



**Hampshire Bird Club, Inc.**  
**Amherst, Massachusetts**  
www.hampshirebirdclub.org  
Volume 39, No. 1  
**September 2022**

Dear reader, it was the life bird that wasn't. Last June I wrote an ode to Monhegan Island, Maine, where I got to spend several days of birding in May 2022. I wrote about one particular hour of birding, but what I didn't write about was a life bird I saw when I was out by myself. For those of you who know Monhegan, I was walking down the road to the pump house, listening and watching the mobs of Savannah Sparrows that were on-island at the time. At a slight bend just before the pump house, I saw a flash of rose color that turned into a Pine Grosbeak. I had several minutes to watch the bird pull and eat dandelion seeds before it flew off across the marsh toward the library.

Of course I immediately told my birding companions what I had found and that it was a life bird for me. A couple of days later, back home, I dutifully pulled out my dusty *Birder's Life List & Diary, revised edition* that I had received as a birthday gift in mid-June, 2000 to enter my new life bird. I went to the Grosbeak, Finches, Crossbill pages to write down the particulars and, lo-and-behold, there was already an entry for the Pine Grosbeak. Apparently, I saw one in my own front yard on December 23, 2007. According to my notes, that year saw a finch irruption and my bird was one of the irrupters. I suppose the moral to the story has something to do with checking facts before bragging about life birds.

**Please Join or Renew Your Membership NOW**

- Our membership year runs September-August, so unless you have reupped already, you should **renew your HBC membership** now.
- Complete the **Membership Form (both sides)** either online or on pages 5 and 6 inside. We need your contact details, dues level (if owed), opt-in for USPS newsletter delivery, participation interests, Field Trip Agreement, and Rare Bird Alert sign up (the last being optional). Don't forget to complete both sides.
- Note that the newsletter delivery is now **opt-in** for a printed copy. We hope that you will consider reading the newsletter online (or printing out your own copy) rather than having us send you one. It costs about \$2500 per year to send out newsletters. Please consider it if you don't do that already.
- Use the **Online Renewal procedure** should you owe dues this year or wish to donate money. Go to the secure HBC website, <https://hampshirebirdclub.org/shop/>, select your dues level, and proceed to checkout where you will complete the Membership Form and make payment, **or, alternately,**
- **Mail Form** from the newsletter with your check enclosed for dues and/or donation (if applicable) to the address on the Membership Form.
- And **thank you** for getting this done by the end of September.

**NEXT PROGRAM**

**Tuesday, September 13 at 6 PM at Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary**

The first in-person meeting of the HBC for 2022-2023 will be a big sit and bring-your-own-meal at Arcadia. Two things to note besides the location are the day of the week, Tuesday, and the time, earlier than our usual meeting time. Club members will do bird watching for an hour or so, and then everyone will be invited to picnic with other participants. See the program dates on the next page for more information about HBC programs (many of which will be in-person this year), our new venue, and the new meeting day of the week.

## HBC PROGRAM DATES FOR 2022-2023

HBC programs will be back in person. Well almost. The HBC Board has decided to have in-person meetings for the months of September, October and November, then switch to Zoom for the December, January and February meetings, and then back to in-person from March to June 2023. In-person meetings will be offered in a hybrid format when possible, meaning that the speaker and audience will be live in person and a video feed on Zoom will be available to those who can't come to the in-person meeting.

The Board also decided that club meetings will be held on the **second TUESDAY** of the month at the usual time of 7:15 PM unless otherwise noted. This change was made 1) to avoid conflicts with national holidays and 2) because the new venue for in-person meetings was not available in the fall on Mondays. Speaking of the venue, we will now be meeting at the Wesley United Methodist Church, 98 North Maple Street, Hadley. That's across the street from the UMass horse farm if you aren't familiar with the location.

September 13, 2022: Big sit/potluck, Arcadia  
October 11, 2022: TBA, Wesley  
November 8, 2022: TBA, Wesley  
December 13, 2022: Members' Meeting, Zoom  
January 10, 2023: TBA, Zoom

February 14, 2023: TBA, Zoom  
March 14, 2023: TBA, Wesley  
April 11, 2023: TBA, Wesley  
May 16, 2023: TBA, Wesley  
June 13, 2023: Picnic, Arcadia

## HBC BOARD NEWS

At its June 2022 meeting, the newly constituted HBC Board elected officers as required by the revised bylaws adopted in March 2021. The officers for this club year are

President – Derek Allard

Vice President/Program Chair – Josh Rose

Treasurer – Steve Winn

Communications Secretary – Ruth Garbett

Membership Secretary – Donna Lee Ubertaini

Also elected to two-year board terms were Laura Beltran, Greg Brown, Anne-Marie Chapdelaine, David Gross, Kalpesh Krishna and Steve Winn. Board members continuing for the second year of their terms are Derek Allard, Ruth Garbett, Jim Lafley and Josh Rose.

