



**Hampshire Bird Club, Inc.**  
**Amherst, Massachusetts**  
www.hampshirebirdclub.org  
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**March 2023**

Dear reader, Tom Ricardi has been rescuing and rehabilitating raptors for over fifty years. Last spring and summer Tom, with the help of HBC members, rebuilt some of the thirty or so enclosures holding his 60+ birds at his Birds of Prey Rehabilitation Center in Conway. During one of our recent winter storms, a large pine tree fell on the enclosures, destroying or heavily damaging some of them. The tree fall killed two Great-horned Owls and a Saw-whet Owl. According to a recent article in the Greenfield Recorder, Tom has rescued 38 birds of prey since the beginning of the year and in the whole of 2022 the number was 165. The article is at [www.recorder.com/Fallen-tree-destroys-raptor-enclosures-kills-owls-in-Conway-50003744](http://www.recorder.com/Fallen-tree-destroys-raptor-enclosures-kills-owls-in-Conway-50003744).

Deb Oakley reports a recent example of Tom's work: Near dark last week, he headed out to pick up a Bald Eagle. The woman who found the bird waited for him, headlights flashing. Tom described the location as "in the middle of nowhere." The juvenile was suffering from Stargazing Disease, a nutritional deficiency that caused its head to turn upside down. When I inquired about the eagle two days later, Tom delivered heartening news. "It's eating like a hog," he said. He said the starving raptor wolfed down 16 five-inch trout in a single day. It's a good thing, too. Its meds are tucked inside the fish.

The cost for removal of the fallen pine tree and repair of the enclosures is substantial. To help Tom continue his great work, the HBC Board has voted to donate \$500 to the center to help pay for the work needed to get his enclosures back in shape and generally to support his work. There are two ways for individuals to donate money to assist with repairs. One is a Go Fund Me page ([www.gofundme.com/f/help-tom-ricardi-rebuild-after-storm-damage](http://www.gofundme.com/f/help-tom-ricardi-rebuild-after-storm-damage)) set up by Matthew DiCiero. One may also send a check or money order to the Birds of Prey Rehabilitation Center, P.O. Box 26, Conway, MA 01341. The facility is a nonprofit and contributions are tax-deductible. Please don't call Tom offering help. He's being inundated with calls.

## **NEXT PROGRAM**

**Tuesday, March 21 at 7:15 PM**

**Nathan Senner presents**

**Godwits Gone Global: shorebird migration and climate change**

Wesley United Methodist Church, 98 North Maple Street, Hadley; also via Zoom

Shorebirds are the champions of migration: their flights span hemispheres and defy our preconceived notions about what is possible. Hudsonian Godwits are emblematic of this strategy and migrate from the southern tip of South America to breed in Alaska and Canada. This talk will highlight how godwits are altering their migrations and responding to global climate change, as well as what we can do to help them along the way.

Dr. Nathan Senner is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Environmental Conservation at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Following his undergraduate studies at Carleton College, he was awarded a Thomas J. Watson Fellowship to follow Hudsonian Godwits on their epic migrations. He then received his PhD from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology at Cornell University. His research group continues to follow godwits but has also branched out to study other long-distance migratory shorebirds.

***This month we return to IN-PERSON, HYBRID meetings. The date is one week LATER than usual.***

## **UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

**April 11:** Joan Walsh, *Full Life Cycle Conservation of Roseate Terns* (Wesley Church, also via Zoom)

**May 9:** Matt Kelly, *T 'n' T: Where Birding is Dy-No-Mite!* (Wesley Church, also via Zoom)

**June 13:** BYO Picnic (Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary)

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT AND WORKSHOPS

**THANK YOU for using our new registration form:** As a reminder on how it works, go to the Education tab on the HBC website and find the workshop you wish to attend. Below the workshop description is a link to the registration form. You can register for more than one workshop on this form, too. Enter your email address and name on the form, check the box next to the workshop(s), and scroll down to the Submit button. You will receive an automated email response letting you know we have received your registration. You will receive an email with the Zoom link the day before the workshop.

