

Brookline Bird Club Bulletin

July 1–October 31, 2023



brooklinebirdclub.org

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PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Greetings Brookline Bird Club Members,

By the time this Summer/Fall Blue Book arrives, we will have been delighted by migrating warblers, vireos, flycatchers, raptors, shorebirds, terns, and other birds that we New England-based birders are so fortunate to observe close by. This edition offers many trips, and we birders know why: we peer through leaves, crane our necks, and scan shorelines and mudflats in search of these visitors, and, yes, year-round residents, too. Who doesn't appreciate the two-note song of a Black-capped Chickadee, the staccato call of a Downy Woodpecker, or the melodies belted out by finches? Fall migration brings its own challenges of unfamiliar plumage, but referencing Tom Stephenson's ID tips will help to determine which warbler you're observing.

This year's Bill Drummond Young Birder Scholarship recipients will report back to us about their June adventures at Hog Island. We look forward to hearing from them: what did they hear, see, and learn? What connections did they make with other young birders? What are their plans moving forward? Thanks to all who donate to the Young Birders Scholarship and make this wonderful opportunity possible.

We are moving to hybrid meetings and workshops! Club members and guests will be able to attend members meetings in person or via Zoom. This will provide greater flexibility for members, presenters,

and guest speakers. While some may choose to watch presentations from home, others may participate in person. Registration will still be required if you choose to join via Zoom. We will continue our Fall and Winter Members Meetings, as well as our Annual Spring Meeting, when club members vote for Board members. The Events Committee will continue to plan and present workshops. The committee invites interested club members to join them and support these events.

Quoting from our mission statement: “The Brookline Bird Club conducts birding trips in New England, offers and supports educational programs about birds and nature, and works to conserve birds and their habitats. Birding belongs to everyone: we welcome all who enjoy and care about birds, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, birding experience or skill level.” We welcome you to join a committee, lead a walk, share your ideas. Members are encouraged to reach out to officers and directors with thoughts and suggestions. Thank you to our members who continue to support us and the work we do for birds, the environment, and our membership.

Leslie Kramer
President

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 items. Members are encouraged to reach out to officers and directors with thoughts and suggestions. You can also email us at webmaster@brooklinebirdclub.org.

LOOKING FOR NEW TRIP LEADERS

Is there a place you love to go birding that you'd like to share with others? Whether it's a well-known spot or new location, we invite you to lead a trip there for the BBC! The club is always looking for new leaders and 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.

GIFT FOR NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS

The club wishes to recognize the commitment of new lifetime members with our new gift to them, a BBC logo-imprinted microfiber screen-cleaning cloth in a pouch on a key chain that helps you keep track of your lens cloth.

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.

2023 HYBRID FALL MEETING

Please join us for our 2023 Hybrid Fall Members Meeting on October 20th, 6:30 pm–9 pm. A link will be sent to all members.

American Bird Conservancy's John Mittermeier will present: "Searching for Lost Birds: how rare birds can inspire exploration and conservation in the age of extinction."

As John notes, "Had it not been for the amazing support of BBC members and their enthusiasm for giving me rides around Massachusetts as a young birder I probably would never have considered a career in bird conservation!"

2023 BBC TEEN BIRDER SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

By John Nelson

The BBC Conservation and Education Committee is pleased to announce that our two annual Bill Drummond Young Birder Scholarships have been awarded to **Samuel Harris** of Dorchester and **William Buswell** of Wakefield. These scholarships, instituted to nurture interest in bird study and conservation among young birders, cover the full cost (\$1,690) of the Coastal Maine Bird Studies for Teens program at National Audubon's Hog Island camp on **June 18–23, 2023**. The Scholarship Evaluation Committee was impressed by the quality of the applications we received, and we thank all applicants for their interest. **Sam** has co-led bird walks for the Boston Nature Center (BNC) and monitored

nests at the BNC as part of Cornell's Nestwatch project. He is active in Mass Audubon's Teen Birders Group at Drumlin Farm and aspires to become an ornithologist. "Bird watching," he says, "is everything to me!" **William** discovered his passion for the wonders of the natural world at age six. He is fascinated by how taxonomy reflects the interconnectedness of life, and as a student member of Wakefield's sustainability committee, he has worked to protect prime bird habitat. "Thanks to birds," he says, "I am engaging with my community and environment like never before." Congratulations to Sam and William!

Scholarships are supported through the generous donations of club members. To donate, you can designate an amount on the "BBC Young Birder Scholarship" line on the back page of the club bulletin when you renew your membership or, especially for life members, at any other time you might wish to donate.

BBC DONATION TO FRIENDS OF THE PARKER RIVER NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

By John Nelson

The BBC, through its Conservation and Education Committee, has donated \$250 to support the phragmites mowing program at the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge. The BBC offers frequent trips to the Parker River NWR, and this mowing program has been greatly appreciated by the birding

community, wildlife artists, photographers, and nature lovers. Visitors with mobility issues can now view Stage Island Pool from the road, and children and people in wheelchairs are now able to view both Bill Forward Pool and Stage Island Pool without obstruction.

Sir. I told you yesterday that penguins are wild birds, and to take them to the zoo, and now they're still in your car and in sunglasses!?
Officer. Yesterday I took them to the zoo and today I'm taking them to the beach!



