April 28, 2018 – Drayton Plains Nature Center

Leader: Dave Frye with Terri Chapdelaine

On the last Saturday in April, our group of 16 experienced weather that one would expect from late winter "perfect birding conditions"! Those being: cold, drizzle, and winds. Sometimes, however, the worst weather days can be good birding days and this was one of those! We were fortunate to follow along with Drayton Plains Nature Center Advisory Board Member, Terri Chapdelaine, as she guided us into areas of the property that our group had not explored on previous visits.

We gathered 36 species that morning, with the highlights being Great Horned Owl nestlings, Hermit Thrush, American Tree Sparrow (still winter?), and an Osprey.

Observed that morning: Canada Goose Wood Duck Mallard Great Blue Heron Great Egret Osprey Coopers Hawk **Ring-Billed Gull** Mourning Dove Great Horned Owl **Red-Bellied Woodpecker** Downy Woodpecker Northern Flicker Eastern Phoebe Blue Jav American Crow Northern Rough-Winged Swallow Tree Swallow Black-Capped Chickadee Tufted Titmouse White-Breasted Nuthatch Carolina Wren **Ruby-Crowned Kinglet** Hermit Thrush American Robin European Starling Yellow-rumped Warbler American Tree Sparrow Song Sparrow Eastern Towhee Northern Cardinal **Red-Winged Blackbird** Brown-Headed Cowbird

Common Grackle American Goldfinch House Sparrow