



# The Kingfisher

Vol. 40 - Issue 4

Summer (July - September) 2012

Cape Cod Bird Club meetings are held the second Monday of each month, September thru May, at 7:30 PM 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**

**Editor: Christine Hight**

**Send articles or comments to:**

**sea7adria@comcast.net**

**Website:**

**www.massbird.org/CCBC**

**Webmaster: Terry Gavin**

### Welcome to our new members!!

Brendan Harrington, Yarmouth  
Anita Servals, Rochester  
Elizabeth McGrath, Mahwah, NJ  
Janet Dettefesen &  
Paul Berkowitz, Brewster  
Bruce Hurter, Wellfleet  
Gus Romano & Barbara Nitten,  
Harwich  
Don Arthur & Mary Chaffee,  
Brewster  
Elizabeth McConnell, Harwich

## President's Message

Hello, Bird Folks, and welcome to my final President's Message as titular head of this venerable club. I'm a little verklempt as I write this, so please talk amongst yourselves. Sniff. I will miss my glory days as president, but I won't miss these deadlines. And I suspect that Christine Hight, our ever suffering newsletter editor, will not miss waiting for my late copy. This one was so late that I was just paid a visit from someone named "Vinny" wielding a length of lead pipe. Christine was getting desperate.

As I reflect on my three years as president, it occurs to me that I owe a lot of thanks to my board – I feel like I didn't do much other than stand at the podium and make wise cracks while they did all the heavy lifting, whether literally, in the case of lugging around all the books for our Member's Night auction, or figuratively, in terms of having all of the good ideas over the last three years. Speaking of the board, in a logical transition of power Peter Bono has moved from Vice President to assume the presidency, while beloved board alumnus Ron Ayotte returns to prominence in the club at the VP position. Jane Martin takes over from long-time goody-wrangler Alice Berry as Refreshments Coordinator, where she will draw on her vast experience hosting several food-laden board transition meetings at her and Charlie's house in Harwich. The Program Coordinator position filled so ably by Paula Pariseau over the last few years remains open, but fortunately Paula left us with several talks already lined up for next fall.

In birding news, our first rare summer shorebird has turned up at South Beach just as we are going to press – a Bar-tailed Godwit. Unfortunately, access to South Beach will be more limited this year now that Outermost Harbor has decided to stop running their public shuttle. Your options for accessing the bird-rich area where the beach connects to South Monomoy are now limited to the Rip Ryder ferry service based on Morris Island, a scheduled public birding trip through Mass Audubon's Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, a kayak/private boat, or an 8-mile round-trip death march from the lighthouse. Hopefully this will be enough to get people their shorebird fix and to get all the rarities found. If all else fails, I will be leading a South Beach trip as part of our Birding Cape Cod Weekend, which begins September 21. The full schedule is inside – we hope to see you on multiple trips! I'm pretty sure Mary Keleher is leading all of them.

In closing, I just wanted to say that I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as president. By all accounts, ours is one of the liveliest and most fun of the region's bird clubs, and it's been my privilege to be your president. I'm not going too far, so I suspect I'll be seeing you all again soon. Bird on.

*Mark Faherty*

**7th ANNUAL BIRDING CAPE COD  
WEEKEND  
SEPTEMBER 21-23, 2012  
Sponsored by the  
Cape Cod Bird Club**

Details inside.

**Trip Coordinator****Mary Keleher****Programs**

**Tuesday – July 17**  
**4:00PM – 5:30PM**  
**Crowes Pasture**

Come along to walk the trails, beach, and main road of Crowes Pasture. We'll look for birds in the many habitats of woodlands, fields, and beach. Expect about 3 miles of walking. Meet in the parking lot. At the intersection of Route 6A and Airline/School turn onto School St. Take first right onto South St. Go past the cemetery to the entrance of Crowes Pasture. Drive a short distance on the dirt road and the parking lot is on the right. Rain Cancels. Leader: Diane Silverstein  
 508-364-7050

[birder526@comcast.net](mailto:birder526@comcast.net)

**Saturday – August 11**  
**5:30PM – 7:00PM**  
**West Dennis Beach**

Meet at the West Dennis Beach parking lot at the far end, all the way to the breakwater and the Bass River. We'll look for resident endangered Piping Plovers and Least Terns. We'll also hope to find migrant shorebirds on the mud flats and maybe a few early passerines in the dunes. Rain cancels. If you plan to attend please contact the leader in advance.

