

The Broadwing



Publication of the Montclair Bird Club
July 2021

Montclair, NJ
Volume LXVI, Number 11

Eastern Tailed-Blue

President's Message July 2021

Dear Members,

As MBC's next president, I would like to thank past president Sandy Sorkin for his admirable, creative, and highly successful efforts to sustain MBC during the Covid 19 pandemic. His work, along with Rick Wright, brought us 100 plus bird quizzes, virtual bird walks, an expanded Broadwing and, of course, Zoom meetings. I also wish to thank all our MBC Board members for their valuable contributions throughout this challenging period.

Hopefully, we will soon be able to resume our normal, in person meetings at the Union Congregational Church, as well as field trips. I look forward to seeing all my MBC friends and welcoming new members. In the meantime, I shall endeavor to master the intricacies of conducting a Zoom meeting.

Happy Birding!

Jim McGregor

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Next meeting: Wednesday, September 8
Virtual Bird Walk: Thursday, July 15
Virtual Bird Walk: Thursday, August 19
Virtual Bird Walk: Thursday, September 16

Some guests are not as welcome as others. There are two species in each picture: can you identify them?



MONTCLAIR ADULT PUBLIC LIBRARY SCHOOL

The Birds of Summer: Morning Bird Walks **NEW**

ID : 46442



The spring and fall migrations get all the good press, but our area is also home to a wide array of breeding birds, from vireos and thrushes in the woods to egrets and skimmers in the nearby marshes. Our three Tuesday morning excursions will take us into three very different habitats as we get to know some of our local nesting species: upland forest, riparian forest, and brackish wetland. (Exact locations will be selected based on recent sightings and weather.) Each outing

will find us walking slowly for 2 hours, watching the birds we find and learning about their lives and habits.

No materials required, but binoculars, a field guide, and a notebook and pencil are encouraged (please consult with the instructor for recommendations)

Class Details

3 Sessions
Weekly - Tue

Location
[To be determined](#)

Instructor
[Rick Wright](#)

Tuition: \$69.00

Notice

Please read: No materials required, but binoculars, a field guide, and a notebook and pencil are encouraged (please consult with the instructor for recommendations) Instructor will provide locations each week.

Registration Closes on
Tuesday, July 20, 2021 @ 12:00 AM

[Montclair Public Library Adult School](#)

BioBlitz

Garret Mountain Reservation & Rifle Camp Park June 12, 2021—eBird Data

	Bird Species	Walk 1 6:18–8:49 AM	Walk 2 10:02–11:28 AM
	Species	25	26
1	Canada Goose	17	7
2	Mallard	2	3
3	Mourning Dove	6	3
4	Chimney Swift	1	4
5	Spotted Sandpiper		1
6	Red-tailed Hawk		1
7	Red-bellied Woodpecker	3	1
8	Downy Woodpecker		1
9	Northern Flicker (Yellow-shafted)	2	1
10	Eastern Wood-Pewee	1	1
11	Great Crested Flycatcher	3	1
12	Warbling Vireo	5	2
13	Blue Jay	2	2
14	Black-capped Chickadee		1
15	Tufted Titmouse		1
16	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	3	3
17	Barn Swallow	4	2
18	European Starling	2	3
19	Gray Catbird	5	3
20	Northern Mockingbird		1
21	Wood Thrush	1	2
22	American Robin	16	15
23	House Sparrow	5	8
24	Baltimore Oriole	2	4
25	Red-winged Blackbird	6	
26	Common Grackle	15	
27	Great Blue Heron (Blue form)	1	
28	Great Egret	1	
29	Cedar Waxwing	2	
30	House Finch	6	
31	American Goldfinch	2	

BioBlitz Pictures



Sandy & Beni





For now, preliminary BioBlitz results can be found in two places:

- 1) iNaturalist Project Page: <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/garret-mountain-reservation-rifle-camp-park-n-j-bioblitz-2021>
- 2) eBird hotspot page: <https://ebird.org/hotspot/L209818> (and look for June 11 – 12)

Virtual Bird Walks (July, August, and September)

The themes of the August and September Virtual Bird Walks haven't been determined yet. But the staff of The Broadwing (both of us) will be certain to notify everyone when we decide. The best guidance at this time is to keep your cameras handy while birding. The theme for July is COLOR.

