



The Kingfisher

Vol. 41 - Issue 1

Fall (October - December) 2012

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

Birding Festival	2
Club Trips	3-4
Waterfowl Census	4
CBC Programs	5
New Members	6
Christmas count	7
Campers Report	7-8
Backyard Census Form	9

The Kingfisher is published quarterly.

Deadline for next issue's articles:

December 1st

Editor: Christine Hight

Send articles or comments to:
sea7adria@comcast.net

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

Webmaster: Terry Gavin

President's Message

"The Times They are a-Changin"
Bob Dylan

As I write my first president's message, I find myself thinking about change. In the natural world fall is all about change. Daylight diminishes, temperatures lower, and leaves turn golden. As a birder, I find the constant flux of birds in the Fall fascinating. Passage migrants stop to fatten up on Cape Cod before moving south and others stay the winter. Thanks to trip coordinator Mary Keleher, we have an array of walks set up to take advantage of fall's bounty of migrating birds. See pages 3 & 4 for trip schedules.

"They always say that time changes things, but you actually have to change them yourself."
Andy Warhol

Many members of Bird Club are following Warhol's advice. Here are just a few examples.

Thanks to Eldon Zeigler and Terry Gavin, our web master, we are launching a membership and technology initiative. We are upgrading our website to improve the ease of communication with current members. We are also seeking volunteers to work with

us on how best to collect and disseminate information regarding member interests.

To improve upon birding weekend, Diane Silverstein and a very active committee have been brainstorming to create a new and exciting event, a Birding Festival. See her article on page 2 for their fun and innovative ideas and how you can help.

Mark Faherty, our program chair, with the help of Paula Pariseau has put together a fabulous fall program. Check it out on page 5. Mark is always on the lookout for interesting programs and speakers so if you have ideas, suggestions or just want to lend a hand e-mail him at mfaherty@massaudubon.org.

There are plenty more opportunities for improvement, growth and change. Join our nominating committee, the membership and technology initiative or any of the Birding Festival committees. I believe that all of our members have a strength or talent to contribute. Have a hand at making this our best season yet.

Good Birding
Peter Bono
pbono@prba.com
508-375-9421

Diane's Corner

Birding for Teens

Cape Cod Birding Festival 2013

Coming in September of 2013, we are excited to announce the first annual Cape Cod Bird Festival! On September 13, 14, and 15, 2013 the Cape Cod Bird Club will welcome birders from the Cape and beyond to bird and attend workshops here on Cape Cod.

We're very excited to have Pete Dunne, noted birder and author, founder of the World Series of Birding, director of the Cape May Bird Observatory, and Vice President of Natural History of the NJ Audubon Society as our keynote speaker. Pete will also lead a fun workshop on the "Art of Pishing" as well as a field trip to South Beach.

A committee of six including Fran Clapp, Charlie and Jane Martin, Michael Dettrey, Gerry Cooperman and me has been working diligently since January of this year to explore the possibility of a successful birding festival. We determined that such a festival was indeed feasible and we began planning the specifics. However, we can't do this alone! We need volunteers!

A festival includes so many components. We have established many committees where your help is needed.

These committees include:

- workshops
- vendor marketplace
- field trips
- registration
- novelties
- publicity and communications
- transportation
- signage
- sponsorships
- family day
- finance
- and more

Our hope is that one of these committees will spark your interest and you will sign up to volunteer with us. To do so, you only need to call or email me.

Our goals for the Bird Festival are many, but most importantly they are to promote fall migratory birding at our many birding hotspots, and to gain more members and exposure for the bird club. The steering committee hopes you will come forward to be a part of this exciting venture! We look forward to hearing from you!

Diane Silverstein
508-364-7050
birder526@comcast.net

The Cape Cod Bird Club is delighted to be able offer a full tuition scholarship to the Coastal Maine Bird Studies for Teens again this year. The week long program is located at picturesque Hog Island in Breman, Maine and operated by the National Audubon Society. Get a taste of the Hog Island adventure from our two winners who are featured columnists in this very issue. See pages 7 & 8.

