



# The Kingfisher

VOL 45 (4)

Summer (July—Sept) 2017

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.

## Vice-President's Message

### Vice President's Message

In the blink of an eye, spring migration on the Cape has come and gone. I hope you had the opportunity to see many of the warblers and other migrants as they passed through here. Unless you packed your bags and followed them up north, the next month or so on the Cape is the time for you to close your front door so all your long-lost relatives and friends don't find you, and then head out back or anywhere else on the Cape to enjoy watching the summer bird activity of parents nurturing their young and the comedic adventures of the fledglings as they venture out of the nest. Before you know it, the shorebirds will be returning to our sandy beaches on their way south for the winter again. And the cycle continues, as it always does.

Speaking of changes, the CCBC welcomes all of its newly elected officers and directors. Judith Davis has turned in her press card and will be stepping up as the Club's President, Christine Harris-Bates gets a well-deserved night out once a month to be our Vice-President, Mary Jo Foti's math skills will come in very handy as our Treasurer, and after too long an absence Julie O'Neil is returning to the board - this time as Secretary. Marilyn Schlansky's baking prowess will be put to great use as our Refreshments doyen, and Peter Bono will be taking up the reporting beat as Newsletter Editor. Our four returning directors are: Mark Faherty taking time away from his radio engagements to put together the Speaker Programs, Stefanie Paventy running down tour leaders to conduct our free bird walks, Paul Schlansky getting the word out about the club's activities, and George Oleyer gently hawking CCBC merchandise. And to our directors who have retired from the board, thank-you for your service.

Our next meeting is in September, on the second Monday at 7:00 pm at the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History. Hope to see you there!

*Paula Pariseau*

*Editor's Note: The CCBC thanks Paula so much for her work this year taking over the nest vacated by Charlie Martin, who definitely fledged and migrated north. Well done, Paula; we will miss you on the Board.*

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*The Kingfisher* is published quarterly. Judith Davis, editor. Deadline for the next issue: September 11; Send articles, images, etc. to the new editor of *The Kingfisher*, Peter Bono at [pbono@prba.com](mailto:pbono@prba.com).

CCBC Website:  
[www.capecodbirdclub.org](http://www.capecodbirdclub.org)  
(with color copy of *Kingfisher*)

Webmaster: Terry Gavin  
[wbmstr@capecodbirdclub.org](mailto:wbmstr@capecodbirdclub.org)

CCBC Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/CapeCodBirdClub](http://www.facebook.com/CapeCodBirdClub)



Image: Atlantic Puffin being banded on Eastern Egg Rock Island; photo by Jamie Gilson

## Programs and Walks

► Monthly meetings and programs begin again on **Monday, September 11 at 7pm**. The Board will provide refreshments as we *begin* our meeting. This September meeting is a time to meet with your fellow birders, hear about their summer excursions and life birds, and enjoy a great program. Monthly meetings are held on the second Monday of every month at **7:00 p.m.** from September through May at the [Cape Cod Museum of Natural History](http://www.capecodmuseum.org), 869 Rte. 6A, in Brewster, MA. Our meetings are **free** and open to the public. Check the website ([www.capecodbirdclub.org](http://www.capecodbirdclub.org)) for the September guest speaker.

**Summer Bird Walks:** Join us on these free club bird walks. Heavy or steady rain 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](http://www.capecodbirdclub.org). **TRIPS /WALKS are listed by BIRDING HOTSPOT and date. The trip/walk coordinator is Stefanie Paventy.** Contact her ([stepav09@gmail.com](mailto:stepav09@gmail.com)) with general questions, and contact the trip leaders for details about spe-

### July

#### Bell's Neck and West Harwich Conservation Areas

Judith Davis, [motherjude3@aol.com](mailto:motherjude3@aol.com) or 508-432-3780(h) / if you'll be late, text me at 774-212-0744

**Saturday, July 8, 6:30AM**— Meet at Bell's Neck Road at the landing (footbridge) of the West Reservoir. We will explore some hidden mixed woodland and some old cranberry bogs for passerines. We will also look for ducks and shorebirds in the open water. Please be prepared for swampy conditions; you might want to wear/bring wellies.

