President’s Message

Ah, Fall on the Cape. You all will be receiving this in October, which means it's time once again to get reacquainted with the subtle beauty and identification challenges offered by sparrows and fall warblers.

It's one of my favorite months. I encourage everyone to hit your local weedy patches - vacant lots, overgrown community gardens, and gravel pits may not be the loveliest of places, but the rewards in October could be Clay-colored Sparrows, Dickcissels, Blue Grosbeaks, White-crowned Sparrows, and other fall delights. Better yet, join one of our club walks and sort through the little brown jobs with one of our experienced leaders - it's the best way to become a better birder.

Besides, birders should really hang out with each other because no one else gets us. Check inside for a schedule of our fall walks.

October also means falcons chasing down Dunlins, ducks, and Black-bellied Plovers along our barrier beaches. I'll never forget the day I had as many as 11 Peregrines hunting Nauset Marsh in Eastham together on the same day a couple of Octobers ago. One gang of 6 juveniles was hanging out together the whole time. This raptorial youth gang would repeatedly drift high out over the ocean with the wind, then come screaming back into the marsh to terrorize hapless shorebirds, seemingly toying with them without ever catching any.

Last year a satellite-tagged Peregrine spent the fall and winter on the Cape, and this year a young banded bird hatched in Lawrence, the runt of the litter I am told, has been photographed pouncing on a sandpiper at South Beach.

But enough about birds - what is this, anyway, some kind of "bird club"?

Let's talk about the stellar new board of directors we've got this year. This is very much a new administration, with new board members occupying the President (some guy named Faherty), Vice President (the loveably irascible Peter Bono), Treasurer (the unfailably high-level school administrator Charlie Martin), Programs Coordinator (Paula "Won't Take No for an Answer" Goldberg, Publicity Director (Cynthia "Mistress of All Media" Franklin), and Refreshments Coordinator (Alice "Give Me Brownies or Give Me Death" Berry) positions.

In addition, we are still looking for volunteers to fill the Merchandise Coordinator, Trips Coordinator, and Newsletter Editor positions.

If you are interested in helping us by filling any of these please (pretty please?) contact a board member or talk to us at the next monthly meeting, as we could really use you.

The only holdover from last year is our stalwart Secretary, Peter "Jaeger Meister" Flood. Having witnessed the hard work this board has already put in before the year had even begun, I can tell you I am looking forward to working with all of them, and to a particularly productive year.

Your orders for this quarter are to:
1) attend the monthly meetings and check out our top-notch lineup of speakers: 2) join some of our fall bird walks and 3) participate in some of the many fall/winter citizen science initiatives out there, including our Feeder Census and Cornell's Project, the Cape Cod Waterfowl Survey and, of course, the Christmas Bird Counts. Information on all of these and more can be found inside.

See you out there!

Mark Faherty
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!)

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**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**
P.O. Box 704
Harwich, MA 02645

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

**Officers**

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

**Directors**

Julie O'Neil  Vianna Heath
Matt Malin  Alice Berry
Paula Goldberg  Cynthia Franklin

*Newsletter*

Editor ~ Ed Banks  E-mail:  [edbanks@verizon.net](mailto:edbanks@verizon.net) or  [capekingfisher@yahoo.com](mailto:capekingfisher@yahoo.com)

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

*Nominating Committee Chair ~ Ginie Page*
Please Note:
Heavy rain or snow cancels all trips. Call leader if in doubt. Also, please check our website for any changes or additions.

Oct 2 - FRI - 8:00 -10:00 AM
Ryder Conservation Area in Sandwich. This woodland area surrounds the eastern edge of Mashpee/Wakey Pond and can be very productive during the fall migration. Meet in the parking area on Cotuit Road.
Leader: Mary Keleher, 508-477-1473 or maryeak@yahoo.com.

Oct 10 - SAT - 8AM - 10 AM
Sandwich Game Farm.
A variety of habitats: marsh, tidal estuary, coniferous woods, fields and mixed deciduous forest. Hopefully some migrants warblers, late raptors and land birds and maybe even some very late shorebirds. Diagonally across from PREMIER JEEP Dealership, Route 6A in Sandwich very close to Scorton Creek Bridge.
For more info contact Phil Kyle at 508-495-0196.

