



THE CHICKADEE

Newsletter of the New Haven Bird Club

June 2017

2017 CALENDAR

Outdoor programs will resume in mid-August and indoor programs in September. A complete list will be in the yearbook which will be mailed to you later this summer. The August issue of *The Chickadee* will have information about upcoming programs. Also, refer to the website for information.

Indoor Programs

Monthly indoor programs start in September and are held on the second Thursday of the month. The social half-hour at meetings begins at 7:00 pm; the meeting and program begin at 7:30 pm. Inclement weather or other emergency may cancel a meeting. Cancellation notices will be sent via the club email, and will be posted on the club website, www.newhavenbirdclub.org, and online on [ctbirds.org](http://ctbirds.org/calendar.htm). Meetings are at Whitney Center, Cultural Arts Center, 200 Leeder Hill Drive, Hamden. The facility is wheelchair accessible. Meeting is in Whitney Center's South Building, accessed via the main door of the portico that is in view from the parking lot. Turn right down the hallway. Cultural Arts Center is a short distance on the left.

Outdoor Programs

All levels of birders are invited to all field trips, and every effort is made on all trips to help beginners. If you are new to birding or have any special needs, please be sure to let the leader know at the start of the field trip. More details, if required, and/or updates on these trips will be given at the indoor meetings and in the newsletter. Watch for emails sent by the Club. You can also check the Club's website: www.newhavenbirdclub.org for trip information and a Google Map link to the meeting place. Or contact trip leaders directly if you have questions about any of their trips. The New Haven Bird Club does not charge any fees for its outdoor programs, but participants are responsible for the cost of their food, transportation, and entrance fees (where charged), unless the Club makes prior arrangements. Carpooling is encouraged to avoid parking problems at some destinations and to promote conservation of natural resources.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The Beginner Birder

Remember when you started birding? The experts had all the luck, the beginners...nothing. The experts knew where to go. They knew when to go. They always had birds. They could look at a speck on the distant horizon and ID the raptor or could walk in the

woods and with a flash sighting tell you that the bird was a first winter Alder Flycatcher. They could spot a bird high in the canopy among the shimmering leaves or get the bird in their scope in under a second. Meanwhile the beginner can't find the bird or could take minutes to frame up the patient Semipalmated Sandpiper in the scope.

Watch the beginner with their bright-eyed enthusiasm. They soon learn about the seasonal timing, the habitats. They will hone skills so that their scope or binoculars become an extension of their eyeballs. After they have amassed the skills and knowledge try telling them they are lucky. It came from hard work. Luck is an illusion for those who don't have it.

The longer I bird the more I yearn for those beginner days. I had no expectations for myself. I allowed myself the mistakes and the frustrations. The rewards of beginning birding are phenomenal. Every spring starting in April I think I can reset by level back to beginner and start fresh. But I can't erase my knowledge or memories. I find myself in Sleeping Giant State Park thinking "This is the time and place when the Eastern Phoebe and Pine Warblers show up." I know where and when to look and can't simply erase my memory. The trick is not to lose the beginners' enthusiasm and sense of awe.

I travel to other areas, different parts of the continent or to other countries to try to regain my beginner status. I just got back from a great trip to Finland where all the birds were new. We needed to buy our luck in the form of a guide who knew where all the birds were or should be. The level of excitement and awe among the tour group of experienced birders beginning in a new land was palpable.

I brought my wife on this Finland trip. She has a love of birds but is not a birder. She loves seeing and watching birds but does not keep a list. It was our turn to be in the back of the tour bus as we traveled the back, dirt roads of northern Finland. Everyone was scouring the landscape when our tour guide yelled "MALE HAZEL GROUSE!" The bus came to an abrupt stop lurching everyone forward. This grouse is a beautiful bird, finely patterned, brown wings, grey upper body, flecked with

(Continued on next page)

New Haven Bird Club Website
www.newhavenbirdclub.org

NEW HAVEN BIRD CLUB – 2017-2018

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(President's Message Continued from first page)

chestnut underneath and a black chin. This was a life bird for most of us and we wanted to get pictures. The excitement was high. The bird would fly from one side of the road to the other whenever our guide would whistle. She was trying to keep the bird in view. As it would fly to the opposite side of the road everyone would immediately jump to the opposite side of the bus, pressing themselves up against the windows, long camera lenses would poke through the mass of bodies to get a view. We must have looked like 15 people playing a game of twister in complete winter garb and expensive optics. TWEEEEEEt, the bird would fly to the other side and the mass of birders would slam into the other side of the bus along with it. The bus was rocking.

