



The Kingfisher

VOLUME 33 – ISSUE 2

The Cape Cod Bird Club Newsletter

NOVEMBER – DECEMBER, 2004

Cape Cod Bird Club meetings are 7:30 PM the second Monday of each month, September thru May, at the Museum of Natural History, 869 Rte 6A, Brewster, MA.

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*Deadline for next issue's articles: December 8th
Send articles or comments to: capekingfisher@yahoo.com*

**Website: <http://www.massbird.org/CCBC>
Terry Gavin, Webmaster**

President's Message

Sylvia and I just returned from Trinidad and Tobago — our first tropical birding trip together, and all I can say is WOW!!! Little did we fully realize the terrific time we would have as we left the airport in Port of Spain, Trinidad and walked into a wall of heat and humidity!

Our birding began with a three day stay at the Asa Wright Nature Center in Trinidad, a place we had been reading about and would come to love immediately. We were told to expect at least 30 Life Birds on our first morning and we saw at least that many! From the veranda looking down at the MANY feeders, we were awestruck by the sheer quantity and variety of beautiful birds everywhere! Lucky for us the Nature Center provided a number of experts on tropical birds, not to mention that several of our companion birders had birded the tropics before and were very helpful.

That first day reminded us what new birders go through here at home too — as we were overwhelmed by all the fantastic birds, hardly recognizing any we could identify. By Day Two we were feeling a little more knowledgeable; however, on Day Three we realized how far we still had to go!!

Our group consisted of ten other birders and natural history professionals from all around the U.S. We had a wonderful time getting to know them all as we explored both Trinidad and Tobago together. The Cuffie River Lodge on Tobago proved to be a very special place, too ... since many of the birds on Tobago are not found on Trinidad.

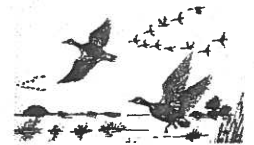
We birded every day from 7AM till 9PM, and our group ended up seeing 151 species. We saw 120 of those — of which 110 were Life Birds for us! Busy days but filled with many special memories and adventures!

A personal favorite memory for me was going for an early evening swim with two other guys at a spectacular waterfall/grotto nearby. A great way to beat the heat!

If you ever get the chance to go to Trinidad and Tobago GO FOR IT!

I must say it is great to be back home here on the Cape. The weather is a "little" cooler and we know at least some of the birds! I look forward to seeing you all on our walks as we transition into Fall and Winter birding!

Dick Jurkowski



CCBC PROGRAMS: NOV 8th and DEC 13th

Birds in Winter: Strategies for Survival – Wayne R. Petersen

Winter is one of the most stressful seasons of the year for many bird species. The combination of cold weather, snow cover, and the icing of bodies of water combine in various ways to annually require birds to adapt to these severe variations.

On **NOVEMBER 8th**, Wayne Petersen will describe the evolution of a number of avian winter survival strategies, along with examples of how different Massachusetts bird species use them.

Wayne is the Community Leader for the Swarovski Birding Community in North America, prior to which he served as Field Ornithologist for the Massachusetts Audubon

Society for 15 years. Throughout his career he has led trips and tours, lectured, and conducted birding workshops across North America. Wayne is past VP of the American Birding Association, Chairs the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee, is a New England Regional Editor for North American Birds magazine, and serves on the Advisory Committee for the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program. His literary efforts include writing the National Audubon Society's Pocket Guide to Songbirds and Familiar Backyard Birds (East), co-authoring Birds of Massachusetts (with Richard Veit) and Birds of New England (with Roger Burrows), co-editing the Massachusetts Breeding Bird

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Programs – Cont'd from Page 1

Atlas (with Roger Meservey), and contributing to The Audubon Society Master Guide to Birding and The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior. Wayne regularly leads birding tours for Massachusetts Audubon and Field Guides, Inc., where his trip leading experiences have taken him from arctic Canada to South America, Antarctica, New Zealand, Iceland, Africa, and Madagascar.

DEC 13th – MEMBER'S NIGHT

Visitors & Non-members ARE welcome, too!

This is a time when members can display photographs or other artwork, or brief presentations of favorite slides, videos, poetry,

To participate, call Mary Keleher at 508-477-1473.

