

Nashville Warbler, and Bell's Vireo. The redpolls were **NOT** lumped. The common name of Ring-necked Duck was **NOT** changed to Ringed-billed Duck. Wilson's Phalarope and Cattle Egret were **NOT** moved to new genera.

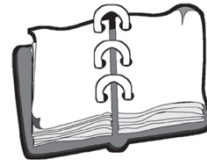
PROPOSALS**ADOPTED:**

However, the AOS Checklist Committee **DID** lump Thayer's Gull with Iceland (and, hence, Kumlien's) Gull. This reduces the total number of species on the MD and DC lists each by one. The common name of Le Conte's Sparrow (and Le Conte's Thrasher) **WAS** changed to reflect the correct family spelling: LeConte's Sparrow. Our Northern Harrier was split from the extralimital Hen Harrier and as a result, the scientific name of our Northern Harrier **WAS** changed to *Circus hudsonias*. The Yellow-breasted Chat **WAS** moved out of the warblers and into its own genus, *Icteria*. The Northern Shrike scientific species **WAS** changed to *Lanius borealis*.

The taxonomic order of a number of species changed again. Some ordering changes were made in the Geese and Ducks (where the genus *Chen* was merged with *Anser*), Whimbrel was moved to follow Upland Sandpiper, American Woodcock was moved to follow Long-billed Dowitcher, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs were swapped [note that they are not contiguous], Evening Grosbeak was moved in front of Pine Grosbeak, and the redpolls were moved in front of the crossbills. Some larger blocks of passerines were moved: The towhees through juncos, the chat, the blackbirds, and Bobolink though the orioles, were all moved to follow Snow Bunting.

A Note of Interest to North American Listers. If you want to add a new species to your North American, US, or ABA list, you can travel to the South Hills of Idaho where the endemic subspecies of Red Crossbill has been elevated to a full species, called the Cassia Crossbill (*Loxia sinesciuris*) [named for Cassia County, ID].

Good (armchair) birding!

**MOS Calendar**

Nov - Dec 2017
By Marilyn Veek

Wednesday, November 1

♣ **Baltimore.** First Wednesday Walk at Fort McHenry. One of a series of morning surveys of bird activity at the Fort and wetland. Telescopes useful. Cancelled in inclement weather. 8 AM. Park outside the main entrance gate, in lot on left, and meet at the gate. Leader Mary Chetelat, 410-665-0769.

MEETING. **Carroll.** "Birding Colorado – What the Leck!" by *Dave Harvey*. 7 PM. Carroll Nonprofit Center in Westminster. Contact Don Jewell at jewelldg@gmail.com.

MEETING. **Cecil.** Speaker TBA. 7-8:30 PM. Senior Center, Cecil County Admin Bldg, 200 Chesapeake Blvd, Elkton. For more information, contact Maryanne Dolan, maryanne.dolan@gmail.com.

Thursday, November 2

MEETING. **Frederick.** *Phil Davis* will tell us about his Azores/Madeira trip. 7 PM at Homewood at Crumland Farms. Contact Don Hambright, 301-676-0635.

♣ **Patuxent/PGAS.** Lake Artemesia Natural Area. Semi-monthly walk. Wheelchair-accessible. 3 PM. Meet at parking lot, at intersection of Berwyn Rd and Ballew Ave in Berwyn Heights. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich, mozurk@bellatlantic.net, for more information.

Friday, November 3

DINNER/MEETING. **Harford.** Speaker/topic TBA. Dinner at 6:15 PM, general meeting at 7:15 PM, presentation at 8 PM. Churchville Presbyterian Church, 2844 Churchville Rd. Reservations required. Contact Johanne Henrickson, johen24@gmail.com.

Saturday-Sunday, November 4-5

MOS. Work Weekend at Irish Grove. Join others for a work weekend to help maintain the house and grounds of this Somerset County Sanctuary. Great birding opportunities as well. Stay overnight for free. There is limited sleeping space in the house and room on the grounds for tents. Contact Dotty Mumford, dottymum@comcast.net or 443-214-5154, for more details and to RSVP.

Saturday, November 4

♣ **Anne Arundel.** Kinder Farm Park. The park has a lot of trails and diverse habitat with fields and wooded areas to explore. Alan produced a checklist of the birds of the park, and walks and explores this area regularly. 7:30 AM (half day). Meet at the Park. Contact leaders Alan and Susan Young, 410-991-8300 or alnmyoung@aol.com.

♣ **Carroll.** Hashawha - Concentrating on Sparrows. 8 AM (half day). Meet in the parking lot at Bear Branch Nature Center. For more information, contact Tom Miller at 410-627-4384.

♣ **Cecil.** Waggoner's Gap. Located near Carlisle, PA, on the ridges favored by migrating hawks, this site is known as an excellent place to see Golden Eagles in November. Pack a lunch and dress warmly—it can be very windy and cold up there. Also, be aware that this is a steep, rocky outcrop, so strong shoes or hiking boots are helpful, as is a seat cushion. 6 AM (all day). Meet at the North East Food Lion parking lot on Rte 40. No leader.

♣ **Harford.** Blackwater NWR. Don't miss this opportunity to visit the Eastern Shore's 28,000 acre refuge. Its fresh water impoundments, brackish tidal wetlands, open fields, and mixed forests attract thousands of birds migrating along the Atlantic Flyway. The refuge is also home to many local species and Eagle and Osprey cams which can be viewed online. 7:30 AM. Meet at the Havre de Grace P&R lot at the I-95/155 exit. Leaders are Tom Gibson, 410-734-4135 or gibsonlld@aol.com, Tom Congersky, 410-658-4137 or jnjtcon@zoominternet.net, and Bob Werrlein, 410-692-5180 or we2rein@gmail.com.

♣ **Howard.** Howard Conservancy at Mt Pleasant Farm Sky Watch. This trip will be strictly a sky watch for late-migrating raptors and other potential goodies. Our main target will be Golden Eagle; while not expected, early November is the

best time to catch one flying over Howard County. Last year a half day sky watch less than a mile from this location produced an immature Golden Eagle and a Sandhill Crane, along with good numbers of Bald Eagles and Red-tailed Hawks, plus Northern Harriers, accipiters, and some waterfowl. We will watch the skies and tally the birds as long as conditions are productive. Hope for a north wind! Bring water, lunch, hat, sunscreen, light-colored sun glasses, comfortable lawn chair (recliners are best), binocular, scope, and camera if you like. Participants can also walk the Conservancy trails if sky-watching proves non-productive. Facilities available. 9:30 AM (half day). Meet at parking lot. Leader Russ Ruffing, ruff2@verizon.net.

