



Fyke Nature Association Spring Newsletter

Vol. 67 — No. 1 — 2021
www.fykenature.org

Due to Corona virus restrictions, member meetings will be online on Zoom, and a link will be sent out in advance. If you are not registered on Zoom, you can register for free at <https://zoom.us/>

Field trips will require face masks, social distancing, and no sharing of optics.

Please check our website and emails for any updates on meetings and field trips.

Calendar of Events

Since mid-2015 Fyke's monthly speaker costs have been funded by a generous grant from the Winifred M. and George P. Pitkin Foundation.

February 26, 2021, Friday – Monthly Meeting: 8:00 p.m. Urban Hawks, Gabriel Willow

NYC naturalist Gabriel Willow will give a multimedia presentation about Pale Male and some of the other Red-tailed Hawks that have made an astonishing and inspiring comeback in the area over the past 30 years. There were no breeding Red-tails in urban NYC & NJ in the 1980s, and now there are at least 50 pairs! He'll also discuss the basics of raptor ID and conservation challenges as well.

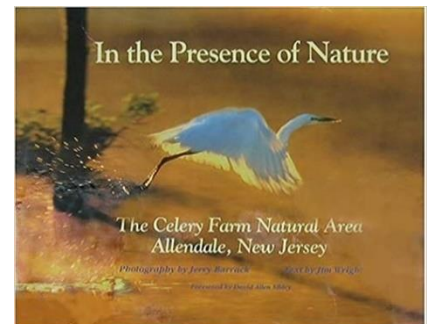
March 13, 2021, Saturday – Field Trip: Woodcocks, Greenway at the Celery Farm

Meet at the Greenway entrance to the Celery Farm at 6:30 p.m. Bring a light snack to enjoy while we wait for sunset. Leader: Mike Limatola. Please register for this trip with Mike, mike.limatola@gmail.com. Rain date is March 14, 2021.

Note: Date may change based on the arrival of the Woodcocks or the weather, please check Fyke emails or Facebook webpage for updates.

March 26, 2021, Friday – Monthly meeting: 8:00 p.m. The Celery Farm, Looking Back, Jerry Barack and Jim Wright

Two decades ago, Jerry Barack and Jim Wright joined forces to create "In the Presence of Nature", better known as simply "The Celery Farm Book". Jim wrote the book, and Jerry provided the photos. Doug Goodell contributed as well. For our March meeting, Jerry and Jim are showing images from the original show highlighting what's changed and what has remained the same (including pix from the old Hour on the Tower!).



**“Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”
~Ralph Waldo Emerson**

April 3, 2021, Saturday — Celery Farm Cleanup

Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the end of Greenway for a few hours of active conservation. We hope you will join us to spruce up the preserve. Many hands make light work! Marsh Warden Mike Limatola is the Coordinator, mike.limatola@gmail.com. Rain date is April 4, 2021.

Editor's Note:

Fyke received an email to relate the thoughtful act of community service provided by two women who walk in Celery Farm every afternoon. They live near the Celery Farm, and they feel that in some sense this is an extension of their own backyard. Each day they pick up trail litter in a grocery bag. The writer hoped that highlighting their kind efforts would challenge to other to help keep the farm litter free.

Thank you to Irma and Queenie for such caring and their shining example as good stewards of our nature preserve.



The 68th Ramsey Christmas Bird Count By Rob Fanning

Despite the crazy year that was 2020, the 69th consecutive Ramsey CBC was carried on by intrepid and loyal (and socially distanced) Fyke members on December 19th, 2020. This year's count day weather was very cold, yet sun and calm winds made it quite bearable. Snow cover was present from a recent storm, and the recent cold snap rendered streams and small lakes/ponds frozen, although some larger bodies of water remained partly open. Eight teams tallied a very respectable 77 species, just slightly below recent averages. One count week bird was added (Pine Siskin, thanks Charley).

