



THE CHICKADEE

Newsletter of the New Haven Bird Club

December 2021

2021 - 2022 CALENDAR

(See inside for details)

Wednesday, December 1, 8–11 a.m. **First Wednesday Walk: Hammonasset Beach State Park, Madison**

Thursday, December 9, 7 p.m. **Adriaan Dokter – Radar Ornithology**
Virtual Meeting

Saturday, December 18, all day **122nd Annual New Haven Christmas Bird Count**

Wednesday, January 5, 8–11 a.m. **First Wednesday Walk: Sherwood Island State Park, Westport**

Thursday, January 13, 7 p.m. **Nick Bonomo – Self-Found Big Year**

Saturday, January 15, 8 a.m. to noon **Milford Hotspots in Winter**

Wednesday, February 2, 8–11 a.m. **First Wednesday Walk: Hammonasset State Park, Madison**

Saturday, February 5, 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.. **The Sixth Annual Mega Bowl of Birding in New Haven County**

Thursday, February 10, 7 p.m. **Alex Lin-Moore – Sparrow Population Trends**

Saturday, February 26, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Sachuest Point NWR and Rhode Island Coast** Snow date - Sunday, February 27

Sunday, February 27, 8–11 a.m. **White Memorial Foundation**

NOTE: Please check the NHBC website and newsletter periodically for updated information on all programs. **Scheduled events may need to be changed or canceled** and events may be added during the year. www.newhavenbirdclub.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Now that cooler temperatures are finally here and leaves are falling, my backyard feeders are up and open for business.

I've signed on – for the first time – to Pete Vitali's NHBC Winter Feeder Survey. I'm enjoying watching as the backyard species rediscover my handouts, albeit slowly. So far, nothing unusual, except for a female purple

finch that came around for several days at the end of October and stayed just long enough into November to be counted in the survey.

Besides watching the backyard, I've been enjoying NHBC's fall schedule of events. Since our club's origin in 1907, we've distinguished ourselves by offering a packed schedule of indoor meetings and bird walks that are free and open to the public. But because of the coronavirus pandemic during the 2020 - 2021 club year, we needed to limit participation in our events to members, and limit the number of participants on our bird walks.

I'm happy to say our members stepped up when we needed it, keeping masks on despite the fogging of glasses and binoculars, maintaining a safe distance despite our natural desire to cluster together to get on the birds, and foregoing carpools and much of the social contact that's always been part of our walks. Thank you, all.

And now, we're back – free and open to the public. We still want everyone to be alert and to follow current covid safety precautions. But – no registering for walks in advance, no limit on the number of participants. Just pick your walk and show up. We're back to our 1907 to 2019 standard. That makes me happy.

And though the cold months are here and our schedule slows down, our club remains active. We've had to continue holding our monthly membership meetings online, but they've been great. We've had speakers who live in other parts of the country and who we wouldn't otherwise have been able to book, like Dr. Carla Dove from the Smithsonian Feather Identification Lab, Dr. Connor Wood from the Cornell Lab of

(Continued on next page)

NEW HAVEN BIRD CLUB – 2021-2022

OFFICERS

<i>President</i>	DeWitt Allen	860-949-0995 allendatlow@gmail.com
<i>Vice President</i>	Christine Howe	203-389-1175 clhowe2@yahoo.com
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<i>Secretary</i>	Mike Ferrari	203-435-5712 mike.ferrari@mac.com

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<i>Conservation Chair</i>	Deborah Johnson	203-430-5554 deborahleighjohnson@hotmail.com
<i>Education Chair</i>	Lori Datlow	475-227-2820 loridatlow@frontier.com
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<i>Publicity Chair</i>	Emmeline Kaiser	225-368-7273 emkaiser03@gmail.com
<i>Webmaster</i>	Patrick Leahy	203-393-2427 ptjleahy@yahoo.com
<i>Yearbook Editor</i>	Christine Howe	203-389-1175 clhowe2@yahoo.com

