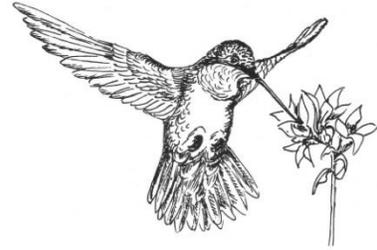


FYKE NATURE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

www.fykenature.org

Vol. 59 – No. 2 – Summer 2013



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 20 – Evening Field Trip: Amphibian Adventure; Frogs & Friends. Meet at the entrance on Franklin Turnpike at 7:30 p.m. to look for creatures and sounds of the night. Rain gear and boots are recommended if it is raining. Flashlights are necessary. Leader: Alex Bernzweig who is an enthusiastic all around naturalist with great knowledge of herpetology. **Register for this field trip at deedeeburnside@gmail.com or 201-445-5292.**

April 26 - Monthly Meeting: 8:00 p.m., Allendale Municipal Building
Kevin Watson – Japan in Winter. Join photographer Kevin Watson on a trip to the snowy landscapes of northern Japan in winter. Steller's Sea-eagles, one of the world's rarest and most impressive raptors, swoop over the pack ice. The symbolic and sacred Japanese Cranes dance and display on snow-covered fields. And the northern-most non-human primate, the charismatic and entertaining Snow Monkeys (Japanese Macaques) seek refuge from the cold by soaking in thermal springs.

April 28 (Sunday) - Field Trip: Warbler Walk at the Celery Farm. Meet at the end of Green Way at 7:30 a.m. for the first Celery Farm Warbler Walk of the season. Birders of all levels are welcome! Leaders: Rob Fanning and Lisa Ann Malandrino. **Register for this field trip at bobolink0210@yahoo.com or 201-378-8875**

May 4 - Field Trip: Saturday Celery Farm Guided Walk. This walk is for nature-lovers of all ages and birders of all levels. We'll look for butterflies, bugs, weird plants and our feathered friends. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Greenway. Wear long pants and socks; bring water and bug spray! The walk will be followed by an optional half-hour tour of the historic Fell House nearby. Leaders: Jim Wright and Mike Limatola.

Register for this walk at celeryfarm@gmail.com. Check celeryfarm.net for any updates. **Note:** Celery Farm caps and T-shirts will be available after the walk, \$15 each. Please have exact change or pay by check made out to Fyke Nature Association.

May 11 - Stepping Up For Lorrimer. This will be our 14th Celery Farm Big Day, also known as "Stepping Up For Lorrimer". Fyke teams will be birding the Celery Farm on May 11, 2013 from dawn to dusk. The goal is to count all the species of birds seen to raise money for the New Jersey Audubon's Lorrimer Sanctuary in Franklin Lakes. Last year we had a total of 76 species recorded, and \$1,334.00 was donated to Lorrimer. Please see the pledge form, on page 9. **To sign up for a team contact Gabriele Schmitt, gaby413@aol.com or 201-387-0048.**

May 18 - Field Trip: Garret Mountain May Walk. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at the three-tier parking lot. Directions: From Rifle Camp Road turn onto Mountain Avenue at the "tank". Turn right at the first right turn into the reservation. This is one way. The three tiered parking lot is the first parking lot on your left.

May 24 - Monthly meeting: 8:00 p.m., Allendale Municipal Building

Kumar Patel – Mission Panama. Kumar Patel will give a presentation on the flora and fauna, particularly birds, in two different natural environments in Panama. The first location is the crater of an extinct volcano in the foothills of central Panama. The second one is the rainforest in the lowlands adjacent to the Panama Canal.

June 1 - Field Trip: Saturday Celery Farm Guided Walk. See May 4 for details.

July 20 - Field Trip: Our Tom Burr Memorial Butterfly Walk at the Celery Farm.

