



The Kingfisher

VOL 45 (1)

Fall (October—December) 2016

The Cape Cod Bird Club meets on the second Monday of each month, September through May, at 7:00PM at the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History, 869 Route 6A, Brewster, MA.

In this issue:

President's message	1
Fall Programs	2
Club Bird Walks	5
New Members & eBird	7
Membership Form	8
Member images	9
Youth bird art exhibit	10
Other images and links	11
Board Members	12

The *Kingfisher* is published quarterly. Deadline for the next issue: December 12; Send articles, images, etc. to:

motherjude3@aol.com

CCBC Website:

www.capecodbirdclub.org

(with color copy of *Kingfisher*)

Webmaster: Terry Gavin

wbmstr@capecodbirdclub.org

CCBC Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/CapeCodBirdClub

Eastern Bluebird — Jamie Gilson, age 14, juried youth art exhibit,

Taking Flight. (see page 10)



President's Message: Welcome Back!!!

I hope that each and every one of you had the opportunity to enjoy this warm and dry summer. I know the weather kept me from doing some of the outdoor activities I treasure. However, I'm not complaining when I see what Mother Nature has provided to some other parts of our country. Recently, on one of these hot summer days I was going through some old club materials. I know I should have been out birding, but it was very, very hot, without a breath of air, and the humidity hung like a drone over my yard—even the birds in my yard were lined up on a tree branch to cool down with a refreshing dip in my small yard stream.

But I digress; where was I, Yes, I was reminiscing about the items I found that speak to the history of our Club. Don Scott a former President of our Club noted in his message of November, 1996 that “ fifty-one people attended the first meeting of the Cape Cod Bird Club,” on the cold and rainy night of December 6, 1971. From that meeting the newly formed club members decided to confirm “the decision to meet on the first Monday of each month at the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History and to have two bird walks each month.” At the Club's second meeting, in January, it was announced that the newly formed Club had 31 family memberships, 29 individual memberships and 1 student member.

I was amazed and quite frankly, not surprised to see that the motivation for these early members of the CCBC was not unlike our members' interests today: a focus on the natural world, birds in particular, environmental impact issues, and worldwide influences that affect our local birds, to mention a few.

So, as we embark upon our 45th year as a Club I want to reiterate what our early founding membership held near and dear to their hearts. First, as often as possible, go out into the natural world to see birds in their habitat. Second, become aware of issues that impact birds, be a voice to support and encourage efforts to help sustain and improve their survival. Recently, I read that Massachusetts has placed eleven (11) species of birds on the endangered list. How tragic! Please remember that through our collective deeds and actions we must work continually as stewards for the environment, ensuring that the next generation of birders, here on Cape Cod, has the opportunity to enjoy the same level of pleasure that we currently receive from our birding experiences.

Charlie Martin, President

Fall Programs for our monthly meetings

► **October 10, 2016, 7pm Keenan Yakola**

Birding from the Edge: A rare look into the life of a seasonal biologist on the outmost island in Penobscot Bay, Maine.

Seal Island National Wildlife Refuge is located 22 miles off of Rockland Maine. The island is home to a large colony of nesting seabirds including Atlantic Puffins, Arctic and Common Terns, Razorbills, Black Guillemots, as well as Double-crested and Great Cormorants. The nesting seabird colony is monitored each summer by a team of biologists and interns working for Project Puffin. The past two summers Keenan Yakola had the privilege to work on the island as a research supervisor overseeing the interns studying these charismatic seabirds. In addition, the island's unique geographic location attracts migrant songbirds and shorebirds during the spring and fall. The past two summers Keenan has collected stories and pictures of the nearly 200 species observed on the island. Since Seal Island has restricted access and the public cannot visit the island, this is a rare opportunity to glimpse the endless beauty of Maine's Coastal Islands.



Keenan Yakola is a native Cape Codder who first got interested in birding and conservation through Mark Faherty at Wellfleet Bay Audubon Sanctuary during an internship at Nauset High School. Since then he has received his Bachelor's Degree from the University of Massachusetts in Wildlife Conservation, studied songbirds in Kenya and Tanzania, bushwhacked through the Peruvian Amazon, banded songbirds and shorebirds from Cape Cod to Florida, and over the past three years has lived out of his tent for 4 months each summer on islands in the Gulf of Maine. He is now back at UMass Amherst as a Master's

Fellow with the Northeast Climate Center studying Common, Arctic and Roseate Terns and their vulnerability to Climate Change while nesting on islands in the Gulf of Maine.

Images ©Keenan Yakola: Arctic chick waiting for lunch on Eastern Egg Rock Island; Arctic tern brings sand lance lunch to chick on Seal Island; Yellow-billed Loon at Race Point.



