



The Whoosletter

Here at Last Holiday Issue

A Quarterly (Almost) Publication of the Carroll County Bird Club

My apologies for taking so long to get this issue of **The Whoosletter** out. Hopefully, since the last issue, many of you will have discovered and enjoyed using our new website (<https://carrollcountybirdclub.com>).

I suppose it's not that new any longer. Nancy Bittler has done a great job with this and with our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/groups/1832508113740076/). If you haven't done so yet, give them a try.

Eventually, we may post the articles which now appear in **The Whoosletter** only on the website. But for now, you should be able to read them in both places. The best part about the website is that you can find most of the back issues there.

Let's talk about this issue though.

Craig Storti has once again provided an interesting article, this time on his trip to the Isle of Man. Somehow, he always manages to combine his business trips with some birding. I envy him. He also endeavors to teach us some new vocabulary.

My wife Mary, reviewed a book called **Green Birding**. We can probably all benefit from its message.

The species profiled this time is the Turkey Vulture. While it does have some rather repulsive habits, there is a lot to be said on its behalf.

The Fall Count results are included, along with some field trip reports. One, by Tom Miller describes a search for sparrows at Hashawha.

Hope you enjoy. Best wishes for a Happy Holiday too. I look forward to birding with you in the coming year.

Marty the Titmouse in *You are what you eat!*

Christmas dinner was great.
The birds ate and ate.
Especially Marty,
The life of the party.

The food was soooo good
He ate more than he should.
Crumbs down his chest
Showed he liked cookies best.

After saying goodbye,
To his tree he did fly.
But, as soon as he'd gone,
An owl came along.

"No time to talk now,"
He said to the owl.
And took off like a kite
Into the dark night.

The owl, he was faster.
Marty sensed a disaster.
As the talons went taut,
He knew he was caught.

Continued on page 2

In this issue:

Marty the Titmouse.....	1-2
Isle of Man.....	2-3
Field Trip Reports.....	3-5
Fall Count.....	5-6
Turkey Vulture.....	6-7
Green Birding.....	7-8
Upcoming Events.....	8-10
The Last Laugh.....	10

Continued from page 1

But the owl it stopped cold
And then loosened his hold.
“My meal you can’t be,
You are not gluten free.”

Marty shook himself off
And then started to laugh.
“That’s a new one on me.
How can this thing be?”

“In crumbs you are covered.
With gluten you’re smothered.
It is sad to tell,
But you’d make me un-well.”

So Marty said “See you!”
And then off he flew,
To his home in the tree.
And so thankful to be.

“That was so close.
I was almost toast.
Guess you are what you eat.
I’m sure glad I’m not neat.”

Thinking of the owl’s diet,
He got suddenly quiet.
His eyes closed once more,
And he started to snore.

Stinky Dub and The Sloch: Birding on the Isle of Man

by Craig Storti

Not to worry, the rest of this article will be in English, not sound like “Jabberwocky,” and be mostly about birds.

But first the Isle of Man: it’s in the Irish Sea, about 50 miles off the central west coast of England, and just about as far from the east coast of Ireland, over on the other side. The closest place you’ll know of is probably Liverpool. They say you can see seven “kingdoms” from Snaefell, the highest spot on the island: the kingdoms of England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man... and the kingdom of Heaven. The isle is 30 miles long and about 12 miles wide, home to 80,000 proud citizens, and when you’re there don’t make the mistake of calling England the mainland; it’s called “across,” as in “I’m going across for the weekend”, or “the adjacent isle.”

I was on the Isle of Man on business and had a free day, so I went online to see if there was a way I could contact any locals who knew their birds. If I had spent months searching for the perfect guides, I could not have come up with anyone as knowledgeable nor as good company as Tim Earl and his wife Liz Charter. They spent the whole day with me, took me all over the island, shared their vast knowledge of birds and everything else about the place—all in return, if I was so inclined, for a modest donation to Manx Birdlife, a local nonprofit dedicated to all matters avian, especially habitat conservation.

