

Good rally, Good times, Good Birds: Birding Report from the Spring 06 Rally

— Rob Biller

The semi-annual Naturalist Rally was held this weekend on Roan Mountain. This rally is sponsored by the Friends of Roan Mountain. The bird walk was led by members of the Lee and Lois Herndon Chapter TOS and their friends. Former member of the bird club, Allan Trently, took point leading the group to a total of 73 species on Saturday with bird club member Larry McDaniel and director of the spring rally Jennifer Bauer leading a group on Sunday. The final total for the weekend was 74 species.

At 12:05 Saturday morning Allan Trently and myself (Rob Biller) started the official count with a singing Saw-whet Owl at the top of the mountain on the Tennessee side. The next morning we had 14 species of warblers, 5 species of thrush, 4 species of finch, 1 cuckoo, and a Green Heron which was a first for me at the rally.

This list comprises birds found in the wee hours of Saturday morning through Sunday Morning. From the scheduled bird walk that left from the lined off field at 8:30 to Hampton Creek Cove with the butterfly walk led by Don Holt (also present Allan Trently, Nora Schubert [leading her trip], Jackie Hinshaw, Dianne Draper, et al.) On Sunday, the Broad-winged Hawk was the only new species added to the list (with lots of rain). All birds listed were in Carter County, TN (except for the Brown Creeper that was just in North Carolina - I am not sure of the county). The complete list follows:

Green Heron (in field across the road from the roped off field)	Hermit Thrush (singing at Carver's Gap - early morning)
Turkey Vulture	Wood Thrushes
unidentified Accipiter (Coopers or Sharp-shinned)	American Robins
Broad-winged Hawk (Sunday)	Gray Catbirds
Red-tailed Hawk (2)	Brown Thrasher
Mourning Doves	Golden-winged Warblers (Golden-winged Warbler Curve and Hampton Creek Cove)
Black-billed Cuckoo (calling Sat afternoon at Hampton Creek Cove)	Northern Parulas
Northern Saw-whet Owl (TN)	Yellow Warblers (Burbank and Hampton Creek Cove)
Chimney Swifts	Chestnut-sided Warblers
Ruby-throated Hummingbirds	Black-throated Blue Warblers
Downy Woodpecker	Black-throated Green Warblers
Hairy Woodpecker	Black and White Warblers
Northern Flickers	American Redstarts (Golden-winged Warbler Curve and Hampton Creek Cove)
Pileated Woodpeckers	Louisiana Waterthrush (Campground and creek along main hwy)
Least Flycatchers	Common Yellowthroats
Eastern Phoebe	Hooded Warblers
Blue-headed Vireos	Canada Warblers (at and just below Carver's Gap - breeding location)
Red-eyed Vireos	Yellow-breasted Chat (Hampton Creek Cove)
Blue Jays	Scarlet Tanagers
American Crows	Eastern Towhee
Common Raven	Chipping Sparrow (Burbank, Hampton Creek Cove)
Tree Swallows	Field Sparrow (Hampton Creek Cove)
Northern Rough-winged Swallows	Song Sparrows
Barn Swallows	White-throated Sparrow
Carolina Chickadees	Dark-eyed Juncos
Tufted Titmice	Northern Cardinals
Red-breasted Nuthatch (Hummingbird Hill)	Rose-breasted Grosbeaks (good numbers)
White-breasted Nuthatch	Indigo Buntings
Brown Creeper (singing just above Carver's Gap)	Red-winged Blackbirds (Burbank, Hampton Creek Cove)
Carolina Wrens	Brown-headed Cowbird
House Wrens	House Finch
Winter Wrens	Pine Siskins (many at Hummingbird Hill)
Golden-crowned Kinglets (Carver's Gap)	House Sparrow
Ruby-crowned Kinglets	
Blue-gray Gnatcatchers	
Eastern Bluebird	