



# Cayuga Bird Club

## February 2020

### In This Issue:

- [Speaker: Andrea Patterson](#)
- [From the President](#)
- [Fuentes Sanctuary](#)
- [Breeding Bird Atlas](#)
- [Great Backyard Bird Count](#)
- [Conservation Action Committee](#)
- [Photo Night](#)
- [Upcoming Field Trips](#)
- [First-of-year Birds](#)
- [January 12 Trip Report](#)
- [January 19 Trip Report](#)

---

## Calendar

Feb 8 (Sat), 8am-4:30pm: Field Trip Around the Lake with Bob McGuire. Meet at Stewart Park (east end).

Feb 10 (Mon), 7:30pm: CBC meeting. Speaker: Andrea Patterson, "A Bird in the Hand". Lab of O.

Feb 14-17 (Fri-Mon): Great Backyard Bird Count.

Feb 15 (Sat), 8am-11am: Lime Hollow Field Trip with Matt Young. Meet at Lab of O at 7:30am or Lime Hollow Visitor's Center at 8:00am.

Feb 22 (Sat), 8am-12:30pm: Field Trip with Suan Yong. Meet at Stewart Park (east end).

Feb 22-23 (Sat-Sun): Overnight Trip to Conowingo Dam, Maryland, with Carl Steckler. Contact [cjs9@cornell.edu](mailto:cjs9@cornell.edu) if interested.

## Cayuga Bird Club Meeting

### A Bird in the Hand



**Speaker: Andrea Patterson**  
**Director, Braddock Bay Bird Observatory**  
**Monday, February 10, 2020**  
**7:30pm, Cornell Lab of Ornithology**

Braddock Bay Bird Observatory (BBBO) was founded in 1986 with the purpose of studying stopover ecology on the south shore of Lake Ontario. Operating with an all-volunteer staff, BBBO has developed a 30-year dataset consisting of nearly 300,000 individual banding records. In 2016, BBBO launched a new initiative to bring the Motus Wildlife Tracking System to upstate New York. Tiny radio transmitters carried by local or migrating birds are detected by stationary receivers deployed across the landscape, giving researchers an unprecedented window into avian movement at scales from local to hemispheric. Individually and collectively, these banding and digital records tell fascinating stories of bird behavior, movement and survival across an increasingly challenging landscape. Come hear Andrea Patterson, the Director of BBBO, talk about the joyful moments, surprising revelations, and occasional heartbreak of birding in the hand.

#### *About the Speaker:*

Andrea Patterson began volunteering at Braddock Bay Bird Observatory in 2009 and banded her first

Feb 25 (Tue), 7-9pm: Breeding Bird Atlas Workshop with Dave Nicosia. Lab of O.

Feb 29 (Sat), 8am-4:30pm: Field Trip with Bob McGuire. Meet at Stewart Park (east end).

Mar 9 (Mon), 7:30pm: CBC meeting. Speaker: Meena Haribal, (African Adventure). Lab of O.

Mar 12 (Thu), 7:30pm: Fundraiser for Fuertes Overlook: "The Public Parks of Ancient Rome" by Kathryn Gleason. Cinemapolis.

Apr 13 (Mon), 7:30pm: CBC meeting. Speaker: Sarah Kaiser (Bornean Babblers). Lab of O.

May 11 (Mon), 7:30pm: CBC meeting. Speaker: Marie Read (Antarctica). Lab of O.

Nov 2020: CBC Trip to Colombia

*Please check our web calendar for up-to-date field trip information, including schedule changes, at [cayugabirdclub.org](http://cayugabirdclub.org).*

---

## February Field Trips

*Cayuga Bird Club field trips are open to all.*



### **Around the Lake, with Bob McGuire**

*Saturday, Feb. 8, 8am-4:30pm*

Join Bob for a full day trip around Cayuga Lake, with a focus on waterfowl. Meet at the east end of Stewart Park at 8:00 am for carpooling. Dress very warmly and bring a scope if you have one. Bring a lunch and/or snacks and a beverage. We'll make a stop to purchase food as well. Questions:

bird in the spring of 2010 when she took a bander training class from Elizabeth Brooks. Since then, she has handled 18,000 birds as part of the Observatory's long-term migration study and has been lucky enough to spend time banding Saltmarsh and Nelson's Sparrows in New Hampshire, banding rails (including one Black Rail!) in Louisiana, and banding Tawny-crowned Greenlets in Belize. Now the director of the Braddock Bay Bird Observatory, Andrea coordinates the migration, summer, and owl monitoring programs; facilitates the use of the Observatory as a field site for a half-dozen research affiliates; and teaches four banding classes annually including one aimed at teenagers. Andrea currently serves on the boards of the North American Banding Council, Eastern Bird Banding Association, Braddock Bay Bird Observatory, and Rochester Birding Association. After first learning to bird in the hand, she is now learning to bird with binoculars and although she loves and uses eBird, she stubbornly refuses to keep anything but a mental life list as she believes a bird doesn't really count unless you can remember seeing it.

*Cayuga Bird Club meetings start at 7:30pm on the second Monday of every month September through June, and are open to the public. Building doors open at 7:00pm and are locked at 7:45pm.*

---

## From the President

*Diane Morton*



Many of us have had the experience of looking for birds at the small pond (the "swan pen") near the boat-house at Stewart Park, standing on the stone platform there for a better view. This overlook honors Cayuga Bird Club's first president, Louis Agassiz Fuertes, and an original founder of this club. The platform was built in 1934, with funds raised by Cayuga Bird Club, under the leadership of Arthur A Allen, as both a memorial to Fuertes and a bird-viewing spot for the public. In this issue of the newsletter, we've included a portion of [the history of the Fuertes Overlook](#) and our club's early association with Stewart Park.

[bmcguire@clarityconnect.com](mailto:bmcguire@clarityconnect.com)



**Lime Hollow, with Matt Young**

*Saturday, Feb. 15, 8am-11am*

Join Matt Young for a morning exploration of the diverse habitat of Cortland's Lime Hollow Nature Preserve (deciduous/conifer forests, wetlands, shrublands). Meet for carpooling at the Lab of O at 7:30am or at the Lime Hollow visitor's center, McLean Road, at 8:00am.



**Conowingo Dam, Maryland, with Carl Steckler**

*Sat-Sun, Feb. 22-23.*

Carl will lead a trip to Conowingo Dam on the lower Susquehanna River in northern Maryland. The area is well known among bird-watchers and photographers as the best place east of the Mississippi River to view Bald Eagles. Over 100 Eagles gather to feast on fish that are sucked through the giant turbines.

Meet at the Lab of O parking lot 9:00am Saturday for the five hour drive. After a short visit to the dam we will check into our hotel (TBD). Next morning we will rise early and get to the dam just after sunrise, as spots to photograph and watch eagles fill up fast. We plan to leave around noon for the

Some will remember that the overlook's surface was repaired under the leadership of Friends of Stewart Park just a few years ago. But it has recently become apparent that the supporting portion of the structure, normally unseen under the water, is falling apart. The lower level of the viewing platform is now closed to the public.



Cayuga Bird Club has been approached by Rick Manning, Director of Friends of Stewart Park (FSP), to ask for help from Cayuga Bird Club's members with their efforts to raise money for the the repair. Because water will need to be pumped out of the pond and the upper part of the platform supported to enable work on the foundation, it is an expensive project; up to \$20,000 will need to be raised (to match \$20,000 in funds offered by the city of Ithaca). This work needs to be done in order to make the whole overlook accessible once again, and ideally it would be best to do this while the water level is down for the winter and early spring.

FSP is currently working out some fundraising efforts for this. They have scheduled a [March 12 fundraiser](#) at Cinemapolis. And they will soon launch a crowd-sourced fundraising campaign. I'd like to encourage CBC members to help by buying tickets to the event or by making a donation. A proposal that Cayuga Bird Club make a direct contribution to this repair effort in the amount of \$1000 is being considered by the club's Executive Committee. We will present this proposal to the membership for discussion at our February 10 CBC meeting, and if there is time, we may be able to take a vote (or wait until the March meeting).

Good birding,

*Diane*

---

**Louis Agassiz Fuertes  
Memorial Bird Sanctuary**



drive home.

Please contact Carl Steckler at [cjs9@cornell.edu](mailto:cjs9@cornell.edu) if you are interested in going on this trip. Let him know if you have a hotel preference and if you can drive for carpooling. This trip is weather-dependent. Check the club calendar as the date approaches.