FAVORITE SLIDES **VIDEOS**
DOOR PRIZES **SILENT AUCTION**
BAKED GOODS **EMS ITEMS FOR SALE**

**JOIN US FOR MEMBER'S NIGHT
ON DEC. 13TH !**

Books for Auction at November Meeting:

Birds of New England (2 copies) by Wayne Peterson List price \$19.95

Birdwatcher's Companion by Chris Leahy List price \$39.50

Hawks and Owls of Eastern North America by Donald Heintzelman List price \$29.95

The Race to Save the Lord God Bird (Ivory-billed Woodpecker) by Phillip Hoose List price \$20

Field Trips – Nov & Dec

Genie Page, Coordinator

All are welcome to join our field trips which are free. A call or e-mail to the leader is appreciated. Please check www.massbird.org/CCBC for additions or changes.



Nov 4 -Thurs - 8 AM Bourne
Meet at the Gray Gables Food Market in Bourne (find the Bourne rotary and take the exit after the police station. You will immediately pass a convenience store on the right. Go straight and in about a mile, watch for Gray Gables on left.) We will make the usual loop through Bourne, Monument Beach, Pocasset and N. Falmouth, returning to Gray Gables no later than 1PM. Leader Stauffer Miller 362-3384 or Stauffer@seepub.com

Nov 12 - Fri - 8:30AM Mid Cape waterfowl and late fall specialties. Meet at Corporation Beach in Dennis to visit several beautiful ocean and lake overlooks. Leader: Mark Tuttle 362-3015

Nov 14 - Sun - 8AM Mashpee River Woodlands. Check out the birds in one of Mary's favorite places, one of the few mature, forested woodlands on Cape Cod! Meet at the parking lot on Quinaquisset Ave. in Mashpee. (from Mashpee Rotary, take Rte 28 East toward Hyannis. At first right, turn onto Quinaquisset Ave) Leader: Mary Keleher 477-1473.

Nov 15 - Mon - 9AM W. Harwich Cons. Area on Bells Neck Rd, W. Harwich. Looking for migrating birds and shorebirds on nearby beaches. Leaders: Nancy Reider & Ruth Connaughton 508-432-1580.

Nov 20 - Sat - 7:30AM Upper Cape bridge straddle. Yes, even over the bridge! Meet at Christies Market Rte 6A in Sandwich. We will tour Sandy Neck, the canal, Scusset State Park, Nyes Pond, Navigation Rd and surrounding areas. If there is a rare bird around, we will chase it. All of this and return

by noon! Leader: Dan Furbish Barnowl @verizon.net

Nov 23 - Tues - 8:30AM Wellfleet to P'Town. Meet at the Wellfleet Town Pier (from Rte 6 at the light, follow signs for the harbor). We will search out the wintering waterfowl and scour the seas for alcids. If we are lucky, a rarity or two may be wintering in the bushes! Leader: Genie Page 349-6810 or vgpage@juno.com

DECEMBER WALKS

Dec 1 - Wed - 9 AM Orleans and Chatham for Winter Arrivals. Meet at the Friendly's on Canal St., off the Orleans Rotary, in Orleans to caravan to Orleans and Chatham "hot-spots." Bring lunch, or we can stop at a local restaurant, as we'll be out for several hours. RSVP to Diane and Michael at 508-398-9484.

Dec 4 & 5 Sat/Sun 22nd Annual Cape Cod Lake and Pond Waterfowl Survey. This survey covers all of the ponds and lakes on the Cape. Call Michael Dettrey or Diane Silverstein to volunteer in your favorite area. 508-398-9484

Dec 14 - Tue - 8 AM E. Sandwich Game Farm. Meet at Amari's Restaurant on 6A near Sandy Neck Rd. We'll look for winter residents. Dick Jurkowski 508-428-8494.

Dec 15 - Wed - 9 AM Provincetown & Wellfleet for Winter Arrivals Meet at 9:00am at the Friendly's on Canal St., off of the Orleans Rotary, in Orleans to caravan to Provincetown & Wellfleet "hotspots." (See Dec 1) RSVP to Diane & Michael at 508-398-9484.

Christmas Bird Count Looking for volunteers!

Buzzards Bay - Date TBA - Contact TBA

Cape Cod - Dec 19 (Sun) - Contact Blair Nikula at 508-432-6348

Mid-Cape - Date TBA - Contact Peter Trimble at 508-477-3847

Truro - Dec 27 (Mon) - Contact Genie Page 349-6810 or vgpage@juno.com



Looking for a creative someone with computer experience who would like to work with Sylvia on "The Kingfisher." Call 508-428-8494 or send email to capekingfisher@yahoo.com.

Club Field Walks

NOTE: This article covers Club field walks in August and September. Full statistical summaries for reported walks are available for inspection at each Club meeting. Most common species are omitted from this article in the interests of saving space. Unusual and rare species are underlined.

AUGUST 2004: Only one field walk was scheduled in August.

