

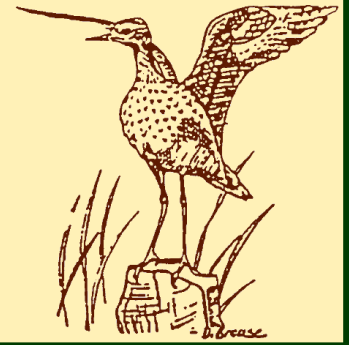
The Upland Plover

Newsletter of the North Country Bird Club, Inc.

Since 1948

July-August 2023

Volume 64 No.4



ANNUAL PICNIC: AT THE BROUSE'S

(622 Hazelhurst Ave, Watertown)

Sunday, July 9th - 1:00 PM (rain or shine)

Dick and Marion Brouse have again generously offered to host the Club's annual picnic at their home on Hazelhurst Avenue in Watertown. The property includes extensive lawns and gardens, woodlands, and a marsh along Kelsey Creek, which flows through the grounds. As many Club members are aware, a great variety of birds find their way to the Brouse's remarkable preserve.

We will eat at 3:00 pm (*please note the change in time*). You are invited to arrive at any time between 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm for birding and socializing. Please bring a dish to pass and a chair. Tableware and beverages are provided.

Hazelhurst Avenue runs eastward from Bradley St (NY 12) on the north side of Watertown, near the city line. The Brouse's is the last house on the street.

SPRING BIRD CENSUS

Please return your Spring Bird Census form to the Editor as soon as possible. Forms may be mailed to Bill Haller, PO Box 6, Dexter, NY 13634, or sent electronically to haldex@twcny.rr.com.

FIELD TRIPS - 2023 SEASON

Annual Picnic (Brouse Preserve): Sunday, July 9 - 1:00 pm

Perch River WMA: Saturday, August 26 - 8:30 am

Montezuma NWR: Saturday, October 21 - 8:30 am

We meet for all field trips, except the Limerick Cedars evening trip and the Annual Picnic, at 8:30 am in the parking lot of the Arsenal St Wal-Mart, across the entry drive from Red Lobster.

Bring insect repellent & water on all field trips.

A field trip may be cancelled due to bad weather.

Call Dick Brouse at 788-6778 with any questions about our field trips.

After all local field trips, participants are invited to join for lunch at a nearby restaurant, if their schedule permits. These gatherings are always most enjoyable (and entertaining).

FALL MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

All Meetings at 7:00 PM

Stone Presbyterian Church

140 Chestnut St, Watertown

FIELD TRIP: PERCH RIVER WMA

Saturday, August 26th

Meet at Arsenal St Wal-Mart at 8:30 am

During late August, the public is allowed access to restricted areas of the Perch River Wildlife Management Area. Perch River WMA, located eight miles north of Watertown, includes over 7800 acres of wetland areas, woodlands, and fields, providing habitat for a wide variety of birds. We will spend a Saturday morning taking advantage of this opportunity to bird in areas of the Refuge not normally accessible to us. Join us as we explore the largest WMA in Jefferson County.

FIELD TRIP: MONTEZUMA NWR

Saturday, October 21st

Meet at Arsenal St Wal-Mart at 8:30 am

Our fall trip to the Montezuma region will include the National Wildlife Refuge and several other sites in the area. We expect to see waterfowl and shorebirds, as well as songbirds and raptors. **Reservations are required** by the September 13 Club meeting.



BLUE-WINGED WARBLER

Chaumont Barrens June 8, 2023

Photo by Rachel Lewis



GREEN HERONS

Downybrook Preserve May 13, 2023

Photo by Robin Booth

The Club will be a part of **Henderson Heritage Day** on Saturday, August 12, at the Henderson Museum. Join us at this entertaining event.

OFFICERS

President
Corky Marlowe
315-782-4705

Vice-President
Bill Haller

Secretary
Christine Bourquin

Treasurer
Kathleen Killeen

Field Trip Coordinator
Richard Brouse
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Membership Chairman
Mike Shepard

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On The Web:
NORTH COUNTRY
BIRD CLUB
ON FACEBOOK

For detailed info about birds,
visit the website of
the Cornell Ornithology Lab:
[Cornell Lab](#)

Track **bird migrations** at the Cornell Lab's [Cornell Birdcast](#) Maps show patterns of migration across the United States. Regional forecasts of migration dates are given for individual species.