I shook off my hysteria for a moment and looked back at my wife. She was in a deep belly laugh. Sure, she got great views of the Hazel Grouse but she was now watching the birders and found us hysterical. We are comical in our enthusiasm no matter how new or how experienced. I had to laugh too.

May the birds always fill us with a sense of awe.

--Craig Repasz

Notes from the Board

The next board meeting will be Thursday, August 24 at 6:45 at Whitney Center.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Vincent and Rosemarie Brancato
New York, NY

Gilles Carter
New Haven

Carrie Conrad
Northford

Mark and Susan Fenaughty
Cheshire

Nate Grubman
New Haven

Tim Holahan
New Haven

Geralyn F. Lawson
Hamden

Adrienne Malane
Hamden

Valerie Milewski
East Haven

Gian Andrea Morresi
Bridgeport

Lisa SanSoucie
Prospect

Russell Norton and Maria Scaglione
Hamden

Trip Reports

Report for First Wednesday Walk, April 5, Milford Point

On a calm, relatively warm morning (beginning at 43 degrees and rising to 49), 20 birders gathered at the Connecticut Audubon Coastal Center at 8:00 AM, about 49 minutes after high tide. Because the main sandbar is split in half at high tide, we first observed the marsh from the parking lot platform. Good numbers of ducks were around, including Green-winged Teal, Gadwall, Black Duck, Mallard, American Wigeon, Red-breasted Merganser, Hooded Merganser, Bufflehead, and a dozen Northern Shovelers. Brant (the most numerous bird), Canada Goose, and Mute Swan were also seen, as well as waders (Great Blue Heron, Great & Snowy Egret). A single Osprey was on the platform next to the CACC, but a pair was nest building on another platform further north. Tucked into the SW corner of the marsh were, as is their habit, 4 recently arrived Greater Yellowlegs. Overhead, we were treated to a constant flow of returning Tree Swallows. After about 50 minutes we began walking out to the main sandbar (watched by a juvenile Cooper's Hawk perched on a small tree near the path between Smith's Point Road and the viewing platform). As we were doing an initial scan of the main sandbar from the platform, Tina Green and Frank Mantlik noticed a shape, and suddenly Frank announced, "Short-eared Owl," as one flew up from the grassy area to the west. Great looks were had by all. We moved slowly onto the shore, and heard, and then saw well, the breeding birds (Piping Plover, Killdeer, and American Oystercatcher), all exhibiting courting and territory-establishing behavior and vocalization. Offshore there were no rafts of ducks around, but we saw Common Goldeneye, Long-tailed Duck, Horned Grebe, Red-throated Loon, and many Common Loons (at least 35). On the main sandbar, where earlier there had been a pair of Horned Lark, we found 4 Black-bellied Plover, while Sanderling and Dunlin formed foraging flocks of at least 200 each, at times merging into spectacular masses of fast-moving shorebirds. As we were leaving, Frank Mantlik again found another treat, a silvery-gray Iceland Gull that was mixed in with a small number of other gulls. Al in all, we totaled 56 species, and at the end of our trip the sun came out.



Photo by Chris Howe

--Steve Spector

Report for Richard English Memorial Field trip, April 8

We had a wonderful fieldtrip yesterday (Sat 4/8/17). It was the annual Richard English Memorial Field trip to Lighthouse Point Park, The Richard English Bird Sanctuary at the Deer Lake Scout Camp in Killingworth and Hammonasset Beach State Park. We had lovely weather although quite windy in the morning. Some of the highlights were: 3 Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers (LHPP), a Little Blue Heron (LHPP!), a Wilson's Snipe posing for pictures (Hammo), 100+ Brants, 3 Glossy Ibis, 3 Eastern Phoebe, a Raven, an Eastern Bluebird, 2 Golden Crowned Kinglets

I want to thank very much Laurie Reynolds for acting as scribe and posting her lists and pictures from all 3 sites on e-bird.

