
Merry Christmas

the eagle

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Merry Christmas little boys and girls of the BBC. Old Santa has been packing his sled (of course the sled is shown above) ! The jolly old man is on his way to the Big BBC Annual Christmas Party. Santa does everything with class !

Ho....Ho.....Ho.....a hmm..

BBC Christmas Party Set for Saturday

Members of our club owe a big thanks to Mike Poe for offering to host our annual dinner and party at his home in Robinwood Estates near the Tri-City Airport and Boone Dam, Saturday, Dec. 10, at 6 p.m.

**Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high around 44. South wind around 5 mph becoming west.
Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 24. West wind around 5 mph.**

We hope all members have made plans to be there and join our holiday fellowship and Christmas dinner together.

This will be the 12th party since Larry McDaniel and Wallace Coffey invited birders to McDaniel's home in Bristol Tennessee one Saturday night in December and it became an instant success. It might be fair to say that many birders who attended that first party are no longer in BBC or, for that matter, birding.

President Bill Grigsby has worked hard trying to find his way through the many different challenges that come up with every year's party. He has done most of the shopping and has delivered the club-supplied plastic and paper dinner products to Mike Poe's home. This will avoid any unforeseen delays. Concerns about the cost of the event have been neatly offset by a BBC fundraiser last week which should cover the club's party expenses.

Bill is bringing valued leadership to BBC. He takes personal responsibility by doing things and getting good help.

So, with responsible and creative leadership, the beat goes on.....

Let the party begin !

Seed Sale Project ends with success for BBC members.

BBC volunteers turned out Dec. 3rd at Ward's Feed Store in Kingsport to once again carry on a long tradition at the store of an annual winter seed sale.



Dave Worley, Mary Erwin, Wallace Coffey, Bill Grigsby and John Moyle were on hand to meet customers, sell feeders, bird seed and such as a BBC fundraiser. The project easily raised enough money to pay the BBC Annual Christmas Party expense.

From 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. our crew sold more than \$1,000 worth of feeders, bird baths and seed.

In addition, WKIS radio had a live remote broadcast from our sale location. BBC President Bill Grigsby appeared several times on the broadcast to promote the Bristol Bird Club, all of our events and activities as well as to talk about bird feeders and feeding birds in general.

Wow! What a fabulous job Bill did. It was almost as good as the large box of donuts he had to fuel us through the morning. Mary Erwin kept records and served as our cashier throughout the morning. It was good to see old friends and Bristol Bird Club members buying all kinds of bird baths, seed and feeders from our fundraiser. Everything related to birds was discounted 10 percent.

Worley and Grigsby carried bag after bag of 50 pound-bags of sunflower seed to pack SUVs and small cars and trucks and all kinds of vehicles.

The live radio broadcast brought in many people who had just heard it on the airwaves and wanted to contribute to our cause. We had the opportunity to further sell the BBC and its programs and activities. President Grigsby had prepared a very attractive brochure about the BBC and we handed those out to interested customers.

This is the same project which was carried out for many years by the former Watauga Chapter of the National Audubon Society in Kingsport until that group ceased to operate in the mid-90's.



BBC 13th of month Field trip

These monthly outings were very popular with our membership in 2002. So, in November, once again, BBC members enjoyed a birding trip for anyone who wanted to come along. Our next walkup field trip will meet at the ETSU Bristol Center on the Volunteer Parkway in Bristol Tennessee. The meeting times this winter will always be 8 a.m. The December's field

trip is Tuesday, the 13th. We are going rain or shine but snow-covered roads will be another issue. We will make announcements if snow will cancel one of these trips.

Wallace Coffey will meet birders Dec. 13th at ETSU-Bristol and we will announce the leader of future events in advance and send a reminder of the trip to members. Each outing will be to wherever the group agrees to go birding.

Mostly the groups will go to new or different places so birders can get into less familiar habitat and routes as well as learn new places to bird.

You always know the date. You always know the time. You always know the meeting place.

This is a very convenient way to have a regular monthly outing for the Bristol Bird Club.

The Nov. 13th trip went towards Johnson City in Carter County and birded along the Watauga River, then north along the South Fork Holston River in Sullivan County to the Weir Dam. A short stop for lunch and then finishing the day at Middlebrook Lake in east Bristol Tennessee. We started with Larry McDaniel, Don Holt and Wallace Coffey. Rob Biller caught up with us along the South Holston River at Central Holston. We met up with Jerry and Jane Thornhill at the Weir Dam on the South Holston Dam Reservation.

"Jess & Nelle Jenkins Cranberry Bog " renaming and sign dedication set.

After all these many years, the Jess Jenkins Cranberry Bog will be renamed to include his lovely wife. She has long been a friend of so many birders and naturalists. Who will ever forget her smiles

and waves from her little mobile home across the street from Orchard Bog on Orchard Rd. in Shady -- next to the white store she and her husband operated for many years.

In the future we will always know this tiny 3/10th acre conservation jewel as "Jess & Nelle Jenkins Cranberry Bog."

