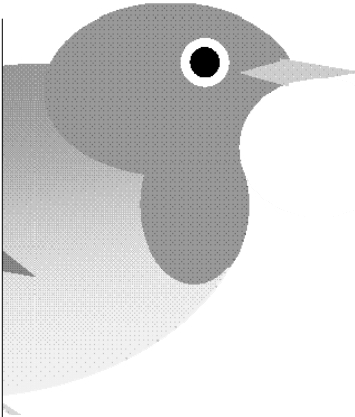
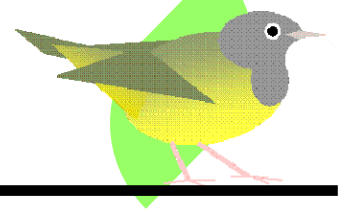


# COA BULLETIN



## SEVENTH ANNUAL NEW HAVEN MIGRATION FESTIVAL LIGHTHOUSE POINT PARK, NEW HAVEN, CT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2009; 8 AM - 3 PM (NO RAIN DATE)

Every fall millions of birds, butterflies and dragonflies leave their summer homes and embark on a dangerous journey to escape winter. With shorter days foretelling the colder weather to come, these intrepid travelers take advantage of tail winds provided by passing cold fronts to hopscotch their way south, some traveling as far as southern tip of South America. Geography makes Connecticut a key stop for winged travelers and Lighthouse Point Park in New Haven is among the best places in the Northeast to observe this age-old phenomenon firsthand. Tens of thousands of hawks, falcons and eagles pass over this New Haven Park each year, along with songbirds, dragonflies and butterflies.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

New Haven Migration Festival	1-2
Fall Field Trips	3-5
Name Changes: 50th Supplement to AOU Checklist	6
COA Sparrow Workshop	6
Looking for Citizen Scientists	7
Membership Form	7



One of Audubon's 26 Important Bird Areas in Connecticut, Lighthouse Point Park averages the largest numbers of migrating hawks northeast of Cape May, New Jersey. Some species such as Sharp-shinned Hawks and American Kestrels reach into the tens of thousands.

(continued on page 2)

**NEW HAVEN MIGRATION FESTIVAL**—continued from page 1**Schedule of Events**

8:00 am – ongoing	Hawk Watching (mid field viewing area)
8:00 am to 9:30 am	Bird Walk led by Chris Loscalzo
8:30 am to 11:00 am	Bird Banding Demo w/ CT Audubon Society
9:00 am to 10:00 am	Hawk Flight I.D. Workshop CT Ornithological Association
9:30 am to 10:45 am	Children’s Bird Walk led by Flo McBride
9:30 am to 10:45 am	Bird Walk led by Mike Horn
9:00 am to 1:00 pm	Open House at the Ranger Station Featuring Touch Tank w/ Long Island Sound creatures
9:00 am to 12:00 noon (Butterfly Garden Area)	Monarch Butterfly Banding Demo & Activities
11:00 am to 12 noon	Butterfly & Dragonfly Walk
9:00 am to 11:30 pm 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm	Lighthouse Tours
10:00 am to 1:00 pm (In the Tent Area)	Face Painting, Info Booths and Vendors Peabody Museum Road Show DEP Wildlife Division Demo
1:00 am to 2:30 pm	Ride the Historic Carousel
11:00 am to 12:00 noon	Wind over Wings – Live Raptor Show
12:00 noon to 1:15 pm	Live Music by the Blue Trail Band (Pagoda Pavilion)
1:30 pm to 3:00 pm	“Skyhunters in Flight” – Falconry Demo

Please park in paved parking lots and walk to the mid-field area. Info booths, vendors, events and walks are located there. This event is a cooperative effort sponsored by the New Haven Parks, Recreation and Tree Dept., New Haven Bird Club, CT Butterfly Association, Audubon CT, CT Ornithological Association, CT Audubon Society, New England Hawk Watch and New Haven Land Trust. Details to follow at: <http://www.ctbirding.org/>  
Suggested donation \$10.00 per carload. All proceeds collected the day of the event go to help fund next years event

## FALL FIELD TRIPS

(New Haven Bird Club & Hartford Audubon Society shown here; see the CT Calendar of Birding Events at: <http://www.ctbirding.org/calendar.htm> for a more complete listing of field trips)

### NEW HAVEN BIRD CLUB FALL FIELD TRIPS

**7th Annual Migration Festival at Lighthouse Point Park**      **Sunday, September 27, 2009, 8:00 AM-3:00 PM**  
(see pages 1 and 2)

