



# Cayuga Bird Club

## June 2016

### In This Issue:

[From the President](#), Jody Enck

[Cayuga Bird Club Picnic](#), June 13

[2016-2017 CBC Budget](#)

[Calendar](#)

[Cayuga Basin First Records](#)

[Upcoming Field Trips](#)

[May Meeting Minutes](#)

[Photos of local nests and fledglings](#)

[Field Trip Report: Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Preserve](#)

Wes Blauvelt

[Field Trip Report: Hawthorn Orchard](#)

Chris Tessaglia-Hymes

[Field Trip Report: Shindagin Hollow](#)

Laura Stenzler

[Field Trip Report: Robinson Hollow](#)

Meena Haribal

[NYSOA Meeting September 9-11](#)

[Duck Stamps at Work](#): new additions to Wildlife Refuges

---

[Calendar](#)

## From the President



### *Summer is Just Another Season for Birding*

Hello Cayuga Bird Club Members,

The big pulse of spring migration is past us now. Many of the birds that nest here in our area are well on their way to producing some fledglings (or even a second batch of fledglings by now). A few songbird species that nest in the Boreal Forest of North America are still trickling overhead, and the last big waves of shorebirds are winging their way to the Arctic for breeding. If you are like me, you enjoy these seasonal changes in the characters on Nature's grand stage.

Most of us have our own annual rhythms that we follow. Some of those rhythms are linked to the four seasons, some are linked to important days in our lives, or certain events. For me, nothing says "turn the page on the calendar" quite like paying attention to the comings-and-goings of the birds in my local patch. Summer is a busy time for birds locally. There still are territories and mates to defend, young to feed, and individual nutritional needs to attend (in advance of molting later in the summer).

Sure, birds are quieter now than in the Spring, and overall are less noticeable. But they are still out there. By the end of nesting season, a greater number of individuals of these nesting species will be here than at any other time of the year. Summer is a great time to bird locally. Get to

meet at Wegmans parking lot near the inlet at 7:30 am or at the intersection of Connecticut Hill Rd., Boylan Rd., and Lloyd Starks Rd at 7:50 am.

Leader: Suan Yong

### June 13 Cayuga Bird Club

**Picnic**, 6:30 pm

Myers Point, Pavillion A, Lansing.  
Dish-to-pass dinner.

### Sept. 9-11 NYSOA Annual Meeting,

Riverview Holiday Inn, Elmira

### Sept. 12 Cayuga Bird Club Meeting, 7:30 pm

Cornell Lab of Ornithology

See our [Web Calendar](#) for more events and field trips.

## **Annual Cayuga Bird Club Picnic, Monday, June 13**

Our end-of-year Cayuga Bird Club dish-to-pass picnic will once again be held at Myers Point Park (off Route 34B in the town of Lansing) on June 13 at 6:30 pm.

Come meet and socialize with your fellow bird club members! Bring a generous dish-to-share, your own place setting, beverage, and binoculars, and join us at the pavilion close to the spit at Myers Point. We will have a short walk to look for birds in the park after dinner.

## **First-of-Year Birds Reported during May 2016 for the Cayuga Lake Basin**

Listed below are Cayuga Lake Basin first arrivals reported during the month of May, 2016.

May 1 Willet  
May 1 Long-billed Dowitcher  
May 1 Red-eyed Vireo

Facebook page. Submit a checklist to eBird or follow the fate of some nests and submit them to NestWatch. Use YardMap to map out the bird habitat in your local patch. Summer is a great time to bird, so get out there and enjoy their company.

Please enjoy the company of your fellow Club Members, too, at our annual, dish-to-pass picnic on Monday June 13<sup>th</sup>. We'll be gathering between 6:00 and 6:30 pm that evening at Pavilion A in Myer's Point Park in Lansing. We'll plan to eat around 6:30. Bring your binoculars as we'll go on a little bird walk after eating. Please bring a main course, appetizer, or dessert to share, bring your own place settings, and something to drink.

