



Monticello Bird Club

September 2009

Volume 26, Number 1

September Meeting Topic: The Osprey and Bald Eagle of Hampton Roads

Program:

Our speaker, Reese Lukei, Jr. will present a slide presentation on "The Osprey and Bald Eagle of Hampton Roads". This presentation will provide an opportunity to learn about their habits, where to look for them, what they feed upon, when they are here, population and production data, and problems they encounter living in our environment. A current project is the live web cam on the bald eagle nest at Norfolk Botanical Garden in partnership with WVEC TV13 and the Virginia Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries which can be viewed at:

www.wvec.com/cams/eagle.html

volunteer for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge since 1974.



Juvenile Bald Eagle at Hog Island WMA
(Photo by Doug Rogers)

Upcoming Meeting Topics

October 8th: Effects of Urbanization on Wildlife

November 12th: Ecology/Conservation of Vernal Pool Wetlands

Inside September 2009

<i>In Memoriam</i>	2
<i>Dues Reminder</i>	2
<i>Field Trips</i>	3
<i>Membership Application</i>	4



Nesting Ospreys at Hog Island WMA
(Photo by Doug Rogers)

Mr. Lukei has over 35 years experience in trapping and banding raptors in Hampton Roads.

Licensed by the U.S. Geological Survey Biological Resources Division, Virginia Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries, Mr. Lukei is a volunteer research associate for The Center for Conservation Biology at the College of William and Mary.

After having operated a raptor banding station during the fall migration at Eastern Shore of Virginia National Wildlife Refuge for 18 years, he has banded over 15,000 raptors.

His resume also includes working as a

Comments From the President

As we resume another season of the bird club, I would start by expressing the hope that everyone had a nice summer. I can say it has been a good summer for vegetable gardening, with all the rain. I have never had such nice red raspberries. A bird-related highlight of the summer for me was the Purple Martin field day in Louisa County in June. It was my first time to attend. If you have never gone, or haven't in a while, hope you can make it next year. Don't dismiss this event because you don't have a Purple Martin colony, or lack interest in starting one. There's lots of information dispensed at the field day on all sorts of topics besides Purple Martins. I hope we can possibly have a field trip going to it next year. If nothing else, you'll learn the important contributions of our own Ron and Priscilla Kingston in bird protection.

Pat Wilczek, our program chairperson has been busily engaging speakers for our club for 2009-2010. We start in September with Reese Lukei, who will talk about the populations of Ospreys

and Bald Eagles of Hampton Roads. We take the speaker to dinner beforehand. After trying another restaurant for a while, we are returning to Wild Greens. Hope to see you there. We gather around 5:45 PM for that. Some of you have inquired about the possibility of meetings beginning at 7:00 PM rather than 7:30. The bird club board of directors discussed this matter somewhat at our meeting this summer, but reached no conclusion except to have me present the topic to you, the membership, for individual consideration. Let me hear your views on this, if you have any. There seem to be both pros and cons in making the change.

Field trips for 2009-2010 begin with two for nighthawk viewing on August 25 and 27. I hope the nighthawks co-operate. I have been unable to find a person to be our field trips coordinator, that is, replace John Zimmerman. Until that person comes along, I will do it. Please send your field trip ideas to me. I hope to have a vigorous field trip schedule for October and later months. You don't have to

(Continued on page 2)

Monticello Bird Club

(Comments from the president continued from page 1)

know birds, or the bird locations, to be the coordinator. All you have to do is act as sort of a clearinghouse, that is accept ideas and/or descriptions of field trips sent by those leading them, and pass the ideas/descriptions on to the newsletter editor.

Our big fund-raiser, the birdseed sale, will be on November 7th. Jim Hill is our very capable coordinator of this event. Look and listen for more information about this. Also, remember to pay your dues. Henry Konat, our treasurer, will gladly accept dues, our only other source of revenue, at the September meeting. Lastly, late August and all of September are outstanding months for bird viewing here in central Virginia. Don't miss out. See you in the field or at the meeting September 10th.

