

# **Brookline Bird Club Bulletin**

July 1, 2015 to October 31, 2015



See back cover for membership details.

**BROOKLINE BIRD CLUB HOME PAGE**  
**[www.brooklinebirdclub.org](http://www.brooklinebirdclub.org)**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Corporate Officers**

*President*

MR. DAVID WILLIAMS  
117 Oak Street, Reading, MA 01867  
(781) 944-8118 dave.williams6@gmail.com

*Vice-President*

MR. NAEEM YUSUFF  
151 Raymond Street, Cambridge, MA 02140  
naeem.yusuff@yahoo.com

*Treasurer*

MR. SHERMAN DENISON  
36 Brooks Avenue, Newtonville, MA 02460  
(617) 332-7053 sdenison2@verizon.net

*Recording Secretary/Clerk*

MR. JONATHAN CENTER  
12 Checkerberry Lane, Chelmsford, MA 01824  
(978) 256-4489 jbcenter@verizon.net

**Operational Officers**

*Corresponding Secretary*

MS. SABRINA HEPBURN  
28 College Farm Road, #1, Waltham, MA 02451  
(781) 296-2493 shepburn@brooklinebirdclub.org

*Statistician*

MR. ROBERT STYMEIST  
36 Lewis Avenue, Arlington, MA 02474  
(781) 648-8766 rstymeist@verizon.net

*Membership Secretary*

MS. LAURA MCCOY  
1021 Shawsheen Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876  
lmccoy@brooklinebirdclub.org

*Bulletin Editor*

MS. SYLVIA MARTIN  
147-B Brown Street, Waltham, MA 02453  
(781) 373-5496 warbler@lavabit.com

*Field Trip Coordinator*

MR. NEIL HAYWARD  
20 Traymore Street, Cambridge MA 02041  
(617) 717-9969 neil.hayward@gmail.com

**Directors**

MR. GLENN D'ENTREMONT  
73 Glen Echo Boulevard, Stoughton, MA 02072  
(781) 344-5857 gdentremont1@comcast.net

MS. LINDA FERRARESSO  
67 Aurora Lane, Salem, MA 01970  
(978) 498-4352 lferraresso@brooklinebirdclub.org

MR. JASON FORBES  
1151 Trapelo Road, Waltham, MA 02451  
(781) 894-6119 jason@brewsterslinnet.com

MS. MARJORY FORBES  
1151 Trapelo Road, Waltham, MA 02451  
(781) 894-6119 forbesjam@verizon.net

MS. DIANA FRUGUGLIETTI  
5 Ellen Road, Woburn, MA 01801  
(781) 933-9063 diana.fru@gmail.com

MR. EDWARD M. GILES  
(508) 378-3370 egiles@brooklinebirdclub.org

MS. IDA GIRIUNAS  
83 Summer Avenue, Reading, MA 01867  
(781) 944-5135 (781) 929-8772 (c) ida8@verizon.net

MS. LESLIE KRAMER  
10 Adams Street, Medford, MA 02155  
lesliekramer86@comcast.net

MR. JOHN NELSON  
65 Hilltop Road, Gloucester, MA 01930  
(978) 283-6128 jnelson@northshore.edu

MS. FAY VALE  
12 Fell St., Wakefield, MA 01880  
(781) 690-3744 peterfay@comcast.net

MS. BARBARA VOLKLE  
400 Hudson Street, Northboro, MA 01532  
(508) 393-9251 barb620@theworld.com

MR. ZACK WEBER  
zackweber@gmail.com

## THE BROOKLINE BIRD CLUB, INC.

There are now about 1,150 members in the Brookline Bird Club (BBC). Membership is open to all who are interested in birds and nature. A membership form can be found at the end of the bulletin. Whether you are a member or not, you are invited to participate in our activities. All trips listed in this bulletin are free of charge, though some trips may specify costs for travel or admission.

The BBC stresses the importance of good public relations. When attending trips, you should park your vehicle off the road, away from driveways and posted areas, so that traffic can flow unimpeded. Respect special guidelines at birding locations such as cemeteries and national wildlife refuges. Most important, do not enter private property unless you have permission. For a refresher on responsible birding, see the BBC Code of Ethics posted on our website and published yearly in the spring bulletin.

Should weather conditions appear bad and driving hazardous, contact the leader, at whose discretion the trip may be postponed or canceled. Also, check MASSBIRD for trip updates.

Bring a lunch on all-day trips. Inform the leader if you need to leave early. Try to carpool whenever possible, not only to save costs and fuel, but also so that the leader can take everyone to limited-access places.

### NOTES TO LEADERS

If you cannot lead a scheduled trip, you are responsible for finding a substitute leader. If you must cancel due to bad weather or other emergency, use the BBC Email Hotline and MASSBIRD to get the word out. Reports are very important to the BBC. Leaders are sent in advance a copy of the Massachusetts checklist, which should be filled out as soon as possible and forwarded to the club statistician (see the first page for contact information).

If a leader records either a "write-in" or rarity on the Mass. Checklist (e.g., Sedge Wren, Barn Owl, Western Kingbird) he or she should post to Massbird and call Bill Drummond at 978-975-1167, Bird Watcher's Supply and Gift at 978-462-0775, and Massachusetts Audubon Society (MAS) at 781-259-2150. MAS can be phoned at any time.

## INFORMATION & RESOURCES

- **Massachusetts Voice of Audubon:** call 781-259-8805 to hear a report on Eastern MA, Western MA, Nantucket, and Cape Cod bird sightings. Use the same number to report sightings for all but Eastern MA. To report Eastern MA sightings, phone the Wildlife Information Line at (781)259-2150.
- **BBC Rare Bird Email Hotline:** contact Barbara Volkle at barb620@theworld.com for details.
- **MASSBIRD email list:** see <http://www.massbird.org> for details on how to subscribe and how to view message archives.
- **BBC Website:** [www.brooklinebirdclub.org](http://www.brooklinebirdclub.org)  
Webmaster: Jason Forbes, [jason@brewsterslinnet.com](mailto:jason@brewsterslinnet.com)
- **Family Radio Service (FRS) radios:** the BBC has adopted the standard channel 11/22.
- **Massbird.org:** For bird sightings, links to local bird clubs, and general information visit [www.massbird.org](http://www.massbird.org).

For general birding tips and information, call Bill Drummond at 978-975-1167.

