

# Brookline Bird Club Bulletin

November 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020



[brooklinebirdclub.org](http://brooklinebirdclub.org)

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barb620@theworld.com

## PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Dear Members,

Welcome to Winter!

Join us this season as we hit our regular winter haunts in search of the ducks, geese, owls, and finches that make our region their non-breeding home. Want to get better at drawing birds? Then join Laura de la Flor for her Birding Sketchcrawl on February 1. Barbara Volkle will be pairing winter coastal birds in her Mid-week Hunts for Alcids with a yummy lunch in Gloucester. Does your New Hampshire list need some work? Then join Steve Mirick as he explores the Granite State coastline on November 3. Kathy Dia is leading a family-friendly Woodcock Walk in Concord on March 27. What better way to introduce the next generation to one of the most iconic sights of the spring in New England: the evocative sky dance of the American Woodcock. So, wrap up warm and come explore the many treasures of our region with America's most active bird club.

I'd like to extend an enormous thank you to all our trip leaders (currently 58) who volunteer their time, energy and expertise freely throughout the year. Pete Gilmore, our Field Trip Coordinator, is always looking for new leaders, co-leaders, and fresh ideas for birding trips. Please get in touch if you'd like to contribute.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for our winter meeting on February 29 when ornithologist and author Scott Weidensaul will talk to the club. As always, our meetings are preceded by a social hour, allowing members to catch up over light refreshments.

Most of you will know by now that Ida Giriunas recently passed away. Ida was our most prolific field trip leader; she led more trips than anyone else, even into her nineties. She was a passionate advocate for beginner birders and those with limited mobility, an active board member, and the efficient organizer of the club's nationally-renowned pelagic trips. But she was more than the sum of those parts; for many she was the face and spirit of the BBC. Read our tribute to Ida on page 4 of this bulletin and visit the club web site, which features stories and photos of Ida's incredible birding legacy. Ida was not one to accept help or praise willingly. In our time of loss, it gives me at least some pleasure to know that she'd be turning over in her grave to discover how much we cared.

So, thank you, Ida.

Neil Hayward  
President

### WINTER MEETING

**Scott Weidensaul**

Saturday, February 29, 2020

Bedford Middle School

99 McMahan Road, Bedford

7:00 – 8:00 p.m. (social hour and refreshments  
from 6:00 p.m.)

## **IDA GIRIUNAS — TRIBUTE TO A BIRDER AND BROOKLINE BIRD CLUB LEGEND**

Ida Giriunas, long-time birder and trip leader, passed away August 20. She was 91.

Ida was a force of nature, fierce and passionate about birding. She led and participated in many trips for the Brookline Bird Club, serving as a trip leader, spearheading the nationally known BBC pelagic birding program, and making an annual trip to Machias, Maine for Atlantic Puffins and other Downeast specialties. She joined the Brookline Bird Club in April 1967, served on the board starting in 1980 and became its second woman president, serving in that role from 1999 – 2001. For many years she organized the Ipswich River Mass Audubon Sanctuary's efforts for the Birdathon.

Dedicated to birding, she was happy to share those experiences and her knowledge with those new to the birding world, the BBC and others. Despite health challenges, in the words of former president Barbara Howell: "She never gave up... She was badly hurt in an auto accident on a birding trip, but she came through. When close to 90, she fell boarding a boat for a pelagic trip, but that didn't stop her from planning the next trip. When age prevented her from walking long distances, she arranged trips for those who also faced similar challenges."

Those of us who knew her appreciated her directness, sense of humor and hearty laugh. If you spent any time in the field with her, you have an "Ida story." Her years of volunteer service have been invaluable helping to make birding in New England the joy that it is.

We won't be able to replace her, and those of us who knew her are heartbroken.

### **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](http://brooklinebirdclub.org), 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 membership support!

### **ONLINE STORE**

We have new apparel offerings on our website! Visit [brooklinebirdclub.qbstores.com](http://brooklinebirdclub.qbstores.com) for hats, outerwear, shirts, and more.

