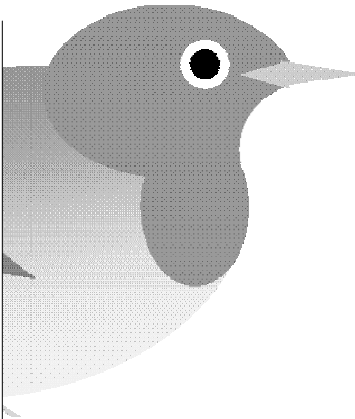
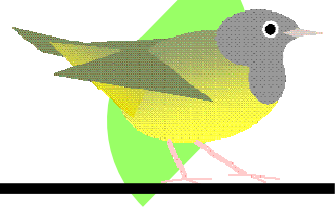


COA BULLETIN



FOURTH ANNUAL NEW HAVEN MIGRATION FESTIVAL LIGHTHOUSE POINT PARK, NEW HAVEN, CT SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2006

On September 23, 2006, the City of New Haven, the New Haven Bird Club, Audubon Connecticut, New England Hawk Watch, the Connecticut Ornithological Association, Wind Over Wings, the Connecticut Butterfly Association, Menunkatuck Audubon, and the Connecticut Audubon Society will join forces to celebrate the spectacular fall hawk migration at the fourth annual New Haven Migration Festival at New Haven's Lighthouse Point Park.



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Lighthouse Point Park is recognized as an Important Bird Area due to its importance as a major stopover destination for migrating raptors. The park, on average, reports the largest numbers of migrating hawks northeast of Cape May as the annual numbers of some species such as Sharp-shinned Hawks and American Kestrels reach into the tens of thousands. Lighthouse Point Park also features regular appearances of less common raptors like Merlins, Peregrine Falcons, Northern Goshawks, and Bald Eagles, as well as a wide variety of migrating songbirds and shorebirds; flocks of thousands of Blue Jays, Tree Swallows, and blackbirds are not uncommon. In addition, this is the only site in Connecticut where the Red-headed Woodpecker can be reliably seen.

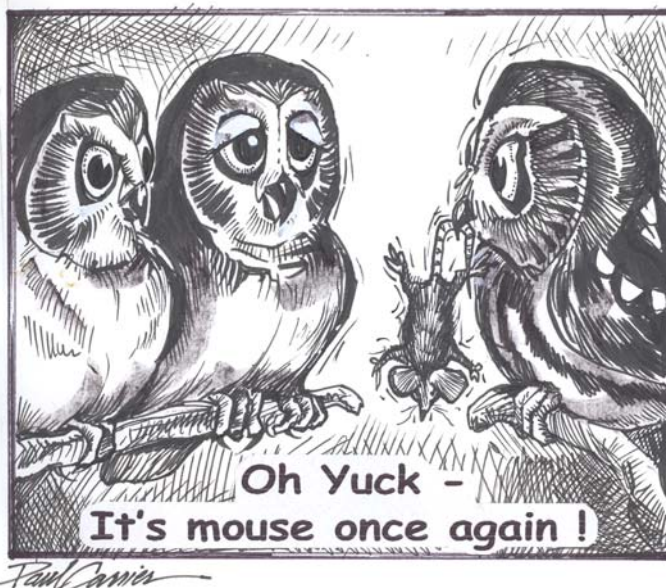
Not only is Lighthouse Point Park a premier birding hotspot, but it is also a popular destination for butterfly and dragonfly enthusiasts. As the New Haven Parks and Recreation Department has curtailed mowing in strategic areas of the park, wildflowers attractive to butterflies should be in abundance, which should result in an excellent turnout of butterflies.

The public is encouraged to come and witness this natural phenomenon and to participate in the many activities the festival has to offer, which will give the public the opportunity to learn about raptor biology and behavior as well as the chance to see live hawks up close and personal.

NEW HAVEN MIGRATION FESTIVAL (CONTINUED)

The day's festivities will include:

- A hawk and songbird flight ID workshop led by the Connecticut Ornithological Association
- Bird banding demonstrations by the Connecticut Audubon Society
- Monarch butterfly banding demonstrations
- A live raptor show featuring Wind Over Wings
- Bird walks led by the New Haven Bird Club
- Rides on the historic carousel
- Butterfly and dragonfly walks, AND MORE!



