

ISSN: 0034-2165

The **REDSTART**

VOLUME 85, NUMBER 1

JANUARY, 2018



PUBLISHED BY THE BROOKS BIRD CLUB

2018 - The Brooks Bird Club, Inc.

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

OFFICERS

President	Janice Emrick, 52713 SR 800, Jerusalem, OH 43747	740-472-5212
President-Elect	Cynthia Slater, 2310 Cowling Road, Scottdale, PA 15683	724-570-8502
Vice President	Ryan Tomazin, 348 Station St., Apt. 7, Bridgeville, PA 15017	412-220-9726
Recording Secretary	Sally Egan, 910 Sunset Dr., Bridgeport, WV 26330	304-842-9511
Treasurer	Scott Emrick, 52713 SR 800, Jerusalem, OH 43747	740-472-5212
Imm. Past President	A. R. Buckelew, Jr., 111 Logan Ct., Bethany, WV 26032	304-829-4392

ADMINISTRATION

Administrator	Carl Slater, 56249 Hospital Road, Bellaire, OH 43906	740-671-1649
Membership Secretary	Juanita Slater, 56249 Hospital Road, Bellaire, OH 43906	740-671-1649

PUBLICATIONS

Webmaster	Larry Helgerman, 1989 Louisa Ave., Wheeling, WV 26003 brooksbirdclubweb@gmail.com	304-242-8562
Editor The Redstart	Casey Rucker, P.O. Box 2, Seneca Rocks, WV 26884	304-866-4004
Editor The Mail Bag	Ryan Tomazin, 348 Station St., Apt. 7, Bridgeville, PA 15017	412-220-9726

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Serve Through:		
2018	Patty Arrington, 105 Crestbourne Dr., Goodview, VA 24095	540-819-7006
	Susan Buckelew, 111 Logan Ct., Bethany, WV 26032	304-829-4392
	Debra Tingley, 832 Cale Rd., Bruceton Mills, WV 26525	304-379-3753
2019	Brian McMillan, 222 Hanalei Dr., Morgantown, WV 26508	304-952-0377
	LeJay Graffious, P.O. Box 69, Bruceton Mills, WV 26525	304-379-7505
	Jeanne Barnes, 23 Northgate Dr., New Martinsville, WV 26155	304-455-4454
2020	Jan Runyan, 540 Genteel Ridge Road, Wellsburg, WV 26070	304-737-3777
	Orion Metheny, 210 Sumac Circle, Morgantown, WV 26508	304-594-3233
	Suzanne Quinn, 44 Easy Drive, Dallas, WV 26036	304-547-5162

ADVISORS

Greg E. Eddy, 3603 Kirkwood Drive, Fairfax, VA 22031	703-980-3751
Robert Rine, 1269 National Rd., Apt. 51, Wheeling, WV 26003	304-243-8766

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Budget	Cynthia Slater, 2310 Cowling Road, Scottdale, PA 15683	724-570-8502
Research	Greg E. Eddy, 3603 Kirkwood Drive, Fairfax, VA 22031	703-980-3751
Foray	Janice Emrick, 52713 SR 800, Jerusalem, OH 43747	740-472-5212
Foray Directors	Janice Emrick, 52713 SR 800, Jerusalem, OH 43747	740-472-5212
	Ryan Tomazin, 348 Station St., Apt. 7, Bridgeville, PA 15017	412-220-9726
Backyard Sanctuary	Cynthia Ellis, 3114 Steel Ridge Rd., Red House, WV 25168	304-586-4135
Club Library	Dorothy Broemsen, 340 Peter's Run Rd., Wheeling, WV 26003	304-242-4498
Historian	Ryan Tomazin, 348 Station St., Apt. 7, Bridgeville, PA 15017	412-220-9726

The REDSTART

VOLUME 85, NUMBER 1

JANUARY, 2018

Contents	Page
The 2017 Foray, Lost River Retreat Center, Hardy County, West Virginia	
The Bird List, 2017 Foray, Hardy County, West Virginia	
—Ryan Tomazin.....	2
Singing Male Census, 2017 Foray, Hardy County, West Virginia	
—Albert R. Buckelew, Jr.	8
The 2017 Foray Breeding Bird Surveys, Hardy County, West Virginia	
—Carol McCullough and Frederick McCullough	10
Reptiles and Amphibians, 2017 Foray, Hardy County, West Virginia	
—Martin Tingley.....	15
Mammals of the 2017 Foray, Hardy County, West Virginia	
—Larry Metheny and Orion Metheny	16
Butterflies and Moths of the 2017 Foray, Hardy County, West Virginia	
—Jane Whitaker	17
Fern Update, 2017 Foray, Hardy County, West Virginia	
—Thomas R. Fox.....	19
Fungi of the 2017 Foray, Hardy County, West Virginia	
—Ryan Tomazin.....	20
Flowering Plants of the 2017 Foray, Hardy County, West Virginia	
—Richard L. Diener	21
Foray Participants	28
Weather at the 2017 Foray, Hardy County, West Virginia	
—Lisa Kaufman	30
A Correction, and a New First Summer Record for Nashville Warbler in West Virginia	
—Casey Rucker.....	31
eBird Notes	
—Mike Slaven	33
Field Notes	
—Casey Rucker	36
Errata	43

Editorial Staff

Editor • Casey Rucker, P.O. Box 2, Seneca Rocks, WV 26884 • autoblock@frontiernet.net

Associate Editor • Ryan Tomazin, 348 Station St., Apt. 7, Bridgeville, PA 15017 • wwwarblers@hotmail.com

Field Notes Editor • Casey Rucker, P.O. Box 2, Seneca Rocks, WV 26884 • autoblock@frontiernet.net

eBird Editor • Michael Slaven, 632 West Virginia Avenue, Morgantown, WV 26591 • mikeslavenwv@gmail.com

Advisory Editorial Board • A. R. Buckelew, Jr., Greg E. Eddy, Joey Herron, Matthew Orsie, James D. Phillips

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 or e-mailed to the editor. Printed on recycled paper. ISSN: 0034-2165

The Bird List, 2017 Foray Hardy County, West Virginia

Ryan Tomazin

The 78th annual Brooks Bird Club Foray was held at Lost River Retreat Center, Lost City, Hardy County, West Virginia, June 9 to 17, 2017. This was the seventh Foray held in Hardy County. The territory follows the steep ridge/wide river valley aspect of the Shenandoah Mountain range. There were copious acres of farm fields, along with numerous chicken farms. Dry forest on the rain shadow slopes and overrunning deer populations left much of the county bereft of understory, which limited some species. There were **114 bird species** found at the 2017 Foray, which is right at the median for this location. New species for the Hardy County Foray were numerous, and included Blue-winged Teal, Common Merganser, Double-crested Cormorant, Osprey, Golden Eagle, Merlin, Fish Crow, Golden-crowned Kinglet, and Yellow-rumped Warbler. We failed to find reasonably-expected species such as American Black Duck, Common Nighthawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Least Flycatcher, Horned Lark, Bank and Cliff Swallows, Brown Creeper, Savannah Sparrow, Yellow-throated Warbler, and Blue Grosbeak, all found in 2004.

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 — Common.

Wood Duck — Common. *Hen with two young near camp (Wilma Jarrell); hen with three young at bridge to Kimsey Lake (Greg Eddy); and various females with young in a number of ponds along Rt. 259 (Ryan Tomazin).*

Blue-winged Teal — Rare. One male seen at Kimsey Lake by many participants.

Mallard — Common.

Common Merganser — Rare. *One immature seen at Parker Hollow Lake by R. Tomazin and Larry and Orion Metheny, the next day by the rest of the group.*

Northern Bobwhite — Rare. Two calling birds were noted in the vicinity of Parker Hollow Lake, though it is possible that it could have been the same bird. One was noted on Brants-Teets Road on a BBS route (Carol McCullough).

Ruffed Grouse — Rare. Two sightings noted.

Wild Turkey — Uncommon.

Pied-billed Grebe — Rare. David Carr noted one on water north of Baker.

Rock Pigeon — Common.

Mourning Dove — Very Common.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo — Common.

Black-billed Cuckoo — Uncommon.

Eastern Whip-poor-will — Common. Many along road to camp, on BBS routes, and Lost River State Park.

Chimney Swift — Common.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird — Uncommon.

Killdeer — Common. *3 adults and one young at River Road, CR 10/2; adult with young at Parker Hollow Lake (Thomas Fox et al.).*

Spotted Sandpiper — Rare. One found at River Road RV Park on River Road, CR 10/2.

Double-crested Cormorant — Rare. No report given as to location.

Great Blue Heron — Common.

Green Heron — Common.

Black Vulture — Common. 25–50 seen on Fish Pond Road (T. Fox, W. Jarrell).

Turkey Vulture — Common.

Osprey — Rare. One seen at Kimsey Lake by many.

Bald Eagle — Common. Foray's most numerous raptor, found in numbers at Kimsey Lake, as well as Parker Hollow Lake, along Rt. 259, and on BBS routes by everyone.

Cooper's Hawk — Uncommon.

Red-shouldered Hawk — Uncommon. One calling at on Rt. 344 in George Washington National Forest (Thomas Fox).

Broad-winged Hawk — Uncommon.

Red-tailed Hawk — Uncommon.

Golden Eagle — Rare. One seen on Rt. 259 just south of Baker in a farm field near a doe, possibly at a fawn. Seen by R. Tomazin and O. Metheny.

Barn Owl — Uncommon. Active barn on a farm along Reynold's Gap Road. *One night, one adult and three young watched by R. Tomazin, Darrell and Nevin Good, O. Metheny and Zanon Sines. Later in the week, a mixed family group of six seen by most of the group.*

Eastern Screech-Owl — Uncommon. *One adult with three young found the first night around camp (R. Tomazin), seen later in the week by T. Fox.*

Barred Owl — Common. Found in a number of locations. *One adult with three young seen around camp by Dawn Fox and others.*

Belted Kingfisher — Uncommon.

Red-headed Woodpecker — Common. Among other locales, seen on Wetzel Hollow Road (W. Jarrell and D. Fox), C.R. 12 and Rt. 48 (W. Jarrell), and C.R. 14 and area 9 (R. Tomazin, L. Metheny, and O. Metheny).

Red-bellied Woodpecker — Common and widespread.

Downy Woodpecker — Common.

Hairy Woodpecker — Uncommon.

Northern Flicker — Common. Nest at Upper Cove Lake (G. Eddy).

Pileated Woodpecker — Common and widespread.

American Kestrel — Uncommon.

Merlin — Rare. One seen at Kimsey Lake by many participants. Nearby, one flew in front of the car of A.R. Buckelew, Jr.

Eastern Wood-Pewee — Common.

Acadian Flycatcher — Common.

Willow Flycatcher — Rare, though plentiful habitat existed. One found near the Moorefield Walmart and three more in one field, below the Barn Owl barn off Reynold's Gap Road (both sightings by R. Tomazin, D. and N. Good, O. Metheny and Z. Sines).

Eastern Phoebe — Common.

Great Crested Flycatcher — Common.

Eastern Kingbird — Uncommon, though plentiful habitat existed.

White-eyed Vireo — Rare. No report given as to location.

Yellow-throated Vireo — Uncommon.

Blue-headed Vireo — Common in habitat.

Warbling Vireo — Uncommon. Several on River Road south of Moorefield (Janice Emrick), and 3–4 along the South Branch at Brighton Park in Moorefield (R. Tomazin, O. Metheny, *et al.*).

Red-eyed Vireo — Very Common. One of the most numerous BBS species.

Blue Jay — Common.

Fish Crow — Rare. Two noted, one at Kimsey Lake (T. Fox) and at the Moorefield Walmart area (field trip group).

American Crow — Very Common.

Common Raven — Common. Were well represented on the BBS routes and during field trips.

Purple Martin — Rare. One noted on a BBS route.

Tree Swallow — Common.

Northern Rough-winged Swallow — Common. *Nesting on new road cuts on Corridor H (Jane Whitaker, T. Fox, et al.).*

Barn Swallow — Common.

Black-capped Chickadee — Common.

Tufted Titmouse — Common and numerous on BBS routes.

