



Little Gull

Visit the RBA's website at www.RochesterBirding.org

Rochester Birding Association, P.O. Box 92055, 1335 Jefferson Road, Rochester, NY 14692-9998

December 2022 Events and Birding Field Trips

Please note: Leaders and trip details are subject to change. Please check the most recent issue of the Little Gull, or the online schedule at the RBA website <https://rochesterbirding.org/>, for updated information prior to departure! Trips run approximately 2 to 4 hours! Bring binoculars. All field trips will go rain/snow or shine unless there is a travel advisory issued. Online registration <https://rochesterbirding.org/> for each trip is required and opens at 7:30 PM, 7 days before the trip date and ends at 1 PM the day before the trip. When COVID guidelines allow, if at all possible, please carpool!

Dec 3

Saturday

Conesus Lake Area

We'll be looking for Tundra Swans, Canvasback, Redhead and other waterfowl. This trip is a combination of driving, stopping at overlooks, and short walks on mostly level dirt trails and dikes. Length about 1.5 mile walking. Dress warmly and in layers. Restrooms are available at Vitale Park only. Meet at **8:00 a.m.** at Vitale Park on Route 20A in Lakeville. The park entrance is by the Lakeville post office on the south (lake) side of 20A and across the street from Smith's Hardware. **Spotting scopes would be very useful.**

Leader: Jim Kimball 585-519-9211 and co-leaders Christina Hoh 973-224-7009, Nick Kachala 585-750-5536

Dec 4

Sunday

Beginner Birder Trip – Nations Road

Sharpen your skills on wintering hawks and Short-eared Owls. Other wintering birds such as Horned Larks, Snow Buntings, and Lapland Longspurs are often present. This trip is a combination of driving and viewing at stops along roads. Length about .5 mile walking along the road. Restroom facilities are not available except at Tops. Bring binoculars. Meet at **2:00 p.m.** at the Tops Plaza in Avon on Routes 5 and 20, 2 miles west of I-390. If possible, carpooling strongly advised. **Dress warmly and in layers. Spotting scopes and FRS radios would be very useful.**

Leader: John Boettcher 585-671-9639 and co-leader Judy Gurley 585-582-2349

Dec 8

Thursday

December Monthly Meeting, 7 pm Asbury Methodist and Zoom

See below for more information!

Jan 1

Sunday

Irondequoit Bay Outlet and Durand-Eastman Park – Year List Jump-Start

Get started on your annual list! We'll look for winter waterfowl on the Bay, then move to Durand-Eastman Park where we will stroll Log Cabin Road and Zoo Road looking for finches, waxwings, and resident birds. This trip is mostly on paved roads. No restrooms available. Meet at **8:00 a.m.** in the large parking lot next to the Outlet bridge on the west side of Irondequoit Bay Outlet (Irondequoit Bay State Marine Park). **Dress warmly! Spotting scopes would be very useful. Leaders:** Norma Platt and John Boettcher 585-671-9639

Jan 7

Saturday

Webster Park – Campground Area

In mature forest and scrubby areas we'll look for overwintering resident birds, lingering migrants such as Hermit Thrush and special winter visitors such as Evening and Pine Grosbeaks, White-winged and Red Crossbills and Bohemian Waxwings. This is a mostly level walk, partly on dirt road, partly on wooded dirt trail that can be uneven in places. Wear boots with good traction and dress warmly as we may be outside for 2-3 hours, although you are free to leave at any time. Trip length will depend upon trail and weather conditions. No rest rooms available. Meet at **8:00 a.m.** in the parking lot on the south side of Lake Road across from Kanatota Lodge.

Leaders: Pat Martin 585-301-5485 and Rosemary Reilly 585-748-0802

Time to Renew

Renew Online and Help the RBA

Renewing by early December saves RBA the printing and mailing costs needed for sending out membership reminder letters. To renew online, just go to the RBA website at rochesterbirding.org, and click on the "Renew" button at the top of the home page. This will take you directly to the membership renewal form.

Two years ago we started transitioning to **all-online membership renewal**. You responded! Over two years, the percentage of all renewals that were made online went from 45% to 72%. Let's continue that trend. When you renew your membership online at rochesterbirding.org you're making even more of an impact with your contribution. Renewing online reduces paperwork and saves our membership chair and treasurer multiple trips to the post office and bank. In addition to helping RBA, renewing online also helps lower your carbon footprint—which we can all agree is a good thing.