As you enter the park, stop at the traffic booth and let them know you are attending the Cayuga Bird Club picnic. The Club is charged per car, so I strongly encourage you to consider car-pooling. I can take up to three other people in my car. One idea would be to meet at the Mall on Triphammer Road, and I could drive from there. I will facilitate the car-pooling idea as much as possible. If you either can offer a ride, or need a ride, please email me at [jwe4@cornell.edu](mailto:jwe4@cornell.edu) and I will coordinate the effort.

See you at the picnic!



## **2016-2017 Budget**

Susan Danskin

At the May 9 Cayuga Bird Club meeting, the membership voted to approve the budget shown below.

May 3 Wilson's Warbler  
 May 3 Scarlet Tanager  
 May 4 Ruby-throated Hummingbird  
 May 4 Hooded Warbler  
 May 6 Prothonotary Warbler  
 May 6 Clay-colored Sparrow  
 May 7 Mourning Warbler  
 May 7 Canada Warbler  
 May 8 Eastern Wood-Pewee  
 May 8 Philadelphia Vireo  
 May 8 Swainson's Thrush  
 May 8 Golden-winged Warbler  
 May 8 Tennessee Warbler  
 May 8 Orange-crowned Warbler  
 May 8 Cape May Warbler  
 May 9 Hudsonian Godwit  
 May 9 Yellow-billed Cuckoo  
 May 9 Black-billed Cuckoo  
 May 9 Worm-eating Warbler  
 May 10 Stilt Sandpiper  
 May 10 Short-billed Dowitcher  
 May 10 Grasshopper Sparrow  
 May 12 White-rumped Sandpiper  
 May 12 Common Nighthawk  
 May 12 Yellow-bellied Flycatcher  
 May 13 Acadian Flycatcher  
 May 13 Willow Flycatcher  
 May 13 Bay-breasted Warbler  
 May 14 Black Scoter  
 May 14 Least Bittern  
 May 14 Semipalmated Sandpiper  
 May 14 Red-headed Woodpecker  
 May 14 Olive-sided Flycatcher  
 May 14 Alder Flycatcher  
 May 20 Black-bellied Plover  
 May 20 American Golden-Plover  
 May 21 Whimbrel  
 May 26 Wilson's Phalarope  
 May 26 Eastern Whip-poor-will  
 May 29 Laughing Gull

**2016 count to date: 254 species**

Thanks to Dave Nutter for compiling these records for the club. Details are available on the [CBC website](#).

### [Upcoming Field Trips](#)

On **June 4**, Suan Yong will lead a Cayuga Bird Club field trip to [Connecticut Hill](#). Meet at **7:30 am** at Wegmans parking lot (away

	ACTUAL (YTD) 2015-2016	ADOPTED 2016-2017	EXPLANATION
<b>Income</b>			
	as of 4/21/2016		
Donations Received	\$ 460.00	\$ 500.00	donations above and beyond membership
Dues Received	\$ 1,950.00	\$ 1,850.00	membership dues
Interest Income (Savings)	\$ 5.54	\$ 10.00	interest earned savings acct
Interest Income (CD)	\$ 7.32	\$ -	interest earned on CD
<b>Income Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,422.86</b>	<b>\$ 2,360.00</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>			
Brochures	\$ (498.00)	\$ -	membership brochures
Conservation Action C	\$ -	\$ (100.00)	
Donations Paid	\$ -	\$ (450.00)	Redheads World Series of Birding, FLLT SBO
Dues Paid	\$ (300.00)	\$ (300.00)	FLLT, Lab of O, NYSOA, & NYSYBC
Gifts Given	\$ -	\$ -	condolences
Insurance	\$ (442.00)	\$ (450.00)	Arcadia insurance annual premium
Muckrace	\$ (50.00)	\$ (100.00)	entry fees for up to 2 recreational teams
NYSOA Annual Meeting	\$ -	\$ (200.00)	delegate attendance
Paypal Fees	\$ (39.71)	\$ (40.00)	paypal fees from membership payments
Posters	\$ -	\$ -	
Speaker Dinner	\$ 205.91	\$ (250.00)	9 speaker dinners & Myers pavillion rental
Speaker Travel	\$ -	\$ (200.00)	travel fees for 1 speaker
Supplies	\$ -	\$ -	
Website/Software Fees	\$ -	\$ (14.99)	domain name, ibank, publishing software
<b>Expenses Total</b>	<b>\$ (1,123.80)</b>	<b>\$ (2,104.99)</b>	
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 1,299.06</b>	<b>\$ 255.01</b>	

