



The Kingfisher

VOL 52 (3)

www.capecodbirdclub.org

Spring (April-June 2024)

In this issue:

President's Message	1
Club Meetings, Crowes Pasture	2
Bird Walks	3-5
New On-line Store, Year of Birding	6
Spring Migration	7-8
Harwich Nestbox Productivity	8
Wing Island Banding Report	9
New Members/Research Quiz	10
Membership Form	11
Board Members	12

President's Message

Greetings, Cape Cod Bird Club!

Happy Spring! Hopefully, you have had a chance to enjoy birding, whether you've braved the elements and gone out to see some of our unusual visitors, or simply enjoyed your yard birds while sipping warm beverages from your home. A very exciting part of the year is approaching as we see the transition of the winter birds to spring birds. The club is offering many walks to take advantage of this, so take a look at the calendar of upcoming walks in this newsletter.

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. Doors open at 6:30 pm

The Kingfisher is published quarterly.

Deadline for the next issue is June 8, 2024.

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.

Editor:

Carolyn Kennedy

info@capecodbirdclub.org

Webmaster:

Terry Gavin

wbmstr@capecodbirdclub.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/CapeCodBirdClub

I'd like to sincerely thank all the folks who help make this club run so smoothly. It truly is a team effort, with the spirit and camaraderie making our jobs even more enjoyable! Our ten Board Members have a variety of responsibilities, allowing us to share the work. Additionally, I must thank all of our other volunteers who have contributed in key areas, including our Walk Leaders, Nestbox Monitors, Refreshments Organizer, and Newsletter Editor.

At this time, we are looking for a **Treasurer** for next season. No experience in finance is necessary. We just need someone who is well organized and able to work with our current Treasurer between now and September to learn the role. Much of the work can be done at home or remotely. We could even have co-treasurers sharing the duties. If you might be interested, or have any questions, you can speak with a Board member, or send an email to info@capecodbirdclub.org. If you wish to contribute in some other way, listings are posted at: capecodbirdclub.org/volunteer/. With a membership of over 500, Cape Cod Bird Club is fortunate to have a rich pool of talented members. Please consider sharing your personal talents, expertise, and enthusiasm for birds.

Happy Birding!

Peter Fang,
President



Osprey flying in! Peter Fang

Club Meetings—Gloria Smith, Programs Director

Cape Cod Bird Club is delighted to offer the following presentations this spring! Our meetings are free and begin at 7 pm. No registration is required. A Zoom link will be emailed to our members and published on the CCBC website. Monthly meetings and programs in **April and May will be a “hybrid”** of in-person gatherings at the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History in Brewster with simultaneous Zoom broadcasts. The Museum doors open at 6:30 pm to allow time to mingle and gather information.

MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2024 (HYBRID) “The Return of the Peregrine Falcon”

Steve Broker, a scientist and educator for over 45 years, has served as president, vice-president, and secretary of the Connecticut Ornithological Association, president of the New Haven Bird Club, and is currently a member of the CCBC. In 1999, while birding in a New Haven state park, Steve made a rare discovery; a pair of nesting Peregrine Falcons – a species all but destroyed in the east by the effects of DDT. Steve will share this falcon’s history and life strategies as well as 25 years of his incredible photos, studies, and stories of the fastest bird in the world.



MONDAY, May 13, 2024 (HYBRID) “Safari Brazil”



Naturalist and CCBC member, **Gina Nichol**, founder and principal tour leader of Sunrise Birding, began leading eco-tours for Audubon Nature Odysseys in the early 1990s. She has led tours, conducted research projects, and given presentations worldwide. Grab your safari hat and enjoy her striking photos that illustrate the area’s marsh, river and rainforest habitats, as well as vividly documenting the intriguing exotic, wild residents of the Pantanel region of west central Brazil.

Crowes Pasture, East Dennis. Summer 2023 Nestbox Monitoring Results — Carolyn Kennedy, Coordinator

Crowes Pasture in East Dennis is a town conservation area. Starting in 2004, Cape Cod Bird Club members worked with Dennis Department of Natural Resources staff to install six nestboxes sized for Eastern Bluebirds. Since then members have monitored the nestboxes each summer in accordance with Cornell Lab of Ornithology guidelines and reported on the results. More boxes have been added over the years to create the current 14 box configuration.

