



Bird Notes

Newsletter of the

Hampton Roads Bird Club (HRBC)

www.hamptonroadsbirdclub.org and on Facebook

Vol. 71, No. 3

January/February 2023

Thursday, January 12 Meeting
6:30 PM Social 7:00 PM Program
Sandy Bottom Nature Park

Recent Bird Count Results

By Mark Sopko and/or Bill Boeh

Snacks are Needed for January 12 HRBC Meeting!

Please let Jane Frigo know if you can help. Home phone: 757-873-0721 Cell: 757-776-7925 or email: birderjane@gmail.com

Thursday, February 9 Meeting
6:30 PM Social 7:00 PM Program
Sandy Bottom Nature Park

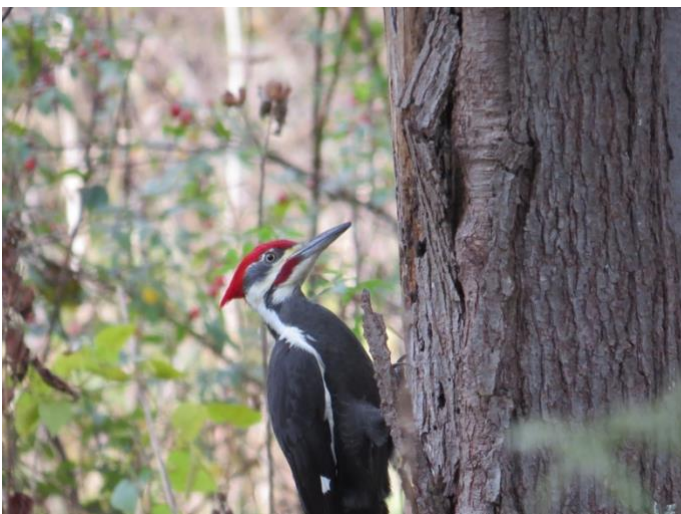
There will be a presentation or video.
For updates, check
www.hamptonroadsbirdclub.org
and Facebook

COVID and HRBC

The Hampton Roads Bird Club membership is encouraged to receive vaccinations and boosters related to COVID. The club suggests everyone use caution to safeguard against potential exposure to COVID by practicing distancing, wearing masks and other established protocols for avoiding pathogen exposure. All members are encouraged to wear masks when inside at meetings and limit unknown persons when carpooling. Most importantly any individuals feeling ill, with a fever, or any typical flu or cold-like symptoms should NOT attend meetings, field trips, or Sunday morning walks. It is up to all members to be mindful of the health of others by staying home when appropriate, and to employ their own precautions.

HRBC Outdoors

Regular Bird Walks in Newport News Park
7:00 AM on 1st and 3rd Sundays all 12 months, unless the city schedules a special mass event like the One City Marathon on March 5, 2023. Meet at big parking lot behind Ranger Station. Leader: Jane Frigo birderjane@gmail.com home 757-873-0721, cell 757-776-7925



Pileated Woodpecker by Bill Boeh

Field Trip to York River (this page)

7:30 AM Sunday, January 8, 2023

Leader: James Abbott jaa3469@gmail.com

757-320-9191 (text or phone)

Outreach at Discovery Center (this page)

Saturday, January 14, 2023

Jane Frigo birderjane@gmail.com

home 757-873-0721, cell 757-776-7925

NN Park Winter Bird Count (next page)

7:00 AM Saturday, January 28, 2023

Main leader: Jane Frigo birderjane@gmail.com

home 757-873-0721, cell 757-776-7925

Field Trip on Back Bay Tram (next page)

8:30 AM Sunday, February 12, 2023

Leader: James Abbott jaa3469@gmail.com

757-320-9191 (text or phone)

Field Trip to Hog Island WMA

Sunday, March 19, 2023

Leader: James Abbott jaa3469@gmail.com

757-320-9191 (text or phone)

Field Trip to Dismal Swamp

Sunday, April 23, 2023

Leader: James Abbott jaa3469@gmail.com

757-320-9191 (text or phone)

HRBC Spring Bird Count

Saturday, May 6, 2023

Leader: Bill Boeh dolphrog1@yahoo.com

757-951-7959

Field Trip to James River Pk. Richmond

Sunday, May 7, 2023

Leader: James Abbott jaa3469@gmail.com

757-320-9191 (text or phone)

**Field Trip to York River
via Colonial Parkway
7:30 AM Sunday, January 8**

By James Abbott

Our first attempt this winter at waterfowl. We will travel down the Colonial Parkway on the York River stopping at various locations to view waterfowl. We will meet at the Target off 199 (200 Marquis Pkwy, Williamsburg, VA 23185). We will caravan down all

the way to Yorktown Beach. We will meet at 7:30 AM. Text 757-320-9191 or email jaa3469@gmail.com. Please include your name in voicemails or text so I can add you to my contacts.



