

# Brookline Bird Club Bulletin

June 30 – October 31, 2020



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

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## NOTICE SOMETHING DIFFERENT?

The BBC bulletin just got bigger! Due to the social distance requirements of the coronavirus pandemic, there's a chance that many of the trips listed in this booklet may not run. So, we thought we'd provide some extra reading material to keep you busy. Normal service (and size) will resume shortly. We hope.

## PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

Dear Members,

Stay cool! Stay dry! Stay away from the neighbors (who are not thrilled about that Western Tanager that has taken up residence on their street)! Those are the familiar warnings to birders in Massachusetts. To that, we must now add Stay Safe! For the first time since 1913 — the inception of this club — all the trips in this iconic blue book of field trips are suspended until further notice.

For all of us that have lamented how quotidian and humdrum life can sometimes be, we now live in interesting times. The global coronavirus pandemic has robbed us of many things — time, work, travel, visits with friends and family, eating out, sports, school, as well as access to many of our favorite birding locations. As I write this, at the end of April, Mount Auburn Cemetery is shuttered, and Plum Island is closed to motor vehicles. Scarlet Tanagers, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Magnolia Warblers and all the other gems that make this time of year magically intense, will pass through those and other migration hotspots unseen, unheard, but not unloved.

Necessity is the mother of invention. With park and cemetery closures we've been forced to find new birding areas, to spend more time at our kitchen windows, or to explore a new neighborhood patch. That's not a bad thing. Plus, we need this. There are many reasons why we bird: the thrill of discovering an unusual species, the beauty bound up in a small ball of feathers, the music of birdsong, or simply an excuse to get out of the house. Whatever the motivation, I suspect that we can all agree on the therapeutic benefits of birding. Looking and listening to birds somehow makes our life better; birding takes us away from our everyday concerns and focuses our attention on the moment. That's never been more important than at times like these, when our lives feel weighed down with fear, anxiety, and uncertainty.

I joined the Brookline Bird Club in 2007. I'd just moved to Boston from the U.K. and I needed to learn the new birds and discover the places to see them. The BBC ticked both boxes. Field trip leaders became mentors who selflessly passed on their knowledge. Each trip was an adventure—who knew what we'd see? I was surprised to discover the other thing that the bird club provided—a sense of community. Not only was I learning the birds but also the birders. Many of those I now call dear friends. We have lost much with this pandemic, but the loss of regularly meeting our birding companions makes it that bit sadder.

Who knows? By the time you read this life may be back to “normal”. We do have a full list of field trips for the summer. Trip leaders are raring to go and to show you all the migrants and returning birds. But most likely things will not return to normal. Those trips are listed in this booklet and posted on our web site, but all are “suspended until further notice”. Some form of social distancing may be required for the rest of the year. When trips do restart, we may have to limit numbers, steer clear of some locations, avoid car-pooling, and wear masks. Whatever the post-COVID-19 birding world holds for us, our priority will be to enjoy birds safely and responsibly.

The start of the pandemic—at least the start of the local response—caused us to cancel our spring meeting. We hope to bring back our scheduled speaker, Trevor Lloyd-Evans, at our next public meeting. In the meantime, we are investigating online options for workshops and meetings. Please check our web site regularly for information.

The spring meeting marks the end of our board cycle. This year we said goodbye to board members Eddie Giles, Judy Hepburn and Will Freedberg. Thank you, Eddie, for being the inspirational president when I joined the board, for the 2013 centennial and for the many, many wonderful field trips which I hope you will continue to lead for the club. Judy—thank you for putting up with the difficulties of a new software system, for passionately advocating for members, and going above and beyond in the amount of time and effort you contributed in the membership secretary position. And thank you, Will, for your fresh enthusiasm and ideas at board meetings and committee meetings.

In their place, we welcome our new board members: Bobbie Hodson, Jill Mathieu, Justine Hanson, and Kathy Dia. And we congratulate board member Leslie Kramer on her retirement from teaching this year which happily frees her up to take on the club's Vice President role. The club would not function without volunteers—those on the board, committees and, of course, our field trips leaders. Thank you all. If you'd like to contribute in any way to the activities of the club, please get in touch with any of our board members that are listed inside the cover of this booklet.

I am sorry that we are unable to lead field trips this spring. I want to thank you for your patience and for your support as a member of the club. There will be better times ahead, and those better times will include birds and birders. Hang in there!

To good birding, good health, safety, sanity, and, above all, to less interesting times.

Neil Hayward  
President

## 2019 STATISTICAL AND YEAR-END REPORT

By David Scott, *Club Statistician*

The Brookline Bird Club recorded 285 species for 2019, based upon 182 reported trips (out of 249 that were scheduled). A total of 280 species were recorded in Massachusetts, with a further four species recorded only in Maine (Bicknell's Thrush, Boreal Chickadee, Canada Jay and White-winged Crossbill) and Lapland Longspur from a trip in New Hampshire.

The bird of the year was undoubtedly the Bermuda Petrel, seen on a remarkable overnight pelagic trip from 21–22 September. Thought extinct for 300 years, rediscovered in 1951, and with the global population still in the low hundreds after intensive conservation efforts, this species was an incredible find. Other notable birds on that trip included five Black-capped Petrels, a Sabine's Gull, a Brown Booby, a White-faced Storm-Petrel and a South Polar Skua. A full report of the pelagic trip is available on the BBC website. Other rarities seen by the club in 2019 included: Ross's Goose (Plum Island, February 10), Red Crossbill (Dunback Meadow in Lexington, March 16), Caspian Tern (Burrage Pond, Halifax, May 4), Wilson's Plover (Plum Island, September 22), Western Kingbird (Wellfleet Audubon, October 5) and Townsend's Solitaire (Halibut Point, December 12). The winter of 2018/2019 also saw the largest irruption of Evening Grosbeaks for many years, and these were reported on three club trips.

