



# THE FLYER

NEWSLETTER OF THE WILLIAMSBURG BIRD CLUB

Volume 30, Number 2

Website: [www.wmbgbirdclub.com](http://www.wmbgbirdclub.com)

February 2006

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Bob Long

Happy Ground Hog Day, Valentine's Day, President's Day and Backyard Bird Count Weekend – spring is almost here. We have seen 16-20 species in our backyard habitat daily, including Pileated Woodpeckers, Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers and a Hermit Thrush.

We begin our twice-monthly bird walks at New Quarter Park Saturday, February 11, 2006. Tom Armour, our fearless field trip leader, will meet us at the park gate at 8 am. We will then drive en masse to the park headquarters to watch birds. Latecomers will not be able to enter the locked gate and will need to hike about a mile into the park. So be sure to arrive by 8:00 a.m.!!

New Quarter Park is located at the end of Lakeshead Drive, which lies between the Queens Lake subdivision and the Colonial Parkway. From Williamsburg take the Colonial parkway toward Yorktown, turn right at the Queens Lake sign, then another quick right onto Lakeshead Drive, which ends at the park. See you there. Call me at 259-9559 if you need additional directions. Note the starting time has changed to 8:00 a.m. for the February 11 walk. The starting time may vary with the leader, so be sure to check the time for each walk. (See the note below.)

## FEBRUARY 15 MEETING

Plan to join us Wednesday, February 15, 2006, at 7:30 p.m. in Room 117 at Millington Hall at William and Mary. We'll first hear a short presentation from Ruth Beck, Biology Professor at William and Mary and a past president of the bird club. "How SWEET, SWEET, SWEET It Is!" will focus on the Prothonotary Warbler and how club members can protect and conserve this beautiful little warbler. Then Ariel White will share her research about the "Mercury Effects in Kingfishers and Eastern Screech Owls." Ariel is a graduate student in biology at William and Mary and one of the recipients of the 2005 William Sheehan Ornithology Research Grants.

Plan to join us for an enlightening evening!



Caitlin Kight (left) and Ariel White, W & M graduate students, were 2005 Sheehan grant recipients.

## FEBRUARY 18 FIELD TRIP

Join us Saturday, February 18, 2006, for the club's field trip to the Stonehouse development in upper James City County. Bill Williams will lead the group and we will focus on Mill Pond Park deep in the development. The area features a covered pavilion with picnic benches and two porta-johns, as well as a covered canoe dock with benches. Diana and Jack Nolan, club members and residents, are coordinating our visit. Diana has reserved the pavilion for our use that morning. So, even if it's raining we can watch birds from the shelter! If the weather is nice, bring a snack or lunch and enjoy the view and the birds.

For car pooling, meet the group at 7:30 AM at the parking lot at Colony Square Shopping Center on Jamestown Road (near the Fresh Market). If you intend to meet the group at Stonehouse, be there by 8:00 a.m. and be alert to the fact that there are

two clubhouses. We will start our adventures at the "Welcome Center/Residents Club" parking lot near the pool beyond the golf club house. (We don't meet at "Traditions" golf club house.)

## **ADOPT A HIGHWAY RESUMES**

John Fennell has adopted the Bird Club's "Adopt-A-Highway" effort and calls on club members to join him Saturday, February 11 at 2:00 p.m. to clean up our stretch of Route 5. Many hands make for light work! Meet at 2:00 p.m. at the McDonald's on Route 5 in the Five Forks area. John has all the supplies – orange vests and orange bags and ties. The rain date is Sunday, February 12 at 2:00 p.m. at the same location. If you did not sign up at the last meeting and want to join us, call John at 566-2615. Remember to wear gloves and boots that can withstand wet litter and damp ditches.

## **STANDING BIRD WALKS AT NEW QUARTER PARK**

The Williamsburg Bird Club has coordinated with New Quarter Park to co-sponsor a bird walk every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday each month beginning Saturday, February 11. This is a relatively new park (as parks go in this neck of the woods) and is still being enhanced by York County Parks & Recreation. The park features miles of trails through the meadows and woods and along the fossil bluffs of the York River. The birding possibilities are unlimited! Upcoming trip dates and leaders:

February 11 at 8:00 a.m.: Tom Armour

February 25 at 7:00 a.m.: Bill Williams

March 11 at 7:00 a.m.: Bill Williams

March 25: TBD – volunteer leaders welcome!  
Call Tom Armour at 229-2363!

