

# The Osprey

Newsletter of the Southern Maryland Audubon Society

## CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS NEED VOLUNTEERS

The Southern Maryland Audubon Society conducts three Christmas Bird Counts and contributes to a fourth each year under rules established by the National Audubon Society. Since 1901, Audubon Christmas Bird Counts throughout North America have documented changes in numbers of individuals and distributions of species, as land use practices and climate have changed. This year's 112th Audubon Christmas Bird Count will contribute new data to the longest uninterrupted series of bird counts in America, a series that has contributed much to our understanding of how our birds and the environments that they depend on have changed over the decades. Volunteer observers may join field parties, or they may report counts made at their bird feeders. This year, consider joining us December 14 through January 5 to contribute to the counts in southern Maryland. See below for details.

Port Tobacco Christmas Count December 18,  
by Gwen Brewer

This year, the Port Tobacco Christmas Count will take place on Sunday December 18, 2011. Gwen Brewer will compile the count and host the tally again this year. Please consider helping with the count as you have in the past or as a new participant! We need help both from birders covering sections of the circle and from feeder watchers. Even if you can only spend a few hours, your data from a feeder in the count circle or from a section of the count circle can really help us to better document the birds in our area. The area covered by this count comprises a 15-mile diameter circle centered on Fourth Point on the Port Tobacco River. Myrtle Grove Wildlife Management Area and La Plata are in the northern section of the circle, which extends to Blossom Point, Pope's Creek, and Mathias Point in Virginia to the south. On the west, the count circle includes the Ironsides and Nanjemoy areas, and to the east, Allen's Fresh. Several miles of the Potomac River are included in the count, as well as Nanjemoy Creek and the Port Tobacco River. We have a lot of great habitat areas to cover on this count, and we need your help to do a good job! If you would like to help with the Port Tobacco Christmas Count or have any questions about it, please contact Gwen Brewer at [glbrewer@comcast.net](mailto:glbrewer@comcast.net) or telephone 301-843-3524.

Point Lookout CBC  
by Bob Boxwell

It is hard to believe that it's nearly time for Christmas Bird Counts. Maybe the October Nor'easter that dumped snow north of us started things, but I've noticed (well truthfully the dog noticed first) the arrival of Dark-eyed Juncos in the neighborhood. I should have been prepared as I have been hearing Golden-crowned Kinglets for weeks.



Townsend's Warbler  
Photo by: Bill Hubick

### In This Issue

**CBC Need Volunteers**

**Bird Walk - November 6th**

**Tip of the Month**

**Indian Head Rail Trail  
Field Trip**

**Upcoming Events**

**ADOPT-A-RAPTOR  
FOR CHRISTMAS!**



<http://somdaudubon.org/>

*continued* .....▶

We have chosen Sunday, December 18 as our date for holding the Point Lookout Christmas Bird Count. This year our traditional Sunday would have been Christmas Day. Yikes! The day before or the day after Christmas are really bad days for a count as well (I know I've been stuck with them for years). Hopefully the weather will be more cooperative than 2010. Although we have a core of people who help most years, we can always use an extra pair of binoculars (and the eyes to use them). The area sectors are Point Lookout, Elms Beach, Point No Point, Kitt's Point, St. George's Island, and St. Mary's City. Please contact me at [bobboxwell@hotmail.com](mailto:bobboxwell@hotmail.com) or by phone at 443-404-5549 (h) if you are interested. I would like to nail down assignments by December 16 so please contact me no later than December 14. There will be a tally rally after the count. It's a potluck where we provide spaghetti and meatballs. The location is 49960 Cedar Lane in Dameron (301-872-5998) and we will be there by 5 p.m.

Patuxent River Christmas Count, January 1,  
by Andy Brown

To volunteer, contact Andy Brown, (p) 410-535-5327,  
e-mail: [brownaj@co.cal.md.us](mailto:brownaj@co.cal.md.us).

CBS, Fort Belvoir, Maryland Sector, Jan. 1

Get your 2012 year list off to a great start as you join us on New Year's Day for our 2011 CBC survey of the Maryland Sector of Virginia's Fort Belvoir Christmas Bird Count circle. Our territory runs from Fort Washington south to the Naval Surface Weapons Center, Indian Head, including the environs. We cover lots of Potomac River shoreline and its tributaries, as well as woods, fields, and some developed areas. The territory also includes Piscataway National Park, Ferguson Farm, Ruth Swann Park, Chapman State Park, Mattawoman Natural Environment Area, and Mattawoman Wildlands. We always need help, including backyard feeder counters. Reach sector leader, Carol Ghebelian, at 301-753-6754 or [ghebelian@comcast.net](mailto:ghebelian@comcast.net). And join us for the tally rally at the Ghebelians, in Indian Head, as usual.