2023 Dues

Household membership	\$25
Junior membership (9-18)	\$15
(both above with Little Gull via e-mail)	
Little Gull by USPS mail - add to membership dues	\$15

If you prefer not to renew online, please contact Jo at jhtaylor@frontiernet.net, and she will email you the renewal form that you can print out and mail in with your check, or, if necessary, mail you a paper renewal form. We don't want to lose you as a member! We'll do our best to accommodate your needs.

Your renewal will be good until January 1, 2024 and bring you and the RBA community another great year of birds.

Thank you, Jo Taylor
Membership Data



Annual RBA Winter Dinner— Saturday January 14th, 2023

5:00pm – 9:00 pm, Asbury Methodist Church

Save the date and come hungry! Everyone brings a dish to pass and there will be an optional donation, so drop some cash in the bowl if you like. The main entrees are Roasted Turkey and Honey Basted Ham. Gluten Free and Vegetarian dishes are gladly welcomed.

Note: The church requests that no alcoholic beverages be consumed on the premises.

To make a reservation; contact Wanda Thistle by phone 585-281-0956 or send email to thistlew@yahoo.com. In the email please include: your name, the number of people attending, and the side dish you will be bringing.

We will have a White Albatross table where members can sell or trade artwork, field guides, and other gently used items. . If you bring something for the White Albatross Table, be sure to price it, and let us know if you want the sale price to go as a donation to RBA or back to you.

Our evening entertainment will be presentations by members of photos from their travels or from local birding adventures, as well as artwork or carvings. If you plan to give a presentation, please let us know and how long it will take. Please email or call Richard Ashworth, who will be coordinating this segment, at ashworth@rochester.rr.com, or (585) 381-2189.

If you can help with this event, please contact Wanda Thistle at 585-281-0956. Many hands make light work.

Asbury First United Methodist Church
1050 East Avenue Rochester, NY



Photo by Richard Ashworth

President's Corner, Randi Minetor— Finally, We're Opening the Vault

The great playwright Thornton Wilder said it best: "Money is like manure. It's not worth a thing unless it's spread around, encouraging young things to grow."

Back in 1986, the Rochester Birding Association received the news that a local birder had bequeathed a substantial amount of money to our fledgling organization. The estate of Beatrice Kemnitzer contained a gift to RBA that we could use at our discretion—it was not designated for any specific purpose.

After a probate period, a check arrived in January 1988 for \$63,764, which treasurer Irving Gaskin immediately placed in a CD while the board determined what the organization might do with it. This was in the good old days, when CDs made significant interest. The fund began to grow, and a tax refund to the estate enlarged the gift by another \$4,720. Soon the principal began generating interest that the board applied to the club's operating fund.

The board used these extra funds for the production of our birding hotspots booklet, a big project that became the precursor to the information now on our website. Beyond this, despite many suggestions and much discussion, the bulk of the bequest remained intact, quietly growing, until it more than doubled in size.

Over the ensuing years and with approval of the general membership, RBA used some of this fund to support projects in the community. We assisted Genesee Land Trust in acquiring the Kaiser property, expanding land used by the Braddock Bay Bird Observatory. In 2011, we helped the Nature Conservancy acquire 250 acres along the shores of Sodus Bay —the area known as Shaker Heights—protecting critical bird habitat. RBA supported a research internship at High Acres Natural Area in 2015, and in 2019, we joined Genesee Land Trust once again to help acquire land alongside Cornwall Preserve. Most recently, we made a major sponsorship gift to the 2020-2024 New York State Breeding Bird Atlas.

Even with all of these gifts, and thanks to some intelligent (and conservative) investing, our nest egg has continued to grow. This, we know, has caused some bewilderment among our members. "What is RBA intending to do with this money?" some of you ask. "Why have so much if we aren't going to do something good with it?"

These questions are the reason I joined the board in 2020 and ran for RBA president in 2022. Once you voted me in, I posed the question to the board. Today, I am happy to announce that we have developed grantmaking guidelines that will allow us to solicit proposals from our community, choose projects to support, and make a gift to one or two projects per year—all while keeping the fund largely intact going forward. I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to board members Brian Rohrs and Kevin Farrell for their invaluable work in creating these guidelines.

