



# 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:** Our last meeting turned into a field trip. Eleven of us met at Elk Garden and birded until dark. The birds were singing and moving, so we saw lots.

**HAPPENINGS:** Bob Riggs reports that the Swainson's Warbler is back on its territory at Laurel Creek. Baltimore Orioles, Eastern Kingbirds and Warbling Vireos are nesting in the Elk Garden area.

Members Bob Quillen and Dave Worley along with Rack Cross, a Bristol Club member spent April 24<sup>th</sup> thru 29<sup>th</sup> in Southeast Arizona. They birded in Tucson, Madera Canyon, Patagonia, Nogales, Mount Lemmon and a short time in Old Mexico. This was the first international birding for Quillen and Cross. During the 5 day trip, they saw 138 species. Rack got 80 life birds and Bob got 48. Dave was just happy to be there. The best find for the trip was an Elegant Trogon, seen in Madera Canyon. I just want to say **THANKS**, to Bob Quillen, who furnished free airline tickets for this trip.

May 4<sup>th</sup> was our field trip to Roger and Linda Mayhorns. Present besides the Mayhorns were Fred and Janice Martin, Ed and Michelle Talbott, Dave and Diana Worley, Ed and Barbara Caudill and Sheldon and Orpha Woods. The day was a huge success for birding. Some of our best birds were Cerulean Warblers, Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Pine Siskins and Wood Thrushes. Their yard was full of birds and we got lots more right around the area. A fabulous lunch helped make a great day even better.

May 7<sup>th</sup> Ed Talbott saw his first Buchanan County Osprey along the Levisa River below Grundy.

May 10<sup>th</sup> Dick Peake heard a Kirkland's Warbler near the Lonesome Pine Airport in Wise County. He has had Kirkland's in this area before.

I talked with Laverne Hunter recently and she advised they were sorry to have missed our activities, but she has been under the weather.

**PRESIDENTS' CORNER:** There is a lot of birding excitement in the air. The Nearctic birds are heading north and the Neotropical migrants are migrating into the area. The fields and woods are bursting with birds. Spring is also the time of year for the annual VSO meeting. This year the meeting was held in Richmond. There always seems to be a special air at the VSO meetings as the field trip leaders work their magic to produce some great birding mornings. This year was no different, we started with a Barred Owl perched in the parking lot of the Holiday Inn. Who would have thought that with all that concrete and asphalt, the birding would be so great.

The people at the annual meetings are always a lot of fun and the VSO weekend would not be the same without them. This year we had a chance to bird with Dr. Frank Gill, the man who wrote the textbook on Ornithology. He was also the speaker at the banquet. I was impressed with the way technology has turned the world into a small place for bird watchers. Audubon and Partners in Flight were also speakers during the papers session. I can tell you now that big things will be happening in Virginia this year.

Next year the meeting will be in Charlottesville. Hope to see you there.

Bob Riggs

## \*\*\*\*\*ATTENTION\*\*\*\*\*

Our meeting place has changed. We are using the new Community Room. It is located beside the Town Hall, right next to the swimming pool. Coming from the south, you will take the first Lebanon exit, come to the second traffic light and you will see the town hall on your right, when you go past the light, turn right into the parking lot. The turn is between the town hall and First Bank and Trust. From the old location, come on thru town until you see First Bank on your left, turn before you get to the light.

Our next meeting is May 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm.

**FIELD TRIP:** May 25<sup>th</sup> meet at Elk Garden mill pond at 8 am. We will hike to the top of Beartown Mountain. This is a strenuous hike and will take all day. Be sure to bring food and water.