Participants will be able to share their screens or email their pictures for inclusion in a group PowerPoint. Emails should be sent at least three days in advance of the meeting to MontclairBirdClub100@gmail.com.

Sandy

It's July. It's Fall. Rick Wright

The kids are just out of school, shore traffic hasn't quite reached its horrific peak, and the heat and humidity are still—almost—bearable. With the solstice just a few days behind us, summer is starting up in earnest. Fireworks and barbecues lie ahead, and fall seems far way.



For us, that is. Many of our birds, in contrast, have completed the activities of their short summer, and these first days of July find them turning their efforts and attention to the southbound migration. Fall is well and truly underway for them, and while most of our own neighbors are still occupied with picnics and watersports, we birders know that the season has already changed.

By the Fourth of July, the first of our wintering ducks—northern shovelers, green-winged teal, American black ducks—are trickling in from the north. Yellow warblers and orchard orioles are headed south, leaving a noticeable gap in the sonic landscapes of marshes and woodlands. At

the same time, adult male ruby-throated hummingbirds grow notably scarce, while the numbers of females and young birds at feeders swell dramatically. Tree swallows and purple martins abandon their nesting sites to begin massing in grassy dunes and phragmites tangles.

Above all, though, it is the shorebirds that remind us of the mismatch between the astronomical and the ornithological calendars. Less than a month after the last northbound migrants graced our marshes and beaches, the first returning birds appear. These earliest July least and semipalmated sandpipers, greater and lesser yellowlegs, solitary sandpipers, and short-billed dowitchers are all adults, and



most likely failed breeders or nonbreeders, getting a head start on the long voyage to the southerly wintering grounds. Their numbers slowly increase through the month, then explode in the days just before the first of August, when thousands of adult semipalmated sandpipers and smatterings

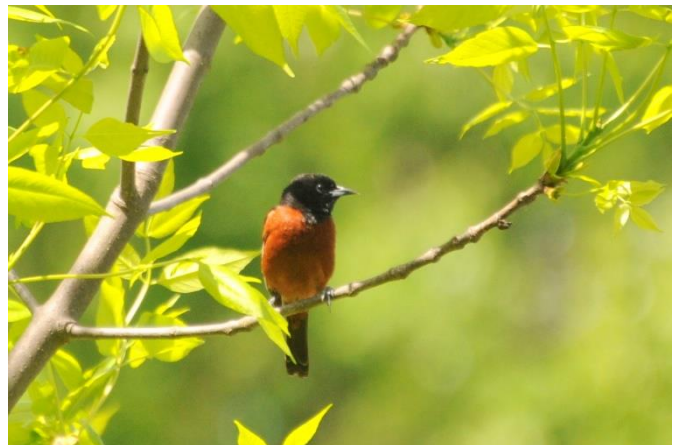
of a wide variety of other species stage in the New Jersey Meadowlands and other wetlands; the most dramatic scenes are typically to be had at Mill Creek Marsh in Secaucus, but such other easily accessible sites as DeKorte Park and the Wayne Scrape are invariably rewarding, too. At the turn of the month, the numbers of adult shorebirds usually decline, only to be replaced by the masses of juvenile birds, which, in one of the enduring mysteries of bird migration, have made their own way south alone, without their parents to guide them to the traditional stops.

but equally real are the post-breeding dispersals of bald eagles and Mississippi and swallow-tailed kites, which nest early in the southern parts of their range, then scatter to feed off the fat of northern lands before beginning their actual migration.



Some birders, I hear, used to hang up their binoculars and shelve their field guides for the warm, dull months between May and September. Now we know, though, that the world of birds never comes to a standstill—and we don't have to, either.

Not all of the fall visitors of July and August are moving south. Herons and other long-legged waders disperse widely after their nesting season, many wandering north to our latitudes; little blue and tricolored herons, scarce breeders nowadays in New Jersey, are now found more easily in the summer months of the calendar than at any other season, and this is the perfect time to search for wandering spoonbills, storks, and rare herons and egrets. Less widely known



The Birds are Coming. Will You Be Ready?

Sandy Sorkin

Step one: Find all your equipment, confirm that everything works, and clean everything. This process begins as a memory test where you try to remember where you last saw everything. A reasonable starting point is to locate your binoculars. That would include the pair in the kitchen for watching garden feeders, the pair in the trunk of the car for just in case, the pair you left in your favorite backpack, and lastly the spare pair. Get the special cloth and lens cleaner out and clean. It is also a good practice to always clean and prepare your equipment the night before a birding outing. So, remember where you stowed all the cleaning material.

