



Lancaster County Bird Club

Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Founded December 8, 1937

... observing and preserving our community's native bird life

Call Notes

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2022

President's Perch

It's been a great late summer and early fall for the club's programs! We have had impressive attendance numbers at recent field trips offered and at our first club meeting of the year and as a result many potential new members have been exposed to the club. I encourage you all to read the summaries of recent events covered later in the newsletter. We have a great slate of upcoming field trips offered through the remainder of 2022 and I encourage you all to help share these opportunities with others you know who may be interested in birding. Word of mouth is one of the largest ways we can grow our club and we need your help to promote these activities where we also hope to see you!

As I write this the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology (PSO) annual meeting that was held Sept. 16-18 at Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area (WMA) just wrapped up. Our members rose to the occasion and the event wouldn't have happened without them leading the field trips. The event took over 100 birders from throughout the state to over a dozen locations in our backyard for birding. Thanks to all who helped support this event as well as those from the club who attended! For those interested, PSO will hold its 2023 annual meeting in the spring near State College at Shaver's Creek Environmental Center. That will be a great opportunity for many of us to explore a new area of the state for birding and to continue to connect with fellow birders from across the state.

Christmas Bird Count season will be upon us before we know it and our three counts – as well as our CBC4Kids – will all be held in December this year with dates covered later in the newsletter. As a count coordinator for the Lititz Count, I know I speak for my fellow Count Coordinators when I ask for your support of these events. These are important events to gauge bird populations in our area in the winter season and the history (and data) from these events stretches

back to 1900. Even if you are uncomfortable going out and covering a section on your own, our compilers can pair you with someone else who can mentor you and may need an extra set of eyes. Please look into helping with one or more of these counts if you can and thank you to all who continue to give their time to make these events successful by going out and counting birds. A special thanks to all the compilers who spend time organizing and doing the behind-the-scenes work needed to pull the counts off and then spend hours compiling the data so it can be submitted nationally.

The board also recently voted to increase the amount offered through our Harold B. Morrin Scholarship from \$400 to \$1000. Materials are being updated for the upcoming scholarship season and new materials will be available on our website in early October. The deadline to apply is December 1 annually. Please help us spread the word of this offering – available to youth and adults – to anyone you may know who is pursuing educational, research, or conservation projects in ornithology and in need of financial assistance!

This issue also marks the end of an era as we move to electronic-only publication of our newsletter. If you still prefer to hold things physically, the printer in your home or local library will continue to provide the same experience next issue! All members will continue to receive an annual hard copy mailing of the club’s program brochure each membership year. A special thanks to those members who have “buddied up” with fellow members – especially those in the Plain community – who have absolutely no means of internet access or community resources for printing to make sure they will still stay updated on the club!

As we approach the color-changing season of fall and prepare for winter, get out and enjoy the shuffling of birds and the arrival of some of our charismatic and hearty friends that will spend the next several months with us like Dark-eyed Juncos, Winter Wren, Hermit Thrush, and White-throated Sparrows to name a few!

Thanks for your continued support of our club that has served Lancaster County since 1937!

Yours in birding,
Ted Nichols II
President – Lancaster County Bird Club (LCBC)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

2022 Harold B. Morrin Scholarship materials to be available in October
*\$1000 awards offered to youth and adults to fund Educational, Research or Conservation
Projects related to Ornithology/Natural History*

Please stay tuned to your e-mail and the LCBC website during the month of October for an announcement on the release of materials related to our 2022 Harold B. Morrin Scholarship. When these items are released, please feel free to forward the information on to anyone you may know who could use financial assistance to make an educational, research, or conservation pursuit a reality. The deadline for submission of applications will be Dec. 1.

Point of Contact: Scholarship Committee Chair: Emily Broich – 717-333-9146 – emilybroich@gmail.com.

Bylaws' Amendments to Be Voted on at Oct. 13 Meeting

Three bylaws' amendments passed by the board were read at the Sept. 2022 club meeting as required by the bylaws. The amendments will be voted on and approved Oct. 13:

1) Change the club's membership year to begin January 1 starting in 2024.

A calendar year is easier to operate on. Current members will have their membership extended to this date during the summer of 2023. Our program year will also change to this date, so we follow a typical calendar year for all club business.

2) Require only 1 board meeting per year.

Other meetings will be scheduled as business necessitates, but e-mail has enabled the club to consolidate most business to one in-person meeting per year.

3) Remove the publications editor as a club officer and one elected by the membership.

This position will become a volunteer/committee.

PREVIEW OF COMING EVENTS

Thursday, October 13, 2022, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. – Black Bears in Pennsylvania

Club meeting at the Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA at 7 p.m.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) Black Bear Program handles everything that involves Black Bears in the state. This program will explore the PGC Black Bear Program, the basic biology of Black Bears in Pennsylvania, along with discussion on how we can live with bears harmoniously despite increases in human-bear conflict in areas of the bear's range where the population has made significant recoveries.

Emily Carrollo has served as the Black Bear Program Manager for the PGC since November 2020. She has worked in the wildlife field for the last decade or so and worked on multiple carnivore-related projects all over the country. Prior to working for PGC, she was with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation where her main duties were assisting

with bear conflict calls in the Hudson Valley Region of the Empire State. Emily received her bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia and her Master of Science from the Pennsylvania State University.

