



The Kingfisher

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Cape Cod Bird Club meets on the 2nd Monday of each month, Sept through May, at 7:00PM. We are experimenting with conducting hybrid meetings, simultaneously live and online. We meet at the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History, 869 Route 6A, Brewster.

The Kingfisher is published quarterly.

Deadline for the next issue is December 8, 2022.

Send submissions by email. Attach text as a MS Word document or plain text. Attach images as separate files; please do not embed them in the email body. Send the largest resolution possible for your images; they will not print well if preformatted for the Web. Please credit the images. Submissions might be edited for style or length. Editors have the final say on content.

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President's Message

Greetings Cape Cod Bird Club members!

Welcome to our 2022-23 season. It would be premature to say this is the first season in the "post covid era." How about if we just say it's the first season since we've had the tools available to keep this pandemic in check. The key is that we're finally able to offer in-person meetings for the first time in 2.5 years! As we try to get back to doing all the things we love in the Club, we'll be carefully setting up our meetings, and listening to our members for their inputs.

This year the Cape Cod Bird Club will be celebrating its 50th year! There has been a long history of birding on Cape Cod, and we still have people around who were here in the early days—we plan on reminiscing with them at our special 50th Anniversary Celebration at our December meeting. We will be announcing more as the event draws near.

A major change for this year is the in-person meeting. While zooming for the past couple of years has been educational, we missed all the fruitful interactions that occur at an in-person gathering. But we also realize that some people value the zoom option, whether due to geography, health, or otherwise. So, in an attempt to get the "best of both worlds," we are offering "hybrid" meetings with both in-person and zoom. Our hybrid September meeting was a huge success with 61 people in person, and over 45 people on zoom. We will continue to offer hybrid meetings for the next few months and monitor the feedback we receive.

This is my first year as President of the Club. I would like to thank Peter Bono for serving as President for the past four years. Peter continues on our Board as Director of Conservation and Education. You can find bios for Peter and the other Board members on pages 5 and 6.

Just a few words about me: after a career in high tech and raising our family in Sudbury, MA, my wife, Gloria (see bio), and I are now full-time residents in Centerville, where we love exploring all corners of the Cape in search of the wide range of birds and other flora and fauna. We love birds and are constantly working on our backyard "sanctuary" where we have nine feeders, nine nest boxes, five bird baths, and countless bird-friendly plantings!

Happy Birding!

Peter Fang, President



Club Meetings

Monthly meetings and programs will be a “hybrid” of in-person gatherings at the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History in Brewster with a simultaneous Zoom broadcast. Our meetings are free and open to the public and start at 7 pm (doors open 6:30). No registration necessary. When meetings are held by Zoom, the link will be sent to all active members for whom we have an email address and will be published on the CCBC website. Non-members are welcome.

- ◆ **Monday, October 10, 2022 at Cape Cod Museum of Natural History, with Zoom available.**
- ◆ **Monday, November 14, 2022 at Cape Cod Museum of Natural History, with Zoom available.**
- ◆ **Monday, December 12 , 2022 at Cape Cod Museum of Natural History—Come celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Club.**

[Check the Meetings link on our website for updates.](#)

Let's Talk about Birding --- Join Me in Small Group Discussions — *Peter Bono*

Now that I am Past President, I have the time to organize a new activity for CCBC members that I hope will fill a need as we gradually emerge from our small, relatively safe “bubbles” in the coming months. I would like to organize small group discussions on topics of interest to our members. The date, time, and location would be decided after a group of people have indicated their interest to meet to discuss a particular topic. The size of the group would depend upon the topic chosen, the venue (in person or online), and the wishes of the participants.

I am willing to play two different roles: (1) as a discussion organizer and moderator on a couple of topics that interest me; (2) as a coordinator for setting up discussion groups on other topics you and other participants suggest.

