Ten thousand-million years ago, when God created the heavens and the earth, **absolute time** had its beginning, and began to flow forward. This eruption of time-space relationships gave substance to light and life that are linked forever to that "Big Bang" moment, and thus to each other. The historical advent and subsequent evolution of our world as recorded in **geological time**, gives us perspectives for understanding our views of the present that are observed in **real time**. However, the speed of light, being a constant, appears the same to every observer no matter how fast they are traveling in time and space. That has given rise to the "theory of relativity" and to the concept of **imaginary time** which is indistinguishable from time-space direction. Theoretically, if one can go forward in imaginary time, one ought to be able to go backward. And so, physicists are left to wonder why it is we remember the past, and not the future? However alluring that concept is, we are stuck in **real time** where there is no need to wonder where the difference between past and future comes from, other than to marvel that our universe is greater than the sum of its parts. On reflection of the past 2 years, the same gestalt seems true of our Harford Bird Club. Without Les Eastman, there would be no Wrenderings. Without Tom Gibson, and his band of expert birders, there would be no field trips. Without Dennis Kirkwood, there would have been no wise patriarch to offer experience and guidance that kept this president from stumbling off course. Our pizza-dinner meetings, and the rescued banding station at Harford Glen were assured by VP Amanda Koss, and her HBC volunteers. Thousands of man-hours were spent on annual bird counts (Fall, Christmas, Winter, May) led by expert birders and enthusiastic members, all organized, collated, and reported by Rick Cheicante. Mark Johnson, Dave Webb, Dave Zolkowski, and Marty Crouse, (multi-tasking Club members) also served the MOS as associate editor of "Birdlife", Treasurer, Research Coordinator, and Membership Chair respectively. Ruth Bergstrom (Youth Coordinator) and Mary Murray (Education Chair), our "Pied Pipers" made Bluebird trails, Christmas counts for kids, and e-bird tracking, attractive to the youth of Harford County. Eric Vangrin (Treasurer) managed our financial affairs, reported membership and dues distribution to the MOS, incorporated money earned by Elaine Beery ("Artful Dodger" & enabler of raffle items), and by Johanne Henrickson (La Grande Hostess) for dinner reservations, and social activities. Jane Scocca (Recording Secretary) a 39 year veteran in service to the HBC, recorded minutes of our meetings for the past 4 years, and was a skilled volunteer on the Harford Glen bird-banding team. Other key facilitators who
gave their time, expertise, and skills in support of presentations, field trips, banding stations, county records, the environment, picnics/socials, and administrative tasks include: Sue & Bob Hood, Mel & Joe Stevens, Jean Kirkwood, Tom Congersky, Mary Trotta, Diane Jones, Jean Wheeler, Colleen Webster, Madeline Lovera, Jerry Strickroth, Sue Procell, Phil Powers, David Larkin, Bruce Kovacs, Rachel Hebert, Deborah Stewart, Debbie Bowers, Monroe Harden, Joe Subolefsky, David Gigliotti, Josh Emm, and past-president Matt Hafner. Thank you all, and our members at large, for lifting the load with your good humor and many hours of dedicated service. We have achieved much together, and it has been a pleasure, and an honor to serve as your president.

A special "Shout-out" to my wife Ann who bore witness to the past, and helped me navigate the twists, turns and hurdles of real-time when they got in the way.

Now that the moment to step away from my position as President is at hand, I think we can all agree - "It is about time."

Happy Trails,
Bob Werrlein

---

HBC Summer Social Meeting
Friday, July 14

Set your calendar for 14 July, and point your car's GPS (or map) toward the Anita C. Leight Estuary Center, 700 Otter Point Road, Abingdon, MD 21009; then head on over and plan to enjoy the club's perennially popular summer social. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with access to the upstairs smorgasbord of assorted wines, cheeses, finger foods and refreshing non-alcoholic drinks. Once you have figured out how to balance your food and drink, you will have plenty of time to engage with friends old and new about recent sightings, latest happenings, chalk poems on your sidewalk, or whatever fascinates and fills the moment. And, you can wander out on the deck or along a wooded path to enjoy the local flora and fauna. There will be a short business meeting that follows with a formal change of command, and an intriguing presentation by Dennis and Jean Kirkwood on the "Endemic Lemurs, Birds, and Wildlife of Madagascar." Reservations are required, and the social is open only to members and their guests. Contact Johanne Henrickson for reservations and details johen24@gmail.com.

