

Feathers

Troy Christmas Bird Count

by Larry Alden

Twenty-two birders in seven field parties took part in the 110th Christmas Bird Count, held on Saturday, January 2, 2010. The Troy CBC has been held every year since the winter of 1949-50. A composite total of 142 species have been tallied on count days over the history of this count.

Frigid weather preceded the count this year, and count day had wind gusts of over 25 mph with temperatures dropping throughout the day. The high temperature was 27 degrees and the low was 17. The higher elevations got about 3-4" of snow overnight, and flurries fell on and off throughout the day. The Tomhannock Reservoir was only open in a few places but the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers were mostly open, although blobs of ice were noted flowing downstream. Ponds were generally completely iced over.

Field parties found 66 species on count day, one down from the recent 10-year average, and there were two count week species.

Notable waterfowl species found

were: NORTHERN PINTAIL (3rd time in the last 10 years), REDHEAD (3rd time in 10 years), and BUFFLEHEAD (3rd time in 10 years).

Notable "land" species were: ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK, MERLIN, PEREGRINE FALCON, ICELAND GULL, RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET, HERMIT THRUSH, SAVANNAH SPARROW (2nd time in 10 years), LAPLAND LONGSPUR (last reported 20 years ago), and RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD (last reported 8 years ago).

Only two owls were reported, but wind and snow made it difficult to search for them. WILD TURKEYS were very scarce, with only 7 birds seen by only one field party.

Five YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKERS were down from last year's record high of 11, but up until three years ago, seeing only one or two was very unusual. CAROLINA WREN numbers were down considerably from numbers seen the last three years.

Group D managed to be directly in the path of large numbers of AMERICAN ROBINS heading to a nighttime roost and every field party saw SNOW BUNTINGS, with

the most in Group C's territory, leading to record highs for those species. The 8 Buffleheads was a count high.

There were no winter finches.

Big misses this year were Ruffed Grouse, American Kestrel, Great Blue Heron, and Belted Kingfisher.

Many thanks go to the hearty souls who took part in this count. Next year's count will be on Sunday, January 2, 2011. See you there!

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President's Corner



Dear Members,

A heartfelt thanks goes out to Bob Yunick for his beautiful, touching memorial to his long time friend, Tom Palmer, Laurie Freeman's "Ode to Tom" was just as sincere and touching as Bob's narrative. The HMBC is charmed to have people like these in our club. They enrich and solidify our community and they make us proud and they make us better,

I would like to express the club's sincerest condolences to Tom's family. Their loss is certainly as great as ours. Together we will find ways to keep Tom's heart and spirit alive.

In life Tom contributed so much to us and much more to the birds. His graciousness continues, as he bequeathed the HMBC \$1000 to continue promulgating the love of birds. We are touched and thankful.

The Officers and Board have plans to keep the name and memory of Tom Palmer alive. When you feel that you are a really good birder, remember a MASTER birder is watching you

Best Regards,

— Gary Goodness 

HMBC Contact Information

BIRDLINE of EASTERN NEW YORK: (518) 439-8080

E-mail: contact@hmhc.net

HMBC website: <http://hmhc.net>

HMBC Board Meetings

HMBC Board meetings are open to all Club members. Meetings are held at Five Rivers Center or other local venues at 7:00 PM, usually on the second Monday of odd-numbered months.

Newsletter Contributions Desired

- Have anything you think other birders would be interested in?
- Have a favorite birding spot you want to share?
- Are there any stories or photos that would inspire others?

Share them with the HMBC membership by submitting them to the addresses below:

Please send all *electronic* submissions *via e-mail* to: Chris Grossman at bgrossman@nycap.rr.com

Send **all** paper submissions to:

Chris Grossman

7 Nott Rd.

Rexford, NY 12148

Troy Christmas Bird Count — *continued*

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	Total
SNOW GOOSE	9	1	17					27
CANADA GOOSE	6,765	2,066	2,410	375	321	700	137	12,774
GADWALL				cw				0
AMERICAN BLACK DUCK	2	25	10	22	31	7		97
MALLARD	87	65	189	313	185	4		843
NORTHERN PINTAIL		1						1
REDHEAD			2					2
RING-NECKED DUCK			1					1
BUFFLEHEAD			8					8
COMMON GOLDENEYE		16	24	34	35			109
HOODED MERGANSER			11		3			14
COMMON MERGANSER		15	32	10	31	8		96
WILD TURKEY		7						7
BALD EAGLE*	6	1	4	3	7			16
NORTHERN HARRIER	3	1	4					8
SHARP-SHINNED HAWK		2	1	1	2			6
COOPER'S HAWK	1		1	2				4
RED-TAILED HAWK	13	9	3	9	7	11	11	63
ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK	1		1		1	1		4
MERLIN			1	1				2
PEREGRINE FALCON						1		1
RING-BILLED GULL	13	14	3	36	50	104	300	520
HERRING GULL		1		594	20	6	100	721
ICELAND GULL				1				1
GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL	1			317	27		230	575
ROCK PIGEON	61	48	100	114	57	128	151	659
MOURNING DOVE	14	22	53	3	10	24	11	137
EASTERN SCREECH-OWL		1						1
GREAT HORNED OWL	1							1
BELTED KINGFISHER				cw				0
RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER	2	3	5	1	2	3		16
YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER	3				2			5
DOWNY WOODPECKER	11	19	4	20	6	16	6	82
HAIRY WOODPECKER		3	5	3	3			14
NORTHERN FLICKER		1	4	1	2	2		10
PILEATED WOODPECKER	1	3		2	1	1		8
BLUE JAY	26	46	39	6	10	23	23	173
AMERICAN CROW	213	440	561	1,766	174	977	197	4,328
FISH CROW		1			1			2
COMMON RAVEN		1			2			3

Troy Christmas Bird Count — *continued*

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	Total
HORNED LARK	30	40	126		56	130		382
BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE	83	124	49	37	18	56	53	420
TUFTED TITMOUSE	14	25	31	13	4	20	17	124
RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH	2		2					4
WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH	8	22	12	2	6	5	5	60
BROWN CREEPER	2							2
CAROLINA WREN				2				2
GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET	11		2			1		14
RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET		1						1
EASTERN BLUEBIRD	17	13	1	6		8		45
HERMIT THRUSH		1						1
AMERICAN ROBIN	1	630	14	5,284	116	96	124	6,265
NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD	1	1		2	1	1		6
EUROPEAN STARLING	45	667	150	2,070	512	1,285	150	4,879
CEDAR WAXWING						60	12	72
AMERICAN TREE SPARROW	55	89	8		13	21	23	209
SAVANNAH SPARROW			1					1
SONG SPARROW	1	1	5	4	4			15
WHITE-THROATED SPARROW	12	29	8	5	21	23	17	115
DARK-EYED JUNCO	107	86	43	12	34	61	86	429
LAPLAND LONGSPUR			3					3
SNOW BUNTING	125	460	2,005	20	24	190	100	2,924
NORTHERN CARDINAL	13	29	5	17	2	17	15	98
RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD		15						15
BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD	30						1	31
HOUSE FINCH		34	6		1	26	2	69
AMERICAN GOLDFINCH	6	10	12		5	9	34	76
HOUSE SPARROW	70	73	78	120	22	124	58	545
TOTAL BIRDS	7,866	5,162	6,054	11,228	1,829	4,149	1,863	38,146
TOTAL SPECIES	40	46	46	37 +2cw	41	35	25	66 + 2cw

cw = Count Week. Species seen within the period three days before to three days following the count, but not on count day.

* Bald Eagles - 11 adults, 5 immatures. Bald Eagle total does not match the total reported by each individual party. Some eagles were seen by two or three parties. I used my professional judgment to make the final determination.

Bold = record number or tied record for the count

Troy Christmas Bird Count — continued

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Group A: Brad Walker, Tray Biasioli, Garrett Grilli. 6:45 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. (0.25 hours, 0.25 miles on foot; 8.5 hours, 75 miles by car. Also 0.25 hours, 1 mile owling.)

Group B: Larry Alden, Jackie Bogardus. 5:25 a.m. - 5:05 p.m. (0.5 hour, 0.5 mile on foot; 9.5 hours, 74 miles by car. Also 1.75 hours, 10.5 miles owling.)

