

HOWARD

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MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER 1975

MEMBERSHIP

September is a time for beginnings. The Howard County chapter of the Maryland Ornithological Society begins its fourth year. We welcome those who have been with us in previous years and encourage you to join with us again and tell your friends and neighbors who share our enthusiasm for the natural world.

Included in this newsletter is a membership application and questionnaire. Please fill in both portions and mail to Ben Dawson whose address is listed on the application blank or bring them to the September 11 meeting. Please be prompt since it will no longer be possible to send the newsletter to persons who have not paid their yearly dues. September's issue is being mailed to all who are on record as of June 1975. September begins a new year and a new membership list. IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE THE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER YOU MUST JOIN IN SEPTEMBER. Another postal rate rise is imminent and all other production costs have risen but publication on a monthly basis will continue as long as possible. When you mail or bring your membership dues, be sure to complete the interest questionnaire. The Board attempts to meet the interests of its members in planning the activities and programs for the year. Please help by registering yours.

CALENDAR

PROGRAM

September 11, Thursday - Dr. Robert Herndon - Birds of the Everglades. Bob is one of the club's most enthusiastic and accomplished photographers so join him in seeing some of the interesting birds of this region. If you've ever been to the Everglades it will be a great "remember when" trip and if you haven't been there, come see what you've missed in your travels.

Programs and business meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month in Swanfield Elementary School on Cedar Lane in Columbia. The program begins at 7:45 P.M. with a short break after it and then a brief business meeting. The book store is open both before and after the meeting.

FIELD TRIPS

September 14, Sunday - Little Creek, Delaware (& Bombay Hook if time permits). Meet at Swanfield Elementary School parking lot at 7:30 A.M. for a full day trip to look for shorebirds. Bring lunch; should return by 5:00 P.M. Fall shorebirds are among our most confusing birds but the season also brings the possibilities of unusual strays. Larry Hood, leader.

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September 27, Saturday - Local Trip - Mc Keldin Area of Patapsco State Park. $\frac{1}{2}$ day. Meet at Swansfield Elementary at 7:30 A.M. If the day is nice you may want to bring a picnic lunch and stay beyond the trip. There should be a good possibility of seeing fall warblers and other migrants in a variety of habitats.

October 11, 12 & 13, Saturday, Sunday & Monday - Cape May, New Jersey - 3 days Cape May is one of the chief concentration points for many fall migrants and is especially well known for hawk flights. Larry Hood will be banding the week prior to the trip at the station there so there will be an opportunity to see that operation as well as to bird the other well known "hot spots" on Cape May. Early reservations are a necessity. Details will be available at the September 11 meeting.

October 25, Saturday - Local Trip - Columbia Lakes. $\frac{1}{2}$ day. Meet at 8:00 A.M. at Swansfield Elementary for a trip to spot ducks and other migratory waterfowl on the lakes in Columbia. Back by noon. Tom Moyer and "Kris" Krishnamoorthy, leaders.

November 2, Sunday - Wagoner's Gap, Pa. - All day trip for hawks (especially buteos and possible eagles) at one of the prime concentration points in the East. Meet at 7:30 A.M. at Swansfield Elementary. Come equipped with food, warm clothes and hot drinks--hawk watching in the mountains can be chilly especially so late in the season. If there is rain, the trip is canceled; if in doubt give Marty a call 730-1527. Martha Chestem, leader.

BOARD MEETING

The ^{Sept.} October Board meeting will be held at Tom Moyer's at 8:00 P.M. Thursday, ^{Sept.} October 25. Call Tom at 730-0138 if directions are needed.

SIGHTINGS

M. Chestem was lucky enough to see both the Curlew Sandpiper and Purple Gallinule at Bombay Hook in July and a Buff-breasted Sandpiper at Chincoteague in August.

T. Moyer saw numerous Cattle Egrets in Delaware during the summer.

A. Conron watched several Ospreys at Westport, Mass. but noted the conspicuous absence of Black-backed Gulls which she had seen the previous summer.

L. Peters noted numerous Cedar Waxwings along with many Purple Martins and Barn Swallows on Grandfather Mt. in N.C.

"Kris" Krishnamoorthy has kept his binoculars hot. He saw both Gallinules and a Wilson's Phalarope at Bombay Hook while in August he found a Marbled Godwit at Sandy Point and Upland Sandpipers at Chesapeake College. On Aug. 24 in Detroit he observed a flight of 150 Nighthawks. Sept. 2 brought some fall migrants for he noted 4 Black and White Warblers, 3 American Redstarts and 1 Hermit Thrush.

R. Mauro had young Barred Owls and 1 Screech Owl near her home this summer and noted Horned Larks on Lime Kiln Rd. July 9. August 23 brought a Blue-winged Warbler; the 26 a White-eyed Vireo was feeding young; the last No. (Balt.) Oriole on the 28th; Cedar Waxwings on the 29th and a Trill's (sp.?) Flycatcher on Sept. 1. The cool wet opening days of Sept. triggered a wave of migrants for on the evening of Sept. 2 she had a Black and White Warbler, Yellowthroat, Am. Redstart, Blue-winged, Magnolia and a family of Prairie Warblers all in a small area in the space of 15 minutes.

Larry Hood observed E. Kingbirds migrating as well as Cliff and Barn Swallows in west-central Illinois in late August. He also watched migrating Nighthawks between 5:00 & 6:00 P.M. along Hy. 29 on Sept. 2.

F. Dawson had a number of broods of young in her yard this summer: Carolina Wrens, T. Titmice, at least 2 broods of Song Sparrows and a prolific Mockingbird who had 3 broods and she thinks was trying for number 4. Perhaps Columbia has a new feral species.