Stauffer Miller



Dues Reminder for 2009-2010

Monticello Bird Club dues for Fiscal Year 2009-2010 were due beginning July 1st (our current fiscal year is from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010). Dues become "overdue" on December 31, 2009, when we may terminate your newsletter subscription. Membership categories are: *Individual Member* \$15, *Family/Contributing Member* \$25 and *Sponsor* \$50. A membership form is included in this newsletter, or can be downloaded from the MBC website, monticello-birdclub.org. Please send your check, payable to the Monticello Bird Club to:

Monticello Bird Club
P.O. Box 4362
Charlottesville, VA 22905

Important! Please indicate your newsletter format preference, if you have not previously done so, for receiving the MBC Newsletter. This can be either electronic (via Email), paper, or both. *Electronic only is the preferred*

format in that it is environmentally friendly (saves paper and postage). Either mark your format preference on the membership form when sending in your 2009–2010 dues, or Email your preference to either:

Jim Nix (Membership Chairman) at jim-nix@comcast.net, or
 Henry Konat (Treasurer) at henryk54@verizon.net.

Thaddeus E. Kelly, M.D., Ph.D. A memoriam

Thaddeus Elliott Kelly, M.D., Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, University of Virginia School of Medicine, died on Thursday, July 2, 2009.

He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Carolyn Turner Kelly; his children, Caroline Mayes Kelly, Thomas Thaddeus Elliott Kelly, Mary Sidney Kelly Harbert; their spouses; three granddaughters; and his brother, Sidney L. Kelly and his wife.

Dr. Kelly was an elder and active member of Westminster Presbyterian Church, particularly in its mission work. He loved to travel, was an avid birder and a member of the Monticello Bird Club.

Bird Club Information

The Monticello Bird Club meets at 7:30 pm on the second Thursday of each month, September through June, at the Education Building of the Ivy Creek Natural Area on Earlysville Road, 1/2 mile north of Hydraulic Road.

The editor of the MBC Newsletter welcomes submissions including articles, photographs and notices. **DEADLINE for the October issue is September 20.** Please email information to Doug Rogers at MBCNEWS@embarqmail.com or send to 1065 Weybridge Ct. # 304, Charlottesville, VA 22911.

Monticello Bird Club
 P.O. Box 4362
 Charlottesville, Virginia 22905
 Please visit our website at
www.monticellobirdclub.org

Monticello Bird Club Board Members

President	Stauffer Miller	stauffer@seepub.com	296-5505
Vice President	Jim Hill	jimcarhill@comcast.net	975-6523
Secretary	Peggy Cornett	pcornett@monticello.org	984-9816
Treasurer	Henry Konat	henryk54@verizon.net	540-948-4771
Field Trips	Stauffer Miller	stauffer@seepub.com	296-5505
Speakers	Pat Wilczek	pat.wilczek@comcast.net	985-4444
Publicity	Ellen Dudley	emdudley@nexet.net	244-2688
Hospitality	Priscilla Kingston	kingston@cstone.net	293-5173
Newsletter	Doug Rogers	mbcnews@embarqmail.com	409-8156
Membership	Jim Nix	jim-nix@comcast.net	973-7366
Birdseed Sale	Jim Hill	jimcarhill@comcast.net	975-6523

Upcoming Field Trips

Nighthawk Watch Ivy Creek Natural Area August 25 and 27

Circus in the Sky: Nighthawk Migration at Ivy Creek Natural Area. Don't miss the interesting moth-like flights of these evening-flying birds.
Two evenings in August
Tuesday, August 25, 6:30 p.m. (leader Dave Hogg)
Thursday, August 27, 6:30 p.m. (leader Jim Nix)
Come and watch the nighthawk's acrobatics as observed in aerial feeding on hunting circuits from the reservoir to the native grass field.

