



The Kingfisher

Vol. 40 - Issue 3

Spring (April - June) 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, Brewster, MA.

President's Message

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The Kingfisher is published quarterly.

Deadline for next issue's articles:

June 1st

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sea7adria@comcast.net

Website:
http://massbird.org/CCBC

Webmaster:
Terry Gavin

Greetings from Wellfleet Bay, where my duties as Press Secretary for the Lazuli Bunting are winding down, as our wayward western vagrant is becoming increasingly scarce at our feeders. It's amazing how much attention this little guy drew, which I think is more indicative of the vagaries of the press cycle than the actual rarity of the bird. The Cape Cod Times picked it up from listening to Vern Laux on the radio, then the Boston Globe picked it up from the Times, and so on, until I eventually got a call from the Associated Press. However it happened, it was pretty good for business, so rather than leaving things to chance, we're looking into importing another feeder rarity next winter. If anyone has any requests, let me know. I was thinking Varied Bunting, but folks might get suspicious.

I said something about "winter will come eventually" in the last newsletter. I guess that's why I'm not a meteorologist. We're barely out of February as I type and crocuses and daffodils are blooming. At this rate, we may actually have a spring on Cape Cod this year! But probably not (I don't want to jinx it). Several interesting birds have apparently overwintered on the Cape, including an unprecedented wintering Short-billed Dowitcher in Harwich, plus a Black-throated Blue Warbler in Wellfleet, some Yellow-breasted Chats, a Black-and-white Warbler, an Orange-crowned Warbler, at least one Painted Bunting, and so on. As we expected, the first Osprey and Piping Plovers were back a little early, in Chatham and Falmouth, respectively. Even the Right Whales came back in December instead of February. Despite the mild winter, we had a pretty good showing of Snowy Owls, who

must have thought they took a wrong turn at Albuquerque and ended up in some equatorial Banana republic, what with the balmy temps and all.

Speaking of exotic locales (ok, Maine), we are very pleased to announce that our 2012 scholarship winners have been selected. Jetta Cook of Eastham and Eric Hardy of Yarmouthport will attend National Audubon's birding camp for teens on spectacular Hog Island in Maine this June. See inside for details. Having been a teen-aged birder with no birding peers whatsoever, I understand how important it can be for a young birder to meet others of his own species. This scholarship competition has been a great way to flush them out into the open and introduce them to other birders, and it's one of the club's outreach activities I'm most proud of. (Somewhere, Alice Berry is cringing at my sentence-ending preposition).

Now I have a favor to ask of you all - we have some board vacancies that we need to have filled by the May elections, and we're not doing very well. President, Vice president, Refreshments, and Programs will all be vacant as of June 1. So we need people who love the club to step up and join the board. It's a real hoot, I promise. Let Ginie Page or any one of the current board members know if you are interested. You might be too old for Uncle Sam, but We Want You!

Mark Faherty

Club Trips Spring 2012

Mary Keleher, Trip Coordinator

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

www.massbird.org/ccbc

- Tips:
- Dress for weather
 - Bring Binoculars
 - Water
 - Spare car keys.

Sun & Mon - April 1 & 2 6:45PM Woodcock Walk Crane Management Area Falmouth

Meet at the Frances Crane Wildlife Area parking lot (at end of the unpaved road between the ballfield and Nickelodeon Cinema off Rte 151 in Falmouth). Join Molly Cornell Sunday night or Monday night or both! Bring a flashlight & binoculars if you have them.

Dress very warmly. Fog, drizzle or driving rain will cancel the walk. This trip is co-sponsored with the Falmouth 300 Committee.

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

Friday - April 6 at 8:00AM Scusset Beach Area Sagamore

Meet in the Sagamore Park & Ride at the end closest to Friendly's Restaurant. We'll carpool down to Scusset Beach and spend the morning checking the thickets, canal and beach area for early spring migrants and seabirds. For those interested we might continue into the afternoon checking areas along the canal down to the railroad bridge. This trip is co-sponsored with the

South Shore Bird Club.
Leader: Mary Keleher
maryeak@yahoo.com
508-477-1473

Sunday April 15 9:00 AM - 10:00AM Birding with Kids!

South Cape Beach - Mashpee
Meet in the "Town Beach" parking lot. From the Mashpee Rotary take Great Neck Road South to Great Oak Road. Follow Great Oak Road to the "All Beaches" sign and turn left. Follow all the way to the end and turn left to parking area. Bring a kid and we'll walk the path and beach area to look for shorebirds and seabirds.

Leaders:

Mary & Ashley Keleher
maryeak@yahoo.com
508-477-1473

Monday April 23 8:00AM - 12:00PM

Dennis Community Gardens Shoop Conservation Area

Meet in the parking area of the Dennis Community Gardens on Route 6A, approximately 3/4 mile from the intersection of Route 6A & Route 134, heading east. Gardens will be on the right. Looking for early migrants! We'll walk through the gardens and conservation area. We will also walk across the street and explore a parcel of land known as the Whitfield Johnson parcel, a large field with pond, thickets and marsh.

