



Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to call, email, send a handwritten note, or post on social media so many kind and encouraging comments on the publication of the inaugural issue of *BWD*. We wish we had space to publish every single one! We are grateful to the literally hundreds of you we have heard from since we announced our relaunch—and to all our subscribers for supporting *BWD*.

SURPRISE!

Christmas in July! That's what I felt like when *BWD* magazine showed up unexpectedly in my mail! Thank you for resurrecting the idea of Bird Watcher's Digest. *BWD* has such a nice format. I was thrilled to see some of the same writers, too. The only problem I encountered was wondering how I would make this great magazine last until the September issue comes out!

Mary Beth Cote

Melissa Wales

It is absolutely beautiful cover to cover. *BWD*, You should be SO proud! I read it all in one sitting. And cried at the end from all the beauty, excellent bird info, resiliency and heart that is in that issue - and my gratitude that it's back and better than ever! Thank you! XO



LONGTIME SUBSCRIBER LOVE

I have had a subscription to *Bird Watcher's Digest* for the last 25 years. It has always been a wonderful publication, but the new format is such an improvement. The larger size allows for greater appreciation of the vivid detail in the pictures. I may be mistaken but there also seems to be a significantly greater amount of information than in the previous format. Please keep up the good work!

David Erlenmeyer

I've been anxiously waiting for this wonderful old friend that I've enjoyed reading for many years. Of course, all of us were very sad when we learned about the events that brought this

about but were glad for all the years of wonder that the Thompson family gave us. What a joy it was to learn the *BWD* legacy wasn't ending and that a new group of bird lovers were stepping up to help. I haven't made it through the first five pages but can tell I'm already thrilled to again have it in hand to read. From all of us who consider this publication an important part of our reading and learning enjoyment, I can only say, thank you ever so much.

Leslie Pernas-Giz, Melbourne, FL

As a longtime subscriber of *Bird Watcher's Digest* and an avid "watcher of birds," both backyard and "far afield," I was delighted to receive a copy of *BWD* with Julie's beautiful cover (and articles). Bill Thompson III was a guide on a trip I took many years ago to Blennerhassett Island in the Ohio River. We were looking for orioles! We have had a subscription for many years and enjoyed each issue, passing them on to others or giving gift subs. Tips for seeing birds have influenced our vacation choices, like South Padre Island, Texas, and Belize.

All the Best Wishes, Cynthia Kelley

MORE WESTERN BIRDS, PLEASE

Thank you for resurrecting *BWD*. I have enjoyed it for many years. I wasn't sure about the larger format, but I have realized that you also enlarged the font and that makes it much easier for me to read. Thank you, and a special thanks for including some of my favorite contributors: Julie Zickefoose, Scott Weidensaul, and Bruce Wunderlich! Even though I live on the West Coast and most of your articles pertain to eastern birds and places, I enjoy armchair traveling with *BWD* and especially Wunderlich's photos. Best wishes for your continued success!

Barbara Iyer

Editor's note: We are striving to cover a more even balance of western birds moving forward!

Susan Warthman Nash

Bravo on a wonderful publication!! 🙌🙌🙌🙌
I just received mine today and could not be happier. Thank you ALL for saving and even improving a great magazine.



HAPPY AS A MOTHER
I just wanted to thank you for including this article in the new *BWD*. I am a mother of two young children and came to bird watching as a mother, not prior. It was so great to read about other serious birding mothers and see the acknowledgment.

Kristen Johansen



So thrilled that *BWD* will live on! I enjoyed the wonderful article "Bird Like a Mother"—it brought back memories of when I had my young daughter in a Snuggly in 1984—trying to quietly bird! I look forward to my next issue of *BWD*!

Susan Bartels, Riverside, CT

Linda Most

It is absolutely gorgeous! I love the large format and the quality of the paper. Thank you to everyone involved in resurrecting and rebirthing the new version of *BWD*.



SO MUCH TO LOVE

This is the first time I've ever written to the publishers and editors of a magazine. But I am so impressed with and love the first issue that I have to say THANK YOU! You have put out an exceptional magazine for us bird lovers. I love everything about the new *BWD*—the larger format, the clear easy-to-read font and page colors (my older eyes thank you!), the articles, the photography, the artwork, and even the advertising is so well done it's a pleasure to look at.

I have been a fan of Julie's paintings and writing for quite a few years so this issue with her cover, sparrows, and articles is a joy. I am very happy that you have been able to include some of my favorite writers (such as Scott Weidensaul and Pete Dunne) as well as some I was not familiar with. (Sneed Collard's article was fun to read and I will look into more of his work.)

Now I have a problem. I used to pass my back issues of *Bird Watcher's Digest* to my local library (Maybe it would catch someone's eye and they would become a birder?) I don't think I can give up this issue. But I did come up with a solution—I'll give a gift subscription to the library.

Also, my interaction with Shanna via email when I had a question about my subscription was answered quickly and politely which I appreciated very much. I've been trying to think of any suggestions for improvement and I have not been able to come up with any. You did a GREAT job, so I'll just say thank you again!

Nancy VanCott

I was very pleased to receive my new copy of *BWD*. I heard the sad news and was hoping for everything to turn out well. The new format is easier to handle even though it is larger. The beautiful photography and artwork continue, and the articles are, as usual, most intriguing. I'm so glad you are staying with an actual magazine I can hold in my hands!

Norma Holzbach, Warren, OH

I just wanted to say that I love what you did with this magazine! I'm thoroughly enjoying the first issue. I'm just passively interested in bird watching as a hobby, but this magazine is really getting me excited. Thank you! Please keep up the great work.

Richard Lardi

Thank heavens you're ok! I'd been really missing all of your wonderful content as I gradually learn more about our feathered friends.

Jenny Mullis, Waynesboro, VA

I received my copy of the new *BWD* recently and would like to let you know I am really pleased to see it. I knew that maintaining the old *BWD* was a challenge and that the publication was vulnerable. I am grateful to you for picking up the challenge and producing a new magazine in a different format. It is a pleasure to see high-quality images and text presented in the larger format. I wish you the best going forward. You can count on my subscription and support.

Bruce McCammon

