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The **REDSTART**

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The 2012 Sortie Bird List, Cabwaylingo State Forest Wayne County, West Virginia

Maryanne Kraynanski

The 2012 Sortie was held at Cabwaylingo State Forest, June 10 through June 16. Participants concentrated on West Virginia Breeding Bird Atlas priority blocks in the southeastern part of Wayne County. Sortie participants included Kevin Campbell, Dawn Fox, Thomas Fox, Christopher Gatens, and Maryanne Kraynanski.

The last Sortie held at this site in 2002 included singing male census studies and breeding bird surveys. See *The Redstart*, Vol. 70, No. 3, July 2003. In 2012 all of our efforts went into atlasing and our plant list. The following list of birds was compiled mainly in atlas blocks and the State Forest areas near camp. In 2002 participants found 93 species covering most of Wayne County compared with the 77 species we found in 2012, with fewer participants and the area restricted to camp and atlas priority blocks. Abundance terms used are the standard terms used by the BBC for studies of a short duration such as Sorties and Forays.

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—One or two only seen in the entire study region during the study period.

Mallard—Rare.

Wild Turkey—Uncommon.

Turkey Vulture—Common.

Red-shouldered Hawk—Common.

Broad-winged Hawk—Rare.

Red-tailed Hawk—Rare.

Mourning Dove—Common.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo—Common.

Barred Owl—Rare

Whip-poor-will—Uncommon.

Chimney Swift—Rare.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird—Uncommon.

Belted Kingfisher—Uncommon.

Red-bellied Woodpecker—Common.

Downy Woodpecker—Common.

Hairy Woodpecker—Common.

Northern Flicker—Common.

Pileated Woodpecker—Common.
Eastern Wood-Pewee—Common.
Acadian Flycatcher—Common.
Great Crested Flycatcher—Rare.
Eastern Kingbird—Rare.
White-eyed Vireo—Common.
Yellow-throated Vireo—Uncommon.
Blue-headed Vireo—Rare.
Red-eyed Vireo—Common.
Blue Jay—Common.
American Crow—Very common.
Horned Lark—Uncommon. We found 15 Horned Larks at Breeden’s Creek Road.
Tree Swallow—Uncommon.
Northern Rough-winged Swallow—Uncommon.
Barn Swallow—Common.
Carolina Chickadee—Common.
Tufted Titmouse—Very common.
White-breasted Nuthatch—Common.
Carolina Wren—Very common.
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher—Common.
Eastern Bluebird—Common.
Wood Thrush—Very common.
American Robin—Very common.
Gray Catbird—Common.
Northern Mockingbird—Common.
Brown Thrasher—Very common.
European Starling—Very common.
Cedar Waxwing—Uncommon.
Ovenbird—Very common.
Worm-eating Warbler—Rare.
Louisiana Waterthrush—Common.
Blue-winged Warbler—Common.
Black-and-white Warbler—Common.
Swainson’s Warbler—Rare.
Kentucky Warbler—Common.
Common Yellowthroat—Common.
Hooded Warbler—Common.
American Redstart—Very common.
Cerulean Warbler—Common.
Northern Parula—Common.
Yellow Warbler—Common.

Yellow-throated Warbler—Common.
Prairie Warbler—Rare.
Black-throated Green Warbler—Uncommon.
Yellow-breasted Chat—Common.
Eastern Towhee—Common.
Chipping Sparrow—Common.
Field Sparrow—Uncommon.
Grasshopper Sparrow—Rare.
Song Sparrow—Very Common.
Summer Tanager—Rare.
Scarlet Tanager—Very common.
Northern Cardinal—Very common.
Indigo Bunting—Very common.
Red-winged Blackbird—Uncommon.
Common Grackle—Common.
Brown-headed Cowbird—Uncommon.
Orchard Oriole—Uncommon.
House Finch—Rare.
American Goldfinch—Common.

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Plants of the 2012 Sortie, Cabwaylingo State Forest Wayne County, West Virginia

Kevin Campbell

The last Brooks Bird Club Sortie at Cabwaylingo State Forest in Wayne County, West Virginia, was in 2002 (See *The Redstart*, Vol.70, No. 3, July 2003). The following list includes additional plants, not found in 2002, observed during the 2012 Sortie. The Sortie territory primarily covered Cabwaylingo State Forest and the surrounding southeastern part of Wayne County. The primary purpose of the Sortie was to carry out breeding bird atlas work. We restricted our plant survey to atlas areas. Christopher Gatens and Dawn Fox helped to compile the plant list.

The Sortie area geology is primarily sandstone based. Elevations ranged from 600 feet along the Tug Fork River to 1,500 feet toward Mingo County. Interesting plants found this week included Chain Fern, Roundleaf Catchfly, Goldenseal, Downy Heuchera, Ginseng, Giant Cane, and Whorled Pogonia. The plants are listed phylogenetically according to Gleason and Cronquist (1991) with corrections of nomenclature according to Harmon et al. (2006). Common name usage follows that of Harmon et al. (2006). Holmgren (1998) was useful for identification.

