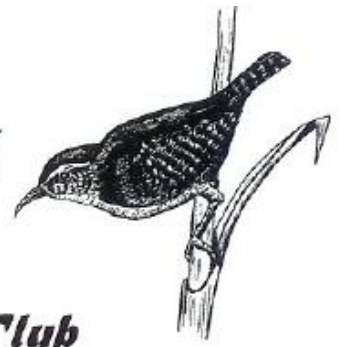




# Wrenderings

*The Newsletter of the Harford Bird Club*



Volume 45 Number 12

December 2021

## President's Perch

Inside this issue:

### Happy Holidays to All Fellow Birders

Winter tends to be a quiet season for most of us and after the holidays have passed many begin to look forward to the warmer days of spring. However, winter birding can be rewarding in its own way. A lot of local birds stay put all year long and are more visible due to the lack of foliage. You also can observe visitors that you might not see other times of the year. It's also a great time to sharpen your skills observing shorebirds and waterfowl. There are many field guides that can aid with this, but there was a waterfowl laminated ID series produced by the Cornell Lab entitled "[Where's the White?](#)" that helped me. Several of our future field trips would be another great opportunity to assist in this, so please considering joining us.

I do have one additional matter that must be brought to your attention. We do have an urgent need to find a replacement editor for our newsletter. Amanda Subolefsky has done an excellent job for the last two years but cannot continue with a double duty as both Media Manager and Newsletter Editor. Her duties have greatly increased with the handling of Google Meets, Facebook, and virtual club meetings.

I'm sure you have your favorite section of the newsletter, whether it be book reviews, general news, field trip reports, etc. It's a great form of communication to keep everyone abreast about what's happening within the club. Unfortunately, if we do not find a replacement this will probably be the last newsletter. Amanda is willing to work with and help transition that person until they feel comfortable with the process. We can also explore the possibility of offering a stipend, so that the newsletter can be maintained. In addition, at a recent executive board meeting, it was decided to reduce the number of issues from six to four. Our bylaws require a vote to reduce the number of issues. This vote will be taken at our January 7<sup>th</sup> virtual meeting.

If you know of anyone who has some computer skills and might be interested in this position, please contact me. My e-mail and phone number can be found under the "Harford Bird Club Executive Board" listing. Our next scheduled publication will be in April, so we need to set a deadline of February 1 for this position to be filled. I know we all want to see the Wrenderings continue, but if no one steps forward, this could be our last publication.

~Joe Stevens, President

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### Plan Ahead!

- December 26: Rock Run Christmas Bird Count
- January 7th at 7pm: January Virtual Meeting & Guest Speaker
- May 20-22: In Person MOS Conference at

## Be there.

# Bird Droppings

## Club News?

Have news the club should know about? Births, deaths, marriages, or any other notable events that belong in the newsletter? Please contact Secretary, Deb Stewart at 410-879-2364 or send an email to [debstewart1307@gmail.com](mailto:debstewart1307@gmail.com).



## New Members

A warm Harford Bird Club welcome goes out to the following new members. Thank you for joining. We look forward to seeing you out there on our birding trips and at our meetings!

**Julian & Gerald Ellege, Aberdeen Maryland**  
**Sally Cassilly, Churchville, Maryland**



Membership dues for the September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022 year are past due. Please go to <https://mdbirds.org/join/chapters/harford-bird-club/#toggle-id-1> or fill out the form on page 13 and mail your dues to Eric Vangrin. Last year there were some questions about the online payment process since it looked like you were joining the Maryland Ornithological Society and not the Harford Bird Club. The Harford Bird Club is a chapter of the Maryland Ornithological Society. Paying online or by check to Eric includes you on the club roster for both the Maryland Ornithological Society and the Harford Bird Club.