White-breasted Nuthatch — Common.

House Wren — Common.

Carolina Wren — Common.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher — Common.

Golden-crowned Kinglet — Rare. One heard at Lost River State Park (A. R. Buckelew, Jr.).

Eastern Bluebird — Common, but not as numerous as habitat might dictate.

Hermit Thrush — Rare. One heard on North Mountain by many during a field trip.

Wood Thrush — Common.

American Robin — Very Common. Most numerous BBS species.

Gray Catbird — Very Common in habitat, as noted by three separate observers.

Brown Thrasher — Common.

Northern Mockingbird — Uncommon, given the amount of suitable habitat available.

European Starling — Common.

Cedar Waxwing — Common.

House Sparrow — Uncommon.

House Finch — Uncommon, bordering on rare, with only three notations.

American Goldfinch — Common.

Eastern Towhee — Very Common, as noted.

Chipping Sparrow — Common.

Field Sparrow — Common.

Grasshopper Sparrow — Rare. One heard and seen behind Moorefield Walmart by R. Tomazin, D. and N. Good, O. Metheny and Z. Sines.

Song Sparrow — Common.

Dark-eyed Junco — Common in higher elevations.

Yellow-breasted Chat — Rare. Two records, including one night-singing on Parker Hollow Road.

Red-winged Blackbird — Very Common, second most on BBS routes.

Eastern Meadowlark — Common, but not numerous, as noted.

Common Grackle — Common.

Brown-headed Cowbird — Common.

Orchard Oriole — Uncommon.

Baltimore Oriole — Common.

Ovenbird — Common, numerous on BBS routes in any wooded habitat.

Worm-eating Warbler — Common, second most on BBS routes. Noted by many for their strong numbers.

Louisiana Waterthrush — Common.

Black-and-white Warbler — Uncommon, given habitat.

Kentucky Warbler — Rare. One heard well by A. R. Buckelew, Jr.

Common Yellowthroat — Uncommon.

Hooded Warbler — Common in elevated areas.

American Redstart — Uncommon.

Cerulean Warbler — Rare. One on BBS route, one on dry ridge top northeast of Moorefield (R. Tomazin *et al.*).

Northern Parula — Uncommon.

Yellow Warbler — Uncommon.

Chestnut-sided Warbler — Rare. One heard on North Mountain (R. Tomazin *et al.*).

Black-throated Blue Warbler — Rare. One heard on North Mountain (R. Tomazin *et al.*).

Pine Warbler — Common in pine habitats throughout the county.

Yellow-rumped Warbler — Rare. Two records.

Prairie Warbler — Common in habitat, especially on Forest Road 344 in clear cuts.

Black-throated Green Warbler — Common in elevated areas.

Scarlet Tanager — Common.

Northern Cardinal — Common.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak — Uncommon.

Indigo Bunting — Common.

Thanks to the many Foray campers who took the time to put their observations in the bird comment books.

Reference

Buckelew, A. R., Jr. 2005. The 2004 Foray Bird List. *Redstart* 72:2–8.

348 Station Street, Apt. 7
Bridgeville, PA 15017

Singing Male Census, 2017 Foray Hardy County, West Virginia

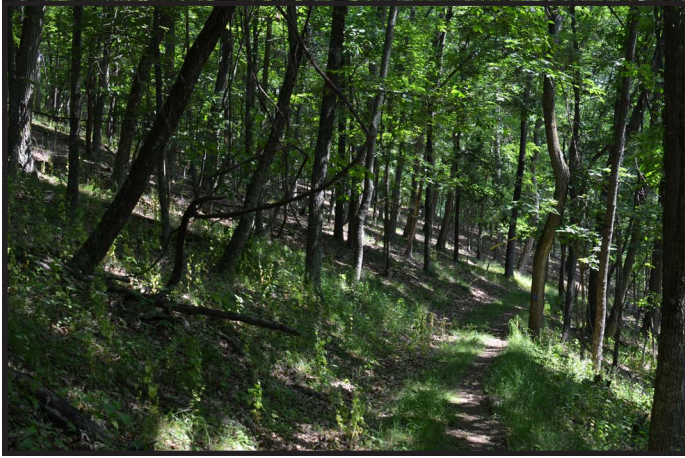
Albert R. Buckelew, Jr.

COVEY COVE TRAIL (Oak-Hickory)—Location: West Virginia; Hardy County; Lost River State Park; 38°52'49"N, 78°55'54"W, Lost River State Park Quadrangle, USGS. The plot starts on the Covey Cove Trail and continues west on the Little Horse Harry Lee Trail. Continuity: Established 1977 and studied in 1985 and 2004. See *The Redstart* 45:16, 53:14, and 72:15. Size 6.07 ha. = 15 acres (110 x 660 yards, measured longitudinally and estimated laterally). Description of plot: A vegetative survey made in 2004 found the dominant canopy trees to be oaks and hickories. The understory is open with few trees of the canopy. The ground cover is primarily grasses and Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*). Edge: Continuous deciduous forest. Elevation of center-line: 2,400 feet. Coverage: June 11 and June 16, 2017. All trips between 0530 and 0730 hours. Total party hours: 11.5. Census: Ovenbird, 3 (49, 20); Tufted Titmouse, 2.5, (41, 17); Black-and white Warbler, 2 (33, 13); Scarlet Tanager, 2; Worm-eating Warbler, 1.5; Eastern Wood-Pewee, 1; Red-eyed Vireo, 1; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, 1; Indigo Bunting, 1; Wild Turkey, +; Yellow-billed Cuckoo, +; Black-billed Cuckoo, +; Eastern Whip-poor-will, +; Ruby-throated Hummingbird, +; Red-bellied Woodpecker, +; Hairy Woodpecker, +; Pileated Woodpecker, +; Blue-headed Vireo, +; Blue Jay, +; American Crow, +; White-breasted Nuthatch, +; Carolina Wren, +; Wood Thrush, +; American Robin, +; Northern Cardinal, +; Brown-headed Cowbird, +. Total: 26 species; 15 territorial males (247/km², 100 per 100 acres). Census participants: Albert R. Buckelew, Jr. (co-compiler), Genevieve Eaton, Thomas Fox, Darrell Good, Nev-in Good, LeJay Graffious, Randy Miller, and Martin Tingley (co-compiler).

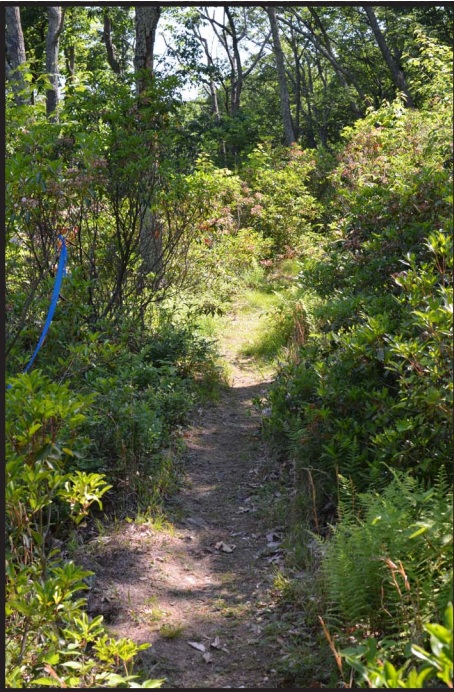
LOBLOLLY TRAIL (Oak-Maple)—Location: West Virginia; Hardy County; Loblolly Trail in Lost River State Park; 38°52'57"N, 78°55'49"W, Lost River State Park Quadrangle, USGS, extends east. Continuity: Established 1977 and studied in 1985 as Oak-Pine and 2004 as Oak-Maple. See *The Redstart* 45:15, 53:16, and 72:16. Size 6.07 ha. = 15 acres (110 x 660 yards, measured longitudinally and estimated laterally). Description of plot: The dominant canopy trees are oaks and maples. Most prominent in the understory are Mountain Laurel (*Kalmia latifolia*) and seedlings of the canopy trees. The ground cover is primarily Blueberry (*Vaccinium* sp.). Edge: Bordered on all sides by similar habitat. Topography: Steep, west facing slope. Elevation of center-line: 2300-2450 feet. Coverage: June 11, 2017 to June 16, 2017. All trips between 0530 and 0715 hours. Total party hours: 8.25. Census: Eastern Towhee 2.5 (41, 17); Ovenbird 1.5; Worm-eating Warbler 1.5; Yellow-billed Cuckoo 1; Eastern Wood-Pewee 1; Tufted Titmouse 1; Scarlet Tanager 1; Eastern Phoebe 0.5; Blue-headed Vireo 0.5; Eastern Whip-poor-will +; Ruby-throated Hummingbird +; Red-bellied Woodpecker +; Downy Woodpecker +; Pileated Woodpecker +; Red-eyed Vireo +; Blue Jay +; Black-capped Chickadee +; White-breasted Nuthatch +; Wood Thrush +; American Robin +; Brown Thrasher +; Cedar Waxwing +; American Goldfinch +; Black-and-white Warbler +; Pine Warbler +; Brown-headed Cowbird +. Totals: 26 species, 10.5 territorial males (173/sq. km., 70/100 acres). Remarks: The open area in the first and second stations in 2004 remained open in 2017. The trail also has a

switchback turn so some birds could be heard from different stations. Census participants: Hans Burkholder, Laura Ceperley, Don Creamer, Sara Creamer, Scott Emrick (compiler), Dawn Fox, Alice Frick, Mimi Kibler, and Martin Tingley.

111 Logan Ct.
Bethany, WV 26032



Covey Cove Trail study plot. Photos by Albert R. Buckelew, Jr.



Loblolly Trail plot.



Garlic mustard was plentiful on the Covey Cove Trail.

The 2017 Foray Breeding Bird Surveys Hardy County, West Virginia

Carol McCullough and Frederick McCullough

The three Hardy County Forays cited in this article were held on similar dates, being 1985: June 8–15; 2004: June 11–19; and 2017: June 9–17. The weather during each Foray was similar with no extended periods of rain. The surveys indicate several species had an increase or decrease in abundance over the three decades. We could not detect a pattern to these increases and decreases although it is worth noting the creation of Corridor H caused a change in habitat for a section of the county.

A total of 3,641 individual birds of 90 species were counted on 12 separate Breeding Bird Survey routes during the 2017 Foray. Each route began a half-hour before sunrise and consisted of 20 stops made a half-mile apart. All birds observed in 3 minutes were recorded at each stop. There were three teams this Foray. One was coordinated by Ryan Tomazin, one by Orion Metheny and the other by the authors.

The following chart contains a few statistics from each of the three Forays:

1985 — 260 stops, 88 species, 4020 individuals, 15.46 individuals/stop
 2004 — 276 stops, 90 species, 2860 individuals, 10.36 individuals/stop
 2017 — 240 stops, 90 species, 3641 individuals, 15.10 individuals/stop

Table 1 gives the number of species recorded on the 12 Breeding Bird Survey routes and the number of stops where they were found.

