



**Rochester Birding
Association**

P.O. Box 92055, 1335 Jefferson Road, Rochester, NY 14692

Little Gull

June 2023 Events and Birding Field Trips

Please note: Eventbrite pre-registration has ended. Just show up at the designated meeting spot.

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! All field trips go rain/snow or shine unless there is a travel advisory issued. Trips run approximately 2 to 4 hours. Bring binoculars. Wear weather-appropriate clothing and sturdy shoes. Please arrive at the designated meeting location 10 minutes before the start time of the trip. Colds, flu, and COVID are still around—if you're not feeling well, please stay home. Please carpool when possible. Enjoy your trip!

June 3 Ganondagan State Historic Site

Saturday

This trip has generated large species lists due to the many habitat types we will travel through. We will start from the parking lot to the longhouse and walk wide mown or packed dirt trails through the Meadowlark field and then head down through woods, shrub land, and wetland to an overlook in grassland. The round trip is 1.5 miles and includes some hills. After we reach the overlook, those who wish can continue for another 2 miles on the narrower Seneca Trail through field and woods, across County Route 41, and along a wooded stream valley to the Bobolink field. Restroom facilities are available at the museum center at end of trip. Meet at **8:00 a.m.** in the main parking lot off County Road 41 Boughton Hill Road. The parking lot is situated below the new museum at 7000 County Road 41, Victor, NY 14564. (From Route 444 from Victor, turn right onto Boughton Hill Road and go down the hill. The main parking lot will be on your right at the bottom of the hill.)

Leaders: *Amy Kahn 585-310-2330 and co-leader Neal Reilly 518-256-9147*

June 4 Letchworth State Park

Sunday

This trip frequently garners one of the higher bird lists among RBA field trips. Of course, it gets an early start! We'll look for birds not frequently seen on other trips, such as Acadian Flycatcher. We'll do a fair amount of walking: one somewhat steep but short forest trail and a dirt road down to the river level, as well as some roadside birding. Restrooms are available at several locations along the way. Meet at **5:30 a.m.** at the Dam Overlook Gifts and Grill parking lot (use the Route 36 entrance to Letchworth Park)). Pack a lunch and snacks, as the trip will likely last well into mid-afternoon. **Spotting scopes would be very useful.**

Leader: *Elijah Kruger 585-329-7754 and co-leader Neal Reilly 518-256-9147*

June 17 Bergen Swamp

Saturday

A trip to this unique place is by special permit from the Bergen Swamp Preservation Society and will feature nesting birds. The mix of vegetation zones provides secluded nesting habitat for the usual western N.Y. species as well as those more characteristic of the Canadian zone such as Blue-headed Vireo, Hermit Thrush, Magnolia, Blackburnian, Black-and-white, Canada and Nashville Warblers. This is a walking trip of 3 miles on variably wet and slippery corduroy trails that must be followed closely for safety reasons and because of the fragile habitat. **Sturdy boots** (rather than sneakers) are **strongly recommended**, and hiking or ski poles may be useful. Meet at **7:30 a.m.** at the main trailhead entrance to Bergen Swamp: 6646 Hessenthaler Rd, Byron, NY 14422. From Rochester, take I-490 west to Exit 2. Take Rt. 33 west and turn right (north) onto Route 19. Turn left at the fire station onto Hunter Road—it becomes Swamp Road. Follow Swamp Road west past Pocock Road and turn right onto Hessenthaler Road. The swamp entrance is at the kiosk on the right. Park along the right shoulder, but do not park in front of the caretaker's house.

Leader: *Greg Lawrence 585-730-2553 and co-leader Neal Reilly 518-256-9147*

June 18

Sunday

Odonata Sanctuary

The 100 acre privately owned Odonata Sanctuary, 20 Parrish Road, Honeoye Falls, NY 14472, is the former home of Joseph W. Taylor, who was a founder of the American Birding Association and president of Hawk Mountain Association. The sanctuary participates in the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) that provides nesting acreage for grassland nesting birds such as Eastern Meadowlarks and Bobolinks. The sanctuary is an access point for the observation of migrating birds and monarch butterflies and is also home to one of the largest Eastern Bluebird nest box trails in the USA. The trails pass over streams, around a pond and through woodlands. No restrooms available. Meet at **8:00 a.m.** at the sanctuary. Enter the sanctuary at 20 Parrish Road and drive up the long, one-lane driveway.