Fall Programs, cont'd.

► **November 14, 2016, 7pm: James Junda****Bird Banding on the Outer Cape: Tales from Wellfleet and Monomoy**

While many are familiar with the important long-term bird banding work of Sue Finnegan at Wing Island in Brewster, James Junda has been banding songbirds at two less well-known sites on the Outer Cape in recent years, including the lighthouse at South Monomoy and Mass Audubon's Wellfleet Bay Sanctuary. In this talk, James will detail the goals and methods of constant-effort mist netting to monitor migrating songbirds, detail how birds can be identified and aged in the hand, and highlight some of the interesting finds over the several years, including some eye-popping

rarities that ended up in the nets on South Monomoy.

James Junda grew up spending his summers on Cape Cod, where he developed the love for nature that would guide his life. Graduating from Oregon State University with a BS in Zoology, James quickly became involved in fieldwork and the joys of conducting real science in the wild. Over the next 7 years James studied wild birds, working with everything from ducks to parakeets to warblers, acquiring the experience and skills of a true biologist. It was during this time that he developed a love for banding; he has now banded more than 20,000 birds in five countries. In 2011, James fulfilled a lifetime dream by returning to Cape Cod and establishing a banding station on South Monomoy, which ran until 2014. James received his MSc in Wildlife Biology from McGill University studying the use of small drone helicopters to survey raptor nests. Since 2014, he has run the banding station at Mass Audubon's Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary each fall and spring.

Images: James Junda with banded birds (above); researching birds in the field; Blue-headed Vireo greets bird bander James Junda (Photo by Mark Faherty)



Fall Programs, cont'd.

► **December 12, 2016, 7pm****MEMBERS' NIGHT 2016 - YOU'RE INVITED by Jane Martin**

Members' Night this year will be on December 12th. For those of you who are new to the Cape Cod Bird Club, here is the lowdown about the festivities for this event.

Members' Night is a combination of FUND-raising and FUN-raising to celebrate a great year of birding... and to raise monies for two activities our Club supports: *Student Scholarships to Birding Camp* and *Birder's Exchange*, which supports struggling ornithologists in Central and Latin America with whom we share the migratory lifecycle of our beautiful passerines that spend the winter south of the border!

We have two methods to raise funds. Throughout the year we have collected books on bird and birding topics as well as some bird or nature related gift items or artwork. Then we hold a silent auction to sell them to club members at incredible prices. (PLEASE: Do not bring in any more books for this year's sale. We have more than enough.)

Meanwhile, we also have a wonderful BAKE TABLE with sale items for members to purchase. Seasonally wrapped cakes, pies, cookies, brownies, fudge, jams, jellies, etc. are sold to be used during the holidays or tucked into the freezer for a mid-winter treat! Having a party? Stock up at the BAKE SALE TABLE! Unlike the book auction...we can never have enough items donated to the BAKE SALE TABLE. Please plan ahead with your donation of delicious items wrapped to be carried home...and labeled with ingredients.

Throughout the evening, door prizes will be given away. Merchandise from local bird stores and our club merchandise will also be available. Purchase Kingfisher note cards, pins, patches, bird lists and more for last minute gift ideas. All in all, it's a joyful night of fund-raising and fun! Give, eat, and be merry with old and new birding friends alike.

Images: Bake sale goodies on Members' Night; Puffin dessert



Club Bird Walks, Fall 2016

Fall Walks: Join us on these free club trips. Heavy or steady rain (or snow) typically cancels the walk. Call or e-mail the walk leader prior to the walk, if possible. For the latest updates, always check our website www.capecodbirdclub.org. **TRIPS are listed by BIRDING HOTSPOT and date. The trip/walk coordinator is Stefanie Paventy.** Contact her (stefpav09@gmail.com) with general questions, and contact the trip leaders for details about specific walks.

► Fall Walks: October

Gardens...Not Just for Butterflies – Mid-Cape

Peter Bono, pbono@prba.com or 774-487-2848 – **Saturday, October 8 at 7AM.**

Rise and shine with the birds at the Brewster, Dennis and Harwich Community Gardens. These areas have had vagrants in past years, so why not check them out just in case. Plus, we will have a variety of local birds that are pleasing to the eye. Meet at the parking lot across from the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History. Email Peter to let him know you are coming. Rain cancels; phone him (774-487-2848) after 6:30AM on the day of the walk if you are uncertain that the walk will be run.

