



The Flyer

Newsletter of the Williamsburg Bird Club

Vol. 33, No. 11

www.williamsburgbirdclub.org

December 2010



President's Corner

By Shirley Devan

I'm writing this on Thanksgiving weekend and thinking back to 2010 and how thankful I am for all the volunteers who work to make our Bird Club so successful.

First of all, the Board deserves a **Big Thanks** for the work they do all year long to give you programs, newsletters, updated web sites, minutes, email blasts, and Club admin. I am grateful for the service of Alice Kopinitz as Secretary and Chuck Litterst as Member-at-Large in 2010. In 2011, Jennifer Boag and Ann Carpenter will join the Board as Secretary and Member-at-Large, respectively. Thanks to Jennifer and Ann as well as the rest of the Board who will serve next year: Joe Piotrowski, Fred Blystone, Charles Rend, and Jeanette Navia. I look forward to working with all of you.

Keep in mind the other great volunteers who lead our bird walks, field trips, committees, and bird counts; present programs; bring refreshments to our Club meetings; pick up highway litter; write articles for our newsletters; submit bird sightings; and come out for our events. You all know who you are! Give yourself a pat on the back. Then give these folks a big "thanks" when you see them next! They all make our Club so much fun to be a part of. Have a great holiday!

2011 Officers

The following members were elected to the WBC board starting January 1, 2011.

President—Shirley Devan

Vice President-Programs—Joe Piotrowski

Vice President-Editor of The Flyer—Fred Blystone

Secretary—Jennifer Boag

Treasurer—Charles Rend

Member-at-Large—Ann Carpenter and Jeanette Navia

New Year's Day Boardwalk Bird Show

By Shirley Devan

Join me New Year's Day, (Saturday, January 1, 2011) at the Greensprings Trail Boardwalk for the Sixth Annual "New Year's Day Boardwalk Bird Show."

We'll meet on the "old" boardwalk over the old beaver pond from 1–3 PM (not the Virginia Capitol Trail boardwalk.) Park at the parking lot at the end of Eagle Way, beyond Jamestown High School.

Come as you are; bring visiting family, friends and children; come early, stay late or just drop by. Celebrate the New Year with a birding adventure close to home. Remember—every bird is a year bird on New Year's Day. Hope to see you there.

The 2010 Christmas Bird Count

By Bill Williams

Please hang a stocking-stuffer reminder on your calendar for Sunday, December 19, 2010 to remind yourself that this is the day of the 34th annual Williamsburg Christmas Bird Count. We hope everyone will find some time during that day to be a part of this very valuable endeavor. The Christmas Bird Count was initiated in 1900 as a counterplay to a former holiday tradition of seeing how much game could be taken during that season. Rather than removing wildlife, the bird count effort seeks to document the diversity and abundance of birdlife in a defined area. Each count encompasses a 15-mile diameter circle, in our case one that is centered at the Colonial Williamsburg Information Center. The goal for the day is to have as many observers as possible counting every bird of every species within 7.5 miles of the count center. The data are compiled and submitted to the National Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count website, where it becomes part of an international database of winter bird populations, not only in North America but Central and South America too. These data have rapidly become one of the standards by which wintering bird population trends and distributions are assessed over time.

This year we are in particular need of observers for the Kingsmill section of the count circle!!!!

Whether you can join us for an hour or so or the whole day on December 19th, your contribution will be exceed-

Officers

President	813-1322
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Vice-President (The Flyer)	229-4346
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Treasurer	220-9032
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Alice Kopinitz	<i>askop4@cox.net</i>
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Chuck Litterst	<i>clitterst@aol.com</i>
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Past President	259-9559
Bob Long	

Committee Chairpersons

Field Trips	564-4542
Susan Powell	<i>smapowell@cox.net</i>
Records & Bird Counts	229-1124
Bill Williams	<i>juwil2@wm.edu</i>
Library Liaison	565-6148
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Refreshments	565-0250
Barb Streb	<i>gandbstreb@verizon.net</i>
Membership/Webmaster	565-2597
Jeanette Navia	<i>jnavia@gmail.com</i>
Adopt-A-Highway	566-2615
John Fennell	<i>mafjff07@netzero.net</i>
Historian	Open

Summary of Bird Data

The latest version of Bill Williams' *Summary of Local Bird Data through 2009: Williamsburg, James City County, York County, Hog Island WMA, Surry County* can be downloaded from our club's website.

