



# News from the 'Hood

## Patuxent Bird Club

*A Chapter of the Maryland Ornithological Society*

www.patuxentbirdclub.org

March -April 2021

### Upcoming Virtual Meetings

**Tuesday, March 9, 7:00 pm, sign in to Zoom starting at 6:45 pm**

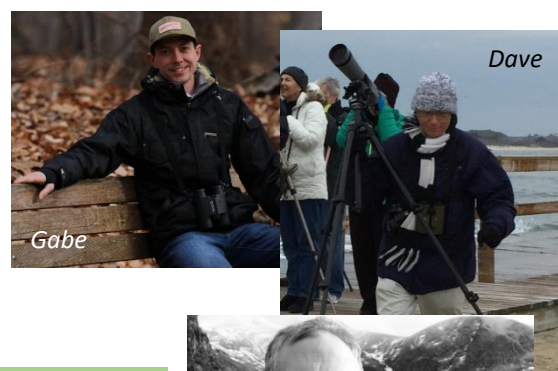
**Update on the Third Breeding Bird Atlas of MD & DC**

***Presented by Gabriel Foley, Ross Geredien, and Dave Mozurkewich***



Join us for an update on what's happening as we start the second year of data collection for the Third Breeding Bird Atlas of Maryland and DC. Now that March 1 has arrived, we have a handful of birds already in safe dates — Rock Pigeon; Great Horned Owl; Barred Owl; Carolina Chickadee; Tufted Titmouse; Carolina Wren; and House Sparrow — so get ready to start entering data now.

Gabriel Foley, our statewide Atlas coordinator, will join our county coordinators Ross Geredien and Dave Mozurkewich to provide an update on Atlas activities at both the state and county levels. And there will be plenty of time for questions and answers, so if you're wondering how to report a used unoccupied nest, or how to confirm hummingbird breeding, bring your list of questions and get the answers.



This program, sponsored by Patuxent Bird Club and PGAS, will be presented via Zoom and is free and open to the public. Advance registration is required and seats are limited. Please register no later than midnight of Sunday, March 7. To register, go to the registration form at [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1a12WI\\_4XOL3Jij3glj2Mlcwkjm81waroeZbNfb4wVi4/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1a12WI_4XOL3Jij3glj2Mlcwkjm81waroeZbNfb4wVi4/edit?usp=sharing).

Your Zoom link will be sent by email on Monday, March 8, but only if you register before then.



*Meetings continued next page*

### In This Issue

Upcoming Zoom Meetings..... 1  
New Members ..... 2  
President's Message ..... 3  
Officers and Directors ..... 3  
Bowie CBC Results..... 4

Jug Bay CBC Results..... 5  
PBC 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary..... 7  
News from MOS..... 9  
Used Binoculars Wanted..... 10  
Action Alert: Guilford Woods..... 11

MAGLEV Comments Due ..... 11  
COVID Vaccine Tips ..... 12  
Notable PG Bird Sightings ..... 13  
Submissions Invited ..... 14  
Membership Application ..... 15

*Upcoming Virtual Meetings, continued*

**Tuesday, April 13, 7:00 pm, sign in to Zoom starting at 6:45 pm**

**Do You Love Birds? Then Create Habitat!**

***Presented by Kathy Shollenberger and Barry Stahl***

Kathy Shollenberger and Barry Stahl will introduce the Audubon Wildlife Habitat Program, a new Prince George's County Audubon Society initiative. This program offers PG County residents the opportunity for a no-cost, on-site, in-person visit with trained Habitat Advisors who can help them transform their properties, no matter the size, into bird-friendly habitat. The Habitat Advisors offer guidance to homeowners on optimal native plants and design features to provide food, water, and shelter for birds, pollinators, and other wildlife. Residents who take advantage of this opportunity will be encouraged to apply for Audubon bird-friendly habitat certification, with a yard sign to provoke neighborhood interest.



***About the presenters:***

Kathy Shollenberger and Barry Stahl have both been trained as Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists and worked as Audubon ambassadors for the Wildlife Sanctuary program of the Northern Virginia Audubon Society. Barry is a retired horticulturist, a Tree Commissioner for Mount Rainier, MD, and a Board Member for Chesapeake Natives, Inc. Kathy is a retired teacher, lifelong gardener, and PGAS Board Member. Together with the PGAS Board and Erin Reed Miller, Education Manager at Patterson Park Audubon Center in Baltimore, they have laid the groundwork and provided the leadership for this nascent program.

This program, sponsored by Patuxent Bird Club and PGAS, will be presented via Zoom and is free and open to the public. Advance registration is required and seats are limited. Please register no later than midnight of Sunday, April 11. To register, go to the registration form at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1lmbJrof76o5nW7Jhd43cCt4ibY2RkGjslqOqmZybaZo/edit?usp=sharing>. Your Zoom link will be sent by email on Monday, April 12, but only if you register before then.

### Virtual Meetings for Remainder of Spring 2021

Given the uncertainty of the ongoing virus situation, including the timing of the full vaccination rollout, we are continuing with virtual meetings on Zoom for the first half of 2021.

Meeting Date	Speaker	Topic
May Dates to be announced for a special two-part series	Gene Scarpulla Surprise Guest Speaker	Part 1: Introduction to Shorebird ID Part II: Intermediate Level Shorebird ID
June 8, 2021	Members Night	Bird and birding photos by bird club members; must be present for the virtual meeting to share your photos.



**Welcome New Members!**

The Latoff Family: James, Clara, FR, Anna

Anthony Futcher

Kristen & Kyle Wesloh

### Message from the President

What a winter! Unseasonable warmth and then a February blast of snow, ice, and freezing rain. Our driveway remained impassable for a week, frozen solid under 2 inches of ice. But then came several days in the 50s and 60s, and now the ice is gone and there are signs that spring is almost upon us. Tundra Swans have been flying north in numbers, heard overhead in the dead of night. Barred Owls are doing their weird caterwauling duets. And on our deck, several male-female pairs of Mourning Doves are acting very chummy with each other.

I'm ready to get rid of my winter layers and head into the woods to look for spring ephemerals and some early spring migrants. It's almost time for Yellow-throated Warblers and Louisiana Waterthrushes to arrive and start singing on territory. And American Woodcocks. Timberdoodle reports are already starting to come in from around Maryland. In our county, check Patuxent Research Refuge and any of the spots down along the Patuxent River – Mt. Calvert, Selby's Landing, Merkle, Milltown Landing.

As eager as I am to get out to look for early migrants, to be honest, most of my time these days is spent on Zoom meetings or in reading and writing about the MagLev project. I am heavily invested in the opposition to the MagLev high-speed train. As described in our [January-February newsletter](#), the MagLev will destroy parts of Patuxent Research Refuge, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, the BW Parkway, and parts of local parks including the Maryland City Park, Greenbelt Forest Preserve, Bladensburg Waterfront Park, and Colmar Manor Park. I just can't sit around and watch that happen without trying to stop it, so I have become active in the Citizens against the SCMagLev and the Maryland Coalition for Responsible Transit.

