

CAPE COD BIRD CLUB NEWSLETTER

July - August 1987

Again, we come to that time of year on Cape Cod when the birds are probably people watching. It will be interesting to see if all the building that's been going on for the past year results in "grid lock" especially during the weekends. Whatever, I'm sure that all you birders will find ways to do some birding. A few suggestions may be found in this newsletter.

This will be my last newsletter as your president, and I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you club members who helped to make my term pleasurable. Special thanks are due those who served as officers and directors. This year we recognize outgoing board members Mary Ropes and Mike O'Connor. During her three year term Mary served ably as refreshment chairman and then handled publicity. Mike's professional advice was always of value and he was in charge of seeing that we didn't take ourselves too seriously. Peter Trimble did a fine job on the walks for two years, and Harriet Sears took charge of the refreshments this past year. Julie Nelson and then Bessie Tirrell, ably assisted by Roger Everett provided those great programs we've had for the past two years. Peter Trull was great as Vice President, and I'm sure he'll be a super President. Those one man nights that Peter put on were great! Treasurers and secretaries don't get much notice, but we couldn't get along without them. Bob Scott, Art King, and Aurele Thomas all were great.

I also want to recognize Janet Aylward who so ably supervises the bird counts, Christmas and breeding bird census. Last, but certainly not least, thanks for the advice and support of past Presidents Charlotte Smith and Blair Nikula. Blair's "prevues" made last year's newsletters, and I assure you that the newsletter would never get out without Charlotte Smith.

WALKS: Saturday, July 18 - 1-5 P.M. - Monomoy. Meet at Monomoy Headquarters on Morris Island, Chatham. Trip limited to 12 people. Cost: \$15 per person. Advance registration required. Call 945-0681 for registration or Peter Trimble at 477-3847 for details or reservations.

Sunday, July 26 - 8 A.M. - Great Island. Meet at National Seashore Great Island parking lot in Wellfleet. Bessie Tirrell (432-9248).

Saturday, August 15 - 1-5 P.M. - Monomoy. Same as July 18th.

Members are reminded that the Wellfleet Bay Sanctuary runs walks all summer. These are well publicized in the local newspapers. The National Seashore also sponsors bird walks. Ashumet Holly Reservation is sponsoring trips to Cuttyhunk Island on Sundays during July, August and September. Call the reservation at 563-6390 or Peter Trimble (477-3847) for dates and details.

NEW BOARD: As a result of the elections at the May meeting, the officers and board members for next year are:

President: Peter Trull	Directors: Bessie Tirrell	Fahy Bygate
Vice-president: Peter Trimble	Sue Talin	William Swift
Secretary: Aurele Thomas	Harriet Sears	
Treasurer: Art King	Roger Everett	

TREASURER'S REPORT: A brief summary of Art's annual report follows:

Carry-over from 85/86	\$1090.17	Dues (\$1332) and checklists (\$333)
Receipts:	2036.10*	provide most of our income. The
Expenditures:	1774.99	newsletter(\$492) and programs
Balance (6/15/87)	1351.28*	(\$375) are the largest expenses.

*include \$260 in Kyle Memorial Fund

DUES: Membership payments are now due for 1987-1988. Please detach the form below and mail it with your payment.

NAME (Please Print); _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____ ZIP _____

PHONE: _____

MEMBERSHIP: [] Family, \$8.00 [] Single, \$5.00

Make checks payable to the CAPE COD BIRD CLUB and mail to:
Arthur N. King, Treasurer, CCBC, 23 Maple Lane, Brewster, MA 02631

BREEDING BIRD CENSUS: On Saturday, June 13, 16 avid birders covered the mid-cape Christmas count area counting species and numbers of birds. Some started as early as 3 A.M. (not me...I was on the 6:30 shift) and at 2 P.M. all gathered on Charlotte Smith's porch to lunch and tally the results. A record 115 species were observed. New to the count were a Black Tern, an Upland Sandpiper, a Cory Shearwater, a Yellow Throated Verio, and a Surf Scoter.