BROOKLINE BIRD CLUB 2022 STATISTICAL AND YEAR-END REPORT

By David Scott, Club Statistician

The BBC recorded 276 species for 2022, based upon 204 reported trips. Of those, 264 species were recorded in Massachusetts, with 12 additional species reported from the out-of-state trips to New Hampshire and Maine.

As always, the pelagic trips provided several of the year's birding highlights. On August 27–28, 2022, the club ran two back-to-back overnight trips out of Hyannis to Veatch Canyon. Even after many years, these trips continue to be full of surprises, and the first trip encountered something completely unexpected. Our August pelagic trips have a reputation as the most reliable opportunity to observe White-faced Storm-Petrels in North America. Apart from a handful of birds blown into Nova Scotia by a hurricane in September, there were only nine other reports of this species on eBird for North America in 2022—and in each case only single birds. The BBC pelagic trip recorded 589 of them on August 27, “in one of the most surreal events ever witnessed.” In addition to the usual pelagic species, this trip also recorded Black-capped Petrel, Band-rumped Storm-Petrel, Long-tailed Jaeger, Audubon's Shearwater, and Red-necked and Red phalaropes. Birders on the upper deck were woken during the night by migrating passerines attracted by the boat lights, including a Prothonotary Warbler. A full report of this remarkable trip, as well as past trips, is available on the club website.

Good birds recorded in Massachusetts on (or seen from) shore in 2022 included: Glaucous Gull (Cape

Ann, January 8), King Eider (Hull, February 6), Dovekie (Halibut Point, February 21), Northern Goshawk (Crooked Pond, Boxford, April 9), Olive-sided Flycatcher (Mount Auburn Cemetery, April 20), Sandhill Crane (Burrage Pond, April 30), Seaside Sparrow (Allen's Pond, May 22), Red Crossbill (Mount Greylock, June 18), Acadian Flycatcher (Quabbin Reservoir, July 3), American Avocet (Plum Island, September 10), Marbled Godwit (Chatham, October 8) and Hammond's Flycatcher (Falmouth, November 26).

Outside of Massachusetts, additional year list species included the first club record of Tufted Puffin, observed by a few lucky participants on the Machias Seal Island trip on July 1. Other species on the Rangeley Lakes and Machias Seal Island trips included: Arctic Tern, Atlantic Puffin, Bicknell's Thrush, Boreal Chickadee, Canada Jay, Common Murre, Ruffed Grouse, Spruce Grouse and Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. Bicknell's Thrush was also recorded from New Hampshire, on the White Mountains trip, along with Black-backed Woodpecker. Lapland Longspur was reported later in the year along the New Hampshire seacoast.

Birds we missed in Massachusetts included Common Redpoll, Black-legged Kittiwake, Rough-legged Hawk, Red Knot, Ruffed Grouse, Black Vulture, Sora, Evening Grosbeak, Northern Shrike, Canvasback, and Yellow-breasted Chat.

There were 395 species reported in eBird in 2022 for Massachusetts, of which the club's total of 264 represented 67 percent. The club reported the most species in Essex County (205), followed by Middlesex (157), Plymouth (155), Suffolk (138), Worcester (133), Barnstable (119), and Norfolk (111). Trips to Mount Auburn Cemetery recorded 107 species this year,

including 23 species of warblers. Spring migration was relatively slow in the eastern part of the state, apart from a few memorable days along the coast.

The following table shows the trips reporting the most species by month:

Date	Location	Species	Leader
1/1	Newburyport & vicinity	52	Laura de la Flor
2/6	Scituate to Plymouth	58	Glenn d'Entremont
3/2	Cape Ann	46	Barbara Volkle
4/30	South Shore	99	Glenn d'Entremont
5/22	Allen's Pond	72	Nick Paulson
6/25	Pine Hill Grasslands	54	Kathy Dia
7/23	Ellisville Harbor	48	Glenn d'Entremont
8/21	Squantum	40	Glenn d'Entremont
9/3	Plum Island	61	Nick Paulson
10/8	Cape Cod	86	Glenn d'Entremont
11/26	Cape Cod	68	Glenn d'Entremont
12/4	Dunback Meadow	31	Cliff Cook

Thanks to all our trip leaders, especially those who led ten or more trips in 2022: Cliff Cook, Peter Van Demark, Kathy Dia, Glenn d'Entremont, Linda Ferraresso, Thomas Michel, Nick Paulson, David Scott, and Dave Williams. Thanks also to the organizations with whom the club cosponsors trips. These include the South Shore Bird Club, the Charles River Esplanade Association, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and

Recreation (DCR), Minute Man National Historical Park, and the Franklin Park Coalition.

Excluding the pelagic trips, there were 288 eBird checklists associated with the 204 reported trips. Over half the trips occurred in April and May. American Robin was the most frequently recorded species, on 202 checklists. The list of species we observed most often is of course dependent on where the club leads trips and how they are reported, but the top ten proved remarkably stable compared with the previous year. Song Sparrow (193) and Blue Jay (183) traded places, with Black-capped Chickadee (180) remaining in fourth position. Northern Cardinal (172) and Mourning Dove (164) switched fifth and sixth places, with American Goldfinch (155) and Downy Woodpecker (146) staying in seventh and eighth. Common Grackle (145) moved up one place to ninth, and American Crow (143) moved up two to tenth. Just outside the top ten were Mallard (142), Tufted Titmouse (138), Canada Goose (138), Red-winged Blackbird (136), and Red-bellied Woodpecker (133).

