



The Flyer

Newsletter of the Williamsburg Bird Club

Vol. 33, No. 4

www.williamsburgbirdclub.org

April 2009

President's Corner

By Shirley Devan

If you enjoyed the Audubon Christmas Bird Count in December, then you'll **love** the Bird Club's Spring Bird Count Sunday, April 26. For one thing, the weather is likely to be better than the driving rain we had back on December 21. Also, we'll be looking for the wonderful woodland warblers that are starting to arrive right now.

We're planning to continue our new tradition of convening at the Carrot Tree for the post-count tally. All count participants are invited to join Count Chair Bill Williams and the sector leaders at the Carrot Tree starting at 5 PM with the final accounting beginning no later than 6:00 PM. We enjoyed the Carrot Tree's famous delicacies in December and I'm sure Debi Helseth will have some yummy morsels and cool drinks for those who've spent the day in the field. We'll also need 2-3 volunteers to help clean up!

The Spring Count last year [May 4] with 42 participants tallied 146 species. The all-time high for the Bird Club's Spring Count is 166. Let's get out there and find those birds! More participants means more birds and more species.

Contact Bill Williams (229-1124) to let him know you want to participate and he'll place you with an experienced leader. You can also count the birds you see in your backyard and report them to Bill.

Join in this fun event this year. It's a great opportunity to see some hard-to-find birds and enjoy a birding hot spot in our own backyard!

April Meeting

Club member Bill Williams will present a program about the trip to Ecuador made by some members of our bird club (and others) just a little over a month ago.

Bill is retired from the Williamsburg-James City County Schools, where he served for 31 years as a teacher and the K-12 Science and Mathematics Curriculum Coordinator. He is a founder of the Williamsburg Bird Club and the founder of the Coastal Virginia Wildlife Observatory. He

is a past president of the Virginia Society of Ornithology and a founding member and former president of the Williamsburg Land Conservancy.

Plan to join us on April 15, 2009 at 7:30 PM in Room 117, Millington Hall, on the William and Mary campus. Refreshments will be provided by Kathy Klausner.

April Field Trip

The field trip for April will be to Chickahominy Riverfront Park on Saturday, April 18. Please meet at 7 AM with leader Alex Minarik at the Colony Square Shopping Center on Jamestown Road. There should be some good migrants to be seen.

Conservation and Management Project at Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel South Island

Ruth Beck is requesting your help during the month of April and May. If interested please email Ruth Beck at rabeck@hughes.net or call at 757-870-0318.

Task: Carry out approved management and conservation action plans under the supervision of Ruth Beck, Professor Emeritus of Biology at W&M. Activities will include preparation for the placement of coated fencing on site to prevent newly hatched young common terns, royal terns and black skimmer chicks from running into the road, monitoring and checking the bird colonies on site.

Departure time: 8 AM from Colony Square Shopping Center. Arrive back in Williamsburg approximately 3 PM.

The Williamsburg Spring Bird Count-Sunday, April 26, 2009

By Bill Williams

As much a rite of spring as blooming flowers is the Williamsburg Bird Club's annual Spring Bird Count. This year our full day of counting of birds will occur on Sunday, April 26.

Using the same parameters as the Christmas Bird Count, we will endeavor to send teams to all corners of a 15-mile diameter circle centered at the Colonial Williamsburg

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Wild Birds Unlimited

Don't forget that the Williamsburg Bird Club receives a 5% rebate on the pre-tax amount for everything our members spend at Wild Birds Unlimited in Monticello Marketplace. Of course, you do have to let them know that you are a member.

Welcome New Members

Robert & Polly-Anne Gerstle, Barbara Seelbach, Ninna Snead and Lynn Collins. Welcome back to Jandy & Randy Strickland and Matt McCullough.

Information Center. Each team's goal is to identify and count every bird of as many bird species as possible within the 24-hour period. Teams will be divided among sections leaders, just like those for the Christmas Bird Count. Each section leader will work with team members to establish a plan of action for the day, and will be responsible for reporting the section totals for the count's final tally.

