2nd Annual Birding Cape Cod Weekend – 2007

May 12th & 13th, 2007

The second Annual Birding Cape Cod Weekend Event was held on May 12th and 13th, 2007. Members of the Cape Cod Bird Club led walks to top birding hotspots throughout the Cape Cod area. There was one walk in each town on both Saturday and Sunday and participants were welcome to stop by the Pilgrim Heights Hawk Watch in Truro both days.

Saturday was partly cloudy and cool with temperatures ranging from mid 40's to low 50's. For most of the day there were strong east/northeast winds with gusts up to 27mph recorded at the Pilgrim Heights Hawk Watch. On Sunday there was a light rain on the upper Cape early in the morning. Temperatures were in the upper 40's to upper 50's by afternoon with sunshine and a light northeast wind.

With Sunday the 13th being Mother's Day, the participation for the event decreased from last year's event with 155 people attending the walks, 95 on Saturday and 60 on Sunday.

The total number of species seen was 134 for the weekend, 103 on Saturday and 111 on Sunday.

Some highlights from the weekend were a MISSISSIPPI KITE and a BALD EAGLE seen at the Pilgrim Heights Hawk Watch in Truro on Sunday. Other highlights from the hawk watch were a PURPLE MARTIN and 37 COMMON LOON. At the West Harwich Conservation Area on Saturday there were 3 GLOSSY IBIS, 2 BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON, 200 LEAST SANDPIPER, and 4 MARSH WREN. During a dusk walk at the Crane Wildlife Management Area in Falmouth on Saturday there were, 5 AMERICAN WOODCOCK, 5 GRASSHOPPER SPARROW, 1 EASTERN MEADOWLARK, and 3 NORTHERN BOBWHITE. A NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH was recorded on the Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary walk on Saturday. At the FALMOUTH TOWN FOREST on Sunday 1 RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET was observed and 1 GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET was seen at Frost Fish Creek in Chatham. On Sunday during a dusk walk at Marconi in Wellfleet 5 WHIP-POOR-WILL were heard calling. A GREAT HORNED OWL was spotted roosting in a tree at the Kent's Point Conservation Area in Orleans on Saturday and one was heard calling at the Sandwich Conservation Area on Sunday. Seen in the Nauset Beach area on Sunday were 2 GREAT CORMORANT and 2 SEASIDE SPARROW. A late BUFFLEHEAD was seen on Sunday at the Salt Pond Visitors Center in Eastham.

The following is a complete list of all the birds recorded from each walk.

Canada Goose 60
Brant.....112
Mute Swan 31
Wood Duck 1
Gadwall 4
Am. Black Duck.....39
Mallard.....34
Green-winged Teal.....2
Common Eider 20
White-winged Scoter 3
Bufflehead.....1
Red-breasted Merganser 14
Northern Bobwhite.....7
Red-throated Loon 2
Common Loon 56
Northern Gannet.....12
Double-crested Cormorant...227
Great Cormorant 2
Great Blue Heron 5
Snowy Egret.....10
Green Heron.....2
Black-crowned Night Heron 2
Glossy Ibis.....3
Turkey Vulture.....25
Osprey.....43
Mississippi Kite 1
Northern Harrier.....5
Bald Eagle.....1
Sharp-shinned Hawk.....6
Cooper's Hawk.....1
Broad-winged Hawk 1
Red-tailed Hawk 8
American Kestrel 6
Merlin.....2
Peregrine Falcon 1
Black-bellied Plover.....36
Semipalmated Plover 2
Piping Plover.....15
Greater Yellowlegs 24
Solitary Sandpiper.....1
Willet 52
Ruddy Turnstone.....1
Sanderling 30
Least Sandpiper.....224
Dunlin 25
American Woodcock 11
Lauging Gull 45
Ring-billed Gull 10
Herring Gull ..... 147+
Grt Black-backed Gull ..... 49+
Common Tern 5
Least Tern 3
Rock Pigeon 3
Mourning Dove.....66
Yellow-billed Cuckoo.....1
Great Horned Owl.....2
Whip-poor-will 3
Chimney Swift 3
Ruby-throated Hummingbird...1
Belted Kingfisher 9
Red-bellied Woodpecker 16
Downy Woodpecker 33
Hairy Woodpecker 8
Northern Flicker.....17
Eastern Phoebe.....10
Great-crested Flycatcher 17
Eastern Kingbird 11
Blue-headed Vireo 1
Red-eyed Vireo 5
Blue Jay.....75
American Crow.....212
Fish Crow.....8
Horned Lark 6
Purple Martin 1
Tree Swallow 67
N. Rough-winged Swallow 3
Barn Swallow.....61
Black-capped Chickadee... 230+
Tufted Titmouse.....89
Red-breasted Nuthatch.....6
White-breasted Nuthatch 17
Carolina Wren.....9
House Wren 8
Marsh Wren 6
Golden-crowned Kinglet.....1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet.....1
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.....2
Eastern Bluebird.....3
Hermit Thrush.....3
American Robin ..... 110+
Gray Catbird..... 124+
Northern Mockingbird 23
Brown Thrasher.....1
European Starling.....2
Cedar Waxwing 2
Nashville Warbler 2
Northern Parula.....13
Yellow Warbler.....40
Chestnut-sided Warbler 3
Magnolia Warbler 5
Black-throated Blue Warbler ...3
Yellow-rumped Warbler 37
Black-throated Green Warbler .6
Blackburnian Warbler.....1
Pine Warbler 61
Prarie Warbler.....22
Blackpoll Warbler.....4
Black-and-White Warbler.....1
American Redstart 3
Ovenbird 19
Northern Waterthrush 1
Common Yellowthroat.....45
Scarlet Tanager 3
Eastern Towhee..... 69+
Chipping Sparrow 53
Field Sparrow.....3
Grasshopper Sparrow.....5
Savannah Sparrow 7
Saltmarsh Shp-tailed Sparrow..1
Seaside Sparrow.....2
Song Sparrow..... 106+
Swamp Sparrow 3
White-throated Sparrow.....5
Northern Cardinal ..... 101+
Rose-breasted Grosbeak.....2
Eastern Meadowlark 1
Red-winged Blackbird ..... 341+
Common Grackle ..... 233+
Brown-headed Cowbird 40
Orchard Oriole 2
Baltimore Oriole 42
House Finch 35
American Goldfinch..... 169+
House Sparrow.....9