

Brookline Bird Club Bulletin

October 30, 2022–March 31, 2023



brooklinebirdclub.org

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PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Dear Members,

Greetings!

The hot, dry summer weather did not deter folks from venturing outdoors and scanning skies for Common Nighthawks, shorelines for various sandpipers, and trees and brush for warblers and other passerines on their routes south. Additionally, two back-to-back BBC signature “extreme pelagics” offered spectacular views of five species of storm-petrels, shearwaters, terns, exhausted warblers, and numbers of whales, sharks, molas, and other sea creatures. A mid-August walk at Concord’s Great Meadows with botanist Ted Elliman focused on wildflowers and native plants. Late summer and early fall club walks included trips to Fenway Victory Gardens, Belmont’s Rock Meadow, Concord’s Great Meadows, Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, Cape Ann, and numerous beaches for late migrants. A few lucky members got to see the Eurasian Marsh-Harrier in Maine; others observed the White Ibis flocks out of place up north.

The Workshop Committee took a brief break this summer from offering virtual workshops and webinars to give club members and the committee time to get outside. We resumed our virtual programming, covering topics such as fall warblers and Maine birds and habitat preservation. We are especially excited to help Bird Observer celebrate its

fiftieth anniversary with a Zoom-based roundtable of some key Bird Observer founders, editors, and contributors on November 2.

The club always welcomes and is looking for new trip leaders! New trip leaders offer different and valuable perspectives and experiences to our walks. If you have a favorite place to bird, would like to be a co-leader, or want to learn the how-tos of leading bird walks, please contact Field Trip Coordinator Cliff Cook or any Board member. We also look forward to adding new destinations to our long list of birding spots, such as places accessible by public transportation and kid/family-friendly locations.

Meanwhile, please check the BBC website, Facebook page, and Instagram frequently for scheduled and impromptu trips, workshops, webinars, and announcements. Don’t miss our winter trips like Cape Ann alcid searches, Plum Island treks, and Boston and Cambridge walks. We appreciate the commitment our members continue to make to this very special bird club.

Leslie Kramer
President

2022 VIRTUAL FALL MEETING

Please join us for our Fall Members Meeting.

Dr. David Wiley

Marine Ecologist and Research,
Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary

“Demystifying Shearwaters”

**Wednesday, October 19, 2022
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**

An email will be sent to all members with a link for registration.

Dr. Wiley’s research has ranged from studying the reproductive and foraging ecology of endangered whales to mapping marine toxic/hazardous waste sites. He has worked with fishermen to redesign fishing gear to reduce the risk of whale entanglement and pioneered methods to successfully rescue mass stranded whales and dolphins. Currently he is leading multi-organizational studies using advanced telemetry and novel visualization software to explore the underwater behavior of endangered whales, satellite telemetry to understand the movements and foraging ecology of Great Shearwater seabirds, and the ecology/climate impacts of sand lance forage fish.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Addressing ideas and issues that are important to club members is our top priority. The Board meets four times a year to discuss club-related business. Members are encouraged to reach out to officers and directors with thoughts and suggestions. You can also email us at webmaster@brooklinebirdclub.org.

WE’RE ON INSTAGRAM

The Brookline Bird Club has launched our own Instagram account. Instagram, a popular social media application, allows users and viewers to share photos and short messages with viewers. We welcome members to join in by submitting your photos. Our account is monitored by Board members and skilled student birder Mark Price. We adhere to ethical guidelines and will not accept photos of owls or other sensitive species. As our Instagram collection grows, we will employ hashtags to keep our photos organized. #gobirding!

Find our Instagram account using this name: [the_brookline_bird_club](https://www.instagram.com/brookline_bird_club). Please send your photos with captions, or any questions to either Leslie Kramer: lkramer@brooklinebirdclub.org or Mark Price: markjprice2005@gmail.com. Thanks to Mark and Leslie for spearheading this effort.

IT'S MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME!

We encourage you to renew and feel pride in being a part of an amazing network of dedicated birders. You can renew your membership (or join!) by credit/debit card or PayPal on brooklinebirdclub.org, or by filling out the form on the back cover of this bulletin.

Membership runs from January to December. We recommend renewing by the end of December so you can continue to receive meeting notices and bulletins without interruption. Thank you for your membership support!

NEW MEMBERSHIP LEVELS AND RATES

Brookline Bird Club dues will increase, and a new membership level has been added, effective in 2023:

Individual: \$20, Family: \$30,

Life: \$350, Youth: \$10

The BBC maintains sound fiscal management of the dues you have contributed. In recent years, a number of factors—including COVID and inflation—have impacted our operating budget. The club has not raised the Life membership dues since 1994, and Family and Individual membership amounts have not increased since 2007.

We are bringing back a “Youth” category, and hope that existing members will view this as an opportunity to gift a wonderful membership to a young birder up

to and including 18-years old. Youth memberships had always been a feature of the BBC, and we believe that bringing them back highlights their importance. Young birders represent the next generation in the birding world.

