
Eastern Iowa Birdwatch



The Iowa City Bird Club Newsletter

September 2019 • Volume 39 Number 2

Schedule

Field Trips are free and open to the public. Meeting place varies and is noted in the schedule. Carpooling is encouraged. Cancellations due to inclement weather or flooding are possible and are announced on the club's Facebook page and by email notification to club members. Some trips are accessible to people with disabilities. For more information or questions email iowacitybc@gmail.com.

Meetings are held at the Iowa City Environmental Education Center, 2401 Scott Blvd. SE, at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month, from September through November and February through May.

September 18, Wednesday, 8 a.m. Kent Park Bird Walk with leader Rick Hollis. Meet at the Kent Park CEC.

September 19, Thursday, 6 p.m. Club Potluck at the Iowa City Environmental Education Center, 2401 Scott Blvd. SE. Gather on the patio of our new meeting venue, an hour before the September meeting for a potluck meal. Family and friends are welcome too! Bring a potluck dish to share and table service for yourself. Lemonade and iced tea will be provided.

September 19, Thursday, 7 p.m. Meeting. Note our new meeting location at the Iowa City Environmental Education Center, 2401 Scott Blvd. SE. "Salineño Bird Preserve – Will It Be There Next Year?" by Lois Hughes and Merle Inhe, club members and docents at this preserve along the Rio Grande River in Texas. Brandon Caswell will also speak about raptor identification.

September 22, Sunday, Cy-Hawk Big Day Challenge. It's Hawkeyes vs. Cyclones, Iowa City vs. Ames! Gather a team and register for this fun birding event by 6 p.m. September 21. Contact Karen Disbrow at k_disbrow@yahoo.com or 319-430-0315 to register. See page 3 for more information.

September 29, Sunday, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Hawk Watch at Stainbrook Preserve, located along Mehaffey Bridge Road just north of Sugar Bottom Recreation Area. Join us on the hill to watch for migrating raptors including Broad-winged Hawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, and Red-tailed Hawk. Bring a lawn chair and a spotting scope if you have one.

October 2, Wednesday, 8 a.m. Kent Park Bird Walk with leader Rick Hollis. Meet at the Kent Park CEC.

October 13, Sunday, The Big Sit! Drop in between 7 a.m. – 2 p.m. We're participating in *Bird Watcher's Digest's* noncompetitive birding event – the object is to tally as many bird species as can be seen or heard from within a 17-foot circle. Join our team with hosts Terri Macey and Linda Quinn near the north arm of Lake Macbride, at the boat ramp area off Opie Ave. NE west of Solon. Bring a chair, binoculars, and optional tailgate food to share. Restroom on site. See page 4 for more information.

October 16, Wednesday, 8 a.m. Kent Park Bird Walk with leader Rick Hollis. Meet at the Kent Park CEC.

October 17, Thursday, 7 p.m. Meeting. Jon Stravers, birder, photographer, and Audubon researcher, will present "Chasing the Bird Dream." Linda Rudolph will also talk about eBird.

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Late October or Early November. Late Fall Field Trip to be announced via our email list and on our website at www.iowacitybirdclub.org.

November 21, Thursday, 7 p.m. Meeting. Dick Sayles of Quad Cities Audubon will present “Travels with Dick.” In 2019 Dick has been to Israel, New Zealand, and Australia.

December 15, Sunday. Iowa City Christmas Bird Count. Watch for details in our December newsletter.

Other Dates of Note

September 15, Sunday, 1 p.m. Monarch Tagging at Kent Park Conservation Education Center. An indoor presentation about Monarchs will be followed by outdoor exploration to catch, tag, and release the butterflies as they pass through Kent Park. This is a free event. Pre-registration is requested; to register, email fowen@co.johnson.ia.us.

September 28, Saturday, 9 a.m. – Noon. Fall Bird Banding at Kent Park Conservation Education Center. The program demonstrates the safe practices of banding through observation of banding equipment, operations, and viewing banded birds. Participants can come and go as their schedules allow. Free and no registration is necessary.

September 28, Saturday, 8 a.m. Iowa Ornithologists’ Union Special Event: Hawk Watch at Grammer Grove Wildlife Area with Mark Proescholdt. At 8 a.m. there will be a bird walk through the riparian forest in the Iowa River floodplain for passerine species. From 10 a.m. to mid-afternoon, hawk watching will take place from the entrance road. Drop in any time and stay as long as desired. Expect to see migrating Broad-winged Hawks, Sharp-shinned Hawks, Red-tailed Hawks, Turkey Vultures, and more. Bring a lawn chair, hat, sunscreen, and food and drink. Restrooms are on site.

November 16, Saturday. Iowa Young Birders Field Trip to Mississippi River Pool 9 in NE Iowa for Tundra Swans and other migrant waterfowl. For more information visit www.iowayoungbirders.org.

New Meeting Location – Iowa City Environmental Education Center

We are pleased to note that we will have a new meeting location beginning with our first fall meeting on Thursday, September 19. While we have enjoyed the advantages of meeting at The Big White House in Coralville, a scheduling conflict arose that meant we had to find a new location.

After a dutiful search, we have chosen to meet at the Iowa City Environmental Education Center, located at 2401 Scott Boulevard SE in Iowa City. It is located at the East Side Recycling Center, on Scott Boulevard between Muscatine Ave. and Highway 6. Many of you may be familiar with

the location, since it is also the location of Habitat for Humanity’s Restore.

It is a beautiful new “green” facility with lots of natural light, plenty of well-lit parking, built in audio-visual equipment (no more setting up screens or hoping our system will accommodate different computers, flash drives, etc.), a spacious meeting room that will hold up to 50 people, and kitchen facilities. It also has a lovely patio that we can use for potlucks and social time (see the announcement on the next page about our potluck scheduled for September 19!)