Leader: Peter Bono  
 508-375-9421 or 774-487-2848  
[pbono@prba.com](mailto:pbono@prba.com)

**Helpful Tips for Walkers**

- Dress for weather
- Bring binoculars
- Sunscreen
- Repellent
- Water
- Spare keys

**Friday – August 17**  
**9:30AM – 4:00PM**  
**South Beach**

Meet at the Monomoy NWR Headquarters on Morris Island in Chatham at 9:30AM. We'll take the Morris Island Ferry to the beach and leisurely view the thousands of shorebirds, terns, gulls, and seabirds. Be prepared to walk 4+ miles. This trip is co-sponsored with the Forbush Bird Club. There is a fee for boat transportation (approx. \$25.00). This is an all-day trip, so be sure to bring enough food and water. Please call or email me if you are planning to attend. Rain, heavy wind or surf cancels. No rain date.

Leader: Ed Banks  
 508-430-0845

[edbanks@verizon.net](mailto:edbanks@verizon.net)

**Tuesday – August 21**  
**4:00PM – 5:30PM**  
**Dennis Gardens**

**& Shoop Conservation Area**

Enjoy a walk around the Dennis Community Gardens and Shoop Conservation Area. We will search the fields, thickets and ponds for bluebirds, swallows, raptors and other birds. Meet at the gardens on Route 6A, approximately 1.5 miles from the Dennis/Brewster town line. Rain Cancels.

Leader: Diane Silverstein  
 508-364-7050

[birder526@comcast.net](mailto:birder526@comcast.net)

**September 10, 2012**

*David Clapp*

**“Australia  
 The Birds Down Under”**

Australia is full of great barren expanses, fun-loving people, a very long mountain range, a residential coast, and about 60 families of birds not found in the United States.

Of the approximately 850 species of birds listed for Australia, about 650 are regular. Many, perhaps most, of these birds are present in large numbers in the right habitats.

Join David Clapp as he takes us from Tasmania, to the Great Barrier Reef, and into the Great Red Center (Alice Springs and Uluru {Ayers Rock}). See the iconic Kookaburra, lots of cockatoos and parrots, and other easy to see birds of this great, sparse, island continent. Perhaps an echidna, wombat, or wallaby might pass by.

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 been involved in ecotourism for more than 30 years and has led tours throughout the world. David lives on the Cape, where he can be seen leading walks for the Cape Cod Bird Club.

*See the website for more  
 walks and events*

[www.massbird.org/CCBC](http://www.massbird.org/CCBC)

## Upcoming Events



October 8, 2012

**Shawn Carey**

***“Epic Journeys: Tracking the Migrations of Shorebirds in the Western Hemisphere”***

## Wanted: Program Director

Have you been considering getting more involved in the bird club?

Presently, we are looking for an organized and perhaps persuasive person to be our program director.

Historically, this person contacts potential speakers and passes speaker and topic along to the newsletter editor as well as the webmaster. At our meeting he introduces this guest

If this sounds like you, contact President Peter Bono or Vice President Ron Ayotte and let them know.

Looking forward to seeing you at our meetings.

### 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, 2012. 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/Youth Fund \$\_\_\_\_\_ Extra Gift to Club \$\_\_\_\_\_ Total Enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_

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

**Cape Cod Bird Club  
Attn: Charlie Martin  
PO Box 704  
Harwich, MA 02645**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you would like a Member ID card (for \$5.00 Dolphin Fleet Whale Watch Discount):

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

Check it out!  
Birding Weekend Flyer inside.

## **The Cape Cod Bird Club, Inc.**

**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, Attn: 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*

Roger Jenks	Diane Silverstein
Christine Hight	Jane Martin
Mary Keleher	

Membership/Address Changes ~ Charlie Martin E-mail: [cemartinjr@comcast.net](mailto:cemartinjr@comcast.net)

Nominating Committee Chair ~ TBA