



Winter/Spring 2024

Volume LXXXII Issue 1

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PERCH

### Don Torino's Life in the Meadowlands: Back to the Woods, Hope for the Future

I stepped over a log and the water ran right over my boot. When I looked down, as if in slow motion, I watched the thin, broken ice and the water rushing up as my last view of my bootlace disappeared into time. I smiled to myself; I was a kid again! This cold winter morning brought me back more than 50 years as I sloshed around my hometown's wet, soggy woods looking for any wildlife that might need to be documented or just even enjoyed by this old Meadowlands guy.

The low winter sun's rays blazed through the woods into my eyes, broken up only by the many leafless, twisted trees that grow curiously in lowland woods. The woods that I grew up in and the woods that became more important to me than any school or church. The woods of the Meadowlands, the place I always felt most at home.

Now, I more cautiously continued around the fallen trees as I scanned the treetops with my binoculars. I made my way across the homemade wooden bridges and plotted around the flooded forest floor. I am a teenager again! The cold wind gladly froze my face and my cold fingertips had to be stuffed into my pockets as they have for 68 years and now, for at least one moment more. Now I could hear the voices and laughter of all my friends that are always by my side. My late brother Todd, my old pal Paul and of course Jimmy. We looked out for each other in a life that was formed and framed by the nature of these woods and all the Meadowlands. It was who we were and now who I am.

Now I am very quickly reminded as I make my way out of the woods, as my legs can no longer easily step over the logs and my walking stick is very much needed on the slick trails. My ears don't hear the Chickadees nearly as well and my eyes are long past the days when I could see the motionless owl in the broken, big oak. But no matter, the magic is still there and always will be. Time can never take that away and all those memories will forever keep me the same kid that connected forever to the place in nature that I loved and now choose to defend.

My friends and I were blessed, though of course, we did not know it at the time. None of us had much of anything material growing up and looking back many times, I know that we did without. But the magic of our ability to connect with the natural world was above all else special and at times all we really had. It gave us a gift and me especially, a kid who felt left out and could not fit in, the gift of a place that was real and as much a home as any ever could be. It provided me a place of confidence, a Safe Place to come to when the world around me was not so safe, and a place that allowed me to become an equal with the world around me. Something that I will carry with me forever.

As modern conservationists, there are many issues that will make me lose sleep at night, from habitat destruction to climate change just to start. But the one that I worry about more than all the others is how too many of us are disconnecting from nature and some children now growing up without the love of the natural world in their lives. We cannot and will not ever take environmental issues seriously until we learn to love nature as individuals. Of course, I know the days of growing up the way I did are long gone. But I believe everyone, young, old and everyone in-between, can find, appreciate, and love the nature that is right outside our door in the same way that I did.

So it is my New Year's wish that all of us find our own way to help folks learn about nature. You don't need to be a teacher, a park ranger, have a group of funny letters after your name or be President of the Audubon Society. Just be yourself and pass the love of the birds, butterflies, flowers, and all of nature on to a neighbor, a child, a senior, the mailman, an elected official and anyone who might listen. Point out a bird, show them a bumblebee, find a Butterfly for them. You may change their lives forever and together change the world and save it for everyone forever.

***Happy New Year and See You in the Meadowlands!***

**DON TORINO**

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## **BCAS PROGRAMS – FEB. - MAY 2024**

These programs will be presented on zoom at 7:30pm. Please check [www.bergencountyaudubon.org](http://www.bergencountyaudubon.org) for more updates and info on our speakers, and further descriptions and photos of the event.

February 7, 7:30 pm

***Caught in the SNOWstorm: 10 years of Snowy Owl Research*** by Scott Weidensaul. The winter of 2013-14 brought largest number of snowy owls into eastern US in a century and Scott worked quickly to gather research in few frantic weeks to make discoveries into life and ecology of this great white raptor.

March 13, 7:30 pm

***All About Vultures*** presented by Kojo Bado.

April 10, 7:30 pm

***The Bahamas to New Jersey Shorebirds' Journey***, presented by Todd Pover of Conserve Wildlife Foundation of NJ.

May 10, 7:30 pm

***My Life in the Meadowlands***, written and presented by Don Torino, President of BCAS. Don will talk about the Meadowlands—a retrospective of his beloved Meadowlands up till today.

