The REDSTART

VOLUME 82, NUMBER 1

JANUARY, 2015



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Founded September 1932 Named in honor of A. B. Brooks, Naturalist

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The Redstart is published quarterly in January, April, July, and October at P.O. Box 4077, Wheeling, WV 26003. The journal of the Brooks Bird Club, it is mailed to all members in good standing. Nonmember subscription price is \$17. Individual copies are \$4, except the Foray issue, which is \$8. Changes of address and requests for back issues should be mailed to P.O. Box 4077, Wheeling, WV 26003. Articles for publication and books for review should be mailed to the editor. Printed on recycled paper.

ISSN: 0034-2165

The Bird List, 2014 Foray Randolph County, West Virginia

Orion Metheny

The 75th annual Brooks Bird Club Foray was held at Camp Pioneer in Beverly, Randolph County, West Virginia, June 13 to 20, 2014. This was the third Foray held at Camp Pioneer. See Buckelew (1990) for an area survey. There were 121 bird species found at the 2014 Foray, 126 at the 1989 Foray, and 129 species in 2009 in the same Randolph County territory. We failed to find Osprey, Northern Harrier, Black-billed Cuckoo, Common Nighthawk, Red-headed Woodpecker, Horned Lark, Worm-eating Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Vesper Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Summer Tanager, and Red Crossbill, all rare or uncommon species found at the 1989 or 2009 Randolph County Forays. New species for the Randolph County Foray were Common Merganser, Black Vulture, and Pine Warbler.

On the list breeding evidence is indicated in italics. Abundance terms used in the bird list are as follows:

Very common—Seen in large numbers every day in all appropriate habitats.

Common—Seen in appropriate habitat every day without any special effort.

Uncommon—Seen in appropriate habitat only with a lot of effort.

Rare—Only one or two seen in the entire study region during the study period.

Canada Goose—Very common. Observed daily.

Wood Duck—Common. J. Emrick, W. Jarrell, and S. Egan saw a *female with four juveniles* on Georgetown Rd., Rt. 21, by the large bridge.

Mallard—Common.

Hooded Merganser—Rare. Y. Tomazin found *two immature Hooded Mergansers at Tygart Valley wetlands*, also viewed by B. Triplett, R. Tomazin, O. Metheny, M. Grey, and others.

Common Merganser—Uncommon. M. Grey found *a female with eight or more young on Shavers Fork* in the Stewart Recreational area.

Ruffed Grouse—Common. The Emricks, Tomazins, and Shearers found *a female with two young at Kumbrabow State Park*.

Wild Turkey—Uncommon. A. Buckelew saw one on the road from Glady.

Great Blue Heron—S. Emrick reported *two adults and a juvenile* at Valley Bend in a tree.

Green Heron—Common. O. Metheny saw two on the Tygart Valley River and one below camp.

Black Vulture—Uncommon. O. and L. Metheny and C. and F. McCullough reported this species in separate accounts on Old Georgetown Rd.

Turkey Vulture—Common.

Bald Eagle—Uncommon. C. and F. McCullough observed this species at both the fish hatchery and at Kumbrabow. O. Metheny saw one soaring over the golf course at camp.

Sharp-shinned Hawk—Rare. Many campers saw one at Stuarts Knob.

Cooper's Hawk—Uncommon. Seen on a morning bird walk near the horse stables. Red-shouldered Hawk—Uncommon. R. Tomazin had one calling on CR 27 on a BBS route.

Broad-winged Hawk—Uncommon. A. Buckelew, M. Grey, and the McCulloughs saw one on the Beverly E. atlas block, and M. Grey saw a pair at Stewart Recreation Area.

Red-tailed Hawk—Common.

Killdeer—Very common. On June 16 R. Tomazin, W. Jarrell, and O. Metheny saw 14 at one BBS stop on CR 1/3. Parent birds performed distraction displays for the morning bird walk people, and recently fledged young were enjoyed by all at the church parking lot near camp.

Rock Pigeon—Common. O. and L. Metheny found pigeons at the air strip near camp. **Mourning Dove**—Very common. Seen daily by many.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo—Rare. R. Tomazin had one on CR 27 BBS route on June 16; J. Triplett found one on the High Falls Trail.

Barred Owl—Common. R. Tomazin had two Barred Owls on three consecutive BBS stops on CR 27 on 6/14.

Eastern Whip-poor-will—Uncommon. On the last evening of Foray, June 19, O. Metheny and R. Tomazin saw or heard seven or eight Eastern Whip-poor-wills on Rt. 5/5.

Chimney Swift—Common.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird —Common.

Belted Kingfisher—Uncommon. O. Metheny saw one over the ponds below camp. **Red-bellied Woodpecker**—Common.

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker—Very common. On June 15 R. Tomazin had 22 on a BBS route within 10 stops on CR 27.

Downy Woodpecker—Uncommon. Morning bird walk participants saw one on June 15. Others were seen on the High Falls Trail and at the Tygart Valley River wetland.

Hairy Woodpecker—Common.

Northern Flicker—Common.

Pileated Woodpecker—Uncommon. One was seen on the morning bird walk on June 18

American Kestrel—Common. C. and F. McCullough saw three, and O. and L. Metheny four, both on Old Georgetown Road.

Eastern Wood-Pewee —Common.

Acadian Flycatcher—Common.

Alder Flycatcher—Rare. R. Tomazin had one singing on June 15 before Glady on the CR 27 BBS Route.

Willow Flycatcher—Uncommon. R. Tomazin, O. Metheny, M. Kibler, and S. Egan heard two at two separate stops on a CR 21 BBS route.

Least Flycatcher—Common.

Eastern Phoebe—Common.

Great Crested Flycatcher—Common.

Eastern Kingbird—Common.

White-eyed Vireo—Uncommon. R. Tomazin, O. Metheny, S. Egan, and M. Kibler heard two on a CR 21 BBS route.

Yellow-throated Vireo—Uncommon. Reported on four days.

Blue-headed Vireo—Common.

Warbling Vireo—Uncommon. R. Tomazin had one singing on a CR 27 BBS route on June 15.

Red-eyed Vireo—Very common. The species was tied with the American Robin as the most abundant bird found on the BBS with 266 individuals reported.

Blue Jay—Common.

American Crow—Very common. The American Crow was the third most abundant species found on the BBS; 156 individuals were observed.

Common Raven—Common. Frequently observed at higher elevations.

Tree Swallow—Uncommon. The McCulloughs reported this bird as only occasional, not abundant.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow—Uncommon. O. Metheny found *a nest in a stream bank below camp*.

Bank Swallow—Rare. L. and O. Metheny saw the species at the large bridge on Old Georgetown Rd.

Cliff Swallow—Rare. J. Emrick, S. Egan, and W. Jarrell observed two at Georgetown Bridge on Rt. 21.

Barn Swallow—Common.

Black-capped Chickadee—Common.

Tufted Titmouse—Common.

Red-breasted Nuthatch—Rare. The McCulloughs observed one at Laurel Fork Campground, and M. Grey heard another on the drive to the trail head of High Falls of the Cheat Trail.

White-breasted Nuthatch—Common.

Brown Creeper—Uncommon. Heard at High Falls of the Cheat and on the Stuarts Knob outing. Both were observed by many.

House Wren—Common.

Winter Wren—Common. C. and F. McCullough reported that many were observed on the Horton Trail, where A. Buckelew observed *parents feeding young birds*, and on the trail to the High Falls of the Cheat.

Carolina Wren—Common.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher—Uncommon. A. Buckelew reported a *flightless fledged bird near camp* on morning bird walk.

Golden-crowned Kinglet—Uncommon. Heard at Laurel Fork Campground, at Kumbrabow, Stuart's Knob, and High Falls of the Cheat.

Eastern Bluebird—Common. The McCulloughs found it common in habitat, numerous around camp. Mary Grey found a *nest attended by a male and female in a locust post near camp*.

Veery—Common.

Swainson's Thrush—Rare. A. Buckelew and F. and C. McCullough heard one singing on top of Cheat Mountain.

Hermit Thrush—Common.

Wood Thrush—Common. The McCulloughs found numerous birds at higher elevations.