### **Winter Birds, with Suan Yong**

*Saturday, Feb. 22,*

*8:00 am-12:30pm*

Join Suan for a half-day trip to look for winter birds. This will include waterfowl on the lake as well as field birds such as Horned Larks and Snow Buntings. Meet at the east end of Stewart Park at 8:00 am to carpool. Dress warmly and bring a scope if you have one. Questions: [suan.yong@gmail.com](mailto:suan.yong@gmail.com)



### **Around the Lake, with Bob McGuire**

*Saturday, Feb. 29, 8am-4:30pm*

Join Bob for a full day trip around Cayuga Lake, with a focus on waterfowl. Meet at the east end of Stewart Park at 8:00 am for carpooling. Dress very warmly and bring a scope if you have one. Bring a lunch and/or snacks and a beverage. We'll make a stop to purchase food as well. Questions: [bm McGuire@clarityconnect.com](mailto:bm McGuire@clarityconnect.com)

### *Jane Graves*

*The article below is excerpted from a two-part article written by Cayuga Bird Club historian Jane Graves in 2013. The full articles are available on the [Cayuga Bird Club website's History section](#).*



Stewart Park birders often check out the Swan Pen area for migrants. They generally do not pay attention to the concrete area with pillars on its south side. This corner of Stewart Park has played an important part both in Stewart Park's and the Cayuga Bird Club's history.

After Louis Agassiz Fuertes's tragic death in an automobile accident on August 22, 1927, there was a move, both in the Cornell and Ithaca communities, to establish a public memorial for this great man in the form of a bird sanctuary. Fuertes had been the president of the Cayuga Bird Club from its inception in 1913 until his death and was active in the Rotary Club as well as the Boy Scouts. The project originated with the Ithaca Rotary Club, where it was proposed at a meeting the Wednesday after his death (Ithaca Daily Journal, January 14, 1928, p. 7).

Progress was made rapidly on this plan, with approval of a sanctuary plan and presentation to the Ithaca Board of Public Works and the Stewart Park Commission by the end of the year. A fundraising announcement appeared in the Cornell Alumni News, February 9, 1928, p. 238: "Louis Fuertes's friends in Ithaca are being approached for contributions to build a wildlife sanctuary at Stewart Park. ...The project was Louis's own plan. His plan is being closely followed. The sanctuary will be known as The Louis A. Fuertes Memorial Wild Life Sanctuary. The minimum fund required is \$6,000. This will undoubtedly have been secured by the



### **Beginner Bird Walks at Sapsucker Woods**

*Saturdays and Sundays,  
8:30am-10:30am*

There is a free beginner bird walk at the Lab of Ornithology every weekend morning, led by Cayuga Bird Club volunteer docents. Meet at 8:30am by the Visitor Center entrance. Note that the Visitor Center does not open until 10am, and there are no restroom facilities. The walks last approximately 2 hours, and are timed to allow participants to take the 11am Behind-the-Scenes tour offered on most weekend days.

---

### **Other Regional Events**

*Feb. 22-23 (Sat-Sun): NYSOA's  
Winter Weekend in the Central  
Adirondacks: [nysbirds.org](http://nysbirds.org)*

*Mar. 26-29 (Thu-Sun): Finger  
Lakes Birding Festival:  
[ny.audubon.org/montezuma](http://ny.audubon.org/montezuma)*

---

### **Cayuga Lake Basin First-of-Year Birds Reported**

*January, 2020*

Birds found on January 1:

- Snow Goose
- Canada Goose
- Mute Swan
- Trumpeter Swan
- Tundra Swan
- Wood Duck
- Gadwall
- American Wigeon

Citizens' Committee before Louis's birthday on February 7. Funds beyond the minimum will be very welcome, and will be used to complete the full plan.