Leaders: Tom Nash and Sheryl Gracewski 585-261-6975 and co-leader Steve Melcher 585-746-8078.

June 25

Sunday

Barnhart's Camp and Keeney Swamp

We will be birding as we drive (and stop) throughout the diverse landscapes of Northern Allegany County, 20 minutes south of Letchworth State Park. Grassland, woodland, pond and swampland species such as Prairie and Mourning Warblers, Eastern Bluebirds, Indigo Buntings, and maybe a bittern should be seen. This trip generally goes all day so we can see as much as possible! Meet at **7:30 a.m.** at Shop N' Save in Nunda on Route 408 where restrooms are available. **Spotting scopes and FRS Radios would be useful.** Lunch at Barnhart's camp is a trip tradition--they grill the hot dogs! Bring a dish to pass--your choice (but this is optional).

Leaders: Jerry and Carolyn Barnhart 585-385-4026 and co-leaders Tom and Jeanne Verhulst 585-362-0803

July 29

Saturday

Conesus Inlet State Wildlife Management Area

Explore this expansive wetland for Virginia Rails and Wood Duck families. We've seen eagles on a reliable basis, Cliff Swallows and more. This trip is a combination of driving, stopping at overlooks and short walks on dirt trails and dikes. Length about 1.5 miles of walking. Restrooms are available at the meeting place only. Meet at **7:30 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 Route 20A and across the street from Smith's Hardware. There's a possibility of a trip extension to the Geneseo Airport area. **Spotting scopes would be very useful.**

Leader: Jim Kimball 585-519-9211 and co-leader Nick Kachala 585-750-5536

August Is a Great Time of Year to Watch for Migrating Shorebirds

A good place to look for shorebirds is at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge. For the last few years the staff there has advertised open dike walks at Knox-Marsellus and Puddler Marshes. The walks start from the visitor center at 7:00 a.m. on alternate Saturdays and Sundays in August and early September. Visit the Montezuma NWR website for more detailed information as the time approaches.

American Redstart, Braddock
Bay Park © Barbara Smith May
9, 2023





Photo by Richard Ashworth

President's Corner, Randi Minetor

Would you like to be president of the Rochester Birding Association?

Our bylaws wisely specify a two-year term limit for RBA president, so in just six months from now, we will need a new one. The Nominating Committee (right now, that's just Dominic Sherony) and I are starting to put out feelers to find that one special member who would like to rise to the level of leadership of this organization. So it's a serious question—have you ever thought about being president of RBA?

It may surprise you to learn that the first time I was asked to be president, I said no, just as you are probably saying now. Instead of stepping into the top spot right away, I accepted a position as a director, and sat on the board for two years to see what being president was like.

These were two weird years: 2020 and 2021. I don't have to tell you what made them so odd, but the board supported president Liz Magnanti in seeing RBA through what could have been a disastrous time. With no in-person membership meetings, no annual dinner or picnic, and strict limitations on the number of people who could attend field trips, we could have splintered and fallen apart. Instead, we learned to use technology like Eventbrite and Zoom, we found speakers who entertained us while social distancing at home, and we waved to each other in nature preserves, national wildlife refuges, and forests, and lined up along roadsides to share sightings.

In that time, I saw ways that I might be able to guide RBA through the post-pandemic era. Our website needed a significant upgrade, something I knew how to manage. We had money to filter into projects that could create birding access in the community, but no plan for doing so. Some back-end stuff like the club's Policies and Procedures Manual needed a reorganization and refreshing. We had boxes of files from nearly 50 years of history that needed to be scanned, uploaded, and recycled. This all sounds pretty mundane and not very birdy, but these things streamlined the organization's operations, and sometimes, that's what an administrator does.

