

The Raven

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA SOCIETY OF ORNITHOLOGY

Volume 80

Number 1 & 2

2009



The Virginia Society of Ornithology, Inc. exists to encourage the systematic study of birds in Virginia, to stimulate interest in birds, and to assist the conservation of wildlife and other natural resources. All persons interested in those objectives are welcome as members. Present membership includes every level of interest, from professional scientific ornithologists to enthusiastic amateurs.

Activities undertaken by the Society include the following:

1. An annual meeting (usually in the spring), held in a different part of the state each year, featuring talks on ornithological subjects and field trips to nearby areas.
2. Other forays or field trips lasting a day or more and scheduled throughout the year so as to include all seasons and to cover the major physiographic regions of the state.
3. A journal, *The Raven*, published twice yearly, containing articles relevant to Virginia ornithology as well as news of the activities of the Society and its chapters.
4. A newsletter, the VSO Newsletter, published quarterly, containing current news items of interest to members and information about upcoming events and pertinent conservation issues.
5. Study projects (nesting studies, winter bird population surveys, etc.) aimed at making genuine contributions to ornithological knowledge.

In addition, some local chapters of the Society conduct their own programs of meetings, field trips and other projects.

Those wishing to participate in any of the above activities, or to cooperate in advancing the objectives of the Society, are cordially invited to join and should contact Thelma Dalmas, the Membership Secretary. Annual dues are \$15.00 for active members, \$25.00 for sustaining members, \$50.00 or more for contributing members, \$400.00 for life members, and \$20.00 for family members (limited to husband, wife and their dependent children).

Additional Information can be found on the Internet, at www.virginiabirds.net

Queries and comments about *The Raven* or the VSO Newsletter should be directed to the respective editors.

OFFICERS OF THE VSO IN 2009

President: David Spears, 3928 Bell Road, Dillwyn, VA 23936 (7/01/08-6/30/09)

Rexanne Bruno, 1012 Harrods Court, Lynchburg, VA 24503 (7/01/09-6/30/10)

Vice President: Rexanne Bruno, 1012 Harrods Court, Lynchburg, VA 24503 (7/01/08-6/30/09)

Andrew Dolby, 1411 Franklin Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401 (7/01/09-6/30/10)

Past President: John Spahr, 234 W. Frederick Street, Staunton, VA 24401 (7/01/08-6/30/09)

David Spears, 3928 Bell Road, Dillwyn, VA 23936 (7/01/09-6/30/10)

Secretary: Alyce Quinn, 681 Edgewood Farm Lane, Wirtz, VA 24184

Treasurer: Barbara Thrasher, 120 Woodbine Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24502

Membership Secretary: Thelma H. Dalmas, 1230 Viewmont Drive, Evington, VA 24550

Raven Editor: Paul R. Cabe, Biology Dept., Washington & Lee University, Lexington, VA 24450

Newsletter Editors: Linda Fields and Alan Schreck, 1573 21st Ct. N., Arlington, VA 22209

The Raven

JOURNAL OF THE VIRGINIA SOCIETY OF ORNITHOLOGY

Editor
Wesley M. Brown



Volume 80

Published by
THE VIRGINIA SOCIETY OF ORNITHOLOGY

2009

Copyright by the Virginia Society of Ornithology, Inc.

ISSN 0034-0146

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE IN JAMES CITY COUNTY, JANUARY - APRIL 2008 Shirley Devan	3
FIFTY YEARS OF THE LYNCHBURG CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT, 1959-2008 Rexanne M. Bruno and Larry L. Farmer.....	5
THE JUNE 2009 VSO FORAY, GREENVILLE AND SUSSEX COUNTIES: IN SEARCH OF BACHMAN'S SPARROW Wendy Ealding.....	13
VIRGINIA CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS: 2008-2009 SEASON Teta Kain	29
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE 2008 VIRGINIA AVIAN RECORDS COMMITTEE Amy K. Gilmer	46
VIRGINIA SOCIETY OF ORNITHOLOGY ANNUAL MEETING, 2009 Alyce Quinn	48
BIRDS OF WINTERGREEN, BOOK REVIEW David Spears.....	50
CORRECTIONS TO VOLUME 79 OF THE RAVEN 2008 VSO OFFICERS LIST	51
2008 ANNUAL MEETING REPORT.....	51
2007-2008 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT	51
LOCAL CHAPTERS OF THE VSO.....	56

TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE IN JAMES CITY COUNTY, JANUARY – APRIL 2008

BY SHIRLEY DEVAN
Williamsburg Bird Club
P.O. Box 1085
Williamsburg, VA 23187

A Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) was observed at a Virginia residence in James City County, near the city of Williamsburg, for 29 consecutive days in January of 2008, and again at the same site on 5 April 2008. This was the second sighting of this species in Virginia and followed closely the first, brief sighting by Matt Hafner on 19 November, 2007 at Harvey's Knob on the Blue Ridge Parkway near milepost 95 (Purdy, 2008).

Residents Mac and Kathi Mestayer first observed the bird in their yard on New Year's Day, mainly on a large, berry-laden cedar tree. They called me that day, and also on the following day to say that the bird was still there. Mac was familiar with this western species from having lived in Palo Alto, CA. I alerted fellow Williamsburg Bird Club members Alex Minarik, Susan Powell, Mike Powell and Brian Taber and drove over to see the rarity. The bird allowed such close views and photography that every field mark described in the 2008 National Geographic Complete Birds of North America (Alderfer, 2008) was well seen. The bird's behavior also matched that book's description: "...in some wintering situations, individuals hold territory with extensive supply of small fruits (e.g., juniper berries) defended by call note and, rare in North American birds, song." (p. 483) and the identity was not in question.

The accompanying photograph, taken in January at the Mestayer property by Joseph Piotrowski, provides visual documentation of the bird's identity.



During January and February of 2008 there were reports of Townsend's Solitaire far east of its normal range, including localities in Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Iowa, Tennessee, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Arkansas (see Block, 2008).

Over the following weeks there were many visitors to the yard. The extended stay provided an unexpected opportunity to document interesting behaviors of a bird far from home. The following are excerpts from some of the internet postings on Virginia Birds (VA List Serve):

On January 3rd, Mike Boatwright reported: "The bird was quite active for most of the hour or so that we were there and we heard it give it's characteristic one-note, soft, bell-like "tew" call briefly. The solitaire also gave its squeaky "eeek" call often. After a few minutes we were able to locate the bird by it's call alone."

On January 12, I reported: "Members of the Williamsburg Bird Club arrived about 10 AM and the Solitaire appeared shortly thereafter. We watched as the Solitaire engaged an Eastern Bluebird near the cedar tree. It had a confrontation with about two dozen Cedar Waxwings in the tulip poplar tree. After the battle with the Cedar Waxwings it came down to the birdbath for a drink. The Solitaire was very active and spent a great deal of energy chasing other birds."

On January 29th, I observed: "The cedar tree has lost a lot of its berries – no wonder, with all

the birds feasting on it. I observed the Solitaire trying to eat berries from the end of a branch by hovering (hummingbird style) while trying to snatch a berry. [ed's note: hovering behavior has been reported previously for Townsend's Solitaire (see Bowen, 1997)]. If that strategy is successful, the bird is spending quite a lot of energy to get its food. After a Cooper's Hawk streaked through the yard at the roof line and the birds got up enough gumption to come out of the trees, the Solitaire perched on its favorite tulip poplar and eventually moved to the birdbath for a drink. The bird was not calling nearly as much as it was earlier in the month. I only heard it a couple of times. Neither Baltimore Orioles nor Cedar Waxwings were evident during the 45 minutes I was there."

On January 4, Brenda Tekin reported: "Quite a few birds visited the yard many of which, like the Townsend's, fed on the cedar berries. The Townsend's flew out of the cedar, scolding and overall appeared very agitated. It flew back into the cedar and birds scattered with the Townsend's in pursuit. Up until this time the Townsend's did not seem to mind the endless flow of other birds flying into the cedar that included Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Chickadee, Northern Mockingbird, Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, House Finch and Baltimore Oriole. A small handful of birds were driven out of the cedar tree by the Townsend's, flying a short distance to perch in the upper bare branches of the poplar tree. The Townsend's chased them off, at times fluttering around and vocalizing rather loudly. The small flock of birds appeared to be mostly Cedar Waxwing with at least two Pine Warblers. Whatever they were, it was evident the Townsend's had zero tolerance for their presence in the immediate vicinity of the yard."

On January 21, Stephen Eccles reported: "Arrived at the Williamsburg location just before 10 am, Monday morning. It was quite cold. The solitaire was immediately found, in sole possession of the cedar. Almost at once, a large flock of Cedar Waxwings started to accumulate, reaching just over 200 birds. They were joined by a small flock of robins, a handful of flickers, several starlings, a few bluebirds and some cardinals,

white-throated sparrows and house finches. A couple of mockingbirds kept their distance. The solitaire made a few attempts to chase off some waxwings, but it was only half-hearted in view of the numbers of competitors. I wonder how long this food source will last?"

There were no observations of the bird from January 29th until April 5th, when the Mestayers again saw the bird in their yard eating holly berries. It was not seen after that date.

Acknowledgements

Thanks to homeowners Kathi and Mac Mestayer for their hospitality and for their successful efforts to create a bird-friendly yard, which is certified as a National Wildlife Federation Backyard habitat. Thanks also to Joseph Piotrowski for providing the photograph of the bird described in this article.

Literature Cited

- Alderfer, J. K. 2008.** National Geographic Complete Birds of North America. National Geographic, Washington, DC. 640pp.
- Block, N. 2008.** Sightings. *Birding* 40(2):28-29.
- Bowen, R. V. 1997.** Townsend's Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*). The Birds of North America Online (A. Poole, Ed.). Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Retrieved from the Birds of North America Online: <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu.proxy.lib.umich.edu/bna/species/269> doi:10.2173/bna.269
- Purdy, M. 2008.** "Sightings" in The Roanoke Valley Bird Club January 2008 Newsletter, p. 3
- VA List Serve.** va-bird@listserve.com

FIFTY YEARS OF THE LYNCHBURG CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT, 1959-2008

By *Rexanne M. Bruno and Larry L. Farmer*

The first Lynchburg Christmas Bird Count was conducted in 1927. For the next three decades the count was conducted sporadically. Only eighteen counts were conducted from 1927 through 1954 (all with less than ten participants); on the 1950 count, there were record highs of 59 species, 2887 individual birds, and nine participants. In 1959, the Lynchburg Bird Club began organizing the count and has continued doing so annually since (Moore, 1999). In 2008 the fiftieth consecutive Lynchburg Christmas Bird Count (CBC) was conducted.

The count circle for the Lynchburg Christmas Bird Count is centered on the campus of Lynchburg College (Latitude: 37° 24' N, Longitude: 79° 11' W). This location was chosen by Dr. Ruskin Freer, professor of biology there, who started the count. The entire city of Lynchburg plus some of the surrounding area are in the count circle. Over the years much of the land in the counties around the city has been developed. Over half of the habitat in the count circle is now urban. But there are plenty of large wooded areas, fields, lakes, ponds, rivers, and creeks that have kept the count interesting over the years.

Forty-five species were recorded on the 1959 count and 84 on the fiftieth count in 2008. The 45 species seen in 1959 were the lowest recorded over the period; the highest number of 92 was seen in 1976 and again in 1977. The average number recorded over the fifty-year period is 75 species. Over the last twenty years, the number of species stabilized to around 80 per year. The number of species observed each year on the fifty CBCs is shown in Figure 1.

Over the years, 93 species were added to the initial 45 species seen in 1959, bringing the cumulative number of species seen on the

Lynchburg CBC to 138. Figure 2 depicts how the cumulative number of species has grown over fifty years.

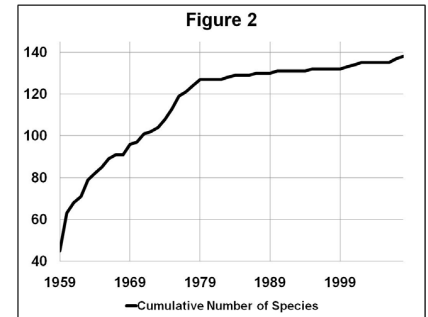


Table 1 (see pp. 11-12) contains the

complete list of species. This table also shows the first year that each species was recorded during this fifty year period (the first year recorded is underlined for species also recorded prior to 1959). The only species seen prior to 1959 that has not been recorded in the past fifty years is a Northern Shrike that was seen in 1950. The total number of birds seen each year ranged from a low of 1,850 in 1959 to a high of 1,747,741 in 1967.

Fifteen species were only recorded once during the past fifty years. The column labeled 'No. Years Recorded' in Table 1 shows these species with a '1' in the column. Some of these one-time CBC sightings were notable local and state records:

- 2 Surf Scoters in 2000 - one of only three sightings in the Lynchburg area (Sattler, Ferrell, Dalmas, Bruno, 2003)
- 1 Eared Grebe in 1987 - the only winter record for this species in the Lynchburg area (Sattler et al., 2003) and one of only seven Piedmont records for the species in Virginia (Rottenborn, Brinkley, 2007)
- 1 Common Moorhen in 1975 - provided the Lynchburg area extreme date for this species of 20 Dec (Sattler et al., 2003) and one of only two winter records for the Piedmont (Rottenborn, Brinkley, 2007)
- 1 Snowy Owl in 1964 - one of only two recent sightings in the Lynchburg area (Sattler et al., 2003).
- 1 Black-chinned Hummingbird in 2007 - the only one ever recorded on a Virginia CBC (Kain, pers. comm.)

- 1 Calliope Hummingbird in 2008 – the only one officially recorded on a Virginia CBC as documentation on one seen on the 2000 Nansemond River CBC was never submitted to the Virginia Avian Records Committee (VARCOM) (Kain, pers. comm.)
- 2 Sedge Wrens in 1975 - one of only two winter sightings in the Lynchburg area (Sattler et al., 2003)
- 3 Snow Buntings in 1959 - one of only two recent winter records in the Lynchburg area (Sattler G. et al., 2003)

Twenty-nine species were rarely recorded, i.e., more than once but ten or fewer times over the fifty-year period. These species are identified with a number between '2' and '10' in the column labeled 'No. Years Recorded' in Table 1. There are some notable records among these sightings:

- Snow Goose – a single blue morph was seen in 1965 and eight white morphs in 1983
- Horned Grebe – the seven observed on the 1977 CBC are the second highest number ever seen in the Lynchburg area (Sattler et al., 2003)
- Double-crested Cormorant – the two seen in 1995 provided the Lynchburg area and Piedmont extreme date for this species of 16 Dec (Sattler et al., 2003; Rottenborn, Brinkley, 2007)
- Green Heron – the 1987 sighting provided the Lynchburg area extreme date for this species of 19 Dec (Sattler et al., 2003)
- Barn Owl – a single owl was seen for three consecutive years (1976-1978) and the species has not been recorded again on this CBC
- Long-eared Owl – a single owl was seen in 1977, again in 1979, and never seen again on the count
- Rufous Hummingbird – two were banded in 2006 and both returned to the same feeders in 2007; another was banded in 2008 (and returned to a different feeder in the same neighborhood in 2009); the hummingbirds only identified as *Selasphorus* on CBCs in 2001, 2003, and 2004 are also presumed to be Rufous (Sattler et al., 2003). In total ten hummingbirds have been seen on this count since 2001. Some birders around the state theorize that this large number of hummingbirds seen while overwintering in the Lynchburg area

is related to increased community awareness of wintering hummingbirds. In a weekly nature column in the local newspaper, Thelma Dalmas encourages people to leave hummingbird feeders out late into the fall and winter to attract wintering hummingbirds and to report all late sightings. After someone reports one to her, she advises them about continuing care through the winter and arranges for the hummingbird to be banded and identified.

- Black-capped Chickadee – those seen on 1983 CBC provided the Lynchburg area peak count and extreme date of 17 Dec (Sattler et al., 2003)
- Gray Catbird – single birds were seen sporadically (in 1969, 1971, 1972, 1974, 1978, 1981, 1983, 1988, 1993, and 2004). A catbird was first recorded on the Lynchburg CBC in 1942. This was the first one recorded on a Virginia Piedmont CBC; another wasn't found until two were seen on the Charlottesville CBC in 1965. (Kain, pers. comm.)
- Palm Warbler – the two recorded on the 1984 CBC were a peak count for the Lynchburg area (Sattler et al., 2003)
- Vesper Sparrow – the four seen on the 1981 CBC provided the Lynchburg area peak count (Sattler et al., 2003)
- Baltimore Oriole – the single bird seen on the 1966 CBC provided an extreme date for this species in the Lynchburg area of 31 Dec (Sattler et al., 2003)
- Red Crossbill – nine birds seen on both the 1975 and 1980 CBCs provided the peak count for this species in the Lynchburg area (Sattler et al., 2003).

Twenty-seven species were recorded on all fifty counts; these species have the number '50' in the column labeled 'No. Years Recorded' in Table 1. Thirty-two species were seen on nearly all of the counts, i.e., forty or more but not all fifty counts; see Table 1. The remaining thirty-four species were seen on more than ten counts but fewer than forty; see Table 1.

Of the seemingly abundant species seen on forty or more counts, the one with the lowest average number seen on a count is the Brown Thrasher, with an average of only 2.1 per count,

whereas the species with the highest average seen per count is the European Starling, with an average seen of 112,370. The average number of starlings is exceedingly high due to the number found at a local blackbird roost that existed from the early 1960s into the 1970s. The highest number of starlings recorded was 1,134,250 in 1967, which is a peak count for the Lynchburg area and winter peak count for the Virginia Piedmont (Sattler et al., 2003; Rottenborn, Brinkley, 2007). Other record numbers of blackbirds recorded at this roost were:

- 173,910 Red-winged Blackbirds in 1970 – the peak count for the Lynchburg area (Sattler et al., 2003)
- 17,450 Rusty Blackbirds in 1967 – the peak count for the Lynchburg area and the Virginia Piedmont (Sattler et al., 2003; Rottenborn, Brinkley, 2007)
- 454,000 Common Grackles in 1964 – the peak count for the Lynchburg area and the winter peak count for the Piedmont (Sattler et al., 2003; Rottenborn, Brinkley, 2007)
- 127,875 Brown-headed Cowbirds in 1970 – the peak count for the Lynchburg area and the highest number seen on a CBC in the U.S. that year (Monroe B, 1971; Sattler et al., 2003).

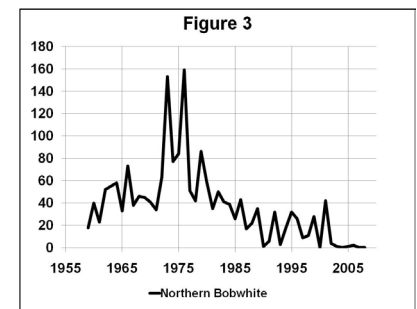
The record highest number of birds seen for all species and the year they were recorded are shown in Table 1 in the columns below 'Highest Count' that are labeled 'No.' and 'Year.' High count numbers that are underlined in the table indicate a peak count for the Lynchburg area (Sattler et al., 2003; Dalmas, pers. comm.). Some of these high counts were also state or national records:

- 93 Wild Turkeys in 2000 – a winter peak count for the Piedmont (Rottenborn, Brinkley, 2007)
- 220 Eastern Screech-Owls in 1976 – the peak count not only for the Lynchburg area but all of Virginia, at the time the all-time high count on a CBC in the U.S. and Canada and still the highest number of screech owls reported on a CBC in the U.S. and Canada (Monroe B, 1977; Sattler et al., 2003; Rottenborn, Brinkley, 2007; Kain, pers. comm.)
- 1,391 American Crows in 1985 – a winter peak count for the Piedmont (Rottenborn, Brinkley, 2007)

- 376 Red-breasted Nuthatches in 1977 – the peak count not only for the Lynchburg area, but all of Virginia, and the high count on a CBC in the U.S. and Canada that year (Monroe B, 1978; Sattler et al., 2003; Rottenborn, Brinkley, 2007)
- 38 Winter Wrens in 1973 – the peak count for the Piedmont (Rottenborn, Brinkley, 2007)
- 1,486 House Finches in 1993 – the winter peak count in the Piedmont (Rottenborn, Brinkley, 2007)

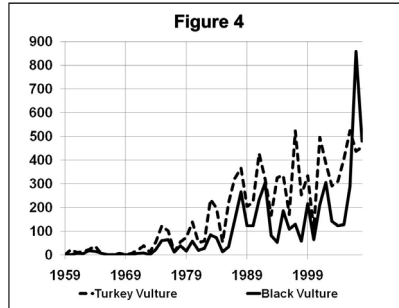
The following sightings for several individual species over the fifty-year period are also noteworthy:

- Gadwalls did not appear on the count until one was recorded in 1976 and again in 1977. They were not seen again until nine were recorded in 1991 and now have been observed every year since.
- The number of American Wigeon sightings has increased over the last twenty-five years. They were only seen five times during the first twenty-five years of the count (in 1960, 1975, 1976, 1978, and 1979); they've been seen eleven times since (in 1986, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2006, and 2007).
- Not surprisingly, Northern Bobwhite numbers and sightings have diminished significantly over the last twenty years. The record high number of bobwhite seen was 159 in 1976 (and 153 were seen in 1973). Their decline started in the 1980s, became more obvious in 1990 when only one was recorded, and was undeniable when none were found in 2000, 2004, 2007, and 2008. The number of bobwhites has decreased by 1.3 per year on average over the fifty-year period. Figure 3 illustrates this decline.
- Interestingly only one Black



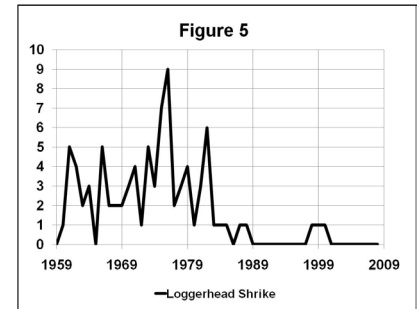
Vulture and one Turkey Vulture were seen in 1959. Their numbers have steadily increased, although no Black Vultures were even recorded for a few years in the late 1960s.

There were always fewer Black Vultures than Turkey Vultures until 2007 (in fact, there were usually about half as many Black Vultures as Turkey Vultures in most years). The number of Turkey Vultures has increased by 9.9 per year on average while the number of Black Vultures increased by 6.9 per year. The increase in the numbers of both species is illustrated in Figure 4.

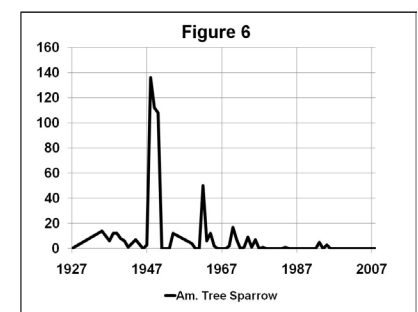


- The first Bald Eagle was seen on this count in 1979. It did not appear again until 1995 when one was recorded and then three were seen in 1997. Beginning in 2000 Bald Eagles have been seen every year except 2006. Their record high count is six seen in 2003.
- American Coots were only seen twice in the first fifteen years of this count (one each in 1966 and 1967). But since 1974 they have been seen every year, with a high count of 62 in 1998.
- Killdeer were often missed in the early years of this count. They were only recorded four times through 1970, but they have been seen in all but one year since (missed in 1999). The high count for Killdeer is 41, which were seen in 1975.
- The American Woodcock was first observed on the count in 1969. Low numbers of woodcocks were seen most years thereafter into the mid-1990s, but they have only been recorded once in the last five years (one in 2008). The highest number of woodcocks recorded was six in 1992.
- Ring-billed Gull was recorded occasionally and usually in single digit numbers for the first forty years of this period (1963, 1974, 1977, 1983, 1986, 1987, 1989, 1993, and 1995). It has been seen all but one of the last ten years and its numbers have skyrocketed from nineteen seen in 1999 to a high count of 611 in 2005. The number of Ring-billed Gulls seen has increased by 60.3 per year on average since 1999.

- More than one Loggerhead Shrike was found on the count nearly every year until the early 1980s. Suddenly, after recording six in 1982, only one was found most years through 1988, after which none were seen until 1998 through 2000 when one per year was again recorded. None have been seen on the count since. See Figure 5.



- Horned Lark is another species with declining numbers over the count period. It was often recorded in double digits almost every year into the 1980s. By the 1990s its numbers had dwindled into single digits, or even zero in some years. The exception was the 30 found in 2006. Some of this decline may be attributable to lack of detection rather than lack of birds. On Lynchburg CBCs, most larks are seen in the short grass adjacent to the runways at the Lynchburg Regional Airport and access to these areas is no longer allowed.
- The number of Brown Creepers started out low, with none or single digit numbers of them found through much of the 1960s. Their numbers increased to a record high of 42 in 1974 and stayed in double digits until the mid-1990s. The 15 seen in 2006 was the only double digit number recorded for them since the mid-1990s.
- The American Tree Sparrow has only been seen three times in the last twenty-five years (1 in 1984, 5 in 1993 and 3 in 1995). It was found with more frequency in the previous twenty-five years, when it was seen on thirteen counts, including a high count of 50 in 1962. Although it is outside the stated scope of this analysis, sightings of the American Tree Sparrow were more frequent prior to 1959, when it was



found on fourteen of eighteen CBCs between 1927 and 1958. Not only was it seen with more frequency then, it was seen in record numbers for a few years (136 in 1948, 112 in 1949, and 108 in 1950). These pre-1959 sightings are included in Figure 6 as they show a more realistic picture of the sightings and decline of this species.

- Seventy-one Evening Grosbeaks were seen when they were first recorded in 1963. Then they were only missed ten times until the last one was seen on the 1996 count. The high count for Evening Grosbeaks was 207 seen in 1977.

Several common species' numbers have increased over this count period, including the following ones of interest:

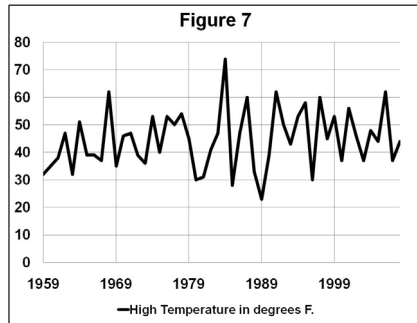
- One Canada Goose was seen in 1963 (the species was recorded once prior to 1959, in 1950, when three were seen). It was next recorded in 1977, when two were seen. Beginning with the 67 seen in 1985, it was seen every year after. Since 1990, the number of Canada Geese has increased nearly every year. On average, the number of Canada Geese increased by 31 per year after it was first seen in 1963.
- In 1959, only one Pileated Woodpecker was located. Their numbers have been increasing ever since. On average, the number seen has increased by 0.6 birds per year. Fifty-one were seen in 2008. The record high number of Pileated Woodpeckers was 62 seen in 1994.
- Around 100 to 200 American Crows were seen each year from 1959 into the early 1970s. Then their numbers began to increase, reaching the record high of 1,391 in 1985. That was the only year that over 1,000 were seen. For the rest of the 1980s and into the early 2000s, their numbers were fairly constant, averaging over 700. Then there was a sharp drop to only 419 seen in 2003; since then the number of crows has been slowly increasing again, with 647 seen in 2008.
- Fifty-three Carolina Wrens were seen in 1959. Fewer than 50 were seen each year for about ten years. Then their numbers began increasing, reaching the record high of 306 in 1976. For the following twenty years, numbers fluctuated somewhat, with an average of 173

per year. Then in 1996, only 94 were seen. Since then, their numbers have gradually increased to 198 in 2008.

- Eastern Bluebirds were scarce on this CBC until the mid-1970s; they were completely missed in 1961, 1966, and 1968. Then their numbers jumped into the triple digits, with 138 seen in 1974, 165 in 1975, and 316 in 1976. Their numbers have remained in the triple digits ever since, including a high count of 375 in 1991. For the last twenty years, the average number of bluebirds on this count is 261. Local birders attribute this increase and subsequent stabilization in the number of bluebirds (and thus on CBCs) to the actions of Lynchburg Bird Club members, beginning in the early 1960s. "After no Eastern Bluebirds were counted on the 1961 Winter [Christmas] Bird Count, club members rallied to save this locally declining species. They built and sold bluebird nest boxes, established and monitored several bluebird trails, and presented public education programs on bluebirds. The number of Eastern Bluebirds is no longer declining..." (Sattler, et al., 2003).
- Cedar Waxwings were missed four times in the 1960s, but have been seen on every count since 1967. Overall waxwing numbers have increased by an average of 12 birds per year, but their numbers fluctuate from year-to-year (e.g., the high count of 1,524 seen in 2000 was followed a few years later by only 38 found in 2004).
- Only 77 Northern Cardinals were seen in 1959. Their numbers peaked in the 1970s, with 564 seen in 1975, 528 in 1976, and the record high count of 574 in 1977. Then cardinal numbers tapered off to an average of 318 per year over the last thirty years.
- House Finches appeared for the first time in 1969, when one was recorded. They have been seen every year since in rapidly increasing numbers, with a high count of 1,486 in 1993.

