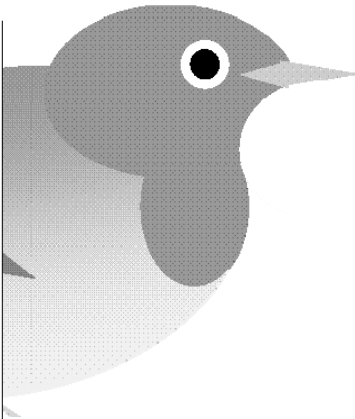
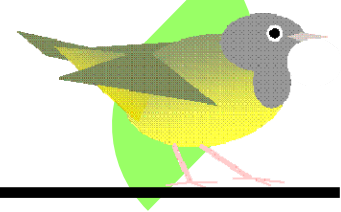


# COA BULLETIN



## COA's 2008 SUMMER BIRD COUNT

Joseph Zeranski & Patrick Comins

This June the 18<sup>th</sup> Connecticut Summer Bird Count [SBC] will be held. For anyone not familiar with the SBC, it is conducted in a manner similar to the well-known Christmas Bird Count, but is held over a two day period in much more comfortable conditions.

Since this statewide Summer Bird Count started in 1992, 240 species have been recorded. Last year's 189 species was average, while its 257 observers was a new all-time high. Increasingly the SBC is providing priceless data on long-term population changes and interesting range alterations. And this year we expect exciting new finds and more evidence supporting population changes.

But for most observers this is a great opportunity to bird locally at a time when our "native" birds are most active, colorful and ever so vocal. If you have not participated before, please do so now. More eyes (and ears) are always welcome.

The SBC dates and compilers are given below. For more information on a SBC you are interested in joining, please contact the compiler for details and for any late date changes. Patrick Comins, [pcomins@audubon.org](mailto:pcomins@audubon.org), and Joe Zeranski, [osprey163@hotmail.com](mailto:osprey163@hotmail.com), are statewide coordinators of this statewide event and are readily available for additional information.

### **Barkhamsted Summer Bird Count** (*founded 1992*)

Count Dates: June 28 - 29 (Sat. & Sun.)

Area covered: Barkhamsted, Burlington (northern 1/4), Canton, Colebrook (south half), Granby (southwest 1/4), Hartland, New Hartford, Harwinton (northern edge), Torrington (northern 1/4), and Winchester.

Contact: *David Rosgen* (121 Laurel Way, Winsted, CT 06098-2534; [dros-gen@optonline.net](mailto:dros-gen@optonline.net))

### **Greenwich-Stamford Summer Bird Count** (*founded 1976*)

Count Dates: June 7 & 8 (Sat. & Sun.)

Area covered (Connecticut, 65% of area): Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, & Stamford; (New York, 35% of area) Armonk, Bedford (in part), Port Chester, Rye, and White Plains (in part).

Contact: *Thomas W. Burke* (235 Highland Road, Rye, NY 10580; [tom.burke@rsmi.com](mailto:tom.burke@rsmi.com)), *Gary Palmer* (34 Field Road, Cos Cob, CT 06807)

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## SUMMER BIRD COUNT (CONTINUED)

### **Hartford Summer Bird Count** (*founded 1991*)

Count Dates: June 14 & 15 (Sat. & Sun.)

Area covered: Bloomfield, East Hartford, Farmington (in part), Glastonbury (in part), Hartford, Manchester (in part), Newington (in part), Rocky Hill (in part), South Windsor, Wethersfield, and Windsor.

Contact: *Gil Kleiner* (5 Flintlock Ridge, Simsbury, CT 06070; [CTWarbler@cs.com](mailto:CTWarbler@cs.com)), *Jay Kaplan* (71 Gracey Road, Canton, CT 06019; [jaybrd49@aol.com](mailto:jaybrd49@aol.com))

### **Litchfield Hills Summer Bird Count** (*founded 1994*)

Count Dates: June 7 & 8 (Sat. & Sun.)

Area covered: (in whole or in part): Cornwall, Goshen, Kent, Litchfield, Morris, Sharon, Torrington, Warren, and Washington.

Contact: *Bob Barbieri* (860-542-3980)

### **New Haven Summer Bird Count** (*founded 1991*)

Count Dates: June 14 & 15 (Sat. & Sun.)

Area covered: Branford (western), East Haven, Milford, New Haven, North Haven, Orange, West Haven, and Woodbridge (in part).

Contact: *Steve C. Mayo* (27 Tuttle Court, Bethany, CT 06524; [rsdmayo@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rsdmayo@sbcglobal.net))

### **New Milford/Pawling Summer Bird Count** (*founded 2003*)

Count Dates: June 14 & 15 (Sat. & Sun.)