---

Harford Bird Club Executive Board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Bob Werrlein</td>
<td>410-692-5180</td>
<td><a href="mailto:we2.rein@gmail.com">we2.rein@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>Amanda Koss</td>
<td>443-528-4306</td>
<td><a href="mailto:amandakoss01@hotmail.com">amandakoss01@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recording Secretary</td>
<td>Jane Scocca</td>
<td>410-272-8870</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jane@scocca.org">jane@scocca.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corresponding Secretary</td>
<td>Madeline Lovera</td>
<td>443-425-3974</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lovebluebird206@gmail.com">lovebluebird206@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Eric Vangrin</td>
<td>443-417-7219</td>
<td><a href="mailto:evangrin@msn.com">evangrin@msn.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past President</td>
<td>Matt Hafner</td>
<td>410-971-3203</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hafner.matt@gmail.com">hafner.matt@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Trip Chairperson</td>
<td>Tom Gibson</td>
<td>410-734-4135</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gibsonlld@aol.com">gibsonlld@aol.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bird Count Coordinator</td>
<td>Rick Cheicante</td>
<td>410-803-2712</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rickcheicante@cs.com">rickcheicante@cs.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dinner Reservations</td>
<td>Johanne Henrickson</td>
<td>410-836-8889</td>
<td><a href="mailto:johen24@gmail.com">johen24@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Relations</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Chairperson</td>
<td>Mary Murray</td>
<td>410-812-6621</td>
<td><a href="mailto:murraymary@gmail.com">murraymary@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservation Chair</td>
<td>Deborah Bowers</td>
<td>410-692-2708</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bowerspub@hotmail.com">bowerspub@hotmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Coordinator</td>
<td>Rachel Hebert</td>
<td>443-299-8384</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hebert.rachel@gmail.com">hebert.rachel@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Board Members</td>
<td>Tom Congersky</td>
<td>410-658-4137</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jnjtcon@zoominternet.net">jnjtcon@zoominternet.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dennis Kirkwood</td>
<td>410-692-5905</td>
<td><a href="mailto:newarkfarms@gmail.com">newarkfarms@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webmaster</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrenderings Editor</td>
<td>Les Eastman</td>
<td>410-688-1214</td>
<td><a href="mailto:les@birdtreks.com">les@birdtreks.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Club News?

Have news the club should know about? Births, deaths, marriages, or any other notable events that belong in the newsletter? Please contact Corresponding Secretary Madeline Lovera at 443-425-3974 or send an email to lovebluebird206@gmail.com.

Newly elected HBC officers for term starting July 2017 - July 2019. (listed from the left) Eric Vangrin (Treasurer), Deborah Stewart (President), Amanda Koss (Vice President), Jane Scocca (Recording Secretary), Madeline Lovera (Corresponding Secretary, unavailable).

(Disclaimer) The Election was held at the May 5 business meeting at Harford Glen's Environmental Education Center. Change of command will take effect at the Anita Leight Estuary Center at the close of the July 14 business meeting.

Shawn Slater, 12 year old student at Bel air Middle School examines his prize package of Eagle Optics Shrike binoculars received from the Harford Bird Club along with a Certificate of Recognition (not shown) for earning Horizon Award honors as 2016 Young Birder of the Year.

Amanda Koss receives belated "Volunteer of the Year Award" for rescuing, and continuing the educational bird-banding program at the Harford Glen Environmental Center.

Ruth Bergstrom (Youth Coordinator) Retires

Ruth Bergstrom, accomplished birder, has been an active member of the Harford Bird Club for 18 years, and has held the executive office of "Youth Coordinator" for the past 6 years. Ruth has invested many hours of much appreciated time and effort developing educational programs and projects to serve the youth of Harford County. She has led morning bird walks at the Harford Glen; initiated and organized the Christmas Bird Count for Kids at Swan Harbor Farm for the past 3 years; involved students in construction and monitoring of Bluebird nest box trails; served as volunteer mentor to high school students inspiring them with informed interest in native birds, the environment, and conservation of natural resources. Last year, Ruth received a "Green Award" for community connections and service to the students of the Harford Glen Environmental Education Center. As Ruth steps down, Rachel Hebert (a rising star) has stepped up and accepted the position and challenges of new HBC Youth Coordinator. Thank you both for your time and service. ~ Bob Werrlein
Spring means we say “goodbye” to our winter residents; “welcome back” to our breeding population; and “thanks for passing through” to our migrating birds. This report covers the period from April 1st through May 31st, 2017.

