President’s Message

That’s what I consider true generosity. You give your all, and yet you always feel as if it costs you nothing.

Simone de Beauvoir (1908-1986)

In this season of giving, at Members’ Night (see story on p. 6), you all showed your generosity on behalf of our young scholarship winners and to all those guides, rangers, and educators in Central and South America that work tirelessly to safeguard our precious birds—both the local residents and the winter migrants that breed here in North America. I urge you to continue to be generous—both in spirit and in deed—so that we can continue to protect our environment and fulfill the mission of the Cape Cod Bird Club. There are many on-Cape volunteer opportunities to show your generosity. If you are new to the Club, we can help you find a place where your generosity will be valued: conservation trusts, bluebird trails, museums, pan-Cape environmental organizations, nature centers, and wildlife rescue and care organizations.

Michael Dettrey has put together a great program of walks for the coming quarter (pp. 3-4); please set aside time to join one of the walks and meet some new birding friends. The third annual Cape Cod Bird Festival aims to be the best yet. See Gerry Cooperman’s description of their plans (p. 5) and volunteer to help out.

Winter is the time to seek visitors that breed in the north—Snowy Owls, redpolls, finches, alcids, and white-winged gulls. It’s also the time to seek out the occasional vagrant from the west, like hummingbirds, Townsend’s Solitaire, Varied Thrush, and sparrows like the LeConte’s and Lark that were found in Eastham in mid-December.

And, please come to a CCBC meeting this winter. You’ll enjoy the program and meet new birding friends.

Good birding, Peter
Third Annual Cape Cod Bird Festival——save the dates

CAPE COD BIRD FESTIVAL 2015

– Friday, September 18—Sunday, September 20, 2015

Gerry Cooperman, Chairman

Headquarters at the Double Tree Hotel by Hilton, Hyannis

Registration opens April 15, 2015 – check the web site:

http://www.capecodbirdclub.org

The 2015 Cape Cod Bird Festival’s planning is well under way to ensure that this will be another success story for the Cape Cod Bird Club. We have some exciting events planned and new places to visit.

Here are our special guests for the Festival. Friday’s speaker will be Dr. Miyoko Chu (image at right) author of Songbird Journeys the riveting tale of the wonders of bird migration. Saturday will be Richard Crossley (image below) author of the popular Crossley ID Field Guides.

We plan to make the Vendor Marketplace very exciting this year so check the web site for further news. And if you know of any crafts people that would be appropriate please contact me.

The trips will include our popular places plus some new places like Cuttyhunk on Saturday out of Falmouth. We have been told that South Beach is open again, so keep your fingers crossed.

Family Day will be a free event this year and feature Wilson’s Eyes on Owls at the CCMNH along with other events. Please join us for an exceptional day.

As always the Festival would never be anything if it were not for the Volunteers. We rely on you for so many things and cannot thank you enough. Please contact Diane Silverstein or Stefanie Paventy if you wish to volunteer. Diane – birder526@comcast.net; Stefanie – stefpav09@gmail.com.

We need your help.
Contact me at trogon6@aol.com or 508 – 331 – 0345 for information and questions.

Gerry

2014 Bird Festival tote bags and t-shirts are still available at meetings for a discounted price.
Club Trips, Winter 2015 — Michael Dettrey, Trip Coordinator

Join us on these free club trips. Leaders appreciate a call or e-mail. For latest updates, always check our website. www.capecodbirdclub.org

Thursday, January 1st — 12 PM - 4 PM / Ed Banks / Mid Cape to Lower Cape Hot Spots: ‘New Year Birds’
Meet in the Stop & Shop’s north-west parking lot at Patriot Square on Route 134 in South Dennis. Take exit 9A off Route 6, left at lights. Get your 2015 year list off to a great start! Click off your yard birds in the morning and join us at noon. Party hats optional! Leader: Ed Banks; 508-769-6762 or edbanks@verizon.net.

