

CAPE COD BIRD CLUB NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1988

Well, here we go into another year of Bird Club activity. Shorebirds are here and warblers are on the way. I do hope that a lot of you are getting out into the field to observe some of these sandpipers and plovers that are so actively feeding around the cape's perimeters. Not everywhere you go will be as active as Monomoy Island tends to be, but certainly you will see birds now, wherever you go. When you're learning to I. D. shorebirds, sometimes it's better to have few birds but good diversity of species - one of this, two of that. It isn't too tough to find 5 or 6 or even 10 species of shorebirds on almost any tidal flat in September, so get out there and observe. Just think how much sharper you'll be next year!!

Roger Everett has been working on programs for the upcoming year, and he has scheduled two local guys for the September and October programs.

September 12, Cape Cod Museum of Natural History - 7:45 PM
Blair Nikula will present The flora and fauna of the Canadian Rockies. Blair led a tour of bird club members north and west this past June to Alberta, and the splendor of the Canadian Rockies. Our first meeting will feature a slide presentation highlighting what they observed. I know how beautiful Blair's photographs are, so come and enjoy.

October 10, Cape Cod Museum of Natural History - 7:45 PM
The Roseate Tern - Endangered and Enduring. As many of you may know, roseates were listed as a federally endangered species in December of last year. With this status comes a need for people to better understand the life history of this graceful seabird and why the cape is so important in it's survival. Your's truly will explain this and more, I'll share my photographs of roseates as well as my relationship with them over the last decade. Please join me.

A few notes - Hearty congratulations to Roger Everett on his recent accomplishment WADING AND SHOREBIRDS.

A book of Roger's best photographs dramatically showing a number of herons sandpipers and plovers that we may observe along the shores of Cape Cod. Also --- Please submit club dues if you haven't already. Send to the Bird Club c/o Cape Cod Museum of Natural History, Drawer R Route 6A, Brewster, MA 02631.

OK, WALKS ---

Wednesday, September 7, FALMOUTH 8:00 AM, Meet behind the Town Hall, Falmouth Center. Mary Ropes. 548-6068

Monday, September 12, EASTHAM 8:00 A.M. Meet at the lower parking lot of Fort Hill. Art King 255-8919.

Tuesday, September 13, WELLFLEET 9:00 A.M. Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary Bird Walk. 349-2915

Thursday, September 15, YARMOUTH 8:00 A.M. Meet at the playground at the intersection of Rt. 6A & Union St. Charlotte Smith 362-6891.

Thursday, September 22, HARWICH 8:00 A.M. Meet at the Saguatucket Harber in Harwich. John & Ginny Redfern 432-6426.

Saturday, September 23, MONOMOY ISLAND TRIP. Limited to 10 persons. Call Peter Trimble 477-3847 for details, cost and reservation.

October:

Wednesday, Oct. 5 - FALMOUTH - same as above.

Monday, Oct. 10 - EASTHAM - same as above.

Tuesday, Oct. 11 - WELLFLEET - same as above.

Thursday, Oct. 20 - YARMOUTH - same as above.

Thursday, Oct. 27 - HARWICH - same as above.

and

Saturday, Oct. 22 - MORRIS ISLAND 8:00 A.M. Peter Trull 945-2153. Meet at Monomoy Refuge Headquarters parking lot.

Well I'm glad to print John Redferns efforts on the winter bird feeder census. John has carried out this project for about 7 years now and has it all on his computer. I feel this data is valuable enough to publish in a larger publication, and we'll look into that. But for those of you who contributed to his efforts - here you go....

CAPE COD BIRD CLUB
FEEDER CENSUS REPORT
1987 - 1988

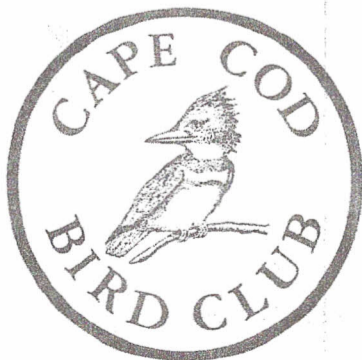
SPECIES	SEVEN YEAR MEDIAN		1987 - 1988	
	RANK	BIRDS/FEEDER/ MONTH	RANK	BIRDS/FEEDER/ MONTH
Mourning Dove	1	6.9	1	6.6
Chickadee	2	5.5	2	5.2
Blue Jay	3	4.7	7	2.2
House Finch	4	4.5	3	4.7
House Sparrow	5	4.1	5	3.9
Starling	6	3.8	6	3.6
Gold Finch	7	3.3	4	4.5
Bob White	8	3.1	9	2.0
Grackle	9	2.3	10	2.0
Cardinal	10	1.9	11	1.8
Crow		.95	8	2.2
TOTAL		60.0		55.9

Blue Jays were down from a top ranking of 6 Birds/Feeder/Month in 1986-87. There were no new additions to the top 20 species. Pine Siskins, Red-breasted Nuthatches and Red Polls very scarce this year. A record high of 58 species were reported this year. The top ten species as ranked by percent of feeders reporting them was the same as last year with some minor shifting in the ranks (Chickadee a hands down winner at 96.9%). We received a total of forty reports from the members. This is about average----we could use more! Thanks to all of those who took the trouble to count and record the results, this data will increase in value as time goes by.

Thanks John ...

Here's something that may excite some of you. Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary is offering a 9 day trip highlighting Cape May N.J. and Hawk Mountain, Kempton, Pennsylvania. Both are dynamite spots for birding. Lots of extra's included! call 349-2615 for more info. the trip is scheduled for October 2 - 8.

OK then, till next time - Good birding.



Frank Caruso
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