Birds we missed: Canvasback, Glaucous Gull, Hudsonian Godwit, Marbled Godwit, Redhead, Snow Goose, Wilson's Phalarope, Black-legged Kittiwake, Yellow-breasted Chat, Forster's Tern, Tricolored Heron, Cattle Egret and Little Blue Heron.

There were 374 species reported for Massachusetts in eBird in 2019, of which the club's total of 280 represented 75 percent. Across the state's counties, we saw the most species in Essex (218), followed by Plymouth (159), Middlesex (150), Barnstable (134), Worcester (133), and Suffolk (127). As always, we scheduled the most trips for Mount Auburn Cemetery (42), and we recorded 114 species there, including 27 species of warblers.

The club has made excellent progress importing field trip reports directly into eBird. With many of the trips involving multiple locations, there were 328 checklists associated with the 182 reported trips. The most frequently reported species were: American Robin (186 checklists), Blue Jay (177), Song Sparrow (174), Black-capped Chickadee (156), Northern Cardinal (151), Mourning Dove (148), American Goldfinch (144), Mallard (143), Canada Goose (140), Downy Woodpecker (123), Red-winged Blackbird (123).

We would like to thank all 52 of our trip leaders for 2019, as well as those who organize and lead the pelagic trips. Special thanks to the following, each of whom led over 10 trips during the year: Dave Williams, Glenn d'Entremont, Linda Ferraresso, Nickilas Paulson and Peter Van Demark.

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

| DATE  | LOCATION                     | SPECIES | LEADER                      |
|-------|------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| 1/1   | New Year's Day, Essex County | 57      | Laura de la Flor/Mark Burns |
| 2/16  | Annual MASS Waterfowl Prowl  | 46      | Eddie Giles                 |
| 3/4   | Cape Ann                     | 24      | Barbara Volkle              |
| 4/29  | Westborough WMA              | 48      | Nickilas Paulson            |
| 5/4   | South Shore Century Run      | 112     | Glenn d'Entremont           |
| 6/15  | Mt Greylock                  | 54      | Glenn d'Entremont           |
| 7/14  | Crane Pond WMA               | 51      | Zack Weber                  |
| 8/25  | Plum Island                  | 57      | Neil Hayward                |
| 9/24  | Plum Island                  | 59      | Dave Williams               |
| 10/5  | Outer Cape Cod               | 84      | Glenn d'Entremont           |
| 11/11 | Plum Island                  | 50      | Dave Williams               |
| 11/30 | Fairhaven                    | 50      | Glenn d'Entremont           |
| 12/12 | Cape Ann                     | 39      | Barbara Volkle              |

The club held three evening meetings. The Winter meeting on February 9 in Bedford was a return of the Members' Night, with club members presenting stories of recent birding trips (New Zealand's southern islands; birding the Galapagos; and conservation birding in Ecuador); sharing their literary, photographic and video work. For many the highlight was a presentation from Norman Smith on his Snowy Owl research, which featured a guest appearance from a soon-to-be-released owl.

The Annual meeting on April 11, at Harvard's Geological Lecture Hall in Cambridge, was particularly well-attended with over 200 people present. It featured Noah Strycker, who set a world big year record in 2015, detailed in his book, "Birding Without Borders". His approach was to travel on a single continuous journey across the continents, enlisting local birders as guides along the way. In a memorable talk, he shared highlights from his trip, and concluded that while he might not recall each of the 6,042 species from his big year, he remembered every single one of the birders that he met along the way.

For the Fall meeting, again at Harvard, on October 19, the club welcomed writer and radio host Laura Erickson, who gave a talk entitled "Laura's Best Bird Ever: A Lifetime of Magical Encounters", sharing some of her favorite birding moments both close to home and further afield.

## **SUPPORT NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES THROUGH DUCK STAMPS**

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

For every dollar you spend on duck stamps, ninety-eight cents goes directly to protecting vital wetland habitat as part of the National Wildlife Refuge System. The Stamp has generated over a billion dollars for conservation since 1934. Your stamp will also provide admission to refuges charging entrance fees, such as Parker River. Stamps for July 2020-June 2021 cost \$25 and go on sale June 26 at post offices, refuge offices and admission booths, or online at [www.duckstamp.com](http://www.duckstamp.com).

You can also buy Stamps and a BBC club logo key ring stamp holder through the BBC website. Join us in supporting our National Wildlife Refuges by buying a Duck Stamp today!

### **FAY VALE: A REMEMBRANCE**

Fay Vale was an icon in the Massachusetts birding community. She and her husband Peter had been birding for several years before being introduced to the Brookline Bird Club, which they joined in the late 1970's. They became very active in the club, and as trip leaders instituted walks that for many would become long-time favorites:

- Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary Easter walk
- Point of Pine, Revere, "sits" on August evenings for shorebirds
- "Sits" at the base of the tower in Mount Auburn Cemetery (when Fay could no longer walk the regular trips)

Fay had an excellent ear for birdsong while Peter has the sharpest of eyes. Together they made a perfect birding team. They were regularly seen in the field and there were few birders Fay didn't know by name.

Fay joined the BBC Board in 2004. She wore many different hats and served in a variety of capacities including:

- Coordinator of purchase and sale of BBC baseball caps
- Chair of the Recognition Committee
- Member of the BBC Bylaws Committee
- Active participant on the BBC 100th anniversary celebration committee

When her mobility started to decline, she and Peter focused more and more of their birding by car. But in spite of her disabilities, she always had a smile on her face, was very welcoming to all she encountered, and never once lost her enthusiasm for seeing and sharing birds.

