

Brookline Bird Club Bulletin

November 1, 2018-March 31, 2019



brooklinebirdclub.org

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We want to hear from you!

Addressing ideas and issues that are important to club members is our top priority. The Board meets three times a year—winter, spring, and fall—to discuss club-related items. Members are encouraged to reach out to corporate and club officers and directors with thoughts and suggestions. You can also send an email to webmaster@brooklinebirdclub.org.

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Dear Members,

After the colors change, Massachusetts transforms into a winter wonderland full of interesting birds. Regulars persist through blankets of snow, while new birds arrive from the barren north. We hope you'll enjoy and explore the winter avifauna with the Brookline Bird Club.

If you're not a member yet, I encourage you to join us. As one of North America's oldest bird clubs, with trips every week of the year, we can help you find birds in New England. And even at 116 years old, we're still finding new places to bird. For example, this past spring, we discovered Boston's McLaughlin Woods, thanks to leader Sebastian Jones, which proved a fabulous urban refueling stop for spring migrants.

Check out our limited mobility and Birding 101 trips and be on the lookout for new trips, including outings for young birders, in the near future.

I'd like to say a big thank you to longtime blue book editor Sylvia Martin, who recently retired from the position, and welcome Jennifer Novak as our new editor. We're also sad to say goodbye to secretary Jonathan Center—and grateful to outgoing president Dave Williams for stepping into the role. Other new faces on the Board include Will Freedberg, David Scott, and Eric Swanzey. We're always looking for new Board and committee members. If you're interested in contributing your skills to the club, please let us know.

May you have a winter filled with alcids, migrant finches, wandering Bohemians, and maybe a wild goose chase or two.

Good birding!

Neil Hayward
President

UPCOMING EVENTS

Members Night

Saturday, February 2, 2019*

Bedford Middle School

99 McMahan Road, Bedford

7:30 p.m. (light refreshments at 6:30 p.m.)

We're excited to bring back our ever popular Members' Night! Join fellow BBC members to swap stories about recent birding trips and enjoy artwork, photography, and writing by club members. If you would like to present, contact Neil Hayward (neil.hayward@gmail.com).

*Snow date: February 16.

Noah Strycker

Thursday, April 11, 2019

Harvard University Geological Lecture Hall

24 Oxford Street, Cambridge

7:30 p.m. (light refreshments at 6:30 p.m.)

In 2015, Noah became the first person to see over half of the planet's bird species in a single year. Anything could have happened, and a lot did. He was scourged by blood-sucking leeches, suffered fevers and "Delhi Belly," skirted war zones, and had the time of his life. Birding on seven continents and carrying only a small backpack, Noah enlisted the enthusiastic support of local birders to tick more than 6,000 species, including Chinstrap Penguins in Antarctica, a Harpy Eagle in Brazil, and a long-lost owl in New Guinea. Rather than listing every last sighting, this entertaining presentation covers his funniest, weirdest, and most inspiring stories, as much about people as birds.

BIRD CONSERVATION

The BBC encourages a commitment to bird conservation and participation in activities and organizations that promote conservation through collection of data, monitoring of populations, preservation of habitat, protection of at-risk species, political action, and education. Visit our website for a list of conservation activities, resources, and organizations for birders.

In 2017, the club donated \$250 to both The Bobolink Project and Mass Audubon's Snowy Owl Project. These donations were made possible by our members.

The Bobolink Project uses donated funds to provide financial assistance to participating farmers who modify their mowing schedules so that grassland nesting birds can successfully raise their young.

The Snowy Owl Project attaches bands and transmitters to Snowy Owls at Boston Logan International Airport and tracks their travels. The project is part of Project Snowstorm, a collaboration between scientists and organizations to study the ecology of wintering Snowy Owls.

SUPPORT WILDLIFE AT TAX TIME

For over 25 years, the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) has been responsible for conserving and protecting hundreds of species that are not hunted, fished, trapped, or commercially harvested in Massachusetts. Its highest priority is protecting the 442 species of animals and native plants that are officially listed as Endangered, Threatened, or of Special Concern in the state.

Unfortunately, the program was removed from the state's operating budget in 2004, and has since been funded by project-specific bond monies, fees, federal grants, voluntary contributions, and voluntary donations on state income tax forms.

Please consider making a voluntary contribution to "Endangered Wildlife Conserve" on your state income tax form. Visit the NHESP website for more information: mass.gov/eea/agencies/dfg/dfw/natural-heritage.