Be prepared for fairly easy walking through woods and fields. Rain cancels.

Leaders:

Diane Silverstein &
Michael Dettrey
508-364-7050
birder526@comcast.net

Tuesday - May 8 7:00AM - 10:00AM Ryder Conservation Area Sandwich

Meet in the parking area on Cotuit Road approximately 2 miles south of Quaker Meetinghouse Rd. We'll explore this 243 acre conservation area with 5 miles of hiking trails winding through groves of 100 year old Holly, Beech and Pine Trees looking for spring migrants and nesting songbirds. Past highlights for the area have included Prothonotary Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, White-eyed Vireo and Swainson's Thrush.

Leader: Peter Crosson
pcrosson@emeraldphysicians.com
508-280-1678

Monday - May 14 8:15AM - 12:00PM Falmouth

Meet at the parking lot for Goodwill Park (entrance off Gifford Street approximately 0.6 miles north of Jones/Gifford intersection.) We'll look for migrant and nesting songbirds then continue onto the Crane Wildlife Management Area to look for raptors and open space specialties.

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

Monday - May 21 8:00AM - 12:00PM Dennis Community Gardens Shoop Conservation Area

We return to the Dennis gardens and Shoop woods, looking for Spring migrants! We'll walk through the gardens and wooded conservation area. We will also walk across the street and explore a parcel of land known as the Whitfield Johnson parcel, a large field with pond, thickets and

Club Trips Spring 2012

Mary Keleher, Trip Coordinator

marsh. Meet in the parking area of the Dennis Community Gardens on Route 6A, approximately 3/4 mile from the intersection of Route 6A & Route 134 heading east. Gardens will be on the right. Be prepared for fairly easy walking through woods and fields. Rain cancels.

Leaders:

Diane Silverstein & Michael Dettrey
508-364-7050
birder526@comcast.net

Friday - May 25 - 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 might include Hooded Warbler,

Worm-eating Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, 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 to beat the traffic. Watch the weather reports and call/email to check on the status of the trip.

Leader: Frank Caruso
fcaruso@umext.umass.edu
508-477-9807 or 774-238-0698

Friday & Saturday - June 8 & 9 6:30AM - 8:30AM Wing Island - Brewster

Meet in the parking lot of the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History on Route 6A Saturday or Sunday or both! We'll hike through the coastal pitch pine woodlands, across a salt marsh, to Wing Island and finally descend through a salt marsh swale

to the barrier beach and tidal pools of Cape Cod Bay.

Leader: David Clapp
508-896-7322
naturalhistoryservices@comcast.net

Monday - June 18 8:00AM - 12:00PM

Crowes Pasture - Dennis

We'll explore Crowes Pasture, walking the trail from the entrance parking lot, looking around the woods, fields and beach. Located off South St. Park at the large parking lot on the right shortly after you enter on the dirt road; we'll meet here. Be prepared for 2 - 3 miles of walking. Rain cancels.

Leaders:

Diane Silverstein &
Michael Dettrey
508-364-7050
birder526@comcast.net

Beech Forest Bird Walks Every Saturday & Sunday in May at 8:00 AM

Meet in the parking lot. Take Route 6 to Provincetown. Turn right onto Race Point Road. Turn left into parking lot, approximately .50 miles. One of the best migrant traps on the outer Cape! Many passerines will stop here to rest during the spring migration where they find food, water and shelter within this small patch of forest at the tip of Cape Cod.

Sat - May 5 - Charlie Martin, cemartinjr@comcast.net or 508-430-1257

Sun - May 6 - Blair Nikula, odenews@odenews.org or 508-432-6348

Sat - May 12 - Ed Banks, edbanks@verizon.net or 508-769-6762

Sun - May 13 - Charlie & Sue Thompson, cot@cape.com or 508-255-1451

Sat - May 19 - Peter Flood, pomarine@comcast.net or 508-258-0113

Sun - May 20 - Al Curtis, killdeer89@comcast.net or 508-432-8677

Sat - May 26 - David Clapp, naturalhistoryservices@comcast.net or 508-896-7322

Sun - May 27 - Peter Crosson, pcrosson@emarlphysicians.com 508-280-1678

April 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 6:45PM Walk Woodcock	2 6:45PM Walk Woodcock	3	4	5	6 8:00AM Walk Sagamore	7
8	9 7:30PM Club Meeting Brewster	10	11	12	13	14
15 9:00AM Walk Mashpee	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 8:00AM Walk Dennis	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Cape Cod Bird Club April Meeting Program

April 9, 2012

Joan Walsh

“Changes in the Breeding Birds of Cape Cod and the Islands ”

We will take a look at the results of the Massachusetts Breeding Bird Atlas 2, and sample some of the results from Mass Audubon’s State of the Birds, and discuss the evidence and trends we have found for declining and increasing breeding bird species on the Cape. We will focus not only on the listed species but also on some of the marginal

species, those that are likely imperiled but not yet listed, with a focus on the unique role the Cape and Islands play in maintaining biodiversity in Massachusetts, and beyond.