By late March, construction of the sanctuary had begun with dredging to create the pond surrounded by a moat. The article in the Cornell Alumni News for March 29, 1928, p. 323, Reprinted from Cornell Daily Sun, March 22, 1928, p. 5 reads: "Detailed Plans for the Fiertes Bird Sanctuary have been published. You remember the old Cascadilla Boathouse, on the little cove where Fall Creek empties into Cayuga Lake? Well, the sanctuary will include the boathouse and the marshy land near the Lake shore as far east as Stewart Park. The southern section of the marsh will be dredged, and water allowed to enter through sluices. A constant flow will be assured through this pool, which will be about four feet deep. At the southeast corner will be a feeding pond, where free food will be supplied in winter. An artesian well will be dug, so that the feeding-pond will be kept open all winter. A moat will encircle the swampy area, to keep out cats and other preying animals..."

In the "Cornell Alumni News," Apr. 30, 1931, an announcement reads: "Fund Sought to Finish Bird Sanctuary. The Cayuga Bird Club will campaign for a \$500 fund this Spring to complete the memorial to Louis A. Fiertes '97 at Stewart Park. The memorial, in the form of a refuge for waterfowl, was begun two years ago. Funds are now required to complete grading and planting and to erect stone pillars upon which bronze plaques are to be placed..."

The funds were raised by a public lecture given by George Miksch Sutton, which was covered in the "Ithaca Journal-News," May 2, 1931, p.5: "Large Audience at Bird Club Lecture for Fiertes Fund" and reads as follows: "A large audience last night attended an illustrated lecture given by George Miksch Sutton, noted painter and explorer. Mr. Sutton's lecture was on 'A Year in Arctic with Camera and Brush.' The lecture was given under the auspices of the Cayuga Bird Club and the proceeds will be used to help complete the Louis Agassiz Fiertes memorial bird sanctuary at the head.



- Mallard
- American Black Duck
- Northern Pintail
- Canvasback
- Redhead
- Ring-necked Duck
- Greater Scaup
- Lesser Scaup
- White-winged Scoter
- Long-tailed Duck
- Bufflehead
- Common Goldeneye
- Hooded Merganser
- Common Merganser
- Red-breasted Merganser
- Ruddy Duck
- Ring-necked Pheasant
- Ruffed Grouse
- Wild Turkey
- Pied-billed Grebe
- Red-necked Grebe
- Rock Pigeon
- Mourning Dove
- American Coot
- Ring-billed Gull
- Herring Gull
- Lesser Black-backed Gull
- Great Black-backed Gull
- Common Loon
- Double-crested Cormorant
- Great Blue Heron
- Turkey Vulture
- Northern Harrier
- Sharp-shinned Hawk
- Cooper's Hawk
- Bald Eagle
- Red-tailed Hawk
- Rough-legged Hawk
- Eastern Screech-Owl
- Great Horned Owl
- Snowy Owl
- Barred Owl
- Short-eared Owl
- Belted Kingfisher
- Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
- Red-bellied Woodpecker
- Downy Woodpecker
- Hairy Woodpecker
- Pileated Woodpecker
- Northern Flicker
- American Kestrel
- Merlin
- Eastern Phoebe
- Northern Shrike
- Blue Jay
- American Crow
- Fish Crow
- Common Raven
- Black-capped Chickadee
- Tufted Titmouse
- Golden-crowned Kinglet

The work wasn't completed until the spring of 1933, when the "Ithaca Journal-News" reported: "Gateway Will be Dedicated by Bird Club," noting "A memorial gateway in honor of Louis Agassiz Fuertes will be dedicated by the Cayuga Bird Club in Stewart Park at 5 o'clock Memorial Day afternoon. Dr. A. A. Allen, Cornell ornithologist and president of the club which raised money for the gateway, will make the speech of dedication. Mayor Herman Bergholtz will respond on behalf of the city. The stone structure stands at the west end of the park, and gives entrance to an observation area projection over the water fowl refuge. Observers of birds will be able to stand on this platform and study the birds below without having to look over a barring fence. The bronze tablet on the gateway has been designed by Prof. A. W. Smith."

---

## NY Breeding Bird Atlas



## Workshop with Dave Nicosia

*Tuesday, February 25, 7:00-9:00pm  
Cornell Lab of Ornithology*

New York's third Breeding Bird Atlas (NYS BBA III) has begun and will continue for the next 5 years. Cayuga Bird Club is bringing David Nicosia, NY Breeding Bird Atlas Area Coordinator, to lead a workshop on how to participate in the atlas effort, using breeding codes and a dedicated eBird portal for data submission. Dave will also discuss atlas block maps, the need to be aware of block boundaries while birding for the atlas, and resources available for everyone who wants to participate. Whether you are a beginner or advanced birder, participating in the atlas will strengthen your birdwatching skills while contributing valuable data to a statewide conservation project.