## [Trip Report: Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Preserve, May 7](#)

Wes Blauvelt

Twelve club members and birding enthusiasts joined Ann Mitchell and me for a walk about the Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Preserve on Saturday, May 7, 2016. The morning started out with clear skies to the east and a strong morning sun, but as the day progressed the skies became overcast. The early light enhanced our observations of a **Prairie Warbler** and **Veery** near the entrance to the preserve. Along the path through the woods we encountered additional Prairie Warblers, along with **Chestnut-sided Warblers** and an early morning chorus of other song birds. From the path across the meadow we listened to singing **Black-and-White** and **Blue-winged Warblers** and heard the first of several **Brown Thrashers**. At Coleman Lake and the Beaver Pond overlook we observed **Great Blue Heron**, **Solitary Sandpipers** and a **Killdeer**, while the "Pleased, pleased, pleased to meetcha" calls of the Chestnut-sided Warbler and "squeaky" wheel of the Black-and-White Warblers continued. The first of several **Wood Thrushes** made its presence known here and **Ruffed Grouse** joined in the chorus with their muffled drumming. Along with the

Connecticut Hill Rd., Boylan Rd., and Lloyd Starks Rd. Plan to finish by noon. Bring water and a snack. Insect repellent may also be helpful.

This trip is open to both members and non-members of the Cayuga Bird Club. All levels of experience are welcome.

Field trips may be scheduled later in the summer; these will be posted on the Cayuga Bird Club website and/or to the Cayugabirds Listserv.

### May Cayuga Bird Club Meeting Minutes

recorded by Becky Hansen are available at the [CBC website](#).

The Ithaca Journal also reported on the new [City of Ithaca ban](#) on feeding waterfowl and other efforts to manage the Canada Goose population that were discussed by Josephine Martell and Rick Manning at the CBC meeting on May 9.

### It's Nesting Season!

The migration season is slowing and the nesting season is getting into full swing. This is the time of year to appreciate the birds that build their nests and raise their young here in the Finger Lakes region of New York. You may have American Robins, House Wrens, or Northern Cardinals nesting near your home, or you may see woodpeckers, swallows or chickadees going into nest cavities. Larger birds may be

observed **Eastern Kingbirds**, **Wood Ducks** and **Hooded Mergansers** around the kettle ponds and we heard our first **Common Yellowthroats** of the day. The trail through the honeysuckle shrubs produced additional warblers including **Yellow** and **Yellow-rumped** along with several **Gray Catbirds**.



*Ovenbird photo by Becky Hansen*

We continued on the trail, working our way across the stream and railroad bed, uphill into the forest and around Celia's Cup. **Ovenbirds** were ever-present with their "teacher-teacher" calls and Wood Thrush and Veery also made their presence known.

The blue trail through the forest produced **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers** and **Pileated Woodpeckers**, along with numerous Ovenbirds and our only **Black-throated Blue Warbler** of the day. This gem was difficult to find initially, but its continuing song lead us to finding it foraging high up in a stand of hemlocks.

As we worked our way back through the forest and meadows, we added **Nashville Warbler** to our count and several sparrow species, including **White-throated**, **Field**, and **Song Sparrows** and an **Eastern Towhee**. The species count for the day totaled 54.

and American Crows.