### **ADOPT-A-RAPTOR FOR CHRISTMAS!**

Looking for that perfect gift for that hard to shop for person! Look no farther! Adopt-A-Raptor is one size fits all, and perfect for all of your nature loving gifts! Choose a Barn Owl, Osprey or American Kestrel. See Adopt-A-Raptor form in the newsletter or contact Melissa Boyle for more information and to adopt-a-raptor. [melissaboyle3@gmail.com](mailto:melissaboyle3@gmail.com)

## **BIRD WALK - NOVEMBER 6**

### **MYRTLE GROVE WMA**

*by Fred Burggraf*

On November 6, 2011, I led four birders on a walk in Myrtle Grove WMA near Ripley, MD (Charles County). Temperature ranged from 37 degrees to 58 degrees; overcast conditions gave way to wall-to-wall blue by walk's end. The air was calm.

The parking lot by the lake and the outbuildings by the new log cabin were extremely birdy. A huge mixed flock of American Robins, Blue Jays, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Eastern Bluebirds, White-throated Sparrows, Dark-eyed Juncos, Northern Mockingbirds, Brown Thrashers, Eastern Towhees, Northern Flickers and Song Sparrows kept us quite occupied for the first hour of the trip. Near the lake we ticked Canada Goose (large group), a flyover Great Blue Heron, as well as one Pied-billed Grebe.

In addition to the normal avifauna, here are the TOP FIVE BIRDS of the morning:

5. Chipping Sparrow – these were the first anyone could remember for a November at Myrtle Grove. These chippers were part of the large mixed flock and included many immatures with a few non-streaked adults.

4. Cedar Waxwing – a nice flock joined the log cabin party mentioned above.

3. Ruddy Duck – a single bird in winter plumage joined the Canada Geese on the lake.

2. Hermit Thrush – several birds were seen and heard (chucking) near the log cabin.

And the Bird du Jour...

1. Red-headed Woodpecker – We scored a small flock of these birds in the woods near the dikes. There was one adult and three immatures. Constantly in motion, these birds were gathering acorns from Willow Oaks and then caching them in nearby snags and dead branches. It's very nice to see this species here again.

Mammal: Eastern Chipmunk

Lepidoptera: Buckeye

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## **Round and Round**

*by Jane Klemmer*

Osprey nest on a bollard.

Salad bowl on a stool.

Precarious.

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## GOOD NEWS ABOUT MATTAWOMAN CREEK!!!

I am thrilled to share with you news that the MD Department of the Environment recently denied a critical wetland permit for the construction of the Cross-County Connector, a four-lane highway proposed for Charles County. The highway would have bisected Mattawoman Creek and opened a large swath of rural lands to large-lot development.

Two years ago American Rivers listed the Mattawoman as the fourth most endangered river in the country because of threats posed by the road. This denial will save the county and taxpayers millions of dollars while preventing potentially disastrous environmental impacts on a creek, which has long been considered one of the best nurseries for migratory fish in the entire Chesapeake Bay.

CBF and its allies in the Smarter Growth Alliance for Charles County have been fighting to prevent the project from going forward since the fall of 2008. This is a huge win not only for the Mattawoman, but for the Bay as well. Read more about this tremendous victory and what it means for the Chesapeake Bay watershed here.

Terry Cummings  
Maryland Outreach and Advocacy Manager  
Chesapeake Bay Foundation  
[chesapeake@cbf.org](mailto:chesapeake@cbf.org)



Photo by: George Jett

Maryland had never had a Green Violetear before 2011. And then there were three reports of which two may be the same bird which moved from Elkton, in the northeast part of the state, to near Columbia (perhaps thinking that's where it should really be!). George Jett was able to photograph the bird near Columbia. The first report was a 5 minute wonder that a homeowner near Annapolis photographed with his cell phone camera.



Photo by Ryan Shaw

I don't think it could have picked a better sign to use as a perch! This Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubinus*) was found a few weeks ago constituting the sixth Washington State record.



### Get Those Feeders Ready

If you have a personal backyard feeding station or run a nature center or refuge/park visitor center feeding station, now is the time to assess your winter feeding strategy, especially if you don't regularly feed birds throughout the year.

