

The Todd Nuthatch



Indiana, PA

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Todd Bird Club
www.toddbirdclub.org

January 2015

Meetings

Todd Bird Club meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month, September through April, at Blue Spruce Lodge in Blue Spruce County Park, located just off Route 110 east of the town of Ernest. Arrive early to socialize. Refreshments are provided at each of our meetings. In May we hold our banquet meeting which starts at 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 3 – Come, learn about the success of the Golden-winged Warbler Project from D.J. McNeil, a second-year graduate student at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania working under the guidance of Dr. Jeff Larkin. He completed his undergraduate degree in Fisheries & Wildlife at the Michigan State University where his research primarily focused on monitoring the response of passerine birds to habitat management, focusing particularly on Golden-winged Warbler densities in aspen timber harvests. His current work at IUP is aimed at studying Golden-winged Warbler response to private land management strategies where he explores nesting success, territory attributes, and post-fledging habitat-use.



D.J. McNeil poses with a Golden-winged Warbler at one of his study sites.

The biology program at IUP hosts an array of ecological research spanning everything from systematics and evolution to habitat-requirements and management. McNeil and Larkin's work, facilitated by IUP's biology department, are a deliberate attempt to collect/analyze

data that will directly contribute to the recovery of the Golden-winged Warbler and the entire suite of birds that require the habitat created through private forestland management.

Tuesday, March 3 – Patrick Snickles, PGC Wildlife Education Supervisor, will present a program on the life history of the American Woodcock, its range, habits, and its unusual mating system.

The evening's speaker is no stranger to our group. Previously serving northern Indiana County as WCO for 19 years, he has presented many interesting and informative programs to our group. You shouldn't miss this one! Come learn about this unusual shorebird.

Tuesday, April 7 – Todd Bird Club member Tom Glover will present "Birding in the Late Pleistocene" at our April meeting. He plans to lead an outing 20,000 years ago at the height of the last glacier. Birds at that time were impacted by a continental glacier that changed migration patterns and summer nesting locations. Come, spend an evening with the birds of the Pleistocene.

Tuesday, May 5 – This is our annual banquet meeting which begins at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to share and your own place settings. Details will follow in the March edition of "The Todd Nuthatch."

Outings

Tuesday morning outings, mostly at Yellow Creek, will continue. Meet at 8:00 at the park office located on Rt. 259, just off Rt. 422 east of Indiana. Everyone – from beginner to expert birder – is welcome. If you have questions, contact Lee Carnahan (724-388-4667) or Roger or Margaret Higbee (724-354-3493). If the weather is questionable, please call!

Saturday, February 21 – Sandy Ridge Road grasslands in Clearfield County, led by Tom Glover (814-938-5618). Meet at 3:00 p.m. at a small cemetery on Route 36, address 14430 Colonel Drake Hwy, Punxsutawney, about 7 miles south of Punxsutawney. Target species include Short-eared Owl, Northern Harrier, and Rough-legged Hawk.

Sunday, March 8, through Wednesday, March 11 – Coastal New Jersey. This trip will target Barnegat Light, Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, Cape May, and possibly Sandy Hook. Possible species include Brant, Harlequin Duck, King Eider, Great Cormorant, Northern Gannet, Purple Sandpiper, and American Oystercatcher. We'll remain flexible so that we can check the local list serves for possible vagrants. If you are interested in going, please contact Roger or Margaret Higbee (724-354-3493).

Saturday, March 14 – Yellow Creek State Park, led by Lee Carnahan (724-388-4667). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the park office.

Saturday, March 21 – Yellow Creek State Park, led by Gloria Lamer (724-349-1159). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the park office for early waterfowl.

Saturday, March 28 – Yellow Creek State Park, led by Roger and Margaret Higbee (724-354-3493). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the park office for this joint outing with the Friends of the Park.

Saturday, April 4 – Yellow Creek State Park, led by Roger and Margaret Higbee (724-354-3493). This is our semi-annual joint outing with the Three Rivers Birding Club. After the outing we'll head into Indiana for lunch at the Chinese buffet.

Saturday, April 11 – Ghost Town Trail, led by Lee Carnahan and Tom Glover. Meet at the Vintondale access at 8:00 a.m.

Saturday, April 18 – Waterworks Conservation Area and the Gary Ferrence Farm, led by Sue Dickson (724-388-5000). Meet at the conservation area at 8:00 a.m.

Saturday, April 25 – Eagle Watch on the Mahoning Shadow Trail, led by Tom Glover (814-938-5618). We'll check to see if the resident Bald Eagles are nesting this year, and we'll bird the trail for migrants. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Valier trailhead parking lot.

Birding the Carden Alvar

by Richard Nugent

The Carden Alvar (also called the Carden Plain) is an almost level area of about 25 square miles north of Toronto, Canada, in Ontario. The Alvar is a limestone plain that was scraped clean by the most recent glacier and now has very thin soil and many wetland areas. It is very lightly populated with ranches devoted to cattle. Very little of the land is publicly owned, so most birding must be done from the gravel roads. The Carden Alvar is like a piece of western prairie transported to southern Ontario. Some of the most sought birds are Loggerhead Shrike, Upland Sandpiper, Sedge Wren and Golden-



winged Warbler. It is also home to a variety of western wildflowers, especially Prairie Smoke and Indian Paintbrush.

I left our home in Pittsburgh at 7:06 a.m. on June 12, 2014, and had a pleasant drive to the Canadian border. Crossing the border was a breeze with a short line and three basic questions. Traffic through Toronto was heavy but moved well, and I arrived at Orillia, near Lake Simcoe, around 3:00 p.m. After checking into my motel, I decided to survey the Carden Alvar.

I arrived at the area at 3:55 and

drove north on Lake Dalrymple Road, which is on the western edge of the plain. This is on the eastern side of Lake Dalrymple with lots of cottages and an occupied Osprey nest. I then headed east on Alvar Road, which forms the northern boundary of the plain. Alvar Road was a terrible dirt road with many water-filled potholes, some extending across the whole road. It did pass through good habitat with some of the area's only forest, which yielded Common Raven, Ovenbird, and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. After a couple miles of stressful driving, I turned right (south) on Wylie Road, which goes through the heart of the plain. Wylie Road was gravel with large water-filled potholes, but it was still an improvement over Alvar Road. The heart of the plain was dominated by wetlands and shrubby pastures filled with wildflowers. My exploration was cut short by the arrival of heavy thunderstorms. I went to a local family restaurant where I enjoyed a pleasant meal. My list of bird highlights is below:

Bobolink	Yellow Warbler
Osprey	Black-billed Cuckoo
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Eastern Meadowlark
Ovenbird	Common Raven
Cedar Waxwing	Brown Thrasher
Grasshopper Sparrow	Common Yellowthroat