TWO FORMER COA BOARD MEMBERS HONORED BY NATIONAL AUDUBON

The National Audubon Society announced on June 1, 2006, the recipients for its 12th Annual Charles H. Callison Awards. The 2006 Callison Award for an Audubon Volunteer goes to Benjamin Olewine IV of Connecticut (former COA board member and chair of COA conservation committee), and the 2006 Callison Award for an Audubon Professional is awarded to two Audubon staff: Thomas R. Baptist, Executive Director of Audubon Connecticut (former COA board member) and David J. Miller, Executive Director of Audubon New York

The awards, which were presented to the winners at the May 2006 Audubon Board Meeting in Vail, CO, recognize individuals who have made remarkable contributions to conservation through creativity, coalition building, creative thinking, outreach, and perseverance. Awardees are nominated by their peers in the field – both Audubon Chapter members and Audubon staff.

Few volunteers in recent memory have done as much to shape Audubon's conservation programs as Ben Olewine. His broad range of achievements at the international, national, state and local levels has helped to guide Audubon on a

course of sound environmental policy for the 21st Century. Olewine, an avid opponent to drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, has provided tremendous support to Audubon as a member and board leader at both the National level and also in several states, including Pennsylvania and Connecticut, Arizona and Alaska. In addition, he also sits on the board of BirdLife International, the Connecticut Ornithological Association, has been active with The Nature Conservancy, World Wildlife Fund and Hawk Mountain Sanctuary – reaching out to build strong coalitions with and between each organization.

Tom Baptist and Dave Miller have each achieved tremendous success in their respective state programs. For nearly two decades, Audubon New York and Connecticut have been leading an advocacy effort to restore the water quality and protect the important habitats throughout Long Island Sound. Their tireless efforts to protect this Estuary of National Significance in Washington and in their respective states and municipalities have resulted in a true conservation success story. Due to their strong and respected advocacy voice, they have been able to champion initiatives to reduce the amount of nitrogen, provide increased federal funding to restore the health of, and advance new measures to protect and enhance important habitats across the Sound. Additionally, each has built a powerful state level Audubon program, with significant impact on environmental action and policy.

FALL FIELD TRIPS FROM HARTFORD AUDUBON



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2006

Station 43 Beginner's Bird Walk I, South Windsor

This is the first of four walks designed for beginners, though anyone is invited. Station 43 is an excellent birding area year round and on each walk we will look for seasonal birds. The area has produced some good birds over the years, and you just never know what might pop up for all to see. Wear high boots as the area is inclined to be wet. Do yourself a favor and mark the calendar with all four walks now. Join us at the corner of Newberry Rd. and Main St. at 8:00 AM. **Leaders:** Roger Preston and Jon Ward

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2006

Swallow Spectacle Picnic Trip

Through September into October, tens of thousands of birds congregate in the lower Connecticut River Valley on their migration route. One flock of birds, primarily comprised of Tree Swallows, comes nightly to an island in Old Lyme to roost. At dusk as many as 250,000 swallows converge over the island, as they settle down into a communal roost in the phragmites for the night. A naturalist will be onboard to answer questions and to point out other wildlife we may see. Join with the Mattabesock Audubon Society on this Connecticut River trip to watch the swallows go to bed. We'll have a potluck dinner on board going to the viewing site. MAS is bringing the cake! Cost is \$20.00 pp; Reservation form: www.audubon-mas.org/pages/fswalloform.htm Meet at the dock by 5:00 PM for the 5:30 trip. **Contact:** Adrian & Beth Nichols

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2006

Salt Meadow Unit of Stewart B. McKinney NWR and Menunketesuck Island flats in Westbrook

Join with the Potapaug Bird Club for this early morning trip in search of migrant songbirds at one of the premier fall land-bird locations in the state. Afterwards we head to our second Important Bird Area of the day and search for shore birds and terns on the flats at Menunketesuck (bring your shorts or high rubber boots to walk out to the flats). If the weather is right, Salt Meadow Unit can be one of the best places to see fall migrants in Connecticut, but you have to be an early riser. Meet at the refuge visitor's parking lot at 6:30AM. **Leader:** Patrick Comins

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2006

Westmoor Park, West Hartford

Morning walk in Westmoor Park in West Hartford. A variety of habitats: woods and ponds to explore. Meet in the parking lot at 8:00 AM for this morning walk. Westmoor Park is located at 119 Flagg Road, off Albany Avenue. **Leader:** Diane Tucker

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16-17, 2006

Hawkwatch at Johnny Cake Mt., Burlington, and

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20-21

Hawkwatch at Booth Hill, West Hartland

Come see Broad-winged Hawks migrating at their peak through Connecticut with chances of seeing hundreds/thousands. Also other hawk species can be seen as well. Bring a chair, food and drink, and spend the day watching for migrating hawks. Meet at 8:30 AM. Call leader for directions. **Leader:** Paul Carrier