Notable/unusual species included Snow Goose (5), Am. Wigeon (2), Green-winged Teal (1), Com. Goldeneye (13), Common Loon (2), Red-shouldered Hawk (6), Merlin (1), Coot (4), Barred Owl (2), Red-breasted Nuthatch (1), Winter Wren (2), Hermit Thrush (4), Catbird (1), Chipping Sparrow (2), Fox Sparrow (1), Rusty Blackbird (1), and Common Redpoll (4). An interesting Goose found by team C looks to be a Ross's/Snow hybrid. That's the closest we came to adding a new species for the count. Better than average numbers were tallied for Screech-Owl (16), Great-Horned Owl (6), Sapsucker (14), Pileated Woodpecker (25), Fish Crow (24), Raven (21), BC Chickadee (174), WB Nuthatch (99), Carolina Wren (77), Bluebird (12), Creeper (5), Swamp Sparrow (5), Song Sparrow (153), and Junco (753). Species with surprisingly low numbers include Turkey (24), Herring Gull (4), Blue Jay (50), Robin (56), Mockingbird (10), Tree Sparrow (20), and House Sparrow (340).



Of course with Covid upon us, there was no traditional recap gathering at the end of the day, and we also decided to suspend the traditional awards, two aspects of the count which I personally look forward to the most, but it made complete sense this year in the spirit of keeping safe and not pushing too hard. We did have a brief zoom recap meeting about a week after the count. It was great to see all the team leaders there. The compilers (Lisa and myself) want to extend a huge THANK YOU to everyone who went out and counted in this trying year to keep the tradition alive and contributing to the ever-growing citizen-science CBC database. We wish everyone a happy/healthy New Year and we hope we can have a "normal" CBC in 2021.

Field and Feeder Notes By Judith Cinquina

The Great Horned Owl is one of the largest, most powerful and fearless of all North American birds of prey. Pound for pound, it doubtless is one of the strongest birds in the world.....This bird is the earliest nesting owl in North America. In New Jersey, eggs are generally laid in February. So it's not uncommon to see a snow-covered Great Horned sitting in a nest incubating eggs.The diet of the Great Horned Owl is amazingly diverse and is made up of nearly 'all creatures great and small.'

From *New Jersey's Owls* by Len Soucy, published by the Raptor Trust, 2000.

Now is the time to listen for the “deep, resonant, six-note hoot” of the Great Horned Owl. They'll be nesting soon in old hawk, crow, heron, eagle or squirrel nests or tree cavities. They don't construct their own nests, and they don't have a problem nesting in suburban areas as long as some woodland habitat has been preserved. And, of course, the Celery Farm (CF), with its variety of food, including mammals, birds, fish, and reptiles can provide a banquet for this top predator. So it's not surprising that Neil MacLennan found a Great Horned at the CF, November 29. He wrote that he saw it at the forest edge at sundown and noted its “distinctive ears.” He found it there again, December 2. Great Horneds have been found at the CF almost every year since 2001, according to eBird. CF records include many instances of Crows obsessively harassing perched Great Horneds at the CF. You would attack it too, if you knew that the owl would grab you while you slept and dine on your brains. The first confirmed Great Horned nest was found by Fyke members in April of 2011. That year, at 7:03 a.m. one April morning, Rob Fanning discovered an owlet looking very dead and lying on a branch. Rob returned at 5:20 p.m. that same day as an adult Great Horned flew from the site. He was relieved to discover the owlet “quite alive and alert.” The owls may nest here again this winter, but keep in mind Len Soucy's warning. “Breeding Great Horned Owls vigorously defend their nests and young against all intruders, including humans. It would be wise to give these formidable predators a wide berth when they are raising kids.”

