



The SISKIN

Newsletter of the Northern Virginia Bird Club

Vol. 62, No. 2

April 2017

www.nvabc.org

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To see the newsletter photographs in color, go to www.nvabc.org and click on the *Siskin* icon

Election of NVBC Officers for 2017-2019

*to be held at
April 19, 2017 General Meeting*

Officers and directors will be elected to serve two-year terms beginning July 1, 2017. The following people have agreed to be candidates:

President: Larry Meade
Vice President, Programs: David Farner
Vice President, Field Activities: Elton Morel
Secretary: Diane Marton
Treasurer: Jean Tatalias
Directors: Catherine Kubo, Tom Nardone, Ghazali Raheem, Phil Silas, Joanna Taylor

Nominations also will be accepted from the floor.

NVBC GENERAL MEETING—WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 8 PM

A Million Penguins

Watching Penguins in the Antarctic

Speaker: William Young

In 2016, Bill Young took a cruise from southern Argentina to the Falklands, South Georgia, and the Antarctic Peninsula. On the trip, he saw an estimated one million penguins from seven species. His presentation will focus on each of the species, with special emphasis on their biology and behavior and on the environmental issues affecting them. Penguins are found as far north as the Galapagos Islands, but to see large numbers of them, you need to travel to more southerly waters.

Bill is a writer from Arlington and has traveled to all seven continents to observe birds and wildlife. In 2014, his book *The Fascination of Birds: From the Albatross to the Yellowthroat* was published by Dover Publications. The book contains 99 essays which look at the relationship between birds and a broad range of subjects, including biology, ecology, literature, music, history, linguistics, politics, sports, entertainment, and other areas. His natural history videos on his YouTube channel have had tens of thousands of views. Last year, he was honored by having a species of snail-killing fly named after him -- *Dictya youngi*.



Adelle Penguin and chick photographed by William Young

Early bird refreshments start at 7:30 pm. Any contributions of food or beverage will be most gratefully received. There will be a drawing for door prizes. Northern Virginia Bird Club pins will be available for members who would like to buy them (\$5 each).

MEETING PLACE: St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 4000 Lorcom Lane, Arlington, 22207. Directions are on page 5.

Presidential Peentings

As birders, it's in our nature to be interested and care about the natural world. Obviously, birders tend to focus mostly on birds when out in the field. However, there is much more to explore out there. Many birders have been expanding their knowledge beyond the avian world as they explore other intriguing aspects of nature. Some areas of interest might include wildflowers, trees, herpetology, insects, geology, and stream monitoring. Once a birder always a birder, though. I heard about a recent geology field trip that had several birders included among its participants. The geology instructor became a little bit irked at the birders for continuously pointing out birds when, from his point of view, they should have been more focused on the rocks



Eastern Tiger Swallowtail photographed by Larry Meade

that they were finding. In my opinion, however, the most natural transition for birders to a new area of interest is probably to butterflies. Butterflies are widespread and usually not too difficult to identify. Plus, they fly! The field guides for butterflies are often arranged like bird field guides, which also makes it easier for birders to adapt. There are several butterfly counts this summer in our area. They are set up in a similar way to Christmas Bird Counts and are also important examples of citizen science. I hope you can get out and see some exciting birds this spring and summer, but also pay attention and learn about some of the other wonders of nature that you encounter.

—Larry Meade

Upcoming Weekend Trips

Spring Chincoteague Weekend

The Chincoteague Spring Weekend club trip is scheduled for May 19-21 (Friday-Sunday). The trip is limited to 28 people and NVBC membership is required. Due to strong demand since the announcement in February's *The Siskin*, this trip is fully subscribed. You can be put on a waiting list by contacting Elton Morel at 703-553-4860 or eltonmorel@verizon.net.

Mid-May is an excellent time to visit the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). Spring shorebird migration is in full swing with most birds in breeding plumage. Most trips tally about 100 species including such Eastern Shore specialties as Black-necked Stilts, American Oystercatchers, Piping Plovers, Whimbrels, Marbled Godwits, Little Blue and Tricolored Herons, Cattle Egrets, Glossy Ibis, Least, Royal and Common Terns, Black Skimmers, Clapper Rails, Seaside Sparrows, Chuck-will's-widows, Brown-headed Nuthatches and Boat-tailed Grackles.

