



# September Newsletter

Next meeting Monday  
Sept 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

Grandin Court Baptist Church  
2660 Brambleton Ave SW. Roanoke, VA 24015

Before the meeting please join fellow club members at 5:30 p.m.  
for dinner at the Brambleton Deli, 3655 Brambleton Ave.

Celebrating 57  
Years of Birding!  
1957-2014

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**Deadline for submissions  
to be included in the RVBC  
November Newsletter is  
before Sept 20, 2014.**

Please send photos (in medium  
resolution or smaller) and  
submissions or suggestions to:  
[rvbcnews@cox.net](mailto:rvbcnews@cox.net)

**Hyperlinks** have now been  
added. You can click on the  
underlined link and it should  
take you there! This is for  
sending email or get internet  
and website information.

Visit our web page for past  
newsletters and current  
information at:  
<http://www.roanokevalleybirdclub.com>

Phone numbers for the current  
RVBC Board of Directors and  
Committee Chair People are on  
page 7

## "RAPTORS-MIGRATION"

Presented by Corey Basham



Corey has raised and trained a red tailed hawk, Eleanor, who is now about two years old. She is a beautiful bird and is used in educational programs such as "Raptors Live" given at the Science Museum of Roanoke Valley. We will meet Eleanor at the meeting.

Corey has been a licensed falconer since 2001. He is a 2008 graduate of Ferrum College with a major in Biology and minors in Environmental Science and Philosophy. He is currently employed as an Environmental Health Specialist with the Virginia Department of Health in Franklin County.

This month's meeting refreshments will be graciously provided  
by: **Pam & Elly Wefel & Alyce Quinn**

**IMPORTANT - Please try to attend this meeting. This is when we will vote  
on the proposed new club bylaws**

**A Bird Word-** Each month a new word relating to birding will be provided. Can you guess or do you know the meaning of **Nomadic**? Here's a hint- It is different than migration. Examples include ... Cedar Waxwings, American Robins and Black Swans. Now what do they have in common? Answer on page 7.



### **Hawk Watching at Harvey's Knob Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> 10AM-4PM**

Each year, from early September to mid-November, the Roanoke Valley Bird Club participates in hawk watching at Harvey's Knob on the Blue Ridge Parkway at mile marker 95.6. Bird Watchers of all skill levels are welcome to stop by to observe the migration. Some days at Harvey's Knob are more exciting than others, but we are hoping that Saturday September 20<sup>th</sup> is spectacular. Although this is a field trip, you can arrive or

leave whenever you would like. Just come by and see for yourself what can be seen at The Knob. When you come, bring a chair, snacks and warm clothing as we get closer to October and November. Check out <https://sites.google.com/site/bijame/home> and <http://harveysknob.blogspot.com/> to volunteer, call Bill and Katie James at 563-9248.

### **Peaks of Otter Fall Migrants - Saturday September 27<sup>th</sup> 8AM**

Back by popular demand, meet Linda Cory (580-5214) in front of the Peaks of Otter Lodge (NOT the Visitor's Center). We will walk around Abbott Lake looking for song birds and other migrants. Walking will be about 1 mile, but wear sturdy shoes in case of slippery conditions if it has been raining. After birding the lake area, we will adjoin to breakfast at the Lodge. Many of you may want to then visit Harvey's Knob on your way back to town.

### **Birding at Beaver Pond - Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup> 7:30AM**

Meet Eunice Hudgins (389-4056), Mike Smith (345-1081) and Kent Davis (344-8377) at the Orange Market in Hanging Rock at 7:30AM to carpool to "The Beaver Pond" in Craig County. This is a popular field trip thanks to our host, the Barkers. Wear sturdy shoes, bring a jacket and lunch. You will have the opportunity to walk the farm and surrounding woods or just sit on the porch and enjoy their many feeders.