SUPPORT NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES THROUGH DUCK STAMPS

As birders, we treasure our visits to national wildlife refuges locally and nationally.

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. For every dollar you spend on a duck stamp, 98 percent goes toward protecting vital wetland habitat for the

National Wildlife Refuge System. Your stamp also provides free admission to refuges.

The Refuge System administers lands and waters across the United States and territories, including 567 National Wildlife Refuges, 38 Wetland Districts, 5 Marine Monuments, and 63 Refuges with Wilderness Areas.

Of the 26 refuges in New England, 11 are in Massachusetts, including Parker River, Monomoy, Great Meadows, Oxbow, Assabet River, and Silvio O. Conte.

The 2023–2024 Federal Duck Stamp goes on sale **June 23**. Buy your stamp at refuge offices and admission booths, the post office, on the BBC website, or at duckstamp.com.

NOTES TO TRIP PARTICIPANTS

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 and Conduct on the BBC website.

PROGRAM OF TRIPS

JULY 1–OCTOBER 31, 2023

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

All trips are free of charge unless otherwise indicated. From time to time the BBC may need to adjust trip rules and expectations based on public health and other considerations. Bring a lunch on all-day trips. Please inform the trip leader if you need to leave early.

Saturday, July 1

Belle Isle Marsh Reservation and Vicinity

7:30 am–8:30 am

Led by DCR staff. We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for Osprey, large groups of egrets, migrating shorebirds, meadow and grassland breeders. Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Prepare for mosquitoes and ticks. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Ages: Adults and kids 8+ with adult chaperone. *Meeting location:* Belle Isle Reservation main entrance parking lot: 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

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

Matthew.Nash@mass.gov

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

Saturday, July 8

Quabbin Reservoir

7:00 am–1:00 pm

Join Glenn on a five-to-six-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!) Cosponsored with the South Shore Bird Club. *Meeting location:* Quabbin Gate 10 on Route 202 in Pelham.

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

Wednesday, July 12

Slow Birding Revere Beach

7:30 am–8:45 am

Discover how you can enliven and enrich your experience of nature by slowly and carefully observing the fine aesthetic details and behavior of birds that may include Piping Plover, Manx Shearwater, gulls, and terns. During the last half hour of this program, you will have the option to leave early or to participate in accompanying guided mindfulness practices. Be prepared for sitting, standing, and walking short distances. Bring a chair. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Parking



restrictions are strictly enforced—contact leader for more information. MBTA accessible. Ages: Adults and kids 8+ with adult chaperone. *Meeting location:* Revere Beach Reservation, on the beach across from 21 Revere Beach Boulevard, Revere, MA

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

Saturday, July 15

Fruitlands Museum, Harvard

7:00 am–10:00 am

All the nesting birds will still be around, with good views of young now out of the nest but still being fed by parents: Veery, Indigo Bunting, Gray Catbird, Red-winged Blackbird, Tree Swallow, Bobolink, Wood Thrush, Baltimore Oriole, and warblers.

Expect to walk about two miles on trails through meadow and woods with some steep sections.

Meeting location: Top parking lot at Fruitlands Museum, 102 Prospect Hill Road, Harvard.

For directions, see <http://www.fruitlands.org/visit>

Trip leaders: Sandy Oxley, (978) 270-1057

cassandra.oxley@gmail.com

Rita Grossman, (978) 264-4077

rgibesgrossman@gmail.com

Saturday, July 15

Belle Isle Marsh Reservation and Vicinity

7:30 am–8:30 am

Led by DCR staff. We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for Osprey, large groups of egrets, migrating shorebirds, meadow and grassland breeders. Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Prepare for mosquitoes and ticks. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Ages: Adults and kids 8+ with adult chaperone. *Meeting location:* Belle Isle Reservation main entrance parking lot: 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

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

Matthew.Nash@mass.gov

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

Sunday, July 16

Birch Hill Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Royalston

7:00 am–12:00 pm

Includes three to five miles of walking relatively flat terrain. Might include some bushwacking. Driving on hardpack dirt roads. *Meeting location:* Meet at the first parking area about one-half mile on access road (New Boston Road on maps) off of Winchendon Road in Royalston at the Royalston/Winchendon line.

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

gdentremont1@comcast.net

Ernie LeBlanc

Sunday, July 16

Halibut Point State Park, Rockport

8:00 am–10:00 am

Beginners encouraged.

A two-hour walk over easy-to-moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Chance of seeing nesting Green Herons. Boots advisable. Cosponsored by DCR. *Meeting location:* Halibut Point State Park parking lot. Follow the Route 128 North signs through two traffic circles to the Route 127 intersection. Turn left onto Route 127 North (Eastern Avenue) toward Rockport, 3 miles. At the 5-way intersection, turn left to stay on Route 127 North (toward Pigeon Cove, Annisquam) and follow for 2.4 miles. Turn right onto Gott Avenue. Turn right into the state park's parking lot. Trustee members park free in season. On CATA's Lanesville bus route from Rockport Station.



