



The Kingfisher

Vol. 39 - Issue 3

Spring (April - June) 2011

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

In this issue:

Club Trips	2,3
Calendar of Events	4,5
New members	6
New merchandise	6
CCBC Scholarship	7

The Kingfisher is published quarterly.

Deadline for next issue's articles:

June 1st

Editor: Christine Hight
Send articles or comments to:
sea7adria@comcast.net

Website:
http://massbird.org/CCBC

Webmaster:
Terry Gavin

President's Message

As I type, two different American Woodcock males are currently engaged in a hormone-fueled game of aerial one-upmanship outside my office, so clearly it is time for the spring newsletter. Woodcocks will still be displaying when you receive this, so I recommend heading out to your local peenting grounds to check out the show. For some reason they like to do it behind Stop & Shop plazas, such as in Harwich and Orleans, so you can combine this birding errand with your grocery shopping. Though keep in mind that your explanation as to why you are hanging around behind the supermarket at night may not be accepted by the local authorities.

We are happy to announce that thanks to our new and improved Cape Cod Bird Club scholarship competition, two lucky Cape Cod teens will be attending the National Audubon Society Project Puffin Field Ornithology Camps at Audubon's spectacular Hog Island in Maine this summer. The winners are Allison Gage, of East Falmouth and Joey Benedict, of Sandwich. Allison has completed a National Outdoor Leadership School camp in the wilds of Alaska. Joey is a president of the chess club. (Read more about each of these remarkable individuals on page 7.) We look forward to hearing about their experiences at camp at the September meeting.

Now here's something for the Robert's Rules of Order set: we will have elections at the May meeting this year, returning to the traditional timing of the elections to coincide with the club's

fiscal year. The four current officers will all stand for reelection for another one-year term, as per the bylaws. In addition, two of the director positions are up for election this year. Diane Silverstein and Christine Hight are the two candidates nominated by the board to fill these positions, with terms set to expire in 2014. Christine will continue to edit *The Kingfisher* and Diane will serve as Publicity and Outreach Coordinator. Any other candidates wishing to run can and will be recognized during the election proceedings at the May meeting. Isn't it fun to comply with the bylaws?

It's the last year for Mass Audubon's Breeding Bird Atlas, a mammoth five-year effort to document all of the breeding birds of Massachusetts by using volunteers to cover a series of blocks. Some birds are already nesting – I had a report of Carolina Wrens with eggs, believe it or not – so it's not too early to think about nesting birds. So while you are out working on your year list or county list or warbler list or whatever, please take note of breeding activity and check the Atlas website to find out how to participate. See <http://www.massaudubon.org/birdatlas/bbaportal/index.php>. Thanks folks, and I hope to see you in the field, maybe on a Beech Forest warbler walk in May (see inside for these and other trips).

Mark Faherty

Editor's Note: According to Wordnik, peenting is the sound an American Woodcock makes before a nuptial display flight.

Club Trips Spring 2011

Peter Brown, Trip Coordinator

All are welcome to join us on these free club trips. A call or e-mail to the leader is appreciated. Please check our website

www.massbird.org/ccbc for additions or changes. If you would like new trips emailed to you please contact Trip Coordinator Peter Brown at pbrown5541@gmail.com

Apr 1 - FRI at 8:00AM Shining Sea Bike Path Falmouth

We'll walk from Locust St. to Oyster Pond and back, approx 2 miles. We'll look for early spring migrants and late wintering waterfowl. Meet in the parking lot on Locust St. just past Mill Rd.

Leader: Mary Keleher
maryeak@yahoo.com

Apr 3 & 4 - SUN & MON 7:00PM New Moon Woodcock Walk, Falmouth

With the arrival of Spring comes the annual ritual of observing the courtship behavior display of the American Woodcock. It's an experience not to be missed! Meet at the Frances Crane Wildlife Area parking lot (at end of unpaved road between the ballfield and Nickelodeon Cinema off Rte 151 in Falmouth). Bring binoculars & flashlight. Dress very warmly. Drizzle, fog or driving rain will cancel.

Leader: Molly Cornell, the Falmouth 300 Committee Land Trust ~ 508-540-7652

April 11 - MON 9:15-11:15AM

Callery-Darling Conservation Area, Yarmouth

We will walk through a variety of habitats including salt marsh, beach, dune, and mixed deciduous-conifer woodlands in search of early migrants. Trip is 1.5 mi with an option to extend. Meet at Gray's Beach (Bass Hole) parking area at the end of Center St. in Yarmouthport.