♣ **Kent.** Eastern Neck Refuge Walk sponsored by Friends of Eastern Neck, Inc. Plan for a flat, two-mile outing, with opportunities to view waterfowl and other wildlife. Dress warmly and wear boots. No rain date. Registration is required and limited to 20 participants: <http://bit.ly/2vWPDBt>. 8 AM. For more information contact Gren Whitman, easterneckwalks@gmail.com or 443-691-9370.

♣ **Montgomery.** Oaks Landfill. Explore this now-closed landfill adjacent to the Blue Mash Nature Trail. Mostly open terrain on a gravel road, including two pond views and one hill climb of moderate difficulty. Possible sparrows, raptors, and waterfowl. Leader will have scope for distant birds. We have special permission to enter this "closed to the public" landfill so reservations are essential. Limit 16. 8 AM. Contact the leader for reservations and more information. Leader Mark England, 240-207-3132(home) or 240-375-4500(cell).

♣ **Patuxent/PGAS.** Fran Uhler Natural Area. Monthly walk. 7:30 AM. Meet at east end of Lemon's Bridge Rd, off Route 197 just north of Bowie State University. No reservations needed. Contact Bill Sefton, kiwisuits@msn.com.

♣ **Tri-county.** Irish Grove Sanctuary, for migrating and resident marsh species and to help with the annual workday. Lunch will be provided; our club will be bringing desserts, so contributions to that will be appreciated. 7:30 AM at the Ward Museum parking lot or 8:15 AM at Irish Grove. We need to have a head count one week before the trip, so please let Ellen know if

you plan to attend. For information, contact Ellen Lawler, 410-982-8695 or emlawler534@comcast.net.

♣ **Washington.** Ag Center. Birding followed by a country breakfast. 7:30 AM. Meet at the Washington County Agricultural Center, 7313 Sharpsburg Pike. Call George Warrick at 301-799-9059 for details.

🦆 **YMOS.** Chincoteague NWR. This is a great opportunity to get a good look at a lot of bird species. Waterfowl will be back, and Chincoteague provides a unique opportunity to explore many types of habitats. Lodging will be provided Fri and/or Sat nights for students coming from a distance. 8 AM. Meet at CNWR. Email George Radcliffe, radclifq@gmail.com, of your intent to go at least 2 weeks in advance of the trip.

Sunday, November 5 (Daylight Saving Time ends)

♣ **Baltimore.** Irvine Nature Center. A great spot for sparrows, raptors and other birds of this transitional season. 9 AM. Leaders Tina Snyder, 443-204-7590 or tinakatsampis@aol.com and Peter Lev, 410-823-2962 or plev@comcast.net.

♣ **Howard.** Centennial Park. Easy walking on paved path around Centennial Lake. Woodlands, fields and water host a wide variety of species. Great view of the sky for flyovers. Early waterfowl, lingering migrants likely. Facilities available. Handicap accessible. 8 AM, 2-3 hrs. Meet at west end parking lot. Leaders Karen and Kevin Heffernan, 410-418-8731 or kjheff122@gmail.com.

♣ **Talbot.** Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, Washington, DC. Explore one of DC's birding gems operated by the National Park Service. Located off Hwy 295, south of Rt 50, about 75 minutes from Easton. 6:30 AM. Depart Easton Acme parking lot. Leaders Paul and Priscilla Thut, 410-745-6657 or pdthut@hughes.net.

Tuesday, November 7

MEETING. **Baltimore.** *Bill Bitman* on "Photographing Birds in Flight." Bill is a Baltimore-based photographer who expresses his love of nature through wildlife portraits, wildlife

action photographs, and sweeping landscape images. A number of his images have appeared in the Baltimore Sun, the Smithsonian Zoogoer magazine, and the National Zoo's yearly calendar. Bill published an in-depth how-to book entitled Successful Nature Photographs and How to Create Them, which is available as an e-book and in a printed edition. Doors open at 7 PM for socializing and snacks, show starts about 7:20 PM. Held at the Cylburn Greenhouse Classroom.

Wednesday, November 8

MEETING. **Montgomery.** *Greg Kearns* on "Wild Rice". Greg is returning to follow up with a talk on his 30-year program to establish wild rice in the Patuxent Bay. He has been successful in reestablishing the rice and making the Bay an important stop over for ducks and Sora. Potomac Presbyterian Church. Doors open at 7 PM, refreshments 7:30 PM and meeting starts at 8 PM.

Thursday, November 9

MEETING. **Howard.** "Owls in Myth and Culture-a Global Perspective," by *David H. Johnson*, Director, Global Owl Project. What people believe about owls makes a difference in how they protect and conserve them. GLOW is a non-profit consortium of some 450 researchers, museum curators, students and volunteers working in 65 countries. This presentation will describe the methods, cultural insights and results of their findings. Hospitality 7 PM; meeting/program 7:30 at Robinson Nature Center, 6692 Cedar Ln, Columbia. Info: John Harris, 240-755-0183.

Friday, November 10

♣ **Montgomery.** Basics of Sparrow ID at Hughes Hollow. Sparrows are often referred to as LBJs (little brown jobs) because of the initial difficulty in sorting them out. Hughes Hollow is a good place to spend the morning learning and reviewing basic field marks that are key to identification. In addition to common species, like White-throated and Song and Swamp, we'll keep an eye out for less-likely White-crowned and Field. This trip is primarily for beginners but all are welcome. Limit 8. For reservations, time, and directions, contact one of the co-leaders, Lydia Schindler, lydia13621@gmail.com, or Linda Friedland, linnet1@verizon.net.

♣ **Washington.** Lambs Knoll Banding Station. Observe Saw-whet Owl banding by Steve Huy at Lambs Knoll. Wear sturdy shoes, bring a flashlight, and be prepared to stay as late as midnight. Children are welcome. 9:15 PM. Meet at the Boonsboro P&R. Contact Anna Hutzell, amp8185@aol.com or 301-797-8454, to register.

Saturday, November 11

♣ **Alleghany/Garrett.** Shawnee SP and Alleghany Front Plateau. Lunch at Jean Bonnett Tavern in Bedford. 10 AM. Meet at the Diehl Boat Ramp off Rt 96. Carpool from Cumberland will leave from the upper section of Roses Store parking lot in downtown Cumberland at 9 AM. Leader Melissa Hensel, mjhensel@yahoo.com or 240-362-1086.

♣ **Baltimore.** Youth birding at Patterson Park. This easy-access urban park has a surprisingly diverse variety of birds that can be found during the year, and we can expect winter residents (and possibly unusual visitors) in both the brushy areas and on the lake. 8 AM. Park along S Patterson Park Ave, and meet at the fountain north of the pagoda, just inside the entrance off South Patterson Park Ave at Lombard St. Leader John Robinson, 443-810-9059 (cell), 410-483-6620 (home), or jcrobin@jhmi.edu.

♣ **Harford.** Wild Card Waterfowl Tour. Leader Dave Webb will determine trip sites based on recent sightings. Contact Dave (410-939-3537; porzana@comcast.net) for specific details about start time and location as well as possible sightings.

♣ **Howard.** Sharps at Waterford Farm. Moderate walking over crop stubble, farm roads and paths on this working farm. Fields with crop residue, extensive woodlands, Cattail Creek and floodplain, three ponds and five shallow waterfowl impoundments make for diverse habitats and good birding opportunities. Port-a-pots available. Knee-high waterproof footwear is advisable for part of hike. 8 AM (half day). Meet at farm parking area, through barns on right. Leader Wes Earp, wesandsue@gmail.com, 410-531-3197.

Saturday, November 11 or Sunday, November 12

♣ **Frederick.** Local Hawk Watch. Tom Humphrey (240-793-2508) will lead a search for migrating hawks. Date dependent on weather conditions.

Sunday, November 12

♣ **Anne Arundel.** Quiet Waters Park. A monthly walk through the park exploring woodland trails, edge habitat, and views of the South River. A lovely habitat for birding throughout the year and could be very good for migrant birds. The park has waived the \$6 per car Park entry fee for these trips. 8-11 AM. Meet at Blue Heron Center. Contact David Gillum, 410-266-8775 or dagmapper@verizon.net.

♣ **Baltimore.** Marshy Point Nature Center. Winter waterfowl, raptors, passerines. Half-mile trail leads to point overlooking Dundee Creek. Boots advisable, telescopes useful. 9 AM (half day). Leaders Brent and Mary Byers, 410 626-7294 or baypuffin@hotmail.com.

♣ **Caroline.** Chincoteague NWR. 7 AM. Meet at Denton Rite Aid parking lot to car pool.

♣ **Howard.** Centennial Park. Easy walking on paved path around Centennial Lake. Woodlands, fields and water host a wide variety of species. Great view of the sky for flyovers. Facilities available. Handicap accessible. 8 AM, 2-3 hrs. Meet at west end parking lot. Leader Mary Lou Clark, doctorfx_99@yahoo.com.

♣ **Talbot.** Wye Island. In search of waterfowl, sparrows, and possible late migrants. Depart Easton Acme parking lot at 7 AM OR meet Danny at the Wye Island Bridge at 7:30 AM. Leader Danny Poet, 410-827-8651.

Monday, November 13

MEETING. **Talbot.** *Carter Ong Smith* of St. Michaels will give a presentation on "East African Raptors". 7 PM. Bayleigh Chase Auditorium (aka William Hill Manor Auditorium), 501 Dutchman's Lane, Easton.

Tuesday, November 14

BOARD MEETING. **Baltimore.** While only authorized Board members have a vote, any Club member is welcome to attend and participate in discussions.

Call any club officer or board member for details. 7 PM. Cylburn Greenhouse Classroom.

MEETING. **Kent.** Program and speaker TBA. 7:30 PM. Game Room at Heron Point, off East Campus Ave, Chestertown. Light refreshments follow the program.

MEETING. **Patuxent/PGAS.** "Maryland Bird Conservation Partnership: A United Voice for Maryland's Birds" presented by *Christopher Eberly*. He will present how and where the Partnership is working and how you can become a part of this exciting conservation partnership. Doors open at 7 PM for 7:30 PM meeting start time. College Park Airport Operations Bldg, 2nd Floor, 1909 Corporal Frank Scott Dr, College Park.

Wednesday, November 15

MEETING. **Anne Arundel.** "From Mountains to Saltmarsh; Rediscovering the MOS Sanctuaries" with *Marcia Watson* and *Dominic Nucifora*. Marcia will review the history of the MOS Sanctuary Program, provide profiles and show maps and photos of all the sanctuaries, discuss the birds and habitats found there, and will cover some of the challenges that MOS faces in managing the properties. Marcia will conclude with suggestions on how interested individuals can become involved with the sanctuaries. 7-9 PM. Harvest Hall, Kinder Farm Park. Contact Barbara Johnson, 410-703-4664 or barbarajohnson222@gmail.com.

♣ **Patuxent/PGAS.** Blackwater NWR. Wintering waterfowl, eagles and other raptors, lingering shorebirds and songbirds. 9 AM. Meet at the Bowie P&R to carpool. Reservations required; limited to 10 participants. Must contact leader Barbara Ricciardi, barbararicciardi27@gmail.com, in advance for reservations.

Thursday, November 16

MEETING. **Caroline.** *Matt Pluta*, Choptank Riverkeeper, "The State of the Choptank River: a review of our current water quality sampling results and local initiatives." 7:30 PM. Caroline County Public Library, 100 Market St., Denton.

♣ **Patuxent/PGAS.** Lake Artemesia Natural Area. Semi-monthly walk. Wheelchair-accessible. 3 PM. Meet at parking lot at intersection of

Berwyn Rd and Ballew Ave in Berwyn Heights. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich, mozurk@bellAtlantic.net, for more information.

Saturday, November 18

ANNUAL BANQUET. **Allegany/Garrett.** *Dave Brinker*, Central Regional Ecologist, MD DNR, Wildlife and Heritage Service, will talk about Goshawks nesting in Western Maryland. The cost of the dinner is \$25. 5 PM. Penn Alps, Grantsville. For info contact Carol McDaniel mcdanieljandc@gmail.com. Please mail your check to Carol McDaniel, 437 Serenity Dr, Grantsville, MD 21536. Reservations must be made by Nov 16.

♣ **Anne Arundel.** North Point SP has many miles of trails that meander through woods and along the bay. There is a visitor center for the obvious conveniences and in November we should get a good mix of woodland, field and shore birds. Bring lunch and drinks. There is a fee per car and it will take at least an hour to get there. 7:30 AM (full day). Meet at Millersville Commuter Lot. Contact Judy Brennan, 410-280-2487 or el.judith@gmail.com.

♣ **Baltimore.** Hydes Road Park. For the last few years this northern Baltimore County park has been hosting rare sparrows and other meadow birds. 8:30 AM. Meet in the parking lot. Coordinator Kevin Graff, keyweststyle2001@gmail.com. Leader Hugh Simmons.

♣ **Baltimore.** Saturday Morning Monitoring Walk at Fort McHenry. Continuing survey of bird activity at the Fort. Telescopes useful. Cancelled in bad weather. 8 AM. Park outside the main entrance gate, in lot on left, and meet at the gate. Leader Wendy Alexander, 443-204-3754 or drbeanes@verizon.net.

♣ **Baltimore.** Druid Hill Park. Join Audubon and the Maryland Zoo to explore this leafy city park! From forest to lake, a variety of bird species await. 8-9:30 AM. Meet at 3001 East Dr. To borrow binoculars, contact Patterson Park Audubon Ctr at 410-558-2473 or baltimore@audubon.com.

♣ **Cecil.** Fair Hill WMA. Fair Hill is one of Cecil County's birdiest spots. A variety of habitats,

including woods, fields and wetlands, means that we will see a number of different spring migrants. Portions of the trail may be muddy, so boots are recommended. 7 AM (half day). Meet at the Foxcatcher Farm Covered Bridge parking lot near the Fair Hill Nature and Environmental Center on Tawes Dr. There is an honor system daily fee (\$3 Maryland residents; \$4 out-of-state visitors). Leader Ken Drier, kdrier@zoominternet.net.

♣ **Frederick.** Audubon Society of Central MD Nature Walk. 9-11 AM. Audrey Carroll Sanctuary, 13030 Old Annapolis Rd, Mt Airy. For more information contact Crystal Kunst, hckunst@qis.net or 443-536-3071.

♣ **Harford.** Sweet Air section of Gunpowder Falls SP. Explore a variety of trails that meander among pines, deciduous woods, open fields, and riparian habitats. 8:30 AM. Meet in the Dalton-Bevard Rd parking area west of Rtes 165 and 152. Leader Susan Hood, 410-937-7552 or susanjhood@comast.net.

♣ **Patuxent/PGAS.** Governor Bridge Natural Area. Monthly walk. 7:30 AM. Meet at the Natural Area parking lot on the south side of Governor Bridge Rd, 1 mile E of Rte 301. No reservations needed. For more information contact Bill Sefton, kiwisuits@msn.com.

Sunday, November 19

♣ **Baltimore.** Ashland NCR Trail and Paper Mill Flats. Trip to two locations for marsh birds, wintering waterfowl and late fall songbirds. Bring spotting telescope if you have one. 8:30 AM. Meet at NCR Trail parking lot, N side of Ashland/Paper Mill Rd. Leaders Debbie Terry, 443-578-8243 or dterry12@verizon.net, and Kevin Graff, keyweststyle2001@gmail.com.

♣ **Howard.** Centennial Park. Easy walking on paved path around Centennial Lake. Woodlands, fields and water host a wide variety of species. Great view of the sky for flyovers. Facilities available. Handicap accessible. 8 AM, 2-3 hrs. Meet at west end parking lot. Leaders Richard and Renee Peters, Richard@rrrrpeters.org.

♣ **Montgomery.** Occoquan Bay NWR, VA. Half day. Explore the diverse habitats in this one-square mile refuge at the confluence of the Potomac and Occoquan Rivers. A variety of

raptors and migratory warblers, vireos, thrushes and flycatchers should be present, and rails and bitterns are possibilities. Reservations required. Limit 25. 7:30 AM (half day). Meet at the parking lot in the center of the refuge. Leaders Mike Bowen, 301-530-5764 or dhmbowen@yahoo.com, and Gerry Hawkins, 571-277-8406 or maineusa@comcast.net.

♣ **Talbot.** Pickering Creek Audubon Center. A return to Pickering Creek looking for arriving waterfowl and sparrows and some vagrant species. Depart Easton Acme parking lot at 7 AM OR meet at Pickering Creek parking lot at 7:20 AM. Leader Dave Bent, 410-822-2113.

♣ **Tri-county.** Nanticoke River WMA for late migrants and early winter arrivals. Bring lunch, snacks and drinks. 7:30 AM. Meet at the Ward Museum parking lot. For information, contact Mike Walsh, 410-422-0428 or mik.walsh@comcast.net.

Friday, November 24

♣ **Anne Arundel.** Blackwater NWR and Oakley Street in Cambridge, if time permits. This trip will be limited to 10 people and reservations are required. Scopes will be helpful. Bring snacks and/or lunch. Depending on the birding, we may stop on the way home for a bite to eat. Restroom facilities on site. 9 AM (full day). Meet at Bay 50 Shopping Center to carpool. Contact Barbara Ricciardi, 202-230-8492 or barbararicciardi27@gmail.com.

Saturday, November 25

♣ **Baltimore.** Patterson Park. Join Audubon to explore this urban oasis in SE Baltimore. With more than 205 species on record, the park is full of surprises. 8 AM. Meet at the fountain, near intersection of E Lombard St & S Patterson Park Ave. For directions or to borrow binoculars, contact Patterson Park Audubon Center at 410-558-2473 or baltimore@audubon.org.

♣ **Cecil.** Eagle Watch at Conowingo Dam. The Dam is one of the premier eagle watching sites in the east. Some eagles breed near Conowingo and are present all year round, but the number of individuals peaks in the winter. It is normally possible to see as many as 60 individuals or more at one time; we have seen as many as 175! In addition to eagles, there will likely be other birds

of interest, particularly gulls and ducks. Bring scope if you have one. Optional: lawn chair, blanket, hot drinks, and snacks. Dress for possible extreme cold and windy conditions. 9 AM. Stay as little or as long as you want. Meet at Fisherman's Park below the Dam. Leader Maryanne Dolan, maryanne.dolan@gmail.com.

♣ **Harford.** Eagle Watch at Conowingo Dam. Look for a possible Golden Eagle among the more than 100 Bald Eagles along with just a few buzzards (actually, numerous Black Vultures). There will also be waterfowl and early winter songbirds. 8 AM. Meet at Fisherman's Park below the dam at the first parking lot straight ahead after passing through the gate at the south end of the park. Leader Dennis Kirkwood, 410-692-5905 or newarkfarms@gmail.com.

♣ **Washington.** Antietam Battlefield. Trip is co-sponsored with Potomac Valley Audubon Society. 8 AM. Meet at the Burnside Bridge parking lot for birding along the Final Attack Trail. Contact Sandy Sagalkin, sandy.sagalkin@gmail.com or 240-291-6465, to participate.

Sunday, November 26

♣ **Anne Arundel.** Conowingo Dam. Located along the Susquehanna River, Conowingo Dam is famous for observing Bald Eagles. At this time of year the eagles congregate by the hundreds feeding on fish passing through the dam. After observing the eagles and gulls at the dam, we will walk down river looking for woodland birds and waterfowl. The river trail is dirt covered and flat. Restroom facilities on site. 7 AM (half day). Meet at Parole P&R. Contact Kevin Smith, 410-917-3004 or ravens3077@yahoo.com.

♣ **Howard.** Centennial Park. Easy walking on paved path around Centennial Lake. Woodlands, fields and water host a wide variety of species. Great view of the sky for flyovers. Facilities available. Handicap accessible. 8 AM, 2-3 hrs. Meet at west end parking lot. Leader Mike Kerwin, m63kerwin@verizon.net or 410-461-2408.