If you know any young, avid birders who are residents of Cape Cod ages 14-18, be sure to tell them about this exciting opportunity. Applications for this summer's scholarship are due in January. Winners will be notified in February.

For more specifics, including an application, check our website massbird.org/CCBC or contact committee chairman.
Ron Ayotte
ayotterc@comcast.net.

*"Change is the constant, the signal for rebirth, the egg of the phoenix."
Christina Baldwin*

Club Trips Fall 2012

Trip Coordinator - Mary Keleher

Saturday – October 6
8:30AM – 11:30AM
Michael Dettrey
Morris Island

Meet on the causeway to Morris Island in Chatham. We will walk into the Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge headquarters. We'll look for and identify confusing fall warblers, other passerines and hawks in this fall migrant trap. Also, we will walk down to the beach to search the tidal flats facing North Monomoy Island and Nantucket Sound for wading birds, shorebirds, terns and seabirds. Bring a snack and water for this 3 hour adventure. Bathrooms are open at the refuge headquarters on Wilkis Way. Harsh weather cancels.

Leader: Mike Dettrey
 508-364-7050
 swanpondside62@aol.com

Sunday - October 7
9:00AM - 11:00AM
Mary & Ashley Keleher
Falmouth Bike Path
Birding with Kids!

Depending on time, we'll walk 1-2 miles along the bike path towards Oyster Pond to look for a variety of land birds, swallows, shorebirds, ducks, herons and raptors. Adults are required to bring at least one child! Meet in the parking lot of the Shining Sea Bike Path on Locust Street. This trip is co-sponsored with the South Shore Bird Club and Brookline Bird Club.

Rain cancels.
 Leader: Mary Keleher
 508-477-1473
 maryeak@yahoo.com

Saturday - October 13
8:00AM - 1:00PM
Peter Bono
Harwich Community Gardens & Beyond
Sparrow Hunt!

We'll look for the less common fall migrants: White-crowned and Clay-colored Sparrow, Blue Grosbeak, and Dickcissel. Following that, for those who want to continue, we might check the Brewster and Dennis gardens as well. Of course, we'll also be aware of any sightings reported on Mass-Bird and CapeCodBirds@yahoo, so our itinerary might deviate from the plan depending on what has been reported (e.g., western vagrants like hummingbirds). Meet at the Harwich Community Gardens on Sisson St. (Rte 124) Please phone or email in advance. Steady rain cancels. You may contact Peter on his cell phone, 774-487-2848, any time after 7AM on the day of the trip.

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

Monday - October 15
9:00AM - 12:00PM
Diane Silverstein
Crowes Pasture

We'll walk the trails through the woodlands and marsh to the fields and beach looking for late migrants. Meet at the parking lot on the right, a short distance in from the cemetery down the dirt road. Take Route 6A and turn onto School St. then take the first right onto South Street. Go straight through stop sign and continue past cemetery. Rain cancels.

Leader: Diane Silverstein
 508-354-7050
 birder526@comcast.net

Saturday – November 3
8:00AM – 12:00PM
David Clapp
Eastham – Salt Pond & Vicinity
 We will look for late migrants in the thickets and around the fresh water ponds then we'll check for sea ducks along the bay and ocean shores. Meet at the Cape Cod National Sea Shore Visitors Center.
 Leader: David Clapp
 508-896-7322
 naturalhistoryservices@comcast.net

Saturday - November 10
8:30AM - 11:30AM
Michael Dettrey
Dennis & Brewster

Meet at the Mercantile, 766 Route 6A in Dennis just behind the post office off Main Street. We will start our search for seabirds, ducks and other good birds on the Cape Cod Bay at Corporation Beach. We will also check for hot spots on kettle ponds and the Bass River. Harsh weather cancels. Please RSVP.

Leader: Michael Dettrey
 508-364-7050
 swanpondside62@aol.com

Monday - November 19
9:00AM - 12:00PM
West Dennis Beach & Local
Birding Hotspots

We'll look for ducks and other birds at the beach then continue on to local ponds for more ducks! Meet at the western end of the West Dennis Beach parking lot past the wind surfers cottages. From Route 28 take School St. Continue for .6 miles and take slight right onto Lighthouse Rd. Continue onto Davis Beach Rd. Follow around rotary and continue to parking area. Rain cancels.

