

HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB

Upcoming Events - February/March, 1985

- Feb. 2 - Plum Island; all day, leave 5:00 a.m.; leader Peter Yaukey (549-1183).
- Feb. 11 - Regular Meeting; James Cardoza, "Turkey Restoration Project"; 7:30 p.m.
- Feb. 23 & 24 - Cape Cod weekend; contact Scott Surner for information (256-1836).
- March 11 - Regular Meeting; Clif Read, "Tanzania"; 7:30 p.m.
- March 16 (probable date) - Connecticut Valley; Waterfowl, early migrants. Time/Leader t.b.a.

All regular meetings are held at the Hitchcock Center, and field trips start from there. The leaders of field trips would appreciate a call if you plan on attending - that way the group will wait for you if you are late! There are many wonderful things to see and experience out there in the snow. Join us and make winter almost bearable!

Be sure to use the Voice (253-2218) to catch announcements of last minute trips and events as well as reports on local birds. Use 256-1835 to leave messages.

We are updating the Rare Bird Alert. If your number has changed or if you wish to be added to the list, please call Sally Venman (549-1098) by Jan. 31st.

HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB

March 12, 1985

Dear Members,

We had a wonderful meeting last night. Not only were we treated to a fine presentation (sight and sound) on Tanzania by Clif Read but it became very evident that we are passing out of winter and on toward the SPRING MIGRATION! Some water fowl are in and more are coming! Many sightings were reported. Today was a spring rain, and in my back yard a robin was giving an object lesson to an earthworm on food chain position. There are visions much better than sugar-plums dancing in my head. I'm READY!

This is what the Club has planned:

Sat., March 16 (this Saturday, field trip): Water fowl, early migrants, led by Chris Page (253-3118); 1/2 day, leave Hitchcock Center 7:00 a.m. (Birds and weather co-operating, Chris will go on into the afternoon - perhaps to Quabbin - for those interested in continuing.)

Mon., April 8 (Regular Meeting): "Summer Birding in the Texas Rio Grande Area"; slide presentation by Scott Sumner, President H.B.C.; 7:30 p.m. Hitchcock Center.

Sat., April 20 (field trip): Hawk watch and other migrants led by Peter Yaukee (549-1183); 1/2 day, leave Hitchcock Center 7:00 a.m.

Sun., April 28 (field trip): Local hot spots led by Chris Page (253-3118); 1/2 day, leave Hitchcock Center 7:00 a.m.

Sat., May 11 (field trip): Location/Leader t.b.a.

Mon., May 13 (field trip): Early morning warbler walk at the Hitchcock Center led by Deedee Minear (549-6612); 2 hours, 7:00 a.m. Hitchcock Center.

Sat., May 18 (field trip): Plum Island, co-sponsored with Hitchcock Center led by Scott Sumner; all day leaving Hitchcock Center 5:00 a.m.
Note: small fee for this one (club members - \$5.00, non-members - \$7.00) and pre-registration is required (call the Center 256-6006).

Sun., May 19 (field trip/contest and party): We are thinking about having either a Big Day (team contest to see who can get the most species) or area Bird Count (Christmas Count without the snow) followed by a party. Please let one of the Board know which appeals and if you could participate.

(over, please)

Other events and programs you might wish to explore:

Sun., March 24: "Massachusetts Birds - Trends and Populations"; presentation by Dick Forster, Mass. Audubon Chief Ornithologist: 2:00 p.m. at Arcadia. Pre-registration accompanied by a small fee is required. Call Arcadia at 584-3009 for information.

Hitchcock Bird Course: field-oriented classes appropriate for all levels of birders, taught by Scott Sumner, running April through May. For information, fees and pre-registration call the Center (256-6006)

Fri., April 6: Woodcock Search; Hitchcock Center Program; 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.; small fee, pre-registration required; call the Center (256-6006).

Hitchcock Warbler Walks in Wildwood Cemetery, Amherst; May 7, 9, 14, 16
Meet at Wildwood 6:00 - 7:30 a.m. Small fee; call Center (256-6006).

Be sure to check the Voice (253-2218) for additions or possible changes.
All trips will be announced.

Hope to see you soon -

Sincerely,

Sally

Sally Venman
Secretary

HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB

August 12, 1985

Dear Friend,

I know it's really not the end of summer as yet, but the fall bird migration has begun and I'm hoping to lure you into putting certain Mondays aside before the fall student migration begins and we all get a little crazy.

