



THE CHICKADEE

Newsletter of the New Haven Bird Club

August 2015

2015 CALENDAR

(See inside for details)

Friday, August 7, 6:00 pm **Beginners' Bird Walk at Stratford Point**

Saturday, August 15, 9:00 am **COA Shorebird Workshop - CT Audubon Coastal Center at Milford Point, Milford**

Saturday, August 22, 8:00 am Walk and 9:30 Cleanup **Lighthouse Point Park Bird Walk/ Prep for Migration Festival**

August 31 to December 1 **Daily Hawk Watch at Lighthouse Point**

Wednesday, September 2, 8:00 am **First Wednesday Walk: CT Audubon Coastal Center, Milford**

Thursday, September 10, 7:00 pm **Daniel Jared Field - From Big Years to Big Eras: Birding through Geological Time**

Saturday, September 12, 9 am to noon **Litter Cleanup: Sandy Point IBA Bird Sanctuary, West Haven**

Tuesday, March 15, 7:00 pm **Birds in Words: Journey into Summer by Edwin Way Teale**

Sunday, September 20, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm **Annual Migration Festival, Lighthouse Point Park**

Monday, September 28, 7:30 am **Yale University Golf Course, New Haven**

Saturday, October 3, 7:30 am **Kellogg Environmental Center/ Osbornedale St. Park, Derby**

Wednesday, October 7, 8:00 am **First Wednesday Walk: Lighthouse Point Park, New Haven**

Thursday, October 8, 7:00 pm **Dave Winston - Love Your Patch!**

Saturday and Sunday, October 10-11 **THE BIG SIT! ®**

Sunday, October 11, 2:30 pm **Beginners' Bird Walk at Griswold Point, Old Lyme (Note new date)**

Saturday, October 17, 8:00 am **Hammonasset Beach State Park, Madison**

Sunday, October 18, 8:00 am **Beacon Cap, Bethany**

Saturday, October 24, 7:30 am **Branford Supply Ponds**

Saturday, October 31, 8:00 am **Fargeorge Wildlife Preserve, Quinnipiac River, New Haven**

November 1 through March 31, 2016 **NHBC 23rd Annual Winter Feeder Survey**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



"Don't wish away time."

At this time of year, this old adage does not apply to birders. We can wish away the dead of winter and wish for the ponds to open and bring back the ducks. We can wish away the summer doldrums and hope for the fall migration.

Consider the ovenbird, the "Loud, a mid-summer and a mid-wood bird" Robert Frost observed in his poem, that sings well into the doldrums between the fall of the petals in the spring and the fall of the leaves in the autumn when other forest birds have grown silent. The summer doldrums lead me to reminisce back to the spring migration and the nesting season.

Teacher, Teacher, TEACHER! We are transported back to earlier springs. We leave the chicory and Queen Anne's lace of summer and go back to the forsythia and trout lilies that bloomed when the ovenbirds first sang for us from the forest depths. Teacher, Teacher, TEACHER!

By now we have received the club Yearbook for 2015-2016. The inside front cover lists club members who have passed. These were our friends, our teachers and they will be missed for seasons to come. If we wish away time in our anticipation of the next birding season, do we also wish away the precious time that we have with our teachers and friends?

Can we wish back time once we have wished it away? This time of year we may feel the loss of some the great birders, our friends, who shared with us their knowledge and sense of awe in past springs.

As I write this, I look at a pile of mail full of back-to-school flyers from department stores. These flyers come concurrently with the semipalmated plovers and sandpipers on our shores. We have a new start, a new calendar of trips, new teachers and new friends. The summer doldrums are almost over and it's time to go birding. May a Red Phalarope be on your next trip.

