



Wings over Dutchess

RALPH T. WATERMAN BIRD CLUB

DUTCHESS COUNTY, N.Y.
FOUNDED 1958

MEETING NOTICE

Our first meeting for 2013 is on Monday, January 28, 2013, at the Freedom Plains Church Parish Hall, Route 55, Freedom Plains, across from Arlington High School, at 7:30 PM. Our program will be a video, **Birders: The Central Park Effect**. Refreshments will follow our program.

In case of bad weather, our meeting will be cancelled. Please listen to local radio stations for an announcement or contact John Winkler if you are in doubt.

FEBRUARY & MARCH 2013 FIELD TRIPS

WEDNESDAY

- Feb. 6** **Norrie Point *pg.78.** Meet at the museum parking lot at 9:00am.
- Feb. 13** **Bowdoin Park *pg. 16.** Meet at the upper level parking area at 9:00am.
- Feb. 20** **Vanderbilt Mansion *pg. 126.** Meet at the visitor parking lot at 9:00am.
- Feb. 27** **Vassar Farms *pg. 130.** Meet at the barns parking lot at 9:00am.
- Mar. 6** **Mills Mansion *pg. 78.** Meet at the Mansion parking lot, Staatsburg, at 9:00am.
- Mar. 13** **Tymor Forest *pg. 124.** Meet at the barns at 9:00am. Hot dog roast after walk (optional). Bring your own.
- Mar. 20** **Harlem Valley Rail Trail - Amenia.** Meet at parking lot off Mechanic St. at 9:00am.
- Mar. 27** **Southern Dutchess Rail Trail.** Meet at new parking lot, Rt. 376 (just south of old parking lot), Hopewell Jct., at old train station at 9:00am.

WEEKEND FIELD TRIPS

- Sat. Feb. 9** **Shawangunk Grassland Nat. Wildlife Refuge at Galeville Airport – for short-eared owls. Leader: Barbara Michelin.** Weather permitting please call for time and meeting place.
- Sat. Feb. 16** **Southland Farm. Leader: Mona Payton.** Weather permitting meet at the parking lot at 9:00am. Please call Mona if you plan to attend.
- Sat. Mar. 2** **Croton Point Park. Leader: Barbara Michelin.** Weather permitting. Please call for time and meeting place.
- Tues. Mar. 12** **Woodcock Watch at Cary IES. Leader: Bill Schlesinger.** Meet at the Gifford House, Rt. 44A, Millbrook at 6:00pm. Please call Barbara Michelin if you plan to attend.
- Thurs. Mar. 21** **Woodcock Watch in Allen Rd. area. Leader: Barbara Mansell.** Meet @ 6:00pm. Please call for directions. Rain date March 22.
- Sat. Mar. 23** **Vassar Farm. Leader: Barbara Michelin.** Weather permitting, meet at barns @ 9:00am. Please call if you plan to attend.

Most of the walks are listed in **Where to Bird in Dutchess County** and/or on our website at www.watermanbirdclub.org/BirdersGuideWhere.htm. Inclement weather cancels walk. Dress for the weather, bring lunch and beverage. Any questions for **Wednesday Trips** call Adrienne Popko. Any questions for **Weekend Trips** call Barbara Michelin or trip leader.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 2012-2013

President: John Winkler
Vice-President: Barry Haydasz
Treasurer: Anamaria Bonilla
Recording Secretary: Abby Dux
Corresponding Secretary: Suzanne Infante
Member-at-Large: Shelly Redl
Member-at-Large: Frank Margiotta
Immediate Past President: Maury Lacher

Committee Chairs

Bluebird Trail: Susan Gilnack
Census: Herb Thompson
Circulation: Chet Vincent
Conservation: Kelly Liao
Education: Alan Peterson
Historian: Adrienne Popko
 Carrie Grey
Hospitality: Susan Gilnack
Library: Ken Fredericks
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Membership: Steve Golladay
Newsletter: Barbara Michelin
 Janet Allison
 Chuck Martinez
NYSOA Delegate: Barbara Butler
Programs: Binnie Chase
Publicity: Kateri Kosek
Rare Bird Alert: Deborah Kral
Records: Barbara Butler
Sunshine: Dora Russell
Website: open
Wednesday Field Trips: Adrienne Popko
Weekend Field Trips: Barbara Michelin

President: John Winkler

Wings over Dutchess, Editors:
 Barbara Michelin
 Janet Allison
 Chuck Martinez

**The next Wings deadline is Feb. 11, 2013.
 Please send articles to Chuck Martinez and
 copies to Janet Allison and Barbara
 Michelin. Contact information is above.**

Notice: Due to family illness the weekend field trips may have leader changes to cover for me when I am out of town. Please check your *Wings* issue each month to note any changes. Thank you.

Barbara Michelin

Website Update

Please note that Carena Pooth has retired as our web-hen. The Executive Board has a committee looking into her replacement. Until further notice, please check your newsletter for field trips as the web calendar is not being updated. We will be putting the newsletter on the website as a PDF file for members who receive the newsletter by email, or mailing you a paper copy.

Thank you.

Your Newsletter Editors

In Memory of Hilde Droge

A long time member, Hilde Droge, died on Dec. 21, 2012. She attended many of our monthly meetings and the Annual Dinners for several years. She loved gardening and bluebirds. Over the years she has gotten boxes from me or bought boxes to put up for the bluebirds in her yard and shared her bluebird results with me.

Allan and I first met Hilde when we moved into our home in the Town of Wappingers and have been close friends with her even after she moved from our neighborhood. She always called to ask if I would save her a seat next to us at the Annual Dinners. Then we would chat and catch up on news. Both Allan and I will miss her very much and our phone calls back and forth over the years about birds and other news.

We extend our sympathy to her two sons and their families.

Barbara Michelin

In Memory of Roger Morse

Roger Morse passed away on December 2, 2012. Roger and his wife Irena monitored a Bluebird Trail of 20 nest boxes in the Millbrook area for four years. I remember a rainy Saturday with rain gear and umbrellas with Roger, Irena, Jerry and I installing new nest boxes on his trail. Roger so enjoyed his Bluebird Trail and the Bluebirds, along with the rest of us, will greatly miss him.

Susan Gilnack

Bluebird Trail Monitors Needed

We presently have an opening for a Bluebird Trail Monitor - 25 nest boxes in Millbrook. Training and maintenance are available. Nice way to spend a couple of hours each week and help conserve the Bluebird population. Please call or email at ggilnack@webjogger.net. Spring is just around the corner.

Susan Gilnack

Waterman Bird Club Christmas Bird Count December 15, 2012

It was relatively nice weather for a CBC this year, maybe a little too nice. It was a sunny day, high 40°, low 20°. We had a total of 78 species, plus 2 count week: Eastern Phoebe and Common Grackle. The overall number of waterfowl was lower than usual but included several species not frequently found: Greater Scaup, Pied-billed Grebe, and Double-crested Cormorant. Likewise, the number of sparrows found was low but the usual species were present. This may be attributed to the lack of snow cover and abundance of open fields for them. The number of American Robins found (31) is comparable to the lowest in a decade. We saw no Cedar Waxwings this year but the number of Northern Mockingbirds was typical for recent years.

Team Leaders	Area	Members	Species
Barbara Butler	Rockefeller Fld. Sta. Verbank, Tymor, Clove Valley	Kelly Liao, Mona Payton, Kateri Kosek, David Holub, Carena Pooth, Dotty Fleury, Herb Thompson	52
Alan Peterson	Lk. Walton Towns of Fishkill, Wappingers	Eamon Freiberger, Eric Freiberger, Aimee & Tom LaBarr Russ O'Malley	48
Carol Fredericks	Vassar Farm	Frank Margiotta, Dora Russell, Jim Closs, Mike Vickner	26
Mike Vickner	Vassar Campus		22
Barbara Mansell, Liz Martins	Salt Point	Adrienne Popko	47
Barbara Michelin	Sylvan Lake Town and City of Pk. Wappingers	Betsy Carswell, Bill Case, Ken Harris, Maha Katnani, Allan Michelin Rodney Johnson, Bonnie Fair, Melissa Fischer, Anamaria Bonilla	54
Barry Haydasz	Moore's Mills Baird Park	Fritz Waterman, Krista Morris, Maryanne Pitts, Sariena Masievo	48
Chet Vincent	Pleasant Valley	Steve Golladay Shelly Redl, Adrienne Popko	52

Feeder Watchers: Judy Atwood, Bob Bowler, Carolyn Edlund, Karen Jacquith, Trudy Pectle, Marge Robinson, David and Evelyn Stevenson, Thalia Sudnik