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

Sunday, July 23

Hatches Harbor Fire Road to Race Point Light, Provincetown

8:00 am–TBD

We will follow the fire road to the dike separating Hatches Harbor from the airport that leads out to both the harbor and Race Point. Gulls, terns, shorebirds, waterfowl, raptors, and passerines are among the many species we might see. There could be wet conditions on the way out to the lighthouse, so you may want to have a pair of boots. Low tide is 9:51 am. Cosponsored with Cape Cod Bird Club. *Meeting location:* From Race Point Road head in the direction of Herring Cove Beach. Just past the Province Lands Visitor Center take a left onto Province Lands Road and head south about a mile. Meet at the dirt parking lot for the Hatches Harbor Trail on the west side of Province Lands Road.

Trip leader: Ross Sormani
rsormani@yahoo.com

Sunday, July 30

Squantum, Quincy

6:30 am–TBD

This trip will focus on migrant shorebirds which are starting to filter into this area after their short breeding season in the northern regions of the continent. A few noteworthy breeding birds also inhabit the area including Saltmarsh Sparrows and American Oystercatchers. Be prepared for the

possibility of biting insects. Cosponsored with South Shore Bird Club. *Meeting location:* Mosswetuset Hummock parking area off East Squantum Street, Quincy.

Trip leaders: Glenn d'Entremont, (781) 267-0442
gdentremont1@comcast.net
Josh Bock, (773) 750-9860
jbock18@gmail.com

Saturday, August 5

Belle Isle Marsh Reservation and Vicinity

7:30 am–8:30 am

Led by DCR staff. We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for large groups of herons and egrets, common and rare shorebirds. Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Prepare for mosquitoes and ticks. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Ages: Adults and kids 8+ with adult chaperone. *Meeting location:* Belle Isle Reservation main entrance parking lot: 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

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

Thursday, August 10

Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), Concord

7:00 am–10:00 am

We will walk easy trails looking for birds and butterflies.

Shorebirds and early fall

migrants are expected. Beginners welcome. Note that entrance fee or pass is required. *Meeting location:* Refuge parking lot off Monson Road in Concord. Do not use a Global Positioning System (GPS) to find “Great Meadows” as this may take you to a different location.



Trip leader: Clayton Swanson, (978) 395-7877
cas-swansong@comcast.net

Saturday, August 12

Great Meadows NWR, Concord

7:00 am–10:00 am

We will search for resident migrant birds and as well as shorebirds. Note that entrance fee or pass is required.

Meeting location: Visitor parking lot off Monson Road in Concord. (Do not use GPS to find “Great Meadows” as this may take you to a different location.)

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

Sunday, August 13

Squantum, Quincy

7:00 am–TBD

We'll check the marshes and the mudflats in Squantum for shorebirds, starting at Mosswetuset

Hummock and visiting other spots nearby. At high tide around 10:00 am, we'll try checking the high tide roosts for shorebirds as well. Be prepared for the possibility of biting insects. Cosponsored with South Shore Bird Club. *Meeting location:* Mosswetuset Hummock parking area off East Squantum Street, Quincy.

Trip leaders: Glenn d'Entremont, (781) 267-0442
gdentremont1@comcast.net
Dan O'Brien, (781) 351-9444
danielkobrien107@gmail.com

Wednesday, August 16

Slow Birding Revere Beach

7:30 am–8:45 am



Discover how you can enliven and enrich your experience of nature by slowly and carefully observing the fine aesthetic details and behavior of birds that may include shorebirds and gulls. During the last half hour of this program, you will have the option to leave early or to participate in accompanying guided mindfulness practices. Be prepared for sitting, standing, and walking short distances. Bring a chair. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Parking restrictions are strictly enforced—contact leader for more information. MBTA accessible. Ages: Adults and kids 8+ with adult chaperone. *Meeting location:* Revere Beach Reservation, on the beach across from 21 Revere Beach Boulevard, Revere, MA

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

Wednesday, August 16

Hellcat Wildlife Observation Area, Parker River NWR

5:30 pm–9:00 pm

Shorebirds, herons, and swallows. Bring a chair, bug spray, and water. Trip runs until dark. *Meeting location:* Meet at the Hellcat parking lot (Lot #4) on Parker River NWR. Note that an entrance fee or pass is required. Restroom available.

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

Thursday, August 17

Great Meadows NWR, Concord

5:45 pm–7:45 pm

We will walk slowly looking for rails, shorebirds, wading birds, and migrating Common Nighthawks. This portion of the walk is about a half mile round trip on easy terrain. Those who wish to are invited to continue another one mile round trip to search for night-herons with Kathy. Those who do not want to walk further can stay at the observation platform with Will to watch birds come



in to roost! Note that entrance fee or pass is required.
Meeting location: Observation tower adjacent to visitor parking lot at 179 Monson Road in Concord.

Trip leaders: Kathy Dia, (617) 480-5103

katbirder@gmail.com

Will Martens, (617) 230-8913

arnzal@verizon.net

Saturday, August 19

Belle Isle Marsh Reservation and Vicinity

7:30 am–8:30 am

Led by DCR staff. We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for large groups of herons and egrets, common and rare shorebirds. Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Prepare for mosquitoes and ticks. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Ages: Adults and kids 8+ with adult chaperone. *Meeting location:* Belle Isle Reservation main entrance parking lot: 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

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

Matthew.Nash@mass.gov

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

Sunday, August 20

Halibut Point State Park, Rockport

8:00 am–10:00 am

Beginners encouraged.

