

The Todd Nuthatch



Indiana, PA

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

January 2016

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 2 – Ed Patterson, Director of Indiana County Parks & Trails, will present *Salamanders of Indiana County* at our February meeting. Indiana County is home to seventeen species of salamanders, many that often remain well hidden from view. In this program we will learn about some of the most colorful and interesting creatures that can be found right in our own “neck of the woods.” Several of the county's salamanders are regarded as Species of Special Concern in Pennsylvania due to their specific habitat requirements.



The Wehrle's Salamander was first discovered in Indiana Co. In 1911.

The program will also highlight the life and times of the late R.W. Wehrle, one of Indiana County's premier naturalists. Mr. Wehrle was a successful businessman and highly regarded naturalist of his era. Wehrle's Salamanders were first discovered in Indiana County in 1911 by R.W. Wehrle and named in his honor, one of only many interesting highlights of his well-lived life.

The program will conclude with a discussion of the Pennsylvania Amphibian and Reptile Survey and offer

information on how county residents can participate in this on-going citizen-scientist project. Mr. Patterson also serves as the southwest regional coordinator for the Pennsylvania Amphibian and Reptile Survey.

Tuesday, March 1 – Steve Gosser has been birding for ten years. He started out interested in nature photography and quickly discovered birds and what wonderful photo subjects they make. Steve is from New Kensington and is an active member of the Three Rivers Birding Club and may be found birding throughout western PA. He has had numerous photos published in magazines, newspapers, newsletters, blogs, and journals. His March program will cover his favorite photos from the last few years. Don't miss this great program!

Tuesday, April 5 – 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.

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Tuesday, May 3 – This is our annual banquet meeting which begins at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to share and your own place settings. David Yeany will speak on his

studies of forest interior birds. 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 20 – Sandy Ridge Road grasslands in Jefferson and Clearfield Counties, 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. Heavy snow cover may cancel this outing as the roads are not always plowed.

Saturday, March 12 – Yellow Creek State Park, led by Lee Carnahan (724-388-4667). Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the park office.

Monday, March 14, through Thursday, March 17 – 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 19 – 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 26 – 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 Parks.

Saturday, April 2 – 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 9 – Blue Spruce County Park, led by Tom Glover (814-938-5618). Come to feed the chickadees and search for early migrants. Meet in the large parking lot nearest the park entrance at 8:00 a.m.

Saturday, April 16 – Saylor Park and the Ghost Town Trail, led by Lee Carnahan and Tom Glover. We will check Saylor Park for early migrants and hike part of the Ghost Town Trail. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Saylor Park parking lot. The park is located on Old Indiana Road off US Rt. 119 south of Homer City, PA.

Saturday, April 23 – Birding 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; last year's nest fell and the young were lost. We'll bird the trail for migrants. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Valier trailhead parking lot.

Prince Gallitzin State Park Nest Box Results

On September 15, 2015, Nest Box Coordinator John Salvetti met with Prince Gallitzin Park Management and his four bluebird volunteers to discuss the results of the monitoring of all the nest boxes in the park during the 2015 breeding season. The following numbers were compiled:

232 Eastern Bluebird eggs were laid resulting in 174 fledglings
260 Tree Swallow eggs resulted in 232 fledged young
26 House Wren eggs were laid resulting in 25 fledglings

Dave Gobert also reported that 43 Purple Martins fledged, and one American Kestrel nest produced 5 fledglings.

From the President's Desk....

With the start of the New Year, I find myself the President of the Todd Bird Club. I am looking forward to the opportunity to work with the membership to maintain the high quality of the club. Please feel free to contact me with any comments or suggestions by emailing me at tomnglover@comcast.net.

I have been actively birding for just over six years. I was introduced to birding by my daughter and son-in-law after I retired from a very active job in July of 2009. One good piece of advice they passed along to me was to find a group of dedicated, active birders willing to work with a novice. On April 27, 2010, I found that group of birders at Yellow Creek State Park – the Todd Bird Club. April of this year will mark my sixth year associated with the Todd Bird Club, and I have enjoyed the experience of learning the ins and outs of birding, and I am looking forward to many more years of actively birding with the group.

I would also like to thank Linda Jones and Donna Meyers who served so ably as co-presidents during the past several years.

At our January meeting we also elected Linda Jones as vice president, Roger Higbee as secretary, and Gloria Lamer, treasurer. Thanks, too, to Beth Nestor who volunteered to do publicity. In addition, Beth has set up our Todd Bird Club Facebook page. To submit items for the FB page, please contact Beth at her email address, bethnestor@comcast.net.

As always keep looking for the good birds. We hope to see you on our outings!

Tom Glover, President

Great Backyard Bird Count

The 18th annual GBBC will be held Friday, February 12, through Monday, February 15, 2016. 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 birdwatchers 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.

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

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Passenger Pigeon

“For one species to mourn the death of another is a new thing under the sun.” (Leopold, 1953)

by Tom Glover

On September 1, 1914, at 1:00 p.m. Martha, the last known Passenger Pigeon (*Ectopistes migratorius*), died at the Cincinnati Zoo. With that event the world lost a species.

When the Europeans started to settle the North American continent some 500 years ago, the Passenger Pigeon may have been the most numerous vertebrate species on the continent, numbering in the billions. The natural behavior of this bird proved to be a major factor in its demise. In a little over a century through the loss of habitat and commercial hunting, man eliminated the Passenger Pigeon.

The Passenger Pigeon weighed between 9 and 12 ounces. The male measured 15.4 to 16.1 inches in length while the female was slightly smaller at 14.9 to 15.7 inches. The male had a bluish-gray head, nape, and hind neck, and both sides of the bird's neck was an iridescent bronze to green to violet. The body was gray in color with the underparts being a lighter gray. The upper parts of the body were a darker gray tinged with brown, and the wings had black spots. The female was similar but duller in color.

