

Allegany & Garrett Counties Bird Club Schedule
2011-2012

Sunday, Sept. 11, 2011 – Club picnic – Carey Run Sanctuary 1:00 p.m.

Please come out and meet and socialize with your Bird Club members. The Club will provide a meet platter and some drinks. Please bring a covered dish to share. Annual dues are due at this time, so bring your checkbook! If you know of someone who might be interested in joining the Bird Club, this is a good opportunity to bring them along. Contact Mary Huebner (301) 777-0545 for more information.

Directions to Carey Run Sanctuary: Take the Finzel exit off I-68 and head south (approximately 1 mile) to where the road ends. Turn right, and go straight at the fork in the road. Make your first right turn onto the unpaved road (Carey Run Road). Go across the bridge and then turn right at the second unpaved driveway (look for the MOS Sanctuary sign).

Tuesday, Sept 13, 2011 - Monthly meeting 7:00 p.m. 224 Compton Hall, Frostburg State University, Frostburg, MD 21532.

Speaker: Donnelle Keech

Title: **Forest habitat conservation in Western MD and the Central Appalachians**

Well-known for preserving rare habitats in nature preserves, The Nature Conservancy also works to conserve common forest types in large contiguous blocks. Come hear about the science and planning that goes into the Conservancy's eco-regional plans, and how their work on the ground in the Central Appalachians is striving to protect ecological functions of forested landscapes.

Sunday, Sept. 18, 2011 – Fall Count

Chuck Hager will be the compiler for the 21st annual Fall Count. Contact Chuck at (301) 689-5344 for area assignments. Tally will be held at Mary Huebner's home. Bring a salad or dessert to share. Main dish (chili) will be provided.

Saturday, Oct. 8, 2011 Field trip to Town Hill

Meet Ray Kiddy to watch for migrating hawks at a time of year when there is still good hawk diversity, but when we may have a better chance for some more interesting birds like Golden Eagles (with favorable weather conditions). Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the Mason's Barn Park and Ride, Exit 46, East Cumberland, from I-68. Bring lunch and drink. Call Ray at (301) 739-1972 for information and to make a reservation.

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2011 Monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. 224 Compton Hall, Frostburg State University, Frostburg, MD 21532

Speakers: Gwen Brewer and George Jett

Title: **A snapshot of Cuba today**

In mid-April, 2011, Gwen Brewer and George Jett traveled to Cuba as part of the Caribbean Conservation Trust's long-running bird survey. We searched for both resident (particularly endemic) and migrant birds as we traveled over 2,600 km and visited many of the ecosystems of this isolated island country. In all, the group tallied 166 species and 10,208 individual birds during our 10-day trip. Also included in the program will be elements of Cuban culture and history, and other natural history components, such as insects, reptiles, and amphibians, and plants. Both country and city life will be explored, taking a look at Cuba 50 years after the revolution and under the continuing U.S. embargo.

Saturday, Nov. 5, 2011 The Annual Bird Club Banquet

Speaker: Ron Gutbertlet

Title: **Alaska 2008 : Gambell, Nome, and Homer**

Gathering starts at 5:30, dinner is at 6:00 p.m. The event is at the Frostburg United Methodist Church. Please contact Charlotte Folk for dinner reservations at (301) 689-6587 or mail your check to her at 179 Mt. Pleasant St., Frostburg, MD 21532. The cost for the dinner is \$15.00.