This Spring our count compilation event will be at Carrot Tree Kitchens on Jamestown Road, exactly where we held a comparable event for the Christmas Bird Count. We will assemble at Carrot Tree at 5:00 PM, with the final accounting beginning no later than 6:00 PM. Snacks, goodies, and tea and coffee will be available.

If you are interested in participating in the Spring Bird Count for part of the day or all day, please contact Bill Williams at jwwil2@wm.edu or 229-1124. If you are already part of one of the count section teams please let Bill know. We can never have too many participants, so please join us!

Thanks in advance for being a part of this grand Spring event. The data we collect has significant value for the long term understanding of our bird populations.

Annual Picnic June 7 at Ruth & Sherwin Beck's House

Save the Day: Our Annual Picnic will resume this year. Thankfully, Ruth Beck has recovered quite well, and she and Sherwin will graciously open their Barhamsville home and yard to us Sunday, June 7. Time is 4:00 PM.

You should call Jean Rend at 220-9032 to let her know that you are coming, and discuss what side dish you might contribute to the feast. She'll also have a sign up sheet at the April and May meetings. Look for directions to Ruth's house in the May newsletter. We hope to see you there.

March Bird Sightings

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

Mar 1: Alex Minarik has 6 Wood Ducks visit her yard.

Mar 2: Brian Taber finds a Vesper Sparrow among many sparrows trying to find something to eat along the Parkway after the snow. Alex Minark reports 2 Rusty Blackbirds in her yard.

Mar 3: Alex Minarik reports 4 Fox Sparrows and 4 Rusty Blackbirds in her yard. Tom Armour reports seeing 6 American Pipits and a Fox Sparrow among a group of Chipping Sparrows on the Colonial Parkway near College Creek.

Mar 4: Lois Leeth reports a Rudy-crowned Kinglet made a brief stop in her yard. She also reports 6 Mourning Doves, one Marsh Wren, a Brown Thrasher, Chipping Sparrows, a Yellow-rumped Warbler and her usual chickadees, Tufted Titmouse, White-throated Sparrows, House Finches, goldfinches, cardinals, Blue Jays, grackles, House Sparrows, Song Sparrows and crows.

Mar 8: Fred Blystone goes to Virginia Beach and sees the two **Painted Bunting** that have been visiting a feeder for several months. Joe & Grace Doyle observe their first Osprey of the season at Camp Peary. They also re-

port lots of Eastern Bluebirds, from 20–30 Tundra Swans, a few Mute Swans and Ring-necked Ducks and just one raft of Ruddy Ducks.

Mar 8: During Joe & Grace Doyle's visit to Camp Peary, they have (in addition to the usual birds), Tundra Swans, Wild Turkeys and Meadowlarks.

Mar 9: Tom McCary sees a Northern Bobwhite along Route 5 near Governor's Land.

Mar 12: Dave Lee reports that around 9:30 AM he and Phyllis were on the Colonial Parkway when they saw two separate flocks of Tundra Swans in the lagoon on College Creek in back of the hawk watch. They did a rough count and estimate that the combined total for both flocks was easily over 200.

Mar 13: From Jean Rend—"This morning I saw a group of about 20 Cedar Waxwings ringing a two-tiered bird bath in our back yard drinking water. At one point they seemed to be scared away but they returned as a group less than a minute later."

Mar 13: From Shaun Reams—news from Queens Lake. "Ospreys returned last week to their nesting spot, a channel marker on Queens Creek. We first saw the male on March 4 and the female the following day. It's so exciting to have them back for everyone to enjoy. We also have a pair of herons nesting across the lake from us. It looked like another pair was going to nest in our yard, but decided to move to another area. Just as well, as it was under an area where I garden."

Mar 15: Tom Armour still has Purple Finches coming to his feeder.