Group C: Rich Guthrie, Jory Langner, Jocelyn Cole. 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (1 hour, 0.25 miles on foot; 8.5 hours, 42 miles by car.)

Group D: George Steele, Alan Mapes, Susan Beaudoin. 7:30 a.m. - 4:40 p.m. (2.25 hours, 1.5 miles on foot; 7 hours, 40 miles by car.)

Group E: Bill Lee, Jaime Taft, Larry Main, Jim Ries. 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (3 hours, 2 miles on foot; 6.5 hours, 61 miles by car.)

Group F: Norton Miller, Jeremy Kirchman, Joel Ralston, Kathryn Schneider. 6:00 a.m. - 6:40 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (1.5 hour, 2 miles on foot; 8.25 hours, 79 miles by car. Also 1 hour, 0.25 miles owling.)

Group G: Joan Cipriani, Peggy Rudis, Carol Blackwell. 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (2.25 hours, 1.5 miles on foot, 6.25 hours, 60 miles by car.)

Notes: Hours rounded to the nearest quarter hour.

Description of the Sectors

Sector A - Tomhannock Reservoir and surrounding area north and east.

Sector B - Town of Schaghticoke, from the Hudson River on the west to the Tomhannock on the east.


Sector C - Village of Schaghticoke, north of Mechanicville, southern part of the Village of Stillwater. Includes confluence of Hoosic and Hudson Rivers.

Sector D - Albany County portion of the count circle, including Colonie, Cohoes, Green Island, and Peebles Island State Park.

Sector E - Halfmoon, Waterford, Mechanicville. From Hudson River on the east to Route 236 on the west.

Sector F - Town of Brunswick and the City of Troy.

Sector G - Clifton Park and Halfmoon, bordered by Route 236 on the east. Includes the eastern portion of Vischer Ferry Nature and Historic Preserve.

— Larry Alden, Compiler 

Tomhannock Reservoir*Saturday, November 7, 2009*

Twenty-four participants gathered on a chilly, but mostly sunny fall day for this year's annual Tomhannock Reservoir trip. We began our day at 8:30 in the morning.

Ducks seen in the area south of Route 7 were mostly HOODED MERGANSERS and RUDDY DUCKS, but we also found a few COMMON GOLDENEYES and COMMON MERGANSERS. Along the shoreline was one GREAT BLUE HERON, while a few DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANTS swam among the ducks or loafed on the shore. North of Route 7 we saw a COMMON LOON and a few distant geese and we watched a BELTED KINGFISHER fly completely across the reservoir.

We then grouped up in a car pool and began our trip around the reservoir. At our first stop on Nortonville Road, we observed mostly HOODED MERGANSERS on the east side. However, our bird-of-the-day was on the main reservoir - a RED-THROATED LOON! Judging by the near-breeding plumage (gray head and still a reddish throat), this was probably

the bird which was reported from the reservoir a few days earlier. It was a life bird for a number of the participants.

At our next pull-off, we were treated to a couple soaring RED-TAILED HAWKS, which were then joined by an immature BALD EAGLE. It was here that we saw our one and only EUROPEAN STARLING of the trip! At Otter Creek, we saw AMERICAN BLACK DUCKS and a small group of GREEN-WINGED TEAL before sharp eyes picked out a pair of female LESSER SCAUP on the far shore.

At the spillway on the north end of the reservoir, we searched for grebes but only came up with a large flock of RING-NECKED DUCKS in the distance. Up the road from the pump station, two RED-BREASTED NUTHATCHES joined with their white-breasted kin in response to a screech owl tape.

Our final stops along Lakeshore Road gave us a great look at a flyover PILEATED WOODPECKER and a trio of CEDAR WAXWINGS.

We were a little short on sparrows again, and we saw no winter finches. Overall, a total of 45 species was about

average for this trip.

