November 8 2017 – Robert Long Park and Walled Lake Leader – Mike Mencotti

The Wednesday workshop/field trip series continued on Nov. 8, on a crisp, cloudless, windless morning at Robert Long Park. The fall colors were still spectacular, but the birds weren't shabby, either. We were greeted by a line of about 40+ Tundra Swans migrating way overhead, the first of many of that species we would see. The first pond had Green-winged Teal, and the back pond yielded lots of puddle ducks, some Ring-necked Ducks, and Pied-billed Grebes in perfect viewing light. Two late Black-crowned Night-Herons were a treat. Onto Walled Lake, where the waterfowl and gulls were starting to congregate. We could clearly see the difference between the Mute and Tundra swans. A loon, more grebes, and a ton of Bufflehead delighted all. A cruising adult Bald Eagle made the Coots quite nervous! Funny thing about Walled Lake: No matter where you stand to view the birds, they seem to be on the other side of lake! We tallied about 43 species.

Canada Goose

Mute Swan

Tundra Swan

Wood Duck

Mallard

Green-winged Teal

Redhead

Ring-necked Duck

Greater/Lesser Scaup

Bufflehead

Common Goldeneye

Red-breasted Merganser

Ruddy Duck

Common Loon

Pied-billed Grebe

Great Blue Heron

Black-crowned Night-Heron

Bald Eagle

American Coot

Sandhill Crane

Killdeer

Bonaparte's Gull

Ring-billed Gull

Herring Gull

Rock Pigeon

Belted Kingfisher

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Downy Woodpecker

Blue Jay

American Crow
Black-capped Chickadee
Tufted Titmouse
White-breasted Nuthatch
American Robin
European Starling
American Tree Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Swamp Sparrow
Northern Cardinal