**First Wednesday Walk : Hammonasset State Park, Madison**      **Wednesday, October 7, 2009, 8:00 AM**  
Join us on another mid-week trip as we explore this birding hotspot for fall migrants. The varied habitat attracts shorebirds, waterfowl, raptors, and songbirds. Meet at the park entrance.  
Contacts-Kris Johnson,krisjohnson99@snet.net, 203.288.3087 or Tina Green: 203.247.2660, tina@renaissancestudios.com

**THE BIG SIT!®**      **Sunday, October 11, 2009**  
Established by NHBC, The Big Sit!® has become an international event, with birders participating on four continents. The object is to record as many species of birds as possible in a single day from one 17-foot diameter circle. The circles are located strategically at a number of birding hotspots in the state. Join other birders in one of these circles or create one of 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 details, go to the Bird Watcher's Digest website: birdwatchersdigest.com or contact John Triana: 203.758.7203, or jtriana1@sbcglobal.net

**Hammonasset State Park, Madison**      **Saturday, October 17, 2009, 8:00 AM**  
Visit one of Connecticut's best fall birding spots, where the abundance of some migrants and sightings of less common species can make for a truly memorable trip. Highlights of last year's walk included Bald Eagle, Pectoral Sandpiper, American Pipit, Indigo Bunting, Vesper Sparrow, and Eastern Meadowlark. The walking is easy, as it is on level ground. Meet at the park entrance (I-95, Exit 62). Leader-Florence McBride: 203.288.6777, j.mcbride@yale.edu

**Beacon Cap, Bethany**      **Sunday, October 18, 2009, 8:00 AM**  
Join us to look for fall migrants on the Naugatuck Trail in Bethany. We'll hike up to a glacial erratic outcropping perched at the top of the ridge. Even if there aren't a lot of birds, we'll get to see some fabulous autumn views. Wear hiking boots as the trail is steep and strenuous in places. Meet at the far eastern trailhead for the Naugatuck Trail on Rte. 42 in Bethany. This is on the north side of road, about 1.25 miles west of junction of Rtes. 42 and 63. Leader-John Triana: 203.758.7203, jtriana1@sbcglobal.net

**Fargeorge Wildlife Preserve, Quinnipiac River, New Haven**      **Saturday, October 31, 2009, 8:00 AM**  
This New Haven Land Trust property, always full of surprises, is a good place to see raptors, shorebirds, and waterfowl. Sightings on past trips include Bald Eagle and American Woodcock. Directions: From Rte. 80, go south on Quinnipiac Ave. Turn right just past the R.R. overpass. Go through the open gate.  
Leader-Mike Horn: 203.288.1891, mfhorn@att.net

**First Wednesday: Proto Drive, E. Haven, Lighthouse Pt. Park**      **Wednesday, November 4, 2009, 8:00 AM**  
Meet on Proto Drive near the landfill. This area on the east side of Tweed/New Haven Airport has a great array of late fall migrants and some over-wintering species. Directions: Take I-95, Exit 51 Frontage Road. Go 0.9 mi. Turn right onto Hemingway (Rte.142). Go about one mile. Before Town Fair Tires, go right onto Proto. Trip leader is Steve Broker. Contacts-Kris Johnson: 203.288.3087, krisjohnson99@snet.net or Tina Green: 203.247.2660, tina@renaissancestudios.com

## NEW HAVEN BIRD CLUB FALL FIELD TRIPS (CONTINUED)

**Sherwood Island State Park, Westport; Pequot Library, Southport**      **Saturday, November 14, 2009, 8:00 AM**  
Meet at the main parking lot in the park for a visit to this fine coastal birding location. We'll look for sea ducks, gulls, raptors, shorebirds, and sparrows. Then we head to the Pequot Library for a private tour of its remarkable collection of historic and rare books about birds. A highlight will be the breathtakingly beautiful double elephant portfolio of Audubon's Birds of America, in the Bien edition, the rarest, and some believe the most interesting, of all the Audubon editions. Leader- Tina Green: 203.247.2660, tina@renaissancestudios.com

**First Wednesday Walk: Silver Sands State Park, Milford**      **Wednesday, December 2, 2009, 8:00 AM**  
Today we'll be looking for shorebirds, sea ducks, rare gulls, birds of prey, and uncommon sparrows. Meet at the main parking lot at Silver Sands, the first large lot on the right. We may visit other locations in Milford, such as Milford Point, Mondo Ponds, and Caswell Cove. Contacts-Kris Johnson: 203.288.3087, krisjohnson99@snet.net or Tina Green: 203.247.2660, tina@renaissancestudios.com