Plans for the weekend include birding the Chincoteague NWR on Friday afternoon starting at 3:15 pm (optional) or on Saturday starting at 7:30 am. Activities on Saturday morning include birding along Beach Road, Swan Cove and Tom's Cove and a walk along the Woodland Trail looking for land bird migrants. We will also visit the Queens Sound Flats, the Chincoteague City mudflats and Mariner's Point. On Sunday morning, we will board a boat and travel along Chincoteague Island looking for shorebirds along the mudflats and sparrows along the marsh edges. The cost of the boat trip will be about \$35 per person. The trip concludes at noon on Sunday.

—Elton Morel

Highland County Weekend

Our summer trip to Highland County in the mountains of western Virginia, led by Marv Rubin, is scheduled for the weekend of June 2-4 (Friday-Sunday). The trip limit is 16 people. Headquarters will be at the Highland Inn in Monterey.

We will start the trip at 3:15 pm on Friday afternoon, at the Highland Inn, with a drive around the Blue Grass Valley to look for Bobolinks and Vesper Sparrows. On Saturday morning, we will go to Paddy's Knob to look for Mourning Warblers and Least Flycatchers.

On Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, we will bird other areas of the county. We will arrange a group dinner at the Highland Inn's dining room on both evenings. The trip will end in Monterey at about noon on Sunday. Call or email (preferred) Marv Rubin at (703-915-7545 or mbrubin@verizon.net) to sign up and get information to make your reservations. NVBC membership is required for this trip.

—Marv Rubin

The Val Kitchens Memorial Scholarship Awardee for 2017: Max Nootbaar

The Board is proud to announce the latest recipient of the Val Kitchens Memorial Scholarship. Max plans to use the scholarship to help defray costs to attend the Hog Island Audubon Camp. He was one of the founding members of the Blue Ridge Young Birders Club. His interest began in the sixth grade when he was assigned to keep a bird journal and write a report on his favorite bird. His interest deepened and he hopes that lessons and skills learned at the camp will assist him in achieving his dream of becoming a conservationist or field researcher.



*a cold and windy
Chincoteague Winter Trip*

The Northern Virginia Bird Club visited the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) and the Chesapeake Bay Bridge and Tunnel (CBBT) Complex on the weekend of February 3 to 5. The trip was led by Marc Ribaud and me. We collectively tallied 109 species for the trip.

Our Friday afternoon was highlighted by the presence of a male Eurasian Wigeon in Swan Cove. It took us awhile to find the bird in the east end of Swan Cove, but then it took flight towards the west end of the cove. A quick drive west along Beach Road and another search for the bird through all the dabbling ducks eventually paid off despite the failing light at sunset.

Saturday greeted us with bitter cold and wind. We started first at the north parking lot at the beach noting a flock of huddled, sleeping mass of Snow Geese on east end of Swan Cove. Recent storms had washed out the southern parking lot, so we started to trudge south to the mudflats along Tom's Cove. The howling wind coupled with the low tide pushed the water so far out that most of the birds were quite distant. Nevertheless, we were rewarded with a spectacular flyover of the same Snow Goose flock as they got up and flew right over our heads.



In the late morning, we all drove over to Marv Rubin's house for a feeder watch. We were delighted to get out of the wind and were entertained by all three species of nuthatches, a Brown Creeper, several Pine Warblers and Hooded Mergansers along the creek.

Our afternoon activities unfolded on the west side of Chincoteague Island. We found Common Goldeneyes while scoping off of Donald J. Leonard Park, a big flock of Brants and a flyover Peregrine Falcon at Mariner's Point,

American Oystercatchers and another Common Goldeneye at the Queen Sound Flats boat launch, a quick look at a Tricolored Heron flushed along South Main Street, and finally both species of yellowlegs amongst tens of Black-bellied Plovers and hundreds of Dunlin at the Chincoteague City mudflats.

After a quick stop at Kiptopeke State Park, we began Sunday's escorted visit of the CBBT. At Island #4, we found both Surf and Black Scoters, Long-tailed Ducks, Great Cormorants, and lots of Northern Gannets. Our highlight though was a Razorbill, but this bird was tough to see as we were looking straight into the sun. A distant flyby of a small flock of Razorbills helped but still wasn't satisfying. We also spotted a female Common Eider, but we lost sight of the bird and not everyone got to see it. On Island #3, our luck changed when we spotted a male and female Common Eider that gave us a good showing. We also found our first Purple Sandpipers. But the best was saved for Island #1 -- a Razorbill was diving just off the rocks. It was so close, we could see the trail of air bubbles rising to the surface as it swam under water.