Below are some recent photos of nests, hatchlings and fledgings in our area.



*Wild Turkey nest with 11 eggs, photo by Donna Scott*



*American Robin nest, photo by Nancy Cusumano*



*Mourning Dove nest, photo by Suan Yong*



*Red-tailed Hawk nest with two*



## May 14 and 15 Field Trips to the Hawthorn Orchard

Chris Tessaglia-Hymes

On Saturday morning, May 14, I led a Cayuga Bird Club trip at the **Hawthorn Orchard**. There were 27 participants, which made for an interesting challenge of getting people to see various birds, but I greatly thank everyone for helping each other out spotting birds that were seen – this was definitely teamwork! I especially want to call out Bob McGuire who stepped in to help out with the other end of the group: thank you, Bob!!

The highlight was most certainly the abundance of **Tennessee Warblers** (18-20 individuals). This species was seen and heard well by all. The abundance of this species presented an ideal opportunity to demonstrate how to estimate the number of individuals being seen or heard from a single location. By the end of the trip, everyone was confident in the identification of Tennessee Warblers both by sight and sound.

We saw or heard 68 species on Saturday, including 15 warbler species. In addition to Tennessee Warblers, we found **Blue-winged Warbler**, **Cape May Warbler**, **Nashville**, **Magnolia**, **Yellow**, **Chestnut-sided**, **Yellow-rumped**, **Black-throated Blue**, **Bay-breasted**, **Blackpoll** and **Wilson's Warblers**, **Common Yellowthroat**, **American Redstart**, and **Northern Parula**. Additional species of note included two **Scarlet Tanagers**, a singing **Philadelphia Vireo**, two **Indigo Buntings**, a **Merlin** flying over, a quiet **Swainson's Thrush**, several singing **Wood Thrushes** and a very



Great Horned Owl fledglings, photo by Suan Yong



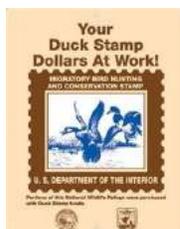
Barred Owl fledgling, photo by Paul Pflanz



Killdeer parent with chick, photo by Suzanne Horning

Note: Audubon has recently published helpful [guidelines](#) for photography of nesting birds to maintain their safety during the vulnerable process of rearing young.

## **Duck Stamps at work**



On April 20th the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission (MBCC) met to approve expenditures of \$10.8 million from

Several people also heard **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** calling from the Northeast corner. (Bob and Joan Horn heard a Yellow-billed Cuckoo in this area on Sunday as well).

On Sunday, May 15, fifteen souls braved the crisp WNW winds for a second morning walk at the Hawthorn Orchard. Despite the conditions, everyone got really nice looks at several accommodating individuals. Highlights included 10 warbler species, fewer than Saturday, with **Tennessee Warbler** once again being the most abundant species. We also saw several very showy **Northern Parulas**, one very cooperative **Black-throated Blue Warbler** and several **American Redstarts**, including at least one 1st-year male. Despite the cold and blustery conditions, we identified 47 bird species here on Sunday.

Thanks to everyone who joined me at the Hawthorn Orchard for these trips!

eBird reports with full species lists for each of these morning walks at the Hawthorn Orchard can be viewed here:

[eBird checklist May 14](#)

[eBird checklist May 15](#)

Refuges, through purchases of fee-title land and conservation easements. These funds were raised largely through the sale of Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamps, commonly known as "Duck Stamps". The stamp program, of course, is waterfowl-driven, securing wetland and grassland habitat for the NWRs. But by default, the MBCC decisions benefit many other species of birds - shorebirds, long-legged waders, raptors, songbirds, and more - as well as broad selection of other wildlife.

