# Maryland Ornithological Society Annual Birding Report For 2015



Rock Wren – Ocean City, Worcester County George Jett

# A Report of MD/DC Birding & Listing

Produced by Russ Ruffing

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# What's The Purpose of This Report?

This is the 30th year that a report of this nature has been compiled and published. The report was begun in 1986 by Harvey Mudd, was taken on by Phil Davis in the early 1990s, and then was passed on to Norm Saunders with the 2001 List Report. After Norm's decade or so of service, Russ Ruffing assumed the reins beginning with the 2011 Report.

This year's report is the fifth installment of the current format that began in 2011 – that is, a comprehensive report that includes a summary of the birding year for the state as a whole, plus one for each county and the District of Columbia. This report also includes all of the current Big Day data that is available for statewide, county, and major region Big Days.

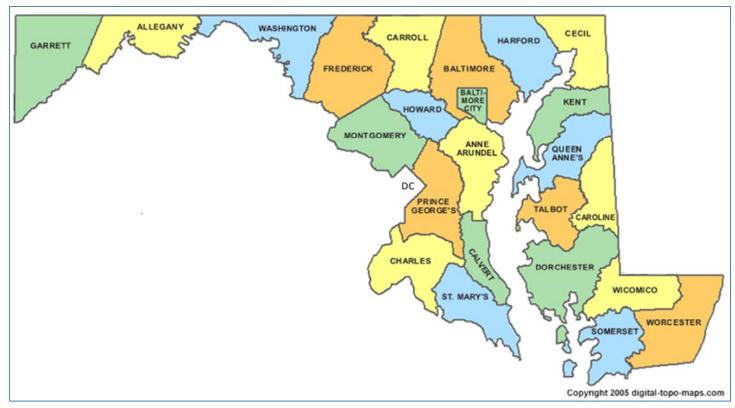
#### **Acknowledgements**

As in previous years, I want to make special mention of Joe Hanfman for providing input on the draft report and for providing information on the frequency of many rarities and for keeping up with all of the additions and subtractions to each county's list throughout the year. Joe's *Table of Species by County* is included as an appendix to this report.

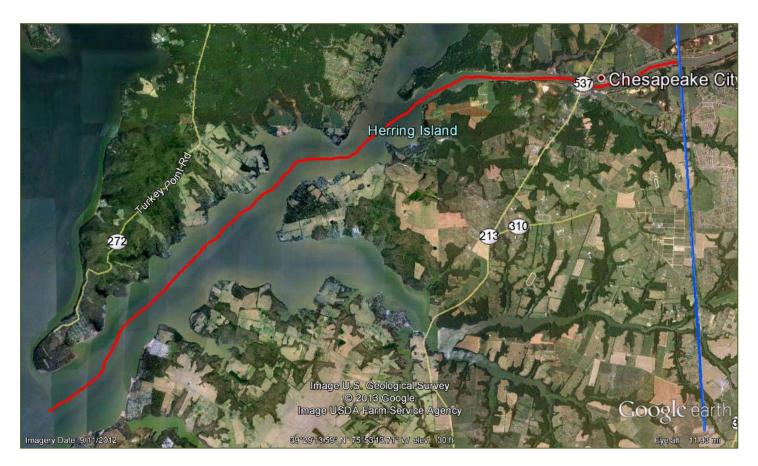
Many thanks to all the birders who provided material for the County and District summaries! Without their local knowledge it would have been impossible to include these summaries in the report. The names of each are shown at the top of their respective summaries. As well, Warren Strobel contributed mightily to the writing of the Statewide Summary this year!

# What Area Is Covered By This Report?

This report covers all of Maryland's 23 counties plus the District of Columbia (hereafter, when referring to counties, it is inclusive of the District of Columbia). The following graphic shows all of the Maryland counties plus the District. The second graphic shows the demarcation line (for the purposes of this report) between Maryland's Eastern and Western Shores - the C & D Canal in Cecil County. In Maryland, the C & D Canal begins at the MD/DE state line, continues due west through Chesapeake City, and connects with the Elk River. From there, the line of demarcation is the center line of the Elk River as it flows southwest until it adjoins the Chesapeake Bay. Everything north of the Elk River in Cecil County is considered Western Shore, such as Piney Creek Cove, Turkey Point, and Elk Neck State Park; everything south of the Elk River in Cecil County is considered Eastern Shore, such as Herring Island, Hollywood Beach, Veasey Cove, and Cabin John Creek.



**Map of Maryland Counties** 



# C&D Canal – Eastern/Western Shore Dividing Line in Cecil County North of red line = Western Shore; South of red line = Eastern Shore

# **2015 Report Participants**

Number reporting for 2014: 89 Number reporting for previous year: 96 Number in data base: 305 Number of new reporters for 2015: 6

#### Those reporting for 2015 (new participants in green font):

20	015 Report Participant	S
Name	Name	Name
Alex Wiebe	Matt Hafner	Dave Perry
Matt Anthony	Joe Hanfman	Paul Pisano
Marcia Balestri	Elaine Hendricks	Dave Powell
J. Tyler Bell	Bill Hill	Gene Ricks
Dave Brenneman	Rob Hilton	Bob Ringler
Rod Burley	Mark Hoffman	Mark Rositol
Kathy Calvert	John Hubbell	Les Roslund
Tim Carney	Bill Hubick	Russ Ruffing
Karen Caruso	Derek Hudgins	Mark Schilling
J.B. Churchill	Hugh David Fleischmann	Kurt Schwarz
Travis Clemens	Mike Kerwin	Scott Baron
Steve Collins	Kevin Ebert	Fred Shaffer
Jeffrey Culler	David Kidwell	Lisa Shannon
Warren David Cummings	Dennis Kirkwood	Sharon Forsyth
Dave Webb	Jane Kostenko	Jeff Shenot
Dave Czaplak	Ellen Lawler	Dan Small
David Sperling	Allen Lewis	Jo Solem
Barbara Davis	Gail Mackiernan	Duvall Sollers
Phil Davis	Nancy Magnusson	Leslie Starr
Don Simonson	Joel Martin	Chuck Stirrat
Joshua Emm	Carol McCollough	Warren Strobel
Evelyn Ralston	McGuinness Hugh	Deborah Terry
Jane Fallon	Moulton David	Mary Ann Todd
Fred Fallon	Jim Nelson	Tom Ostrowski
Tom Feild	Lou Nielsen	Anna Urciolo
Jared Fisher	Paul O'Brien	Leo Weigant
Kathy Fleming	Peter Osenton	Winger West
Diane Ford	Michael Ostrowski	Andy Wilson
George Jett	Dave Palmer	Max Wilson
Jim Green	Howard Patterson	

# Comments on the Lists

The number (89) of participants declined again this year, down 7 from 96 in 2014. There were a few additions to the Big Day table this year, most notably a statewide Big Day run in late July by Alex Wiebe, Matt Addicks, and Kevin Ebert in which they posted 182 species. This is the highest-ever statewide Big Day recorded in July, and tops the previous high of 174 (Marshall Illiff, Greg Miller, and Todd Day).

The current maximum number of species reported for each locality is shown at the top of the respective life list tables. Joe Hanfman does a wonderful job of tracking and compiling the county lists every year, and readers will note a couple of changes in each locality thanks to his due diligence in keeping these numbers up to date. The report again includes a table of all of the 23 county lists, updated through 2015, as compiled by Joe.

Life Lists are indicated by the last year that they were updated. There is a change in how Life Lists are published this year, which stems from the fact that in recent years a number of birders have contacted me asking that I remove their life totals since a) they are no longer participating in the report, and b) their numbers are no longer accurate or updated. I have always thought that outdated Life Lists are a bit odd to include in the report anyway. Therefore, I am now publishing only Life Lists that fall into one of the three following categories:

- 1. Those of active Maryland/DC birders that updated their Lists for 2015
- 2. Those of deceased birders
- 3. The top Life List in each category regardless of a birder's status

All Life Lists in these three categories that met or exceeded the given threshold are included; thresholds are typically set at 50% of the maximum number known for each location. The only exception to the above rules are for Yard Life Lists; the report includes the top Yard Life Lists regardless of when updated due to the fact that a Yard List may no longer be updated if one has moved from that location, but is still worthy of publishing.

All **Year Lists** are indicated by the year in which the total was achieved. Green font indicates which Year Lists were achieved in 2015. Space dictated how many Year Lists appear in the tables.

**Order of Counties** – The order that county lists appear in this report is arranged by geography, beginning with Garrett County in western Maryland and proceeding east and south to Worcester County on the Eastern Shore.

# The Maryland/DC Birding Year in Review

Material contributed by Warren Strobel and Russ Ruffing

The birding year in Maryland in 2015 was clearly a case of great quality over decent quantity. Overall, 346 species were reported to eBird in Maryland for the year, slightly lower than the previous two years (when 352 were reported each year) and the first time in several years that Maryland birders collectively did not pass the 350 species threshold.



Snowy Plover – Hart Miller Island Joe Hanfman

Yet the year was anything but a disappointment – quite the opposite, in fact. The state recorded its first **Snowy Plover**, found by Kevin Graff, Joe Hanfman, Bob Ringler and Jeff Culler on Baltimore's Hart-Miller island on May 4. The bird stayed for several days and, thanks to special arrangements with the Maryland Environmental Service, many birders were able to see and photograph this rarity. This brings the Maryland state list to 449 species recorded in the Free State.

Little more than two weeks later came another spectacular find – a **Chestnut-Collared Longspur**, a bird that winters in Mexico and the southwest U.S. The Longspur was found by Tom Feild, Geraldine King and Jim Green along Chew Road in Washington County, outside

Hagerstown. This gem was only seen for two days, with wind and snow making for difficult searching. It was a long time between accepted sightings of this species in Maryland. The previous one was in 1906.

Not to be outdone in the "first" department, the District welcomed its first-ever **Bell's Vireo**, found on October 12<sup>th</sup> by Hugh McGuiness in a little-birded part of the National Arboretum. But, perhaps even more stunning for the District may have been Cody Rice's finding of a **Clapper Rail** walking the playground of a local elementary school on Capitol Hill on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Birders are not sure which is more amazing, the setting of the find or the scarcity of the record – DC's first since 1882!

Among the most delightful and widely enjoyed birds of 2015 were the two **Brown Boobies** first reported in Baltimore Harbor by Nico Sarbanes on September 5. The birds often perched on ropes between two docked ships and were seen at close range via water taxis. Incredibly, one of the birds stayed in the area through December. It was the state's second record of this species, and the first away from the Atlantic Coast.

Other birds receiving top billing in the region included Maryland's second-ever *Reddish Egret* found by Dan Small on Worcester County's Skimmer Island on September 28. This bird remained through October 6, affording many birders good looks. Worcester



Brown Boobies – Baltimore Harbor Leslie Starr

County had struck gold earlier in the year, in July, with a *Wilson's Plover* found by Mike Burchett on the north end of Assateague. This was the first verified report for Worcester in 23 years.

Earlier in 2015, Maryland's 6<sup>th</sup> record of *Common Ground-Dove* was spotted in the restricted area at Masonville Cove by MES employee Bill Tittle. This bird, actually found on December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014, stayed on a few days into January to make the 2015 list. Unfortunately, it was not chase-able by the birding community.

On June 14<sup>th</sup>, Frank Hawkins found the District's second record of *Arctic Tern* at Hains Point, this after finding the first record at the same location back in 2011.



Reddish Egret – Skimmer Island Mark Hoffman

The coasts of Worcester County often provide some of Maryland's most exciting birds, and this year was no exception. A **Gull-Billed Tern** was seen in July and August at Truitt's Landing and nearby Figgs Landing Road, and the species was also seen on Ocean City's Skimmer Island. Then, on October 21, Scott Housten discovered and photographed a **Rock Wren** at Sunset Park, a small "pocket park" not far from Ocean City Inlet. It was only the second state record, the other bird being found 22 years earlier by Mark Hoffman in the Bayside section of Assateague.

Two incredible birds were still to come. On December 27, during a Christmas Bird Count, Jim and Trish Gruber, along with Amanda Spears, found a *Vermillion Flycatcher* at Quail Run Nursery in Kent County. Thanks to the receptive and understanding folks at the nursery, birders got great looks at the flycatcher well into 2016.

A Worcester Christmas Bird Count turned up the last great bird of 2015 on December 28<sup>th</sup> - a *Lazuli Bunting* that appeared with maddening infrequency on private property near Berlin, Maryland. This bird, Worcester County's first and found by Kevin Graff in the South Point area, stayed into the New Year.

#### **LISTING**

Six birders identified 300 or more species in Maryland in 2015, led by Marcia Balestri with 314. This is 18 birds lower than Ryan Johnson's mark of 332 in 2014. Marcia was followed closely by Tim Carney and Kathy Calvert with 309 each. Joe Hanfman, Leslie Starr, and Mark Rositol rounded out the "300 Club" for 2015.

Mark Hoffman remains in sole possession of first place in the State Life List category, adding a whopping *five* new species to his list for a total of 419. What a year it was for new state ticks! George Jett joined the 400 Club in 2015, one of only six known birders to enter that rarified air along with Mark, Paul O'Brien, Dave Czaplak, Paul Pisano, and Jim Stasz (not reported). Mary Ann Todd is poised to join them, sitting at 399 species.





Lazuli Bunting – Berlin Mark Hoffman

of birders that have ticked at least 200 species in every Maryland county. There are now nine birders in this club, as they have joined Jim Stasz, John Hubbell, Bob Ringler, Bill Hubick, Joe Hanfman, Dave Powell, and Jim Green.

New high marks were set in only three year listing categories, as opposed to 16 last year: Tim Carney broke his single-year May month record by tallying a whopping 242 species during that month, 13 more than the previous May record which he set in 2014. Dan Small blew away Walter Ellison's long-standing Kent County top year list by tallying 239 species in 2015! One county/district Yard Year record was broken in 2015, as David Kidwell tallied 104 birds in his Montgomery County yard.

	Mary	land's Top Year Lis	ts for	2015	
Name	Total	Name	Total	Name	Total
Marcia Balestri	314	Mary Ann Todd	264	Les Roslund	227
Kathy Calvert	309	Fred Shaffer	262	David Kidwell	224
Tim Carney	309	Dave Palmer	259	Steve Collins	224
Joe Hanfman	308	Gene Ricks	256	David Moulton	219
Leslie Starr	307	Leo Weigant	250	Mike Kerwin	219
Mark Rositol	300	Hugh D. Fleischmann	250	Carol McCollough	214
John Hubbell	288	Alex Wiebe	247	J. Tyler Bell	212
Jeff Culler	287	Karen Caruso	247	Diane Ford	210
Elaine Hendricks	286	Nancy Magnusson	246	Gail Mackiernan	206
Joel Martin	284	Tom Ostrowski	246	Dennis Kirkwood	204
Tom Feild	281	Scott Baron	245	Chuck Stirrat	202
Matt Hafner	279	Jared Fisher	240	Max Wilson	193
Jeff Shenot	279	Allen Lewis	240	Warren D. Cummings	192
Bill Hubick	276	Warren Strobel	239	Matt Anthony	166
Mike Ostrowski	270	Derek Hudgins	238	Andy Wilson	166
Howard Patterson	268	Russ Ruffing	235	Travis Clemens	163
Kurt Schwarz	267	Joshua Emm	234	Jane Kostenko	155
Kevin Ebert	265	Mark Schilling	232	Rod Burley	155

		Ma	aryland's Top Life	Lists	(449 ma	x)		
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated
Mark Hoffman	419	2015	Kurt Schwarz	370	2015	Carol McCollough	329	2015
Paul O'Brien	412	2015	Nancy Magnusson	370	2015	Steve Collins	328	2015
Dave Czaplak	408	2015	Jane Kostenko	369	2015	Derek Hudgins	327	2015
Paul Pisano	405	2015	Don Broderick	369	2003	Mark Schilling	325	2015
George Jett	404	2015	Winger West	368	2015	Diane Ford	323	2015
Mary Ann Todd	399	2015	Elaine Hendricks	367	2015	Russ Ruffing	323	2015
Bill Hubick	396	2015	Rob Hilton	367	2015	Bill Hill	320	2015
Joe Hanfman	395	2015	Kathy Fleming	366	2015	Joshua Emm	319	2015
John Hubbell	394	2015	Dan Small	365	2015	Howard Patterson	318	2015
Bob Ringler	393	2015	Warren Strobel	364	2015	Don Simonson	311	2015
Phil Davis	392	2015	Dennis Kirkwood	362	2015	Mark Rositol	310	2015
J.B. Churchill	391	2015	Fred Fallon	362	2015	Lisa Shannon	304	2015
Matt Hafner	391	2015	Rick Blom	360	1999	Allen Lewis	303	2015
Leo Weigant	389	2015	Jo Solem	357	2015	Tom Ostrowski	303	2015
Dave Powell	388	2015	Peter Osenton	357	2015	Matt Anthony	297	2015
Fred Shaffer	387	2015	Duvall Sollers	355	2015	Barbara Davis	295	2015
Jeff Culler	385	2015	Hal Wierenga	354	1992	Max Wilson	286	2015
Marcia Balestri	385	2015	Emy Holdridge	349	2012	Warren D. Cummings	286	2015
Harvey Mudd	384	2011	Dave Perry	348	2015	Alex Wiebe	285	2015
Tom Feild	381	2015	Tim Carney	347	2015	David Moulton	284	2015
Gail Mackiernan	379	2015	Jane Fallon	346	2015	Kevin Ebert	277	2015
J. Tyler Bell	379	2015	Mike Ostrowski	344	2015	Mike Kerwin	274	2015
Jeff Shenot	379	2015	Les Roslund	341	2015	Gene Ricks	270	2015
Joel Martin	377	2015	Dave Palmer	340	2015	Andy Wilson	269	2015
Ron Gutberlet	376	2014	Chuck Stirrat	339	2015	Ellen Lawler	266	2015
Kathy Calvert	375	2015	Rod Burley	335	2015	Hugh McGuinness	266	2015
Jim Green	373	2015	Anna Urciolo	334	2015	Hugh D. Fleischmann	263	2015
Leslie Starr	373	2015	Lou Nielsen	334	2015	Evelyn Ralston	257	2015
Jared Fisher	371	2015	David Kidwell	330	2015	Jim Nelson	253	2015
Marion Mudd	371	2011						

	Ν	Marylan	d's Top Year Lists,	all tim	e (300 8	& above)		
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year
Jim Stasz	345	2012	Fred Shaffer	318	2014	John Hubbell	306	2010
Mike Burchett	342	2012	Matt Hafner	318	2003	Kevin Graff	306	2008
Betsy Bangert	341	2012	Dave Czaplak	318	1994	Mary Ann Todd	306	1994
Jim Stasz	338	2009	Michael O'Brien	317	1994	John Gregoire	306	1985
Stan Arnold	338	2009	Tim Carney	316	2014	Jared Fisher	305	2014
Jim Brighton	337	2009	Mikey Lutmerding	316	2013	Elaine Hendricks	305	2013
Edward Boyd	335	2012	Warren Strobel	316	2012	Jeff Culler	305	2013
Joe Hanfman	335	2012	George Jett	316	2008	Bill Hubick	305	2012
Nancy Magnusson	334	2012	Elaine Hendricks	315	2012	Joe Turner	305	2011
Jim Stasz	333	2011	Leslie Starr	315	2012	Kevin Graff	305	2007
Ryan Johnson	332	2014	Matt Hafner	315	2012	Jim Stasz	305	2003
Kevin Graff	331	2009	Rob Ostrowski	315	2011	Jim Stasz	305	1992
Jim Stasz	330	2008	Dan Haas	315	2010	Mike Ostrowski	304	2011
Jim Stasz	330	2000	Jim Brighton	315	2010	Jane Coskren	304	1994
Mike Burchett	329	2004	Zach Baer	315	2003	Mark Hoffman	304	1976
Mark Hoffman	329	1994	Marcia Balestri	314	2015	Jeff Culler	303	2014
Mikey Lutmerding	328	2012	Tim Carney	314	2013	Kevin Graff	303	2010
Ron Gutberlet	328	2009	Jim Stasz	314	2002	Dan Haas	303	2009
Joe Hanfman	327	2011	Jeff Culler	312	2012	Mikey Lutmerding	303	2007
Joe Hanfman	326	2014	John Hubbell	312	2009	Zach Baer	303	2004
Dan Haas	326	2011	Jim Stasz	312	1994	Stan Arnold	303	2001
Mike Burchett	326	2011	Ron Gutberlet	311	2012	George Jett	303	1992
Mikey Lutmerding	326	2008	Jeff Culler	311	2011	Jeff Shenot	302	2014
Betsy Bangert	324	2011	Jeff Shenot	311	2011	Edward Boyd	302	2011
Mikey Lutmerding	323	2011	Dan Haas	311	2008	Matt Hafner	302	2011
Jim Stasz	322	2007	George Jett	311	1994	Marshall Iliff	302	1999
Jim Stasz	322	1999	Bill Hubick	310	2010	Jim Stasz	302	1998
Jared Fisher	321	2012	Jim Stasz	310	2005	Mary Ann Todd	302	1995
Bill Hubick	321	2009	Mark Hoffman	310	1992	Kye Jenkins	301	2013
J.B. Churchill	321	2008	Kathy Calvert	309	2015	Dan Small	301	2010
Joe Hanfman	320	2013	Tim Carney	309	2015	Bill Hubick	301	2008
Kevin Graff	320	2012	Joe Hanfman	308	2015	Jim Brighton	301	2008
Kevin Graff	320	2011	Elaine Hendricks	308	2011	Matt Hafner	301	2006
Leslie Starr	320	2011	Jim Brighton	308	2011	Kevin Graff	301	2005
Ron Gutberlet	320	2011	Rob Ostrowski	308	2010	Matt Hafner	301	2005
Joe Hanfman	320	2010	Jim Stasz	308	2006	Mark Rositol	300	2015
Jim Stasz	320	2004	Leslie Starr	307	2015	Betsy Bangert	300	2013
Matt Hafner	320	2004	Marcia Balestri	307	2013	Kathy Calvert	300	2012
Marshall Iliff	320	2000	John Hubbell	307	2012	Leslie Starr	300	2010
Michael O'Brien	320	1991	Bill Hubick	307	2005	Ron Gutberlet	300	2010
Bill Hubick	319	2011	Jim Brighton	307	2005	Stan Arnold	300	2005
Joe Hanfman	319	2009	Mike Burchett	306	2013	Matt Hafner	300	2000
Dave Powell	319	2004	Kathy Calvert	306	2013	Paul O'Brien	300	1991

# **Bird of the Year**

66 birders participated in the 2015 Bird of the Year vote, up slightly from the 61 that participated last year. Perhaps it was because the vote was easily the most compelling since this facet was added to the report in 2011? This year, under a new format, there were only 14 species that birders could vote for, and they were required to select their top five species for the year from that list. As I compiled the votes as I received them, it was fascinating to watch how the species would change positions in the rankings with every new vote.

The winner of Bird of the Year in 2015 actually came down to the *very last vote* that I received, and it resulted in a tie between the highly entertaining *Brown Booby* duo in Baltimore's Inner Harbor and the first-state record *Snowy Plover* that showed up at Hart-Miller Island. Notice the breakdown of 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> place votes between the two in the table, below. There were several other exceptional records in the region as well, and many of them received a considerable number of votes.

Each 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> place vote was assigned 5 points, 4 points, 3 points, 2 points, and 1 point, respectively.

Rank	Species	1st-Place	2nd-Place	3rd-Place	4th-Place	5th-Place	Total Pts.
1	Brown Booby	24	10	10	4	8	206
1	Snowy Plover	21	13	11	6	4	206
3	Chestnut-collared Longspur	9	8	13	9	7	141
4	Rock Wren	3	7	7	12	9	97
5	Reddish Egret	1	4	7	15	14	86
6	Vermilion Flycatcher	1	11	3	4	7	73
7	Bell's Vireo (DC)	4	4	4	3	2	56
8	Franklin's Gull influx	1	3	2	2	5	32
9	Clapper Rail (DC)	0	3	3	2	1	26
10	Lazuli Bunting	2	0	1	3	5	24
11	Wilson's Plover	0	2	1	1	3	16
12	Cave Swallow influx	0	1	2	1	1	13
13	Arctic Tern (DC)	0	0	1	2	0	7
13	Common Ground-Dove	0	0	1	2	0	7

# Month Listing Categories

		Marylan	d Mon	ths - Life Lists			
January		February		March		April	
Name	Total	Name	Total	Name	Total	Name	Total
Jim Stasz	237	Jim Stasz	224	Jim Stasz	215	Jim Stasz	264
Joe Hanfman	216	Matt Hafner	203	Ron Gutberlet	209	Matt Hafner	258
Matt Hafner	216	Joe Hanfman	200	Matt Hafner	206	Joe Hanfman	257
Dave Powell	211	Bill Hubick	195	Joe Hanfman	201	John Hubbell	249
Bill Hubick	209	Marcia Balestri	193	Bill Hubick	194	Marcia Balestri	248
Ron Gutberlet	209	Tom Feild	193	Marcia Balestri	190	Bill Hubick	247
Marcia Balestri	198	John Hubbell	191	Jared Fisher	185	Jared Fisher	234
John Hubbell	194	Ron Gutberlet	189	John Hubbell	184	Fred Fallon	234
Dan Small	185	Leslie Starr	179	Dan Small	180	Tim Carney	231
Fred Fallon	184	J.B. Churchill	179	Tom Feild	178	J.B. Churchill	229
Tim Carney	179	Fred Fallon	177	Mike Ostrowski	176	Ron Gutberlet	227
Jared Fisher	179	Dan Small	171	Fred Fallon	172	Dan Small	226
Leslie Starr	178	Jared Fisher	170	J.B. Churchill	169	Dave Powell	219
J.B. Churchill	175	Chuck Stirrat	169	Leslie Starr	166	Leslie Starr	217
Tom Feild	165	Dave Powell	166	Tim Carney	166	Mike Ostrowski	216
David Kidwell	150	Mike Ostrowski	163	Dave Powell	164	Chuck Stirrat	214
Mike Ostrowski	149	Tim Carney	158	Lou Nielsen	153	Lou Nielsen	209
Tom Ostrowski	143	Lou Nielsen	142	Chuck Stirrat	150	Tom Feild	208
Matt Anthony	143	Tom Ostrowski	139	Tom Ostrowski	150	Mark Schilling	201
Lou Nielsen	142	David Kidwell	133	David Kidwell	147	Tom Ostrowski	200
Mark Schilling	140	Steve Collins	130	Mark Schilling	147	Russ Ruffing	191
Chuck Stirrat	136	Mark Schilling	128	Russ Ruffing	130	David Kidwell	184
Steve Collins	133	Derek Hudgins	128	Matt Anthony	126	Steve Collins	175
Russ Ruffing	127	Russ Ruffing	122	Mark Rositol	125	Derek Hudgins	170
Mark Rositol	125	Matt Anthony	121	Derek Hudgins	121	Mark Rositol	169
Jim Nelson	113	Mark Rositol	118	Andy Wilson	116	Matt Anthony	159
Derek Hudgins	111	Rob Hilton	118	Jim Nelson	112	Andy Wilson	156
		Andy Wilson	110	Rob Hilton	109	Rob Hilton	156

		Marylar	d Mon	ths - Life Lists			
Мау		June		July		August	
Name	Total	Name	Total	Name	Total	Name	Total
Jim Stasz	296	Jim Stasz	248	Jim Stasz	253	Jim Stasz	268
Matt Hafner	292	Matt Hafner	247	Matt Hafner	242	Matt Hafner	261
Bill Hubick	284	Marcia Balestri	247	Joe Hanfman	230	Joe Hanfman	257
Joe Hanfman	275	Joe Hanfman	239	Marcia Balestri	225	John Hubbell	250
John Hubbell	274	John Hubbell	230	Bill Hubick	222	Bill Hubick	239
Marcia Balestri	268	Bill Hubick	228	John Hubbell	217	Tim Carney	239
Tim Carney	258	Tim Carney	225	J.B. Churchill	214	Ron Gutberlet	227
J.B. Churchill	257	J.B. Churchill	218	Tim Carney	212	Marcia Balestri	226
Dave Powell	254	Fred Fallon	213	Ron Gutberlet	208	J.B. Churchill	225
Ron Gutberlet	252	Ron Gutberlet	206	Tom Feild	194	Leslie Starr	223
Jared Fisher	251	Dave Powell	200	Mike Ostrowski	191	Dave Powell	223
Mike Ostrowski	251	Leslie Starr	195	Fred Fallon	188	Mike Ostrowski	208
Tom Feild	244	Chuck Stirrat	187	Leslie Starr	188	Tom Feild	202
Dan Small	238	Jared Fisher	181	Alex Wiebe	187	Fred Fallon	200
Chuck Stirrat	235	Mike Ostrowski	177	Jared Fisher	177	Jared Fisher	200
Lou Nielsen	234	Dan Small	176	Dave Powell	172	Dan Small	198
Fred Fallon	233	Lou Nielsen	175	Tom Ostrowski	166	Mark Schilling	178
Leslie Starr	229	Tom Feild	170	Dan Small	159	Russ Ruffing	177
David Kidwell	223	Mark Schilling	155	Mark Rositol	151	Lou Nielsen	163
Tom Ostrowski	206	Tom Ostrowski	153	Chuck Stirrat	149	Chuck Stirrat	157
Rob Hilton	199	Steve Collins	151	Lou Nielsen	146	Tom Ostrowski	151
Russ Ruffing	196	Russ Ruffing	140	Russ Ruffing	142	Mark Rositol	146
Mark Schilling	187	Mark Rositol	139	Rob Hilton	139	Steve Collins	144
Mark Rositol	183	Rob Hilton	126	Derek Hudgins	134	David Kidwell	141
Derek Hudgins	182	Andy Wilson	113	Mark Schilling	127	Matt Anthony	126
Steve Collins	174	Derek Hudgins	108	Matt Anthony	125	Rob Hilton	113
Andy Wilson	174	Jim Nelson	108	David Kidwell	123	Andy Wilson	113
Jim Nelson	160	Matt Anthony	105	Andy Wilson	120	Derek Hudgins	101
Hugh D. Fleischmann	150	David Kidwell	103	Steve Collins	101	Jim Nelson	100

		Maryland	l Moi	nths - Life Lists			
September		October		November		December	
Name	Total	Name	Total	Name T	Total Name		Total
Jim Stasz	285	Jim Stasz	271	Matt Hafner 2	250	Matt Hafner	228
Matt Hafner	268	Matt Hafner	267	Bill Hubick	239	Bill Hubick	213
John Hubbell	260	John Hubbell	250	John Hubbell	220	John Hubbell	213
J.B. Churchill	253	Joe Hanfman	248	Joe Hanfman	220	Dave Powell	202
Joe Hanfman	250	Bill Hubick	247	Dave Powell	219	Joe Hanfman	199
Bill Hubick	242	Dan Small	242	Ron Gutberlet	218	Marcia Balestri	198
Ron Gutberlet	231	Marcia Balestri	229	Tom Feild	217	Ron Gutberlet	194
Marcia Balestri	231	Tim Carney	225	J.B. Churchill	214	J.B. Churchill	192
Leslie Starr	230	J.B. Churchill	221	Tim Carney	207	Tom Feild	181
Tim Carney	228	Mike Ostrowski	221	Dan Small	204	Dan Small	177
Tom Feild	225	Tom Feild	218	Marcia Balestri	203	Alex Wiebe	175
Dave Powell	223	Ron Gutberlet	216	Mike Ostrowski	200	Tim Carney	174
Mike Ostrowski	220	Dave Powell	214	Leslie Starr	194	Fred Fallon	171
Fred Fallon	220	Fred Fallon	206	Jared Fisher	194	Mike Ostrowski	164
Dan Small	209	Leslie Starr	204	Fred Fallon	177	Leslie Starr	155
Jared Fisher	206	Jared Fisher	196	Tom Ostrowski	169	Jared Fisher	155
Lou Nielsen	198	Lou Nielsen	196	Russ Ruffing	165	Steve Collins	151
Chuck Stirrat	195	Mark Schilling	180	Lou Nielsen	160	Chuck Stirrat	145
Mark Schilling	177	Chuck Stirrat	176	Steve Collins	151	Russ Ruffing	142
Russ Ruffing	175	Tom Ostrowski	169	Matt Anthony 2	145	Mark Schilling	142
Tom Ostrowski	168	David Kidwell	165	Mark Schilling	145	Matt Anthony	141
Derek Hudgins	168	Mark Rositol	163	Chuck Stirrat	145	Tom Ostrowski	140
David Kidwell	164	Russ Ruffing	149	Mark Rositol	142	Lou Nielsen	137
Mark Rositol	163	Steve Collins	147	David Kidwell	141	Mark Rositol	127
Rob Hilton	163	Derek Hudgins	146	Derek Hudgins	139	David Kidwell	124
Steve Collins	162	Andy Wilson	145	Rob Hilton	134	Derek Hudgins	114
Jim Nelson	158	Jim Nelson	125	Andy Wilson	119	Andy Wilson	106
Matt Anthony	138	Rob Hilton	110	Hugh David Fleischman	116	Jim Nelson	97
Andy Wilson	134	Hugh D. Fleischmann	110	Jim Nelson	85	Rob Hilton	96

		M	aryland Months - To	op 50 l	Best Ye	ars		
Januai	ry		Februa	ary		Marc	h	
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year
Jim Stasz	189	2009	Jim Stasz	185	2012	Jim Stasz	174	2012
Jim Brighton	188	2009	Joe Hanfman	152	2012	Ron Gutberlet	151	2013
Jim Stasz	187	2012	Rob Ostrowski	144	2011	Rob Ostrowski	149	2011
Ron Gutberlet	184	2009	Mike Ostrowski	142	2011	Ron Gutberlet	149	2009
Matt Hafner	177	2003	Mike Burchett	141	2012	Ron Gutberlet	147	2011
Edward Boyd	176	2012	Betsy Bangert	140	2012	Joe Hanfman	147	2011
Ron Gutberlet	164	2011	Bill Hubick	139	2011	Bill Hubick	146	2011
Ryan Johnson	159	2014	Ron Gutberlet	138	2011	Tim Carney	146	2014
Joe Hanfman	156	2013	Tim Carney	135	2015	Joe Hanfman	145	2012
Tim Carney	149	2014	Joe Hanfman	135	2011	Mike Ostrowski	145	2011
Joe Hanfman	148	2014	Joe Hanfman	134	2013	Mike Burchett	145	2012
Jared Fisher	146	2014	Tim Carney	132	2014	Betsy Bangert	145	2012
Tim Carney	144	2015	Dave Palmer	130	2012	Ryan Johnson	145	2014
Joe Hanfman	142	2012	Ryan Johnson	128	2014	Tim Carney	141	2015
Ron Gutberlet	140	2013	, Joe Hanfman	128	2014	Ron Gutberlet	141	2012
Ron Gutberlet	139	2012	Joe Hanfman	126	2015	Dan Haas	141	2011
Rob Ostrowski	138	2012	John Hubbell	126	2007	Edward Boyd	138	2012
Rob Ostrowski	138	2011	Dave Palmer	125	2014	Dan Haas	136	2012
Joe Hanfman	138	2011	Marcia Balestri	122	2015	Jared Fisher	135	2014
Dave Palmer	135	2013	Rob Ostrowski	121	2014	Marcia Balestri	132	2015
Dan Haas	134	2011	Dan Haas	120	2012	John Hubbell	131	2012
Marcia Balestri	133	2015	John Hubbell	120	2011	Joe Hanfman	130	2015
Tim Carney	132	2013	Dan Haas	119	2009	John Hubbell	130	2011
Bill Hubick	132	2013	Rob Ostrowski	118	2012	Mike Ostrowski	130	2015
John Hubbell	132	2009	Dan Haas	116	2012	Dan Haas	127	2008
Dave Palmer	131	2012	Edward Boyd	114	2012	Edward Boyd	127	2011
Dan Haas	130	2012	Tim Carney	114	2012	Kevin Ebert	126	2015
Dave Palmer	128	2015	Jared Fisher	113	2013	Dan Haas	125	2010
Joe Hanfman	127	2015	Ron Gutberlet	112	2011	Joe Hanfman	124	2010
Mike Ostrowski	126	2013	John Hubbell	112	2012	Joe Hanfman	122	2013
Edward Boyd	120	2011	Derek Hudgins	112	2012	Mark Schilling	122	2014
Michael Bowen	121	2011	Mark Rositol	110	2015	Dave Palmer	121	2012
Mark Rositol	119	2011	Kevin Ebert	108	2015	Tim Carney	120	2012
Dave Palmer	119	2015	Keith Eric Costley	106	2015	Dave Palmer	117	2013
David Kidwell	118	2011	Dan Haas	100	2012	Mark Rositol	116	2015
Mike Burchett	118	2014	Edward Boyd	105	2010	Dave Palmer	114	2013
Betsy Bangert	117	2012	Ron Gutberlet	105	2010	Keith Eric Costley	114	2014
Keith Eric Costley	116	2012	Dave Palmer	104	2013	Dave Palmer	114	2012
Dan Haas	116	2013	Mark Schilling	103	2013	Jared Fisher	114	2015
Jared Fisher	115	2012	Dan Haas	102	2012	Rob Ostrowski	112	2012
Dan Haas	115	2012	Dan Haas	102	2010	Jared Fisher	112	2014
Matt Anthony	115	2009	Keith Eric Costley	101	2011	Sean McCandless	112	2011
Sean McCandless	113	2013	Sean McCandless	99 99	2014	Mark Schilling	112	2013
Sean McCandless	112	2013	Mike Ostrowski	99 99	2013	Rob Ostrowski	109	2014
John Hubbell		2010	Jared Fisher		2015	Dan Haas		2012
	109		John Hubbell	98 97		Dan Haas Tom Ostrowski	109	
Keith Eric Costley	108	2012			2014		109 107	2015
John Hubbell	108	2013	Keith Eric Costley	96	2013	Dan Haas	107	2009
Matt Anthony	105	2015	Tom Ostrowski	96 05	2015	Dave Palmer	107	2011
Travis Clemens	104	2014	David Kidwell	95 02	2011	Keith Eric Costley	106	2014
Keith Eric Costley	104	2014	Matt Anthony	93	2013	Mike Ostrowski	104	2014

	Total <b>207</b> 202	Year <b>2014</b>	May Name	Total		June		
<i>Tim Carney</i> Tim Carney Bill Hubick Joe Hanfman Joe Hanfman	<b>207</b> 202		Name	Total				
Tim Carney Bill Hubick Joe Hanfman Joe Hanfman	202	2014		TOTAL	Year	Name	Total	Year
Bill Hubick Joe Hanfman Joe Hanfman		2014	Tim Carney	242	2015	Tim Carney	200	2014
Joe Hanfman Joe Hanfman	400	2015	Tim Carney	229	2014	Tim Carney	183	2015
Joe Hanfman	199	2011	Ron Gutberlet	229	2009	Ron Gutberlet	183	2009
	196	2012	Jared Fisher	220	2014	Bill Hubick	179	2011
Jared Fisher	191	2015	Bill Hubick	215	2011	Joe Hanfman	177	2012
	189	2014	Joe Hanfman	215	2012	Tim Carney	175	2013
Rob Ostrowski	188	2011	Ryan Johnson	213	2014	Mike Burchett	172	2012
Dan Haas	185	2011	Rob Ostrowski	212	2011	Joe Hanfman	168	2011
Rob Ostrowski	184	2014	Marcia Balestri	210	2015	Joe Hanfman	167	2013
Ron Gutberlet	182	2011	Mike Ostrowski	207	2011	Joe Hanfman	163	2014
Jared Fisher	180	2011	Dan Haas	205	2009	Betsy Bangert	162	2012
Joe Hanfman	179	2011	John Hubbell	205	2010	Tim Carney	160	2012
Joe Hanfman	179	2014	Dan Haas	203	2008	Rob Ostrowski	145	2011
Marcia Balestri	177	2015	Rob Ostrowski	202	2014	Dan Haas	145	2011
Ryan Johnson	174	2014	Rob Ostrowski	200	2012	Ron Gutberlet	144	2011
Tim Carney	173	2013	Ron Gutberlet	193	2011	John Hubbell	142	2009
Mike Ostrowski	172	2011	Joe Hanfman	193	2014	Joe Hanfman	139	2015
John Hubbell	172	2009	Joe Hanfman	190	2015	Mike Ostrowski	138	2014
Dan Haas	170	2010	Joe Hanfman	190	2009	Rob Ostrowski	135	2014
Edward Boyd	169	2012	Jared Fisher	189	2012	Mark Rositol	135	2015
Dave Palmer	169	2012	Dan Haas	189	2014	Mike Ostrowski	134	2011
Ron Gutberlet	168	2012	Dan Haas	186	2010	Rob Ostrowski	131	2013
Joe Hanfman	168	2013	John Hubbell	186	2015	Dave Palmer	129	2014
John Hubbell	167	2011	Tim Carney	185	2013	Mark Schilling	128	2014
Dan Haas	167	2008	, Mike Burchett	184	2012	Ron Gutberlet	128	2013
Edward Boyd	167	2011	Edward Boyd	183	2012	Marcia Balestri	126	2015
Howard Patterson	167	2013	, Dan Haas	182	2011	Tom Ostrowski	125	2015
Mike Ostrowski	165	2014	John Hubbell	182	2013	John Hubbell	124	2011
John Hubbell	164	2012	Keith Eric Costley	181	2014	Jared Fisher	120	2012
Dan Haas	162	2012	Dan Haas	179	2012	Russ Ruffing	118	2012
Dave Palmer	162	2015	Ron Gutberlet	177	2012	John Hubbell	117	2013
Jared Fisher	162	2012	Betsy Bangert	175	2012	Edward Boyd	116	2011
Dan Haas	161	2009	John Hubbell	174	2012	Dan Haas	112	2008
Mike Burchett	160	2012	Mark Rositol	173	2015	Jared Fisher	112	2011
Mike Ostrowski	160	2015	Joe Hanfman	171	2011	Keith Eric Costley	111	2013
Mark Rositol	160	2015	Dave Palmer	169	2014	Sean McCandless	109	2010
Russ Ruffing	160	2012	Dave Palmer	167	2015	Rob Ostrowski	107	2012
Jared Fisher	156	2015	John Hubbell	167	2014	Keith Eric Costley	104	2014
Tom Ostrowski	155	2015	Edward Boyd	166	1991	Dave Palmer	104	2013
Dave Palmer	155	2011	Joe Hanfman	165	2013	Dave Palmer	103	2010
Mark Schilling	155	2015	Mike Ostrowski	164	2015	Dave Palmer	103	2010
Betsy Bangert	153	2013	Keith Eric Costley	164	2013	Dave Palmer	101	2015
Dave Palmer	152	2012	Mike Ostrowski	161	2012	Jared Fisher	99	2013
Dave Palmer	152	2013	Dave Palmer	160	2014	Russ Ruffing	99	2014
Mark Schilling	150	2014	Tim Carney	159	2012	Russ Ruffing	98	2011
John Hubbell	149	2012	David Kidwell	155	2012	Keith Eric Costley	97	2014
Mark Schilling	145	2013	Russ Ruffing	157	2012	Ron Gutberlet	96	2012
Matt Anthony	145 144	2014	Diane Ford	155	2015	Dan Haas	90 95	2012
Keith Eric Costley	144 143	2013	Dave Palmer	155	2014	Dan Haas	95 95	2009
John Hubbell	143 143	2012	Mark Schilling	153 150	2011	Mike Ostrowski	95 95	2010

		M	aryland Months - To	op 50 l	Best Ye	ars		
July			Augus	st		Septem	ber	
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year
Tim Carney	191	2014	Tim Carney	199	2013	Tim Carney	200	2014
Alex Wiebe	186	2015	Tim Carney	198	2014	Tim Carney	191	2015
Kevin Ebert	182	2015	Tim Carney	196	2015	Ron Gutberlet	189	2009
Joe Hanfman	180	2009	Joe Hanfman	184	2010	John Hubbell	188	2009
Ron Gutberlet	175	2009	Joe Hanfman	181	2012	Mike Ostrowski	184	2010
Rob Ostrowski	170	2011	John Hubbell	181	2015	Joe Hanfman	183	2012
Joe Hanfman	166	2015	Joe Hanfman	178	2014	Ron Gutberlet	181	2011
Mike Ostrowski	165	2011	Joe Hanfman	178	2011	Tim Carney	177	2013
Joe Hanfman	160	2014	Joe Hanfman	178	2013	Marcia Balestri	175	2015
Tim Carney	159	2015	Ron Gutberlet	176	2009	Joe Hanfman	175	2015
Bill Hubick	157	2011	Tim Carney	170	2012	Joe Hanfman	174	2009
Joe Hanfman	150	2011	Mike Burchett	170	2012	Dan Haas	173	2011
Joe Hanfman	149	2012	Dave Palmer	169	2014	Mike Burchett	170	2012
Ron Gutberlet	146	2011	John Hubbell	163	2012	Bill Hubick	170	2011
Jared Fisher	146	2011	Ron Gutberlet	163	2012	Dan Haas	170	2010
Dave Palmer	145	2011	John Hubbell	163	2009	Joe Hanfman	167	2010
Tim Carney	145	2014	Dan Haas	162	2005	Dave Palmer	163	2011
Mark Rositol	144	2015	Bill Hubick	160	2008	Dave Famer	161	2014
John Hubbell	144	2010	Edward Boyd	159	2011	Betsy Bangert	161	2000
Dan Haas	139	2010	Betsy Bangert	159	2012	John Hubbell	161	2012
Marcia Balestri	133	2005	John Hubbell	155	2012	Joe Hanfman	160	2011
		2015		153	2013			2013
Mike Ostrowski	131 120	2013	Mike Ostrowski Ron Gutberlet	153	2010	Ryan Johnson John Hubbell	158	2014
Rob Ostrowski	130						157	
John Hubbell	128	2011	Marcia Balestri	149	2015 2012	Dan Haas	157 150	2009
Dave Palmer Dave Palmer	128	2013	Dave Palmer	148		Rob Ostrowski	156	2011
	126	2015	Dave Palmer	147	2013	Jared Fisher	156	2012
Tom Ostrowski	124	2015	Dave Palmer	146	2011	Mike Ostrowski	156	2011
Dan Haas	123	2011	Mike Ostrowski	145	2015	Jared Fisher	156	2011
Rob Ostrowski	123	2012	John Hubbell	145	2011	John Hubbell	155	2015
John Hubbell	121	2015	Ryan Johnson	145	2014	Mark Rositol	155	2015
Dave Palmer	120	2011	Keith Eric Costley	144	2014	Joe Hanfman	154	2014
Russ Ruffing	120	2011	Edward Boyd	144	2010	Tim Carney	154	2012
Derek Hudgins	120	2014	Rob Ostrowski	140	2011	Ron Gutberlet	154	2012
Dave Palmer	115	2012	Dan Haas	139	2009	Dan Haas	154	2012
Gene Ricks	113	2015	Russ Ruffing	139	2012	Dave Palmer	152	2013
Keith Eric Costley	111	2013	Dave Palmer	138	2015	Dave Palmer	151	2012
Mark Rositol	111	2014	Mark Rositol	137	2015	Edward Boyd	147	2011
Joe Hanfman	110	2013	Dan Haas	135	2012	Dave Palmer	146	2015
Tim Carney	109	2012	Rob Ostrowski	134	2012	Sean McCandless	144	2012
Keith Eric Costley	106	2014	Edward Boyd	133	2011	John Hubbell	140	2013
Edward Boyd	105	2012	Howard Patterson	131	2013	Mike Ostrowski	140	2015
John Hubbell	103	2013	Sean McCandless	130	2013	Sean McCandless	140	2013
Dan Haas	102	2010	Ron Gutberlet	129	2013	Howard Patterson	138	2013
Matt Anthony	102	2013	Keith Eric Costley	128	2013	Ron Gutberlet	138	2013
John Hubbell	97	2012	Dan Haas	127	2011	Rob Ostrowski	138	2013
Russ Ruffing	96	2013	Jared Fisher	127	2012	Russ Ruffing	134	2012
Howard Patterson	93	2013	Joe Hanfman	126	2015	Mark Schilling	133	2014
Keith Eric Costley	92	2012	Mark Schilling	122	2014	Dave Palmer	127	2011
Dan Haas	92	2012	Jared Fisher	122	2014	Gene Ricks	127	2015
Mark Schilling	91	2014	Multiple Birders	121	Var.	Multiple Birders	121	Var.

