



# The Kingfisher

VOLUME 33 – ISSUE 1

The Cape Cod Bird Club Newsletter

SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER, 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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The Kingfisher is published bi-monthly.

Deadline for next issue's articles: **October 8th**  
Send articles or comments to: [capekingfisher@yahoo.com](mailto:capekingfisher@yahoo.com)

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

### President's Message

The new CCBC Season is underway once again! Thank you for your vote of confidence in your new CCBC Leadership Team. We will work hard to make it a rewarding year for one and all!

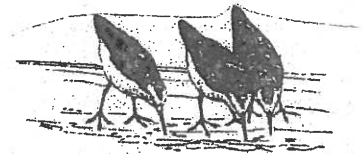
One of our recently completed projects includes updating the CCBC Birders Hotline so we know where to call to pass on a special or rare bird sighting in our area. This will be especially helpful for birders who don't have access to a computer.

At this time, I'd also like to thank the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History for hosting our monthly meetings. The facilities are perfect for our group and the Natural

History theme is ideal. Thanks also to Norm Gallagher for supporting us at our meetings. I urge all club members to participate in the varied activities sponsored by the CCMNH.

With summer fast fading into the distance, it's time to go birding! The months of September and October offer some of the best birding of the year here on the Cape. Species of all types will be on the move. Let's get out there and go for it! I'll see you on the trails.

Dick Jurkowski



### Red-Footed Falcon on Martha's Vineyard

As 'The Kingfisher' was in its final stages, birding news made headlines! A year-old male Red-Footed Falcon, normally found in Central Europe and Asia and as far south as southern Africa, had found its way to the Katama Airfield on Martha's Vineyard.

**Vernon Laux: "It's the biggest birding news in the last ten years. It's like having a Martian walking around."**

Observed on August 8th by Vineyard birder, Vernon Laux, who, seeing the bird flying in the distance, first thought it to be an American Kestel. But something was amiss. He then thought maybe it was a Mississippi Kite, which would have made it unusual enough since these have not been seen on the Vineyard, but the bird was hovering and he'd never seen a Mississippi Kite hover. Laux sent photos and consulted with Harvard ornithologist, Jeremiah Trimble, and other expert sources. Consensus was reached. It was a Red-footed Falcon. Exciting news indeed since this bird has never before been seen in the Western Hemisphere.

Internet alerts and headlines in the New York Times, Boston Globe, local papers, and other media have helped to spread the word.

Birders from all over have made their way to Martha's Vineyard to get a glimpse of this life-list bird. Vacationers on the Island come as well, not wanting to miss this chance to see this new 'tourist.'

A handsome fellow, the Falcon didn't disappoint as he flew around this 'perfect' field looking for small mammals and insects. He seemed oblivious to the rows of scopes, cameras, and binoculars trained on his every move. Sitting on signs around the field, he calmly enjoyed his meal and his surroundings.

It was surprisingly easy to see the Falcon. Taking a ferry from Falmouth, MA and using the Vineyard bus system (VTA), we were at Katama Airfield within 2 hours.

How long will he stay? Robert Prescott, Director of the Massachusetts Audubon Society Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, holds out little hope that "it can get back to where it came from" but adds, "if a female showed up, this is how species populate new continents." We can only hope.

In the meantime, **Massbird.org** is filled with archived commentary, current updates, and beautiful pictures of this Red-footed Falcon. Check it out and follow the adventure with us!

## CCBC PROGRAMS: SEPT 13th and OCT 11th

### **Migratory Raptor Conservation in Costa Rica –**

**Sept 13: Pablo Porras-Peñaranda**, Director of Migratory Raptor Conservation in Talamanca (Caribbean coastal), Costa Rica will be with us to present slides and describe the incredible migration of raptors and other birds each autumn in his country.

Costa Rica's unique topography features a single mountain range that crosses from northwest to southeast, dividing Costa Rica into two slopes and forming, at its southeastern tip, one of the narrowest and most significant migration funnels in Mesoamerica.