Here are the 45 species we saw: CANADA GOOSE, AMERICAN BLACK DUCK, MALLARD, GREEN-WINGED TEAL, RING-NECKED DUCK, LESSER SCAUP, COMMON GOLDENEYE, HOODED MERGANSER, COMMON MERGANSER, RUDDY DUCK, RED-THROATED LOON, COMMON LOON, DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT, GREAT BLUE HERON, BALD EAGLE, COOPER'S HAWK, RED-TAILED HAWK, RING-BILLED GULL, HERRING GULL, ROCK PIGEON, MOURNING DOVE, BELTED KINGFISHER, RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER, DOWNY WOODPECKER, HAIRY WOODPECKER, PILEATED WOODPECKER, BLUE JAY, AMERICAN CROW, BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE, TUFTED TITMOUSE, RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH, WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH, BROWN CREEPER, EASTERN BLUEBIRD, AMERICAN ROBIN, EUROPEAN STARLING, CEDAR WAXWING, YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER, WHITE-THROATED SPARROW, DARK-EYED JUNCO, NORTHERN CARDINAL, COMMON GRACKLE, HOUSE FINCH, AMERICAN GOLDFINCH, HOUSE SPARROW.

— Larry Alden 

Upcoming HMBC Programs

Upcoming HMBC Programs

The Recovery of the Bald Eagle in New York and the Northeast U.S

Peter Nye, NYSDEC

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

7:00 p.m. at the Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Delmar

A joint program of the Audubon Society of the Capital Region and the Hudson Mohawk Bird Club

Note special date and location. In this program, Peter Nye, leader of DEC's Endangered Species Unit, will explore the historic status of bald eagles in the Northeast U.S., reasons for decline, efforts to protect and reestablish the population in this region, current status, and outlook for the future.

Peter Nye has worked for DEC since 1968 and led its Endangered Species Unit since 1977, where he helped initiate and direct the program for the restoration of the Bald Eagle. He has received numerous awards for his work, including the DEC's Trad Award in 2002 for Outstanding Employee of the Year.

Upcoming HMBC Programs — *continued*



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Workshop on Technology for Birding

Monday, April 5, 2009

7:00 p.m. at the Colonie Library

Although the birds look the same as they did 20 or 30 years ago, the tools available to birders are advancing at a rapid pace. This includes both birder-to-birder communications, and the recording of bird songs. Join us on April 5 as some of the Club's more tech-savvy members share some of the latest tools and techniques!

HMBC's Annual Dinner, Business Meeting, and Special Presentation

Pornithology: The Birds and the Birds and the Bees

George Armistead

Monday, April 19, 2010

HMBC members will receive a special mailing later this winter about this event. Please hold this date and plan to attend the HMBC's Annual Dinner, Business Meeting, and Special Presentation on the Evening of April 19, 2010 At the Italian-American Community Center, 257 Washington Avenue Extension in Albany

We present: "*Pornithology: The Birds and the Birds and the Bees*" with George Armistead (tour leader with Field Guides)

The birds, and the birds and the bees are the subject of this talk, and so we will explore unusual and entertaining breeding strategies employed by birds the world over. We'll examine a variety of species and discuss their methods for reproduction, how these strategies evolved, why they are successful, and how they are unusual. In the process we may choose to examine some interesting vocalizations used to attract mates or establish territories, and also talk about sexual dimorphism. We'll try to keep the anthropomorphism to a minimum, but no guarantees on that! Please come join us for what should be an entertaining and educational talk about how birds create more birds.

George Armistead has been birding for more than twenty years and hails from Philadelphia, where he attended the University of Pennsylvania and completed both a B.A. and an M.A. in environmental studies. He worked for seven years in the ornithology department of the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia and remains an associate there. He spends much of his free time birding his favorite haunts along the coast between Cape May, New Jersey, and Cape Hatteras, North Carolina.

He has also traveled extensively elsewhere in North America and abroad to places ranging from Central and South America to the Caribbean, Europe, northern Africa, Asia, and most recently to the subantarctic islands of New Zealand and Australia. Field Guides Alaska participants may recognize George from his stint on St. Paul in the Bering Sea, where he directed the TDX St. Paul Island tour program.

His writing and photographs have appeared in a number of ornithological publications, and George has served on the Pennsylvania Ornithological Records Committee, the Delaware Bird Records Committee, and the Virginia Avian Records Committee.

He enjoys all types of birding but is especially fond of seabirds and shorebirds. George has a great way with people and birds alike and has become an integral member of the Field Guides staff since his first tour in 2002.