	Maryland Months - Top 50 Best Years												
Octobe	ər		Novemi	ber		Decem	ber						
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year					
Rob Ostrowski	<i>196</i>	2011	Ryan Johnson	171	2014	Tim Carney	143	2014					
Ron Gutberlet	183	2011	Tim Carney	168	2014	Ron Gutberlet	143	2012					
Joe Hanfman	181	2011	Tim Carney	159	2015	Joe Hanfman	143	2008					
Tim Carney	180	2014	Mike Ostrowski	158	2010	Ron Gutberlet	141	2008					
Tim Carney	180	2015	Ron Gutberlet	157	2008	Rob Ostrowski	136	2011					
Mike Burchett	178	2012	Joe Hanfman	156	2011	Ryan Johnson	133	2014					
Rob Ostrowski	173	2012	Rob Ostrowski	154	2011	Tim Carney	132	2015					
Mike Ostrowski	168	2010	Tim Carney	152	2013	Tim Carney	132	2013					
Tim Carney	168	2013	Bill Hubick	151	2011	Joe Hanfman	132	2012					
, Mike Ostrowski	165	2011	Ron Gutberlet	149	2011	Dan Haas	129	2008					
Joe Hanfman	162	2012	Mike Burchett	148	2012	John Hubbell	129	2009					
Joe Hanfman	162	2014	Ron Gutberlet	146	2012	Matt Anthony	128	2011					
Tim Carney	162	2012	John Hubbell	144	2012	Ron Gutberlet	127	2011					
Ryan Johnson	160	2014	Tim Carney	139	2012	Bill Hubick	124	2011					
Betsy Bangert	159	2012	Betsy Bangert	139	2012	Mike Ostrowski	123	2010					
Marcia Balestri	158	2015	Dan Haas	139	2008	Dave Palmer	123	2011					
John Hubbell	156	2009	Sean McCandless	136	2012	Edward Boyd	123	2010					
Joe Hanfman	155	2005	John Hubbell	135	2012	Dan Haas	122	2010					
Dan Haas	155	2015	Russ Ruffing	134	2005	Joe Hanfman	121	2010					
Dan Haas	155	2012	Jared Fisher	134	2014	Marcia Balestri	121	2011					
Joe Hanfman	154	2011	Joe Hanfman	134	2014	Joe Hanfman	121	2013					
Dan Haas	155	2013	Mike Ostrowski	133	2012	John Hubbell	121	2013					
Mark Rositol	150	2009	John Hubbell	132	2011	Dan Haas	120	2012					
		2015			2014								
Dan Haas	148		Rob Ostrowski	131		Dave Palmer	119	2014					
Jared Fisher	148	2012	John Hubbell	130	2015	Mike Ostrowski	118	2011					
Bill Hubick	146	2011	Dan Haas	129	2012	Dave Palmer	118	2012					
Mike Ostrowski	144	2014	John Hubbell	129	2011	John Hubbell	117	2011					
Ron Gutberlet	141	2012	Jared Fisher	127	2012	Tim Carney	114	2012					
Dave Palmer	139	2013	Derek Hudgins	127	2014	Joe Hanfman	114	2014					
John Hubbell	138	2014	Marcia Balestri	125	2015	Rob Ostrowski	113	2012					
Dave Palmer	137	2014	Mike Ostrowski	124	2015	Mike Ostrowski	113	2014					
Sean McCandless	137	2012	Dave Palmer	124	2015	Rob Ostrowski	113	2014					
John Hubbell	133	2011	Dan Haas	124	2014	Joe Hanfman	111	2015					
Dave Palmer	130	2012	Gene Ricks	123	2015	Dan Haas	109	2014					
Mark Schilling	129	2014	Edward Boyd	123	2012	Mark Rositol	109	2014					
Edward Boyd	128	2011	Dave Palmer	122	2012	Dan Haas	109	2011					
Gene Ricks	128	2015	Dave Palmer	121	2013	Edward Boyd	109	2011					
Dan Haas	127	2008	Dave Palmer	121	2014	Sean McCandless	106	2013					
John Hubbell	127	2015	Dave Palmer	121	2011	John Hubbell	105	2015					
Mark Schilling	125	2015	Jared Fisher	121	2011	Sean McCandless	105	2010					
John Hubbell	124	2012	Joe Hanfman	120	2014	Russ Ruffing	104	2012					
Mike Ostrowski	124	2015	Mark Rositol	120	2015	Dave Palmer	103	2015					
Mark Rositol	123	2014	Dan Haas	120	2010	John Hubbell	102	2013					
Ron Gutberlet	121	2013	Mike Ostrowski	119	2014	Mark Schilling	100	2014					
Dave Palmer	118	2015	Tom Ostrowski	119	2015	John Hubbell	99	2014					
Rob Ostrowski	118	2013	Joe Hanfman	118	2013	Mike Ostrowski	99	2015					
Howard Patterson	115	2013	Dan Haas	115	2009	Dave Palmer	98	2013					
Sean McCandless	110	2009	Joe Hanfman	112	2015	Howard Patterson	98	2013					
Keith Eric Costley	110	2012	Howard Patterson	111	2013	Dan Haas	97	2012					
Keith Eric Costley	109	2014	Russ Ruffing	109	2015	Rob Ostrowski	97	2013					

			Maryland Me	onths				
Month Closeouts - Li	fe		Total Month Ticks -	Life		Total Month Ticks -	Best Y	ears
Name	Total		Name	Total		Name	Total	Year
Jim Stasz	112		Jim Stasz	3005		Tim Carney	2143	2014
Matt Hafner	104		Matt Hafner	2938		Tim Carney	2064	2015
Joe Hanfman	89		Joe Hanfman	2792		Ron Gutberlet	1993	2009
John Hubbell	87		Bill Hubick	2759		Joe Hanfman	1967	2012
Ron Gutberlet	85		John Hubbell	2732		Rob Ostrowski	1928	2011
Bill Hubick	84		Marcia Balestri	2656		Bill Hubick	1918	2011
Marcia Balestri	83		Ron Gutberlet	2586		Ron Gutberlet	1906	2011
Tim Carney	82		J.B. Churchill	2546		Joe Hanfman	1891	2011
J.B. Churchill	75		Tim Carney	2502		Tim Carney	1871	2013
Dave Powell	70		Dave Powell	2467		Joe Hanfman	1821	2014
Elaine Hendricks	68		Tom Feild	2395		Mike Ostrowski	1783	2011
Fred Fallon	66		Fred Fallon	2375		Marcia Balestri	1761	2015
Mike Ostrowski	63		Dan Small	2365		Mike Burchett	1759	2012
Leslie Starr	59		Leslie Starr	2358		Joe Hanfman	1754	2013
Jared Fisher	57		Mike Ostrowski	2336		Joe Hanfman	1748	2015
Mark Schilling	55		Jared Fisher	2328		Ryan Johnson	1743	2014
Russ Ruffing	53		Chuck Stirrat	2058		John Hubbell	1729	2009
Chuck Stirrat	52		Lou Nielsen	2055		Betsy Bangert	1673	2012
Tom Ostrowski	51		Tom Ostrowski	1954		Dan Haas	1673	2011
George Jett	50		Mark Schilling	1907		Ron Gutberlet	1635	2012
Mark Rositol	46		Russ Ruffing	1856		Dave Palmer	1630	2014
Andy Wilson	44		David Kidwell	1798		Dan Haas	1621	2009
Steve Collins	42		Mark Rositol	1751		Mark Rositol	1614	2015
Jim Nelson	40		Steve Collins	1726		Rob Ostrowski	1613	2012
Rob Hilton	39		Derek Hudgins	1622		John Hubbell	1610	2011
Derek Hudgins	37		Rob Hilton	1550		Dan Haas	1601	2008
Matt Anthony	35		Andy Wilson	1505		Dave Palmer	1585	2012
Hugh David Fleischmann	22		Matt Anthony	1478		Dan Haas	1561	2012
-			Jim Nelson	1367		John Hubbell	1543	2012
						Dave Palmer	1542	2013
						Edward Boyd	1530	2012
						John Hubbell	1524	2015
						Dan Haas	1523	2010
						Mike Ostrowski	1513	2015
						Jared Fisher	1507	2012
						Tim Carney	1497	2012
						Dave Palmer	1491	2015
						Ron Gutberlet	1467	2013
			Month Closeouts -	Best `	Years			
Name - Total - Year	•		Name - Total - Y			Name - Total - Y	Year	
Tim Carney	57	2014	Dan Haas	38	2009	Marcia Balestri	31	2015
Tim Carney	51	2013	Dan Haas	36	2008	Mark Rositol	31	2014
Joe Hanfman	49	2012	Dan Haas	36	2012	Russ Ruffing	30	2012
Joe Hanfman	44	2014	Tim Carney	36	2012	Dan Haas	27	2010
Mike Ostrowski	40	2015	Russ Ruffing	36	2014	John Hubbell	27	2013
Joe Hanfman	40	2013	Rob Ostrowski	35	2013	Mike Burchett	25	2012
Dan Haas	-			34	2015	Hugh David Fleischmann	22	2015
	39	2011	John Hubbell	- 34	201.1	Hugh David Hersenham	22	
Rob Ostrowski	39 39	2011 2012	John Hubbell Russ Ruffing	34 34	2013	Betsy Bangert	20	2012

		District of Co	olumb	ia Months - Life Lis	ts		
January		February		March		April	
Paul Pisano	<b>123</b>	Paul Pisano	<b>120</b>	Paul Pisano	<i>133</i>	Rob Hilton	<b>185</b>
Michael Bowen	106	Hugh McGuinness	96	Rob Hilton	117	Paul Pisano	185
Hugh McGuinness	106	Rob Hilton 86		John Hubbell	110	Hugh McGuinness	157
Rob Hilton	102	Michael Bowen	Michael Bowen 85		108	John Hubbell	151
John Hubbell	89	John Hubbell	85	Michael Bowen	104	Jason Berry	151
Jason Berry	Jason Berry 39 Jason Be		80	Jason Berry	94	Michael Bowen	148
May		June		July		August	
Paul Pisano	<b>209</b>	Paul Pisano	127	Paul Pisano	115	Paul Pisano	155
Rob Hilton	185	5 Rob Hilton 104		Rob Hilton	103	Rob Hilton	141
Michael Bowen	171	John Hubbell	96	John Hubbell	97	Hugh McGuinness	128
Hugh McGuinness	161	Hugh McGuinness	95	Jason Berry	85	John Hubbell	123
Jason Berry	148	Michael Bowen	80	Michael Bowen	84	Michael Bowen	120
John Hubbell	147	Jason Berry	70	Hugh McGuinness	74	Jason Berry	119
September		October		November		December	
Paul Pisano	175	Paul Pisano	170	Paul Pisano	<b>140</b>	Paul Pisano	<b>130</b>
<b>Rob Hilton</b>	174	Rob Hilton	156	Rob Hilton	126	Rob Hilton	109
Jason Berry	136	Jason Berry 14		Hugh McGuinness	108	Michael Bowen	108
Hugh McGuinness	134	Hugh McGuinness	145	Michael Bowen	106	John Hubbell	101
Michael Bowen	133	Michael Bowen	119	John Hubbell	101	Hugh McGuinness	100
John Hubbell	lohn Hubbell 123 John Hubbell 113 Jason Berr					Jason Berry	67

<b>District of Columbia Mo</b>	onths - Total Month Ticks
Paul Pisano	1782
Rob Hilton	1577
Hugh McGuinness	1412

# Table of Big Day Records

Some historical Big Days that were gleaned from past records of the ABA are included and shown in red font, below. New Big Day records added since the last report are shown in green font. Most if not all of the District Big Days shown in red font were efforts by a Dave Czaplak-led team some years ago. I was not able to determine the participants of the three Maryland Big Day records shown in red font (June, September, and November).

Twelve counties still have NO Big Days on record, nor have any multi-county Big Days been conducted on the western shore. By the time you read this, you will still have time to plan for summer and fall Big Days in 2016, and remember even a House Sparrow is an exciting bird on a Big Day! Get out there and establish a record in your home county! Just remember to play by the ABA Big Day rules!

By definition, Eastern and Western Shore Big Days must have been conducted in two or more counties.

214 is the all-time high Big Day for Maryland, an effort by Marshall Illiff, Matt Hafner, Jim Stasz, and Andrew Farnsworth on 5/22/02. Only six official plus two unofficial "noon-to-noon" Big Days (shown in red font in the second table) have exceeded 200 species.

	All-time	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Maryland	214	138	85	136	147	214	177	181	157	115	79	120	130
Eastern Shore	157	138	-	136	-	158	-	-	157	-	-	-	130
Western Shore	144	75	85	79	114	144	94	89	106	102	79	64	71
Garrett	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Allegany	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Washington	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Frederick	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carroll	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Howard	122	75	75	79	107	122	94	89	84	102	79	64	71
Montgomery	106	-	-	-	-	104	-	-	106	-	-	-	-
Baltimore	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Harford	138	-	-	-	-	138	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cecil	136	-	-	-	-	136	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anne Arundel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prince George's	120	-	-	-	114	120	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Calvert	134	-	-	-	-	134	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charles	140	-	-	-	105	140	-	-	-	89	-	-	-
St. Mary's	144	-	85	-	-	144	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Kent	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Queen Anne's	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Caroline	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Talbot	110	-	-	-	-	110	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dorchester	113	-	-	113	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Somerset	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wicomico	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Worcester	158	75	-	-	147	158	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
District of Columbia	134	-	<b>68</b>	90	101	134	98	-	-	-	-	<b>60</b>	57

# Maryland Big Days

Individual county Big Days are discussed in each county summary.

Total	Date	Team Members	Playback?	Best Birds	Noteworthy Misses	Comments
214	05/22/02	Marshall Iliff, Matt Hafner, Jim Stasz, Andrew Farnsworth	No	Eared Grebe, Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, Sedge Wren, Sooty Shearwater,	Brown-headed Nuthatch, Winter Wren, Swainson's Thrush	
213	May 9-10, 2014	Matt Hafner, Bill Hubick, Mikey Lutmerding, Dave Curson	No	Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Red-necked Grebe, Common Goldeneye, 3 scoters	Great Horned Owl	24-hour, Noon-Noon Big Day
206	05/18/96	Michael & John O'Brien, Ottavio Janni, Paul Pisano	No	White-rumped Sandpiper, Sedge Wren, 32 warblers!	Whip-poor-will	
206	05/18/98	Michael & Paul O'Brien, Paul Pisano, Ottavio Janni, Will Russell	No	Black Rail, Red Crossbill, 29 warbler species	Saw-whet Owl, Raven, Summer Tanager	This day tied the previous Big Day record for MD set on 5/18/96
206	May 10-11, 2013	Matt Hafner, Bill Hubick, Mikey Lutmerding, Dave Curson	No	Red-necked Phalarope, Arctic Tern, Clay- colored Sparrow, Nelson's Sparrow	Cedar Waxwing	24-hour, Noon-Noon Big Day
204	05/19/01	Marshall Iliff, Matt Hafner, George Armistead	No	Pacific Loon, Great Cormorant, Short- eared Owl	Northern Gannet	
200	05/24/09	Matt Hafner, Bill Hubick, Jim Brighton, Mikey Lutmerding, Ron Gutberlet, Zach Baer	No	American Bittern, American White Pelican, Iceland Gull, Glaucous Gull	Wood Thrush, Yellow-throated Warbler, Brown Creeper	
200	05/07/99	Michael & Paul O'Brien, Ottavio Janni, Paul Pisano	No	Roseate Tern	Grebes, Accipiters	
196	05/18/01	Michael & Paul O'Brien, Ottavio Janni, Paul Pisano	No	Pacific Loon		
189	05/06/95	Michael & Paul O'Brien, Ottavio Janni, Paul Pisano	No	Black Rail, Jaeger sp, Barn Owl, Loggerhead Shrike		
188	05/07/90	Michael & Paul O'Brien,Lynn Davidson, Greg Gough, Paul Pisano	No	Sandhill Crane	Prairie Warbler, Summer Tanager, Blue Grosbeak	
186	05/14/88	Michael & Paul O'Brien, Lynn Davidson, Paul Pisano	No	Jaeger sp, Pine Siskin	Clapper Rail, Tufted Titmouse, Yellow- rumped & Prothonotary Warblers	
186	05/19/00	Michael & Paul O'Brien, Marshall Iliff, Ottavio Janni	No	Long-eared, Short-eared, Saw-whet - ran all the owls!	Red-shouldered Hawk, Black, Clapper Rails	55% heard first. Marshall had Long-eared Owl nest scouted. We ran the owls; remarkable!
185	05/17/97	Michael & Paul O'Brien, Greg Gough, Ottavio Janni	No	Pine Siskin, Purple Finch	Semipalmated Plover	
185	05/12/89	Michael & Paul O'Brien, Lynn Davidson, Greg Gough, Paul Pisano	No	Canvasback, Bufflehead	Several Warblers	Too early for some Garrett breeders
185	05/08/93	Michael & Paul O'Brien, Paul Pisano, anybody else?	No	7 thrushes, 27 warblers	Black-capped Chickadee	Early for Garrett breeders
182	05/18/91	Michael & Paul O'Brien, Lynn Davidson, Paul Pisano	No	White-rumped Sandpiper		
181	05/10/86	Michael & Paul O'Brien, Lynn Davidson, Greg Gough, Paul Pisano	No	Canvasback	Clapper Rail	Couldn't count Wilson's Warbler found during a timeout
181	07/24/15	Alex Wiebe, Matt Addicks, Kevin Ebert				
176	05/09/94	Paul O'Brien, Ottavio Janni, Paul Pisano	No	Black Scoter; 27 warblers	Whip-poor-will	
176	05/16/87	Michael & Paul O'Brien, Lynn Davidson, Greg Gough, Paul Pisano	No	Henslow's Sparrow	Chestnut-sided Warbler	
118	01/02/16	Alex Wiebe, Matthew Addicks, Bill Hubick, Matt Hafner, Jim Brighton	yes	Sora, Common Gallinule, Willet, Eurasian Wigeon		

# **County Listing Categories**

	Mar	yland's <sup>·</sup>	op County Close	out Lis	sts - Life	(245 is max)		
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated
Jim Stasz	194	2012	Joel Martin	90	2015	Leslie Starr	47	2015
John Hubbell	172	2015	Ron Gutberlet	88	2014	Lou Nielsen	33	2015
Bob Ringler	149	2015	Harvey Mudd	88	2011	Tim Carney	32	2015
Bill Hubick	139	2015	Jeff Culler	71	2015	Chuck Stirrat	29	2015
Jim Green	137	2015	Mike Ostrowski	68	2015	Derek Hudgins	13	2015
Joe Hanfman	136	2015	Marcia Balestri	65	2015	Russ Ruffing	13	2015
Dave Powell	135	2015	Fred Fallon	61	2015	Tom Ostrowski	11	2015
Kathy Calvert	124	2015	Duvall Sollers	55	2015	Rob Hilton	9	2015
Elaine Hendricks	123	2015	Anna Urciolo	53	2015	Steve Collins	7	2015
Matt Hafner	116	2015	J.B. Churchill	52	2015	Mark Rositol	5	2015
Rick Blom	99	1999						

Maryland	's Hig	hest Cou	inty "Floor" Lists (	total o	of one's l	owest MD county)	- Life	ļ
Name	#	Updated	Name	#	Updated	Name	#	Updated
Jim Stasz	245	2012	Joel Martin	162	2015	Tom Ostrowski	65	2015
John Hubbell	217	2015	Harvey Mudd	160	2011	Rob Hilton	59	2015
Bob Ringler	206	2015	Ron Gutberlet	157	2014	Steve Collins	55	2015
Bill Hubick	205	2015	Marcia Balestri	150	2015	Warren Strobel	54	2015
Joe Hanfman	204	2015	Fred Fallon	147	2015	Russ Ruffing	54	2015
Dave Powell	202	2015	Mike Ostrowski	142	2015	Derek Hudgins	53	2015
Jim Green	201	2015	Anna Urciolo	129	2015	Mark Rositol	33	2015
Kathy Calvert	201	2015	Leslie Starr	113	2015	Diane Ford	15	2015
Tom Feild	200	2015	Chuck Stirrat	94	2015	Kurt Schwarz	8	2015
Matt Hafner	189	2015	Tim Carney	84	2015	Lisa Shannon	1	2015
Elaine Hendricks	188	2015	Lou Nielsen	75	2015	Matt Anthony	1	2015
Jeff Culler	164	2015						

Maryland's	: High	est Cou	nty "Floor" Lists (t	otal of	one's lo	west county) - Bes	st Yea	٢
Name	#	Year	Name	#	Year	Name	#	Year
Joe Hanfman	111	2014	Joe Hanfman	83	2012	Derek Hudgins	25	2014
Elaine Hendricks	102	2015	John Hubbell	59	2013	John Hubbell	23	2015
Mike Ostrowski	100	2011	John Hubbell	56	2014	Tim Carney	22	2015
Joe Hanfman	97	2015	Chuck Stirrat	53	2014	Edward Boyd	19	2012
Elaine Hendricks	97	2014	John Hubbell	46	2012	Tim Carney	15	2014
Mike Ostrowski	96	2010	Mark Rositol	33	2015	Ron Gutberlet	12	2013
Joe Hanfman	92	2013	Joel Martin	30	2015	Ryan Johnson	7	2014
Jim Green	88	2012	Ron Gutberlet	29	2012	Leslie Starr	6	2012
Jim Stasz	87	2012	Joel Martin	29	2014	Kurt Schwarz	4	2015
Elaine Hendricks	87	2013						

	Maryland's Top County Closeout Lists - Best Year												
Name	Total	Achieved	Name	Total	Achieved	Name	Total	Achieved					
Jim Stasz	83	2002	Jim Green	23	2008	Dave Powell	8	2012					
Dave Perry	80	2001	Joe Hanfman	21	2012	John Hubbell	8	2014					
Jim Stasz	65	1999	Jim Green	21	2011	Jim Stasz	8	2004					
John Hubbell	59	2003	Jim Green	21	2009	Joe Hanfman	7	2015					
Ron Gutberlet	51	2011	George Jett	21	1995	John Hubbell	7	2013					
Dave Perry	48	1999	Dave Powell	20	2007	Jared Satchell	7	2011					
Leslie Starr	45	2013	Joe Hanfman	18	2014	Jeff Culler	7	2014					
Phil Davis	44	1995	Dave Powell	18	2006	John Hubbell	7	2011					
Jim Green	43	2007	Dave Powell	16	2008	John Hubbell	7	2008					
Gene Ricks	41	2014	Jeff Culler	14	2013	Jim Green	6	2014					
Rob Ostrowski	40	2010	Jim Stasz	14	2008	Marcia Balestri	6	2013					
Stan Arnold	39	2005	Jim Stasz	14	2007	Jim Green	6	2013					
Bill Hubick	36	2008	Jim Green	14	2010	Tim Carney	6	2015					
Bill Hubick	35	2007	Anna Urciolo	14	2011	Mark Rositol	5	2015					
Ron Gutberlet	34	2009	Leslie Starr	12	2011	Matt Tillett	5	2010					
Bill Hubick	30	2011	Jim Stasz	12	2000	John Hubbell	4	2012					
John Dennehy	30	2010	Dave Powell	12	2004	<b>Duvall Sollers</b>	3	2015					
Leslie Starr	30	2010	Jim Stasz	12	2005	Tim Carney	3	2014					
Rob Ostrowski	29	2011	Anna Urciolo	11	2014	Ron Gutberlet	3	2013					
Bill Hubick	29	2005	Anna Urciolo	11	2013	Ron Gutberlet	2	2012					
Jim Stasz	28	1998	Jeff Culler	11	2011	Derek Hudgins	2	2014					
Bill Hubick	27	2009	Rob Ostrowski	11	2009	John Hubbell	2	2015					
Mike Ostrowski	26	2011	Dave Powell	11	2005	Dave Powell	2	2001					
Ron Gutberlet	25	2010	Anna Urciolo	10	2012	Dave Powell	2	2003					
J.B. Churchill	25	2000	Joe Hanfman	10	2013	Leslie Starr	1	2014					
Joe Hanfman	24	2011	John Hubbell	10	2009	Edward Boyd	1	2012					
Joe Hanfman	24	2010	Ron Gutberlet	10	2008	Mike Ostrowski	1	2009					
Jim Brighton	24	2005	John Hubbell	9	2004	Sue Hamilton	1	1995					
Bill Hubick	24	2006											

	Maryland's Top Total County Tick Lists - Life (7,432 max)													
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated						
Jim Stasz	6409	2012	Ron Gutberlet	4582	2014	Warren Strobel	2884	2015						
John Hubbell	5757	2015	Jeff Culler	4485	2015	Rob Hilton	2863	2015						
Bob Ringler	5680	2015	Fred Fallon	4401	2015	Tom Ostrowski	2735	2015						
Joe Hanfman	5494	2015	Marcia Balestri	4294	2015	Derek Hudgins	2668	2015						
Bill Hubick	5409	2015	Mike Ostrowski	4166	2015	Steve Collins	2514	2015						
Matt Hafner	5324	2015	J.B. Churchill	4093	2015	Russ Ruffing	2509	2015						
Dave Powell	5241	2015	Marion Mudd	4072	2011	Mark Rositol	2328	2015						
Jim Green	5192	2015	Leslie Starr	3913	2015	David Kidwell	2309	2015						
Kathy Calvert	5108	2015	Tim Carney	3665	2015	Dave Palmer	2108	2015						
Elaine Hendricks	5038	2015	Anna Urciolo	3662	2015	Matt Anthony	1468	2015						
Tom Feild	5017	2015	Lou Nielsen	3315	2015	Kevin Ebert	1378	2015						
Harvey Mudd	4802	2011	Chuck Stirrat	3257	2015	Andy Wilson	1210	2015						
Joel Martin	4722	2015	Dan Small	3244	2015	Jim Nelson	1201	2015						
Ма	ryland	's Top T	otal County Tick L	.ists - E	Best Yea	r (2,000 & above)								
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year						
Jim Stasz	4086	2002	John Hubbell	2877	2007	John Hubbell	2533	2015						
Jim Stasz	3738	2012	Kevin Graff	2853	2007	Dave Powell	2528	2004						
Ron Gutberlet	3408	2011	Jim Green	2806	2010	Elaine Hendricks	2497	2013						
Joe Hanfman	3360	2011	Joe Hanfman	2801	2009	Jim Green	2490	2013						
Dave Perry	3322	2001	Tim Carney	2785	2015	John Hubbell	2472	2005						
Jim Green	3306	2011	Bill Hubick	2770	2005	Jim Stasz	2457	2004						
Bill Hubick	3233	2008	Jim Stasz	2759	2005	John Hubbell	2452	2012						
Joe Hanfman	3225	2012	Stan Arnold	2746	2008	John Hubbell	2452	2006						
Bill Hubick	3200	2010	Ron Gutberlet	2741	2010	Jeff Culler	2450	2014						
Bill Hubick	3193	2009	Jim Stasz	2727	2009	John Hubbell	2442	2013						
Stan Arnold	3185	2005	Jim Stasz	2717	2007	Jared Satchell	2429	2011						
Rob Ostrowski	3173	2010	John Hubbell	2702	2011	John Hubbell	2426	2003						
Jim Stasz	3159	2011	Jeff Culler	2686	2011	Dave Powell	2390	2006						
Ron Gutberlet	3147	2009	John Hubbell	2662	2008	Jeff Culler	2379	2013						
Joe Hanfman	3144	2014	Tim Carney	2660	2014	John Hubbell	2352	2014						
Rob Ostrowski	3126	2011	Jim Brighton	2657	2010	Dave Powell	2328	2008						
Jim Brighton	3126	2005	Dave Powell	2655	2007	Edward Boyd	2323	2012						
Mike Ostrowski	3109	2011	Elaine Hendricks	2652	2015	John Hubbell	2316	2004						
Stan Arnold	3099	2009	Kevin Graff	2621	2008	Ryan Johnson	2241	2014						
Bill Hubick	3095	2011	Jim Green	2616	2007	Jeff Culler	2157	2010						
Joe Hanfman	3049	2010	John Hubbell	2616	2010	Ron Gutberlet	2150	2012						
Bill Hubick	3037	2007	Kevin Graff	2613	2009	Mark Rositol	2137	2015						
Mike Ostrowski	3017	2010	Bill Hubick	2604	2006	Dave Powell	2131	2005						
Joe Hanfman	2972	2013	John Dennehy	2571	2010	Leslie Starr	2111	2011						
Jim Green	2964	2008	Jim Stasz	2566	2008	Rob Ostrowski	2107	2009						
Joe Hanfman	2938	2015	Elaine Hendricks	2563	2014	Tim Carney	2052	2013						
Jim Green	2913	2009	Kevin Graff	2541	2006	Dave Powell	2000	2001						
John Hubbell	2892	2009	Kevin Graff	2538	2005									

# **Garrett & Allegany Counties**

Material contributed by J.B. Churchill (with contributing edits by Chad Fike and Aaron Graham)

Many of the best birds of 2015 in Western Maryland were long-staying birds leftover from 2014 such as the *Trumpeter Swan* and *Orange-crowned Warblers*. A first county record *Harlequin Duck* was of note, as was a wintering *Wood Thrush*. All of these were at the Cumberland Terminus. According to eBird, there were 216 species seen in Allegany County and 222 species seen in Garrett County this year.

January 2015 started out with a couple of odd songbirds at the Cumberland Terminus (Allegany). The **Orangecrowned Warblers** seen late last year continued (re-found by Tim Carney on 1/1 and also seen by Jessica & Kyle Klotz). An Orange-crowned was also detected there on 1/3 by Marshall Iliff. There was a wintering **Wood Thrush** on January 2nd that was found by Aaron Graham & also seen by Mark Eanes that day. The **Trumpeter Swan** (L55) from last year continued there too, and was last reported on April 5th (J.B. Churchill). A **Harlequin Duck** was found at the Terminus on February 8th (J.B. Churchill & Kyle Klotz). It continued there through March 29th (Jim Green, Jeff & Gaby Shenot). There were two **Greater White-fronted Geese** at the Terminus as well. They were seen January 13th (Mark Eanes) and last seen March 2nd (Joe Hanfman). Another Greater Whitefronted Goose was at Broadford Lake in early January (1/1 Jessica & Kyle Klotz and 1/4 Aaron Graham). On February 20th Kyle Klotz reported finding a **Lapland Longspur** at the Trout Run Wastewater Treatment Plant in Pleasant Valley (Garrett County). Kyle had a **White-winged Scoter** on March 1 at the Cumberland Terminus and a **Long-tailed Duck** at Spring Gap (C&O Canal). A **Lesser Black-backed Gull** was at the Cumberland Terminus on February 9 (Roy Boyle and Linda Greble).

There was a *Red-throated Loon* at Broadford Lake on April 8<sup>th</sup> (J.B. Churchill later seen by others). Mikey Lutmerding found one a few days later (April 11) on Deep Creek Lake.

There was an *American Bittern* at Finzel Swamp (Mary Huebner) on April 1 and another detected on the Allegany side on May 9th (Tim Carney, Matt Hafner, Bill Hubick, & Mikey Lutmerding) on the annual Audubon fund raising event. *Great Egrets* were at Broadford Lake on April 28 (J.B. Churchill) and May 3rd (Kyle Klotz) at Cherry Creek Glades. There was a *Black-crowned Night Heron* on May 2nd at Bond's Landing (Hans & Angela Holbrook).

A *Dunlin* was at North Branch on May 12th (Joe Hanfman). It was also seen by Kyle Klotz the same day. An *Upland Sandpiper* found on May 2nd (Jim Stasz) was enjoyed by multiple observers through May 25th at Hamilton Farms (Garrett County).

There was a *Caspian Tern* at Rocky Gap State Park (Mark Eanes) on April 10th and another at Deep Creek Lake on May 4th (Kathy Calvert). There was also a *Common Tern* reported from Piney Reservoir on May 17th (J.B. Churchill). There was a *Little Gull* 5/2 found on Deep Creek Lake (near Mountainside Development) by Mikey Lutmerding later seen by a number of others. Jim Stasz also managed to find and photograph a 2nd Cycle *Lesser Black-backed Gull* there.

There were **Sandhill Cranes** seen in Cherry Creek Glades (Garrett County) on April 21 (Mark Eanes) and 25th (Kyle Klotz). Another was seen in this area (Rock Lodge Road) on December 29th by Aaron Graham & Kyle Klotz (same day). In the Fall, there was a Sandhill Crane in Garrett County in September (seen in a few locations). It was reportedly a rehabbed bird from West Virginia released by MD DNR near the Cherry Creek Glades that preferred to wander near roads. It was subsequently captured and moved to Mount Nebo WMA where it moved to an area along Herrington Manor Road and was seen walking near the road again. Later it was being seen along Route 219 north of Oakland. It was captured by DNR on 9/16/15 and was eventually relocated to the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore where it is now on exhibit at the Maryland Wilderness Marsh Aviary. It was only reported to eBird on Sept. 15th when Crystal & Chad Fike found it and alerted me (J.B.).

A group of *Northern Bobwhite* (10 or more) was at North Branch on Sept. 23rd (Mark Eanes).

Mark Johnson reported two **Western Sandpipers** at the Youghiogheny Reservoir on Aug. 31 (later seen by others on 9/1). A **White-rumped Sandpiper** was there on Aug. 26th (Daniel Hinnebusch). Another White-rumped was at North Branch on Oct. 11th (Tim Carney). A **Willet** was found at Piney Reservoir on Aug. 16th (Tim Carney) and seen by others later that day and the next morning. A **Baird's Sandpiper** was found by Mikey Lutmerding at the Youghiogheny Reservoir (Aug. 30 also seen through 9/1). Another was at North Branch on Sept. 27 (Jim Stasz) and also Oct. 11th (Tim Carney). A **Stilt Sandpiper** was found on Oct. 14th by Elaine Hendricks at North Branch. Work on the dam at Herrington Manor State Park caused low water levels and subsequently Snipe, Killdeer and a number of **Dunlin** were seen between Oct. 21 and 31 (found by Chad Fike). Another was at North Branch on Oct. 25th (Kyle Klotz) that was around through November 3rd. A **Short-billed Dowitcher** was at Trout Run Wastewater Treatment Plant on Aug. 21 (Kyle Klotz) that stayed until the 23<sup>rd</sup> (multiple observers).

There were two late Warblers in the fall. A *Common Yellowthroat* was at Finzel Swamp on November 26<sup>th</sup> (Tim Carney) and 27<sup>th</sup> (Aaron Graham) and a *Northern Waterthrush* continued at North Branch through December. One seen there on Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> (Tim Carney) could be a regular fall migrant, but October 15<sup>th</sup> (Kyle Klotz) is getting quite late. It was then also seen November 8th (Tim Carney), November 28<sup>th</sup> (J.B. Churchill), and December 27<sup>th</sup> (Tim Carney).

In December, another **Greater White-fronted Goose** was at Deep Creek Lake (McHenry) on 12/6 and 12/12 (Kyle Klotz) and photographed well by Mark Rositol on 12/13. A **Mute Swan** was found on December 3rd by Connie Skipper and Caroline Blizzard on Deep Creek Lake that was later seen by others. More **Long-tailed Ducks** included one on December 2nd at Rocky Gap State Park by Joe Hanfman and Jeff Culler (also seen by Mark Johnson and Mark Eanes). There were six at Broadford Lake on December 26th (Crystal & Chad Fike).

Listing In Garrett County, J.B. Churchill is now top of the heap in the Life List category, as he has closed the gap on Mikey Lutmerding's previously reported total of 254 (Mikey hasn't updated his Life List total in a number of years). Mikey's all-time high Year List of 229, achieved in 2007, is still tops in that category.

In Allegany County, Jim Paulus (273) remains atop the Life List category. J.B. Churchill has narrowed the gap to nine birds. Mikey Lutmerding also holds the all-time high Year List (213 in 2007) for Allegany County.

	Garrett County Top Life Lists (290 Max)													
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated						
J.B. Churchill	254	2015	Dave Powell	203	2015	Fred Fallon	175	2015						
John Hubbell	232	2015	Kathy Calvert	202	2015	Rick Blom	174	1999						
Bill Hubick	226	2015	Ron Gutberlet	199	2014	Joel Martin	162	2015						
Matt Hafner	224	2015	Tim Carney	193	2015	Harvey Mudd	160	2011						
Bob Ringler	215	2015	Elaine Hendricks	188	2015	Marcia Balestri	156	2015						
Jim Green	211	2015	Mike Ostrowski	186	2015	Leslie Starr	149	2015						
Tom Feild	209	2015	Jeff Culler	183	2015	Rod Burley	149	2015						
Joe Hanfman	204	2015	George Jett	175	2015									

There are no Big Days in the database for either county.