Table 1
Birds Recorded by Species

Species	Number	Stops Present
Wood Duck	2	1
Northern Bobwhite	1	1
Ruffed Grouse	1	1
Wild Turkey	3	3
Rock Pigeon	15	3
Mourning Dove	125	92
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	15	15
Black-billed Cuckoo	8	7
Eastern Whip-poor-will	6	3
Chimney Swift	10	6
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	8	8
Killdeer	9	3
Great Blue Heron	1	1
Green Heron	2	2
Turkey Vulture	7	2
Bald Eagle	5	3
Cooper's Hawk	2	2
Red-tailed Hawk	2	1

Species	Number	Stops Present
Eastern Screech-Owl	1	1
Barred Owl	3	3
Belted Kingfisher	4	4
Red-headed Woodpecker	6	4
Red-bellied Woodpecker	68	59
Downy Woodpecker	22	18
Hairy Woodpecker	5	5
Northern Flicker	21	20
Pileated Woodpecker	43	37
American Kestrel	1	1
Eastern Wood-Pewee	63	57
Acadian Flycatcher	24	19
Eastern Phoebe	73	63
Great Crested Flycatcher	36	32
Eastern Kingbird	13	9
Yellow-throated Vireo	12	11
Blue-headed Vireo	15	13
Warbling Vireo	2	2
Red-eyed Vireo	177	97
Blue Jay	58	42
American Crow	181	115
Common Raven	43	32
Purple Martin	1	1
Tree Swallow	36	15
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	6	5
Barn Swallow	70	28
Black-capped Chickadee	39	34
Tufted Titmouse	135	116
White-breasted Nuthatch	49	38
House Wren	19	19
Carolina Wren	66	60
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	49	39
Eastern Bluebird	33	23
Wood Thrush	74	54
American Robin	198	102
Gray Catbird	88	68
Brown Thrasher	21	16
Northern Mockingbird	15	12
European Starling	131	35
Cedar Waxwing	51	28
House Sparrow	16	7
House Finch	1	1
American Goldfinch	70	52
Eastern Towhee	110	94
Chipping Sparrow	104	78

Species	Number	Stops Present
Field Sparrow	100	79
Song Sparrow	118	88
Dark-eyed Junco	13	9
Yellow-breasted Chat	1	1
Red-winged Blackbird	197	68
Eastern Meadowlark	23	17
Common Grackle	89	31
Brown-headed Cowbird	35	31
Orchard Oriole	10	10
Baltimore Oriole	27	24
Ovenbird	99	58
Worm-eating Warbler	34	23
Louisiana Waterthrush	29	25
Black-and-white Warbler	5	5
Common Yellowthroat	6	6
Hooded Warbler	5	5
American Redstart	14	11
Cerulean Warbler	1	1
Northern Parula	3	3
Yellow Warbler	6	6
Pine Warbler	10	8
Prairie Warbler	12	9
Black-throated Green Warbler	3	2
Scarlet Tanager	95	86
Northern Cardinal	77	64
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	10	7
Indigo Bunting	144	116

Table 2 lists the 20 most abundant species recorded on the 12 BBS routes and compares this ranking with the prevalence of these species on the previous two Hardy County Forays where BBS routes were run using the current protocol.

Table 2
Most Abundant Species

Species Abundance Rank			Number for 2017	Percent of Total			
1985	2004	2017		2017	2004	1985	
3	1	1	American Robin	198	5.4%	6.8%	5.2%
5	8	2	Red-winged Blackbird	197	5.4%	4.1%	4.9%
1	3	3	American Crow	181	5.0%	5.2%	6.6%
11	4	4	Red-eyed Vireo	177	4.9%	4.5%	2.7%
2	1	5	Indigo Bunting	144	4.0%	6.8%	6.0%
16	14	6	Tufted Titmouse	135	3.7%	2.7%	2.1%
4	6	7	European Starling	131	3.6%	4.3%	5.0%
27	17	8	Mourning Dove	125	3.4%	2.0%	1.2%

Species Abundance Rank			Number for 2017	Percent of Total			
1985	2004	2017		2017	2004	1985	
12	9	9	Song Sparrow	118	3.2%	3.4%	2.4%
19	11	10	Eastern Towhee	110	3.0%	3.1%	1.8%
7	12	11	Chipping Sparrow	104	2.9%	3.1%	3.8%
14	23	12	Field Sparrow	100	2.7%	1.6%	2.2%
33	18	13	Ovenbird	99	2.7%	1.8%	0.8%
13	10	14	Scarlet Tanager	95	2.6%	3.3%	2.3%
8	5	15	Common Grackle	89	2.4%	4.4%	3.7%
18	16	16	Gray Catbird	88	2.4%	2.2%	1.9%
22	15	17	Northern Cardinal	77	2.1%	2.4%	1.7%
17	24	18	Wood Thrush	74	2.0%	1.5%	1.9%
10	13	19	Eastern Phoebe	73	2.0%	3.0%	3.0%
9	7	20	Barn Swallow	70	1.9%	4.2%	3.4%
5	19	20	American Goldfinch	70	1.9%	1.8%	4.9%

Table 3 indicates the 20 most widely-distributed species found on the 240 stops on the 12 BBS routes and compares this with the previous two Hardy County Forays where BBS routes were run using the current protocol.

Table 3
Species Distribution Rank

Stops	Percent of Total			Present	2017	2004	1985
	2004	2017	Present				
12	10	1	Tufted Titmouse	116	48.3%	25.0%	26.5%
1	1	1	Indigo Bunting	116	48.3%	52.2%	64.6%
2	2	3	American Crow	115	47.9%	36.6%	55.8%
3	2	4	American Robin	102	42.5%	36.6%	43.1%
7	4	5	Red-eyed Vireo	97	40.4%	36.2%	31.9%
16	7	6	Eastern Towhee	94	39.2%	27.2%	22.3%
25	12	7	Mourning Dove	92	38.3%	18.5%	13.8%
10	6	8	Song Sparrow	88	36.7%	27.5%	28.1%
9	5	9	Scarlet Tanager	86	35.8%	30.1%	28.8%
8	17	10	Field Sparrow	79	32.9%	14.8%	29.2%
4	8	11	Chipping Sparrow	78	32.5%	26.4%	42.3%
14	13	12	Gray Catbird	68	28.3%	17.7%	24.2%
28	15	12	Red-winged Blackbird	68	28.3%	15.9%	12.7%
18	11	14	Northern Cardinal	64	26.7%	19.9%	20.4%
6	9	15	Eastern Phoebe	63	26.3%	25.4%	35.0%
23	21	16	Carolina Wren	60	25.0%	11.6%	15.4%
40	25	17	Red-bellied Woodpecker	59	24.6%	8.7%	5.4%
33	16	18	Ovenbird	58	24.2%	14.8%	10.0%
11	14	19	Eastern Wood-Pewee	57	23.8%	17.4%	27.3%
15	23	20	Wood Thrush	54	22.5%	11.2%	22.7%

We thank the following people who participated in one or more of the survey routes:

Hans Burkholder, Laura Ceperley, Jenny Eaton, Greg Eddy, Scott Emrick, Dawn Fox, Thomas Fox, Alice Frick, Darrell Good, Nevin Good, LeJay Graffious, Wilma Jarrell, Lisa Kaufman, Carol McCullough, Frederick McCullough, Orion Metheny, Randy Miller, Johanna Sholder, Zanon Sines, Carl Slater, Juanita Slater, Barbara Stocker, Ryan Tomazin.

References

McCullough, C., F. McCullough, and R. K. Bell. 2005. The 2004 Foray Breeding Bird Surveys: Hardy County, West Virginia. *Redstart* 72:9–14

Nemanich, D. 1986. The 1985 Foray Breeding Bird Survey. *Redstart* 53:23–26

1119 Queensbury Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15205

Reptiles and Amphibian, 2017 Foray Hardy County, West Virginia

Martin Tingley

Special thanks go to the campers who gave me their observations. Many of the specimens were found dead along side of the road near camp. The Northern Red-bellied Cooter was spotted in the South Branch of the Potomac River.

CLASS AMPHIBIA

Order Caudata – Salamanders

Red Spotted Newt (*Notophthalmus viridescens*)
Dusky Salamander (*Desmognathus fuscus*)
Appalachian Seal Salamander (*Desmognathus monticola*)
Red backed Salamander (*Plethodon cinereus*)
Northern Spring Salamander (*Gyrinophilus porphyriticus porphyriticus*)

Order Salienta – Toads and Frogs

American Bullfrog (*Lithobates catesbeianus*)
Green Frog (*Rana clamitans*)
American Toad (*Anaxyrus americanus*)

CLASS REPTILIA

Order Testudines- Turtles

Eastern Box Turtle (*Terrapene carolina carolina*)
Snapping Turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*)
Red-eared Slider (*Trachemys scripta elegans*)
Northern Red-bellied Cooter (*Pseudemys rubriventris*)

Order Squamata- Lizards

Southeastern Five-lined Skink (*Plestiodon inexpectatus*)

Order Serpentes- Snakes

Black Rat Snake (*Pantherophis obsoletus*)
Northern Water Snake (*Nerodia sipedon*)
Ring-necked Snake (*Diadophis punctatus*)
Timber Rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*)

Reference

Green, N. B. and T. K. Pauley. 1987. Amphibians & Reptiles in West Virginia. University of Pittsburgh Press, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

832 Cale Road
Bruceeton Mills, WV 26525

Mammals of the 2017 Foray, Hardy County, West Virginia

Larry Metheny and Orion Metheny

We are grateful for the many reports of mammals that we received during the Camp Kidd Foray.

CLASS MAMMALIA

Order Marsupialia

Family Didelphidae—Opossums

Virginia Opossum (*Didelphia virginiana*)

Order Rodentia

Family Sciuridae—Squirrels

Eastern Chipmunk (*Tamias striatus*)

Woodchuck (*Marmota monax*)

Gray Squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*)

Fox Squirrel (*S. niger*)

Red Squirrel (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*)

Southern Flying Squirrel (*Glaucomys volans*)

Family Muridae—Mice and Rats

Muskrat (*Ondatra zibethicus*)

Order Lagomorpha

Family Leporidae—Rabbits and Hares

Eastern Cottontail (*Sylvilagus floridana*)

Order Carnivora

Family Canidae—Wolves, Dogs, and Foxes

Red Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*)

Coyote (*Canis latrans*)

Family Ursidae—Bears

Black Bear (*Ursus americanus*)

Family Procyonidae—Raccoons

Common Raccoon (*Procyon lotor*)

Family Mustelidae

American Mink (*Mustela vison*)

Family Mephitidae—Skunks

Striped Skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*)

Family Felidae

Bobcat (*Lynx rufus*)

Order Artiodactyla

Family Cervidae—Even-toed Ungulates

White-tailed Deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*)

10639 N. Preston Hwy.
Bruceeton Mills, WV 26525

Butterflies and Moths of the 2017 Foray, Hardy County, West Virginia

Jane Whitaker

Family Papilionidae—Swallowtails

- Pipevine Swallowtail (*Battus philenor*)
- Zebra Swallowtail (*Eurytedes marcellus*)
- Black Swallowtail (*Papilio polyxenes asterius*)
- Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio glaucus*)

Family Pieridae—Whites And Yellows

- Cabbage White (*Pieris rapae*)
- Orange Sulphur (*Colias eurytheme*)
- Clouded Sulphur (*Colias philodice*)

Family Lycaenidae—Blues

- Eastern Tailed Blue (*Everes comyntas*)

Azures

- Summer Azure (*Celastrina ladon neglecta*)

Family Nymphalidae—Brushfooted Butterflies

- Great Spangled Fritillary (*Speyeria cybele*)
- Meadow Fritillary (*Boloria bellona*)
- Pearl Crescent (*Phyciodes tharos*)
- Red Admiral (*Vanessa atalanta rubi*)
- Red-spotted purple (*Limenitis arthemis astyanax*)

Monarchs

- Monarchs (*Danus plexippus*)

Satyrs and Wood Nymphs

- Little Wood Satyr (*Megisto cymeda*)

Family Hesperiiidae—Skippers

- Silver-spotted Skipper (*Eparyreus clarus*)

Family Saturniidae—Giant Silkworm Moths

- Luna Moth (*Actias luna*)

Family Sphingidae

Subfamily *Macroglossinae*—Sphinx Moths

- Waved Sphinx (*Ceratomia undulosa*)

Subfamily *Macroglossinae*

- White Line Sphinx (*Hyles lineata*)

Family Cossidae—Carpenter Worm Moths

- Carpenter Worm Moth (*Prionoxystus robiniae*)

Family Noctuidae—Foresters

Eight-spotted Forester (*Alypia octomaculata*)

There were very few moths in camp. Thirteen years ago moths were much more plentiful and could be found every morning near the porch light. There were none to speak of this year.

Reference

Beadle, D. and S. Leckie. 2012. Peterson Field Guide to Moths of Northeastern North America. Houghton Mifflin, New York, NY.

3817 Windom Pl. N.W.
Washington, D.C.
jane.whitaker@me.com

Fern Update 2017 Foray, Hardy County, West Virginia

Thomas R. Fox

Botanizing in Hardy County is always a great pleasure for me. The Ridge and Valley section of West Virginia is quite different from the geology of the remainder of the state. The fern list was quite similar to those of the 1977 and 2004 Forays but there were some differences. The Department of Highways sprayed herbicide along the South Branch Mountain Road killing most species of plants including the Forked Spleenwort (*Asplenium septentrionale*) and the Ebony/Spiked Spleenwort hybrid that had been found previously.