## SUPPORT NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES THROUGH DUCK STAMPS

As birders, we treasure our birding visits to national wildlife refuges locally and nationally. Of the 26 refuges in New England, 11 are in Massachusetts, including Parker River, Monomoy, Great Meadows, Oxbow, and Assabet River. By purchasing a Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp each year, often referred to as the duck stamp, we contribute to the purchase or leasing of newly protected lands.

The stamp has generated more than \$900 million for conservation since 1934. For every dollar you spend on duck stamps, ninety-eight cents goes directly to protecting vital wetland habitat as part of the National Wildlife Refuge System. Your stamp will also provide admission to refuges charging entrance fees, such as Parker River. With our large membership, purchasing a \$15 duck stamp can make a significant contribution to the continued protection of these important habitats. Stamps for July 2015 – June 2016 go on sale in mid-June. You can buy your stamp at refuge offices, post offices, and refuge admission booths or online at [www.duckstamp.com](http://www.duckstamp.com). For more information about the National Wildlife Refuge System, go to [www.fws.gov/refuges/](http://www.fws.gov/refuges/). For more information on the stamp, go to [www.fws.gov/duckstamps/](http://www.fws.gov/duckstamps/).

**REGISTER NOW FOR THE  
AUGUST 22-23, SEPTEMBER 26-27, AND  
NOVEMBER 14 PELAGIC TRIPS!**

The August trip is wait-listed.  
See the Trip List on p. 24 for details.

**WE WANT YOUR INPUT**

The Board of Directors wants to ensure it is discussing ideas and addressing questions important to the club. Members are encouraged to forward issues to the board via a club officer or board member. The board meets three times a year—late winter, late spring, and early fall—to discuss various items related to club functions. For contact information for officers and board members, please see the front pages of the bulletin.

**CLUB TREASURER SOUGHT**

The BBC is seeking a new treasurer to take over for Sherman Denison, who will be stepping down soon after 20 years. The club would like someone who is a club member and has experience with financials and/or accounting. Any interested person with the right credentials should contact Sherm or Dave Williams.

**What Is Birding 101?**

Trips designated Birding 101 are geared especially to beginning or young birders. The leader will focus on the basics of birding such as field marks, how to describe a bird's location, and ID tips. These trips are open to all, but are ideal if you are a beginner or have a nonbirding friend (or "pre-birder") who might like to come along and see what it's all about. That's how most of us got started! Look for these trips in future bulletins as well. If you have a suggestion for a good spot for a beginners' walk, please contact the field trip coordinator.

**PROGRAM OF TRIPS**

**July 1, 2015 to October 31, 2015**

All trips are free of charge unless otherwise indicated.  
This list includes limited-participation trips not on the website.

**FIELD TRIP CANCELLATIONS**

Field trips may be cancelled due to dangerous weather conditions or other emergencies. Cancellations will be posted on the web site ([www.brooklinebirdclub.org](http://www.brooklinebirdclub.org)), sent out via our Twitter feed (@bbcbirds), and posted to the Massbird listserv.

**Friday, July 3**

**Quabbin Reservoir, Gate 10. Morning.**

Join Glenn on a 4-to-5-mile walk through a very birdy area with species ranging from Broad-winged Hawk to Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Blue-headed Vireo, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Baltimore Oriole, and lots of stuff in between. (Maybe a moose or a bobcat!) Co-sponsored with the South Shore Bird Club. 7:00 a.m.

**Glenn d'Entremont, Stoughton (781) 344-5857**  
**[gdentremont1@comcast.net](mailto:gdentremont1@comcast.net)**

**Saturday, July 11**

**Fruitlands Museum, Harvard. Morning.**

All the nesting birds will still be around, with good views of young out of the nest being fed by parents: Veery, Indigo Bunting, Catbird, Red-winged Blackbird, Tree Swallow, Wood Thrush, Baltimore Oriole, and Warblers. Expect to walk about 2 miles on trails through meadow and woods with some steep sections. Meeting place: Top parking lot at Fruitlands Museum, 102 Prospect Hill Road, Harvard. For directions, see <http://www.fruitlands.org/directions.php>. 6:30 a.m.

**Pat White (978) 456-8127 [porchbird@charter.net](mailto:porchbird@charter.net)**

**Monday, July 13**

**Plum Island. Evening.**

Meeting place: Parking lot #1 on Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. Beginners and those with limited mobility welcome. 5:00 p.m.

**Ida Giriunas, Reading (781) 929-8772**  
**[ida8@verizon.net](mailto:ida8@verizon.net)**



**Wednesday, July 15**

**Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Concord. Morning.**

We will walk easy trails looking for birds and butterflies, too! Beginners welcome. Meeting place: Refuge parking lot off Monsen Road, off Route 62 in Concord. We might move on from there to Nine-Acre Corner with possible extension to Drumlin Farm. 7:00 a.m.

**Clayton Swanson, Lexington (978) 395-7877 cas-swanson@comcast.net**

**Saturday, July 18**

**Extreme Pelagic. 2 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

Hyannis to Hydrographer Canyon area. Birds expected: 4 or 5 species of Shearwaters, Leaches and Wilson's Storm-petrels, Jaegers, Gannets, Terns, and several marine animals. We hope to see Band-rumped Storm-petrel, Bridled Tern, Skuas and other rarities. Anything is possible. Limit: 50 Participants. Cost: BBC members: \$180.00, non-members: \$200.00. To reserve a space, send a check for the full amount made out to BROOKLINE BIRD CLUB AGENT along with a signed waiver to: Ida Giriunas, 83 Summer Ave., Reading, MA, 01867 and include either your email or your postal address for confirmation, boarding instructions and further information. For additional information and the waiver to be signed, contact Ida.

**Ida Giriunas, Reading (781) 929-8772 ida8@verizon.net**

**Sunday, July 19**

**Halibut Point State Park, Rockport. Morning.**

Beginners encouraged. A two-hour walk over easy to moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. From Route 128 (Exit 9), take Route 127 north (Eastern Avenue) toward Rockport, 3 mi. At 5-way intersection, turn left onto Railroad Avenue (remains Route 127) and follow for 2.4 mi. Turn right onto Gott Avenue. Entrance is opposite the state park's parking lot. The walks are co-sponsored by Halibut Point State Park and The Trustees of Reservations. Meeting place: Parking lot. 8:00 a.m.