**Swans, Ducks, Game Birds, Wading Birds**

JR found a Trumpeter Swan at Swan Harbor on May 29th. JE saw 3 Northern Shovelers (2 male, 1 female) there on April 22nd. He also saw a Greater Scaup flying near Sand Island on Apr 17th. MKJ saw and photographed a Ruddy Duck at Swan Harbor on Apr 30th. EW found a Ring-necked Pheasant near Harford Community College on Apr 10th. SH saw a displaying male Wild Turkey in Fallston on May 30th.

RH saw and photographed an American Bittern at Swan Harbor on May 3rd. JR found a Snowy Egret at the Home Depot Pond in Edgewood on Apr 24th and again on May 4th. JE counted 3 at Swan Harbor on May 5th. DL and TC saw an adult Little Blue Heron at the Home Depot Pond on Apr 22nd. JE and DB saw a Glossy Ibis at Swan Harbor on Apr 30th. DL saw 2 there the next day.

**Raptors, Rails, Plovers, Sandpipers**

BM saw a Mississippi Kite flying near the Highland Brewery on May 2nd. TH found a King Rail and a Sora at Swan Harbor on May 8th. TC saw a Common Gallinule there on May 22nd. JE and AB counted a remarkable 49 Willets flying over and around the Conowingo Dam area on Apr 29th. JE saw, photographed, and recorded a possible Eastern Willet on Battery Island on May 10th. He also found 2 White-rumped Sandpipers at Swan Harbor on Apr 29th. LJ and MS saw one there on May 1st. He saw a Stilt Sandpiper there on Apr 26th and Apr 30th. He had a Short-billed Dowitcher there on May 5th. MA found a beautiful female Red-necked Phalarope in breeding plumage in a rain puddle there on May 29th.

**Gulls, Terns, Cuckoos, Woodpeckers, Flycatchers, Ravens, Chickadees, Thrushes**

JH spotted a Little Gull from Lapidum on Apr 7th. JS saw an adult Lesser Black-backed Gull in the same area on Apr 8th. He found a Common Tern over the water near Susquehanna State Park on May 2nd. BP had a Black-billed Cuckoo at Eden Mill on May 12th. DK saw a Red-headed Woodpecker along Hitchcock Rd on May 29th. MJ and MAF saw a Common Raven tangling in-flight with a Bald Eagle over Susquehanna State Park on Apr 18th. CR saw a Raven over Emory Knoll Farm on Apr 26th. JS found a continuing Black-capped Chickadee in the pine trees at Swan Harbor on Apr 4th. MG saw and heard a Red-breasted Nuthatch at Susquehanna State Park on May 9th. TH found a Gray-cheeked Thrush there on May 16th. SH saw 2 Veeries in Fallston on May 11th.

**Warblers, Tanagers, Sparrows, Finches**

DK reported a Golden-winged Warbler at the Harford Glen banding station on Apr 30th. TH saw 2 Tennessee Warblers, along with a Chestnut-sided, 2 Blackburnian, a Prairie, 2 Bay-breasted, a singing Mourning, and a Wilson’s Warbler at Susquehanna State Park on May 16th. The Mourning Warbler was seen alongside the kiln trail. MH saw and heard a singing Cape May Warbler there on May 8th. SH had a Blackburnian Warbler in her Fallston yard on May 1st. TH and AS saw their first Cerulean Warbler of the season at Susquehanna State Park on May 2nd. TH’s count of Ceruleans in the park peaked at 16 on May 11th.

DaB saw and heard a Summer Tanager at Susquehanna State Park on May 6th. He heard the bird making its scolding call. BP saw a Lincoln’s Sparrow at Eden Mill on May 12th. RC found a Pine Siskin at his Creswell home on May 14th.

The latest report of the continuing Painted Bunting in Aberdeen was from JS on April 3rd. Let’s hope that familiar bird moved along to a favorable summer spot.