♣ **Kent.** Kent County Landings. We will explore several of Kent County's landings and other spots for a variety of recently-arrived geese, ducks and

some non-waterfowl as well. Dress warmly & bring snacks. 8 AM (half day). Meet at the "Dollar General" parking lot off Philosopher's Terrace in Chestertown. If you have questions, please contact leaders Walter Ellison and Nancy Martin, 410-778-9568 or borealdee@gmail.com.

♣ **Montgomery.** Lilypons/New Design Rd. Wintering field birds, targeting Fox and Tree Sparrows, possibly Virginia Rail and American Bittern. Half day. Call leader for reservation (required) and more info. Leader Clive Harris, cliveharris@yahoo.com.

♣ **Talbot.** Eastern Neck NWR. Burn off some Thanksgiving leftovers with a trip to one of Maryland's premier waterfowl wintering areas. Bring lunch, drinks. Depart Easton Acme parking lot at 6:30 AM. Leader Wayne Bell, 410-820-6002.

Monday, November 27

MEETING. **Tri-county.** "Greenland" presented by JoAnn Wilber. 7 PM. MAC Education Center, off Snow Hill Rd, Salisbury. Contact Ellen Lawler, 410-982-8695 or emlawler534@comcast.net, for more info.

Tuesday, November 28

MEETING. **Washington.** "The Limits of Endurance" from The Life of Birds with David Attenborough. Meeting begins at 7 PM at the Mt Aetna Nature Center, 21905 Mt Aetna Rd, Hagerstown. Call 301-797-8454 for details.

Saturday, December 2

♣ **Anne Arundel.** Kinder Farm Park. The park has a lot of trails and diverse habitat with fields and wooded areas to explore. Alan produced a checklist of the birds of the park, and walks and explores this area regularly. 7:30 AM (half day.) Meet at the Park. Leaders Alan and Susan Young, 410-991-8300 or alnmyoung@aol.com.

♣ **Anne Arundel.** Oxbow Lake Nature Preserve. The preserve comprises approximately 200 acres of wetland and lowland wooded swamp. December provides the potential for a variety of waterfowl and more. This field trip will introduce participants to multiple entry points into the preserve. We will start at the main entrance on Oxbow Place at 8 AM and carpool to other areas. We will end with a walk along the lake from the

main entrance to Eagle's Head Cove and end by noon. Dress for the weather and for walking. No restroom facilities on site. 7:30 AM. Meet at Millersville Commuter Lot. Leaders Marcy Stutzman and Jay Sheppard. Contact Kevin Smith, 410-917-3004 or ravens3077@yahoo.com.

♣ **Carroll.** Piney Run Park. Moderate walking around the lake. 8 AM (half day). Meet at the parking lot outside the gate to the Park on Martz Rd off White Rock Rd. Leaders Dave and Maureen Harvey, 410-795-3117.

♣ **Harford.** Delaware Coast. Depending on recent sightings, several waterfowl and shorebird "hot spots" will be visited along the coast of the Delaware River and Bay. 7:30 AM. Meet at the Havre de Grace commuter parking lot near the I-95 exit along Rt 155. Contact Russ Kovach for details, 443-386-4787 or Russell.kovach@gmail.com.

♣ **Howard.** Howard Waterfowl Search. Plan to visit the Columbia lakes to search for gulls, ducks, grebes, loons and other waterfowl. Easy walking involved. Plan to carpool. Bring lunch and drinks. Scopes helpful. Facilities available. 8 AM-2 PM. Meet at Broken Land Parkway parking lot at Lake Elkhorn. Leader Kurt Schwarz, krschwa1@verizon.net or 410-461-1643.

♣ **Kent.** Eastern Neck Refuge Walk sponsored by Friends of Eastern Neck, Inc. Plan for a flat, two-mile outing, with opportunities to view waterfowl and other wildlife. Dress warmly and wear boots. No rain date. Registration is required and limited to 20 participants: <http://bit.ly/2vWPDBt>. 8 AM. For more information contact Gren Whitman, easterneckwalks@gmail.com or 443-691-9370.

♣ **Patuxent/PGAS.** Fran Uhler Natural Area. Monthly walk. 7:30 AM. Meet at east end of Lemon's Bridge Rd, off Route 197 just north of Bowie State University. No reservations needed. Contact Bill Sefton, kiwisuits@msn.com.

MOS BOARD MEETING. **Montgomery.** Seneca SP.

Sunday, December 3

♣ **Anne Arundel.** Sandy Point SP. On this 2.5-mile walk, we will cover mostly even terrain while scouring the beach, water and wooded areas for

winter favorites. We can expect to see a variety of gulls and water fowl, as well as Ruby-crowned Kinglets and maybe a Brown Creeper or two. Restroom facilities on site. 8 AM (half day). Meet at Bay 50 Shopping Center to carpool. Contact Dominic Nucifora, 443-534-4891 or d.nucifora@yahoo.com.

♣ **Patuxent/PGAS.** Piscataway NP. Field trip to this facility on the Potomac River for wintering waterfowl, gulls, and songbirds. 8 AM. Meet at the fishing area at the north end of Wharf Road. Contact leader David Mozurkewich, mozurk@verizon.net or 301-509-2212, for more information.

♣ **Talbot.** Cambridge, Egypt Road and Blackwater NWR. There may be an opportunity to join with Harry Armistead as he leads the bird walk at Blackwater NWR. Depart Easton Acme parking lot at 7 AM. Leader Dave Bent, 410-822-2113.

Tuesday, December 5

♣ **Patuxent/PGAS.** Seasons at South Tract, Patuxent Research Refuge. One of a series of quarterly bird walks at the South Tract of the Patuxent Research Refuge. We will walk some of the trails and will stop at the Pollinator Garden bird feeding area by the Visitor Center. Target species include migrating warblers, flycatchers, vireos, sparrows. 9 AM. Meet in the parking lot of the National Wildlife Visitor Center; bear left on entering the parking area and go all the way to the last section of the lot past the covered solar recharging station for electric vehicles. Please contact leader Ken Cohen, kvulture@aol.com, for more information.

Wednesday, December 6

♣ **Baltimore.** First Wednesday Walk at Fort McHenry. One of a series of morning surveys of bird activity at the Fort and wetland. Telescopes useful. Cancelled in inclement weather. 8 AM. Park outside the main entrance gate, in lot on left, and meet at the gate. Leader Mary Chetelat, 410-665-0769.

MEETING. **Carroll.** "Rice is Nice – Lessons for Bird Conservation" by *Paul Baicich*. 7 PM. Carroll Nonprofit Center in Westminster. Contact Don Jewell at jewellgd@gmail.com.

Thursday, December 7

HOLIDAY DINNER AND MEETING. **Frederick.** *Mark Abody* will take us on safari to southern Africa and introduce us to the big game animals in addition to the wonderful birds. We will also hold our fantastic silent auction. 6 PM. Homewood at Crumland Farms. Please make reservations with and send money to Treasurer Grace Borell, saygrace22@yahoo.com, before November 20. Make checks payable to FBC.