PLEASE register *before* the day of the workshop. We can't constantly monitor our email to send out Zoom links at the last minute. Thank you! Questions? Email us at [education@hampshirebirdclub.org](mailto:education@hampshirebirdclub.org).

**Our next Do-It-Yourself Field Trip** will be on Monday, March 6 at 7 PM on Zoom. Each month an area is chosen and a leader describes the location and five 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 Zoom meeting the following month. Our February field trip location was Brunelle's Marina in South Hadley. The target birds were Greater Scaup, Common Merganser, Hooded Merganser, American Black Duck and Common Goldeneye. To join the March Zoom to share your February sightings and learn of the upcoming field trip, register here: [docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfCMHyHNyL4P\\_5Py218FFeG2vY1K9gBfxsBbQtGCFPOVZ4v8w/vi/ewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfCMHyHNyL4P_5Py218FFeG2vY1K9gBfxsBbQtGCFPOVZ4v8w/vi/ewform).

### March workshops

- Dan Ziomek and Heidi Stemple will offer a highly anticipated workshop called *OWLING 101* on **Wednesday, March 15, 7-8 PM.**
- HBC board member Kalpesh Krishna will treat us to *BIRDING IN INDIA* on **Wednesday, March 29, 7-8 PM.**
- *Learning the App: Merlin ID* will be rescheduled.

We have some excellent workshops coming up in April as well. Keep your eyes open for a workshop on Birding in New Hampshire, Birding with Bioacoustics in Conway, MA, and one on Female Bird Song. **To register:** There are links to the new registration form on the Education Workshop page.

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

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Let's welcome our February new members – Jean Bergstrom (Leverett), Eric Bowman and Larry Foard (Westfield), Jaymie Zapata (Northampton) and Jenna Royal (Amherst). We hope to meet you at our March 21 in-person program. The club has a lovely tradition in which members volunteer to bring light bites to a meeting. The board asks you to BYOB if you'd like a beverage to accompany your treat. The goal is to grow the club's conservation commitment by reducing waste. If you have questions, you can reach me at [membership@hampshirebirdclub.org](mailto:membership@hampshirebirdclub.org).

Donna Lee Ubertalli, Membership Secretary

## BIRDING FOR EVERYONE

The Birding For Everyone (BFE) program is geared toward beginner birders and those who, historically, have not been included in the birding community: people young in age, from underrepresented minority groups and who have disabilities that make birding difficult. On the third Saturday of each month at 10 AM a one hour online educational session is held (half presentation, half discussion) and on the fourth Saturday of the month there is a two hour, in-person 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 walk can register at [bit.ly/2023bfe](https://bit.ly/2023bfe). Upcoming sessions are

March 18, 2023 10-11 AM: Ducks (Presentation)

March 25, 2023 7:45-10:00 AM: Lake Wallace, Belchertown (Walk)

## WINTER & SPRING 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 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 after they register. Please do not show up for a trip unless you have registered for it.

### **Sunday, March 12. Waterfowl of the Connecticut River, Holyoke Dam – Turners Falls. 8 AM – noon.**

Mike Locher will lead this trip along the Connecticut River starting at the Holyoke Dam and visiting areas along the river up to Turners Falls in search of overwintering and migrating waterfowl. This will be car birding primarily. A scope is helpful. To register contact Mike Locher at (413) 585-5864. (E)

### **Tuesday, March 21. Quabbin Park HQ, Belchertown. 7 – 10 AM.** Join Dave Gross on a leisurely walk around the south end of the Quabbin reservoir on a search for very early migrants and over-wintering species. We'll look and listen for birds on land and on the water. Meet at the Quabbin Visitor Center for a walk along the dam and beyond. Depending on our luck we may drive to other spots in the park. Contact Dave at [djgross@gmail.com](mailto:djgross@gmail.com) or 413-687-8161 to sign up. (E)