The board meets monthly from August to June on the first Thursday of the month at 6 PM. Meetings feature brief officer, newsletter and field trip reports as well as general club business. The aim of the board is to keep each meeting to one hour. Interested individuals are welcome to attend board meetings that are currently being held via Zoom.

The HBC Board wishes to recognize and thank Bob Zimmermann, Helen Symons, Val Miller, and Lissa Ganter all of whom departed the board at the end of the last club year.

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT AND WORKSHOPS

### New Member Bird Walks

This is a new initiative from the Education Committee. We will offer new member bird walks, open to anyone with any level of experience, once each season. They will be led by members of the Education Committee.

The list of walks for each season is below. Directions to each meeting place will be posted on the Education page of the website

- Sept. 11, 2022 – 8-10 AM at the Quabbin, Gate 35
- Jan. 8, 2023 – 9-11 AM at the Silvio Conte National Wildlife Conservation Area parking lot
- April 23, 2023 – 7-9 AM at Lake Wallace, behind the Belchertown Police Station
- The fourth one will be our usual new member bird walk before the June HBC picnic at Arcadia.

Derek Allard's **Birding for Everyone** program is geared towards beginner birders and those who, historically, have not been included in the birding community: young people, minorities, the disabled. On the third Saturday of each month at 10:00 AM there is a one hour online educational session (half

presentation, half discussion) and on the fourth Saturday of the month at 8:00 AM a two hour, in-person, beginner bird walk at an accessible location. All events are free and open to the public. Please help spread the word! The online presentation requires no registration (check the HBC website for the Zoom link). Those interested in attending the September walk can register at [bit.ly/2022bfe](https://bit.ly/2022bfe).

September 17, 10:00-11:00 AM: Hawks (Online presentation)

September 24, 9:15-11:30 AM: Mount Holyoke Summit House, Hadley (In-person walk/sit)

### September workshops

**Tuesday, Sept. 6, 7-8 PM. DIY.** Our next Do-It-Yourself Field Trip will be on TUESDAY, September 6, 7 PM on Zoom. Each month an area is chosen, and a leader describes the location and 5 target species for that area. Anyone interested has a month to visit the area on their own, record the species they see, and report back at the DIY Zoom meeting the following month. Our July-August field trip was at the East Meadows area of Northampton and the target birds were Sora, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, and Least Sandpiper. If you'd like to join the September Zoom to share your sightings and learn of the upcoming field trip, e-mail [education@hampshirebirdclub.org](mailto:education@hampshirebirdclub.org).

**Wednesday, Sept. 14, 7-8 PM. Hawk Migration ID Tips with Dan Russell.** We'll study how to ID hawks as they travel south over (sometimes way over) our heads. We'll share the best techniques to meet this challenge. Dan Russell is a retired Social Science Professor from Springfield College and a volunteer educator at Arcadia. He's conducted workshops and hawkwatches for a number of years.

**Wednesday, Sept. 21, 7-8 PM. Bird Banding at Fort River.** Ornithologist Randy Dettmers will be discussing the research and banding efforts that have been on-going at Silvio O Conte Wildlife Refuge - Fort River division. He has been banding birds at Fort River for several years during the nesting season. To register for this Zoom presentation, please email [education@hampshirebirdclub.org](mailto:education@hampshirebirdclub.org).

Please register for any of these workshops by emailing [education@hampshirebirdclub.org](mailto:education@hampshirebirdclub.org) with the name of the workshop in the subject line.

**Reminder:** our programs are now recorded and available at the Hampshire Bird Club website. You can find the links under PROGRAMS or on the EDUCATION page. <https://hampshirebirdclub.org/program-videos/>.

## FALL FIELD TRIPS

### Field Trip Guidelines

1. Field trip participant numbers are determined by the field trip leader.
2. All field trip leaders and participants must be fully vaccinated, are required to wear a mask when asked (possibly in carpool situations), and must be aware of maintaining a safe social distance during the event.
3. Participants should use the contact information in the trip description if they have any questions or would like to register for the trip.
4. Participants will receive specific information about their trip directly from the leader once they register.