## Harford Bird Club Executive Board

<b>President</b>	Joe Stevens	410-734-7198	<a href="mailto:josephstevens@comcast.net">josephstevens@comcast.net</a>
<b>Vice President</b>	Sue Procell	443-417-4919	<a href="mailto:procellmd@gmail.com">procellmd@gmail.com</a>
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Deborah Stewart	410-879-2364	<a href="mailto:debstewart1307@gmail.com">debstewart1307@gmail.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Eric Vangrin	443-417-7219	<a href="mailto:evangrin@msn.com">evangrin@msn.com</a>
<b>Past President</b>	Mark Johnson	410-692-5978	<a href="mailto:MarkSJohnson2@gmail.com">MarkSJohnson2@gmail.com</a>
<b>Field Trip Chairperson</b>	Tom Gibson	410-734-4135	<a href="mailto:gibsonlld@aol.com">gibsonlld@aol.com</a>
<b>May Count Coordinator</b>	Vacant		
<b>Rock Run Count Coordinator</b>	Mark Johnson	410-692-5978	<a href="mailto:MarkSJohnson2@gmail.com">MarkSJohnson2@gmail.com</a>
<b>Dinner Reservations</b>	Johanne Henrickson	410-657-3914	<a href="mailto:johen24@gmail.com">johen24@gmail.com</a>
<b>Public Relations</b>	Jane Scocca	410-272-8870	<a href="mailto:jane@scocca.org">jane@scocca.org</a>
<b>Education Chairperson</b>	Mary Murray	410-812-6621	<a href="mailto:murraymary@gmail.com">murraymary@gmail.com</a>
<b>Conservation Chair</b>	Deborah Bowers	410-692-2708	<a href="mailto:bowerspub@hotmail.com">bowerspub@hotmail.com</a>
<b>Youth Coordinator</b>	Vacant		
<b>State Board Members</b>	Dennis Kirkwood	410-692-5905	<a href="mailto:newarkfarms@gmail.com">newarkfarms@gmail.com</a>
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<b>Wrenderings Editor</b>	Vacant		

# Rock Run Christmas Bird Count



The date for our Rock Run Christmas Bird Count is for Sunday, December 26, 2021. Teams attempt to count every bird in sectors divided up from a 10 km radius from the Rock Run Mill in both Harford and Cecil Counties in a single 24-hour period. Traditionally, individuals who counted sectors previously have preference for returning to them again; however, we appreciate all the help we can get and we often have open sectors that are not counted (click [here](#) to see the sectors in more detail ). More information can be found on the Christmas Count [website](#). If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Mark Johnson at 410-692-5978 or [MarkSJohnson2@gmail.com](mailto:MarkSJohnson2@gmail.com).



## Public Relations



The Harford Bird Club is often invited to set up at local events. We speak to the public about the birds they see, field trips we offer and other great activities. A new table cloth was purchased featuring our famous HBC logo to make our table more recognizable to the general public.

We look so professional!



Mary & Greg Murray

# Trip Reports

## Swan Harbor Farm

**October 16, 2021**

Dennis Kirkwood

Fifteen participants enjoyed a beautiful morning birding at Swan Harbor Farm Park in mid-October. We circled the raised impoundments first and found Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Blackpoll Warbler, high-flying Bald Eagles, and flocks of mixed blackbirds. Along the entrance road, Palm and Yellow-rumped Warblers and Eastern Bluebirds put on a show. We took a stroll down to the pier to finish the morning and 2 Lesser Yellowlegs were present just off the pier, giving everyone excellent looks. A Great Egret was perched in the cove and was joined by several Great Blue Herons. In the distance, Caspian Terns were flying over the water. We finished the morning with about 30 species.

## Mariner Point Park

**October 23, 2021**

David Larkin & Phil Powers

It was a bright sunny day as 14 birders strolled the paved paths of Mariner Point Park. Twenty-five species were observed with the highlight being numerous Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets.