Mark the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays on your calendars. Club President Bob Long will open the gates for us on weekends in February and March when the park is not open to the public. As Bob mentioned in "The President's Corner," assemble at the locked gate at 8:00 a.m. and he will unlock the gate to let us drive in. The walk will last about two hours. Thanks to New Quarter Park for their cooperation, to our walk leaders and to Bob Long for being the gatekeeper there in the winter months.

## **WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS**

The club welcomes new members Janet Curtis and Gary & Ann Carpenter. Thank you for joining and we look forward to your participation

in the Club's events!

## **JANUARY 21 FIELD TRIP TO NEWPORT NEWS PARK**

Tom Armour led the Club's field trip to Newport News Park. A group of 11 birders found 38 species between 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. – just before the rains came in. Highlight birds were: Tundra Swan, Gadwall, Redhead ducks, Bald Eagles, juvenile Sharp-shinned Hawk perched in a nearby tree for about 10 seconds, Red-headed Woodpecker, Brown Creeper, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Hermit Thrush and Swamp Sparrow. Participants were: Tom Armour, Fred Blystone, Louise Burns, Shirley Devan, Mary Anne Fennell, Dave Hewitt, Chuck Rend, Dorothy Whitfield, Bill Williams and visitors Elisabeth and Clayton Williams.

If you missed this trip, you can take advantage of the Hampton Roads Bird Club's regular field trips every month – the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays from 7:00 – 9:00 a.m. Meet the leader at the Ranger Station parking lot. The February dates are Sundays, February 5 and 19. The trip leader is Jane Frigo – 873-0721. March dates are Sundays, March 5 and 19. This is a very large park and it helps to have local experts show you the hot spots the first time you go! The Hampton Roads Bird Club invites visitors to join in their walks.

*Note from the Board and the Editor:* In 2006 the Board is making a concerted effort to provide additional birding opportunities for members and to make them aware of other clubs' field trips and bird walks. That's why we have included information about five field trips or bird walks in February in this newsletter – none of which are on the same day! SO GET OUT THERE AND BIRD WHILE THE TREES HAVE NO LEAVES!

## **LOTS OF BIRDS – ALIVE AND DEAD**

Barbara Luck writes via email on January 22: "Not sure this bird tidbit is unusual, but it seemed rather odd to me. Lots of people have commented on the huge numbers of robins in the Williamsburg area this winter. In the course of occasionally walking back and forth to work on Botetourt Street, I've been surprised at finding several dead robins in a concentrated area (five casualties so far, noticed at various times in December and January, on the west side of Botetourt along one short block between Franklin and Lafayette). I haven't seen any dead birds anywhere else in my walking. I wondered if anyone else has noticed anything similar." When this note circulated around the email

network of club birders, these responses came back: Dan Cristol from W&M replied: "There are 100,000+ grackles and 60,000 or more robins entering Colonial Williamsburg each evening. Bryan Watts and I and other staff from the CCB (Center for Conservation Biology at W&M) counted 100,000 grackles and 40,000 robins roosting in the bamboo between Matthew Whaley School and the College Bookstore. Finding a few dead ones each day is not surprising given those numbers."

Ruth Beck from W&M replied: "I have had two dead Robins brought to me this past week. Both flew into large windows and appeared to have broken necks."

Carol McAllister replied: "My husband and I made a trip to the historic district to observe the hundreds of roosting robins after the event was reported at the winter count tally. While we were there, a Cooper's Hawk made several passes at the flock, alarming and scattering them. This might have caused some of the birds to crash and/or fall."

## EMAIL CONTACT

By Shirley Devan

As you can see from the email exchanges above, my little email network of Bird Club members is informative and fun. We share sightings, unusual tidbits, questions, answers and theories as you see in the above exchanges. Every club member who sends me an email ends up on my WBC (Williamsburg Bird Club) Mail Group. Currently there are about 25 names on the list, including the WBC Board of Directors. Would you like to be in the group? Would you like your name removed from the group? If so, send me an email at: [sedevan52@cox.net](mailto:sedevan52@cox.net)

*Disclaimers and small print:* I can't promise anything earthshaking in your email inbox or any regular schedule. You'll have to trust serendipity! You will not end up on a spam list. This is not a substitute for [The Flyer](#). Not every bird sighting email I receive is distributed to the group (thank your lucky stars). The distribution is at my discretion. Your bird sightings may be included in [The Flyer](#) unless you specifically request that I not include them. With these sandbox rules, I look forward to hearing from you!

