

Feathers

*Bi-monthly publication of the
Hudson-Mohawk
Bird Club, Inc.*

Century Run 2023 Larry Alden, Coordinator

The HMBC's 78th running of the Guy Bartlett Century Run took place on May 20, 2023. Because the HMBC's Century Run is traditionally held on the third Saturday of May, this year's count was one day short of the latest possible date.

The Albany International Airport reported a low of 55° at 5:29 a.m. and a high of 70° at 11:29 a.m., giving a pleasant daily average temperature of 62.5°, which is a little above normal for the date. The average wind speed at the airport was 9.4 miles per hour from the south. Rain started in the area in mid-afternoon and amounted to 0.31" at the airport. Rivers and streams were at normal levels and trees were almost fully leafed out.

Eight groups, comprised of 19 individuals, were in the field between 2:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m. Areas covered were in Albany, Fulton, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, and Schoharie counties, with five groups birding only within a single county. Three teams covered Albany County and one covered Saratoga. While Nathan Wilson also birded solely within Albany County, he further restricted himself to birding within the limits of the City of Albany! The remaining three teams birded in two or more counties.

Century Runners identified a total of 158 species, three higher than the 20-year average and four lower than the 10-year average. The highest total of 188 species was in 1986. Six of the eight teams reported 100 or more species. Two of the teams covering only Albany County tied for the most species of any group, with 122 (77% of the species found this year), four species below the average of the single party high counts for the previous ten years (126.3), and well below the record 156 species found by a single party in 1986.

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Seeing my first southbound shorebirds of the year a few days ago served as a reminder that summer is flying by quicker than I thought. Later this month, the club will host its usual end-of-summer series of evening Common Nighthawk counts at the Albany Pine Bush, and after that, we'll have a full schedule of fall migration birding beginning in September, along with resuming our monthly programs after Labor Day.

The Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club board has been busy behind the scenes over these quieter summer months, and we're especially enthusiastic about unveiling an exciting new update of our club logo before the end of the year. We're very excited to be a partner with the Albany Pine Bush Preserve in their Barrens Birding Blitz birding competition on September 16th, as well as looking forward to the upcoming 76th annual meeting of the New York State Ornithological Association hosted by Saw Mill River River Audubon on September 22nd through the 24th.

Good birding!

Tristan Lowery
President, Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club
president@hmbc.net

As we go to press, we are shocked and deeply saddened to learn of the sudden loss of Tom Johnson of Field Guides. Tom suffered a heart attack at his home in Cape May, NJ, just weeks before he was to be married. Many of us knew him from tours he led, rarities he chased, and his incredible contributions to Ornithology far beyond his young age. His favorite place to bird was Alaska, and several of us were privileged to learn from him on his tour to Nome in the summer of 2021. -Scott Stoner

You, too, can contribute to Feathers!

- Do you have a birding story or photos that might be of interest to other birders?
- Have you led a field trip for HMBC?
- Have you written short prose or poetry on the subject of birds? We're starting a Writers' Page!
- Did you take a birding vacation?
- Do you have a favorite birding spot?

SHARE them with HMBC members by submitting them to:

HMBC Contact Information

BIRDLINE of EASTERN NEW YORK:

E-mail: contact@hmbc.net

HMBC website: <http://hmbc.net>

Please send all **electronic submissions for Feathers** via e-mail to:
Denise Hackert-Stoner at denisehstoner@aol.com.

Send all paper submissions to:

Denise Hackert-Stoner

6 Knob Hill Road.

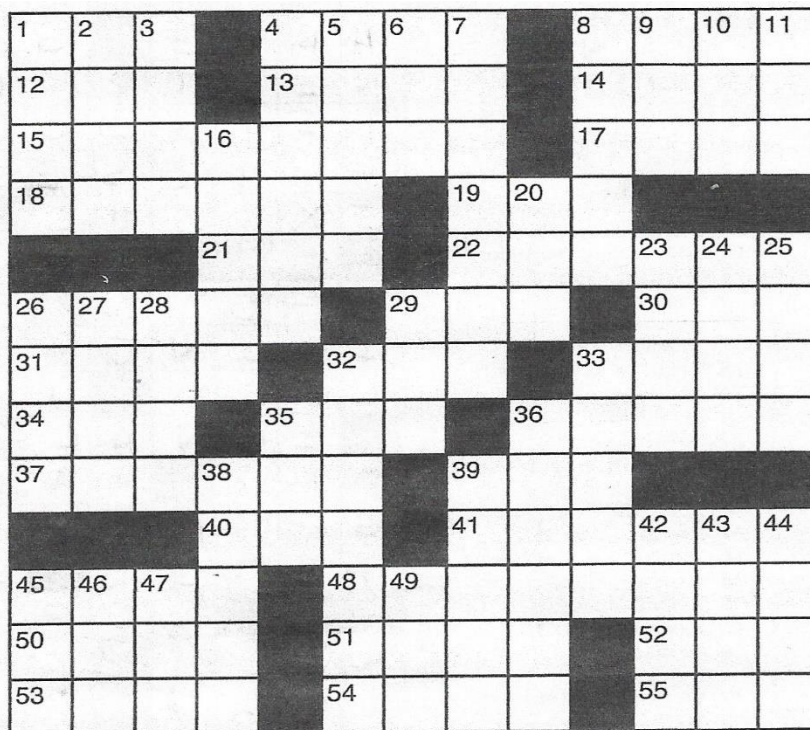
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NY

12211

CROSSWORD BY LARRY ALDEN

(SOLUTION ON PAGE 98)



Across

- 1 Frat party staple
 4 Facts and figures
 8 Big store event
 12 Not well
 13 Website addresses (abbr.)
 14 Not us
 15 **American** bird
 17 Spaghetti sauce brand
 18 Enters 4 Across
 19 Notable time period
 21 French word before a maiden name
 22 **American** bird
 26 Inquired
 29 Auction action
 30 Soccer cheer
 31 Fast internet deliverer
 32 Big boy
 33 Well-known Parks?
 34 Crosswordese sea eagle
 35 Road goo
 36 A Snowy Plover is _____ than a Semipalmated Plover
 37 **American** bird

- 39 Visibly damage
 40 A 4.0 is a great one (abbr.)
 41 Of help
 45 Cervine creatures
 48 **American** birds
 50 Earnhardt (father or son)
 51 Video's Latin translation
 52 Messenger molecule (abbr.)
 53 Titmouse feature
 54 The first Christmas carol?
 55 King Cole or Turner