One new cost for the club is Zoom. Our virtual workshop/webinar series has been very successful in meeting the needs of current members, as well as in recruiting new members. In 2021 alone, we presented 21 workshops and webinars; in 2022, the Workshop Committee continues to schedule speakers addressing a range of topics related to birds, birding, and our shared ecosystems. Zoom provides the BBC with the ability to present these programs to a wider audience. (Recorded presentations are stored in our website's Members section.)

Thank you for your membership support and commitment to “America's Most Active Bird Club” as we change and grow.

GIFT FOR NEW LIFE MEMBERS

In response to the needs of birders, and to honor their commitment to the BBC, our new gift to you is a BBC logo-imprinted Microfiber Screen Cleaning Cloth in a pouch on a key chain, that helps you keep track of your lens cloth.

2023 MEMBERS MEETINGS

February 8, 2023, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Shaibal Mitral

**“Documenting and Conserving
Bird Populations”**

April 11, 2023, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Tom Stephenson

“Identifying and Learning Bird Song”

Details and links will be sent to members.

VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS

The club continues to offer virtual workshops and webinars. Registration is required and limited to BBC members. Workshop topics have ranged from audio birding to bird identification to nature photography. See the BBC website for current listings and registration.

2022 BBC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

By John Nelson

Our 2022 Bill Drummond Young Birder Scholarship recipients, Jocelyn Pyne and Johnny Owens, report that they had wonderful experiences in June in the Coastal Maine Bird Study for Teens program at National Audubon's camp at Hog Island, Maine.

“I had a great time at Hog Island,” Jocelyn says. “I learned so much about not just birds but also the plants and other animals on and around Hog Island! I had so

many unforgettable experiences including getting to see a banding demonstration which gave us close up one-of-a-kind views of birds often flitting about in the treetops. Banding has been something I have wanted to do for a long time. Visiting Eastern Egg Rock was truly amazing, an experience you can have nowhere else. We were able to get great views of the nesting species on the island, especially the terns. I loved meeting the researchers who live on Egg Rock during the summer and learning about the research they conduct on the island. It was nice to go birding with other teens who also love birds. Looking back on my trip I can't help but smile.”

“I thoroughly enjoyed my week on Hog Island,” says Johnny, “from learning about tracking bird migration, to landing on Eastern Egg Rock and seeing the large colony of nesting seabirds, to meeting the researchers who work on Eastern Egg Rock. It was so amazing to have the chance to meet highly influential researchers and conservationists, and to see the successfully restored puffin colony on Eastern Egg Rock up close. I loved spending time with birders my own age with whom I could relate. The camp was not limited to serious birding all the time; now and then people would do a ‘lifer dance’ for life birds. . . I learned the whole story of how Eastern Egg Rock's puffin colony was reconstructed, how the Merlin sound ID app was created, and how ‘sketch biology’ works. I am immensely thankful for this incredible opportunity that the board of the Brookline Bird Club and the generous donors of the Bill Drummond Scholarship Fund made possible for me.”

PIPING PLOVER DONATION

By John Nelson

We are pleased to announce a BBC conservation donation of \$250 to support the Piping Plover Ambassadors, a group of volunteers who, since 2017, have been dedicated to protecting the Piping Plovers nesting at Good Harbor Beach in Gloucester. We sent the following message with our donation: “The Brookline Bird Club, the largest and most active bird club in Massachusetts, is pleased to donate money to support the Piping Plover Ambassadors in their volunteer efforts to protect the Piping Plovers at Good Harbor Beach, to educate the public about this wonderful and endangered shorebird, and to help many people in Gloucester and beyond to experience the delight of watching these birds and following their story as they breed and raise their young on the beach. On behalf of the birding community and plover lovers everywhere, we thank you.” Ambassador Kim Smith expressed gratitude for the donation on behalf of all the Ambassadors. “To be recognized by the BBC,” she wrote on her Kim Smith Designs website and Facebook page, “is truly an honor.”

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

The annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count will be held, **December 14, 2022 through January 5, 2023**. Check the National Audubon Society website in November to see details on which circles are participating.

audubon.org/conservation/join-christmas-bird-count



SUPPORT NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES THROUGH DUCK STAMPS

As birders, we treasure our visits to national wildlife refuges locally and nationally. Of the 26 refuges in New England, eleven are in Massachusetts, including Parker River, Monomoy, Great Meadows, Oxbow, and Assabet River. One of the easiest ways to support bird habitat conservation is by buying Federal Duck Stamps, which are among the most successful conservation tools ever created. Duck stamps have raised over a billion dollars toward acquiring and protecting wetland habitat since 1934. For every dollar you spend on a duck stamp, 98% goes toward protecting vital wetland habitat. Your stamp also provides free admission to refuges. The 2022–2023 Federal Duck Stamp went on sale June 24. Buy your stamp at refuge offices and admission booths, the post office, on the BBC website, or at duckstamp.com.