### **Friday, March 31. Waterfowl & Early Migrants – Arcadia & West Meadows. 6:30 - 10:30 AM.** Ted Gilliland will meet participants at the Mass Audubon Arcadia Sanctuary parking lot. This is a walk from the parking lot through the sanctuary and out to West Meadows over moderate terrain. Boots and clothing appropriate for the weather outside for four hours are recommended. Binoculars are necessary. To sign-up contact Ted Gilliland at [tgillila@mtholyoke.edu](mailto:tgillila@mtholyoke.edu) or 480-381-5617. (E)

### **Sunday, April 16. Ashley Reservoir. 7 AM. Half day.** Mike Locher looks for early migrants like Pine and Palm Warblers, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Louisiana Waterthrushes, and possibly holdover ducks. Meet in the Holyoke Elks parking lot (250 Whitney Ave.) near Exit 15 ("Holyoke Mall") off Route 91 at 7 AM. Contact Mike (413-585-5864) for more information or to register. *Note - The Elks has a "donate to park" policy, so it would be good to throw a dollar in their box.* (M with one optional S section to listen for the waterthrushes)

### **Sunday, April 23. Fannie Stebbins Wildlife Refuge, Longmeadow. 7 – 10 AM.** Laura Beltran will lead a trip that will include some stationary observations and a walk along a flat, woodland road and trail. The group will be searching for spring migrants through a variety of habitats. To register contact Laura Beltran at [lauraandnature@gmail.com](mailto:lauraandnature@gmail.com). (E/M)

### **Sunday, May 7. Mineral Hills Conservation Area, Florence. 7 AM. Half day.** Betsy Higgins and Marcia Merithew will co-lead this walk that can feature Prairie Warblers, Eastern Towhees, Ravens, and Red-shouldered Hawks, as well as a variety of warblers and vireos. Meet in the parking area at the end of Turkey Hill Road. This will be a moderate walk on uneven ground with some slight inclines/declines. We'll walk around and into the quarry and along the dirt road if time allows. To sign up email [mmerithew@comcast.net](mailto:mmerithew@comcast.net). (M)

### **Sunday, May 14. Gate 5 at Quabbin Reservoir, Belchertown. 6:30 – 9:30 AM.** Greg Brown knows this area well as he lives nearby and birds it frequently. It's a good time and a good location for finding both migrating and resident nesting birds. The variety of habitat along this easily accessed road makes it a great spot. To register contact Greg at [gwb@gregorywbrown.com](mailto:gwb@gregorywbrown.com). (E)

### **Saturday, May 20. All Day, Hilltown Rambles. 6:30 AM.** Join Bob Zimmermann and Dave Gross as they ramble around the Berkshire Hilltowns to look for those migrants that prefer higher elevations than the valley provides. We'll be on the lookout for American Bittern, Sandhill Cranes, Blackburnian Warblers and Spotted Sandpipers along with anything else we can turn up. There will be a bit of hiking at the hilly Moran Wildlife Area. Meet at the Northampton Stop & Shop parking lot at 6:30 AM. Pack a lunch or pick one up at our stop at the Cummington Creamery. For information and to sign up contact Dave ([djgross@gmail.com](mailto:djgross@gmail.com) or 413-687-8161) or Bob ([raz@umass.edu](mailto:raz@umass.edu) or 413-585-0405). (E/M/S)

**Sunday, May 21. Mt Holyoke. 6 AM.** Half day. Mike Locher hikes up the park road to the top of this local peak hoping for some later migrants and deep-woods breeding specialties including Worm-eating and Cerulean Warblers and Yellow-throated Vireos. Meet at the (gated) entrance to Skinner State Park (at the end of Old Mountain Road in Hadley) at 6 AM. This is an occasionally steep hike on a paved road. For more information or to register contact Mike (413-585-5864). (M/S)

**Sunday, June 4. Knightville Dam. 7 AM. Long half day, often past noon.** Betsy Higgins and Marcia Merithew will co-lead a walk at the Knightville Dam area. The trip starts with an exploration at the top of the dam, then a drive down to the road along the East Branch of the Westfield River. Highlights include flycatchers, Bank Swallows, Spotted Sandpipers, several species of warblers, and cuckoos. Meet in the JFK Middle School parking lot on Bridge Road at 7 AM. It's about a 20-minute drive to the Knightville area. There will be a combination of walking and driving on dirt roads over moderately uneven terrain. To sign up email [mmerithew@comcast.net](mailto:mmerithew@comcast.net). (M)