The new guidelines specify that we will consider supporting projects if they meet one or more of these criteria:

- **Land Acquisition:** Projects that help acquire and protect habitat for birds with a preference towards regionally significant species. Example: Funding for the overall purchase price of new conservation land important to state listed species.
- **Habitat Management:** Projects that enhance or restore bird habitat, with a preference toward regionally significant species. Example: Funding for mowing fallow farm fields to benefit grassland bird species.
- **Accessibility:** Projects that improve the ability for people to access birding and other outdoor opportunities with a focus on new audiences, and on individuals with disabilities. Example: Adding railings and ramps to an observation deck or trail, making it easier for wheelchair users to access safely.
- **Education:** Projects that further the understanding of birds, bird habitat, and ecology through educational programs, events, and interpretation. Example: Interpretive signage created by a scout to be installed at a popular birding destination, educating visitors on what to look for and why it's important.

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RBA in the Field

Durand-Eastman Park—11/29/2022

Twenty-two people joined on this lovely Autumn day. Not only did we have many of our regular attendees, but we had birders from Pennsylvania and California, a group of University of Rochester students (one from Singapore), and several new local birders.

Pre-trip scouting by the leaders suggested that the northern portion of the park was scarce in bird activity, so we parked in the lot near the maintenance building on Zoo Road. Birding started off slowly, but we did see several of the species that winter locally, including Black-capped Chickadees, European Starlings, and Downy and Red-bellied Woodpeckers. A wonderful find was a small clutch of Golden-crowned Kinglets.

In the Pinetum we located both the Red and White-breasted Nuthatches. Also in the Pinetum, there was an exciting view of a Cooper's Hawk flying "round n' round" one of the tree trunks. It was likely chasing a Red Squirrel for dinner. No one saw it actually catch anything, though.

In Trott Lake, we had good scope views of American Wigeon, Mallards, and Wood Ducks. Across the road, in Pat Lake, we added Gadwall.

In the Upper Orchard, we found lots of American Robins eating their fill of the crab apples! White-throated Sparrows (surprisingly, our first and only sparrow species) were seen feeding on the ground with a flock of Dark-eyed Juncos. Common Grackles (a life bird for some) were also seen there.

Thanks to Christina Hoh for filling in as co-leader and to John Boettcher helping to point out birds to the newer birders.

Tom Nash and Sheryl Gracewski

Batavia Wastewater Treatment Plant—10/15/22

Nine birders joined us on a cool, cloudy morning at the Batavia Wastewater Treatment Plant to see what ducks and other birds had gathered on its large, protected pools and wetland ponds. There was some immediate excitement at the parking lot, where we were able to watch a Merlin leisurely finish a meal at the top of a telephone pole, and then see it harass flocks of European Starlings with multiple acrobatic passes and dives. We then hopped in our cars and caravanned through the complex of ponds. Clouds would quickly give way to mostly-steady rain, so there was a

lot of stopping, starting, and quick ventures out between binocular lens clearing.

The upper ponds were full of Mallards and Northern Shovelers, mostly resting on the water but also giving some good views of hungry shovelers using their massive namesake bills. The lower ponds, in contrast, held big flocks of Ruddy Ducks, whose round cheeks and pointed tails stood out even if the drakes hadn't yet finished molting into their striking breeding plumage. We picked out a lone Lesser Scaup, a Gadwall, and a handful of Green-winged Teal, and watched a couple of small flocks of Common Mergansers fly in from the gloom.

Our bird of the day was an Eared Grebe, whose thin neck and bicolored plumage stuck out easily from the nearby waterfowl. Eared grebe are normally found west of the Mississippi, but we seem to get an autumn visitor here every year or two. A life bird for several people, and a treat for those that have seen them before and wonder if this is the same individual who made a stop at the treatment plant a few years ago.

As the steady rain became a drizzle, we continued on and picked up a handful of other local birds. A few late tree swallows flitted along the pond banks, a Cooper's Hawk buzzed by, and some sparrows, Red-winged blackbirds, and Common Grackles worked the wood edge. By the end of our trip we were properly soggy and ready for warm beverages, but we were happy with the highlights and our 27-species tally for the day.

