

Bucks County Birder Profile

Ray Hendrick

By Don McClintock

Born – New York state, 1937

Resides – Doylestown Township

Life List – Just passed 400

Favorite Field

Guide – A Field Guide to the Birds, Roger Tory Peterson

Favorite Book About Birds – Hawks Aloft, by Maurice Broun

Favorite Bird – Eastern Bluebird, which he first saw in 1947 on his grandfather's farm in Virginia

Person who most influenced your passion for birds – Grandfather

Magazines you read regularly – National Geographic, Nature Conservancy, Audubon, Smithsonian

Best birding location you have visited – Corkscrew Swamp, Florida

What has birding taught you? – A real respect for life and the need to preserve this planet

Which historical figure would you like to have birded with? – The late John Kieran from the radio program, "Information Please" and author of "Footnotes On Nature".

You don't need to be around Ray very long until you see and hear of his deep interest in conservation, birds, snakes, frogs, mammals and all aspects of nature. I have seen his enthusiasm and leadership demonstrated in serving on the Board of Directors of Bucks County Audubon (a charter member since 1969), Friends of Peace Valley Nature Center (two stints) and on the Bucks County Park Board.



*Don McClintock,
Photo by Roy Frock*



*Ray Hendrick
Photo by Roy Frock*



Eastern Bluebird

He is a Fellow and Life Member of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Society.

Ray is a very capable and effective educator in presenting slides and leading discussions with school children and adults, including Bucks County Birders. His presentation, "We Have Met the

Enemy, and He is Us," graphically shows the changes of beautiful Bucks County farm land, woods, meadows, and streams to housing developments, parking lots, and eroded polluted streams, and encourages everyone to get involved in protecting it.

In and around central Bucks County Ray is known for all the Bluebird boxes he has placed to provide excellent housing for his favorite bird. He also spends time monitoring and maintaining the boxes.

He is a real record keeper, as is evident with his frequent references to his journal about his sightings, fledgling Bluebirds, and other happenings in nature.