

# Newsletter - June 2017

 <http://richardlbowman.com/newsletters/newsletter-201706.html>

## "Thank You!"

As a thank you to the new subscribers to this newsletter, I have composed this newsletter. Please enter your comments to any pieces I have written. Give suggestions, affirmations and corrections. Usually I will give some info in more detail than in my nature photo blogs and also present some photos that may be downloaded at a high enough resolution to be printed by a subscriber. Enjoy!!

## Explore the Magic of "Merlin"

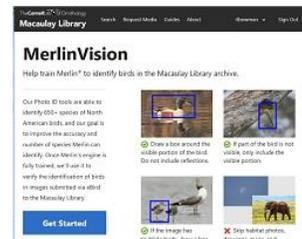
As you probably know already, the website, "All about Birds" (<https://www.allaboutbirds.org/>), is a reservoir of resources for all birdwatchers whether novice or expert. If you have not visited there already, do so now.

The people at The Cornell Lab of Ornithology along with some collaborators have built a bird ID app for both iPhones and Android phones. It is called Merlin and can be downloaded at <http://merlin.allaboutbirds.org/> for either phone. And they hope to release a browser version later in 2017.

The software engine upon which Merlin is based is called, MerlinVision. Anyone who wants to have at least a small part in developing Merlin can visit the MerlinVision site and practice with the engine training it to correctly ID a variety of birds common to North America. Visit <https://merlinvision.macaulaylibrary.org/ml-mediaannotation-editor/about/> to help train MerlinVision.

Also, as you use Merlin please send a note to the [web site](#) and share what you have learned.

What's Merlin? Watch now!



## Consider These Two Downloadable Free Images

Here are two images that I am making available on my website for you to download and print. Click the web address below an image to load a high-res image in your browser which can then be saved. These are 2000 X 1600 pixels and should be able to be printed to a final size of 10 inches X 8 inches (25 cm X 20 cm) or less.



**A Female Cardinal at Our Birdfeeder** (©2016-11-15; Richard L. Bowman)  
[http://richardlbowman.com/newsletters/photos/IMG\\_2459-20161115-lg.jpg](http://richardlbowman.com/newsletters/photos/IMG_2459-20161115-lg.jpg)



**Fresh Mint Growing Next to Our Chimney** (©2017-04-28; Richard L. Bowman)  
[http://richardlbowman.com/newsletters/photos/IMG\\_3883-20170428-lg.jpg](http://richardlbowman.com/newsletters/photos/IMG_3883-20170428-lg.jpg)

## Closing Thoughts

With our interest in the natural world around us, I'm sure you are observant of that world wherever you are. May God grant us the ability to see beauty in and to care for the creation which we are part of. --Richard