



# November '18 Newsletter

Celebrating 61 Years of Birding  
1957-2018

## NEXT MEETING

Monday, November 12th at 7PM

**Roanoke Council of Garden Clubs Building  
3640 Colonial Avenue Roanoke, VA 24018**

Join fellow club members for dinner at 5:30pm at the Brambleton Deli, 3655 Brambleton Ave.

"Bird Safe and Bird Friendly?"

Presented by Maureen Eiger



This program will talk about simple things you may not think about and easy things anyone can do to protect birds and their environment. Learn how to save money on your bird food bill and still attract birds. How do you create a better feeding station and prevent diseases? Learn what you can do to attract birds to nest on your property. How can you prevent window hits or cat attacks? What should you do if that happens? Is wind and solar power bird friendly? These questions and more will be answered in the program.

Our speaker, Maureen Eiger, is a State and Federally Permitted Migratory Bird Rehabber and the Director of Help Wild Birds which is a non-profit organization that exclusively handles the rehabilitation of birds. She teaches bird rehab classes at statewide wildlife conferences and is a contributing writer to the North American Bluebird Society Journal, The Roanoke Star Newspaper, various Audubon and bird club newsletters and the blog "10,000 Birds". Maureen is an avid birder and Virginia Bluebird Society Board Member. She receives hundreds of bird calls a year from people from all over the country asking for advice to help solve their "bird problems" or answer bird related questions. You can see some of her photos at [www.helpwildbirds.org](http://www.helpwildbirds.org) or visit Maureen Eiger wild bird rehabber on Facebook. Please bring rolls of paper towels and boxes of tissues to aid in her rehab work.

## CLUB NEWS

### SEEDS FOR A SONG SALE

Our club's main fundraiser, Seeds for a Song, is scheduled for Saturday, November 10, at the Northwest Hardware store in Hollins from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. We sell fresh seed containing little or no waste at reasonable prices. The sale is open to the public, so tell your friends! Please consider buying even one small bag of seed to help support the club's worthwhile community projects. There are lots of things you can do to help make the sale a success. 1) Help the day of the sale--greeting people, loading bags, keeping up with orders, etc. 2) Make goodies for us to have available both for workers and customers. Please contact Alyce Quinn at [twoquinns@yahoo.com](mailto:twoquinns@yahoo.com), 540-719-0109, or 540-312-6844 if you can help in any way or need more information.



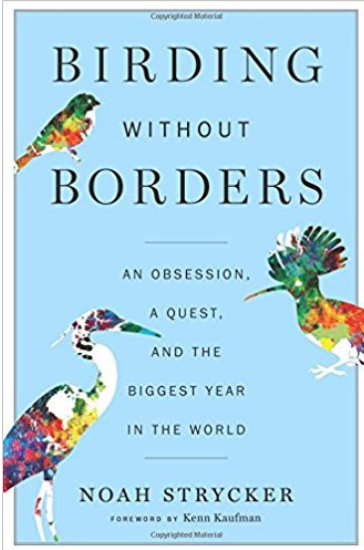
### Thanks Go Fest 2018!

What a Success! Go Fest 2018 was a great event as always and the Bird Club booth was one of the most attractive and busiest, thanks to all the volunteers who helped with set-up and take-down and staffed the booth full-time over three days! I am certain we planted many seeds with young people which will grow into bird and environmental awareness in years to come and encouraged adults to learn and care more about birds.

Even a cold and wet Sunday couldn't dampen the excitement, and all three days were non-stop activity. Club volunteers answered birding questions, gave out handouts and especially played Name That Bird! with both adults and kids lining up eagerly to test their knowledge.

Many thanks to all volunteers: George Blonar, Jonathan Eagle, Sally Nobel and her husband, Patty Arrington, Joanne Spetzler, Ann Allen, Dick Hendrix, Olivia Hill, Barbara Bricks, Elizabeth Knoebber, Bill Modica, Robin Austin, Carolyn Hamlett, Stacey Webb, Kathy Sink, Linda Barker, Mary Lou Barritt, Mary Harshfield, Debbie and Al McPherson and Maxine Fraade. Special thanks to several volunteers who took multiple shifts. Let's do it again next year! - Maxine Fraade





**Birding Without Borders: An Obsession, a Quest, and the Biggest Year in the World by Noah Strycker, published 2017.**

“In 2015, Noah Strycker set himself a lofty goal: to become the first person to see half the world’s birds in one year. For 365 days, with a backpack, binoculars, and a series of one-way tickets, he traveled across forty-one countries and all seven continents, eventually spotting 6,042 species—by far the biggest birding year on record.”