Sunday, January 4th— 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM / Michael Dettrey / South Cape Beach in Mashpee: ‘Dead Neck March for Ducks’
We’ll walk the Dead Neck trail from the Town Beach parking lot to the jetty at the end of this beautiful barrier beach, approximately 2 miles round trip. We’ll check the beach and pond for wintering ducks, loons, grebes, wintering shorebirds and maybe a few land birds too. Meet in the Town Beach parking lot. From the Mashpee Rotary take Great Neck Road South for approximately 2.5 miles and continue straight onto Great Oak Road. Turn left at the “All Beaches” sign. Drive to the end of the road and turn left to access the Town Beach parking area. Dress warmly! Leader: Michael Dettrey; 774-212-7080 or swanpondside62@aol.com.

Saturday, January 10th—8 AM - 12 PM / Philip Kyle / CC Waterfowl Census Ponds: ‘Deja Vu All over Again’
We’ll be visiting about 10 ponds in Falmouth including (3) viewing locations for Coonamesset Pond. Please RSVP for any weather alerts like rain/snow (PLAN B on Sunday). Meet commuter lot: ‘Hyannis Park and Ride’ right off Rte. 6, Exit 6 (behind Burger King) to carpool. For more info please call. Leader: Phil Kyle; 508-495-0196 or email: archeopt@yahoo.com.

Sunday, January 11th—8:00 AM – 12:00 PM / David Clapp / Hot Spots in Eastham: ‘Ducks, Ducks & More Ducks’
We will look for overwintering birds in the thickets and around the fresh water ponds not frozen to see dabbling & diving ducks. Then we’ll check for sea ducks along the bay and ocean shores. Meet at the Cape Cod National Sea Shore Visitors Center. Leader: David Clapp; 508-896-7322 or naturalhistoryservices@comcast.net.

Monday, January 12th—8:00 AM – 1:00 PM / Diane Silverstein/ Wellfleet to Provincetown: ‘Ducks Wintering’
We’ll spend the morning checking the seas, bays and thickets from the Wellfleet Town Pier to the Provincetown Wharf. We’ll be looking for wintering waterfowl, alcids and perhaps some visitors from the far north. Meet at the Wellfleet Town Pier. Leader: Diane Silverstein; 508-364-7050 or birder526@comcast.net.

Saturday, January 17th—7:30 AM – 10 AM / Stefanie Paventy Barnstable: Winter Birding at Sandy Neck /Loop #1
We’ll make our way down the beach to scope for seabirds then make our way down Trail #1 to observe what’s in the marsh. Take 6A to Sandy Neck Rd in Barnstable and follow road to meet at the far beach parking lot. Leader: Stefanie Paventy; 508-968-5125 or stefpav09@gmail.com.

Sunday, January 25th—7:30 AM – 10:00 AM / Stefanie Paventy Corp. Beach in Dennis & Points East: ‘Wintering Birds’
We’ll look for sea ducks Harlequin or King Eider, loons, grebes, alcids, wintering gulls: Iceland, Lesser Black-backed, wintering & unusual land birds. We’ll continue east along the bay checking the various beaches. We might end up as far as First Encounter Beach and/or Fort Hill. Take Corporation Road off Route 6A in North Dennis & meet at Corporation Beach parking lot. Leader: Stefanie Paventy; 508-968-5125 or stefpav09@gmail.com.

Monday, February 2nd—9:00 AM – 12:00 PM / Diane Silverstein / Hot Spots in Provincetown: ‘Winter Birding in P’town’
We’ll visit Macmillan Wharf and other local P’town birding hot spots. Meet at the Stop’n Shop northwest corner parking lot on Rt. 134 in Dennis (Patriot Square) to carpool. The lot is closest to Route 134. We’ll look to have lunch (Napi’s?) in P’town in between searching for wintering sea ducks, and more! Rain or snow cancels. Leader: Diane Silverstein; 508-364-7050 or birder526@comcast.net.