Christina Hoh and Cathy Ballard

Purple Sandpiper - Braddock Bay East Spit
- © David Laiacona - November 4, 2022



President's Corner, Randi Minetor— Finally, We're Opening the Vault continued

Of course, we will continue to steward this fund carefully, with the understanding that we want to be able to make grants for many years to come. With this in mind, we also will do something we have not done much of in RBA's history: We will ask for donations from our members.

From time to time, when a project warrants this kind of participation, we will approach our members to help match gifts we would like to give as grants. For example, let's say an organization asks us for \$20,000 to build a viewing platform at a wildlife preserve. We may decide to give \$10,000 from our grantmaking fund, and raise the rest through gifts from our members. In this way, we can maintain a healthy fund while accomplishing some exciting things for birds and birders in our community.

You can see our new grantmaking guidelines on our website at rochesterbirding.org > About > Organization > Grantmaking Opportunities. Please note the short list of things we will *not* support: personal travel (like birding trips by individuals), initiatives by for-profit organizations (for example, if a landfill company is building a wildlife preserve as an offset), or legal fees.

We are very excited at the prospect of spreading some of this money around. You can help! Do you know of an organization that should apply for a grant from us? We hope to hear from land management and/or bird conservation organizations, Eagle scouts, citizen science initiatives, and more. Have them send us a proposal at info@rochesterbirding.org.

We look forward to this new era in RBA history, as we extend our impact into the community to make things better for birds and birders. We'll keep you informed as we select projects to support.



Snow Goose (white and blue morph) - Hamlin Beach State Park - © Eunice Thein

Little Lakes Christmas Bird Count—SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2022

This year marks the 123rd count nationwide and the 71th count for the area. The count date is Saturday, December 31, 2022. Birds seen during the count week of December 28 to January 3 may be called in to the leaders for inclusion in the tally. The center of the 15 mile diameter circle is the outlet of Hemlock Lake, at the north end of the lake. The circle includes all of Conesus, Hemlock, Canadice and Honeoye Lakes and a large area to the north. The dividing line between the lakes is the height of land between the lakes. It is important for the coverage in each of the 5 areas to be as consistent as possible, year to year, for meaningful evaluation of the count area. Your participation in this worthy endeavor would be greatly appreciated. New birders can be paired up with experienced birders. If you are interested, contact one of the leaders.

No compilation meeting is planned at this time. People are free to meet at the American Hotel in Lima to socialize and to share results informally.

Pat Martin, Compiler

Home: 582-2761

Cell: 301-5485

emartin139@earthlink.net

Area	Leader	Phone	email
Conesus Lake	Jim Kimball	243-0316	kimball@geneseo.edu
Hemlock Lake	Bill Howe	301-2646	whhowe60@gmail.com
Canadice Lake	Phil Opdycke	385-6189	popdycke@rochester.rr.com
Honeoye Lake	Bob Spahn	671-5690	rspahn@prodigy.net
Northern Area	Robert Buckert	269-4206	avbrro@hotmail.com

Rochester Christmas Bird Count

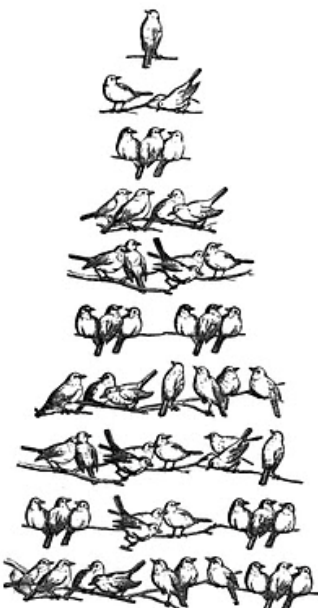
Sunday, December 18, 2022

On Sunday Dec. 18, 2022 we will conduct the Rochester Christmas Bird Count. This traditional activity demonstrates our commitment to science and birding. This will be the 119th count in the Rochester area.

These sector leaders for the RCBC have consented to coordinate the field work for the count of our winter birds. **To participate in the count**, contact them or Norma Platt. Be sure to ask your leader for area details.