A two-hour walk over easy-to-moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. Cosponsored by DCR. *Meeting location:* Halibut Point State Park parking lot. Follow the Route 128 North signs through two traffic circles to the Route 127 intersection. Turn left onto Route 127 North (Eastern Avenue) toward Rockport, 3 miles. At the 5-way intersection, turn left to stay on Route 127 North (toward Pigeon Cove, Annisquam) and follow for 2.4 miles. Turn right onto Gott Avenue. Turn right into the state park's parking lot. Trustee members park free in season. On CATA's Lanesville bus route from Rockport Station.



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

Saturday, August 26

Shore Birding Around Boston

7:30 am–12:00 pm

Stops may include Belle Isle Marsh, The Key, Revere Beach, and Winthrop. Please be prepared for mosquitoes at our first two stops. *Meeting location:* Belle Isle Reservation main entrance parking lot: 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

Trip leaders: Dave Williams, (781) 439-7187
dave.williams6@gmail.com
Linda Ferraresso, (617) 755-1851
tattler1@comcast.net

Saturday, August 26

Nighthawk Watch at Oxbow NWR

5:30 pm–7:45 pm

Join us for a pleasant evening of watching nighthawk migration along the Nashua River valley. Bring a lawn chair or a camp stool. This trip is cosponsored with the Friends of the Oxbow NWR. *Rain date:* Sunday, August 28. *Meeting location:* Halfway down the hill (near Oxbow refuge sign) on Still River Depot Road in Harvard.

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

Friday, September 1

Nighthawks at Minute Man National Historic Park

5:30 pm–7:30 pm

We will begin with a pleasant one-mile walk on graded paths and boardwalks observing locally nesting species, various flycatchers, and possibly some early fall migrants. The walk will culminate with a search for migrating Common Nighthawks. Limited to 25 participants. Please register by emailing leader. *Meeting location:* Meeting place to be provided to participants.

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

Saturday, September 2

Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary, Marshfield

7:00 am–12:00 pm

Cosponsored with the South Shore Bird Club.

Meeting location: Sanctuary parking area at the end of Winslow Cemetery Road.

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

Saturday, September 2

Belle Isle Marsh Reservation and Vicinity

7:30 am–8:30 am

Led by DCR staff. We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for shorebirds during their peak in migration and passerines that are beginning their southerly migration. Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Prepare for mosquitoes and ticks. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Ages: Adults and kids 8+ with adult chaperone. *Meeting location:* Belle Isle Reservation main entrance parking lot: 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

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

Saturday, September 2

Oxbow NWR, Harvard

7:30 am–10:30 am

We will walk about three miles on easy, leveled dirt paths while searching for migrant and late-breeding songbirds. We will also look for late-blooming wildflowers such as closed gentian with its unique deep blue-purple flowers. Rain cancels walk. *Meeting location:* Parking lot near the refuge gate at the end of Still River Depot Road (off Route 110).

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

Saturday, September 9

Plum Island

9:00 am–1:00 pm

Beginners and those with limited mobility welcome.

There is an entrance fee for Parker River NWR. *Meeting location:* District Courthouse parking lot, Route 1 traffic circle.

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



Tuesday, September 12

Plum Island

7:00 am–11:00 am

We will be looking for shorebirds and fall migrants. We will drive and walk to various places on the Refuge. Note that an entrance fee or pass is required. Restrooms available. *Meeting location:* Parker River NWR parking lot #1.

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

Wednesday, September 13

Charles River Esplanade, Boston

7:30 am–9:00 am

We will walk along the Charles River Esplanade from the Longfellow Bridge upriver looking for birds on both land and water. We hope to see a range of fall migrants as well as year-round resident species. Cosponsored with the Charles River Esplanade Association. *Meeting location:* Preregister on the Esplanade Association's website. Meeting place and other details provided upon registration. Go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/guided-bird-tours-on-the-esplanade-tickets-529385826257>

Trip leader: Gino Ellison, (781) 334-3352
TBM2126@outlook.com

Wednesday, September 13

Slow Birding Revere Beach

7:30 am–8:45 am



Discover how you can enliven and enrich your experience of nature by slowly and carefully observing the fine aesthetic details and behavior of birds that may include shorebirds and gulls. During the last half hour of this program, you will have the option to leave early or to participate in accompanying guided mindfulness practices. Be prepared for sitting, standing, and walking short distances. Bring a chair. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Parking restrictions are strictly enforced—contact leader for more information. MBTA accessible. Ages: Adults and kids 8+ with adult chaperone. *Meeting location:* Revere Beach Reservation, on the beach across from 21 Revere Beach Boulevard, Revere, MA

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

Saturday, September 16

Belle Isle Marsh Reservation and Vicinity

7:30 am–8:30 am

Led by DCR staff. We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for shorebirds during their peak in migration and passerines that are beginning their southerly migration. Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Prepare for mosquitoes and ticks. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Ages: Adults and kids 8+ with adult chaperone. *Meeting location:* Belle Isle Reservation main entrance parking lot: 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

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

Matthew.Nash@mass.gov

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

Sunday, September 17

Bolton Flats WMA, Lancaster

7:00 am–10:00 am

This walk will focus on fall migrant landbirds such as warblers and sparrows and any other birds that we may discover. The leveled dirt trail is about two miles long and is usually dry, but there may be a few large puddles to negotiate necessitating waterproof boots. Rain cancels walk. *Meeting location:* 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). Note: The entrance is dirt and the parking area is not visible from the road.

