



Cayuga Bird Club

May 2018

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Cayuga Bird Club Meeting
May 14, 2018



Birds of the Pantanal and Atlantic forests of Brazil

Speaker: Meena Haribal

Meena Haribal will share her experiences traveling and birding in the Pantanal and Atlantic forest of Brazil. She spent three months in Brazil photographing and recording birds, anurans and other critters. She'll introduce the birds and natural history of the region and also talk about her two months volunteering at Iracambi, a conservation organization working "to see the beautiful Brazilian Atlantic Forest restored, with prosperous communities living in a flourishing landscape." The talk will include slides, videos and sounds.

Meena is originally from India, now settled in the US for more than 25 years. She is past-president of the Cayuga Bird Club and has been actively involved with the club activities. She has been interested in nature, photography, travel and science for a long time and has traveled to various

Calendar

**May 5 Field Trip: Park Preserve,
7:00 am - noon**

Leader: Paul Anderson
Meet at north parking lot, Lab of O

**May 6 Field Trip: Finger Lakes
National Forest, 7:30 am - 4:00 pm**

Leader: Joshua Snodgrass
Meet at Teeter Pond parking area on
Seneca Rd west of Potomac Rd,
Finger Lakes National Forest

May 7 CLO Seminar, 7:30 - 9:00 pm

Speaker: Tim Low
*How Australia's Birds Populated the
World*

**May 14 Cayuga Bird Club Meeting,
7:30 pm - 9:00 pm**

Cornell Lab of Ornithology
Speaker: Meena Haribal
*Birds of the Pantanal and Atlantic
Forests of Brazil*

**May 19 Field Trip: Danby &
Thatcher's Pinnacles, 7:00 am -
noon**

Leader: Wes Blavelt

**May 20 Field Trip: Shindagin
Hollow, 7:00 am - noon**

Leader: Laura Stenzler

**May 26 Finger Lake Land Trust
Spring Bird Quest**

High Vista Nature Preserve, 7:30 am
Hinchcliff Family Preserve, 9:30 am
Leader: Mark Chao

**May 27 Finger Lake Land Trust
Spring Bird Quest**

Houghton Land Preserve, Corning,
8:00 am
Leader: Mark Chao

**May 28 Finger Lake Land Trust
Spring Bird Quest**

Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity
Preserve, 8:00 am
Leader: Mark Chao

**June 3 Field Trip: Dorothy McIlroy
Preserve, Summerhill, 7:00 am -
noon**

Leader: Gladys Birdsall



parts of the world including Antarctica, the Arctic, the Galapagos Islands, South America, and extensively in India. She retired as Research Associate from The Boyce

Thompson Institute in Ithaca, NY where she conducted research in Chemical Ecology.

Cayuga Bird Club meetings start at 7:30 pm, the second Monday of every month. Doors open at 7:00 pm and all meetings are open to the public. Seating is limited; if room capacity is reached, the building will be locked.

From the President

Wes Blavelt



In this newsletter you will find a copy of the [proposed 2018-19 budget](#) for the Cayuga Bird Club. The budget was prepared by our club Treasurer and reviewed by the

Executive Council. It is recommended for approval.

The 2017-18 budget's performance was consistent with expectations. Revenues ran ahead of forecast by 27% (a good thing) and expenses were on budget. This resulted in a small fund balance/profit. It should be noted that the year-end revenue is conservatively estimated, and does not fully reflect a donation from Holbrook Travel for the club-sponsored Costa Rica field trip. Jody Enck, who organized this trip on behalf of the Cayuga Bird Club, presented a \$1600 check to the club from Holbrook Travel at the April 9 Cayuga Bird Club meeting. This donation will further improve total

**June 10 Field Trip: Connecticut Hill,
7:30am - noon**

Leader: Suan Yong and Dave Gislason

**June 11 CBC Annual Dish-to-Pass
Picnic, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm**

Myers Point Park Pavilion A, Lansing

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

Minutes

of the April 9, 2018 Cayuga
Bird Club meeting
are [available](#) on the Cayuga
Bird Club website.

**First-of-Year Birds
Reported for the Cayuga
Lake Basin**

Cayuga Lake Basin birds reported in April are listed below.

- Apr. 2 Lesser Yellowlegs
- Apr. 2 Caspian Tern
- Apr. 3 Barn Swallow
- Apr. 6 Common Gallinule
- Apr. 6 Evening Grosbeak
- Apr. 8 Dunlin
- Apr. 8 Little Gull
- Apr. 8 Red Crossbill
- Apr. 10 Ruff
- Apr. 11 Common Tern
- Apr. 11 Northern Rough-winged Swallow
- Apr. 12 American Bittern
- Apr. 12 Virginia Rail
- Apr. 12 Solitary Sandpiper
- Apr. 13 American White Pelican
- Apr. 13 Green Heron
- Apr. 13 Spotted Sandpiper
- Apr. 13 Forster's Tern
- Apr. 13 Bank Swallow
- Apr. 13 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
- Apr. 13 Louisiana Waterthrush
- Apr. 14 Pectoral Sandpiper
- Apr. 14 Cliff Swallow
- Apr. 14 Palm Warbler
- Apr. 14 Western Meadowlark
- Apr. 15 Chimney Swift

revenue received for the year and increase the fund balance. Thanks to Jody both for organizing a great international birding opportunity for members of the club, and for connecting with Holbrook travel to obtain this donation to the club!

For the budget period 2018-19, revenues and expenses are increased by 12.5% and 17.6% respectively. Increases in revenue for this period are expected to be generated from donations and membership dues. Expenses have been increased by \$400 to support the activities of the Conservation Committee, to field a second club-sponsored Muck Race Team and to set aside funds to be made as donations in remembrance of club members who have passed.

