

**The Village Birders**  
**Bird Walk Report**  
**PONCE INLET      12-8-17**  
**Leader: Barb Gay**

Wow what a TIDE! Due to the Super Moon the tide more than covered the beach. I apologize for not checking ahead of time, which for Ponce I've never had to do before. We were treated to a nice mixed flock of birds at the Ed Stone Park so picked up some species that we normally don't get on this trip. Also there were 3 Manatee up close and personal, a first for that location. With the beach drive closed due to the tide we found a place where we could walk down to the beach as the tide was retreating and a small amount of beach enticed some hungry shore birds to land. There we were lucky as some Red Knots, one of our target birds, were the first to show up. The Halifax River gave us a great look at a Red-breasted Merganser. The weather was kind to us with a warm, dry day before winter arrived during the night. Sorry so many of you missed this great birding experience! The species count for the day was 60.

Thanks to Paul Nistico for capturing some great pictures of the day.

***Happy Holidays!***

Stop, Look and Listen,

Barb Gay