### **BBC YOUNG BIRDER SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2020**

If we can successfully reserve two slots at National Audubon's Coastal Maine Bird Studies for Teens program at Hog Island, the BBC again plans to offer two full scholarships to the program in June 2020. All nine of our previous scholarship recipients have had tremendous adventures at Hog Island. 2019 recipient Sam Poleretzky described his week there as "an incredible and unique experience that I will remember and cherish forever." Be on the lookout in October for an announcement of scholarship opportunities on the BBC website.

## **BBC CONSERVATION ADVOCACY AND INITIATIVES**

The BBC is engaged in ongoing conservation advocacy on its own initiative and in alliance with the other eighteen member clubs of the Association of Massachusetts Bird Clubs. In June 2019 the BBC supported a Citizens Climate Lobby campaign to pass a state bill intended to reduce carbon emissions. In July we joined the Association in sending a letter to Historic New England urging HNE to help protect Eastern Meadowlarks by re-evaluating its haying practices and management of grasslands at Cogswell's Grant in Essex and its other properties.

At a July meeting of the Association, club representatives agreed to urge their members across the state to report sightings of birds on the state Endangered Species list. State ornithologist Drew Vitz reported that the Eastern Meadowlark will likely soon be a state-listed species. Through the efforts of Zack Weber, the BBC has taken a lead on this issue by offering annual field trips focused on finding and reporting state-listed species.

The July Association meeting included a discussion of “plirding”— picking up trash while birding — an idea being promoted by a group led by Ray Brown of the Talkin’ Birds radio show. Stay tuned for further “plirding” developments. The Association will meet next at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 17 at the Mass Fish and Wildlife offices at Westborough WMA. Any individual member of any member club is welcome to attend Association meetings and join the Association’s Google Group. If you’re interested, contact John Nelson, chair of the BBC Conservation and Education Committee and acting Association chair: [jnelson@northshore.edu](mailto:jnelson@northshore.edu).

## **MEMBER 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 a copy of this book to receive a discount.

## **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, 11 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 2019-2020 Federal Duck Stamp went on sale in June. Buy your stamp at refuge offices and admission booths, the post office, on the BBC website, or at [duckstamp.com](http://duckstamp.com).

## NOTES TO TRIP PARTICIPANTS

There are over 1,100 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 book, or you can join online at [brooklinebirdclub.org](http://brooklinebirdclub.org).

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.

Bring a lunch on all-day trips. Please inform the trip leader if you need to leave early. Try to carpool whenever possible since it not only saves costs and fuel but it also allows the leader to take groups to locations with limited access.

## PROGRAM OF TRIPS

November 1, 2019 — March 31, 2020

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

### **Saturday, November 2**

#### **Plum Island and Vicinity**

8:00 a.m. – 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. Meeting location: Parker River NWR Headquarters/Visitors Center, 6 Plum Island Turnpike.

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

### **Sunday, November 3**

#### **Mount Auburn Cemetery**

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

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

**Trip leader: Cliff Cook, (339) 222-4518**  
[cook13@gmail.com](mailto:cook13@gmail.com)

#### **The Lakes of Wakefield and Lynnfield**

8:00 a.m. – 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](mailto:dave.williams6@gmail.com)

*(November 3 continued on next page)*

## **New Hampshire Coast**

8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

We will look for winter ducks, alcids, gulls and Snowy Owls, plus other late fall migrants. Contact leader for details. Meeting location: McDonald's parking lot at 710 Lafayette Road (Route 1) in Seabrook, New Hampshire. This is just north of the intersection of Route 107 and Route 1 off Exit 1 of I-95 just north of the MA/NH border.

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

## **Saturday, November 9**

### **Essex to Plum Island**

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

We will check out various spots from Essex to Plum Island looking for fall migrants. If bad weather is predicted, contact the leader by 6:00 p.m. the previous evening. Meeting location: Intersection of Island Road and Route 133 in Essex.