The Passenger Pigeon inhabited mainly the eastern deciduous forests of North America but was found in other parts east of the Rocky Mountains. It bred primarily in the Great Lakes area. The bird migrated in huge flocks numbering in the millions, looking for food, shelter, and suitable breeding areas. John J. Audubon recorded observing a flock in Kentucky in the 1830s that started passing in the morning, and by noon the sky was dark with pigeons. He noted that this flock passed continuously for three days in succession. Flocks of this size were estimated to be a kilometer wide and 400 to 450 kilometers long. To put that into perspective, the flock which was more than a half mile wide measured from the western Pennsylvania boundary with Ohio east to the Delaware Water Gap, the eastern Pennsylvania boundary with New Jersey. Think of driving Interstate 80 from the west eastward all the way through Pennsylvania with Passenger Pigeons overhead continually. The birds nested normally in colonies 30 square miles in size, but at times huge nesting colonies had been reported. One 1871 nesting site in the Sandy Oak Barrens area of Wisconsin



was estimated to be 850 square miles in size with 136 million adult breeding birds. Again to put these nesting areas in perspective, White Twp., which surrounds Indiana, PA, is 42.9 square miles, and Indiana County itself is 834 square miles in area. When you take into consideration that a nesting pair of Passenger Pigeons averaged one chick per nest, that means that nesting site in Wisconsin contained 200 million birds. Passenger Pigeon chicks hatched in mid to late April, and were fed by both adults on a diet of pigeon milk for about

two weeks. After that two-week period, the chick was abandoned and did not fledge for 3-5 days after abandonment. The Passenger Pigeon's main diet included acorns, beechnuts, and hickory nuts, supplemented by insects, earthworms, and other invertebrates.

The interaction between humans and the Passenger Pigeon initially had a low impact on the birds' numbers. Native Americans utilized the birds. Reports of their using large nets to capture Passenger Pigeons came out of the New England area. And the New England European settlers utilized the same tactic to capture birds. Passenger Pigeons were noted by the early English settlers of Virginia and the Dutch settlers on Manhattan Island. Even the early settlers in Louisiana made note of the bird. The real exploitation of the Passenger Pigeon began in the 19th century. As the human populations of the eastern US cities grew, the huge flocks of Passenger Pigeons were seen as a cheap source of meat. Commercial hunting and shipping of Passenger Pigeons was a major business in and around the Great Lakes area. With the advent of the railroads in the early 1850s in the Great Lake area, large quantities of pigeon meat were shipped eastward. Even the newly installed telegraph system aided in the exploitation, allowing the commercial hunters to quickly respond to the location of large flocks of birds. By 1855, 300,000 Passenger Pigeons were being shipped yearly to New York City. And on one day, July 23, 1860, 235,200 birds were shipped from Grand Rapids, Michigan, eastward. During the year 1869 Van Buren County, Michigan, shipped 7,500,000 birds east, and in 1974 Oceana County, Michigan, shipped a million east. But two years later the same county was shipping 400,000 birds a week during the season. Not only did the exploitation of the Passenger Pigeon impact the species, but by adding the loss of

habitat, the bird's fate was sealed. By the 20th century the population of Passenger Pigeons was so depleted that natural breeding could not sustain the species.

A study published on June 17, 2014, in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America (Hung, *ital.* 2014) theorized that the Passenger Pigeon's natural behavior added to its demise. After analyzing the pigeon's genome and the natural population dynamics, the theory was developed that the bird was not always super abundant. The species' numbers fluctuated dramatically over time. But under natural behavior the species was able to sustain itself, even at the low end of a

fluctuation. The theory postulates that the Passenger Pigeon's population was on a natural decline when humans started to exploit the bird. And the added pressure of that exploitation did not allow the bird to recover naturally.

Hung, C-M, *ital.*, 2014, "Dramatic population fluctuation explains the rapid extinction of the passenger pigeon." Proceedings of the National Academy of Science of the United States of America, Vol. 111, No. 29, 10636-10641.

Leopold, A., 1953, "On a Monument to a Pigeon." in A Sand County Almanac, Oxford Univ. Press.

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. Nineteen of us showed up for the dinner. As we worked our way through the compilation of the bird list, excitement grew.

Yellow Creek provided the bulk of the waterfowl reports, including the Black Scoter, seen by Gloria Lamer and Alice and Dave Beatty. This was the first time Black Scoter has appeared on our CBC. They also noted the count's only Ring-necked Duck, Ruddy Duck, and Bald Eagles as well as one of our two Great Horned Owls.

On the north shore of Yellow Creek, Ed Donley, Mark and Garrett Strittmatter, and John Taylor watched a flock of 21 Tundra Swans overhead; another 5 were spotted by Lee and Roger Carnahan and Dennis Lauffer. The Taylor group also noted their annual Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and an additional 4 Horned Larks.

Lee and Roger Carnahan and Dennis Lauffer observed a Chukar, a non-countable, released game bird, besides their fantastic list of 37 "good, countable" species.

Pat Johner spotted the count's 20 Killdeer all together in a field, along with 57 Horned Larks. This was the highest tally of Killdeer on any of our counts.

Marcy and Dan Cunkelman added an Eastern Screech-Owl, the only one listed. Ed and Donna Meyer heard one of our two Barred Owls; Steve Andrascik found the other.

Chris and Paula Williams from New Jersey joined Beth and Ken Marshall once again this year for the count but were unable to come to the dinner. Beth and Ken reported that the four of them found the count's only Belted Kingfisher and Ruby-crowned Kinglet.

Tony Bruno, Roger, and I added the count's lone Pine Siskin.

Tom Glover reported that he and his son Jud and son-in-law Tom Fuller had a productive day in the northwestern part of the circle. We missed Elyse's participation this year.

Ray and Daniel Winstead and Cayla Arthurs listed the only Common Merganser.

There was only one nomination for the "bird of the count," now known as the James Dearing Award. The award, a stuffed toy owl, was given to Gloria Lamer and Alice and Buck Beatty for the Black Scoter since it was new to the count.

Subsequently, more data arrived from those who did not come to Hoss's. Sue Dickson found a flock of 15 Cedar Waxwings. Sara Pulliam heard the count's second hooting Great Horned Owl.

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. The only complaints from field birders involved mud! There was no precipitation, no snow cover, and the temperatures were moderate.

