

# NATURALLY

THE CONOCOHEAGUE AUDUBON SOCIETY

Naturally

NEWSLETTER OF THE CONOCOHEAGUE AUDUBON SOCIETY

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Photos above: *Purple Sandpiper and Sanderling*; *Brant*, by Terri Kochert, *Snow Goose* by Dale Gearhart

## The "Sticky" Issue of Snowy Owl Sightings

by Terri Kochert

Though we all thoroughly enjoy the opportunity of seeing an errant Snowy Owl in our local vicinity, there are complications with announcing their appearance. These owls are generally here for unknown reasons and can be vulnerable to new territory factors. Some will not return to their northern origins.

I have read two opinions on the matter. First, they are here because there is a booming population of Snowy Owls—due to a healthy breeding season and plenty of food. The young owls may be evicted from the hunting grounds by their own brood parents. Secondly, there are fewer lemmings, their mainstay diet, for the owls to eat. If there's no food, they must leave to find it. In either situation, this poses a dilemma when they appear near us.

Birders and photographers "flock" to get a view of this magnificent, majestic creature. Unfortunately, some people lack the proper decorum. They get too close, are too noisy, disturbing the bird, encouraging the bird to fly off. Thus, others don't get to see it. A fellow birder informed me that a few years ago, an individual even tried to capture one! Now, that is going too far! That birder suggest you not announce the location of said bird, but quietly inform trusted individuals, protecting the bird. We should all consider it a privilege to see these birds, doing all we can to keep them safe while visiting among us. It's an absolute shame that a few individuals ruin it for others.



*Snowy Owl*

Photo credit: Terri Kochert

I will not tell you where we were, but recently my husband and I had the amazing opportunity to see a Snowy Owl. I must say that the birders, photographers, and families that visited the owl that day were respectful of the farmer's land and were also in awe of the bird. No one moved too quickly, nor did people linger too long. (Perhaps this is ONE positive outcome of COVID-19!) People came and went in a proper, quiet manner. We were there about ten minutes and left. Though there were cars lined up along the farmer's field, people pulled off the road and carefully got in and out the cars. It was the most organized outing I've attended when seeing a Snowy Owl.

So, please, if you spot a Snowy Owl, use discretion about with whom you share the information of its location. Please do all you can to respect the landowner's land, his/her wishes, and the bird itself. And, if possible, take the time to thank the landowner for his/her hospitality.

**March 8 Meeting:** Homeland Security: Native Trees Are a Bird's Refuge, by Scott Willard will be **via Zoom only**. To join, click on <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7211203928?pwd=RXNwMjZpOVNvSHJGRld3cWZFOjJiZz09>

# It's a New Year from the Conservation Conversation (CC)

by Jim Hardy

Each new year almost always starts with a great deal of optimism and enthusiasm, and why not? A new year is an opportunity for a fresh start. It may also be a benchmark for what we did and did not accomplish the preceding year. We often unknowingly celebrate our accomplishments, or lack thereof, with ambition. Another name for this ambition is a "New Year's resolution." For most, a New Year's resolution is a pledge to do better, do more, to try something new or to set measurable goals. I'm sure many of you are familiar with the typical resolutions like losing weight, exercising more, eating better, and setting aside more time to read. Bird watchers often have resolutions like: I want to see 100 species this year. I want to see 10 new species this year. I want to visit ... to go bird watching. We make resolutions because it is a way of holding ourselves accountable about something that is important to us.

This year I've decided to try something different. In addition to my typical resolutions, I've decided that I want to advocate for something. Advocate and advocacy are pretty strong words. My 1975 Reader's Digest Great Encyclopedia Dictionary defines advocate as: "v. To speak or write in favor of; defend; recommend. n. 1. One who pleads the cause of another; an intercessor. 2. One who espouses or defends a cause by argument. 3. In Scottish law, a counselor." Advocacy is "The act of advocating or pleading a cause; vindication; defense." Advocacy requires effort. It requires you explain why you feel a certain way about any given topic. Many serious advocates belong to groups with a common cause because there is strength in numbers. Advocacy is often associated with letter writing, attending meetings, social media posts and sometimes peaceful protesting. As members of the Conococheague Audubon Society, we are advocates for birds and activities that allow us to enjoy the birds.