Results for the Summer of 2023:

Eastern Bluebird: 2 nest attempts produced 9 eggs and 4 fledglings.

Tree Swallow: 12 nest attempts produced 39 eggs and 24 fledglings.

House Wren: 12 nest attempts produced 26 eggs and about 17 fledglings.

Osprey nest in Quivet Creek, which is also monitored, produced two fledglings.

Monitors made 17 site visits between April 28 and July 29. Thanks to monitoring team members Karen Casey, Joyce and Jonathan White, Steve Petruska and Judy Keller.

Cape Cod Bird Club Spring Walks — April – June 2024
Mary Jo Foti, Coordinator

Join us on these free Club trips.

Please email the trip leader if you plan to attend.
 Check the website for updates or cancellations.

APRIL

Race Point Beach - Provincetown **Saturday, April 6 - 8 AM**

From Route 6E, turn right onto Race Point Rd and drive straight for about 2.4 miles to reach Race Point Beach parking lot. We will meet at the far end near the National Park Service Ranger Station. There is no fee at this time of year. We will walk about one mile over soft sand, halfway to Race Point Lighthouse, and double back along the beach - about two miles round-trip.

Leader: MJ Foti (maryjo1226@yahoo.com)

Bell's Neck Conservation Area - Harwich **Wednesday, April 10 - 8 AM**

Meet at Bell's Neck Road at the landing of the West Reservoir. We will explore some hidden mixed woodland and old cranberry bogs for passerines, scope the low tide on the East Reservoir for shorebird species and waterfowl, and the West Reservoir for Black-crowned Night Heron, raptors, gulls, and terns. Waterproof boots recommended.

Leader: MJ Foti (maryjo1226@yahoo.com)

Mass Audubon's Ashumet Holly Wildlife Sanctuary **Friday, April 19 - 8 AM**

From Mashpee Rotary, take the exit for Rt. 151 West (Nathan Ellis Highway) and travel approx. 2.7 miles. Turn right onto Currier Rd, and take another right onto Ashumet Rd. The dirt parking lot will be on your left. This property is known for its variety of hollies along with areas of dense thickets, woodland trails and small but productive Grassy Pond. Expect 2-3 miles of walking along dirt trails with mild hills.

Leader: MJ Foti (maryjo1226@yahoo.com)

Hatches Harbor Fire Rd. to Race Point Light - Provincetown **Saturday, April 27 - 8 AM**

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, waterfowl, raptors, and passerines are among the many species observed. The occasional rarity is always possible in this unique habitat. Low tide is 8:39 AM. There could be wet conditions on the way out to the Lighthouse, so you may want to have a pair of boots on hand for this four-mile hike.

Leader: Ross Sormani (rsormani@yahoo.com)

MAY— Beech Forest - Provincetown

Meet at the **Beech Forest** parking lot at **8 AM**. From Route 6E, turn right onto Race Point Road. The parking lot is about .5 mile down the road on the left. We will bird the parking lot, then stroll along the sandy loop trail with mild hills around Blackwater Pond for migrating warblers and other passerines.

Tuesday, May 7 - Leader: Peter Crosson (capecodbirder@gmail.com)

Thursday, May 9 - Leader: Al Curtis (alcurtis48@gmail.com)

Wednesday, May 15 - Leader: Keelin Miller (capekeelin@hotmail.com)

Sunday, May 19 - Leader: Jeff Bryant (five_loons@yahoo.com)

Tuesday, May 21 - Leader: Mike Tucker (bnatural2@gmail.com)

Thursday, May 23 - Leader: Jeff Bryant (five_loons@yahoo.com)

(continued on next page)



Tree Swallow—Peter Fang

Cape Cod Bird Club Spring Walks, continued

Beech Forest Walks, continued.

