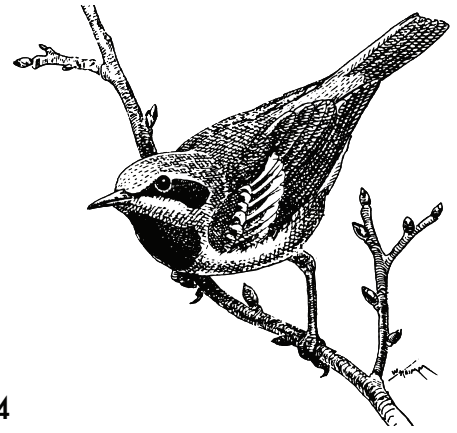


# THE Warbler

FOUNDED 1957

## ALAN DEVOE BIRD CLUB



Volume 66, Number 7, July, 2024

### BIRDS UP CLOSE

by Mike Birmingham, Entomologist

Eleven birders from Columbia County went to Jug Hill Park, MA on April 30th, to see birds banded. Berkshire Bird Observatory is a licensed cooperator of the US Department of Interior, US Geological Survey. Banders follow a Code of Ethics with highest priority for bird safety.

We remained at the birding station while two observatory staff raced between nets and returned minutes later with birds to install a serial numbered metal band, weigh, sex, measure wing length, estimate body fat, age, and record data. They worked skillfully and completed their work for each bird quickly before placing banded birds in the open palms of birders who joyfully watched birds take flight.

The work of banders improves understanding of migration patterns, life span, breeding territory, and feeding habitats. Birders saw an immediate benefit when told that one of the birds caught that day was banded two years earlier, showing that it returned to the same location two years older. Banders also knew if the bird's weight and body fat changed, showing health changes.

Our group saw nine species up close with the kinglet being the most common bird banded. In addition to the five bird species photos shown, catbird, jay, robin, and chickadee banded while we watched. The bander said that birds of the same species and gender can have different plumage patterns. We saw pronounced differences in species appearances when up close to birds, as the photos show.



American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*) by Mike Birmingham



Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*) by Mike Birmingham  
images continue on page 2

### ADBC BOARD REORGANIZATION MEETING

Thursday, July 18, 2024, 5 PM

Hosted at the home of Nancy Kern.  
Please phone to attend, (h) 518-392-0120  
All members are welcome.





Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*)  
by Mike Birmingham



Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora cyanoptera*)  
by Mike Birmingham



Ruby-crowned Kinglet (*Corthylio calendula*)  
by Mike Birmingham

## REPORT OF MAY 25TH DROWNED LANDS WALK FOR THE WARBLER

by Marian Sole

A small group of birders - Chris F, Joanie, Melana, Claudia, Bill C., and later Rich joined me for a late migration walk at Drowned Lands. We started on the road by the bridge before the traffic got busy. We found Marsh Wren, Willow Flycatcher, and three kinds of swallow at the bridge including Northern Rough-Winged Swallow and a nice group of goslings. Great Crested Flycatcher, Orchard and Baltimore Orioles, Red-Eyed and Yellow-Throated Vireos lined the trails. The swamp trail was heavily laden with flying bugs. American Redstarts took advantage of this, and we were lucky to see a female Redstart finishing nest building. As we wandered down the trail, we could hear both Yellow-billed and Black-billed cuckoo calling. Willow and Least Flycatchers sang along the swamp trail. At the end of the trail Rich joined us and spotted a Great Egret flying south over the marsh. He can come again. We also heard Worm-Eating Warblers along the swamp trail in the scree slopes. We all made it to the summit and heard Black-and-White Warbler, saw soaring Vultures, and were sung to by several Scarlet Tanagers. Also were treated to a small toad and a number of millipedes allowing us to stop and study them on the upbound trail. That was important to give us all a resting break. We had a total of 60 species.



Yellow-throated Vireo by Chris Franks



Willow Flycatcher by Chris Franks



# JUNE 1ST CLERMONT WALK REPORT

by Eric Losh

The ADBC kicked off the month of June with its annual Spring Bird Walk at Clermont State Historic Site in Germantown, led by first-time co-coordinators Eric Losh and Meghan Ryan. At 8 am it was 60 degrees and sunny, with no wind, and not a cloud in sight. Greeted by playful Yellow-throated Vireos, bounding Bluebirds, a squawking Great Blue Heron flyover, and a calling but cryptic Yellow-billed Cuckoo, the bird list was already hitting double digits in the parking lot as we assembled the total group of 11 participants—a mixed flock of Club regulars and Friends of Clermont.