Dutchess County Christmas Bird Count Summary - December 15, 2012

SPECIES NAME	2012	# of yrs Found 1958-now	Avg. per yr when Found 58-now	Last Year Prev. Found 58-now	SPECIES NAME	2012	# of yrs Found 1958-now	Avg. per yr when Found 58-now	Last Year Prev. Found 58-now	SPECIES NAME	2012	# of yrs Found 1958-now	Avg. per yr when Found 58-now	Last Year Prev. Found 58-now
Greater White-fronted Goose		3	1	2003	Broad-winged Hawk		0	none		Winter Wren	9	36	2	2011
Snow Goose		15	6	2011	Red-tailed Hawk	98	55	49	2011	Carolina Wren	77	39	20	2011
Brant		3	25	2011	Rough-legged Hawk		24	2	2008	Golden-crowned Kinglet	44	52	11	2011
Canada Goose	3034	42	3082	2011	Golden Eagle		1	1	1980	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	29	2	2011
Mute Swan	25	33	44	2011	Common Moorhen		1	1	1974	Eastern Bluebird	150	52	55	2011
Tundra Swan		1	2	2002	American Coot	20	35	53	2011	Swainson's Thrush		1	1	2003
Wood Duck		23	4	2011	Killdeer	2	6	1	2009	Hermit Thrush	4	25	2	2011
Gadwall		7	3	2001	Wilson's Snipe		13	2	2005	American Robin	31	54	165	2011
American Wigeon		5	4	2000	American Woodcock		1	1	1997	Gray Catbird		23	2	2011
American Black Duck	40	55	36	2011	Bonaparte's Gull		1	2	1975	Northern Mockingbird	69	52	56	2011
Mallard	740	55	412	2011	Ring-billed Gull	512	47	272	2011	Brown Thrasher		2	1	2009
Blue-winged Teal		0		none	Herring Gull	19	55	36	2011	European Starling	1319	55	2455	2011
Northern Shoveler		4	2	2011	Lesser Black-backed Gull		1	2	2007	American Pipit		6	8	2008
Northern Pintail	5	16	2	2007	Great Black-backed Gull	3	41	6	2011	Cedar Waxwing		50	107	2011
Green-winged Teal	1	4	2	2005	Gull, species uncertain		1	1000	2006	Lapland Longspur		5	2	1985
Canvasback		17	48	2006	Rock Pigeon	349	50	404	2011	Snow Bunting		21	53	2010
Redhead		6	3	2006	Mourning Dove	279	55	371	2011	Cape May Warbler		0		none
Ring-necked Duck	61	34	58	2011	Eastern Screech-Owl	5	44	3	2011	Palm Warbler		2	1	1991
Greater Scaup	3	8	3	2005	Great Horned Owl	3	50	3	2011	Yellow-rumped Warbler	1	27	5	2011
Lesser Scaup		4	15	2006	Snowy Owl		2	1	1996	Eastern Towhee		19	2	2007
White-winged Scoter		1	2	2010	Barred Owl	2	36	2	2011	American Tree Sparrow	38	55	247	2011
Long-tailed Duck		1	1	2005	Long-eared Owl		6	1	2004	Chipping Sparrow		1	1	2008
Bufflehead		5	2	2001	Short-eared Owl		1	1	1978	Field Sparrow		39	5	2010
Common Goldeneye		8	3	1994	Northern Saw-whet Owl		2	1	2007	Vesper Sparrow		9	3	1972
Hooded Merganser	56	16	17	2011	Belted Kingfisher	17	55	7	2011	Savannah Sparrow	1	22	2	2010
Common Merganser	33	36	32	2011	Red-headed Woodpecker		8	1	2009	Fox Sparrow	2	32	2	2010
Red-breasted Merganser		3	4	2004	Red-bellied Woodpecker	56	41	33	2011	Song Sparrow	67	55	47	2011
Ruddy Duck	67	21	39	2011	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	2	27	4	2011	Lincoln's Sparrow		1	1	2011
Northern Bobwhite		4	7	1975	Downy Woodpecker	136	55	91	2011	Swamp Sparrow	4	31	3	2011
Gray Partridge		0		none	Hairy Woodpecker	26	55	20	2011	White-throated Sparrow	215	55	161	2011
Ring-necked Pheasant		48	31	2010	Northern Flicker	10	52	18	2011	White-crowned Sparrow	1	17	2	2011
Ruffed Grouse		36	5	1999	Pileated Woodpecker	21	51	7	2011	Dark-eyed Junco	624	55	445	2011
Wild Turkey	46	23	88	2011	American Kestrel	7	50	7	2011	Northern Cardinal	167	55	126	2011
Common Loon		5	1	2011	Merlin		1	1	2008	Rose-breasted Grosbeak		1	1	1966
Pied-billed Grebe	1	17	3	2011	Peregrine Falcon	2	11	1	2011	Dickcissel		1	2	1982
Horned Grebe		2	1	2002	Eastern Phoebe	1cw	5	1	1991	Red-winged Blackbird	56	38	55	2011
Red-necked Grebe		0		none	Northern Shrike		14	1	2006	Eastern Meadowlark		27	53	2009
Double-crested Cormorant	1	5	1	2011	Gray Jay		1	2	1975	Rusty Blackbird		15	3	2005
Great Cormorant		1	1	2006	Blue Jay	164	55	235	2011	Common Grackle	28cw	40	24	2011
Great Blue Heron	20	29	8	2011	American Crow	19500	55	4400	2011	Brown-headed Cowbird	51	52	78	2011
Black-crowned Night Heron		1	1	2000	Fish Crow	1200	29	152	2011	Baltimore Oriole		5	1	1987
Black Vulture	3	7	3	2011	Common Raven	5	11	3	2011	Pine Grosbeak		8	42	1992
Turkey Vulture	1	12	6	2011	Horned Lark	50	44	161	2010	Purple Finch	2	43	20	2010
Osprey		1	1	2001	Black-capped Chickadee	436	55	330	2011	House Finch	108	48	270	2011
Bald Eagle	8	9	4	2011	Boreal Chickadee		2	4	1975	Red Crossbill		4	3	2008
Northern Harrier	1	32	2	2010	Tufted Titmouse	232	55	130	2011	White-winged Crossbill		2	6	2008
Sharp-shinned Hawk	6	33	5	2011	Red-breasted Nuthatch	7	34	5	2010	Common Redpoll	14	13	47	2007
Cooper's Hawk	5	34	4	2011	White-breasted Nuthatch	149	55	83	2011	Pine Siskin		28	23	2008
Northern Goshawk		7	1	2011	Brown Creeper	4	54	5	2011	American Goldfinch	140	55	145	2011
Red-shouldered Hawk	7	21	2	2011	House Wren		2	1	2007	Evening Grosbeak		30	63	1990
										House Sparrow	503	55	501	2011

TOTAL NUMBER OF BIRDS:	31178	
TOTAL SPECIES:	80	(includes 2 count week species)
TOTAL Field Observers:	43	
TOTAL Groups:	20	
TOTAL Feeder Watchers:	9	

Compiled by Herb Thompson and Carena Pooth

Sharon/Lakeville CT Christmas Bird Count December 16, 2012

Species and counts listed below are for Dutchess County sectors only.

Jane Rossman and Art Gingert, leaders

Greater White-fronted Goose - 1
Snow Goose - 1
Canada Goose - 4935
Mute Swan - 1
American Black Duck - 36
Mallard - 188
Lesser Scaup - 1
Common Goldeneye - 1
Hooded Merganser - 130
Common Merganser - 12
Ring-necked Pheasant - 1
Wild Turkey - 4
Pied-billed Grebe - 1
Great Blue Heron - 1
Turkey Vulture - 1
Bald Eagle - 1
Northern Harrier - 2
Sharp-shinned Hawk - 1
Red-tailed Hawk - 14
Rough-legged Hawk - 4
Ring-billed Gull - 245
Herring Gull - 17
Rock Pigeon - 110
Mourning Dove - 36
Great Horned Owl - 2
Barred Owl - 2
Belted Kingfisher - 3
Red-bellied Woodpecker - 12
Downy Woodpecker - 26
Hairy Woodpecker - 2
Northern Flicker - 2
Pileated Woodpecker - 1
American Kestrel - 4
Blue Jay - 51
American Crow - 260
Common Raven - 2
Black-capped Chickadee - 24
Tufted Titmouse - 61
Red-breasted Nuthatch - 3
White-breasted Nuthatch - 31
Brown Creeper - 1
Carolina Wren - 1
Golden-crowned Kinglet - 5
Eastern Bluebird - 16
American Robin - 52
Northern Mockingbird - 2
European Starling - 856
American Tree Sparrow - 43
Song Sparrow - 12
Swamp Sparrow - 1
White-throated Sparrow - 61
White-crowned Sparrow - 1
Dark-eyed Junco - 207
Northern Cardinal - 22
Red-winged Blackbird - 945

Common Grackle - 100
Brown-headed Cowbird - 136
Purple Finch - 6
House Finch - 23
American Goldfinch - 46
House Sparrow - 31



3rd Annual Ulster/Dutchess (NYUD) Christmas Bird Count December 26, 2013

Peter Schoenberger and Mark DeDea,
co-compilers

The second annual Ulster/Dutchess (NYUD) Christmas Bird Count was conducted on Wednesday, December 26, 2012. Conditions were raw with a slight breeze and overcast skies present most of the day and temperatures ranging from the low to mid twenties. A trace of snow cover was sporadic, leaving corn fields and similar foraging opportunities exposed. A thin layer of ice was evident on standing and smaller bodies of water. The Hudson River was free of ice but did have a steady chop on the surface. Low tide at Kingston Point was 6:00 am and allowed for timely access to areas like Sleightsburg Spit and Tivoli Bays. Nocturnal visibility was excellent aided by a stronger breeze which detracted from listening and drawing capability.

Our count day total increased dramatically from last year's 82 species with 92 species this year, as did our count week total of 98 species compared to last year's 84 species. Count day highlights included 1 Common Loon, 1 Double-crested Cormorant, 1 American Bittern, 50 Snow Geese, 1 Brant, 5 Wood Ducks, 2 Long-tailed Ducks, 1 Ruddy Duck, 1 Rough-legged Hawk, 1 American Coot, 1 Killdeer, 1 Short-eared Owl, 30 Horned Larks, 39 American Pipits, 3 Yellow-rumped Warblers, 1 Eastern Towhee, 1 Chipping Sparrow, 2 Field Sparrows, 1 Fox Sparrow, 2 Rusty Blackbirds, 12 Purple Finches, 5 Red Crossbills, 60 Common Redpolls, and 5 Pine Siskins. Count week additions were Ring-necked Duck, Red-breasted Merganser, Northern Goshawk, Iceland Gull, Marsh Wren, and Magnolia Warbler. Our total individual number

dipped from 26,034 birds last year to 18,434 this year but consideration must be given to exceptionally large blackbird flocks that padded last year's numbers substantially. Thirty five individuals in twelve field parties covered ten sectors and were aided by four feeder watchers.

A compilation dinner was held after the count in Kingston's Hasbrouck Park and was well attended considering the gathering storm outside. Thank you to those who participated in the compilation and to Jessica Prockup, Susan Rogers, and Kyla Haber for the excellent food and Lin Fagan and Denny Droica for the libations. Also, a very special THANK YOU to Steve Chorvas, whose stewardship in the development of this new count has been essential.

Species and counts listed below are for Dutchess County sectors only.

Peter Schoenberger, Jim Clinton, Barbara Butler, Gene McGarry, leaders

Snow Goose - 50
 Canada Goose - 1951
 Mute Swan - 8
 Wood Duck - 5
 Gadwall - 2
 American Black Duck - 824
 Mallard - 208
 Mallard x Black Hybrid - 1
 Greater Scaup - 4
 Long-tailed Duck - 2
 Bufflehead - 4
 Common Goldeneye - 12
 Hooded Merganser - 5
 Common Merganser - 29
 Ring-necked Pheasant - 2
 Wild Turkey - 46
 American Bittern - 1
 Great Blue Heron - 3
 Black Vulture - 4
 Turkey Vulture - 1
 Bald Eagle - 8
 Northern Harrier - 5
 Sharp-shinned Hawk - 2
 Cooper's Hawk - 2
 Red-shouldered Hawk - 1
 Red-tailed Hawk - 31
 Rough-legged Hawk - 1
 Killdeer - 1
 Ring-billed Gull - 98
 Herring Gull - 6
 Great Black-backed Gull - 4
 Rock Pigeon - 62
 Mourning Dove - 162
 Eastern Screech-Owl - 6
 Great Horned Owl - 2
 Barred Owl - 2
 Short-eared Owl - 1
 Belted Kingfisher - 3
 Red-bellied Woodpecker - 43
 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - 13
 Downy Woodpecker - 40
 Hairy Woodpecker - 11
 Northern Flicker - 6
 Pileated Woodpecker - 11

American Kestrel - 3
 Merlin - 1
 Blue Jay - 98
 American Crow - 310
 Common Raven - 3
 Horned Lark - 30
 Black-capped Chickadee - 125
 Tufted Titmouse - 81
 Red-breasted Nuthatch - 1
 White-breasted Nuthatch - 72
 Brown Creeper - 6
 Winter Wren - 2
 Carolina Wren - 21
 Golden-crowned Kinglet - 6
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 2
 Eastern Bluebird - 25
 Hermit Thrush - 1
 American Robin - 44
 Northern Mockingbird - 9
 European Starling - 508
 American Pipit - 39
 Yellow-rumped Warbler - 3
 Eastern Towhee - 1
 American Tree Sparrow - 119
 Chipping Sparrow * - 1
 Savannah Sparrow - 4
 Song Sparrow - 33
 Swamp Sparrow - 6
 White-throated Sparrow - 89
 Dark-eyed Junco - 719
 Northern Cardinal - 55
 Red-winged Blackbird - 16
 Rusty Blackbird - 2
 Brown-headed Cowbird - 12
 Purple Finch - 8
 House Finch - 19
 Red Crossbill - 5
 Common Redpoll - 26
 Pine Siskin - 4
 American Goldfinch - 30
 House Sparrow - 89

Recapping the Bluebird Trails for 2012

It was not only the Bluebirds that were busy raising chicks in 2012 – but also our Bluebird Volunteers. Ed Solan built 80 new nest boxes. 43 new nest boxes were installed. 8 new trails were established and updating and improvements were done on many of our present trails. Jennifer Anderson created the Bluebird Information Sheets which are posted on some of the kiosks in the parks where we maintain trails. Adrienne Popko is mapping all of our trails. And our trail monitors continuously monitored the nest boxes throughout the breeding season. Thank You everyone for all of your work and dedication.

