



# The Goldfinch

Newsletter of the Howard County Bird Club  
 A Chapter of the Maryland Ornithological Society  
[www.howardbirds.org](http://www.howardbirds.org)



## CLUB MEETINGS - BY [JANE GEUDER](#)

### Inside this issue:

<a href="#">Club Meetings</a>	1
<a href="#">Summer Records</a>	1
<a href="#">Fall Field Trips</a>	2
<a href="#">Fall Count Results</a>	4
<a href="#">Dragonfly Count Results</a>	6
<a href="#">Board of Directors Meetings</a>	6

Thursday, November 8, 2012 “Birding in New Zealand,” by Tom Feild and Geraldine King. In 2003, lifetime Howard County resident Tom Feild took a leave of absence to explore the world and its birds, particularly in the southern hemisphere. He found more than birds, and in 2009, after an extended courtship, New Zealander Geraldine King, migrated north to join him in Maryland. Come and hear an American's view of birding the other “Down-under,” tempered by practical tips for travel from the Kiwi who became his wife.

Thursday, December 13, 2012 “Atlantic Seaduck Project; from Chesapeake Bay to Hudson Bay,” by Dr. Matthew Perry, [USGS-Patuxent Wildlife Research Center](#). His most recent research included a nutrition study of captive ducks and a satellite telemetry tracking study with wild ducks.

**Meetings are at the Robinson Nature Center**, 6692 Cedar Lane, Columbia MD 21044. Hospitality at 7:30 p.m. Meeting with program begins at 8:00 p.m. Nature Center doors unlocked at 7:15 p.m. and locked again at 8:15 p.m. There is no admission charge. For further information call Wes Earp, 410-531-3197.

## SUMMER BIRD RECORDS: JUNE 1-JULY 31, 2012

BY [JOANNE SOLEM](#)

Significant weather events including the derecho of June 29, which left many without power for days, and one of the hottest Julys on record reduced field time for many observers. Headline species were mainly late departing spring migrants or early arriving fall birds: [Least Bittern](#), [Western Sandpiper](#), [Alder Flycatcher](#), and [Nelson’s Sparrow](#). Less rare, but unusual in summer, were [Hooded Merganser](#), [Ruddy Duck](#), [Wilson’s Snipe](#), and [Bank Swallow](#).

The female **Hooded Merganser**, which had been present at Fulton Pond for weeks, was last seen 6/7 (MW). A handsome male **Ruddy Duck** at Centennial 7/22 surprised observers (HMz, ph., JBt).

At least one **Wild Turkey** continued to wander East Columbia. One was photographed at Troy Hill Pk 7/14 (DHk), and one was reported in Thunder Hill during late July (E&JCo).

*(Records continued on page 3)*

### TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Can you complete this sentence from Birding Howard County, Maryland?  
 (Answer on [page 6](#).)

\_\_\_\_\_ migration (day or night) builds from early in the month to a peak in mid to late November. Occasionally, a flock rests on Triadelphia Reservoir, less frequently on Centennial Lake.

## FALL FIELD TRIPS BY [BONNIE OTT](#) & [JOE HANFMAN](#)

**Field trips** are a great way to improve birding skills, explore new places and meet other birders. Arrive at the meeting site ready to leave at the designated time with appropriate footwear and gear. Carpooling is strongly encouraged. The leader may cancel due to inclement weather/hazardous driving conditions. Directions for trips not on ADC maps are on the Club's website. Questions? Contact the trip leader or Field Trip Coordinator Bonnie Ott at [bonnieott@verizon.net](mailto:bonnieott@verizon.net). HCBC members receive priority on trips that are limited by number of participants. No pets.