Besides the Brookline Bird Club, Fay participated in and contributed to the birding community in many additional ways. She:

- Compiled bird sighting records for Bird Observer for nearly 30 years
- Led trips for the Menotomy Bird Club
- Acted as sector leader for the Boston Christmas Bird Count
- Surveyed several blocks for the Breeding Bird Atlas
- Volunteered at the Joppa Flats bird banding station for the last 11 years
- Participated on many field trips including Mark and Laura's New Year's Day trip, which was one of her favorites

Fay Vale died on February 1, 2020, one day shy of her 74th birthday. Peter has procured a spot in the new rain garden at Willow Pond at Mount Auburn Cemetery and plans a combination burial and remembrance for Fay. He hopes that club members and others from the birding community can participate. The date has tentatively been set for mid-June.

### **UPDATE ON BBC YOUNG BIRDER SCHOLARSHIPS**

The BBC is sorry to announce that National Audubon has canceled all 2020 summer camps at Hog Island in Maine. Our two Young Birder Scholarship recipients, May Adams and Jackson Frost, will not be able to participate in the Coastal Maine Studies for Teens program in June. However, the Hog Island staff has allowed the BBC to roll over our payments to reserve two slots for the same program in 2021, and we have offered these slots to May and Jackson as full scholarships. They're both excellent scholarship recipients, and, while we anticipated this cancellation, we're disappointed they will miss out on a 2020 camp, and we hope they will be able to take advantage of this scholarship opportunity in 2021. The BBC also hopes to grant two additional Young Birder Scholarships to the Hog Island program in 2021, but that will depend on our ability to reserve additional slots.

## 1939 — OUT OF THE FRYING PAN INTO THE FIRE

By Neil Hayward

The BBC is best known for its field trips. Since the very first walk at the Cambridge Marshes on September 27, 1913, the club has led over 15,000 field trips. The results of those trips—the birds seen, the number of attendees, the weather—have been carefully recorded by trip leaders on printed field cards. Until recently, those reports rested in several large cardboard boxes that have periodically moved from one board member’s basement to another. In recognizing the value of this archive, the board allocated funds in 2016 to scan all these trip report cards (as well as other club documents). The club statistician, David Scott, is now working with volunteers on an initiative to upload these records to the online database eBird. Thus, more than a century of records will be available to club members, local birders and scientists. I volunteered to enter the records for the year 1939.

It was Mark Twain who said, “History doesn’t repeat itself, but it often rhymes”. That quote was constantly in my mind as I was buried in sightings from 1939, while the world outside my office was grinding to a halt. A global coronavirus had hijacked the news, as well as our freedom and our peace of mind. As I deciphered the flamboyant cursive of those early field trip leaders, I wondered what was on their minds. They were coming out of the Great Depression, which left one in four out of work. As things improved in our country, how much attention were they paying to news from across the Atlantic? By September of that year, Great Britain and France were at war with Germany. Two years later, the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor, catapulting this country into what would become the bloodiest war in history. Nineteen thirty-nine was thus a hiatus for many—the end of a decade of financial ruin, before the beginning of a nightmare filled with unimaginable horror. I’d like to think that watching birds brought some calm to their anxiety, as it does for us in today’s uncertain world.

Field trip descriptions in the 1939 club “bulletin” (which was still white; it wouldn’t assume its iconic blue color until 1941) listed train times and ticket costs. Although “auto-trips” had begun in 1930, the majority of club trips still involved walking from train stations. For Plum Island that meant Ipswich station and a boat to Sandy Point (from where participants would walk the length of the island). Many of the locations will be familiar to local birders today—Great Meadows (then “Hoar Meadow”), Arnold Arboretum, and Nahant. Others have disappeared under development, such as the Fay Estate (Lynn) and Belmont Hill. The majority (74 trips) were in Middlesex County, followed by Essex (30), Suffolk (19) and Norfolk (4). There was one trip to Plymouth County—to Moose Hill, Mass Audubon’s first sanctuary. Perhaps surprisingly, the most frequent destination (13 trips) was the Sudbury–Wayland area, especially Heard Pond. Point of Pines in Revere was the next most visited; the 10 trips were all between August 3–September 21 and the results suggested this was the main hotspot for shorebird migration. Winchester

Reservoir and Wakefield (Lake Quannapowitt and Montrose Marshes) were tied with eight trips. Mt Auburn Cemetery, which was first visited by the club in 1934, hosted only four trips (three in May and one in October). There were trips each month, with May being the busiest (35) and January the quietest (5). Three trips by ferry—from Boston to Provincetown, and from Woods Hole to Nantucket—provided the club with pelagic species including **Cory’s**, **Great** and **Sooty shearwaters**, as well as **Red-necked Phalarope**. The biggest day was May 20, an automobile trip starting at 6 a.m. at the zoo in Middlesex Fells and ending in Ipswich. The 33 birders, packed into 11 cars, counted 114 species. The trip was led by club president Mr. L. Raymond Talbot and participants were encouraged to “take two meals”.