**Submit program suggestions to Marilyn Sadowski, [msadowskikas@gmail.com](mailto:msadowskikas@gmail.com)**

## **HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM BCAS BOARD MEMBERS.**



**Top left :** Julie McCall, Marilyn Sadowski, Karen Nickeson, Chris Takacs, Don Torino, Patrice Torino, Joe Koscielny, Dave Hall.

**Front row:** Peggy O'Neill, Nancy Hall, Nancy Salvati, Marie Longo.

**Shown at right**

Webmaster, Publicity- Tzvee Zahavy.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**February 16-19, 2024. Participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count. Be a citizen scientist.**

You can join BCAS at Teaneck Creek Conservancy or the Frank Chapman Trail. Check our field trip page.

Or you can record your sightings at Ebird. For new birders, go to Merlin Bird ID for help in identification. Just download the app!

## **BCAS FIELD TRIPS - FEBRUARY – APRIL, 2024**

All field trips are rain OR shine. For additional information or to make suggestions for field trips, please contact Field Chair, **Chris Takacs at 201-207-0426 or [americanchris22@gmail.com](mailto:americanchris22@gmail.com)**. For a complete list of directions to field trip sites please visit [www.bergencountyaudubon.org](http://www.bergencountyaudubon.org).

**February 4 (Sun.) 10AM. Groundhog Day Walk, Mill Creek Marsh, Secaucus.** Park behind Bob's Furniture Store. Join us as we look for "Secaucus Sam", the first Muskrat of Spring, AND all the great birds of the Meadowlands !  
Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**February 11 (Sun.) 10AM. Super Bird Sunday, Richard DeKorte Park, Lyndhurst.**  
Prizes will be awarded to the first person who identifies a bird with an NFL team name, i.e., Arizona Cardinals, Atlanta Falcons, Baltimore Ravens, etc. Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**February 14 (Wed.) 10AM. Valentine's Day Walk, Teaneck Creek Conservancy, Teaneck**  
Meet in the parking lot off Puffin Way. Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**February 18 (Sun.) 10AM. Great Backyard Bird Count, Teaneck Creek Conservancy, Teaneck**  
Help us count birds for the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Backyard Bird Count. Meet in the parking lot off Puffin Way.  
Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**February 19 (Mon.) 10AM. Great Backyard Bird Count, Frank Chapman Trail, Teaneck.** Help us count the birds for the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Backyard Bird Count. Meet in the parking lot at corner of River Road and Riverview Avenue. Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**February 21 (Wed.) 10AM. Disposal Road Raptor Walk, North Arlington.**  
Meet by the AMVETS Memorial Carillon on Disposal Road.  
Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com)

**February 25 (Sun.) 1PM. "Attracting Nesting Birds" Indoor Program at the New Jersey Botanical Garden, Ringwood.** Program takes place in the carriage house. Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com)

**March 3 (Sun.) 10AM. Mill Creek Marsh, Secaucus.** Park behind Bob's Furniture Store.  
Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**March 6 (Wed.) 10AM. Overpeck County Park, Leonia.** Meet in the parking lot near the restrooms and bandshell.  
Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**March 10 (Sun.) 6:30PM. Woodcock Walk at Teaneck Creek Conservancy, Teaneck.** Meet in the parking lot off Puffin Way. Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**March 13 (Wed.) 10AM. Teaneck Creek Conservancy, Teaneck.** Meet in the parking lot off Puffin Way.  
Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**March 17 (Sun.) 10AM. St. Patrick's Day Walk, Richard DeKorte Park, Lyndhurst.**  
Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**March 20 (Wed.) 10AM. Losen Slote Creek Park, Little Ferry.** Trails may be muddy, boots are highly recommended. Park and meet in the lot adjacent to the soccer field.  
Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**March 24 (Sun.) 1PM. "Attracting Hummingbirds to Your Garden" Indoor Program at the New Jersey Botanical Garden, Ringwood.** Program takes place in the carriage house.  
Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**March 31 (Sun.) 10AM. Easter Sunday Walk at Teaneck Creek Conservancy, Teaneck.** Meet in the parking lot off Puffin Way. Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**April 7 (Sun.) 10AM. Teaneck Creek Conservancy, Teaneck.** Meet in the parking lot off Puffin Way.  
Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**April 10 (Wed.) 10AM. Harrier Meadow, North Arlington**  
Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**April 13 (Sat.) 10AM. Mill Creek Marsh, Secaucus.** Park behind Bob's Furniture Store.  
Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**April 14 (Sun.) 10AM. Demarest Nature Center, Demarest.** Park at the Wakelee Athletic Field and walk over to the playground area next to the entrance of the nature center.  
Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**April 17 (Wed.) 10AM. Frank Chapman Trail, Teaneck.** Meet in the parking lot at corner of River Road and Riverview Avenue. Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**April 21 (Sun.) 10AM. Earth Day Walk at Richard DeKorte Park, Lyndhurst.**  
Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**April 22 (Mon.) 10AM. Earth Day Celebration at the Overpeck Butterfly Garden, Leonia**  
Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**April 24 (Wed.) 10AM. Teaneck Creek Conservancy.** Meet in Parking lot off Puffin Way. Contact: Don Torino, [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983