Named for the late Fyke member, naturalist, photographer and friend. Meet at the end of Greenway at 10:30 a.m. for a guided 90 minute stroll. Dress for bright sun. The walk will be followed by an optional half-hour tour of the historic Fell House nearby. Leaders: Jim Wright and Mike Limatola. **Register for this walk at celeryfarm@gmail.com.**

July 31 (Wednesday) - FIELD TRIP: Our second annual Moth Ball at the Fell

House, featuring two special moth-attracting lights, a white sheet, a couple of strange moths under glass, and a brief moth talk. Dress for bright moon. This event is in conjunction with Concerned Citizens of Allendale, the non-profit group that saved the Fell House, 475 Franklin Turnpike. Extra parking in the Celery Farm parking lot. Leaders: Jim Wright and others.

Register for this event at celeryfarm@gmail.com.



September 1 – Mt. Peter Hawk Watch begins. To volunteer, contact Judy Cinquina, judycinq@optonline.net or 201-327-1782.

Sandy Update

Marsh Warden, Mike Limatola, reports that tropical storm Sandy caused extensive damage to the pine grove at the Greenway entrance to the Celery Farm. Thirteen pine trees had to be removed. Mike reports that spruce trees will be planted in this area. Spruce trees are hardier and will withstand storms better than the pine trees.



A BIG THANK YOU to Mike and his crew for all the work done to repair damage from Sandy!

Field and Feeder Notes

By Judith Cinquina

The Great Blue Heron is generally an uncommon permanent resident...There are four small rookeries in wooded swamps at inland localities (the state's breeding population was estimated at 291 pair in 1978). The Great Swamp had a new colony start in 1982. Leck, The Status & Distribution of NJ's Birds, 1984

We have come to know the Great Blues as gray sentinels of the marsh, standing rigid like so many old pilings... Witmer Stone, Bird Studies at Old Cape May, 1937

No matter how many I see or how often, the languid flight of a Great Blue gives me pause. I encounter them in late winter and envy their stoic patient anticipation of sustenance and spring. We have come to expect them at the Celery Farm (CF) or any marsh, river or pond

we haunt. Yet, at the turn of the 20th century, they were very rare, their numbers threatened by egg collectors, gunners, and fashionable ladies' hats that required their plumes and sometimes their entire forms. By 1975, so few Great Blue Heron colonies existed in NJ that they were declared an Endangered Species. They have made a welcome comeback, with 40 NJ breeding bird survey blocks confirming their nesting in NJ Audubon's mid-1990's breeding bird survey. By the time you read this, their spring migration will have already peaked, and they will have settled into our favorite marshes, although the Great Swamp colony along Pleasant Plains Road no longer exists. Rosemarie Widmer found 13 Great Blue Herons hanging out at Rockland Lake waiting for winter to let go, February 17. Doug Morel counted 10 migrating over Mahwah Green Acres March 16.

We are very fortunate here in NJ. No season is ever dull if you're a birder. And some birders, like Fred Weber & Deedee Burnside explore areas where few birders go, and they discover species we never would have suspected were in our state. On February 2, Doug Morel saw the White Pelican, a mid-western species, that Deedee and Fred found earlier in Kearny Marsh. White Pelicans normally breed in western and southern portions of N. America, but according to N. American Birds On Line, they have expanded their breeding population eastward recently. You're probably familiar with the Brown Pelican's aerial dives for fish along Florida coasts, but White Pelicans have different habits. They like to forage in shallow marshes like the Kearny Marsh, capturing what they can by dipping their bills into the water. When they work with buddies and synchronize their hunts, they can push fish up against the shoreline for easy consumption, but a lone White Pelican is at a disadvantage. Usually this species pops up in NJ, if at all, in late summer or fall. A winter sighting is most unusual.



Bergen County's second Pink-footed Goose was discovered in Overpeck County Park, in early February and was enjoyed by many Fyke birders. This goose is "now becoming an annual species in the Northeast," according to N. American Birds (Vol.66 #2, 2012). Slightly larger than a Brant, this gray-brown goose sports bright pink legs and a pink band around its stubby dark bill. They nest on cliffs close to glaciers and on islets in Iceland and eastern Greenland and normally winter in Great Britain. No longer hunted on their wintering grounds, their numbers have increased dramatically in the last half-century.