The average attendance of the trips was 12 people. The most popular was a trip to Plum Island on May 30, which attracted 38 birders. They were rewarded with **Arctic Terns**, a **Sedge Wren**, and **Golden-winged Warblers** (the latter simply marked as “X” on the checklist). The trips were led by 48 different trip leaders, although the lion’s share (36 trips) were guided by one woman: Grace M. Snow, the unofficial club ornithologist and recording secretary. Grace had been fortunate to be one of the last people to see the **Heath Hen** (a coastal subspecies of the Greater Prairie-Chicken) on a BBC trip to Martha’s Vineyard in 1930. Two years later the subspecies was extinct. One of the youngest trip leaders was a 20-year old Harvard student named Chandler S. Robbins. He led four trips, mostly around his hometown of Belmont (Rock Meadow and McLean Woods). Chandler would go on to become one of the greatest field ornithologists in North America. His many achievements included establishing the methodology for breeding bird surveys, and authoring the innovative “Golden Guide”, featuring graphs or sonograms of species that he’d recorded. Chandler spoke to the club in April 2013. He died in March 2017, just shy of his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

One of the most fascinating aspects of this archival project is to see the change in species across just a few generations of humans. As a recent birding transplant to the state, I was most interested to see just how many **Golden-winged Warblers** there used to be. I wasn’t disappointed: the species was recorded on 17 field trips, including a high count of five birds at Farrar Pond, Lincoln on May 13. Golden-wings were also seen at Hammond Pond, Winchester Reservoir, Harold Parker State Forest in Andover, the Middlesex Fells, Plum Island and Wellesley although none were recorded in fall migration. Other species that were more abundant in 1939 included: **American Bittern** (27 trips), **Ring-necked Pheasant** (34 trips, with a high count of 12), **Ruffed Grouse** (10 trips), **American Kestrel** (31 trips), **Arctic Tern** (7 trips), **Sedge Wren** then known as “Short-billed Marsh Wren” (6 trips), **Eastern Meadowlark** (43 trips), and **Vesper Sparrow** (17 trips).

As interesting as the birds seen were those that weren't. That included a number of "southern" species that were rare then but have since colonized the state. These include **Carolina Wren**, **Northern Mockingbird**, and **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher**, none of which were seen in 1939. The printed checklist used by the club at the time didn't even have checkmarks for **Turkey Vulture** (first bred in 1954), **Red-bellied Woodpecker** (first bred in 1977), **House Finch** (first recorded in the state in 1955), or **Northern Cardinal** (first bred in 1961). Also missing from the checklist was **Mute Swan**, which only started to become established in the state in the 1960s. By 1939, **Wild Turkeys** had been extirpated from the state for almost 90 years. Despite several (failed) reintroduction attempts, it wouldn't be until the 1970s that a stable population was established in the Berkshires.

Other notable absences from the 1939 reports were: **Snowy Egret** (first bred in 1955), **Snow Goose**, **King Eider**, **Harlequin Duck**, **American Oystercatcher**, **Whimbrel**, **Hudsonian Godwit**, **Lesser Black-backed** and **Glaucous gulls**, **Razorbill**, **Great Horned** and **Barred owls**, **Purple Martin**, **Fish Crow**, **Common Raven**, and **Orchard Oriole**. In comparison to the 25 **Golden-winged Warblers** that were seen that year, there were no reports of **Blue-winged Warbler**. Since then, of course, Blue-wings have all but entirely displaced Golden-wings in the state.

There were no real "rarities" reported in 1939, or at least as we'd recognize them now. The closest was probably the single **Tufted Titmouse** reported from Natick on May 6. (This species wouldn't nest in the state until 1958.) Ducks were in short supply; there were only single reports each of **Gadwall** (Squantum), **Northern Pintail** (Heard Pond), and **Common Eider** (South Shore). Perhaps most surprisingly, only a single **Red-tailed Hawk** was seen for the entire year, in Concord on April 8. The default *buteo* those days was **Red-shouldered Hawk** (seen on 28 trips with a high count of five). Some birds that were rare in 1939 are still rare for the state today. A single report for the year of six **Evening Grosbeaks** in Newburyport on April 16 would fit with today's status.

Not only were some of the birds different in 1939, but they also had different names. There was a fad then for geographic terms, such as "American": **American Egret** (Great Egret), **American Eider** (Common Eider), **American Scoter** (Black Scoter), and **American Merganser** (Common Merganser); and "Acadian": **Acadian Chickadee** (Boreal Chickadee) and **Acadian Sparrow** (Nelson's Sparrow). Some of those old names are still heard today, such as **Old-squaw** (Long-tailed Duck) and **Baldpate** (American Wigeon). Others are guessable: **Florida Gallinule** (Common Gallinule), **Upland Plover** (Upland Sandpiper), **Arkansas Kingbird** (Western Kingbird), **Migrant Shrike** (Loggerhead Shrike), **Bronzed Grackle** (Common Grackle), and **Red-eyed Towhee** (Eastern Towhee). And some of them are downright difficult! Check out our quiz on page 11.

The number of taxonomic differences is surprisingly small. "**Dowitcher**" had yet to be split into Short-billed and Long-billed. "**Alder Flycatcher**" would have included the cryptic Willow Flycatcher, which would only be recognized as a separate species in 1973. The checklist encouraged birders to differentiate the northern and prairie races of **Horned Lark**, and Yellow and Western **Palm Warblers**. Perhaps one of the most bizarre names on the checklist is a bird that no longer exists: **Red-legged Duck**. It sits on the list before "Common Black Duck". The distinguished Cambridge ornithologist, William Brewster, had declared the Red-legged Duck to be a subspecies of the (American) Black Duck. Despite much vilification from his peers, the subspecies designation survived until 1943 when it was finally dumped. Red-legged Ducks, it turned out, were just breeding male Black Ducks.

By the end of the 1939, the club had reported 233 species from 137 trips (compared to 285 species in 182 trips in 2019).

