



PBC Field Trip: Chinqua-Penn, 28 October 2023

submitted by: Lyn McCoy

Trip Coordinator: Lyn McCoy

Date: October 28, 2023

Location: Chinqua-Penn Trail, Reidsville

It was a beautiful fall day for our walk along the Chinqua-Penn trail. This is a favorite because there is such varied habitat: fields, woods, streams, lakes, and waterfalls – you name it, Chinqua-Penn has it! With the added attraction of some interesting remnants of the lives of the Penns.

There were nine of us: Lyn McCoy, Stella and Tom Wear, Lori and Scott Combs, Carol Jones, Donna Peterson, and Pam and Doug Deneve. This was a very experienced crowd, with Pam our star bird song and call identifier.

We saw 37 species: a great many bluebirds, as usual, also a good number each of meadowlarks, goldfinches, chipping sparrows, red-bellied woodpeckers, white-throated sparrows, yellow-rumped warblers, and blue jays - and a boatload of turkey vultures. We were delighted to see a pileated woodpecker and two brown thrashers, and, flying overhead, a great blue heron, a cooper's hawk and a red-shouldered hawk. Two winter wrens and a yellow-bellied sapsucker made themselves heard, unusual on that walk. Also present were ruby-crowned and golden-crowned kinglets, palm warblers, savannah sparrows, downy woodpeckers, mockingbirds, Carolina wrens, doves, white-breasted nuthatches, tufted titmouses, chickadees, flickers, song sparrows, cardinals, phoebes, starlings, American crows, and finally a robin, a hairy woodpecker, a grackle, and a field sparrow.

We were sorry not to see kildeer, indigo buntings, blue grosbeaks, and grasshopper sparrows, red-winged blackbirds or assorted vireos, which are usually around in this area.

All in all it was a rewarding trip in delightful surroundings and we are already looking forward to our spring trip to Chinqua-Penn!