### **The Big Sit! - Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup> 8AM**

Join us at Tim and Alyce Quinn's house (719-0109) in Burnt Chimney starting at 8AM. This is an all-day event of observing and tallying bird species seen from an outlined area. The Big Sit! Is an annual, international event founded by the New Haven (CT) Bird Club, hosted by Bird Watcher's Digest, and sponsored by Swarovski Optik. Every team that observes this year's "Golden Bird" has a chance to win \$500. What's the Golden Bird? After all of the Big Sit! Results are tabulated; a bird species will be selected by random drawing from the total list of all species seen in North America. All of the circles that listed that bird will be put into another random drawing. The randomly selected winning circle wins the Golden Bird prize of \$500. The winner is required to choose a non-profit, environmental organization to receive the \$500 donated by Swarovski Optik. The Quinns will outline 17 foot diameter circles for participants to count the bird species. A species tally will be done at the end of the day. Bring sunscreen, binoculars and, if you can, a dish to share for lunch. 681 Edgewood Farm Lane, Wirtz VA. Directions- If you get lost call Alyce on her cell phone (312-6844) From Rt. 220, take a left on Rt. 697 by the Dairy Queen/Bojangles (about 5 miles south of Boones Mill). When it ends, go left on Rt. 122. Go one mile and turn right onto 670 (Burnt Chimney Road). Or from Rt. 116, when it ends at Rt. 122, make a right and then a quick left onto Rt. 670. Once you are on Rt. 670, go another mile and turn right onto 868 (Kingston). Go almost another mile (maybe .8) and make a right onto Edgewood Farm Lane (at a bunch of mailboxes). Go half a mile down this gravel road. When the road makes a 90 degree left turn onto Turkey Run, **you instead want to go straight.** You will go to the right of a very dilapidated trailer. This is the beginning of our driveway, and there is a bluebird box here with our house number, 681, on it. Stay between the rundown trailer and the bluebird box. You can't see the house from here, but go a quarter mile down the driveway and you're there!

### **Lick Run Greenway - Sunday October 12<sup>th</sup> 8AM**

Join Rupert Cutler (345-7653) to walk the Lick Run Greenway. Roanoke Greenway has miles of walk (and bicycle) ways which are great for birdwatching. This portion of the Greenway passes open areas, woods, a creek and a small wetland. The walk is two miles of mostly flat walking and one hill. Meet at the parking lot across from the Upper Washington Park swimming pool at 1610 Burrell St NW. From I-581, take the 4W exit and take the first right onto Burrell St and go about two blocks. Or from the intersection of Orange Avenue and Williamson Road, go west toward Salem on Orange Avenue and take a right onto Burrell.

### **Sparrow Walk - Saturday October 18<sup>th</sup> 8AM**

Kent Davis (344-8377) and Mike Smith (345-1081) will lead us on a RVBC favorite walk looking for sparrows in Botetourt County. Our fearless leaders will meet us at the second parking lot at Greenfield. For those of you that wish to continue after walking the Greenfield trails, we will then go on to visit other Botetourt County hot spots for sparrows. From Roanoke on I-81, take exit 150B and then right onto 220. Continue north to the entrance of the Greenfield across from Ashley Plantation.

## Upcoming Events and Club News

### VSO FALL FIELD TRIP TO CHINCOTEAGUE, VIRGINIA September 12-14



Every fall is different at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, so join the VSO to discover the surprises that await you on this year's annual fall trip, September 12-14. Last year 139 species were tallied, including a fabulous combination of waterfowl, shorebirds and migrating songbirds.

Please register in advance by providing the names of participants and a contact telephone number and email address to Meredith Bell at <mailto:merandlee@gmail.com> or call (804 824-4958). For more information please go to [http://www.virginiabirds.net/f\\_trips.html#chinco2014](http://www.virginiabirds.net/f_trips.html#chinco2014)

### RVBC 2015 CALENDAR PHOTO SUBMISSION - Deadline September, 8<sup>th</sup>

Members' photos or artwork requirements:

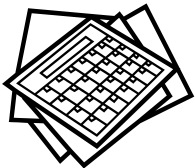
1. Submit an 8 1/2 " x 11" or 8" x 10 " landscape (horizontal) image.
2. Write a brief description labeled on the back indicating the subject, location, and month or season depicted.
3. On an accompanying sheet provide your name; phone number and email (please do not include any self- identifying information directly on the image(s) submitted).
4. Submit to Pam Ogden or Sissy Logan at the September meeting or by mail to:

Pam Ogden 615 Academy Street, Salem, VA 24153

For inquiries: Sissy at (353-4500) or e-mail: [sissylogan@gmail.com](mailto:sissylogan@gmail.com)

Pam at (389-9471) or e-mail: [momog@aol.com](mailto:momog@aol.com)

Photos will be returned at the next meeting or include a self-addressed stamped envelope



### MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE FOR 2015

Our 2014 membership year ends August 31, so please renew your membership for 2015. You can mail your dues to Eleanor Dye  
P.O. Box 74  
Vinton,  
Virginia 24179

Please fill out the form on the last page to make sure your e-mail and other information is correct. You can save postage and give your dues and form to Eleanor or any RVBC Board Member at any meeting.

### DON'T FORGET ABOUT THIS YEAR'S SEED SALE IN NOVEMBER

Once a year our club has a Seed Sale to raise funds for the club. We sell quality bird seed containing little or no waste, at reasonable prices. The sale takes place at the NW Hardware store in Hollins. Refreshments are served and the sale is open to the public so tell your friends! Seed Sale order forms will be available in your next newsletter. If you would like to be a Seed Sale Volunteer please contact Eunice Hudgins (389-4056) or Alyce Quinn (719-0109). If you would like to represent our club on TV to promote the sale, please contact Maureen Eiger (342-4890). We hope you and your friends will buy even just a small bag of seed to help support the club's projects. See the next page for one recipient's story.

### PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW ROANOKE VALLEY BIRD CLUB MEMBERS...

Alice Bernard  
Chan Bolling  
Louise Buerdsell  
Betsy Davies  
Annie Downing  
Morgan and Hillary Griffith  
Michael Hartley  
Karl Huebner  
Tanya Hylton  
Mary Justice  
Sarah Karpanty & Family  
Betsy Kayser  
Missy White & Sharon Mohney



Paul Klockenbrink  
Judy Kniskern  
Sandy Lane  
Carole McMinn  
Bill Modica  
Sarah Nettemeyer  
Lourdes Page  
Genie Robertson  
Patricia Rodes & Family  
Suzanne Ross  
Dawn Swistak  
Michael & Rose Townsend



## Club Projects & Outreach

### **NATURE CAMP SCHOLARSHIP - A letter from Aaron Worrell, this year's recipient.**

8/1/14

Dear Roanoke Valley Bird Club,

When my parents first told me I was going to Nature Camp and I researched it I had a lot of preconceived ideas about what my experience would be like. I will admit when I was heading to Nature Camp I was very nervous, but Nature Camp was nothing at all like what I expected. When I finally put my trunk away I was ready to go on my first hike to the creek to catch crawfish, but that's when I noticed something long and slender in the water. I had a counselor come over and identify it as a northern water snake. Of course, being me I decided I was gonna pull "a call of the wild man" and catch this sucker with my bare hands. When I first reached for the little booger it darted off into some rocks on the other bank and that is where I finally caught it.

Now the first day was a day free of classes, but the second day was a day of minor classes. That day I met my minor class teachers and in my first minor class of geology we looked for samples of pyrite. In my second minor class of geography we learned about land forms around camp. I loved my major class of herpetology. My first day of herpetology class we talked about reptiles and amphibians through the ages. Later that day we went on a hike to Buttermilk Springs to catch salamanders and turtles.

After my first week I had started to get adjusted to camp. I had made a few friends I liked hanging out with a lot, but that was not the most memorable part of camp. The meals were my favorite. Not the actual food, but the cooks, they were hilarious. I also went on a few hikes up to Lookout Rock. This hike for me was probably my favorite because it was really rocky and challenging. I also climbed Mine Mountain, which was kind of scary because people kept getting attacked by bees. Even though you felt like there was a bee's nest in every dead log I felt proud of myself when I finally made it to the top. Altogether, Nature Camp for me was a great experience. I learned a lot of new things, especially in my geology and herpetology classes. I made friends who are into the same type of stuff I am and I definitely plan to keep in contact with them and see them again next year! Thank you Roanoke Valley Bird Club for such a wonderful experience.

