



THE KINGFISHER

Vol. 36 - Issue 4 The Cape Cod Bird Club Newsletter Summer (July - September) 2008

Cape Cod Bird Club meetings are held the second Monday of each month, September thru May, at 7:30 P.M. at the Museum of Natural History, 869 Rte 6A, in Brewster, MA

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The Kingfisher is published quarterly.

Deadline for next issue's articles:

SEPTEMBER 1st

Send articles or comments to:

capekingfisher@yahoo.com

Website:

<http://massbird.org/CCBC>

Webmaster: Terry Gavin

President's Message

I would like to give a big welcome to our new board members Mark Faherty, our new Vice President, and Denise Hall, our new Publicity Director. Thank you both for volunteering to be part of the club's Board of Directors. I look forward to working with you.

We are lucky to be part of an amazing group of people who are interested in exploring and studying the natural world around us. Many of these people are generous enough to share their knowledge and experiences with us. We have a dedicated group of individuals who rise to the occasion to lead walks and field trips for the club. You don't have to be an expert to lead a walk. Part of the fun of our club walks is finding and identifying birds as a group and learning together. You can lead a walk all about birds or mix it up a bit. How about leading a walk for birds and butterflies or birds and botany? Not all of our walks need to be focused on just the birds. If you are interested in leading a walk or field trip for the club, please contact our Trips Coordinator, Matt Malin, or fill out our club volunteer form, which can be downloaded from the club's website.

During the months of May and June our mornings were filled with bird song. Now that summer is upon us our mornings have become quieter. Once breeding commences the male birds don't have much reason to sing. They've already attracted a mate and kept all the other competitors away from their territory. By July many of our breeding birds have finished nesting. Some birds may be re-nesting if their first attempt failed and

others will begin a second or third brood.

Depending on the weather some species will nest through the end of August and into September. Last year I saw an adult Cedar Waxwing feeding young on September 24th! According to "The Birds of Massachusetts", egg dates for Cedar Waxwings range anywhere from May 30th to late August with one record of eggs hatched on September 19th. Since the young don't fledge for roughly 14 days, the eggs for the Cedar Waxwing I observed may have hatched around the 10th of September.

Speaking of September, I hope all of you plan on participating in the 3rd Annual Birding Cape Cod Weekend Event. Previously this event was held during the month of May. Members of the club's Board of Directors voted to host the event in September during the fall migration, which in my opinion, is when things really heat up on Cape Cod. Every day has great potential for exciting birding opportunities and the possibility of vagrant birds as well.

This year we have added an extra day to the event, scheduling walks on Friday to make this a three day event. We've also coordinated with Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary to co-host a South Beach trip and a special program by Wayne Petersen, Director of the Massachusetts Important Bird Areas (IBA) Program at the Massachusetts Audubon Society. Many thanks to Melissa Lowe for her help in coordinating these events. And a thank you to all of the walk leaders for volunteering your time to lead a walk for this event. See you in September!

Mary Keleher



Cape Cod Bird Club
The Cape Cod Museum of Natural History
869 RTE 6A, Brewster, MA 02631

It's That Time of Year!

A friendly reminder: Dues are due September 1st
(Please see Page 7)



The Cape Cod Bird Club, Inc.

is an organization whose members are interested in the protection and conservation of the bird life and natural resources of Cape Cod.

If you are interested in joining, please send a check for \$15.00 (single) or \$22.00 (family) to:

CCBC, Cape Cod Museum of Natural History

869 Rte 6A, Brewster, MA 02631

Website: <http://www.massbird.org/CCBC>

Officers

Mary Keleher	President
Mark Faherty	Vice President
Peter Flood	Secretary
Carolyn Kennedy	Treasurer

Directors

Julie O'Neil	Vianna Heath
Matt Malin	Denise Hall
David Clapp	Gretchen Putonen

Newsletter

Editor ~ Ed Banks E-mail: capekingfisher@yahoo.com

Membership/Address Changes~ Carolyn Kennedy

E-mail: ccbcmembership@verizon.net

Nominating Committee Chair ~Ginie Page

Club Trips - Summer**Matt Malin - Trips Coordinator****Please Note:****Rain or heavy wind cancels all trips.****Call leader if in doubt.****July 10 - THU - 6:00 - 8:30PM****Fort Hill, Eastham.**

Meet at the upper, hilltop parking lot. We'll look in the fields and across to Nauset Marsh to see what we can find.

Leaders: Peter Trull and his young birding phenom student Joey. Contact Peter Trull at petrull@comcast.net.

July 20 - SUN - 7:00-10:00AM

South Cape Beach State Park, Mashpee. Beach and bay walk (be prepared for 3 miles of sand) looking for Piping Plover, Osprey, American Oystercatcher, wading birds, terns and other surprises. Meet at the Mashpee Town parking lot at the end of Great Oak Road. To get there, take Great Neck Road south approximately 3 miles from the Mashpee Rotary at the Rte 28/151 junction, and then veer left onto Great Oak Road, just past the entrance to New Seabury. Leader: Matt Malin, (508) 274-8472 or hossfeldt@yahoo.com

Aug 14 - THU - 9:30 - 4 PM**South Beach, Chatham.**

Meet at the Monomoy NWR Headquarters on Morris Island, in Chatham at 9:30 AM. Park on the causeway and a van will pick you up. We'll take the Morris Island Ferry to the beach and then leisurely view the thousands of shorebirds and seabirds in migration. Be prepared to walk 3+ miles. This trip is co-sponsored with the Forbush Bird Club. There is a fee for boat transportation (approx. \$20.00).

This is an all-day trip, so be sure to bring enough food and water.

Please call or email me if you plan to attend.

Rain, heavy wind or surf cancels. No rain date.

Leader: Ed Banks 508-430-0845 or edbanks@verizon.net

Sept 5 - FRI - 8:45 - 3:00 PM
Main Streets and Backroads of Mashpee.

Meet at Honey Dew Donuts on the corner of Cape Drive and Route 28 near the Mashpee/Barnstable town line at 8:45AM. We will carpool to various birding hotspots in Mashpee. Bring a lunch. Rain cancels.

Leader: Mary Keleher, (508) 477-1473 or maryeak@yahoo.com.

Sept 8 - MON - 9:00-11:00AM

West Dennis Beach. Meet at the very end of the beach parking lot. We will look for shorebirds and migrants. If things are slow we will go to the Herring River and Bell's Neck Conservation Area in Harwich.

Leaders: Ruth Connaughton and Nancy Rider. Contact Ruth for information or cancelation at (508) 432-1580.

Sept 12 - FRI - 8 AM**Falmouth.**

We'll visit Peterson's Farm (in search of migrant songbirds) and Sippewissett Marsh (a good spot for waders and shorebirds).

Meet at the parking lot for the Shining Sea Bike Path on Locust Street in Falmouth (which is on the North side of Locust street near the intersection with Mill Road).

Leader: Greg Hirth (508-457-4356); geohawk_1@yahoo.com

Sept 13 - SAT - 8AM - Noon.
Mass Audubon Long Pasture Sanctuary.

Meet at Sanctuary parking lot. After birding the Sanctuary grounds, and depending on weather and bird activity, we will visit other local woods along 6A in Barnstable and Yarmouth Port possibly including Dennis Pond and the Boy Scout camp (Yarmouth).

Bring a snack and water, but we do not plan on continuing past lunchtime unless the birding is so fantastic that nobody wants to leave!

Directions: From Rte 6, take exit 7 (Willow Street) to Yarmouth Port. Go north one mile on Willow Street, take a left onto Rte 6A West, go one mile, and take a right on Bone Hill Road (look for a small sanctuary sign). The sanctuary parking area is 0.2 miles ahead on the left next to the shed.

Leader: Peter Bono (pbono@prba.com; 508-375-9421). Please contact Peter in advance to let him know that you intend to participate. On the morning of the birdwalk, he will have his cell phone on after 7:00 AM (774-487-2848). Call him if you get lost or decide not to come.

New Members

We welcome the following new members:

Barbara Grasso, Harwich
Peter & Marita Halesworth, Barnstable
Regina Mullen, Yarmouth Port
John & Maryellen Mungovan, Harwich Port
Darlene Pekenia, Falmouth

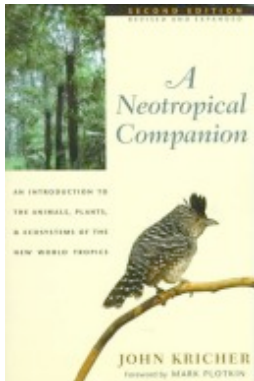
Hope to see you at our Club walks and meetings!

CCBC Programs - David Clapp, Program Coordinator

September 8, 2008

John Kricher

**“Birds of the Bahamas:
New Providence and Abaco”**



John Kricher is Meneely Professor of Biology at Wheaton College

He is the author of:
A Neotropical Companion: A Guide to the Animals, Plants, and Ecosystems of the New World Tropics.
A Field Guide to Eastern Forests.
A Field Guide to Rocky Mountain and Southwestern Forests.
A Field Guide to California and

Pacific Northwest Forests.
Darwin's Eden: A Natural History of the Galapagos Islands.

The Bahama archipelago is home to a unique assemblage of bird species as well as a wintering site for many North American migrants, both avian and human. In this talk, John Kricher will provide an introduction to Bahaman bird diversity, describe some of the natural history of the islands, and illustrate habitats and various bird species found within them. The focus will be on two major islands, New Providence, where Nassau is located, and Abaco, an island rich in pine forest and other habitats, and where all three Bahaman endemic bird species may be found.

This is a program not to be missed!



Notes to Members

- All club walks are free and new birders are always welcome!
- A call or e-mail to the leader is appreciated, especially if inclement weather is predicted.
- Take a lunch on all-day field trips.
- Carry an extra set of keys in your pocket on trips.
- Check our website for added trips or changes.
- Inform the treasurer if you change your address.

Walk Checklist for Leaders

- Walk leaders may now download the walk checklist to keep track of what is seen on the walks.
- Download and print either the Excel Spreadsheet version or the Adobe Reader version of the walk checklist.
<http://www.massbird.org/ccbc/>

Evening of Excellence Awards Ceremony

Wednesday, May 28 at 6:30 PM in the Tilden Arts Center Auditorium
 Cape Cod Community College - 2240 Iyannough Road, West Barnstable, MA

Carol E. Eastman, of South Orleans, will be receiving the Cape Cod Bird Club 2008 Scholarship. She is working toward a degree in environmental sciences and possesses a 3.31 grade point average. She is a member of the Appalachian Mountain Club and plans to pursue a career in environmental technology, with interest in water quality, ecology and GIS. She already has a degree in Information Technology and is now completing her certificate program in Water Supply to combine the two interests. The CCBC wishes her great success.

3rd Annual Birding Cape Cod Weekend Special Event

Wayne R. Petersen – "Cape Cod: Its Birds and its Important Bird Areas"

Saturday, September 27th, 2008 - 7:00 PM

Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary



Cape Cod has long enjoyed a reputation as an important destination for both birds and birders. Ornithologists including Oliver L. Austin, Ludlow Griscom, and Wallace Bailey all left their mark on Cape Cod's ornithological legacy, and today the birdlife of Cape Cod is among the most carefully chronicled of any in region in New England.

This tradition underscored the need for bird conservation, and today entities such as the Cape Cod National Seashore, Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge, and Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary stand as enduring tributes to the importance of preserving undisturbed areas for birds and other wildlife.

The most recent bird conservation initiative is the Important Bird Area (IBA) Program. In 2001 Mass Audubon initiated the IBA Program in Massachusetts in an effort to identify areas in the state that provide essential habitat to one or more species of breeding, wintering, or migrating birds. Mass Audubon worked with knowledgeable birders, avian scientists, and representatives from state, federal, and non-profit organizations to identify, nominate, and officially designate 79 IBAs throughout the Commonwealth, including several particularly significant sites on Cape Cod.

Wayne Petersen's presentation will provide an overview of some of the birding possibilities on Cape Cod, along with giving an overview of the Massachusetts IBA Program. His presentation will feature a description of some of the IBAs on Cape Cod, including their habitats and special bird life.