Down

- 1 New Zealand ratite
 2 Musk
 3 Sloppy stuff
 4 Like forced air heating systems
 5 Got up
 6 Nurse's specialty (abbr.)
 7 Invited across the threshold
 8 Binocular attachment
 9 "I caught you!"
 10 Lamb cut
 11 Aussie ratite
 16 Sand features of the Pine Bush

- 20 "Get ___ of the bums!"
 23 Lap location
 24 "What ___ is new"
 25 Behind, in a way
 26 Not that many
 27 Apple voice
 28 King _____
 29 Drinking establishment
 32 One of some 54 tropical American bird species (but not an **American** bird by the rules for this puzzle's theme)
 33 Less cooked
 35 Spinning toy
 36 Muted Spring color
 38 Reddish bird?
 39 *Le Louvre, par exemple*
 42 Spore producer
 43 Radius neighbor
 44 Attorney-to-be's hurdle (abbr.)
 45 "Silent Spring" pesticide
 46 French water
 47 Sprite, pixie
 49 ___ *es bueno* (that's good)

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

Sunday, August 13, 2023 6:00PM

Deadline for Reservations for August 20 Jamaica Bay Trip

Coordinators: Gregg Recer/Cathy Graichen, gregg.recer@gmail.com 518-330-4552 (GR)

Saturday, August 19 (rain date: Sunday, August 20), JAMAICA BAY NWR, NY (All Day)

Location: Queens, NY

Coordinators: Gregg Recer/Cathy Graichen, gregg.recer@gmail.com 518-330-4552 (GR)

Jamaica Bay is a wonderful place to view south-migrating shorebirds. It is located in Queens, New York City, just west of JFK Airport. We'll check out both the East and West Ponds focusing on shorebirds, but also looking for herons, egrets, ibis and early landbird migrants. The exact itinerary will depend on the local timing of tides and reports of any usual or vagrant species present. Bring lunch, water, snacks, hat, sunscreen, tick repellent. Waterproof boots or shoes you don't mind getting muddy can be useful along the pond edges. Space will be limited and initially reserved for HMBC members. An early departure from the Capital District is expected.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. Contact Gregg Recer by Sunday, August 13 for meeting place and time details.

August 23, 24, 28, and 29 6PM

Location: Nighthawk Count: Pine Bush Discovery Center, 195 New Karner Road, Albany

Coordinators: Scott Stoner and Denise Hackert-Stoner scottjstoner@aol.com

Note: We've added a 4th night and spread this over two weeks this year to expand coverage during the peak migration season.

The Common Nighthawk is perhaps best referred to as the "Uncommon Nighthawk" as this dusk-and dawn-feeding aerial insectivore sadly is in decline. Although it breeds throughout much of North America, it is no longer observed during the summer in many urban and suburban areas. A long- distance migrant, Common Nighthawks travel in large flocks, on one of the longest migration routes of any North American bird. Most travel over land through Mexico and Central America to reach their wintering grounds in southern South America. Although numbers on individual nights are unpredictable, the bulk of southbound migration occurs from mid-August until early September. Once again, HMBC will be viewing and counting any nighthawks that pass overhead.

Meet at the parking lot at the Albany Pine Bush Discovery Center, located at 195 New Karner Rd. (Rt. 155) in Albany. Bring a chair and binoculars. We will begin each night at 6:00 p.m. and count until at least 7:30 PM. Joint event with Albany Pine Bush Preserve.

Sunday, August 27, 2023 8:30AM

Location: Peebles Island State Park/Cohoes Flats

Coordinator: John Hershey 518-371-3114 hersheyj@nycap.rr.com

The wooded areas of Peebles Island are good for seeing a variety of songbirds. The river area and rocky flats around the island are usually good for Peregrine Falcon, Osprey, Bald Eagle as well as shore birds, herons, egrets, Chimney Swifts and ducks. From the meeting place, we will check out the Cohoes Flats and then consolidate vehicles before proceeding to Peebles Island since there is a fee for each car entering.

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS (CONTINUED)

Meet at the NY State Dam Recreation area behind the U-Haul Rental in Cohoes at 8:30 a.m. From 787 going north, turn right onto Route 470 (Ontario Street) in Cohoes. Then turn left onto Clark Ave. and proceed to the end.

Saturday, September 2, 2023 7:30AM

Location: Albany Rural Cemetery

Coordinator: Tristan Lowery 646-323-8914 tristanlowery@gmail.com

Albany Rural Cemetery in the Town of Colonie is one of the most historic burial grounds in the United States – and it's also a great place for birding in a beautifully-landscaped, park-like setting.

We'll visit Albany Rural Cemetery at the very onset of the peak weeks for fall songbird migration, so a variety of southbound warblers, vireos, kinglets, and flycatchers may be possible, in addition to many year-round species. Depending on where the birding takes us along the cemetery's meandering trails, we may also find ourselves by the graves of such national and local luminaries as 21st President of the United States Chester A. Arthur, Erastus Corning and Erastus Corning 2nd, Daniel Manning, Erastus Dow Palmer, Stephen Van Rensselaer, and Thurlow Weed.

Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the cemetery chapel and mausoleum. From Broadway (NY-32) heading north through Menands, turn left onto Cemetery Avenue at the prominent Albany Rural Cemetery gate. Continue west on Cemetery Avenue, keeping right at the St. Agnes Cemetery gate and continue past the Albany Rural Cemetery office to the chapel. There is adequate visitor parking at the chapel.

Saturday, September 9, 2023 8:00AM

Location: Hand Hollow Conservation Area

Coordinator: Coordinator: Marian Sole 203-710-9096 mrnssole7@gmail.com

Columbia Land Conservancy owns and manages 433 acres at Hand Hollow Conservation Area for the protection of wildlife and open space. The property has an active beaver pond and two lakes, and trails that pass by ponds, creeks, wet meadows and a hemlock ravine. We will be looking for migrant songbirds as well as lingering residents.

Meet 8:00 am at the parking lot. From the intersection of Route 22 and 20 in New Lebanon, take US 20 4.5 miles to CR 9. Take CR 9 south 1.2 miles and turn west (right) into a parking lot at the farmhouse just past the pond.

Sunday, September 10, 2023 8:00AM

Location: Albany Pine Bush Preserve (Fall Migrants)

Coordinators: Tom and Colleen Williams twill0526@gmail.com

Come explore the Karner Barrens East unit of Albany Pine Bush Preserve, via the "yellow" perimeter trail, and "blue" dune overlook trail. We will be looking for warblers, vireos, and flycatchers. The dune overlook trail has a moderate climb and descent. This is approximately a three-mile loop. Take proper precautions to avoid ticks.

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Albany Pine Bush Discovery Center parking lot, located at 195 New Karner Rd. (Rt. 155) in Albany.