Sincerely,

Aaron Worrell



Aaron and his family

### **A Note From Aaron's Mother.**

Thank you so much for providing Aaron with such a wonderful opportunity. Although he did not mention it in his letter his grandmother (my mother) passed away while he was at camp. She was very sick for a long time. He was very close to her. However, we encouraged Aaron to return to camp after the funeral (he missed about one day) because his grandmother had been so excited for him to go. He did return and later told me that he was glad he did go back because he knew she would not have wanted him to miss out on such a wonderful experience. She was always a great supporter of his love of the outdoors and she would always encourage him to pursue his interest. They would often sit together and watch nature and history programs on television (she was a retired English and History teacher). In many ways, I think Nature Camp really helped him during such a difficult time. The staff was very understanding and supportive as well. Once again thank you so much!

Best Regards,

Monique Worrell

### **OUTREACH PROGRAMS -**

Maureen Eiger gave a program on bird tips and how to keep birds safe to the Blue Ridge Foothills and Lakes Master Naturalists in Franklin County in July.

### **NEW RVBC BYLAWS – PLEASE NOTE**

The revised edition of the Roanoke Valley Bird Club Bylaws is on the following pages for Roanoke Valley Bird Club members to consider. We will have a brief discussion (if needed) before a vote is called. There will be a general membership vote to approve/disapprove them at the beginning of the September meeting.

Many thanks go to the Bylaws committee for their hard work, time and thoughtful effort; Bylaws Committee Chair, Linda Cory and Committee Members, Maureen Eiger and Carol Whiteside. This document had a thorough review and input of the entire Board. We hope you will approve of the revisions and the club will be prepared for the next 50 years. Thank you for your support.

# **Roanoke Valley Bird Club Organized in 1957**

## **Bylaws**

### **(Revised 2014)**

#### **ARTICLE I - Name**

**Name:** The name of this organization shall be Roanoke Valley Bird Club, referred to herein as the Club, and is organized as a constituent local chapter of the Virginia Society of Ornithology.

#### **ARTICLE II - Purpose**

**Purpose:** The object of the Club shall be to educate and promote interest about birds and conservation, to organize bird study field trips and bird census, and other avian related projects.

#### **ARTICLE III – Quorum**

**Quorum:** A quorum is the minimum number of members who must be present at the meetings of a deliberative assembly, for business to be legally transacted. Before the presiding officer calls a meeting to order, it is his duty to determine that a quorum is present. If a quorum is not present, the chair waits until there is one, or until, after a reasonable time, there appears to be no prospect that a quorum will assemble. If a quorum cannot be obtained, the chair calls the meeting to order, announces the absence of a quorum, and entertains a motion to adjourn. Voting can only be conducted in person.

#### **ARTICLE IV – Membership and Dues**

**Section 1.** The membership shall consist of all persons desiring membership and having paid the required dues.

**Section 2. Classes:** There shall be five membership classes: Individual, Family (defined as two votes), Student (defined as any full time student), Sustaining, and Life (defined as being exempt from the payment of dues, after the recommendation by majority vote of the Board of Directors).

**Section 3. Dues:** All annual dues are payable September 1. Dues will not be prorated; however, anyone joining the Club June 1 or later will have their dues applied to the following annual year. Members who have not paid their dues by the November meeting shall be dropped as members in good standing of the Club, and will not be eligible to vote or receive any Club publications.

#### **ARTICLE V – Membership Meetings**

**Section 1. Membership Meetings:** The Club shall hold at least nine meetings each year, but shall not be restricted to this number, on the second Monday of each month from September through May, unless otherwise ordered by the Board of Directors.

**Section 2. Notification:** All members in good standing shall be notified of all meetings.

**Section 3. September Meeting:** A Nominating Committee shall be elected.

**Section 4. October Meeting:** The Slate of Officers and Directors shall be presented by the Nominating Committee.

**Section 5. November Annual Business Meeting:** The purpose of this meeting shall be the annual election, receive annual reports, and any other business transactions. Additional nominations may be taken from the floor by any member in good standing.