### References

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Nelson, J. 2012. The Brookline Bird Club: 1913-1945, *Bird Observer* 40 (5): 278-82. (Also available on the club website at <https://tinyurl.com/yaap98p6>)

Veit, R. R., and W. R. Petersen. 1993. *Birds of Massachusetts*. Lincoln, Mass. Massachusetts Audubon Society.

## BIRD NAME QUIZ

These bird names all appeared on the printed club checklist for 1939. How many do you know? Answers on page 30.

1. Holboell's Grebe
2. Marsh Hawk
3. Duck Hawk
4. Pigeon Hawk
5. Sparrow Hawk
6. Hudsonian Curlew
7. Red-backed Sandpiper
8. Atlantic Murre
9. Brunnich's Murre
10. Olive-backed Thrush

## SUMMER READING RECOMMENDATIONS

As we are all spending more time at home, the Board is sharing a list of some of our favorite books for your enjoyment during the long summer days ahead. Please visit the BBC website for additional suggestions and online resources.

### NEW & NOTABLE

*What It's Like to Be a Bird* (2020) by David Allen Sibley. A beautifully illustrated, large format study of what birds are doing and why, by longtime Massachusetts resident and renowned author/illustrator David Sibley. This is a wonderful book for non-birders, children who have an interest in birds, and both new and experienced birders.

*The Bird Way: A New Look at How Birds Talk, Work, Play, Parent and Think* (2020) by Jennifer Ackerman. A new book by the author of *The Genius of Birds* examines the unique “bird way” of being, based on the latest research.

*Birdsong for the Curious Naturalist* (2020) (with a companion website of the same name) by Donald Kroodsm. The book and website offer a comprehensive guide to appreciating and understanding bird song, with 734 recordings—more than 75 hours of bird sounds!—available for download and study at all levels.

*White Feathers: The Nesting Lives of Tree Swallows* (2020) by Bernd Heinrich. Observations and insights on Tree Swallow nesting behavior gleaned over nine breeding seasons.

### MEMOIR & ESSAYS

*Kingbird Highway: The Biggest Year in the Life of an Extreme Birder* (1997) by Kenn Kaufman. “The *On the Road* for birders,” this memoir chronicles the 1970s adventures of a young Kenn Kaufman after he dropped out of high school to go birding across the US on a shoestring budget (spoiler alert: eating cat food is involved).

*Lost Among the Birds: Accidentally Finding Myself in One Very Big Year* (2016) by Neil Hayward. A highly entertaining personal account of a record-breaking “accidental big year” by our very own BBC president.

*Flight Calls: Exploring Massachusetts through Birds* (2019) by John R. Nelson. Essays and stories about field adventures and the history and literature of Massachusetts birding, by the Chair of the BBC Conservation and Education Committee.

*To See Every Bird on Earth: A Father, a Son, and a Lifelong Obsession* (2006) by Dan Koeppel. A memoir about the thrill of the chase, detailing one man's 25-year odyssey to see over 7,000 species.

### HISTORY & NONFICTION

*Rat Island: Predators in Paradise and the World's Greatest Wildlife Rescue* (2011) by William Stolzenburg. A captivating account of conservation efforts aimed at eradicating predators and restoring bird populations on islands around the world.

*The Feather Thief: Beauty, Obsession, and the Natural History Heist of the Century* (2018) by Kirk Wallace Johnson. A riveting true-crime tale of the theft of rare bird skins from the British Museum of Natural History, the collection of the skins, and Victorian fly-tying.

*Of a Feather: A Brief History of American Birding* (2008) by Scott Weidensaul. An engaging history of how the shotgun ornithologists, opera glass ladies, listers, and citizen scientists shaped the evolution of birding in the US. Required reading for all modern American birders.

### BIRDS & NATURE OF MASSACHUSETTS

*Birds of Massachusetts and Other New England States* (1925-29) by Edward Howe Forbush. A pioneering study of our region's birds in three volumes by the first state ornithologist and speaker at the very first BBC meeting.

*The Nature of Massachusetts* (1996) by Christopher Leahy, John Hanson Mitchell, and Thomas Conuel. An excellent introduction to the natural history of Massachusetts by three prominent Mass Audubon Society naturalist-authors.

## NOTES TO TRIP PARTICIPANTS

**The ongoing coronavirus pandemic has caused the suspension of our trips until further notice.**

Below, we've provided the listing of our summer trips as they have appeared in past blue books.

However, when our trips resume, they are likely to look different. We are considering what a safe trip looks like. Restrictions might include limited participation with preregistration, safety recommendations such as wearing a mask, and avoidance of carpooling. Trip destinations may be limited due to continued closures or limitations on visiting. We are diligently working on specific guidelines for opening up some trips this summer, but await guidelines issued by the Governor's task force and his direction.

Please check our website for updates on when trips will resume and note any guidance for that trip.

Until then, we continue to value your membership.

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.

When trips do resume, 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. Carpooling is discouraged at this time.

Finally, while we don't have trips running at the time of press, we hope to provide other activities and resources this summer, so check our website for updates!

## PROGRAM OF TRIPS

June 30 — October 28, 2020

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

**PLEASE NOTE:** These trips are provisional. **Due to social distancing regulations at time of writing, these trips are suspended until further notice.** Please check the club web site for current information.

### Tuesday, June 30

#### Pine Hill Road Grasslands, Lancaster

6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Join us for the anniversary of the first BBC breeding bird conservation trip by recreating our first and highly successful event. We will be searching for breeding grassland MA Endangered Species Act birds, such as Vesper and Grasshopper Sparrow, and then for calling Eastern Whip-poor-wills as the evening fades to dusk. Meeting location: The first fork in Pine Hill Road in Lancaster, MA. This is about 1/3 of a mile from Harvard Road.