John Boettcher 671-9639 johnwb2@rochester.rr.com Bob Spahn 671-5690 rspahn@prodigy.net	Braddock Bay to Long Pond Road
Greg Lawrence glawrence21@yahoo.com	Long Pond Road to Dewey Avenue
Mike Gullo 585-200-4356 mgullo@rochester.rr.com	Dewey Avenue to Charlotte Harbor
Andrew Garland andrew.garland@yahoo.com	Summerville to Culver Road
Sheryl Gracewski and Tom Nash sheryl.gracewski@rochester.edu tnashny@earthlink.net	Culver Road to Baker Road (Webster)
Shirley Shaw 385-3907 shirley@jashaw.com	Parks and neighborhoods (Highland, Genesee Valley, Mt. Hope Cemetery), crow roost
Robert Buckert avbrro@hotmail.com	Downtown crow count
Mike Rizzo 585-478-2667	Seneca Park
Rosemary Reilly reilly.rosemary@gmail.com	Maplewood & Turning Point Parks, Holy Sepulcher and Riverside cemeteries
Brian Morse brianmorse2000@gmail.com	West of airport/south of the canal/north of the river

Norma Platt, Compiler
585-260-5221
normap1@rochester.rr.com



Welcome to the Flock

Join us in welcoming these new members who joined in the last month.

Carmel Merrill

Regina Gortych

Anne Ford

Diana Ryan & Family (Bridley, Andy, Cam)

Simran Mohile (Young Birder)

Supriya & Nimish Mohile

Current RBA Membership as of September 14 is 443:

426 Household memberships

4 Young Birders

1 Corporate (The Bird House)

12 Complimentary

Time to Renew! Renew Now!

If you have renewed for 2023, thank you!

Jo Taylor

Membership Data

December Monthly Meeting—December 8th, 7 pm, Asbury Methodist Church

Title: Changing Migrations in a Changing World by Dr. Benjamin Van Doren

Migratory birds face increasing challenges as they cross hemispheres under the cover of darkness. Dr. Benjamin Van Doren will discuss recent advances in the science of monitoring and forecasting bird migration, and how the BirdCast project at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology is bringing migration to the masses in an era of big data. Dr. Van Doren will also discuss how light pollution impacts migratory birds, presenting recent insights into the drivers of urban bird collisions and how lights-out programs can make a difference.

Dr. Benjamin Van Doren studies the eco-evolutionary responses of migratory birds to environmental change. His research spans spatial and population scales and straddles ecology, evolution, behavior, and conservation. Dr. Van Doren earned a PhD in Zoology from Oxford University, and he has received achievement awards from the Linnean Society of London, Zoological Society of London, and the American Ornithological Society. As a Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, he explores how climate change, light pollution, and human-dominated landscapes influence migratory bird ecology and behavior.

Conservation Corner

Amy Kahn, Conservation Chair

We Birders Made a Difference! Lessons learned from working to make the Heritage Wind Project safer for Birds was presented at the November meeting by Amy Kahn and Kate Kramer.

RBA's position since 2007 has been that it "supports wind energy as an alternative to fossil fuel power generation, provided that the facilities do not cause undue harm to nesting and migrating birds." Our elected boards have revisited and reaffirmed this position paper many times since.

I have written many articles in the Little Gull over the last 8 years about the Lighthouse and Heritage Wind projects. What I want to point out now are key lessons learned and next steps for concerned birders.

Summary of Lessons Learned

- It is necessary to act quickly with current regulations .
- Having the existing data beforehand helps - eBird the gaps*.
- Build coalitions and find allies.
- Establish and maintain relationships with regulatory agencies.

Ways Birders Can Take Action

- Get involved. Citizens do make a difference. *eBird the gaps, the areas surrounding your favorite hot spots. Most vulnerable are tracks of private farm and grasslands, private forested areas, wetlands and shores. Stay on public roads and respect local land owners.
- Bird the areas surrounding the Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and the Tonawanda Seneca Reservation that are under severe development pressure. The STAMP project continues. Document your birding in the area on eBird, staying on public roads and respecting local traffic.
- Comment on the changes to Heritage project. On October 18 the modified permit was deemed incomplete in 27 areas. Once the application is determined to be complete there will be a 60 day public comment period. The comment period will go at least into the spring of 2023. You can leave comments and review public documents on the Website: [NYS DPS DMM 21 00026](https://documents.dps.ny.gov/public/MatterManagement/CaseMaster.aspx?MatterCaseNo=21-00026&CaseSearch=Search) https://documents.dps.ny.gov/public/MatterManagement/CaseMaster.aspx?MatterCaseNo=21-00026&CaseSearch=Search
- Developers are pushing 1 or 2 turbine projects using just one landowner and going outside of the ORES regulations. Turbines are still going to be 640 feet tall. There will be less oversight unless town boards decide to give them a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). No idea what the impact will be on birds to have randomly scattered super tall turbines all over the state. Another reason to bird the gaps.
- The Climate Action Scoping Plan comes out by January 1, 2023. That gives the context of the huge push for the large scale renewables that we will see.

