



THE RED-BELLIED NEWSLETTER

Monthly Update of the Margaret Watson Bird Club

Mark your calendar:

- Oct. 5 (R) - Regular Meeting**
6:40pm - F-PE Community Library
- Oct. 14 (Sa) - Darlington Heights
Progressive Birding**
Departure Time TBD
- Oct. 31 (T) - Bear Creek Lake/
Cumberland State Forest**
Departure Time TBD

What to look for:

We need to find the following birds to round out our monthly October records in eBird. Please log them if you see/hear them!

Week #1

Ring-billed Gull
Northern Harrier
Barred Owl
Eastern Screech-owl

Week #2

Purple Finch
American Black Duck
Blue Grosbeak
Great Horned Owl

Week #3

Ring-billed Gull
Red-eyed Vireo
Black-and-white Warbler
Blue Grosbeak

Week #4

Ring-necked Duck

Field Notes

Field notes for the following trips are now available on the MWBC Blog. Click the links below to view each post.

[Hull Springs Farm](#)

[Greenfield Plantation](#)

For information on future trips, visit the [calendar page](#).

Membership Dues

Please remember to bring your membership dues to the next meeting if you are able to attend. If you are unable to attend or are no longer local but would like to remain on the roll, please mail your dues to Regina Schwabe, 2737 Baker Mountain Road, Pamplin, VA 23958. Dues amounts are as follows: family (\$25), individual (\$15), students (free).

Upcoming Seed Sale

Damien will provide all the details for the seed sale at the October meeting. Take inventory of your seed needs now so you can be ready to place your order in the coming month. We are going to have the sale run longer this year, with more publicity than in past years, so think of friends and neighbors who have feeders who may want to support our club.

Flight Deck Complete

Despite the construction article not making it to print yet, the Margaret Watson Flight Deck on the Sarah Terry Trail is complete! If you get a chance, check it out for yourself! More winter birds are arriving every day. You never know what you'll see out there.



Just a note...

Hi Friends!

I am really looking forward National Public Lands Day on Sept. 30. This may be my favorite field trip of the year because it is our MWBC anniversary!

Thinking back on it, I have no idea what compelled us to meet up with strangers in a parking lot, pile into a van, and let a man with a gun transport us deep into the woods. But Julian read the announcement in the Herald, and matter-of-factly said, "We're doing this." And so we did.

I was completely overwhelmed by the warblers, the vireos... the speed at which David and Evan called out birds! I can honestly say I had *no* concept of the importance of being in the field, looking at birds with other birders until that trip.

I hope that this year will bring new faces on our field trips and more people will be bitten by the birding bug. All field trip newcomers will be completely overwhelmed, but that is how you learn the most!

Amanda

Consider this...

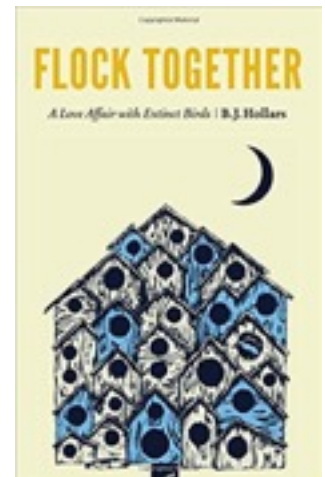
Support for the Coastal Wildlife Conservatory

The MWBC sent a team of birders to the 23rd Annual Kiptopeke Challenge on Saturday, September 23. The Coastal Virginia Wildlife Observatory (CVWO) sponsors this annual event. This event serves to tally dense migratory bird populations in addition to being the main fundraiser for this worthy cause.

Our team logged 95 species in 24 hours in Northampton County. Will you celebrate this accomplishment by giving one dollar per species to support the work of this great organization? Your gift supports research impacting songbirds, raptors, waterbirds, and butterflies. Please consider a tax deductible gift in any amount, payable to the CVWO and given to our treasurer, Regina Schwabe.

Book Nook

After stumbling upon a book of photographs depicting extinct animals, B.J. Hollars became fascinated by the creatures that are no longer with us; specifically, extinct North American birds. How, he wondered, could we preserve so beautifully on film what we've failed to preserve in life? And so begins his yearlong journey to find out, one that leads him from bogs to art museums, from archives to Christmas Counts, until he at last comes as close to extinct birds as he ever will during a behind-the-scenes visit at the Chicago Field Museum.



Have you read a great bird book and want to share? Email margaretwatsonbirdclub@gmail.com with your recommendations for the Book Nook!