The Oak Fern (*Gymnocarpium dryopteris*), which was found on Lower Cover Road in 2004, was not found this year. Robert Dean and I spent several hours in vain searching the location where it had been found previously. In 2012, Superstorm Sandy uprooted and downed numerous trees in the location where the Oak Fern had been found and changed the habitat significantly which most likely caused the fern to die out.

In order to try to find some plants and ferns that had not been found before, Robert and I located some limestone caves and outcrops that enabled us to locate Lowland Brittle Fern (*Cystopteris protrusa*), which we didn't find in 2004, and we also found numerous Purple Cliffbrake (*Pellaea atropurpurea*) around the cave and along the outcrops. I would like to give special thanks to Dawn Fox, Richard Diener, and Robert Dean, and all others who helped with this list.

References

- Fox, D. A.. 2004. Notes on the ferns of the 2004 Foray: Hardy County, West Virginia. *Redstart* 72:16.
- Harmon, P. J., D. Ford-Wentz, and W. Grafton. 2006. Checklist and Atlas of the Vascular Flora of West Virginia. Wildlife Diversity Program, West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, Elkins, WV.
- Laitsch, J. T. and M. A. Breiding. 1978. Ferns and fern allies of Hardy County, West Virginia. *Redstart* 45:21–23.
- Strausburg, P. D. and E. L. Core. 1977. Flora of West Virginia, Second Edition. Seneca Books, Grantsville, WV.

Fungi of the 2017 Foray Hardy County, West Virginia

Ryan Tomazin

Suffice it to say, not enough time was spent (by myself) on fungi this year. The Foray area this year had experienced very hot and dry weather for a while, and then storms and cooler weather that led to a nice flush of some species, including two giant *L. cincinnatus* on the road to camp. Other contributing factors to poor numbers were the rocky, rain shadow-inspired terrain, and the lack of understory due to deer overbrowsing.

Platterful Mushroom, Broad Gill (*Tricholomopsis platyphylla*)
Pinwheel Marasmius (*Marasmius rotula*)
Artist Conk (*Ganoderma applanatum*)
“Pale” Sulphur Shelf, Chicken-of-the-Woods (*Laetiporus cincinnatus*)
Crack-capped Polypore (*Phellinus robiniae*)
Tinder Polypore (*Fomes fomentarius*)
Turkey Tail (*Trametes versicolor*)
Hemlock Varnish Shelf (*Ganoderma tsugae*)
Violet Toothed Polypore (*Trichaptum bifforme*)

Reference

Roody, W. C. 2003. Mushrooms of West Virginia and the Central Appalachians. University Press of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky.

348 Station Street, Apt. 7
Bridgeville, PA 15017



Gigantic Pale Sulphur Shelf near camp, found by Chris Tingley. Photo by Ryan Tomazin

Flowering Plants of the 2017 Foray Hardy County, West Virginia

Richard L Diener

The 2017 Foray is the sixth Brooks Bird Club Foray in Hardy County, and was headquartered at the Lost River Retreat Center on CR16 (Trout Pond Road), Lost River, West Virginia. The first two Forays were in 1940 and 1941 at Lost River State Park. The 1977 Foray was the third Foray in Hardy County and 38th annual Brooks Bird Club Foray. This Foray was also held at Lost River State Park, and it was a two-week Foray from June 4 to 18. The next Foray in Hardy County in 1985 was also at Lost River State Park, and this was a one-week Foray. The fifth Foray in Hardy County was in 2004, and it was headquartered at the Lost River Retreat Center. The 1977 Foray report has an excellent summary description of the Hardy County topography, weather and vegetation (Buckelew 1978). The 1985 Foray report on the herbaceous flowering plants for Hardy County has an excellent description of the unique plant habitat known as shale barrens (Bush 1986).

The nomenclature used in the 1940 and 1941 reports was the common names only. The 1977 and 1985 reports used the terminology and nomenclature from Strausbaugh and Core's book, *Flora of West Virginia*, Second Edition. The 2004 report is the first time that the nomenclature in the *Checklist of the Vascular Flora of West Virginia* (Harmon *et al.* 1999) was used for the Foray plant reports. The terminology and nomenclature for the 2017 report is taken from the *Checklist and Atlas of the Vascular Flora of West Virginia* (Harmon *et al.* 2006). The Checklist will be available for general use at future Forays. The first column in the listing below includes the current scientific names of the families, genera and species, and the superscript after the species name indicate the origin of each species. The key to the species origin is also shown below. The rare plant categories tracked by the 2016 West Virginia Natural Heritage Program are defined below. The second column in the listing below includes the accepted common names of the families and species.

Species Origin:

Native (N) – A species considered to have occurred in West Virginia prior to European settlement, and that still occurs naturally within the state.

Adventive (A) – A species native to North America north of Mexico prior to European settlement, which is not native to West Virginia, nor has been intentionally introduced, but is now growing in the state.

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

Exotic (E) – A species occurring without cultivation in the state that is not native to North America north of Mexico.

Rare Plants Tracked By The West Virginia Natural Heritage Program:
West Virginia Division of Natural Resources dated January 7, 2016

- S1, G1 - Critically Imperiled species in the state or globally
- S2, G2 - Imperiled species in the state or globally
- S3, G3 - Vulnerable species in the state or globally
- S4, G4 - Apparently Secure – Uncommon but not rare
- S5, G5 - Common, widespread and abundant
- S4 and S5 - Species not tracked by the WV Natural Heritage Program

The above designations are included in the species listing below where applicable.

Species worthy of special mention are:

Glyceria acutiflora (Creeping Mannagrass) An imperiled species of grass in West Virginia tracked by the West Virginia Natural Heritage Program.

Hierochloa hirta ssp. artica (Holy Grass or Sweetgrass) A critically imperiled species of grass in West Virginia tracked by the West Virginia Natural Heritage Program.

Carex caroliniana (Carolina Sedge) This native sedge is a new Hardy County record.

Carex molesta (Troublesome Sedge) A vulnerable native species of sedge in West Virginia tracked by the West Virginia Natural Heritage Program.

Aplectrum hyemale (Puttyroot or Adam-and-Eve) a native orchid observed by Robert Dean in early spring.

Corallorhiza wisterianna (Wister's Coralroot or Spring Coralroot) A native orchid observed by Robert Dean in early spring, and an imperiled species of orchid in West Virginia tracked by the West Virginia Natural Heritage Program.

Galearis spectabilis (Showy Orchis) a native orchid observed by Robert Dean in early spring.

Petrorhagia prolifera (Proliferous Pink) An exotic species occurring without cultivation in the state that is not native to North America north of Mexico. This exotic pink species is a new Hardy County record.

Sida hermaphrodita (Virginia Mallow) A vulnerable native species of mallow in West Virginia tracked by the West Virginia Natural Heritage Program.

All the plants identified in the list below were collected from June 9 through June 17, 2017, with a few exceptions. The habitats of Hardy County are assumed not to have changed significantly since the last Hardy County Foray in 2004. With that conclusion, the species listed in the table below are limited to the species **not** listed in the 2004 Hardy County Foray report. Much of the collecting and identification effort was concentrated in 3 plant families. These families are: Poaceae (GRASS), Cyperaceae (SEDGE), and Juncaceae (RUSH). The total number of species listed is 135. Of that total 129 species are herbaceous, 3 are trees and shrubs, and 3 are woody vines.

The Brooks Bird Club members who contributed to the collection and identification are: A. R. Buckelew, Jr., Robert Dean, Dick Diener, Thomas and Dawn Fox, and Jane Whitaker. Also, thanks to the other BBC members who contributed to the varied collection of plant specimens.

Herbaceous Plants

SPARGANIACEAE

Sparganium eurycarpum^N

POACEAE

Agrostis gigantea^E

Agrostis hyemalis^N

Arrhenatherum elatius^E

Bromus commutatus^E

Bromus kalmii^N

Bromus tectorum^E

Calamagrostis canadensis var. *canadensis*^N

Dactylis glomerata ssp. *glomerata*^E

Danthonia spicata^N

Dichanthelium boscii^N

Dichanthelium depauperatum^N

Dichanthelium dichotomum^N

Dichanthelium linearifolium^N

Dichanthelium sphaerocarpon var. *isophyllum*^N

Eleusine indica^I

Elymus hystrix var. *hystrix*^N

Elymus repens^E

Elymus riparius^N

Eragrostis frankii^N

Festuca subverticillata^N

Glyceria acutiflora^N **S2,G5**

Glyceria striata^N

Hierochloa hirta ssp. *artica*^N **S1,G5**

Holcus lanatus^E

Leersia oryzoides^N

Leersia virginica^N

Lolium arundinaceum^E

Phalaris arundinacea^N

Phleum pratense^E

Poa annua^E

Poa compressa^E

Poa pratensis ssp. *pratensis*^E

Setaria glauca^E

CYPERACEAE

Carex annectens^N

Carex argyrantha^N

Carex baileyi^N

Carex blanda^N

Carex brunnescens ssp. *sphaerostachya*^N

BURREED FAMILY

Large Burreed

GRASS FAMILY

Redtop

Hairgrass, Fly-Away Grass

Tall Oat-Grass

Hairy Chess

Canada Bromegrass

Downy Chess

Reedgrass, Bluejoint

Orchard Grass

Poverty Oat-Grass, Poverty Grass,

Moonshine Grass

Panic Grass

Starved Panic Grass

Bushy Panic Grass

Low Panic Grass

Small-Fruited Panic Grass

Goose Grass, Yard Grass

Bottle-Brush Grass

Quackgrass

Wild Rye

Frank's Lovegrass

Nodding Fescue

Creeping Mannagrass

Fowl Mannagrass

Holy Grass, Sweetgrass

Velvet Grass

Rice Cutgrass

White Grass

Sheep Fescue, Kentucky 31 Fescue

Reed Canary Grass

Timothy Grass

Annual Bluegrass

Canada Bluegrass

Kentucky Bluegrass

Yellow Foxtail, Pearl Millet

SEDGE FAMILY

Yellow-Fruit Sedge

Hay Sedge

Bailey's Sedge

Eastern Woodland Sedge

Brownish Sedge

Carex caroliniana^N
Carex cephalophora^N
Carex communis var. *communis*^N
Carex frankii^N
Carex granularis^N

Carex hirsutella^N
Carex hystericina^N
Carex lurida^N
Carex molesta^N **S3,G4**

Carex oligocarpa^N
Carex platyphylla^N
Carex prasina^N
Carex radiata^N
Carex rosea^N
Carex squarrosa^N
Carex swanii^N
Carex trisperma var. *trisperma*^N
Carex virescens^N
Carex vulpinoides^N
Fimbristylis autumnalis^N
Scirpus atrovirens^N

JUNCACEAE

Juncus brevicaudatus^N
Juncus effusus var. *pylabei*^N
Juncus effusus var. *solutus*^N
Juncus tenuis^N

LILIACEAE

Allium canadense var. *canadense*^N
Prosartes lanuginosa^N
Uvularia puberula^N

ORCHIDACEAE

Aplectrum hyemale^N
Corallorhiza wisteriana^N **S2,G5**
Galearis spectabilis^N

URTICACEAE

Parietaria pensylvanica^N

POLYGONACEAE

Polygonum caepitosum var. *longisetum*^E
Rumex crispus ssp. *crispus*^E

CARYOPHYLLACEAE

Arenaria serpyllifolia^N

Carolina Sedge
Oval-Leaf Sedge, Oval-Headed Sedge
Fibrous-Root Sedge
Frank's Sedge
Limestone-Meadow Sedge,
Meadow Sedge
Hirsute Sedge
Porcupine Sedge
Sallow Sedge
Troublesome Sedge
Few-Fruited Sedge
Broadleaf Sedge
Drooping Sedge
Eastern Star Sedge
Rosy Sedge, Stellate Sedge
Squarrose Sedge
Swan's Sedge
Three-Seeded Sedge
Ribbed Sedge
Foxtail Sedge
Slender Fimbr
Black Rush