Oct 17 - SAT - 8:00 - 11:00 AM
Bank Street Bogs, Harwichport.
60+ acres of brushy, weedy fields and seed-bearing wildflowers interspersed with flowing irrigation streams- what more could a migrating sparrow want?
Join us for a leisurely walk through this quintessential Cape Cod fall birding spot. Park behind the Harbormaster’s building on Bank Street in Harwichport. For more information see the website below. http://www.harwichconservationtrust.org/bankstreetbog.html and here is a video of woody plant removal at the site: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9nvhGGkSCKQ
Leader: Al Curtis killdeer89@comcast.net

Oct 24 - SAT - 8:00 -12:00 AM
Mass Audubon Long Pasture Sanctuary
Meet at the parking lot NEAR THE OFFICE (not the one near the shed on Bone Hill Road) at 0800. After birding the Sanctuary grounds we might visit other local woods along 6A in Barnstable and Yarmouth Port. We might end up at Corporation Beach in Dennis. 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 to Long Pasture Sanctuary: From Rt 6, take exit 7 (Willow Street) to Yarmouth Port. Go north one mile on Willow Street, take a left onto Rt 6A west, go one mile, and take a right on Bone Hill Road. Follow the road as it takes a sharp right turn and then a sharp left turn. Drive almost to the end of the road. The driveway into the sanctuary is on the left. Park near the house or in the field if the house parking lot is full.
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 (after 0700), he will have his cell phone on (774-487-2848). Call him if you get lost or decide not to come.

Nov 8 - SUN - 9AM - Noon
Orleans and Eastham
We’ll go “coast to coast” to check out birds from Cape Cod Bay to the Atlantic Ocean and the ponds in between. Ducks, sparrows, migrating hawks and remaining shorebirds are possible.
Meet at the Hole-in-One Donut Shop near the intersection of Route 6A and Main Street in Orleans.
Leader: Ed Banks, 508-769-6762 or edbanks@verizon.net

Jan 1 - FRI - 12 Noon - 4PM
New Year Birds
Mid-Cape or Hot Spots
Get your 2010 year list off to a great start! Click off your yard birds in the morning and join us at noon.
Meet in the Stop & Shop parking lot at Patriot Square on Route 134 in South Dennis. Take exit 9A off Route 6. Left at lights. Party hats optional!
Leader: Ed Banks 508-769-6762 or edbanks@verizon.net

2009 Cape Cod Area Christmas Bird Counts

Buzzards Bay
Saturday, December 19th
Contact Jeremiah Trimble
jtrimble@oeb.harvard.edu

Cape Cod
Sunday, December 20th
Contact Blair Nikula
508-432-6348 or odenews@odenews.org

Mid-Cape
Sunday, December 27th
Contact Peter Trimble
508-362-4485 or merlin042@comcast.net

Truro
TBA
Contact: Tom Lipsky
tlip1@comcast.net or 978-897-5429 or Ginie Page vpage@juno.com or 508-349-6810
Check the club’s website for additional counts and updates. http://massbird.org/CCBC

New birders are always welcome on all club trips.
Leaders and other birders will be more than willing to help you identify the birds you see.

A pair of binoculars and an interest in visiting the many spectacular areas on the Cape and viewing the many avian species is all that’s required.

Please plan to join us soon!
27th Annual Cape Cod Waterfowl Census December 5 & 6, 2009

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 in 1984.

Now in its 27th 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.

Cape Cod Bird Club 2009 Fall Programs
Paula Goldberg, Program Coordinator

October 12, 2009
Eduardo del Solar:
“New England Birds”

Eduardo del Solar will present images providing artistic and technical renditions of birds from New England including birding hotspots such as South Beach, the Merrimack River, Plum Island, and images from New Hampshire and Maine. Many of the birds common to the New England area will be presented but Eduardo will also include images of some rare visitors such as the 2007 New Hampshire Western Reef Heron, the Plymouth Ivory Gull and the Northern Hawk Owl from Bristol, Maine.

Eduardo del Solar was born and raised in Lima, Peru. Presently he resides in the New England area where he has been working as a public school teacher in the city of Boston for the last 25 years teaching technology courses. From December 2005 to December 2006 Eduardo participated in a one year project at the Boston Nature Center with the purpose of honing his photographic skills and advancing his web design skills. He is also engaged in a three to five year Birds of the Americas project, a project that has taken him to Peru, Costa Rica and Galapagos. His goal is to photograph nature in the New England area all the way down to his native country.

Don’t miss this exciting program!

November 9, 2008
Shawn Carey

“Photographing Birds and other Wildlife: Where, When and How”

Over the last ten years, photographing birds and other wildlife has become increasingly popular with the vast improvements in digital technology. With that is the understanding there are many challenges that need to be better understood.

"Where", "When" and "How" do you photograph birds are the three questions that are at the top of the list.

Shawn will speak to these topics as well as the equipment needed (camera, computer and software) and tricks of the trade. To illustrate this, he will look at Wellfleet Bay Sanctuary and two other Mass Audubon properties, all of which have observation blinds or photo blinds to assist in seeing and photographing birds.

He will have some interesting stories and welcomes lots of give and take with the audience, which should provide for a lively meeting.

Shawn Carey moved from his home in Erie, PA in 1986 to Cambridge MA and started watching birds in 1988.

He combined his interests in photography and birds in 1991, and three years later he and good friend Jim Grady started Migration Productions (www.migrationproductions.com) to present their multi-image slide programs to a live audience. Over the last fifteen years, Migration Productions has been presenting quality bird/wildlife programs with stunning photographs, video, sound tracks, and interviews to birding organizations, local bird clubs, and at birding events.