**Caroline Haines, Gloucester (978) 944-0906 songbirder@hotmail.com**

**Saturday, July 25**

**Plymouth Beach. Morning.**

We will walk the beach for shorebirds and nesting terns. Shorebird migration should be in full motion. Terns should be feeding almost-fledged young. Co-sponsored with the SSBC and Friends of Myles Standish State Forest. Meeting place: Plymouth Beach parking area off Route 3A. 7:00 a.m.

**Glenn d'Entremont, Stoughton (781) 344-5857 gdentremont1@comcast.net**

**Whale Watch out of Gloucester. Morning.**

Board at 7 Seas wharf, 63 Rogers St., next to the Gloucester House Restaurant. Phone (978) 283-1776. Make your own reservation at <http://www.7seaswhalewatch.com/home.html>. Directions: Take Route 128 north into Gloucester to the first rotary. Take the first right off the rotary (Route 127, Washington Street, Exit 11). Follow 8/10 mile to the Joan of Arc statue. Bear right at the statue, then take your first left onto Angle Street. Come to a stop sign, then go straight across the intersection toward the harbor. About 100 yards ahead and downhill you'll turn left onto Rogers Street (Route 127). The Gloucester House Restaurant and 7 Seas Whale Watch are on the right, 200 yards ahead. 8:00 a.m.

**Ida Giriunas, Reading (781) 929-8772 ida8@verizon.net**

**Great Meadows NWR, Concord. Morning.**

We will search for resident and breeding birds and as well as shorebirds. Meeting place: Visitor parking lot (entrance off Monsen Road, which is off Route 62). 7:00 a.m.

**Sylvia Martin, Waltham (781) 373-5496 smartin@brooklinebirdclub.org Saturday,**

**Saturday, August 1**

**Dunback Meadow, Lexington. Morning.**

There is a possibility of many hummingbirds at Dunback at this time of year. Meeting place: Allen St. entrance to Dunback Meadows in Lexington. There is parking along Allen St. 7:00 a.m.

**Bobbie Hodson, Lexington (781) 861-9421 robertahodson@comcast.net**

(Saturday, August 1 continued on next page)

(Saturday, August 1 continued)

**Birding Sketchcrawl – Summer Series. Morning.**

Join me as we bird and sketch favorite patches in the Newburyport/Salisbury area. All artistic levels welcome. Bring your own sketching materials and other creature comforts. Meeting place: Parker River National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters/Visitors Center, 6 Plum Island Turnpike. 8:00 a.m.

**Laura de la Flor, Salem (978) 741-0897**  
**anhinga3@comcast.net**

**Sunday, August 2**

**Newburyport and vicinity. All Day.**

Beginners and those with limited mobility welcome. Meeting place: Commuter Rail Station off Parker Street in Newburyport. Park at the southern parking lot on the west side of the tracks. The station is near the Route 1 traffic circle and parking is free on the weekends. Public Transportation: You may take the train to Newburyport and meet the group in the parking lot. Please call the leader 2 or 3 days before if taking the train. 7:00 a.m.

**Ida Giriunas, Reading (781) 929-8772**  
**ida8@verizon.net**

**Saturday, August 8**

**Plum Island. Morning.**

We will drive and carpool down the Parker River Refuge in search of shorebirds and fall migrants. Meet at Parking lot #1 on the refuge at 8:00 a.m.

**Neil Hayward, Cambridge (617) 717-9969**  
**neil.hayward@gmail.com**

**Saturday, August 15**

**Plum Island. Morning.**

Meet at Parking lot #1 on the refuge. 8:00 a.m.  
**Sabrina Hepburn, Waltham (781) 296-2493**  
**s.k.hepburn@gmail.com**



**Sunday, August 16**

**Halibut Point State Park, Rockport. Morning.**

Beginners encouraged. A two-hour walk over easy to moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. From Route 128 (Exit 9), take Route 127 north (Eastern Avenue) toward Rockport, 3 mi. At 5-way intersection, turn left onto Railroad Avenue (remains Route 127) and follow for 2.4 mi. Turn right onto Gott Avenue. Entrance is opposite the state park's parking lot. The walks are co-sponsored by Halibut Point State Park and The Trustees of Reservations. Meeting place: Parking lot. 8:00 a.m.

**Peter Van Demark, Rockport (978) 546-2402**  
**peter@caliper.com**

**Monday, August 17**

**Newburyport and vicinity. Morning.**

Meeting place: Parking lot #1, Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. Be prepared to walk on sand. 7:30 a.m.

**Don Wilkinson, Nahant (617) 201-5308**  
**singingbirder@yahoo.com**

**Wednesday, August 19**

**Great Meadows NWR, Concord. Morning.**

We will walk easy trails looking for birds and butterflies. Shorebirds and early fall migrants are expected. Beginners welcome. Meeting place: Refuge parking lot off Monsen Road, off Route 62 in Concord. We might move on from there to Nine-Acre Corner with possible extension to Drumlin Farm. 7:30 a.m.

**Clayton Swanson, Lexington (978) 395-7877**  
**cas-swanson@comcast.net**



**Thursday, August 20**

**Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Concord. Evening.**

We will slowly walk down and look for shorebirds and other things. Meeting place: Main entrance to the refuge (off Monsen Rd., Concord), 5:30 p.m. Latecomers, start down, we won't be going far.

**Will Martens (617) 230-8913 arnzal@verizon.net**

## **Saturday, August 22**

### **Nighthawk Watch at Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge. Evening.**

Join us for a pleasant evening of watching nighthawk migration along the Nashua River valley. Bring a lawn chair or a camp stool. Meet half-way down the hill (near Oxbow refuge sign) on Still River Depot Road in Harvard. 5:30 p.m. This trip is co-sponsored with the Friends of the Oxbow NWR (friendsoftheoxbownwr.org).

**Don MacFarlane, Stow (978) 897-7567**

### **Plum Island. Morning.**

Meet at parking lot #1. We'll look for migrant warblers and especially for good shorebirds such as Hudsonian Godwit, Baird's Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, and Red Knot. 7:00 a.m.

