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.

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!
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

Beech Forest Bird Walks

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@emarldphysicians.com 508-280-1678
April 2012

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**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 Islands. 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.
## May 2012

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### 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*
Mark your calendars now for
MUSEUM MADNESS
Cape Cod Museum of Natural History, the location of all our meetings, Is holding its 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 donations 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!

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**June 2012**

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

In 1998 the Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, 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 being mid April through mid May, Don Manchester is there counting hawks. Flights are best during mornings before noon and on days that feature winds from a southerly direction. Pilgrim Heights is located 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 overlook.
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

Help Wanted!

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.

Help Wanted!

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!

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.
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

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

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

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                                                                 | Option 2                                                                 |
   | Friday: evening dinner & Keynote speaker | Friday: afternoon field trips & dinner/speaker |
   | Saturday: all day field trips & workshops, evening Mixer | Saturday: all day field trips & workshops, pelagic trip, evening Mixer |
   | Sunday: all day field trips & workshops, pelagic trip | Sunday: morning field trips, rain date for pelagic trip |
   | Monday: 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.
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
Mary Keleher
Paula Pariseau
Roger Jenks
Diane Silverstein
Christine Hight

Newsletter Editor ~ Christine Hight sea7adria@comcast.net
Membership/Address Changes ~ Charlie Martin E-mail: cemartinjr@comcast.net
Nominating Committee Chair ~ Ginie Page