

Howard County, Maryland

Sparrow Big Days

Bonnie Ott and Joanne Solem

Sparrow Big Day 5 October 14, 2007. Leader: Bonnie Ott. Total participants: 9. Names not available. Weather: Sunny, mild, wind picking up in p.m. Time: All day. Total sparrow species: 9. Meeting site: UMDCF. Notable bird species: Red-headed Woodpecker, Merlin, Purple Finch, Dickcissel. Sites visited: Alpha Ridge Park, Mt. Pleasant, Western Regional Park, and Waterford Farm.

Bonnie summarized the day as follows: "The sparrows had definitely arrived. We were hung up on 9 species for the day and could not locate a Vesper to our dismay. No 'rarities' but great numbers of all the expected birds. 2 Grasshoppers and 4 Lincoln's were found. We had one of the highest counts of White-crowns in years with 30-40+ birds. Savannah and Songs in the hundreds. Non sparrow highlights were Dickcissel, Purple Finch, Merlin, and Red-headed Woodpecker."