

RESULTS OF 8TH ANNUAL VICTORIA PARK BIRD COUNT

by John Serrao

On Saturday, March 23, Naturalists John Serrao and Marg Goldschneider led a group of fellow residents through all 4 sections of Victoria Park in an 8th annual quest for birds. The goal : to see as many different species of birds as possible in a single day. We started at 7:30 AM and ended at noon as a group, but then John continued the Count alone by bicycle from 2 to 4:30 PM. We searched the trails and woodlands of the conservation areas, the ponds, cow pastures, neighborhood bird feeders, and skies above Victoria Park.

The result was a very impressive total of 65 species of birds; 48 by the group in the morning and an additional 17 species by John in the afternoon. Highlights in the morning were all 6 species of herons and egrets that normally occur in Victoria Park; 2 rare Wood Storks in a tree-top; flocks of migrating Cedar Waxwings, Robins, Tree Swallows, and American Goldfinches on their way back north; several Eastern Bluebirds; a Blue-Headed Vireo at "Sparrows Grill"; and a pair of beautiful Yellow-Throated Warblers on Birchmont Drive in the Hills. The afternoon highlights included an American Kestrel, Pileated Woodpecker, and the fantastic Swallow-Tailed Kite in the Gardens; Bald Eagle, Loggerhead Shrike, Pied-Billed Grebe, Belted Kingfisher, and 3 new ducks — Lesser Scaup, Hooded Merganser, and Mottled Duck — in Victoria Trails.

Here is the complete list:

Pied-Billed Grebe **Double-Crested Cormorant**

Anhinga

Great Blue Heron Mourning Dove **Great Egret** Chuck-Wills-Widow Snowy Egret

Tri-Colored Heron Little Blue Heron Cattle Egret White Ibis

Wood Stork Lesser Scaup Hooded Merganser Mallard Duck

Mottled Duck Black Vulture Turkey Vulture Swallow-Tailed Kite Red-Shouldered Hawk Red-Tailed Hawk Bald Eagle

Osprey

American Kestrel

Wild Turkey Sandhill Crane Killdeer

Ruby-Throat. Hummingbird

Belted Kingfisher Red-Bellied Woodpecker Downy Woodpecker

Pileated Woodpecker Eastern Phoebe Loggerhead Shrike White-Eyed Vireo Blue-Headed Vireo

Blue Jay Fish Crow American Crow Tree Swallow **Tufted Titmouse** Carolina Wren House Wren

Ruby-Crowned Kinglet Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher

American Robin Eastern Bluebird Grav Cathird

Northern Mockingbird Brown Thrasher Cedar Waxwing

Northern Parula Warbler Yellow-Rumped Warbler

Palm Warbler Pine Warbler

Yellow-Throated warbler Common Yellowthroat Northern Cardinal Eastern Towhee Chipping Sparrow Red-Winged Blackbird Boat-Tailed Grackle **Brown-Headed Cowbird** American Goldfinch