If your binoculars are older and a little wanting, it may be time for a new pair. Remember that using binoculars for bird watching dictates at least two requirements. The obvious one is to be able to see the bird, but the major necessity is to locate the bird. 10x offers higher magnification and the 8x presents a wider field of view. A 50mm objective lens allows more light into the binocular, but the extra glass adds weight. Most of us use some combination of 8x42 to 10x50. The next time you are on a field trip with a guide, note the features of the guide's binoculars.

Don't forget the spouse and children and their equipment. It is probably in just as much need of cleaning.

Not everyone has four pairs of binoculars. Some people have the four pairs of binoculars and a scope. It is a good time to clean both ends of the scope and the extra eyepiece located at the very bottom of your backpack. There is not a lot to clean on the scope tripod, but you may want to tighten the clamps.

If you're planning to add another pair of binoculars to the rotation, you may be enticed by image stabilization. The idea is fantastic, and they perform well at a hawkwatch or on a boat, but the higher magnification and concomitant narrow field of view makes it a little more difficult to find birds on a hike in the woods.

Find your water bottle. Start by emptying last year's water. Clean, rinse, and repeat until the water bottle doesn't smell like last year. If you opt for lightweight "disposable" plastic, at least remember to recycle.

If you have as little hair as I do, a hat is indispensable. It might also be the perfect accessory for any insect netting required in your particular setting. Using binoculars or shooting with your camera while covered by netting is doable, but probably a bit annoying. If you purchased a new hat, try out the hat with your binoculars, scope, and camera. Often, the rigid brim on baseball caps interferes with using larger cameras, and you may get sunburned ears.



Brush off your old-reliable backpack and pack it with a field guide, pencil, notepad, and lens cloth, and leave room for a lunch or snack. If you anticipate having no empty pockets, the cell phone can sit in the backpack as well. Ringing cellphones can be annoying, but are reliable GPS and map tools and can be used with iNaturalist and eBird. The value of the phone varies with location. In New Jersey you are almost always in range of a cellphone tower even in wilderness areas, but not as often out west.

Lastly, make a checklist, and use it before every outing and check it quickly the night before any planned birding trips. When you return from the first trip of the season, update your list with everything you forgot to originally include on the checklist.

The last topic is cameras. The competing views are that using them takes away from the experience of viewing versus they create lasting memories, sketching is a better tool than photography but limits the amount of viewing, heavy telephoto lenses are a necessity versus point-and-shoot or even cellphone cameras that can do the job effectively. My personal motivation for a camera began when I first started birding. I needed pictures to help with identifications when the trip was over. Later, I became as interested in photography as in birding and enjoy the idea of two rewarding hobbies.

Cameras and other electronic devices such as sound recorders require batteries and memory cards. Don't lose sight of the fact that modern cellphones and cameras are multifunctional and do it all. The discussion of lens and camera formats and types of lenses falls outside the scope of seasonal preparation, but if the weight you will carry is an issue, please investigate mirrorless cameras, which are far lighter than traditional DSLRs and are only slightly heavier than the point-and-shoot alternatives.

The last piece of camera advice: Do not go birding with the camera you purchased a few days ago. Practice ahead of time so you can actually use the camera while birding. Not knowing enough about settings will be frustrating in the field. And an extra (charged) battery and extra formatted disk should be kept handy.

Now you can go look for birds.



Wednesday Warbler Walks

Benita Fishbein

Standing over 500 feet above sea level, Garret Mountain Reservation is a green oasis amid the pavement and highways of urban northern New Jersey. From the end of April to the end of May, this 568-acre park, located in Woodland Park, attracts countless birds and birders alike. The Wednesday Warbler Walks have been a long-standing and much anticipated and enjoyed annual event in the Montclair Bird Club calendar. This year, Montclair Bird Club birders, skillfully lead by Fred Pfeifer, explored the many different habitats of the park, finding exciting treasures around every corner. A few especially hardy birders arrived before the 8 a.m. start time to trek the park's overlooks and cliffs and take in the spectacle as a wondrous array of migrants first landed after their overnight journeys. Oblivious to all the excitement they were causing, the birds would begin immediately feeding, and, if we were lucky, singing, refueling for the next leg of their journey north. A breathtaking sight! As a club, we officially saw/heard a total of 95 species on the Wednesday walks. Total birds seen/heard ranged from 48 species on April 28 to a high of 66 species on May 12. According to eBird, a total of 145 species were seen at Garret this May.

