

*birding the triangle... and beyond, for over half a century*

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**The BULLETIN...**  
**Chapel Hill Bird Club**  
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**No. 1**

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>> **Meeting :Monday, Jan. 28** <<

**When/Where:** 7:15 PM/refreshments; 7:30/Meeting  
The lounge, Olin T. Binkley Baptist Church, corner of Hwy. 15-501 bypass and Willow Dr., behind University Mall, Chapel Hill.

Richard (Dick) Thomas, director of the Piedmont Environmental Center near High Point, will be speaking on:

**"A Peruvian Ecotour: Tropical Forests and the Inca Empire."**

He will also review the environmental education mission of the Piedmont Education Center, and review some of their programs and activities.  
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**Saturday Morning Field Trips Resume**

Local field trips, on hold for the period of the Christmas Bird Counts, will start again on Saturday, January 12, 2008. Trips are usually lead by Doug Shadwick, and depart from Glen Lennox Shopping Center Parking lot off HWY 54 promptly at 7:30 most Saturday mornings. All skills are welcome. Trips are usually over by noon. Dress for the weather and for walking. The annual MLK Jr. Holiday Field Trip to Eastern North Carolina and the Outer Banks will start on Saturday, January 19. For further details, call Doug at 942-0479.

**To :** \_\_\_\_\_

**Is There a Yellow Mark on your Address Label for the Bulletin?**

The year of renewal for your Chapel Hill Bird Club membership is listed on the top left of the mailing label on your CHBC Bulletin. If the year is marked with **yellow**, this indicates that your membership is due now. Please bring your dues( checks payable to the Chapel Hill Bird Club) to the next meeting, with the completed membership form, or mail them to:

**Patsy Bailey,**  
**Mint Springs Rd.**  
**Pittsboro, NC 27312**

***Membership Form***

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

ph \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

new member: \_\_\_\_\_ or, RENEWAL: \_\_\_\_\_

dues: \$15/yr. individuals/family, \$10/year students  
make checks payable to Chapel Hill Bird Club

### Notes from "CarolinaBirds"

(This list serve allows birders to share their sightings bird information, and is occasionally the vehicle for amusing stories. The address is: <http://www.duke.edu/~cwcook/cbirds.html>.)

This one was from our own member Kent Fiala:

*"Subject: Re: Hunting and Birding  
Date: Tue, 13 Nov 2007 06:33:12 -0500  
Many years ago, when I had a summer job as a park ranger, I literally went looking for myself. One morning I was out and about on my own time with my mist-netting poles, and when I came on duty in the afternoon I was sent out to look for the person who had been spotted carrying a rifle that morning.*

*Kent Fiala  
Chapel Hill Township, NC"*

On a more serious note, this entry from Will Cook on 10/27/07 includes a forward from another reporter, as well as his own comments.

*" Here's an interesting site, providing population estimates of many of the breeding birds of the Carolinas. Partners in Flight Landbird Population Estimates Database  
[http://rmbo.org/pif\\_db/laped/query.aspx](http://rmbo.org/pif_db/laped/query.aspx)*

*What's the #1 bird for NC and SC? Answer at bottom, below the forwarded message...*

----- Forwarded message follows -----  
'Ever wondered how many individuals of your favorite species inhabit the planet?  
What is the most numerous land bird in North America? What is the most common wood warbler?  
What percentage of the total global population of Red-breasted nuthatches is visiting your backyard feeder this Fall?

For approximate answers these questions and systematic, scientific guesses of total individual numbers of 440 species of North American species, have a look at the Partners in Flight Landbird Population Estimates Database at: [http://rmbo.org/pif\\_db/laped/guide.aspx](http://rmbo.org/pif_db/laped/guide.aspx) Click on "Query Database".  
You can query several versions of the database online or download the full database into various

spreadsheet formats to explore offline. The estimates, based mostly upon 1990's data, may only be good to an order of magnitude and the compilers offer full disclaimers to any implied precision of estimates or methodology. Still, you have to appreciate the effort. Most of the data is extrapolated from breeding bird census records, but one could see the possibility of including other estimates and methodologies in future updates of the database. To order the search result table in taxonomic, rather than alphabetical sequence, click on the column header "Sequence AOU".

Estimated numbers include Michigan's Robin population of 5,900,000 well ahead of the Red-winged Blackbird (3,600,000) or European Starling, (3,400,000).

At a continental scale, the American Robin is still the most numerous species at 310,000,000. Some other relatively (or surprisingly) numerous land species include:

Mourning Dove (310,000,000)  
Great Horned Owl (2,000,000)  
Common nighthawk (10,000,000)  
Alder Flycatcher (50,000,000)  
White-eyed Vireo (16,000,000)  
Red-eyed Vireo (140,000,000)  
Horned Lark (81,0000)  
Swainson's Thrush (100,000,000)  
Yellow-rumped Warbler (130,000,000)  
Dark-eyed Junco (260,000,000)

I thought that some of the raptor species populations were underestimated, based upon the HMANA "RPI/HAWKCOUNT" database numbers (see:<http://hawkcount.org/>). Waterbirds are not included in this version of the database.  
Have fun!

Will Weber '

----- End of forwarded message -----

*NC's #1 bird: Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, with an estimated population of 3,800,000. For SC, Northern Cardinal comes in first, at 2,500,000.*

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*Will Cook - Durham, NC  
<http://www.carolinanature.com>"*