Access the Cornell Lab's Birdcams to watch a variety of birds nesting and feeding, and to view the feeders at the Lab:

[Cornell Lab Birdcams](#)

eBird Essentials is a free online course which shows you how to use the eBird app to record and submit sightings. Access the course at:

[Cornell Lab Academy - Courses](#)

Connie Barone of Sackets called our attention to the following most intriguing item.

Photographer Catches Crows Taking An Ant Bath

Theresa Machemer on the Smithsonian Magazine website

Posted June 10, 2021

After a three-hour walk through a British Columbia nature reserve, photographer Tony Austin had a stroke of luck when a murder of crows landed about 40 feet up the path from him. As one bird began violently rolling in the dirt and gravel, Austin snapped photos. A closer look at the photos later revealed that the crow wasn't just getting dusty. Its body and wings had become covered in black ants.

"You don't often see crows that close. They were all strutting around," says Austin. "Only the one was taking this dirt bath, which I thought was quite interesting. The others were walking around looking at it. They were certainly quite interested in what was going on, but they didn't seem alarmed."

The bird was flapping its wings on the ground, jumping into the foliage on the side of the path, then returning to the gravel and starting over. When Austin shared the photos with a birding community on Facebook, a few fellow birders told him that the crow was anting, purposely covering itself with the insects. "It seems that no one is really clear on why they do that, which is kind of mystifying, but exciting as well," says Austin.

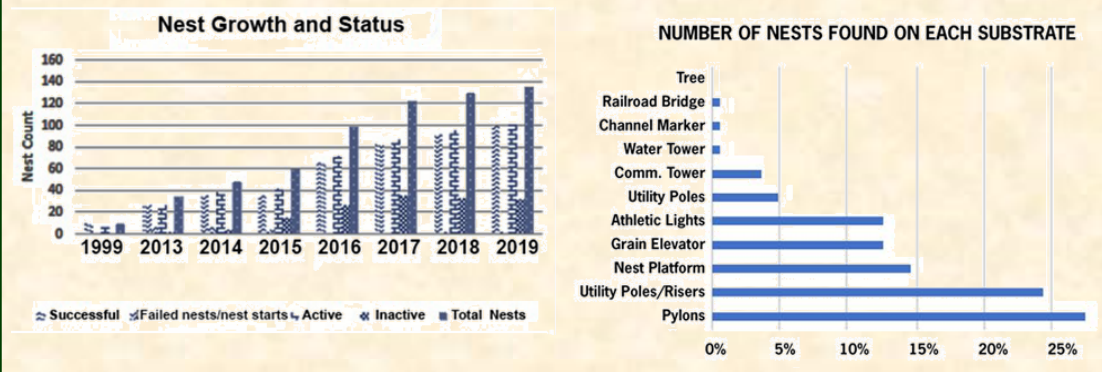
More than 200 bird species show anting behavior, which involves fanning their wings out on the ground and picking up insects, usually ants. But capturing a photo of the behavior is rare. Ornithologists have known about anting since about the 1830s, and they have several theories about why birds might want to cover their feathers in the six-legged critters. Birds might use the ants to soothe their skin during molting, or they might be encouraging the ants to release formic acid, which keeps pests away. But the explanation behind anting remains elusive.

The restoration of the Osprey population in Upstate New York is one of bird conservation's great success stories, as the following article clearly demonstrates.

OSPREY RESTORATION IN THE GREATER CAYUGA LAKE BASIN

from NYSOA's *The Kingbird*, Vol 72, No 3, Sept 2022

The Osprey population in the GCLB, founded in the early 1980s, has witnessed explosive growth since 2013 due to a number of favorable natural and human factors. The structural features of Cayuga Lake, including ample shallow shelves offering a plentiful food supply, was critical. One should not, however, overlook fortuitous human contributions, which include a large number of double-armed utility poles (pylons) circumnavigating the lake and NYSEG's efforts to provide risers for problematic nests and to erect dedicated nesting platforms in strategic locations.



