



The SISKIN

Newsletter of the Northern Virginia Bird Club

Vol. 69, No. 2

April 2024

www.nvabc.org

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Virginia Birding Big Day

The first-ever Virginia Birding Big Day will be held on May 4, 2024. The event is a traditional big day competition that will be raising money for the Virginia Society of Ornithology's Virginia Breeding Bird Atlas 2 (VABBA2) Fund, which finances the ongoing efforts to synthesize, interpret, and publish data collected during the fieldwork portion of VABBA2. Big Day participants will form teams and compete in their category to see the most bird species and raise the most money. Money will be raised via donor pledges. **The Virginia Big Day Committee, a group of birders from around the Commonwealth, would be grateful if you would consider participating and especially if you would spread the word about the event!**

There are three types of teams: Standard (3-10 people age 19 or older), Youth (3-10 people age 18 or younger), and Club (No upper limit, all members must be members of a club). Teams will compete in their category as well as regional categories (Mountains and Valleys, Piedmont, Coastal Plain, or Statewide).

For more information, go to <https://vabirdingbigday.org>.

—Patrick Lewis

NVBC GENERAL MEETING—THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 8 PM

Bald Eagles in the Mason Neck Area

Speaker: Randy Streufert

Bald Eagles nest in Mason Neck State Park and the adjacent Elizabeth Hartwell Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge — the first wildlife refuge in the United States that was created specifically to protect Bald Eagle nesting areas. Come and learn more about these iconic birds from Randy Streufert and enjoy his stunning photographs. He will also share with us some of his exceptional photographs of other birds and wildlife from his vast experiences in the Mason Neck area.

Randy Streufert is a founding member of the Friends of Mason Neck State Park and is currently serving as Treasurer. He is a nature photographer and volunteers with the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Potomac River Refuge complex. He joined the Friends Board in 2012 after

retiring after 40 years of service in the federal government. He's been photographing the wildlife on Mason Neck since 1979 when he and his wife moved there. His photographs have appeared on the cover of Virginia Wildlife magazine, and he was the grand prize winner in the 2019 National Wildlife Federation Gardening for Wildlife photography contest. Several of his photographs are on display at the park's visitor center.



General Meeting Notes: 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

We all love spring because it is when the natural world emerges from winter and comes back to life. As birders, we notice this transition through the lens of our bird observations. Northern Cardinals and American Robins are with us all winter, but when they start singing, we know that spring may still be a way off, but it is coming. In early February, I always see a large group of Common Grackles show up in the same tree as in previous years. Often these are the first ones of the year for me. A few weeks later, Tree Swallows and Ospreys show up. More birds such as Red-winged Blackbirds start singing and competing for territories. If the weather has been warmer than usual during the late winter, birds that winter not far south of us such as Brown Thrashers, will show up early and start singing from the treetops. Birds that winter in the tropics, however, have no idea what the weather is here and will show up on about the same dates every year. As we move through spring, more species arrive as they migrate into our region. The grand finale happens in May when avian abundance reaches its peak. If you keep year to year



Falcate Orangetip photographed by Larry Meade

records, it can be interesting to see if your first of year observations for various birds are happening at around the same time as previous years.

It's not just birds that augur the return of spring. When I see my first butterflies each year, I know we are almost done with the cold weather. Butterflies which winter as adults, including Eastern Commas, Question Marks, and Mourning Cloaks, are often some of the first ones I see.

By early April, there are many more species of butterflies around, including the Falcate Orangetip which can only be seen in the spring. Common Green Darners are dragonflies that migrate from the south into our region. Since they don't need to emerge in their adult form from local wetlands, they are usually the first dragonflies that I see each year. For plant lovers, spring ephemerals return. I especially like the Virginia Bluebells which profusely spread across wet wooded areas at places like Riverbend and Bull Run Regional Park. At Merrimac Farm in Prince William County, they have

a Bluebell festival to celebrate them. Whatever you enjoy about spring the most, I hope you get outside to experience it.

—Larry Meade

Spring has sprung....Happy Birding to all...



Seth Honig photographed (above) the Black-throated Green Warbler in his yard on May 2, 2022, (below) Common Merganser with chick getting a ride at Great Falls on May 7, 2023, and (right) Barred Owllet at Great Falls on May 26, 2019



Larry Meade photographed the Louisiana Waterthrush at Riverbend Park



Chincoteague Winter Trip

Mother Nature was moody during the Northern Virginia Bird club winter visit to Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) planned for February 9 to 11. The group managed to find collectively 71 species, despite having to stop earlier than planned on Saturday and abandon their highly anticipated Sunday morning visits to Kiptopeke State Park and the Chesapeake Bay Bridge and Tunnel.