--Mike Horn

Report for Ansonia Nature & Recreation Center, April 29

On Saturday, April 29, 5 birders spent the morning at the Ansonia Nature Center. 40 species were seen: Canada Goose, Mallard, Common Loon (flyover), Turkey Vulture, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Mourning Dove, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Eastern Wood-Pewee (dusky vest, dark head, no flicking of the tail), Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, House Wren, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Ovenbird, Blue-winged Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Chipping Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, House Finch, American Goldfinch, House Sparrow.

--Maria Stockmal

Report for First Wednesday Walk, May 3, East Rock Park



Photo by Chris Howe

The NHBC First Wednesday was held at East Rock Park in New Haven on May 3rd. Dozens of attendees split into two groups, one led by Jerry Connolly and the second by John Oshlick and Bill Batsford.

Both groups had great success with a total of 14 warbler species seen and heard, including Blackburnian, Blackpoll, Northern Parula, Northern Waterthrush, Worm-eating Warbler and many Black-and-White and Yellow Warblers. Rose-breasted Grosbeaks and Scarlet Tanagers were welcome. Special treats were excellent views of Yellow-throated Vireo and 2 Veery. Good weather, good birders and

good birds made for a very enjoyable morning.

--Bill Batsford for John Oshlick and Jerry Connolly



Photo by DeWitt Allen

Report for Hartman Park Walk, May 10

On May 10, 6 birders participated in the NHBC Hartman Park walk in Lyme. We tallied 54 species of birds. Most of the birds we encountered were local breeders. Highlights included 5 singing Cerulean warblers and 3 Yellow-billed Cuckoos.



Photo by Chris Howe

Everyone had excellent looks at the Ceruleans and the Cuckoos. We were also treated to excellent views of cooperative Ovenbirds, Worm-eating warblers, and Yellow-throated Vireos. The group was also treated to seeing a Yellow Warbler nest and a rarely seen Blue-gray Gnatcatcher nest.

--John Oshlick

Report for Naugatuck State Forest Field Trip, May 21

On Sunday, May 21, twenty-five club members went on a memorable hike through the Naugatuck State Forest West Block in search of breeding birds and migrants. We started at the brushy overgrown field south of Hunters Mountain Road. We got great looks at Prairie Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, and Scarlet Tanager there. We then hiked down the trail heading south from the end of the road. We eventually made it to the large freshwater pond along the trail. There, we saw pairs of Eastern Kingbirds and Tree Swallows near a beaver lodge. We were pleased to find a Solitary Sandpiper and a Northern Waterthrush foraging at the edge of the lesser pond near the main trail. Notable sightings along the trail included Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Yellow-throated Vireo, and Worm-eating and Magnolia Warbler. We then walked down the scenic ravine trail that parallels a cascading brook. Species we encountered there included Acadian Flycatcher, Louisiana Waterthrush, and Swainson's Thrush. We then walked along the Spruce Brook Road, past the rifle range, and then back to our starting point, seeing and hearing several nice birds along the way. Before we called an end to our long but rewarding trip, we hiked through the brushy field north of the road. There, we saw Indigo Bunting, Eastern Bluebird, and Blue-winged, Yellow, and Prairie Warblers. We recorded a total of 67 species, a fine total for a fine day.

--Chris Loscalzo

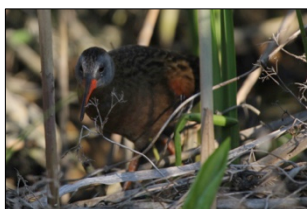


Photo by Chris Howe

Report on Durham Meadows and Coginchaug River Wednesday Afternoon Walk, May 24

Under clear skies, thirty-five birders enjoyed the avian life and scenery of Durham Meadows and the Coginchaug River on the New Haven Bird Club Fourth Wednesday afternoon trip. Our four stops were at the Route 68 skating pond, Frederick White Farm open space, Route 17 South Meadow, and Route 147 at the Durham/Middlefield town line. The Coginchaug ("The Great Swamp") flows north from Myer Huber Pond in Guilford through Durham and Middletown and into Cromwell, where it joins the Mattabesset River and delivers tributary flow to the Connecticut River (Wilcox Island, Arrigoni Bridge). Along the way, it passes through Durham Meadows Wildlife Management Area, Wadsworth Falls State Park, and Cromwell Meadows Wildlife Management Area. For those who venture into the heart of the wetland, Durham Meadows is a Red Maple-Green Ash-Tussock Sedge swamp of considerable beauty and biological diversity.