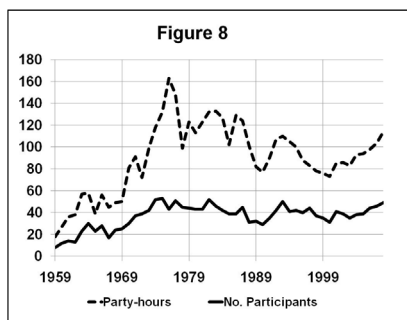
As expected, the weather has varied over the years of this count. The high temperatures for the day of the count ranged from a chilly low of 23°F. on 16 December 1989 to a surprising high of 74°F. on 15 December 1984. Figure 7 shows the high temperature for count day over the years.

The average high temperature is 45°F. Winds have varied from none in 1996 and 2000 to 46 miles per hour in 1968. It rained on the count day five times (1959, 1968, 1990, 1991, and 2000). The ground was snow covered for nine counts (1962, 1963, 1966, 1967, 1969, 1970, 1985, 1988, and 1989); but it has actually only snowed during one count (1961).



The earliest date that the count was conducted was on December 14th (1974, 1991, & 2002) and the latest date was January 2nd (1959 & 1970). The number of participants grew from a low of eight in 1959 to a high of 53 in 1975. The average number of participants on the count is 36; this number was exceeded for the last five years. The number of party-hours was also at its lowest that first year (1959), with only 18 hours spent in the field; it peaked at 163 party-hours in 1976. The average number of party hours is 90; the number of party hours exceeded 90 for the last 5 years. On average, party hours have increased by 0.9 hours per year and the number of participants has increased by 0.4 per year.

Figure 8 shows how the number of participants and party hours have fluctuated over fifty years.



The dedication and hard work of many people have contributed to the longevity of this count. These remarkable people include:

- In these fifty years the Lynchburg CBC has only had six compilers: J. L. Chamberlain (1959), Mrs. Grace Wiltshire (1960), Larry Farmer (1961-1963), Myriam P. Moore (1964-1987), John and Thelma Dalmas (1988-2006), and Rexanne Bruno (2007-2008). Ruskin Freer was the compiler for the eighteen Lynchburg CBCs conducted prior to 1959.

- Seventeen people have participated in at least twenty-five Lynchburg CBCs (number of counts): John Dalmas (37), Thelma Dalmas (37), Virginia Delaney (30), Robert Eubank (27), Ruskin Freer (33; 18 were prior to 1959), Charles Hansrote (27), Melva Hansrote (28), Gene Moore (44), Myriam P. Moore (44), Wyatt Murphy (34), Gertrude Prior (25), Daniel Puckette (32), Barbara Sue Thrasher (30), Randy Thrasher (30), Morris B. Tillotson (30; 6 were prior to 1959), Grace T. Wiltshire (30; 6 were prior to 1959), and Josephine Wood (28).

The Lynchburg CBC isn't the longest running count in Virginia. The Lexington CBC is the oldest one still being conducted; it began in 1922. The Blacksburg CBC has been conducted for the most consecutive years; it began in 1935. However, fifty continuous years of conducting the Lynchburg Christmas Bird Count is still a notable achievement. These fifty counts provide a wealth of information on species wintering in this area.

REFERENCES

- Dalmas, T.** Personal communication.
- Kain, T.** Personal communication.
- Monroe, B. 1971.** Summary of Highest Counts of Individuals. *American Birds* 25 (2): 516-521.
- Monroe, B. 1977.** Summary of Highest Counts of Individuals for Canada and the U.S. *American Birds* 31 (4): 910-916.
- Monroe, B. 1978.** Summary of Highest Counts of Individuals for Canada and the U.S. *American Birds* 32 (4): 924-930.
- Moore, M. P. 1999.** *The History of the Lynchburg Bird Club.* Lynchburg (VA): Lynchburg Bird Club; 26 pp.
- Rottenborn, S. C., and Brinkley, E. S. (eds.). 2007.** *Virginia's Birdlife: An Annotated Checklist.* 4th ed. Virginia: Virginia Society of Ornithology; 330 pp.
- Sattler, G., Ferrell, R., Dalmas, T., and Bruno, R. (eds.) 2003.** *The Birds of Lynchburg, Virginia and Vicinity: An Annotated Checklist.* 2003 Revision. Lynchburg (VA): Lynchburg Bird Club; 103 pp.

Table 1. Lynchburg CBC Records, 1959-2008^{a-d}

SPECIES	Year First Recorded	No. Years Recorded	Highest Count	
			No.	Year
Snow Goose	1965	2	1	1965
Canada Goose	1963	26	1276	2007
Tundra Swan	1978	3	1	1978+
Wood Duck	1966	30	20	1983
Gadwall	1976	20	30	2006
American Wigeon	1960	16	7	1994
American Black Duck	1962	43	54	2004
Mallard	1960	44	300	2000
Blue-winged Teal	2002	1	2	2002
Northern Shoveler	1990	4	2	2007
Northern Pintail	1978	8	3	1995
Green-winged Teal	1971	20	10	1995
Canvasback	1967	11	5	1967
Redhead	1972	6	13	1979
Ring-necked Duck	1965	34	302	2002
Greater Scaup	1974	1	1	1974
Lesser Scaup	1961	17	38	1973
Surf Scoter	2000	1	2	2000
Bufflehead	1965	19	12	2000
Common Goldeneye	1960	10	2	1982+
Hooded Merganser	1969	38	71	2005
Common Merganser	1969	8	3	2001-
Red-breasted Merganser	1973	3	1	1973+
Ruddy Duck	1975	22	15	1999
Ruffed Grouse	1976	7	3	1986
Wild Turkey	1964	33	93	2000
Northern Bobwhite	1959	46	159	1976
Common Loon	1979	3	2	1979
Pied-billed Grebe	1959	42	34	2001
Horned Grebe	1974	7	7	1977
Eared Grebe	1987	1	1	1987
Double Crested Cormorant	1995	2	2	1995
Great Blue Heron	1959	40	26	2008
Green Heron	1984	2	1	1984+
Black Vulture	1959	47	858	2007
Turkey Vulture	1959	50	524	2006
Bald Eagle	1979	11	6	2003
Northern Harrier	1960	15	3	1981+
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1961	43	11	1982+
Cooper's Hawk	1960	42	7	1995
Red-shouldered Hawk	1961	26	5	2004
Broad-winged Hawk	1970	2	1	1999
Red-tailed Hawk	1959	48	73	1995
Rough-legged Hawk	1966	1	1	1966-
American Kestrel	1960	46	33	1976
Merlin	1960	3	1	1960+
Common Moorhen	1975	1	1	1975
American Coot	1966	37	62	1998
Killdeer	1959	41	41	1975
Wilson's Snipe	1960	14	44	1976
American Woodcock	1969	25	6	1992
Bonaparte's Gull	1978	1	1	1978
Ring-billed Gull	1963	18	611	2005
Herring Gull	1963	4	1	1963+
Rock Pigeon	1974	35	1036	1977
Mourning Dove	1959	50	745	1978
Barn Owl	1976	3	1	1976+
Eastern Screech-Owl	1963	42	220	1976
Great Horned Owl	1963	37	19	1976
Snowy Owl	1964	1	1	1964

Barred Owl	1974	27	4	1978
Long-eared Owl	1977	2	1	1977+
Northern Saw-whet Owl	2007	1	1	2007
Black-chinned Hummingbird	2007	1	1	2007
Calliope Hummingbird	2008	1	1	2008
Rufous Hummingbird	2006	3	2	2006+
Selasphorus species	2001	3	1	2001+
Belted Kingfisher	1959	48	25	1976+
Red-headed Woodpecker	1959	44	18	1976
Red-bellied Woodpecker	1959	50	114	1976
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1959	50	73	1976
Downy Woodpecker	1959	50	134	1980
Hairy Woodpecker	1959	50	25	1987
Northern Flicker	1959	50	128	1993
Pileated Woodpecker	1959	50	62	1994
Eastern Wood-Pewee	1973	1	1	1973
Eastern Phoebe	1961	46	33	1976
Loggerhead Shrike	1960	30	9	1976
Blue-headed Vireo	1976	6	1	1976+
Blue Jay	1959	50	578	1982
American Crow	1959	50	1391	1985-
Fish Crow	1977	19	22	2004
Common Raven	1971	36	16	2007
Horned Lark	1959	36	60	1963
Carolina Chickadee	1959	50	639	1976
Black-capped Chickadee	1976	2	4	1983
Tufted Titmouse	1959	50	325	1970
Red-breasted Nuthatch	1959	40	376	1977
White-breasted Nuthatch	1959	50	121	1982
Brown-headed Nuthatch	1979	1	6	1979
Brown Creeper	1960	48	42	1974
Carolina Wren	1959	50	306	1976
House Wren	1975	12	3	1979
Winter Wren	1959	50	38	1973
Sedge Wren	1975	1	2	1975
Golden-crowned Kinglet	1959	50	233	1992
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1960	49	294	1975
Eastern Bluebird	1959	47	375	1991
Hermit Thrush	1963	40	60	1976
American Robin	1959	46	2943	2007
Gray Catbird	1969	10	1	1969±
Northern Mockingbird	1959	50	207	1982
Brown Thrasher	1962	41	8	1976
European Starling	1959	50	1134250	1967
American Pipit	1976	7	105	1979
Cedar Waxwing	1959	46	1524	2000
Yellow-rumped Warbler	1959	46	179	1991
Pine Warbler	1963	34	21	1979
Palm Warbler	1964	3	2	1984
Black-and-White Warbler	1971	2	1	1979
Common Yellowthroat	1961	3	1	1984+
Eastern Towhee	1959	50	106	1971
American Tree Sparrow	1959	16	50	1962-
Chipping Sparrow	1967	25	18	2001

Table 1. Lynchburg CBC Records, 1959-2008a-d (cont'd)

SPECIES	Year First Recorded	No. Years Recorded	Highest Count	
			No.	Year
Field Sparrow	<u>1959</u>	50	<u>294</u>	1975
Vesper Sparrow	<u>1971</u>	6	<u>4</u>	1981
Savannah Sparrow	<u>1962</u>	34	<u>43</u>	1974
Fox Sparrow	<u>1960</u>	40	<u>19</u>	1971
Song Sparrow	<u>1959</u>	50	<u>498</u>	1982
Swamp Sparrow	<u>1959</u>	46	<u>22</u>	1976
White-throated Sparrow	<u>1959</u>	50	<u>1510</u>	1985
White-crowned Sparrow	<u>1960</u>	45	<u>32</u>	1993
Dark-eyed Junco	<u>1959</u>	50	<u>1543</u>	1985
Snow Bunting	1959	1	<u>3</u>	1959
Northern Cardinal	<u>1959</u>	50	<u>574</u>	1977
Red-winged Blackbird	<u>1960</u>	42	<u>173910</u>	1970
Eastern Meadowlark	<u>1959</u>	48	<u>237</u>	1971
Rusty Blackbird	<u>1960</u>	17	<u>17450</u>	1967
Common Grackle	<u>1960</u>	49	<u>454000</u>	1964
Brown-headed Cowbird	<u>1960</u>	41	<u>127875</u>	1970
Baltimore Oriole	1966	2	<u>1</u>	1966
Purple Finch	<u>1959</u>	50	<u>567</u>	1977
House Finch	1969	40	<u>1486</u>	1993
Red Crossbill	1975	5	<u>9</u>	1975+
Pine Siskin	<u>1960</u>	31	<u>302</u>	2008
American Goldfinch	<u>1959</u>	50	<u>404</u>	1987
Evening Grosbeak	1963	24	<u>207</u>	1977
House Sparrow	<u>1959</u>	50	<u>619</u>	1965

a. Underlined year in "First Year Recorded" indicates that this species had been seen on a CBC prior to 1959.

b. Underlined number in "Highest Count No." indicates that this is a peak count for the Lynchburg area (Sattler, et al., 2003; Dalmas, pers. comm.).

c. A plus sign (+) following a Highest Count Year indicates that this record number was seen in at least one subsequent year.

d. A minus sign (-) following a Highest Count Year indicates that this record high number (or a higher number) was seen in at least one year prior to 1959.

THE JUNE 2009 FORAY GREENSVILLE AND SUSSEX COUNTIES IN SEARCH OF BACHMAN'S SPARROW

WENDY EALDING
1384 Palmore Road
Powhatan, Virginia, 23139

INTRODUCTION

The 2009 VSO breeding bird foray was conducted in Greensville and Sussex Counties, with a special focus on Bachman's Sparrow. These counties were chosen for several reasons. First, they were the sites of the most recent systematic surveys for Bachman's Sparrow (Dalmas, 1992, Watts et al, 1998). Second, The Nature Conservancy has embarked on aggressive fire management at their Piney Grove Preserve in Sussex County, and has solicited the local ornithological community for help in surveying their property for the species, or habitat suitable for its restoration. The Nature Conservancy started land acquisition at Piney Grove in 1998 in order to protect the last breeding population of Red-cockaded Woodpecker in the state and is conducting prescribed burns to maintain habitat for both the woodpecker and (potentially) Bachman's Sparrow. Third, the last all-species survey of Greensville County was the June 1991 VSO foray (Dalmas, 1992).

There is considerable documentation of the status of Bachman's Sparrow in the state (Watts et al., 2000, Rottenborn and Brinkley, 2007). The species expanded northward throughout its range during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, probably driven by the abandonment of farmland (Askins, 2002), and which led to a dramatic increase in the population. Changes in land use in the mid-twentieth century, however, led to an equally dramatic reversal. By 1977, when the Kerr Reservoir foray was held in Mecklenburg County, Bachman's Sparrow was no longer being detected in Southside Virginia (Scott, 1979), although a singing individual had been reported just a mile across the North Carolina border from Mecklenburg County in June 1976 (LeGrand, 1976).

The species was rediscovered in Brunswick County in 1986 during the Virginia Breeding Bird Atlas Project (Trollinger and Reay, 2001), and was confirmed as breeding there by the presence of recently fledged young (Dalmas, pers.comm). This finding, along with various reports to American Birds over the period of 1986-1993, stimulated considerable follow-up by the ornithological community in this region of the state (Hilton, 1990). To protect them from disturbance, the precise locations were not disclosed.

The last confirmed sighting of Bachman's Sparrow in the area was recorded in Brunswick County in 2002 (Todd Day, pers.comm.) and the last systematic survey in this area was performed in 1996 (Watts et al, 1998), with singing males being detected in Brunswick, Greensville and Sussex Counties. Military bases such as Fort Pickett and Fort A.P. Hill may also contain Bachman's Sparrow but, were not included in the foray because of enhanced security and liability issues.

The preferred habitat for Bachman's Sparrow in Virginia is considered to be regenerating clearcuts of at least 6.1 hectares, with dense grass cover in the first meter above ground, regenerating pine saplings no taller than three meters and low densities of hardwood saplings. Mature pine stands which are subject to regular burning can also provide suitable habitat, and this is part of the fire management strategy at Piney Grove.

In addition to Bachman's Sparrow, a number of other species of particular interest were sought in the area. These included:

- Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) -- was first detected as likely breeding in the

state in Greensville County in the late 1970's; has since expanded its breeding range in a leapfrog pattern to suburban Northern Virginia (Rottenborn and Brinkley, 2007)

- Red-cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*) -- known only at The Nature Conservancy's Piney Grove Preserve in Sussex County, where active management has led to a significant increase in numbers of individuals and breeding success since a low point in 2000.
- Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*)-- has declined precipitately statewide since the 1970's, particularly in this part of the state (Rottenborn and Brinkley, 2007)
- Henslow's Sparrow (*Ammodramus henslowii*)-- another species that has declined significantly in recent years due to habitat changes. Detected in 1991 in Sussex County, outside the official foray period (Dalmas, 1992).
- Northern Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*)-- reported as uncommon and declining statewide (Rottenborn and Brinkley, 2007).

Both counties are still predominantly rural, with agriculture and timberland being the major land uses. The vast majority of the land in both counties is privately owned and much of the timberland is leased to hunt clubs. The area of Greensville County is 769 km² and being situated on the fall line, incorporates both Piedmont and Coastal Plain regions. The geography of Greensville County is described in detail in the 1991 foray report (Dalmas, 1992). Apart from an increase in commercial development around the City of Emporia, it is likely that there has been little change in land use in Greensville County since the 1991 foray.

Sussex County is 1284 km² in area, and is all in the Coastal Plain, apart from a small portion in the southwest of the county, which is located in the Piedmont. In addition to the county seat at Sussex Courthouse, there are three small urban areas in Sussex County: Waverly, Wakefield and Stony Creek. The elevation in Sussex County ranges 15-76 meters above sea level and the drainage is provided by the Nottoway and Blackwater Rivers and by Stony Creek. Eighty percent of the county's land is used for commercial forestry. The dominant softwood species is loblolly pine while

the predominant hardwoods are oak and hickory. The principal agricultural crops are peanuts, cotton, corn, flue-cured tobacco, small grains and soybeans.

Some locations in southwestern Southampton County, including Bellyache Swamp, a site on the Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail (VBWT) were also surveyed. This was part of an effort to promote data collection at the VBWT sites as part of a partnership with Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries announced in June 2009.

METHODS

The author conducted initial assessment of potential foray sites in both counties in a series of field visits during March and April 2009, and consulted with The Nature Conservancy staff to assess sites of potential interest within the Piney Grove Preserve. A list of potential foray sites was distributed among the participants in advance of the foray so that they could develop survey routes and assigned survey dates. Checklists in the form of Excel® spreadsheets were distributed electronically, along with the foray protocols. Participants were asked, whenever possible, to collect GPS coordinates for locations visited, the date, time and duration of the visit, number of observers, whether it was a stationary (point) or traveling count, and the number of kilometers covered if a traveling count. This data was entered into the spreadsheets in a format designed to be compatible with future entry into eBird. Participants submitted their completed checklists to the author for compilation into this report.

A checklist was completed for each location (for a point count) or for a route (for a traveling count) on each day of participation. Thus an observer or observer team typically completed multiple checklists on a given day. A point count involved moving a limited distance from a fixed point whereas a traveling count involved such activities as driving a section of road or walking on a trail or in a park.

Participants were reminded to adhere to the VSO Principles of Birding Ethics (2008). A specific

protocol concerning the use of audio devices to detect Bachman's Sparrow was developed (Wilson, pers. comm.). Participants were asked to pay particular attention to areas of suitable habitat for Bachman's Sparrow.

Participants were advised to spend several minutes listening for singing Bachman's Sparrow at potential habitat locations, followed by three one-minute song playbacks with one-minute listening intervals in between. An MP3 file of the song was supplied by CCB and was used for the survey conducted at Piney Grove and Raccoon Creek Longleaf Pine Restoration site. A variety of personal sound recordings and playback devices were used at other locations.

The official foray period was June 12-17, 2009. These dates were chosen to avoid possible impact on the breeding of Red-cockaded Woodpeckers at Piney Grove (Clontz and Wilson, pers. comm.). Clontz developed and marked specific survey points at Piney Grove, and on the first day of the foray led a team of eight participants around these locations and also to locations at the Raccoon Creek Longleaf Pine Restoration Site in SW Sussex County. Other participants developed other survey routes based on personal preference and in collaboration with the compiler to ensure coverage.

The weather during the foray period was hot and dry with minimal rain and thunderstorm activity apart from local heavy rain and thunderstorms on June 15. The period immediately prior to the foray was very wet, with 10-15 cm. of rain in the two weeks before the foray period. This probably contributed to the lush deciduous shrub understory growth observed at many of the sites that had been considered as potential Bachman's Sparrow habitat.

Details of the various sightings are reported in the Foray Species List. Observers are identified by last name. The following team designations were used where relevant: Clontz et al. (Bobby Clontz, Adam D'Onofrio, Wendy Ealding, Mary Elfner, Elisa Enders, Ron Giese, John Spahr, Bill Williams), Dalmases (John and Thelma Dalmases), Enders et al. (Elisa, Frank and Mary Enders), Brown et al. (Susan and Wes Brown and Tom St.

Andre) and Glass et al. (Paul and Hannah Glass, Elisa Enders and Wendy Ealding). A total of 24 observers participated in the foray.

Specific location is given where provided by the observer; where it was not, the convention for dividing Greensville County as described for the 1991 foray (Dalmases, 1992) was used. These were NW (north of US 58, west of I-95), NE (north of US 58, east of I-95), SW (south of US 58, west of I-95) and SE (south of US 58 and east of I-95). A similar division was used for Sussex County as follows: NW (north of VA 40, west of VA 35), NE (north of VA 40, east of VA 35), SW (south of VA 40, west of VA 35) and SE (south of VA 40, east of VA 35).

Additional survey data was obtained from the United States Nightjar Survey Network and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) Branchville and Newsoms routes in Sussex and Southampton counties, which were conducted around the time of the foray.

RESULTS

The overall statistical information for the foray is provided in Table 1.

Table 1. General Foray Statistics

Foray Statistics	Sussex	Greensville	Southampton
total # checklists ¹	120	69	15
# point count checklists ¹	95	50	14
# traveling count checklists ¹	25	18	1
% of checklists that were point counts	79%	72%	93%
% of checklists that were traveling counts	21%	26%	7%
# hours	49.5	39.8	5.1
# observers	22	17	7
# species detected	92	90	73
# species with breeding evidence	17	13	5

¹The protocol for handling checklists and definitions of point and traveling counts are described under Methods.

Checklists were classified as either point counts or traveling counts, with the majority of counts being point type. The overall number of species detected by 24 participants during the

foray period was 99, with 92 in Sussex, 90 in Greensville and 73 in Southampton (where there was only partial coverage). A summary of species with evidence of breeding is provided in Table 2. A summary of all species recorded by county is presented in Table 3 (see p. 27); Total counts and detection rates for each species by county are presented in Table 4 (see pp. 28).

Details of many of the sightings are available at Virginia eBird; these can be accessed by selecting the bar charts for relevant county in the View and Explore function and then selecting the desired species. Foray sightings are identified under the pseudonym "VSO Foray". Not all sightings were entered into eBird in this way; some were entered by individual observers under their own name (Atwood), some were deliberately excluded because they were on private property where disclosure of the location may not be appropriate, and some locations were not described in adequate detail by their observers.

Highlights: No evidence of Bachman's Sparrow was detected at any location, including coverage of adjoining portions of Brunswick County surveyed one week prior to the foray (Day). The implications of this finding are considered in more detail in the Discussion section.

Waterfowl species were uncommon or rare, and American Black Duck was absent.

Gallinaceous birds (Wild Turkey, Northern Bobwhite) were reported widely, however, the numbers of Bobwhite should be considered in the context of the common practice of release of the species by the many hunt clubs in the area (B. Clontz, pers. comm.)

Anhinga was reported in Sussex and Southampton Counties – see Species List for details. The species appears to have undergone a significant range expansion recently, with a report of nesting as far north as York County (Youker, 2009)

Table 2. Breeding activity

Species	Breeding evidence
Sussex	
Canada Goose	nest with 3 eggs, photographed on scouting trip prior to foray
Black Vulture	nest with eggs reported prior to foray
Red-headed Woodpecker	2 reports: pair at nest hole; one at excavated nest cavity
Red-cockaded Woodpecker*	family group of 4 feeding one young bird
Eastern Wood-Pewee	one on nest
Yellow-throated Vireo	2 adults feeding young in nest
Purple Martin	24 nesting at Purple Martin house
Carolina Chickadee	2 reports: adult at nest cavity, fledgling (1)
Eastern Bluebird	2 reports: 2 adults at nest box; one carrying food
Northern Mockingbird	adults feeding young
Brown Thrasher	adult carrying food
European Starling	adults feeding young
Prairie Warbler	3 adults carrying food
Prothonotary Warbler	one with food for young
Chipping Sparrow	one carrying food
Field Sparrow	2 reports: 1 carrying food; 2 juveniles
Grasshopper Sparrow	2 with food for young
Greensville	
Canada Goose	two families with 6 young
Wild Turkey	5 juveniles
Red-headed Woodpecker	visiting a nest cavity
Eastern Phoebe	nest under bridge
Yellow-throated Vireo	feeding young bird
Purple Martin	at houses and gourds
Barn Swallow	1 juvenile
Eastern Bluebird	1 juvenile
Prothonotary Warbler	fledgling
Common Yellowthroat	carrying nesting material
Chipping Sparrow	2 reports: one carrying food; fledgling
Northern Cardinal	fledgling
Red-winged Blackbird	one carrying food
Southampton	
Eastern Phoebe	on nest
American Crow	adult feeding young
Carolina Chickadee	fledglings
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	fledglings
Pine Warbler	carrying food

Mississippi Kite showed a continuing presence in extreme SE Greenville County, with additional sightings as far north as the Three Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant northeast of the City of Emporia.

Cooper's Hawk was reported in all three counties. The species has been reported as being an uncommon but apparently increasing summer resident in the Coastal Plain (Rottenborn and Brinkley, 2007)

Only one species of owl, namely Barred Owl, was reported during the foray. However, data provided by Flanders from the US Nightjar Survey included a report of an Eastern Screech-Owl (a species not found during the foray) on June 6 along the Branchville route in Southampton County. The nightjar surveys also produced a total of 19 Chuck-Will's-Widows on the Branchville and Newsoms survey routes in Southampton County on the same date.

Red-cockaded Woodpecker was reported by several different observers on different days. A family group of four, including a large fledgling, was reported on two separate occasions.

The one sighting of Loggerhead Shrike in Greenville County on June 15 is particularly interesting. The species was not found during the 1991 foray period although it was found about a month after the foray (Dalmas, 1992), and most sightings in the state in recent years have been well to the west or north. The most recent sighting in this region of the state was on January 1, 2009 about 40 miles due west in Mecklenburg County (P. Glass, 2009) and the nearest sighting to the south in Nash County, North Carolina on May 15, 2009 was a similar distance away (G. Armistead, 2009)

Horned Larks were reported from several locations, and also on the BBS. This is a species that is thought to be declining in much of its range (Rottenborn and Brinkley, 2007). It was not reported from the 1991 foray.

Cedar Waxwing, described as "rare, but possibly increasing, summer resident" in the Coastal Plain (Rottenborn and Brinkley, 2007) was reported during the foray in Sussex and Greenville Counties, and also on the BBS

A single report of a Swainson's Warbler from Greenville County was about 10 km northwest of its "traditional" location at the Route 730 Low Ground Road crossing of the Meherrin River and probably represents the most westerly report of the Coastal Plain population.

Henslow's Sparrow was not found.

One of the more surprising findings was that there was only one sighting of Song Sparrow during the foray period (and none on the BBS), although two or three birds were reported a week prior to the foray in Emporia. The 1991 foray had reported the species as "uncommon in urban areas, rare elsewhere".

DISCUSSION

A total of 99 species was reported for the 2009 foray, as compared with 103 for the 1991 foray. However, it is difficult to assess the significance of this and other differences found between the two forays, because their areas of coverage and timing were not identical. There were no obvious late migrants, which may be due to the slightly later 2009 foray period. The total number of checklists in 2009 was 204, almost 5 times as many as for the 1991 foray, although total party-hours (94) was less than two-thirds that of the 1991 foray. In part, this was because of the highly detailed surveys conducted at Piney Grove and Raccoon Creek Longleaf Pine Restoration Area, where multiple point counts were conducted by multiple observer groups. A deliberate effort was also made to obtain more specifically localized data for future electronic archiving and also to pinpoint particular species-habitat associations.

The 1991 foray was not a county-based foray, but rather was a combination of Virginia Atlas Project quadrangles, which included most of Greenville, plus portions of adjacent Brunswick, Sussex and Southampton Counties. An overall comparison of the species recorded in the three counties surveyed in 2009 with the results of the 1991 foray, (which included data from outside the immediate 1991 foray period) is provided in Table 3. Because the 1991 foray results included data from outside the immediate 1991 foray period,

Table 3 includes information from the 2009 season of the US Nightjar Survey and the Branchville and Newsoms USFWS BBS survey routes which consisted of portions of Sussex and Southampton Counties. These were conducted around the time of the 2009 foray.

Total counts as shown in Table 4 may include multiple sightings of the same individuals by different observers at the same locations, or on different days. This is discussed in more detail for particular species in the Foray Species List.

Detection rates for many species in 2009 were lower than in the 1991 foray. Detection rate is defined as the percentage of checklists reporting each species. The detection rates for Southampton County are based on a relatively small number of checklists (n=15) and appear high because a single detection on a single checklist equates to almost a 7% detection rate. Caution should therefore be used when comparing this data with the other two counties. Detection rates were not included in the 1991 foray report (Dalmas, 1992) but, were calculated for this report where the relevant numerical data was presented. The differences could be due to the later foray period in 2009, the different area of coverage, fewer party-hours, or differences in foray design. A more standardized and structured approach to foray design and execution, along the lines of that used for the 2008 foray (Harding, 2009) should be considered for future forays.