I have chosen two areas for advocacy. One is public safety related to local government and the other concerns the natural environment and conservation. My resolution is to write a letter to a municipality, a public official or a lawmaker advocating for or against something in need of action. Environmental issues are abundant at all levels of government, so I have not picked a specific topic yet. I am monitoring news outlets, government agencies and private organizations for a topic that is a hot button for me, that I can research further and speak articulately about.



Below I am going to start by listing contact information for elected officials. I will list organizations in the next

article. The officials and organizations provide news concerning current issues and avenues for your advocacy to be heard. My challenge to each reader of this newsletter is to contact a local official, municipality or organization concerning an environmental issue. I recommend writing (typing) a real letter. You can also use this opportunity to find out where a public official stands on a specific issue. You can also ask what effort and resources they have committed to the subject. I know this will take some time; I want to hear back from you concerning the response to your advocacy. Please address subject line Conservation Advocacy to Jim at [alwaysseeingmore@gmail.com](mailto:alwaysseeingmore@gmail.com)

## Franklin County Commissioners

David Keller, Chairman  
John Flannery  
Robert Ziobrowski  
272 North Second Street,  
Chambersburg, PA 17201  
<https://franklincountypa.gov>

## State House of Representatives

Jesse Topper, Pennsylvania's 78th Representative District  
400 Irvis Office Building  
P.O. Box 202078  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2078

Rob W. Kauffman, Pennsylvania's 89th Representative District  
166 South Main Street  
Chambersburg, PA 17201

Paul Schemel, Pennsylvania's 90th Representative District  
150B East Wing  
P.O. Box 202090  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2090

## State Senate

Judy Ward, Pennsylvania's 30th Senatorial District  
Senate Box 203030  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3030

Doug Mastriano, Pennsylvania's 33rd Senatorial District  
37 South Main Street  
Suite 200  
Chambersburg, PA 17201

## United States House of Representatives

John Joyce, Pennsylvania's 13th congressional district  
100 Lincoln Way East, Suite B, Chambersburg, PA 17201

## United States Senate

Pat Toomey  
248 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

Bob Casey, Jr.  
393 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

# BIRD BEHAVIOR: I Want to Know ... Can I keep birds from hitting my windows?

by Debby Hook

“THUD!”

A bird hit your window. Your heart sinks; that bird will likely die. It may sit in shock before gathering itself to fly off. No matter. Most birds that hit windows will soon die from either internal bleeding or brain injury.

Up to a billion birds die each year in the U.S. from window strikes, and about **one-half of those strikes occur at residential homes**. Here are some success notes about three different kinds of bird-strike deterrents.

Since 2018, Laura Jackson of Juniata Valley Audubon has been using **Bird Crash Preventer** (<http://stores.santarosanational.com/>). Strung between metal bars above and below each window is a mesh of filament (fishing line) in a 4-inch grid. It is highly reflective in daylight, said Laura, and is easily seen from outdoors.

However, Laura noticed that smaller birds such as goldfinches still occasionally crashed in between the filament, especially when chased by Cooper's or Sharpshinned Hawks. To solve this issue, they added fine landscape netting with a smaller grid behind the mesh. This has reduced bird strikes to just one or two at their large windows.

Laura also endorses **Bird Screen** (<https://birdscreen.com/>), a similar mesh they used in 2015, which is held in place either by brackets at the top and bottom of the windows or by suction cups that attach directly to the glass. Not wanting to drill into their window frames at that time, they chose the suction cups.

But the bears that frequent their yard consistently pulled the suction cups off the windows. The product itself worked very well, Laura said. If they were to do it over, they would use the brackets.

**Pros:** Both products allow birds to bounce off unharmed; there is no appreciable reduction in daylight entering the house; and the view from within is not hampered by the filaments.

**Cons:** It's hard to clean windows behind the mesh.

**Not Recommended:** ABC Bird Tape, which sticks onto the window. It obscures your view, and birds can still hit the glass; CollidEscape – sold with a 100% guarantee, this peel-and-stick sheet cuts down on daylight within, is expensive and the view is blurred when standing close to the window. The company refunded money when the item was returned.