LOOKING FOR NEW TRIP LEADERS

The club is always looking for new leaders and co-leaders, as well as new places to bird. Whether it's a trip for beginners to a local park or a longer expedition further afield, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Cliff Cook at ccook@brooklinebirdclub.org for additional information.

NOTES TO TRIP PARTICIPANTS

As the pandemic continues to evolve, the BBC may need to make adjustments to trip rules and expectations. Please check the website for current updates.

Whether you are a member or not, you are invited to participate in our trips and activities free of charge, though there may be costs for travel or admission for trips farther afield.

The BBC stresses the importance of good public relations. When attending trips, please park your vehicle off the road, away from driveways and posted areas, so as not to impede traffic. Respect guidelines at birding locations such as cemeteries and national wildlife refuges.

Most importantly, please do not enter private property unless you have permission. For a refresher on responsible birding, visit our updated Code of Ethics on the BBC website.

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

Bring a lunch on all-day trips. Please inform the trip leader if you need to leave early.

Please remember to check the website for additional trips not listed here and to check for cancellations before attending.

Some areas where the BBC schedules trips have entrance fees, including many national wildlife refuges. Parker River NWR charges a \$5 entrance fee per vehicle at the gatehouse on Plum Island. Great Meadows NWR charges a \$4 fee per vehicle to enter the refuge at Monson Road and will be adding a payment-activated entrance gate this year. In both cases a duck stamp and other types of prepaid passes cover the cost of admission.

PROGRAM OF TRIPS

October 30, 2022–March 31, 2023

NOTE: These trips are provisional and are subject to change based on public health guidelines. Please check the club web site for current information. All trips are free of charge unless otherwise indicated.

Sunday, October 30

New Hampshire Coast

8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

We will look for winter ducks, alcids, and gulls, plus other late fall migrants. Contact leader for details. Meeting location: McDonald's parking lot at 710 Lafayette Road (Route 1) in Seabrook, NH.

Trip leader: Steve Mirick, (603) 661-7703
smirick@comcast.net

Saturday, November 5

Belle Isle Marsh and Vicinity

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for snowy owls and other raptors, native sparrows, finches, and waterfowl. Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Prepare for ticks. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Ages: Adults and kids 8 years+ with adult chaperone. Meeting location: Main Entrance in the vicinity of the parking lot on 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

Trip leaders: Matthew Nash, (781) 656-1485
Matthew.Nash@mass.gov

Sean Riley
sean.m.riley@mass.gov

Parker River NWR and Vicinity

9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

We will explore various hot-spots on the refuge for fall migrants. The walk will then continue to other nearby locations based on current reports. Anything is possible during fall migration! Note that an entrance fee or pass is required to enter Parker River NWR. Meeting location: Lot 1 on the Parker River NWR.

Trip leaders: Linda Ferraresso, (617) 755-1851
tattler1@comcast.net

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

Sunday, November 6

Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Late October is often a time of year for fall lingerers, winter arrivals and often a surprise or two. Join us for an approximately two-mile walk around the cemetery over rolling terrain. Restrooms available. Meeting location: Inside the front gate on Mount Auburn Street.

Trip leader: Cliff Cook, (339) 222-4518
ccook13@gmail.com

The Lakes of Wakefield and Lynnfield

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

We will visit several different lakes and ponds in Wakefield and Lynnfield primarily looking for waterfowl. There will be some walking. Meeting location: Behind the Lakeside Inn at 599 North Avenue in Wakefield.

Trip leader: Dave Williams, (781) 439-7187
dave.williams6@gmail.com

Saturday, November 12

Fresh Pond, Cambridge

7:00 AM – 9:00 AM

An easy two-mile walk through pondside meadows and forest paths at Fresh Pond. The over-wintering waterbirds have started to arrive, and we may see Ring-necked Ducks, Ruddy Ducks and both Hooded and Common mergansers. Meadow and forest species may include year-round residents as well as seasonal visitors from the north (e.g. White-throated Sparrows, juncos). Meeting location: TD Bank parking lot, 211 Alewife Brook Parkway, Fresh Pond.

Trip leader: Thomas Michel, 617-365-1102
Thomas_Michel@hms.harvard.edu

Sunday, November 13

Franklin Park — Scarboro Pond

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

We will look for late fall migrants and new winter arrivals in Franklin Park. Beginners welcome and encouraged. Expect to walk up to two miles on paved paths.

Loaner binoculars available. Co-sponsored with the Franklin Park Coalition and Emerald Necklace Bird Club. Co-Leaders Mike Bryant, Stephen Baird, Sandy Bailey. Meeting location: By the tennis courts next to the Shattuck Picnic Grove on Circuit Drive. Street parking available and accessible via bus and subway (Forest Hills stop on Orange Line).



Trip leader: Justine Hanson, (617) 840-0832
justinehanson@gmail.com

Tuesday, November 15

North Shore Waterfowl Expedition

7:30 AM – 12:00 PM

We will visit several different water bodies in Essex County in attempting to see as many as twenty-five different species of ducks and geese. There will be some walking. We will end up at the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. Note that an entrance fee or pass is required to visit Parker River NWR. Meeting location: Topsfield Fair Grounds. Rt.1, Topsfield.