--Craig Repasz

NHBC website: www.newhavenbirdclub.org

NEW HAVEN BIRD CLUB – 2015-2016

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SPECIAL PROGRAMS

<i>The BIG SIT</i>	John Triana jtriana1@sbcglobal.net	203.758.7203
<i>Birds in Words</i>	Kris Johnson kriswaxwing99@gmail.com	203.288.3087
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BIRDS IN WORDS

Join in on “Birds in Words,” NHBC’s gathering of people who like reading books on their favorite hobby. Since the group began, we’ve read more than 25 books on just about every aspect of birds, birding, and birders and had some lively discussions. Share in the fun. We meet at 7 pm at Whitney Center. For details, contact: Kris Johnson: kriswaxwing99@gmail.com, 203-288-3087.

After reading and discussing *North With The Spring* by Edwin Way Teale, the NHBC Birds in Words Book Group was so enchanted with his writing style that we picked the next book in his Four Seasons Publications. We are next reading *Journey into Summer* by Edwin Way Teale and will discuss this book on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 from 7-9 at Whitney Center in the 6th floor conference room. Hope to see you there.

--Kris Johnson

BE SURE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE

We are very excited that we have a revamped way of communicating all of the NHBC affairs with our membership (and non-members) – our updated and newly-launched website www.newhavenbirdclub.org. The website is organized to provide a comprehensive listing of our activities as well as useful resources for new and experienced birders in Connecticut. A series of maps of local “hotspots” will be especially useful for visiting birders while providing a valuable resource for local birders as well. A “What’s New” section allows you to submit items – news, pictures, etc – to Pat Leahy at ptjleahy@yahoo.com for posting to the membership.

BIRDERS’ EXCHANGE

The New Haven Bird Club is collecting binoculars, scopes or Neotropical field guides that we will donate to the Birders’ Exchange Program, which is part of ABA. This organization donates all binoculars and other equipment to worthy individuals involved in crucial bird conservation projects and education work in Central and South America.

At each indoor meeting there will be a box on the sign-in table where you can place your equipment donation.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Pablo Cruz New Haven	Donna Frate Oxford	Thomas & Natalie Peterson Hamden
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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, and online on ctbird. Meetings are at Whitney Center, Cultural Arts Center, 200 Leeder Hill Drive, Hamden. The facility is wheelchair accessible.

Directions to Whitney Center (WC):

From I-95 North or South: Exit to I-91 North in New Haven. Take Exit 6 (Willow St.). At end of ramp go right onto Willow and proceed on Willow to the end (to Whitney Ave.). Turn right onto Whitney; go 1.7 mi. to Treadwell St. (at Citgo Gas intersection) and make SHARP left onto Treadwell. Proceed 0.7 mi. on Treadwell, turn left onto Leeder Hill Drive (traffic light). Whitney Center is shortly on the right. Enter SECOND drive-way (South Entrance) and take immediate left into raised parking lot.

From I-91 South: Take Exit 6 (Willow St.) in New Haven. At end of ramp, turn right onto Willow and proceed as above.

From Wilbur Cross (Rt. 15-North or South): Take Exit 60. Right at end of ramp (Dixwell Ave./Rt.10). Go about 1 mi. to traffic light at Treadwell St. Left on Treadwell. Go 0.3 mi. to traffic light (Leeder Hill), turn right. WC is shortly on the right. Enter SECOND drive-way (South Entrance), take immediate left into raised parking lot.

Meeting is in WC'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.

Thursday, September 10 — Daniel Jared Field From Big Years to Big Eras: Birding through Geological Time

The present is an amazing time to be a birder. For example, Neil Hayward was able to set a new Big Year record in 2013 using modern birding networks, improved taxonomic knowledge, and ubiquitous transportation options. He recorded more than 700 North American species over a period of 12 months. Although the current diversity on the North American continent is impressive, the fossil record reveals some truly startling additions to the ABA checklist. While spotting a frogmouth or a mousebird in Wyoming today would incite a major twitch, paleontologists have revealed that these exotic lineages, along with many others, were present on our continent 50 million years ago. And there is surprising evidence of birds that, even further back in time, would have flown above the heads of dinosaurs. Tonight's talk examines how the structure of North American avifauna has changed dramatically over evolutionary time, and will lead to a discussion of the most fundamental ornithological question of all: Evolutionarily speaking, what is a bird? Who better to entertain this question than Daniel, a Yale Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Geology & Geophysics, where he studies the evolution of birds.