Mar 16: Bill Williams had a singing Fox Sparrow and 16 Pine Siskins at Greensprings Greenway Trail. From Tom Armour—"This AM at Treasure Island Road I had 8 Greater Yellowlegs, a kestrel and a Swamp Sparrow. On the James River at the Hawkwatch site—125 Lesser Scaup, 25 Red-breasted Mergansers and 2 Common Loons."

Mar 17: Bill Williams reports he saw 54 Brown Pelicans, 132 Northern Gannets and 3 American Pipits at Yorktown. From Treasure Island Road, Tom Armour sees 7 Common Snipe and 3 Greater Yellowlegs. Linda Scherer reports having 3 Pine Siskins at her finch feeder. She had been hoping to see some all winter and she was glad they finally made it with only 3 days to spare. She also had a Common Grackle gathering nesting material in her front yard.

Mar 18: An **American White Pelican** was seen soaring over Hog Island, across the river from the hawkwatch by Brian

Taber, Bill Williams, Fred Blystone and Shirley Devan. Later in the day, Bill Williams and Fred Blystone visit a home in upper James City County to check on the reported sighting of a **White-winged Dove**. The bird makes two appearances for us. (See story on next page).

Mar 19: Shirley Devan and Alex Minarik have no luck seeing the White-winged Dove but do see a Yellow-throated Warbler at the same location.

Mar 20: From Brian Taber—"At the College Creek Hawkwatch today we recorded our highest daily total in our 13 years...190 birds of 9 species! Fred Blystone, Bill Williams and I were there to watch as the birds struggled to cross the river into a very strong headwind."

Mar 20: Lorena & Peter Walsh send in this note: "Thought members might be interested in a Red-tailed Hawk nest, with young, on the William and Mary campus in an indentation between Millington Hall and the Integrated Science Center adjoining the athletic field. The nest is in the top of a blue-green evergreen just to the left of the Science Center entrance. One or more raucous young were being fed today."

Mar 20: Shirley Devan walked around the short loop at Jamestown Island in the afternoon. Her best experience was on the bridge over the Pitch and Tar Swamp, where a large mixed flock was swarming around overhead in sunshine, gobbling up insects: Cedar Waxwings, Tree Swallows (mostly), Yellow-rumps & Tufted Titmice. She also spotted a lone Royal Tern on the mudflats out in the causeway as she was leaving the island.

Mar 21: Brian Taber reports—from College Creek Hawkwatch that there was a **Northern Goshawk**, apparently a sub-adult, that crossed the river, then circled for 2 minutes, affording excellent views through a scope—only the 3rd record for the hawkwatch.

Mar 22: Kathi Mestayer reports that she and her husband saw a Brown-headed Nuthatch and a pair of Pine Warblers at Jamestown Island.

Mar 24: Tom Armour reports seeing 2 Pectoral Sandpipers in a field beside Treasure Island Road.

Mar 27: Shirley Devan reports that the next box next to her driveway has another Carolina Chickadee nest in it. "After the battle last week between the bluebirds and the chickadees, the chickadees removed all the nesting material from the box. After seeing the birds go in and out of the box, I opened it and was surprised to find an inch of moss—again."

Mar 27: Tom Armour reports a late male Purple Finch at his feeder—first one in a week or so.

Mar 28: Linda Scherer reports a Great Egret in First Colony, in the inlet from the James River. Also, an Eastern Phoebe in the same area.

Mar 28: Ruth Beck has a busy day in her yard—an adult Bald Eagle, an Osprey, 11 Turkey Vultures, 2 Black Vultures, Red-shouldered Hawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, 12 Canada Geese, a Purple Finch, 4 Pine Siskins, a Yellow-throated Warbler, 2 Pine Warblers, 2 Yellow-rumped Warblers, a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, 2 Red-bellied Woodpeckers, 2 Downy Woodpeckers, 1 Hairy Woodpecker and a Ruby-crowned Kinglet. There was also nesting activity by Eastern Phoebe, Brown Thrashers, Northern Cardinals and Carolina Wrens.