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

Indiana Christmas Bird Count Results

33rd Annual CBC – December 26, 2015

Snow Goose (CW)		Sandhill Crane (2)		Lapland Longspur (6)	
Canada Goose (2081)	577	*Killdeer (7)	20	Snow Bunting (225)	
Mute Swan (4)		Wilson's Snipe (3)		Yellow-rumped Warbler (18)	
Tundra Swan (533)	26	Am. Woodcock (2)		Pine Warbler (1)	
Wood Duck (2)		Bonaparte's Gull (6)		Eastern Towhee (3)	
Gadwall (30)		Ring-billed Gull (50)	20	American Tree Sparrow (483)	49
American Wigeon (14)		Herring Gull (1)		Chipping Sparrow (4)	
American Black Duck (190)	2	Rock Pigeon (392)	100	Field Sparrow (13)	1
Mallard (670)	216	Mourning Dove (1117)	662	Savannah Sparrow (2)	
N. Shoveler (2)		Eastern Screech-Owl (13)	1	Fox Sparrow (3)	CW
N. Pintail (10)		Great Horned Owl (10)	2	Song Sparrow (152)	59
Green-winged Teal (4)		Barred Owl (5)	2	Lincoln's Sparrow (1)	
Canvasback (15)		Long-eared Owl (1)		Swamp Sparrow (14)	7
Redhead (14)		Short-eared Owl (2)		White-throated Sparrow (214)	80
Ring-necked Duck (41)	1	Belted Kingfisher (9)	1	White-crowned Sparrow (36)	5
Greater Scaup (5)		Red-headed Woodpecker (1)		Dark-eyed Junco (2272)	429
Lesser Scaup (32)	5	Red-bellied Woodpecker (72)	42	Northern Cardinal (584)	167
Surf Scoter (CW)		Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (8)	3	Red-winged Blackbird (3570)	4
White-winged Scoter (1)		Downy Woodpecker (177)	67	Eastern Meadowlark (10)	
**Black Scoter	1	Hairy Woodpecker (58)	28	Rusty Blackbird (13)	
Long-tailed Duck (3)		Northern Flicker (40)	4	Brewer's Blackbird (CW)	
Bufflehead (52)	8	Pileated Woodpecker (36)	19	Common Grackle (503)	
Common Goldeneye (7)	CW	Am. Kestrel (26)	11	Brown-headed Cowbird (46)	
Hooded Merganser (34)	20	Merlin (2)		Pine Grosbeak (1)	
Common Merganser (15)	1	Peregrine Falcon (1)		Purple Finch (89)	6
*Red-breasted Merganser (2)	6	Eastern Phoebe (1)		House Finch (1563)	276
Ruddy Duck (223)	8	Northern Shrike (1)		White-winged Crossbill (62)	
Ring-necked Pheasant (21)	13	Blue Jay (566)	280	Common Redpoll (63)	
Ruffed Grouse (22)	2	American Crow (3275)	916	Pine Siskin (375)	1
Wild Turkey (345)	43	Fish Crow (8)		American Goldfinch (637)	217
N. Bobwhite (1)		Common Raven (5)	4	Evening Grosbeak (566)	
Red-throated Loon (1)		Horned Lark (225)	61	House Sparrow (809)	585
Common Loon (9)	1	Black-capped Chickadee (808)	347		
Pied-billed Grebe (29)	5	Tufted Titmouse (394)	147	Total Individuals (18,833)	8,835
Horned Grebe (7)	2	Red-breasted Nuthatch (51)	CW	70 Species on 12/26/15 + 4 for CW	
Red-necked Grebe (1)		White-breasted Nuthatch (201)	103	CW = Birds Seen During Count	
Double-crested Cormorant (1)	CW	Brown Creeper (25)	8	Week but Not Count Day	
Great Blue Heron (8)	4	Carolina Wren (61)	17	CW = December 23-29	
Turkey Vulture (4)		Winter Wren (4)	1		
Bald Eagle (4)	2	Golden-crowned Kinglet (106)	57	* Record-breaking or Equal High	
Northern Harrier (9)		Ruby-crowned Kinglet (4)	1	Tally (3)	
Sharp-shinned Hawk (14)	5	Eastern Bluebird (152)	56	**Species New to the Count (1)	
Cooper's Hawk (15)	5	Hermit Thrush (6)		() Highest No. Seen on Any	
N. Goshawk (1)		Wood Thrush (CW)		Previous Indiana CBC, 1983-2014	
Red-shouldered Hawk (5)		American Robin (1626)	129	131 Species on Count since	
*Red-tailed Hawk (70)	71	Gray Catbird (2)		1983 including 4 CW only species)	
Rough-legged Hawk (3)		Northern Mockingbird (22)	11		
Virginia Rail (1)		Brown Thrasher (1)			
Am. Coot (811)	33	European Starling (8656)	2757		
		Cedar Waxwing (212)	15		

Christmas Bird Count Observers

Pat Andrascik	Sue Dickson	Tom Kuehl	Linda Stormer
Steve Andrascik	Ed Donley	Gloria Lamer	Luke Stormer
Cayla Arthurs	Emmy Fairman	Dennis Lauffer	Rodger Stormer
Alice Beatty	Tom Fuller	Mary A. Little	Garrett Strittmatter
Dave Beatty	Sue Gatti	Howard Mandigo	Mark Strittmatter
Tom Betts	Jud Glover	Beth Marshall	John Taylor
Nathan Birch	Tom Glover	Ken Marshall	Mary Lu Tucker
Tony Bruno	Carol Guba	Donna Meyer	Marge Vatter
Lee Carnahan	Margaret Higbee	Ed Meyer	Chris Williams
Roger Carnahan	Roger Higbee	Sara Pulliam	Paula Williams
Dorcas Clark	Pat Johner	Cindy Rogers	Daniel Winstead
Dan Cunkelman	Paul Johner	Tim Schreckengost	Ray Winstead
Marcy Cunkelman	Janet Kuehl		

CBCs Past and Present

Year	Total Species	Count Week	Individuals	Year	Total Species	Count Week	Individuals
1983	56	3	4188	2000	64	2	12397
1984	57	5	9540	2001	77	2	14365
1985	51	2	4468	2002	62	2	9739
1986	54	2	7453	2003	72	4	9687
1987	60	3	5676	2004	72	5	8788
1988	48	3	6670	2005	62	7	12130
1989	52	4	4309	2006	64	5	8762
1990	65	6	8502	2007	82	3	14344
1991	60	5	6004	2008	71	8	14329
1992	67	8	6435	2009	56	5	8472
1993	70	9	13490	2010	55	2	7174
1994	67	4	10759	2011	71	4	9029
1995	71	5	8637	2012	80	3	9094
1996	65	7	9994	2013	68	6	8843
1997	74	3	10180	2014	74	7	5693
1998	82	7	10873	2015	70	4	8835
1999	73	2	18833				

CBC Notes

As you can see from the chart above, this was not one of our worst counts even though it wasn't the very best. Our 70 total species tally is above our previous average of 66 and our previous mean of 65. Our total number of individuals increased by more than 3,000 over last year's count.

Only one species was new to the count, Black Scoter, a female found by Gloria Lamer, Alice Beatty, and Dave Beatty at Yellow Creek. Only three species reached their maxima this year – Red-breasted Merganser – up to 6

from a previous high of 2, Red-tailed Hawk – up to 71 from 70, and Killdeer – increased from 7 to 20.