Conococheague Audubon's Bob Keener uses free-hanging **Zen Wind Curtains** (or Acopian BirdSavers, <https://www.birdsavers.com/>). “After I researched it, I was so impressed with the simplicity of it,” he said. “You can order them or follow the instructions to make them.” To make his own, he bought parachute cord and put up a 2 x 4 board above each window. “We put very tiny nails 4 inches apart along the top of each window,”

he said. From the nails, the cords hang down in front of windows.



*Bob and Rhoda Keener use Zen Wind Curtains as a deterrent to birds flying against their windows.*

Photo credit: Bob Keener

“We chose a moss green to match the trim on our house, and even when the wind is blowing, it's kind of an artistic kind of thing,” Bob said. “But it did take some getting used to at first. We decided not to put them on our front windows, but on all the back windows and patio doors which are larger and get more strikes.”

The Keeners keep their cords up all year. “Migration seasons are the worst time for bird strikes when you live in the woods,” Bob said.

When asked about how he can take photos of birds, he replies that he sets his camera on a tripod close to the window, aiming it between two of the cords. “They have never interfered,” he said.

**Pros:** Among all 12 windows he has protected, Bob has noticed just one bird strike so far this year. “We still have many more strikes in the front where there are no cords.”

**Cons:** “It took some getting used to visually at first,” he said.

**Not recommended:** Decals of hawks and owls, which are distracting; and you would have to put up a lot of them in order for them to work.

## Where are your feeders?

Both Jackson and Keener stressed the importance of placing feeders away from your house. Both admitted that in addition to adapting their windows, they also moved their feeders farther from the house.

If birds are coming in to feed within a few feet of your house and are startled, it is more likely they will fly into a window. Keener said feeders should be at least 10 feet from a building.

*Sources for bird strike data:*

<https://abcbirds.org/blog/truth-about-birds-and-glass-collisions>

<https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/why-birds-hit-windows-and-how-you-can-help-prevent-it/>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 15, 2021

Submitted by Vern Gautier

## **Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology Announces Inaugural Breeding Bird Blitz for Conservation**

The Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology (PSO) is turning the passion of Pennsylvanians for watching and counting birds into funding for bird conservation with the launch of the Breeding Bird Blitz for Conservation. Teams of birders across the state – following strict COVID protocols – will compete to identify as many species as possible on one day between June 18th and June 21st, 2021. Teams will enlist their friends to support their efforts with a donation to support three critical bird conservation projects. Bird-lovers of all ages and skill levels are invited to visit [www.breedingbirdblitz.org](http://www.breedingbirdblitz.org) to form or join a team, or to make a donation.

Birds in Pennsylvania and across the nation urgently need help. A well-publicized study in 2019 estimated that 25% of birds have disappeared from the North America since 1970, a loss of nearly three billion birds.\* The Breeding Bird Blitz for Conservation (or the B4C) will direct its efforts at conserving two priority species whose populations are declining in Pennsylvania: Northern Harrier and Wood Thrush. Both species are listed as Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the Pennsylvania Wildlife Action Plan. The Northern Harrier is state-listed as “threatened” since its numbers are declining so rapidly. Funds raised for the Breeding Bird Blitz for Conservation will be used to protect habitat that these species need: extensive grassy fields for the Northern Harrier and unfragmented forest for the Wood Thrush.

PSO will be partnering with Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, and Manada Conservancy. All three organizations protect natural habitats through land purchases, donations, and conservation easements and have identified projects that will utilize the donations from the B4C to protect bird habitat. Hawk Mountain will earmark the B4C funds for Northern Harrier habitat protection, while Manada Conservancy and Western Pennsylvania Conservancy will protect Wood Thrush habitat. Funds raised by the B4C will be split equally between Hawk Mountain, the Manada Conservancy, and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Every penny of donations received will support these projects, as PSO is covering all administrative costs associated with the program.