## Stoney Demonstration Forest

**November 13, 2021**

Jane Scocca & Dave Webb

Twelve people met at Aberdeen's HEAT Center Park & Ride and then hiked along an old logging road through Stoney Forest starting from Stepney Road and ending at Gray's Run. A total of nineteen birds species were spotted or heard that morning, including Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Pileated Woodpecker, Brown Creeper and Hermit Thrush. A number of fascinating insects and plants made up for the scarcity of birds. These sightings included three colonies of dancing Beech Blight Aphids and the fungus *Scorias spongiosa* growing on the aphids' honeydew. Other arthropods included the Catalpa Sphinx caterpillars feasting on the leaves of their namesake host tree, a leaf-footed bug (*Leptoglossus oppositus*), an Arrowhead Spider, a late season water strider nymph (*Aquarius remiges*), and tentiform leaf miner caterpillars (genus *Phyllonorycter*) feeding on a Chestnut Oak seedling. Notable plants included Putty Root Orchid, Spotted Wintergreen, Devil's Walking Stick and Beechdrops. Co-host Jane Scocca provided chocolate chip cookies on the trail and warm, spiced cider afterwards.

## Trip to the Delaware Shore

**November 14, 2021**

David Larkin

Seven Harford County birders participated in this field trip to the Delaware Shore on a mild but breezy late Fall Day. Our first stop was at Woodland Beach where we found a number of Northern Harriers cruising over the marsh along with a Rough-legged Hawk. From Woodland Beach we drove to Bombay Hook. On the ponds at Bombay Hook were large numbers of ducks and shorebirds. Among the shorebirds were Black-bellied Plovers and surprisingly a Hudsonian Godwit. Great Blue Herons, as would be expected, were common but more interestingly we counted sixteen Great Egrets and a single Tricolored Heron. For the trip the group had a total of 53 species.

# Audubon Museum at Mill Grove Field Trip Report

October 30, 2021

Mary Trotta



At 6:15 AM Saturday October 30, twelve club members met at Darlington Park to set off by car to Mill Grove, PA to visit J.J. Audubon's first home in America. Introductions were made by flashlight since it was still too dark to see well. Carpooling was arranged and the two hour drive began. With just a slight deviation from our GPS directions we still arrived at the museum a half hour early, which left us time to scout out some birds on our own.

Then the naturalist who was our guide for the bird walk arrived, and we began our scheduled walk down to Perkiomen Creek which was running high after a heavy rainfall the night before. The high creek and the scattered showers that we encountered, significantly reduced bird activity with the exception of few excited blue jays who led us to a perfect sighting of a great horned owl. And, thanks to the alertness of Tom Gibson who had followed the owl's flight to another nearby tree, we all got a chance to see one of nature's little dramas play out as the jays continued to relentlessly mob the owl for another ten minutes, getting a lot of direct strikes on the owl's head and back. All of this was viewed through a large opening in the branches of the tree which perfectly framed the whole episode.

We had to cut our walk short due to another small rain shower and retreated to the square barn where Michael, who arranged our trip to the museum, and another guide, gave us a little of the history of the property and Audubon's stay there. As we moved on to the house and the indoor portion of our trip, the clouds which had been with us all morning moved on and bright sunshine moved in for the rest of the day as we toured inside the historic 1762 home and the beautiful new museum which opened in 2019.

The house and museum were filled with Audubon's brilliant and innovative drawings of birds in their natural environment while engaged in normal activities. He remarkably scaled them to their actual size for his famous double-elephant-folio edition of The Birds of America and always drew them with one eye looking out directly at you, the viewer. The variety of exhibits also honors his scientific contributions as well as his artistic talents and his influence on birding and conservation.

Although the damp, drizzly, weather limited our bird sightings during the bird walk, we could still report back a good list of birds seen. Our own expert guides: Tom Gibson, Jean Wheeler, Eric Vangrin, Joe and Melody Stevens, along with Museum guides Sandy and Michael, helped us find a total of nineteen birds, including a real passenger pigeon (although not living).

Carolina Chickadee	Cardinal
Yellow-shafted Flicker	Junco
Hairy Woodpecker	White-throated Sparrow
Starling	Common Grackle
English Sparrow	Yellow-Rumped Warbler
Horned Owl	White-breasted Nuthatch
Bluebird	Great Blue Heron
Blue Jay	Mourning Dove
Red-bellied Woodpecker	Possible Eagle
American Crow	



We ended the trip with a delicious meal and good conversation at Chadwick's Restaurant and Bar located in the Golf Club at Shannondell just a five minute drive from the museum. ~Mary Trotta