Here is the official list of the birds seen or heard during the 2021 Wednesday Warbler Walks, along with the Wednesday dates they were seen or heard.

#	Species	Wednesday Warbler Walks Seen or Heard (April 28 to May 26)
1	Canada Goose	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
2	Wood Duck	May 26
3	Mallard	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
4	Mourning Dove	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
5	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	May 19
6	Chimney Swift	April 28, May 12, May 19, May 26
7	Solitary Sandpiper	May 5
8	Killdeer	May 19, May 26
9	Spotted Sandpiper	May 12, May 26
10	Great Egret	May 5
11	Great Blue Heron	April 28, May 12, May 19, May 26
12	Common Loon	April 28, May 12
13	Black Vulture	May 12, May 19
14	Turkey Vulture	April 28, May 12, May 19, May 26
15	Cooper's Hawk	May 5
16	Red-tailed Hawk	May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
17	Red-bellied Woodpecker	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
18	Downy Woodpecker	April 28, May 5, May 19, May 26
19	Hairy Woodpecker	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
20	Pileated Woodpecker	May 5, May 26
21	Northern Flicker	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
22	Eastern Wood-Pewee	May 19, May 26
23	Alder/Willow Flycatcher (Traill's Flycatcher)	May 5

24	Great Crested Flycatcher	May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
25	Least Flycatcher	May 12
26	Eastern Phoebe	May 12
27	Eastern Kingbird	May 12, May 19, May 26
28	White-eyed Vireo	May 5
29	Yellow-throated Vireo	May 12
30	Blue-Headed Vireo	April 28, May 5, May 12
31	Warbling Vireo	May 12, May 19, May 26
32	Red-eyed Vireo	May 12, May 19, May 26
33	Blue Jay	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
34	American Crow	April 28, May 12
35	Common Raven	April 28, May 12
36	Black-capped Chickadee	April 28, May 5, May 19
37	Tufted Titmouse	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
38	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
39	Tree Swallow	May 26
40	Barn Swallow	May 12, May 19, May 26
41	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	April 28, May 5
42	Red-breasted Nuthatch	May 5
43	White-breasted Nuthatch	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19
44	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	April 28, May 5, May 26
45	House Wren	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19
46	Carolina Wren	April 28, May 5
47	European Starling	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
48	Gray Catbird	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
49	Brown Thrasher	April 28, May 19, May 26
50	Northern Mockingbird	April 28
51	Veery	April 28, May 12, May 19
52	Gray-cheeked Thrush	May 19, May 26
53	Swainson's Thrush	May 12, May 19, May 26
54	Hermit Thrush	April 28
55	Wood Thrush	May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
56	American Robin	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
57	Cedar Waxwing	May 19, May 26
58	House Sparrow	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
59	House Finch	April 28, May 5
60	Purple Finch	April 28, May 12
61	American Goldfinch	April 28, May 5, May 26
62	Chipping Sparrow	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
63	White-crowned Sparrow	May 12
64	White-throated Sparrow	April 28, May 5, May 12
65	Song Sparrow	May 5, May 12, May 19
66	Lincoln's Sparrow	May 12
67	Swamp Sparrow	May 5, May 12
68	Eastern Towhee	April 28, May 5
69	Baltimore Oriole	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
70	Red-winged Blackbird	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
71	Brown-headed Cowbird	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26

72	Common Grackle	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
73	Ovenbird	May 5, May 12, May 19
74	Louisiana Waterthrush	April 28, May 5, May 12
75	Northern Waterthrush	May 12, May 19
76	Black-and-white Warbler	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19
77	Tennessee Warbler	May 19
78	Nashville Warbler	May 5, May 12
79	Common Yellowthroat	May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
80	American Redstart	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
81	Cape May Warbler	May 5, May 12
82	Northern Parula	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
83	Blackburnian Warbler	May 12, May 19
84	Magnolia Warbler	May 5, May 12
85	Yellow Warbler	May 5, May 12
86	Chestnut-sided Warbler	May 5, May 12, May 19
87	Blackpoll Warbler	May 5, May 19, May 26
88	Black-throated Blue Warbler	May 5, May 19
89	Yellow-rumped Warbler	May 12, May 19
90	Palm Warbler	April 28, May 5
91	Black-throated Green Warbler	May 5, May 12
92	Canada Warbler	May 19
93	Scarlet Tanager	May 5, May 12, May 19
94	Northern Cardinal	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19, May 26
95	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19

Please join us for the Wednesday Walks continuing through this summer, and visit Garret Mountain Reservation any time of year. You're bound to find something wonderful at this northern New Jersey hotspot.