**April 28 (Sun.) 10AM. New Jersey Botanical Garden, Ringwood.** Meet by the carriage house.  
Contact: Don Torino [greatauk4@gmail.com](mailto:greatauk4@gmail.com) (201) 230-4983.

##



## CONSERVATION Karen Nickeson, Chair

### PLIGHT OF THE MONARCH



Photo: Jim Macaluso

Community science remains critical in protection of the fragile state of Monarch butterfly populations. Dedicated volunteers in Bergen County tag Monarchs and conduct testing of specimens for the parasite, ophryocystis elektroscirrha, or OE, for short. Recent research has determined that hand-raising of Monarchs has the effect of disturbing their natural migratory orientation and is now highly discouraged.

A new effort is now underway in the state of Georgia. Observations in that state reveal that eastern Monarchs are interrupting their southward migration to Mexico and choosing to overwinter in Georgia. Scientists speculate that one of the reasons may be the overplanting of non-native milkweed in the area. This attracts the butterflies and encourages them to stay. But, it is difficult to know how that may affect the life cycle of these Monarchs. Georgia residents are being recruited to monitor the behavior of individuals so that scientists

may have more data to examine.

Community participants are asked to identify adult Monarchs and report whether they are resting in trees, or feeding from flowers. Or, more significantly, are they mating? This behavior could signify a problem because it is energy-consuming, and because it accelerates the spread of OE that causes deformities, illness, and death in the Monarch population. Research has discovered that overwintering Monarchs in Florida and Texas are heavily infected with OE. So, how will these Georgia stopovers fare?

We endorse and encourage our conservation allies in their work supporting research into the recovery of Monarch populations. Perhaps they may find individuals tagged by our volunteers. Find more information about conservation efforts at [monarchwatch.org](http://monarchwatch.org), or at [journeynorth.org/monarchs](http://journeynorth.org/monarchs).

For information about Milkweed species to plant, visit <https://www.nwf.org/Garden-for-Wildlife/About/Native-Plants/Milkweed>.

Be aware that many commercial nurseries treat their plants with pesticides. If you can't find untreated plants, expect that you may not see butterfly activity for a year's cycle in an organic environment.

## RECAP OF EAGLE MONTH- JANUARY 2024

BCAS has over 6 different eagle events including field trips, festivals and counts for our local eagles this month.



In 2023, in New Jersey there were 254 nests monitored with 309 young fledged. We are now in the 2024 Eagle nesting season and we look forward to another amazing year monitoring our local nest sites for New Jersey Dept. of Environmental Protection. Over past years, 14 young have fledged from our Overpeck nest and we hope more to come in 2024.

Ninety One (91) eagles were counted on our January 20 Annual Lower Hackensack River eagle count. The count goes about 10 miles from Oradell reservoir to DeKorte Park and Meadowlands.

These are all recent photos from our Eaglefest in the Meadowlands through Jan 21. Clockwise left: Childrens tables, Nora and Otis, Flatrock Brook Hawk demo, Al & Alice II on/near nest, Visiting Eagle & Otis, Don in auditorium.



Special thanks to Dee De Santis for her latest Eagle photos and her dedicated monitoring at our Ridgefield site. You truly make a difference Dee. Thank You!

The Editor

## EDUCATION

Marie Longo, Chair

### Certified Wildlife Garden Program

We've added a new certified wildlife garden since my last report and it is located in Little Falls. The new certified garden is number 227. Garden certification is free and you'll receive a free sign to display in your garden. You will find an application on our website.