Trip leader: Dave Williams, (781) 439-7187
dave.williams6@gmail.com

Saturday, November 19

Belle Isle Marsh and Vicinity

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for snowy owls and other raptors, native sparrows, finches, and waterfowl. Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Prepare for ticks. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Ages: Adults and kids 8 years+ with adult chaperone. Meeting location: Main Entrance in the vicinity of the parking lot on 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

Trip leaders: Matthew Nash, (781) 656-1485

Matthew.Nash@mass.gov

Sean Riley

sean.m.riley@mass.gov

Sunday, November 20

Halibut Point State Park, Rockport

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

A two-hour walk (about 1.5 miles) over easy to moderate gravel roads and trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. Restrooms are available. In case of inclement weather check with leader night before trip. Meeting location: Parking lot for Halibut Point State Park on Gott Avenue, just off Route 127. The Trustees members park free in season. On CATA's Lanesville bus route from the Rockport Train Station.

Trip leader: Peter Van Demark, (978) 546-2402

phvand@icloud.com



Saturday, November 26

Cape Ann

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

We will search for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy weather. In case of inclement weather check with leader night before trip. Meeting location: Fisherman's Monument on Western Avenue, Gloucester.

Trip leader: Neil Hayward, (617) 717-9969

neil.hayward@gmail.com



Leader's Choice South of Boston

The trip leader will monitor recent sightings and select the birdiest spots. Contact leader after November 20 for details on the meeting time and location. Co-sponsored with the South Shore Bird Club. Meeting location: To be determined.

Trip leader: Glenn d'Entremont, (781) 267-0442

gdentremont1@comcast.net

Tuesday, November 29

Great Meadows NWR, Concord

8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

On this easy walk we will search for bluebirds, raptors, and wintering waterfowl, as well as wild turkeys that may be in the area. Note that an entrance fee or pass is required. Meeting location: Refuge parking lot on Monsen Road (off Route 62).

Trip leader: Clayton Swanson, (978) 395-7877

cas-swanson@comcast.net

Saturday, December 3

Belle Isle Marsh and Vicinity

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for snowy owls and other raptors, native sparrows, finches, and waterfowl. Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Ages: Adults and kids 8 years+ with adult chaperone. Meeting location: Main Entrance in the vicinity of the parking lot on 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

Trip leaders: Matthew Nash, (781) 656-1485
Matthew.Nash@mass.gov

Sean Riley
sean.m.riley@mass.gov

Cape Ann

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

We will search for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy weather. In case of inclement weather check with leader night before trip. Meeting location: Fisherman's Monument on Western Avenue, Gloucester.

Trip leader: Peter Van Demark, (978) 546-2402
phvand@icloud.com

Sunday, December 4

Dunback Meadow, Lexington

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

We will look for wintering birds including raptors, and may travel to nearby areas in Waltham, Lexington and Belmont depending on recent reports. Expect to walk about three miles on trails. Meeting location: Clark Middle School, at the end of Brookside Avenue

Trip leader: Cliff Cook, (339) 222-4518
ccook13@gmail.com

Emerald Necklace Ponds, Boston/Brookline

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

We will search for waterfowl and other winter species on the ponds and in the adjacent woods. Co-sponsored by the Brookline Greenspace Alliance and the Emerald Necklace Bird Club. Meeting location: Parking lot for Daisy Field, Olmsted Park on Willow Pond, between Pond Avenue and the Jamaicaaway.

Trip leader: Bob Mayer, (617) 522-0157
rgmayer38@gmail.com

Wed., December 14 – Thurs., January 5

Annual Christmas Bird Count

Check National Audubon Society website for details.
audubon.org/conservation/join-christmas-birdcount.

Saturday, December 17

Belle Isle Marsh and Vicinity

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for snowy owls and other raptors, native sparrows, finches, and waterfowl. Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Ages: Adults and kids 8 years+ with adult chaperone. Meeting location: Main Entrance in the vicinity of the parking lot on 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

Trip leaders: Matthew Nash, (781) 656-1485
Matthew.Nash@mass.gov

Sean Riley
sean.m.riley@mass.gov

Saturday, December 24

Cape Ann

8:30 AM – 1:00 PM

We will search for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy weather. In case of inclement weather check with leader night before trip. Co-sponsored with the Essex County Ornithological Club. Meeting location: Fisherman's Monument on Western Avenue, Gloucester.

Trip leader: John Nelson, (978) 283-6128
jnelson@northshore.edu

Sunday, January 1

Newburyport and Vicinity

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Join us on our annual New Year's Day birding trip! We may also venture on to Cape Ann. Co-sponsored with the Essex County Ornithological Club. In case of inclement weather check with leader night before trip. Note that an entrance fee or pass is required to visit Parker River NWR. Meeting location: Cashman Park, Sally Snyder Way, Newburyport.