You may see other things that you wish RBA did or did not do. Perhaps you chat about these things with other members on field trips, or when you bird together on your own. I invite you to explore those thoughts further, by getting in touch with me (writerrandi@gmail.com, or text me at 585-737-3449) and discussing the possibility that you might be exactly the person we need.

My goal is to bring the right candidate into board meetings this fall, so you can see how those go and the kinds of issues we address. Most of these issues don't have a lot to do with birds, but they do include things like planning events, deciding what projects in the community RBA will support, replacing committee chairs when they step down, and so on. Board meetings happen over Zoom, so you don't even have to drive anywhere to serve.

If this sounds like something you'd like to consider, please get in touch. I'd love to share with you what a great experience it has been to be part of this board—and, by the way, I'll continue to be on the board for two more years as the immediate past president. I can be your advisor and helper as we move ahead.

Think about it. Seriously, please think about it. And drop me a line.

Black-throated Green Warbler, Cobbs Hill Park © Dick Horsey May 6, 2023



RBA ANNUAL PICNIC

Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.—Rain or Shine
Burroughs Audubon Nature Club
301 Railroad Mills Rd., Victor

Potluck is back! Please bring a dish to pass—sign up by calling Wanda Thistle @ 585-281-0956 or email at thistlew@yahoo.com.

- If you would like to grill, please bring your own meat. RBA will provide charcoal.
- The picnic is always informal and fun. There's no formal program; it's just a lot of birders talking about birds, travel, and other adventures.
- The BANC facility is located in an ideal place to see birds. This is a great opportunity to enjoy this lovely spot, with an after-dinner walk to look for breeding songbirds and year-round residents.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Canada Warbler, Firehouse Woods ©
 Jeanne Verhulst May 25, 2023



Magnolia Warbler, Braddock Bay West Spit © Alan Bloom May 11, 2023

RBA Dinner Leftovers

These were things left on the table (The White Albatross Table) at the January dinner. Some real bargains here – beautiful DVD, source books on birdsong and shorebirds, and popular authors Zickefoose and Heinrich. Free field guides to the SE. Proceeds go to RBA. Contact John Boettcher johnwb2@rochester.rr.com

DVD \$3

Winged Migration DVD 90min Academy Award Nominee 2002

Hardcovers \$3

White Feathers – The Nesting Life of Tree Swallows – Bernd Heinrich

The Bluebird Effect – Common Bonds with Common Birds – Julie Zickefoose

The Backyard Bird Feeder's Bible – Sally Roth

Feeding Wild Birds in America – Culture, Commerce and Conservation – Baicich, Barker, and Henderson

Birds Asleep – Alexander F. Skutch

The Singing Life of Birds – The Art and Science of Listening to Birdsong – Donald Kroodsma

Shorebirds of the Northern Hemisphere – Alan Richards

Softcovers Free

A Birder's Guide to Baltimore and Baltimore County Maryland – Baltimore Bird Club

A Birder's Guide to Coastal North Carolina – John O. Fussell III

A Birder's Guide to Virginia – David W. Johnston, compiler

Wild About Birds – The DNR Bird Feeding Guide – Carrol L. Henderson (Minnesota DNR)

Welcome to the Flock

Join us in welcoming these 9 new or returning members who joined in the last month (8 memberships).

Michael Brawley
Mafalda Carvalho
Laura Cheney
Peter & Lynn Dowd

Scott Jones
Fred Lieb
Michael McMullen
Amber Webb



Snow Geese, Hamlin
© Alan Bloom 2/20/23

Current RBA Membership as of May 15 is 382:

363 Household memberships
2 Young Birder (other young birders are included in Household memberships)
1 Corporate (The Bird House)
16 Complimentary

Jo Taylor, Membership Data

American White Pelican,
Braddock Bay East Spit © Candace Giles May 20, 2023



Want to be outdoorsy, but don't know where to start?