Large numbers of raptors migrate through the Caribbean slope each autumn and gather along a single route that passes through the Talamanca lowlands. With the Talamanca mountain range on one side and the Caribbean coastline on the other, this funnel-like area narrows to form a unique "bottle-neck" for raptors. It is used by most migrant bird species in the region and is an ideal place to count and monitor raptor migration.

Pablo began his bird research in 1994 and he received his B.S. in Tropical Biology in 1998. In Spring 2000, he attended the International Internship Program at Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in Pennsylvania and established the first raptor migration watch-site in the Neotropics in collaboration with Hawk Mountain Sanctuary and Wak Ka Koneke indigenous association.

### **The Secret Lives of Chickadees**

**Oct. 11: Dr. Susan Smith** is an ornithologist at Mount Holyoke College and a world authority on the habits and behaviors of our state bird and everyone's favorite, the Black Capped Chickadee.

Author of two books, "Wild Bird Guides: The Black-Capped Chickadee" and "The Black-Capped Chickadee: Behavioral Ecology and Natural History," Professor Smith (the "Jane Goodall" of chickadees) will delight us with the story of her detailed study of a population of colormarked chickadees over several years.

An ornithological prodigy, Smith has been "fascinated by anything with feathers" since she was a girl and has lost little of her childhood enthusiasm. Despite her current stature in the scientific community, Norman Wait Harris and Emma Gale Harris Foundation Professor of Biological Sciences, Susan Smith's discussion about chickadees is often punctuated by the words "very neat."

What Smith has done for the past twenty years, in addition to teaching, and writing books and articles on chickadees, is to conduct one of the few long-term studies of a chickadee population on this side of the Atlantic, making major contributions to research on the social dynamics of winter flocks of the species.



## **WILD CARE™ – An Opportunity**

At the May meeting, we heard Lela Larned, Director of WILD CARE tell about some of the 15,000 birds and animals treated in the fifteen years Wild Care has been in operation. Now Wild Care is looking for help!

Once housed in its founder's Brewster home and now in rented space, they have the chance to get their own facility!

Wild Care has negotiated with the owners of the two-acre Fisk Farm in Eastham and has signed a P&S agreement. The property contains a house suitable for use as a hospital on its first floor and offices and housing for interns on the second floor, as well as a large barn with a full, drive-in basement. With this basement, Larned said, the facility could house dozens of birds or other animals injured in an oil spill or a natural disaster. She added that, as a licensed wildlife rehab center, Wild Care could become the 'emergency room' for injured wildlife.

The problem is ... this non-profit organization must raise a \$250,000 down payment by Sept. 15th to meet the P&S agreement. They also need another \$500,000 to cover the balance of the property's selling price and improvements by Jan. 15, 2005.

Our goal with this article is to help 'get the word out' for this worthy organization dedicated to the welfare of our wildlife.

Tax-deductible checks can be made out to Wild Care and mailed to Wild Care Inc., PO Box 760, Brewster, MA 02631.

## **NEW MEMBERS - WELCOME**

Norbert Beauchemin – Southington, CT  
Peter Brown – Mashpee, MA  
Pamela Carter – S. Yarmouth, MA  
Rosann M. Conran – Brewster, MA  
James J. Cotter – Wollaston, MA  
Rick Fortenberry – E. Dennis, MA

Ruth Handlen – Harwich, MA  
James (Pete) & Ellen Ingram – Osterville  
Carolyn Kennedy – Orleans, MA  
Janet Leigh – Cotuit, MA  
Walter & Barbara Phillips – Mashpee, MA  
Tom & Joyce Prince – Cummaquid, MA

Mike Schaffer – Brewster, MA  
John & Martha Sherff – Eastham, MA  
Tom & Gail Waber – Brookdyn, NY  
Bill Willmering – Harwich, MA  
Sam & Nancy Yee – Centerville, MA

## Field Trips – Sept & Oct

Ginie 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/](http://www.massbird.org/) CCBC for additions or changes.