**Trip Leader:** Zack Weber  
[birdingwithzackweber@gmail.com](mailto:birdingwithzackweber@gmail.com)



### Friday, July 3

#### Quabbin Reservoir

7:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Join Glenn on a 4 to 5-mile walk through a very birdy area with species ranging from Broad-winged Hawk to Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Blue-headed Vireo, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Baltimore Oriole, and lots of stuff in between. (Maybe a moose or a bobcat!) Co-sponsored with the South Shore Bird Club. Meeting location: Gate 10 on Rt 202 in Pelham.

**Trip Leader:** Glenn d'Entremont, (781) 267-0442  
[gdentremont1@comcast.net](mailto:gdentremont1@comcast.net)

## Saturday, July 4

### Fruitlands Museum, Harvard

7:00 – 10:00 a.m.

All the nesting birds will still be around, with good views of young out of the nest, being fed by parents: Veery, Indigo Bunting, Catbird, Red-winged Blackbird, Tree Swallow, Bobolink, Wood Thrush, Baltimore Oriole, and Warblers. Expect to walk about 2 miles on trails through meadow and woods with some steep sections. Meeting location: Top parking lot at Fruitlands Museum, 102 Prospect Hill Road, Harvard.

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

Rita Grossman, (617) 834-7369  
rgibesgrossman@gmail.com

## Sunday, July 12

### Crane Pond WMA, Groveland

7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

We will search for breeding marsh birds such as bitterns or gallinules on this BBC conservation trip. We will also keep an eye out for interesting forest birds along the way. Waders may be helpful depending on water levels. Meeting location: Quaker Corner parking area on south end of J B Little Road, Groveland.

Trip Leader: Zack Weber  
birdingwithzackweber@gmail.com



## Saturday, July 18

### Plymouth Beach

6:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

We will walk the beach for shorebirds and nesting terns. Shorebird migration should be in full motion. Terns should be feeding almost-fledged young. Co-sponsored with the South Shore Bird Club and Friends of Myles Standish State Forest. Meeting location: Plymouth Beach parking area off Route 3A.

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

## Sunday, July 19

### Halibut Point State Park, Rockport

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Beginners encouraged. A two-hour walk over easy to moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. This walk is co-sponsored by Halibut Point State Park. Meeting location: Halibut Point State Park parking lot.

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



## Saturday, July 25

### Great Meadows NWR, Concord

7:00 – 10:00 a.m.

We will search for resident migrant birds as well as shorebirds. Meeting location: Visitor parking lot (entrance is off Monsen Road, which is off Route 62).

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

### Birding Sketchcrawl – Summer Series

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Come and bird/sketch favorite patches around Essex and Middlesex Counties. Contact leader for details. Call or email no later than July 24. Meeting location: Contact leader for details.

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

## Sunday, July 26

### Newburyport and Vicinity

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Beginners and those with limited mobility welcome. Meeting location: District Courthouse parking lot, Route 1 traffic circle.

Trip Leader: Cliff Cook, (339) 222-4518  
cook13@gmail.com



## Thursday, August 13

### Great Meadows NWR, Concord

7:30 – 11:00 a.m.

We will walk easy trails looking for birds and butterflies. Shorebirds and early fall migrants are expected. Beginners welcome. Meeting location: Visitor parking lot (entrance is off Monsen Road, which is off Route 62). We might move on from there to Nine-Acre Corner with possible extension to Drumlin Farm.

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



## Sunday, August 16

### Halibut Point State Park, Rockport

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Beginners encouraged. A two-hour walk over easy to moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. The walk is co-sponsored by Halibut Point State Park. Meeting location: Halibut Point State Park parking lot.

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



## Thursday, August 20

### Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Concord

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Meeting location: Visitor parking lot (entrance is off Monsen Road, which is off Route 62). Do not GPS "Great Meadows;" or it will take you to the Sudbury Unit!

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



## Sunday, August 23

### Delaney WMA

7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

We will spend the morning walking 3-4 miles through fields, forests, and wetlands looking for post-nesting birds and early migrants. Contact leader the night before in case of rain prediction. Meeting location: The boat launch parking lot off Harvard Road in Stow.

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

### Plum Island

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

We will drive and carpool down the Parker River Refuge in search of shorebirds and fall migrants. Meeting location: Parking lot #1 on the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge.

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

## Monday, August 24

### Plum Island

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Shorebirds and swallows. Meeting location: Parking lot #1 on the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge at 5:00 p.m.

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

## Saturday, August 29

### Shore Birding around Boston

7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Stops may include Belle Isle Marsh, The Key, Revere Beach, and Winthrop. Meeting location: Belle Isle Reservation parking lot, 1399 Bennington Street, Boston.

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

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

## Wednesday, September 2

### Danehy Park, Cambridge

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Join us for some weekday urban birding at Cambridge's Danehy Park. A small marsh, grasses, and open fields often attract unexpected birds in this setting. Co-sponsored with the Menotomy Bird Club. Meeting location: Parking lot at 99 Sherman Street, Cambridge.

Trip Leader: Mark Rosenstein, (617) 669-3134  
mar@actwin.com

## Thursday, September 3

### Nighthawks at Minute Man NHP

5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

We will begin with a pleasant one-mile walk on graded paths and boardwalks observing locally nesting species like Baltimore Oriole, Cedar Waxwing, Indigo Bunting, various flycatchers, and possibly some early fall migrants. The walk will culminate on the Elm Brook Boardwalk where we will watch for migrating Common Nighthawks. Co-sponsored with Minute Man NHP. In case of rain please contact Kathy by text for walk status. Meeting location: Minute Man NHP, Brooks Village Lot, 1175 Lexington Road (Route 2A).