Leader: Diane Silverstein
 508-354-7050
 birder526@comcast.net

Club Trips Fall 2012 Continued

Saturday - November 24
All Day
Glenn d'Entremont
Leader's Choice
South of Boston

Glenn will look at the recent bird sightings and choose a venue. This is a good time to look for early wintering birds and lingerers. This trip is co-sponsored with the South Shore Bird Club. Contact leader one week before the trip for meeting place and time.

Leader: Glenn d'Entremont
 781-344-5857
 gdentremont1@comcast.net

Saturday - December 1
9:00AM - 12:00PM
Molly Cornell

North & West Falmouth Ponds

Come help count waterfowl for the 30th Annual Cape Cod Waterfowl Census. Beginner birders welcome! Meet in the parking lot behind the West Falmouth Post Office (Route 28A, just south of Brick Kiln Rd.) Contact leader ahead of time.

Leader: Molly Cornell
 508-540-7652
 mollycornell@comcast.net

Saturday - December 15
10:00AM - 1:00PM
Michael Dettrey
Dennis

Meet at the Mercantile, 766 Route 6A in Dennis just behind the post office off Main Street. We will start our search for seabirds, ducks and other good birds on the Cape Cod Bay at Corporation Beach, and hot spots along the way, to the West Dennis Beach. "Cooperation" Beach is notoriously brutal in Nor'easters but offers great seabird shows and an extremely high tide will make it even more interesting. Parking spaces at Corporation Beach face the show. Please

dress accordingly and RSVP to see if we go. An optional lunch back at the Mercantile will be offered to total and review our sightings.

Harsh weather cancels.
 Leader: Michael Dettrey
 508-364-7050
 swanpondside62@aol.com

Monday - December 17
9:00AM - Afternoon
Diane Silverstein
Provincetown

We'll visit Macmillan Wharf and other local P'town birding hot spots. Meet at the Stop 'n Shop parking lot on Rt. 134 in Dennis (Patriot Square) to carpool. (The lot closest to Route 134). We'll look to have lunch in P'town in between searching for wintering sea ducks, and more!

Rain cancels.
 Leader: Diane Silverstein
 508-354-7050
 birder526@comcast.net

Tuesday - January 1, 2013
12:00PM - 4:00PM
Ed Banks

Mid-Cape or Hot Spots
New Year Birds!

Get your 2013 year list off to a great start! Click off your yard birds in the morning and join us at noon. Party hats optional! Meet in the Stop & Shop parking lot at Patriot Square on Route 134 in South Dennis. Take exit 9A off Route 6. Take a left at the lights.

Leader Ed Banks
 edbanks@verizon.net
 508-769-6762

Cape Cod Waterfowl Census

30th Annual
Cape Cod
Waterfowl Census
December 1 & 2, 2012

During the first weekend of November of 1983, Blair Nikula and members of the Cape Cod Bird Club initiated a census of the lakes and ponds on Cape Cod. Participants were instructed to identify and count all the waterfowl (loons, grebes, geese, ducks, and coot) present on each pond.

Covering 202 ponds, participants tallied 3,957 individuals of 22 species of waterfowl. The census continued the following year but was moved to the first weekend in December. Many ducks and geese do not arrive on Cape Cod until inland bodies of water freeze and the later date would more closely coincide with peak waterfowl numbers locally. Covering 213 ponds 23 species of waterfowl were counted with 8,950 individuals being recorded.

Now in its 30th year the Cape Cod Waterfowl Census is an excellent example of one way in which birders, regardless of their expertise, can gather useful data and make a meaningful contribution to our knowledge of the Massachusetts avifauna. Waterfowl are relatively conspicuous, generally easy to identify, and thus readily censused with only a modest effort.