8/27: South Beach, Chatham; Leaders Mike Dettrey and Diane Silverstein (not present due to Mike's incapacity; a member kept the list); fair, breezy; 24 observers; 38 spp. Wilson's Storm-petrel, Northern Harrier, Black-bellied, Semipalmated, and Piping plovers, (poss) American Golden-plover, Least, Semipalmated, White-rumped sandpipers, Willet, Greater and Lesser yellowlegs, Red Knot, Ruddy Turnstone, Whimbrel, Short-billed Dowitcher, Parasitic Jaeger, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Least, Common, Roseate, Forster's and Black terns, Black Skimmer.

SEPTEMBER 2004: Of the seven field walks scheduled for September, five had been reported as of press time; the remainder will be covered in the next newsletter. The five walks had a total of

55 observers and reported 86 species. The highest species count on one walk was 57, by Greg Hirth in the Falmouth area on September 13.

9/7: Harwich and West Dennis marshes and beaches; Leaders Nancy Reider and Ruth Connaughton; weather not reported; 12 observers; 20 spp. Great Blue Heron, Snowy Egret, Willet, Belted Kingfisher, Hairy Woodpecker, Red-winged Blackbird.

9/13: Falmouth (Peterson's Farm, Sippewissett); Leader Greg Hirth; Sunny, 70's; 12 observers; 57 spp. Common Loon, Great Blue and Green herons, Great and Snowy egrets, Northern Harrier, Cooper's, Sharp-shinned and Red-tailed hawks; (poss) Peregrine Falcon, Greater Yellowlegs, Whimbrel, Ruddy Turnstone, Red Knot, Western Sandpiper, Short-billed Dowitcher, Eastern Screech Owl, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Eastern Wood-pewee, Eastern Phoebe, Eastern Kingbird, Carolina and House wrens, Cedar Waxwing, Yellow and Chestnut-sided warblers, Common Yellowthroat.

9/13: Coast Guard Beach, Eastham; Leader Mark Tuttle; fair, 65-70F; 13 observers; 37 spp. Great Blue Heron, Great and Snowy egrets, Blue-winged

Ron Aytotte, Secretary CCBC

Teal, Northern Harrier, Black-bellied and Semipalmated plovers, Greater and Lesser yellowlegs, Ruddy Turnstone, Red Knot, Semipalmated, Western and Least sandpipers, Short-billed Dowitcher, (poss) Scarlet Tanager, Savannah Sparrow.

9/17: Cape Cod Bay, Stellwagen Bank; Leaders Dick Jurkowski and Wil Sprauve; fair, 60-70F; 12 observers; 16 spp (and 3 spp whale: Humpbacked, Fin and Minke). Wilson's Storm-petrel, Great Blue Heron, Ruddy Turnstone, Sanderling, Parasitic Jaeger, Common and Least terns, Belted Kingfisher.

9/22: East Sandwich Game Farm; Leader Dick Jurkowski; sunny, 70's; 6 observers; 27 spp. Great Blue Heron, Green-winged Teal, Greater Yellowlegs, Belted Kingfisher, Eastern Phoebe, Cedar Waxwing, Pine Warbler, American Redstart, Chipping Sparrow.

We have now been collecting statistics on field walks for about 13 months. Over that period there have been 82 walks/events, with a total of 701 participants (an average of 8.55 participants per walk/event). During that time, a total of 233 spp. have been reported, with two rarities (Golden Eagle, Pileated Woodpecker) included.



Mid-Cape Birding (Cont'd from page 5)

Follow East Bay Rd. to the end and go straight across Main St. to Old Mill Rd. Follow Old Mill Rd., staying to the left, to the end and take a right onto Bumps River Rd. There are two areas on the left side of Bumps River Road that have open water even on the coldest winter days. Check them both for Gadwall, American Black Duck, Green-winged Teal, Ring-necked Duck and Hooded Merganser.

Continue on Bumps River Rd., staying to the right, to the end. Take a left and another immediate left onto Old Stage Rd. Follow Old Stage Rd. to the intersection at Rt. 28. Continue straight across Rt. 28 and take the second right onto Shootflying Hill Rd. Go through the four way stop and follow Shootflying Hill Rd. to Wequaquet Lake on the right. Park in the parking area and look for Pied-billed Grebe, Canvasback, Ring-necked Duck, Scaup, Hooded Merganser and Com-

mon Merganser. Great Cormorant and Coot are also possible. Carefully scan any flocks of Canada Geese. In January this year, there was a Blue (or dark morph) Snow Goose resting with them.

Continue on Shootflying Hill Rd and take a left at the end which will take you to back to Route 6.



