



THE DRUMMER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
RUSSELL COUNTY BIRD CLUB
MEETINGS ARE THE 4TH TUESDAY
AT THE LEBANON COMMUNITY ROOM
AT 7:30 PM

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 4 APRIL 98

Meeting: We had a fabulous presentation by Ray Nease on hunting with his hawk. The Harris Hawk was a hit with everyone present.

Happenings:

An Eastern Screech Owl and four owlets were banded at Musick's Campground on Holston Lake on Sunday 19 April by Richard Lewis of the Bristol Bird Club. Our members present were Wallace Coffey, Larry McDaniel, Fred, Janice and Ricky Martin.

Dave & Diana Worley just returned from a trip to Alabama, where they visited a banding station for a close up look at a lot of birds. They will present the program for April, with lots of video and pictures of the banding operation.

Tom & Laverne Hunter saw four Upland Sandpipers on April 2 at Elk Garden mudhole.

On April 11, Bob, Tom & Laverne, Dean, Nina & Sean birded along the Clinch River near Caperton. They were rewarded with lots of birds and a great adventure.

Bob Riggs found a Sora at the Elk Garden mudhole on April 16,

Trips: April 26 Bird Walk at Persimmon Ridge Park.
8am Hardees in Jonesborough, Tn.
May 1 3 Roan Mountain Naturalists' Rally
May 15 17 VSO at Mountain Lake.

SORRY

I lost a lot of info for this issue to a hard drive crash. I am sorry it is so short and if I left out anything important to anyone.

Presidents Corner: There is some great birding going on in Russell County. We are fortunate to live in an area with such diverse habitat as we have locally. One day I am up on Rich Mountain with Nina, Jean and Bob, and we see two Vesper Sparrows. They are high altitude birds. One was even singing on territory. The Golden Eagles even put in an appearance. Later on that same day, I saw Swamp Sparrows around the cattail marsh at Lake Bonaventure. Only in an area of such different habitats would that be possible.

The migrants are starting to trickle into the area. Bob, Jean and myself were recently at Hidden Valley, where we saw plenty of Blue Headed (Solitary) Vireos. Bob even found a Swainson's Thrush foraging along the trail.

Elk Garden is getting sandpipers and Blue Winged Teal and even Hooded Mergansers.

The Purple Finches in their brilliant plumage have been trying to eat me out of house and home. The entertainment they provide is well worth the expense.

Do not miss out on this great chance, get out there and bird while the wave is passing thru this great location.

VSO:The Virginia Society of Ornithology has its spring meeting at Mountain Lake in Giles County, near Perrisburg. May 15 17, For more info contact Bob or Dave.

Meeting: In response to recent requests from some members, we will start a learning experience for difficult birds. We will have a five minute drill to help you improve your birding skills. Good for beginners and experienced birders.

Dave & Diana Worley will show a video and pictures from their recent trip to a banding station in Alabama.