**Sunday, June 4. Exploratory Field Trip to Fog Hollow, Southampton. 7 – 9 AM.** Bird club members are invited to this exploratory field trip at Fog Hollow in Southampton. An exploratory field trip directs members to a location to both explore the location and discover what bird species are there without a designated leader. Fog Hollow, in the Southampton Wildlife Management Area, is located off Cook Road, Southampton. If you are traveling south on Cook Road, a parking area is on the left near the power lines. See you at 7 AM.

#### **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.

### **FIELD TRIP REPORT**

On February 12 a dozen people enjoyed a beautiful winter morning at the Trolley Line Conservation Area in Easthampton. Twenty species of birds were observed with a pair of Pileated Woodpeckers being a highlight. Pairs of Eastern Bluebirds were also observed checking out boxes for possible nest sites. There is a wide variety of habitat on this short walk so it is a good location to check during any season, especially during warbler, vireo, and flycatcher migration.

Laura Beltran

### **HBC BOUTIQUE REQUEST**

I have enjoyed running the boutique for some years, but for a number of reasons, not the least of which is that I already have two back to back, conflicting Tuesday night obligations, I'm looking for someone to take over my post. Running the boutique involves designing or having someone else design club t-shirts, ordering the shirts and other various items that we carry in the boutique, coming to in-person meetings to sell things, keeping track of sales, getting money to and communicating with the treasurer, and communicating with the board about money and/or any changes of which they would need to be aware.

If anyone would like to chat about it with me feel free to email or call. My contact information is [higgins.elizabetha@gmail.com](mailto:higgins.elizabetha@gmail.com) and 413-320-2026.

Many thanks, Betsy Higgins

Q: Which side of an Arctic Tern has the most feathers?

A: The outside.

There was a recall on bird seed but most places are offering a refund if you return it. It strikes me as odd that they would encourage you to give bad feed back.

“Orion’s Belt is a big waist of space.” Terrible joke. Only three stars.

# THE CBC CORNER

## Some Sources for Exploring Bird Populations

by David Spector

Questions about the status of bird populations arise in many contexts—perhaps you see more of a bird than you remember from the past; maybe a Christmas Bird Count (CBC) in which you participate records low numbers of a bird; maybe you read about conservation concerns for a bird. Is the situation in your backyard, your CBC, or your state typical of what is happening with that species overall? Several data sources allow you to explore that kind of question:

The CBC has collected data in a fairly standardized way for nearly a century-and-a-quarter, and its web site ([www.audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count](http://www.audubon.org/conservation/science/christmas-bird-count); click on “CBC Results”) allows you to explore data over time for a single count circle, groups of counts, and particular species. It helps to know the four-letter codes for the CBCs in which you are interested. For the Connecticut Valley in Massachusetts the counts and codes are as follows: Athol—MAAT, Cobble Mountain—MACM, Greenfield—MAGR, Northampton—MANO, Quabbin—MAQB and Springfield—MASP. The code for all of Massachusetts is US-MA. Data are recorded by “count year,” with year one being the winter 1900-1901 count.

The Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) has recorded the numbers of breeding season individuals detected at set locations along road routes since 1966. BBS data can be explored at [www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbs/](http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbs/); click on “USGS Analyzed Results” for the easiest to understand results.

For species that breed or winter in the United States or southern Canada, the BBS and CBC data respectively provide initial looks at whether a species is increasing or decreasing in parts or all of its range. Each of these web sites has a substantial learning curve, but playing with them often gives quick answers about population trends. It is important to understand the procedures and limitations of each count; more detailed analysis requires careful use of raw data.

