President’s Message

I’ve been having a lot of trouble pulling out onto Rt. 6 lately, which must mean it’s time for the Summer Newsletter! And that means it’s basically fall, since the southbound migrant shorebirds will be arriving any day now. Soon places like South Beach in Chatham and Coast Guard Beach in Eastham will be once again swarming with southbound shorebirds.

First the haggard adults come through, looking very much as if they just got done raising kids. Then later in August and September the young’uns they abandoned on the arctic nesting grounds start showing up looking all crisp and new. These callow youth, only weeks old, then must find their own way to wintering grounds as far away as Argentina in some cases. Human children seem awful needy in comparison.

We’re currently planning the Birding Cape Cod Weekend, including another pelagic trip on the Dolphin Fleet, for sometime in September, probably September 24th – 26th. Look for a mailing later this summer with a final schedule of events, and check the website as well. The pelagic trip was very popular last year based on the fact that we were fully booked plus there was a waiting list, so this year we are hoping the weather will let us actually get out on the boat. We board members feel strongly that getting out on a boat is an important component of a successful pelagic birding trip.

Some of you may have noticed there were no elections in May. We will have a special election at the September meeting to re-elect the directors, to replace outgoing Outreach Coordinator Julie O’Neil, and to officially elect Roger Jenks and Peter Brown as Merchandise and Trips Coordinators, respectively, since they had been appointed by the board to fill vacant positions.

We’ve had a lot of turnover with board positions this year, but we have things figured out now and I look forward to a period of relative stability in the club leadership. For example, we have finally found a willing replacement for Ed Banks as our newsletter editor – Christine Hight of Wellfleet. Ed has done a bang-up job for us the last few years, and we had begun to despair of ever finding a worthy successor. Thanks for all your work Ed! And thanks to Chris for taking over. Ed and Chris worked together on this edition, but she will be flying solo come fall.

We have also secured a Trips Coordinator in Peter Brown of Falmouth. Peter is a frequent trip leader and thus is familiar with the good birding spots as well as the good potential trip leaders to harass. We’ve had an inexplicably hard time filling this position ever since Matt Malin ruined everything by going and getting himself a job.

My president’s message wouldn’t be complete without a reminder to get out and help with the Breeding Bird Atlas, Mass Audubon’s 5-year effort to document the distribution of all the breeding birds in Massachusetts.

It’s already sounding like there may be some new breeding records for the state established on Cape Cod this summer, but it’s going to take some field work. Late, and some good birders are on the case.

(Continued Page 5)
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, Treasurer
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**

- Alice Berry
- Cynthia Franklin
- Roger Jenks
- Charlie Martin
- Peter Brown
- Paula Goldberg
- Julie O'Neil

**Newsletter**

Editor ~ Christine Hight  E-mail: [sea7adria@comcast.net](mailto:sea7adria@comcast.net)

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

*Nominating Committee Chair ~ Ginie Page*
**Please Note:**
Rain or heavy wind cancels all trips.
Call leader if in doubt.

**July 5 - MON - 7:00 - 9:00 AM**
Stauffer’s Puddle, Sandwich
We'll check the puddle, marsh, beach and water for herons, egrets, shorebirds, terns, gulls, and swallows.
Meet at Route 6A Convenience Store across from Ploughed Neck Road in Sandwich.
We'll carpool to the puddle.
Leader: Mary Keleher, 508-477-1473 or maryeak@yahoo.com

**Aug 21 - SAT - 5:30-7:00 PM**
(Evening) West Dennis Beach
Meet at the West Dennis Beach PARKING LOT at the FAR END (Bass River).
We'll look for the resident endangered Piping Plovers and Least Terns. We'll also hope to find migrating 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: Peter Bono, 508-375-9421 or pbono@pbra.com.
After 4 PM on the day of the walk, you can reach him on his cell phone at (774-487-2848).

**Aug 24 - TUE - 9:30 - 4 PM**
South Beach, Chatham.
Meet at the Monomoy NWR Headquarters on Morris Island, in Chatham at 9:30 AM.
We'll take the Morris Island Ferry to the beach and then leisurely view the thousands of shorebirds and seabirds in migration.
**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 plan to attend.
Rain, heavy wind or surf cancels. No rain date.
Leader: Ed Banks 508-430-0845 or edbanks@verizon.net

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**Note:**

**The Fifth Annual Cape Cod Birding Weekend to be held September 24 - 26**
The information will be sent in a separate mailing in early August.
It will again include many birding trips capewide and a six-hour pelagic trip on Sunday, September 26th aboard a Dolphin Fleet boat out of Provincetown.
Please mark your calendars and join us for a great weekend of fabulous birding!
CCBC Programs

September 13, 2010

Blair Nikula

“Birding the Bank: The Birds of Stellwagen Bank.”

In conjunction with the Cape Cod Bird Club’s pelagic trip planned as part of the Birding Cape Cod Weekend, this program will describe the birdlife of Stellwagen Bank. Blair Nikula, a native Cape Codder and past CCBC President, is a lifelong birder with over 40 years of birding experience on the Cape and a special interest in seabirds. He will show us how to identify and distinguish the seabirds we might expect to encounter on a pelagic trip, and also talk to us about seasonal occurrence and at-sea biology.