June 13 dawned clear and cool with the promise of a great day. After a quick breakfast at Tim Horton's, I started birding at the alvar. My first stop was the Sedge Wren Marsh. This location lived up to its name, and I saw and heard a Sedge Wren. Even more impressive was an American Bittern calling loudly from the marsh. I was surprised to find that Black-billed Cuckoos are very common in the Carden Alvar as are Brown Thrashers. The marsh was also well populated with typical wetland fauna. The dominant frog was Northern Leopard Frog (rare in PA), and Painted Turtles were common. I also saw a large leech swimming in a big puddle. The day quickly became warm and sunny with a modest number of mosquitoes. My list of bird highlights for this location follows:

Common Yellowthroat	Warbling Vireo
Swamp Sparrow	American Bittern
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Alder Flycatcher
Sedge Wren	Blue-headed Vireo
Black-billed Cuckoo	Brown Thrasher
Willow Flycatcher	Yellow Warbler
Eastern Kingbird	Baltimore Oriole
Wild Turkey	Ruffed Grouse

I then drove a short distance to Windmill Farm, a good place to see Loggerhead Shrike. Sadly no shrikes were to be seen. The best observation here was a Black Bear seen about 200 yards in the distance. A bird blind hosted an Eastern Phoebe nest and several Barn Swallow nests.

Nearby at least 7 Brown Thrashers, 7 Eastern Meadowlarks, and 6 Bobolinks frolicked in the pastures. There were also at least 3 Wilson's Snipe (another common bird in the alvar) calling. My list of highlights included:

Brown Thrasher	Bobolink
Eastern Meadowlark	Wilson's Snipe
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Common Yellowthroat
Eastern Bluebird	

Next I birded along Shrike Road. Despite its promising name, I saw no shrikes. This area did produce an Upland Sandpiper. I saw the following:

Eastern Kingbird	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Eastern Meadowlark	Bobolink
Savannah Sparrow	Field Sparrow
Cliff Swallow	Black-billed Cuckoo
Brown Thrasher	Yellow Warbler
Upland Sandpiper	Wild Turkey
Common Yellowthroat	

For a change of habitat I birded along Talbot River Road, which borders the southern boundary of the Carden Alvar. The highlight here was a family of Trumpeter Swans (one adult and 5 cygnets). I was fortunate to see a Red-eyed Vireo as they are not common. Other birds were:

Trumpeter Swan	Common Yellowthroat
Wood Thrush	Wilson's Snipe
Belted Kingfisher	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Yellow Warbler	Red-eyed Vireo
Warbling Vireo	Chipping Sparrow
Northern Waterthrush	Least Flycatcher
Eastern Kingbird	Bald Eagle
Baltimore Oriole	Brown Thrasher

I drove back into the heart of the alvar and birded Cameron Ranch (another shrike hotspot). Again I found no shrikes, but I saw more Eastern Meadowlarks and Eastern Kingbirds. I then revisited Windmill Ranch and Shrike Road. The only new bird for the day was an Osprey along Shrike Road. I finished the day by birding along Prospect Road, which is known for Virginia Rails. I found the rail easily. My list of highlights for Prospect Road included:

Black-billed Cuckoo	Brown Thrasher
Eastern Kingbird	Swamp Sparrow
Virginia Rail	Bobolink

Despite not seeing any Loggerhead Shrikes or Golden-winged Warblers, I had a very good birding experience. The next day I drove to the nearby Bruce Peninsula for a Botanical Society trip that focused on orchids and ferns. The birding highlight of the botanical trip was seeing a pair of nesting Piping Plovers at Sauble Beach.

“A Fondness for Birds”

By Tom Glover

One never knows when a birding opportunity will come about. While attending a lecture on Archaeology this past November at The State Museum of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg, a unique birding opportunity arose. During the opening remarks by Mr. David Dunn, Director of The State Museum of Pennsylvania, he highlighted a special exhibit “A Fondness for Birds: Pennsylvania’s Alexander Wilson.” And, of course, when he mentioned Alexander Wilson, my ears perked up.

“A Fondness for Birds” exhibit is set up in the new natural history gallery located on the third floor of the museum next to the Mammal Hall. The exhibit is the first in a series of a new cooperative adventure by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to use the natural history and science expertise of a number of state agencies to create new exhibits and programming promoting an appreciation of Pennsylvania’s natural history.

The exhibit will run through March 15, 2015, and features Wilson’s original bird prints and first-edition volumes of his 200-year-old “American Ornithology.” The exhibit also features a number of bird specimens from the museum’s Botany and Zoology collection, some of which date to the late 19th century. Per the Museum’s news release, the specimens underscore the museum’s historic and continuing role in the study of Pennsylvania’s flora and fauna. The Pennsylvania Game Commission has provided ornithological and educational assistance to the Wilson exhibit with fresh insights into Wilson’s legacy and the critical role of bird conservation in Pennsylvania today.

For a detailed biography on Alexander Wilson refer to the October 2013 issue of the “Nuthatch.” Edward H. Burt and William E. Davis wrote a book on Wilson’s life and that book was reviewed in the above-mentioned issue.

Great Backyard Bird Count

The 18th annual GBBC will be held Friday, February 13, through Monday, February 16, 2015. Please visit the official website at www.birdcount.org for more information, and be sure to check out the latest educational and promotional resources.

This annual four-day event engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of where the birds are.

GBBC checklists can be accepted from anywhere in the world!

Everyone is welcome to participate – beginning bird watchers to experts. You may spend as little as 15 minutes on one day, or you may count for as long as you like each

day of the event. It’s free, fun, and easy—and it helps the birds.

Participants tally the number of individual birds of each species they see during their count periods. They enter these numbers on the GBBC website.

New participants must set up a free GBBC account to submit their checklists or use login information from an existing account for any other Cornell Lab citizen-science project. You’ll only need to do this once to participate in all future GBBC events. Click “Submit Your Bird Checklist” at the top of this page or see “How to Participate” for more details. As the count progresses, anyone with Internet access can explore what is being reported.

Festival of Lights Revisited

Todd Bird Club members helped support the last season of the Festival of Lights by collecting money at the entrance booth on Thursday, December 11. Helping out were Jean and Vernon Blystone, Lee Carnahan, Linda Jones, Gloria Lamer, Ed Meyer, and John Somonick.

The amount of traffic was light to moderate, but the weather was not bad although we had occasional light gusts of wind. We constantly stoked the fire barrel and drank hot chocolate for warmth.

