



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

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MEETING: The last meeting was held at the Bristol Regional Medical Center Hospitality House. We went there to support Bob & Jean Montgomery, whose son Daniel was in a coma from a car accident. Dave & Diana Worley presented a program and video on the birds they found on their Arizona trip. Dave did not see anyone sleeping, so it must have been okay.

Happenings: Laverne Hunter reported 3 good birds in her yard, a Rose-breasted Grosbeak on May 9th, Summer Tanager on 16th and a Wood Thrush on the 17th.

Dave & Diana Worley did a Breeding Bird Survey at High Knob Rec Area on Sunday the 6th. We saw Blackburnian Warbler, Yellow-Bellied Sapsuckers, Veery, Ovenbird, Wood Thrush, Wild Turkey, Gray Catbird, Acadian Flycatcher and many more good birds.

Dave Worley and Bob Riggs did a BBS on the 7th at High Knob and added some great birds, including the Cerulean Warbler and a Barred Owl.

SPECIAL TRIP: The club will have a camp out at the High Knob Recreation Area on Friday and Saturday nights, the 18th & 19th. We will bird and visit as you desire. Fees for the camping area have been waived since we are volunteering our time for the BBS. Bring your tent or small camper and join us for an exciting weekend. Bring necessary supplies since there is no restaurant on the mountain.

Bath house and rest rooms are available. Follow Route 58 to Norton and hit Rt. 23 south around the bypass. At State Rt. 619 exit and follow the signs up the mountain. Bob & Dave will be there early.

Presidents` Corner: June is the month for Breeding Bird Surveys, Forays and all the other bird population census activities. It is a good time to sharpen up the birding ear, since most of the birds are detected by call. Some very interesting things happen during the listening and counting period. Wallace Coffey and I were doing a BBS in Wythe County and had just heard a Red-Headed Woodpecker. Suddenly a Brown Thrasher started singing a distinct Red-Headed Woodpecker song. I commented to Wallace about how good the thrasher was mimicking the woodpecker. Wallace found both species in a tree top, sitting next to each other and singing a duet.

Dave Worley and I were doing a survey on High Knob when I heard a Cerulean Warbler. I called it just as I spotted movement above, only to get a good look at a Dark-eyed Junco. Man, I thought, I really got fooled on that one. We got back in the car and started to leave the parking lot when suddenly I heard a Cerulean again. During the rare bird scramble to get out of the car we both heard and saw the bird about 20 feet away. Dave had to calm me down as we watched the little warbler bounce from limb to limb and sing away. It is hard at times to get up early (3am) and drive a long distance to do a survey, but it can be very rewarding.

A GREAT BIG "THANK YOU" TO THOSE MEMBERS WHO HELPED WITH THE SURVEYS AND FORAYS.

Bob Riggs

JUNE MEETING: There will not be a regular meeting, since we will be camping out for the weekend.

I have not received reports from other members who did surveys. Maybe next month.