What made this book notable for me was that Strycker set himself a very high goal, and a very low budget, spending about \$60,000 for the entire year mostly for transportation, food and lodging, and relied exclusively on contacts made from websites like Birding Pal, Facebook and local birding groups like ours to help him find his quarry. That’s a lot of birds to seek – and never use a professional paid guide.

Strycker’s extreme likableness and optimism clearly played a role in finding and getting strangers to help him slide through muddy rainforests, get up on mountain-tops and basically, go wherever the birds were. His generosity in acknowledging his debt to his hosts, genuine joy in his journey, sense of wonder in our amazing world, and total lack of pretentiousness set this book apart from many others of its kind. It’s all about the birds and the people who helped him find them.

The book leaves you with a sense of hope that although birds are facing unprecedented threats worldwide, there are also more people than ever who care about them and are working to protect them. A positive message for our times.

Submitted by Maxine Fraade

**It’s Time to Vote!**

The Nominating Committee of the Roanoke Valley Bird Club, proposed the following list of candidates for election at our last meeting with the vote to take place at our November meeting. In order to vote and/or run for an office, you need be a member. Dues can be paid at the November meeting or online at <http://roanokevalleybirdclub.com/Membership.html> .



The slate of officers to start January 1st, 2019 are:

President - Kent Davis

VP (Membership) - Eleanor Dye

VP (Programs) – Linda Cory

Secretary – Betty Burke

Treasurer - Sissy Logan

**DIRECTORS:** Nathan Anderson, Patty Arrington, Robin Austin, Mary Lou Barritt, Maxine Fraade, Mary Harshfield and Eunice Hudgins. We hope you will attend this important meeting and vote. Nominations can also be taken from the floor.

**ALSO: DON'T FORGET TO VOTE ON NOVEMBER 6TH.**

## **2019 RVBC Calendars**

Our beautiful 2019 club calendar will be available for sale at the November meeting. Please tell your friends and neighbors about it for gifts and personal use. The cost of each remains the same as last year at \$12. Each features gorgeous photos taken by our members which you don't want to miss seeing. The calendars will be available for purchase at the seed sale on November 10th as well as the club meetings in November and December. Many thanks to Eunice Hudgins, Sissy Logan and Pat Johnson for serving on the selection committee and a big thank you to Jack French for doing the layout work. And many thanks to those eight members who submitted their best work for this competition. We have some great photographers among us!

## **FIELD TRIPS REPORTS**

9/22 – Harvey's Knob - 18 members visited the regular hawkwatchers to catch the excitement of the migration season. In spite of it being a misty day, 242 raptors were counted including 221 Broad-wings and good looks at 2 Osprey and a Bald Eagle. Just two days prior, 1,388 raptors were counted with a Bald Eagle that day and a Golden Eagle the day before. For further migration data, visit <https://sites.google.com/site/bijame/home> .

10/10 – Greenfield 2nd Wednesday Walk – Birders experience a cool misty day walking around the lake. 37 species were seen with the better sightings being: 15 Wood Duck, Green Heron, Spotted Sandpiper, Kestrel, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Warbling Vireo and Acadian Flycatcher.

10/13 - The Beaver Pond – 13 birdwatchers trekked to Craig County with our first bird of the trip being a Belted Kingfisher. 31 species were seen including great looks at Palm, Cape May and Yellow-rumped Warblers. Other highlights were first-of-season Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Juncos, and White-throated Sparrows. Also observed were Ruby-crowned Kinglets and the acrobatics of Ravens.



Wilson's Warbler taken at Walrond Park by Mary Lou Barritt

## UPCOMING FIELD TRIPS

(For any additional information please contact Linda Cory at 540-580-5214 or RVBC2015@outlook.com)

### **November 3, Saturday, 8:00AM**

#### **Waid Park in Franklin County**

Meet President Kent Davis (355-6388) at the Waid Park main parking lot for an easy to moderate walk through the park. The park covers 512 acres with a variety of habitat from woodland species to waterfowl. We will be exploring the nature trails and wetland areas surrounding the Pigg River. Wear sturdy, waterproof shoes for possible wet terrain. We should conclude before noon, but there are picnic tables if you choose to bring a packed lunch.