DENNSTAEDTIACEAE

Dennstaedtia punctilobula
Pteridium aquilinum var. *latiusculum*

BRACKENFAMILY

Hay-scented Fern
Bracken

PINACEAE

Picea abies
Pinus rigida

PINEFAMILY

Norway Spruce
Pitch Pine

CUPRESSACEAE

Thuja occidentalis

CYPRESSFAMILY

Arborvitae

ARISTOLOCHIACEAE

Hexastylis virginica

BIRTHWORTFAMILY

Coltsfoot

RANUNCULACEAE

Anemone quinquefolia var. *quinquefolia*
Ranunculus acris

CROWFOOTFAMILY

Wood Anemone
Tall Buttercup

BERBERIDACEAE

Berberis thunbergii

BARBERRYFAMILY

Japanese Barberry

MENISPERMACEAE
Menispermum canadense

URTICACEAE
Boehmeria cylindrica

JUGLANDACEAE
Carya cordiformis

FAGACEAE
Castanea mollissima
Quercus muehlenbergii

CARYOPHYLLACEAE
Stellaria pubera
Silene stellata

POLYGONACEAE
Rumex obtusifolius
Polygonum persicaria

CLUSIACEAE
Hypericum hypericoides ssp. *multicaule*
Hypericum punctatum

VIOLACEAE
Hybanthus concolor
Viola rotundifolia

SALICACEAE
Salix sericea
Salix pendula

BRASSICACEAE
Arabis laevigata
Alliaria petiolata

ERICACEAE
Vaccinium stamineum
Vaccinium pallidum
Gaylussacia baccata

MOONSEEDFAMILY
Canada Moonseed

NETTLEFAMILY
False Nettle

WALNUTFAMILY
Bitternut Hickory

BEECHFAMILY
Chinese Chestnut
Yellow Oak

PINKFAMILY
Great Chickweed
Starry Campion

SMARTWEEDFAMILY
Broadleaf Dock
Lady's Thumb

MANGOSTEENFAMILY
St. Andrew's Cross
Dotted St. John's-Wort

VIOLETFAMILY
Green Violet
Roundleaf Violet

WILLOWFAMILY
Silky Willow
Weeping Willow

MUSTARDFAMILY
Smooth Rockcress
Garlic Mustard

HEATHFAMILY
Deerberry
Upland Low Blueberry
Black Huckleberry

EBENACEAE

Diospyros virginiana

HYDRANGEACEAE

Deutzia scabra

CRASSULACEAE

Sedum acre

SAXIFRAGACEAE

Saxifraga virginianensis

Heuchera villosa

Heuchera longiflora

ROSACEAE

Spiraea japonica

Duchesnea indica

Potentilla simplex

Potentilla recta

Rubus odoratus

Rubus occidentalis

Rubus phoenicolasius

Rubus allegheniensis

Agrimonia gryposepala

Rosa multiflora

Rosa carolina

Prunus persica

Prunus serotina

Pyrus communis

Pyrus malus

MIMOSACEAE

Albizia julibrissin

FABACEAE

Wisteria sp.

Robinia hispida

Trifolium pratense

Trifolium repens

Trifolium aureum

Trifolium campestre

EBONY FAMILY

Persimmon

HYDRANGEA FAMILY

Fuzzy Pride-of-Rochester

ORPINE FAMILY

Mossy Stonecrop

SAXIFRAGE FAMILY

Early Saxifrage

Downy Heuchera

Long-flowered Alumroot

ROSE FAMILY

Japanese Spiraea

Indian Strawberry

Common Cinquefoil

Upright Cinquefoil

Flowering Raspberry

Black Raspberry

Wineberry

Allegheny Blackberry

Tall Agrimony

Multiflora Rose

Pasture Rose

Peach

Wild Black Cherry

Pear

Apple

MIMOSA FAMILY

Mimosa

PEA FAMILY

Wisteria

Rose Acacia

Red Clover

White Clover

Yellow Hop Clover

Low Hop Clover

<i>Melilotus officinalis</i>	Yellow Sweet Clover
<i>Melilotus albus</i>	White Sweet Clover
<i>Lespedeza cuneata</i>	Sericea
<i>Lablab purpureus</i>	Hyacinth Bean
<i>Apios americana</i>	Groundnut
<i>Amphicarpaea bracteata</i>	Hog-Peanut
LYTHRACEA	LOOSESTRIFE FAMILY
<i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	Purple Loosestrife
CORNACEAE	DOGWOOD FAMILY
<i>Cornus alternifolia</i>	Alternate-leaved Dogwood
<i>Cornus amomum</i>	Silky Cornel
CELASTRACEAE	STAFFTREE FAMILY
<i>Euonymus alatus</i>	Burning Bush
VITACEAE	VINE FAMILY
<i>Vitis aestivalis</i>	Summer Grape
<i>Vitis riparia</i>	Riverbank Grape
STAPHYLEACEAE	BLADDERNUT FAMILY
<i>Staphylea trifolia</i>	Bladdernut
ACERACEAE	MAPLE FAMILY
<i>Acer nigrum</i>	Black Maple
BALSAMINACEAE	JEWELWEED FAMILY
<i>Impatiens capensis</i>	Spotted Touch-me-not
APIACEAE	CARROT FAMILY
<i>Lepidium virginicum</i>	Wild Peppergrass
<i>Hydrocotyle americana</i>	American Water Pennywort
<i>Cryptotaenia canadensis</i>	Honewort
<i>Taenidia integerrima</i>	Yellow Pimpernel
<i>Heracleum maximum</i>	Cow-Parsnip
APOCYNACEAE	DOGBANE FAMILY
<i>Vinca minor</i>	Periwinkle
<i>Apocynum cannabinum</i>	Indian Hemp