Notices

There will be a vote by the membership at the September meeting to elect Paul Wolter to the Board of Directors as a member-at-large according to the constitution and by-laws.

There will be a vote by the membership at the September meeting to list the Board position of Hospitality Chair as a special program. The re-classification will allow the Board of Directors to reach quorums at the monthly meetings.

Thursday, October 8 — Dave Winston Love Your Patch!

Birders often have a favorite "patch," a birding spot they love to visit again and again. But how do we take care of those beloved haunts, for our own and others' future enjoyment? Tonight's speaker has plenty of suggestions and he's eminently qualified to deliver them. A lifelong and Master Gardener who spent three years at the NY Botanical Garden, he has been President of the Board as well as Head Steward of Stamford's 83-acre IBA Cove Island Wildlife Sanctuary since its inception in 2006. Basically, it's all about stewardship, with a long-term view being critical. But what exactly does that mean? On our patch, we must look to the protection of the soil biology, plants, insects, invertebrates, small and larger mammals, and the birds that we hold so dear. For example, how do we manage the forces of ecological succession to maintain desired habitat – because plant life changes with the succession and food quality is affected. Some plants provide berries for birds; others, food for insects, which are important food sources for birds. And different plants offer their food at different times of year: some provide berries in winter; others, in June. Ideally, we want to assure bountiful food and shelter during migration times. How do we accomplish all of this? These considerations and questions are just some that Dave will help us ask and answer as we look for ways to provide the richest possible habitats for our wildlife. Dave's talk, drawing as it does on the manifold lessons he's learned managing Cove Island's habitat, will be a veritable classroom for the rest of us.

Bring Books for Tag Sale

Bird Book Tag Sale to Be Held at the November Meeting!
Here's your chance to clean house. Sort through your bird- and nature-related books (kids' books too!) that you can part with or no longer need. Bring them to the September or October meeting. Proceeds from the sale go to the NHBC Conservation Fund.

FIELD TRIPS / OUTDOOR EVENTS

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. You can also check the Club's website: <www.newhavenbirdclub.org> for trip information and watch for emails sent by the Club. 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 prior arrangements are made by the Club. Carpooling is encouraged to avoid parking problems at some destinations and to promote conservation of natural resources.

Cancellation Policy: Inclement weather or another emergency may cancel a field trip. Check the sources listed above or contact the leader of the trip directly if you have any questions about a possible cancellation.

Beginners' Bird Walk at Stratford Point Friday, August 7, 6:00 pm

On our walk to this "Globally Important Bird Area," we will focus on shorebirds, such as the Semipalmated Sandpiper, that use the mouth of the Housatonic River to rest and refuel during migration. Participants will also learn about threats to shorebirds as well as strategies for protecting them. This walk is geared to beginners but birders of all levels and families are welcome. More advanced birders not only can enjoy an evening out but can also provide support and inspiration to the newcomers. Stratford Point is located at 1207 Prospect Drive in Stratford. Go through the gate on the left side of the road and park near the largest building. Leader: Corrie Folsom-O'Keefe: 203-630-9640 (home—preferred), 203-233-0535 (cell--only day of trip) or cfolsom-okeefe@audubon.org

COA Shorebird Workshop CT Audubon Coastal Center at Milford Point, Milford Saturday, August 15, 9:00 am

Sharpen your shorebird identification skills at one of the best places in the state to see shorebirds. We may have an indoor presentation before going out to the beach. Meet at the Coastal Center parking lot, 1 Milford Point Rd. Bring a scope if you have one. Leaders: Patrick Comins, Frank Gallo, and Frank Mantlik. Contact: Chris Loscalzo: 203-389-6508, closcalz@optonline.net