The weather was sunny and comfortable on Friday afternoon as the group visited the Wildlife Loop on the refuge, where we spotted several species of waterfowl including a Mute Swan (unusual for Chincoteague NWR) amongst the Tundra Swans, and a very distant Merlin perched on a snag. Snow Geese flocks are always a hoped-for treat on the winter trip, and we were not disappointed at the beach where we saw a large flock in flight and spotted several “Blue morph” examples among the flock roosted on the dunes.

As night gathered, we waited at the pony corral for an American Woodcock watch, eventually hearing “peenting” from at least three individuals. Lucky birders facing in the direction of the fading light with excellent vision were able to see several low flybys, and a single display flight.

As we gathered on Saturday morning in the hotel parking lot, we saw Brown-headed Nuthatches in the pines above. It was a very high tide, and we walked the nearby boardwalk where we were delighted to spot a Clapper Rail swimming across the estuary. While returning, we flushed up several Nelson’s and Saltmarsh Sparrows for fleeting views.

Returning to the refuge, we re-found the large flocks of Snow Geese. A long walk down the beach paid off with an excellent study of an adult Lesser Black-backed Gull. The best shore-birding of the weekend was along the tidal edge of Tom’s Cove, where we managed to find a Black-bellied Plover, several Ruddy Turnstones, American Oystercatchers and Willets.

Saturday afternoon, we visited Donald J. Leonard Park, where we found a large flock of White Ibis (primarily juveniles) feeding in the vegetation on the shoreline. A visit to Queens Sound Boat Ramp resulted in our finding several Common Goldeneyes and our first and only flock of Boat-tailed Grackles.

The group continued to Mariner’s Point, and that’s when Mother Nature lost her patience. Rain started, and the group retreated to the hotel. After consulting the latest forecasts, which were calling for heavy rains and wind on Sunday morning, the group, with disappointment, cancelled Sunday’s activities. However, they rallied their spirits enough to enjoy dinner at Bill’s Seafood and Steak Restaurant Saturday evening.

—*Elton Morel*



*Photographs from top:
Lesser Black-backed Gull by Kevin Roback
White Ibis by Kevin Roback
Boat-tailed Grackle with “beady yellow eyes” by Charles Rowan.*

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/updated-field-trips/>.
- 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
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Trip Leaders</p> <p>Bob Butterworth 703-343-0933 Larry Cartwright 703-941-3142 Toby Hardwick 703-201-1517 Bert Harris 615-440-0666 Ed LeGrand 908-268-6627 Joan Mashburn 703-209-8678 Larry Meade 571-275-2523 Mer Mietzfeld 607-643-8307 Elton Morel 703-907-9951 Tom Nardone 703-946-7738 Phil Silas 703-987-0817 Dixie Sommers 703-969-7931 Ed Wallace 504-343-1433</p> </div>			<p>10 8:30 AM Meadowood Recreation Area Dixie Sommers Bob Butterworth</p>	<p>13 7:30 AM Occoquan Bay NWR Phil Silas</p>		
			<p>17 8:30AM Dyke Marsh Bob Butterworth</p>	<p>18 NVBC Meeting 8 PM</p>	<p>20 7:30 AM Leopold's Preserve Toby Hardwick Ed LeGrand</p>	
			<p>24 8:30 AM Fort C. F. Smith Tom Nardone Joan Mashburn</p>	<p>27 7:30 AM Clifton Institute Bert Harris Elton Morel</p>		
			<p>May 1 8:30 AM Long Branch Bob Butterworth Larry Cartwright</p>	<p>4 7:30 AM Leesylvania SP Bob Butterworth Mer Mietzfeld</p>		
			<p>8 8:30 AM Huntley Meadows Hike/Bike Trail Larry Cartwright Dixie Sommers</p>	<p>11 7:30 AM Trillium Trail Elton Morel Phil Silas</p>		
			<p>15 8:30 AM Fort CF Smith Joan Mashburn Tom Nardone</p>	<p>May 17-19 Chincoteague Spring Weekend <i>Members only/reservations required</i> <i>Sign up began March 13 @6 am</i> Elton Morel</p>		
			<p>18 7:30 AM Occoquan Bay NWR Larry Meade Tom Nardone</p>			
			<p>22 8:30 AM Neabsco RP - Boardwalk Phil Silas Bob Butterworth</p>	<p>25 7:30 AM Conway-Robinson SF Toby Hardwick Bob Butterworth</p>		
			<p>29 8:30 AM Huntley Meadows Park Tom Nardone Bob Butterworth</p>	<p>June 1 7:30 AM Silver Lake RP Toby Hardwick Mer Mietzfeld</p>		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June			5 8:30 AM Long Branch Joan Mashburn Dixie Sommers			8 9 AM Limberlost Trail, Shenandoah NP X-trip Elton Morel Email Elton Morel for details (eltonlmorel@verizon.net)
						15 8 AM Clarks Crossing Park - Bluebird Trail Larry Meade Bob Butterworth