Despite the marked increase of breeding Canada Geese in the past 30 years in both Coastal Plain and Piedmont regions of the state (Rottenborn and Brinkley, 2007), this does not appear to be the case in this part of the state, as the results are very similar to those of the 1991 foray (Dalmas, 1992).

As with the 1991 foray (Dalmas, 1992) there was little emphasis on nighttime coverage due in this case to the fact that many observers commuted. This probably led to undercounting of owls and caprimulgids.

One heartening finding was the multiple reports of Red-cockaded Woodpeckers. These were most likely the same family group. This

species was not found in 1991, although a recently active nest tree was found in Sussex County shortly afterwards (Dalmas, 1992). The species has staged a significant recovery, largely due to the management effort at The Nature Conservancy Piney Grove Preserve in Sussex County. The foray area in 1991 did not include what was later to become the Piney Grove Preserve, which The Nature Conservancy had not yet acquired. Since then, their active management for the species (including a limited translocation of some individuals from South Carolina) has resulted in a marked increase in numbers. The Center for Conservation Biology conducted a population count in April 2009 and found 43 birds – 28 adults and 15 fledglings (Wilson and Watts, 2009).

All the reports of Bachman's Sparrow in the state since their rediscovery in 1986 have been from young pine stands in regenerating clearcuts. These have been characterized by young pines with dense grassy ground cover and limited hardwood shrub cover. By its very nature, such habitat is ephemeral and not capable of sustaining populations on a long term basis. Longleaf pine savanna is the preferred habitat for Bachman's Sparrow throughout most of its range. The presence of grassy ground cover is required for both nesting and feeding habitat (Askins, 2002; Cox and Jones, 2008). However, the nature of the grassy ground cover is critical; most nesting success occurs in frequently burned areas where there is bare ground and regenerating grass that creates an umbrella effect several inches above ground level (Cox and Jones, 2008). Frequent and hot burns also create the appropriate mineral soil favorable to promoting grass regeneration in this part of the state (B. Clontz, pers. comm.). This habitat augmentation strategy is being attempted at Piney Grove, although there are no plans for reintroduction until stable, suitable habitat can be sustained.

Much of the regenerating clearcut habitat that was surveyed during the foray exhibited substantial fresh growth of the hardwood shrub component. This may have been in response to the very heavy rainfall in the period immediately prior to the foray.

The inevitable question is: if suitable habitat can be restored, will Bachman's Sparrow naturally repopulate it after a prolonged absence? The 1986 rediscovery of the species in Brunswick County came 18 years after the last state record in Dinwiddie County (Rottenborn and Brinkley, 2007). Where did the 1986 birds come from? Where would a natural repopulation come from now? The current nearest population is in North Carolina, at least 160 km away (eBird records for North Carolina (1990-2009); North Carolina Gap Analysis Project (2005); Fussell, 1994). There appear to be no records from the northern part of North Carolina, in particular the border counties, since the 1980's (Ricky Davis and Frank Enders, pers. comm.). Bachman's Sparrow is considered "a rare and very local spring and summer visitor" in the Coastal Plain of Virginia (Rottenborn and Brinkley, 2007), with no apparent winter records. However, they do overwinter in southern North Carolina (Fussell, 1994), although due to their secretive behavior outside the breeding season, they can easily be overlooked. They typically winter (and establish winter territories) at sites that have been burned during the previous growing season where there is thick grassy ground cover with abundant seeds.

The assumption has been that Bachman's Sparrow must be nomadic, seeking out new habitat as the existing habitat becomes unsuitable. Studies of this behavior are very difficult and, hence, incomplete and inconclusive (Cox and Jones, 2008). Nomadic species may need to move long distances to locate new resources (Askins, 2002), and, consequently, mortality is potentially high. It is not clear how far Bachman's Sparrow disperse and whether it could span the distances from the existing North Carolina population. If the small population of Bachman's Sparrow that was present in Virginia between 1986 and 2002 became an increasingly isolated "island" population, with no opportunity for replenishment from a nearby population in North Carolina, its disappearance may have been inevitable.

FORAY SPECIES LIST

CANADA GOOSE (*Branta canadensis*) Two reports from Sussex (Atwood; Williams and Giese) and three from Greenville (Sharrett and Ealding; Dalmases). A group of 10 at Squires Hill Hi Farm pond on Route 612 (Scotland Road) in NW Greenville County on June 13 included well-grown young, probably not able to fly (Sharrett and Ealding); a total of 25 including two family groups with 2 and 4 goslings were reported on June 15 from a driving route in SW Greenville (Dalmases), and a group of 10 in northern Greenville (Dalmases). One report of 15 birds at a pond on Route 653 in Southampton County on June 14 (Day). During the initial scouting trip on April 2, Ealding observed and photographed a nest with 3 eggs at Airfield 4-H Center in Sussex; Atwood reported 7 birds at this location on June 17.

WOOD DUCK (*Aix sponsa*) One report of 2 birds on June 12 on the old Game Refuge Lake on Route 602 (Cabin Point Road) in Sussex County (D'Onofrio); three reports from Southampton County – two of these were from the Bellyache Swamp vicinity on June 12 and 13 (Spahr, Ealding) and one was from a pond on Route 615 on June 16 (Elisa Enders)

MALLARD (*Anas platyrhynchos*) Two reports from Sussex County: June 12 (Williams and Giese) and June 17 (Atwood); one report from Meherrin (Emporia) Reservoir in Greenville County on June 14 (Glass et al.)

WILD TURKEY (*Meleagris gallopavo*) Reported by multiple observers in Sussex and Greenville on most days of the foray, including five juveniles in Greenville (Brown et al.)

NORTHERN BOBWHITE (*Colinus virginianus*) Reported by multiple observers in all three counties on most days of the foray.

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) Two separate sightings of one bird within a couple of hours on June 17 at Spring Hill Pond in Sussex County (Atwood, Elisa Enders)

ANHINGA (*Anhinga anhinga*) One male photographed on June 12 on the old Game Refuge Lake on Route 602 (Cabin Point Road) in Sussex County (D'Onofrio); one male on a pond on Route 615 in Southampton County on June 16 (Elisa Enders)

GREAT BLUE HERON (*Ardea herodias*) Reported in all three counties with sightings by multiple observers on multiple days.

GREAT EGRET (*Ardea alba*) Reported in all three counties. Sightings by multiple observers on multiple days in Sussex and Greenville, and a report of 18 birds at Bellyache Swamp in Southampton County on June 12 (Spahr). A high count of 26 was reported in Sussex County on June 13 at the old Game Refuge Lake on Route 602 (Bose).

GREEN HERON (*Butorides virescens*) Reported by multiple observers on multiple days in Greenville and Southampton counties, and four reports at four different locations in Sussex County on June 16 and 17, including 3 birds at the Airfield 4-H Center (Atwood)

BLACK VULTURE (*Coragyps atratus*) Reported in all three counties. There was a report of a nest with eggs at Piney Grove prior to the foray (Clontz)

TURKEY VULTURE (*Cathartes aura*) Multiple reports in all three counties

MISSISSIPPI KITE (*Ictinia mississippiensis*) Several reports from five observers/observer teams in Greenville County on June 13,14,16 and 17. In addition to their established locations along Route 624 (Steel Bridge Road) and Route 730 (Low Ground Road at Meherrin River Crossing) in extreme SE Greenville County, one was seen soaring very high over the Holiday Inn Express in Emporia on June 14 (Glass et al.) and one was observed perched at the Three Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant northeast of the City of Emporia on June 16 (Elisa Enders). The maximum number observed at any one time at any one location was two. Due to their soaring behavior it is difficult to establish how many of the multiple sightings were of the same individuals. It is possible

that the bird seen soaring over the Holiday Inn Express was one of the individuals seen about 45 minutes earlier on Route 624.

COOPER'S HAWK (*Accipiter cooperii*) Two reports of a single individual within a few hours of one another at Raccoon Creek Longleaf Pine Restoration Area in Sussex County on June 12 may well have been the same bird (Taber, Clontz et al.). One bird was seen on June 16 near Claresville on Route 666 (Goose Pond Road) near the intersection with Route 730 (Low Ground Rd) in Greenville County (Elisa Enders). One bird was reported on June 13 on Route 628 (Wakefield Road) near Dory in Southampton County (Bose).

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK (*Buteo lineatus*) Reported from all three counties.

RED-TAILED HAWK (*Buteo jamaicensis*) Reported from Sussex and Greenville Counties

AMERICAN KESTREL (*Falco sparverius*) One report of a single bird on June 12 from the vicinity of Bellyache Swamp in Southampton County (Spahr)

KILLDEER (*Charadrius vociferus*) Multiple reports in all three counties

AMERICAN WOODCOCK (*Scolopax minor*) One report of a bird heard (not seen) in Greenville County on Route 730 (Low Ground Road) 3.5 km northwest of Claresville on June 17 (Brown et al.)

ROCK PIGEON (*Columba livia*) Surprisingly few reports. Small numbers were seen at two locations in Sussex County June 13 (Spahr and Bose) and June 17 (Elisa Enders) and at two locations in Greenville County in and around Emporia June 13 (Sharrett and Ealding) and June 14 (Glass et al.)

MOURNING DOVE (*Zenaida macroura*) Multiple reports in all three counties

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO (*Coccyzus americanus*) Multiple reports from all three counties.

BARRED OWL (*Strix varia*) There were three reports from three separate locations in Sussex County on June 17 (Elisa Enders), one report from Route 622 (Beaver Dam Road) at Assamoosick Swamp on June 14 (Day), and one report from

Route 624 (Steel Bridge Road) in Greenville County on June 13 (Enders et al.). Two birds were reported at the Route 730 (Low Ground Road) crossing of the Meherrin River at the Greenville-Southampton County line on June 14 (Day).

CHUCK-WILLS-WIDOW (*Caprimulgus carolinensis*) Two reports from Sussex County on June 12 (Williams and Giese) and June 17 (Elisa Enders).

WHIP-POOR-WILL (*Caprimulgus vociferus*) One report from Sussex County on June 12 (Williams and Giese)

CHIMNEY SWIFT (*Chaetura pelagica*) Multiple reports in all three counties

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD (*Archilochus colubris*) Multiple reports, usually of single birds, in all three counties

BELTED KINGFISHER (*Ceryle alcyon*) Two reports from Sussex County, one at Honey Pond on June 12 (Taber) and one on Summerfield Road at Assamoosick Swamp crossing on June 17 (Elisa Enders). One report from Bellyache Swamp in Southampton County June 16 (Elisa Enders).

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) Reported from all three counties, with several reports of birds visiting nest cavities in Sussex (Williams and Giese, Atwood) and Greenville (Dalmases).

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER (*Melanerpes carolinus*) Multiple reports in all three counties

DOWNY WOODPECKER (*Picoides pubescens*) Multiple reports in all three counties

HAIRY WOODPECKER (*Picoides villosus*) Reported from all three counties

RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER (*Picoides borealis*) Reported from Piney Grove in Sussex County on June 12 (Taber), June 13 (Spahr and Bose) and June 16 (Atwood). Spahr and Bose reported a family group of four birds, including one female which repeatedly drilled for grubs in a dead pine branch and fed one of the fledged young birds; Atwood reported at least 4 and possibly 5 birds, one of which was a large fledgling, at essentially the same location.

NORTHERN FLICKER (*Colaptes auratus*) Multiple reports in all three counties

PILEATED WOODPECKER (*Dryocopus pileatus*) Reported from all three counties

EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE (*Contopus virens*) Multiple reports in all three counties. A bird was seen on a nest at Piney Grove (Spahr and Bose)

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax virescens*) Multiple reports in all three counties

EASTERN PHOEBE (*Sayornis phoebe*) Multiple reports in all three counties. An active nest was found under a bridge at Veteran's Park in Emporia (Glass et al.) and also at Bellyache Swamp in Southampton (Spahr)

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER (*Myiarchus crinitus*) Multiple reports in all three counties

EASTERN KINGBIRD (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) Multiple reports in all three counties

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE (*Lanius ludovicianus*) One report from Greenville County on June 15 (Dalmases); the bird was observed perched on telephone wires near Garners Mill on a farm on Route 633 (Pine Log Road) between the two intersections of Route 603 (Fish Road) and Route 603 (Gaston Road).

WHITE-EYED VIREO (*Vireo griseus*) Multiple reports in all three counties

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO (*Vireo flavifrons*) Multiple reports in all three counties. Birds were observed feeding young at Raccoon Creek Longleaf Pine Restoration Site in Sussex on June 15 (Wender) and near Claresville in Greenville on June 16 (Elisa Enders)

RED-EYED VIREO (*Vireo olivaceus*) Multiple reports in all three counties

BLUE JAY (*Cyanocitta cristata*) Multiple reports in Greenville County, less common in Sussex and Southampton Counties

AMERICAN CROW (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*) Multiple reports in all three counties; the only report of confirmed breeding was an adult feeding young in Southampton County on June 14 (Day)

FISH CROW (*Corvus ossifragus*) Several reports of low numbers, typically one or two birds, from all three counties

HORNED LARK (*Eremophila alpestris*) Three reports from Sussex County: two birds on June 14 at Chub Sandhill longleaf pine restoration area (Bose); a total of 5 birds on June 17 along two driving routes in SE and NE Sussex (Elisa Enders); two singing birds were located the same day, also in NE Sussex (Atwood). Three reports, all from SE Greenville County: a single bird from driving routes 660 (Fiddlers Road) and 622 (Little Low Ground Road) on June 13 (Enders et al.); one at Bryant's Corner on June 16 (Elisa Enders); a total of six birds in a recently sown cotton field near the intersection of Route 660 (Fiddlers Road) and 625 (Taylor's Mill Road) on June 16 (Dalmases, Brown et al.). A single report from Route 626 (Berlin Dory Road) 0.6 km east of Route 633 (Skyline Drive) in Southampton County on June 14 (Day).

PURPLE MARTIN (*Progne subis*) Reported from both Sussex and Greenville Counties with reports of nesting colonies in Greenville (Dalmases, Day), and about 24 nesting birds at a Purple Martin house at Adams Country Store on Route 460 east of Waverly on June 12 (Williams and Giese)

TREE SWALLOW (*Tachycineta bicolor*) Two reports: one bird perched on a wire along a road near the Blackwater River in Sussex County on June 17 (Atwood) and two birds at a pond on private property on Route 619 (Purdy Road) in extreme NW Greenville County on June 13 (Sharrett and Ealding)

NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*) One bird on June 12 on Route 620 (Brittle Mill Road) in Sussex County (Williams and Giese); five birds at Meherrin (Emporia) Reservoir in Greenville on June 14 (Glass et al.); 17 in SW Greenville on June 15 (Dalmases); two in northern Greenville on June 16 (Dalmases); 8 in SE Greenville on June 16 (Dalmases); one at Three Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant on June 16 (Elisa Enders) and two on Route 614 near Emporia on June 16 (Elisa Enders). Nine were reported in Southampton

County on Route 653 (Little Texas Road) 0.3 km east of Route 661 (Old Church Road) on June 14 (Day)

BARN SWALLOW (*Hirundo rustica*) Reported from all three counties. A juvenile was seen at Steel Bridge Road in Greenville County (Glass et al.)

CAROLINA CHICKADEE (*Poecile carolinensis*) Multiple reports in all three counties. One bird reported at a nest cavity at Honey Pond (Taber) and fledglings were reported at Airfield 4-H Center in Sussex (Elisa Enders), and in the vicinity of Bellyache Swamp in Southampton (Spahr)

TUFTED TITMOUSE (*Baeolophus bicolor*) Multiple reports in all three counties

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH (*Sitta carolinensis*) Reported from all three counties

BROWN-HEADED NUTHATCH (*Sitta pisilla*) Only reported from Sussex County, with reports from multiple observers on multiple days from Piney Grove; one bird was reported at Chub Sandhill NAP on June 14 (Bose)

CAROLINA WREN (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) Multiple reports in all three counties

HOUSE WREN (*Troglodytes aedon*) Rare. One report of two birds from Sussex County on Route 606 (Beaver Dam Road) on June 12 (Williams and Giese). In Greenville County there were three reports, all from the urban areas of Emporia, on June 14 (Ealding, Glass et al.)

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER (*Poliophtila caerulea*) Multiple reports in all three counties. Fledglings were reported from the vicinity of Bellyache Swamp in Southampton (Spahr)

EASTERN BLUEBIRD (*Sialis sialis*) Multiple reports in all three counties. Birds were seen at a next box on Route 600 in Sussex (Elisa Enders), carrying food at Raccoon Creek Longleaf Pine Restoration Area in Sussex (Clontz et al.), and a juvenile was seen on Route 730 (Low Ground Road) (Glass et al.)

WOOD THRUSH (*Hylocichla mustelina*) Reported from Sussex and Greenville Counties

AMERICAN ROBIN (*Turdus migratorius*) Reported from Sussex and Greensville Counties; one carrying food at Adams Country Store on Route 460 east of Waverly on June 12 (Williams and Giese)

GRAY CATBIRD (*Dumetella carolinensis*) In Sussex County, at Piney Grove, two birds on June 12 (Clontz et al.) and three birds on June 13 (Spahr and Bose); on June 17, one bird at Spring Hill Pond and one near the Blackwater River (Atwood). In Greensville County, one in SW Greensville June 15 and one in SE Greensville June 16 (Dalmases). One bird reported from Southampton County in the vicinity of Bellyache Swamp on June 12 (Spahr).

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD (*Mimus polyglottos*) Multiple reports in all three counties. Adults were observed feeding young in NW Sussex on June 13 and 14 (Wender and Senfield)

BROWN THRASHER (*Toxostoma rufum*) Multiple reports in all three counties. A bird was seen carrying food at Piney Grove (Taber)

EUROPEAN STARLING (*Sturnus vulgaris*) Multiple reports in all three counties. Adults were reported feeding young at Raccoon Creek Longleaf Pine Restoration Site in Sussex on June 15 (Wender)

CEDAR WAXWING (*Bombycilla cedorum*) Four birds reported from Sussex County on June 17 (Atwood): single flyovers at Spring Hill Pond and near the Blackwater River, and two birds flycatching at the Airfield 4-H Center. Two birds reported from Route 600 (Beef Road) at the intersection of Route 627 (Brink Road) south of Barley in Greensville County on June 14 (Day)

NORTHERN PARULA (*Parula americana*) Reported from all three counties

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (*Dendroica dominica*) Reported from all three counties

PINE WARBLER (*Dendroica pinus*) Multiple reports in all three counties. An adult was seen carrying food in the vicinity of Bellyache Swamp in Southampton (Spahr)

PRAIRIE WARBLER (*Dendroica discolor*) Multiple reports in all three counties. Birds were seen carrying food at Piney Grove (Spahr and Bose) and on Route 622 in Sussex (Williams and Giese)

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER (*Mniotilta varia*) Four reports from Sussex County: "2 males in separate location singing and well seen, easily pished in" along Route 622 (Cedar Sign Post Road) on June 12 (Williams and Giese); one on Route 729 (Turkey Pen Road) on June 12 (Elisa Enders); one, which was reported on two separate checklists on Route 602 (Cabin Point Road) at the Old Game Refuge Lake on June 14 was most likely the same individual (Bose, Day); two in NW Sussex on June 14 (Wender and Senfield)

AMERICAN REDSTART (*Setophaga ruticilla*) Two reports (possibly the same individual) from Greensville County at the Meherrin River Bridge on Route 730 (Low Ground Road) on June 16 (Elisa Enders) and 17 (Atwood), as well as three individuals at this location on June 14 (Day). One report from Southampton County on Route 607 (Farmers Bridge Road) at the bridge over Assamoosick Swamp on June 14 (Bose)

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER (*Protonotaria citrea*) Reported from all three counties. An adult was seen carrying food near the Blackwater River in Sussex (Atwood), and a fledgling was seen on Steel Bridge Road in Greensville (Glass et al.)

SWAINSON'S WARBLER (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*) One report from Greensville County, near Claesville, on Route 666 (Goose Pond Road) on June 16 (Elisa Enders).

OVENBIRD (*Seiurus aurocapilla*) Multiple reports in all three counties

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH (*Seiurus motacilla*) Five reports from Sussex County: one on Route 606 (Beaver Dam Road) on June 12 (Williams and Giese) and also on June 13 (Bose); one in NE Sussex on June 12 (D'Onofrio); one on Route 622 (Beaver Dam Road) at Assamoosick Swamp on June 14 (Day); one carrying food near the Blackwater River and one at Airfield 4-H Center on June 17 (Atwood). One report of 2 birds on Route 624 (Steel Bridge Road) in Greensville

County on June 13 (Enders et al.). One report of a bird from the bridge over Raccoon Creek on Route 608 (Tower Hill Road) in Southampton County on June 14 (Bose)

KENTUCKY WARBLER (*Oporornis formosus*) Two birds in NE Sussex on June 12 (D'Onofrio); one bird at Spring Hill Pond and one at Airfield 4-H Center on June 17 (Atwood) both in Sussex County; one on Route 602 (Cabin Point Road) south of Elm Lane on June 14 (Day). One bird on Route 624 (Steel Bridge Road) in Greensville County June 13 (Enders et al.). One in the vicinity of Bellyache Swamp on June 12 (Spahr) and one on June 14 at a swamp on Route 653 (Little Texas Road) 1 mile north of Route 662 (Ivey Tract Road) in Southampton County (Day).

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT (*Geothlypis trichas*) The most frequently reported warbler in all three counties. One bird was carrying nesting material in Greensville (Brown et al.)

HOODED WARBLER (*Wilsonia citrina*) Reported in all three counties

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT (*Icteria virens*) Multiple reports in all three counties

SUMMER TANAGER (*Piranga rubra*) Multiple reports in all three counties

SCARLET TANAGER (*Piranga olivacea*) Most reports were from Sussex County. Only four reports in Greensville County: one report of a bird on private property on Route 611 (Dry Bread Road) on June 14 (Glass et al.); one in northern Greensville, and one in SE Greensville on June 16 (Dalmases) and June 17 (Atwood)

EASTERN TOWHEE (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*) Multiple reports in all three counties

CHIPPING SPARROW (*Spizella passerina*) Multiple reports in all three counties. Adults seen carrying food and with fledglings in Greensville (Glass et al.), and a bird carrying food at Piney Grove (Spahr and Bose)

FIELD SPARROW (*Spizella pusilla*) Multiple reports in all three counties. Two juveniles were reported from the longleaf pine restoration site at Chub Sandhill in Sussex County on June 14

(Bose), and a bird was seen carrying food at Piney Grove (Spahr and Bose)

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW (*Ammodramus savannarum*) Multiple reports from Sussex County including one singing on territory on Route 620 (Brittle Mill Road) on June 12 (Williams and Giese) and 11 birds including two carrying food on a route near the Blackwater River on June 17 (Atwood). In Greensville County: a single bird from driving routes 660 (Fiddlers Road) and 622 (Little Low Ground Road) on June 13 (Enders et al.); three at the Route 730 (Low Ground Road)/ Jones Road intersection on June 16 (Elisa Enders). In Southampton County there were two on Route 626 at Smithfield Farm on June 14 (Day).

SONG SPARROW (*Melospiza melodia*) Only one report during the foray period, at the Fairfield Inn in Emporia on June 17 (St. Andre), although two or three birds were reported in Emporia the week before the foray (Day)

NORTHERN CARDINAL (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) Multiple reports in all three counties. Adult with fledgling reported from Meherrin Reservoir in Greensville (Glass et al.)

BLUE GROSBEAK (*Passerina caerulea*) Multiple reports in all three counties

INDIGO BUNTING (*Passerina cyanea*) Multiple reports in all three counties; probably the most common and widespread passerine.

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD (*Agelaius phoeniceus*) Present in all three counties in surprisingly low numbers – the high count was 10 at Laurel Grove Farm on Route 35 3.7 km south of Route 634 (Old Forty Road) in Sussex County on June 14 (Day). A single bird was seen carrying food in a thistle field near Doodlum in Greensville County on June 13 (Sharrett and Ealding).

EASTERN MEADOWLARK (*Sturnella magna*) Reported in all three counties

COMMON GRACKLE (*Quiscalus quiscula*) Multiple reports in all three counties

BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD (*Molothrus ater*) Multiple reports in all three counties

ORCHARD ORIOLE (*Icterus spurius*)
Reported in Sussex and Greensville Counties

HOUSE FINCH (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) Only one report from Sussex County, two birds seen on Route 628 (Courtland Road) on June 12 (Elisa Enders). Three reports from Greensville County: two birds on private property on Route 611 (Dry Bread Road) on June 14 (Glass et al.); a total of 9 birds on a 72 km driving route in north Greensville on June 16 (Dalmases); a single bird just east of Quarter Road on Route 730 (Low Ground Road) also on June 16 (Browns).

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH (*Carduelis tristis*)
Multiple reports in all three counties

HOUSE SPARROW (*Passer domesticus*) Three reports from Sussex County: six birds at Route 628 (Courtland Road) on June 12 (Elisa Enders); 15 birds on Route 620 (Brittle Mill Road) and 30 birds in downtown Wakefield (Williams and Giese) also on June 12. A single bird was seen in the Holiday Inn Express parking lot in Emporia in Greensville County on June 13 (Ealding), two birds were reported from Route 600 (Beef Road) at the intersection of Route 627 (Brink Road) south of Barley in Greensville County and one at a Purple Martin house on Route 627 (Brink Road) 0.2 km south of the intersection with Route 639 (Rock Bridge Road) on June 14 (Day).

REFERENCES:

- American Birds** (1986-1993): Reports of Bachman's Sparrow in Virginia: (1986) 40(5) 1190; (1987) 41(5) 1421; (1989) 43(5) 1302; (1990) 44(5) 1123; (1991) 45(5) 1105-1106; (1992) 46(5) 1130; (1993) 47(5) 1098.
- Armistead, G.** (2009) Report of sighting of Loggerhead Shrike in Nash County, North Carolina. <http://ebird.org/ebird/GuideMe?step=saveChoices&getLocations=counties&parentState=US-NC&speciesCodes=logshr&bMonth=01&bYear=2005&eMonth=12&eYear=2009&reportType=species&counties=US-NC-127&continue.x=51&continue.y=9>
- Askins, R.A.** (2002) Restoring North America's Birds. Second Edition. Yale University Press
- Cox, J. and C. Jones** (2008) Bachman's Sparrow and the Order of the Phoenix. *Birding* 40(3) 38-45
- Dalmas, J.H.** (1992). The Greensville County Foray of June 1991. *The Raven* 63(1) 21-33
- D'Onofrio, A.** (2009) Photographic documentation of Anhinga in Sussex County, Virginia. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/39668089@N05/3647653432/>
- Ealding, W.** (2009) Photographic documentation of Canada Goose nest with eggs, Sussex County, Virginia. <http://www.flickr.com/photos/37073885@N08/3408463398/in/set-72157619787409811/>
- eBird records of Bachman's Sparrow in North Carolina, 1990-2009.** <http://ebird.org/ebird/GuideMe?src=changeDate&speciesCodes=bacspa&getLocations=states&states=US-NC&parentState=US-NC&reportType=species&monthRadio=on&bMonth=01&eMonth=12&bYear=1990&eYear=2009&continue.x=59&continue.y=11>
- Fussell, J.O.** (1994) A Birder's Guide to Coastal North Carolina
- Glass, P.** (2009) Report of sighting of Loggerhead Shrike in Mecklenburg County, Virginia. <http://ebird.org/ebird/va/GuideMe?cmd=quickPick&speciesCode=logshr&bMonth=01&bYear=2005&eMonth=12&eYear=2009&getLocations=state&states=US-VA&parentState=US-VA&reportType=species&speciesCodes=logshr&continue.x=35&continue.y=8>
- Harding, S.D.** (2009) The 2008 VSO Foray – Breeding Birds of Riparian Areas. http://www.virginiabirds.net/VSO_PDFs/2008_VSO_Foray.pdf
- Hilton, R.** (1990). Bachman's Sparrow in Sussex County. *The Raven* 61(1) 10-12
- LeGrand, H.E., Jr.** (1976) *American Birds* 30 942-945
- Nature Conservancy Piney Grove Preserve, Southeastern Virginia.** <http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/virginia/preserves/art4982.html>

North Carolina Gap Analysis Project Gap Data Tool Species Report for Bachman's Sparrow (2005). <http://www.basic.ncsu.edu/ncgap/sppreport/abpbx91050.html>

Rottenborn, S.C. and E.S. Brinkley (2007). *Virginia's Birdlife: An Annotated Checklist*. Fourth Edition. Virginia Avifauna No. 7

Scott, F.R. (1979). The Kerr Reservoir Foray of June 1977. *The Raven* 50(3) 43-53

Sussex County Government web site. <http://sussexcounty.govoffice.com/>

Trollinger, J.B. and K.K. Reay (2001) *The Virginia Breeding Bird Atlas Project 1985-1989*

Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. Virginia Birding and Wildlife Trail partnership with eBird. <http://ebird.org/content/va/news/vdgif-and-ebird-announce-partnership-between-ebird-and-the-virginia-birding-wildlife-trail>

Virginia eBird. <http://ebird.org/content/va/>

Virginia Society of Ornithology Principles of Birding Ethics (2008). http://www.virginiabirds.net/VSO_PDFs/VSO_P_B_Ethcs_042009.pdf

Watts, B.D. (2000) *Bachman's Sparrow management plan: Ft. A.P. Hill, Virginia*. Center for Conservation Biology Technical Report Series, CCBTR-00-06; ccb-wm.org/publications/pdf_techreports/ccbtr0006.pdf

Watts, B.D., M.D. Wilson and D.S. Bradshaw (1998). A Survey of the Bachman's Sparrow in Southeastern Virginia. *The Raven* 69 (1) 9-14

Wilson, M.D., and B. D. Watts. (2009). *Virginia Red-cockaded Woodpecker survey: 2009 Breeding Season*. Center for Conservation Biology, College of William and Mary and Virginia Commonwealth University. Williamsburg, VA.