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

## **Monday, November 11**

### **Plum Island and Vicinity**

8:00 a.m. – 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 16**

### **Newburyport and Vicinity**

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Meeting location: Municipal parking lot on Water Street, Newburyport.

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

## **Sunday, November 17**

### **Halibut Point State Park, Rockport**

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

A two-hour walk over easy to moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. Meeting location: Parking lot for Halibut Point State Park on Gott Avenue, just off Route 127.

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



## **Wednesday, November 27**

### **Great Meadows NWR, Concord**

8:30 a.m. – 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).

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

### **Saturday, November 30**

#### **Leader's Choice — South of Boston. All day**

The trip leader will monitor recent sightings and select the birdiest spots. Contact leader after November 24 for details on the meeting time and location. Cosponsored with the South Shore Bird Club.

**Trip leader: Glenn d'Entremont,**  
**Home: (781) 344-5857, Cell: (781) 267-0442**  
**gdentremont1@comcast.net**

### **Sunday, December 1**

#### **Dunback Meadow, Lexington**

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

We will look for wintering birds, including raptors, and may travel to nearby areas in Waltham, Lexington, and Belmont depending on recent reports. Meeting location: Allen Street entrance to Dunback Meadow conservation area, near intersection with Pitcairn Terrace in Lexington.

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

### **Saturday, December 7**

#### **Cape Ann**

9:00 a.m. – 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 8**

#### **Emerald Necklace Ponds, Boston/Brookline**

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

We will search for waterfowl and other winter species on the ponds and in the adjacent woods. Cosponsored with 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 Jamaica way.

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

#### **Plum Island**

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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

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

### **Thursday, December 12**

#### **Midweek Hunt for Alcids and Seabirds**

9:00 a.m. – 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: Halibut Point State Park parking lot.

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

## 120th Annual Christmas Bird Count

BBC Members are encouraged to participate in the 120th annual Christmas Bird Count (CBC) which runs from December 14, 2019 to January 5, 2020. Sponsored by the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, the CBC is the longest-running community science bird project in the U.S.

More than 30 count circles are located entirely or partly in Massachusetts. Count dates confirmed as of press time are listed below. Changes can occur, however, and participants should contact the count compiler at least a week in advance. Check [brooklinebirdclub.org](http://brooklinebirdclub.org) for more CBC news as it develops.

### Saturday, December 14

**Andover:** Donna Cooper,

[donna.j.cooper@gmail.com](mailto:donna.j.cooper@gmail.com), (978) 944-0655

**Buzzard's Bay:** Jeremiah Trimble, [jtrimble@oeb.harvard.edu](mailto:jtrimble@oeb.harvard.edu)

**Central Berkshire:** Holly Higinbotham, [higinbo@hotmail.com](mailto:higinbo@hotmail.com), (413)212-4352 (blizzard date: December 15)

**Millis:** Elissa Landre, [elandre@massaudubon.org](mailto:elandre@massaudubon.org)

**New Bedford:** Michael Boucher, [britmm@juno.com](mailto:britmm@juno.com)

**Quincy:** Glenn d'Entremont, [gdentremont1@comcast.net](mailto:gdentremont1@comcast.net)

**Worcester:** John Liller, [john.liller@worcesteracademy.org](mailto:john.liller@worcesteracademy.org)  
(snow date: 12/15)