Saturday, September 6, 2023 9:30AM – 3:00PM

Location: Hawk Watching and Songbirds at Thacher State Park

Coordinators: Tom and Colleen Williams twill0526@gmail.com

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS (CONTINUED)

We will be looking for migrating Broad-winged Hawks that use the warming air thermals along the face of the escarpment to continue their migration south. Other raptors may be seen using the thermals for similar reasons. Osprey, Bald Eagles, Red-tailed Hawks, Sharp-shinned and Coopers Hawks are among those that can be seen soaring over the Helderbergs. Ruby-throated Hummingbirds also migrate over the escarpment very low and fast, and sparrows and warblers can also be found along the trails around the overlook.

Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the upper level of the overlook at John Boyd Thacher Park in Voorheesville.

Sunday, September 17, 2023 8:00AM

Location: Saratoga Spa State Park

Coordinators: Ron Harrower ronharrower14@gmail.com

Picnic table graveyard? Hardly! Explore this very productive area at the south end of Saratoga Spa Park. From weedy brush lot to capped landfill, and through woods, this spot has earned attention as a haven for migrants in its many edge habitats. Expect warblers, sparrows, flycatchers and vireos. The path is level and mostly gravel.

Meet at 8:00 am at the Carlsbad parking area. From Rt. 50 or Rt. 9, take East-West Road through the south end of the Park. Carlsbad parking lot is just west of the Peerless Pool lot. Admission is charged after 8:30 so please be prompt.

Sunday, September 24, 2023 8:00AM

Location: Albany Pine Bush Preserve II (Fall Migrants)

Coordinators: Tom and Colleen Williams twill0526@gmail.com

Come explore the Karner Barrens East unit of Albany Pine Bush Preserve, via the "yellow" perimeter trail, and "blue" dune overlook trail. We will be looking for warblers, vireos, and flycatchers. The dune overlook trail has a moderate climb and descent. This is approximately a three-mile loop. Take proper precautions to avoid ticks.

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Albany Pine Bush Discovery Center parking lot, located at 195 New Karner Rd. (Rt. 155) in Albany

Saturday, September 30, 2023 8:00AM

Location: Saratoga Battlefield

Coordinators: Linda White - linda_white@nps.gov

This popular trip features beautiful foliage and a good chance to see hawks, woodpeckers, sparrows, bluebirds and late migrants as we walk the woods and grasslands of the battlefield. We will carpool to several trailheads. You never know what will turn up.

Meet at 8 a.m. in the parking lot near the park's visitor center off SR 32.

Saturday, October 7, 2023 8:00AM

Location: Five Rivers EEC

Coordinators: Tristan Lowery 646-323-8914 tristanlowery@gmail.com

We'll walk about 2 miles over generally flat terrain with some small hills, passing through a variety of habitats. Migrating sparrows are often abundant at this time of the year, with a good chance of Lincoln's and White-crowned as well as more common species. Both species of kinglet may be present, as well as Yellow-rumped Warbler, Palm Warbler and Blue-headed Vireo. A late Nashville, Black-throated Green, Blackpoll or Magnolia Warbler might be found. Wood Duck and other

UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS (CONTINUED)

waterfowl are possible, as well as Cooper's and Sharp-shinned Hawks and Merlin. Wet grass and muddy spots may be encountered, so waterproof footwear is recommended.

Meet at 8:00 a.m. in the parking lot at Five Rivers EEC in Delmar.

Saturday, October 28, 2023 8:00AM

Location: Mohawk-Hudson Bike-Hike Trail, Lions Park

Coordinators: Naomi Lloyd 518-596-5964 naomi_kestrel@yahoo.com

On this trip along the Mohawk River and its backwaters in Niskayuna, we will look for waterfowl, gulls, and sparrows. Our walk may take us as far as the farm fields on Niska Isle. We will retrace our path back to Lions Park. This is approximately 3.5 miles total.

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Lions Park in Niskayuna, located along Rosendale Rd. near the intersection with Niskayuna Rd. Bring a spotting scope if you wish to scan the waterfowl groups.

Saturday, November 4, 2023 8:00AM

Location: Collins Lake

Coordinators: Coordinator: Jamie Taft j.taft69@yahoo.com

We will visit Collins Lake to view late migrating waterfowl from the beach and the east side of the lake. We will also take a walk east along the north side of the Mohawk River for fall sparrows. Fox Sparrows have been seen in previous years. Foliage will be off the trees to make finding LBJs (Little Brown Jobs) a bit easier.

Meet at 8:00 a.m. near the western end of the Gateway Bridge at Jumpin' Jacks in Scotia. Bring a scope if you have one.

Sunday, November 12, 2023 8:30AM

Location: Vischer Ferry Nature and Historical Preserve

Coordinators: John Hershey 518-371-3114 hersheyj@nycap.rr.com

On this trip we'll be looking for migrant waterfowl and winter residents. Rusty Blackbirds are often observed at this time of year. We will start at the main entrance to the Preserve. We will also explore some of the lesser known areas of the Preserve, such as Ferry Drive and the area around the Vischer Ferry Power Plant where Bald Eagles and migrant waterfowl are often seen. The new hike/bike trail from the Clamsteam Tavern location to Ferry Dr. is completed, and this will open new areas to the east of the Whipple Bridge. The leader may choose to go in this direction.

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the VFNHP main entrance, at the intersection of Riverview and Van Vranken Rds. in Clifton Park.

Saturday, November 18, 2023 8:30AM

Location: Tomhannock Reservoir

Coordinators: Naomi Lloyd 518-596-5964 naomi_kestrel@yahoo.com

Join us for a morning trip around the Tomhannock Reservoir. We hope to find a variety of waterfowl as resident and migrant passerines and possibly shorebirds. Rarities have turned up at the Tomhannock in the fall and we often find Bald Eagles.

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the parking area at the intersection of Lake Shore Dr. and NY Route 7 at the west end of the causeway. Bring a scope if you have one.

WRITERS PAGE



Peregrine Falcon Poem

By: Marilyn Hamecher 7/23/23

The Peregrine Falcon is a raptor, or a bird of prey with strong talons and a hooked beak. With blue gray wings, dark brown backs, white faces with a black tear stripe on their cheeks.

Imagine, the Peregrine Falcon, the fastest bird in the world, flying around 180 miles per hour. The Peregrine could give the F1 cars a run for their money, now that is more than wing power.

Peregrines travel as far as, 16,000 miles, during migration to get away from winters' cold. Some are sedentary, sticking around for the winter; they don't seem to fit the Peregrine mold.

With many differences between the subspecies of Peregrines, but most all are easy to identify. Differences in color patterns and size are seen throughout their ranges you could easily specify.

