Columbia University Press, 2009. ISBN 9780231150842. \$22.95. 268 p. Williamsburg Library call number 598.821.008 BRI.

Do you know a bird lover who also loves poetry? Do you love poems yourself? This book of bird poems, edited by the former poet laureate of the United States, Billy Collins, and illustrated by David Allen Sibley, would be a great Valentine's Day gift, or anyday gift, for a loved one or for yourself. The Williamsburg Library owns a copy, so you can browse through it before you purchase.

There are over a hundred poems gathered here—some classic, some contemporary—each about a bird or birds, at least as much as a poem can be “about” a bird. Some poems are about loneliness, some about love, some about mystery, beauty, or death. Poets have used the imagery of birds to evoke emotions for centuries.

The poems chosen by Collins in this anthology are mostly short poems, one to three pages each. Sibley's beautiful paintings are more artistic here than the illustrations in his bird guides. He also includes a bit of information about each. For instance, under his painting of the Cliff Swallow, Sibley writes, “The Cliff Swallow breeds in North America and winters in South America. Its gourd-shaped nest, built on the vertical wall of a cliff or a building, usually under an overhang, is made of mud pellets and is lined with grass.” You don't need to know this to read Debra Nystrom's poem “Cliff Swallows”, but perhaps it helps.

Is it some turn of wind  
that funnels them all down at once, or  
is it their own voices netting  
to bring them in – the roll and churr  
of hundreds searing through river light  
and cliff dust, each to its precise  
mud nest on the face  
none of our own isolate  
groping, wishing need could be sent  
so unerringly to solace. But  
this silk-skein flashing is like heaven  
brought down; not to meet ground  
or water—to enter  
the riven earth and disappear.

Some poems that you may expect to find—Poe's “The Raven,” Keat's “Ode to a Nightingale”—are intentionally left out. Collins felt these poems were so often anthologized elsewhere that there was no need to include them here. Rather, he writes in the introduction, “air time is given to many lesser-known poems, particularly more contemporary ones, in order to give the reader a better chance of being taken by surprise.”

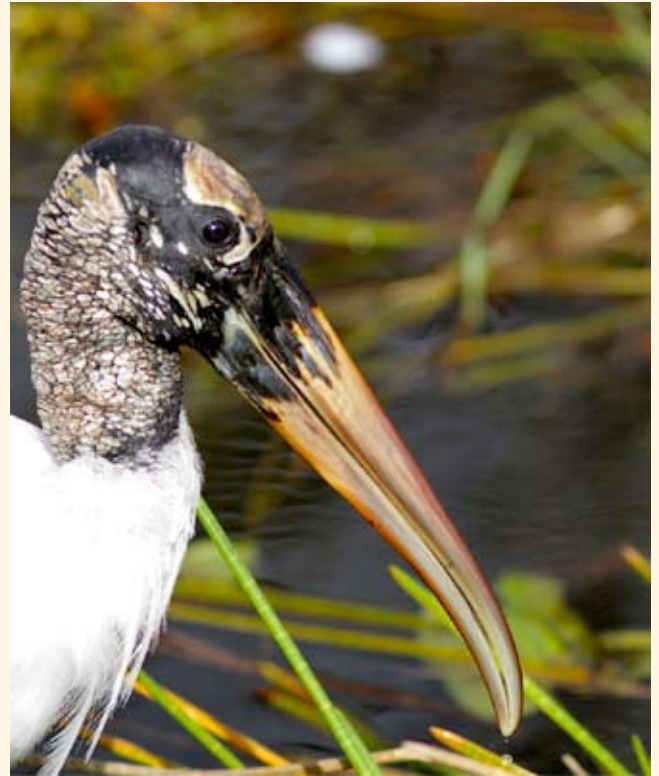
The poems are ordered taxonomically. That is, after beginning with Stephen Vincent Benet's poem “John James Audubon,” poems about specific species are in the order listed in AOU checklists. So “Loons Mating,” by David Wagoner, is followed by Seamus Heaney's “Drifting Off,” which mentions albatrosses (among other birds) and is accompanied by a Sibley illustration of a Yellow-nosed Albatross. Poems about seabirds are next, followed by poems about wading birds, then geese and ducks, all the way through the owls, hummingbirds, swallows, etc., to a few poems about goldfinches at the end.

It's a beautiful book, and it even feels nice in the hands, a bit heavy and solid. Anyone who likes poetry should love this.

**Photos taken by Inge Curtis during a January trip to South Florida**



An Anhinga, a Great Egret and an alligator.



Wood Stork



Tri-Colored Heron



Green Heron



## Audubon Camp in Maine

For over 75 years the National Audubon Society has offered residential birding programs for adults, teens and families at the historic Audubon Camp in Maine on Hog Island. Pete Dunne, Scott Weidensaul, Steve Kress, Lang Elliott, Don Kroodma, Bill Thompson III and many more expert ornithologists, naturalists, educators and authors will be in residence during the 2012 sessions.