You may bring a laptop, tablet or mobile phone (with active eBird account) to the workshop to practice data entry. Contributing to the atlas project without using the eBird mobile app will also be covered. Doors open at 6:45pm.

Note: General eBird use will not be covered in this presentation; Cayuga Bird Club will offer an



- Ruby-crowned Kinglet
- Red-breasted Nuthatch
- White-breasted Nuthatch
- Brown Creeper
- House Wren
- Winter Wren
- Carolina Wren
- European Starling
- Gray Catbird
- Northern Mockingbird
- Eastern Bluebird
- American Robin
- Cedar Waxwing
- House Sparrow
- House Finch
- Purple Finch
- Pine Siskin
- American Goldfinch
- Snow Bunting
- Chipping Sparrow
- Field Sparrow
- American Tree Sparrow
- Dark-eyed Junco
- White-crowned Sparrow
- White-throated Sparrow
- Song Sparrow
- Swamp Sparrow
- Red-winged Blackbird
- Brown-headed Cowbird
- Yellow-rumped Warbler
- Northern Cardinal

Birds reported after January 1:

- 1/2 Green-winged Teal
- 1/2 Gyrfalcon
- 1/4 Horned Lark
- 1/7 Iceland Gull
- 1/7 Northern Saw-whet Owl
- 1/8 Peregrine Falcon
- 1/8 Hermit Thrush
- 1/11 Tufted Duck
- 1/11 Black Vulture
- 1/18 Horned Grebe
- 1/19 Lapland Longspur
- 1/20 American Pipit
- 1/20 Eastern Meadowlark
- 1/22 Savannah Sparrow
- 1/27 Cackling Goose
- 1/27 Glaucous Gull

**2020 year count: 116 species**

*Thanks to Dave Nutter for compiling these records. Complete lists can be found on the [CBC website](#).*

introductory eBird workshop later this spring.



### Breeding Codes Articles

Knowing the breeding codes and how to use them is a key skill for every atlaser. Atlas project coordinator Julie Hart has been authoring articles about Breeding Codes you may find useful.

- Part 1: Confirmations
  - [Online](#) or [PDF](#)
- Part 2: Possibles and Probables
  - [Online](#) or [PDF](#)



Count birds in your backyard, local park, or wherever you spot a bird, and submit your observations online:

[birdcount.org](http://birdcount.org)

*Carolina Wren Photo: Jenny Burdette/  
Great Backyard Bird Count*

### Field Trip Report

## Around the Lake

Bob McGuire

Sunday, January 12, 2020

Eighteen folks joined me for an all-day, 'round-the-lake trip on Sunday. The temperature plunged from the low 60's to the high 30's with strong wind out of the west.



Photo: Diane Morton

We stopped first along Taughanock Boulevard just above Hog Hole to scope the dwindling raft of ducks for Tufted Duck (reported the previous day) and came up empty. The consolation prize was a Golden-crowned Kinglet at the feeders. From there we proceeded north, checking the lake at several points and adding several species of ducks plus Common Loon.

By mid-morning we arrived at the Seneca Stone Quarry hoping for the visiting Gyrfalcon (no luck there). We did get a great look at a Snowy Owl on the runway at the local airport and then headed over to Cayuga Lake for a few more ducks.



Snowy Owl at FL Airport

After lunch at the Circle K near the refuge we drove up to Armitage Road for a quick lesson in swan ID (Trumpeters here), then back across the Mucklands (Tundra Swans here and a close-up Peregrine) and south on Rt 90 to Union Springs. Mill Pond gave us the first American Wigeon; Factory Street pond was empty.