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

<i>The BIG SIT</i>	Craig Repasz	203-230-1697 crepasz@hotmail.com
<i>Birds in Words</i>	Kris Johnson	203-288-3087 kriswaxwing99@gmail.com
<i>Book Group</i>	Chris Loscalzo	203-389-6508 closcalz@optonline.net
<i>Christmas Bird Count</i>	Steve Mayo	203-551-1707 scmayo999@gmail.com
<i>Hawk Watch</i>	John Triana	203-758-7203 jtriana1@sbcglobal.net
<i>Lighthouse Point</i>		
<i>Historian</i>		
<i>Hospitality</i>		
<i>Summer Bird Count</i>	Steve Mayo	203-551-1707 scmayo999@gmail.com
<i>Winter Feeder Survey</i>	Peter Vitali	203-288-0621 vitgoo39@gmail.com

New Haven Bird Club Website:
www.newhavenbirdclub.org

(President's Message Continued from first page)

Ornithology, and Dr. Lauren Benedict from the University of Northern Colorado. They gave us fascinating talks on forensic investigation of bird strikes on aircraft, audio recording and sound analysis, and the latest understanding of female birdsong.

But wait, there's more – on December 9, Dr. Adriaan Dokter from the Cornell Lab will be speaking about his research on avian populations and migration, using radar tracking. Check the full description of his talk in the Indoor Programs section in this edition of *The Chickadee*.

Besides that, we have outdoor walks coming up in December, January, and February, plus the Christmas Bird Count, which the NHBC founders participated in starting in 1905, two years before organizing the club. Our members have joined in every year since then, and I'm looking forward to this year's edition. Then the ever-growing Mega Bowl of Birding comes around on Super Bowl weekend.

These are great events. Check out the descriptions in this issue, or in the 2021 - 2022 Yearbook, or on our website, www.newhavenbirdclub.org. Dress warm and come on out. I'll be looking for you there.

--DeWitt Allen

Notes from the Board

The next board meeting will be tentatively at 7 p.m. on December 16.

Deadline for submissions to the next *Chickadee* is January 28. Send to Newsletter Editor, Donna Batsford, at donnabatsford@gmail.com.

NHBC Objectives: To make available to members and the general public opportunities for recreation, education, and appreciation in the area of birding and to encourage the conservation of natural resources in New Haven and surrounding areas.

If you are not receiving email notifications, contact us at membership@Newhavenbirdclub.org to receive an invitation to join this group. Add nhbirdclub@gmail.com to your contact list to ensure emails arrive in your inbox.

Every effort is made to list member information accurately in the yearbook. Please inform us of errors and update us with any changes during the year. Update via the Club website or send an email to membership@Newhavenbirdclub.org.

Welcome New Members

Frank Bartlett Sr.
Madison

Lynda Carroll
Guilford

Jim Serach
Norwalk

Indoor Programs

We cannot predict how the future course of the coronavirus pandemic will affect our schedule of events. Our first priority is protecting the health and well-being of our members and the general public, and it may become necessary to adjust or cancel some events. The recommendations and policies of local, state, and national health authorities will continue to guide all decisions about our schedule. Please check the NHBC website and newsletter for updated information before planning to attend any event.

This year, our September, October, November, and December meetings will be held virtually on Zoom. Virtual meetings begin at 7 p.m. Information and instructions for joining virtual meetings are emailed to members who have signed up for the Club email list; to sign up, contact membership@newhavenbirdclub.org. We hope to resume in-person meetings in January 2022. Our expectation is that meetings will resume at Whitney Center's Cultural Arts Center, 200 Leeder Hill Drive, Hamden CT, as in previous years. However, all plans are tentative at this time.

Inclement weather or other emergencies may cancel a meeting. Cancellation notices will be sent via the club email. Also check TV channels WTNH (New Haven) and WFSB (Hartford).

"Birds in Words" Book Group – Join us at "Birds in Words," NHBC's gathering of people who like reading books on their favorite hobby. Since the group began in 2009, we've read many books on just about every aspect of birds, birding, birders, nature, and naturalists, and had some lively meetings. Share the fun! We meet about once every six weeks or so (on a Tuesday night). Birds in Words will resume meeting when Whitney Center re-opens to outside groups; hopefully this will be in 2022. For current details contact Kris Johnson: kriswaxwing99@gmail.com or 203-288-3087.

