

Lower Neuse Bird Club

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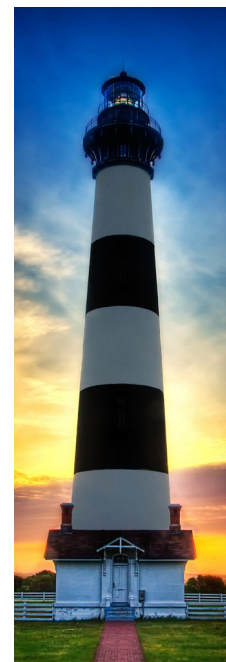
Pea Island Field Trip Coming Up Fast

By Bob Gould, President

Our trip to Pea Island on November 16-17 is coming up fast. Details of the trip can be reviewed on page 6 of the October Newsletter.

Members planning to make this trip will need to make their reservation at the Comfort Inn South at Nags Head (252-441-6315) by October 30th.

We will leave from the BridgePoint Hotel at 7am on Wednesday morning, the 16th. If you plan to rendezvous in Washington, please be at the Liberty gas station on Highway 264 by 8am. Carpooling is encouraged. Final details will be arranged at the November 1st club meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please contact me at 252-288-4615 or by email at rdr1428@yahoo.com. I don't want to leave anyone behind.



November Program: Birding with Bob

Wade Fuller will share some of his more memorable birding experiences with Bob Holmes.

Tuesday, November 1 2016 at 6:30 pm

Meetings are held at Garber United Methodist Church, Country Club Road, New Bern, Room 123 of the Ministry Center, across the street from the main church. Parking and entrance are at the rear of the building.

Join us for refreshments & conversation for the first half hour. Business meeting begins at 7 pm, followed by this month's program topic.

Refreshments for this meeting are being provided by Elizabeth White.

Lower Neuse Bird Club

First Saturday Field Trips

Mark your calendars with the following dates for this season's bird walks. Most trips end by noon and do not require much walking. Remember to bring your binoculars, scopes, field guides, insect repellent, rain gear, snacks and water.

- **November 5 Simmons Street Project, New Bern**
To compensate for the early morning darkness, let's meet at the BridgePointe Hotel at 7:30 am. If you want to go directly, meet at the gate at 7:45 am. The gate is on the corner of Simmons Street and Oaks Road. Please park outside the gate.
- December 3 New Bern area for ducks+
- January 4 Pamlico County
- February 11 Mattamuskeet
- March 11 North River Preserve
- April 1 Croatan
- May 13 Camp Brinson
- June 3 North River Preserve

Unless otherwise announced, all trips depart from the parking lot of the Bridge Pointe Hotel at 7 am sharp. Carpools can be arranged as we meet up. The planned destination may be changed at the last minute if a special sighting or different location gives us a better opportunity for birding. Information will be updated with each newsletter.

Extra Birding Opportunities

These extra birding trips are still in the planning stage. More details will be provided as they become available.

- Bear Walk with Mike Campbell, Pocosin Lakes area
Cancelled... hoping this may be rescheduled for a later date.
- Spring Mountain Trip, May 9-11 (tentative)



Carolina Bird Club Meeting Dates

Jan 27-28, 2017

Nags Head, NC

Spring 2017

Winston-Salem, NC



Minutes from October 2016

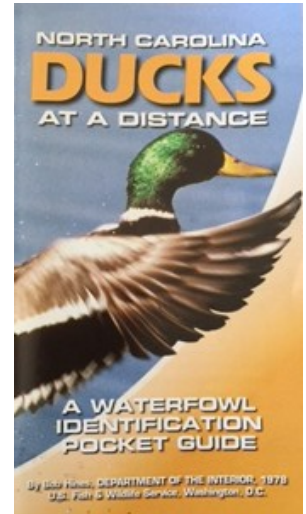
By Mike Brooks

President Bob Gould welcomed over 20 members to the meeting and introduced our newest member, Lester Coble, who lives in Goldsboro. Bob outlined the upcoming bird walks at Simmons Street Park on November 5th, Lilliput Pond on December 3rd, and the Pea Island trip which is set for November 16-17th. Bob reserved ten rooms at the Comfort Inn South in Nags Head at guaranteed rates and encouraged those planning to attend to call the hotel to make their reservations. Details about the Pea Island trip are on page 6 of the October newsletter.