Feeder-watchers spent 28.4 hours at 11 feeders; 39 field birders in 18 parties hiked 34.65 miles and drove 694.3 miles, spending a total of 103.5 hours counting birds.

Sincere thanks to all of our participants! If you know of any other birders who live within 7.5 miles of Second & Grandview in Indiana, please let them know about our Christmas Bird Count. We could certainly use more feeder watchers next year!

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 bcoriele@windstream.net or marghigbee@gmail.com.

Locations: Armstrong Trail (AT), Blue Spruce County Park (BS), Crooked Creek Park (CC), Ghost Town Trail (GTT), Indiana (IN), Indiana University of PA (IUP), Keystone Reservoir (KR), Leechburg (LB), Lewisville (LV), Lock & Dam (L&D), Prince Gallitzin State Park (PG), Shelocta (SH), Waterworks Conservation Area (WCA), Worthington (WT), Yellow Creek State Park (YC).

YC's **Canada Goose** flock had built to 432 by 10/16 (LC); *Cambria's* high of 86 occurred 11/29 (LG) at PG; *Armstrong's* maxima included 200 on 11/16 (AK, JK) at CC and 90 on 11/29 (MD) near New Bethlehem on Redbank Creek, where 2 **Mute Swans** appeared, also on 11/29 (MD). The first flock of 42 **Tundra Swans** flew over YC 11/7 (MH, RH et al) for the joint 3RBC-TBC outing; high count at YC was 48 on both 11/10 (TG, MH, RH) and 11/14 (TA); KR hosted 15 on 11/11 (TB); 80 flew over BS 11/14 (SD, RW) while high tally of 120 occurred at CC 11/22 (TR). PG hosted 45 on 11/21 (RL) and 24 on 11/30 (LG).

The majority of high counts this year were much lower than last year's maxima. It was a very poor waterfowl migration at YC. The AT n. of L&D 8 yielded the high **Wood Duck** count of 56 on 9/25 (TB, MH, RH). August 4 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DK) produced YC's top tally of 77 while PG's high of 16 was reached 10/19 (LG). Last noted were 42 at YC 10/13 (LC, TG, MH, RH) and 2 at PG 10/31 (LG). First 3 **Gadwalls** arrived 10/20 (LC) at YC; maxima included 6 at Timber Lake 11/6 (CL, GL), 8 at YC 11/19 (LC), down from a high of 124 at YC last year, and 24 at KR 11/22 (LC). YC's arrival date for **American Wigeon** was 9/29 (LC, PF, TG, MH, RH, DK, GL) while the last 4 were spotted there 11/14 (TA); a small pond near Elders Ridge hosted 6 on 10/20, 11/4 (MVT) while KR's lone report of 10 occurred 10/29 (MH, RH); 4 was PG's top count on 10/29 (TA). First **American Black Ducks** were sighted 10/3 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH) at YC and n. of L&D 8 on 10/11 (TR) while the top counts of 10 were obtained at CC 11/20 (MVT) and at YC 11/29 (TR). The maximum **Mallard** tally was 62 at YC 10/13 (LC, TG, MH, RH); counts of 28 and 20 were respectively listed 10/18 (LC) at KR and 11/29 (MD) on Redbank Creek near New Bethlehem. First 12 **Blue-winged Teal** arrived 8/25 (WA, LC, SD, TG, DK, RN, DS) at YC where numbers built to 43 on 9/29 (LC, PF et al); last observed were 5 on 10/21 (AK, JK). PG harbored 4 on 9/13 (DH). In *Armstrong* a single Blue-winged Teal at CC 9/26 (TR) was the only one noted. August 25 (WA, LC et al) marked the arrival of the first 4 **Northern Shovelers** at YC; PG hosted 2 on 10/29 (TA) and one 11/28 (ST). One **Northern Pintail** appeared 9/29 (LC, PF et al) at YC where a flock of 30 flew past the beach 10/28 (MH, RH); last noted were 14 at YC 11/7 (3RBC, TBC). YC hosted the first 4 **Green-winged Teal** 9/8 (TB, LC, MD, TG, DK, MH, RH, DM) and PG, 2 on 9/13 (DH); 34 was the YC high on 10/3 (TG); 14 remained at PG 11/28 (ST) and into the winter season.

Canvasbacks were noted on only three dates at YC: 2 on

10/16 (LC), 12 on 11/14 (TA), and one 11/17 (PF, TG, MH, RH). **Redheads** were first spotted 11/7 (3RBC, TBC) at YC while the best tally of 22 was noted there 11/14 (SR); PG yielded 17 on 11/11 (JS). Fourteen **Ring-necked Ducks** were listed at KR 10/18 (LC); YC's maximum of 46 occurred 11/10 (MH, RH), and 16 were counted both at PG 11/11 (JS) and at CC 11/29 (MVT); 2 in Croyle Twp. on 11/29 (MHu) were *Cambria's* only other report. Four **Lesser Scaup** arrived at YC 10/28 (MH, RH) where peak counts did not exceed single digits; PG's only report mentioned 27 on 10/31 (LG). A female **Black Scoter** appeared on YC lake 11/24 (LC, PF, TG, MH, RH, DK) and lingered into the next quarter. A single **Long-tailed Duck** was first noted at YC 11/3 (LC, PF, TG, MH, RH, DK, RN); by 11/10 (TG, MH, RH) 3 were present; PG produced a single drake 11/23 (LG). First 4 **Buffleheads** were found 10/31 (LC, TG, MH, RH, JSt) at YC where the high was 58 11/19 (LC); KR harbored 102 on 11/22 (LC) while PG's top tallies were 125 on 11/11 (JS) and 55 on 11/29 (LG). Three **Common Goldeneyes** were a nice YC surprise 11/24 (LC, PF et al); one lingered through 11/29 (TR), the same date (MVT) 12 were counted at CC. Nov. 29 produced the high **Hooded Merganser** counts of 6 at YC (TR), 12 at CC (MVT), and 102 (LG) at PG. An amazing 128 **Common Mergansers** were counted at CC 11/29 (MVT) in the early afternoon, but by 5 p.m. (MD) the 29 Hooded had increased to 50, and 300 Common were present. Numbers of Common Mergansers at KR ranged from 28 on 10/29 (MH, RH) to 34 on 11/9 (MH, RH); YC hosted 7 on 11/14 (SR) and PG, one on 11/29 (TA), the only ones reported in *Indiana* and *Cambria*. One **Ruddy Duck** stopped on Lake Rowena 9/22 (LG); 7 arrived 9/26 (TG) at YC where numbers peaked at 509 on 11/3 (LC et al). KR's first 2 Ruddies arrived 10/18 (LC), the same location where 4 were found 11/22 (LC). PG hosted 1-2 between 10/29 (TA) and 11/28 (ST).