Wild Birds Unlimited

Don't forget that the WBC 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.

ingly valuable. The success of the count is based on the numbers of species and how many birds can be found. This includes the common yard and feeder birds, even Rock Pigeons, European Starlings, and House Sparrows!! With that in mind we hope you will choose to join one of the field teams and/or participate from or near your home. All we ask is that you keep track of how much time that day you devote and, if applicable, how many miles you travel during your birding excursions that day.

Each participant will be asked to make a \$5.00 contribution to the National Audubon Society to help defray its costs for coordinating and compiling the vast amount of information generated through this effort.

The count day will conclude with a 5:00 PM compilation to be held at Carrot Tree Kitchens on Jamestown Road. This compilation arrangement is the third for our venerable count, a tradition we hope will encourage more participation. Brunswick stew, mulled cider, and rolls will be warm and ready for consumption by count participants. Carrot Tree will close for business that day at 4:00 PM. Therefore, count participants are asked to park behind the restaurant so that there is no appearance the business is still open.

If you plan to participate in the count please contact Bill Williams at juwil2@wm.edu or call 229-1124. Please let Bill know in advance if you also plan to be at the tally. This will help determine how much food needs to be prepared. Tally HO!!

WBC Offers Two Bill Williams Nature Camp Scholarships. Deadline January 15, 2011

The Williamsburg Bird Club requests applications from Williamsburg, James City County, and York County students in grades 5 to 12 for the Bill Williams Nature Camp Scholarships, two full tuition (\$700) scholarships for a two week summer camp program in 2011 at the Nature Camp in Vesuvius, Virginia.

The deadline for applications is January 15, 2011. The Williamsburg Bird Club will contact the students who earn the scholarships in early February 2011.

Complete information and application is available on our club website at www.williamsburgbirdclub.org.

November 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!

Oct. 31: Tom and Jeanne Armour saw 15 Ruddy Ducks and 1 male Bufflehead on the York River—first for them this fall.

Nov. 5: From Lois Leeth in Florida: "I can always predict the weather by watching the shore birds—20 Least Terns gathered in a group near the edge of the Metanzas Inlet—plus 25 Brown Pelicans close by—5 Ruddy Turn-

stones—6 Sanderlings—I Great White Egret—8 Snowy Egrets—and Molly—the Sharp-shinned Hawk who waits for me each day on her favorite telephone line—I am sure the fishing is better near the small ponds and lakes—Water level is extremely low in this area—I hope all my bird friends in Williamsburg enjoy a pleasant Thanksgiving.”

Nov. 12: Jeanette Navia has the first Red-breasted Nuthatch she has ever noticed at her feeder.

Nov. 13: Kathi Mestayer reports seeing at least 50 Rusty Blackbirds on the Greensprings Nature Trail.

Nov. 18: Among the 69 species of birds seen by Bill Williams, Shirley Devan, Alex Minarik and Brian Taber were **1 Eurasian Wigeon** and **10 Cave Swallows**.

Nov. 22: At Freedom Park, Shirley Devan walked to the Colby Swamp. The walk was done in the late morning and things were fairly quiet. She saw 8 species, including a Red-shouldered Hawk, a Pileated Woodpecker and a Ruby-crowned Kinglet.

Nov. 27: After the walk at New Quarter Park, Shirley Devan headed down the Colonial Parkway to Yorktown. She stopped at Felgates Creek and Indian Fields Creek and walked over to the river shoreline as the tide was coming in. Her most interesting sighting was six Brown Pelicans actively diving/feeding in a concentrated area in the York River.

Nov. 28: Carol O'Neil has an adult male Baltimore Oriole show at her sunflower ship feeder—bird was seen again and photographed by Carol on the 30th.



Nov. 29: Among the 75 species at Craney Island, Shirley Devan, Bill Williams, Alex Minarik and Brian Taber saw **1 Eurasian Widgeon**, **1 Cave Swallow** and **19 Snow Buntings**.

Nov. 30: Bill Williams, Shirley Devan and Alex Minarik drove to Chester and saw the **Allen's Hummingbird** that has been coming to a feeder. Only the third record for Virginia.



Bon Appetit! By Geoff Giles

Recently I spent another pleasant morning at Kiptopeke State Park watching the Songbird Banding and Hawk Count and Hawk Banding projects in progress. At the songbird station action was hectic, with fall migration dumping hundreds of Yellow-rumped Warblers and sizeable numbers of birds I rarely see, such as Black-throated Blue Warblers, into the impressive mix of birds being lovingly weighed, measured, banded and released. I had the personal delight of being allowed to hold and release one of the birds I have seen only rarely but admired, a Yellow-breasted Chat.