ASCLEPIADACEAE
Asclepias tuberosa

SOLANACEAE
Solanum carolinense

CONVOLVULACEAE
Calystegia sepium
Ipomoea pandurata

POLEMONIACEAE
Phlox subulata

LAMIACEAE
Teucrium canadense
Pycnanthemum incanum

PLANTAGINACEAE
Plantago major
Plantago lanceolata

BUDDLEJACEAE
Buddleja davidii

SCROPHULARIACEAE
Veronica officinalis
Agalinis tenuifolia

ACANTHACEAE
Justicia americana
Ruellia caroliniensis

BIGNONIACEAE
Paulownia tomentosa
Campsis radicans
Bignonia capreolata

CAMPANULACEAE
Campanulastrum americanum
Triodanis perfoliata

MILKWEEDFAMILY
Butterfly Weed

NIGHTSHADEFAMILY
Horse-Nettle

MORNING-GLORYFAMILY
Hedge Bindweed
Wild Potato Vine

Phlox Family
Mosspink

MINT FAMILY
American Germander
Hoary Mountain-Mint

PLANTAIN FAMILY
Great Plantain
Narrow-Leaf Plantain

BUTTERFLY-BUSHFAMILY
Butterfly-Bush

FIGWORTFAMILY
Common Speedwell
Slender Gerardia

ACANTHUSFAMILY
Water-Willow
Wild-Petunia

BIGNONIAFAMILY
Paulownia
Trumpet-Creeper
Crossvine

BLUEBELLFAMILY
Tall Bellflower
Venus' Looking Glass

RUBIACEAE

Galium circaezans

Galium aparine

CAPRIFOLIACEAE

Lonicera tatarica

Lonicera japonica

DIPSACACEAE

Dipsacus fullonum

ASTERACEAE

Helianthus divaricatus

Rudbeckia laciniata

Verbesina occidentalis

Verbesina alternifolia

Coreopsis major

Polymnia canadensis

Ambrosia artemisiifolia

Ambrosia trifida

Matricaria matricarioides

Artemisia vulgaris

Arnoglossum atriplicifolia

Symphotrichum prenanthoides

Eurybia divaricatus

Erigeron strigosus

Conyza canadensis

Antennaria neglecta

Prenanthes serpentaria

Prenanthes trifoliata

Lactuca biennis

Hieracium venosum

Krigia biflora

Taraxacum officinale

JUNCACEAE

Juncus tenuis

Juncus effusus

CYPERACEAE

Carex plantaginea

MADDER FAMILY

Wild Licorice

Cleavers

HONEYSUCKLE FAMILY

Tartarian Honeysuckle

Japanese Honeysuckle

TEASEL FAMILY

Common Teasel

ASTER FAMILY

Woodland Sunflower

Tall Coneflower

Small Yellow Crownbeard

Wing-Stem

Wood Tickseed

White-flowered Leafcup

Common Ragweed

Giant Ragweed

Pineapple Weed

Mugwort

Pale Indian Plantain

Crooked-Stem Aster

White Wood Aster

Daisy Fleabane

Horseweed

Field Pussytoes

Gall-of-the-Earth

Lion's Foot

Tall Blue Lettuce

Rattlesnake Weed

Cynthia

Common Dandelion

RUSH FAMILY

Yard Rush

Common Rush

SEDGE FAMILY

Plantain-leaved Sedge

Carex torta
Carex lurida

Twisted Sedge
Sallow Sedge

POACEAE

Poa pratensis
Dactylis glomerata
Holcus lanatus
Phalaris arundinacea
Phleum pratensis
Bromus inermis
Bromus kalmii
Elymus hystrix
Dichanthelium clandestinum
Miscanthus sinensis
Microstegium vimineum
Sorghum helepense
Andropogon virginicus

GRASSFAMILY

Kentucky Bluegrass
Orchard Grass
Velvet Grass
Reed Canary Grass
Timothy
Smooth Bromegrass
Canada Bromegrass
Bottle-Brush Grass
Deertongue Grass
Silver Grass
Japanese Stilt Grass
Johnson Grass
Broomsedge

TYPHACEAE

Typha latifolia
Typha angustifolia

CATTAIL FAMILY

Broad-leaved Cattail
Narrow-leaved Cattail

LILIACEAE

Hemerocallis fulva
Allium cernuum
Allium sativum
Maianthemum racemosum

LILY FAMILY

Common Day Lily
Wild Onion
Garlic
False Solomon's Seal

AGAVACEAE

Yucca filamentosa

AGAVEFAMILY

Adam's Needle

SMILACACEAE

Smilax herbacea
Smilax tamnoides
Smilax rotundifolia

CATBRIERFAMILY

Carrion Flower
Hispid Greenbrier
Common Greenbrier

DIOSCOREACEAE

Dioscorea quaternata

YAMFAMILY

Four-leaved Wild Yam

IRIDACEAE

Iris pseudacorus

IRISFAMILY

Yellow Iris

ORCHIDACEAE

Cleistes bifaria

ORCHIDFAMILY

Spreading Pogonia

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17th Report of the West Virginia Bird Records Committee March 2013

The West Virginia Bird Records Committee (WVBRC) held its annual meeting in conjunction with the Brooks Bird Club Mid-winter Meeting at North Bend State Park on March 9, 2013. At the meeting, the committee confirmed prior member votes to accept six records submissions. Five accepted records were placed on the “West Virginia Birds With Less Than Five Records” list, and one record was placed on the “Hypothetical West Virginia Birds” list. After discussion, the committee also decided to restore six species to the Review List. In addition, the committee elected a new committee member to replace an outgoing member as well as new officers for the upcoming term.