In our first email exchange Tim, seeing I was from Maryland, asked me if I knew Don Messersmith (whom many of you will know), adding that Don was “a great influence on my interest in wildlife.” I don’t know Don M, but if Tim did indeed learn at Don’s knee (Tim is English, after all, so quite adept at self-deprecation), then Don is one very knowledgeable guy.

Tim told a story about the time he was in our neck of the woods and was invited to give a talk to the Baltimore Audubon Society. His hostess was a local birder who accompanied Tim when he went to the bank to change currency. “The teller was this beautiful young Black woman,” Tim remembered fondly. “She was the type, if I had been a few years younger, I would have invited over to my place to see my etchings. We were getting along famously when my minder pulled on my sleeve and said, ‘Tim, we’ve got to go. Your affability is impeding our progress.’”

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

Tim is nothing if not affable, but this in no way impeded our progress. Indeed, within a few minutes of our first stop, a shingle beach at Derbyhaven harbour near the southern end of the island, we saw one of the Isle's iconic birds: the Red-billed Chough. You can see this bird across on the adjacent isle, but it is not nearly as reliable. We were quite chuffed to get this tick so early in the day. Other good birds seen here were: Eurasian Oystercatcher, Dunlin, Common Redshank, Eurasian Stonechat, Pied Wagtail and Chaffinch.

Our next stop was the afore-mentioned Stinky Dub. Dub is apparently a local word for a small pond, in this case a tidal one. I will remember this place longer than most of the others because it was the scene of the only time that entire day that I actually spotted a bird before Liz and Tim and pointed it out to them; I did not know what it was (this happens to me on occasion) but I saw it first. It turned out to be a European Sparrowhawk. Other good sightings at the dub included: Grey Heron, 3 more Choughs, Great Cormorant, Little Egret, Black-headed Gull, Sandwich Tern, Eurasian Magpie, Eurasian Linnet, Meadow Pipit and European Rock Pipit.

Our next stop was at the very tip of the island where a small islet called the Calf of Man sits just offshore. Thirty-three species of birds breed here, most notably Choughs, Puffins, and Manx Shearwaters (another iconic Man bird). We did not see Puffins or Shearwaters, but we had great views of Northern Gannets and a number of seals. The sound here is also a good place to see dolphins and basking sharks.

We headed north now, where our next stop was a place called the Sloch, one of the few inland stops we made. Somehow a place called the Sloch doesn't sound like a must-see, but as it turns out there was a lot happening there that day. The way I knew there was a lot happening was because Tim and Liz, being British, normally managed to keep their cool, but they got visibly excited at the Sloch. The major cause was a group of eight migrating Common Buzzards, but there was also a Common Kestrel and a Peregrine Falcon harassing the Buzzards. Tim and Liz's enthusiasm was contagious, and I do believe I managed to say Wow! at the appropriate moments. The Sloch was also a good place to see another Isle of Man specialty, the Hen Harrier, but we did not see one that day.

We had lunch in a pub at Peel, halfway up the western side of the isle, and then birded at Peel harbor. Here we saw many of the common pelagics, highlights including: Black-legged Kittiwake, Northern Fulmar, Guillemot, more Gannets, and European Shag.

From Peel we drove to the Point of Ayre, at the very northern tip of the island, where we reprised many earlier sightings. (We saw a total of 53 species that day, per Tim's very thorough list.) At Ayre we drove through a large marsh-like area which Manx Birdlife is in the process of raising funds to purchase in order to save the habitat. If you'd like to find out more about Manx Birdlife or just about birding on the Isle of Man, you can send an email to: enquiries@manxbirdlife.im

If you'd like to meet Liz Charter and Tim Earl, you'll have to stand in a very long queue.