Joan Walsh is an ornithologist and ecologist, and a Massachusetts native. She worked on terns and skimmers for the Great Gull Island Project in the 1980s, was an intern at Manomet; worked on Black Ducks for the US Fish & Wildlife Service, on Wood Storks in Georgia, and on Elephant Seals and seabirds on the Farallon Is-

lands. Joan has been the Director of Research for New Jersey Audubon, and is currently the Director of Bird Monitoring at Mass Audubon. She likes travel, Corgi dogs, Golden Retrievers, and her family, but not in that exact order.

“trends ...for declining and increasing breeding bird species



May 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest
6 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest	7	8 7:00AM Walk Sandwich	9	10	11	12 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest
13 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest	14 7:30PM Club meeting Brewster	15	16	17	18 Museum Maddness	19 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest
20 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest	21 8:00AM Walk Dennis	22	23	24	25 5:30AM Walk Hingham	26 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest
27 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest	28	29	30	31		

Cape Cod Bird Club May Meeting Program

May 14, 2012

Edson Endrigo

Endemic, Endangered and Elusive Birds of Brazil

With more than 1,800 species, over 200 of which are endemic, Brazil has one of the richest bird diversities in the world. Think Antbirds, Antvireos, Antthrushes, Antshrikes. Cotingas, Manakins, Eleanias. Sadly, too many of Brazil's birds are threatened by deforestation, development, and other activities. Come let Brazil's most celebrated bird photographer show you why so many birders put Brazil at the top their list of must-see

places to bird. This is one meeting you won't want to miss!

Edson Endrigo, professional photographer, author and field trip leader, has published lavishly illustrated books on the birds of Brazil's major biogeographical regions and many of its states. His country has honored him by featuring his bird photographs on several sets of beautiful postage stamps. Many have had the privilege of engaging his services to search for the special birds that can be found in his ornithologically rich country. Visit Edson's website at www.avesfoto.com.br

Recent Sighting:

This lovely photo was in my email this week as a recent sighting on the Cape. Spring is coming.



Semi Palmated Plover
Photo: Craig Gibson

June 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest	9 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 8:00AM Walk Beech Forest	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30



Mark your calendars now for

MUSEUM MADNESS

Cape Cod Museum of Natural History,
the location of all our meetings,
Is holding it's annual friends fundraiser:
Museum Madness

Friday and Saturday
May 18 & 19

Plants, books & flea market!

Please check your home for unwanted
items in your home and bring these dona-
tions to our April or May meetings. Items
may also be left at the museum during
normal business hours.

Pass the word about the great event.
Let's help the Museum!



**April - May
Pilgrim Heights Hawk Watch
9:00AM - Noon
Most Days
Saturdays Are Best
Don Manchester
Truro**

In 1998 the Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctu-
ary, in partnership with the Eastern
Massachusetts Hawk Watch, started the
Pilgrim Heights Hawk Watch in Truro.
From late March through early June, with
the peak season for migrant raptors be-
ing mid April through mid May, Don Man-
chester is there counting hawks. Flights
are best during mornings before noon
and on days that feature winds from a
southerly direction. Pilgrim Heights is lo-
cated in North Truro on the east side of
Route 6 within the Cape Cod National
Seashore. Look for the brown and white
park sign "Pilgrim Heights." Follow the
driveway to the first parking lot. Take the
Smalls Swamp Trail to the second over-
look.

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

Coffee Mug - \$6.00

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

Check out our new item.
A stick chair
with our famous logo.
Be the first to have yours.
\$37.00

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 2012 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 !!!!

- Richard & Roberta DeLeo of West Yarmouth
- Alice Stelzer of Chatham
- Joan Ford of Marstons Mills
- Hal Minis & Pat Hughes of Brewster

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

Help Wanted! Nestbox Trail Monitors

CCBC members monitor nesting boxes for bluebirds and other cavity-nesting species in several places in Brewster, Dennis and Harwich. A few more volunteers are needed. Just a few hours a month are required and training is provided. Monitoring is done April through August at times scheduled to fit your calendar.

This is a great opportunity to see our native birds up close and to learn more about their nesting habits. It is a truly rewarding experience and a chance to get to know fellow Club members as well. New locations may be opening in Dennis this spring.

For more information, please contact Carolyn Kennedy at (508) 255-7564 or c2kenn2@verizon.net.

