

News from the 'Hood

Newsletter of the Patuxent Bird Club
of the Maryland Ornithological Society

September – December 2012

Editor: Fred Fallon, fwfallon@ymail.com



Programs

- September 11, 2012 – “Hummingbirds in Winter”
w/ Bruce Peterjohn
- October 9, 2012 – “Bats”, w/ Dana Limpert
- November 13, 2012 – “Birding exotic Borneo”,
w/ Dave Harvey
- Dec 11, 2012 – Holiday Party at Watkins Park
Nature Center
- January 8, 2013 – “Gull ID” w/ Clive Harris
- February 12, 2013 – “Birding Bhutan” w/ Gail
McKiernan
- March 12, 2013 – “Forensic Ornithology”
w/Carla Dove aka "The Feather Lady"
- April 9, 2013 – “Life History of Redstarts”
w/Clark Rushing
- May 14, 2013 – “Horseshoe Crab Biology & Tagging”
w/Sheila Eyler
- Jun 11, 2013 – Annual Business Meeting: elections,
status reports; “Members’ Night” showing of your
latest photos.

Field Trips

(All trips are held jointly with PGAS)

- Sep 20, Thur 3:00 pm. Semi-monthly bird walk at
Lake Artemesia with David Mozurkewich. Meet at
parking lot at end of Branchville Rd, off Greenbelt
Rd.
- Sep 15, Sat 7:30 am. Monthly bird walk at Gov
Bridge Park with Bill Sefton.
- Sep 16, Sun. Fall Count. Bird favorite area for coun-
ty-wide tally of Fall migrants. Contact PG Coordinator
Dave Mozurkewich <mozurk@bellatlantic.net> ,
301-509-2212. Download a report form from the
MOS website, <MDBIRDS.ORG>
- Oct 4, Thur 3:00 pm. Semi-monthly bird walk at Lake
Artemesia. Meet at parking lot.
- Oct 6, Sat 7:30 am. Monthly bird walk at Fran Uhler
Natural Area with Bill Sefton.
- Oct 18, Thur 3:00 pm. Semi-monthly bird walk at
Lake Artemesia. Meet at parking lot.
- Oct 27, Sat. Patuxent River (s. PG. area) Possible stops
include Jug Bay, Merkle, Milltown landing, and Aq-
uasco Farms; exact itinerary depending on condi-
tions. Contact David Mozurkewich (as under Sep 16.)
Meet at Bowie Park & Ride at 7:15 AM.
- Nov 1, Thur 3:00 pm. Semi-monthly bird walk at Lake
Artemesia. Meet at parking lot.

Field Trips, con't

Nov 3, Sat 7:30 am. Monthly bird walk at Gov Bridge Park

Nov 15, Thur 3:00 pm. Semi-monthly bird walk at Lake Artemesia. Meet at parking lot.

Nov 17, Sat 7:30 am. Monthly bird walk at Gov Bridge Park.

Nov 25, Sun. Afternoon rtrip to Piscataway Park for early waterfowl. Meet at 1 pm at the boardwalk parking lot. Leader David Mozurkewich (as above for Sep 16.)

Dec 1, Sat 7:30 am. Monthly bird walk at Fran Uhler Natural Area.

Dec 2, Sun. Piscataway Creek and Potomac River for waterfowl and other winter birds. Meet at 7:30 AM at Beltway Plaza on Rt 450, e. end of parking lot , or at the end of Wharf Rd at 8:15.

Dec 6, Thur 3:00 pm. Semi-monthly bird walk at Lake Artemesia. Meet at parking lot.

Dec 15, Sat 7:30 am. Monthly bird walk at Gov Bridge Park.

Dec 16, Sun. All day. Jug Bay Christmas Bird Count (CBC). Contact compiler Sam Droege, <sdroege@usgs.gov>

Dec 14, Thur 3:00 pm. Semi-monthly bird walk at Lake Artemesia. Meet at parking lot.

Jan 1, 2013, Tue. All day. Bowie CBC. Open to all. Contact compiler David Mozurkewich for area to cover. <mozurk@bellatlantic.net>, 301-509-2212.

Fall Migration is Here

Fall migration tends to receive less attention than its spring counterpart. In contrast to spring, when migrants alert us to their presence and identity by characteristic songs, during fall they are usually quiet with perhaps only a generic chip now and then. Then too, the first year birds usually look quite different from their parents, and even the adults, in some species, wear a duller or maybe a completely different plumage altogether than in spring – hence the “confusing fall warblers.”

But fall has its advantages – there are many *more* migrants because their numbers are greatly augmented by the young of the year. For this reason some banding stations operate only during the fall. Fall migration also lasts much longer – from mid-Aug to mid-October for many passerines, with sparrows even later, and raptors later yet.