	Garrett County Top Year Lists										
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year			
Mikey Lutmerding	229	2007	J.B. Churchill	176	2007	J.B. Churchill	154	2001			
Mikey Lutmerding	216	2008	Jim Stasz	172	2000	Mike Ostrowski	153	2011			
Kyle Klotz	214	2014	Tim Carney	171	2014	Jim Stasz	153	1992			
Aaron Graham	207	2014	Bill Hubick	171	2005	Bill Hubick	153	2007			
Jim Stasz	198	2002	Ron Gutberlet	170	2009	Joe Hanfman	149	2011			
J.B. Churchill	192	2014	J.B. Churchill	168	2000	Bill Hubick	149	2006			
Jim Stasz	191	2012	J.B. Churchill	166	2003	Jim Stasz	148	2004			
Jim Stasz	184	1999	Tim Carney	162	2015	Joe Hanfman	147	2014			
J.B. Churchill	178	2009	J.B. Churchill	161	1999	J.B. Churchill	147	2006			
Jim Stasz	176	2003	Jim Stasz	159	2007	J.B. Churchill	147	2005			
Jim Stasz	176	2006	J.B. Churchill	157	2004	Bill Hubick	146	2011			
J.B. Churchill	176	2008	Jim Stasz	155	2005	Jim Stasz	145	2009			

	Allegany County Top Life Lists (305 Max)											
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated				
Jim Paulus	273	2000	Bill Hubick	209	2015	Rick Blom	171	1999				
J.B. Churchill	264	2015	Kathy Calvert	209	2015	Mike Ostrowski	170	2015				
Ray Kiddy	261	2008	Matt Hafner	207	2015	Harvey Mudd	170	2011				
Teresa Simons	260	1994	Tom Feild	204	2015	Fred Fallon	162	2015				
Bob Ringler	231	2015	Tim Carney	201	2015	Rod Burley	159	2015				
John Hubbell	227	2015	Elaine Hendricks	193	2015	Marcia Balestri	158	2015				
Jim Green	217	2015	Joel Martin	180	2015	Howard Patterson	156	2015				
Dave Powell	213	2015	Ron Gutberlet	179	2014	George Jett	151	2015				
Joe Hanfman	212	2015	Jeff Culler	177	2015							

			Allegany County	Тор Үе	ar Lists	5	
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total
likey Lutmerding	213	2007	Ray Kiddy	171	2006	John Hubbell	123
Teresa Simons	212	1994	Jim Stasz	167	2002	Tim Carney	122
J.B. Churchill	211	2004	Jim Stasz	167	1999	Ron Gutberlet	121
Teresa Simons	211	1993	Tim Carney	162	2014	John Hubbell	121
J.B. Churchill	202	2007	J.B. Churchill	162	1999	Jim Stasz	120
J.B. Churchill	200	2002	Joe Hanfman	153	2014	Dave Powell	119
J.B. Churchill	200	2000	Jim Brighton	148	2005	Joe Hanfman	117
J.B. Churchill	197	2008	Jim Stasz	148	2007	Jim Stasz	115
Ray Kiddy	194	2003	Jim Stasz	144	2012	Ryan Johnson	113
Ray Kiddy	194	2002	Jim Stasz	143	2008	Jim Stasz	113
Ray Kiddy	190	2007	Jim Stasz	142	2005	Joe Hanfman	111
J.B. Churchill	189	2005	Jim Green	141	2011	Stan Arnold	111
Ray Kiddy	189	2004	Jim Stasz	139	2000	Joe Hanfman	110
J.B. Churchill	186	2003	Bill Hubick	133	2008	Jim Brighton	110
likey Lutmerding	185	2008	Jim Green	133	2007	Dave Powell	110
Ray Kiddy	185	2005	Jim Stasz	130	2006	Mike Ostrowski	109
Ray Kiddy	182	1999	Dave Perry	129	2001	Bill Hubick	109
J.B. Churchill	181	2006	John Hubbell	129	2007	Elaine Hendricks	109
J.B. Churchill	181	2001	Jim Green	127	2012	John Hubbell	108
Ray Kiddy	181	2000	Jim Green	127	2008	Elaine Hendricks	106
Ray Kiddy	180	2001	Jim Stasz	126	2003	John Hubbell	106
J.B. Churchill	179	2009	Marshall Iliff	126	1992	Jim Stasz	104
Tim Carney	178	2015	Joel Martin	125	2015	Elaine Hendricks	103
Ray Kiddy	173	2008	Joel Martin	124	2014	Joe Hanfman	101
J.B. Churchill	172	2014	Bill Hubick	123	2009	Bill Hubick	101
Jim Stasz	171	1992	Stan Arnold	123	2005		

## **Washington County**

Material contributed by Jim Green

In 2015 a total of 211 species were seen in Washington County based on those who submitted their findings to eBird. This was the highest number of species seen in the last ten years, bettering by one the total in eBird for 2008.

The MEGA bird of the year was a first county record (and only the second accepted Maryland record) of a *Chestnut-Collared Longspur* found on Chewsville Road. It was collectively found by Tom Field, Geraldine King and Jim Green feeding along the edges of the road which were surrounded by snow covered farm fields on January 31<sup>st</sup>. The longspur was seen in the same location the following day and was seen by many. Additional birds enjoyed by those who had ventured out on February 1<sup>st</sup> included a *Merlin* and a *Rough-legged Hawk* (the latter being a great bird for many and is not expected to be seen in Washington County on an annual basis). Not to be outdone, on April 14<sup>th</sup> Jeff Culler and Joe Hanfman found a drake *Eurasian Wigeon* in a small farm pond on Clear Spring Road southeast of Pinesburg. This great find, also a county record (based on eBird results) was enjoyed by numerous birders through April 20<sup>th</sup>. Great find Jeff & Joe!

On August 2<sup>nd</sup> Mark Rositol was in the right spot at the right time at Weverton along the Potomac River and was lucky enough to see a fly-by **Swallow-tailed Kite**. On August 14<sup>th</sup>, Linda Lewis found an immature **Little Blue Heron** at beaver Pond – Fort Frederick State Park. A few days later the same bird was relocated at the northern end of Big Pool and was seen there by others through August 21<sup>st</sup>. Based on eBird, this was only the second county record for this heron.

Starting out the year on January 1st a possibly overwintering Gray Catbird was found near the railroad tracks at the end of Shanktown Road. On the same day there was a Canvasback at the Boonesboro WWTP. As far as finding waterfowl goes in Washington County, the Potomac River along the C & O Canal and Big Pool are generally the most reliable locations; that is until Big Pool freezes over which occurs almost annually. In 2015 as of January 15<sup>th</sup>, Big Pool, Little Pool and the Potomac River just above Dam # 5 and all points west (McCoy's Ferry, Four Locks, etc.) were all frozen over. William Telfair found 35 *Bufflehead* at Mile 70 along the C & O Canal (north of Harpers Ferry Road) on January 17<sup>th</sup>. Almost a week later (January 23rd) Deb Hale reported her first observation of a *Peregrine Falcon* along the C & O Canal opposite Harper's Ferry. Many more reports would follow throughout the year and a second bird joined the first and attempted nesting on the nearby cliffs. 145 *Common Mergansers* were seen along the C & O Canal at mile 86 (just north of Big Slackwater) during the C & O Canal Annual Count on January 25<sup>th</sup>. The same day (on the same count) Melissa Hensel hit the jackpot with gulls at mile 113 (Big Pool). She counted 236 *Ring-billed Gulls* along with 24 *Herring Gulls*. The previous day she also saw seven *American Tree Sparrows* at Mile 110 on the C & O Canal. Besides the *Rough-legged Hawk* (mentioned above in the year's summary), Daniel Hinnebusch had the year's first one on January 29<sup>th</sup> (three days earlier) at the Hagerstown Airport pond.

Heavier snow and colder temps hit a lot of Washington County during the month of February. There were no *Lapland Longspurs* or *Snow Buntings* reported during this time nor would either species be reported at any time during the rest of 2015. On February 15<sup>th</sup> Michael Douglas reported 12 *Red-breasted Nuthatches* (an all-time county high) near Mile 80 (Horseshoe Bend area) on the C & O Canal. David Zmoda enjoyed 15 *White-crowned Sparrows* along Old Forge Road on the same day. Loretta Brown tallied a 2015 high of 14 *Pine Siskins* on February 16<sup>th</sup> in Smithsburg. Towards the end of the month on February 25<sup>th</sup> Deb Hale saw 100 *Common Goldeneye* along the C & O Canal opposite Harper's Ferry as they began to make their way north.

On March 7<sup>th</sup>, Jim Wilkinson had a flock of 130 *Horned Larks* on Watery Lane but was unable to find anything else mixed in with the larks. Kathy Calvert and Jim Green found a nice variety of waterfowl along the C & O Canal at Cushwa Basin on March 8<sup>th</sup>. Along with the county's first reported *White-winged Scoter* for the year was a raft of 86 *Canvasbacks*. Later in the month there were 32 Redheads on Big Pool on March 21st. *Northern Shoveler* is not an easy duck to find in Washington County. On March 28<sup>th</sup> Steve Back came upon six Northern Shovelers along the C & O Canal at Lock 38 near the bridge to Shepherdstown. According to eBird this is an all-time record. On the same day Mary Erickson estimated an amazing total of 750 *Tree Swallows* along the C & O Canal at Maryland Heights.

Teri Holland was lucky enough to flush the only *American Bittern* for the year on April 11<sup>th</sup>. It was along the C&O Canal near McCoy's Ferry. John Hubbell & Tom Field were in the right place at the right time to hear a *Ruffed Grouse* drumming one time only at the end of Allegany Line Road just after first daylight on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Also on the same day, Jim Moore witnessed a major movement of 150 *Bonaparte Gulls* moving up the Potomac River near the Rt. 340 bridge. There were two *Long-tailed Ducks* found in Washington County in 2015. Jim Stasz found the first one on April 20<sup>th</sup> along the C & O Canal at Dam #3, and Jim Green found the second one a day later along the C & O Canal at Dam #5. Also on April 20<sup>th</sup> at Williamsport Park, Jim Stasz saw the only *Red-necked Grebe* reported in Washington County for the year. Later in the month, John Hubbell timed a small storm perfectly and arrived at Blairs Valley Lake on April 25<sup>th</sup> in time for five minute views of seven *Caspian Terns* just before they flew north towards Pennsylvania and out of sight. This was the most ever reported in eBird for this species and it has been a number of years since they were last seen in Washington County. Never

one to rest on his laurels, later the same day John found a *Virginia Rail* in a small retention pond on Gapland Road. The rail cooperatively hung around for almost another week so that other birders could successfully chase it.

For the second year in a row, birders found a total of 32 warblers throughout spring migration. Those species that were not reported during the year included Golden-winged, Mourning, Connecticut and Orange-crowned. For the second year in a row a male *Lawrence's Warbler* was found in the exact location as last year. On May 3<sup>rd</sup> Josh Emm saw the bird at the end of Shanktown Road along the railroad tracks. It was available to quite a few birders that were interested in this colorful hybrid and was last reported on May 31<sup>st</sup>.

The first *Blue Grosbeak* of the season was seen by Wil Hershberger at Antietam National Battlefield on May 5<sup>th</sup>. The battlefield area is one of the more reliable breeding locations for this bird in Washington County. On the same day Jim Green found two *Forster's Terns* at Big Pool. They were initially seen sitting on a partially submerged log, would fly around periodically and then return to the same perch. As far as is known, they remained for only part of that day. Audrey Whitlock had a nice visit to Sideling Hill Visitors Center on May 6<sup>th</sup> when she saw both a *Cape May Warbler* and a *Bay-breasted Warbler*. On the same day Steve Back saw the county's only *Olive-sided Flycatcher* of the year at Mt. Aetna Nature Center. On May 23<sup>rd</sup> Jim Green found a *Dunlin* in a small farm pond on Rowe Road. The next day, on May 24<sup>th</sup>, Joel Martin not only saw the Dunlin but also three *Semi-palmated Sandpipers* in the same pond. Speaking of shorebirds, 2015 was not a particularly good year in Washington County for shorebird diversity. Most years just about all shorebirds are noteworthy when found except for about six more common species. Despite lower levels of water at places like the northern end of Big Pool and Mt. Aetna Nature Center there were very few reports of shorebirds in late summer and throughout the fall. (Some birders will say that there rarely are any decent years for shorebirds in the county).

On June 25<sup>th</sup> Deb Hale heard/saw 18 *Warbling Vireos* along a stretch of the C & O Canal in the Harpers Ferry area. The number of sycamore trees along this section are definitely favorable hosts for this breeding species. On July 11<sup>th</sup> a *Ruffed Grouse* was heard by Fred Shaffer repeatedly giving its alarm call along the C & O Canal – Woodmont area near Sideling Creek. The only *Dickcissel* reported in the county in 2015 was a "heard" only individual on August 12<sup>th</sup> at the Antietam National Battlefield. Later in the same month, on August 25<sup>th</sup> Linda Lewis had a nice total of 30 *Wood Ducks* in the beaver pond at Fort Frederick State Park.

Teri Holland found three *Lincoln's Sparrows* in the Burnside Bridge area of Antietam National Battlefield on October 24<sup>th</sup>. On the same day, Adam Vesely had a great find of a *Marsh Wren* in Shafer Memorial Park in Boonesboro. Despite some dedicated canvassing of the area by several birders the next day, it was not re-found. On October 29<sup>th</sup> Laurie Young had a nice total of ten *Blue Grosbeaks* while covering a four mile stretch of Antietam National Battlefield.

Tim Houghton heard a **Northern Saw-whet Owl** on November 7<sup>th</sup> at Reno Monument. A second location for **Peregrine Falcon** in the county besides the C & O Canal area at Harper's Ferry occurred when Jim Stasz found one on November 26<sup>th</sup> at the Williamsport Potomac Electric Substation. On the same day, Jim also had a nice total of 11 **Savannah Sparrows** along Broadfording Road at the intersection of Spickler Road.

The Washington County Christmas Bird Count which was held on December 19th did not turn up any rarities.

Listing Jim Stasz (246) maintains a comfortable lead in the Life List category (although Jim's total has not been updated in four years), with nine other birders now over the 200 species mark. It's doubtful anyone will ever top Hans Holbrook's all-time high Year List of 205 from 2008, the only Year List in excess of 200 ever reported for the county; however, Jim Green gave it an impressive try with his 2015 tally of 199. There are no Big Days in the database for Washington County.

	Washington County Top Life Lists (285 Max)											
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated				
Jim Stasz	246	2012	Tom Feild	203	2015	Mike Ostrowski	165	2015				
John Hubbell	224	2015	Elaine Hendricks	198	2015	Jeff Culler	164	2015				
Jim Green	223	2015	Matt Hafner	193	2015	Steve Sanford	158	2007				
Bob Ringler	219	2015	Joel Martin	186	2015	Fred Fallon	156	2015				
Kathy Calvert	218	2015	Rick Blom	186	1999	Leslie Starr	148	2015				
Dave Weesner	215	2006	Harvey Mudd	184	2011	Lynn Davidson	148	1998				
Joe Hanfman	212	2015	Ron Gutberlet	177	2014	Michele Morris	147	1992				
Bill Hubick	205	2015	Rod Burley	174	2015	Herb Morris	147	1992				
Dave Powell	204	2015	Marcia Balestri	171	2015	Anna Urciolo	146	2015				

	Washington County Top Year Lists											
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year				
Hans Holbrook	205	2008	Jim Green	143	2010	Jim Green	126	2012				
Jim Green	199	2015	Jim Stasz	143	2005	Joe Hanfman	124	2013				
Dave Perry	176	2004	Mike Ostrowski	140	2010	Elaine Hendricks	122	2015				
Dave Weesner	170	1998	Bill Hubick	139	2008	Dave Perry	122	1999				
Jim Green	162	2011	Jim Green	139	2009	Dave Perry	121	2001				
John Hubbell	158	2015	Bill Hubick	139	2007	Bill Hubick	121	2011				
Dave Perry	157	2003	Jim Stasz	136	2006	John Hubbell	120	2014				
Jim Stasz	153	1999	Jim Stasz	132	2012	John Hubbell	119	2008				
Jim Stasz	152	2008	Jim Brighton	132	2005	Dave Powell	116	2007				
Jim Stasz	151	1992	Jim Green	132	2008	Joe Hanfman	114	2014				
Jim Stasz	149	2002	Ron Gutberlet	131	2011	Jim Green	114	2007				
Dave Weesner	147	1993	Jim Stasz	130	2011	John Hubbell	114	2009				
Joe Hanfman	143	2009	Bill Hubick	129	2010	John Hubbell	114	2007				
Jim Green	143	2013	Bill Hubick	128	2009	Joel Martin	114	2014				

## **Frederick County**

#### Material contributed by Kathy Calvert

A total of 220 species were reported in Frederick County in 2015, a fairly typical number for the past 15 years since eBirding has become relatively routine among birders in the county. The best bird of the year was found on Apr. 6<sup>th</sup> by Mike Welch: a **Northern Shrike** on Shriver Rd, which fortunately stuck around for four days so that multiple observers got a look. This was the only Northern Shrike found in Maryland in 2015.

At least two *Glossy Ibises* seem to have spent a couple of months at Lilypons. Mike Welch spotted one on Mar. 27<sup>th</sup>, Lynn Kieffer reported three birds on Apr. 11<sup>th</sup>, two were seen during an MOS Conference field trip on May 15<sup>th</sup>, and at least one was seen again on May 19<sup>th</sup>. On May 24<sup>th</sup>, Andy Wilson saw a *Mississippi Kite* on W. Patrick Street in Frederick. This is the second year in a row Andy has spotted one in the county, which previously had not been reported here since 2004.

True diversity and number of shorebird species in Frederick continue to be difficult to assess because of the loss of birder access to the ponds at Mason-Dixon Farms in late 2005 and the draining of Willow Road Pond in 2014. Fortunately, access to our remaining best shorebird habitat at Lilypons Water Gardens appears to no

longer be in jeopardy. Nonetheless, shorebird populations in the county were hard to come by during the year. In 2005, 20 species of shorebird were reported in Frederick County, whereas in 2015, the total of shorebird species found was 12.

Rather typical in recent years for the county, the year started out with open water and sightings of nice geese. Kathy Calvert found a **Ross's Goose** and two **Cackling Geese** on the first day of the year at Kershner's Pond, and on Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup> Andy Wilson found a **Snow Goose** at Tuscarora Creek Development and a **Greater Whitefronted Goose** at Whittier Lake. On that day, Andy also reported a juvenile **Black-crowned Night-Heron** at Whittier Lake, likely a continuing bird which had been found in November by Nikki DeBraccio, and which remained in the area through Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>.

A prolonged period of freezing temperatures froze up the inland lakes, but on Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> Mark Johnson found a first winter *White-winged Scoter*, less unexpected after the influx of this species in 2014, but nonetheless only third time since 2003 we've had this species in the county. This bird remained until Jan.13<sup>th</sup>, and others of the same species showed up again in early March.

*Horned Grebes* used to be found in Frederick only about once every five years or so, but in the past five years one or two have shown up every year. This year Andy Wilson found one at the Emmitsburg WWTP on Jan.15<sup>th</sup>. Andy also spotted a *Short-eared Owl* in the fields off Stull Rd. on Jan.17<sup>th</sup>, along with several *Northern Harriers.* In fact, by Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>, Andy had counted seven Northern Harriers at this location, an all-time high for the county. The Stull Rd fields produced at least four *Rough-legged Hawks* (another all-time high count in the county), the first one a light morph found by Andy on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>. Both light and dark morph Rough-legged Hawks continued at this location into the first week of March.

On Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> a *Trumpeter Swan* was reported at a farm pond on Ball Road by Elaine Reinhold. This bird was seen and photographed a number of times over the next three weeks.

Open water allowed 21 species of ducks to alight in Frederick County, and all-time high counts were recorded for three species: **Common Goldeneye** (Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> at Mouth of the Monocacy by Mark Johnson), **Canvasback** at Kershner's Pond on Mar. 13<sup>th</sup> by Kathy Calvert, and **Northern Pintail** at Biggs Ford near Route 15 on the same date by Andy Wilson.

Unusual for the location, and not reported anywhere in Frederick County in three years, a *Mute Swan* was reported at Lilypons by Kathy Calvert on Mar. 15<sup>th</sup> and this bird remained in place until Apr. 20<sup>th</sup>.

In contrast to the 2014 irruption of *Red-necked Grebes*, only two birds were reported in Frederick in 2015. The first one was spotted by John Seminara at Culler Lake on Mar. 20<sup>th</sup>, and this bird remained for four days. The second bird was found by Kathy Calvert on Apr. 20<sup>th</sup> at Lander.

A flock of eight **Sandhill Cranes** was spotted by Dave Wallace flying over Baker Park on Mar. 24<sup>th</sup>, a good bird for the county. Later, on Jun. 2<sup>nd</sup> a single young bird also turned up in a commercial area on Crestwood Blvd.in Frederick. Sadly, before word got out to the birding community about this bird, it had to be rescued by animal control because it was being harassed by local youth.

On Apr. 12<sup>th</sup>, Teri Holland reported seeing 30 *Forster's Terns* flying up the Potomac while walking along the canal near Lander. This is an all-time high for the county.

A very late *Tundra Swan* was reported by Andy Wilson at Tuscarora Creek Development from Apr. 22<sup>nd</sup> to May 2<sup>nd</sup>, and another bird, or perhaps the same one, was reported at River Bend Park on Jun. 11<sup>th</sup> by Michael Kerwin.

**Soras** occur in one's or two's many but not all years in Frederick County. This year the only one reported was found by Andy Wilson on Apr. 25<sup>th</sup> at Lilypons. On this same date, the only **Common Loon** of the year was seen by John Hubbell and Kathy Calvert at Kershner's Pond.

On Apr. 26<sup>th</sup>, George Radcliffe reported an all-time-high count of 35 Cliff Swallows at the nesting colony in Brunswick on the bridge near by the C&O Canal access point. This colony has had its ups and downs in recent years due to construction on the bridge, and in some years there have been no birds there at all.

The Frederick May Count was held on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Clouds and fog followed by hot, humid conditions made counting conditions less than ideal. Notable were the widespread low counts or missing species. The number of species recorded (127) and the number of individuals (8881) were far below any other year of the last ten. Lowest counts in the last ten years were recorded for 26 species.

In spite of a poor May Count day, spring warbler migration brought in a couple of jewels that are not seen every year in the county. Mike Welch saw a *Golden-winged Warbler* on Mink Farm Rd. on May 13<sup>th</sup> and Kathy Calvert found a *Mourning Warbler* on Ira Sears Rd. on May 25<sup>th</sup>. In total, 31 species of warbler were seen during spring migration. Four other species were added to the county list for the year during the fall.

The second latest **Bufflehead** recorded in the county was discovered at Lilypons by Mike Welch on May 25<sup>th</sup>. The all-time late bird on record in the county is Jun. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at Tuscarora Creek Development reported by Andy Wilson. The **Black-crowned Night-Heron** rookery in Baker Park is monitored faithfully by Dave Wallace. On Jun. 24<sup>th</sup> he reported a high of 30 birds at the rookery, a number which was only exceeded once, with 31 birds in July, 2012.

Warbler migration in the fall yielded another **Golden-winged Warbler** found by Elaine Hendricks at the Monocacy Battlefield Gambrill Mill Trail on Aug. 29<sup>th</sup>. Some of us were quite envious of the **Connecticut Warbler** reported by Todd Watkins at Buckingham's Choice on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>, a bird which was not re-found to be enjoyed by other birders.

Kathy Calvert spottted the county's only *Philadelphia Vireo* and *Olive-sided Flycatcher* of the year in the Frederick Municipal Watershed on Sep. 8<sup>th</sup>. On the second earliest date ever reported in eBird in Frederick County, on Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> John Thames and Steve Back reported a *Ross's Goose* at River Bend Park that lingered for four days. The only *American Bittern* reported for the year in the county was found by Kathy Calvert on Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> at Lilypons.

Late fall and early winter remained unseasonably mild, and, as a result, Julie Maynard was fortunate to host a couple of record-breaking late warblers in November and December. From Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> until Dec.10<sup>th</sup> a male **Black-throated Blue Warbler** came to her feeders daily with a flock of Carolina Chickadees. Starting Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, a young male/female **Prairie Warbler** showed up and continued at her feeders for six days before disappearing. On Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>, Joe Hanfman shattered the late date record (Oct. 24, 2011) for the county by spotting two **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** at the Mouth of the Monocacy.

The 67<sup>th</sup> Catoctin Mountain Christmas Count was held on Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. The reported 70 species was about average for this count. No new species were found but record high numbers were counted for *Wild Turkey* (23), *Yellow-bellied Sapsucker* (18), *American Robin* (495 – more than double the old record high for this count), *Cedar Waxwing* (215), and *Fox Sparrow* (5). Most unusual for the count were *Pied-billed Grebe* and *Gray Catbird*, and two Count Week birds, *Bufflehead* and *Merlin* 

Listing Marcia Balestri and Kathy Calvert (273) lead the Life List parade narrowly over Paul O'Brien (271). In Year Lists, Stauffer Miller's incredible 231 total from 1993 has withstood all challengers for now 22 straight years. Kathy Calvert broke the 200 mark in the Year Listing category, with a very respectable 205.

There are no Big Days in the database for Frederick County.

	Frederick County Top Life Lists (308 Max)											
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated				
Kathy Calvert	273	2015	Matt Hafner	223	2015	Rob Hilton	191	2015				
Marcia Balestri	273	2015	Bill Hubick	221	2015	Anna Urciolo	190	2015				
Paul O'Brien	271	2015	Joe Hanfman	220	2015	Kurt Schwarz	182	2015				
Bob Ringler	255	2015	Joel Martin	217	2015	Fred Fallon	171	2015				
Harvey Mudd	242	2011	Rick Blom	213	1999	Jeff Culler	170	2015				
John Hubbell	239	2015	Elaine Hendricks	206	2015	Ron Gutberlet	163	2014				
Andy Wilson	237	2015	Tom Feild	201	2015	Lou Nielsen	162	2015				
Dave Powell	237	2015	Rod Burley	195	2015	Chuck Stirrat	160	2015				
Jim Green	236	2015	Mike Ostrowski	195	2015	Mike Kerwin	155	2015				

Frederick County Top Year Lists											
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year			
Stauffer Miller	231	199 <b>3</b>	Michael Welch	199	2000	Michael Welch	181	1994			
Barbara Gearhart	230	2009	Michael Welch	198	1999	Marcia Balestri	180	2006			
Barbara Gearhart	224	2007	Marcia Balestri	196	2007	Marcia Balestri	175	2005			
Barbara Gearhart	224	2005	Michael Welch	196	2004	Michael Welch	175	2002			
Barbara Gearhart	223	2006	Marcia Balestri	196	2002	Paul O'Brien	175	1953			
Barbara Gearhart	222	2008	Marcia Balestri	194	2008	Ian Cornelius	174	1995			
Barbara Gearhart	220	2004	Marcia Balestri	193	2012	Michael Welch	168	1992			
Barbara Gearhart	217	2003	Marcia Balestri	190	2009	Michael Welch	166	1991			
Stauffer Miller	217	1992	Marcia Balestri	189	2003	Paul O'Brien	166	1952			
Stauffer Miller	215	1991	Ian Cornelius	189	1996	Andy Wilson	163	2015			
Stauffer Miller	215	1990	Michael Welch	189	1995	Paul O'Brien	163	1954			
Gary Smyle	207	2002	Marcia Balestri	185	2004	Jim Stasz	160	2002			
Kathy Calvert	205	2015	Marcia Balestri	184	2010	Andy Wilson	157	2014			
Marcia Balestri	203	2011	Andy Wilson	182	2012	Gary Smyle	155	2001			
Andy Wilson	201	2013	Michael Welch	182	1997	Jim Stasz	154	1999			
Marcia Balestri	200	2013									

## **Carroll County**

There is no 2015 summary for Carroll County.

Listing Bob Ringler added zero species to his county Life List total of 280, which is likely forever out of reach of being matched. Bob continues to hold the top Year List of 204 from 1995, and has topped 200 four different times. There are no Big Days in the database for Carroll County.

		Car	roll County Top Li	ife Lis <sup>:</sup>	ts (290 N	lax)		
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated
Bob Ringler	280	2015	Kathy Calvert	201	2015	Chuck Stirrat	186	2015
Rick Blom	250	1999	Tom Feild	200	2015	Rod Burley	184	2015
John Hubbell	217	2015	Joel Martin	199	2015	Jeff Culler	173	2015
Joe Hanfman	207	2015	Harvey Mudd	197	2011	Ron Gutberlet	157	2014
Jim Green	203	2015	Lou Nielsen	196	2015	Marcia Balestri	155	2015
Dave Powell	202	2015	Matt Hafner	194	2015	Mike Ostrowski	155	2015
Bill Hubick	202	2015	Elaine Hendricks	193	2015	Fred Fallon	147	2015

			Carroll County T	op Yea	r Lists			
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year
Bob Ringler	204	<i>1995</i>	Dave Harvey	174	1994	Ron Gutberlet	127	2011
Bob Ringler	202	2008	Dave Harvey	172	1996	Dave Perry	125	2001
Bob Ringler	202	2007	Bill Ellis	167	2004	Joe Hanfman	124	2014
Bob Ringler	201	1992	Jim Stasz	157	2002	John Hubbell	123	2015
Bob Ringler	199	1994	Kevin Graff	154	2007	Bill Hubick	123	2008
Bob Ringler	198	1993	Bob Ringler	149	2015	Dave Powell	123	2007
Bob Ringler	195	1988	Joe Hanfman	145	2010	Bill Hubick	121	2010
Bob Ringler	191	2010	Jim Stasz	142	1992	John Hubbell	120	2004
Bob Ringler	189	2009	Joe Hanfman	137	2009	John Hubbell	120	2008
Bob Ringler	188	2002	Jim Green	136	2010	Jim Stasz	120	2005
Mark Hoffman	187	1995	John Hubbell	136	2009	Jim Stasz	119	2007
Bob Ringler	186	2012	Joe Hanfman	135	2013	Mike Ostrowski	117	2011
Bob Ringler	186	1989	Jim Green	135	2011	Joe Hanfman	115	2015
Bob Ringler	185	2011	Dave Perry	133	2000	Bill Hubick	114	2007
Bob Ringler	185	2004	Rod Burley	133	2002	Jeff Culler	114	2011
Bob Ringler	183	2013	Rob Ostrowski	132	2010	Jim Green	113	2013
Bob Ringler	181	2003	Rod Burley	131	2001	John Hubbell	113	2007
Bob Ringler	181	1990	Jim Stasz	128	1999	Bill Hubick	113	2006
Bob Ringler	180	2006	Joe Hanfman	127	2011	Elaine Hendricks	111	2015
Bob Ringler	174	2014						

## **Howard County**

#### Material contributed by Joe Hanfman & Russ Ruffing

The total number of species observed in the county in 2015 was 225, the 19<sup>th</sup> highest count out of the last 37 years. There was one additional species reported, a *Western Tanager* (Russ Ruffing's yard, August 22<sup>nd</sup>), pending approval of the MD/DC Records Committee. The addition of the tanager, which would be a first-county record, would make 2015 tied for the 16<sup>th</sup> top year, which is slightly better than average.

The biggest surprise of the year may have been three *Trumpeter Swans* photographed on Lake Elkhorn during the late afternoon of 5/19 by Albert Holm. The observer contacted two friends, Guy and Susan Moody, who arrived shortly before the birds lifted off and continued west. They were recently accepted by the Maryland/DC Records Committee, and constitute a new county record! Speculation is that these birds were the same ones that had spent time at Patuxent Refuge last winter.

Two *Greater White-fronted Geese* appeared at Waterford Farm, Jennings Chapel Rd on January 8<sup>th</sup> (Allen and Chuck Sharp); these were the sixth county record. Birders were not aware of this sighting, so when a single White-fronted was spotted at Centennial Park on January 16<sup>th</sup>, it created excitement (David Cummings). This individual did not linger after it was discovered, but a few days later two were spotted at Larriland Farm along MD 94 by Allen Lewis.

*Wild Turkeys* are an increasing species in Howard County. A flock of ~20 at West Friendship Park wandered along the Middle Patuxent River from mid-January (John Harris) to early February. *Red-shouldered Hawks* have a varied diet, but birders are more used to seeing them eat reptiles and rodents than birds. An adult was photographed at Centennial Park on February 17<sup>th</sup> eating a *Belted Kingfisher* (Bonnie Ott). Ice-covered snow probably made the bird an attractive target.

A **Nashville Warbler** was noted at Mount Pleasant in late December of 2014. Surprisingly, the bird found the swale to its liking and stayed for another two weeks, enabling many observers to check it off in 2015. It was last seen January 5<sup>th</sup> by Kurt Schwarz, an impressive late date indeed.

A special treat was a male *Common Redpoll* spotted at the southeast end of Lake Elkhorn January 26<sup>th</sup> through the 30<sup>th</sup> (Allen Lewis). That was not the only county redpoll in 2015; during the height of a snowstorm on February 21<sup>st</sup>, a dozen redpolls and ten *Pine Siskins* showed up at feeders along Timberleigh Way feeding for several hours before departing. By the following day, the storm had passed—and so had all but three siskins (Diane Nagengast).

An *Evening Grosbeak* put the county on Maryland's ornithological map for the winter season. A male made a brief stop at Howard Patterson's feeder in Columbia on January 31<sup>st</sup>; this may have been the only verified winter sighting in the state.

*Rusty Blackbirds* wintered at the Florence Road silage pit; the peak spring number was 45 on March 9<sup>th</sup>. Two *Vesper Sparrows* at Mount Pleasant on April 7<sup>th</sup> (Joe Hanfman) stayed at least five days.

Three *American Bittern* sightings in 2015 were nice: David Force WMA on April 27<sup>th</sup> (Bonnie Ott), a Woodstock flyover on May 5<sup>th</sup> (Joe Hanfman, Russ Ruffing), and a McNeal Road pond on May 9<sup>th</sup> (Mark Wallace). An adult *Little Blue Heron* was a treat at Centennial Park on April 27<sup>th</sup>, the first one in the county since 2011 (Jeff Culler). *Yellow-crowned Night-Herons* were elusive; one was photographed in a small wetland at Mt. Hebron High School on April 8<sup>th</sup> (Beth Dobbs), and one was present briefly at Elkhorn on May 11<sup>th</sup> (Allen Lewis).

A flock of 250 **Bonaparte's Gulls** at Centennial Park on April 12<sup>th</sup> was the largest flock of the season, tying the record for the second largest ever (Russell Hillsley, Joe Hanfman). What was even more exciting was that an adult **Little Gull** was traveling with them, only the county's second record and just one year after the first at this same location. Two **Least Terns** at Fulton Pond on May 30<sup>th</sup> were only the county's third record (Joe Hanfman). Soon after the sighting they continued north.

This spring it was easier to find a *Black-billed Cuckoo* than a *Yellow-billed*. The former were reported from half a dozen locations; Cavey Lane again hosted two for several weeks in early May (Russ Ruffing). The season's only *Olive-sided Flycatcher* appeared briefly at Bonnie Ott's home on May 19th. A record early *Alder Flycatcher* arrived at MPEA on May 8<sup>th</sup> (Jo Solem). Three Prothonotary Warblers on May 2<sup>nd</sup> were at Lake Elkhorn Forebay Pond (Allen Lewis).

A *Pine Siskin* visited Jeff Culler's feeders for the final time on June 9th, the second-latest departure date for the county.

The autumn season began auspiciously with a lovely perched *Mississippi Kite* at Mount Pleasant on August 1<sup>st</sup> (Bonnie Ott). *Black Terns* are unpredictable and years may pass between sightings in the county. Fortunately, two were spotted at Triadelphia on August 11<sup>th</sup> (Jo Solem) with the county's only *Forster's Tern* for the year (Woody & Rae DuBois). A *Sanderling* at Triadelphia on August 30<sup>th</sup> (Ed Huestis) was seen by many. Forty-two *Least Sandpipers* at Cattail Creek on the 31<sup>st</sup> (Jeff Culler, Joe Hanfman) were the high count.

Mount Pleasant hosted the county's only **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** on August 22<sup>nd</sup> (Russ Ruffing). A **Mourning Warbler** was detected at MPEA on August 30<sup>th</sup> (Jeff Shenot) and another at the Elkhorn Garden Plots on September 24<sup>th</sup> (Jim Wilkinson). An elusive **Olive-sided Flycatcher** was seen at Mount Pleasant on September 2<sup>nd</sup> (Joe Hanfman). An **American Golden-Plover** fed on the mudflats at Cattail Creek on September 4<sup>th</sup> (John Harris, Nancy McAllister). While trying unsuccessfully later that afternoon for the plover, Russ Ruffing and Steve Collins found a **Baird's Sandpiper** while kayaking the location; this bird cooperatively hung around until at least the 11<sup>th</sup>. A **Connecticut Warbler** was found at Lake Elkhorn on September 20<sup>th</sup> (Allen Lewis) and another was photographed at Mount Pleasant on October 5<sup>th</sup> (Nikki DeBraccio). Thrush migration was thin in the county in 2015. A **Gray-cheeked Thrush** was spotted at Lake Elkhorn on September 27<sup>th</sup> by Allen Lewis.

In October, A *Marsh Wren* was detected at West Friendship Park on the 4<sup>th</sup> by Bonnie Ott. The only *Clay-colored Sparrow* of the year was photographed at Mount Pleasant on October 5<sup>th</sup> by Joe Hanfman. The only *Golden Eagle* for the year sailed over Cavey Lane on 10/28 (Russ Ruffing); this was the second year in a row a Golden was spotted within the same week.

One of the special sightings of the autumn season was a **Snow Bunting** at Waterford on November 7<sup>th</sup> (Sue Earp). An **Orange-crowned Warbler** was photographed at Blandair on the third of the month (Anthony VanSchoor). A female **White-winged Scoter** and a male **Long-tailed Duck** were both seen the late afternoon of November 30<sup>th</sup> at Triadelphia Reservoir (Joe Hanfman).

A *Lincoln's Sparrow* was found at Meadowbrook on December 9<sup>th</sup> (Jim Wilkinson), a rare winter record. This bird continued into late February of 2016 but appeared to have lost its right eye during "Snowzilla."

There were reports of Reddish Egret, Northern Goshawk, and Brown-headed Nuthatch in the county in 2015, but these lacked sufficient details and are not included in this report. We will wait for review by the records committee but it seems unlikely that any of these species will be accepted.

Listing Jo Solem retained her Life List lead and even added one to her total when she saw Mount Pleasant's Mississippi Kite in August. This was a long-sought bird of Jo's! Year List totals were way down in the county in 2015, with Joe Hanfman's high of 210 a good 21 birds of the record high.

There are Big Days in every month for Howard County; all are shown in the Big Day table earlier in the report. All are owned by the Ruffing/Fink/Rogosky team with the exception of April (Ruffing, Fink, Allen Lewis), June (Ruffing), and November (Ruffing).

		How	ard County Top Lif	e List	s (307 M	ax)		
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated
Jo Solem	<i>29</i> 0	2015	Howard Patterson	247	2015	Burton Alexander	210	2000
Bonnie Ott	285	2015	John Hubbell	245	2015	Rick Blom	205	1999
Nancy Magnusson	280	2015	Mike Kerwin	244	2015	Matt Hafner	202	2015
Emy Holdridge	277	2014	Mary-Jo Betts	244	2001	Paul Zucker	185	1993
Joe Hanfman	276	2015	Connie Bockstie	244	1994	Steve Sanford	180	2007
Kurt Schwarz	275	2015	Allen Lewis	241	2015	Fred Fallon	176	2015
Chuck Stirrat	273	2015	Joel Martin	236	2015	Carol Newman	174	2005
Karen Heffernan	270	2014	Bill Hubick	235	2015	Ron Gutberlet	171	2014
Bill Hill	269	2015	Elaine Hendricks	230	2015	Marcia Balestri	169	2015
Jane Coskren	265	2011	Dave Powell	224	2015	Mike Ostrowski	166	2015
Jeff Culler	264	2015	Darius Ecker	223	1998	Derek Hudgins	164	2015
Warren David Cummings	263	2015	Kathy Calvert	221	2015	Leslie Starr	160	2015
Bob Ringler	259	2015	David Holmes	220	1994	Michele Morris	159	1992
Russ Ruffing	257	2015	Harvey Mudd	214	2011	Lou Nielsen	159	2015
Helen Zeichner	257	2000	Scott Atkinson	213	1990	Stephen Simon	157	1992
Tom Feild	252	2015	Jim Green	213	2015	Anna Urciolo	157	2015
Rod Burley	251	2015	Steve Collins	210	2015	Herb Morris	156	1992
Peter Osenton	249	2015						

Howard County Top Year Lists										
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year		
Joe Hanfman	231	2012	Jo Solem	212	2007	Jo Solem	205	2008		
Joe Hanfman	226	2013	Jeff Culler	212	2010	Bonnie Ott	205	2000		
Joe Hanfman	226	2010	Emy Holdridge	212	2009	Howard Patterson	204	201		
Jeff Culler	226	2012	Chuck Stirrat	212	2012	Jo Solem	204	2014		
Joe Hanfman	225	2009	Russ Ruffing	211	2014	Jo Solem	204	200		
Bonnie Ott	224	2001	Joe Hanfman	211	2014	Jo Solem	203	201		
Nancy Magnusson	222	2012	Jo Solem	211	2003	Russ Ruffing	203	201		
Harry Fink	222	2012	Jeff Culler	211	2009	Mike Kerwin	203	201		
Bonnie Ott	222	1994	Joe Hanfman	210	2015	Kurt Schwarz	203	2014		
Joe Hanfman	221	2011	Nancy Magnusson	210	1990	Rod Burley	202	201		
Jo Solem	221	2009	Karen Heffernan	210	2011	Nancy Magnusson	202	2008		
Russ Ruffing	220	2012	Stan Arnold	209	2001	Jo Solem	202	2004		
Jo Solem	220	1994	Nancy Magnusson	209	2010	Jo Solem	202	199		
Jeff Culler	220	2011	Kurt Schwarz	209	2013	Jo Solem	202	1993		
Narren David Cummings	218	2011	Jane Coskren	209	1994	Jo Solem	202	199		
Karen Heffernan	218	2012	Jane Coskren	209	1990	Emy Holdridge	202	200		
Narren David Cummings	217	2013	Connie Bockstie	209	1994	Chuck Stirrat	202	201		
Howard Patterson	217	2013	Allen Lewis	209	2013	Chuck Stirrat	202	201		
Emy Holdridge	217	2012	Allen Lewis	209	2012	Nancy Magnusson	201	201		
Nancy Magnusson	216	2009	Karen Heffernan	208	2014	Nancy Magnusson	201	1989		
Jo Solem	216	2012	Emy Holdridge	208	2011	Mike Kerwin	201	2014		
Russ Ruffing	215	2013	Warren David Cumming	207	2014	Jo Solem	201	200		
Jo Solem	215	2010	Russ Ruffing	207	2011	Jon Boone	200	198		
Bonnie Ott	215	2003	Jo Solem	207	1989	Jo Solem	200	199		
Jo Solem	213	2011	Rod Burley	206	2002	Jane Coskren	200	199		
Jo Solem	213	2001	Jo Solem	206	2013	Emy Holdridge	200	200		
Howard Patterson	213	2012	Howard Patterson	206	2014	Kurt Schwarz	199	201		
Karen Heffernan	212	2013	Emy Holdridge	206	2003	Allen Lewis	199	201		

### **Montgomery County**

There is no 2015 summary for Montgomery County.

Listing With Dave Czaplak's updated total for 2015, he stands alone atop the Life List category with a whopping 314 species. Mike Ostrowski's 236 year total was very impressive and second all-time to Dave's 2012 total of 242. There are two Big Days in the database for Montgomery County, an August foray by Rob and Mike Ostrowski in which they tallied 106 species, and a new one on May 2, 2015 by Max Wilson and Kari Cohen in which they tallied 104 species.