White-throated Robin

(George-Louis Leclerc, *Compte de Buffon's Histoire naturelle*, 18th cent., edited by Fiorella Congedo, 2011)

**Outreach at Discovery Center
of Newport News Park
Saturday, January 14**

By Jane Frigo

Newport News Park has asked us to present a short family friendly program at the Discovery Center on Saturday, January 14. This program is to discuss winter birds at the park, which species can be found, and where to look for them. It also can include a short walk around the Discovery Center to see what can be found. Contact me if you are interested in helping (birderjane@gmail.com home 757-873-0721, cell 757-776-7925).

**Winter Sector Bird Count
in Newport News Park
7:00AM Saturday, January 28**

By Jane Frigo

The Hampton Roads Bird Club is going to continue the Newport News Park Winter Bird Count. This count is like the Audubon Christmas Bird Count (CBC) where numbers of individual species are counted. Since Newport News Park does not fall into any CBC circles and the regular twice-monthly Sunday walks only track species, not numbers of individuals, this activity can provide information about the health of populations. This year's count will be held on Saturday, January 28, 2023. The Saturday date is being chosen to encourage participation by those club members who are unable to attend the regular Sunday walks.

As in previous years, there will be 5 sectors, each with a leader who is responsible for keeping the count on their ebird account and then sharing it with the HRBC ebird account. Bill Boeh, our club compiler, can then access the information from all 5 sectors. The sectors are:

Section 1: Campground

Section 2: West of Constitution Ave. (Ranger Station Lakeside)

Section 3: East of Constitution Ave. (Arboretum/Discovery Center)

Section 4: White Oak Trail (Swamp Bridge to Spawning Pond)

Section 5: Golf Course/Bluebird Trail

Contact me by phone or email (home 757-873-0721, cell 757-776-7925, birderjane@gmail.com) if you are interested. Indicate the section you would prefer and if you would be willing to keep the ebird list. Participants will meet at the large shelter by the Ranger Station at 7:00 AM to review assignments. The groups will return to the shelter by 10:00 AM to share the morning's sightings. I will provide coffee, donuts and bagels. This is an easy, fun activity that can be conducted safely under the COVID restrictions.

**Field Trip on Back Bay Tram
to False Cape State Park
8:30 AM Sunday, February 12**

By James Abbott

On Sunday February 12 the HRBC Back Bay tram ride returns! We have reserved the tram from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Arrive at the Back Bay Visitors Center at 8:30 AM. As in years past this trip has a fee of **\$8.00 CASH ONLY**, and please bring it with you to the visitor center. This trip also has a capacity limit of 24 participants.

We will leave Back Bay Visitors Center at 9:00 AM and ride to False Cape State Park. We will then have a short hike to the beach and ride back. Along the way we will have the opportunity to see many winter waterfowl especially Tundra Swan as well as loons, ibis, and rails. There will be short hikes around the Visitor Center before or after the tram ride as well as Little Island Pier to have a chance to see Gannet and Razorbill.

The tram is open and **WILL BE COLD**, dress accordingly in layers and bring blankets. A snack and drinks are a good idea as well.

To sign up for this trip please send an email to jaa3469@gmail.com to be added to the list. If you can no longer make it for any reason, please let me know so I can update availability. I will send you a confirmation email and have emails sent out to the club with updated availability of seats.

**Report of Field Trip to
Grandview Beach (11/13/2022)**

By James Abbott and Ryan Walsh

On November 13, 2022 the HRBC lead by Ryan Walsh visited Grandview Beach in Hampton. Nine observers recorded 37 species while walking the entrance trail and the beach. Highlights included the arrival of winter visitors such as Black Scoter and Surf Scoter as well as Horned Grebe and Northern Gannet. Shorebirds continued with good numbers of Sanderling and Dunlin. The most exciting sighting was of 20 Brant flying north over the Chesapeake Bay.