If you would like to participate please contact Blair Nikula at 508-432-6348
 odenews@odenews.org

Cape Cod Bird Club Fall Programs

October 8, 2012

Shawn Carey

"Epic Journeys: Tracking the Migrations of Shorebirds in the Western Hemisphere"

Each year millions of shorebirds make an amazing round-trip journey between the Northern and Southern hemisphere. Migration Productions' newest video, "Epic Journeys", looks at three shorebird species—Red Knot, Piping Plover and Semipalmated Sandpiper—and the challenges these species face during each of their monumental annual treks. Includes interviews and footage from the Bay of Fundy, the Cape May area and, Plymouth Massachusetts. This film examines the relationships in Horseshoe Crab populations, the survival of the Red Knot, beach management programs, and the Piping Plover's numbers. It features the gathering of Semipalmated Sandpipers in dramatic numbers in New Brunswick's Bay of Fundy before taking wing and flying 3,000 thousand miles southward to South America. Come and see them en-route to their destinations.

Shawn Carey of Migration Productions produces bird/wildlife related multi-media presentations, videos and photo workshops that have been shown at many natural history events all over the United States. Shawn moved to Massachusetts in 1986, and almost immediately started watching birds. He combined his interests in photography and birds in 1991. For additional information, visit

www.migrationproductions.com

November 12, 2012

John Kricher

"Birding the Brazilian Pantanal."

Brazil's vast seasonal wetland, the Pantanal, is habitat for a remarkable diversity of birds and other animals. Located be-

tween the Amazon rain forest and dry forest cerrado, the Pantanal is a natural hotspot for biodiversity, a land of Hyacinth Macaws, Toco Toucans, and Giant Anteaters. In this abundantly illustrated talk, author, ornithologist, and club member John Kricher will describe the region and discuss some of its remarkable wildlife, ranging from the highly endangered Cone-billed Tanager to the magnificent Jaguar.

John Kricher is a professor of biology at Wheaton College and a resident of Cape Cod. He has written books on tropical ecology, the balance of nature, eastern forests, and the Galapagos Islands. He is currently revising his popular book, *A Neotropical Companion*.

"John Kricher will describe the region .. some ..remarkable wildlife, ranging from the highly endangered cone-billed tanager to the magnificent jaguar"

December 10, 2012

Members' Night

The CCBC is proud to present one of the highlights of the year and you can be one of the stars!

This night belongs to you, our loyal members!

Silent Auction - books, gear, artwork, and other items will be available for bids. Proceeds will be donated to the Birder's Exchange.

Door Prizes - This could be your lucky night!

Bake Sale - Baked goods for holiday eating or treating!

Digital Slide Show - a fantastic presentation of members' birding and nature photos. See details for your photo submissions on page 6.

Members Table - A table will be set up for members or guests to display any bird related information or items they might choose.

Refreshments - juices, cookies and other goodies, a feature of every club meeting!

Don't miss this annual extravaganza!



Digital Slide Show

President, Peter Bono has generously offered to organize the digital slide portion of this year's Members' Night, Monday December 10, 2012. The directors ask that members submit about 5-10 images. You may put them on a CD and hand deliver them at any Fall meeting or send them by email. Feel free to contact Peter with any questions or concerns.

508-375-9421
pbono@prba.com

We have three new members!

Welcome to:

Diane Sheider - Mashpee
Thomas Lipsky - Truro
Wendy Shreve - East Orleans

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

Members of Cape Cod Bird Club will lead walks to top birding areas throughout Cape Cod. Walks are free and open to the public. A call or e-mail to the leader is appreciated. Please check our website www.massbird.org/ccbc for additions or changes.

Suggestions:

- Dress for the weather
- Bring your binoculars
- Spare car keys
- What does that say?*
- Water
- Insect Repellent

CCBC Merchandise

Available at all meetings.

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

Thank You from Birders' Exchange

Hello all,

I am writing to all of you who have been most generous, important, and supportive to Birders' Exchange (BEX) in a myriad of ways, to let you know about one of the BEX projects your generosity supports.

Today there is a blog about Gail McNab of Belize, this year's intern participating in the joint ABA/BEX/Massaudubon International Intern Training Program on the ABA Blog at: www.aba.org. Gail is the first female intern in the history of this 8-year-old program, and all of the volunteers who work with her are thrilled to have her here.