While we regret that we needed to move once again, we believe this will be a great meeting location. We appreciate your patience with two moves in two years. We hope this can be our home for the long term!

Club Potluck & Meeting September 19

Come celebrate our first meeting of the fall season at our new meeting location with a potluck meal for members, friends, and families! The potluck will be held before our meeting on September 19 at 6:00 p.m. on the patio of the Iowa City Environmental Education Center, 2401 Scott Boulevard SE, followed by our 7:00 meeting. You are welcome to come to either or both. If it's too hot/cold/rainy to eat outdoors, we will eat inside, where there is plenty of room in the bright, open meeting space! Please bring a dish to share. Drinks will be provided.

In the hope of reducing our environmental footprint, we are asking people to bring their own (hopefully reusable) table service (plates, cups, cutlery). The fewer environmental resources we each use the more there are for the birds to enjoy!

Visit Our New Website

We are pleased to announce our newly-revamped website at www.iowacitybirdclub.org!

We owe a huge thanks to both our outgoing Webmaster, Jim Scheib, for his 17 years of service, and our new Webmaster, Mark Graber, for building our new site. Mark has exported much of the great information from our old site, and added more. It features upcoming events on a calendar you can subscribe to, much information about our club and special events, and many Iowa-specific resources for birders. And not to be missed, the photo albums under the *Birds of Iowa* tab. Have fun browsing!

We'd also like to thank our contributing photographers for all the eye-candy: Mark Brown, Brandon Caswell, Jim Durbin, Rick Hollis, Linda Rudolph, and Jim Scheib. The website committee played a part as well, so kudos to Chris Edwards, Jason Paulios, Linda Quinn, and Mark Rolfes. Well done everyone!

Our new site is still a work in progress and we will continue revising and adding content in the coming months. You can email Mark with feedback at markagraber@gmail.com – please include “website” in the subject line. The old website www.icbirds.org is still available for now, but is no longer being updated.

Cy-Hawk Big Day September 22

The sixth annual Cy-Hawk Big Day Challenge will be Sunday, September 22. Join us for this friendly, spirited competition as teams from the Iowa City Bird Club (and Hawkeye friends across the state) compete against teams from Big Bluestem Audubon Society of Ames (and Cyclone friends across the state) to find the most bird species in one day.

To participate, form a team of two or more birders and register your team with Karen Disbrow by 6 p.m. on Saturday, September 21 – by email at k_disbrow@yahoo.com or by text or phone at 319-430-0315. On September 22, your team may bird for as much or as little as you like between midnight to midnight, anywhere in the state. At least two members of the team must positively identify each bird, whether seen or heard. The complete rules are posted on our website.

We are asking each participant for a minimum \$5 donation to support the bird conservation programs of Iowa Audubon. Please send your donation to Karen Disbrow, 1917 I Street, Iowa City, IA 52240.

After the competition, email your bird list to Chris Edwards at credwards@aol.com by Wednesday, September 25. The results from all our teams will be compiled into one list for the club. The club with the most species wins bragging rights and the coveted Kent-Dinsmore traveling trophy. The Iowa City Bird Club lost the trophy for the first time last year, so it's time to bring it back to Iowa City!

The Big Sit! October 13

Some call it a tailgate party for birders, others liken it to a Big Day. The object is to tally as many bird species as can be seen or heard within 24 hours from one spot. *Bird Watcher's Digest* created this annual non-competitive birding event, which is sponsored by Swarovski Optik, for the second weekend in October. Every year, bird watchers from around the globe unite on this special day by participating in this free event, open to any person and club in any country!

Here's how it goes: on Sunday, October 13, the Iowa City Bird Club team will sit inside a 17-foot-diameter circle. We picked a location with multiple habitats plus the ever-essential bathroom. Our circle is near the north arm of Lake Macbride, at the boat ramp area off Opie Ave NE west of Solon (directions below). Bring a chair, binoculars, and optional snacks to share, just like a tailgate party. Anyone who shows up is part of our team. Drop in when you want, and stay as long as you like. Our hosts, Terri Macey and Linda Quinn, will keep the official species tally. Host hours are 7 a.m.- 2 p.m., but birders are welcome to stay longer and continue to count species. How many species do you predict?

We're hoping for a prize! Every team that observes the 2019 "Golden Bird" has a chance to win \$500. Last year the Golden Bird was a Black-and-white Warbler. Golden Birds in other recent years have included Mallard, Long-billed Curlew, and Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. (The Golden Bird is not revealed until immediately prior to the event.)

Fun facts: 2018 circles in Iowa were the Lakers in Clear Lake and the Spotters in Galesburg, Iowa. The state with the most Big Sitters was Pennsylvania, with 22 teams. The highest species count came from Milford, Connecticut with a whopping 115 species! The total North American species observed was 360.

Come join the ICBC team on Sunday, October 13 for a blend of birding and camaraderie! Note: the event may be delayed or canceled for rain,

which will be announced on our website and ICBC member email.

Directions: From Highway 1, turn left at Main Street in Solon (Highway 382 NE). Turn left at Opie Avenue (past the traffic circle) and follow the road to the boat ramp. GPS coordinates: 41°48'39.3"N, 91°33'09.3"W.

Club Merchandise Available

We now have a partnership with Corporate Casuals to offer many types of clothing and other items with the new Iowa City Bird Club logo, which features a Tufted Titmouse. Hat styles include baseball caps and beanies. Clothing choices range from t-shirts and polos to athletic wear with moisture-wicking fabric for hot summer days. A women's line offers polos, tops, athletic wear, and even outerwear, with a traditional fit for ladies. There are even clothing lines for big and tall men and kids. All clothing comes with an embroidered design (vertical or horizontal, and dark or light) styled to fit your item.