Peregrines are visual and excellent hunters using one of their skills of speed, which is FAAAAST! One of their many skills is diving into one wing of their prey, catching it mid-air, its fate cast.

Peregrines top the charts of the popularity contests; they are the world's most widely studied bird. Having over 2,000 scientific titles and important in our environmental awakening, so I've heard.

Peregrine Falcons will aggressively defend their nests using vocalizations, agility and speed. The Great Horned Owl is a common predator, one of the worst for Peregrines, indeed.

Peregrine Falconry is relevant and has been associated with martial strength and dexterity. Native Americans used it to show celestial power and Europeans used it to show royalty.

Adding to all these facts, Peregrines are the "official" bird of the best blues city "Chicago". There is no other raptor that holds such a high prey variety as these birds, absolutely Zero.

Peregrines have extended their range to urban areas now and their diets include a variety. Hunting Starlings, Blackbirds, Pigeons, Doves, Flickers, Bats and fitting into our society.

Not long ago the Peregrine faced an inevitable demise, classified as "Endangered" by NYS/DEC. Now they are back and reclassified as no longer "Endangered". Let's keep it that way, is my plea!!

ON NATURE

Valley of Birds: A Rio Grande Reunion

By Scott Stoner

In the sweltering heat of mid-summer 1984, my friend Steve and I made our first birding trip to the lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas (“the Valley”). This spring we met up for a reunion, foraying once again into Deep South Texas in search of birds.

Steve and I went to high school on Long Island, and became good friends through mutual interest in birding and environmental activism. One of our most memorable high school experiences was a trip to Newburyport, MA to see the “bird of the century,” a Ross’s Gull! Unbeknownst to me at the time, Bill Lee of HMBC also traveled to see it, but that’s a story for another day.

In late July 1984, Steve and I were both graduate student, he in Houston and me in Tucson. I flew into Houston and we headed south. As typical of graduate students, finances were tight – and we wanted to be close to the birds anyway, so we camped most of the time, staying at cheap motels every few nights in between. Notwithstanding delays due to major car repair (Steve’s), gastrointestinal issues (mine), and birding at Aransas NWR, we arrived in the Valley in time for some serious birding.

Both heat and humidity were nearly unbearable, and we survived on great quantities of Gatorade. One of carried the scope and the other at least a gallon of the stuff! I am sure every colonoscopy prep at least subconsciously brings back memories of this trip!

Many of the birds were new, with lifers at nearly every stop! The lovely Santa Ana NWR yielded a treasure trove of birds including Plain Chachalaca, Groove-billed Ani, Green Kingfisher, Green Jay, Olive Sparrow, and Long-billed Thrasher!

A hike in to Santa Margarita Ranch produced Brown Jay, a species which would later become extremely rare in the Valley and is only recently being reported once again. Camping at Bentsen-Rio Grande State Park we enjoyed lifer White-tipped Dove and Great Kiskadee!

Heading further up-Valley we camped at the Falcon Lake area, enjoying a lovely, drier, more desert-like habitat. Ringed Kingfisher was high on our target list, but it wasn’t cooperative. In fact, it was downright troublesome. We did see one on our first afternoon there, but it was on the Mexican side of the river, and despite moving a number of times, never crossed over to the US side! We had better luck the next day, however, as we saw one on an island in the river near the dam. Unsure of the jurisdictional boundary, we went to a government office there and inquired, learning to our relief that the island, and its avian visitor, were in fact within the US and could go on our life lists!

Fast forward to mid-April 2023. Nearly 40 years later, Steve and I would again meet up in Houston for a trip to the Valley! We drove down from Houston after an out-of-the way stop to Anahuac NWR and High Island! No camping this time, we based ourselves in Mission, next to McAllen and key favorite hotspots of Bentsen and Santa Ana. After all the driving we were happy to hit sites within a half hour of Mission, some of which were not even on our radar 40 years ago.

One unfortunate similarity to our first trip was the weather. Despite being “spring” on the calendar, the upper 90s and high humidity were fully reminiscent of mid-summer. This trip though they were compounded by intense storms and hail. One afternoon, we waited out a huge hail and wind storm at our hotel room, with large ice chunks noisily slamming into our windows with such force that we feared they might break. Fortunately, they didn’t, and our rental car was fine as well, but items from the pool area were blown into the pool itself and into the parking lot!

ON NATURE (CONTINUED)

Birding locations are a mix of new and old. It was great to revisit favorite places such as Santa Ana and Bentsen; as well as new (at least to us) sites including the National Butterfly Center in Mission, Old Hidalgo Pumphouse, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands, and the lovely Quinta Mazatlan in McAllen. Birds were a mix of “old friends” and “new friends” as well. Favorite Valley specialties such as Plain Chachalaca, Great Kiskadee, Golden-fronted Woodpecker, and of course, the colorful and lovely Green Jay graced our days (and we never once said, “just another Green Jay”)!

Changes in avian presence are evident over the 40-year period, with Brown Jay just making a slight resurgence after nearly disappearing, and Clay-colored Thrush going from virtually nonexistent there to a species we saw multiple times on multiple days.

Bird-finding of course is both enhanced and perhaps a bit overwhelmed by a plethora of new info, as ABA Lane Guides have been complemented by ebird and multiple online sources. One thing that hasn't changed over 40 years is the friendliness and kind hospitality of the people in the Valley.



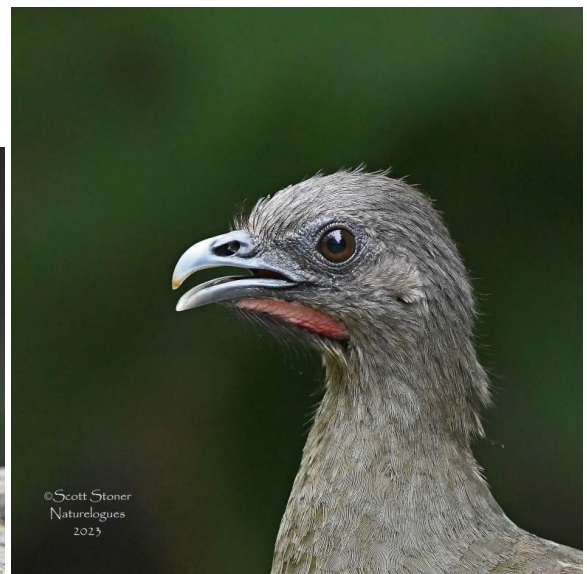
Clay-colored Thrush



Green Jay



Bronzed Cowbird



Plain Chachalaca

Thoughts on the Capital District and NYS Breeding Bird Atlas III

By Alison Van Keuren

Many thanks to all of you who have made contributions to NY Breeding Bird Atlas III

Here is an abbreviated summary of the results as of July 20, 2023.