## Vice President's Voice

### Birder or Bird Watcher

By: Sue Procell



The other day someone asked me: "Are you a birder or a bird watcher?" Is there a difference? Curious to find out, I went to my favorite place – the internet. Apparently, the term "bird watcher" congers up images such as (1) an elderly person watching their backyard bird feeders through a kitchen window, or (2) an older, affluent, scholarly person wearing a multi-pocketed vest and safari hat creeping about clutching binoculars and a field guide. So, what does the term "birder" conger up? Believe it or not, a hobbyist. A person from all walks of life who enjoys being out in nature and watching various species of birds. Birding is actually a practical hobby. It doesn't require much equipment and you can take it wherever you go. It can be as simplistic as watching the zany antics of your local birds to as complex as developing the ability to identify birds by their song and, dare I say, their call notes. There's also the competitive fun of trying to see as many birds as you can in a defined space and time. If you see an unusual bird while you are out, be prepared to defend your ID to your fellow birders when sharing your story. A photo always helps. Have I mentioned the joy of combining photography with birding, or the sense of fulfillment that comes with being a citizen scientist? Whether traveling to new places to discover new birds or walking in our local woods to catch a glimpse or hear the song of a familiar bird, or visiting one of our local banding stations, if you are asked "Are you a birder or a bird watcher?" how will you respond? Me, I think I'll have fun with it!

## Natural World Resources

By: Deb Stewart

Are you looking for more information about the natural world? Here are two local organizations filled with resources to explore.

**Maryland Native Plant Society-** "Our Mission is to promote awareness, appreciation, and conservation of Maryland's native plants and their habitats. We pursue our mission through education, research, advocacy, and service activities."

Visit their website at [mdflora.org](http://mdflora.org). There you will find plant identification resources, publications for native plants, gardening information, and events. Lectures are posted on their [YouTube channel](#).

**The Natural History Society of Maryland-** "Whether it is a neighborhood nature hike, a workshop on butterflies, a plant identification course, or anything in between we strive to bring educational and engaging nature-based opportunities to communities, schools, families, and more."

Besides programs, lectures, workshops and outdoor events, "the Natural History Society of Maryland is building a central location to catalogue and conserve collections, carry out independent research, offer natural history education to the general public, and inspire students to pursue careers in the natural sciences." Their building is located in Overlea, Baltimore County. Visit their [website](#) for more information and access to [video events and lectures](#):

Note: I enjoyed a video from a field trip to [watch chimney swifts enter a chimney to roost](#). It was a shaky video but the facilitator made up for that with enthusiasm and information. Another [chimney swift video](#) was a lecture with slides presented by Chris Eberly, Executive Director of the Maryland Bird Conservation Partnership

# Education News

Mary Murray

On November 10, Harford Bird Club Education Chair, Mary Murray and Harford County Master Gardener, Greg Murray gave a presentation to an enthusiastic group of 4H-ers at the MD Extension Office. Usual visuals and demonstrations, Greg and Mary taught the children, along with their parents, about the amazing adaptations of owls. The children were introduced to a few of the more common Harford County owls and practiced their calls. The event concluded with an owl pellet dissection. Even the parents dug in to investigate the bones. A special thank you to Marylisa Schaedel from the MD Extension Office for coordinating the evening.





# Harford Birdlife

by Monroe Harden

Fall migration has wound down and now we have our winter waterfowl, sparrows, and maybe some cool rarities to share. There are always nice birds to see in Harford County. This report covers the period from October 1<sup>st</sup> through November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

## Swans, Geese, Ducks, Raptors, Gulls, Flycatchers, Ravens

SB reported 6 Mute Swans in the water near APG-North on Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>. JM saw the continuing pair of Trumpeter Swans at the Home Depot Pond in Edgewood on Oct 4<sup>th</sup>. These were seen by others throughout the period. DK had 12 Cackling Geese in Turney's Pond on Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>. They were there through Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>. JP saw a Ruddy Duck in the bay on Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>.