♣ **Patuxent/PGAS.** Lake Artemesia Natural Area. Semi-monthly walk. Wheelchair-accessible. 3 PM. Meet at parking lot, at intersection of Berwyn Rd and Ballew Ave in Berwyn Heights. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich, mozurk@bellAtlantic.net, for more information.

Saturday, December 9

♣ **Baltimore.** Masonville Cove and Middle Branch Park. Breakfast with the Birds. Masonville Nature Center in Baltimore City welcomes BBC for donuts and coffee and a look at waterfowl in Baltimore Harbor. Landbirding is also good at Masonville; last year on this trip we had Fox Sparrow and Rusty Blackbird. We will visit both the area immediately behind the Nature Center and Access Area 2. Then we'll drive 5 minutes up the road to Middle Branch Park, another good spot for water birds. Telescopes useful. 8:30-11 AM. RSVP to the leader; trip limited to 25. Leader Peter Lev, 410-823-2962 or plev@comcast.net.

♣ **Baltimore.** Special Eastern Shore Trip to Bombay Hook, DE. We will meet at the beginning of Whitehall Neck Rd, right after turning off from Rt 9 (Smyrna Leipsic Rd). After scoping the fields for Horned Larks, Meadowlarks, Pipits and other wintering residents, we will proceed to the refuge HQ, where we can look for White-crowned Sparrows and other nice birds at the feeders. Then it's off into the refuge itself for water birds, wintering shorebirds and land birds such as sparrows and raptors, and finish the day by getting lunch and then swinging by the Dover AFB Air Museum to check for Snowy Owls. Although the 2-2 ½ hour driving time is doable in a single day, it can be worth staying overnight in Dover and exploring on Sunday before heading home. The refuge entry fee may be \$5 per car. This trip must be pre-registered. Leader John Robinson, 443-810-9059 (cell), 410-483-6620 (home), or jcrobin@jhmi.edu.

♣ **Frederick.** Blackwater NWR. Search for wintering waterfowl at Maryland's premier wildlife refuge. Mostly driving with frequent stops. Scopes helpful. Leader Kathy Calvert, 301-810-5677.

♣ **Harford.** Mariner Point, Joppatown. Avian activity will be surveyed with an emphasis on wintering waterfowl and songbirds at this estuarine location. 8 AM. Meet at the Mariner Point Park parking lot. Phil Powers is the leader, 443-417-7520 or birdsindmd308@gmail.com.

Sunday, December 10

♣ **Anne Arundel.** Quiet Waters Park. A monthly walk through the park exploring woodland trails, edge habitat, and views of the South River. A lovely habitat for birding throughout the year and could be very good for migrant birds. The park has waived the \$6 per car Park entry fee for these trips. 8-11 AM. Meet at Blue Heron Center. Contact David Gillum, 410-266-8775 or dagmapper@verizon.net.

♣ **Baltimore.** Marshy Point Nature Center. Winter waterfowl, raptors, passerines. Half-mile trail leads to point overlooking Dundee Creek. Boots advisable, telescopes useful. 9 AM (half day). Leaders Brent and Mary Byers, 410-626-7294 or baypuffin@hotmail.com.

♣ **Talbot.** Eastern Talbot Fields and Landings. There are birds in those apparently bare winter fields and lots to see at the landings along the Choptank and Tuckahoe Rivers. Depart Easton Acme parking lot at 7 AM. Leader Charles Hopkins, 443-786-6332.

Tuesday, December 12

BOARD MEETING. **Baltimore.** While only authorized Board members have a vote, any Club member is welcome to attend and participate in discussions. Call any club officer or board member for details. 7 PM. Cylburn Greenhouse Classroom.

MEETING. **Kent.** Program and speaker TBA. 7:30 PM. Game Room at Heron Point, off East Campus Ave, Chestertown. Light refreshments follow the program.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY SOCIAL AND MOVIE NIGHT. **Patuxent/PGAS.** Join the Patuxent Bird Club and Prince George's Audubon Society for popcorn

and other refreshments to enjoy during our annual movie night. One of the movies will be "Birds of May", filmed in May 2016 on the beaches of the Delaware Bay. The short movie is filmmaker Jared Flesher's ode to the natural spectacle of the Red Knot's annual visit to the Delaware Bay. The film is also an investigation of a potential new threat to Red Knot survival: the expansion of oyster aquaculture onto Red Knot feeding grounds. One or more additional films on birds and/or conservation may be added to the evening's roster; final movie titles TBA at a later date, so check www.patuxentbirdclub.org for more information. Free and open to the public. 7:30 PM. College Park Airport Operations Building.

Wednesday, December 13

MEETING. **Montgomery.** *Suzanne Dater* on her trip to Tanzania. Suzanne is a prize winning photographer and her program will feature not just birds but some of the animals found in Tanzania. The slide show she will be presenting will cover a trip she took to the Serengeti of Tanzania in 2016. Potomac Presbyterian Church. Doors open at 7 PM, refreshments 7:30 PM and meeting starts at 8 PM.

SPRING PLANNING MEETING AND COVERED DISH SUPPER. **Talbot.** 6 PM. Hosts Priscilla and Paul Thut, 410-745-6657 or pdthut@hughes.net.

Thursday, December 14

MEETING. **Howard.** "Monarch Butterflies: their Amazing Life History and Current Conservation Status," by *Pam Spencer* of the Baltimore County Master Gardeners. Pam is an emergency room nurse who finds time to work with butterflies in their several life stages and promote their conservation through educational programs. Hospitality 7 PM; meeting/program 7:30 at Robinson Nature Center, 6692 Cedar Ln, Columbia. Info: John Harris, 240-755-0183.

Saturday, December 16

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Allegany.** Please contact JB Churchill, 301-697-1223 or jchurchi@atlanticbb.net.

♣ **Baltimore.** Saturday Morning Monitoring Walk at Fort McHenry. Continuing survey of bird activity at the Fort. Telescopes useful. Cancelled in bad weather. 8 AM. Park outside the main

entrance gate, in lot on left, and meet at the gate. Leader Wendy Alexander, 443-204-3754 or drbean@verizon.net.