### [CENTENNIAL PARK](#)

November 4, Sunday, 8:00 a.m., (2-3 hours) (Note: daylight saving time ends.) *Meet at west end parking lot off Centennial Lane.* Easy walking on paved path around Centennial Lake. Woodlands, fields, and water host a wide variety of species. Great view of the sky for flyovers. Early waterfowl, lingering migrants likely. Facilities available. *Leader - Mike Kerwin, [m63kerwin@verizon.net](mailto:m63kerwin@verizon.net) or 410-461-2408.*

### **SHARPS AT WATERFORD FARM**

November 10, Saturday 8:00 a.m. (half day). *Meet at farm parking area, between barns, on right. Rte. 97 S. to right on Jennings Chapel Rd., 1 mile to right into farm at sign.* Moderate walking over crop stubble, farm roads, and paths on this working farm. Fields with crop residue, extensive woodlands, Cattail Creek and floodplain, three ponds, and five shallow waterfowl impoundments make for diverse habitats and good birding opportunities. Port-a-pots available. Knee-high waterproof footwear is advisable for part of hike. *Leader – Wes Earp, [the\\_earps@verizon.net](mailto:the_earps@verizon.net) or 410-531-3197.*

### [CENTENNIAL PARK](#)

November 11, Sunday, 8:00 a.m., (2-3 hours) *Meet at west end parking lot off Centennial Lane.* See November 4 for description. *Leader - Kurt Schwarz, [krschwa1@verizon.net](mailto:krschwa1@verizon.net) or 410-461-1643.*

Anyone is welcome to contribute articles or ideas which you think will be of interest to other birders. Copy may be sent to:  
Amanda Witt  
8865 Purple Iris Lane  
Elkridge, MD 21075  
[amanda.witt@yahoo.com](mailto:amanda.witt@yahoo.com)

**The Goldfinch**, newsletter of the Howard County Bird Club, is published five times per year. Copy deadline for the January/February 2012 issue is November 25, 2012.

Amanda Witt, *Editor*  
Joanne Solem, *Proofreader*

### **HOWARD WATERFOWL SEARCH**

November 17, Saturday, 8:00 a.m. (half day) *Meet at the dockside parking lot at Lake Elkhorn.* Plan to visit the Columbia lakes to search for gulls, ducks, grebes, loons, and other waterfowl. Easy walking. Plan to carpool. Bring lunch and drinks. Scopes helpful. Facilities available. *Leader - Kurt Schwarz, [krschwa1@verizon.net](mailto:krschwa1@verizon.net) or 410-461-1643.*

### [CENTENNIAL PARK](#)

November 18, Sunday, 8:00 a.m., (2-3 hours) *Meet at west end parking lot off Centennial Lane.* See November 4 for description. *Leader – Mike Kerwin, [m63kerwin@verizon.net](mailto:m63kerwin@verizon.net) or 410-461-2408.*

### [CENTENNIAL PARK](#)

November 25, Sunday, 8:00 a.m., (2-3 hours) *Meet at west end parking lot off Centennial Lane.* See November 4 for description. *Leader – Allen Lewis, [allenlewis@gmail.com](mailto:allenlewis@gmail.com).*


### **BLACKWATER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

December 1, Saturday, All Day Trip

Email the leader to reserve a spot and get details. Plan to stop at the Choptank River bridge for ducks and coffee. Bring lunch and drinks. Dress warmly. Entrance fee or Duck Stamp required. We will carpool. Facilities at some spots. *Leader – Kurt Schwarz, [krschwa1@verizon.net](mailto:krschwa1@verizon.net) or 410-461-1643.*

### **START YOUR YEAR LIST**

January 1, 2013, Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. (2-3 hours). *Meet at boat ramp of Centennial Park.* Easy walking on paved paths and woodland trails. Plan to carpool to different locations to find as many species as possible — the one day of the year when every bird is new! Facilities available. *Leader - Bonnie Ott, [bonnieott@verizon.net](mailto:bonnieott@verizon.net) or 443-285-3302.*

 = Great for beginning birders

(Records continued from page 1)

A **Least Bittern** (14<sup>th</sup> record) was present at the University of MD Central Farm (UMDCF) 6/1 (**BO, JHf, DCm, JCu**). A **Black-crowned Night-Heron** was noted at Meadowbrook Pk 7/24 (**BO**). **Yellow-crowned Night-Herons** continued intermittently at Lake Elkhorn: 6/7 (**ALw-1 ad.**) and 6/18 (**JCu-2 ad.**).