Wayne and I had the pleasure of hosting Gail at our home for several days, and she is one of the brightest and the best with an infectious laugh, amazing personality and absolute dedication to conservation and education.

We are proud to know Gail, and hope that you are proud of how you are helping BEX to continue to support all of the BEX recipients' programs and projects that are conserving birds and their habitats throughout the Neotropics.

Heartfelt thanks to each and every one of YOU!

Betty Petersen
American Birding Association
Birders' Exchange Director, Hanson, MA

Have you paid your membership dues?

Please note the box below your address label. If you have not sent in your dues for this year this will be your last issue!

Also, please check to see that your mailing address is correct. If it is not, please notify our treasurer (and membership person).

Charlie Martin

cemartinjr@comcast.net

508-430-1257

2012 Cape Cod Area

Christmas Bird Counts

Buzzards Bay

Saturday, December 15th

Contact Jeremiah Trimble
jtrimble@oeb.harvard.edu

Cape Cod

Sunday, December 16th

Contact Blair Nikula
508-432-6348 or
odenews@odenews.org

Mid-Cape

Sat, December 22nd

Contact Peter Trimble
508-362-4485

Truro

TBA

Contact: Tom Lipsky
tlip1@comcast.net or
978-897-5429 or

Genie Page vgp@juno.com
or 508-349-6810

Check the club's website for additional counts and updates.
<http://massbird.org/CCBC>

Amazing Hog Island by Jetta Cook



When I first saw Hog Island, it was across a channel from the mainland. Once I completed the short trip across the water, I felt like I went into another world, a wonderland for birders. The natural beauty of the place was enough to take my breath away. I knew immediately that I would love the island. My love for it grew as the people started to arrive. From the first person I met, I knew that I was among kindred souls. Nowhere else could I have met such an amazing group of people. The leaders were both knowledgeable and approachable, never failing to enthusiastically answer the many questions thrown at them. The five days were the best days of my summer. Being away from the clutter of

everyday life left all my attention to the captivating birds that inhabit the islands and water that surrounds them. I saw many amazing birds, some of which are not commonly seen on Cape Cod. A few of the unusual birds that I saw include the Razorbill, Black Guillemot, and Atlantic Puffin. However, it was not solely the birds that made the trip amazing. Indeed, it was having such amazing people to share these birds with that made it special. I felt extremely close to both nature and the new friends I made as we persevered through the rain which fell every day. I know that I will never forget the experiences I had at Hog Island.

Thank you,

Jetta Cook

2012 Schoarship winner

My Experiences on Hog Island by Eric Hardy

On June 24, 2012 at 10:00 am we set off from my house in Yarmouthport, MA to go to the National Audubon Camp in Bremen, Maine on Hog Island. We arrived about 4:00 pm and I boarded the transport boat "*The Snow Goose III*" which took me over to Hog Island, ¼ mile from the mainland. I was introduced to the amazing staff and other campers of my age. On the island I was met by beautiful views of the other islands and ocean surrounding Muscongus Bay. One of the first things I saw was a beautiful osprey nest with three chicks in it right next to the dining hall. This was the first time I was ever able to get close to an osprey nest which was amazing!

On the second day of camp we went back to the mainland from Hog Island and birded in Bremen along McCurdy Road. It was long, very forested, and bordered by two ponds. We walked for about 2 miles up and back. We were able to see some amazing birds including the Canada Warbler, the Golden-crowned Kinglet, and the Black and White Warbler. We also went to the Damariscotta River Association Great Salt Bay Area Farm where we saw several interesting birds there including a Sora, Virginia Rail, and a Northern Waterthrush among others. In the afternoon we took a small 20 minute boat

ride to Wreck Island in Muscongus Bay. We did not stay too long because of thunderstorms but were able to see the Great Blue Heron colony on the island which consisted of over 50 individuals.