Thursday, December 9 – Adriaan Dokter **Radar Ornithology** *Virtual Meeting*

Adriaan Dokter is a Research Associate at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology who studies avian populations and seasonal migrations of birds. He leverages or develops weather radar networks as well as individual tags to address questions in migration ecology. He will talk about his latest projects.

Thursday, January 13 – Nick Bonomo **Self-Found Big Year**

Join us to hear about Nick's Self-Found Big Year (SFBY)—a Big Year in which you cannot count birds found by other

people. In other words, instead of chasing rare birds found by others, you are forced to find your own. The practice really encourages exploration and discovery. The talk will include an introduction to the SFBY and then a tour through his own experience in 2019.

Thursday, February 10 – Alex Lin-Moore **Sparrow Population Trends**

Alex Lin-Moore is a Ph.D. student in the Genetics Department at Yale University. He will speak about sparrow population trends based on his article in the Connecticut Ornithological Association's journal, *The Connecticut Warbler*.

Winter Feeder Survey 2021 – 2022 End of Week 2



This year we started with 20 surveyors, 5 via Postal Mail and 15 via email. We are located all over New Haven County plus one surveyor in Fairfield County and two in Middlesex County. We have finished

the first 2 weeks of the survey with 12 of 20 surveyors reporting.

12 surveyors have reported by email out of 15 (the others send their reports in after the 5th week). We saw 22 of 22 of the Common Species, 6 of 12 Semi-Common, 5 Uncommon of 41. 1 Waterfowl had been seen. Of the 22 Common winter species, the maximum number seen in any one week so far is 7 Dark-eyed Juncos seen by Martha Asarisi in week 2 and 12 White-throated Sparrows seen by Dewitt Allen in week 2.

Other species of note seen: Song Sparrow, Eastern Blue Bird, Northern Flicker, Purple Finch, Yellow Bellied Sapsucker, Brown Creeper, Eastern Towhee, Golden Crowned Kinglet, Red Shouldered Hawk, and Yellow Rumped Warbler.

There is still time to join. The survey runs from Monday,

November 1st, 2021, thru Sunday, April 3rd, 2022. It is a weekly survey, but the number you report can be from a few minutes on one day or from many sightings on several days of the week. It is very flexible.

There will be 2 Sessions this year due the increasing presence of Black Bears and their taking down of feeders. The First Session will start on Monday, November 1, 2021, and finish on Sunday, April 3, 2022. This is for those who have not had any reports of bears in their area and is 22 Weeks long. The Second Session will start on Monday, December 6, 2021, and end on Sunday, March 3, 2022. This is for those who fear bears attacking their feeders. During this period the bears should be in hibernation and no threat to the feeders. It will be 13 weeks long. So far, the bears have stayed away.

Any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me via email or call my cell phone: 203 988-1841 and leave a message. I will get back to you as soon as possible. The email address is: vitgoo39@gmail.com

Happy Birding,
Pete Vitali
Survey Coordinator

Outdoor Programs

We cannot predict how the future course of the coronavirus pandemic will affect our schedule of events. Our first priority is protecting the health and well-being of our members and the general public, and it may become necessary to adjust or cancel some events. The recommendations and policies of local, state, and national health authorities will continue to guide all decisions about our schedule. Please check the NHBC website and newsletter for updated information before planning to attend any event.

Birders of all levels are welcome on all field trips, and every effort is made to help beginners. If you are new to birding or have any special needs, be sure to let the leader know. The ending times of walks are approximate.

More details, if required, and/or updates on these trips will be given at the indoor meetings and in the newsletter. You should also check the Club's website, www.newhavenbirdclub.org, for updated trip information, and watch for emails sent by the Club.

Contact trip leaders directly if you have questions about 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 usually is encouraged to avoid parking problems at some destinations and to promote conservation of natural resources, but check current coronavirus recommendations.

NHBC Conservation and Education Activities

The New Haven Bird Club routinely works to preserve and restore bird populations and their habitats and to provide opportunities for learning about birds, their habitats, where to see them, and how to help ensure their future. Additional environmentally-focused, family-friendly walks may be planned and posted on the NHBC website.