An **Osprey** was spotted flying north near I-70/US40 on 6/13 (**JW**). Another was at Browns Bridge (BRNBR) 7/30 (**JS, GMcC**). A **Cooper's Hawk** was present at Centennial 6/23 (**MKw**), and one was feeding young at Meadowbrook 7/11 (**BO**).

A **Solitary Sandpiper** at BRNBR on 7/3 established a new early fall date (**HPt**) [7/4/06 **B&GHI**]. Late July brought the first major wave of shorebirds with **Semipalmated Sandpipers** on 7/31 at both Fulton (**DCm-1**) and BRNBR (**KS-3**), as well as six **Leasts** and three **Pectorals** at BRNBR 7/30 (**JS, GMcC**). The choicest sighting was a **Western Sandpiper** (13<sup>th</sup> record) at BRNBR 7/31 (**KS**). A **Wilson's Snipe** lingered at the UMDCF until 6/1 establishing a new departure date (**BO, JHf, JCu, DCm**) [5/29/04 **ESu**]. **American Woodcock**, uncommon nesters, are seldom reported in summer. One was seen at Hipsley Mill Rd near the Patuxent River 6/19 (**WE, MW**). A **Ring-billed Gull** was noted at the waste transfer facility at Dorsey 7/22 (**SN**), and a **Herring Gull** flew over Martin Rd, W. Col. 7/10 (**JHf**).

After few spring **Yellow-billed Cuckoo** reports, summer found them widespread, though hardly numerous. The late May **Alder Flycatcher** at Mt. Pleasant stayed into June with the last report 6/17 (**JSz, EBy**). On 7/7 at Alpha Ridge Park, fledgling **Great Crested Flycatchers** as well as a family group of **Eastern Kingbirds** were seen (**BO**). A trip to Woodstock 6/17 produced a new high of 11 **Yellow-throated Vireos** (**KS**).

A **Common Raven** was spotted near I-95/MD32 on 6/3 (**JCn, ph.**). **Horned Larks** were detected 6/8 along A. E. Mullinix Rd (**JW-1**) and 7/6 along Underwood Rd (**JW-2**). On 6/7, one was observed taking a dust bath on a driveway along Jennings Chapel Rd (**MW**). The **Bank Swallow** at UMDCF 6/1 was probably a late migrant as there are no known colonies in the county (**BO, JHf**). The high count of nesting **Barn Swallows** at Centennial reached 42 on 6/23 (**MKw**). **Veerys** were reported from the Middle Patuxent Env. Area (MPEA) 6/9 (**BO-4**), BRNBR 6/15 (**HFk, GMcC, SMu, JS-3**), and Hipsley Mill/Patuxent River 7/1 (**KS-2**). The **Gray Catbird** count at Centennial reached 12 on 6/23 (**MKw**). A **Brown Thrasher** visited a Stone Hill Dr yard 7/1 (**KLz**).

Eleven **Yellow Warblers** were tabulated at Centennial 6/23 (**MKw**); one was at Stone Hill Dr 7/24 (**KLz**). **Pine Warblers**

were at Rockburn Branch Pk 6/7 (**JS, GMcC-1**) and Dorsey Run Rd 6/15 (**JW-1**). Three **Prairies** were at Mt. Pleasant 6/10 (**KS**). Two of the best warblers of the season appeared only incidentally in Howard County—a **Cerulean** west of Woodstock was found in Baltimore Co 6/8 (**KCt**) and was noted crossing the river (**JHf, KDy, HPt, CSt**); a **Prothonotary** pair nested in Baltimore Co. near Avalon, PVSP 6/4 (**JCn, ph.**); at least one of the pair was seen flying into Howard Co. 6/5 to 6/8 (**m.obs.**). A **Black-and-white Warbler** was noted at Big Branch 6/8 (**GMcC, JS**) and three (including a fledgling) were at Daniels 6/14 (**HFk, GMcC, JS**). Two **American Redstarts** were present at Hipsley Mill 7/1 (**KS**). **Kentuckys** were reported from Hugg-Thomas WMA 6/3 (**BO, EH-1**), Schooley Mill Pk 6/19 (**JS-1**), and Hipsley Mill 7/1 (**KS-1**).