Don't forget that now is the time to voice your concerns about the project by sending in comments on the MagLev Draft Environmental Impact Statement and by letting your state legislators and your representatives in Congress know how you feel. I hope you'll join me in supporting the "No-Build" option for MagLev and let it be known that that's your stance. See the links and other information on page 11 of this newsletter to get started. **Do it for Chan!**

*Marcia*



### Clip & Save ✂

To protect privacy, we are no longer publishing board member email addresses directly on the club website. Clip and save the list below for future reference – email addresses are removed from the web version of the newsletter.

Patuxent Bird Club Officers and Directors		
President	Marcia Watson	
Vice-President	Fred Fallon	
Treasurer/Memberships	Jane Fallon	
Second Year Directors (Term 2019-2021)	David Mozurkewich	
	Debi Talbott	
	Vacant	
First Year Directors (Term 2020-2022)	Ken Cohen	
	Matt Felperin	
	Ikumi Kayama	
Representatives to MOS State Board	Marcia Watson	
	Ross Geredien	
Field Trip Coordinator	David Mozurkewich	
Hospitality	VACANT	
Newsletter Editor & Webmaster	Marcia Watson	
Fall and Spring Bird Counts	Fred Fallon	
Bowie Christmas Bird Count	David Mozurkewich	
Jug Bay Christmas Bird Count	Marcia Watson	
Visit us on the web at <a href="http://www.patuxentbirdclub.org">www.patuxentbirdclub.org</a>		



## Bowie Christmas Bird Count

### Summary of Results

By David Mozurkewich, Bowie CBC Compiler

Oh, how I love birding in the rain! For the entire week preceding the count, the weather forecast for **January 1st** was dismal: all day rain with one inch accumulation. Reality wasn't as bad: although we got most of the predicted accumulation, it was mostly after 4 PM. All of the rain held off until mid-morning. Then only the occasional shower until mid-afternoon. And, except for a short period midday, there was very little wind.

And then there were the COVID restrictions. Our participant count was low but we spread out by fielding more parties than usual, with **75 counters spread out into 51 parties plus 7 feeder-watchers**. These folks collectively counted from 4 AM until almost 6 PM, putting in 239.5 hours and 205.95 miles on foot; and 48.05 hours and 363.8 miles by car. Another 9.75 hours and 43.65 miles were spent owling. Feeder watchers totaled 30 hours.

The result was a successful count. **The number of individual birds reported – 59,455 –** is above the median and only a little below the average for the last 10 years. We did that the hard way – without using large blackbird flocks.

Sure, Canada Geese and Starlings were on the high side, but we also managed a record number of Swamp Sparrows and the highest White-throated Sparrow count since 1981.

With Decembers being warmer than they used to be, we have more open water and more of the half-hardy species lingering in the area. We set new high counts for Phoebe and Thrashers. Sapsuckers and Hermit Thrushes seemed to be everywhere, although both were just shy of records. This year, we also had a nice influx of winter finches.

We found a **total of 101 species on the day of the count and one additional species during count week**. This is our second highest total and only the second time we surpassed 100 species for the count.

**Highlights** were many. The top of the list is a new species for the count – **4 Greater White-fronted Geese** that had been commuting between the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center and Lake Artemesia for a few weeks. An **Orange-crowned Warbler** visiting a feeder in Old Town Bowie was only the second for the count; a flyover **Common Redpoll** at Patuxent Wildlife Research Refuge was the third record for this count; and the Blue-winged Teals in the Folly Branch Wetland a fifth record for this CBC.

Below is the full list of the birds and the numbers of each species seen this year – our 49th year. That's right, 49 years.

Next year's count will be our fiftieth. It is scheduled for **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2020**. Please put it on your calendar and plan to come make it a success.

Thanks to all our counters for your help with the count; it couldn't be done without you.

\*Species marked with asterisk indicate highest count ever for Bowie CBC

#### Greater White-fronted Goose – 4; New species

Cackling Goose – 1  
Canada Goose – 15,656  
Trumpeter Swan – 3\*  
Wood Duck – 2  
Gadwall – 60\*  
American Wigeon – 2  
American Black Duck – 27  
Mallard – 579  
*American Black Duck X Mallard (hybrid)* – 1  
Blue-winged Teal – 2; Only 5<sup>th</sup> time reported  
Northern Shoveler – 31  
American Green-winged Teal – 3  
Ring-necked Duck – 338  
Bufflehead – 17  
Hooded Merganser – 254\*  
Ruddy Duck – 62  
Wild Turkey – 62\*  
Pied-billed Grebe – 10  
Double-crested Cormorant – 16  
Great Blue Heron – 37  
Black Vulture – 151

Mourning Dove – 639  
Great Horned Owl – 10; highest since 2001  
Barred Owl – 14  
Northern Saw-whet Owl – 1; only 11th time reported  
Belted Kingfisher – 30  
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 271  
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker – 88; high count = 90  
Downy Woodpecker – 271  
Hairy Woodpecker – 73  
Northern Flicker (Yellow-shafted) – 248  
Pileated Woodpecker – 88  
American Kestrel – 7  
**Merlin – Count Week**  
Peregrine Falcon – 2\*  
Eastern Phoebe – 20\*  
Blue Jay – 400  
American Crow – 1,473  
Fish Crow – 286  
*crow sp. [Corvus]* – 2,942  
Common Raven – 9  
Carolina Chickadee – 476

European Starling – 11,098  
American Pipit – 71  
Cedar Waxwing – 60  
Orange-crowned Warbler – 1; Only 2<sup>nd</sup> time reported  
Common Yellowthroat – 2  
Pine Warbler – 1  
Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrtle) – 12; 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest count  
American Tree Sparrow – 13  
Chipping Sparrow – 46  
Field Sparrow – 186  
Fox Sparrow – 43  
Dark-eyed Junco (Slate-colored) – 2,650  
White-crowned Sparrow – 6  
White-throated Sparrow – 5,172; Highest count since 1981  
Savannah Sparrow – 67  
Song Sparrow – 1,130  
Lincoln's Sparrow – 1; Only 8<sup>th</sup> time reported  
Swamp Sparrow – 335\*

Turkey Vulture – 80  
 Northern Harrier – 4  
 Sharp-shinned Hawk – 7  
 Cooper's Hawk – 8  
 Bald Eagle – 43  
 Red-shouldered Hawk – 66  
 Red-tailed Hawk – 28  
 American Coot – 5  
 Killdeer – 16  
 Wilson's Snipe – 4  
 American Woodcock – 4  
 Ring-billed Gull – 603  
 Herring Gull – 20  
 Great Black-backed Gull – 3  
*large gull sp.[Larus]* – 26  
 Rock Pigeon – 613