The NHBC has been developing relationships with local public schools and camps to encourage children to embrace birding. We view this activity as directly connected to our Club objectives and usually present a very basic birding skills class followed by a nearby bird walk. The Education Chairperson also organizes the Club's representation at various public events throughout the year, such as the Lighthouse Point Migration Festival and local Earth Day celebrations. Volunteers to help at events are always welcome! Please contact Lori Datlow, Education Chair, at loridatlow@frontier.com.

First Wednesday Walk: Hammonasset Beach State Park, Madison

Wednesday, December 1, 8–11 a.m.

At any time of year, Hammonasset is a true gem. Enjoy a mid-week trip to explore this birding hotspot for fall migrants. The varied habitat attracts shorebirds, waterfowl, raptors, and songbirds. Meet at Hammonasset Beach State Park parking area, Boston Post Road, Madison, just left (east) of the Park's main entrance road.

Leader: Jerry Connolly, 203-710-2011 or birdshop@sbcglobal.net

122nd Annual New Haven Christmas Bird Count **Saturday, December 18, all day**

Join other NHBC members in this fun event, steeped in tradition. Take part for a few hours or all day. Join birders in the field or report what you see in your backyard (if you reside within the count circle). The results of the count are sent to the National Audubon Society for inclusion in an international census of early winter bird populations.

Compiler: Chris Loscalzo, 203-389-6508 or closcalz@optonline.net

First Wednesday Walk: Sherwood Island State Park, Westport

Wednesday, January 5, 8–11 a.m.

Join a midweek trip to this outstanding Long Island Sound birding spot. We check for loons, grebes, goldeneye, and other

sea ducks. The fields are a good place to look for Snow Buntings, Horned Larks, and sparrows. Meet at Sherwood Island State Park: take Exit 18 off I-95 in Westport and head south on the Sherwood Island Connector. Drive into the park and meet at the main parking lot.

Leader: Tina Green, 203-247-2660 or tina@renaissancestudios.com

Milford Hotspots in Winter

Saturday, January 15, 8 a.m. to noon

We will look for waterfowl, birds of prey, and winter passerines as we visit Milford hotspots that will likely include Milford Point, Mondo Ponds, and Caswell Cove. Dress warmly and plan to carpool. The trip ends by noon. Inclement weather will probably cancel the trip. Check with the leader if you have weather concerns. Meet at the commuter lot, Exit 35 off I-95.

Leader: Frank Mantlik, 203-984-9410 or mantlik@sbcglobal.net

First Wednesday Walk: Hammonasset State Park, Madison **Wednesday, February 2, 8–11 a.m.**

Enjoy a mid-week field trip to Hammonasset Beach State Park, one of the state's best birding locations in any season of the year. We will look for sea ducks, grassland species, and rarities. Meet at Hammonasset Beach State Park parking area on Boston Post Road, Madison, just left (east) of the Park's main entrance road.

Leader: Greg Hanisek, ctgregh@yahoo.com

The Sixth Annual Mega Bowl of Birding in New Haven County

Saturday, February 5, 6 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Sixth Annual Mega Bowl of Birding in New Haven County and Connecticut will be held on Saturday, February 5th from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Zoom meeting to go over the results will be from 6 to 7 p.m. Join us for a fun and friendly event! Compete with other birders and win prizes and get your team's name inscribed on the prestigious Mega Bowl Trophy! This event is challenging and fun! Birders get together in small groups and go birding wherever they like within New Haven County. They earn points for every species they observe on a scale such that the rarer the bird is, the greater the points awarded. The Mega Bowl is inspired by the Superbowl of Birding held each January in Northeast New England by Mass Audubon. Participants in the Mega Bowl must register in advance and no later than Sunday, January 30th. Participants may sign up as a team of 2 to 5 people, or individuals can submit their names and they will be put in contact with others looking to become members of a team. Participants are encouraged to come up with a creative name for their team. See the NHBC website for details, www.newhavenbirdclub.org. Coordinator: Chris Loscalzo, 203-389-6508 or closcalz@optonline.net

Sachuest Point NWR and Rhode Island Coast

Saturday, February 26, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Snow date - Sunday, February 27

This all-day trip includes stops at Sachuest Point NWR, Beavertail State Park, Moonstone Beach, Trustum Pond, and other great birding sites on the RI coast. We will see lots of sea ducks including all three scoter species, Common Eider, and Harlequin Duck. We'll look for birds of prey, including Rough-legged Hawk and several owl species. We'll also be on the lookout for alcids and rare gulls. Dress warmly—it's likely to be cold and windy on the coast. The walk is a bit strenuous. Bring lunch and a scope, if you have one. Meet at the Branford commuter lot, Exit 55 off I-95.