The National Audubon Society is a flyway partner of the World Migratory Bird Day campaign. This year's conservation theme is insects. The slogan is-**Protect Insects, Protect Birds**. The campaign will explore the relationship between insects and migratory birds. Here are some of the recommended areas we have been asked to focus on.

•**Reducing Inorganic Pesticide Usage:** Use environmentally-friendly alternatives to protect insects and, subsequently, migratory birds.

•**Native Garden Practice:** Encourage the growth of native gardens to provide essential habitats for insects and create a favorable environment for migratory birds.

•**Support and Education:** Advocate in your community to protect natural habitats for insects.

I brought this information to your attention because Bergen County Audubon Society has advocated for all the above for many years. We created our Certified Wildlife Garden Program to educate people on the importance of creating and preserving habitat, native plants, pesticide use and inviting our members to have their gardens certified and help spread the word. Everything is all connected and interdependent on each other. When everything is in balance it creates a perfect harmony for birds, insects, wildlife and people too. To learn more about World Migratory Bird Day visit [migratorybirdday.org](http://migratorybirdday.org).

### 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Backyard Bird Count

The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual GBBC takes place on February 16-19, 2024 and is a global event. This important citizen science project helps scientists better understand bird populations. The count is free and a great family friendly activity. Counting is fun and easy, and you are only required to count for as little as 15 minutes a day. You can count in your backyard, a park or nature center or wherever you find birds. If you will be away during the long weekend, you can count wherever you are.

Can we count on you to count with us?

**BCAS will be counting at Teaneck Creek Conservancy on Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 10AM and along the Frank Chapman Trail in Teaneck on Monday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 10AM.**

To learn more about the Great Backyard Bird Count visit [birdcount.org](http://birdcount.org).

### Sixth Annual Dick Engsberg Teacher Appreciation Awards

If you know of a deserving educator who goes above and beyond to connect their students to nature and the environment, consider nominating them for the Dick Engsberg Teacher Appreciation Award. Nominations open on February 1<sup>st</sup> and the deadline for nominations is March 31<sup>st</sup>, winner(s) will be announced the first week of April. Nominations must include: teacher name, school, grade(s), teacher phone number and email address as well as a description of how they engage their students with nature and the environment.

Please submit nominations to Marie Longo, Education Chair, [MLongo8383@aol.com](mailto:MLongo8383@aol.com)

## The Adorable Yellow-rumped Warbler

by Maggie Estrada, 5th grade

Yellow-rumped warblers can be spotted in New Jersey during winter and also during migration. You can see them from April to May and October to November. This warbler is the main winter warbler in North America. They are gray with flashes of white in the wings and yellow on the face, sides, and rump. Males can be very bold in color, and females are duller and may show some brown. These warblers are on the larger side, full-bodied warblers with a large head, sturdy bill, and long, narrow tail.



They fly out to catch flying insects. Yellow-rumped warblers forage on the ground, and will cling to tree trunks and branches. They love to feed on insects and berries. In the winter they feed on berries of bayberry, juniper, wax myrtle, poison ivy, and others and can digest the wax in berry coatings. In fall and winter, they can be found in open woods and shrubby habitats, including parks, and residential areas.

So go out and seek this wonderful warbler! Happy birding!

## **BCAS ANNUAL 75th CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT ON DEC 16, 2023**

***Mild December Leads to an Easy Christmas Bird Count***

***by DAVE HALL***

BCAS members found it simple to join the 75th Annual Hackensack-Ridgewood CBC. The ground was dry and firm, all lakes and streams were free of ice, and the day (Dec 16<sup>th</sup>) dawned clear and mild. Chances for seeing birds were excellent, and the variety of species still in the region was quite good.

Raptors were much simpler to see than in foggy 2022, and we tallied a record number of Peregrine Falcons, and a nice set of other possibilities. There were record high numbers of vultures present. Oddly, Black Vultures outnumbered Turkey Vultures for the first time. Most were sharing a single roosting site in Closter. Waterfowl were not hard to find, but their overall numbers were lower than normal. The warm fall has apparently allowed many ducks and geese to remain further north so far. Some species were very elusive, not being seen on Count Day, but appearing later in Count Week (marked "cw" on next page, thanks to Jimmie Macaluso and Chris Takacs). As a result, the total number of birds was lower than usual.

