



The SISKIN

Newsletter of the Northern Virginia Bird Club

Vol. 59, No. 3

August 2014

www.nvabc.org

Inside

- Reports and photos from NVBC's 2014 spring weekend trips
- Calendar of NVBC field trips, August 16 - November 8, 2014
- Report on bird banding

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

Birds of the Season

Americans use the summer season for travel, but fall is the time for migration by millions of birds. The fall's bird walk schedule is designed to allow birders the chance to see a good selection of birds as they journey south.

The X-trip to Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) on August 16 is timed for the height of shorebird migration. Last year's trip was very productive with a Hudsonian Godwit, a Long-billed Dowitcher, White-rumped Stilt and Western Sandpipers. An unexpected immature male King Eider was found at the DuPont Nature Center, but don't expect that one again!

The Route 234 Wetland Mitigation Area near the Manassas Regional Airport is a new venue this fall (Aug 23). During the joint walk with the Prince William Conservation Alliance, we will have special access to the wetlands area and hope to find a good selection of shorebirds. If that doesn't work, we can always take a quick look for "grasspipers" at the nearby sod farms on Bristow Road.

We have had good luck at Huntley Meadows in late August for shorebirds as well. Last year we found Solitary and Spotted Sandpipers and both yellowlegs

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NVBC GENERAL MEETING—WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 8PM

Birds of Sudan

Speaker Musa Murawih

Musa Murawih, a club member, was born and raised in a Bedouin family in the semidesert of northwestern Sudan. He was educated in Sudan, Germany and the US, and is currently working with the Library of Congress. He will be speaking about Sudan and the bird he sees around the capital, Khartoum during his visits.

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).

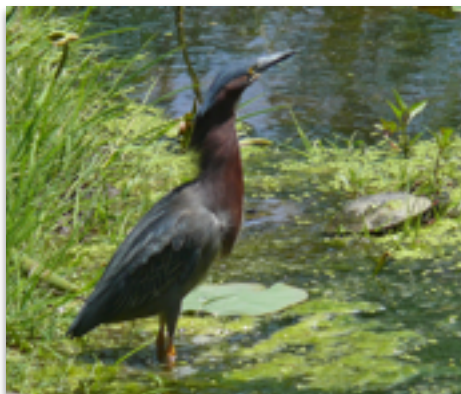


MEETING PLACE: Church of the Covenant, 2666 Military Road, Arlington, 22207. Directions are on page 5.

Photographs by Musa Murawih.

Find out the identity of the birds at the presentation





Green Heron photographed by Larry Meade in Green Spring Gardens Park, Alexandria

Presidential Peentings

At the Northern Virginia Bird Club, we are in a bit of a transitional period. After years of producing excellent newsletters for the club, Dorothy Tella has retired as the Siskin editor. We cannot thank Dorothy enough for the dedication and patience she has displayed in creating what has consistently been a quality publication. I have often gotten compliments regarding the Siskin from birders around the state. Fortunately, Neal and Pat Gause have agreed to take over as new Siskin editors. Thanks to Dorothy’s help, the transition has been relatively smooth. In other news, we welcome Emily Caven to the NVBC board as a new director. We look forward to her ideas and contributions to help the NVBC to keep moving forward. We have some fun and interesting trips planned for the fall season beginning with our annual trip to Bombay Hook NWR in Delaware. I hope many of you can join us. Good Birding!

—Larry Meade

SPRING WEEKEND TRIPS

CHINCOTEAGUE

Twenty-three members of the Northern Virginia Bird Club went on the annual spring trip to Chincoteague, May 16 to 18. The trip was led by Phil Silas and Elton Morel. We collectively saw or heard 108 species.

The weekend started with a drive over to Chincoteague in a torrential downpour, but the rain stopped at times during the drive around the Wildlife loop. We saw an excellent variety of herons, egrets and shorebirds, the best being three White-rumped Sandpipers. A quick visit to Tom’s Cove and the beach parking lots produced two Whimbrels, three Piping Plovers and surprisingly, the only Marbled Godwit of our trip.