Tufted Titmouse – 337  
 Red-breasted Nuthatch – 50  
 White-breasted Nuthatch – 213  
 Brown Creeper – 48  
 House Wren – 1  
 Winter Wren – 80  
 Carolina Wren – 656  
 Golden-crowned Kinglet – 80  
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 29  
 Eastern Bluebird – 308  
 Hermit Thrush – 167; high count = 168  
 American Robin – 5,025  
 Gray Catbird – 18  
 Brown Thrasher – 24\*  
 Northern Mockingbird – 154

Eastern Towhee – 88  
 Northern Cardinal – 862  
 Red-winged Blackbird – 2,018  
 Eastern Meadowlark – 24  
 Rusty Blackbird – 5  
 Common Grackle – 630  
 Brown-headed Cowbird – 44  
*blackbird sp.* – 407  
 House Finch – 242  
 Purple Finch – 97  
 Common Redpoll – 1; Only 3<sup>rd</sup> time reported  
 Pine Siskin – 45  
 American Goldfinch – 345  
 House Sparrow – 367

## Jug Bay Christmas Bird Count Summary of Results

*By Marcia Watson, Jug Bay CBC Compiler*

The **40<sup>th</sup> Jug Bay Christmas Bird Count** was held on Sunday, December 20, 2020. The Jug Bay CBC count circle extends from Upper Marlboro to the Chesapeake Bay, covering parts of Anne Arundel, Calvert, and Prince George's Counties.

The **weather** cooperated on December 20<sup>th</sup>. Temperatures ranged from a crisp 32° F at dawn to highs of about 46° in the afternoon. It was slightly foggy near the water in the morning, but quickly cleared. Some sectors of the circle experienced light drizzle off and on during the day, but there was no heavy sustained rain. Water bodies throughout the circle were unfrozen. The ground surface was generally muddy, with large puddles and some standing water on roads.

The count was conducted by a **total of 44 field observers working in 29 parties, plus three feeder watchers/backyard counters**. Collectively, the counters worked from **5:54 AM to 6:15 PM**, putting in a total of **121 hours on foot covering 90 miles, plus another 42 hours by car covering 367 miles**. The **feeder-watchers** put in a collective total of 11 hours. **Owling** occupied 3.5 hours over 6 miles.

This outstanding effort resulted in a **total of 115 species observed on the official count day, plus 5 additional species for count week**, defined as three days before and three days after the official count day. Count week species do not count toward the official total of species reported by Audubon, but are good for bragging rights.

The **total of 115 species** on official count day compares well to results from past counts – it's the highest total since 2012 and 2013, when the total was also 115 species. The **average** number of species for all 40 years of the Jug Bay count is **108.5**. The average number of species for the five years from 2016-2020 was 111.0, and the average for the previous five-year period (2011-2015) was 110.6. The **highest** number of species ever found was **122** in 2001, and the **lowest** count was **89** species in 2009, a year remembered for extremely bad weather on count day.

The **total number of individual birds** counted on December 20<sup>th</sup> was **111,795**. The number of individuals has been fluctuating widely in recent years, primarily because of extremely large numbers of blackbirds in some years. This year's number of total individuals is **higher** than the average number of individuals counted over the 40 years of the count (98,691 individuals).

This year, **of the 118 species on the Jug Bay CBC field checklist, 107 species, or 91% of those on the checklist, were observed**, either on the official count day or during count week. In addition, **there were 13 "add-on" species**, that is, species not included on the field checklist. The add-on species always generate excitement because they represent birds not expected for the count circle. These unexpected birds were:

- Trumpeter Swan
- Northern Gannet
- Clapper Rail
- Sora
- Greater Yellowlegs
- Merlin
- Peregrine Falcon
- Common Raven
- Pine Siskin.
- Red Crossbill
- Lapland Longspur
- Vesper Sparrow
- Palm Warbler.

*Jug Bay CBC, Continued*

A special note on the Trumpeter Swans in the “add-ons” list above: Frank Marengi found a group of ten birds, constituting a new high count for this species on the Jug Bay CBC. These birds were in a restricted area where Frank had obtained permission in advance to enter. Trumpeter Swan was first reported on the Jug Bay CBC in 2006; other reports followed in 2007, 2008, and 2019, but all these previous occurrences were of a single individual.



Photo by Frank Marengi, [Macaulay Library ML291113521](#)

**A few species that are on the field checklist were reported from only one area of the count circle.** In general, these are species that are localized and/or hard to find, or were just plain scarce this year. These include Northern Shoveler; Lesser Scaup; Wild Turkey; Horned Grebe; Purple Sandpiper; Wilson's Snipe; American Woodcock; Lesser Black-backed Gull; and Eastern Screech Owl.

**Eleven species of birds from the field checklist were not found this year**, either on the official count day or during count week:

- Canvasback
- Redhead
- Red-breasted Merganser
- Northern Bobwhite
- Great Egret
- American Coot
- Laughing Gull
- Marsh Wren
- Common Yellowthroat
- Pine Warbler
- White-crowned Sparrow

The next Jug Bay Christmas Bird Count will take place on **Sunday, December 19, 2021**. Area assignments will be made starting around November 15<sup>th</sup> and the aim is to have all counters assigned to a territory by December 10<sup>th</sup>, to allow time for participants to do some advance scouting of their assigned areas. If you'd like to be added to the mailing list of possible participants, please send an email to Marcia Watson at [REDACTED]. Being on the mailing list just puts you in a pool of people interested in the count. You can make a final decision as to whether you definitely want to participate when December arrives. I hope you'll come on out – it's always a fun day.

See below for the full list of species and numbers of each species reported on the count this year. *Many thanks to all our counters!*

Snow Goose – 3  
Cackling Goose – 6  
Canada Goose – 11,686  
Mute Swan – 2

Trumpeter Swan – 10  
Tundra Swan – 106  
Wood Duck – 6  
Gadwall – 145  
American Wigeon – 1  
American Black Duck – 393  
Mallard – 818

***Northern Shoveler – Count Week***

Northern Pintail – 25  
Green-winged Teal – 69  
Ring-necked Duck – 233  
Greater Scaup – 47  
Lesser Scaup – 5  
Surf Scoter – 282  
White-winged Scoter – 2  
Black Scoter – 225  
Scoter sp. – 100  
Long-tailed Duck – 105  
Bufflehead – 549

Red-tailed Hawk – 29  
Clapper Rail – 1  
Virginia Rail – 14  
Sora – 2  
Killdeer – 61