		Montg	omery County To	o Life L	ists (34	2 Max)		
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated
Dave Czaplak	314	2015	Hugh Mahanes	235	2003	Max Wilson	201	2015
Paul O'Brien	303	2015	Bill Hubick	228	2015	George Jett	197	2015
Mary Ann Todd	292	2015	Anna Urciolo	226	2015	Michele Morris	195	1992
Rob Hilton	280	2015	Dick Homan	222	2004	Lisa Shannon	194	2015
Dave Powell	277	2015	Kurt Schwarz	218	2015	Herb Morris	194	1992
Harvey Mudd	275	2011	Frank Schaff	218	2006	Steve Sanford	193	2007
Jim Green	268	2015	Jim Nelson	217	2015	Tom Marko	193	2007
John Hubbell	268	2015	Fred Fallon	216	2015	Lynn Davidson	185	1998
Larry Bonham	267	1995	David Gersten	216	2008	Jeff Culler	184	2015
Joe Hanfman	265	2015	Tom Feild	213	2015	Ron Gutberlet	182	2014
Mike Ostrowski	257	2015	Joel Martin	213	2015	Wain Barnes	182	2003
Jared Fisher	256	2015	Edward DeMoll	211	1995	Jeff Shenot	181	2015
Lola Oberman	256	1999	Andy Rabin	211	2003	Thomas Valega	178	1993
Bob Ringler	254	2015	David Kidwell	210	2015	Paul Nistico	178	2005
Rod Burley	243	2015	Gary Nelson	210	1993	David Moulton	176	2015
Kathy Calvert	240	2015	Marcia Balestri	209	2015	Matt Wlasniewski	175	2000
Diane Ford	236	2015	Rick Blom	209	1999	Erika Wilson	175	1991
Elaine Hendricks	235	2015	Matt Hafner	208	2015			

		Μ	ontgomery Count	y Top \	ear Lis	sts		
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year
Dave Czaplak	242	2012	Jared Fisher	202	2012	Mike Ostrowski	184	2011
Mike Ostrowski	236	2015	Andy Martin	199	2011	Michael Bowen	184	2010
Paul O'Brien	229	1991	Andy Martin	198	2006	Larry Bonham	184	1995
Jared Fisher	225	2011	Mike Ostrowski	196	2010	Edward DeMoll	184	1986
Mary Ann Todd	224	2014	Hugh Mahanes	195	2005	Michael Bowen	181	2013
Michael O'Brien	221	1991	Larry Bonham	192	1989	Larry Bonham	181	1992
Mary Ann Todd	219	2013	Rob Ostrowski	190	2009	Larry Bonham	181	1990
Andy Martin	219	2009	Paul O'Brien	190	1989	Larry Bonham	181	1987
Paul O'Brien	214	1990	Rod Burley	189	2012	David Kidwell	180	2014
Jim Moore	213	2010	Mike Ostrowski	189	2014	Dave Powell	180	2003
Andy Martin	211	2005	Michael Bowen	189	2011	Michael Bowen	180	2008
Michael O'Brien	208	1990	Michael O'Brien	189	1986	Jim Green	180	2007
Andy Martin	207	2007	Rob Hilton	188	1991	Diane Ford	180	2010
Mary Ann Todd	206	2015	Paul O'Brien	187	1994	Dave Powell	179	2005
Mary Ann Todd	206	2012	Larry Bonham	187	1991	Dave Powell	179	2002
Mike Ostrowski	203	2009	Larry Bonham	187	1986	Jim Green	178	2009
Mary Ann Todd	203	2011	Dave Powell	185	2004	Rod Burley	178	2011

## **Baltimore County**

#### Material contributed by Leslie Starr

The total number of species reported to eBird in Baltimore County in 2015 was 277, one more than last year and two fewer than 2012's high count of 279. Ten additional species which do not appear on eBird raise the total to 287. Average of the previous five years' eBird totals was 270. Baltimore had one first county record, which was also the first successfully chaseable state record of this species, and one first state record.

Baltimore Harbor's **Brown Boobies** must be among the top candidates for Bird of the Year, at least in the category of obliging behavior. This was the second state record for this species, the first accepted one being Aug. 5, 2009 on Assateague Island, prepared by Bill Hubick as State Administrator on behalf of a National Park Service employee. Frode Jacobsen had photographed an apparent Brown Booby two weeks earlier at Assateague but this record is not yet accepted due to photo quality. At any rate, the Baltimore Brown Boobies were the first of this species to be seen by more than one person and more than one time. In fact, they were seen and enjoyed by multiple birders and non-birders alike over a long period of time, with confirmed eBird reports from mid-September through the end of November.

The first observation was on Saturday, Sept. 5 by Nico Sarbanes, who, while visiting Fort McHenry sans binoculars on a family outing, provided an excellent description of his brief sighting of an adult Brown Booby flying ahead of two Herring Gulls toward the Inner Harbor. A few people checked the harbor in the next ten days or so with no luck. On Thursday, Sept. 17 the Audubon Naturalist Society's Voice of the Naturalist received a message from Deborah Rowan, a water taxi driver, who wrote convincingly of her observation of two Brown Boobies in the vicinity of the Naval Ready Reserve Ships Antares and Denebola on Wednesday, Sept. 16. Word of this message reached the birding community on Friday, Sept. 18. Bud Poole paddled his kayak out to the Ready Reserve ships at 5:20 that afternoon and was the first birder to see the Boobies at this location. Shortly thereafter, Jeff Shenot, Mark Hoffman, and Kathy Fleming rode a water taxi past the ships and saw two boobies on the ropes, while simultaneously Leslie Starr and Joe Turner scoped the two boobies across the harbor from the Boston Street Pier Park.

The booby party began in earnest around dawn the next morning. A large group of birders with telescopes descended on Boston Street, a few individuals paddled out to the Ready Reserve ships, and several people rode the water taxi for multiple circuits of the harbor. Fifty-two (52) eBirders observed the two Brown Boobies that day, Sept. 19, with slightly fewer (46) reports the next day. Nico Sarbanes finally had time for a water taxi trip on Monday, Sept. 22 to see "his" boobies up close. Some water taxi crew members are confident of having seen three individual birds early on, but no eBird reports with more than two birds were filed. The last report of two birds was on Sept. 27 but one individual persisted into early December, with fewer reports in October (possibly due to booby fatigue) and then more again throughout November. Deborah Rowan reported on New Year's Eve that a water taxi mate had seen a booby a few days earlier but no birders were able to find once since December 3.

Right around New Year's, a report surfaced that a Brown Booby had been taken to the Phoenix Wildlife Center for rehabilitation and later released. Kathy Woods of Phoenix confirmed this and provided the following report:

"On Dec. 3, Kevin Graff posted that the booby was headed out of the harbor. It was a cold and blustery day. At noon I got a call from MdDot near the Key Bridge that they had an injured gull on a service road and it was brought to the Phoenix Wildlife Center. It was the female booby, tired and hungry but no other injuries. Following the TriState protocol, we fed her and made arrangements for her transport into the ocean away from land. After three days of being fed, she was taken to Cape May where the whale watching boat was happy to accommodate our request, and she was released into the ocean.

"Our USFWS guidelines prohibit our showing anyone a bird undergoing care. Although I would have loved to show everyone, I could not. A few people knew (my volunteers), but were asked to not post about her.

We have great defining pictures of her, with the divot taken out of her bill, so that if she did reappear this year we could identify her. The injury to her bill could have contributed to her not feeding well. So far we have heard no reports."

Everyone in the birding community hopes that all the Brown Boobies made it safely back to the Caribbean!

A **Snowy Plover** was discovered on Hart-Miller Island on Monday, May 4 by Kevin Graff, Bob Ringler, Joe Hanfman, and Jeff Culler, the first state record for this species. There are sporadic eBird reports of this plover along the eastern seaboard as far north as Cape Hatteras, with another few sightings on Long Island Sound and Cape Cod, plus one really lost bird reported in Nova Scotia in 2010. A Snowy Plover was photographed on the Virginia shore in June 1995, with comments in the historical eBird report that the same bird returned for the next three years during which: "It performed courtship displays for Piping Plovers, made a nest scrape on several occasions, and was observed brooding Piping Plover chicks in 1998, but actual breeding was not confirmed." One might have expected this species to first appear in Maryland on Assateague Island, just a little further north than the Virginia bird's location, but it must have traveled up the bay.

Hart-Miller is ordinarily off-limits to the public, other than for a very small number of birders on most Mondays, but the Maryland Environmental Service generously offered to allow visits by birding groups on Wednesday, May 6 and Friday, May 8, permitting more than forty people to see this very special bird. A surprise bonus on the May 6 trip was a first-cycle *Little Gull* in the same area as the Snowy Plover.

Baltimore County's birding year got off to an auspicious start on January 1 with the continued presence of two warblers at the Essex Park & Ride. A *Cape May Warbler* had been viewed along the fence line to the north of the parking lot beginning Dec. 20, 2014 and stayed through Jan. 12, 2015, while a *Nashville Warbler* joined it on Dec. 26 and was last reported on Jan. 7, 2015. Many birders made a New Year's Day trip to the park & ride to tick off these winter-notable species, some of them also reporting *Ruby-crowned Kinglet*, *Golden-crowned Kinglet*, *Bonaparte's Gull*, and *Peregrine Falcon*.

88 species were eBirded in the county on Jan. 1, 2015. In addition to those at Essex, New Year's Day birds of interest included some other species already present for the winter. The Bradshaw Road **Sandhill Cranes** had been reported since Dec. 12, 2014 and were seen on Jan. 1 by Baltimore's youth birding team of Claire Wayner and Miles Marshall. Up to 25 cranes were seen in the area until mid-March 2015, with the last report of the year on Dec. 21 when a flock of 11 birds flew over I-95 near Bradshaw Rd. **Long-eared Owls** had been present at Irvine Nature Center since late Oct. 2014 and were reported through Mar. 15, 2015. One or two **Red-headed Woodpeckers** were posted from Dover Road in Reisterstown beginning in late Nov. 2014 and continuing into early Feb. 2015. A single **Rusty Blackbird** at North Point State Park and a **Purple Finch** in the north part of the county were also tallied on Jan. 1, 2015.

An appropriate winter sighting was a *Pine Siskin* at Irvine Nature Center on Jan. 2, but a *Common Ground-Dove* seen in the restricted area at Masonville Cove by an MES employee that same day was only the sixth state record. The dove was reported by MES employee Bill Tittle on Dec. 30, 2014 and seen again and photographed by him on Jan. 2. Birders scanned as much of the area they could from the public area, and MES bird surveyor Tim Carney looked inside the restricted area, but the dove was not seen again.

*Eurasian Wigeon* is becoming regular at Loch Raven. 2015's first sighting was by Mike Hudson on Jan. 9 at the Pine Ridge Golf Course, where it continued for a few days, allowing at least one birder to add it to her cross-country ski list. Reports were filed again later in January and into mid-February, with one and sometimes two Eurasian Wigeons being seen between the Loch Raven dams. One Eurasian Wigeon has been back in the area since late November 2015.

January 15, 2015 saw the year's first report of Baltimore County's annually-visiting **Black-headed Gull** at the Hunt Valley Towne Centre. Sightings of the gull early this year were few and far between, with only seven eBird reports filed from the parking lot location, the last of which was March 8. The bird was seen again beginning on Oct. 24, the start of its sixth winter season in Baltimore, mostly at and around Paper Mill Flats, where it could be observed flying, calling, and harassing Ring-billed Gulls, but no longer at the parking lot. Continued construction at the mall may have forced it to seek a more harmonious but less convenient setting.

Kevin Graff reported a **Brant** at the Back River Wastewater Treatment Plant on Jan. 17, a species with few county records. An MES survey of Masonville Cove on Jan. 22 by Tim Carney produced **Black-crowned Night-Heron**, a somewhat unusual winter sighting but a species which was present at the site all year, and **Snow Bunting**, also seen Feb. 2. There were otherwise few Snow Bunting observations in the early months of 2015, including a report from Monkton on Feb. 14 and a pair sighted on Hart-Miller Island on March 30. Snow Buntings returned to Hart-Miller in good numbers late in the year, with 30 observed on Nov. 30, 26 on Dec. 7, and 39 on Dec. 21.

Baltimore's first **Rough-legged Hawk** observation in 2015 was on Jan. 27 in the I-95 - Gunpowder Falls area. This species seldom appears in the county. Reports from Irvine Nature Center soon followed beginning Jan. 31, where the bird was seen by multiple observers beginning on Jan. 31 and sporadically thereafter through mid-March. Many Rough-legged Hawks were seen in elsewhere in Maryland around this time.

A *Lapland Longspur*, also hard to find in the county, was reported on Feb. 1 at Warn's Farm.

**Snowy Owls** were missing for the most part during winter 2014-15. A long-distance sighting at Masonville Cove on Feb. 3 was enjoyed by about twenty birders, many of whom made the trip down from Irvine Nature Center, where they had been observing the Rough-legged Hawk. A Snowy Owl was reported by an MES employee on Hart-Miller Island on Feb. 11 and 12 and finally for the year on March 16 by Joe Hanfman at the same location.

Another scarce winter species in 2015 was *Common Redpoll*. Tim Carney reported three individuals at Black Marsh on Feb. 25 but there are no other county records for the year.

There were few records of *Short-eared Owl* in Baltimore in 2015, despite hopes that this species would again appear in the White Marsh area as it had in Dec. 2014. The first sighting took place on March 7 at the Bowerman Area of Gunpowder Falls State Park (restricted access) by Wayner and Marshall, and the only other reports for the year were at Hart-Miller Island on Nov. 16 and Dec. 7.

White-winged gull sightings in the county began on Mar. 7 at the Eastern Sanitary Landfill (restricted) with a report of both *Iceland Gull* and *Glaucous Gull* by Wayner and Marshall (they were having a good day!). Others saw one or both of these species at the same site through April 2. An Iceland Gull spent time at Fort McHenry between Mar. 8 and April 2, while a late and final Glaucous Gull sighting occurred at Masonville on June 25 by Tim Carney.

Kevin Graff posted a *Thayer's Gull* at the Eastern Sanitary Landfill on Feb. 27. Gene Scarpulla saw this species at this location on the Dec. 19, 2015 Middle River Christmas Count, not all results of which were entered into eBird.

The *Little Gull* seen on HMI with the Snowy Plover on May 4 was the last report for the year, but as usual, this species could be observed on Back River from near the Eastern Boulevard bridge from March 30 through April.

**Swallow-tailed Kite** was reported twice by solo observers, one at North Point State Park on Apr. 16 and one flying over Pete Rattigan's house in the Parkville area of Baltimore City on Sept. 28. The only previous eBird records of this species in Baltimore are a few sightings from North Point in April 2013.

**Common Gallinule** is not a common species in the county, but a couple of birds at Southwest Area Park, first reported by Heidi Trasatti on May 2, were more accessible to birders than the gallinules found on Hart-Miller Island. The species was reported at SWAP as late as Aug. 28. One to three birds were seen on HMI from Apr. 22 throughout May. A single Common Gallinule was eBirded there again on Oct. 13.

Thirty-six (36) species of warbler were reported in Baltimore County during migration and nesting season. Not surprisingly, the harbinger of spring was a *Louisiana Waterthrush*, which usually appears the first week in April, though in 2012 Keith Costley found one on Mar. 22. This year's first was seen at Liberty Reservoir by Gene Ricks on April 2. Lynne Parks photographed a lovely *Golden-winged Warbler* at Milford Mill Park on May 14, with the only other sighting of this species occurring at Cromwell on Sept. 11. *Mourning Warblers* were fairly scarce, with one May bird each at Milford Mill Park and Cromwell Valley Park and then a string of single sightings at Cromwell from Aug. 15 to Oct. 3. A *Brewster's Warbler* was seen at Cromwell on Aug. 22 and a few times thereafter, through Sept. 11. *Connecticut Warbler* was reported in several locations between Aug. 9 and Oct. 20, including Oregon Ridge Park, Hanlon Park, and Hydes Road Park, and as usual during fall migration at Cromwell, but recent management activities at Cromwell which removed all the brush in the warbler's favorite area may signal the end of such sightings.

Matt Hafner's flycatcher luck at Carroll Park continued with his find of a **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** on May 18. Another report of this species came the same day from Hart-Miller Island.

Kevin Graff and Pete Webb found a *Ruffed Grouse* at Prettyboy Reservoir - Hemlock Gorge on May 30, a species which had not been reported in Baltimore County for fifty years.

The shorebird season on Hart-Miller Island tallied 32 species, of which the most notable, Snowy Plover, is described above. Less-common sightings during the year included one to four *American Avocets* in July and Oct., two *American Oystercatchers* on May 26, one or two *American Golden-Plovers* on Oct. 7 and 13, four *Hudsonian Godwits* on Oct. 7, and two *Buff-breasted Sandpipers* plus one *Wilson's Phalarope* on Sept. 11. Kevin Graff reported *Marbled Godwit* on Aug. 26, *Red Knot* on Aug. 13 and 31, and two *Baird's Sandpipers* plus *Piping Plover* on Aug. 31.

Other notable species reported on HMI in 2015 were two *Gull-billed Terns* on June 8, one *Seaside Sparrow* on June 3, one *Glaucous Gull* on July 6, and one *Golden Eagle* on Oct. 19. *Black Terns* were first noted on the island on June 17. A *Tri-colored Heron* arrived on Aug. 13. On Aug. 31, an *Eared Grebe,* a species seldom seen in the county, was found by Ryan Johnson and was seen through mid-October. Later in the year, an observer posted two *Black Scoters* on Nov. 30. Sightings from Dec. 7 included one *Lincoln's Sparrow*, one *Cave Swallow*, and one *Le Conte's Sparrow*.

Tim Carney and Ryan Johnson found a *Red-headed Woodpecker* at Black Marsh on Sept. 24. Birders on subsequent visits reported up to six individuals, continuing into the new year.

Rarity season got underway on Oct. 3 with Matt Hafner's observation of a **Ross's Goose** on Patterson Rd. in the Hydes area. Though there are a couple of unconfirmed reports of this species, the only previously confirmed records were for the Ross's Goose which spent time in Owings Mills in February and March 2013. This very uncommon county visitor was relocated the following day, Oct. 4, at a few locations a little further south of Patterson Rd., including at Hydes Road Park, but was not seen after that.

On Oct. 4, Keith Costley found three *American Golden-Plovers* in the same field, so birders coming to see the goose that second day were treated to two unusual species. The plovers were seen at this location through Oct. 16 and were the only members of this species reported in Baltimore County in 2015 other than the Hart-Miller Island birds from around the same time.

The Hydes area solidified its reputation as a hot spot with observations of a *Clay-colored Sparrow* on Oct. 4 and 5, a species which was otherwise only reported in the county this year at Patterson Park on Oct. 4 and Lake Roland on Oct. 17.

West Covington Park on the Patapsco River in south Baltimore opened to the public in September 2015. Early visitor Sean Stewart remarked on its potential, which was realized on Oct. 23 with Matt Hafner's observation of a **Nelson's Sparrow**, viewed later in the day by Sean. Keith Costley found a **Dickcissel** there on Dec. 14, seen again later that day by nine birders but not afterward. The only other report of this species in the county in 2015 was by Fred Koors, who photographed an adult male in the Dundalk area on Dec. 27.

Visiting birder Steve Thorpe from the UK spurred interest in the Gwynn's Falls Trail behind the Horseshoe Casino with his find of a very late *Wilson's Warbler* on Nov. 2, seen for the next few days and joined by a *Black-and-White Warbler* photographed by Matt Hafner on Nov. 4.

Baltimore's share of the Nov. 13 mid-Atlantic *Franklin's Gull* fallout consisted of two individual reported by Andy Biederman at Loch Raven point that day. One other of this species had been noted in the county this year, on a Masonville Cove survey on Aug. 21.



Painted Bunting – Masonville Cove Tim Carney

Closing out the Baltimore birding year was the continuing presence of a female *Painted Bunting* at Masonville Cove. This was the third county record and only the first for Baltimore City proper. First observed and well documented at a *Breakfast with the Birds* event on Dec. 12, the bunting remained elusive until it was relocated by Tim Carney in the restricted area, to which MES generously allowed birder access for a couple of weeks. The bunting is skilled at avoiding detection, but a few birders saw it after the start of the New Year.

<u>Listing</u> Hank Kaestner's 333 sits atop the Life List category, though Bob Ringler closed the gap by three birds in 2015 and is now sitting at 326. The best Year List reported in 2015 was Tim Carney's 250. There are

no Big Days in the database for Baltimore County.

		Baltin	nore County's Top	Life L	ists (36	2 Max)	Baltimore County's Top Life Lists (362 Max)										
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated									
Hank Kaestner	333	2012	Elaine Hendricks	258	2015	Marcia Balestri	214	2015									
Bob Ringler	326	2015	Harvey Mudd	253	2011	Gene Ricks	211	2015									
Debbie Terry	309	2015	Lou Nielsen	251	2015	Steve Collins	210	2015									
Rick Blom	308	1999	Dave Powell	246	2015	Ron Gutberlet	210	2014									
Joe Hanfman	297	2015	Jim Green	246	2015	Kurt Schwarz	209	2015									
Joel Martin	295	2015	Derek Hudgins	246	2015	Hugh David Fleischman	203	2015									
Leslie Starr	281	2015	Jeff Culler	245	2015	Fred Fallon	198	2015									
Tim Carney	276	2015	Kathy Calvert	243	2015	George Jett	194	2015									
John Hubbell	276	2015	Jeff Shenot	236	2015	Rod Burley	187	2015									
Matt Hafner	268	2015	Tom Feild	227	2015	Russ Ruffing	185	2015									
Bill Hubick	261	2015	Fred Shaffer	223	2015												

		B	altimore County's	Тор Ү	ear List	S		
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year
Kevin Graff	277	2012	Kevin Graff	219	2005	Leslie Starr	194	2014
Kevin Graff	271	2013	Kye Jenkins	218	2014	Shirley Geddes	194	1989
Rick Blom	265	1977	Bob Ringler	218	2013	Leslie Starr	192	2012
Kevin Graff	253	2009	Peggy Bohanan	215	1989	Joe Hanfman	191	2012
Kevin Graff	253	2011	Bob Ringler	212	2015	Joe Hanfman	189	2010
Kevin Graff	251	2010	Kye Jenkins	212	2012	Jim Stasz	189	2005
Tim Carney	250	2015	Kevin Graff	212	2004	Clifton Barry	189	1990
Tim Carney	244	2014	Joe Hanfman	211	2015	Leslie Starr	188	2013
Kevin Graff	243	2008	Kye Jenkins	207	2011	Kye Jenkins	188	2006
Kevin Graff	241	2007	Pete Webb	207	1989	Stephen Simon	188	1986
Keith Eric Costley	239	2014	Robert Dixon	205	1993	David Walbeck	186	1990
Kevin Graff	235	2006	Leslie Starr	205	2015	Leslie Starr	185	2011
Ryan Johnson	233	2014	Bob Ringler	203	1987	Bob Ringler	185	2006
Jon Corcoran	230	2012	Tim Carney	202	2012	Stan Arnold	184	2005
Keith Eric Costley	230	2012	Keith Eric Costley	200	2008	Jim Stasz	183	2012
Tim Carney	227	2013	Bob Ringler	197	2007	Hugh D. Fleischmann	183	2015
Bob Ringler	226	1986	David Walbeck	195	1991	Stan Arnold	183	2004
Bob Ringler	224	2014	Peggy Bohanan	195	1990	Leslie Starr	183	2010
Keith Eric Costley	223	2013	Gene Ricks	194	2015	David Walbeck	182	1989
Bob Ringler	220	2012						

# **Cecil County**

There is no 2015 summary for Cecil County.

Listing Sean McCandless' Life List total (last updated in 2014) is still tops. There are four Big Days in the database for Cecil County, all in May, with the highest of 136 from 1998 (Marcia Watson, Leslie Fisher).

	Cecil County Top Life Lists (322 Max)											
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated				
Sean McCandless	281	2014	Jim Green	216	2015	Joel Martin	190	2015				
Rick Blom	246	1999	Elaine Hendricks	215	2015	Ron Gutberlet	184	2014				
Matt Hafner	242	2015	Kathy Calvert	214	2015	Jeff Culler	175	2015				
John Hubbell	235	2015	Dave Powell	212	2015	Lou Nielsen	169	2015				
Bob Ringler	233	2015	Harvey Mudd	205	2011	Dan Small	167	2015				
Bill Hubick	224	2015	Tom Feild	200	2015	Fred Fallon	164	2015				
Joe Hanfman	221	2015	Tim Carney	195	2015							

			Cecil County To	p Year	Lists			
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year
Sean McCandless	225	2012	Parke John	199	2007	Gary Griffith	166	1993
Sean McCandless	222	2013	Marcia Watson	198	2001	Jim Stasz	165	2002
Leslie Fisher	221	1999	Marcia Watson	197	2000	Marcia Watson	165	2002
Marcia Watson	221	1999	Sean McCandless	196	2010	Kevin Graff	164	2005
Sean McCandless	216	2007	Parke John	195	2003	Kenneth Drier	164	1996
Gary Griffith	216	1994	Marcia Watson	195	1996	Dave Powell	161	2001
Gary Griffith	214	1996	Parke John	192	2001	Marcia Watson	161	2004
Sean McCandless	213	2014	Marcia Watson	187	2003	Leslie Fisher	157	1994
Leslie Fisher	212	2000	Parke John	186	2002	Kenneth Drier	155	1995
Marcia Watson	212	1998	Parke John	181	2000	Jim Stasz	153	1992
Gary Griffith	211	1995	Marcia Watson	173	1995	Marcia Watson	150	2006
Sean McCandless	208	2009	Marcia Watson	168	2005	Kenneth Drier	148	1994
Marcia Watson	204	1997	Jim Stasz	167	1999	Elaine Hendricks	145	2012
Parke John	202	2004	Jim Stasz	166	2012	Tim Carney	144	2015
Leslie Fisher	200	1998	Parke John	166	2008			

## **Harford County**

### Material contributed by Matt Hafner

The total species reported for 2015 was 239, the lowest of the last five years and well below last year's 255. Overall, it was a slow year for rare birds (especially the fall). Two new species were added to the county list this year. A *Swallow-tailed Kite*, photographed by Susan and Bob Hood over their home in Fallston on May 6<sup>th</sup>, and a flock of six *Black-bellied Whistling Ducks* photographed on June 30<sup>th</sup> in Darlington by a local and forwarded to Ducks Unlimited. Unfortunately, most birders did not get to enjoy these great birds.

However, there were several other interesting birds that have only a few records for the county. On February 1<sup>st</sup>, Matt Hafner found two **Barnacle Geese** in the same Kidd Road field where they spent a single day in late 2013. This year, the birds were found in the afternoon so not as many people were able to enjoy them. Turney's Pond's second **Ross's Goose** was found by Dennis Kirkwood on December 14<sup>th</sup>. This was only the fourth record for the county and second "on the ground." Harford's fourth **Tricolored Heron** record was an incredible four birds found at Swan Harbor Farm by Andy Beiderman on July 15<sup>th</sup>. Many people chased that same day, but the birds had already left.

Not extremely rare in the region, but a *Long-eared Owl* found at Palmer State Park found by Hafner on November 28<sup>th</sup> was a county bird for everyone who saw it. No member of the Harford Bird Club could recall the last record for the county, but it was presumably in the 1980s.

The year started off interestingly with the county's first winter **Nashville Warbler** in the Pfingsten's Bel Air yard January 1<sup>st</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>. On January 3<sup>rd</sup>, Hafner found a **Greater White-fronted Goose** at the Forest Hill Business Airpark. Remarkably, this was the third record in less than year after more than a decade of no sightings.

Winter **Baltimore Orioles** appear to be increasing, but it's possible that more people just now have access to cameras and photo sharing. One homeowner in Abingdon had two coming to her feeder in Abingdon through the month of January and an adult male showed up at a Baldwin feeder in early March.

John Gallo found the only **Rough-legged Hawk** of the year at Swan Harbor Farm on February 16<sup>th</sup>. Dennis Kirkwood found the first **Lapland Longspur** of the year on the Bradenbaugh Flats on February 17<sup>th</sup>. Rare in winter, a **Virginia Rail** was found by Barry Marsh along Channel Creek on February 20<sup>th</sup>. John Kunzelman photographed a spectacular yard bird when a **Yellow-headed Blackbird** descended on his Bel Air yard with a grackle flock on February 24<sup>th</sup>.

Two *Lapland Longspurs* were seen by Tim Carney in Perryman March 7<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> and two more were found by Josh Emm at Swan Harbor Farm March 11<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>. Five *Lapland Longspurs* in less than a month qualifies as an invasion for Harford County.

The Susquehanna River had a nice first half of the year with waterfowl, but paled in comparison to last year. Single *Red-necked Grebes* were seen by many observers at Lapidum on January 25<sup>th</sup>, February 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>, and March 27-30<sup>th</sup>. Another was in Havre de Grace March 19-27<sup>th</sup>. *White-winged Scoters* again had a good year in the county beginning with a single bird showing up at Lapidum on February 1<sup>st</sup>, found by Mark Johnson and Josh Emm. The number increased to five by the end of the month and peaked at 13 on March 9<sup>th</sup>, with two birds remaining to the end of March. A single *White-winged Scoter* found by Matt Anthony at Swan Harbor Farm March 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> was a first for the well-birded property.

The staging of **Bonaparte's Gulls** on the Susquehanna River has consistently produced **Black-headed** and **Little Gulls** for many years now. This year was no exception with a **Black-headed Gull** seen repeatedly from March 21<sup>st</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> and multiple **Little Gulls** March 20<sup>th</sup> - April 4<sup>th</sup> with a new county high count of nine on March 28<sup>th</sup>. In addition to the spectacle at Lapidum, on March 29<sup>th</sup>, Mark Johnson found a large congregation of Bonaparte's at the Tydings flats that include two **Little Gulls**, two **Black-headed Gulls**, and a first-cycle **Iceland Gull**.

John Canoles had the county's only *Common Redpoll* for 2015 at his Kingsville feeder March 28<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>. Four *Sandhill Cranes* were spotted flying over Bel Air by Matthew Addicks on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Dennis Kirkwood found two *Vesper Sparrows* at the Bradenbaugh Flats on April 10<sup>th</sup> and Matt Hafner found one at Harford Glen on April 18<sup>th</sup>.

The adult **Red-shouldered x Red-tailed Hawk** hybrid that has frequented Susquehanna State Park the last few years returned this year and was seen throughout the spring. Only two **Cattle Egrets** were reported, which has been typical of recent years, both at Swan Harbor Farm. One was seen on April 20<sup>th</sup> by Josh Emm and one on May 19<sup>th</sup> by multiple observers. Shorebirds were especially scarce in the county this year. The best for the spring were two **Short-billed Dowitchers** April 29<sup>th</sup> - May 4<sup>th</sup> found by Ryan Johnson and two **Whiterumped Sandpipers** found on May 7<sup>th</sup> by Tim Carney, all at Swan Harbor Farm. Randy Kimmett photographed an extremely late **Fox Sparrow** on May 11<sup>th</sup> at Mariner Point Park. A **Common Gallinule** was seen and heard at Swan Harbor Farm a few times in May, but was not recorded during the summer season.

It was a good spring for *Mourning Warbler* reports with four reported in Susquehanna State Park between May 14<sup>th</sup> and May 30<sup>th</sup>. Two *Sandhill Cranes* were found in Baldwin on May 21<sup>st</sup> by Lani Hyde and the only *Olive-sided Flycatcher* for the year was in the Hafner's yard on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. An immature *Mississippi Kite* photographed by Tim Carney near Perryman on May 24<sup>th</sup> was the only one reported this year. *Alder Flycatchers* have been rarely found in Harford compared to other counties in the region, but Tim Houghton found one in Baldwin on May 27<sup>th</sup>.

The Tydings marina hosted a pair of *Canvasback* and a drake *Redhead* throughout the summer season, found in late May by Mark Johnson. A rare summer season *Common Loon* was seen by Barry Marsh on June

10<sup>th</sup> on the Gunpowder River. Unfortunately, there's no way to tell if this bird summered locally or was simply a late migrant. Also on June 10<sup>th</sup>, a flock of 20 *Glossy Ibis* were found at Swan Harbor Farm by Peggy Eppig. Ibis are often regular visitors to Swan Harbor Farm in spring, but summer records are very rare.

Seemingly overdue given the increasing reports regionally and locally the last few years, *Common Ravens* were documented breeding near Havre de Grace by Joe Suboflesky.

Lani Hyde photographed an incredible *White Ibis* flying over her yard in western Harford County on July 5<sup>th</sup>. The first record for the summer season and first far from water! *Snowy Egrets* had an above average year in the county with a single found by Matthew Addicks near Aberdeen on July 16<sup>th</sup> and two found by Tim Carney on July 25<sup>th</sup> at Swan Harbor Farm. One remained there until August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The only *Connecticut Warbler* was found by Ryan Johnson at Perryman Park on October 13<sup>th</sup>. *Orange-crowned Warbler* has been annual in the county recently and this year was no exception when Tim Houghton found one at Swan Harbor Farm on October 21<sup>st</sup>. No rare sparrows were reported this fall, but *Vesper Sparrows* were seen at Swan Harbor Farm on October 21<sup>st</sup> and two were at Perryman Park October 27<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>.

Two **Golden Eagles** were seen in fall migration, one over Matt Hafner's yard on October 31<sup>st</sup> and one over Dave Littlepage's yard on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Three **Sandhill Cranes** were seen flying over Aberdeen on November 14<sup>th</sup> by **Michelle Leftridge Hash**. A first-cycle **Iceland Gull** was found at Conowingo Dam by Hafner on November 28<sup>th</sup> and it continued through the end of the year. Ruth Bergstrom found a **Baltimore Oriole** at the Bosely Conservancy on November 29<sup>th</sup>, rarely seen away from feeders at this season.

Two *Lincoln's Sparrows* were reported in December, one on December 10<sup>th</sup> at Conowingo Dam by David Moulton and one in Darlington on December 13<sup>th</sup> by Russ Kovach. A rare in winter *Laughing Gull* was found by Ryan Johnson on December 25<sup>th</sup> at Swan Harbor Farm and was a count week bird for the Rock Run CBC. Dave Ziolkowski reported both *Virginia Rail* and *Sora* in Swan Creek for the Rock Run CBC on December 27<sup>th</sup>. The *Virginia Rail* was only the second record for the CBC, while the *Sora* was a first for the count.

Listing Matt Hafner added one species to his county Life List to move up to 298. Rick Blom's astounding 1999 year total of 255 year birds may never be broken and certainly was not threatened by the high of 201 in 2015 (Hafner). There is one Big Day in the database for Harford County, a May attempt by Matt Hafner, Jim Stasz, and Dave Webb totaling 138 species.

		Har	ord County Top L	ife Lis	ts (320 M	Max)		
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated
Matt Hafner	298	2015	Elaine Hendricks	237	2015	Jeff Culler	194	2015
David Webb	288	2015	Bill Hubick	228	2015	Ron Gutberlet	193	2014
Rick Blom	284	1999	Matt Anthony	220	2015	Fred Fallon	186	2015
Dennis Kirkwood	278	2015	Kathy Calvert	220	2015	Fred Shaffer	184	2015
Joshua Emm	262	2015	Jim Green	216	2015	Marcia Balestri	180	2015
Dave Powell	257	2015	Lou Nielsen	215	2015	Steve Collins	175	2015
Bob Ringler	248	2015	Joel Martin	212	2015	Kurt Schwarz	175	2015
John Hubbell	247	2015	Harvey Mudd	211	2011	Derek Hudgins	166	2015
Tim Carney	243	2015	Tom Feild	206	2015	Mike Ostrowski	163	2015
Joe Hanfman	242	2015	Leslie Starr	199	2015			

			Harford County T	op Yea	ar Lists			
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year
Rick Blom	255	<i>1999</i>	Tim Carney	201	2015	Jim Stasz	180	2011
Joshua Emm	232	2013	Matt Hafner	201	2004	Tim Carney	180	2012
Joshua Emm	231	2014	Matt Hafner	200	2006	John Wortman	180	1988
Matt Hafner	229	2012	Matt Hafner	200	2002	Jim Stasz	178	2012
Matt Hafner	224	2011	Joshua Emm	198	2015	Dennis Kirkwood	178	2015
Dave Webb	224	1995	Dave Powell	196	2001	Les Eastman	177	1994
Matt Hafner	221	2013	Dennis Kirkwood	195	2014	Dennis Kirkwood	177	1992
Dave Webb	221	1994	Dave Webb	195	1997	John Wortman	177	1990
Matt Hafner	217	2014	Dave Powell	194	1999	Dennis Kirkwood	175	1990
Matt Hafner	217	2000	Dave Webb	192	1996	John Wortman	173	1991
Matt Hafner	216	1999	Dennis Kirkwood	191	2013	John Cupp Sr.	172	1995
Matt Hafner	213	2005	Jim Stasz	191	2002	John Cupp Jr.	172	1994
Dave Powell	209	2000	John Wortman	190	1997	John Cupp Sr.	172	1994
Dave Webb	209	2005	John Wortman	190	1992	Jim Stasz	170	2006
John Wortman	209	1995	Jim Stasz	189	1999	Bill Pfingsten	169	1989
Dave Webb	208	1999	Bill Hubick	188	2007	Jim Stasz	168	2004
Dave Webb	208	1998	Dennis Kirkwood	186	2012	Jim Stasz	168	2008
Dave Webb	208	1993	Matt Anthony	186	2013	Les Eastman	167	1989
Dave Webb	206	2004	Dave Webb	186	1991	John Cupp Sr.	166	1990
Tim Carney	204	2014	John Wortman	185	1993	Bill Pfingsten	165	1987
Tim Carney	204	2013	Dave Webb	185	1992	Dennis Kirkwood	162	1996
Ryan Johnson	202	2014	Dennis Kirkwood	182	2011	Joe Hanfman	161	2013
Matt Hafner	201	2015	Dennis Kirkwood	182	1994			

## **Anne Arundel County**

Material contributed by Warren Strobel and Tim Carney

Birders reported 268 species in Anne Arundel County during 2015, a good number for one of the most diverse of Maryland's counties habitat-wise, although a few species shy of the record 275 reported in eBird in 2014. Adding to the diversity, a number of notable birds showed up in the county, ranging from the extremely rare (*Eared Grebe, Black Skimmer, American White Pelican, Swallow-Tailed Kite* and *Lapland Longspur*) to the uncommon (*Upland Sandpiper* and *Tricolored Heron*).

No new birds were added in 2015 to Anne Arundel County's all-time species list, which stands at 336. Warren Strobel reported the county's top eBird list for the year, identifying 225 species.

Swan Creek/Cox Creek, an industrial site and mitigation project in northern Anne Arundel County, once again proved one of the hottest of the county's hotspots. It hosted a plethora of shorebirds rarely seen elsewhere in the county, over-summering waterfowl and migrating warblers and other passerines in spring and fall. *Least Bitterns* were recorded breeding in the Swan Creek wetlands in early summer.

After a cracking end to 2014 (in which Dan Haas found a *Black-Legged Kittiwake* on the beach at Sandy Point State Park in late November, and Tim Carney pulled a *Tufted Duck* from a massive raft of Scaup at Swan Creek in December), 2015 got off to a somewhat slow start. A *Common Yellowthroat* found by Tim Carney at Swan Creek on January 13<sup>th</sup> was a rare January record for the county. On January 23<sup>rd</sup>, Bella Remy reported a *Trumpeter Swan* at White Swan Drive Community Park, a private location on the Magothy River in the Arnold

area. This was the second straight winter the species was found in this area, and it was re-sighted in late March. On New Year's Day, a *Painted Bunting*, a rare but occasional winter visitor to Anne Arundel, appeared at Kelly Beall's backyard feeder in the West River Plantation area, south of Galesville. Also in south county, *Red-Headed Woodpeckers* were taking peanuts from George Jett's feeder in Lothian, where *Rusty Blackbird, Purple Finch* and *Ruby-Crowned Kinglet* were also seen. Other January highlights included *Purple Sandpiper* at Herrington Harbor, one of the few reliable county locations for this bird, found by Andrew Wood; a January 2<sup>nd</sup> *Snow Bunting* posted by Randy Kimmett at Sandy Point; and a late *Great Egret* found by Wendy Crowe at Patapsco Ponds the same day.

In February, Anne Arundel County enjoyed a modest influx of rare-to-the-county *Red-Necked Grebes*, part of a southern movement of this species due to the freezing over of the Great Lakes. Warren Strobel reported the first bird, on February 25<sup>th</sup>, at Thomas Point Park, and they were seen through late March (and in one case, early April) at Sandy Point, Swan Creek and Fort Smallwood Park. In general, waterfowl were present in good numbers during the harsh 2014-2015 winter in the Chesapeake Bay and along the county's rivers and tributaries. By February's end, other great birds had joined the county's 2015 list, including a *Common Redpoll* and *Rough-Legged Hawk* found by Dale Murphy at Shoreham Beach on February 19<sup>th</sup> and February 28<sup>th</sup>, respectively, and a *Long-Eared Owl* noted by Mike Lathroum in Pasadena on February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The county's first **Osprey** arrived almost precisely "on time," heralding the onset of spring. It was seen March 7 by Pat Tate at Bay Ridge in the Annapolis area and was the 134<sup>th</sup> county species for 2015. Other migrants followed fast and furiously, according to eBird reports: **Greater Yellowlegs** on March 11, **Pine Warbler** and **Tree Swallow** on March 12, **Northern Rough-Winged Swallow** and **Laughing Gull** on March 19, and so on. Throughout winter and early spring, Swan Creek was as productive – and unpredictable – as ever, with an **Iceland Gull** found by Andy Beiderman on February 9, 166 **Tundra Swans** counted by Tim Carney on March 19, and all three Merganser species.

On April 3, Warren Strobel found the year's first **Vesper Sparrow**, at Patuxent North Tract, in the brush by the buildings near Merganser Pond. That same day, Joanne Howl had a **Northern Gannet** off of Rose Haven. The Fort Smallwood Hawkwatch, overseen by Sue Riccardi, got underway, and four **Broad-Winged Hawks** sailed over the park on April 5. Two **Little Gulls** were seen on April 11. **Chuck-will's-widow** and **Eastern Whip-poor-will** sadly seem fewer and fewer in Anne Arundel County each year, but Rod Burley heard one at North Tract on April 11. Amid the flood of migrant passerines, terns, wading birds and shorebirds, Bill Hubick and Mike Ostrowski ventured to one of the county's more daunting birding hotspots: Dent Road south of Shady Side, famous for its brambles, insects and boot-sucking bogs. They were rewarded with **Willet, Tricolored Heron** and **Seaside Sparrow.** Frode Jacobson found a **Nelson's Sparrow** at the same location three days later.

On May 2, Michelle Hanko found a **Golden-Winged Warbler**, always a tough bird in Anne Arundel, at Patuxent North Tract. Jug Bay Wetland Sanctuary, a county gem for both birding and conservation, rarely disappoints, and Frode Jacobson had the first **Sora**, **Black-Billed Cuckoo** and **Blackpoll Warbler** of the year there on May 5. But in late spring and early summer, the places to be were Fort Smallwood Park and Swan Creek (they hosted 195 bird species and 217 bird species, respectively, in 2015).

Fort Smallwood observers saw a *Swallow-Tailed Kite* and *Mississippi Kite* (one of at least 14 that migrated past the park in 2015) on May 5, rare county records of *Brown-Headed Nuthatch* and *Dickcissel* on May 10, and a flyover *Sandhill Crane* on May 15.

Swan Creek provided an incredible diversity of annual shorebirds, including *American Avocet, American Golden-Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Buff-Breasted Sandpiper, White-Rumped Sandpiper* and *Wilson's Phalarope*, as well as some that do not occur there every year. Those included a *Black-Necked Stilt* seen on May 5; a *Willet* on May 1 and another that stayed from late August to late September; and a *Long-Billed Dowitcher* discovered by Lynne Parks on September 10. Mark Rositol found a *Black Tern* on June 4, and the

species was noted again on August 20 and September 10. True to form, none of the terns lingered for long. The summer's best – and perhaps most popular - bird, was an *Eared Grebe*, found by Bill Hubick on August 15. It stayed for 11 days and the same bird (or another?) appeared from October 16-21. It was just the third county record of this species.

On August 15, Joanne Howl found an *Upland Sandpiper* at the Central Sod Farm on Swamp Circle Road in south county. The same fields have hosted this "grasspiper" before, including in 2009. Highlights of fall warbler migration included a *Mourning Warbler* on August 22 and a *Connecticut Warbler* on September 24, both found at Swan Creek by Tim Carney. Warren Strobel was stunned to discover a very late *Blackburnian Warbler* on October 6 at the same location. It was re-seen on October 9.

Some of the county's best birds of 2015 waited until the waning months of the year to show themselves. On September 25, Clive Harris, returning from a trip to the Delaware Bay, stopped at Sandy Point to check the gull flocks on the beach and found a single, first year **Black Skimmer**, a rare sighting on the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay and only the second county record in eBird. (The other was seen at Swan Creek in July 2011). The Sandy Point bird was enjoyed by birders through September 27, and was unofficially the county bird of the year!

