

The Osprey

Newsletter of the Southern Maryland Audubon Society

President's Perch



Snow Bunting

Photo By: Donald M. Sweig

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In This Issue

Rarity Roundup

Iceland

A White Pelican Christmas

State to Buy More Forest
Land in St. Mary's County

Female Rufous Hummingbird

Upcoming Events



<http://somdaudubon.org/>

With the holiday season behind us, we face the coldest months of the year in January and February. Spring is still a couple months away, but there is a lot to look forward to in February as we hope for warmer weather. The Great Backyard Bird Count, started in 1998 by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society, takes place during Presidents' Day weekend. To participate, just tally the numbers and kinds of birds you see for at least 15 minutes on one or more days of the count, February 13-16, 2015. The count was the first online citizen-science project to collect data on wild birds and to display results in near real-time. The information is used in combination with observations from Christmas Bird Counts, Project Feederwatch, and eBird to reveal what's happening with bird populations. Last year, over 140,000 checklists were submitted with about 4,300 species and over 17 million birds counted. Get involved this year! <http://gbbc.birdcount.org/>

If you haven't been watching your feeders closely, some uncommon winter visitors to look for have been Purple Finches, Pine Siskins, and Red-breasted Nuthatches. When there's snow on the ground, we often have some interesting observations of resident birds, too. During snowstorms, I've seen Eastern Towhees (not typically a feeder bird) hanging around the feeders and have observed Dark-eyed Juncos and Northern Cardinals attempting to eat suet. Offering a reliable water source to your winter feeding station can attract a greater diversity of birds, especially when other water sources are iced over.

The Southern Maryland Audubon Society has a busy field trip and program schedule, with trips scheduled to look for owls and winter birds. Winter birding can be very rewarding if you're willing to brave the cold, as we learned from the Snowy Owl irruption last year. A raptor specialist will discuss Project SNOWstorm, which was created to study the extraordinary Snowy Owl invasion that occurred in eastern North America last winter. We're also bringing back the popular Raptors Rule! program to give bird of prey lovers a chance to meet some avian predators up close and learn about their importance in the ecosystem. SMAS will also be hosting two educational workshops. At the bluebird box workshop, you can learn to build a nest box to attract Eastern Bluebirds to your property. Educators can learn how to teach students about the importance of birds with the Flying Wild curriculum. For the complete schedule, visit <http://somdaudubon.org/>.

Southern Maryland Audubon Society will be awarding two scholarships for teachers, naturalists, and environmental educators to attend summer educational programs on Hog Island in Maine. The deadline for submissions is February 13. The scholarships, valued at nearly \$1000 each, will cover tuition, room, and board. Winners will be able to choose to attend either the "Field Ornithology" workshop held June 14-19, 2015 or "Sharing Nature: An Educators Week" from July 19-24, 2015. More detailed information can be found on our web site.

In the fall, we added several valuable members to our Board of Directors. As we move into spring, SMAS will be looking to be more active in fundraising and habitat stewardship efforts. If you feel called to join the Board to take an active role in conservation efforts to benefit birds and other wildlife, we hope you'll answer the call.

Michael Patterson

Iceland, November 2014

By Tyler Bell

Jane Kostenko and I wanted to do something special for our 25th anniversary. Initially, we looked into Hawaii but we couldn't dedicate the two weeks likely necessary to do all of the island that we wanted to visit. Then, IcelandAir offered a package deal that was affordable and the right length of time.

We flew out of Dulles on Saturday, November 22 arriving in Keflavik, Iceland early in the morning on Sunday, November 23. We arrived at the hotel, dumped bags in our room and headed toward downtown Reykjavik, an easy 20 minute walk. In short order, we picked up the two lifers on our trip: Redwing and Whooper Swan. Redwings were the only Turdus species that we saw there though there are others represented in breeding season. Whooper Swans were a dime a dozen in the pond in the center of town where people feed the various waterfowl. Graylag Geese were quite common wherever we went but in the pond, there were at least 100 birds present at any time. Other waterfowl uncommon in the US included Eurasian Wigeon, Common Teal (Eurasian Green-winged Teal) and Tufted Duck. Black-headed Gulls were the most abundant gull species though Common Gull (Eurasian Mew Gull) was the second most abundant species followed by Glaucous Gull, which was in the harbor or along the coast, and European Herring Gull.