A beautiful set of bird-themed notecards is given to members of the Club by random selection each time the *Plover* is issued, to provide an incentive to keep memberships current. We offer congratulations to this issue's recipient, Dr. Robert Zimmer of Sackets Harbor.

The NYS Bluebird Society is looking for volunteers to monitor bluebird nesting boxes in our area. For more information or to assist, call Corky at 315-782-4705.

INFORMATION SOURCES FOR REGIONAL SIGHTINGS AND RARE BIRD ALERTS

A list of **birding listserves** and of sites issuing **rare bird alerts** for New York is available from the New York State Ornithological Association (NYSOA) at [NYSOA Sightings](#). Note especially eBird Alerts, Oneidabirds, Cayugabirds-L, and Northern_NY_Birds. Oneidabirds reports sightings from the Syracuse area and the Montezuma region, and some sightings from our area. Cayugabirds-L reports sightings from the Montezuma region as well, and from the eastern Finger Lakes region. Northern_NY_Birds reports sightings mainly from the Adirondacks and the Champlain Valley.

NORTH COUNTRY BIRD CLUB SIGHTINGS

Please forward notable sightings for the next issue by August 15 (contact info on page 6).

May and June are generally considered the most rewarding months of the birding year. First sightings of many returning species (FOS) make this time especially exciting. Reports since our last issue certainly reflect the joy of birding during this time of year.

On 5/6, Kathy Killeen reported her FOS Rose-breasted Grosbeak at her feeders in Sackets. On 5/7, she saw her FOS Yellow Warbler at the Sackets Battlefield, as well as a Yellow-rumped Warbler and 5 Tree Swallows. On 5/11, Kathy sighted her FOS Bobolinks at the Battlefield, as well as 2 Yellow-rumped Warblers, Yellow Warblers, Tree Swallows, Barn Swallows, and many Red-winged Blackbirds.

Lynn Chavoustie visited Old Swamp Rd on 5/12 and found 2 Great Egrets and several Black Terns there, as well as Yellow Warbler, Warbling Vireo, White-throated Sparrow, White-Crowned Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, and Eastern Bluebird.

Robin Booth reported a number of FOS sightings at her home in Cape Vincent: Chipping Sparrow on 4/17; House Wren, Gray Catbird, and Yellow-rumped Warbler on 4/25; Northern Flicker on 4/28; Vesper Sparrow on 5/2; Black-throated Green Warbler and Chestnut-sided Warbler on 5/4; Baltimore Oriole, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and White-crowned Sparrow on 5/7; Ruby-throated Hummingbird on 5/8;



BROWN THRASHER

Cape Vincent May 21, 2023

Photo by Lynn Chavoustie

Hairy Woodpecker on 5/21; and a Great Blue Heron flying over on 5/20. Over the same period, regular visitors there included Northern Cardinal, Tufted Titmouse, Eastern Wood Pewee, House Wren, Gray Catbird, House Finch, American Goldfinch, White-Breasted Nuthatch, Ruby-Throated Hummingbird, House Sparrow, American Robin, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, and Common Grackle.

Robin also birds extensively on Sam Adams Rd in the Town of Cape Vincent. Her FOS sightings there included Whip-poor-will on 4/23 (she also saw a Great Horned Owl that day), Wood Thrush on 5/7, and a pair of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks on 5/13. Species Robin saw regularly on Sam Adams Rd throughout the spring included Eastern Towhee, Song Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-Throated Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Black-Capped Chickadee, Eastern Phoebe, Brown Thrasher, Northern Cardinal, Tufted Titmouse, Eastern Bluebird, Golden-Crowned Kinglet, Red-Bellied Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Barred Owl, Wilson's Snipe, and Brown-headed Cowbird. New arrivals in May included Yellow Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Pine Warbler, White-Crowned Sparrow, American Tree Sparrow, Gray Catbird, Great Crested Flycatcher, House Wren, Red-eyed Vireo, Scarlet Tanager, Cedar Waxwing, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-winged Blackbird, and Common Grackle.