Youker, D. (2009) Anhinga nesting at Harwood Mills, York County, Virginia. Reported on VA-Bird list serve June 11, 2009

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Observers were: Fred Atwood, Arun Bose, Susan and Wes Brown, Bobby Clontz, John and Thelma Dalmas, Adam D'Onofrio, Fenton Day, Wendy Ealding, Elisa, Frank and Mary Enders, Mary Elfner, Ron Giese, Paul and Hannah Glass, Chris Senfield, Tom St. Andre, Allan Sharrett, John Spahr, Brian Taber, Sean Wender, Bill Williams.

Nick Flanders graciously provided information from the United States Nightjar Survey Network (conducted with assistance from Lee Bristow) and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Breeding Bird Survey (conducted with assistance from Elisa Enders, Dot Silsby and Peggy Waterfield).

Thanks to The Nature Conservancy for providing access to Piney Grove Preserve, and to William Owen for providing permission to access the Raccoon Creek Longleaf Pine Restoration Site. Thanks also to Tim Gainey for allowing access to private property on Dry Bread Road in Greensville County.

I am indebted to John and Thelma Dalmas for much historic background data on Bachman's Sparrow in the state, and to Susan and Wes Brown and Andrew Dolby for their review of the draft of this report.

Table 3. Comparison with 1991 foray and 2009 US Nightjar/BBS

Species reported	Suss ex 2009	Greens ville 2009	Southam pton 2009	US Nightjar/ BBS 2009	1991 foray
Canada Goose	X	X	X	X	X
Wood Duck	X		X	X	X
Mallard	X	X			X
Wild Turkey	X	X	X	X	X
Northern Bobwhite	X	X	X	X	X
Double-crested Cormorant	X				X
Anhinga	X		X		
Great Blue Heron	X	X	X	X	X
Great Egret	X	X	X	X	X
Green Heron	X	X	X	X	X
Black Vulture	X	X	X	X	X
Turkey Vulture	X	X	X	X	X
Mississippi Kite		X		X	X
Sharp-shinned Hawk					X
Cooper's Hawk	X	X			
Red-shouldered Hawk	X	X	X	X	X
Broad-winged Hawk					X
Red-tailed Hawk	X	X			X
American Kestrel			X		
Killdeer	X	X	X	X	X
American Woodcock		X			X
Rock Pigeon	X	X		X	X
Mourning Dove	X	X	X	X	X
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	X	X	X	X	X
Black-billed Cuckoo					X
Eastern Screech-Owl				X	X
Great Horned Owl					X
Barred Owl	X	X		X	X
Chuck-will's-widow	X			X	X
Whip-poor-will	X				X
Chimney Swift	X	X	X	X	X
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	X	X	X	X	X
Belted Kingfisher	X		X	X	X
Red-headed Woodpecker	X	X	X	X	X
Red-bellied Woodpecker	X	X	X	X	X
Downy Woodpecker	X	X	X	X	X
Hairy Woodpecker	X	X	X		X
Red-cockaded Woodpecker	X				X
Northern Flicker	X	X	X	X	X
Pileated Woodpecker	X	X	X	X	X
Eastern Wood-Pewee	X	X	X	X	X
Acadian Flycatcher	X	X	X	X	X
Willow Flycatcher					X
Eastern Phoebe	X	X	X	X	X
Great Crested Flycatcher	X	X	X	X	X
Eastern Kingbird	X	X	X	X	X
Loggerhead Shrike		X			X
White-eyed Vireo	X	X	X	X	X
Yellow-throated Vireo	X	X	X	X	X
Blue-headed Vireo					X
Red-eyed Vireo	X	X	X	X	X
Blue Jay	X	X	X	X	X
American Crow	X	X	X	X	X
Fish Crow	X	X	X	X	X
Horned Lark	X	X	X	X	
Purple Martin	X	X		X	X
Tree Swallow	X	X		X	

Species reported	Suss ex 2009	Greens ville 2009	Southam pton 2009	US Nightjar/ BBS 2009	1991 foray
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	X	X	X		X
Barn Swallow	X	X	X	X	X
Carolina Chickadee	X	X	X	X	X
Tufted Titmouse	X	X	X	X	X
White-breasted Nuthatch	X	X	X	X	X
Brown-headed Nuthatch	X			X	X
Carolina Wren	X	X	X	X	X
House Wren	X	X			X
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	X	X	X	X	X
Eastern Bluebird	X	X	X	X	X
Wood Thrush	X	X		X	X
American Robin	X	X		X	X
Gray Catbird	X	X	X		X
Northern Mockingbird	X	X	X	X	X
Brown Thrasher	X	X	X	X	X
European Starling	X	X	X	X	X
Cedar Waxwing	X	X		X	
Northern Parula	X	X	X		X
Yellow Warbler					X
Yellow-throated Warbler	X	X	X	X	X
Pine Warbler	X	X	X	X	X
Prairie Warbler	X	X	X	X	X
Cerulean Warbler					X
Black-and-white Warbler	X			X	X
American Redstart		X	X	X	X
Prothonotary Warbler	X	X	X	X	X
Worm-eating Warbler					X
Swainson's Warbler		X			X
Ovenbird	X	X	X	X	X
Louisiana Waterthrush	X	X	X	X	X
Kentucky Warbler	X	X	X		X
Common Yellowthroat	X	X	X	X	X
Hooded Warbler	X	X	X	X	X
Yellow-breasted Chat	X	X	X	X	X
Summer Tanager	X	X	X	X	X
Scarlet Tanager	X	X			X
Eastern Towhee	X	X	X	X	X
Bachman's Sparrow					X
Chipping Sparrow	X	X	X	X	X
Field Sparrow	X	X	X	X	X
Grasshopper Sparrow	X	X	X		X
Henslow's Sparrow					X
Song Sparrow		X			X
Northern Cardinal	X	X	X	X	X
Blue Grosbeak	X	X	X	X	X
Indigo Bunting	X	X	X	X	X
Red-winged Blackbird	X	X	X	X	X
Eastern Meadowlark	X	X	X	X	X
Common Grackle	X	X	X	X	X
Brown-headed Cowbird	X	X	X	X	X
Orchard Oriole	X	X		X	X
Baltimore Oriole					X
House Finch	X	X		X	X
American Goldfinch	X	X	X	X	X
House Sparrow	X	X		X	X

Table 4. Total Counts and Detection Rates by County

Species	Sussex		Greenville		Southampton	
	total #	detection rate	total #	detection rate	total #	detection rate
Canada Goose	78	3%	45	4%	15	7%
Wood Duck	2	1%			9	20%
Mallard	3	2%	1	1%		
Wild Turkey	16	8%	12	7%	3	7%
Northern Bobwhite	109	48%	72	36%	3	7%
Double-crested Cormorant	2	2%				
Anhinga	1	1%			1	7%
Great Blue Heron	19	9%	5	6%	4	13%
Great Egret	66	7%	5	6%	19	13%
Green Heron	6	3%	7	7%	5	33%
Black Vulture	31	9%	15	12%	8	13%
Turkey Vulture	108	24%	109	36%	18	13%
Mississippi Kite			11	12%		
Cooper's Hawk	2	2%	1	1%	1	
Red-shouldered Hawk	10	6%	4	6%	3	20%
Red-tailed Hawk	16	9%	8	10%		
American Kestrel					1	7%
Killdeer	28	10%	37	23%	2	7%
American Woodcock			1	1%		
Rock Pigeon	6	2%	7	3%		
Mourning Dove	200	42%	265	35%	24	7%
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	15	10%	12	13%	4	7%
Barred Owl	6	3%	4	3%		
Chuck-will's-widow	6	4%				
Whip-poor-will	3	1%				
Chimney Swift	40	15%	35	20%	9	20%
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	12	9%	8	7%	2	7%
Belted Kingfisher	2	2%			1	7%
Red-headed Woodpecker	25	16%	6	7%	3	13%
Red-bellied Woodpecker	19	13%	28	20%	3	7%
Downy Woodpecker	15	12%	10	10%	7	7%
Hairy Woodpecker	9	8%	3	4%	1	7%
Red-cockaded Woodpecker	9	3%				
Northern Flicker	26	15%	9	13%	4	13%
Pileated Woodpecker	17	13%	11	7%	2	13%
Eastern Wood-Pewee	56	28%	25	20%	4	7%
Acadian Flycatcher	45	19%	33	23%	9	13%
Eastern Phoebe	30	14%	28	26%	6	20%
Great Crested Flycatcher	36	21%	24	23%	11	20%
Eastern Kingbird	33	19%	21	23%	1	7%
Loggerhead Shrike			1	1%		
White-eyed Vireo	45	23%	51	35%	14	20%
Yellow-throated Vireo	40	20%	30	22%	4	20%
Red-eyed Vireo	115	32%	70	39%	26	60%
Blue Jay	21	9%	25	25%	1	7%
American Crow	194	50%	268	45%	43	27%
Fish Crow	12	8%	9	9%	18	13%
Horned Lark	11	5%	15	9%	1	7%
Purple Martin	62	6%	101	13%		
Tree Swallow	1	1%	2	1%		

Species	Sussex		Greenville		Southampton	
	total #	detection rate	total #	detection rate	total #	detection rate
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	1	1%	35	9%	9	7%
Barn Swallow	113	18%	90	23%	8	7%
Carolina Chickadee	40	19%	23	19%	16	13%
Tufted Titmouse	72	32%	34	17%	11	27%
White-breasted Nuthatch	14	8%	6	6%	2	13%
Brown-headed Nuthatch	22	12%				
Carolina Wren	122	41%	72	45%	9	20%
House Wren	3	2%	3	4%		
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	77	32%	46	36%	18	27%
Eastern Bluebird	93	27%	65	23%	8	13%
Wood Thrush	20	10%	16	17%		
American Robin	57	14%	36	9%		
Gray Catbird	7	6%	2	3%	2	7%
Northern Mockingbird	60	19%	70	28%	2	7%
Brown Thrasher	44	25%	14	12%	4	7%
European Starling	127	8%	427	23%	9	7%
Cedar Waxwing	4	3%	2	1%		
Northern Parula	27	13%	26	13%	2	13%
Yellow-throated Warbler	18	11%	13	16%	3	13%
Pine Warbler	67	36%	30	14%	13	13%
Prairie Warbler	101	48%	41	29%	15	27%
Black-and-white Warbler	8	5%				
American Redstart			5	4%	1	7%
Prothonotary Warbler	42	17%	34	23%	9	20%
Swainson's Warbler			1	1%		
Ovenbird	55	24%	30	17%	4	7%
Louisiana Waterthrush	7	6%	2	1%	1	7%
Kentucky Warbler	5	3%	1	1%	2	7%
Common Yellowthroat	126	48%	77	42%	16	27%
Hooded Warbler	36	15%	28	19%	11	13%
Yellow-breasted Chat	94	38%	61	38%	8	13%
Summer Tanager	42	22%	20	19%	3	13%
Scarlet Tanager	12	9%	4	6%		
Eastern Towhee	77	44%	51	20%	2	7%
Chipping Sparrow	71	28%	55	25%	25	7%
Field Sparrow	121	50%	49	26%	11	7%
Grasshopper Sparrow	20	7%	4	3%	2	7%
Song Sparrow			1	1%		
Northern Cardinal	104	38%	75	42%	16	20%
Blue Grosbeak	85	24%	62	32%	5	13%
Indigo Bunting	183	55%	156	65%	16	27%
Red-winged Blackbird	23	6%	8	4%	2	13%
Eastern Meadowlark	30	10%	32	17%	2	7%
Common Grackle	144	18%	198	20%	1	7%
Brown-headed Cowbird	24	13%	28	10%	5	7%
Orchard Oriole	20	13%	13	14%		
House Finch	2	1%	14	7%		
American Goldfinch	37	21%	38	22%	6	13%
House Sparrow	51	3%	4	4%		

VIRGINIA CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS: 2008-2009 SEASON

TETA KAIN
7083 Caffee Creek Lane
Gloucester, VA 23061-3374
teta@vims.edu

While much of the country experienced heavy snows, rain, wind, and other unpleasantries, especially to the north and west of us, Virginia, somehow, escaped the onslaught of severe winter weather. Many counts around the region were conducted in fairly mild conditions. In fact, no count reported snow on the ground on its count day. Wind was the most troubling factor, especially at Little Creek where 57 mile-an-hour gusts were reported. Oddly though, as storms raged all around us, Virginia basked in mild December days. However, many counts realized less than stellar results.

All counts held in 2007 were also conducted in 2008, along with two additions. Both Buchanan County, in the far western part of the state, and Chatham, in the southern Piedmont region, were added this year. These two counts brought the total to 52, the most ever held in Virginia.

The Buchanan count center is at the intersection of state routes 680 and 638 in the town of Pilgrim's Knob. As described by count organizer Roger Mayhorn, "These two routes intersect just beside the Dismal River, which is an important part of the area to be covered within the circle, since other large bodies of water are nonexistent within the county."

Chatham is the second addition to the list, though it is not a new count. William S. James conducted a census over this same circle in 1950 and again in 1956. The 1950 results appeared in the 1951 editions of *The Raven* and *Audubon Field Notes*, but those for 1956 were printed only in *Audubon Field Notes*, in 1957. Centered on Pittsylvania County Courthouse in Chatham, this circle is about 18 miles north of Danville and lies completely within the county of Pittsylvania. It includes Cherrystone and Banister rivers and

the White Oak Mountain Wildlife Management Area.

There were two other notable changes. Lynchburg, and Danville, after hiatuses of 16- and 11-years, respectively, were re-established in the National Audubon Christmas Bird Count database. Results for Chesapeake Bay, Darlington Heights, Chatham, Danville, Big Flat Mountain, Peaks of Otter, Roanoke, and Giles County continue to be submitted only to *The Raven*. Bristol results were submitted to both publications, but, as in years past, it is listed under Tennessee in Audubon, even though the circle center is located in Virginia.

This was a year of notable changes and accomplishments by compilers. The year 2008 marked a very important milestone for Bay Back and Little Creek compiler Paul Sykes. He racked up his 400th Christmas bird count this year, 205 of those being Virginia counts. Paul has served as compiler 126 times for Little Creek, Back Bay, Nansemond River, and the now defunct Norfolk County census. Paul started compiling the Little Creek and Back Bay count in 1954 when he was 15 years old. The only count he missed was the one in 1962-63, when he was in the Mediterranean, serving in the Navy. He has participated in 30 different counts in six other states. Those are truly remarkable statistics.

After 14 years at the helm of the Newport News count, Hayes Williams retired and passed the duty on to Clark White. John & Thelma Dalmas, long-time compiler-team (20 years), passed the baton to Rexanne Bruno in Lynchburg. Mary Foster served as organizer and compiler of the new Chatham count circle; Alan Williams has stepped up to the task at Shenandoah-Luray; and Michelle Talbot and Tom Hunter head up the

new Buchanan County count. Odette James stood in for husband Dave Stewart as he continues to cope with ill health. We are sad to report that Max Carpenter, who retired in 1997 as compiler of the Rockingham County count for 43 years, passed away this year.

There were some truly stunning birds that showed up around the state this year. One or (perhaps) two species seen were new to the Virginia count. One of the most talked about was a Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius americanus*) during count week at Breaks Interstate Park. Superb photographs were obtained and many people saw the bird. Though not new to Virginia counts, it is certainly new to the western part of the state, never having been reported in that area before. A Calliope Hummingbird (*Stellula calliope*) was banded and photographed as it came to a feeder in the Lynchburg circle, and was admired by many birders. A Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*) also appeared at Lynchburg for the third year in a row. The only other hummingbird to show up was a count week Ruby-throated (*Archilochus colubris*) at Little Creek. A most unusual bird was the Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Pheucticus ludovicianus*) reported on the Augusta County count. Unfortunately, the observer did not realize documentation would be needed on such a rarity, so a report was received long after the fact. This out-of-season, Christmas-count-first species should be viewed with reservations until the outcome of the evaluation by VARCOM is received.

For the first time since its inception in 1965, Cape Charles count, the bastion of rarities, reported no unusual species, nor did any of the other three Eastern Shore counts. Even the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel complex harbored no seabirds of note, only a Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*) flitting over the sparse grassy strip on one of the islands. The Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) reported at Chincoteague, found in the Maryland sector, was the third record for there.

As always, there were some nice sightings and record high counts scattered around the state. Cackling Goose (*Branta hutchinsii*) numbers continue to climb as observers become more

aware of what to look for and where. The 43 found on 10 counts constituted an all-time high. Tundra Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*) numbers were up, with 5,830 the most seen since 1998.

Compiler Todd Day had this to say about the Trumpeter Swans (*Cygnus buccinator*) that showed up at The Plains for the third year in a row: "There were a lot of Trumpeters around this winter, maybe six total, hanging around at Airlie. Some are collared, and can be linked to reintroduction efforts in Ohio. However, some are showing up with no collars or bands on their legs. My guess is that these birds are descendants of the original reintroduced (stocked) swans in Ohio (and perhaps even Ontario), and they have been hatched somewhere in the wild, but outside of the detection of those monitoring that project. My logic is that they are often in family groups with other banded swans. I suspect that was the goal, to have them breeding all over the place, but I wonder if in thirty years if [*sic*] Trumpeters will become the next Mute Swan. I don't think these birds have quite mastered migration, as there are a couple in Maryland that have been there for years.

"Oddly, two uncollared, and unbanded birds showed up at a friend's pond in Rappahannock County this week, and then the next day they were sitting on his brother's pond about ten miles away. I am betting that in the next five years several Virginia CBCs will be reporting Trumpeters."

The best duck of the season was a White-winged Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*) at Tazewell. Not only was it well seen, but a great photo was obtained. That count also posted record highs of Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*) and Northern Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*), two species rarely seen there. Eurasian Wigeons (*Anas penelope*) showed up at Newport News, Cape Charles, Williamsburg, and Fort Belvoir for an all-time state high of six. The only other duck species reaching a record high (8,343) was Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*), breaking the old record of 7,459 set in 1961. Redheads (*Aythya americana*) showed up in the highest numbers (800) since 1980, although that does not begin to approach

the highs of the early 1950s, when more than 40,000 were recorded statewide.

Again, Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*) numbers were at a respectable level only because of the massive flocks reported at Fort Belvoir. Of the state total of 16,651, 15,438 of those were at Fort Belvoir. And another 6,735 identified only as "scaup, sp." were probably also Lessers. The next highest number was 447 at Walkerton. The 12,786 Buffleheads (*Bucephala albeola*) around the state were the most since 1989.

A Pacific Loon (*Gavia pacifica*) at Back Bay was the first seen in three years. For the past two years, Red-throated Loon (*Gavia stellata*) numbers have dropped back to normal after reaching phenomenally high counts for four years. Eleven American Bitterns (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) were the most in 11 years, the Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) number, 1,717, was the second-highest ever recorded in the state, while the number of White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*) fell way back after five years of unusually high counts. Three Sandhill Cranes (*Grus canadensis*) in the Virginia sector at Bristol were the first to appear anywhere on a Virginia count in 7 years; two were also found during count week at Gordonsville.

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) numbers spiked to 18, Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) to 973, and Black Vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) to 4,963, all record highs. Three Peregrine Falcons (*Falco peregrinus*) at Breaks Interstate Park, thought to be hacked birds from a project conducted at the park, brought the state total for that species to a record 24. American Kestrel (*Falco sparverius*) numbers continue to creep slowly downward, with a total of only 574, which, though not the lowest total seen, approaches the numbers of the early 1970s, when only about 30 counts were conducted.

The three strongholds of Eurasian Collared-Dove, Cape Charles, Back Bay and Blacksburg, elevated the number of (*Streptopelia decaocto*) to a high of 47. It was also a great year for woodpeckers, with all-time, state-wide high counts for Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) (3,810) and Pileated Woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) (1,139), and near-record highs for Red-headed

(*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*), Downy (*Picoides pubescens*) and Hairy Woodpeckers (*Picoides villosus*). In fact, all seven woodpecker species chalked up record numbers on one or more counts. Nansemond River had record numbers for five of those species.

Tree Swallow (*Tachycineta bicolor*) reached tallies of more than 1,000 for the second year in a row. Those kinds of numbers have been achieved only three times in the 70 years since they were first recorded on a Virginia count. Brown-headed Nuthatch (*Sitta pusilla*) numbers took a surprising leap, more than doubling any record in the past three decades. The 444 seen surpasses the previous all-time high of 428, set way back in 1975. Eastern Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*) are making a comeback after their populations sagged in the early 2000s. Mathews County has never regained its prestigious numbers of the 1980s, when it often posted the national high count of bluebirds for several years. Still, the all-time high of 968 individuals counted in 2002 remains the highest on any Virginia count. A House Wren (*Troglodytes aedon*) at Mount Rogers-Whitetop was notable, because most of that circle is at quite high elevations, and not where one would expect to find this species in the winter.

Thirty Orange-crowned Warblers (*Vermivora celata*) was an all-time high, with most of those birds recorded at Dismal Swamp. One Yellow-throated Warbler (*Dendroica dominica*) was at Fort Belvoir for the third year in a row, a Wilson's Warbler (*Wilsonia pusilla*) was at Hopewell, and a Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*) showed up during count week at Cape Charles. Other warblers were a count week Nashville Warbler (*Vermivora ruficapilla*) at Little Creek, a Northern Parula (*Parula americana*) at Nansemond River, and a Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica petechia*) at Manassas-Bull Run.

Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*) numbers continue to climb, with an all-time high of 1,768, surpassing last year's total of 1,118. At least six counts tallied record highs of this species. For the first time since 1992, no Vesper Sparrows (*Poocetes gramineus*) were found anywhere in the state. LeConte's Sparrow (*Ammodramus leconteii*) was also not found, but it is not unusual for this

species to be among the missing. It has never been found in great numbers, the most being 9, in 1999. The yearly average over the past 18 years is 2.

Red Crossbills (*Loxia curvirostra*) showed up at Big Flat, Roanoke and Blackford, for a total of 22. That is the most seen since 1997, when 24 were recorded, but it does not rival the numbers in the 1970s, when as many as 331 were found on nine counts around the state.

And last, but not least, many counts enjoyed a major invasion of Pine Siskins this winter. Numbers did not quite rival those of 1987, when 3,146 were tallied on 36 of the 38 counts held that year, but 47 circles reported a total of 2,953 individuals in 2008. Even at that, it was the second highest state total. It was nice to have them back in such good numbers.

In the tables that follow, the 52 counts are numbered as follows: Eastern Shore counts, 1-5; Coastal Plains counts, 6 through 17; Piedmont counts, 18 through 31; and Mountains and Valleys counts, 19 through 52. Abbreviations used in the following tables are:

Bldv = Boulevard
 CLD = Cloudy
 CLR = Clear
 Cmdr = Commander
 Co = County
 E = East
 Jct = Junction
 LGR = Light rain
 MCD = Mostly cloudy
 MCR = Mostly clear
 MPF = Moving water party frozen
 Mt = Mountain
 MWO = Moving water open
 N = North
 NP = National Park
 NR = not recorded
 NWR = National Wildlife Refuge
 PCD = Partly cloudy
 PCR = Partly clear
 Rd = Road
 Rt = Route
 S = South
 Sp = species

SPF = Still water partly frozen

SPO = Still water partly open

SWO = Still water open

UNK = Unknown

V = variable

VARCOM = Virginian Avian Records Committee

W = West

WMA = Wildlife Management Area

WOP = Water open

x = not recorded

Table 1. Species and numbers of individuals seen

Species:	Count	Snow Goose (white form)	Snow Goose (blue form)	Ross's Goose	Brant	Cackling Goose	Canada Goose	Mute Swan	Trumpeter Swan	Tundra Swan	Wood Duck	Gadwall	Eurasian Wigeon	American Wigeon	American Black Duck	Mallard	Black Duck/ Mallard (hybrid)	Blue-winged Teal	Northern Shoveler	Northern Pintail	American Green-winged Teal	duck, sp.	Canvasback	Redhead	Ring-necked Duck	
1. Chincoteague	8,260	25	40	519	7	574	4	1,556	979	303	1,337	113	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Wachapreague	27,582	50	1,475	5,071	12	52	2	442	183	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	88
3. Nassawadox	7,000	40	1,439	1,171	4	...	2	154	182	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
4. Cape Charles	4,964	45	873	3,485	6	470	3	1,276	302	85	10	350	7	108	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Chesapeake Bay	5	...	2
6. Little Creek	...	...	84	396	9	63	105	27	533	218	4	44	2	134	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Back Bay	3,300	53	...	555	2	1,220	70	267	355	80	40	27	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Nansemond River
9. Dismal Swamp NWR	...	...	...	1	3,331	2	101	149	160	258	8	3	4	4,353	7	280	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Newport News	...	...	64	608	1	15	165	52	573	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Mathews County	6	2,305	CW
12. Williamsburg	1,995	13
13. Hopewell	800	1,800	2	7,833	1	235	44	6	163	142	3	56	3	479	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Walkerton	4	2	17,400
15. Washingtons Birthplace	2	16,407
16. Brooke	40	...	...	1,473	43	83	682	87	370	15	9	7	5	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Fort Belvoir	1	...	...	3	16,031	1	310	1,456	3,870	126	294	231	2	200	420	1,662	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Central Loudoun	1	...	...	10,773	1	91	2	62	584	18	12	52	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. The Plains	1	...	...	1	8,313	1	127	9	336	7	49	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Manassas-Bull Run	...	...	...	4,369	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. Nokesville	...	...	...	1	2,343	4	4	22	314	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Chancellorsville	...	...	...	689	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Lake Anna	...	...	...	422	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Gordonsville	...	...	...	1,497	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Charlottesville	...	...	...	800	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
26. Warren	...	...	...	503	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
27. Darlington Heights	...	...	...	331	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
28. Banister River WMAs	...	...	...	312	1	13	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
29. Lynchburg	...	...	...	997	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30. Chatham	1	...	...	113	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31. Danville	...	...	...	239	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
32. Calmes Neck	2	...	...	5836	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
33. N. Shenandoah Valley	...	...	...	5,461	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
34. Shenandoah NP-Luray	...	...	...	3	365	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35. Big Flat Mountain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
36. Rockinham County	1	...	...	341	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
37. Augusta County	CW	...	...	680	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
38. Waynesboro	...	...	...	1,687	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
39. Lexington	...	...	...	332	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
40. Peaks of Otter	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
41. Fincastle	1	...	...	312	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
42. Roanoke	...	...	...	122	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
43. Blacksburg	...	...	...	958	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
44. Giles County	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45. Tazewell	...	...	...	359	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
46. Mount Rogers-Whitotop	...	...	...	70	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
47. Glade Spring	4	...	...	273	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
48. Blackford	...	...	...	78	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
49. Bristol	...	...	...	805	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
50. Buchanan County	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
51. Breaks Interstate Park	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
52. Wise County	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	51,962	2,014	7	3,986	43	128,165	71	3	5,830	184	6,172	6	2,127	6,839	16,045	1	4	1,314	2,588	1,601	29	6,627	800	8,343		