**Sept 7 – Tues – 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.

**Sept 9 – Thurs – 8AM Bourne and Falmouth.** Meet at Gray Gables Food Market in Bourne. We will visit a number of sites, hoping to venture down to Peterson Farm in Falmouth. Trip may not end until about 1PM. Leader: Stauffer Miller 508-362-3384 or Stauffer@seepub.com

**Sept 12 – Sun – 8AM Falmouth Great Sippewisset Marsh.** Meet at Mobil Station/Dunkin Donuts on Palmer Ave (Rte 28) in Falmouth. Leader: Greg Hirth 508-457-4356.

**Sept 13 – Mon – 8AM Coast Guard Beach in Eastham.** Shorebirds and sea birds on the marsh, views over the ocean and osprey in residence. Anything is possible! Park at the Coast Guard building. (Please arrive early in case of parking problems. The Doane picnic area is a short walk down the bike path from the meeting place.) Leader: Mark Tuttle 508-362-3015.

**Sept 22 – Wed – 8AM E. Sandwich Game Farm.** We will be looking for fall migrants as well as residents. Meet at Amari's Restaurant parking lot on 6A near Sandy Neck Rd. Leader: Dick Jurkowski 508-428-8494 or kingfisher\_229@yahoo.com


**Sept 30 – Thurs – 8 or 9AM Provincetown Whale Watch!** Meet at the pier in P'Town in time to catch the 10AM Dolphin Fleet trip. (Leave plenty of time to check for birds in harbor plus time for parking the car and purchasing your ticket.) We should have a great time seeing the great whales and also good looks at shearwaters, petrels and maybe other pelagic treats. The trip will continue into the

afternoon on a land side quest for fall sparrows, etc. If the weather is bad, we probably won't go on the ship so call if you are concerned or have other questions. Leader: Ginie Page 508-349-6810.

**Sept 30 – Thurs – 5:30PM N. Truro Swallows!** An excursion to witness the roosting behavior of thousands of swallows. This is a natural phenomenon not to be missed! We may also have a spectacular sunset. Meet at the south end of Pilgrim Lake (N. Truro/P-Town) just as you turn off Rte 6 toward High Head. Leader: Ginie Page 508-349-6810.

**Oct 10 – Sun – 8AM Marstons Mills.** Meet in CVS parking lot in Marston Mills. We will visit a nearby vegetable patch in the hope of seeing sparrows, and then check other spots in Marstons Mills and Cotuit. Leader: Stauffer Miller 362-3384 or Stauffer@see pub.com.

**Oct 17 – Sun – 8AM Mashpee River Woodlands.** Meet at the woodlands lot. (From Mashpee Rotary, take Rte 28 E toward Hyannis. At first right, turn onto Quinaquisset Ave. Parking is just around the corner to right. Fall foliage should be a treat with good views of the water. Over 75 species recorded here this year! Leader: Mary Keleher 508-477-1473.

**Oct 20 – Wed – 8AM E. Sandwich Game Farm.** We will be looking for fall migrants as well as residents. Meet at Amari's Restaurant parking lot on 6A near Sandy Neck Rd. Leader: Dick Jurkowski 508-428-8494 or kingfisher\_229@yahoo.com. 

### Betcha Didn't Know ....

Manx shearwaters were the first birds used in successful long-range homing experiments. One individual, from a group of birds removed from their nest in Wales and taken to Boston, returned to Wales in a mere twelve and a half days.


## May Warblers Ron Ayotte

This year there were eleven Club field walks in the Beech Forest, Provincetown. While the walk leaders reported all bird species seen, it can hardly be doubted that the warbler migration was the focus of the walks. It seems to me that a summary of the results of the warbler sightings might be interesting, and might give some insights into the pattern of the migration, at least for 2004.

Twenty-four species of warblers were reported on Club walks. Of these, 22 sightings were made in the Beech Forest, and two came from a Club expedition to Wompatuck State Park, near Weymouth.

The birds seen in the Beech Forest were: Blue-winged, Nashville, N. Parula, Yellow, Chestnut-sided, Magnolia, Black-throated Blue, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, Pine, Prairie, Palm, Blackpoll, Black-and-White, Am. Redstart, Ovenbird, N. Waterthrush, Common Yellowthroat, Hooded, Wilson's and Canada. The two warbler species seen at Wompatuck were Worm-eating Warbler and Louisiana Waterthrush. (As an aside, I observed a Bay-breasted Warbler and a Northern Waterthrush on May 26 in the Beech Forest, but not on a Club walk, so they don't 'count' here.)