MJ saw the continuing Red-shouldered x Red-tailed Hawk hybrid at Susquehanna State Park on Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>. He last saw it there in June. This bird has been seen in the same area for 10 years. DL saw a Merlin at Perryman on Oct 18<sup>th</sup>. DK saw a Peregrine Falcon circling overhead at Harford Glen on Nov 11<sup>th</sup>. MJ spotted a Glaucous Gull flying with a group of Herring Gulls over Swan Harbor on Nov 28<sup>th</sup>.

JH saw a Least Flycatcher at Swan Harbor on Oct 1<sup>st</sup>. DB had an Eastern Phoebe at her Street feeder on Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>. DK saw a Common Raven flying over Newark Farm on Nov 6<sup>th</sup>. He also saw one there on Nov 18-20. He noted another Raven at Harford Glen on Nov 9<sup>th</sup>.

## Thrushes, Warblers, Sparrows, Blackbirds

JH saw a Hermit Thrush at Susquehanna State Park on Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>. DB had one at her home in Street on Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>. She said that she usually has one that winters there every year. MJ found an Orange-crowned Warbler at Perryman Park on Oct 17<sup>th</sup>. The bird was also there on Oct 18<sup>th</sup>. MH saw one at Swan Harbor on Nov 15<sup>th</sup>. MM saw a Wilson's Warbler there on Oct 10<sup>th</sup>.

JM saw an American Tree Sparrow at the Woodley Road ponds in Perryman on Nov 8<sup>th</sup>. GP found a Vesper Sparrow at Perryman Park on Nov 7<sup>th</sup>. Two were seen there on Nov 11<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, while one was seen on Nov 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. MJ saw a Dickcissel at Swan harbor on Oct 1<sup>st</sup>. MH saw one in Cordelia on Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>. He also saw 2 Rusty Blackbirds in Forest Hill on Oct 12<sup>th</sup>.

## Contributors

DB- Debbie Bowers, DK- Dennis Kirkwood, DL- Dave Larkin, GP- George Poscover, JH- Joseph Hadaway, JM- John Manger, JP- Jean Palanuwich, MH- Matt Hafner, MJ- Mark Johnson, MM- Mike Marsjanik, SB- Steven Buhler



## Trip Reports, continued



### Eastern Neck Wildlife Refuge

November 20, 2021

Eric Vangrin

A group of 12 birders, from at least three counties (Harford, Baltimore, & Howard), and two states (MD & DC) turned out for a day trip to the Eastern Neck Island National Wildlife



Refuge and various areas in Kent County, MD. Many of the anticipated waterfowl

were present but in lesser numbers due to the warm fall weather, here and up north. Eastern Neck NWR never disappoints with views of Tundra Swans on the Chesapeake Bay. In addition, we also saw Bufflehead, Ruddy, Mallard, Gadwall, Wigeon, Merganser, and Lesser Scaup. We were also delighted to view at close distance a Ruby Crowned Kinglet. No visit to Kent County and Chestertown is complete without a stop at the wastewater treatment pond, to see Norther Shoveler, Canada Geese, and ducks. We finished with 37 species and a great day meeting new members from across the State. Hopefully snow and cold find the region bringing many varieties of waterfowl for our anticipated trip in February.



# UPDATED Field Trip Policies

Revised October 9, 2021

by Tom Gibson and approved by the HBC Executive Board

Considering recent CDC recommendations and local jurisdictional changes as well as common practices of other outdoor activities groups, we are making the following modifications to the HBC field trip protocols implemented at the onset of the pandemic. Our goal is to provide safe, healthful and enjoyable outdoor experiences in a welcoming atmosphere. Participants are asked to keep in mind that trip leaders are free to cancel or change trips and protocols as needed.