## How to support the

## Conservation Action Committee

By Jody Enck



The committee has big plans to continue working on behalf of birds this year. We'll be putting up the Purple Martin house in Stewart Park in early March, and will increase our efforts to attract birds passing through the area. We are already working with the Cornell Botanic Gardens staff to continue our

habitat improvement work in Lighthouse Point Woods. We are working with Ithaca city Forester, Jeanne Grace, to expand our efforts to Renwick Woods adjacent to Stewart Park. We will continue working with staff and students from the New Roots Charter School, and will start working with a Cornell Cooperative Extension Rural Youth Educator to also involve kids from the Lehman Alternative Community School (LACS), DeWitt Middle School, and Caroline Elementary School. We also are planning a Bird-Garden Tour in June to provide ideas and encouragement for people to provide bird-friendly habitat around their house or apartment.

All this activity means that the committee needs lots of help. Here are the main roles that you can help fill:

**Champions:** Do you enjoy providing leadership and bringing organizational skills to a project? We need people to champion our efforts aimed at improving habitat and engaging community members in our efforts.

**Gawk Stars:** Do you enjoy looking at birds or plants? I love gawking at birds and flowering plants! We need people to turn that interest into information by helping us monitor birds and plant responses to our habitat work.

**Dirt Warriors:** Do you enjoy planning projects or reaping the fruits of your physical labor? We need people to help propagate trees and shrubs from seeds or cuttings, to help move seedlings to and from our locations, to help remove invasive species and plant native ones. And, we need people to take on the mantle of dirt warrior around their own homes to expand the Club's conservation efforts across the landscape.

**Ambassadors:** Do you enjoy getting the word out through communication, and working with people to make sure community engagement projects can be as successful as possible? We need people to interact with individuals and groups here in Ithaca, and even far away. On our upcoming international trip to Costa Rica, we'll be meeting with the San Vito Bird Club and visiting with some of the kids who take





*At the Mucklands*



*Peregrine Falcon*

The last stop of the day was the Aurora boathouse: no loons, no grebes, only distant Goldeneye. In spite of all the misses (Tufted Duck, Gyrfalcon, grebes) it felt like a successful day. This was the first trip for several participants, and at least one of them saw two “life birds”.

---

## **Field Trip Report Winter Birds**

*Diane Morton and Ken Kempfues  
Photos by Andrew Gipson  
January 19, 2020*

Seven participants joined us at Stewart Park for our postponed field trip. Postponing turned out to be a good move, with the temperature about 10 degrees warmer - into the 30's - on Sunday compared to Saturday. At the park we found a flock of about a thousand Redheads and other ducks diving in the lake directly out in front of us. Within minutes, Bob McGuire had spotted a Tufted Duck on the left end of the group of birds. All of us were able to get excellent scope views of this bird, noting the bright white sides contrasting sharply with black back, front and rear. And that remarkable tuft! While a Tufted Duck has often been found with Redheads on Cayuga Lake in winter, this was

part in their conservation program which benefits the exact same migratory bird species we are benefiting with our work locally.

If you've got any of these skills, please consider helping us out. If you are not sure if you have these skills, come on out and we'll build them together. To paraphrase an old poster: Our Birds Need You! Please contact me at [jodyenck@gmail.com](mailto:jodyenck@gmail.com) to find out how you can help.

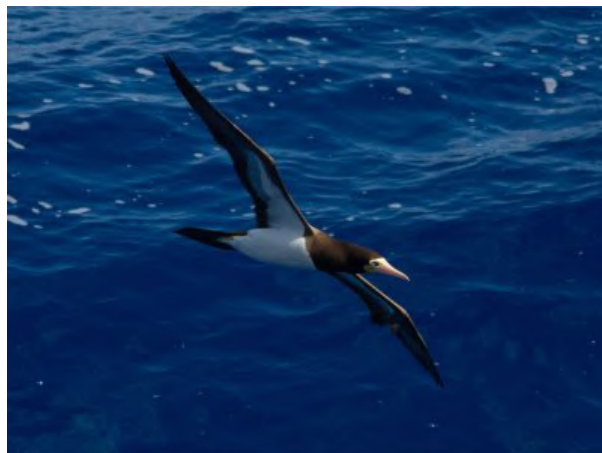
---

## **Photo Night Selections**

Twenty-two club members plus host Kevin McGowan shared their photographs at the annual Share Your Photos meeting on January 13, 2020. Here is a sampling of photos presented. More will be included in future newsletters.



Bush Stone-Curlews (Paul Anderson)



Brown Booby (Sarah Blodgett)

the best viewing ever of one for most of us.