On November 13, Jeff Shenot spotted a *Franklin's Gull* in the Jug Bay area, the bird possibly being part of 2015's fall influx of this species to the eastern parts of Maryland. On November 23, Sandy Point again lived up to its reputation for exciting birds. Adam Parr found a *Lapland Longspur* in the grasses near the beach. It appears to be just the fourth county record. Interestingly, two of the other Longspurs were found at the same site, in 1974 and 1989. Disappointingly to many county listers, the 2015 bird was only seen for one day.

Only two species remained to be added to Anne Arundel County's 2015 list. On December 4, Tim Carney found an **Orange-Crowned Warbler** at Swan Creek. Then, on December 14, Randy Kimmett found – and photographed – a **Western Kingbird** at Greenbury Point Conservation Area across the Severn River from Annapolis. This bird, the fourth county record, was not re-found the next day.

Anne Arundel County is full of great and diverse birding hotspots. Others not mentioned above include Downs Memorial Park, Kinder Farm Park, Oxbow Lake, Piney Orchard Nature Preserve, Severn Run Natural Environmental Area and two parks close to each other along the Patuxent River, Wooten's Landing and Sands Road Park.

Listing Hal Wierenga's Life List still remains at the top at 310 birds. Warren Strobel's 225 was tops in 2015. There are no Big Days in the database for Anne Arundel County.

		Anne Ar	undel County's T	op Life	Eists (3	54 Max)		
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated
Hal Wierenga	310	<i>1992</i>	Tim Carney	257	2015	Harvey Mudd	226	2011
Bill Hubick	289	2015	Joel Martin	257	2015	Leslie Starr	222	2015
Joe Hanfman	277	2015	Fred Fallon	253	2015	Mark Schilling	220	2015
John Hubbell	272	2015	Dave Powell	248	2015	Tom Ostrowski	209	2015
Warren Strobel	269	2015	Tom Feild	248	2015	Jeff Culler	206	2015
Bob Ringler	267	2015	Jeff Shenot	247	2015	David Kidwell	204	2015
Rod Burley	267	2015	Kathy Calvert	246	2015	Ron Gutberlet	198	2014
Matt Hafner	261	2015	J. Tyler Bell	240	2015	Mike Ostrowski	197	2015
Elaine Hendricks	260	2015	Peter Osenton	236	2015	Marcia Balestri	182	2015
Fred Shaffer	259	2015	Kurt Schwarz	231	2015	Derek Hudgins	179	2015
Rick Blom	258	1999	Jim Green	231	2015			

		An	ne Arundel County	's Top	Year L	ists		
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year
Stan Arnold	260	2011	Bill Hubick	213	2012	Bill Hubick	201	2014
Dan Haas	258	2012	Tim Carney	211	2015	Bill Hubick	199	2013
Hal Wierenga	258	1976	Mikey Lutmerding	211	2008	Jim Stasz	198	2012
Dan Haas	254	2011	Rod Burley	211	2005	Jim Stasz	196	2011
Stan Arnold	248	2010	Rod Burley	211	2003	Dave Perry	196	1999
Stan Arnold	246	2009	Rod Burley	209	2008	Rod Burley	196	1996
Dan Haas	238	2009	Rod Burley	209	2002	Bill Hubick	195	2007
Dan Haas	237	2014	Tim Carney	208	2013	Dotty Mumford	188	1994
Mark Hoffman	233	1976	Dan Haas	208	2008	Bill Hubick	187	2008
Mark Hoffman	231	1975	Warren Strobel	207	2009	Stan Arnold	185	2008
Jim Stasz	229	1992	Rod Burley	206	2011	Stan Arnold	185	2000
Dan Haas	227	2010	Dave Perry	206	1997	Warren Strobel	184	2012
Warren Strobel	225	2015	Rod Burley	206	2000	Dotty Mumford	184	1992
Bill Hubick	221	2015	Marshall Iliff	206	1990	Dotty Mumford	184	1990
Marshall Iliff	219	1992	Dave Perry	205	1996	Marshall Iliff	184	1989
Bill Hubick	218	2011	Lynn Davidson	205	1991	Joe Hanfman	181	2012
Rod Burley	218	2006	Tim Carney	204	2012	Rod Burley	181	1998
Rod Burley	217	2012	Rod Burley	204	2001	Dotty Mumford	180	1989
Rod Burley	217	2004	Bill Hubick	203	2010	Rod Burley	179	1995
Tim Carney	213	2014	Rod Burley	203	1999	Fred Shaffer	178	2014

# Prince George's County

### Material contributed by Jeff Shenot

The total number of species reported in the county in 2015 was 240. Although the state had an exceptional year in terms of rare passerines, overall the migration for 2015 was rather dull for passerines, at least in terms of overall numbers and general species diversity. Prince George's County was reflective of this, with very few days where good diversity and numbers were observed. However, the county did have some truly exceptional first-county records, and several species with few previous records.

A very interesting pair of Trumpeter Swans at Lake Artemesia kick-started the listing year in the second week of Jan. They were present about a month until at least Feb 3, and apparently then moved to the Patuxent Research Refuge-Central Tract. While it is not certain, it is highly probable the pair that showed up there on Feb 10 was the same pair. This is a restricted access area and very few were able to see the pair at PRR, but Mikey Lutmerding documented the swan's long stay there until Apr 6.

Perhaps the "best show in town" this year was the long-staying multiple **Rough-legged Hawks** (different color morphs), and **Short-eared Owl**(s) present at the Konterra grasslands from about Feb 20-Mar 16. This extraordinary grassland has probably provided rare grassland habitat for several decades now, although it sadly is due for a large-scale development project. It is unclear why it has remained undeveloped for so long, but clearly the activity level in the last year has increased, and its lifespan is likely near the end. For nearly a month birders from near and far enjoyed extended versions of the raptor show, as the grassland specialists foraged and interacted.

Some other exceptionally good birds for the County included Trumpeter Swan, Red-necked Grebe, Sandhill Crane, Long-billed Dowitcher, Chuck-will's-widow, Alder Flycatcher, Orange-crowned Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Yellow-headed Blackbird, and Common Redpoll.

A **Sandhill Crane** was reported by Bob Ringler as a fly-by at Governor Bridge Natural Area on Mar. 22. It was heard only, but its distinctive bugling call was diagnostic. Prince George's **Red-necked Grebe** was reported by John Hubbell on April 5 at a private lake off Brandywine Rd. It was apparently only seen by one birder, but it was not unusual for the species to show up at an inland lake or large river and only be present for a day before moving on. A late winter/early spring observation of an **Orange-crowned Warbler** was documented on Apr. 24 at Patuxent Research Refuge-Central Tract by Mikey Lutmerding. A **Yellow-headed Blackbird** was reported by Jo Lutmerding on May 8 at Selby's Landing (Patuxent River Park), singing its remarkable and very distinct song. A **Common Redpoll** was discovered by Michel Cavigelli at his private feeder on Feb 21, but unfortunately it was only there one day. A singing adult male **Mourning Warbler** was found by Tom Ostrowski at Governor Bridge Natural Area on May 22, along with a singing **Alder Flycatcher!** 

A *Chuck-will's-widow* was reported on May 28 by Dan Rauch at a private farm near Largo. Nightjars have become exceptionally scarce in PG County since the mid-90s, but "Chucks" have always been a rare find. It was heard calling constantly from 1am-2am, and was only there one day unfortunately.

A perhaps overdue, but still stunning **Brown-headed Nuthatch** was found on June 15 by Mikey Lutmerding, at Patuxent River Park in the stand of Loblolly Pines behind the maintenance area. This stand has been a reliable hot spot for many evergreen-favoring passerines, and is always worth stopping to listen and watch throughout the year. Fortunately he obtained good audio and documentation of the County's first record. Despite numerous visits over the next couple of weeks by many birders, it was not seen or heard again.

A *Long-billed Dowitcher* was discovered by Mark Rositol on Sep 27 at a stormwater pond off Indian Head Hwy. It was well documented and present for only two days, but several birders were lucky enough to see it.



Black Skimmer – Mt. Calvert Manor Sam Shenot

Last but not least a mega-rarity and one-day wonder was found by Sam Shenot (13 years old) at Mt Calvert Manor (Patuxent River Park) on October 23. He noticed a very unusual gull-like bird resting on the entrance drive to the Manor and walked to see it. Fortunately it allowed him to approach close enough to get photos on his phone. Unsure what it was but sure it was unusual, he texted Jeff Shenot (father) and tried to send pics to him while he was at work, but that didn't work. That evening when Jeff got home Sam showed him his phone pics and Jeff was stunned. Sam's bizarre text description of a bird that looked like a gull with a long tail and a weird black and orange bill that was longer on the bottom than the top, matched his pics exactly - the County's first documented **Black Skimmer**! Especially odd given the date; extensive searches for it later turned up empty.

Listing Fred Shaffer stands atop the county's Life List heap at 285, one more than he had at the end of 2014. For many years multiple birders have been able to observe over 200 species in a year for PG County, but in 2015 only 1 birder made it over. Mark Rositol topped out the year with 208 species, the lowest high for the County since 2008. This is consistent with it being an unusual year for passerine migration, as noted in the beginning of the report. John Gregoire's now 30-year old Year List record is a whopping 243!

There are three May Big Days in the database for Prince George's County, with a high of 120 shared by two teams. The three Ostrowski brothers also had a great total of 115 from an April attempt in 2014.

		Prince G	George's County T	op Life	e Lists (3	339 Max)		
Name		Updated	Name	-	Updated	Name	Total	Updated
Fred Shaffer	285	2015	Mike Ostrowski	225	2015	Joel Martin	207	2015
Jeff Shenot	281	2015	Bill Hubick	225	2015	Harvey Mudd	207	2011
Fred Fallon	276	2015	Tom Feild	224	2015	Michael Donovan	201	1995
Jane Fallon	258	2015	Mark Rositol	223	2015	Lynn Davidson	199	1998
Rod Burley	258	2015	Dave Powell	222	2015	Wain Barnes	192	2003
Joe Hanfman	258	2015	Jim Green	216	2015	Warren Strobel	186	2015
John Hubbell	249	2015	Matt Hafner	213	2015	David Kidwell	178	2015
Elaine Hendricks	248	2015	Greg Kearns	213	1990	Jeff Culler	177	2015
Peter Osenton	245	2015	George Jett	212	2015	Steve Sanford	175	2007
Tom Ostrowski	242	2015	Kathy Calvert	210	2015	Ron Gutberlet	172	2014
Rick Blom	237	1999	Rob Hilton	209	2015	Leslie Starr	171	2015
Bob Ringler	232	2015						

		Pri	nce George's Cou	nty Top	Year L	ists		
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year
John Gregoire	243	1984	Fred Shaffer	210	2002	Mark Rositol	197	2014
Mikey Lutmerding	240	2012	Jeff Shenot	209	2014	Jeff Shenot	197	2008
John Gregoire	238	1985	Rob Ostrowski	209	2009	Fred Shaffer	197	2008
Mikey Lutmerding	235	2013	Rob Ostrowski	209	2013	Jeff Shenot	196	2015
Fred Shaffer	235	2010	Jeff Shenot	209	2013	Derek Richardson	196	2010
Jeff Shenot	229	2010	Mark Rositol	208	2015	Fred Shaffer	193	2015
Rob Ostrowski	225	2010	Rod Burley	208	2005	Tom Ostrowski	192	2015
Rob Ostrowski	223	2011	Rod Burley	208	2002	Fred Shaffer	192	2014
Jeff Shenot	223	2011	Rob Ostrowski	207	2014	Rod Burley	190	2001
Fred Shaffer	219	2004	Jeff Shenot	207	2009	Fred Shaffer	190	2006
Fred Shaffer	216	2013	Rod Burley	206	2004	Tom Ostrowski	185	2009
Fred Shaffer	216	2011	Rod Burley	205	2008	Rod Burley	183	2000
Rod Burley	214	2012	Rod Burley	205	2003	Jim Stasz	180	1992
Fred Shaffer	213	2009	Rod Burley	204	2011	Fred Shaffer	179	2000
John Gregoire	212	1986	Fred Shaffer	204	2005	Mike Ostrowski	173	2007
Jeff Shenot	211	2012	Fred Shaffer	204	2001	Mike Ostrowski	171	2009
Rod Burley	211	2006	Fred Shaffer	202	2003	Joe Hanfman	171	2010
John Gregoire	211	1983	Fred Shaffer	201	2012	Rob Ostrowski	170	2008
Rob Ostrowski	210	2012	Fred Shaffer	200	2007			

## **Calvert County**

### Material Contributed by Fred Fallon

Waterfowl as seen offshore from North Beach were present in about normal numbers in 2015, while sightings of **Northern Gannets** were fewer than normal. The North Beach marsh hosted its usual dabbling ducks, with the number of **Green-winged Teal** building up to 66 by March 22 and 86 – high even for the marsh - on March 28 (Jim Stasz). More unusual for the county although fewer in numbers was a welcome contingent of **Blue-winged Teal**, reaching a maximum of about 12 by April 11 (FW Fallon). **Horned Grebes** gradually increased off North

Beach, as usual, thru April, reaching at least 50-60 by mid-month. One of the few *Red-necked Grebes* reported was at Fishing Creek Feb 16 (Sherman Souter).

*Snowy Egrets* are often plentiful at the marsh in summer, as many as 80 sometimes flying in from Poplar I. This year's high count was 46 on Aug 7. On the same day, a *Tricolored Heron* was also present (Tyler Bell).

A *Clapper Rail*, not the more-expected King Rail, was heard and observed visually for several minutes by Gene Scarpulla on the Jug bay CBC Dec 20, from the Fishing Creek boardwalk well before dark. A *Sora*, unusually late, was also present.

Water levels in the North Beach marsh vary greatly, reflecting the alternate clogging and dredging of the outlet channel. This spring conditions were mostly right for shorebirds. Peep are often numerous. On May 12, 148 *Semi-palmated Sandpipers* were seen there, increasing to an incredible 450 on May 14 (Jim Stasz). By May 21 all were gone. During the same period *Least Sandpipers* numbered up to 85. A high count of 47 *Lesser Yellowlegs* was seen April 5 (FW Fallon). Also on May 12 were 27 *Semi-palmated Plovers* and a *Black-bellied*. A group of some 10-20 *Wilson's Snipe* were regulars there from Mar 15 – Apr 1.

Other shorebirds of note included a "western" *Willet* on the beach outside Jim Stasz' front door on Apr 3 and *Purple Sandpipers* off the fishing pier on Dec 13.

Caprimulgids no longer inhabit the county; a *Chuck-wills-widow* heard at Calvert Cliffs on May 24 (Sherman Souter) and not again, while intriguing, must have been a late migrant even though within "safe dates."

A small colony of *Red-headed Woodpeckers* seems to have become established at King's Landing, where two to three have been seen at once on at least May 9, Sep 20, Nov 18, and Dec 15.

A surprising 30 *Blue-gray Gnatcatchers* were heard at the Huntingtown (aka "Smokey Rd") WMA on Apr 27 (L T Gray). *Yellow-throated*, *Kentucky*, and *Hooded Warblers* were present at their usual breeding sites such as Calvert Cliffs and Flag Ponds. Indeed, Yellow-throateds reach a relatively high density in Calvert Co. The same warblers plus *Pine*, *Yellow*, and *Chat* were heard at the Huntingtown WMA, but as usual not past migration (and here not after May 9). A *Prairie Warbler* at the North Beach marsh on May 3 was passing through.

The aforementioned conditions on the North Beach marsh must have been right for **Rusty Blackbirds** – 18 were there on Apr 1 (Tyler Bell). Another was seen with Red-wings from the Fishing Creek trail on Feb 16 (Sherman Souter), and two at King's Landing on Dec 15 (M Johnson).

*Eastern Meadowlarks*, vanishing everywhere, have all but disappeared as breeding birds in Calvert. At the best-known spot, Cage Road at Mackall Rd, none were found this year. One seen on Turner Rd May 24 (Sherman Souter) may have been breeding, or at least trying to.

**Baltimore Orioles** are rare breeders in the county. Most of those reported were almost certainly migrants, but singles seen on June 6 at Flag Ponds (Jared Fisher), June 14 at Jefferson-Patterson Park (Sherman Souter), and August 4 at Biscoe-Gray Park (Jim Stasz) were within breeding season.

Perhaps the bird of the year for Calvert was a female *Painted Bunting* spotted and photographed by Tony Barbour at his feeder off Battle Creek, on Feb 22. This is only the second record of the species in the county, the first being a male in 2010, also at a feeder, in Huntingtown.

<u>Listing</u> Jim Stasz's last reported Life List total in his home county is 311 and the next closest is James Tyler Bell, at 285. Jim also holds the top Year List of 233, achieved way back in 1992. Tyler Bell's 163 was tops for 2015.

There are two May Big Days in the database for Calvert County, with the high of 134 achieved in 2008 by James Tyler Bell and Stan Arnold.

			Calvert County 1	op Yea	r Lists			
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year
Jim Stasz	233	1992	J. Tyler Bell	182	2008	Dave Perry	164	2001
Jim Stasz	231	1989	J. Tyler Bell	182	2003	J. Tyler Bell	163	2015
John Gregoire	221	1984	Jim Stasz	180	2002	Stan Arnold	161	2008
Jim Stasz	218	1991	Fred Fallon	180	2009	John Hubbell	161	2007
Jim Stasz	212	1990	Sue Hamilton	179	1999	Rod Burley	161	2001
Jim Stasz	212	1987	Leslie Starr	177	2014	Bill Hubick	160	2008
Jim Stasz	209	1986	Sue Hamilton	174	1998	Leslie Starr	158	2015
Jim Stasz	206	1988	J. Tyler Bell	173	2014	J. Tyler Bell	158	2010
Arlene Ripley	205	2004	J. Tyler Bell	172	2013	Rod Burley	157	2002
Arlene Ripley	202	2005	Jim Stasz	172	2011	Jim Stasz	155	2012
Arlene Ripley	198	2000	Jim Stasz	170	1999	Dave Perry	153	1999
Arlene Ripley	196	2003	Dave Perry	170	2011	John Hubbell	152	2010
Sue Hamilton	193	2000	Sue Hamilton	170	1995	John Hubbell	151	2013
Jim Stasz	192	1998	J. Tyler Bell	169	2012	Jim Stasz	150	2007
Arlene Ripley	186	2002	Leslie Starr	169	2013	J. Tyler Bell	150	2011
Sue Hamilton	184	2003						

		Calv	vert County Top Li	ife Lis	ts (330 N	lax)		
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated
Jim Stasz	311	2012	Bob Ringler	226	2015	Harvey Mudd	201	2011
J. Tyler Bell	285	2015	Jim Green	214	2015	George Jett	194	2015
Leslie Starr	249	2015	Rick Blom	214	1999	Joel Martin	191	2015
John Hubbell	244	2015	Matt Hafner	213	2015	Rod Burley	189	2015
Fred Fallon	241	2015	Dave Powell	213	2015	Ron Gutberlet	182	2014
Jane Kostenko	236	2015	Elaine Hendricks	210	2015	Anna Urciolo	167	2015
Bill Hubick	232	2015	Kathy Calvert	203	2015	Jeff Culler	167	2015
Jane Fallon	229	2015	Tom Feild	203	2015	Mike Ostrowski	163	2015
Joe Hanfman	228	2015						

## **Charles County**

There is no summary for Charles County in 2015.

Listing George Jett's top Life List total of 278 was an increase of one from 2014. 277 still 17 birds ahead of anyone else. No substantial year totals were submitted in 2015. There are eight Big Days in the database for Charles County, all including George Jett as one of the team members. The highest (140) was from May 2008 (Jett, Hafner, Gwen Brewer, and Jim Stasz).

		Cha	rles County Top L	ife Lis	ts (303 N	lax)		
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated
George Jett	278	2015	Elaine Hendricks	204	2015	Rick Blom	185	1999
John Hubbell	234	2015	Dave Powell	201	2015	Fred Fallon	178	2015
Jim Green	216	2015	Tom Feild	201	2015	Jeff Culler	173	2015
Bill Hubick	211	2015	Harvey Mudd	201	2011	Joel Martin	167	2015
Joe Hanfman	209	2015	Rod Burley	190	2015	Ron Gutberlet	162	2014
Bob Ringler	206	2015	Matt Hafner	189	2015	Mike Ostrowski	161	2015
Kathy Calvert	205	2015						

			Charles County	Гор Үеа	ar Lists			
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year
George Jett	217	2004	George Jett	188	1997	Jim Stasz	160	2012
George Jett	212	1996	George Jett	188	1991	Jim Stasz	160	2011
George Jett	207	1994	George Jett	187	2007	Jim Stasz	158	1992
George Jett	206	1995	George Jett	187	1992	Jim Stasz	158	1998
Gwen Brewer	203	2004	George Jett	186	2008	Paul Nistico	157	1989
George Jett	200	2003	George Jett	183	1993	Jim Stasz	155	2002
George Jett	197	2005	George Jett	182	1998	Dave Perry	155	1999
George Jett	194	1999	George Jett	180	2009	John Hubbell	152	2009
George Jett	193	2006	George Jett	178	2002	Rod Burley	151	2003
John Gregoire	192	1984	John Hubbell	169	2011	Jim Stasz	150	1999
George Jett	192	2001						

## St. Mary's County

Material contributed by James Tyler Bell

The eBird count for birds in St. Mary's stands at 239. Patty Craig is not an active eBird user so it's quite likely that the count would be higher assuming there were species not reported by her.

The drake *Barrow's Goldeneye*, first reported at the Elms Environmental Education Center in December, 2011, was relocated on the 2014 Pt. Lookout CBC by David Moulton. Only a few lucky souls saw it in January, 2015. The bird was relocated for the fifth straight winter on the 2015 Pt. Lookout CBC on December 27, again by David Moulton.

Moving along...In January, Mikey Lutmerding noted a flock of 36 *Snow Geese* flying by the point at Pt. Lookout SP. This constitutes the 4<sup>th</sup> highest tally, according to eBird, for the county!

Although you might find this hard to believe, or care about, but **Rock Pigeon** has become a difficult species to find in St. Mary's. They used to be quite common on the Thomas Johnson Bridge but the nesting Peregrine Falcons wiped out the population on either side of the Patuxent River. There are a few holdout locations including the Patuxent River Naval Air Station (Pax NAS), which requires military access, and St. George's Island.

Patricia Rose, of Callaway, hosted a *Rufous Hummingbird*, which had arrived in the fall of 2014 and carried over into 2015. There is only one previous record of RUHU in St. Mary's and, according to eBird, this is only the second. I'm guessing that there are unreported records that Patty Craig or Kyle Rambo could provide, though.

The rest of the winter produced no real noteworthy birds, possibly because of the extreme cold? Just squeaking in under the wire for winter were three *Red-necked Grebes* on March 8, found by Lutmerding, seen near the Thomas Johnson Bridge on either side of the river. The high count was three with other reports of one or two. This is a low total compared to the large incursion from the previous winter with double digit numbers seen easily at this location.

A bird that had virtually disappeared from St. Mary's, but seems to be clawing its way back, is **Boat-tailed Grackle**. They are returning to Cornfield Harbor and St. George's Island though Tyler Bell and Jane Kostenko reported two birds while dining with visiting relatives at Sheible's Restaurant in Ridge. Patty Craig noted that they have been at this location for a couple of years and she finds them there on May Count.

There are only a handful of *Glaucous Gull* records in St. Mary's. Lutmerding was the only observer of one on March 8 at Abell's Wharf. Attempts to relocate it were unsuccessful.

On March 21, a county first record *Common Raven* auspiciously flew over the backyard of Bell and Kostenko while they were out gardening. The bird was relocated at the Wildewood Shopping Center the next day by Mark Johnson and on March 23 at the shopping center by Dan Haas and Kostenko. Photographs confirm these were all the same bird because of a distinctive missing primary. Another CORA was a heard only at the Kostenko-Bell residence on October 12.

*American White Pelican* is quite rare in St. Mary's. Previous high totals were 8 at the Elms Environmental Education Center on April 4, 2013 by Matt Anthony and 15 on April 16, 2012 at St. Clements Bay by Tim Storch. The overwintering population at Blackwater NWR, just across the Chesapeake from St. Mary's, grew to triple digits in the winter of 2014-2015. Bell and Kostenko happened to be at the right place at the right time when the bulk of that flock decided to head presumably toward breeding ground on April 12. A string of 95 birds flew in off of the Bay at a location just north of the Elms and moved inland. They were able to track the birds north to Callaway, almost 7.5 miles west, where Patty Craig was able to catch up and get a photograph clear enough to get a good count. Totally shattered the previous high count!

*Northern Bobwhite* populations have declined significantly in Maryland. Finding one in St. Mary's anymore is a real challenge. They used to be fairly common but are now restricted to a few locations. One reliable location during the spring and summer was along Long Neck Road in Ridge. There was another report from Piney Point.

**Dickcissel** is a sporadic nester in St. Mary's. This year, it appears that they chose Long Neck Road with as many as six singing males along about a mile of road. First detected there in late May, they continued through early August. A single bird was found at Pax NAS on June 11. This has historically been a nesting location but access issues make finding them less than ideal for non-military.

Nightjars are becoming less common in St. Mary's. A formerly reliable spot for *Chuck-will's-widow* and *Eastern Whip-poor-will* has gradually succumbed to the expansion of the Wildewood development. Chucks and Whips can still be reliably found along the powerline cut on Indian Bridge Road about ½ mile east of Rt. 4. Joe Hanfman found Chucks, Whips and *Common Nighthawks* there on May 16. Bell and Moulton found Chucks a bit further down the road at the back gate to St. Mary's Lake SP. Moulton found Common Nighthawk behind the Wildewood Shopping Center on May 23. Nighthawks can often be found in southward migration but none were reported on eBird in 2015.

Warblers put on a good show in 2015 with 30 species detected. *Northern Waterthrush* was only found in the fall at Pt. Lookout SP. John Hubbell and Tom Field found one on August 8 and Jim Stasz found one on September 14. *Tennessee Warblers* were another fall only bird with singles in California by Bell on September 27 and at PLSP by Stasz on October 17. *Cape May Warbler* was not found in the spring either. Kathy Calvert and Mike Welch found one on October 20, also at Pt. Lookout State Park (PLSP). The same goes for *Wilson's.* The only reports were from Pt. Lookout SP. Two birds reported by Stasz on September, 14, and a single bird

found on a Southern Maryland Audubon Society field trip on September, 19, found by Jim and Judy Ferris and seen well by the whole group.

Sharp-tailed Sparrows are always tough to find due to limited habitat. Lutmerding found 7 *Nelson's Sparrows* and one *Saltmarsh Sparrow* at Cornfield Harbor and one apparent Nelson's/Saltmarsh hybrid. There is known hybridization of these two species in places like Maine's Scarborough Marsh but finding them away from overlapping breeding grounds is uncommon.

**Snow Buntings** can often be found at Pax NAS or PLSP. This year, Bob Ringler found a single bird at PLSP near the lighthouse on November 14. And rounding out the winter birds, Bell and Kostenko found a **Black-headed Gull** on the Potomac side of PLSP near the lighthouse on December 28 when chasing a **Long-eared Owl** found on the Pt. Lookout CBC on December 27 by Kyle Rambo. Due to the sensitive nature of LEOW roosts, the exact location will not be discussed.

Listing Patty Craig's 326 Life List, though quite outdated now, is still comfortably in the lead for St. Mary's County. David Moulton's 176 was tops for the year. There are four May Big Day's in the database for St. Mary's, the tops being 144 in 2008 by Kyle Rambo, Patty Craig, and Marty Cribb. This is the highest single month Big Day for any non-Worcester county! There is also one Big Day, a February record of 85, in the database (Matt Anthony, Josh Emm).

		St. Ma	ary's County Top	Life Li	ists (338	Max)		
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated
Patty Craig	326	2013	Matt Hafner	221	2015	Erika Wilson	201	1991
Kyle Rambo	313	2008	Dave Powell	212	2015	Matt Tillett	197	2010
J. Tyler Bell	302	2015	Rick Blom	212	1999	David Moulton	195	2015
Jane Kostenko	294	2015	Harvey Mudd	212	2011	Paul O'Brien	190	2015
John Hubbell	261	2015	Jeff Culler	210	2015	Lynn Davidson	190	1998
Martie Cribb	251	1996	Jim Green	209	2015	Joel Martin	186	2015
George Jett	237	2015	Kathy Calvert	205	2015	Mike Ostrowski	185	2015
Bob Ringler	227	2015	Fred Fallon	205	2015	Sue Hamilton	184	2003
Joe Hanfman	227	2015	Matt Anthony	203	2015	Ron Gutberlet	183	2014
Bill Hubick	227	2015	Elaine Hendricks	203	2015	Leslie Starr	179	2015
Paul Nistico	222	2005	Tom Feild	202	2015	Rod Burley	176	2015
Greg Miller	222	2000	John Gregoire	202	2005	Steve Sanford	176	2007

			St. Mary's County	Гор Үе	ar Lists	S		
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year
Patty Craig	258	1996	Mikey Lutmerding	233	2013	Kyle Rambo	215	1994
Kyle Rambo	254	1996	Patty Craig	233	2004	Patty Craig	212	1993
Patty Craig	251	2000	Kyle Rambo	233	1998	J. Tyler Bell	212	1996
Patty Craig	251	1999	Patty Craig	232	2011	Jane Kostenko	211	1996
Martie Cribb	251	1996	Mikey Lutmerding	230	2012	Jim Stasz	190	2012
Patty Craig	249	1998	Mikey Lutmerding	230	2011	J. Tyler Bell	187	1997
Kyle Rambo	247	2008	Patty Craig	228	1994	Jane Kostenko	185	1997
Patty Craig	242	2003	Kyle Rambo	227	2004	J. Tyler Bell	180	1998
Patty Craig	242	2001	Kyle Rambo	225	2006	Jim Stasz	179	2002
Patty Craig	242	1997	Kyle Rambo	224	2002	Jim Stasz	177	1999
Patty Craig	241	2013	Kyle Rambo	222	2001	David Moulton	176	2015
Patty Craig	238	2002	Kyle Rambo	222	2001	Jane Kostenko	175	1998
Kyle Rambo	238	2000	Kyle Rambo	222	1995	J. Tyler Bell	174	2015
Patty Craig	236	1995	Patty Craig	220	2006	J. Tyler Bell	174	2013
Kyle Rambo	236	2007	Kyle Rambo	220	2005	Matt Anthony	174	2013
Kyle Rambo	236	1999	Kyle Rambo	220	1997	J. Tyler Bell	180	2012
Patty Craig	234	2012	Patty Craig	219	2010	Matt Tillett	178	2007
Kyle Rambo	234	2003	Martie Cribb	217	1995	David Moulton	176	2014

### Kent County

### Material contributed by Dan Small with Historical Perspective by Bob Ringler

The total number of species reported in the county in 2015 was 251, which was an amazing 19 more species reported than in 2014 and 15 species above the average total species reported since 2010. Several factors are at play that account for this dramatic difference from 2014 to 2015. The first is that several first county records were found. Secondarily, in addition to new county records a few species were reported that are infrequently found. Thirdly, birder effort was much higher. This additional effort can be seen in the number of complete checklists submitted by eBirders, with an increase of 24% over 2014. These three reasons, plus the fact that when good birds are found, birders chase and subsequently turn up more good birds – the well-known Patagonia picnic table effect.

The absolute highlight of the year was the 4<sup>th</sup> state record of a **Vermilion Flycatcher**. The bird was found on the Chesterville Christmas Bird Count held Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> by Jim & Trish Gruber and Amanda Spears on Quail Run Nursery. Thankfully, the bird stayed for many weeks and probably more importantly the owners of the tree nursery were completely open to birders. This amazing access allowed hundreds of Maryland state birders and many out-of-state birders to enjoy this amazing vagrant.

The 1<sup>st</sup> count record of a **Franklin's Gull** originally found in 2014 by Mark Johnson continued into 2015 for a couple of days and was only seen by Dan Small Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> foraging in the farm fields surrounding the Chestertown Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Kent and Queen Anne's counties continue to be the hot spot for **Say's Phoebe** sightings, with each county now boasting two records. Keese De Mooy found and documented Maryland's 6th record of a **Say's Phoebe** on Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> at Chesapeake Farms, unfortunately this bird was only a around for a couple of hours and not seen by anyone else. Another 2nd county record were three immature **White Ibis** reported on July 10<sup>th</sup> by a photographer in one

of the ponds along the auto route at Chesapeake Farms. The only other previous record was from 1970! Only later did we learn that the ibis had been seen by turtle researchers for several days before word got out. Once word spread, many birders were able to successfully chase and enjoy this great find.

Another noteworthy county sighting was the 4<sup>th</sup> record of a **Whimbrel** found by Dan Small and Maren Gimpel on May 15<sup>th</sup> along Rt. 445 just north of Eastern Neck NWR. A **Yellow-crowned Night Heron**, only the 5<sup>th</sup> county record, was reported on July 10<sup>th</sup> by the same photographer that documented the White Ibis; in fact the birds were using adjacent ponds at Chesapeake Farms.

Noteworthy birds found in January were all birds that were originally found in 2014 or were at least in the area prior to the first. The **Sedge Wren**, originally found by Mikey Lutmerding on the Lower Kent CBC, was re-found by Dan Small on Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> and continued until Jan 17<sup>th</sup>. An out of season **Baltimore Oriole** turned up at Karen Unruh's feeder on Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> and was last reported on Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>. Jeff Culler and Joe Hanfman found a **Great Cormorant** mixed in with the feeding cormorant flocks off of Eastern Neck NWR on Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>.

February and March were rather slow for good birds in the county. The only report of a **Red-breasted Nuthatch**, by no means a rare species, but in non-irruption years can be rather hard to find, came on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> by Dan Small at the Coast Guard Base near Still Pond. On Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> a **Red-necked Grebe** was sighted flying by the butterfly garden overlook at Eastern Neck NWR by Dan Small. The only other noteworthy sighting in February was an early **Osprey**, typically hard to find in the month, found by Maren Gimpel along the Chester River on Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>. A male **Eurasian Wigeon** was a good find by Dan Small and Mike Hudson at Chesapeake Farms on April 18<sup>th</sup> and one of only a few records away from Eastern Neck NWR.

May was full of interesting birds most of which are rarely reported, but are more than likely annual in the county. On May 2<sup>nd</sup> John Hubbell and Dan Small spent the evening searching for **Eastern Whip-poor-will** in and around Millington Wildlife Management Area; they were rewarded with a calling male in a wooded clearing on #10 School Road. While conducting marsh bird surveys at Eastern Neck NWR on May 7<sup>th</sup>, Timothy Freiday and Elora Grahame found two **Least Bitterns** and six **Seaside Sparrows**, both of which are rarely-detected breeders in the county. A **Red-headed Woodpecker** was found using the snags along the main road through Eastern Neck NWR by Joel Martin on May 14<sup>th</sup>; later in the fall Walter Ellison and Nancy Martin found a family group on the refuge possibly representing the first breeding attempt by this flashy woodpecker in Kent County. On May 16<sup>th</sup> while chasing the previously reported **Whimbrel**, Dan Small and John Hubbell found a **Willet** foraging in a farm pond just north of Eastern Neck NWR. The only know location of breeding **Dickcissels** in 2015 was along Sassafras-Caldwell Road; Dan Small and John Hubbell had three singing males on May 16<sup>th</sup>, and other birders confirmed their continued presence late into the summer. Two separate **Willow Flycatchers** were found, the first one by Mark Johnson at Eastern Neck NWR on May 18<sup>th</sup> and the second later in the summer in Millington WMA on June 13<sup>th</sup> by Jeff Culler and Joe Hanfman.

**Northern Bobwhite** continue to be a bird of interest as they get increasingly harder to find across their range in Maryland. There were three sightings of quail, Dan Small heard a calling male on a private farm along the Chester River on June 17<sup>th</sup>, and he had another male calling along Langford Rd. on Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>. Finally, Jim & Trish Gruber and Amanda Spears flushed a single bird on Quail Covey Nursery during the Chesterville CBC on Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>. The other interesting bird reported in June was an **American Bittern** found by Wayne Bell on June 19th in a large wetland restoration on Quaker Neck.

Two regular August migrants were found in higher than expected numbers, one out on the Chesapeake Bay and the other just about the furthest east you can go in the county. While out on a boat in the Bay, Jeff Shenot found 12 migrating **Black Terns** on Aug. 14<sup>th</sup>. A high count of seven **Upland Sandpipers** were found by Dan Small on Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup> along Sassafras-Caldwell Rd., a known location for this species in the fall. Elaine Hendricks found the only phalarope species this year, a **Wilson's Phalarope** in the Langford Rd. farm pond on Aug. 31<sup>st</sup>. Unfortunately it did not stay long.

Anytime an **Olive-sided Flycatcher** is found on the Shore, let alone Kent County, it is a big deal. So it was surprising that two separate sightings came in. Mark Johnson found two individuals flycatching from the numerous snags in Millington WMA in the Black Bottom Rd. section on Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>. Mike Hudson and Dan Small found one bird a few days later on Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> at Eastern Neck NWR. A few interesting warblers were found in September that are rarely seen in the county. A female **Golden-winged Warbler** was found by Dan Small on Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> along Walnut Tree Rd. in Millington WMA; unbelievably the same individual was re-found a week later by Dan Small and then chased and re-found again later in the day by Mike Hudson. During the fall count on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>, Mike Hudson found a **Connecticut Warbler** on a private farm on Quaker Neck that was successfully (and very luckily) chased by several birds later in the day. During the Breeding Bird Atlas, **Hooded Warblers** were found to be breeding in Millington WMA, but there have been no reports of birds in the vast wooded sections of Millington since. Dan Small was lucky enough to find a male **Hooded Warbler** on Sept. 20 along #10 School Road.

Orange-crowned Warblers are hard to find in general, but are especially hard to find in Kent County. We aren't sure if it is a habitat thing or just the fact that the county is under birded. Three of these hard to find warblers were found in the winter and all were in three distinct areas of the county. Mike Hudson was the first to find one in Millington WMA on Nov. 1st. Next, Dan Small found one on Dec. 13th at Sassafras NRMA and Mikev Lutmerding found one on the Lower Kent CBC on Dec. 20th (a first count record). A field trip to Eastern Neck NWR by the Talbot County Bird Club on Nov. 8th turned up a couple nice sightings, the first being a group of five Greater White-fronted Geese and a couple hours later a Golden Eagle flew over. Golden Eagles aren't necessarily rare in the county, with a couple over-wintering each year, but are rarely seen on migration. A Northern Gannet was a nice find by Frank Marenghi while conducting waterfowl surveys on the Chesapeake Bay on Dec 1<sup>st</sup>. The Bay Bridge typically stops gannets from flying into Kent County waters. Only hours after finding the Vermilion Flycatcher, Jim & Trish and Amanda Spears found a Loggerhead Shrike along Carroll Clark Rd. during the Chesterville CBC on Dec. 27th. Loggerhead Shrikes are exceedingly hard birds to find in the state these days and the last one found in the county was in 1998. For some historical interest: five Loggerhead Shrikes were found on the Lower Kent CBC in 1963, seven were seen in one day on Kent Island, QA County, in 1951 and unbelievably (to anyone that has been birding less than 30 years) 20 were found in 1954 and 1965 during the Ocean City CBC. To round out the year, two unusual December birds were Lincoln's Sparrow and Blue-gray **Gnatcatcher** both found on Dec. 30<sup>th</sup> by Jared Fisher.

Listing Floyd Parks' 282 Life List from 2004 still leads the county, although there are a number of active birders that have not updated their Kent numbers in some time. Incredibly, Dan Small finally took down Walter Ellison's long-standing year list by achieving an astounding 239 in 2015! Up until then, nobody other than Walter had ever reported more than 200 species in any given year. There are no Big Days in the database for Kent County.

		Ke	nt County Top Life	e Lists	s (320 Ma	ax)		
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated
Floyd Parks	282	2004	Tom Feild	215	2015	Joel Martin	196	2015
Dan Small	266	2015	Elaine Hendricks	214	2015	Ron Gutberlet	194	2014
John Hubbell	255	2015	Dave Powell	212	2015	Jeff Culler	193	2015
Bob Ringler	244	2015	Jim Green	209	2015	Fred Fallon	174	2015
Bill Hubick	234	2015	Kathy Calvert	207	2015	Mike Ostrowski	168	2015
Joe Hanfman	227	2015	Harvey Mudd	204	2011	Marcia Balestri	159	2015
Matt Hafner	220	2015	Rick Blom	201	1999			

	Kent County Top Year Lists											
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Yea				
Dan Small	239	2015	Walter Ellison	215	2010	Bill Hubick	158	201				
Walter Ellison	228	2004	Walter Ellison	215	2007	Jim Stasz	157	199				
Walter Ellison	228	2003	Dave Perry	194	2002	Bill Hubick	155	200				
Walter Ellison	227	2006	Jim Stasz	192	2002	Joe Hanfman	153	201				
Walter Ellison	227	2005	John Hubbell	183	2015	Jim Green	153	201				
Walter Ellison	223	2002	Dan Small	183	2010	Bill Hubick	152	200				

## **Queen Anne's County**

Material Contributed by Dan Small with Historical Perspective by Bob Ringler

244 species were seen in the county in 2015, which is only one below the six year average in eBird, but well below a high in 2010 of 259. Interestingly, birding effort as indicated by the number of complete checklists submitted by eBirders was significantly lower in 2015 with 1,597 checklists submitted compared to 2,031 checklists in 2014. Despite this 22% drop in complete checklists, the total of birds reported only differed by one.

No wayward vagrants were found in QA this year, but several really good birds were found that have very few previous records. Daniel Irons proved to be in the right place and time, not once but twice this year when he spotted two migrant **Mississippi Kites**. Both birds were seen from his family's property overlooking Prospect Bay, which creates a nice migrant funnel. The first bird was seen on June 6<sup>th</sup> and the second fly-by was on Sept 13<sup>th</sup>. These are only the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> records for the county. A fantastic sighting of nine **American Avocets** were seen flying by Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center by David Govoni on Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>; this shorebird is rarely seen in the county with this being only the 3<sup>rd</sup> record. Two **Black Skimmers** flew by Daniel Irons while out fishing at the mouth of the Wye River on July 18<sup>th</sup>. This is only the 4<sup>th</sup> county record with the last sighting in 1998 and the previous two sightings go way back to 1965 and 1956. Another great sighting by Daniel Irons was a **Snowy Owl**, again seen on his family's property, on Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>. Unlike the highly cooperative Bay Bridge Snowy, this bird did not stick around.

While out birding on New Year's Day, Jack and Jean Filigenzi found a **Red-necked Grebe**, which ended up being the only report of this species in the county in 2015. James Wilson had an overwintering **Baltimore Oriole** visit his home in Queenstown; the bird found his feeder on Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> and stayed for two days. It's amazing that this individual made it all the way into mid-February as it was a colder than usual winter. **Rough-legged Hawks** are rarely reported in the county, so Daniel Irons' find while birding his property on Mar. 6<sup>th</sup> was a good one.

Birders out in May found some annual migrants rarely reported. Daniel Irons had both an **Alder** and a **Willow Flycatcher** calling while birding around his property on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Dan Small and Maren Gimpel found a male **Willow Flycatcher** trying to set up a territory in the restored grasslands on Chino Farms on May 28<sup>th</sup>; this bird was heard calling each day until June 6<sup>th</sup>. Mark Schilling found a migrant **Willow Flycatcher** at Terrapin Nature Park on Aug. 29<sup>th</sup>. **Bicknell's Thrush** are extremely hard migrants to find in either season, but are especially hard in the spring when there are fewer individuals and most migrants of all species tend to stay to the west of the Bay while moving north. On May 21<sup>st</sup> Daniel Irons found and photographed a **Bicknell's Thrush** on this family's property. While birding the wet wooded areas of the east part of the county on May 21st, Maren Gimpel found a **Mourning Warbler** on Stulltown Rd. Several other reports of **Mourning Warbler**, possibly of the same individual, came in from Terrapin Nature Park. Tim Carney found one Aug. 25<sup>th</sup>, the next day Jim Green and Kathy Calvert had one, and then on Aug 29<sup>th</sup> Mark Schilling also reported one from the park.