Records Accepted:

Black Rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis*) (2012-1). On May 29, Sam Droege discovered a Black Rail near Capon Bridge, in Hampshire County. The bird attracted birders from far and near and remained through at least June 19. This is the second state record for this species, with the only prior record a hypothetical one by M. Dickinson in Bluefield, Mercer County, on April 28, 1955. Wil Hershberger also submitted a record for this bird, including an excellent recording of its call.

Western Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) (2012-2) On September 23, Deborah Hale spotted a Western Kingbird in Harpers Ferry, Jefferson County, and submitted a report to the committee. The bird was seen by others, including Carol Del-Colle, Teri Holland, Joette Borzik, and Bruni Haydl, through October 3. Matthew Orsie took great photographs of the bird. This is the first reviewed state record for this species.

Swainson’s Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*) (2012-3). On September 30, Fred Atwood spotted and photographed a Swainson’s Hawk at Hogueland Road, Grant County. This is the second state record for this bird and the first since 1897, when a specimen was taken by M. M. Collins in White Sulphur Springs, Greenbrier County (Surber, 1889).

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) (2012-4). On December 16, Matthew Orsie saw and photographed a Eurasian Collared-Dove, first found by Tom Masters in Martinsburg, Berkeley County. This sighting is the second state record for this species. On June 24, 2006, Wendell Argabrite and Michael Griffith found a Eurasian Collared-Dove at Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam, Mason County (WVBRC Record#2007-1) (WVBRC, 2008).

Le Conte’s Sparrow (*Ammodramus leconteii*) (2012-5). On January 13, 2013, Michael Griffith submitted a report of a Le Conte’s Sparrow he discovered the day before at Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam, Mason County. David Patick also saw the sparrow on the same day. They first spotted the bird in a small birch tree, and then



©Matt Orsie

Western Kingbird at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. Photo by Matthew Orsie.



Eurasian Collared-Dove, bottom, with Mourning Doves at Martinsburg, West Virginia on December 16, 2012.
Photo by Matthew Orsie.

watched it forage on the ground among cattail stalks. This record is the third for our state.

Mississippi Kite (*Ictina mississippiensis*) (2012-6). On May 13, 2012, Fred Atwood and Phillip Inskeep saw a Mississippi Kite at Hogueland Road, Grant County. Atwood's record was accepted for the West Virginia Hypothetical List, because there was no documentary evidence (photographs or recordings) and because the bird was seen by fewer than three people. There is one other hypothetical record for this bird, submitted by James Phillips, who saw the bird in Princeton, Mercer County, on August 11, 2003 (WVBRC Record #2003-1) (WVBRC, 2004).

Other business:

1. The committee discussed a proposal by Matthew Orsie and Casey Rucker to restore additional birds to the West Virginia Review List. After discussion, the committee determined that the following birds should be restored to the Review List: Eurasian Wigeon, Wood Stork, King Rail, Laughing Gull, Least Tern, and Black-headed Grosbeak.
2. The committee discussed a proposal by Casey Rucker to explore posting online digital versions of records submitted to the committee. The committee approved the proposal, and will investigate posting records online.
3. Nominations were opened for a new committee member to replace outgoing member, Casey Rucker. Joey Herron was elected by the committee. In the event that Joey Herron did not accept the appointment, the committee elected James Phillips as the new member. The committee expressed gratitude to all members who have volunteered their service to the committee.
4. An election was held to select the chair and vice-chair. Robert Tallman as chair and Wil Hershberger as vice-chair were unanimously elected.
5. Secretary Wendell Argabrite requested that the committee urge West Virginia birders to use the submission report forms provided online by the Brooks Bird Club.
6. Recognition was also given to the Brooks Bird Club for their continued support and Web page service.

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Submitted by Casey Rucker, chair, and West Virginia Bird Records Committee members: Matthew Orsie; Robert Tallman; Gary Rankin; Wil Hershberger; William Tolin; David Patick, Cynthia Ellis, alternate; and Wendell Argabrite, secretary.

Field Notes Winter Season

December 1, 2012 – February 28, 2013

Casey Rucker

December and January were warmer and wetter than usual in West Virginia, with record-breaking high temperatures at a number of locations during each month, according to the Northeast Regional Climate Center at Cornell University. In sharp contrast it was an unusually cold and dry February. During January most locations in the state enjoyed temperatures in the 70s, at least briefly, while Gladly recorded the winter's lowest temperature for the state, at -11 degrees.

These notes were gathered from the National Audubon Society sponsored West Virginia Bird Listserv, from Christmas Bird Count (CBC) 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 of the WV Listserv may be viewed by visiting the archives at the following web site: <http://list.audubon.org/archives/wv-bird.html>, and the results of the Christmas Bird Counts may be found at <http://netapp.audubon.org/CBCObservation/CurrentYear/ResultsByCount.aspx>.

On January 12, Michael Griffith and David Patick observed a **Le Conte's Sparrow** at Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam, Mason County, the third record for this species in West Virginia. On December 17, Matthew Orsie reported a **Eurasian Collared-Dove** first discovered by Tom Masters in Martinsburg, Berkeley County. This is the second state record for this species. Overall, West Virginia birders reported 141 species in the state during the winter, with reports from 36 of West Virginia's 55 counties.