Sunday, October 16, 7 a.m. - State Game Lands 220 Field Trip

Bruce Carl will lead a field trip to State Game Lands (SGL) #220 to search for late migrants and early winter arrivals. Some of the target birds include any lingering warblers, White-crowned Sparrow, Purple Finch, Chipping Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Blue-headed and Philadelphia Vireos, and maybe a surprise or two. Meet at 7 a.m. at the SGL #220 parking lot located along Swamp Church Road just outside of Reinholds. From Rt. 222 north, exit at Denver/Turnpike exit. Turn left at the end of the ramp towards Rt. 272 north. Follow Rt. 272 north for 1.2 miles to intersection of Rt. 272 & Rt. 897. Turn left on Rt. 897 north for 3.1 miles to 4-way stop in Reinholds. Go straight thru 4-way stop. Drive .4 miles to Galen Hall Road. Turn right (just past the Reinholds Ambulance building). Turn left on Swamp Church Road. Follow Swamp Church Road .3 miles to SGL #220. Parking lot is on the right. No restrooms available. Contact Bruce Carl (717-368-4824 or hrdabrd@gmail.com) if you plan to attend.

Friday, October 21, 6:30 p.m. - Saw-whet Owl Banding at Hidden Valley (Schuylkill County)

Rosemary Spreha will lead a field trip to Hidden Valley in Schuylkill County to observe Saw-whet Owl banding. Meet at the banding station at 6:30 pm. This is an evening trip and will run late into the night. Dress warmly. **Limited to 12 participants.** *Members Only Offering* Contact Rosemary Spreha (Harrisburg 717-657-0271 or rspreha@gmail.com) to make a reservation and for directions to the banding site.

Saturday, October 29, 2022, 9:30 a.m. until noon – LCBC Stewardship & Conservation Workday with Lancaster Conservancy at Kelly's Run Nature Preserve

LCBC will join forces with Lancaster Conservancy for a morning to help remove invasive shrubs located on the Kelly's Run Nature Preserve which will ultimately benefit native bird life. Meet for the 2.5-hour workday at 9:30 a.m. at the Nature Preserve located at 9 New Village Road, Holtwood, PA 17532. Lancaster Conservancy will provide gloves, all tools, and instruction. Please RSVP if you will be helping by filling out the simple Signup Genius form at <https://bit.ly/kellysrun2022> (Note: URL/web address is case sensitive and should be entered all lowercase). We can use all ages and ability levels to help – the more help we have the more impact we can have with this effort! If you have questions or are unable to RSVP online, please contact Emily Broich at 717-333-9146 or emilybroich@gmail.com

Thursday, November 10, 2022, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. - Recovery of the Peregrine Falcon with Dan Brauning

Club meeting at the Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA at 7 p.m.

Program Description: Dan will provide a broad overview of the statewide, and even national efforts to bring an endangered species back from the brink. He was privileged to be "hands-on" with this effort from the earliest reintroduction efforts in the 1980s through the federal and state de-listings. The program will include reflections from interstate highway bridges, natural cliffs, and urban skyscrapers in the process of banding many hundred nestlings. This is a celebration of the restoration of the world's fastest flying bird to Pennsylvania. The program will review how we got there, including contributions from many volunteers.

Speaker Bio: Dan was raised in Philadelphia and got his education in Pennsylvania. While at Penn State he helped with Cornell's Peregrine Falcon reintroduction. He got a huge break in 1983 when offered to coordinate Pennsylvania's first Breeding Bird Atlas and edit the resulting book. He joined the PGC as Ornithologist in 1990 and there oversaw various efforts including the state's Breeding Bird Survey, as Project Director of the Second Pennsylvania Breeding Bird Atlas Project (2004-2009), and co-author with Gerald McWilliams of The Birds of Pennsylvania.

Friday to Sunday, November 18 – 20 - Annual Delmarva Coast & Chincoteague NWR Field Trip

The annual fall trip (**November 18-20, 2022**) to bird the Delmarva Coast and Chincoteague NWR will be led by Roger Stoner and Ted Nichols II. **Reservations are required. Limited to 12 participants. *Members Only Offering*** The group will meet at 7 a.m. at the Gap Diner parking lot on Rt. 41. Roger will send additional trip details and the hotel information closer to the trip date. For any questions and reservations call Roger at 717-393-9030.

Thursday, December 8, 2022, 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. - Hummingbirds: Jewels of the Air with Sandy Lockerman

Club meeting at the Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA at 7 p.m.

Program Description: Sandy Lockerman, a federally licensed bird bander, will discuss the intriguing world of hummingbirds. She will explore with you some of their unique adaptations and migration mysteries. In addition to her ongoing ruby-throat project, she will update you on the documentation efforts being made of western hummingbirds in Pennsylvania.

Speaker Bio: Sandy has been a bird bander for 25 years and spent 15 of those years travelling annually to the Fort Morgan, Alabama, bird banding station on the Gulf of Mexico. She began researching urban wetland songbird migration at Wildwood Park in Harrisburg where she spent many years as, first a volunteer, then as a full-time environmental educator. She also became involved with the Ned Smith Center's inaugural autumn northern saw-whet owl migration project in 1998 and continues with these two projects today. During the past 31 years, she has been an education volunteer at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary. Hummingbirds entered her life at Fort Morgan and after training in Pennsylvania, Alabama and Texas, she became a master hummingbird bander and is studying the migration of ruby-throats and the occurrences of wintering western hummingbirds observed in Pennsylvania.

123rd Christmas Bird Counts (CBC) – The LCBC sponsors four counts.

Lititz - Saturday, December 17

Ted Nichols II is the coordinator for the Lititz CBC. Contact Ted at (717) 856-3851 or tanicholsii@gmail.com to volunteer and receive instructions and assignments. All birders are welcome and newcomers will be paired with experienced CBC volunteers. Birders are also welcome to do a feeder watch count for the CBC, but you must contact Ted to make sure your property is within the Lititz count circle and to receive instructions.