**Grasshopper Sparrows** were noted mostly west of MD32 (**WE, MW, JW**); fledglings were detected at Mt. Pleasant 7/10 (**BO, ph.**). A **Nelson's Sparrow** was spotted briefly at UMDCF on 6/1—the only sighting so far in 2012 and the second latest spring migration date (**BO, JHf, DCm, JCu**).

**Blue Grosbeaks** were reported from at least four locations (including Waterloo Park) and were present, as usual, at Rockburn (**BO, ROR, KLz, JW**).

A **Brown-headed Cowbird** fledgling was being fed by an **Ovenbird** at BRNBR 6/15 (**HFk, GMcC, JS**) and a pair of **Chipping Sparrows** attended a cowbird fledgling at MPEA 6/13 (**JS, GMcC**).

ph. – photograph; m. obs. – many observers; [previous record].

**Observers:** **JBt** – Jonathan Bliethe, **EBy** – Ed Boyd, **ECo** – Ed Cohen, **JCo** – Joy Cohen, **JCn** – Jon Corcoran, **KCt** – Keith Costley, **JCu** – Jeff Culler, **DCm** – David Cummings, **KDy** – Karen Darcy, **WE** – Wes Earp, **HFk** – Harry Fink, **JHf** – Joe Hanfman, **DHk** – Don Haskins, **BHi** – Bill Hill, **GHI** – Gayle Hill, **EH** – Emy Holdridge, **MKw** – Mike Kerwin, **ALw** – Allen Lewis, **KLz** – Kathy Litzinger, **GMcC** – Grazina McClure, **HMz** – Helen Metzman, **SMu** – Sue Muller, **SN** – Sue Neri, **ROR** – Richard Orr, **BO** – Bonnie Ott, **HPt** – Howard Patterson, **KS** – Kurt Schwarz, **JS** – Jo Solem, **JSz** – Jim Stasz, **CSt** – Chuck Stirrat, **ESu** – Eva Sunell, **MW** – Mark Wallace, **JW** – Jim Wilkinson.

## REMINDERS

The equipment swap will be held at the November meeting. See the September/October issue of *The Goldfinch* for more details.

The remaining books from the bookstore will be further discounted and available for purchase at the December meeting.

## SUMMARY OF THE 2012 HOWARD COUNTY FALL COUNT

BY [MIKE MCCLURE](#) AND [CHUCK STIRRAT](#)

The nineteenth annual Howard County Fall Count was conducted on September 15, 2012. This turned out to be an above average count for the number of species and below average for the number of birds observed (15,003 total birds, 134 total species, 25 warbler species, and 462 total warblers). However, the total number of warblers was average. Comparison totals for the prior 18 years are as follows: total birds, high, 26,651 in 1994; low 9,293 in 2004; average, 16,929; total species, high, 140 in 2010, low 108 in 2004; average, 125. For total warblers: high, 1,004 in 1994, low 130 in 2004; average, 461; warbler species, high, 30 in 1994, low 13 in 2004; average, 24.