- *****
- ★ **NEW MEMBERS - WELCOME** ★
- ★ Christine Anderson – Cotuit, MA ★
- ★ Joel Berler – Pocasset, MA ★
- ★ James & Judith Ervin – Monument Beach, MA ★
- ★ Marge Generazzo – Lynnfield, MA ★
- ★ Alvan & Leslie Ramler – Pocasset, MA ★
- ★ Deborah Stewart – New York, NY ★
- ★ Tom & Ann Stone – E. Falmouth, MA ★
- *****

CCBC Programs in 2005

Jan 10: Norman Smith – “Snowy Owls to Saw-whet Owls”

Feb 14: Harry Vogel – “Loons: Natural History, Challenges & Success”

Mar 14: Andrew Farnsworth – “While You Were Sleeping – The Birds We Miss at Night”

April 11: Shawn Carey – Multi-image Slide Presentations and Videos

May 9: John Kricher – “A Bird's View of Migration”

Favorite Winter Birding Hotspots – Mid-Cape

Mary Keleher

On January 18, 2004, I co-led a morning trip CCBC to some of my favorite winter birding spots in Barnstable. A participant suggested I do a write up of the trip for the CCBC newsletter. I decided to take her up on her suggestion and share these spots — some well known, some not — with other birders.

The following spots are my favorites for two reasons. The first reason being that these were some of the first places I birded when I became more involved in birding a few years ago. The second reason is that there are several good birds to be found at these spots.

I begin at Loop Beach in the Village of Cotuit. From Rt. 28 take Main St. Follow Main St. through Cotuit Center. Take a left onto Ocean View Ave and follow down to Loop Beach on the left. The water here is very calm making it great for easy viewing. There are no waves to contend with when searching through the Common Goldeneye for a Barrow's Goldeneye, which has been reported here for the past few winters and usually isn't far from the shore.

Scan the water for Loon, Horned Grebe, Common Eider, Bufflehead and Red-breasted Merganser. Keep an eye out for unusual sightings as there was a Black guillemot that spent a week here last December. Not normally found on the Nantucket Sound side of the Cape, I believe this bird was a victim of a December snowstorm that had wind-blown Dovekies popping up in all sorts of odd places throughout the Cape area. Check the sand spit across the water for an occasional Northern Harrier, Shorebirds and Gulls. Recently a Black-headed Gull was reported here. Check the thicket and across the street from the beach for Carolina Wren, Yellow-rumped Warbler and Song Sparrows.

Continue on Ocean View Ave. back to Main St. Take a left onto Main St. and follow it down to the end at Oregon Beach. I usually take a quick scan here for Common Goldeneye, maybe a Barrow's Goldeneye, Common Eider, Bufflehead, Red-breasted Merganser and Shorebirds, then turn around and head back down Main St. On the right-hand side near Lowell Rd., which is on the left, there's a Town of Barnstable

Land Trust just before Rushy Marsh Pond. Go slow here or pull off the road for a quick look. You may find Downy and Hairy Woodpecker, Brown Creeper, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Pine Warbler, and Song Sparrow. Rushy Marsh Pond may be worth checking for ducks if it's not iced over.

Continue back on Main St. to Cotuit Center. Just past the Cotuit Grocery Store, which is on the left, take a right onto Putnam Ave. Watch the open field on the left for Eastern Bluebird as you round the corner. Take a left into Mosswood Cemetery. Here the bird-houses scattered throughout the cemetery can be just as interesting as the birds. Again watch for Eastern Bluebird as you make your way towards the back left corner of the cemetery. Here you will find piles of stumps, brush and dirt. This is a great sparrow spot. Look for Chipping Sparrow, Song Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, and Dark-eyed Junco. Also look for Red-breasted Nuthatch as well as Red-tailed Hawk.

Exit left out of the cemetery and continue on Putnam Ave. On the right is the Mary Barton Land Trust. Carefully park to the side and look for Eastern Bluebird, American Robin, Cedar Waxwing and Chipping Sparrow. Follow Putnam Ave. to Rt. 28. Take a right onto Rt. 28 and a left onto Rt. 149 where the well-known Mill Pond is located here in the village of Marstons Mills. In early December Pied-billed Grebe, Wood Duck, Gadwall, Eurasian Wigeon, American Wigeon, American Black Duck, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Northern Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Ring-necked Duck, Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser and Common Merganser are all possibilities here. The number of species will decrease come January with only the hardiest winter ducks remaining. Listen for Belted Kingfisher, Golden-crowned Kinglet and Red-bellied Woodpecker.