**Jim McCoy, Melrose (978) 578-7076**  
**jfmccoy@hotmail.com**

## **Saturday, August 22 to Sunday, August 23**

### **Extreme Pelagic, 5:30 a.m. Saturday to 6:00 p.m. Sunday.**

Hyannis, MA to Hydrographer, Veaches, Atlantis Canyon area. Birds expected: White-Faced Storm Petrels (22 seen in August 2010), 4 species of Shearwaters, Jaegers, Gannets, Gulls, Terns, and several species of marine mammals. We hope to see Skuas, Bridled Tern, and other rarities. In 2007, we found a Little Shearwater, so anything is possible. Limit: 50 participants. Cost: BBC Members: \$310.00 non-members: \$330.00 To reserve a space, send a check for the full amount made out to the Brookline Bird Club Agent along with a signed waiver to: Ida Giriunas, 83 Summer Ave., Reading, MA, 01867 and include either your email or your postal address for confirmation, boarding instructions, and further information. For additional information and the waiver to be signed, contact Ida. (Only six spots left!)

**Ida Giriunas, Reading (781) 929-8772**  
**ida8@verizon.net**

## **Monday, August 24**

### **Plum Island. Late Afternoon and Evening.**

Meeting place: Newburyport train station off Parker St in Newburyport at 4:30 P.M. Park at the southern parking lot on the west side of the tracks. Or you can meet the group at parking lot #1 on the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge at 5:30 P.M. Call the leader two or three days in advance if taking the train.

**William Drummond, North Andover (978) 975-1167**  
**wcdrummond@verizon.net**

## **Wednesday, August 26**

### **Newburyport. Mid-morning to Late Afternoon.**

Meeting place: Newburyport train station off Parker St in Newburyport at 9:30 A.M. Park at the southern parking lot on the west side of the tracks. Call the leader two or three days in advance if taking the train.

**William Drummond, North Andover (978) 975-1167**  
**wcdrummond@verizon.net**

## **Saturday, August 29**

### **Nighthawk Watch at Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge. Evening.**

Join us for a pleasant evening of watching nighthawk migration along the Nashua River valley. Bring a lawn chair or a camp stool. Meet half-way down the hill (near Oxbow refuge sign) on Still River Depot Road in Harvard. 5:30 p.m. This trip is co-sponsored with the Friends of the Oxbow N.W.R. (FriendsoftheOxbowNWR.org)

**Don MacFarlane, Stow (978) 897-7567**

### **Plum Island. Morning.**

Meet at parking lot # 1 on Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. We may visit Sandy Point so be prepared for walking in sand. 7:00a.m.

**Jonathan Center, Chelmsford (978) 866-7391**  
**jbcenter@verizon.net**

### **Wednesday, September 2**

#### **Danehy Park, Cambridge. Morning.**

Join us for some weekday urban birding at Cambridge's Danehy Park. A small marsh, grasses, and open fields often attract unexpected birds in this setting. Meeting place: parking lot at 99 Sherman Street, Cambridge. Sherman Street meets Garden Street and Huron Avenue at the Fire Station intersection. Drive down through the lights at Walden Street and look for a parking lot on the left after the playing field. Co-sponsored with the Menotomy Bird Club. Canceled if raining. 7:30–9:00 a.m.

**Karsten E. Hartel, Arlington (781) 646-8949**  
[karstenehartel@gmail.com](mailto:karstenehartel@gmail.com)

### **Saturday, September 5**

#### **Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary, Marshfield. Morning.**

Meeting place: Sanctuary parking area at the end of Winslow Cemetery Road. 7:00 a.m.

**Glenn d'Entremont, Stoughton (781) 344-5857**  
[gdentremont1@comcast.net](mailto:gdentremont1@comcast.net)

#### **Plum Island. Morning.**

We will drive and carpool down the Parker River Refuge in search of shorebirds and fall migrants. Meet at Parking lot #1 on the refuge at 8:00 a.m.

**Neil Hayward, Cambridge (617) 717-9969**  
[neil.hayward@gmail.com](mailto:neil.hayward@gmail.com)

### **Monday, September 7**

#### **Hammond Pond Reservation. Morning.**

Migrants should be on the move. Visit this wooded oasis of greater Boston for waterfowl, herons, resident birds, and fall migrants. Meeting place: The DCR parking lot behind Macy's, off Route 9 in Chestnut Hill. MBTA: Take the D line to Chestnut Hill, walk down Hammond St. toward Rt. 9, and turn right into the Star Market parking lot. Bear right for the pond. 7:00 a.m.

**Sylvia Martin, Waltham (781) 373-5496**  
[smartin@brooklinebirdclub.org](mailto:smartin@brooklinebirdclub.org)

### **Tuesday, September 8**

#### **Plum Island. Morning.**

Meet at Parking lot #1. We will visit Sandy Point as well, so be prepared to walk on sand. 7:00 a.m.

**Dave Williams, Reading (781) 944-8118**  
[dave.williams6@gmail.com](mailto:dave.williams6@gmail.com)

### **Wednesday, September 9**

#### **Danehy Park, Cambridge. Morning.**

Join us for some weekday urban birding at Cambridge's Danehy Park. A small marsh, grasses, and open fields often attract unexpected birds in this setting. Meeting place: parking lot at 99 Sherman Street, Cambridge. Sherman Street meets Garden Street and Huron Avenue at the Fire Station intersection. Drive down through the lights at Walden Street and look for a parking lot on the left after the playing field. Co-sponsored with the Menotomy Bird Club. Canceled if raining. 7:30–9:00 a.m.

**Karsten E. Hartel, Arlington (781) 646-8949**  
[karstenehartel@gmail.com](mailto:karstenehartel@gmail.com)

### **Saturday, September 12**

#### **Westboro Wildlife Management Area. Morning.**

We will take an easy to moderate walk through a mixture of habitats including grass fields, cornfields, swamps, forests and thickets, in search of fall migrant songbirds and hawks. We will also look for any remaining marsh and field breeders like sparrows, rails and herons. We will start the walk on the eastern trails between Big and Little Chauncy Ponds. And then if there is interest we will walk the western trails. Meeting place: Westborough Town Beach Parking area at 60 Lyman Street. 7:30 a.m.

**Nick Paulson, Upton (508) 330-4401**  
[grendelpgill@yahoo.com](mailto:grendelpgill@yahoo.com)

### **Sunday, September 13**

#### **Plum Island. Morning.**

Meet at Parking lot #1. We will visit Sandy Point as well, so be prepared to walk on sand. 7:00 a.m.

**Dave Williams, Reading (781) 944-8118**  
[dave.williams6@gmail.com](mailto:dave.williams6@gmail.com)

(Sunday, September 13, continued on next page)



(Sunday, September 13 continued)

**Callahan State Park, Framingham. Morning.**

This is a walk to explore a variety of habitats in search of migrants. In particular we will focus on appropriate habitat to try and find Connecticut Warbler. Meeting place: South Entrance Parking Lot on Millwood St., Framingham. 7:00 a.m.