Leader: Ed Hoopes
508-737-7479
ehoopes@verizon.net

April 23 - SAT at 8:00AM So. Cape Beach State Park Mashpee

Beach and bay walk looking for plovers, raptors, marsh waders, lingering winter ducks and early migrants. Meet at the town parking lot at the end of Great Oak Road off the Mashpee Rotary. Follow the sign to 'All Beaches'.

Leader: Peter Brown
508-241-5541
pbrown5541@gmail.com

April 27 - WED at 8:00AM Surf & Turf for Migrants Wellfleet, Eastham, Truro

We'll search hot spots north of the Orleans Rotary for migrants. Possible stops include First Encounter Beach, Fort Hill, and the Stump Dump. Meet at the Bird Watcher's General Store lot just off the Orleans Rotary.

Leader: David Clapp
508-896-7322

April 30 - SAT at 8:00AM Scusset Beach Area Sagamore/Bourne

We'll explore the thickets, canal, and beach for spring migrants. Meet in the Sagamore Park & Ride parking lot behind the Dunkin Donuts.

Leader: Peter Brown
508-241-5541

pbrown5541@gmail.com

May 9 - MON at 9:30 - Noon High Head, North Truro

We will walk along the bike trail, skirting Small's Swamp, then up onto High Head and out to the edge of the bluff for commanding views of Moon Meadow and Pilgrim Lake. Numbers of migrants should be peaking. This area is well-known for it's spring raptor migration. Trip length is about 2.5 miles and has one hilly stretch. Meet at the High Head Bike Trail parking area. Exit Rt 6 onto High Head Rd., fork left before the hill and park at the end of the dirt road.

Leader: Ed Hoopes
508-737-7479
ehoopes@verizon.net

May 10 - TUE at 8:00AM Ryder Conservation Area Mashpee

We'll walk the trails of this 243 acre hidden gem on the Mashpee-Sandwich line looking and listening for migrants and returning resident birds. Meet in the parking lot at the intersection of Cotuit and S. Sandwich Roads. Leader:

Peter Crosson 508-280-1678
crosson_p@yahoo.com

Club Trips Spring 2011

Peter Brown, Trip Coordinator

May 20 - FRI at 5:30AM Wompatuck State Park Hingham

Meet at the Stop and Shop on Route 6A in Sandwich. This area, formerly a munitions depot during World War II, is now a relatively large tract of woodland and wetland habitats that is a wonderful stopover for migrating songbirds and a nesting locale for a wide variety of birds. Target birds here include Hooded, Worm-eating, Blue-winged, Cerulean Warblers, Acadian Flycatcher, Pileated Woodpecker, and other passerine species during the migration. We'll bird until the latter portion of the morning and be done by noon. Watch the weather reports and call or email to check on the status of the trip.
Leader: Frank Caruso
508-477-9807 or 774-238-0698
fcarus@umext.umass.edu.

May 22 - SUN at 8-11AM Brewster State Forest

Meet in the parking lot of the Brewster Police Department, which is on the east side of Rt.124 (north of Route 6 and south of Tubman Rd). We will walk along the cemetery access road and along the Bike Trail in the Forest. We'll be looking for resident and migrant passerines--flycatchers, thrushes, vireos, warblers, tanagers, and orioles. In 2010, a male Summer Tanager was resident here; we'll see if he has returned. Easy, level walking.

Leader: Peter Bono
pbono@prba.com
508-375-9421.

Please contact leader if you plan to join the walk. On the morning of the walk, call cell

774-487-2848 after 7:00AM. Heavy rain will cancel. Phone if you have any doubt.

May 23 - MON at 8:15-Noon Long Pond & Crane Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Falmouth

Meet at small parking lot for Goodwill Park (entrance off Gifford Street, approx. 0.6 miles north of the Jones/Gifford intersection). We'll look for migrant and nesting songbirds. We will then continue on to Crane WMA to look for raptors, and open-space specialties. I recommend that folks show up early to "scout"; I have "kid duty" in early AM.

Leader: Greg Hirth
geohawk_1@yahoo.com
508-737-0227

Beech Forest Bird Walks

As in the past, the Club has scheduled bird walks in Provincetown's Beech Forest every Saturday and Sunday morning in May. The Beech Forest is one of the best places on Cape Cod to see and hear spring migrants. Take the Race Point exit off Route 6 at the light in Provincetown. Meet in the Beech Forest parking lot. All walks begin at 8 AM, but as light allows early birders may wish to do a loop before meeting for the official trip.