Continue straight on Rt. 149 to the four-way intersection. Bear to the right onto Main St. and follow that back around to Rt. 28. Cross over Rt. 28 onto South County Rd. Follow South County Rd. and look for a boulder on the right that is engraved with the street name "Smoke Valley Road." There's a "Private Residents Only" sign here but from past experiences I've found the residents to be birder

Sunflower Seed Sonata

by Ned Handy



Feed the birds.
Feed them well.
A plump cardinal
looks just swell.

Nobody likes birds too thin,
Chickadees with cheeks caved in
Or titmice with cadaverous grins.

With birds, it's very much in style
To have curves in one's profile.
Tit-willow, the fellow who took the
dive,
Was, reportedly, too thin to thrive.

One expert, my friend, the cat,
Says birds are best when rather fat.

When birds have eaten all day long
They'll bless your eve with cheery song.
Be kind then to the little feathered guys,
And may they always fill your skies.

friendly. On the right-hand side of the road there's an overlook to the water. This is usually where the Eurasian Wigeon can be found when not at Mill Pond. American Wigeon, Gadwall and American Black Duck are among the other common sightings here with a possible Great Blue Heron or King Fisher. Mute Swans congregate here when smaller fresh water locations are frozen. I've recorded as many as sixty of them. Check the thicket below and the trees along the street for Woodpeckers, Chickadee, Titmouse, Brown Creeper, Carolina Wren, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Song Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Northern Cardinal and American Goldfinch.

Continue on Smoke Valley Rd. It circles back around to South County Rd. Take a right onto South County Road which turns into Main St. heading towards the village of Osterville. When approaching Osterville Center, go right onto Parker Road. Go straight through the four way stop and follow to the end. Take a left onto Seaview Ave. On the left across from house number 347, between two telephone poles, is a thicket that can be very productive. It's where I saw my first Yellow-breasted Chat two years ago! The best time to check it is on a sunny day between late morning (when the sun hits it) and early afternoon. Some of the more common sight-

(Cont'd on page 5)

Curious Bird Names & a Few Suggested “Improvements”

Jack Palmer

Isn't it handy when common bird names help observers identify species? Too bad it isn't always the case.

Let's start with a most glaring example: Red-bellied Woodpecker. I've seen hundreds of them but only one has ever displayed a red belly. Ladderback would be a perfect replacement, but it is already in use and would be just as suitable for several other woodpeckers.

Purple Sandpiper and Yellow-crowned Night Heron. Those colors are seen only by psychedelic drug users. Last century Cape hunters called night herons *Quawks* after the sound they make. Seems appropriate to me.

Red Knot. First, they are not red like a Cardinal; they are salmon-pink like the fish, and that color is present only while they are breeding. Knot? When I think of knots, I think Boy Scouts. Maybe we should reconsider the Cape gunners' choice over 140 years ago of “Robbin [sic] Snipe.”

Green Heron. Few people see its back as other than just dark. If color is to be the descriptor, how about Rufous-necked Heron. Or, one could use its almost unique trick of floating food tidbits on the water surface to attract minnows that are then gulped down: we could call it the Bait-fisher Heron.

It is true that Yellowthroat Warbler is descriptive, but lots of birds have yellow throats, including another warbler that is called Yellow-throated. Considering the Yellowthroat's very distinctive

mask, wouldn't Banditbird be more appropriate; or, we could use what it calls itself: Wichety — as we often do anyway.

Fledermaus (flying mouse) is clever and almost appropriate for bats, which are mammals that can fly. But Titmouse is doubly mammalian, and thus totally inappropriate for a bird. Considering this endurance singer's favorite monotonous vocalization, how about Johnny One-note as a better name.

Catbird is another mammal/bird mixup and thus could be confusing (cat food might be more appropriate). But clearly its name is based on its meow call so why not continue to use it.

I often see Cowbirds standing on sheep! Oxpeckers land on giraffes and rhinos. But when they can't find their namesake landing spot, it's any rump in a storm.

I went to Connecticut and saw only Nashville and Kentucky Warblers. Seeing a Cape May Warbler on Cape May is very rare. Certainly, geographical names are not helpful in field identifications. Incidentally, on the same trip I heard a Vesper Sparrow singing in the early morning.

Naming birds after famous ornithologists (Townsend's Warbler. Ross's Gull) conveys no diagnostic information to modern birders. While this convention has probably stopped, we still may get a Sibley's Somekindofbird in the future. Asides: The opposite is also done:

the first right onto East Bay Rd. (There's a tree in front of the street sign making it difficult to see.) Take the first right off of East Bay Rd. and follow it down to Dowses Beach. Here there's another good view of Nantucket Sound. I drive to the end of the parking lot and look out over the channel for Horned Grebes, Loons, Bufflehead, Common Goldeneye, Scoter and Common Eider. I saw some Greater Scaup here earlier (Jan 2004). Be sure to look for shorebirds especially Ruddy Turnstone. Also check the gulls as I've seen Lesser Black-backed and Black-headed Gulls here.