Susan Gilnack

A new bird for the county list – Rufous Hummingbird

In November a tip came from Rich Guthrie about a Rufous Hummingbird in Wappingers Falls. Stan DeOrsey's internet-based detective work led to a contact for the bird's hosts. While the situation the bird chose was good for her (good food supply and shelter), unfortunately it was not conducive to viewing by many birders.

The bird's hosts, Barbara and Angelo Giaimo, had a number of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds at their feeder through the summer. When the birds departed as usual in September, one remained. They kept the feeder filled but became concerned when a snow storm was predicted for November 7th. They contacted Bob Sargent's hummingbird website (<http://hummingbirdsplus.org/>) for advice. The response was that a hummingbird in the northeast in November is not a Ruby-throat. Robert Yunick from Schenectady was contacted about the hummingbird and he arranged to band the bird on November 9th. He identified it as a first-year female Rufous Hummingbird, based on his observations and measurements taken during the banding process. I asked the hosts if we could come to photograph the bird for our county records. Steve Golladay and I did that on the 12th. At the kind invitation of the Giaimos, a few others were able to view the bird later.

The bird continued to visit the feeder daily until December 5th. It was last seen that afternoon. According to the hosts, "Although she came to us sleek and lean, she left plump with fuel for her trip. The temperature on the afternoon of December 5th was approximately 38 degrees F, though we did have several nights in the 20s." We have submitted a report to NYSARC (New York State Avian Records Committee) and the bander sent his data to the New York State Museum.

According to the Waterman Bird Club records for Dutchess County, the normal departure time for Ruby-throated Hummingbirds is mid-September with occasional stragglers reported into the first week of October. This year the latest report of a Ruby-throat was on September 25th, based on reports from over 20 observers. This would be the first documented record of Rufous Hummingbird for Dutchess County.

Interestingly, there is a report (in eBird) of a Rufous Hummingbird for 11 September 2012 in Fishkill. Some details were given, but the observation was very brief, by only one observer, with no photo. The details given indicate a male.

"Ladybird," as she was named by the Giaimos, was one of several Rufous Hummingbirds in New York State that stayed through the fall and into December.

Barbara Butler

Snowy Owl - a one day wonder or not?

Allan and I received a phone call from Tully McElrath on December 16th – a Sunday morning – that a Snowy Owl was sitting on the roof of John Simpson's apartment building in Wappingers off Rt. 9D. It had been there for an hour. I quickly made some phone calls to the Rare Bird Alert list. Many of the members on this list were out doing the Sharon/Dutchess CBC. So I made more calls to anyone I could think of that was close by to come see this beautiful owl. It was a life bird for many members who were available to come see it.

Photos were taken by several of our members. This owl had a lot of barring and we thought it was a first-year bird. The owl did not seem to mind all the fuss with people below viewing it. What a wonderful sight it was.

I got a call from Eamon Freiburger that he and his parents viewed the owl late in the afternoon. The owl then flew down to another building roof closer to the river. It was not found again the next morning, but Jamie Collins reported seeing a Snowy Owl flying over Wappingers Lake on December 28th on eBird. Could this be the same owl? Who is to say, but keep an eye out in the Wappingers and Beacon areas for another Snowy Owl.

Barbara Michelin

FIELD TRIP NOTES

Wednesday, November 7, 2012 – Dennings Point.

Six Waterman Birders met in the Dennings Point parking lot on a cool, windy morning. We bundled up and started out. After we crossed the railroad bridge we found a few birds: Red-bellied Woodpecker, Carolina Wren, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Juncos, and Black and Turkey Vultures getting up from roosting sites. On the water in the cove we saw one female Common Merganser that turned out to be our only waterfowl of the day.

Along the left fork of the trail a pocket of small birds were active. They seemed to be picking at bittersweet and included Chickadees, Titmice, Downy and Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Robins, White-throated Sparrows, and a nice Hermit Thrush.

Further down the trail we saw more White-throats, Cardinals, Song Sparrows, a very bright Fox Sparrow, and heard a Flicker.

The trail on the river side of the point was empty of birds but we came on another small bird group near the trail junction. The attraction this time was poison ivy. A vine going up a tree had quite a few white/waxy seeds that many birds love to eat. There were Red-bellied and Downy Woodpeckers, Chickadees, Titmice, White-breasted Nuthatches, White-throated Sparrows, and another Fox Sparrow.

As we came out of the wooded area we saw a flock of Juncos scratching on the bare ground, then noticed the first American Tree Sparrow of the fall for all of us. We were searching the bushes for a second Tree Sparrow we saw briefly. I spished and a Ruby-crowned Kinglet popped up, plus a few of the Juncos, to make our total species

count of 30 birds including four Bluebirds we saw at the gate.

The wind and cool weather hadn't warmed up much so Aimee suggested, and we all agreed, that she show us the way to the Yankee Clipper Diner in Beacon where hot food and drink were available, a great way to end our Dennings Point walk.

Chet Vincent

Saturday, November 10, 2012 – Southern Dutchess

Rail Trail. Ten members met at the Gold's Gym parking lot to walk the rail trail north to Rt. 55 on a cool morning. Chet found an American Tree Sparrow while waiting for the group to arrive. As we walked over the bridge at Titusville road I saw 2 Belted Kingfishers and we flushed up 2 Red-tailed Hawks. We found several pockets of birds including 4 Robins, 4 Bluebirds, 21 Chickadees, 11 Titmice, 10 White-breasted Nuthatches, 11 Carolina Wrens, 3 Mockingbirds, 8 Goldfinches, 11 Blue Jays, 17 American Crows, and 5 Cardinals. We found all 6 Woodpeckers including 2 Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers. Others sparrows were: 7 Song, 24 White-throated, 20 Juncos, plus 2 Grackles. Our best birds of the day were 2 Brown Creepers and 1 Golden-crowned Kinglet. We also had 4 Turkey Vultures overhead and saw a Cooper's Hawk carrying prey in it's talons. A total of 34 species for the day.

Barbara Butler met us on our return walk to the parking lot. As some got ready to eat lunch a Great Blue Heron flew low over the roof of Gold's Gym.

Barbara Michelin

Saturday, December 8, 2012 -- Southlands Farms,

Rhinebeck. On a drizzly, foggy day, nine of us gathered at Southlands Farms in Rhinebeck. The weather was sufficiently dismal that we questioned even conducting the walk, but the weather report promising clearer weather by late morning convinced us to continue.

Our first birds were a couple of Crows and Mourning Doves flying over the parking lot. As we worked our way away from the barns we saw a flock of Canada Geese scattered across a few paddocks and patches of Starlings flying. In a hedge bordering one of the paddocks a large and active group of Juncos livened the otherwise quiet scene.

Along the fence line entering the big field, we saw a couple of Song Sparrows hopping on cattail rushes, softly chipping. We also heard a Titmouse call from a mature oak tree in the center of the field.

As we approached the old dairy barn at the southern end of the farm lane, a Great Blue Heron rose up from the field and then dropped down again a couple of hundred feet further. Blue Jays squawked nearby.

Walking up a rise and heading towards the woods we heard or saw Red-bellied Woodpeckers, more Juncos, and a Goldfinch. Returning into the open field we saw a single Bluebird and heard a Carolina Wren. Towards the end of the walk as we left the big field we saw a Tree Sparrow and two Red-tailed Hawks.

Given that the weather never improved, the total count and variety of species was light but perhaps more than

we anticipated under the conditions. Species count: American Crow: 9, Mourning Dove: 3, Starling: 13, Canada Goose: 25, Tufted Titmouse: 11, Juncos: 33, Song Sparrow: 4, Blue Jay: 2, Great Blue Heron: 1, Red-bellied Woodpecker: 3, American Goldfinch: 1, Eastern Bluebird: 1, Carolina Wren: 1, Tree Sparrow: 1, Red-tail Hawk: 2.

Mona Payton

Wednesday, December 12, 2012 – Verbank area.

On a cool morning 18 members met at the Verbank Church parking lot for a walk before our Holiday lunch.

As we walked up the North Clove Rd. to Verbank Club Rd., we scanned the pond. It was mostly frozen but we found 6 Ring-necked Ducks in a little open water. Continuing on at the corner of North Clove and Verbank Club roads was a wet area with shrubs. Here we found Blue Jays, a Mockingbird, Chickadees, 2 Carolina Wren, a Song Sparrow, and a few Cardinals. We birded and visited as we walked along. Further down the road we found a few active feeders. There were Downy and Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Tufted Titmice, White-breasted Nuthatches, a House Finch, White-throated Sparrows, a Goldfinch, and down the road we found 6 Bluebirds. Several (44 total) Juncos were along the road and under feeders.

Other birds we saw were 3 Red-tailed Hawks, 3 Rock Doves, 3 Canada Geese, several Starlings, 6 American Crows, and we heard a Pileated Woodpecker. When we returned to the church for lunch a few saw a Great Blue Heron fly over the parking lot.

Thirty-two people came for lunch. There was a wonderful variety of food and desserts. It was good to visit with some of our members who came that we do not see very often on walks or at our meetings. It was a nice day for all who attended.

Barbara Michelin

Wednesday, December 26, 2012 – Norrie Point.

I arrived early and while waiting in the parking lot for others, I heard overhead what was not quite the call of a Red-shouldered Hawk. I was disappointed after locating the bird...a mimicking Blue Jay! A person arrived not to bird but to feed the birds. He cleared the snow from several picnic tables and placed seed out which attracted a number of birds (blue jays, titmice, nuthatches, woodpeckers, sparrows, chickadees, juncos) as well as squirrels. It was apparent that this is a usual routine because the birds quickly flew onto the tabletops to feed.

Only four other birders arrived for what turned out to be a short walk because of the very uncomfortable cold and windy day...temperature in the 20's (probably 10-15 degrees with the wind chill factor). We briefly visited the deck that overlooks the river to see what birds might be on the water. The choppy water made it too difficult to identify the few distant birds that were floating on the river. We then entered the building that overlooks the river and met a DEC employee who placed a scope at the window so we could observe and identify some Common Mergansers and a Ringed-billed Gull floating on the water.

After speaking with the DEC employee about recent bird sightings, we ventured outside for an abbreviated walk. The area nearby the building was very noisy due to the extensive marina dredging project (therefore negating

any bird identification by ear). At around 10:30, the group decided it was time to turn back and end the walk.