Browse the Corporate Casuals website at:

<http://www.CorporateCasuals.com/logoShare/icbird>

Then order by phone at (978) 268-1110, or order online:

1. Create an account using your email address and a password you create.
2. Select the items you want and complete your order.
3. Pick the logo from two ICBC styles.

NOTE: When you go to this page you should see the Iowa City Bird Club logos on your selected merchandise item. If you don't, please contact our partner's email address below.

If you have any issues, questions, or just need assistance please contact our Corporate Casuals partner, Kim Foley, at (978) 268-1110 or kim@corporatecasuals.com.



2019 Johnson County Spring Count

Chris Caster

The Spring Count was held on May 11, 2019. It was a cool, wet morning and my soles were squeaking loudly as I entered our noon meeting. Despite the conditions we had a good crew and many were able to bird more in the afternoon when conditions improved. Thanks to all those who got into the field on what turned out to be a pretty good day.

We managed a species total of 158, which is about the count average. We had just seven species of waterfowl. Shorebird habitat was limited and we were fortunate to find twelve species. Warblers were better with twenty-six species, and widespread in generally good numbers. Over 200 Yellow-rumped Warblers and over 100 Nashville Warblers and American Redstarts were found. Four groups found Blue-winged Warblers, five found Golden-winged, and six found Cape Mays.

Our best bird was also a warbler – Linda Rudolph found a Pine Warbler on the Oakdale Research Campus. Linda also found a Philadelphia Vireo. A Louisiana Waterthrush was found by Ken Lowder at Big Grove Preserve. Daniel Miller of rural SW Johnson County called to tell me of a young male Summer Tanager that his brother had trapped in his shed. I'm told they let it go after verifying the identification. Mark Brown had a Sanderling and Sedge Wren at Cedar River Crossing near Sutliff. Clay-colored Sparrows and Sandhill Cranes were at Sycamore Bottoms. Jim Forde observed a Peregrine Falcon at Hawkeye Wildlife Management Area. Pine Siskins were coming to Linda Fisher's feeders in Coralville. A Northern Mockingbird, Common Loons, and three tern species were at Terry Trueblood. Common Nighthawks were at Goose Lake in North Liberty. And I was delighted to find a very vocal Virginia Rail at the marsh on 580th Street SE.

As on last year's record count, we again missed finding both bitterns, Northern Bobwhite, American Woodcock, Great Horned Owl, White-eyed Vireo, Loggerhead Shrike, Prothonotary Warbler, and Henslow's Sparrow. Birds seen in days prior to the count but missed included Black-crowned Night-Heron, Redhead, and Lesser Scaup. Found last year, but missed this year were Eastern Screech-Owl, Bell's Vireo, Marsh Wren, Cedar Waxwing, and Cerulean Warbler.

Participants: Kyle and Lauren Belcher, Miriam, Ruth, Sarah, and Hannah Borntrager, Mark Brown, Chris Caster, Karen Disbrow, Chris Edwards, Linda Fisher, Jim Forde, Jim Fuller, Evan and Elaine Gingerich, James Huntington, KT Long, Ken Lowder, Mark Madsen, Jamie McCoy, Jason McCurdy, Ramona McGurk, Abner Miller, Cheryl Miller, Daniel Miller, Jason Paulios, Diana Pesek, Linda Quinn, Mark and Deb Rolfes, Daryl Ropp, Linda Rudolph, Jim Scheib, Jane Slaymaker, Donna Warner.

SPECIES LIST

Canada Goose	202	Eurasian Collared-Dove	5	Sandhill Crane	4
Wood Duck	41	Mourning Dove	74	Semipalmated Plover	25
Blue-winged Teal	45	Common Loon	2	Killdeer	38
Northern Shoveler	5	Pied-billed Grebe	4	Sanderling	1
Gadwall	14	Common Nighthawk	2	Dunlin	3
Mallard	70	Chimney Swift	8	Least Sandpiper	55
Hooded Merganser	4	Ruby-thr. Hummingbird	8	White-rumped Sandpiper	3
Ring-necked Pheasant	30	Virginia Rail	1	Pectoral Sandpiper	7
Wild Turkey	7	Sora	8	Semipalmated Sandpiper	6
Rock Pigeon	16	American Coot	14	Dowitcher sp.	1