**Contributors**

Field Trip Reports

**Birds and Blooms Walk at Ladew Gardens**  
**April 13**
On a brisk Spring morning, 14 birders from Harford, Baltimore, and Cecil counties (and one out of town visitor!) and 2 trip leaders enjoyed exploring the grounds of Ladew Gardens in search of spring migrants. The cloudy and cool weather was a deterrent for the birds, but we still managed to see and hear about 19 species. Highlights included a close observation of a male Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher and spotting a Pileated Woodpecker at its nest. Participants learned the history of the property and flora and fauna. A big thank you to the folks at Ladew for arranging for early and free access to this local treasure. ~ Rachel Hebert

**Harford Glen**  
**April 15**
It’s always a good day to bird at Harford Glen. Fifteen birders met on an overcast day and hiked for over 3 hours through various habitats and found 47 species. Four species of ducks were spotted, both Green-winged and Blue-winged Teal, Wood Duck and Mallards. One Purple Martin zipped overhead, and we saw both Northern Rough-winged and Tree Swallows. Banders were working hard at the nets and Phil Powers showed us a recently caught Gray Catbird. The highlight though, was watching George and Martha (Bald Eagles) feed their two chicks. ~ Ruth Bergstrom

**Jerusalem Mill**  
**April 30**
Seven of us met on a cool, cloudy morning at Jerusalem Mill hoping to hit it big on migrants since the day before provided south winds. Birding was initially slow until we worked into the forest and came across some very accommodating Black-throated Blue Warblers and Veeries. We were greeted by a flurry of activity that included Common Yellow-throats, Wood Thrushes, American Redstarts, and bushel baskets of Black-and-white Warblers. We found Pileated Woodpeckers and many Ovenbirds along the trail, and found a perching Wood Duck that gave us good looks. We had a singing Louisiana Waterthrush at eye level that stayed for several minutes. We looped the hill from the river and ended at the mill where we found Eastern Kingbirds, Barn and Tree Swallows and heard an Orchard Oriole. All together we found 54 species. ~ Mark Johnson

**Epic Birding Challenge**  
**May 6**
Fifteen hardy birders brushed aside the gray clouds and the chilly breeze of the early May morning with its constant threat of showers and wandered far and wide through the otherwise beautiful Susquehanna State Park in search of every possible species. The three teams, one family team with some young birders, one all ladies team and one all gentlemen’s team, provided spirited, lively but always amicable competition. Animated discussion will linger for some time over the “best bird” of the day. One could certainly argue for the two gorgeous Cerulean Warblers that carried the ladies to a triumphant victory over the determined gents. The competition was so close that just one species separated the two teams. One could also argue “best bird” status for the ubiquitous Baltimore and Orchard Orioles that stole the show flitting and flirting amongst the tree tops lighting up the lush forest. In all, a combined total of 69 species were seen during the contest which, given the less than ideal conditions, was a remarkable tally. Just as the group headed for the Laurrapin Grill for lunch, showers broke out but failed to dampen the lively conversation, comparative exchange of “war stories,” and, yes, some justifiable boasting. The conclusion was that a fun time was had by all and that all look forward to next year’s Tenth Annual Birding Challenge. ~ Tom Gibson

**Hidden Valley/Bradenbaugh Flats,**  
**May 29**
On a cool, damp Memorial Day, eighteen eager birders, many of them new, enjoyed the varied habitats of the Hidden Valley section of Rocks State Park and many stops along the World Famous Bradenbaugh Flats. The dawn chorus along Deer Creek was loud, and many birds were hidden in the treetops, but some came by for close looks, including Scarlet Tanagers, Black-and-white Warbler, and Red-eyed Vireo, and a family of Northern Rough-winged Swallows swooped back and forth. We missed the shy Blue-winged Warbler at the (former) Madonna Landfill, though an Eastern Towhee and a pair of Cedar Waxwings were more cooperative for our boisterous group. We had a blue trifecta of Indigo Bunting, Blue Grosbeak and Eastern Bluebird in one of the farm fields, and interesting flyovers included a squawking Great Blue Heron, a pair of Wood Ducks, and a hovering Horned Lark. The other specialties of the Famous Flats included Willow Flycatchers at a wetland, Grasshopper Sparrows in several fields, and the gorgeous Red-headed Woodpecker dazzling in its usual grove of trees. We ended the morning with good shows of Baltimore Orioles and Yellow Warblers by Turney’s Pond, which brought our tally to a satisfying 68 species. ~ Susan Hood
Harford Bird Club Field Trips