**Nick Paulson, Upton (508) 330-4401**  
**grendelpgill@yahoo.com**

**Wednesday, September 16**

**Danehy Park, Cambridge. Morning.**

Join us for some weekday urban birding at Cambridge's Danehy Park. A small marsh, grasses, and open fields often attract unexpected birds in this setting. Meeting place: parking lot at 99 Sherman Street, Cambridge. Sherman Street meets Garden Street and Huron Avenue at the Fire Station intersection. Drive down through the lights at Walden Street and look for a parking lot on the left after the playing field. Co-sponsored with the Menotomy Bird Club. Canceled if raining. 7:30–9:00 a.m.

**Karsten E. Hartel, Arlington (781) 646-8949**  
**karstenehartel@gmail.com**

**Saturday, September 19**

**Wellfleet. All Day.**

Join us for an all-day trip just within the town of Wellfleet. This can be prime time for migrants; we've recorded nearly 100 species on past trips. Expect a reasonable amount of walking. Contact leader for meeting time and place.

**Bob Stymeist, Arlington**  
**rstymeist@verizon.net**

**Nahanton Park, Newton and other nearby locations. Morning.**

We will search for sparrows and other fall migrants at Nahanton Park and another location to be determined nearer the date of the trip. Meeting place: Nahanton Park parking area off Winchester St., Newton, 1/4 mile north of the junction with Nahanton St. 8:00 a.m.

**Haynes Miller, Newton (617) 413-2419**  
**millerhaynes@gmail.com**

**Plum Island. Morning.**

Beginners and those with limited mobility welcome. Meeting place: District Courthouse parking lot, Route 1 traffic circle. 7:00 a.m.

**Ida Giriunas, Reading (781) 929-8772**  
**ida8@verizon.net**



**Sunday, September 20**

**Truro-Provincetown. All Day.**

This trip will start at Race Point and the Province Lands and continue into Truro. Expect a fair amount of walking. Contact leader for meeting time and place.

**Bob Stymeist, Arlington rstymeist@verizon.net**

**Halibut Point State Park, Rockport. Morning.**

Beginners encouraged. A two-hour walk over easy to moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. From Route 128 (Exit 9), take Route 127 north (Eastern Avenue) toward Rockport, 3 mi. At 5-way intersection, turn left onto Railroad Avenue (remains Route 127) and follow for 2.4 mi. Turn right onto Gott Avenue. Entrance is opposite the state park's parking lot. The walks are co-sponsored by Halibut Point State Park and The Trustees of Reservations. Meeting place: Parking lot. 8:00 a.m.

**Caroline Haines, Gloucester (978) 944-0906**  
**songbirder@hotmail.com**



**Oxbow National Wildlife Refuge, Harvard. Morning.**

We will walk at a moderate pace for about three miles on woodland paths as we search for migrant songbirds. We will also look for the uncommon fall blooming wildflower Closed Gentian. Birders of all levels of birding are welcome. Steady rain will cancel trip. Meeting place: Parking lot near the refuge gate at the end of Still River Depot Road (off Route 110) in Harvard. 7:30 a.m.

**Jonathan Center, Chelmsford (978) 866-7391**  
**jbcenter@verizon.net**

## **Tuesday, September 22**

### **Plum Island. Morning.**

Meet at Parking lot #1. We will visit Sandy Point as well, so be prepared to walk on sand. 7:00 a.m.

**Dave Williams, Reading (781) 944-8118**  
**dave.williams6@gmail.com**

## **Wednesday, September 23**

### **Danehy Park, Cambridge. Morning.**

Join us for some weekday urban birding at Cambridge's Danehy Park. A small marsh, grasses, and open fields often attract unexpected birds in this setting. Meeting place: parking lot at 99 Sherman Street, Cambridge. Sherman Street meets Garden Street and Huron Avenue at the Fire Station intersection. Drive down through the lights at Walden Street and look for a parking lot on the left after the playing field. Co-sponsored with the Menotomy Bird Club. Canceled if raining. 7:30-9:00 a.m.

**Karsten E. Hartel, Arlington (781) 646-8949**  
**karstenehartel@gmail.com**

## **Thursday, September 24**

### **Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Concord. Evening.**

We will slowly walk down and look for shorebirds and other things. Meeting place: Main entrance to the refuge (off Monsen Rd., Concord), 5:30 p.m. Latecomers, start down, we won't be going far.

**Kathy Dia (617) 372-5881 katbird@gmail.com**

## **Saturday, September 26**

### **Dunback Meadow, Lexington. Morning.**

We'll be looking for migrating songbirds such as Connecticut Warbler, Philadelphia Vireo, and Lincoln's Sparrow. Meeting place: Allen St. entrance to Dunback Meadows in Lexington. There is parking along Allen St. 7:00 a.m.

**Jim McCoy, Melrose (978) 578-7076**  
**jfmccoy@hotmail.com**

### **Autumnal Equinox Walk. All Day.**

Please contact leader by 7 p.m. on Thursday, September 24, for details. 8:00 a.m.

**Laura de la Flor, Salem (978) 741-0897**  
**anhinga3@comcast.net**

## **Saturday, September 26 to Sunday, September 27**

### **Extreme Pelagic, 5:30 a.m. Saturday to 6:00 p.m. Sunday.**

Hyannis, MA to Hydrographer Canyon area. Birds expected: White faced-storm petrel and other petrels, several species of Shearwaters, Jaegers, Gannets, Gulls, Terns, and several species of marine mammals. We hope to see Skuas, Bridled Tern, and other rarities. Anything is possible.

Limit: 50 participants. Cost: BBC Members: \$310.00 non-members: \$330.00

To reserve a space, send a check for the full amount made out to the Brookline Bird Club Agent along with a signed waiver to: Ida Giriunas, 83 Summer Ave., Reading, MA, 01867 and include either your email or your postal address for confirmation, boarding instructions, and further information. For additional information and the waiver to be signed, contact Ida.

**Ida Giriunas, Reading (781) 929-8772**  
**ida8@verizon.net**

## **Sunday, September 27**

### **Plum Island. Morning.**

We will drive and carpool down the Parker River Refuge in search of shorebirds and fall migrants. Meet at Parking lot #1 on the refuge at 8:00 a.m.