Trip leader: Jonathan Center, (978) 866-7391

jbcenter@verizon.net

Sunday, September 17

Plum Island

8:00 am–12:00 pm

We will drive and carpool down the Parker River NWR in search of shorebirds and fall migrants. Cosponsored with the Cape Cod Bird Club. Note that an entrance fee or pass is required. Restrooms available. *Meeting location:* Parker River NWR parking lot #1.

Trip leader: Neil Hayward, (617) 717-9969
neil.hayward@gmail.com

Sunday, September 17

Halibut Point State Park, Rockport

8:00 am–10:00 am

Beginners encouraged. A two-hour walk over easy-to-moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. Cosponsored by DCR. *Meeting*

location: Halibut Point State Park parking lot. Follow the Route 128 North signs through two traffic circles to the Route 127 intersection. Turn left onto Route 127 North (Eastern Avenue) toward Rockport, 3 miles. At the 5-way intersection, turn left to stay on Route 127 North (toward Pigeon Cove, Annisquam) and follow for 2.4 miles. Turn right onto Gott Avenue. Turn right into the state park's parking lot. Trustee members park free in season. On CATA's Lanesville bus route from Rockport Station.



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

Saturday, September 23

Fruitlands Museum, Harvard

7:00 am–9:30 am

We will look for warblers, thrushes, sparrows, and raptors, among many other birds. Expect to walk about two miles on trails through meadow and woods, with some steep sections. *Meeting location:* Top parking lot at Fruitlands Museum, 102 Prospect Hill Road, Harvard.

For directions, see <http://www.fruitlands.org/visit>

Trip leaders: Rita Grossman, (978) 264-4077

rgibesgrossman@gmail.com

Sandy Oxley, (978) 270-1057

cassandra.oxley@gmail.com

Saturday, September 23

Autumnal Equinox Walk

8:00 am–5:00 pm

Celebrate the beginning of the fall season by birding favorite patches, locally and beyond. *Meeting location:* Contact leader for details. Call or email no later than September 23.

Trip leader: Laura de la Flor, (978) 741-0897

anhinga3@comcast.net

Sunday, September 24

Delaney WMA, Stow

7:00 am–12:00 pm

We will spend the morning walking three to four miles through fields, forests, and wetlands looking for post-nesting birds and early migrants. Contact leader the night before in case of rain prediction. No restrooms are available. Bring sunscreen and insect repellent. *Meeting location:* Boat launch parking lot off Harvard Road in Stow.

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

Wednesday, September 27

Charles River Esplanade, Boston

7:30 am–9:00 am

We will walk along the Charles River Esplanade from the Longfellow Bridge upriver looking for birds on both land and water. We hope to see a range of fall migrants as well as year-round resident species. Cosponsored with the Charles River Esplanade Association. *Meeting location:* Preregister on the Esplanade Association's website. Meeting place and other details provided upon registration. Go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/guided-bird-tours-on-the-esplanade-tickets-529385826257>

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

Saturday, September 30

Fresh Pond, Cambridge

7:00 am–9:00 am



A two-mile walk on (mostly) paved paths around the pond. In addition to the “usual suspects,” we are likely to see some of the fall warblers, plus possibly a few of the “weird ducks” that have started to arrive. *Meeting location:* TD Bank parking lot at Fresh Pond Circle, Concord Avenue, at Fresh Pond Parkway, Cambridge. Public transportation: MBTA #78 bus to Fresh Pond (Concord Avenue at Wheeler Street) or the Alewife Red Line T station (15-minute walk to our rendezvous). Limited metered street parking; nearby commercial lots are not heavily patrolled in the early morning, and you may choose to park at your (small) risk there.

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

Saturday, September 30

Long Lake Park, Littleton

7:00 am–10:00 am

Long Lake Park is a 180-acre parcel of Littleton conservation land. It hosts a variety of woodland and grassland habitats as well as undeveloped shoreline. We will walk about two miles of wooded trails and meadows looking for fall migrants and year-round residents. No restroom facilities. *Meeting location:* The intersection of Harwood Avenue and Newtown Road. A sign saying “Long Lake Park Conservation Land” indicates parking area.

Trip leader: Greg Clark, (978) 501-7021
gclark2000hi@gmail.com

Saturday, September 30

First Encounter Beach, Eastham

8:00 am–TBD

We will walk along the marsh trail bordered by the Herring River to observe shorebirds, herons, egrets, gulls, and terns gathering in numbers to forage on the outgoing tide. We will also encounter other species, including a variety of passerines and raptors. You may want to wear beach sandals or boots. Low tide is at about 6:42 am. The length of the trip will depend on what we find and if anyone is interested in visiting other local hotspots. Cosponsored with Cape Cod Bird Club. *Meeting location:* Follow Samoset Road to the farthest parking area.

Trip leaders: Peter Fang, fangmail@comcast.net
Gloria Smith, glofang@comcast.net

Saturday, September 30

Ricci Field Conservation Land, Lincoln

4:00 pm–6:00 pm

This is often a great place for fall sparrows including Savannah, Field, White-crowned and Lincoln's as well as other migrants and raptors. This will be a two-mile walk. A scope may be helpful if you are comfortable carrying one. *Meeting location:* Minute Man National Historic Park (NHP), Hartwell Tavern lot, 112 North Great Road, Lincoln, MA

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

Sunday, October 1

Allens Pond, Dartmouth

8:30 am–11:00 am

We will be birding the Beach Loop, Quansett Trail, and Allen's Neck Trails of Allen's Pond Wildlife Sanctuary in search of migrant passerines in the thickets and ocean and marsh birds. Can be combined with Gooseberry Neck. *Meeting location:* Beach lot is at the corner of East Beach Road and Horseneck Road.