RUSH

Narrow-Panicle Rush
Common Rush, Lamp Rush
Common Rush, Lamp Rush
Path Rush, Yard Rush, Wiregrass

LILY FAMILY

Meadow Garlic
Hairy Disporum, Yellow Fairybells
Mountain Bellwort

ORCHID FAMILY

Puttyroot, Adam-And-Eve
Wister's Coralroot, Spring Coralroot
Showy Orchis

NETTLE FAMILY

Pennsylvania Pellitory

BUCKWHEAT FAMILY

Asiatic Water Pepper
Curly Dock, Yellow Dock

PINK FAMILY

Thymeleaf Sandwort

Petrorhagia prolifera^E

Proliferous Pink

CABOMBACEAE

Brasenia schreberi^A

WATERSHIELD FAMILY

Watershield

RANUNCULACEAE

Actaea racemosa var. *racemosa*^N

CROWFOOT FAMILY

Black Snakeroot, Black Cohosh,
Rattletop

Ranunculus abortivus^N

Kidneyleaf Crowfoot

Ranunculus allegheniensis^N

Allegheny Crowfoot

Ranunculus bulbosus^E

Bulbous Buttercup

Thalictrum dioicum^N

Early Meadowrue

PAPAVERACEAE

Papaver dubium^E

POPPY FAMILY

Scarlet Poppy

Sanguinaria canadensis^N

Bloodroot, Puccoon

BRASSICACEAE

Brassica nigra^E

MUSTARD FAMILY

Black Mustard

Thlaspi arvense^E

Field Pennygrass

ROSACEAE

Porteranthus trifoliatus^N

ROSE FAMILY

Bowman's Root, Indian Physic

Potentilla simplex^N

Common Cinquefoil

FABACEAE

Lespedeza cuneata^E

PEA FAMILY

Sericea

Trifolium arvense^E

Rabbitfoot Clover

Trifolium aureum^E

Yellow Hop Clover

GERANIACEAE

Geranium columbinum^E

GERANIUM FAMILY

Long-Stalked Cranesbill, Dove's Foot

Geranium pusillum^E

Small-Flowered Cranesbill

EUPHORBIACEAE

Euphorbia lathyris^E

SPURGE FAMILY

Caper Spurge, Mole Plant, Wolf's-Milk

MALVACEAE

Sida hermaphrodita^N **S3,G3**

MALLOW FAMILY

Virginia Mallow

VIOLACEAE

Viola sagittata var. *sagittata*^N

VIOLET FAMILY

Arrowleaf Violet

ONAGRACEAE

Ludwigia palustris^N

EVENING PRIMROSE FAMILY

Marsh Purslane

Oenothera fruticosa ssp. *glauca*^N

Common Sundrops

Oenothera perennis^N

Sundrops

APIACEAE

Zizia aptera^N

PYROLACEAE

Chimaphila maculata^N

APOCYNACEAE

Apocynum cannabinum^N

Vinca minor^E

ASCLEPIADACEAE

Asclepias exaltata^N

POLEMONIACEAE

Phlox subulata ssp. *brittonii*^N

LAMIACEAE

Collinsonia canadensis^N

Mentha arvensis^N

Mentha spicata^E

Monarda didyma^N

SCROPHULARIACEAE

Penstemon pallidus^N

Veronica officinalis var. *officinalis*^E

PLANTAGINACEAE

Plantago aristata^A

RUBIACEAE

Cruciata pedemontana^E

Galium obtusum ssp. *obtusum*^N

Houstonia caerulea^N

CAMPANULACEAE

Lobelia spicata var. *leptostachys*^N

ASTERACEAE

Antennaria neglecta^N

Antennaria plataginifolia^N

Antennaria virginica^N

Carduus acanthoides^E

Erigeron philadelphicus var. *philadelphicus*^N

Erigeron strigosus var. *strigosus*^N

Helianthus divaricatus^N

Hieracium greenii^N

Hieracium paniculatum^N

Hieracium pilosella var. *pilosella*^E

CARROT FAMILY

Golden Alexanders

WINTERGREEN FAMILY

Spotted Wintergreen

DOGBANE FAMILY

Indian Hemp

Periwinkle, Myrtle

MILKWEED FAMILY

Poke Milkweed

POLEMONIUM FAMILY

Mosspink, Moss Phlox

MINT FAMILY

Richweed, Horse-Balm

Wild Mint, Field Mint

Spearmint

Bee Balm, Oswego Tea

FIGWORT FAMILY

Short-Sepal Beardtongue

Common Speedwell, Gypsyweed

PLANTAIN FAMILY

Bracted Plantain

MADDER FAMILY

Piedmont Bedstraw

Stiff Marsh Bedstraw

Bluets, Quaker Ladies, Innocence

BLUEBELL FAMILY

Spiked Lobelia

ASTER FAMILY

Field Pussytoes

Plantainleaf Everlasting, Pussytoes

Shale Barren Pussytoes

Plumeless Thistle

Philadelphia Fleabane

Daisy Fleabane

Woodland Sunflower

Green's Hawkweed

Panicled Hawkweed

Mouse-Ear Hawkweed

<i>Hieracium x floribundum</i> ^E	Smooth Hawkweed
<i>Lactuca scariola</i> ^E	Prickly Lettuce, Compass Plant
<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i> ^E	Ox-Eye Daisy
<i>Packera anonyma</i> ^N	Small's Ragwort, Small's Groundsel
<i>Sonchus asper</i> ^E	Spiny Sow Thistle

Trees and Shrubs

FAGACEAE	BEECH FAMILY
<i>Quercus palustris</i> ^N	Pin Oak
MORACEAE	MULBERRY FAMILY
<i>Morus rubra</i> var. <i>rubra</i> ^N	Red Mulberry
ROSACEAE	ROSE FAMILY
<i>Rosa multiflora</i> ^E	Rambler Rose, Multiflora Rose

Woody Vines

SMILACACEAE	GREENBRIER FAMILY
<i>Smilax rotundifolia</i> ^N	Common Greenbrier
<i>Smilax tamnoides</i> ^N	Hispid Greenbrier
ASCLEPIADACEAE	MILKWEED FAMILY
<i>Matelea carolinensis</i> ^N	Anglepod

References

- Buckelew, A. R. , Jr. 1978. Area Survey – 1977 Foray. *Redstart* 45:2.
- Bush, E. 1986. Shale Barren plants for Hardy County 1985 BBC Foray. *Redstart* 53:27–28.

4260 Village Dr., Apt. 116
Kissimmee, FL 34746

2017 FORAY PARTICIPANTS

Patty Arrington, Hans Burkholder, Albert R. Buckelew, Jr., Laura Ceperley, Don Creamer, Sara Creamer, Robert Dean, Dick Diener, Sam Droege, Genevieve Eaton, Jenny Eaton, Sally Egan, Greg Eddy, Janice Emrick#, Scott Emrick, Dawn Fox, Thomas Fox, Alice Frick, Celia Good, Craig Good, Darrell Good, Gideon Good*, Megan Good* Nevin Good*, LeJay Graffious, Dan Greene, Steve Hartmann, Wilma Jarrell, Cheryl Jennings, Michael Jones, Lisa Kaufman, Mimi Kibler, Carol McCullough, Fred McCullough, Larry Metheny, Orion Metheny*, Randy Miller, Jane Robbins, Adrienne Salm, Mary Schilstra, Johanna Sholder, Alicia Sidlo, Auggie Sidlo*, Maya Sidlo*, Claudette Simard, Zanon Sines*, Carl Slater, Juanita Slater, Barbara Stocker, Chris Tingley, Deb Tingley, Martin Tingley, Ryan Tomazin#, Jane Whitaker, Luke Whitaker*.

Speakers, field trip leaders, and guests included Richard Bailey, Missy Braham, Jim Bowen, Robert Dean, Sam Droege, Wil Hershberger, Diane Holsinger, Matthew Orsie, Claudette Simard, N. Wade Snyder, and Heather Walsh.

#Director

*Scholarship recipient



Foray Participants. Photo by A. R. Bucklew, Jr.

Weather at the 2017 Foray Hardy County, West Virginia

Lisa Kaufman

Date	Temperature		Precipitation in Inches	
	AM	PM	AM	PM
June 10	60	79	0	0
June 11	64	92	0	0
June 12	64	89	0	0
June 13	68	81	0	0
June 14	70	67	0	0.12
June 15	64	75	0.03	Trace
June 16	67	68	0.02	0.64

1751 Hollyrood Road
Pittsburgh PA 15227

A Correction, and a New First Summer Record for Nashville Warbler in West Virginia

Casey Rucker

How happily true it is that *‘Littera scripta manet’*.

Peabody 1927.

When ornithologists document their findings, sometimes their observations provide better information than their conclusions. We owe a great deal to those who left detailed descriptions of what they observed. A review of one of those records uncovers an interesting misidentification, and a new first summer record for Nashville Warbler in West Virginia.

Maurice G. Brooks included a lengthy passage on Mourning Warbler in his article, Notes on the birds of Cranberry Glades, Pocahontas County, West Virginia, published in the Wilson Bulletin in 1930. He described his first discovery of “Mourning Warbler”, in June 1914, as follows:

Suddenly our packs, and the miles we had carried them, were forgotten, for right in front of us there appeared a pair of warblers with *bluish-gray heads* and *white eye-rings*. When the male burst into full song we knew we had found the Mourning Warbler, one of the objects of our search.

Brooks 1930; emphasis added.

Mourning Warblers have slate-gray heads and no eye-rings. Nashville Warblers have bluish-gray heads and white eye-rings. Whether or not Prof. Brooks was familiar with the not-too-dissimilar songs of the two species, given the appearance of the two species the evidence he presents is diagnostic of Nashville Warbler.

Other records of Nashville Warbler at Cranberry Glades may begin in 1936, when the Ninth Oglebay Park Nature Training School was held at Camp Woodbine, Nicholas County, from June 29 to July 12. Field work included several excursions to the Cranberry Glades, which is the likeliest habitat for the Nashville Warbler they recorded (Borgner 1936). A few years later Prof. Brooks stated that “it is certain” that Nashville Warblers had bred in Cranberry Glades (Brooks 1940), although he later stated that the record was unconfirmed by other observers (Brooks 1944). In the late-20th century Nashville Warblers were described as present in Cranberry Glades, at least in some years (Hall 1983).

Given the species’ documented presence in Cranberry Glades, how can we explain Prof. Brooks’s misidentification? The answer appears to lie in 19th-century ornithology.

Alexander Wilson is the discoverer of the Nashville Warbler, and in his pioneering *American Ornithology, or the Natural History of the Birds of the United States* he describes the species as having a “pale yellowish eye-ring”, although his painting depicts extensive white coloring in and around the lores (Wilson 1828).

In John James Audubon’s *Birds of America* the painting of the Nashville Warbler, notable for its lack of fidelity to the actual appearance of the species, shows a dull light-brown eye-ring for the species. It also shows a breast approximately the same color as an American Robin’s. The bold white eye-ring that we identify with Nashville Warblers was undescribed by these formative accounts of United States ornithology.



(Audubon 1840–1844)

In addition, Audubon’s painting of the Mourning Warbler in *Birds of America* portrays both the male and female as having a distinct and large, although incomplete, eye-ring. The Mourning Warbler painting also shows a yellow belly that, although paler, approximates the color of both the Mourning and the Nashville Warbler. Although this painting does document the dark-gray or black breast of the male Mourning Warbler, the overall impression it creates is in many ways more similar to the Nashville Warbler than Audubon’s Nashville Warbler painting.



(Audubon 1840-1844.)

An additional clue comes from another important ornithological source available to late-19th and early-20th researchers. In Ridgway’s *A Manual of North American Birds*, the Mourning Warbler is described as having “a distinct white spot on each eyelid”, while the description of Nashville Warbler does not mention an eye-ring at all (Ridgway 1887).

In short, three of the primary sources available to early-20th-century ornithologists for

identification of these two warblers were misleading. If Prof. Brooks was relying on them for his identification of Mourning and Nashville Warblers, he would have been justified in identifying the bluish-gray-headed birds with white eye-rings as Mourning Warblers.