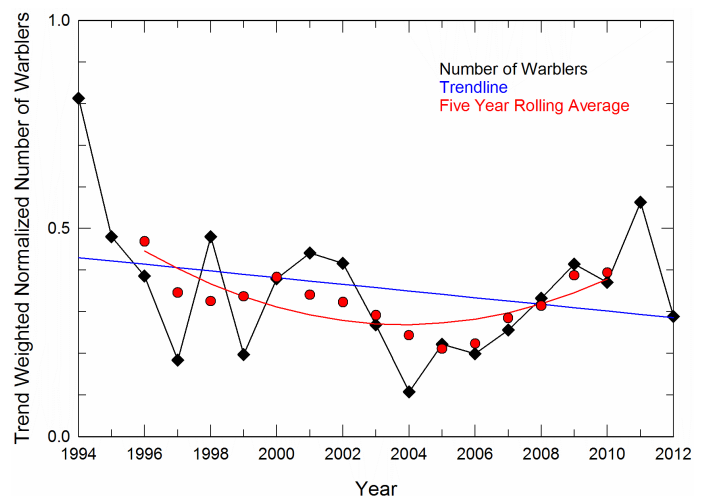
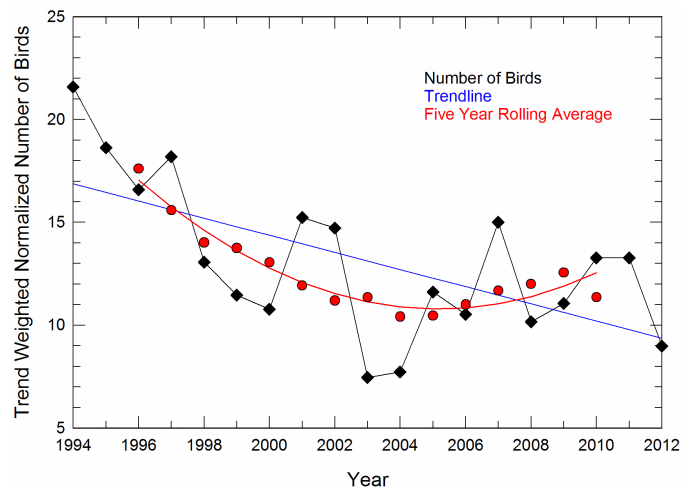
The number of participants and parties (55 and 32) compared to last year's (48 and 32) shows an increase in participation. The participants provided 219 hours of field counting time (average of 191). The mileage was 534 compared to the average of 392 miles

Saturday's temperature started in the low 50s at 6:00 a.m. under partial cloud cover, rising to 79° in late afternoon with decreasing clouds during the remainder of the day. The humidity was comfortable (dew point: 51° at 6:00 a.m. rising to 62° at noon and holding there for the remainder of the day). Winds were not an issue during the day. Despite the delightful weather, counters generally complained about the lack of birds. This problem is reflected in the data from the 19 years of Fall Counts as shown on the graphics for the total number of individual birds and warblers observed countywide. While the straight trendline continues to show a decline, looking at the actual bird/warbler data suggests that there might be an increase as shown by the rolling five year average [RFYA] data; new with this year's graphics. It's difficult to accept that the numbers are increasing, but the RFYAs seem to support that the numbers have reached an appreciated plateau that contrasts with the serious declines of the early years of the Fall Count.

The accompanying table presents the count data. There were 22 species for which there was only one bird sighted countywide and 11 species for which there were only two birds sighted countywide. The single bird sighting is the highest ever observed. Species showing moderately high numbers (>500) are Canada Goose 2,003, Blue Jay 707, crows [American+Fish+species] 1,019, American Robin 599, European Starling 1,776.

The count participants were Jim & Marilyn Brinkley, Mimi Burch, Lisa Colangelo, Dennis & Jane Coskren, **Jeff Culler**

(**Area 2 Coordinator**), Ralph Cullison III, David Cummings, **Karen Darcy (Area 3 Co-Coordinator)**, Sue Earp, **Wes Earp (Area 1 Co-Coordinator)**, Ward Ebert, Tom Feild, John Fine-dore, Harry Fink, **Kevin Heffernan (Area 3 Co-Coordinator)**, Bill & Gayle Hill, Emy Holdridge, Ed Huestis, Diane Johns, Michael Kerwin, Geraldine King, Shashi Lengade, Mike Leumas, Kathie Lillie, Felicia Lovelett, Nancy Magnusson, Grazina McClure, **Mike McClure (Area 4 & County Co-Coordinator)**, John McKitterick, Barry Miller, Tom Miller, Sue Neri, Carol Newman, Jeanne Odermatt, Richard Orr, **Bonnie Ott (Area 6 Coordinator)**, Howard Patterson, Ron & Susan Polniaszek, Russ



Ruffing, **Kurt Schwarz (Area 5 Coordinator)**, Romayne Smith, Bob & Jo Solem, Michelle Stewart, **Chuck Stirrat (County Co-Coordinator)**, Tom Strikwerda, **Eva Sunell (Area 7 Coordinator)**, Robin Todd, Kate Tufts, **Mark Wallace (Area 1 Co-**