One of our group (Karen) decided to recheck the river once more. Three other birders left and I remained to wait for Karen to return. This luckily became the highlight of the trip because Karen returned to tell me that there were two Bald Eagles perched in a tree on the east side of the river. They were at the nearby cove that is just north of the deck-pier area. We quickly returned to the deck in time to get a good look as one of the two Eagles flew westward across the river. The other Eagle accommodated us by remaining perched for us to view. Quite a nice way to end the walk!

These are the birds observed during our abbreviated walk: Canada Goose (70), Mallard (22), Common Merganser (3), Bald Eagle (2), Ring-billed Gull (1), Belted Kingfisher (1), Red-bellied Woodpecker (1), Blue Jay (3), American Crow (4), Black-capped Chickadee (5), Tufted Titmouse (4), White-breasted Nuthatch (3), American Robin (1), American Tree Sparrow (1), White-throated Sparrow (11), Dark-eyed Junco (10), Northern Cardinal (5), House Sparrow (2).

Frank Margiotta

Wednesday, January 2, 2013 – Stony Kill. It was cold but mostly sunny, so 12 birders met in the Manor House parking lot. A few of us who were a bit early saw some Cardinals, Juncos, and a Winter Wren who showed up in nearby brush. As we walked down the blacktop towards the barns we spotted two Red-tailed Hawks puffed up and sitting in the early sunlight along the woodlot edge.

We saw two Horned Larks fly by and land on the blacktop behind us. While we were looking at the Horned Larks a flock of Snow Buntings flew over and around us. We got decent looks at first of the winter birds for most of us. Around the barns there were the usual House Sparrows, Starlings, and Juncos.

In the garden area we saw some Song Sparrows and the two Horned Larks from the Farm Lane scratching and pecking. The sun was at our backs and we got reasonably close looks at the larks this time. We saw the Snow Buntings flying again and they did land in the big garden but too far away for a decent look.

We went along the road towards the pond just off 9-D and saw a Downy Woodpecker, Chickadees, White-throated Sparrows, and a Ruby-crowned Kinglet, an unusual bird in January.

We walked back to the cars a little early and went looking for bathrooms. Those at Stony Kill are closed for the winter. Still a good morning of birding as usual.

Chet Vincent

Wednesday, January 9, 2013 – Vassar Campus. 21 people met on an overcast morning that was colder than forecasted, but with no wind, pleasant for a January day. Initially, we encountered a flock of Starlings and while trying to count them, saw that there were also some Juncos and White-throated Sparrows in the area as well. What at first seemed to be a pair of Cardinals turned out to be a small group of about five or so nearby.

As we headed for the stream a Great Blue Heron was quite near us standing motionless in the water, and along the water we saw small groups of Chickadees, more White-throated Sparrows, Juncos, and a Song Sparrow.

A few of the newcomers got a nice opportunity to compare a Fish Crow, of which there was one, with the size and sound of the American Crows of which there were about 30. The Fish Crow was quite noisy and we also got a fairly close look at him next to the others.

Chet had done some looking around earlier in the morning and had spotted a Merlin that he thought might still be in the area. Luckily for us it had been eating at the time and so was still in the same tree up the hill next to the pond. He stayed for all of us to work our way around the water and up the hill to see him from a direction that allowed for his markings to be seen.

We saw a Pileated Woodpecker a couple of times assuming it was the same bird, and in the same area, a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and a Red-bellied Woodpecker. The Woodpeckers seemed to be concentrated near the Manchester Road entrance, where we also heard two Carolina Wrens, although I don't think anyone got a good look at them.

As we headed back up towards the parking lot, at the stream crossing there were 5 Mallards and flying over the large pond and then out of sight, a mature Bald Eagle and then two Red-tailed Hawks to finish out the day. Very nice!

Shelly Redl

Saturday, January 12, 2013 – Norrie Point. It was a very foggy morning and not the best morning for birding. Allan and I spotted a hawk in a tree (a Red-shouldered Hawk) at the entrance to Norrie Point.

At the parking lot we met 7 other people. We saw or heard several birds in the parking lot area. They were Chickadees, Titmice, White-breasted Nuthatch, a Carolina Wren, White-throated Sparrows, and Juncos. Chet was already out by the river with his scope in the fog. There were gulls including: 10 Ring-billed, 1 Herring, and 1 Great Black-backed, 28 Common Mergansers, and a pair of Common Goldeneyes in the river. We also had 1 adult Bald Eagle sitting in the tree near the marina.

Continuing on, we found 13 Mallards along the inlet, a Pileated Woodpecker, and a Red-tailed Hawk sitting in a tree nearby. We seemed to have only a few pockets of birds along the road around the park. With Chickadees we found Titmice, White-breasted Nuthatches, 4 Blue Jays, 1 Red-bellied and 2 Downy Woodpeckers, 2 Northern Flickers, 1 Northern Mockingbird, and 2 Cardinals. We also saw 5 Bluebirds and a second Red-tailed Hawk. We heard the Red-shouldered Hawk over by the huge sycamore tree but did not see it and thought it was the same one seen earlier. On the way back to the parking lot we had a Belted Kingfisher, and a few American Goldfinches.

Chet, Maha, Allan and I stayed to lunch while the fog was still thick. On the way back to the cars a Song Sparrow was feeding on seeds put out on the picnic tables.

Barbara Michelin

NOVEMBER 2012 RECORDS

There were several surprise species found during the month including: Black Scoters, a Red-breasted Merganser, a Red-throated Loon, a Black-crowned Night Heron, 3 Iceland Gulls, a Rufous Hummingbird, a Northern Shrike, a late Gray-cheeked Thrush, and a Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Common Redpolls, a Red Crossbill, and Evening Grosbeaks.

On November 8, after Hurricane Sandy at the end of October, we had a nor'easter snowstorm of four inches of heavy, wet snow. The following were comments by Tom Lake from the *Hudson River Almanac*: "The debilitating effects of Hurricane Sandy were followed about a week later by a strong nor'easter that developed into a significant snowstorm in the lower Hudson Valley. We continued to build an appreciation for the length of the fall migration of songbirds and raptors, as well as the mysterious infusion of winter finches, chiefly pine siskins." And on "11/7 - New Hamburg, HRM 68: Another storm, another surge. While not nearly like Hurricane Sandy, this powerful nor'easter with strong onshore winds, pulsed up the estuary in early evening with higher than usual tides, spilling into the flood plain. The neap tide of the quarter moon helped lessen its effect."

Susan Gilnack said about the Red-throated Loon, "We watched him practice his landings - he would swim up the stream, come flying back down the stream to the pond area very low - land - then swim back up the stream and repeat it all over again - about 5 times - one time he hit the water with a flop - then we left him alone - he was a neat bird."

Brant: 12/1 & 14/3 Long Dock Pk., Beacon TLake/HRA; 1/3-19 Wapp. Lk. KH; 12/6 River/Chelsea TLake/RHA; 1/10 Wapp. Lk. BB,KH,MK,BJM; 1/11 w/Ca. Fishkill Cem. TLake/ HRA; 3/13 Hudson River Rowing Assn *DG.

Canada Goose: Throughout county; **most:** 500/1, 800/20, 650/22, Ryder Pd, Millbrook *AMP; 3,000/4 Round Pd., 500/11 The Fly CV; 100/18 Sylvan Lk CP/HT; **eBird:** 36 rpts, avg 119 ea.

Cackling Goose: 2/4 Round Pd. with Canada's CV.

Mute Swan: 93 reports of 3-4 with **most:** 16/10 Veterans Pk, Wapp. Lk. BB,KH,MK,BJM 13/11, 10/18, Redwing Beekman, 2/22 Sylvan Lk CP/HT; 13/22 Hunn's Lk, Stanfordville *DK; 10-20/all Fishermans Pk, Wapp. Lk. KH; **eBird:** 7 rpts, 4 ea.

Wood Duck: 1/6 Mountain Rd., 4/6 Traver Pd. CV; 2/12 Ryder Pd *DK.

Gadwall: 4/6 3/9 4/13 Fishermans Pk, Wapp. Lk. KH; 8/10 Veterans Pk, Wapp. Lk. BB,KH,MK,BJM.

American Wigeon: 1/10 Veterans Pk, Wapp. Lk. BB,KH,MK,BJM; 2/13 Veterans Pk, Wapp. Lk. KH.

American Black Duck: 70 reports of 2-4 by KH,BAM,MP,CV 1 FT; **most:** 10/19, 30/28 Round Pd *AMP; **eBird:** 9 rpts,

Mallard: Throughout county; **most:** 43/10 Wapp. Lk., BJM; 26/20, 30/27 Pd. Ludlow Rd, 30/1 Ryder Pd, 28/1 Tamarack Lk Millbrook *AMP; **eBird:** 34 rpts, 11 ea.

Northern Shoveler: 2/19 Round Pd *DK.

Northern Pintail: 8/4 Rt 82 Pine Plains *DK ; 6/11 The Fly, Pine Plains CV.

Green-winged Teal: 10/1 Cruger Island *EC; 10/4 Rt 82 Pine Plains *DK; 15/11 The Fly CV; 14/18 Tivoli Bays *MD.

Ring-necked Duck: 361 reports of 3-50 by BB,BAM,CP/HT, DR & TLake/HRA with **most:** 111/4 Strauss Marsh CV; 150/8 Bangal Amenia Rd, 100/14 Ryder Pd, Millbrook *AMP; **eBird:** 9 rpts, avg 45 ea.

Lesser Scaup: 5/11 Redwing Beekman, CP/HT.

Black Scoter: small flock/17 Hudson River "well into Dutchess waters", seen from Kingston Jim Clinton; 4/17 Hudson River (Dutchess) *MD.

Bufflehead: 1/2 Twin Island Lk RG; 4/6 Mills Hudson River CV; 1/8 Lk. Onaid BJM; 1/11 Redwing Beekman CP/HT; 1/17, 1/18 Old Camby Rd *JW.

Hooded Merganser: 82 reports of 1-6 by KH,BAM,CV with **most:** 20/7 Hillside Lk. BJM; 12/10 Veterans Pk BB,KH,MK, 10/28 Round Pd *AMP; 9/25 Tivoli Bay *DK; **eBird:** 6 rpts,

Common Merganser: 65 reports of 1-8 by BB,MK,BJM,CV and 1 FT; **most:** 20/13 12/19 & 28 Fishermans Pk, Wapp. Lk., KH; 20/28 Round Pd *AMP; **eBird:** 4 rpts, avg 6 ea.

Red-breasted Merganser: 1/6 (pale throat, shaggy crest) Veterans Pk, Wapp. Lk., KH.

Ruddy Duck: 115/4, 120/4, 100/11, 80/21, 22 Sylvan Lk CP/HT; 37/4 Round Pd., 6/11 Upper Kays Pd. CV; 3/8, 4/10 Lk. Onaid BJM; 3/16 Abels Pd BB; 30/19, 50/28 Round Pd *AMP; 30/28 Sylvan Lk. DR; **eBird:** 5 rpts, avg 19 ea.

Northern Bobwhite: 1/21 Academy Hill Rd, Milan *AZ.

Ring-necked Pheasant: 4/22 Haight Hill Rd, Clinton Crs , 1/7 Tamarack Lk *AMP.