The stately Oaks and Walnuts were fully leafed in their verdant glory, so it was a morning of listening for birds as much as looking. Migrants such as Yellow Warbler, American Redstart, Red-eyed Vireo, Indigo Bunting, and Scarlet Tanager were heard, but eluded glimpses from on high in the vegetation. Merlin was helpful in the hand, but a few times was no match for the deft ears of some club members, who first heard the soft squeaks of a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and cries of Cedar Waxwings.

There were still many birds to behold in the binocs, ranging from a dashing Ruby-throated Hummingbird in the garden to a shy but showing Pileated Woodpecker. The pond was productive for Icterids, with Red-wing Blackbirds active at the edge, a quiet pair of Orchard Orioles zooming about, and—perhaps the highlight of the day—a tangerine-hued Baltimore Oriole whose fluting tipped us off to the location of its mate and their hanging nest, in an open location for all to see.

Rounding back around the mansion, two beginner birders pointed out a Great Crested Flycatcher, while other club members got delayed by a more perplexing Tyrannid who required some photo inspection to be called a Least Flycatcher. At the final vista overlooking the Hudson River, the group admired an Eastern Kingbird as someone noted a lack of Bald Eagles. Moments later two majestic adult eagles came soaring upriver (one attempting to fish) followed by a third immature. Stealing the show, a pair of Brown Thrashers darted from tree to tree in front of the picturesque river, vociferously singing—vociferously singing—their double-repeated stanzas—their double-repeated stanzas.

A great birding day soaking up the late Spring sights and sounds of Clermont with ADDBC members and Clermont Friends. Finished at 10:40 am with a total of 51 species.

## ALAN DEVOE BIRD CLUB FIELD TRIPS

There are NO Field Trips in July. The next trip is:

**Saturday, August 31, 2024**

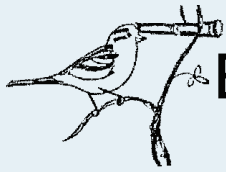
LABOR DAY WALK-OLANA (morning)

Coordinator: Bill Cook 518-851-2678

Meet at 8:00 am at the main parking lot by the pond at Olana State Historic Site, Route 9G. Join us on Labor Day Weekend for an exploration through Olana's artist-designed landscape while keeping eyes and ears open for local birds. Learn more about local bird species, habitats, and behaviors with Dr. William Cook, Professor Emeritus at Columbia-Greene Community College and the Curator of C-GCC's Natural History Museum.



June 1st Clermont Walk Report, images by Eric Losh



# BIRD SIGHTINGS



Compiled for the Alan Devoe Bird Club by William Cook, Ph.D.,  
Columbia-Greene Community College, 4400 Route 23, Hudson NY 12534

## ALAN DEVOE BIRD CLUB BIRD SIGHTINGS REPORT – MAY 2024

Send sightings to Bill Cook, Box 394, Claverack, NY 12513

**CLAY-COLORED SPARROW** returns. Will Yandik, who was excited to get this species on his Columbia County list two years ago with the singing male found by Katie Brown in Hillsdale, got it on his yard list in Livingston this month. This is the third record for the county. The first was in Hillsdale in the 1980s when it mated with a **CHIPPING SPARROW**. The traditional range of this species is in the central plains of North America. But many drift eastward and are spotted in Atlantic coastal states.

In 40 years of record keeping this is the 7th year **COMMON TERN** has been recorded. Nancy Kern found one over the Hudson River during the Century Run. A few migrate up the Hudson River flyway every year to their breeding range in southern Canada. One just has to be lucky to catch a view. The same is true for **RED-THROATED LOON** except that they go all the way up to the arctic. This is only the 6th year that this loon species has been reported in Columbia County. This one was from an eBirder (called “Nest Crasher”!) who was riding on the train and spotted the loon near Hudson’s Middle Ground Island. The **COMMON LOON** that John Piwowarski saw on Copake Lake on the 11th was not in breeding plumage.