Review your feeder arrangement, including having the right mix of hopper, sunflower-tube, suet, and nyjer feeder offerings. Consider creating a nearby brush pile where songbirds can poke around for feed and shelter, including hiding from raptors. Be sure, however, to maintain a 10-foot clear-zone around each feeder to keep cats from having a close hiding place. Also, consider including water (a heated bird bath if required) as a feature for your feeding station.

Finally, clean those feeders, bird baths, and surrounding grounds regularly.

Birding Community E-bulletin  
Paul J. Baicich  
410-992-9736  
[paul.baicich@verizon.net](mailto:paul.baicich@verizon.net)

You can access past E-bulletins on the National Wildlife Refuge Association (NWRA) website:  
[www.refugenet.org/birding/birding5.html](http://www.refugenet.org/birding/birding5.html)

## SHORT COURSE ON WATERBIRDS: Their Identification and Ecology

Location: Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary  
1361 Wrighton Rd, Lothian MD 20711

Instructor: Chris Swarth  
Dates: January 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2012 (Thursdays)  
Time: 7 to 9 PM

Registration fee: \$75  
(payable to Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary)

Field trips:  
Jan. 14 (8 AM to noon) Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary  
Jan. 28 & 29 Blackwater & Chincoteague National  
Wildlife Refuges

Learn about the lives of the waterbirds that make their home on the Chesapeake Bay and along our outer coast. This course will cover identification, natural history, migration, behavior, reproduction and conservation. Evening lectures take place at Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary. Two field trips. Advance registration is required.

Contact: Chris Swarth  
410-741-9330  
[cswarth@jugbay.org](mailto:cswarth@jugbay.org)



Photo by George Jett

From left to right: Carol Ghebelian, Bob Lukinic, Lynne Wheeler, Cynthia Bravo, Jason & Beth Groth, Gwen Brewer



Photo by Bill Hubick  
Red-tailed Hawk

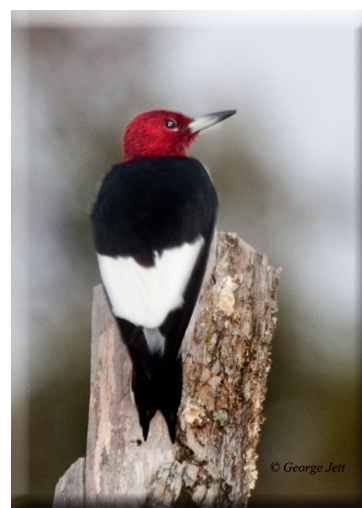


Photo by George Jett

## INDIAN HEAD RAIL TRAIL FIELD TRIP *by Beth Groth*

On October 22, a group of eight met at the Indian Head Rail Trail parking lot along Rte. 224 for the "Red-Heads on the Rail Trail" field trip. The Rail Trail is home to some great habitat for red-headed woodpeckers. Field trip leaders, Beth and Jason Groth, discovered this Red-headed Woodpecker hot spot back on January 2, 2011 during the Ft. Belvoir Christmas Bird Count. A total of twenty-three red-heads were counted at this location that day.

The weather was brisk and chilly that Saturday morning, but the winds were calm, and there was plenty of sunshine. Shortly after beginning our walk on the Rail Trail towards Rte. 225, the first red-head was spotted. It was not long after that more were discovered, including some immature birds. They were fairly active until mid-morning when most birds began to quiet down. The group counted more than 30 red-heads throughout the morning. A hawk sitting in a dead snag was first thought to be a Rough-legged Hawk, but with the help of Gwen Brewer's spotting scope, the group determined it was a Red-tailed Hawk. All seven species of eastern woodpeckers were seen during the trip including Red-headed Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, and Red-bellied Woodpecker. Some other birds that were seen included Swamp Sparrow, Cedar Waxwing, White-throated Sparrow, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Eastern Bluebird, Eastern Towhee, and Bald Eagle. Also of interest on the trip was a bull frog sunning itself, and a ring-necked snake that unfortunately had been killed by a biker on the trail. All in all, it was a good field trip with several Red-headed Woodpeckers.

## CALLING ALL EDUCATORS!

by Paula Batzer

SMAS is now accepting applications from teachers, naturalists and environmental educators for scholarships to attend a summer educational program on Hog Island in Maine. Each scholarship, valued at nearly \$1,000, will cover tuition, room and board. Recipients are responsible for their own travel expenses. A scholarship will be awarded for the "Field Ornithology Workshop" to be held June 17 - 22, 2012. Another scholarship will be awarded for the "Sharing Nature: Educators Week" to be held July 19 - 24, 2012.

