

# Membership in the Handlan Chapter, Brooks Bird Club

## New and Renewal

Please select the class of membership you desire  
and make checks payable to

## Handlan Chapter, Brooks Bird Club

Dues are based on the calendar year from June 1 to May 31.

### Membership categories:

_____	Student .....	Free
_____	Individual .....	\$10
_____	Family .....	\$15
_____	Life .....	\$200
_____	Family Life .....	\$250

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Please return to:

Jim Triplett, 1783 Smith Rd., Charleston, WV 25314

Phone: 304-539-3554 • Email: jtrippy@gmail.com

[www.brooksbirdclub.org/handlan-charleston-chapter](http://www.brooksbirdclub.org/handlan-charleston-chapter)

Note: The Handlan Chapter is one of several affiliates  
of the Brooks Bird Club, a West Virginia state-wide club founded  
in 1932 and named in honor of naturalist A.B. Brooks.

Membership in the Brooks Club includes subscriptions to  
"The Redstart" and "Mailbag," as well as forays and other outings.

Annual membership is \$20 for students, \$35 for individuals,  
\$40 for families, and \$550 for lifetime.

Contact info: P.O. Box 4077, Wheeling, WV 26003, [Brooksbirdclub.org](http://Brooksbirdclub.org)



2023



Chestnut-sided  
Warbler  
— Anne Wills

## Birders wanted!

The Handlan Chapter, Brooks Bird Club is always  
looking for new birders. Are you new to birding?

Do you enjoy the outdoors and nature?  
Have you been watching and enjoying birds  
for years? Come join us, we cater  
to all nature enthusiasts!

### Club meetings

Handlan Chapter meetings are normally held  
at the South Charleston Library at 312 4th Ave.,  
South Charleston, W.Va., on the second Monday  
of the month (except June through August)  
at 6:30 p.m. and often feature a guest speaker.

You don't have to be a member to attend.  
We welcome you to attend our meetings and  
outings to share our passion for avian wildlife.



Rose-breasted  
Grosbeak  
— Jim Triplett

# Handlan Chapter Brooks Bird Club



Great Blue Heron

— Teresa Watkins

# A brief history of our organization

The Handlan Chapter of the Brooks Bird Club was chartered by John and Pollye Handlan in 1944. The pair soon made Charleston, W.Va., a hub for birders hoping to spot the elusive Swainson's Warbler. John Handlan's column in The Charleston Gazette stimulated local interest in bird study in the 1950s. The Handlan Chapter held its first Christmas Count in 1944, and in 2024, Handlan Chapter will celebrate 80 years of participation in the citizen-science count. Since 1947, a yearly Century Count provides long-term bird observations and fun for experienced and novice birders alike.<sup>1</sup>

1. Smith, J. Lawrence, "Birds of the Kanawha Valley," Handlan Chapter, Brooks Bird Club Inc., Charleston, W.Va., 2nd ed. 1996.



Hanging Rock Observatory, located on Peter's Mountain in Monroe County, is equipped with a Motus (wildlife tracking system) antenna in 2022 that counts radio-tagged birds. More info at [www.motus.org](http://www.motus.org).

Watching for migrating raptors at the observatory site in 1952, before the fire tower was built.

— Courtesy of Jack Flouer

— Richard Bailey



Common Yellowthroat

— Elizabeth Redpath

## John & Pollye Handlan

This photo of Pollye and John Handlan, circa 1930s, is courtesy of Marguerite and George Flouer, the sister and brother-in-law of Pollye Handlan. Marguerite and George were early members of the Wheeling chapter of the Brooks Bird Club and, along with friends in Monroe County, were responsible for the establishment and maintenance of the early Hanging Rock observatory.



— Courtesy of Jack Flouer

## Cerulean Warbler

"More than one-third of the global Cerulean Warbler population breeds in the forested ridges of West Virginia. Such a high concentration of individuals across a relatively small area is exceptional among North American landbirds, placing the Cerulean Warbler among the state's top conservation priorities."

"Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in W.Va.," Richard S. Bailey & Casey B. Rucker, eds. 2021

— Photo by Wil Hershberger



## Swainson's Warbler

"Swainson's Warbler, reaching its northern breeding limit in West Virginia's Cumberland Mountains, is among the least-observed warblers in North America."

"Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in W.Va.," Richard S. Bailey & Casey B. Rucker, eds. 2021

— Photo by Teresa Watkins