Area covered: (Connecticut, 1/3 of area): Sherman, New Fairfield, New Milford (west of route 7), and portions of Brookfield & Danbury; and (New York, 2/3 of area) Patterson, Pawling, Putnam Lake, Carmel, southern Wingdale, and Poughquag.

Contact: *Angela Dimmitt* (PO Box 146, Sherman, CT. 06784; [AngelaDimmitt@aol.com](mailto:AngelaDimmitt@aol.com))

### **Storrs Summer Bird Count** (*founded 1990*)

Count Dates: June 21 & 22 (Sat. & Sun.)

Area covered: Andover, Ashford, Chaplin, Coventry, Mansfield, Tolland, Willimantic, West Willington, Willington, and Windham.

Contact: *Steve Rogers* (75 Charles Lane, Storrs, CT 06268; [climbrogers@charter.net](mailto:climbrogers@charter.net))

### **Woodbury-Roxbury Summer Bird Count** (*founded 1978*)

Count Date: June 1 (Sun.)

Area covered: Bethlehem, Bridgewater, Brookfield, Middlebury, New Milford, Newtown, Roxbury, Southbury, Washington, and Woodbury.

Contact: *Russ Naylor* (44 Church Street, Woodbury, CT 06798)



## THE 2008 BETTY KLEINER MEMORIAL AWARD

By Steve Mayo

Betty Kleiner served as editor of *The Connecticut Warbler* for almost 2 decades. During this time Betty and Gil Kleiner handled every aspect of production of Connecticut's ornithological journal.

The COA wished to remember Betty by establishing an award for the best article, artwork or other product, published in *The Connecticut Warbler*. Julian Hough is this year's recipient.

Julian is no stranger to *The Connecticut Warbler*. He has provided its Photo Challenge for over 10 years. He has written articles on the submission of rare records. And, he has provided articles on the identification and occurrence of Snowy Plover, Northern Wheatear, Thayer's Gull, Cliff Swallow and Calliope Hummingbird.

Last year, Julian studied a remarkably non-descript bunting that had been discovered by Bill Yule at Hammonasset Beach State Park. Julian researched, photographed, interviewed, reviewed study skins, and produced beautiful sketches. His documentation of the first state record of Lazuli Bunting is in the tradition of the quality of Betty Kleiner's work.

We are honored to present the second annual Betty Kleiner Award to Julian Hough, for his work, "The Hammonasset Bunting."



Julian Hough accepting the 2008 Betty Kleiner Memorial Award from COA President Steve Mayo



"I THOUGHT WE BLENDED IN SO WELL?"

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: CT SALT MARSH BIRD MONITORING PROGRAM

UCONN and Audubon Connecticut are working together to develop a volunteer monitoring program for Connecticut's salt marsh birds (e.g., Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Seaside Sparrow, waders). Because this program is still in the development phase, we will treat this summer as a trial period and focus our efforts at one site, Hammonasset Beach State Park, where we already have information on the status of breeding salt marsh species. Volunteers will conduct 4 surveys over an 8-week survey period. If you are interested in participating, or for more information, please contact Chris Field at [cfield@audubon.org](mailto:cfield@audubon.org) or (203) 264-5098 ext. 309. We will be holding a training session to discuss the project and do the first survey on May 31st at Meigs Point Nature Center.

Thanks!