Ducks, Swans, Geese—On January 12, Michael Griffith and David Patick saw four **Greater White-fronted Geese** at the Gallipolis Ferry gravel ponds in Mason County, where the birds remained through February 9 (DP, WA, MG). On February 27, John Boback saw a **Greater White-fronted Goose** on the Ohio River in Ohio County. Herb Myers saw his first West Virginia **Snow Goose** along Rt. 20 near the Harrison-Barbour county line on February 22. **Snow Geese** also made appearances in Jefferson County (MO, BD), Mason County (MG, WA), Randolph County (RBo), and Tucker County (EH). On January 24, Michael Griffith and Wendell Argabrite found a **Ross's Goose** at Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam, Mason County, and on February 22, the two found another **Ross's Goose** five miles south of Ravenswood, Jackson County. Jon Benedetti reported a **Ross's Goose** flying over the Ohio River in Pleasants County on January 26. **Cackling Geese** made numerous appearances in West Virginia this winter, with reports from Cabell (WA,GR), Hardy (CBC), Jefferson (MO), Mercer (JP), Monongalia (JBo), Randolph (RBo), and Taylor (JH, LS) Counties. Reports of **Canada Geese** were as usual widespread throughout the

state. On February 9, David Patick, Wendell Argabrite, and Michael Griffith saw four **Mute Swans** at McClintic WMA in Mason County, and Gary Rankin saw the birds at the same location the next day. **Tundra Swans** appeared in reports from Barbour County (JBo), Hardy County (DC), Jefferson County (WS, MO), Kanawha County (JWa, DB, HG), Monongalia County (TB), Ohio County (CBC), Preston County (GF, LeJ), Taylor County (TB), and Wood County (CBC). LeJay Graffious saw two vee formations of **Tundra Swans** fly close above his home in Old Hemlock, Preston County, on December 28.

It was a good winter for ducks, with many reports statewide of **Wood Ducks, Gadwalls, American Wigeons, American Black Ducks, Mallards, Northern Shovelers, Northern Pintails, Green-winged Teal, Canvasbacks, Redheads, Ring-necked Ducks, Lesser Scaup, Buffleheads, Common Goldeneyes, Hooded, Common, and Red-breasted Mergansers, and Ruddy Ducks**. There were reports of **Blue-winged Teal** in Kanawha (CBC), Randolph (SK), and Tucker (KDz) Counties and **Greater Scaup** in Cabell (GR), Mason (DP, MG, WA, GR), Monongalia (DCo), Randolph (CBC), and Wetzel (TB) Counties. On January 15, David Daniels saw a pair of **Surf Scoters** on the Tygart River near Arden in Barbour County, and on January 27 Joette Borzik saw a **Surf Scoter** on the Shenandoah River at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, Jefferson County. John Boback saw a **White-winged Scoter** at the power plant at Seneca Center, Monongalia County, on February 21; Hillar Klandorf and Derek Courtney saw the bird at that location on the following day. On December 9, John Boback saw 11 **Long-tailed Ducks** at Cheat Lake, Monongalia County, where Terry Bronson saw a single **Long-tailed Duck** on January 2. On December 27, James Triplett reported that he and Chuck Wirts found six **Common Mergansers** at Kanawha Falls, Fayette County, for his first time at that location in 20 years.

Pheasants, Grouse, Turkeys—On January 23, Carol Del-Colle was surprised by a hen **Ring-necked Pheasant** in her yard in Summit Point, Jefferson County. There were reports of **Ruffed Grouse** and **Wild Turkeys** from many counties throughout the state, including many on the tallies of Christmas Bird Counts.

Loons, Grebes—It was a good winter for **Common Loons** in our state, with numerous reports of the bird from Fayette (DP), Hardy (TB), Jefferson (JF, SS), Kanawha (CBC), Monongalia (JBo, TB), Pleasants (JB, TB, WA), Summers (JJP, DB), Taylor (JH, TB), and Wood (CBC) Counties. It was a good winter for grebes, with plentiful reports of **Pied-billed** and **Horned Grebes** throughout the state. The **Red-necked Grebe** found in November by Terry Bronson off the boat launch at Pleasant Creek WMA in Taylor County was found again by Joseph Hildreth on December 1. On January 24, Jon Benedetti and the Mountwood Bird Club saw a **Red-necked Grebe** at Middle Island, Pleasants County, where the bird remained at least through the 27th of the month (TB, JB).

Cormorants, Herons, Egrets—Reports of **Double-crested Cormorants** came from Mason County (ReT, DBe, DP, WA, MG), Monongalia County (TB, CBC),

Pleasants County (RL, JB), Putnam County (GR, WA, MG), and Summers County (JJP). **Great Blue Herons** appeared in lower elevations throughout the state.

Vultures—Reports of **Black Vultures** came from 10 counties, and **Turkey Vultures** were mentioned in reports from 19 counties.

Hawks, Eagles—For the second winter in a row, **Bald Eagles** were reported from 25 counties this winter. On January 12, in their eighth annual Winter Eagle Survey, as reported by James Phillips, 98 volunteers found 27 **Bald Eagles** and five **Golden Eagles** at 21 sites along the New, Greenbrier, and Bluestone Rivers; on Indian Creek; and at Moncove Lake State Park. **Northern Harriers, Sharp-shinned Hawks, and Cooper's Hawks** appeared in reports from birders throughout the state. Rodney Bartgis saw a **Northern Goshawk** at Bear Rocks on Dolly Sods, Grant County, on December 3. It was the only reported sighting of this species in West Virginia this winter. Birders in most parts of the state reported **Red-shouldered Hawks** and **Red-tailed Hawks**. **Rough-legged Hawks** appeared in five counties: Grant (FA), Hampshire (CBC), Hardy (CBC, MO, DM, WA, DC), Randolph (RB, RBo), and Tucker (CBC, HMy, DB, TB, FA, DM). In addition to those found by the Winter Eagle Survey, **Golden Eagles** appeared in five counties: Grant (DM, FA), Greenbrier (CBC), Hardy (CBC), Pendleton (CBC, TB), and Tucker (CBC, FA). Diane Holsinger saw two Northern Harriers, two Rough-legged Hawks and numerous Red-tailed Hawks on Webb Road near Moorefield, Hardy County, on January 6.