The highlight for many came at sunset at the parking lot entrance to the Wildlife Loop where we found a very cooperative Chuck-will’s-widow. We heard several “Chucks” and then found one perched on a low log. The male “Chuck” then flew across the road splaying its white tail feathers as it flew through the trees—a first for me. We found the bird perched on a limb of a dead tree and had prolonged scope views while there was still fairly good light.

Saturday morning arrived with glorious weather. We began with a walk around the Woodland Trail where we found a Yellow-breasted Chat, a Yellow-throated Warbler, Pine Warblers, a Blue Grosbeak, Indigo Buntings and Brown-headed Nuthatches. A quick trip to the beach parking lots netted the only Red Knot of the trip.



Photographs at Chincoteague (above, top to bottom):

*Piping Plover by Reid Williamson
Marbled Godwit by Bill Millhouser
Gull-billed Terns by Chris White*

In the afternoon, we went on the Wash Flats bus trip accompanied by special guest, Allen Lerner, who usually assists on Highland County trips. We easily found the bus trip’s target bird: six Gull-billed Terns including a rather amorous pair. We also found six Whimbrels, a very reddish breeding-plumaged Long-billed Dowitcher among other shorebirds, and a very late spring migrant American Pipit.

Later in the afternoon at the Queen Sound Flats, we found four more Gull-billed Terns among the colony of Common Terns as well as eight Black-necked Stilts along the causeway. Several birders continued into the town to search for and found an Eurasian Collared-Dove on top of a barn in the backyard of a house.

On Sunday morning, we started with a walk to the new boardwalk near the entrance to the channel. With a bit of patience, we were finally treated with sightings of Clapper Rails as they ran across the open estuary at low tide.

The trip finished at Saxis Wildlife Management Area on the western side of Accomack County. The wind impeded our efforts to locate Marsh Wrens but we had decent, if brief looks of Seaside Sparrow. We were treated with scope views of Eastern Kingbirds building a nest in a pine tree and capped off the tour with excellent looks at Yellow Warblers and Orchard Orioles.

—Elton Morel

species; hopefully, we might even find a Pectoral Sandpiper or a Semipalmated Plover. This year's walk on August 30 will start at the Hike and Bike Trail so that we have a better chance of seeing early migrating warblers such as Canada, Chestnut-sided, Blue-winged, and American Redstarts.

Riverbend Park in early September can also have some interesting early migrants. Last year we found a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher and both a Magnolia and Prairie Warbler. Remember that this walk on September 6 starts at the Nature Center so that we can walk the often productive meadow nearby.

In mid-September, fall migration – especially warbler migration -- should be in full swing. Walks at Leesylvania State Park (Sep 13) and Algonkian Regional Park (Sep 20) should be fantastic. Last year's visit to Leesylvania produced thirteen warbler species with the highlight being a Wilson's Warbler. Algonkian was even better – seventeen warbler species, the best being Blackburnian, Tennessee and Nashville Warblers.

Last fall, I visited Aquia Landing in Stafford County for the first time. I was impressed by the amazing variety of fall migrants in such a small, easy to walk location. A visit on October 4 should produce many warbler species and potentially up to three species of rail (mostly

just heard though). Last year, I even lucked upon a pair of Glossy Ibis as they flew out from the marsh.

Mid- to late October is the best period of fall migration for sparrows. For walks at Sky Meadows State Park – especially the Bridle Trail – in Fauquier County on October 18, Meadowood Recreation Area in Fairfax County on October 25, and Bristoe Station Battlefield Park in Prince William County on November 1, we should find Lincoln's, Vesper, White-crowned, Savannah and Grasshopper Sparrows.

So join us and observe the fall migration spectacle.

—Elton Morel



Photographs above (top to bottom):
Windblown Snowy Egret at Chincoteague
and Yellow Warbler with caterpillar at Saxis
WMA by Bill Millhouser
Eastern Kingbird on nest at Saxis WMA by
Reid Williamson

Highland County

Northern Virginia Bird Club (NVBC) members went on the annual spring trip to Highland County, June 6-8. The trip was led by Marvin Rubin and Beth Moore. Our weekend's tally of bird species was 87. Highlights included the Golden-winged, Mourning and Chestnut-sided Warblers, Baltimore Orioles, Bobolinks, Eastern Meadowlarks, Cedar Waxwings, and a male Rose-breasted Grosbeak.