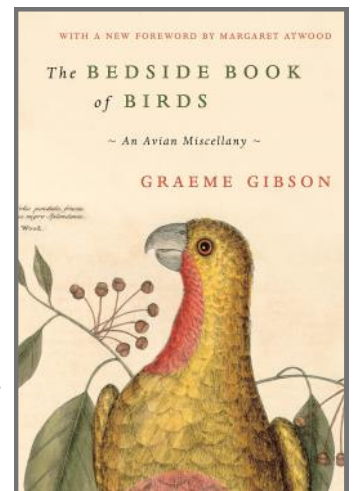
- ⇒ There is no cap on the number of participants unless the leader so designates.
- ⇒ Masks are not required for participants who have been vaccinated and reached full immunity. Unvaccinated participants are asked to wear a mask — honor system.
- ⇒ Carpooling is permitted for those fully vaccinated and those within the same family unit. The driver and riders may adjust this according to the needs and comfort levels of all drivers.
- ⇒ If a trip needs to be cancelled, leaders should notify the Field Trip Chairperson, Tom Gibson and text or cc Amanda Subolefsky on the cancellation email.
- Check [HarfordBirdClub.org](https://www.harfordbirdclub.org) and the [Harford Bird Club Facebook Group](https://www.facebook.com/HarfordBirdClub) (Click on Events) for the most recent trip information. Cancelled trips will be updated no later than the Wednesday before the trip was scheduled to take place, unless it's a weather cancellation.

Tom Gibson, the trip leaders, and the entire HBC Executive Board thank you, in advance, for your cooperation and looks forward to seeing you on a field trip soon!

## Book Review

The Bedside Book of Birds – An Avian Miscellany, by Graeme Gibson

This book was originally published in 2005 and has been newly released with a forward by novelist and poet Margaret Atwood, following the death of her partner, editor Graeme Gibson in 2019. I borrowed this beautiful volume from the Harford County Public Library. It features on its cover a “Parrot of Paradise,” a colored print published between 1731 and 1743 in a now rare two volume Natural History of Carolina, Florida and the Bahama Islands by Mark Catesby. If that name and title seem familiar, they are mentioned in the current issue of Maryland Birdlife in an article on another colonial era naturalist, Henry Callister. In the Bedside Book of Birds you will find a compilation of descriptions of birds in writings and in art dating as far back as Pliny the Elder. This volume provides snippets of natural history, poetry and art from published journals, essays and poems. It demonstrates how long people have been recording observations of birds. I was amazed to see an image of a very short tailed wren extracting a spider from its web, which many of us have observed. This wren and spider depiction was found in one of the hundreds of windows of York Minster, England, and is dated to the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Our fellow birders span the length of history and while some accounts are as accurate as they are today, others are pure superstition and imagination. Here are stories of ravens, magpies, crows, cuckoos, buntings, etc., hundreds of years old. If history is not enticing enough, the illustrations alone are reason enough to pick up this book next time you are at the library. ~Debbie Bowers



# Harford Bird Club Field Trips

Field trip schedule compiled by Tom Gibson

**December 26 (Sun.) — Annual Christmas Bird Count —** Details on page 3.

**January 1 (Sat.) — Annual New Year's Day Bird Walk at Perryman —** Join us to welcome in the New Year with a tour through the always productive Perryman area. Our leader is veteran birder Phil Powers (443-417-7520; [birdsindmd308@gmail.com](mailto:birdsindmd308@gmail.com)). Meet at Aberdeen Walmart parking lot on Rt. 40 at **8:30 AM**.

**January 15 (Sat.) — Feeder Watch —** Join your fellow club members as we happily resume our annual feeder watch in the comfort of the home of Mark and Denise Johnson. Enjoy watching the bird activity at their various feeders and conversing with your fellow birders. Final details will be announced closer to the date via email, social media and the HBC website. ([marksjohnson2@gmail.com](mailto:marksjohnson2@gmail.com); 410-692-5978)

**January 22 (Sat.) — Traveling the Bradenbaugh Flats —** The tour begins at Jarrettsville Elementary School parking lot at **8:00 AM**. From there leader Dennis Kirkwood takes us on a pleasant tour through NW Harford County's agricultural area to search out wintering field birds and waterfowl. Expect Horned Larks, along with Ring-necked Ducks and maybe a Cackling Goose. The trip finishes up at the leader's home where you will enjoy hot homemade soup, homemade breads, good conversation and maybe even a brief glimpse of the resident screech owl. Contact Dennis at (410-692-5905; [newarkfarms@gmail.com](mailto:newarkfarms@gmail.com)).