SUPPORT WILDLIFE REFUGES WITH DUCK STAMPS

One of the easiest ways you can support bird habitat conservation is by buying Federal Duck Stamps, which are among the most successful conservation tools ever created to protect habitat for birds and other wildlife. We have 26 cherished refuges in New England alone.

The 2018-2019 Federal Duck Stamp, featuring a pair of mallards by artist Bob Hautman of Delano, Minnesota, costs \$25. Ninety-eight percent of the purchase price goes directly towards acquiring and protecting wetland habitat and purchasing conservation easements.

Duck stamps are available for purchase through the BBC. We also have Brookline Bird Club Duck Stamp holders and key chains available for sale. Visit our website for more details.

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 our website, or by filling out the form on the back cover of this bulletin.

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

MEMBER'S DISCOUNT

Bird Watcher's Supply & Gift in Newburyport offers current BBC members a 10% discount on all books and ABA guides, as well as substantial discounts on binoculars, spotting scopes, and tripods. Bring your membership card or a current issue of the bulletin to receive a discount.

BBC MERCHANDISE

Brookline Bird Club pins, window decals, Duck Stamp holders, and key chains are now available for purchase. For more information, please contact membership secretary Judith Hepburn (rosyfinchjrh@gmail.com).

PROGRAM OF TRIPS

November 1, 2018-March 31, 2019

This list includes limited participation trips not available on our website. All trips free of charge unless otherwise indicated. In instances of severe winter weather, please contact the trip leader for a status update.

Saturday, November 3

Plum Island and Vicinity

8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

In addition to visiting Plum Island, we may also visit Newbury (including Little's Lane), Salisbury, and other nearby areas for late fall migrants and hopefully a vagrant or two. Meeting location: Parker River National Wildlife Refuge Visitors Center, 6 Plum Island Turnpike.

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

Sunday, November 4

Lakes of Wakefield and Lynnfield

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Meeting location: Behind the Lakeside Inn on North Avenue in Wakefield.

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

Sunday, November 4

Mount Auburn Cemetery

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Early November is a great time of year for finding fall lingerers, winter arrivals, and often a surprise or two. Meeting location: Inside front gate on Mount Auburn Street, Watertown.

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

Sunday, November 4

New Hampshire Coast

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

We will look for winter ducks, alcids, gulls, Snowy Owls, and other late fall migrants. Meeting location: McDonald's parking lot at 710 Lafayette Road (Route 1) in Seabrook, just north of the MA/NH border.

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

Saturday, November 10

Essex to Plum Island

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Meeting location: Intersection of
Island Road and Route 133 in Essex.

Trip leader: Ida Giriunas, 781-929-8772,
ida8@verizon.net.



Monday, November 12

Plum Island and Vicinity

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Meeting location: District Courthouse parking lot,
Route 1 traffic circle, Newburyport.

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

Saturday, November 17

Newburyport and Vicinity

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Meeting location: Municipal parking lot West on Water
Street, at the intersection of Merrimac Street and
Green Street, Newburyport.

Trip leader: Bob Petersen, 617-492-0454,
robert.petersen@childrens.harvard.edu.

Sunday, November 18

Halibut Point State Park

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

A two-hour walk over easy to moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. Meeting location: Parking lot across from park entrance on Gott Avenue, Rockport.

Trip leader: Peter Van Demark, 978-546-2402, peter@caliper.com.



Wednesday, November 21

Great Meadows NWR, Concord Unit

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

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

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



Saturday, November 24

Leader's Choice: South of Boston

The trip leader will monitor recent sightings prior to meeting and select the birdiest spots. Contact leader after November 17th for details on the meeting time and location. Co-sponsored by the South Shore Bird Club.

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

Saturday, December 1

Cape Ann

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

We will search for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy weather. Meeting location: Fisherman's Monument on Western Avenue, Gloucester.

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



Sunday, December 2

Dunback Meadow

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

We will look for wintering birds, including raptors. We may travel to nearby areas in Waltham, Lexington, and Belmont depending on recent sightings. Meeting location: Allen Street entrance, Lexington.

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

Saturday, December 8

Cape Ann

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

We will search for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy weather. Meeting location: Fisherman's Monument on Western Avenue, Gloucester.