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

Thursday, October 5

Great Meadows NWR, Concord

8:00 am–11:00 am

We will walk easy trails looking for birds. This is a good time for raptors. Beginners welcome. Note that entrance

fee or pass is required. *Meeting location:* Visitor parking lot off Monson Road in Concord. (Do not use GPS to find "Great Meadows" as this may take you to a different location.)

Trip leader: Clayton Swanson, (978) 395-7877
cas-swansong@comcast.net



Saturday, October 7

Outer Cape Cod

6:00 am–5:00 pm

All Day. This trip should record close to 100 species covering Canada Goose through House Sparrow,

though both may be missed. Cosponsored with South Shore Bird Club. *Meeting location:* Bourne commuter lot adjacent to McDonald's at intersection of Routes 3 and 6. Take Scusset Beach Road exit.

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

Saturday, October 7

Big Sit at Hellcat Tower, Plum Island

6:30 am–6:30 pm

Feel free to join at any time during the day for any length of time. *Meeting location:* Tower on Hellcat Dike near Parker River NWR parking lot #4.

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

Saturday, October 7

Belle Isle Marsh Reservation and Vicinity

7:30 am–8:30 am

Led by DCR staff. We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for raptors, native sparrows, finches, herons and egrets. Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Prepare for mosquitoes and ticks. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Ages: Adults and kids 8+ with adult chaperone. *Meeting location:* Belle Isle Reservation main entrance parking lot: 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

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

Saturday, October 7

Great Meadows NWR, Concord

8:00 am–11:00 am

Join us as we walk on easy paths around the refuge impoundments in hopes of finding fall migrants such as waterfowl, raptors, shorebirds, and sparrows. Note that entrance fee or pass is required. *Meeting location:* Visitor parking lot off Monson Road in Concord. (Do not use GPS to find “Great Meadows” as this may take you to a different location.)



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

Sunday, October 8

Big Sit at Gooseberry Neck

6:30 am–6:30 pm

Feel free to join at any time during the day for any length of time. *Meeting location:* Parking lot at base of Gooseberry Neck in Westport.

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

Sunday, October 8

King's Beach, Swampscott/Lynn

11:00 am–12:00 pm

Let's take a look at gulls! Gulls take three to four years to reach adult plumage. And in each year there is a winter and a summer plumage. This means we get to see six to eight different versions of each species. And THAT is what makes gulls so much fun to identify! Free on-street parking. One-mile walk on sidewalk and sand. All skill levels welcome. Binoculars available. Smiles required. *Meeting location:* Meet at the corner of Eastern Avenue and Lynn Shore Drive, across the street from 3 Lynn Shore Drive.

Trip leader: Shilo McDonald, (617) 513-6284
ShiloCM@yahoo.com

Tuesday, October 10

Plum Island

7:30 am–11:00 am

We will be walking the North Pool dike as well as visiting other spots. Note that an entrance fee or pass is required. Restrooms available. *Meeting location:* Parker River NWR parking lot #1.

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

Saturday, October 14

Fresh Pond, Cambridge

7:00 am–9:00 am



A two-mile walk on (mostly) paved paths around the pond. In addition to the “usual suspects,” we are likely to see some of the fall warblers, plus possibly a few of the “weird ducks” that have started to arrive. *Meeting location:* TD Bank parking lot at Fresh Pond Circle, Concord Avenue, at Fresh Pond Parkway, Cambridge. Public transportation: MBTA #78 bus to Fresh Pond (Concord Avenue at Wheeler Street) or the Alewife Red Line T station (15-minute walk to our rendezvous). Limited metered street parking; nearby commercial lots are not heavily patrolled in the early morning, and you may choose to park at your (small) risk there.

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

Saturday, October 14

Birding Sketchcrawl — Fall Series

8:00 am–12:00 pm

Come and bird/sketch favorite patches around Essex and Middlesex Counties. *Meeting location:* Contact leader for details. Call or email no later than October 13.

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

Saturday, October 14

Nahanton Park, Newton, and other nearby locations

8:00 am–12:00 pm

We will search for sparrows and other fall migrants at Nahanton Park and another possible location to be determined nearer the date of the trip. *Meeting location:* Nahanton Park parking area off Winchester Street, Newton, one-quarter mile north of the junction with Nahanton Street.

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

Sunday, October 15

Arlington Reservoir

7:30 am–9:30 am

Water levels at the Arlington Reservoir are reduced in the fall creating good conditions for ducks. We will also visit the adjacent Lexington community farm. Birds are found feasting on the remains of the crops planted here. We will walk about a mile on wide paths and on some uneven ground (possibly muddy). Note that the reservoir area is a public park and people walk dogs here frequently. Cosponsored with Menotomy Bird Club. *Meeting location:* Meet in the parking lot off Lowell Street in Arlington, directly across from Westmoreland Avenue.