Penny Whitlock enjoyed three male Redhead Ducks on a pond in Franklin Lakes, February 21. Handsome males with coppery red heads, golden eyes, and baby blue bills, they were discovered by Tom Nicastrì and Rob. The Redhead is exclusively a N. American duck that nests in the mid-West where huge rafts of hundreds or even thousands are possible during migration, but NJ is lucky if 100 show up in the entire state. Common Goldeneyes winter primarily in coastal waters, especially off New England, but according to Boyle (Birds of NJ, 2011) they may turn up on inland waters during spring migration. Rob found a drake Goldeneye in the Ramapo River off Halifax in Mahwah, February 13. A handsome female, sporting a chocolate head, golden eye and golden tip to her dark bill turned up at Sally Pond, Ringwood State Park, March 9. Forty-five Ring-necked Ducks rafted on Mill Pond, Park Ridge, February 17, Rosemarie Widmer reported. This is another species of waterfowl whose numbers have increased. They have expanded their range east of the Great Lakes during the 20th century, and are reported nesting at lakes in the Adirondacks. The largest concentration of Gadwall was the 54 Rob counted at Darlington Lake in Mahwah. This seems to be a traditional gathering place for this dabbler. Penny reported the only Pintails, February 26 at DeKorte Park, Lyndhurst, and Ben Burton admired a male Common Merganser near his Oakland home, March 6. With their dark green heads and dagger-like, blood red bills, male Commons are handsome, and sometimes when they stretch and preen, you may spot a pinkish cast, seen only in breeding plumage, to their brilliant white chests.

Barbara Dilger wondered why she had no birds at her Waldwick feeders, February 6, until she discovered an adult Cooper's Hawk perched above her yard. She shared a couple of photos of the predator on our Fyke site that revealed its red eye, shape of its head (a bit of a peak in back of the crown), the sparse rusty markings on its chest, a long-rounded tail, and thick yellow legs. That same day, Gabrielle Schmidt encountered a small accipiter, probably a Sharp-shinned Hawk chasing down a Mockingbird in her Bergenfield neighborhood. An adult Bald Eagle made Stephanie Seymour's day, February 17 when it soared over her Englewood yard. Doug Morel reported another adult eagle over Mahwah Green Acres, March 16. A very productive raptor day for Doug, the site also produced his first-of-year Osprey hunting ponds there and a perched Peregrine Falcon near the Ramapo River. Rosemarie Widmer, who has been monitoring Lake Tappan and Woodcliff Lake the last few years, reported that nests at both locations contained sitting eagles for the first time, March 10. Our local Red-shouldered Hawk pair is already nesting. Jim Wright wrote on March 15 that he had gotten a call from Stiles Thomas who saw the raptors bringing hemlock sprigs to the nest on Gray Ave. Mike Limatola, Rob and others have noted up to three C. Ravens over the CF and around Allendale. Rob reported that four Crows "bombed" a single Raven over the CF, March 15 and managed to escort it out of the preserve. Between local Crows and Red-shoulders, Ravens will have a tough time settling into the CF neighborhood.



In spite of losing their primary nest across from the entrance to Overpeck Stables, Monk Parakeets still thrive there. February 4, Rob counted 35 near the railroad crossing area along Fort Lee Road. Tom Nicastrì enjoyed a touch of spring, February 15 when he spotted 10 E. Bluebirds on corporate property in Franklin Lakes. Rosie counted 12 Tree Sparrows under her Allendale feeders, February 28 and her first Fox Sparrow there on March 13. Two days later, Rob reported two Fox Sparrows at Halifax. On March 1, Tom Nicastrì wrote, "This morning I woke up with my neighbor, the Cardinal outside my (Oakland) window. This fellow gives one call at 5:30 a.m." That morning, a "conclave of singing Cardinals" entertained Tom along his walk to work. John Brotherton has been enjoying a flock of Wild Turkeys off and on all winter in his Mahwah yard. Red-breasted Nuthatches are still hanging around our area. Enid Hayflick had a pair visit her Ridgewood feeder a couple of days in mid-March, and John has had one visiting his Mahwah feeder all winter. Although a few might nest in Norway Spruces in northern NJ, most of those at our feeders will move on at the end of April and into early May. Simon Streatfeild found a scattering of Pine Siskins at Skylands Botanical Gardens, March 18. Across the road at Ringwood Manor he found his first-of-the-year Swamp Sparrow and 24 Tree Swallows, and then he moved on to Pompton Plains where he discovered two Field Sparrows among others in a weedy sparrow field at the beginning of the Cannonball Trail off Schuyler Road. A group of Fyke members and others spent the morning of the first day of spring at Darlington Lake in Mahwah. In spite of four inches of snow and icy conditions, the group had a good mixture of ducks and a cooperative Brown Creeper, an E. Phoebe and, in the middle of the parking lot, four Killdeer arguing over territory and mates.