Bald Eagles arrived just in time for the count in good numbers; most were located in the more northerly portions of the circle. A rare Barn Owl was heard in the evening just prior to Count day and a Barred Owl was found in Hawthorth. Passerine birds were well dispersed across the whole count circle, and many volunteers were able to encounter either a Winter Wren or a Sapsucker. Winter finches have been low so far this season, and few were found. Rusty Blackbirds have continued to grow in numbers over the past several winters, often concentrated at Losen Slote and Teterboro.

Many sparrow species have become quite rare in the area, due to habitat losses. We feel fortunate to have discovered as many this year as we did. This was the 75<sup>th</sup> annual event for our count, and Brown Creepers were still found in low numbers for the 75<sup>th</sup> time in a row!

Special birds included a Great Egret at Indian Lake in Little Ferry, and two Black-crowned Night Herons at the BCUA nearby. Common Ravens are continuing to increase across our area, while the number of Crows have somehow shifted, so that we found more Fish Crows than normal, while American Crows were less common. Roosting sites for Crows seem to have moved further away from the Count Circle. The oddest bird was a Helmeted Guineafowl seen and photographed by Denise Farrell. This exotic bird was reportedly attacked and killed later in the month by a Red-tailed Hawk, so you are unlikely to add this one to your own list.

Birdlife is variable from one year to the next, so it is important that we manage to continue this effort each year. Long term trends are positive for some of the species mentioned above, despite negative trends for most passerines. We had 20 different groups of volunteers out in the field, and 10 different feeder reports. This strong help from over 50 volunteers has again produced an admirable result! We did not produce the highest totals of all time, but this was a very successful event nonetheless.

My sincere thanks to all who participated!  
Happy New Year!

DAVE HALL

### **FUNDRAISING, 2023**

**PEG O'NEILL, CHAIR**

**Bergen County Audubon Society** is blessed to have generous members and followers who have donated the following. **THANK YOU TO ALL OUR DONORS.**

#### **Memorial Donations for**

Bruce Gunther by Ray/Jennifer Verstraete, William Schoenebaum, Dermot Joy	\$100.00
Judy Stein by Alan & Graham Vasey, Lisa Less	75.00
Drew Alan Sohi by Pamela Curolano .	\$100.00

**General Donations:** Anthony Barando. Charles Berhain, Deborah Bianculli, Cyn Bird. Richard Bonuccelli, Tsiona Bulvinik, Alicea Byce, Linda Calamilo. Linda Carmody, Todd Christie. Karen Clemments, Sandra Cummins, Louis Discepolo, William Drummond, James Foley, Anthony Fuhrman. Nancy/Andrew Gray, Carol Havens, Simone Healey, Marianne Herrman, Joseph Koscielny, Diane Levy, Marie Longo, Frank Mangano, Stephen Mason, Phylip/Linda Miller, John Moran, Peter Moreinis, Carol Mueller, Dennis/ Christa Murphy, Network for Good, Laurie O'Byrne /Andrea Ohi, PSEG, Power of Giving, Pledgeling Fund, Drewann Rody , George Reskakis, Liana Romano, Elizabeth Sabagh, Robert Sorce, Martin & Linda Stio, Kathleen Sullivan, Miriam Taub, Marguerite /Gary Van Wowk.

<b>Summary:</b>	Memorial Donations--	\$275.00	
	General Donations	\$3058.97	
	Stop& Shop	15.00	
	<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>\$3423.97</b>

(Any mistakes will be corrected in next newsletter.)