***Purple Sandpiper – Count Week***

Wilson's Snipe – 3  
American Woodcock – 2

***Greater Yellowlegs – Count Week***

Ring-billed Gull – 2,578  
Herring Gull – 916

***Lesser Black-backed Gull – Count Week***

Great Black-backed Gull – 83  
Gull sp. – 24  
Rock Pigeon – 592  
Mourning Dove – 259  
Barn Owl – 3  
Eastern Screech-Owl – 3  
Great Horned Owl – 7  
Barred Owl – 4  
Belted Kingfisher – 27  
Red-headed Woodpecker – 5  
Red-bellied Woodpecker – 151

Brown Creeper – 17  
Winter Wren – 32  
Carolina Wren – 407  
Golden-crowned Kinglet – 13  
Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 48  
Eastern Bluebird – 249  
Hermit Thrush – 75  
American Robin – 1,170  
Gray Catbird – 12  
Brown Thrasher – 23  
Northern Mockingbird – 87  
European Starling – 2,623  
American Pipit – 259  
Cedar Waxwing – 594  
Palm Warbler – 2  
Yellow-rumped Warbler – 10  
Lapland Longspur – 2  
American Tree Sparrow – 4  
Chipping Sparrow – 4  
Field Sparrow – 69  
Fox Sparrow – 32  
Dark-eyed Junco – 1,182  
White-throated Sparrow – 2,642

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Common Goldeneye – 32	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker – 57	Vesper Sparrow – 1
Hooded Merganser – 41	Downy Woodpecker – 121	Savannah Sparrow – 51
Common Merganser – 89	Hairy Woodpecker – 48	Song Sparrow – 663
Ruddy Duck – 319	Northern Flicker – 96	Swamp Sparrow – 109
Wild Turkey – 12	Pileated Woodpecker – 60	Eastern Towhee – 72
Common Loon – 4	American Kestrel – 7	Northern Cardinal – 498
Pied-billed Grebe – 2	Merlin – 1	Red-winged Blackbird – 73,915
Horned Grebe – 3	Peregrine Falcon – 1	Eastern Meadowlark – 51
Northern Gannet – 1	Eastern Phoebe – 14	Rusty Blackbird – 66
Double-crested Cormorant – 155	Blue Jay – 189	Common Grackle – 2,488
Great Blue Heron – 36	American Crow – 851	Brown-headed Cowbird – 108
Black Vulture – 505	Fish Crow – 179	<i>Blackbird sp.</i> – 59
Turkey Vulture – 339	<i>Crow sp.</i> – 425	House Finch – 67
Bald Eagle – 74	Common Raven – 4	Purple Finch – 75
Northern Harrier – 14	Horned Lark – 1	Red Crossbill – Count Week
Sharp-shinned Hawk – 3	Carolina Chickadee – 181	Pine Siskin – 11
Cooper's Hawk – 6	Tufted Titmouse – 158	American Goldfinch – 155
<i>Accipiter sp.</i> – 1	Red-breasted Nuthatch – 26	House Sparrow – 86
Red-shouldered Hawk – 29	White-breasted Nuthatch – 98	



### Patuxent Bird Club 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

This year, Patuxent Bird Club is celebrating its 60th Anniversary, having held its first meeting on September 27, 1960. To commemorate the anniversary, below is the list of those who have served as President of the Patuxent Bird Club since its founding, along with brief notes on some of the notable ornithologists who have been our leaders. Many thanks to Fred Fallon who searched his files to help compile the list.

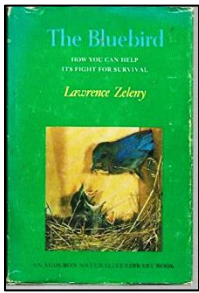
#### Patuxent Bird Club Presidents

1.	Melvin H. Kleen (served concurrently as MOS Vice President 1962-1966)	1961 - 1965
2.	Morris R. Collins	1965 - 1969
3.	<b>Lawrence Zeleny</b> (served concurrently as MOS President 1971-1973)	1969 - 1972
4.	Jerry Longcore	1972 - 1973
5.	<b>Joanne K. Solem</b>	1973 - 1974
6.	Ellen Gizzarelli	1974 - 1976
7.	Paul and Linda Bystrak	1976 - 1977
8.	Paul Bystrak	1977 - 1979
9.	<b>Sam Droege</b>	1979 - 1981
10.	Virginia Kuykendall	1981 - 1983
11.	<b>William L. Murphy</b>	1984 - 1986
12.	<b>Sam Droege</b>	1986 - 1989
13.	<b>Chandler S. Robbins</b>	1989 - 1990
14.	David Mozurkewich	1990 - 1992
15.	Pamela H. Stephen	1993 - 1995
16.	Tom Loomis	1995 - 1998
17.	David Mozurkewich	1998 - 1999
18.	Tom Loomis	1999 - 2000
19.	Frederick Fallon	2000 - 2004
20.	Fred Shaffer	2004 - 2007
21.	Fred Fallon	2007 - 2009
22.	David Mozurkewich	2009 - 2014
23.	Marcia Watson/Fred Fallon	2014 - 2016
24.	Fred Fallon	2016 - 2018
25.	Marcia Watson	2018 - present

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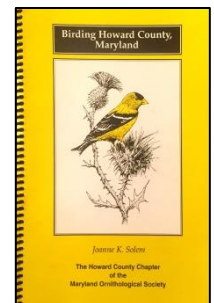
*Patuxent Bird Club 60<sup>th</sup>, Continued*

The Patuxent Bird Club has been fortunate to count several notable ornithologists and authors among its presidents.



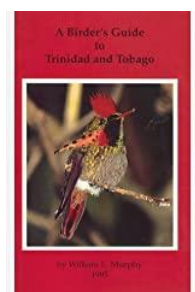
**Dr. Lawrence Zeleny** (1904-1995), the 3<sup>rd</sup> President of the Patuxent Bird Club, is renowned as the “father of the bluebird trail.” He is widely credited with the recovery of bluebird populations in the US. Larry was a biochemist who worked at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC). After his retirement in 1967, he received permission to erect bluebird nest boxes at BARC; this became the nation’s first-ever bluebird trail. The success of his nest box endeavor in increasing bluebird numbers led Larry to develop an MOS bluebird project to encourage others to set up bluebird nest box trails. Eventually this endeavor led to the launch of the [North American Bluebird Society](#) (NABS) in 1978. The following year, a NABS leaflet on bluebirds was mentioned in an article in *Parade* magazine, the Sunday supplement that reached readers across the country. In response, **80,000 requests** were received for the leaflet - people sent in a quarter and a self-address, stamped envelope to receive the leaflet. Volunteers from MOS and from NABS were organized to respond to the requests. There are tales of volunteers hauling sacks of quarters to the bank, and of stacks of mail piled waist-high. Larry started a movement that is still going strong today. Although his original target species was the Eastern Bluebird, the nest box approach has been adapted for Mountain and Western Bluebirds as well, thus serving all three US bluebird species.