Fyke members have been sampling the new Franklin Lakes Nature Preserve (formerly Haledon Reservoir). Mimi Brauch was rewarded with a dozen Ruddy Ducks, and dozens of Common and Hooded Mergansers there, March 6. Walking the Preserve a week later, Rob found Tree Swallows, a "murder" of 25 Fish Crows, and his first local Hermit Thrush of the year, among others.

Get out and enjoy the spring migration and post your sightings on our Yahoo site or send your observations to me at judycinq@optonline.net or call me at 201-327-1782. For information on the latest bird sightings, go to www.fykenature.org and sign up with our discussion group where many of the reports for this column originated.

Don't Feed The Deer!

Most of us are aware of the overpopulation of White-tailed deer, and the habitat destruction caused by their eating the understory of our woodlands. Here is some advice from the NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife:

Feeding of wild deer is undesirable because:

Feeding increases reproductive potential. Deer with higher nutrition levels have larger litter sizes and breed earlier. Does dependent solely upon natural food sources generally breed at 1.5 years of age and give birth to a single fawn. Does with supplemental food breed at 6 months of age and give birth to one fawn; 1.5 year olds generally have twins, and triplets are not uncommon in older does.

Deer lose their fear of humans. In NJ, deer are considered a "potentially dangerous species" because of their ability to inflict serious physical harm to humans with their hooves and antlers. Male deer become more aggressive during the breeding season, and females may become defensive of their fawns. The last reported attack of a deer on a person was in 2012 in Lake Hopatcong, NJ. Deer that become problematic are usually euthanized.

Feeding enhances the spread of disease and parasites, and may compromise the health of non-target species. Concentrating deer in unnaturally high numbers around food piles increases nose-to-nose contact and may heighten the transmission of pathogens and parasites. Additionally, large piles of supplemental foods like corn often develop toxic fungi, which cause ill effects to both deer and other animals that come to the food pile.

Deer feeders are bad neighbors. Deer cannot meet all their nutritional needs from a food pile, and will consume the plantings of surrounding properties or devastate the surrounding natural environment after the supplemental food is consumed. Because feeding concentrates deer in unnaturally high numbers, environmental damage is often severe.

Feeding can change behavioral patterns. Feeding may cause deer to cross roadways they normally would not, increasing the potential for deer-vehicle collisions.

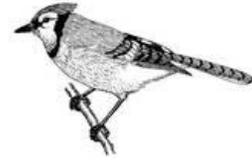
Feeding can sicken and kill deer. Deer, like most animals, have symbiotic microorganisms in their digestive system which enable them to break down the cellulose found in plant matter. As the seasons slowly change from one to another, so too do these organisms change to accommodate the change in available natural foods. When deer are fed high carbohydrate foods out of season they lack the necessary gut microflora to digest these foods. This can result in a condition known as lactic acidosis, which causes bloating, diarrhea, enteritis, and in some cases, death.

Deer do not need our help. Supplemental feeding for deer survivability is completely unnecessary because NJ has mild winters with little extended snow cover and highly productive habitat throughout a majority of the state result, which results in little to no winter losses. Additionally, deer adapt physiologically and behaviorally to winter. In the fall, deer deposit subcutaneous fat and replace the summer coat with a highly insulated winter coat. In winter, metabolism slows to conserve fat reserves, and behavior is modified to be less active and to seek sheltered areas during extreme weather.

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**Note:** We are also seeing a problem with turkeys eating cracked corn placed on lawns by homeowners thinking they are helping wildlife. The turkeys become acclimated, and the males attack humans during breeding season.