So how does the Breeding Bird Blitz for Conservation work? Teams of two or more birders register through the website and decide whether they will cover a single county or a region of the state. While drawing up the plans for their “Big Day,” the team members will reach

out to friends to tell them what they are doing and ask for their support with a donation. All donations are made through [www.breedingbirdblitz.org](http://www.breedingbirdblitz.org), where a donor can select a team to support. After the event, teams will submit their results, primarily through the eBird website. The teams that raise the most funds and document the most species will receive special recognition.

\*Source: Kenneth V. Rosenberg, Adriaan M. Dokter, Peter J. Blancher, John R. Sauer, Adam C. Smith, Paul A. Smith, Jessica C. Stanton, Arvind Panjabi, Laura Helft, Michael Parr and Peter P. Marra. Decline of the North American avifauna. *Science* 366 (6461), 120-124.

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The Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology (PSO) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization founded in 1990 to foster the study and appreciation of the wild birds of Pennsylvania and to promote the conservation of birds and their habitats. PSO organizes and supports several bird monitoring projects, hosts field trips, an annual meeting, and publishes the quarterly journal *Pennsylvania Birds*. More information about PSO can be found at [www.pabirds.org](http://www.pabirds.org).

## **DIY Suet Cakes**

by Terri Kochert

If you are interested in making your own suet at home with your children or grandchildren, check out The Birdhouse Chick's website for five easy recipes. The recipes are in different colors to distinguish them. Have fun! The birds will love it, especially the woodpeckers, titmice, wrens, etc. We have permission to share this with you directly from the Birdhouse Chick herself. Here is her website with the article embedded. " <https://www.thebirdhousechick.com/blogs/resources/55633091-easy-suet-recipes>

## **Thank You**

by Donna Hocker

Although lots of our activities were canceled due to COVID-19, you stepped up with your financial giving. Ninety-two (92) households donated \$4,260.00 to Conococheague Audubon Society (CAS). This enabled us to purchase a portable sound system for our meetings, provide charitable contributions to 8 organizations, provide prize money to the winners of the youth contests, and pay for on-going expenses like printing this newsletter.

Charitable contributions were given to PA and National Audubon, the Ned Smith Center, Tuscarora Wildlife Education Project, Norlo Park Foundation, Christmas Bird Count, Community Cloud Forest Conservation, Greg Wengert (who maintains Heisey Road Orchard) and the Rhodes Grove Camp and Conference Center.

Again, thank you for your support. CAS could not have survived without your generous contributions.

# Duck, Duck, Goose

by Terri Kochert

March is usually considered to be the best time for seeing ducks and geese returning northward to their breeding grounds. My husband, Bob, and birding pals Larry and Helen Lehman decided to take a rather quick trip to Chincoteague, VA Jan.7-9, 2021. Traveling south on 50, we stopped at Cambridge, MD, on the south side of the Choptank River about a mile northwest of the visitor center. First, we saw a lone Longtail Duck and a raft of Buffleheads. As we made several stops along the way, we saw American Wigeons and Greater Scaups. Then,

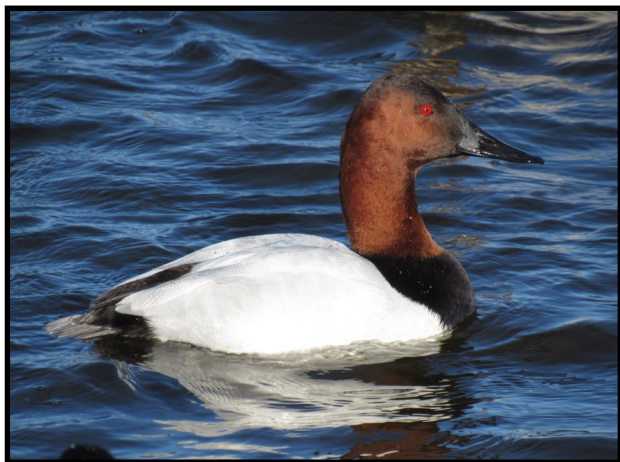


*American Wigeons*

Photo credit: Larry Lehman

we came upon a group of birders and photographers feeding some ducks in the water. As we approached the wall, we witnessed a mixed raft of Canvasbacks, Redheads, Lesser Scaups, a Ruddy Duck and several Mallards all diving for the cracked corn being offered. Such a feast for the eyes and ever so close! Larry and I snapped many photos!