Blair Nikula is a former regional editor for American Birds (now North American Birds), a former associate member of the Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program Advisory Committee, and currently serves as a member of the Mass Avian Records Committee. Blair has also been studying and photographing dragonflies and damselflies for about 20 years. For 13 years he co-edited Ode News, a newsletter about the donates of southern New England. He also co-authored the Stokes’ Beginner’s Guide to Dragonflies and Damselflies and A Field Guide to the Dragonflies and Damselflies of Massachusetts.

He is currently working on a revision of The Birds of Cape Cod. Seabirds have always been a special interest, and he has spent hundreds of hours over the past 40 years bouncing around Stellwagen Bank, as well as thousands of hours of land-based observations of seabirds from shore.

This incredible program is a must-see event!

Northern Fulmar
(Photo by Blair Nikula)

October 11, 2010

Herb Raffaele

"Paradise Lost? Not yet!: Saving the Caribbean’s Birds."

Come on a virtual bird tour through the Caribbean to see and learn about some of its spectacular birds, many found only in that region. Two bird families -- the toadies and palm-chats -- occur only there.

Herb’s talk will include the origins of the avifauna, tidbits about ecology, folklore, and threats to species survival. He also will show us bird conservation on a few particular islands and the conservation efforts of several heroic individuals with scant resources, but big hearts who are making a difference to sustain this extraordinary avian heritage for future generations.

Dr. Herbert Raffaele is the Chief, Division of International Conservation for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, where he directs conservation projects worldwide, with an emphasis on developing human resources locally and addressing root problems threatening the world’s fauna and flora. He has 35 years experience in international conservation, and was formerly the Director of Wildlife Planning for Puerto Rico.

Herb is the recipient of the Alexander F. Sketch Medal for Excellence in Neotropical Ornithology.


Another fabulous program not to be missed!
President’s Message (Continued)

My money is on Crane WMA in Falmouth to produce a new breeding record - it has been a hot-bed of rarity activity of And given the almost absurd number of Mississippi Kites Don Manchester has been documenting at the Pilgrim heights hawk watch, I really think they have to breeding out there somewhere. And it’s your job to find them, so go get ’em - the next new breeding record, whatever it is, could come from your block.

Mark Faherty

New Members

We welcome the following new members:
Richard & Alice Kelley, Strafford, PA
Chuck & Char Clarke, Blackstone, MA
Sally Zigmond, Wellfleet, MA
Lori Peterman, Wellfleet, MA
Hope to see you at our Club walks and meetings!

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.
- Download and print a walk checklist.

http://www.massbird.org/ccbc/

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, 2010. 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
P.O. 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): ☐
Ludlow Griscom Award Presented to the late Dick Jurkowski

May 10, 2010

It has been several years since the Cape Cod Bird Club has awarded the Ludlow Griscom Award to one of its members. In September we were saddened to hear of the passing of beloved club member and past president Dick Jurkowski. Reflecting on his life, the board realized that Dick, through his years of service to the Cape Cod birding community, exemplified the spirit of the Griscom award as it was envisioned in 1997 by then club president Don Scott.

Dick began birding during his childhood in New York, and became a full-time Cape Cod birder in 1996 when he retired to Marstons Mills with his wife, Sylvia. He was president of the club from 2002 – 2005.

A larger than life figure in the birding community, Dick was a skilled and tireless promoter of the club, and membership increased during his tenure. As I talked to people who know Dick better than I, several words came up repeatedly: kind, generous, patient, outgoing, charming, and persuasive. My understanding of Dick’s persuasiveness was that if you found yourself at a Dunkin Donuts with him, you were about to agree to do something, whether you knew it or not. “When he asked you, you didn’t have a choice”, says Ginie Page. Ginie had another quote about Dick that I liked – that he “lived in a world of friends he hadn’t met yet”. Dick and Sylvia welcomed countless birders into their home during their famous backyard birding “trips”. Dick, with his infectious love of birds and outsized personality, was an uncommonly skilled ambassador for both the club and for birding in general.

It’s the sum total of these qualities and accomplishments that led the board to award the 2010 Ludlow Griscom Award to Dick Jurkowski. We thank Sylvia Jurkowski for accepting this posthumous award, in the form of a gorgeous Belted Kingfisher carved by board member Roger Jenks, on his behalf.

Mark,

I want to thank the Cape Cod Bird Club members and those responsible for the very special Ludlow Griscom award that was presented to my husband, Dick Jurkowski, at the May 2010 meeting. How I wish he could have been there to accept it himself, but it was my pleasure to receive this award for him. Our children and Dick’s brothers and sisters were very pleased.

Dick recognized that this Ludlow Griscom award, bearing the name of one of the greatest ornithologists, was a very special award. A really big deal! As a CCBC Board member and President, Dick always loved that moment when that special birder was named and called forward and he enjoyed their surprise and happiness.

Now this surprise and happiness is ours. Thank you for recognizing Dick Jurkowski for this very special honor.

It has meant so much to me and to our whole family.

Sylvia Jurkowski