Saturday, Dec. 17, 2011 Oakland Christmas Bird Count

Sunday, Dec. 18, 2011 Allegany County Christmas Bird Count

Please join us for the 112th CBC. To participate in the Allegany Count, call J.B. Churchill at (301) 697-1223, or email (jchurchi@atlanticbb.net) to get area assignment. There will be no tally, so just send your results to J.B. To participate in the Oakland Count, contact Connie Skipper (301) 387-5227 (connieskipper@hohnet.com)

Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2012 Monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. 224 Compton Hall, Frostburg State University, Frostburg, MD 21532

Speaker: Sara Rothamel

Title: **Territoriality and habitat composition of Cerulean Warbler assemblages in Western Maryland**

This presentation will discuss the preliminary findings of the first quantitative description of Cerulean Warbler territory characteristics and attributes in western Maryland. Habitat requirements for Ceruleans vary across their range. Although intensive habitat assessments have been conducted in adjacent states, there are no known studies of Cerulean Warbler activity in Maryland. At three public sites in western Maryland, Ms. Rothamel surveyed Cerulean Warbler population demographics and behavior using point count, territory mapping and color banding. Data from the 2011 breeding season will be presented, along with future modifications to the project. Information collected during this study will be useful for management of these specific populations and can also be used as baseline database for Cerulean Warblers in Maryland.

Saturday, Jan. 21, 2012, C&O Canal Count

Again this year, the C&O Canal Count will replace our mid-winter bird count. Contact Peter Vankevich (email - petevankevich@gmail.com) for a stretch of the Canal to cover. Each mile of the Canal is counted separately.

Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2012 Monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. 224 Compton Hall, Frostburg State University, Frostburg, MD 21532

Speaker: Tom Matthews

Topic: Tom Matthews, a retired wildlife biologist with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources will present a program explaining national efforts to improve habitat conditions for woodcock, golden-winged warblers, and a host of other wildlife species that have declined due to loss of young forest habitat. During the last half-century, as the number of acres of young forest in the East and Upper Midwest has declined, populations of many kinds of wildlife have fallen. To reverse that trend, conservationists are working to create more young forest (also called "early successional habitat").

Tuesday, March 13, 2012 Monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. 224 Compton Hall, Frostburg State University, Frostburg, MD 21532

Speaker: J.B. Churchill

Title: **Birding Tech**

The presentation will cover a subset of birding technology in use today, including smartphone apps, mp3 players, websites and computer software. There will be demonstration of ways to use the Allegany and Garrett Counties' Bird Club website (www.westernmdbirding.com). We will also discuss Ebird (Ebird.org) and Cornell's Birds of North America Website.

Saturday, April 7, 2012 Field trip to Garrett County Ponds

We typically visit Finzel Swamp, Piney Reservoir, Meadows Lake and Campgroun, and New Germany State Park. Meet at Parkside School in LaVale at 9:00 a.m., and pack a lunch for an impromptu picnic at New Germany State Park. Call Mary Huebner, (301) 777-0545 for more information or to arrange for an alternate meeting spot.

Tuesday, April 10, 2012 Monthly meeting, 7:00 p.m. 224 Compton Hall, Frostburg State University, Frostburg, MD 21532

Speaker: Mikey Lutmerding

Title: **Birding in Peru from the Andes to the Pacific**

Mikey will describe his birding adventures in Peru, starting in the Andes Mountains and working his way down to the Pacific Ocean.

Mid-May – Club trip to Magee Marsh, Oak Harbor, Ohio. We are thinking about going to Magee Marsh the weekend of May 12. Contact George Gaffney for details. (301) 895-4646.

Saturday, May 12, 2012 Annual May Count. To participate in Allegany County, contact J.B. Churchill (compiler) (301) 689-8344 (H); (301) 697-1223 (c); email – jchurchi@atlanticbb.net to be assigned to an area to count. There will be no tally. To participate in Garrett County, contact Fran Pope (compiler) (301) 334-4908 ; email fpope@gcnetmail.net

Tuesday, June 12, 2012, Planning meeting, Carey Run Sanctuary, 7:00 P.M.
This evening we will decide about the schedule for next year, so bring your ideas for speakers, field trips, and other projects. For best results, we need your ideas at or before the planning meeting!

Directions to Carey Run Sanctuary: Take the Finzel exit and head south until the road comes to a dead end. Turn right and go straight at the fork in the road. Make your first right turn onto the unpaved road (Carey Run Road). Go across the bridge and then turn right at the second unpaved driveway (Look for MOS Sanctuary sign).