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

## Saturday, September 5

### Daniel Webster Wildlife Sanctuary, Marshfield

7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Co-sponsored 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  
dentremont1@comcast.net

### Oxbow NWR, Harvard

7:30 – 10:30 a.m.

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: The 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

## Wednesday, September 9

### Danehy Park, Cambridge

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Join us for some weekday urban birding at Cambridge's Danehy Park. A small marsh, grasses, and open fields often attract unexpected birds in this setting. Co-sponsored with the Menotomy Bird Club. Meeting location: Parking lot at 99 Sherman Street, Cambridge.

**Trip Leader:** Mark Rosenstein, (617) 669-3134  
mar@actwin.com

## Saturday, September 12

### Plum Island

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Beginners and those with limited mobility welcome. Meeting location: District Courthouse parking lot, Route 1 traffic circle.

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



## Sunday, September 13

### Westboro Wildlife Management Area

6:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

We will take an easy to moderate walk through a mixture of habitats including grass fields, cornfields, swamps, forests, and thickets, in search of fall migrants. We will start the walk on the eastern trails between Big and Little Chauncy Ponds. If there is interest, we will walk the western trails. Meeting location: Westborough Town Beach Parking area at 60 Lyman Street.

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

## Wednesday, September 16

### Danehy Park, Cambridge

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Join us for some weekday urban birding at Cambridge's Danehy Park. A small marsh, grasses, and open fields often attract unexpected birds in this setting. Co-sponsored with the Menotomy Bird Club. Meeting location: Parking lot at 99 Sherman Street, Cambridge.

**Trip Leader:** Mark Rosenstein, (617) 669-3134  
mar@actwin.com

## Saturday, September 19

### Autumnal Equinox Walk

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Celebrate the beginning of the Fall season by birding favorite patches, locally and beyond. Contact leader for details. Call or email no later than September 18. Meeting location: Contact leader for details.

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

## Sunday, September 20

### Bolton Flats

7:00 – 10:00 a.m.

This walk will focus on fall migrant landbirds such as warblers and sparrows and any other kind of bird that we may turn up. The path is one or two miles long and is usually dry and grassy, but there may be a few large puddles to negotiate necessitating waterproof boots. Beginners are welcome. 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).

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

## Halibut Point State Park, Rockport

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Beginners encouraged. A two-hour walk over easy to moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. The walk is co-sponsored by Halibut Point State Park. Meeting location: Halibut Point State Park parking lot.

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



### Tuesday, September 22

## Plum Island

7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

We will be looking for migrating songbirds. We may visit Sandy Point as well, so be prepared to walk on sand. Meeting location: Parking lot #1 on the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge.

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

### Wednesday, September 23

## Danehy Park, Cambridge

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Join us for some weekday urban birding at Cambridge's Danehy Park. A small marsh, grasses, and open fields often attract unexpected birds in this setting. Co-sponsored with the Menotomy Bird Club. Meeting location: Parking lot at 99 Sherman Street, Cambridge.

**Trip Leader: Mark Rosenstein, (617) 669-3134**  
mar@actwin.com

### Saturday, September 26

## Fruitlands Museum, Harvard

7:00 – 9:30 a.m.

We will look for warblers, thrushes, sparrows, and raptors, among many other birds. Expect to walk about 2 miles on trails through meadow and woods, with some steep sections. Meeting location: Top parking lot at Fruitlands Museum, 102 Prospect Hill Road, Harvard.

**Trip Leaders: Rita Grossman, (617) 834-7369**  
rgibesgrossman@gmail.com

**Cassandra Oxley, (978) 270-1057**  
cassandra.oxley@gmail.com

## Nahanton Park, Newton and other nearby locations

8:00 – 10:30 a.m.

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

**Trip Leader: Haynes Miller, (617) 413-2419**  
millerhaynes@gmail.com

## Delaney WMA

7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

We will spend the morning walking 3-4 miles through fields, forests and wetlands looking for migrants and resident birds. Contact leader the night before if rain is predicted. Meeting location: The boat launch parking lot off Harvard Road in Stow.

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

### Wednesday, September 30

## Danehy Park, Cambridge

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Join us for some weekday urban birding at Cambridge's Danehy Park. A small marsh, grasses, and open fields often attract unexpected birds in this setting. Co-sponsored with the Menotomy Bird Club. Meeting location: Parking lot at 99 Sherman Street, Cambridge.

**Trip Leader: Mark Rosenstein, (617) 669-3134**  
mar@actwin.com

## Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Concord

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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

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

### Saturday, October 3

## Outer Cape Cod

6:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

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

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

### **Fresh Pond, Cambridge**

7:00 – 9:00 a.m.

A two-mile walk on paved paths around the pond. Meeting location: Trader Joe's at Fresh Pond parking lot.

**Trip Leader: Thomas Michel, (617) 365 1102**  
**Thomas\_Michel@hms.harvard.edu**

### **Sunday, October 4**

### **Gooseberry Neck, Westport**

6:30 – 8:30 a.m.

First early part of split trip with Allen's Pond to look for migrants. Meeting location: Gooseberry Neck parking lot.

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

### **Allens Pond, Dartmouth**

8:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Can be combined with Gooseberry Neck. 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. Meeting location: The beach lot at the corner of East Beach Road and Horseneck Road.