Species:	Greater Scaup	Lesser Scaup	scaup, sp.	King Eider	Common Eider	Harlequin Duck	Surf Scoter	White-winged Scoter	Black Scoter	scoter, sp.	Long-tailed Duck	Buffhead	Common Goldeneye	Hooded Merganser	Common Merganser	Red-breasted Merganser	Ruddy Duck	Ring-necked Pheasant	Ruffed Grouse	Wild Turkey	Northern Bobwhite	Red-throated Loon	Pacific Loon	Common Loon
1. Chincoteague	...	77	...	...	...	...	2,115	...	132	273	5	1,644	18	82	15	157	231	...	...	...	4	75	...	80
2. Wachapreague	...	20	...	...	...	...	400	4	8	...	28	980	1	130	2	215	68	...	...	24	46	...	...	34
3. Nassawadox	3	...	421	1	99	...	60	68	...	...	45	12	2	...	6
4. Cape Charles	1	3	22	...	...	...	2,342	9	37	400	48	3,487	14	275	2	1,054	285	...	...	...	22	3,094	...	155
5. Chesapeake Bay	...	3	...	2	2	1	4,400	32	21	2,500	110	6	...	...	...	28	...	...	...	...	...	210	...	9
6. Little Creek	...	7	...	...	...	CW	41	2	3	1	40	326	3	372	1	130	147	...	...	...	...	188	...	8
7. Back Bay	685	135	...	...	...	...	36	55	101	260	2	186	2	55	...	255	1,300	...	...	...	...	1,110	1	191
8. Nansemond River	...	121	...	...	...	...	91	...	...	...	1	1,002	3	186	8	194	1,090	...	...	...	...	40	...	7
9. Dismal Swamp NWR	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	5	...	...	3	...	...	...	...
10. Newport News	22	...	...	...	13	680	3	194	...	23	108	...	...	...	...	19	...	18
11. Mathews County	1	...	100	...	...	...	208	...	16	28	28	1,598	51	65	4	481	1,459	...	...	43	4	34	...	126
12. Williamsburg	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	101	4	271	...	20	1,063	...	...	CW	...	...	...	4
13. Hopewell	...	209	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	164	...	78	25	...	134	...	...	5	...	...	...	1
14. Walkerton	1	447	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	375	7	25	28	7	260	...	...	26	13	...	...	4
15. Washingtons Birthplace	...	60	...	...	...	...	430	...	7	...	...	143	46	35	66	16	724	...	...	11	13	...	...	4
16. Brooke	...	96	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	132	...	692	10	...	1,897	...	...	2	...	...	...	9
17. Fort Belvoir	8	15,438	6,599	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	CW	686	9	238	598	42	1,295	...	...	23	5	...	...	2
18. Central Loudoun	61	...	38	110	...	2	...	...	20	...	...	...	...
19. The Plains	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	132	...	160	2	...	61	...	...	CW	...	...	...	...
20. Manassas-Bull Run	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	53	323	2	7	...	...	12	CW	...	...	...
21. Nokesville	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...
22. Chancellorsville	1	128	...	30	...	...	39	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Lake Anna	163	...	23	...	3	8	...	...	1	...	...	...	18
24. Gordonsville	23	...	37	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...
25. Charlottesville	4	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...
26. Warren	15	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...
27. Darlington Heights	8	...	...	...	...	...	8	4	...	...	...
28. Banister River WMAS	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55	...	11	...	...	4	...	...	16	2	...	...	...
29. Lynchburg	...	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	CW	7	1	3	...	...	...	59	...	...	...	...
30. Chatham	10	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	6	...	...	...	...
31. Danville	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
32. Calmes Neck	41	42	...	5	...	...	11	...	...	...	...
33. N. Shenandoah Valley	2	...	11	63	...	4	...	...	59	...	...	...	CW
34. Shenandoah NP-Luray	2	1	...	14	...	...	2	30	...	...	...
35. Big Flat Mountain	4	...	...	...	...
36. Rockingham County	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...
37. Augusta County	1	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
38. Waynesboro	6	...	...	...	...	...	CW	...	...	...	...
39. Lexington	24	2	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...
40. Peaks of Otter
41. Fincastle	6	...	...	...	...	...	16	2	...	...	...
42. Roanoke	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	22	8	...	...	...	...	25	...	...	...	...
43. Blacksburg	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	139	...	27	7	...	...	...	...	46	...	...	...	...
44. Giles County	35	...	...	2	...	...	10	...	...	...	...
45. Tazewell	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
46. Mount Rogers-Whitetop	CW	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
47. Glade Spring
48. Blackford	11	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
49. Bristol	116	...	229	...	...	1	...	...	44	...	...	...	4
50. Buchanan County	6	...	...	...	...
51. Breaks Interstate Park
52. Wise County
Totals	696	16,651	6,735	2	2	1	10,085	103	325	3,465	277	12,786	162	3,625	1,319	2,690	10,382	2	11	616	84	4,818	1	676

Species:	Count Circle											Sharp-shinned Hawk													
	Pied-billed Grebe	Horned Grebe	Red-necked Grebe	Eared Grebe	Northern Gannet	Brown Pelican	Double-crested Cormorant	Great Cormorant	American Bittern	Great Blue Heron (Blue form)	Great Egret		Snowy Egret	Little Blue Heron	Tricolored Heron	Green Heron	Black-crowned Night-Heron	White Ibis	Black Vulture	Turkey Vulture	Osprey	Bald Eagle	bald eagle, age	Northern Harrier	
1. Chincoteague	10	130	...	...	48	6	4	...	5	82	85	5	1	...	2	9	...	150	357	...	55	41a, 14i	31	27
2. Wachapreague	4	4	...	...	...	...	84	...	...	34	1	...	1	2	...	8	...	58	329	...	26	19a, 7i	33	5
3. Nassawadox	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	1	17	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	80	200	...	13	13x	18	11
4. Cape Charles	29	357	...	...	351	7	420	11	...	61	5	...	...	3	...	1	5	270	750	1	55	55x	58	19
5. Chesapeake Bay	...	1	1	...	900	25	8	22	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	9a, 5i	2	4
6. Little Creek	40	1	2	...	7,240	153	2,355	2	1	90	45	1	...	1	...	4	...	153	79	...	6	4a, 2i	26	6	
7. Back Bay	42	76	...	...	802	121	920	1	4	37	16	...	...	1	...	...	...	103	113	8	18	10a, 4i, 4u	13	3
8. Nansmond River	27	115	...	...	58	35	1,264	...	...	12	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	59	3	11	4a, 7i	10	5
9. Dismal Swamp NWR	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	87	44	...	...	...	...	...	...	79	75	...	25	17a, 8i	7	4
10. Newport News	34	3	...	...	54	81	1,589	...	...	62	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	59	3	11	4a, 7i	10	5
11. Mathews County	2	22	...	...	12	5	2	...	...	85	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	123	165	1	49	32a, 17i	1	3
12. Williamsburg	42	22	...	...	1	49	498	...	...	85	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	71	96	1	68	35a, 31i, 2u	10	5
13. Hopewell	10	...	...	...	...	...	1,110	...	...	129	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	84	250	...	65	37a, 28i	17	3
14. Walkerton	23	...	...	...	...	...	28	...	...	69	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	93	115	...	151	110a, 39i, 2u	12	3
15. Washingtons Birthplace	...	3	...	...	...	...	350	...	...	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	75	184	...	68	38a, 30i	5	2
16. Brooke	43	4	...	...	...	...	61	...	...	65	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	175	197	...	111	66a, 45i	3	15
17. Fort Belvoir	49	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	...	280	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	606	930	...	33	19a, 14i	6	10
18. Central Loudoun	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	44	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	124	335	...	22	9a, 13i	3	6
19. The Plains	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	107	245	...	13	9a, 4i	1	5
20. Manassas-Bull Run	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77	111	...	37	17a, 20i	10	1
21. Nokesville	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	145	...	8	7a, 1i	2	2
22. Chancellorsville	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	55	65	...	6	6a	...	3
23. Lake Anna	23	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	61	...	...	...	...	2
24. Gordonsville	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	248	359	...	4	4x	1	9
25. Charlottesville	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38	119	...	3	3a	...	3
26. Warren	6	20	132	4	1
27. Darlington Heights	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31	95	...	3	3i	4	2
28. Banister River WMAS	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	480	454	...	2	2u	1	2
29. Lynchburg	12	26	9	15	1	2
30. Chatham	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	78	...	...	...	...	...
31. Danville	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	78	...	...	...	...	...
32. Calmes Neck	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48	228	...	14	9a, 5i	7	3
33. N. Shenandoah Valley	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	302	192	...	10	8a, 2i	14	9
34. Shenandoah NP-Luray	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	30	...	15	12a, 3i	7	6
35. Big Flat Mountain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	37	...	...	...	...	1
36. Rockingham County	12	13	149	1	4
37. Augusta County	10	96	571	3	3
38. Waynesboro	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	77	299	...	1	1x	2	6
39. Lexington	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	134	78	...	1	1a	1	5
40. Peaks of Otter	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	4	...	...	...	...	...
41. Fincastle	10	175	301	1	2
42. Roanoke	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72	101	...	1	1a	...	1
43. Blacksburg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	281	36	...	1	1a	1	9
44. Giles County	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46	28	...	...	...	...	4
45. Tazewell	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	2	2a	1	...
46. Mount Rogers-Whitetop	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	50	...	...	...	...	...
47. Glade Spring	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	59	20	...	...	...	...	2
48. Blackford	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	14	...	3	3a	...	3
49. Bristol	59	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	105	84	...	2	2x	...	2
50. Buchanan County	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
51. Breaks Interstate Park	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
52. Wise County	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	510	756	3	3	9,469	482	8,735	36	11	1,717	233	6	2	7	3	35	6	4,963	8,586	18	946	529a, 302i, 10u, 105x	317	225	

Species:	Cooper's Hawk	Northern Goshawk	Accipiter, sp.	Red-shouldered Hawk	Red-tailed Hawk	Rough-legged Hawk	Buteo, sp.	Golden Eagle	Golden eagle, age	American Kestrel	Martin	Peregrine Falcon	Clapper Rail	King Rail	Virginia Rail	Sora	Common Moorhen	American Coot	Sandhill Crane	Black-bellied Plover	Semipalmated Plover	Killdeer	American Oystercatcher	American Avocet	Spotted Sandpiper	Greater Yellowlegs	Willet
1. Chincoteague	14	...	...	6	24	...	...	1	1x	16	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	2	2	42	10	28	9	...	...	163	46
2. Wachapreague	8	...	...	7	20	...	...	...	...	47	4	8	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	...	...	92	...	...	53	133
3. Nassawadox	8	...	...	4	21	...	...	...	...	34	...	4	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	390	...	...	293	...	...	46	190
4. Cape Charles	10	...	...	11	51	...	...	1	1i	18	4	5	45	1	11	...	2	33	33	248	59	69	252	...	...	122	666
5. Chesapeake Bay	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Little Creek	8	...	...	13	40	...	...	...	...	22	4	1	...	3	16	5	...	552	23	...	...	3	29	...	...	...	1
7. Back Bay	4	...	...	4	36	...	...	...	...	11	1	CW	6	...	...	...	...	8	8	...	2	...	...	1	...	4	...
8. Nansemond River	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	...	...	6	...	...	...	8	...
9. Dismal Swamp NWR	...	...	...	1	10	1	...	...	...	11	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	80	...	17	...	...	...	29	...
10. Newport News	2	...	...	18	21	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	82	44	...	77	...	...	9	...	
11. Mathews County	6	...	...	...	19	...	...	...	...	15	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	63	63	...	...	62	...	...	10	...	
12. Williamsburg	3	...	...	11	22	...	...	...	...	7	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	35	35	...	...	183	...	...	...	...
13. Hopewell	3	...	...	32	30	...	...	...	...	3	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	625	...	...	13	...	
14. Walkerton	4	...	...	10	15	...	...	...	...	7	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	6	...
15. Washingtons Birthplace	3	...	...	...	19	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,250	1	...	...	55	...	...	...	...	...
16. Brooke	3	...	...	19	18	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,602	8	...	2	35	...	1	...	8	...
17. Fort Belvoir	23	...	...	11	76	65	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	CW	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	119	...	...	...	...	...
18. Central Loudoun	5	...	...	...	93	...	...	...	...	20	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	CW	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. The Plains	6	...	...	...	58	...	...	...	...	13	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
20. Manassas-Bull Run	7	...	...	2	42	59	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	...	...	...	...	...
21. Nokesville	3	...	...	23	25	...	...	...	...	11	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...
22. Chancellorsville	4	...	...	7	11	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	102	102	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
23. Lake Anna	2	...	...	13	19	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	10	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
24. Gordonsville	2	...	...	4	12	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Charlottesville	4	...	...	23	30	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
26. Warren	2	...	...	7	41	...	...	...	...	11	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...
27. Darlington Heights	1	...	...	2	8	...	...	...	...	10	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
28. Banister River WMAs	5	...	...	10	14	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	...	...	...	...	...
29. Lynchburg	5	...	...	4	26	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...
30. Chatham	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31. Danville	3	...	...	5	3	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
32. Calmes Neck	5	...	...	56	107	...	...	...	...	32	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	7	...	...	13	...	...	...	...	...
33. N. Shenandoah Valley	13	1	...	26	109	1	...	1	1x	33	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	...	...	18	...	...	...	...	...
34. Shenandoah NP-Luray	3	...	...	5	49	...	...	1	1a	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32	...	...	...	...	...
35. Big Flat Mountain	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
36. Rockingham County	2	...	...	...	28	...	...	...	...	34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
37. Augusta County	2	...	...	2	42	2	...	...	...	42	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...
38. Waynesboro	2	...	...	6	43	...	...	...	...	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	18	...	...	...	...	...
39. Lexington	2	...	...	4	24	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
40. Peaks of Otter	2	...	...	1	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
41. Fincastle	4	...	...	...	32	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
42. Roanoke	1	...	...	1	11	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
43. Blacksburg	2	...	...	1	30	...	...	3	3x	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	38	...	...	...	...	...
44. Giles County	2	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
45. Tazewell	...	...	...	2	12	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
46. Mount Rogers-Whitetop	...	...	...	1	6	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
47. Glade Spring	5	...	...	1	21	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...
48. Blackford	1	...	...	2	24	...	...	9	9x	12	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
49. Bristol	1	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	18	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	49	3	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
50. Buchanan County	...	...	...	1	13	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
51. Breaks Interstate Park	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
52. Wise County	...	...	...	3	6	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	197	1	13	590	1,400	4	2	16	1a, 1i, 14x	574	31	24	74	4	27	5	2	8,857	3	831	71	1,619	675	1	1	492	1,036

Table 1. Species and numbers of individuals seen (continued)

Species:	Count Circle	Lesser Yellowlegs	Whimbrel	Long-billed Curlew	Marbled Godwit	Ruddy Turnstone	Red Knot	Sanderling	Western Sandpiper	Least Sandpiper	Purple Sandpiper	Dunlin	Peep, sp.	Short-billed Dowitcher	dowitcher, sp.	Wilson's Snipe	American Woodcock	Laughing Gull	Little Gull	Bonapartes' Gull	Ring-billed Gull	Herring Gull	Iceland Gull	Lesser Black-backed Gull	Glaucous Gull	White-winged gull, sp.
1. Chincoteague		25	...	...	...	1	...	96	3	5	...	831	20	29	...	...	6	5	...	15	617	8,183	...	1	...
2. Wachapreague		1	5	...	15	67	6	...	1,450	...	45	4	6	1	...	...	18	1,128	517	...	...	...
3. Nassawadox		4	...	...	298	34	...	...	2	...	...	678	...	138	1	2	2	...	...	3	501	121	...	...	...
4. Cape Charles		10	5	...	28	98	56	219	45	12	11	10,510	20	255	...	14	97	...	1	1,994	1,323	2,058	...	1	...	
5. Chesapeake Bay		8	...	7	...	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4,500	500	300	...	...	...
6. Little Creek		2	...	...	...	21	...	413	...	...	4	11	...	...	...	...	...	8	1	5,525	12,160	640	...	...	1
7. Back Bay		323	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	2	2	...	617	4,020	269	...	...	40	
8. Nansmond River		5	...	110	65	18	...	122	21	...	...	1	8	11	...	41	7,055	4,778	...	...	8	
9. Dismal Swamp NWR		4	800	...	3	18,174	12,364	...	...	2	
10. Newport News		2	...	...	...	42	...	219	222	...	...	169	...	...	...	...	17	...	20	20	2,362	390	...	...	...
11. Mathews County		8	...	399	1	...	...	390	...	1	...	2	3	1	...	60	893	160	...	...	...
12. Williamsburg		19	...	...	...	3	2	...	220	709	43	...	...	...	...
13. Hopewell		612	...	15	...	4	2	868	3	3	12,401	2,149	...	2	1	
14. Walkerton		34	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	43	24	...	...	...	...	437	5	...	...	...
15. Washingtons Birthplace		2	6	...	...	...	...	1,188	9	...	...	...
16. Brooke		42	...	...	4,150	147	...	...	...
17. Fort Belvoir		5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31	5	...	...	5	8,886	1,238	1	2	...	...
18. Central Loudoun		6	...	...	...	...	...	2,709	17	...	...	...
19. The Plains		2	1	...	...	...	...	652	81	...	...	...
20. Manassas-Bull Run		2	1	...	...	...	1,366	8	...	...	...
21. Nokesville		1	...	1	...	...	144	82	...	...	...
22. Chancellorsville		1	...	...	...	...	29	...	...	...
23. Lake Anna		1	...	...	375	6,544	905	...	...	1	
24. Gordonsville		1	...	...	...	...
25. Charlottesville		
26. Warren		1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
27. Darlington Heights		2	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...
28. Banister River WMAS		1	...	...	...	...	3	3	3	...	...	25	561	1	...	...	...
29. Lynchburg		1	...	...	...	566	1	...	...	...
30. Chatham		
31. Danville		6	...	...	...
32. Calmes Neck		10	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...
33. N. Shenandoah Valley		7	...	...	...	...	29	...	...	...	...
34. Shenandoah NP-Luray		2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
35. Big Flat Mountain		
36. Rockingham County		1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
37. Augusta County		3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
38. Waynesboro		2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
39. Lexington		
40. Peaks of Otter		
41. Fincastle		2	...	...	...	...
42. Roanoke		18	...	...	...	...
43. Blacksburg		2	...	...	...	...	2,086	25	...	...	...
44. Giles County		48	...	...	...	...
45. Tazewell		
46. Mount Rogers-Whitetop		3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
47. Glade Spring		
48. Blackford		
49. Bristol		3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
50. Buchanan County		3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
51. Breaks Interstate Park		7	1,151	5	...	...
52. Wise County		
Totals		82	5	CW	327	222	56	1,801	410	42	29	14,792	61	483	4	159	170	1,766	3	13,432	92,423	34,496	1	83	2	1

Species:	Count Circle	Great Black-backed Gull	gull, sp.	Forster's Tern	Royal Tern	Black Skimmer	Razorbill	Rock Pigeon	Eurasian Collared-Dove	Mourning Dove	Barn Owl	Eastern Screech-Owl	Great Horned Owl	Barred Owl	Long-eared Owl	Short-eared Owl	Northern Saw-whet Owl	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Calliope Hummingbird	Rufous Hummingbird	Setophorus, sp.	Belted Kingfisher	Red-headed Woodpecker	Red-bellied Woodpecker	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Downy Woodpecker	Hairy Woodpecker	
1. Chincoteague	111	...	93	3	...	...	600	...	353	...	1	4	2	...	31	2	43	6	32	14	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Wachapreague	138	215	8	...	...	...	27	...	752	...	...	...	...	...	19	...	30	9	29	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Nassawadox	6	...	...	...	...	...	42	...	405	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	56	16	21	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Cape Charles	1,074	...	12	...	...	...	1,113	12	474	...	...	...	...	...	23	2	73	23	34	10	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Chesapeake Bay	75	1,500	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Little Creek	357	...	61	...	4	...	1,050	...	170	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Back Bay	86	...	850	...	...	2	537	28	510	...	...	...	...	...	27	...	64	11	43	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
8. Nansemond River	609	20	...	...	...	...	394	2	449	...	...	...	...	...	29	...	91	11	72	12	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Dismal Swamp NWR	2,513	852	...	...	...	...	78	...	177	...	...	...	...	...	11	3	133	38	110	24	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Newport News	178	...	15	...	...	...	1,029	...	1,150	...	...	...	...	...	36	...	41	9	42	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Mathews County	45	...	56	...	...	...	7	...	1,260	...	...	...	...	...	40	...	99	20	62	11	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Williamsburg	40	...	69	...	...	...	84	...	353	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	92	41	41	12	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. Hopewell	20	76	3	...	...	...	100	...	507	...	...	...	...	...	22	...	90	34	66	9	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Walkerton	...	...	...	...	...	...	78	...	361	...	...	...	...	...	34	...	126	39	79	14	...	...	...	...	...	...
15. Washingtons Birthplace	7	...	...	...	...	...	22	...	183	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	62	34	58	16	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Brooke	15	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	280	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	96	16	36	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
17. Fort Belvoir	246	3,386	...	...	...	...	1,297	...	1,173	...	...	...	...	...	72	...	584	54	422	87	...	...	...	...	...	...
18. Central Loudoun	2	...	...	...	...	...	301	...	683	...	...	...	...	...	27	...	260	78	180	20	...	...	...	...	...	...
19. The Plains	32	...	...	...	...	...	106	...	136	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	109	26	74	10	...	...	...	...	...	...
20. Manassas-Bull Run	...	74	...	...	...	...	300	...	513	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	96	13	118	15	...	...	...	...	...	...
21. Nokesville	4	114	...	...	...	...	95	...	277	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	43	9	21	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
22. Chancellorsville	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	...	31	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	50	4	24	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
23. Lake Anna	359	5	...	...	...	...	4	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	40	5	19	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Gordonsville	...	...	...	...	...	...	56	...	45	...	...	...	...	...	19	...	122	54	99	11	...	...	...	...	...	...
25. Charlottesville	...	...	...	...	...	...	225	...	177	...	...	...	...	...	18	...	90	46	68	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
26. Warren	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	231	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	54	20	41	12	...	...	...	...	...	...
27. Darlington Heights	...	...	...	...	...	...	113	...	366	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	32	30	29	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
28. Banister River WMAs	...	...	...	...	...	...	74	...	326	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	90	45	92	13	...	...	...	...	...	...
29. Lynchburg	...	...	...	...	...	...	187	...	306	...	...	...	...	...	22	...	2	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30. Chatham	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	6	2	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31. Danville	...	...	...	...	...	...	73	...	150	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	28	6	14	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
32. Calmes Neck	...	...	...	...	...	...	557	...	1,248	...	...	...	...	...	29	...	258	71	182	31	...	...	...	...	...	...
33. N. Shenandoah Valley	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,630	...	1,321	...	...	...	...	...	54	...	176	36	162	22	...	...	...	...	...	...
34. Shenandoah NP-Luray	...	...	...	...	...	...	255	...	211	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	63	17	44	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
35. Big Flat Mountain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	25	9	13	10	...	...	...	...	...	...
36. Rockingham County	...	...	...	...	...	...	443	...	552	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	40	2	30	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
37. Augusta County	...	...	...	...	...	...	492	...	440	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	40	4	27	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
38. Waynesboro	...	...	...	...	...	...	377	...	399	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	79	12	52	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
39. Lexington	...	...	...	...	...	...	315	...	249	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	51	19	61	13	...	...	...	...	...	...
40. Peaks of Otter	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39	16	32	4	...	...	...	...	...	...
41. Fincastle	...	...	...	...	...	...	252	...	120	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38	7	24	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
42. Roanoke	...	...	...	...	...	...	966	...	413	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	49	19	67	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
43. Blacksburg	...	...	...	...	...	...	286	37	708	...	...	...	...	...	25	...	105	27	98	19	...	...	...	...	...	...
44. Giles County	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	56	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	14	5	20	8	...	...	...	...	...	...
45. Tazewell	...	...	...	...	...	...	246	...	134	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	14	...	8	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
46. Mount Rogers-Whitetop	...	...	...	...	...	...	26	...	53	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	2	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
47. Glade Spring	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,016	...	518	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	22	8	34	7	...	...	...	...	...	...
48. Blackford	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	354	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	12	5	31	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
49. Bristol	...	...	...	...	...	...	395	...	573	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	34	8	37	11	...	...	...	...	...	...
50. Buchanan County	106	8	...	17	12	30	8	
51. Breaks Interstate Park	20	1	2	3	
52. Wise County	72	...	112	2	...	6	2	21	10	
Totals	5,917	6,242	1,170	3	4	2	15,388	77	19,449	18	267	181	125	2	14	2	3,820	988	2,942	520	1	1	839	213	3,820	988	2,942	520

Table 1. Species and numbers of individuals seen (continued)

Species:

Count Circle

Species	Northern (Yellow-shafted) Flicker	Pileated Woodpecker	Eastern Phoebe	Loggerhead Shrike	White-eyed Vireo	Blue-headed Vireo	Blue Jay	American Crow	Fish Crow	crow, sp.	Common Raven	Horned Lark	Tree Swallow	Carolina Chickadee	Black-capped Chickadee	chickadee, sp.	Tufted Titmouse	Red-breasted Nuthatch	White-breasted Nuthatch	Brown-headed Nuthatch	Brown Creeper	Carolina Wren	House Wren	Winter Wren		
1. Chincoteague	112	7	13	...	...	...	57	306	23	...	...	11	539	149	...	...	24	1	9	90	10	89	1	14	
2. Wachapreague	125	12	13	...	...	...	58	1,199	106	3	...	1	...	90	...	...	39	1	1	48	1	128	6	7	
3. Nassawadox	120	8	12	...	...	...	32	661	4	...	...	4	48	107	...	...	48	...	...	63	5	149	4	6	
4. Cape Charles	131	8	12	...	...	...	42	361	363	44	...	40	1,018	137	...	...	41	4	...	12	8	187	20	14	
5. Chesapeake Bay	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6. Little Creek	24	10	2	...	...	...	17	456	41	71	...	1	3	81	...	...	18	...	...	12	23	5	54	2	8
7. Back Bay	88	14	5	...	...	...	109	287	26	3	...	1	212	257	...	...	36	...	...	26	52	13	162	9	7
8. Nansemond River	83	10	10	...	...	...	143	166	275	65	...	2	...	262	...	...	129	...	...	21	29	7	229	10	11
9. Dismal Swamp NWR	96	47	22	...	...	...	22	13	33	...	...	...	81	202	...	...	40	...	...	45	1	9	129	4	15
10. Newport News	77	4	1	...	...	...	188	251	3	...	...	...	...	202	...	...	71	...	...	13	6	4	108	...	4
11. Mathews County	129	27	14	...	...	...	139	350	...	...	...	...	...	258	...	...	105	...	...	5	61	7	148	7	4
12. Williamsburg	100	21	12	...	...	...	137	155	...	9	...	...	9	204	...	...	84	...	...	47	35	5	97	...	3
13. Hopewell	126	20	32	...	...	...	128	301	1	12	...	6	...	188	...	...	95	...	...	32	...	11	169	5	23
14. Walkerton	211	60	28	...	...	...	97	439	...	...	...	25	...	138	...	...	141	...	...	53	...	10	161	...	13
15. Washingtons Birthplace	103	19	10	...	...	...	106	338	...	...	...	266	...	73	...	...	72	...	...	28	2	6	96	1	4
16. Brooke	79	31	4	...	...	...	330	360	57	...	...	...	...	185	...	...	110	...	...	41	...	9	132	...	1
17. Fort Belvoir	315	135	8	...	...	...	829	2,290	1,500	3,694	4	5	...	1,296	...	...	1,174	...	...	13	...	52	770	...	41
18. Central Loudoun	130	48	7	...	...	...	357	803	968	1,024	28	20	...	460	...	...	313	...	...	186	...	23	220	...	5
19. The Plains	102	13	...	...	...	...	310	554	45	103	6	...	...	359	...	...	213	...	...	1	...	8	155	...	5
20. Manassas-Bull Run	94	26	...	...	...	...	273	590	150	586	7	4	...	531	...	...	398	...	...	138	...	12	262	...	11
21. Nokesville	33	9	1	...	...	...	158	350	398	93	4	15	...	84	...	...	37	...	...	16	...	2	62	...	4
22. Chancellorsville	19	10	1	...	...	...	128	441	...	...	...	...	...	55	...	...	56	...	...	27	...	2	26	...	...
23. Lake Anna	17	14	1	...	...	...	484	217	...	...	...	...	...	81	...	...	48	...	...	18	...	2	41	...	1
24. Gordonsville	9	8	2	...	...	...	115	103	...	...	...	...	...	21	...	...	15	...	...	...	...	1	7	...	...
25. Charlottesville	114	51	25	...	...	...	248	658	30	...	2	...	...	264	...	...	225	...	...	106	...	7	195	...	3
26. Warren	79	43	14	...	...	...	248	414	...	...	10	53	...	198	...	...	94	...	...	46	...	2	163	...	2
27. Darlington Heights	16	19	13	...	...	...	387	477	...	...	1	...	...	88	...	...	46	...	...	15	...	1	55	...	2
28. Banister River WMAS	55	9	10	...	...	...	268	314	...	...	2	...	...	79	...	...	66	...	...	15	...	5	59	...	3
29. Lynchburg	69	51	14	...	...	...	307	647	15	...	8	...	...	291	...	...	272	...	...	67	...	6	198	...	4
30. Chatham	3	CW	...	...	...	...	23	17	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	...	12	...	...	3	CW	...	10	...	...
31. Danville	4	...	2	...	...	...	68	37	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	32	...	...	12	3	2	37	...	...
32. Calmes Neck	167	54	7	409	683	11	17	9	50	...	519	407	1	269	...	23	205	...	7
33. N. Shenandoah Valley	71	47	3	488	3,806	40	...	31	33	...	557	320	8	179	...	25	184	...	35
34. Shenandoah NP-Luray	31	30	5	136	955	8	...	38	27	...	165	99	3	78	...	8	81	...	14
35. Big Flat Mountain	6	17	...	...	...	...	7	21	...	...	15	...	...	74	...	...	49	...	...	8	...	3	36	...	11
36. Rockingham County	21	14	2	...	...	...	75	325	4	...	2	335	...	39	...	...	35	...	...	28	...	2	44	...	1
37. Augusta County	8	10	3	...	...	...	185	552	173	...	2	27	...	121	...	...	121	...	...	26	...	1	34	...	1
38. Waynesboro	22	22	6	...	...	...	189	549	16	...	12	375	...	193	...	...	157	...	...	92	...	10	66	...	3
39. Lexington	34	30	9	...	...	...	167	1,149	...	...	12	...	...	87	...	...	142	...	...	46	...	1	87	...	2
40. Peaks of Otter	5	12	3	...	...	...	9	68	...	...	1	...	...	42	...	...	41	...	...	5	...	1	34	...	1
41. Fincastle	28	9	4	...	...	...	92	903	...	...	10	5	...	114	...	...	78	...	...	43	...	...	55	...	2
42. Roanoke	16	12	2	...	...	...	90	363	1	...	3	...	...	181	...	...	127	...	...	64	...	4	139	...	4
43. Blacksburg	30	39	8	227	710	12	68	...	270	298	6	144	...	9	206	...	16
44. Giles County	7	9	2	...	...	...	47	163	...	...	6	...	...	39	...	...	44	...	...	26	...	1	30	...	1
45. Tazewell	3	5	...	...	...	...	74	428	...	...	14	...	...	71	...	...	58	...	...	36	...	...	26	...	...
46. Mount Rogers-Whitetop	9	2	1	...	...	...	49	430	...	...	34	...	...	23	...	...	15	...	...	12	...	...	23	...	...
47. Glade Spring	18	7	5	...	...	...	194	764	...	...	1	...	...	105	...	...	63	...	...	32	...	1	88	...	...
48. Blackford	21	11	1	...	...	...	109	2,037	...	...	47	...	...	32	...	...	30	...	...	9	...	1	43	...	...
49. Bristol	37	14	8	...	...	...	210	750	...	...	2	...	...	142	...	...	108	...	...	6	...	1	138	...	1
50. Buchanan County	23	36	5	...	...	...	227	422	...	...	CW	...	...	108	...	...	75	...	...	40	...	3	75	...	5
51. Buchanan County	...	8	5	...	...	...	15	12	...	...	...	...	...	44	...	...	5	...	...	40	...	...	...	...	...
52. Wise County	19	17	2	...	...	...	99	972	...	...	6	8	...	86	...	...	71	...	...	30	...	...	46	...	5
Totals	3,239	1,139	369	16	8	17	8,906	29,617	4,291	5,724	329	1,382	1,910	9,416	56	43	6,348	114	2,894	444	333	5,938	71	333		