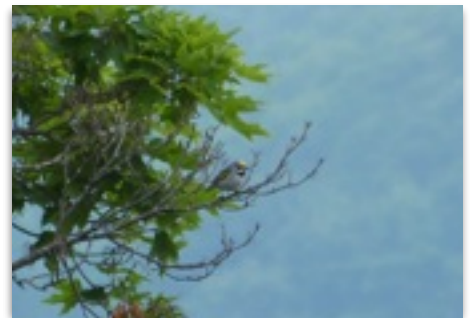
Beth Moore and Musa Murawih conducted a foray to the southern part of Highland County on their way to Monterey via Routes 614, 612 and 678, observing Cerulean, Black-throated Blue, American Redstart, Chestnut-sided, and other Warblers, Northern Flicker, and several pairs of nesting Bobolinks.

The other 9 NVBC members started the trip Friday afternoon at 3:15 pm from the Highland Inn, Monterey, Virginia and proceeded to the Trout Farm. Around Bluegrass, some members had a fleeting look at a Red-headed Woodpecker flying, and a Bobolink from the last car. All had good looks at a number of Eastern Meadowlarks.

On Saturday, we drove to Paddy's Knob, where there were a number of warblers heard and seen, including scope looks at a singing Mourning Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, and male Rose-breasted Grosbeak. Following lunch back in Monterey, we drove through the Bluegrass area listening to and seeing more Eastern Meadowlarks and seeing two Bobolinks on a wire.

On Sunday, we drove to Bluegrass to a private property with pre-arranged approval to visit and observe. The highlight was scope views of a Golden-winged Warbler for about 15 minutes singing from a tree limb in full view. Good looks were also obtained of a Chestnut-sided Warbler, Field Sparrows, Indigo Buntings, Towhees, Barn and Cliff Swallows. A full list of the species was submitted to e-Bird.

—Beth Moore and Marv Rubin



Photographs by Reid Williamson:
Golden-winged Warbler at Bluegrass
Chestnut-sided Warbler at Paddy's
Knob



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 on page 6.
- 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 newsletter.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>August</u>						16 Bombay Hook X-Trip Members only/ Registration Required Larry Meade
						23 8 AM Route 234 Wetland Mitigation Area, Manassas Larry Meade
24 Swift/Nighthawk Watch Joanna Taylor Call leader for meeting place and directions					28 8:30 AM Potomac Overlook RP Joanna Taylor	30 7:30 AM Huntley Meadows Hike & Bike Trail Dave Boltz Elton Morel
31 8 AM Dyke Marsh Friends of Dyke Marsh	<u>September</u>		3 8:30 AM Long Branch Elizabeth Fenton Charlotte Friend			6 7:30 AM Riverbend Park - Nature Center Larry Meade Bryan Peters
			10 8:30 AM Eakin Park Elizabeth Fenton Charlotte Friend	12-14 VSO Chincoteague Weekend	13 7:30 AM Leesylvania SP David Ledwith Marc Ribaud	
			17 8:30 AM Bles Park Jean Tatalias			20 7:30 AM Algonkian RP David Ledwith Elton Morel
			24 8 AM Huntley Meadows Hike & Bike Trail Dave Boltz Bryan Peters NVBC Meeting 8PM			27 7:30 AM Occoquan Bay NWR Larry Meade Phil Silas
			<u>October 1</u> 8:30 AM Long Branch Charlotte Friend Brian Peters			4 8 AM Aquia Landing David Ledwith Elton Morel