(Fall Count continued on page 6)

HOWARD COUNTY FALL COUNT RESULTS - SEPTEMBER 15, 2012							
Canada Goose	2,003	Caspian Tern	3	Tree Swallow	1	Blackburnian Warbler	6
Wood Duck	26	Rock Pigeon	188	Carolina Chickadee	409	Chestnut-sided Warbler	30
Mallard	150	Mourning Dove	461	Tufted Titmouse	280	Blackpoll Warbler	3
Wild Turkey	1	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	6	Red-breasted Nuthatch	21	Blk.-thrt'd. Blue Warbler	21
Pied-billed Grebe	9	Black-billed Cuckoo	1	White-breasted Nuthatch	151	Palm Warbler	55
Double-crested Cormorant	21	Eastern Screech-Owl	5	Carolina Wren	328	Pine Warbler	3
Great Blue Heron	47	Great Horned Owl	4	House Wren	19	Yel.-rump'd (Myrtle) Warbler	2
Great Egret	2	Barred Owl	9	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	20	Prairie Warbler	2
Green Heron	16	Common Nighthawk	4	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	4	Blk.-thrt'd. Green Warbler	36
Black-crowned Night-Heron	2	Chimney Swift	344	Eastern Bluebird	341	Canada Warbler	2
Black Vulture	202	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	55	Veery	3	<i>warbler species</i>	57
Turkey Vulture	226	Belted Kingfisher	26	Gray-cheeked Thrush	1	Eastern Towhee	43
Osprey	2	Red-headed Woodpecker	1	Swainson's Thrush	16	Chipping Sparrow	273
Bald Eagle	9	Red-bellied Woodpecker	187	Hermit Thrush	1	Field Sparrow	21
Northern Harrier	1	Downy Woodpecker	142	Wood Thrush	14	Savannah Sparrow	14
Sharp-shinned Hawk	12	Hairy Woodpecker	28	American Robin	599	Song Sparrow	87
Cooper's Hawk	14	Northern (Yellow-sh'd) Flicker	82	Gray Catbird	455	<i>sparrow species</i>	15
<i>accipiter species</i>	6	Pileated Woodpecker	43	Northern Mockingbird	121	Scarlet Tanager	26
Red-shouldered Hawk	67	Eastern Wood-Pewee	79	Brown Thrasher	14	Northern Cardinal	474
Broad-winged Hawk	344	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	3	European Starling	1,776	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	16
Red-tailed Hawk	32	Acadian Flycatcher	8	Cedar Waxwing	108	Blue Grosbeak	8
American Kestrel	12	Willow Flycatcher	2	Ovenbird	3	Indigo Bunting	74
Merlin	2	Least Flycatcher	5	Worm-eating Warbler	1	Bobolink	134
Peregrine Falcon	1	<i>Empidonax species</i>	23	Louisiana Waterthrush	1	Red-winged Blackbird	495
American Golden-Plover	1	Eastern Phoebe	84	Blue-winged Warbler	2	Eastern Meadowlark	5
Killdeer	22	Great Crested Flycatcher	1	Black-&-white Warbler	32	Common Grackle	7
Spotted Sandpiper	1	Eastern Kingbird	7	Tennessee Warbler	10	Brown-headed Cowbird	81
Solitary Sandpiper	5	White-eyed Vireo	19	Nashville Warbler	1	<i>blackbird species</i>	235
Lesser Yellowlegs	5	Yellow-throated Vireo	4	Connecticut Warbler	1	Baltimore Oriole	1
Sanderling	1	Warbling Vireo	1	Common Yellowthroat	78	Purple Finch	2
Semipalmated Sandpiper	12	Red-eyed Vireo	71	Hooded Warbler	1	House Finch	187
Least Sandpiper	17	Blue Jay	707	American Redstart	43	American Goldfinch	453
Baird's Sandpiper	1	American Crow	527	Cape May Warbler	1	House Sparrow	209
Wilson's Snipe	1	Fish Crow	57	Northern Parula	22		
Ring-billed Gull	2	<i>crow species</i>	435	Magnolia Warbler	68	<b>Area Total Birds:</b>	15,003
<i>gull species</i>	2	Horned Lark	79	Bay-breasted Warbler	2	<b>Area Total Species:</b>	134