Table 1. Species and numbers of individuals seen (continued)

Species:

Count Circle

Species	Count Circle	Sedge Wren	Marsh Wren	Golden-crowned Kinglet	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Kinglet sp.	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Eastern Bluebird	Hermit Thrush	American Robin	Gray Catbird	Northern Mockingbird	Brown Thrasher	European Starling	American Pipit	Cedar Waxwing	Orange-crowned Warbler	Nashville Warbler	Northern Parula	Yellow Warbler	Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler	Yellow-throated Warbler	Pine Warbler	Palm Warbler	Black-and-white Warbler	Common Yellowthroat
1. Chincoteague	2	1	19	25	...	150	58	1,171	21	50	24	2,498	101	27	1	...	...	...	...	3,224	...	11	3	...	3
2. Wachapreague	19	26	...	346	30	1,504	10	71	11	1,800	...	149	...	...	...	...	...	764	...	2	5	...	2	
3. Nassawadox	2	4	10	20	...	402	33	755	17	82	6	1,194	...	22	1	...	...	...	...	746	...	4	10	...	...
4. Cape Charles	4	9	9	46	...	385	50	441	20	108	6	1,585	115	24	3	...	...	...	...	1,621	...	16	62	...	...
5. Chesapeake Bay	1
6. Little Creek	26	21	...	35	10	870	1	33	3	1,210	6	48	3	...	...	...	...	179	...	22	1	...	...
7. Back Bay	7	20	25	35	...	248	28	242	35	69	13	1,755	11	...	2	...	...	...	...	2,200	...	31	7	...	8
8. Nansemond River	1	1	30	83	...	361	34	488	4	170	11	1,687	295	56	4	...	...	...	...	721	...	36	8	...	2
9. Dismal Swamp NWR	35	164	...	2	29	1,330	106	25	10	10,706	...	9	12	...	...	...	...	88	...	3	8	...	3	
10. Newport News	10	19	...	60	4	513	1	97	18	2,440	...	27	...	...	...	...	...	316	...	11	1	...	...
11. Mathews County	...	2	5	30	...	478	33	1,412	9	115	15	698	2	139	...	...	...	...	...	970	...	13	1	...	1
12. Williamsburg	16	72	...	178	16	815	1	105	18	857	...	73	...	...	...	...	...	470	...	2	...	...	...
13. Hopewell	49	129	...	129	51	390	...	70	9	1,686	13	176	3	...	...	...	...	154	...	1	2	...	3	
14. Walkerton	41	56	...	280	45	2,400	4	58	14	1,117	273	815	...	...	...	...	...	101	...	2	...	...	...
15. Washingtons Birthplace	20	49	...	87	38	453	8	33	8	235	...	550	...	...	...	...	...	65	...	...	...	...	...
16. Brooke	...	1	24	23	...	304	9	364	2	85	2	2,023	...	736	...	...	...	...	...	89	...	...	...	...	...
17. Fort Belvoir	360	128	...	537	119	1,232	2	239	17	5,264	...	657	1	...	...	...	...	145	...	1	...	...	1	
18. Central Loudoun	76	38	...	535	12	416	...	181	...	3,632	2	426	...	...	...	...	...	121	...	...	...	...	...
19. The Plains	37	20	...	338	7	294	...	129	1	5,984	...	175	...	...	...	...	...	175	...	...	...	...	...
20. Manassas-Bull Run	51	17	...	362	8	539	...	113	1	1,923	...	487	...	...	...	...	...	208	...	...	...	...	...
21. Nokesville	20	9	...	162	12	379	...	44	1	2,503	9	273	...	...	...	...	...	68	...	...	...	...	...
22. Chancellorsville	11	2	...	71	...	117	...	19	...	1,228	...	191	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...
23. Lake Anna	32	28	...	131	4	301	...	37	1	708	...	278	...	...	...	...	...	22	...	...	2	...	...
24. Gordonsville	4	...	...	43	...	140	...	24	2	213	...	114	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
25. Charlottesville	44	51	...	371	48	641	...	103	1	1,423	1	803	...	...	...	...	...	235	...	...	...	...	...
26. Warren	19	33	...	214	20	473	2	80	1	382	...	927	...	...	...	...	...	163	...	...	...	...	...
27. Darlington Heights	11	15	...	202	16	366	...	50	4	396	...	430	...	...	...	...	...	57	...	...	6	...	...
28. Banister River WMAs	29	25	...	210	11	553	...	29	5	332	...	177	...	...	...	...	...	73	...	...	22	...	...
29. Lynchburg	27	41	...	236	30	63	...	110	1	3,945	...	474	...	...	...	...	...	208	...	...	...	...	...
30. Chatham	1	2	...	13	4	46	...	3	1	12	...	51	...	...	...	...	...	68	...	...	...	...	...
31. Danville	4	4	...	48	...	428	...	28	3	377	...	217	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	1	...	...
32. Calmes Neck	64	21	...	713	21	30	3	176	...	3,450	...	102	...	...	...	...	...	59	...	...	1	...	...
33. N. Shenandoah Valley	...	2	101	35	...	471	17	323	1	208	...	14,214	...	422	...	...	...	...	...	137	...	...	...	...	...
34. Shenandoah NP-Luray	35	7	...	94	13	63	...	64	...	10,534	...	52	...	...	...	...	...	77	...	...	...	...	...
35. Big Flat Mountain	15	1	...	5	13	4	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
36. Rockingham County	15	1	...	92	...	90	...	52	...	5,126	...	43	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...
37. Augusta County	13	3	...	224	2	165	...	139	...	6,664	3	71	...	...	...	...	...	151	...	...	...	...	...
38. Waynesboro	10	14	...	313	2	226	...	178	...	1,914	...	124	...	...	...	...	...	81	...	...	...	...	...
39. Lexington	35	13	...	166	22	315	1	47	...	2,161	...	321	...	...	...	...	...	189	...	...	...	...	...
40. Peaks of Otter	2	7	...	71	8	131	...	5	...	12	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
41. Fincastle	12	1	...	81	4	30	...	68	...	470	...	96	...	...	...	...	...	114	...	...	...	...	...
42. Roanoke	15	4	...	112	9	763	...	41	...	2,638	...	587	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
43. Blacksburg	70	18	1	221	7	59	...	143	...	1,802	40	378	...	...	...	...	...	34	...	...	2	...	...
44. Giles County	19	6	...	55	...	200	...	17	...	346	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...
45. Tazewell	5	...	...	24	...	14	...	16	1	1,835	...	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
46. Mount Rogers-Whitetop	2	...	45	1	1	...	18	...	188	...	27	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...
47. Glade Spring	26	2	...	119	3	16	...	68	...	1,597	88	70	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...
48. Blackford	6	1	...	57	...	46	...	73	...	2,210	...	120	...	...	...	...	...	74	...	...	...	...	...
49. Bristol	28	7	...	131	16	73	...	128	1	1,935	...	312	...	...	...	...	...	56	...	...	...	...	...
50. Buchanan County	36	2	...	52	3	135	...	4	1	315	...	135	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
51. Breaks Interstate Park	2	1	16	...	6	4
52. Wise County	12	32	1	22	1	25	...	634	...	30
Totals	16	40	1,639	1,354	1	5	10,025	952	21,858	249	3,836	210	117,858	959	11,661	30	30	1	1	14,092	1	189	109	5	24	

Species:	Wilson's Warbler	Yellow-breasted Chat	Eastern Towhee	American Tree Sparrow	Chipping Sparrow	Field Sparrow	Savannah Sparrow	Savannah (Ipswich) Sparrow	Nelson's Sparrow	Saltmarsh Sparrow	"sharp-tailed" sparrow, sp.	Seaside Sparrow	Fox Sparrow	Song Sparrow	Lincoln's Sparrow	Swamp Sparrow	White-throated Sparrow	White-crowned Sparrow	sparrow, sp.	Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco	Lapland Longspur	Snow Bunting	Northern Cardinal	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Red-winged Blackbird
1. Chincoteague	26	7	90	56	220	...	1	5	...	1	14	364	...	103	621	...	...	1,194	...	...	130	...	8,390
2. Wachapreague	3	...	78	9	13	16	2	...	2	5	16	213	...	20	919	...	...	565	...	60	253	...	3,477
3. Nassawadox	22	...	275	47	78	...	1	...	...	...	68	233	...	114	873	...	...	397	...	...	255	...	603
4. Cape Charles	...	CW	43	...	191	83	112	12	18	9	15	1	48	324	...	98	390	...	...	232	...	...	174	...	1,565
5. Chesapeake Bay
6. Little Creek	9	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	1	...	13	34	...	3	197	...	...	114	...	...	62	...	400
7. Back Bay	51	...	78	42	63	...	...	...	4	...	8	158	...	144	306	1	...	111	...	...	132	...	11,360
8. Nansemond River	58	...	247	34	136	...	...	2	...	4	28	405	...	91	596	1	...	387	...	18	264	...	1,804
9. Dismal Swamp NWR	104	4	2	17	2	...	...	...	...	...	37	84	...	88	580	...	...	148	...	...	59	...	325
10. Newport News	15	...	92	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	6	74	...	12	414	...	...	315	...	...	247	...	1,759
11. Mathews County	17	...	204	6	4	...	...	...	...	...	4	172	...	17	675	...	...	1,230	...	...	466	...	3,022
12. Williamsburg	53	...	164	40	22	...	...	...	...	...	16	230	...	37	587	...	...	613	...	...	296	...	1,207
13. Hopewell	1	...	20	1	10	102	85	...	...	...	...	...	2	236	...	51	1,012	8	...	471	...	...	290	...	1,362
14. Walkerton	38	...	49	71	27	...	...	...	...	...	7	339	...	48	1,429	1	...	728	...	...	253	...	16,044
15. Washingtons Birthplace	34	...	28	47	43	...	...	...	...	...	1	156	...	65	517	30	...	374	...	3	97	...	4,062
16. Brooke	11	...	14	13	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	95	...	26	405	...	...	553	...	...	199	...	1,090
17. Fort Belvoir	76	10	22	180	25	...	...	...	...	...	18	1,528	1	260	3,241	13	...	2,351	...	...	1,325	...	3,811
18. Central Loudoun	13	6	2	106	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	297	...	16	846	13	...	899	...	...	588	...	206
19. The Plains	5	3	29	99	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	301	...	16	499	17	...	1,043	...	...	340	...	70
20. Manassas-Bull Run	12	2	...	98	9	...	...	...	...	...	4	373	...	27	413	19	9	1,182	...	...	425	...	101
21. Nokesville	10	1	6	19	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	193	...	17	254	52	...	374	...	...	81	...	428
22. Chancellorsville	1	...	...	19	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	53	...	3	73	4	...	101	...	...	66	...	7
23. Lake Anna	7	...	...	53	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	72	...	12	77	2	...	344	...	...	70	...	50,000
24. Gordonsville	4	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	...	7	49	...	...	112	...	...	48	...	6
25. Charlottesville	27	...	39	106	11	...	...	...	...	...	3	345	...	8	814	33	...	428	...	...	299	...	6
26. Warren	30	...	3	79	40	...	...	...	...	...	6	253	...	10	666	82	...	523	...	...	230	...	19
27. Darlington Heights	8	...	57	19	3	...	...	...	...	...	4	49	...	5	282	17	...	435	...	...	122	...	331
28. Banister River WMAs	26	...	55	37	19	...	...	...	...	...	5	115	...	14	190	6	...	542	...	...	82	...	165
29. Lynchburg	16	...	1	17	1	...	...	...	...	...	4	114	...	6	315	2	...	321	...	...	382	...	...
30. Chatham	4	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	85	...	...	35	...	...	14	...	...
31. Danville	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	...	48	...	...	244	...	...	86	...	...
32. Calmes Neck	10	10	...	55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	272	...	7	697	225	...	887	...	...	726	...	...
33. N. Shenandoah Valley	6	27	5	99	13	...	...	...	...	...	2	211	...	24	725	77	...	1,063	...	...	550	...	194
34. Shenandoah NP-Luray	2	...	...	32	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	95	...	3	258	44	...	223	...	...	130	...	37
35. Big Flat Mountain	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	162	...	...	142	...	...	36	...	...
36. Rockingham County	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72	...	...	163	174	...	299	...	...	117	...	75
37. Augusta County	4	3	1	17	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	116	...	3	266	71	...	232	...	...	167	...	...
38. Waynesboro	11	...	4	23	8	...	...	...	...	...	3	148	2	12	280	100	...	346	...	...	170	...	8
39. Lexington	24	...	3	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	82	...	...	447	37	...	343	...	...	210	...	...
40. Peaks of Otter	13	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	...	...	42	...	...	268	...	...	59	...	...
41. Fincastle	21	1	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	40	...	...	104	31	...	190	...	...	110	...	...
42. Roanoke	7	...	...	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	91	...	1	146	...	...	128	...	...	126	...	...
43. Blacksburg	65	...	3	27	4	...	...	...	...	...	10	222	...	5	338	97	...	191	...	...	243	...	...
44. Giles County	11	...	...	33	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	43	...	2	73	...	...	90	...	...	36	...	...
45. Tazewell	5	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72	...	1	11	27	...	42	...	...	56	...	...
46. Mount Rogers-Whitop	8	...	...	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	82	...	2	6	18	...	79	...	...	44	...	...
47. Glade Spring	18	...	...	17	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	180	...	...	88	139	...	114	...	...	157	...	...
48. Blackford	14	...	...	45	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	101	...	7	69	59	...	57	...	...	56	...	3
49. Bristol	56	...	9	51	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	205	...	18	268	26	...	104	...	...	221	...	1
50. Buchanan County	83	...	3	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	80	...	1	142	2	...	140	...	...	131	...	CW
51. Breaks Interstate Park	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	35	...	...	4	...	...
52. Wise County	15	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	77	...	...	19	...	...	64	...	...	50	...	13
Totals	1	CW	1,137	75	1,768	1,927	970	28	22	16	22	11	361	9,092	3	1,397	21,677	1,428	9	21,403	3	80	10,734	1	111,952

Table 1. Species and numbers of individuals seen (continued)

Species:	Eastern Meadowlark	Rusty Blackbird	Brewer's Blackbird	Common Grackle	Boat-tailed Grackle	Brown-headed Cowbird	blackbird, sp.	Baltimore Oriole	Purple Finch	House Finch	Red Crossbill	Pine Siskin	American Goldfinch	House Sparrow	Total species	Total individuals
Count Circle																
1. Chincoteague	208	1	...	7,796	119	6	...	...	23	45	...	16	366	31	147	60,365
2. Wachapreague	56	2	...	175	210	323	452	1	8	44	...	42	259	99	129	56,432
3. Nassawadox	179	...	...	7	...	36	...	1	2	24	...	...	219	19	121	22,595
4. Cape Charles	143	1	...	258	58	18	...	...	7	94	...	117	451	5	156	58,893
5. Chesapeake Bay	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	37	15,209
6. Little Creek	...	...	...	44	51	256	...	CW	...	46	...	417	102	23	131	38,634
7. Back Bay	96	...	...	47	362	20	...	...	4	12	...	...	157	20	135	41,262
8. Nansemond River	98	4	...	1,394	55	18	...	...	12	111	...	64	444	31	137	39,187
9. Dismal Swamp NWR	19	17	...	232	...	11	600	...	1	...	...	90	201	...	97	52,751
10. Newport News	20	30	...	455	58	...	...	1	...	140	...	2	148	210	107	19,181
11. Mathews County	156	...	...	21	8	91	...	...	4	166	...	4	432	32	115	23,076
12. Williamsburg	72	5	...	5,473	...	2	...	4	9	102	...	13	165	48	110	21,613
13. Hopewell	67	12	...	331	...	31	...	1	3	57	...	13	139	29	114	38,738
14. Walkerton	49	...	...	10,720	...	25	4,540	...	25	68	...	43	408	51	108	66,975
15. Washingtons Birthplace	75	...	...	7,304	...	...	50,000	...	52	16	...	95	315	17	107	88,434
16. Brooke	6	...	...	871	...	22	...	...	7	23	...	1	189	32	91	25,579
17. Fort Belvoir	10	8	...	22,278	...	85	260	1	19	321	...	66	1,066	767	118	138,090
18. Central Loudoun	10	...	...	12	...	28	75	...	126	319	...	165	525	220	90	32,490
19. The Plains	17	...	...	208	...	...	...	...	36	323	...	5	258	70	92	24,354
20. Manassas-Bull Run	18	...	...	10	...	10	15	...	15	234	...	12	417	294	85	18,636
21. Nokesville	3	30	CW	...	...	110	4	...	...	135	...	39	197	75	87	10,716
22. Chancellorsville	...	...	...	6,457	...	1	...	...	38	17	...	10	59	35	70	10,984
23. Lake Anna	42	...	...	556	...	45	...	...	22	21	...	14	111	25	81	63,277
24. Gordonsville	...	...	...	1,001	...	...	...	...	3	26	...	...	3	6	54	3,968
25. Charlottesville	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52	121	...	8	442	8	68	10,905
26. Warren	116	1	...	...	...	10	...	...	73	16	...	13	255	12	75	7,425
27. Darlington Heights	87	...	...	502	...	151	...	...	61	24	...	34	188	23	72	6,251
28. Banister River WMAs	100	64	...	26	...	9	...	1	7	41	...	33	69	23	89	5,845
29. Lynchburg	17	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	17	178	...	302	348	164	83	12,896
30. Chatham	...	...	...	31	...	...	...	...	1	20	...	4	27	1	44	651
31. Danville	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	101	...	7	70	3	51	2,651
32. Calmes Neck	24	...	...	86	...	48	...	...	23	168	...	93	399	305	86	21,049
33. N. Shenandoah Valley	25	1	...	10	...	12	...	...	85	191	...	26	578	93	96	36,463
34. Shenandoah NP-Luray	17	...	...	170	...	...	...	...	16	10	...	6	290	30	78	15,497
35. Big Flat Mountain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	4	43	10	...	42	891
36. Rockingham County	2	112	...	50	...	554	...	...	1	169	...	46	261	218	66	10,727
37. Augusta County	4	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	9	246	...	30	193	157	79	12,936
38. Waynesboro	13	...	...	22	...	...	...	...	6	326	...	34	433	149	75	10,022
39. Lexington	41	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	114	132	...	38	297	7	72	8,458
40. Peaks of Otter	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48	47	...	12	51	...	43	1,180
41. Fincastle	8	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	12	64	...	...	134	15	69	4,446
42. Roanoke	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	308	2	121	146	28	72	8,454
43. Blacksburg	67	...	...	27	...	15	...	...	48	279	...	163	339	190	83	12,624
44. Giles County	1	...	...	400	...	...	...	...	3	4	...	46	31	43	64	2,300
45. Tazewell	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58	...	1	105	361	55	4,404
46. Mount Rogers-Whitetop	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	...	...	42	18	44	1,487
47. Glade Spring	16	...	...	...	...	200	...	...	10	20	...	...	220	133	71	6,899
48. Blackford	64	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	11	8	16	78	152	21	77	6,648
49. Bristol	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	95	...	177	430	44	84	10,286
50. Buchanan County	1	CW	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	6	...	4,213	155	3	53	2,916
51. Breaks Interstate Park	4	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	106	11	...	34	462
52. Wise County	27	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	18	...	55	60	23	51	2,821
Totals	1,996	310	CW	66,982	921	2,138	55,946	10	1,061	5,015	22	6,970	12,367	4,213	212	1,199,033

Table 2: Field Data

	Number of Observers	Minimum number of parties	Maximum number of parties	Number of feeder observers	Hours at feeders	Hours owling	Miles owling	Hours on foot	Hours by car	Hours on skis	Hours by bicycle	Hours by motor boat	Hours by non-motor boat	Total party-hours	Miles on foot	Miles by car	Miles on skis	Miles by bicycle	Miles by motor boat	Miles by non-motor boat	Total party-miles
1. Chincoteague	21	10	10	...	...	2.00	3.00	41.00	37.00	...	...	...	...	78.00	113.00	221.00	...	...	...	...	334.00
2. Wachapreague	11	5	8	...	...	...	...	3.00	40.50	...	...	...	...	43.50	0.25	296.00	...	...	...	...	296.25
3. Nassawadox	18	8	8	...	...	1.00	3.00	31.00	28.00	...	...	...	...	59.00	16.00	221.00	...	...	...	...	237.00
4. Cape Charles	37	9	17	...	...	3.00	14.00	98.00	42.00	...	...	4.00	...	144.00	48.00	325.00	...	20.00	...	...	393.00
5. Chesapeake Bay	3	1	1	...	...	...	...	9.00	...	...	...	...	...	9.00	1.00	...	...	...	...	...	1.00
6. Little Creek	23	9	12	2	3.00	2.75	15.00	58.00	17.00	...	...	5.00	...	80.00	31.00	211.00	...	...	12.00	...	254.00
7. Back Bay	31	11	19	...	...	3.00	17.00	74.00	13.00	...	...	5.00	...	92.00	36.00	272.00	...	15.00	...	...	323.00
8. Nansemond River	25	11	11	...	...	1.50	6.00	49.50	44.75	...	...	...	1.50	95.75	26.50	475.50	...	...	...	1.00	503.00
9. Newport News	30	12	12	1	1.00	...	...	40.50	37.75	...	...	...	...	78.25	48.75	264.00	...	...	...	...	312.75
10. Mathews County	15	15	15	...	...	2.75	13.00	38.00	80.50	...	...	...	...	118.50	29.50	495.50	...	...	...	...	525.00
11. Williamsburg	42	9	9	5	11.00	1.25	2.00	55.50	40.75	...	5.00	0.50	...	101.75	31.75	239.25	...	3.00	2.00	...	276.00
12. Walkerton	32	3	11	...	...	4.00	16.00	36.00	60.50	...	...	...	...	96.50	22.00	429.00	...	...	...	...	451.00
13. Washingtons Birthplace	18	6	9	...	...	2.00	14.50	21.00	27.00	...	...	...	...	48.00	14.00	189.00	...	...	...	...	203.00
14. Brooke	33	10	14	...	...	...	...	52.25	49.75	...	...	...	...	102.00	32.00	226.50	...	...	...	...	258.50
15. Fort Belvoir	153	60	62	6	9.50	10.75	16.50	267.25	62.75	...	...	...	...	330.00	166.25	317.50	...	...	...	...	483.75
16. Central Loudoun	90	25	26	2	6.00	7.00	46.50	96.50	60.75	...	...	...	...	157.25	74.25	551.25	...	...	...	...	625.50
17. Manassas-Bull Run	46	21	21	2	14.00	...	...	76.25	30.00	...	...	...	...	106.25	51.75	243.50	...	...	...	...	295.25
18. Nokesville	22	5	8	...	...	...	...	26.00	36.50	...	...	...	...	62.50	17.50	372.50	...	...	...	...	390.00
19. Chancellorsville	7	3	3	...	...	1.50	2.00	14.50	8.25	...	...	...	...	22.75	9.50	161.00	...	...	...	...	170.50
20. Lake Anna	10	5	5	...	...	1.00	12.00	15.00	24.50	...	...	...	...	39.50	7.00	287.50	...	...	...	...	294.50
21. Gordonsville	9	5	5	...	...	...	...	6.00	24.00	...	...	...	...	30.00	4.50	346.50	...	...	...	...	351.00
22. Charlottesville	26	15	16	...	...	...	...	85.50	21.00	...	...	...	...	106.50	73.00	170.00	...	...	...	...	243.00
23. Warren	25	1	10	...	...	...	...	47.75	20.25	...	...	...	...	68.00	37.25	209.00	...	...	...	...	246.25
24. Darlington Heights	22	5	5	1	1.50	2.00	23.50	17.00	27.50	...	...	...	...	44.50	12.50	254.50	...	...	...	...	267.00
25. Banister River WMAS	5	5	5	1	4.00	3.25	7.00	20.25	12.75	...	...	...	...	33.00	12.75	171.00	...	...	...	...	183.75
26. Lynchburg	12	1	12	33	58.75	0.25	0.00	21.50	2.75	...	...	...	...	24.25	9.25	24.00	...	...	...	...	33.25
27. Chatham	7	5	5	2	2.00	...	...	2.00	13.00	...	...	...	...	15.00	2.00	72.00	...	...	...	...	74.00
28. Danville	11	6	6	2	0.50	...	...	11.00	16.00	...	...	...	...	27.00	18.00	114.00	...	...	...	...	132.00
29. Calmes Neck	37	19	19	5	8.00	4.50	2.00	36.75	71.00	...	...	...	...	107.75	22.00	582.00	...	...	...	...	604.00
30. N. Shenandoah Valley	37	15	19	...	...	5.00	21.00	40.50	87.75	...	...	...	18.00	146.25	33.00	780.50	...	...	24.50	...	838.00
31. Shenandoah NP-Luray	23	10	11	3	12.00	2.00	5.50	28.75	34.25	...	...	...	7.50	70.50	16.50	237.00	...	...	...	17.50	271.00
32. Rockinham County	21	1	7	3	3.00	...	...	9.50	33.50	...	...	...	...	43.00	3.50	303.50	...	...	...	...	307.00
33. Augusta County	10	5	5	2	3.00	2.00	2.50	3.00	55.00	...	...	...	...	58.00	4.00	275.00	...	...	...	...	279.00
34. Waynesboro	25	9	9	2	2.00	2.00	6.00	12.25	50.25	...	...	...	...	62.50	7.00	430.00	...	...	...	...	437.00
35. Lexington	25	2	15	3	4.75	1.00	5.00	34.75	20.50	...	...	...	...	55.25	34.00	102.00	...	...	...	...	136.00
36. Peaks of Otter	4	3	3	...	...	1.00	1.00	5.00	8.00	...	...	...	...	13.00	3.00	24.00	...	...	...	...	27.00
37. Fincastle	24	11	11	...	...	...	...	5.00	41.00	...	...	...	...	46.00	4.00	180.00	...	...	...	...	184.00
38. Roanoke	13	8	8	...	...	...	...	9.50	29.00	...	...	...	...	38.50	8.00	132.00	...	...	...	...	140.00
39. Blacksburg	15	10	10	20	49.75	...	...	21.00	10.00	0.75	...	...	...	31.75	19.00	129.00	...	...	0.75	...	38.75
40. Giles County	18	5	5	6	2.00	1.00	0.00	9.50	18.50	...	...	...	...	28.00	8.50	129.00	...	...	...	...	137.50
41. Tazewell	3	2	3	2	6.00	...	...	1.00	9.00	...	...	...	...	10.00	2.00	164.00	...	...	...	...	166.00
42. Mount Rogers-Whitetop	6	3	3	...	...	...	...	1.00	19.50	...	...	...	...	20.50	1.00	264.00	...	...	...	...	265.00
43. Glade Spring	18	6	6	...	...	2.75	28.50	19.50	33.25	...	...	...	...	52.75	10.00	394.50	...	...	...	...	404.50
44. Blackford	17	7	7	1	8.00	4.00	28.00	5.00	8.00	...	...	...	...	13.00	5.00	347.00	...	...	...	...	352.00
45. Bristol	23	6	6	...	...	3.25	36.00	26.00	28.00	...	...	...	...	54.00	10.00	314.00	...	...	...	...	324.00
46. Buchanan County	4	2	2	1	4.00	...	...	1.00	23.00	...	...	...	...	24.00	2.00	147.00	...	...	...	...	149.00
47. Wise County	5	4	4	4	12.00	...	...	7.00	4.00	...	...	...	...	11.00	3.00	29.00	...	...	...	...	32.00
Total	1147	409	498	108	225.75	77.50	346.50	1,589.25	1,462.00	0.75	5.00	14.50	27.00	3,098.50	1,140.75	12,012.50	0.75	3.00	49.00	43.00	13,249.00