The most commonly observed warbler on the walks was the Pine Warbler, seen on 14 of 16 walks, with Yellow (11/16), Am. Redstart (8/16), N. Parula (7/16) and Common Yellowthroat (7/16) next in order (full data are in the statistical summary available at each meeting).

From the walk data, it would appear that the peak of the "warbler season" was on May 15, when 16 species were reported, although 15 species were reported on May 22 and 12 species on May 23. 

**Commemorative Stamps or unused picture postcards: Bring them to the next meeting and they will be used to help the raptor rehab center.**

## Club Field Walks

Ron Ayotte, Secretary CCBC

*NOTE: This article covers Club field walks from the first of April through the end of July 2004. Due to the large number of field walks during the period, only a few, selected "highlight" birds can be given for each walk. Full statistical summaries for reported walks are available for inspection at each Club meeting. Feedback from members, as to format and content, is welcome. Very unusual species are underlined.*

**APRIL 2004:** There were four field walks reported in April, all on the Cape, three on the Upper Cape, and one in the Beech Forest, Provincetown. There were a total of 40 observers in the walks, and 91 species (spp) reported. The greatest number seen on one walk was 63, by Mary Keleher and Dan Furbish on April 18.

**4/8:** Bourne/Pocasset; Leader Stauffer Miller; fair, 50's; 12 observers; 58 species (spp). Great Egret, Northern Goshawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Am. Oystercatcher, Swamp Sparrow.

**4/16:** Falmouth; Leader Allison Robb; sunny, 50's; 8 observers; 27 spp. Common species only.

**4/18:** Sandwich; Leaders Mary Keleher and Dan Furbish; sun, 60's; 15 observers; 63 spp. Horned and Red-necked grebes, Fish Crow, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Winter Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet.

**4/30:** Beech Forest, Provincetown, Pilgrim Heights, Truro; Leaders Diane Silverstein and Mike Dettrey; sun. 50's; 5 observers; 39 spp. Northern Harrier, Broad-winged Hawk, American Kestrel, Spotted Sandpiper, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Northern Parula, Black-and-White Warbler.

**MAY 2004:** There were 16 field walks reported in May, all but one on the Cape. Eleven of the walks were in the Beech Forest. In all there were 207 observers, and 130 spp were reported. The greatest number seen on one trip was 67, by Mary Keleher and Dan Furbish, at Wompatuck State Park on May 22.

*(NOTE: Beech Forest summaries focus on warblers.)*

**5/1:** Beech Forest; Leader Stauffer Miller; fair, 60's; 22 observers, 24 species. Northern Parula, Yellow-rumped, Pine and Palm warblers.

**5/2:** Beech Forest; Leader Don Scott; p cloudy, 60's; 15 observers, 29 species. Nashville, Black-throated Blue, Yellow-rumped, Pine and Palm warblers.

**5/4:** Beech Forest; Leader Ginie Page; good; 17 observers, 22 species. Nashville, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green and Black-and-White warblers.

**5/5:** West Harwich Cons. Area; Leader Blair Nikula; m cloudy, cool; 20 observers, 36 species. Black-crowned Night-heron, Hooded Merganser, Lesser Yellow-legs, N. Rough-winged Swallow, Marsh Wren, Yellow and Pine Warblers.

**5/9:** Beech Forest; Leader Greg Hirth; overcast, 50's; 15 observers, 38 species. Northern Bobwhite, Nashville Warbler, Northern Parula, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green, Blackburnian, Pine and Black-and White warblers.

**5/11:** North Truro; Leader Ginie Page; good; 6 observers, 50 species. Pied-billed Grebe, Northern Harrier, Am. Kestrel, Chimney Swift, Northern Parula, Yellow, Chestnut-sided, Pine, Prairie, and Wilson's warblers, Common Yellowthroat.