SoLanCo – Sunday, December 18

Derek Stoner is the coordinator for the SoLanCo CBC. Contact Derek at (484) 723-3348 or derekstoner@hotmail.com to volunteer and receive instructions and assignments. All birders are welcome and newcomers will be paired with experienced CBC volunteers. Birders are also welcome to do a feeder watch count for the CBC, but you must contact Derek to make sure your property is within the SoLanCo count circle and to receive instructions.

Lancaster – Saturday, December 31

Barbara Hunsberger (phunsberger@comcast.net) is the coordinator for the Lancaster CBC and Roger Stoner schedules the volunteers. Call Roger at (717) 393-9030 to receive instructions and assignments. All birders are welcome and newcomers will be paired with experienced CBC volunteers. Birders are also welcome to do a feeder watch count for the CBC, but you must contact Roger to make sure your property is within the Lancaster count circle and to receive instructions.

Christmas Bird Count4Kids (and adults) - Saturday, December 31, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

John Lahr is coordinator of this CBC4KIDS (and adults) which is designed to introduce young people to winter birding and nature at Lancaster County Central Park. Any adults without children are also encouraged to join the group to experience the beauty of the park in winter. Please contact John (717-284-3497 or johnlahr324@gmail.com) if you have any questions or want to join the group.

Thursday, January 12, 2023, 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. -- Bird Families of the World: A Quick & Dirty Primer with George Armistead

Club meeting at the Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Road, Lancaster, PA at 7 p.m.

Program Description: A closer look at a bird's family provides us better context and a deeper understanding of a bird's distinctiveness and uniqueness. Just as learning about your best friend's family can tell you something about them, so too can an examination of one species' placement within an avian family. In this quick glance around the globe, we'll look at bird families, exploring the biggest and showiest, as well as the much sought after monotypics.

Speaker Bio: George Armistead leads birding and wildlife tours for Hillstar Nature, a travel company he founded in 2021. George has guided trips to all seven continents and authored two books: *Better Birding: Tips, Tools, and Concepts for the Field* (2015, Princeton University Press), and *The ABA Field Guide to the Birds of Pennsylvania* (2016, American Birding Association). He has a master's in environmental studies from University of Pennsylvania and is an associate at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. He's an avid fan of Philadelphia sports and loves spending time at home too with his wife Kristin and their dog Sully.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS BY LARRY BERNHARDT

We would like to welcome the following new and returning members.

NEW MEMBERS:

Jeanette Boal, Lancaster
Jay & Valerie Dunn, Landisville
Sarah Gotwols, Washington Boro
Mary Hinkle, Lancaster
Susan Mast, Lancaster
Barbara Mathews, Enola
Elaine Nolt, Denver
Nancy Parr, Lancaster
Alan & Marti Pawlikowski, Lancaster

Patty Pfennig, Lititz
Samir & Yusuf Saadeh, Exton
Lee Spradin, Lititz
David & Jean Sylvia, Lancaster
Anne Walt, Lancaster
Becky Wilkinson, Lititz
Ellen Wylie & Jeffrey Thal, Lancaster

RETURNING MEMBERS

Chris Ebert, Wyomissing
Kelly & Kate McKinne, Mt. Joy

Mary Smigel, Lancaster

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS:

Harold Morrin Scholarship Fund:

John D Lahr

In Honor of Carol & Jim Feister:

Peter & Barbara Hunsberger

In Honor of Barbara Hunsberger:

Michael & Pamela Holmes

Charles H & Elaine R Chalfant
Ted Nichols II

In Memory of Charley Albin:

Meredith Lombard

In Memory of Carl Beck:

Beth L Morrison

In Memory of Gene & Dale Regener:

Troy & Dawn Alderfer

In Memory of Jim Smith:

Thomas & Nancy Hopson

Pam Fisher

Beth L Morrison

In Memory of Jan Witmer:

Stephen R & Sharon L Rannels

Patricia Witmer

Frederick D & Donna M Paley

Edward & Rosemary Spreha

Sustaining Members:

Douglas & Karen Anderson

Yvonne M Beck

Charles & Mary Blakinger

Sue Bowman

Paul E Brubaker

Bruce A Carl

Robert E Coley

Leonard A Eiserer

Mike Epler

James & Carol Feister

Robyn Finer

Franklin Haas

Dennis Harnly

Bettina A Heffner

Mr. and Mrs Fritz T Heilman

John E Heiselman

Alex & Molly Henderson

Mary Hinkle

Michael & Pamela Holmes

Gladys Horst

Peter & Barbara Hunsberger

Marie Johnston & Kimberly Speers

James & Carolyn Karl

Dave & Laura Kemmick

John D Lahr

Teresa McMillan

Ted & Kim Morelock

Ted Nichols II

Frederick D & Donna M Paley

Vince Pantanella

Stephen R & Sharon L Rannels

Larry & Sandy Roda

Dennis & Lorri Schmick

Glenn Shaffer

Ted Sharron

Michael & Rose Shull

R Stanley & Susan Smith

Larry Snyder

Kelly M Spangler

Ed & Linda Spotts

Terry Webster

Ginger Weismantel

Mary Alice Wheeler & Andre Dominguez

Susan Wheeler

David & Laurel Wiegand

Dr. Jack Wolgemuth, Jr.