Come to the 24th Annual

Adirondack Mountain Club-Genesee Valley Outdoor Expo

June 10, 2023 9:30AM - 3:30PM

Mendon Ponds Park Beach Area

The Outdoor Expo features more than 30 demonstrations and workshops on topics including hiking, paddling, backpacking, camping, bicycling, gardening, mushroom identification, and birding. Local clubs and organizations (including the Rochester Birding Association) are on-site to talk about their work, share their knowledge of the outdoors, and provide a chance to try out the latest gear... including kayaks and canoes on the pond! There will be hikes on the park's beautiful trails, crafts and a petting zoo for kids, live music from Golden Link Folk Singing Society, and food/ice cream for purchase from Dave's Sidewalk Café and Molly V's.

For the full schedule of events, visit our website:

<https://adk-gvc.org/play/outdoor-expo-before/>

This event is free, open to the public, and fun for the entire family.

Get Outside... It's for Everyone!

Field Reports

Owl Woods 3/26/23

The morning of the Owl Woods trip was cold and rainy-but several participants showed up ready to search for owls. Unfortunately, no Saw-whet Owls, or any owls for that matter, were seen. The participants were given a tour of popular roosting sites for the owls so they could come back on a better day when they may have better luck. Despite the weather, Northern Cardinals were very chatty and Black-capped Chickadees and American Robins were out on the trail.

After the walk through Owl Woods, a few of the hardy members of the group moved to the Hawkwatch and the Boardwalk. Distant waterfowl could be seen but overall it was a quiet morning.

Liz Magnanti, Dick Horsey and Daena Ford

Braddock Bay Hawk Lookout 4/29/2023

The weather in the early morning was cool and misty, so raptor migration was light and only a few birders showed up for this trip. We started the trip by observing a Cooper's Hawk sitting on a nest, a highlight of the trip. We then walked from the main Braddock Bay Park parking lot to the pier. There was a beautiful male Wood Duck in the water, along with a small number of other waterfowl. Swamp Sparrows and an occasional Marsh Wren called from around the pier, joining the calls of the more numerous Red-winged Blackbirds. Unfortunately, we didn't hear the Sora or Virginia Rail that had been there recently. An Eastern Meadowlark flew just above us, giving us good looks. There were also two low-flying Sharp-shinned Hawks.

We then drove over to explore the East Spit. The weather had cleared some by this time, so there was more bird activity. Tree, Barn, and Rough-winged Swallows were seen from the parking lot. At the end of the spit there were Palm, Yellow, and Yellow-rumped Warblers. There were also two Osprey, a Northern Harrier, and several Eagles to add to the raptors seen on the trip. A total of 48 species were observed.

Part of the group went on to join the many people attending Braddock Bay Raptor Research Bird of Prey Day events.

Mike Tetlow, Tom Nash, and Sheryl Gracewski

Four Mile Creek Preserve 4/30/23

Twelve birders met up on a cool, cloudy morning to look for early migrants and local birds getting ready for breeding season. The trails were a bit muddy, but the rain mostly held off for the morning, and we set out through the woods along the creek. We quickly found some familiar suburban birds, like White-breasted Nuthatch, Tufted Titmouse, Northern Cardinal, American Robin, and a few

woodpeckers. A couple of surprises flew by, including a Northern Harrier traveling between fields, and a Blue-headed Vireo was an encouraging sign of migration. A Carolina Wren occasionally rang out from the brush, and Ruby-crowned Kinglets regularly flitted in and out of view. Things picked up when we stopped at the overlook across the creek, with a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker working through a patch of dead trees to give folks some good views. A small flock of warblers gave us a chance to separate species by both sight and song, with a nice mix of Yellow-rumped Warber, Black-throated Green Warbler, Nashville Warbler, and Black-and-white Warbler. With rain in the forecast, we headed back to complete the main trail loop along the creek. Here we found Belted Kingfisher, Mallard, Brown Creeper, and gang of White-throated Sparrows seemed to be leading us back up to the trailhead. We ended the day with 42 species and just a few minutes to talk birds before the rain finally caught up to us!

Christina Hoh, Sheryl Gracewski & Tom Nash

HIGH ACRES NATURE AREA (HANA) 4/15/23

When I think back on all of the HANA field trips that I have been on, both as a participant and as a leader, I remember good birds and bad weather. This report is about good birds and great weather! It was a spectacular mid April day, cool in the morning with plenty of sunshine and warming to almost 80° by noon. The trails were quite dry and muck boots were unnecessary. Over the course of the outing an interesting variety of individual target birds were found.