Email me, Peter Bono (pbono@prba.com), if you are interested in talking about:

- Tips for international birding travel
- Tips for using the advanced features of eBird
- Latest scientific ornithological research

For these three topics, I am willing to be the organizer of one or more small discussion groups. In your response, state your topic of interest and give your phone number and town of residence. The first meetings would be in November.

If there are other topics for which YOU would be willing to be an organizer, please email me, and I'll work to publicize your discussion group topic (via email, The Kingfisher, and on our CCBC website). These new discussion groups are meant to complement our usual monthly meetings. I hope they will give you more opportunities to meet your fellow birders and find shared interests.

Cape Cod Bird Club Fall Walks — *Mary Jo Foti* October 2022 – January 1st, 2023



Robert F. Smith Cold Brook Preserve – Harwich Al Curtis, (alcurtis48@gmail.com) **Sunday, October 2nd, — 8 AM.** From Rt. 39 in Harwich, take Bank Street to #203 – the Harbormaster’s Workshop. Over 60 acres of wetland and surrounding upland provides ideal habitat for a variety of passerines, hawks, waterfowl and other species, and includes a Bluebird trail with 44 nest boxes maintained by volunteers with Harwich Conservation Trust.

Garden Varieties: Brewster –Harwich Jeff Bryant (five_loons@yahoo.com) **Saturday, October 8th – 8 AM.** Meet at the Harwich Community Gardens on Sisson Road just north of the Stop & Shop on Route 28. This has traditionally been a nice spot for fall migration with some unlikely surprises in past years, including Ash-throated Flycatcher and Grasshopper Sparrow. If time permits, we can head directly north to Brewster Community Gardens, another nice spot worth exploring just opposite the Eddy Bay Trail.

Chapin Beach, Dennis MJ Foti, (maryjo1226@yahoo.com) **Tuesday, October 11th – 8 AM.** Meet in the Chapin Beach parking lot off Chapin Beach Rd. Walk the flats at this secluded beach with nice views of Sandy Neck Lighthouse and Grays Beach boardwalk. We’ll wade in front of the rock outcropping as shorebird and tern species gather in tight knots to feed. Forster’s Terns occur in nice numbers at this location. Rubber boots recommended. Low tide occurs 7:09 AM.

Crane Wildlife Management Area - East Falmouth Mike Tucker (300 Committee) (bnatural2@gmail.com) **Sunday, October 16th – 8:00 AM.** Meet at the parking lot of Otis Model Aero Club Flying Field. As you drive north on Nathan Ellis Highway, the entrance to Crane will be on your right. You can count on productive raptor activity, while this unique grassland habitat is also host to a rich variety of species including Eastern Meadowlark, Grasshopper Sparrow, American Kestrel, and possibly Blue Grosbeak.

Fort Hill and Hemenway Landing – Eastham Keelin Miller (capekeelin@hotmail.com) **Wednesday, October 26th – 8:00 AM.** Meet in the lower parking lot on Fort Hill Road. We’ll walk the loop trail towards Hemenway Landing where there should be some nice migrant activity. We can also scan the marsh for incoming shorebirds, herons, egrets, and hopefully a bittern or rail with the rising tide. High tide occurs about 9:39 AM. You may want to wear waterproof boots.

High Head – N. Truro Ross Sormani (rsormani@yahoo.com) **Sunday, November 6th – 8 AM.** Meet at the High Head Bike Trail parking lot. Bear left on High Head Rd. when you reach the steep hill and you’ll be on a dirt road that leads to parking for the bike trail. We’ll be looking and listening for rail, bobwhite, and American Bittern skulking through the marsh, searching overhead for raptors, and scanning the thickets for songbirds while we walk the well paved trail. Please bring a scope if possible.

Bells Neck Conservation Area – Harwich MJ Foti (maryjo1226@yahoo.com) **Wednesday November 9th – 8 AM.** Meet at Bells Neck Road at the landing of the West Reservoir. Take advantage of low tide conditions on the East Reservoir, enjoy the marsh overlook at the footbridge, and scan the car bridge for raptors, waterfowl, and a possible bittern or rail. You may want to have rubber boots on hand.