Screech Owls also like the CF and have been regularly observed in the winter roosting in one of the Wood Duck boxes scattered around the marsh. Records of them go back to 1991 at the CF. Nick Sweatlock discovered one this year on January 9. Both red and gray morphs have been noted, and occasionally they stay to nest. Rob Fanning, who used to haunt the CF on a daily basis, spotted an adult with five fledglings out of a box at the marsh in late May of 2009. Lisa Potash has two Screech Owl boxes installed on her Oakland property, and last spring a pair fledged young from one of the boxes. Recently, the boxes have been equipped with cameras. She has set up a YouTube connection for viewing her owls at “Owl in the Box Live Stream”. Take a look.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y3It4ClOGyo&feature=em-lsb-owner>

Kevin Watson posted photos of a rare Townsend's Warbler that turned up in Teaneck on the 16th and stayed long enough to be seen by many Fyke members. Kevin wrote, “This west coast vagrant has been very cooperative since being found yesterday by Jim Macaluso, working bushes along the Teaneck Creek at the corner of Teaneck Road and Fycke Lane.” The bird was a pale immature. Townsend's Warblers resemble the Black-throated Green Warblers that pass through our area regularly in spring and fall. It has the same bright yellow face but darker markings around the eyes and more extensive yellow continuing down its chest and sides. Both species breed in stands of coniferous trees. From 1990 through 2011, there were only 10 NJ sightings of Townsend's accepted, according to Boyle in his *Birds of NJ* (2011). New Jersey scored another Townsend's this past fall that hung around pines near the parking lot at Brigantine.

Kevin posted photos of White-fronted Geese and a Cackling Goose at the duck/goose pond off Prospect in Glen Rock on the 18th. They were among several hundred Canadas. Kevin wrote, (They)

“might be the easiest looks ever at these species in this area. The Cackling seems to be of the Richardson's race, so not Mallard-size as with the minima race, and not dark on the chest.” The first modern record of White-fronted came from Barnegat Bay in 1926, according to Boyle. Sightings have been increasing ever since, and now multiple sightings are not unusual. The Cackling Goose split off from the Canada in 2004, and the Richardson's race is rare but “probably” a regular winter visitor to NJ, according to Boyle. He continues, “Most occurrences are of single individuals in flocks of Canada Geese.”

Another rare visitor was the White Pelican that surprised Doug Morel on Lake Tappan, November 10. “It was sitting on a rock in shallow water near the most southeastern transmission line pole,” Doug wrote. White Pelicans nest in the northwest but, according to Boyle, have been expanding eastward. This pelican was a one-day wonder. White Pelicans hunt in shallow water, usually in flocks, while our eastern Brown Pelicans plunge dive for their living.

Those winter finches that passed through the Fyke area this fall declined to stay. A single young Purple Finch visited my Upper Saddle River feeder, December 21 just so it could be counted as a count week species for the Rockland, NY Christmas Bird Count (CBC). It hasn't turned up since. Brian Kenney had another lone Purple at DeKorte in Lyndhurst, January 1, and Neil MacLennan found another at the CF on the 12th. Pine Siskins fared no better. The Hour on the Tower crew took turns spying on a small flock of Siskins feeding along the edge of Lake Appert, November 22, according to Gaby Schmitt. Six visited my feeders, January 5, but then disappeared.

Other good finds included the Brown Creeper Maryann Fahey enjoyed at Halifax in Mahwah, November 20. Winter Wrens seem to be more common in winter recently. Doug had one at Mary Patrick Park, December 19 and another at Halifax, January 3. Two more were at Skylands Manor, Ringwood, January 8. One performed a string of “check” calls while doing pushups atop a pile of woodland debris in the Bog Garden. They seem to like wet places near rotting logs or tree falls. Boyle states that CBC Winter Wren totals show a “distinct increase” in recent decades. Two CF special birds were the Rusty Blackbird reported by Doug Morel January 11 and the Virginia Rail noted by Neil MacLennan that same day. Both were treats for the Hour on the Tower crew on their way in/out of the CF on the 16th, Charley West wrote.

Two Tree Sparrows visited the CF, December 5, Neil MacLennan reported. Chipping Sparrows are supposed to be gone when the Tree Sparrows arrive from the north, but not all know about it. Doug spotted a pair of Chipping Sparrows hanging out with 35 Juncos, 45 White-throats, and 9 Song Sparrows at Halifax, December 19. Other Halifax sightings included a Snow Goose found by Doug, January 2 and a Catbird found by Brian Kenney on the 8th. Mark Kantrowitz reported a Fox Sparrow under his Hillsdale feeder, November 26. Hopefully, more will pass through towards the end of winter. And maybe the lone Blue Jay should be listed among the rarities this winter. Gaby Schmitt spotted one in Bergenfield on the first. She wrote, “...rather nice to see given that they've become a bit scarce lately.” I almost stopped in traffic when I heard one call while conducting the CBC in Ramsey, December 19. I hadn't heard its voice in weeks. Jays depend on acorns for sustenance during the winter. If you haven't noticed, there are no acorns anywhere this year, so most Jays went south.