October 2022 Records Report

1. October brought the first signs of an approaching winter. The first half of the month had pleasant weather interrupted by a cold front on the 7th, but the weather rebounded by Indigenous Peoples'/ Columbus Day back to the 50s°F and lower 60s°. A few windy days brought on by surface high pressure produced wind gusts in excess of 45 mph on the 14th and 15th. After this, lake effect rain kicked in, temperatures dropped, and the Rochester Regional Airport recorded the first snowflakes of the year on the 20th. A temperature rollercoaster then ensued with days above average contrasting to days below average to finish the month out. Temperatures averaged 50.6°, 1.6° below normal. Precipitation totaled 1.25", 1.97" below normal. The highest temperature, 76°, occurred on the 25th; the lowest, 30°, on the 28th.

2. Birding October, as with any transition month, had its ups and downs. Observers listed 210 species in October, above the 10-year average but lower than the past two years. No notable misses stand out, but the abundance of warbler species that depart in the first week or two of October seemed lower than in past years. Perhaps a combination of the inclement weather mid-month and the BBBO closed on some historical peak banding days is the reason. The eBird download, filtered for out-of-region, totaled over 39,400 lines, up 21.2% from last year, likely aided by the continuing shorebirding at the East Spit and some out-of-area birders doing several birding blitzes around the eBird October Global Big Day.

3. Diligent observers at the Hamlin Beach SP Lake-watch, the Sodus Bay Lighthouse Lakewatch, and other locations around the region reported average numbers of waterfowl. Northern Pintail flew in good numbers the first half of the month. Birders both at Hamlin and Sodus reported good numbers of scoters (all three species). Large movements seemed to occur on 20th and 27th. Chris Wood reported a single flyby Eurasian Wigeon along Lake Ontario in Greece. Ruddy Duck numbers built on Long Pond in Greece through the month, approaching 136 by the end of the month. There were no reports of rarer geese, Ross's and Greater White-fronted.

4. The Eared Grebe at Braddock Bay from September continued into October and stayed until the 13th. Braddock Bay also had the highest count of American Coot in Region 2, with numbers building to 230 by the

end of the month. Sandhill Crane numbers topped out at 28 off Armitage Road in Savannah, down from 102 last October, although many more frequented sites just over the regional boundary in Seneca County. Irondequoit Bay hosted impressive numbers of Chimney Swifts, with Nate Ukens counting 435 on the 8th, the eBird Fall Global Big Day.

5. Our region hosted 22 shorebirds species this month, up from 18 last year, even without any phalarope reports. The shorebird of the month goes to Dave Kennedy, who found a Ruff off Armitage Road in Wayne County. It stuck around for two days and a decent number of others got to see it. Braddock Bay's East Spit "island" hosted one to two Hudsonian Godwits all month.

6. The Lake Ontario shoreline recorded 17 Parasitic Jaegers. Tim Lenz photographed and videoed a Pomarine Jaeger from the Sodus Point Lighthouse Lakewatch on the 10th. Two or three "slash" Pomarine/Parasitic Jaegers were seen at Hamlin Beach SP and Sodus Point as well. A handful of other jaegers were left as "jaeger sp." as usual. October had an unimpressive numbers and diversity of gulls. No reports of Black-legged Kittiwake or Little Gull came from the lakeshore, nor did any early White-winged Gulls show up. The highest count of Lesser Black-backed Gull was three on Braddock Bay. Chris Wood counted 195 Bonaparte's Gull on Long Pond and Northrup Creek on the 29th. Caspian Tern departed at a normal date. The last Forster's Tern was spotted at Braddock Bay on the 15th. The last Common Tern was seen by a few observers on the 22nd at Charlotte Pier.