BIRD BOOK SALE: The museum is selling two lots of antique bird books at auction. Lot #1 is by Edward Howe Forbush and includes 3 volumes of "Birds of Massachusetts and Other New England States" 1925-29 and "Game Birds, Wild Fowl, and Shore Birds" 1912. Lot #2 by Elon Howard Eaton consists of two volumes of "Birds of New York" 1912. Bidding starts at \$100 per lot and closes July 15. The books can be seen at the museum library.

CRUISES: I ran into Mark Carpenter at the museum a few days ago. Mark is the Captain of the "Morning Star" which was used for the museum sponsored Intercoastal Waterway cruises which Ginny and I took a few years ago. The "Morning Star" is featured in a brochure describing many available cruises. Mark also suggested that he would be interested in a Pelagic Bird cruise if a few birders were interested. Brochures and details can be had by calling 385-4784.

FEEDER CENSUS: Some of the results of the 1986-87 Feeder census are tabulated below. It will be noted that the numbers are about the same as for the past few years. The same birds make up the top ten as last year although the order is changed.

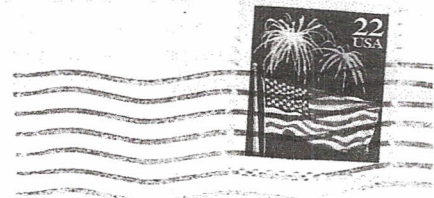
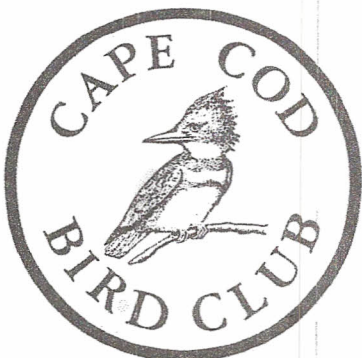
SPECIES	BIRDS PER FEEDER	RANK	PREVIOUS RANKINGS					
			85/86	84/85	83/84	82/83	81/82	80/81
BLUE JAY	6.01	1	2	5	3	3	4	5
HOUSE FINCH	5.98	2	4	1	6	5	3	4
MOURNING DOVE	5.70	3	1	2	1	1	1	1
CHICKADEE	5.50	4	3	4	2	2	2	2
HOUSE SPARROW	4.13	5	5	3	9	6	5	3
GOLDFINCH	3.33	6	7	7	5	8	7	8
GRACKLE	3.22	7	8	13	11	13	10	10
BOBWHITE	2.34	8	9	10	8	7	8	7
CROW	2.19	9	10	17	16	17	21	30
STARLING	1.90	10	6	6	4	4	6	9
TOTALS								
	86/87	85/86	84/85	83/84	82/83	81/82	80/81	
No of Species	48	55	52	57	44	50	47	
Av. No.								
Birds per Feeder per Month	59.4	62.6	60.0	60.0	44.7	58.4	62.6	

My computer was also able to list the percent of feeders at which each species was observed each month. This did some interesting things to the rankings: 1) Chickadee (96.5%); 2) Blue Jay (90.7%); 3) Mourning Dove (84.5%); 4) House Finch (76.5%); 5) Downy Woodpecker (69.5%); 6) Titmouse (68.6%); 7) Goldfinch (67.7%); 8) Cardinal (62.8%); 9) White Breasted Nuthatch (58.4%); 10) Crow (56.2%). All others were less than 50%.

Comeback bird of the year: Redpoll (302 birds-20 last year-0 the year before)

Disappointment of the year: Cedar Waxwing---only 6 birds compared to 107 last year).

NOVA SCOTIA TRIP: I'll spend the last few lines describing some of the birding we were able to do on our recent motor home trip to Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Although the trip was primarily for a visit with our daughter and to see the country, we managed to see 97 species including three life birds. Some of the best birding was in Maine in the back yard of N.J. friends who retired there. Purple finches were plentiful at their feeder, and Ginny saw an Evening Grosbeak (0 on the Cape for us this year). Back yard sightings included Broad Wing Hawks, a Common Raven and a Yellow Bellied Flycatcher (life bird). Campground sightings included a Bald Eagle and Parula, Cape May and Yellow warblers. At lunch in PEI we saw and heard a Raven harassing two Great Horned Owls. In Fundy Nat'l Park, we walked a trail, saw nothing of note, parked for lunch and saw a grasshopper sparrow (life bird). Great warbler birding on Plum Island Hellcat Trail on way home.



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