In addition, attendees will discover how local birders can help advance the success and effectiveness of the IBA Program.

Wayne R. Petersen is Director of the Massachusetts Important Bird Areas (IBA) Program at the Massachusetts Audubon Society. He was the senior Field Ornithologist at Mass Audubon for 15 years before assuming the position of IBA Director in 2005.

As co-author of *Birds of Massachusetts* (1993) and co-editor of the *Massachusetts Breeding Bird Atlas* (2003), his knowledge of the habitats, distribution, and status of the Commonwealth's bird life is both extensive and wide-ranging.

A New England Regional Editor for *North American Birds* magazine and editor of the *New England Christmas Bird Count*, Wayne's knowledge of the seasonal distribution of New England bird life give him a wide perspective when thinking about Important Bird Areas in Massachusetts and beyond. He is a founding member of the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee (MARC) and is currently an associate member of the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Advisory Committee.

In 2005, Wayne was the recipient of the American Birding Association's Ludlow Griscom Award for outstanding contributions in regional ornithology.

Be sure to include this wonderful program as part of our 3rd Annual Cape Cod Birding Weekend!

Membership Renewal Form

This half-page can be used as your Membership Renewal Form. By filling out and mailing it this summer, you will save the club the expense of sending you a renewal notice. Dues are due by September 1, 2008. New members may join at any time. Thank you for renewing on time.

Individual \$15.00

Family \$22.00

If you would like to give an additional donation, it will be much appreciated. Thank you.

Scholarship Fund \$ _____ Extra Gift to Club \$ _____ Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please return this form and your check made out to Cape Cod Bird Club and send to:

Cape Cod Bird Club
c/o Cape Cod Museum of Natural History
869 Rte 6A
Brewster, MA 02632

Name _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address _____



July Butterfly Counts on the Cape



There are four butterfly counts (much like bird counts) on the Cape in July. Alison Robb, a club member and leader of many of our trips, is the organizer and compiler. She needs many volunteers, whether able to identify butterflies or just to spot them for the more experienced. It is a great learning experience and in succeeding years each participant becomes more knowledgeable (and, she hopes, more addicted to this new outdoor sport or passion). They set off in teams to several sites, visit the most popular habitats, enjoy a full day outdoors, and regroup at 3 PM to report. They carpool to several sites; there is not a lot of walking.

The data is entered into a database which is published by NABA (North American Butterfly Association, see www.NABA.org).

Please contact Alison to sign up or for more information (email preferred). nature@cape.com, 508-564-4331.

TRURO. July 12, 2008, Saturday, (July 13, rain date) . 9:00 am. Tor Hansen, leader, 508-648-1515, Alison Robb, co-leader, 508-564-4331, nature@cape.com. Please register ahead of time. **Directions:** North Truro. Rte 6, Highland Light exit. Go east on Highland Rd. Meet at the first parking lot.

FALMOUTH. July 16, 2008, 10:00 am. Alison Robb, leader. 508-564-4331. nature@cape.com. Tor Hansen, co-leader. Please register ahead of time.

Directions: Call for directions to meeting place, probably Crane WMA.

BREWSTER. July 19, 2008, Saturday, (July 20, rain date). 9:00 am.

For the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History. Alison Robb, leader; Please register with Julie O'Neil, 508-896-3867 ex. 129, or adminsupport@ccmnh.org.

Directions: Take Exit 9B off Rte 6 and follow Rte 134 North to Rte 6A, then turn right and follow 6A to The Museum, on the left at # 869 Rte. 6A, Brewster.

BARNSTABLE. July 26, 2008, Saturday, (July 27, rain date), 9:00 am. For the Audubon Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary. Alison Robb, leader; Ian Ives, co-leader.

Register with Ian Ives, 508-362-7475, iives@massaudubon.org.

Directions: From Rte. 6, Cape Cod, take exit 7 north toward Yarmouth Port, going one mile north on Willow Street, Go left 1 mile west on 6A, and right on Bone Hill Rd. Go 1/3 mi. north on Bone Hill Rd (until you can see the ocean) then take your next left to the Audubon Long Pasture headquarters.