## THE 61st RAMSEY CHRISTMAS COUNT

By the Compilers, Stiles Thomas and John Brotherton



Our most recent Christmas Count was held 12/15/2012. We counted about 17,330 birds of 99 species, our highest ever by 8 species. Cool, clear weather helped our species count to be above average. We had 38 observers in 10 parties out in the field from 6:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Special thanks to our team of Carol and John Knapp who have access to the fenced in areas of the Wanaque Reservoir and have enhanced our count in recent years.

In the exciting Awards battle there were some usual winners. THE COVETED BLUE JAY AWARD was won by Team Schwenker (who else) with their total of 17 Blue Jays. This was our lowest winning count in over 20 years. Team Carola won the equally coveted BEST TEAM TROPHY with a total of 57 species, 12 more than their recent average. The HOUSE SPARROW TROPHY was won by Team Thomas for counting 251 of this often overlooked species.

The compilers, Stiles & John, thank all for their work as Citizen Scientists contributing valuable bird data via the National Audubon Society. The results are a crucial part of the U.S. Government's natural history monitoring database. This year Audubon is going to an all digital reporting system, there will be no paper reports. To receive reports you can sign up at [www.audubon.org/citizenscience](http://www.audubon.org/citizenscience). We also thank the Borough of Allendale for the use of the municipal building for our recap meeting. The recap may be the highlight of the day allowing everyone to share and compare the results of their endeavors. Our 62nd Count is tentatively set for Saturday, December 14, 2013.

### Ramsey CBC Bird List - 12/15/2012

|                             |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Snow Goose--253             | Red-shouldered Hawk--2      | Golden-crowned Kinglet-16   |
| Cackling Goose--1           | Red-tailed Hawk--40         | Ruby-crowned Kinglet-3      |
| Canada Goose--2882          | Peregrine Falcon--1         | Eastern Bluebird---34       |
| Mute Swan-98                | American Coot--82           | Hermit Thrush---2           |
| Wood Duck--6                | Sand Hill Crane-1           | American Robin---328        |
| Gadwall--165                | Killdeer-7                  | Gray Catbird---1            |
| American Wigeon--12         | Ring-billed Gull---1607     | Northern Mockingbird--32    |
| American Black Duck--28     | Herring Gull---22           | European Starling--1265     |
| Mallard--774                | Great Black-backed Gull-1   | Water Pipit-- 12            |
| Northern Shoveler--63       | Rock Pigeon---325           | Cedar Waxwing--28           |
| Northern Pintail--2         | Mourning Dove--312          | Yellow-rumped Warbler--7    |
| Green-winged Teal-30        | Eastern Screech-Owl---11    | Eastern Towhee--3           |
| Redhead--8                  | Great Horned Owl---6        | American Tree Sparrow--64   |
| Ring-necked Duck--280       | Barred Owl--1               | Chipping Sparrow-1          |
| Lesser Scaup---56           | Belted Kingfisher---22      | Field Sparrow--5            |
| Bufflehead---194            | Red-bellied Woodpecker--30  | Fox Sparrow---3             |
| Common Goldeneye-3          | Yellow-bellied Sapsucker-8  | Song Sparrow--123           |
| Hooded Merganser--368       | Downy Woodpecker ---95      | Swamp Sparrow--7            |
| Common Merganser--3565      | Hairy Woodpecker---25       | White-throated Sparrow--209 |
| Red-breasted Merganser--3   | Northern Flicker---10       | Dark eyed Junco--842        |
| Ruddy Duck---691            | Pileated Woodpecker---1     | Snow Bunting--11            |
| Ring-necked Pheasant--1     | Eastern Phoebe--1           | Northern Cardinal--121      |
| Wild Turkey--146            | Blue Jay--76                | Red-winged Blackbird-1      |
| Common Loon--2              | American Crow---172         | Rusty Blackbird--21         |
| Pied-billed Grebe--39       | Fish Crow--11               | Com. Grackle--5             |
| Double-crested Cormorant-31 | Common Raven--3             | Purple Finch--3             |
| Great Blue Heron--36        | Black-capped Chickadee-220  | House Finch---46            |
| Black-crowned Night Heron-1 | Tufted Titmouse--227        | White-winged Crossbill-6    |
| Black Vulture---32          | Red-breasted Nuthatch-8     | Common Redpoll--7           |
| Turkey Vulture---63         | White-breasted Nuthatch-116 | Pine Siskin--16             |
| Bald Eagle---13             | Brown Creeper---5           | American Goldfinch--88      |
| Sharp-shinned Hawk---10     | Carolina Wren--68           | House Sparrow--611          |
| Cooper's Hawk---10          | Winter Wren---9             |                             |