♣ **Baltimore.** Patterson Park. Join Audubon to explore this urban oasis in SE Baltimore. With more than 205 species on record, the park is full of surprises. 8-9:30 AM. Meet at the fountain, near intersection of E Lombard St & S Patterson Park Ave. For directions or to borrow binoculars, contact Patterson Park Audubon Center at 410-558-2473 or baltimore@audubon.org.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Caroline.** Coordinator Steve Westre, swestre26@comcast.net.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Catoctin.** Count #65. Birders of all ages and levels of experience needed! If you can't be in the field, but live within 7.5 miles of Thurmont, help by counting and reporting your feeder birds. Compiler Kathy Brown, 301-865-1369.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Charles Town, WV.** Includes a portion of MD in Washington Co. Compiler Bob Dean, bobdean52@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Garrett.** Please contact Connie Skipper, connieskipper@hohnet.net.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Middle River.** Birders of all levels of expertise or experience are welcome and urged to participate in this annual post-migration bird census in eastern Baltimore County. The area being surveyed is in a 15 mile diameter circle in eastern Baltimore County, encompassing Fort Howard up to Day's Cove at the mouth of the Gunpowder. This is a count of all birds seen or heard in the count circle. Contact compiler Kevin Graff, keyweststyle2001@gmail.com, for area assignment with one of the sector coordinators.

♣ **Patuxent/PGAS.** Monthly walk at Governor Bridge Natural Area. 7:30 AM. Meet at the Natural Area parking lot on the south side of Governor Bridge Rd, 1 mile east of Rte 301. No reservations needed. For more information contact Bill Sefton at kiwisuits@msn.com.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Triadelphia Reservoir.** Compiler David Holmes, musiclbndr@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Washington.** Contact Mark Abdy, mjabdy@yahoo.com or 301-432-7696, to participate. Tally and potluck dinner begin at 5 PM at the Mt. Aetna Nature Center, 21905 Mt Aetna Rd, Hagerstown. Please bring a dish to share. Place settings and drinks will be provided.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Washington, DC.** 75th Annual. For information on participating contact Carol Hayes, carol.hayes@ANShome.org or 301-652-9188 x10. Compiler Larry Cartwright, at prowarbler@verizon.net.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **York, PA.** The southern area of this count circle includes a portion of MD in northern Carroll Co. Alternate date Dec 30. Compiler is Bernard Frick, 717-843-6675 or bernardfrick@alum.lehigh.edu.

Sunday, December 17

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Elkton.** Full day census of all birds in a circle of 7.5-mile radius centered on Black Hill on Elk Neck. You may count in your choice of locations in the count circle, if you contact the compiler early. Count for full day or as much as you can. No experience necessary – if you are new to counting, you will be assigned to a team. Feeder watchers also welcome – count in your own backyard, if you are located within the count circle. Coordinator Russell Kovach, russell.kovach@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Jug Bay.** Volunteers are needed to census birds in a 15-mile diameter circle in the vicinity of Jug Bay. Choose your own start and stop times, then come to a tally rally at the end of the day to share your data and socialize. Contact compiler Sam Droege, sdroege@usgs.gov, to be put in touch with a sector leader to receive an area assignment.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Lower Kent County.** Covers area from south of Chestertown and Tolchester to Eastern Neck Island. Full day of counting, followed by count down dinner. Contact compiler Nancy Martin, 410-778-9568 or borealdee@gmail.com, for area assignments or more information.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Manassas-Bull Run, VA.** Compiler Bob Shipman, ships333@yahoo.com.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Nassawadox.** Contact Harry Armistead, harryarmistead@hotmail.com.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Point Lookout.** Contact Andy Brown, Andrew.Brown@calvertcountymd.gov.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Port Tobacco.** Contact Mike Callahan, raptorsrulemc@gmail.com or 240-765-5192.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Salisbury.** Join this traditional holiday birding event by contacting compiler Mike Walsh, 410-422-0428 or mik.walsh@comcast.net.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Seneca.** Compiler is Jim Nelson, kingfishers2@verizon.net.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Southern Lancaster Co, PA.** 42nd consecutive year. Compiler Bob Schutsky, info@birdtreks.com.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Talbot/YMOS.** If you have not participated in the past, please give some thought to doing so this year. Count coordinator/compiler Wayne Bell, 410-820-6002 or wbell2@washcoll.edu. Potluck Dinner 5:30 PM. Christ Episcopal Church, St. Michael's, in parish hall. Compilation begins after dinner. Dinner coordinator Priscilla Thut, 410-745-6657 or pdthut@hughes.net. Call if you have a question about what to bring.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **YMOS.** Count will be in Talbot county. It is a wonderful experience but a very long day. Lodging will be provided Sat night for any participating students so that we can get the early start for an owl bonanza. Email George Radcliffe, radclifg@gmail.com, of your intent to go at least 2 weeks in advance.

Wednesday, December 20

MEETING. **Anne Arundel.** "Going Inside the Nest: A Rare Look at Raptors along the Chesapeake Bay" with *Teena Ruark Gorrow* and *Craig A. Koppie*. Take a photographic journey through the Bald Eagle and Osprey nesting seasons with the authors/photographers of *Inside a Bald Eagle's Nest*, *Inside an Osprey's Nest*, and *Mr. President and The First Lady*. Get an insider's view of raptor activity along the Chesapeake Bay. 7-9 PM, Harvest Hall, Kinder Farm Park. Contact Barbara Johnson, 410-703-4664 or barbarajohnson222@gmail.com.

Thursday, December 21

♣ **Patuxent/PGAS.** Lake Artemesia Natural Area. Semi-monthly walk. Wheelchair-accessible. 3 PM. Meet at parking lot, at intersection of Berwyn Rd and Ballew Ave in Berwyn Heights. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich, mozurk@bellatlantic.net, for more information.

Saturday, December 23

♣ **Baltimore.** Druid Hill Park. Join Audubon and the Maryland Zoo to explore this leafy city park! From forest to lake, a variety of bird species await. 8-9:30 AM. Meet at 3001 East Dr. To borrow binoculars, contact Patterson Park Audubon Ctr at 410-558-2473 or baltimore@audubon.com.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Calmes Neck, VA.** Compiler Margaret Wester, 540-336-9813 or margaretwester@hotmail.com.

♣ **Washington.** Antietam Battlefield. Trip is co-sponsored with Potomac Valley Audubon Society. 8 AM. Meet at the Burnside Bridge parking lot for birding along the Final Attack Trail. Contact Sandy Sagalkin, sandy.sagalkin@gmail.com or 240-291-6465, to participate.

Wednesday, December 27

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Crisfield.** Compiler is Paul Bystrak, shrike@comcast.net.

Thursday, December 28

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Central Loudoun, VA and MD** (this count includes 5 miles along the C&O Canal in Montgomery Co, MD). Sign up online at www.loudounwildlife.org or contact compiler Joe Coleman, 540-554-2542 or joecoleman@rstarmail.com.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Ocean City.** Contact Mark Hoffman, wcbirding@gmail.com or 443-223-4587.