Fort Hill – Eastham

Ed Hoopes, ehoopes63@comcast.net or 508-737-7479 – **Friday, October 14 at 10:30AM.**

Join us for a walk along the loop trail at Fort Hill in Eastham. We will also watch the marsh during the incoming tide in hopes of those secretive sparrows being pushed up by the water. High tide will be at 10:47AM. If you would like to walk the marsh edge, please wear knee high waterproof boots.

Birding Truro

Ginie Page, vgpage@juno.com or 508-349-6810 – **Thursday, October 20 at 8:30AM.**

Many people like birding Truro, but some don't know exactly where to go. Join us while we run around town searching for a variety of birds from bay to ocean and the thickets in between. We will meet and carpool from the Dunkin Donuts (2393 Route 6) parking lot in Wellfleet.

Milling with Birds – Mid-Cape

Judith Davis, motherjude3@aol.com or 508-432-3780 (home)/508-221-2322 (cell) – **Saturday, October 22 at 7AM.** We will meet at Corporation Beach where we will look for seabirds and gulls. Then we'll carpool over to Dennis Mill Pond, Scargo Lake, Stony Brook Mill, and Lower Mill Pond, searching for dabbling ducks. This is an easy morning of scoping for birds from the shore, so bring your scope if you can.

► Fall Walks: November

Sandy Neck Beach – Barnstable

Peter Crosson, pcrosson@emeraldphysicians.com or 508-280-1678 – **Sunday, November 6 at 8AM.**

We will start on the beach to scope for seabirds, and then make our way along the trail to search for birds in the marsh. Highlights may include seabirds, passerines and raptors. Meet at the beach parking lot past the visitor's shack.

Pond Hopping – Dennis

Stefanie Paventy, stefpav09@gmail.com or 203-415-1956 – **Saturday, November 12 at 7AM.**

We will begin the morning at Corporation Beach looking for seabirds and gulls. Then we'll carpool over to Scargo Lake, Slough Pond and Walkers Pond searching for dabbling ducks. This is an easy morning of scoping for birds from the shore, so bring your scope if you have one. If not, Stef will let you use hers!

Crane Wildlife Management Area – Falmouth

Stefanie Paventy, stefpav09@gmail.com or 203-415-1956 – **Friday, November 25 at 8AM**

Work off those Thanksgiving pounds by joining us for walk through Crane! Meet in the main parking lot on Route 151 in Falmouth (near the model airplane field). We will walk around the newly restored grasslands in search of sparrows, thrushes, buntings and raptors. We may even be lucky enough to glimpse a bobwhite!

Walks continue next page

Fall Bird Walks, continued

► **Fall Walks: December**

Winter Waterfowl Survey

Let's count waterfowl together! Please get in touch with Stefanie Paventy (stefpav09@gmail.com or 203-415-1956) to let her know you want to join a team. This is typically the first full weekend of December.

Pier to Pier Sweep – Outer Cape

Ginie Page, vgpage@juno.com or 508-349-6810 – Thursday, December 8 at 9AM.

From land to sea, the birds are everywhere! On our journey across several stops from Wellfleet to the Provincetown Piers, we will look for wintering waterfowl as well as passerines sheltering in bushes. Meet at the Wellfleet Town Pier to scope and then carpool. Foul weather cancels.

Cumberland Farms – Halifax/Middleboro

Stefanie Paventy, stefpav09@gmail.com or 203-415-1956 – Friday, December 9 at 7AM.

Let's help your Plymouth County checklist! Join us for a walk through Cumberland Farms for a variety of birds. We will meet at the commuter parking lot on the **mainland** side of the Bourne Bridge (behind Krua Thai Restaurant and next to the canal rail road bridge). Please wear boots for mucky conditions. There are areas of the farm where you can sink to ankle deep. Please dress in layers as the wind can be very cold.

Christmas Bird Counts

Don't forget to find your local Christmas Bird Count! <http://www.audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count>

► **Fall Walks, Preview of Winter: January**

New Year's Day w/Ed Banks – Mid-Cape

Ed Banks, 508-769-6762 or 68edbanks@gmail.com – Sunday, January 1, 2017 – Noon – 4PM.

Please join us for this now annual New Year's Day walk. Meet in the Stop & Shop parking lot at Patriot Square on Route 134 in South Dennis. Take Exit 9A off Route 6 and a left at the lights. Get your 2017 year list off to a great start! Click off your yard birds in the morning and join us at noon. We will bird the mid-cape and perhaps some other hotspots. Party hats optional!

Birding a Winter Wonderland – Falmouth

Stefanie Paventy, stefpav09@gmail.com or 203-415-1956 – Saturday, January 7, 2017 at 7AM.