– Lee Carnahan

Indiana Christmas Bird Count Results

32nd Annual CBC – December 26, 2014

Snow Goose (CW)		Am. Woodcock (2)		American Tree Sparrow (483)	37
Canada Goose (2081)	284	Bonaparte's Gull (6)		Chipping Sparrow (4)	
Mute Swan (4)		Ring-billed Gull (50)	CW	Field Sparrow (13)	2
Tundra Swan (533)		Herring Gull (1)		Savannah Sparrow (2)	
Wood Duck (2)		Rock Pigeon (392)	171	Fox Sparrow (3)	
Gadwall (30)	CW	Mourning Dove (1117)	446	Song Sparrow (152)	67
American Wigeon (14)	3	Eastern Screech-Owl (13)	2	Lincoln's Sparrow (1)	
American Black Duck (190)	32	Great Horned Owl (10)	4	Swamp Sparrow (14)	7
Mallard (670)	169	Barred Owl (5)		White-throated Sparrow (214)	50
N. Shoveler (2)		Long-eared Owl (1)		White-crowned Sparrow (36)	6
N. Pintail (10)		Short-eared Owl (2)		Dark-eyed Junco (2272)	421
Green-winged Teal (4)		Belted Kingfisher (9)	CW	Northern Cardinal (584)	192
Canvasback (15)	1	Red-headed Woodpecker (1)		Red-winged Blackbird (3570)	2
Redhead (14)		Red-bellied Woodpecker (72)	55	Eastern Meadowlark (10)	
Ring-necked Duck (41)	10	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (8)		Rusty Blackbird (13)	
*Greater Scaup (2)	5	Downy Woodpecker (177)	82	Brewer's Blackbird (CW)	
Lesser Scaup (32)	2	Hairy Woodpecker (58)	29	Common Grackle (503)	3
Surf Scoter (CW)		Northern Flicker (40)	6	Brown-headed Cowbird (46)	7
White-winged Scoter (1)		*Pileated Woodpecker (31)	36	Pine Grosbeak (1)	
Long-tailed Duck (3)	2	Am. Kestrel (26)	13	Purple Finch (89)	8
Bufflehead (52)	18	Merlin (2)		House Finch (1563)	228
Common Goldeneye (7)	CW	Peregrine Falcon (1)		White-winged Crossbill (62)	
Hooded Merganser (34)	16	**Eastern Phoebe	1	Common Redpoll (63)	
*Common Merganser (10)	15	Northern Shrike (1)		Pine Siskin (375)	85
Red-breasted Merganser (2)	1	Blue Jay (566)	222	American Goldfinch (637)	158
Ruddy Duck (223)	6	American Crow (3275)	457	Evening Grosbeak (566)	
Ring-necked Pheasant (21)	3	Fish Crow (8)	1	House Sparrow (809)	409
Ruffed Grouse (22)	5	Common Raven (5)	1		
Wild Turkey (345)	116	Horned Lark (225)	71	Total Individuals (18,833)	5,693
N. Bobwhite (1)		Black-capped Chickadee (808)	361		
Red-throated Loon (1)		Tufted Titmouse (394)	199	74 Species on 12/26/14 + 7 for CW	
Common Loon (9)		Red-breasted Nuthatch (51)	1		
Pied-billed Grebe (29)	CW	White-breasted Nuthatch (201)	151	CW = Birds Seen During Count	
Horned Grebe (7)	CW	Brown Creeper (25)	7	Week but Not Count Day	
Red-necked Grebe (1)		Carolina Wren (61)	28	CW = December 23-29	
Double-crested Cormorant (1)		Winter Wren (4)	1		
Great Blue Heron (8)	2	Golden-crowned Kinglet (106)	23	* Record-breaking or Equal High	
*Turkey Vulture (2)	4	Ruby-crowned Kinglet (4)		Tally (6)	
Bald Eagle (4)	1	Eastern Bluebird (152)	115		
Northern Harrier (9)		Hermit Thrush (6)		**Species New to the Count (two!)	
Sharp-shinned Hawk (14)	3	Wood Thrush (CW)			
Cooper's Hawk (15)	4	American Robin (1626)	21	() Highest No. Seen on Any	
N. Goshawk (1)		Gray Catbird (2)	CW	Previous Indiana CBC, 1983-2013	
Red-shouldered Hawk (5)	2	*Northern Mockingbird (13)	22		
Red-tailed Hawk (70)	48	Brown Thrasher (1)		130 Species on Count since 1983	
Rough-legged Hawk (3)		European Starling (8656)	679	(including 4 CW only species)	
Virginia Rail (1)		Cedar Waxwing (212)	9		
Am. Coot (811)	39	Lapland Longspur (6)			
**Sandhill Crane	2	Snow Bunting (225)			
Killdeer (7)	5	Yellow-rumped Warbler (18)	1		
Wilson's Snipe (3)		Pine Warbler (1)			
		*Eastern Towhee (3)	3		



Christmas Bird Count Observers

Pat Andrascik	Marcy Cunkelman	Janet Kuehl	Luke Stormer
Tom Betts	Sue Dickson	Tom Kuehl	Rodger Stormer
Nathan Birch	Ed Donley	Gloria Lamer	Garrett Strittmatter
Valerie Birch	Gary Ferrence	Marcy Lapinsky	Ian Strittmatter
Jean Blair	Sue Gatti	Dennis Lauffer	Mark Strittmatter
Sid Blair	Jud Glover	Mary A. Little	Georgette Syster
Norman Bono	Tom Glover	Howard Mandigo	John Taylor
Buck Buggy	Carol Guba	Donna Meyer	Marge Vatter
Judy Buggy	Margaret Higbee	Sara Pulliam	Chris Williams
Ken Byerly	Roger Higbee	Cindy Rogers	Paula Williams
Lee Carnahan	Dory Jacobs	Jim Rogers	Ray Winstead
Roger Carnahan	Pat Johner	Scott Simms	Jan Woodard
Dorcas Clark	Paul Johner	Linda Stormer	Jim Woodard
Dan Cunkelman			

CBCs Past and Present

Year	Total Species	Count Week	Individuals	Year	Total Species	Count Week	Individuals
1983	56	3	4188	1999	73	2	18833
1984	57	5	9540	2000	64	2	12397
1985	51	2	4468	2001	77	2	14365
1986	54	2	7453	2002	62	2	9739
1987	60	3	5676	2003	72	4	9687
1988	48	3	6670	2004	72	5	8788
1989	52	4	4309	2005	62	7	12130
1990	65	6	8502	2006	64	5	8762
1991	60	5	6004	2007	82	3	14344
1992	67	8	6435	2008	71	8	14329
1993	70	9	13490	2009	56	5	8472
1994	67	4	10759	2010	55	2	7174
1995	71	5	8637	2011	71	4	9029
1996	65	7	9994	2012	80	3	9094
1997	74	3	10180	2013	68	6	8843
1998	82	7	10873	2014	74	7	5693

CBC Notes

As you can see from the chart above, this was not a stellar count. Our 74 total species tally was surpassed on only four other counts (nice variety!), but our total number of individuals was very low, less than one third of our previous high, and the lowest since 1989.