Directions: From Roanoke at Tanglewood Mall, take 220 South and travel 18.5 miles and take the first Rocky Mount exit on the right. Merge onto Business 220, AKA Main St. Go 2 miles and take a right onto 40 going west, AKA Franklin Street. You will zigzag through Rocky Mount, staying on Route 40 West, toward Ferrum. About 2 miles past "The Harvester Music Center", take a right onto Six Mile Post Road at the "40 West Food Fare". In 1.75 miles, take a left onto Waid Park Road. Continue straight passing a small parking lot on the left. Shortly after that, take a left into a huge parking lot and park at the top right of the lot where you will meet your leader. The address is 701 Waid Park Road, Rocky Mount, VA.

### **November 14, Wednesday, 8:30AM**

#### **Second Wednesday Bird Walk at Greenfield**

Join Barry Whitt (309-4353) for a bird walk on the Cherry Blossom Trail at Greenfield. We will walk around Greenfield Lake in search for waterfowl and songbirds. The walk will be mostly flat walking for about 1 mile. Other walking at the property may include the grassy area overlooking the lake or the trail down to the lower pond. Bring your spotting scopes! Some folks may want to visit Ballast Point brewery at 11AM for lunch after the walk. They have a veranda that overlooks the lake. This walk will be repeated on December 12th.

Directions: Take Exit 150B on I81 and follow signs to Route 220N. Go about 4 miles and take a left at the entrance to the Greenfield Education and Training Center, across from the entrance to Ashley Plantation. Park in the second lot on the right.



White Breasted Nuthatch by Mary Lou Barritt

**November 17, Saturday, 7:30AM , Rain/Snow date Sunday 11/18**

**Hanging Rock Raptor Observatory in Union, WV**

Meet co-leaders Betty Burke (540-597-3863) and Bob Crawford for a 1.5 hour drive to the Hanging Rock Raptor Center near the Virginia/West Virginia border. The drive time includes a quick pit-stop at the Hanging Bridge Restaurant & Shop in Paint Bank, VA on the way to the observatory. This is an all-day trip, so bring a packed lunch and water. Wear hiking boots for the one mile moderate to steep walk up to the observatory tower from the parking lot. Also, wear layered clothing as we will be cold and windy at 3,800 elevation. Carpooling is a must and there is a port-a-potty at our destination.

The Hanging Rock Raptor Observatory is owned by the US Forest Department and is supported by a non-profit group that monitors the migration of raptors. The same day as this field trip in 2017 produced 16 Bald Eagles and 6 Golden Eagles. The observatory is located on a rocky ridge with a 360 degree view.

For more information, visit

[www.theoutbound.com/west-virginia/hiking/hike-to-hanging-rock-raptor-observatory](http://www.theoutbound.com/west-virginia/hiking/hike-to-hanging-rock-raptor-observatory) or [www.hangingrocktower.org](http://www.hangingrocktower.org)

Directions: We will meet at the Orange Market at Hanging Rock, 1823 Thompson Memorial Drive, Roanoke (just off of I-81 at either Exits 140 or 141). Yes, the Hanging Rock where we will start our trip is not the same Hanging Rock where the observatory is – just a coincidence.

**November 30 through December 2**

**VSO Annual Field Trip to Virginia Beach**

Our club is a chapter of the Virginia Society of Ornithology that sponsors quarterly weekend field trips and an annual meeting. The annual Virginia Beach trip is always a favorite and this trip includes a meet and greet Friday evening and field trips on Saturday and Sunday. This year, the VSO has been granted special permission to visit the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel (CBBT) Island 4 on Saturday. Participation will be limited to the first 30 to sign up and there is an additional \$10 fee. Other Saturday and Sunday field trips from the hotel are planned at no additional charge. Headquarters for the trip are at the Comfort Suites Beachfront, 2321 Atlantic Ave, VA Beach, VA. Reserve rooms by Nov 16 for the group rate of \$74 + tax. 757-491-2400. To register for the weekend email (by 11/15) to [leeloudenslageradams@gmail.com](mailto:leeloudenslageradams@gmail.com). For details visit <http://www.virginiabirds.org/events/upcoming-field-trips-index/> . VSO members can attend the weekend events for free or \$20 if not a member. You can join the VSO at <http://www.virginiabirds.org/membership-and-donate/> .



Roanoke Valley Bird Club  
 c/o Eleanor Dye  
 PO Box 74  
 Vinton, VA 24179



**2018—2019 Roanoke Valley Bird Club Membership Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Memberships expire August 31st.

Annual Dues	
Individual \$12	_____
Family \$20	_____
Student \$7	_____
Sustaining \$30	_____
Adopt a Bluebird \$15	_____
Additional Contribution	_____
Total Payment	_____
Make check payable to the Roanoke Valley Bird Club c/o Eleanor Dye Box 74 Vinton, VA 24179	