Hinckleys, Seymour and Long Ponds – Harwich and Brewster Jeff Bryant (five_loons@yahoo.com) **Saturday, November 19th – 8 AM.** Meet at the Rail Trail parking lot off Headwaters Drive. From Route 124, turn on Headwaters Drive and drive less than a half mile to access the Cape Cod Rail Trail parking area. Explore these mid-

Cape ponds that host a variety of waterfowl species, including Greater and Lesser Scaup, mergansers, Bufflehead, and American Coot. After exploring Hinckleys Pond we'll head to Seymour Pond, then the large parking area at Long Pond, accessed from Crowells Bog Rd.

Scusset Beach State Reservation – Sagamore MJ Foti (maryjo1226@yahoo.com) **Wednesday, November 30th — 8 AM.** Take Scusset Beach Road to the main entrance. Parking is .25 miles past the entrance at the fishing pier. We'll walk the bike path that parallels the canal to view impressive numbers of wintering waterfowl, Great Cormorant, and possible alcid species. The campground area and adjacent field by the playground hosts a variety of wintering passerines, including Horned Lark, an occasional Snow Bunting, and possibly Lapland Longspur.

West Dennis Beach Peter Bono (pbono@prba.com) **Wednesday, December 14th – 8 AM.** Meet at the East end of Dennis Beach parking lot just past the entrance. This will be a leisurely paced walk as we sort through gulls in hopes of seeing the Lesser Black-backed that has been a regular at this beach for many a winter season. There will also be a variety of waterfowl and late shorebird species including Dunlin, Yellowlegs, and Sanderling in winter plumage.

New Year's Day with Ed Banks – Mid-Cape Ed Banks, (68edbanks@gmail.com) (508-769-6762), **Sunday, January 1, 2023 – noon to 4PM.** Meet in the Stop & Shop parking lot at Patriot Square on Route 134 in South Dennis. Please join us for this annual New Year's Day walk. Get your 2023 year list off to a great start! Click off your yard birds in the morning and join us at noon. We will bird the mid-Cape and perhaps some other hotspots. Party hats optional!

- ◆ Remember to [visit the Club website](#) for updates and weather-related cancellations.
- ◆ Please let the trip leader know you wish to join their walk by sending an email.

Cape Cod Bird Club COVID Guidelines: October—December 2022

- Please do not participate in trips if you do not feel well, or have recently been exposed to someone with COVID or COVID-like symptoms.
- Masks are optional but individuals should feel comfortable wearing a mask at any point during the trip.
- It is up to the individual trip leader and each walk participant to decide whether or not they wish to carpool.

2022 Annual Cape Cod Waterfowl Census

This year's waterfowl census will take place Saturday and Sunday, December 3rd and 4th. Last year, 26 teams covered 349 ponds with a total of 35 waterfowl species observed. Thank you to all of the volunteers who contributed to this exceptionally successful survey. Hope to duplicate that success this year.
—MJ Foti

Welcome New Members

Barry Good	- East Falmouth	Pat & Doug Watson	- Harwich
Thomas Marvel	- Naples, FL	Maryann & Chuck Hayes	- East Longmeadow
Terrie Cole	- Centerville	Ned & Maria Penberthy	- Orleans
Pam Boden	- Hyannis	Karen Schnelwar	- New York, NY
Bob Lagoy	- West Barnstable	Michael Vogler	- Chatham
Margaret Falbo	- Yarmouthport	Sarah Toadvine	- Brewster
Carol Berno	- Sandwich	Mark Berson	- Greenfield
David Walsh	- Ipswich	Elissa Arons	- Cambridge
Mardelle Shepley	- Falmouth	Brad, Emma & Kam Bulat	- Brewster
Susan Packard	- Arlington	Schlabach Family: Mary Anne,	- Oswego
Karen Casey	- Dennis	Marty, Wesley, Nathan	