Overall, the financial health of our club is strong. The balance sheet carries no debt and has a strong cash position and will be further enhanced by the Holbrook donation. In addition to cash assets, the club also maintains an inventory of field guides and other books that carry value and will eventually be converted to cash. As such, we are in a position to selectively support projects that may be proposed by our Conservation Committee and others. It is my hope that within the next year we will be able to redirect some of these assets to the conservation and preservation of birds.



Proposed 2018-2019 CBC Budget

Susan Danskin, Treasurer

- Apr. 15 Blue-headed Vireo
- Apr. 15 Cave Swallow
- Apr. 15 House Wren
- Apr. 15 Marsh Wren
- Apr. 16 Black-crowned Night Heron
- Apr. 18 Broad-winged Hawk
- Apr. 18 Magnolia Warbler
- Apr. 20 Sora
- Apr. 21 Yellow Warbler
- Apr. 22 Snowy Egret
- Apr. 22 Common Yellowthroat
- Apr. 23 Upland Sandpiper
- Apr. 23 Eastern Kingbird
- Apr. 24 Northern Waterthrush
- Apr. 24 Prairie Warbler
- Apr. 24 Baltimore Oriole
- Apr. 25 Nashville Warbler
- Apr. 26 Least Flycatcher
- Apr. 27 Least Sandpiper
- Apr. 27 Black Tern
- Apr. 27 Ovenbird
- Apr. 27 Black-and-White Warbler
- Apr. 27 Black-throated Green Warbler
- Apr. 28 Great Crested Flycatcher
- Apr. 28 Prothonotary Warbler
- Apr. 28 Bobolink

2018 total count: 203 species

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



Prairie Warbler, Paul Anderson

Upcoming Field Trips

Paul Anderson will lead a trip to the **Park Preserve on Saturday, May 5, 7:00 am - noon**. This 300 acre preserve offers a mix of habitats from conifer plantations to hardwoods and ravines. Magnolia Warblers, Indigo

| 2018-2019 PROPOSED CBC BUDGET | | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | BUDGETED | ACTUAL (YTD) | Projected | PROPOSED |
| | 2017-2018 | 2017-2018 | through year | 2018-2019 |
| | as of March 17 | | | |
| Income | | | | |
| Donations Received | \$ 550.00 | \$ 915.00 | \$ 915.00 | \$ 800.00 |
| Dues Received | \$ 1,800.00 | \$ 2,080.00 | \$ 2,080.00 | \$ 1,900.00 |
| Interest Income (Savings) | \$ 10.00 | \$ 7.53 | \$ 10.00 | \$ 10.00 |
| Interest Income (CD) | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Income Total | \$ 2,360.00 | \$ 3,002.53 | \$ 3,005.00 | \$ 2,710.00 |
| Expenses | | | | |
| Brochures | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Conservation Committee | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ (200.00) |
| Donations Paid | \$ (450.00) | \$ - | \$ (450.00) | \$ (450.00) |
| Dues Paid | \$ (300.00) | \$ (300.00) | \$ (300.00) | \$ (300.00) |
| Gifts Given | \$ - | \$ (150.00) | \$ (150.00) | \$ (100.00) |
| Insurance | \$ (461.04) | \$ (387.80) | \$ (466.48) | \$ (470.00) |
| Muckrace | \$ (100.00) | \$ - | \$ (100.00) | \$ (200.00) |
| NYSOA Annual Meeting | \$ (350.00) | \$ - | \$ (350.00) | \$ (350.00) |
| Paypal Fees | \$ (40.00) | \$ (41.21) | \$ (41.21) | \$ (41.00) |
| Posters | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Speaker Dinner | \$ (250.00) | \$ (143.85) | \$ (170.00) | \$ (250.00) |
| Speaker Travel | \$ (300.00) | \$ (200.00) | \$ (300.00) | \$ (300.00) |
| Supplies | \$ (30.00) | \$ (9.80) | \$ (9.80) | \$ (25.00) |
| Website/Software Fees | \$ (14.99) | \$ - | \$ (14.99) | \$ (14.99) |
| Expenses Total | \$ (2,296.03) | \$ (1,232.66) | \$ (2,352.48) | \$ (2,700.99) |
| Net Income | \$ 63.97 | \$ 1,769.87 | \$ 652.52 | \$ 9.01 |

Cayuga Bird Club receives donation from Holbrook Travel



Jody Enck, conservation committee chair, presents a check for \$1600 from Holbrook Travel to Diane Morton, CBC vice president, at the April 9 Cayuga Bird Club meeting. Jody arranged a club trip to Costa Rica in April with Holbrook Travel; this donation to the club is one of the benefits of that trip.

Field Trip Report - Dryden Lake

Ann Mitchell

On April 8th, three excellent birders joined me to bird Dryden Lake. The weather started out calm and cold, changing to blustery and snowy. On the lake we saw American Wigeon, Mallards, Black Ducks, about 30 Ring-necked Ducks, Gadwall, Hooded Mergansers displaying, Common Mergansers, one Red-breasted Merganser, Pied-

Buntings, Prairie Warblers and Louisiana Waterthrush are just a few of the birds that breed here. Bring insect repellent for those deer ticks! Meet at the north parking lot of the Cornell lab of Ornithology at 7:00 am for carpooling. This trip is open to all. Contact Paul at 607- 216-5389 or fishoak@gmail.com if you have questions.