On our third day of camp, we were taken out to see the rare Atlantic Puffin on Eastern Egg Rock which is one of the only places in the world where Atlantic Puffins breed. The trip was 8 miles off shore which took about an hour from Hog Island. We were also able to see a Razorbill, three types of Terns – Common, Roseate, and Arctic. The Puffins were very beautiful birds with their orange clown like bill. We observed the Puffins from "*The Snow Goose III*" while moored off the island. When we got back on Hog Island, our group hiked the whole island. Some birds we saw were the Purple Finch, Common Loon, and a Merlin.

On our fourth day of camp we took a 45 minute boat ride to another island in Muscongus Bay called Harbor Island. This island was a beautiful place with dense forest and amazing rock outcroppings. The only exciting bird we saw there was a Glossy Ibis. When we returned to Hog Island we did some bird banding with Dr. Sara Morris, one of the instructors. The bird we were able to band was a Black-throated Green Warbler. It was amazing to see such a tiny bird

up so close and actually touch it!

On our fifth and last full day of camp we walked along a set of trails which were mapped out by the famed naturalist, Roger Tory Peterson. It was a set of trails in a forest near the salt marsh and ocean. Some birds we saw there were the American Bittern, Bald Eagle, Red-shouldered Hawk, Marsh Wren, Swamp Sparrow, and an Indigo Bunting. After we finished our walk, we went to Weskeag Marsh in South Thomaston. From an amazing lookout stand, we saw a Killdeer, Lesser Yellowlegs, several Nelson's Sparrows, Belted Kingfisher, and three Snowy Egrets. We left the morning after and I found myself feeling very sad to go. My adventure on Hog Island was an amazing life changing experience because of the beautiful scenery and amazing birds and wildlife I saw. I cannot wait to tell the Cape Cod Bird Club myself at one of your upcoming meetings. Thank you so much for this wonderful once in a lifetime opportunity!

Eric Donald Hardy
2012 Scholarship Winner



**Cape Cod Bird Club
Backyard Feeder Census ~ 2012 to 2013**

Use this form to report birds feeding at your feeders or on natural food in your yard on the 2nd complete weekend in each of the months listed (or two consecutive days near the weekend.) Watch your feeders on both days and record the highest number of each of the species observed at one time. For example, if on Saturday you see 3 chickadees at one time, record 3. If later, you see 5, cross out 3 and record 5. Do not accumulate the number seen. Record the dates of observation at the top of each column. If you are gone for a month, leave that column blank and resume the census when you return. Species not on the list can be added on the lines at the bottom or on the back if more space is needed. Return the form at the April or May CCBC meeting or mail to club Secretary: Peter Flood, 5 Hokum Rock Road, Dennis, MA 02638 or pomarine@comcast.net

	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR
Sharp-shinned Hawk						
Cooper's Hawk						
Northern Bobwhite						
Mourning Dove						
Downy Woodpecker						
Hairy Woodpecker						
Northern Flicker						
Red-bellied Woodpecker						
Blue Jay						
American Crow						
Black-Capped Chickadee						
Tufted Titmouse						
Red-Breasted Nuthatch						
White-Breasted Nuthatch						
Brown Creeper						
Carolina Wren						
Eastern Bluebird						
American Robin						
Cedar Waxwing						
Red-winged blackbird						
Brown Cowbird						
Common Grackle						
European Starling						
Yellow-Rumped Warbler						
Pine Warbler						
Northern Cardinal						
House Finch						
Pine Siskin						
American Goldfinch						
Dark-eyed Junco						
Song sparrow						
Tree Sparrow						
White-Throated Sparrow						
House Sparrow						
Other Species:						
Name & Address (census location)						

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

Dues were due September 1st. Our records indicate that your dues:

- Are paid, thank you! Are not paid (if not paid, this will be your last issue!)

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

Peter Bono	President
Ron Ayotte	Vice President
Charlie Martin	Treasurer
Peter Flood	Secretary

Directors

Mark Faherty	Roger Jenks
Diane Silverstein	Jane Martin
Christine Hight	Mary Keleher

Newsletter Editor ~ Christine Hight sea7adria@comcast.net

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

Nominating Committee Chair ~ position open