Ruffed Grouse were reported at only five locations this season, one to 2 at Nolo on three dates (AB, DB), one at YC on two dates (v.o.), another along Aultman's Run 10/19 (MH, RH), one at SGL 108 on 10/26 (LG), and one at CC 11/16 (AK, JK).

A very early, basic plumaged **Common Loon** appeared 8/27 (MH, RH) at KR, the only *Armstrong* location to host this species this fall; another was observed 11/9 (MH, RH) and 6 on 11/29 (TR). Three Common Loons appeared at YC 9/29 (LC, PF et al) while single birds were spotted there on seven dates thereafter. PG harbored one to 6 between 10/31 - 11/30 (LG) and loons continued into the next season. First dates for **Pied-billed Grebes** included

8/4 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DK) for 2 at YC, 9/12 (TR) for one at CC, and 9/13 (DH) for 2 at PG; YC numbers spiked at 62 on 10/22 (LC) while high counts were 11 at KR 11/22 (LC) and 24 at PG 11/16 (JS). Singletons at Rosston 11/15 (TR) and at PG 11/23 (LG) comprised the entire report for **Horned Grebe**.

First **Double-crested Cormorants** were 4 at PG 8/22 (TA); one to 8 visited YC between 9/1 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DK) and 11/19 (LC); 2 arrived at KR 9/28 (MH, RH) and two days later at CC (MVT); 4 were a nice yard-list addition near SH 10/4 (MH).

A **Great Egret** was found near Elders Ridge 8/1 (MVT); 2 visited CC 8/9 (BB), and one was at YC 9/13 (SG). Five **Green Herons** were counted 8/7 (MH, RH) at KR where *Armstrong's* last individual was found 9/17 (MH, RH); last seen were 3 individuals at PG 9/16 (JS) and one at YC 9/29 (LC, PF *et al*). A **Black-crowned Night-Heron** was a great find at YC 10/5 (TG).

Single **Black Vultures** were seen overhead 8/21, both at Nolo (GL) and near LV (MC); another was near LV 10/6 (MC). There were only four prior records of Black Vulture in *Indiana*. Last **Turkey Vultures** were 9 on 10/31 (TR) at CC and one 11/6 (MH) near SH. Migrating **Osprey** included 1-3 birds at YC between 8/4 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DK) and 11/7 (3RBC, TBC) and 1-4 individuals at PG between 8/16 (RL) and 10/29 (TA); other reports included individuals 8/7 (MH, RH) at KR, 8/23 (RL) in Patton, 9/14 (TB, RN) at BS, and 10/25 at CC (MVT).

Bald Eagle reports were numerous with 4 mentioned at PG 8/22, 9/20, 27 (TA), 4 along the AT n. of L&D 8 on 9/25 (TB, MH, RH), and 3 at CC 11/27 (AK, JK). One to 3 were listed at YC (v.o.) on eleven dates between 9/1 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DK) and 11/24 (LC, PF *et al*) with sightings of both adult and immature birds; three sightings of single immature Bald Eagles occurred 8/2, 9/8-9 (MC) near LV. One was spotted 8/4 (JJ) n. of IN; an adult eagle flew over BS 10/2 (MH, RH); other reports included single adults at Nolo 10/21 (GL), in Creekside 11/5 (CL), and in IN 11/18 (DB).

First **Northern Harrier** was spotted 9/17 (MH, RH) near Elderton; one was noted 10/1 (MVT) at WT where 2 were photographed 11/11 (MVT); singletons were seen 9/29 (LC, PF *et al*) at YC, 10/20 (LG) in Gallitzin SF, 10/26 (LG) at SGL 108, and 10/27 (LC, PF, TG, MH, RH, DK, GL, JSt) at YC; 2 were sighted near West Lebanon on 10/24 (MVT). Both **Sharp-shinned Hawks** and **Cooper's Hawks** were noted at ten locations this quarter (v.o.). Last **Broad-winged Hawk** was listed 9/15 (TB, SG, MVT) at BS.

A **Sora** was found at PG 9/13 (DH); another, walking near the edge of the marsh vegetation at YC, was a nice find 9/29 (LC, PF *et al*).

The first 9 **American Coots** arrived 9/15 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DK, DM) at YC where top counts of 732 and 729 were respectively obtained 11/7 (3RBC, TBC) and 11/10 (TG, MH, RH); PG's highs were 43 on 10/19 (LG) and 95 on 11/11 (JS).

Low water levels provided extensive mudflat habitat at YC and at KR this fall. Single **Black-bellied Plovers** were sighted at YC on five dates between 9/15 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DK, DM) and 10/28 (MH, RH). **Semipalmated Plovers** were spotted at KR between 8/7 (MH, RH) and 9/17 (MH, RH); CC hosted 3 on 8/30 (TR) and 2 on 9/6 (TR); they continued at YC through 10/22 (LC) with the high tally of 5 on 8/11 (TB, LC, TG, MH, RH).