**Neil Hayward, Cambridge (617) 717-9969**  
**neil.hayward@gmail.com**

## **Wednesday, September 30**

### **Danehy Park, Cambridge. Morning.**

Join us for some weekday urban birding at Cambridge's Danehy Park. A small marsh, grasses, and open fields often attract unexpected birds in this setting. Meeting place: parking lot at 99 Sherman Street, Cambridge. Sherman Street meets Garden Street and Huron Avenue at the Fire Station intersection. Drive down through the lights at Walden Street and look for a parking lot on the left after the playing field. Co-sponsored with the Menotomy Bird Club. Canceled if raining. 7:30-9:00 a.m.

**Karsten E. Hartel, Arlington (781) 646-8949**  
**karstenehartel@gmail.com**

### **Saturday, October 3**

#### **Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Concord.**

##### **Morning.**

Meeting place: Refuge parking lot off Monsen Road, Concord.  
8:00 a.m.

**Barbara Volkle, Northborough (508) 393-9251**  
**barb620@theworld.com**

##### **Outer Cape Cod. All Day.**

This trip should record close to 100 species covering Canada Goose through House Sparrow, both of which might be missed. Meet in Bourne at 6am: at commuter lot behind the McDonalds at Rts 3 & 6 intersection; Scussett Beach Road exit. Co-sponsored with the South Shore Bird Club.

**Glenn d'Entremont, Stoughton (781) 344-5857**  
**gdentremont1@comcast.net**

##### **Dunback Meadow, Lexington. Morning.**

Meeting place: Allen St. entrance to Dunback Meadows in Lexington. There is parking along Allen St. 7:00 a.m.

**Sabrina Hepburn, Waltham (781) 296-2493**  
**s.k.hepburn@gmail.com**

### **Sunday, October 4**

#### **Bolton Flats. Morning.**

This walk will focus on sparrows as well as other fall migrant landbirds. Birders of all levels of birding are welcome. Trails are sometimes muddy and wet necessitating waterproof boots. Steady rain will cancel walk. Meeting place: Parking area for the main entrance to Bolton Flats off Route 117 (west of intersection with Route 110 and on the right immediately after Bolton/Lancaster town line). 8:00 a.m.

**Jonathan Center, Chelmsford (978) 866-7391**  
**jbcenter@verizon.net**

#### **Ipswich and vicinity. Morning.**

We will be focusing on migrating sparrows usually present at the Ipswich town dump on Town Farm Road. Meeting place: Meet at the Ipswich Shopping center, Routes 133/1A. 7:30 a.m.

**Tom Young, Merrimack (603) 493-1776**  
**tomyoungnh@gmail.com**

### **Wednesday, October 7**

#### **Danehy Park, Cambridge. Morning.**

Join us for some weekday urban birding at Cambridge's Danehy Park. A small marsh, grasses, and open fields often attract unexpected birds in this setting. Meeting place: parking lot at 99 Sherman Street, Cambridge. Sherman Street meets Garden Street and Huron Avenue at the Fire Station intersection. Drive down through the lights at Walden Street and look for a parking lot on the left after the playing field. Co-sponsored with the Menotomy Bird Club. Canceled if raining. 7:30–9:00 a.m.

**Karsten E. Hartel, Arlington (781) 646-8949**  
**karstenehartel@gmail.com**

### **Saturday, October 10**

#### **Plum Island. Morning.**

Meet at parking lot #1 on Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. 8:00 a.m.

**Jonathan Center, Chelmsford (978) 866-7391**  
**jbcenter@verizon.net**

#### **Westboro WMA Big Sit, Dawn to Dusk.**

The Big Sit will be held at the western section of Westboro WMA in the middle of the field along Rice Ln trail between the two beaver ponds. The sit will be held from dawn to dusk and people are invited to come at any point of the day for as much time as they would like. Feel free to bird the whole area and spend a bit of time at the sit as well. Entrance and parking is off of Rt. 135 in Westboro. Park at either the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife HQ or the beaver pond dirt road entrance 0.7 miles N of Rt. 9. To reach the sit site from the HQ walk down the paved trail to the T then turn right onto Rice Ln trail and go to the highest point. From the beaver pond go up the Rice Ln trail to the highest point.

**Nick Paulson, Upton (508) 330-4401**  
**grendelpgill@yahoo.com**

### **Sunday, October 11**

#### **Assabet River NWR. Morning.**

Walk the trails of this varied refuge. Co-sponsored with the Friends of Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge. Be prepared to walk. Meeting place: Hudson Road entrance in Sudbury, about 2.7 miles west of Route 27 and just east of the Stow line. 7:30 a.m.

**Barbara Volkle, Northborough (508) 393-9251**  
**barb620@theworld.com and John Milhaven**  
**jmilhaven@gmail.com**

### **Tuesday, October 13**

#### **Plum Island. Morning.**

Meet at parking lot #1. We will visit Sandy Point as well, so be prepared to walk on sand. 7:00 a.m.

**Dave Williams, Reading (781) 944-8118**  
**dave.williams6@gmail.com**

### **Wednesday, October 14**

#### **Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Concord. Morning.**

We will walk easy trails looking for birds. This is a good time for raptors. Beginners welcome. Meeting place: Refuge parking lot off Monsen Road, off Route 62 in Concord. We might move on from there to Nine-Acre Corner with possible extension to Drumlin Farm. 8:00 a.m.

**Clayton Swanson, Lexington (978) 395-7877**  
**caswansong@comcast.net**

#### **Danehy Park, Cambridge. Morning.**

Join us for some weekday urban birding at Cambridge's Danehy Park. A small marsh, grasses, and open fields often attract unexpected birds in this setting. Meeting place: parking lot at 99 Sherman Street, Cambridge. Sherman Street meets Garden Street and Huron Avenue at the Fire Station intersection. Drive down through the lights at Walden Street and look for a parking lot on the left after the playing field. Co-sponsored with the Menotomy Bird Club. Canceled if raining. 7:30-9:00 a.m.

**Karsten E. Hartel, Arlington (781) 646-8949**  
**karstenehartel@gmail.com**

### **Saturday, October 17**

#### **Nahanton Park, Newton and other nearby locations. Morning.**

We will search for sparrows and other fall migrants at Nahanton Park and another location to be determined nearer the date of the trip. Meeting place: Nahanton Park parking area off Winchester St., Newton, 1/4 mile north of the junction with Nahanton St. 8:00 a.m.