Olwen Jarvis distributed a waterfowl identification pocket guide titled "North Carolina Ducks at a Distance." It's a nice pamphlet made available by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Olwen also briefed the club on the recent field trips that the LNBS and Mike Campbell hosted for the participants of the Waterbird Society. Some of the society's members managed to see life birds in their short stay in Eastern North Carolina. Olwen hosted two of the society's members at her home and conducted side trips to Roper, Pea Island, and Fort Macon State Park. This was a very satisfying experience for Olwen and her guests.

In Show and Tell, Carol Reigle reported seeing unusually large numbers of catbirds and thrashers in the black gum tree in her yard. Jeannie Kraus saw a Bar-tailed Godwit in a recent trip to Shackelford Island. At the recent Carolina Bird Club meeting in Beaufort, South Carolina, Chris Root said the club sighted 191 species including 24 warblers. Chris reminded the club that the annual Wings Over Water festival in Manteo will be held in October and one weekend in December. Visit the Wings Over Water (North Carolina) web site (www.wingsoverwater.org) for the schedule of events.

The program for this meeting was a presentation by Wade Fuller on "Winter Waterfowl." The PowerPoint slides were prepared by Mike Campbell of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission. The slides had beautiful pictures of the birds that we're likely to see in the upcoming trips to Pea Island, Lilliput Pond, and Mattamuskeet. Throughout the program, Wade emphasized color patterns, behavior, and habitat of these birds. Puddle ducks are typically birds of fresh, shallow marshes and smaller rivers. If we see ducks feeding in croplands, they are likely puddle ducks. They walk well on land and have the ability to spring directly from the water's surface into flight. Examples of puddle ducks are the Wood Duck, Mallard, Teals (Blue-winged, Green-winged, and Cinnamon), Northern Pintail, American Widgeon, Gadwall, American Black, and Northern Shoveler.



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New Bern Quarry Bird Walk: 1 Oct 2016

By Bob Gould



A small but enthusiastic group of four showed up for the second quarry walk. The early morning rain had moved on and although the sky was overcast, making for poor lighting and challenging bird ID, the walk was fairly successful. No Magnolia or Cape May warblers this week, but good numbers of Yellow warblers, Northern Parula and American Redstart. Blue-gray Gnatcatchers were also out in force. A Pied-billed Grebe was an early bird-it's a rare day at the quarry when a lone Grebe outnumbered the Coots. We ended up with 40 species.

Minutes from October 2016

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In contrast, diving ducks frequent large, deep lakes and rivers, as well as coastal bays and inlets. They feed by diving for fish, shellfish, mollusks, and aquatic plants. The anatomy of diving ducks restricts their mobility. Therefore, they walk awkwardly and have a more rapid wing beat than puddle ducks which gives them the appearance of running across water to take flight. Some of the diving ducks addressed by Wade include the Bufflehead (the smallest of the divers), Ring-necked Duck, Greater and Lesser Scaups, Canvasback, Redhead, Ruddy, Mergansers (Hooded, Red-breasted, Common), and the Black and White-winged Scoters.

Wade Fuller's extensive knowledge and personal anecdotes made for an exceptional program. Even the most experienced birders benefited from the program. And we all learned a new word - **precocial**. A hearty thanks to Wade for a very informative and insightful program.

LNBC Membership Dues

Lower Neuse Bird Club annual membership dues are \$15 per person and cover the program year from September 2016 through May 2017. Dues may be paid at a monthly meeting, or you may send them directly to: Christine Root, LNBC Treasurer, 651 Quail Road, Merritt, NC 28556. Checks should be made payable to LNBC.

Members who have not paid their dues by December 31, 2016 will be removed from the distribution list* for the Newsletter & other information.

**Please be sure to notify Carol Oldham, Newsletter Editor, of any changes to your email or other contact information.*