Josh Snodgrass will lead an all day trip to the **Finger Lakes National Forest on Sunday, May 6, 7:30 am - 4:00 pm**. We will meet at the parking lot at Teeter Pond on Seneca Rd at 7:30 am. The Finger Lakes National Forest has a great variety of habitats, from grasslands and grazing areas, to scrubland, wildlife ponds, mature deciduous forests, transitional habitat, and hemlock-filled ravines. We will visit a selection of these habitats, including several eBird hotspots. We have the potential to see Eastern Meadowlarks, Bobolinks, and Savannah Sparrows in some of their grassland strongholds, with the possibility of Vesper and Grasshopper Sparrows. Many locations offer great potential for breeding and migrating warblers, including Yellow, Common Yellowthroat, Chestnut-sided, Hooded, American Redstart, Black-throated Green, Blue-winged, and possibly Prairie or Mourning Warblers, as well as several species of vireos and thrushes. Possible raptors included Northern Harrier, Broad-winged Hawk, and American Kestrel. This will be an all day trip in rustic habitat, with plans for a lunch break (location TBD, possibly Grist Iron Brewery on 414). Some of the trails may be quite muddy, depending on weather, so dress accordingly, and bring insect repellent. All are welcome, regardless of experience or membership status. Come explore New York's only National Forest, and some great habitat between Cayuga and Seneca

billed and one Horned Grebe, many Double-crested Cormorants and a number of Great Blue Herons. As we walked the trail we saw Golden-crowned Kinglets and two Eastern Phoebes who didn't look happy to be there! I pointed out the Bald Eagle's nest with an occupant. The other Eagle was sitting in a tree eating a fish. There were also two Osprey flying about. Towards the end of the path we counted at least three Swamp Sparrows and had a great look at one perched on a stalk. In total we saw thirty-two species which wasn't bad for a snowy, cold day.

On the way back to our cars, we ran into a Spring Field Ornithology group and shared the location of the eagle's nest. That was fun.

It was only a little after 10 am when our trip was over, so we all went to the local diner for breakfast and lots of warm coffee. It was a good day!!

Field Trip Report - Stewart Park & Jetty Woods

Gladys Birdsall

On Sunday morning, April 22nd, thirteen people joined me for a walk in Stewart Park. The sunshine was awesome, but there was a light breeze at the start making it quite chilly.

There was a nice group of male and female Ruddy Ducks right offshore for great viewing -- such beautiful ducks. The majority of waterfowl out on the water were scaup and Bufflehead. The Bufflehead were scattered all over, many of the males doing their courtship dances. We also observed Common Mergansers, a Belted Kingfisher flyby, and a Fish Crow sounding its nasal call, flying up into a nearby tree. There was a Mallard pair along the shore and a Killdeer called and walked along the shoreline. We observed a couple Caspian Terns flying around and going back towards the lighthouse. A Phoebe made an appearance, and a couple Song Sparrows also walked along the shore at one point. Out towards

Lakes!

Directions to the Teeter Pond parking area from Ithaca: Take Rt 96 north to Trumansburg, turn left on rte 227 after the post office, then turn right on Searsburg Rd. (county rt 1). Follow Searsburg Rd. for 4-5 miles to Potomac Rd. and turn right. Head north until you hit a T intersection with Seneca Rd. Turn left at the T and Teeter Pond will be on the left after a 1/2 mile or so. (There is an eBird hotspot for this location. For easy access to map/directions visit <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L940987>). Contact Josh at cedarshiva@gmail.com or call 570-362-2548 if you have questions or need help with directions.

Wes Blauvelt will lead a field trip to several hot spots in the **Danby area** on **Saturday, May 19, 7:00 am - noon**. We'll meet at Jennings Pond, Danby, and will include stops along Bald Hill Road and a hike to **Thatchers Pinnacles** in search of Worm-eating Warbler. If time permits, stops will also be planned along Michigan Hollow Road and the wetlands near Hillview Road.

Laura Stenzler will lead a half-day trip to **Shindagin Hollow** on **Sunday, May 20, 7:00 am - noon**. We'll meet at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology parking lot at 7:00 am for carpooling. Shindagin Hollow is south of Ithaca and consists of mature and young woods, gorges and a cedar swamp. We will see and hear a large variety of warblers including black-throated blue, black-throated green, hooded, Canada and redstart, all of which nest there. In addition, we'll see yellow-throated, blue-headed and red-eyed vireos, rose-breasted grosbeak, winter wren and many more birds. We will mostly be driving, getting out and listening, and then driving some more.

the end of the lighthouse jetty were Double-crested Cormorants and a Great Black-backed Gull. A single Eastern Bluebird flew up onto the top of one of the swings nearby. From the walk around the Swan Pen, we saw Hooded Merganser females out on the inlet. Suan Yong was leading an SFO group and had found a Red-throated Loon out on the lake and he helped us locate it. This bird showed a lot of white, so did not appear to be in breeding plumage yet.

As we walked along the inlet a Sandpiper was spotted. Sure enough the bobbing bird was a Spotted Sandpiper. A pair of Wood Ducks flew across the water from us but landed behind grasses, and we could not find them again. We spotted both Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets. As we walked along the westernmost trail in Renwick, along the water, a beautiful pair of Hooded Mergansers flew out towards the lake. Someone spotted a Green Heron on a fallen log at the waters edge, quite close to us. It tolerated us for awhile, so everyone could see it and then it flew off. We heard and saw a Tufted Titmouse, and heard Northern Cardinal and Northern Flicker, but otherwise it was quite quiet.