**Saturday, September 10. DAR State Forest. 8:00 to 11:30 AM.** Explore the late summer wonders of this amazing spot with Amanda Kallenbach. You'll get a comprehensive overview of the 1,700-acre tract comprising two lakes, a couple of beaches, a large swath of marshland, camp sites, hiking trails, and the Goshen fire tower (elev. 1,575 ft.). Expect all the usual forest denizens along with migrating warblers and more. We'll be walking on pavement and sand, doing some hiking on uneven terrain, and a bit of caravanning. There are no entry fees after Labor Day. Meet at the main gate house lot (78 Cape St., Goshen off Route 112) at 8:00 AM. Email for more information: [amanda.kallenbach@gmail.com](mailto:amanda.kallenbach@gmail.com). Heavy rain postpones to Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. (M)

**Thursday, September 15 through Wednesday, September 21. Mountain House, Skinner State Park. 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.** This is prime hawk watching from the Holyoke Range. We will attempt to have

a knowledgeable Hampshire Bird Club member on the Mountain House porch during this time to assist with identification of the hawks migrating along the range. Just show up with your binoculars. (E)

**Sunday, September 18. Arcadia Meadows. 6:30 to 10:00 AM.** Join Derek Allard and Steve Winn as they explore the meadows at Arcadia. The area offers a variety of habitats including open water, fields, woods, and a swamp. This is a great time for fall warblers, sparrows, possible shore birds and a possible Dickcissel. As the morning warms, we'll scan the sky for Broad-winged Hawks and other raptors. Most of the trip will be walking along the roads in the meadows. To register and for more information contact Derek at [derekallard73@gmail.com](mailto:derekallard73@gmail.com). (E)

**Sunday, September 25. Goat Peak on Mount Tom. 8:00 to 11:00 AM.** Derek Allard will meet birders at the stone house near the playground on Reservation Road and walk the broken pavement road to Goat Peak. We'll keep our fingers crossed for southern winds and migrating hawks. Other fall migrants, of course, are also possible. There will be some moderate climbing to the peak, though we will take the less steep route. Brave folks can go up the tower! To register, email [derekallard73@gmail.com](mailto:derekallard73@gmail.com). (M)

**Sunday, September 25. Fort River Wildlife Refuge. 8:00 to 10:00 AM.** Lesley Farlow and Laura Beltran will co-lead a "sit" field trip at the Conte Refuge site on 69 Moody Bridge Road in Hadley. We will sit at the large pavilion right off the main parking lot which overlooks a pond and large fields. Bring your chair and binoculars. This is an accessible field trip, and all birding skill levels are welcome. No need to pre-register for this trip. For more information email [education@hampshirebirdclub.org](mailto:education@hampshirebirdclub.org). (E)

**Saturday, October 8. Birds & Brews Walk, Mill River Park, Easthampton. 10:00 AM to noon.** Jim Lafley and Mike Locher are trying something different for the club by leading a bird walk along the rail trail near Lower Mill Pond in Easthampton. After the walk we will visit the Abandoned Building Brewery to relax and debrief the walk while sampling their brews. Bringing your lunch or a substantial snack would be advisable as the food options are limited in the area. To register or for more information email Jim at [jimlafley@gmail.com](mailto:jimlafley@gmail.com). (E, especially the second part)

**Wednesday, October 19. Lake Wallace, Belchertown. 8:00 to 10:00 AM.** Meet Jim Lafley at the new Lake Wallace observation deck to scan the marsh and open water for late shorebirds and waders as well as ducks, geese, and other denizens of the area. We will also explore the back area of the lake and the woods near the athletic fields. To register or for more information email [jimlafley@gmail.com](mailto:jimlafley@gmail.com). (E)

**Sunday, October 30. The Annual Halloween Adventure: Satan's Kingdom, Hell's Kitchen, and more. All day.** Joshua Rose leads this themed trip. Meet at 7:30 AM at the parking area for the Power Canal on Migratory Way in Turners Falls. Call or email Josh (413) 835-0093; [opihi@mindspring.com](mailto:opihi@mindspring.com) for further details. (E/M)

**Sunday, November 13. Dead Creek WMA and Lake Champlain Valley. All day.** Mike Locher heads north for the spectacle of hundreds of Snow Geese rising into the sun as a Rough-legged Hawk cruises by them. In addition to the geese and raptors, we'll look for ducks, loons, gulls, and grebes on Lake Champlain and anything else that we can find. Meet at Stop & Shop in Northampton (228 King Street) at 5:30 AM for carpooling. Contact Mike (413-585-5864 - landline) for further details and to register. (E/M)