Leaders:

SUN, May 1 - Peter Brown, 508-241-5541 or pbrown5541@gmail.com

SAT, May 7 - Ed Banks, 508-430-0845 or edbanks@verizon.net

SUN, May 8 - Blair Nikula, 508-432-6348 or odenews@odenews.org

SAT, May 14 - TBA

SUN, May 15 - David Clapp, 508-896-7322

SAT, May 21 - TBA

SUN, May 22 - Peter Crosson, 508-280-1678 or crosson_p@yahoo.com

SAT, May 28 - Al Curtis 508-432-8677 or killdeer89@comcast.net

SUN, May 29 - Ginie Page, 508-349-6810 or vpage@juno.com

April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Walk details on page 2					1 8:00AM Walk Falmouth	2
3 7:00PM Walk Falmouth	4 7:00PM Walk Falmouth	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 9:15AM Walk Yarmouth 7:30 PM Meeting	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 8:00AM Walk Mashpee
24	25	26	27 8:00AM Walk Outer Cape	28	29	30 8:00AM Walk Sagamore

Cape Cod Bird Club April Meeting Program

April 11, 2011

David Clapp

**“An African Safari –
Birds and Beasts”**

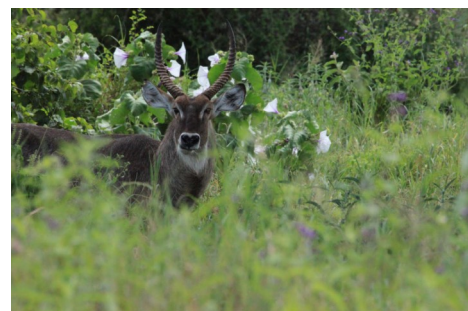
Northern Tanzania is home to Ngorongoro Crater, Olduvai Gorge, the Serengeti, the Maasai, and the great migration of wildebeest and zebra. There are also lots of birds. Lots and lots of birds! This presentation will cover wildlife, people, and of course the wonderful birds of the main safari route. If you

“if you haven’t been on a safari, this is the next best thing”

haven't been on a safari, this is the next best thing. And if you have been, this will bring back glorious memories.

David Clapp works with Smithsonian Journeys (the Smithsonian Institutes travel program) as a naturalist and lecturer worldwide. He retired from Mass Audubon in 2005, after a 35-year career with that organization, including as Director of its South Shore Sanctuaries. David also consults on environmental matters,

and has a smallish safari company that operates mostly in northern Tanzania. He has led about 30 East African safaris. David lives on the Cape, and is the former Programs Coordinator for the Cape Cod Bird Club.



May 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest	2	3	4	5	6	7 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest
8 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest	9 9:30AM Walk Truro 7:30PM Meeting	10 8:00AM Walk Mashpee	11	12	13	14 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest
15 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest	16	17	18	19	20 5:30AM Walk Hingham	21 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest
22 8:00AM Walks Brewster & Beech Forest	23 8:15AM Walk Falmouth	24	25	26	27	28 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest
29 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest	30	31		For details on walks, see pages 2 and 3		

Cape Cod Bird Club May Meeting Program

May 9 , 2011

Jim Fenton

“Birds of Plymouth Beach through the Seasons: A Photographic Journey”

Plymouth Beach is an important breeding and nesting site for threatened and endangered coastal shorebirds, and a critical stop-over site for tens of thousands of migratory shorebirds. Jim Fenton has spent untold hours observing and understanding these birds and other living creatures that frequent this beach.....how they relate to their environment, when and on what they feed, breed and nest. The knowledge he gained,

along with his keen eye, allowed him to create intimate images that give a true insight into the birds' behavior and the activities of their daily lives. Come see Plymouth Beach like you have never seen it before!

A wildlife biologist by training, Jim Fenton is a self-taught wildlife and landscape photographer. He was an “Artist in Residence” at the Goldenrod Foundation's house on Plymouth Long Beach where he logged hundreds of hours creating images of migratory shorebirds, piping plovers, terns and gulls. In 2008-2009, he had an exhibition at Plimouth Plantation exclusively from his work on Plymouth Beach. His images have been

published by numerous magazines and newspapers. He provides images both for print and website for a number of non profit organizations, such as state, and national chapters of Audubon, as well as US Fish and Wildlife. In 2009, Jim began offering individual and small group lessons, which involve gear selection, field work and processing of the created digital images. He has been a member of the Merrimack Valley Camera Club since 2006 and has received a number of awards, including Photographic Society of America BEST OF THE BEST awards for 2009 and 2010.



CCBC Merchandise

Available at all meetings.

Birding Cape Cod \$15.95

A "must have" for every Cape Cod Birder!