Jess passed away in 1981 and Nelle died in February 2004.

All of you are invited to join with friends and fellow birders, naturalists, scientists and local folks from Shady on Sunday afternoon, December 11, at 2:30 p.m. for a brief ceremony. We will meet at the little sandstone house at Orchard Bog on Orchard Rd. in Shady Valley and walk across the road to the tiny cranberry bog.



Nelle is shown above while enjoying herself at one of the BBC's annual summer picnics held at the Ruritan Picnic Shelter in Shady Valley during the mid-90's. Her granddaughter, Lorrie Shumate, was a former treasurer of the Bristol Bird Club.

It was Nelle's husband, Jess Jenkins, who in August 1979, sold the family cranberry bog to the Tennessee chapter of The Nature Conservancy. That was the result of years of effort by Charlie Smith, Ken Hale, Wallace Coffey and David McPeak.

The tiny bog and its frail plants of cranberries with tiny pink flowers has become a "shrine" in the Appalachians to a great conservation effort. It was the Tennessee chapter of The Nature Conservancy's first ever project in Tennessee. It also turned out to be the smallest parcel of land ever purchased by The Nature Conservancy anywhere in the world. From this came all the nearly 600 acres we know and bird in Shady Valley. And from this came "Tennessee's best little festival" -- the annual Cranberry Festival, a concept created by the Bristol Bird Club who was a major early leader.

The cranberry bog is presently owned by East Tennessee State University and is managed by the Shady Valley Ruritan Club in cooperation with the ETSU botany staff. Tim McDowell a botany professor from ETSU will be present at the ceremony to represent the university.

The move to rename the Jess Jenkins Bog to include Nelle Jenkins is an idea created by Wallace Coffey and Chris O'Bryan. O'Bryan, as a secretary of the Shady Valley Ruritan Club, introduced the concept to the club and the Ruritans have carried the concept to reality.

Former BBC President Ken Hale, a Bristol attorney, who was one of four naturalist who decided early on in 1978 to see this project thru even when we had little hope, was officially named the first steward of Jenkins bog by The Nature Conservancy.

The framework for the new sign is up (cedar posts-no concrete or treated wood) and Lynn Eastin has painted the lettering on the sign. One of the Ruritan members has volunteered to organize the refreshments.

Wallace Coffey will lead the Sunday renaming ceremony and walk to the cranberry bog.

The Ruritan members have invited the entire Cranberry Festival committee, and tried to be as expansive as they can think of to invite people who have shown interest in the bog. They plan to have dessert, and be set up in the rock house at the preserve, for visiting and pictures.

John Shumate and Lorrie Shumate and many other family members will be present for the introduction of the new sign. A state board member from The Nature Conservancy is expected to be on hand.

The Ruritan Club wants all BBC members and area naturalists to know they do not need an invitation to attend and enjoy the event. You are more than welcome.

The Bristol Bird Club meets Dec. 20 to plan counts.

The coming annual Christmas Bird Counts will be the program subject when the BBC meets at the Steele Creek Park Lodge in Bristol Tennessee at 7:30 p.m.

This is the time when you can learn more about the counts and get involved. The various parties will be organized at this meeting and spread sheets and other information on each count will be available. This is a great place to make your reservation with a party as a count participant.

DINNER AT THE MAD GREEK - 6 PM.

The majority of members attending will gather at the Mad Greek Restaurant at 6 p.m. for a fellowship dinner. Meals are on your own. The Mad Greek is across from Avoca Elementary School on the Volunteer Parkway just north of the speedway. Our pre-meeting dinners are an excellent way to learn other birder's by name, get to know more about them and get caught up on what we've been doing.

President Bill Grigsby will call the BBC monthly meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at Steele Creek Park and the program will be presented following a brief few minutes of announcements.

The Bristol Bird Club continues to grow and be very active. We have lots of new and exciting plans for the winter and 2006.

There only 15 days left before the Glade Spring CBC. It's just like waiting for Christmas or opening day of the fishing season!

Glade Spring Christmas Bird Count set for December 18.

The Glade Spring CBC, sponsored and coordinated by the Bristol Bird Club, will be held on Sunday, Dec. 18, this year in order to involve as many birders as possible. The compilation will be on the evening of the count -- the same date. Ron Harrington is the compiler for the count.

The following are the team leaders for the Glade Spring CBC scheduled for December 18, 2005:

Area A: Dan Kegley
Area B: Randy Smith
Area C: Ed Morgan
Area D: Wallace Coffey
Area E: Joann Detta and Marty Huber
Area F: Diane Harris

The team leader is responsible for:

1. Coordinating the count for his or her assigned area. This includes soliciting folks to serve on the team. If help is needed, contact Ron Harrington.
2. Keeping the tally and completing all appropriate forms (To include Rare Bird Form).
3. Reporting team member's names, addresses and fees to Ron Harrington, Compiler.
4. Assuring that someone represents the assigned area at the compilation meeting. This year this is set for Monday, December 19. Details later. If no one from the area can attend, call in or e-mail the report to Ron Harrington in timely fashion

The compilation dinner and meeting will begin around 6:30 or 7:00 at the home of Suzanne and Robin Reid, 106 West Valley Street, Abingdon, VA. It is a small white house directly opposite the Summerhill Bed and Breakfast, near the Methodist Church on Main Street.