**Sunday, December 11. South Hadley along the Connecticut River. 8:00 to 11:00 AM.** Jim Lafley and Laura Beltran will lead birders to several areas along the Connecticut River in South Hadley. We will explore McCray's Farm & River Lodge Rd. for Horned Larks, Snow Buntings, Lapland Longspurs, and Harriers, Brunelle's Marina for waterfowl and Bald Eagles and the Bachelor Brook/Stony Brook Conservation Area. This will be a good trip to prepare for the CBC! They are all within a mile of each other and there is a large parking lot at each site. Contact Jim at [jimlafley@gmail.com](mailto:jimlafley@gmail.com). (E)

#### **Field Trip designations:**

- (E) – Easy walking conditions, fairly accessible for most, usually flat terrain on improved trails or roads.
- (M) – Moderately difficult, more challenging trail conditions, short steep sections, longer hikes involved.
- (S) – Strenuous conditions, muddy or rocky trails, steep sections, difficult footing in part.

Date	Payment: <input type="checkbox"/> cash <input type="checkbox"/> check <input type="checkbox"/> online	Sign Trip Release?	News Preference?	Date Entered
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## HAMPSHIRE BIRD CLUB, INC. MEMBERSHIP FORM: 2022-2023

*Use this form to join, renew, or update. The club membership year is September – August.*

*If you wish to pay by credit card, you may join or renew online at our secure site, <https://hampshirebirdclub.org/shop/>*

***The first year is free for first-time members. For questions, please contact: [membership@hampshirebirdclub.org](mailto:membership@hampshirebirdclub.org)***

*Please note that contact information may be shared with other members of the club, unless you request otherwise.*

<b>CONTACT INFORMATION</b> [Optional: include gender pronouns if you wish.]	<b>Email is the default delivery for the newsletter. CHECK here for postal delivery instead:</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
Name(s)	Gender pronoun(s)
Address	<b>OPTIONAL WAYS TO PARTICIPATE – PLEASE CHECK</b> (For questions, contact: <a href="mailto:membership@hampshirebirdclub.org">membership@hampshirebirdclub.org</a> )
City, State, Zip	<input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally provide refreshments <input type="checkbox"/> Lead Field Trips <input type="checkbox"/> Share information on birding locations/networks Serve on a Committee: <input type="checkbox"/> Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Field Trips <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Refreshments set up <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting Room (chairs & AV) set up <input type="checkbox"/> Share your skills. (Financial or database management; AV, computer or web technology; editorial; graphics; ornithology; environmental education; consider serving on the HBC Board) Other? Please specify:
Phone(s)	
Email(s)	
<b>May we publish your contact information in the fall club directory?</b> <i>[Published only in hard copy, provided only to members.]</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
<b>May we contact you via email</b> with time-sensitive information such as cancellations, field trips, or educational and other opportunities?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

***Please choose a level of membership below. All membership contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law. First-time members may ignore this section unless they wish to contribute anyway.***

<b>MEMBERSHIP – REGULAR</b>	
Student @ \$ 5.00	\$
Individual @ \$ 18.00	\$
Family @ \$ 30.00	\$
<b>MEMBERSHIP – SUPPORTING</b>	
Downy Woodpecker @ \$ 40.00	\$
Northern Flicker @ \$ 60.00	\$
Red-Bellied Woodpecker @ \$ 100.00	\$
Pileated Woodpecker @ \$ 250 or more	\$
<b>OUTREACH ACTIVITY (Optional)</b>	
Donate to Education Activity (Optional)	\$
<b>TOTAL</b>	
<i>TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED</i>	\$

Please make checks payable to the **Hampshire Bird Club, Inc.** Bring to the next meeting, or mail to:  
 Hampshire Bird Club, P.O. Box 3637, Amherst MA 01004-3637

On reverse side: **Field Trip Release (required for away trips); and Rare Bird Alert sign-up (optional) →**

# FIELD TRIP RELEASE AGREEMENT

Required if you will participate in field trips.

We need members to share responsibility for their own safety and the safety of others during field trips. The signed release will be filed with the membership secretary. For family memberships, all participating members should sign.

## Release Of All Demands - Hold Harmless

I hereby acknowledge that as a participant in field trips with the Hampshire Bird Club, Inc. (HBC) I may be exposed to significant risks. These may include, but are not limited to, vehicular travel over land and water, foot travel over difficult terrain, and hazardous weather conditions. I may also encounter poisonous plants, dangerous wildlife, and/or disease-carrying insects. In the event of injury, I understand that I may face considerable delays in reaching professional medical help.

I/we fully accept these risks and agree to hold the Hampshire Bird Club, Inc., its officers, directors, volunteers, employees, and agents free from any and all liability for injuries and/or loss which I/we may incur, directly or indirectly, while on field trips run by HBC within one (1) year of the date below.