Trip leader: Bob Petersen, 617-492-0454,
robert.petersen@childrens.harvard.edu.

Sunday, December 9

Boston Emerald Necklace

9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

We will search for waterfowl and other winter species on the ponds and in the adjacent woods. Meeting location: Parking lot for Daisy Field, between Pond Avenue and the Jamaica way. Co-sponsored by the

National Park Service/Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site, the Brookline Greenspace Alliance, and the Emerald Necklace Bird Club.

Trip leader: Bob Mayer, 617-522-0157,
rgmaye38@gmail.com.

Sunday, December 9

Plum Island

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Meeting location: Parking lot #1, Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, Plum Island.

Trip leader: Zack Weber,
birdingwithzackweber@gmail.com.

Thursday, December 13

Cape Ann

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Join us for a midweek hunt for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy weather. We will meet for lunch in Gloucester after birding. Meeting location: Parking lot across from park entrance on Gott Avenue, Rockport.

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

Saturday, December 29

Cape Ann

8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

We will search for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy weather. Meeting location: Fisherman's Monument on Western Avenue, Gloucester.

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

Tuesday, January 1

Newburyport and Vicinity

9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Join us for our annual New Year's Day birding trip! We may also venture on to Cape Ann. Meeting location: Newburyport Train Station parking lot on the west side of the tracks (where Metzzy's Cantina is located), 25 Boston Way, Newburyport.

Trip leaders: Laura de la Flor, 978-741-0897, anhinga3@comcast.net and Mark Burns, 978-741-0897, stormtracker16@comcast.net.

Wednesday, January 2

Cape Ann

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Join us for a midweek hunt for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy weather. We will meet for lunch in Gloucester after birding. Meeting location: Parking lot across from park entrance on Gott Avenue, Rockport.

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

What is Birding 101?

Birding 101 trips are geared toward new and young birders. Trip leaders focus on birding basics, including identifying birds in the field. While these trips are open to all, they are ideal for beginners, or those with non-birding friends who want to see what all of the fuss is about! If you have a suggestion for a good spot for a 101 trip, please contact field trip coordinator Pete Gilmore (petegilmore79@gmail.com).



Saturday, January 5

Cape Ann

8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

We will search for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy weather. Meeting location: Fisherman's Monument on Western Avenue, Gloucester.

Trip leaders: John Nelson, 978-283-6128, jnelson@northshore.edu and Susan Hedman, 978-281-1121, 2winterwren@gmail.com.

Sunday, January 6

Arnold Arboretum

9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

Start your 2019 year list with this easy 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. Meeting location: Inside the main gate (parking available along the Arborway), Jamaica Plain.

Trip leader: Bob Mayer, 617-522-0157, rgmaye38@gmail.com.

Sunday, January 10

Newburyport and Vicinity

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Meeting location: Newburyport District Court House, Route 1 traffic circle.

Trip leader: Sabrina Hepburn, 781-296-2493, shepburn@brooklinebirdclub.org.

Sunday, January 13

Birds Along the Merrimack River— Newburyport to Salisbury

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Eagles and Owls! We will carpool and search primarily for Bald Eagles along the Merrimack River and Snowy and Short-Eared Owls on Plum Island or in Salisbury. We will also look for wintering ducks, gulls, and finches. Meeting location: Bird Watchers Supply & Gift, Route 1 traffic circle, Newburyport.

Trip leader: Steve Grinley, 978-462-0775,
birdwsg@comcast.net.



Sunday, January 20

Halibut Point State Park

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

A two-hour walk over easy to moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. Meeting location: Parking lot across from park entrance on Gott Avenue, Rockport.

Trip leader: Peter Van Demark, 978-546-2402,
peter@caliper.com.



Sunday, January 20

Newburyport and Vicinity

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

We will visit Salisbury State Park, the Merrimack River, and Plum Island. Meeting location: District Courthouse parking lot, Route 1 traffic circle, Newburyport.

Trip leaders: Dave Williams, 781-439-7187,
dave.williams6@gmail.com and Mark Nelson, 781-258-
6421, rncmnelson@msn.com.

Saturday, January 26

Belle Isle Marsh Reservation

8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

We'll look for winter waterfowl, raptors, and other species. Meeting location: Entrance to Belle Isle Marsh Reservation on Bennington Street in East Boston.

MBTA: Take the blue line to the Suffolk Downs stop, cross Bennington Street, and go left.

