

Bird Information, Research and Data Quarterly Report

October, November, December 2017

Warner Park Nature Center, Friends of Warner Parks, and Metro Parks and Recreation



BIRD volunteers are ready for fall migration banding and visitors –and happy to have a new shade structure.



Students (left) visit the banding station and spot the first Yellow-bellied Sapsucker of the season. Vera Roberts leads a fall bird hike on the Hill Forest (right).



A male Golden-crowned Kinglet reveals its brilliant orange spot which is often hard to observe.



The Swainson's Thrush is a common fall migrant that stops here on its way south to Central and South America.



Data entry, while important, is not the most fun part of bird research. But it's much better if you do it outside at the banding station on the new laptop. Thanks Kathy and John!



BIRD volunteer Margie Hunter records birds at the feeders. This is the 20th year the nature center has participated in ProjectFeeder Watch, a national citizen-science project.

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BIRD Program Accomplishments

- Volunteers contributed **244 hours and 78 visits**.
- Bird Research Projects and Programs connected with over **595 visitors**.
- Special art and photography exhibit "For the Birds" by Anne Goetze and Nathan Collie, long-time supporters of the Warner Parks and birds, continued through November. Thank you Anne and Nathan!
- Received grant from Barbara J. Mapp Foundation and purchased new bird equipment including nets, radios, magnifiers, books, pliers and measuring tools.
- Evaluation and wrap-up of projects including first-ever Hummingbird Happy Hour event.
- Planned winter 2018 bird programs and banding projects.
- Received Frist Technology Grant and purchased laptop computer for bird data management.
- Kathy Shaw and Sandy Bivens worked with Allison Salas and wrote an article about Warner Park Indigo Buntings for the spring 2018 issue of *The Tennessee Conservationist* magazine.
- Inventoried and organized equipment.
- Compiled and sent in annual reports to TWRA and renewed state banding permit.
- Coordinator worked 162 hours and volunteered 91 hours.

BIRD Projects and Programs

- **Long-term Fall Migration Banding Project:** Season was 19 September - 14 November. 7 sessions during Oct-Nov with 176 visitors. Project possible thanks to a team of dedicated and skilled volunteers and staff - Kathy Shaw, Diana McLusky, John Kell, Susan Bradfield, Laura Cook, Ethel Kawamura, Justin Hiltner, Kim Bailey, Rachel Anderson, Heather Gallagher, and Vera Roberts.
- **Bird Programs and Hikes:** 16 bird programs and hikes, with 419 participants, were held, including the 90th Anniversary of the Warner Parks on 28 Oct where participants learned about birds and the long history of bird research in the Warner Parks.
- **The Tennessee Bluebird Society** held its annual meeting at the Nature Center on 21 October and several Warner Park Bluebird volunteers attended the programs and connected with others across the state.
- **Christmas Bird Count:** Participated in the count in Warner Park, 16 December, for this long-term project coordinated by the TN Ornithological Society, Nashville Chapter and National Audubon.
- **eBird Project:** Volunteers John Kell and Cheryl Brummal entered current and historical Warner Park data.
- **Purple Martin Project:** Heather Gallagher, Coordinator, with volunteers and visitors, monitored Purple Martin boxes. This fall the boxes were cleaned out and ready for a February arrival in 2018!
- **Bluebird Project:** Diana McLusky, Coordinator, compiled the 2017 bluebird numbers. First egg laid on 21 March. Nest box trail had 55 bluebird nests with 214 eggs laid, 178 eggs hatched and 158 young birds fledged (65.6%). 2 other species used the boxes - Carolina Chickadees and Tree Swallows. Thanks to the Bluebird Team for monitoring boxes March-September - John Kell, Sue Shallow, Kim Bailey, Sandy Bivens and Diana McLusky.
- **Project FeederWatch:** Melissa Donahue, Coordinator. This is a Citizen Science Partnership with Cornell Lab of Ornithology, ongoing here since 1997, 20 years! Runs November 2017-April 2018. 11 sessions scheduled Nov and Dec. Thanks to our citizen science volunteers - Laurie Campbell, Beth Preston, Margie Hunter, the Barnes Family, Rebecca Dandekar, Linda Breggin, and Beth Adams

Bird Education and Research Program Coordinator Sandy Bivens, Assistant Coordinator Kathy Shaw

Submitted by Sandy Bivens, January 2018