Field Trip Report

Galloping Goose Vineyards and Winery

Saturday, September 25, 2017



Saturday, September 25th turned out to be a beautiful day. It was warm, but with a cooling breeze. It was perfect weather to sit out under the gazebo and drink some good wine. But first, we had to go birding. (After all, that was our excuse for being there.)

When we arrived at the Galloping Goose Vineyards and Winery at 8:00am, employees were already out picking grapes. Large blue tubs of golden fruit sat along the rows close to the parking lot.

Diane Hale, the owner, called last year to invite the club to bird there. We pretty much had the run of the place. There were eight of us.

Continued on page 4

The small pond near the house held some promise as the supposed gathering place for up to four Green Herons at a time. So, we headed in that direction. Before reaching our destination, we heard a Pileated Woodpecker calling. Other species seen or heard included Blue Jay, Eastern Bluebird, American Crow, American Robin, Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren, Mourning Dove, and American Goldfinch.

Along the way, we also added the local bird dog to our group. (Bill was thrilled.) Her name was Brittaney. At seventeen years of age (That's equivalent to 92 human years.), she was moving pretty well. Better than some of our members!

The pond looked like a mirror, reflecting the beautiful scenery around it. There were no herons though, green or otherwise. Although, while we were standing there, a Great Blue Heron did fly over the vineyards, grunting as it went. Some wires hanging over the pond held two Eastern Phoebes. Bob heard a Common Yellowthroat somewhere nearby and a Ruby-crowned Kinglet played cat and mouse with us for a while until most people had good views of the bird.

Working our way around the pond and up into the woods, we added Gray Catbird, Chipping Sparrow, White-breasted Nuthatch, Red-bellied Woodpecker, and Downy Woodpecker.

In a short time, we came out into a large meadow. A "Blasting" sign gave us pause for a moment until we realized that it had been placed there as a joke. (Or so we thought.) It hadn't discouraged the butterflies. They were everywhere. Most of these were Meadow Fritillaries, a species that you do not see as often.



Meadow Fritillary

Scanning the tree line on the far edge of the field, Bob spotted an American Kestrel sitting in the top of a pine. Other birds closer to us included Red-headed Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Northern Mockingbird, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, and Cedar Waxwing. Some Turkey Vultures passed over from time to time. We watched carefully for any hawks.

Circling back to the parking lot, we worked our way past a tent being set up to host a wedding and along a stream. There were Song and Chipping Sparrows in the vegetation near the water that seemed less inclined to make our acquaintance. In another open meadow there was a Red Fox that we decided to avoid. It just didn't look healthy.



Chipping Sparrow

Doubling back, we walked up another hill that overlooked the vineyard and just stood around waiting for whatever might fly over. While a kettle of Broad-winged Hawks never showed up, Dave Hudgins did spot an Osprey. House Finches chattered in the trees nearby.

At around 11:30am, we all trooped down the hill again. Diane saw us coming and suggested that we relax in the gazebo while she fetched some bottles of wine for us to taste. The next hour was nothing but pure bliss. We got to taste both whites and reds with names like Saval Blanc, Restless Babe, Flirting Heart Cabernet, and Petit Verdot.

Some of the vintages were named for race horses that the Hales had raised. Diane explained where the vineyards name had come from. While we did see one Canada Goose fly over, that name had nothing to do with birds. "Goose" was the name of a favorite horse who was always poking its nose into places where it shouldn't.

Diane invited the club back again. Hopefully, this will become an annual event.

Field Trip Report

Hashawha Environmental Center

Saturday, November 4, 2017

Submitted by Tom Miller, Trip Leader

This trip was billed as a search for sparrows. We started the day at 37 degrees with clear sky, and calm wind. 31 species of birds were recorded during our morning walk. These included four species of sparrow (possibly a fifth).

There may have been a Swamp Sparrow that quickly dove into the cattails at the pond, but would never come back up to be verified. By the end of the trip the sun was shining and the temperature reached 49 degrees.