Mar 29: Fred Blystone sees 14 Turkeys in a field off Treasure Island Road. Shirley Devan reports: “Two Brown Thrashers perched on the suet feeder. The two have been around for about a week. One has been here all winter. “My” Hermit Thrush is still foraging under the feeder as well.” Bill Williams sees two Northern Shovelers while birding the Green-spring Greenway Trail—the first ones he has seen in over a decade of birding the trail.

Mar 30: While walking in her Season Trace neighborhood, Shirley Devan sees her FOS Blue-gray Gnatcatcher in the same bush with a Yellow-rumped Warbler. (Spring and Winter in the same bush.) Alex Minarik also has her FOS Blue-gray Gnatcatcher in her yard.

Run Up to Ecuador Trip

By Shirley Devan

In March 2008 Bill and Arlene Williams visited Ecuador and Sacha Lodge on the Rio Napo in the Amazon basin for a week. They had such a great trip and were so excited about their adventures in the jungle that they suggested to several local birders/master naturalists that a small group venture to Ecuador and Sacha Lodge in March 2009 “might be fun.”

Bill offered to make all the arrangements and reservations and the group accepted his offer. The group of ten included: Bill and Arlene, Seig and Alice Kopinitz, Felice and Tom Bond, Mike and Susan Powell and their son Alex, and Shirley Devan.

Bill made reservations with Sacha very soon after the Sacha Bugs gelled. All made flight reservations in June 2008 for February 28, 2009 departure and managed to reserve seats on the same flights. Given that the trip was nine months away, folks acquired travel insurance.

Those who had not traveled to tropical environments started getting inoculations for yellow fever, hepatitis A and

tetanus, and starting filling prescriptions for anti-malaria pills and anti-Montezuma’s revenge.

The wait for February 28 was punctuated with **shopping**: new clothes, cameras, lenses, binoculars, shoes, boots, long pants, hats. The only excuse: “I need it for Ecuador!”

As February approached, the group assembled at the home of Tom and Felice Bond for a final briefing and Q&A. Yes, it was safe to swim in the lake at Sacha—the piranha do not bite. No, do not drink the water, but plenty of safe water is available for free. Yes, the food is delicious. No, there is no air conditioning.

D-day (departure day) arrived February 28 and the group escaped to Miami and Quito, Ecuador just hours before the area’s only major snow storm of the winter descended on Richmond and Williamsburg. While folks at home had 4 inches of snow and ice, the Sacha Bugs were floating down the Rio Napo toward the Sacha Lodge Amazon wonderland for a five day visit.

Our Newest Bird Species-White-winged Dove

By Bill Williams

Carol Stephens’ and Bill Fortner’s compact Chickahominy Haven backyard plays host to a remarkable diversity of bird species. In an effort to create an entertainment center for their indoor cat, Brit, Carol and Bill established a series of bird feeding stations just outside their kitchen table window. Brit sits on the table on her small blanket for hours enthralled by the dozens of birds that come and go dawn till dark. Just before Christmas Carol noted an unusual warbler attending one of the suet feeders. Mentioning the warbler to Val and George Copping, our great Wild Birds Unlimited colleagues, eventually led Carol to contact the Bird Club. Pictures of the visitor confirmed the bird was a Yellow-throated Warbler (*Dendroica dominica*). The Virginia Society of Ornithology’s *2007 Virginia’s Birdlife: An Annotated Checklist*, tells us that there are four Coastal Plain winter records, one of which was from Williamsburg 12-16 1986. So having one at their home all winter was quite exceptional.

Our communications with Carol and Bill about the Yellow-throated Warbler were exciting enough, but it was their mid-March e-mails, accompanied by a blurry but identifiable photo of a dove with white on its wings that really got our feathers flapping. The very skittish bird had showed up at their feeders in late February and had all the right clues going for it to be the area’s newest documented bird species.