### Sunday, December 15

**Cape Ann:** Robert Buchsbaum, [rnbuchsbaum@gmail.com](mailto:rnbuchsbaum@gmail.com)  
(978) 473-2389

**Cape Cod:** Blair Nikula, [odenews@odenews.org](mailto:odenews@odenews.org)

**Groton-Oxbow:** Ron Lockwood, [Ron.lockwood@comcast.net](mailto:Ron.lockwood@comcast.net)

**Northhampton:** Janice Jorgensen,  
[janicejorgensen@charter.net](mailto:janicejorgensen@charter.net)

**Springfield:** George C. Kingston, [gcking@yahoo.com](mailto:gcking@yahoo.com)

### Saturday, December 21

**Athol:** Dave Small, [Dave@dhsml.net](mailto:Dave@dhsml.net), (978) 413-1772

### Sunday, December 22

**Boston:** Robert Stymeist, [bobstymeist@gmail.com](mailto:bobstymeist@gmail.com)

**Newburyport:** Tom Young, [tomyounh@gmail.com](mailto:tomyounh@gmail.com)

### Saturday, December 28

**Quabbin:** Scott Surner, [ssurner@aol.com](mailto:ssurner@aol.com)

**Uxbridge:** Strickland Wheelock, [skwheelock@yahoo.com](mailto:skwheelock@yahoo.com)

### Sunday, December 29

**Concord:** Norman Levey, [concord.cbc@fastmail.net](mailto:concord.cbc@fastmail.net),

See [concordcbc.org](http://concordcbc.org) for more info.

**Greenfield:** Mark Fairbrother, [bogelfin@crocker.com](mailto:bogelfin@crocker.com)

**Marshfield:** Sue MacCallum, [smacallum@massaudubon.org](mailto:smacallum@massaudubon.org)

**Nantucket:** Ken Blackshaw, [ken02554@gmail.com](mailto:ken02554@gmail.com)

### Wednesday, January 1

**Southern Berkshire:** Rene Wendell,

[renewendell@hotmail.com](mailto:renewendell@hotmail.com)

### Saturday, January 4

**Martha's Vineyard:** Luanne Johnson,

[mvbirdcount@gmail.com](mailto:mvbirdcount@gmail.com) (blizzard date: January 5)

**Westminster:** Charles Caron, [caronenv@aol.com](mailto:caronenv@aol.com)

### Date to be Determined

**Mid Cape Cod:** Peter Trimble, [merlin0426@comcast.net](mailto:merlin0426@comcast.net)

**Newport County, RI/Westport, MA:** Robert Emerson,  
[remerson@duffysweeney.com](mailto:remerson@duffysweeney.com)

**Northern Berkshire:** Pam Weatherbee, [pambweath@gmail.com](mailto:pambweath@gmail.com)

**Plymouth:** Trevor Lloyd-Evans, [tlloyd-evans@manomet.org](mailto:tlloyd-evans@manomet.org)

**Stellwagon Bank:** Simon Perkins, [stormbirder@gmail.com](mailto:stormbirder@gmail.com)

**Sturbridge:** Mark Lynch, [moa.lynch@charter.net](mailto:moa.lynch@charter.net)

**Taunton-Middleboro:** James Sweeney,  
[assawompsett@yahoo.com](mailto:assawompsett@yahoo.com)

**Truro:** Mark Faherty, [mfaherty@massaudubon.org](mailto:mfaherty@massaudubon.org)

**Tuckernuck:** Richard Veit, [veitrr2003@yahoo.com](mailto:veitrr2003@yahoo.com)

**Westfield (Cobble Mountain):** Seth Kellogg,  
[skhawk@comcast.net](mailto:skhawk@comcast.net)

## **Saturday, December 28**

### **Cape Ann**

8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

We will search for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Be prepared for cold and windy weather. Cosponsored with the Essex County Ornithological Club. Meeting location: Fisherman's Monument on Western Avenue, Gloucester.

**Trip leaders:** John Nelson, (978) 283-6128

[jnelson@northshore.edu](mailto:jnelson@northshore.edu)

Susan Hedman, (978) 281-1121

[2winterwren@gmail.com](mailto:2winterwren@gmail.com)

## **Wednesday, January 1**

### **Newburyport and Vicinity**

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Join us on 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 Metzky's Cantina is located) at 25 Boston Way, Newburyport. 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

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

[anhinga3@comcast.net](mailto:anhinga3@comcast.net)

Mark Burns, (978) 741-0897

[stormtracker16@comcast.net](mailto:stormtracker16@comcast.net)

## **Saturday, January 4**

### **Cape Ann**

8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

We will search for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Cosponsored with the Essex County Ornithological Club. Meeting location: Fisherman's Monument on Western Avenue, Gloucester.

