



The Kingfisher

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Summer (July-September 2023)

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President's Message

Greetings, Cape Cod Bird Club members!

Our 2023 season concluded with our May meeting during which Mary Keleher told us about her amazing work with Purple Martins on Cape Cod. This completed our first season since the pandemic, where we resumed in-person meetings, as well as implemented simultaneous Zoom broadcasts. This hybrid combination seems to have appealed to most members as we averaged about 50 people in person at the Museum and about 40 on Zoom. The meetings were not without their technical glitches, but we hope to continue improving our hybrid format. By the way, if anyone is handy with the technical configurations of simultaneously broadcasting Zoom meetings from laptops using external microphones and cameras, we could surely use some help!

Cape Cod Bird Club meets on the 2nd Monday of each month, Sept through May, at 7:00PM. January and February meetings will be by Zoom. Others will be 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 September 8, 2023.

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. Editor has the final say on content.

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The other order of business at the May meeting was our Board elections. We are so fortunate to be able to retain our ten Board members whose dedicated efforts keep our club functioning smoothly. The 2023-24 Board members and their roles are listed on the back page.

Many thanks to the volunteers who came forward after our appeal at the April meeting! We now have much-needed help from Will Graves (Assistant Treasurer), Katherine O'Malley (Assistant Newsletter Editor) and Pat Freysinger (remote Zoom monitoring).

I'm looking forward to our 2023-24 season which will kick-off with our next meeting on September 11, 2023. Meanwhile, we have an excellent suite of walks for the summer months, so come join us on any/all of them!

Happy Birding!

Peter Fang, President

Great Crested Flycatcher pulling nesting material from our supply depot.



Club Meetings

For the 2023-2024 membership year, monthly meetings and programs from September to December and March to May, will be a “hybrid” of in-person gatherings at the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History in Brewster with a simultaneous Zoom broadcasts. Meetings in January and February will be by Zoom only. Our meetings are free and open to the public and start at 7 pm (doors open 6:30). No registration necessary. The Zoom 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, September 11, 2023 7 pm Cape Cod Museum of Natural History and Zoom.
Program information to come.**

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

Welcome to our New Members

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---|--------------|
| Adele & Ricki Ackell | - West Barnstable | Ted Nalesnik | - Dennis |
| Laura Everett | - Chatham | Daphne Northrop | - Barnstable |
| Vitor Baccetti Garcia | - New York City | Berit Pratt | - Cambridge |
| Kathleen Maksimow | - Brewster | Holmes Family—
Christopher, Ellen, and Bee | - Cotuit |
| Charles Satkewich | - West Yarmouth | | |

Check Your Bird Knowledge

Test Your Knowledge



Match bird species/family to nest type:

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| A. Platform | 1. Razorbills |
| B. Burrow | 2. Terns |
| C. Cup | 3. Megapodes |
| D. No Nest | 4. Woodpeckers |
| E. Scrape | 5. Hummingbirds |
| F. Mound | 6. Ospreys |
| G. Globe | 7. Shearwaters |
| H. Cavity | 8. Pittas |

Do a little research,
if needed.

Answers on page 6.

Cape Cod Bird Club Summer Walks — *Mary Jo Foti* July – September 2023



Remember to check the website for schedule changes and cancellations.

Please email the trip leader to let them know you wish to join their walk.

Robert F. Smith Cold Brook Preserve – Harwich* **Wednesday, June 28 – 8 am*

Maria Curley mcurley04@gmail.com

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 passerine, hawks, waterfowl and other species and includes an Eastern Bluebird trail with 44 nestboxes maintained by CCBC and Harwich Conservation Trust.

Forest Beach Conservation – South Chatham* **Friday, July 7 – 8am*

MJ Foti, maryjo1226@yahoo.com

Take Route 6 to Exit 85 and head South towards Rt 28. Make a right on Rt 28 and a left turn at about .5 miles on Forest Beach Rd. This will take you directly to the beach – parking is free of charge. We’ll walk the marsh trail to where it meets Mill Creek, and return via the beach, then head towards the overlook where we’ll likely find herons, egrets, shorebirds, passerines, gulls, Osprey and possibly Northern Harrier. This is another area with mixed habitat, a nice variety of bird species and the occasional rarity. Low tide occurs about 9:23 AM.