All 2012 programs are run by the Seabird Restoration Program (Project Puffin) of the National Audubon Society. Summer sessions include a trip to nearby Eastern Egg Rock, where Dr. Steve Kress and his team of biologists have successfully restored an island colony of Atlantic Puffins, and Roseate, Arctic and Common Terns. In addition, you will enjoy trips to fresh and saltwater marshes, blueberry barrens, coastal beaches, islands, and spruce-fir forests. Participants live in restored wooden buildings on 330-acre Hog Island and are treated to fabulous meals by chef extraordinaire Janii Laberge.

For more information or to enroll, visit <http://hogisland.audubon.org>. You may also contact Erica Marx, Program Coordinator, at [hogisland@audubon.org](mailto:hogisland@audubon.org) or call (607) 257-7308 x 14

## WBC January Walks

Complete lists of species seen on each walk are on the club website at [www.williamsburgbirdclub.org](http://www.williamsburgbirdclub.org).

### January 14th bird walk at New Quarter Park

From leader Tom McCary “of the twenty-five species, the “bird of the day” was the Common Loon, seen fairly close to our intrepid band on Queen's Creek. At first shy, he soon got used to our admiring looks and just about his his “disappearing act.” He was beginning to sport his “summer clothes” with the stylish black and white checked jacket. I had never seen a loon at this location before. What a splendid look.”



Seated: Joyce Lowry, Giny Carey, Rosemarie Mussler and Shirley Devan.. Standing: Deb Woodward, Geoff Giles and Tom McCary. Missing from photo are Jeanette Navia and Margaret Ware.



Sitting: Shirley Devan, Joyce Lowry, Virginia Boyles, George Boyles. Standing: Bill Williams, David Taylor, Tim Sedlacek, Kathy Sedlacek, Jeanette Navia, Marilyn Adair, John Adair, Bill Ferris, Nelson Ensley, Geoff Giles. Not pictured: Margaret Ware and Roger Gosden.

### **The January 28 New Quarter Park Walk**

Shirley Devan wrote: “Sixteen people started a glorious day at New Quarter Park this morning at 7 am for our regular 4th Saturday bird walk. Our leader, Bill Williams, welcomed newcomers Tim Sedlacek, junior at Lafayette High, and his mother Kathy who recently moved to Williamsburg. Glad to have you with us.

We found 35 species between 7 and 9 am. The list as Bill entered it into eBird is shown below. We were all startled when an immature Bald Eagle landed in the tree directly over our heads while we were standing at the fire circle. The bird quickly took off again but he gave us a great show! And it's always nice to see our mascot bird, the Red-headed Woodpecker (4 of them).”

### **Another photo from a Member**



George Boyles photographed this Ring-necked Duck and pair of Redheads at the lake at Belmont of York Apartments.

## More Photos from Members



Carol O'Neil took this photo of a Razorbill at Indian River Inlet, DE on January 29th.



Partially leucistic Cardinal, photographed on Jamestown Island by Fred Blystone on January 23rd, was seen again on the 27th.



Red-shouldered Hawk photographed by Fred Blystone on January 7th on Stanley Drive.



George Boyles photographed this Lesser Yellowlegs at Messick Point in Poquoson.



Shirley Devan took this photo of a Green-winged Teal during the "Bird Show" on January 1.



American Coot photographed by Inge Curtis in Florida



White Ibis also taken in Florida by Inge Curtis



Fred Blystone took this photo of the eagles across from the Jamestown Island visitor's center on January 6.



Red-headed Woodpecker photographed by Fred Blystone January 15th on Jamestown Island.



Northern Pintail photographed by George Boyles during the "Bird Show" on January 1.

## Bird ID from Recycle Bin Photos

By Joe Piotrowski

This feature is only on the website and in the electronic version of *The Flyer*. The answer to this month's "puzzle" will be given in the next electronic newsletter, as well as on the website.



February's photo—whose eggs are these?



January's bird was a Semipalmated Plover

## CALENDAR

Thursday, February 9	HRBC Monthly Meeting, Conference Room at Sandy Bottom Park, 7 PM. Michael Lowry will present a program titled <i>The Birds of Newport News Park</i> .
Saturday, February 11	WBC Bird Walk, New Quarter Park, 8 AM
Wednesday, February 15	WBC Monthly Meeting. See front page.
Saturday, February 18	WBC Field Trip to Dutch Gap Conservation Area. See Front Page.
Feb 17 thru Feb 20	The Great Backyard Bird Count. See page 4.
Sunday, February 19	HRBC Bird Walk, Newport News Park, 7 AM, Jane Frigo, Leader
Sunday, February 19	Birding CBBT by Boat. See page 2.
Saturday, February 25	WBC Field Trip to the CBBT. See page 2.
Saturday, February 25	WBC Bird Walk, New Quarter Park, 7 AM. Bill Williams, Leader.