**Joanne K. Solem** was the Patuxent Bird Club president from 1973 to 1974, and was the first woman to serve in that position. She was a strong supporter of Larry Zeleny’s bluebird project and became the second editor of *Sialia*, the journal of the North American Bluebird Society. After relocating, Jo went on to become the president of the Howard County Bird Club and edited the book *Birding Howard County, Maryland*, published by the Howard County Chapter of MOS in 1995. This book is now out of print but has been replaced by an extensive online guide at <https://howardbirds.website/birding/birding-howard-county-md/>. Jo and her husband Bob are also known for an online photographic guide to mushrooms and other fungi, available at <https://howardbirds.website/photo-galleries/fungi-photos/>. Jo remains active in the Howard Bird Club and MOS and has led many projects for these groups.



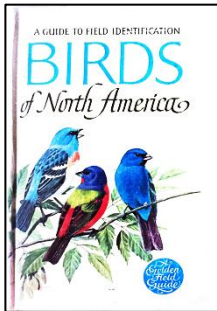
**Sam Droege** served twice as Patuxent Bird Club President, from 1979 to 1981 and again from 1986-1989. Sam is a wildlife biologist at the USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center and the head of its [Native Bee Inventory and Monitoring Lab](#). Sam has become famous as the “bee guy,” promoting the study of the 4,000+ species of native bees in North America. But he’s not just about bees. Sam has coordinated the North American Breeding Bird Survey Program and the North American Bird Phenology Program, and he developed the North American Amphibian Monitoring Program, the BioBlitz, Cricket Crawl, and FrogwatchUSA programs. His technical [publications](#) through the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center are numerous and wide-ranging, covering not only birds and bees but also frogs, toads, and salamanders and also focusing on specific habitat and physiographic areas. His book *Bees: An Up-Close Look at Pollinators Around the World* (2015) features amazing three-dimensional color photographs of bees taken with a special computerized camera set-up that Sam developed.

**William L. Murphy**, who served as club president from 1984 to 1986, was an ecotour leader and is an expert on birds of Caribbean. His book, *A Birder’s Guide to Trinidad and Tobago*, was originally published in 1986 and was updated and revised in 1995. The book has helped many a birder prepare for their trips to the island nation. The book is now out of print but still available through re-sellers on Amazon. Now retired from a career with the federal government, Bill is a Research Collaborator with the Department of Entomology at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History, working on snail-killing flies. Bill now lives in Indiana and has been active in the Amos Butler Audubon Society, having served on its board and as the editor of its newsletter, and has served on three rare bird review committees (Ohio, Indiana, and Trinidad and Tobago).



*Continued next page*



*Patuxent Bird Club 60<sup>th</sup>, Continued*

**Dr. Chandler S. Robbins (1918-2017)** is the most famous of Patuxent Bird Club's line of Presidents. He spent essentially his entire career at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. His accomplishments as an ornithologist are too numerous to name in their entirety. He is famous as the lead author of the *Birds of North America - A Guide to Field Identification* (1966), known to generations of birders simply as the *Golden Guide*. He is equally famous worldwide as the person who banded the albatross Wisdom, considered the world's oldest living bird. Wisdom was banded by Chan on Midway Island in 1956, making her at least 66 years old, and she is still laying eggs! Chan was a prolific



Chan with Wisdom,  
Photo courtesy USFWS

author, with more than 650 publications to his name. He developed the protocols for the North American Breeding Bird Survey and the Breeding Bird Atlas. Chan and his wife Eleanor (1916-2008) were influential leaders of the Patuxent Bird Club, MOS, and numerous other organizations. For details on Chan & Eleanor's contributions to MOS, see the dedication for the *Birder's Guide to Maryland & DC* at <https://birdersguidemddc.org/about-us/dedication/>. For more on Chan, including a complete list of publications, see the fine memorial website maintained by USGS at <https://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/robbins/index.cfm>. Read more about Wisdom at [https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Midway\\_Atoll/wildlife\\_and\\_habitat/Wisdom\\_Profile.html](https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Midway_Atoll/wildlife_and_habitat/Wisdom_Profile.html).



### News in Brief from MOS

*Provided by John McKitterick, MOS President and Maryanne Dolan, MOS Secretary*

#### MOS Convention Going Virtual

As previously announced, MOS will be conducting a virtual annual convention **June 11 - 13, 2021** with the breeding bird atlas activities as a theme. You can find the latest information about the convention on the convention website, <http://www.mosconvention.org/>. This year the **convention is free of charge to all active MOS members**.

Due to COVID-19, the format will be different than that of previous conventions. There will be **no formal field trips with leaders**; instead MOS will encourage self-guided trips with follow-up online chat rooms to discuss what was seen. There will be **speakers**, both live and recorded, as well as **two keynote addresses** and a **poster session**. The **pin contest** has already begun, and you can still **submit your artwork until March 15, 2021**. There will be a **photo contest**, though the rules and format will be different than in previous years.

The Virtual Convention is looking for people who are willing and able to help with the online aspects of the convention. In particular, volunteers are needed to help out with the **Zoom and Google Meet field trip discussion sessions** to make sure that everything is going smoothly. In addition, MOS **needs volunteers** for things like the **Tally Rally**. If you are interested in helping out, please email [REDACTED].

#### MOS President Seeks Your Input

MOS President John McKitterick has made a personal vow to improve communications throughout MOS – a challenging task since MOS is such a big, sprawling organization with many moving parts. As part of this effort, John wants to make it easy for MOS members – that's you – to communicate with MOS Central. There are three ways:

1. By sending an email to [REDACTED] (which will go directly to John);
2. By posting questions or suggestions using the contact form on the MOS website (<https://mdbirds.org/resources/contact-mos/>);
3. Or by communicating through the member's chapter president (that's Marcia Watson for Patuxent Bird Club)..

In particular, John would like to get some sense of **what you would like to see as a growth path for MOS**. What should MOS be doing that it isn't now? What should MOS stop doing that it is doing now? Please let John know what's on your mind regarding the future of MOS.

*Continued next page*

### MOS Contacts List for the Media

MOS is putting together a list of MOS experts who are willing to speak to newspaper and television reporters and online media about birds, the environment, our birding pursuits, and so on. If you would like to be included on the list, please send your name and areas of expertise to [REDACTED] (this will go directly to John McKitterick).

### Future Outdoors MD Episode on Painted Bunting with Gabriel Foley

The Maryland Public Television show Outdoors Maryland recently sent a reporter and camera crew out to Great Falls on the C&O Canal in Montgomery County, where a Painted Bunting has been hanging out for weeks. The episode will air at some time in the future (we don't have a date), and will feature an on-site interview with Gabriel Foley, the state coordinator for the Third Breeding Bird Atlas of Maryland & DC. So watch your local listings and tune in! Outdoors Maryland airs on Tuesdays at 7:30 pm. Past episodes of Outdoors MD are available to view – for free – on the Outdoors Maryland website: <https://www.mpt.org/programs/outdoors-maryland/>.