#### Bourne Gems

Stefanie Paventy, [stepav09@gmail.com](mailto:stepav09@gmail.com) or 203-415-1956

**Sunday, July 16, 7:30AM**— Bourne is a hidden treasure in the birding world of Cape Cod. Meet at the parking lot at Aubuchon Hardware on Barlow's Landing Road in Bourne. We will hike through Four Ponds Conservation Area and Leary Conservation Area. Possible highlights may be waders, flycatchers, Osprey, nesting warblers and thrushes.

#### Navigation Road - Barnstable

Stefanie Paventy, [stepav09@gmail.com](mailto:stepav09@gmail.com) or 203-415-1956

**Tuesday, July 18, 6:30PM**—We are going to scope Great Marsh while the tide rises at Navigation Road. High tide is at 6:26PM. We might also walk the dirt road for any passerines. Please be prepared for wet conditions; although we will stand on the deck of the marsh house during high tide, the path may be wet and mucky. You will need waterproof knee high boots. This bird walk has minimal walking requirements, but we will be standing for at least 2 hours. Meet at the commuter parking lot by Burger King (Exit 6 off of Route 6). We can carpool to Navigation Road from there.

#### Waiting for High Tide...And Lots of Birds! - Eastham

Christine Harris Bates, [cmharris86@gmail.com](mailto:cmharris86@gmail.com) or 774-722-2147

**Thursday, July 20, 8:30AM**—Join us for a walk along the loop trail at Fort Hill in Eastham. We will then watch the marsh for incoming shorebirds, and hopefully a bittern, while the tide rises. High tide will be at 11:28AM. Meet at the Salt Pond Visitor's Center where we will drive together to the lower parking lot of Fort Hill. If you want to walk the marsh for incoming sparrows, rails and bitterns please wear appropriate attire for wet conditions.

*Walks continue next page*

## Club Bird Walks, Summer 2017

### Waiting for High Tide...And Lots of Birds! - Eastham

Christine Harris Bates, [cmharris86@gmail.com](mailto:cmharris86@gmail.com) or 774-722-2147

**Thursday, July 20, 8:30AM**—Join us for a walk along the loop trail at Fort Hill in Eastham. We will then watch the marsh for incoming shorebirds, and hopefully a bittern, while the tide rises. High tide will be at 11:28AM. Meet at the Salt Pond Visitor's Center where we will drive together to the lower parking lot of Fort Hill. If you want to walk the marsh for incoming sparrows, rails and bitterns please wear appropriate attire for wet conditions.

### Morris Island - Chatham

Stefanie Paventy, [stefpav09@gmail.com](mailto:stefpav09@gmail.com) or 203-415-1956

**Friday, July 28, 7AM**—We're going to have some summer-time fun! We will make our way through the neighborhood down to the Morris Island flats for mid-ebb tide. We will scope the flats while the shorebirds come in to forage. Low tide will be at 10:01AM. Please be prepared for a lot of sun and wet conditions (possible ankle-high wading). Also be aware that there is Poison Ivy on some of the trails. Please meet in the parking lot of the refuge.

## August

### High Head – N. Truro

Judith Davis, [motherjude3@aol.com](mailto:motherjude3@aol.com) or 508-432-3780(h)/774-212-0744(c)

**Saturday, August 5, 7:30AM**—Meet at the Salt Pond Visitors Center. We will hop into cars to consolidate our "convoy," and of course decrease our carbon footprint! We'll walk the trails in hopes for rail, bobwhite, seabirds and shorebirds.

### West Dennis Beach

Peter Bono, [pbono@prba.com](mailto:pbono@prba.com) or 774-487-2848

**Saturday, August 12, 5:30PM**—Meet at the West Dennis Beach parking lot at the far end (as nearest to the breakwater and Bass River as you are permitted to drive). We will look for lingering summer-breeding endangered Piping Plovers and Least Terns, as well as migrating shorebirds. To participate, please contact the leader in advance. Rain cancels.

### Hemenway Landing – Eastham

Judith Davis, [motherjude3@aol.com](mailto:motherjude3@aol.com) or 508-432-3780(h)/774-212-0744(c)

**Friday, August 18, 7PM**—Meet at Hemenway Landing to watch the Night Herons fly out of their roost. We'll look for other birds at the landing while we wait for the Night-Herons, so bring a scope if you have one. Please be aware that the Night-Herons don't come out of their roost until sunset, so we will likely be there until dark.