The NWR projects selected by the MBCC at last month's meeting were the following:

- Cache River NWR, Arkansas - acquisition of 978 fee acres for \$2,391,000.
- Neches River NWR, Texas - acquisition of 952 fee acres for \$1,476,351.
- Nisqually NWR, Washington - acquisition of 809 fee acres and 140 easement acres for \$3,466,000.
- Tulare Basin Wildlife Management Area, California - acquisition of 160 fee acres for \$560,000.
- Umbagog NWR, Maine - acquisition of 4,091 fee acres for \$2,583,000.
- Willow Creek-Lurline NWR, California - acquisition of 115 easement acres for \$402,000.

If you bought a Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation [Duck] Stamp last year, your investment in wetland and grassland conservation is paying off with these recent Refuge System acquisitions.

From [friendsofthestamp.org](http://friendsofthestamp.org).



photos by Bob McGuire

## [May 21 Cayuga Bird Club Field Trip to Shindagin Hollow State Forest](#)

Laura Stenzler

Ten people joined me on Saturday, May 21, to explore **Shindagin Hollow** south of Ithaca. A number of the participants had never been to this birding hotspot before, which made it especially fun for me! We met at the Lab of Ornithology at 7 am and carpoled to the northern end of the unpaved part of Shindagin Hollow Rd. We left four of the 5 cars there and dropped one about a mile further south. We then proceeded on a leisurely and productive walk to the second car. We heard and saw many of the breeding birds including **Black-throated Blue**, **Black-throated Green**, **Canada**, **Hooded**, **American Redstart**, **Mourning**, **Ovenbird** and **Chestnut-sided Warblers**. There were many singing **Veery** and **Wood Thrush** and we also enjoyed a great look at a **Scarlet Tanager**. Many people were working on honing their song-ID skills, so we spent some time on that, sharing hints on remembering the differences. At one point, someone found a perched

the trees. Once we reached the car, all drivers received a ride back to the start point to retrieve their cars, which allowed us to proceed another mile or so to the cedar swamp where we enjoyed the hillside full of white Trilliums. It was a great, birdy morning with wonderful company!

---

## **[May 22 Field Trip to Robinson Hollow State Forest](#)**

Meena Haribal

Four participants - one club member and the rest members of the Haribal family - went to Robinson Hollow on this rainy day looking for birds. Initially, it drizzled and then it was more intense, so most of the time we birded from the car. We drove to Robinson Hollow Road (a seasonal road) and from there to Creamery Road and Seamons Road. Then via Hartford-Slaterville and Snyder Hill Road we returned to East Hill Plaza. We stopped for a few minutes at Goetchius Preserve on Flatiron road.

Highlights were **Canada**, **Chestnut-sided**, **Magnolia**, and **Blue-winged Warblers**, two intensely fighting **Veeries** as well as other **Veeries**, and two singing **Louisiana Waterthrushes** along Robinson Hollow Road. We also saw and heard a few **Bobolinks** and a **Yellow-throated Vireo** on Seamons Road. On Flatiron Road we got a good look at a **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker**, three **Eastern Kingbirds**, and a beautiful **Wood Duck**. Overall we ended up seeing/hearing about 50 species of birds in spite of the continuous drizzle.

---

## **[Come to Elmira September 9-11, 2016 for the NYS Birders Conference & NYSOA Annual Meeting](#)**

The Chemung Valley Audubon Society will host the 2016 Annual Meeting of the New York State Ornithological Association and the New York State Birders Conference. The conference will take place September 9-11 at the Riverview Holiday Inn, 760 East Water Street, Elmira, NY. As the hotel's name indicates, the venue is on the shores

Friday afternoon, John James Audubon himself will take early arrivers on a bird walk along the river starting at the Holiday Inn. The target species is the Labrador Duck. The last report of the species was from the Chemung River in 1878. Mr. Audubon, portrayed by renowned historic person reenactor Brian Fox Ellis, will also take us back to his own past when he addresses attendees following the Friday night buffet dinner.