American Robin—Very common. The robin was tied for most observed on the BBS with 266 individuals found. *Many juveniles were seen around camp*.

Gray Catbird—Very common. Observers found 97 birds, making the catbird the seventh most reported on the BBS.



Louisiana Waterthrush banded by Ross Brittain at Stuart Park. Photo by Ryan Tomazin.

Brown Thrasher—Common.

Northern Mockingbird—Uncommon. O. Metheny found one on Old Georgetown Rd.

European Starling—Very common. C. McCullough reported the starling to be the fourth most abundant bird found on the BBS with 137 reported at 31 stops.

Cedar Waxwing —Common.

Ovenbird—Common. Observed daily by many; 75 were found on the BBS.

Louisiana Waterthrush—Uncommon. Not plentiful on BBS routes although observed daily.

Northern Waterthrush—Rare. O. Metheny heard one at a swamp after the visit at Stewarts knob.

Golden-winged Warbler—Uncommon. O. Metheny heard one at Comberly Sods near Bickle Knob. Several groups also found them on Rt. 5/5 after R. Tomazin and O. Metheny found them on a BBS route.

Blue-winged Warbler—Rare. Several campers found two on Rt. 5/5 after R. Tomazin and O. Metheny had them on a BBS route.

Black-and-white Warbler—Common.

Mourning Warbler—Uncommon. O. and L. Metheny and F. and C. McCullough heard two at a Kumbrabow cutting area. The Tripletts had one on the High Falls of the Cheat. R. Tomazin heard one on a CR 27 BBS route.

Kentucky Warbler—Rare. Two were found on a BBS route by R. Tomazin and O. Metheny on 5/5, later found by A. Buckelew and the McCulloughs at the same place.

Common Yellowthroat—Common

Hooded Warbler—Common.

American Redstart—Common.

Cerulean Warbler—Uncommon. F. and C. McCullough observed one on a BBS route along Shavers Fork.

Northern Parula—Common.

Magnolia Warbler—Common.

Blackburnian Warbler—Uncommon. R. Tomazin found good numbers in habitat.

Yellow Warbler—Common. F. McCullough found several at low elevations with none at higher elevations.

Chestnut-sided Warbler—Common. O. Metheny found it to be plentiful at Comberly Sods.

Black-throated Blue Warbler—Common.

Pine Warbler—Rare. A. Buckelew and M. Jones found one near the Webster County line on Rt. 55. C. White, A. Heck, and C. Tingley found one at Kumbrabow State Park.

Yellow-rumped Warbler—Uncommon. The McCulloughs found one at Spruce Knob Lake, and one was heard by all on Stuart Knob.

Vellow-throated Warbler—Common

Black-throated Green Warbler—Common.

Canada Warbler—Rare. One or two were heard at Stuart's Knob. The McCulloughs had one heard near Sully.

Yellow-breasted Chat—Rare. O. Metheny, R. Tomazin, S. Egan, and M. Kibler heard two on a BBS Route on Old Georgetown Rd.

Eastern Towhee—Very common. There were 94 individuals reported on the BBS.

Chipping Sparrow—Very common. There were 87 reported on the BBS.

Field Sparrow—Common. The McCulloughs reported 10 on one BBS Route.

Savannah Sparrow—Uncommon. Many observed these sparrows in a field near the airstrip beside camp.

Grasshopper Sparrow—Uncommon. R. Tomazin, O. Metheny, and W. Jarrell heard one on a CR1 BBS Route. Campers also heard a few in a field near the airstrip beside camp.

Song Sparrow—Very common. This sparrow was the fifth most common bird found on the BBS with 132 reported.

Dark-eved Junco—Common.

Scarlet Tanager—Common.

Northern Cardinal—Common.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak—Uncommon. The McCulloughs observed only one.

Indigo Bunting—Very common. The species was the sixth most common bird found on the BBS with 122 individuals found at 97 stops.

Bobolink—Uncommon. R. Tomazin found four on a BBS Route, and the McCulloughs saw four on a barn in Sully and in a field on Bach Rd.

Red-winged Blackbird—Very common. BBS found 94 individuals.

Eastern Meadowlark—Uncommon. R. Tomazin, O. Metheny, and W. Jarrell saw *two family groups in one field*.

Common Grackle—Common.

Brown-headed Cowbird—Uncommon. BBS found only one.

Orchard Oriole—Uncommon. C. White identified a male in first year plumage singing on a morning bird walk. R. Tomazin, O. Metheny, and W. Jarrell found one on a BBS Route on CR1.

Baltimore Oriole—Uncommon. Three were found on BBS runs.

House Finch—Uncommon. Heard every day at camp, but not common elsewhere.

Purple Finch—Uncommon. Two or three were found on Stuart's Knob. A. Buckelew,
F. and C. McCullough, and M. Grey had one singing in a Red Spruce on top of Shaver's Mountain.

American Goldfinch—Common.

House Sparrow—Common. F. and C. McCullough often found it in towns, but rarely elsewhere

Reference

Buckelew, A. R. Jr. (1990). 1989 Foray area survey. The Redstart, 57(1), 2.

210 Sumac Circle Morgantown, WV 26508

The 2014 Foray Breeding Bird Surveys Randolph County, West Virginia

Carol McCullough and Frederick McCullough

At the 2014 Foray 3,364 individuals of 106 species were counted at 298 stops on the Breeding Bird Surveys (BBS). Teams were led by Ryan Tomazin, James Triplett, and Carol McCullough. Each team started approximately one-half hour before sunrise; a new route was taken each day, stopping every half mile to record all birds heard or observed for a 3-minute period. Two routes were not completed due to rain; routes normally consist of 20 stops.

Two other Forays were held in this same territory: one in 1989 when 3,521 birds of 101 species were counted at 280 stops and another in 2009 when 4,305 birds of 104 species were counted at 386 stops.

Table 1 gives the number of species recorded on the 16 Breeding Bird Survey routes and the number of stops where they were found.

Table 1
Birds Recorded by Species

Species	Number	Stops Present
Canada Goose	22	3
Wood Duck	2	1
Mallard	2	2
Ruffed Grouse	2	2
Wild Turkey	1	1
Green Heron	4	3
Turkey Vulture	4	3
Bald Eagle	1	1
Cooper's Hawk	1	1
Red-shouldered Hawk	1	1
Red-tailed Hawk	2	2
Killdeer	25	8
Rock Pigeon	5	1
Mourning Dove	81	43
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1	1
Barred Owl	8	5
Chimney Swift	14	8

Species	Number	Stops Present
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	11	11
Belted Kingfisher	2	2
Red-bellied Woodpecker	11	11
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	32	18
Downy Woodpecker	8	8
Hairy Woodpecker	9	7
Northern Flicker	18	18
Pileated Woodpecker	9	9
American Kestrel	2	2
Eastern Wood-Pewee	37	35
Acadian Flycatcher	39	34
Alder Flycatcher	1	1
Willow Flycatcher	4	4
Least Flycatcher	17	15
Eastern Phoebe	43	40
Great Crested Flycatcher	8	8
Eastern Kingbird	2	2
White-eyed Vireo	3	3
Yellow-throated Vireo	3	3
Blue-headed Vireo	29	27
Warbling Vireo	2	2
Red-eyed Vireo	266	172
Blue Jay	27	25
American Crow	156	104
Common Raven	28	21
Tree Swallow	13	10
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	6	3
Barn Swallow	40	22
Black-capped Chickadee	40	34
Tufted Titmouse	36	36
White-breasted Nuthatch	25	25
Brown Creeper	1	1
House Wren	39	27
Winter Wren	8	8
Carolina Wren	36	30
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	5	4
Golden-crowned Kinglet	2	2
Eastern Bluebird	8	13
Veery	76	57