Leader: Chris Loscalzo, 203-389-6508 or closcalz@optonline.net

White Memorial Foundation

Sunday, February 27, 8–11 a.m.

White Memorial Foundation is a 4,000 acre nature preserve. The diverse mixture of habitats includes mature deciduous and evergreen forests, as well as fields of tall grass, weeds, and shrubs that are managed for various stages of succession. As one of the best birding sites in the state and an Important Bird Area, White Memorial Foundation has approximately 35 miles of woodland roads, trails, and boardwalks. We should observe a variety of sparrows, woodpeckers, possibly winter finches, owls and more. Bantam lake is famous for a wide variety of ducks during migration and winter. Meet in the public parking lot at White Memorial at 80 Whitehall Road in Litchfield.

Leader: Craig Repasz, 203-745-6683 or crepasz@hotmail.com

Trip Reports

Hammonasset Beach State Park Trip Report

On Saturday, October 9, a windy and overcast day, a group of 20 birders had a very successful trip at Hammonasset Beach State Park. We saw a total of 48 species, including a nice assortment of raptors (Osprey, Northern Harrier, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, and an American Kestrel). The Kestrel was scoped at a distance but then gave us all good looks as it flew across the marsh towards our group on the trail to Willard's Island.

A feature of the trip was 3 American Golden Plovers with 5 Black-bellied Plovers nearby for comparison in the fields opposite Swan Pond. In addition to the Plovers, shorebird species included Killdeer and Greater Yellowlegs.

In the field with the Plovers we found a group of 5 American Pipit. The Swan Pond itself provided excellent views of the resident Pied-billed Grebe. Sparrows, a few warblers (featuring a Black-throated Green Warbler), both kinglets, Great Blue Heron, Great and Snowy Egrets and the usual 3 gull species rounded out a very enjoyable visit to the premier Connecticut birding area.

The eBird checklist can be found at <https://ebird.org/checklist/583212195>

--Bill Batsford

Cheshire Hotspots Trip Report

On Sunday, October 24, Melissa Baston and Steve Broker led the NHBC's annual "Cheshire Hotspots" walk at Broad Brook Reservoir and Boulder Knoll. Eleven birders attended under favorable skies. Broad Brook Reservoir is known for its mid-fall waterfowl, including a nice diversity of dabbling and diving ducks and one of the state's highest concentrations of rafting Ruddy Ducks. The mixed coniferous-deciduous forests that surround the reservoir also are productive for woodpeckers, corvids, and song birds. One hundred species of birds have been observed here over the years, as recorded on the 93 checklists presently listed on eBird. Boulder Knoll offers open vistas along a power line cut and gravel roadway, bordered by deciduous woodland, grassy fields, and small wetlands. Sparrows are the stars of the show, accompanied by a good number of diurnal raptors, woodpeckers, kinglets, thrushes, waxwings, finches, lingering wood warblers, and



Photo by Laurie Reynolds

cardinals. eBird lists 106 species of birds seen at Boulder Knoll on 105 checklists. Our group observed 34 species at Broad Brook Reservoir and 33 species at Boulder Knoll. Laurie Reynolds posted the eBird reports for this year's Cheshire Hotspots observations, and photos were provided by Laurie, Lynnette Clemens, and Bob Rimkoski.