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2006

Great Pond, Simsbury

This walk never fails to get some good birds. We have birded the pond for many years and if you haven't been there, come join us. Then again, if you have been there, come on back. Even if we don't get birds- which we plan to do - it's a neat place and the company is excellent!! Meet at the parking lot off Great Pond Rd at 8:00 AM. **Leaders:** Roger Preston and Jon Ward

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2006

Windsor, Northwest Park

An easy bird walk in search of sparrows, raptors and other fall migrants. Starting time: 7:30 AM. Meet at bridge near parking lot. Call leader to confirm trip. **Leader:** Paul Cianfaglione

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2006**Southeast Connecticut Shoreline**

This all-day trip will search the Southeast Connecticut shoreline looking for migrating shorebirds and ducks. Make sure to dress for the weather and bring lunch. We hope to find shorebirds, ducks and hawks. Meet at the parking lot of the DEP Marine Headquarters in Old Lyme at 8:00 AM. **Leaders:** Adrian & Beth Nichols

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2006**Station 43, South Windsor**

A good area and time of year to search for Lincoln's and White-crowned Sparrows and raptors. As with other trips to this location, it's a good idea to wear waterproof footwear. Meet at the corner of Newberry Road and Main Street at 7:30 AM. **Leader:** Carl Ekroth

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2006**"Big Sit" at Station 43, South Windsor**

Join other members of HAS for a day of fun at Station 43. We will count all the species we see and hear from a 17-foot circle at the south end of the marsh during a 24-hour period. Can we beat last year's count? Look for details in *The Crest* or on our website: www.hartfordaudubon.org. **Coordinator:** Betty Kleiner

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2006**Birding and Maintenance Party****Lewis Farm, Suffield, CT**

Bring your gloves, binoculars, and lunch and help the Sanctuaries Committee keep Lewis Farm beautiful and clear of brush. Meet at Lewis Farm at 8:30 AM. **Leader:** Jon Smalley

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2006**Mini-tour of Portland, CT**

This will be an overview of some birding locations in the town of Portland. Scheduled stops may include the Brownstone Quarry, a power line cut, and two different areas along the CT River. Exact locations may change depending on water levels at the time. There should be a nice mix of birds including a few warblers, raptors, and sparrows. Hiking boots recommended - there may be a lot of walking across mostly flat terrain. Meet at Portland Middle School Parking lot on Main Street, Portland (17A) at 6:30 AM. School is on the right when coming from Glastonbury or on the left if coming across the Arigoni Bridge.

Leader: Larry Nichols

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2006**Hillstead Museum & Conklin Trail**

We'll walk the beautiful Hillstead grounds looking for migrants and any fall specialties. Following that we will go around the corner to the Conklin Trail off Meadow Road to scare up some waterfowl. Meet at the Hillstead parking lot at 7:30 AM. **Leader:** Diane Tucker (860) 521-4815

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2006**Rhode Island Shoreline**

Check out Rhode Island's south shore from Sachuest Point westward to Connecticut, looking for waterfowl, Northern Gannets, hawks and wintering birds. Meet at Sachuest Point at 8:00 AM. **Leader:** Paul Desjardins

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2006**Bantam Lake Area**

Explore the White Memorial Foundation and Bantam Lake area in search of migrating ducks, American Coot and other early-winter birds. Bring lunch and warm clothing and be ready for fun on this possible all day trip. Meet at the Litchfield Green at 8:00 AM. **Leader:** Paul Carrier

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2006**Hammonasset Beach State Park**

Meet at the park entrance at 8:00 AM to begin a search for Lapland Longspurs, owls, Snow Buntings, Horned Larks and other winter species. Dress warmly for this morning trip. **Leader:** Louise Tucker New Haven Bird Club

FALL FIELD TRIPS FROM THE NEW HAVEN BIRD CLUB



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2006, 5 PM - 7:30 PM

Swallow Cruise on the Connecticut River

For a short period in the fall each day at sunset, thousands of Tree Swallows congregate at the Lower Connecticut River in a giant communal roost. The birds gather in great numbers and move in large swirls that create a spectacular avian ballet. When they finally are ready to settle in for the night, they descend in a huge funnel formation into the marsh, sometimes in less than a minute. Roger Tory Peterson wrote that this unique Tree Swallow behavior "eclipsed any other avian spectacle" he had ever seen. NHBC joins Menunkatuck Audubon on the RiverQuest, a comfortable 54-foot passenger ship based in Essex next to the Connecticut River Museum. Bring a picnic supper (optional) and beverage, as well as binoculars to experience this incredible display. Reservations are a must and the cost is \$30/person. [Register online](#) or contact Gina Nichol (203.453.6724) for reservations. Be sure to plan adequate time to travel to Essex to board the RiverQuest. It leaves promptly at 5 PM.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2006, 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM (Rain date: Sunday, September 24)