Species	Number	Stops Present
Hermit Thrush	29	24
Wood Thrush	78	61
American Robin	266	134
Gray Catbird	97	70
Brown Thrasher	24	17
Northern Mockingbird	3	2
European Starling	137	31
Cedar Waxwing	69	39
Ovenbird	75	64
Louisiana Waterthrush	9	8
Golden-winged Warbler	1	1
Blue-winged Warbler	4	2
Black-and-white Warbler	31	30
Mourning Warbler	3	2
Kentucky Warbler	2	2
Common Yellowthroat	62	49
Hooded Warbler	25	22
American Redstart	31	28
Cerulean Warbler	2	2
Northern Parula	23	22
Magnolia Warbler	28	23
Blackburnian Warbler	5	5
Yellow Warbler	20	15
Chestnut-sided Warbler	22	22
Black-throated Blue Warbler	21	20
Yellow-throated Warbler	8	8
Black-throated Green Warbler	54	47
Canada Warbler	1	1
Yellow-breasted Chat	2	2
Eastern Towhee	94	79
Chipping Sparrow	87	59
Field Sparrow	59	43
Savannah Sparrow	2	2
Grasshopper Sparrow	1	1
Song Sparrow	132	88
Dark-eyed Junco	63	51
Scarlet Tanager	62	60
Northern Cardinal	71	55
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	9	8

Species	Number	Stops Present
Indigo Bunting	122	97
Bobolink	13	5
Red-winged Blackbird	94	38
Eastern Meadowlark	13	8
Common Grackle	31	12
Brown-headed Cowbird	8	7
Orchard Oriole	2	2
Baltimore Oriole	4	3
House Finch	3	3
American Goldfinch	42	21
House Sparrow	42	13
Total individuals	3,364	
Total species	106	
Total stops	298	

Table 2 lists the 15 most abundant species recorded on the 16 BBS routes and compares this with the prevalence of these species on the previous two Forays at this site.

Table 2 Most Abundant Species

als 1989
1989
10.6%
8.4%
5.6%
1.8%
3.2%
6.0%
1.9%
3.0%
4.4%
3.1%
1.1%
4.3%
1.7%

					Perc	ent of T	otal
Abu	ındance l	Rank		No. for	In	dividual	S
1989	2009	2014	Species	2014	2014	2009	1989
37	22	14	Ovenbird	75	2.2%	1.3%	0.9%
13	11	15	Northern Cardinal	71	2.1%	2.6%	1.7%

Table 3 indicates the 15 most widely distributed species found on the 298 stops on the 16 BBS routes and compares this with the previous two Forays.

Table 3
Most Widely Distributed Species

Distri	bution	Rank		Stops in	Percer	nt of Tota	l Stops
1989	2009	2014	Species	2014	2014	2009	1989
1	1	1	Red-eyed Vireo	172	57.7%	60.4%	65.7%
3	2	2	American Robin	134	45.0%	51.0%	50.0%
4	5	3	American Crow	104	34.9%	29.8%	40.3%
2	4	4	Indigo Bunting	97	32.6%	32.1%	52.8%
6	3	5	Song Sparrow	88	29.5%	33.7%	31.4%
7	6	6	Eastern Towhee	79	26.5%	25.4%	30.0%
11	10	7	Gray Catbird	70	23.5%	20.5%	18.6%
31	23	8	Ovenbird	64	21.5%	11.1%	8.6%
5	9	9	Wood Thrush	61	20.5%	22.0%	35.7%
17	8	10	Scarlet Tanager	60	20.1%	23.3%	15.0%
8	11	11	Chipping Sparrow	59	19.8%	18.9%	29.6%
14	12	12	Veery	57	19.1%	18.7%	16.8%
12	7	13	Northern Cardinal	55	18.5%	23.6%	17.9%
23	17	14	Dark-eyed Junco	51	17.1%	13.7%	13.2%
13	19	15	Common Yellowthroat	49	16.4%	12.2%	17.9%

Participants in one or more of the survey routes included John Burkhart, Sally Egan, Janice Emrick, John Fichtner, Zachariah Fowler, Alaina Heck, Wilma Jarrell, Mimi Kibler, Tina Long, Carol McCullough, Frederick McCullough, Larry Metheny, Orion Metheny, Philip Murray, Anne Petsonk, Cynthia Slater, Christopher Tingley, Debra Tingley, Ryan Tomazin, Beverly Triplett, James Triplett, Jane Whitaker, Chelesi White.

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Singing Male Census, 2014 Foray Randolph County, West Virginia

Scott Emrick

VALLEY BEND WETLAND—Location: West Virginia, Randolph County; 0.75 miles West of Valley Bend on U.S. 219 in the Valley Bend Wetland Wildlife Management Area. West end begins at 38.76830° N, 79.94168° W; Beverly West Quadrangle, U.S.G.S; west end extends east. Continuity: Established 2009. Size: 6.07 ha = 15.0 acres (660 x 990 ft.) rectangle. Description of plot: The plot is bisected, west to east, by an old railroad bed. To the south the plot is a very wet marsh, more open in the western end, consisting of Cowlily (Nuphar advena), Arrowhead (Sagittaria sp.), and Skunk Cabbage (Symplocarpus foetidus), and becoming an alder swamp (Alnus sp.) about halfway along the plot to the east. Many standing dead trees, providing perches and nesting places for birds, are found in the open marsh and alder swamp. At the most eastern station, the southern half is a wet pasture with elm (*Ulmus* sp.), wild rose and multiflora rose, Japanese Barberry, and willow (Salix sp.). The northern half begins at the west end as a shallow pond containing many Cowlily plants. To the east, the ponds give way to hay fields about halfway along the rail bed center line. Various trees grow from the sides of the old rail bed. These include Black Oak (*Quercus velutina*), Red Oak (O. rubra), Red Maple (Acer rubrum), Sugar Maple (Acer saccharum), Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*), and dead trees. These trees are mostly ½ to 1½ feet DBH. Topography: Level marsh at elevation of 1,920 ft. Coverage: June 14 to June 19, 2014. All trips between 0530 and 0715. Total party hours: 7.75. Census: Red-winged Blackbird 4.5; Gray Catbird 3; Song Sparrow 2.5; Willow Flycatcher 1; Indigo Bunting 1; Northern Cardinal 1; Green Heron 1; Carolina Wren 1; Common Yellowthroat 0.5; Red-eyed Vireo 0.5; Great Crested Flycatcher 0.5; Northern Flicker,+; Eastern Towhee,+; Yellow Warbler,+; American Goldfinch,+; Blue Jay,+; Orchard Oriole,+; Baltimore Oriole,+; Eastern Meadowlark,+; Wood Duck.+; Blue-headed Vireo,+; Great Blue Heron,+; American Crow,+; Common Grackle,+. Totals: 24 species, 11 territorial males. Census participants: Scott Emrick (compiler), Zachariah Fowler, Alaina Heck, Mimi Kibler, Annie Petsonk, Christopher Tingley, Debra Tingley, and Chelesi White

> 52713 SR 800 Jerusalem, OH 43747

Reptiles and Amphibians of the 2014 Foray Randolph County, West Virginia

Christopher Tingley

CLASS AMPHIBIA

Order Caudata—Salamanders

Red-spotted Newt (Notophthalmus v.viridescens)
Northern Dusky Salamander (Desmognathus fussus)
Allegheny Mountain Dusky Salamander (Desmognathus ochrophaeus)
Seal Salamander (Desmognathus monticola monticola)
Eastern Red-backed Salamander (Plethodon cinereus)

Order Salienta—Toads and Frogs

Eastern American Toad (Anaxyrus a.americanus formerly Bufo a. americanus)
Spring Peeper (Pseudacris crucifer)
Bull Frog (Lithobates catesbeianus formerly Rana catesbneiana)
Pickerel Frog (Lithobates plautris formerly Rana palustris)

CLASS REPTILIA Order Testudines—Turtles

Eastern Snapping Turtle (*Chelydra s.serpinin*)
Eastern Box Turtle (*Terrapene c. carolina*)
Eastern Painted Turtle (*Chrysemys p. picta*)

Order Serpentes—Snakes

Common Watersnake (Nerodia s.sipedon)
Eastern Gartersnake (Thamnophis s.sirtalis)
Northern Ring-neck Snake (Diadpohis punctatus edwardsii)
Eastern Milk Snake (Lampropeltis t. triangulum)

A big thanks to all campers who helped with the list.

832 Cale Road Bruceton Mills, WV 26525

Mammals of the 2014 Foray, Randolph County

Jane Whitaker

The following mammals were observed by the campers at the 2014 Foray held at Camp Pioneer near Beverly from June 13 to June 20.