Saturday, May 25 -Leader: Ross Sormani (rsormani@yahoo.com)

Sunday, May 26 - Leader: MJ Foti (maryjo1226@yahoo.com)

Additional Walks in May

Clapps Pond – Provincetown

Saturday, May 11 – 8 AM

Drive 1.2 miles past the traffic light at Race Point Rd. on Route 6. Parking is permitted along the side of the road as per Provincetown Parking Commission. We'll follow a wide loop-trail running along a ridge offering many overlooks of the pond, the surrounding bogs and woodlands. This is a three-mile hike with some sizable hills which we expect will take a full 2 1/2 hours to cover. We hope to be rewarded with some early-migrating thrushes, vireos and perhaps even one of the more southern warblers.

Leaders: Ross Sormani (rsormani@yahoo.com) Jeff Bryant (five_loons@yahoo.com)

West Barnstable Conservation Area - Barnstable

Tuesday, May 14 - 8 AM

From Exit 65 on Route 6, follow signs for Rt.149S - a right turn after exiting the rotary. When you reach Marston Mills Rotary, head west on Race Lane (towards the airport hangar) for 1.2 miles. Turn right onto Crooked Cartway and follow the road until it opens onto a large, dirt parking area. This maze of old dirt roads traverses over 1,100 acres of pine-oak woodlands, interspersed with occasional brushy, clearings and a broad power-line cut providing excellent birding throughout the year. The walk includes wider "cartway" trails as well as some narrow root-strewn paths.

Leader: Peter Crosson (capecodbirder@gmail.com)

Bridge Creek Conservation – Barnstable

Friday, May 17 – 8 AM

From Route 6, take Exit 65 for MA-149N, then merge onto Meetinghouse Way. Parking is available behind West Barnstable Fire Department - the trailhead is located to the left. Small boardwalks spring up to help navigate these boggy wooded trails as you listen for warblers, vireos, and other passerines. Past sightings include Hooded Warbler, Red-eyed and White-eyed Vireos and Virginia Rail.

Leader: MJ Foti (maryjo1226@yahoo.com)

Peterson Farm – Falmouth

Wednesday, May 22 – 8 AM

We will meet at Peterson Farm where we will walk around the thickets looking for flycatchers, vireos, warblers and possibly a bobolink. From the intersection of Palmer Ave and Jones Road (near Falmouth Hospital), continue south on Palmer Ave, which turns into Locust Street. Follow Locust Street, which turns into Woods Hole Road. Follow Woods Hole Road for about 0.5 mile and turn right onto McCallum Drive, take an immediate right and follow the Town of Falmouth Conservation signs to parking area.

Leader: Mike Tucker (bnatural2@gmail.com)

JUNE

Crane Wildlife Management Area – East Falmouth

Tuesday, June 4 – 8 AM

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 the right by Allietta Softball Field. Parking is across from Otis Model Aero Club. This unique grassland habitat is host to a rich variety of species including Eastern Meadowlark, Grasshopper Sparrow, Bobolink, American Kestrel, and possibly Blue Grosbeak. After, we can cross the road and scan Coonamessett Field for raptor activity. Those wishing to can continue to Mass Audubon's Ashumet Holly Wildlife Sanctuary located just minutes from Crane.

Leader: Peter Fang (fangmail@comcast.net) *co-sponsored with Brookline Bird Club (BBC)*

Cape Cod Bird Club Spring Walks, continued

Goodwill Park – Falmouth

Friday, June 7 - 8:00am

Meet at the entrance on Goodwill Park Rd off Gifford Street, about .6 miles north of the Jones Rd/ Gifford St intersection. A variety of warbler species, Brown Thrasher, and many nesting songbirds are among the species you can expect in this beautiful woodland habitat.

Leader: MJ Foti (maryjo1226@yahoo.com)

Hatches Harbor Fire Rd. to Race Point Light – Provincetown

Tuesday, June 11 – 8 AM

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, waterfowl, raptors, and passerines are among the many species observed. The occasional rarity is always possible in this unique habitat. Low tide is 9:55 AM. There could be wet conditions on the way out to the Lighthouse, so you may want to have a pair of boots on hand for this four-mile hike.