--Elton Morel



*Photographs of:
Bundled up NVBC birders at Chincoteague by Su Kim (top left)
Snow Geese in flight by Reid Williamson (left)
Razorbill off CBBT Island #1 by Elton Morel (above)*



Highland County Winter Trip

Members of the Northern Virginia Bird Club faced snow showers, strong winds, and some sunny moments while seeing a total of 65 species during the winter trip to Highland County.

Continued on p. 6

Upcoming Trips and Events

Compiled by Elton Morel

Note:

- Beginning birders are welcome on all trips.
- When reservations are required, please call one of the trip leaders. Phone numbers are below.
- If in doubt about a trip because of weather, please call one of the leaders.
- Check the NVBC website for updated information about trips: <http://www.nvabc.org/trips.htm>.
- To receive email notices, join the NVBC eMail Exchange. For sign-up directions see back page of *The Siskin*.

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|---------|--|--------------------|---|---|
| <u>April</u> | | | | | | |
| Trip Leaders Larry Cartwright 703-941-3142 David Farner 443-643-6141 Kurt Gaskill 703-768-2172 David Ledwith 703-933-9477 Larry Meade 703-206-9030 Elton Morel 703-553-4860 Tom Nardone 703-394-7738 Phil Silas 703-590-7286 Ghazali Raheem 703-563-3810 Marc Ribaldo 703-680-1134 Dixie Sommers 703-969-7931 Jean Tatalias 571-447-7977 | | | 12 8:30 AM Fort C F Smith David Farner Ghazali Raheem | | | 15 7:30 AM Silver Lake RP Larry Meade Phil Silas |
| | | | 19 8:30 AM Daniels Run Tom Nardone 8 PM NVBC Meeting | | | 22 7:30 AM Huntley Meadows Hike/Bike Trail Larry Cartwright |
| | | | 26 8:30 AM Bles Park Jean Tatalias | | | 29 7:30 AM Leesylvania SP Larry Meade Phil Silas |
| <u>May</u> | | | | | | |
| | | | 3 8:30 AM Long Branch David Farner | | | 6 7:30 AM Trillium Trail Marc Ribaldo |
| 7 8 AM Dyke Marsh (FODM) | | | 10 8:30 PM Dyke Marsh Tom Nardone | | | 13 8 AM Aquia Landing BP David Ledwith Elton Morel |
| | | | 17 8:30 PM Bles Park Jean Tatalias | | May 19 - 21 Chincoteague Spring Weekend <i>Members only/reservations required</i> Elton Morel Larry Meade | |
| Bird Walks at Local Parks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dyke Marsh, Sundays, 8 am See directions. Visit the Friends of Dyke Marsh web site, www.fodm.org • Eakin Park, Mondays, 7:30 am Meet at Prosperity Ave parking lot. Leader: Carolyn Williams • Great Falls National Park, Sundays, 8 am Meet at the Park Visitor Center parking lot. • Huntley Meadows Park, Mondays, 7 am (Mar-Oct) 8 am (Nov-Feb) Meet in parking lot. Leader: Harry Glasgow | | | 24 8:30 AM Fort CF Smith David Farner Dixie Sommers | | | 20 7:30 AM Occoquan Bay NWR Kurt Gaskill Marc Ribaldo |
| | | | 31 8:30 AM Huntley Meadows Tom Nardone Ghazali Raheem | <u>June</u> | | June 2 - 4 Highland County Spring Weekend <i>Members only/reservations required</i> Marv Rubin |
| | | | | | | 3 7:30 AM Conway Robinson State Forest David Ledwith Elton Morel |

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|---------|---|----------|--------|--|
| June 4 8 AM Dyke Marsh (FODM) | | | 7 8:30 AM Long Branch Tom Nardone Ghazali Raheem | | | 10 10 AM Huntley Meadows Butterflies and Dragonflies Larry Meade |
| | | | 14 8:30 AM Dyke Marsh Larry Cartwright | | | 17 8 AM Bluebird Trail Larry Meade |
| | | | | | | 24 9 AM X-trip Lumberlost Trail Shenandoah NP <i>Call leader for details</i> Larry Meade Elton Morel |