Northern Adventures III: In search of the Last Chickadee

Bernie Grossman

Monday, May 3, 2010

7:00 p.m. at the William K. Sanford (Colonie) Town Library

In June, 2009, Chris and I took a trip to Alaska to join a tour in search of the difficult to see Gray-headed Chickadee completing a quest to see all the North American chickadee species in a year. The search required an eight day raft trip down the Marsh Fork of the Canning River in the Arctic National Wildlife Reserve. We also took a bus trip into Denali National Park. I will discuss the seven chickadee species found in North America and show pictures of the flora and fauna and the sights seen on our travels.

Bernie Grossman has lived in the Capital District for more than 35 years and worked as a chemist at Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory for 32 years. He is a past president of the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club.

Upcoming HMBC Programs — *continued*


75 Years In The Bird Business

Craig Thompson, Director, Five Rivers Environmental Education Center

Monday, June 7, 2010

7:00 p.m. at Five Rivers Environmental Education Center, Delmar

What we now call Five Rivers Center started out in 1933 as the Delmar Experimental Game Farm, dedicated to the propagation and the study of upland game birds and waterfowl. Innovative techniques developed here, such as perfecting the cannon net, revolutionized the wildlife management profession nationwide and put New York in the forefront of a growing conservation movement. Though the primary focus has changed from raising game birds in pens to raising environmental awareness in visitors, today the Center is still working to promote the conservation of our precious natural heritage, using bird study as a touchstone to deeper stewardship values.

Craig Thompson has been an environmental educator in NYS DEC's Division of Public Affairs for over 30 years. He has been the Director of Five Rivers Center since 1995. He did his undergraduate work at SUNY Buffalo and graduate work at Columbia University. In his other life, he is President of the Audubon Society of the Capital Region and Vice Chair of the Audubon Council of New York State. 

Upcoming Audubon Programs

Upcoming Audubon Programs

Unless otherwise specified, all programs to be held at

William K. Sanford Colonie Town Library

629 Albany-Shaker Road, Loudonville, NY 12211

2nd Thursday of every month, monthly: September – June, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

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Don't Forget to Pay Your Dues



Please do not forget to pay your HMBC dues. The dues notice is included in this issue of *Feathers*. 

Save the Date

Save the date, April 19 2010, for the HMBC Annual Meeting.

HMBC members will receive a special mailing later this winter about this event

Please hold this date and plan to attend the HMBC's Annual Dinner, Business Meeting, and Special Presentation on the evening of April 19, 2010, at the Italian-American Community Center, 257 Washington Avenue Extension in Albany


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He has also traveled extensively elsewhere in North America and abroad to places ranging from Central and South America to the Caribbean, Europe, northern Africa, Asia, and most recently to the subantarctic islands of New Zealand and Australia. Field Guides Alaska participants may recognize George from his stint on St. Paul in the Bering Sea, where he directed the TDX St. Paul Island tour program.

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He enjoys all types of birding but is especially fond of seabirds and shorebirds. George has a great way with people and birds alike and has become an integral member of the Field Guides staff since his first tour in 2002. 

FEBRUARY**WINTER RARE BIRD TRIP**

Coordinator: Bill Lee
374-3426
bileej@hotmail.com

If any especially rare bird is reported in our general area, we plan to take a trip to look for it. This is usually a day trip, but sometimes requires an overnight stay. To get on the notification list for alert & trip details, contact the coordinator. In recent years, participants have seen Northern Hawk Owl, Boreal Owl, Eared Grebe & Thick-billed Murre.

RESERVATIONS FOR CAPE ANN & PLUM ISLAND

Monday, February 1

MOHAWK RIVER/COHOES TO CRESCENT

Saturday, February 6 – morning

Coordinator: Bill Lee
374-3426
bileej@hotmail.com

This area, including Cohoes Falls & Simmons Island, offers a great opportunity to study gulls and waterfowl that winter along the Mohawk River. We will look for Glaucous, Iceland & Lesser Black-backed Gulls often present in small numbers in the winter. This trip will be a good introduction to the many fine vantage points along the Mohawk. We will leave at 8:30 am from the U-Haul parking lot on Ontario St. (NY Rt. 470 1/8 mile east of I-787) in Cohoes.

