

Howard County Bird Club

A Chapter of the Maryland Ornithological Society (MOS)

Field Trip: Sunday, June 27, 1993 Centennial Park

Trip Leader: Chestem , Marty

Date of Trip: Sunday, June 27, 1993

Location: Centennial Park

Details: Oriole and Goldfinch Walk

Number on trip: 11

Birds:

(Numbers of individuals are shown if they were recorded.)

- Snow Goose:
- Canada Goose:
- Mute Swan:
- Wood Duck:
- Mallard:
- Great Blue Heron:
- Green Heron: trip bird
- Black Vulture:
- Turkey Vulture:
- Killdeer:
- Rock Pigeon:
- Mourning Dove:
- Chimney Swift:
- Belted Kingfisher:
- Northern Flicker:
- Eastern Phoebe:
- Eastern Kingbird:
- White-eyed Vireo:
- Red-eyed Vireo:
- Blue Jay:
- American Crow:
- Barn Swallow:
- Carolina Chickadee:
- Tufted Titmouse:
- Wood Thrush:
- American Robin:
- Gray Catbird:
- Northern Mockingbird:
- Brown Thrasher:
- European Starling:
- Yellow Warbler:
- Common Yellowthroat:
- Field Sparrow:
- Song Sparrow:
- Northern Cardinal:
- Red-winged Blackbird:
- Common Grackle:
- Brown-headed Cowbird:
- House Finch:
- American Goldfinch:
- House Sparrow:

Comments:

It was sort of cool when we started from the boat dock walking toward the dam end and on around the lake but it kept getting warmer and by the time we got to the dock again it was HOT. The group was attentive and fun. Thanks to their alertness, we saw more birds than I had expected to see. The trip was billed as an oriole and goldfinch trip and we did make a noble try to get both species. We spent a lot of time looking for the orioles in the appropriate habitat but we saw neither the orchard or the northern. We had great success with the goldfinches and with great close-ups to please the newcomers among us. We had a total of 41 species for the 3 hour tour.

The group was unanimous in selecting a fledgling green heron as the outstanding find of the morning. It was spotted by Bob Betts(not the leader who was probably the last to see it). This bird had most its feathers and

appeared to be just passing the fledgling stage but still showed quite a bit of down about the head and less around the sides and underparts. It moved through the tree about 9-12 feet off the ground--cautious and a little awkward-sometimes dropping down to the next lower limb-finally out of sight. Everyone got to see it. Other green herons were seen--I believe we had five different birds.

A mourning dove was seen on the nest. This is worth noting because the nest was atypical. I do believe this dove has taken over another song bird's nest, perhaps a mockingbird. It was not the crude few sticks we usually see mourning doves use; it was a well built song birds nest.

The female wood duck was at the marsh end with nine ducklings all in good view. Five young barn swallows were perched in a tree, all very visible. We also had young starling, song sparrows and eastern phoebes.

A great blue heron stood in both of the back ponds and at the marsh end of the lake. This may have been the same bird flying about but I believe we had two individuals. Again everyone got a perfect view.