Leader: Jeff Bryant (five_loons@yahoo.com) *co-sponsored with Brookline Bird Club (BBC)*

Forest Beach Conservation, South Chatham

Sunday, June 16 – 8 am

Take Rt. 6 to Exit 85 and head south toward Rt. 28. Make a right on Rt. 28 and a left turn about .5 miles at Forest Beach Rd. Before reaching the beach, turn left on Bayview Rd. and immediately bear right up the hill where you will see a sign for Forest Beach Conservation. We'll scope the marsh for herons, egrets, shorebirds, **Osprey**, gulls, passerines, and possibly Northern Harrier. We can then head to the beach (free parking) to walk the marsh trail - about .5 mi.

Waterproof footwear recommended.

Leader: MJ Foti (maryjo1226@yahoo.com)



Osprey on nest. Peter Fang photo

Bells Neck Conservation Area – Harwich

Sunday, June 23 – 8 AM

Meet at Bell's Neck Road at the landing of the West Reservoir. We will explore some hidden mixed woodlands and old cranberry bogs for passerines, scope the low tide on the East Reservoir for shorebird species and waterfowl, and the West Reservoir for Black-crowned Night Herons, raptors, gulls, and terns. Waterproof boots recommended.

Leader: Jeff Bryant (five_loons@yahoo.com)

Cape Cod Bird Club Health Guidelines: April - June 2024

- 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 leader.

Cape Cod Bird Club has a new Online Store — Michele Burnat

Looking for some new CCBC SWAG?

Check-out our new Bonfire on-line store offering various colors of t-shirts, long-sleeve shirts & sweatshirts in men, women & youth sizes



A portion of all sales goes to fund the CCBC's conservation efforts and student scholarships!

To access our store:

www.bonfire.com/cape-cod-bird-club



Or scan the QR code:



2023 CCBC Bird Walks in Review — Peter Bono

While participating in walks sponsored by Cape Cod Bird Club, participants are also adding to the knowledge base about Cape Cod Birds. In 2023, CCBC walk leaders shared 62 eBird checklists—after visiting more than 40 different sites and reporting 190 species. This result improves upon 2022 when 183 species were reported on 45 checklists. The year got off to a great start, with 50 species being seen on New Year's Day including: **Thick-billed Murre, Razorbill, Red-necked Grebe, and Harlequin Duck**, while surprisingly, the last species of the year was a **Dark-eyed Junco** on November 18. The all-time list was boosted to 239 by ten; namely, **Clapper Rail, American Woodcock, Yellow-throated Warbler, White-eyed Vireo, Least Flycatcher, Wilson's Storm-Petrel, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Marbled Godwit, Winter Wren, and Pine Siskin**—in that order. Other less common species seen in 2023 include **Blackburnian, Cape May and Orange-crowned Warblers, White-rumped Sandpiper, Blue Grosbeak, Snow Bunting, Common Murre and Barrow's Goldeneye**.

Please join us on walks and help us as we try to reach 200 species this year. Add to your own life list too. Yes, Cape Cod is a great birding destination! Thanks to our walk leaders who give of their time each month to share their enthusiasm about birds with our members and friends: Ed Banks, Peter Bono, Jeff Bryant, Keegan Burke, Peter Crosson, Maria Curley, Al Curtis, Peter Fang, Keelin Miller, Ginie Page, Gloria Smith, Ross Sormani, Mike Tucker, and MJ Foti. And, if you'd like to lead a walk, please reach out to MJ Foti, whose contact information is available on the CCBC Website.

Are We There Yet? Spring Migration on Cape Cod – Peggy Sagan

Remember those family car trips and constant questions from the back seat, “Are we there yet?” Migrating birds may not trouble themselves with that question, but as I await the coming of spring, that’s a question I frequently ask myself. I’m eager for spring because it means more hours of sunlight, warmer temperatures, and the arrival of spring migrants – some just passing through and others stopping over for a few months. In the northeast, among the first to arrive are Eastern Phoebe, Red-winged Blackbirds, and Common Grackles.

Generally, males of each species are the first to arrive from their winter habitats, after a trip of about six weeks. They’re in a hurry to establish territories, either locally or further north, depending on where they breed. Females typically lag males by as much as a week.