### YMOS Photo Big Day – Big Success!

As a fundraiser, YMOS (the youth arm of MOS) held a Photo Big Day on December 12<sup>th</sup>. The day was fantastically successful, with 136 species photographed, including a likely Pacific-slope Flycatcher, a rarity for our state. Well over \$1,000 was raised, with the proceeds going to [Lights Out Baltimore](#). This is likely to become an annual holiday event for YMOS.

### Online Donations to MOS

President John McKitterick reports that MOS has garnered more than \$5,000 in donations made through the MOS website, just since September 1. Included in that total are a number of donations to local chapters. Many people find it much easier to donate on-line than to write a check, and as a result, donations to MOS have increased since adding the DONATE button to the MOS website. Of particular note were several donations made to the Frederick Bird Club in association with their Big Sit Fundraiser in October.

### Reminder: Virtual Meetings Hosted by MOS Chapters

As previously announced, most of the MOS chapters throughout the state have opened their virtual meetings to members of other chapters. This brings the roster of speakers to a much wider audience and allows interaction among members throughout the state. The MOS chapter presidents have worked hard, as a group, to make it possible to open their meetings. None of the chapters charge a fee to participate in a meeting but most require pre-registration in order to manage the seats available. You can easily find a list of the upcoming virtual MOS chapter meetings by going to <https://mdbirds.org/calendar/?tribe-bar-date=2021-03&tribe-bar-search=Meeting>.

And, two of the MOS chapters, Anne Arundel and Howard, have started their own **YouTube channels** where you can view recorded videos of past chapter meetings. There are also YouTube channels for two of the regional Audubon societies and for a number of other nature-related organizations. There is even a YouTube channel featuring short video visits to some of the MOS Sanctuaries. Use the links below to access the channels.

Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCV9A14JMYUtQk6sn641zg">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCV9A14JMYUtQk6sn641zg</a>
Anne Arundel Bird Club	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn3B0JTb07SjWgDx52RHkXg">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCn3B0JTb07SjWgDx52RHkXg</a>
Audubon Society of Central MD	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJLCmS3q1JLCpPnVj77hEbQ">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJLCmS3q1JLCpPnVj77hEbQ</a>
Forests for the Bay	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCC00QnNhmtEpKLXgYPjaxug">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCC00QnNhmtEpKLXgYPjaxug</a>
Howard Bird Club	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRjYloPT9nwGkGp7yLyv76g">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRjYloPT9nwGkGp7yLyv76g</a>
MD Dept of Natural Resources	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/user/AccessDNR">https://www.youtube.com/user/AccessDNR</a>
MD Native Plant Society	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAnn679g3zyiyD-Sj51z0oQ">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAnn679g3zyiyD-Sj51z0oQ</a>
MOS Sanctuaries	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCskeAegl-taqbgLb6G_NW8g/videos">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCskeAegl-taqbgLb6G_NW8g/videos</a>
Natural History Society of MD	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEx9fyS4qAxb516d5uLbXtw">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEx9fyS4qAxb516d5uLbXtw</a>
Southern MD Audubon Society	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqMaLrWrpzF0cXZEKvKnhg">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqMaLrWrpzF0cXZEKvKnhg</a>

### Used Binoculars Wanted

Member Maureen Blades forwarded an email from former bird club member Abbie Banks. Abbie now lives in Englewood, Florida and is active with the Venice Area Birding Association (VABA). Abbie writes "We have a VABA member looking for a pair of **very good binoculars**." If anyone has a pair for sale, please let Abbie know and she will forward your name and email to the person asking for the binoculars. Abbie can be reached at [REDACTED].

## Conservation Alert: Plan to Develop Guilford Woods in College Park

*by Leo Shapiro*

An approximately 10-acre tract of forested land adjacent to the University of Maryland College Park campus is currently threatened by development. The land is used as an informal nature study and walking area by the community. The University of Maryland and the Gilbane Development Company are moving forward with plans to deforest a large portion of this environmentally sensitive area (most of Guilford Woods and a significant portion of the Guilford Run headwaters) for the construction of private townhomes and graduate student housing. The project would involve the sale of forested state-owned land to the private developer for a fraction of market value. There is broad support for providing affordable graduate housing and transit-oriented housing in the area, but local people feel that this should be carried out in an environmentally and fiscally responsible way.

For more information and to TAKE ACTION, visit the Save Guilford Woods website at <https://saveguilfordwoods.wordpress.com/take-action/>. For further information about Guilford Woods and Guilford Run, visit the Friends of Guilford Woods website at <https://friendsofguilfordwoods.weebly.com/>. You may also wish to sign the petition at <https://saveguilfordwoods.wordpress.com/petition-to-save-guilford-woods/>.

## Reminder: MagLev High Speed Train Comments Due April 22nd

As reported in our [January-February newsletter](#), the proposed MagLev high-speed train between Baltimore and Washington will destroy valuable habitat at Patuxent Research Refuge, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC), the National Park Service property along the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, the Greenbelt Forest Preserve, and numerous county and local parks in the path of the train.

We are currently at a **critical time-point** with regard to the ability to halt this project. The federally-required [Draft Environmental Impact Statement \(DEIS\)](#) is available for **public review and comment until April 22, 2021**.

The DEIS is huge, over 4,100 pages including its multi-part appendices. Two groups, the Maryland Coalition for Responsible Transit (MCRT) and the Citizens against the SCMagLev (CATS) have recruited experts who are examining and analyzing the DEIS. The DEIS team has found a large number of flaws and omissions. Based on its review, MCRT and CATS are encouraging citizens to submit comments on the DEIS and to support the **No-Build option**, that is, to advocate that the MagLev project be abandoned.

The DEIS presents two possible routes for the train: one on the east side of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, and one on the west side. Although much of the train route would be in deep tunnels, **the part that would go through Patuxent Research Refuge, and/or BARC and the City of Greenbelt would be above ground and elevated on piers as high as 150 feet, towering over the trees**. The project would also involve the construction of a 200-acre train maintenance facility that would be a heavy industry site; this facility would be placed on BARC or adjacent to the North Tract of Patuxent Research Refuge.

The MagLev project would require local roads to be permanently re-routed; streams and rivers to be diverted; hundreds of acres of trees and shrubs to be removed; wetlands to be destroyed; and valuable habitat to be destroyed forever. This project would permanently damage the one remaining large forested tract in our region.

In addition to the environmental concerns, there are **human concerns** such as health impacts, train safety, damage to community resources such as historic sites, and costs. Ironically, though the project is being promoted as “green,” it appears that it would actually use more power than it would save.