## JANUARY BIRD SIGHTINGS

*Report your backyard birds and local sightings to Shirley Devan at 220-6269 (home phone) or [sedevan52@cox.net](mailto:sedevan52@cox.net) (home email). If you encounter interesting birds on your vacation/travels, please share!*

**January 1:** Ruth Beck reports from her New Kent Room: "The new year started out with great birds from the Beck's. We started the morning with a

Red-breasted Nuthatch, only to be followed with a Fox Sparrow, Hermit Thrush and 3 Bluebirds. We found 2 Brown Creepers and a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. We observed 3 Pine Warblers and one Yellow-rumped Warbler on the suet treats. Looking beyond the feeders and onto the lake, we had a Bufflehead, 3 Rudy Ducks, 7 Hooded Mergansers. Had a Red-shouldered Hawk, an adult Male Sharpie and a Bald Eagle adult. All in all we tallied 27 species from our New Kent Room windows. Good start for 2006, for not leaving the house, wouldn't you say? Boy it was FUN."

**January 2:** Bill Holcombe spots a Brown Creeper while walking dog. The next day he finds a Winter Wren while doing the same chore.

**January 6:** Tom Armour reports: "Today at my feeders 1 male Purple Finch, 1 Hermit Thrush. At the Vineyards Pond, 21 Ring-necked Ducks, 2 Greater Scaup, 5 Bufflehead. On Treasure Island Road, 1 American Kestrel, 1 Red-shouldered Hawk, and 15 Eastern Bluebirds."

**January 7 & 8:** Bill Holcombe reports Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Eastern Bluebirds and Yellow-rumped Warblers on his suet. Also on the 8<sup>th</sup> a pair of Buffleheads in the Route 5-Route 199 pool to add to the Pied-billed Grebe that was there a week ago. And same day finally saw Pied-billed Grebes back on Lake Matoaka.

**January 8:** Bill Williams reports an immature Snow "Dark Morph" Goose among a flock of fly over Canada Geese at Mainland Farm.

**January 9:** Shirley Devan reports from Longhill Swamp: Three Red-headed Woodpeckers, a Winter Wren, Eastern Bluebirds, Belted Kingfisher. Total of 15 species + 65 degrees.

**January 12:** Tom Armour reports from Newport News Park, 1 Common Loon, 5 Pied-billed Grebes, 3 Redhead Ducks, 12 Hooded Mergansers, 10 Gadwall.

**January 13:** Fred Blystone sees Red-headed Woodpeckers and the Winter Wren at Longhill Swamp.

**January 15:** Shirley Devan reports from the regular 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday bird walk at Newport News Park, sponsored by the Hampton Roads Bird Club – 29 species + COLD windy weather. Highlights include: Redhead ducks, Bald Eagle, Red-headed Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Brown Creeper and Cedar Waxwing. Thanks to leader Jane Frigo for braving the chilly winds to lead the group of four people.

**January 16:** Tom Armour reports from the beach at Yorktown: 11 Brant, 500+ Ruddy Ducks on the River, 2 Common Loons, 15 Bufflehead, 1 Red-breasted Merganser, 2 Tundra Swans in Indian Field creek. Also at the Vineyards: 17 Ring-

necked Ducks, 10 Bufflehead, 1 Scaup, 2 Pied-billed Grebes, 1 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. On Treasure Island Rd. 1 American Kestrel dining on a small bird.

**January 18:** Tom McCary spotted a Black and White Warbler scuffling about on the ground at Shirley Plantation, near the bank of the James River.

**January 20:** Fred Blystone and Shirley Devan birded Colonial Parkway from Yorktown to Jamestown and found 38 species and 65 degrees. Highlights on the York River were: Brant, Tundra Swan, Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser, Red-breasted Merganser, Ruddy Ducks (lots!), Common Loon, Pied-billed Grebe, Red-necked Grebe at Felgates Creek, Bald Eagles, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Great Black-backed Gull and Cedar Waxwing.

**January 22:** Bill Williams reports 8 Brant off Yorktown Beach.

**January 23:** Shirley Devan reports a Red-shouldered Hawk perched at the very top of a tall oak tree at the corner of Longhill and Olde Towne Road, near Windsor Forest.