We decided to drive over to the golf course to check on the nesting Great-horned Owl. We were surprised to see a large chick sitting right up in the nest. At first we did not see the female, until she moved her head and we saw the ear tufts. She blended right in with the tree trunk. As we watched, we spotted another chick. The chicks were moving around a lot and looking this way and that, a lot of fun to see. We also had two Northern Mockingbirds flying around some bushes out on the golf course. Four of us walked the road around towards Jetty Woods to see if we could get another angle on the Owl nest. Indeed we did find a good spot to observe the owl nest. Three Tree Swallows were flying around, vocalizing and chasing each other. Susan Soboroff and I continued out to the end of the Jetty Woods path in hopes of seeing some early warblers. We did not find warblers but saw a couple Ruby-

Gladys Birdsall will lead a half-day trip to the **Dorothy McIlroy Bird Sanctuary**, a preserve of the Finger Lakes Land Trust on **Sunday, June 3, 7:00 am - noon**. The preserve is located along the outlet of Lake Como in the town of Summerhill, and has a peat swamp and hemlock forest that supports a high diversity of species more commonly found in northern forests. The preserve also protects a number of uncommon or rare plant species. Meet for carpooling at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology north parking area at 7:00 am. We will return at noon. Bring a snack and something to drink. Any questions, contact Gladys at gjb5@outlook.com.

Suan Yong and **Dave Gislason** will lead a Cayuga Bird Club field trip to **Connecticut Hill** on **Sunday, June 10, 7:30 am - noon**. Meet at 7:30 am at the Wegman's parking lot (away from the store, by the inlet) or at 8:00 am at the intersection of Connecticut Hill Rd., Boylan Rd., and Lloyd Starks Rd. Bring water and a snack. Insect repellent may also be helpful. If you have questions, contact Suan at suan.yong@gmail.com.

These trips are open to all. Please check the [Cayuga Bird Club calendar](#) for updates in case there are date or time changes for these or any other field trips.

And don't miss the Spring Bird Quest walks over the Memorial Day weekend, led by Mark Chao on Finger Lakes Land Trust preserves! (See article below).

crowned Kinglets, and a cormorant flew over carrying nesting material. We found a Horned Grebe out on the lake; the feathered yellow horns were beautiful in the sunshine.

Thanks to all who joined me for the morning.



Cayuga Bird Club Annual Picnic **June 11, 2018**

Myers Point Park, Lansing
6:00 - 8:00 pm

Cayuga Bird Club's annual dish-to-pass picnic will be held at Myers Park in Lansing (off route 34B) on Monday, June 11, 2018. Bring a generous dish to share—main dish, appetizer, salad, or dessert. Also bring your own place setting, something to drink, and binoculars. There will be a short bird walk after dinner. Come meet and socialize with your fellow bird club members!

Cayuga Bird Club Christmas Bird Count (CBC CBC) Comparisons

John Confer

The National Audubon Society has digitized the entire set of records for all Christmas Bird Counts (<http://netapp.audubon.org/cbcobservation/>). The data can be rapidly sorted by count location, by year, or by counts for specific species. This is a real treasure of information. I've enjoyed combing the records and comparing findings for different count areas.

Consider our European Goldfinch. Bob McGuire photographed an European Goldfinch at his feeder



Spring Bird Quest!

May 26-28, 2018

Join Mark Chao and the Finger Lakes Land Trust again this Memorial Day weekend to celebrate birds and bird diversity on Land Trust protected lands. Come experience the stunning diversity of breeding birds this spring while also raising funds to protect critical bird habitat! In late May, FLLT lands offer an amazing opportunity to view birds in their season of song, courtship, foraging, and raising young.

Mark Chao will lead participants on [four guided walks on Land Trust protected lands](#). The walks are free but donations are strongly encouraged. Bring binoculars if you have them. Beginning birders welcome! Walks are held rain or shine.

Registration: None required — free and open to the public. The walks are free but donations are heartily welcomed. We will be keeping a tally of bird species found on Land Trust properties during Spring Bird Quest. Please let us know if you would like to make a pledge per bird species found and we will let you know the total count once the numbers are in. Contact us at info@fllt.org or by calling (607) 275-9487. General donations are welcome too. [Gifts can be made online](#) — please click the box that says “This gift is in honor or memory of someone” and type in: Spring Bird Quest.

Saturday, May 26, 7:30 am
High Vista Nature Preserve, town of

on our Cayuga Bird Club Christmas Bird Count (CBC CBC) for 2017-'18. This could have been an escapee from an aviary and not counted or a naturally occurring invader from somewhere else and counted. The Audubon CBC counts may help us decide: the European Goldfinch for 2016-17 was found only in Bermuda with just over 100 individuals. In 2017-'18 the European Goldfinch was found again in Bermuda with over 200 individuals and on four counts in the eastern U.S. It seems extremely unlikely that 4 aviaries in widely separated locations in eastern U.S. lost birds in this one year. It seems more likely that the series of strong hurricanes last fall drove individuals into the eastern US allowing us to include the European Goldfinch as a valid, wild bird.

There are an infinite number of interesting comparisons. I compared counts for three of the major upstate New York areas that have access to large amounts of open water in their count circle: Ithaca, Rochester, and Buffalo (this year's [Audubon Christmas Bird Count Results](#) counts for Rochester and Ithaca, but last year's counts for Buffalo since Buffalo's 2017-18 count is not yet available).

Much to our credit, Ithaca had an amazing number of participants in comparison to Rochester and Buffalo, especially considering our smaller population. It is extremely satisfying that we were able to find 101 species, exceeding Rochester counts by 10 and Buffalo by 11 (and our previous year's species number by 4)! Our counts of waterfowl are high, due in part to a major effort to coordinate the counts at different locations, as well as the skill of our waterfowl counters. We found 28 species of waterfowl, higher than the counts with the Niagara River (25 species) or Lake Ontario (24 species) in their circle. Cayuga Lake is the freshwater mega-star for Redhead. While Buffalo and Rochester count tens or a few hundreds, in a fair year we find 10,000+ on count day. On Seneca Lake, the Watkins Glen and the Geneva counts each had a little over 1000 Redheads.

Of particular interest to me is that Rochester counters put in slightly more hours of nocturnal

Scott

Join us for a walk high above the eastern shore of Skaneateles Lake at this diverse hillside forest full of songbirds.