Exactly 100 **Killdeer** were counted 10/27 (LC, PF, TG *et al*) at YC where one lingered till 11/14 (TA). Top *Armstrong* counts included 40 at CC 8/30 (TR) and 25 at KR 10/24 (SG). Last **Spotted Sandpipers** were noted 10/6 (LC, EC, SD, PF, TG, MH, RH, KJ, DK, MVT) at YC and 10/29 (MH, RH) at KR. **Solitary Sandpipers** lingered till 9/17 (MH, RH) at KR and 10/13 (LC, TG, MH, RH) at YC; high count was 11 at KR 9/5 (TB, SG). First 2 **Greater Yellowlegs** arrived 8/1 (MH, RH) at YC and were listed on 21 other dates through 11/3 (LC *et al*); top YC counts were 6 on 8/11 (MH, RH) and 10/27 (LC, PF, TG *et al*). One stopped at CC 9/3 (MVT) and 3 at KR 10/29 (MH, RH). Single **Lesser Yellowlegs** visited KR between 8/27 (MH, RH) and 9/17 (MH, RH); one also appeared at CC 9/6 (TR); YC hosted one to 3 of this species through 9/19 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH); on 9/29 (LC, PF *et al*), 15 were tallied.; a late individual was reported near Elders Ridge 10/20 (MVT). KR harbored 3 **Dunlin** 10/18 (MH, RH) and 5 on 10/24 (SG) and 10/25 (MVT); YC's first 14 Dunlin arrived 10/22 (LC); high count was 19 on 10/27 (LC, PF, TG *et al*) while a singleton remained at YC 10/31 (LC, TG, MH, RH, JS). A **Baird's Sandpiper** found 8/25 (WA, LC *et al*) was still on the mud in Little Yellow Cove 8/28 (MH, RH); another, ph. 9/4 (AB) at KR, was still present the next day (TB, SG). **Least Sandpipers** were found on almost all visits to YC through 10/16 (LC); 11 was the high tally 8/14 (JH) while last seen was a single bird 10/15 (LC, SD, TG, MH, RH). **Least Sandpipers** visited CC between 8/21 (MVT) and 9/7 (MVT); KR's reports ranged from 8/7 to 9/17 (MH, RH); respective high counts of 6 at CC and 12 at KR occurred 9/6 (TR) and 8/16 (LC). First **Pectoral Sandpipers** arrived 8/1 (MH, RH) at YC where high counts were 10 on 9/29 (LC, PF *et al*) and 20 on 10/27 (LC, PF, TG *et al*); 3 were last seen 10/31 (LC, TG, MH, RH, JS). A Pectoral at KR 9/17 (MH, RH) was the only one noted in *Armstrong*. Reported on nine dates, 2 to 5 **Semipalmated Sandpipers** moved through YC between 8/17 (MD) and 9/8 (TB, LC *et al*). A **Western Sandpiper**, a first *Armstrong* county record, was ph. at CC 8/22 (SG). **Wilson's Snipe** continued at YC through 11/3 (LC *et al*) with top counts of 12 on 10/22 (LC) and 9 on 10/27 (LC, PF, TG *et al*). An **American Woodcock** was flushed at BS 10/28 (MH, RH); another was found at YC 9/1 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DK).

Bonaparte's Gulls reports included 13 at PG 11/8 (RL) and 4 at YC 11/14 (SR). One to 3 **Ring-billed Gulls** were reported at YC on only six dates this fall. KR hosted 12 on 11/22 (LC), the only gulls reported in *Armstrong* this fall while PG produced Ring-bills on 7 dates with the high of 25 on 11/29 (TA). Two **Forster's Terns** on 8/11 (TB, LC, TG, MH, RH) were the only ones noted.

Martin Rd. yielded the last **Yellow-billed Cuckoos** 9/21

(MH, RH) and a yard near LV, the last **Black-billed Cuckoo** 8/21 (MC).

An **Eastern Screech-Owl** was calling near Leechburg 8/25 (MVT); a yard near SGL 247 produced another 10/20 (TR) as well as a **Great Horned Owl** 11/12, 22 (TR). The IUP campus yielded *Indiana's* only **Great Horned Owl** 9/20 (JT). **Barred Owls** were calling near Nolo through 10/26 (AB, DB) with as many as 4 heard on 8/12 (AB); one was noted at PG 10/26 (LG), the only other report. A single **Common Nighthawk** flying over a yard near SH 9/28 (MH, RH) was one of two *Indiana* reports; 8/28 yielded one n.w. of Belsano (MD) and 70 (IR) flying over Johnstown. An **Eastern Whip-poor-will** was heard near LV 8/8 (MC).

An estimated 400 **Chimney Swifts** circling over the IN post office 9/28 (SD) were noteworthy. Two Chimney Swifts and 2 **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** were last respectively observed near LV 10/10 (MC) and 10/4 (MC).

A **Red-headed Woodpecker** flew over the observers at the park office 10/31 (LC, TG, MH, RH, JS). BS produced the first migrant **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** sighting 9/14 (TB, RN); singletons were found in the CC area between 9/26 (TR) and 11/22 (MVT); individuals were at Nolo (GL) and at IUP (JT) 9/28; another visited a yard in IN 10/5-6 (JP). Nolo seems to be a staging area for **Northern Flickers** with a high tally of 25, all visible at one time on 9/28 (GL); the same thing occurred the past two years with 14 counted at Nolo on both 10/2/2013 and 9/25/2014.

Single **Merlins** were good finds near WT 8/18 (MVT), on the IUP campus 8/25, 10/2 (JT), and at PG 9/13 (DH) and 9/20 (RL). YC yielded two Merlin reports, one 10/6 (LC, EC *et al*) and one 11/3 (LC *et al*), as well as a **Peregrine Falcon** 8/4 (LC, TG, MH, RH, DK). Another Peregrine visited the IUP campus 10/9 (JT).

The last **Eastern Wood-Pewees** were spotted at CC 9/24 (MVT) and near LV 9/30 (MC). BS continues to be the hotspot for migrant **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** with sightings on nine dates between 8/31 (MH, RH) and 9/26 (MH, RH); 2 were actually present on 9/5 (LC, MH, RH, DK, FM, JM, JT, RW, EY) and 9/7 (TB, SG, MH, RH). BS also produced the last **Acadian Flycatcher** 9/16 (TB, MH, RH). **Willow Flycatchers** were last observed at YC 8/16 (MVT), at IUP 9/8 (JT), and at PG 9/16 (JS). Single **Least Flycatchers** lingered at BS 9/16 (TB, MH, RH) and at PG 9/20 (TA). Last **Eastern Phoebes** included one at KR 10/18 (LC) and 2 at BS (JP) and one on the IUP campus (JT), both 10/24, and one at YC 10/31 (LC, TG, MH, RH, JS). YC hosted the last **Great Crested Flycatcher** and **Eastern Kingbird** 9/3 (CB, MH, ML).

Last vireo dates included 9/7 (MVT) at CC and 9/30 (MC) near LV for **White-eyed Vireo**; 9/8 (TG) at YC and 9/27 (TR) n. of L&D 8 for Yellow-throated Vireo; 9/20 (TA) at PG, 9/28 (MH, RH) at KR, and 10/25 (MH, RH) at BS for **Blue-headed**; 9/14 (TB, RN) at BS for **Warbling Vireo**; and 9/30 (MC) near LV and 10/1 (MVT) near WT for **Red-eyed Vireo**. Reports included four **Philadelphia Vireo** sightings all at BS between 9/15 (TB, SG) and 9/26 (TB, MH, RH), as well as one at PG 9/20 (TA).

A **Fish Crow** at PG 8/22 (TA) was unusual.

Last swallow dates were 8/22 (TA) at PG for 2 **Purple Martins**; 10/13 (TG) at YC for one Tree Swallow; 9/13 (DH) at PG and 8/27 (MC) near LV for 2 **Northern Rough-winged Swallows**; 9/3 (CB, MH, ML) at YC for one **Bank Swallow**; 9/16 (JS) at PG for 33 **Cliff Swallows**; and 10/13 (LC, TG, MH, RH) at YC for 4 **Barn Swallows**.