DIRECTIONS

NVBC Meeting (4/19) St. Andrews Episcopal Church, 4000 Lorcom Ln, Arlington 22207, at the intersection of Lorcom Ln and Military Rd. From the intersection of Spout Run Pkwy and Lorcom Ln, go about a half mile on Lorcom to the second traffic light. Turn left onto Military and enter the first driveway on the right. There is some parking near the Church's back entrance and a bigger lot up the driveway. There is on-street parking. Enter at the back door facing Military Rd which leads to the Undercroft where the meeting is held.

Aquia Landing Beach Park (5/13) 2846 Brooke Rd, Stafford 22554 From southbound I-95 towards Stafford, take exit 140 to Stafford, then left (east) on Courthouse Rd (Rt 630), go 3.5 mi. and turn right on Andrew Chapel Rd (Rt 629), go 0.9 mi. and under the railroad bridge to a slight left onto Brooke Rd (Rt 608) go 4.4 mi. to the park entrance, continue past park entrance gate to the parking lot at the end of the road. Meet in the parking lot.

Bles Park (4/26, 5/17) 44830 Riverside Pkwy., Ashburn 20147 Take Rt 7 west to Loudoun County Pkwy. Turn right onto Loudoun County Pkwy and proceed 0.2 mi. Turn right onto George Washington Blvd and go 0.8 mi. to Riverside Pkwy. Turn left and proceed 1.1 mi. to park entrance. Meet at parking lot.

Bluebird Trail (6/17) From I-495, exit onto Chain Bridge Rd (Rt 123) toward

Vienna. Continue on Maple Avenue (still Rt 123) in Vienna, turn onto Beulah Rd. Continue for about 1 mile until left turn onto Clark's Crossing Road. Continue to the end of Clark's Crossing and park at the parking lot overlooking the W&OD Trail.

Conway Robinson State Forest (6/3) 3622 Old Post Rd, Fairfax 22031 From I-495, take I-66 west 27.6 mi. to exit 43B, US-29 North in Gainesville. Continue on US-29 for .4 mi, turn left into access road to parking area. There is a small parking area adjacent Route 29-S which can accommodate approximately 10 cars. Additional parking is permitted along the entrance/exit road unless it restricts through traffic.

Daniels Run Park (4/19) 3622 Old Post Rd, Fairfax 22031 From I-495, take US 50 west 2.7 mi. to Fairfax Circle. Exit the circle southwest on Old Lee Hwy. In 1.2 mi. turn left on Old Post Rd (just past Historic Blenheim on the right). Drive 1 1/2 blocks to the end of the street. We have walk-day permission to park in the Country Club Hills pool parking lot.

Dyke Marsh (5/7, 5/10, 6/4, 6/14) 6401 George Washington Memorial Pkwy, Alexandria 22307 (Belle Haven Park and Marina) From Alexandria, take George Washington Pkwy south. Cross I-495; continue 1.2 mi. to Belle Haven Park entrance on the left. Meet at south parking lot.

Fort C F Smith (4/12, 5/24) 2411 24th St N, Arlington 22207 From I-66 east, take exit 72 (Spout Run Pkwy).

At traffic light, turn right on Lee Hwy. At successive traffic lights, turn left onto Spout Run Pkwy, then left onto Lorcom Ln, then right onto Fillmore St. Go one block on Fillmore, turn right onto N. 24th St (watch for speed humps), and continue to park on left. Meet in parking lot at east end of park.

Huntley Meadows Hike and Bike Trail (4/22) From I-495, take Rt 1 south 0.5 mi to Rt 633 (S. King Hwy). Turn right (west), go 2.5 miles to park entrance and lot on left (just before Telegraph Rd).

Huntley Meadows Park (5/31, 6/10) 3701 Lockheed Blvd, Alexandria 22306 From I-495, take Rt 1 south 3 mi. to Lockheed Blvd. Right on Lockheed; go 0.5 mi. to Harrison Ln, park entrance on left. Meet in parking lot.