Just arrived: Melissa Freudenberg and Bill



Chef Charm Peterman with ladle, lid, and the good stuff, chili

The Holiday Party of 2022

By Jane Frigo

Thank you to those who participated in the 2022 Holiday Party. Twenty members attended and all seemed to enjoy the opportunity to celebrate.

Special thanks to Charm Peterman for providing the delicious chili and cornbread; John and Marilyn Adair for setting up and decorating the tables and Stuart Sweetman for providing center pieces as door prizes; and all who provided food to share.



With permission of Katrina Dash, son Henry places a toy soldier on our holiday table.



To the feast: Heidi Young and Marilyn Adair with Stuart Sweetman and Katrina Dash in background

Photo Contest Winners Nov. 2022

By Michael Meyer



Peregrine Falcon
Gold by Pete Peterman

Pete: "The Peregrine was photographed at Gateway National Recreation Area in Sandy Hook, NJ. I used the Nikon D500 with a 200-500 mm lens and a setting of 1/1250 sec @f 5.6 at the 500 mm setting and an ISO of 100. The sky was clear with many birds diving for cover. A Merlin was found nearby sitting in a tree."

Bill: "I can tell you the photo was taken on the November 6 park walk; the bird was at the park headquarters area. My camera is a Canon PowerShot SX-50 HS."



Brown Creeper
Bronze by Lynn Chandler

Lynn: "The Brown Creeper was outside my window on the hackberry tree, and I almost didn't see him. It was because of his movement working up the tree for insects that caught my eye, and he stayed still just long enough for me to get one picture! The Brown Creeper preceded to continue up the tree and just disappear."



White-throated Sparrow
Silver by Bill Boeh

Rules for the HRBC photo contest:

1. Each member may submit up to 2 photos taken in the last 60 days each month.
2. Please name each file with the photographer and the bird's name (i.e., ShawnDash_Osprey).
3. Submit to Michael Meyer (michael.meyer@cnu.edu) by the 10th of each month.
4. Winners will be contacted by the newsletter editor to provide either a short writeup or a brief phone interview from which a narrative may be composed.

President	Shawn Dash	drshawntdash@gmail.com	915-491-6227
Vice President	Mark Sopko	mgsopko@gmail.com	804-815-2897
Secretary	William Boeh	dolphrog1@yahoo.com	757-951-7959
Treasurer	John Adair	adairjj@bunt.com	757-224-8920
Board (7/20-6/23)	Walter Harris	walthh2@gmail.com	757-898-8649
Board (7/21-6/24)	Katrina Dash	kmdash4@gmail.com	915-471-1287
Board (7/22-6/25)	Michael Meyer	michael.meyer@cnu.edu	757-303-4790
Field Trip Coordinator	James Abbott	jaa3469@gmail.com	757-320-9191
Web Editor	Wendy Maxey	emaxey@verizon.net	757-483-3003
Web Editor	Ellis Maxey	emaxey@verizon.net	757-483-3003
Hospitality	Jane Frigo	birderjane@gmail.com	757-776-7925
Newsletter Editor	Thomas Charlock	tomcharlock@gmail.com	757-746-9190
Membership	Gwen Harris	gwenkharris65@gmail.com	757-898-8649

TO JOIN OR RENEW. If you would like to join the Hampton Roads Bird Club or renew your membership, there are several convenient ways to do so. Dues remain at \$15.00 for individuals and \$20.00 for families. New members, and anyone whose information has changed, please complete the form below and send to John Adair, HRBC Treasurer.

Submit your application and payment as follows:

- 1) Mail to: John Adair, 109 Nansemond Turn, Yorktown, VA 23693, adairjj@gmail.com.
- 2) Drop off at: Wild Wings Nature Store, Glendale Shopping Center in Newport News.
- 3) Drop off at: Wild Birds Unlimited, Kiln Creek Parkway in Yorktown.
- 4) Pay by PayPal or Credit Card at: <https://www.hamptonroadsbirdclub.org/membership>.

Hampton Roads Bird Club – Membership Form

New Member (F/I) _____ Renewal _____ Date: _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: H: _____ C: _____ W: _____

Email(s): _____

Only check this box if you need the newsletter delivered via the postal system;
 HRBC is trying to save trees and reduce club expenses by using email.

=====

Editor (T. Charlock)
Hampton Roads Bird Club
22 Executive Drive
Newport News, Virginia 23606-2225