Trip leader: Sylvia Martin: 857-756-7981,
smartin@brooklinebirdclub.org.

Saturday, January 26

Cape Ann

8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

We will search for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy weather. Meeting location: Fisherman's Monument on Western Avenue, Gloucester.

Trip leader: Linda Ferraresso, 978-498-4352,
tattler1@comcast.net.

Saturday, January 26

Dunback Meadow

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

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

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

Sunday, January 27

Mount Auburn Cemetery

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

A peaceful winter walk in Mount Auburn is always a pleasure, and you never know what might see.

Sapsuckers and Red-breasted Nuthatches are regulars.

Meeting location: Inside the front gate on Mount Auburn Street, Watertown.

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

Sunday, January 27

Newburyport and Vicinity

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Meeting location: Municipal parking lot on Merrimack Street.

Trip leader: Naeem Yusuff, 617-308-2588,
naeem.yusuff@yahoo.com.

Saturday, February 2

Birding Sketchcrawl

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Come and bird/sketch in locations around Essex County. All artistic levels welcome. Bring your own sketching materials and other creature comforts.

Contact trip leader for details on meeting location.

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

Wednesday, February 6

Cape Ann

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Join us for a midweek hunt for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy weather. We will meet for lunch in Gloucester after birding. Meeting location: Parking lot across from park entrance on Gott Avenue, Rockport.

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

Sunday, February 10

Scituate to Plymouth

7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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

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

Saturday, February 16

Waterfowl Prowl

7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

We will visit the ponds, marshes, bays, and backwaters of the Upper and Lower Cape, as well as other areas, in our search for 25+ species of ducks, as well as loons, grebes, swans, and geese. Meeting location: Sagamore park-and-ride lot on Canal Road in the parking lot closest to Friendly's, Bourne. Trip will be canceled in the event of rain.

Trip leader: Eddie Giles, 508-378-3370,
egiles@brooklinebirdclub.org.

Sunday, February 17

Birds Along the Merrimack River— Newburyport to Salisbury

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Eagles & Owls! We will carpool and search primarily for Bald Eagles along the Merrimack River and Snowy and Short-Eared Owls on Plum Island or in Salisbury. We will also look for wintering ducks, gulls, and winter finches. Meeting location: Bird Watchers Supply & Gift, Route 1 traffic circle, Newburyport.

Trip leader: Steve Grinley, 978-462-0775,
birdwsg@comcast.net.



Sunday, February 17

Halibut Point State Park

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

A two-hour walk over easy to moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. Meeting location: Parking lot across from park entrance on Gott Avenue, Rockport.

Trip leader: Peter Van Demark, 978-546-2402,
peter@caliper.com.



Monday, February 18

Cape Ann

8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

We will search for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy weather. Meeting location: Fisherman's Monument on Western Avenue, Gloucester.

Trip leaders: Dave Williams, 781-439-7187,
dave.williams6@gmail.com and Mark Nelson, 781-258-6421,
mnelson@brooklinebirdclub.org.

Monday, February 18

Ipswich and Vicinity

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

We will search for waterfowl, raptors, and wintering boreal songbirds. Carpooling from the meeting location will be essential. Meeting location: Former Town Hall parking lot next to the war memorial in downtown Ipswich on Route 1A/133, 100 yards south of Choate Bridge. Co-sponsored by the Essex County Ornithological Club.

Trip leader: Jim Berry 978-356-5505,
jim.berry3@verizon.net.



Sunday, February 24

Cape Ann

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

We will search for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Meeting location: Fisherman's Monument on Western Avenue, Gloucester.

Trip leader: Linda Ferrarresso, 978-498-4352,
tattler1@comcast.net.

Saturday, March 2

Cohasset to Marshfield

8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

We will focus on waterfowl and seabirds as we work our way down the coast, driving from spot to spot with little walking. Meeting location: Entrance to Wheelwright Park, North Main Street, Cohasset.

Trip leader: Sylvia Martin, (857) 756-7981,
smartin@brooklinebirdclub.org.



Wednesday, March 6

Cape Ann

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Join us for a midweek hunt for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy weather. We will meet for lunch in Gloucester after birding. Meeting location: Parking lot across from park entrance on Gott Avenue, Rockport.

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

Saturday, March 9

Dunback Meadow

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

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

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

Sunday, March 17

Halibut Point State Park

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

A two-hour walk over easy to moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. Meeting location: Parking lot across from park entrance on Gott Avenue, Rockport.