Saturday morning will begin with field trips to some of our local hot spots with hopes of finding numerous neotropical migrants. The Meeting of Delegates will take place later that morning while non-delegates continue their birding quests. The afternoon will feature the Paper Session.

The keynote speaker following Saturday evening's dinner will be Dr. Richard (Rob) Bierregaard who will be presenting *Tracking Ospreys in the Age of Silicon: Migration, Ecology, and Conservation*. Dr. Bierregaard has radio tagged 52 juvenile and 43 adult Ospreys in order to learn the answers to questions such as: How far from home do they go to catch fish? When they migrate, do they follow the same path each year? Do they winter in the same locations? Where in the migratory cycle does most mortality occur? Are there bottlenecks where conservation intervention might help the species? How do young birds find their way to South America? Is the timing and relative importance of different sources of mortality the same for adults as it is for juveniles on their first migration south? His studies—the first to collect a significant body of data on juvenile migration—have led to surprising discoveries about the dispersal and migration of naïve Ospreys as they leave their natal territories and explore the world around them. Ever-more sophisticated satellite

transmitters have enabled us to document in



unprecedented detail the hunting behavior of adult males feeding their families.

From 1995 to 2011, Dr. Bierregaard taught Ornithology and Ecology in the Biology Department of UNC Charlotte, where he was the major advisor for 6 M.Sc. students. Previously (1988-1993) he managed the Biological Dynamics of Forest Fragments Project (BDFFP) out of the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of Natural History. Dr. Bierregaard was the original field director of the BDFFP in Manaus, Brazil. While running the project for 8 years (1979-88), he and his students collected data from over 50,000 mist-net captures of 25,000 individual understory birds in continuous and fragmented rainforest habitat.

Dr. Bierregaard focuses on the conservation and ecology of raptors and Neotropical birds. His papers have been published in a number of scientific journals, including *Conservation Biology*, *J. Raptor Res.*, *Ornithological Monographs*, and *BioScience*. Dr. Bierregaard co-authored the Osprey account for the Birds of North America Project, wrote the 81 species accounts for the Neotropical Falconiformes in the *Handbook of Birds of the World*, and edited *Tropical Forest Remnants: Ecology, Management and Conservation of Fragmented Communities*, as well as *Lessons From Amazonia: The Ecology and Management of a Fragmented Forest*. His present research focuses on Osprey population dynamics in southeastern New England and the migration of Ospreys in eastern North America. He has presented papers at annual meetings of the American Ornithologists' Union, Society for Conservation Biology, Brazilian Ornithological Society, International Ornithological Union, Ecological Society of America, Raptor Research Foundation, and International Association of Landscape Ecology. He is a Fellow of the American Ornithologists Union and was recently re-elected to the Board of Directors of the Raptor Research Foundation. In 2011 he moved from Charlotte to Wynnewood, PA, where he is now a research associate of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University.

Watch for further details about the meeting on the NYSOA website at [www.nybirds.org](http://www.nybirds.org).

---

***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 p.m. 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. To join, send a check (made out to "Cayuga Bird Club") to Cayuga Bird Club Treasurer, c/o Cornell Lab of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, NY 14850. [Online payment option](#) is available at the Cayuga Bird Club website.

Members receive via email the monthly Cayuga Bird Club Newsletter, from September through June. Newsletter submissions may be sent to Diane Morton, [cbceditor1@gmail.com](mailto:cbceditor1@gmail.com). Of particular interest are articles about local bird sightings, bird behavior, birding hot spots, book reviews, and original poetry, art, and photos.

Cayuga Bird Club Officer Contact Information is available on the [Cayuga Bird Club website](#).

*Chickadee illustration in masthead by Karen Allaben-Confer*

---

**Stay in touch** with the Cayuga Bird Club through our [Facebook](#) page and [Cayuga Bird Club Website!](#)



Facebook



CBC Website



Share



Forward

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

Subscribe

Share ▼

Past Issues

[unsubscribe](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Translate ▼

MailChimp