Since birding was not the focus of our trip, that's pretty much the extent of it, a grand total of 29 species. We saw the same birds in town whenever we walked there but we did some tours around the southwest part of the island that were mostly focused on geology. The Golden Circle tour first stops at Þingvellir (pronounced Thing vell ur), the location of the oldest parliament on earth (930 AD). The Icelanders chose this location because it is the most visible spot where the North American and Eurasian plates are splitting apart. It's the junction of the two and you can walk down a rift canyon from the plateau down to the Parliament building.

Next stop was Geysir where the first geyser was seen and named. The original Geysir (pronounced Gay sear) does not erupt regularly anymore but Strokkur is more active, erupting every two or three minutes. When we first arrived, we watched with dismay as it erupted then drenched the viewers who chose the wrong location. Thankfully, it was very frequent and as we watched upwind, we figured out that the geyser would begin surging up and down then a large, smooth boil of water welled up just prior to the eruption. Helps when trying to take photographs when you know when it's going to happen!

Our final stop before sunset was Gullfoss, the largest set of waterfalls in Iceland. Not many years ago, there were no precautions to keep visitors away from the edge of the river gorge but now there are railings to keep people a

safe distance from the edge. The falls were quite stunning though we would have loved to have seen them on a bright sunny day to catch rainbows in the mist.

After dinner, we went to a geothermal hot spring. There were two areas separated by temperature. The first was 34°C which was a nice transition between the 1°C air to the 40°C bath which felt like being parboiled. Of course, once you got into the hotter bath, you really didn't want to get out. Topping the experience was when it began to snow. Nothing like steeping in a hot bath with snow accumulating on your head.

The next day was riding Icelandic horses through the lava fields created by an eruption about 6000 years ago. Icelandic horses (don't call them ponies!) are short and have long manes and forelocks. They have a distinctive gait when trotting that is said to be quite comfortable. Not being much of a horseman, I was not going to push my horse to that speed to find out. About 2/3 of the way along our trek, it began to hail on us. We stopped at a grassy area where the horses, oblivious to the weather, began to graze. Our guides told us to spin the horses around so our backs were to the hail and they grazed away quite contentedly until the hail stopped after about 5 minutes. Our guide said that her grandfather explained that the reason why the Icelandic horses and cows were so diminutive was because when the Vikings were coming to Iceland, they picked the smallest animals so they had more room for alcohol! Doubtful that's true but a funny bit of folklore.

On our return, it happened to be my birthday. It was the longest birthday I've ever experienced due to the 5 hours gained by flying west. Ultimately, it was a 29 hour day.

Icelanders are required to take 8 years of English as well as 6 years of Danish (due to their previous allegiance before declaring independence) so everyone is able to converse easily. They appreciate any effort that you can put forth to speak their language so we did learn a few phrases. The most common is Thank You or Takk. The more formal Takk Fyrir, or Thanks For, is returned with Sömeleiðis or Same To You.

We'd like to return to Iceland in a time when the day length is a lot longer than the 5 full hours of sunlight in late November. Due to its proximity to the Arctic Circle, they experience almost 24 hours of sunlight in the peak of summer and the opposite in winter. Many arctic nesting birds would be present in late June or early July that were long gone by the time we arrived. Still, because of the warming influence of the Gulf Stream, Iceland's temperatures are not much different from the DC area despite being so much further north. So, even though there aren't many hours of day in the depths of winter, you can still see a lot. No reason to wait!

A White Pelican Christmas

By Lynne Wheeler

We didn't have a Snowy Owl to blanket our Christmas holiday but we did enjoy a beautiful American White Pelican, (*Pelicanus erythrorhynchos*). Instead of everyone hitting the grocery store for milk and bread in preparation of a white event we had birders flying from all over the state to see this unusual visitor who strayed into the Mattawoman Creek, Charles County, MD.

Our Red-nosed....oops I mean Red-billed visitor (whose Latin name translates as Red-billed Pelican).... gave us great holiday drama for us local birders as we witnessed birding visitors come far and wide to get a view of our *Pelicanus* and record a rare end of the year sighting for their list. Was it on their Christmas wish list? Did Santa grant their request?

Many Maryland birders were surprised to read an email submitted to the mdbirding@googlegroups.com email group on December 28 . It noted a 12:45 p.m. sighting at Mattingly Park on the Mattawoman Creek. The park is located in the town of Indian Head, Charles County, and is an eBird "Hot Spot" frequently visited and enjoyed. The creek is a 30 mile long coastal plain tributary to the tidal Potomac River that comprises a 23 mile river and a 7 mile tidal freshwater estuary. It supports a tremendous amount of migratory fish, resident gamefish and critical wildlife habitat. If you have not visited it yet, you should put it on your bucket list. The park also enjoys a canoe, kayak and bike rental business called Up The Creek Rentals. Enjoy birding the creek via canoe or kayak and/or walk or bike the Indian Head Rail Trail and your day is full of enjoyment.