Walks continue next page
## Winter Club Trips, cont’d

### Saturday, February 7th–8 AM - 12 PM / Philip Kyle / Outer Cape: ‘Winter Wanderers’ / We’ll be visiting LeCount Hollow Beach, Indian Neck, Wellfleet Harbor, First Encounter marsh/beach, Herring Pond, Great Pond, Coast Guard Beach and Town Cove Landing. Please RSVP for any weather alerts like rain/snow (PLAN B on Sunday). Meet at the Orleans Marketplace on Rte 6A near ‘Staples’ to carpool. For more info please call. Leader: Phil Kyle; 508-495-0196 or email: archeopt@yahoo.com.

### Saturday, February 14th–8 AM – 4 PM / Stefanie Paventy / Hot Spots in Rhode Island: ‘Off Cape Birding’ / Possible places to visit will include the East Providence Reservoir, Wachemocket Cove, Ninigret NWR, Trustom Pond NWR, Moonstone Beach, Sachuest NWR & Beavertail Point. We’ll be guided by open water during hard winter conditions. The focus of the trip will be waterfowl but we should see a great diversity of birds during the day. We’ll stop somewhere for lunch. Bad weather cancels. Please RSVP. Meet at the commuter parking lot by the Sagamore Bridge on Rte. 6, coffee in-hand. Leader: Stefanie Paventy; 508-968-5125 or stefpav09@gmail.com.

### Monday, February 23rd–9:00 AM – 12:00 PM / Ed Banks / West Dennis Beach to HC Lands: ‘Winter Birds’ / We’ll look for ducks, loons, Snow Buntings, Purple Sandpipers and more. We’ll then caravan over to Bell’s Neck Road in West Harwich and walk the conservation lands on the north side of Great Western Road. Rain or snow cancels. Leader: Ed Banks; 508-769-6762 or edbanks@verizon.net.

### Monday, March 9th–5:00 PM–6:30 PM / Judith Davis and Jamie Gilson / Crane WMA in Falmouth: ‘Birding with Kids’ / Bring a kid and join us as we walk the fields in search of land birds settling in at dusk 5:30 PM. We will ‘look and listen’ and maybe even play some tapes for the crepuscular: American Woodcocks, owls or even bats performing their unique courtship display / feeding techniques. Dress warmly & bring a bright flashlight and/or binos. Meet at the Crane WMA parking lot all the way at the end of the dirt road entrance off of Route 151 between the ball field and the old Nickelodeon Theater. Leaders: Judith Davis; 508-432-3780 or motherjude3@aol.com

### Monday, March 16th–5:30 PM – 7:30 PM / Michael Dettrey Dennis: ‘Crowes Pasture Birding’ / We’ll look for early migrants and wintering birds settling in for the night (ducks /6:41 PM). We’ll walk the woodland trail, beach, and main dirt road. Directions: (Brewster / Dennis line) Route 6A + Airline Rd./School St. turn right at this intersection; take first right onto South St; go past the Quivett Cemetery to the dirt road & meet in the 1st parking lot on the right. Leader: Michael Dettrey; 774-212-7080 or swanpondside62@aol.com.

### Saturday, March 21st–8:00 AM – 10:00 AM Stepfanie Paventy / Cape Cod Canal & Sandwich Marina: ‘Winter Waterfowl’ / We’ll scope the water at the old Horizon Restaurant parking lot for eiders, loons, grebes, scoters and maybe a Harlequin Duck or King Eider. Winter shorebirds are possible along the jetties. From there we’ll head over to the Sandwich marina to see what else we can find. Meet in the parking lot of the Old Horizon / Hemisphere Restaurant, end of Town Neck Road, Sandwich. Leader: Stefanie Paventy; 508-968-5125 or stefpav09@gmail.com.