Leesylvania State Park (4/29) 2001 Daniel K Ludwig Dr, Woodbridge 22191 From I-495, take I-95 south about 14 mi. to exit 156 (Dale City/Rippon Landing/Rt 784). Following the posted highway signs for Leesylvania State Park, exit east on Rt 784. Proceed eastward 1.1 mi. to Rt 1. Turn right (south) on Rt 1 and go 0.9 mi. to Neabsco Rd. Immediately past the Wawa service station, turn left (east) on Neabsco Rd and proceed 2 mi. to park entrance on right. After passing through the park entrance gate, go 2.2 mi. to end of paved road and park in "Picnic Area" parking lot, immediately before turn-around circle at fishing pier. State fee area.

Long Branch Nature Area (5/3, 6/7) 625 S Carlin Springs Rd, Arlington

Trip Directions *from page 5*

22204 Take Rt 50, east from Fairfax or west from Rosslyn to Carlin Springs exit. Go south on Carlin Springs 0.5 mi. to Nature Center on left, just south of N. Va Community Hospital on left. Meet at Nature Center parking lot.

Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge (5/20) 13950 Dawson Beach Rd, Woodbridge 22192 From I-495, take I-95 south 9 mi. to (left) exit 161 (Woodbridge). Go south on Rt 1 about 2 mi. to left turn onto Dawson Beach Rd. Continue on Dawson Beach 0.7 mi. to entrance gate. Meet in parking lot. US fee area.

Shenandoah River Camp at Cool Springs Battlefield (5/27) From I-495, take VA-267 West (Dulles Toll Road) to Leesburg for 36.8 mi. Take exit 1A and merge onto US-15 South/VA-7 West/Leesburg Bypass for 3.3 mi. Continue straight to stay on VA7 West for 17.1 mi. After passing Snicker's Gap but just before the Shenandoah River Bridge, turn right at Parker Lane (F709) then go 1.4 mi. to the parking lot. To avoid the toll, from I-495 take VA-7 West (Leesburg Pike) to Leesburg for 47.2 mi. After passing Snicker's Gap but just before the Shenandoah River Bridge, turn right at Parker Lane, then go 1.4 mi. to the parking lot.

Silver Lake Park (4/15) 16198 Silver Lake Rd, Haymarket 20169 From I-495, take I-66 west 24 miles to exit 40 (Rt 15). Turn south onto Rt 15 (toward Haymarket) and go 0.3 mi. to Rt 55. Turn right onto Rt 55 and go 0.9 miles to Antioch Rd. Turn right onto Antioch and go 1.3 mi. to Silver Lake Rd. Turn right and proceed to park entrance and continue to parking lot next to the lake. Meet in parking lot.

Trillium Trail - G. Richard Thompson Wildlife Management Area (5/6) (Fauquier Co) From I-495, take I-66 west 51 mi. to Linden exit (Rt 79). Go left (south) from exit ramp on Rt 79 approx. 1000 ft. to Rt 55. Turn left (east) onto Rt 55; go 1.2 mi. to Rt 638 (Freezeland Rd). Turn left (north) onto Rt 638. Follow Rt 638, as it bears right, 5.3 mi. to Trillium Trail Parking Area on right—look for sign on kiosk. (Parking Area is just before radio towers.) **Note:** participant must have an **access permit** issued by VA Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, www.dgif.virginia.gov, 1-866-721-6911.

Highland County trip *from page 3*

On Friday afternoon, March 3, Allan Lerner, a local birder, led the group to several spots in the Staunton area. Despite strong winds, we tallied over 40 species. We enjoyed the bird transformation id challenge: as two birds went from Common Ravens to Golden Eagles and finally to Bald Eagles. At a local waste station, we saw a Common Raven landing and sitting on its nest. Highlights that day included Wood Ducks, Gadwalls, Northern Shovelers, Green-winged Teals, a Wilson's Snipe, Tree Swallows, Bald Eagles, and over a dozen American Kestrels.

On Saturday morning, we found a Ruby-crowned Kinglet and a few Yellow-rumped Warblers at Bells Lane in Staunton. A Ross's Goose was seen flying overhead in a group of geese. In Highland County, we found a single first year Golden Eagle. At the local trout farm we saw a few Common Mergansers. A few intrepid birders went out to the local cemetery that evening to listen for owls and heard a Great-horned Owl.