The only reports of **Dickcissel** came from Chino Farms, where Maren Gimpel found a singing male on June 24<sup>th</sup>. Several other birders chased and were able to hear and see this male with the last report on July 14<sup>th</sup>. Eli Anders found a **Sandhill Crane** on July 7<sup>th</sup> at Quail Covey Farm; fortunately this bird stuck around for a long time allowing many birders to chase, the last sighting of which was on Aug 20<sup>th</sup>. **Tri-colored Herons** are becoming annual visitors to the county, and Mark Schilling was the first to find three birds at Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center on July 17<sup>th</sup>. Many birders came to see the great heron/egret show at CBEC over the following month, and eventually seven individuals were seen with the last sighting on Aug 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Golden-winged Warbles** continue to be a tough migrant warbler to find and only two individuals were seen this fall and both happened to be by the same birder. Maren Gimpel found both, the first one on Aug 18<sup>th</sup> at Chino Farms and the second bird on Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> at Terrapin Nature Park. Three **Connecticut Warblers** were reported this fall, the first by Daniel Irons on Sept 25<sup>th</sup> on his family's property, then Eli Anders had one in his yard on Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> and finally Dave Palmer had one two days later on Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> at Terrapin Nature Park. Queen Anne's County is not known as a good county to find gulls in, so when anything gets found beside the common four species it is noteworthy. Mike Hudson found a **Lesser Black-backed Gull** on the Chester River outside of Chestertown on Oct 20<sup>th</sup> and Daniel Irons had one off of Castle Marina Rd on Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>. Maren Gimpel, Dan Small and Mike Hudson heard a **Northern Saw-whet Owl** on Chino Farms on Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>, which is an interesting sighting as very few individuals moved south this fall. Could be a very different story this coming fall as there is anticipation of a big movement south. Rounding out the year with an infrequent over-wintering bird, Maren Gimpel found a **Lincoln's Sparrow** on Chino Farms on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>.

Listing Jim Stasz sits atop the County Life List heap by a wide margin, although his Life total is quite out of date by now. Dan Small still has the top Year List of 236 from 2014, with Mark Schilling having the best 2015 year total of 204. There are no Big Days in the database for Queen Anne's County.

Queen Anne's County Top Life Lists (321 Max)										
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated		
Jim Stasz	284	2012	Jim Green	224	2015	Jeff Culler	186	2015		
Dan Small	278	2015	Elaine Hendricks	220	2015	Glenn Therres	185	1996		
Mark Schilling	270	2015	Tom Feild	216	2015	Fred Shaffer	177	2015		
John Hubbell	260	2015	Kathy Calvert	215	2015	Warren Strobel	174	2015		
Bill Hubick	250	2015	Rick Blom	214	1999	Marcia Balestri	172	2015		
Matt Hafner	247	2015	Harvey Mudd	213	2011	Mike Ostrowski	172	2015		
Bob Ringler	241	2015	Ron Gutberlet	205	2014	Anna Urciolo	165	2015		
Joe Hanfman	240	2015	Joel Martin	201	2015	Lynn Davidson	164	1998		
Dave Powell	232	2015	Fred Fallon	198	2015	David Holmes	162	1994		
Dave Palmer	231	2015	Carol McCollough	193	2015	Leslie Starr	161	2015		

	Queen Anne's County Top Year Lists										
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year			
Dan Small	236	2014	Mark Schilling	204	2015	Jim Stasz	188	1999			
Mark Schilling	233	2014	Danny Poet	203	2011	Jim Stasz	187	2002			
Dan Small	229	2010	Mark Schilling	203	2013	John Hubbell	186	2010			
Mark Schilling	226	2010	Maren Gimpel	202	2011	Dave Palmer	178	2012			
Mark Schilling	224	2012	Mark Schilling	201	2011	Danny Poet	178	2000			
Maren Gimpel	221	2012	Danny Poet	199	2005	Danny Poet	167	1999			
Danny Poet	214	2010	Danny Poet	198	2007	Bill Hubick	166	2010			
Dave Perry	210	2003	Danny Poet	192	2006	Dave Palmer	162	2013			
Danny Poet	206	2009	Danny Poet	192	2003	Danny Poet	162	1998			
Danny Poet	205	2004	Danny Poet	191	2008	Jim Stasz	160	2012			

# **Caroline County**

Material contributed by Dave Palmer

The total number of species seen in Caroline County came down to 212 in 2015 from a recent high of 224 species in 2014. The diversity of waterfowl, shorebirds and waders seen in 2015 was down from previous years but there were a few notable sightings throughout the year. The year started strong, with a male **Western Tanager** (photographed) showing up at a residential feeder near Denton on January 7<sup>th</sup> as reported to Les Coble. Unfortunately, the bird was a one-day wonder and went unobserved by others. Other highlights for the year included a **Little Gull** associating with about 40 **Bonaparte's Gulls** reported by Elora Grahame during a marsh bird survey on the Choptank River near Tanyard on April 26<sup>th</sup>.



"Western" Flycatcher – Choptank Village Kathy Calvert

The highlight for many county listers was a group of two or three **Brown-headed Nuthatches** first reported by Dave Palmer on November 8<sup>th</sup> and subsequently seen by numerous birders near the village of Choptank. While Brown-headed Nuthatches are common in neighboring Dorchester, Talbot and Queen Anne's counties, there have been no recent records of them in Caroline County. On a visit to find the nuthatches on November 16<sup>th</sup>, Kathy Calvert also saw and photographed a Western Empidonax (**likely Pacific Slope or Cordilleran Flycatcher**) which has been submitted to MD/DC records committee, as this could be a first MD record. Unfortunately the bird was not seen again, not for lack of effort by many.

Other rarely seen Caroline County species reported in 2015 included

five *Common Redpolls* reported by Wayne Baumgartner on February 1<sup>st</sup>, a *Golden-winged Warbler* seen at Adkins Arboretum on September 12<sup>th</sup> by Wayne Bell and a *Red-headed Woodpecker* reported at Adkins Arboretum during a Talbot Bird Club outing on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

Early in 2015, the open fields around Ridgely were again productive for field birds with up to 25 *Lapland Longspurs* reported by Mark Johnson on March 1<sup>st</sup> as well as reports of longspurs on a few other occasions in February and March. Only a single *Snow Bunting* was reported in the county by Wayne Baumgartner in early March.

While not common at any location in Caroline, 19 species of ducks were observed in early 2015 throughout the county, with the least common being a single *Canvasback* seen near Hog Creek by Wayne Baumgartner and *Red-breasted Mergansers* seen twice on the Choptank River by Dave Palmer. *Common Loons* and *Common Goldeneye* were again reported from the Choptank Marina by a few observers in this mostly land-locked county.

Choptank Marina also provided sightings of multiple species of gulls and terns including *Lesser Black-backed Gull* (mid-winter and late fall) and *Royal Terns* throughout the early fall period.

Spring migration in Caroline was relatively quiet, with only 22 species of warblers reported, none of which were considered notable. However, a pair of *Hooded Warblers* were observed, with the male singing, at Adkins Arboretum in early June, indicating possible nesting in the county. Shorebirds in the spring were restricted primarily to Tanyard wetlands where 12 species were reported from March through May but no unexpected species were reported. *Cliff Swallows*, originally found in 2013 by Les Roslund along Route 328 over Tuckahoe Creek, returned in April 2015 and multiple nests were seen on both the Caroline and Talbot sides of the river, with Cliff Swallows reported through mid-August.

At least two family groups of *Common Gallinules* as well as several *Least Bitterns* and a few *Virginia Rails* were again seen at Tanyard wetland preserve from the end of July through August. A lone *American Bittern* was first reported by Mike Burchett on November 17<sup>th</sup> near Choptank and photographed by Suzette Stitely.

The fall warbler migration was relatively slow this year at Adkins Arboretum and the surrounding Tuckahoe State Park, where only 19 species of warblers were reported from August through October (as compared to 30 in 2014). For the first time in five years, *Connecticut Warbler* was not observed, although both *Golden-winged* (first recent record) and *Blue-winged Warblers* were reported. Only three species of vireos were reported in this time period as compared to six species in 2014. Shorebird migration in the fall had a very similar mix of species as the spring migration; however, both *White-rumped* and *Pectoral Sandpipers* (late record of November 21<sup>st</sup>) were reported by Dave Palmer.

Notable waders reported in the county included a high count of five *Great Egrets* and a rare Caroline County sighting of a single *Cattle Egret*, all of which were seen at Daniel Crouse Memorial Park in Denton on September 19<sup>th</sup> by Danny Poet as part of the Caroline County Fall Count.

Late fall produced a group of six *Ross's geese* that were travelling with Canada Geese at various locations in SW Caroline and SE Talbot Counties, with the geese seen on November 17<sup>th</sup> by Vince DeSanctis and Suzette Stitely flying over the village of Choptank, by Elaine Hendricks and others in a field along Skeleton Creek Road, and again at the Tanyard Wetlands on November 18<sup>th</sup> by Mark Schilling.

Listing Jim Stasz's 261 Life List has no real challengers from the present-day birding community, even though it is four years out of date; Dave Palmer's year of 182 species was tops in the county. There are no Big Days in the database for Caroline County.

		Carc	line County Top L	ife Lis	sts (300	Max)		
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated
Jim Stasz	261	2012	Glen Lovelace	215	2009	Harvey Mudd	191	2011
Marvin Hewitt	243	1996	Bob Ringler	213	2015	Joel Martin	183	2015
Ethel Engle	240	2002	Joe Hanfman	210	2015	Rick Blom	175	1999
Roberta Fletcher	239	1994	Dave Powell	206	2015	Fred Fallon	174	2015
John Hubbell	231	2015	Kathy Calvert	205	2015	Jeff Culler	171	2015
Dave Palmer	230	2015	Tom Feild	202	2015	Dan Small	170	2015
Dave Perry	226	2015	Jim Green	201	2015	Mark Schilling	160	2015
Matt Hafner	222	2015	Ron Gutberlet	196	2014	Marcia Balestri	158	2015
Bill Hubick	216	2015	Elaine Hendricks	196	2015			

	Caroline County Top Year Lists									
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year		
Dave Palmer	206	2014	Dave Perry	142	2001	Ethel Engle	124	1994		
Dave Perry	206	2014	Marvin Hewitt	141	1989	Edward Boyd	123	2012		
Dave Palmer	188	2013	Danny Poet	138	2005	Bill Hubick	123	2010		
Dave Perry	187	2010	Jim Green	137	2009	Joe Hanfman	121	2012		
Jim Stasz	183	1999	Bill Hubick	137	2007	Rob Ostrowski	121	2011		
Dave Palmer	182	2015	John Hubbell	137	2005	Stan Arnold	121	2008		
Jim Brighton	179	2005	Jim Stasz	136	2008	Jim Stasz	121	2004		
Jim Stasz	171	2002	Danny Poet	136	2004	Roberta Fletcher	119	1993		
Jim Brighton	159	2010	Bill Hubick	133	2011	John Hubbell	118	2011		
Danny Poet	159	2007	John Hubbell	133	2009	Jim Green	117	2010		
Bill Hubick	158	2008	Roberta Fletcher	132	1989	Elaine Hendricks	116	2013		
Dave Palmer	155	2012	Jim Stasz	131	2011	Jared Satchell	116	2011		
Dave Perry	155	2000	Danny Poet	130	2003	Jim Green	115	2011		
John Hubbell	153	2013	Joe Hanfman	129	2014	Joe Hanfman	115	2011		
Danny Poet	151	2010	Ethel Engle	129	1993	Edward Boyd	114	2011		
Jim Stasz	151	1992	Jim Stasz	128	2006	Jim Stasz	114	2005		
Jim Stasz	150	2012	Mark Schilling	127	2015	John Hubbell	111	2007		
Dave Perry	148	2004	Jim Green	127	2013	Ron Gutberlet	110	2010		
Jim Stasz	147	2000	Jim Green	126	2012	Mike Ostrowski	109	2011		
Danny Poet	146	2011	Dave Palmer	126	2011	John Hubbell	108	2015		
Danny Poet	146	2009	Ron Gutberlet	125	2009	Elaine Hendricks	108	2014		
Danny Poet	146	2008	Danny Poet	125	2006	John Hubbell	108	2008		
Ron Gutberlet	144	2011	Joe Hanfman	124	2013	Elaine Hendricks	106	2015		
Bill Hubick	144	2009	Jim Green	124	2008	John Hubbell	106	2010		

# **Talbot County**

Material contributed by Les Roslund

Birders reported a total of 255 species for Talbot County in 2015. This total is 11 species lower than that of 2014 but is three species above that of 2013. No single bird stands out as clearly the top county species of the year, but late in the year two **Orange-crowned Warbler** sightings gave birders views not regularly attained in recent years. The first report was for a bird seen on Oct. 4th at Wades Point by Dave Palmer. About two months later,

Vince DeSanctis located another on three consecutive mornings at nearby Black Walnut Point. This one certainly may have been the same bird that Dave had seen.

Throughout the year, Pickering Creek Audubon Sanctuary attracted some of the most interesting species that were found in the county. As occurred in 2014, a **Golden Eagle** came to Pickering in January of 2015 and was seen there periodically for several more weeks. The first sighting was attained on Jan. 25th by Dave Palmer who was leading a group of 18 birders on a Talbot County Bird Club trip. Pickering habitat also brought in a **Black-bellied Plover** found by Bonnie Ott on May 16th, a **Canada Warbler** found by Dave Palmer on Aug. 23rd and a **Marbled Godwit** reported by Teri Holland on Sep. 14th. These last three have not been regularly seen in Talbot County in recent years.

Lots of the excitement about bird species in Talbot County is stimulated by the extensive numbers of birds that use Poplar Island. Many are nesting species that do not nest anywhere else in the county. Others are migrants that take advantage of the predator-free conditions on Poplar Island. Each year a few new or special species seem to show up. In 2015 one of the first to arrive was a *Snowy Owl*. This bird was first found on Jan. 13th and last recorded on Jan. 28th. Most of the sightings were by Poplar Island staff. Tim Carney surveys the birds of the island on a regular basis, so many of the new or unusual species are ones that he has found. Three in that category in 2015 were *Common Merganser* on Mar. 9th, *Tufted Titmouse* on Mar. 24th and *White-eyed Vireo* on Apr. 29th. Some additional good sightings are attained by birders during the periodic Poplar Island Birding Tours offered by Maryland Environmental Services. Notable species discovered on such tours in 2015 included a *Red Knot* found on May 28th and a *Clapper Rail* first noticed by Jeff Culler on Sep. 9th.

Poplar Island attracts interestingly large numbers of some species that are not regularly found elsewhere in Talbot County. This year *American Avocets* were present in large numbers for a few weeks in late summer. The high count was 165 of them, first found by Tim Carney on Aug. 6th. The same number was recorded by an MES birding trip on Sep. 9th.

Several other birding spots in the county also reliably attract good bird species. For many years the settling ponds of the Easton Waste Water Treatment Plant have served as safe resting places for waterfowl species, occasionally including usual ones. In 2015 the WWTP attracted a family group of six **Ross's Geese**, four juveniles and two adults. These beautiful birds were discovered and reported by Les Roslund on Nov. 16th. They were promptly photographed by Dave Palmer, and word of their presence spread quickly. The little flock stayed around for several days, giving many other birders the chance to relocate and enjoy them.

Listing Henry Armistead's impressive 295 Life List is still tops but Les Roslund finally closed the gap all the way and is now tied (although Henry's total is one year out of date). In the Year List category, per Les, Vince DeSanctis set the all-time single year record in 2013 with 241 species. However, this record was not submitted or verified by Vince and therefore does not appear in the table below. Dave Palmer had the most birds in 2015, with 215 species. There is one Big Day in the database for Talbot County, a solo May effort of 110 by Dave Palmer in May 2012.

	Talbot County Top Life Lists (331 Max)											
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated				
Les Roslund	295	2015	Tim Carney	233	2015	Harvey Mudd	202	2011				
Henry Armistead	295	2014	Bill Hubick	233	2015	Jan Reese	202	1989				
Dick Kleen	287	1996	Ron Gutberlet	232	2014	Mark Schilling	201	2015				
Don Meritt	272	1996	Dave Powell	232	2015	Carol McCollough	199	2015				
Dave Palmer	271	2015	Marcia Balestri	230	2015	Fred Fallon	189	2015				
Joe Hanfman	262	2015	George Armistead	229	2003	Rick Blom	186	1999				
John Hubbell	254	2015	Jeff Culler	226	2015	Steve Sanford	181	2007				
Jim Green	245	2015	Joel Martin	221	2015	Jan Reese	180	1989				
Kathy Calvert	244	2015	Tom Feild	214	2015	Anna Urciolo	174	2015				
Matt Hafner	240	2015	Bob Ringler	213	2015	Mike Ostrowski	170	2015				
Elaine Hendricks	237	2015	Leslie Starr	203	2015	Kurt Schwarz	168	2015				

	Talbot County Top Year Lists									
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year		
Dave Palmer	236	2014	Les Roslund	200	2003	Danny Poet	181	2003		
Dave Palmer	236	2012	Jim Stasz	199	2002	Wayne Bell	180	2006		
Les Roslund	234	2013	Wayne Bell	199	2010	Jan Reese	180	1987		
Les Roslund	233	2012	Danny Poet	198	2011	Jim Stasz	179	2012		
Jim Brighton	233	2011	Ron Gutberlet	197	2011	Wayne Bell	179	2003		
Les Roslund	231	2011	Les Roslund	197	2006	Wayne Bell	179	2001		
Dave Palmer	230	2011	Danny Poet	197	2005	Wayne Bell	178	1999		
Les Roslund	227	2014	Les Roslund	194	2004	Jim Stasz	176	2011		
Jared Satchell	219	2011	Danny Poet	191	2009	Wayne Bell	176	2008		
Dave Palmer	219	2013	Joe Hanfman	189	2011	Michael O'Brien	175	1990		
Dave Palmer	215	2015	Wayne Bell	189	2004	Les Roslund	175	2001		
Les Roslund	212	2010	Wayne Bell	189	2002	Jim Stasz	174	1992		
Tim Carney	210	2014	Danny Poet	189	2010	Wayne Bell	174	2007		
Les Roslund	208	2015	Danny Poet	189	2008	Henry Armistead	174	2000		
Les Roslund	208	2009	Les Roslund	187	2002	Henry Armistead	174	1995		
Les Roslund	208	2008	Danny Poet	187	2007	Ron Gutberlet	173	2009		
Joe Hanfman	206	2012	Danny Poet	187	2004	Henry Armistead	173	1993		
Les Roslund	204	2005	Joe Hanfman	186	2014	Henry Armistead	172	1996		
Tim Carney	203	2015	Henry Armistead	185	2009	Marcia Balestri	170	2013		
Jan Reese	202	1989	Wayne Bell	183	2005	Wayne Bell	170	1994		
Les Roslund	201	2007	Wayne Bell	183	2000	Danny Poet	170	2006		

# **Dorchester County**

Material contributed by Dave Palmer



White Ibis – Bishop's Head Dave Palmer

The total number of species seen in Dorchester County remained very consistent, with 255 reported in eBird as compared to 254 in 2014 and a recent high of 262 in 2012. Two species appeared in 2015 that had not been reported previously in eBird. On September 13<sup>th</sup>, Miles Marshall reported a **Sandwich Tern** at Hooper's Island and on September 19<sup>th</sup>, a single **White Ibis** was seen by Dave Palmer at Bishop's Head during the Dorchester Fall Count. John Hubbell reported two **White Ibis** at the same location on September 20<sup>th</sup>. The Hurlock Wastewater Treatment Plant again had excellent birds this year, with three **Eared Grebes** (a state high count) first reported by Rick Palmer on September 13<sup>th</sup> and seen by multiple observers over the next week, a **Wilson's Phalarope** reported by Levin Willey on

September 18<sup>th</sup>, and a *Franklin's Gull* (one of many in the region this fall) found by Harry Armistead on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

Dorchester County south of Route 50 continued to be a reliable location for several difficult to find wintering birds, including *Golden Eagles* seen throughout the BWNWR area in mid-winter, and *Short-eared Owls* that were reliable along Elliott Island Road, at Shorter's Wharf, and at Cedar Creek. There was only a single report of a *Rough-legged Hawk* in March 2015. *American White Pelicans* continue to spend significant time in the Backwater River adjacent to the Wildlife Drive, with a high count of 123 observed by George Armistead on April 4<sup>th</sup>, an apparent all-time high count for Maryland.

2015 started with a few good birds, including an *American Tree Sparrow* found by Benjamin DeHaven on January 16<sup>th</sup> at the Blackwater NWR Visitor Center. Two *Lapland Longspurs* and a single *Snow Bunting* were found by Jim Brighton on Indiantown Road on February 17<sup>th</sup>. A lone *Red-necked Grebe* was found at Blackwater on March 14<sup>th</sup> by members of the YMOS Team and relocated on March 15<sup>th</sup> during a Talbot Bird Club outing. A *Black-crowned Night Heron* spent the winter along the Wildlife Drive, giving multiple birders good looks once it was pointed out in the reeds. Three *American Oystercatchers* were seen on the sandbars in Swan Harbor from mid-March through early May.

The Choptank River waterfront in Cambridge continued to produce worthwhile sightings, including an apparent *Canvasback X Redhead* hybrid reported on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> that had birders hopeful of a Common Pochard. Large numbers of *Canvasbacks*, an occasional *Redhead* and other waterfowl at Oakley Street provided local and visiting birders and photographers wonderful photo ops. A pair of *Peregrine Falcons* continued to nest on the William Preston Bridge and were seen multiple times in the winter and spring.

Spring migration in Dorchester was relatively quiet, with only 24 species of warblers reported, none of which were considered notable. The Chesapeake Forest along the Marshyhope River provided the best spring migration in the county, with most warblers, including *Kentucky*, *Hooded* and *Prothonotary* Warblers, and *Louisiana Waterthrush* observed in this northeastern part of the county. This is also the last stronghold for *Eastern Whip-poor-will* in the county where up to five were heard along North Tara Road in June 2015 along with one *Common Nighthawk* and multiple *Chuck-wills-widows*. Four species of rails were observed frequently during spring and summer in the marshy areas of the county. *Black Rails* were reported calling in May in their normal habitat along Elliott Island Road and *Clapper*, *King* and *Virginia* rails were reported throughout the southern portions of the county. A lone *Sora* was reported during the first of two Dorchester County Spring counts on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. A *Purple Sandpiper* was reported from Hooper's Island on May 9<sup>th</sup>, the

second Dorchester Spring Count. Large numbers of *Glossy Ibis* were observed throughout the summer at BWNWR, with a high count of 120 in the canals adjacent to the Wildlife Drive on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

Fall migration was a little more exciting, with many species of shorebirds seen at the usually productive Hurlock Treatment Plant and nearby Shiloh Church Sod Farm. The rarest of the shorebirds was an *American Avocet* first report by Suzette Stitely on July 28<sup>th</sup>. Other notable shorebirds at these locations include a *Stilt Sandpiper* first reported by Mikey Lutmerding on July 25<sup>th</sup> and two *American Golden Plovers* reported throughout September at the turf farm. Two *Upland Sandpipers* reported by Les Roslund in a stubble field along Maple Dam Road on July 29<sup>th</sup> stayed around for five days, giving multiple birders good looks at these relatively rare birds for Dorchester. Three *Hudsonian Godwits* were reported on October 18<sup>th</sup> by Dave Palmer along Golden Hill Road south of Blackwater Wildlife Drive.

Sea duck hunters reported large rafts of Scoters off of Taylor's Island on November 21<sup>st</sup>, with 900 **Surf**, 450 **Black**, and ten **White-winged Scoters** reported.

The South Dorchester Christmas Count on December 27<sup>th</sup> produced the last good bird of 2015 when a **Northern Gannet** was spotted off of Elliott Island, only the 3<sup>rd</sup> Christmas count record. There were also eight **Red-throated Loons** on the count, the highest on record.

In <u>Listing</u> Henry Armistead's 311 Life List is still tops, and Henry also holds most of the top 25 Year Lists, including the all-time best of 244 from 1967(!). The highest year list was Dave Palmer's 215 birds, good for the eighth-highest total ever. There is one March Big Day from 2011, an effort of 113 by Jim Green, Bill Hubick, Mike Ostrowski, and Rob Ostrowski.

		Dorch	nester County Top	Life L	ists (33	5 Max)		
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated
Henry Armistead	311	2014	Don Broderick	232	2003	Fred Fallon	202	2015
John Hubbell	274	2015	Kathy Calvert	231	2015	Fred Shaffer	198	2015
Bob Ringler	268	2015	Elaine Hendricks	231	2015	Mike Ostrowski	198	2015
Bill Hubick	258	2015	Jared Fisher	222	2015	Rob Hilton	189	2015
Matt Hafner	256	2015	Marcia Balestri	220	2015	Peter Osenton	188	2015
Dave Palmer	254	2015	Harvey Mudd	220	2011	Leslie Starr	188	2015
Joe Hanfman	253	2015	Rick Blom	220	1999	Kevin Ebert	185	2015
Jim Green	248	2015	Paul O'Brien	216	2015	George Jett	184	2015
Ron Gutberlet	243	2014	Rod Burley	216	2015	Anna Urciolo	182	2015
Dave Powell	237	2015	Joel Martin	213	2015	Tim Carney	179	2015
Dan Small	236	2015	Carol McCollough	209	2015	Alex Wiebe	176	2015
Tom Feild	235	2015	Jeff Culler	206	2015			

		0	<b>Dorchester County</b>	Тор Ү	ear List	S		
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year
Henry Armistead	244	1967	Henry Armistead	208	2011	Dave Palmer	186	2011
Henry Armistead	223	2006	Henry Armistead	208	1999	Jim Green	183	2011
Henry Armistead	220	2003	Henry Armistead	208	1996	Ron Gutberlet	183	2009
Henry Armistead	219	2007	Henry Armistead	207	1995	John Hubbell	182	2011
Henry Armistead	219	2000	Henry Armistead	205	2012	Rob Ostrowski	177	2011
Henry Armistead	218	1992	Jared Fisher	204	2013	Ron Gutberlet	177	2011
Henry Armistead	217	2008	Dave Palmer	204	2013	Jim Brighton	177	2005
Dave Palmer	215	2015	Henry Armistead	203	1993	Jim Stasz	176	2011
Henry Armistead	215	1998	Henry Armistead	202	2010	Jim Stasz	175	1992
Henry Armistead	215	1988	Henry Armistead	202	1994	Bill Hubick	174	2009
Jim Stasz	212	2002	Dave Palmer	201	2012	Bill Hubick	172	2006
Henry Armistead	212	2005	Dave Palmer	200	2014	Ron Gutberlet	170	2008
Henry Armistead	212	2004	Jim Stasz	196	2006	Mike Walsh	170	2010
Henry Armistead	211	2009	Jared Satchell	193	2011	Norm Saunders	170	2007
Jim Brighton	210	2010	George Armistead	190	1989	Joe Hanfman	168	2011
Henry Armistead	209	1997	Jim Stasz	187	1999	John Hubbell	167	2007

# **Somerset County**

There is no summary for Somerset County in 2015.

Listing Jim Stasz still maintains a huge 26 bird lead in the Life List category, standing at 290 (last updated 2012). His 1982 Year List total of 245 will probably stand indefinitely. Tom Ostrowski's year list of 165 was tops in 2015. There are no Big Days in the database for Somerset County.

		Som	erset County Top	Life Li	sts (321	Max)		
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated
Jim Stasz	290	2012	Joe Hanfman	216	2015	Jeff Culler	186	2015
Don Broderick	254	2003	Charlie Vaughn	214	2000	Rick Blom	186	1999
John Hubbell	250	2015	Jim Green	213	2015	George Jett	182	2015
Bill Hubick	239	2015	Gail Vaughn	206	2000	Joel Martin	177	2015
Bob Ringler	237	2015	Kathy Calvert	205	2015	Steve Sanford	176	2007
Ron Gutberlet	237	2014	Elaine Hendricks	202	2015	Tom Ostrowski	175	2015
Dave Powell	226	2015	Lynn Davidson	201	1998	Mike Ostrowski	169	2015
Eddie Slaughter	221	2000	Marcia Balestri	198	2015	Polly Batchelder	168	1990
Tom Feild	220	2015	Carol McCollough	197	2015	Fred Fallon	165	2015
Matt Hafner	219	2015	Harvey Mudd	192	2011			

	Somerset County Top Year Lists												
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year					
Jim Stasz	245	<i>1982</i>	Mike Walsh	178	2010	Ron Gutberlet	169	2011					
Jim Stasz	191	2002	Jim Stasz	173	1992	Jim Stasz	168	2011					
Jim Stasz	189	1999	Mike Walsh	172	2012	Ron Gutberlet	168	2013					
Ron Gutberlet	187	2012	John Hubbell	171	2008	Tom Ostrowski	165	2015					
Bill Hubick	184	2009	Ron Gutberlet	171	2010	Mike Walsh	164	2013					
Ron Gutberlet	184	2009	Marcia Balestri	171	2014	John Hubbell	164	2009					
Jim Brighton	183	2010	Jim Stasz	170	2000	Jim Brighton	161	2005					
Jim Stasz	179	2012											

# Wicomico County

There is no summary for Wicomico County in 2015.

Listing Sam Dyke still holds the Life List title at 304, and is the only birder over the 300 mark for the county. He also owns the top seven all-time high Year Lists for the county, with his 2011 mark of 224 at the head of the class. There were no significant year lists submitted in 2015. There are no Big Days in the database for Wicomico County.

		Wico	mico County Top	Life Li	sts (311	Max)		
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated
Samuel H. Dyke	304	2013	Jim Green	216	2015	Jeff Culler	186	2015
Carol Broderick	296	2012	Joe Hanfman	212	2015	Harvey Mudd	179	2011
Don Broderick	291	2003	Dave Powell	210	2015	Joel Martin	175	2015
Ron Gutberlet	250	2014	Marcia Balestri	210	2015	Eddie Slaughter	175	2000
John Hubbell	238	2015	Kathy Calvert	209	2015	Dan Small	168	2015
Bill Hubick	227	2015	Ellen Lawler	208	2015	Mike Ostrowski	167	2015
Matt Hafner	226	2015	Tom Feild	203	2015	Travis Clemens	164	2015
Charlie Vaughn	225	2000	Elaine Hendricks	194	2015	Rod Burley	156	2015
Gail Vaughn	225	2000	Rick Blom	189	1999	Fred Fallon	156	2015
Bob Ringler	220	2015						

			Wicomico County	Тор Үе	ear List	S		
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year
Samuel H. Dyke	224	2011	Don Broderick	201	2004	Marcia Balestri	185	2014
Samuel H. Dyke	223	2005	Carol Broderick	201	2004	Don Broderick	183	2001
Samuel H. Dyke	223	2003	Samuel H. Dyke	200	1998	Carol Broderick	183	2001
Samuel H. Dyke	218	2004	Don Broderick	200	2006	Jim Stasz	177	2002
Samuel H. Dyke	216	2012	Carol Broderick	200	2006	Jim Brighton	176	2010
Samuel H. Dyke	214	2006	Don Broderick	199	2003	Jim Stasz	175	2011
Samuel H. Dyke	210	2009	Don Broderick	199	2002	Ron Gutberlet	175	2010
Don Broderick	210	2005	Carol Broderick	199	2003	Mike Walsh	170	2012
Carol Broderick	210	2005	Carol Broderick	199	2002	Ron Gutberlet	169	2013
Samuel H. Dyke	209	2010	Samuel H. Dyke	198	1999	Ron Gutberlet	169	2008
Samuel H. Dyke	208	2007	Ron Gutberlet	192	2012	Jim Stasz	164	2012
Samuel H. Dyke	208	2000	Ron Gutberlet	192	2009	Mike Walsh	163	2013
Samuel H. Dyke	207	2002	Ron Gutberlet	190	2014	Mike Walsh	162	2008
Samuel H. Dyke	207	2001	Ron Gutberlet	189	2011	Mike Walsh	161	2009
Samuel H. Dyke	205	2013	Don Broderick	187	2000	Jim Stasz	160	1992
Mike Walsh	202	2014	Carol Broderick	187	2000	Bill Hubick	156	2011

### **Worcester County**

#### Material contributed by Mark Hoffman

eBirders reported a total of 295 species in Worcester County (WC) during 2015, compared to 300 in 2014, and 305 in 2013. The very few pelagic trips (one in March) were the main reason for the difference, as the year certainly did not lack for rarities! Complete eBird check-lists totaled 3,438, versus 3,646 in 2014, and 3,194 in 2013.

The big driver for birding all year in Worcester was the exploits of Marcia Balestri, who did the first serious Worcester big year in some time. Her total of 286 was good enough for the sixth best year list ever for the county, and makes one wonder if the two 300+ totals in the 1990s can be matched again. Maybe by someone who owns a very large boat?

The year got off to a good start, with a *Eared Grebe* found January 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave Czaplak in the surf off Assateague at the North Beach Ranger Station (seen by many), the only one of the year, and a *Snowy Owl* from 2 Jan in the Assateague OSV Zone to 10 Jan at the North End (a species that would turn into one of



Common Redpoll – Sunset Park Mark Hoffman

Marcia's nemesis birds). A late-December (photographed) report from Lighthouse Pointe has not been eBirded. A great winter record was an 11 Jan *White-eyed Vireo*, Bayside Development Marsh (photos, T. Carney and R. Johnson).

The next goodie was Mark Hoffman's discovery of three **Common Redpolls** at Sunset Park in Ocean City on 18 Jan. These birds proved to be very popular, eBirded on 34 checklists, and remained until 17 Feb. But of real significance was that one of the birds present during the period appeared attributable to the *rostrate* form, a subspecies previously unrecorded in Maryland (pers. comm., M. Illff). A huge snow storm on 26 Jan resulted in fields covered with a couple feet of snow on the 27th, making conditions good for bringing "field birds" to the road shoulders. The traditional Ironshire Station Road area cooperated with two *Lapland Longspurs* (M. Hoffman and K. Fleming), brought in with the help of a little bird seed. They delighted many until 2 Mar, the only ones of the year.

The severely cold weather to our north brought a good flight of **Red***necked Grebes* to the coast, a species which is not annual, though often misidentified as such. First reported 7 Feb, it was ultimately recorded on 43 eBird checklists, most frequently at the Ocean City Inlet. The high count was eight on the first leg of the 1 Mar pelagic trip.



Lapland Longspur – Ironshire Station Road Mark Hoffman

Next up on the hit parade, and a county bird for (almost) all was the discovery of a **Sandhill Crane** on 22 Feb, by Pete Rattigan. Pete was the passenger on a car leaving Ocean City, and just happen to notice a SACR out the window, right along Route 50, just east of Berlin. He was nice enough to eBird the report – and the chasers quickly followed. The bird was usually very cooperative, frequenting a tiny little field between Golf Course Road and 50. The bird was last seen on 19 Mar.



Common Murre – OC Pelagic Mark Hoffman

# The one winter pelagic on 1 Mar out of Ocean City was great, with *Northern Fulmar, Dovekie, Common Murre, Razorbill, Atlantic Puffin* and *Black-legged Kittiwake*.

Spring finally arrived, and Marcia Balestri had a great find, with the only *Eurasian Collared-Dove* of the year on 15 Apr at Figg's Landing -- still difficult in Maryland. Another sole for the year was an *Iceland Gull* at Skimmer Island on 8 May (Hafner et al.). And then, following up on the heels of the *Mississippi Kite*, near Whiton Crossing in May 2014, Marcia scored again with two MIKIs here on 23 May -- with many more sightings r. One has to wonder if they are nesting in the area.

Fall is always when Worcester is at its best, and this year was no exception. Shorebird migration starts early, and as in the prior records, late summer seems the best time to look for the very rare *Wilson's Plover*. Mike Burchett found one on the north end of Assateague on 23 Jul (photos). Unfortunately, the bird was in a restricted area and could not be relocated later that day. This was the first verified report for Worcester since August 1992. But more satisfying to the twitching hordes was the *Reddish Egret* found on Skimmer Island on 28 Sep by Dan Small. This was only the second record for WC and Maryland. Very accommodating, it stayed until 6 Oct, though usually was observed only at a considerable distance. The more intrepid hired a pontoon boat for an up-close and personal view. A *Hudsonian Godwit* from the Assateague Causeway on 5 Oct was the only one of the year (M. Balestri). A greatly enjoyed rarity of the fall was Scott Housten's discover of a *Rock Wren* at Sunset Park on 21 Oct. A two-day wonder, it still managed to find its way onto 18 checklists. It was only the second in Maryland and the county, the prior a three-day wonder in Oct 1993. Some folks caught up with me on that one.

The annual mid-November "Rarity Roundup" was great as usual. On Friday, David Yeany found a *Franklin's Gull* roosting on the beach near the Ocean City Inlet – then there were four. This was the start of an epic flight that documented a new state high count of at least 24.

On the day of the Rarity Roundup, Maryland's high count for *Cave Swallow* was crushed, with a roundup total of around 44. As the afternoon faded, folks at the Inlet were treated to at least six birds swirling around the parking lot. They continued their ephemeral presence at sunrise the next morning.

Worcester's Christmas Bird Counts are always a blast, with the stellar rarity of WC's first *Lazuli Bunting*, found on 28 Dec by Kevin Graff, in the South Point area on the Ocean City CBC. Unfortunately, the bird was on private property, and although it lingered into 2016, birder access was limited. But nonetheless, a great climax to another great year!

Listing Mark Hoffman's 366 leads in the Life List category and is an impressive increase of four over 2014. Mark's 303 Year List total from 1994 still remains the only year list on record that exceeded the magical 300 mark in any county. Marcia Balestri's 286 was tops in 2015 and the 6<sup>th</sup>-best record all time. There are three Big Days in the database for Worcester County – one in May (Hafner, Hubick, Brighton, and Lutmerding), one in January (Tim Carney), and a new one for 2015, on April 26<sup>th</sup> by Tim Carney, Jared Fisher, and Ryan Johnson, on which they tallied 147 species. The May Big Day is the highest single-county Big Day in the database and stands at 158!

		Word	ester County Top	Life L	ists (398	Max)		
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated
Mark Hoffman	366	2015	Jim Green	301	2015	Don Meritt	253	1996
Dave Czaplak	352	2015	J.B. Churchill	300	2015	Larry Bonham	246	1995
Mary Ann Todd	340	2015	Jared Fisher	290	2015	David Kidwell	244	2015
Matt Hafner	338	2015	Mike Ostrowski	289	2015	Harvey Mudd	243	2011
Paul O'Brien	335	2015	Kathy Calvert	282	2015	Fred Fallon	239	2015
Bill Hubick	328	2015	Eddie Slaughter	277	2000	Warren Strobel	237	2015
John Hubbell	325	2015	Lynn Davidson	274	1998	Tom Ostrowski	231	2015
Bob Ringler	321	2015	Jeff Shenot	269	2015	Peter Osenton	230	2015
Joe Hanfman	321	2015	Jeff Culler	269	2015	Dave Palmer	221	2015
Tom Feild	319	2015	Gail Vaughn	269	2000	Steve Collins	216	2015
<b>Rick Blom</b>	317	1999	Leslie Starr	268	2015	Burton Alexander	215	2000
Marcia Balestri	316	2015	Charlie Vaughn	268	2000	Steve Sanford	213	2007
Dave Powell	315	2015	Elaine Hendricks	266	2015	Kurt Schwarz	210	2015
Ron Gutberlet	313	2014	Tim Carney	261	2015	Carol McCollough	208	2015
Kathy Fleming	303	2015	David Holmes	261	1994	Anna Urciolo	206	2015
Dan Small	303	2015	Joel Martin	258	2015	Rod Burley	206	2015
George Jett	301	2015	Fred Shaffer	257	2015	Chuck Stirrat	200	2015

	Worcester County Top Year Lists											
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year				
Mark Hoffman	303	<i>199</i> 4	Mark Hoffman	260	2007	Mark Hoffman	245	1995				
Mark Hoffman	300	1992	Mark Hoffman	260	1993	Betsy Bangert	244	2013				
Michael O'Brien	298	1994	Ron Gutberlet	259	2011	John Hubbell	244	2010				
Michael O'Brien	295	1995	Bill Hubick	259	2011	Jim Stasz	244	2007				
Mike Burchett	287	2012	Mark Hoffman	259	2011	Norm Saunders	241	2004				
Marcia Balestri	286	2015	Mike Burchett	258	2013	John Hubbell	240	2009				
Dave Czaplak	285	1994	Mark Hoffman	258	2013	Rob Ostrowski	240	2012				
Michael O'Brien	284	1991	Bill Hubick	258	2009	Rob Ostrowski	240	2010				
Betsy Bangert	282	2012	Jim Stasz	256	2009	Matt Hafner	240	2011				
Matt Hafner	281	2003	Rob Ostrowski	255	2011	Jim Stasz	239	2004				
Jim Brighton	273	2010	Dan Small	255	2010	George Jett	239	1992				
Bill Hubick	272	2010	Mark Hoffman	254	2015	Stan Arnold	238	2009				
Jim Stasz	269	2000	Jim Stasz	249	1999	Jared Fisher	237	2012				
Jim Stasz	264	2011	Jim Stasz	249	2003	Mike Ostrowski	237	2011				
Mark Hoffman	264	1991	Ryan Johnson	248	2014	Mike Ostrowski	237	2010				
Ron Gutberlet	263	2009	Ron Gutberlet	247	2012	Fran Saunders	237	2004				
Jane Coskren	263	1994	Kathy Fleming	246	2013	Jim Stasz	234	2002				
Jim Stasz	262	2012	Ron Gutberlet	246	2010	Ron Gutberlet	230	2008				
Marcia Balestri	261	2014	Kevin Graff	245	2009	Mike Walsh	228	2010				

## **District of Columbia**

Material contributed by Paul Pisano & Hugh McGuinness

It was a great year for birding in DC. The 238 species recorded during 2015, eclipsed the eBird record by four - the previous annual high was set in 2011. While 2015's total was commendable, we are sure that it is not the all-time high for DC. Dave Czaplak's annual list of 240 species from 1983 - during those halcyon days when the Hydrilla-matted Potomac was a water bird magnet - by itself surpasses last year's total. The cumulative list for DC in 1983 must have been larger. The new eBird record, however, is a strong testament to the growing cadre of active DC birders.

DC birders scoured the parks and city streets finding one species new to the DC list, and four extreme rarities. It's hard to say which of these sightings was the least expected: Hugh McGuinness finding DC's first **Bell's Vireo** in a little-birded part of the National Arboretum on Oct 12; or Cody Rice finding a **Clapper Rail** walking around the playground of Maury Elementary School on Capitol Hill on Apr 24, the first in DC since 1882! Thankfully the vireo stuck around until Oct 18 and most birders who put in the time were able to see it. The rail was less cooperative, and no one was able to relocate it despite searching within an hour of its initial report.