**January 29 – (Sat.) – Perryville Community Park —** On a leisurely excursion on mostly flat paved surfaces we will be in search of swimmers, divers, and fliers. There should be good views of ducks on Mill Creek and possible sightings of swans on Furnace Bay. Eagles are also often seen flying overhead. Historic Stumps Point also provides beautiful views of the Susquehanna Flats and the North East River as well as Furnace Bay and Mill Creek. Take the entrance road to Stumps Point at the far end of the Perryville Community Park. We will meet there at **9:00AM**. Convenient parking and toilets are available. Contact leaders Colleen Webster (410-459-4577; [cwebster@harford.edu](mailto:cwebster@harford.edu)) or Sue Procell (443-417-4919).

**February 19 - (Sat.) - Eastern Neck Wildlife Preserve —** On this trip we will be looking for ducks, swans and other waterfowl at a little known Eastern Shore gem. Just the scenic ride down and the refuge's beautiful, classic, Eastern Shore diverse habitat make this trip worthwhile. Add to that the variety of waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors and passerines you will likely encounter and you have a must-do outing. Leaders are Eric Vangrin ([evangrin@msn.com](mailto:evangrin@msn.com); 443-417-7219), Tom Congersky ([jnitcon@zoominternet.net](mailto:jnitcon@zoominternet.net); 410-658-4137) and Tom Gibson at ([gibsonlld@aol.com](mailto:gibsonlld@aol.com); 410-734-4135). Meet at the Havre de Grace Park and Ride (I-95 and Rt.155) at **8:00AM**.

## In Person MOS Convention

As of December 2021, the MOS Convention will be an in-person event held at Solomons Island from May 20-22, 2022. The location is the Holiday Inn Solomons Island (hotel name will be changing in early 2022 to Solomon's Inn Resort and Marina). More information will be forthcoming.

The address for the hotel is:  
155 Holiday Drive  
Solomons, MD 20688



# Foreign Recapture at the Harford Glen Banding Station



On Tuesday, November 18th, 2021, Dave Larkin and Jane Scocca embarked on the 10am net run like they had the two previous hours earlier that day. They hoped to encounter birds in the nets, but knew it might not happen as encounters diminish as the morning progresses. Approaching Net Ten, which runs perpendicular to Plumtree Run in the lower section of the nets at Harford Glen, they noticed a bird that was bigger than the White-throated Sparrows they had extracted previously. Upon inspection, they discovered a Sharp-shinned Hawk! Dave and Jane carefully removed the bird from the net and realized it had a band.

When a previously banded bird lands in a net it's called a 'recapture'. In almost every case at Harford Glen, the recaptured bird is one that I banded and I have the record of the bird in my notes.

Upon recording the bird's band number, collecting all of the regular data and aging the bird as a Hatch Year our team noticed we had not banded a Sharp-shinned Hawk during our fall season. This means it came from another bander! I immediately checked with Mark Johnson who bands at Eden Mill. I knew he had banded at least one Sharp-shinned Hawk this fall. According to the number on the band it was not his bird either. We had another bander's bird! When a bird from a different bander is caught it's called a 'Foreign Recapture'. The last Foreign Recapture at Harford Glen was in 2006. It was an American Goldfinch that was banded at Powder Mill Nature Reserve, outside Pittsburgh.

Following the protocol, I reported everything I knew about the bird to ReportBand.gov. In about seven days, I received the certificate below stating that Sharp-shinned Hawk, band number 1603-79546, had been banded one month prior in Lehigh County Pennsylvania. As the hawk flies it's approximately 100 miles from the station at Harford Glen!

I'll update everyone in fifteen years when we net another foreign recapture.

~Amanda Subolefsky

**USGS** science for a changing world

**CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION  
AWARDED TO**

**AMANDA SUBOLEFSKY**

**Banding Data**

<b>Band Number</b>	1603-79546	<b>Banded</b>	10/17/2021
<b>Species</b>	SHARP-SHINNED HAWK	<b>Sex</b>	MALE
<b>Age of Bird</b>	HATCHED IN 2021		
<b>Location</b>	NEAR PALMERTON, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, USA (COORDINATES: LAT: 40.79306; LON: -75.675 )		
<b>Bander</b>	Mr. JERE A SCHADE 3272 DURHAM ROAD P.O. BOX 2 MECHANICSVILLE, PA 18934		