## **An Hour On The Tower (From the Fyke Archives – Winter 2003)**

(with a not-to-be missed surprise ending)

By Seymour Drakes



It's called the Hour on the Tower, and here's how it works. Every Sunday morning from 8 to 9, July through October, an informal group of birders meets at the Celery Farm Natural Area in Allendale to see how many species of birds they can see in exactly one hour. For experienced birders, the Hour is a great way to get fresh air, flex one's eyeballs, see some nifty birds, and avoid chores. For neophytes, it's a great way to learn bird identification, hear bad jokes, and ... avoid chores.

Some Hours are better than others, and the one on Oct. 5 had the makings of a classic. The day before, birder savant and ring leader Stiles Thomas surveyed the abundant waterfowl on Lake Appert and proclaimed that this Sunday offered a shot at besting the record for most species seen during one Hour.

The record was not exactly chopped (Canada goose) liver. It had stood for more than 13 years, ever since the all-star team of Charles Mayhood, Mr. Thomas, and Gordon Schultze, "in our prime," Mr. Thomas quickly noted, saw or heard 42 species between droll jokes one magical September Sunday.

For an idea of how awesome this is, consider that a crack team of birders recently perched on the Pirie Platform for 12 hours for the Big Sit and saw a total of 56 species or just 14 more species in 12 times as much time. (Editor's note: This is why the event is the Big Sit and not the Big Watch.)

Yet few could have guessed how this Hour would turn out. And only now, in this Fyke Nature Association newsletter, can the real story be revealed.

Here's how it went down.

Mr. Thomas, ever the field marshal, decided the best strategy for this Sunday in 2003 was to use the record-setting Pirie Platform. After all, ducks are the main course on Lake Appert's menu this time of year, and there's only one place, a quarter rotation around the lake, to really see ducks.

Anyone arriving at the Pirie Platform at 8 a.m. on this day was late. By then, the platform was so crowded it could have been called Sardinia. The hard-core birders, binoculars and high-powered spotting scopes in tow, had arrived much earlier and had begun their warmups. If they weren't doing index-finger stretches, they were checking wind speed and direction or practicing their tripod pivots.

On the waters of Lake Appert, sitting ducks awaited by the dozen, a veritable avian armada. When the clock started, birders started naming waterfowl by the binocularful, Green-winged Teal, Wigeons, Mallards, Pied-billed Grebes, Wood Ducks, Mute Swans, Ruddies, Shovelers, dreaded Canada Geese, you name it. The birders espied hawks as well, a Red-tail, a Kestrel, a Northern Harrier. It would be only a matter of time before they saw the resident Osprey, as predictable as a kingfisher on a Wood-Duck box.

By 8:30, the count was well past 20, and Mr. Thomas' prediction of a record was looming large. Sure, one of the Eagle-eared birders had heard Coots and Mockingbirds that mere mortals had missed, unconfirmed and thus uncounted, but the A-Team was on a roll. And so what if a Nuthatch sighting couldn't be confirmed? The crack squad was picking off birds like a Cooper's Hawk at a feeder.

As the hour wound down, the count was up to 40, just two shy of the record. The final countdown was on. Binoculars frantically scoured the horizon, combed the treetops, and scrutinized the shoreline. Zippo.

Under a minute left. Nothing. The clock ticked down, to an empty sky. Then, in the last seconds ... could it be? Yes, a Sharpie arrived just in time to be counted. Moments later, time

was up. The birders were one bird short of the record: 41 bird species, plus a wayward raccoon for good measure.

Seconds later, the resident Osprey arrived, too late to count.

As the birders headed for the parking lot, Mr. Thomas soon heard the call of the taunting Mockingbird (sounding especially mocking). A stop at the Warden's Watch produced two Coots and a Nuthatch. Those additional birds, birds heard but not confirmed, plus the Osprey who had been atypically late, would have brought the total to a record-smashing 45.

