



JULY 2025

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The Chattanooga Chat

CHATTANOOGA CHAPTER OF THE TENNESSEE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY



Red-headed Woodpecker

Photo by David Goldsmith

NO JULY MEETING

Regular meetings will resume in
September

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone is having a good summer. I know the ducks have been thriving with all the rain we've had so far.

This fall we'll be introducing something new for our beginner birders, a workshop we'll call Birding 101 (unless we can come up with a catchier name!). It will introduce our newer members to birding basics, including observation skills, identification techniques, helpful tips in using binoculars, and the many digital resources for learning and recording what one sees and hears. The workshop will also include a hands-on fieldtrip to put what they learn into action. One of the greatest resources our club can offer are excellent, experienced birders who have the patience and interest in teaching others.

As we perfect the curriculum and get better at leading it, we see it eventually as a service we can offer to the public. With birding being one of the fastest growing hobbies in the U.S., we'd like to be at the forefront of providing the teaching and guidance to help folks advance their new interests. We see it also as a way to build our membership in CTOS.

If you are interested in helping with this, just let us know. Otherwise, have a great summer!

OJ



Yellow-bellied Woodpecker photo by David Goldsmith

Results of Bird Migration Count, May 10

Twenty observers found 127 species on the Hamilton County Migration count, Saturday May 10. This number is a little below average, there were very few shorebirds around and it was somewhat of an all around slow bird day.

Highlights included:

- 1 Least Bittern (Standifer Gap)
- 1 Common Tern (Chester Frost)
- 1 Bank Swallow (Chester Frost)
- 1 Least Flycatcher (Cravens)
- 1 Olive-sided Flycatcher (Bakewell)
- 2 CONNECTICUT WARBLERS (Lookout and Chester Frost)
- 1 Wilson's Warbler (Cravens)
- 28 species of warblers (we average 30)

Thanks to everyone who helped out this count!

Kevin Calhoon
Count Compiler



Carolina Chickadee

Photo by David Goldsmith

HonorsCourse Birding

Several red-headed woodpeckers were seen at the Honors Course in June. Besides the great woodpecker views there were blue grosbeak, indigo bunting, Kentucky warbler, brown-headed nuthatch, bald eagle, and a most cooperative great-crested flycatcher. In May, we counted 55 species including a Willow Flycatcher, Yellow-breasted Chat, Summer Tanager and Scarlet Tanager, and a Cedar Waxwing.



Honors Course birding, June 16 photo by David Stone



Bald Eagle photo by David Goldsmith