CLASS MAMMALIA Order Marsupialia

Family Didelphidae
Virginia Opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*)

Order Chiroptera

Family Vespertilionidae
Bat species

Order Lagomorpha

Family Leporidae—Rabbits and Hares
Eastern Cottontail (Sylvilagus floridanus)

Order Rodentia

Family Sciuridae—Squirrels

Eastern Chipmunk (Tamias striatus)

Woodchuck (Marmota monax)

Gray Squirrel (Sciurus carolinensis)

Fox Squirrel (S. niger)

Red Squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*)

Family Castoridae—Beaver

Beaver (Castor Canadensis)

Family Cricetidae

Muskrat (*Ondatra zibethicus*)

Mouse species

Order Carnivora

Family Ursidae—Bears
Black Bear (*Ursus americanus*)

Family Procyonidae—Raccoons
Raccoon (*Procyon lotor*)

Family Mustelidae—Weasels
Striped Skunk (Mephitis mephitis)

Order Artiodactyla

Family Cervidae—Deer
White-tailed deer (*Odocoiles virginianus*)



Baby skunks found by Ryan Tomazin and Orion Metheny in a gutter in downtown Elkins. The mother eventually appeared from behind a nearby building. Photo by Ryan Tomazin.

3817 Windom Pl. N.W. Washington, DC 20016

Fungi of the 2014 Foray, Randolph County, West Virginia

Ryan Tomazin

The Foray area this year again had some cool temperatures, rain, and humidity while we were there. The numbers of fungi were better than in 2013, but not copious. There were a few more species collected than listed, but these were not identified.

Pluteus atricappilusDeer MushroomMycena leaianaOrange MycenaTricholomopsis platyphyllaPlatterful MushroomAmanita flavoconiaYellow PatchesMarasmius rotulaPinwheel Marasmius

Marasmius capillaris
Leptonia incana Green Leptonia
Hygrocybe flavescens Golden Waxy Cap

Russula spp. At least five unidentified species

Boletus edulis King Bolete

Boletus subvelutipes Red-mouthed Bolete

Ganoderma applanatum Artist Conk Laetiporus sulphureus Sulphur Shelf

Phellinus robineae Crack-capped Polypore
Fomes fomentarius Tinder Polypore

Trametes versicolor Turkey Tail

Inonotus obliquus Chaga, Birch Canker Polyporus betulina Birch Polypore

Ganoderma tsugae Hemlock Varnish Shelf
Trichaptum biforme Violet-toothed Polypore

Irpex lacteus Milk-white Toothed Polypore

Polyporus betulina Birch Polypore Polyporus varius

Polyporus squamosus Dryad's Saddle

Poluporus arcularius Spring Polypore Peziza sp. Spring Polypore

Umbilicaria esculenta Rock Tripe

Chlorosplenium aeruginascens Blue-green Wood Stain
Tremellodendron pallidum False Coral Mushroom

Scutellinia scutellataEyelash CupHelvella macropusScurfy Elfin CupHelvella griseoalbaVeined Cup

References

- Bessette, A. E., Roody, W. C., & Bessette, A. R (2000). *North American Boletes*. Syracuse, New York: Syracuse University Press.
- Roody, W. C. (2003). *Mushrooms of West Virginia and the Central Appalachians*. Lexington, Kentucky: The University Press of Kentucky.

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Flowering Plants of the 2014 Foray Randolph County, West Virginia

Richard L. Diener

The 75th annual Foray of the Brooks Bird Club was sited at Camp Pioneer near Beverly, Randolph County, West Virginia. Two previous Forays were held at this site in 1989 and 2009. Randolph County is the largest county in West Virginia, with mountain ridges in excess of 4,000 feet, and much of the county is drained by the Cheat River and its tributaries. For a detailed description of Randolph County with its diverse terrain and topography see Buckelew (1990). The fertile valleys, rich woodlands, and the high elevation ridges provide an abundance of a great variety of plants, which were collected and identified during the eight days of the varied Foray programs. A large number of plant species were identified during the 2009 Foray; thus, it was decided that a restricted number of species would be listed in this report. The list below includes those species not found during the 2009 Foray (Diener, 2010), and emphasis was placed on the families Poaceae (grasses) and Cyperaceae (sedges).

The nomenclature used in this report was taken from the most recent Checklist and Atlas of the Vascular Flora of West Virginia (May 9, 2006). This Checklist will be available for general use at future Forays. The first column in the list below is the official scientific name, and second column lists a common name for each species. Species origins are noted as superscripts at the end of the scientific names as follows:

Native (N)—A taxon considered to have occurred in West Virginia prior to European settlement, and that still occurs naturally within the state or may be considered extirpated.

Adventive (A)—A taxon native elsewhere in North America north of Mexico, which is not native to West Virginia but is now growing in the state, arriving without known intentional introduction.

Introduced (I)—A taxon native elsewhere in North America north of Mexico, which has been intentionally planted in West Virginia, and is now escaped and surviving without cultivation.

Exotic (E)—A taxon occurring in the state that is not native to North America north of Mexico, and is now escaped and surviving without cultivation.

The Brooks Bird Club members who contributed to the collection and identification are Jane Whitaker, A. R. Buckelew Jr., Zachariah Fowler, John Burkhart, and Richard Diener. I extend my thanks to Elizabeth Beyers of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources for her participation in the field trip to the Swamp White Oak wetlands. Also, I thank the other Brooks Bird Club members who contributed to the collection of plant specimens.

All the plants identified in the list below were collected from June 13 through June 20, 2014. There are 73 plant species listed, found in 13 families.

Flowering Plants of the 2014 Foray Not Found at the 2009 Foray

POACEAE

Agrostis gigantea^E

Anthoxanthum odoratum^E

Bromus inermis^E
Bromus kalmii^N
Bromus secalinus^E
Cinna latifolia^N

Dichanthelium clandestinum^N
Dichanthelium commutatum^N
Dichanthelium dichotomum^N

Elymus hystrix^N Elymus trachycaulus^N Elymus villosus^N Elymus virginicus^N Festuca rubra^N

Festuca subverticillata^N
Festuca trachyphylla^E
Gyceria melicaria^N
Glyceria septentrionalis^N

Glyceria striata^N
Holcus lanatus^E
Lolium perenne^E
Lolium pretense^E
Milium effusum^N

Phalaris arundinacea^N
Phleum pretense^E
Poa alsodes^N
Poa pratensis^E

Schizachne purpurascens^N Sphenopholis intermedia.^N

Vulpia octoflora^N

CYPERACEAE

Carex amphibola^N
Carex annectens^N
Carex atlantica^N
Carex caroliniana^N
Carex cephalophora^N
Carex communis^N

GRASS FAMILY

Redtop

Sweet Vernal Grass Smooth Bromegrass Canada Bromegrass

Chess, Cheat

Drooping Wood Reedgrass

Deertongue Grass Variable Panic Grass Bushy Panic Grass Bottle-Brush Grass Slender Wheatgrass

WildRye

Virginia Wild Rye Red Fescue Nodding Fescue Hard Fescue Mannagrass

Eastern Mannagrass Fowl Mannagrass Velvet Grass

Perennial Rye Grass Meadow Fescue Millet Grass

Reed Canary Grass Timothy Grass Bluegrass

Kentucky Bluegrass

False Melic

Slender Wedgegrass Six-Weeks Fescue

SEDGE FAMILY

Eastern Narrow-Leaf Sedge

Yellow-Fruit Sedge Prickly Bog Sedge Carolina Sedge Oval-Leaf Sedge Fibrous-Root Sedge Carex crinita^N Carex cristatella^N Carex debilis^N Carex echinata^N

Carex festucacea^N
Carex folliculata^N

Carex gracillima^N

Carex gynandra^N
Carex intumescens^N
Carex lupulina^N

Carex lurida^N
Carex normalis^N
Carex radiata^N
Carex rosea^N
Carex scoparia^N

Carex stipata var. maxima^N Carex stipata var. stipata^N

Carex trisperma^N
Carex virescens^N
Carex vulpinoides^N
Eleocharis tenuis^N
Scirpus atrocinctus^N
Scirpus atrovirens^N
Scirpus cyperinus^N

