



THE DRUMMER

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
RUSSELL COUNTY BIRD CLUB

MEETINGS ARE THE 4TH TUESDAY
AT THE LEBANON COMMUNITY ROOM

Issue 1 Oct. 97

THE HISTORIC FIRST MEETING OF THE RCBC TOOK PLACE ON 18 SEPT. 97 AT THE LEBANON COMMUNITY ROOM. FOUNDER BOB RIGGS PRESIDED. HE PRESENTED A SLIDE SHOW ON THE BIRDS OF RUSSELL COUNTY.

THERE WERE 13 PEOPLE PRESENT. A TOTAL OF 8 FAMILIES BECAME CHARTER MEMBERS. FROM LEBANON WERE BOB & DIANA RIGGS 889-5007, DEAN, NINA & SEAN GATES 889-0011, BEN & ELLEN AMES 889-2301, BOB & JEAN MONTGOMERY 889-2932, AND TOM & LAVERNE HUNTER. 880-1283. WALLACE & CAROLYN COFFEY 423-764-3958 FROM BRISTOL, TN. JEFF & CHEYLYNNA HESS 873-6048 FROM HONAKER, AND DAVE & DIANA WORLEY 880-1373 OR 1374 FROM BELFAST.

OFFICERS WILL BE ELECTED AT THE OCT. 28TH MEETING. BE THINKING ABOUT WHOM YOU WANT TO LEAD. WE WILL NEED A PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, TREASURER, AND SECRETARY/STATISTICIAN.

OUR GUEST SPEAKER AT THE MEETING WILL BE PEGGY SPIEGEL, WHO OWNS A WILDLIFE SUPPLY STORE IN ROANOKE, HAS SERVED AS A CHAIRMAN OF THE VSO, AND DOES TALKS ON "ATTRACTING BIRDS TO YOUR BACKYARD", ALL OVER THE STATE. SHE WILL TAKE US ON A TOUR THRU THE FOUR SEASONS, SHOWING HOW FEEDERS, SEEDS AND PLANTINGS COMBINE TO ATTRACT SPECIFIC SPECIES.

SEPTEMBER BIRDS by Bob Riggs

SEPTEMBER WAS A GOOD MONTH TO BE BIRDING IN RUSSELL CO.. FROM THE HAWK WATCHES AT THE MENDOTA FIRE TOWER TO THE DIFFERENT FEEDER FLOCKS OF WARBLERS THAT WERE PASSING BY, THERE WERE PLENTY OF BIRDING OPPORTUNITIES. THE SCARLET TANAGERS TURNED AN OLIVE GREENISH COLOR AS THEY FATTENED UP FOR THE TRIP SOUTH, BLACK AND WHITE WARBLERS WERE TRAVELING WITH REDSTARTS AND PRAIRIE WARBLERS. THE MANY DIFFERENT COMBINATIONS OF BIRDS MADE FOR SOME INTERESTING FLOCKS. THE MANY PLUMAGES, FROM JUVENILE TO FIRST YEAR TO ADULT MADE FOR SOME HARD CALLS ON ID, BUT THESE CHALLENGES ARE WHAT MAKES "BIRDING" FUN. BESIDES THEY MAKE GOOD EXCUSES FOR BUYING MORE GUIDES. STANDING AT THE FIRE TOWER ONE EVENING, I WAS EYEBALL TO EYEBALL WITH A PEREGRINE FALCON; THE OTHER TWO BIRDERS AND MYSELF WERE SPEECHLESS. THE FALCON JUST SOARED BACK AND FORTH AT 30 FEET, GIVING US THE EYE ALSO. WORDS CAN NOT DESCRIBE THE MOMENT; AN INSTANCE OF BEING AWED THAT I WILL NEVER FORGET. WE HAD SEEN FALCONS BEFORE BUT NEVER LIKE THAT. OCTOBER PROMISES JUST AS MANY SURPRISES AND IS THE PEAK MONTH FOR RED-SHOULDERED, COOPERS, SHARP-SHINNED AND NORTHERN GOSHAWKS. AND BE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR SPARROWS AND PUDDLE DUCKS.

ON SUNDAY 6 OCT. SOME OF US MET FOR LUNCH, THEN BIRDED THE CLIFTON, LITTLE RIVER AND CLINCH RIVER SECTIONS OF THE COUNTY. PRESENT WERE WALLACE, BOB & DIANA, TOM & LAVERNE, DAVE & DIANA, AND DEAN, NINA & SEAN, AND LUCAS ADDISON. WE ALL HAD A GREAT TIME, WALLACE, BOB AND DAVE & DIANA THEN WENT TO HOLSTON LAKE TO LOOK AT THE GREBES. PIED BILLED AND EARED WERE PRESENT.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: OCTOBER 28TH MONTHLY MEETING
NOVEMBER 25TH MONTHLY MEETING.
NOVEMBER 30TH TRIP TO LAUREL BED LAKE
DECEMBER 20TH CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT