



THE CHICKADEE

Newsletter of the New Haven Bird Club

October 2020

2020 CALENDAR

(See inside for details)

Daily September to December, 7 a.m. **Bird Count – Hawk Watch, Lighthouse Point Park, New Haven** Follow all Covid precautions: Social distancing and masks.

Saturday, October 3, 8–11 a.m. **Fresh Meadows, Cheshire Land Trust** Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration capped at ten participants.

Monday, October 5, 8–11 a.m. **Yale University Golf Course** CANCELLED

Wednesday, October 7, 8–11 a.m. **First Wednesday Walk: Lighthouse Point Park, New Haven** Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration capped at eight participants.

Thursday, October 8, 7 p.m. **Gina Nichol – Japan in Winter**

Saturday-Sunday, October 10–11 **THE BIG SIT!®** Visit the Big Sit website, www.thebigsit.org, for instructions.

Saturday, October 10, 8–11 a.m. **Hammonasset Beach State Park, Madison** Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration capped at ten participants.

Saturday, October 17, 7:45–11 a.m. **Fall Birds and Foliage along the West River** Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration capped at ten participants.

Sunday, October 25, 8 a.m. to noon **Cheshire Hotspots** Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration. Two groups of ten people. The leaders will each take a group.

Saturday, October 31, 8–11 a.m. **Fargeorge Wildlife Preserve; joint trip with the New Haven Land Trust** Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration capped at ten participants.

Wednesday, November 4, 8–11 a.m. **First Wednesday Walk: Sherwood Island State Park, Westport.** Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration required.

Saturday, November 7, 8–11 a.m. (Rain Cancels) **Lake Hammonasset Killingworth.** Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration required.

Thursday, November 12, 7 p.m. **Kristi Dranginis –Identify Any Bird Anywhere – In 8 Easy Lessons**

Wednesday, December 2, 8–11 a.m. **First Wednesday Walk: Hammonasset Beach State Park, Madison.** Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration required.

Thursday, December 10, 7 p.m. **Mary Ellen Lemay – Pollinator Pathways and The Green Corridor: Improving Biodiversity on Protected Land in Our Own Yards**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



October is always exciting. This one is too. We're having beautiful weather. Shorebirds have been migrating for a couple months. Now the raptors are, and the passerines too. Rarities of all kinds are popping up along the coast and inland, as a look at CTBirds reveals.

Right now, our Club is on those birds' trail. Field trips have started again, with adjustments for Covid safety. Outdoor Chair Craig Repasz created and is managing an online sign-up system that keeps groups at a physically distanced eight or ten. It's going to be a busy October, with walks at Fresh Meadows in Cheshire, Lighthouse Point, Hammonasset State Beach, various Cheshire Hotspots, and Fargeorge Wildlife Preserve in New Haven. And also . . .

The Big Sit!® is on! October 10th and 11th, at whatever location you and/or your team identify for the event. A lot of work has gone into creating an informative new website, www.thebigsit.org. Craig Repasz, along with committee members Chris Howe, Gail Martino, and Pat Leahy, put many hours over several months into creating and testing procedures for administering the event, developing text and photo content, and constructing the website. We're also inaugurating a new reporting method this year -- all observations will be submitted and shared through eBird. The Big Sit! data will now not only serve as the basis for tabulating results, circle by circle, but will also be available to researchers on fall migration. Citizen science marches on.

(Continued on next page)

Saturday, December 12, 8 a.m. to noon (Rain Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020) **Surveying New Haven's Area K for the Christmas Bird Count.** Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration required.

Saturday, December 19, all day **121st Annual New Haven Christmas Bird Count**

To get real-time notices of club event changes, meeting links, and pre-registration information, you must be on the NHBC Members Yahoo email Group distribution list. Members not currently receiving club emails should send an email to membership@Newhavenbirdclub.org. An invitation to join this group will be sent to you.