From Rt. 41 south of Skaneateles, turn onto Vincent Hill Road West, just north of the Cortland/Onondaga County line. After about 1/3 mile, the road bends to the southwest and there is a small parking area on the right-hand side.

Saturday, May 26, 9:30 am

Hinchcliff Family Preserve, town of Spafford

The Hinchcliff Family Preserve offers impressive vistas and diverse habitats including grassy clearings and hemlock-hardwood forests, as well as several ephemeral and perennial streams, gullies, and waterfalls.

The Hinchcliff Family Preserve lies at the end of Covey Road off Route 41 in Spafford, Onondaga County. From Skaneateles, take Route 41 south for 14 miles, then turn right onto Covey Road. The preserve's parking lot lies at the end of the road. From Ithaca or Cortland, take Route 13 north to Route 281 north, then take a left onto Route 41 north in Homer. Stay on Route 41 north for about 11 miles, then take a left onto Covey Road to the preserve.

From the High Vista Nature Preserve, head north on Vincent Hill Rd. toward Route 41 north. Turn left onto Route 41 and drive approximately one mile to turn left on Covey Road. The preserve's parking lot lies at the end of the road.

Sunday, May 27, 8:00 am

Houghton Land Preserve, town of Corning

A gift from Jamie and Maisie Houghton, and our newest preserve, this 194-acre property features a mix of open meadow and diverse forest

counting than we did, and found nearly three times as many Eastern Screech Owls and almost twice as many screech owls per party hour (effort). This annoys me personally — I think we really do have more screech owls around.

However, we rule the counts for woodpeckers, chickadees and titmice, while Buffalo has many more gulls. Other comparison are nearly endless to make. Try it yourself:

<http://netapp.audubon.org/CBCObservation/>

Thanks to all compilers for all counts, but especially to our compiler, Paul Anderson, who had a much larger task to organize than most others!

Christmas Bird Count Comparison

| | Ithaca | | Rochester | | Buffalo | |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Date, Temperature: | 1/1/2018, 3 - 12 F | | 12/17/2017, 11- 27 F | | 12/18/2016, 17 - 25 F | |
| Total Species | 101 | | 91 | | 90 | |
| Number Observers in Field | 125 | | 71 | | 35 | |
| Nocturnal Birding | 16 hrs, 92 miles | | 18 hrs, 88 miles | | 2h | |
| Total Party | 313 hrs, 564 miles | | 133 hrs, 442 miles | | 100 hrs, 627 miles | |
| Species | Number | Number/ Party Hour | Number | Number/ Party Hour | Number | Number/ Party Hour |
| Snow Goose | 12 | 0.03834 | | | | |
| Greater White-fronted Goose | | | | | 1 | 0.0100 |
| Cackling Goose | 1 | 0.0032 | | | 9 | 0.0900 |
| Canada Goose | 5781 | 18.4696 | 4321 | 32.4887 | 5,517 | 55.1700 |
| Mute Swan | 7 | 0.0224 | 229 | 1.7218 | 2 | 0.0200 |
| Tundra Swan | 12 | 0.0383 | 33 | 0.2481 | 592 | 5.9200 |
| Gadwall | | | | | 156 | 1.5600 |
| American Wigeon | 2 | 0.0064 | | | 14 | 0.1400 |
| American Black Duck | 18 | 0.0575 | 16 | 0.1203 | 352 | 3.5200 |
| Mallard | 635 | 2.0288 | | | 1,236 | 12.3600 |
| American Black Duck x Mallard (hybrid) | | | | | 3 | 0.0300 |
| Northern Shoveler | | | | | 3 | 0.0300 |
| Northern Pintail | 3 | 0.0096 | | | 2 | 0.0200 |
| Green-winged Teal | 2 | 0.0064 | | | | |
| Canvasback | 57 | 0.1821 | | | 3,506 | 35.0600 |
| Redhead | 16,401 | 52.3994 | 38 | 0.2857 | 281 | 2.8100 |
| Ring-necked Duck | 250 | 0.7987 | 1 | 0.0075 | 75 | 0.7500 |
| Tufted Duck | 1 | 0.0032 | | | | |
| Greater Scaup | 9 | 0.0288 | 126 | 0.9474 | 1,836 | 18.3600 |
| Lesser Scaup | 501 | 1.6006 | 51 | 0.3835 | 35 | 0.3500 |
| Greater/Lesser Scaup | 7 | 0.0224 | | | | |
| King Eider | | | 2 | 0.0150 | | |
| Harlequin Duck | | | 1 | 0.0075 | | |
| Surf Scoter | 1 | 0.0032 | 2 | 0.0150 | | |
| White-winged Scoter | 2 | 0.0064 | 192 | 1.4436 | | |
| Black Scoter | | | 7 | 0.0526 | 1 | 0.0100 |
| Long-tailed Duck | 47 | 0.1502 | 1,365 | 10.2632 | 7 | 0.0700 |
| Bufflehead | 5 | 0.0160 | 23 | 0.1729 | 3,971 | 39.7100 |
| Common Goldeneye | 272 | 0.8690 | 608 | 4.5714 | 6,291 | 62.9100 |

which make an excellent location for bird observation.

From Rte 352/Denison Parkway in downtown Corning, turn south onto Chemung Street. Take Chemung Street to Spencer Hill Road and drive about 2 miles to the preserve entrance on your right. From Corning Community College, take Marland Road and continue on Spencer Hill Road toward downtown Corning. Drive about 1/4 mile to the preserve entrance on your left.

Monday, May 28, 8:00 am

Lindsay-Parsons Biodiversity Preserve, town of West Danby

This preserve, located just eight miles from downtown Ithaca, features forest, field, a lake, and a diversity of habitats for birds and other wildlife.

From Ithaca, take Rt. 13 south to junction with Rt. 34/96. Continue south on 34/96 to hamlet of West Danby. Preserve entrance is on left, 1/2 mile past Sylvan drive.

(photo at top by Suan Yong)



**eBird Global Big Day
May 5, 2018**

On 5 May 2018, Global Big Day is back. Wherever you are in the world, go eBirding on 5 May to be a part of birding's biggest day!

Submit Your Data to eBird on May 5.

It's that simple. If you [submit your birds to eBird](#) they count. Use the website or [mobile app](#), whichever you

| | Ithaca | | Rochester | | Buffalo | |
|------------------------------|-----------|--------|-----------|---------|-----------|----------|
| Hooded Merganser | 2 | 0.0064 | 32 | 0.2406 | 83 | 0.8300 |
| Common Merganser | 216 | 0.6901 | 145 | 1.0902 | 606 | 6.0600 |
| Red-breasted Merganser | 21 | 0.0671 | 2,165 | 16.2782 | 470 | 4.7000 |
| Ruddy Duck | 4 | 0.0128 | | | 5 | 0.0500 |
| duck sp. | | | | | 15 | 0.1500 |
| Red-throated Loon | 1 | 0.0032 | 15 | 0.1128 | | |
| Common Loon | 1 | 0.0032 | 2 | 0.0150 | | |
| Pied-billed Grebe | | | 3 | 0.0226 | 1 | 0.0100 |
| Horned Grebe | 4 | 0.0128 | 2 | 0.0150 | | |
| Red-necked Grebe | | | 10 | 0.0752 | | |
| Total Waterfowl Sp. | 27 | | 24 | | 25 | |
| Ruffed Grouse | 1 | 0.0032 | | | | |
| Wild Turkey | 65 | 0.2077 | 7 | 0.0526 | 45 | 0.4500 |
| Double-crested Cormorant | 1 | 0.0032 | 8 | 0.0602 | 67 | 0.6700 |
| Great Blue Heron (Blue form) | 2 | 0.0064 | 12 | 0.0902 | 8 | 0.0800 |
| Great Egret | | | | | 1 | 0.0100 |
| Black Vulture | 3 | 0.0096 | | | | |
| Turkey Vulture | 26 | 0.0831 | | | 1 | 0.0100 |
| Osprey | | | 1 | 0.0075 | | |
| Northern Harrier | 4 | 0.0128 | | | 1 | 0.0100 |
| Sharp-shinned Hawk | 5 | 0.0160 | 6 | 0.0451 | 2 | 0.0200 |
| Cooper's Hawk | 18 | 0.0575 | 9 | 0.0677 | 4 | 0.0400 |
| Bald Eagle | 11 | 0.0351 | 7 | 0.0526 | 4 | 0.0400 |
| Red-tailed Hawk | 114 | 0.3642 | 33 | 0.2481 | 34 | 0.3400 |
| Rough-legged Hawk | 1 | 0.0032 | | | | |
| American Coot | 111 | 0.3546 | 130 | 0.9774 | 8 | 0.0800 |
| Bonaparte's Gull | | | 1 | 0.0075 | 13,927 | 139.2700 |
| Black-headed Gull | | | | | 1 | 0.0100 |
| Little Gull | | | | | 1 | 0.0100 |
| Ring-billed Gull | 216 | 0.6901 | 2,960 | 22.2556 | 3,569 | 35.6900 |
| Herring Gull | 1006 | 3.2141 | 1,032 | 7.7594 | 11,947 | 119.4700 |
| Iceland Gull | 2 | 0.0064 | 1 | 0.0075 | | |
| Thayer's Gull | | | | | 1 | 0.0100 |
| Iceland Gull (kumlieni) | | | | | 8 | 0.0800 |
| Lesser Black-backed Gull | 1 | 0.0032 | 1 | 0.0075 | 13 | 0.1300 |

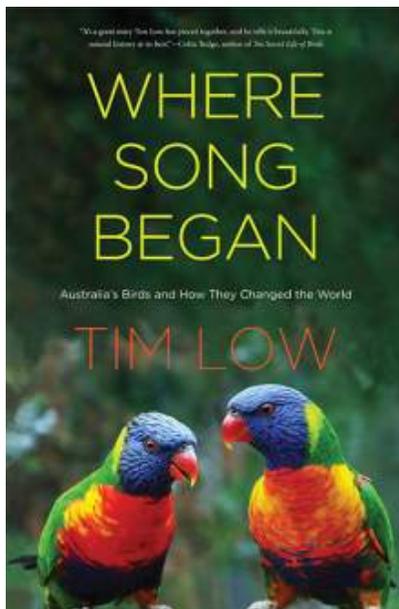
| | Ithaca | | Rochester | | Buffalo | |
|----------------------------|--------|--------|-----------|--------|---------|--------|
| Glaucous Gull | | | 1 | 0.0075 | 2 | 0.0200 |
| Great Black-backed Gull | 140 | 0.4473 | 76 | 0.5714 | 119 | 1.1900 |
| gull sp. | | | | | 118 | 1.1800 |
| Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon) | 737 | 2.3546 | 837 | 6.2932 | 899 | 8.9900 |
| Mourning Dove | 728 | 2.3259 | 400 | 3.0075 | 218 | 2.1800 |
| Eastern Screech-Owl | 30 | 0.0958 | 86 | 0.6466 | 3 | 0.0300 |
| Great Horned Owl | 6 | 0.0192 | 12 | 0.0902 | | |
| Snowy Owl | | | 5 | 0.0376 | | |
| Barred Owl | 1 | 0.0032 | | | | |
| Northern Saw-whet Owl | 1 | 0.0032 | | | | |
| Belted Kingfisher | 1 | 0.0032 | 3 | 0.0226 | 4 | 0.0400 |
| Red-headed Woodpecker | 1 | 0.0032 | | | | |
| Red-bellied Woodpecker | 221 | 0.7061 | 192 | 1.4436 | 41 | 0.4100 |
| Yellow-bellied Sapsucker | 5 | 0.0160 | 1 | 0.0075 | | |
| Downy Woodpecker | 360 | 1.1502 | 166 | 1.2481 | 51 | 0.5100 |
| Hairy Woodpecker | 164 | 0.5240 | 43 | 0.3233 | 8 | 0.0800 |
| Northern Flicker | 12 | 0.0381 | 34 | 0.2556 | 3 | 0.0300 |
| Pileated Woodpecker | 28 | 0.0895 | 20 | 0.1504 | | |
| American Kestrel | 2 | 0.0064 | | | 3 | 0.0300 |
| Merlin | | | 1 | 0.0075 | | |
| Peregrine Falcon | 2 | 0.0064 | 4 | 0.0301 | | |
| Northern Shrike | | | 1 | 0.0075 | 1 | 0.0100 |
| Blue Jay | 1034 | 3.3035 | 382 | 2.8722 | 175 | 1.7500 |
| American Crow | 1686 | 5.3866 | 180 | 1.3534 | 348 | 3.4800 |
| Fish Crow | 2 | 0.0064 | 1 | 0.0075 | | |
| Common Raven | 22 | 0.0703 | 4 | 0.0301 | | |
| Horned Lark | 91 | 0.2907 | 6 | 0.0451 | | |
| Black-capped Chickadee | 1567 | 5.0064 | 517 | 3.8872 | 354 | 3.5400 |
| Tufted Titmouse | 315 | 1.0064 | 56 | 0.4211 | 58 | 0.5800 |
| Red-breasted Nuthatch | 11 | 0.0351 | 34 | 0.2556 | 5 | 0.0500 |
| White-breasted Nuthatch | 273 | 0.8722 | 137 | 1.0301 | 43 | 0.4300 |
| Brown Creeper | 19 | 0.0607 | 6 | 0.0451 | 10 | 0.1000 |
| Winter Wren | 2 | 0.0064 | 12 | 0.0902 | | |
| Carolina Wren | 35 | 0.1118 | 9 | 0.0677 | 2 | 0.0200 |

prefer. [Learn how to take part](#). Don't worry — you don't need to be a bird expert, or to go out all day long. Even ten minutes from your backyard will help. Of course, you are welcome to spend the entire day in the field, but know that it is not required! Please enter your data as soon as you can, preferably by Tuesday, May 8.

Follow Live Updates and Detailed Stats

During the Big Day, [this page will be updated](#). You'll be able to follow Team Sapsucker in Colombia, Honduras, and California — but more importantly, you'll be able to track how many species have been seen around the world and in any region of interest to you. [Follow live updates here](#).

| | Ithaca | | Rochester | | Buffalo | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------|-------------------|---------|-------------------|---------|
| Golden-crowned Kinglet | 32 | 0.1022 | 17 | 0.1278 | 31 | 0.3100 |
| Eastern Bluebird | 74 | 0.2364 | 6 | 0.0451 | 8 | 0.0800 |
| Hermit Thrush | 1 | 0.0032 | 5 | 0.0376 | 1 | 0.0100 |
| American Robin | 14 | 0.0447 | 700 | 5.2632 | 341 | 3.4100 |
| Northern Mockingbird | 14 | 0.0447 | 14 | 0.1053 | 1 | 0.0100 |
| European Starling | 2345 | 7.4920 | 2,236 | 16.8120 | 2,846 | 28.4600 |
| American Pipit | | | | | 1 | 0.0100 |
| Cedar Waxwing | 68 | 0.2173 | 36 | 0.2707 | 21 | 0.2100 |
| Lapland Longspur | | | 12 | 0.0902 | | |
| Snow Bunting | 882 | 2.8179 | 32 | 0.2406 | 133 | 1.3300 |
| Pine Warbler | | | | | 1 | 0.0100 |
| Yellow-rumped Warbler | | | 28 | 0.2105 | | |
| American Tree Sparrow | 345 | 1.1022 | 139 | 1.0451 | 158 | 1.5800 |
| Dark-eyed Junco (Slate-colored) | 1528 | 4.8818 | 214 | 1.6090 | 427 | 4.2700 |
| White-crowned Sparrow | 9 | 0.0288 | | | 2 | 0.0200 |
| White-throated Sparrow | 213 | 0.6805 | | | 12 | 0.1200 |
| Savannah Sparrow | 1 | 0.0032 | | | | |
| Song Sparrow | 70 | 0.2236 | 29 | 0.2180 | 7 | 0.0700 |
| Swamp Sparrow | 7 | 0.0224 | 7 | 0.0526 | | |
| Eastern Towhee | 1 | 0.0032 | | | | |
| Northern Cardinal | 404 | 1.2907 | 325 | 2.4436 | 240 | 2.4000 |
| Eastern Meadowlark | 3 | | | | 3 | 0.0300 |
| Red-winged Blackbird | 12 | 0.0383 | 93 | 0.6992 | 21 | 0.2100 |
| Rusty Blackbird | 2 | 0.0064 | | | | |
| Common Grackle | | | 1 | 0.0075 | 1 | 0.0100 |
| Brown-headed Cowbird | 3 | 0.0096 | | | 12 | 0.1200 |
| House Finch | 256 | 0.8179 | 151 | 1.1353 | 146 | 1.4600 |
| Purple Finch | 22 | 0.0703 | | | | |
| Pine Siskin | | | 15 | 0.1128 | | |
| American Goldfinch | 462 | 1.4760 | 233 | 1.7519 | 112 | 1.1200 |
| European Goldfinch | 1 | 0.0032 | | | | |
| House Sparrow | 449 | 1.4345 | 1,360 | 10.2256 | 1,016 | 10.1600 |
| | Total Species: 101 | | Total Species: 91 | | Total Species: 90 | |



Monday Night Seminar

Cornell Lab of Ornithology
May 7, 2018, 7:30 - 9:00 pm

Speaker: Tim Low, biologist and author of *Where Song Began*

Title: *How Australia's Birds Populated the World*

Description: There is now a scientific consensus that all the world's

Cayuga Lake Osprey Trail



The Cayuga Lake Osprey Trail is an ongoing inventory of the osprey nests and platforms easily observable from public roads in the Cayuga Lake area. In the last fifteen years, the osprey population has increased dramatically. Volunteer crews from NYSEG continue erecting nest-platforms in areas frequented by ospreys in the Cayuga Lake area, helping this once endangered species to recover to its original numbers.

Visit the [interactive Map of the Osprey Trail](#),

songbirds came out of Australia. It means that all of America's warblers, jays, sparrows, chickadees and so forth have Australian ancestors. This means that the world's first songs were sung in Australian rainforest tens of millions of years ago, by birds related to the Lyrebird.

This seminar will be live-streamed at the Monday Night Seminar webpage, bit.ly/BirdTalks.

Birds and Blossoms!

In collaboration with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Cornell Botanic Gardens is offering weekend walks to discover both the birds and wildflowers of spring. Walks will be held rain or shine and pre-registration is not required.

Bird Walks in the Arboretum –
Fridays, 8 am: **May 4, 11, 18 and 25.**
Meet by the Sculpture Garden, in the F.R. Newman Arboretum.

Wildflower Walks in Sapsucker Woods – Sundays, 1 pm: **May 6, 13, 20 and 27.** Meet at Lab of Ornithology Visitor Center

Walks are free and open to the public, and will be led by Lab of Ornithology and Cornell Botanic Gardens volunteers.

Montezuma Audubon Center Spring Programs



created by Candace Cornell and Karen Edelstein, to zoom in on precise locations and see photographs of nearly 70 osprey nests! The map is wonderfully detailed.

The Osprey Trail can be used by birders, educators, researchers, and visitors to the area to observe, study, and enjoy the fascinating family life of these dynamic raptors and their vital role as bio-indicators of environmental quality. A fuller knowledge of our local ospreys will deepen interest in their conservation, inspire their stewardship, and enhance their protection throughout New York State.

For more information on our local ospreys, please consult <http://www.lansingrec.com/ospreys> and enjoy the seasonal blog on the Salt Point ospreys at <http://www.lansingrec.com/parks/20-salt-point/salt-point-articles/27-on-osprey-time>. If you see an osprey nest in the Finger Lakes that is not on this map, please report its location to cec222@gmail.com. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

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 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. Payment may be made via Paypal at cayugabirdclub.org 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

Spring into action at the Montezuma Audubon Center with these family-friendly programs and special events! Bird watching walks, tours of the Montezuma Wetlands Complex, Derby Hill Hawk Observatory, and Cornell's Lab of Ornithology, guided paddling trips around Montezuma, Scout badge programs and the home school nature series are great ways to experience the spring waterfowl, bird of prey, and songbird migration. Space is limited and **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED for all programs.** Please call 315-365-3588 or e-mail montezuma@audubon.org.

For detailed information on the programs below, as well as other spring programs at the MAC, visit the Montezuma Audubon Center [website](#).

May 5 10 am - 3 pm **12th Annual Wildlife Festival**

May 10 5 pm - 8 pm **Montezuma Birdwatching Tour**

May 19 11 am - 2 pm **Warblers and Wine Van Tour**

May 26 8 am - 11 am **Howland Island Van Tour**

June 2 6 pm - 8 pm **Crusoe Creek Paddle**

June 7 1 pm - 4 pm **Montezuma Birdwatching Tour**

June 9 9 am - 12 pm **Birding and Bogging Tour**

The Montezuma Audubon Center is open Tuesday - Saturday, 10 am - 4 pm; Trails are open daily from dawn to dusk. Location: 2295 State Route 89, Savannah, NY 13146.

to receive the club newsletter.

Members receive via email the monthly Cayuga Bird Club Newsletter, from September through June. Newsletter submissions may be sent to Diane Morton, newsletter@cayugabirdclub.org. Of particular interest are articles about local bird sightings, bird behavior, birding hot spots, book reviews, and original poetry, art, and photos. To make sure you don't miss an issue, add newsletter@cayugabirdclub.org to your email contacts.

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

Chickadee illustration in masthead by Karen Allaben-Confer

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 [Cayuga Bird Club Website](#).



Facebook CBC Website



[Cornell Lab Self-paced Warbler Identification Course](#)

Through more than 60 brief video tutorials, **Kevin McGowan** will help you **develop your ID strategies and field skills**. The course covers **all 51 warbler species** in the U.S. and Canada grouped by region so you can learn which birds you'll find near you or on your next trip.

This course also offers hours of self-paced practice and quizzing. Build your confidence with photo ID practice from all sorts of angles and lighting conditions.

The course also includes access to download or stream 312 warbler songs, covering all the species found in the U.S. and Canada. You'll also get four downloadable warbler reference guides, one for each region to print and carry with you for at-a-glance ID help.

[Learn more about this Bird Academy Warbler ID course here.](#)

Great Adirondack Birding Celebration

June 1-3, 2018

Registration is open for the 16th Annual Great Adirondack Birding Celebration (GABC). The GABC is a 3-day Adirondack birding festival held at the Paul Smith's College VIC in Paul Smith's, NY. Friday includes two options for day-long birding workshops across the Adirondack region. Saturday and Sunday mornings offer 5+ locations near the VIC for a full morning of birding. For more information and/or to register, please go to:

<http://www.paulsmiths.edu/vic/gabc/>.



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