



THE WILLIAMSBURG FLIER
January, 1979

The January meeting of the Williamsburg Bird Club will be held Wednesday, January 17, 1979, in Millington Hall at 7:30 P.M. Our speaker for this month will be Norman Jaffee who will present a talk on the status of the Bald Eagle in Virginia. Norman is a graduate student at William and Mary; he is currently working with Dr. Byrd on his Master's degree.

We are now into our second year as an organized club, and if you have not yet paid up for this year, dues are now due. Please pay Billy Jones at the next meeting; rates are \$5 for individuals, \$7.50 for families, or \$3 for students. If you cannot come to the next meeting please mail your check to Billy at her home - 260 E. Queen's Drive, Williamsburg, Va. 23185.

Our next field trip will be to Newport News City Park on Sat., Jan. 20. Please assemble by 8:00 A.M. in the Wmsbg. Information Center parking lot. This should be a good opportunity to observe waterfowl and other species at fairly close range.

If you have any records from the last few years please bring them to Bill Sheehan at the next meeting. Any information you can give him will be greatly appreciated; Bill is compiling records for birds in the Williamsburg area for our club.

Of course the big news for December was our Christmas Count. We had a good turn out (some 48 people participated) and in spite of the windy weather 108 species were reported.

WILLIAMSBURG CHRISTMAS COUNT 1978

Horned Grebe	13	American Widgeon.....	223
Pied-bill Grebe.....	31	Wood Duck.....	11
D.C. Cormorant.....	39	Redhead.....	37
Great Blue Heron.....	64	Ring-neck Duck	106
Canada Goose.....	4159	Canvasback.....	343
Snow Goose.....	1	Lesser Scaup	11
Blue Goose.....	2	Common Goldeneye.....	31
Whistling Swan	244	Bufflehead	69
Mute Swan.....	1	Ruddy Duck	307
American Egret.....	7	Hooded Merganser	228
Mallard.....	357	Red-breasted Merganser.....	76
Black Duck.....	354	Common Merganser.....	4
Gadwall.....	42	Turkey Vulture.....	160
Pintail.....	2238	Black Vulture	52
Shoveler	6	Sharp-shinned Hawk.....	9
Green-wing Teal.....	103	Red-tailed Hawk	34

Red-shouldered Hawk	1
Cooper's Hawk	1
Bald Eagle	8
Marsh Hawk	7
Sparrow Hawk	24
Bobwhite	49
Turkey	5
Pheasant	2
Coot.....	152
Killdeer	39
Spotted Sandpiper	1
Woodcock	2
Snipe	1
Greater Yellowlegs	4
Dunlin	6
Great black-back Gull	44
Herring Gull.....	490
Ring-billed Gull	2792
Laughing Gull.....	27
Forster's Tern.....	13
Mourning Dove.....	125
Rock Dove	117
Screech Owl	5
Barred Owl	1
Kingfisher	30
Flicker.....	116
Pileated Woodpecker	14
Red-headed Woodpecker	7
Red-bellied Woodpecker ...	43
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker .	15
Hairy Woodpecker	6
Downy Woodpecker	48
Phoebe	1
Blue Jay	50
Common Crow.....	365
Fish Crow	60
Carolina Chickadee	207
Tufted Titmouse	115
White-breasted Nuthatch ..	29

Red-breasted Nuthatch	2
Brown-headed Nuthatch	4
Brown Creeper	29
Winter Wren	6
Carolina Wren	28
Mockingbird	27
Catbird	3
Brown Thrasher	1
Bluebird	6
Robin	85
Hermit Thrush	4
Golden-crowned Kinglet	36
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	54
Cedar Waxwing	123
Starling	953
Myrtle Warbler	891
Pine Warbler	31
House Sparrow	113
Meadowlark	296
Baltimore Oriole	8
Red-wing Blackbird	3801
Rusty Blackbird	14
Common Grackle	223
Cowbird	21
Cardinal	82
House Finch	3
Purple Finch	31
Goldfinch	68
Evening Grosbeak	2
Towhee	28
Savannah Sparrow	56
Vesper Sparrow	3
Junco	548
Chipping Sparrow	72
Field Sparrow	174
White-throated Sparrow	503
Swamp Sparrow	37
Song Sparrow	137

The day previous to our count the Hampton Roads Bird Club counted 118 species, and on New Year's Eve 116 species were recorded on the Matthews Co. Christmas count.

The first annual nationwide survey of eagles will be held the last 3 weeks of this month. If you can help with this census, contact Mitchell Byrd.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

In last month's newsletter it was noted that squirrels can become unwanted guests at our bird feeders. Mrs. Adelaide Anderson reports that the little bushy-tailed creatures can be thwarted by sprinkling dried blood on the ground under the feeder. We are not suggesting that you use the squirrel's blood; the packaged product may be purchased from feed and seed stores.