--Steve Broker

Branford Supply Ponds Trip Report



Photo by Laurie Reynolds

On Sunday, October 31, ten participants and myself enjoyed an early morning of birding after the rains on Saturday. The sun peaking, at times, through clouds gave us a beautiful backdrop of autumn color. Highlights include a Mallard/Black Duck hybrid, three Hairy Woodpeckers, a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Gray Catbird, Golden-crowned Kinglets, Red-tailed, Red-

shouldered, and Sharp-shinned Hawks, and a Pileated Woodpecker. We were treated with watching Blue Jays harass the Sharp-shinned Hawk and watched the Pileated Woodpecker fly along the tree line while some of us were still in the parking lot. We saw 34 species that morning. The eBird checklist is at <https://ebird.org/mychecklists?subID=Uzk2OTc4MTA5&s=t>

--Maria Stockmal

First Wednesday Walk: Sherwood Island State Park Trip Report

Today was a perfect day to do anything outdoors. Sixteen birders joined me for the New Haven Bird Club's First Wednesday Walk at Sherwood Island State Park on November 3. For some it was their first visit ever to one of CT's best birding spots, and I suspect not their last. We had fantastic views of all 62 species and a great variety as well. Our resident pair of Bald Eagles put on a nice show over the Mill Pond, including carrying nesting material to the nest and 3 lingering Snowy Egrets were a nice surprise with the 30+ Great Blue Herons. Our eBird checklist is below where you can see what you missed. Thank you to today's participants for making it a special day of birding for me!

<https://ebird.org/checklist/S97083988>



Photo by Laurie Reynolds

--Tina Green

Lake Hammonasset, Killingworth Trip Report

On November 6th, we re-did a walk we held last year, a trip around Lake Hammonasset. The reservoir is owned by the

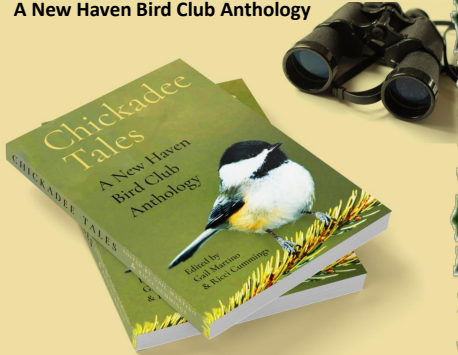
Regional Water Authority, and a recreation pass is required for regular access.

Six people came out on this chilly morning. We started by watching a Hermit Thrush sitting amongst grape vines in the parking lot. Things were quiet in general for the entire walk with small periods of activity. Apart from the Hermit Thrush, the best birds in the woods were a Fox Sparrow seen with other sparrows and juncos and a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. The water was very high compared to the conditions in 2020. This year the lake was full from all the precipitation in the summer and fall. That didn't help with waterfowl numbers. We only had a handful of Wood Ducks fly in to land on the water and a single Hooded Merganser. The rest of the birds seen were the typical inhabitants of our woods in November. Overall, 26 species were seen.

--John Triana

Happy Holidays

For the birder on your holiday list!
Chickadee Tales:
A New Haven Bird Club Anthology



100% of proceeds support NHBC programming

Proud history, active present, hopeful future!
Nineteen pieces in this anthology, written by current members and supporters, cover club history, notable members, key programs, personal stories, and members' impact on birding, locally and throughout the United States.

\$19.99

Please send a check for \$19.99 to New Haven Bird Club, Attn: Chickadee Tales Book, P.O. Box 9004, New Haven, CT 06532-0004. The book is also available on Amazon and at the New Haven Museum.

BE SURE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE www.newhavenbirdclub.org

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

The Big Sit! Final Results 2021

2021 was the second year that the New Haven Bird Club administered the Big Sit!, which was founded in 1992 by fun-loving members of the NHBC. Bird Watcher's Digest nurtured and parented The Big Sit! from 2001 to 2019 and turned it into a worldwide birding institution, and with their resources grew the event to 234 circles in ten countries. It was given back to the NHBC after changes were made at Birdwatcher's Digest.

We are a small club and had to use a combination of approaches to keep The Big Sit! going. We built a website to inform the participants, we used eBird for data handling and Facebook for comments, chats, and photos.