Follow Us and You Will Learn How to Protect Birds

In 2021, through the generosity of CCBC members, the Conservation and Education committee awarded a grant of \$1000, through The Friendship Organization in St Augustine, FL, to Empresa Nacional para la Conservación de la Flora y la Fauna, in Santiago de Cuba, to instill in school children the desire to protect their birds—migrants and endemics—through a combination of workshops, games, and other activities. They also wanted to change adult/teen behavior by reducing the impact on native bird populations of capturing and selling wild birds. We have now received their final report—and it is impressive. Here's a brief summary and some photos.

896 people in total were reached: 594 children, 130 youth, and 172 adults. The group developed a comprehensive environmental education program including bird observations, talks, conversations, participation games, a curricular program in which the protection of biodiversity is linked and especially dedicated to birds, radio and television programs, and the distribution of bulletins and leaflets.

I encourage you to read the full report on the CCBC Website at <https://capecodbirdclub.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/Final-Report-Cuba-2021.pdf>.

— Peter Bono, Chair, CCBC Conservation and Education Committee



Meet Your Board of Directors

It has been many months since we last met as a group and you elected new Board members in May.

We look forward to meeting you at Fall events and thought you might like to know more about us too.

Peter Fang, President, see page 1.



David Clapp, Vice President: A respected naturalist and teacher who worked extensively in land conservation and habitat management. He has taught at Northeastern University, lectured on strategies for land protection in the United States, Africa, Europe, and Asia, and consulted for an array of governmental and conservation agencies. David worked for both Mass Audubon and the Smithsonian for 35 years as a sanctuary director, tour leader and educator. He is also a superb bird photographer.



Carolyn Kennedy, Secretary and Co-Editor of The Kingfisher: A birder since age seven, I now enjoy watching bird behavior, monitoring the Club's nestboxes at Crowes Pasture and training new volunteers each year. I love watching them discover a nestling just exiting an egg or an excited juvenile getting ready to fly. Jean Warneke and I each edit two issues of The Kingfisher a year.

Continued on next page.

Meet Your Board of Directors continued

Maria Curley, Treasurer: Maria has been the CCBC Treasurer since 2019. She is also a Science Teacher at Barnstable Intermediate School in Hyannis. Maria's favorite birds are owls, hummingbirds, ospreys, and all corvids. She was especially delighted this summer to see her first Clark's nutcracker in the Bristlecone Pine Forest of the White Mountains, located in the Great Basin area of California, and home to some of the oldest trees in the world. Maria is looking forward to a great school year with her 6th graders, starting up the Student Bird Club and continuing to serve the CCBC in our Mission for the protection and conservation of the bird life and natural resources of Cape Cod and beyond.



Peggy Sagan, Membership: I became infected with the birding bug 30 years ago when a mother Green Heron dropped a tiny silver fish on my head to distract me from her nest. Soon, I was packing my field guide and binocs whenever we traveled. When I retired from a career in publishing, I imagined endless hours of birding; but I soon learned that "retirement" does not equal "vacation." Instead, I "waste" an hour or two most days, observing birds at our feeders and on the salt marsh behind our house. I volunteer at the bird banding station at Mass Audubon's Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary and serve on my town's Open Space Committee.



Gloria Smith, Publicity and Outreach: I hope to encourage and assist birders of all ages and abilities to more fully enjoy their birding experiences. I was fortunate to be born into a bird-loving family, so my life has always been filled with exciting bird moments. I previously taught preschool through 6th grade, always including a birding unit in the curriculum. My husband Peter and I have retired to Cape Cod and really enjoy having more time to devote to our birding obsession. My other passion is gardening/and landscaping, now with an emphasis on attracting birds, birdscaping! I look forward to meeting you.