We are starting into our second full year as an organization. Last year we had excellent monthly programs given by Don Kroodama, Susan Smith, George Flores, Cliff Read, Scott Sumner and John Green, many field trips including 2 long weekend trips to Monhegan Island, several trips to Plum Island (most of them cancelled because of snow), Monomoy Island (it took 2 tries for that one - a hurricane dampened the first attempt), Cape Cod, the Berkshire Lakes, Moran Refuge and local hot spots. We formed a Rare Bird Telephone Tree and spread the word using the "Voice" (thanks to Tom Arny who donated the equipment). We laughed a lot, learned a lot, made new friends who share this particular mania and, in short, had a fine first year.

1985/86 - THE WAY IT'S GOING TO BE (at least for now)

The first meeting will be on Monday, September 9 at the Hitchcock Center starting at 6:00 p.m. It's a "Get Acquainted Barbecue - Pot Luck Party." Please bring your own food to grill, enough salad or dessert to share and whatever you want to drink. The Club will provide the grills, condiments, ice, instant hot drinks, utensils, dishes, cups, etc. We'll have a short meeting after dinner to talk about plans for the year, update the Rare Bird Alert, hear suggestions, take memberships, etc.

Monday, October 21 at 7:30 at the Hitchcock Center will be our second regular meeting. Seth Kellogg will give a slide presentation on hawks.

On Monday, November 18 at 7:30 at the Hitchcock Center Tom Tynning will give his slide presentation on "Birding Brigantine."

December 9 will be Member's Night when members share up to 10 of their favorite slides, we talk about the Christmas Count, and we share goodies (also brought by members).

January 13 will be Scott Sumner's presentation on Monhegan Island.

Information about programs, field trips and other events later in the year will be sent to members only in what we hope will be bi-monthly newsletters.

(over please)

MEMBERSHIP

Speaking of members, enclosed is a membership form. We hope you will be filled with an uncontrollable urge to fill it out and return it with a check in rapid fashion. As you will see on the form, the "Bird News of Western Massachusetts" is going to be offered again (word was last spring that because of cost it could no longer be published) but will be offered as an option at an extra \$3.50 for the year (4 issues). The magazine contains birding articles, and lists sightings, and meeting dates of Clubs, etc., from all over Western Massachusetts.

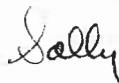
The Club has three expenses: programs, upkeep on the "Voice" (we're the only bird club in the State with its own voice), and the costs that go with bi-monthly mailings. At present our only source of income is membership dues. We appreciate your becoming a member and hope you might consider contributing at a level above individual (\$7.00) or family (\$12.00). In order to save, this will be the only mailing that will go to everyone on the general mailing list. From now on only members will receive Club news by mail. Membership runs from September - August. Sometime this fall I will get a membership list together with names and telephone numbers. A new Rare Bird Alert telephone tree will also be formed. Both will be sent to the appropriate people.

AND -

Also enclosed in this mailing is a card giving general information about the Club, numbers that should be of interest to birders and a list of officers should you wish to contact one of us.

That should about do it for now (I promise shorter letters in the future). I certainly hope to see you on September 9th if not before. If you have any questions, comments or names of people who should know about the Club please give Scott Sumner (256-1836) or me a call.

Sincerely,



Sally Venman
Secretary
(549-1098)

HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Date: _____

MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS (Check one):

- ☐ Individual (\$7.00)
- ☐ Individual with subscription* (\$10.50)
- ☐ Family (\$12.00)
- ☐ Family with subscription* (\$15.50)
- ☐ Supporting - subscription included (\$25.00 or more)

* A subscription to "Bird News of Western Massachusetts" (4 issues per year) is offered at the additional cost of \$3.50.

Please make checks payable to the Hampshire Bird Club and send to Natalie Drake, 11 Allen Street, Amherst MA 01002 along with this membership form.

Name: _____

Address: _____

(ZIP)

Phone: _____

Do you wish to be on the BIRD
ALERT TELEPHONE TREE?

Yes___ No___

If Yes:

Phone: Home _____ Work _____

If you would like to participate more actively here are some areas.
Please check those you would be interested in.

- ☐ Planning and Administration
- ☐ Presenting Program
- ☐ Leading Field Trips
- ☐ Other - Please explain

HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB
October 14, 1985

Dear Birders -

I suspected I had a problem when my first thought after "Gloria" hit was "can't wait to see what birds the storm blew in". I knew I had a problem when I didn't go to see what she blew in and was home to get word of the Royal Tern in Turner's Falls. Since most of the bird alert people were out birding, it fell my lot to pass the word (to be honest I did have some very able help). I hope you who were reachable were reached.