Meet at the Shining Sea Bike Path parking lot near the intersection of Locust St/Woods Hole Rd and Mill Rd. We will begin the day by birding the Shining Sea Bike Path including Oyster Pond and the Salt Pond Bird Sanctuary. Then we can do a quick peek at Siders Pond. Then we can head over to Perch Pond to search the Redhead and Canvasback. Depending on how the group feels, we can continue on to Great and Green Ponds as well as Falmouth Harbor (typical location of the Barrow's Goldeneye). Please dress in layers, and bring water and snacks.

Olympic race on Cape Cod: the Yellowlegs is winning over the Snowy Egret! [Image by Judith Davis]



New Members and “All about eBird!”

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Frank Bridges, Millington, NJ

Brian Buczkowski, Teaticket, MA

Ron & Sara Julicoeur, Brewster, MA

Walter McClenn, Harwich, MA

Susan Newlin, Harwich, MA

Donald Paradis, Falmouth, MA

MaryAnn & Richard Sayers, West Dennis, MA

Christopher Wadsworth, Dennis, MA

► 2016 Birding with CCBC & eBird— Stefanie Paventy



“eBird” (www.ebird.org) is a wonderful tool created by Cornell’s Lab of Ornithology. It is a citizen science program where birders of all calibers can enter their sightings into an online database. It’s a fairly straightforward website, but if you get hung up, there are lots of helpful answers found throughout the site. Keeping up with technology, there is even a smartphone app so data can be entered while you’re out on the trail. I’m pretty sure the Lab of Ornithology can make anything happen!

The Cape Cod Bird Club has decided to integrate eBird into our bird walks. At the beginning of the year, our bird walk leaders began keeping tally of all the birds we saw on our walks and entering data into eBird. Let me tell you, we have seen a great number of birds this year! Here’s what we have seen so far:

In total – 164 species from 51 checklists

In Massachusetts – 158 species, from which 144 species were seen in Barnstable County

In Rhode Island – 60 species

The most abundant species throughout the year was American Robin, closely followed by Tree Swallow and then Common Tern. Our most bountiful month of the year was February with a whopping 82 species (we should thank the ducks for that)! Species with the highest frequency were Herring Gull, American Crow and Song Sparrow. Some highlights from 2016 include Lesser Black-backed Gull scoped from Morris Island, Royal Tern seen at Nauset Marsh, the famous Mountain Bluebird seen at Crane Wildlife Management Area, a Hooded Warbler at Beech Forest in Provincetown, and a Wilson’s Warbler at Mount Auburn Cemetery.

I want to thank all of the walk leaders for dedicating their time to help us enjoy the birds of Cape Cod and beyond. Let’s keep up this great effort and finish 2016 with even more of our feathered friends. Check out our fall walks and join us for some of them. Looking to the future, I’m sure 2017 has fantastic birds flying our way, so, as our old friend Vern said, keep your eyes to the sky!

Membership form for 2016-2017

Membership Form for the Cape Cod Bird Club 2016-2017 Membership Year

This insert may be used as your CCBC Membership **renewal form** and also may be used by new members joining for the first time. Remember dues were due on **September 1, 2016, and your membership will expire on Aug. 31, 2017.** New members may join at any time. Thank you for renewing on time.

- Individual Membership \$20.00 Family (Household) Membership \$25.00

If you would like to give an additional donation, it will be much appreciated. Thank you for your support

Membership dues \$ _____

Young Birder Scholarship Fund \$ _____

Extra Gift to Club \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please return this form with your check made out to Cape Cod Bird Club and mail to:
Cape Cod Bird Club, Attn: Membership, PO Box 485, Centerville, MA 02632

Household Address: _____

Household Tel. No.: _____

Name(s)	M/F*	Email Address**	Approx. Age* (check one)
			< 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 20 – 35 <input type="checkbox"/> 36 – 50 <input type="checkbox"/> 51 – 65 <input type="checkbox"/> 66 – 80 <input type="checkbox"/> > 80
			<input type="checkbox"/> < 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 20 – 35 <input type="checkbox"/> 36 – 50 <input type="checkbox"/> 51 – 65 <input type="checkbox"/> 66 – 80 <input type="checkbox"/> > 80
			<input type="checkbox"/> < 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 20 – 35 <input type="checkbox"/> 36 – 50 <input type="checkbox"/> 51 – 65 <input type="checkbox"/> 66 – 80 <input type="checkbox"/> > 80
			<input type="checkbox"/> < 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 20 – 35 <input type="checkbox"/> 36 – 50 <input type="checkbox"/> 51 – 65 <input type="checkbox"/> 66 – 80 <input type="checkbox"/> > 80

Notes: * (Optional) Please provide your gender and approx. age so that we can design programs to serve you better.