7. Loon numbers were lower than historic highs, but lake watchers had a few days over 100 for Common Loon. Perhaps one of the best spectacles this month was **33 Cattle Egrets** reported and photographed together by Doug Beattie in Stafford on the 15th. Andy Guthrie found another Cattle Egret in Hamlin on the 21st-22nd. A few others got out to see it. Greg Lawrence had four Cattle Egrets along NY531 in Ogden on the 21st. Kyle Gage and Joe Wing had an ephemeral appearance of a Glossy/White-faced Ibis from Sodus Point on the 15th, but the wind and brevity of the bird's appearance made ID to species impossible.

8. Among the raptors, nothing as awesome as the photogenic Swainson's Hawk from 2021 showed up, but a Golden Eagle by Nate Ukens on the 9th from LaSalle's Landing Park made for the only report of this

species in October. A late Osprey took up residence on Braddock Bay on the 29th and stayed through the month's end. Chris Wood had the region's only Northern Goshawk report of the month on the 23rd from Greece. Birders reported four Red-shouldered Hawks. Broad-winged Hawk and Black Vulture were missed.

9. Robert Buckert and Nick Kachala had the region's first Northern Saw-whet Owl of the season at Owl Woods on the 8th. The BBBO banded a total of eight Northern Saw-whet Owls over three nights of banding later in the month. Short-eared Owl arrived on time, with the first of the season reported by Michelle Gianvecchio and Andy Guthrie from Burger Park on the 22nd. Brad Carlson's feeders in southern Monroe County hosted the only record of Red-headed Woodpecker for the month.

10. Among the passerines, most species left within the range of normal departure date distribution or on the earlier side, as addressed earlier in this memo. The BBBO banded a White-eyed Vireo on the 20th with periodic recaptures through the 26th. Numbers of Swainson's Thrush and Gray-cheeked Thrush seemed down, especially the first week in the month when large movements can be expected with the right wind direction. Perhaps partially an artifact of effort. An irruption of Evening Grosbeaks treated birders throughout the region with the first region 2 reports coming in on the 24th. Nate Ukens had the highest Evening Grosbeak count with 16 from Whiting Road Nature Preserve on the 29th. Michelle Gianvecchio and Andy Guthrie had another (or the same) late Grasshopper Sparrow from Salmon Creek Nature Preserve on the 23rd. Observers reported only 17 warbler species. The highest expectation misses were Blue-winged Warbler and Mourning Warbler. Two late American Redstarts were found. The first at Braddock Bay on the 20th, then later at the corner of Cook Road and Redman Road in Hamlin on the 29th-30th. Salmon Creek Nature Preserve hosted a late Indigo Bunting on the 22nd. Two Dickcissels were reported in the region this month. The first by Andy Guthrie passing Hamlin Beach SP on the 16th and the second by both Andy Guthrie and Chris Wood on the 29th on the ground along Cook Road and Redman Road in Hamlin.

11. Please submit reports to eBird, post them on geneseebirds, and/or send them by the 5th of the month to Nick Kachala nicholaskach@gmail.com or 1141 Rush-Scottsville Rd. Rush, NY 14543