JUNCACEAE

Juncus effusus^N

Juncus marginatus^N

Juncus tenuis^N

ORCHIDACEAE

Platanthera lacera^N

FAGACEAE

Quercus bicolor^N

POLYGONACEAE

Polygonum arifolium^N

CARYOPHYLLACEAE Scleranthus annuus^E

Fringed Sedge Crested Sedge White-Edge Sedge

Star Sedge Fescue Sedge

Northern Long Sedge

Graceful Sedge Nodding Sedge

Greater Bladder Sedge

Hop Sedge Sallow Sedge

Greater Straw Sedge Eastern Star Sedge

Rosy Sedge

Pointed Broom Sedge Stalk-Grain Sedge Stalk-Grain Sedge Three-seeded Sedge

Ribbed Sedge Foxtail Sedge Killcow Woolgrass Black Rush Woolgrass

RUSHFAMILY Common Rush Grass-Leaf Rush Path Rush

ORCHID FAMILY Ragged Fringed Orchid

BEECH

Swamp White Oak

BUCKWHEAT FAMILY Halberdleaf Tearthumb

PINK FAMILY Knawel CERATOPHYLLACEAE HORNWORT FAMILY

Ceratophyllum demersum^N Hornwort

SAXIFRAGACEAE SAXIFRAGE FAMILY

Chrysosplenium americanum^N Golden Saxifrage

ANACARDIACEAE CASHEW FAMILY

Toxicodendron vernix^N Poison Sumac

ONAGRACEAE EVENING PRIMROSE FAMILY

Gaura biennis^N Gaura

RUBIACEAE MADDER FAMILY

Galium tinctorium^N Clayton's Bedstraw

ASTERACEAE ASTER FAMILY

Hypochaeris radicans^E Cat's-Ear

Reference

Buckelew, A. R. Jr. (1990). 1989 Foray area survey. *The Redstart*, 57(1), 2. Diener, R. (2010). Plants of the 2009 Foray, Randolph County, West Virginia. *The Redstart*, 77(1), 31-53.

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Weather at the 2014 Foray Randolph County, West Virginia

Alaina Heck and Chelesi White

Date	Temperature	Precipitation
June 13		0.1 in. thunder storm
June 14	58–68°	clear
June 15	50–76°	clear
June 16	50–76°	clear
June 17	60–80°	clear
June 18	65-84°	clear
June 19	67–75°	0.4 in. early and mid-afternoon showers

260 May Apple Lane Martinsburg, WV 25403

> P.O. Box 2624 Elkins, WV 26241

The 2014 Foray Participants

Michael Barnes, Jeanne Barnes, Abby Berisford*, Brent Berisford, Albert R. Buckelew Jr., William Burdett, Mavis Burdett, Aria Burkhart, John Burkhart, Sally Egan, Andrew Emrick, Janice Emrick***, Scott Emrick, John Fichtner, Zachariah Fowler, Mary Grey, Luke Head, Carolyn Head, Alaina Heck*, Aden Hubbard, Brandon Jacobs*, John Jacobs, Mary Jacobs, Natalie Jacobs*, Wilma Jarrell, Cheryl Jennings, Michael Jones, Mimi Kibler, Tina Long, Carol McCullough, Frederick McCullough, Larry Metheny, Orion Metheny*, Phillip J. Murray, Michael Oldaker, Anne Petsonk, Donald Shearer, Martha Shearer, Cynthia Slater, Christopher Tingley*, Debra Tingley*, Ryan Tomazin***, Yan Tomazin, Beverly Triplett, James Triplett, Jane Whitaker, Chelesi White*.

^{*}Scholarship

^{**}Foray Codirector



Foray participants. Photo by A. R. Buckelew Jr.

Red Knot Listed as Threatened

Barbara Douglas, Senior Endangered Species Biologist for the West Virginia Field Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, has informed us that the rufa subspecies of the Red Knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*) has been listed as threatened throughout its entire range under the Endangered Species Act. The subspecies range includes 40 states, 2 territories, and 27 countries. The notice declares the primary threats to the Red Knot to be habitat loss due to sea level rise, reduced food availability and timing mismatches throughout the birds' annual migratory cycle, and potential increases in predation by birds and mammals in the knot's Arctic breeding grounds. Changes in the timing of egg deposits of horseshoe crabs on the eastern coast of the United States and the decline of the horseshoe crab numbers are both threats to the Red Knot.

There is only one record of the Red Knot in West Virginia, but any sightings of the bird in West Virginia should be reported to Barbara Douglas at barbara_douglas@fws.gov.

Book Review

Wings Over The Mountains by J. Lawrence Smith. 2014. Wheeling, West Virginia: The Brooks Bird Club. 128 pages.

In late 2014 J. Lawrence Smith's last essays were published by the Brooks Bird Club, as Smith envisioned, in *Wings Over the Mountains*. A wonderful read, Smith's writing offers vignettes of many of our favorite West Virginia birds, locations, and birders. The prose is light and interesting, and it gives us more insight as to the past and present of regional birds and birding. There is discussion of the arrival of migrant species, as well as historical arrivals of new species such as the Yellow-throated Warbler and the disappearance of birds such as the Bewick's Wren.

Smith covers many of the environs that make West Virginia unique, from the upland marshes to the many man-made lakes. While he sometimes is partial to his local Kanawha Valley, he gives the rest of the state's readers insight into that bird-rich locale. Another interesting aspect of this book is Smith's breadth of knowledge about the avian history of the state and surrounding areas. He draws from a wealth of sources when discussing changes to the topography and natural makeup of the state's ecosystems.

While not specifically a book on the Brooks Bird Club of West Virginia, a number of past and current members are featured in its pages. His insight into the men and women who helped shape our knowledge of the region's birds is priceless. When we are out in the field with binoculars, watching our favorite avian friends, we seldom consider those who walked those paths before us, and Smith helps bring many of them to light. It is humbling to learn more about those who left us with such a colorful and rich history, and to know that more still are out there today, protecting our birds and educating us about their natural history. Many of Smith's stories can be found nowhere else, so this book is an important contribution to the history of West Virginia ornithology.

Wings Over the Mountains is being sold through the Brooks Bird Club and the Handlan Chapter of the BBC. At 128 pages it is an easy read, and it is packed with wonderful knowledge and love of West Virginia birdlife that we can be thankful was shared with us as Smith was preparing to leave this Earth. It was a profound gesture and a great gift to us all.

Ryan Tomazin

Field Notes Summer Season

June 1-August 31, 2014

Casey Rucker

After a warmer-than-usual June, West Virginia experienced its 15th-coolest July since record keeping began, according to the Northeast Regional Climate Center at Cornell University. August was also cooler than normal. June and August were slightly wetter than average, while July was slightly drier. In June and July, tornadoes touched down in Berkeley, Cabell, Harrison, Monongalia, Pleasants, and Ritchie Counties.

These notes were gathered from the National Audubon Society sponsored West Virginia Bird Listserv, and from field notes submitted to the editor by e-mail and regular mail. The full content of the submitted notes by the contributors to the WV Listserv may be viewed by visiting the archives at the following Web site: http://list.audubon.org/archives/wv-bird.html. Sightings from the Brooks Bird Club Foray held at the 4-H Camp Pioneer near Beverly, Randolph County, from June 13 to 20, may be found in the "The Bird List, 2014 Foray, Randolph County, West Virginia" on page 2 in this issue of *The Redstart*.

Derek Courtney and LeJay Graffious observed adult **Olive-sided Flycatchers** bringing food to juveniles near the boardwalk of Cranberry Glades Visitor Center, Pocahontas County, on July 25. **Olive-sided Flycatchers**, once widespread summer residents of mountain counties, have been rare breeders in West Virginia for many decades. There were 189 species reported in 34 West Virginia counties this summer; it should be noted that many breeding birds are not reported in summer. Additionally, many West Virginia birders were engaged this summer with the West Virginia Breeding Bird Atlas Project II, the results of which are available at http://bird.atlasing.org/Atlas/WV/Main?viewResults=1.