**Linda Ferrarresso, Salem (978) 498-4352**  
**tattler1@comcast.net**

#### **Owl Prowl in Southeast Massachusetts. Evening.**

Meet at 5:30 p.m. Limited participation. Contact leader for details. Co-sponsored with the South Shore Bird Club.

**Vin Zollo, Walpole (508) 641-2523**  
**vzollo1@yahoo.com**

### **Sunday, October 18**

#### **Boston. All Day.**

Boston has a wealth of great birding spots, and this is prime time to attempt seeing almost 100 different species, all within the city limits. Contact leader for meeting time and place.

**Bob Stymeist, Arlington**  
**rstymeist@verizon.net**

#### **Allen's Pond, Westport. All day.**

We will start by birding the Beach Loop, Quansett Trail, and Allen's Neck Trails of Allen's Pond Wildlife Sanctuary until around noon in search of migrant passerines in the thickets and ocean and marsh birds. Afterwards for anyone who wishes to continue for the full day, we will bird several other locations in the area including Gooseberry Neck, Horseneck Beach and Demarest Lloyd SP. Meeting place: the beach lot at the corner of East Beach Road and Horseneck Road. 7:30 a.m.

**Nick Paulson, Upton (508) 330-4401**  
**grendelpgill@yahoo.com**

(Sunday, October 18 continued on next page)

(Sunday, October 18 continued)

**Halibut Point State Park, Rockport. Morning.**

Beginners encouraged. A two-hour walk over easy to moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. From Route 128 (Exit 9), take Route 127 north (Eastern Avenue) toward Rockport, 3 mi. At 5-way intersection, turn left onto Railroad Avenue (remains Route 127) and follow for 2.4 mi. Turn right onto Gott Avenue. Entrance is opposite the state park's parking lot. The walks are co-sponsored by Halibut Point State Park and The Trustees of Reservations. Meeting place: Parking lot. 8:00 a.m.

**Peter Van Demark, Rockport (978) 546-2402**  
**peter@caliper.com**



**Wednesday, October 21**

**Danehy Park, Cambridge. Morning.**

Join us for some weekday urban birding at Cambridge's Danehy Park. A small marsh, grasses, and open fields often attract unexpected birds in this setting. Meeting place: parking lot at 99 Sherman Street, Cambridge. Sherman Street meets Garden Street and Huron Avenue at the Fire Station intersection. Drive down through the lights at Walden Street and look for a parking lot on the left after the playing field. Co-sponsored with the Menotomy Bird Club. Canceled if raining. 7:30–9:00 a.m.

**Karsten E. Hartel, Arlington (781) 646-8949**  
**karstenehartel@gmail.com**

**Saturday, October 24**

**Boston Nature Center, Mattapan. Morning.**

Explore this urban oasis for sparrows and other possible fall migrants like Dickcissel and Blue Grosbeak. We will take an easy walk through varied habitats. Co-sponsored with the Boston Nature Center. Meeting place: Visitor's Center, 500 Walk Hill Street. 8:00 a.m.

**Linda Ferraresso, Salem (978) 498-4352**  
**tattler1@comcast.net**

**Wednesday, October 28**

**Danehy Park, Cambridge. Morning.**

Join us for some weekday urban birding at Cambridge's Danehy Park. A small marsh, grasses, and open fields often attract unexpected birds in this setting. Meeting place: parking lot at 99 Sherman Street, Cambridge. Sherman Street meets Garden Street and Huron Avenue at the Fire Station intersection. Drive down through the lights at Walden Street and look for a parking lot on the left after the playing field. Co-sponsored with the Menotomy Bird Club. Canceled if raining. 7:30–9:00 a.m.

**Karsten E. Hartel, Arlington (781) 646-8949**  
**karstenehartel@gmail.com**

**Thursday, October 29**

**Greenwood Park, Stoneham. Morning.**

We will focus on birds moving southward on migration and those settling into the area for the colder weather. There will be mostly easy walking on flat terrain. Meeting place: Park entrance on Pond Street, across from the Stone Zoo. 8:00 a.m.

**Dana Jewell, Melrose (781) 665-2756**

**Saturday, October 31**

**Wachusett Reservoir, Clinton. Morning to early afternoon.**

We will visit Wachusett Dam, the North Dike, South Bay, and perhaps other spots in search of waterfowl, raptors, and land birds. Bald eagles are often seen here. Meeting place: Wachusett Dam by the flagpoles, Route 62 (Boylston St.), Clinton. 8:30 a.m.

**Sylvia Martin, Waltham (781) 373-5496**  
**smartin@brooklinebirdclub.org**

**BROOKLINE BIRD CLUB PELAGIC SCHEDULE  
FOR 2015**

**Saturday, July 18, 2015, 2 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

Hyannis to the Hydrographer Canyon area for 4 Shearwater species (including Scopoli's), 3 Storm-petrel species, Gannets, 3 Jaeger species, terns, gulls, sea ducks, possible Black-capped Petrel, Bridled Tern, Skuas, and any other rarities.

Cost: \$195 for BBC members, \$215 for non-members

**Saturday–Sunday, August 22–23, 2015, 5:30 a.m.  
Saturday to 6 p.m. Sunday**

Hyannis to Hydrographer, Veach, and Atlantis Canyon area for White-Faced Storm Petrel, Band-Rumped and Leach's Storm-Petrel, 5 Shearwater species (including possible BAROLO), 3 Jaeger species, terns, gulls, sea ducks, possible Tropicbird, Bridled Tern, or other rarities.

Cost: \$310.00 for BBC members, \$330.00 for non-members

**Saturday–Sunday, September 26–27, 2015, 5:30 a.m.  
Saturday to 6 p.m. Sunday**

Hyannis to Hydrographer, Veach, and Atlantis Canyon area for White-faced Storm Petrels, other petrels, several species of shearwaters, jaegers, possible skua, terns and other seabirds and mammals

Cost: \$310.00 for BBC members, \$330.00 for non-members

**Saturday, November 14, 2015 7:00am 3:00 pm  
(or Sunday 11/14 because of weather)**

Hyannis to Nantucket Shoals Birds Expected: Alcids, Fulmar, Gannets, Phalaropes, Shearwaters, Jaegers, Several gulls, hundreds of Sea Ducks, mammals, any rarities.