Chris Field, IBA Program Coordinator, Audubon Connecticut

## SCENES FROM THE 2008 COA ANNUAL MEETING

Photos by Renee Baade



Welcome to the meeting



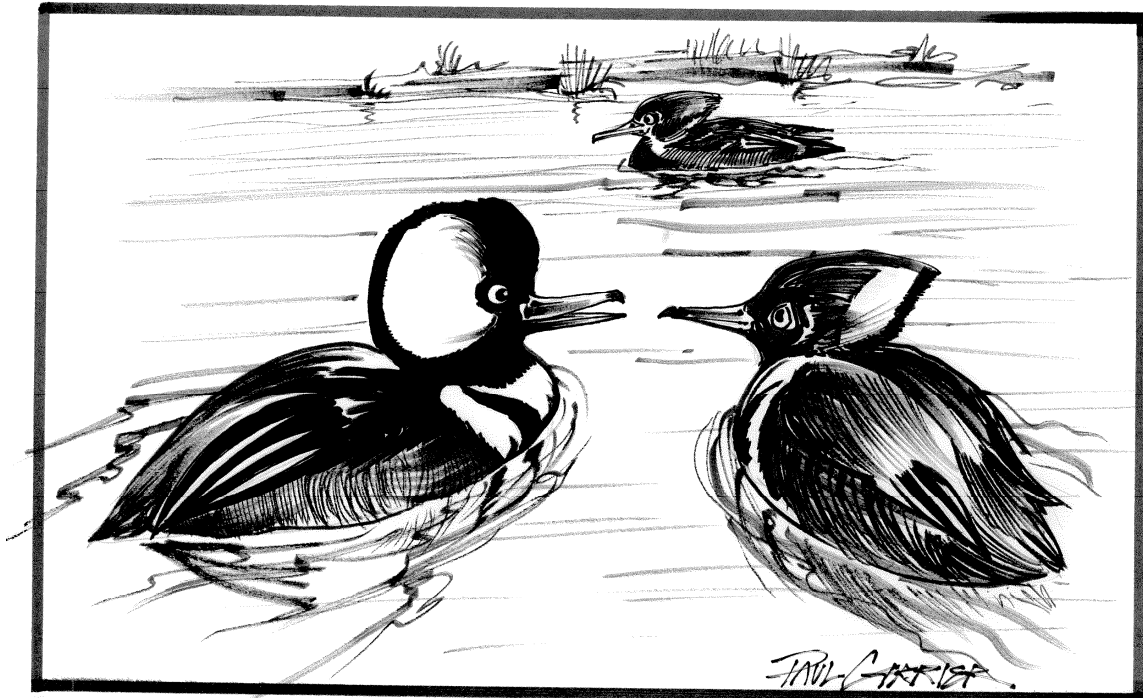
They came for the raffle



They came for the cake



They came to talk birds



*Try again next year son-you'll be gorgeous!*

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## SAVE THE DATE: 2008 NEW HAVEN MIGRATION FESTIVAL

The New Haven Migration Festival is scheduled for Sunday, September 21st from 8 am to 3 pm. Come to the Lighthouse Point Important Bird Area (IBA) and celebrate migrating birds and butterflies and the important habitats that Connecticut provides for these intrepid travelers. This is a great opportunity to see live birds, butterflies and dragonflies up close and learn about one of Connecticut's most important migrant rest stops.

This year's event promises to be better than ever with the always popular raptors demonstration by Skyhunters in Flight and live birds of prey show by Wind Over Wings. This family adventure is also a great opportunity to enjoy the beautiful bird and butterfly gardens and see the great work that has been done to enhance the habitat and viewing opportunities at one of New Haven's most popular City parks. Further details will be provided in the next COA Bulletin.

## SUMMER WORKSHOPS

As in past years, COA is sponsoring two summer workshops in which some of our experienced COA members share their knowledge on two important topics: identification of birds by their songs and other vocalizations, and identification of shorebirds.

**Birding by Ear**, June 7 @ 7 am, Bent of the River Sanctuary, Southbury, CT

Led by Patrick Comins, Chris Field, Renee Baade, Roy Harvey, and Randy Domina

Early June at Bent of the River is a great time and place to hear the wide diversity of Connecticut's nesting songbirds. Patrick, Chris, Renee, Roy, and Randy are prepared to address all levels of experience, from the beginning birder on up. Chris will demonstrate his sound recording equipment.



*Our first Scope Lesson*

**Shorebird Workshop**, August, date and locations tbd; past trips have started at Sandy Point, West Haven, CT (see COA web site for additional details as they become available)

This one's a little farther out, so the details have yet to be finalized - but it's always a popular event. At Sandy Point, you're unlikely to have an optics malfunction like the one depicted in Paul Carrier's cartoon; however, you'll need to be prepared to get your feet wet, depending on the timing of the tides. Birders of all levels of experience are encouraged to attend. The leaders will form several groups (e.g., experienced, intermediate, beginner) so that everyone gets information at an appropriate level.

## 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 August 15, 2008, to:

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 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](http://www.ctbirding.org)

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## COA OFFICERS

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<i>Vice President</i>	Patrick Comins, 185 East Flat Hill Road, Southbury, CT 06488, 203-264-5098
<i>Secretary</i>	Steve Broker, 50 Hidden Place, Cheshire, CT 06410, 203-272-5192
<i>Treasurer</i>	Fred Schroeder, 215 Lonetown Road, West Redding, CT 06896, 203-938-9165
<i>Assistant Treasurer</i>	Jack Wells, 103 Sheephill Road, Riverside, CT 06878

## COA COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

<i>Conservation</i>	Milan Bull
<i>Electronics</i>	Dori Sosensky
<i>Finance</i>	Steve Oresman
<i>Membership</i>	Roy Harvey
<i>Workshops</i>	Randy Domina
<i>Annual Meeting</i>	Jerry Connolly
<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](http://www.ctbirding.org)

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