For some reason Fish Crows move over my Upper Saddle River yard in the fall and winter. Whether they're going to a roost or going south is not known. Usually I hear them coming while I fill my feeders late in the afternoon. On the 12th, I counted a flock of 111 high over my house at 3:20 pm, talking the entire way. Loren Anderson had an adult Bald Eagle spend some time perched near her Oakland home along the Ramapo River, on the 9th. Eagles fly up and down the river quite often, she stated. “When I moved here 30 years ago, I never would have dreamed that they would become common here. At that point in my life, I had never even seen one,” she wrote.

Carol Flanagan has been monitoring the birds that eat the peanuts she throws on her Hawthorne deck. On November 23, she added the White-throated Sparrow to that list. On January 12, she was amazed by a Crow. She wrote, "I have a habit of counting how many split peanuts the chipmunk can carry away. The most I have counted was 10 to 12. Well today I watched a Crow carry off over 15!" Crows don't carry food in their bills. Instead they have a pouch within their chin or sublingual pouch that expands to hold dozens of seeds or other food but flattens when not in use. It's a convenient form of carry-on luggage.

Keep your feeders clean and let us know what birds you see. As I write, Purple Martins are already in Georgia and heading our way. Have faith. They will bring spring with them. Join our discussion group at fykenature@groups.io where many of the reports for this column originated. Or send your observations to me at judycinq@optonline.net.



TM Gallery
By Tom Mitchell

MONDAY, MAY 25, 2020
forest perspective

In the early morning stillness of the forest
Following a moss-covered woodland road
We step softly moving slowly as we listen
To hear the birds calling hidden in the foliage.

Red efts in the leaf litter invite a closer look
Wriggling away from my camera lens
A remarkable life cycle for these juveniles
Destined to return to the water as adults.

The ground features a mosaic of moss and lichens
Sprinkled with twigs and needles and acorns
Covering the ancient bluestone rocks quarried here
Centuries ago when horsepower pulled wagons.

Four tiny pastel blue petals around a yellow core
Clusters of bluets sprouting up along the margins
Decorate the scene as we make our way past
Far from the concerns of the present day crisis.

We are walking on the ocean floor sediment
Deposited millions of years before people evolved
Crushed under inexorable metamorphic pressure
Lifted up and then eroded away over the eons.

This is the perspective seen when stepping back
Though what goes on in our world matters very much
Demanding our efforts to make right all that is wrong
We take our measure as well in this larger context.

Mount Peter – 2020 By Judith Cinquina

Covid haunted us and Broad-winged Hawks avoided us, but our 63rd annual Mount Peter Hawk Watch volunteers were undaunted and pulled in 7,095 raptors during our 68-day count, August 30 – November 15, 2020. The resulting 15.7 hawks per hour, our lowest average in 16 years, was offset by record Bald Eagles and Turkey Vultures.



August 30, our Clean –Up Day on the lookout brought a gift of strong NW winds and migrants we couldn't ignore. Seventeen Bald Eagles and 47 Broad-winged Hawks that day elated us, but expectations were soon dampened by long days of ho-hum tallies. Strong northwest winds on the 14th broke the log jam and awarded Jeanne Cimorelli with 14 more Bald Eagles and 317 Broad-wings, but our best Broad-wing day was garnered by Rick Hansen and Jeanne on the 18th with 1,357 scored on moderate north winds. Our final tally of 3,865 was disappointing and 54% below our Broad-wing 10-year average, and primarily responsible for our final low hawks per hour.