The first summer records of Nashville Warbler in the state were previously thought to have been obtained on Canaan Mountain, Tucker County, in the 1930s (Hall 1983), although there are undated references to breeding at Cranesville Swamp, Preston County (Brooks 1944). It now appears that Maurice G. Brooks, in June 1914, was the actual if unwitting recorder of our first state summer record. His observation of a pair of Nashville Warblers is also evidence of breeding activity, though not a confirmation.

Misidentification of Mourning and Nashville Warblers may play an additional role in early West Virginia ornithology. For instance, when William C. Rives described Mourning Warblers as “seemingly not rare in the clearings” during the 1890s in Davis, Tucker County, at the height of the logging boom, which species did he observe? He states that there were no females seen of the sexually-dimorphic Mourning Warbler, but he might have seen the similar-appearing males and females of the Nashville Warbler (Rives 1898; Lowther and Williams 2011). Without detailed descriptions such as Prof. Brooks later provided, we can never know.

References

- Audubon, J. J. and J. B. Chevalier. 1840–1844. *The Birds of America*. 1967 reprint. Dover Publications, New York, NY.
- Borgner, H. 1936. Birds recorded at Richwood, West Virginia. *Redstart* 3:88–89.
- Brooks, M. 1930. Notes on the birds of Cranberry Glades, Pocahontas County, West Virginia. *Wilson Bulletin* 42:245–252.
- Brooks, M. 1940. The breeding warblers of the central Allegheny Mountain region. *Wilson Bulletin*, 52:249–266.
- Brooks, M. 1944. A Check-List of West Virginia Birds. Agricultural Experiment Station, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV. *Bulletin* 316.
- Hall, G. A. 1983. *West Virginia Birds: Distribution and Ecology*. Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburgh, PA.
- Lowther, P. E. and J. Mcl. Williams. 2011. Nashville Warbler (*Oreothlypis ruficapilla*), version 2.0. *Birds of North America* (P. G. Rodewald, Ed.). Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, NY.
- Peabody, P. B. 1927. On the Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii alnorum*). *Wilson Bulletin* 39:20–23.
- Ridgway, N. 1887. *A Manual of North American Birds*. J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia, PA.
- Rives, W. C. 1898. The summer birds of the West Virginia spruce belt. *Auk* 15:131–137.
- Wilson, Alexander. 1828. *American Ornithology or the Natural History of the Birds of the United States*, Volume 2. Collins and Company, New York, NY, and Philadelphia, PA.

P. O. Box 2
Seneca Rocks, WV 26884

eBird Notes: No Summertime Blues Necessary in 2017

Mike Slaven

June, July, and August are times when birders often travel to exotic locations in search of birds that are uncommon in West Virginia. The state is birded less often, as a whole. The number of checklists submitted to eBird drops, and birders gear up for the upcoming fall migration. There are, however, good reasons to bird the state, as the evidence in eBird clearly shows. In general, three different kinds of birding experiences make sense in the high summer months. These are trips to find breeding warblers, outings to search for specialty birds, and shorebird migration birding.

The first of these expeditions could be to find breeding warblers such as the **Swainson's Warbler**, which many birders in the state associate with Fern Creek and the Endless Wall Trail in Fayette County. Less well known is that Breeding Bird Surveys also found the species in June and July 2017 in Boone, Logan, Nicholas, Raleigh, and Wyoming Counties. Early June is a great time to make a trip to the New River area or explore some of these other locations (easily locatable using eBird). Somewhat hard to explain is the lack of reports this year from Kanawha State Forest, where the species was easy to find in 2016. **Worm-eating Warblers**, **Cerulean Warblers**, and **Pine Warblers** can be difficult birds to find at times, but a trip during June to higher elevations, such as the trail to the top of Seneca Rocks can yield them all in a single trip, as is evidenced by multiple lists submitted to eBird in 2017. **Mourning Warblers** are also found at high elevations, and were regularly reported along the Scenic Highway near the Cranberry Mountain Nature Center this summer.

The areas near the Cranberry Center and the Scenic Highway are also great spots to pursue the second type of trip for summer months: the search for specialty birds or birds that are very limited in their distribution in the state. The eBird distribution maps make this quite easy to do. It only takes a moment to see that by far the most dependable place in the state to find **Red Crossbills** in 2017 was at the Cranberry Nature Center or the nearby area around the boardwalk. **Eurasian Collared-Doves** were found in Monroe County in the town of Union, the only place in the state where there seems to be an established population. If you really wanted to find a **Loggerhead Shrike**, eBird would point you to the border of Virginia and West Virginia for a known location where a family group of the birds could be observed easily without disturbing them. **Barn Owls** and **Dickcissels** could be found during the summer in one location in Wood County. In this case, eBird reports helped confirm that multiple **Dickcissels** were present. The search for hard-to-find birds can turn some birders into road warriors, but this season is also a great time to explore the most under-birded regions of the state and possibly nearer to home. Logan County, for example, shows that only three individuals submitted eBird reports in the summer of 2017. Boone County has almost the same statistics. In other words, there is a lot of room to find new hotspots.

The third type of summer birding that is readily available to West Virginia birders is for migratory shorebirds. June, July, and August are prime months for shorebird migration through the state. The first birds that begin to show up in mid-June are probably failed breeders, who are returning to wintering grounds where it is less competitive for food than the breeding grounds. The next wave is formed by adult shorebirds who successfully

bred. The latest migrants are the juveniles, who remain on the summer breeding grounds after the adults leave. They presumably linger later than the adults to put on a little weight for migration.

The best place to find shorebirds, according to the eBird records for 2017, is the general area around Route 2 from Green Bottom Wildlife Management Area and the Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam to the sand pits at Gallipolis Ferry. There are regular reports from June on at these sites, with a variety of peeps and **terns**. The least expected shorebird there in the last couple of years probably was the **Piping Plover** from summer 2016, but **Pectoral Sandpipers**, **Semipalmated Sandpipers**, **Spotted Sandpipers**, and other species are found annually. Other great locations for shorebirds in 2017 included Bluestone Lake with reports of **Common** and **Black Terns**. Tygart Lake also was a location where **Black** and **Caspian Terns** were found. Cheat Lake provided some shorebirds in 2017, as did Stonewall Jackson Lake. Summersville Lake also showed an increase in shorebird reports in 2017. One of the most unexpected birds to make an appearance during summer 2017 and be reported to eBird was an **American Avocet** that showed up at Prickett's Fort State Park on August 23.

Most shorebirds make only temporary appearances in the Mountain State on their southward trip to their wintering grounds. It takes persistence and a willingness to see the birds when they are here, since most linger only for hours or a few days. To me, that makes them all the more exciting to encounter as they pass through our region. That **White-rumped Sandpiper** in your spotting scope (if you are lucky) was probably in Alaska a few weeks ago, and likely will be spending its winter near Tierra Del Fuego, in the farthest reaches of the Southern Hemisphere!

632 West Virginia Avenue
Morgantown, WV 26591
mslavenwv@gmail.com

Field Notes Summer Season

June 1 – August 31, 2017

Casey Rucker

It was a relatively-quiet summer for West Virginia weather. June and July were damper than usual and August was drier, according to the Northeast Regional Climate Center at Cornell University. A cool June followed a cool May, July was slightly warmer than average, and August was cooler than usual.

These notes were gathered from the West Virginia Birds Listserv, sponsored by the National Audubon Society, from bird-count results, 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 Lost River Retreat Center, Hardy County, from June 9 to 17, may be found elsewhere in this issue.

On June 2, Gail Hyer saw and photographed a **Glossy Ibis** near Fairview, Pocahontas County, as reported by Richard Bailey. There were 184 species reported in 35 West Virginia counties this season; it should be noted that many breeding birds are not reported in summer.

Ducks and Geese – Once again, West Virginia birders observed six species of **waterfowl** this summer season, in addition to the **Canada Geese**, **Wood Ducks**, and **Mallards** making their customary appearances on breeding grounds throughout the state. Hullet Good saw a hen **Wood Duck** with *four ducklings* at Coonskin Park, Kanawha County, during early July. During the Brooks Bird Club Foray June 9–17, a male **Blue-winged Teal** was viewed by many participants at Kimsey Run Lake, Hardy County, as reported by Laura Ceperley and Ryan Tomazin. On August 13, Doug Wood watched five **Blue-winged Teal** fly low over the Greenbrier River, near Talcott in Summers County. Richard Gregg saw six **Gadwall** on the Ohio River at Belle, Kanawha County, on July 20. Peter Hartmann observed an **American Black Duck** at Stauffer's Marsh Nature Preserve, Jefferson County, on July 12. On June 6, Terry Bronson found a drake **Ring-necked Duck** in Bridgeport, Harrison County. On July 30, James and Judy Phillips had good looks at a hen **Hooded Merganser** at Moncove Lake State Park, Monroe County. Laura Ceperley and Martha Hopper, among 15 others, watched a hen **Common Merganser** herd her *eight ducklings* up and down the Dry Fork River near Jenningson, Tucker County, on June 4. James Phillips spotted a hen **Common Merganser** in Bellepoint Park, Summers County, on June 7, and on June 28, Barbara Smith saw 12 **Common Mergansers** on the North Fork of the Hughes River from the North Bend Rail Trail in Ritchie County. On August 13, Donny Good spotted five **Common Mergansers** on the Gauley River, Fayette and Nicholas Counties, near Jodie.

Bobwhites – The 2017 Foray found at least one **Northern Bobwhite** at Parker Hollow Lake, Hardy County, as reported by Ryan Tomazin on June 17.

Pheasants, Grouse and Turkeys – Steven Wilson found a vocal male **Ring-necked Pheasant** at Gallipolis Ferry, Mason County, on June 16. **Ruffed Grouse** reports came only from Randolph (CR), Tucker (CR), and Wyoming (SWI) Counties. Observers

reported **Wild Turkeys** in at least thirteen counties (reports on Breeding Bird Survey routes often do not specify counties of sightings).

Grebes – On August 24, Terry Bronson saw two **Pied-billed Grebes** at Upper Pleasant Creek Wildlife Management Area, Barbour County, and on August 27 Peter McDonald watched a **Pied-billed Grebe** drop into a pond near Cheat Bridge, Randolph County.

Pigeons and Doves – **Rock Pigeons** and **Mourning Doves** continue to reside throughout the state, as reported occasionally.

Cuckoos – Reports of **Yellow-billed Cuckoos** were up, with observations in sixteen counties, while contributors reported **Black-billed Cuckoos** in only four counties: Kanawha (HG), Nicholas (SWi), Pocahontas (CR), and Preston (TB).

Goatsuckers and Swifts – A **Common Nighthawk** was photographed *brooding a chick on bare ground* in Beaver, Raleigh County, on July 27, as reported by Richard Bailey. Thomas Fox watched approximately 100 **Common Nighthawks** flying over Dolly Sods, Grant and Tucker Counties, on August 21. Other **Common Nighthawk** reports began in early August, from Berkeley (BD), Jefferson (WS, JBz), Mercer (JeH), Monongalia (JBo), Monroe (JP), Preston (DCo), Randolph (RBi), Summers (JJP), and Wetzel (WJ) Counties. Kevin Campbell once again enjoyed one or more **Chuck-will's-widows** during early June near Parkersburg, Wood County, as reported by Jerry Westfall. **Eastern Whip-poor-wills** inspired reports from only Doddridge (EJ) and Hardy (RTo) Counties. **Chimney Swifts** were reported in twelve counties this summer: Harrison (TB), Jefferson (JBz, DHa, PSH), Kanawha (DB, HG), Mason (DB, SWi), Monroe (SWi, RBi), Pocahontas (RBi), Preston (LS), Raleigh (SWi), Summers (JJP), Tucker (JB), Wood (JB), and Wyoming (MAW). Deborah Hale watched approximately 200 **Chimney Swifts** dive into her neighbor's chimney in Harpers Ferry, Jefferson County, on August 28.

Hummingbirds – Birders in 13 counties reported sightings of **Ruby-throated Hummingbirds** for the second summer in a row.

Cranes – Two **Sandhill Cranes** were photographed along Corridor H in Tucker County on August 1, as reported by Richard Bailey.

