

# BirdWalk Newsletter

7.24.16

Walks conducted by: Perry Nugent

Written by: Jayne J Matney

Photo by Ray Swagerty



*“Nature has been for me, for as long as I remember, a source of solace, inspiration, adventure, and delight; a home, a teacher, a companion.”*

Lorraine Anderson

## **Highlights for this weekend!**

**Magnolia Plantation sponsors a Lady Bug Day every year which has become quite an event! Why lady bugs? Lady bugs are a predatory beetle which is advantageous to have in your gardens to rid plants from harmful smaller insects and aphids. We had our Lady Bug Day this past Saturday. So many families came out to this event! Coming back to the property the morning after this event seemed quiet and calm!**

**However, there were some bird families that carried over this trend today! For example, the Downy Woodpeckers that were sighted was a family group as well as the Great-crested Flycatcher. A White-eyed Vireo family was heard in the thickets of the forest. A Red-eyed Vireo family was seen fluttering through the tall trees. There was also a small family of Pine Warbler near the observation tower. A highlight of the trip was the Black-and-white Vireo and the American Redstart. The American Redstart is a bird that when they see the female may call it a Yellow-start or by a common nick name, the “Butter Butt”.**



Photo by Robyn and Dana Hogan

**Woodpecker always decorate the forest beautifully, and a couple of Eastern Bluebirds, Mourning Dove and blackbirds such as Red-winged and Grackle round out the view of birds this Sunday.**

**There were plenty of Carolina Wren, Northern Cardinal, Common Moorhen, Laughing Gulls, and Wood Duck on the property. Our usual water birds were around such as the Anhinga, Great Blue Heron, Great Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Little Blue Heron, Green Heron, Black-crowned Heron, Yellow-crowned Heron, White Ibis, and Glossy Ibis. 2 Red-shouldered Hawk were spotted along the back section of the exit road, Turkey Vultures were seen overhead in the cross dike area, while the Chimney Swifts appeared above the historic home. Red-bellied**

**Woodpecker were not scarce and neither were the Tufted Titmouse or Carolina Chick-a-dee. A couple of Ruby-throated Hummingbird were delights to observe, a Yellow-billed Cuckoo and a Pileated**



Photo by Jo Frkovich