**Encounter Data**

<b>Location</b>	HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND, UNITED STATES Desc: HARFORD GLEN PARK	<b>Encountered</b>	11/16/2021
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## January 7: Virtual Meeting & Presentation



Based on an increase of local Harford County COVID numbers and the anticipated transmission rate following a major holiday, our January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting will be virtual. On January 7th at 7:00pm, the Harford Bird Club will be hosting a brief meeting followed by a presentation by Marcia Watson, on Google Meet. If you need a refresher about how to use Google Meet, it can be found [here](#).

Please register for the virtual meeting using this [form](#). At approximately 10am on January 7th, the registration form will be closed and all who registered will receive a link via email for the evening's event. At 6:30pm the event will open to allow you to have time to get in and get settled before the event officially begins at 7:00pm.

## From Mountains to Saltmarsh: Rediscovering the MOS Sanctuaries

The Maryland Ornithological Society (MOS) owns ten sanctuaries, totaling almost 3,000 acres, spanning the state from Garrett County in the western part of the state, to Somerset County on the lower Eastern Shore. All of the sanctuaries are open to the public every day of the year, at no charge, and represent a microcosm of the habitats for birds in Maryland. Many people have heard of the Carey Run and Irish Grove Sanctuaries, where sanctuary houses provide an opportunity for overnight visits, but the other sanctuaries are seldom visited. Drawing on the files of the MOS Sanctuary Committee, historic accounts in Maryland Birdlife, and photos and materials provided by MOS members across the state, 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.

*About the Presenter. Marcia Watson is a long-time member of the Maryland Ornithological Society. She was a founding member of the Cecil Bird Club, and having moved to Prince George's County, currently serves as President of the Patuxent Bird Club. As a member of the MOS Sanctuary Committee, Marcia keeps the committee records and works to foster awareness of the sanctuaries among MOS members and the public. Marcia also serves as editor of MOS's online Birder's Guide to Maryland and DC. Interested in biology and the outdoors from the time she was a little girl, Marcia holds a Ph.D. in Biological Sciences, and was on the faculty at the University of Delaware and later at the University of Maryland Global Campus. Marcia is now retired and she and her husband Gene Scarpulla (editor of Maryland Birdlife) live in Bowie, which provides a good home base for birding Maryland.*





# HARFORD BIRD CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

If you would like to join or renew your Harford Bird Club and MOS membership, please print this page and mail the completed form along with a check to:

Eric Vangrin  
1100 Barkley Place  
Bel Air, MD. 21014

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Membership Year - September 1, 2021 - August 31, 2022

- ( ) Individual \$33.00                      ( ) Sustaining \$63.00  
( ) Life (see below)                      ( ) Household \$39.00  
( ) Junior \$10.00

OR

Memberships for those who are either members of another MOS Chapter or are  
MOS Life Members.

- ( ) Individual \$13.00                      ( ) Household \$19.00

Please indicate your MOS membership status:

- ( ) MOS Life Member (After 9/1/90)  
( ) Member of \_\_\_\_\_ MOS Chapter

\_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT ENCLOSED (Make checks payable to Harford County MOS)

- ( ) New Harford Bird Club Membership\*                      ( ) Renewal

Please give names below as they should appear on the membership list.

Married couples should give both names.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street & # \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

- ( ) Check here if this is a new address, phone number or email  
( ) Check here if you object to having your name, address, and phone number listed in the state directory.

\*If a new member, how did you find out about the Harford County Bird Club?  
\_\_\_\_\_

An "Individual" membership is anyone 18 or older.

A "Junior" membership is someone younger than 18 whose parents are not members (i.e., not part of a household membership)

A "Household" membership is all persons residing at the same address. (A student who is away at school and wants publications mailed to the school address must be in the Individual class.)

Life Membership dues are: State \$1000.00 and Chapter \$300.00.

New life memberships have the option of paying \$11.00\* per year chapter dues in lieu of the \$300.00 lump sum. Life memberships effective prior to September 1, 1990, are exempt from any further chapter dues payment.