Wild Turkey: 9f/1-15 yd. BAM; 17/3 Clove Valley Rd, 10/13 yd Poughquag CP/HT; 7/5, 5/8 Pok yd *WL; 3/8 yd Fishkill *ES; 11/18, 8/24, 12/25 yd. MP; **eBird:** 6 rpts, avg 4 ea.

Red-throated Loon: from early November (before the 9th) through early December (gone by the 9th) at a private pond near the Red Hook Recreation Park, Susan Gilnack, photo by Adrienne Popko.

Common Loon: 2/3 Jecose Lk. reported to BJM.

Pied-billed Grebe: 1/1 Tamarack Lk *AMP; 2/2 Twin Island Lk *RG; 1/2, 4/4 Sylvan Lk CP/HT; 1/6 Traver Pd., 1/11 Mud Pd. CV; 1/8 Lk. Onaid BJM; 10/10 Veterans Pk BB,KH,MK,BJM.

Double-crested Cormorant: 7 reports of 1-3 ea by BB,KH, MK,BAM,CP/HT,CV.

Great Blue Heron: 26 reports of 1-2 ea. by BB,KH,MK,BJM, MP, AMP,CP/HT,CV, 1FT; **most:** 4/18 Tivoli Bays WMA *MD; **eBird:** 11 rpts, avg 1 ea.

Black-crowned Night-Heron: 1/9 juv. sitting in covert at edge of Jekoce Lk. BJM.

Black Vulture: 49 reported of 2-6 by JA,MD,BJM,MP,CP/HT and 2 FT's; **most:** 15/7 Dennings Pt FT; 11/7 Stony Kill, CV.

Turkey Vulture: 32 reports of 1-5 by BB,KH,BAM,JO,CV & 1FT; **most:** 7/7 Dennings Pt FT; 6/20 Healey Bros-Chrysler, Beacon *ES; **eBird:** 11 rpts, avg 3 ea.

Bald Eagle: 12 reports of 1-2 ad. or imm ea through the county by BB,DK,BJM,CV and 2 FT's; **eBird:** 9 rpts, 1 ea.

Northern Harrier: 5 reports of 1 ea. by DK,MP,AMP,RP,CV.

Sharp-shinned Hawk: 7 reports of 1 ea. by JA/KJ, KH, BAM,CP/HT,AMP,CV.

Cooper's Hawk: 8 reports of 1 ea. by JA/KJ,KH,BAM, AMP,CV and 2 FT's; **eBird:** 4 rpts, avg 1 ea.

Red-shouldered Hawk: 6 reports of 1 ea. by BB,AMP,WL., CV and 2/14 Millbrook Sch FT.

Red-tailed Hawk: Well reported throughout county by most observers; **eBird:** 45 rpts, avg 1 ea.

American Kestrel: 1/12 Ludlow Woods Rd, Stanfordville, 1/13 Salt Pt Tpk *DK; 1/11 Market Rd., 1/25 Sleight Plass Rd. CV.

Peregrine Falcon: 1/1 Mid Hudson Bridge, Pok *CR.

American Coot: 1/1 Cruger Island *EC; 10/4, 11 Sylvan Lk CP/HT; 1/7 Hillside Lk. BJM; 1/13 Fishermans Pk, Wapp. Lk. KH; 6/28 Sylvan Lk. DR.

Killdeer: 1/6 Traver Pd., 2/9 Overlook Pk. CV; 4/16 & 20 TSFMP.

Ring-billed Gull: Large numbers of 30 to 80 @ lakes and river by several observers; **eBird:** 9 rpts, avg 11 ea.

Herring Gull: 1-3 by KH,CV; **most:** 20/1 Tivoli Bays--Bard campus *EC; 60/11 Sylvan Lk, 50/11, 25/18 Redwing Beekman CP/HT; **eBird:** 3 rpts.

Iceland Gull: 3 1st yr/28 Beacon waterfront Ken & Curt McDermott.

Great Black-backed Gull: 1/6 1/11 Fishermans Pk, Wapp Lk. KH; 1/7 Beacon Waterfront CV.

Gull sp.: 350-400/28 Beacon waterfront Curt McDermott.

Rock Pigeon: 1/7 Dennings Pt FT; 8/10 SDRT, FT; 17/14 Millbrook School FT; 40/22 Prospect Hill Rd, Clinton Crs *AMP; 12/28 HVRT, Coleman Sta FT; **eBird:** 7 rpts, 10 ea.

Mourning Dove: Normal numbers by most observers; **most:** 66/8 Tamarack Lk *AMP; 26/20 MP; **eBird:** 50 rpts, 7 ea.

Eastern Screech-Owl: 1/16, 19, 22, 30 N. Mabbettville Rd, Millbrook *AMP; 1/20, 1/22 yd. MP; h end of mo. yd. MF.

Great Horned Owl: 2/28 calling yd. CV.

Barred Owl: 1/1 Buttercup E KJ/ED; 1/2 flew across Rt 82 near Millbrook light, 1/26 h yd BB; 1/17, 22, 28 N. Mabbettville Rd, Millbrook *AMP; 1/18, 1/22 h 6:00AM, then 9:30AM found 1 freshly killed about 1/2 mi. from house on Rte.308 MP; h end of mo. yd. Wapp. MF; 2/22,28, 29 Ludlow Woods Rd yd *DK.

Rufous Hummingbird: 1/12 at a private home Wapp Falls BB, Steve Golladay; 1/25 Wappingers Falls *AMP.

Belted Kingfisher: 12 reports of 1 ea. by BB,KH,MH, BJM, MP,CV; 1/7 Dennings Pt FT; 2/10 SDRT, FT.

Red-bellied Woodpecker: 31 reports of 1-3 by JA/KJ,BB, KH,BAM,MP,AMP,CP/HT,CV; 1-6 on FT's; **eBird:** 46 rpts,

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 17 reports of 1 ea. by BB,JC, KH,MP,CP/HT,DR,CV; 2/10 SDRT, FT; 2/14 Millbrook Sch FT; 2/21 Vassar Campus FT.

Downy Woodpecker: 1-4 by most observers and FT's; **most:** 10/7 Dennings Pt FT; 7/10 SDRT, FT; 6/22 Hopeland area CV; 9/21 Vassar Campus FT; **eBird:** 20 rpts, avg 1 ea.

Hairy Woodpecker: 24 reported of 1-2 birds by JA/KJ,KH, BAM,MP,AMP,CP/HT,CV and 3 FT's.

Northern Flicker: 24 reports of 1-2 ea. by BB,MD,MP,AMP, CP/HT,CV, 3 FT's; **most:** 4/10 SDRT, FT; 3/4 CIES *WLS;

Pileated Woodpecker: 25 reports of 1-2 ea. by JA/KJ,BB, KH,DK,MP,CPr,CP/HT,CV, most FT's; **eBird:** 12 rpts, 1 ea.

Eastern Phoebe: 1/14 Millbrook School FT; 1/23 Wilcox Memorial Town Hall, Milan *AMP.

Northern Shrike: 1/17 Schultz Hill Rd, Pine Plains Jane Waters.

Blue Jay: 4-10 reported by JA/KJ, BB, EC,KH,BAM,MP, CP/HT,CV,FT's; **most:** 11/10 SDRT, FT; **eBird:** 30 rpts,

American Crow: By most observers; **most:** 85/1 Kennels Rd, 78/6 N. Mabbettville Rd, Millbrook *AMP; **eBird:** 50 rpts,

Fish Crow: 1/15 Highlands R. R. Bridge *RE; 1/18 Tivoli Bays *MD; 1/22 Reese Sanc KH; 2/22 Hopeland area CV.

Common Raven: 2/1 Tivoli Bays/Bard campus, 1/1 Rt 9G near Bard campus *EC; 10/2 Poughquag, flying south, calling Binnie Chase; 2/11 & 1/26 Buttercup West CV; 1/28 HVRT, Coleman Sta FT.

Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, and White-breasted Nuthatch: Well reported by most observers throughout county.

Red-breasted Nuthatch: 7 reports of 1 ea. by JA/KJ,BB, T.Lake/HRA,BAM,AMP,DR,CV; 3/21 Vassar Campus FT; 3/28 HVRT, Coleman Sta FT.

Brown Creeper: 19 reports of 1-2 ea. by LD,MD,KH,MP, AMP,DR,CV; and 3 FT's; **eBird:** 7 rpts, avg 1 ea.

Carolina Wren: 57 reports with 1-5 by JA/KJ,BB,MK, BAM, AMP,CP/HT,CPr,CV; most FT's; **most:** 11/10 SDRT, FT; 6/21

Vassar Campus FT; 6/22 Reese Sanc KH; **eBird:** 15 rpts, avg 1 ea.

Winter Wren: 6 reports of 1 ea. by MD,KH,WLS,CV + 2 FT.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: 21 reports of 1-2 ea. by KH,BJM, CV & some FT's; **most:** 4/14 Millbrook School FT; 3/6 N.

Mabbettville Rd, Millbrook *AMP; 3/18 Tivoli Bays *MD; **eBird:** 6 rpts, avg 2 ea.

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 1/7 Dennings Pt FT.

Eastern Bluebird: 1-6 by most observers and FT's; **most:** 12/5 Roubout Rd., CV; 10/3 TAF MP; 30/29 Bowdoin Pk. T.Lake, TRJackson/HRA; **eBird:** 19 rpts, 2 ea.

Gray-cheeked Thrush: 1/12 Ludlow Woods Rd yard *DK (This is late. Debi said she saw no rusty color, only plain gray - definitely a thrush.).

Hermit Thrush: 1/7 Dennings Pt FT; 1/13 Ludlow Woods Rd yard *DK.

American Robin: 1-14 reported by JA/KJ, BB,KH,KJ/ED, RD,CV, most FT's; **most:** 100/1 Haight Rd, Millbrook *AMP; **eBird:** 18 rpts, avg 8 ea.

Northern Mockingbird: 29 reports of 1-2 by BB,KH,MP, AMP,CP/HT,CV, most FT's; **most:** 4/21 Vassar Campus FT.

European Starling: Normal numbers with **most:** 300/3 Shunpike Rd (pd at Rally Fms) *AMP; **eBird:** 11 rpts, 38 ea.

American Pipit: 40/3 TSF MP; 1/8 Tamarack Lk *AMP.

Cedar Waxwing: 1/14 Millbrook School FT.

Lapland Longspur: 3/8 Taconic N of Salt Pt Tpk Jim Clinton

Palm Warbler: 1/3 Southlands MP.

Yellow-rumped Warbler: 1/1 & 8 yd. BJM; 2/5 Roubout Rd. CV; 3/7 Dennings Pt FT; 2/25 Stringham Pk, Lagrange *AMP

Eastern Towhee: 1/8 & 9 yd Poughquag CP/HT; 1/11 yd. BAM.

American Tree Sparrow: 43 reports of 1-3 birds by MD, AMP,WLS, 3 FT's; **most:** 9/22 Hopeland area, 7/23 Roubout Rd. CV; 14/28 HVRT, Coleman Sta FT; **eBird:** 15 rpts, 2 ea.

Chipping Sparrow: 2/1 [1 juvenile & 1 adult] yd. DR.

Savannah Sparrow: 8/3 TSF MP; 1/5 Roubout Rd., CV.