General Club Support

John & Julie Ambler

Yvonne M Beck

Ronald & Dorothy Bensinger

Lisa Black

Gerry M & Jeanne Boltz

Craig Boyhont

Leslie J Burlingame

Charles H & Elaine R Chalfant

Robert E Coley

Mary Coomer

William A Earhart

Gregory W & Alberta C Elliott

James & Carol Feister

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth B Light

Herb & Shannon Mauzy

Michael G & Linda L McKinne

Joe & Lee Meloney

Bonnie Mentzer

Daniel K & Mary Ellen Ness

Elaine & Brian Nolt

Patty Pfennig

Samir & Yusuf Saadeh

Dennis & Lorri Schmick

Robert Paul & Sylvia Shellenberger

James A Still Jr

Dr. Mary M St. John

Thomas E Garner
J Richard & Shirley L George
Mr. and Mrs Fritz T Heilman
Mary Alice High & John Shenk
James & Carolyn Karl
Dave & Laura Kemmick
David & Julie Kubitsky & Sarah

Gerald M Trout
Dennis & Judy Weaver
Terry Webster
Ginger Weismantel
David & Laurel Wiegand
Lori Wise
Dr. Jack Wolgemuth, Jr.

MEMBERS' ADVENTURES & ACTIVITIES

Winter Crow Roost Counting Guide by Bettina Heffner

In November 2019, Barbara **Hunsberger** with the assistance of **Emily Broich**, assisted with a study that resulted in the recent publication of the “Winter Crow Roost Counting Guide” by Craig Gibson and Will Bicks. Craig, a key player in the Crow Patrol that monitors the crow roost at Lawrence, MA, reached out to **Barbara** and others across the country as he gathered information on the best ways to count large groups of crows as they roost. **Barbara** agreed to meet with Craig and some students late Sunday afternoon when the crows were gathering at Woodcrest Retirement Community before moving to the Park City Shopping Center roof. They discussed their experiences in counting crows for the Christmas Bird Count. The four page guide outlines the following: primary methods of counting (direct counting including estimation during bird flight and stationary roosting as well as the use of low light photography; when to count (dusk, dawn, during overnight roost, during multiple days in a row); how to record the count (pencil and paper, tape recording, spreadsheet on a device); where to locate the crows; how to share data; and what is gained from this exercise. He ends with Lessons Learned, the last one being “have fun, work together as a team, enjoy the mystery of it all, learn, mentor, and share with others.” He includes **Barbara** and **Emily** in his list of those who provided valuable information and support. **Barbara** can forward an electronic copy of the guide to any club member interested. Contact **Barbara** at phunsberger@comcast.net.

Lower Rio Grande Valley in Texas trip by Ted Nichols II

Club President **Ted Nichols II** organized a trip to the Lower Rio Grande Valley in Texas from April 23-30 in which club members **Mike Epler**, **Vince Pantanella** and **Anne Esbenshade** took part. The group was also joined by California birder Merryl Edelstein who Ted has done several cruise ship birding adventures with. Over the eight days of birding, 203 species were observed with many lifers and ABA birds added to the list of trip participants. Species that are not typical of our area that were trip highlights included: Fulvous Whistling Duck, Mottled Duck, Plain Chachalaca, Groove-billed Ani, Greater Roadrunner, Lesser Nighthawk, Common Pauraque, Buff-bellied Hummingbird, Snowy Plover, White-tailed Kite, Hook-billed Kite, Elf Owl, Ringed and Green Kingfisher, Golden-fronted and Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Aplomado Falcon, Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet, Green Jay, Chihuahuan Raven, Bewick's and Cactus Wren, Curve-billed and Long-billed Thrasher, Botteri's + Cassin's + Olive + Black-throated Sparrow, Altamira and Audubon's Oriole and Pyrrhuloxia to name a few. Weather conditions allowed for

a fallout of migrant warblers on South Padre Island on one day of the trip. Some of the other excellent birding locations visited on top of South Padre Island sites included: Estero Llano Grande State Park, Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park, the National Butterfly Center, Palo Alto Battlefield National Historic Park, Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge, Salineño Wildlife Preserve, Falcon State Park, Quinta Mazatlan, Tiocano Lake and the Parrot Roost at Oliveira Park in Brownsville. Seven counties were birded on the trip to include: Cameron, Hidalgo, Kleberg, Nueces, Refugio, Starr and Zapata.

Extra Birding Field Trips by Ted Nichols

On August 6 and 7, 2022, **Ted Nichols** led a trip of 12 participants on Saturday at 5:30 p.m. and **Vince Pantanella** led a trip of eight participants on Sunday at 11 a.m. as supporting events and at the request of the PGC and Middle Creek's staff to supplement the Middle Creek Wildlife Art Show which returned after a two-year hiatus due to COVID-19. The Saturday trip logged 46 different species. Highlights included a selection of shorebirds at Stop 1, to include 5 juvenile Little Blue Herons as well as 2 Caspian Terns that put on a show with their acrobatic flights. The Sunday trip logged 36 species and offered many new birders the opportunity to explore Middle Creek and observe species that spend their summer and breed in Lancaster County. Many attendees at these events were not club members and learned about using binoculars for birding and took information on the club resulting in several becoming members following these walks!

Surprise Gift by Barbara Hunsberger

Wow! Was I surprised at the September meeting of LCBC. I was told that there would be a special surprise that evening to thank me for my years of service as president of LCBC. Not one person would tell me anything about it. All they would say is you will like it. Did I ever! The LCBC Officers and Board of Directors presented to me a beautiful piece of original artwork by our birding friend Seth McComsey. Seth used pen and ink to create a beautiful image of the American Kestrel with a background scene of Chestnut Grove Natural Area. My husband Peter and I collect art and this gift will become a permanent part of our collection. Thank you all so much, especially Ted Nichols II and Seth McComsey for the perfect gift upon my retirement as president of LCBC.

LANCASTER COUNTY BIRD OBSERVATIONS – Summer 2022

Locations: Chestnut Grove Natural Area (CGNA), Climbers Run Nature Preserve (CRNP), Lancaster Airport (LA), Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area (MCWMA), Red Rose Commons Stormwater Basin (RRCSB), Noel Dorwart Park (NDP), Octoraro Reservoir (OR), Shenk's Ferry Wildflower Preserve (SFWP), Susquehanna River Conejohela Flats (SRCF).

