CHIP NOTES

The newsletter of the Baltimore Bird Club

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

- BBC Meets the Observation Superlichtwo by Steve Sanford
- Here to Not Rely on the Internet by Terry Ross
- Tales of Cyburn by Joe Wheeler
- School Programs by Patty Perlman
- Thank You, BBC by Helene Gerdel
- Field Trip Reports by Gene Scott, Ed Friedman
- Sound of Discovery Blanketing the Area Breeding, Recording Secretary
- Winter Birding in New Mexico by Joe Rhodes
- Help Birds Live in Your Yard compiled by Joe Rhodes
- North American Bird Count (NAC) by Lorraine Prudence
- Back Yard Birding by Gail Frazier

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Please help ChIP NOTES grit out to Gene

BBC Meets the Observation Superlichtwo

by Steve Sanford

Yes, it's the biggest excitement since Tom Gilbert, or Beanie and Geoffrey. There are now two new ways for Baltimore birders to find out what's happening in the local birding world:

1) The Baltimore Bird Club telephone hotline, Now you can hear about the latest interesting bird sightings to our area without making a long distance call to the Voice. Our new recorded hotline impart local sightings and alerts you to major events and activities of the club. Callers reports are treated fairly and accurately and on upcoming activities. The hotline is being maintained by Lorraine Prudence, Call the hotline at 667-0013, both ears to listen and to report your special sightings.

2) The Baltimore Bird Club Home Page on the Internet. yes, the timely, mysterious, intimidating Internet. Now if you have computer access to the Internet , you can go to the BBC home page to get BBC information, a schedule of upcoming activities, transcripts of area hotlines, and hypertext that will launch you into other URLs of interest. Behold:

Please do not be alarmed by the following unusual sentence, The URL of the BBC Home Page is http://www.bcpl.lib.md.us/~bmcbird/birds.html

This is a creature of Terry Ross, and will undoubtedly evolve rapidly or coming months. Terry welcomes suggestions and comments regarding the scope of the voyo you can access the Internet for birding information.

For those of you who are afraid of any of this, do not despair. The traditional activities of the BBC, such as field trips and lectures, are alive and well.

Back to Table of Contents

Here to Not Rely on the Internet

by Terry Ross

NOTE: some of the information in this essay is now outdated (although at the time of publication it was as fresh as new week's eggs). For current links to all the places mentioned below, go to the Baltimore Bird Club home page.

Just, Mark Peotrowski ("Elly Nino" article, "Bird Birds on the Internet," described how to use the Enoch Pratt Free Library's computer system, Sailor to locate birding resources. Building on Mark's foundation, I will explain how to subscribe to birding mailing lists and how to find birding sites on the World Wide Web.

I apologize to readers for whom most of what I say will seem too basic. If you already subscribe to BIRDCHAT and BIRDWAT, and if you read "sci.birds," then the first part of this article is not for you. If you know the web, then the rest of the article will go over your head. Nevertheless, read on.

One of the best places to begin is Wilson Pat Vellejo's "Birdlists" (http://www.pro.net/pg/pro/wpv/birdlists.html). Vellejo seems determined to have the most thorough and complete collection of links to birding sites on the web from America and abroad. Vellejo's page includes links to the Audubon Society, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, the Smithsonian,