Fox Sparrow: 22 reports of 1-2 birds from 1st to 23rd by JA, BB,JC,KH,DK,WL,LM,CP/HT,DR,ES,CV,1 FT; **eBird:** 9 rpts,

Song Sparrow: 1-4 reported by JA/KJ,KH,MP,CP/HT,sev. FT's; **most:** 5/4 CIES *WLS; 5/19 Downey Rd, Millerton *DK; 7/22 Hopeland area CV; **eBird:** 14 rpts, avg 2 ea.

Swamp Sparrow: 3/4 CIES *WLS; 1/21 Overlook Pk, Pok *AMP; 1/18 Tivoli Bays WMA *MD.

Lincoln's Sparrow: 1/28 HVRT, Coleman Sta FT.

White-throated Sparrow: 2-10 birds by JA/KJ,BB,JC, BAM, MP,AMP,CP/HT; 6 to 26 most FT's; **most:** 28/22 Hopeland area, CV; 21/22 Reese Sanct KH; **eBird:** 30 rpts. avg. 5 ea.

White-crowned Sparrow: 6 imm/18 Downey Rd *DK; 3/23 Domin Farm CV; 6/19 Downey Rd, Millerton *DK.

Dark-eyed Junco: Many reported by most observers of 6-25 and 18-40 most FT's; **eBird:** 40 rpts, avg 8 ea.

Northern Cardinal: 2-12 by most observers; **most:** 13/21 Vassar Campus FT; 5/28 HVRT, Coleman Sta FT; **eBird:** 40 rpts, avg 3 ea.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 1 imm male/19 Downey Rd, Millerton *DK (Debi sent me (BB) photos. Herb and Carena agree that it's RBGR. Rich Guthrie and John Askildsen think it's purple finch.)

Red-winged Blackbird: 300/3 Shunpike Rd (pd at Rally Fms) & 200/8 Tamarack Lk *AMP; 100/3 over Rt376/New Hackensack Rd. BJM; 4/3-4 yd. MP; 22/4 HVRT, 200/11 Mashomak, Pine Pln. CV; 1/5 yd. BB; **eBird:** 10 rpts, 59 ea.

Rusty Blackbird: 2/14 Millbrook Sch FT; 3/18 Tivoli Bays WMA *MD.

Common Grackle: 1/3 & 5 yd JA/KJ; 2/4 Sharon Sta. Rd., 9/5 Rombout Rd. CV; 1/5 Pok yd *WL; 1000/7 moved thru yd BB; 2/10 SDRT, FT; 1-4 2/3-4, 2/17 yd. MP; 1/11 yd Poughquag CP/HT.

Brown-headed Cowbird: 300/3 Shunpike Rd (pd at Rally Fms) *AMP; 2/5, 3/25, 30/26, 15/30 yd BB; 55/6 Mt. Rd. CV; 3/27 yd. DR; 2/17 yd. MP; **eBird:** 7 rpts, avg 67 ea.

Purple Finch: 1pr/1 yd. BAM; 4/2, 1/3, 8, 23 yd. & 2/4 Sharon Sta. Rd. CV; 2/3 yd. MP; 3/1 yd Fishkill *ES; 1/8 yd. *WL; 2-10/all N. Mabbettsville Rd, Millbrook *AMP; **eBird:** 11 rpts, avg 2 ea.

House Finch: 2-15 reported by most observers; **eBird:** 20 rpts, avg 4 ea.

Common Redpoll: 1/8 Clinton Corners JA.

Red Crossbill: 18/18 Tivoli Bays WMA *MD.

Pine Siskin: A good month for these tiny gems; 1-20 reported at feeders by JA, BB, DK, WL, BAM, AMP, CP/HT, DT, CV, T. Lake/HRA; **most:** 60/5 Wiccoppee C. Mayer-Bakall/HRA; **eBird:** 11 rpts, 5 ea.

American Goldfinch: 1-15 reports by most observers & field trips; **eBird:** 51 rpts, avg 7 ea.

Evening Grosbeak: 9/5 yd. JA; pr/5 feeder BB; 2/7 Ruth Greenwood's feeder, Billings, BB; 6/8 yd Poughquag CP/HT.

House Sparrow: 1-5 reports by most observers; **most:** 35/21 Vassar Campus FT; **eBird:** 9 rpts, avg 4 ea.

Other observations: flying squirrel eating suet at deep dusk or early night: 1/15-16, 2/22 MP.

OBSERVERS:

JA-Janet Allison, JAKJ-Judith Atwood/Karen Jaquith, BB-Barbara Butler, JC*-Jim Closs, EC*-Eamon Corbett, MD*-Mark DeDea, MF-Melissa Fischer, RE*-Raymond Edwards, DG*-Dean Goddard, RG*-Richard Guthrie, KH-Ken Harris, MK-Maha Katnani, DK*-Deborah Kral, KJ/ED-Karen Jensen & Eric Dunne; WL*-William Lenhart, LM-Liz Martens, BAM, AJM, BJM-Barbara & Allan Michelin, JO*-Jim Owens, MP-Mona Payton, AMP*-Adrienne Popko, RP*-Robert Prol, CPr*-Craig Provost, CP-Carena Pooth, DR-Dick Ryley, ES*-Ed Spaeth, LD, WS, WLS*-William & Lisa Schlesinger, DT*-Dan Tallman, HT-Herb Thompson, CV-Chet Vincent, JW*-John Winkler, AZ*-Aleks Zelbo, FT-Field Trip, HRA - Hudson River Almanac, MHB - Mid-Hudson Birds

* = reports made through eBird

Abbreviations: HVRT - Harlem Valley Rail Trail, SDRT - Southern Dutchess Rail Trail, Sta.-Station, TSF - The Southlands Farm

Field Trips: 11/7 - Dennings Point, 11/10 - Southern Dutchess Rail Trail, 11/14 - Millbrook School, 11/21 - Vassar College Campus, 11/28 - Harlem Valley Rail Trail-Coleman Station

Compiler: Barbara Michelin

DECEMBER 2012 RECORDS

Snow Goose - 150/2 Millerton; 400/2 Greig Farm SR

Canada Goose: Many reports. Largest flocks: 1500/1 Stringham Park CV; 1500/2 Millerton JA; 504/5 Thompson Pond FT; 500/9 Strauss's Marsh CV; 300/14 Conservancy Pond CV; 126/4 Fishkill Cem. BJM

Mute Swan: 7 eBird rpts, avg 4 each. 3/5 Thompson Pond FT; 4/1, 13 Traver Pond CV; 11/3, 13/9, 16/14 Wapp. Lk. BAM; 13/9 Sylvan Lk. BAM; 5-15/all Fisherman's Park KH; 6/5 Hunns Lk DK; 3/9 Deerfield Pond CV; 3/19 James Baird FT; 2/17 3/20 2/26 Overlook Park CV; 12/28 Wapp Lk Jco; 4/30 Rockefeller Ln EU; also 1-2 Mashomack, Conservancy Pd.

Wood Duck: 2/14 Madapen Fm Pond Rt 44 AMP; 1/15 Tivoli Bays South EU

Gadwall: 2pr/3 & 14 Wapp. Lk. BJM; 2/14 Rt 44 Millbrook AMP; 7/17 Fisherman's Park KH

American Wigeon: 2/15 Tivoli Bay South EU

American Black Duck: 5 rpts eBird, avg 5 each 4/1 Traver Pond CV; 5/5 Thompson Pond FT; 2/5, 18 Mashomack CV; 5/6 Madapen Fm Pond, Millbrook AMP; 8/11 Tivoli Bay So CV; 10/13 Traver Pond CV; 3/14 Wapp. Lk. BJM; 2/15, 25 Bennett Commons DR; 9/20 Traver Pond CV: 6/1, 1/8, 3/9, 4/16, 4/28 Rhinebeck MP

Mallard: normal #s Highest counts: 105/15 Lk Oniad; 10/4 Fishkill Cem. BJM; 42/19 James Baird FT; 5/24 Shunpike Rd. Millbrook AMP;

Northern Pintail: 1/15 Tivoli Bay South EU; 1/24 Bennett Commons DR; 1/28 m Upper Kays CV; 1/24 The Fly DK

Green-winged Teal: 12/5 The Fly CV, 4/15 Lake Oniad MF

Ring-necked Duck: 6/5 Thompson Pond FT; 34/9 Sylvan Lk. BAM; 8/9 & 3/19 Hillside Lk. BAM; 6/12 Verbank FT; 4/13, 7/20 Traver Pond CV; pr/20 Lk. Oniad BJM; 60/14, 4/21 South Rd Millbrook DK

Lesser Scaup: 6/12 Sylvan Lk CV; 1/15 Bennett Commons DR

Greater Scaup: 2pr/9 Sylvan Lk. BAM

Common Goldeneye: 8-10/8 Mills Mansion DE; 2/22 Mills Mansion CV

Hooded Merganser: up to 16/Fisherman's Park KH; 12/5, 23/9 & 12/19 Hillside Lk. BAM; 10/9, 28/14 Wapp. Lk. BAM; 1/15 Tivoli Bay South EU; 1 m/19 pond on South Rd, Millbrook BB; 7/20 Jekoce Lk. BJM; 5/28 Wapp Lk JCo

Common Merganser: 10 eBird rpts, avg 6 each, up to 40/all Fisherman's Park KH; 10/3, 15/9 & 20/14 Wapp. Lk. BAM; 7/5, 18/9, 14/19 Hillside Lk BAM; 8/7 Wapp Creek CV; 2/8 Norrie DE; 1f/9 Redwing Lk Beekman BAM; 8/11 Norrie Pt CV; 12/12 Beacon Waterfront BN; 7/13 Traver Pond CV; 7/17 Wapp Cr/Salt Pt CV; pr/20 Jekoce Lk. BJM; 10/20 Traver Pond CV; 1/22 Hudson River at Mills CV; 16/31 Creek Rd Wapp Falls DK

Ruddy Duck: 1/1 Abel's Pond BB; 4/3 & 4 Lk. Oniad BJM; 6/5 Hunn's Lake DK; 2/9 Miller Rd./Sylvan Lk. BAM; 1/9 Redwing Lk. Beekman BAM; 45/12 Sylvan Lake CV

Ring-necked Pheasant: 2/5 Hollow Rd. MW; 1/6 Union Vale DR

Ruffed Grouse: 1/22 Taconic Pkwy near Rt 52 RG; 1/19 Taconic Pkwy, Pleasant Valley RG

Wild Turkey: 11-14/all Rhinebeck MP; 1f/2 & most days & 2f/26-30 yd. BAM; 6/2 Rt 199 Red Hook AG; 7m/7 Melissa Fischer's yd. Wapp. BJM, MF; 20/18 Daley & Maloney Rds JA; 30/22 crossing Clove Road BB; 25/31 Verbank Rd DK

Common Loon: 1/15 Tivoli Bays South EU

Pied-billed Grebe: 1/9 Sylvan Lk. BAM; 1/16 Briarwood Lane, Millerton (Sharon CBC) AMP

Double-crested Cormorant: 1/3 Beacon Waterfront BN; 1/16 Beacon Waterfront CV

Great Blue Heron: 12 reports ebird, avg 1 each 1/all, 2/31 Fisherman's Park KH; 1/5 Mashomack CV; 1/7 Wapp Rural Cem CH; 1/9 & 14 Wapp. Lk. BAM; 1/12 Schultsville Rd. MW; 1/19 James Baird FT; 1/20 Overlook Pk CV; 1/25 Reese Park KH