List of bird species: identified

Mallard
Great Blue Heron
Turkey Vulture
Cooper's Hawk
Red-shouldered Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
Belted Kingfisher
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Northern Flicker
Pileated Woodpecker
Blue Jay
American Crow
Carolina Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch
Carolina Wren
Eastern Bluebird
American Robin
Northern Mockingbird
European Starling
Eastern Towhee
Chipping Sparrow
Song Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
Northern Cardinal
House Finch
American Goldfinch

CCBC Fall Count 2017

The Carroll County Bird Club held its most recent Fall Bird Count on September 16, 2017. Nineteen observers in nine parties put in 40 hours on foot and 18 hours on the road for a total of 267 miles in all parts of the county. 3,895 individual birds of 96 different species were recorded. The species count was higher than that of 2015 (93), however, fell quite a bit short of that recorded in 2012 (101), 2013 (98), 2014 (103), and 2016 (105).

Still there was a good variety of birds seen. Either in the water or on the shore were recorded Wood Duck, Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Green Heron, Killdeer, Greater Yellowlegs, and Lesser Yellowlegs. This was in addition to the usual large numbers of Canada Geese and Mallards.

We missed out on Sharp-shinned Hawk and Osprey, however, counters were lucky enough to get views of Bald Eagle, Broad-winged Hawk, and Northern Harrier. Owls were well represented with Screech, Great Horned, and Barred. The recent trend showing more Black Vultures than Turkey Vultures was soundly reversed with 103 Turkey over 18 Black. This may be due to the time of year. Or the weather? Anyone want to hazard a guess?

All of the woodpeckers put in an appearance except the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. Numbers of Red-headed (9) and Pileated (14) were quite impressive.

There were also 21 Ruby-throated Hummingbirds still around.

Both White-eyed and Red-eyed Vireos were recorded. There was also one Warbling Vireo included as a write-in. Seventeen warbler species made their way onto the list.

Sparrows were lacking in variety however. Mostly Chipping and Song were recorded. Two Field Sparrows and nine Eastern Towhees also made themselves known.

Write-ins were few, however, the Common Nighthawks spotted by Henry Leskinen were particularly notable.

There was no tally rally. Thanks to all who counted! The next count will be the Mid-Winter Count on January 20, 2018. I hope you will be able to join us.

Continued on page 6

Now for the top twenty:

European Starling	755
Canada Goose	331
Blue Jay and American Crow	219
Common Grackle	200
Gray Catbird	167
Northern Cardinal	136
Brown-headed Cowbird	121
Turkey Vulture	103

Carolina Chickadee	96
Carolina Wren	95
Mourning Dove	94
Red-bellied Woodpecker	87
Tufted Titmouse	84
American Goldfinch	79
House Finch	78
Mallard	72
American Robin	67
Eastern Bluebird	63

Species Profile

Turkey Vulture (Cathartes aura)



What's in a name? Sometimes a lot! Think of the early colonists for a moment. Coming to the new world, they had heard about how good the turkeys were there. With bare red skin on the head and throat they would be easy to identify. Then it turned out they were also easy to find and shoot. The proud hunters would carry home their trophies and hand them over to their wives to prepare. Imagine them all sitting around the table when the feast is brought in.

Then imagine them all feeling sick when they took their first bites. While the head of a Turkey Vulture may look a bit like that of a Wild Turkey to someone who has never seen one before, that is where the

similarities end. They don't taste very good at all. And there are records of our founding mothers and fathers being disappointed by that fact.

One would be inclined to believe that the bad taste was due to what Turkey Vultures themselves eat. In other words – dead stuff. After all, you are what you eat. That bare red head the vulture has which caused it to be confused with a Wild Turkey, developed to make it easier for the bird to get its beak inside the carcass of a dead animal where all the tasty bits are. Not that vultures wouldn't prefer fresh food. The problem is that they have evolved in such a way that they are unable to make a kill themselves. So, they have to wait until another animal does it for them. Around here, we tend to be that other animal. The many deer killed along the highways generally keep vultures in good supply.