**Trip leaders:** John Nelson, (978) 283-6128

[jnelson@northshore.edu](mailto:jnelson@northshore.edu)

Susan Hedman, (978) 281-1121

[2winterwren@gmail.com](mailto:2winterwren@gmail.com)

## **Sunday, January 5**

### **Arnold Arboretum, Boston**

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Start your 2020 year list off on 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 the arboretum website at [arboretum.harvard.edu](http://arboretum.harvard.edu) for directions and a checklist of birds. Meeting location: Inside the main gate off the Arborway (parking along the Arborway.)

**Trip leader:** Bob Mayer, (617) 522-0157

[rgmayer38@gmail.com](mailto:rgmayer38@gmail.com)

### **Newburyport and Vicinity**

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

We will visit Plum Island, areas along the Merrimack River, and Salisbury, in pursuit of winter arrivals. If bad weather is predicted, contact the leader by 6:00 p.m. the previous evening. Meeting location: Newburyport District Court House, Route 1 traffic circle.

**Trip leader:** Linda Ferraresso, (978) 498-4352

[tattler1@comcast.net](mailto:tattler1@comcast.net)

## Wednesday, January 8

### Midweek Hunt for Alcids and Seabirds

9:00 a.m. – 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. 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

## Sunday, January 12

### Newburyport and Vicinity — Eagles and Owls!

1:00 – 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 at Plum Island or in Salisbury. We will also look for wintering ducks, gulls, and winter finches. Beginners are welcome! Meeting location: Bird Watchers Supply & Gift, 194 Route 1, Newburyport.

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



## Sunday, January 19

### Halibut Point State Park, Rockport

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

A two-hour walk over easy to moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. Meeting location: Parking lot for Halibut Point State Park on Gott Avenue, just off Route 127.

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



## Monday, January 20

### Newburyport and Vicinity

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

We will visit Salisbury State Park, the Merrimack River, and Plum Island.

Meeting location: Newburyport District Court House, Route 1 traffic circle. Check with leader in case of weather problems.

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



## Saturday, January 25

### Dunback Meadow, Lexington

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

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

### Cape Ann

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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 Ferrareso, (978) 498-4352  
tattler1@comcast.net

## Sunday, January 26

### Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

A peaceful winter walk in Mount Auburn 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

### Newburyport and Vicinity

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Meeting location: Municipal parking lot on Merrimac Street.

**Trip leader:** Naeem Yusuff, (617) 308-2588  
naem.yusuff@yahoo.com

## Saturday, February 1

### Birding Sketchcrawl — Winter Series

8:00 a.m. – 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 leader for details no later than 7:00 pm on Thursday, January 30.

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

## Wednesday, February 5

### Midweek Hunt for Alcids and Seabirds

9:00 a.m. – 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 after birding. 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 8

### Cape Ann

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

We will search for alcids and other wintering seabirds. Please check with leader before trip. Meeting location: Fisherman's Monument on Western Avenue, Gloucester.

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



## Sunday, February 9

### Scituate to Plymouth

7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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. Cosponsored with the South Shore Bird Club. Meeting location: Stop & Shop parking lot at the intersection of Routes 3 & 139, Pembroke.

**Trip leader:** Glenn d'Entremont,  
Home: (781) 344-5857, Cell: (781) 267-0442  
gdentremont1@comcast.net

*(February 9 continued on next page)*

## **Newburyport and Vicinity**

9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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

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

### **Saturday, February 15**

#### **MA Waterfowl Prowl**

7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

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. This trip will be canceled in the event of rain. Meeting location: Sagamore Park-and-Ride Lot on Canal Road. Meet in the parking lot at the end closest to Friendly's.