Maximum participation 65 people

COSTS: BBC members \$100.00 Non-Members \$120.00

(Pelagic Trips continued)

A fuel surcharge is possible. We have master birders Jeremiah Trimble, Nicholas Bonomo, and two others leading these trips. Our boat, the *Helen H*, is a very comfortable, fast, 100-foot fishing boat with a knowledgeable and enthusiastic captain and crew. We use gallons of chum to attract the birds. There are 38 bunks aboard which will be available to the first 38 who sign up. There is a full galley with excellent food at reasonable prices. Parking is free.

To reserve a space, send a check for the full amount made out to Brookline Bird Club Agent along with a signed waiver to: Ida Giriunas, 83 Summer Ave., Reading, MA, 01867 and include either your email or your postal address for confirmation, boarding instructions, and other details. To register and to receive further information and a waiver form, contact Ida at **781-929-8772, ida8@verizon.net**.

**WEBSITE ACCESS TO TRIP LIST**

As a convenience to members, we publish the schedule of club trips on the BBC website [www.brooklinebirdclub.org](http://www.brooklinebirdclub.org). We do not list the limited-participation trips, however, so continue to check for them here in the hardcopy bulletin.

**BBC MEMBER DISCOUNT**

Steve Grinley, of Bird Watcher's Supply and Gift, is offering current BBC members a 10% discount on all books and ABA guides as well as substantial discounts on binoculars, spotting scopes, and tripods. Bring your current BBC Blue Book to the store, located on the Route 1 traffic circle in Newburyport. For more information, phone Steve at 978-462-0775 or toll-free at 877-289-2974.

(Pelagic Trips continued on next page)

## OUT-OF-STATE TRIPS

The following tours are led by long-term members of the BBC. Many of these tours are popular with club members and are listed here for your convenience. The BBC does not sponsor nor is it responsible for any matter relating to these tours.

Don Wilkinson will be leading the following out-of-state trips in 2015:

Nevada and Utah incl. Himalayan Snowcock, July 8–13  
California pelagic, condor, and Yosemite, September 2–9

Please visit my website for details: [www.donwilkinsonbirding-tours.com](http://www.donwilkinsonbirding-tours.com).

Donald Wilkinson  
60 Irving Way  
Nahant, MA 01908  
(617) 201-5308  
[singingbirder@yahoo.com](mailto:singingbirder@yahoo.com)

## AMERICAN KESTREL NESTING BOX PROGRAM

The American Kestrel is our smallest and certainly most colorful falcon. Found throughout North America, this valuable insect and rodent predator was formerly quite common. Numbers have declined significantly throughout the U.S. over the past decade, however. A shortage of nest sites is believed to be a major reason. The kestrel is our only hawk that nests primarily in tree cavities, such as old woodpecker holes. The felling of mature trees for firewood and construction has destroyed suitable sites in otherwise excellent habitat, producing a severe “housing” shortage.

The kestrel is a hawk of open country, preferring farmlands, meadows, and abandoned fields. It has also adjusted well to urban and suburban life, nesting in mature trees along highways and feeding along right of ways and parkland. New England has ample habitat to maintain a sizable kestrel population. What New England lacks is adequate nest sites. Fortunately, the kestrel will nest in artificial “holes”—nest boxes.

The Brookline Bird Club is sponsoring an American Kestrel nesting box program. The club provides complete information on how to build and place boxes and it has appropriated funds to help pay for construction materials. If you are interested in building kestrel boxes, or know of any organization that might be, please contact:

Paul M. Roberts - BBC  
254 Arlington Street  
Medford, MA 02155  
phone: 781-483-4263 after 8 p.m.  
email: [phawk@comcast.net](mailto:phawk@comcast.net)

Paul can provide complete construction directions as well as information on funding. Additional information on American Kestrels and nesting box programs is also available. If you don't have the time to build boxes but know of good locations for nesting boxes, please give Paul a call. Some volunteers plan to build additional boxes for distribution, so the club may be able to provide you with a ready-made box to place.

### BROOKLINE BIRD CLUB PINS



*The pins are gold and black with safety clasp.*

Brookline Bird Club pins are now available. Buy them at the Bird Watcher's Supply and Gift at the Route One traffic circle in Newburyport, or send \$5 plus \$1 for mailing, each to:

Ms. Laura McCoy  
1021 Shawsheen Street  
Tewksbury, MA 01876

You get one car window decal free with membership, but if you need another, just send \$1.00 and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Laura.

### THE BBC, FACEBOOK, AND YOU!

The Brookline Bird Club's social networking and online presence has changed from a group to an official page! What does this mean for you? An easier BBC Facebook experience! Club members will be able to use the BBC Facebook page every day to keep up with their birding friends, upload an unlimited number of photos, share links and videos, and learn more about and from their fellow club members. To make it easier to keep in touch, we have "The Wall," upon which members may post their thoughts and commentary. The BBC Facebook page will only be as good as our club members make it. So feel free to "Like" us and interact.

To sign up for your free Facebook account, go to <http://www.facebook.com/>. Once you have set up your account, type Brookline Bird Club in the search window and you will be taken to the BBC Facebook page; once there, click the "Like" button. It's as simple as that! There is also a "Like" button for our Facebook page on the BBC home page, directly below the picture of the BBC baseball hat.

Suggestions or comments on the BBC Facebook page can be sent to Eddie Giles [egiles@brooklinebirdclub.org](mailto:egiles@brooklinebirdclub.org)



# Bird Observer

notes

The Birding Journal for Massachusetts



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Is this a new membership?     Yes        E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership runs from JANUARY TO DECEMBER. For 2015 please complete this form and return to Membership Secretary: Laura McCoy, 1021 Shawshen Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876. Please enclose CHECK AS INDICATED BELOW made out to Brookline Bird Club or BBC. Join or renew online via Paypal at [www.brooklinebirdclub.org/p/join-bbc.html](http://www.brooklinebirdclub.org/p/join-bbc.html).**

Indicate amount enclosed:

2015 Annual Dues (\$15 individual, \$22 family; tax-deductible) \_\_\_\_\_

Life (\$200/person) (tax-deductible) \_\_\_\_\_

Gift (tax-deductible) \_\_\_\_\_

BBC School Book Fund or Youth Scholarship (circle one; tax-ded.) \_\_\_\_\_

BBC Window Decals (\$1 each and SASE\*) \_\_\_\_\_

Decal included with new membership \_\_\_\_\_

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\*Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope



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