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

### **Assabet River NWR, Sudbury**

7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Walk the trails of this varied refuge. Meeting location: Visitor Center, Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge, 680 Hudson Road, Sudbury.

**Trip Leader: Nick Tepper, (978) 399-9216**  
**nicholastepper6739@gmail.com**

### **Wednesday, October 7**

### **Danehy Park, Cambridge**

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Join us for some weekday urban birding at Cambridge's Danehy Park. A small marsh, grasses, and open fields often attract unexpected birds in this setting. Co-sponsored with the Menotomy Bird Club. Meeting location: Parking lot at 99 Sherman Street, Cambridge.

**Trip Leader: Mark Rosenstein, (617) 669-3134**  
**mar@actwin.com**

### **Thursday, October 8**

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

8:00 – 11:00 a.m.

We will walk easy trails looking for birds. This is a good time for raptors. Beginners welcome. Meeting location: Refuge parking lot off Mosen Road (off Route 62). We might move on from there to Nine-Acre Corner with possible extension to Drumlin Farm.

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



### **Saturday, October 10**

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

8:00 – 11:00 a.m.

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. Meeting location: Refuge parking lot off Mosen Road (off Route 62).

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

### **Sunday, October 11**

### **Big Sit at Bolton Flats WMA, Lancaster**

6:30 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

A Big Sit at the far corner of the first field from the main Route 117 parking lot. I will be there from a half hour before sunrise to a half hour after sunset. Anyone may come and join me for any portion of the big sit, or just bird the refuge and stop by. Meeting location: The main Route 117 parking lot for Bolton Flats.

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

### **Tuesday, October 13**

### **Plum Island**

7:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

We will visit Sandy Point as well, so be prepared to walk on sand. Meeting location: Parking lot #1 on the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge.

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

## Wednesday, October 14

### Danehy Park, Cambridge

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Join us for some weekday urban birding at Cambridge's Danehy Park. A small marsh, grasses, and open fields often attract unexpected birds in this setting. Co-sponsored with the Menotomy Bird Club. Meeting location: Parking lot at 99 Sherman Street, Cambridge.

**Trip Leader:** Mark Rosenstein, (617) 669-3134  
mar@actwin.com

## Saturday, October 17

### Birding Sketchcrawl – Fall Series

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Come and bird/sketch favorite patches around Essex and Middlesex Counties. Contact leader for details. Call or email no later than October 16. Meeting location: Contact leader for details.

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

### Nahanton Park, Newton and other nearby locations

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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

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

### Wachusett Reservoir, Clinton

8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

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

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

## Sunday, October 18

### Fresh Pond, Cambridge

7:00 – 9:00 a.m.

A two-mile walk on paved paths around the pond. Meeting location: Trader Joe's Fresh Pond parking lot.

**Trip Leader:** Thomas Michel, (617) 365 1102  
Thomas\_Michel@hms.harvard.edu



### Halibut Point State Park, Rockport

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Beginners encouraged. A two-hour walk over easy to moderate trails in search of seasonal specialties. Boots advisable. The walk is co-sponsored by Halibut Point State Park. Meeting location: Halibut Point State Park parking lot.

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

## Wednesday, October 21

### Danehy Park, Cambridge

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Join us for some weekday urban birding at Cambridge's Danehy Park. A small marsh, grasses, and open fields often attract unexpected birds in this setting. Co-sponsored with the Menotomy Bird Club. Meeting location: Parking lot at 99 Sherman Street, Cambridge.

**Trip Leader:** Mark Rosenstein, (617) 669-3134  
mar@actwin.com

## Saturday, October 24

### Fruitlands Museum, Harvard

7:30 – 9:30 a.m.

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.

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

Rita Grossman, (617) 834-7369  
rgibesgrossman@gmail.com

### Boston Nature Center, Mattapan

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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

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

### Cold Spring Park, Newton

8:00 – 11:00 a.m.

An easy walk on flat trails. We will look for fall migrants and resident birds. Co-sponsored with the Newton Conservators. Meeting location: End of the left side of Beacon Street Parking lot.

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



### Sunday, October 25

### Fresh Pond, Cambridge

8:00 – 10:00 a.m.

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, Cambridge.

**Trip Leader: Bob Petersen, (617) 875-1050**  
[robert.petersen@childrens.harvard.edu](mailto:robert.petersen@childrens.harvard.edu)

### Wednesday, October 28

### Danehy Park, Cambridge

7:30 – 9:00 a.m.

Join us for some weekday urban birding at Cambridge's Danehy Park. A small marsh, grasses, and open fields often attract unexpected birds in this setting. Co-sponsored with the Menotomy Bird Club. Meeting location: Parking lot at 99 Sherman Street, Cambridge.

**Trip Leader: Mark Rosenstein, (617) 669-3134**  
[mar@actwin.com](mailto:mar@actwin.com)

### 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). 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.

### 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.

### ANSWERS TO QUIZ:

1. **Red-necked Grebe** (Holboell's Grebe); 2. **Northern Harrier** (Marsh Hawk); 3. **Peregrine Falcon** (Duck Hawk); 4. **Merlin** (Pigeon Hawk); 5. **American Kestrel** (Sparrow Hawk); 6. **Whimbrel** (Hudsonian Curlew); 7. **Dunlin** (Red-backed Sandpiper); 8. **Common Murre** (Atlantic Murre); 9. **Thick-billed Murre** (Brunnich's Murre); 10. **Swainson's Thrush** (Olive-backed Thrush).

## 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)



*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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## NOTES

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

Annual memberships run from January–December. Please complete this form and return to Jill Mathieu, BBC Membership, 182 N Worcester St., Norton, MA 02766. 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).

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