I digress, back to our bird! The initial sighting noted the pelican approximately 100 feet from shore to the right of the parking lot and boat ramp. It was found within a mixed flock of gulls. Pelicans are known to steal fish from other birds, a practice known as kleptoparasitism. I am not so sure the gulls were happy to have this big bird amongst them! I was thrilled to witness the pelican on December 30 and get pictures into my eBird report. While I was viewing, I also saw a renowned MD birder, Jim Stasz. Jim traveled from northern Calvert County. It is so much fun to run into the talented and serious birders we have in our state! Thanks Jim for the picture taking assistance and great bird talk!

I recommend you go onto the eBird website and read the sighting records, many with pictures. Log on to eBird.org. From the Home page go to Explore Data>Species Maps. In the top left search window input American White Pelican [editor's note: for a shortcut, use the banding code AWPE]. Multiple clicks with the location hand marker placed at the MD area south of Washington D.C. will zoom you to the location. Zoom until you finally see the tear shaped markers appear that designate all sighting locations recorded for

our area south of Washington D.C. The older sightings will be color coded blue, newer sighting red. Since this location is a Hot Spot (teardrop with a flame in it), and this is a recent sighting, you will see a marker at Indian Head. Click on this marker and have fun reading the many checklists submitted, most with pictures.

This recent eBird recording is a second for Charles County; the first was on 6/26/2007 by George Jett at the Morgantown Power plant on the Potomac River (near the Harry Nice Bridge). It is interesting to access all of our southern MD recordings, and across the Potomac River to Virginia, and note the dates and locations. The earliest southern MD record I noticed was in St. Mary's County on 6/26/2002, from Kyle Rambo at the Naval Air Station Patuxent River. Other St. Mary's County records after that include 11/7/2004 at Point Lookout State Park, 4/16/2012 at Shipping Point (St. Clements Bay), 4/3/2013 at The Elms Environmental Center (Chesapeake Bay) and 2/23/2014 again at Point Lookout State Park.

Next I recommend you go across the Potomac River from the Indian Head area to the Virginia shore. It shows approximately eight records ranging from 2003 to 2014. Of interest to me was a December sighting dated 12/20/2006 at Meadowood, Lorton, VA. This is directly across the river from Mattawoman Creek, as a crow flies (or a Pelican).

On a final note we are fortunate to also have a 2015 recording. On 1/2/2015 our Pelican was seen again after being missing in action for a few days at the same location Mattingly Park – Mattawoman Creek., from the same eagle eye birder who started all of our holiday fun. This sighting enabled the MD sector of the Virginia – Fort Belvoir Christmas Bird Count to count our holiday surprise for count week. Many thanks to Joanne Shearer for sharing her finds, you made our holiday a very white Christmas.



American White Pelican
Photo by: Mark Rosital

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

Emily Josephine Baldwin, Lexington Park
Ayesha S. Brown, Fort Washington
Margaret Cochran, Saint Leonard
John Detchemendy, Saint Leonard
Sandra Diachenko, La Plata
Marilyn Henning, California
Margaret Jacobs, Solomons
Alma Jernigan, Cheltenham
Linda Kline, Waldorf
Daniel J. Kregloh, Solomons
Cynthia Moruzzi, Waldorf
Joan Mullen, St Marys City
Frank Nicolai, Fort Washington
Gale Parks, Broomes Island
Norma Powers, Dowell
Piper Lin Pratt, Drayden
Louis Renaud, Huntingtown
Corine Rodriguez, Leonardtown
Daryl Sanders, Huntingtown
Scarlett M. Schall, Saint Leonard
Julie Stuckey, Cheltenham
Caridad Vicente, Waldorf
John Wagner, Lusby

Rarity Roundup

Two **Snow Buntings** were found at Pt. Lookout State Park near the lighthouse. They have been seen off and on since then. Look for them on the rocks near the loop at the end.

See the article by Lynne Wheeler about the **American White Pelican** in Charles County!

The male Barrow's Goldeneye was relocated during the Pt. Lookout CBC. He is back for the fourth winter in a row near the fishing weir just north of the Elms Environmental Education Center just south of Lexington Park in St. Mary's County.

See the article by Patricia Rose about her **Rufous Hummingbird** in Callaway, St. Mary's County. This is only the fourth record for the county.