Fourth Annual Migration Festival at Lighthouse Point Park

This festive event is sponsored by the New Haven Parks Dept, NHBC, and other fine organizations. Besides hawk watching, there will be bird banding demos, a live raptor demonstration, canoeing, beginner bird walks, and other activities. Check your newspaper and the Club newsletter for more details. Leader-Park Ranger Dan Barvir: 203.946.6086. NHBC contact-Chris Loscalzo: 203.389.6508, closcalz@optonline.net

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2006, 9:00 AM (Rain Date: Sunday, October 1)

Bird Walk for Kids at Lighthouse Point Park

Children, accompanied by adults, will meet at Lighthouse Point Park, site of NHBC's annual Hawk Watch, to look for hawks and other fall migrants. This walk is planned for elementary school children, but older children and adults are also welcome. Meet at 9:00 AM in the Lighthouse Point east parking lot, the first lot you come to after entering the park. Bring binoculars and a field guide if you have them. Leader-Florence McBride: 203.288.6777, j.mcbride@yale.edu

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2006

THE BIG SIT!®

Established by the New Haven Bird Club, The Big Sit!® has become an international event, with birders on four continents participating so far. The object is to record as many species of birds as possible in a single day from one 17-foot diameter circle. The circles for NHBC's event are strategically located at a number of birding hotspots throughout the state. Join other birders in one of these circles or create your own. You don't have to be a hard-core birder to join in the fun. The event is now run by Bird Watcher's Digest. For further information, go to the Bird Watcher's Digest website: birdwatchersdigest.com or contact John Triana: 203.758.7203, jtriana1@mindspring.com

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2006, 9:00 AM (Rain date: Sunday, October 15)

Centennial Walk and Old-fashioned Corn Roast

Sleeping Giant State Park and Clark's Pond, Hamden

Join the fun as we go back in time to retrace the steps of Club members who came before us. We will start with a walk along the trails of Sleeping Giant and visit nearby Clark's Pond. Then, continuing the popular field trip of earlier NHBC days, we'll have an old-fashioned corn roast and picnic. The Club will supply the coals and corn. You bring your basket lunch and beverage-and your appetite! (Take Mt. Carmel Avenue off Rt. 10. Park entrance is on left.). Leader-Chris Loscalzo: 203.389.6508, closcalz@optonline.net

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2006, 8:00 AM (Rain date: Sunday, October 22)

Hammonasset State Park, Madison

Visit one of Connecticut's best fall birding spots, where the abundance of some migrants and the sightings of less common species can make for a truly memorable trip. Last year's highlights included American Bittern, Little Blue Heron, Pectoral Sandpiper, Bald Eagle, and all 3 falcon species. The walking is easy, as it is on level ground. Meet at the park entrance. (Take Rt. I-95 to Exit 62, and follow the connector to the park.). Leader-Florence McBride: 203.288.6777, j.mcbride@yale.edu

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2006, 8:00 AM

Centennial Walk in Naugatuck State Forest

Enjoy an autumn walk through part of the Naugatuck State Forest in Hamden and Bethany. We will walk an area that was once

owned by NHBC member George Cromie. In 1944 he sold more than 500 acres to the state to make up the Mt. Sanford block of the Naugatuck State Forest. We will look for late fall migrants and discuss George's life and legacy. Meet at the turnaround at the extreme north end of Downs Road in Hamden, just in front of the YMCA camp entrance. Bring water and wear appropriate shoes as some of the walk will be strenuous and on steep terrain. Leader-John Triana: 203.758.7203, jtriana1@mindspring.com

NOVEMBER 1, 2006 through MARCH 31, 2007

NHBC 13th Annual Winter Feeder Survey

Participate in this yearly census to help determine the number and frequency of birds visiting feeders in the Greater New Haven area. You are invited to watch and record the activity at your feeder at least once a week for the entire time period. Survey contact person not determined as of the time of yearbook printing. Watch Club newsletters for updates.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2006, 8:00 A.M.

