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Cover: Maryland's first Snowy Plover, *Charadrius nivosus*. Hart-Miller Island, Baltimore County, Maryland, 4 May 2015 (photographed by Jeff Culler).

EDITOR'S NOTE

Farewell to Mike Welch

Maryland Birdlife bids a fond farewell to Mike Welch, the Statewide May Count Compiler. Mike has done a fabulous job during my few editorial years. This issue contains Mike's last May Count report. Mike and Donna will be leaving Maryland and relocating to Oro Valley, Arizona, just north of Tucson. We wish them both a wealth of great birds in Arizona!

Statewide May Count Compiler

A Frederick Bird Club member has expressed an interest in becoming the new Statewide May Count Compiler. We hope to introduce the new compiler to you in an upcoming issue.

Statewide Mid-Winter Count Compiler

A Baltimore Bird Club member has expressed an interest in becoming the new Statewide Mid-Winter Count Compiler. We hope to introduce the new compiler to you in an upcoming issue.

MOS Bird Artists

We have heard from three MOS bird artists that were interested in having their artwork shown in *Maryland Birdlife*. Their works would appear at the end of an article where there was a large amount of white space at the end of its last page. Rather than leaving the space blank, we would feature examples of their artwork. The artwork would be printed in black-and-white and would generally pertain to the bird species of its preceding article. If you might be interested in participating in this endeavor, please contact me.

This issue features artwork submitted by our first artist respondent, Ellen Lawler. Ellen is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Biological Sciences at Salisbury University. Her academic specialties were pathophysiology, ornithology, vertebrate biology, and biological drawing and illustration. Ellen is currently the Vice President of the Tri-County Bird Club. In addition to having more time to birdwatch and paint due to retirement, Ellen is now volunteering at the Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art and the Art Institute and Gallery, both in Salisbury.

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