Lighthouse Point Park Bird Walk / Prep for Migration Festival Saturday, August 22, 8:00 am Walk / 9:30 Cleanup

Join Park Ranger Dan Barvir on a late summer bird walk at Lighthouse Point Park on New Haven Harbor. Then, beginning around 9:30 am, we'll perform some light trail maintenance and cleanup. This is a great way to enjoy looking at birds and at the same time help preserve their habitat. Meet at the Hawk Watch parking lot in the park, located at 2 Lighthouse Rd., New Haven. Leader: Dan Barvir: 203-946-6086.

Daily Hawk Watch at Lighthouse Point August 31 to December 1

Lighthouse Point Park on New Haven Harbor is one of the premier locations in southern New England for observing migrating raptors, as well as a wide variety of songbirds. The watch starts daily at 7:00 am and continues as long as the hawks keep flying.

Stop by anytime. Coordinator: Steve Mayo: 203-393-0694 or rsdmayo@sbcglobal.net

First Wednesday Walk: CT Audubon Coastal Center, Milford Wednesday, September 2, 8:00 am

Join us as we look for shorebirds and terns at this excellent local birding location. We should also find raptors, waterfowl, long-legged waders, and migrating passerines. Ten or more species of shorebirds are possible, including American Golden Plover. Meet at the Coastal Center parking lot, at 1 Milford Point Rd. Leader: Stephen Spector, 203-876-7461 (home), 203-928-8089 (cell) or charsjs@sbcglobal.net.

Litter Cleanup: Sandy Point IBA Bird Sanctuary, West Haven Saturday, September 12, 9 am to noon

Join a critical conservation effort: Help remove trash from an Important Bird Area as part of the Ocean Conservancy's "International Coastal Cleanup." A clean site prevents predators, attracted by food litter, from becoming accustomed to visiting Sandy Point, one of the prime sites in CT for Piping Plovers and other beach-nesting bird species. Plus: Our data will help scientists fight ocean litter! Bring work gloves, sunscreen, and water. Meet at the Morse Park parking lot (immediately east of Chick's Restaurant/, 183 Beach St., West Haven, next to skate park). Leader: Winie Wirth, 203-859-2971 or wirthwitte@att.net

Annual Migration Festival, Lighthouse Point Park Sunday, September 20, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

This festive event is sponsored by the New Haven Parks Dept., NHBC, and other fine organizations. There will be hawk watching; bird banding and live raptor demos; bird walks; and more. Chris Loscalzo will lead an 8:00 am walk, Mike Horn will lead one at 9:30 and Flo McBride will lead a kids' walk at 9:30. The park is located at 2 Lighthouse Rd., New Haven. Check the newspaper and the club newsletter for more details. Organizer: Ranger Dan Barvir: 203-946-6086.

Yale University Golf Course, New Haven (200 Conrad Drive) Monday, September 28, 7:30 am

The golf course is located on more than 700 acres, with woods and ponds surrounding the course. It's a great place to see birds

year round. We'll be visiting the course when there are no golfers, so we'll be able to walk the cart paths and wooded trails without being disturbed or disturbing others. We'll be looking for fall migrants such as raptors, warblers, vireos, and sparrows as well as resident bluebirds and woodpeckers. Meet at the clubhouse parking lot. The course entrance is at the end of Conrad Dr. which can be reached via Rt. 243 (Fountain St.) or Rt. 122 (Forest Rd.). Leader: Bill Batsford: 203-787-1642 (home), 203-494-4325 (cell) or william.batsford@yale.edu.