Two species were new to the count, Sandhill Crane and Eastern Phoebe. On another positive note, five species reached their maxima this year – Common Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Pileated Woodpecker, Northern Mockingbird, and Eastern Towhee. Ruffed Grouse were up from the previous few years with sightings of 5 individuals. Eastern Bluebirds, too, were in higher numbers with more than twice as many this year as last.

Other common winter birds were difficult to find.

Golden-crowned Kinglets plummeted from 56 last year to only 23. But the sparrows were the ones found in lower numbers – American Tree Sparrows totaled 106 last year but only 37 this count. Juncos went from 1,055 to only 421. Cardinals, too, fell from last year's tally of 332 to 192.

Feeder-watchers spent 31.5 hours at 13 feeders; field birders in 17 parties hiked 31.2 miles and drove 658.3 miles, spending at total of 108.75 hours counting birds.

Maybe it was just the weather, or maybe last year's winter was tougher on our wintering birds than we realized. Other possibilities could be climate change or varying observer effort.

Christmas Bird Count Highlights

The Indiana CBC was held once again this year on our traditional date, December 26, and we met at 6:00 at Hoss's to compile the list. Twenty-one of us showed up for the dinner. As we worked our way through the compilation of the bird list, excitement grew.

Two Lick Reservoir hosted the only American Wigeons and Common Mergansers, seen by Lee Carnahan, Roger Carnahan, and Dennis Lauffer; this group also noted the count's only Ring-necked Pheasants. Thanks to Dennis's sharp ears, another bird new to the count was added this year, Eastern Phoebe, which was well seen by the entire crew.

Yellow Creek provided the bulk of the waterfowl reports, including two Long-tailed Ducks, seen by Gloria Lamer and Georgette Syster. The Long-tailed Ducks were seen on only one previous count in 2012. They also noted the only Canvasback and Greater Scaup.

Pat Johner spotted the count's lone Bald Eagle as well as a Sharp-shinned Hawk.

Marcy and Dan Cunkelman added 2 Eastern Screech-Owls, the only ones on the count, and 2 Great Horned Owls as well as 2 Sandhill Cranes. The cranes flew right over their heads and ever alert, Marcy snapped photos.

On the north shore of Yellow Creek Lake, Ed Donley, John Taylor, and Mark, Ian, and Garrett Strittmatter listed one of the only 2 Red-shouldered Hawks and one of the only 2 Red-winged Blackbirds. Donna Meyer reported the other Red-winged Blackbird.

Jan and Jim Woodard, new to the count (Welcome!), who had been sent on a mission for the Indiana Fish Crows, succeeded and also added the only 3 Common Grackles.

Carol Guba contributed the first Eastern Towhee to the count list.

We all enjoyed Ray Winstead's reports of 16 Black-capped Chickadees, of which 6 were eating from his hand; 9 Tufted Titmice of which 4 were eating from his hand; and 7 White-breasted Nuthatches, of which one was eating from his hand.

Tom and Jud Glover in the area surrounding Blue Spruce Park, tallied almost half the Wild Turkeys found on the count as well as 2 White-crowned Sparrows.

Chris and Paula Williams from New Jersey joined us once again this year for the count but were unable to come to the dinner. Fortunately they dropped their list at our house, so we had their data for the compilation. They found the count's only Yellow-rumped Warbler, the only 2 Field Sparrows, and the other 4 White-crowned Sparrows.

Roger and I added the count's only 9 Cedar Waxwings and 7 Brown-headed Cowbirds.

There was only one nomination for the "bird of the count," now known as the James Dearing Award. Marcy and Dan Cunkelman's two Sandhill Cranes were an obvious choice, in spite of my jokingly vying for our Brown-headed Cowbirds. In a leaner year, the phoebe and the Long-tailed Ducks may have won. The award, a stuffed owl, was given to the Cunkelmans.

Subsequently, more data arrived from those who did not come to Hoss's. Musser Lake harbored two Lesser Scaup for Tom Betts. Gary Ferrence checked in for his group

which included Ken Byerly, Tom and Janet Kuehl, and Norman Bono, adding half of the count's Northern Flickers and an amazing 39 Eastern Bluebirds. Sara Pulliam in Homer City added 2 Eastern Towhees at her feeder. Sid and Jean Blair were treated to a flock of 35 Pine Siskins. Nathan Birch, assisted by his mom Valerie, added one of the Cooper's Hawks to our list. Jim

Rogers took a trip into town resulting in the spotting of 4 Turkey Vultures, a species not often found on our CBC. We also welcome newcomer Marcy Lapinsky who contributed a great feeder count to our list. Rodger, Linda, and Luke Stormer, heard 2 hooting Great Horned Owls, bringing the total to 4.

Several feeder watchers complained about the lack of birds at their feeders as it was a nice day. There's nothing like a snow storm to bring birds into the feeders! Fortunately for the field birders, the weather was good. There was no precipitation, and the temperatures were moderate in the 30s. We saw a lot of sunshine.

Everyone who participated contributed to the count. If your name isn't listed here, it's not because your data isn't important. It is. It takes the entire group to complete a CBC! Thank you!!!

– Margaret Higbee, CBC Compiler



Marcy Cunkelman snapped this shot of the Sandhill Cranes that she and Dan spotted. They received the James Dearing Award for the "Bird of the Count."

Indiana - Armstrong - Cambria County

Please submit your reports at the end of each month to Margaret Higbee, 3119 Creekside Road, Indiana, PA 15701-7934 or e-mail to bcoriole@windstream.net or marghigbee@gmail.com.

Locations: Blue Spruce County Park (BS), Blacklick Valley Natural Area (BVNA), Blue Spruce Co. Park (BS), Crooked Creek Park (CC), Ghost Town Trail (GTT), Keystone Reservoir (KR), Leechburg (LB), Indiana University of PA (IUP), Prince Gallitzin State Park (PG), Shelocta (SH), Waterworks Conservation Area (WCA), Yellow Creek State Park (YC).



Jim Hausman II photographed one of the 8 Greater White-fronted Geese that stopped at Crooked Creek on 10/13.



Linda Greble captured this photo at Yellow Creek on 11/5.



This Cackling Goose was photographed at Yellow Creek 11/6 by Margaret Higbee.