Three other great finds this year deserve special mention. Travis Clemens, a visiting birder, found and photographed a *Black-necked Still* in the early morning hours of May 16 at the Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens. Despite rapid dissemination of the information and a mad dash, the Stilt was not seen by any local birders before it departed. Frank Hawkins, who is apparently an *Arctic Tern* magnet, found the city's 2<sup>nd</sup> record at Hains Point on June 14, after finding the first record at the same location in 2011. His photographs left no doubt about the identity of the bird, and all that is left to make it official is for the records committee to add its imprimatur. *Nelson's Sparrow* was an amazing find last year at Kenilworth Park, and it's very exciting that Sharon Forsythe found this

species in the same park almost exactly a year later on Oct 5. Wayne Baumgartner also observed a **Nelson's Sparrow** at Kenilworth Park on October 26, perhaps the same individual.

January was fairly mild. **Cackling Goose** has become a regular winter resident in the District in recent years and a few birds were found throughout January. The last Cackler was reported in the District on Mar 3. **Northern Pintail** continued to be difficult to find in the District with only four reports in the District during 2015, the first of which was four individuals at Kenilworth Aquatic Garden by Robert Steele on Jan 4. A **Snowy Owl** continued to be seen at National Airport into January, but only Hugh and Amelia Dungan recorded it within District boundaries. And though not in the District, it's worth noting that it or another **Snowy Owl** returned to the airport in November. Unfortunately it was reported to have been struck by a plane and didn't survive. Greg Butcher must have been flabbergasted to see a **Short-eared Owl** sailing by his office window at mid-day in downtown DC on Jan 5. A lone **Great Egret** was wintering along the Potomac in DC and VA, but was not seen after the hard freeze in February. Will McPhail located a first-year **Iceland Gull** along the upper reaches of Washington Channel on Jan 11, and Hugh McGuinness found a second bird in the same place later that afternoon. Wayne Baumgartner found a **Tundra Swan** along the Anacostia at Kenilworth Park on Jan 16, which remained until the following day. A small number of **Red-necked Grebes** were found on the Potomac starting on Jan 24 and continuing until Apr 19. For the second winter, an **Orange-crowned Warbler** wintered at the FDR Memorial being seen through Mar 29.

February was characterized by a prolonged hard freeze, as the eastern quarter of the United States was one of only two places on the planet to experience below normal temperatures during the month. The deep freeze brought some birds south, but nothing was added to the year list.

*White-winged Scoters* appeared along the Potomac in the first week of March with the last being seen on Mar 26. Sherman Suter found an immature *Great Cormorant* on the pilings in Alexandria on Mar 3. Presumably the same bird was relocated in District waters by Hugh McGuinness on Mar 6 and remained in the area through Mar 8, allowing many birders to add it to their DC list. A visiting birder reported a pair of *Greater White-fronted Geese* near the Washington Monument in early March, but the birds disappeared before anyone else could see them. Amelia Dungan relocated them on the Hains Pt golf course on Mar 8, and many DC birders were able to get leisurely looks as the birds remained until the 10<sup>th</sup>. Frank Hawkins found a lone *Horned Lark* at Kenilworth Park on Mar 8. The only other records this year were in October and December at the same location. A pair of *Vesper Sparrows* found by Paul Pisano at Kenilworth Park on Mar 28 lingered until Apr 21, making it seem like they were interested in nesting. Alex Wiebe and John Rice-Cameron found a *Glossy Ibis* flying to roost from Hains Point on Mar 29. The bird was seen again the following morning. Adam Parr found a Glossy Ibis at Kenilworth Park, perhaps the same individual on Apr 6.

As migration peaked in April, a few species of note were recorded along with the excitement of Neotropical migrants. Hugh McGuinness found three *Surf Scoters* at West Potomac Park on Apr 4, allowing many birders to view them despite the constant onslaught of crew boats. *Yellow-crowned Night-Herons* returned to nest successfully at the National Zoo on Apr 7. Paul Pisano and Hugh McGuinness found four *Red-throated Loons* at Hains Point on April 19. Paul and Hugh also found a *Sora* at Kenilworth Park on Apr 26. It was a good spring for *Cerulean Warbler*, which were recorded from Apr 28 until May 6, mainly at Rock Creek Park. Zach Slavin found a *Little Blue Heron* at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on Apr 30. Up to two individuals continued at this site through May 18.

Hugh McGuinness found two **Common Terns** at Hains Point on the evening of May 1, a species that had not been recorded in the District in several years. The only **Olive-sided Flycatcher** of the spring was found by Zach Slavin at Battery Kemble on May 14. David Gersten found a **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** at Battery Kemble that same day. Devlin Winkelstein recorded the year's first **Yellow-breasted Chat** at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on May 15, which remained only through May 18, when two individuals were recorded. It appears that nesting at Kenilworth Park is a thing of the past. An eagle-eyed Rob Batchelder spied a **Mute Swan** while driving by

Theodore Roosevelt Island on May 17. The bird remained through year's end, allowing virtually anyone who tried to add this elusive exotic species to their DC list. *Summer Tanagers* were recorded at Fort DuPont by Jason Berry and at the National Arboretum by Kari Cohen during May. *Alder Flycatchers* were found, mainly along the Anacostia from May 15 to May 24. A single *Snowy Egret* was found in the vicinity of Theodore Roosevelt Island from May 21 by Jeremy Beck and remained until May 27.

The sighting of the *Artic Tern* at Hains Point brought several of us there in the succeeding days. Although that bird was never relocated, Hugh McGuinness found three *Least Terns* flying south out of the Anacostia on Jun 15. A timely phone call allowed Adam Parr to see them from the Washington Sailing Marina. During the month *American Kestrel* was confirmed as a breeder at Bolling Airforce Base, making this perhaps the only breeding pair in the District.

While July was ornithologically uneventful, Robert Steele started August off in good fashion by finding the District's first *Upland Sandpiper* in years at Kenilworth Park on Aug 3. Hugh McGuinness found two *Black Terns*, another species not recorded in the District in several years, flying down the Potomac off Alexandria on Aug 11. Another bird was seen at the Washington Sailing Marina by Wayne Baumgartner and Sharon Forsyth on Aug 30. *Yellow-bellied Flycatchers* were found beginning on Aug 13 and continuing through Sep 20. In general it seemed like a very good fall for this species in the District. Adam Parr found a *Red-necked Phalarope* at the Washington Sailing Marina on Aug 24. The bird remained at this location until the 27<sup>th</sup> allowing many people to view it. Frank Hawkins found a gimpy *Willet* at the same location on Aug 29. Although the views were distant, the bird was accommodating and remained through Sep 5. Hugh McGuinness found an immature *Stilt Sandpiper* at Gravelly Point on Aug 29, the first record in the District in several years. After being missed in the spring, *Golden-winged Warblers* were seen daily in Rock Creek Park (at widely different locations) from Aug 26 through 31, and then twice more through Sep 6.

The highlight of September was a *Clay-colored Sparrow* found by Sharon Forsyth at the National Arboretum on Sep 29. More than half a dozen *Philadelphia Vireos* were reported, mainly from Rock Creek Park, beginning on Sep 11 and continuing through Oct 6. Robert Steele heard a *Sora* at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on Sep 15. *Summer Tanagers* were found at the National Arboretum on Sep 19 (Nick Lund et al.), and at Rock Creek Park (Greg Gough) and Fort DuPont (Paul Pisano) on Sep 20. Three or four *Connecticut Warbler* were spotted in the District from Sep 11 to Oct 7.

Two years ago *Grasshopper Sparrow* nested in the District, but ill-advised clearing at Kenilworth Park altered the habitat. This year the species was not found until Oct 4, when Wayne Baumgartner found a single individual in the park. The species was seen throughout the month on several occasions and there was also a report from Rock Creek Park. Paul Pisano found an extraordinarily late *Cerulean Warbler* at Hains Point on Oct 12. Hugh McGuinness and Frank Hawkins found a fly-by *Dickcissel* at Kenilworth Park on Oct 25, and Frank found another *Dickcissel* later in the month near Fletcher's Cove on Oct 31. Late on the afternoon of Oct 25, Frank found a distant *Black Scoter* at Hains Point, confirming the identity of a bird seen by Paul Pisano earlier in the day.

The District was not left out of the epic and historical east coast *Franklin's Gull* invasion that occurred on Nov 13. The sharp eyes of Patrick Newcombe and Sharon Forsyth found three birds resting on the floating docks in the Potomac in Alexandria, but the birds were not cooperative and only a few lucky souls got to see them. An *American Bittern* appeared at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on Nov 16 and remained through Dec 28, although the bird was often tricky to find. Russ Ruffing saw, without a binocular and at very close range, two *Orange-crowned Warblers* at the Arboretum on Nov 16, which stayed through the 21<sup>st</sup>. David Poortinga found another at the FDR Memorial on Nov 28, which hopefully marks the third year in a row that this individual has over-wintered at this location. Gerry Hawkins spied a *Red-throated Loon* at Hains Point on Nov 30.

In December, Sharon Forsyth found three *Surf Scoters* at Hains Point on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Gerry Hawkins found an

*American Redstart* at the LBJ Pine Grove on Dec 18, which remained through the new year. Adam Parr, David Ledwith and Matthew Kuniholm found a *Wilson's Warbler* at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens on Dec 19 and the bird remained through Dec 22. Two different immature *Red-headed Woodpeckers* were found in Rock Creek Park in December.

The birds seen this year are the result of a lot of time in the field by a lot of great birders. These birders prove that even an urban environment like the District can still attract a lot of birds; it just takes a lot of time to find them!

Listing With Dave Czaplak updating his DC Life List total in 2015, there is now a new sheriff in town! His 301 is 16 clear of Paul Pisano's next-highest total. Paul added one more species to his Life List total, pushing it to a new high of 285. Dave's 240 Year List from 1983 still leads in the Year List category, although Hugh McGuiness had a very commendable 217 in 2015. Three birders surpassed the 200 mark this year - Hugh McGuinness, Adam Parr, and Sharon Forsyth. According to our records, an annual list of 200 species in the District has only been accomplished on 19 other occasions. Hugh McGuinness' 217 species ties for 5<sup>th</sup> place on the all-time list, while Adam Parr's total of 210 ties for 12<sup>th</sup> place. To make it into the top ten on eBird required 176 species in 2015, a total that would have been tops in the district as recently as 2009. Thirty-nine birders managed year lists larger than 100 species, up from 35 in 2014 and 22 in 2013.

There are four Big Days in the database for the District of Columbia, a solid 3/29/15 record of 90 species by Alex Wiebe, Jake Cameron-Rice, and Claire Wayner; one on May 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nicholas Lund, Adam Parr, and Gerry Hawkins tallied 103 species; and one on June 7<sup>th</sup> by Alex Wiebe, Jake Cameron-Rice, and Patrick Newcombe, tallied 98 species. A number of historical Big Days were added to the Big Day Table in this report, from information gleaned from past issues of the ABA.

	District of Columbia Top Life Lists (335 Max)										
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated			
Dave Czaplak	301	2015	John Hubbell	235	2015	Alex Wiebe	184	2015			
Paul Pisano	285	2015	Gary Allport	225	2008	Fred Fallon	182	2015			
Rob Hilton	277	2015	Sharon Pitcairn Forsyth	212	2015	Tony White	179	1994			
Gail Mackiernan	263	2015	John Beetham	200	2007	Derek Hudgins	178	2015			
Lisa Shannon	249	2015	David Sperling	198	2015	Bob Ringler	169	2015			
Hugh McGuinness	236	2015	Michael Jennison	189	2006	Mark Rositol	167	2015			

		D	istrict of Columbia	а Тор Ү	ear List	S		
Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year	Name	Total	Year
Dave Czaplak	240	<i>1983</i>	Paul Pisano	202	2003	Paul Pisano	179	2007
Dave Czaplak	236	1982	John Gregoire	201	1986	Rob Hilton	178	2003
Dave Czaplak	224	1988	Paul Pisano	198	2015	Paul Pisano	177	2010
Jason Berry	218	2011	Paul Pisano	198	2006	Michael Bowen	176	2001
Hugh McGuinness	217	2015	Dave Czaplak	198	1992	Ottavio Janni	175	1991
Ottavio Janni	217	1993	Paul Pisano	197	2000	Wayne Baumgartner	173	2013
Dave Czaplak	217	1989	Ottavio Janni	194	1991	Rob Hilton	172	2004
Dave Czaplak	215	1987	Jason Berry	192	2012	John Beetham	172	2004
Gary Allport	214	2008	Dave Czaplak	192	1994	Byron Swift	170	1982
Dave Czaplak	211	1991	Paul Pisano	190	2009	Rob Hilton	168	2002
Dave Czaplak	211	1986	Paul Pisano	189	2002	John Beetham	168	2006
Paul Pisano	210	2008	Paul Pisano	186	2005	Michael Bowen	167	2008
Dave Czaplak	210	1993	Paul Pisano	184	2013	Derek Hudgins	166	2014
Dave Czaplak	209	1990	Paul Pisano	184	2012	Ottavio Janni	165	1989
Ottavio Janni	206	1992	John Hubbell	183	2002	Byron Swift	164	1983
Hugh McGuinness	205	2013	Rob Hilton	182	1990	Rob Hilton	162	1991
Sharon P. Forsyth	204	2015	Paul Pisano	181	2004	Michael Bowen	161	2004
Hugh McGuinness	204	2014	Gary Allport	181	2007	Rob Hilton	160	2001
Paul Pisano	203	2011	John Hubbell	180	2003			

[	Ма	jor Regio	ons - Life Lists		
Eastern	Shore		Western	Shore	
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated
Jim Stasz	<b>3</b> 91	2011	Jim Stasz	398	2011
Matt Hafner	362	2015	Mark Hoffman	361	2014
Bill Hubick	359	2015	Joe Hanfman	359	2015
John Hubbell	357	2015	Bill Hubick	357	2015
Joe Hanfman	356	2015	Matt Hafner	355	2015
Dave Powell	348	2015	John Hubbell	352	2015
Dan Small	343	2015	Dave Powell	344	2015
Ron Gutberlet	343	2014	Fred Fallon	340	2015
Marcia Balestri	340	2015	Marcia Balestri	334	2015
Jared Fisher	327	2015	Tim Carney	319	2015
Dave Palmer	324	2015	Rob Hilton	316	2015
Mike Ostrowski	312	2015	Jared Fisher	315	2015
Mark Schilling	305	2015	Chuck Stirrat	313	2015
Fred Fallon	304	2015	Ron Gutberlet	308	2014
Tim Carney	299	2015	Russ Ruffing	297	2015
Steve Collins	274	2015	Mike Ostrowski	296	2015
David Kidwell	271	2015	Derek Hudgins	290	2015
Rob Hilton	252	2015	Mark Rositol	281	2015
Tom Ostrowski	251	2015	David Kidwell	276	2015
			Tom Ostrowski	275	2015
			Matt Anthony	275	2015
			Hugh D. Fleischmann	257	2015
			Dan Small	253	2015
			Steve Collins	251	2015

	Maryland/District Yard Life Lists										
Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated	Name	Total	Updated			
Henry Armistead	271	2014	Stan Arnold	148	2011	Arlene Ripley	126	2006			
Jeff Shenot	239	2015	Peter Osenton	147	2015	Lydia Schindler	124	1997			
Jim Stasz	224	2012	Helen Zeichner	147	2000	David Wallace	124	2001			
Marshall Iliff	221	2013	Paul Nistico	146	2005	David Kidwell	123	2015			
Patty Craig	218	2013	Marcia Balestri	144	2013	J.B. Churchill	122	2012			
John Gregoire	218	2005	Parke John	144	2008	Jim Nelson	121	2015			
Ethel Engle	212	2002	Sue Hamilton	143	2003	Derek Richardson	121	2014			
Dennis Kirkwood	205	2015	Don Simonson	142	2015	Michael Welch	121	2004			
Dick Kleen	201	1996	Andy Wilson	139	2014	Kye Jenkins	120	2014			
George Armistead	200	2003	Marcia Watson	139	2006	Kurt Schwarz	120	2015			
Chan Robbins	199	2001	Diane Ford	138	2015	Dave Harvey	120	2007			
Les Roslund	196	2015	George Jett	138	2015	Floyd Parks	120	2004			
Roberta Fletcher	193	1994	John Wortman	138	1997	Wain Barnes	120	2003			
Mary Ann Todd	189	2015	David Webb	138	2015	Leslie Fisher	117	2000			
Michael O'Brien	180	1999	Danny Poet	136	2011	Gary Griffith	117	1997			
Bonnie Ott	180	2011	Charles Finley	136	2000	Andy Martin	116	2013			
Mark Schilling	177	2015	Allen Lewis	135	2015	Clifford Comeau	116	2011			
Russ Ruffing	173	2015	Dave Webb	135	2010	Bob Schaefer	116	2003			
Rick Blom	173	1999	J.B. Churchill	134	2015	Fran Saunders	115	2011			
Rod Burley	171	2015	Frank Schaff	134	2006	Norm Saunders	115	2011			
Wayne Bell	171	2010	Jane Fallon	133	2015	Dan Small	115	2010			
Sean McCandless	170	2014	Fred Fallon	133	2015	Greg Kearns	114	1990			
Don Broderick	169	2003	J. Tyler Bell	133	2015	Phil Davis	113	2014			
Marcia Watson	169	2006	Jane Kostenko	133	2015	Ellen Lawler	112	2015			
Samuel H. Dyke	167	2011	Robert Wood	133	1996	Byron Swift	112	2010			
Carol Broderick	167	2011	Ward Ebert	132	2001	Emily Joyce	112	1995			
Walter Ellison	164	2010	Joe Hanfman	128	2015	Carol McCollough	111	2015			
Bill Hubick	163	2015	Steve Sanford	127	2007	Lola Oberman	111	1999			
Sean McCandless	159	2007	David Walbeck	127	2002	Stephen Simon	110	1992			
Kyle Rambo	156	2008	Stephen Ford	126	2012	Phyllis Grimm	110	1998			
Matt Hafner	153	2015	Chuck Stirrat	126	2015	Barbara Gearhart	110	2009			
Mikey Lutmerding	150	2013	Lou Nielsen	126	2015	Howard Youth	109	1998			
Jon Corcoran	148	2013	Keith Eric Costley	126	2014	Mike Kerwin	108	2015			

Yard Li	fe Lists, by Co	ounty	
Name	County		Updated
J.B Churchill	Allegany	134	2015
Marshall lliff	Anne Arundel	221	2013
Bill Hubick	Anne Arundel	163	2015
Stan Arnold	Anne Arundel	148	2011
Peter Osenton	Anne Arundel	147	2015
George Jett	Anne Arundel	138	2015
Phil Davis	Anne Arundel	113	2014
Warren Strobel	Anne Arundel	85	2015
Jon Corcoran	Baltimore	148	2013
Keith Eric Costley	Baltimore	126	2014
Lou Nielsen	Baltimore	126	2015
Kye Jenkins	Baltimore	120	2014
Duvall Sollers	Baltimore	103	2015
Tim Carney	Baltimore	101	2015
Leslie Starr	Baltimore	99	2014
Jim Stasz	Calvert	224	2012
Fred Fallon	Calvert	133	2015
Bob Ringler	Carroll	107	2012
Sean McCandless	Cecil	170	2013
Parke John	Cecil	144	2008
George Jett	Charles	166	2013
Byron Swift	District of Col.	112	2010
Hugh McGuinness		104	2015
John Hubbell	District of Col.	78	2015
Norm Saunders	Dorchester	115	2011
Fran Saunders	Dorchester	115	2011
Marcia Balestri	Frederick	144	2013
Andy Wilson	Frederick	139	2014
Barbara Gearhart	Frederick	110	2009
Dennis Kirkwood	Harford	205	2014
Matt Hafner	Harford	153	2015
Dave Webb	Harford	138	2015
Mark Schilling	Queen Anne's	177	2015
Danny Poet	Queen Anne's	136	2011
Dan Small	Queen Anne's	127	2014
Carol Broderick	Wicomico	167	2011
Samuel H. Dyke	Wicomico	167	2011
Ellen Lawler	Wicomico	112	2015
Ron Gutberlet	Wicomico	105	2014

Name	County	Total	Year	Name	<b>'ear Lists, Sta</b> County	Total		Name	County	Total	Yea
Jeff Shenot	PG	188	2007	Bonnie Ott	Howard		1994	Les Roslund	Talbot	113	
Jeff Shenot	PG	173	2008	Matt Hafner	Harford	129	2014	Wayne Bell	Talbot	112	
Henry Armistead	Talbot	172	1996	Patty Craig	St. Mary's	129	2014	Bonnie Ott	Howard	112	
Jeff Shenot	PG	171	2010	Marcia Watson	Cecil	129	1999	George Jett	Charles	111	
Henry Armistead	Talbot	171	1995	Les Roslund	Talbot	129	2003	Bill Hubick	Anne Arundel	111	203
Jeff Shenot	PG	169	2009	Rod Burley	PG	123	2003	Marcia Watson	Cecil	111	19
Jeff Shenot	PG	168	2005	Patty Craig	St. Mary's	128	2003	Sean McCandless	Cecil	110	20
Henry Armistead	Talbot	168	2005	George Jett	Charles	127	2012	Bill Hubick	Anne Arundel	110	20
Jeff Shenot	PG	166	2000	Les Roslund	Talbot	120	2004	Barbara Gearhart	Frederick	110	200
Jeff Shenot	PG	165	2014	Mark Schilling	Queen Anne's	120	2001		Charles	109	20
	PG	165	2015	U		125	2014	George Jett	Talbot	109	20
Jeff Shenot				Les Roslund	Talbot			Wayne Bell			
Jeff Shenot	PG	164	2011	Les Roslund	Talbot	125	2005	Chan Robbins	PG	109	19
Patty Craig	St. Mary's	163	2001	Bonnie Ott	Howard	124	2001	George Jett	Charles	108	19
Henry Armistead	Talbot	163	1992	Bonnie Ott	Howard	124	1999	George Jett	Charles	108	20
Jeff Shenot	PG	162	2013	Les Roslund	Talbot		2014	Allen Lewis	Howard	108	20
Henry Armistead	Talbot	162	1999	Stan Arnold	Anne Arundel	122		Chan Robbins	PG	108	19
Jeff Shenot	PG	160	2006	Walter Ellison	Kent		2004	Wayne Bell	Talbot	107	20
Henry Armistead	Talbot	160	2005	Les Roslund	Talbot		2006	Marcia Watson	Cecil	107	20
Henry Armistead	Talbot	160	2004	Chan Robbins	PG		1994	Chan Robbins	PG	107	19
Henry Armistead	Talbot	160	2003	Bonnie Ott	Howard		2000	Andy Wilson	Frederick	107	20
lenry Armistead	Talbot	160	1993	Les Roslund	Talbot		2000	Wayne Bell	Talbot	106	20
lenry Armistead	Talbot	159	2008	Les Roslund	Talbot	120	2011	Danny Poet	Queen Anne's	106	20
lenry Armistead	Talbot	159	2007	Rod Burley	PG	120	2002	Les Roslund	Talbot	105	20
lenry Armistead	Talbot	159	2000	Rod Burley	PG	120	2001	Mark Schilling	Queen Anne's	105	20
Patty Craig	St. Mary's	158	2002	Chan Robbins	PG	120	1995	Mark Schilling	Queen Anne's	105	20
lenry Armistead	Talbot	157	1998	Matt Hafner	Harford	119	2012	George Jett	Charles	105	20
lenry Armistead	Talbot	157	1997	Walter Ellison	Kent	119	2006	Wayne Bell	Talbot	105	20
lenry Armistead	Talbot	156	2010	Marcia Watson	Cecil	119	1998	Norm Saunders	Dorchester	105	19
Patty Craig	St. Mary's	154	1998	Les Roslund	Talbot	118	2013	Marcia Watson	Cecil	105	20
Patty Craig	St. Mary's	154	1996	Les Roslund	Talbot	118	2012	Chan Robbins	PG	105	19
Henry Armistead	Talbot	154	1994	Stan Arnold	Anne Arundel	118	2009	Peter Osenton	Anne Arundel	104	20
Henry Armistead	Talbot	153	2009	Walter Ellison	Kent	118	2007	Allen Lewis	Howard	104	20
Henry Armistead	Talbot	152	2011	Walter Ellison	Kent	118	2005	David Kidwell	Montgomery	104	20
Marshall Iliff	Anne Arundel	152	1990	Walter Ellison	Kent	118	2003	George Jett	Charles	104	20
Henry Armistead	Talbot	151	2012	Les Roslund	Talbot	118	2004	Norm Saunders	Dorchester	104	19
Chan Robbins	PG	151	1954	Jon Corcoran	Baltimore	117	2013	Greg Miller	St. Mary's	104	19
Russ Ruffing	Howard	149	2014	Matt Hafner	Harford	117	2013	Dave Webb	Harford	104	20
Patty Craig	St. Mary's	149	2004	Jon Corcoran	Baltimore	117	2012	Danny Poet	Queen Anne's	104	20
Patty Craig	St. Mary's	147	1995	George Jett	Charles	117	1992	Rod Burley	PG	103	20
Patty Craig	St. Mary's	146	2013	Wayne Bell	Talbot	117	2010	Wayne Bell	Talbot	103	20
Dan Haas	Anne Arundel	146	2012	Wayne Bell	Talbot	117		Ward Ebert	Howard	103	19
Russ Ruffing	Howard	143	2013	, Wayne Bell	Talbot	117	2006	Peter Osenton	Anne Arundel	103	19
Rod Burley	PG	143	2006	, Wayne Bell	Talbot	117	2001	Dave Webb	Harford	103	20
Russ Ruffing	Howard	141	2015	, Marcia Watson	Cecil	117	1997	Sean McCandless	Cecil	102	
Patty Craig	St. Mary's	141	2006	Les Roslund	Talbot		2007	Stan Arnold	Anne Arundel	101	
Patty Craig	St. Mary's	141	1994	Bill Hubick	Anne Arundel		2008	Stan Arnold	Anne Arundel	101	
Patty Craig	St. Mary's	140	1999	Les Roslund	Talbot		2010	Stan Arnold	Anne Arundel	101	
Patty Craig	St. Mary's	140	1997	George Jett	Charles		2001	Peter Osenton	Anne Arundel	101	
Dan Haas	Anne Arundel		2013	-	Anne Arundel		2014	Peter Osenton	Anne Arundel	101	
Rod Burley	PG	139	2005	Russ Ruffing	Howard		2014	Parke John	Cecil	101	
Marshall Iliff	Anne Arundel	139	1992	George Jett	Charles		1995	Norm Saunders	Dorchester	101	
Rod Burley	PG	139	2012	Mark Schilling	Queen Anne's		2011	Marcia Watson	Cecil	101	
			2012	Walter Ellison			2011			101	20
Russ Ruffing	Howard	137			Kent			Marcia Balestri	Frederick		
Rod Burley	PG	137 126	2008	Wayne Bell	Talbot		2008	Fred Fallon	Calvert	100	20
Rod Burley	PG	136	2004	Walter Ellison	Kent		2002	George Jett	Charles	100	19
Parke John	Cecil	136	2003	Les Roslund	Talbot		2002	Peter Osenton	Anne Arundel	100	20
George Jett	Anne Arundle		2015	Chan Robbins	PG		2001	Norm Saunders	Dorchester	100	19
Mark Schilling	Queen Anne's		2012	Bonnie Ott	Howard		1992	David Wallace	Frederick	100	20
Patty Craig	St. Mary's	133	2000	Bill Hubick	Anne Arundel	113	2007	Danny Poet	Queen Anne's	100	20

				Top Yard Yea	ar Lists	, by C	ounty				
Name	County	Total	Year	Name	County	Total	Year	Name	County	Total	Year
J.B Churchill	All'y	67	2012	George Jett	Charles	<b>126</b>	2004	Walter Ellison	Kent	122	2004
J.B. Churchill	All'y	66	2008	George Jett	Charles	117	1992	Walter Ellison	Kent	119	2006
J.B. Churchill	All'y	58	2006	George Jett	Charles	116	2001	Walter Ellison	Kent	118	2007
J.B. Churchill	All'y	57	2009	George Jett	Charles	115	1995	Walter Ellison	Kent	118	2005
Penny Knobel-Besa	All'y	52	1998	George Jett	Charles	111	2006	Walter Ellison	Kent	118	2003
Marshall Iliff	AA	152	1990	George Jett	Charles	109	2009	Walter Ellison	Kent	114	2010
Dan Haas	AA	146	2012	George Jett	Charles	108	1994	Walter Ellison	Kent	114	2002
Dan Haas	AA	139	2013	George Jett	Charles	108	2003	David Kidwell	Mont	<b>104</b>	<b>2015</b>
Marshall Iliff	AA	139	1992	George Jett	Charles		2005	Paul O'Brien	Mont	97	1997
George Jett	AA	135	2015	George Jett	Charles	104	2008	David Kidwell	Mont	96	2013
Stan Arnold	AA	122	2008	George Jett	Charles	100	1993	David Kidwell	Mont	95	2014
Stan Arnold	AA	118	2009	H. McGuinness	DC	79	2015	Paul O'Brien	Mont	95	2000
Bill Hubick	AA	116	2008	H. McGuinness	DC	79	2014	Paul O'Brien	Mont	95	1993
Peter Osenton	AA	115	2014	John Hubbell	DC	78	2013	Paul O'Brien	Mont	92	1994
Bill Hubick	AA	113	2007	H. McGuinness	DC	78	2013	Paul O'Brien	Mont	91	1992
Bill Hubick	AA	111	2011	Norm Saunders		105	1991	Paul O'Brien	Mont	90	2002
Bill Hubick	AA	110	2009	Norm Saunders		103	1990	Andy Martin	Mont	87	2002
Jon Corcoran	Balt	117	2003 2013	Norm Saunders		104	1989	Jeff Shenot	PG	188	2000 2007
Jon Corcoran	Balt	117	2013	Norm Saunders		101	1988	Jeff Shenot	PG	173	2008
Shirley Geddes	Balt	98	1999	Norm Saunders		96	1988	Jeff Shenot	PG	173	2008
Keith Costley	Balt	98 95	2014	Fran Saunders	Dorch	90 91	2001	Jeff Shenot	PG	169	2010
-		95 86						Jeff Shenot			
Keith Costley	Balt		2012	Norm Saunders		90	2002		PG	168	2005
Phyllis Grimm	Balt	70	1994	Barb Gearhart	Fred	110	2009	Jeff Shenot	PG	166	2014
Kye Jenkins	Balt	69	2014	Andy Wilson	Fred	107	2013	Jeff Shenot	PG	165	15, 12
Tim Carney	Balt	67	2013	Marcia Balestri	Fred	100	2013	Jeff Shenot	PG	164	2011
Phyllis Grimm	Balt	67	1996	David Wallace	Fred	100	2001	Jeff Shenot	PG	162	2013
Phyllis Grimm	Balt	64	1993	David Wallace	Fred	96	2000	Jeff Shenot	PG	160	2006
Lou Nielsen	Balt	63	2014	Marcia Balestri	Fred	93	2002	Chan Robbins	PG	151	1954
Fred Fallon	Calvert	100	2014	David Wallace	Fred	92	1995	Rod Burley	PG	143	2006
	Calvert		2013	Matt Hafner			2014	Mark Schilling	QA	135	2012
Fred Fallon	Calvert	96	2012	Matt Hafner	Harford		2012	Mark Schilling	QA	125	2014
Fred Fallon	Calvert	89	2009	Matt Hafner	Harford	117	2013	Mark Schilling	QA	115	2011
Dave Harvey	Carroll	76	2000	Dave Webb	Harford		2000	Danny Poet	QA	106	2007
Dave Harvey	Carroll	70	1994	Dave Webb	Harford	103	2005	Mark Schilling	QA	105	15, 13
Dave Harvey	Carroll	70	1992	Dave Webb	Harford	96	2002	Danny Poet	QA	104	2008
Dave Harvey	Carroll	67	2005	Dave Webb	Harford	95	1998	Danny Poet	QA	100	2006
Bob Ringler	Carroll	49	2003	Dave Webb	Harford	87	2001	Danny Poet	QA	99	2009
Parke John	Cecil	<b>136</b>	2003	Dave Webb	Harford	84	1999	Danny Poet	QA	98	2010
Marcia Watson	Cecil	129	1999	Matt Hafner	Harford	84	2011	Patty Craig	StMry	163	2001
Marcia Watson	Cecil	119	1998	Russ Ruffing	Howard	149	2014	Patty Craig	StMry	158	2002
Marcia Watson	Cecil	117	1997	Russ Ruffing	Howard	143	2013	Patty Craig	StMry	154	1998
Marcia Watson	Cecil	111	1996	Russ Ruffing	Howard	141	2015	Patty Craig	StMry	154	1996
Sean McCandless	Cecil	110	2012	Russ Ruffing	Howard	137	2012	Henry Armistead	Talbot	172	1996
Marcia Watson	Cecil	107	2000	Bonnie Ott	Howard	130	1994	Henry Armistead	Talbot	171	1995
Marcia Watson	Cecil	105	2003	Bonnie Ott	Howard	124	2001	Henry Armistead	Talbot	168	2006
Sean McCandless	Cecil	102	2013	Bonnie Ott	Howard	124	1999	Henry Armistead	Talbot	163	1992
Marcia Watson	Cecil	101	2004	Bonnie Ott	Howard	122	2000	Henry Armistead	Talbot	162	1999
Parke John	Cecil	101	2001	Russ Ruffing	Howard	115	2011	Hans Holbrook	Wash	59	2007
Parke John	Cecil	97	2004	Bonnie Ott	Howard		1992	Ron Gutberlet		83	2012
Parke John	Cecil	96	2007	Bonnie Ott	Howard		1993	Ron Gutberlet		67	2008

Species Photographed in	MD - Life Lists	Species Photographed	in MD -	Year List
Name	Total	Name	Total	Achieved
George Jett	401	George Jett	307	2008
Mark Hoffman	397	Mike Burchett	303	2012
Bill Hubick	388	Joe Turner	284	2011
Jared Fisher	347	Marcia Balestri	275	2015
Jeff Culler	345	Tim Carney	268	2013
Dave Brenneman	314	George Jett	258	2005
Tim Carney	290	Jared Fisher	255	2012
Mark Rositol	285	Sean McCandless	247	2007
Warren Strobel	257	Sean McCandless	244	2013
Evelyn Ralston	251	Joshua Emm	239	2013
Fred Fallon	240	Victoria Fisher	235	2012
Gene Ricks	226	Sean McCandless	229	2012
J. Tyler Bell	225	Gene Ricks	226	2015
lugh David Fleischmann	225	Hugh David Fleischmann	225	2015
		Jon Corcoran	210	2012
		George Jett	210	2006
		Benjamin DeHaven	208	2013
		Tim Carney	206	2014
		Joe Turner	201	2009
		George Jett	193	2007
		Evelyn Ralston	185	2013
		Keith Eric Costley	169	2012
		Gary Smyle	158	2004
		Patty Craig	151	2013
		Evelyn Ralston	151	2011
		Evelyn Ralston	150	2012
		Jeff Culler	142	2009
		Joe Turner	139	2010
		Gene Ricks	120	2014
		Keith Eric Costley	117	2014
		Evelyn Ralston	108	2010
		George Jett	107	2009

# What Birders Had to Say About 2015!

This section includes the comments and/or new Maryland Life Birds that were submitted by participants, in chronological order of submission. When included, new Maryland Life Birds observed in 2015 are listed first.

#### Jo Solem

290th species in Howard County was a perched Mississippi Kite, thanks to Bonnie Ott. This year was the 20th time I have had at least 200 species in the county.

#### Dave Powell

Added Chestnut-collared Longspur, Brown Booby, Reddish Egret and Vermilion Flycatcher.

#### Joe Hanfman

Reddish Egret, Snowy Plover, Vermillion Flycatcher, Rock Wren, Chestnut-collared Longspur, Lazuli Bunting.

2015 will be remembered for the large number of rare and reviewable birds. I would like to thank Maryland Environmental Service for the access they allowed to birders to see the Snowy Plover on Hart-Miller Island and the Painted Bunting at Masonville Cove. Quail Run Nursery in Kent County also deserves a big thank you for allowing access to see the Vermillion Flycatcher. The birders who posted on the MD Birding Google Group and the MD Birding Facebook page deserve our appreciation and allowed many of us to see several rarities in 2015. Without you, all of our lists would be a lot smaller.

#### Gail Mackiernan

Maryland: Chestnut-collared Longspur, Brown Booby. Actually did better in DC: Willet, Bell's Vireo and Mute (ugh!) Swan! Didn't add any new birds in Montgomery Co, not for lack of trying...

Dennis Kirkwood Snowy Plover, Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Vermillion Flycatcher

I believe the greatest part of birding in MD is the comraderie and generosity of all those that I meet in the field. The willingness to share sightings, knowledge, transportation, accessibility, etc., is just outstanding. Keep up the good work!

#### Mike Kerwin

Connecticut Warbler, Alder Flycatcher, Common Redpoll, Greater White-fronted Goose

#### **Duvall Sollers**

Reddish Egret - Skimmer Island - 2nd Maryland Record, Snowy Plover, Gull-billed Tern, Brown Booby, Vermilion Flycatcher

#### Bob Ringler

Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Snowy Plover, Vermilion Flycatcher, Rock Wren, Lazuli Bunting

#### Matt Hafner

Brown Booby

2015, for me, will not be remembered as the year I got a ton of state birds (like everyone else!). It was incredible to see the Brown Boobies several times in the Inner Harbor, but I missed out on several of the other rare state birds. My biggest highlight was a long-awaited Long-eared Owl that I found on my birthday in Harford

County, the only new county bird I added this year. After that, Rarity Roundup 2015 was an incredible weekend that will not be forgotten. Friday began with the epic Franklin's Gull invasion and an incredible seawatch at dusk. Saturday saw an influx of Cave Swallows into the area that continued into Sunday when I was able to see 4 species of warbler in 10 minutes at tiny Sunset Park. On top of the birds, it was great birding, eating, and drinking with some awesome birders and friends. Look forward to seeing everyone out birding in the new year!

#### Max Wilson

Cackling Goose, Summer Tanager, Great Horned Owl, Northern Waterthrush, Glossy Ibis, Broad-winged Hawk, Black-bellied Plover, Snowy Plover, White-rumped Sandpiper, Chuck-will's-widow, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Northern Bobwhite, Brown Booby, Vermilion Flycatcher, American White Pelican At the beginning of the year, I decided to work on filling some gaps in my Montgomery County and state lists. I did alright, adding 21 and 15 species respectively. Probably the two most satisfying county chases were bolting out of work to see the Eurasian Wigeon that Dave Czaplak found at Violette's Lock, and listening to a Chuckwill's-widow calling from a residential neighborhood in Glen Echo. I was fortunate enough to get a spot on the boat out to Hart-Miller Island arranged by Kevin Graff to see the Snowy Plover. Shorebirds are a big gap in my list, and I was able to get several lifers during that trip. I also took a trip out to Chino Farms (with permission) to finally add Northern Bobwhite on my list, and to enjoy the incredible habitat that's being created there. I couldn't miss chasing the Baltimore Harbor Brown Boobies or the Kent County Vermillion Flycatcher. I also finally got myself a DSLR and a "bird lens" and have been enjoying that new aspect of the hobby.

#### Kurt Schwarz

Chestnut-collared Longspur, Snowy Plover, Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Vermillion Flycatcher For me the best time was the Brown Booby in Baltimore. I saw them three times, and got to interact with many in the birding community, and a few outside it. This has to be THE sighting of the year, because virtually everyone saw it, and well. And the outside community, from the Water Taxi, to the Sailing Center, and the media, got involved. And the tip, aside from Nico's Ft. McHenry sighting, was from outside the community. My compliments to the Water Taxi and Sailing Center for their help. Also a vote of thanks to Maryland Environmental Service for the special trips to Hart-Miller Island for the Snowy Plover, as well as the continued access to Poplar Island. Quail Run Nursery also deserves praise for allowing access to their property for the Vermillion Flycatcher. Last but not least, thank you to all who shared their sightings of notable birds. It is thanks to you that we all can get such wonderful birds, and would that all were so generous.

#### John Hubbell

Chestnut-collared Longspur, Snowy Plover, Brown Booby, Vermilion Flycatcher Thanks to all the county big year participants! I benefited especially in Kent and Washington.

#### Bill Hubick

Chestnut-collared Longspur, Snowy Plover, Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Rock Wren, Vermilion Flycatcher Another fantastic year! It's amazing that so many of Maryland's top listers got 5 or 6 state birds this year. This is especially surprising after 2014 offered a single state bird for me (Couch's Kingbird) at the 11th hour. Many of our top birds had real "wow" effect too - first state records, firsts in more than a decade, and great stories like the Brown Boobies in Baltimore Harbor (one of the best birding stories ever). In addition to awesome birding, 2015 was a big year for Maryland nature study overall. Thanks to everyone who supported Maryland Biodiversity Project, which is now a 501(c)3 non-profit, growing faster than ever, and formally partnering with DNR, University of Maryland, and others. Exciting times!

#### Jeff Culler

Chestnut-collared Longspur, Snowy Plover, Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Rock Wren, Vermilion Flycatcher, Lazuli Bunting

Had a nice year of birding and added seven new Maryland State birds to my list. My favorite bird was finding a Snowy Plover on a very fortunate trip to Hart-Miller Island. Have healthy and happy birding in 2016.

#### <u>Tom Feild</u>

Chestnut-collared Longspur, Snowy Plover, Reddish Egret, Brown Booby, Vermillion Flycatcher

#### Mark Rositol

Somehow I reached exactly 300 species on the year in Maryland. Thanks to the Kent County CBC, I was able to tick the Vermilion Flycatcher and Loggerhead Shrike on December 30th, after dipping on the Barrow's Goldeneye a few days earlier. There were a lot of highlights on the year. But two things really stood out to me. In August there was an Eastern Shore sighting of a Swallow-tailed Kite. I didn't feel like driving all the way down, just to miss the bird. So I went out to Washington County towards Weverton, and on the way back to the car, I figured I would pad my stats for the day and try to pick up a Black Vulture or some other raptors. And low and behold a Swallow-tailed Kite came gracefully along the ridge and flew from Washington County into Frederick County. In my opinion the best species that I have found on my own. I still haven't added the Frederick County submission. The other highlight was during the rarity roundup, when the Cave Swallows showed up at the Ocean City Inlet. They were flying around, over, and next to us. It was really amazing and so many of us Maryland birders got to share in this moment that we will never forget.

#### Tim Carney

Chestnut-collared Longspur, Snowy Plover, Mississippi Kite, Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Rock Wren, Loggerhead Shrike, Vermilion Flycatcher

2015 was a nice birding year. I was more successful in rarity-chasing than in 2014, successfully checking off Snowy Owl, Chestnut-collared Longspur, Snowy Plover, Franklin's Gull, Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Rock Wren, Cave Swallow, Painted Bunting, Loggerhead Shrike, and Vermilion Flycatcher. I hit 250 in my home county (Baltimore). 2015 also saw my first big days--two of them. Birding Allegany was a real highlight this year, and I think this county needs more coverage! My personal best find was the third county record for Willet in Garrett County. Finally, I achieved my annual goals of seeing 300+ species and all the regular warblers in a calendar year. Maybe I'll finally get a Thayer's Gull in 2016.

#### Lou Nielsen

After 30 years of watching, the first Savannah Sparrow in my 1 acre suburban yard in Reisterstown. Under the feeder and at the bath. Yard bird # 126.

#### Matt Anthony

Lapland Longspur, Northern Bobwhite, Brown Booby, Vermilion Flycatcher, Loggerhead Shrike Now that I live in Virginia, I have not been birding as much in MD, and my 2015 list certainly shows it. However, I did manage to squeeze in a few state birds on various visits. My favorite story of 2015 was managing to add both Vermilion Flycatcher and Loggerhead Shrike to my list, and still make it to work on time!