**Kellogg Environmental Center/Osbornedale St. Park, Derby
Saturday, October 3, 7:30 am**

Here's a chance to visit an outstanding birding spot that boasts a variety of habitats—open fields, woodlands, and ponds. We'll look for fall migrants, including warblers, sparrows, flycatchers, and vireos. Meet at the Kellogg Center parking lot at 500 Hawthorne Ave., Derby. Leader: Maria Stockmal: 203-305-3728 or m.stockmal@snet.net

**First Wednesday Walk: Lighthouse Point Park, New Haven
Wednesday, October 7, 8:00 am**

Join us on a visit to this premier local birding location, renowned for its migrating raptors and passerines. If the weather conditions are favorable, we may see hundreds of hawks in flight over the park. Meet at the hawk watch site inside the park, which is located at 2 Lighthouse Rd., New Haven). Leader: Frank Mantlik: 203-984-9410 or mantlik@sbcglobal.net

**THE BIG SIT! ®
Saturday and Sunday, October 10-11**

THE BIG SIT! ®, established by the NHBC, has become an inter-national event, with birders from all over the world participating in it. The object is to record as many species of birds as possible in one day from one 17-foot diameter circle. The circles are located at a number of birding hot spots throughout CT. Join other birders in one of the established circles or create your own. You don't have to be a hard-core birder to join in the fun. Bird Watcher's Digest runs the event now. For details, go to the Bird Watcher's Digest website (www.birdwatchersdigest.com) or contact John Triana: 203-758-7203 or jtriana1@sbcglobal.net

Note New Date

**Beginners' Bird Walk at Griswold Point, Old Lyme
Sunday, October 11, 2:30 pm**

Located at the mouth of the CT River, Griswold Point provides important stopover habitat for shorebirds and songbirds in the fall. On this walk, we scan the coastline for late migrating shorebirds and look for Saltmarsh and Nelson's Sparrows along the edges of the marsh. The Saltmarsh Sparrow is globally vulnerable and fall migration offers a great opportunity to glimpse this species. This walk is geared to beginners but birders of all levels and families are welcome. More advanced birders can enjoy a day out while providing support and inspiration to the newcomers. We'll meet at the town parking lot at the end of White Sand Beach Rd. NOTE: Moderately strenuous trip; we'll walk about 2 miles, partially over sand. Leader: Corrie Folsom-

O'Keefe: 203-630-9640 (home - preferred), 203-233-0535 (cell - only morning of trip) or cfolsom-okeefe@audubon.org

**Hammonasset Beach State Park, Madison
Saturday, October 17, 8:00 am**

Visit one of our state's best fall birding spots, where the abundance of some migrants and sightings of less common species can make for a truly memorable trip. The walking is easy, all on level ground. Meet outside the park at the new parking lot on the Post Rd. New Directions: Take Exit 61 off I-95 (the usual Hammonasset exit). At the end of the connector (traffic light), go left onto Boston Post Rd. The new parking lot is the first right, a short distance away. Leader: Bill Batsford: 203-787-1642 (home), 203-494-4325 (cell) or william.batsford@yale.edu

**Beacon Cap, Bethany
Sunday, October 18, 8:00 am**

Join us for a short, but strenuous, hike up to Beacon Cap on the Naugatuck Trail in Bethany. We will look for late fall migrants as we go up to a glacial erratic at the top of a hill. Even if the birding is slow, we should have good color to enjoy on the foliage overlooking Rt. 63 in Bethany. Be prepared for a steep climb. Meet at the trailhead on the north side of Rt. 42 (Beacon Rd.) in Bethany, in the East block of Naugatuck State Forest. It is about 1 mile west of the intersection of Rts. 63 and 42. Leader: John Triana; 203-758-7203 or jtriana1@sbcglobal.net

**Branford Supply Ponds, Branford
Saturday, October 24, 7:30 am**

Visit this first-rate birding spot to look for fall migrants and resident species. The area has varied habitats with woods and shrubby areas. A variety of waterfowl can be found in the ponds. Meet at Supply Ponds parking lot, Chestnut Street, off Rt. 1. Leader: Maria Stockmal: 203-305-3728 or m.stockmal@snet.net