Trip leaders: Laura de la Flor, (978) 741-0897
anhinga3@comcast.net
Mark Burns

Wednesday, January 4

Midweek Hunt for Alcids and Seabirds

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Join us for a midweek hunt for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy weather. In case of bad weather, contact the leader the day before the trip. Meeting location: Halibut Point State Park parking lot.

Trip leader: Barbara Volkle, (508) 393-9251
barb620@theworld.com

Saturday, January 7

Belle Isle Marsh and Vicinity

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for snowy owls and other raptors, native sparrows, finches, and waterfowl. Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Ages: Adults and kids 8 years+ with adult chaperone. Meeting location: Main Entrance in the vicinity of the parking lot on 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

Trip leaders: Matthew Nash, (781) 656-1485
Matthew.Nash@mass.gov

Sean Riley
sean.m.riley@mass.gov

Cape Ann

8:30 AM – 1:00 PM

We will search for alcids and other wintering seabirds. In case of inclement weather check with leader night before trip. Meeting location: Fisherman's Monument on Western Avenue, Gloucester.

Trip leader: Susan Hedman, (978) 325-6226
2winterwren@gmail.com

Arnold Arboretum, Boston

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Start your 2023 year list off with this easy 90-minute walk from the main gate to the ponds and back. In addition to looking for winter birds we will admire the arboretum's impressive woody plant collection. See arboretum.harvard.edu for directions and a


checklist of birds. Meeting location: Inside the main gate off the Arborway. Parking available on nearby side streets.

Trip leader: Bob Mayer, (617) 522-0157
rgmayer38@gmail.com

Saturday, January 14

Charles River, Watertown

7:30 AM – 9:30 AM

An easy, approximately two-mile walk along the Charles River Greenway in Watertown, with a chance to see over-wintering waterfowl on the river, as well as winter-time resident birds. We are likely to see Common and Hooded mergansers as well as Buffleheads and the usual local woodpeckers and other hardy species. Meeting location: Watertown Square Station, at the entrance to the Charles River Greenway in Watertown. 

Trip leader: Thomas Michel, 617-365-1102
Thomas_Michel@hms.harvard.edu

Sunday, January 15

Salisbury Beach State Reservation

7:30 AM – 10:00 AM

We will bird the Salisbury Beach State Reservation. In case of inclement weather check with leader night before trip. There will be some walking. Restrooms are available. Meeting location: Salisbury Beach State Reservation, 1 Beach Rd, Salisbury, MA, just inside the turn into the campground.

Trip leader: Dave Williams, (781) 439-7187
dave.williams6@gmail.com

Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

A peaceful winter walk in Mount Auburn cemetery is always a pleasure and you never know what you might see. Sapsuckers and Red-breasted Nuthatches are regulars. Meeting location: Meet inside the front gate on Mount Auburn Street.

Trip leader: Kathy Dia, (617) 480-5103
katbirder@gmail.com

Halibut Point State Park, Rockport

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

A two-hour walk (about 1.5 miles) over easy to moderate gravel roads and trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. Restrooms are available. In case of inclement weather check with leader night before trip. Meeting location: Parking lot for Halibut Point State Park on Gott Avenue, just off Route 127. The Trustees members park free in season. On CATA's Lanesville bus route from the Rockport Train Station.



Trip leader: Peter Van Demark, (978) 546-2402
phvand@icloud.com

Saturday, January 21

Belle Isle Marsh and Vicinity

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for snowy owls and other raptors, native sparrows, finches, and waterfowl. Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Reasonable

accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Ages: Adults and kids 8 years+ with adult chaperone. Meeting location: Main Entrance in the vicinity of the parking lot on 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

Trip leaders: Matthew Nash, (781) 656-1485
Matthew.Nash@mass.gov
Sean Riley
sean.m.riley@mass.gov

Cape Ann

8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

We will search for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy weather. If bad weather is predicted, contact the leader by 6:00 p.m. the previous evening. Meeting location: Fisherman's Monument on Western Avenue, Gloucester.

Trip leader: Linda Ferraresso, (617) 755-1851
tattler1@comcast.net

Dunback Meadow, Lexington

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

We will look for wintering birds, including raptors. Meeting location: Allen Street entrance to Dunback Meadow.

Trip leader: Bobbie Hodson, (781) 861-9421
robertahodson@comcast.net

Wednesday, February 1

Midweek Hunt for Alcids and Seabirds

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Join us for a midweek hunt for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy weather. In case of bad weather, contact the leader the day before the trip. Meeting location: Halibut Point State Park parking lot.