In 1997, Shawn started teaching bird photography workshops (Fundamentals of Bird Photography) for Mass Audubon, and four years ago started teaching a summer three-day field school workshop at Wellfleet Bay.
Shawn's photos have been published in the Boston Globe, New York Times, Mass Audubon Sanctuary magazine, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary magazine and many others. He is Vice President of Eastern Mass Hawk Watch and is on the Board of Directors of the Brookline Bird Club.

This is a great opportunity to view a fabulous program and improve your photography skills as well!

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**Upcoming Cape Cod Bird Club Programs for 2010**

- **January 11th** - John P. Kelly
  “Whip-poor-will breeding study on the Mass. Military Reservation”
- **February 8th** - Robbie Fearn
  “Wild Bird Rehabilitation on Cape Cod”

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**Please Note:**
Programs are subject to change. Please check our website for updates.

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

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**Members’ Night**

**December 14, 2009**

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.

**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!

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**Digital Slide Show**

Club member Peter Bono has again volunteered to assist in the digital slide portion of this year’s Members’ Night, Monday, December 14, 2009. Generally speaking, you may email your images to Peter (pbono@prba.com) in any format as an attachment. He’ll resize and rename them as needed and organize them into folders. Don’t worry if you are not “computer savvy”. Get a family member or friend to help email the images or put them on a CD and hand them to Peter at a meeting.

For computer-savvy members interested in making Peter’s task a bit easier, some guidelines follow:

Contact Peter Bono ASAP if you intend to participate even if you are not yet prepared to email the zip file containing your images. This will give him an idea of how many presenters we will have.

We ask that members submit 10-15 images.

1. Send up to 15 digital images in jpg format in a zip file attachment to Peter Bono (pbono@prba.com).
2. Crop (if necessary) and resize the original camera image to 1024 x 768 resolution.
3. Name each file as follows: "XXX_YYYYYYYY.jpg" where XXX are your initials and YYYYYYYY is the species name. Use underscore character (_) for spaces in the bird’s name.
4. Send your images by November 30th to allow Peter enough time to put the whole slide show together.
5. For more info, please call Peter at 508-375-9421.

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**Editor’s Note:**

**Help Wanted:**

- Newsletter Editor
- Trips Coordinator
- Trip Leaders

The Cape Cod Bird Club is a wonderful organization with many talented and giving members. However, we need more of you to step forward to help the club maintain its high standards. This will be my fourth and last year as newsletter editor. I am more than willing to work with the new editor throughout this year. A coordinator for club trips and more trip leaders are also needed. Please put your talents to work (or learn new skills) to keep the Cape Cod Bird Club going strong!

*Ed Banks*
Orioles, Oranges and Jelly: A Winning Combination

If you have never tried to lure orioles to your yard, you don’t know what you’re missing. Offering orange halves and grape jelly or jam in early May can entice orioles to build a nest in your area.

Jelly also attracted Red-bellied Woodpeckers and Gray Catbirds, as well.

While oranges attract them, it is the jelly that keeps them coming. Our feeder has had both adults and juveniles from early May until they left abruptly in early September.

We were blessed with as many as ten birds at a time as they fueled up before leaving on their journey south.

So give it a try and maybe you will be as fortunate as we!

Happy Birding,
Chris & Ed Banks

Can you find the six orioles in this picture? The photo is blurry but you get the idea!

Cape Cod Birds Listserv for Cape Cod Area Bird Sightings & Discussions

CapeCodBirds is a new Internet Listserv for the discussion of all aspects of birdwatching or information pertaining to birding on Cape Cod. Suggested topics are bird sightings, identification, status and distribution, birding locations, and announcements from birding organizations.
To read posts, go to the Cape Cod Birds Listserv website: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/capecodbirds/
To post, send an email to: capecodbirds@yahoogroups.com

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/
Thank You, Mary, for a Job Well Done!

David Clapp, Program Coordinator, presented Mary Keleher with a book on Rails as well as the club’s heartfelt thanks for her outstanding work as club president. (Photo by Julie O’Neil)

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.

emartinjr@comcast.net or 508-430-1257

New Members

We welcome the following new members:

Gregory & Lois Cronin, Marstons Mills
Ann W. Howe, Harwich
Carole Martino, South Yarmouth
Kay & Larry Medford, Houston, TX
Bennet Porter, East Falmouth
Philip & Helen Routledge, Cardiff, Wales, UK
Fred Streams & Patty Shannon, South Wellfleet
Charles & Frances Szeglin, Orleans
Barbara Welch, Harwich Port
Martha Wicks, Harwich

Hope to see you at our Club walks and meetings!
Cape Cod Bird Club  
Backyard Feeder Census - Year - 20___ to 20___

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 the club's Secretary: Peter Flood, 5 Hokum Rock Road, Dennis, MA 02638 or pomarine@comcast.net

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Other Species: 

Name & Address (census location)