Rufous Hummingbird
Photo by: Patricia Rose

Southern Maryland Audubon Society **ADOPT-A-RAPTOR**

Foster Parents Needed!!



The Southern Maryland Audubon Society supports raptor conservation and research projects in the Southern Maryland area through the "Adopt-A-Raptor" Program. The program currently includes four species: **Osprey, Barn Owl, American Kestrel and Northern Saw-whet Owl**. Each bird is banded by a licensed bird bander with a serially numbered metal band, in cooperation with the U.S. Bird Banding Laboratory. A limited number of birds are available for adoption each year!

NEW FOR 2013!! "Adopt-A-Nest" now available for Osprey, Barn Owl & Kestrels!

Adoptive "parents" will receive:

A certificate of adoption with the bird's band number, and location and date of banding.

Information on the ecology and migration patterns of the species

Any other pertinent information that may become available

Your support helps provide:

- Barn Owl Nest Boxes
- Osprey Nesting Platforms
- Kestrel Nest Boxes
- Mist Nets or Banding Supplies

Complete the form below to "Adopt-A-Raptor" with the Southern Maryland Audubon Society

Mail completed form to: *Melissa Boyle, Adopt-a-Raptor,
10455 Point Lookout Rd. Scotland, MD 20687*

Name: _____
as it should appear on Adoption Certificate

Address: _____

I wish to adopt:

- _____ (# of) Osprey, \$10 each / \$25 per nest
_____ (# of) Barn Owl, \$25 each / \$50 per nest
_____ (# of) Northern Saw-whet Owl, \$30 each
_____ (# of) American Kestrel, \$35 each / \$75 per nest

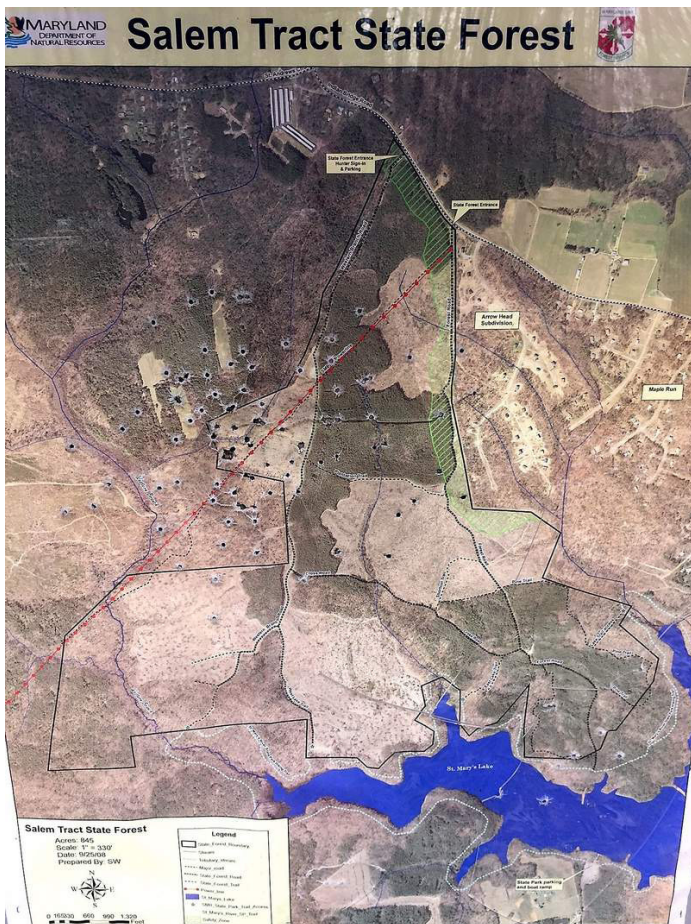
Amount Enclosed: _____

Make checks payable to: Southern Maryland Audubon Society

State To Buy More Forest Land In St. Mary's

Will preserve 854 acres near St. Mary's River State Park
by Jason Babcock Staff writer

The Maryland Board of Public Works is scheduled to approve the purchase of 854 acres to be added to the Salem State Forest in California, shown on this bullet-ridden map at the site.



The Maryland Board of Public Works is scheduled to approve the purchase of 854 acres to be added to the Salem State Forest in California, shown on this bullet-ridden map at the site, on Wednesday, January 7.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources and The Conservation Fund are requesting to buy 854 acres from the Walton Lumber Co. for \$3.1 million, with \$1.7 million from the state and \$1.4 million from an ongoing partnership with the U.S. Navy. Four appraisals on the land placed its value between \$2.1 million and \$3.8 million.

"The mostly-forested property supports forest interior dwelling species habitat and will be managed as part of Salem State Forest," the board of public works' agenda said. "The location, adjacent to the state forest and near St. Mary's [River] State Park, will provide expanded recreational trail connections for the public."

The lumber company's property is to the west of Salem State Forest.

Salem State Forest's entrance is off Indian Bridge Road in California. That 836-acre tract adjoins state land around the 250-acre St. Mary's Lake.

The 854 new acres are to be added to the Salem State Forest and managed by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. "Low-intensity recreation will likely be permitted" on the new acreage, said Kristen Peterson, manager of senior communications for DNR.

The Salem State Forest was part of \$12 million purchase of 3,437 acres around the state from the Glatfelter company in 2002. Later, parts of the Salem land were eyed by Baltimore developer Willard Hackerman to build some waterview homes near St. Mary's Lake and a possible donation for a school site. As media reports revealed those dealings, Hackerman withdrew, but still offered \$1 million to St. Mary's County government to buy land for schools. The county commissioners, under president Thomas F. McKay (R), declined the money. No school site was located on the state property.

In 2008, another board of commissioners, under president Jack Russell (D), purchased 76 acres of woodland north of the Salem property for a future county park.

The land is still undeveloped, and the St. Mary's County Department of Recreation and Parks has not started the planning process for its specific use yet.

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SOMDNews.com

[Editor's Note: This parcel of land, and adjacent woods, are a holdout, in St. Mary's, for rapidly declining species such as Chuck-will's-widow and Whip-poor-will. Woodlands that used to support these species, near the regional airport, have been bulldozed as part of the Wildewood PUD buildout.]

Leucistic White-throated Sparrow
Photo by: Lynne Wheeler



On December 19, 2014 at the above location Patricia was washing dishes when she noticed a hummingbird at the feeder and its back was towards her so she thought one of the Ruby-throated Hummingbirds had not left when the others did. Right away she posted on MDBirding and others made comments that it most likely wasn't a Ruby-throated but possibly a Rufous or Allen's.

After posting several pictures Dan Haas said he thought it was a Rufous but don't rule out other possibilities. Dan also gave Patricia the names and numbers of a catcher/bander and a bander. Due to the Christmas holidays and many preset plans, the bird could not be caught until December 30. Bruce Peterjohn set the trap that morning about 8 a.m. and the bird arrived within minutes, entered the trap and was caught. Bruce took the bird into Patricia's home where David Holmes was already set up to measure, weigh and band this little bird. Then Patricia and Bruce released her in the back yard where within minutes she was back feeding at the feeders.

Because N87657 was so tiny it could not be determined that day on whether she was a Rufous, Allen's or mixed. Bruce turned to a friend in Texas who bands Rufous and many other hummingbirds and they started comparing sizes, pictures etc. On December 31 it was determined that she was indeed a Rufous Hummingbird, an extremely small but healthy bird. She weighed 3.5 grams, she already had 6 new primary feathers, her seventh had dropped and she was in an advanced molting stage. Only 1-2% of Rufous are as small as this bird.

Tyler Bell contacted Patricia and said with rarities many people give them a name so she named her Ru Rose. Ru

has been doing wonderfully from the very beginning. She has already gone through temperatures in the single digits due to low temperatures and wind chill factors. Patricia continues to put fresh, room temperature food out for Ru several times a day. She has favorite branches she sits on and does well with the many other birds that visit the other feeders.

Patricia has opened her home up to visitors since Ru is a rarity here in Callaway, St. Mary's County and hopes more people will come to see this special tiny hummingbird. Contact cell number: 240-298-1834.

Patricia Viola Rose
44874 Buck Redman Road
Callaway, Maryland 20620

[Editor's Note: in personal emails with Bruce Peterjohn, USFWS, he noted that this was a particularly tough ID because the bird was so far to the left on the Bell Curve of size. However, the clincher was the notched/emarginated second tail feather, R2. This feature can be seen in the photograph of the bird at the feeder. R2 is the second one from the center. That feature alone rules out any other Selasphorus hummingbird. This record constitutes only the fourth Rufous Hummingbird ever in St. Mary's County. What a treat that it showed up in a birder's backyard. Thanks, Patricia!]

Rufous Hummingbird
Photo by: Patricia Rose



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

January 23 – FRIDAY – 7:00 p.m.

FIELD TRIP – YOUTHS WELCOME!!