Spotted Sandpiper	13	American Crow	27	White-throated Sparrow	117
Solitary Sandpiper	5	Horned Lark	3	White-crowned Sparrow	24
Lesser Yellowlegs	8	Purple Martin	51	Bobolink	23
Bonaparte's Gull	1	Tree Swallow	222	Eastern Meadowlark	48
Franklin's Gull	1	N. Rough-winged Sw.	27	Western Meadowlark	4
Ring-billed Gull	3	Bank Swallow	116	Orchard Oriole	14
Caspian Tern	2	Cliff Swallow	232	Baltimore Oriole	70
Black Tern	7	Barn Swallow	205	Red-winged Blackbird	608
Forster's Tern	8	Black-capped Chickadee	71	Brown-headed Cowbird	100
Double-crested Cormorant	18	Tufted Titmouse	19	Common Grackle	77
American White Pelican	34	Red-breasted Nuthatch	16	Ovenbird	18
Great Blue Heron	9	White-breasted Nuthatch	34	Louisiana Waterthrush	1
Great Egret	7	House Wren	131	Northern Waterthrush	26
Green Heron	2	Sedge Wren	1	Golden-winged Warbler	19
Turkey Vulture	82	Carolina Wren	2	Blue-winged Warbler	24
Osprey	2	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	31	Black-and-white Warbler	30
Northern Harrier	1	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	21	Tennessee Warbler	26
Cooper's Hawk	4	Eastern Bluebird	25	Orange-crowned Warbler	8
Bald Eagle	7	Veery	5	Nashville Warbler	133
Broad-winged Hawk	1	Gray-cheeked Thrush	3	Mourning Warbler	1
Red-tailed Hawk	9	Swainson's Thrush	29	Common Yellowthroat	112
Barred Owl	4	Wood Thrush	10	American Redstart	129
Belted Kingfisher	3	American Robin	201	Cape May Warbler	10
Red-headed Woodpecker	31	Gray Catbird	179	Northern Parula	31
Red-bellied Woodpecker	44	Brown Thrasher	25	Magnolia Warbler	20
Downy Woodpecker	40	Northern Mockingbird	1	Blackburnian Warbler	9
Hairy Woodpecker	6	European Starling	108	Yellow Warbler	54
Northern Flicker	14	House Sparrow	135	Chestnut-sided Warbler	39
Pileated Woodpecker	4	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	36	Blackpoll Warbler	11
American Kestrel	2	House Finch	17	Palm Warbler	49
Peregrine Falcon	1	Pine Siskin	6	Pine Warbler	1
Eastern Kingbird	25	American Goldfinch	161	Yellow-rumped Warbler	228
Great Crested Flycatcher	19	Eastern Towhee	7	Yellow-throated Warbler	2
Eastern Wood-Pewee	4	Chipping Sparrow	79	Black-thr. Green Warbler	23
Willow Flycatcher	2	Clay-colored Sparrow	2	Canada Warbler	1
Least Flycatcher	16	Field Sparrow	13	Wilson's Warbler	6
Eastern Phoebe	15	Vesper Sparrow	1	Summer Tanager	1
Yellow-throated Vireo	17	Lark Sparrow	10	Scarlet Tanager	13
Blue-headed Vireo	8	Savannah Sparrow	9	Northern Cardinal	181
Philadelphia Vireo	1	Grasshopper Sparrow	7	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	93
Warbling Vireo	26	Song Sparrow	96	Indigo Bunting	38
Red-eyed Vireo	9	Lincoln's Sparrow	8	Dickcissel	4
Blue Jay	59	Swamp Sparrow	1		



2019 Hickory Hill Park Warbler Walks

Chris Edwards

The 2019 Hickory Hill Park Warbler Walk season was a memorable one. Twenty-seven warbler species were seen, which ties the record for most species – in a typical year 25 or 26 species are found. This year’s warbler migration started a bit late but was more prolonged than usual, and we added an extra week onto the schedule. Highlights included Cape May Warblers on May 6 and 10; Bay-breasted Warblers on seven days from May 8-24; Connecticut Warblers heard and seen well by many participants on five days from May 20-30; a Kentucky Warbler on May 23; and a Worm-eating Warbler seen briefly on May 24. A total of 103 species were seen on our walks. Non-warbler highlights included Red-breasted Nuthatches daily from May 6-16; Veeries five times between May 8-15; Pileated Woodpeckers on May 9 and 22; Summer Tanagers on May 20 and 22; Philadelphia Vireos four times between May 21-30; a late Broad-winged Hawk on May 23; an Olive-sided Flycatcher on May 23; Alder Flycatchers daily from May 27-31; and an Acadian Flycatcher May 28. Check our new website for a complete checklist. Thanks to Mark Madsen, Dan Rose, Jason Paulios, and Elliot Stalter who all led walks again this year.

SPECIES	04/30/19	05/01/19	05/02/19	05/03/19	05/06/19	05/07/19	05/08/19	05/09/19	05/10/19	05/13/19	05/14/19	05/15/19	05/16/19	05/17/19	05/20/19	05/21/19	05/22/19	05/23/19	05/24/19	05/27/19	05/28/19	05/29/19	05/30/19	05/31/19	DAYS
Ovenbird			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						17
Worm-eating Warbler																			X						1
Louisiana Waterthrush																									0
Northern Waterthrush									X							X									2
Golden-winged Warbler					X	X		X	X		X	X	X			X	X	X	X						11
Blue-winged Warbler					X	X	X	X				X													5
Black-and-white Warbler			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X							15
Prothonotary Warbler																									0
Tennessee Warbler					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			18
Orange-crowned Warbler					X		X		X	X	X	X	X												7
Nashville Warbler				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						16
Connecticut Warbler															X	X	X	X					X		5
Mourning Warbler															X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	8
Kentucky Warbler																		X							1
Common Yellowthroat				X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	20
Hooded Warbler																									0
American Redstart					X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	19
Cape May Warbler					X			X																	2
Cerulean Warbler																									0
Northern Parula					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X			X				14
Magnolia Warbler					X	X		X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X		X				14
Bay-breasted Warbler							X	X			X	X	X				X		X						7
Blackburnian Warbler					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X				16
Yellow Warbler						X		X							X		X	X							5
Chestnut-sided Warbler					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	18
Blackpoll Warbler					X		X						X			X		X	X	X	X				8
Palm Warbler					X		X				X	X													4
Pine Warbler																									0
Yellow-rumped Warbler			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X									12
Yellow-throated Warbler																									0
Black-throated Green Warbler					X	X		X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X							11
Canada Warbler												X	X		X	X	X	X	X						7
Wilson's Warbler												X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						8
TOTAL WARBLER SPECIES	0	0	3	5	18	15	14	16	16	13	15	19	18	8	15	19	18	19	15	6	8	3	5	3	27

Field Trip and Meeting Reports

March 20, Kent Park Wednesday Walk. It was about 40°, cloudy, and dark at the start. After walking we spent some time in the blind.