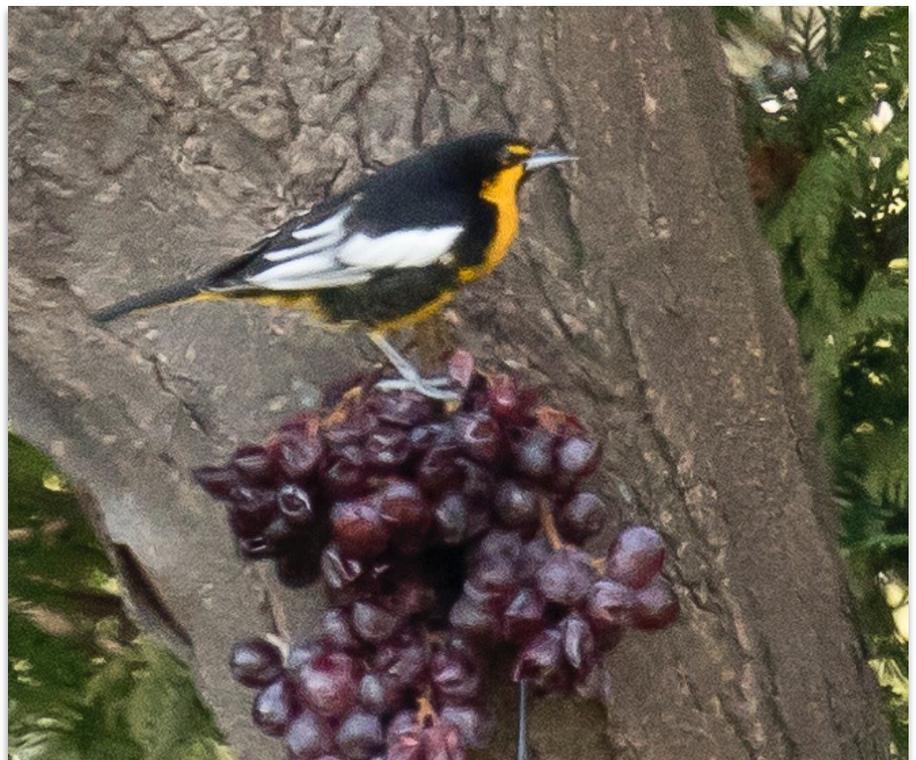
On Sunday morning, the group found Brown Creeper, Fox Sparrow

and a single Purple Finch along Rte 631. At a Bath County pond, there was a nice variety of ducks, including Wood Duck, Gadwall, Mallard, American Wigeon, and Common and Hooded Merganser. At the bridge in Bolar, we found several Rusty Blackbirds foraging in the water.

—Gerco Hoogeweg



Reid Williamson's photographs:
Above: Purple Finch
Page 3 Highland County trip title: Canada Goose and Ross's Goose in flight



Birders flocked to view the Black-backed Oriole at Sinking Springs in Berks County, Pennsylvania. Only the second ever reported sighting in the US.

Photograph by David Boltz

Seneca, Maryland/Virginia Christmas Bird Count, December 18, 2016

Count day began unusually warm (60's in the morning) with intermittent light rain, then turned blustery and colder in the afternoon (low 40's). On this 58th Seneca CBC, our 123 intrepid counters found 100 species on count day, well ahead of the last two years and well above the 96 average for the previous 10 years. Five additional species were found during "count week" (the period starting 3 days before and ending 3 days after the count day) for a grand total of 105 species, our highest since 2000.

The Seneca CBC has been conducted since 1955, but there are no published results for 1958, 1960, 1962, and 1966. So this year's CBC was the 58th recorded. Each year, the count is done in a 15-mile diameter count circle, centered at Violette's Lock on the C&O Canal, and includes areas of Montgomery, Fairfax, and Loudoun counties. The count circle is divided into 16 sectors (5 in Virginia – Sectors 12-16 -- comprising about 40% of the circle, and 11 in Maryland – Sectors 1-11 -- covering the other 60%).

This year's 123 is the highest number of participants since 1995. I

was pleased to have many new folks join our veteran counters in both the Virginia and Maryland sectors. I hope everyone will join us again for the 2017 count on Sunday, December 17.