On 6/14, Ray Spahn reported that he had seen 3 Piping Plover chicks in the nest at South Colwell Pond (the site is accessible only by watercraft). Ray had seen the adults at the site on earlier occasions.

On 6/22, Corky Marlowe and Bill Haller birded along Old Swamp Rd, then proceeded to Point Peninsula, and concluded their trip along Ransom Rd. Species sighted included Northern Waterthrush, Chestnut-sided Warbler, American Redstart, Yellow Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Wood Thrush, Song Sparrow, Great Crested Flycatcher,

Warbling Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Cedar Waxwing, Bobolink, House Wren, Blue Jay, Tree Swallow, Purple Finch, American Goldfinch, Hairy Woodpecker, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, and American Crow.

Bill birded along Ransom Rd on the evening of 6/23. There he was treated to the sight of a Veery sitting on the road close by. He heard Prairie Warbler, Black-and-White Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Yellow Warbler, Wood Thrush, Eastern Towhee, Gray Catbird, and American Robin.

On 6/29, Corky and Bill birded at Perch River WMA and then along Ransom Rd. Sightings on the trip included Pine Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Indigo Bunting, Gray Catbird, Eastern Towhee, Swamp Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Northern Cardinal, Red-eyed Vireo, House Wren, American Goldfinch, American Robin, Red-winged Blackbird, and Common Grackle.

Robin had an especially "Big Day" on May 13, visiting six birding hotspots in the area and sighting 60 species. She began at Perch River WMA's Seven Bridges, where she found 5 species. Highlights included an American Bittern and 7 Caspian Terns. She then moved on to Cook Road, where she sighted 20 species. Highlights there included Tennessee Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, American Redstart, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Black-Throated Green Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Eastern Meadowlark, 3 Barn Swallows, 3 Savannah Sparrows, and many Bobolinks. Proceeding to Vaadi Road, Robin found 18 species, including Pine Warbler, Yellow-Rumped Warbler, and Black Tern. Next visiting Indian River Lakes Conservancy's Redwood Hill Preserve, where she sighted 19 species, Robin added Louisiana Waterthrush, Pine Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, another Tennessee Warbler, and Red-Bellied Woodpecker to her list. At Ontario Bay Initiative's Downybrook Preserve, Robin found 16 species, including 2 Green Herons. Concluding her trip at Chaumont Barrens, she sighted 16 species. Highlights there included Bay-breasted Warbler, Prairie Warbler, and another Nashville Warbler. Other species Robin sighted, many at more than one location, included Common Yellowthroat, Yellow Warbler, Ovenbird, Black-and-White Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Eastern Towhee, Dark-eyed Junco, Chipping Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Northern Cardinal, House Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Marsh Wren, Wood Thrush, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Eastern Kingbird, Great Crested Flycatcher, Red-eyed Vireo, Tree Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, Blue Jay, American Robin, American Goldfinch, Northern Flicker, Bald Eagle, Great Blue Heron, Trumpeter Swan, Baltimore Oriole, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, American Crow, Common Grackle, and Turkey Vulture.

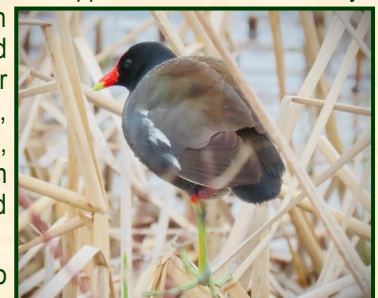
The Editor offers sincere thanks to all who submitted sightings, which certainly give a clear picture of the great variety of birds in our region.



LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH

Murray Trail, Rodman May 2023

Photo by Rachel Lewis



COMMON GALLINULE

Ives Street Marsh May 1, 2023

Photo by Rachel Lewis

A Wing and a Prayer: The Race To Save Our Vanishing Birds and The Road To Recovery Initiative

Usually the Editor's book reviews are in the spirit of "a book you might find interesting." This one is different. If you read only one birding book this year, make that book *A Wing and a Prayer: The Race to Save Our Vanishing Birds* by Anders and Beverly Gyllenhaal. The book was published by Simon & Schuster in April and is available as hardcover, Kindle, or audiobook.