HANA is home to an abundance of woodpeckers. We heard and saw many. The only notable missing this day was Yellow-bellied Sapsucker but it had been seen while scouting a couple of days prior. One of our special moments was observing a Pileated's low flyover of the marsh. The best view of the eastern wetlands in the morning sun is from the Red Trail. Here we observed Wood Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Gadwall, American Widgeon and Ring-necked Ducks. The sunlight made them especially showy. Canada Geese, American Coot, Mallards and Pied-billed Grebe busied themselves diving, dunking, preening and drifting in and out of the grasses and turtle festooned logs.

One shy Virginia Rail answered my call on the Blue causeway. Continuing on to the north marsh, we took the Blue Trail west where we flushed Wilson's Snipe from their favorite wet spot. The north marsh had a very nice group of 5 Northern Shoveler. As our path merged into the south marsh, a Brown Thrasher was seen foraging on the grassy trail. Not seen by everyone, it disappeared. Minutes later it gave most a quick look as it flew across the water and ducked down in the cover.

...Continued on page 7

Field Reports Continued

For all of the 'warbler starved' participants, which I was one of, an absolutely stunning Pine Warbler flitted around a sparse grouping of small conifers. Nearby, we enjoyed comparative looks at American Tree, Field and Song Sparrow. As we were winding our way back to the parking lot, our group was able to appreciate one more attention-getter, a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.

What an important nature area this is. It is well-documented that this greenspace consistently supports migrating and nesting birds in multiple unique habitats. In numbers, it offers one of the most diverse birding hotspots in eastern Monroe County. It should also be noted that much of the trail work and invasive plant species mitigation is done by individuals who just 'see the need'. Thank you so much!

Gayle Lazoration, Brian Rohrs, Rosemary Reilly

Cobbs Hill Park 5/3/2023

Thirteen participants joined the four leaders on a cold, overcast and drippy day for the annual field trip to Cobbs Hill Park. The good news was that it didn't actually pour during the trip. The bad news was that it was 39 degrees. We started by walking the paved path around the perimeter of the reservoir. As is often the case on drippy days, Tree, Barn and Northern Rough-winged Swallows were foraging close to the surface of the water, giving us nice eye-level looks. Some participants also saw a Cliff Swallow. We had excellent looks at Yellow-rumped, Pine and Palm Warblers gleaning insects from this paved path. Our only other warbler species was a Black-and-white feeding on a tree trunk. Black-throated Green and Black-throated Blue Warblers, mostly reliable on this trip, were missed entirely. Down in the woods, Red-bellied Woodpeckers were their usual noisy selves and we saw the three other regular species, namely Downy, Hairy and Northern Flicker. With patience and hard work, we found two Hermit and one Wood Thrush.

We saw two each of Brown Creeper and both nuthatches. Ruby-crowned Kinglets were numerous, at 20 individuals estimated. American Robins were also estimated at 20 individuals, mostly busy feeding on the moist ground. We finished with 40 species, around noon. Thanks to all for coming.

Pat Martin

Rush Riverside Refuge 5/11/23

Eleven lucky participants were met with an absolutely stunning day for seeing birds at the Refuge. Due to the wide range of habitats and great field conditions, 72 species were identified. The site includes farm and horse fields, railroad edges, meadows, creeks, marsh, forest and riparian areas. Birding highlights included great looks at

an Eastern Meadowlark (perched on a horse field fence-post as we gathered), a Blue-winged Warbler in brushy meadowland, Swamp Sparrow in the cattails and a pair of Scarlet Tanagers in the tree tops. In addition to plentiful bird songs of Baltimore Orioles, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and a Brown Thrasher, several rounds of Yellow-bellied Sapsucker drumming were heard in the woods. Coming back by the cabin ruins, the group enjoyed a mixed flock of warblers including Black-throated Blue, Black-and-white, Chestnut-sided and Blackburnian Warblers, among others, bringing the warbler total to 13 species for the day.