Field trip schedule compiled by Tom Gibson

June 24 (Sat.) – Perryville Community Park – Paddle Outing — Join leaders Sue Procell, Colleen Webster, and Tom Gibson at 9:00 AM at the launch at Stump Point to paddle the usually serene waters of the well-protected Mill Creek and historic Furnace Bay. Eagles and Osprey are often seen soaring overhead, songbirds and wetland birds frequent the shoreline, and heron and waterfowl are common sightings. No rental boats available. Contact Sue Procell (443-417-4919; procellmd@gmail.com) or Colleen Webster (cwebster@harford.edu; 410-459-4577) or Tom Gibson (410-734-4135; gibsonlld@aol.com).

July 16 (Sun.) – Bombay Hook — This beautiful reserve in Delaware with its diverse coastal wetland habitats offers great promise for a variety of shorebirds, water birds, wading species, raptors and songbirds. Meet leader Russ Kovach at the commuter lot near Havre de Grace on Rts. 155/1-95 at 7:30 AM (russell.kovach@gmail.com; 443-386-4787). Because of the trip length and the lack of local eateries, bring a lunch and sufficient drink for the day.

July 22 (Sat.) – Hummingbird Banding — Watch from the expansive porch of Diane Jones’s home overlooking beautiful gardens as the experienced bird bander, Bruce Peterjohn, skillfully and delicately bands our smallest bird. Contact Diane for details, directions and best viewing times (410-404-9180; diane.v.jones@ssa.gov).

July 29 (Sat.) – Harford Glen Wildlife Search — The Glen is always beautiful and offers diverse habitat in a compact area. Do not miss the variety of wildlife and avian species found in this Harford County gem. Join Matt Hafner and members of the Susquehannock Wildlife Society in finding and appreciating the herps, insects, mammals and birds that this exceptional site offers. This is a family friendly trip. Join them in the parking lot of the Glen at 9:00 AM. Contact Matt Hafner (hafner.matt@gmail.com; 410-971-3203) for further information.

August 12 (Sat.) – Butterflies, Dragonflies and Birds at Swan Harbor Farm — Birds are the main interest of the HBC but there are other beautiful and fascinating creatures that fly. On this trip we certainly do not plan to ignore birds but our focus will be on finding and identifying butterflies and dragonflies. Total beginners to accomplished naturalists are welcome and encouraged to participate. Helping with this outing will be Josh Emm (apistopanchax@gmail.com; 410-937-6790) and Colleen Webster (cwebster@harford.edu; 410-459-4577). Meet at Swan Harbor Farm Park at 9:00 AM. Weather is critical to this event, so be sure to check with one of the above if the forecast is questionable.

August 19 (Sat.) – Hummingbird Happy Hour — The shaded porch, the views of lovely gardens with attractive plantings, tasty snacks, refreshing beverages, convivial camaraderie and the swarms of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds make this a truly unique and pleasant afternoon. Diane Jones is our gracious host welcoming us at 5:00 PM. Contact her (diane.v.jones@ssa.gov; 410-404-9180) for details and directions. Contributions to the snacks and refreshments welcome but not necessary.

August 26 (Sat.) – Shorebird Search — Dennis Kirkwood and Josh Emm lead the search for shorebirds along the shores of Harford County. Beginners looking to improve their identification skills will find this trip very informative. Experienced birders will have the opportunity to search for rarities. All will enjoy this morning trip starting at the parking lot near the launch ramp of Tydings Park in Havre de Grace at 7:30 AM. Scopes helpful but not required. Contact Dennis (newarkfarms@gmail.com; 410-692-5905).

September 4 (Mon. Labor Day) – Ma & Pa Trail — Stroll a portion of this popular trail, walking from Annie’s Playground towards Tollgate Road in search of early migrants and local residents. The diverse habitats along the way promise a good variety of species. Meet at the parking lot near Annie’s Playground on Smith Lane off Connolly Road in Fallston at 7:00 AM. The leader is Elaine Beery (ehbeery@yahoo.com; 410-272-6037).