A Wing and a Prayer centers around the crisis in our North American bird population, brought to the notice of the birding world in 2019. Three billion birds have disappeared from our continent in the last fifty years. That is a loss of 30% of the population. The Gyllenhalls set out to determine what was being done about the situation. The book begins with accounts of a couple of notable efforts from a few decades ago, before we knew the extent of the crisis. It then looks at the current situation, what has caused and is still causing the crisis, and a number of ongoing efforts (not nearly enough) to provide solutions. After pointing out and demonstrating that one of the most effective agencies involved in improving the situation is the Department of Defense (and that is a fascinating and enlightening section), the book concludes with an account of the recent development of an important effort called Road To Recovery (R2R), followed by an extensive section detailing a number of ways that individuals can help to address the crisis. This last is the best set of suggestions for birders the Editor has encountered.

R2R is developing an innovative approach to bird conservation which in essence redefines the process. The Initiative began with a conversation among three experts, one from the Cornell Lab, one from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and one from Georgetown University, which is now the home of the project. The ideas from that conversation spread to a larger group of experts, and Road To Recovery resulted. It may well prove to be the most exciting and effective development in bird conservation in a very long time. Obviously, current solutions aren't working. R2R provides a new path. Following is an excerpt from *A Wing and a Prayer* which tells the story of R2R and its mission. For more info: [Road To Recovery](#)

What [the group of experts] came up with was a new, loose-knit organization called Road to Recovery, or R2R for short. . . . The mission is to get out in front of the potential avalanche of troubled species they see coming, and target birds approaching what they call "the tipping point" while they're still strong enough to recover.

R2R is the equivalent of a start-up looking to disrupt what they see as a staid and passive discipline failing to respond to a crisis. As their initiative gained momentum, the growing volunteer team of scientists talked about the degree of difficulty they face. It's not possible, they concluded, to restore the vast abundance that once characterized North America's birdscape; too much of the required habitat is gone. "The dirty little secret is that we're not going to bring them back," Pete Marra [an ornithologist on the faculty of Georgetown University and one of the three founders of R2R] says. "We're hoping we can stabilize them." He envisions a slow and steady exploration of what is holding back specific species in order to first halt the declines, and then perhaps make targeted gains in populations. In some instances, the revival of bird species may look more like zoos in the wild, where birds are cordoned off. Scientists will have to care for them indefinitely in a kind of rehabilitation zone.

Road to Recovery has a delicate balancing act to manage. Its leaders are part of the status quo, but they're critical of their own traditions. Marra has emerged as the chief advocate, and he creates a sense of rebellion. He's a respected scientist who's outspoken, blunt, and doesn't contain his frustration.

He questions why existing organizations aren't leading a push for fresh answers in the wake of the study reported in Science in 2019 [*3 Billion Birds Have Vanished Since 1970*]. "National Audubon could have done that, but they didn't," he says. "Fish and Wildlife could have done that, but they didn't." He's especially tough on what he views as the federal agency's lackluster attitude. "There's been no response. I mean, what do you see Fish and Wildlife doing?" he asks. It's a fair critique. Not only has the agency done very little in the wake of the loss of billions of birds, it has downplayed the significance of the findings. "I don't get excited about the number because that happened over fifty years," says Jerome Ford, the assistant director for migratory birds, one of the longtime leaders who speaks for the agency. "Our role was to calm everybody down." [The Editor virtually never makes editorial comments, but cannot resist here: Is Ford saying that the loss of 60 million birds a year is, as far as he is concerned, not significant, and that people need to just get over it?]

R2R has begun research initiatives for four species of the 90 on their working list: Evening Grosbeak, Golden-winged Warbler, Lesser Yellowlegs, and Yellow-billed Cuckoo, to illustrate what R2R can accomplish. These four reflect the gamut of the challenges facing the entire collection of birds the group hopes to eventually address. The Golden-winged Warbler is an eastern forest bird that has lost most of its population as the woods have changed and undergone development. The Lesser Yellowlegs is the most hunted shorebird in the Americas for its meat and faces evaporating coastal habitat. The Evening Grosbeak is a mystery of a bird. It's been left out of in-depth study even as it has lost more than 90 percent of its population. In this sense, it represents the wide gaps in knowledge that work against the rescues of many species. The Cuckoo is a long-distance migrator running into trouble all along its route, from the bottom of eastern Canada to the top of Argentina.