**Section 6. Voting and Quorum:** Only members in good standing are entitled to vote. Twenty-five members or twenty percent of the members entitled to vote, whichever shall be less, shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the membership. Less than a quorum may adjourn the meeting to a fixed time and place, no further notice of any adjourned meeting being required.

**Section 7.** Any financial requests shall be referred to the Board of Directors for consideration.

#### **ARTICLE VI – Officers and Directors**

**Section 1. Officers and Duties:** The Officers of the Club shall be a President, First Vice-President of Programs, Second Vice-President of Membership, Secretary, Treasurer, and a number of, not less than four or more than eight, Directors. Together the Officers and Directors shall be known as the Board of Directors, referred to herein as the Board, and shall perform the duties prescribed by these Bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Club. In the absence of the President, the presiding officer shall be ordered by the sequence of the officers listed.

**Section 2. Elections, Voting and Terms:** The Officers and Directors shall be elected during the November business meeting and shall begin their terms on January 1 following the election, shall serve for one year, and shall be eligible for re-election. In the event of more than one candidate for any office, voting shall be by secret ballot. Any candidate receiving a majority of the votes shall be declared elected. Only members in good standing may hold office and shall be eligible to vote as a member of the Board.

**Section 3. Vacancies:** Board vacancies may be filled by majority vote of the Board for the unexpired term only.

**ARTICLE VII - Board of Directors**

**Section 1. Board Composition and Duties:** The Officers of the Club, including the Directors, shall constitute the Board of Directors. The Board shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Club, make recommendations and reports to the Club, and is subject to the orders of the Club. The Board shall supervise the finances of the Club. It shall be the duty of the Board to take the initiative in determining the policies and planning of the activities of the Club. Board members are unpaid volunteers.

**Section 2. Code of Conduct:** The Board of Directors agrees to operate the Club in a manner that is in the best interest of the Club. Verbal abuse towards, or deliberately provoking another Club member is not acceptable. They shall refrain from illegal activities, conduct business in a professional manner that respects all Club members, and shall not do anything which is likely to intimidate, offend, insult, humiliate or discriminate against any other person on the ground(s) of gender, race, disability, age, religious or political belief, sexual orientation, social background, ethnic origin, language, marital or civil partnership status. If a Board member does not abide by this conduct he/she shall be removed from office by a majority vote of the Board.

**Section 3. Meetings:** There shall be a minimum of three Board meetings a year. Meetings can be called by the President or at the request of three or more members of the Board. Any member of the Club may attend a Board meeting by formal request to the President.

**Section 4. Voting and Quorum:** Only Officers and Directors in good standing shall be eligible to vote. The majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board. Less than a quorum may adjourn the meeting to a fixed time and place, no further notice of any adjourned meeting being required.

**ARTICLE VIII – Committees**

**Section 1.** The President, with the approval of the Board, shall appoint all Committees except the Nominating Committee. A majority of any committee shall constitute a quorum of that committee and committee business need not be conducted in person. All committees shall be subject to the call of their respective chairmen, and the chairman shall be responsible for reporting all of their committee business and expenditures to the Board of Directors.

**Section 2. Nominating Committee:** A Nominating Committee, consisting of three or more members in good standing, shall be elected at the September membership meeting. This Committee shall research and prepare a slate of one nominee for each officer and director position to serve for the succeeding year and shall make their report at the October membership meeting. The membership shall receive written notification of the slate prior to the November election.

**ARTICLE IX - Parliamentary Authority**

*Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the Club in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the Club may adopt.

**ARTICLE X - Amendment of Bylaws**

The Bylaws may be amended by the Board of Directors by a majority vote. The Club membership is then notified at least thirty (30) days in advance of the proposed amendment(s). It is ratified by a majority vote of the Club members in attendance at any membership meeting.

**ARTICLE XI - Indemnity**

Members of the Board of Directors and members of committees shall be indemnified by the Club against liabilities, fines, penalties, and claims imposed upon or asserted against the member in connection therewith.

The undersigned, Kent E. Davis, President of the Roanoke Valley Bird Club, hereby certifies that the attached is a true, correct and complete copy of the Bylaws adopted by the members of the Roanoke Valley Bird Club at a meeting held in Roanoke, Virginia, and supersedes any other Bylaws of the Club.