As always, the staff and volunteers at the songbird station were more than busy, but cheerful, friendly and unsparring with their insights on the birds we all love. A highlight was having several woodcocks, a bird I had never seen previously let alone at a distance of three feet, come in among the morning's catch in the mist nets. Among the few visitors like myself was a delightful couple from Buck's County, Pennsylvania. They were quite enthusiastic and very knowledgeable, and shared a great deal of good background info on best ways to visit places like Hawk Mountain and Cape May, New Jersey, as they had done for years. Both spoke French fluently, the husband, Gerard, having come from France to the U.S. at the age of 21.

Gerard retains such a strong French accent that I had to listen carefully to decipher some of his English.

Later I went to the Hawk Watch platform, and Gerard and his wife were already there. They proved knowledgeable of raptors in flight, and we were all treated to a good morning of peregrines, Merlins, kestrels, sharp-shinned, Coopers, eagles, broad-winged, red-tailed and many more, some heading south and some descending around us to search for meals before continuing migration. It was a beautiful breezy morning, with just enough clouds to bring the raptors down low enough for spectacular viewing and photography. I enjoyed this with Gerard and his wife, chatting between flyovers in French about birds, here and there.

At one point a large flock of starlings passed nearby, and I remarked to Gerard that they are a “gift” from Europe and that some would say that they have become too much of a good thing. Particularly in urban areas they have worn out their welcome by becoming too numerous and too feisty. Gerard noted that the French do not have this problem. I asked for him to share the French secret for keeping the starlings under control, and he looked at me with astonishment and said that the explanation is very simple—“Zay arr dee-lee-shiuss!”

Before returning that afternoon I drove north a ways along Route 13 on the Eastern Shore, noticing that hawks and falcons were occasionally to be seen on wires and trees along the way. At one point on the horizon I saw a huge flock of black birds rise together, almost darkening one part of the sky, and when I came closer I saw that the flock had split into several dense smaller clusters which were moving in different directions while staying not too far from the main flock. As I drove under the birds I could see why, as a few forms of hawks were recognizable moving among the clusters of black birds. This was an amazing scene, so I quickly pulled into a side road and turned around to position my car to watch the action.

When I was parked and looked up I was disappointed to see that the sky had cleared of birds, but then I noticed one amorphous and struggling mass of feathers sinking slowly above me. It seemed to be fighting against gravity but losing. It was flapping laboriously but slowly sinking towards a large tree. I could not distinguish the

form at first, but finally I could make out wings and the torso of a hawk, clutching the lifeless form of a large, limp mass of black feathers with the talons on both of its feet. It was now apparent that after a successful hunt this sharpie was struggling to steer his descent to get his prey to a convenient branch to make a meal of it. As I watched I could not help remembering Gerard’s words. I mused to myself that undoubtedly 55 million Frenchmen, and heaven knows how many accipters, can’t be wrong about the good qualities of the European Starling!!

BIRDING THE BORDER

By Mitchell Byrd

Alex Minarik recently reported on her trip to Southeastern Arizona in March. Although I had made three birding trips to Southeastern Arizona before, these trips have been in early or late spring. I decided to take an eight-day trip there in August. One might well question the sanity of anyone going to Arizona in August. Actually, this is an excellent time to be there for birding as the moist air from the west coast of Mexico arrives and creates the summer thunderstorms. These cooling rains, of which there were several, bring the desert flora into full bloom. These rains also bring on the onset of singing and breeding for some species such as Botteri's and Cassin's sparrows. It also usually is the time to see some of the Mexican vagrants as they move north. Unfortunately most of the night birds have completed their nesting and were much more difficult to locate. We did manage to find five species of owls.

The large block-fault mountains of Southeast Arizona rise above the Sonoran desert and create habitats which harbor an unusual number of species of birds. Late summer is also the period when the greatest number of hummingbird species appears in Southeast Arizona. A hummingbird species was actually the reason for what will probably be my last trip to that area. I had seen all of the North American breeding hummingbird species except the berylline. This Mexican species has now begun to breed rarely in Arizona.

Our group of six arrived at the Tucson airport at noon, checked into a motel, and headed to the Tucson Mountain Park. There we saw all of the expected species including Gambrel's Quail, white-winged dove, black chinned hummingbird, gila woodpecker, brown-crested flycatcher, cactus wren, black-tailed gnatcatcher and many others. Unexpected was a barn owl on a day perch. The barn owl population there is a much deeper brown than the one in Virginia.