The weather in June was decidedly average on all fronts, but July trended slightly warmer and dryer than normal. Weather information is derived from Harrisburg data from the National Weather Service. 150 species were recorded during the period, below the 5-year average of 159

(154, 153, 161, 162, 163 previous). The total summer species list since 2017 is 206. A flock of **Wood Storks** in the southern end was notable.

A lone **Black-bellied Whistling-Duck** spent time at the LCSWMA landfill 7/21-26 (BS, m.ob.), and a late hen **Red-breasted Merganser** was viewed on the Susquehanna R. near Falmouth 6/6 (PB, RP). It was a nice day at the SRCF 7/29 with both an **American Avocet** and a **Stilt Sandpiper** (ME, m.ob.). The next day both a **Ruddy Turnstone** and a **Sanderling** were seen (EW, m.ob.). A northbound **White-rumped Sandpiper** was reported at RRCSB 6/4 (FB). There were **Short-billed Dowitcher** sightings at MCWMA 7/19 (MP) and 7/21 (SF, NM), and another at OR 7/25 (JH, m.ob.). Surprisingly, Upland Sandpiper was missed at LA where they have traditionally been annually.

The biggest news of the summer was a quartet of juvenile **Wood Storks** which arrived at OR in the afternoon of 7/23 (NW, WW, m.ob.). Interestingly, these birds were photographed near Chesapeake Beach, MD, on the evening of 7/22, but circled high and disappeared the following morning. Fortunately for PA birders, OR became their haunt into Aug before the group eventually broke apart. These were the 2nd modern record out of 5 total for *Lancaster*, and if the past few years of increased southern wader records is any indication, there will be more. **Little Blue Herons** showed up in bunches on 7/21, with 1-2 at OR (RR, m.ob.), and 4-5 at MCWMA (SF, NM, TN). An adult **Yellow-crowned Night-Heron** was photographed at CRNP 7/18 (LK), and a juv at NDP 7/31 (DK, SK). A **Glossy Ibis** showed itself at CGNA 6/8 (ML, JM).

A **Mississippi Kite** was described in flight near Leola 6/3 (ZM), probably returning south following a cold front. **Alder Flycatchers** were reported sporadically in early June near MCWMA, the only spot in the county where they are known to breed. An oddball **Red-breasted Nuthatch** was seen and sound-recorded near Mastersonville 7/4 (BraB, BriB). This sighting was in line with a late June through July movement of these birds down into the tristate area, which according to eBird data appear to have outnumbered all summer records over the last 5 years combined. A **White-throated Sparrow** was recorded singing at NDP 6/28 (DK), and another photographed near Landisville 7/29 (HM). Sixteen breeding warbler species were documented, including a **Cerulean Warbler** at SFWP 6/8 (DS).

Observers: **Zach Millen, 101 Bridle Path, New Holland, PA 17557, (717) 723-1279, zjmillen@gmail.com**, Fern Bauman, Brandon Brown (BraB), Brian Brown (BriB), Paul Brubaker, Steve Ferreri, Jason Horn, Dan Keener, Sammy Keener, Meredith Lombard, Lauryn Koppes, Nicholas Minnich, Jeff Musser, Herb Myers, Ted Nichols II, Robert Peda, Malise Prieto, Rick Robinson, Brian Shade, Derek Stoner, Eric Witmer, Nina Wolf, Warren Wolf.

2021 LANCASTER COUNTY YEAR LIST BY MIKE EPLER

During 2021, birders in Lancaster County reported locating 265 different bird species. This is below the 5-year average of 272, the 10-year average of 269, and the 20-year average of 271 species.

Two new species were added to the official species count of Lancaster County. The addition of Scott's Oriole and Tundra Bean-Goose brings the total to 363. *

There were 31 species of waterfowl reported, including all the expected species. Among scoter species, only Surf Scoter was seen. Trumpeter Swan was reported for the fourth year out of the past five. Eurasian Wigeon was missed for the second year in a row, and just the second time in 13 years. A first county record Tundra Bean-Goose was reported.

Among game birds, Wild Turkey and Northern Bobwhite were seen. Ruffed Grouse was missed having only been seen twice in the past 13 years. It is likely that the Northern Bobwhite seen in the county are escaped or released birds, and not a self-sustaining population.

Among grebe species, only Pied-billed and Horned Grebe were reported.

Eastern Whip-poor-will was seen for the ninth time in the past 16 years. Prior to 2006 they were seen annually.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird was the only hummingbird species reported.

Both Virginia Rail and Sora continue to be seen yearly.

Sandhill Crane was seen for the eighteenth year in a row.

The shorebird species count was up one from last year at 27. This is right at the 10-year average. Among the less common species reported were American Avocet, Ruddy Turnstone, Willet, and Wilson's Phalarope.

There were 11 species of gulls and terns seen. The less common among these were Little Gull and Lesser Black-backed Gull. All the usual tern species were reported including Black Tern and Common Tern.

Common Loon and the less common Red-throated Loon were both seen.

There were 14 species of wading birds reported. Among the less common species seen were Tricolored Heron, Cattle Egret, White Ibis, and Glossy Ibis. A Roseate Spoonbill was seen for the

third time in five years. Prior to 2017 it had been 148 years since there was a spoonbill sighting in the county.

All the expected raptor species were seen. Northern Goshawk was missed for the tenth year in a row after been seen for 34 of the previous 35 years.

All of the seven normally occurring species of owls were seen in the county. Snowy Owl was also reported, having been seen in 22 of the last 46 years.

Common Raven has been seen for the past 20 years in a row. They had been reported in just nine of the previous 25 years.