Ducks, Geese—West Virginia birders observed an unusual variety of waterfowl this summer season, extending an invasion that began last winter. Kathy King saw 10 Snow Geese flying with 30 Canada Geese near Moorefield, Hardy County, on July 28, and reported their continued presence on August 2. Canada Geese, Wood Ducks, and Mallards appeared on their breeding grounds throughout the state. David Patick, Gary Rankin, and Michael Griffith saw an unusual juvenile American Wigeon at Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam, Mason County, on July 27. James Farley and Tom Masters saw the season's only reported Blue-winged Teals at Stauffer's Marsh, Berkeley County, on August 15. A Lesser Scaup on the Monongahela River in Star City, Monongalia County, first observed by John Boback and Terry Bronson on July 16, may have lingered there because of wing damage, according to Terry

Bronson on August 18. On June 11, Michael Griffith and Wendell Argabrite found a very late **Common Goldeneye** in breeding plumage at Gallipolis Ferry, Mason County. **Common Mergansers** prompted reports from four counties: Marshall (TB), Monongalia (TB, ADy), Ohio (JBo), and Pocahontas (DP, DG).

Bobwhites—N. Wade Snyder listened to two **Northern Bobwhites** singing near his home in Shenandoah Junction, Jefferson County, on July 26.

Grouse, Turkeys—Reports of **Ruffed Grouse** came from Monongalia County (TB), Pocahontas County (DCo, LeJ), and Tucker County (DCo, HMy). Observers reported **Wild Turkeys** in eight counties. On August 5, Terry Bronson saw a hen *Wild Turkey with three poults* in western Monongalia County.

Loons, Grebes—Donny Good saw a **Common Loon** swimming on Sherwood Lake, Greenbrier County, on June 13. Terry Bronson saw a **Pied-billed Grebe** in breeding plumage on July 24 at the White Park reservoir in Morgantown, Monongalia County.

Cormorants—Reports of **Double-crested Cormorants** came only from Mason (CE) and Putnam (GR) Counties.

Pelicans—Joseph Hildreth watched more than 20 **American White Pelicans** fly over Tygart Lake, Taylor County, on June 21.

Bitterns, Herons, Egrets—American Bitterns appeared this summer in two different locations in Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Tucker County, as observed by Derek Courtney on June 2 and Terry Bronson on June 6. Great Blue Herons and Green Herons continued to appear throughout much of the state. Great Egrets appeared only in Cabell County (DP, GR, MG), Jefferson County (CD), and Wetzel County (WJ). Carol Del-Colle saw her first two Great Egrets of the year on the Shenandoah River, Jefferson County, on August 2. David Patick and Michael Griffith discovered an immature Little Blue Heron at Greenbottom Wildlife Management Area, Cabell County, on August 23, and the bird remained through the end of the month, as reported by Gary Rankin. Gary Rankin also spotted West Virginia's only reported Black-crowned Night Heron this season, at Winfield Lock and Dam, Putnam County, on August 6.

Vultures—Birders in five counties reported Black Vultures, and 10 counties boasted Turkey Vulture reports.

Hawks, Eagles—Ospreys and Bald Eagles were reported throughout the state, generally in small numbers. Elliott Kirschbaum and Sanford Sagalkin, along with the Potomac Valley Audubon Society, saw a Bald Eagle and two young eaglets in and near a nest at the National Conservation Training Center, Jefferson County, on June 21. Northern Harriers occasioned reports from Mason County (GR) and Tucker County (DCo, TB, SKi) this summer. Accipiters inspired few reports this summer, with Sharp-shinned Hawk sightings from Kanawha (HG), Mason (DP, WA, MG), Preston (TB), and Tucker (CR) Counties, and observations of Cooper's Hawks in Jefferson (JBz), Kanawha (HG), Monongalia (TB), Pendleton (DH), and Tucker (CR)

Counties. The author of these notes reported multiple sightings of **Northern Goshawk** in Tucker County this summer, mostly at his home in Dry Fork. Birders in most parts of the state reported **Red-shouldered Hawks**, **Broad-winged Hawks**, and **Red-tailed Hawks**. On August 27 John and Caroline Snyder watched a **Red-shouldered Hawk** catch and eat an 18- to 20-inch snake in their yard in Persinger, Nicholas County. **Golden Eagles** made appearances in Braxton (RB) and Tucker (GM, CR) Counties.

Avocets—On July 27 David Patick, Gary Rankin, and Michael Griffith saw two adult **American Avocets** at Gallipolis Ferry, Mason County, where Michael Griffith found a juvenile **American Avocet** on August 14.

Plovers—Matthew Orsie spotted a **Black-bellied Plover** at Archer's Rock, Jefferson County, on August 12. On July 24 Michael Griffith found three **Semipalmated Plovers** at Gallipolis Ferry, Mason County, where the birds remained through August 12. **Killdeer** appeared in reports from 10 counties.

Sandpipers—West Virginia birders reported members of nine sandpiper species this summer, mainly during migration season in August. Sandpipers were reported in the following counties by the contributors listed: Spotted Sandpipers: Barbour (TB), Jefferson (JBz), Kanawha (HG), Marion (TB, JoH), Mason (DP, WA, MG, GR, CE), and Monongalia (TB); Solitary Sandpipers: Cabell (DP, MG), Hardy (DH), Jefferson (MO), Marion (JoH, TB), Mason (MG), Monongalia (TB), Preston (TB), and Putnam (LC, GR, CE); Greater Yellowlegs: Cabell (GR, MG) and Mason (MG); Lesser Yellowlegs: Cabell (GR, MG), Jefferson (MO), Mason (MG, GR, WA), and Putnam (CE); Least Sandpipers: Cabell (MG, DP, WA), Hardy (DH), Jefferson (MO), Mason (MG), Monongalia (JBo), and Putnam (GR, WA, MG); Pectoral Sandpipers: Mason (DP, WA, MG) and Putnam (GR, WA, MG); Semipalmated Sandpipers: Mason (MG, WA); Western Sandpiper: Hardy (DH); and American Woodcock: Wirt (KCa) and Wood (KCa). Michael Griffith found very early appearances of Lesser Yellowlegs and Semipalmated Sandpipers at Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam, Mason County, on July 15.

Gulls, Terns—John Boback spotted a Bonaparte's Gull in Star City, Monongalia County, on August 16. Beginning July 24, Herring Gulls appeared at Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam, Mason County, as observed by Michael Griffith, Gary Rankin, Cynthia Ellis, and Wendell Argabrite through the end of the season. Richard and Jeannette Esker saw 15 Black Terns as Washington Bottom, Wood County, on August 31. Michael Griffith spotted the season's only reported Forster's Tern at Gallipolis Ferry, Mason County on August 14.

Pigeons, Doves—Rock Pigeons again drew little interest from West Virginia birders this summer, occasioning reports from only four counties. **Mourning Doves** continue to reside throughout the state.

Cuckoos—Reports of cuckoos were again relatively sparse this summer. Yellow-billed Cuckoos prompted reports in eight counties: Jefferson (EK, DHa, SS, JBz), Lewis (DSa), Marion (TB), Marshall (TB), Mason (CE), Monongalia (TB),

Preston (TB), and Wayne (GR). Judy Bowling found a **Black-billed Cuckoo** at Centerbranch Wildlife Management Area in Harrison County on August 14, and contributors also reported **Black-billed Cuckoos** in Kanawha (HG), Monongalia (TB), and Preston (TB, LeJ) Counties.

Owls—Owl reports were scanty as usual this summer. On August 15, John Burkhart saw a Barn Owl in Morgantown, Monongalia County. Birders in four counties reported Eastern Screech-Owls: Barbour (JD), Braxton (DG), Tucker (CR), Wayne (GR), and Wetzel (WJ). On July 30 Herb Myers heard a Great Horned Owl hooting just outside his cabin in Cass Scenic Railroad State Park, Pocahontas County. On August 21 Paula Hallberg found a Great Horned Owl in Canaan Valley NWR, Tucker County, and Gary Rankin heard two Great Horned Owls calling outside his home in Lavalette, Wayne County, on August 24. Birders reported Barred Owl appearances only in Berkeley (DSy), Jefferson (JBz), Pocahontas (KH), and Tucker (DG) Counties. On August 20 the author of these notes heard a Long-eared Owl calling outside his home in Dry Fork, Tucker County. The day before, Jeffrey Del Col heard a Northern Saw-Whet Owl calling near his home in Philippi, Barbour County.