### Sunday, March 29th–6:45 PM – 7:30 PM / Mark Faherty / North Truro: ‘Birds of the Evening!’ / We will look for marsh birds and other birds settling down though dusk at ~7:04 PM. We will have nice views of the sunset over Provincetown before the woodcocks display. Dress accordantly. Meet at just off Rte. 6 & High Head Rd in North Truro and park along the roadside. Leader: Mark Faherty; 774-288-9468 or mfa-herty@massaudubon.org.
Winter Programs for January, February, March

How to Survive Iceland with Middle School Students  January 12—Peter Trull
In June of 2013, Peter took a group of his Lighthouse Charter middle school students on a trip of a lifetime to the wilds of Iceland, on the edge of the Arctic Circle. Offering a mix of New World and Old World Arctic nesting birds amidst fjords and dramatic volcanic landscapes, this island nation offers massive seabird colonies full of murres and kittiwakes, tundra nesting loons and shorebirds, and even Gyr falcons. From Arctic Terns and Long-tailed Jaegers to Black-tailed Godwits and Eurasian Oystercatchers, Peter will share his photos and stories of international birding with a gaggle of enthusiastic middle schoolers.

Peter Trull holds a Master’s Degree in Education and has been involved in marine research since 1976. Author of five books about Cape Cod natural history, he directed Mass Audubon’s Coastal Seabird Program from 1976 to 1986 during which time he conducted research on the market trapping of common terns and shorebird species in Guyana, South America. He has made over 2,000 whale watching trips related to education and population studies under the auspices of the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies since 1992. He was Education Director of the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History, as well as the Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies. He teaches 7th Grade Science at the Cape Cod Lighthouse Charter School in Harwich, MA.

Lions and Flufftails and Barbets – Oh My!  February 9—Peter Bono
In Sep-Oct 2013, Peter made a fabulous trip to South Africa (with a visit to Sani Pass, Lesotho) with Birding Africa Tours. This trip resulted in 512 species (including 210 lifers) with many South African country and regional endemics. Highlights include Cape Griffin, Black Harrier, Southern Bald Ibis, Buff-spotted Flufftail, Damara Tern, Ground Woodpecker, lots of Karoo specialties, many endemic larks and several endemic sunbirds, Knysna and Livingstone Turacos, Cape and Gurney’s Sugarbirds, Cape and Drakensburg Rockjumpers, Woodward’s and Pririt Batis, Green-backed and Pink-sided Twinspot, and Barratt’s, Knysna, Victorin’s, andNamaqua Warblers—all hard to see skulkers. Peter will share photos of many South African birds, mammals and scenery in this travelogue.

Peter has been birding since he was 10 and is the current President of the Cape Cod Bird Club. A computer scientist and software developer, he started his worldwide birding travel in the 70s on various business and pleasure trips, but he did not take his first birding tour until 1991. After birding in over 60 countries, he passed the 6000 species milestone in 2014, with trips to China and Northwest Argentina. Besides loving travel, he also collects birds on stamps, and his collection includes examples of approximately 2,000 species.

Birds, Beasts, and Bureaucrats  March 9—Herb Raffaele
Herb Raffaele’s talk will parallel his recent book Birds, Beasts and Bureaucrats, which is a rollicking adventure to remote islets, hidden caves, and tropical forests tracing a young naturalist's steps to study and conserve the extraordinary wildlife of Puerto Rico, an island paradise in the heart of the Caribbean. Exotic birds, fish-eating bats, un-described frogs, and even the "strong-voiced cave-mouth" an extraordinary nocturnal specter, are among the menagerie of exotic wildlife encountered as we accompany the author to the most remote corners of the island in an effort to save these and other unique critters for posterity

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. Skutch Medal for Excellence in Neotropical Ornithology. He is the author of the definitive Guide to Birds of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands (1989); and coauthor of A Guide to the Birds of the West Indies and Wildlife of the Caribbean.
We had a wonderful December meeting with presentations from our Hog Island Scholarship winners, Shannon Adams and Madaket Nobili (Picture below. Please tell teens you know about the scholarship and the deadline listed in the scholarship box.) Many wonderful books and other gear related to birding along with goodies from the bake sale earned more than $1,000 for our scholarship and the ABA Birders’ Exchange. With holiday shopping and the great winter caps as well as notecards, our club merchandise table earned almost $135. We also enjoyed member slides and delicious goodies, including Fran Ziegler’s yummy owl cheese ball. Thanks to all who helped make this a terrific holiday meeting and thanks to the young scholarship winners, great birders and teens.