For newcomers – Start the trail from the Monroe County Fair site on East River Road, parking near the large barns back on the left. Walk west in the mowed area along the horse paddock fence to the railroad and follow the signage either way from there. Sincere thanks to Susan Robertson and Nick Kachala – everyone's best co-leaders – who provided maps and data in addition to their birding expertise.

Ann McMican, Co-Leader

Taylor Marsh 5/6/2023

A few hearty birders met at Taylor Marsh, owned and managed by the Bergen Swamp Preservation Society. Muck boots were necessary as the recent rains created muddy spots along the trails. It was a quiet morning in Taylor Marsh, with only a few warbler species observed. We also missed out on the commonly heard American Bittern, but did get good flybys of multiple Green Herons and one Virginia Rail calling. We did observe the usual suspects of Chipping, Swamp and White-throated Sparrows along with Eastern Towhee and Common Grackle.

Jay Greenburg, Narrative by Leah Mould

RBA members on the Rush Riverside Refuge focused on a Blue-winged warbler. Photo credit Jack Mould.



Records Reports

1. April 2023 could be bisected into two distinct segments. The first half of the month was pleasant, unseasonably warm, and dry. The second half the month was cold, wet, and dismal. Temperatures averaged 50.2°, 3.4° above average, with a period of five days consecutive days in the early-middle part of the month all between 75° and 84°. Precipitation totaled 3.34", 0.35" above average. This is the fourth month this year with above average precipitation, the exact opposite of last year, where a sizable deficit was already starting to take shape. Birding started off strong in the first half of the month with the amazing weather, but felt slow towards the end of the month. The Braddock Bay Hawk Watch had a few good flight days here on the better weather days. Neotropical migrants arrived about on time, but lack of abundance was noticeable. In all, there were ~90,500 eBird lines in the download, up 7.5% from 2022. Approximately 628 eBird observers contributed these sightings, up 4.7% from 2022.

2. Starting with the waterfowl and other waterbirds, nothing in terms of high numbers stood out. Waterfowl felt lighter than normal this month, with the higher numbers from March heading out, likely with the nice weather earlier in the month. The highest counts of dabbling ducks came out of the NMW-MA. The Tufted Duck on the north end of Irondequoit from March stuck around until at least the 6th. There were no reports of Eurasian Wigeon, somewhat unusual. No rarer waterfowl were reported, a direct contrast to April 2022 where two Region 2 "megs" were reported (Cinnamon Teal and Common Eider). Among the other waterbirds, no outstanding counts of Horned Grebe appeared like last year, but Andy Guthrie reported 378 Red-necked Grebes from the waters off Hamlin Beach State Park at the Lot 4 Lakewatch on the 9th. There were no high counts of either Common Loon or Red-throated Loon. Jessie Barry, Chris Wood, and Brian Sullivan picked up on a Pacific Loon on the 15th passing Edgemere Drive in Greece.

3. Numbers of shorebirds continued to build throughout April, as the first yellowlegs and Pectoral Sandpiper had arrived in late March. Most of these shorebirds were reported from flooded fields, the NMWMA, and Chandler Road near Geneseo. Lake Ontario continued to rise throughout the month, matching 2022 water levels nearly exactly by the end of the

month, meaning no mudflats for the spring season at Braddock Bay. Observers at Braddock Bay's East Spit reported a flyby Semipalmated Plover on the 13th. This represents the earliest Monroe County eBird record, though historically there was a March 27, 1994 record. There are also earlier records elsewhere in the Region. Chris Wood reported a flyover Upland Sandpiper over Owl Woods on the 15th. David Brown also reported a flyover of the same species from the Braddock Bay Hawk Watch on the 29th. A count of 1,180 Bonaparte's Gulls by Mike Gullo from Beechwood SP on the 14th stood out as unusually high, although right around peak migration for this species. He was unsuccessful in finding a Little Gull mixed in (his intent according to his checklist) but fortunately two other Little Gulls were reported for April, one from Hamlin Beach SP by Andy Guthrie on the 1st and the other by Greg Lawrence on Irondequoit Bay also on the 1st. Numbers of Iceland Gull and Glaucous Gull dipped off, as expected. The first Common Tern arrived on the 4th. The first Black Tern arrived on the 22nd, a bit early.