Table 2: Field Data (continued)														
	Date	Time count started	Time count ended	Low temperature (F°)	High temperature (F°)	Wind Direction	Wind speed (mph)	Snow depth	Water conditions	a.m. skies	p.m. skies	Primary compiler	Primary compiler's e-mail	Secondary compilers
1. Chincoteague	Dec 29	0600	1700	29	34	NW	15-40	...	WOP	PCD	PCD	Richard Roberts	bandbird@verizon.net	...
2. Wachapreague	Dec 19	0730	1630	28	35	NE	20-30	...	SPF, MWO	CLD, HVR	CLD, HVR	Irvin Ailes	invailes@verizon.net	Marilyn Ailes
3. Nassawadox	Dec 20	0600	1730	30	35	NW	20-25	1	SPF, MWO	PCD	CLR	Harry Armistead	harryarmistead@hotmail.com	...
4. Cape Charles	Dec 30	0600	1900	27	40	NE	5-15	...	SPF, MWO	CLD	PCD	Harry Armistead	harryarmistead@hotmail.com	Ned Brinkley
5. Chesapeake Bay	Dec 26	0700	1600	42	46	S	5	...	WOP	MCD	MCD	Ned Brinkley	phoebetria@aol.com	...
6. Little Creek	Dec 31	0500	1700	38	42	NE	0-5	...	WOP	CLD, LGR	FOG	Paul Sykes	paul_sykes@usgs.gov	...
7. Back Bay	Dec 29	0530	1730	28	40	N	5-30	...	WOP	CLR	CLR	Paul Sykes	paul_sykes@usgs.gov	...
8. Nansemond River	Jan 2	0500	1730	25	34	NW	20-35	...	SPF, MWO	PCD	CLR	Robert Ake	rake@cox.net	...
9. Newport News	Dec 19	0730	1600	30	45	UNK	5-30	...	SPO, MWO	PCD	PCD	Clark White	cwbirds@cox.net	...
10. Matthews County	Jan 3	0415	1700	18	34	NW	15-40	...	SPF, MPF	CLR	CLR	John Bazuin, Jr.	bazuin.john@epa.gov	...
11. Williamsburg	Dec 20	0645	1815	23	37	NW	15-25	0.5-4	WOP	CLD	PCD	Bill Williams	jwwil2@wm.edu	...
12. Walkerton	Jan 3	0530	1745	15	32	W	10-30	...	SPF, MPF	CLR	CLR	Frederick Atwood	fredatwood@yahoo.com	...
13. Washingtons Birthplace	Jan 2	0545	1745	26	30	NW	10-35	...	SPF, MWO	PCD	PCD	William Portlock	portlock@bealenet.com	...
14. Brooke	Dec 14	0645	1700	35	54	SE	0-12	...	WOP	FOG	PCD	Odetta James	o.bo.james@verizon.net	...
15. Fort Belvoir	Jan 3	0400	1830	17	24	NW	20-45	0-2	SFZ	PCD	CLD	Kurt Gaskill	kurtcapt87@verizon.net	...
16. Central Loudoun	Dec 27	0500	1715	25	53	NR	0-6	0-8	SPO, MPF	FOG	CLR	Joseph Coleman	jocolean@rcn.com	...
17. Manassas-Bull Run	Dec 26	0700	1700	38	47	UNK	6-18	3-15	SFZ, MWO	FOG, LGR	PCD	Robert Shipman	ships333@yahoo.com	...
18. Nokesville	Dec 27	0500	1730	23	47	NE	3-6	1-4	SPO, MPF	FOG	PCD	Kim Hosen	kim@pwconserve.org	...
19. Chancellorsville	Dec 27	0500	1715	30	48	UNK	5	0-20	SFZ, MPF	FOG	CLR	Beverly Smith	catbirds@verizon.net	...
20. Lake Anna	Jan 3	0545	1645	14	34	SW	10-30	...	SFZ, MPF	CLR	PCD	Michael Boatwright	mboat@att.net	...
21. Gordonsville	Jan 3	0700	1700	15	24	SE	3-10	6	SPF, MWO	CLR	CLR	Donald Ober	dober@wildblue.net	...
22. Charlottesville	Dec 27	0530	1700	28	49	SW	2	24-28	WOP	CLR	CLR	Jennifer Gaden	igaden@embarqmail.com	...
23. Warren	Jan 3	0645	1730	16	30	VAR	0-35	2-6	SPF, MWO	CLR	CLR	Allen Hale	super@buteobooks.com	...
24. Darlington Heights	Jan 3	0500	1700	14	35	WNW	10-15	...	SPO, MWO	CLR	CLR	Carolyn Wells	cwells@kinex.net	...
25. Banister River WMAs	Dec 27	0500	1730	24	49	CLM	...	...	SPF, MWO	CLR	CLR	Jeffrey Blalock	jobabirder@gconline.com	...
26. Lynchburg	Dec 19	0700	1700	16	30	N	0-29	6-13	SFZ, MPO	CLD, HSN	CLD, HSN	Rexanne Bruno	bruno@lynchburg.edu	...
27. Chatham	Dec 27	0800	1700	25	53	SW	3	3	SPF, MWO	PCD	PCD	Mary Foster	chathambirds08@hotmail.com	...
28. Danville	Dec 19	0800	1800	34	52	UNK	NR	...	WOP	CLR	CLR	Laura Meder	laura_meder@averett.edu	...
29. Calmes Neck	Jan 3	0530	1700	7	19	W	25-33	6-12	SFZ, MWO	CLR	CLR	Margaret Wester	margaretwester@hotmail.com	Charles Turner
30. N. Shenandoah Valley	Jan 2	0530	1800	22	26	NW	13-40	...	SFZ, MWO	PCD	PCD	Rob Simpson	anrob@sphotos.com	...
31. Shenandoah NP-Luray	Jan 3	0600	1900	15	27	NW	5-30	0-10	SFZ, MPF	CLR	PCD	Alan Williams	alan_williams@nps.gov	...
32. Rockingham County	Jan 5	0000	1700	18	31	N	0-13	1-4	SPO, MPF	CLD	PCD	William Benish	wbenish@verizon.net	...
33. Augusta County	Dec 27	0600	1900	19	40	SW	0-5	25	SPO, MWO	PCR	PCR	Allen Larner	larnersky@mindspring.com	...
34. Waynesboro	Jan 2	0730	1430	17	28	UNK	5-35	0-9	SFZ, MWO	CLR	CLR	Crista Cabe	ccabe@mbc.edu	...
35. Lexington	Dec 26	0630	1730	33	40	UNK	...	5-18	SPF, MWO	FOG	FOG	Dick Rowe	rowera@vmi.edu	...
36. Peaks of Otter	Jan 5	0600	1500	18	24	NW	10-20	9	SFZ, MWO	PCD	PCD	Barry Kinzie	peckernidge@ntelos.net	...
37. Fincastle	Jan 3	0700	1700	12	22	NW	10-30	6-12	SPO, MWO	PCD	PCD	Barry Kinzie	peckernidge@ntelos.net	...
38. Roanoke	Jan 2	0745	1600	19	23	NW	NR	8	SME, MWO	PCD	PCD	Bill Hunley	wjhunley@cox.net	...
39. Blacksburg	Dec 19	0730	1715	24	32	NW	5-17	12-15	SFZ, MPF	CLD, HSN	PCR	Patricia Polentz	polentz@va.net	Bruce Grimes
40. Giles County	Jan 02	0600	1700	12	18	VAR	5-10	2-8	SFZ, MPF	CLD	PCD	Bill Opengari	gramby@penntel.net	...
41. Tazewell	Dec 27	0700	1730	21	35	NW	5-7	1-3	SFZ, MPF	PCD	PCD, LSN	Sarah Cromer	sromer@netscope.net	...
42. Mount Rogers-Whitetop	Jan 2	0830	1730	6	20	NW	10-30	0-4	SFZ, MPF	PCR, LSN	PCR, LSN	Allen Boynton	allenboynton@hughes.net	...
43. Glade Spring	Dec 29	0600	1745	26	32	W	5-10	...	SFZ, MWO	PCD, LSN	CLR	Ronald Harrington	roneharrin@bvnnet.net	...
44. Blackford	Dec 26	0400	1800	18	34	CLM	...	1-14	WOP	CLR	CLR	Robert Riggs	bebirding@jetroadband.com	Tom Hunter
45. Bristol	Dec 27	0730	1730	22	44	SW	0-15	...	SPO, MPF	CLR	CLD	Richard Lewis	mountainbros@email.com	...
46. Buchanan County	Dec 31	0800	1600	33	36	UNK	5-15	0-8	SPF, MWO	CLD, LGR	CLD, LGR	Tom Hunter	optehunter@yahoo.com	...
47. Wise County	Dec 19	0730	1600	19	25	NW	0-20	6-8	SFZ, MPF	CLD, HSN	CLD, HSN	Randy Stanley	randy_stanley@comcast.net	...

Table 3. Count Circles Information

Circle	Sponsors and Organization	Longitude-Latitude Coordinates	Circle center descriptions
1. Chincoteague	...	37° 58'N 75° 22'W	2 miles north of center of Chincoteague in Accomack Co.
2. Wachapreague	...	37° 40'N 75° 42'W	Jct. of Rts. 789 & 715 in Accomack Co.
3. Nassawadox	Coastal Virginia Wildlife Observatory	37° 43'N 75° 86'W	Rt. 13 half way between Nassawadox & Birdsnest, Northampton Co.
4. Cape Charles	...	37° 12'N 75° 56'W	1.5 miles southeast of Capeville Post Office in Northampton Co.
5. Chesapeake Bay	...	37° 05'N 76° 08'W	Northern 3 bridge-tunnel islands & adjacent waters out to 1 mile.
6. Little Creek	Cape Henry Audubon	36° 51'N 76° 06'W	3.8 miles northeast of Kempsville in Virginia Beach.
7. Back Bay	Cape Henry Audubon	36° 39'N 76° 00'W	1.5 miles east of Back Bay.
8. Nansemond River	...	36° 52'N 76° 26'W	Jct. of Rts. 17 & 626 in Pughsville, Suffolk.
9. Newport News	Hampton Roads Bird Club	37° 05'N 76° 25'W	Northern corner of Magruder & Cmdr. Shepard blvds. in Hampton.
10. Mathews County	...	37° 25'N 76° 18'W	0.5 mile east of Beaverlett Post Office in Mathews Co.
11. Williamsburg	Williamsburg Bird Club	37° 17'N 76° 42'W	Colonial Williamsburg Information Center in Williamsburg.
12. Walkerton	...	37° 46'N 77° 02'W	1.5 miles southwest of Walkerton Bridge, just west of Whitebank.
13. Washingtons Birthplace	...	37° 46'N 77° 02'W	Horners in Westmoreland Co.
14. Brooke	...	38° 22'N 77° 20'W	Center Road, 3 miles east southeast of Brooke in Stafford Co.
15. Fort Belvoir	...	38° 41'N 77° 12'W	Pohick Episcopal Church, Fort Belvoir, in eastern Fairfax Co.
16. Central Loudoun	Loudoun Wildlife Conservancy	39° 06'N 77° 38'W	Near Jct. of Rts. 704 & 769 in Loudoun Co.
17. Manassas-Bull Run	Audubon Society of Northern Virginia	38° 50'N 77° 26'W	Centreville in western Fairfax Co.
18. Nokesville	...	38° 37'N 77° 33'W	Fleetwood Dr. (Rt. 611) at Cedar Run in Prince William Co.
19. Chancellorsville	...	38° 16'N 77° 40'W	Chancellorsville Battlefield, 10 miles west of Fredericksburg.
20. Lake Anna	...	38° 05'N 77° 49'W	Center of bridge over Lake Anna on Rt. 208.
21. Gordonsville	...	38° 09'N 78° 12'W	Jct. of Rts. 15 and 33 north of the town of Gordonsville in Orange Co.
22. Charlottesville	Monticello Bird Club	38° 04'N 78° 34'W	Near Ivy in Albemarle Co.
23. Warren	Monticello Bird Club	37° 51'N 78° 33'W	Keene in Albemarle Co.
24. Darlington Heights	...	37° 12'N 78° 36'W	Jct. of Rts. 665 & 660 in Darlington Heights in Price Edward Co.
25. Banister River WMAs	...	36° 43'N 78° 48'W	Banister River Wildlife Management Areas in Halifax Co.
26. Lynchburg	Lynchburg Bird Club	37° 24'N 79° 11'W	Lynchburg College in Lynchburg.
27. Chatham	...	36° 49'N 79° 23'W	At front of the courthouse in Chatham Courthouse, Pittsylvania Co.
28. Danville	...	36° 34'N 79° 25'W	Ballou Park in Danville.
29. Calmes Neck	...	39° 07'N 77° 54'W	Castlemans Ferry Bridge on Rt. 7 over Shenandoah River in Clarke Co.
30. N. Shenandoah Valley	...	39° 03'N 78° 10'W	Jct. of Crooked Run & Rt. 606 in Frederick Co.
31. Shenandoah NP-Luray	...	38° 35'N 78° 28'W	Hershberger Hill near Stanley in Page Co.
32. Rockingham County	Rockingham County Bird Club	38° 26'N 79° 02'W	Ottobine in Rockingham Co.
33. Augusta County	Augusta Bird Club	38° 12'N 78° 59'W	Jct. of Rts. 780 & 781 in Augusta Co.
34. Waynesboro	...	37° 59'N 78° 57'W	Sherando at Jct. of Rts. 610 & 664 in Augusta Co.
35. Lexington	...	37° 59'N 78° 57'W	Big Spring Pond in Rockbridge Co.
36. Peaks of Otter	...	37° 27'N 79° 36'W	Peaks of Otter Visitor Center in Bedford Co.
37. Fincastle	Woodpecker Nature Center, Roanoke Valley Bird Club	37° 31'N 79° 52'W	North of Fincastle near Jct. of Rts. 220 & 679 in Botetourt Co.
38. Roanoke	Roanoke Valley Bird Club	37° 18'N 79° 56'W	Oakland Blvd. & Williamson Rd. in Roanoke.
39. Blacksburg	New River Valley Bird Club	37° 12'N 80° 28'W	Jct. Rt. 657 & Rt. 685 in Montgomery Co.
40. Giles County	...	37° 19'N 80° 38'W	Pembroke in Giles Co.
41. Tazewell	...	37° 08'N 81° 30'W	Fourway in Tazewell Co.
42. Mount Rogers-Whitop	Blue Ridge Birders	36° 39'N 81° 35'W	Jct. of Rts. 600 & 603 in Smyth Co..
43. Glade Spring	...	36° 47'N 81° 47'W	Jct. of Rts. 750 & 609 in Glade Spring.
44. Blackford	...	37° 00'N 81° 55'W	Confluence of the Clinch & Little rivers in Russell Co.
45. Bristol	...	36° 35'N 82° 06'W	Jct. of Rts. 647 & 654, east of Bristol TN in Washington Co. VA.
46. Buchanan County	Buchanan County Bird Club	37° 15'N 82° 13'W	Jct. of Rts. 680 & 638 at Pilgrims Knob in Buchanan Co.
47. Wise County	...	36° 57'N 82° 39'W	Dorchester in Norton City.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE 2008 VIRGINIA AVIAN RECORDS COMMITTEE

AMY K. GILMER
VARCOM Secretary

The 2008 Virginia Avian Records Committee (VARCOM) included Ned Brinkley (Chair), Bob Anderson, Craig Tumer, David Clark, Todd Day, Matt Hafner, Adam D'Onofrio, and Tom Saunders.

The following decisions were made by the Virginia Avian Records Committee during calendar year 2008. Accepted records fall into one of the following Categories, as specified in VSO bylaws:

Category 1. Any bird that has occurred in Virginia and has been accepted by VARCOM as a wild bird on the basis of an observation accompanied by a photograph, specimen, audio or video recording, or band (for bands, only in cases where proof of identification is extant and compelling).

Category 2. Sight records without physical evidence, but for which there is written documentation from one or more observers accepted by VARCOM. This Category currently includes 23 species: Garganey, Barrow's Goldeneye, Yellow-nosed Albatross, Fea's Petrel, Short-tailed Shearwater, Neotropic Cormorant, Greater Flamingo, Reddish Egret, White-tailed Kite, Western Marsh Harrier, Red-necked Stint, Eurasian Woodcock, Black Guillemot, Black-billed Magpie, Bell's Vireo, Boreal Chickadee, Sprague's Pipit, Bohemian Waxwing, Sage Thrasher, Townsend's Warbler, Spotted Towhee, Black-throated Sparrow, and Shiny Cowbird. **Several of these species have reportedly been photographed in Virginia; VARCOM would very much appreciate help in locating photographs or specimens of Category 2 species.** (Green-tailed Towhee has now been photographed in Virginia, but VARCOM would also appreciate receiving documentation and/or photographs of twentieth-century records in the state.)

Category 3. Identity accepted by VARCOM but provenance of the individual bird is uncertain. **Category 3a** shall be comprised of such species with physical evidence in Virginia. **Category 3b** shall be comprised of such species lacking physical evidence. Category 3 shall not include individuals or species deemed by VARCOM to be most likely escaped/released former captives, whether from inside Virginia or otherwise. Species for which there are no Virginia records *except* Category 3 currently include: West Indian Whistling-Duck, Barnacle Goose, and European Goldfinch.

Category 4. Records that are judged to be acceptable by historical standards but that may not meet current standards of acceptance, including extinct species that once occurred in Virginia, for which there is no clear written or physical evidence. In this Category, VARCOM currently includes Trumpeter Swan, Eskimo Curlew, and Carolina Parakeet. No status or Category is given to Labrador Duck, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Whooping Crane, Great Auk, or Ivory-billed Woodpecker, which may have occurred in Virginia in centuries past but for which no extant conclusive documentation is known.

Category 5. Species introduced into the Commonwealth of Virginia or into other parts of North America that are currently maintaining self-sustaining wild populations within Virginia. These currently include seven species: Mute Swan, Rock Pigeon, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Monk Parakeet, European Starling, House Finch, and House Sparrow.

Category 6. Species that were introduced into Virginia and that appeared for a time to be sustaining wild populations within the state but that have since been extirpated. This Category

currently includes Ring-necked Pheasant and Japanese Green Pheasant.

The following codes are used in the accounts:

‡ = written documentation

ph. = photograph

vr. = voice recording

vt. = videotape

* = specimen (i.e., labeled and preserved, not simply a dead bird)

Accepted Records

Calliope Hummingbird (*Stellula calliope*), 1 individual, Virginia Beach, Nov 4-7 and Nov 17, 2007 [Shelly Polimine], Category 1 (‡, ph.), 1st state record.

Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*), 1 individual, confluence of Little Hunting Creek and the Potomac River, Fairfax County, Dec 5, 2005 [Carolyn Williams, Gary Filerman, George Lea, Steve Shaffer, and Leslie Vandivere], Category 2 (‡), 5th Coastal Plain since Jan 2004 Review List.

Tricolored Heron (*Egretta tricolor*), 1 individual, Staunton River SP, Halifax County, Aug 13, 2006, [Jeff Blalock], Category 2 (‡), 1st Piedmont since Jan 2004 Review List.

Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*), 1 individual, First Landing SP, Virginia Beach, Aug 8, 2006 [Matt Hafner], Category 1 (‡, ph.), 1st state record since Jan 2004 Review List.

Greater White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*), 6 individuals, Elk Garden, Russell County, Jan 5-6, 2007 [Bob Riggs], Category 1 (‡, ph.), 6th Mountains and Valleys since Jan 2004 Review List.

Scissor-Tailed Flycatcher (*Tyrannus forficatus*), 1 individual, Yaros Farms, Northampton County, Apr 25, 2006 [Ned Brinkley], Category 1 (‡, ph.), 3rd Coastal Plain since the Jan 2004 Review List.

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*), 1 individual, Lebanon, Russell County, Apr 20, 2007 [Bob Riggs], Category 2 (‡), 2nd Piedmont since Jan 2004 Review List.

Ruff (Reeve) (*Philomachus pugnax*), 1 individual, Craney Island, Portsmouth, May 17, 2007 [Bill Williams], Category 2 (‡), 2nd Coastal Plain since Jan 2004 Review List.

Eurasian Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*), 2 individuals, Sangerville, Augusta County, May 20, 2007 [Brenda Tekin, Andrew Clem, Yulee Lerner], Category 1 (‡, ph.), 3rd Mountains and Valleys since Jan 2004 Review List.

Submissions Not Accepted

None.

VSO Annual Meeting

May 1-3, 2009
Fredericksburg, VA
Alyce Quinn, VSO Secretary

Friday Night Meeting

WELCOME

David Spears opened the meeting by thanking the Fredericksburg Bird Club for hosting the meeting.

REPORTS

Treasurer

Sue Thrasher reported that we began the year with approximately \$183,800, \$131,900 of that being in restricted funds and \$51,800 in the general fund. We ended the year with \$132,000 in restricted funds and \$49,089 in the general fund.

Nominating Committee

John Spahr proposed the following list of nominees for 2010:

Board Members – Susan Brown from the Eastern Shore, Shirley Devan from Williamsburg, and Keith Carson from Highland County

President – Rexanne Bruno

Past President – David Spears

Vice President – Andrew Dolby

Secretary – Alyce Quinn

Treasurer – Sue Thrasher

Membership Secretary – Thelma Dalmas

Newsletter Editors – Linda Fields and Alan Schreck

Raven Editor – Paul Cabe

Spears called for nominations from the floor. There were none. A motion to accept the list was made and seconded, and passed unanimously.

PROGRAM

Andrew Dolby introduced Jim Comisky, Mid-Atlantic Network Coordinator for Inventory and Monitoring of Natural Resources for the National Park Service. Mr. Comisky talked about how the management of natural resources has changed over the years. In 1999 they started to use science

to manage the parks, and now try to measure the overall health of the park ecosystem. Their current focus is on forest vegetation, water quality and breeding birds. Nicholas Bircher, the new Avian Ecologist Intern, is pilot testing a volunteer-based breeding bird monitoring program in three parks using point counts to assess changes over the years. Those three parks are Booker T. Washington National Monument, Fredericksburg National Military Park and Valley Forge National Historical Park. The program requires four hours of training, and the survey must be done on two mornings between May 25 and July 15. Anyone who would like to be involved can email Sarah_Wakamiya@nps.gov.

Saturday

Saturday morning several field trips were offered.

PAPER SESSION

Allyson Jackson – Survival in a created landscape: Are golf courses dangerous for bluebird fledglings?

Andrew McGann – Winter ecology of the rare and declining Rusty Blackbird.

Anne Condon – The effects of historical mercury contamination on birds in the South River, Virginia riparian corridor.

Sergio Harding – The North American Breeding Bird Survey in Virginia.

BANQUET

Welcome

David Spears thanked all the new incoming board members, the two newly elected officers, and the officers returning in the same positions they held last year. Spears acknowledged Jim and Laura Watson who have been in the VSO

for over five decades, Jim since 1940 and Laura since 1958.

Jackson Abbott Conservation Award

Spears presented the award to Cindy Schultz and Karen Mayne on behalf of the Virginia Field Office of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service for countless projects that benefited Virginia's Birds. He also noted that Mayne received the award previously in 1990.

JJ Murray Research Award

Rexanne Bruno announced this year's winners:

Andrew McGann for his research project, "Rusty Blackbird: Winter Ecology of a Disappearing Species."

Diana Soteropoulos for her research on the "Effects of Sub-Lethal Mercury Levels on European Starling Body Composition, Feathers, and Flight Performance."

SPEAKERS

Andrew Dolby introduced the evening's guest speakers:

Craig Naylor, Ph.D., Department of Music, presented "Chickadee Frenzy," part of his Chickadee Symphony and discussed how he went about changing the actual bird sounds into an electronic score.

Claudia Emerson, Ph.D., Department of English, Linguistics, and Communication, winner of the 2006 Pulitzer Prize for poetry and Virginia's current Poet Laureate, shared several of her poems involving birds.

Carole Garmon, MFA, Department of Art and Art History was unable to attend but had a sculpture on display.

Sunday

Several field trips were offered Sunday morning.

REVIEW OF "A PHOTOGRAPHIC GUIDE TO THE BIRDS OF WINTERGREEN, WITH AN INTRODUCTION TO THE AREA AND TO OTHER LOCAL WILDLIFE" by Marshall Faintich; list price \$49.95; published by The Word Doctor LLC, Nellysford, VA

The term "bird book" is generally used by birders to describe a field guide, a particular type of bird book aimed at aiding in the identification of birds in the outdoors. "Bird book", however, might also be extended to include coffee-table books about birds, heavy hard-bound volumes of artistically composed photographs or paintings. Yet another type of "bird book" is the annotated checklist, dense with text describing in detail the seasonal occurrence and breeding status of species recorded in a particular area.

Marshall Faintich's bird book about the Wintergreen area of Nelson County somehow manages to be all three types of bird book, more or less successfully. As the title indicates, it's a "photographic guide," an aid to identification using pictures. There are certainly enough good photographs here for the book to be useful in identifying birds, but it's too large and heavy (nearly five pounds) to be considered a field guide. At nine by twelve inches and an inch thick, with a glossy dust jacket, it is dimensionally and visually a coffee-table book. With a gorgeous close-up of a Red-shouldered Hawk on the cover and the photographs inside richly reproduced on heavy coated paper, this book is certainly qualified to take its place alongside Monet and Scottish castles in your living room. But this book is much more than entertainment for the eyes – it's packed with occurrence data for the 219 species of birds covered. While not as detailed as a true annotated checklist, the relative abundance and general temporal distribution information is specific to the Wintergreen area.

"Wintergreen," originally the name of a tiny village near the southern end of the Rockfish Valley, was co-opted about thirty years ago by real estate developers and applied to the ski resort they were building on a conspicuous ridge overlooking the valley. The resort is now familiarly known as "Wintergreen," and the

village has been forgotten. Even though this book's title refers to the "birds of Wintergreen," the area covered by the book is much more extensive than either the resort or the village. By including the mountain resort, the Rockfish Valley Trail system, Stony Creek (the part of the resort development in the bottom of the valley), and the Rockfish Gap hawk watch ten miles to the north of Wintergreen, the author has been able to expand the variety of species beyond what could have been found in any of these locations if considered alone. Each area has provided its own surprises over the years, and Faintich has these well-covered. For example, the very few records of Golden Eagles and Swainson's Hawks at the hawk watch are listed individually.

Species accounts are loosely organized by groups ("lake and shore birds," "shrikes and vireos") in the order of the AOU checklist. Each group is introduced with a bit of explanatory text and several photographs. Most species are given a full page or more, the space allocation apparently determined by the availability of good photographs in the author's collection. The text is simple and straightforward, describing where in the area the species may be seen and which months of the year are most likely for its occurrence. The photos are mostly excellent, often showing a bird in a variety of poses. Many of the less common species are represented by only a single photo; a few of these (e.g., Mourning Warbler) are of relatively poor quality and not very useful for identification purposes, but this is a minor point when considering the entire body of work represented here.

Faintich, a retired remote sensing/satellite imagery expert, is described on the cover plate as "Official photographer and senior birding editor for the Rockfish Valley Trail." One remarkable aspect of the book is that Dr. Faintich took nearly all of the photos himself. A few were contributed by his brother, David, a resident of St. Louis, and Tim Hodge, the young prodigy whom Faintich rightly credits as being "the birding expert in the Wintergreen area." In the back of the book is an appendix that includes the geographic location and date of every image. Careful examination of the appendix reveals that quite a few photographs

were captured outside of the Wintergreen area (for example, the Magnificent Frigatebird image came from Grenada). This does not necessarily detract from the beauty or utility of the volume; instead, it enables Dr. Faintich to draw upon his considerable collection of bird photos to illustrate this book.