Trip leader: Barbara Volkle, (508) 393-9251
barb620@theworld.com

Saturday, February 4

Belle Isle Marsh and Vicinity

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for snowy owls and other raptors, finches and waterfowl. Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Ages: Adults and kids 8 years+ with adult chaperone. Meeting location: Main Entrance in the vicinity of the parking lot on 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

Trip leaders: Matthew Nash, (781) 656-1485
Matthew.Nash@mass.gov
Sean Riley
sean.m.riley@mass.gov

Birding Sketchcrawl — Winter Series

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Come and bird/sketch in locations around Essex

County. All artistic levels welcome. Bring your own sketching materials and other creature comforts. Contact leader for details no later than 7:00 pm on Thursday, February 2. Meeting location: To be determined.

Trip leader: Laura de la Flor, (978) 741-0897
anhinga3@comcast.net

Cape Ann

9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

We will search for alcids and other wintering seabirds. In case of inclement weather check with leader night before trip. Meeting location: Fisherman's Monument on Western Avenue, Gloucester.

Trip leader: Peter Van Demark, (978) 546-2402
phvand@icloud.com



Sunday, February 5

Scituate to Plymouth

7:30 AM – 4:00 PM

A total of 70 species is routine on this trip. We should be able to find a combination of land birds, freshwater ducks, and ocean birds with relatively little driving. Co-sponsored with the South Shore Bird Club. Meeting location: Stop & Shop parking lot at the intersection of Routes 3 and 139 in Pembroke.

Trip leader: Glenn d'Entremont, (781) 267-0442
gdentremont1@comcast.net

Wednesday, February 8

Virtual Members Meeting

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Shaibal Mitral

“Documenting and Conserving Bird Populations”

Saturday, February 11

Cape Waterfowl Prowl

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

We will visit the ponds, marshes, bays, and backwaters of the Upper and Lower Cape and other areas in our search for 25+ species of ducks, as well as loons, grebes, swans, and geese. Co-sponsored by Cape Cod Bird Club. Meeting Location: Scusset Beach pier parking lot along Scusset Beach Road approximately 1 mile from Route 3.

**Trip leader: Mary Jo Foti, (914) 262-5878
maryjo1226@yahoo.com**

Sunday, February 12

Cape Ann

8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

We will search for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy weather. If bad weather is predicted, contact the leader by 6:00 p.m. the previous evening. Meeting location: Fisherman’s Monument on Western Avenue, Gloucester.

**Trip leader: Linda Ferrarresso, (617) 755-1851
tattler1@comcast.net**

Saturday, February 18

Belle Isle Marsh and Vicinity

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for snowy owls and other raptors, finches and waterfowl. Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Ages: Adults and kids 8 years+ with adult chaperone. Meeting location: Main Entrance in the vicinity of the parking lot on 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

**Trip leaders: Matthew Nash, (781) 656-1485
Matthew.Nash@mass.gov**

**Sean Riley
sean.m.riley@mass.gov**

Newburyport and Vicinity

8:00 AM – 1:00 PM

The middle of winter is often a good time for hawks, owls and waterfowl. We may visit Salisbury Beach, Parker River, areas along the Merrimac River, or other locations depending on recent sightings. In case of inclement weather check with leader night before trip. Note that an entrance fee or pass is required to visit Parker River NWR. Meeting location: Parking lot 1, Parker River NWR.

**Trip leader: Cliff Cook, (339) 222-4518
ccook13@gmail.com**



Ipswich and Vicinity

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM

We will search for waterfowl, raptors, and wintering boreal songbirds. Limited walking. Carpooling from the meeting location is recommended. Co-sponsored by the Essex County Ornithological Club. Meeting location: The former Town Hall parking lot next to the Ipswich War Memorial in downtown Ipswich on Routes 1A/133.

Trip leader: Gino Ellison, (617) 548-4673
gene@cfninvestments.com

Sunday, February 19

Halibut Point State Park, Rockport

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

A two-hour walk, about 1.5 miles, over easy to moderate gravel roads and trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. Restrooms are available. In case of inclement weather check with leader night before trip. Meeting location: Parking lot for Halibut Point State Park on Gott Avenue, just off Route 127. The Trustees members park free in season. On CATA's Lanesville bus route from the Rockport Train Station.

Trip leader: Peter Van Demark, (978) 546-2402
phvand@icloud.com



Wednesday, March 1

Midweek Hunt for Alcids and Seabirds

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Join us for a midweek hunt for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy

weather. In case of bad weather, contact the leader the day before the trip. Meeting location: Halibut Point State Park parking lot.

Trip leader: Barbara Volkle, (508) 393-9251
barb620@theworld.com

Saturday, March 4

Belle Isle Marsh and Vicinity

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for snowy owls and other raptors, native sparrows, finches, waterfowl and red-winged blackbirds. Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Prepare for ticks. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Ages: Adults and kids 8 years+ with adult chaperone. Meeting location: Main Entrance in the vicinity of the parking lot on 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

Trip leaders: Matthew Nash, (781) 656-1485
Matthew.Nash@mass.gov

Sean Riley
sean.m.riley@mass.gov

Dunback Meadow, Lexington

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

We will look for wintering birds, including raptors. Meeting location: Allen Street entrance to Dunback Meadow.