Avocets – Two **American Avocets** were observed by Michael Griffith at Gallipolis Ferry, Mason County, on July 21. On August 23, Joey Herron spotted an **American Avocet** at Prickett's Fort State Park, Marion County, where the bird was also seen by Terry Bronson.

Plovers – Joey Herron spotted a **Semipalmated Plover** at Prickett's Fort State Park, Marion County, on August 8, and a **Semipalmated Plover** at Upper Pleasant Creek WMA, Barbour County, on August 11, where later in the same day Randy Bodkins found at least four **Semipalmated Plovers**, and four days later Terry Bronson saw three **Semipalmated Plovers**. **Killdeer** appeared in reports from fourteen counties.

Sandpipers – West Virginia birders reported members of only eight **sandpiper** species this summer, mainly during migration season in August. Wilma Jarrell spotted the season's only reported **Baird's Sandpiper**, feeding with a flock of 38 **Killdeer** near Proctor, Wetzel County, on August 11. Other **sandpipers** were reported in the following counties by the contributors listed: **Least Sandpipers**: Barbour (TB) and Mercer (JJP), **Pectoral Sandpipers**: Barbour (RBo, TB), Cabell (MG), Mason (MG, JK), and Preston (DCo), **Semipalmated Sandpiper**: Barbour (TB), **Spotted Sandpipers**: Barbour (RBo, TB), Jefferson (JBz, PSH), Kanawha (HG), Marion (JoH), Mercer (JJP), Monongalia (TB),

Wayne (GR), and Wood (TB), **Solitary Sandpipers**: Barbour (TB, RBo), Jefferson (PSH), Mason (MG, JK), and Wayne (GR), **Lesser Yellowlegs**: Barbour (RBo), Cabell (MG), Jefferson (WS), and Mason (MG, JK), and **Greater Yellowlegs**: Randolph (PMD).

Gulls and Terns – On August 10, Jon Benedetti and the Mountwood Bird Club saw both **Ring-billed** and **Herring Gulls** at the Sandy Creek Backwater in Wood County, and **Herring Gulls** were also seen at Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam, Mason County, by Gary Rankin, David Patick, and Michael Griffith, on June 25 among other dates. On August 18, Josh Parks and David Johnston saw **Black Terns** at Glenwood Park, Mercer County, as reported by James Phillips. Derek Courtney saw five **Black Terns** and two **Common Terns** flying downriver from Wheeling Island, Ohio County, on August 24. On July 28, Gary Rankin and David Patick saw one or two **Forster's Terns** at Beech Fork Lake, Wayne County.

Cormorants – Reports of **Double-crested Cormorants** came from Mason (GR, DP, MG), Ritchie (TB), Summers (JJP), Tucker (CR), and Wood (JB) Counties.

Bitterns, Herons and Egrets – James and Judy Phillips saw at least one **American Bittern** at Sandstone Falls, Raleigh County, on August 20. **Great Blue Herons** and **Green Herons** continued to appear throughout much of the state. **Great Egrets** appeared in Barbour County (RBo, TB), Cabell County (MG), Jefferson County (CD), Kanawha County (RG), Marion County (JoH), Randolph County (SKi), Summers County (JJP), Tucker County (AD), Wetzel County (WJ), and Wood County (JB). Mindy and Alan Waldron saw *two Great Blue Heron chicks on a nest* in Wyoming County during their Breeding Bird Survey route on June 4. Gary Rankin, David Patick, and Michael Griffith discovered an immature **Black-crowned Night Heron** at Green Bottom Wildlife Management Area, Cabell County, on June 25, and on July 7 Michael Griffith saw what could have been the same bird in the same location.



Ibises: Gail Hyer saw and photographed a **Glossy Ibis** (left) near Fairview, Greenbrier County, on June 2, as reported by Richard Bailey.

Vultures – Birders in five counties reported **Black Vultures**, and fourteen counties boasted **Turkey Vulture** reports. Cynthia Burkhart visited a **Turkey Vulture nest**

and saw *two hatchlings* near her home in Ritchie County during the first half of June.

Hawks and Eagles – **Ospreys** and **Bald Eagles** were reported throughout the state, generally in small numbers. Richard and Jeanette Esker reported *an active Osprey nest* on the Memorial Bridge in Parkersburg, Wood County, on July 3. **Northern Harriers** occasioned reports only in Tucker County (LC, CR) this summer. Once again, **accipiters** inspired few reports this summer, with **Sharp-shinned Hawk** sightings from Kanawha (HG) and Preston (TB) Counties, and observations of **Cooper's Hawks** in

Barbour (TB), Jefferson (DH), and Mason (GR, DP, MG) Counties. The editor of these notes watched a juvenile **Northern Goshawk** calling while soaring over Dry Fork, Tucker County, on August 19, 22, and 24, the same week as last year's **Northern Goshawk** sighting. Birders in many parts of the state reported **Red-shouldered Hawks**, **Broad-winged Hawks**, and **Red-tailed Hawks**. Herb Myers watched several **Blue Jays** harass and chase off a **Broad-winged Hawk** at his home in Harman, Randolph County, on July 8. On July 4, Joette Borzick watched a **Red-winged Blackbird** perch on the back of a flying **Red-tailed Hawk** and peck at its head and body, near Elks Run in Jefferson County. The 2017 Foray found a **Golden Eagle** near Baker, Hardy County, in mid-June, as reported by Ryan Tomazin.



Owls – Neal Hohman photographed a clutch of five **Barn Owl** chicks (left) in Wood County in early June, as reported by Richard Esker. During the 2017 Foray Laura Ceperley and Ryan Tomazin both saw the well-known **Barn Owl** family in Moorefield, Hardy County, on June 15. On August 25, William

Telfair found a moribund juvenile **Barn Owl** at his neighbor's house in Shepherdstown, Jefferson County. Birders in the following counties reported: **Eastern Screech-Owls**: Hardy (RTo), Monroe (RBi), Ritchie (RBr), Tucker (LC, EG, CR), and Wayne (GR); **Great Horned Owls**: Kanawha (HG) and Wayne (GR); **Barred Owls**: Hardy (RTo, DH, KKi), Monroe (RBi), Roane (DG), Summers (JJP), and Wayne (GR).

Kingfishers – Once again, there were reports of Belted Kingfisher in only eight West Virginia counties this summer.

Woodpeckers – Diane Holsinger and Kathy King saw ten **Red-headed Woodpeckers** in a Black Locust grove at Greenland Gap, Grant County, on August 24. Other reports of **Red-headed Woodpecker** came from Hardy (RTo), Jefferson (JBz), Mercer (JJP), Preston (TB), Ritchie (JB, TB), and Wood (KCa) Counties. **Red-bellied Woodpeckers**, **Downy Woodpeckers**, **Hairy Woodpeckers**, **Northern Flickers**, and **Pileated Woodpeckers** all appeared in their usual habitats. Once again, the most sparsely-reported woodpecker was **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**, with reports from Pendleton County (RBi), Pocahontas County (CR), Randolph County (RBi, CR), and Tucker County (CR, JB).

Falcons – **American Kestrels** inspired reports in only Mason (DB) and Wood (TB, JB) Counties this summer. A pair of **Merlins** fledged young in Canaan Valley State Park, Tucker County, during late June and early July, as observed by Todd Romero, Sarah Anderson, James Triplett (photo on page 38), and others, constituting only the second confirmed breeding in West Virginia. Birders also reported **Merlins** in Barbour (TB) and Hardy (RTo, DH) Counties. James and Judy Phillips saw a **Peregrine Falcon** at Sandstone Falls, Raleigh County, on August 6. Gary Rankin spotted a **Peregrine Falcon** over



Marshall University, Cabell County, on August 21 during the solar eclipse.

Flycatchers – James and Judy Phillips observed an **Olive-sided Flycatcher** at the Cranberry Glades, Pocahontas County, on June 16, and on August 27 Derek Courtney saw a migrating **Olive-sided Flycatcher** at Cranesville Swamp, Preston County. **Eastern Wood-Pewees, Acadian Flycatchers, Eastern Phoebes, Great Crested Flycatchers, and Eastern Kingbirds** were all widely reported in West Virginia. Michael Griffith and Janet Keating discovered a **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** along Pleasant Ridge in Mason County, on August 27. The following *Empidonax* species were reported in the counties and by the contributors listed: **Alder Flycatchers:** Pocahontas (JJP), Randolph (RBi), and Tucker (CR, JB, HMy), **Willow Flycatchers:** Barbour (RBo,

TB), Cabell (GR, MG), Marion (RBr), Preston (TB), Summers (JJP), Tucker (CR), and Wood (TB), and **Least Flycatchers:** Pocahontas (CR, RBi), Randolph (RBi), and Tucker (LC, CR, JB, AG).

Shrikes – Richard Bailey found a historical nesting site for **Loggerhead Shrike** reoccupied this summer in each of Greenbrier and Monroe Counties.

Vireos – **White-eyed, Yellow-throated, and Red-eyed Vireos** appeared in nesting grounds throughout the state. **Blue-headed Vireo** reports were from Boone (DWO), Pendleton (RBi), Pocahontas (CR, RBi, DP), Raleigh (JJP), Randolph (RBi, CR), Summers (JJP), and Tucker (JB) Counties. Michael Griffith and Janet Keating spotted a **Philadelphia Vireo** along Pleasant Ridge in Mason County on August 27. **Warbling Vireo** reports were up this summer, coming from Jefferson (DHa, LW, JBz), Kanawha (HG), Marion (RBr), Mason (DB), Monroe (SWi), Ritchie (TB), Summers (JJP), and Wyoming (MAW) Counties.

Crows, Jays, and Ravens – **Blue Jays, American Crows, and Common Ravens** were reported in their usual territories. Doren Burrell watched five **Red-eyed Vireos** mobbing a **Blue Jay** during his Breeding Bird Survey run in Mason County on June 20. **Fish Crows** were observed in Hardy County (RTo) and Jefferson County (JBz, DHa).

Swallows – **Purple Martins** prompted reports from Kanawha County (DB, HG, LC), Marion County (RBr), Mason County (DB, GR, DP, MG), Preston County (TB), Putnam County (KK), Summers County (JJP), Wood County (TB, JB), and Wyoming County (MAW). **Tree Swallows, Northern Rough-winged Swallows, Cliff Swallows, and Barn Swallows** were the subject of many summer reports in West Virginia. **Bank Swallows** were only seen in Mason County (GR, DP, MG) and Wood County (JB). On June 25, Shannon Burner reported that **Barn Swallows** were *dipping straw into mud for nest construction* in her yard in Keyser, Mineral County, both materials supplied by her own construction project.

Paridae – **Carolina and Black-capped Chickadees** occasioned reports in their respective territories in West Virginia. Hullet Good hosted a *nest of Carolina Chickadees* in a box at his home in Milliken, Kanawha County, this summer. **Tufted Titmice** were

widely reported throughout the state.

Nuthatches – Red-breasted Nuthatches appeared in reports from Pocahontas (RBI, DP), Randolph (RBI), and Tucker (AG, JB) Counties. **White-breasted Nuthatches** were the subject of many reports statewide this season. On June 10, Bruni Haydl watched a *pair of White-breasted Nuthatches feeding their young* at her feeders in Charles Town, Jefferson County.

Creepers – West Virginia's only reports of **Brown Creeper** this summer were from Pocahontas County (RBI), Randolph County (RBI), and Summers County (JP).

Wrens – House Wrens and **Carolina Wrens** appeared in reports from many parts of the state. **Winter Wrens** were only reported in Randolph (RBI) and Tucker (CR, JB, RTo) Counties.

Gnatcatchers – Reports of **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers** in their usual breeding grounds came from locations throughout the state.

Kinglets – Golden-crowned Kinglets were reported in Pocahontas County (DP), Randolph County (RBI, CR), and Tucker County (JB).

Thrushes – Five breeding species of **thrush** appeared in West Virginia reports this summer. **Eastern Bluebirds**, **Wood Thrushes**, and **American Robins** were again seen throughout the state. Paul Saffold found *at least two recently-hatched Eastern Bluebirds* in his nest box in Inwood, Berkeley County, on the relatively-late date of August 28. Reports of **Veery** came from Pocahontas (CR, JJP), Preston (TB), Randolph (RBI, CR), and Tucker (AG, JB, RTo, CR) Counties, and of **Hermit Thrush** from Pocahontas (CR, RBI, DP), Randolph (RBI, CR), and Tucker (JB) Counties.

