



THE DRUMMER

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RUSSELL COUNTY BIRD CLUB

Editor-Dave Worley

MEETINGS ARE THE 4TH TUESDAY

AT THE LEBANON COMMUNITY ROOM

AT 7:30 PM

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MEETING: Our last meeting was at Laurel Bed Lake. Dave & Diana Worley, Bob & Jean Montgomery, Tom & Laverne Hunter, Mary Jane Erwin, Bob & Diana Riggs, James & Sandy Chafin and Shawn, Beth & Emilee Rogers showed up for the picnic. Bob provided canoes and grilled hot dogs and burgers. See his comments on the birding.

HAPPENINGS: Tom & Laverne Hunter and Dave Worley went to Rankin Bottoms, Tennessee for some great birding. We had over 150 Great Egrets, 75 Great Blue Herons, 35 Cattle Egrets, and also saw Bairds` Sandpiper, Ruddy Turnstone, Black-bellied Plover, Black-crowned Night Heron, and too many others to mention in this space.

Stuarts` Pond is still providing some good shorebirds. Recent sightings include Semi-palmated Plover, Killdeer, Greater Yellowlegs, and the sandpipers included Spotted, Solitary, Pectorial, and Least.

Bob Riggs and Dave Worley took another trip to Rankin Bottoms a week after the Hunters. They had about the same birds on their trip as before.

Wallace & Carolyn Coffey report that some Eared Grebes have returned to Musicks Campground at South Holston Lake.

Dave Worley, Janice Martin, Bob Quillen and Larry McDaniel were at Mendota with 12 others on Saturday Sept. 18, when Dave left at 1:30 they had already seen over 75 Broadwing Hawks, a Sharp-shinned Hawk and several Red-tailed Hawks.

PRESIDENTS` CORNER: Hi folks, I really enjoyed the picnic. What a great place to relax, eat and talk about birds. I had a fabulous time. You ladies fixed some fantastic food. It was so goood! Of course the birding was not too shabby either.

All the leaves made it difficult to id the warblers as they bounced around the treetops.

We had gone to Laurel Bed Lake to see an eagle, and we were not disappointed. Bob Montgomery quickly found one, fishing for lunch. After lunch it flew down and landed on a small stump in the lake and proceeded to drink. A few minutes later two immature Bald Eagles showed up and did a sky dance that left us with our mouths open. They soared and chased each other for over fifteen minutes, occasionally touching wings.

WOW! With the deep blue sky and the moon in the background it made a great birding moment. With that and some good folks present, I just thought LIFE IS GOOD.

Remember that September is hawk migration time and we have one of the best spots right here in Russell County. Mendota fire tower is a great spot. We not only see lots of raptors, some warblers and other species make their way along the mountain top.

See you soon.

Bob Riggs

BANQUET: The Russell County Bird Club will celebrate its` second anniversary at the Bonanza in Lebanon on September 27th. Meet there at 7:30 p. m., we will each buy our own meal then gather in the banquet room to eat and enjoy a program by our own Wallace Coffey. Door prizes will be given away. We had a great time last year and are looking for it to be better this year. Please come out and join the celebration for your bird club. This banquet will take the place of the September meeting.