Black Vulture: 5 eBird rpts, avg 6 each, 7/3 Beacon Waterfront Pk BN; 12/10 Rt. 84 nr Exit 12 Mfa; 3/21 Bard Campus on light poles AG; 6/23 Wappingers CP/HT; 2/28 over Myers Corners & Rt.9 BJM; 38/29 over Rt.9 near Stop & Shop Wapp. BAM; 1/31 Rt 9 Wapp KH

Turkey Vulture: 1/3 Lk. Onaid BJM; 3/3 Beacon Waterfront Pk BN; 4/20 Rt 9/Myers Corners Rd DK; 2/20 All Angels Hill Rd. BJM; 1/20 Walmart CV; 3/31 over Ehmer's field BAM

Bald Eagle: 2/5 3/18 Mashomack CV; 1 imm/9 perched in yard BB; 2/6 Bontecou Lake DK; 1/9 Overlook & Plass Rds JA; 3/9 Deerfield Ponds CV; 1/11 Norrie CV; 1 imm/10,1 adult/12 Abel's Pd BB; 3/13, 1/14 Domin Farm CV; 2/20 Hudson at Shadows CV; 2/26 Norrie FT; 8 eBird rpts avg 1 each

Northern Harrier: 1/5 Thompson Pond FT; 4/5 Mashomack CV; 1/5, 1/17 Waterbury Hill Rd BB; 3/18 Thompson Pond (going to roost in cattails) CV; 1/30 Hardeman Orchards, 1/30 Rockefeller Ln EU

Sharp-shinned Hawk: 3 eBird rpts 1/3,16,23,25 yard CV; 1/20 & 21 yd. BAM; 1/29 yd Poughquag CP/HT

Cooper's Hawk: 4 eBird rpts, avg 1 ea 1/1/, 1/8-9, 1/29, hunting birds successfully at our feeders in the snowfall MP; 1/3,14,23 & 27 yd. BAM; 2/5 Mashomack CV; 1/9 Berkshire Rd CV; 1/13 yd CV; 1/19 James Baird FT; 1/16, 1/30 with prey yd; 1/17,30 N. Mabbettville Rd AMP; 1/26 White Bridge Rd JA/KJ;

1/20 yard AG; 1/24 yard BB; 1/24 Millbrook yard Denise Dyko

Red-shouldered hawk: 29 eBird rpts; 1st yr/1 & 2, 1ad/3 yd. BAM; 2/13 Overlook Pk CV;

1/24 Sisters Hill Rd., 1/26 Milan Hollow Rd DK

Red-tailed Hawk: Many reports throughout county. Highest numbers: 5/5 Thompson Pond FT; 3/5 Tac. St. Pkwy betw. Rt44 & 55 BAM; 13/5 Mashomack CV; 5/6 Mashomack DK; 3/12 Verbank FT; 12/18 Mashomack CV; 4/19 James Baird FT; 2/25 Bontecou Lake dogfighting with Bald Eagle DK; 4/28 Rhinebeck JCI

American Coot: 1/9 Straus Marsh CV; 2/9 Sylvan Lk. BAM; 3/12 Sylvan Lake CV; 1/28 Wapp Lake JCo

Gull sp. – 4/19 James Baird FT

Ring-billed Gull: normal #s 35/9 Beacon Waterfront Pk KM; 45/16 Beacon Waterfront CV; 38/19 James Baird FT; 40+/9 & 30/14 Wapp. Lk. BAM

Herring Gull: 1/14 Kmart CV; 5/6, 11/17, 2/23, 1/26, 3/31 Fisherman's Park KH; 2/9 Wapp. Lk. BAM; 25/9 Beacon Waterfront Pk KM; 12/14 Beacon Riverfront CV; 1/20 Traver Pond CV

ICELAND GULL: 1/9 Beacon Waterfront PK KM; 3/11 river at Beacon RR station (2 first yr, 1 2nd yr) KM/CM

Great Black-backed Gull: 1/6,2/26 Fisherman's Park KH; 1/9 Wapp. Lk. BAM; 31/9 Beacon Waterfront PK KM; 1/11 Vanderbilt CV; 1/14 Beacon Waterfront CV; 1/20 Waryas Park CV

Rock Pigeon: 100/2 Bangall Co Rd. Millbrook AMP; 2/19 James Baird FT;

Mourning Dove: Usual numbers reported by most, high counts: 15/all yard BB; 20/29 Ludlow Woods DK; 33/29 Millbrook Schl Road, 18/31,3-15/all yard AMP; 12-20/all, 35/25 yd Poughquag CP/HT

Great Horned Owl: 6 rpts, avg 1 each; 2/Daily hooting, seen occasionally Ludlow Woods DK; 2/5 (h)yd CV; 2/15 Clove Valley CP/HT

SNOWY OWL(RARITY): 1/16 atop apartment bldg, Brockway John Simpson, BAM, CV, JD, and others.

Eastern Screech-Owl: 1/15 Poughquag, 2/15 Duncan Rd, 1/15 Clove Valley CP/HT

Barred Owl: 1/2 1/25 heard near home BB; 1/occ yd Rhinebeck MP; 1/31 h yard CV; 12/30-31 day roosting yd DK

Belted Kingfisher: 2/5,18 Mashomack CV; 1/11 Tivoli Bay CV; 1/12 Sylvan Lake CV; 2/15 CIES WLS; 1/25 Reese Park KH; 1/26 Fisherman's Park KH; 1/26 Norrie Point FT

Red-headed Woodpecker: 1/2 immature Rhinecliff JCI

Red-bellied Woodpecker: 30+ eBird rpts, 2/3 yard CV; 2/19 Verbank FT; 2/18 Bowdoin Pk KH; 3/19 James Baird FT; 4/23 yard CV; 2-3/daily Ludlow Wds suet DK; 1-daily yd AG

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: 1/ 4 yard CV; 1/7 Wapp Rural Cem KH; 1/18 Bowdoin Pk KH; 1/19 Hopeland JCI; 1/25 yd Poughquag CP/HT

Downy Woodpecker: Numerous reports throughout county; 6/5 Thompson Pond FT

Hairy Woodpecker: 1/1& 25 yard JA/KJ; 2-3 daily/feeder in yards - CV, DK, AMP; 1-2/all yd Poughquag CP/HT; 1/19 James Baird FT; 1/24 yard BB

Northern Flicker: 1/1 yd. BAM; 1/5 Thompson Pond FT; 1/11 Tivoli Bay CV; 2/13 Rombout Rd. CV; 1/14 yard BB; 1/15 CIES WLS; 1/27, 28, 29 yard JA/KJ;

Pileated Woodpecker: 2/5 Thompson Pond FT; 1/10, 18, 23, 29-31 male yard CV; 2/12 Wapp Falls JCo; 2/31 Hillside Lk. BAM; 1/occ, 2/29 yd Poughquag CP/HT; 7 other singles.

American Kestrel: 1/14,17,18,21,28 Sleight Plass Road CV; 1/5-10 Crestwood Rd Red Hook AG; 1/19 CIES WLS; 1/21 Chestnut Ridge Rd BB; 1/23 Skidmore Rd DK; 1/29 Bangall Am Rd AMP

Merlin: 1/19 James Baird FT;

Blue Jay: normal #s 11/12 Verbank FT; 5/3 yard CV, 5-6 daily feeder/Ludlow Wds DK, 2-6/daily yard AG; 4-12/all yd AMP

American Crow: Many reports. Largest flocks 147/19 James Baird FT; 20,000/20 Rinaldi Blvd. roost CV; 100+/23 Overlook & Sleight Plass Rds; 300/23 Springhill Farm AMP; 200/26 DeGarmoRd JA/KJ;

Fish Crow: 1/10 Fishkill Walmart RC; 1-2/7 Academy St.,Pok. BJM; 1/11 Waryas Park, 1/20 Overlook Park CV; 1/31 Rt 9 Wapp KH

Common Raven: 1/5 Dutchess Rail Trail at Gold's Gym Melissa Fischer; 1/6 river at Beacon HRA Lake; 1/13,24 Bennett Commons DR; 1/13 Ludlow Woods yard DK; 1/14,17 Dutchess Quarry CV; 1/18 Reese Pk KH; 1/20 Rt 55 CV; 2/23 Red Wing Rec Pk AMP; 1/25 yd Poughquag CP/HT; 2/29 Lagrangeville Hannafords CV; 1/31 Rt 9 Wapp KH

Horned Lark: 53/30 Rockefeller Lane EU; 20-25/31 Rockefeller La ESh

Black-capped Chickadee: normal #s 18/12 Verbank FT; 10/19 James Baird FT

Tufted Titmouse: normal #s

Red-breasted Nuthatch: 2/daily m/f feeder yard CV; 2/2-24 yd. BAM; 1/10, 25 yd JA/KJ; 2/24 yard BB; 1/24 Sisters Hill Rd. DK

White-breasted Nuthatch: Normal numbers/reported by most 5/18 Bowdoin Pk KH; 6/19 James Baird FT;

Brown Creeper: 1-2/daily suet feeder CV; 1/ nearly daily at my suet feeders, 2/9,16 together Rhinebeck yd MP; 2/6 Fisherman's Pk KH, 1/7 Wapp Rural Cem KH; 1/15 N

Mabbettville Rd AMP; 1/16 Wapp Cr JCo; 1/25 Reese Pk KH
Carolina Wren: 24 eBird rpts, avg 1 each 2 all yd. BAM; 2/15 CIES WLS; 2/2 yd. Fishkill ES; 4/4 Peach Hill AMP; 2/12 Verbank FT; 1/9, 16, 22, 29, 30 yd JA/KJ; 5/13 Rombout Rd

CV; 3/18 Bowdoin Pk KH; 2/24 Stonykill KH; 1/26-31 yard AG; 1/24 yard BB; 1/29 Ludlow Feeder DK;

Golden-crowned Kinglet: 15 eBird rpts, avg 1 each 1/7 Wapp Rural Cem KH; 1/15 Clove Valley CP/HT; 2/19 Hopeland Jcl; 2/19 James Baird FT; 2/24 Buttercup WLS; 2/13 Madam Brett Pk BN; 2/24 Sisters Hill Rd, Stanfordville DK

Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 1/7 Wapp Rural Cem KH; 1/14 Wapp Greenway Trail CV

Eastern Bluebird: 6 eBird rpts, avg 2 each. 6/2 Greig Fm SR; 4/9 W. Dover Rd. CV; 4/9 Redwing Lk. Beekman BAM; 6/12 Verbank FT; 4/13 Rombout Rd. CV; 1/14 Dutchess Quarry CV, 11/14 Domin Farm CV; 4/15 CIES WLS; few/sporadic TSF MP; 2/18 Bowdoin Pk KH; 7/19 James Baird FT; 2/24 StonyKill KH; 5 others.

American Robin: 6 eBird rpts, avg 2 each. 2/3 SI Plass Rd CV; 10/11 Tivoli Bay CV; 6/18 Vassar Campus CV; 1/27 yard CV; 3/29 Bangal Amenia Rd, Millbrook AMP

Northern Mockingbird: 14 eBird rpts, avg 2 each. 2/2 Greig Fm SR; 4/4 Peach Hill AMP; 2/12 Verbank FT; 3/19 Baird FT; 2/30 Hardeman Orchards EU; singles in 8 places.