# SEVENTH ANNUAL HOWARD COUNTY DRAGONFLY COUNT RESULTS

BY BETH JOHNSON

This year's dragonfly count was held on July 28. The temperatures were fine (around 90°), but much of the area was overcast for at least part of the day. Odonate numbers were moderate. We found 39 species comprising 2,798 individuals. Interestingly, the greatest numbers and diversity of dragonflies occurred in the western part of the county, even after accounting for the fact that two groups were looking in that area.

The event, co-sponsored by the Howard County Department of Recreation and Parks, attracted 33 participants, many of whom were new to the count. Participants came from Howard, Carroll, Harford, Montgomery, Baltimore, and Frederick Counties.

Six groups of observers, plus one individual not in a group, fanned out throughout the county. The county was divided into five territories or areas: 1-west, 2-north, 3-central, 4-south, 5-east. Some of the better finds included three Swamp Spreadwings (the only spreadwings recorded on this year's count), nine Stream Bluets, and a single Needham's Skimmer (P. Perkins, ph.). The complete results are posted online at <http://southernspreadwing.com/odes/count2012/>.

The late afternoon tally rally was held at the Robinson Nature Center, a new location. Thanks to Sue Muller for arranging for our use of this lovely facility. Many thanks to the group leaders: Helen Metzman (Area 1), Wes and Sue Earp (Area 1), June Tveekrem (Area 2), who had to bow out unexpectedly but who DID manage to deliver beverages to the rally, Sue Muller (Area 3), Bob Solem (Area 4), and Jo Solem (Area 5).

In addition to the group leaders, participants were as follows: **Area 1:** Grazina McClure, Mike McClure, *Woody Merkle, Stewart Family*; **Area 2:** Beth Johnson, Paul Koehler, Deanna Marquart; **Area 3:** Mike Bandy, Ken Clayton, *Stacey Havard*, Allen Lewis, Brooks Longley, Janet Lydon, Tim Thompson; **Area 4:** John Fisher, Sherry Fisher, *Kim Knox*, Linda Roberts; **Area 5:** *Annette Allor, Wayne Gordon, Bonnie Ott, Diana Perkins, Phil Perkins, Ron Poliniaszek, Susan Poliniaszek*. The names shown in italics were new participants to this year's count.

Next year's dragonfly count will be in June. We invite you to join us next summer to look for early season odonates!

(Fall Count continued from page 4)

**Coordinator**). Lastly, a very special thanks to **Don and Martha Waugh** who hosted the evening tally.

Also new on this year's Fall Count was the last minute change of asking counters to list the species of butterflies, dragonflies, and damselflies seen as they were counting birds. A total of 10 people turned in a list of their sightings including two individuals who counted only butterflies, namely **Richard Smith and Jim Wilkinson**. Richard was a most valuable reviewer of the butterfly data and his help is greatly appreciated. Counters identified 37 species of butterflies and moths for a total of 407 sightings. For the dragonflies and damselflies, there were 13 species and 142 sightings. See the table on the [website](#) for greater detail. Plans are under way to make this activity a regular part of the next ever-evolving Fall Count.

Plan now to join us on a future seasonal count and if possible attend the tally as well. The 2013 Fall Count will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of September which will be the 21<sup>st</sup>.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Board meetings are held the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted, at the home of the board member listed. Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, the November meeting is a week earlier. If directions are required, please call the hosting board member.

November 15, 2012 (Note: This is the **third** Thursday.)

Amanda Witt  
8865 Purple Iris Lane  
Elkridge, MD 21075  
410-312-0504

December — No Meeting

**Test Your Knowledge Answer:** Tundra Swan

Learn more what to expect in the coming months by reading the online version of Birding Howard County, Maryland [here](#).