Eight **Greater White-fronted Geese** visited CC 10/9 (MK, GK) through 10/13 (JH), a second *Armstrong* record. A blue morph **Snow Goose** was found in a flock of **Tundra Swans** at YC 11/23 (LC). A **Brant**, the eighth *Indiana* record, first sighted 11/4 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DM, RN) remained at YC through

11/11 (LC, MH, RH, DK, DM, JW). Five **Cackling Geese** were present at CC 11/1 (SG) through 11/4 (MM) while a single Cackling Goose appeared at YC 11/5 (GK, MK) where it remained through 11/11 (LC, MH, RH, DK, DM, JW); the YC bird was a third *Indiana* record.

The first 3 **Tundra Swans** arrived at YC 11/1 (TG, MH, RH, TH, OL); PG's first flock of 65 appeared 11/6 (RL); high counts were 290 over SH 11/12 (MH, RH) and 126 on 11/23 (LC) at YC. *Armstrong* reports included an unseen calling flock above the clouds at KR 11/14 (MH, RH) and 4 at CC 11/22 (MVT).

Wood Duck maxima were 73 at YC 9/16 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, DM), 20 at CC the same day (DY), and 35 n.e. of Orchard Hills 10/10 (GF); one still lingered at YC 11/5 (DJM). First 3 **Gadwalls** arrived at YC 10/21 (LC, MH, RH); best tallies at YC included 124 on 11/7 (LC) and 70 on 11/9 (DJM), the same day PG harbored 2 (RL). KR hosted the only reported Gadwalls in *Armstrong*, 7 on 10/27 (MH, RH), 2 on 11/14 (MH, RH), and 12 on 11/30 (LC). Arrival date for **American Wigeon** at YC was 9/27 (ST); 3 on 10/26 (SG) at CC were the only ones recorded in *Armstrong*; numbers peaked at 49 at YC on 11/7 (LC). First **American Black Duck** was sighted 10/8 (LC, TG, MH, RH, GL) at YC; 8 stopped at CC 11/21, 22 (MVT) while the top count of 28 was obtained 11/25 (TG) at YC; 4 were at KR 11/30 (LC). The maximum **Mallard** tallies were 141 on 11/7 (LC) at YC, 65 at PG 11/24 (JS), 50 at KR 11/30 (MH, RH), and 12 each near Elderton 9/8 (MH, RH) and near LB 9/15 (MVT). First **Blue-winged Teal** arrived 8/12 (LC, MH, RH) at YC where numbers built to 97 by 9/11 (AB, DB, LC, MH, RH, GL, MS); one visited CC 9/16 (DY); last

observed were 24 at YC 10/18 (LC, SD, MH, RH, GL, J&JS). September 27 (ST) marked the arrival of the first **Northern Shoveler** at YC; high count of 30 was noted 11/9 (DJM) at YC. A single **Northern Pintail** appeared 9/27 (ST) at YC, where the best tally was 77 on 11/30 (LC). YC hosted the first 20 **Green-winged Teal** 9/2 (LC, TG); 48 was the high 11/7 (LC), also at YC.

Two **Canvasback** on 11/23 (LC, MH, RH) at YC were first while one visited KR 11/30 (LC); a count of 4 on 11/25 (MH, RH, GL, DM, EY) at YC was the high. First **Redhead** was spotted 10/26 (LC) at YC, but the best YC tallies were exactly 100 on 11/25 (MH, RH, GL, DM, EY) and 172 the next day (LC); 3 on 11/24 (JS) comprised PG's lone report. Although these YC numbers are not unprecedented in the spring, these are the highest fall counts on record for Redhead with the previous high of 26 on 11/28/13 (LC). An early **Ring-necked Duck** arrived 9/27 (ST) at YC while maximum there was a low 30 on 11/5 (DJM); 2 were listed 10/27 (MH, RH) and 11/30 (LC) at KR and 11/9 (RL) at PG. A single **Greater Scaup** 11/11 (LC, MH, RH, DK, DM, JW) was first while the high count of 4 was noted 11/23 (MH, RH) with all reports at YC. Five **Lesser Scaup** arrived 10/21 (LC, MH, RH) at YC where the peak count of 75 occurred 11/6 (MH, RH); the only report away from YC mentioned 3 at KR on 11/14 (MH, RH). A **White-winged Scoter** 11/25 (TG, MH, RH, DM) at YC and 6 **Black Scoters** 11/12 (JS) at PG were the only scoter reports. Seven **Buffleheads** were listed 11/1 (LC, TG, MH, RH, TH, OL) at YC; peak numbers were 454 on 11/7 (LC) at YC, 260 on 11/12 (JS) at PG, and an even 50 on 11/20 (MH, RH) at

KR. **Hooded Merganser** highs included an amazing 166 at KR on 11/30 (LC) and a mere 10 at YC 11/9 (LC). **Common Mergansers** were in good numbers with reports at CC of 70 on 11/15 (TR) and 138 on 11/21 (MVT); at KR 18 were present 11/14 (MH, RH) and 14 on 11/30 (LC). Two to 8 Common Mergansers were reported between 10/7 and 11/25 (v.o.) at YC. Eight **Red-breasted Mergansers** on 11/23 (LC) at YC were surprisingly the only ones noted. First 67 **Ruddy Ducks** arrived at YC 10/7 (LC, TG, MH, RH, GL); PG hosted 160 on 11/12 (JS); 34 rested at KR 11/14 (MH, RH); on 11/26 (LC) YC numbers peaked at roughly 2000 when an exact count was impossible.



This Glossy Ibis spent two weeks at Yellow Creek where it was photographed by Roger Higbee.

Only 5 **Ruffed Grouse** reports were received: one near CC on 8/19 (MVT), one at Jacksonville 9/29 (DL), one along the GTT 10/11 (TG, MH, RH), one at CC 10/22 (MVT), and four at YC 11/16 (TR). **Wild Turkey** highs were 17 on 8/24 (MVT) at Polka Hollow, 18 near KR 9/19 (MH, RH), and 35 at Camerons Bottom 9/13 (CL, FGS).

Single **Common Loons** appeared at YC between 10/25 (JK) and 11/11 (LC, MH, RH, DK, DM, JW) and at PG 10/29 (JS); KR's Common Loon reports included 2 on 10/27 (MH, RH) and 3 on 11/16 (TR). **Pied-billed Grebe** numbers spiked at 89 at YC 10/7 (LC, TG, MH, RH, GL) and 16 at KR 11/14 (MH, RH); 2 still lingered at YC through 11/30 (LC). YC yielded the first **Horned Grebe** 11/1 (LC, TG, MH, RH, TH, OL); high counts were 30 at KR 11/14 (MH, RH) and 12 at YC 11/25 (TG, MH, RH, GL, DM, EY); PG produced 2 between 11/9 (RL) and 11/24 (JS).