NEW HAVEN BIRD CLUB – 2020-2021

OFFICERS

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<i>Secretary</i>	Alan Malina Alm5565@msn.com	203-248-5754

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<i>Member-at-Large</i>	Bill Batsford william.batsford@yale.edu	203-787-1642
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<i>Publicity Chair</i>	Genevieve Nuttall gnuttall@audubon.org	860-287-6134
<i>Webmaster</i>	Patrick Leahy ptjleahy@yahoo.com	203-393-2427
<i>Yearbook Editor</i>	Christine Howe clhowe2@yahoo.com	203-389-1175

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

<i>The BIG SIT</i>	Craig Repasz crepasz@hotmail.com	203-230-1697
<i>Birds in Words</i>	Kris Johnson kriswaxwing99@gmail.com	203-288-3087
<i>Christmas Bird Count</i>	Chris Loscalzo closcalz@optonline.net	203-389-6508
<i>Hawk Watch</i>	Steve Mayo scmayo999@gmail.com	203-551-1707
<i>Lighthouse Point</i>	John Triana j triana1@sbcglobal.net	203-758-7203
<i>Historian</i>	Stacy Hanks flybirdhanks@gmail.com	203-283-3898
<i>Hospitality</i>	Steve Mayo scmayo999@gmail.com	203-551-1707
<i>Summer Bird Count</i>	Peter Vitali vitali_peter_e@sbcglobal.net	203-288-0621
<i>Winter Feeder Survey</i>		

(President's Message Continued from first page)

A semi-competitive, 24-hour bird count (or whatever number of hours are convenient and enjoyable), with the added wrinkle that all observations must be made while remaining within a 17-foot diameter circle, The Big Sit! was invented by New Haven Bird Club members in 1992. It now attracts birders and teams of birders from all over the U.S. and Canada, along with more from Central and South America, Europe, and Asia. Many birding and conservation groups use it as a fundraiser. Check out the website for more information and instructions for signing on. It's always fun.

The secret of The Big Sit! is to locate your circle where multiple habitat types are visible. Some very successful circles look over rivers, waterbodies, marshes, open fields, wood edges, migratory flyways -- the more the better. However, even if your circle just looks at your backyard through the kitchen window or from the back deck, it's still fun. The prize that every circle wins, no matter how many or how few species get identified in the end, is the fun of a day of birding.

What's more fun than that?

--DeWitt Allen

Notes from the Board

The next board meeting will be virtual on Thursday, October 22 at 7 PM.

Deadline for submissions to the December *Chickadee* is November 27. 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.

To get real-time notices of club event changes you must be on the Yahoo Group distribution list. If are not already on this list, send an email to membership@Newhavenbirdclub.org to receive an invitation to join this group.

New Haven Bird Club Website:
www.newhavenbirdclub.org

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 guide all decisions about our schedule. Please check the NHBC website and newsletter for updated information before planning to attend any event.

Indoor programs start in September and are held on the second Thursday of the month. There are no indoor programs in June, July, or August.

Meetings will be virtual. We will send an email invitation to join the meeting. The meeting link will be sent to the NHBC Yahoo email group.

Remember to check the Club's website for updated information on all programs: www.newhavenbirdclub.org.

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. Also check TV channels WTNH (New Haven) and WFSB (Hartford).

Thursday, October 8, 7 p.m. – Gina Nichol Japan in Winter

The winter wildlife of Japan offers a number of spectacles unmatched in the wild! Tens of thousands of cranes of at least five species can be seen feeding on snowy fields or flying in to roost against the backdrop of glorious sunsets in Kagoshima. The famous dancing Red-crowned Cranes are in full performance in Kushiro. Snow Monkeys (Japanese Macaques) frolic in hot thermal pools in the Jigokudani Valley. Japanese Murrelets come to near-shore islands to breed. Steller's Sea-Eagles, White-tailed Eagles, and hordes of seabirds and ducks winter on and around Hokkaido. And, if you know where to go, you can watch the massive Blakiston's Fish-Owl catch fish right out your bedroom window! This program by popular tour leader and founder of Sunrise Birding, Gina Nichol, reveals the winter wildlife of Japan with vivid photos and anecdotes from travels around this island nation of East Asia.

Thursday, November 12, 7 p.m. – Kristi Dranginis Identify Any Bird Anywhere – In 8 Easy Lessons

Kristi Dranginis is the founder of Bird Mentor, a resource for live and online courses helping people worldwide build

confidence learning about birds and the natural world. Through her courses, students are immersed in the principles of instinctive birding, deep nature connection, bird language, and her innovative model for advanced bird identification. She recently published a book entitled *Identify Any Bird Anywhere – In 8 Easy Lessons*. In this talk she will discuss her interest in birding, this project, and the book.

Thursday, December 10, 7 p.m. – Mary Ellen Lemay Pollinator Pathways and The Green Corridor: Improving Biodiversity on Protected Land in Our Own Yards

Join us for an evening with Mary Ellen Lemay, Landowner Engagement Director for the Aspetuck Land Trust and Pollinator Pathway Facilitator for the Hudson to Housatonic partner network. With over 85 towns in CT and NY in various stages of launching Pollinator Pathways, this landowner-outreach strategy has taken the region by storm in only two years. By planting natives, avoiding pesticides, and reducing lawn, this very scalable initiative has the potential to create healthy, connected habitats for pollinators and wildlife as they move across the landscape.

Welcome New Members

Gavin Berger
Millerton, New York

Andrew Gullberg
Oakville

Michelle Keefe
New Haven

Viveca Morris
New Haven

Clara Buitrago
East Haven

Kay Hendon
New Haven

Ellis Locke
New Haven

Barbara Vietzke
East Haven

Christopher Gackenhaimer
New Haven

Sharon Hirsch
New Haven

Kaiyue Ma
New Haven

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

Outdoor Programs

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, 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 updated trip information and a Google Map link to the meeting place.

The New Haven Bird Club needs to take precautions to make our Outdoor Trips safe during the COVID-19 pandemic. Although the State of Connecticut is doing well and there are some more lenient guidelines for outdoor gatherings, we feel that the walking format of our events will make social distancing exceedingly difficult with a large group of people. We will limit the group size to ten or fewer.

All trips must conform to the following:

- No carpooling to or during the trip. People who live together can share a ride.
- Masks are required at all times.
- Social distancing will be followed. The wingspan of a bald eagle.
- Group size will be capped at ten people or less.
- Preregistration for the trip will be required.
- Trip participants must follow State quarantining guidelines with regard to recent travel and the health status of members in their household.

A trip may be canceled at the discretion of the Trip Leader; they also need to protect themselves and their family members.

Preregistration – In order to control group size, all trips will require preregistration. This change contrasts with our Club's previous policy but will be needed to maintain safety during the pandemic. As Outdoor Program Chair, Craig Repasz will handle the preregistration using the web-based application [SignUpGenius](#). A link to the event sign-up will be sent to the NHBC Yahoo email group before each trip. There will be a wait list. Craig will make sure that a few individuals do not dominate the registration process, limiting the opportunities of others. *Expect an email via the NHBC Yahoo email group for each trip with a SignUpGenius link to preregister or instructions to contact the Trip Leader directly.*

Multiple Groups – A trip may also be broken up into multiple groups with each led by a co-trip leader, possibly with each group following different departure times. These details will be disclosed for each trip separately.

Future Changes – There is no telling what the future will bring. We may go into another shutdown or the situation may continue to improve. We will continue to monitor the situation; future adjustments and changes may be needed to protect Club members' safety.

Please contact Craig Repasz if you have any questions or concerns, 203-230-1697 or crepasz@hotmail.com.

NHBC Conservation and Education Activities

The NHBC 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. The NHBC provides information and displays at multiple events throughout the year. The Club also is building a presence in local public schools and camps to encourage children to embrace birding.

Bird Count – Hawk Watch, Lighthouse Point Park, New Haven; Daily September to December Starts Tuesday, September 1, 2020, Daily, 7 a.m.

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 a.m. and continues as long as the hawks keep flying. Stop by anytime. Meet at the Hawk Watch parking lot, Lighthouse Point Park, 2 Lighthouse Road, New Haven. Steve Mayo, Coordinator, 203-551-1707 or scmayo999@gmail.com.

Follow all Covid precautions: Social distancing and masks.

Fresh Meadows, Cheshire Land Trust Saturday, October 3, 2020, 8–11 a.m.

Cheshire Land Trust's Fresh Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary includes a variety of habitats that appeal to a wide variety of

bird species looking for a place to rest and refuel on their southbound migration. With conifer groves, deciduous woodlands, and meadows, all located along the Mill River, it's worth a visit. Expect a 1–2 mile walk on mostly level ground. Do wear muck boots if it has been a rainy fall. Park on Cook Hill Road just east of Elim Park.

Leader: Corrie Folsom-O'Keefe, 203-233-0535 or cfolsom-okeefe@audubon.org.

Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration capped at ten participants. Two groups both led by Corrie. One departs at 7:30, second departs at 9:30.

Yale University Golf Course Monday, October 5, 2020, 8–11 a.m.

CANCELLED

First Wednesday Walk: Lighthouse Point Park, New Haven
Wednesday, October 7, 2020, 8–11 a.m.

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 parking lot, Lighthouse Point Park, 2 Lighthouse Road, New Haven. Leader: Frank Gallo, 203-644-2163 or peeplo@aol.com. *Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration capped at eight participants.*

THE BIG SIT!®
Saturday-Sunday, October 10–11, 2020

THE BIG SIT!®, established by the NHBC, has become an international event, with birders from all over the world participating. The object is to record as many species of birds as possible in one day from one 17-foot diameter circle. Local circles are at a number of birding hot spots throughout Connecticut. Join other birders in one of the established circles or create your own. You don't have to be a hardcore birder to join in the fun. Visit the New Haven Bird Club's website (www.newhavenbirdclub.org) for details. Contact: Craig Repasz, 203-230-1697 or crepasz@hotmail.com. *Please visit the Big Sit website, www.thebigsit.org, for instructions on social distancing.*

Hammonasset Beach State Park, Madison
Saturday, October 10, 2020, 8–11 a.m.

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 Shoreline Greenway Trail parking lot on Boston Post Road. Directions: Take Exit 62 off I-95. At the end of the connector (traffic light), go left onto Boston Post Road. The parking lot is the first right, a short distance away. Leader: Bill Batsford, 203-494-4325 or william.batsford@yale.edu. *Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration capped at ten participants.*

Fall Birds and Foliage along the West River
Saturday, October 17, 2020, 7:45–11 a.m.

Join a fall walk to see what can be found at these picturesque locations. The group will explore trails at Lake Bethany, then proceed to properties not open to the public, Lake Watrous and Lake Dawson. Fall Migrants should be working their way through the area and the scenery will be breathtaking. Walking is not strenuous and is on well maintained trails. Meet at Lake Bethany Regional Water Authority parking area, east of the dam on Hatfield Hill Road, Bethany. Leader: Pat Leahy, 203-314-0566 or ptjleahy@yahoo.com. *Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration capped at ten participants.*

Cheshire Hotspots
Sunday, October 25, 2020, 8 a.m. to noon

We bird several hotspots in the Town of Cheshire, including Broad Brook Reservoir, Boulder Knoll, and Fresh Meadows

Wildlife Sanctuary (Cheshire Land Trust). Broad Brook Reservoir annually hosts 200-400 Ruddy Ducks in fall, one of the highest concentrations of this diving duck in the state. Boulder Knoll is good for sparrows at this time of year. Fresh Meadows offers a diversity of bird species through the year. Broad Brook Reservoir is level walking (100 yards) on leaf-covered paved road; Boulder Knoll is moderate walking (300 yards) on gravel road with some gradual slopes to navigate; Fresh Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary is level walking (500 yards) with water-resistant boots recommended. Meet at the Route 68 access to Broad Brook Reservoir, north side of the road. Parking is available at a safe pullout opposite the water company gate in the lowest section of Route 68. Look for our cars.

Leaders: Steve Broker, 203-747-6843 or stephenpaulbroker@gmail.com; Melissa Baston, 860-995-0656 or mbaston@gmail.com. *Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration. Two groups of ten people. The leaders, Melissa and Steve, will each take a group.*

Fargeorge Wildlife Preserve; joint trip with the New Haven Land Trust
Saturday, October 31, 2020, 8–11 a.m.

