

ISSN 0147-9725



MARYLAND BIRDLIFE

Avian studies in the Mid-Atlantic region



Bulletin of the Maryland Ornithological Society, Inc.

**FALL 2016
VOLUME 65
NUMBER 2**

MARYLAND ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

P.O. Box 105, Monrovia, MD 21770-0105
 301-588-4250 <http://www.mdbirds.org>

CURRENT OFFICERS – FALL 2016

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

President:	Barbara Johnson	barbarajohnson222@gmail.com	410-703-4664
Vice-President:	Robin Todd	totnesman@aol.com	410-491-5333
Treasurer:	Dave Webb	porzana@comcast.net	410-939-3537
Secretary:	Maryanne Dolan	maryanne.dolan@gmail.com	443-350-9197
Past-President:	Tom Strikwerda	tsrik@verizon.net	301-942-2841

STATE DIRECTORS

Allegany & Garrett:	*Mary Huebner Mary Huebner	Howard:	*John Harris Karen Heffernan John McKitterick Robin Todd
Anne Arundel:	*David Gillum Diane Benyus Barbara Ricciardi	Kent:	*Nancy Martin Walter Ellison
Baltimore:	* Peter Lev Joan Cwi Mary Anne Fluke Mark Linardi	Montgomery:	*Clive Harris Andy Martin Jim Moore Brooke Smith
Caroline:	*Danny Poet (vacant)	Patuxent:	* Fred Fallon Marcia Watson
Carroll:	*Don Jewell (vacant)	Talbot:	*Dave Palmer Wayne Bell
Cecil:	*Maryanne Dolan John Taylor	Tri-County:	*Mike Walsh (vacant)
Frederick:	*Kathy Brown Tom Humphrey	Washington (Co.):	*George Warrick Mark Abdy
Harford:	*Bob Werrlein Thomas Congersky Dennis Kirkwood		

**Denotes Chapter President*

Active Member: \$20.00 plus chapter dues
 Household: \$25.00 plus chapter dues
 Sustaining: \$50.00 plus chapter dues

Life: \$1000.00 (4 annual installments)
 Junior (under 18): \$5.00 plus chapter dues

Cover: “Peregrine at Craighill Lighthouse” by Diane Ford. Acrylic and gouache, painted on 30 December 2014 from sketches made at Hart-Miller Island, Baltimore County, Maryland that same month.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Posthumous Manuscripts

This issue of *Maryland Birdlife* features several submittals from the 1980s. I came in possession of an old folder of submitted manuscripts; some had already been published, some had not. After looking through the folder, I became aware that several of the unpublished ones contained historical documentation of past events. I am publishing five in this issue. Three of the five are being published posthumously. Our departed authors are Eirik A. T. Blom (Harford County, MD) (Figure 1), Edward D. Fingerhood (Philadelphia, PA) (Figure 2), and M. Brooke Meanley, Jr. (Prince Georges County, MD) (Figure 3). *Maryland Birdlife* honors the memory of these three authors. [See the following two pages for photos and additional information.]

New Statewide Mid-winter Count Compiler

It is my pleasure to introduce Mary Anne Fluke as the Maryland Ornithological Society's new statewide Mid-winter Count Compiler. Her interest with birding started with hummingbirds. Watching the hummingbirds in her garden fascinated Mary Anne. Looking through a birding magazine, she came across an ad for a trip to Southeast Arizona for the spring hummingbird migration through the desert. After seeing many new hummingbird species and another 90+ bird species, she was hooked. She joined the Baltimore Bird Club (BBC) in 2009 and since then has attended many of the walks and outings that are offered. It was then that she was introduced to the wealth of birdlife here in this area. Mary Anne has found that since she started birding, it has led her into other outside interests such as hiking, nature photography, and gardening. She presently leads several bird walks a year, her favorite places being Susquehanna State Park, Cromwell Valley Park, and North Point State Park. For the past two years, Mary Anne has been the Recording Secretary for the BBC and has been an MOS Director since last year.