One to 6 **Double-crested Cormorants** visited YC between 8/11 (LC) and 11/16 (LC); one to 2 were at PG between 8/18-9/14 (RL); CC's top count was 9 on 9/16 (DY).

First **Great Egret** was at the McLaughlin farm pond 8/16 (MM); single Great Egrets were found at YC on 13 dates between 8/7 (MVT) and 10/18 (LC, SD, MH, RH, GL, J&JS). Last **Green Heron** was found 10/12 (MJ) at YC. A **Black-crowned Night-Heron** was a great find at the Kovalchick Center Pond 10/30 (JT).

A **Glossy Ibis** was a third county record at YC 9/11 (LC) where it was seen by a multitude of observers through 9/25 (JB).

Last **Turkey Vultures** included 2 at YC 10/28 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, DS, MVT), one over IUP 10/30 (JT), and 3 at PG 11/23 (RL). Migrating **Osprey** moved through the region between 8/16 (SG) and 10/24 (TR).

One to 3 **Bald Eagles** were listed at YC (v.o.) on eight dates between 9/9 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, GL, ML, DM, MSy) and 11/26 (TG, MH, RH, GL, DM, EY) with sightings of both adult and immature birds; on 10/16 (RS) an adult was observed flying over Plumville; 3 adults were seen migrating over SH 10/26 (MH, RH). Five were noted at CC 11/22 (JB) and 4 at PG 11/24 (JS). A single **Northern Harrier** visited YC 11/1 (LC, TG, MH, RH, TH, OL);

another was found south of Worthington 11/25 (WZ); these were the only reports in the region. **Sharp-shinned Hawks** were noted at six locations, all in *Indiana*, this quarter; **Cooper's Hawks**, at 17 (v.o.). Last **Broad-winged Hawks** were listed 9/16, both at YC (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, DM) and at CC (DY), and 9/19 (MVT) at CC.

The first 3 **American Coots** arrived 9/18 (PF) at YC; top count was 1442 on 11/1 (LC, TG, MH, RH, TH, OL). In *Armstrong* coots were spotted only at KR with counts of 14 on 10/27 (MH, RH) and 61 on 11/14 (MH, RH). PG coots peaked at 450 on 11/12 (JS), but the flock had dwindled to 90 by 11/24 (JS).

The season's first 4 **Semipalmated Plovers** appeared 8/10 (LC) at YC; high count of 5 occurred 8/12 (LC, MH, RH) at YC; last noted was a singleton 10/12 (MJ) in Little Yellow Cove. CC yielded *Armstrong's* only **Semipalmated Plovers** between 9/16 (DY) and 9/27 (TR, MVT); all counts were of 1-3 birds. **Killdeer** maxima included an amazing 102 on 9/5 (LC) at YC, 39 on 11/11 (LC, MH, RH, DK, DM, JW) also at YC, and 38 on 9/27 (TR) at CC. Last **Spotted Sandpipers** were found 9/16 (DY) at CC and 10/26 (LC) at YC. **Solitary Sandpipers** lingered at CC 9/16 (DY) and at YC 10/21 (LC, MH, RH).

One to 7 **Greater Yellowlegs** were listed at YC on 14 dates bracketed by 8/11 (LC) and 11/16 (TR); KR produced one on 10/27 (MH, RH) and 4 on 11/2 (LC). At YC one **Lesser Yellowlegs** was first seen 8/15 (LC) while the last 2 birds were noted 11/1 (LC, TG, MH, RH, TH, OL). Another **Stilt Sandpiper** was sighted at YC 9/13 (LC, GL) after the occurrence of one inadvertently omitted from the summer report of an adult in alternate plumage on 7/20 (LC), also in Little Yellow Cove. Three **Dunlin** arrived at YC 10/18 (LC, SD, MH, RH, GL, J&JS); last there was a single bird 11/7 (LC). Four **Least Sandpipers** visited YC 8/8 (LC); 5 was the high YC tally 9/2 (MH, RH); single Least visited CC 9/2 (MVT) through 9/16 (DY); last seen were 2 at YC 10/7 (LC, TG, MH, RH, GL). Single **White-rumped Sandpipers** were nice finds at YC 8/31 (LC, DG, GG) and at CC 9/13 (TR). One to 3 **Pectoral Sandpipers** were sighted on six dates between 8/19 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH) and 10/7 (LC, TG, MH, RH, GL); 4 Pectorals stopped at CC 9/20 (TR) and 3, on 9/27 (TR). YC **Semipalmated Sandpiper** reports included first 2 on 8/12 (LC, MH, RH), high of 4 on 8/31 (DG, GG), and last one 10/7 (LC, TG, MH, RH, GL); one visited CC 9/16 (DY). Two **Wilson's Snipe** were found at YC 10/11 (KA), while singletons were noted 9/30 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DM) and 11/4 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DM, RN). Single **American Woodcocks**, the only ones reported, were found at IUP 9/24 (JT) and along the Hoodlebug Trail 10/20 (DL).

First **Bonaparte's Gull** arrived 10/21 (LC, MH, RH) at YC; KR provided refuge for 3 on 10/27 (MH, RH) and 5 on 11/2 (LC); the only other reports, both at YC, were one on 11/9 (LC) and 2 on 11/23 (LC). Setting a fourth county record,

a **Laughing Gull** was sighted at YC 10/14 (MH, RH, GL) where it was photographed (MH, RH). **Ring-billed Gulls** were reported at YC on only seven dates with 11/7 (GL) yielding the best tally of 64; PG's high count was 7 on 11/27 (RL); one to 3 Ring-bills were found at KR 10/27 (LC) through 11/30 (LC) while 2-3 were noted at CC 11/16, 21 (MVT). Two **Herring Gulls** at CC 11/21 (MVT) were the only ones reported.

Black Terns appeared in good numbers at YC this season with at least 18, and possibly 26, on 8/12 (LC, MH, RH); the previous high count at YC was 14 on 8/30/2005. August 31 yielded 8 at YC (DG, GG) and 4 at PG (RL); last were 5 at PG 9/21 (RL). One **Forster's Tern** at YC 8/11 (LC) and 2 at PG 9/1 (JM) were the only ones noted.

One **Eastern Screech-Owl** was noted at only four locations, three in *Armstrong* and one near SH 8/17 (MH, RH). **Great Horned Owl** reports included one at IUP 9/21 (JT), one heard at Nolo 9/28 (AB, DB), one at the IUP Coop. Park 9/30 (EP), one seen at Penn Run 11/16 (DB), one heard near SGL 247 on 11/19 (TR), and another at Nolo 11/25 (GL). One to 2 **Barred Owls** were heard at Nolo between 8/7 (AB, DB) and 9/30 (AB); another was calling 11/12 (MH, RH) near SH. A single **Common Nighthawk**, the lone report for the region, was sighted at IUP 9/17 (JT).