Once the spring influx begins, what species can you expect to see in your part of the Cape, and when will they arrive? Although the timing of arrival is affected by weather, winds, and other conditions, there are typical ranges. The table summarizes a few highlights for Beech Forest in Provincetown and Bell’s Neck in Harwich gleaned from eBird reports for the period March through May, 2021-23. If the habitats you frequent are dominated by grasslands rather than forests and ponds and marshes, you’ll encounter some different species.

Passerines

BEECH FOREST, Provincetown – Month of Earliest Sightings

MARCH	APRIL	MAY
Swallow (Tree, Barn) Fox Sparrow Eastern Towhee Brown-headed Cowbird Palm Warbler	Vireos (White-eyed, Yellow-throated, Blue-headed) Ruby-crowned Kinglet Blue-Grey Gnatcatcher Grey Catbird Brown Thrasher Sparrows (Field, Savannah, Swamp) Baltimore Oriole Warblers! (Black and White, Northern Parula, Yellow, Black-throated Blue, Prairie, Black-throated Green) Indigo Bunting	Ruby-throated Hummingbird Eastern Wood Pewee Flycatchers (Alder, Willow, Least, Great-crested) Eastern Kingbird Vireos (Warbling and Red-eyed) Veery White-crowned Sparrow Orchard Oriole Ovenbird Northern Waterthrush Warblers! (Nashville, Tennessee, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Magnolia, Bay-breasted, Blackburnian, Chestnut-sided, Blackpoll, Wilson’s) Scarlet Tanager Rose-breasted Grosbeak

BELL’S NECK, Harwich – Month of Earliest Sightings

MARCH	APRIL	MAY
Tree Swallow Brown-headed Cowbird	Eastern Phoebe Swallows (Bank, Northern Rough-winged, Barn) Ruby-crowned Kinglet Blue-gray Gnatcatcher Grey Catbird Sparrows (Chipping, Field) Eastern Towhee Palm Warbler Indigo Bunting	Chimney Swift Ruby-throated Hummingbird Eastern Wood-Pewee Great Crested Flycatcher Common Yellowthroat (Other warbler species reported in low numbers)

For waterbird migration, see next page.

Are We There Yet? Spring Migration on Cape Cod, cont.

Waterbirds and Waders

BEECH FOREST, Provincetown – Month of Earliest Sightings		
MARCH	APRIL	MAY
Ring-necked Duck	Gadwall	Blue-winged Teal
BELL'S NECK, Harwich – Month of Earliest Sightings		
MARCH	APRIL	
Wood Duck Blue-winged Teal Lesser Yellowlegs Red-throated Loon Black-crowned Night Heron Great Egret	Rails and Sora Willet Least and Pectoral Sandpiper Least Bittern Little Blue and Tricolored Heron Snowy Egret	

Not to overlook them, along the way we welcome the return of other duck species, as well as Osprey, Glossy Ibis, Chimney Swift, and several tern and hawk species.

Sadly for me, by June the spring migration is over and our woods go quiet, as many of our local summer residents are busy feeding their hatchlings or starting a new brood. This is a good opportunity to give your bird feeders a thorough cleaning (which of course you've been doing all spring), tend to your pollinator garden, and await the mid-summer return of the shorebirds from their breeding territories further north. Enjoy birding this spring!

Productivity of Harwich Nestboxes in 2023 — Kelly Sattman

103 boxes were monitored at five sites owned by the Town of Harwich or Harwich Conservation Trust. Monitoring was done by 16 Cape Cod Bird Club and Harwich Conservation Trust volunteers.

Our results for summer 2023 were:

Black-capped Chickadee - 7 nest attempts produced 39 total eggs and resulted in 31 fledglings.

Tufted Titmouse - 4 nest attempts produced 17 eggs and resulted in 12 fledglings.

Tree Swallow - 53 nest attempts produced 229 eggs and resulted in 185 fledglings.

House Wren - 24 nest attempts produced 122 eggs and resulted in 85 fledglings.

Eastern Bluebird - 17 nest attempts produced 77 eggs and resulted in 55 fledglings.

House Sparrow - 2 nest attempts produced 11 eggs. No eggs hatched because we were able to manage their productivity with fake eggs.