All expected wren species were reported, including Marsh Wren. Sedge Wren was not seen after being present for three of the previous four years.

In addition to the expected Finch species, Evening Grosbeak, Common Redpoll, and White-winged Crossbill were reported.

All expected sparrows were seen this year. Harris's Sparrow was seen in the county for just the third time. Previous reports were from 1948 and 2009.

Warbler species stood at 33 with all expected species seen except for Connecticut Warbler. The less common Golden-winged Warbler and Orange-crowned Warbler were both reported.

The choice of the bird of the year for 2021 was between two candidates, the Scott's Oriole and the Tundra Bean-Goose. Both these birds represent first county records, and second state records. Even though the Tundra Bean-Goose is the much rarer of the two birds, with just a handful of sightings in the United States, I am naming the Scott's Oriole the bird of the year for 2021. Due to the need for a canoe or kayak to access the goose, it was seen by perhaps 20 people. The Scott's Oriole was very cooperative and was seen by many more people. Having first arrived in early January, it took three months for word to get out to the birding community. But once word did get out people arrived in droves to see the bird. The oriole was seen for just the next eight days, but during this time it was seen by nearly 500 people. Some of these birders came from surrounding counties and states to see this visitor to Lancaster County. This bird was also a second chance for those of us birding in 2007 that didn't see the first state record bird in Mechanicsburg. For new birders it was an opportunity to see a Scott's Oriole without traveling to the southwestern United States. Much like the Varied Thrush of 2019 and the Pink-footed Goose of 2020, the rarity, accessibility, and cooperativeness of the Scott's Oriole earn it the title this year.

*Per the official list from the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology

Fulvous Whistling-Duck	Allen's Hummingbird	X Lesser Black-backed Gull
Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	Calliope Hummingbird	Glaucous Gull
X Snow Goose	King Rail	X Great Black-backed Gull
X Ross's Goose	X Virginia Rail	Sooty Tern
X Greater White-fronted Goose	X Sora	Least Tern
X Tundra Bean-Goose	Common Gallinule	Gull-billed Tern
Pink-footed Goose	X American Coot	X Caspian Tern
Brant	Black Rail	X Black Tern
Barnacle Goose	X Sandhill Crane	X Common Tern
X Cackling Goose	Black-necked Stilt	Arctic Tern
X Canada Goose	X American Avocet	X Foster's Tern
X Mute Swan	X Black-bellied Plover	Royal Tern
X Trumpeter Swan	X American Golden-Plover	Black Skimmer
X Tundra Swan	X Semipalmated Plover	X Red-throated Loon
X Wood Duck	Piping Plover	Pacific Loon
X Blue-winged Teal	X Killdeer	X Common Loon
Cinnamon Teal	X Upland Sandpiper	Leach's Storm-Petrel
X Northern Shoveler	Whimbrel	Wood Stork
X Gadwall	Hudsonian Godwit	Northern Gannet
Eurasian Wigeon	Marbled Godwit	Great Cormorant
X American Wigeon	X Ruddy Turnstone	X Double-crested Cormorant
X Mallard	Red Knot	American White Pelican
X American Black Duck	Ruff	Brown Pelican
X Northern Pintail	X Stilt Sandpiper	X American Bittern
X Green-winged Teal	Curlew Sandpiper	Least Bittern
X Canvasback	X Sanderling	X Great Blue Heron
X Redhead	X Dunlin	X Great Egret
X Ring-necked Duck	X Baird's Sandpiper	X Snowy Egret
X Greater Scaup	X Least Sandpiper	X Little Blue Heron
X Lesser Scaup	X White-rumped Sandpiper	X Tricolored Heron
X Surf Scoter	X Buff-breasted Sandpiper	X Cattle Egret
White-winged Scoter	X Pectoral Sandpiper	X Green Heron
Black Scoter	X Semipalmated Sandpiper	X Black-crowned Night-Heron
X Long-tailed Duck	X Western Sandpiper	X Yellow-crowned Night-Heron
X Bufflehead	X Short-billed Dowitcher	X White Ibis
X Common Goldeneye	X Long-billed Dowitcher	X Glossy Ibis
X Hooded Merganser	X American Woodcock	X Roseate Spoonbill
X Common Merganser	X Wilson's Snipe	X Black Vulture
X Red-breasted Merganser	X Wilson's Phalarope	X Turkey Vulture
X Ruddy Duck	Red-necked Phalarope	X Osprey
X Northern Bobwhite	Red Phalarope	Swallow-tailed Kite
X Ring-necked Pheasant	X Spotted Sandpiper	X Golden Eagle
Ruffed Grouse	X Solitary Sandpiper	X Mississippi Kite
X Wild Turkey	X Greater Yellowlegs	X Northern Harrier
X Pied-billed Grebe	X Willet	X Sharp-shinned Hawk
X Horned Grebe	X Lesser Yellowlegs	X Cooper's Hawk
Red-necked Grebe	Pomarine Jaeger	Northern Goshawk
Eared Grebe	Parasitic Jaeger	X Bald Eagle
X Rock Pigeon	Long-tailed Jaeger	X Red-shouldered Hawk
Eurasian Collared-Dove	Black-legged Kittiwake	X Broad-winged Hawk
White-winged Dove	Sabine's Gull	Swainson's Hawk
X Mourning Dove	X Bonaparte's Gull	X Red-tailed Hawk
X Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Black-headed Gull	X Rough-legged Hawk
X Black-billed Cuckoo	X Little Gull	X Barn Owl
X Common Nighthawk	X Laughing Gull	X Eastern Screech-Owl
X Eastern Whip-poor-will	Franklin's Gull	X Great Horned Owl
X Chimney Swift	X Ring-billed Gull	X Snowy Owl
Bahama Woodstar	California Gull	X Barred Owl
X Ruby-throated Hummingbird	X Herring Gull	X Long-eared Owl
Rufous Hummingbird	Iceland Gull	X Short-eared Owl