Recent Montclair Bird Club Meetings

May 2020: An Online Quiz, with Rick Wright.

June 2020: A Walk on Pipeline Road, by Sandy Sorkin.

July 2020: The Real James Bond, by Jim Wright.

August 2020: An Online Quiz, with Rick Wright.

September 2020: Manakins and Microbes, by Jeniffer Houtz.

October 2020: The Bizarre Breeding Behaviors of Tropical Cuckoos,
by Christine Riehl.

November 2020: Dispersal in Young Peregrine Falcons, by Elise Morton.

December 2020: An MBC Story Slam, by Pamela Olsen.

January 2021: Modern-Day Exploration in the Tropics, by Dan Lane.

February 2021: Winter Raptors, by Giselle Smisko.

March 2021: Damselflies and Dragonflies: the Other White Meat, by George Nixon.

April 2021: Wolf Natural History and Tourism in Yellowstone, by Paul Brown.

May 2021: Sandhills and Saw-whets, by Matthew Schuler.

June 2021: Magnificent Namibia, by Linda Woodbury.

Mockingbird Song Decoded



The Mockingbird Uses Musical Techniques Like Those of Humans (Image: MPI for Empirical Aesthetics)

The North American mockingbird is famous for its ability to imitate the song of other birds. But it doesn't just mimic its kindred species, it actually composes its own songs based on other birds' melodies. An interdisciplinary research team has now worked out how exactly the mockingbird constructs its imitations. The scientists determined that the birds follow similar musical rules as those found in human music, from Beethoven to Kendrick Lamar.

The song of the mockingbird is so complex that to investigate it required a joint effort of experts from very different fields. Neuroscientist Tina Roeske of the Max Planck Institute for Empirical Aesthetics, field biologist Dave Gammon of Elon

University, and the music philosopher David Rothenberg of the New Jersey Institute of Technology combined their different approaches and areas of expertise to conduct this highly unusual study, the findings of which have just been published in the open-access journal *Frontiers in Psychology*.

Lead author Tina Roeske designed the algorithms used in testing the team's hypotheses.

"When you listen for a while to a mockingbird," she explains, "you can hear that the bird isn't just randomly stringing together the melodies it imitates. Rather, it seems to sequence similar snippets of melody according to consistent rules. In order to examine this hunch scientifically, however, we had to use quantitative analyses to test whether the data actually supported our hypotheses."

The results were unambiguous. The authors identified four compositional strategies that mockingbirds use in transitioning from one sound to the next: changing timbre, changing pitch, stretching the transition (lengthening it in time), and squeezing it (shortening it in time). The complex melodies they create are music to the ears not only of other birds but of humans as well. So, it should come as no surprise that (human) composers of varied musical styles use similar techniques in their work.

As co-author David Rothenberg explains in a YouTube video, the Tuvan throat singing group Huun-Huur-Tu presents examples of timbre change, and pitch change can be heard in the famous opening of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony; the song "Show Yourself" from the Disney film *Frozen 2* itself shows the stretching of sound transitions; and if you listen very closely to Kendrick Lamar's song "Duckworth" from the album *Damn*, you'll hear transitions being squeezed, or shortened.