On the second day we headed for the Chiricahua Mountains where we spent the next three nights in Portal. We

passed a wetland with dozens of Wilson's phalaropes, Baird's sandpipers, American avocet, and numerous other wetland species. The next two full days were spent birding in the Chiricahuas. We saw six species of hummingbirds, including white-eared, which is not a common bird in Arizona, usually described as a rare visitor. We had excellent views of elegant trogon and a number of sulfur-bellied flycatchers, a specialty of this region and a species that extends down into Middle America. Several Arizona woodpeckers (formerly Strickland's woodpecker) were seen.

We also saw several nice males of the enigmatic olive warbler. The taxonomic position of this bird has long been questioned, but traditionally it has been placed in the Parulidae with the other warblers. In recent years a large assemblage of avian families were merged into a large Family Fringillidae. Within this new family, the new world warblers were placed in a tribe, Parulini within the subfamily Emberizinae. The above mentioned olive warbler was placed in a monotypic Family Peucedramidae. Somewhat later, this arrangement was broken down and New World warblers again achieved Family status as the Parulidae with the olive warbler retaining its family status. It seems obvious that taxonomists need something to stay busy. My advice would be to forget the taxonomy and just go to Arizona to see the lovely little bird.

Two nights of owling produced only Western screech owl and whiskered screech owls. A large western diamond-backed rattlesnake was an unexpected addition to the list. In these last two days we saw 75 species in the Chiricahuas. Everywhere we stopped when there were hummingbird feeders we spent time observing but no berylline hummingbird.

We next headed for the Huachuca Mountains where we spent the first afternoon doing a long hike up Miller Canyon to search for a pair of the Mexican race of the spotted owl. We got to the reported location and immediately found the birds, observing them from about 100 feet. The Mexican race of the species appears to be doing well but the northern race in the United States has been reported as decreasing about 2.5 to 3 percent per year, possibly through habitat loss and competition with barred owls. We had even better looks at elegant trogons as well as several individuals of the lovely little buff-breasted flycatcher, including a pair feeding young at a nest. In California Gulch we saw the uncommon five-striped sparrow.

We spent the remainder of our time in the Sierra Vista-Patagonia-Nogales area where we added a number of species to our list. On our last afternoon in the area, we stopped at the home of a couple who had a number of hummingbird feeders

in their yard. The place was literally alive with hummingbirds of several species. Just as we were leaving, a lovely berylline hummingbird flew in and fed for quite a period of time.

It was a great trip with rather pleasant weather. I finally saw the one life bird I was looking for and we had a total of 180 species of birds, nine species of mammals, and various reptiles.

Virginia Important Bird Areas (IBA) Program 2010 Update

During this past year, the Virginia Important Bird Areas (IBA) Program of the National Audubon Society has been busy in forwarding our mission of engaging people for bird conservation in the Commonwealth's most critical habitats for breeding, migrating and wintering birds. The following are some exciting highlights of this past year's events and accomplishments:

- Helped to protect the 125 acre Blair's Wharf in the James River National Wildlife Refuge located within the Lower James River IBA;
- Coordinated and conducted the first survey of the Central Piedmont IBA, focusing on the protected areas;
- Expanded our Adopt-an-IBA Program to include eight bird conservation groups throughout Virginia;
- Partnered with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation to train birders from 5 Audubon Chapters and the Coastal Virginia Wildlife Observatory to identify and report Phragmites invasions throughout Virginia using an online conservation tool called LandScope—the valuable information collected will help DCR staff to ground-truth their own data and identify new stands of Phragmites to eliminate, thus preserving natural marsh habitats;
- Began a partnership with the Virginia Living Museum to conduct five TogetherGreen volunteer events, thus raising awareness for Audubon and bird habitat conservation;
- Worked with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries to monitor coveys of Northern Bobwhite quail, a declining species of Global Conservation Concern;
- With partners at Richmond Audubon Society and Virginia Commonwealth University we have initiated a project called Team Warbler, an international alliance between the research and school communities of Richmond and Panama City that will engage academic communities at the college, elementary and middle school levels. Team Warbler focuses on the breeding and wintering habitat of the Prothonotary Warbler.