**January 24:** Shirley Devan reports a Pileated Woodpecker at the backyard suet feeder. Also, via windshield birdwatching, she spotted one on a dead snag on Longhill Road near the intersection with Route 199.

**January 24:** Fred Blystone reports that birders should expect to find the two pullouts nearest the Naval Weapons Station on the Colonial Parkway closed in the near future. Navy personnel advised him while he was birding there that cameras observe those pullouts and that those areas will be closed in the future.

**January 25:** Dorothy Whitfield reports a lone male Purple Finch at her backyard feeder.

## TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

The Club Treasurer, Chuck Rend, reminds all members that annual club dues are now due. Last month's newsletter included an envelope. If you've lost the envelope, mail your check to WBC, PO Box 1085, Williamsburg, VA 23187. Here are the membership levels: \$35 for patrons, \$25 for families, \$15 for individuals, and \$5 for students.

Consider joining this year at the patron level to support the club's activities, scholarships, and organizations the club supports – Williamsburg Land Conservancy, Coastal Virginia Wildlife Observatory, Center for Conservation Biology at W&M, Williamsburg Regional Library and the Virginia Society for Ornithology.

## HISTORY PROJECT

By Cynthia Long

We need Flyers from 1980 to 1990 – there is a void in our records. There is another gap from June 2003 to September 2005. Also, if you have saved those wonderful compilations that Bill Sheehan kept so faithfully each year, there are some gaps in those records, too. The Flyer is truly a history of the club's activities and a fantastic record of the birds in the Williamsburg area. They are being filed in binders donated by Shirley Devan, who has been generously recycling them. I would also ask you to watch for newspaper articles by and about bird club members. They are interesting records of our community activities. Please pass them on to Cynthia Long, Historian. You can also mail them to me at 105 Bowstring Drive, Williamsburg, VA 23185. I would like to have the records complete and accessible to all early next year when we celebrate our 30th anniversary.

## GET READY FOR THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

From the Cornell Lab of Ornithology: "The Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) returns for its ninth season February 17-20, 2006. The National Audubon Society and the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology encourage everyone to COUNT BIRDS WITH A BUDDY! Bird enthusiasts of all ages can share their love of birds with a friend, a child, a scout troop, a class, or a co-worker – opening new eyes to the joy of birding and the fun of creating a unique snapshot of winter bird abundance and distribution across the continent. Every pair of eyes is needed and everybirdy counts, whether in a backyard, on a high-rise balcony, in a park, or on any of the 730 million acres of public lands.

In 2005, participants sent in more than 52,000 checklists, with a record-breaking 613 species and more than 6 million birds counted. These millions of sightings generate what would be impossible otherwise – continent-wide information about where the birds are and how their numbers compare with those of previous years. Anyone with internet access can see the results in maps and charts as the sightings pour in.

"The level of energy created each February by Great Backyard Bird counters is phenomenal," said Dr. Paul Green, director of Citizen Science for Audubon. "What always amazes me are the new discoveries made by people across North America. Some bird watchers even send digital photos to back up their reports. Last year

participants sent in more than 1,000 photos and many are now part of the GBBC web site gallery."

For nearly a decade, the GBBC has kept tabs on the ever-changing patterns of birds in winter. How far north will American Robins be reported this year? Will Sandhill Cranes migrate early or late? Introduced Eurasian Collared-Doves have been turning up in new states – where will they be this year? Native Red-bellied Woodpeckers have been spreading to the northeast – will the trend continue? Scientists also want more information on declining species, such as Rusty Blackbirds and Painted Buntings. While these species are suffering due to the continued destruction of their preferred habitats, other factors, such as mercury accumulation in Rusty Blackbirds, and removal of Painted Buntings for the illegal cage bird industry, may make a bad situation worse.

"This project has become a major source of scientific information about North American bird populations," said Dr. John Fitzpatrick, director of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. "It is a classic example of the vital role citizens and the Internet now play in understanding our planet."

In 2006, for the first time, the Lab of Ornithology and Audubon are launching an element of friendly competition. Awards will be given to localities that submit the most checklists, record the greatest number species, or count the highest number of birds. (Last year's top numbers: 433 checklists from Gautier, Mississippi, 169 species from Corpus Christi, Texas, and 291,246 birds from Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge, Missouri.) A photo contest will also be held based on bird pictures taken during the event and submitted for posting on the GBBC gallery. Winners will be announced after all the data from the event have been submitted.