Fargeorge Preserve is always full of surprises. We have had everything from woodcock to eagles to Snow Geese, lots of fall migrants, wintering ducks and more. It is a varied habitat with excellent views of the lower Quinnipiac River. Walking is on flat surfaces. From Route 80, go south on Quinnipiac Avenue. Make a right just past the railroad overpass. Go through the open gate onto the property. Leader: Mike Horn, 203-288-1891 or mfhorn@att.net. *Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration capped at ten participants.*

First Wednesday Walk: Sherwood Island State Park, Westport
Wednesday, November 4, 2020, 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. *Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration required.*

Lake Hammonasset Killingworth
Saturday, November 7, 2020, 8–11 a.m.
Rain Cancels

Join us for a vigorous walk around Lake Hammonasset in search of fall birds. The walk will be a loop of the entire lake. The terrain is easy to moderate, but there are plenty of uneven surfaces, so wear sturdy shoes. Meet at the Lake Hammonasset recreation parking lot on Route 80 in Killingworth. Leader: John Triana, 203-430-2473 or jtriana1@sbcglobal.net. *Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration required.*

First Wednesday Walk: Hammonasset Beach State Park, Madison**Wednesday, December 2, 2020, 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 outside the park at the Shoreline Greenway Trail parking lot on Boston Post Road. Directions: Take Exit 62 off I-95. At the end of the connector (traffic light), go left onto Boston Post Road. The parking lot is the first right, a short distance away. Leader: Jerry Connolly, 203-710-2011 or birdshop@sbcglobal.net.

Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration required.

Surveying New Haven's Area K for the Christmas Bird Count**Saturday, December 12, 2020, 8 a.m. to noon** (Rain Date: Sunday, December 13, 2020)

We survey Area K the weekend prior to the Saturday, December 19, 2020 New Haven Christmas Bird Count. This highly productive area includes Ora Avenue/Proto Drive/Morris Creek Marshes (where most of our field time is spent), Cosey Beach, Lighthouse Point Park, Beacon Hill and the Trolley Line, Furnace Pond, and the lower Farm River. Area K typically produces 75–80 species on count day, including waterfowl, loons, herons, raptors, shorebirds, woodpeckers, and such songbirds as wrens, thrushes, sparrows, flocking birds, and finches. Moderate, level walking on a paved road, covering a quarter mile. One foray to the marsh edge over a dry, weedy stretch for Marsh Wren and Virginia Rail. Meet in East Haven at Ora Avenue/Proto Drive south of Tweed-New Haven Airport. When you see a fork in the road, take it. [Actually, we meet at the fork.]

Leader: Steve Broker, 203-747-6843 or

stephenpaulbroker@gmail.com.

Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration required.

121st Annual New Haven Christmas Bird Count**Saturday, December 19, 2020, 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. Details about the traditional compilation dinner will be announced. Adjustments may be needed because of the ongoing COVID pandemic.

Compiler: Chris Loscalzo, 203-389-6508 or

closcalz@optonline.net.

Follow all Covid precautions. Preregistration required.

Trip Report

Edgewood Park Trip Report

Photo by Donna Batsford

On the weekend of September 26/27, 20 birders (10 each day) joined me for a walk in New Haven's historic Edgewood Park in the NHBC's initial "COVID 19 era" bird walk. Wearing masks and cognizant of appropriate social distancing, we were treated to good weather and active birding.

On Saturday we were able to find 48 species including many common species. Highlights included Least Sandpiper (uncommon inland), 7 Wood Ducks, an active and vocal Belted Kingfisher, two vireos (blue-headed, red-eyed), 6 warblers (Magnolia, Black-and-white, Blackpoll, Palm, Common Yellowthroat, and Yellow-rumped). A beautiful Rose-breasted Grosbeak posing for photos made a nice conclusion to a fun morning.

Sunday was nearly as productive with 38 species. Nice additions to Saturday's list were a cooperative Solitary Sandpiper, an early female Hooded Merganser, and a Swamp Sparrow.

It certainly was pleasant to be able to resume our NHBC outdoor program, interrupted since March by COVID 19.

--Bill Batsford

Winter Feeder Survey 2020-2021



I want to welcome all members and non-members to the 2020–2021 Winter Feeder Survey.