Scogo Lake Saturday, September 12

Join John Zimmerman on this trip to Scogo Lake. Meet in parking lot at Scogo Lake at 7:15 AM. To reach the lake, go south on US 29 for 6.8 miles from I-64 interchange to route 710 (Taylor's Gap Road). turn right on 710 and go 0.7 mi to route 696 (Edge Valley Rd). Turn left and travel about 2 mi to entrance to Scogo Lake on left. Easy hiking around the lake and through fields, wetlands and forest edge.
Leader, John Zimmerman at 434-974-9273 or jozimmva@embarqmail.net

Heard's Mountain and nearby areas Saturday, Sept. 19

Meet at Crossroads Store at intersection of US 29 south and Plank Road, southern Albemarle County, at 8:00 AM. Coffee, food and restrooms available at the store. We'll make a loop, going across Heard's Mountain and return to the store by way of Batesville, with a stop at the renowned Batesville Store (highly recommended by Dan Bieker). We'll walk as much as we can on those stretches of road which look promising for migrant songbirds. You may see some roads you've never been on!
Leader, Stauffer Miller, 434-296-5505 or stauffer@seepub.com.

First Saturday Bird Walks at Ivy Creek Natural Area

On the first Saturday of each month, the Monticello Bird Club offers a bird walk at Ivy Creek Natural Area at 7:30 AM. Some of the walks stay near the main building and parking lot, others go out on the peninsula. Each month has a different leader. Some outstanding birds have been seen on the walks. For instance, the group led by Jenny Gaden in June saw a Great Horned Owl. Walks begin at the parking lot of ICNA. See you there!

VSO Chincoteague Field Trip September 11-13, 2009

Headquarters The Refuge Motor Inn will again be the headquarters for the Chincoteague field trips. Room rate is \$103.50 per night for a single or a double room with a two night minimum stay. For those arriving a day early, the rate for Thursday will be \$90. Deluxe rooms are also available. The Inn is now totally non-smoking and no pets are allowed. To assure the VSO rate, **you must make reservations by August 22nd** and state you are with the VSO. The hotel is located at 378 Beach Road, Chincoteague, VA 23336; Phone 800.544.8469 or 757.336.5511.

VSO Headquarters will be in the Conference Center at the far end of the Refuge Motor Inn. When you check in be sure to pick up a schedule of events.

Meals All meals are on your own. Chincoteague is known for its fine dining and you will be able to choose from any number of excellent restaurants.

Friday Night there will be a shorebird review, a review of birds in the area, and a synopsis of the field trips. Check the schedule for further information about the evening program.

Saturday there will be a wide variety of field trip experiences to choose from: birding and biking, a "confusing fall warbler walk" and shorebird watching which always turns up a surprise. There will be a tally of the day's species late in the afternoon.

Specialty Tour A bus trip to Wash Flats, a restricted area in the refuge, will be offered. The tour is limited to 30 participants and a minimum of 20 is required. The shorebirds and raptors are often abundant in this area. The cost is \$12 per person and you **must** make a reservation in advance with Jerry Via (viaj@vt.edu or (540) 951.7821)

Sunday Many of the Saturday field trips will be repeated. At your option, you may want to check out other birding areas on the eastern shore. .

Other accommodations in the area:
Best Western 800.553.6117;
Sea Hawk 757.336.6527;
Lighthouse 757.336.5091.

Check out time at most motels is 11:00 AM



Monticello Bird Club

Membership Form

BECOME A MONTICELLO BIRD CLUB MEMBER FOR 2009-2010!

When you join MBC, you will receive ten issues of the MBC Newsletter chock full of information about field trips, speakers, bird sightings, and more. You will be sent timely notification of our annual Birdseed Sale. You will know that you are supporting bird-friendly programs locally and regionally. And you will be among a group of warm, friendly, and sharing people who have a passion for birds and birding!

Yes, I want to join the Monticello Bird Club!

Renewal New member

Individual (\$15)

Family / Contributing (\$25)

Sponsor (\$50)

Additional Donation \$ _____



Send my newsletter: by mail only by Email only by mail & Email.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please make check payable to Monticello Bird Club.

Mail form & check to: Monticello Bird Club, P.O. Box 4362, Charlottesville, VA 22905