Everyone can participate, from beginning bird watchers to seasoned experts. During the count, bird watchers tally up birds for as little as 15 minutes, or for as long as they like, keeping track of the highest number of each bird species they see together at one time. People are encouraged to report birds from public lands and local parks, as well as from their backyards. Participants enter their numbers online at [www.bird-source.org/gbbc](http://www.bird-source.org/gbbc) and can explore sightings maps, lists, and charts as the count progresses.

Year-round, anyone can view results from past counts and learn how to participate by visiting [www.birdsource.org/gbbc](http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc). There is no fee or registration for the event, which is sponsored by Wild Birds Unlimited. For more information, contact the Cornell Lab of Ornithology at

[cornellbirds@cornell.edu](mailto:cornellbirds@cornell.edu) or (800) 843-2473 if in the United States; (607) 254-2473 if calling internationally; or contact Audubon at [citizenscience@audubon.org](mailto:citizenscience@audubon.org); (215) 355-9588, Ext. 16.

## MARILYN ZEIGLER'S CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT IN CALIFORNIA

A series of Pacific storms, the so-called Pine-apple Express, were evident when I visited in Alameda on San Francisco Bay at Christmas. Birds were congregating on the artificially aerated canals near my sister's home. Drizzle became driving rain. I finally found the porch of a local school for shelter with my binoculars. I saw Bufflehead, Canvasback, Common Golden-eye, Black-crowned Night Heron, White-fronted Goose (my first viewing), Double-crested Cormorant, Common and Snowy Egrets, Ring-billed Gulls, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Lesser Scaup, coveys of American Coots, Brown Pelicans and Great Blue Heron.

On a drier day, with a shriek and call, a female Hummingbird swooped above a small tree on the water's edge. Perhaps a Rufous? A Red-shouldered Hawk kept watch on the other bank. A pair of Black Phoebes snagged insects over the water.

And on a salt slough near Oakland Airport a Surf Scoter and Eared Grebe enlivened the marsh. Incidentally, I had read in the Chronicle that the Audubon Bird Count was conducted in the East Bay with only average tallies in weather so dreadful that binoculars were soaked through.

## BIRDS YOU'RE LIKELY TO SEE IN WINTER

Now that winter is here in earnest, look for these winter birds around your yard or neighborhood: Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Brown Creeper, Winter Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Hermit Thrush, Cedar Waxwing, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Dark-eyed Junco, White-throated Sparrow, Fox Sparrow and Song Sparrow.

Look for these birds *all year* in your yard: Rock Dove (pigeon), Mourning Dove, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Blue Jay, American Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Eastern Bluebird, Brown Thrasher, American Robin, Northern Mockingbird, Eastern Towhee, European Starling, Northern Cardinal, Song Sparrow, Common Grackle, House Finch, American Goldfinch, House Sparrow.

Check the Club's web site for winter birds you'll

likely see if you venture within a 10 mile radius of Williamsburg – particularly rivers, lakes and ponds. Click over to: [www.wmbgbirdclub.com](http://www.wmbgbirdclub.com). You'll also find a page with "Local Birding Hot Spots." If you see unusual birds, report your sightings to Shirley Devan, Phone: 220-6269 or email: [sedevan52@cox.net](mailto:sedevan52@cox.net).

## **THANKS, ALEX, FOR TWO GREAT YEARS**

At the January 18, 2006 Club meeting, President Bob Long presented immediate Past President Alex Minarik with two gifts in appreciation of her two years as president of the Williamsburg Bird Club: a copy of the book, The Grail Bird: Hot on the Trail of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker, and a T-shirt featuring the Ivory-billed Woodpecker flying through the swamps of the Mississippi Delta. Many thanks to Alex for her two years as president and her earlier years of service in a variety of leadership roles in the Club. We look forward to her continuing participation and contributions.

## **THANKS, DR. DAN**

The Williamsburg Bird Club extends its warmest and sincerest thanks to Dr. Dan Cristol of the Biology Department at William and Mary for donating his remuneration from The Virginia Gazette. You have certainly seen his columns in the Gazette about birds and conservation issues. Dan has graciously donated his income from those columns to the Club. Many thanks!