Rails, Coots—A **Virginia Rail** was observed during the Charles Town CBC in Jefferson County on December 15. **American Coots** appeared in 11 counties this winter.

Cranes—On January 12, Mark Johnson discovered a lone **Sandhill Crane** in Moorefield, Hardy County, and the bird remained at least through February 24 (MO, KKi, HMy, DH, JBz, TB, FA, WA, MG, GR).

Plovers—There were reports of **Killdeer** from 14 counties.

Sandpipers—Just as during last winter, birders in eight counties reported **Wilson's Snipes**, and **American Woodcocks** appeared in six counties. On February 24, Wil Hershberger saw **American Woodcocks** displaying at two locations in Berkeley County.

Gulls, Terns—Small numbers of **Bonaparte's Gulls** brightened reports from Hardy County (HMy, DH), Kanawha County (HG), Mason County (GR), Randolph County (RBo), Taylor County (TB), Wayne County (WA), Wetzel County (WJ), and Wood County (CBC). Birders reported **Ring-billed Gulls** in many West Virginia counties. Birders in eight counties reported **Herring Gulls**, all in small numbers: Cabell (BBo), Jefferson (MO, DHa), Mason (GR, WA, MG), Monongalia (DCo), Pleasants (RL), Raleigh (CBC), Wetzel (WJ, TB), and Wood (CBC, JB).

Pigeons, Doves—**Rock Pigeons** and **Mourning Doves** continue to reside throughout the state, as reported primarily in Christmas Bird Counts. The **Eurasian Collared-Dove**, reported by Matthew Orsie on December 17, is discussed at the beginning of

these notes.

Owls—Between January 1 and 26, reports of one to four **Barn Owls** came from Moorefield, Hardy County (KKi, DH, JW, CBC, MO, WA, GR, MG). Eleven counties each saw reports of **Eastern Screech-Owls** and **Barred Owls**. Five counties' CBCs reported **Great Horned Owls** (Jefferson, Pendleton, Randolph, Tucker, and Wood). Single **Long-eared Owls** appeared in Monongalia County during the CBC on December 15, and in Dry Fork, Tucker County, to the ears of the author of these notes, on January 12. **Short-eared Owls** near Old Fields, Hardy County, continued to reward birdwatchers this season (KKi, DH, JW, CBC, MO, TB, FA, DM, WA, GR, MG).

Kingfishers—Many West Virginia birders reported **Belted Kingfishers** in 21 counties.

Woodpeckers—**Red-headed Woodpeckers** appeared in reports from Berkeley County (DM, DSy), Greenbrier County (CBC), Hampshire County (CBC), Hardy County (DC, CBC, FA, MO), Kanawha County (CBC), Monongalia County (CBC), and Pendleton County (CBC). **Red-bellied Woodpeckers**, **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers**, **Downy** and **Hairy Woodpeckers**, **Northern Flickers**, and **Pileated Woodpeckers** were all subjects of widespread reports in West Virginia over the winter. Gary Felton heard a **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** calling repeatedly in his yard in Kingwood, Preston County, on February 4.

Falcons—Many birders reported **American Kestrels** in most parts of the state. On February 27, Jeff Del Col saw three **American Kestrels** calling and chasing each other on the Alderson-Broadus College campus in Phillipi, Barbour County. Christmas Bird Counts in Berkeley and Jefferson Counties reported **Merlins** on January 5 and December 15, respectively. On January 3, Terry Bronson spotted a **Merlin** in Morgantown, Monongalia County, and the bird was observed there at least through February 11 (JBo, JH, DCo, TB). James Waggy reported a pair of **Merlins** at Spring Hill Cemetery, Charleston, in Kanawha County, on January 15 and February 11. Michael Griffith, Wendell Argabrite, and Gary Rankin were surprised by a **Merlin** on Crab Creek Road, Mason County, on January 19. Reports of **Peregrine Falcons** came from Jefferson County (DM, DHa, JF, JBz, MO), Mason County (DP, MG, WA, GR), Monongalia County (CBC), Ohio County (JBo), and Wood County (CBC, JB).

Flycatchers—Reports of **Eastern Phoebe** came from 12 counties this winter: Berkeley (CBC), Cabell (ReT), Fayette (DP), Grant (FA), Greenbrier (CBC), Hampshire (CBC), Hardy (CBC, DC), Jefferson (CD, DHa), Monongalia (TB), Pendleton (CBC), Preston (TB), and Raleigh (CBC).

Shrikes—Jon Little found a **Loggerhead Shrike** on North Fork Road near the now-disturbed Candlewood Road location in Jefferson County on January 12, where Joette Borzik found the bird three days later. Frederick Atwood, Herb Myers and Ken Dzaack all reported a **Loggerhead Shrike** at the familiar location on Hogueland Lane, Grant County, during the latter half of February.

Vireos—The Morgantown Christmas Bird Count found a very late **White-eyed**

Vireo in Monongalia County on December 15.