Participants: Sandy Eads, Betsy Fischer, Rick Hollis (leader), Eric Miller, Connie Peterson.

Birds (26 species): Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Mourning Dove, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Blue Jay, American Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, European Starling, Purple Finch, Pine Siskin, American Goldfinch, American Tree Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Eastern Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Northern Cardinal.

– Rick Hollis

March 30, Kent Park. It was cold and windy and gray for this Beginning Birder Trip. We did not see anything really exciting, but we had a nice walk and a nice visit in the blind. We missed a number of species that I expect on this trip, namely Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Hermit Thrush, and Fox Sparrow.

Participants: Jerry Denning, Betsy Fischer, Peter Hansen, Rick Hollis (leader), Daryl and Chris Olney, Lynne Portnoy.

Birds (27 species): Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser, Mourning Dove, Turkey Vulture, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, Blue Jay, American Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, European Starling, Purple Finch, Pine Siskin, American Goldfinch, American Tree Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Red-winged Blackbird, Northern Cardinal.

– Rick Hollis

April 3, Kent Park Wednesday Walk. The temperature rose from 30° to 50°, and it was a clear, still, beautiful morning. We again missed several expected birds including Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Hermit Thrush, and Fox Sparrow, but it was a lovely morning so I am not complaining.

Participants: Kaci Cardan, Jerry Denning, Betsy Fischer, Hetty Hall, Rick Hollis (leader), Ed Kuhrt, Eric Miller, Connie Peterson, Donna Warner.

Birds (23 species): Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Mallard, Mourning Dove, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Blue Jay, American Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, American Goldfinch, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Northern Cardinal.

– Rick Hollis

April 6, Hawkeye Wildlife Management Area and Lake Macbride. After a number of planned walks that had encountered weather issues, today was not bad at all. Early morning temperatures were around 43 degrees, rising to the mid-sixties by mid-day. Winds were light, and partial early cloud cover largely cleared up by noon. We started at Swan Lake and enjoyed quite a variety of duck species that were studied through our scopes, with the addition of a Belted Kingfisher that put in a nice appearance. We checked out the Beaver Dam pond and the road to Sand Point, with almost its entire length under water. Reports of Swan Lake Road being in bad shape west of Babcock Access proved to be true, so we elected to head to Lake Macbride. Our highest number of American White Pelicans appeared right over North Liberty, in a flock of about 60. Lake Macbride produced a good view of a Common Loon just off Cottage Reserve Road. Our total species count was 36, which included some life birds for several of our beginning birder participants. A good time was had by all.

Participants: Phyllis Black, Shane and Kim Coopriider, Jerry Denning (leader), Sandy Eads, James Huntington, Donna Warner.

Birds (36 species): Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, American Wigeon, Mallard, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser, Ruddy Duck, Wild Turkey, Pied-billed Grebe, Mourning Dove, American Coot, Common Loon, Double-crested Cormorant, American White Pelican, Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, Belted Kingfisher, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Eastern Phoebe, American Crow, American Robin, European Starling, American Tree Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Eastern Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Northern Cardinal.

– *Jerry Denning*

April 7, Otter Creek Marsh. The day began with scattered rain showers moving through east-central Iowa, so the scheduled trip to Otter Creek Marsh was delayed for an hour while we waited out the rain. After the weather cleared, we had a pleasant but cloudy morning for walking the dikes at the marsh and scoping through the waterfowl at the west end (refuge). The east end was closed to access due to the continuing flooding of the Iowa River.

Bird diversity was low overall at the marsh, but duck numbers were very high. Over 100 Greater White-fronted Geese were lingering. Two Trumpeter Swans seemed to follow us around, and we enjoyed their trumpeting calls. Lesser Scaup dominated the ten duck species present. A singing Field Sparrow near the parking lot was a FOY (first-of-year) for everyone in the group.

After walking for a little over a mile along the dike and then back to the cars without seeing much variety, we decided to try out P Avenue and the far west end of the marsh area. Not surprisingly, we immediately ran into a “road closed due to high water” sign. We were able to drive past that and along the gravel road for a short distance before coming to the flooded area.

This side jaunt paid off with four Brewer’s Blackbirds in a mixed blackbird flock – they were life birds for three of the birding party! We also found a Greater Yellowlegs foraging in sheet water in a flooded field.

We heard Sandhill Cranes calling multiple times while at the marsh, but they never flew around so we had to settle for those as “heard-only” birds.

Participants: Phyllis Black, Barry Buschelman, Linda Quinn, Diana Pesek (leader).

Birds (33 species): Greater White-fronted Goose, Canada Goose, Trumpeter Swan, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, Mallard, Green-winged Teal, Canvasback, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Ruddy Duck, Ring-necked Pheasant, Pied-billed Grebe, American Coot, Sandhill Crane, Killdeer, Greater Yellowlegs, Bald Eagle, Red-tailed Hawk, Northern Flicker, American Crow, Tree Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, American Robin, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Brewer’s Blackbird, Common Grackle, Northern Cardinal.

– *Diana Pesek*

April 14, Lake Macbride State Park. A nice group attended this Beginning Birder Trip to Lake Macbride and surrounding areas. It was a chilly morning – the temperature at 8 a.m. was 36° F with a wind of 15 mph and partly cloudy skies.

Participants: Phyllis Black, Jerry Denning, Karen Disbrow (leader), Ramona McGurk, Linda Quinn, Torin and Danelle Waters.