European Starling: high count 250/2 Bangall County Rd, Millbrook AMP; 200/24 Ludlow Rd, Millbrook (compost area) AMP

Cedar Waxwing: 30/31 Fisherman's Park KH

Snow Bunting : 60/30 Rockefeller Ln EU; 2-3/31 Rockefeller Rd ESh

Eastern Towhee: 1/28 Rhinebeck JCl

American Tree Sparrow: 25+ eBird rpts, avg 6 each, 2-10/all N. Mabbettsville Rd AMP; 14/11 Shuman Rd, Millbrook AMP; CV noted fewer than normal seen during Dec.; 10/26 Hopeland AMP; 36/29 Millbrook Schl Rd, Millbrook AMP; 3/29 yd JA/KJ; other reports of 1-2.

Chipping Sparrow: 1/27 yd JA/KJ;

Field Sparrow: 3/25 Vassar Farm, 1/19 Hopeland Jcl; 1/ 25 Peach Hill DE;

Savannah Sparrow: 12/13 Domin Farm CV;

Song Sparrow: 13 eBird rpts, avg 2 each. 3/4 Peach Hill AMP; 4/8 Southlands FT; 3/13 Long Dock Pk BN; 4/13 Rombout Rd. CV; 3/24 StonyKill KH; 3/30 Hardeman Orchards EU; other reports 1-2.

Swamp Sparrow: 1/5 Thompson Pond FT

White-throated Sparrow: 30+ eBird rpts, avg 6 each. High counts: 25/31 N Clove Rd BB; 21/29 Millbrook Schl Rd, Millbrook AMP; 14/29 2-10/all N. Mabbettsville Rd AMP; 22/29 Shuman Rd, Millbrook AMP

Dark-eyed Junco: Well reported by most – 50+ eBird rpts, avg 10 each. High counts include: 45/2 Greig Fm SR; 33/8 Southlands FT; 44/12 Verbank FT; 47/19 James Baird FT; 30+/29 yard JA/KJ; 70/26 Moose Club, Rt 9G, Hyde Pk AMP

Northern Cardinal: Well reported by most, high counts: 4-6 daily yd CV; 7/12 Verbank FT; 5/30 Ludlow Woods Rd yard DK; 2-7/all N. Mabbettsville Rd AMP; 10/29 Shuman Rd, Millbrook AMP; 8/12 Wappingers Falls JCo; 5/26 Norrie Pt FT

Red-winged Blackbird: 1000/5 Mashomack CV; 200/9 Berkshire Rd CV; 2/12 Verbank FT; 80/18 going to roost Thompson Pond CV; 2/19 James Baird FT; 2/23 yard BB

Yellow-headed Blackbird: 1 female or 1st winter male/13 Pine Plains yard Jane Waters

Rusty Blackbird: 1/31 N. Mabbettsville Rd AMP

Common Grackle: 11/5 Mashomack CV; 28/13 Mtn Rd CV; 1/15 Ludlow Woods Rd yard DK; 25/18 Thompson Pond CV; 2/28 N. Mabbettsville Rd AMP

Brown-headed Cowbird: 31 eBird rpts, avg 23 each. 7/3 , 8/18 , 5/31 yard BB; 5/9 Berkshire Rd CV; 11/15 Millbrook

Commons DR; 11/13 Mtn Rd CV; 20/24, 2/26-29 AG; 75/24 Ludlow Rd, Millbrook (compost area) AMP; 100/16 Shuman Rd (small pond) DK

Purple Finch: 1/23 male yard CV

House Finch: 1/12 Verbank FT; 2/29-31 AG; 6-12/daily feeders Ludlow Wds DK

Common Redpoll: 8 eBird rpts, avg 7 each. 2/6 N. Mabbettsville Rd AMP; 3/9 Wappingers yard Melissa Fischer; 1/13 yd. BAM; 1/22 yd JA/KJ; 20/28 Milan feeder FM; 45/28, (highest count) Ludlow Woods Rd yard DK; 1/29, 3/30 yd Poughquag CP/HT

HOARY REDPOLL: 1/6 N. Mabbettsville Rd AMP

American Goldfinch: 35+ eBird rpts, avg 5 each. High Counts: 15/5 Thompson Pond FT; 10-20 daily yard CV; 10/28, 2-6/all Ludlow Woods Rd yard DK; 6-10/all, 30/27 yd Poughquag CP/HT

House Sparrow: 4 rpts, avg 10 each. 1-2 most of month yd JA/KJ; 6/daily AG; 10/21 yd. BAM; 15/12 Beacon Waterfront Pk BN; 20/31 Verbank Rd, Millbrook DK

Other Sightings:

Barn Owls 2/15 Florida NY (Orange Co) DR

Red Fox 1/28,29 Ludlow Wds yard DK

Muskrat 1/1-2,8-9 Rhinebeck yd MP

Observers: John Askildsen (**JA**); Judy Atwood & Karen Jaquith (**JA/KJ**); Barbara Butler (**BB**); Derrick Eidam (**DE**); Ken Harris (**KH**); Frank Margiotta (**FM**); Curt McDermott (**CM**); Barbara (**BJM**) & Allan Michelin (**BAM**); Mona Payton (**MP**); Carena Pooth (**CP**) & Herb Thompson (**HT**); Elisa Shaw (**ESH**); Dick Ryley (**DR**); **HRA** - Hudson River Almanac, with last name of observer

Ebird reporters: **JCl*** - Jim Closs; **JCo*** - Jamie Collins; **RC*** - Robert Cumming; **JD*** - John & Abby Dux; **MFa*** - Mike Fahay; **MF*** - Melissa Fischer; **LG*** - Linda Gum; **RG*** - Richard Guthrie; **DK*** - Deborah Kral; **KM*** - Kenneth McDermott; **BN*** - Bruce Nott; **AMP*** - Adrienne Popko; **LP*** - Laurie Preisendanz; **SR*** - Susan Rogers; **WLS*** - William & Lisa Schlesinger; **ES*** - Edmond Spaeth; **EU*** - Emily Underwood; **MW*** - Margaret Wentworth; **JW*** - John Winkler; **KZ*** - Katie Zvokel Stewart

Field Trips (FT): 5th Thompson Pond, 8th Southlands Farm, 12th Holiday Party/Verbank, 19th Baird Park, 26th Norrie Point

Notes/Abbreviations: **CIES:** Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies; **DRT:** Dutchess Rail Trail; **TSF:** Southlands Fm

COMPILER: Deborah Tracy-Kral

Please e-mail January records to records1@watermanbirdclub.org

Or send via US mail to:

*Barbara Michelin, 23 Hi View Rd,
Wappingers Falls, NY 12590*

**EVENT AT SHARPAROON,
FEBRUARY 2, 2013**

Oblong Land Conservancy is holding their February "First Saturday" event on the 2nd at Dover Furnace Shooting Grounds (formerly known by birders as Sharparoon). There will be a walk with discussions on winter tracking, plants, birds, and ducks. Speakers are from FrOGS (Friends of the Great Swamp) and Ducks Unlimited. Lunch will follow.

The details....

9:30-11:30 am: walk and talk (free)
 noon-1:00 pm: lunch (\$35pp)
 Lunch reservations limited to 40 people. Children are welcome.

RSVP to info@oblongland.org or 845-855-5993
 Please indicate whether you will stay for lunch.

Location:

Dover Furnace Shooting Grounds
 30 Ore Bed Road (off Dover Furnace Road)
 Dover Plains, NY

**BUS TRIP TO CENTRAL PARK FOR
SPRING MIGRATION**

A bus trip is scheduled for Saturday, May 4 2013. The bus will depart from Kingston's Cornell Street parking lot at 5:00am and will stop to pick up additional participants at the New Paltz Thruway Park and Ride at 5:30am with arrival at American Museum of Natural History on Central Park West at roughly 7:00am. Central Park is one of the best migrant traps in the northeast and offers birding without suffering from a case of warbler-neck. Participants are welcome to bird the park, visit museums, explore the city, or a combination of all. Time spent in New York City can be on your own or with the majority of the group focusing on birding the park but individuals will be expected back at the bus (where we were dropped off) for a prompt 3:00pm departure to allow for arrival in Kingston around 5:00pm. Personal belongings may be left on the bus but will not be accessible during the day. A small backpack is suggested for a lunch, field guide, and/or rain gear. The cost of the trip is \$37.00 per person and payment is expected no later than March 31, 2013. Call or e-mail Mark DeDea, trip organizer at (845) 339-1277 or forsythnature@aol.com.

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:

Mark DeDea, 82 First Avenue, Kingston NY 12401

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name(s) _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

1-yr. Membership - \$20.00 _____

Club Car Sticker \$3.00 _____

Club Patch \$3.00 _____

Optional Tax Deductible Contribution _____

Total Enclosed _____

Keep my address private

Keep my phone number private

Make check to Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club
 Send completed form and check to: Steve Golladay,
 Membership Chairman.

Membership Report

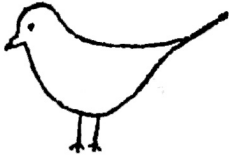
Members, if you haven't yet renewed your membership, please do so. We don't want to lose you. Your membership expiration date is on your address label. If your label says 10/31/2012, this is your last newsletter.

We welcome new members Nancy Bostwick, Sheila and Carl Bogart, Amy and Andrew Huber, and Karen Kearney, all of Poughkeepsie; George Petty and Marilyn Katz of Clinton Corners; Scott and Denise Lenhart of Millbrook; Eric Johnson and Elke Weber of Poughquag; and Margaret and Karl Westerville of Pawling.

*Steve Golladay, Membership Chairman
 Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club*

Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club
25 Taconic Drive
Hopewell Jct., NY 12533

RALPH T. WATERMAN
BIRD CLUB



DUTCHESS COUNTY

FIRST CLASS

Thank You!

I want to thank those members who helped lead the Weekend Field trips and Woodcock Watches in 2012. I appreciate their help and time spent leading one or more trips. They are Barbara Butler, Rosa Corbeels, Ken and Carol Fredericks, Steve Golladay, Frank Margiotta, Barbara Mansell, Mona Payton, Maury Lacher, Alan Peterson, Adrienne Popko, Bill Schlesinger, Barry Haydasz, and Chet Vincent. I want to give a special thanks to Barbara and Chet for taking over my Saturday trips when I could not lead the walks.

We have many talented members who help keep our club active, informative, and fun. Janet, Chuck, and I would like to thank all the members who sent in articles for our newsletter throughout the year. The Field Trip reports and others articles help make our newsletters interesting and informative for our members. I also want to thank Stan DeOrsey for the many interesting articles he has submitted throughout the year and each year since he moved to Maine. Even though he lives far away he is still committed to informing our club members of history in Dutchess County in his articles.

And again, I would especially like to thank Janet Allison and Chuck Martinez for their time and work done on our newsletters as co-editors this past year.

Barbara Michelin

Hey! Check Your Label!

Members, if you haven't yet renewed your membership, please do so.

We don't want to lose you.

Your membership expiration date is on your address label.

If your label says 10/31/2012, this is your LAST newsletter.

(See page 15 for information)