Looking for places to see nesting species? Check the website of Harwich Conservation Trust for these locations: Cornelis Pond Woodlands, Muddy Creek Headwaters, Thompson's Field Conservation Area, Teixeira Conservation Lands. The trails are now closed at Cold Brook Preserve on Bank Street due to the upcoming major eco-restoration work that will enhance habitat for the Eastern Bluebirds and Tree Swallows.

During any field walks, dress to prevent tick bites!

Wing Island Bird Banding Station 2023 Yearly Report — Sue Finnegan, Master Bander

For the past 23 years I have managed a bird banding station on Wing Island, a nine-acre parcel of land consisting of upland shrub/woodland surrounded by a large salt marsh, located behind the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History in Brewster.

Our 23rd **spring season** began on 13 Apr and ended on 14 Jun. We operated nets for 30 days, with numerous days of wind and/or rain preventing banding. It was a cold spring. The season was rather slow and migrant numbers were low. For this spring season we banded 390 new birds, recaptured 311 birds and had 150 returns from birds banded in previous years. A range of 21-35 nets was used for a total of 4317 net hours. Our best day was 12 May with 55 birds of six species netted. We had the most species diversity on 8 May with 16 species recorded. Highlights included our first spring capture of Red-bellied Woodpecker; our second spring captures of Acadian Flycatcher, Tennessee Warbler and Eastern Bluebird; our third spring capture of a Mourning Warbler; and fourth spring captures for American Woodcock, Veery, and Yellow-bellied Flycatcher.

Our team had the pleasure of having an intern for the spring season, Jaden Thompson. Jaden is a skilled birder and for his senior project he wanted to learn bird banding. He was able to take the spring semester off from school and quickly learned how to extract birds from mist nets and spent a great deal of time learning to take measurements and determine the age of different species.

During the **summer** we open the nets approximately once a week to monitor breeding birds on Wing Island. In June, this includes netting done after close of the spring season and the month of July. Banding is done only on days that aren't too hot and we often close nets early as temperatures begin to rise. We netted 416 birds total with 318 being new birds. Highlights of those banded in the summer included a young American Woodcock, Great-crested Flycatcher and Barn Swallow, all species that usually avoid the nets.

Our 24th **fall season** began on 01 Aug and ended on 17 Nov. Nets were operated for 62 days. A range of 21-35 nets were used culminating in a total of 7378.88 net hours. We banded 2707 new birds of 81 species, recaptured 947 birds, and had 67 returns.

Our best day was 20 Oct with 176 birds of 14 species. We had the most species diversity on 21 Sep – 22 species. We added two new species this year, a Wilson's Snipe and most surprising, a Lark Bunting! Other highlights include our first fall Wood Thrush, second ever Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, our fourth fall capture of Pine Siskin and Rose-breasted Grosbeak, and our fifth fall capture of an Eastern Wood Peewee. We had an abundance of Empidonax flycatchers, more than we've ever encountered in a season, 20 in all. A very late Northern Parula showed up on 10 Nov and a Tennessee Warbler on 17 Nov. The Tennessee Warbler showed

active molting. One young Female Rufous Hummingbird was banded on 23 Oct at a community garden in Orleans, MA and another young female Rufous Hummingbird was banded on 14 Dec in Wellfleet MA.

It was good to have a rebound of Yellow-rumped Warblers after very low numbers for the past five years. We banded 674, which is in the normal range for our station.

It was a very good year and an exceptional fall! We banded on a total of 96 days and captured 103 species. We had 203 birds return to us from previous years with the highlight being a Gray Catbird that was at least 14 years old, which we haven't captured since 2012. Other older catbirds were aged 5-10 years old. Other notable returns are Black-capped Chickadee (7 years old); Common Yellowthroat (one, more than 6 years old and four aged 6 years old); two Song Sparrows, one American Goldfinch, and one Common Yellowthroat, all aged 5 years old; and the rest were 4 years old or younger.

As of this writing a total of 91,114 birds have been netted since the opening of the station and 61,833 new birds of 154 species have been banded.