#### Chuck Stirrat Brown Booby

#### Kathy Calvert

Common Murre, Thayer's Gull, Snowy Plover, Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Rock Wren, Parasitic Jaeger, Vermilion Flycatcher

My favorite sightings of the year always include State Birds, which are real treats, although none of them were Life Birds for me this year. Any day birding is great, but I have had lots of outstanding experiences this year. Birding with Marcia Balestri is always a joy, and my favorite time with her this year was when we found a Cerulean Warbler at Life of the Forest in Assateague. We were both stunned to see this one, and I'm so grateful Marcia got documentation photos for us. Another favorite moment was with my birding buddy Mike Welch when a Least Flycatcher popped up in Carroll County, finally allowing me to reach the 200-birds bar in all 23 counties. Moments before, we had seen a Mourning Warbler, so that was a very good day. Birding with Jim Green is always a barrel-full of laughs, and I had fun accompanying him on a few of his days during his Washington County Big Year. We were moments away when Joe Hanfman found the Eurasian Wigeon in that county, and enjoyed ticking that as a county bird together. I was out of town when Chestnut-collared Longspur was found by Jim, Tom and Geraldine, so that is my "favorite" miss of the year. I was excited and thrilled to find a Western Flycatcher near Choptank in Caroline County. I got photos, but unfortunately we'll never know if it was a Pacific-slope or a Cordilleran. Either one would be a first record in Maryland. Finally, the most touching experience of the year was the celebration of life for Ron Gutberlet in Hyde, Maryland. The outpouring of love, the sharing of joyous and comical memories, and the camaraderie among birders, friends and family at this event was extraordinary.

#### George Jett

Reddish Egret, Snowy Plover, Brown Booby, Vermillion Flycatcher, Rock Wren The Rock Wren at Ocean City was my 400th species photographed in MD. Technically the Cassin's Sparrow at Point Lookout was photographed by me, but you cannot tell the species from the image. My 401<sup>st</sup> photographed species was the Vermillion Flycatcher in Millington, MD at the Quail Run nursery. Took me two trips but I got it. The Snowy Plover on Hart Miller (thanks to Kevin Graff for getting a few of us out there), the Reddish Egret at Skimmer Island, and the Brown Booby were also new photo species for me in MD. It only took 42 years to reach the 400 species photographed, and now I am starting on the next 400. My listed species to photographed to listed is 401/404 = 99.25 %. The three species I am listing that I don't have photographs of are Curlew Sandpiper, Black Rail, and Chuck-will's-widow. I wonder how many hours of sleep I have lost trying to reach the 400 species photographed goal. This year's one goal is to photograph 100 species in 2016 in the Lothian yard. Russ - thanks for doing this.

#### Mary Ann Todd

Chestnut-collared Longspur, Snowy Plover, Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Rock Wren

#### Gene Ricks

Vermillion Flycatcher, Brown Booby, Iceland Gull, Cave Swallow, Reddish Egret, Sedge Wren, Iceland Gull, King Rail, Upland Sandpiper, Common Redpoll

#### Jim Nelson Neotropic Cormorant

#### <u>Josh Emm</u>

Chestnut-collared Longspur, Black-billed Cuckoo, Alder Flycatcher, Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Franklin's Gull, Parasitic Jaeger, Loggerhead Shrike, Vermilion Flycatcher

#### Jeff Shenot

It was a marginal year for me in terms of my birding effort and species abundance, but the insane number of mega-rarities made it the most memorable year that I've ever birded in MD! A testament to this was the difficulty of picking top 5 favorites, the list is insane.

Dave Palmer Eared Grebe, Brown Booby, Vermilion Flycatcher

#### Warren Strobel

Snowy Plover, Mississippi Kite, Gull-Billed Tern, Brown Booby, Vermillion Flycatcher Another great birding year in Maryland, with more than the usual number of rarities, and lots of first and second state records. I added long-sought Mississippi Kite and Gull-Billed Tern to my state list, plus totally unexpected Brown Booby, Snowy Plover and Vermillion Flycatcher. The low point was a long drive from my Annapolis home to Ocean City to try to see the Reddish Egret on Skimmer Island. I arrived in flooded conditions with winds and surf pounding, and could only make out a blob - which was probably the bird based on its behavior. High point was my year-long Anne Arundel County big year, which meant some early mornings (I work in DC) and ended at 225 species. On to 2016!

#### March Schilling

Brown Booby, Eared Grebe, Cliff Swallow

#### Rob Hilton

Maryland additions: Brown Booby, Philadelphia Vireo, Chestnut-collared Longspur. District of Columbia additions: Bell's Vireo

I added 7 birds to my yard list this year, the best being a Peregrine Falcon that I saw heading southwest less than an hour before sunset one autumn afternoon. Unfortunately Lisa was unable to see most of them, but she spotted the two Bald Eagles we saw on another autumn afternoon. The Chestnut-collared Longspur was a life bird for me and certainly not a bird I expected to see in Maryland. In May I spent a lot of time birding in Prince George's County, starting with the American Bittern in College Park and ending with a Wild Turkey near the Patuxent River. Seeing a Rough-legged Hawk and my state Philadelphia Vireo in my home (Montgomery) county was also quite nice. And Hugh McGuinness' first-for-DC Bell's Vireo was outstanding.

#### David Sperling

The owling on CBC Rock Creek Park, with Ranger Bill Yeaman. We were treated to a wonderful display of a Barred Owl, replying and presenting at daylight. Great views and vocalization master class.

Anna Urciolo Chestnut-collared Longspur, Vermilion Flycatcher, Brown Booby

#### Hugh David Fleischmann

Too many to name. As this is my second year, first full year, I added almost all of my life birds this year. Next year I will add the new additions which certainly will be many fewer.

#### Derek Hudgins

Chestnut-collared Longspur, Iceland Gull, Lapland Longspur, Common Eider, Glaucous Gull, Razorbill, Common Murre, Atlantic Puffin, Northern Fulmar, Dovekie, Black-legged Kittiwake, Black-necked Stilt, Snowy Plover, Black Tern, Cerulean Warbler, Western Sandpiper, Gull-billed Tern, Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Marbled Godwit, Rock Wren

Evelyn Ralston Brown Booby

Debbie Terry Brown Booby

Les Roslund Vermilion Flycatcher I found a family of six Ross's Geese at the Easton Wastewater Treatment Plant settling pond on Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>. They were with 100 Canada Geese and at first I recorded them as Snow Geese. After I drove away and was a mile down the road, I reconsidered and went back for a second look. All six were very close together, with four tightly spaced like goslings and two, slightly larger, staying near. Bright white and unstained plumage; the bill was right, and no sigh of a grin patch! I immediately contacted Dave Palmer to take photographs. Eventually, many people saw these birds for they stayed around for quite a while. I am glad I returned to the site!

#### Paul Pisano

#### Chestnut-collared Longspur, Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Vermilion Flycatcher

Another great year for rarities in both Maryland and DC. I never expected to add 4 more species to my MD Life List, and it was potentially 9! The number of active birders in DC has really gone up, which is fantastic, and constitutes my favorite experience, which played out over the course of the whole year. As a result many good birds were found, mostly notably the Bell's Vireo and the Clapper Rail (with the Arctic Tern quite awesome, too). The circumstances surrounding Hugh finding the Bell's Vireo make it my favorite for the year, especially since it was subsequently seen by many other birders. Too bad that rail wasn't so cooperative.

#### Joel Martin

Chestnut-collared Longspur, Common Murre, Snowy Plover, Gull-billed Tern, Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Rock Wren, Vermilion Flycatcher

#### Marcia Balestri

Chestnut-collared Longspur, Snowy Plover, Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Rock Wren, Vermilion Flycatcher Jim Brighton challenged me to do a Worcester County Big Year which was great fun and a bit of work. I finished with a fairly respectable 286 species, thanks to a lot of folks who found a lot of great birds this year. About halfway through the year, I realized I had a pretty good Maryland Big Year going as well. In the end, I broke no records but my own but was happy to have seen 314 for the year.

#### <u>Jim Green</u>

#### Chestnut-collared Longspur, Brown Booby

After being a devoted county lister for the past 8-9 years, I switched gears in 2015 and devoted just about all of my birding time to doing a Big Year in Washington County. I had a lot of fun with it and finished the year with 199 species. My goal was to hit 200 species and after having about 190 by the end of May I was feeling optimistic but...I did pick up 9 new county birds for my Washington list. I chased very few other rarities found throughout the state and am ready to pick up where I left off.

#### Peter Osenton

I added four new Maryland life birds to that list; they included Neotropic Cormorant on 7/12/15, Brown Booby on 10/20/15, Cave Swallow on 11/15/15 & Vermilion Flycatcher on 12/29/15.

Jane Fallon Brown Booby

<u>Fred Fallon</u> Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Cave Swallow

Mark Hoffman Chestnut-collared Longspur, Snowy Plover, Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Lazuli Bunting

#### Kathy Fleming

Chestnut-collared Longspur, Snowy Plover, Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Vermilion Flycatcher, Lazuli Bunting

#### Phil Davis

Chestnut-collared Longspur, Snowy Plover, Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, and Vermilion Flycatcher

#### Fred Shaffer

#### Brown Booby, Cave Swallow

2015 was a pretty slow year in Maryland for me, and I missed many of the rare birds that appeared. However, I did have a few highlights, perhaps the top of which was finally seeing my state Cave Swallow, after many years of misses. I got views of Cave Swallows on Saturday and Sunday of Rarity Roundup weekend, including great views of one bird at dawn on Sunday near the Ocean City Pier. Other highlights were seeing the Franklin's Gulls at Ocean City inlet and the Brown Boobies in Baltimore. The Franklin's Gulls were particularly rewarding as I viewed one 1st winter bird at close range in the parking lot, and saw small flocks of other FRGU flying down the coast. Spectacular! Other personal highlights for the year included seeing the Short-eared Owl at Konterra (PG County), the Glaucous Gull off Naylor Mill Road, and a close Little Gull while kayaking along Back River.

#### JB Churchill

Chestnut-collared Longspur, Snowy Plover, Reddish Egret, Brown Booby, Vermillion Flycatcher

#### Dan Small

Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Rock Wren, Vermilion Flycatcher

My big year effort in Kent County ended with a total of 239 species (including Traill's Flycatcher) seen in 2015. In the process I added 13 new species to my Kent list.

#### Jared Fisher

Chestnut-collared Longspur, Thayer's Gull, Snowy Plover, Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Vermilion Flycatcher

#### Scott Baron

216 species seen/heard in Maryland and DC in 2015. Best birds that I found were: Greater White-fronted Goose (DC, March), Sandhill Crane (Montgomery Co., March), Summer Tanager (both Montgomery Co., 1 in May and 1 in September), Connecticut Warbler (Montgomery Co., September), Green Heron (Montgomery Co., December).

#### Steve Collins

Greater White-fronted Goose, Common Redpoll, Black-billed Cuckoo, Mississippi Kite, Black Skimmer, Brown Booby, Cave Swallow, Nelson's Sparrow

One of my favorite MD birding moments of 2015 was getting crippling views in morning light of Nelson's, Saltmarsh, and Seaside Sparrows at Rumbly Point. That's a beautiful place.

#### Ellen Lawler

Reddish Egret, Swallow-tailed Kite, Whimbrel, Marbled Godwit, Common Raven, and Black-capped Chickadee. Added to Wicomico list - Swallow-tailed Kite and Mute Swan

Paul O'Brien Trumpeter Swan, Chestnut-collared Longspur, Brown Booby

#### Carol McCollough

Ross's Goose, Northern Fulmar, Brown Booby, Sora, Snowy Plover, Marbled Godwit, Vermilion Flycatcher

Fledging 3 Screech Owls in the nest box in my back yard was a big highlight of the year. 3 fluffy owlets all trying to peer out of the same hole was the epitome of cute. I must have been the very last person to add Brown Booby to my Maryland list, because I could never find time to deal with the logistics of driving and parking in Baltimore until a rainy Sunday in November. The birding gods smiled and I managed to park at the foot of the water taxi stop at Locust Point, the taxi arrived within 5 minutes, and the rest is history. Shivering at 7 am in Sunset Park in February, looking for the Common Redpolls, while playing hooky from an educators' conference. The other attendees were gaga about seals on the beach, but I got a cool state bird. Seals are easy. Redpolls aren't. Making it onto the boat to see the Snowy Plover on Hart-Miller Island was another great piece of birding karma. Excellent birding company and another fabulous state bird. Adding two life birds in Maryland at the tail end of the year - wow! Finding the Easton WWTP office open so I could drive right up to the pond for the Ross's Goose was awesome. And finally, sharing the Vermilion Flycatcher with Les Roslund made it an even more delightful experience.

#### Leslie Starr

#### CCLO, SNPL, BRBO, REEG, ROWR, PAJA, CASW, VEFL

While it was great to have so many rarities, especially in the latter part of the year, far and away the most enjoyable birds were the Brown Boobies. It was exciting to see them in the first place, and the fact that they stayed for so long and, at least for a while, were relatively easy to find, made them real crowd pleasers. How often can one take a short, pleasant water taxi ride past rare birds in one's own hometown? My personal favorite viewing was on Saturday morning Sept. 19. After having seen the boobies the previous evening, I had gone back down to the harbor with a small group of birding buddies, where we scoped the birds from across the harbor along Boston Street. Barry Marsh came back from paddling his kayak to the boobies and asked if anyone wanted a turn. I almost didn't do it, but I knew I would really regret it if I didn't, so I accepted Barry's generous offer and paddled his boat across the calm, early morning harbor to the Ready Reserve ships. (They are large!) This was one of my most fun birding experiences ever!

#### Howard Patterson

Cave Swallow, Golden Eagle, Clay-colored Sparrow, Reddish Egret, Black Skimmer, Brown Booby, Red Knot, Mississippi Kite, Sandhill Crane, Snowy Plover, Least Bittern, Razorbill, Eurasian Wigeon I was fortunate to see a male Evening Grosbeak at my feeders on January 31. I was able to get my wife on the bird and to get documentation photos through the patio door before it was chased off by European Starlings. Unfortunately it did not return. I later learned that my neighbors also saw it briefly at their feeders. I believe it was the only Evening Grosbeak posted to eBird for Maryland in 2015, also unfortunate. A second favorite sighting was the Mississippi Kite that Bonnie Ott found at Mt. Pleasant Farm/Howard County Conservancy on August 1. I also appreciated the opportunity to see the Snowy Plover on Hart-Miller Island. Thanks to Joe Hanfman, Bob Ringler, Kevin Graff, and Jeff Culler for finding it, and for Bob and Kevin coordinating with Maryland Environmental Service for additional trips to the island so that more birders could see this first state record.

#### Don Simonson

Favorite sighting: on our 40th wedding anniversary September 21, 2015, Marcia and I saw 1,345 Broad-winged Hawks pass our house in Darnestown, plus 8 other raptors including 3 Bald Eagles for a day total of 1,353 hawks! Shattered our previous one-day record set in 2013 of 1,117 Broad-winged hawks. Most unusual sighting: Snowy Owl, seen flying through the yard.

#### Hugh McGuinness

13 species added including Brown Booby, Rough-legged Hawk, Black-headed Gull, Little Gull, Short-eared Owl, Chestnut-collared Longspur & Cerulean Warbler.

In the District, 16 species were added. In order they were: Great Horned Owl, Great Cormorant, Greater Whitefronted Goose, Glossy Ibis, Surf Scoter, Sora, Cerulean Warbler, Common Tern, Semipalmated Plover, Mute Swan, Black Tern, Willet, Stilt Sandpiper, BELL'S VIREO, Dickcissel & Black Scoter. I also saw Egyptian Goose with Paul Pisano and Martin Sneary heading down the Potomac towards Maryland waters. Ten additional species I have never seen in DC were recorded during 2015 and I saw all but 21 species that were recorded in DC during the year. I note this to demonstrate how difficult it is to rack up a big DC life or annual list.

#### Tyler Bell

Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Vermilion Flycatcher

#### Jane Kostenko

#### Brown Booby, Reddish Egret, Vermilion Flycatcher

It's not often Tyler Bell and I can mobilize immediately for a rare bird, but Tyler saw the first public email about the Vermilion Flycatcher when we were in Riva, MD, which is halfway to the site. Under doctor's orders to take it easy, I agreed that sitting in the car for the drive met those orders and away we went. Woefully ill-prepared for birding, we lucked into other birders already on the VEFL when we arrived and had great looks.

#### Diane Ford

#### Common Redpoll, Snowy Plover

The Snowy Plover at Hart-Miller Island was awesome. Getting the Common Redpoll in O.C. was too, but I missed it as a home county bird. I didn't get as many species as I wanted to due to work.

# Appendix

Table of Species by County

	Species											0	Countie	s											
#	list as of 12/31/15	GA	AL	WA	FR	CL	мо	но	ва	НА	CE	PG	AA	с٧	СН	SM	KE	QA	CN	ТА	DO	wi	so	wo	Possible
1	Black-bellied Whistling Duck					-	Х		х	х	-	Х	х	Х	-	Х			Х					Х	9
	Fulvous Whistling Duck						х					х	х			х	х	х			х			х	8
	Pink-footed Goose							х	х																2
	Greater White-fronted Goose	х	х	х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
5	Snow Goose	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
6	Ross's Goose		х		х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	21
	Brant	х	х		х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	22
8	Barnacle Goose									х		х					х				х	х			5
9	Cackling Goose	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	23
10	Canada Goose	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
11	Mute Swan	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
12	Trumpeter Swan		х	Х	х		Х	Х		х	х	х	х								Х				10
13	Tundra Swan	х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	23
14	Wood Duck	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
15	Gadwall	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
16	Eurasian Wigeon	х		Х		х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х		Х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	20
17	American Wigeon	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	23
18	American Black Duck	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
19	Mallard	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
20	Blue-winged Teal	х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
21	Cinnamon Teal								Х		х						Х	х			х			х	6
22	Northern Shoveler	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
23	Northern Pintail	х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	23
24	Green-winged Teal	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	23
25	Canvasback	х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	23
26	Redhead	Х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	23
27	Ring-necked Duck	х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	23
28	Tufted Duck											Х	Х	Х				Х			Х				5
29	Greater Scaup	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	23
30	Lesser Scaup	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	23
31	King Eider						Х		Х				Х	Х		Х		Х		Х	Х			х	9
32	Common Eider												Х		Х	Х								Х	4
33	Harlequin Duck		Х				Х		Х	Х	Х		Х	Х		Х				Х	Х		Х	Х	12
	Surf Scoter	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х		Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	22
	White-winged Scoter	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
	Black Scoter	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	21
	Long-tailed Duck	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
	Bufflehead	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	23
39	Common Goldeneye	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	X	X	Х	Х	Х	23
	Barrow's Goldeneye													X		X				X	X				4
41	Hooded Merganser	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
	Common Merganser	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
	Red-breasted Merganser Masked Duck	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X X	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
		V	V	v	V	V	v	v	V	V		V	V	v	v	V	v	v	V	v	×	×	V	v	1
	Ruddy Duck	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
	Northern Bobwhite	X	X	X	X	X X	X	X X	X	X	X	X X	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	X	Х	X	X	X	Х	23
	Ring-necked Pheasant Ruffed Grouse	X X	X X	X X	X X	x	X X	~	X X	X X	X X	~	Х					Х			Х	╞	-		14 9
	Greater Prairie-Chicken	~	~	~	~	~	~		~	~	~										+	1			9
	Wild Turkey	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	x	x	x	x	x	х	23
	Red-throated Loon	x	X	x	x	X	x	X	x	x	x	x	X	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	X	X	23
	Pacific Loon	x	~	~	~	~	X	~	x	X	X	~	~	~	~	X	~	~	~		~		~	X	7
	Common Loon	x	х	х	х	х	x	х	x	x	x	х	х	х	х	x	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	x	23
	Pied-billed Grebe	x	X	X	x	X	x	X	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	X	X	23
	Horned Grebe	x	X	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
	Red-necked Grebe	x	X	X	X	X	X	X	x	X	X	X	X	X	X	x	X	x	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
	Eared Grebe	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	x	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	x	X	X	20
	Western Grebe	x		X	~	~	x	x	x	~			X	X		~	x	х	~	~				x	9
	American Flamingo																				1	t		X	1
29	American Framing0						L				I	I	I		L	L			l	I	1	1	<u> </u>	~	

																									<u> </u>
#	Species				50	0					05		ountie		011				011						Possible
	list as of 12/31/15	GA	AL	WA	FR	CL	MO	но	BA	HA	CE	PG	AA	cv	СН	SM	KE	QA	CN	ТА	DO	WI	SO	wo	
	Yellow-nosed Albatross																							Х	1
	Northern Fulmar														-									Х	1
62	Herald Petrel																							Х	1
	Black-capped Petrel														-					Х				X	2
	Cory's Shearwater																							Х	1
65	Cape Verde Shearwater																							Х	1
	Great Shearwater																							Х	1
-	Sooty Shearwater																							Х	1
	Manx Shearwater																							Х	1
																								Х	1
	Wilson's Storm-Petrel											Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	11
	White-faced Storm-Petrel																							Х	1
72	Leach's Storm-Petrel									Х	Х	Х						Х		Х		Х		Х	7
	Band-rumped Storm-Petrel																							Х	1
	White-tailed Tropicbird																							Х	1
	Wood Stork		Х		Х				Х			Х	Х	Х	Х	Х				Х		Х			10
76	Magnificent Frigatebird	<u> </u>				<u> </u>																		Х	1
	Brown Booby					<u> </u>			Х															Х	2
	Northern Gannet					ļ			Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	14
	Neotropic Cormorant			Х			Х																		2
80	Double-crested Cormorant	х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	23
81	Great Cormorant					х	Х		Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	18
82	Anhinga		х		х		Х	Х	х	х			х	Х	Х	х								Х	11
83	American White Pelican	х					х		Х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х		х	х	х	х	Х	17
84	Brown Pelican					х			Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	х	х	х	Х	16
85	American Bittern	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	23
86	Least Bittern	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
87	Great Blue Heron	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
88	Great Egret	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	23
89	Snowy Egret	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
90	Little Blue Heron	x	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	x	х	х	х	х	х	x	х	х	х	x	х	23
91	Tricolored Heron				х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	20
92	Reddish Egret																							Х	1
93	Cattle Egret	х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	23
	Green Heron	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
	Black-crowned Night-Heron	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
	Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	23
	White Ibis		х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х		Х	х	х	х	х		х	х	х	Х	20
	Glossy Ibis	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
	White-faced Ibis																						х	Х	2
	Roseate Spoonbill																						х	х	2
101	Black Vulture	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	23
	Turkey Vulture	x	х	х	X	х	x	x	x	х	х	x	x	Х	х	х	x	х	x	x	X	Х	x	X	23
	Osprey	X	Х	х	x	х	x	x	x	х	х	X	X	Х	Х	X	X	х	x	x	X	Х	x	X	23
	Swallow-tailed Kite	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	20
	White-tailed Kite		Х																						1
	Golden Eagle	х	X	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
	Mississippi Kite		x	X	x		X	X	x	X	X	X	X	X	X	x		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	20
	Northern Harrier	х	X	x	x	х	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	х	x	x	x	X	X	x	x	20
	Sharp-shinned Hawk	x	x	X	x	x	X	X	X	x	x	X	X	X	X	x	x	X	x	x	X	x	X	X	23
	Snarp-shinned Hawk Cooper's Hawk	x	x	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	X	X	X	x	x	X	x	X	X	x	X	X	23
	Northern Goshawk	×	x		x			X	x	x	x	X		X	X			X	x	x			X	×	23
	Bald Eagle	X	X	X X	X	X X	X X	X	X	X	X	X	X X	X	X	X X	X X	X	X	X	X X	X X	X	X	23
																					1				
	Red-shouldered Hawk	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
	Broad-winged Hawk	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	23
	Swainson's Hawk	v	X	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	X	v	V	X	v	v	v	V	X	v	v	v	4
	Red-tailed Hawk	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
	Rough-legged Hawk	X	X	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	X	X	Х	X	X	X	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	X	X	Х	X	X	23
118	Yellow Rail	Х	Х	I			Х		Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	1	Х			I	Х	Х		Х	Х	13

	Species											c	ountie	s											
#	list as of 12/31/15	GA	AL	WA	FR	CL	мо	но	ва	НА	CE	PG	AA	сv	СН	SM	KE	QA	CN	ТА	DO	wi	so	wo	Possible
119	Black Rail	х			х		Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х		х	х	х	х	х	х	19
120	Corn Crake																							Х	1
121	Clapper Rail		х						х	Х			х	х		х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	14
122	King Rail	х	Х		Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	21
123	Virginia Rail	х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
124	Sora	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	23
125	Purple Gallinule						Х		Х		Х	Х	Х	Х											6
126	Common Gallinule	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
	American Coot	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
128					Х			Х																	2
	Sandhill Crane	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х			Х	20
	Black-necked Stilt					Х		Х	Х			Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	16
	American Avocet	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	X	X	X	X	X	X	22
	American Oystercatcher								Х				Х			Х			Х	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	9
	Northern Lapwing	~		~	X	~	X		~		~	~		~	~	~	~	~	~	X		~	~	~	2
	Black-bellied Plover	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
	American Golden-Plover Snowy Plover	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X X	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23 1
	Wilson's Plover								^															х	1
	Semipalmated Plover	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	X	23
	Piping Plover	x	X	~	~	~	~	X	X	~		~	X	x	~	x		~	~	X		X	X	X	11
	Killdeer	X	X	х	х	х	х	X	X	х	х	х	X	X	х	X	х	х	х	X	х	X	X	X	23
	Spotted Sandpiper	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
142	Solitary Sandpiper	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
	Greater Yellowlegs	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
	Willet	х	х	х	х	х	Х		х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	22
145	Lesser Yellowlegs	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
146	Upland Sandpiper	х	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	23
147	Eskimo Curlew																							х	1
148	Whimbrel	х	Х		х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	Х	х		х	х		Х	х	20
149	Long-billed Curlew								Х		х	Х	Х			Х	Х						Х	х	8
150	Hudsonian Godwit					х	Х		Х			Х	Х				Х	х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	х	13
	Marbled Godwit		Х		Х		Х		Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х		Х	Х	х	Х	Х	17
	Ruddy Turnstone	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х		х	X	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	Х	23
	Red Knot					Х		Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	15
154				Х	Х		Х		Х		Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	17
	Stilt Sandpiper	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
	Curlew Sandpiper								Х															Х	2
	Red-necked Stint																							X	1
	Sanderling	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
	Dunlin	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	X	X	Х	X	Х	X	Х	X	X	Х	X	X	23
	Purple Sandpiper Baird's Sandpiper	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	X X	х	х	х	X X	X X	х	X X	х	X X	х	X X	X X	х	X X	X X	9 23
	Little Stint	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	×	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~~	~	~	~	~	~	1
	Least Sandpiper	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	×	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	x	х	x	x	х	x	х	23
	White-rumped Sandpiper	x	x	x	x	x	x	×	×	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	23
	Buff-breasted Sandpiper	X	X	X	x	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	x	X	X	X	X	23
	Pectoral Sandpiper	x	x	X	x	x	X	X	X	X	х	X	x	x	x	x	X	x	X	x	X	X	X	x	23
	Semipalmated Sandpiper	x	X	X	X	x	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	x	23
	Western Sandpiper	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	22
	Short-billed Dowitcher	Х	Х	х	X	Х	Х	Х	X	X	X	X	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	23
	Long-billed Dowitcher		Х		х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х		х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	20
	Wilson's Snipe	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
	American Woodcock	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
173	Wilson's Phalarope	х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	х			Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	19
174	Red-necked Phalarope	х	х	х	х		Х		Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	21
175	Red Phalarope		х		х		Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х					х		х	х		х	14
176	Great Skua																							х	1
177	South Polar Skua																							Х	1

	Species												Countie												
#	list as of 12/31/15	GA	AL	WA	FR	CL	мо	но	ва	НА	CE	PG	AA	cv	СН	SM	KE	QA	CN	ТА	DO	wi	so	wo	Possible
178	Pomarine Jaeger	04	A -			02	х		X	Х	X	X	X	x	Х	X		X	ON				x	X	12
	Parasitic Jaeger						X		x	^	X	^	X	~	~	X		^		x			^	x	7
	Long-tailed Jaeger				х		~		Λ		~		~	х						X				X	4
	Dovekie								Х					X							х	х		X	5
182	Common Murre																							х	1
183	Thick-billed Murre						х		Х	Х														х	4
184	Razorbill																			х				х	2
185	Guillmot sp.																							Х	1
186	Atlantic Puffin																							Х	1
187	Black-legged Kittiwake						Х		х	Х	х	Х	х	х		х	х			х				Х	11
188	Sabine's Gull						Х	х		Х	Х		х							х				Х	7
189	Bonaparte's Gull	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
190	Black-headed Gull								Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х			Х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	14
191	Little Gull	Х					Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х			Х	17
	Ross's Gull								Х																1
193	Laughing Gull		Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	21
	Franklin's Gull				Х		Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х				Х	Х		Х	13
	Black-tailed Gull					<u> </u>			Х				Х								├	┣──		Х	3
	Mew Gull									X	X	X													3
	Ring-billed Gull	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	X	X	X	Х	X	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	X	X	Х	X	23
198							X		X	X	X		X		X					X		X		X	9
	Herring Gull	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	23
	Yellow-legged Gull Thayer's Gull				x	х	X X	х	х	х	х	х	х	х							х	x	x	х	1 14
201	· · ·						x	x	×	×		×	×	x	х			v	v	v	x	×		×	
	Lesser Black-backed Gull	х	х	х	X X	X X	X	x	×	x	X X	x	x	x	x	x	х	X X	X X	X X	x	x	X X	x	18 23
	Glaucous Gull	^	~	^	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	20
	Great Black-backed Gull			х	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	x	X	X	X	X	X	X	x	X	20
	Kelp Gull													х		х									2
	Sooty Tern						х		х			Х	х	X		X		х		х		х	х	х	11
	Bridled Tern												х			х						х		х	4
	Least Tern	х	Х	х	Х		Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	22
210	Gull-billed Tern						х		Х				х	Х		х		х		Х	х		х	х	10
211	Caspian Tern	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	23
212	Black Tern	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	23
213	Roseate Tern								Х			Х		Х										Х	4
214	Common Tern	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
215	Arctic Tern		Х				х		Х			Х												х	5
216	Forster's Tern	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	23
	Royal Tern						Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	17
218	Sandwich Tern								Х				Х	Х		Х				Х	Х		Х	Х	8
	Black Skimmer						Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	16
	Rock Pigeon	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
	Eurasian Collared-Dove			Х	Х	<u> </u>	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х								Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	12
	Passenger Pigeon																					-			0
	Inca Dove											X									<u> </u>				1
	Common Ground-Dove				V		X		X		v	Х	X	V		V					v	-	V	V	3
	White-winged Dove				X		X		X		X		X	X		X		v			X		X	X	10
	Mourning Dove	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
	Black-billed Cuckoo Groove-billed Ani	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X X	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	23 1
	Barn Owl	x	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	x	x	х	х	х	x	х	x	х	23
	Eastern Screech-Owl	×	x	X	x	x	x	x	×	x	X	x	X	X	x	x	x	X	x	x	x	X	x	X	23
	Great Horned Owl	×	x	x	x	x	X	x	×	x	X	x	x	x	X	x	x	X	x	X	x	×	x	x	23
	Snowy Owl	x	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	x	X	X	X	X	x	X	X	X	X	X	23
	Burrowing Owl	Х																							1
	Barred Owl	x	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
	Long-eared Owl	x	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
	-								- Dov																<u> </u>

	Species											С	ountie	as.											
#	list as of 12/31/15	GA	AL	WA	FR	CL	мо	но	ВА	НА	CE	PG	AA	cv	СН	SM	KE	QA	CN	ТА	DO	wi	so	wo	Possible
237	Short-eared Owl	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
	Northern Saw-whet Owl	Х	Х	X	X	Х	X	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	X	х	Х	X	X	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	X	23
	Common Nighthawk	X	Х	X	X	X	X	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	х	X	Х	X	X	Х	X	Х	х	Х	X	23
	Chuck-will's-widow	X	X	X	X	~	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	22
	Eastern Whip-poor-will	X	X	x	X	х	X	x	X	X	X	X	X	X	x	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
	Chimney Swift	Х	Х	X	X	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	X	23
	Green Violetear							X			Х														2
	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	X	х	Х	X	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
	Anna's Hummingbird				X							X													2
246		Х		Х	х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	21
	Allen's Hummingbird			х										х											2
	Calliope Hummingbird											х		х				х		х					4
	Belted Kingfisher	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
250	Red-headed Woodpecker	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	23
	Red-bellied Woodpecker	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
253	Downy Woodpecker	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
254	Hairy Woodpecker	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	23
	Red-cockaded Woodpecker											х				х					х			х	4
256	Northern "Yellow-shafted" Flicker	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
257	Pileated Woodpecker	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	23
258	American Kestrel	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	23
259	Merlin	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
260					х								Х												2
261	Peregrine Falcon	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
262	Carolina Parakeet																								0
263	Olive-sided Flycatcher	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
264	Eastern Wood-Pewee	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
265	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	23
266	Acadian Flycatcher	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
267	Alder Flycatcher	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х		х				х	19
268	Willow Flycatcher	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
269	Least Flycatcher	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
270	Hammond's Flycatcher								Х															Х	2
271	Eastern Phoebe	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	23
272	Say's Phoebe					х	х										х	х							4
273	Vermilion Flycatcher																х				Х			х	3
274	Ash-throated Flycatcher								х			х				х	х	х			х		х	х	8
275	Great Crested Flycatcher	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
276	Tropical Kingbird																						х		1
277	Couch's Kingbird		Х																						1
278	Western Kingbird	Х	Х			х	Х		Х	Х		х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	Х		х	х	18
279	Eastern Kingbird	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
280	Gray Kingbird								х				х			х								х	4
281	Scissor-tailed Flycatcher			х	х		х					х	х			х	х	х		х	х			х	11
282	Fork-tailed Flycatcher												х			х	х								3
283	Loggerhead Shrike	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
284	Northern Shrike	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х		х	х	х		х	х	х	х		х	х			х	18
285	White-eyed Vireo	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
286	Bell's Vireo										Х													Х	2
287	Yellow-throated Vireo	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	23
288	Blue-headed Vireo	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
289	Warbling Vireo	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
290	Philadelphia Vireo	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	Х	23
291	Red-eyed Vireo	Х	х	Х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	Х	23
292	Blue Jay	х	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
293	American Crow	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
294	Fish Crow	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
295	Common Raven	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х							17
																-					-				

#	Species											С	ountie	s											
	list as of 12/31/15	GA	AL	WA	FR	CL	мо	но	BA	НА	CE	PG	AA	с٧	СН	SM	KE	QA	CN	ТА	DO	wi	so	wo	Possible
296 ⊦	Horned Lark	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
297 N	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	23
	Purple Martin	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
299 T	Tree Swallow	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
	Bank Swallow	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
· · · · ·	Barn Swallow	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
	Cliff Swallow	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
	Cave Swallow		Х		X		Х		X		Х	X	X			X	X			X	X		X	X	13
	Carolina Chickadee	~	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Х	X	X	22
	Black-capped Chickadee Boreal Chickadee	Х	X X	Х	Х	Х	X X	Х	X X	Х	Х	Х	X X	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	22 4
		х	×	х	х	V	×	х	×	х	х	х	×	х	х	х	х	х	v	V	x	х	x	х	
	Tufted Titmouse Red-breasted Nuthatch	×	x	x	x	X X	x	x	×	X	x	x	×	X	X	x	X	X	X X	X X	x	X	X	X	23 23
	White-breasted Nuthatch	×	x	×	x	×	×	x	×	×	x	x	×	x	X	x	x	×	×	x	x	X	x	×	23
	Brown-headed Nuthatch	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	x	^	^	x	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	14
-	Brown Creeper	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	X	х	х	x	X	X	X	x	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
	Rock Wren	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~		~	~	~	~	~		~	X	1
	House Wren	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	X	23
	Winter Wren	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	X	Х	X	X	Х	Х	X	X	Х	X	23
315 s	Sedge Wren	Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	23
316 N	Marsh Wren	Х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
317 c	Carolina Wren	Х	х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
318 B	Bewick's Wren	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х			Х							Х					Х	11
319 B	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	23
320 0	Golden-crowned Kinglet	Х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
321 F	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	23
322 N	Northern Wheatear												Х						Х						2
323 E	Eastern Bluebird	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	23
324 N	Mountain Bluebird		Х																					Х	2
325 T	Townsend's Solitaire									Х															1
326 v	Veery	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
	Gray-cheeked Thrush	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
	Bicknell's Thrush	Х	Х		Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х		Х		Х	18
	Swainson's Thrush	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	X	Х	23
	Hermit Thrush	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
	Wood Thrush	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
	American Robin	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	X	X	X	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
	Varied Thrush Gray Catbird	х	х	х	х	х	X X	X X	X X	х	х	х	X X	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	4 23
	Brown Thrasher	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	×	x	×	×	×	x	×	×	×	x	×	×	×	×	23
	Sage Thrasher	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	^	×	1
	Northern Mockingbird	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	x	23
	European Starling	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	x	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
	American Pipit	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
	Bohemian Waxwing	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~		~	X	~	~	~			X	2
	Cedar Waxwing	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	X	23
	Lapland Longspur	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
	Chestnut-collared Longspur			х									х											х	3
344 s	Smith's Longspur																							х	1
345 s	Snow Bunting	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
	Ovenbird	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	23
347 v	Worm-eating Warbler	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
348 L	Louisiana Waterthrush	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
349 N	Northern Waterthrush	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
350 B	Blue-winged Warbler	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
351 0	Golden-winged Warbler	Х	Х	х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	23
352 B	Black-and-white Warbler	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
353 P	Prothonotary Warbler	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
	Swainson's Warbler						х		х					х		х						х	х	х	7

	Species											с	ountie	s											
#	list as of 12/31/15	GA	AL	WA	FR	CL	МО	но	ва	НА	CE	PG	AA	с٧	СН	SM	KE	QA	CN	ТА	DO	wi	so	wo	Possible
355	Tennessee Warbler	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	23
356	Orange-crowned Warbler	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	23
357	Nashville Warbler	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	23
358	Virginia's Warbler																			Х					1
359	Connecticut Warbler	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
360	Mourning Warbler	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
-	Kentucky Warbler	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
362	Common Yellowthroat	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
	Hooded Warbler	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
364	American Redstart	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
365	Cape May Warbler	Х	Х	X	Х	X	X	X	X	Х	Х	Х	X	Х	X	X	Х	X	X	X	X	X	X	Х	23
366	Cerulean Warbler	Х	Х	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Х	X	X	Х	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
367	Northern Parula	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
	Magnolia Warbler	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
-	Bay-breasted Warbler Blackburnian Warbler	X X	X X	X X	X X	23 23																			
	Yellow Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	×	x	x	x	x	×	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
	Chestnut-sided Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
	Blackpoll Warbler	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	23
	Black-throated Blue Warbler	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
	Palm Warbler	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	Х	23
	Pine Warbler	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	X	X	X	Х	X	Х	X	X	X	X	Х	Х	X	Х	X	Х	Х	Х	23
377	Yellow-rumped "Myrtle" Warbler	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
378	Yellow-throated Warbler	х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	23
379	Prairie Warbler	х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	23
380	Black-throated Gray Warbler						х						х							х		х		х	5
381	Townsend's Warbler				х		Х																	х	3
382	Black-throated Green Warbler	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	23
383	Canada Warbler	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
384	Wilson's Warbler	х	Х	Х	х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	23
385	Yellow-breasted Chat	х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	23
386	Cassin's Sparrow															Х									1
	Bachman's Sparrow	Х	Х				Х	х				Х									Х		Х		7
	Grasshopper Sparrow	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
	Baird's Sparrow																							Х	1
	Henslow's Sparrow	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
	Le Conte's Sparrow							Х	Х	Х		Х	Х			Х		Х					Х	Х	9
	Nelson's Sparrow	Х	Х		Х		Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	Х	Х		Х	Х		Х	Х	18
	Saltmarsh Sparrow								X	V	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	13
	Seaside Sparrow	X	X	v	~	~	v	×	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	v	X	X	X	X	X	15
	American Tree Sparrow	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	23
	Chipping Sparrow Clay-colored Sparrow	X X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Х	X	X	X	X	Х	X	X	X	Х	X X	23
	Field Sparrow	X X	х	X X	X X	X X	X X	х	X X	X X	X X	x	X	20 23											
	Lark Sparrow	×	×	~	x	~	×	×	×	~	~	×	×	×	x	x	×	~	×	~	×	^	x	×	16
	Lark Sparrow		~		~	х	~	~	~			x	~	~	~	~	X		X		X		~	X	6
	Fox Sparrow	х	х	х	х	x	х	х	х	х	х	x	х	х	х	х	X	х	x	х	x	х	х	X	23
	Dark-eyed Junco	x	X	x	X	X	x	x	x	X	X	x	x	x	x	x	X	X	x	X	x	x	x	X	23
	White-crowned Sparrow	Х	Х	X	Х	Х	X	X	X	Х	X	Х	X	Х	X	X	Х	X	X	Х	X	Х	X	Х	23
	Golden-crowned Sparrow																X				<u> </u>				1
	Harris's Sparrow		х	х		х	х	х				х	х			х	X		х			1		х	11
	White-throated Sparrow	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
407	Vesper Sparrow	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
408	Savannah Sparrow	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	23
409	Song Sparrow	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	Х	23
410	Lincoln's Sparrow	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	23
411	Swamp Sparrow	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	23
412	Green-tailed Towhee		Х																						1
413	Spotted Towhee						х		х																2
									_	חב 10	_														

	Species											с	ountie	s											I
#	list as of 12/31/15	GA	AL	WA	FR	CL	мо	но	ВА	НА	CE	PG	AA	с٧	СН	SM	KE	QA	CN	ТА	DO	wi	so	wo	Possible
414	Eastern Towhee	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	23
415	Summer Tanager	х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	23
416	Scarlet Tanager	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	23
417	Western Tanager						х	х	х		х		х						х					х	7
418	Northern Cardinal	х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
419	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Х	Х	х	х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	23
420	Black-headed Grosbeak						х		х			х							х						4
421	Blue Grosbeak	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
422	Lazuli Bunting								Х														х	Х	3
423	Indigo Bunting	Х	Х	х	х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	23
424	Painted Bunting				х		х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	х		х	х	х	х	х				х	15
425	Dickcissel	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
426	Bobolink	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
427	Red-winged Blackbird	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
428	Eastern Meadowlark	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
429	Western Meadowlark				х																х				2
430	Yellow-headed Blackbird	х	Х	х	Х		Х	х	Х	х	х	х	х			х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	20
431	Rusty Blackbird	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	23
432	Brewer's Blackbird	х	х		х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х		х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	21
433	Common Grackle	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
434	Boat-tailed Grackle								Х				х	х	х	х	х	х		х	х	х	х	х	12
435	Brown-headed Cowbird	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
436	Orchard Oriole	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
437	Bullock's Oriole						х			х											х				3
438	Baltimore Oriole	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
439	Pine Grosbeak	х	х	х	х		х		х			Х							х		х		х	х	11
440	House Finch	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
441	Purple Finch	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	23
442	Red Crossbill	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
443	White-winged Crossbill	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х		Х	22
444	Common Redpoll	Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	х	х	х	Х	23
445	Hoary Redpoll		Х	х		х	Х		Х											Х				Х	7
446	Pine Siskin	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
447	American Goldfinch	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	23
448	Evening Grosbeak	Х	Х	х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	х	х	х	х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	23
	House Sparrow	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	х	х	Х	Х	Х	Х	х	Х	х	х	23
	# Possible	290	305	285	308	290	342	307	362	320	322	339	354	330	303	338	320	321	300	331	335	311	321	398	7432