YouTube Video: [YouTube video](#)

THE LOWER RIO GRANDE VALLEY

April 5–11, 2022

with Rick Wright

From our base at a single, centrally located hotel in McAllen, we will make day trips out into the subtropical habitats that make the lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas one of the true must-see birding destinations in the US. Among the sites we expect to visit are South Padre Island, Laguna Atascosa and Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuges, Bentsen–Rio Grande State Park, Anzalduas County Park, Edinburg Scenic Wetlands, and La Joya—but there is always the possibility of an exciting rarity disrupting our plans. Some of the regional specialties we will be looking for are the least grebe, Mexican and mottled ducks, hook-billed and white-tailed kites, gray and white-tailed hawks, crested caracara, plain chachalaca, red-billed pigeon, white-tipped dove, green parakeet, red-crowned parrot, pauraque, buff-bellied hummingbird, ringed and green kingfishers, golden-fronted woodpecker, vermilion flycatcher, great kiskadee, Couch and tropical kingbirds, green jay, Chihuahuan raven, black-crested titmouse, verdin, cactus wren, clay-colored thrush, long-billed thrasher, tropical parula, pyrrhuloxia, painted bunting, olive sparrow, Morelet seedeater, Cassin and Botteri sparrows, Sprague pipit, bronzed cowbird, and Altamira and Audubon orioles. Minimum of 4, maximum of 7 registrants. Participants are responsible for the own airfare, lodging expenses, and food. The non-refundable registration fee, covering vehicle rental and the volunteer leader's expenses, is expected to be between \$600 and \$800, depending on number of participants. [Register with Bill Beren, Field Trip Chair, beginning December 10.](#)

SOUTH AFRICA: WESTERN CAPE AND KRUGER
September 27 to October 14, 2022
with Rick Wright and Patrick Cardwell

We start in Cape Town and return from Johannesburg, in between visiting sites such as West Coast National Park, the Cape of Good Hope, Kirstenbosch Botanical Garden, and Kruger National Park. We will enjoy a vast range of birdlife, from penguins to rollers to cisticolas, along with many of the large mammals that South Africa is so famous for. With visits to Robben Island, the site of Nelson Mandela's long imprisonment, and Johannesburg's Apartheid Museum, our trip also offers insight into the history and culture of this beautiful and diverse country.

Strictly limited to 12 participants plus the two leaders, this trip is open to LSNY members, members of the Montclair Bird Club, and clients of Victor Emanuel Nature Tours. For more information and to register, please email or phone Erik Lindqvist at erik@ventbird.com or (800) 328-8368.

From the Editor's Desk

Please feel free to email any items you would like included in future issues of *The Broadwing*. Please include pictures and any other news that will reduce anxiety and make us smile.

Sandy

MontclairBirdClub100@gmail.com

SELVA VERDE LODGE – A RAINFOREST SUCCESS STORY

As pandemic-weary people return to international travel, many are going back to Costa Rica, or visiting for the first time. With an easy, inexpensive, non-stop flight from Newark, it's the perfect destination for so many reasons. In a relatively small area equivalent to the size of West Virginia, where you'll find an incredible diversity of landscapes (12 life zones), which is why Costa Rica hosts crazy numbers of bird species (900+) and a myriad of other wildlife. This article is about a very special place on the Caribbean slope, a two-hour drive northeast from San José. For over 35 years now, Selva Verde has welcomed birders, researchers, educators/students and nature lovers from around the world. 400+ bird species in the region and a large number of mammals, amphibians, reptiles and insects keep them coming back.



Selva Verde Lodge
Photo by Jessica Maineri

In 1982, while leading a birding expedition in the remote Sarapiquí region, eco-tourism pioneer and tour operator Giovanna Holbrook was able to save a large tract of old growth forest where logging had already begun. When Giovanna saw a 900-year-old almond tree lying on the ground, she realized that appreciating nature and sharing its wonders with others was no longer enough—she also had to play a part in protecting and caring for it. By 1985, the once-endangered forest became a 500-acre private reserve sustained by one of the

country's first eco-lodges, Selva Verde Lodge and Rainforest Reserve. www.selvaverde.com Selva Verde still employs the community and remains committed to advancing the practice of sustainable tourism through initiatives like the Sarapiquí Conservation Learning Center, founded in 1993 by Giovanna and her friend Berta Carter. www.learningcentercostarica.org

Together with nearby OTS La Selva Biological Station's 3,700 acres, Selva Verde's reserve is an important part of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor, an international effort to link forested land between Mexico and Panama, to protect the abundant biodiversity of species and habitats in Central America. One species of interest is the critically endangered great green macaw.



Great Green Macaw
Photo by Sanford Sorkin

Their numbers have fallen from about 1500-3000 birds worldwide in 2005, to only 500-1000 in 2020. They are nearing extinction primarily because of deforestation and the poaching of chicks for pets. These birds favor the Mountain Almond, the tree that spurred Giovanna Holbrook into action. In spite of the falling numbers, thanks to local conservation efforts, the Sarapiquí area seems to be seeing more of these birds and you will likely hear their loud squawks as they fly from and to their roosts in the morning and evening. Sometimes you will see them along the river, where you might

also be lucky to see a display by the gorgeous sunbittern along the river.