Trip leader: Peter Van Demark, 978-546-2402,
peter@caliper.com.



Sunday, March 17

Plum Island

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Meeting location: Parking lot #1, Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, Plum Island.

Trip leader: Ida Giriunas, 781-929-8772,
ida8@verizon.net.



Wednesday, March 20

Woodcock Walk at Nahanton Park

7:00 p.m. to 8:20 p.m.

Join us at sunset to witness the sights and sounds of the mating sky dance of the Woodcock. Activity should begin around 7:15 p.m. and last for about an hour. Flashlight recommended; no dogs allowed. Call trip leader if there is rain or snow cover. Meeting location: Nature Center lot off Nahanton Street, just east of the Charles River. We will begin by the two benches on the north end of Woodcock Meadow and move into the meadow once calling begins.

Trip leader: Judy Hepburn, 617-964-1137,
judith.r.hepburn@gmail.com.



Saturday, March 23

Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge

7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

We will look for early migrants, waterfowl, and waders. Conditions may be wet; boots advised. Meeting location: Refuge parking lot off Mosen Road, Concord.

Trip leader: Sylvia Martin, 857-756-7981,
smartin@brooklinebirdclub.org.



Saturday, March 23

Newburyport and Vicinity

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

We will visit Plum Island, areas along the Merrimack River, and West Newbury in pursuit of early migrants. Meeting location: Parker River National Wildlife Refuge Visitors Center, 6 Plum Island Turnpike.

Trip leader: Jonathan Center, 978-866-7391,
jbccenter@verizon.net.

Saturday, March 23

Leader's Choice: Vernal Equinox Walk

The trip leader will monitor recent sightings prior to meeting and select the birdiest spots. Contact leader by March 22 for details on the meeting time and location.

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

Sunday, March 24

Woodcocks at Alewife

7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

We will search the northwest corner of Cambridge in hopes of seeing, or at least hearing, the Woodcock's mating display, a traditional New England rite of spring. Meeting location: Just outside the Russell Field Alewife exit (not the larger, busier Alewife exits near the buses).

Trip leader: Zack Weber,
birdingwithzackweber@gmail.com.

Saturday, March 30

Blue Hills Reservation

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

We will take several short, one-mile hikes (the first is rather steep) to look for Turkey Vultures, Pileated Woodpeckers, Eastern Bluebirds, and just-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.

Saturday, March 30

Woodcock Walk at Blue Hills Reservation

6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

We will visit Fowl Meadow in hopes of seeing, or at least hearing, the Woodcock's mating display, a traditional New England rite of spring. To reach the meadow, 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.

Four-day Trip to Downeast Maine

Thursday, July 4-Sunday, July 7, 2019

\$185 for BBC members; \$205 for nonmembers

Limited to 15 participants

Join us as we charter a boat to Machias Seal Island to look for nesting Atlantic puffins, Razorbills, Common Murres, and Arctic terns and explore numerous locations in scenic Washington County for boreal species such as Spruce Grouse, Boreal Chickadee, Gray Jay, Black-Backed Woodpeckers, Crossbills, Olive-sided Flycatchers, and nesting warblers. We will also bird marshes for nesting Black Terns and Nelson's and Saltmarsh sparrows and search for Upland Sandpipers in the area's extensive blueberry barrens.

This trip fills quickly, so contact trip organizer Ida Giriunas (781-929-8772, ida8@verizon.net) to sign up ASAP.

NOTES TO TRIP PARTICIPANTS

There are over 1000 members of the Brookline Bird Club (BBC). Membership is open to all who are interested in birds and nature. A membership form can be found at the end of this bulletin, or you can join online: brooklinebirdclub.org/membership.

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 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.

You may want to pack a lunch on all-day trips. Please inform the trip leader if you need to leave early. Try to carpool whenever possible. Carpooling save costs and fuel and allows the leader to take groups to locations with limited access.

NOTES TO TRIP LEADERS

If you are unable to lead a trip you are scheduled to lead, you are responsible for finding a substitute. We encourage you to use your personal network to find a substitute who is familiar with the area where the trip is taking place.

If you must cancel due to weather or an emergency, be sure to post to massbird@theworld.com and email Neil Hayward (neil.hayward@gmail.com), who will update our website.