** (Optional) If we have your email address, we can send periodic, updated notifications in a timely manner.

CHECK HERE if you would like to save the Club postage expenses, by electing to receive your newsletter (*The Kingfisher*) **by email only.**

CHECK HERE if you would like to receive a **CCBC Membership Card.**

Member Images

Images by **Stefanie Paventy**: Royal Tern at Nauset Marsh; Belted Kingfisher, Red-breasted Nuthatch,



Images by **Charlie Martin**: Cooper's Hawk, Roadrunner, Northern Beardless-Tyrannulet, Verdin



Museum of American Bird Art Youth Art Exhibit, *Taking Flight*



Artists who attended the opening reception, along with David Sibley, (back row in gray shirt); Sean Kent, (in the middle in tie), Jamie Gilson, (third from left in front row). Images below show Jamie and his painting with Sean Kent and David Sibley and Jamie. Images by Judith Davis and Sean Kent.

The Museum of American Bird Art (part of Mass Audubon) in Canton, MA, recently held its first annual juried youth bird art exhibition, which was open to any children and young adults ages 4 to 18 years

old. All selected entries (about 25/100) are now on display at the Museum of American Bird Art until December 11th. Entries for the second annual exhibition will open in early 2017. One of our Club members, Jamie Gilson, now 14, was selected as one of the artists. You can see the exhibit at the Museum's website: <http://blogs.massaudubon.org/takingflight/>. [His last name on the website is listed as Davis, Judith's last name, instead of Gilson, his other parent's last name.] The images below show at the opening reception on September 23, MABA's Education director, Sean Kent with Jamie and David Sibley with Jamie. The theme of the exhibit was "your favorite bird." Jamie has several favorite birds, but chose the Eastern Bluebird. Here is what he wrote about it for the competition:

The Eastern Bluebird is one of my favorite birds of New England because I have watched it, and fed it, and nurtured the nest boxes in our yard and at the Community Gardens in our town. This year, Mama and I were invited to be nest box monitors at an old cranberry bog in our town. The Cape Cod Bird Club has 45 nest boxes there, some occupied by Eastern Bluebirds, and we take our turn checking on them. I have loved seeing the various stages of growth in the Bluebirds, inspired by artist Julie Zickfoose's new book, *Baby Birds*. . . I chose . . . watercolor, because I loved the Cerulean blue.



Other Member Images and links to birding websites.

Birders scoping early migrating shorebirds at Sandy Neck and American Avocet fishing at Plum Island by Judith Davis; Immature Gadwall and Winter Wren by Charlie Martin



Check out these other important birding websites:

<http://www.birdwatchersgeneralstore.com/> Mike O'Connor's bird store in Orleans

<http://southyarmouth.wbu.com/> Tom Thompson's Wild Birds Unlimited in South Yarmouth

<http://ebird.org/content/ebird/> Get signed up for ebird and list your sightings to help us all.

<http://ebird.org/content/ebird/news/sonab2016/> Get the State of North America's Birds 2016

<http://www.massaudubon.org/our-conservation-work/wildlife-research-conservation/statewide-bird-monitoring/breeding-bird-atlases/> Check out the birds that breed in Massachusetts

<http://www.massaudubon.org/learn/museum-of-american-bird-art/> great bird art exhibits



Cape Cod Bird Club
PO Box 485
Centerville, MA 02632

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/) or on page 7 to: **CCBC, PO Box 485, Centerville, MA 02632**

<i>Officers:</i>	Charlie Martin	President	(cemartinjr@comcast.net)
	Paula Pariseau	Vice President	(parisgold@comcast.net)
	Peter Flood	Secretary	(pomarine@comcast.net)
	Fran Ziegler	Treasurer	(franz@atlanticdb.com)
	Gerry Cooperman	Assistant Treasurer	(trogon6@aol.com)
<i>Directors:</i>	Mark Faherty	Programs	(mfaherty@massaudubon.org)
	Paul Schlansky	Publicity and Outreach	(schlansky2@gmail.com)
	Jane Martin	Refreshments	(janeemartin@comcast.net)
	Judith Davis	<i>The Kingfisher</i> Editor	(motherjude3@aol.com)
	Stefanie Paventy	Trips Coordinator	(stefpav09@gmail.com)
<i>Ex-officio:</i>	Ken Casson	Membership Co-chair	(casson1@netscape.com)
	Barbara Grasso	Membership Co-chair	(quinngrasso@aol.com)

Follow the Cape Cod Bird Club on our website
and on our Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/CapeCodBirdClub>