Finding the dead food source can be complicated though. Usually, when we see vultures, they are flying in circles high overhead. Flying may not be the best term. Gliding maybe? Vulture flight requires daytime updrafts of warm air. These are called thermals. The birds seldom flap their wings. Once they get high enough, they can circle and coast from one updraft of air to another. While doing so, they are constantly on the lookout for dead animals to eat below. They also keep an eye out for other vultures who may have already found a food source.

Some scientists believed that this was the only way a vulture found its food. Others thought the birds did this by smell alone. It turns out that Turkey Vultures use both. The problem is that they cannot smell a decaying carcass

Continued from page 6

until it's at least around twelve hours old. So, unless they can spot it from the air, their food tends to be less fresh and more like leftovers.

So, they eat dead stuff. We shouldn't hold that against them. They may also defecate on their legs when the weather is hot. Hence their frequent whitish appearance. Hmm. When threatened near their nest, the birds may also vomit a putrid mess in much the same way a skunk sprays. But, don't hold that against them either.

Turkey Vultures tend to mate for life. (Better than most people today!) They also tend to return to the same nest sites year after year. That's right. Turkey Vultures are actually migratory. The one's we see around here all year long are probably different birds. Turkey Vultures may travel and nest anywhere between Canada and Cape Horn. That's quite a range.

When they do decide to nest, the female first leads the male in a series of soaring maneuvers. Finding a nesting site is much easier than building a nest. Vultures prefer isolated recesses in caves, hollow trees, or even buildings. There is no nest material. Two eggs are laid right on the ground. Both sexes share the incubation duties. The eggs hatch in five to six weeks and the young fledge in another six weeks. Young birds are fed on the regurgitated carrion provided by mom and dad. This can make the nests smell especially bad and only the bravest of raccoons and skunks are willing to brave what has been termed the "barf barrier" to attack the young birds.

Juveniles have smooth, brown heads instead of the red, wrinkled ones of the adults. Their beaks also have dark tips. (Those of adults are a uniform white or ivory.) The young birds join their elders in communal roost at night. These can be rather large affairs and are frequently the subject of derision by humans who may happen to live underneath one. Articles in the newspapers chronicle

neighborhoods' efforts to rid themselves of Turkey Vulture roosts.

If not located over your house, however, these roosts can be fascinating to observe. The birds generally settle in about an hour before sunset. The assembly may serve as some sort of communications center. Ornithologists are still investigating the possibility. It's nice to think of a bunch of vultures getting ready to go to bed at night trading stories about the size of the dead deer they had eaten that day.

Speaking again of food, one vulture favorite is dead snakes. On any dish, the eyes seem to be the first to go. And what about skunks? Yes, Turkey Vultures enjoy a good dead skunk from time to time. Although, they are smart enough to eat everything except those nasty scent glands. Surprisingly, vultures have also been observed eating vegetable matter. Rotting pumpkins were specifically mentioned. Regardless of the menu, after each meal the birds regurgitate pellets which contain those items they were unable to digest.

With the many types of food they eat, it is not surprising that Turkey Vultures have developed a very sophisticated immune system.

Turkey Vultures begin to leave northern areas in the fall and head south. Much of the North American population heads to Mexico and Central America. In the rainforest, where visibility can be a problem, they definitely need to rely more on their sense of smell when it comes to finding food.

For many years, the Turkey Vulture was referred to as a Turkey Buzzard. Some people still call them "buzzards." The true buzzard (*Buteo buteo*) is a European hawk. A group of vultures is termed a "cast", "committee", "meal", "vortex", or "wake".