In your yard, you can sometimes coax otherwise inconspicuous migrants into view by providing a water feature, such as a hose set on spray directed into a brushy or wooded edge. A fancier feature that often proves irresistible to weary migrants is a cascade type where the water flows down a series of shelves or pots and is recirculated by a pump.

You can also locate vocal flocks of chickadees and titmice and look through them for something different – lonely like-size migrants often join the locals for the safety of a group and its knowledge of the local food and water resources.

MOS has recognized the importance of fall migration by sponsoring a Fall Count since 2005, held the 3rd Sat of September – or optionally the next day, Sunday. This Fall Count is organized by county the same way as the May Count. Prince Georges County holds its Fall Count on the Sunday, this year Sep 16. You may like to bird a favorite area that day and turn in your sightings. See the item for that date under “Field Trips” above for more information.

Handy Birding Pack for deserving young Birder

MOS has made available to all chapters a pack consisting of a pair of binoculars, a beginner's field guide, the "Yellow Book", other bird books, a notebook, all in a sturdy back-pack. This package is free to some deserving student, grades 5 or 6 thru 9.

We invite club members to consider the young people of their acquaintance and see if any are aspiring birders who could use some help in getting started. If you know anyone who seems deserving, submit his/her name and your reasons for proposing him for the MOS pack to MOS director Fred Falon, and ask the youngster to support that claim with his own brief letter setting out his birding interest.

"Birds of North America " (BNA) to be on-line for MOS members

Birds of North America is the massive compendium of almost all that's known about all bird species that occur in North America. The printed edition fills 2 shelves and is so expensive that virtually no-one except libraries own their own copy. Library copies are typically kept under lock and key. But an on-line version is available by subscription from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. MOS members will soon be able to subscribe for a reduced annual rate, probably \$20/yr vs the normal \$40, giving unlimited access to this valuable resource. Stay tuned.

New On-line Forum for MD Bird Sightings and Discussions

The popular e-mail based MD birding forum MDOsprey, widely used for the past 25 years, but hampered by a limitation on the number of subscribers, has been superseded by a new version, MD Birding. The "feel" is almost the same as MDOsprey. To subscribe, visit
<<http://www.mdbirding.com/signup.html>>

Treasurer's Report for 2011-2012

Beginning Balance	May 1, 2011	\$2,199.05
Expenses		
Dues to MOS, 2010-2011	\$200.00	
Dues to MOS, 2011-2012	\$765.00	
Speakers	\$150.00	
Total Expenses		-\$1,115.00
Income		
Dues	\$927.00	
Total income		\$927.00
Ending Balance, Apr 30, 2012		\$2,011.05

Membership Report May 1, 2011 – Apr 30, 2012

	1-May-11	1-May-12
Single Memberships	21	24
Household Memberships	9	11
Total Members (counting all Household members)	39	49
Affiliate Members	2	2
Life Members	3	3

Photo Page



FW Fallon

Precursor to fall –this Scarlet Tanager is transitioning from summer scarlet to winter green.



FW Fallon

Greater Yellowlegs foraging in an inland pool near Aquasco, on this year's May Count.



Summer Tanagers – male and female, at Aquasco Farm

“News from the Hood” welcomes your contributions to this page. Send your favorite photo in jpg format, preferably from PG County or nearby, to the editor. (fwfallon@ymail.com). Photo credit will be given for all printed.

Patuxent Bird Club Chapter of MOS List of Officers and Board

President – David Mozurkewich	Directors, 1st year	Directors, 2 nd year
Vice-president – Fred Fallon	Marcia Watson	Mike Sampson
Secretary – Lynette Fullerton	Joanna Lutmerding	Bill Sefton
Treasurer/membership – Jane Fallon	Fred Shaffer	Elwood Martin
	Field Trips – Fred Shaffer	
	Newsletter – Fred Fallon	
	State director – Fred Fallon	

(Chapter “Directors” are board members. “State directors” are the chapters’ delegates to the MOS.)

MOS/Patuxent Bird Club Membership Application

2012/2013

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip code:

Phone:

E-Mail:

Dues include Chapter and MOS State membership, and subscriptions to *Maryland Yellowthroat*, *Maryland Birdlife*, and the Patuxent Bird Club Newsletter. (The newsletter will be sent by email unless US mail requested).

Chapter and State combined: Household \$33, Individual \$26, Junior (Age < 18) \$6

Chapter membership only (must be a member of another MOS chapter): Household \$8, Individual \$6, Junior \$1

Make check payable to **Patuxent Bird Club**. Please send application and check to:

Jane Fallon, Treasurer PBC
6711 Venus Dr
Huntingtown, MD 20639