Unlike the Broad-wing, Red-shouldered Hawks produced their third best number ever with an above average 149 noted: 54 adults, 27 immature, and 68 unknown. Will Test grabbed the best flight of 21 on October 25. All were very high and difficult to spot without binoculars, as were the 17 that passed the lookout on the 27th, thus the high “unidentified” tally. An average 465 Red-tailed Hawks went through, with most high and difficult to spot naked eye. Half that count went over November 3 when 208 Red-tails took advantage of northwest winds gusting to 30 m/h. Even against a wintry blanket of clouds, most of the Tails that day were almost invisible without binoculars.

Sharp-shinned Hawks continue bringing in below average counts, although the 1,048 scored was better than last year. No triple digit counts made our score board, but Ken Witkowski and Jeanne Cimorelli had a best day count of 70 on light NW winds, October 9. A local Cooper's Hawk turned up that first day and attacked our windsock shortly after it was installed. Possibly that same Coop displayed its flared undertail coverts and circled our lookout, November 10. It then alighted low somewhere in the wooded area north of us and kakked for a good long time. Eventually it popped out of the woods low and flew across the east opening just above the goldenrod and back into the woods and wasn't counted. Our final 85 Cooper's Hawks was a below average tally with not one two-digit day reported. Although we talked a lot about N. Goshawks, they ignored us this season.

Through 1999, a 300+ Am. Kestrel season was good, but now we rejoice if we break 100. So, a quiet “yea!” celebrated the 121 below average numbers counted this season: 28 male, 27 female and 66 unknown. And yes, most were too high or far out to sex. Falcons aren't our bread and butter, and the 20 Merlins were average and 13 Peregrines a bit low but weren't worrisome. Denise Farrell observed one Peregrine fly in from the southeast, perch on our tower and preen. It then dropped down and returned to the tower four times before finally migrating through.

Most Osprey moved through between the 13th and the 26th, and like old times, Osprey shared a good travel day with the Broad-wings, September 18 with 22 counted. But Denise Farrell was awarded their best Osprey day of 27 on the 16th on light south winds, when just a handful of Broad-wings were noted. N. Harriers were slightly above average with 42 scored: 2 male, 8 female, and 19 immature. Think of them this way. In 1990, their 10-year average was 87. Today that average has dropped to 40. It's a sad reality for this graceful spirit of open fields and marshes.

We didn't have long to celebrate 2019's 163 Bald Eagle record. This fall's 177 score trounced that: 92 adult, 84 immature, 1 unknown. However, without the 17 that took advantage of strong NW winds August 30, there would have been no new Bald Eagle record. And that 17 was our best daily score all season. We can thank the Clean-Up crew, especially Jeanne Cimorelli for staying on and counting. We rated a single Golden Eagle this season, an immature that Matt Zeitler confirmed with a scope view October 17. It appeared above the trees directly north of the platform and headed SSE. We can look back to 2004 before we find so low a count. Our record stands at 12 Golden Eagles in 1994.

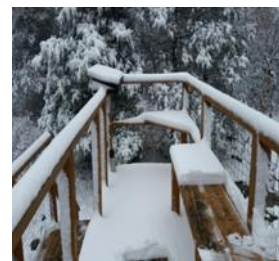
We have always been ambivalent about counting vultures. They're with us, hunting the farm fields below the lookout all fall. But undoubtedly, they've been increasing. The 850 Turkey Vultures noted this fall is a season record. Our best day was October 27 when between 11 and 12 EST, an unbroken stream of 175 vultures provided an unprecedented event at our lookout. By days end, a record 204 was counted on a light, northwest wind. The 109 Black Vultures was a bit above our 10-year average. They, too, have been increasing since we counted the first two in 1985.

Our local C. Ravens, now up to five or six individuals, provided a bit of entertainment for leaders. On September 20, Will Test noted one flying towards the microwave towers with a mouse in its bill. Beverly Robertson observed four in flight on October 31, one carrying a red apple. Between October 3 and 15, Ravens were observed migrating through. Tom Millard counted 14 in a kettle on the third, and Denise Farrell reported a group of 12 on the 14th. In addition to our locals, nine others were noted on the 9th, eight on the 10th and 10 on the 15th. Ruby-throated Hummingbirds tied our low of 16 last year. Monarchs also didn't show well with 510 tallied, down from our 1,607 in 2019. Matt Zeitler grabbed the best goose day with 4,370 Canadas observed in 111 skeins, October 11. On the 25th, Will Test counted 2,769 more, along with seven Cackling Geese and 100 Brant.