Then, arriving across the causeway to Chincoteague, we stopped at the oyster beds about twenty minutes before dusk. There we saw a Red-throated Loon, a Red-breasted Merganser, Buffleheads, and about thirty Brant geese. Wow! What a terrific day. We also encountered a



*Canvasback*

Photo credit: Terri Kochert



*Redhead*

Photo Credit: Terri Kochert

sun-bathing harbor seal on the short boardwalk there.

The next day we found many Great Egrets, a few Great Blue Herons, a Black-bellied Plover, Sanderlings, hundreds of Willets, Oyster Catchers, and more Brant. Of course, we saw several Bald Eagles, a few Double-crested Cormorants, Northern Shovelers, American Black Duck, two Northern Pintails, Green-winged Teals, Hooded and Common Mergansers, clouds of distant Snow Geese and Tundra Swans. Alas, we saw no Marbled Godwits (our target bird) on the beach.



*Canvasbacks, Redheads, Lesser Scaup, and Mallards taken at Cambridge, MD*

Photo credit: Terri Kochert

Leaving Chincoteague, VA, we made two more stops on our way home. At the Indian River Inlet, DE, we saw a raft of Black Scoters, a Common Loon, and a few Purple Sandpipers.

At Blackwater NWR we saw an Eastern Screech Owl nestled in the cavity of a tipped-over snag. There were thousands of Tundra Swans too. We saw one lone, immature Red-shouldered Hawk. Of course, there were other birds too. As it turned out, we had a terrific birding trip, albeit a chilly one!

# Chambersburg, PA Christmas Bird Count 2020 Report

by Valerie Barnes

Conococheague Audubon and friends conducted the 61<sup>st</sup> Chambersburg Christmas Bird Count on December 1, 2020. We had a good count in terms of the number of species, adding two new ones: Townsend's Solitaire and Rufous Hummingbird. Decent weather helped keep observers out in the field for more hours than in recent years.

Each count takes place in an established 15-mile diameter circle and is organized by a count compiler and zone captains. Count volunteers cover specified areas in the circle, counting every bird they see or hear all day. It's not just a species tally—all individual birds are counted all day, giving a snapshot of the total number of birds in the circle that day.



*Yellow-bellied Sapsucker*  
Photo credit: Bob Keener

Participants in the field: 57 (average is 57)  
 Participants at home watching feeders: 27 (average for past 10 years is 30)  
 Field counters spent: 63.17 hours on foot, walking 44.25 miles; 140.83 hours in cars, driving 541 miles; 1.25 hours listening for owls, covering 1 mile.  
 Feeder counters spent 67.58 hours watching at home (average for past 10 years is 77 hours)  
 Total species counted: 80 (average is 71)  
 Feeder species counted: 44 (average for past 10 years is 36)  
 Total individual birds counted: 18,492 (average corrected for unusually high blackbird counts in 1984 is 21,933)  
 1,604 of birds counted were seen at feeders (average for past 10 years is 1,473)

Weather conditions: ~10-32 degrees; partly cloudy all day  
**Bold** indicates high count; *italics* indicates new species