I have entered the county, number of priority blocks, number completed and number with less than 10 hours for the Capital Region. For each county here are one or two easily accessible blocks and the number of hours of observation in each block. When you plan your future atlas efforts look at these suggested blocks and other incomplete blocks in that county to determine how you can help. Moving blocks toward 20 hours of effort is very important, followed by getting as many species as possible to the Probable and Confirmed level. Additionally it would be very helpful to check your block for crepuscular and nocturnal birds.

Warren – 35 priority with 4 complete and 11 with less than 10 hours.

Chestertown CE – 0.97 hours
Chestertown NW – 0.50 hours

Washington – 31 priority with 5 complete and 13 less than 10 hours

West Pawlet CE – 2.77 hours
Putnam_CE 1.37 hours

Fulton – 19 priority with 1 complete and 13 with less than 10 hours

Lassellsville CE – 2.55 hours
Gloversville NW – 2.08 hours

Montgomery – 18 priority with 3 complete and 6 with less than 10 hours

Tribes Hill NW – 2.42 hours
Fort Plain NW – 3.78 hours

Schoharie – 20 priority with 1 complete and 12 with less than 10 hours

Gilboa CE – 4.10 hours
Stamford CE – 3.80 hours

Albany – 21 priority with 17 complete and 1 under 10 hours

Greenville NW – 4.40 hours
Durham CE – 10.25 hours

Greene – 23 priority with 1 complete and 13 with less than 10 hours

Leeds NW – 4.78 hours
Prattsville CE – 2.38 hours

Rensselaer – 25 priority with 13 complete and 1 less than 10 hours

Hancock NW – 8.18
Grafton NW – 10.01

Schenectady – 7 priority with 2 complete and 1 with less than 10 hours: Pattersonville CE – 4.07

Field Trip Reports

Birds and Breakfast, 5-13-23, Scott Stoner and Cindy Edwardson

It wasn't the official Century Run, but 35 birders in 3 organized field parties and several on their own tallied an amazing 100 species on this mild and sunny mid-May morning! Highlights over the 4.5 hour scouring of Five Rivers' varied habitats included both Black-billed and Yellow-billed Cuckoos vocalizing, Least, Solitary, and Spotted Sandpiper, an American Bittern in plain view, flyover Osprey and Great Blue Heron, 6 woodpecker species, Winter Wren, Brown Thrasher, Swainson's Thrush, Orchard Oriole, Scarlet Tanager, and 19 warbler species - notably Tennessee, Cape May, Bay-breasted, and Wilson's! The 100th bird was a Black Vulture, tallied at the very end. An additional highlight, for the 7 AM group, was a bobcat!

Many thanks to our group leaders Tom, Colleen, Naomi, Cindy, and Chris, Sue Rokos for the wonderful breakfast, to Five Rivers EEC for hosting us once again, and to all the early morning birders who participated in this annual event!

Hidden Lake Girl Scout Camp, 5-29-23, Kate Schnurr

We had a group of six come out to walk the camp property on Memorial Day. We were greeted by a female Blackburnian while still in the parking lot, appropriate for a Girl Scout Camp! We were able to walk the trails around the small pond area, lake, play field and camp sites in about three hours. We had 34 species, a Mourning Warbler was singing continually but didn't move out of the undergrowth. On the trail by the lake a Pileated Woodpecker flew ahead of us down the trail and a Spotted Sandpiper was at the beach area.

The campsites had Black-throated Green, Black-throated Blue and Blackburnian Warblers along with Red-eyed Vireos singing.

Before ending our walk we checked out the Eastern Phoebe nests on the main building porch.

Thank you to those who came to explore this special place.

Cherry Plain State Park, 6-3-23, Naomi Lloyd

Seven birders met for a trip to the cool misty and occasionally drizzly Rensselaer County hills in and around Cherry Plain SP. We started at the Jiggs Highway trailhead where we observed 8 warbler species as well as Hermit and Wood Thrushes and Scarlet Tanager. As usual in this area, most of the birds were heard-only and Merlin song app was frequently deployed to verify IDs. The open marsh just down the road hosted Canada and Nashville Warblers. At Black River Pond, we saw movement at water's edge which turned out to be 5 very young Hooded Mergansers scurrying to catch up with Mom. Heading east, the open wetland on CCC Dam Rd had its annual Indigo Bunting and a perched Red-shouldered Hawk. As the trip wound up, on our way out we found an Osprey perched in a tree by Little Bowman Pond.

Species count for the trip was 54, a bit on the low side. Cool temps and low cloud cover may have contributed, particularly to the absence of raptors. We did manage 13 warbler species, all local breeders. Thanks to all who came along to another of my favorite RennsCo locales!

Trip checklist:

<https://ebird.org/tripreport/136199>

Plotter Kill Preserve, 6-11-23, Julie Hart

Three people hiked around Plotter Kill Preserve in the [Rotterdam Junction CE](#) atlas block. The slippery trails were steep at times but we were rewarded with a singing Hooded Warbler, one of the northernmost locations for this bird in this part of the state! We also saw fledgling Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Tufted Titmouse, and American Robin; adults carrying food for young Veery, Eastern Towhee, Ovenbird, and Black-throated Blue Warbler; and a Louisiana Waterthrush feeding young. ([eBird checklist](#))

Field Trip Reports *(continued)*

Strawberry Fields, 6-4-23, Ellen Pemrick

Three birders joined me on my field trip at Strawberry Fields Nature Preserve this morning. We spent 3 hours at the preserve and walked over 2 miles, finding a total of 46 bird species. Among the most numerous were Eastern Towhees, Alder and Willow Flycatchers, and Song and Field Sparrows. We had a nice assortment of warblers: Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart (heard from the parking lot), and Blue-Winged, Blackburnian, Yellow, Chestnut-Sided, and Prairie

Warblers. We heard but did not see an Eastern Meadowlark on an adjacent property, hidden from view. Other highlights included a Scarlet Tanager that flew right over our heads in the parking area, Wood Thrush, Veery, and a Ruby-Throated Hummingbird perched at the top of a tree. Some interesting wildflowers, like Indian paintbrush and wild columbine, were observed. Nearing the end of the trail loop, we managed to locate an Indigo Bunting high up in a tree, and subsequently found four more as we continued toward the parking area! Surprising misses were nuthatches and Eastern Kingbird; the latter has nested at Strawberry Fields in the past. Nevertheless, it was a very enjoyable morning, with good company and views of birds.

Beebe Hill State Forest, 6-18-23, Julie Hart

Six people hedged their bets against the lousy forecast and did a circuit around Beebe Hill State Forest up to the fire tower, successfully completing the loop before the rain and crowds appeared. The loop briefly left the State Line NW atlas block so we had a few separate checklists for the trip. We started out at the pond and were lucky to see several nesting birds, notably an Eastern Kingbird nest atop a birch tree, a Yellow-billed Cuckoo carrying food, and Chipping Sparrows building a nest above our heads ([eBird checklist](#)). We then hiked up through the forest towards the fire tower and were treated with an Eastern Wood-Pewee carrying nesting material, fledgling Red-eyed Vireos, and adults carrying food for young Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, and Scarlet Tanager ([eBird checklist](#)). We spent a lot of time discerning Black-and-white vs Blackburnian Warbler and some strange variations of Chestnut-sided Warbler and Indigo Bunting. On the walk down the carriage trail we had Song Sparrow and Chestnut-sided Warbler carrying food and a Common Grackle carrying a fecal sac ([eBird checklist](#)).

Swatling Falls and Halfmoon Town Park, 6-24-23, Julie Hart

As were most weekends so far this summer, this was a wet one! An intrepid group of seven people showed up for this trip. By the end of the trip we were all drenched despite walking around with umbrellas! Nevertheless the birds were still busy caring for their young. At Swatling Falls, we saw one (of two) fledgling Red-tailed Hawks hanging out in the nest tree, plus saw fledgling Downy Woodpecker and a Gray Catbird carrying food ([eBird checklist](#)). The Louisiana Waterthrush were playing games with us and despite knowing they had young, they wouldn't give us any good evidence. Then we moved on to the Halfmoon Town Park which has some nice trails through shrubby habitat. By then it was not longer drizzling but downright rain, but we still found fledgling American Robin and saw Common Grackle and Yellow Warblers carrying food ([eBird checklist](#)).

Stillwater School/Lock 7, 6-10-23, Naomi Lloyd

10 birders met at the Stillwater School Nature Trail. While not specifically at Atlasing trip, we found many birds both on-nest and caring for young in our two stops. There was not much marsh bird activity at the wetland, with only a single Great Blue Heron. Most of the nests and nest trees have collapsed. The woods were loud with territorial song of various Flycatchers and Vireos.

Moving on to Lock 4, a young Bald Eagle unsuccessfully went after fish in the canal. We had a surprise Northern Harrier flyover, then spent some time watching Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers flying in and out of their nest hole. Highlights of the day were along the Hoosic River side in the shallows where several female Common Mergansers herded their extended families

Field Trip Reports *(continued)*

along. One carried some of her 10 tiny young ones on her back. On the rocks we found Spotted Sandpiper chicks - just past the puffball stage and doing the same tailbob as their parents.

Total species count for the day was 49. Thanks to all who came out!

Trip checklist:

<https://ebird.org/tripreport/138126>

Berlin Mountain, 7-9-23, Julie Hart

The forecast was again miserable with torrential rain predicted by 1 pm. Despite the dire forecast, seven people showed up for a lovely hike up Berlin Mountain from Green Mountain Hollow Rd. It was a relatively quiet walk overall seeing as it was mostly forested, but we were able to find Dark-eyed Junco, Black-throated Green Warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and Indigo Bunting carrying food and Black-throated Blue Warbler feeding young. The promised Mourning Warbler did not make an appearance despite concerted effort. We had several opportunities to learn fledgling sounds of Rose-breasted Grosbeak and Scarlet Tanager, studied the call notes of Wood Thrushes vs Hermit Thrushes vs Veery, and the compared the very similar harsh calls of Ovenbird vs Dark-eyed Junco vs Black-throated Blue Warbler. (eBird checklists: [S144049362](#), [S144049465](#), [S144049529](#), [S144049584](#))

Fulton County, 7-15-23, David Harrison

On Saturday, three club members spent the morning birding a couple of Fulton County's finer locations. We started on the eastern leg of Cline Rd., which hosts a nice freshwater marsh, some mixed conifer/deciduous woodland and some edge habitat around the few homes along the road. We were immediately aware of the Great Blue Heron colony at the back of the marsh. It seems to be doing very well, with a dozen or so herons, including several fledglings that were so big they looked like they might fall out of the nests. As we walked along the edge of the marsh we spied Marsh Wrens; noting that some of them still had nestling fluff sticking out of the tops of their heads and a very confiding pair of Virginia Rails just a few feet away from us. They were very busy hunting along the edge of the marsh and we soon saw why when a black, fluffball came out of the cattails to accept one of its parents' catches. Birdsong was pretty subdued, but one member was able to hear a Northern Parula and Chestnut-sided Warbler, while a pocket of passerines north of the marsh contained Northern Waterthrush, Black-and-White Warbler, a pair of Canada Warblers and a pair of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks. A Broad-winged Hawk and an immature Bald Eagle rounded out the tally of more interesting birds on this leg of the trip. After our return to the parking area, we drove slowly around to the west leg of Cline Rd., with a short stop along the way producing another Broad-winged Hawk and our first Ruby-throated Hummingbird of the day. Cline Rd. is a loop road that starts and ends along Rte. 29 and boasts a variety of habitats. The wetland on the west leg of the road is boggy than the marsh and usually has a different mix of birds. The highlight on this section was a female Scarlet Tanager that had a nest in one of the Eastern Hemlocks - another good confirmation for this priority Atlas block. By this time it was late morning, so we began the drive back to our meeting place. With a few brief stops along the way, including one at a nice grassland, we were able to add several more species to the list, notably, American Kestrel, Savannah Sparrow, Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark. We called it a day at about 12:20 with somewhere in the vicinity of 65 species for the morning.

Century Run *(continued)*

Twenty-one species (13.3% of the species found) were found by a single party, while 54 species (34.2%) were found by all eight parties.

No new species were added to the 78-year composite of 256 species and three hybrids. The last new species added to the composite list was Sandhill Crane, in 2021.

To get an idea of what might have been an unusual find, I look at species seen on this count that have been seen on 20 or fewer Century Runs. Seven species fit the bill: Ruddy Duck (16th occurrence), Black Vulture (13th), Merlin (12th), Olive-sided Flycatcher (18th), Red Crossbill (15th), Hooded Warbler (16th), and Palm Warbler (17th).

Using another metric, the following four species found this year were found in three or fewer of the preceding ten years: Pied-billed Grebe (3 of preceding 10), Olive-sided Flycatcher (2/10), Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (1/10), and Red Crossbill (1/10).