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October 5 8 AM Dyke Marsh Friends of Dyke Marsh			8 8:30 AM Fort CF Smith Elizabeth Fenton Joanna Taylor		10-12 Eastern Shore Birding and Wildlife Festival	11 8 AM Silver Lake RP Larry Meade Phil Silas
			15 8:30 AM Eakin Park Charlotte Friend Jean Tatalias			18 8 AM Sky Meadows SP Elton Morel Dixie Sommers
			22 8:30 AM Ben Brenman Park Dave Boltz Elizabeth Fenton			25 8 AM Meadowood Recreation Area Elton Morel
			29 8:30 AM Burke Lake Park Catherine Kubo Phil Silas			November 1 8 AM Bristoe Station Battlefield Park Elton Morel Phil Silas
2 8 AM Dyke Marsh Friends of Dyke Marsh			5 8:30 AM Long Branch Elizabeth Fenton Charlotte Friend			8 8 AM Occoquan Bay NWR Marc Ribaud Dixie Sommers

DIRECTIONS

NVBC Meeting (9/24) Church of the Covenant, 2666 Military Rd, Arlington, 22207. From intersection of Spout Run Pkwy and Lorcom Ln, go about a half mile on Lorcom, turn right onto Nellie Custis Dr at the bottom of the hill, and continue on Nellie Custis as it bears right and becomes Military Rd. Stay on Military and turn left into church driveway just after passing traffic light at Marcey Rd. After entering church driveway, turn right and go to lower lot. The door to Fellowship Hall, where the meeting is held, is at the west end of the lot

Algonkian Regional Park (9/20) From I-495, take Rt 7 west 11 miles (mi.) to Cascades Pkwy north and drive 3 mi. to the park entrance. Proceed on Fairway Dr turning left onto Volcano Island Dr, then turn right into parking lot. Meet at the parking lot beside restrooms and Park Shelter 1.

Aquia Landing Beach Park, Stafford (10/4) 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.

Ben Brenman Park (10/22) From I-395 take Duke St east about 1.5 mi. to the park entrance on the right. Follow entrance road to the parking lot. Meet at the pond.

Bles Park (9/17) 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 44830 Riverside Pkwy. Meet at parking lot.

Bombay Hook X-trip (8/16) Take Rt 50 across the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. Go north 34 mi. on Rt 301. Turn right at Rt 300. Go 15 mi. to Kenton, Delaware. At the traffic light, turn right on Rt 42 to Leipsic. From there go left on Rt 9 for 1.5 mi. to the entrance of the refuge. Meet at the Visitor Center parking lot.

Bristoe Station Battlefield Heritage Park (11/1) 10708 Bristow Rd, Bristow, VA 20136. From I-95: Take Rt 234 north (exit 152B), travel 7.5 mi. and make a left onto Independent Hill Dr. Then make immediate right onto Rt 619 (Bristow Rd). Travel 7 mi. and turn left onto Iron Brigade Unit Ave. The parking lot is located on the left at the traffic circle. From I-66: Take Rt 234 south (Exit 44). Travel 4.5 miles and turn right onto Rt 28 (Nokesville Rd). Travel 1.5 mi. and turn left onto Rt 619 (Bristow Rd). Travel 0.25 mi., turn right onto Iron Brigade Unit Ave and continue to parking lot. Meet in parking lot.

Burke Lake Park (10/29) From I-495, take exit 54 west (Braddock Rd). Stay in right lane of exit if you are coming from the north. On Braddock Rd, go 1.5 mi. and turn left onto Burke Lake Rd. Go 4.7 mi. and turn left onto Rt 123 (Ox Rd). Turn left at second traffic light (big park signs), and turn left immediately after the entrance booth. Park in the first lot on the right (by the mini-golf course).

Dyke Marsh (8/31, 10/5, 11/2) From Alexandria, take Mount Vernon Pkwy

Continued on next page

south. Cross I-495; continue 1.2 mi. to Belle Haven Park entrance on the left. Meet at south parking lot.

Eakin Park (9/10, 10/15) From I-495, take Rt 50 west one mi. to Prosperity Ave; turn left onto Prosperity and go one mi. to parking lot on left.