*Redheads making a splash*

We moved on to the southwest side of the lake to view an even larger raft of about seven thousand ducks from Elaina McCartney's property. We had excellent light, and picked out Ring-necked Ducks, both species of Scaup and a few Canvasbacks among the thousands of Redheads. The changing shape of the raft was fascinating to watch as the birds were constantly shifting position. Hooded and Common Mergansers, American Black Ducks and Mallards and a single female Bufflehead were also seen well. Songbirds at the bird feeders entertained us here.



*Buffleheads in Choppy Water*

The wind on the east side of the lake was very strong, and we only spent a few minutes at East Shore Park, where Common Goldeneye were bobbing in the waves. We found two Common Loons and more Goldeneye at Ladoga Park. A stop along Lake Road, south of Aurora, yielded a small flock of Dark-eyed Juncos, a Carolina Wren, and surprisingly, a juvenile White-crowned Sparrow. Two adult Bald Eagles flew close by, one with a large stick in its talons. Later, from Aurora Bay boathouse, we could see two Bald Eagles actively moving about their large



Chestnut-Breasted Coronet (Jared Dawson)



White-Capped Albatross (Lindsay Goodloe)



Bald Eagle (Bob Horn)



nest. The wind was very strong, but we viewed Red-breasted Mergansers and Buffleheads bobbing in the waves of Aurora Bay.

Aurora was to have been our last stop of the field trip, but we received a message that Suan Yong had found two Great Horned Owls in Renwick Woods. Some of us decided to go there upon our return and we were lucky enough to meet Suan, who took us directly to a vantage point on the trail to see the owls. With a scope, we could see the breast feathers of one large owl in a tree cavity, and a second owl sleeping on the branch of another tree.

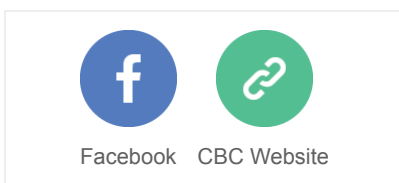


A great winter trip overall, starting with a Tufted Duck and ending with a pair of Great Horned Owls!

**Minutes**  
of the January 13, 2020  
Cayuga Bird Club meeting  
are available on the  
Cayuga Bird Club  
[website](http://cayugabirdclub.org).

**Don't miss** an issue of the newsletter: add newsletter@cayugabirdclub.org to your email contacts.

**Stay in touch** with the Cayuga Bird Club through our [Facebook](#) page and [Webpage](#) ([cayugabirdclub.org](http://cayugabirdclub.org)).



Superb Fairy-Wren (Ton Schat)



California Condor (Carl Steckler)



Arctic Tern (Kevin McGowan)

## Cayuga Bird Club

*Educating and inspiring the birding community of  
the Cayuga Lake Basin and Central New York  
since 1914*

*The Cayuga Bird Club meets on the second Monday of each month, September through June, beginning with refreshments at 7:15 pm in the Auditorium of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Johnson Center on Sapsucker Woods Road. All meetings and most field trips are free and open to the public. Membership costs \$15 annually per household, \$10 for students, payable*



in September. Payment may be made via Paypal at [cayugabirdclub.org/membership](http://cayugabirdclub.org/membership) or by mailing a check to: Cayuga Bird Club, c/o Cornell Lab of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca NY 14850. Please include your email address (or addresses for family memberships) with your membership application to receive the club newsletter. Members receive the monthly Cayuga Bird Club eNewsletter, from September through June. To make sure you don't miss an issue, add [newsletter@cayugabirdclub.org](mailto:newsletter@cayugabirdclub.org) to your email contacts.

Send newsletter submissions to [cbceditor1@gmail.com](mailto:cbceditor1@gmail.com) by the 25th to be included in the next issue. Please contribute sightings, news, announcements, book reviews, original poetry, art, photos, and anything else that might be of interest to the local birding community.

Cayuga Bird Club Officer contact information is available at [www.cayugabirdclub.org/about-us](http://www.cayugabirdclub.org/about-us).

Chickadee illustration in masthead by Karen Allaben-Confer.



You are receiving this email  
as a member of the Cayuga Bird Club.  
We do not share our email list with any other organization.

Cayuga Bird Club  
159 Sapsucker Woods Road  
Ithaca NY 14850

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