Red-breasted Nuthatch reports at YC include one on both 9/13 (SG) and 10/13 (LC, TG, MH, RH) and 2 on 10/31 (LC, TG, MH, RH, JS); 10 was an excellent count at Lake St. Francis 8/15 (JM); near SH single birds were reported 10/27, 31 and 11/11 (MH, RH).

Last **House Wrens** were one at CC 10/1 (MVT) and 2 at BS 10/2 (MH, RH). **Winter Wrens**, found only at BS in *Indiana*, were reported between 9/15 (TB, SG, MVT) and 10/17 (MH, RH, JP, MP). In *Armstrong* single **Winter Wrens** were sighted along the AT n. of L&D 8 on 10/11 (TR), along the same trail 11/18 (MH, RH), and at CC 10/18 (MD). Last **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** were 3 noted at CC 8/26 (AK, JK), 2 listed near LV 9/18 (MC), one at PG 9/20 (TA), and one spotted on the IUP campus 9/22 (JT). First migrant **Golden-crowned Kinglet** arrived at KR 9/28 (MH, RH) and near LV 10/1 (MC). BS yielded the first **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** 9/26 (TB, MH, RH) while the last 2 were seen near LV 10/29 (MC). Ruby-crowned Kinglets moved through *Armstrong* between 9/28 (MH, RH) and 10/30 (MVT).

Veeries moved through the county between 8/28 (MH, RH) when the first was noted at BS and 9/22 (LC, SD, PF, TG, DK, GS) when one appeared at YC. Single **Gray-cheeked Thrushes** on the IUP campus 9/22 (JT) and near SH 9/24 (MH) were the only ones reported. BS yielded one to 2 **Swainson's Thrushes** between 8/28 - 9/26 (MH, RH); one visited IUP 9/10, 10/2 (JT) and PG 9/13 (DH); CC yielded one 9/26 (TR). A **Hermit Thrush** in IN 8/26 (JP) was the lone report. The last reported **Wood Thrushes** were found 9/26 both at BS (KD, BG, DK, RN, KSJ) and at CC (TR). CC yielded *Armstrong's* last **Gray Catbird** 10/1 (MVT); PG's last occurred 10/4 (RL) while YC produced a late bird 11/24 (LC, DC, EC, PF, TG, MH, RH, DK, JS). The last **Brown Thrashers** were observed 10/11 (MH) in a yard near SH and 10/24 (MVT) in the CC watershed. First **American Pipit** stopped at PG 9/13 (DH) while pipits visited YC between 10/6 (LC, EC *et al*) and 10/31 (LC, TG, MH, RH, JS) with the high tally of 87 on 10/27 (LC, PF, TG *et al*). Eight American Pipits landed at KR 10/24 (SG), the lone *Armstrong* report. On 10/31 the YC pipits above were accompanied by 5 **Snow Buntings**; one stopped at PG 11/21 (PT) and was ph. 11/23 (LG).

Once again BS was the hotspot for fall warblers. Last **Ovenbirds** included one along the AT n. or L&D 8 on 9/27 (TR), one at IUP 10/4 (JT), and one along the Laurel Ridge Trail 10/10 (LG). A **Northern Waterthrush** lingered at BS from 9/4 (MH, RH) through 9/14 (TB, RN). A **Golden-winged Warbler** was observed at BS 9/4 (MH, RH) and photographed 9/11 (TB). BS yielded the last **Blue-winged Warbler** 9/10 (TB). September 30 (MH, RH) was the last date for **Black-and-white Warbler** at BS while 10/1 (MVT)

served as the last date near WT.

Tennessee Warblers moved through the region between 8/25 (TG) and 10/12 (MH, RH), with as many as 10 at BS on 9/26 (RN). **Nashville Warblers** had arrived at BS by 8/28 (MH, RH); one visited PG 9/13 (DH) while a singleton near SH 10/9 (MH) was last. A **Connecticut Warbler** was a great find at BS 9/26 (SG) and 10/5 (MH, RH). A **Mourning Warbler** visited a yard near LV 8/15 (MC). Last dates included 10/1 (MVT) near WT and 10/11 (MH) near SH for **Common Yellowthroat**; 9/26 (TG) at YC and 9/27 (TR) along the AT n. of L&D 8 for **Hooded Warbler**; and 10/1 (MVT), both at CC and near WT, and 10/5 (MH, RH) at BS for **American Redstart**. **Cape May Warblers** moved through *Indiana* between 8/28 (MH, RH) and 10/4 (MH); high count of only 4 occurred at YC 9/26 (TJ); in *Armstrong* this species was listed only at KR on 9/17, 28 (MH, RH). Last **Northern Parulas** were at PG 9/27 (TA), at CC 9/30 (MVT), and at IN 10/2 (JP). **Magnolia Warblers** lingered at PG 9/20 (TA), at KR 9/28 (MH, RH), and near SH 10/9 (MH). **Bay-breasted Warblers** visited *Indiana* between 8/28 (MH, RH) and 9/26 (KD, SG, BG, DK, MH, RH, RN, KSJ) with high count of a mere 4 at BS 9/9 (MH, RH); CC hosted *Armstrong's* only Bay-breasted Warblers 9/7, 10/1 (MVT); 2 at PG 9/13 (DH) were *Cambria's* lone report. Last **Blackburnian Warblers** were single birds noted 9/14 (TB, RN) at BS, 9/15 (LC, TG *et al*) at YC, and 9/20 (TA) at PG. **Yellow Warblers** remained at PG 8/2 (RL), at CC 8/9 (BB), and in IN 8/16 (JP). Single **Chestnut-sided Warbler** lingered 9/26, both at YC (TJ) and at BS (KD, DK, RN) and near WT 10/1 (MVT). **Blackpoll Warblers** moved through *Indiana* between 9/10 (JT) and 10/6 (LC, EC *et al*) with numerous reports from BS, YC, IN, and near SH; one Blackpoll along the AT n. of L&D 8 on 9/27 (TR) and 2 at KR on 9/28 (MH, RH) were the only *Armstrong* sightings; *Cambria* reports included only single birds 9/13 (DH) at PG and 10/10 (LG) along the Laurel Ridge Trail. Migrant **Black-throated Blue Warblers** were found at four *Indiana* locations between 8/31 (MH, RH) and 10/6 (MH, RH); 3 were tallied at BS 9/9 (MH, RH); single birds were noted at PG 9/16 (JS) and in s. *Cambria* 10/9 (LG). One to 3 **Palm Warblers** passed through *Indiana* between 9/10 (JT) and 10/13 (LC, TG, MH, RH); PG yielded one 9/27 (TA). Last **Pine Warbler** remained at YC 9/22 (LC, SD, PF, TG, DK, GS). First **Yellow-rumped Warblers** were sighted 9/16 (JS) at PG and 9/23 (MC) near LV, where numbers peaked at 13 on 10/14 (MC); BS's high was 15 on 10/17 (JP). Yellow-rumps moved through *Armstrong* between 9/30 (MVT) and 11/16 (AK, JK). A **Prairie Warbler** on the IUP campus 8/28 (JT) was the only one noted. The last **Black-throated Green Warblers** appeared 10/5 (MH, RH) at BS, and 10/10 (LG) along the Laurel Ridge Trail. The AT n. of L&D 8 harbored a nice mixed flock of warblers including 4 Black-throated Green Warblers 9/28 (MH, RH); this same area produced its last on 10/11 (TR). Single **Canada Warblers** were noted at BS 9/7 (TB, SG, MH, RH) and 9/14 (TB, RN); the only other ones seen this fall were at PG 9/16 (JS) and near LV 9/18 (MC). Single **Wilson's**



Linda Greble photographed this Snow Bunting at Prince Gallitzin 11/23.

Warblers were listed on six dates between 8/31 (MH, RH) and 9/24 (MH) at four *Indiana* locations – BS, YC, WCA, and near SH; one at CC 9/24 (MVT) was the lone one noted in *Armstrong*.

Eastern Towhees had mostly disappeared from the region by 10/26 (MC) when the last 3 were listed near LV. The season's first **American Tree Sparrow** popped up near Elderton 11/9 (MH, RH); YC's arrival date for the first 10 **American Tree Sparrows** was 11/24 (LC, DC *et al*); 12 at PG 11/27

(TA) were *Cambria's* first. Last **Chipping Sparrow** were near LV 10/29 (MC). Late **Field Sparrows** were at BS 11/2 (MH, RH) and at CC 11/29 (MVT). A **Savannah Sparrow** put in an appearance at YC 8/20 (PF) while another was listed at PG 9/13 (DH), the lone reports. A very late **Henslow's Sparrow** was an unusual find on the IUP campus 10/14 (JT); the previous latest date had been 10/3/1997 at Gipsy when one was spotted by Harvey and Shirley Spindle. **Fox Sparrows** put in a good appearance in *Armstrong* between 11/4 (SM) and 11/18 (MH, RH) with more than the usual number of reports; in *Indiana* they were found at four locations with the first 2 arrivals at the WCA 10/26 (MH, RH); one lingered near LV through 11/21 (MC). It was an unusually good fall for **Lincoln's Sparrows**. Two visited SGL 108 on 9/13 (DH); BS hosted single Lincoln's Sparrows 10/5, 17 (MH, RH); one was spotted at IUP 10/7, 14 (JT); 2 were observed along the Ghost Town Trail 10/10 (TB, MH, RH). First 2 **White-throated Sparrows** arrived 10/11 (TR) along the AT n. of L&D 8; 11 appeared at BS 10/2 (MH, RH) while PG's first report occurred 10/26 (LG). The season's first two **White-crowned Sparrows** were sighted at IUP 10/9 (JT). White-crowned Sparrows were sparsely reported – one 10/19 (LG) at PG, one 10/24 (MVT) in the CC watershed, and 2 on 10/30 (MVT) at CC. Migrant **Dark-eyed Juncos** first appeared at BS 10/2 (MH, RH).

IUP yielded the last **Scarlet Tanager** 10/4 (JT) while *Armstrong's* last was sighted 9/27 (TR) on the AT n. of L&D 8, where *Armstrong's* last **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** was found 9/25 (MH, RH). BS harbored the last grosbeak 9/26 (SG, MH, RH). Single **Indigo Buntings** lingered at KR 9/28 (MH, RH) and at BS 10/2 (MH, RH).

Three **Red-winged Blackbirds** still remained at YC 11/10 (TG, MH, RH). All reports of **Rusty Blackbirds** mentioned only one or 2; YC, which is usually the best location for them, hosted only 2 on 10/27 (LC, PF, TG *et al*) and one 11/17 (PF, TG, MH, RH). Another was found n.w. of Colver 10/26 (LG). November 17 was the only other date Rusties were mentioned – one near LV (MC) and 2 near SH (MH, RH). Last **Baltimore Orioles** were noted at CC through 9/3 (MVT), at SGL 108 on 9/13 (DH), and near LV 9/17 (MC). The LV area hosted 2 **Pine Siskins** 8/3, 6 (MC) and 3 on 10/22 (MC); 3 visited CC 11/22 (MVT), and 7 were in Patton 11/29 (RL).

Observers: William Acosta, Tina Alianiello, Alice Beatty, Dave Beatty, Chris Binando, Bill Brown, Tony Bruno, Lee

Carnahan, Derek & Emily Clawson (D&EC), Ellie Cochran, Marcy Cunkelman, Michael David, Karyn Delaney, Sue Dickson, Patience Fisher, Tom Glover, Steve Gosser, Linda Greble, Barbara Griffith, Jim Hausman III, Margaret Higbee, Roger Higbee, Dueanne Hoffman, Matthew Hunt (MHu), Karen Jackson, Joanne Jenry, Tim Johnson, Debbie Kalbfleisch, Avis Keener, John Keener, Clayton Lamer, Gloria Lamer, Dennis Lauffer, Melissa Little, Renee Lubert, Flo McGuire, Jim

McGuire, Sue Merante, Justin Merry, Donna Meyer, Mark Moore, Richard Nugent, Joseph Pumford, Marianne Pumford, Scott Reynolds, Theo Rickert, Ian Russ, Kate St. John, John Salvetti, Georgia Shalek, Tom Skubel, Dennis Smeltzer, Jim Stratton (JSt), John Taylor, Phyllis Terchanik, Three Rivers Birding Club (3RBC), Todd Bird Club (TBC), Shannon Thompson, Marge Van Tassel (MVT), Ray Winstead.

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



Amount Paid _____

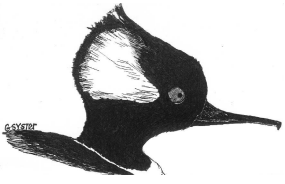
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Todd Bird Club

c/o Roger V. Higbee
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