Return to East Bay Rd. and go right.

(Cont'd on page 3)

people are named after birds as was my niece, Robin.

But the strangest of all is an entire nation whose people named themselves after a bird: New Zealanders call each other Kiwis. It is a strange choice: the bird is nocturnal and so secretive that few residents have even seen one and it is not the least bit handsome. It has atrophied wings and no tail, its feathers look like dried seaweed, it is shaped like a light bulb, has a Pinocchio nose, and at certain times one fourth of a female is just egg!

Oystercatcher. Birds, and everyone else, do not have to chase down and catch glacially moving clams or sessile mussels and oysters. A name change to Oyster Crackers would suggest both food and how the bird prepares to dine.


Black Scoter. Poor choice: the males of all three scoters are black. Returning to the old Cape Cod gunners' name, “Butter-nose,” would clearly individualize this one. Changing Oystercatcher to Carrot Nose would also be a colorful substitute.

Snowy Plovers live on sand beaches! I wonder if there's such a thing as a Sand Bunting?

Chickadee is fully appropriate: the bird calls out its name. But our mnemonic, fee-bee, for remembering its other vocalization—the clear whistle it bounces around the forest—should not be used. Fee-bee is the gruff call and personal name of the Eastern Phoebe. What the chickadee really says is eBay... just listen.

The Black-throated Green Warbler endlessly fills the woods with its zee zee zee zee zoo zee. Its throat is certainly black, but so are the throats of at least four other Eastern warblers. And when seen up in a tree this tiny bird gives no impression of being green. Thus, it needs a new defining name: I suggest Sleepy Warbler, a name based on its eternal call requesting more Zs.

Woodpecker is perfectly appropriate for these living chisels, but where did we get the name Woodcock? Could there be anything parallel here with the supposition that George Washington was said to have wooden teeth?

Naming birds 'tis a mystery! 

Mid-Cape Birding (Cont'd from page 4)
ings are Chickadee, Titmouse, Cardinal, Song Sparrow, House Finch and American Goldfinch but I have also seen Carolina Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Hermit Thrush, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Eastern Towhee, Fox Sparrow and White-throated Sparrow.

Continue along Seaview Ave., which will curve sharply to the left and become Wianno Ave. Before going left park on the right and check the water here. I call this my Brant spot. They are usually seen in close feeding along the rock jetties. Scan out to Nantucket Sound for the usual sea ducks with the possibility of Long-tailed Duck. Also look for shorebirds here.

Continue on Wianno Ave. and take

**Cape cod Bird Club
2003-2004 Feeder Census**

This report compiles observations made by Club members in response to the annual Feeder Census effort. The compiler thanks all those who submitted data. This year's data, based on reports from 21 observers, are broadly consistent with trends reported over the past 25 years. The birds are listed in descending order (last year's ranking in parentheses) of percentage of feeders reported (A), along with the median birds/feeder/month (B). The 5-year (C) and 25-year (D) medians are presented for comparison.

<u>Census Species</u>	A	B	C	D
1 Black-capped Chickadee (1)	97%	3.62	4.15	5.05
2 Tufted Titmouse (4)	91%	2.36	2.42	1.94
3 Blue Jay (8)	84%	2.96	3.06	3.81
4 Northern Cardinal (3)	83%	2.95	2.74	2.23
5 Downy Woodpecker (2)	81%	1.48	1.69	1.53
6 American Goldfinch (6)	80%	5.14	6.25	4.61
7 Mourning Dove (5)	75%	3.95	4.78	6.32
8 Dark-eyed Junco (10)	73%	3.34	2.26	1.96
9 House Finch (12)	67%	3.63	3.64	4.81
10 White-breasted Nuthatch (11)	66%	0.96	1.08	0.96
11 American Crow (7)	59%	2.42	2.71	2.30
12 Song Sparrow (14)	57%	1.37	1.33	1.08
13 Carolina Wren (9)	54%	0.77	0.77	0.29
14 Northern Flicker (16)	50%	0.71	0.64	0.55
15 Hairy Woodpecker (13)	46%	0.67	0.48	0.08
16 Yellow-rumped Warbler (17)	43%	1.37	1.07	0.19
17 American Robin (15)	42%	2.38	3.11	1.51
18 Red-breasted Nuthatch (22)	38%	0.55	0.37	0.35
19 Red-bellied Woodpecker (18)	31%	0.36	0.30	0.05
20 House Sparrow (20)	29%	2.53	3.04	3.90
21 White-throated Sparrow (21)	23%	0.76	1.31	1.08
22 European Starling (19)	21%	4.05	3.45	3.47
23 Red-winged Blackbird (24)	20%	1.02	1.15	1.46
24 Common Grackle (23)	18%	1.86	2.09	2.31
25 Brown Creeper (NR)	15%	0.17	0.11	0.11
26 Brown-headed Cowbird (26)	9%	0.44	0.53	0.38
27 Sharp-shinned Hawk (27)	8%	0.07	0.09	0.02
28 Cooper's Hawk (29)	7%	0.06	0.02	0.19
30 Pine Siskin (NR)	5%	0.07	0.24	0.06
31 Northern Bobwhite (28)	3%	0.17	0.45	1.41
31 American Tree Sparrow (NR)	3%	0.06	0.02	0.19
32 Cedar Waxwing (30)	1%	0.11	0.12	0.02