We tallied some 40 species of birds, the highlights of which were Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, an ibis species dropping into Durham Meadows (White Farm), three Virginia Rails (two coming into close view at Route 147),



Virginia Rail
Photo by Alan Malina

Belted Kingfisher, a pair of American Kestrels at their nest cavity (White Farm), Eastern Wood-Pewee, Willow Flycatchers, Warbling Vireos, Eastern Bluebird, Blue-winged Warbler (Route 147), Swamp Sparrows, and an estimated 16-20 Bobolinks (White Farm). A pre-walk, solo one hour canoe ride on the Coginchaug at Route 147 produced a pair of Wood Ducks, a sighting of Least Bittern, a calling Sora, a pair of Great Crested Flycatchers, a pair of Eastern Kingbirds, a half-dozen Marsh Wrens, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Veery, and Northern Waterthrush on territory.

--Steve Broker

Report for Kellogg Environmental Center/Osbornedale State Park walk, May 27

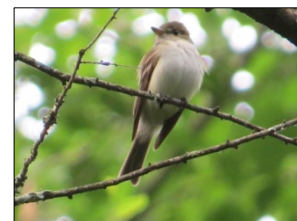
Maria Stockmal led a walk through Kellogg Environmental Center/Osbornedale State Park on Saturday, May 27. 51 species were seen: Canada Goose, Double-crested Cormorant, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Red-tailed Hawk, Mourning Dove, Chimney Swift, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Warbling Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, House Wren, Eastern Bluebird, Veery, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, European Starling, Cedar Waxwing, Blue-winged Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Yellow Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Chipping Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Indigo Bunting, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Baltimore Oriole, American Goldfinch, House Sparrow.

--Maria Stockmal

Report for Bent of the River Sanctuary Trip, June 3

About fifteen people, beginners and experienced birders, enjoyed what turned into a 4 hour long stroll through the Bent of the River's deciduous and coniferous woods, its shrubby meadows, and riparian corridor. We saw or heard an incredible 65 species. We had great views of an Acadian Flycatcher, got to see a fledgling Veery, watched a Blue-winged Warbler build a nest, and found an unexpected Hooded Merganser. What a day!

65 species seen: Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Mallard, Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Red-shouldered Hawk, Mourning Dove, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Acadian Flycatcher, (Pair building a nest on the cascade trail. The male was singing, the female was making sounds that sounded more like a Least Flycatcher while working on the nest.)



Acadian Flycatcher

Eastern Phoebe, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Yellow-throated Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Eastern Bluebird, Veery, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Ovenbird, Worm-eating Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, Blue-winged Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Yellow Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Black-



Prairie Warbler

throated Green Warbler, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Baltimore Oriole, House Finch, American Goldfinch, House Sparrow.

--Corrie Folsom-O'Keefe

Garlic Mustard Pull

A handful of NHBC members met with Ranger Dan Barvir at 10:00 Sunday morning, April 23. We targeted areas around the Whitney Museum where we have focused our previous garlic mustard pulls in the past few years.

The area has less and less garlic mustard. Plant communities of indigenousness Dutchman's Breeches, *Dicentra cucullaria*, have taken over. This plant community is beneficial to native insects. The nectar of the flowers attracts long-tongued bees primarily, including honeybees, bumblebees, mason bees (*Osmia* spp.), and Anthophorid bees (*Anthophora* spp.), *Synhalonia* spp., *Habropoda laboriosus*). Less common visitors include short-tongued Andrenid bees (*Andrena* spp.), *Bombylius major* (Giant Bee Fly), various butterflies, and skippers. These insects of course would support our ground feeders like the Ovenbird, Worm Eating Warbler and Wood Thrush.

Thanks to all club members who have participated in these garlic mustard pulls over the years. We have a lot to show for our efforts.

--Craig Repasz

Hamden Earth Day



Conservation committee co-chairs Charles Strasser and Deb Johnson joined me on April 22 for Hamden Earth Day. It was a very well attended event. We had a child activity station for bird stenciling and rubbings that was busy all day. Many people stopped by our tables – we hope

to see some of them at bird club events in the future.