CAPE ANN & PLUM ISLAND, MASSACHUSETTS

Saturday, February 13 – Monday, February 15 (weekend)

Coordinators: Bill Lee
374-3426
bileej@hotmail.com
Bernie Grossman
399-9159
bgrossman@nycap.rr.com

Reservations by February 1

The revival of our popular winter trip to the Massachusetts coast will focus on the north shore from Nahant, just north of Boston to the New Hampshire coast. Join us in search of alcids, white-winged gulls, Purple Sandpiper, Barrow's Goldeneye, Harlequin Duck, Eiders, Snow Buntings, Lapland Longspur, Short-eared & Snowy Owls and other raptors on this three-day weekend.

NORTH COUNTRY GRAY PARTRIDGE HUNT

(Clinton or Franklin County)

Saturday, February 20 – all day

Coordinator: Bill Lee
374-3426
bileej@hotmail.com

Small numbers of Gray Partridge may be making their last stand in NY State In Chazy near Plattsburgh and just south of Malone. Cape Vincent and Massena populations have apparently been wiped out by a succession of severe winters. With snow cover, the birds may be visible from road edges. Call the coordinator for details.

FORT EDWARD & FORT MILLER

Sunday, February, 28 (afternoon through dusk)

Coordinator: Gregg Recer
899-2678
gregg.recer@verizon.net

Short-eared Owls are seen most winters in the Fort Edward Grasslands, an Important Bird Area in Washington County. Snowy Owls have also been seen here in the last two years. Wintering hawks, including Rough-legged, Red-tailed, Northern Harriers and perhaps a Bald Eagle or Peregrine Falcon are another feature of this area, as are wintering field birds such as Horned Lark, Snow Bunting, and possibly Lapland Longspur or Northern Shrike. Depending on conditions on the river, we may also search for waterfowl along the Hudson in Fort Miller.

Meet at 12:30 pm in the Park-and-ride lot in the Malta Business Park. Coming From the south on I-87 (the Northway), take Exit 12 and stay to the right, heading east on Rt. 67 toward Rt. 9. (From the north, go ¾ around the traffic circle to head east on Rt. 67) At the next traffic circle after the highway, take the first right into the business park and turn right again to the parking area. This trip will be practically all car birding, but access can be limited in places, so we will need to carpool in as few cars as possible.

MARCH**WATERFOWL OF THE HUDSON RIVER SOUTH**

(Greene county)

Sunday, March 7 – morning

Joint trip with the Alan De Voe Bird Club

Coordinators: Bill Cook & Joyce Miller
(518) 851-2678

On this spring morning, we will search the Hudson River from Coxsackie to Catskill where waterfowl usually congregate on their way north. There is also a good chance of seeing Bald Eagles.

Meet at 8:00 am at the Coxsackie Boat Launch. Take the NYS Thruway to Exit 21B (Coxsackie-Rt. 9W), follow 9W south for about 2 miles to Rt. 385. Go left (east) on Rt. 385 (Mansion St.) and continue straight to the Hudson River where the road bears left into the boat launch site.

HUDSON RIVER ABOVE TROY (Rensselaer county)

Sunday, March 14 – morning

Coordinators: Joan Cipriani
374-3729
jlcip@nycap.rr.com
Peggy Rudis
371-5051

Early migrating waterfowl will be our primary objective on both the Hudson & Hoosic Rivers. We have, however,

seen other specialties on previous trips. Possibilities include Bald Eagle, Northern Goshawk, Barnacle Goose, Snow Geese (including Blue Morph) as well as Bluebirds & Killdeer.

Plan to meet at 8:00 am by the chain link fence at the Hannaford Plaza parking lot at the east end of the North Troy-Waterford Bridge. Please contact one of the coordinators if you plan to attend.

WASHINGTON COUNTY WATERFOWL

Sunday, March 21 – morning

Joint trip with Southern Adirondack Audubon

Coordinators: Mona Bearor
(518) 745-8637

Joyce Miller
justlookitup@gmail.com

Register by March 20

Join us as we search the Hudson for migrant waterfowl such as Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Ring-necked Ducks and Mergansers. In recent years on this trip, Canvasbacks and Tundra Swans have been lifebirds for many.

We will meet at the Schuylerville Central School on Rt. 29. Because we will be traveling in a caravan & need to keep the number of cars to a minimum, the trip will be limited to 12 persons who should expect to carpool. Dress warmly and bring a beverage/snack, your binoculars and a scope if you have one. Please call Mona or email Joyce by Saturday, March 20 to register.