Fort C F Smith (10/8) 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 at 2411 N. 24th St. Meet in parking lot at east end of park. From Alexandria: take G W Pkwy north, take left exit onto Spout Run, then right exit onto Lorcom Ln, and follow remaining directions above.

Huntley Meadows Hike & Bike Trail (8/30) From I-495, take Rt 1 south 0.5 mi to Rt 633 (S. Kings Hwy). Turn right (west), go 2.5 mi. to park entrance and lot on left (just before Telegraph Rd).

Huntley Meadows Park (9/24) 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 (9/13) 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.

Long Branch Nature Area (9/3, 10/1, 11/5) Take Rt 50, east from Fairfax or west from Rosslyn to Carlin Springs exit. 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.

Meadowood Recreation Area (10/25) From I-495, take I-95 south 7 mi. to Lorton exit. Left on Rt 642. Immediately after passing under railroad tracks (0.25 mi.) turn right on Lorton Market Rd, which soon becomes Gunston Cove Rd. After crossing Rt 1, road becomes Gunston Rd. Go 1.8 mi. to 10406 Gunston Rd. (BLM, Lower Potomac

Station Office). Park on right next to horse barns just before field station building.

Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge (9/27, 11/8) 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. U.S. fee area.

Potomac Overlook Regional Park (8/28) From I-66 east take exit 72 and turn left onto Rt 29 south, and go 0.6 mi. taking a slight right onto Military Rd, continue 0.5 mi. turning left to stay on Military Rd. Turn right after 0.3 mi. onto N. Marcey Rd and proceed 0.4 mi. to parking lot.

Riverbend Park (Nature Center) (9/6) From I-495, take Rt 193 west 5 mi. to Rt 603 (Riverbend Rd). Right onto Rt 603, go 2 mi. to Jeffery Rd. Right onto Jeffery; go 1.5 mi. to Nature Center parking area. (Don't turn right at Main Park entrance sign)

Route 234 Wetland Mitigation Area, Manassas (8/23) Joint walk with Prince William Conservation Alliance special meeting place: 10154 Harry J Parrish Blvd, From I-66 west, take exit 47A toward Manassas and merge onto Rt 234 (Sudley Rd). Continue on Rt 234 for 0.9 mi. to Sudley Manor Dr. Turn right and continue on Sudley Manor for 1.8 mi. Turn left onto Prince William Pkwy (Rt 234 Bypass) can continue for 3.9 mi. turn right into Cloverhill Rd and continue for . 3 mi. Take first right onto Harry J Parrish Blvd to the Green Front Furniture parking lot.

Bird Walks at Local Parks

- **Dyke Marsh Sundays, 8 am** See directions. Visit the Friends of Dyke Marsh web site, www.fodm.org
- **Eakin Park Mondays, 7 am (March-Nov), 7:30 am (Dec-Feb)** Meet at 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

Silver Lake Regional Park (10/11) From I-495, take I-66 west 24 mi. 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 mi. to Antioch Rd. Turn right onto Antioch and. to 1.3 mi. to Silver Lake Rd. Turn right and proceed to park entrance at 16198 Silver Lake Rd and continue to parking lot next to lake. Meet in parking lot.

Sky Meadows State Park (10/18) From I-495, take I-66 west 42 mi. to exit for Rt 17 north (Delaplane/Paris). North on Rt 17 6.5 mi. to Rt 710. Turn left into park and proceed 1 mi. to Visitor Center parking lot. State fee area.

Virginia Society of Ornithology Chincoteague Weekend (9/12-14) For information, visit www.virginiabirds.net
Eastern Shore Birding and Wildlife Festival (10/10-12) For information visit www.esvafestivals.org

Trip Leaders

Dave Boltz	703-768-7499
Elizabeth Fenton	703-533-0851
Charlotte Friend	703-532-0207
Catherine Kubo	703-352-1238
David Ledwith	703-933-9477
Larry Meade	703-206-9030
Elton Morel	703-553-4860
Bryan Peters	413-320-8866
Marc Ribaudou	703-680-1134
Phil Silas	703-590-7286
Dixie Sommers	703-969-7931
Jean Tatalias	703-281-6099
Joanna Taylor	703-243-5989