In spite of the warm fall and early winter we had good waterfowl diversity and many with higher numbers than usual. We had most of the expected winter visitors (except Pine Siskin). The fall weather may have helped give us some unusual species. Most notable are 3 species, Eurasian Wigeon, Le Conte's Sparrow (found at the edge of the Trump golf course in Loudoun County), and Blue Grosbeak, which, if accepted, will be the first ever for our count. In addition, counters found an Osprey (5th ever), 2 Sandhill Cranes (7th ever), a Spotted Sandpiper (on Selden Island in Virginia, the 5th ever), and a Baltimore Oriole (3rd ever). More regular in recent years, but still unusual, are Red-breasted Merganser, Horned Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, and Peregrine Falcon. A few other notable results include a new high with 38 Wild Turkey, highest count for Canada Goose since 2002, and highest count for Savannah

Sparrow since 1983 (most in a single-species flock at the edge of the Trump golf course). On the other end of the spectrum are the low counts -- American Black Duck (3rd lowest count ever), Northern Flicker (lowest since 1977), Eastern Bluebird (lowest since 2003), Hermit Thrush (lowest since 1973), Yellow-rumped Warbler (lowest since 1977), no Chipping Sparrow (lowest since 2003), White-throated Sparrow (lowest since 1969), and Swamp Sparrow (lowest since 1969). On a final positive note, we added an Eared Grebe during count week, another species new to the Seneca CBC, leaving us with an incredible 4 new species which brings the cumulative species list for the Seneca CBC to 167 count-day species and 171 combined count day and count-week-only species!

Thanks to everyone who came out to count this year in spite of the predicted rainy day and especially to the sector leaders for their hard work before, during, and after the count

—*Jim Nelson,*
Compiler



*Short-eared Owl in a farm field on Route 624 in Warren County, Virginia
photographed by Donald Sweig ©2017 Donald M. Sweig*



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JOIN THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA BIRD CLUB

Northern Virginia Bird Club dues for 2017 are \$10 for Individual and \$15 for Family Membership. Members receive our quarterly newsletter, *The Siskin*. Checks for dues should be sent to Northern Virginia Bird Club, Attn: Membership, P.O. Box 5812, Arlington, VA 22205-0812. Or join or renew online at the club's web site.

If you miss an issue of *The Siskin* or need to report an address or ZIP Code change, please send an email message to lgmeade@gmail.com or leave a message for Elizabeth Fenton at 703-533-0851.

Please note: NVBC does not exchange, give away, or sell its membership lists.

NVBC ON THE WEB

Current information and special notices about NVBC meetings, field trips, and other activities, along with a printable membership form, are posted on the club's website, www.nvabc.org. If you have information or pictures you would like to see on the website, please email the webmaster, Ghazali Raheem, at rgcomm19@gmail.com.

NVBC eMail Exchange

By participating in the club's email exchange, you can get email notices of late updates to *The Siskin* and the field trip schedule. To join the exchange, send an email to lgmeade@gmail.com. Put "EXCHANGE" in the subject field and your full name in the message area. You will receive a response from nvbc-exchange@googlegroups.com. The list is for NVBC members' use only.

General Meeting Date: April 19,, September 20, and November 15, 2017.

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, June 1, 2017, 7:30 pm, at Diane Marton's home. All club members are welcome at board meetings. For directions or to have items put on the agenda, please call or email Diane Marton.

Thanks to the mailing crew: Many thanks to the February mail out crew: Elizabeth Fenton, Robbie Ross, Jean Tatalias and Joanna Taylor.

Deadline for next issue of *The Siskin*: The August issue will include activities through October 2017. Please send items for publication by **July 1, 2017** to the editors at siskineditor@verizon.net.

CLUB CONTACTS

President: Larry Meade, 703-206-9030

Vice President, Programs: David Farner, 443-643-6141

Vice President, Field Activities: Elton Morel, 703-553-4860

Secretary: Diane Marton, 703-527-7360

Treasurer: Jean Tatalias, 703-281-6099

Directors: Emily Caven, 703-592-6522; Catherine Kubo, 703-352-1238, Joanna Taylor, 703-243-5989

Directors Emeritus: Len Alfredson, Don Wiesnet

Membership: Elizabeth Fenton, 703-533-0851

Webmaster, www.nvabc.org: Ghazali Raheem, rgcomm19@gmail.com

Editors, *The Siskin*: Pat and Neal Gause, 703-476-3903

Administrator, NVBC Facebook

Group: Allie Guidry (please contact through Facebook page)

NVBC email: lgmeade@gmail.com