Goatsuckers, Swifts—Common Nighthawk reports began in mid-August, coming from Barbour (JD), Berkeley (DSy), Jefferson (WS), Kanawha (HG), Marion (JoH), Mercer (JJP), Putnam (CE), Randolph (RB), Summers (JJP), Tucker (SF), and Wetzel (WJ) Counties. James and Judy Phillips saw seven Common Nighthawks over Lerona, Mercer County, on August 31. On June 5 Jerry Westfall found two Chuckwill's-widows at Cedar Lakes in Jackson County, where the birds have appeared for the last five years. Diane Sylvester heard Eastern Whip-poor-wills from her home in Berkeley County on June 4. Around the same time, Kevin Campbell was hearing three Eastern Whip-poor-wills from his home in Dallison, Wood County. At the end of the summer, John Boback listened to a Whip-poor-will sing at Dorsey's Knob Park in Morgantown, Monongalia County, on August 30. Chimney Swifts were reported in nine counties this summer: Barbour (JD), Jefferson (JBz, WS), Kanawha (HG), Marion (JoH), Mason (CE), Monongalia (TB), Ohio (JBo), Summers (JP), and Wetzel (WJ). Joey Herron counted 292 Chimney Swifts entering his neighbor's chimney in Fairmont, Marion County, on August 28.

Hummingbirds—Birders in 11 counties reported sightings of **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** this summer. Wilma Jarrell's feeder was visited by a **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** with a misshapen bill in Wileyville, Wetzel County, as she reported on July 18.

Kingfishers—There were reports of Belted Kingfisher in nine West Virginia counties this summer.

Woodpeckers—Our state's seven species of **woodpeckers** all appeared widely, except for **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**, with one Randolph County report, by Herb Myers on July 4 in Harman. For the second year in a row, on July 19 Cynthia Ellis

watched adult **Red-headed Woodpeckers** *bringing juveniles* to her feeders in Red House, Putnam County. Hullet Good hosted *six juvenile* **Downy Woodpeckers** at his feeders in Milliken, Kanawha County, during the month of July.

Falcons—American Kestrels inspired reports in only six West Virginia counties this summer: Barbour (JD), Jefferson (JN, TH), Mason (GR, CE), Monongalia (TB), Preston (TB), and Putnam (GR, CE). Birders reported Merlins in as many counties: Grant (HMy), Hardy (DC), Monroe (JP), Randolph (HMy), Summers (JP), and Tucker (LC, DH, CR). Peregrine Falcons were observed in Fayette County (BWi), Jefferson County (DHa), and Mason County (GR, MG).

Flycatchers—The following birders observed one or more Olive-sided Flycatchers, mentioned at the beginning of these notes, near the Cranberry Glades Visitor Center, Pocahontas County, between June 5 and July 25: Ken Hinkle, Judy and Jon Benedetti, Nancy Cornes, Emily Grafton, Jeanie Hilton, Almuth Tschunko, Barbara and Neal Hohman, Derek Courtney, and LeJay Graffious. Jon Benedetti also saw a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher near the same location on June 19. James and Judy Phillips spotted an Olive-sided Flycatcher at their home in Pipestem, Summers County, on August 4. Teri Holland saw two **Yellow-bellied Flycatchers** at Shannondale Springs Wildlife Management Area, Jefferson County, on August 2. Reports of West Virginia's eight breeding species of flycatcher were sparse this summer. The following birds were reported in the counties and by the contributors listed: **Eastern Wood-Pewees**: Jefferson (EK, DHa, JBz, SS), Kanawha (HG), Lewis (DSa, JBw), Marshall (TB), Monongalia (TB), Preston (TB), and Wayne (GR); Acadian Flycatchers: Jefferson (EK, DHa, JBz, SS), Lewis (JBw), Marshall (TB), Monongalia (TB), Preston (TB), and Taylor (TB); Alder Flycatchers: Pocahontas (JB), Preston (TB), Taylor (TB), and Tucker (DCo, TB); Willow Flycatchers: Pocahontas (KH), Preston (TB), and Tucker (DCo, GM, SKi); Least Flycatchers: Preston (TB) and Tucker (DCo); Eastern Phoebes: Barbour (TB), Jefferson (JBz, DHa, EK, SS), Kanawha (HG), Lewis (JBw), Mason (CE), Monongalia (TB), Barbour (LS), Preston (TB), Randolph (HMy), and Tucker (DCo, TB, SKi); Great Crested Flycatchers: Barbour (JD), Jefferson (DHa, JBz, SS, EK, BH), Kanawha (HG), Marshall (TB), Preston (TB), and Summers (JP); and Eastern Kingbirds: Barbour (TB), Jefferson (DHa, SS, EK, JBz, TH), Kanawha (HG), Marion (TB, JoH), Marshall (TB), Mason (GR, CE), Monongalia (TB), Preston (TB), Tucker (DCo, TB), and Wetzel (WJ).

Vireos—Our five breeding vireos, White-eyed, Yellow-throated, Blue-headed, Warbling, and Red-eyed, appeared in nesting grounds throughout the state, although birders reported Blue-headed Vireos only in Pocahontas (JB), Preston (TB), Summers (JP), and Tucker (DCo, TB, HMy) Counties, and Warbling Vireos only in Jefferson (EK, DHa, JBz, SS), Pendleton (DH), and Summers (JJP) Counties.

Crows, Jays, Ravens—Blue Jays, American Crows, and Common Ravens were reported widely throughout the state. Jefferson County once again hosted the only **Fish Crows** reported in West Virginia this summer (JBz, SS, DHa).

Larks—Diane Holsinger and Kathy King found a lone **Horned Lark** near Moorefield, Hardy County, on June 9. On July 26, acting on a tip from Matthew Orsie, Joette Borzik discovered four **Horned Larks** on Candlewood Drive, Jefferson County.

Swallows—Purple Martins, Tree Swallows, Northern Rough-winged Swallows, Cliff Swallows, and Barn Swallows were the subject of many summer reports in West Virginia. On August 26 Cynthia Ellis, Christie Carr, Beverly Wright, and Randy Urian saw a Bank Swallow at Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam, Mason County. David Carr saw another single Bank Swallow on August 30, along with 120 Tree Swallows, 10 Barn Swallows, and one Cliff Swallow, at Kimsey Run Dam in Hardy County.

Chickadees, Titmice—Carolina and Black-capped Chickadees occasioned few reports in their bifurcated territories in West Virginia. Tufted Titmice were sparsely reported throughout the state as well.

Nuthatches—**Red-breasted Nuthatches** appeared in reports from five counties: Monongalia (TB), Pocahontas (KH, JB), Preston (TB), Randolph (HMy), and Tucker (CR, SKi). **White-breasted Nuthatches** were the subject of fewer reports than usual this season.

Creepers—Brown Creepers appeared in reports from Pocahontas (KH), Preston (TB), Summers (JJP), and Tucker (DCo) Counties.

Wrens—House Wrens and **Carolina Wrens** appeared in reports from many parts of the state. **Winter Wrens** were only reported in Pocahontas (JB), Preston (TB), and Randolph (HMy) Counties.

Gnatcatchers—Reports of **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** in their usual breeding grounds came from locations throughout the state. Joette Borzik and the Potomac Valley Audubon Society saw a female **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** *on the nest* as well as a male nearby, at the historic Claymont mansion property in Jefferson County on July 26.

Kinglets—**Golden-crowned Kinglets** made appearances in the Cranberry Glades Botanical Area of Pocahontas County (KH), in Cathedral State Park, Preston County (TB), and on the top of Briarpatch Mountain, Randolph County (HMy). Jon Benedetti and the Mountwood Bird Club found a **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** in Pocahontas County on June 19.

Thrushes—Six breeding species of thrush were present in West Virginia this summer. Eastern Bluebirds, Wood Thrushes, and American Robins were again seen in many reporting counties. Bruni Haydl heard her first yard Wood Thrush on June 17 in Charles Town, Jefferson County. Reports of Veery came from Pocahontas (KH), Preston (TB), and Tucker (DCo, TB) Counties, and of Hermit Thrush from Pocahontas (KH, JB, DCo, LeJ), Preston (TB), Randolph (HMy), and Tucker (DCo) Counties. Ken Hinkle and the Rockingham Bird Club heard Swainson's Thrushes singing near Cranberry Glades Botanical Area, Pocahontas County, on June 2, and Derek Courtney and LeJay Graffious also heard them in the vicinity on July 25.