X Northern Saw-whet Owl	X European Starling	X Common Grackle
X Belted Kingfisher	X Gray Catbird	X Ovenbird
X Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	X Brown Thrasher	X Worm-eating Warbler
X Red-headed Woodpecker	X Northern Mockingbird	X Louisiana Waterthrush
X Red-bellied Woodpecker	X Eastern Bluebird	X Northern Waterthrush
X Downy Woodpecker	Mountain Bluebird	X Golden-winged Warbler
X Hairy Woodpecker	Varied Thrush	X Blue-winged Warbler
X Pileated Woodpecker	X Veery	X Black-and-white Warbler
X Northern Flicker	X Gray-cheeked Thrush	X Prothonotary Warbler
X American Kestrel	Bicknell's Thrush	X Tennessee Warbler
X Merlin	X Swainson's Thrush	X Orange-crowned Warbler
Gyr Falcon	X Hermit Thrush	X Nashville Warbler
X Peregrine Falcon	X Wood Thrush	Connecticut Warbler
X Olive-sided Flycatcher	X American Robin	X Mourning Warbler
X Eastern Wood-Pewee	X Cedar Wax wing	X Kentucky Warbler
X Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	X House Sparrow	X Common Yellowthroat
X Acadian Flycatcher	X American Pipit	X Hooded Warbler
X Alder Flycatcher	X Evening Grosbeak	X American Redstart
X Willow Flycatcher	Pine Grosbeak	X Cape May Warbler
X Least Flycatcher	X House Finch	X Cerulean Warbler
Pacific-slope Flycatcher	X Purple Finch	X Northern Parula
X Eastern Phoebe	X Common Redpoll	X Magnolia Warbler
Say's Phoebe	Hoary Redpoll	X Bay-breasted Warbler
Ash-throated Flycatcher	Red Crossbill	X Blackburnian Warbler
X Great Crested Flycatcher	X White-winged Crossbill	X Yellow Warbler
Tropical Kingbird	X Pine Siskin	X Chestnut-sided Warbler
Western Kingbird	X American Goldfinch	X Blackpoll Warbler
X Eastern Kingbird	X Lapland Longspur	X Black-throated Blue Warbler
Loggerhead Shrike	X Snow Bunting	X Palm Warbler
Northern Shrike	X Grasshopper Sparrow	X Pine Warbler
X White-eyed Vireo	X Chipping Sparrow	X Yellow-rumped Warbler
X Yellow-throated Vireo	X Clay-colored Sparrow	X Yellow-throated Warbler
X Blue-headed Vireo	X Field Sparrow	X Prairie Warbler
X Philadelphia Vireo	Lark Sparrow	Black-throated Gray Warbler
X Warbling Vireo	X American Tree Sparrow	X Black-throated Green Warbler
X Red-eyed Vireo	X Fox Sparrow	X Canada Warbler
X Blue Jay	X Dark-eyed Junco	X Wilson's Warbler
X American Crow	X White-crowned Sparrow	Summer Tanager
X Fish Crow	X Harris's Sparrow	X Scarlet Tanager
X Common Raven	X White-throated Sparrow	Western Tanager
X Carolina Chickadee	X Vesper Sparrow	X Northern Cardinal
X Black-capped Chickadee	Le Conte's Sparrow	X Rose-breasted Grosbeak
X Tufted Titmouse	Seaside Sparrow	Black-headed Grosbeak
X Horned Lark	Nelson's Sparrow	X Blue Grosbeak
X Northern Rough-winged Swallow	X Savannah Sparrow	X Indigo Bunting
X Purple Martin	Henslow's Sparrow	X Painted Bunting
X Tree Swallow	X Song Sparrow	X Dickcissel
X Bank Swallow	X Lincoln's Sparrow	
X Barn Swallow	X Swamp Sparrow	
X Cliff Swallow	X Eastern Towhee	
Cave Swallow	X Yellow-breasted Chat	
X Golden-crowned Kinglet	X Yellow-headed Blackbird	
X Ruby-crowned Kinglet	X Bobolink	
X Red-breasted Nuthatch	X Eastern Meadowlark	
X White-breasted Nuthatch	X Orchard Oriole	
X Brown Creeper	Bullock's Oriole	
X Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	X Baltimore Oriole	
X House Wren	X Scott's Oriole	
X Winter Wren	X Red-winged Blackbird	
Sedge Wren	X Brown-headed Cowbird	
X Marsh Wren	X Rusty Blackbird	
X Carolina Wren	X Brewer's Blackbird	

BIRDS ON THE MOVE

For those members who may not use online resources to share their significant bird sightings or like to see their sightings in print, LCBC would like to continue to allow members to share their recent significant sightings through our newsletter.

Each member is asked to put their sightings into a narrative format (descriptive sentences) that tell the who, what, where, when, why, and how of their sightings.

Each member is asked to limit their submission to four to 10 sentences for printing in each edition of the newsletter.

Sightings can be submitted by email or paper to:
Carol Feister
225 Spencer Ave., Lancaster, PA 17603-4929
cjfeister@comcast.net

Keep in mind, the newsletter is printed only four times a year. **The deadline for submission of observations for this column for the Winter Newsletter is December 15, 2022.**

Submissions made for this column should be made by the deadline date and be for observations that occurred after the previous deadline date (September 15, 2022) and before the current deadline. The “Birds on the Move” column editor or “Call Notes” newsletter editor reserves the right to edit submissions based on newsletter space constraints.

