

Cedar Creek, Mudhole, Stuart's Pond, Kent's Ridge & Clifton

On Saturday, March 1, 2008, several members and friends of the Russell County Bird Club met at the K & G Restaurant in Lebanon, VA, for an outing led by Tom Hunter.



Left to Right: Diane Singleton, Don Carrier, Peggy Herbert, Dave Worley, Jerry Thornhill, Janice Martin, Fred Martin, Tom Hunter, Laverne Hunter, and Roy Knispel
Not shown: Photographer Jane Thornhill

Weather was beautiful if a little windy and chilly. The group left K & G around 9:00 a. m. and birded along Big Cedar Creek to Green Valley Road and on to Elk Garden and the Mudhole area collecting several species including a Loggerhead Shrike. We then made our way to Corn Valley in search of Golden Eagles. We were not disappointed as we found 2.

After lunch at Rosedale, we headed to Stuart's Pond where we found an American Widgeon. On the brave band pressed to Kent's Ridge to look for the Eastern Screech Owl that Tom had found earlier in the week. While we didn't find the owl, we did find a couple of Golden-crowned Kinglets, and two woodpecker species.

As we drove through the Clifton Farm area, we saw many Red-tailed Hawks and one unusually marked Cooper's Hawk. The Cooper's had a large white rump patch causing one birder who will remain nameless to misidentify it as a Northern Harrier. We also spotted several American Kestrels. Near the end of the day, we got our second Loggerhead Shrike along with a large flock of Wild Turkeys.

For the day, we saw 39 species with 1966 individuals. Look at the bottom of the report for a complete list.

The photos below are courtesy of Janice Martin and Don Carrier.



Scanning the Skies (JM)

Serious Stuff (JM)



Scanning the Skies Even at Lunch (JM)



Way Over There, Roy (JM)



Redwings & Starlings (DC)



Shrike in Flight (DC)

List of Species

Canada Goose	24	Killdeer	8
American Widgeon	1	Rock Pigeon	7
Mallard	23	Mourning Dove	45
Wild Turkey	15	Belted Kingfisher	3
Great Blue Heron	4	Red-bellied Woodpecker	2
Turkey Vulture	38	Downy Woodpecker	3
Black Vulture	5	Eastern Phoebe	1
Cooper's Hawk	1	Blue Jay	6
Red-tailed Hawk	17	Common Raven	10
Golden Eagle	2	American Crow	> 1000
American Kestrel	7	Carolina Chickadee	5

Tufted Titmouse	2	Song Sparrow	8
White-breasted Nuthatch	2	White-Crowned Sparrow	10
Carolina Wren	2	Dark-eyed Junco	6
Golden-crowned Kinglet	2	Northern Cardinal	5
Eastern Bluebird	8	Red-winged Blackbird	300
American Robin	55	Eastern Meadowlark	7
Northern Mockingbird	2	Yellow-rumped Warbler	1
European Starling	325	House Sparrow	2
Loggerhead Shrike	2	Total	1966