Last **Chimney Swifts** were 32 over LB 10/5 (MVT) and one circling west of Indiana 10/6 (MH). Last **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** included 2 on 9/2 (MVT) at CC, one 9/19 (MH, RH) near SH, and one the same day (SB) n. of Indiana. September 25 (LG) produced the first migrant **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** sighting at YC; last noted was one at YC 11/4 (LC). A congregation of 14 **Northern Flickers** in a Nolo yard was surprising for the observer 9/25, 10/2 (GL).

Single **Merlins** were seen at YC on five dates bracketed by 8/12 (LC, MH, RH) and 11/5 (GK, MK, DJM) and at CC 10/20, 11/16 (MVT). A **Peregrine Falcon** flew over a yard near SH 9/28 (MH, RH); another visited YC 10/4 (LC, TG, MH, RH, JT, RW) and 10/7 (LC, TG, MH, RH, GL).

An **Olive-sided Flycatcher** was a good find at PG 9/13 (JS). WCA yielded the last **Eastern Wood-Pewee** 9/20 (SD, ED, TG, MH, RH, DM, RW, JT, EY). BS and Rock Furnace Trail respectively produced the season's last calling **Acadian Flycatchers** 9/12 (MH, RH) and 9/14 (KSJ). A **Willow Flycatcher** was last observed at YC 8/12 (LC, MH, RH). A silent **Traill's Flycatcher** was briefly noted at YC 9/19 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH). YC produced the last **Least Flycatcher** 8/26 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH) for *Indiana* while CC yielded the last for *Armstrong* 9/2 (MVT). YC hosted the last, rather late, **Eastern Phoebe** 11/11 (LC, MH, RH, DK, DM, JW) and PG, the last **Eastern Kingbird** 9/14 (RL).

Last dates included 10/1 (MVT) at CC for **White-eyed Vireo**, 9/12 (MH, RH) at BS for **Yellow-throated Vireo**, 10/21 (LC, MH, RH) at YC for **Blue-headed Vireo**, 8/12 (LC, MH, RH) at YC for **Warbling Vireo**, and 10/11 (TG, MH, RH) along the GTT for **Red-eyed Vireo**. Reports included only one **Philadelphia Vireo** sighting – one at BS

9/12 (MH, RH).

Fish Crows continued in Indiana through 11/23 (DJM).

Thirty was the **Horned Lark** count near YC 11/26 (LC).

Last swallow dates were 9/16 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DM) for 2 **Tree Swallows** at YC, 8/1 (MVT) for 2 **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** on Creek Road, 8/25 (RL) for 9 **Bank Swallows** at PG, 9/14 (RL) for 9 **Cliff Swallows** at PG, and 9/30 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DM) for one **Barn Swallow** at YC.

A single **Red-breasted Nuthatch** was noted sporadically near SH 9/12 through 11/22 (MH, RH); another stopped at Lewisville 10/16 (MC). Last **House Wrens** were found 10/7 (LC, TG, MH, RH, GL) at YC and 11/13 (GL) at Nolo. **Winter Wren** reports included singletons at Getty Heights Park 9/30 (DL), at BS 10/10 (MH, RH), at YC 10/15 (LC), at Josephine 11/16 (DL), at CC 11/8 (SG), and at KR 11/16 (TR). Last **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** remained at CC 9/2 (MVT) and at YC 9/9 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, GL, ML, DM, MSy). First migrant **Golden-crowned Kinglet** arrived near Lewisville 10/11 (MC) and at CC 10/25 (TR). A yard near SH yielded the first **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** 9/28 (MH, RH) while the last was seen at YC 11/16 (TR); *Armstrong* sightings occurred between 10/1 (MVT) and 11/1 (SG).

Swainson's Thrushes moved through *Indiana* between 9/22 (MH, RH, JT) and 10/11 (KA), when 2 were sighted at YC; an unusually late individual was reported at CC 10/25 (MVT); the previous latest date on record for the region was 10/17/1997 (CG). One **Hermit Thrush** spotted at YC 11/15 (GK, MK) comprised the entire report for this species. **Wood Thrush** lingered at CC through 9/20 (TR) and at IUP through 9/23 (JT). **Gray Catbirds** remained at BS 10/10 (MH, RH), along the GTT 10/11 (TG, MH, RH), and at CC 10/17 (TR); the last **Brown Thrashers** were listed at IUP 9/17 (JT) and at KR 10/1 (MVT). **American Pipits** visited YC between 9/30 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DM) when 3 were spotted and 11/8 (MH, RH) when 6 were counted; top count was 25 on 10/28 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, DS, MVT).

A single **Snow Bunting** stopped at PG 11/4 (HB).

CC yielded the last **Ovenbird** 10/1 (MVT). A late **Louisiana Waterthrush** was sighted at IUP 8/1 (JT). The SH area produced the last **Blue-winged Warbler** 9/24 (MH). September 12 (MH, RH) was the last date for **Black-and-white Warbler** at BS. **Tennessee Warblers** made a good appearance in *Indiana* between 9/4 (MH, RH) and 10/11 (MH, RH); high tally of 11 was achieved at BS 9/12 (MH, RH). Two **Orange-crowned Warblers** were found at BS 10/10 (MH, RH). One to 2 **Nashville Warblers** were listed between 8/26 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH) and 10/11 (MH, RH). Last 4 **Common Yellowthroats** were noted at CC 9/27 (TR, MVT) and at YC 9/30 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DM), but one remained near Lewisville 10/11 (MC). Single **Hooded Warblers** lingered through 9/20 (TR) at CC and 9/22 (MH, RH) along the GTT. Last **American Redstart** was spotted 9/23 (LC, TG, MH, RH) at YC.

Totally absent from the region in the spring, **Cape May Warblers** put in a strong appearance this fall, including 5 at CC 8/30 (MVT) and 4 at YC 8/26 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH), with last report 9/28 (MH, RH) near SH. A **Northern Parula** stopped 10/1 (MVT) at CC. A **Magnolia Warbler** was last seen at BS 10/10 (MH, RH). **Bay-breasted Warblers** visited *Indiana* between 9/6 (LC, MH, RH, DM, JT, RW) and 9/23 (LC, TG, MH, RH); another was at CC 9/20 (TR). The GTT yielded the last 2 **Blackburnian Warblers** 9/22 (MH, RH) while the last **Yellow Warbler** was found at the Ferrence Farm 9/20 (RH). A **Chestnut-sided Warbler** lingered at YC 9/16 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, DM). **Blackpoll Warblers** migrated through *Indiana* between YC 9/16 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, DM) and 10/10 (MH, RH); *Armstrong's* reports included only single Blackpolls 9/27 (TR, MVT) and 10/1 (MVT). A late adult male **Black-throated Blue Warbler** was found at BS 10/10 (MH, RH) while other last dates included 9/25 (MH, RH) on the Rexis Branch of the GTT and 9/27 (TR) at CC.

IUP was the hotspot for **Palm Warblers** with reports of 1-2 on six dates bracketed by 9/7 (JT) and 10/13 (JT); 2 were also at YC 9/27 (ST), and one occurred at CC 10/1 (MVT). YC yielded the last **Pine Warbler** 9/30 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DM). Small numbers (1-8) of **Yellow-rumped Warblers** moved through the region between 8/30 (MVT) and 11/23 (MH). A **Yellow-throated Warbler** was a nice find at YC 8/26 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH). The last **Black-throated Green Warblers** were 5 at CC 10/1 (MVT) and 3 at YC 10/11 (KA). **Canada Warblers** appeared at YC 8/26 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH) and at BS both the next day (MH, RH) and 9/4 (MH, RH). The only **Wilson's Warblers** reported were 2 on 9/16 (JT) and one 9/18 (JT), all at IUP.

The last **Eastern Towhees** were listed at CC 10/20 (MVT) and near SH 10/29 (MH). An early **American Tree Sparrow** was found along YC's Observatory Trail 10/21 (LC, MH, RH); first *Armstrong* arrival appeared 11/23 (MVT) at CC. Last **Chipping Sparrows** were near SH 10/25 (MH) and at CC 11/8 (SG). **Fox Sparrows** were more prevalent this fall than last with first 2 along the GTT 10/11 (TG, MH, RH); CC yielded one on 11/1 (SG) and KR, another singleton 11/14 (MH, TH); on 11/19 (MH, RH) numbers peaked at a feeder near SH at 9; last seen were individuals



Marcy Cunkelman photographed this White-crowned Sparrow near Lewisville.

near SH 11/24 (MH, RH) and at YC 11/25 (TG, MH, RH, GL, DM, EY). A **Lincoln's Sparrow** was a nice find at YC 10/7 (LC, TG, MH, RH, GL). At least one **Swamp Sparrow** stayed at YC through 11/25 (TG, MH, RH, GL, DM, EY). **White-throated Sparrows** arrived along the GTT 9/27 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, JT, EY) and at YC 9/30 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DM) while the first **White-crowned Sparrow** was sighted near Tunnelton 10/3 (NM); last 2 were at IUP 11/21 (JT). **Dark-eyed Juncos** first appeared at BS south of their breeding range 10/10 (MH, RH).

Single **Scarlet Tanagers** lingered at CC 9/27 (TR, MVT) and along the Rexis Branch of the GTT the same day (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH, JT, EY). The last **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** lingered near SH 9/26 (MH); **Indigo Bunting**, at YC 9/30 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DM) and at CC 10/1 (MVT).

Nov. 5 (GK, MK) produced the last 2 **Red-winged Blackbirds** at YC while roughly 100 gathered at CC 11/15 (TR). **Rusty Blackbirds**, moved through *Indiana* between 10/12 (MJ) and 11/1 (LC, TG, MH, RH, TH, OL) with the best count a mere 20 on the latter date; IUP yielded 2 on 10/17 (JT); one appeared in Patton 11/30 (RL). A flock of roughly 100 **Common Grackles** flew over a yard near SH 10/24 (MH, RH); last spotted were 2 at IUP 11/2 (JT). **Brown-headed Cowbirds** were unreported after 8/18 (MH, RH) when 15 were listed along the West Penn Trail n.w. of Blairsville. Last **Baltimore Oriole** was noted at YC 8/31 (DG, GG). A Nolo feeder attracted 5 **Purple Finches** 10/30-11/1 (AB, DB). The first 15 **Pine Siskins** arrived 10/11 (KA) at YC where the count ten days later (LC, MH, RH) reached 64; 20 appeared at CC 10/26 (SG) where numbers had built to 40 by 11/1 (SG); a feeder at Nolo hosted 54 on 10/31 (GL); n. of Indiana 72 was the count 11/16 (SB); siskins continued in numbers through the end of the period.

Observers: Kirby Adams, James Baginski, Alice Beatty, Dave Beatty, Sidney Blair, Jessica Botzan, H. Burket, Lee Carnahan, Lynn Chapman (LyC), Dan Cunkelman, Marcy Cunkelman, Sue Dickson, Ed Donley, Ann Fasioli, Patience Fisher, Guy Foulks, Ingrid Gehle, Tom Glover, Steve Gosser, Deb Grove, Greg Grove, Carol Guba, James Hausman III, Margaret Higbee, Roger Higbee, Daniel Hinnebusch, Todd Hooe, Matthew Hunt (MHu), Matthew Juskowich, Debbie Kalbfleisch, Mary Alice Koeneke, Glenn Koppel, Clayton Lamer, Gloria Lamer, Dennis Lauffer, Oliver Lindhiem, Patrick Lister, Melissa Little, Renee Lubert, Moire McLaughlin, DJ McNeil (DJM), Donna Meyer, Mark Moore, Nancy Murphy, David Narins, Richard Nugent, Morgan Pfeiffer, Theo Rickert, Kate St. John, Father George Saletrik (FGS), Mike Shaffer, Dennis Smeltzer, Randy Stear, Jean & Jim Stratton (J&JS), Mark Syverton (MSy), John Taylor, Shannon Thompson, Ken Truitt, Marge Van Tassel, Ray Winstead, Jan Woodard, David Yeany II, Ellen Yerger, William Zemaitis. Three Rivers Birding Club (3RBC), Todd Bird Club (TBC).

Corrigendum

Apologies to Lee Carnahan for the inadvertent omission from the October issue of *The Todd Nuthatch* of his alternate plumaged Stilt Sandpiper found at Yellow Creek on 7/20.

Your Dues Are Now Due

January 1 started a new year for Todd Bird Club. Please remit your \$5 student, \$10 individual, or \$15 family dues to our treasurer ASAP: Gloria Lamer, Treasurer

515 Laurel Run Road
Penn Run, PA 15765



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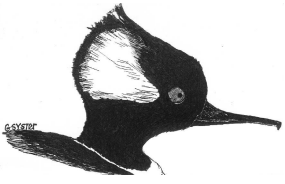
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A very active Ruby-crowned Kinglet posed momentarily for Marcy Cunkelman on October 23, 2014.

This newsletter is produced four times a year by the Todd Bird Club.

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