Members’ Night Festivities and Auction Results

Scholarship Application for 2015

If you know Cape Cod teens (ages 14-17) who would be thrilled to win a scholarship to the Hog Island Audubon Coastal Maine Bird Studies for Teens next summer (June 21-26, 2015), please encourage them to apply for the two scholarships we will offer. The Deadline for the application is January 12, 2015. Check the website or contact the scholarship coordinator, Vice President Charlie Martin at cemartinjr@comcast.net for the application form. For information about the camp, check the website: http://hogisland.audubon.org/bird-studies-teens
New Members, Membership Renewals, Photos, Christmas Bird Count

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

(All locations are in MA except where indicated)

Gina Barletta              Brewster
Magda Bechar              Belchertown
Peter Crosson              Osterville
Pat & Gerard Drombrowski  Yarmouth Port
Betsey & Dick Edwards     Marstons Mills
Marcy & Ron Klattenberg   East Falmouth
Philip Kyle & Family      Harwich
Jonathan O'Neil           Brewster
Terry & Sid Pomper        East Falmouth
Joan Simpson              Mansfield Center, CT
David Spector             Belchertown
Maria Tyler               South Harwich
Marilyn Tillinghast       Orleans
Maria Tyler               South Harwich
Patricia Vigliorolo       Yarmouth Port

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

were due on September 1. If you forgot, please send in your renewal right away. This saves us lots of effort and postage if we don't have to follow up with reminders later in the year. Dues are $20 for individuals and $25 for families. Send renewal to Cape Cod Bird Club, Attn: Membership, PO Box 485, Centerville, MA 02632

Photos: 1. American Pipit, Sea Gull Beach, Charlie Martin. 2. Rufous Hummingbird, Brewster, Charlie Martin. 3. LeConte’s Sparrow, Eastham, Peter Bono. 4. Ash-throated Flycatcher, Harwich Community Gardens, Judith Davis.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT RESULTS:
The 83rd Cape Cod Christmas Bird Count was held on December 14. We had great coverage and decent weather, and recorded an above average 132 species. Thanks to all who helped, Blair Nikula.

Highlights of a few species:
► 1 Eurasian Wigeon (female at Arey's Pond in Orleans)
► 20 N. Pintail (highest since 1980)  ► 4 Barrow's Goldeneyes
► 2 Sora (ties record high)  ► 2 Snowy Owls
► 1 Barred Owl  ► 3 Saw-whet Owls
► 1 RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD (Brewster; 4th count record, all in the last 8 years)
► 89 Eastern Bluebirds (highest since 1955!)  ► 11 Am. Pipits (more than double the previous high of 5)
► 1 GRASSHOPPER SPARROW (Ft. Hill, Eastham; 4th count record)
► 1 LECONTE’S SPARROW (Eastham; 2nd count record)  ► 2 White-crowned Sparrows (1st since 2002)
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 $20 (individual) or $25 (Family or Household), along with the membership form available for downloading from our web site (<www.capecodbirdclub.org/join/>) to: CCBC, PO Box 485, Centerville, MA 02632

Officers:  
Peter Bono  President  (pbono@prba.com)
Charlie Martin  Vice President  (cemartinjr@comcast.net)
Peter Flood  Secretary  (pomarine@comcast.net)
Fran Ziegler  Treasurer  (franz@atlanticdb.com)
Gerry Cooperman  Assistant Treasurer  (trogon6@aol.com)

Directors:  
Mark Faherty  Programs  (mfaherty@massaudubon.org)
Eldon Ziegler  Club Merchandise  (eldonz@atlanticdb.com)
Paul Schlansky  Publicity and Outreach  (schlansky2@gmail.com)
Jane Martin  Refreshments  (janeemartin@comcast.net)
Judith Davis  The Kingfisher Editor  (motherjude3@aol.com)
Michael Dettrey  Trips Coordinator  (swanpondside62@aol.com)

Ex-officio:  
Ken Casson  Membership Co-chair  (casson1@netscape.com)
Barbara Grasso  Membership Co-chair  (quinngrasso@aol.com)