--Lori Datlow

New Haven Science Fair



The youngest among us have scored again. The first graders in Diane Huot's class at Conte - West Hills School have walked away with our top honors at The New Haven Science Fair 2017. As usual, the project was a class project typical of grades K through 4.

The project had to do with seeing what the differences are between a city park - Quinnipiac River Park south of Grand Avenue - and the Eugene B Fargeorge Wildlife Preserve that the NH Bird Club has had fieldtrips to for many years.

In the pictures, Diane Huot is on the extreme left. The Children, left to right, Sarjah, Alyany and Juan Danial, were eager, well behaved and full of the wonder of seeing a wilder world. They bubbled over with the things they saw and the things they learned about birds, mammals and reptiles and invertebrates to Pat's questions.

It became obvious that their teacher, Diane Huot, did a wonderful job.

It is Diane's goal to use the \$200.00 to enhance the new schoolyard habitat.



-- Michael Horn

Annual Banquet 2017

Our banquet at Amarante's featured a change to the food setup. Instead of a sit-down dinner, we wanted to enable a better flow for both socializing and getting the food in a timely fashion. We will be working with Amarante's on improvements for next year.

Many thanks to the people most instrumental in pulling it all together--Gail DeMartino and Andrea Kerin. In addition to arranging for the raffle donations, they selected Gina Beebe Nichol of Sunrise Birding to do a wonderful presentation on birding on the Greek island of Lesbos.

Our President, Craig Repasz, did his usual excellent job of speaking about this year's club activities, plus presenting Outdoor Chairperson Bill Batsford with a special President's award.

More gratitude is due for the many generous donations for the raffle. To name just a few: Chris Loscalzo and Marianne Vahey have contributed extensively to this club in time, food, trips, walks, organizing events--thank you! Jim Zipp of Fat Robin in Hamden has been another steadfast member and friend to the NHBC.

I think it's not too soon to think about next year. While going about your everyday business and pleasures, please consider who you can ask to donate an item or service for 2018's banquet. (My chiropractor, for instance, has already agreed to donate a massage by his on-staff massage therapist.)

Volunteers to help out at events during the year are always welcome for an hour or two. Let me know directly if you can consider this. I set up a bird club table at about 5 events a year. Thank you to those of you who have already done this.

And feedback, please! This is your club! Let us know what we have done right or wrong.

--Lori Datlow
Education Chair

Articles of Interest to Birders

Bird Club members have recommended a few articles they thought would be of interest to other members.

One article is in the Yale News and is about the use of 3D printers at the Peabody Museum to create models to augment the collection. The complete article can be found at http://news.yale.edu/2017/04/07/digital-birds-perch-yale-s-peabody-museum?utm_source=YNemail&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=yn-04-10-17

Another article is from the University of Exeter in England. It tells about a study that shows that watching birds is good for your mental health. It can be found at http://www.exeter.ac.uk/news/featurednews/title_571299_en.html

2017 President's Award

We are an organization of volunteers who offer their time, talents and hard work to make the New Haven Bird Club soar.

I have used the allegory in the past that our officers, board members, trip leaders and all the volunteers are like swan's feet. Behind the scenes, under the surface they paddle away without ceasing. The club like the swan effortlessly, gracefully glides across the surface of the lake.

I have thought about renaming the annual president's award the New Haven Bird Club Web Swan Foot Award. I struggle with the award. All past recipients are more than worthy. But on the other hand, people who have not received the award are also worthy. There is a trend to give the award to someone who is stepping down from the board. In an attempt, not to entice people to quit I won't do that.

This year's recipient is originally from New York. While at Cornell -- Go Big Red -- he was unaware of the Lab of Ornithology there. He came to New Haven to join the Yale Medical School faculty. He was introduced to birding here in New Haven in East Rock Park. He is an avid Yankees fan and first thought our tufted titmouse was saying "Derek Jeter Jeter Jeter."

Fortunately for us Bill is an avid photographer and shares his photos in our newsletter and web site.

Bill is the type to jump in and get involved. After only two years of being a general member of the club he joined the board as the Indoor Program Chair. He has served as conservation chair, vice president and president. Not one to retire and build his presidential library Bill stayed on and filled the very large shoes of Chris Loscalzo who was stepping down as the outdoor program chair two years ago. Bill didn't miss a beat. Our field trips remain active and the cornerstone of the club's identity.