The MCRT and CATS websites contain many **resources** to help you formulate comments on the MagLev DEIS. See <https://www.stopthistrain.org/> and <https://mcrtcoalition.wixsite.com/website>.



Artist's rendering of elevated MagLev viaduct at BW Parkway exit for Patuxent South Tract and BARC at Powder Mill Rd. Source: DEIS Appendix D.06.

*Continued next page*

*MagLev Comments, Continued*

The MagLev **DEIS** itself can be downloaded from <https://bwmaglev.info/project-documents/deis>. Use the drop-down menu to download the separate sections of the DEIS. Notice that there is a separate drop-down menu for the appendices and this is where the meat of much of the report is located, so it's important to look through these.

**Submit comments by April 22<sup>nd</sup>** by following the instructions at <https://bwmaglev.info/project-documents/deis>.

Since Patuxent Research Refuge, BARC, and the Baltimore-Washington Parkway are federal properties, we believe that it is important for you to also **send copies of your DEIS comments to the particular Congressman who represents your district and to both our Senators**. Websites with contact information for the Maryland Congressional delegation is below.

Your comments can be as simple as "I am opposed to the MagLev project because of its environmental impacts. I support the No-Build option."

Or, you can choose to go into detail about aspects of the project that particularly bother you. A set of White Papers at <https://www.stophisttrain.org/research-and-white-papers> and at <https://mcrcoalition.wixsite.com/website/scmaglev-opposition> can help you formulate detailed comments.

Remember, our Refuge is irreplaceable. If you are hesitating as to whether to get involved, please remember that the Patuxent Research Refuge was the research home of our esteemed former Patuxent Bird Club President, Chan Robbins. Please do what you can to help save the Refuge - **do it for Chan**.


Website with contact information for the Maryland Congressional delegation:

Senator Benjamin Cardin	<a href="https://www.cardin.senate.gov/contact/email-ben">https://www.cardin.senate.gov/contact/email-ben</a>
Senator Chris Van Hollen	<a href="https://www.vanhollen.senate.gov/contact">https://www.vanhollen.senate.gov/contact</a>
Congressman Andy Harris (1 <sup>st</sup> District)	<a href="https://harris.house.gov/zip-code-lookup?form=/contact/email/send-andy-email">https://harris.house.gov/zip-code-lookup?form=/contact/email/send-andy-email</a>
Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger (2 <sup>nd</sup> District)	<a href="https://ruppersberger.house.gov/contact-dutch">https://ruppersberger.house.gov/contact-dutch</a>
Congressman John Sarbanes (3 <sup>rd</sup> District)	<a href="https://sarbanes.house.gov/contact">https://sarbanes.house.gov/contact</a>
Congressman Anthony Brown (4 <sup>th</sup> District)	<a href="https://anthonybrown.house.gov/contact/">https://anthonybrown.house.gov/contact/</a>
Congressman Steny Hoyer (5 <sup>th</sup> District)	<a href="https://hoyer.house.gov/help/contact">https://hoyer.house.gov/help/contact</a>
Congressman David Trone (6 <sup>th</sup> District)	<a href="https://trone.house.gov/contact">https://trone.house.gov/contact</a>
Congressman Kweisi Mfume (7 <sup>th</sup> District)	<a href="https://mfume.house.gov/contact">https://mfume.house.gov/contact</a>
Congressman Jamie Raskin (8 <sup>th</sup> District)	<a href="https://raskin.house.gov/contact">https://raskin.house.gov/contact</a>

## COVID Vaccination Scheduling Tips – A Public Service Announcement

- In Maryland, individuals in [Phases 1A, 1B and 1C](#) are eligible to be vaccinated now.
- Go to the [Maryland Vaccination Site Locator](#) for the list of places offering vaccines.
- Each place has their own appointment scheduling process. Appointments are very limited, but new appointments are added often. The best advice is to try multiple places and keep trying until you're successful.
- [Pre-register with Prince George's County](#) to be notified when there is an appointment available for you at one of the County Health Department vaccination sites.
- Text "MDReady" to 898-211 to request text alerts when vaccines are available through the State mass vaccination sites, including Six Flags in Bowie. This text message system works!
- Maryland's new COVID-19 Vaccination Support Center is available at 1-855-MDGOVAX (1-855-634-6829) to help schedule appointments for those without internet access. The call line is open seven days a week from 7 am – 10 pm. Callers can get information on vaccines, identify providers in their area, and schedule appointments at Six Flags and other State-run mass vaccination sites.
- The State also has a helpful [Frequently Asked Vaccine Questions page](#).


### COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATES



**WEB**

Vaccine resources:  
[covidlink.maryland.gov](https://covidlink.maryland.gov)


Vaccine data:  
[coronavirus.maryland.gov/#Vaccine](https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/#Vaccine)



**ALERTS**

Maryland 211 text alerts:  
Text "MdReady" to 898-211

Email updates from Governor Hogan:  
[bit.ly/GovHoganNewsletter](https://bit.ly/GovHoganNewsletter)



**SOCIAL MEDIA**

@MDHealthDept  
@CDCGov @MDMEMA  
@GovLarryHogan



## Notable Bird Sightings in Prince George's County January and February, 2021



*See a selection of photos on the next page.*

The early part of January was studded with rarities found during the tail end of the Christmas Bird Count season, but then the remainder of the month of January and early February were a tad slow. Things picked up during the four-day Great Backyard Bird Count, February 12<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>. But still, there are only a small number of species on our list this time.

The **Greater White-fronted Geese** found in late December at [Beltsville Agricultural Research Center](#) lingered through the early days of January (Kevin Bennett, Jans Holbrook) and were seen again in early and late February (Kevin Bennett, Art Drauglis, Michel Cavigelli, Matt Felperin, Elaine Hendricks); the geese were in small numbers, just two, three, or four at a time. Another Greater White-fronted Goose was seen at [Oxon Hill Farm](#) on February 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> (Marisa Rositol, Josh Berman).

**Trumpeter Swans** have been frequenting [North Tract](#) and a couple other spots in Anne Arundel County over the last few years, but have mostly been ignoring Prince George's. We finally scored when 3 of the big guys showed up at the large pond in the Melford Business Park on January 1<sup>st</sup> (Fred Shaffer). Two Trumpeters were at Melford again on January 30<sup>th</sup> (Fred Shaffer, Marisa Rositol). Check out Fred's photo on the next page – the Canada Geese are dwarfed by the huge swans.