For the breeding distribution of a species in Massachusetts and how that distribution has changed in recent decades, see the two Massachusetts Breeding Bird Atlases (BBA) ([www.massaudubon.org/our-conservation-work/wildlife-research-conservation/bird-conservation-monitoring/breeding-bird-atlases](http://www.massaudubon.org/our-conservation-work/wildlife-research-conservation/bird-conservation-monitoring/breeding-bird-atlases)). Click on BBA2 and then on “Find a Bird” to get a species list; click on a species for an overview of its breeding distribution in the state and of changes between the two atlases (done in 1974-1979 and 2007-2011).

Changes in a species’ population raise “why” questions, which are difficult to answer and require understanding the species’ ecology and changes in its environment. The *Birds of North America (BNA)* species accounts provide many details of life history and references to primary research literature, some of which is freely available through SORA (Searchable Ornithological Research Archive: [sora.unm.edu/](http://sora.unm.edu/)). *BNA* accounts usually give far more information about measures like weight, clutch size, or life span, than the single numbers found in field guides or popular web sites. In the *BNA* averages are often available with ranges by sex, age, geographic region, etc. Hard copy *BNAs* are in some libraries; an electronic version, for some species updated, is merged into the on-line *Birds of the World*, available through many academic and some public libraries.

[Ed. note: The Belchertown bureau reports in with copy from time to time. Here’s the latest exchange.

*BB: Dear editor, attached should be a submission for your consideration for the March HBC newsletter. I hope that you find it acceptable.*

*Your correspondent in Belchertown*

Ed: Attachment was indeed found. Submission was found acceptable. Two editorial changes will be to remove the trailing "s" after the two possessive "species's" in your copy. According to the omniscient World Wide Web, this change will improve readability. Payment for your toil will be in the usual amount.

*BB: “The English are temperamentally obsessed with the presence or absence of apostrophes. It remains for many people a divide between civilisation and chaos.”*

—John Simpson (former editor of the *Oxford English Dictionary*); p. 68 in *The Word Detective: Searching for the Meaning of It All at the Oxford English Dictionary, A Memoir*. Basic Books, New York, 2016.]

[Ed. further note: Ah, the travails of the weary editor.]

## UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

### Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary

The following programs are offered by Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary in Easthampton. More programs can be found at [www.massaudubon.org/get-outdoors/wildlife-sanctuaries/arcadia](http://www.massaudubon.org/get-outdoors/wildlife-sanctuaries/arcadia).

#### **Woodpeckers, Wood Ducks, and Woodcocks Series – March 11, 18 and 25 – times vary**

Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary and Park Hill Orchard (Woodcocks), Easthampton

#### **Birding By Ear Series – April 8, 15 and 22 – times vary**

Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary, Easthampton

#### **Parking Lot Birding – April 16 and 26 – 8-9 AM**

Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary, Easthampton

#### **Saturday Morning Bird Walks – May 13, 20 and 27 – 7:00-8:30 AM**

Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary, Easthampton (May 13)

Graves Farm Wildlife Sanctuary, Williamsburg (May 20)

Laughing Brook Wildlife Sanctuary, Hampden (May 27)

#### **Spring Migration Bird Walks – May 8, 9 10, 11 and 12 – 6:30-8:00 AM**

Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary, Easthampton

### 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Birders Meeting

#### **Our Commonwealth of Birds – April 2 – 8 AM-4 PM**

Hogan Campus Center, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA

Our Commonwealth of Birds celebrates the rich diversity of bird species that call Massachusetts and greater New England home. As New Englanders, we are fortunate to have the ability to engage with birds that exhibit both amazing physical and physiological adaptations that allow them to thrive in a variety of habitats. Whether it be the Saltmarsh Sparrow, the pelagic Atlantic Puffin, or the urban Rock Pigeon, all have a fascinating and unique story to share. They also share something in common: all are vulnerable to climate change and its effects on both sea level rise and changes in ocean temperatures. People share these vulnerabilities too.

Our speakers will highlight the intricate tapestry that binds birds, people and environmental pressures together while offering a glimpse at Mass Audubon's work to preserve, protect, and manage critical habitat. This year's speakers include Derrick Z. Jackson, Rosemary Mosco, and David Sibley.