Trip leader: John Edmondson, (781) 859-9450
johnhedmondson@gmail.com



Sunday, October 15

Halibut Point State Park, Rockport

8:00 am–10:00 am

Beginners encouraged. A

two-hour walk over easy-to-moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties.

Boots advisable. Cosponsored by DCR.

Meeting location: Halibut Point State Park parking lot. Follow the Route 128 North signs through two traffic circles to the Route 127 intersection. Turn left onto Route 127 North (Eastern Avenue) toward Rockport, 3 miles. At the 5-way intersection, turn left to stay on Route 127 North (toward Pigeon Cove, Annisquam) and follow for 2.4 miles. Turn right onto Gott Avenue. Turn right into the state park's parking lot. Trustee members park free in season. On CATAs Lanesville bus route from Rockport Station.



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

Saturday, October 21

Belle Isle Marsh Reservation and Vicinity

7:30 am–8:30 am

Led by DCR staff. We will search on foot up to one mile, on flat, easy terrain for raptors, native sparrows, finches, herons and egrets. Expect to move to different locations by car or bicycle. Prepare for mosquitoes and ticks. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities available upon request. Ages: Adults and kids 8+ with adult chaperone.

Meeting location: Belle Isle Reservation main entrance parking lot: 1399 Bennington Street, East Boston.

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

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

Saturday, October 21

Fruitlands Museum, Harvard

7:30 am–9:30 am

We will look for fall migrants and resident birds. Expect to walk about two miles on trails through meadow and woods, with some steep sections.

Meeting location: Top parking lot at Fruitlands Museum, 102 Prospect Hill Road, Harvard. For directions, see <http://www.fruitlands.org/visit>

Trip leaders: Sandy Oxley, (978) 270-1057
cassandra.oxley@gmail.com

Rita Grossman, (978) 264-4077
rgibesgrossman@gmail.com

Saturday, October 21

Boston Nature Center, Mattapan

8:00 am–12:00 pm

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. Cosponsored with the Boston Nature Center.

Meeting location: Visitor's Center, 500 Walk Hill Street, Mattapan.

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

Saturday, October 21

Cold Spring Park, Newton

8:00 am–11:00 am

An easy walk on flat trails. We will look for fall migrants and resident birds. Cosponsored with the Newton Conservators.



Meeting location: End of the left side of Beacon Street Parking lot.

Trip leader: Leslie Kramer
lkramer@brooklinebirdclub.org

Sunday, October 22

Fresh Pond, Cambridge

7:00 am–10:00 am

This is roughly a two mile-walk on a level, paved path around the pond. *Meeting location:* TD Bank parking lot at Fresh Pond Circle, Concord Avenue at Fresh Pond Parkway, Cambridge.

Trip leader: Gino Ellison, (781) 334-3352
TMB2126@outlook.com

Sunday, October 29

Westborough WMA in Two Parts

7:30 am–1:00 pm

Part One: 7:30 am –10:15 am

Part Two: 10:30 am –1:00 pm.

We will hike at a slow pace through mild, moderate trails in search of sparrows and other migrants.

For the **first part** we will hike the eastern trails between Lake Chauncy and Little Chauncy (about three miles).

For the **second part** we start from the same meeting location . From there we will go over to the MassWildlife Field Headquarters and hike the western trails (about 2 miles). Join for either or both parts. *Meeting location:* Westborough Town Beach parking lot, Lyman Street, Westborough.

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

ONLINE STORE

We have apparel offerings on our website. Visit brooklinebirdclub.qbstores.com for our new microfiber screen cleaning cloth in pouch with key chain, hats, outerwear, shirts, and more.

MEMBER DISCOUNT

Bird Watcher's Supply and Gift in Newburyport offers current BBC members a ten percent discount on all books and ABA guides, as well as substantial discounts on binoculars, spotting scopes, and tripods. Bring a copy of this book to receive a discount.

WE'RE ON INSTAGRAM

We encourage Instagram users to visit the BBC Instagram page to view photos and posts. Find our Instagram account using this name: the brookline bird club. We welcome members to join in by submitting your photos!

You may send your photos with captions or any questions to either Leslie Kramer: lkramer@brooklinebirdclub.org or Mark Price: markjprice2005@gmail.com.

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Visit brooklinebirdclub.org for information on club activities and additional bird trips in MA and beyond.

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

Visit ebird.org/subnational1/US-MA to find birds and hotspots in Massachusetts, report sightings, submit checklists, and sign up for Massachusetts Rare Bird Alerts.

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



Bird Observer is a New England-based journal for birders featuring articles on birding locations, avian populations, and natural history, as well as book reviews, field notes, photographs, artwork, and more.

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Editor's Note

We have changed the standard paper for this edition due to its unavailability at the time we went to press.

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BROOKLINE BIRD CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM — Join for 2023!

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 _____

Email _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Is this a new membership? Yes (Includes free BBC window decal)

Amount Enclosed _____

2023 Annual Dues (\$20 individual; \$30 family; \$10 Youth) _____

Lifetime Membership (\$350/person; includes a BBC lens cloth) _____

Gift (tax deductible) _____

Bill Drummond Young Birder Scholarship (tax deductible) _____

Book Fund (tax deductible) _____

BBC lens cloth (\$5.00 + \$5.00 shipping fee per order) _____

Opt out of

or BBC window decal (\$1.00 + SASE) _____

printed

Bulletin? _____

Total: _____