Bill can be seen at conservation projects at the Stewart B McKinney Refuge, East Rock and Lighthouse point. He also serves on the board of the Connecticut Ornithological



Bill Batsford and Craig Repasz
Photo by DeWitt Allen

Association and as their Outdoor Program Chair. As president I have come to rely on Bill's wisdom, experience and steady ways.

I am happy to present this year's New Haven Bird Club President's Award to Dr Bill Batsford.

--Craig Repasz

BE SURE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.newhavenbirdclub.org

There are now Google Map links for the meeting places of trips.

NHBC Winter Feeder Survey 2016-2017 Final Report - April 24, 2017

Another warm winter. We also had a few temperature swings where the temperature went from 50°F one day to 20°F the next day and a few 10°F mornings and then back up to 30°F daytime. In all the temperatures were relatively mild (between 40°F and 50°F daytime) during the whole surveying season. We had one big snow storm this year on February 9th, and about 30 days later in March we had another, but this time it dropped between 7 and 19 inches.

This year unlike last year we had an abundance of White-throated Sparrows and Dark-eyed Juncos. Purple Finches were seen by many surveyors during the first week of the survey and then only one was seen every week for the rest of the survey. A few Pine Siskins were seen in the first five weeks of the survey and Red-breasted Nuthatches were seen every week of the survey. One Baltimore Oriole was seen in the first week of the survey. We saw a total of **51** species of birds this year.

We had 20 surveyors this year and again we were widely scattered around New Haven County.

The last seven weeks (16-22):

Common List: We had **34** of **34** species. A Purple Finch was seen 5 out of 7 weeks by Maria Stockmal and Ellie Tessmer saw one in week 20. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were seen by Laurie Reynolds and Edward Sprowson. Redwing Blackbirds were back in force with 86 seen in week 21.

Uncommon List: We had **8** out of **39** species seen and they were: **American Tree Sparrow** (Maria Stockmal), **Brown Creeper** (Maris Fiondella, Laurie Reynolds), **Cedar Wax Wings** (Martha Asarisi, Edward Sprowson), **Kestrel** (Martha Asarisi), **Pileated Woodpecker** (Laurie Reynolds, Dean Rupp, Andy Stack), **Red-breasted Nuthatch** (Maris Fiondella, Nancy Morand, Philip Pivawer, Tim and Kate Rodgers, Pete Vitali, Charlotte White), **Red-shouldered Hawk** (Martha Asarisi), **Turkey Vulture** (Martha Asarisi).

Waterfowl list: We had **2** out of **8** species seen; **Canada Goose** and **Mallard**, both seen by Nancy Morand.