Other Species Reported (Selected)

Red-tailed Hawk	15%	0.17	0.11	0.11
Eastern Bluebird	11%	0.33	0.11	0.02
Chipping Sparrow	9%	0.21	0.05	0.01
Common Redpoll	4%	0.85	0.21	0.04

Given the small number of observers, these statistics should be used very cautiously, and only to indicate trends. For example, one could say that Carolina Wrens are probably increasing, and Bobwhites decreasing. The presence of Pine Siskin and Common Redpoll on the list is a mark of 2003-04 as an "irruption" year. For total numbers and a fuller breakdown, see the reverse side. Ron Ayotte, September 2004.

Cape Cod Bird Club
Feeder Census Data 2003-04

Species	November 2003		December 2003		January 2004		February 2004		March 2004		April 2004		Calculations 2003-2004			# Reported	Median	Med/Feeder	
	Birds	Feeders	Birds	Feeders	Birds	Feeders	Birds	Feeders	Birds	Feeders	Birds	Feeders	Birds/Feeder	Per Month	% Feeders				
On Form																			
Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	2	1	1	0	0	2	2	3	3	1	1	0.43	0.07	7.76	9	1.5	0.08	
Cooper's Hawk	2	2	3	3	0	0	2	2	1	1	0	0	0.38	0.06	6.90	8	1.5	0.08	
Northern Bobwhite	22	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.05	0.17	2.59	22	0	0.00	
Mourning Dove	71	15	88	11	107	14	116	18	58	13	58	16	23.71	3.95	75.00	498	79.5	4.08	
Northern Flicker	15	9	11	6	18	10	15	10	13	8	16	9	4.05	0.67	45.69	85	15	0.77	
Hairy Woodpecker	16	10	10	6	15	10	15	10	13	8	16	9	8.90	1.48	81.03	187	31	1.59	
Downy Woodpecker	25	14	32	15	34	17	38	17	27	14	30	17	2.14	0.36	31.03	45	7.5	3.00	
Red-bellied Woodpecker	4	4	7	6	10	8	10	8	8	5	6	5	17.76	2.96	83.62	373	58.5	3.00	
Blue Jay	55	17	77	18	74	17	62	16	51	13	54	16	14.52	2.42	59.48	305	48.5	2.49	
American Crow	47	9	65	13	48	13	50	12	49	11	46	11	21.71	3.62	96.55	456	77	3.95	
Black-capped Chickadee	66	18	77	19	83	20	80	20	73	15	77	20	14.14	2.36	90.52	121	21.5	1.10	
Tufted Titmouse	40	17	52	18	57	19	53	18	43	15	52	18	5.76	0.96	66.38	121	21.5	1.10	
White-breasted Nuthatch	14	11	22	15	17	11	25	16	21	11	22	13	3.29	0.55	37.93	69	11.5	0.59	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	13	9	15	9	11	7	12	8	10	5	8	6	1.05	0.17	14.66	22	3.5	0.18	
Brown Creeper	0	0	3	2	6	5	3	2	4	3	6	5	4.62	0.77	54.31	97	16	0.82	
Carolina Wren	16	11	15	11	16	10	19	11	14	9	17	11	14.29	2.38	42.24	300	54	2.77	
American Robin	16	4	68	4	53	11	55	11	62	8	46	11	0.67	0.11	0.86	14	0	0.00	
Cedar Waxwing	14	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24.29	4.05	20.69	510	52	2.67	
European Starling	34	3	64	2	238	3	100	6	34	4	40	6	8.19	1.37	43.10	172	28.5	1.46	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	9	3	11	5	25	11	44	10	32	9	51	12	0.67	0.11	6.03	14	1.5	0.08	
Pine Warbler	0	0	2	2	2	1	1	1	0	0	9	3	17.71	2.95	82.76	372	63.5	3.26	
Northern Cardinal	45	13	59	16	68	16	75	16	56	16	30	11	8.24	1.37	56.90	173	30	1.54	
Song Sparrow	17	8	26	9	33	11	30	16	37	11	0	0	0.24	0.04	2.59	5	0	0.00	
American Tree Sparrow	0	0	1	1	0	0	4	2	0	4	2	15	5	4.57	0.76	23.28	96	15	0.77