Saturday, December 30

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Cape Charles.** Contact George Armistead, armistead.george@gmail.com, or Ned Brinkley, thalassoica@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Lancaster, PA.** Compilers Barbara Hunsberger and Roger Stoner, 717-393-9030.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Rock Run.** Full day census of all birds in a circle of 7.5 mi radius centered on Rock Run Mill opposite Port Deposit. The count circle includes portions of Cecil County along the Susquehanna, from above Rte 1 and the Conowingo Dam south to Perryville. You may count in your choice of locations in the count circle, if you contact the compiler early. Feeder watchers also welcome – count in your own backyard, if you are located within the count circle. Count for full day or as much as you can. Must contact compiler Rick Cheicante, rickcheicante@cs.com, ahead of time for assignment to an area and for reporting forms and instructions.

Sunday, December 31

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Annapolis/Gibson Island.** Compilers are Hal Wierenga and Lynn Davidson, 410-647-7439 or hal.lynn@comcast.net, and Sue Ricciardi, 410-647-9513 or susiericc@comcast.net.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Chesterville.** Covers most of eastern Kent County & some of northern Queen Anne's. Full day of counting, followed by count down dinner. Contact compiler Maren Gimpel at 912-660-1541 for area assignments or more information.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Fort Belvoir.** Compiler Kurt Gaskill, kurtcapt87@verizon.net. MD sector Lynne Wheeler, somdaudubon@yahoo.com or 301-751-8097.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Lititz, PA.** Compiler Ted Nichols II, 717-856-3851 or tanicholsii@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Patuxent River.** Contact Andy Brown, Andrew.Brown@calvertcountymd.gov.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Sugarloaf Mountain.** All are welcome! If you can't be in the field, but live within 7.5 miles of Sugarloaf peak, help by counting and reporting your feeder birds. Compiler Janet Millenson, janet@twocrows.com.

Monday, January 1, 2018

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Bowie.** Volunteers are needed to census birds in a 15-mile

diameter circle in the vicinity of Bowie. Choose your own start and stop times, then come to a tally rally at the end of the day to share your data and socialize. Contact compiler David Mozurkewich, mozurk@bellAtlantic.net, to volunteer and to receive an assignment.

♣ **Harford.** Perryman Area. Celebrate the New Year or recover from New Year's Eve by getting back to nature in the always productive Perryman Area. 8:30 AM. Meet at the Wal-Mart parking lot. Leader Phil Powers, 443-417-7520 or birdsinmd308@gmail.com.

♣ **Howard.** Start Your Year List. Easy walking on paved paths and woodland trails. Plan to carpool to different locations to find as many species as possible. The one day of the year where every bird is new! Facilities available. 8 AM (half day). Meet at the Howard Conservancy - Mount Pleasant Farm. Leader Kurt Schwarz, krschwa1@verizon.net or 410-461-1643.

Wednesday, January 3

♣ **Baltimore.** First Wednesday Walk at Fort McHenry. One of a series of morning surveys of bird activity at the Fort and wetland. Telescopes useful. Cancelled in inclement weather. 8 AM. Park outside the main entrance gate, in lot on left, and meet at the gate. Leader Mary Chetelat, 410-665-0769.

Thursday, January 4

MEETING. **Frederick.** Members Night or Quiz Night. 7 PM. Homewood at Crumland Farms.

♣ **Patuxent/PGAS.** Lake Artemesia Natural Area. Semi-monthly walk. Wheelchair-accessible. 3 PM. Meet at parking lot, at intersection of Berwyn Rd and Ballew Ave in Berwyn Heights. No reservations needed. Contact David Mozurkewich, mozurk@bellAtlantic.net, for more information.

Friday, January 5

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Inwood, WV.** Compiler Bob Dean, bobdean52@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT. **Smith Island, MD and Tangier Island, VA.** Dependent on availability of hotels, restaurants, ferries, etc. Contact Harry Armistead, harryarmistead@hotmail.com for further information.

Saturday, January 6

♣ **Baltimore.** Middle Branch Park and Southwest Area Park. We'll begin at one of the city's best spots for winter ducks, Middle Branch Park. Five species of diving ducks probable, with hundreds of individuals on good days. Then we'll head to SWAP, a vast former landfill now a Baltimore County park. Reliable for dabbling ducks, raptors, woodpeckers, and sparrows. Uncommon species show up yearly. 8 AM. Meet at Middle Branch Park in the main parking lot by the city rec office, 3301 Waterview Ave. Canceled in bad weather. Leader Frank Morgan, flm003@gmail.com or 410-487-1110.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY. **Carroll.** Talk birds, eat, drink, and have fun with fellow birders. Sue and Splinter Yingling, hostess/host. 70 Ridge Rd, Westminster. 7:30 PM. Please coordinate with the Yinglings to bring a dish at syingling@mac.com or 410-857-0902.

MID-WINTER COUNT. **Frederick.** Meet at Audrey Carroll Sanctuary at 6:30 AM, and be prepared to visit all parts of the sanctuary's 129 acres. You may want your waterproof boots. Compiler David Smith, 410-549-7082.

♣ **Kent.** Friends of Eastern Neck NWR will sponsor a Refuge walk through areas normally closed to the public. A local birding expert or naturalist will guide the walk. Plan for a flat, two-mile outing of about two hours, with cocoa and cookies at Refuge Headquarters after. Bring binoculars and a

camera. Wear boots and dress warmly. No rain date. Registration is limited to 20, first-come, first-served. Children over 12 are permitted, but no dogs. Walks are free (with a tax-deductible donation payable to Friends of Eastern Neck appreciated to keep the program self-sustaining). To register at Eventbrite, go to: <http://bit.ly/2vWPDBt>. 8 AM. Meet at Refuge Headquarters. For more information, contact Gren Whitman, easternneckwalks@gmail.com or 443-691-9370.

♣ **Patuxent/PGAS.** Fran Uhler Natural Area. Monthly walk. 7:30 AM. Meet at east end of Lemon's Bridge Rd, off Route 197 just north of Bowie State University. No reservations needed. Contact Bill Sefton, kiwisuits@msn.com.

♣ **Tri-county.** Coastal Birding trip from Ocean City, MD to Cape Henlopen, DE for winter coastal birding. Bring lunch, snacks and drinks. Meet at the Ward Museum parking lot at 7:30 AM or the OC inlet parking lot at 8:30 AM. Leader is TBA, in the meantime, for information, contact Ellen Lawler, 410-982-8695 or emlawler534@comcast.net.

Sunday, January 7

COVERED DISH DINNER AND LECTURE. **Baltimore.** Tonight's speaker is *Joe Hanfman* and the topic is "Birding Alaska." To reserve a place and tell us what you will bring, please use the website PerfectPotluck.com—detailed instructions will be sent out in December. 4:30 PM. Vollmer Center at Cylburn. For information contact coordinator Kevin Graff at keyweststyle2001@gmail.com, or call Peter Lev at 410-823-2962.