For the Harwich sites, contact Judith Bruce at turtledock@cape.com.

Cape Cod Birding Festival Survey!

If you didn't complete the Cape Cod Birding Festival survey at the March meeting, please take few minutes to do so now. (Survey follows on page 9.) The steering committee is looking for your thoughts about a birding festival and your input is appreciated. The survey should be mailed to:

Cape Cod Bird Club
PO Box 704
Harwich, MA 02645

Thank you for your time.
Diane Silverstein
for the Steering Committee

Your input is
appreciated.

Cape Cod Bird Club Backyard Feeder Census 2011 to 2012

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

CAPE COD BIRD CLUB CAMP SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

The results are in and CCBC has awarded birding camp scholarships to two Cape Cod teens. Jetta Cook, 15, of Eastham and Eric Hardy, 16, of Yarmouthport will be attending the National Audubon Society Project Puffin Coastal Maine Bird Studies for Teens camp at Audubon's spectacular Hog Island, located in Maine's Muscongus Bay, for the week of June 24-29, 2012. Jetta and Eric both attend Nauset Regional High School in Eastham.

Jetta volunteers with both the National Park Service and the Mass Audubon Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. Eric got into birding as a member of Peter Trull's Lighthouse Charter School Bird and Nature Club. Both teens will write up their camp experiences for the Fall 2012 Kingfisher and will be given an opportunity to attend a fall meeting to answer questions about their summer experience.

submitted by: Scholarship Committee,
Peter Bono (Chair), Alice Berry, Charlie Martin

Crowes Pasture, East Dennis, MA

Summer 2001 Results

Box 1 – Tree Swallow – 5 eggs, 5 fledged
Box 2 – Tree Swallow – 5 eggs, 4 fledged
Box 3 – Tree Swallow – 5 eggs, 5 fledged
Box 6 – Tree Swallow – 5 eggs, 5 fledged
Box 9 – Tree Swallow – 5 eggs, 4 fledged
Box 11 – Tree Swallow – 6 eggs, 6 fledges
Box 12 – Tree Swallow – 5 eggs, 5 fledged
Box 13 – Eastern Bluebird – late nest, no eggs
Box 14 – Tree Swallow – 5 eggs, 5 fledged
Box 16 – Eastern Bluebird – 14 eggs in 3 attempts, none hatched (May be a fertility problem in the pair.)

Totals: 39 Tree Swallows fledged from 8 nests
0 Eastern Bluebirds fledged from 3 nesting attempts

Thanks to monitors:

Peter Berrien, Ken Casson, Marie Corcoran, Steve Petruska, and Dick Stacey
Coordinator: Carolyn Kennedy

Survey for Cape Cod Birding Weekend Planning Committee

Dear Cape Cod Bird Club member,

A steering committee has been formed following our January meeting to explore the possibility of creating a Cape Cod Birding Festival, building upon our present September Birding Cape Cod Weekend. Our goal is to promote the Cape as a premier birding destination and would be advertised nationally.

Your input is needed and valued and we would appreciate it if you would take a few minutes to complete this short survey. Please turn it in to Diane Silverstein at PO Box 704, Harwich MA 02645. Thank you!

1.) Have you ever been to an organized birding festival?

Yes No Location if you answered yes: _____

2.) Would you support the Bird Club in hosting a Cape Cod Birding Festival?

Yes No If no, please explain: _____

3.) Please circle which agenda appeals most to you if you were to attend the Festival:

Option 1:

Friday: evening dinner & Keynote speaker

Saturday: all day field trips & workshops,
evening Mixer

Sunday: all day field trips & workshops,
pelagic trip

Monday: rain date for pelagic trip

Option 2:

Friday: afternoon field trips & dinner/speaker

Saturday: all day field trips & workshops,
pelagic trip, evening Mixer

Sunday: morning field trips, rain date for pelagic
trip

4.) How would you be willing to participate in this Birding festival? (Check all that apply):

Lead a birding field trip

Lead a workshop

Work on a committee

Chair a committee

Accept a single task assignment such as registration desk/greeter, posting fliers, etc.

Go on a birding field trip

Attend a workshop

Attend a meal function (dinner, mixer)

5.) Do you have an area of expertise that you would be willing to donate to the Festival, such as legal, marketing, public relations, advertising, banking, logistics, etc.?

Yes If yes, please explain: _____

No

Your name (Optional) _____

Best way to contact you: _____

Please return this survey to club mailbox. PO Box 704., Harwich, MA 02645. Your input is appreciated.

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

Alice Berry	Roger Jenks
Mary Keleher	Diane Silverstein
Paula Pariseau	Christine Hight

Newsletter Editor ~ Christine Hight sea7adria@comcast.net

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

Nominating Committee Chair ~ Ginie Page