**Fargeorge Wildlife Preserve, Quinnipiac River, New Haven
Saturday, October 31, 8:00 am**

This is a joint trip with the New Haven Land Trust. Join us as we visit the Trust's property along the Quinnipiac River. With its varied habitat, this location is a good place to see raptors, shorebirds, and waterfowl. Sightings here have included Snow Goose, Bald Eagle, and American Woodcock. Directions: Go south on Quinnipiac Ave. from Rt. 80 (Foxon Rd.). Turn right just past the RR overpass and go through the gate onto the property. Leader: Mike Horn: 203-288-1891 or mfhorn@att.net.

**NHBC 23rd Annual Winter Feeder Survey
November 1 through March 31, 2016**

This is a yearly census to determine the number and frequency of birds visiting feeders in the greater New Haven area. You are invited to watch and record the activity at your feeder at least once a week for the entire time period. Contact: Peter Vitalii: 203-288-0621 or vitali_peter_e@sbcglobal.net

West River Ravine Trip Report

On May 24, this early Sunday morning walk started with about 20 people, walking south from Hatfield Hill Road in Bethany, paralleling the power lines. Note that this location is only accessible with a recreation permit from the Regional Water Authority.

In the first couple looks into the power line right-of-way, we saw many species who appreciate the man-made early successional habitat. Examples include Blue-winged Warbler, Prairie Warbler, and Field Sparrow. In the second view into the right-of-way, we had good looks at two male Indigo Buntings.

Following the woods road to the south, we went farther into the forest. There are hundreds of acres of forest on either side of the right-of-way cut. In this area we found species that you would expect in large tracts of forest. The first Scarlet Tanager was heard when we got to the gas pipeline. A little farther down trail we heard or saw other forest species such as Wood Thrush, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Wood-pewee, Willow Flycatcher, Great Crested Flycatcher, and several Ovenbirds. The trail took a turn down towards the West River in a deep glen. At this location we heard Black-throated Green Warbler and Louisiana Waterthrush. The most interesting sight was watching a Red-eyed Vireo building its nest only a few feet above and off of the trail.

To end the trip, we crossed Hatfield Hill Rd. to check the site that has often hosted a breeding pair of Northern Goshawks. We did not find any evidence of the goshawks. However, we did observe two Common Ravens on the west side of the lake. Additionally, we saw both Barn Swallows and Tree Swallows flying and feeding over Lake Bethany.

In total, we observed 42 species during the morning's walk: Turkey Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Mourning Dove, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern

Wood-pewee, Willow Flycatcher, Great Crested Flycatcher, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue Jay, American Crow, Common Raven, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird, European Starling, Cedar Waxwing, Ovenbird, Yellow Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, Blue-winged Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Northern Parula, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Eastern Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Indigo Bunting, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Baltimore Oriole, American Goldfinch.

--John Triana

Kellogg Environmental Center/Osbornedale State Park Trip Report

On Saturday, May 30, 46 species were mainly heard rather than found by seven participants (including myself). It was a good way to practice listening and bird songs.

The species: Eastern Bluebird, Red-winged Blackbird, American Crow, Common Grackle, Downy Woodpecker, Baltimore Oriole, Common Grackle, Northern Cardinal, Green Heron, American Robin, Mourning Dove, House Sparrow, Black-capped Chickadee, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Chipping Sparrow, Red-tailed Hawk, Tufted Titmouse, Song Sparrow, Brown-headed Cowbird, Tree Swallow, Blue Jay, Northern Flicker, Northern Mockingbird, American Goldfinch, Canada Goose, Turkey Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Chimney Swift, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Willow Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Warbling Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, House Wren, Veery, Wood Thrush, Cedar Waxwing, European Starling, Blue-winged Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Black-and-White Warbler, American Redstart, Common Yellowthroat

--Maria Stockmal

DUCK STAMPS SUPPORT WETLAND HABITATS

Over 3,145 acres of critical wetlands have been protected in our state using CT Migratory Bird Program (Duck Stamp) funds. These are the stamps required of waterfowl hunters, along with a hunting license, to legally hunt waterfowl in Connecticut.