**5/15:** Beech Forest; Leader Frank Caruso; fair, 70; 15 observers, 47 species. Blue-winged, Nashville, Northern Parula, Yellow, Chestnut-sided, Magnolia, Black-throated Blue, Yellow-rumped, Pine, Blackpoll, Black-and-White, American Redstart, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, Hooded and Wilson's warblers.

**5/16:** Beech Forest; Leader Blair Nikula; cloudy, mild; 20 observers, 29 species. Northern Parula, Chestnut-sided, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green, Pine, Blackpoll, Black-and-white warblers, Am. Redstart and Common Yellowthroat.

**5/18:** Wellfleet; Leader Ginie Page; cloudy, cool; 4 observers, 34 species. Pied-billed Grebe, Eastern Kingbird, Wood Thrush, Northern Parula, Yellow, Black-throated Blue, Pine, Blackpoll, Black-and-White warblers, Am. Redstart, Common Yellowthroat.

**5/22:** Beech Forest; Leaders Dick and Sylvia Jurkowski; cloudy 60F; 17 observers, 42 species. Northern Parula, Yellow, Magnolia, Black-throated Green, Pine, Blackpoll, Black-and-white warblers, Common Yellowthroat.

**5/22:** Wompatuck S.P., Weymouth; Leaders Mary Keleher and Dan Furbish; drizzle, 50's; 8 observers, 63 species. Ruffed Grouse, Northern Bobwhite, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Winter Wren, Veery, Wood Thrush, Blue-winged, Nashville, Yellow, Magnolia, Black-throated Green, Pine, Blackpoll, Black-and-white and Worm-eating warblers, Am. Redstart, Ovenbird and Northern and Louisiana waterthrushes.

**5/23:** Beech Forest; Leaders Ginie Page and Jan Kelly; cool, misty; 9 observers, 40 spp. Northern Parula, Yellow, Chestnut-sided, Magnolia, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green, Pine, and Blackpoll warblers, Am. Redstart, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat.

**5/25:** East Sandwich; Leader Stauffer Miller; cold, windy; 9 observers, 16 spp. Black-bellied and Semipalmated plovers, Willet, Sanderling, Least Sandpiper, Short-billed Dowitcher, Horned Lark.

**5/29:** Beech Forest; Leader Ed Banks; clear, 60's; 11 observers, 38 spp. Yellow, Magnolia, Black-throated Green, Pine, Wilson's and Canada warblers, Am. Redstart.

**5/29:** Beech Forest; Leader Ginie Page; sunny, cool; 9 observers, 33 spp. Yellow, Magnolia and Pine warblers.

**5/30:** Beech Forest; Leaders Nancy Reider, Ruth Connaughton; 10 observers, 31 spp. Yellow, Black-throated Green and Pine warblers, Am. Redstart.

**SUMMER 2004:** At newsletter deadline there were six field walks reported, four in June, two in July, all on the Cape. There were 59 observers and 95 spp reported, the greatest number reported on one walk being 48 by Stauffer Miller on July 13.

**6/3:** Sandwich Game Farm; Leader Dick Jurkowski; p/cloudy, 70's; 8 observers, 36 spp. Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Yellow and Pine warblers, Common Yellowthroat.

*(Field Walks – ont'd on page 5)*

### Carl W. Bergfors, Jr.

We are sad to report the passing of Carl W. Bergfors, Jr. who died August 2nd. Carl was an avid birder and an active long-time member of the Cape Cod Bird Club.

We extend our condolences to Carl's family.

### Carl Bergfors, Jr. — Some Things I Remember

Bird Club member Carl Bergfors, age 74, died August 2nd and we are all saddened by this.

As I think about Carl, I remember a certain sparkle about his eyes and his bad posture — so much like mine.

I didn't see Carl much — mostly at the Bird Club and on the waterfowl count in December. He was of great value on the count, not only for his sunny personality, wit, and Duck-ID

skills, but also for his surpassing knowledge of the complicated Lake Wequaquet and how to reach all of its coves.

I can recall a number of cold Saturdays with him as we counted ducks. He seemed resilient to the cold winds coming off that lake and would steadfastly count distant mergansers while I sought the warmth of the car.