EXECUTED freely and voluntarily this day: ....., ....., .....  
(day, month, year)

All participating family members, please sign and print name:

- 1) *Signature* ▶ ..... *print name* ▶ .....
- 2) *Signature* ▶ ..... *print name* ▶ .....
- 3) *Signature* ▶ ..... *print name* ▶ .....

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## RARE BIRD ALERT SIGN UP: Optional

The Rare Bird Alert is an optional email-only alert system for members that informs you when and where rare birds are sighted in the valley, or, in some cases, the broader region. To automatically receive all RBA announcements, participants must provide at least one (1) active email address. And please also let us know if your email changes! Thank you.

To join here:

**I would like to receive RBA alerts** . Email address/es (1) \_\_\_\_\_  
(2) \_\_\_\_\_

To join online:

Provide your name/s and email address/es to [membership@hampshirebirdclub.org](mailto:membership@hampshirebirdclub.org)

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

It's with great pleasure that we welcome the following new members who joined us over the summer - Michael Greenwald, Amherst; Mia LeBlanc, South Hadley; Brittany Maldonado, Ware; Wendy McDowell, Amherst; Jacqueline & Warren Odess-Gillett, Hadley; Lara Sabra, Amherst; and Julius Tyson, San Rafael, CA. We look forward to warmly greeting you at the first meeting of the season at Arcadia on September 13.

Please note our **new mailing address**: PO Box 3637, Amherst, MA 01004-3637. We've moved to the University Drive location which has more flexible hours. And it's renewal time! See the reminder on the front page of this newsletter. Any questions? Don't hesitate to reach out.

Donna Lee Ubertelli, [membership@hampshirebirdclub.org](mailto:membership@hampshirebirdclub.org)

## NORTH AMERICAN BLUEBIRD SOCIETY

Dana Grayson of the North American Bluebird Society (NABS) generously presented two programs to the club this past May (both available on video via the HBC website under 'Programs'). NABS and a fellow club member are now offering a reduced subsidized rate of \$15 to HBC members. (Feel free to pitch in and help bluebirds at even a more generous level if you decide to join NABS.)

This special offer is available via a printable form only. Go to [nabluebirdsociety.org](http://nabluebirdsociety.org), click on 'Membership', scroll down to the bottom of the first paragraph and click on 'click here for a printable form'. Fill out the printed form and check A+, \$15, and add the club name. Send in your check and form.

If you have questions or concerns contact Bruce Hart at [bjhart1949@gmail.com](mailto:bjhart1949@gmail.com).

## THE HBC WANTS YOU!

The club is currently looking for a few members who would be excited to help with our social media presences. We are on Facebook, Twitter, and now Instagram! Photographers would be a great fit for Instagram, in particular. Similarly, we are looking for field trip leaders for upcoming trips. No need to be an expert (leaders often pair up for walks), just have an interest. The club is actively looking to involve folks who haven't been involved previously but who want to participate. Interested? Email [dallard@hampshirebirdclub.org](mailto:dallard@hampshirebirdclub.org).

## UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

### Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

The following in-person, outdoor programs and one online program are being offered through Mass Audubon Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary. All programs require registration; more information can be found at [Arcadia events](#) where you can register.

### **Autumn Migration Mid-week Bird Walks**

September 1, 2022 (Thursday) 7:30-9:30 AM at Arcadia. For information and registration:

<https://www.massaudubon.org/program-catalog/arcadia/84290-autumn-migration-mid-week-bird-walk>

September 15, 2022 (Thursday) 7:30-9:30 AM at Arcadia. For information and

registration: <https://www.massaudubon.org/program-catalog/arcadia/84384-autumn-migration-mid-week-bird-walk>

September 29, 2022 (Thursday) 7:30 - 9:30 AM at Arcadia. For information and registration:

<https://www.massaudubon.org/program-catalog/arcadia/84385-autumn-migration-mid-week-bird-walk>

### **Identifying Hawks in Flight** – Online program, September 8, 2022 (Thursday) 7:00-8:30 PM

For information and registration: <https://www.massaudubon.org/program-catalog/mass-audubon-education/83694-identifying-hawks-in-flight-online>

### **Hawk Watch at Blueberry Hill** – September 11, 2022 (Sunday) 10 AM - 12 PM

For information and registration: <https://www.massaudubon.org/program-catalog/arcadia/84442-hawk-watch-at-blueberry-hill>

Spoil a good walk: go birding! [newsletter@hampshirebirdclub.org](mailto:newsletter@hampshirebirdclub.org)

Dave Gross, Editor