Fargeorge Wildlife Preserve, Quinnipiac River, New Haven

Some birds you can expect to see in this varied, 23-acre habitat owned by the New Haven Land Trust are snipe, woodcock, and wintering ducks. Snow geese and eagles have also been seen at this Quinnipiac River site. Directions: Go south on Quinnipiac Ave. from Rt. 80. Turn right immediately after the R.R. overpass. Leader-Mike Horn: 203.288.1891, mhorn@rcn.com

SATURDAY, NOV. 11, 2006 6:30 AM (Veterans' Day Weekend)

Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge

Delaware and Eastern Neck Island NWR, Maryland

Birding and Photography

Our adventure begins Saturday when we enter Bombay Hook's main gate at 6:30 AM sharp and tour the Refuge's many ponds, pools, and fields. We may see and photograph as many as 100,000 Snow Geese and other fall migrants, from raptors to shorebirds. We will also visit other notable birding spots in the area, including Eastern Neck Island NWR where we'll see Tundra Swans among other great finds. Stay in one of the area's many motels or B&Bs. For details, contact trip leaders-Mike & Pat Horn: 203.288.1891, mhorn@rcn.com

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2006, 8:00 AM

Centennial Walk at Bishop Woods, New Haven

Bishop Woods was donated to the City of New Haven as a bird sanctuary by Dr. Louis B. Bishop, a Charter Member of the New Haven Bird Club. Join Club member and "Friends of Bishop Woods" President Joy Sherman for a post-Thanksgiving Day hike as well as some practice for next month's Christmas Count and a chance to learn a little about Dr. Bishop. Meet at the intersection of Harmac Drive and Foxon Hill Road. Blizzard cancels! Leader-Joy Sherman: 203.530.5037, joy@joyridecharters.com

COA SPARROW WORKSHOP

Where: Silver Sands State Park, Milford

When: October 22nd

Last year's workshop encountered a large fallout of migrant sparrows. Will this year be a repeat performance? Attend the COA Sparrow Workshop to learn the finer points of sparrow identification.



Silver Sands State Park



Move!,-I'm going UP...
Yeah? well I'm going DOWN!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Connecticut DEP Wildlife Division will be conducting shorebird capture and release operations on southbound migrants this summer and fall, as part of a continent-wide effort to track avian influenza in migratory birds. They are seeking information on staging areas utilized by the following species: Semipalmated Sandpiper, Sanderling and Dunlin. As you come across concentrations of these species in your birding trips, please contact Min Huang with the following information:

- exact location of the birds,
- number of birds at each location,
- their activity, and
- tide stage when observed.

Min T. Huang, Migratory Gamebird Program Leader CT DEP
min.huang@po.state.ct.us
391 RT 32
N. Franklin CT 06254
860-642-7239, ext 118 (p)

COA MEMBERSHIP FORM

JOIN COA FOR THE BEST OF BIRDING IN CT

New Member [] Renewal [] Gift []

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail address* _____

COA is always in need of volunteer help. If you are interested, please check the areas below that you would like to know more about::

Computer skills [] Events [] Field trips [] Finance [] Workshops [] Science []

Membership Category:

- Student [] (\$15)
Individual [] (\$25)
Family [] (\$35)
Contributing [] (\$50)
Donor [] (\$75)
Benefactor [] (\$100)
Lifetime [] (\$1000; payable in 3 annual installments)

The COA Bulletin is the quarterly newsletter of the Connecticut Ornithological Association, published in February, May, September, and December. Please submit materials for the next issue by November 15, 2006, to:

Andrew Dasinger
Dasingerfamily@cox.net
21 Beechwood Lane
South Glastonbury, CT 06073,
or

Larry Reiter
Reiter.mystic@snet.net
32 West Mystic Ave.
Mystic, CT 06355

Download the COA Bulletin in color at www.ctbirding.org

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<i>Assistant Treasurer</i>	Jack Wells, 103 Sheephill Road, Riverside, CT 06878

COA COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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<i>Electronics</i>	Gina Nichol
<i>Finance</i>	Steve Oresman
<i>Membership</i>	Roy Harvey
<i>Workshops</i>	Randy Domina
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<i>Connecticut Warbler</i>	Greg Hanisek
<i>COA Bulletin</i>	Andrew Dasinger
<i>Rare Records</i>	Jay Kaplan
<i>Refuge Relations</i>	Dori Sosensky
<i>Science Advisory</i>	Milan Bull

Visit COA on the web
at www.ctbirding.org

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