Birds (45 species): Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Mallard, Green-winged Teal, Bufflehead, Red-breasted Merganser, Ring-necked Pheasant, Wild Turkey, Pied-billed Grebe, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Mourning Dove, Lesser Yellowlegs, Ringed-billed Gull, Common Loon, Double-crested Cormorant, American White Pelican, Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-

bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Eastern Phoebe, Blue Jay, American Crow, Tree Swallow, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, European Starling, House Sparrow, Purple Finch, Chipping Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Grackle, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Northern Cardinal.

– *Karen Disbrow*

April 18, Meeting. Our speaker for the evening was Linda Rudolph, who provided a wonderful presentation describing her experiences birding the Atlantic rain forest region of Brazil. As always, Linda's photos were beautiful and her enthusiasm and love of birding made this a wonderful presentation.

Linda had never been to Brazil before and she greatly enjoyed the culture, food, topography, wildlife, and of course the birds. Her tour group spent a majority of the time at Intervalles State Park. Even though this was the "dry" part of the year it rained every day and was gray and heavily overcast the entire time. Despite the weather conditions, the group had a wonderful time seeing endemic birds and the spectacle of multispecies flocks working through the rain forest canopy. The end of the trip saw the group heading south towards Argentina. Here there is open savannah which is home to araucaria trees, which are also known as monkey puzzle trees and are protected in Brazil. Linda showed slides of cuties such as the diminutive Gray-headed Tody Tyrant, the endemic Azure-shouldered Tanager, and an Ornate Hawk-eagle carrying a tinamou to its nest. All in all, she saw 343 species in Brazil in the space of 16 days.

Rick Hollis was our Spotlight Speaker. He continued his presentation from the March meeting about birds that might be seen at the Spring IOU Meeting in Van Buren County. Many thanks to Rick for continuing to educate us.

After the talks and a break we completed the business portion of our meeting. Larry Mahoney gave the Treasurer's report. We currently have 143 members (24 have not paid their 2019 dues), and we remain financially solvent, if not wealthy. Linda Quinn described upcoming field trips, of which there are many, including the May Warbler Walks in Hickory Hill Park. Karen Disbrow gave an update on the May IOU meeting to be held in Keosauqua.

Attendees: Karen Disbrow, Mark and Sandy Eads, Chris Edwards, Vic and Nola Edwards, Linda Fisher, Peter Hansen, Rick Hollis, Pat Kieffer, Terri Macey, Larry Mahoney, John and Carol McNamara, Linda Quinn, Tom and Carol Rosenberger, Linda Rudolph, Maria Story, Donna Warner, and four others.

– *Terri Macey*

April 20, Waterworks Prairie Park. About a dozen birders participated in this Beginning Birder Trip on a pleasant, sunny morning. Seven species of waterfowl were scattered about the ponds. Many Tree Swallows were observed up close as they checked out the nest boxes, and half a dozen Purple Martins had returned to the houses on the large pond. A Sora was heard on the small marsh pond, and an early Green Heron flushed from a willow thicket. Eastern Meadowlarks and Eastern Bluebirds were singing and easy to observe, and a Brown Thrasher was vocalizing from the top of a large tree. As we returned to the parking lot, an American Robin was spotted on a nest not far from the trail.

Birds (39 species): Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Mallard, Redhead, Ring-necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Pied-billed Grebe, Mourning Dove, Sora, American Coot, Killdeer, Ring-billed Gull, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Turkey Vulture, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Eastern Phoebe, Blue Jay, Purple Martin, Tree Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, Brown Thrasher, European Starling, American Goldfinch, Field

Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Grackle, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Northern Cardinal.

– *Karen Disbrow*

May 15, Kent Park Wednesday Walk. After the weather on most of our previous trips this spring, this was an absolutely glorious day. It was sunny and warm and most of us shed clothing layers before we left the parking lot or during the walk. The birds seemed quiet, and with all the leaves, were hard to see. We walked a new route today and saw a lot of birds coming back through the youth camp clearing. Not much was flowering besides shooting stars.

Participants: Kaci Carolan, Sandy Eads, John Fiesemann, Rick Hollis (leader), Ed Kuhrt, Larry Mahoney, Erik Miller, Linda Quinn, Donna Warner.

Birds (49 species): Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Mourning Dove, Common Nighthawk, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Turkey Vulture, Broad-winged Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, American Kestrel, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Eastern Phoebe, Yellow-throated Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Tree Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Eastern Bluebird, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird, European Starling, American Goldfinch, Eastern Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Prothonotary Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Magnolia Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting.

– *Rick Hollis*

May 16, Meeting. Our featured speaker for the evening was Jim Durbin, of Cedar Rapids Audubon Society, presenting “Developing

Backyard Habitat.” He walked us through his efforts over many years of planting bird- and butterfly-friendly shrubs, trees, and flowers in his Marion yard. His pictorial walk through decades of his labor of love included pictures of the many birds and other creatures visiting his yard. He provided information on bird-friendly habitat and has offered to show individuals around his yard, but please call ahead.

After our social break we regrouped to hear from Brad Freidhof about the Kent Park lake restoration project. He provided a pictorial timeline of the drainage and subsequent clearing out of all the accumulated debris, shoring up the banks and dam, and finally the slow refilling of the lake. There are plans to introduce several species of fish at a staggered pace.

After the talk, the business portion of our meeting began. Kudos were given to Karen Disbrow for her very successful organization of our club's hosting of the IOU Spring Meeting in Keosauqua. She thanked the many members who volunteered their time to help set up and clean the meeting venue. Treasurer Larry Mahoney reported that we remain fiscally solvent, but there are still a number of members who have not paid dues for 2019. The business meeting had to come to a halt as severe storm warnings were being issued and members wanted to be home before it started.