4. No uncommon waders were found this April, which tends to be one of the better months for rare herons or ibises to show up. David Brown and Kim Steininger went back out to the Hawk Watch several times at dusk to document American Bitterns flying out of the marsh to continue their northward journey, being dubbed by some the "Braddock Bay Bittern Watch." For the actual Hawk Watch, David had a decent month. Broad-winged Hawk numbers were poor, with 3,809 being the highest on the 21st. Mike Tetlow counted Broad-winged Hawks from Ridge Road in Greece, also on the 21st, and had over 4,700. Turkey Vulture migration continued strong, with 14,983 recorded by month's end. A Swainson's Hawk was observed from the Hawk Watch moving east over the Lake Ontario State Parkway to the south of the Hawk Watch on the 22nd, much to the delight of a platform full of birders. David also counted two migrating Northern Goshawks, the first on the 20th and the second on the 23rd. The last Short-eared Owl in the region was reported on the 14th from the Braddock Bay Hawk Watch. For hourly Hawk Watch updates, visit Dunkadoo: <https://dunkadoo.org/explore/braddock-bay-raptor-research/2023-spring-bb-raptor-watch>. David also posts his sightings daily to GeneseeBirds and makes daily YouTube summaries on his channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@LycoBirds>.

5. For the passerines, Wade and Melissa Rowley photographed a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher from Lakeshore Marches WMA on the 21st. Vicki Rothman found a Loggerhead Shrike along the north end of Nations Road in Avon on the 22nd. The Shrike stayed for a few days. Andy Guthrie reported a record early Blackpoll Warbler from Braddock Bay's South Marina on the 26th. Perhaps the passerine of the month was a male Western Tanager that made an appearance at Joan Lindberg's house on the 23rd through 26th. Joan hosted a few local birders in her backyard, who were able to add this bird to their county lists, as well as a few others who were able to observe the bird from a public area one street north. Thanks Joan! This makes the second year in a row Western Tanager has showed up in Region 2 (two birds in April 2022: Braddock Bay and south of Conesus Lake). The Braddock Bay Bird Observatory commenced spring banding on the 15th. It was an up year for Black-capped Chickadee with 412 banded. Perhaps the most significant banding record for April was a Louisiana Waterthrush on the 30th. Louisiana Waterthrush is found in the gullies and gorges of the southern part of Region 2, but is very rare anywhere in Monroe County and along the lakeshore. Among the more expected passerines, April saw American Tree Sparrow replaced by Chipping Sparrow. The first neotropical warblers arrived by the end of the month, although appearing in smaller numbers and less diversity than in other years – surely with the unpleasant weather a factor. The only disappointing miss was Yellow-throated Warbler, as late April is historically a period when many records of this scarce species have been found.

6. See the noteworthy records table posted on the RBA website for more details and records and please send in reports to eBird, the GeneseeBirds listserv, or to Nick Kachala at nicholaskach@gmail.com

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, Alan Bloom, John Boettcher, Terry Bohling, Lynn Braband, George Briggs, 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, Roger Clark, Kelly Close, Jeremy Collison, Andrew Consler, Kathleen Dalton, Willie D'Anna, Doug Daniels, Gregg Dashnau, Jayne Dean, Peggy Dempsey, Steve Donohue, Ted Drozdowski, Gordon Dutter, Diane Egan, Joe Fell, Debra Florio, George Ford, Jim Fry, Kyle Gage, Andrew Garland, Janis George, Jessica George, Michelle Gian-

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Common Nighthawk,
Owl Woods
© Candace
Giles May 19,
2023



	2023	2022	10-year Average
Species for April	197	218	201.1
New for the year	55	71	59.6
Total for the year to	215	230	212

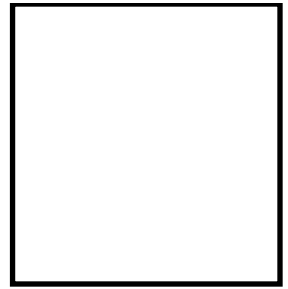


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