Too bad that birds don't know from clocks.

As it turned out, too bad that birders don't know from counting.

For posterity's sake, this lesser yellow scribe thought it would be instructive to print the record-setting list from 1990, along with the list from October 5, 2003. What exotic birds were seen? What birds were seen both years? And, curiously, what common birds, like Wagtails, Manikins, and Auks, had managed to elude the birders' watchful eyes?

Then came the bombshell: As this journalist transcribed the list, he discovered that the anonymous bird counter on that 1990 Sunday had done the unthinkable. He had counted the same species twice. It is bad enough to count one's chickens before they hatch; to count one's chickens inaccurately after they've hatched is simply not done.

That's the way life works. Sometimes things aren't always what they were cracked up to be. The 1990 record was actually 41 species, and the 2003 upstart team had tied it, albeit with twice as many eyes. Thus, instead of trudging from the platform with those so-close-yet-so-far grimaces, the October 5 birders could have been celebrating and giving each other medium-fives (high-fives being reserved only for record-setting performances).

The alleged record-setting 42 species, 9/9/1990:

Observers: Charles Mayhood, Gordon Schultze, Stiles Thomas

1. Moorhen
2. Green-winged Teal
3. American Crow
4. Wood Duck
5. Blue-winged Teal
6. Great Blue Heron
7. Northern Flicker
8. Belted Kingfisher
9. Eastern Kingbird
10. Eastern Phoebe
11. Gadwall
12. Barn Swallow
13. Goldfinch
14. Killdeer
15. Blue Jay
16. Great Blue Heron
17. Eastern Screech Owl
18. Black-capped Chickadee
19. American Kestrel
20. Downy Woodpecker
21. Gray Catbird
22. Mallard
23. Common Grackle
24. Starling
25. Yellow-Throat
26. Osprey
27. Mourning Dove
28. House Finch
29. Song Sparrow
30. Canada Goose
31. Black-Crowned Night Heron
32. American Robin
33. Rose-breasted Grosbeak
34. Chimney Swift
35. Great Egret
36. Cedar Waxwing
37. Widgeon
38. Sandpiper
39. American Black Duck
40. Sharp-Shinned Hawk
41. Mockingbird
42. Bobolink.

The record-tying Hour of 41 species 10/5/2003:

Observers: Malcolm Chesworth, Rob Fanning, Karul Kassel, David Leeman, Stiles Thomas, Kevin Watson, et al.

1. Mourning Dove
2. Starling
3. Gadwall
4. White-throated Sparrow
5. Gray Catbird
6. Downy Woodpecker
7. Mute Swan
8. DC Cormorant
9. American Widgeon
10. Wood Duck
11. Northern Shoveler
12. Canada Goose
13. Eastern Phoebe
14. Palm Warbler
15. Red-winged Blackbird
16. Common Grackle
17. Red-tailed Hawk
18. Cooper's Hawk
19. Ring-billed Gull
20. Winter Wren
21. Tufted Titmouse
22. Carolina Wren
23. American Crow
24. Kestrel
25. Black-capped Chickadee
26. American Goldfinch
27. Northern Harrier
28. Red-bellied Woodpecker
29. Northern Flicker
30. Northern Cardinal
31. Green-winged Teal
32. Mallard
33. Pied-billed Grebe
34. House Sparrow
35. Chimney Swift
36. Swamp Sparrow
37. Great Blue Heron
38. Belted Kingfisher
39. Ruddy Duck
40. Sharp-shinned Hawk.

Duplicates from both hours (21): Green-winged Teal, American Crow, Mourning Dove, Wood Duck, Great Blue Heron, Belted Kingfisher, Canada Goose, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Widgeon, Gray Catbird, Common Grackle, Northern Flicker, Eastern Phoebe, Gadwall, Goldfinch, Black-capped Chickadee, Kestrel, Downy Woodpecker, Mallard, Chimney Swift, Great White-Crowned Thomas.



Footnote: Here is Seymour Drake's record-setting 42 species 10/26/2003.