Trip leader: Bobbie Hodson, (781) 861-9421
robertahodson@comcast.net

Sunday, March 5

Castle Island & Pleasure Bay, South Boston

8:30 AM – 11:30 AM

We will search for wintering ducks, shorebirds, and Snowy Owls. Dress warmly and be prepared for cold and wind. Expect to walk up to two miles on paved paths. Beginners welcome and encouraged. Loaner binoculars available upon request — please contact the leader by Thursday, March 2. Port-potties should be available. Meeting location: 2080 William J Day Blvd, South Boston (Sullivan's Castle Island parking lot). Accessible via MBTA bus.



Trip leaders: Justine Hanson, (617) 840-0832
justinehanson@gmail.com

Michealle Larkins

Thursday, March 9

Woodcocks at Meriam's Corner

5:15 PM – 6:45 PM

American Woodcocks are regular visitors to the fields of Minute Man NHP each spring. Listen and watch for this unusual bird's courtship display. We will walk about 1/2 mile on boardwalk and wide trail but woodcocks can often be heard and seen from the



parking lot and participants may elect to stay in that area. Meeting location: Minute Man NHP, Meriam's Corner lot, Concord.

Trip leader: Kathy Dia, (617) 480-5103
katbirder@gmail.com

Sunday, March 12

Plum Island

We will explore various hot-spots on the refuge. Note that an entrance fee or pass is required. Meeting location: Parking lot #1, Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. Check with leader in case of weather problems.



Trip leader: Matt Sabourin, (413) 575-9528
Accipiter22@gmail.com

Wednesday, March 15

Woodcock Walk at Ipswich River Park, North Reading

6:15 PM – 7:15 PM

Join us at sunset to hopefully hear and see the mating sky dance of the Woodcock. Meeting location: Kiosk at the Ipswich River Park, 15 Central St., North Reading.

Trip leader: Dave Williams, (781) 439-7187
dave.williams6@gmail.com

Woodcock Walk at Nahanton Park, Newton

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Join us at sunset to hopefully hear and see the mating sky dance of the Woodcock. Activity should begin around 7:15 p.m. and last for about an hour. Call trip leader if there's rain or snow cover. Very little walking required, flashlight recommended; no dogs. Meeting location: Park in the Nature Center lot just east (~50 feet) of the Charles River off Nahanton St. We will begin by the two benches at the north end of the park's "Woodcock Meadow" and move into the meadow once calling begins.

Trip leader: Pete Gilmore, (617) 610-2477
petegilmore79@gmail.com

Saturday, March 18

Belle Isle Marsh and Vicinity

7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for snowy owls and other raptors, native sparrows, finches, waterfowl and red-winged blackbirds. Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Prepare for ticks. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Ages: Adults and kids 8 years+ with adult chaperone. Meeting location: Main Entrance in the vicinity of the parking lot on 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

Trip leaders: Matthew Nash, (781) 656-1485
Matthew.Nash@mass.gov
Sean Riley
sean.m.riley@mass.gov

Vernal Equinox Walk. Leader's Choice

The trip leader will monitor recent sightings prior to meeting and select the birdiest spots. Contact leader for details. Call or email no later than 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 16. Meeting location: To be determined.

Trip leader: Laura de la Flor, (978) 741-0897
anhinga3@comcast.net

Sunday, March 19

Franklin Park/Scarboro Pond, Boston

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

We will look for early spring migrants in Franklin Park. Beginners welcome and encouraged. Expect to walk up to two miles on paved paths. Loaner binoculars available. Co-sponsored with the Franklin Park Coalition and Emerald Necklace Bird Club. Co-Leaders Mike Bryant, Stephen Baird, Sandy Bailey. Meeting location: By the tennis courts next to the Shattuck Picnic Grove on Circuit Drive. Street parking available and accessible via bus and subway (Forest Hills stop on Orange Line).



Trip leader: Justine Hanson, (617) 840-0832
justinehanson@gmail.com

Halibut Point State Park, Rockport

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

A two-hour walk (about 1.5 miles) over easy to moderate gravel roads and trails in search of seasonal specialties.

Boots advisable. Restrooms are available. In case of inclement weather check with leader night before trip. Meeting location: Parking lot for Halibut Point State Park on Gott Avenue, just off Route 127. The Trustees members park free in season. On CATA's Lanesville bus route from the Rockport Train Station.

Trip leader: Peter Van Demark, (978) 546-2402
phvand@icloud.com

Woodcocks at Alewife

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

We will search the northwest corner of Cambridge in hopes of seeing, or at least hearing, the American Woodcock's mating display, a traditional New England rite of spring. Meeting location: Alewife Station Access Road end of Fitchburg cutoff bike path.

Trip leader: Zack Weber
birdingwithzackweber@gmail.com

Thursday, March 23

Woodcocks at Alewife

7:00 PM – 8:30 PM

We will search the northwest corner of Cambridge in hopes of seeing, or at least hearing, the American Woodcock's mating display, a traditional New



England rite of spring. Meeting location: Alewife Station Access Road end of Fitchburg cutoff bike path.