Someday soon we will no longer get reports of **EASTERN WHIP-POOR-WILL**. Kathy Schneider, who is working hard on the Breeding Bird Atlas Project, managed to keep this dwindling-population goatsucker on the list this year by getting a report from a private landowner on High Valley Road in Copake. In contrast, **PEREGRINE FALCON** populations seem to be stabilizing. Will Yandik spotted one hunting over his farm fields, wandering well away from its likely breeding site on a Hudson River bridge.

**PINE SISKIN**, a species considered a winter visitor from the north to our feeding stations has been observed every

month this year so far. Larry Steele’s May 18th sighting may be the last for the season. Previous Breeding Bird Atlas maps suggest, however, that Larry’s birds may only have to go as far as Greene or Rensselaer County to breed. There has been no evidence yet that any breed in Columbia County.

Marian Sole’s Tuesday field trip to Overmountain to find **GRASSHOPPER SPARROW** and **HOODED WARBLER** was successful and the sparrow perched high on a grass stalk for everyone to see. The warbler remained cryptic however and only Frank Smith, who went into the bush, got to actually see the singing male. The sparrow is an example of a “Common Bird in Steep Decline” It has lost 68% of its population since 1970 according to Partners in Flight. It is particularly hard to find in our area because it is primarily a bird of the Midwestern prairies. The warbler population is stable. It is a rarity in our area simply because we are at the northern edge of its range.

166 species were seen this May. 121 are common, 45 are listed as notable and 33 (\*) are new for the year.

**COMMON SPECIES (121):** Canada Goose. Mute Swan. Wood Duck. Mallard. American Black Duck. Hooded Merganser. Common Merganser. Ring-necked Pheasant. Ruffed Grouse. Wild Turkey. Rock Pigeon. Mourning Dove. Chimney Swift. Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Virginia Rail. Sora. Killdeer. American Woodcock. Spotted Sandpiper. Solitary Sandpiper. Ring-billed Gull. Herring Gull. Great Black-backed Gull. Double-crested Cormorant. American Bittern. Great Blue Heron. Green Heron. Black Vulture. Turkey Vulture. Osprey. Northern Harrier. Sharp-shinned Hawk. Cooper’s Hawk. Bald Eagle. Red-shouldered Hawk. Broad-winged Hawk. Red-tailed Hawk. Eastern Screech-Owl. Great Horned Owl. Barred Owl. Belted Kingfisher. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. Red-bellied Woodpecker. Downy Woodpecker. Hairy Woodpecker. Pileated Woodpecker. Northern Flicker. American Kestrel. Peregrine Falcon. Willow Flycatcher. Least Flycatcher. Eastern Phoebe. Great Crested Flycatcher.

*continued on page 5*







Common Loon by Nancy Kern

continued from page 4

Eastern Kingbird. Yellow-throated Vireo. Warbling Vireo. Blue Jay. American Crow. Fish Crow. Common Raven. Black-capped Chickadee. Tufted Titmouse. Northern Rough-winged Swallow. Tree Swallow. Barn Swallow. Golden-crowned Kinglet. Red-breasted Nuthatch. White-breasted Nuthatch. Brown Creeper. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. House Wren. Marsh Wren. Carolina Wren. European Starling. Gray Catbird. Brown Thrasher. Northern Mockingbird. Eastern Bluebird. Veery. Hermit Thrush. Wood Thrush. American Robin. Cedar Waxwing. House Sparrow. House Finch. Purple Finch. American Goldfinch. Chipping Sparrow. Field Sparrow. Dark-eyed Junco. White-throated Sparrow. Savannah Sparrow. Song Sparrow. Swamp Sparrow. Eastern Towhee. Bobolink. Eastern Meadowlark. Baltimore Oriole. Red-winged Blackbird. Brown-headed Cowbird. Common Grackle. Ovenbird. Louisiana Waterthrush. Northern Waterthrush. Blue-winged Warbler. Black-and-white Warbler. Nashville Warbler. Common Yellowthroat. American Redstart. Northern Parula. Blackburnian Warbler. Yellow Warbler. Chestnut-sided Warbler. Pine Warbler. Yellow-rumped Warbler. Prairie Warbler. Black-throated Green Warbler. Scarlet Tanager. Northern Cardinal. Rose-breasted Grosbeak. Indigo Bunting.