Fred Blystone and I visited Carol and Bill’s home on the afternoon of 18 March in hopes we could see the bird

and get some additional photos. Our hosts were just terrific! They insisted we sit at Brit's table to wait for the dove, assuring us it would be there soon. We waited with a justified measure of anxiety. There are only about fifteen records for White-winged Dove for the entire state, all but one of which have been from the Coastal Plain; one was in Chesterfield County in the Piedmont in November 2002. For virtually all of those sightings, the birds have proven to be frustratingly ephemeral, present for only a brief view or at most only a few days. Nonetheless, the passing time was most enjoyable. So many birds! Mourning Doves, a Brown Thrasher, a Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Pine Siskins, Red-winged Blackbirds, Brown-headed Cowbirds, Common Grackles, White-throated Sparrows and even a Fox Sparrow came and went.

Then suddenly, landing just to our right, there it was—a White-winged Dove!! Fred was quick on the draw and got a great picture of it sitting on the bird bath. And just as quickly as it had arrived the dove was gone. Another hour passed before it returned sometime between 5:00 and 5:30 PM. This time it lingered a bit longer before exiting to sit quietly in a nearby tree. That was the last time the bird was seen.....by anyone!



Photo by Fred Blystone

Not only does this visitor constitute a new species for the local area, it also establishes Virginia's first winter record for White-winged Dove.

White-winged Doves are not rare by any means. The species is common to abundant in the southwestern states. In recent years it has expanded its breeding range eastward into southern North Carolina.

Once again a bird, this one more than special, provided the opportunity for folks to meet and share. Thanks so much to Carol and Bill. Who knows what our birds will bring us next. How grand all around! Lister's blisters!

Bird Nesting Data Needed

By Bill Williams

At the March Bird Club meeting more than a few folks mentioned seeing birds beginning to build nests. The club's long term data records are sadly lacking when it comes to this kind of information. If you see birds nest building, incubating, feeding young, carrying fecal sacs, or any other behaviors you know are associated with breeding PLEASE send that information to Bill Williams (jwwil2@wm.edu or 229-1124). Include the species name, the date, location, and as much evidence of breeding activities as you can. Someone please find a Mallard nest. Believe it or not we have almost no data to show that Rock Pigeons, European Starlings, or House Sparrows nest here! Many thanks in advance.

Ticks on Birds

By Shirley Devan

March 25: Martha Briggs and Robert Beale report to me that they are finding a large number of small feeder birds with "blood ticks" on their eyes and faces at Martha's farm in Southampton County. The birds include goldfinches, Purple Finches, House Finches, juncos, and Pine Siskins. They have a large feeding station near the farm house and they put out 45–60 lbs of thistle seed a week for the birds. They also have regular seed feeders with black oil sunflower seeds, plus they make their own suet. They are finding dead birds with ticks around the face. Many birds are so lethargic that they can capture them, examine them, and remove the tick. At their largest, the ticks are about the size of a pencil eraser and are filled with blood.

They wanted to know if anyone else in the Bird Club is seeing this same phenomenon.

I did some research on the web and learned that these tick epidemics are on a three-year cycle. The last cycle was the winter of 2005-2006. Here it is three years later and Martha's birds have ticks right on schedule. Martha and Robert are observing a phenomenon known as "tick paralysis," in which some unknown substance in the saliva of a female tick can have debilitating effect on a host bird

The article "An Epidemic of Bird Ticks" quotes the research done by Gary Mullen, Renee Anderson, and Paul Nolan which describes the Bird Tick (*Ixodes brunneus*). It is different from the dog tick and the deer tick. If you want to learn