Mark Faherty, Programs: Mark is Science Coordinator at Mass Audubon's Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. While his current projects involve everything from oysters and horseshoe crabs to bats and butterflies, he has studied primarily bird ecology for the last 20 years, working on research projects in Kenya, Mexico, Florida, and western states. Mark has led birding trips to Tanzania, Peru, Panama and Belize. He is past president of Cape Cod Bird Club and a former member of the Massachusetts Avian Records Committee.



Mike Simons, Refreshments: I'm somewhere between being an SOB (Spouse of Birder) and a Birder. I really enjoy watching a bird for a while, rather than ID'ing it and moving on. So my U.S. life list is limited, but my appreciation is unlimited.



Mary Jo Foti, Walks Coordinator: Moved to the Cape in 2004 and was immediately spellbound by its beautiful landscapes and varied habitats. Joining CCBC in about 2012, my appreciation and understanding of the avian residents broadened and continues to do so while coordinating walks for those with a similar passion to deepen their understanding of the incredible diversity of bird life here.

Peter Bono, Conservation and Education : CCBC Past President (2012-14; 2018-2022) and current Director, Conservation and Education, is an avid international birder who also enjoys reading (especially British murder mysteries), classical music, and stamp collecting. He is a computer scientist by training and continues to write software on occasion. He and his wife, Elaine, moved permanently to the Cape in 2005.



Jean Warneke, Ex-officio Co-editor of The Kingfisher: She spends summers in Orleans and winters on the Texas coast, a pretty ideal set-up! Jean owns JBJourneys.com, a boutique travel company specializing in nature, birding, and cultural trips. She is not a lister but has birded extensively in Central and South America. She is, however, a country counter and has traveled to 75 countries!



It is with sadness we note the passing in May of Joanne Baldauf, a member of the Club for many years. She volunteered at Mass Audubon Wellfleet Bay Sanctuary, worked on the Dolphin Fleet in P-town identifying seabirds and also monitored many Osprey nests on the lower Cape. If you have been to a Club meeting, you have surely eaten the cookies which she baked for every meeting.

Membership Form for Cape Cod Bird Club 2022-2023 Membership Year RENEW NOW

This page 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, 2022** and your membership will expire on Aug. 31, 2023. **New members may join at any time.**

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> RENEWING MEMBERSHIP | <input type="checkbox"/> NEW MEMBERSHIP | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth***(18 or under) FREE | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family (Household) \$25.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Supporter \$50.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor \$75.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$100.00 |

Additional donations are much appreciated. Thank you for your support.

Membership Dues	\$ _____
Conservation & Education Fund	\$ _____
General Operating Fund	\$ _____
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 351, Centerville, MA 02632

Household Address (required): _____
Household Tel. No. (required): _____

Name(s)	M/F/O*	Email Address**	Approx. Year of Birth*

Notes: * (Optional) Please provide your gender and approximate year of birth (it doesn't need to be exact), 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 regarding speakers, meeting cancellations due to bad weather and so forth.
 Your email address is not shared with any other organization.

CHECK HERE if you would like to save the Club postage and paper expenses by electing to receive your newsletter (*The Kingfisher*) **by email only.**

CHECK HERE if you would like to be contacted about helping with the Club by leading a walk, writing an article, being a guest speaker, or serving on the Board or one of its subcommittees.

***Signature of adult family member of youth member _____



Cape Cod Bird Club
PO Box 351
Centerville, MA 02632

Cape Cod Bird Club, Inc.

An organization whose members are interested in the protection and conservation of the bird life and natural resources of Cape Cod. *Please join us!*

- To join and pay dues online, visit www.capecodbirdclub.org/wordpress/join/join-online/.
- If you prefer to send a check, please use the form on the previous page or download a membership form from the website at <https://www.capecodbirdclub.org/wordpress/join/join-by-mail/> and send it along with your check to: CCBC, PO Box 351, Centerville, MA 02632.

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