APRIL VISCHER FERRY (Saratoga County)

Sunday, April 3 – evening

Coordinator: John Hershey
371-3114
hersheyj@nycap.rr.com

We will start out on this trip searching for spring waterfowl such as American Wigeon, Green & Blue-winged Teal,

Gadwall, Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail, Wood Duck, Ring-necked Duck, Hooded Merganser & Pied-billed Grebe. Possible migrant songbirds include Palm Warbler and Rusty Blackbird. We will linger till after dusk to listen for American Woodcock. With a little luck we may get to see one displaying in the moonlight. Bring a flashlight and meet at the main entrance at 5:15 pm.

RESERVATIONS FOR CORNELL LAB & MONTEZUMA NWR

Monday, April 19

WOODCOCK AT FIVE RIVERS (Albany County)

Thursday, April 22 – evening

Coordinator: Craig Thompson
475-0291 (Daytime)

During a meandering to the Woodcock site, we will look for other early spring birds. Woodcock flight time is expected to be around 8pm. Bring binoculars and a flashlight. Meet at 7:00 pm at the Five Rivers Interpretive Building.

FOUR MILE POINT AND VOSBURGH MARSH (Greene County)

Saturday, April 24 – morning

Coordinator: Al Mapes
439-4086
aamapes@nycap.rr.com

On this morning trip, we will hike to the marsh for waterfowl and migrant land birds. We will also check the Hudson River for waterfowl and Bald Eagles. Meet at 8:00 am at the Cossackie Boat Launch and car caravan to Four Mile Point Rd.

CORNELL LAB OF ORNITHOLOGY AND MONTEZUMA WETLANDS COMPLEX


Saturday, April 24 – Sunday, April 25 (weekend)

Coordinator: John Hershey
371-3114
hersheyj@nycap.rr.com

Reservations by April 19

On Saturday we will visit the renowned Cornell Lab of Ornithology in Ithaca, NY. We will view some of the public exhibits at the lab including a video presentation and the paintings of Louis Aggasiz Fuertes. In addition, we'll receive a behind-the-scenes tour of some of the lab facilities for the Macaulay Library of Natural Sounds, the Bioacoustics Program, the Evolutionary Biology Program and the Citizen Science Program. A favorite spot on our last trip was the birding store, which includes a wide selection of binoculars and scopes available in very few places in the northeastern US. We will also spend part of the day birding on the excellent trails of Sapsucker Woods.

On Sunday, we will travel to Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge and the larger Montezuma Wetlands Complex about 45 miles north of Ithaca. We can expect to see a wide variety of dabbling and diving ducks – 20 different species are possible. Other species we will look for include Trumpeter Swan, Common Moorhen, Sandhill Crane, Bonaparte's Gull, Caspian & Black Terns and Purple Martin.

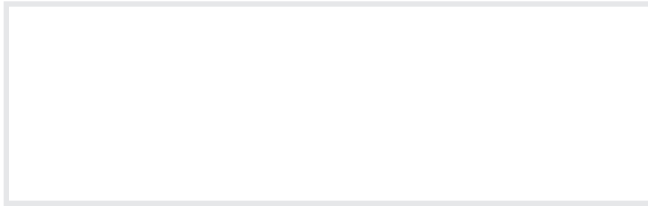
Call or email the coordinator for further details and information about carpooling, travel and lodging. 

Feathers

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and mail with this form to:
HUDSON-MOHAWK BIRD CLUB, INC.
Dan Welch, Membership Chair
c/o TSV
700 Columbia Turnpike
East Greenbush, NY 12061

Any number of household
members may be included in a
single membership

Student \$ 6.00
Active (Household) \$ 20.00
Sustaining \$ 30.00
Life \$ 250.00 (payable in two annual payments of \$125.00 each)

Membership Category

(Please circle one category)

We wish to apply for a membership in the Hudson-Mohawk Bird Club Inc., as indicated below:

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Have you borrowed this copy of *Feathers* from someone else? Why not become a member? Or, are you a member who has overlooked your membership renewal?

Join HMBC/Renew Your Membership