**Trip leader: Eddie Giles, (508) 378-3370**  
[egiles@brooklinebirdclub.org](mailto:egiles@brooklinebirdclub.org)

### **Sunday, February 16**

#### **Halibut Point State Park, Rockport**

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

A two-hour walk over easy to moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. Meeting location: Parking lot for Halibut Point State Park on Gott Avenue, just off Route 127.

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



## **Newburyport and Vicinity —**

### **Eagles and Owls!**

1:00 – 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 Salisbury. We will also look for wintering ducks, gulls, and winter finches. Beginners are welcome! Meeting location: Bird Watcher's Supply & Gift, 194 Route 1, Newburyport.

**Trip leader: Steve Grinley, (978) 462-0775**  
[birdwsg@comcast.net](mailto:birdwsg@comcast.net)

### **Monday, February 17**

#### **Cape Ann**

8:00 a.m. – 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](mailto:dave.williams6@gmail.com)

**Mark Nelson, (781) 258-6421**  
[mnelson@brooklinebirdclub.org](mailto:mnelson@brooklinebirdclub.org)

*(February 17 continued on next page)*



## Ipswich and Vicinity

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

We will search for waterfowl, raptors, and wintering boreal songbirds. Limited walking. Carpooling from the meeting location will be essential. Cosponsored with the Essex County Ornithological Club. Meeting location: The former Town Hall parking lot next to the war memorial in downtown Ipswich on Routes 1A/133, 100 yards south of the famous Choate Bridge.

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

## Saturday, February 22

### Plum Island

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

In case of weather problems, please check with leader before trip. Meeting location: Parking lot 1, Parker River National Wildlife Refuge.

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



## Sunday, February 23

### Cape Ann

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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

## Saturday, February 29

### Cohasset to Marshfield

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

We will leap into seabirding and looking for waterfowl 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**  
warbler@neomailbox.ch



### Winter Meeting: Scott Weidensaul

7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Bedford Middle School  
99 McMahon Road, Bedford.

Join us from 6:00 p.m. for a social hour with light refreshments.

## Wednesday, March 4

### Midweek Hunt for Alcids and Seabirds

9:00 a.m. – 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. 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

## Sunday, March 15

### Halibut Point State Park, Rockport

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

A two-hour walk over easy to moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. Meeting location: Parking lot for Halibut Point State Park on Gott Avenue, just off Route 127.

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



## Wednesday, March 18

### Woodcock Walk at Nahanton Park, Newton

7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

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 21

### 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 Thursday, March 19.

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

## Blue Hills, Milton

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

This trip consists of several short (1-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, Milton

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

We are usually successful in seeing the Woodcock's mating flight, and last year saw its mating display. We will hike 1 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

## Sunday, March 22

### Woodcocks at Alewife, Cambridge

7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

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 the Fitchburg cutoff bikepath.

Trip leader: Zack Weber  
birdingwithzackweber@gmail.com

### Friday, March 27

#### Woodcocks at Meriam's Corner

6:45 – 7:45 p.m.

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 1/4 mile on the boardwalk and wide trail but woodcocks can often be heard and seen from the parking lot. Families are welcome; children should be able to observe quietly. Cosponsored with Minute Man NHP. Rain date, April 3. Meeting location: Minute Man NHP, Meriam's Corner lot, Concord.

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



### Saturday, March 28

#### Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Concord

7:00 – 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 Monsen Road, Concord.

Trip leader: Sylvia Martin, (857) 756-7981  
warbler@neomailbox.ch



#### Newburyport and Vicinity

9:00 a.m. – 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 NWR Headquarters/Visitors Center, 6 Plum Island Turnpike.

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

### Upcoming Out-of-State Trips

#### Thursday, June 25 – Sunday, June 28

#### 23rd Annual Weekend Trip to the Rangeley Lakes Region, Maine

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 two weeks in advance.