He often spoke of visiting Sweden but I'm not sure he ever got there. He seemed to be very interested in Short-eared Owls and after all of my very infrequent sightings of one of them, he would quiz me closely on where I had seen it.

Carl was a totally likeable person and I will miss him.

*Stauffer Miller*

### CCBC Scholarship

We are pleased to announce that **JANET DOHERTY** of South Wellfleet is the recipient of this year's CCBC Scholarship.

Janet is in the Environmental Technology Program at Cape Cod Community College and is working toward a Certificate in Coastal Zone Management. Janet has been a member of the Wellfleet Open Space/Land Bank Committee and is working on the final details of a trail guide to some of the conservation lands that Wellfleet has acquired.


Congratulations, Janet!

### October Auction

Great books, still warm off the press, will be up for auction to the highest bidders at the October meeting of the Bird Club! Included in the lot will be: Christopher Leahy's hefty and updated Birdwatcher's Companion to North American Birdlife (retail: \$40); Donald Heintzelman's Hawks and Owls of Eastern North America (retail: \$30); Wayne Petersen's brand spanking new Birds of New England (retail: \$20); 3-CD package of Peterson Field Guides Eastern/Central More Birding by Ear (opened but never used — retails \$30).

Ellie Miller will have reviewed most of these in her bird column which appears every other Thursday in the Cape Cod Times (Sports Section/Outdoors page).

Watch for the reviews and come prepared to bid!

REMEMBER: all proceeds go to Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences to provide binoculars and field guides for emerging ornithologists in Latin America. 

### Field Walks — (Cont'd from page 4)

**6/10:** Ryder Cons. Area, Sandwich; Leader Ellie Winslow; cloudy, 61; 5 observers, 28 spp. Ruby-throated Hummingbird, E. Wood Pewee, Red-eyed Vireo, Wood Thrush, N. Parula, Yellow and Pine warblers, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat.

**6/16:** Fort Hill, Marconi; Leaders Mike Dettrey, Diane Silverstein; no report; 5 observers, 36 spp. Great Blue Heron, Snowy Egret, N. Bobwhite, Am. Oystercatcher, Whip-poor-will, Willow Flycatcher, Yellow Warbler, Common Yellowthroat.

**6/23:** Crane Wildlife Mgt. Area; Leader, Allison Robb; windy, 75; 15 observers, 17 spp. Turkey Vulture, Grasshopper Sparrow.

**7/13:** E. Sandwich; Leader Stauffer Miller; rainy; 6 observers, 48 spp. Great Egret, Gr. and Lesser Yellowlegs, Spotted and White-rumped sandpipers, Least Tern, Horned Lark, Bank Swallow, House Wren, Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow.

**7/30:** South Beach, Chatham; Leaders Diane Silverstein and Mike Dettrey; sunny, 80F, 20 observers, 36 spp. Wilson's Storm-petrel, Western Willet, Hudsonian Godwit, Red Knot, Western Sandpiper, Dunlin, Sabine's Gull, Roseate, Common, Arctic, Least and Black terns.

### Summary: September 2003 through July 2004:

There were 81 walks reported with a total participation of 677 observers (an average of 8.36 observers per walk). There were 230 species observed and reported. The most frequently seen species were Am. Crow and Am. Goldfinch (63% of walks).

Other birds reported on more than 50% of walks were: Am. Robin (60%); Herring Gull and Black-capped Chickadee (55%); Blue Jay (54%); and Tufted Titmouse, N. Cardinal, and Downy Woodpecker (52%).

*Ron Ayotte, Compiler*

# American Birding Association's PRINCIPLES OF BIRDING ETHICS

Everyone who enjoys birds and birding must always respect wildlife, its environment, and the rights of others. In any conflict of interest between birds and birders, the welfare of the birds and their environment comes first.

## CODE OF BIRDING ETHICS

### 1. Promote the welfare of birds and their environment.

1(a) Support the protection of important bird habitat.