This news letter is in response to requests for keeping in touch concerning meetings, field trips, announcements, etc. The plan is to send one out to members every second month if funds allow.

MEETINGS

On Monday, October 21 at 7:30 at the Hitchcock Center, Seth Kellogg will give a slide presentation on hawks. Monday, November 18 at 7:30 at the Hitchcock Center Tom Tynning, will give his slide presentation on "Birding Brigantine". December 9th will be members' night and January 13th Scott Sumner will give his presentation on Monhegan Island. (More about these two in the next letter.)

FIELD TRIPS

On Sunday, November 3 Tom Gagnon will lead a trip to the Berkshire Lakes to spot migrating waterfowl, shorebirds and early winter finches. Birders are to meet at Bradley's parking lot (Northampton) at 6:00 a.m. This is an all day trip. Bring lunch and dress warmly.

IMPORTANT:

From now on, in fairness to the leader, we ask that you let it be known if you plan on joining a field trip. If there is not enough interest, the trip can then be cancelled, or other arrangements made. For the Berkshire Lakes trip please leave your name and phone number on the tape (256-1836). In case of hurricanes, unexpected rare birds elsewhere, the plague or other unpredictable factors, you will be contacted, either to cancel or rearrange.

HAMPSHIRE BIRD VOICE

In addition to using the tape to alert birders to what is being seen during the week, we are using it for announcements of meetings, field trips (some are formed after the bimonthly letter goes out). If there is a good bird in the area, directions on how to find it will be given. If a group is going to see it, this information with time and place to meet for car pooling will also be on the tape. Be sure to check the Voice regularly so you won't miss anything.

(over)

BIRD ALERT TELEPHONE TREE

We shall be forming a new Telephone Tree after the October 21st meeting. (Those new members who wished to be on the alert were contacted about the tern, as were those from last year's tree. If we get birds before the 21st you'll hear about it).

AND -

I am sending this letter to members from last year who haven't renewed as yet (I'll enclose a note to that effect). I think in most cases this has been an oversight and I urge a prompt response if you wish to be included on the rare bird alert telephone tree for this year. The deadline for being on the tree is October 25.

I am slowly collecting bird books from different parts of the country which I'll be happy to circulate. If you have any you would be willing to lend, let me know and I'll add them to the list. I will try to have at least the beginnings of a list to enclose in the next newsletter.

Hoping to see many of you at Seth Kellogg's presentation on the 21st.

Sincerely,

Sally

Sally Venman,
Secretary

HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB

December 2, 1985

Season's greetings to all you birders out there!

I never thought I would see the day when I would actually look forward to the prospect of a long cold winter. This anticipation has been fed by unusually early sightings of Evening Grosbeaks, Pine Grosbeaks, Redpolls and the like. Bill (my husband) suggests senility rather than ornithological interest as cause for my enthusiasm, but I notice he is very willing to help set up the backyard supermarket, and has even been caught with binoculars in hand when he thought I was far away.

The Bird Club has had a good start for the year with excellent programs presented by Seth Kellogg on hawks and Tom Tynning on the Brigantine, and a field trip to the Berkshire Lakes led by Tom Gagnon. The new bird alert telephone tree has been mailed to people who expressed interest and has been used once to tell of the Bohemian Waxwing. (Birds don't always pick the ideal time to appear. This one announced itself on Thanksgiving morning. We reached everyone we could find home). Looking to the future we have ---

Member's night (Party) on Monday, December 9 at the Hitchcock Center at 7:30. Please bring some holiday goodie (snack or dessert) to share and up to 10 of your most satisfying, exciting or imaginative slides to show (any subject depicting nature). Following the meeting we'll be making plans for the annual Christmas Bird Count which is Sunday, December 29 this year. We hope to involve many people. You can go out all day, a portion of the day or even participate by counting birds at your feeder. Our area includes parts of Amherst, Sunderland, Hadley and South Hadley. The count is done nationally, information being compiled by the National Audubon Society. It is not only fun to participate but is important information gathering at the same time. There will be a pot luck supper at Arcadia at 6:00 p.m. followed by compilation of the day's count of the whole area at 7:00. If you want to participate and can't make the meeting please call Scott on the voice (256-1836) or Sally (549-1098).

