



# 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:** At our last meeting we had a program on identifying waterfowl. We also elected officers for 2000. Diana Riggs-President, Nina Gates-V. President, Diana Worley-Secretary/Treasurer. Congratulations to our officers.

**HAPPENINGS:** Tom & Laverne Hunter visited Musicks Campground at South Holston Lake on Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>. They found Eared, Horned and Pied-bill Grebes, Ruddy and Ring-necked Ducks, Lesser Scaup, Buffleheads and Dunlin.

The club trip on Oct.31<sup>st</sup> found us at Elk Garden, where Dean, Nina & Sean Gates and Dave & Diana Worley saw White-breasted Nuthatches, Downy Woodpeckers, Carolina Chickadees, American Kestrels, European Starlings, Eastern Bluebirds, Belted Kingfisher and a Coopers Hawk. We then went to Rosedale to see the Selasphorus Hummingbird. After several good looks at the Hummer we called it a great day.

Dean, Nina & Sean Gates report Carolina Wrens and Tufted Titmice visiting their yard.

Local sightings: Hooded Mergansers, Gadwalls, American Wigeons, Green-winged Teal, Black ducks, Horned & Pied-bill Grebes, Dunlin, Mallards, Ringed-neck Ducks, Lincoln`s, White-throated & White-crowned Sparrows.

Dave Worley checked out the county on Saturday, Nov. 13, he found Northern Harrier, Red-tailed Hawk, Coopers Hawk, American Kestrel, Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Bluebirds and numerous other species.

**PRESIDENTS` CORNER:** Sitting at Stuarts Pond the other day watching a Hooded Merganser float lazily on the water, I started to think about range. Duck season opens on November 17<sup>th</sup> but I was not thinking about shotgun range. I was thinking about the range of the merganser. More precisely, the geographical range or area where the bird can be found. So birds have a wintering area and breeding area that make up their range. While many birds that we see during the year may have ranges that overlap, no two species have the exact same range. When you try to identify species, look at the range maps of the species you are considering. If you find a bird that is outside its range take careful notes to document the vagrant or rare bird. Range is a very helpful tool to identifying bird species. See you in the field.

Bob Riggs

If anyone has old field guides or binoculars that they would be interested in donating to a group of children at Centennial Heights, bring them to the November meeting. We will present them in December.

**Christmas Party:** Our club will be partying with the Bristol Bird Club on December 11<sup>th</sup> at the home of Ken & Cindy Hale in Bristol, Tn. The party starts at 7 pm, each person needs to bring a gift for Santa`s Bag. (Wrapped or not). For directions call Dave at 880-1373 or 1374 or pick up a map at the next meeting.

**November Meeting:** Our meeting will be at the Lebanon Community Room at 7:30 pm, the 23<sup>rd</sup>. We will be discussing ducks and other wintering species.

If you want a better newsletter, I need you to call in your reports or articles. 880-1373 or 1374.