I usually note species that have been seen on 45 or more Century Runs that were missed this year, however, this has lately been highlighting species that just don't occur around here any more due to climate change, habitat changes, or overall scarcity of the species for any number of reasons. Those perennially tagged species include: Ring-necked Pheasant (47 counts), Upland Sandpiper (47), Black Tern (47), Evening Grosbeak (46), Henslow's Sparrow (45), and Golden-winged Warbler (47). So this year I am raising the bar to note species that have been seen on **50** or more Century Runs that were missed this year. Those were: Blue-winged Teal (59 counts), American Black Duck (76), Greater Yellowlegs (57), Herring Gull (77), Great Black-backed Gull (50), Grasshopper Sparrow (61), White-crowned Sparrow (62), and Northern Parula (54). Of note, after many recent years of just barely making the list (i.e., being reported by only one team), this year was the first year ever that Herring Gull was missed.

Birders missed 16 species that have been reported on four or more of the previous ten counts. These are species that have been around in the past decade which we might expect to get: Gadwall (seen on 6 of the previous 10), American Black Duck (9/10), Ring-necked Duck (5/10), White-winged Scoter (5/10), Semipalmated Plover (8/10), Semipalmated Sandpiper (6/10), Greater Yellowlegs (7/10), Bonaparte's Gull (8/10), Herring Gull (10/10), Great Black-backed Gull (7/10), Great Egret (4/10), Sharp-shinned Hawk (7/10), Grasshopper Sparrow (9/10), White-crowned Sparrow (7/10), Northern Parula (9/10), and Wilson's Warbler (6/10). Two teams this year did Big Days, but not on the day of the Century Run. I have not included their results in this compilation, but, ironically, one group who did Saratoga County a week early got three species listed above: Herring Gull, Greater Yellowlegs, and Semipalmated Plover.

This year was more typical of a late count; there were only eight ducks, seven shorebirds, and a single gull species, but more of the later-migrating flycatchers (pewee, olive-sided, yellow-bellied, alder, and willow). The only flycatcher on the cumulative list that was missed was Acadian Flycatcher, which has only been reported three times. Twenty-seven species of warblers were tallied, including a late Palm Warbler and two groups reporting Mourning Warbler.

I need to point out some unusual species being reported in the area that were missed. These include Clay-colored Sparrow, Cattle Egret, White-winged Dove, Red-headed Woodpecker, and American White Pelican! While some of these species are on the Century Run composite, others would be new to the list had they been spotted.

I want to call attention to Group B, which, in various incarnations (but always including David Harrison) over the past eleven years, has covered a different county of the eleven-county HMBC region (NYSOA Region 8) each year. This year was Albany County, and they have indicated that in the future they plan to branch out into counties that are out of our region. Since New York has 62 counties, they have a lot of work ahead of them if they stick to just one county a year!

I also want to highlight Group C, consisting of Nathan Wilson, who did his first Century Run and limited his viewing to the City of Albany. Surprisingly, he ended up with 93 species and got three species no other team got! Good job!

Century Run *(continued)*

The table accompanying this article details all of this year's results. It is in the most current ABA checklist order (8.11). The 57 species marked with an asterisk (*) are species which have been found on all 78 Century Runs to date.

Listed below are the teams, listed in the order they got their results to me. Included are names of the participants, their birding locations and hours afield, and the species reported only by their group. Each group's reporter is underlined.

Group A – Chris Suozzo and Jim Suozzo. Albany, Rensselaer, and Saratoga counties. 0500-2030, **106 species**. RUDDY DUCK, COOPER'S HAWK.

Group B – David Harrison, Ed Patten, and John Roosenberg. Albany County only. 0230-2130, **122 species**. SORA, PINE SISKIN.

Group C – Nathan Wilson. City of Albany only. 0415-2100, **93 species**. COMMON NIGHTHAWK, YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER, RED CROSSBILL.

Group D – Fransje Holloway and Jeanette Roundy. Albany, Montgomery, Rensselaer, and Schoharie counties. 0430-2030, **107 species**. PIED-BILLED GREBE, COMMON GALLINULE, LEAST BITTERN, HORNED LARK, CERULEAN WARBLER.

Group E – Ron Harrower and John Hershey. Saratoga County only. 0430-2000, **102 species**. RED-SHOULDERED HAWK, PURPLE MARTIN, VESPER SPARROW, PALM WARBLER.

Group F – Chris Edwardson, Cindy Edwardson, Karen McGrath, and Kevin McGrath. Albany County only. 0610-1910, **95 species**. RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET.

Group G - Tom Anderson, Marianne Friers, and George Steele. Fulton and Montgomery counties. 0722 - 1940. **101 species**. WILSON'S SNIPE, BANK SWALLOW.

Group H – Tristan Lowery and Tom Williams. Albany County only. 0415-1945, **122 species**. OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER, CAPE MAY WARBLER.

Larry Alden - Compiler

CENTURY RUN TABLE BY LARRY ALDEN

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	# of Teams
Canada Goose	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Mute Swan		X						X	2
Wood Duck	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Mallard	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Bufflehead					X			X	2
Hooded Merganser		X					X		2
Common Merganser		X			X	X	X		4
Ruddy Duck	X								1
Wild Turkey	X	X		X		X	X	X	6
Ruffed Grouse		X					X		2
Pied-billed Grebe				X					1
Rock Pigeon	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Mourning Dove*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Yellow-billed Cuckoo		X				X	X	X	4
Black-billed Cuckoo	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	7
Common Nighthawk			X						1
Eastern Whip-poor-will		X	X		X			X	4
Chimney Swift*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	X	X		X	X			X	5
Virginia Rail	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	7
Sora		X							1
Common Gallinule				X					1
Killdeer*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Least Sandpiper	X	X	X		X			X	5
American Woodcock			X	X	X			X	4
Wilson's Snipe							X		1
Spotted Sandpiper*	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	7
Solitary Sandpiper	X							X	2
Lesser Yellowlegs	X	X				X		X	4
Ring-billed Gull	X	X	X		X		X	X	6
Common Loon		X				X	X	X	4
Double-crested Cormorant	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	7
American Bittern				X	X			X	3
Least Bittern				X					1
Great Blue Heron	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Green Heron*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Black Vulture	X					X		X	3
Turkey Vulture	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Osprey	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	7
Northern Harrier				X			X		2
Cooper's Hawk	X								1
Bald Eagle	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	7
Red-shouldered Hawk					X				1
Broad-winged Hawk				X	X		X	X	4
Red-tailed Hawk	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	7
Eastern Screech-Owl		X	X						2
Great Horned Owl		X	X				X		3
Barred Owl		X		X	X				3
Belted Kingfisher*	X	X	X	X			X	X	6
Red-bellied Woodpecker	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Downy Woodpecker*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Hairy Woodpecker*		X	X	X		X	X	X	6
Northern Flicker*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Pileated Woodpecker*	X	X	X	X				X	5