Canada Goose 587	Eurasian Collared-Dove 3	Tufted Titmouse 163
Mallard 570	Mourning Dove 1339	Red-breasted Nuthatch 25
Green-winged Teal 9	Eastern Screech-Owl 1	White-breasted Nuthatch 135
<b>Lesser Scaup 6</b>	Great Horned Owl 3	Brown Creeper 19
Bufflehead 6	Barred Owl 5	<b>Carolina Wren 157</b>
Wild Turkey 24	<b>Rufous Hummingbird 1</b>	Winter Wren 19
Great Blue Heron 26	Belted Kingfisher 9	Golden-crowned Kinglet 9
Black Vulture 7	Red-headed Woodpecker 1	Ruby-crowned Kinglet 5
Turkey Vulture 9	Red-bellied Woodpecker 120	Eastern Bluebird 94
<b>Bald Eagle 9</b>	<b>Yellow-bellied Sapsucker 25</b>	<b>Townsend's Solitaire 1</b>
Northern Harrier 2	Downy Woodpecker 145	Hermit Thrush 16
Sharp-shinned Hawk 11	Hairy Woodpecker 33	American Robin 172
<b>Cooper's Hawk 26</b>	Northern Flicker 20	Northern Mockingbird 87
Red-shouldered Hawk 3	Pileated Woodpecker 19	Brown Thrasher 1
Red-tailed Hawk 71	Eastern Phoebe 1	European Starling 5920
American Kestrel 17	Blue Jay 466	American Pipit 8
Merlin 1	American Crow 271	Cedar Waxwing 26
Peregrine Falcon 1	Fish Crow 1	Eastern Towhee 1
Killdeer 12	<b>Common Raven 15</b>	American Tree Sparrow 2
Wilson's Snipe 1	Horned Lark 966	Field Sparrow 6
Rock Pigeon 861	Carolina/Black-capped chickadee 208	Savannah Sparrow 1
Fox Sparrow 7	Snow Bunting 8	House Finch 398
Song Sparrow 197	<b>Northern Cardinal 636</b>	Pine Siskin 131
Swamp Sparrow 4	Red-winged Blackbird 67	American Goldfinch 270
White-throated Sparrow 693	Eastern Meadowlark 3	Evening Grosbeak 7
White-crowned Sparrow 102	Brown-headed Cowbird 312	House Sparrow 1137
Dark-eyed Junco 1741	Purple Finch 1	

## Comments:

The total number of species seen was 9 above our average. The total number of individual birds observed was ~84% of the average adjusted for large blackbird flocks that were seen in 1984. The count of individual birds seen at feeders this year was approximately 130 above the average for the last 10 years. Three fewer feeder watchers than average participated.

New species to the list this year: a Rufous Hummingbird (that had been visiting Kathy Lauer's feeders since mid-October) and a Townsend's Solitaire (that had been visiting the junipers near the Visitors' Center at Caledonia State Park since mid-November). Evening Grosbeaks were seen for the first time since 2005.

We saw new high numbers of several species as indicated in **bold** font above. The single Eastern Screech Owl was a low count.

For birds seen in more than 30 counts:

Teams reported unusually low (<25% of average) numbers of American Crow, Fish Crow, Wilson's Snipe, Gray Catbird\*, Yellow-rumped Warbler\*, American Tree Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow\*, Eastern Meadowlark, Common Grackle\*, Brown-headed Cowbird, and Evening Grosbeak. Note: species marked with \* were not seen in this count.

Teams reported more than the usual numbers (>125% of average) of Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-Tailed Hawk, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Hairy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Blue Jay, Common Raven, Horned Lark, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Winter Wren, Eastern Bluebird, Hermit Thrush, American Robin, Fox Sparrow, Song Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Dark-eyed junco, Northern Cardinal, Red-winged Blackbird, and Pine Siskin.

Of birds seen in at least 41 prior counts, we missed American Black Duck, Ring-necked Pheasant, Gray Catbird, Chipping Sparrow, and Common Grackle.

Birds reported from all zones included: Red-tailed Hawk, Mourning Dove, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Blue Jay, American Crow, Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Carolina Wren, Eastern Bluebird, Hermit Thrush, Northern Mockingbird, Eurasian Starling, Song Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Northern Cardinal, House Finch, American Goldfinch, House Sparrow.

Birds reported from only one zone included:

- Zone 1: Peregrine Falcon, Fish Crow, Brown Thrasher, Savannah Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark
- Zone 2: Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Eastern Screech Owl, Townsend's Solitaire, Evening Grosbeak
- Zone 3: Black Vulture, Red-headed Woodpecker
- Zone 4: Merlin, Snow Bunting
- Zone 5: Wilson's Snipe, Eurasian Collared-Dove, Eastern Phoebe, Eastern Towhee
- Feeders: Rufous Hummingbird, Purple Finch

Next year's Christmas Bird Count will be scheduled for Saturday, December 18, 2021. We hope you join us!