**THE BCAS 75th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT-  
ON DECEMBER 16, 2023**

**by DAVE HALL**

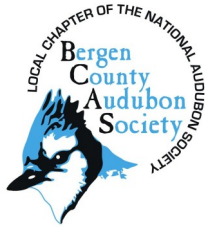
Pied-billed Grebe	2	American Crow	296 L
Dbl-crst. Cormorant	122	<b>Fish Crow</b>	<b>352</b>
Great Blue Heron	78	Bl-cap Chickadee	120
<b>Great Egret</b>	<b>1 !!</b>	Tufted Titmouse	69
Bl-crn. Night Heron	2	White-br Nuthatch	58
Mute Swan	6	Brown Creeper	3
<b>Snow Goose</b>	<b>cw</b>	Carolina Wren	57
<b>Cackling Goose</b>	<b>cw</b>	<b>House Wren</b>	<b>1 !</b>
Canada Goose	5399	<b>Winter Wren</b>	<b>19 H</b>
Wood Duck	3 L	Golden-crd Kinglet	15
Green-winged Teal	35 L	Ruby-crnd Kinglet	8
Am. Black Duck	36 L	Eastern Bluebird	5
Mallard	717 L	Hermit Thrush	5
<b>Northern Pintail</b>	<b>2</b>	American Robin	203
Northern Shoveler	42	Gray Catbird	2
Gadwall	13 L	N. Mockingbird	35
Ring-neckd Duck	69	<b>American Pipit</b>	<b>1 !</b>
Lesser Scaup	30	Cedar Waxwing	32
Bufflehead	5	Eur. Starling	906
Hood Merganser	85	Yellow-rmp Warbler	4
Com Merganser	2142 L	Orange-cr Warbler	cw
Red-br Merganser	1	Northern Cardinal	140
Ruddy Duck	1016 L	Ruf-sided Towhee	4
<b>Turkey Vulture</b>	<b>71 H!</b>	Am Tree Sparrow	cw
<b>Black Vulture</b>	<b>112 H!</b>	Field Sparrow	1
Bald Eagle	52	Savannah Sparrow	3
<b>Northern Harrier</b>	<b>1</b>	Fox Sparrow	15
Sharp-shin. Hawk	2 L	Song Sparrow	107
Cooper's Hawk	5	Swamp Sparrow	11 H
Red-shldrd. Hawk	4	White-thr Sparrow	512
Red-tailed Hawk	47	Dark-eyed Junco	298 L
American Kestrel	1	Red-wgd Blackbird	47
Merlin	2	<b>Rusty Blackbird</b>	<b>77 H</b>
<b>Peregrine Falcon</b>	<b>11 H!</b>	Common Grackle	1150
Wild Turkey	8	Brown-hd Cowbird	1
Killdeer	4	Purple Finch	4
Ring-billed Gull	1224	House Finch	170
Herring Gull	60	Am. Goldfinch	95 L
Gr.Bl.-Bckd Gull	8	House Sparrow	807
Rock Dove	519	Monk Parakeet	18 L
Mourning Dove	719	<b>Helm Guineafowl</b>	<b>1 !</b>
East. Screech Owl	17		
Great-horned Owl	4		
<b>Barred Owl</b>	<b>1</b>		
<b>Barn Owl</b>	<b>cw !</b>		
Belted Kingfisher	27		
Red-bel. Woodpkr	139		
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	18		
Downy Woodpecker	112		
Hairy Woodpecker	32		
Northern Flicker	21		
Pileated Woodpckr	6		
Blue Jay	374		
<b>Common Raven</b>	<b>24 H</b>		

**19,083 birds**

89 species + 1 exotic + 5 count week species  
47 volunteers in 20 parties + 10 feeder counts  
Boldface or !! indicates surprising results.

**L= low count; H=high count; cw=count week**





**BERGEN COUNTY  
AUDUBON SOCIETY  
A CHAPTER OF THE  
NATIONAL AUDUBON  
SOCIETY  
P.O. Box 235  
Paramus, NJ 07653-0235**

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 28  
Hackensack, NJ

**Dated Material  
JANUARY 2024**

***As Members of Bergen County Audubon Society, we share a love for birds and a concern for the environment. Our mission is to promote and protect wildlife in their natural habitat by providing opportunities for observation and conservation.***

***All field trips and programs are open to the public and free of charge.***

#### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2024**

Please enroll me as a member of the Bergen Audubon Society and/or the National Audubon Society. My check is enclosed for:

**Chapter Sustaining Member. \$20.00 - Single or \$35.00 for Family Membership.** All funds stay in our area, helping us to support local efforts and provide services in Bergen County. Make check payable to Bergen County Audubon.

**\$20.00 - National Audubon Society Member.** (1st year rate for new NAS members only). Includes Chapter membership. Make check payable to National Audubon Society.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail (I would like to be notified of upcoming events online and receive the newsletter electronically.) \_\_\_\_\_

***Please mail to : BCAS Membership Chair, PO Box 235, Paramus, NJ 07653-0235***

**Volunteer opportunities** in local chapter activities or committees are available. Please circle the following and mail with your subscription or see any officer or chair at one of the meetings.

☐ Conservation ☐ Membership ☐ Publicity ☐ Field Trips  
☐ Education ☐ Newsletter/Website