Book Review

***Green Birding* by Richard Gregson, Stackpole Books, Copyright 2013**

Review by Mary Jewell

While perusing books at the Assateague Island Visitor Center, a rather small paperback stood out among the various field guides and nature writings. The title, ***Green Birding***, spoke to the uncomfortable feeling we all get regarding the carbon footprint birders leave on the very birds that give us such pleasure. It is a good read, and has a lot of useful information without putting us under a guilt trip over the enjoyment of birding.

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

The author, Richard Gregson, a birder for over 50 years, is the President of Bird Protection Quebec, and is one of the early promoters of green birding. He lives in the Montreal area.

The phenomenon of green birding has been around since around 2008, and challenges birders to change their habits and do something, however small, to help bird populations. Birding is an immensely popular pastime, but the greenhouse gases emitted in order to add to our bird lists is causing a lot of birders to re-consider how they study birds. The author emphasizes that Green Birding should be enjoyable and rewarding, and recognizes the fact that birders (being birders) can make a difference by taking green birding to their own comfort level.

To that end, there are 3 aspects to birding addressed in this book:

List locally rather than travelling long distances for rare sightings. List by walking, biking, or paddling. Public transportation is acceptable. The author provides lots of tips and challenges. By the end of the book, the reader will be familiar with “Bigby” (Big Green Big Year), a

“Big Foot Hour”, a “Big Green Sit”, and a “Walking Bigby”. A detailed summary of the author’s Bigby as well as tips and practical advice for planning are covered. There are also lists of blogs and online spots birders can utilize.

Patchworking, or regularly visiting a piece of land which can be walked or cycled. By covering the same patch year-round, detailed knowledge can be gained about bird populations and a surprising number of species noted.

Conservation and Citizen Science. Birders can be in the forefront of joining with others to protect bird habitats. A section of the book is also devoted to creating a green bird garden.

All in all, this book is a good resource. It is quite thought-provoking and can be applied even if a birder does not go totally “green”. The book is not available at the Carroll County Library, but a kindle edition is available at Amazon for \$8.77. The print edition uses responsible environmental practices by FSC certified book manufacturers. If you would like to borrow my copy, just let me know.

Carroll County Bird Club 2017-2018 Schedule

Saturday, January 6 - 7:30 pm until ?

Annual Holiday Party at the Yinglings - Meet at the Yinglings’ home at 70 Ridge Road in Westminster. Talk birds, eat, drink, and have fun with fellow birders. Sue and Splinter Yingling, hostess/host. Please coordinate with the Yinglings to bring a dish at syngling@mac.com or 410-857-0902.

Saturday, January 13 – definitely all day.

Ocean City Day Trip – Gluttons for punishment will enjoy this one. We will also probably see a lot of really good birds. Meet at the Park and Ride on Route 32 just south of Route 26 in Eldersburg. Contact Bob Ringler at 410-303-2792.

Saturday, January 20 - up to all day

Carroll County Mid-Winter Bird Count - Parties of counters will set their own schedules in their pre-arranged areas to count winter bird species throughout the County. Contact Don Jewell to verify your bird counting area (jewell-dg@gmail.com or 410-259-4716) Tally Rally will be hosted by Amy Hoffman at her home. If you will be attending the Tally, please RSVP to Amy (410-549-3598) no later than Wednesday, January 17 and plan on bringing a food item or cash donation (\$5).

Friday, February 2 – Sunday, February 4

Maryland Ornithological Society Conference in Ocean City. Great birding. Great fun.

For more information, contact Diane Benyus at dbenyusmos@gmail.com.

Continued on page 9

Continued from page 8

Wednesday, February 7 - 7:00 pm, speaker program

Mom's Big Year by Nancy McAllister at Carroll Nonprofit Center in Westminster. Contact Don Jewell at jewelldg@gmail.com.

Saturday, February 24 – 8:00 am, half-day trip.

Black Hills Regional Park in Montgomery County. Join Bob Ringler to scope out the waterfowl here. Meet at the Park and Ride on Route 32 just south of Route 26 in Eldersburg. Contact Bob at 410-303-2792.