We are thankful to Cape Cod Museum of Natural History for hosting the banding station and for their monetary support and assistance. Thanks very much to Cape Cod Bird Club for the generous grant of \$1,000 to help us buy much needed mist nets. We are grateful to all who donated to the museum's fundraiser, Nature's Night. The French Foundation has also donated in the past.

During the banding season I write a blog on Facebook, *Wing Island Bird Banding Station*, which is open to the public. You don't have to belong to Facebook to view it, just put it in the search. For those on Instagram, check out *wing_banders*.

I'll be looking for volunteers this spring. If you are interested or if you know of any biologists who may like to learn banding, please contact me at suefinnegan@comcast.net. We start before dawn. You must be in good shape for 4-5 miles of walking each day, sometimes over rough terrain. Also needed: people who can help out with mist net extraction (we can teach you), net mending (if you can hem pants you can mend a mist net), and net lane maintenance (weed whacking and pruning).

A huge thanks goes to all who helped this year (in order of hours donated): Keelin Miller, Paula Pariseau, Mike Babcock, Reenie Dwyer, Michele Burnat, Gabbie DiNardi, Andrew Single, Gretchen Putonen, Sheryl Johnson, Lauren Grimes, Noah Finnegan, Gerry Beetham, Corey Accardo, Kristen Johnson, Maria Gay, Lilah Finnegan, and others who helped out for a day or two. Congratulations to Andrew Single who received his bander certification in the fall too!

Welcome to Our New Members

Eugene Abrams & Tim Riss,
Newburgh, NY

Lisa Goodwin, Centerville

Jennifer & Ellen Pierce,
West Roxbury

Barbara Brown, Plymouth

Rachel Gratis, Buzzards Bay

Liz Perry, Brewster

Dianna Costello, Dennis

Francis Grenon, Mattapoisett

David Powers & Sally Norris,
Dennis

Charlotte Fazio, Yarmouth Port

Catherine Ledec, Cummaquid

Anne Richards, Falmouth

Jane Franke, Wellfleet

Romaine Macomb, Provincetown

Raj & Malini Shanmugaraj,
Orleans

Abigail Franklin, Brewster

Jane Parrot, West Yarmouth

Maureen O'Neill Vigneau, Brewster

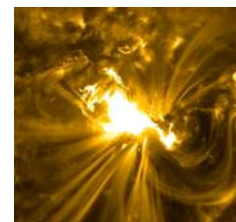
Research Update — Michele Burnat

(True or False) Which of these research findings/projects is true or made-up:

1. Researchers have discovered a half female and half male Green Honeycreeper in Colombia. The bird's plumage is divided directly down the middle, with blue feathers (typical of males) on its right side and emerald-green feathers (typical of females) on its left.



2. By reviewing 60 years of bird banding records, scientists have uncovered a correlation between space weather (which causes geomagnetic disturbances) and bird vagrancy in migratory landbirds.



3. Colossal Biosciences, a biotechnology company, announced a plan to de-extinct the Dodo by using genetic engineering and return the bird to its native area of Mauritius in the Indian Ocean.



4. The population of Hawaiian Honeycreepers has been devastated by avian malaria caused by non-native mosquitoes. *Birds, Not Mosquitoes*, a multi-agency partnership, will use naturally-occurring bacteria (*Wolbachia*) as a "birth control" to suppress mosquito populations in Hawaii.



**JOIN CCBC or RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW.
Membership year runs from September 1 through August 31.**

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

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 printing expenses by electing to receive your Kingfisher newsletter **by email only**. The photos will be in stunning color rather than B&W.
- 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 <https://capecodbirdclub.org/wordpress/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://capecodbirdclub.org/jwordpress/join-by-mail/> and send it along with your check to: CCBC, PO Box 351, Centerville, MA 02632.

Officers: Peter Fang	President
Mark Faherty	Vice President
Carolyn Kennedy	Secretary
Maria Curley	Treasurer
Directors: Mary Jo Foti ('25)	Bird Walks
Peter Bono ('25)	Conservation and Education
Peggy Sagan ('26)	Membership
Michele Burnat ('24)	Merchandise Sales
David Clapp ('24)	Outreach and Publicity
Gloria Smith ('26)	Programs

The Kingfisher, Editor: Carolyn Kennedy

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