The minimum time for cancellations is 24 hours before the start time of the trip. If you know you must cancel a trip further in advance, email Massbird and Neil Hayward 3-4 days prior to the trip date.

Trip reports are an important part of promoting and documenting BBC trips. Leaders should complete a checklist (written or on eBird) and send it to club statistician Sabrina Hepburn (shepburn@brooklinebird-club.org).

If you record a rarity or a write-in on the Mass Checklist (e.g. Sedge Wren, Barn Owl, Western Kingbird), you should also post it to Massbird.

119TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Sponsored by the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, the Christmas Bird Count is the longest-running community science bird project in the U.S. We hope you will participate in this year's count!

The CBC runs from December 14 to January 5. Please contact your local count compiler for detailed information on your count.

Andover: Donna Cooper, donna.j.cooper@gmail.com

Athol: David Small, dave@dhsml.net

Boston: Robert Stymeist, bobstymeist@gmail.com

Buzzard's Bay: Peter Trimble,
merlin0426@comcast.net

Cape Ann: Jim Berry, jim.berry3@verizon.net

Cape Cod: Blair Nikula, odenews@odenews.org

Central Berkshire: Tom Collins, 413-499-2799

Concord: Norman Levey, norman.levy@fastmail.net

Greenfield: Mark Fairbrother, bogelfin@crocker.com

Groton-Oxbow: Julie Lisk, julielisk@gmail.com

Marshfield: Sue MacCallum,
smacallum@massaudubon.com

Martha's Vineyard: Luanne Johnson,
luannej@biodiversityworksmv.org

Mid Cape Cod: Peter Trimble,
merlin0426@comcast.net

Millis: Elissa Landre, elandre@massaudubon.org

Nantucket: Ken Blackshaw,
kenandcindy1@comcast.net/Edy Ray, ackbird@aol.com

New Bedford: Michael Boucher, britmm@juno.com

Newburyport: Tom Young, tomyoungnh@gmail.com

Newport County, RI/Westport, MA: Robert Emerson, remerson@duffysweeney.com

Northampton: Janice Jorgensen,
janicejorgensen@charter.net/Jan Ortiz,
ortizjanat@gmail.com

Northern Berkshire: Pam Weatherbee, pamb-
weath@gmail.com

Plymouth: Trevor Lloyd-Evans,
tlloyd-evans@manomet.org

Quabbin: Scott Surner, ssurner@aol.com

Southern Berkshire: Rene Wendell,
renewendell@gmail.com

Springfield: George C. Kingston, gcking@yahoo.com

Stellwagen Bank: Simon Perkins,
sperkins@noticenature.net

Sturbridge: Mark Lynch, moa.lynch@verizon.net

Truro: Mark Faherty, msfaherty@yahoo.com

Tuckernuck: Richard Veit, veitrr2003@yahoo.com

Quincy: Glenn d'Entremont,
gdentremont1@comcast.net

Westfield (Cobble Mountain): Seth Kellogg,
skhawk@comcast.net

Worcester: John Liller,
john.liller@worcesteracademy.org

Westminster: Charles Caron, caronenv@aol.com

Uxbridge: Strickland Wheelock,
skwheelock@yahoo.com

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Visit **brooklinebirdclub.org** to find birding trips in Massachusetts 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.

Call **Massachusetts Voice of Audubon** (781-259-8805) to report bird sightings in Western Massachusetts, Nantucket, and Cape Cod. To report bird sightings in Eastern Massachusetts, call the Wildlife Information Line (781-259-2150).



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

Subscriptions are \$25 for 6 issues or \$48 for two years. New subscribers who are also BBC members receive a free copy of the current issue.

Visit birdobserver.org to subscribe and peruse our complete archive of back issues.

BROOKLINE BIRD CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM

Membership runs from January-December 2019. Please complete this form and return to Judith Hepburn, P.O. Box 107, Waban, MA 02468. Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope and a check for the full amount due made out to Brookline Bird Club. You can also join or renew online at brooklinebirdclub.org.

Name _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____

Street Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Is this a new membership? Yes

Is this a Family Membership? Yes

Family member names: _____

Amount Enclosed

2019 Annual Dues (\$15 individual; \$22 family) _____

Lifetime Membership (\$200/person; includes a BBC pin) _____

Gift (tax deductible) _____

BBC Young Birder Scholarship (tax-deductible) _____

Total: _____