Read this book, learn how dire the current situation is, find out what is being done about the crisis, and discover a way to become a part of the solution. We humans are responsible for this situation. Let's hope our help does not come too late.



FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Southwicks Beach - May 6: On Saturday, May 6, the Club again joined with the Henderson Historical Society for a bird walk at Southwicks Beach State Park, led by Dick Brouse, our Club's Field Trip Coordinator. The day was sunny and breezy, with temperatures in the 50's. 18 participants, including Dick and other Club members, joined to walk the woodland trail which extends from the park access road.

22 species were sighted at Southwicks: Ruffed Grouse, Double-crested Cormorant, Ring-billed Gull, Belted Kingfisher, Downy Woodpecker, Blue Jay, Common Raven, Black-capped Chickadee, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Black-throated Green Warbler, Ovenbird, Eastern Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Northern Cardinal, and Red-winged Blackbird

Dick was, as always, an excellent guide and leader. We also offer sincere thanks to the Society's Elaine Scott for organizing this event and for her enthusiastic support of our work.



WARBLER NECK, ANYONE?

Southwicks Field Trip May 6, 2023

Photo by Elaine Scott



RED LAKE FIELD TRIP

May 20, 2023 Photo by Lynn Chavoustie

Red Lake - May 20: On Saturday, May 20, eight members and friends of NCBC joined for the Club's annual trip to Red Lake, near Theresa. There were spotty showers early on, then the weadther cleared later in the morning. The trip concluded with the traditional lunch stop at Miss Laura's Diner, where we once again had a fine meal and good conversation.

36 species were observed: Canada Goose, Common Loon, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Turkey Vulture, Golden Eagle, Virginia Rail, Semipalmated Plover, Spotted Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Wilson's Snipe, Caspian Tern, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Least Flycatcher, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Warbling Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Blue-headed Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, American Crow, Tree Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Yellow Warbler, American Redstart, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, Scarlet Tanager, Red-winged Blackbird, Baltimore Oriole, and American Goldfinch.

Limerick Cedars - June 7: It was an eerie evening in the Cedars, a day of dense smoke carried by a north wind from the Quebec fires. The sky was a strange shade of gray, and trees were ghostly silhouettes. Occasional light rain made the evening even gloomier. In what felt like an alien world, five members of the Club gathered to look for the birds of this alvar barrens. 17 species were recorded. Both Trumpeter Swans and Wild Turkeys flew over. The Whip-poor-wills began singing as evening turned to night. We also observed Mourning Dove, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, Common Raven, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Brown Thrasher, Yellow Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Eastern Towhee, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Northern Cardinal, and American Goldfinch. We did not hear several species nearly always encountered on this trip. The absence of Veery, Black-and-White Warbler, Prairie Warbler, and American Woodcock added to the strangeness of the evening.

Marlowe Camp, Beartown - June 17: On Saturday, June 17, ten members of NCBC journeyed to Club President Corky Marlowe's camp on Beartown Road in the Town of Croghan. The weather was partly sunny, with temperatures near 70. As usual, we enjoyed a delicious lunch following our birding, with a variety of excellent dishes prepared by members of the Club. Our thanks once again go out to Corky for hosting a memorable event at her beautiful retreat in the Lewis County woodlands.

We observed 22 species during our outing: Turkey Vulture, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Eastern Wood Pewee, Least Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Blue-headed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Common Raven, Wood Thrush, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Pine Warbler, American Redstart, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, Song Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, and Red-winged Blackbird.