By state law, funds generated from the sale of Duck Stamps can only be used for the development, management, preservation, conservation, acquisition, purchase, and maintenance of waterfowl habitat and wetlands, as well as the purchase and acquisition of recreational rights or interests relating to migratory birds.

These habitats are the same ones used by salt marsh sparrows, egrets, herons, bitterns, rails, a variety of raptors, and many other



species. We can help preserve this important area by voluntarily purchasing Duck Stamps, currently \$13 each. Using these funds, the state can in turn obtain matching conservation grants from the federal government that increase the Duck Stamps' purchasing power by as much as 4:1.

Duck Stamps are available through participating town clerks, participating retail agents, and wherever hunting and fishing licenses are sold. Take a look at this year's beautiful

stamp. More information is available at: http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2723&Q=492150&deepNav_GID=1655

--Lori Datlow, Education Chair

A camel is a horse designed by committee.

Alec Issigonis

The optimum committee has no members.

Norman Ralph Augustine

A committee is a group that keeps minutes and loses hours.

Milton Berle

Thankfully the New Haven Bird Club is the exception to these observations. Many of our programs and accomplishments come from committees. So let's call them teams.

This year we would like to try something different. We would like to build our teams to meet our challenges. We have a great core of 'chairs' that bring us all aspects of the club's operations: the Yearbook, the newsletter, outdoor programs and indoor programs just to name a few. These individuals often meet these challenges working alone.

The disparaging quotes above are not necessarily true. A team could bring a new dynamic, a new set of ideas and new sets of hands to help during busy times.

If you want something done give the task to a busy person.

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Many hands make light work

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To list a few areas where we could use help: compiling and proofreading the year book; completing the annual membership drive and processing the membership renewal; and the annual banquet. The areas that a team could meet new challenges: Reaching out to the community to share our love of birds and concern with their conservation; conservation efforts and stewardship.

We would like to decrease the frequency of our board meetings that are held monthly throughout the year. The extra time that would be made available could be used for the teams to meet. The teams would only need to meet as needed, e.g. Membership would meet to finalize the membership drive in April, May and June. Education and Conservation may want to meet more frequently.

Let's kick off the teams at the next scheduled board meeting on August 27 2015, at the Regional Water Authority, 90 Sargent Drive, New Haven, CT 06511. Start time at 7:00. We will have a few items of business first.



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

Newsletter August 2015

The date on address labels is your membership expiration date.

NHBC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State, Zip +4 _____

Phone _____

Email _____

(Please print clearly in block letters)

----- New Member ----- Renewal

Dues:

____ Individual - \$15

____ Couple/Family - \$20

____ Supporting - \$50

____ Student under 18 - Free

____ Life Membership: A one-time payment of \$300
for 1 or 2 people at same address.

____ Additional gift to support the NHBC \$ _____

Make check payable to New Haven Bird Club and
send to: New Haven Bird Club, PO Box 9004,
New Haven CT 06532-0004

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
also for the following 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 your employer 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 preference, or national origin.

If your address, phone or email change, please send that information to the Club address given on the form to the left or contact the Membership Chair, Mike Ferrari: mike.ferrari@att.net or 203.435.5712.

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

The New Haven Bird Club is now on Facebook. So log onto facebook and like the page "New Haven Bird Club." You can post your photos, see other photos, participate in a discussion and check out the upcoming events.

CTBirds is an open discussion email list to discuss birds and birding in the state. To Subscribe, go to:
http://lists.ctbirding.org/mailman/listinfo/ctbirds_lists.ctbirding.org

NHBC website: www.newhavenbirdclub.org