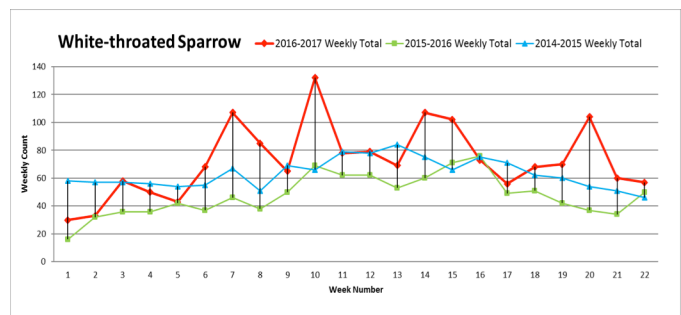
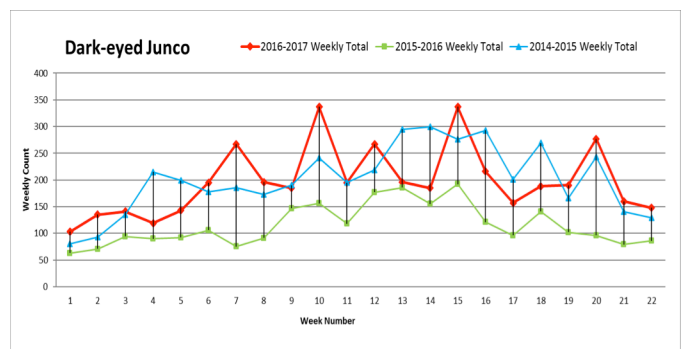
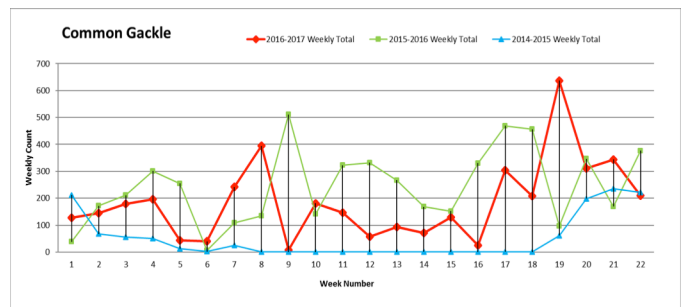
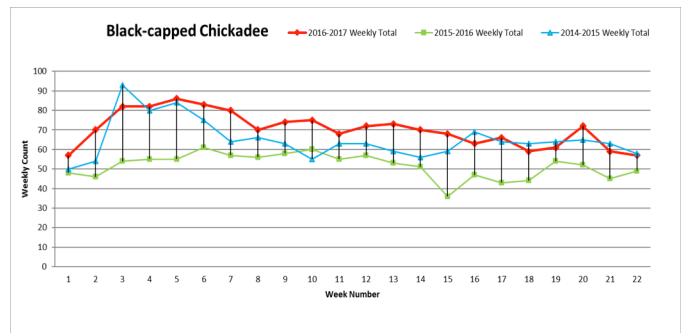
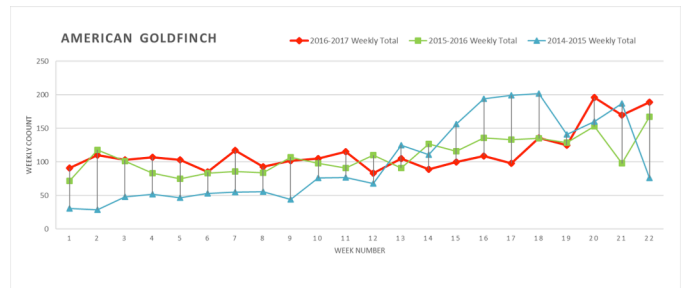
Animal List: **Gray Squirrel** led the way, with the following having counts of 1 to 15: **Chipmunk**, **Coyote**, **Feral Cat**, **Fisher** (or Mink not sure which), **Opossum**, **Rabbit**, **Raccoon**, **Red Fox**, **Skunk**, **White tail Deer**, **Woodchuck**.

I have attached graphs of 5 species, with 3 trend lines, one for each year:

2014-2015 Blue, 2015-2016 Green and 2016-2017 Red.

A look at the graphs shows that the **American Goldfinch** finished this year about the same as last year. The **Black-capped Chickadee** was overall better than the last two years. The **Common Grackle** was anywhere from 50 to 600 depending on how many surveyors had large flocks descending on their feeders during the same week. A lot of flocks were 250 or more. I adjusted the graph so that the 1000 bird anomaly last year did not distort it. The number of **Dark-eyed Juncos** came back this year after a low last year. The **White-throated Sparrow** recovered after last year's low.

Graphs of Weekly Count of 5 Species



--Peter Vitali
NHBC Winter Feeder Survey Chairman



NEW HAVEN BIRD CLUB
P.O. BOX 9004
NEW HAVEN, CT 06532-0004

Newsletter June 2017

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You can also join or renew membership at the NHBC website with credit card or PayPal.

The NHBC membership year is from July 1 to June 30. New members joining between January 1 and June 30 are given full membership for the rest of the current year and for the whole next membership year.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

New Haven Bird Club is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. All dues and donations are fully tax deductible. If you work for a company that gives matching grants, please take advantage of the offer. It's free and helps NHBC's program budget.

The Club welcomes everyone irrespective of age, race, gender, sexual orientation, or national origin.

If your address, phone or email change, please send that information to: New Haven Bird Club, PO Box 9004, New Haven CT 06532-0004 or contact the Membership Chair, DeWitt Allen: 860.949.0995 or allendatlow@gmail.com.

NHBC does not release its membership list or email addresses to other organizations.

The NHBC website offers information about the Club, its programs, and other Club and member news. The web address is www.newhavenbirdclub.org. If you have any questions about the Club, you can send an email to: ask.nhbc@gmail.com.

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