Wednesday, March 7 - 7:00 pm, speaker program

Audubon's Salt Marsh Bird Conservation Initiative by David Curson at Carroll Nonprofit Center in Westminster. Contact Don Jewell at jewelldg@gmail.com.

Saturday, March 10 - 6:00 pm until sometime after dark

Woodcock Walk at Morgan Run - Come strain your eyes and ears to appreciate these curious birds as they perform their annual courting ritual. Meet at the parking lot at the end of Ben Rose Lane. Contact Allan McQuarrie at 410-552-1278 if you plan to attend.

Wednesday, April 4 - 7:00 pm, speaker program

Butterflies and Gardening Strategy by Debbie Maeder at Carroll Nonprofit Center in Westminster. Contact Don Jewell at jewelldg@gmail.com.

Saturday, April 28 - 8:00 am, half-day trip

McKeldin Area of Patapsco Valley State Park – Watch Bob work his magic. Meet at the Park and Ride on Route 32 just south of Route 26 in Eldersburg. For more details, contact Bob Ringler at 410-303-2792.

Wednesday, May 2 - 7:00 pm

Your MOS Sanctuaries by Marcia Watson at Carroll Nonprofit Center in Westminster. Contact Don Jewell at jewelldg@gmail.com.

Saturday, May 12 - up to all day

Carroll County May Count - Parties of counters will set their own schedules in their pre-arranged areas to count resident and migrant bird species throughout the County. Contact Don Jewell to verify your bird counting area (jewelldg@gmail.com or 410-259-4716). The Tally Rally will be hosted by Susan Bollinger and Barbara Olsh at their home. If you will be attending the tally rally, please RSVP to Susan (410-848-2050) no later than Wednesday, May 9th. Plan on bringing a food item or a cash donation (\$5).

Saturday, May 26 – 8:00 am, half-day trip

Birding and Botanizing Along Saw Mill Road - Contact Bob Ringler for directions and more information at 410-303-2792.

Saturday, June 2 - 8:00 am, half-day trip

Upper Gunpowder River at River Valley Ranch for nesting warblers and other neotropical species. Meet at the parking lot in front of the North Carroll Senior Center at 2328 Hanover Pike (between Hampstead and Manchester). Parking at birding site is limited so we will carpool. Contact Henry Leskinen for more information at 443-259-6572.

Saturday, June 16 – 8:00 am, half-day trip

North Tract of the Patuxent Research Refuge – This is a great place to bird. Be sure to bring a photo ID. Everyone must sign in separately. Meet at the Park and Ride on Route 32 just south of Route 26 in Eldersburg. Contact Bob Ringler at 410-303-2792.

Continued on page 10

Continued from page 9

Saturday, June 23 - 1:00 pm - until ?

Summer Picnic at Amy's House - Amy Hoffman will again be hosting this annual event. Enjoy good food and good company. Bring your bathing suit if you are so inclined. Amy has a great pool. Contact her (410-549-3598) if you plan on attending and tell her what food item you will be bringing.

All meetings of the Carroll County Bird Club will be held at the Carroll Nonprofit Center at 255 Clifton Boulevard in Westminster. Directions to the Center may be found online at <http://carrollnonprofitcenter.org/directions.html>.

Meetings begin at 7:00 pm with a brief period for socializing, followed by the guest lecturer. Afterwards, there will be a short business meeting.

The doors of the Carroll Nonprofit Center are set on a timer to automatically lock at 7:15 pm. CCBC members arriving after the doors lock may call Don Jewell at 410-259-4716 for entry. (An effort will also be made to check the doors from time to time for late arrivals.)

The Last Laugh



Good birders know that when on a field trip one should always follow the leader. Bill Ellis was leading when we came across this sign at the Galloping Goose Vineyards. Everyone agreed, "You first, Bill!"

The Whoosletter

*A Publication of the
Carroll County Bird Club*

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