At least one and sometimes a few Red-breasted Nuthatch joined us daily. Pine Siskin and Purple Finch flocks were noted often in October and November with flocks of 32 Siskin and 38 Purple tallied October 20, along with a stream of 20 migrant Black-capped Chickadees. Denise Farrell reported the only Evening Grosbeaks, with seven on November 4. Some C. Nighthawks moved through in mid-September, but the two noted October 3 by Tom Millard were rather late.



Although a bit nervous about dealing with the public amid the Covid epidemic, nine dedicated leaders managed to cover our 68-day watch without incident. In fact, most visitors wore masks, respectfully kept their distance, and observed the DEC's degree that the platform be restricted to three observers. Many paused to read information we posted about the watch, attracted by colorful posters designed by Denise Farrell. A special thanks to Denise and to Tom Millard who created a backboard for the posters and used outdoor Velcro to install them. We're happy to note, the posters made it through the entire watch intact, and we're determined to use them in the future. A big thank you goes to our Clean-Up crew: Jeanne



Cimorelli, Denise Farrell, Rick Hansen, Tom Millard, Ken Witkowski, and Matt Zeitler. A special thanks to Tom for installing the box and other necessities for the watch, to Rick Hansen for shoveling the platform on October 30, and to the Fyke Nature Association for supporting our watch and providing insurance for our Clean-Up Day and to all those who supported our site on hawkcount.org. As always, we remain the oldest, continually run, all-volunteer fall watch in the country.

2020 FALL HAWK WATCH RESULTS

WATCH	BV	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	TOTAL	HRS
HOOK MT.	201	972	302	291	124	1,357	223	1	390	4,590	269	0	8	370	66	27	9,207	512
STATE LINE	41	1,780	278	190	66	897	267	1	355	1,295	519	1	1	318	60	63	6,136	430
MONTCLAIR	193	2,239	155	153	53	568	353	1	288	848	285	0	0	180	150	47	5,536	581
MOUNT PETER	109	850	121	177	42	1,048	85	0	149	3,865	465	0	1	121	20	13	7,095	453

11 YEAR SUMMARY OF AUTUMN HAWK COUNTS AT MOUNT PETER, N.Y.

SPECIES	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Black Vulture	77	38	4	104	232	107	84	96	79	136	109
Turkey Vulture	189	221	112	121	570	292	337	320	504	426	850
Osprey	203	187	191	126	111	114	98	111	134	123	121
Bald Eagle	89	70	130	119	79	70	95	85	112	163	177
N. Harrier	64	41	47	51	46	28	35	26	35	27	42
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1,803	1,334	1,826	1,026	1,119	1,017	1,104	841	1,469	693	1,048
Cooper's Hawk	119	152	165	64	122	74	94	121	176	82	85
N. Goshawk	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	0
Red-shouldered Haw	94	94	131	118	136	85	104	122	213	203	149
Broad-winged Hawk	8,531	7,417	6,073	7,611	5,685	11,256	5,894	6,874	5,071	7,360	3,865
Red-tailed Hawk	574	248	437	582	658	289	478	232	508	443	465
Rough-legged Hawk	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Golden Eagle	8	4	3	5	10	5	3	4	6	9	1
American Kestrel	207	153	232	112	139	75	52	83	159	85	121
Merlin	22	25	23	14	23	24	15	18	15	8	20
Peregrine Falcon	10	18	20	15	12	11	13	26	23	14	13
Unidentified Eagle	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	5	0	0	0
Unidentified Raptor	68	61	68	37	69	33	42	8	18	28	30
GRAND TOTAL	12,061	10,065	9,463	10,105	9,012	13,481	8,448	8,996	8,529	9,800	7,095
TOTAL HOURS	469	411	413	480	468	480	488	480	418	479	453
RAPTOR/HOUR	25.72	24.49	22.91	21.05	19.26	28.09	17.31	18.75	20.40	20.45	15.67