Overall, this is an attractive and useful volume. While not perfect as a "bird book," it will certainly be of value to anyone interested in the birdlife of the central Virginia Blue Ridge.

David Spears
Dillwyn, VA

**CORRECTIONS TO VOLUME 79
OF THE RAVEN:**

2008 VSO OFFICERS LIST

The list "OFFICERS OF THE VSO 2008" on the inside front cover of vol. 79 incorrectly listed John Sparr as President and Jennifer Gaden as Secretary from 7/01/07 to 6/30/08, and David Spears as President and Alyce Quinn as Secretary from 7/01/08 to 6/30/09. In fact, David Spears was the President and Alyce Quinn was the Secretary during both of those years (i.e., 7/01/07-6/30/08 and 7/01/08-6/30/09).

2008 ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

In the TABLE OF CONTENTS and on p. 60 of vol. 79, Alyce Quinn, not Jennifer Gaden, should be listed as the author.

2007-2008 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

In vol. 79, the report VIRGINIA CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS: 2007-2008 SEASON, by Teta Kain, lacks portions of Tables 1 and 2. The missing portions of Table 1, which should have followed p. 32 in vol. 79, are on pp. 52-54 in this issue, and the missing portion of Table 2, which should have followed p. 34 in vol. 79, is on p. 55 in this issue.

Table 1. Species and Numbers of Individuals Seen (cont.)

Species:	Kinglet, sp.	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Eastern Bluebird	thrush, sp.	Hermit Thrush	American Robin	Gray Catbird	Northern Mockingbird	Brown Thrasher	European Starling	American Pipit	Cedar Waxwing	Orange-crowned Warbler	Nashville Warbler	Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler	Yellow-throated Warbler	Pine Warbler	Palm Warbler	Black-and-white Warbler	Common Yellowthroat	warbler, sp.	Yellow-breasted Chat	Eastern Towhee	American Tree Sparrow	Chipping Sparrow
1. Chimcoteague	59	...	12	1,399	18	27	15	1,080	96	184	...	...	2,784	...	4	3	...	2	...	...	26	...	109
2. Wachapreague	222	...	12	469	11	37	7	1,753	130	73	...	...	1	431	16	36	...	...	...	6	...	117	
3. Nassawadox	486	...	27	1,692	13	56	14	2,069	118	...	...	...	...	605	13	14	2	...	...	18	...	146	
4. Cape Charles	169	...	27	89	15	37	5	1,271	3	401	...	...	1,271	...	50	15	...	2	...	...	33	...	64
5. Chesapeake Bay
6. Little Creek	41	...	14	1,320	6	63	8	2,100	59	...	...	...	...	509	23	16	2	...	...	38	...	3	
7. Back Bay	107	...	6	1,124	13	40	11	1,535	22	16	4	...	1,340	10	9	...	7	...	...	25	...	9	
8. Nansemond River	178	...	13	900	4	39	8	12,959	...	91	3	...	357	...	35	3	1	1	...	10	...	28	
9. Dismal Swamp NWR	1	...	136	7,197	121	11	3	3,383	...	104	3	...	26	...	9	22	...	3	23	...	55	...	10
10. Newport News	140	...	2	1,937	1	99	7	3,183	...	230	...	...	364	34	34	...	...	...	...	26	...	3	
11. Matthews County	461	...	9	5,150	6	77	6	950	...	1,112	...	...	709	17	1	...	...	...	...	27	...	259	
12. Williamsburg	181	...	10	646	4	48	19	597	...	1,300	...	...	664	18	1	...	...	...	...	33	...	213	
13. Hopewell	207	...	28	3,610	6	68	10	2,348	53	1,946	2	...	214	7	10	1	...	3	...	44	...	57	
14. Walkerton	223	...	12	4,321	4	42	3	355	185	1,308	...	...	30	...	1	...	...	...	...	47	...	3	
15. Washingtons Birthplace	199	...	26	3,042	8	100	14	1,550	194	4,377	...	...	109	...	5	...	...	...	...	23	...	3	
16. Brooke	304	1	7	2,003	5	28	1	1,670	1	778	...	...	172	2	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	7	
17. Fort Belvoir	1	474	63	4,104	5	204	5	5,830	...	1,954	...	...	183	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	19	...	8
18. Central Loudoun Co.	654	...	14	2,398	...	241	...	5,572	...	707	...	...	164	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	28	...	35
19. The Plains	179	...	18	4,395	2	97	2	1,312	...	685	...	...	71	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	7
20. Manassas-Bull Run	272	...	12	2,201	...	80	1	1,978	...	1,706	...	...	177	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	...	2
21. Nokesville	104	...	17	1,059	...	67	...	2,620	1	175	...	...	132	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
22. Chancellorsville	119	...	3	1,325	...	43	...	168	...	315	...	...	54	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...
23. Lake Anna	68	...	3	550	...	14	...	141	...	333	...	...	128	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...
24. Gordonsville	117	...	...	3,812	...	21	...	1,844	...	362	...	...	28	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
25. Charlottesville	278	...	27	2,539	...	108	1	1,270	40	529	...	...	250	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	25	...	...
26. Warren	245	...	10	2,609	...	43	1	629	...	984	...	...	104	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	...	5
27. Darlington Heights	188	...	6	1,836	...	45	...	532	...	182	...	...	104	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	2
28. Banister River WMAs	106	...	13	791	...	23	6	306	32	90	...	...	38	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	29	...	2
29. Lynchburg	372	...	19	2,943	...	77	1	4,089	...	797	...	...	85	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	34	...	7
30. Danville	132	...	...	210	...	19	...	233	...	69	...	...	25	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
31. Calmes Neck	648	...	16	896	...	199	...	3,609	70	271	...	...	57	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
32. N. Shenandoah Valley	647	...	14	20,438	3	223	1	26,409	32	282	...	...	228	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	7	...	14
33. Shenandoah NP-Luray	82	...	7	411	...	30	...	4,537	54	52	...	...	30	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	CW
34. Big Flat Mountain	20	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	48	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35. Rockingham County	127	...	...	94	...	49	1	3,250	...	23	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
36. Augusta County	154	...	...	32	...	58	...	1,722	...	13	...	...	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	1
37. Waynesboro	195	...	5	101	1	91	...	1,017	...	46	...	...	35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
38. Lexington	148	...	10	1,616	...	52	...	3,080	...	48	...	...	137	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	...
39. Peaks of Otter	68	...	12	111	...	5	...	130	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
40. Fincastle	205	...	3	172	...	89	...	907	...	19	...	...	46	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	26	...	3
41. Roanoke	75	...	3	250	...	32	...	1,604	...	75	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	1
42. Blacksburg	211	...	4	21	1	84	3	2,941	2	10	...	...	43	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	19
43. Giles County	69	...	1	5	...	15	...	34	...	44	...	...	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...
44. Tazewell	15	...	...	...	...	6	...	1,269	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
45. Mount Rogers-Whitetop	60	...	...	...	...	18	...	333	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...
46. Glade Spring	135	...	4	5	...	75	...	1,855	50	3	...	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...
47. Blackford	40	...	...	9	...	32	1	573	...	...	...	...	26	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	4
48. Bristol	103	...	7	2	...	122	...	1,328	...	...	...	...	73	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41	...	6
49. Breaks Interstate Park	14	...	...	6	...	3	...	106	...	4	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
50. Wise County	30	...	1	...	...	19	...	368	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
Totals	2	4	9,366	1	639	89,854	247	3,056	154	118,400	1,083	21,820	15	2	11,915	1	261	132	7	21	23	1	859	75	1,118

Table 1. Species and Numbers of Individuals Seen (cont.)

Species:	Clay-colored Sparrow	Field Sparrow	Vesper Sparrow	Savannah Sparrow	Savannah Sparrow (Ipswich)	Le Conte's Sparrow	Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow	Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow	Sharp-tailed Sparrow sp.	Seaside Sparrow	Fox Sparrow	Song Sparrow	Lincoln's Sparrow	Swamp Sparrow	White-throated Sparrow	White-crowned Sparrow	Sparrow, sp.	Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco	Lapland Longspur	Snow Bunting	Northern Cardinal	Painted Bunting	Red-winged Blackbird	Eastern Meadowlark	Rusty Blackbird
1. Chincoteague	...	29	...	78	2	...	4	3	3	...	9	331	...	82	904	...	...	230	...	119	238	...	8,730	61	75
2. Wachapreague	...	32	...	29	10	...	3	5	2	3	13	163	...	31	213	...	...	300	...	36	76	...	1,823	40	...
3. Nassawadox	...	99	...	141	...	...	1	3	4	2	73	315	...	76	537	...	...	305	...	109	...	...	3,638	103	...
4. Cape Charles	...	40	...	76	26	...	...	8	5	8	56	135	...	57	291	...	...	165	...	...	206	...	537	97	7
5. Chesapeake Bay
6. Little Creek	6	1	...	6	2	6	5	13	74	...	21	295	...	...	76	...	...	87	...	2,000	...	...
7. Back Bay	...	13	...	79	...	4	2	...	...	...	...	146	...	158	105	...	...	44	...	...	197	...	12,490	69	40
8. Nansmond River	...	7	...	13	...	...	1	...	...	...	11	110	...	8	229	...	...	342	...	20	89	1	21,482	48	...
9. Dismal Swamp NWR	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	49	...	72	372	...	...	136	...	...	33	...	658	...	22
10. Newport News	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	73	...	9	188	...	...	283	...	...	122	...	1,041	19	3
11. Mathews County	...	23	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	106	...	57	399	...	3	806	...	...	198	...	4,536	85	5
12. Williamsburg	...	72	...	68	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	220	...	57	452	...	...	452	...	...	166	...	1,886	70	2
13. Hopewell	...	155	...	187	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	405	...	61	744	22	...	618	...	...	261	...	785	129	...
14. Walkerton	1	56	...	127	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	402	...	88	982	...	2	602	...	...	226	...	173,526	46	9
15. Washingtons Birthplace	1	38	...	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	255	...	91	491	38	...	444	...	...	191	...	4,442	36	7
16. Brooke	...	36	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	269	...	46	484	3	...	632	...	...	175	...	858	...	...
17. Fort Belvoir	...	108	...	53	...	...	...	...	...	...	38	1,237	2	199	2,391	6	...	1,916	...	...	1,451	...	2,442	2	8
18. Central Loudoun Co.	...	76	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	445	...	31	655	65	...	1,013	...	...	616	...	217	15	...
19. The Plains	...	55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	196	...	5	911	...	...	798	...	...	303	...	28	1	...
20. Manassas-Bull Run	...	60	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	221	...	6	376	9	20	1,275	...	...	484	...	190	...	1
21. Nokesville	...	28	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	209	...	22	381	42	...	717	...	...	206	...	55	2	...
22. Chancellorsville	...	49	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	95	...	4	132	7	...	373	...	...	111	...	10	13	...
23. Lake Anna	...	11	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	15	...	2	96	...	...	152	...	...	41	...	10	13	...
24. Gordonsville	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	16	...	...	36	...	...	192	...	...	63	...	2	9	...
25. Charlottesville	...	131	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	242	...	14	741	39	...	710	...	...	311	...	1	54	2
26. Warren	...	49	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	184	...	9	425	66	...	563	...	...	167	...	55	33	50
27. Darlington Heights	...	34	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	53	...	1	191	23	...	468	...	...	140	...	...	44	...
28. Banister River WMAs	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	42	...	1	128	4	...	540	...	...	91	...	58	23	20
29. Lynchburg	...	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	110	...	6	493	3	...	637	...	...	342	...	25	...	...
30. Danville	1	8	...	...	65	...	...	249	...	...	27	...	...	...	...
31. Calmes Neck	...	23	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	229	...	6	532	153	...	937	...	...	667	...	...	...	10
32. N. Shenandoah Valley	...	150	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	327	...	9	611	131	...	1,538	...	...	568	...	143	10	8
33. Shenandoah NP-Luray	...	27	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	63	...	3	144	20	...	232	...	...	66	...	110	1	...
34. Big Flat Mountain	1	6	...	...	29	...	...	125	...	...	20	...	...	...	...
35. Rockingham County	...	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	46	...	...	159	193	...	306	...	...	132	...	...	15	...
36. Augusta County	...	15	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	88	...	1	278	139	...	402	...	...	135	...	2	9	...
37. Waynesboro	...	60	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	217	...	6	315	106	...	673	...	...	278	...	19	22	3
38. Lexington	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	63	...	...	314	32	...	321	...	...	223	...	...	...	...
39. Peaks of Otter	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	...	...	34	...	...	459	...	...	23	...	...	...	...
40. Fincastle	...	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	73	...	3	256	86	...	220	...	...	213	...	...	5	...
41. Roanoke	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	206	...	1	82	...	...	166	...	...	169	...	1	73	...
42. Blacksburg	...	26	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	357	171	...	403	...	...	334	...	1	...	...
43. Giles County	...	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	60	...	4	44	5	...	135	...	...	102	...	...	1	...
44. Tazewell	...	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72	...	...	6	27	14	...	30	...	...	87	...	...	16	...
45. Mount Rogers-Whitetop	...	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	63	...	...	24	20	...	126	...	...	59	...	...	...	...
46. Glade Spring	...	55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	166	...	4	86	320	...	71	...	...	170	...	...	2	...
47. Blackford	...	22	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	127	...	2	74	29	...	127	...	...	114	...	...	1	3
48. Bristol	...	31	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	157	...	9	174	117	...	81	...	...	292	...	...	35	2
49. Breaks Interstate Park	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	...	...	34	8	...	162	...	...	97	...	...	...	1
50. Wise County	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	46	...	...	4	9	...	45	...	...	93	...	...	2	...
Totals	2	1,759	12	1,033	39	4	16	22	18	18	410	8,245	3	1,211	17,119	1,880	25	21,597	18	175	10,569	1	241,827	1,175	273

Table 1. Species and Numbers of Individuals Seen (cont.)

Species:	Brewer's Blackbird	Common Grackle	Boat-tailed Grackle	Brown-headed Cowbird	blackbird, sp.	Baltimore Oriole	Purple Finch	House Finch	Red Crossbill	Common Redpoll	Pine Siskin	American Goldfinch	House Sparrow	Number of species	Total individuals
Count Circle															
1. Chincoteague	668	109	15	56	...	35	72	...	...	...	...	110	40	144	56,398
2. Wachapreague	528	26	121	575	...	7	73	1	...	...	CW	98	20	124	42,630
3. Nassawadox	36	...	35	...	...	3	99	...	...	...	3	522	23	121	20,213
4. Cape Charles	619	41	187	...	...	CW	2	14	...	...	1	150	2	151	32,867
5. Chesapeake Bay	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	4,859
6. Little Creek	1,325	148	95	...	...	1	5	131	...	...	...	101	21	139	31,894
7. Back Bay	14,315	1,110	152	40	...	...	64	...	...	...	1	69	91	139	55,729
8. Nansemond River	27,142	70	527	...	...	1	58	...	...	...	...	323	31	122	79,177
9. Dismal Swamp NWR	112	12	12	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	32	164	...	86	25,075
10. Newport News	7,635	143	137	...	...	1	172	...	...	...	...	156	77	117	28,064
11. Mathews County	493	12	42	350	...	...	160	...	...	...	2	214	12	105	24,747
12. Williamsburg	1,144	...	317	...	...	1	6	105	...	...	...	90	69	111	33,331
13. Hopewell	2,095	...	15	...	...	1	2	66	...	...	1	299	5	113	53,441
14. Walkerton	57,247	...	3	90,850	...	...	53	167	...	...	...	264	23	98	348,094
15. Washingtons Birthplace	1,364	...	5	...	...	...	6	17	...	...	7	468	16	107	42,955
16. Brooke	452	...	...	...	...	2	60	...	...	...	...	5	167	104	21,583
17. Fort Belvoir	17,492	...	...	89	...	3	34	451	...	...	5	1,130	814	116	117,343
18. Central Loudoun Co.	77	...	4	90	...	...	85	297	...	...	6	240	198	89	28,979
19. The Plains	...	...	276	...	...	...	25	22	...	...	13	84	19	90	20,212
20. Manassas-Bull Run	266	...	28	...	...	...	37	352	...	...	2	214	97	76	18,999
21. Nokesville	2,011	...	4	6	...	...	19	182	...	...	...	92	116	82	15,873
22. Chancellorsville	13	...	1	...	...	...	CW	90	...	...	9	69	48	72	6,489
23. Lake Anna	111	...	...	...	...	...	14	32	...	...	...	86	10	78	3,997
24. Gordonsville	...	...	60	...	...	...	60	60	...	...	...	5	...	59	10,521
25. Charlottesville	112	...	...	...	...	...	45	102	...	...	1	257	64	78	12,653
26. Warren	...	...	26	...	...	...	92	60	...	...	...	179	20	77	10,270
27. Darlington Heights	3	...	220	...	...	...	54	46	...	...	...	324	19	70	6,813
28. Banister River WMAs	1	...	2	...	...	...	1	21	...	...	...	44	5	80	4,523
29. Lynchburg	172	...	22	...	...	...	46	217	...	...	9	305	114	86	17,257
30. Danville	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	57	...	...	...	19	5	50	1,781
31. Calmes Neck	5,003	...	2,252	15	...	...	30	225	...	...	35	401	316	94	30,614
32. N. Shenandoah Valley	53	...	208	...	...	...	279	865	...	...	2	478	256	107	68,877
33. Shenandoah NP-Luray	258	...	127	2,000	...	...	70	...	...	...	...	60	47	74	11,337
34. Big Flat Mountain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...	40	699
35. Rockingham County	...	...	1	...	...	...	4	104	...	...	1	218	139	67	8,566
36. Augusta County	...	...	35	...	...	...	2	163	...	...	1	129	166	77	7,963
37. Waynesboro	1	...	9	...	...	...	11	309	...	...	3	152	242	78	8,681
38. Lexington	...	...	1	120	...	...	190	203	8	...	3	272	15	74	10,689
39. Peaks of Otter	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	...	...	...	40	...	44	1,515
40. Fincastle	...	...	...	...	...	...	72	95	...	...	12	134	12	74	6,422
41. Roanoke	...	...	...	...	...	...	70	...	...	...	...	105	67	73	6,246
42. Blacksburg	...	...	4	...	...	...	23	135	6	...	5	374	121	89	13,293
43. Giles County	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	6	...	...	1	59	13	67	2,395
44. Tazewell	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26	...	...	...	13	182	54	3,706
45. Mount Rogers-Whitetop	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	1	68	38	46	1,692
46. Glade Spring	1	...	1	...	...	...	5	13	...	...	...	342	53	66	6,215
47. Blackford	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	43	...	...	...	49	1	73	3,775
48. Bristol	...	...	...	...	...	...	CW	73	...	...	4	243	17	84	9,307
49. Breaks Interstate Park	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	2	139	4	63	1,763
50. Wise County	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	8	...	...	...	66	11	54	2,064
Totals	1	141,094	1,659	4,946	94,191	11	1,281	5,676	15	2	166	9,600	3,763	213	1,382,586

Table 2. Field Conditions (cont.)

Field Datum: Count Circle	Hours on foot	Hours by car	Hours by motorized boat	Hours by non- motorized boat	Total Party- hours	Miles on foot	Miles by car	Miles by motorized boat	Miles by non- motorized boat	Total Party- miles	Number of Field Observers	Minimum number of parties	Maximum number of parties
1. Chincoteague	30.00	33.50	...	...	63.50	30.00	217.00	...	...	247.00	22	12	12
2. Wachapreague	36.00	33.00	10.00	...	79.00	34.00	294.00	35.00	...	363.00	17	10	10
3. Nassawadox	37.00	31.00	...	...	68.00	18.00	199.00	...	...	217.00	18	7	16
4. Cape Charles	81.00	33.00	5.00	...	119.00	58.00	292.00	25.00	...	375.00	26	8	15
5. Chesapeake Bay	10.00	0.75	...	...	10.75	2.00	10.00	...	...	12.00	2	1	1
6. Little Creek	82.00	15.00	5.00	8.00	110.00	37.00	228.00	14.00	8.00	287.00	27	14	16
7. Back Bay	74.00	21.00	4.00	...	99.00	36.00	343.00	20.00	...	399.00	36	14	19
8. Nansemond River	45.00	21.50	...	...	66.50	17.00	291.00	...	...	308.00	16	7	7
9. Dismal Swamp NWR	11.50	26.00	...	8.50	46.00	5.50	173.00	...	6.00	184.50	15	7	7
10. Newport News	60.00	37.50	...	...	97.50	44.50	352.00	...	...	396.50	45	13	3
11. Mathews County	29.00	63.75	...	...	92.75	21.00	373.00	...	...	394.00	36	12	12
12. Williamsburg	41.75	39.00	0.25	...	81.00	27.75	247.75	3.00	...	278.50	37	9	9
13. Hopewell	109.00	42.25	1.00	...	152.25	68.00	616.00	5.00	...	689.00	44	11	14
14. Walkerton	35.50	86.50	12.00	...	134.00	21.75	292.00	23.00	...	336.75	37	2	10
15. Washingtons Birthplace	40.25	15.75	4.00	...	60.00	13.50	199.00	42.00	...	254.50	16	8	12
16. Brooke	42.00	38.00	...	...	80.00	35.00	274.00	...	...	309.00	25	10	10
17. Fort Belvoir	298.75	43.00	...	...	341.75	208.00	336.25	...	...	544.25	155	59	60
18. Central Loudoun Co.	102.00	54.75	...	...	156.75	91.50	510.50	...	...	602.00	80	24	25
19. The Plains	17.50	30.50	...	...	48.00	11.00	241.25	...	...	252.25	20	4	9
20. Manassas-Bull Run	92.25	29.75	...	...	122.00	83.00	155.00	...	...	238.00	56	21	21
21. Nokesville	27.00	34.00	...	...	61.00	17.00	205.00	...	...	222.00	22	7	7
22. Chancellorsville	37.00	12.25	...	...	49.25	19.25	199.50	...	...	218.75	14	6	7
23. Lake Anna	4.00	19.25	...	...	23.25	7.00	145.00	...	...	152.00	11	3	3
24. Gordonsville	6.00	27.50	...	...	33.50	7.50	269.00	...	...	276.50	10	5	5
25. Charlottesville	96.00	15.00	...	3.50	114.50	75.00	161.00	...	3.00	239.00	36	18	18
26. Warren	54.25	18.50	...	...	72.75	50.00	273.00	...	...	323.00	19	1	19
27. Darlington Heights	13.50	33.50	...	...	47.00	14.00	297.00	...	...	311.00	20	5	5
28. Bamister River WMAs	20.50	25.50	...	...	46.00	14.00	242.50	...	...	256.50	10	6	6
29. Lynchburg	48.00	55.50	...	...	103.50	41.50	419.00	...	...	460.50	46	16	16
30. Danville	32.50	18.00	...	...	50.50	8.00	59.50	...	...	67.50	9	7	7
31. Calmes Neck	53.00	82.00	...	...	135.00	43.00	605.00	...	...	648.00	58	12	19
32. N. Shenandoah Valley	66.25	106.25	...	19.25	191.75	58.50	797.50	...	25.00	881.00	62	24	25
33. Shenandoah NP-Luray	27.75	24.25	...	...	52.00	24.50	243.00	...	...	267.50	14	1	7
34. Big Flat Mountain	25.75	5.00	...	...	30.75	33.00	52.50	...	...	85.50	3	3	3
35. Rockingham County	6.75	21.50	...	...	28.25	7.25	248.00	...	...	255.25	25	2	7
36. Augusta County	5.75	38.75	...	4.00	48.50	3.50	355.00	...	6.00	364.50	22	1	9
37. Waynesboro	20.75	41.00	...	...	61.75	18.00	404.50	...	...	422.50	28	9	9
38. Lexington	31.75	14.50	...	...	46.25	30.50	149.00	...	...	179.50	27	2	13
39. Peaks of Otter	10.00	18.00	...	...	28.00	11.00	47.00	...	...	58.00	17	6	6
40. Fincastle	21.00	41.00	...	...	62.00	19.00	209.00	...	...	228.00	25	14	14
41. Roanoke	31.00	37.00	...	...	68.00	37.00	150.00	...	...	187.00	25	14	14
42. Blacksburg	63.50	39.75	...	...	103.25	32.00	322.00	...	...	354.00	44	17	19
43. Giles County	27.25	17.75	...	...	45.00	19.00	214.00	...	...	233.00	14	7	7
44. Tazewell	4.00	34.00	...	...	38.00	17.00	249.00	...	...	266.00	8	5	5
45. Mount Rogers-Whitetop	2.50	26.00	...	...	28.50	2.00	251.00	...	...	253.00	11	1	4
46. Glade Spring	14.00	43.00	...	...	57.00	19.00	394.00	...	...	413.00	22	7	7
47. Blackford	6.00	46.00	...	...	52.00	14.00	314.00	...	...	328.00	16	7	7
48. Bristol	33.50	22.50	...	...	56.00	15.00	411.00	...	...	426.00	30	6	6
49. Breaks Interstate Park	12.00	10.00	...	...	22.00	11.00	243.00	...	...	254.00	10	5	5
50. Wise County	24.50	28.50	...	...	53.00	18.00	296.00	...	...	314.00	15	8	8
Totals	2,100.25	1,651.25	41.25	43.25	3,836.00	1,548.00	13,868.75	167.00	48.00	15,631.75	1,403	478	575

LOCAL CHAPTERS OF THE VSO:*

Audubon Society of Northern Virginia
Annandale VA

Augusta Bird Club
Augusta VA

Back Bay Birding Club
Virginia Beach VA

Bath-Highland Bird Club
Monterey VA

Blue Ridge Birders
Sparta NC

Bristol Bird Club
Bristol VA

Buchanan County Bird Club
Grundy VA

Cape Henry Audubon Society
Cape Henry VA

Clinch Valley Bird Club
Tazewell VA

Eastern Shore Bird Club
Onancock VA

Fredericksburg Birding Club
Fredericksburg VA

Hampton Roads Bird Club
Newport News VA

Loudon Wildlife Conservancy
Loudon Co. VA

Lynchburg Bird Club
Lynchburg VA

Margaret H. Watson Bird Club
Farmville VA

Monticello Bird Club
Charlottesville VA

New River Valley Bird Club
Blacksburg VA

Northern Neck of Virginia Audubon Society
Kilmarnock VA

Northern Shenandoah Valley Audubon Society
Winchester VA

Northern Virginia Bird Club
Arlington VA

Richmond Audubon Society
Richmond VA

Roanoke Valley Bird Club
Roanoake VA

Rockingham Bird Club
Harrisonburg VA

Russell County Bird Club
Lebanon VA

Southside Bird Club
Danville VA

Virginia Beach Audubon
Virginia Beach VA

Virginia Bluebird Society
Fredericksburg VA

Williamsburg Bird Club
Williamsburg VA

* to contact a local chapter, see the VSO website at
<http://www.virginiabirds.net/>

INFORMATION FOR CONTRIBUTORS

The Raven, the official journal of the Virginia Society of Ornithology (VSO), functions to publish original contributions and original review articles in ornithology relating to Virginia Birdlife. Electronic files are the required form for manuscript submission. Text files, prepared using a Mac OS-compatible word processing program or Microsoft® Word, should contain minimal formatting. Graphics (photos, maps, graphs, charts) should be sent as high quality EPS or JPEG files. An accompanying "cover" file should be emailed to the editor stating (1) article title, (2) author(s) full name(s) and email and home or institutional address(es) and, for multi-authored manuscripts, (3) the name of one author designated to carry out correspondence with the editor. If the manuscript or report is technical, a list of persons who would be appropriate reviewers should also be included in the "cover file." Authors are encouraged to consult with the editor on additional matters of content, format, or style. NOTE: Editorship of *The Raven* will change on January 1, 2010. After that date, all cover and manuscript files and any other Raven-related correspondence should be sent to: Wesley M. Brown <wbrown@umich.edu>.

Most Manuscripts published in *The Raven* concern the distribution, abundance and migration of birds in Virginia. Manuscripts on other ornithological topics, including Virginia-based historical reviews, bibliographical reviews, life histories, and behavioral observations, are also welcomed. In addition, the journal serves to publish the official proceedings of the VSO and other formal items pertaining to all aspects of the Society's activities. *The Raven* may also publish articles pertaining to the activities of various public and private organizations engaged in biological and conservation work in Virginia. *The Raven* is a peer-reviewed journal; all feature articles and short communications are reviewed before a decision about acceptance for publication is made.

Format of *The Raven* generally follows guidelines set by the Council for Biology editors as outlined in the CBE style manual, 6th edition, 1994 (Council of Biology Editors, Inc., 11250 Roger Bacon Dr., Reston, VA 20190). Recent volumes of *The Raven* should be inspected for style. Vernacular and scientific names of birds should be those in the most recent edition (and supplement) of the A.O.U.'s Checklist of North American Birds (www.aou.org/checklist/north). Vernacular names should be capitalized; scientific names should be italicized. All size, temperature and other measurements should be in metric units.