September 9 (Sat.) – Birding for Beginners at Harford Glen — Ruth Bergstrom is the leader for this pleasant walk along the wetlands, streams, and meadows of this beautiful outdoor education site. This trip is specifically designed for beginners. School age children accompanied by an adult are welcome as well. Meet Ruth at 8:30 AM in the Harford Glen parking lot. For further details contact Ruth at (443-752-1967; ruthb22@yahoo.com).

September 16 (Sat.) – Birds and Blooms Walk at Ladew Topiary Gardens — Enjoy fall flowers and migrant songbirds while strolling through the 22 acres of beautiful gardens and meadows of the famous Ladew Topiary Gardens. Explore the native Butterfly House and learn about migrating monarchs. Meet Rachel Hebert at 7:30 AM in the main parking lot. Pre-registration is preferred for this trip. Contact Rachel Hebert (hebert.rachel2@gmail.com; 410-557-9570, ext.261) to register and to get further details.
Winged Wonders
By Barbara J. Saffir

Some nature photographers make a bucket list trip trekking to the Amazonian rain forest to see showy toucans and parrots. Others venture to Costa Rica to ooh and aah at teensy hummingbirds. I went to "ho-hum" Ohio. And I would do it again in a second.

Shooting the migration spectacle of Spring warblers and other birds at Magee Marsh in mid-May was unforgettable. A bright ball of yellow feathers known as a Cape May Warbler flitted down in front of me, posing like a Parisian model. Scarlet Tanagers popped down from their typical treetop perches to show off their finest orange and red breeding plumage feathers. I even discovered a dozen new life birds at the "Biggest Week in Birding" festival at this "Warbler Capital of the World" in a fishing and farming community 20 miles east of Toledo. I eyeballed my first loud-mouthed Black-billed Cuckoo. I photographed Kewpie-cute Cliff Swallows crafting their muddy nests 10 feet overhead. My jaw kept dropping when I spotted Magnolia Warblers and dozens of other colorful birds. Although the festival dates are set in advance, the birds don't always pay attention. Trying to predict their peak migration cycle is like trying to pinpoint the cherry blossoms’ peak. Sometimes it works out and sometimes it doesn’t — so this year, some days were great and others just good. Migration, I learned, depends a lot on the weather — especially the wind direction. When the winds are good for photographers, that means the birds are hanging out on the shores of Lake Erie to fatten up on bugs and wait for a southerly wind to whoosh them across the big, cold lake into Canada, their nesting destination after their long, perilous journey from the tropics.

To see the birds, birders and photographers patiently stroll the one-mile wooden boardwalk winding through the swampy forest and along a half-mile waterside trail in search of "wow." Sometimes there are traffic jams. But unlike our horrendous traffic jams, there it's a good sign because it means some hot birds were spotted. Without so many knowledgeable eyes on the speedy or secretive little birds, few would discover all its hidden gems: like Eastern Screech-Owl poking its sleepy head out of its hole in a cottonwood tree or the apple-sized nests of sunshine-yellow Yellow Warblers that say hello by singing, "Tweet, tweet, tweet. I'm so sweet."

Birders are generally happy to spot a bird just by hearing its song or seeing it half a football field away through binoculars. We high-maintenance photographers demand that these birds land 15 feet in front of us in the early or late sun. Photographers don't just stick around the famous boardwalk. They attend festival workshops and field trips throughout northwest Ohio. They also hit other hotspots on their own by following the Lake Erie Birding Trail.

Before I went, I had read that sometimes during peak migration the trees are "dripping" with these colorful warblers. I didn't see that flood — but the individual "raindrops" I was lucky enough to photograph made it worth every single mesmerizing minute I got to enjoy them.

Since I have already experienced the festival, next time I might read the migration reports myself and try to time my arrival with the birds. They will forget me when I leave but I will never forget them because I can hold onto their beauty with my photographs.
Harford Glen Banding Station
Spring 2017 Report
By Amanda Koss

This season members of the Harford Glen Bird Banding Team assisted The University of Delaware’s Dr. Jeff Buler and graduate student Sergio Cabrera-Cruz in their study of the effects of light pollution on migratory birds. Emily Moorman was hired to band at Harford Glen five days a week. Between Emily, Al Conrad, Dennis Kirkwood, Amanda Koss, Dave Larkin, Phil Powers, Jane Scocca, Mary Trotta, Jean Wheeler and middle school student Shawn Slater, the station operated 48 days between March 7 and June 6, 2017.