American Dipper sighting – by Carol Feister

Although this was not a Lancaster County or even a Pennsylvania sighting, it was exciting for me. We were traveling the Columbia River Gorge in Oregon on August 27 and stopped to see Horsetail Falls. A group of birders was there and pointed out an American Dipper in a stream near the falls. I watched with my binoculars for several minutes while Jim went for his “other” camera. Alas, the bird was not visible when he returned so no picture. But I enjoyed my time viewing this life bird.

REVIEW OF COMPLETED EVENTS

August 13, 2022 - Ted Nichols was joined by several other club officers and board members in a new first-ever “Birding with the Board” field trip to Lancaster Central Park to kick off the club’s new program year. We had an awesome turnout of 31 members for the event! A total of 42 species were observed during the 2.25-hour trip that covered about 2.5 miles around the park.. Highlights were a Yellow-billed Cuckoo that presented itself nicely at the beginning of the walk for all to observe as well as several cooperative warblers to include Black-and-white, American Redstart, Northern Parula and Chestnut-sided. One of the biggest highlights was when a beautiful male Scarlet Tanager came down to eye level and perched for all to see along the

Conestoga River. Former Club Treasurer Roger Stoner also provided attendees with a great history of the Kurtz's Mill Covered Bridge that was moved to the location after being repaired in 1975 after damage by Hurricane Agnes. Several prospective members also joined in on the trip to learn about the club!

September 3, 2022 - Larry Bernhardt led 14 participants on a field trip to Chestnut Grove. The weather was great, starting at 64 degrees, with a mostly sunny morning. The group walked 2.4 miles around the pond, through the open wooded area going down to the lower meadow, and up to the overlook and back. They saw 55 species of birds starting with a Raven that flew over a few times calling. The group had good looks at a Blue Grosbeak singing in a treetop, a couple of sandpipers and hawks, and five warblers including a Tennessee and a Nashville.

September 8, 2022 – Kelly Bitner, who has served as a wildlife education specialist at ZooAmerica in Hershey since 2012, presented a program titled “Paws, Claws, Scales and Tails” to the membership and visitors. The program was unable to bring birds this year due to the current avian flu situation. The program did, however, allow attendees to see an American Box Turtle and Striped Skunk as well as reptiles to include a Gopher Snake and Chuckwalla. The all-ages program focused on highlighting the adaptations animals use for survival in the wild to include defense, foraging, eating, swimming, and escaping predators. Kelly also provided a good overview of ZooAmerica – which is adjacent to Hersheypark – and displays only animals that could be seen in North America. She also suggested late fall, winter, and early spring as great times to visit the zoo and avoid the crowds and to see the animals active.

Our friends Ali Bowling (president) and Zach Richard (treasurer) from Harrisburg-based Appalachian Audubon Society (AAS) also gave a short overview of getting the Lights Out Harrisburg initiative AAS started recently, and some lessons learned from its first season. Lights Out is a voluntary program that involves turning off and/or blocking as many external and internal building lights as possible at night when bird migration is occurring during the spring and fall to prevent bird mortality from building/glass collisions.

Former LCBC President Barbara Hunsberger was also honored by the club for her 12 years as president during the meeting. A beautiful piece of artwork created by local artist Seth McComsey that featured American Kestrels on the landscape of Chestnut Grove Natural Area was presented to her in appreciation for her service to the club. A smaller version of this piece will be available in the future in a limited-edition, artist-signed print run that will serve as a fundraiser for the club. We will sell these at club meetings at a future date to be announced. Proceeds will benefit club operations, local conservation efforts, and our scholarship fund.

September 10, 2022 – Ted Nichols led two well-attended field trips for the club in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Game Commission at Middle Creek WMA. The field trips were also part

of Middle Creek’s Outdoor Explorer Series. A total of 57 unique participants went birding with LCBC during the morning and afternoon bird walks that each had 31 attendees. The two walks identified a total of 71 total species for the day! The morning walk covered the Conservation Trail and Stop 1 while the afternoon walk covered Willow Point Trail and the Tour Road and Chapel Road area of the refuge. Highlights of the day included three different Red-headed Woodpeckers seen at different areas of the refuge, a Wilson’s Phalarope found swimming in circles from Willow Point, an early female Northern Harrier behind the visitor center, a Merlin at Stop 1, a nice mixed warbler flock for both trips, and some assorted shorebirds at areas of the refuge being managed to provide mudflats for these migrating birds. The field trips included many new and beginning birders interested in learning about birding and the club. A full report of species observed is available at: <https://ebird.org/tripreport/74827>.

September 11, 2022 -There were two participants joining leader Bruce A. Carl on this cloudy and rainy trip along Pumping Station Rd. on SGL156. Even though conditions were not the best, the trio identified 28 species of which 10 of these species were warblers. Some notable warblers included Cape May, Black-throated Green, Black-throated Blue, Tennessee, Magnolia, and Bay-breasted.

If you have any questions regarding items in the newsletter, Club meetings/programs, or field trips, please feel free to contact a member of the Board of Directors. For your convenience, their names and telephone numbers are listed below:

President -	Ted Nichols II – 717-856-3851
First Vice President -	Emily Broich – 717-333-9146
Second Vice President -	John Lahr – 717-284-3497
Treasurer -	Nina Wolf – 717-629-6874
Secretary -	Vacant
Membership -	Larry Bernhardt – 717-872-2946
Publications -	Barbara Hunsberger – 717-984-2738

Board of Directors:

Doug Anderson – 717-203-2482	Kim Morelock – 717-471-0787
Carl Groff – 717-471-9969	Jeffrey L. Musser – 717-464-5273
Barbara Hunsberger – 717-984-2738	Vince Pantanella – 717-468-0984
Linda McKinne – 717-653-8782	Derek Stoner – 484-723-3348