### May 2024 Summaries:

	1981	1998	2003	2013	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Species	147	150	131	148	160	163	172	175	168	164	166
Year to Date	170	173	160	175	191	197	203	203	202	196	192

### Observers:

Observers: A=Larry Steele, B=Mimi Brauch, C=Bill Cook, D=Susan Senecah, E=Marian Sole, F=Chris Franks, G=Rich Guthrie, H=Drew Hopkins, I=Laura Cannamela, J=Joan and Chris Scheu, K=Kathryn Schneider, L=Mitzi Lobdell, M=Mike Birmingham, N=Mike Nicosia, O=Mayuko Fujino, P=John Piwowarski, Q=Frank Smith, R=Leigh McBride, S=Helen and Carl Specht, T=Katie Brown, U=Marion and Bill Ulmer, V=Matthew Rymkiewicz, W=Fred Schroeder, X=Sal Cozzolino, Y=Will Yandik and Z=Nancy Kern. e=eBird, cba=Columbia Bird Alert

### Key to Locations:

AC Ancram	CV Claverack	HL Hillsdale	SC Powell Sanctuary
AS Austerlitz	DT N. Dutchess	HR Hudson River	SP Stockport
CL Clermont	GL Gallatin	KH Kinderhook	SV Stuyvesant
CM Chatham	GM Germantown	LV Livingston	TG Taghkanic
CN Canaan	GP Greenport	MC Mill Creek	
CO Copake	GT Ghent	NL New Lebanon	
CR Century Run (All of Col.Co.)	HD Hudson	RN S. Rensselaer	



## Notable Species (45):

SPECIES	DATE	LOCATION	OBSERVER
Blue-winged Teal *	10	AC	e
Ring-necked Duck	7	GL	V
Pied-billed Grebe	7	GL	V
Yellow-billed Cuckoo *	1-29	LV AC GP	YECAM
Black-billed Cuckoo *	11-21	CO LV CM AC	OCAEM
Common Nighthawk *	15-23	SV LV	J Y
Eastern Whip-poor-will *	31	CO	K
Least Sandpiper *	9-12	CO CM	E A
Greater Yellowlegs *	10	CO	J E
COMMON TERN *	11	SV	Z
RED-THROATED LOON *	20	HD	e
Common Loon	11 13	SP	Z P E
Least Bittern *	25	AC	E C
Great Egret *	25	AC	G E C
Merlin	18	CO	e
Olive-sided Flycatcher *	21	HL	P
Eastern Wood-Pewee *	7-31	AC GM CM HL AS	EBCLAM
<u>Yellow-bellied Flycatcher *</u>	20	AC	e
<u>Acadian Flycatcher *</u>	20	GL	V
Alder Flycatcher *	19 20	GT GL	A V
Blue-headed Vireo	1-18	CM CN NL GM	YAEBM
Red-eyed Vireo *	2-31	GM HL AC KH AS GP	BPAELCM
Bank Swallow *	6-31	GT KH SP AS	A M L
Cliff Swallow *	11	SP	e
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1-11	CM GM KH AS	Q B A Z
Winter Wren	2	CM	Q
Swainson's Thrush *	11 16	AS AC	Z V
Pine Siskin	1 18	KH	A
Grasshopper Sparrow *	21	AC	E C M
CLAY-COLORED SPARROW *	3	LV	Y
White-crowned Sparrow	1 11	AC CO	E O
<u>Lincoln's Sparrow *</u>	3	AC	N
Orchard Oriole	1-25	AC CM	E C M D
Worm-eating Warbler	6-28	AC	E C A M
Tennessee Warbler *	7-21	AC LV CM AS	E C A L
<u>Hooded Warbler *</u>	3 21	AC	VECAM
Cape May Warbler *	1-13	CM CN	Y A
Cerulean Warbler *	12 27	AC CO	V E
Magnolia Warbler *	7-18	AC LV CM	E C A
Bay-breasted Warbler *	7-18	GL CO LV HL CM	V O C A
Blackpoll Warbler *	13-19	CM LV GP AC	A C E M
Black-throated Blue Warbler *	1-11	CM GP AS	Y A E Z
Palm Warbler	19 25	AS	L
Canada Warbler *	13	SP	E
Wilson's Warbler *	11 19	LV GT	Y A



THANK YOU, RENEWING MEMBER!

Janice Nelson

WELCOME, NEW MEMBER!