Mockingbirds, Thrashers—Gray Catbirds, Northern Mockingbirds, and Brown Thrashers prompted reports from their breeding grounds throughout the state.

Starlings—European Starlings continued to occupy widespread habitats throughout our state.

Waxwings—Cedar Waxwings inspired many West Virginia birders this summer, with reports from 16 counties.

Warblers—On June 8 Herb Myers located a "Brewster's" Warbler (Goldenwinged x Blue-winged) singing the song of a Golden-winged Warbler near Harman in Randolph County. In general, warbler reports were sparse this season. Warbler species reported in five or fewer counties are listed below with the counties and contributors. Species simply listed were reported in at least six counties. Our summer warblers included **Ovenbird**—Jefferson (DHa), Lewis (DSa, JBw), Preston (TB), Taylor (TB), and Tucker (DCo); Worm-eating: Lewis (DSa, JBw) and Pendleton (HMy, DH); Louisiana Waterthrush, Northern Waterthrush; Pocahontas (KH, JB) and Randolph (HMy); Golden-winged: Kanawha (HG) and Preston (TB); Blue-winged; Black-and-white: Lewis (DSa, JBw), Monongalia (TB, JBo, MSl), Pendleton (DH), Preston (TB), and Tucker (DCo); Prothonotary: Jefferson (DHa); Swainson's: Fayette (JB); Tennessee: Summers (JP); Nashville: Tucker (DCo); Mourning: Pocahontas (KH) and Randolph (HMy); Kentucky: Lewis (DSa) and Monongalia (TB); Common Yellowthroat, Hooded, American Redstart, Cape May: Monongalia (JBo); Cerulean: Hardy (DH, KKi), Kanawha (HG), Lewis (DSa), and Tucker (CR); Northern Parula, Magnolia: Pocahontas (KH, JB), Preston (TB), Randolph (HMy), and Tucker (DCo); **Bay-Breasted:** Hardy (DH, KKi); **Blackburnian**: Hardy (DH, KKi), Jefferson (JF), Monongalia (TB), Pocahontas (KH, JB), and Preston (TB); Yellow, Chestnut-sided: Hardy (DH, KKi), Pendleton (DH), Preston (TB), Randolph (HMy), and Tucker (DCo, CR); Black-throated Blue: Monongalia (JBo), Pocahontas (JB), Preston (TB), and Tucker (DCo); Pine: Jefferson (JBz); Yellow-rumped: Barbour (JD), Pocahontas (KH, JB), and Randolph (HMy); Yellow-throated: Barbour (TB), Kanawha (HG), Marion (JoH), Summers (JP), and Wayne (GR); **Prairie**: Jefferson (JBz, DHa), Marshall (TB), Monongalia (TB), and Preston (TB); Black-throated Green: Hardy (DH, KKi), Monongalia (TB, JBo), Pocahontas (JB), Preston (TB), and Tucker (DCo); Canada: Pocahontas (JB, DCo, LeJ) and Tucker (DCo, CR); and Yellow-breasted Chats. On August 16 Terry Bronson, David Daniels, and John Kahly saw two Magnolia Warbler fledglings along with seven to nine adults in Cathedral State Park, Preston County.

Towhees, Sparrows, Juncos—Eastern Towhees, Chipping Sparrows, Field Sparrows, and Song Sparrows were all widely reported in West Virginia this summer. The Northern Tract of Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Tucker County, hosted Clay-colored Sparrows once again this summer, as observed by Derek Courtney on June 2. The following sparrows were reported only in the counties listed: Vesper in Tucker (DCo, GM, CR); Savannah in Jefferson (DHa), Mason (GR,

WA), Preston (TB), and Tucker (DCo, CR, SKi); **Grasshopper** in Hardy (DH), Jefferson (DHa, MO, JBz, TH, CD), Monongalia (TB), Preston (TB), and Tucker (DCo); **Henslow's** in Preston (TB) and Tucker (DCo); **Swamp** in Preston (TB) and Tucker (DCo, TB, CR, SKi); and **Dark-eyed Junco** in Pocahontas (JB), Preston (TB), Randolph (HMy), and Tucker (TB, CR, PH).

Tanagers, Cardinals, Grosbeaks, Buntings—Kevin Campbell enjoyed singing Summer Tanagers in early June at his home in Dallison, Wood County. Gary Rankin enjoyed visits from a Summer Tanager at his home in Lavallette, Wayne County, as reported on August 17. Scarlet Tanagers, Northern Cardinals, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Blue Grosbeaks, and Indigo Buntings prompted numerous reports from birders in most parts of the state. Joseph Hildreth listened to a Blue Grosbeak sing in the University Town Center shopping area in Morgantown, Monongalia County, on August 29. Dickcissels were the subjects of reports from Jefferson County (MO, JBz, TH) and Randolph County (RB).

Blackbirds, Allies—Bobolinks, Red-winged Blackbirds, Eastern Meadow-larks, Common Grackles, Brown-headed Cowbirds, and Orchard and Baltimore Orioles were the subjects of fewer than the usual number of reports statewide. When Barry Williams saw a Bobolink near Williamstown, Greenbrier County, on June 6, it was the latest date he had seen one in that location.

Finches, Allies—Purple Finches inspired reports from Marshall (TB), Preston (TB), and Tucker (TB, CR) Counties. House Finches and American Goldfinches were reported widely throughout the state. Red Crossbills continued in Cranberry Glades Wilderness, Pocahontas County (JB, DCo, LeJ), from late June to late July.

Weaver Finches—The **House Sparrow** continues throughout the state, despite reports from only three counties.

Contributors to the Summer Field Notes: Wendell Argabrite (WA), Rodney Bartgis (RB), Jon Benedetti (JB), John Boback (JBo), Joette Borzik (JBz), Judy Bowling (JBw), Terry Bronson (TB), Kevin Campbell (KCa), David Carr (DC), Laura Ceperley (LC), Derek Courtney (DCo), Jeff Del Col (JD), Carol Del-Colle (CD), Amanda Dymacek (ADy), Cynthia Ellis (CE), Sandra Farkas (SF), James Farley (JF), Donny Good (DG), Hullet Good (HG), LeJay Graffious (LeJ), Michael Griffith (MG), Deborah Hale (DHa), Paula Hallberg (PH), Bruni Haydl (BH), Joey Herron (JoH), Ken Hinkle (KH), Teri Holland (TH), Diane Holsinger (DH), Wilma Jarrell (WJ), Stephen Kimbrell (SKi), Kathy King (KKi), Elliott Kirschbaum (EK), Gabriel Mapel (GM), Herb Myers (HMy), Jean Neely (JN), Matthew Orsie (MO), David Patick (DP), James Phillips (JP), James and Judy Phillips (JJP), Gary Rankin (GR), Casey Rucker (CR), Davette Saeler (DSa), Sanford Sagalkin (SS), Michael Slaven (MSl), N. Wade Snyder (WS), Diane Sylvester (DSy), and Barry Williams (BWi).

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January February February 4-6 March 6-8 March 14 April 25	BBC Membership Month				
May 9	International Migratory Bird Day, N. American Migration Countlocal chapters				
May 7-10 June 5-13	Wildflower Pilgrimage, Blackwater Falls State Park				
August 15-Oct. 3	Bird Banding				
October 16	Board of Trustees Meeting, Bethany College (Contact Carl Slater)				
October 16-18	BBC Reunion/Annual Meeting, Bethany College (Contact A. Buckelew) Bethany, WV				
November 11-15	Eastern Shore (Contact Carl Slater)				
Dec. 14-Jan. 5, '16	Christmas Bird Counts	local groups			
BBC FORAYS (dates and places tentative)					
2015	Camp Galilee, Preston County	Terra Alta, WV			
2016	Camp Kidd, Tucker County	Parsons, WV			
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http://brooksbirdclub.org The dates for the 2015 BBC program may be changed if necessary. Changes will be announced on the Web page or in <i>The Mail Bag</i> .					

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