Trip leader: Zack Weber
birdingwithzackweber@gmail.com

Friday, March 24

Timberdoodles in Stoughton

6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Come watch American Woodcock display behavior. Water-resistant shoes helpful, but not needed. Meeting location: Bird Street entrance to Bird Street Conservation Area in Stoughton.

Trip leader: Glenn d'Entremont, (781) 267-0442
gdentremont1@comcast.net

Saturday, March 25

Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge

7:00 AM – 9:00 AM

Mount Auburn Cemetery is lovely in all seasons. In late March, we may see the very earliest migrants from the south (Red-winged Blackbird, others) as well as the remaining seasonal visitors from the north (e.g. White-throated Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco). And our usual year-round resident species will have just started to sing! Meeting location: The entrance to the cemetery on Mount Auburn Street.

Trip leader: Thomas Michel, 617-365-1102
Thomas_Michel@hms.harvard.edu

Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Concord

7:30 AM – 10:00 AM

We will look for early migrants, waterfowl, and waders. Conditions may be wet; boots advised. Note that an entrance fee or pass is required.

Meeting location: Refuge parking lot off Monsen Road, Concord.



Trip leaders: Kathy Dia, (617) 480-5103
katbirder@gmail.com

Cris Van Dyke
cris_vandyke@yahoo.com

Newburyport and Vicinity

8:30 AM – 1:00 PM

We will visit Plum Island, areas along the Merrimac River, and West Newbury in pursuit of early migrants. Note that an entrance fee or pass is required. Meeting location: Parker River National Wildlife Refuge Headquarters/Visitors Center, 6 Plum Island Turnpike.

Trip leader: Jonathan Center, (978) 866-7391
jbcen@verizon.net

Woodcock Watch, Oxbow NWR, Harvard

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

We will stay until it gets dark to watch for American Woodcock. Come early to enjoy other birds. Rain date Sunday, March 26, same time. Meeting location: Part way down Still River Depot Road in Harvard at the big NWR sign on the right.

Trip leader: Don MacFarlane, (978) 897-7567
donjmacfarlane@gmail.com

Sunday, March 26

Blue Hills

8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

This trip consists of several short, one-mile hikes (the first is rather steep) to look for Turkey Vultures, Pileated Woodpeckers, Eastern Bluebirds, and early-arriving Eastern Phoebes and Pine Warblers. Meeting location: Small parking lot on Chickatawbut Road in Milton just east of Randolph Avenue (Route 28).

Trip leader: Steve Olanoff, (781) 326-6585
olanoff@aol.com

Blue Hills — Woodcock Walk in Fowl Meadow

6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

We are usually successful in seeing the Woodcock's mating flight, and on one occasion saw its mating display. We will hike one mile on a flat trail that may be wet. Meeting location: Small parking lot at Neponset Valley Parkway and Brush Hill Road in Milton.

Trip leader: Steve Olanoff, (781) 326-6585
olanoff@aol.com

Thursday, June 22 – July 2

26th Annual Trip to the Rangeley Lakes Region, Maine

Join us for a seven-day exploration of the mountains and lakes of western Maine! As always, this trip will concentrate on Maine's boreal specialties including Spruce Grouse, Black-backed Woodpecker, Olive-sided and Yellow-bellied flycatchers, Philadelphia Vireo, Gray Jay, Boreal Chickadee, Bicknell's Thrush and 20+ species of warbler. Time will also be taken to observe and enjoy the flora and fauna along the way. Participants can expect to do some moderate hiking and optional canoeing. Limited participation. Please contact leader for additional information and reservations at least one month in advance.

Trip leaders: Eddie Giles, (508) 378-3370
emgiles62@comcast.net
Glenn d'Entremont, (781) 267-0442
gdentremont1@comcast.net

Thursday, June 29 – July 2

Machias, Maine & Vicinity

Four-day trip to the Machias area in downeast Maine. Cost to be determined for BBC members and nonmembers. Details sent in response to inquiries. Limited to 15 participants.

Trip leaders: Deborah Mauer, (203) 249-3015
arcticwarbler1@gmail.com
Henry Mauer, (508) 308-8050
Henryd.mauer@gmail.com

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Visit massbird.org to find a listing of local bird clubs and subscribe to the Massbird Listserv.

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Visit birding.aba.org for up-to-the-minute news on bird sightings across New England.

To report bird sightings in Eastern and Western Massachusetts, Nantucket, and Cape Cod, call **Voice of Audubon**: (781) 259-8805.

To report sightings in Eastern Massachusetts, call the **Wildlife Information Line**: (781) 259-2150.



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Annual memberships run from January–December. Please complete this form and return to Bob Parker, BBC Membership Coordinator, 60 Willow Ave #1, Somerville, MA 02144. Please include a check made out to Brookline Bird Club for the total amount due — or renew or join online at our website brooklinebirdclub.org.

Name _____

Family Additional names _____

Phone _____

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Street Address _____

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