## **ADDENDUM TO CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT DATA**

There was not quite enough room on Bill Holcombe's bird count data sheets (enclosed) to include a list of additional species that are seldom seen here. Here they are:  
Cackling Goose, 1 at Camp Peary

Eurasian Widgeon, 1 at Camp Peary  
Long-tailed Duck, 1 at Camp Peary  
Common Merganser, 1 at Camp Peary  
Caspian Tern, 1 at Camp Peary  
Red-breasted Nuthatch, 2 at Camp Peary and Jamestown Island  
Clapper Rail, 1 at Camp Peary  
Lesser Black-backed Gull, 1 at Camp Peary

## **CLUB DONATIONS FOR 2006**

At the January 11, 2006 meeting of the club's board of directors, the board voted to fund the following organizations this year: Virginia Society for Ornithology, Williamsburg Regional Library, Coastal Virginia Wildlife Observatory, Center for Conservation Biology at William and Mary and the Williamsburg Land Conservancy. The total amount of donations for 2006 is \$600. Our dues help the club support these local organizations, and the board encourages you to support these or other conservation groups with your time and/or your resources.

## **NATURE CAMP FOR GROWNUPS**

Look for the announcement on the back page about the April 8 "Nature Camp for Grownups." This is jointly sponsored by the Williamsburg Bird Club and New Quarter Park, York County Parks & Recreation. Enrollment is limited to 16 participants. Reserve your spot early because the announcement will appear in the York County Parks and Recreation Spring Catalog. This will be a fun day outdoors – in the park and on the water – with experienced naturalists who know the Peninsula's natural environment and how and why it looks this way. Call or email Shirley Devan to register or for more information – 220-6269 (home) or 813-1322 (cell) or [sedevan52@cox.net](mailto:sedevan52@cox.net).

# Nature Camp for Grownups

Sponsored by  
The Williamsburg Bird Club and  
New Quarter Park  
York County Parks & Recreation



**Location: New Quarter Park**

(York County near Queens Lake)

**Date: Saturday, April 8, 2006**

**Time: 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Fee: \$95 - including continental breakfast, lunch, snacks, beverages, materials, kayaks & equipment.**

A day outdoors in a small group setting with experienced naturalists and leaders focused on the Virginia Peninsula's natural environment - landforms, plants, and animals, and their interrelationships.

Four sessions to choose from - two three-hour kayaking ventures on Queens Creek (no experience necessary, but should be comfortable on the water) plus two three-hour strolls in the forests, meadows, and trails of New Quarter Park with Bird Club Past President and experienced naturalist Hugh Beard.

Lunch break features guest speaker, Dr. Gerald Johnson, Professor Emeritus, W&M Department of Geology.

The fine print: Open to the public. Limited to 16 participants, age 16 and over. Register and pay by March 31. Call Shirley Devan, Williamsburg Bird Club, at 757-813-1322 to register or for more information. Email: [sedevan52@cox.net](mailto:sedevan52@cox.net). [www.wmbgbirdclub.com](http://www.wmbgbirdclub.com)

Williamsburg Bird Club Christmas Count 2005										
	Cp Peary	CheatAn	Coll Wd	Hog Isl.	James I.	JollPond	Kingsm.	Mid Plan	Skimino	Total
Common Loon	3	8			1	1			1	14
Pied-billed Grebe		4				3	1	4		12
Horned Grebe	9	5						2		16
Brown Pelican		3		1						4
Dble.-crested Cormorant	19	62	45		197		210	9	77	619
Great Blue Heron	9	14	5	2	4	9	4	3		50
Great Egret							5			5
Black Vulture		7	3		8	2	1	22	2	35
Turkey Vulture	8	31	6		7	19	3	57	13	144
Canada Goose	107	56	248		74	356	12	726	43	1622
Mute Swan	8	4	2			2	2			24
Tundra Swan	35	5								40
Wood Duck		2	2							4
Gadwall	6	14			2					27
America Widgeon		23								23
American Black Duck		15			6	23				44
Mallard	20	17	17		13	46	38	57	2	210
Blue-winged Teal										0
Northern Shoveler		3								3
Northern Pintail										0
Green-winged Teal					2			9		11
Canvasback	2835	15								2,850
Redhead	1	5								6
Ring-necked Duck	122	741				11		12		886
Lesser Scaup	45		2					16		63
Bufflehead	38	41			10	1	1	4	8	82
Common Goldeneye	2	4								6
Hooded Merganser	155	3	40		4	13	9	43	6	265
Red-breasted Mergans.	6	1			11			3		25
Ruddy Duck	1432	770			7	19		10	43	2,281
Osprey								1		1
Bald Eagle (adult)	1	4			1		1	3		11
Bald Eagle (immature)	2				2	1				6
Northern Harrier		1	1							2
Sharp-shinned Hawk		1	1		2			1		7
Cooper's Hawk		1				1		2		4
Red-shouldered Hawk		1			1	2		7	5	16
Red-tailed Hawk	1	1	1		6	2	2	1	1	14
American Kestrel		1	1		2					4
Wild Turkey		1								1
Northern Bobwhite										
American Coot		2				14	3			20
Killdeer	5	1			15			3		24
Greater Yellowlegs										
American Woodcock		2								2
Laughing Gull		24	20				7			51
Bonaparte's Gull		5								5
Ring-billed Gull	30	87	30		19	26	85	108	422	886
Herring Gull	1	8			3	9				21
Great Black-backed Gull		4			5	14				23
Forster's Tern		6			1					7
Rock Dove		4	60		17			5		86
Mourning Dove	2	13	11		72	100	316	152	18	404
Eastern Screech Owl		6								6
Great-horned Owl		1	2							3

