



# THE DRUMMER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
RUSSELL COUNTY BIRD CLUB

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

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**Meeting:** Bob Montgomery had the August program and did a great job. He had slides and a presentation on identifying migrating raptors. Thanks Bob.

**Happenings:** Bob Riggs found three American Avocets at the pond adjacent to Lebanon High School football practice field. He was joined later by Dave Worley and Tom & Laverne Hunter. We will have pictures at the meeting.

On August 23th, Bob Riggs, Wallace Coffey, Dick Peake, Fred & Janice Martin, Tom & Laverne Hunter, and Dave Worley of the Russell County club were joined by Mary Jane Erwin of the Bristol club in a trip to Rankins Bottom in Cocke County, Tennessee. There were plenty of birds. Over a hundred Great Blue Herons and Great Egrets. The find of the day was a Red Phalarope, a life bird for most of the people. Several of us got more than one life bird.

August 31<sup>st</sup> found Bob Riggs and Dick Peake at Laurel Bed Lake. They did not find any shorebirds, but did find eighteen species of warblers.

Wallace Coffey and Dick Peake of our club were joined by some very prominent birders on a recent trip back to Rankins Bottom where they found and photographed a very, very rare Temnick's Stint. This is a first ever record for Tennessee. Way to go guys.

Bob Riggs, Jean Montgomery and Dave Worley got together at Elk Garden recently and found a feeding flock. It included lots of American Redstarts, Yellow-throated and Tennessee Warblers, Yellow-throated Vireos and even a Cerulean Warbler. The Cerulean was a life bird for Dave and Jean.

**Presidents` Corner:** HAPPY BIRTHDAY RUSSELL COUNTY BIRD CLUB. It is hard to believe that we have been a club for one year. I guess time does fly when you are having fun. Fun it has been, watching the birds of Russell County. What has really made the club is the people who take active roles in the meetings and field trips. A great bunch of people with whom to get out into the mountains and enjoy birding. We have been fortunate to see the places and species available to us. Finding new or uncommon species has been a plus for everyone. Places like Rich and Beartown Mountains have a wildness that is unique, it is no wonder the Golden Eagles are seen there with regularity. The lowlands like Nashs Ford and Buffalo have treats also, like warblers and tanagers. With such a diversity of habitat in the county, it is no wonder that our club has been a big success its first year.

**Meeting:** The September meeting will take place the 23<sup>rd</sup>, at the Bonanza restaurant. 7pm. Buy your own dinner and join us in the meeting room, where Dr. Dick Peake will present the program. Dick is a past president of the Virginia Ornithological Society and has been birding southwest Virginia for 35 years. We look forward to seeing all of you. Help us celebrate our first anniversary.

**Field Trips:** September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> will be Hawk watching Mendota Fire Tower. Expect to see hundreds of migrating raptors. If you need directions call Bob at 889-5007 or Dave at 880-1373.

**As you can see, this is a short newsletter.** I need information from any of you that get out and see anything, trips or anything of interest to the club. Send articles to **PO BOX 153, Rosedale, Va 24280** or **e-mail to trooper @ mounet.com** or call **880-1373. Please.**

Bob & Dave saw 70 Broad-wing Hawks at Mendota the evening of Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>.