Crows, Jays, Ravens—**Blue Jays, American Crows, and Common Ravens** appeared in their usual haunts throughout the state. **Fish Crows** prompted reports in Berkeley (CBC) and Jefferson (MO, DHa) Counties.

Larks—Reports of **Horned Larks** came from Berkeley County (CBC), Grant County (FA), Jefferson County (JL, MO), Mason County (DP, WA, MG, GR), Monongalia County (DD), Ohio County (CBC), Preston County (GF), and Wetzel County (WJ).

Swallows—On February 17, James and Judy Phillips found nine **Tree Swallows** along the New River between Hinton and Sandstone Falls, Summers and Raleigh Counties. On February 23, Carol Del-Colle saw her first **Tree Swallows** of the year near Rissler Road, Jefferson County, and Rennie Talbert and Randy Urian saw **Tree Swallows** at Greenbottom WMA, Cabell County. Matthew Orsie saw a **Tree Swallow** near Moulton Park in Jefferson County, on February 26. The Lewisburg CBC in Greenbrier County found a lingering **Barn Swallow** on December 30.

Paridae—Birders reported both **Carolina** and **Black-capped Chickadees** in their bifurcated territories throughout West Virginia. **Tufted Titmice** occupied their usual spots in reports from throughout the state.

Nuthatches—**Red-breasted Nuthatches** and **White-breasted Nuthatches** were well-reported throughout the state.

Creepers—Birders in 19 counties reported **Brown Creeper** for the second year in a row of good reports for this species. On January 16, Bruni Haydl reported the best winter season ever for **Brown Creepers** in her yard in Charles Town, Jefferson County.

Wrens—**Winter** and **Carolina Wrens** appeared in good numbers in reports from all over the state.

Kinglets—This winter **Golden-crowned Kinglets** were familiar sights in most parts of the state. **Ruby-crowned Kinglets** were also well-represented, with reports from Berkeley (CBC), Greenbrier (CBC), Jefferson (CBC), Kanawha (HG), Pendleton (CBC), Summers (JP), and Taylor (JH) Counties.

Thrushes—**Eastern Bluebirds, Hermit Thrushes, and American Robins** appeared in good numbers in our state this winter, mostly in lower elevations. On February 10, Hullet Good watched an **Eastern Bluebird** couple inspecting a bird box in his yard in Milliken, Kanawha County.

Mockingbirds, Thrashers—On December 18, the Pendleton County Christmas Bird Count once again located a **Gray Catbird**, and the Hardy County Christmas Bird Count found three **Gray Catbirds** on January 2. West Virginians reported many **Northern Mockingbirds** over the winter season. **Brown Thrashers** appeared in Christmas Bird Counts in Berkeley, Greenbrier, Hampshire, and Tucker Counties. Cabell County hosted **Brown Thrashers** as well, with reports in December and January by Dee and Tom Igou, and Rennie Talbert, respectively.

Starlings—European Starlings continued their widespread occupation of habitats throughout our state.

Pipits—American Pipits made appearances in eight counties: Berkeley (CBC), Greenbrier (CBC), Hardy (DC), Jefferson (JL, DHa, DM, JBz,), Mason (DP, MG, WA), Monongalia (JBo, DD), Randolph (RBo), and Wetzel (WJ, JB).

Waxwings—Cedar Waxwings were somewhat scarce in West Virginia this winter, with reports only from Berkeley (CBC), Grant (FA), Greenbrier (CBC), Hampshire (CBC), Hardy (CBC), Jefferson (BH, DHa, CBC, JBz, LW), Monongalia (TB, CBC), Ohio (CBC), and Randolph (CBC) Counties.

Longspurs, Buntings—The Charles Town Christmas Bird Count in Jefferson County found a **Lapland Longspur** on December 15. Frederick Atwood found a **Lapland Longspur** on Hogueland Lane in Grant County on February 18, and Herb Myers and Matthew Orsie found the bird again on February 19 and 23, respectively.

Warblers—Rennie Talbert and Deborah Beutler both reported a **Palm Warbler** at Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam, Mason County, on January 13. The Pendleton County Christmas Bird Count found its first **Pine Warbler** on December 18. James Phillips saw the first **Pine Warbler** reported in West Virginia in 2013, at his feeders in Pipestem, Summers County on February 21. Birders in lower elevations saw Myrtle-race **Yellow-rumped Warblers** at locations throughout the state.

Towhees, Sparrows, Juncos—Eastern Towhees made their usual appearances in many parts of the state. In addition, **American Tree, Chipping, Field, Fox, Song, Swamp, White-throated, and White-crowned Sparrows**, as well as **Dark-eyed Juncos**, appeared widely. **Savannah Sparrows** appeared in reports from Berkeley (CBC, JBz), Grant (FA), Hardy (CBC, DH), Jefferson (JBz, MO, WS, DHa), and Mason (DP, MG, ReT, DBe, WA, GR) Counties. The **Le Conte's Sparrow** found by Michael Griffith and David Patick at Robert C. Byrd Locks and Dam, Mason County, is discussed at the beginning of these notes. On December 2, Joette Borzik found a **Lincoln's Sparrow** at Harpers Ferry National Park, Jefferson County. Cynthia Ellis reported on January 7 that from one to five **White-crowned Sparrows** had been visiting her feeders since mid-October.

Cardinals and Grosbeaks—Birders throughout the state reported **Northern Cardinals** in good numbers. The Morgantown Christmas Bird Count recorded a late **Indigo Bunting** on December 15.

Blackbirds—Many reports of **Red-winged Blackbirds, Eastern Meadowlarks, Rusty Blackbirds, Common Grackles, and Brown-headed Cowbirds** came from areas all over the state. On February 16, Deborah Hale reported that a **Common Grackle** had reappeared at her feeder in Harpers Ferry, Jefferson County, on exactly the same day as the year before.

Finches and Allies—This winter saw reports of many northerly finches in a number of locations in West Virginia. Feeders in most parts of the state saw the usual visits from **Purple Finches, House Finches, Pine Siskins, and American Gold-**

finches, although **Pine Siskin** reports were more sporadic than usual. **Red Crossbills** made appearances in Berkeley (TM, MO, CBC) and Summers (JP) Counties, and **White-winged Crossbills** prompted reports from Hardy (DC), Kanawha (JBT), Marion (DCo, TB, HMy, SO, JH, JoH), Ohio (CBC), Randolph (RB), Tucker (CBC), Wayne (WA, MG), and Wood (JB, DJE) Counties. Reports of **Common Redpolls** came from Barbour (TB), Jefferson (MO), Marshall (TB), Randolph (HMy, MO, WA, MG, FA), Summers (JP), Tucker (CBC, HMy, TB, CR, KDz), and Wetzel (WJ) Counties. Birders reported **Evening Grosbeaks** in Hardy (KKi), Preston (GF), Randolph (RB), Summers (MK), Tucker (CR, CBC, JBz, HMy, TB, FA, DM, WA, MG, GR, KDz), and Wetzel (WJ) Counties. On January 13, Wilma Jarrell observed a **Purple Finch**, a **Common Redpoll**, and **American Goldfinches** at her feeders in Wileyville, Wetzel County.

Weaver Finches—The **House Sparrow** continues throughout the state, primarily in urban settings.

Contributors to the Winter Field Notes: Wendell Argabrite (WA), Frederick Atwood (FA), Rodney Bartgis (RB), Jon Benedetti (JB), Deborah Beutler (DBe), John Boback (JBo), Randy Bodkins (RBo), Ben Borda (BBo), Joette Borzik (JBz), Terry Bronson (TB), Doren Burrell (DB), David Carr (DC), Derek Courtney (DCo), David Daniels (DD), Robert Dean (BD), Carol Del-Colle (CD), Ken Dzaack (KDz), Richard and Jeannette Esker (DJE), James Farley (JF), Gary Felton (GF), Hullet Good (HG), LeJay Graffious (LeJ), Michael Griffith (MG), Deborah Hale (DHa), Bruni Haydl (BH), Joey Herron (JoH), Joseph Hildreth (JH), Elizabeth Hole (EH), Diane Holsinger (DH), Wilma Jarrell (WJ), Marjorie Keatley (MK), Stephen Kimbrell (SK), Kathy King (KKi), Robert Lane (RL), Jon and B. J. Little (JBL), Tom Masters (TM), Herb Myers (HMy), David Myles (DM), Susan Olcott (SO), Matthew Orsie (MO), David Patick (DP), James Phillips (JP), James and Judy Phillips (JJP), Gary Rankin (GR), Casey Rucker (CR), Sandy Sagalkin (SS), Larry Schwab (LS), N. Wade Snyder (WS), Diane Sylvester (DSy), Rennie Talbert (ReT), James Triplett (JBT), James Waggy (JWa), Jane Whitaker (JW), and Lynn Wiseman (LW).

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Erratum

On page 76 of the April 2013 issue of *The Redstart* (Vol. 80, No. 2) in the article “2012 Floyd Bartley Memorial Award Announced,” the table lists the year that Joey Herron most recently won the Award as 2012. Herron was awarded the Floyd Bartley Award in 2011, not 2012.

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2013 Calendar of Events The Brooks Bird Club, Inc.

Date	Activity	Place
January	BBC Membership Month	Wheeling, WV
February	Write an article for the <i>Mail Bag</i> or <i>The Redstart</i>	mail to editors
February 7-9	Trip to Killdeer Plains (Contact Gene Hilton 304-428-8641)	
March 8-10	Mid-Winter Meeting (Contact Dick Esker)	North Bend S.P.
March 16	Waterfowl Field Trip (day trip) (Contact Carl Slater)	Seneca Lake, OH
April 21	3 Rivers Bird Club (day trip) (Contact Ryan Tomazin)	Raccoon Creek State Park, PA
May 4	International Migratory Bird Day, N. American Migration Count	local chapters
May 9-12	Wildflower Pilgrimage	Blackwater Falls State Park, WV
May 14-29	Spain Trip	
June 1-8	Foray - Pocahontas County 4-H Camp	Thornwood, WV
June 10-16	Sortie - to be announced. (Contact Dawn Fox)	Pendleton Co., WV
July	TBA Bonus Bird Weekend (Contact Carl Slater)	
August 10-Oct. 5	Bird Banding	Dolly Sods, WV
October 12	Board of Trustees Meeting (Contact Carl Slater)	Wheeling, WV
October 18-20	BBC Reunion	Canaan Valley State Park
November 6-10	Eastern Shore (Contact Carl Slater)	
Dec. 14-Jan. 5, '14	Christmas Bird Counts (Send reports to Jane Whitaker)	local groups

BBC FORAYS (dates and places tentative)

2013	Pocahontas County 4-H Camp	Thornwood, WV
2014	Camp Pioneer, Randolph County	Beverly, WV
2015	Camp Galilee, Preston County	Terra Alta, 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

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The dates for the 2013 BBC program may be changed if necessary. Changes will be announced on the Web page or in *The Mail Bag*.

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