Kristin Gamble

Jon Kay

Gale Page

Pat Balcom

Joe/Pat Doherty

Michael/Deborah De Wan

Jeff Wilkin

Bob Greene

Max TWD Smith

Bob/Anne Fakundiny

Rich White Smith/Jan Altschuller

Teresa Buckley

Jeanette Gottlieb

Kate Treacy

David Gittleman

Phoebe Lampson

*Enjoy the sounds  
of summer!*



"THE EARTH HAS  
MUSIC FOR THOSE  
WHO LISTEN"

-William Shakespeare

*Join Us!*

**ALAN DEVOE BIRD CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM**

**Membership Annual Renewal Date: January 1st**

Send check to: Sandra Williams, 1730 Co. Rte 9, Chatham, NY  
12037, payable to the Alan Devoe Bird Club, Inc.

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

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

City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Members please list your email address to receive the eWarbler. ADBC will be converting to eWarblers only.**

**Membership renewals and donations can now be made online at the ADBC website:**

[alandevoebirdclub.org](http://alandevoebirdclub.org)

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:**

Adult \$25 [ ] Junior (18 or younger) \$15 [ ]

Supporting Adult \$35 [ ] Individual Life \$500 [ ]

Family/Household \$30 [ ]

Supporting Family/Household \$50 [ ]

**ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS:**

General Fund: \_\_\_\_\_

Sanctuary Fund: \_\_\_\_\_

Educational Opportunities Fund: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_



**HUDSON MOHAWK BIRD CLUB  
TRIPS & PROGRAMS**

More info: 518-439-8080 or [www.hmbc.net](http://www.hmbc.net)

**CLC OUTINGS**

For Information about CLC events, program  
& outings:

Visit [www.clctrust.org](http://www.clctrust.org) or call 518-392-5252





# ALAN DEVOE BIRD CLUB

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Susan Senecah Ph.D. – Chair, Public Relations Chair & Corresponding Secretary | (c) 518-210-3027, (h) 518-392-2693

Nancy Kern – Vice Chair, Publications Chair, Sanctuary Co-Chair & Warbler Editor | 518-392-0120

Marcia Anderson – Budget, Finance, Archives, Website Chair & Recording Secretary | 518-312-6604

William Cook, Ph.D. – Bird Reports | 518-851-2678

Mayuko Fujino – Member of the Education Committee, 646-584-7984

Jim Matthews – Co-Chair of the Sanctuary Committee, 518-794-8577

John Piwowarski – Assisting Sanctuary Committee | 518-672-7622

Jared Weiss, 917-446-7455

Sandy Williams – Membership Chair | 518-701-3095

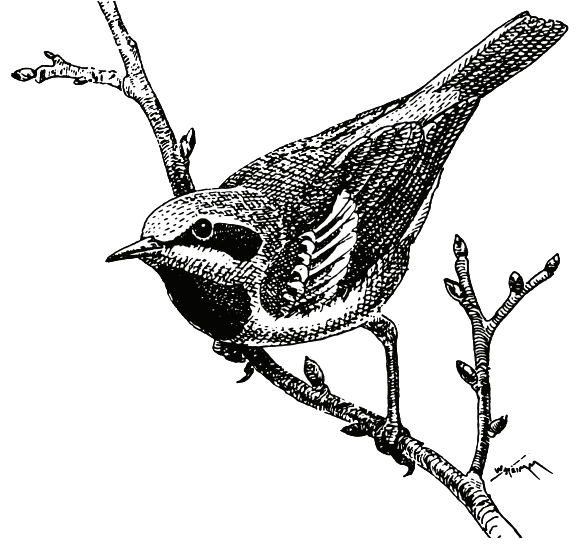
## OTHERS

Marcia Anderson – Treasurer

Mike Birmingham – Member of the Conservation Committee

Chris Franks – Field Trips Committee Chair

Marian Sole – Education Committee Chair



### ***The Warbler***

Editor	Nancy Kern
Assistant Editor	Marion Ulmer
Layout	Anne Schaefer
Mailing	Marcia Anderson

Please note that, with few exceptions, we are converting to the all-digital version of the *Warbler*.

Deadline for the Warbler is the 15th of each month. All questions, suggestions and material for the *Warbler* should be emailed to Editor Nancy Kern at [kernscot@hotmail.com](mailto:kernscot@hotmail.com) by that date.