SMAS has a long history of raising funds in order to award scholarships to local educators allowing them to attend programs at magical Hog Island on the Musgongus Bay in Maine. Past winners have returned from their experience truly appreciative of the chance to learn from such knowledgeable staff in a rich, unique environment. For more information about these experiences, visit <http://projectpuffin.org/OrnithCamps.html>

Applicants must be educators currently teaching in Southern Maryland. To apply, please send a one page letter outlining your reasons for wanting the scholarship and how the workshop experience will be used in your teaching to support our mission. Your signed letter must contain your mailing address, email address and phone number. Along with this letter, please include a signed letter of recommendation from your immediate supervisor describing your interests, abilities, and how the experience will benefit your organization and audience. Scholarship recipients will be required to submit a written report of their experiences within a month of their return. The deadline for applications is February 16, 2012.

Please send applications to: Paula Batzer  
5300 Turkey Tayac Place, Nanjemoy MD 20662

Questions? Email [carolinawren60@comcast.net](mailto:carolinawren60@comcast.net)

## WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

Ida Adams, La Plata  
C. Bratcher, Lusby  
Anne Brinsmade, Prince Frederick  
Christine Buckingham, Clinton  
Cecelia L. Butler, Clinton  
Al Conner, Clinton  
Mary Hollis, Hollywood  
Pat Horak, Fort Washington  
Daniel Johnson, Nanjemoy  
Sonja Johnson, Hollywood  
Theodore Kowaluk, Huntingtown  
Richard McCracken, Piney Point  
Douglas Mindel, La Plata  
Donna E. Muncey, Lexington Park  
Bette Seaman, Waldorf  
L. C. Standish, California  
Bryan Stephenson, Hughesville  
John Zupancic, Scotland

## FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED



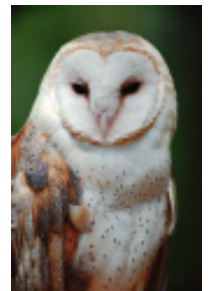
Southern Maryland Audubon Society sponsors the banding of nestling birds of prey, or raptors, with serially numbered aluminum bands in cooperation with the Bird Banding Laboratory of the U. S. Department of the Interior, as part of our bird research and conservation activities in Southern Maryland. Limited numbers of Osprey and Barn Owl nestlings become available each year for adoption. The gift of \$10 for an Osprey adoption, or of \$25 for a Barn Owl adoption, contributes to a special fund for the support of raptor research and raptor conservation projects. The foster parent receives:

- A certificate of adoption with the number of the U. S. Department of the Interior band, and the location and date of the banding.
- Information on the ecology and migration patterns of the species, photo of a fledgling, and any other information on whereabouts or fate of the bird that may be available.

### Interested?

Here's how to become a foster parent of an Osprey or a Barn Owl. Send \$10.00 for each Osprey, \$25 for each Barn Owl, or \$35 for each American Kestrel to:

**Melissa Boyle**  
**10144 Point Lookout Road**  
**Scotland, MD 20687**



## ADOPT A RAPTOR

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I wish to adopt (check one):

\_\_\_\_\_ (# of) Osprey, \$10.00 each

\_\_\_\_\_ (# of) Barn Owl, \$25.00 each

\_\_\_\_\_ (# of) American Kestrel, \$35.00 each

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to:**  
**Southern Maryland Audubon Society**

COOL INTERNET VIDEOS!

A Collection of Starlings is Called a Murmuration: Once you get past the first 15 seconds, it's absolutely amazing! <http://vimeo.com/31158841>

Here's another link, this one from the NY Times, with a narrative explaining the phenomenon. There was also an article in Nature or Science with a mathematical explanation which isn't nearly as amusing: [http://www.nytimes.com/packages/html/magazine/20070422\\_BIRDS\\_FEATURE/index.html](http://www.nytimes.com/packages/html/magazine/20070422_BIRDS_FEATURE/index.html)

Eagle Owl at 1000 Frames Per Second: I just wish that they'd let this one run just a few more seconds! <http://www.dogwork.com/owfo8/>

The Sentries by Jane Klemer

Crows shriek their alarm, Though I come in peace Their message is loud and clear.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 13 - Sunday - 8 AM - noon - Field Trip King's Landing Park, Calvert County "LATE FALL BIRDS" Leader: Tom Harten (301-780-6196, tomharten@verizon.net) King's Landing Park, in Huntingtown, offers a variety of habitats attractive to wintering birds including forest, open fields, freshwater wetlands and the Patuxent River. We'll meet next to the CHESPAX office near the main parking lot of the park. King's Landing is located 5 miles north of Prince Frederick following Route 4. Turn left onto Old Town Rd. (MD 524). Turn left at Bowen's Grocery Store and continue straight for about 3 miles to park entrance. RSVP required.