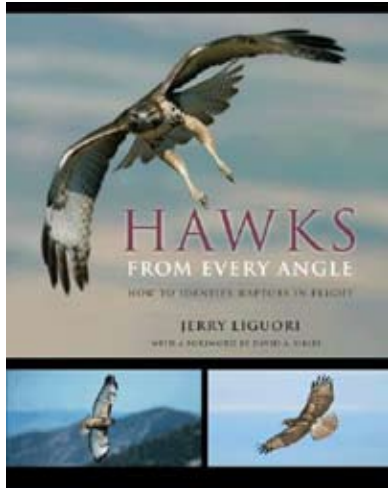
more, go to their article “*Highlights of Agricultural Research*, Volume 46, Number 4, Winter 1999 at Auburn University’s web site: <http://www.ag.auburn.edu/aaes/communications/highlights/winter99/wildbirds.html>

Even more information is at: <http://www.hiltonpond.org/ThisWeek060115.html> which describes “tick paralysis,” exactly what Martha and Robert are observing in their lethargic birds. As always, caution should be used when removing ticks from birds or other animals. Check the web link for more information if you’re really interested in the graphic details and photos (!) of Bird Ticks.

If anyone observes the bird tick phenomenon, please let me know: sedevan52@cox.net or 757-813-1322.

Williamsburg Bird Club Book Review

By Jeanette Navia



Hawks from Every Angle: How to Identify Raptors in Flight. By Jerry Liguori, Foreword by David Sibley. Princeton University Press, 2005. ISBN: 9780691118253. \$19.95. pbk. 129 p. Williamsburg Library call number 598.944 LIG.

From mid-February through May each year, WBC members Brian

Taber, Tom Armour, Fred Blystone, Bill Williams and others watch the skies above the James River off the Colonial Parkway. They are counting migrating hawks and similar species as the birds fly north. This year is the 13th annual College Creek Hawkwatch.

Can you tell one hawk from another as they soar a quarter mile overhead? I certainly can't. The book I've got checked out of the library should help. While most bird guides describe in a few paragraphs the characteristics of the various accipiters, buteos, and the Northern Harrier (which is neither accipiter nor buteo as it belongs to the genus *Circus*), *Hawks from Every Angle* devotes several pages to each species.

As the title suggests, photos of the birds are shown from many different angles. Photos show the birds in good light and bad, from below and above, wing-on and flying away. Drawings of similar birds as seen from the same angle are shown next to each other, making it easy to compare shapes.

The text discusses flight styles, wing beat patterns and relative sizes of the birds as well as plumage, noting differences

between juveniles and adults, male and female, and different morphs of the same species where appropriate.

Common pitfalls in telling species apart are mentioned: “Cooper’s Hawks and Northern Goshawks normally display deliberate wing beats, but during courtship they display deep, lazy wing beats similar to those of Northern Harriers.” “The white uppertail coverts, or ‘rump patch,’ on Northern Harriers can be confused with similar field marks of other birds. ... However, the ‘rump patch’ of Northern Harriers is gleaming white, broad and cut squarely across the base of the tail. The pale uppertail coverts on Swainson’s and Red-tailed Hawks are less brilliant and form a narrow U shape across the base of the tail.”

Migration patterns are discussed: “Buteos typically do not migrate during days of light drizzle or poor weather, but they can be seen in large groups, called ‘kettles,’ during ideal conditions.” “Red-shouldered Hawks exhibit a distinct peak time period during spring and fall migration... Late March to early April is the peak time to see spring migrants.”

In addition to hawks, there are sections on falcons, vultures, osprey and eagles. The book includes a glossary, drawings of hawk anatomy, lists of migration sites (Kiptopeke is listed in the Fall list), and a timetable of raptor migration.

The author, Jerry Liguori, is considered an expert in hawk identification, and has been photographing hawks for twenty years. While I’m not as familiar with hawks as others in our Club, to me this seems to be an excellent, detailed book for hawk watchers of all experience levels.