**Contact Names and Phone Numbers for The Roanoke Valley Bird Club  
2014 Officers**

President, Kent Davis, 344 -8377

VP (Membership) Eleanor Dye, 890 -1627

Secretary, Candy Andrzejewski, 365 -2508

Directors at Large, Eunice Hudgins, 389-4056 and Alyce Quinn, 719-0109

VP (Programs) Butch Kelly, 384 -7429

Treasurer, Robin Austin, 929-5222.

**Committee Chairs**

Field Trips, Linda Cory, 580-5214

Young Birders, (position open)

Publicity & Publications, Maureen Eiger, 342-4890

Bluebird Trail, Alyce Quinn, 719 -0109

Website, Carol Siler, 725-1609

Refreshments, Eleanor Dye, 890 -1627

**MY FAVORITE INTERNET INFORMATION ON BIRDS**

The next newsletter will include the unusual Bird Sightings from around the Roanoke area and what RVBC members saw. The following list serves / news groups are available to check out what you may have missed this past summer or where you can sign up to keep up with the birds that are recently seen.

VA Birds <http://mailman.listserve.com/listmanager/listinfo/va-bird>

Roanoke Birds - Google Groups <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/roanokebirds>

Blue Ridge Birders <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/blueridgebirders/>

For a complete list of all of Virginia list serves go to <http://www.virginiabirds.net/list.html>

**BIRD TOPIC FALL FEEDER TIPS**

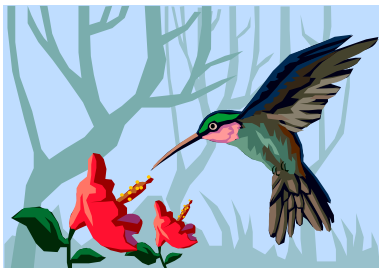
**Here are some general bird-feeding guidelines to help keep our wild feathered friends healthy.**

1) Space your feeders widely to discourage crowding.

2) Clean your feeders on a regular basis (i.e. monthly) with a 10% bleach solution (1 part bleach and 9 parts water) and be sure to remove any build-up of dirt and seeds around the food openings. Allow your feeders to air dry completely before refilling them.

3) Rake the area underneath your feeder to remove droppings and old, moldy seed. Buildup of seed under your feeders is not healthy for you or the birds. Wear a mask if you are raking up a lot of moldy seed to prevent inhaling any mold spores.

\*If you see one or two diseased birds, take your feeder down immediately and clean it with a 10% bleach solution. Some people prefer to completely take down the feeders temporarily, so as not to attract birds to a small area where they can transmit disease easier and let the birds disperse for a while.



4) Remember to leave your hummingbird feeders up for those hummers migrating from the North that have not yet visited Virginia. Please keep the feeders free from mold and do not use red food dye in their food.

To make your own hummingbird nectar: Boil 1 cup of water. Add ¼ cup of cane sugar. Stir until sugar is dissolved. You can make more at one time and keep it refrigerated. Always use the same ratio: 1 part sugar to 4 parts water.

To clean your feeders let soak in the 10% bleach solution, rinse well, and air dry.

**BIRD WORD ANSWER – Nomadic:** Some bird species are able to move erratically between different regions in response to drought, rainfall or lack of food sources. Traveling or changing territories frequently, often with a restless or erratic pattern. This differs from migration, which occurs in particular seasons as birds move between defined wintering and nesting ranges along relatively predictable routes.



The Roanoke Valley  
Bird Club  
c/o Eleanor Dye  
P.O. Box 74  
Vinton,  
Virginia 24179

## 2015 Roanoke Valley Bird Club Membership Application Form

Please print

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

City: \_\_\_\_\_

ST: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Memberships expire on August 31 each year*

Annual Dues are as follows:

- Individual \$12
- Family \$20
- Student \$7
- Sustaining \$30
- Adopt a Bluebird \$15

Additional Contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Submitted \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to  
Roanoke Valley Bird Club  
Mail To: Roanoke Valley Bird Club  
c/o Eleanor Dye  
P.O. Box 74  
Vinton, VA 24179-0074