*Baltimore Oriole at Dyke Marsh
Photo by Larry Meade*



Birding Banding at Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge



Occoquan Bay NWR banding station
photographs by Bill Teetz:

Yellow-breasted Chat (above)

Baltimore Oriole (below)

Pileated Woodpecker (lower right)



We had a very lively season at the Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) banding station. With 793 birds banded, we just missed setting a new record. We banded a near-record total despite losing 7 full days and 4 partial days out of 38 scheduled banding days due to bad weather—rain, wind and cold. The first weekend in May brought an amazing fallout of migrants. On May 2 and 3, we temporarily closed down the nets since the birds were coming in almost faster than we could process them. We had our biggest day ever on May 3 with 131 birds banded.

The Occoquan Bay NWR banding station has been in operation since 2001. Some interesting statistics include record numbers of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers 14/9 (this year's number/highest previous number), Swainson's Thrush 19/11, Hermit Thrush 7/5, Veery 9/7, Gray Catbird 87/78, Common Yellowthroat 180/108, Swamp Sparrow 39/33, White-throated Sparrow 149/117, Tufted Titmouse 20/10, and Spotted Sandpiper 4/2. In contrast there were low numbers of Flycatchers, Woodpeckers and members of the Blackbird family.

We captured good numbers of previously-banded birds. Many of them are present year-round at the station but we also caught a number of migrants we had banded in previous years, including Warblers, Orioles and Sparrows. Some of our most interesting recaptures were: a male Brown Thrasher and a male Red-winged Blackbird that we banded in May 2007. They hatched in 2006 so are now in their ninth year. Other good recaptures included many Cardinals: two at least 7 years old, one at least 6 years old and four at 4 years old. Two male Indigo Buntings are at least 4 years old. They came back to the same net at the same time. We also had 3 White-throated Sparrows who are at least 4 years old and one at 5 years old. We had one foreign recapture - a Common Yellowthroat that had been banded as an adult in 2011 in Harford, Maryland, making him at least 5 years old. Those Common Yellowthroats may be little, but they are tough.

Perhaps our most surprising capture was a young probably female Red-shouldered Hawk. Normally our nets are not strong enough to hold such a big bird. We assume she was trying to take off after an unsuccessful attempt to grab one of the cottontails that abound in that area and didn't have the velocity to tear through the net. Unfortunately the deer did succeed in tearing through a net that had to be replaced.

Another bird that we catch but do not band is Ruby-throated Hummingbird. We do not have the special bands and equipment needed, but take down as much information about the bird as we can.

The station is located on Deephole Point Road overlooking Marumsco Creek. The station is open from the first weekend of spring until Memorial Day weekend, on Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 7 am until approximately noon. Visitors are welcome. If you have never visited a banding station, I recommend it as a fascinating educational experience.

—Joanna Taylor

10% Birder Discount

Birdwatchers Seed and Supply Co. is offering a 10 percent discount to NVBC members. Just mention that you are in the club at check out. The store is located at **396 Maple Avenue East (corner of intersection with Beulah Road)** in Vienna.



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JOIN THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA BIRD CLUB

Northern Virginia Bird Club dues for 2014 are \$8 for Individual and \$12 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.

If you miss an issue of *The Siskin* or need to report an address or ZIP Code change, please send an email message to nvabc@verizon.net or leave a message for Charlotte Friend at 703-532-0207.

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, Len Alfredson, at nvabc@verizon.net.

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 and receive a list of email addresses for other participating NVBC members, send an email to

nvabc@verizon.net. Put "EXCHANGE" in the subject field and your full name in the message area. You must place your name on the list in order to receive information about other members. The list is for NVBC members' use only.

General Meeting Dates: September 24 and November 19, 2014.

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, September 4, 2014, 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.

Deadline for next issue of *The Siskin*: The November issue will include activities through January 2015. Please send items for publication by October 1, 2014 to the editors at siskineditor@verizon.net.



CLUB CONTACTS

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*American Redstart at Monticello Park
Photo by Larry Meade*