Elms Environmental Center, St. Mary's County

"OWL PROWL AT THE ELMS"

Leader(s): Bob Boxwell and Margarita Rochow

Come "call out" the owls!! Owls are nocturnal, and therefore not easy to spot. A great Friday night family outing at The Elms. Dress appropriately for the weather, and avoid noisy clothing. This event is weather dependent. Rain or high winds will result in cancellation. The address is 49300 St. James Road, Dameron, MD 20628. Take Rt 235 south, left onto St. James Church road (on the right is Mattapany road). You will see the sign for the Elms Environmental Education Center. We will meet in the hunter's parking lot on the right before the gate. **RSVP** to Bob Boxwell at 410-610-5124, Bobboxwell@hotmail.com.

January 25 – SUNDAY – 8:00 a.m. – 12 noon

FIELD TRIP

Piscataway Park & Hard Bargain farm, Prince George's County

"WINTER WATERFOWL AND RESIDENT BIRDS"

Leader(s): Mike Callahan and Michael Patterson

This is a joint trip with the Audubon Naturalist Society. The varied habitat of water, woods, farm fields and edges provide for a great variety of birds. Take Rt 210 (Indian Head Hwy) to Livingston Road. (south of Farmington Rd. and north of Rt 228). Take Livingston Road east and meet at the Burger King in the Food Lion Shopping Center (15785 Livingston Road, Accokeek, MD 20607). No facilities. No fee. Limit to 20 participants. **RSVP** to Mike Callahan at raptorsrulemc@gmail.com 240-765-5192.

January 31 – SATURDAY – 8:00 a.m. – 12 noon

FIELD TRIP

Jefferson Patterson Park, Calvert County

"WINTER WATERFOWL TRIP"

Leader: Tyler Bell

Open fields and wooded areas provide good land birding and the river frontage close views of waterfowl. Call or email Tyler for directions to the meeting spot. **RSVP** to Tyler Bell at tylerbell@yahoo.com or 301-862-4623.

February 4 – WEDNESDAY – 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAM

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

"Project SNOWstorm, Project OwlNet"

STEVE HUY, *Bird Bander and Bird of Prey Specialist*

Steve Huy will discuss the creation of Project SNOWstorm, launched to study the unprecedented Snowy owl irruption in eastern North America during the winter of 2013/2014. Steve is co-founder and director of Project OwlNet. Founded in 1994, Project OwlNet facilitates communication,

cooperation and innovation among a rapidly growing network of hundreds of owl migration researchers in North America and abroad. He is also one of the creators and contributors to Project SNOWstorm. A bird bander, he has focused on studies of raptors and their migration for over 20 years.

February 7 – SATURDAY – 8 a.m.

FIELD TRIP

Ward Road, Calvert County

"WINTER BIRD LIST"

Leader: Karen Anderson, Master Naturalist

Join Karen as she explores Calvert County's newest park off of Ward road in Dunkirk. The Natural Resources Division would like our help to compile the bird list for this exciting new 209 acre property at 10455 Ward Road. **RSVP** to Karen at r_otters1@msn.com

February 20 – FRIDAY – 8:00 p.m.

FIELD TRIP

Private Farm, Charles County

"BARN OWL PROWL"

Leader: Mike Callahan

Join us on this night hike to look and listen for the rare, year round resident owl of Southern Maryland, the Barn Owl. The farm is owned by the newly founded Wicomico Valley Foundation of Southern Maryland. This is a great family outing! Bring a reusable mug for hot chocolate. The exact meeting location will be given at registration. Suggested donation of \$5.00 per person. **RSVP** to Mike at 240-765-5192, or raptorsrulemc@gmail.com

COOL INTERNET LINKS!

Watch a recently hatched bird grow up and fledge!

<http://www.wimp.com/foundbird/>

Good frog parenting skills!

<https://www.facebook.com/video.php?v=772469816168715>

So many hummingbirds!

Need sound to fully appreciate this.

<https://www.facebook.com/video.php?v=4028032186625>

Coyote/Raccoon interaction caught on stealth cam.

Need sound on this one, too.

<https://www.facebook.com/video.php?v=2142004782226>

How to see Comet Lovejoy:

<http://tinyurl.com/lovejoy-comet>

EDITOR: Tyler Bell **E-mail:** jtlyerbell@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.

2013-2014 Officers

President, Michael Patterson (301-752-5763)

Vice-President, Bob Lukinic (301-283-6317)

Secretary, Lynne Wheeler (301-743-3236)

Treasurer, Will Daniel (240-518-8006)