Peer Reviewers

Associate Editor Mark Johnson and I thank all of the peer reviewers of the four 2015 and 2016 issues. Mark has compiled their names in a note at the end of this issue. These impressive reviewers greatly enhanced the quality of *Maryland Birdlife*.

Eugene J. Scarpulla
Editor
ejscarp@comcast.net



Figure 1. Eirik A. T. Blom. Photographed by Bill Thompson, III (Editor and Co-Publisher, *Bird Watcher's Digest*) at Bill's farm in Whipple, Ohio, circa 1999-2000.



Figure 2. Edward D. Fingerhood. 1990 World Series of Birding (19 May 1990) DVOC "B Team". Left to right: Chris Walters (Captain), Sandy Sherman, Ed Fingerhood, Erica Brendel, and Keith Russell. Photographed by Chris Walters. (Photo courtesy of Bert Filemyr, Treasurer, DVOC)



Figure 3. M. Brooke Meanley, Jr. Accessed at: <http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/resshow/perry/bios/MeanleyBrooke.htm>. (Photo courtesy of USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center)

Eirik A. T. Blom (Harford County, MD) – 1947-2002

Rick had many accomplishments: Project Coordinator for the *Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Maryland and the District of Columbia*, Co-Chief Consultant for the *National Geographic Society Field Guide to the Birds of North America* (1st and 2nd Editions), Editor of *Birding* (American Birding Association), Mid Atlantic Region Co-Editor for *American Birds*, Contributing Editor for *Bird Watcher's Digest*, and Adjunct Faculty at The Johns Hopkins University where he taught continuing education bird watching courses. [Editor's Note: Rick was my closest friend. I think of him often and miss our many days gull watching at Conowingo Dam, landfills, and wastewater treatment plants.]

Edward D. Fingerhood (Philadelphia, PA) – 1937-1998

Ed Fingerhood was responsible for the *Atlas of Breeding Birds of Pennsylvania*. He was the first project coordinator and a member of the planning committee. The project not only created the atlas, but along with the founding of *Pennsylvania Birds*, created the organizational framework for the founding of the Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology (PSO 2011). Ed was a fellow and life member of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club (DVOC). He held various positions including Councillor, editor of *Cassinia* and the DVOC newsletter, and member on the Bylaws and Archives committees. Ed served as chairman of the Ornithological Studies committee. He stressed that races, subspecies, and forms should be studied and reported as much as “full” species. It was this kind of detail that epitomized Ed’s approach to birding (Sherman 1998).

PSO. 2011. Pennsylvania Society for Ornithology: Earl Poole Award: Edward Fingerhood.

Available at: <http://www.pabirds.org/Awards/Fingerhood.htm>. Accessed 24 October 2016.
Sherman, S.L. 1999. Obituary: Edward D. Fingerhood. *Cassinia* 67:47-48.

M. Brooke Meanley, Jr. (Prince Georges County, MD) – 1915-2007

Brooke worked for the Division of Birds at the U.S. National Museum (1949-1950), the Wildlife Research Laboratory, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, at Denver, Colorado (1950-1957), and the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center (PWRC) in Laurel, Maryland (1957-1977). He published numerous articles on the distribution, migration, ecology, and management of blackbirds in relation to damage of agricultural crops. He is credited with helping to design a very effective decoy trap used to capture blackbirds for banding. Brooke published more than 125 articles about his research and natural history. He published many books including *Natural History of the King Rail*; *Natural History of the Swainson's Warbler*; *Swamps, River Bottoms, and Canebrakes*; *Birds and Marshes of the Chesapeake Bay Country*; *Blackwater*; *Birdlife at Chincoteague*; *Waterfowl of the Chesapeake Bay Country*; *The Patuxent River Wild Rice Marsh*; *Notes on Southern Marshes, Swamps, and Pineywoods*; and *Notes on Dismal Swamp Plants*. (Information gleaned from PWRC 2008)

PWRC (Patuxent Wildlife Research Center). 2008. Mortimer Brooke Meanley. Available at: <http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/resshow/perry/bios/MeanleyBrooke.htm>. Accessed 24 October 2016.