Coming from I 81, take Exit 14, continue through three stop lights where the road makes a T with Valley Street, turn right and look for 106 on the right. If you pass the Library you have gone too far.

This is a covered dish, potluck type dinner. So bring a favorite dish, salad, dessert or whatever. Ron Harrington will bring pizza. This is always a great time, so hope you can make it. Remember, this is open to all participants, so make sure all teams members are aware of this.

A NOTE OF INTEREST

BBC Winter Meeting Cancellation Policy

(1) If Bristol City schools are closed due to weather on the day of our meeting, BBC will not meet.

(2) If ETSU closes all classes due to weather on the day or closes the ETSU-Bristol Center, BBC will not meet.

(3) If the weather service or police call for hazardous road conditions in Bristol anytime after noon or before midnight on the evening of a BBC meeting, BBC will not meet.

Of course, if we have enough warning, we will post a cancellation on the Bristol Birds Net.

THE EAGLE ARCHIVED ONLINE

As proposed by BBC member Rob Biller, back copies of THE EAGLE are now archived online at the BBC website at: www://bristolbirdclub.org

According to BBC webmaster, Dave Worley, archived pages should be available for viewing on the website as soon as the next edition comes out. So the last November edition will be available any day now.

Members Attending November BBC Meeting

Bill Grigsby, Janice Martin, Fred Martin, Dave Worley*, Diana Worley*, Rob Biller, Wallace Coffey*, Marty Huber*, Jo Ann Detta*, Lynda Newman*, Dexter Newman*, Nancy Necessary, Mary Jane Erwin*, Judy Roach*, John Hay*, Rick Knight*, Wilma Boy*, Jim Boyd*, Linda Boyd*, Sam Cross*, Rack Cross*, Carol Cross*, Ed Burke, Charlie Parker*, Jacki Hinshaw*, Dianne Draper*, Don Holt*, Larry McDaniel*, Ron Harrington, Mike Poe = 30 members.*

Those marked by * attended dinner at the Mad Greek Restaurant starting at 6 p.m.

BRISTOL BIRD CLUB CALENDAR

Dec. 10th BBC Annual Region Christmas Party, 6 p.m. at Mike Poe's home.

Dec. 11th Dedication of the renaming of the Cranberry Bog in Shady Valley. 2:30 p.m.

Dec. 13th (Tuesday) -13th of Month Field Trip meet ETSU-Bristol 8 a.m.

Dec. 17th Elizabethton CBC

Dec. 18th Glade Spring CBC



Dec. 18th Roan Mountain CBC

Dec. 20th Regular meeting 7:30pm. at Steele Creek Park Lodge. Supper at Mad Greek at 6pm

Dec 31st Shady Valley CBC

2006

Jan.1st Bristol CBC (*note, there are no bowl games on Sunday, Jan. 1 -- New Years Day*).
The major New Years day bowl games will begin on Jan. 2.

Jan 2nd Mount Rogers-Whitetop CBC

Jan 13th 13th of Month Field Trip meets at 8 a.m. at ETSU-Bristol.

Jan. 14th BBC Waterfowl trip Meet at Shelley's U.S. 421 (breakfast 7 a.m.) trip 8 a.m.

Jan. 17th Regular BBC meeting 7:30pm. at ETSU-Bristol. Supper at Mad Greek at 6pm

Jan. 27-28-29 TOS Winter Meeting, Manchester, TN Sponsored by Highland Rim TOS Chapter.

Feb. 18th Burkes Garden trip

May 5-7 VSO Spring meeting. Breaks Interstate Park. Sponsored by Buchanan County Bird Club

May 5-7 TOS Spring meeting. Nashville. Sponsored by Nashville Chapter TOS.

Bristol Bird Club Officers 2005-2006

President-**Bill Grigsby**-Kingsport, Tennessee

V. President-**Larry McDaniel**-Johnson City, Tennessee

V. President-**Dave Worley**-Rosedale, Virginia

Secretary-**Diana Worley**-Rosedale, Virginia

Treasurer-**Janice Martin**-Bristol, Virginia

Asst. Treasurer-**Ron Harrington**-Bristol, Virginia

Curator/Newsletter Editor-**Wallace Coffey**-Bristol, Tennessee

Statistician-**Richard P. Lewis**-Bristol, Tennessee

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www://bristolbirdclub.org

Bristol Birds Net listserv archives

<http://www.freelists.org/archives/bristol-birds/>

Bristol Birds Net Photo Gallery located at:

<http://f2.pg.photos.yahoo.com/ph/jwcoffeyv/album?.dir=efd5>