CCBC Cap \$15.00 CCBC Knit Hat/Cap \$15.00

CCBC Decal \$1.00 CCBC Checklist .75

CCBC Patch \$3.00 CCBC Pin \$5.00

Bino/Camera Strap \$12.50

For more information Contact
Roger Jenks
club Merchandise Coordinator
at 508-369-1693
rajcarver@yahoo.com

Check out our new item.
A coffee mug
with our famous logo.
Be the first to have yours.
Now only \$6.00

Help Wanted!

at

The Wing Island Bird Banding Station at Cape Cod Museum of Natural History

We are is looking for volunteers for the upcoming 2011 banding season. Bird banding provides you with an incredible opportunity to view birds in the hand, learn a great deal about individual species, and contribute directly to bird conservation by collecting data.

For more information, please call Sue Finnegan at 508-896-7083.

New Members

Welcome to our new members !!!!

James McDermott of Yorktown Heights, NY
Carolyn Scarborough of Plainfield, CT
Dick & Reta King of West Falmouth, MA

Looking forward to seeing you at our Club walks and meetings!

Help Wanted! Bluebird Nestbox Monitors

It's spring and bluebirds are checking out nestboxes already! Cape Cod Bird Club (CCBC) volunteers monitor eastern bluebird nestbox trails in four locations on the Cape and we need more people to help out. This is your invitation to get involved and enjoy this wonderful bird! Our monitoring helps the bluebirds and other native cavity-nesting species succeed. We may ask you to monitor one week a month during the spring and summer.

Nestboxes are **in East Dennis at Crowes Pasture** and in Harwich at several sites within the Harwich Conservation Trust. We train volunteers and schedule visits to each site to track the nesting cycles of the birds using each box. Monitoring involves some walking over uneven terrain, peeking inside each box and recording what is happening. For more information, contact one of our coordinators.

For Crowes Pasture, contact Carolyn Kennedy at c2kenn2@verizon.net or (508)255-7564.
For the Harwich sites, contact Judith Bruce at turtledock@cape.com.

CAPE COD BIRD CLUB CAMP SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

CCBC Scholarships Awarded

The CCBC has awarded one-week bird/nature camp scholarships to two deserving Cape Cod teens.

Allison Gage, 18, of East Falmouth (Falmouth High School) will be attending the National Audubon Society Hog Island Project Puffin Field Ornithology Camp at Audubon's spectacular Hog Island, located in Maine's Muscongus Bay, for the week of June 19-24, 2011. Allison has completed a National Outdoor Leadership School camp and participated in the Model UN program at UN Headquarters in New York City. She is interested in environmental research and education.

Joey Benedict, 16, of Sandwich (Sturgis Charter Public School) will be attending the National Audubon Society Hog Island Project Puffin Coastal Main Bird Studies for Teens camp at the same location and time as Allison. Joey is a straight-A student, an avid birdwatcher, and an alumnus of Peter Trull's Cape Cod Lighthouse Charter School Bird and Nature Club.

Both teens will write up their camp experiences for the Fall 2011 Kingfisher and will be given an opportunity to attend the September 2011 meeting to answer questions about their summer experience.

submitted by: Scholarship Committee, Peter Bono (Chair), Alice Berry, Mark Faherty

Cape Cod Bird Club Backyard Feeder Census 2010 to 2011

Have you been recording birds feeding at your feeders or on natural food in your yard this winter? It's time to return the census form. Simply hand the form to Peter Flood at the April or May CCBC meeting. Or mail it to him at 5 Hokum Rock Road, Dennis, MA 02638 Or email at pomarine@comcast.net



Mark your calendars now for

MUSEUM MADNESS

A Cape Cod Museum of Natural History Fundraiser for the Museum

Friday and Saturday
June 3 and 4

Plants, books & flea market!
Put away those treasures you no longer need for the flea market.

*Cape Cod Bird Club
P.O. Box 704
Harwich, MA 02645*

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, Att: Charlie Martin
PO Box 704, Harwich, MA 02645
Website: <http://www.massbird.org/CCBC>**

Officers

Mark Faherty	President
Peter Bono	Vice President
Charlie Martin	Treasurer
Peter Flood	Secretary

Directors

Julie O'Neil	Roger Jenks
Peter Brown	Alice Berry
Paula Pariseau	

Newsletter Editor ~ Christine Hight sea7adria@comcast.net or capekingfisher@yahoo.com

Membership/Address Changes ~ Charlie Martin E-mail: cemartinjr@comcast.net

Nominating Committee Chair ~ Ginie Page