From the Powell and Stone Mountains IBA in the southwest to the Barrier Island Lagoon System IBA on the Eastern Shore, Virginia's 20 IBAs all face a large variety of threats and challenges. We would thus like to extend thanks to our donors, volunteers, adoption groups and to our public, private and non-profit partners in conservation for their help and support in furthering our mutual mission for bird conservation throughout the Commonwealth. We could not do it without you and thus ask for your continued support heading into 2011. Thank you!

Bird Walk at Shirley Plantation

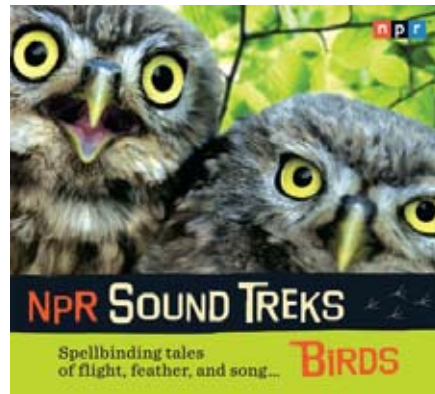


Tom McCary and Randy Carter will lead a bird walk around Shirley Plantation starting at 8:30 AM on December 12. This is a wonderful place to bird and includes a number of different habitats. Normally you

will find a nice variety of duck species and it's also a good place to look for White-crowned Sparrows. In addition to this birding opportunity, from December 1 to January 6, visitors to Shirley Plantation can enjoy guided tours of the Great House featuring family Christmas stories dating back to the 1700s. Please call 1-800-232-1613 for reservations for the bird walk (**cost to members of the Williamsburg Bird Club is \$5.00**) and to check on tours of the Great House.

Williamsburg Bird Club Book Review

By Jeanette Navia



NPR Sound Treks: Spellbinding tales of flight, feather and song—Birds. A compact disc produced by National Public Radio Free Press, 2010. ISBN 9781615730605. 1 disc, 1 hour. \$14.95. Williamsburg Library call number 791.44 NPR.

NPR has compiled some of their best bird-related stories on this hour-long CD. It starts with licensed bird rehabilitator Julie Zickafoose's story of reuniting a newly-fledged baby Carolina wren with its mother and ends with another Zickafoose story, one about four Ruby-throated Hummingbirds she had rescued which stayed with her all summer long after she released them. There are 17 fascinating pieces varying from about 2 to 8 minutes long.

My favorites include "Bird Watching," which recounts an embarrassing gaffe committed by author and birder Bill Harvey after he had driven four hours to see "thousands and thousands and thousands and thousands" of Sandhill Cranes and Snow Geese who had stopped by a wildlife preserve in New Mexico during their migration. Also, I enjoyed the story about how female Antbirds try to keep their mates in line when the mate starts to flirt with another female.

Several tracks are recordings of the birds in the wild, with comments about the birds and the birds' behavior. These include recordings of Storm Petrels in Alaska, the Lyrebird and the laughing Kookaburra in Australia, the Bare-throated Tiger Heron in Guatemala, and Manx Shearwaters in Great Blasket Island off the west coast of Ireland.

Full contents include:

- Connecting with Wrens (With Help From an iPod)
- Storm Petrels Fill the Air
- The Music of Wild Birds
- New York Birders Make Winter Rounds
- Bird Watching
- Proud Lyrebird Steps Up to the Microphone

- Song of the Antbird Reveals Avian Adultery
- The Magic Hedge: Haven for a Lost Bird in Chicago
- The Laughing Kookaburra
- Colorful Hua Mei Birds Put Pigeons to Shame
- Figuring Out Cuckoos
- A Bird with a Catlike Name – and Sound
- Purple Martins Make a Comeback in Chicago
- How Birds Can Capture a Kid's Imagination
- A Colony of Screechers and Wailers
- The Joy of Breeding Pigeons
- My Hummingbird Summer

This is a delightful CD, and would make a nice gift for a birdwatcher on your list.

The WBC donated this CD to the library.

Rusty Blackbird Blitz Jan 29-Feb 13

Please mark your calendars for the third and final Rusty Blackbird Winter Blitz, a citizen-science effort to document locations of this rapidly declining species across its wintering range. The Blitz will take place Jan 29–Feb 13, 2011. During this time volunteers will search for Rusty Blackbirds in likely habitats across Virginia and enter their observations into VA eBird. This final year of data collection will round out the effort of the first two years—we hope to expand coverage of the 2009 and 2010 Blitzes, locate additional sites occupied by Rusty Blackbirds, and collect data on the stability of these sites across years. In 2010 Virginia ranked third among states in the number of Rusty Blackbird sightings reported. Your efforts in the Blitz are critical to generating information for Virginia, which will represent our state's contribution to the rangewide assessment of the bird's wintering status.