THE NUMBERS
• 48 days
• 26 volunteers assisted at the station at one point or another over the course of the season
• 8 core members of the net extraction team volunteered multiple times a week
• 2 banders
• 15 nets
• 906.5+ volunteer hours
• 675+ students participated in the banding operation
• 30+ teachers brought students to the banding station
• 225 birds were recaptures (already had their band when they landed in the net)
• 901 birds received a band at Harford Glen
• 67 different species of birds were netted
• 3,026.25+ net hours (total number of hours the nets were open)
• 56 new bands in one day was the busiest day of the season (May 1)
• 19 species in one day was the max number of species in one day

THE HIGHLIGHTS
• 205 Common Yellowthroats were netted.
• 64 Gray Catbirds visited the station.
• 61 Northern Waterthrushes have shiny new bands.
• 44 Song Sparrows stopped by.
• 2 Yellow-billed Cuckoos received new bands. These were only the 8th and 9th Yellow-billed Cuckoos to be banded at Harford Glen since 1980.
• 1 Golden-winged Warbler was netted on April 30th.
• 1 Scarlet Tanager made an appearance on May 17th.
• 1 Mourning Warbler received a band.

Many, millions of thanks to the net extraction specialists (Al, Dennis, Dave, Phil, Jane, Mary, Jean and Emily) who worked tirelessly over the course of the spring to make the operation successful. September 12th is the anticipated first day of the fall season for the Harford Glen Banding Station.

Harford Youth Birding

A late report from February 18 when fourteen kids and adults participated in the annual Great Backyard Bird Count at the Anita Leight Estuary Center. We started with a walk to the shoreline where 130 Canada Geese, 22 Common Mergansers and two Tundra Swans were spotted. The group made their way up the hill and hiked in the woods to find a Cooper’s Hawk, White-throated Sparrows and Carolina Chickadees for a total of 20 species. We then marched inside the center and warmed up with hot chocolate as we watched feeder birds. Seven species were tallied there including a Downy Woodpecker and Dark-eyed Junco. ~ Ruth Bergstrom
The "Early Birds" from Prospect Mill Elementary School and the "Feathered Friends" from Meadowvale Elementary School finished out their bird clubs for the year with a trip to Harford Glen on May 17th. The young birders were treated to a variety of activities. They explored the meadow and learned about cavity nesters with Ruth Bergstrom. They watched Amanda Koss band birds and learned how the birds were caught in mist nests with Al Conrad. They visited the new bird hide and used the Merlin app on iPads with Yvonne Wagner, and they took a "pond to wetlands" bird walk with Mary Murray and Eric Walther. Thirty-six students and 16 parents participated. Bird highlights of the day were Cedar Waxwings, a juvenile Orchard Oriole in transition, and an Acadian Flycatcher at the banding station. It was a memorable day for these young birders.

Thank you to all the Harford Bird Club members who participated in this event!

Mary visited Homestead Wakefield Elementary School in June to help with their environmental project. Working with Gifted and Talented Specialist, Cindy Leon, the third graders studied the Eastern Bluebird and selected a spot on the school campus to erect a nest box. Since this is an ongoing project, the students will be learning about how to monitor nest boxes during the 2017-18 school year. The plan is to erect the nest box next season.

Harford Bird Club Summer Social Reservation Form
Please cut and mail the bottom portion of this page to Johanne Henrickson, 2014 Tiffany Terrace, Forest Hill, MD 21050 by Friday, July 7th, 2017 if you plan on attending.

________ Number of adults (at $7.00 each)
________ Number of children 16 and under (at $4.00 each)

Please make checks payable to Harford County MOS.

_____________________________________________________________________
Print your name(s) above as you would like it to appear on your name tag!

Include address and phone number if you would like transportation to the meeting.

TEL: ____________________________ Address: ________________________________

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

__________________________________________
Harford Bird Club
Summer Social

"Endemic Lemurs, Birds, and Wildlife of Madagascar"
by
Dennis and Jean Kirkwood

Date: Friday, 14 July, 2017

Social: 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Upstairs
Wine, Cheese, Finger Foods, and Conversation

Business Meeting and Presentation 8:00 - 9:30 p.m. - Downstairs

Location: Anita C Leight Estuary Center
700 Otter Point Road
Abingdon, MD 21009

(Reservation Form on page 9)