November 19 - Saturday - 8 AM - noon - Field Trip Mattawoman Natural Environmental Area Wildlands, Charles County "EARLY WATERFOWL FROM THE GEORGE WILMOT TRAIL" Leader: Gwen Brewer (301-843-3524, glbrewer@comcast.net) Come search for migrating waterfowl on Mattawoman Creek and for songbirds in this prime natural area. This time of year as many as 5000 individuals and 13 species of waterfowl have been present, including Eurasian Wigeon. On Rt. 224 (Chicamuxen Rd.) off Rt. 225 between La Plata & Indian Head. Meet in the lower (2d) parking lot at Lackey High School (left side of Rt. 224). Bring a spotting scope if you have one and be prepared for a moderate walk. No facilities and no fees. This is a joint trip with Audubon Naturalist Society. RSVP required.

DECEMBER 7 - WEDNESDAY - 7:30 p.m. Charlotte Hall Library, St. Mary's County 37600 New Market Road (Rt. 6 at Rt. 5), Charlotte Hall, MD 20622 "Local Photographers Night and Holiday Gift Sale" Come see what others have photographed on trips, backyards, and local

continued.....➔

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- Please enroll me as a member of the Audubon Family and the Southern Maryland Audubon Society. I will receive the chapter newsletter, The Osprey, and all my dues will support environmental efforts in Southern Maryland.
Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society. My membership will also include membership in the Southern Maryland Audubon Society. I will receive National's Audubon Magazine, the chapter newsletter, and support national and local environmental causes. A fraction of my dues will be returned to the local chapter.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I DO do NOT wish to receive The Osprey electronically. My e-mail address is: \_\_\_\_\_ (electronic delivery saves SMAS printing and mailing costs.)

Chapter-Only Dues (new/renewal) Make check payable to Southern Maryland Audubon Society

- Individual/Family \_\_\_1yr \$20 \_\_\_2yr \$38 \_\_\_3yr \$56
Senior/Student \_\_\_1yr \$15 \_\_\_2yr \$28 \_\_\_3yr \$42
Individual Lifetime Membership \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 Senior (over 62) \_\_\_\_\_ \$250

National Dues, Make check payable to National Audubon Society -- Chapter code #C9ZL000Z

- Introductory Offer - 1 year \$20
Senior/Student \$15

Mail to: Southern Maryland Audubon Society, Attn: Membership P.O. Box 181 Bryans Road, MD 20616

## UPCOMING EVENTS (cont)

birding hot spots. Feel free to bring your own photos to show. Contact Lynne Wheeler by November 15 at 301-743-3236 or fidsruschic@aol.com to coordinate electronic viewing equipment. We are also highlighting our SMAS book and gift store to help you with your hard to find holiday gift shopping. Gift wrapping included!

December 10 - Saturday – 10 AM – 2 PM – Field Trip \*NOTE LATER START TIME\*

Beauvue Ponds, St. Mary's County  
"WINTER WATERFOWL AT BEAUVUE"

Leader: Sigrid Stiles. (301-872-4053, sigstiles@aol.com).

View wintering waterfowl at the ponds at Beauvue. We'll also search for land birds such as Northern Harrier, American Kestrel, Short-eared Owl and Eastern Meadowlark. No facilities, no fees. Meet at Leonardtown Middle School parking lot. Drive south from Leonardtown on Rt. 5. Turn right at the light at Medley's Neck Rd then immediately left into the parking lot. RSVP required.

December 14 - January 5  
CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

See other side for details on our Southern Maryland Christmas Bird Counts. Also check the SMAS website at [www.somdaudubon.org](http://www.somdaudubon.org) for additional information.