Register here: [www.massaudubon.org/get-outdoors/activities/birding/birders-meeting](http://www.massaudubon.org/get-outdoors/activities/birding/birders-meeting).

### Trustees of Reservations

Since 2010, the Trustees have been conducting volunteer grassland bird monitoring at their reservations with significant grassland habitat. This monitoring enables the Trustees to assess grassland bird populations on their properties and aids in informing management decisions within their pastures, fields, etc. The Trustees are recruiting for the grassland bird monitoring community science program for Trustee properties at Bullitt Reservation, Bryant Homestead, Notchview, North Common Meadow and Jewell Hill.

The monitoring season runs from May 1 through July. Each volunteer is assigned a monitoring property. They are asked to visit the property at least once a month during the season and to conduct point count surveys for grassland birds, with special attention being given to Bobolinks. Before the season starts, monitors are provided with onboarding materials such as monitoring maps and instructions on how to conduct bird surveys and submit results.

For more information and to sign up as a volunteer, please contact Isabel Bronson at [ibronson@thetrustees.org](mailto:ibronson@thetrustees.org). She would love to schedule a Teams meeting to say hello and talk more about the program. More Trustees volunteer monitoring opportunities across the state can be found at [volunteer.thetrustees.org/ecology](http://volunteer.thetrustees.org/ecology).

## THE HBC QUIZ

Here are more quiz questions from our quizmaster. The topic is Western Massachusetts local connections. The answers will be in the April newsletter.

- 21) What is the state bird of Massachusetts and what former Hampshire Bird Club member is famous for her research on this species (among many other species)?
- 22) What Smith College student became well known for her research on prairie chickens, harriers, and other birds?
- 23) What bird makes multiple “dummy nests” in cattails, and what Hampshire Bird Club member is famous for his research on this species (among many other species)?
- 24) Maurice Broun became famous as the curator of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in Pennsylvania. Before he went there he opened a sanctuary in Western Massachusetts. Which one?
- 25) What Hampshire Bird Club member has tens of thousands of birdwatchers reporting to him for three weeks every year?
- 26) What Springfield naturalist was one of the last people to see a living Heath Hen (now extinct) and wrote for children about Sammy Jay, Jenny Wren, Bubbling Bob the Bobolink, Mr. Mocker, and many other birds?

## BIRDS OF A FEATHER

The following is from page 17 in *Bird Brain-Teasers* by Patrick Merrell, Storey Publishing (ISBN 978-1-60342-080-8). Answers will be in the April newsletter if you are lucky.

Many terms have been coined for flocks, flights, dissimulations, voleries or groups of birds. Count yourself above average if you can match up more than half of these. [Ed. note: Count yourself way above average if you could have written that first sentence.]

- |                    |       |                 |
|--------------------|-------|-----------------|
| 1. Ostentation of  | _____ | A. Chickens     |
| 2. Gaggle of       | _____ | B. Nightingales |
| 3. Parliament of   | _____ | C. Goldfinches  |
| 4. Brood of        | _____ | D. Owls         |
| 5. Murder of       | _____ | E. Starlings    |
| 6. Charm of        | _____ | F. Larks        |
| 7. Exaltation of   | _____ | G. Geese        |
| 8. Conspiracy of   | _____ | H. Peacocks     |
| 9. Watch of        | _____ | I. Ravens       |
| 10. Murmuration of | _____ | J. Crows        |

From the March 1997 HBC newsletter (Sally Venman, Ed.):

This Challenge was issued last month – change one letter in a non-English phrase and redefine the phrase. Here are some more:

Pro Bozo Publico (Support your local clown.)  
Posh Mortem (Death styles of the rich and famous.)  
Respondez S’il Vous Plaid (Honk if you’re Scottish.)  
Apres Moe Le Deluge (Larry and Curly got wet.)

There was this woman who entered a local paper’s pun contest. She sent in ten different puns, in the hope that at least one of the puns would win. Unfortunately, no pun in ten did.