Attendees: Phyllis Black, Katya Boltanova, Theresa Carbrey, Karen Disbrow, Jim Durbin, Mark and Sandy Eads, Vic and Nola Edwards, Linda Fisher, Peter Hansen, Rick Hollis, Lois Hughes, Merle Ihne, Pat Kieffer, Larry Mahoney, Cheryl Miller, Milana Mitchell, Ruth Pierce, Linda Quinn, Deb and Mark Rolfes, Dick Tetrault, Bill Walker, Donna Warner, Ronnye Wieland.

– *Larry Mahoney*

June 1, Muddy Creek Preserve. It was a small group that braved the hilly, overgrown deer trail hike through the new(ish) Muddy Creek Bur Oak Land Trust property. I'd been there only a few times and was curious to see what the summer

breeding season bird list looked like. Fortunately, we were joined by Barbara Beaumont who had donated this land and lives on an adjacent property, so we had an excellent navigator and she was able to give us some good backstory on the natural history.

We only saw a few birds – mostly we only heard things up high in the canopy. But we had a great hike through the woods and Barbara's nearby prairie. We saw many Ebony Jewelwing damselflies with their butterfly-like flight in the forest undergrowth, and found a couple patches of the somewhat rare green dragon plant – a relative of jack-in-the-pulpit. Linda and I saw a pair of Pileated Woodpeckers at the entrance to the trail just prior to Barbara joining us. We heard Yellow-billed Cuckoos calling along the creek, and ended with Barred Owls duetting despite it being broad daylight.

Participants: Barbara Beaumont, Jason Paulios (leader), Linda Quinn.

Birds (34 species): Canada Goose, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Barred Owl, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Alder Flycatcher, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, Barn Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Cedar Waxwing, House Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Baltimore Oriole, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Yellowthroat, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting.

– Jason Paulios

June 8, Indiangrass Hills. Seven birders joined me for the annual outing to Indiangrass Hills in Iowa County. The weather was perfect, starting at about 65 degrees and warming to around 75 by midday with sunny skies and very light winds.

We started out birding in the usual area on the east side of I Ave. opposite the parking area. Historically most of our target birds are picked up between the road and the stream crossing and this year was no different. At least six Bobolinks were detectable right away. Henslow's Sparrows were heard and seen in great numbers. In fact our total count ended up being 15 and that may have been conservative. As the group walked to the east, Blue Jays could be heard making a lot of noise in a patch of woods just down the hill. A few minutes later, a Great Horned Owl flushed to the south, probably because it grew tired of all the scolding. This is the first time I have had any owl species on this outing.

The one specialty bird that was missed during last year's outing was Sedge Wren. Fortunately that was not the case this year. We heard a bird singing as we approached the stream crossing down the hill. We got fairly close to the bird, but it only gave brief looks. A second Sedge Wren after the crossing was much more obliging, teeing up for over a minute. Other nice birds picked up past the stream were Red-headed Woodpecker, Orchard Oriole, Indigo Bunting, and Yellow-throated Vireo, another species I have not seen on previous outings.

On the way back to the parking area, we finally got a good look at a Grasshopper Sparrow, which didn't show well earlier in the morning. We also enjoyed the Henslow's Sparrows again, since they continued to vocalize and show themselves at close range.

Since all of the targets were picked up on the east side of I Ave, the group agreed that it was unnecessary to explore any of the west side of the property, and instead chose to go for Northern Mockingbird and Loggerhead Shrike about a mile south along I Ave. These were bonus birds that we saw at the end of the outing last year. We were successful again this year, getting great scope views of a single shrike and at least three different mockers. Northern Bobwhite was briefly heard but unseen at the same spot. What a great way to end the outing!

Participants: Mark Brown (leader), Barry Buschelman, Jim Fuller, Therese Guedon, Mark Madsen, Linda Quinn, Mark and Deb Rolfes.

Birds (52 species): Northern Bobwhite, Ring-necked Pheasant, Mourning Dove, Killdeer, Great Blue Heron, Turkey Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Great Horned Owl, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Eastern Kingbird, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Willow Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Loggerhead Shrike, Yellow-throated Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Blue Jay, Cliff Swallow, Barn Swallow, House Wren, Sedge Wren, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Northern Mockingbird, European Starling, Cedar Waxwing, House Sparrow, Eurasian Tree Sparrow, American Goldfinch, Eastern Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Grackle, Common Yellowthroat, Yellow Warbler, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel.

Butterflies (10 species): Black Swallowtail, Cabbage White, Summer Azure, Great Spangled Fritillary, Silvery Checkerspot, American Lady, Painted Lady, Monarch, European Skipper, Peck's Skipper.

– *Mark Brown*

June 15, Turkey Vulture Festival. About 35 people and 100 Turkey Vultures attended our annual festival at the Coralville Dam East Overlook. Most of the vultures were roosting on the north face of the dam. Joan Schnabel of Raptology brought Gonzo the Turkey Vulture for live demonstrations, and Cedar County Conservation, Eastern Central Iowa Beekeepers, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers participated. Luckily the rain held off until after the festival.

– *Karen Disbrow*

June 19, Kent Park Wednesday Walk. It was another dark morning but we only had a few drops of rain. The birds were hard to see and mostly quiet.

Participants: Mary Bowler, Brian Broderick, Rick Hollis (leader), Ben Miller, Louise Murray, Curt Smith.

Birds (32 species): Mallard, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Green Heron, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Eastern Kingbird, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Warbling Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Barn Swallow, House Wren, American Robin, Gray Catbird, European Starling, American Goldfinch, Eastern Towhee, Field Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Bobolink, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Dickcissel.