DIRECTIONS

NVBC Meeting (4/18) 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.

Clarks Crossing Park - Bluebird Trail (6/15) 9850 Clarks Crossing Rd, Vienna 22182 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 Clarks Crossing Road. Continue to the end of Clarks Crossing and park at the parking lot overlooking the W&OD Trail.

Clifton Institute (4/27) 6712 Blantyre Rd, Warrenton 20187 Take I-66 West to exit 40, to merge onto US-15 south towards Haymarket (0.4 mi), then turn right onto VA-55 West. Drive 5 mi. and turn left onto Blantyre Rd. Proceed 5.6 mi. and then turn right on to a dirt road. Drive northwest for about 0.3 mi. to the first lake and park in the parking lot on the left. Meet your leader at this parking lot. Please do not drive up to the house and park there.

Conway-Robinson State Forest (5/25) 12816 Lee Hwy, Gainesville 20155 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.

Dyke Marsh (4/17) 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 (4/24, 5/15) 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 bumps), and continue to park on left. Meet in parking lot at east end of park.

Huntley Meadows Hike & Bike Trail (5/8) From I-495, take Rt 1 south 0.5 mi to Rt 633 (S. King Hwy). Turn right (west), go 2.5 mi. to park entrance and lot on left (just before Telegraph Rd).

Huntley Meadows Park (5/29) 3701 Lockheed Blvd, Alexandria 22306 From I-495, take Rt 1 south 3 mi. to Lockheed Blvd. Turn right on Lockheed and go 0.5 mi. to Harrison Ln to park entrance on left. Meet in parking lot.

Leesylvania State Park (5/4) 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.

Leopold's Preserve (4/20) 16283 Thoroughfare Rd, Haymarket 20169 From I-66 west, take exit 40 to Rt 15 toward Haymarket/Leesburg. Turn left onto Rt 15 south. Turn right onto Rt 55 and go 1.7 mi. to Thoroughfare Rd. Turn left onto Thoroughfare and go 0.3 mi. There are parking lots on both sides of the road. Meet in the right hand (west) parking lot. The left hand (east) parking lot can be used for overflow parking.

Long Branch Nature Area (5/1, 6/5) 625 S Carlin Springs Rd, Arlington 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.

Meadowood Recreation Area (4/10) 10406 Gunston Rd, Lorton 22079 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

(continued p. 7)

Birding in Northern California: the California Condor



*Turkey Vulture and California Condor
photographed by Peter Penczer*

This past summer we spent four weeks in Northern California, hoping to beat the heat and hike the redwoods. The weather never varied: mornings were foggy and afternoons were 75F and sunny. We did manage to see the famous trees but got sidetracked by the excellent birding. The highlight was seeing a California Condor, the largest bird in North America and the rarest.

Soon after we arrived, we hired Rob Fowler, a bird guide who lives in Arcata and specializes in Humboldt and Del Norte counties in the northwest corner of California. (Yes, Fowler is his real last name.) Together the two counties comprise 2,000 mountainous square miles but have only 165,000 people. The largest metropolitan area is Eureka–Arcata with 65,000 people. The two cities are on opposite sides of Humboldt Bay, a “Globally Important Bird Area,” as Rob described it, due to the vast number of birds that winter there.

We met at 6:30 a.m. on a Sunday morning at the Arcata Marsh, which he described as the most popular birding site in northwest California with 322 reported species. The summer is the off-season for birding there, but we still saw 50 species. Some of the memorable birds were the Virginia Rail, California Quail, Western Flycatcher, Wrentit, Black Phoebe, and the Long-billed Curlew. They may not be the rarest or sought-after birds for California birders, but for us East Coasters they were all special. Peter’s brother, who is not a birder (but may be now) was amazed at what Rob was able to show us in a place that he has been visiting for 30 years. After about 3 hours in the marsh, we drove up to Blue Lake for some more birding. Whereas the coast is perpetually cool, Humboldt County heats up dramatically as you head inland and Blue Lake is warmer even though it is only a few miles from the ocean. There is no lake at Blue Lake, although we did walk a bit of the Russian River and saw numerous birds including Black-throated Gray Warblers and a White-tailed Kite.