### Notice of elections at the annual business meeting on April 12

Sue and John Greer are nominated to serve a three-year term on the Board of Directors. You may vote during the meeting or in advance via email by sending a message to [conaudubon@outlook.com](mailto:conaudubon@outlook.com). And some good news: the Executive Committee named Jessica Ferguson to fill the vacant Vice President slot. Welcome, Jessica!

### On the Record

by Donna Hocker

Terri Kochert led a group of six birders to see the Short-eared Owls on the Gettysburg Battlefield in January. Not only were four owls seen but also Red-tailed Hawks, Eastern Bluebirds, European Starlings, Northern Mockingbirds, Peregrine Falcon and Mourning Doves. All told, 15 CAS members went to see the owls. The February trip to Blackwater NWR was cancelled.



*Snowy Day, January 31*

Photo credit: Bob Keener



*Cooper's Hawk*

Photo credit: Dave Cooney, Jr.

**MEETINGS** – Free, held in the Community Center at Norlo Park,

**FIELD TRIPS** – Free, most take place on Saturdays. Contact the leader in advance if you plan to go. Times listed are departure times; please arrive early. If you cannot go on a scheduled trip, contact leader for a potential mid-week option on his/her scouting trip.

**Note: Activities are still tentative due to COVID-19.**

**Check our website for updates:**

**[www.ConococheagueAudubon.org](http://www.ConococheagueAudubon.org)**

**March 8, Monday MEETING**

7:00 PM *Homeland Security: Native Trees Are a Bird's Refuge*, by Scott Willard will be **via Zoom only**. To join, click on <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7211203928?pwd=RXNwMjZpQVNVSHJGRld3cWZlZjZz09>

**March 9, Tuesday FIELD TRIP**

5:45 PM Tentative outing for WOODCOCKS at Heisey Road orchard. Meet at the Park & Ride, Scotland, Exit 20, I-81 northbound. Bring flashlights. **Bob Kochert**, 717-263-3692.

**April 12, Monday MEETING**

7:00 PM *Open Forum: Field Guide & App Comparison*. Moderated by Val Barnes. Annual business meeting and elections. All chapter members welcome.

**April 17, Saturday WORK DAY**

9:30 AM Work in the native garden at NORLO PARK. Bring garden tools and gloves. **Josh Donaldson**, 717-264-6920.

**May 1, Saturday**

**FIELD TRIP**  
6:30 AM Horse Valley for SPRING MIGRANTS. Meet at North Pointe Center, US 11 north of Chambersburg. Bring scopes, binoculars, CBs and lunch. **Valerie Barnes**, 717-352-4397; or **Donna Hocker**, 717-401-0604.

**May 1, Saturday**

**WORK DAY**  
9:30 AM Work at NORLO PARK native garden. Bring garden tools and gloves. **Josh Donaldson**, 717-264-6920.

CAS WEBSITE: <https://conococheagueaudubon.org/>

**Newsletter Editor** - Jane Bussard (717-401-3210)  
janenbussard47@gmail.com

**Send all newsletter articles and photos to the editor.**  
**Send all mailing changes to [conaudubon@outlook.com](mailto:conaudubon@outlook.com).**

COPY DEADLINE APRIL 15 FOR MAY 2021 NEWSLETTER.

**CONOCOCHEAGUE AUDUBON OFFICERS:**

<b>President</b>	Terri Kochert
<b>Vice President</b>	Jessica Ferguson
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Rhetta Martin
<b>Corresponding Secretary</b>	Valerie Barnes
<b>Treasurer</b>	Donna Hocker
<b>Immediate Past President</b>	Debby Hook

**Directors: Conway Bushey, Marguerite Fries, Bob Kochert, Janet Tice, Ron George, Eric Martin**

The field trip to Middle Creek on Saturday, March 6 is still scheduled, but is missing from the calendar on this page. Please sign up in advance with Eric and Rhetta Martin (717-597-8675; visit our website for details.

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Fayetteville, PA 17222  
P.O. Box 20  
Conococheague Audubon