White-throated Sparrow	14	4	24	6	24	6	15	4	4	4	2	15	5	20.05	3.34	73.28	421	69.5	3.56
Dark-eyed Junco	55	11	100	14	71	15	68	17	71	15	56	13	6.10	1.02	19.83	128	18.5	0.95	
Red-winged Blackbird	1	1	3	2	12	2	59	3	25	6	28	9	11.14	1.86	18.10	234	23	1.18	
Common Grackle	5	2	0	0	23	1	107	2	23	6	76	10	2.62	0.44	9.48	55	4.5	0.23	
Brown-headed Cowbird	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	1	9	2	21	8	21.76	3.63	67.24	457	76	3.90	
House Finch	42	11	81	10	111	16	86	16	71	12	66	13	0.43	0.07	5.17	9	1.5	0.08	
Pine Siskin	0	0	4	2	2	2	0	0	2	1	1	1	30.86	5.14	80.17	648	111.5	5.72	
American Goldfinch	79	15	121	17	116	16	163	18	62	12	107	15	15.19	2.53	29.31	319	53	2.72	
House Sparrow	52	6	68	7	58	6	47	5	54	6	40	4							
Other																			
Canada Goose							16	1	60	1	4	1	3.81	0.63	2.59	80	16	0.82	
Mallard							24	1	36	1	6	1	3.33	0.56	3.45	70	15	0.77	
Bufflehead	4	1							6	1	1	1	0.48	0.08	1.72	10	5	0.26	
Ring-necked Duck									10	1	1	1	0.57	0.09	1.72	11	5.5	0.28	
American Black Duck									2	1	2	1	0.19	0.03	1.72	4	2	0.10	
Red-tailed Hawk	2	2			1	1			2	2	1	1	0.29	0.05	5.17	6	1.5	0.08	
Kestrel							1	1					0.05	0.01	0.86	1	1	0.05	
Ring-necked Pheasant									1	1	1	1	0.57	0.10	3.45	12	1	0.05	
Wild Turkey	10	2			1	1			1	1	1	1	0.14	0.02	1.72	3	1.5	0.08	
Herring Gull							2	1	1	1			0.14	0.02	2.59	3	1	0.05	
Eastern Screech Owl	1	1	1	1	1	1							0.10	0.02	1.72	2	1	0.05	
Great Horned Owl	1	1	1	1	1	1							0.05	0.01	0.86	1	1	0.05	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker													0.05	0.01	0.86	1	1	0.05	
Eastern Phoebe													0.05	0.01	0.86	1	1	0.05	
Fish Crow													0.14	0.02	1.72	3	1.5	0.08	
Golden-crowned Kinglet			2	1	1	1							0.24	0.04	3.45	5	2.5	0.13	
Hermit Thrush					4	3							1.95	0.33	10.34	41	6.5	0.33	
Eastern Bluebird	6	3	18	3	7	2	7	2	2	1	1	1	0.24	0.04	4.31	5	1	0.05	
Northern Mockingbird			1	1	1	1			1	1			0.05	0.01	0.86	1	1	0.05	
Western Tanager									1	1			1.24	0.21	8.62	26	4	0.21	
Chipping Sparrow	1	1	2	1	6	2	9	3	6	2	2	1	0.14	0.02	2.59	3	1	0.05	
Fox Sparrow									1	1	1	1	0.05	0.01	0.86	1	1	0.05	
Blue Grosbeak	1	1											0.10	0.02	1.72	2	1	0.05	
Baltimore Oriole			1	1	1	1							4.95	0.83	4.31	104	42	2.15	
Common Redpoll																			
Feeders under Observation		19		19		21		21		16		20							
Total Feeders														116					
Average Feeders/Month														19.33					
Total Birds Reported																7008			
Median Feeders under Observation																			

Have NOT been paid

Have been paid

Your dues for 2004-2005

Cape Cod Bird Club
The Cape Cod Museum of Natural History
869 Rte 6A, Brewster, MA 02631



The Cape Cod Bird Club Inc.

Website: <http://www.massbird.org/CCBC>

is an organization whose members are interested in the protection and conservation of the bird life and natural resources of Cape Cod.

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