Rob was not only exceptionally knowledgeable about birds, but he has a warm and engaging personality. Incidentally, he uses the same camera lens as Peter, a Canon 400mm/F5.6 and, if you look at his website, for Fowlerope Birding Tours, you can see that he gets good results.

Besides giving us an excellent birding tour, Rob told us that the best place to see a California Condor was at Dolason Prairie, confirming some eBird alerts we had seen. The prairie is a large open field on the high ground of Redwood National Park, about one hour north of Arcata, where we were staying with Peter’s brother and his girlfriend. The birds were expected to appear in the early afternoon so we headed up there with a picnic lunch. After getting up at 5 a.m. more than once in search of birds, the condor was already Peter’s favorite.

We had lunch at the prairie picnic area and posted a lookout, but no condors. Another birder stopped by and told us that it was her fourth trip to the prairie, but she had

yet to see a condor. We tried to stay positive and, after lunch, drove off to another, higher, prairie, then came back. Just as we were about to give up, we looked up in the sky and a single condor soared overhead and circled the prairie for about ten minutes. It was unmistakable due to its huge wingspan of 9.5 feet, nearly twice the size of a Turkey Vulture, white patches under the wings, and prominent “fingers.” Remarkably, the weight of an adult condor is only 20 pounds, the size of a large cat.

We got some good photographs showing the tags on its wings marked “A2.” It’s not often that you can learn a wild bird’s name, in this case “Nes-kwe-chokw,” let alone its birthday (or is it hatchday?), which was March 8, 2020. This particular condor was a male and hatched at the Oregon Zoo, according to information available online. He was a youngster, since condors reach maturity only after 6 to 8 years and can live to be more than 50. Of course, they eat carrion, and a condor is always top dog at a carcass unless a Golden Eagle shows up with its superior talons.

Some 40,000 years ago, condors were found all over North America, and Lewis and Clark saw them in the Pacific Northwest. By the 1980s, their numbers had fallen to only 22 due to DDT, lead poisoning, and their extremely slow reproduction—only one egg per year. All of the wild birds were captured and bred in zoos, then introduced into the wild in Southern California, Baja, Utah, and Arizona. At the impetus of the Yurok, a local Indian tribe, the birds were reintroduced into Northern California. A2 is known as Nes-kwe-chokw in Yurok, meaning “He returns.”

It was an exciting sighting given its huge size and rarity. There were only 561 California Condors in the world in 2022 according to the Fish and Wildlife Service, with 347 in the wild, so it is indeed one of the world’s rarest birds. Although the captive breeding program was a huge success, it is still “critically endangered.”

Although the condor was definitely the largest bird we saw in California, there were many others as well, and at least one miss. We hoped to see a Marbled Murrelet and Rob gave us some ideas for where to find one. Two days later, we got up at 5:15 a.m. and drove up to Prairie Redwoods State Park where the endangered shorebird nests in the tops of the old-growth trees. Early in the morning, the male and female birds meet in the meadow by the visitor center to trade off on nest-watching duties. We heard them, but did not see them due to the dense fog.

The following Sunday we met Ken Burton and a dozen other birders for a free guided bird walk at Redwoods National Park. Ken is Humboldt County’s other main bird expert. The scenery was beautiful as we walked out to the mouth of Redwoods Creek. Gazing out from the beach at the edge of the Pacific Ocean we got a good look at Caspian Terns, Common Murres, Heermann’s Gulls, and Pacific Loons. We ended the trip with 21 life birds.

—Anne Marie Kupferer and Peter R. Penczer

Trip Directions (from p. 5)

Meadowood Recreation Area (4/10). becomes Gunston Cove Rd. After crossing Rt 1, road becomes Gunston Rd. Go 1.8 miles to Meadowood on right. (BLM, Lower Potomac Station Office). Park on right next to horse barns just before field station building.

Neabsco Regional Park - Boardwalk (5/22) 15125 Blackburn Rd, Woodbridge 22191 From I-495, take I-95 south about 14 mi. to exit 156 (Dale City/Rippon Landing/Rt. 784). Take exit 156A for Rt 784 east toward Rippon Landing. Continue 0.7 mi. cross Rt 1 where Dale Blvd becomes Rippon Blvd and continue down the hill another 0.4 mi. to a stop light and turn right on Blackburn Rd. The park parking lot is then 0.2 mi. away on the left.

Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge (4/13, 5/18) 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 at the parking lot.

Silver Lake Park (6/1) 16198 Silver Lake Rd, Haymarket 20169 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 miles to Rt 55. Turn right onto Rt 55 and go 0.9 miles to Antioch Rd. Turn right onto Antioch and go 1.3 miles to Silver Lake Rd. Turn right and proceed to park entrance and continue to parking lot next to the lake. Meet in parking lot.



Song Sparrow photographed by Seth Honig

Trillium Trail-G. Richard Thompson Wildlife Management Area (5/11) (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.

Bird Walks at Local Parks

- **Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve, second Saturdays, 8 am** Meet at the parking lot. Online registration. Visit the Loudoun Wildlife web site. www.loudounwildlife.org/events/
- **Bles Park, third Sundays, 8 am** Meet at the parking lot. Online registration. www.loudounwildlife.org/events/
- **Dyke Marsh, Sundays, 8 am** Visit the Friends of Dyke Marsh web site, www.fodm.org
- **Great Falls National Park, Sundays, 8 am** Meet in the main parking lot near the Park Visitor Center.
- **Huntley Meadows Park, Mondays, 7 am (Apr-Sep) 8 am (Oct-Mar)** Meet in parking lot.
- **Merrimac Farm, last Sunday, 8 am** Meet at Merrimac Farm Stone House. www.pwconserve.org/events/index.html#birds
- **Riverbend Park, first and third Fridays, 8 am, beginning April 5 to October 18.** Meet in the Nature Center parking lot off Jeffery Road. No fee but call Riverbend Park at 703-759-9018 to register. Leader: Robin Duska
- **Sweet Run State Park, fourth Saturdays, 8 am** Meet at Education Center. Online registration. www.loudounwildlife.org/events/



Wrentit photographed by Peter Penczer



California Condor with "A2" tags photographed by Peter Penczer

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JOIN THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA BIRD CLUB

Northern Virginia Bird Club dues for 2024 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, <http://www.nvabc.org/join/>.

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 email Elizabeth Fenton at emfenton@cox.net.

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, Jeremy Beck at jghyll+nvabc@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 Dates: April 18, September 19, and November 21, 2024.

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, May 30, 2024, 7:30 p.m. To join the Zoom board meeting or to have items put on the agenda, please email lgmeade@gmail.com.

Deadline for next issue of *The Siskin*: The August issue will include activities through October 2024. Please send items for publication by **July 1, 2024** to the editors at nvbcsiskineditor@gmail.com.

CLUB CONTACTS

President: Larry Meade, 571-275-2523

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Administrator, NVBC Facebook

Group: Allie Guidry (please contact through Facebook page)

NVBC email: lgmeade@gmail.com

Photographs of Birds in Spring

by Seth Honig

Birds singing:



Northern Parula photographed along the Accotink Trail, in the Mantua Park section on April 15, 2020



Prothonotary Warbler at Huntley Meadows on April 17, 2023



Common Yellowthroat, singing away at Huntley Meadows on April 17, 2015



Mourning Warbler perched up and singing at Paddy Knob on May 17, 2023.

Birds with nesting material or food:



Eastern Phoebe gathering nesting material on April 8, 2022 at Veteran's Memorial Park in Woodbridge



Killdeer chick, having caught a worm on April 28th at the Mooreview Parkway Impoundments in Loudoun.

Photographs of Birds in Spring in Ohio

by Neal Gause



Marsh Wren photographed along Maumee Bay State Park boardwalk, May 10, 2023



White-crowned Sparrow at Magee Marsh, May 11, 2022



Eastern Whip-poor-will at Magee Marsh,, May 10, 2022



Blue-winged Warbler at Oak Openings Preserve Metropark, May 13, 2022



White-eyed Vireo at Magee Marsh,, May 10, 2022



Warbling Vireo at Magee Marsh,, May 15, 2021

More Warblers in Spring



Canada Warbler in stream on May 12, 2022 photographed by Seth Honig



Golden-winged Warbler at stream on May 5, 2023, photographed by Seth Honig



Magnolia Warbler photographed at Magee Marsh by Neal Gause, May 9, 2022



Blackpoll Warbler (female) photographed at Crane Creek Estuary Trail by Neal Gause, May 15, 2022



Cape May Warbler in yard on April 25, 2022 photographed by Seth Honig



Yellow Warbler photographed at Magee Marsh by Neal Gause, May 11, 2022