Mockingbirds and Thrashers – Gray Catbirds, **Brown Thrashers**, and **Northern Mockingbirds** prompted reports from 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 eighteen counties.

Weaver Finches – The **House Sparrow** continues throughout the state, with reports from eleven counties.

Finches and Allies – House Finches and **American Goldfinches** inspired reports from many areas of the state. Richard Bailey observed two **Purple Finches** on the Bemis Breeding Bird Survey Route, Pendleton and Randolph Counties, on June 13, and the editor of these notes hosted a *breeding pair of Purple Finches* at his feeders in Dry Fork, Tucker County, as reported on June 15, and on August 19 Laura Ceperley and Stephen Kimbrell saw **Purple Finches** in Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge, in the same county. **Red Crossbills** continued at the Cranberry Glades Nature Center, Pocahontas County, as observed by James and Judy Phillips on June 16 and by David Patick on August 5 and 26.

Towhees, Sparrows, and Juncos – Eastern Towhees, **Chipping Sparrows**, **Field Sparrows**, and **Song Sparrows** were all widely reported in West Virginia this summer. The editor of these notes heard a **Clay-colored Sparrow** singing on Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Tucker County, on June 7. The following **sparrows** were reported only in the counties listed: **Savannah** in Pocahontas (RBI), Preston (TB), Randolph (RBI), and Tucker (CR, JB, LC), **Grasshopper** in Jefferson (DHa), Preston (TB), Randolph (RBI), and Tucker (CR, RTo), **Henslow's** in Tucker (CR), **Swamp** in Tucker (CR, JB), **White-throated** in Tucker (JB), and **Dark-eyed Junco** in Hardy (RTo), Pocahontas (RBI, JB), Randolph (RBI, CR), and Tucker (JB, CR).

Chats – Yellow-breasted Chats were reported in Hardy (RTo), Jefferson (DH_a, LW), Kanawha (DB, HG), Mason (DB, SWi), Monongalia (TB), Raleigh (SWi), Ritchie (JB), and Wyoming (MAW) Counties.

Blackbirds and allies – **Bobolinks** inspired reports from Pocahontas (R_{Bi}), Preston (TB), Randolph (R_{Bi}), and Tucker (JB) Counties this summer. **Red-winged Blackbirds, Common Grackles, and Brown-headed Cowbirds**, as well as **Orchard and Baltimore Orioles**, were reported widely this summer. Reports of **Eastern Meadowlarks** came from Jefferson (DH_a), Marion (R_{Br}), Mason (GR, MG, DB, SWi), Pocahontas (R_{Bi}), Preston (TB), Randolph (R_{Bi}), Ritchie (JB), Summers (SWi), and Tucker (JB) Counties.

Warblers – It was a good summer for **warbler** reports, thanks in large part to runners of Breeding Bird Survey routes, with 31 species of **warblers** observed in West Virginia. 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, Worm-eating, Louisiana Waterthrush, Northern Waterthrush** – Pocahontas (JJP) and Tucker (JB), **Golden-winged** – Monroe (AC), Preston (TB), and Tucker (AG, RTo), **Blue-winged, Black-and-white, Prothonotary** – Cabell (GR, DP, MG) and Jefferson (DH_a), **Swainson's** – Boone (D_{Wo}, SWi) and Wyoming (SWi, MAW), **Nashville** – Tucker (CR), **Mourning** – Nicholas (R_{Bi}), **Kentucky** – Jefferson (PSH), Raleigh (SWi), Tucker (CR), Wood (TB), and Wyoming (MAW), **Common Yellowthroat, Hooded, American Redstart, Cape May** – Tucker (CR), **Cerulean, Northern Parula, Magnolia, Blackburnian, Yellow, Chestnut-sided, Blackpoll** – Ritchie (TB), **Black-throated Blue, Pine** – Hardy (RTo), Pocahontas (R_{Bi}), Summers (JP), and Tucker (AG), **Yellow-rumped** – Hardy (RTo), Pocahontas (CR), Randolph (R_{Bi}), and Tucker (LC), **Yellow-throated, Prairie, Black-throated Green, Canada** – Nicholas (R_{Bi}), Pocahontas (JJP, R_{Bi}, GR), Randolph (R_{Bi}), and Tucker (JB), and **Wilson's** – Preston (TB, DC_o).

Tanagers, Cardinals, Grosbeaks and Buntings – **Summer Tanager** reports were up this summer, coming from Kanawha (HG), Mason (SWi), Wood (JB, TB), and Wyoming (MAW) Counties. **Scarlet Tanagers, Northern Cardinals, and Indigo Buntings** prompted numerous reports from birders in most parts of the state. **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks** appeared in reports from Pocahontas (CR, DP), Raleigh (SWi), Tucker (CR, JB), Wetzel (WJ), and Wyoming (MAW) Counties, and **Blue Grosbeaks** were seen in Jefferson (DH_a), Mason (GR, DP, MG), and Wood (TB) Counties. On June 17, Michael Slaven found a **Dickcissel** singing at the Belleville Ohio River Access, Wood County, and Terry Bronson found three **Dickcissels** at the same location on July 14.

Contributors to the Summer Field Notes: Richard Bailey (R_{Bi}), Jon Benedetti (JB), John Boback (JBo), Randy Bodkins (RBo), Joette Borzik (JBz), Ross Brittain (R_{Br}), Terry Bronson (TB), Doren Burrell (DB), Kevin Campbell (KCa), Laura Ceperley (LC), Amy Cimarolli (AC), Derek Courtney (DC_o), Andrea Dalton (AD), Robert Dean (BD), Carol Del-Colle (CD), Thomas Fox (TF), Elaine George (EG), Donny Good (DG), Hullet Good (HG), Aaron Graham (AG), Richard Gregg (RG), Michael Griffith (MG), Jeff Hajenga (JeH), Deborah Hale (DH_a), Peter Hartmann (PSH), Joey Herron (JoH), Diane Holsinger (DH), Elizabeth Jerrett (EJ), Wilma Jarrell (WJ), Kim Kazmierski (KK), Janet Keating (JK), Stephen Kimbrell (SKi), Kathy King (KKi), Paul McDonald (PMD), Herb Myers (HMy), David Patick (DP), James Phillips (JP), James and Judy Phillips (JJP), Gary Rankin (GR), Casey Rucker (CR), Paul Saffold (PS), Larry Schwab (LS), N.

Wade Snyder (WS), Ryan Tomazin (RTo), Mindy and Alan Waldron (MAW), Steven Wilson (SWi), Lynne Wiseman (LW), and Doug Wood (DWo).

P. O. Box 2
Seneca Rocks, WV 26884
autoblock@frontiernet.net

ERRATA

In *The Redstart* 83(1):2–7, “The Bird List, 2015 Foray, Preston County, West Virginia”, and *The Redstart* 84(1):2–6, “The Bird List, 2016 Foray, Tucker County, West Virginia”, Tree Swallow and European Starling were omitted.

In *The Redstart* 84(1):43–52, “The 117th West Virginia Christmas Bird Count”, Long-tailed Duck was omitted from Table 1.

PATRONIZE YOUR CLUB STORE

ORNITHOLOGICAL BOOKS

Wings Over the Mountains by J. Lawrence Smith	\$10.00
Birding Guide to West Virginia 2nd edition, compiled by Greg E. Eddy	\$10.00
Wildflowers and Trees of West Virginia by Christopher M. Gatens and Emily Grafton	\$9.95
Birds of the Kanawha Valley by J. Lawrence Smith	\$10.00
The West Virginia Breeding Bird Atlas by A.R. Buckelew, Jr. and George A. Hall	\$5.00
West Virginia Birds by George Hall	\$20.00
All issues of The Redstart 1933-2008 on one searchable CD	\$10.00
All issues of The Mail Bag 1943-2011 on one searchable CD	\$10.00
BBC archived photographs and other materials on DVD	\$20.00

SPECIAL BBC PUBLICATIONS

No. 1, 1986 Birds of the Lower Ohio River Valley in West Virginia by Kiff, Igou, Slack, and Wilson	\$1.00
No. 2, 1990 Endangered and Threatened Species in West Virginia edited by A.R. Buckelew Jr	\$1.00
No. 3, 2007 The Allegheny Front Migration Observatory: A Long-term Bird Banding Project, by George A. Hall	\$2.50

Add \$3.50 for postage per order.

West Virginia residents add 6% sales tax per order.

REDSTART EDITORIAL POLICY

Original papers in the field of natural history are published in The Redstart. Papers are judged on the basis of their contributions to original data, ideas, or interpretations. Scientific accuracy and clarity are most important, and to this end, an advisory board, selected by the editorial staff, will review submitted papers as needed. Papers should be submitted in Word, by e-mail if possible, to autoblock@frontiernet.net or on a CD and sent to the editor; otherwise, papers should be typewritten, double-spaced on one side of the paper only, and sent to the editor at P.O. Box 2, Seneca Rocks, WV 26884.

BROOKS BIRD CLUB MEMBERSHIP

The Brooks Bird Club, Inc. is a nonprofit organization whose objective is to encourage the study and conservation of birds and other phases of natural history. Membership includes subscriptions to The Redstart and Mail Bag and entitles one to all the privileges offered by the Club. Classes of membership are Student, \$10; Individual, \$25; Family, \$30; Sustaining, \$50; Life, \$500; Family Life, \$650. Checks should be written payable to The Brooks Bird Club and mailed to P.O. Box 4077, Wheeling, WV 26003.

2018 Calendar of Events The Brooks Bird Club, Inc.

Date	Activity	Place
January	BBC Membership Month	Wheeling, WV
February	Write an article for the Mail Bag or The Redstart	mail to editors
Jan. 31-Feb. 2	Trip to Killdeer Plains (Contact Dick Esker)	
March 1-2	Funk/Killbuck Marsh (overnight trip — contact Dick Esker)	
March 9-11	Early Spring Meeting (Contact Dick Esker)	North Bend State Park Harrisville, WV
March 18	Waterfowl Field Trip (day trip) (Contact Carl Slater)	Seneca Lake, OH
April 21	Three Rivers Bird Club (day trip)	Raccoon Creek State Park, PA (Contact Ryan Tomazin)
May 10-13	Wildflower Pilgrimage, Blackwater Falls State Park	Davis, WV
May 12	International Migratory Bird Day/ N. American Migration Count	local chapters
June 3-10	Foray – Camp Pocahontas	Thornwood, WV (contact Janice Emrick or Ryan Tomazin)
August-October	Bird Banding	Dolly Sods, WV
October	BBC Fall Reunion & Meeting, Date and time TBD Check Mail Bag and website	
November 7-11	Eastern Shore (Contact Carl Slater)	
Dec. 14-Jan. 5, '18	Christmas Bird Counts	local chapters

BBC FORAYS (dates and places tentative)

2018 Thornwood 4-H Camp, Pocahontas County Thornwood, WV

SEASONAL FIELD NOTES DUE

Winter: March 15 Spring: June 15 Summer: September 15 Fall: December 15
MAIL TO: Casey Rucker, P.O. Box 2, Seneca Rocks, WV 26884, autoblock@frontiernet.net

ARTICLES FOR THE MAIL BAG DUE

February 15 May 15 August 15 November 15
MAIL TO: Ryan Tomazin, 348 Station St., Apt. 7, Bridgeville, PA 15017, wwwarblers@hotmail.com

<http://brooksbirdclub.org>

The dates for the 2018 BBC program may be changed if necessary. Changes will be announced on the web page or in The Mail Bag.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Dick Esker, eskerrb@frontier.com
Carl & Juanita Slater, gusind@stratuswave.net
Janice Emrick, emrick@gmn4u.com

Dawn Fox, dafox210@gmail.com
Ryan Tomazin, wwwarblers@hotmail.com

The Brooks Bird Club
P.O. Box 4077
Wheeling, WV 26003

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Wheeling, WV
Permit No. 593