MOUNT PETER FALL HAWKS: 2010-2019 10-YEAR AVERAGE

	BV	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	TOTAL	HRS	HWKS/HR
10-Year Avg.	90	309	140	101	40	1,223	117	1	130	7,177	445	0	6	130	19	16	9,996	459	21.84
Total 2020	109	850	121	177	42	1,048	85	0	149	3,865	465	0	1	121	20	13	7,095	453	15.67



Welcome New Members



Julie McCall, Lyndhurst
 Zita and Gabe Mobayed and Family, Oakland
 Jessica Moon and Family, New York, NY
 Sagar Patel and Family, Weehawken
 Susan Roche, Saddle River
 Michael Sterling, Ridgewood

Where To Find Birds COOx2 Jan'10

Crossbills feed atop the spruces-
Lawns and lakes are good for Geese.

Peeps and Pipers on the beaches-
Rails and Limpkins feed on leeches.

Larids root in smelly dumps-
Hemlocks harbor Yellow-rumps.

Insects draw both Swift and Swallow-
Brant on high their leaders follow.

Flycatchers too like buggy places-
Dippers bathe where water races.

Hawks and Eagles soar the ridges-
Phoebes nest beneath the bridges.

Woodpeckers favor trees all rotten-
Bob White Quail prefer high cotton.

Grebes and Coots with toes that widen-
Take to phrags to do their hide'n.

Wrens & friends nap in brushy piles-
(Careful there! Don't wake Stiles!)

Grouse and Turkeys gallinaceous-
Like their woods with open spaces.

Jays and Crows and Corvid choices-
Listen for their raucous voices.

Coops and Sharps with wing-tips round-
Hunt where L-B-J's abound.

Thermals draw the Vulture kettles-
Hummers search the flower petals.

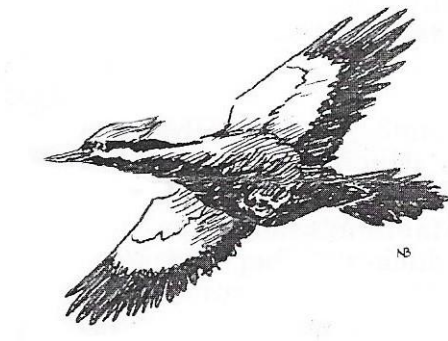
Trunks are where Brown Creepers sup-
They start down low and spiral up.

Nuthatches take a different tack-
They scamper down to find a snack.

Waders feast in shallow water-
Fish and frogs had best stay out'r.

Warblers take some special care-
They could be most anywhere.

The Cuckoo's song is sometimes terse-
Excepting when it's set to verse.



From the Editor to all 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 appreciated!

Fyke Board of Trustees:

President: Mike Limatola
 First Vice President: Gabriele Schmitt
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 Gabriele Schmitt
 Jim Wright
 Conservation: Gabriele Schmitt
 Hawk Watch: Judith Cinquina
 Land Trust: Hugh Carola
 Newsletter: Carol Flanagan
 Programs: Penny Whitlock
 Publicity: Gabriele Schmitt
 Webmaster: Kevin Watson

The Fyke Nature Association, a 501 (c) (3) organization, meets at the Allendale Municipal Building, 500 W. Crescent Avenue, Allendale, NJ 07401 on the fourth Friday of every month January to May, and in September and October. The winter meeting is the first Friday in December. (No meetings in June, July, August, and November.)

Meetings and membership are open to all. Annual dues: Individual \$20.00, Family \$25.00. For further information, write to Box 141, Ramsey, NJ 07446, visit our website www.fykenature.org, or contact Mike Limatola, President, mike.limatola@gmail.com. The Newsletter is published four times a year and manuscripts and artwork are welcome. Editor: Carol Flanagan, carolflana@aol.com.

The deadline for the Summer 2021 issue is March 24, 2021. Send material to Box 141, Ramsey, NJ 07446, or via e-mail to carolflana@aol.com.