This project of the Smithsonian's International Rusty Blackbird Technical Working Group is being brought to you here in Virginia by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, the Virginia Society of Ornithology, the Coastal Virginia Wildlife Observatory and the Virginia Important Bird Areas Program. You can find more information on the Blitz and on the status, distribution and ecology of the Rusty Blackbird in Virginia, as well as links to results of the 2010 Blitz, at <http://www.vabci.org/rusty-blackbird.asp>. Feel free to contact me, the Blitz coordinator for VA, with any questions.

Sergio Harding, Nongame Bird Conservation Biologist
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Kiptopeke Video

By Brian Taber

In keeping the educational aspect of our mission, Coastal Virginia Wildlife Observatory has completed a video, called *Kiptopeke: a Story of Bird Research*, which was done to give free, as a DVD, to schools, bird clubs and other interested organizations. The first DVD copy was sent to the Virginia Society of Ornithology because of their role with the songbird station since the beginning. Since we began work on it, the technology has greatly improved for on-line viewing, through resources such as "You Tube," so the 6 1/2 minute video about songbird and hawk migration is now also available on the Home Page of our website at www.cvwo.org.

Photos from Members and Friends



Shirley Devan took this picture of a nest in Freedom Park.



Photo taken by Jeanette Navia during the field trip to Little Creek Reservoir Park on November 20th.



Four photos taken by Inge Curtis during the Little Creek Reservoir Park field trip.



WBC November Walks

Complete lists of species seen on each walk are on the club website www.williamsburgbirdclub.org.



Photo by Jeanette Navia

Susan Powell led the November 13th walk at New Quarter Park. She wrote "We had a very nice morning birding at the park. The fall foliage was exquisite. We were treated to a rather loud call of a Clapper Rail. He was very close, but wouldn't let us see him. We were also treated to a flyover by an adult Bald Eagle." A total of 25 species were seen.

In addition to Susan, the participants were Mike Powell, Jean Balutanski, Mona Overturf, Nelson Ensley, Helen and Larry Cardman, Jan Lockwood, Jeanette Navia, Adrienne Frank, Gary Driscole, Joanne Andrews, Margaret Ware, Cherie Aukland and Cynthia & Bob Long.

Fifteen birders joined leader Lee Schuster on the Little Creek Reservoir Park on the November 20th field trip. Highlights were Brown Creepers, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Hermit Thrushes, Bald Eagles, and Northern Harrier. There were 22 species of birds seen during the walk.

Seated: Sara Lewis, Cathy Millar, Dorothy Whitfield, Lee Schuster.

Standing: Inge Curtis, Jeanette Navia, Jan Lockwood, Stanley Stalmaker, Richard Smith, Barbara Smith and Geoff Giles.

Missing from photo: Shirley Devan, Tory Gussman, Betty Peterson, Sharon Plocher and Jennifer Trevino.



Photo by Shirley Devan

On a clear, calm November 27th morning, Bill Williams led 15 other birders on the walk at New Quarter Park. A total of 28 species were identified, including 3 Clapper Rails.

Front Row: Shirley Devan, George Boyles, Virginia Boyles, Bob Long, Cynthia Long and Sara Lewis.

Rear Row: Nelson Ensley, Jan Lockwood, Bill Williams, Geoff Giles, Stanley Stalmaker, Richard Smith, Thad and Jennifer Trevino.

Missing from picture: Margaret Ware and Joanne Andrews.



Photo by Margaret Ware

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.



Photo for December

November's bird was a Brandt's Cormorant.



CALENDAR

Sunday, Dec. 5	HRBC Bird Walk, Newport News Park, 7 AM, Jane Frigo, Leader
Saturday, Dec. 11	WBC Bird Walk, New Quarter Park, 8 AM, Geoff Giles, Leader
Sunday, Dec. 12	Bird Walk at Shirley Plantation, see page 5
Saturday, Dec. 18	HRBC Christmas Bird Count, Contact Clark White, 875-7649 or cwbirds@cox.net
Sunday, Dec. 19	HRBC Bird Walk, Newport News Park, 7 AM, Jane Frigo, Leader
Sunday, Dec. 19	WBC Christmas Bird Count, see front page
Saturday, Dec. 25	Merry Christmas—no WBC Bird walk at New Quarter Park!
Saturday, Jan. 1	New Year's Day Boardwalk Bird Show, see front page