Trip leaders: Eddie Giles, (508) 378-3370  
emgiles62@comcast.net

Glenn d'Entremont, Home: (781) 344-5857,  
Cell: (781) 267-0442  
gdentremont1@comcast.net

*(continued on next page)*

**Thursday, July 9 – Sunday, July 12**

**Weekend Trip Claybrook Mountain Lodge,  
Highland Plantation, Maine**

Birding at Claybrook Mountain Lodge is unique because it's located at the northern edge of the eastern deciduous forest and the southern edge of the boreal forest. Add to this the habitat mix, the extensive grasslands and marshlands a few miles to the south, and it's easy to understand why birders consider this area one of Maine's best inland birding hotspots. This trip will concentrate on Maine's boreal specialties including Spruce Grouse, Black-backed Woodpecker, Olive-sided and Yellow-bellied Flycatchers, Gray Jay and Boreal Chickadee. Participants can expect to do some moderate hiking. Time will also be taken to observe and enjoy the flora and fauna along the way. Limited participation. Contact leader for additional information and reservations.

**Eddie Giles, (508) 378-3370**  
**emgiles62@comcast.net**

**Glenn d'Entremont, Home: (781) 344-5857,**  
**Cell: (781) 267-0442**  
**gdentremont1@comcast.net**

**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](mailto:massbird@theworld.com) and email Cliff Cook ([ccook13@gmail.com](mailto:ccook13@gmail.com)), to 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 Field Trip Coordinator Pete Gilmore ([petegilmore79@gmail.com](mailto:petegilmore79@gmail.com)) three to four days prior to the trip date.

Trip reports are an important part of promoting and documenting BBC trips. These trip reports are helpful to participants and we hope that our sightings will benefit future conservation efforts as well as to help us better understand the population dynamics of the birds. Be sure to record the number of participants on the trip. You're also encouraged to provide photos in your trip report.

Trip leaders should report their trip's sighting to eBird and share with the club eBird account (username: [BrooklineBirdClub](http://BrooklineBirdClub)). Detailed instructions to create and share an ebird checklist can be found on [brooklinebirdclub.org/field-trips-about](http://brooklinebirdclub.org/field-trips-about).

If you are unable to submit your report on eBird, contact Dave Williams ([dave.williams6@gmail.com](mailto:dave.williams6@gmail.com)) for a field card.

A trip checklist should also be sent directly to club statistician David Scott ([davidscott6@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:davidscott6@yahoo.co.uk)).

And if possible, also send your report to Massbird.

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

## INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Visit [brooklinebirdclub.org](http://brooklinebirdclub.org) for information on club activities and additional bird trips in Massachusetts and beyond.

Visit [massbird.org](http://massbird.org) to find a listing of local bird clubs and subscribe to the Massbird Listserv.

Visit [ebird.org/subnational1/US-MA](http://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](http://birding.aba.org) for up-to-the-minute news on bird sightings across New England.

To report bird sightings in 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.



*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.

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

Visit [birdobserver.org](http://birdobserver.org) to subscribe and peruse our complete archive of back issues.

### Have you seen the New England Birding Calendar?

Find birding events, field trips, gatherings,  
meetings, and presentations happening  
all over in New England.

[birdingcalendar.com](http://birdingcalendar.com)

## BROOKLINE BIRD CLUB MEMBERSHIP FORM — Join for 2020!

Annual memberships run from January–December. Please complete this form and return to Judith Hepburn, BBC Membership, P.O. Box 107; Waban, MA 02468. Please include a check made out to Brookline Bird Club for the total amount due — or renew online at our website [brooklinebirdclub.org](http://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

2020 Annual Dues (\$15 individual; \$22 family) \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

BBC Young Birder Scholarship (tax deductible) \_\_\_\_\_

BBC pin (\$6.00) or BBC window decal (\$1.00 + SASE) \_\_\_\_\_

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