



# THE DRUMMER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
RUSSELL COUNTY BIRD CLUB

Editor-Dave Worley

MEETINGS ARE THE 4<sup>TH</sup> TUESDAY  
AT THE LEBANON COMMUNITY ROOM  
AT 7:30 PM

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**MEETING:** Dave & Diana Worley did a program on the birds and sights of Hawaii. Everyone present dressed Hawaiian, with Dean Gates winning the door prize for best costume. Other door prizes went to Diana Riggs and James Chafin. Hawaiian snacks, mango, papaya, macadamian nuts and ham with pineapple were served. Thanks to Janice Martin and Diana Worley for the food.

**HAPPENINGS:** The Burkes Garden field trip was great. If you were not there, you missed out big time. Rough-legged Hawks, Golden Eagles, Horned Larks, Red-headed Woodpeckers and Evening Grosbeaks were the highlights of the trip. Dean and Nina bought some great apple cider, and everyone bought good food. We cooked out at the hunting facilities that Judy Settle and her folks arranged for us to use. Well, there is always next year, if you missed this one. Thanks everyone!!

Tom Hunter, Bob Riggs and Dave Worley were joined by Bob Quillen of the Bristol Bird Club on a recent birding trip. They got the Tufted Duck in Washington, and the Kelp Gull, Common Goldeneye, Common Merganser and Oldsquaw in Sandgates, Maryland. At Blackwater NWR on the eastern shore of Maryland, they saw 12 Bald Eagles and a very large beaver. They spent 3 more days birding the eastern shore of Virginia and the tidewater area. They saw many birds, but the highlights were Marbled Godwits, Osprey, Northern Goshawk, White-winged Crossbills, Little Gulls, Lesser Black-backed Gulls, Harlequin Ducks, Great Cormorant, Long and Short-billed Dowitchers and an Orange-crowned Warbler. The best find of the trip was a River Otter at the Eastern Shore NWR.

Bob Riggs, Dave Worley and Fred & Janice Martin were the only ones to show up for the field trip on March 19<sup>th</sup>. They found quite a few species; but one of them was a life bird for Janice. The Loggerhead Shrikes we found were her first. She got great looks through the scope.

Our club is keeping a Millenium List for 2000. Keep track of all your Virginia sightings and we will total the species count after the end of the year. Bob has species list, if you need one.

**Presidents` Corner:** Sometimes you just have to get outside and watch and the birds will come.

I recently purchased a book entitled "Americas 100 Most Wanted Birds". I plan to read the book then base my future trips on the list, hoping to pick up some of the most wanted.

I was surprised to find that I had seen four of the birds already. Tom Hunter found the Barnacle Goose, right here in Russell County. I hope all of you got to see that one.

Myself and three friends got the Tufted duck, also on the list. Talk about good timing, we arrived in Washington, D. C., just in time to get a personal escort to where the Tufted Duck was swimming with a raft of scaup.

While we were at Fort Story watching Little Gulls, we had bad timing. We arrived minutes late for another list bird, the Black-headed Gull.

I wait with anticipation to see what the northward migration will bring. The migration of 1994 bought a Kirklands Warbler, a top 100 bird, to Wise County. Dick Peake found it singing from an exposed perch. Now is the time to look for the northern species as they migrate through in breeding plumage.

Thanks for voting to name the birder of the year award the Lloyd David Worley Award. I feel honored to have him as a member of our club and want to thank him for the hard work he has put into this award over the past two years.

See you on the next trip or at the meeting.

Bob Riggs

**Meeting:** The March meeting will be on the 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm at the Lebanon Community Room. Lisa Nutt, Wildlife Biologist with the US Forest Service, Clinch River District, will give a program on the Cerulean Warbler work being carried out by her department to determine the status and population density in the Clinch River District.

Spring migration is underway, get out there and do some bird watching. Do not forget to call if you find a rare species or something you can not identify.

Beth, Shawn and Emilee Rogers have moved. We will miss them very much. Their address is PO Box 63, Yucaipa, California 92399. They sent a very nice card, which will be at the meeting.