As reported previously, the usual wintertime **Short-eared Owl** show has been ongoing at Konterra Fields since November 4<sup>th</sup>. Usually two or three birds have been seen, but a high count of eight was reported on February 26<sup>th</sup>. Many have thought it odd that all of our county Short-ears seem to be concentrated at Konterra. But Michel Cavigelli found a Short-eared at [Beltsville Agricultural Research Center](#) on January 21<sup>st</sup>, and has seen the bird off and on since then. A reminder that Konterra Fields is private property and entry on your own is strictly prohibited, but Jay Sheppard has permission from the owner to lead field trips to see the owls. If interested in getting on the mailing list for Jay's field trips, email a request to Jay Sheppard at [REDACTED]. Mention that you're with Patuxent Bird Club. [Beltsville Agricultural Research Center](#) is also restricted but some birding is possible from public roads; click the link on the place name for details. ↑

**Red-breasted Nuthatches** have been seen sporadically around the county during this irruption year. They started showing up again on February 12th in Greenbelt (Stephanie O'Brien) and in Bowie (Mary DeLia). Since that date, there has been an explosion of them all over the county, especially during the Great Backyard Bird Count weekend – far too many to list.

**Purple Finches** also started re-appearing in various spots – Laurel, Bowie, Hyattsville – around February 12th (they must have been shadowing the Red-breasted Nuthatches) (Kenneth Cohen, Jeremiah Schatt, Raven Frost, Alix Evans). The finches persisted in many locations throughout the county through the Great Backyard Bird Count weekend and are still turning up here and there.

A **Common Redpoll** was found at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Refuge on January 1<sup>st</sup> during the Bowie Christmas Count (Mikey Lutmerding). This was in the restricted entry Central Tract of the Patuxent Research Refuge.

Three **Lapland Longspurs** were found by Marisa Rositol at [Beltsville Agricultural Research Center](#) on February 14. Mikey Lutmerding found a **Lincoln's Sparrow** at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center on January 1<sup>st</sup> during the Bowie CBC.

Two **American Tree Sparrows** were at [Beltsville Agricultural Research Center](#) on February 13<sup>th</sup> and five more were seen at a different location with BARC on February 14<sup>th</sup>; also there were three on February 22<sup>nd</sup> (Michel Cavigelli). Another was at a feeder in Bowie on February 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> (Marcia Watson & Gene Scarpulla). Once considered common winter visitors to Maryland, they are now extremely scarce.

A **White-crowned Sparrow** was seen at [Merkle NRMA](#) on February 21<sup>st</sup> (David Livengood, Ann Hobbs, Marisa Rositol). It is sad to see that this attractive sparrow is now relegated to the Rare Bird Reports. These sparrows used to be found in winter throughout agricultural areas where there were good hedgerows and shrubby fallow fields. Now, sadly, increased efficiency of farming practices has meant less winter habitat for these sparrows as well as American Tree Sparrows and other species.

The **Orange-crowned Warbler** that has been seen along the [Anacostia River Trail in Bladensburg](#) since December 20<sup>th</sup> was still there at least until February 12<sup>th</sup> (Kevin Bennett, Art Drauglis, Marisa Rositol, Kent Fothergill). An Orange-crowned also showed up at [Oxon Hill Farm](#) on February 21<sup>st</sup> (Marisa Rositol) – maybe the one from Bladensburg on its way out?

## Notable Birds in Photos



**Greater White-fronted Geese**, photo by Marisa Rositol, Oxon Hill Farm, 2/24/21, Macaulay Library ML311154591



**Trumpeter Swans**, photo by Fred Shaffer, Melford Pond, 1/1/21, Macaulay Library ML293347931



**Trumpeter Swan**, photo by Marisa Rositol, Melford Pond, 1/30/21, Macaulay Library ML302711861



**Short-eared Owl**, photo by Andrea Conte, Konterra Drive Fields & Ponds, 2/3/21, Macaulay Library ML304188101



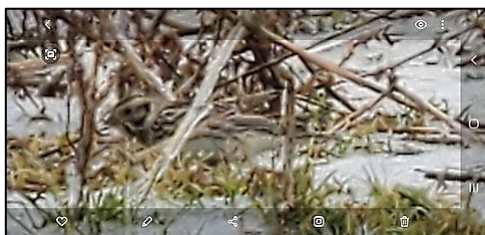
**Red-breasted Nuthatch**, photo by Don & Kate Woodward, Bowie, 2/13/21, Macaulay Library ML308920681



**Purple Finch**, photo by Don & Kate Woodward, Bowie, 2/13/21, Macaulay Library ML308921111



**Purple Finch**, photo by Jack Saba, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, 1/1/21, Macaulay Library ML293618661



**Lapland Longspur**, photo by Marisa Rositol, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, 2/14/21, Macaulay Library ML307617631



**American Tree Sparrow**, photo Michel Cavigelli, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, 2/13/21, Macaulay Library ML310627261

## Your Submissions Invited

Do you have an idea for an article you would like to see published in a future issue of *News from the 'Hood*? Send a note with your suggestion or, better yet, a draft article to the editor, Marcia Watson at [REDACTED]. Concerned that you're not a good writer? No worries – Marcia will happily help with your article. Deadline for submission of completed articles is the 20<sup>th</sup> of even-numbered months (August, October, December, February, and April). If your article is just a rough idea, please allow more time to develop the text and to seek illustrations, if appropriate.



## MOS/Patuxent Bird Club Membership Application



**REQUEST TO ALL CURRENT AND NEW MEMBERS:** If at all possible, please join or renew your membership online at the MOS website (<https://mdbirds.org/>), even if you haven't done so in the past. This will streamline our database maintenance and bookkeeping procedures, and make things easier for our volunteer workforce. At the website, you will be able to choose the Patuxent Bird Club as your local chapter for membership registration and dues payment - and also make charitable donations to the Patuxent Bird Club or to MOS. If, however, you prefer to remit your membership dues by check, please print and complete this form and mail it with your check to the address below. Thank you for your assistance!

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

Full dues include Chapter and MOS State membership, and subscriptions to *Maryland Yellowthroat*, *Maryland Birdlife*, and the Patuxent Bird Club Newsletter. (The Patuxent Bird Club newsletter will be sent by email unless US mail requested). Dues are tax-deductible; see note below.

**Choose Membership category:**

<b>Chapter and State combined membership:</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Household \$33 <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$26 <input type="checkbox"/> Junior (Age < 18) \$6	or	<b>Chapter membership only:</b> (must be a full-paying member of another MOS chapter - indicate primary MOS chapter: _____)  <input type="checkbox"/> Household \$8 <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$6 <input type="checkbox"/> Junior \$1
--	----	--

In addition, I have enclosed a tax-deductible contribution

- ☐ to Patuxent Bird Club in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ to Maryland Ornithological Society in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to **Maryland Ornithological Society** and mail with this completed application to:

**Carol S. Daugherty, MOS Treasurer**  
**11925 Oden Court**  
**Rockville, MD 20852**

"The benefits received from Maryland Ornithological Society membership dues are not considered to be substantial, as determined by criteria in IRS Publication 526. Therefore, members can claim a tax deductible charitable contribution for the full amount of their membership dues."

**THANK YOU AND HAPPY BIRDING!**