## September

### Crane WMA – Falmouth

Judith Davis, [motherjude3@aol.com](mailto:motherjude3@aol.com) or 508-432-3780(h) / 774-212-0744(c)

**Saturday, September 2, 7AM**--We will meet in the parking lot at Crane WMA on Route 151 in Falmouth (across the road from Ranch Road and behind Hamilton Tree & Landscape). We will walk around the grasslands for warblers, sparrows, and possible raptors...perhaps even a bobwhite!

### Paddling Nauset Marsh – Eastham

Judith Davis, [motherjude3@aol.com](mailto:motherjude3@aol.com) or 508-432-3780(h)/ 774-212-0744(c) & Stefanie Paventy, [stefpav09@gmail.com](mailto:stefpav09@gmail.com) or 203-415-1956.

**Saturday, September 9, 7AM**--Grab your kayak or canoe (or rent one and bring it) and paddle with us while we find the birds of Nauset Marsh. We'll head toward the beach where there is a flat that shorebirds and terns like to hang out. You **must** have a life jacket to participate in this fun activity. Since we will be in the sun for a long time, please bring plenty of sunscreen and water. Please meet at Hemenway Landing in Eastham.

### Farming for Birds - Falmouth

Stefanie Paventy, [stefpav09@gmail.com](mailto:stefpav09@gmail.com) or 203-415-1956

**Friday, September 29, 7AM**--We will meet at Peterson Farm where we will walk around the thickets looking for flycatchers, vireos, warblers, and possibly a Bobolink or Dickcissel.

## Traveling Somewhere

### Traveling Somewhere? Contact the local Bird Club! By Marilyn Schlansky

Birding is a wonderful activity, accessible no matter where you find yourself, from your own backyard to the most far flung corner of the world. All you need is a pair of binoculars and a field guide. Well, almost all. Those little brown jobs that are confusing enough at home can be utterly confounding once you're out of your familiar territory. This is where local Bird Clubs enter into the picture.

The Cape Cod Bird Club is only one of literally hundreds of organizations around the world, serving as a gathering place for like-minded enthusiasts. Birders, moreover, are friendly folk and usually only too happy to share their favorite spots with a visitor from another part of the world. If you are lucky, someone from the club might look upon your visit as an excuse to spend some quality birding time with a new acquaintance.

We had some free time on a recent trip to South Africa and we did just that. The Cape Town Bird Club, Western Cape Affiliate of the BirdLife South Africa (<http://www.capebirdclub.org.za>), is a large and active group that helps further important research and conservation in the region. We sent an email to the address listed, asking for some advice on where to go and perhaps someone willing to go with us. We received a lovely and gracious reply from someone who is willing to drop almost anything to go out birding. And so we met Simon Fogarty.

Simon, a retired golf pro, lovely man, and unbelievably accomplished birder, picked us up at our hotel at 7:30 AM in his comfortable Land Rover. First stop was the incomparable Kirstenbosch Botanic Garden. Nestled at the foot of Table Mountain, it's home to sunbirds, sugar birds, forest canaries, and dozens of other species including nesting eagle owls and a red-eyed dove whose call clearly says "I am a red-eyed dove". Three and a half hours and some iced coffee later we head to False Bay Nature Reserve, home to flamingoes and thousands of water and wading birds. My favorites were the two varieties of thick-knees, which rest on their long, elegant ankles like ostriches. All in all we saw 66 species of birds that day, 60 of which were life birds for us. A good Italian dinner after helped to celebrate our success and cement our friendship. You may want to know what this wonderful day cost. Actually, it cost nothing. It was an expression of goodwill and camaraderie between people who love birds. We presented Simon with a Cape Cod Bird Club pin and an assurance that we would return the favor to anyone who shows up on our shores. We had a fabulous day, made a new friend, and forged a connection between our two "Capes". So whether you're traveling to Topeka or Timbuktu, contact the local bird club and see where that takes you!