	Cp Peary	CheatAn	Coil Wd	Hog Isl.	James I.	JollPond	Kingsm.	Mid Plan	Skimino	Total
Barred Owl			1							1
Belted Kingfisher	3	4	1			3	1	4	4	20
Red-head Woodpecker		7			1			4		17
Red-bellied Woodpecker	6	8	4		7	11	9	19	5	69
Yell.-bellied Sapsucker	2	3	7		2	5	4	10	1	39
Downy Woodpecker	1	3	3		2	4	5	10	3	31
Hairy Woodpecker					2	2	1	2		7
Northern Flicker	21	15	2		17	6	10	20	5	96
Pileated Woodpecker	2	7	1		1	5	2	6		24
Eastern Phoebe	1	3						1		5
Blue Jay	4	4	10		12	10	10	23	16	89
American Crow	23	13	5		16	19	7	29	31	133
Fish Crow										
Carolina Chickadee	5	9	19		19	24	26	74	10	196
Tufted Titmouse		4	14		6	19	9	49	8	109
White-breasted Nuthatch	2	3	13		3	10	4	14	3	52
Brwn-headed Nuthatch	7	3			8					20
Brown Creeper		5			2	8		2	1	18
Carolina Wren	9	14	17		12	9	15	36	6	118
House Wren	2									2
Winter Wren		6			1	2	1	2		12
Gold-crowned Kinglet		2	5		2	9	2	1		21
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	2	8			1	3	2	6	3	25
Eastern Bluebird	32	9	23		37	27	12	28	5	173
Hermit Thrush		6			3	4	3	7		30
American Robin	224	279	136		308	24	185	226	256	1,442
Gray Catbird	2	5			2			1		10
Northern Mockingbird	4	9	12		6	5	4	4	11	65
Brown Thrasher		4	1		2		1	2	1	11
European Starling	476	103	20		220	65	120	276	350	1,636
American Pipit					0			1		1
Cedar Waxwing	28	478	18		8	4			50	586
Yellow-rumped Warbler	53	39	13		233	23	76	198	45	580
Pine warbler	4				2	1			1	8
Palm Warbler						1				1
Common Yellowthroat										
Eastern Towhee	5	5	4		8	3	13		3	41
Chipping Sparrow	3	3	4		7		7	13	15	52
Field Sparrow		6				8	4	41		62
Savannah Sparrow	1	4			8	10	6	38		41
Fox Sparrow		2								2
Song Sparrow	6	19	2		2	10	11	40		96
Swamp Sparrow		4	2		4		2	5		17
White-throated Sparrow	12	48	28		107	48	75	107	35	460
Dark-eyed Junco	47	19	33		57	118	58	114	98	544
Northern Cardinal	8	15	19		23	24	13	29	17	149
Red-winged Blackbird	39	150	3		325	24	406	517	16	1,241
Eastern Meadowlark	2	1				13		16		32
Rusty Blackbird		1						11		12
Common Grackle	500	2	7		653		3	2	22	1,189
Brown-headed Cowbird		25	3		42			130	2	202
Purple Finch		1								1
House Finch		12	9		5	21	14	13	17	91
Pine Siskin		1								1
Goldfinch	57	43	23		50	5	8	32	9	227
House Sparrow	1	2	4				3	41	15	66