The Big Sit! was held on October 9 and 10, 2021. This year we have a tie for the circle with the highest reported species. We are using the eBird criteria for determining species and taxa. The leading two circles with 97 species are Smith Neck Road Circle in Old Lyme Connecticut, a new circle on the Connecticut River, and Big Sit Zeiss Birding Team Segerstads fyr in Kalmar län Sweden. The circle from Sweden had participated in years past.

Other notable circles in the top five are Elfin Forest Preserve--Lupine Point Overlook in California with 95 species, The Lost Tinamous Team in Finca La Gracia in Guatemala with 95 species, and the Brookline Bird Club the Hellcat Dike in the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge with 86.

Many circles were held on public lands: National Wildlife Refuges, Nature Preserves, and Wildlife Sanctuaries. It is important to point out how important these lands are to bird

migration. The birds certainly bring us to beautiful places.

This year The Big Sit! had four countries participating: Australia, Guatemala, Sweden, and the United States of America (98 circles, 358 Species). Hopefully in the future we can attract Big Sit! circles in other countries and on other continents.

Many organizations still use The Big Sit! to raise funds for conservation. eBird added an important aspect to The Big Sit! It offers a simple user interface, an ease of effort tracking, an ability to capture GPS coordinates and location management, and accessibility to the data that could be invaluable to scientists studying bird migration on a continental scale. Data can be exported from eBird and shared as a spreadsheet.

Number of Circles in 2021 (includes circles that reported on both days) – 92 (2020 was 102)

The Best Overall Count (most Species identified by a single circle). Tie with 97 species. Smith Neck Rd Old Lyme CT and Big Sit Zeiss Birding Team Segerstads fyr Sweden

Longest Duration of a Circle – Shavers Creek Huntington Pennsylvania USA 22 hours and 45 min

The Big Sit! Total Number of Species Reported – 573 (2020 was 472)

The Big Sit! Total Number of Birds Reported – 535,767 (2020 was 194,484)

Most Common Species – American Crow reported by 72 circles

--Craig Repasz



Estero Llano Grande State Park Texas.
Photo by John Yochum



Chaffinch Island, Guilford, CT,
Photo by John Himmelman



Sylvio O Conte NWR
Photo by David Govatski

Date	Total Time (min)	Location	State/ Province	Team Name	eBird Species
9-Oct-21	863	Smith Neck Road Big Sit!	US-CT	Smith Neck Road Big Sit!	97
9-Oct-21	600	Segerstads fyr	SE-H	Big Sit Zeiss Birding Team	97
10-Oct-21	738	Elfin Forest Preserve--Lupine Point Overlook	US-CA		95
9-Oct-21	360	Finca La Gracia	GT-ES	The Lost Tinamous	91
10-Oct-21	660	Parker River NWR--Hellcat Dike	US-MA	Brookline Bird Club	86
10-Oct-21	864	Milford Point-Outer Platform (Big Sit!)	US-CT		82
9-Oct-21	768	Jared Elliot Preserve	US-CT	Connecticut Wobblers	65
9-Oct-21	555	Lighthouse Point Park	US-CT		56
10-Oct-21	320	Salt Meadow NWR Big Sit!(R) circle	US-CT		38
9-Oct-21	600	Chaffinch Island Park	US-CT		31
10-Oct-21	480	Filley Road Haddam CT	US-CT		13



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

December 2021

NHBC MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Area Code / Phone _____

Email _____

_____ New Member _____ Renewal

Membership Levels (check appropriate category):

_____ Individual - \$15

_____ Family - \$20

_____ Supporting - \$50

_____ Student under 18 - Free

_____ Life Membership - \$300 for 1 or 2 people at same address.

Additional gift to support NHBC programs: \$ _____

Make check payable to New Haven Bird Club and send to:

New Haven Bird Club,

PO Box 9004

New Haven CT 06532-0004

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 membership@newhavenbirdclub.org.

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

The New Haven Bird Club is on Facebook. Please "like" the page "New Haven Bird Club." You can upload your photos, discuss Club events, and post your recent sightings.

The NHBC is also on Instagram as [newhavenbirdclub](https://www.instagram.com/newhavenbirdclub).

CTBirds is an open discussion email list provided by the Connecticut Ornithological Association (COA) to discuss birds and birding in the state, www.ctbirding.org.