**Images:** Kirstenbosch Botanic Garden, Cape Town, South Africa; Simon Fogarty; Simon and Paul Schlansky



## Traveling Somewhere II

### “Traveling Somewhere” II by Judith Davis

Picking up on Marilyn Schlansky’s article, I want to commend looking for Birding Pals from bird clubs around the world when you are on a non-birding trip, yet have some time to go birding. I went to the Dominican Republic in late February to work with a team from Cape Cod to build a house for Habitat for Humanity. Thanks to the Cape Cod Bird Club, I had met Herb Raffaele and had his Princeton Field Guide to *Birds of the West Indies* (Princeton, 2010). I asked Herb whom I should contact to go birding while in Santo Domingo, and he said to contact Kate Wallace (wonderful bird guide). Kate is from Wellesley and had been a member of the Cape Cod Bird Club when she lived in Eastham. She went to the Dominican Republic when she was 55 to serve in the Peace Corp and stayed! Now she owns and operates Today Tours (<http://www.todytours.com/>), which I recommend. Kate specializes in the 32 Hispaniolan endemics found nowhere else. Kate picked me up at my hotel and took me on the monthly bird walk at the National Botanical Garden in Santo Domingo, where a few other birders joined us. I got 42 species of birds, including 25 “lifers”; the best part was getting to know Kate and enjoying my day with her. I felt so at home with Kate and loved the stickers on her car about Cape Cod. The images below show Kate with me and a reflection of Kate and her car. She sends her greetings to the bird club. I did not take my DSLR and zoom lens to the Dominican Republic, so I have no images of birds. However, I loved the mural below found in the airport in Santo Domingo. I saw most of these birds.

I had a similar experience in Bermuda in 2016 when I contacted Bermuda Audubon about going birding while on a cruise to Bermuda. Andrew Dobson, President of Bermuda Audubon, and Erich Hetzel gladly took Jamie and me birding for half a day. Andrew and Erich were happy to have us visiting from the States, and they were more than gracious in taking us birding at no cost. They drove us all around the island and we got a number of life birds there and loved it. One was the West Indian Whistling Duck, which hadn’t been seen in Bermuda in 110 years.



## Membership form for new members

### Membership Form for the Cape Cod Bird Club 2017-2018 Membership Year—RE-UP NOW

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 should be paid before September 1, 2017, and your membership will expire on Aug. 31, 2018. **New members may join at any 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 147, South Dennis, MA 02660**

**Note that the above address is effective as of 7/5/17.**

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
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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.**

## Trading a Press Card for a Gavel and Member Photos

**Trading a Press Card for a Gavel** by Judith Davis

Back in another century, I was one of the editors of my high school newspaper, and in my two distinct careers (college professor, 16 years; Episcopal priest, 26 years), I've done plenty of writing. Perhaps more so than my work-related writing, I have enjoyed being the editor of *The Kingfisher*. I began serving as editor of *The Kingfisher* with the Fall 2013 issue. However, following the publishing of this issue, I'm turning in my "press card" and newsbeat to Peter Bono, past president of our bird club, and I'm taking up a gavel. I have enjoyed sharing copies of *The Kingfisher* when I travel and often bring along a few copies when leading bird walks. Last week I led bird walks four days in a row at Star Island, an excellent spring and fall migration flyway stopover, and in summer, a good location for "the usual suspects" who nest there and in other islands in the Isles of Shoals: Spotted Sandpipers, Common Yellowthroats, Yellow Warblers, Herring and Great Black-backed Gulls, Roseate, Common, and Arctic Terns, and not a few Song Sparrows and Common Eiders. Occasionally a few Black Guillemots stop by as well. Northern Parulas, Ruby-throated Hummingbirds and Swainson's Thrush make appearances, too. I have taken copies of *The Kingfisher* to officers of Bermuda Audubon, to Kate Wallace in the Dominican Republic, and to a birder on Vancouver Island. I have enjoyed my role as newsletter editor, have appreciated your articles, news and images, and now look forward to a new role serving as your president. Thank you for your support. Send articles and images to Peter Bono for the fall issue.

**MEMBER PHOTOS**

Above: Forster's Tern, and Little Gull, Dennis Chapin Beach, by Peter Flood; Below: Green Heron, Fort Hill, by Judith Davis; Golden-crowned Kinglet by Susan Newlin; Puffins at Hog Island by Jamie Gilson.





**Cape Cod Bird Club**  
**PO Box 147,**  
**South Dennis, MA 02660**

### **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/](http://www.capecodbirdclub.org/join/)) or on page 7 to: **CCBC, PO Box 147, South Dennis, MA 02660**

<i>Officers:</i>	Judith Davis	President	<a href="mailto:motherjude3@aol.com">motherjude3@aol.com</a>
	Christine Harris Bates	Vice President	<a href="mailto:cbates@massaudubon.org">cbates@massaudubon.org</a>
	Julie O'Neil	Secretary	<a href="mailto:julieon@rcn.com">julieon@rcn.com</a>
	Mary Jo Foti	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:maryjo1226@yahoo.com">maryjo1226@yahoo.com</a>
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