BEARTOWN FIELD TRIP

June 17, 2023 Photo by Kathy Killeen

Regular at \$10.00 Number _____ Total \$ _____

Sponsor at \$15.00 Number _____ Total \$ _____

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SNOWY EGRET

El Dorado Preserve May 2023

Photo by Rachel Lewis

FUERTES PAINTING

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER
WATERTHRUSH
OVENBIRD

WORM-EATING WARBLER
PROTHONOTARY WARBLER
LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH



The Red-headed Woodpecker is a rare visitor to our area and is most often seen on the sandy plains at Fort Drum. There have been only very occasional sightings near the St. Lawrence River. Robin Booth was surprised (and pleased) by the visit of a member of this species to the Town of Cape Vincent in May. The bird appeared only once at the feeder and has not returned.



RED-HEADED WOODPECKER

Sam Adams Rd May 16, 2023
Photo by Robin Booth

New York State Birding Trail

Jefferson County now has twelve sites listed as designated stops on New York's Birding Trail. These include Downybrook Nature Reserve, the Sackets Harbor Battlefield, Perch River WMA, and Ashland Flats WMA, all sites which our Club members visit regularly. The History Trail at the Sackets Battlefield has been designated a National Recreation Trail by the US Department of the Interior. A wide variety of birds can be seen during a walk there.

The NYS Birding Trail website is a source of information on birding sites throughout the state. Access the site at:

[NYS Birding Trail](http://www.nysbirdingtrail.org)



AMERICAN ROBIN HATCHLINGS

Sackets Harbor May 28, 2023
Photo by Connie Barone

All birders are urged to assist in gathering data for New York's third **Breeding Bird Atlas**, a definitive resource for bird conservation efforts. More info at: [BBA3 - How To Atlas](http://www.bba3.org)

Website Links: All links in the electronic issue of the *Plover* are in "live" format. Clicking on the link will automatically open its website in your browser.

To be added to our **E-mail Notification List** for news of select sightings and events in the area, contact the Editor at haldex@twcny.rr.com

To subscribe to e-mailed information from the DEC (select from over 100 topics), go to the subscription page at [DEC Subscriptions](http://www.dec.state.ny.us)

Join the **New York State Ornithological Association (NYSOA)**. Membership includes both quarterly journal and newsletter. Info at [NYSOA](http://www.nysoa.org)

N C B C ACTIVITIES

Meetings / Programs: March, April, May, September, October, November (2nd Wed)

Field Trips: Spring - Summer - Fall

Spring Bird Census

Audubon Christmas Bird Count

Newsletter: The Upland Plover

The North Country Bird Club, Inc., is a charter member of the New York State Ornithological Association, Inc.

RECEIVE *THE UPLAND PLOVER* ONLINE

The same as the printed version, but in **COLOR!** (Viewed with Adobe Reader)

Contact the Editor (haldex@twcny.rr.com) to sign up.

ITEMS FOR THE NEXT *PLOVER* ARE DUE BY AUGUST 15

Please send sightings, photos, or other items to the Editor by August 15.

Contact info: Bill Haller, Editor - Mail: P. O. Box 6, Dexter, NY 13634

E-mail: haldex@twcny.rr.com - Phone: (315) 639-6848 or 778-1484

NORTH COUNTRY BIRD CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Membership is for the calendar year. Dues are *per individual*. Renewals are due by January 1st. To ensure that you receive Club materials, please give your correct *mailing* address below.

Name(s): _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

REMEMBER TO INCLUDE YOUR DUES PAYMENT
PLEASE FILL OUT BOTH SIDES OF THE FORM

This page is included only with the electronic version of the *Plover*, as a thank-you to those who save the Club money by receiving the newsletter by e-mail. There simply is not space enough in the regular edition to show all of the excellent photos which our members have submitted, so some additional examples of the fine work of our photographers are presented in this supplement.



BURROWING OWL

Florida May 2023

Photo by Christine Bourquin



BURROWING OWLETS

Florida May 2023

Photo by Christine Bourquin



CHIPPING SPARROW

Cape Vincent May 21, 2023

Photo by Lynn Chavoustie



OVENBIRD

Chaumont Barrens May 2023

Photo by Rachel Lewis



**RUBY-THROATED
HUMMINGBIRD MALE**

Cape Vincent May 17, 2023

Photo by Robin Booth



**RUBY-THROATED
HUMMINGBIRD FEMALE**

Beartown FT June 17, 2023

Photo by Kathy Killeen