January 2 – Monday - 8 AM - 2 PM – Field Trip

St. Mary's Winter Chase, St. Mary's County  
"START YOUR YEAR OFF BIRDING"

Leader: Mikey Lutmerding (301-455-9370, mlutmerding@gmail.com).  
Two-thirds day. Search for winter specialties in a very productive area. Expect stops at Beauvue, Point Lookout and other hotspots. Meet at entrance to Point Lookout State Park on Rt. 5. Be prepared for the cold and dress warmly. Bring scopes if you have them. Facilities are along the way, no fee except Point Lookout. RSVP required.

JANUARY 4 – WEDNESDAY – 7:30 p.m.

Leonardtown Library, St. Mary's County  
23250 Hollywood Road (Rt. 245), Leonardtown, MD 20640  
"St. Paul, Alaska – Birdwatching Haven. A study of Seabird Telemetry"  
TOM HARTEN, Calvert County Public School  
Environmental Educator

During the summer of 2009 Tom Harten was selected as a PolarTREC teacher to join in a research project in the Bering Sea of Alaska. The project focused on seabird telemetry in the Pribilof Islands, a mecca for birders from around the world. No fewer than 248 species of birds have been recorded on the island. In spring, many rare birds, including Siberian vagrants, can be spotted on the island. Please come and join Tom as he shares this wonderful experience on St. Paul.

January 22– Sunday - 8 AM - noon – Field Trip  
Piscataway Park & Hard Bargain Farm, Prince George's County  
"WINTER WATERFOWL AND RESIDENT BIRDS"  
Leader: Chris Ordiway (301-203-8014, olebuck@strixvaria.org)

Email communication preferred. This is a prime area for wintering waterfowl. The varied habitat of woods, farm fields and edges provides a great variety of land birds. Take Rt. 210, Indian Head Highway to Livingston Rd. (South of Farmington Rd and North of Rt. 228). Take Livingston Rd. east and meet at Burger King in the Bloom shopping center, 15785 Livingston Rd., Accokeek, MD 20607. No facilities or fee. Limit of 20. This is a joint trip with Audubon Naturalist Society. RSVP required.

January 28– Saturday – all day – Field Trip

Ocean City, MD to Indian River Inlet, DE  
"WINTER COASTAL BIRDS"

Leader: Fred Shaffer (410-721-1744, glaucousgull@verizon.net).

This mid-winter trip will visit the lower eastern shore and various inlets and bays along the coast in search of waterfowl, gulls, and other winter birds. Stops may include the Cambridge waterfront, Naylor Mill Road (viewing of gulls from the Salisbury landfill), Ocean City inlet, and Indian River inlet. Call leader for carpooling/meeting information. Contact Fred Shaffer at 410-721-1744 for additional information.

FEBRUARY 1 – WEDNESDAY – 7:30 P.M.

La Plata Volunteer Fire Department, Charles County  
911 Washington Avenue, La Plata, MD 20646

"A Snapshot of Cuba Today"

GWEN BREWER AND GEORGE JETT, Southern Maryland  
Audubon Members

In Mid-April 2011, Gwen Brewer and George Jett traveled to Cuba as part of the Caribbean Conservation Trust's long running bird survey. They searched for both resident (particularly endemic) and migrant birds as they traveled over 2,600 km and visited many of the ecosystems of this isolated island country. The group tallied 166 species and 10,208 individual birds during the 10-day trip. The program will also include elements of Cuban culture, history, and other natural history components such as insects, reptiles, amphibians and plants. Don't miss this latest adventure of these intrepid travelers!

February 4 – Saturday – 9AM - 11AM Youth Field Trip

Point Lookout State Park, St. Mary's County  
"SCOUTING FOR BIRDS"

Leader: Melissa Boyle (443-340-3035, melissaboyle3@gmail.com).

Ages 8-12. Join scouts looking to complete badge requirements and learn winter birds. There is a fee to enter the park. Dress warmly, and bring binoculars. Pre-registration required. E-mail registration preferred. Meeting location to be determined. Contact leader for details.

February 5 – Sunday – 8 AM - noon – Field Trip

Jefferson Patterson Park, Calvert County  
"WINTER WATERFOWL TRIP"

Leader: Tyler Bell (301-862-4623, jtylerbell@yahoo.com). Open fields and wooded areas can provide good land birding and the river frontage for close views of winter waterfowl. Call or email the leader for directions to the meeting location. RSVP required.

**EDITOR:** Tyler Bell  
**E-mail:** [jtylerbell@yahoo.com](mailto:jtylerbell@yahoo.com)

The deadline for the Osprey is the fifth of each month. Please send all short articles, reports, unique sightings, conservation updates, calendar items, etc. to the above address.