Observers: Jim Adams, Janet Akin, Osvaldo Araya, Ted Barnett, Mitchell Barry, BBBO (Andrea Patterson), Doug Beattie, Don Belmont, Linda Clark Benedict & Steve Benedict, David Benvent, Mike Bergin, Lynn Bergmeyer, Barry Bermudez, Linda Birkel, Nancy Bloechl, Allan Bloom, John Boettcher, Terry Bohling, Lynn Brand, Joe Brin, Kyle Brock, David Brown, Mark Brown, Logan Brunner, Bob Buckert, Sara Burch, Ken Burdick, Bruce Cady, Brad Carlson, Keigan Case, Nancy Casper, Denis & Judy Caysinger, Chris Chappell, Robert Cicotta, Richard Clark, Kelly Close, Jeremy Collison, Andrew Consler, Kathleen Dalton, Willie D'Anna, Doug Daniels, Gregg Dashnau, Jayne Dean, Peggy Dempsey, Ted Drozdowski, Gordon Dutter, Diane Egan, Joe Fell, Debra Florio, George Ford, Jim Fry, Kyle Gage, Andrew Garland, Janis George, Jessica George, Michelle Gianvecchio, Candy Giles, Christopher Goetz, James Goetz, Kimber Godfrey, John Gordinier, Sheryl Gracewski, Kate Graham, Jane Graves, Jay Greenberg, Kevin Griffith, Ralph & Georgia Guenther, Michael Gullo, Carmen Gumina, Andrew Guthrie, Bill Haake, Helen & Chris Haller, Kim Hartquist, Christina Hoh, Dick Horsey, Bill Howe, Linda Howes, Pam Inzina, Carolyn Jacobs, Blaise Jenner, Alyssa Johnson, Nick Kachala, Amy Kahn, Laura & Paul Kammermeier, Annette Kalinski, Jacob Kearney, Jim Kimball, Cindy Kindle, Evelyn Kirkwood, Kathy Kirsch, Renee Kittleman, Michael Laird, Chris Lajewski, Tom Lathrop, Leona Lauster, Greg Lawrence, Gayle Lazoration, Tim Lenz, Joan & Vern Lindberg, Peggy Mabb, Melissa Mance-Coniglio, Cindy Marino, Pat Martin, Donna Mason-Spier, Lauri Mattie, Kenneth McCarthy, Jacob McCartney, Jay McGowan, Mary McGreal, Ann McMican, Scott & Sophie Meagher, Steve Melcher, Jim Miles, Mark Miller, Megan Miller, Kent Millham, Phil Mills, Randi Minetor, Adrielle Mitchell, Ann Mitchell, Mary Moore, Celeste Morien, Brian & Brooke Morse, Linda Mott, Leah Mould, Sheila Mumpton, Kevin Murphy, Allen Nash, Ann Nash, Tom Nash, Rivka Noll, David Odell, Michael Palermo, Gary Palmer, Andrea Patterson, Michael Peter, Joseph Petre, Steven Pitt, Norma Platt, Sandy Podulka, Jo Popma, Malise Prieto, Bill Purcell, Doug & Elizabeth Rabjohns, Carolyn Ragan, Stacy Robinson, RBA Field Trips, Neal Reilly, Rosemary Reilly, Susan Roberts, Brian Rohrs, Victoria Rothman, Wade & Melissa Rowley, Robert Ryan, Thomas Ryan, Kevin Rybczynski, Jackie Salisbury, Anne Salverda, Michael Scheibel, Karl Schmidt, Mickey Scilingo, Shirley Shaw, Dominic Sherony, Rob Sielaff, Judy Slein, Dee Smith, Roger Smith, Tom & Pat Smith, Robert & Susan Spahn, Dave Spier, Kim Sucy, June Summers, Holley Sweeney, Stephen Taylor, Annette Teng, Mike & Joann Tetlow, Eunice Thein, Thaddeus Trzeciak, Nathan Ukens, Alison Van Keuren, Jeanne & Tom Verhulst, Matthew Voelker, Jules Wagner, Davey Walters, Mike Wasilco, Bridget Watts, Joe Wing, Jim Wood, Ryan Zucker. (There were 395 observers in the eBird download, up 9.1% from 2021)

	2022	2021	10-year Average
Species for October	210	213	205.4
New for the year	4	6	4.5
Total for the year to date	295	295	286.3



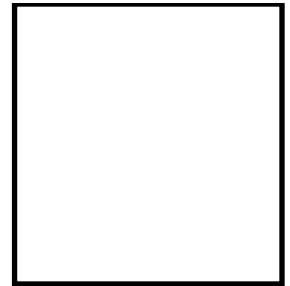
ROCHESTER BIRDING ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 92055

1335 Jefferson Road

Rochester, NY 14692-9998

Address Service Requested



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RBA Committee Chairs

Birds & Brews	Nic Minetor	nic@minetor.com
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Communication	Liz Magnanti	lizmagnanti@gmail.com
Conservation	Amy Kahn	rbaconservation@gmail.com
Editor	Leah Mould	editor@rochesterbirding.org
Field Trips	Jeanne Verhulst	Jeanne.verhulst@gmail.com
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Last 30 Days Gallery	Kim Denise	kdenise1111@gmail.com
Member Data	Jo Taylor	jhtaylor@frontiernet.net
Nominating	Dominic Sherony	dsherony@live.com
Records	Nicholas Kachala	nicholasKach@gmail.com
Social	Wanda Thistle	thistlew@yahoo.com
Volunteer Coordinator	Vacant	
Web Content Manager	Shelley Patterson	shelpat22@gmail.com
Webmaster	Chad Lewine	chad@chadlewine.com
Young Birders	Neal Reilly	Neal.f.reilly@gmail.com