Sunbittern
Photo by Sanford Sorkin



Birdwatchers waiting for the sunbittern to spread his wings again.

Besides world-class birding and nature photography, Selva Verde is the ideal basecamp for faculty-led educational field programs in ecology, conservation, community development and culture. Each summer, K-12 and college students come down to learn about global stewardship,



Montezuma Oropendola
Photo by Sanford Sorkin



Rufous Motmot
Photo by Sanford Sorkin

the rainforest and interact with friendly Costa Rican kids and families.

So, whether you are into birds, mammals, plants, insects, amphibians, reptiles or just relaxing in the hammock outside your room, Selva Verde offers something for everyone. After the long dry spell with no travelers, everyone at the lodge is glad to be back to work. Hope you will visit sometime very soon!



Sarapiquí room at Selva Verde Lodge

Debbie Jordan, Holbrook Travel Ambassador
Debbie@holbrooktravel.com 6/24/2021

Pictures from Selva Verde Lodge



Hoffman's Two-toed Sloth
Photo by Sanford Sorkin



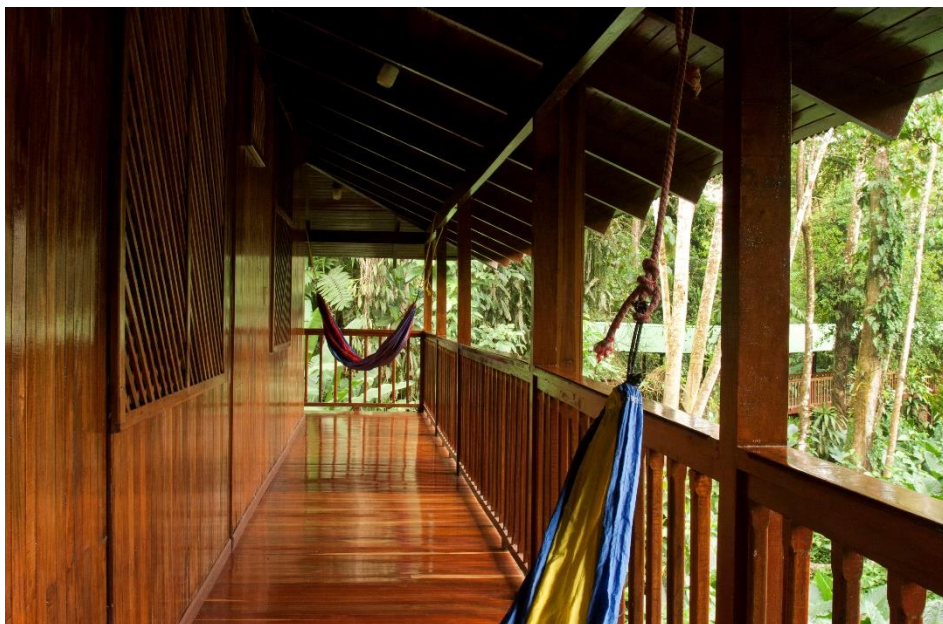
Masked Tityra
Photo by Sanford Sorkin



Violet-crowned Woodnymph
Photo by Sanford Sorkin



Yellow-throated Toucan
Photo by Sanford Sorkin



2021–2022 Montclair Bird Club Officers and Executive Board



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Page 2: Eurasian reed warbler & common cuckoo, common yellowthroat & brown-headed cowbird
Wood thrush & brown-headed cowbird, pine warbler & brown-headed cowbird
American Robin & brown-headed cowbird egg, Northern cardinal & brown-headed cowbird
Wilson warbler & brown-headed cowbird, Wilson warbler & brown-headed cowbird
Page 5: Baltimore oriole, northern flicker, house finch, warbling vireo
Page 6: Great crested flycatcher, gray catbird, great egret, Canada Geese
Page 7: Jewelwing
Page 8: Northern shoveler, semipalmated sandpiper
Page 9: Greater yellowlegs, orchard orioles

The MBC Bulletin Bird

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THE BROADWING

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**Send photos, field notes, or articles to Sandy at
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