1(b) To avoid stressing birds or exposing them to danger, exercise restraint and caution during observation, photography, sound recording, or filming. Limit the use of recordings and other methods of attracting birds, and never use such methods in heavily birded areas, or for attracting any species that is Threatened, Endangered, or of Special Concern, or rare in your local area; Keep well back from nests and nesting colonies, roosts, display areas, and important feeding sites. In such sensitive areas, if there is a need for extended observation, photography, filming, or recording, try to use a blind or hide, and take advantage of natural cover.

Use artificial light sparingly for filming or photography, especially for close-ups.

1(c) Before advertising the presence of a rare bird, evaluate the potential for disturbance to the bird, its surroundings, and other people in the area, and proceed only if access can be controlled, disturbance minimized, and permission has been obtained from private land-owners. The sites of rare nesting birds should be divulged only to the proper conservation authorities.

1(d) Stay on roads, trails, and paths where they exist; otherwise keep habitat disturbance to a minimum.

### 2. Respect the law, and the rights of others.

2(a) Do not enter private property without the owner's explicit permission.

2(b) Follow all laws, rules, and regulations governing use of roads and public areas, both at home and abroad.

2(c) Practice common courtesy in contacts with other people. Your exemplary behavior will generate goodwill

with birders and non-birders alike.

### 3. Ensure that feeders, nest structures, and other artificial bird environments are safe.

3(a) Keep dispensers, water, and food clean, and free of decay or disease. It's important to feed birds continually during harsh weather.

3(b) Maintain and clean nest structures regularly.

3(c) If you are attracting birds to an area, ensure the birds are not exposed to predation from cats and other domestic animals, or dangers posed by artificial hazards.

### 4. Group birding, whether organized or impromptu, requires special care.

**Each individual in the group, in addition to the obligations spelled out in Items #1 and #2, has responsibilities as a Group Member.**

4(a) Respect the interests, rights, and skills of fellow birders, as well as people participating in other legitimate outdoor activities. Freely share your knowledge and experience, except where code 1(c) applies. Be especially helpful to beginning birders.

4(b) If you witness unethical birding behavior, assess the situation, and intervene if you think it prudent. When interceding, inform the person(s) of the inappropriate action, and attempt, within reason, to have it stopped. If the behavior continues, document it, and notify appropriate individuals or organizations.

**Group Leader Responsibilities [amateur and professional trips and tours].**

4(c) Be an exemplary ethical role model for the group. Teach through word and example.

4(d) Keep groups to a size that limits impact on the environment, and does not interfere with others using the same area.

4(e) Ensure everyone in the group knows of and practises this code.

4(f) Learn and inform the group of any special circumstances applicable to the areas being visited (e.g. no tape recorders allowed).

4(g) Acknowledge that professional tour companies bear a special responsibility to place the welfare of birds and the benefits of public knowledge ahead of the company's commercial interests. Ideally, leaders should keep track of tour sightings, document unusual occurrences, and submit records to appropriate organizations.

## PLEASE FOLLOW THIS CODE AND DISTRIBUTE AND TEACH IT TO OTHERS

The American Birding Association's Code of Birding Ethics may be freely reproduced for distribution/dissemination. Please acknowledge the role of ABA in developing and promoting this code with a link to the ABA website using the url <<http://americanbirding.org>>. Thank you.

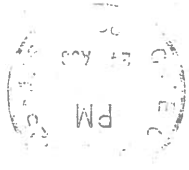


02644X1725 R002

Frank Caruso and Barbara Steller  
17 Freedom Rd  
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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.

If you are interested in joining, please send a check for \$10 single membership, \$15 family membership to:

**CCBC, Cape Cod Museum of Natural History**  
869 Rte 6A, Brewster, MA 02631  
Website: <http://www.massbird.org/CCBC>

#### Officers

Dick Jurkowski	President
Diane Silverstein	Vice President
Ron Ayotte	Secretary
Ellie Winslow	Treasurer

#### Directors

Ginie Page	Joanna Schurmann
Wil Sprauve	Mike Dettrey
Greg Hirth	Barbara Stanton

#### Newsletter

Editor ~ Sylvia Jurkowski [capekingfisher@yahoo.com](mailto:capekingfisher@yahoo.com)  
Circulation ~ Ron Ayotte

*Nominating Committee Chair* – Phil Kyle