Dark-eyed Junco*	X	X			X	X		X	5
White-throated Sparrow*		X	X		X	X		X	5
Vesper Sparrow					X				1
Savannah Sparrow*		X		X	X		X	X	5
Song Sparrow*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Swamp Sparrow*	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	7
Eastern Towhee*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Bobolink*	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	7
Eastern Meadowlark*		X		X	X		X	X	5
Orchard Oriole		X	X				X	X	4
Baltimore Oriole*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Red-winged Blackbird*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Brown-headed Cowbird*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Common Grackle*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Ovenbird*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Worm-eating Warbler		X				X		X	3
Louisiana Waterthrush	X	X				X	X	X	5
Northern Waterthrush	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	7
Blue-winged Warbler	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	7
Black-and-White Warbler*	X	X		X		X	X	X	6
Tennessee Warbler	X	X	X	X		X		X	6
Nashville Warbler		X			X			X	3
Mourning Warbler							X	X	2
Common Yellowthroat*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Hooded Warbler		X				X		X	3
American Redstart*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Cape May Warbler								X	1
Cerulean Warbler				X					1
Magnolia Warbler*	X		X	X	X			X	5
Bay-breasted Warbler	X	X	X	X					4
Blackburnian Warbler	X	X		X	X		X	X	6
Yellow Warbler*	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Chestnut-sided Warbler	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Blackpoll Warbler	X	X	X	X		X	X		6
Black-throated Blue Warbler		X		X	X			X	4
Palm Warbler					X				1
Pine Warbler	X	X			X	X			4
Yellow-rumped Warbler*		X	X		X				3
Prairie Warbler	X	X	X	X		X		X	6
Black-throated Green Warbler*	X	X		X	X		X	X	6
Canada Warbler	X		X		X				3
Scarlet Tanager	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	7
Northern Cardinal	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Indigo Bunting	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Total	106	122	93	107	102	95	101	122	158 Species Overall

Upcoming HMBC Programs

Date and Time: Monday, September 11, 2023, 6:30 – 8:00pm

Location: Five Rivers EEC, Delmar

Topic: Birding and Sightseeing in Peru

Speaker: Tristan Lowery

Over 1,800 species of birds can be found in the South American nation of Peru – one fifth of the world’s total number – and seeing some fraction of those was a chief draw for Tristan Lowery when his family proposed a trip to the famed Inca ruins of Machu Picchu for the spring of 2019. In this program, Tristan will share his experiences birding on what was primarily a family sightseeing trip to this splendid and varied country. Besides Machu Picchu, Tristan’s journey took him to the Sacred Valley of the Incas, the montane Puna grasslands and forests of the Peruvian Yungas, the fascinating mix of indigenous and colonial architecture in the ancient capital of Cusco, and the food and culture of the modern metropolis Lima. And along the way, he managed to see and photograph a good variety of birds on a sometimes foolhardy and mostly unguided but always interesting attempt to bird the tropics for the first time.

Tristan Lowery has been on the board of the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club since 2017 and has been serving as the club’s current president since 2021. Tristan also writes the “Birds and Booze” beer, wine, cider, and spirits reviews for the blog 10,000 Birds. Outside of birding, Tristan works in energy policy and regulation for the New York State Department of Public Service.



Upcoming HMBC Programs *(continued)*

Date and Time: Monday October 2, 2023, 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Location: ZOOM ONLY

Topic - raptor identification workshop

Speaker: Erik Bruhnke

Erik Bruhnke has loved birds since he was a child looking at chickadees. He graduated from Northland College in Wisconsin with a Natural Resources degree in 2008 and taught field ornithology at Northland College for three semesters. His college summers and summers to follow graduation were spent conducting bird surveys through northern forests, vast prairies, and western mountains. He worked as an interpreter for six fall seasons at Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory in Duluth, Minnesota; counted migrating raptors at the Corpus Christi HawkWatch in Texas in 2015; and was the 2016, 2017, and 2018 hawk counter at the Cape May Hawkwatch in New Jersey. Erik's wildlife photography has won national awards, and he's written for the American Birding Association's *Birder's Guide*, *BirdWatching* magazine, and *Bird Watcher's Digest*. Erik is a birding tour guide for Victor Emanuel Nature Tours as well as his own business, Naturally Avian. He enjoys hiking, kayaking, cross-country skiing and just being out in the snow. In his free time he loves to cook and bake.



Date and Time: Monday, November 6, 2023, 6:30 – 8:00pm

Location: Five Rivers EEC, Delmar

Topic: Costa Rica Birding Overview

Speaker: Tim Colborn and Jon Colborn

Upcoming HMBC Programs *(continued)*

Date and Time: Monday, December 4, 2023, 6:30 – 8:00pm

Location: Five Rivers EEC, Delmar

Topic: Birding Costa Rica Part II (And HMBC Holiday Party)

Speaker: Scott Stoner and Denise Hackert-Stoner

The lovely Central American country of Costa Rica is smaller than West Virginia, yet contains more than 900 bird species, nearly one-tenth of the world’s total. Toucans, Trogons, Motmots, Woodcreepers and more than 50 species of hummingbirds are among the draws for birders and naturalists from around the world to its tropical rainforests and other habitats. Costa Rica has set aside nearly one third of its land in national parks and preserves, from coastal lowlands to volcanic highlands. In this program, Scott and Denise will showcase some of the birds of the Caribbean foothills and lowlands of this tropical land, along with a sense of the experience of visiting this nature mecca.



1	K	E	G	4	D	A	6	T	7	A	8	S	9	A	10	L	11	E		
12	L	L	L	13	U	R	L	S	14	T	H	E	M	15	W	O	O	D		
16	C	O	C	17	C	O	C	K	18	P	U	T	S	19	R	H	20	A		
21	N	E	E	22	N	E	E	23	D	I	P	24	R	25	R	26	E	L		
27	S	K	E	28	D	B	I	29	D	30	L	E	31	S	A	32	A			
33	F	I	O	S	34	M	A	N	35	R	O	S	A	36	R	A	L	E	R	
37	W	I	G	38	E	O	N	39	M	A	R	40	R	41	A	L	E	R		
42	G	P	A	43	P	A	44	U	S	E	45	F	46	L	S	47	R	E	L	S
48	R	49	K	48	E	S	T	R	E	L	S	50	A	51	S	E	E	52	N	A
53	T	U	F	T	54	N	O	E	L	55	N	A	T							

Feathers

Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club

c/o Five Rivers EEC

56 Game Farm Road

Delmar, NY 12054