On Monday, January 13 at 7:30 at the Hitchcock, Scott will give his slide presentation on Monhegan Island and relate experiences had by the Club members on the two field trips to the Island last year.

At this writing there are several field trips in the works but dates have not been confirmed. Plum Island will be a certainty for early January. Please check the Voice (253-2218) for announcements of this trip and others.

Enclosed is a list of the books we have gathered so far for lending purposes (starts on the back of this letter). Thanks to Tom Arny and Verda Dale for books I have here at my house and to Bev Weeks who has books which she would be happy to lend to people but prefers to keep in her own library. (I'll make note of who to call to get them). If you have books you would like to add to the list, either give them to me if you want me to keep them for you (please put your name in them) or give me a list as Bev did. I'm not sure this is the best way of reporting or handling the operation. Suggestions welcome!

Hoping to see you Monday and at the Christmas Count.

Sally

Sally Venman, Secretary

BIRD BOOKS FOR LENDING

WHO HAS IT? --- Bev Weeks (253-3049) or Sally Venman (549-1098)

EASTERN UNITED STATES

- Geffen, Alice M.
A Birdwatcher's Guide to the Eastern United States, 1978 (Sally)
- Hans, Daniel W., Editor
A Birder's Guide to Georgia (Sally)
- Lane, James A.
A Birder's Guide to Florida, 1984 (Sally)
- Leck, Charles
The Birds of New Jersey, 1975 (Sally)
- Maine Audubon Society
Enjoying Maine Birds, 1972 (Sally)
- Mallett, Sandy
A Year with New England's Birds (25 Field Trips), 1978 (Sally)
- Meanley, Brooke
Birdlife at Chincoteague, 1981 (Sally)
- Meanley, Brooke
Birds & Marshes of the Chesapeake Bay Country, 1975 (Sally)
- Pettingil, Olin Sewall, Jr.
A Guide to Bird Finding East of the Mississippi,
2nd Ed. 1977 (2 copies) (Bev)
(Sally)
- Spitsbergen, Judith M.
Seacoast Life (North Carolina), 1980 (Sally)
- Williams, Winston
Florida's Fabulous Waterbirds, 1983 (Sally)

WESTERN UNITED STATES

- Green, Janet C. & Robert B. Janssen
Minnesota Birds : Where, When and How Many, 1975 (Bev)
- Hawaii Audubon Society
Hawaii's Birds, 1971 (Sally)
- Lane, James A.
A Birder's Guide to the Rio Grande Valley of Texas,
Revised 1974 (Bev)
- Lane, James A.
A Birder's Guide to Southeastern Arizona, Rev. 1984 (Sally)
- Lane, James A., and Harold R. Holt
A Birder's Guide to Denver and Eastern Colorado, 1979 (Sally)
- Lane, James A., and John L. Tveten
A Birder's Guide to the Texas Coast, Rev. 1974 (Bev)
Rev. by Harold R. Holt, 1984 (Sally)
- Peterson, Roger Tory
A Field Guide to Western Birds, 2nd ed., 1961 (Bev)

FOREIGN

- Bond, James
Birds of the West Indies, 3rd ed., 1974 (Sally)
- Chisholm, A.H.
Bird Wonders of Australia, 1958 (Sally)
- Hindwood, Keith
Australian Birds in Color, 1966 (Sally)
- Peterson, Roger Tory and Edward L. Chalif
A Field Guide to Mexican Birds, 1973 (Bev)
- Peterson, Roger Tory, et. al.
A Field Guide to the Birds of Britain and Europe,
3rd ed., 1974 (Bev)
- Wingate, David B.
A Checklist and Guide to the Birds of Bermuda, 1973 (Sally)

SPECIALIZED

- Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife
Ducks at a Distance (Sally)
- Johnsgard, Paul A.
The Hummingbirds of North America, 1983 (Sally)
- Rue, Leonard Lee, III, Ill. Douglas Allen, Jr.
Game Birds of North America, 1973 (Sally)
- Sheldon, William G.
The Book of the American Woodcock, 1971 (Sally)

OTHER

- Allen, Arthur A.
Stalking Birds with Color Camera, 1951 (Sally)
- Barton, Roger
Confessions of a Bird Watcher, 1974 (Sally)
- Heintzelman, Donald S.
A Manual for Birdwatching in the Americas, 1979 (Sally)
- Laycock, George
The Bird Watcher's Bible, 1976 (Sally)
- Pistorius, Alan
The Country Journal Book of Birding and Bird Attraction,
1981 (Sally)