Fort Hill and Hemenway Landing – Eastham* **Thursday, July 13 – 8am*

MJ Foti, maryjo1226@yahoo.com

Meet in the lower parking lot of Fort Hill Road. We’ll walk the loop trail towards Hemenway Landing, then scan the marsh for incoming shorebirds, herons, egrets and hopefully a bittern or rail with the rising tide. High tide occurs about 9:49 AM. You may want to have waterproof boots on hand.

Hatches Harbor Fire Rd. to Race Point Light* **Sunday, July 23 – 8am*

Brookline Bird Club will join us for this co-sponsored walk!

Ross Sormani, rsormani@yahoo.com

Meet at the dirt parking lot on the west side of Province Lands Rd. about a mile south of the National Seashore Visitor Center. From the dirt parking lot, we’ll follow the fire road that runs northwest to the dike separating Hatches Harbor from the airport that leads out to both the harbor and Race Point. Gulls, terns, shorebirds, waterfowl, raptors and passerines are among the many species to be encountered here. There could be wet conditions on the way out to the lighthouse, so you may want to have a pair of boots on hand. Low tide is 9:51 AM.

Cape Cod Bird Club Summer Walks, continued

***Crane Wildlife Management Area – East Falmouth* Friday, July 28 – 8am**

Jeff Bryant five_loons@yahoo.com

From Mashpee rotary, take Rt. 151 West (Nathan Ellis Highway) approx. 4.3 miles. Shortly after Sandwich Rd intersection, the entrance to Crane will be on your right next to Allietta Softball Field. This unique grassland habitat is host to a rich variety of species, including Eastern Meadowlark, Grasshopper Sparrow, American Kestrel and possibly Blue Grosbeak.

West Dennis Beach (please note time)

Saturday, August 5 – 5:30pm

Peter Bono, pbono@prba.com

Meet at the West Dennis Beach parking lot at the far end (as near to the breakwater and Bass River as you are permitted to drive). We will look for lingering, summer-breeding, endangered Piping Plovers and Least Terns, as well as migrating shorebirds. Please note the later start time.

Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary – Barnstable

Wednesday, August 9 – 8am

MJ Foti, maryjo1226@yahoo.com Keelin Miller capekeelin@hotmail.com

We will meet in the parking area at 345 Bone Hill Road off Route 6A. Long Pasture is a Mass Audubon property with a new Discovery Center, winding trails traversing woodland habitat and a dock overlooking Cape Cod Bay with panoramic views of Sandy Neck lighthouse. Admission is free for Mass Audubon members with your Mass Audubon membership card and \$5 for non-members. You can become a member at the sanctuary or visit the Mass Audubon website if you wish to enroll. Membership will keep you up to date on programs at Long Pasture as well as wildlife sanctuaries throughout the state.

Morris Island – Chatham

Sunday, August 20 – 8am

Ross Sormani rsormani@yahoo.com

Park at Monomoy Visitor Center where we'll begin our walk to Morris Island flats through neighboring streets and down a trail preserved as a conservation easement. We will then bird the outgoing tide and scope the flats as shorebirds come in to forage. Please be prepared for wet conditions (possible ankle-high wading). Low tide will be about 8:54 AM.

Fort Hill and Hemenway Landing – Eastham

Monday, August 28 – 8am

Jeff Bryant five_loons@yahoo.com

Meet in the lower parking lot of Fort Hill Road. We'll walk the loop trail towards Hemenway Landing, then scan the marsh for incoming shorebirds, herons, egrets and hopefully a bittern or rail with the rising tide. High tide occurs about 10:23 AM. You may want to have waterproof boots on hand.

Sandy Neck Beach – Sandwich

Tuesday, September 5 – 8am

Peter Fang and Gloria Smith fangmail@comcast.net

Head towards Sandy Neck Beach directly off Rt. 6A and park in the main lot near the public facilities. We'll be looking for migrating shorebirds, terns, gulls and perhaps other pelagic species. Once we're finished with the beach, the marsh trail awaits. Expect a substantial amount of walking in soft sand. Low tide is 10:24 AM at Barnstable Harbor.

Cape Cod Bird Club COVID Guidelines: July-Sept. 2023

- 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.
- Individuals should feel comfortable wearing a mask at any point during a trip.
- It is up to each participant to decide whether or not they wish to carpool. Though a trip leader may offer to carpool, it is the personal choice of each individual trip leader.