1. Great Blue Heron 2. Belted Kingfisher 3. Great Blue Heron 4. Great Blue Heron 5. American Crow 6. Belted Kingfisher 7. Great Blue Heron 8. Great Blue Heron 9. Great Blue Heron 10. Crow 11. Great Blue Heron 12. Great Blue Heron 13. Great Blue Heron 14. Great Blue Heron 15. Crow 16. Great Blue Heron 17. Northern Cardinal 18. Great Blue Heron 19. Great Blue Heron 20. Belted Kingfisher 21. Great Blue Heron 22. Belted Radial 23. Great Blue Heron 24. Great Blue Heron 25. Crane 26. Belted Overcoat 27. Great Blue Heron 28. Great Blue Heron 29. Crow 30. Great Blue Heron 31. Great Blue Heron 32. Great Blue Heron 33. Great Blue Heron 34. Crow 35. Mourning Dove 36. Great Blue Heron 37. Great Blue Heron 38. Cardinal 39. Great Blue Heron 40. Great Blue Heron 41. Great Blue Heron 42. Great Blue Heron.

**2014 Celery Farm Calendar!**

Photos are needed for the 2014 Celery Farm calendar! The only requirement is that the photo was taken at the Celery Farm by a Fyke member.

The proceeds from the calendar sale funds the Stiles and Lillian Thomas Scholarship awarded to a graduating senior student of Northern Highlands Regional High School who is pursuing a college degree in the environmental sciences. This \$1,000.00 scholarship was initiated to honor Stiles and Lillian for their lifelong commitment to preservation and conservation.



Please send your photo, landscape orientation, saved as a jpeg file, to carolflana@aol.com by August 1, 2013!

**2013 Stepping Up For Lorrimer Pledge Form**

**YES!** I want to support Fyke's team and Lorrimer on May 11 by making a pledge per bird species seen. I understand that 60 to 80 species may be recorded; however the total could be higher if conditions are ideal. All money donated will go to Lorrimer Sanctuary.

My pledge is:

\$1/species  \$.75/species  \$.50/species  \$.25/species \$ \_\_\_\_\_/species

Name:

Address:

Phone:

e-mail:

There are three ways to send your pledge:

- 1) Pledges can be made at the April meeting (blank forms will be available)
- 2) By mail to Fyke Nature Association, Box 141, Ramsey, NJ 07446
- 3) By e-mail to John Brotherton, jbro29@optonline.net

**You will be notified of your pledge total soon after May 11<sup>th</sup>. Checks should be made out to Fyke Nature Association.**





The Duck

Behold the duck.  
It does not cluck.  
A cluck it lacks.  
It quacks.  
It is specially fond  
Of a puddle or pond.  
When it dines or sups,  
It bottoms ups.

Ogden Nash



**Here's An Easy Way To Support Fyke**

Don't forget we now have a direct link to AMAZON from our website. Fyke does not endorse any particular merchant but just log onto [www.fykenature.org](http://www.fykenature.org) and you will find the link on the first page. Every month AMAZON sends us a sales commission check. Thank you for your participation.



**To Fyke Members:**

Please send items you think would be of interest to our group. News, features, articles on wildlife observation, conservation issues, book reviews, field notes, humorous first person bird/nature related stories. All submissions will be gratefully accepted.

**The deadline for the fall issue is August 21, 2013.** Send material by e-mail to [carolflana@aol.com](mailto:carolflana@aol.com) or by snail mail to Fyke Nature Association, Box 141, Ramsey, NJ 07446.



**The Fyke Nature Association**, a 501 (c) (3) organization, meets the fourth Friday of every month except June, July, August, and December at the Allendale Municipal Building, 500 W. Crescent Avenue, Allendale, NJ 07401.

Meetings and membership are open to all. Annual dues: Individual -- \$15.00; Family -- \$20.00. For further information, write to Box 141, Ramsey, NJ 07446, visit our website [www.fykenature.org](http://www.fykenature.org), or call Mike Limatola, President, at 201-739-8062.

The Newsletter is published four times a year and manuscripts and artwork are welcome. Interim Editor: Carol Flanagan, [carolflana@aol.com](mailto:carolflana@aol.com). Drawings: Nancy Bristow and Kathryn Sjolander. Production: Herb Gardener (labels) and Molly Gardener.