– *Rick Hollis*

July 3, Kent Park Wednesday Walk. It was awfully hot and awfully humid. It was a real treat to have Naturalist Frances Owen along, as she spotted things other people did not. We were all watching a Monarch butterfly and Frances said, "Did she just lay an egg?" Sure enough, Frances lifted the leaf up and showed us all the egg. Shortly afterwards we found a Gray Tree Frog in a cup plant. Also in the cup plant were a colony of reddish aphids. At the end of the trip, Frances found a tiny American Toad. It was considerably smaller than a dime, and very dark.

Participants: Jerry Denning, Katya Boltanova, Jackie and Katie Chace, Nola Edwards, Betsy Fischer, Rick Hollis (leader), Eric Miller, Milana Mitchell, Frances Owen.

Birds (24 species): Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Kingbird, Eastern Wood-Pewee, American Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Eastern Bluebird, Wood Thrush,

American Robin, Gray Catbird, European Starling, Eastern Towhee, Field Sparrow, Baltimore Oriole, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Yellowthroat, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak.

– Rick Hollis

July 17, Kent Park Warbler Walk. Today was very hot and humid. To tell the truth I am kind of looking forward to fall and some cooler weather. Today's birds contained no real prizes except for the heard-only Wood Thrushes. We saw an American Robin feeding young at a nest. The plants in bloom were wonderful. We birded and looked at plants on the east side – a one-mile hike without many hills and much sun. Our birders ranged in age from a preschooler to a septuagenarian.

Participants: Theresa Appleby, Sandy Eads, Rick Hollis (leader), Jeanne Koerber, Ty Morris.

Birds (24 species): Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Blue Jay, American Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Eastern Bluebird, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird, House Finch, American Goldfinch, Eastern Towhee, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting.

– Rick Hollis

July 22, Iowa City Butterfly Count. The 21st annual Iowa City Butterfly Count was held on Monday July 22, after being delayed two days by poor weather. The count is part of the North American Butterfly Association's 4th of July Butterfly Count Program. Six other counts are held annually in Iowa, including the Shimek State Forest and Yellow River State Forest counts which I also organize. On this count we visited Kent Park, Hawkeye Wildlife Area, Macbride Nature-Recreation Area, Lake Macbride State Park, and Turkey Creek Preserve. We also counted butterflies along roadsides.

The long-term average for this count is 33 species and 1129 individuals. This year in 9.25 hours we found 34 species and 645 individuals. The number of individuals was down this year largely because we didn't have any alfalfa fields in bloom along our route, which in past years contained large numbers of sulphurs.

Butterfly species have different flight periods, and their numbers vary greatly from year to year and from week to week during the flight season. Species seen in significantly above-average numbers this year were Summer Azure, Painted Lady, Monarch, Silver-spotted Skipper, Least Skipper (record high count), and Fiery Skipper.

Species seen in significantly below-average numbers were Eastern Tiger Swallowtail, Cabbage White, Clouded Sulphur, Orange Sulphur, Eastern Tailed-Blue, Great Spangled Fritillary, Pearl Crescent, Eastern Comma (missed), Viceroy, and Common Wood-Nymph.

Participants: Chris Edwards (leader), Hetty Hall, Frank Olsen.

Species List: Black Swallowtail 5, Giant Swallowtail 1, Eastern Tiger Swallowtail 2, Checkered White 1 (fifth record in 21 years), Cabbage White 74, Clouded Sulphur 23, Orange Sulphur 10, Little Yellow 45, Dainty Sulphur 5, Gray Copper 1 (fifth record in 21 years), Bronze Copper 1, Banded Hairstreak 2 (third record in 21 years), Gray Hairstreak 1 (fifth record in 21 years), Eastern Tailed-Blue 16, Summer Azure 166, Great Spangled Fritillary 12, Meadow Fritillary 5, Pearl Crescent 2, Question Mark 1, American Lady 2, Painted Lady 15, Red Admiral 20, Common Buckeye 9, Red-spotted Purple 4, Viceroy 5, Common Wood-Nymph 3, Monarch 80, Silver-spotted Skipper 63, Least Skipper 54, Fiery Skipper 11, Peck's Skipper 2, Tawny-edged Skipper 2, Black Dash 1, Dun Skipper 1.

– Chris Edwards

August 7, Kent Park Wednesday Walk. It was hot and humid, but a beautiful morning, and the birding was better than on the last trip.

Participants: Mary Bowler, Rick Hollis (leader), Pat Kieffer.

Birds (24 species): Wood Duck, Mourning Dove, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Eastern Kingbird, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Yellow-throated Vireo, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, Gray Catbird, American Goldfinch, Eastern Towhee, Baltimore Oriole, Brown-headed Cowbird, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting.

– Rick Hollis

September 4, Kent Park Wednesday Walk.

The vegetation is slowly moving towards fall, but the leaves are still awfully thick on the trees. Flower-wise, much the same is blooming as was blooming last trip, but many August species are pushing the end of the flowering period. A few butterflies, including Red Admirals and

Monarchs, were seen, as well as Spotted Grass Moth.

Participants: Brian Bower, Mary Bowler, Rick Hollis (leader), Pat Kieffer, Donna Warner.

Birds (34 species): Trumpeter Swan, Wood Duck, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, American White Pelican, Turkey Vulture, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Eastern Kingbird, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Eastern Phoebe, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, Brown Thrasher, European Starling, Cedar Waxwing, House Sparrow, House Finch, American Goldfinch, Eastern Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Black-and-white Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Wilson’s Warbler, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak.

– Rick Hollis

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