Cape Cod Bird Club Summer Walks, continued

Chapin Beach – Dennis

Friday, September 15 – 8am

MJ Foti, maryjo1226@yahoo.com

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 shorebirds and tern species gather in tight clusters to feed. Forster's Terns occur in nice numbers at this location. Rubber boots recommended. Low tide is about 6:38 AM.

Plum Island, Parker River NWR – Newburyport

Sunday, September 17

We will join Brookline Bird Club for this co-sponsored trip.

MJ Foti, maryjo1226@yahoo.com Neil Hayward (BBC trip leader) neil.hayward@gmail.com

We will meet in Dunkin Donuts parking lot at the Sagamore Bridge at 6:00 AM (please try to arrive 10 minutes early) and carpool from there to Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. Please see BBC's trip description below: *We will drive and carpool to the Parker River NWR in search of shorebirds and fall migrants. Cosponsored with Cape Cod Bird Club. We will meet at Parker River NWR parking lot #1. Be aware that there is a fee to enter Parker River NWR, \$5 per car, or a pass such as Golden Eagle or Senior.*

Grays Beach and Callery Darling Trails – Yarmouth Port

Saturday, September 23 – 8am

Jeff Bryant five_loons@yahoo.com

From Center Street in Yarmouth Port, follow signs to Grays Beach where we'll meet at the big parking area. This beach is noted for its extensive boardwalk across the channel from Sandy Neck Lighthouse and just a stone's throw from Dennis Chapin Beach. There is a large tern colony as well as nesting Piping Plovers and Willets during summer months.

First Encounter Beach – Eastham

Saturday, September 30 – 8am

Brookline Bird Club will join us for this co-sponsored walk!

Peter Fang and Gloria Smith fangmail@comcast.net

From Rt 6, follow Samoset Road to the farthest parking area where we'll walk along the marsh trail bordered by the Herring River to observe shorebirds, herons, egrets, gulls and terns gathering in numbers to forage on the outgoing tide. We'll also encounter other species including a variety of passerines and raptors. You may want to wear beach sandals or boots. Low tide is about 6:42 AM. The length of the trip will depend on what we find and if anyone is interested in visiting other local hotspots.



Enjoying their new CCBC hats!

New Club Merchandise

With the Club's new membership year starting in July, we have added a Director of Merchandise Sales to our Board of Directors, Michele Burnat has already charmed many of you into buying something from our new and updated selection. Items will be available at Club meetings and may pop up at some bird walk locations too.

Baseball Caps (6) Colors



Royal



Black



Green



Dark Khaki



Olive Green



Charcoal Gray

\$15

Looking for Answers?

Test Your Knowledge Answers

Match bird species/family to nest type:

- | | | |
|-------------|---|-----------------|
| A. Platform | → | 1. Razorbills |
| B. Burrow | → | 2. Terns |
| C. Cup | → | 3. Megapodes |
| D. No Nest | → | 4. Woodpeckers |
| E. Scrape | → | 5. Hummingbirds |
| F. Mound | → | 6. Ospreys |
| G. Globe | → | 7. Shearwaters |
| H. Cavity | → | 8. Pittas |



Match bird species/family to nest type:

- A. Platform: Osprey (6)
- B. Burrow: Shearwaters (7)
- C. Cup: Hummingbirds (5)
- D. No Nest: Razorbills (1)
- E. Scrape: Terns (2)
- F. Mound: Megapodes (3)
- G. Globe: Pittas (8)

JOIN CCBC or RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW !

Current memberships expire August 31st.

Use this form if paying by check. If credit card, <https://capecodbirdclub.org/wordpress/join-online/>

Membership runs from September 1 through August 31.

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"/> Supporter \$50.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor \$75.00 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Family (Household) \$25.00 |
| | <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 \$ _____

Household Address (required): _____

Household Tel. No. (required): _____

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

NOTES: * Knowing your gender preference and year of birth helps us design programs to serve you better.

** 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 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 _____

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



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/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/join/join-by-mail/> and send it along with your check to: CCBC, PO Box 351, Centerville, MA 02632.

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Gloria Smith ('26)	Programs

The Kingfisher, Editor: Carolyn Kennedy

Board members may be reached by email: info@capecodbirdclub.org