



THE DRUMMER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
RUSSELL COUNTY BIRD CLUB

Editor-Dave Worley
MEETINGS ARE THE 4TH TUESDAY
AT THE LEBANON COMMUNITY ROOM
AT 7:30 PM
VOLUME 6 ISSUE 6 JUNE 2002

MEETING: At our last meeting we watched video of the Florida trip that Bob Riggs, Tom Hunter, Allen Boynton and Dave Worley took in February. Bob had excellent footage of some fabulous birds. Ben and Ellen Ames were back from Florida and joined us for the first time in quite a while. We were glad to see them.

HAPPENINGS: The Loggerhead Shrikes had a productive year in the Clifton area again this year. Bob saw 4 fledglings being fed by two very busy adults.

Ed & Michelle Talbott, Janice & Fred Martin, Mary Erwin, Wallace & Carolyn Coffey and Dave & Diana Worley did a canoe trip with members of the Bristol Bird Club recently. They floated from Cleveland to Carterton on the beautiful Clinch River in Russell County and saw lots of good birds. After the canoe trip they went to Rekimo Lodge in Scott County, where The Nature Conservancy put them up for the night. Bob Quillen stopped by to join them there for a few hours.

A Forester's Tern was spotted on Flannagan Reservoir in Dickenson County.

Bob Riggs and Allen Boynton led a group of BOW women on a bird hike on Clinch Mountain WMA on June 15th. Lots of great close up looks at warblers and vireoes. Bob said there was one mad White-eyed Vireo giving out calls like he had never heard.

Roger & Lynda Mayhorn, Fred & Ricky Martin, Bob Riggs and Jean Montgomery recently birded Elk Garden, then went to Hidden Valley Lake in Washington County for a good hike. They had excellent looks at some great warblers. The highlight of Elk Garden was the Bobolink Colony.

Bob & Barbara Quillen joined Dave Worley recently for a trip to see the Bobolinks, afterwards they went to lunch at Peking Gardens.

Laverne Hunter is feeling better so Tom and she recently went to Clifton where they saw a Bobwhite sitting on a fence post. Tom has been seeing lots of Blue Grosbeaks in that area.

PRESIDENTS' CORNER: Three Breeding Bird Surveys and two golf courses. Unbelievable that I would even attempt to do so many bird counts in six days. Thanks to Roger Mayhorn, who was a big help with the golf courses, the count was done before the deadline. The golf courses were part of the foray and were new this year. I had two mornings of very good birding. The highlight of the Bonadventure course was a male Summer Tanager sitting on an exposed limb. We were not able to put it on the official count because the count was over, but it was still an excellent look. Best of the Breaks course was a Cerulean Warbler. I had just told Ed as he was leaving for work that he had probably seen all the species we would see that day, when up popped the Cerulean in the next tree. The BBS routes are annual treks along a 25 mile stretch of road, stopping every half mile for three minutes and counting all the birds. The Scott route produced a Cerulean Warbler, new to the route this year, but missing were the Blue-winged Warblers. The Russell-Washington-Smyth route produced a Blue Grosbeak singing from an exposed perch, but I missed the Prairie Warblers. The Carroll County route was notable for the many Willow Flycatchers. Lots of birds, songs and sunrises made these routes an enjoyable experience. See you in the field.

Bob Riggs

June 28th-30th is a camping trip at Grindstone Campground in the Mount Rogers Recreation Area. This is the VSO weekend. You are welcome to join them for camping or just the field trips. There will be a hike to the top of Mount Rogers and a car trip to the top of Whitetop Mountain. If you choose not to camp then be there very early Saturday morning. The field trips are usually gone by 7 am. Just look for all the people with binoculars.

MEETING: Our next meeting is Tuesday, June 25th at the new location. The new place is right at the new Lebanon Town Hall, just park in the lot and the building is just below you. Between the Town Hall and the swimming pool.

I would love to have every ones name in the newsletter, but unless you report your activities to me or post them on Bristol-Birds, I can not write it up. I realize that some are more active than others. This time of year I could fill up the newsletter with reports from several of our more active members, but I would prefer something from everyone. **CALL DAVE. 880-1373 OR 1374.**