WBC March Walks & Field Trip

Four hardy, hearty birders arrived at 8 am at New Quarter Park Saturday morning, March 14 in a cold drizzle. Leader Tom McCary, along with Joe Piotrowski, Margaret Ware, and Shirley Devan pressed on to the floating dock at Queen’s Creek and were rewarded with stunning views of 9 Red-breasted Mergansers. The mergansers were first spotted near the creek’s entrance to the river and everyone waited as they made their way up the creek to the marina. When they were directly opposite the dock, everyone abandoned the scope and binoculars and simply enjoyed watching them at close range as they feasted on what appeared to be a school of fish they were following. A Great Egret flew in to partake of the buffet. At the same time, Osprey were screaming overhead, flying back and forth. One had a fish; one Osprey was tending the nest platform at the other end of the marina.

There were 20 species seen between 8 and 9. Despite handwarmers, everyone decided the day was better spent inside projects with a warm beverage nearby. (There were no pictures taken during this walk.)

Eighteen members of the club convened at Shirley Plantation for the March 21 field trip. They were treated to a guided tour of several ponds and impoundments by one of the owners and a Carter family descendent, Randy Carter. Tom McCary, bird club member and Visitor Guide at Shirley Plantation, led the group around the plantation grounds and formal gardens. Director Janet Appel also joined the group and answered numerous questions about the property and the activities on the plantation.

Randy Carter led the group to several “water” spots on the plantation where everyone enjoyed great looks at waterfowl, Bald Eagles and Osprey. The target birds for the day—White-crowned Sparrows and Common Mergansers—were both found. There were a total of 53 species seen during the field trip.



Photo by Shirley Devan

Left to right: Cathy Millar, Ann Carpenter, Barbara Seelbach, Gary Carpenter, Bill Williams, Alex Minarik, Tom McCary, Mary Anne Fennell.

Four club members joined leader Bill Williams for the March 28 walk in New Quarter Park. The weather might have kept the number of birders down, but it had the Clapper Rails excited—there were 7 heard (but unfortunately none seen). Tree and Northern Rough-winged Swallows and Yellow-throated Warblers were new for the year.



Photo by Shirley Devan

Left to right: Joe Piotrowski, Margaret Ware, Shirley Devan, Bill Williams and Jeanette Navia.



Beth Morgan took this picture in her backyard of this immature (very wet and bedraggled) Red-tailed Hawk.



This picture of a Fox Sparrow was taken in Carol Stephens' and Bill Fortner's backyard by Shirley Devan.



Randy Coleman sent in this picture his wife April took of one of the Baltimore Orioles visiting their yard.

CALENDAR

Thursday, April 9	HRBC Monthly Meeting, 7 pm, Sandy Bottom Nature Park in Hampton, Mark Adams will talk about his Birding Big Year in Texas.
Saturday, April 11	WBC Bird Walk, New Quarter Park, 8 AM, Susan Powell, Leader **
Wednesday, April 15	WBC Monthly Meeting, 7:30 PM, Millington Hall, Bill Williams will speak about recent birding trip to Ecuador (see front page)
Saturday, April 18	WBC Field Trip to Chickahominy Riverfront Park, 7 AM, Alex Minarik, Leader. (see front page)
Saturday, April 18	HRBC Field Trip to the Great Dismal Swamp, contact Jane Frigo at 873-0721 or birderjane@gmail.com for further information
Sunday, April 19	HRBC Bird Walk, Newport News Park, 7 AM, Jane Frigo, Leader
Saturday, April 25	WBC Bird Walk, New Quarter Park, 7 AM, Bill Williams, Leader **
Saturday, April 25	HRBC Spring Bird Count, Contact Clark White at 875-7649 or cwbirds@cox.net for further information
Sunday, April 26	WBC Spring Bird Count—see article that starts on front page.

** Meet in overflow parking lot located on the right side of the road not far past the entrance gate.

April 15—Bill Williams will talk about recent birding trip to Ecuador

April 26—WBC Spring Bird Count