Since we are in a Covid-19 Pandemic I know that a great portion of our membership will not be going on walks, or trips and so you will be looking out your window and checking to see what species are at your feeder. Why not make it a part of our own New Haven Bird Club Winter Feeder Survey? Our survey is not affiliated with any national survey and was started years ago for our Club members who did not want to do any of the national surveys at that time. You can still do the national surveys and ours also. I have been doing the compilation and reports for the last 10 years. Usually we have from about 15 to 25 members and non-members a year. If you have friends who are not members of the NHBC they can participate since we are open to the public.

We had good participation last year and I hope to see more members involved this year. In a nutshell, all that you have to do is to record the largest number of birds of a species that you see at one sighting at your bird feeders during one day of the week and report that number to me. You do not have to do it every day or at the same time of day, but at least one day during the week or weekend. Anytime you look out at your bird feeders, just record the number of birds of a species that you see.

This year I am looking for a few more participants since I have been informed by a few of my long-time surveyors that they are moving and will not be able to participate.

There will be two sessions this year due the increasing presence of Black Bears and their taking down of feeders.

The First Session will start on Sunday, November 1, 2020 and finish on Saturday, April 3, 2021. 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 Sunday, December 6, 2020 and end on Saturday, March 6, 2021. 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.

Let me know what session you will be doing.

For more information you can email me at "vitali_peter_e@sbglobal.net" or phone me at: 203 288-0621. My phone has a recorder on it so leave a message and I will get back to you.

--Peter Vitali
Survey Coordinator
Chairman NHBC Winter Feeder Survey

BE SURE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.newhavenbirdclub.org

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

Bird Strikes

Dear New Haven Bird Club,

I live in New Haven and work at Yale. I just discovered the New Haven Bird Club online and became a member. The club looks wonderful, and I hope to attend a meeting soon!

In partnership with the Yale Peabody Museum, I've been working over the past couple years to document dead birds due to window strikes on Yale's campus — and recently expanded this work to include the greater New Haven area. The goal of this project is to help quantify and gather data about bird mortality due to window collisions in the area, to identify buildings that are killing birds frequently, and to use this data to advocate for mitigation action to prevent future deaths.

As I'm sure you know well, it's estimated that up to 1 billion birds are killed by flying into windows every year in North America, making it one of the leading causes of bird loss in a time of crisis for birds. At one building in New Haven alone over the past two years, we've found over 215 birds of over 50 species, including multiple vulnerable species. The attached photo shows some of the birds collected at the Peabody Museum. These deaths are preventable.



I'm writing today to ask if you and your members might be interested in helping to document bird window strikes that you encounter in the city of New Haven and in the greater New Haven area? Window strikes have increased significantly on Yale's campus in the last week, and I expect the next two months will see many window strikes as birds migrate south through New Haven. This data will be very helpful in advancing solutions.

If you're willing, when you encounter a dead or stunned bird, I would be very grateful if you would please photograph it from several angles (to help with species identification) and note the location, date, and whether it was found dead or alive. If you have an account on the citizen science app [iNaturalist](#) or if you're interested in making one, you can upload the photos, tag the location, and add the birds directly to our project: "[Yale & New Haven Bird-Window Collisions](#)," where experts will help identify the species you found. (To add an observation to an iNaturalist project, you first need to "join" the project with the button in the upper right hand corner of the [project page](#).) Alternatively, you can just email or text me (336-413-3434) the photos and location, and I'll happily record them for you.

Many thanks for considering this request and for your help!

All my best,
Viveca

Viveca Morris
viveca.morris@yale.edu
336-413-3434 (cell)



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

Newsletter October 2020

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 notify us at our website under "Join, Update Information Online."

Alternatively, email the update to the Membership Chair (membership@newhavenbirdclub.org), or send changes by mail to: New Haven Bird Club, PO Box 9004, New Haven CT 06532-0004.

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

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.nhbc@gmail.com.

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.

CTBirds is an open discussion email list provided by the Connecticut Ornithological Association (COA) to discuss birds and birding in the state. To subscribe, go to: lists.ctbirding.org/mailman/listinfo/ctbirds_lists.ctbirding.org