## HARTFORD AUDUBON SOCIETY FALL FIELD TRIPS

**Great Pond, Simsbury**      **Saturday, September 26, 2009, 8:00 AM**  
This walk never fails to get good birds. We have birded the pond for many years. If you haven't been there, we would like you to please join us. If you have been there, come on back and enjoy. Even if we don't see much, we plan on having a great time, and the company is excellent. Great Pond is a neat place and a beautiful State Forest. Meet at the parking lot off Great Pond Rd. at 8:00AM. Leaders: Roger Preston/ Jon Ward

**Urban Birding Series I, Middletown** **Saturday, September 26, 2009, 7:30 AM**  
Birding isn't just for the "burbs". Come out and explore great ways to find our feathered friends within the borders of some of Connecticut's largest cities. Today's highlights are the Asylum Reservoirs, the Maromis WMR and Guida's WMR. Land birds will dominate today. Meet at the commuter lot off exit 11 (Randolph Road) off Route 9 at 7:30 AM. Leader: Joe Budrow



**Cedar Mountain, Newington**      **Wednesday, September 30, 2009, 7:30 AM**  
Meet just north of the Connecticut Humane Society Headquarters located at 701 Russell Rd in Newington. We will park on Russell Road, not in the Humane Society lot. We have a temporary exemption from the parking restrictions. Directions to the Humane Society can be found at [http://www.cthumane.org/site/PageServer?pagename=about\\_Locations](http://www.cthumane.org/site/PageServer?pagename=about_Locations) or by entering the address in Mapquest. We may continue on depending on time & energy to the Young Farm afterwards. Leader: Roy Zartarian

**Station 43, South Windsor**      **Saturday, October 3, 2009, 7:30 AM**  
This is a great time of year to search for Lincoln's Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow 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

**Rocky Hill meadows, Rocky Hill**      **Tuesday, October 6, 2009, 9:30 AM**  
Meet at the parking lot just beyond the ferry landing and park at 9:30 AM. Leader: Fred Nowak (860) 568-3724

**Sparrow Search**      **Saturday, October 10, 2009, 7:15 AM**  
Join our leader as we comb the farm fields of the Farmington Meadows for sparrows. Upwards of ten species of sparrows are likely to be seen at this fabulous birding site. Expect to see species such as Field, Savannah,

## HARTFORD AUDUBON SOCIETY FALL FIELD TRIPS (CONTINUED)

Lincoln's and White-crowned Sparrows. Meet at the Farmington Meadows Community Gardens parking lot (off of Meadow Road) at 7:15AM. Leader: Paul Cianfaglione

### "Big Sit" at Station 43, South Windsor

Sunday, October 11, 2009

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 web site, [www.hartfordaudubon.org](http://www.hartfordaudubon.org). Coordinator: Jay Kaplan

### Great Pond, Simsbury

Wednesday, October 14, 2009, 8:00 AM

Meet at the parking lot off of Great Pond Road at 8:00 AM.  
Leader: Gilbert Kleiner (860) 658-5670 or [ctwarbler@att.net](mailto:ctwarbler@att.net)

### Urban Birding Series II, Meriden

Saturday, October 17, 2009, 7:30 AM

Birding isn't just for the "burbs". Come out and explore great ways to find our feathered friends within the borders of some of Connecticut's largest cities. Today's highlights are Hubbard Park, Hanover Pond and Giuffrida Park. Land birds and water birds will be seen. Meet at the commuter lot on Lewis Avenue off exit 5 of Route 691. Leader: Joe Budrow

### Glastonbury Meadows

Sunday, October 18, 2009, 7:15 AM

Come join us for a morning walk through the Glastonbury Meadows, one of the premier birding locations in Hartford County. Last year at this time, there were reports of Northern Harrier, Merlin, American Pipits and many species of sparrows. Limited to 10 participants since the land is privately owned (please contact Bill Asteriades to reserve your spot and find out about meeting location). We will meet at 7:15 AM Leaders: Bill Asteriades / Andrew Dasinger

### Rhode Island Shoreline

Saturday, October 31, 2009, 8:00 AM

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 8:00AM. Leader: Paul Desjardins

### Hammonasset Beginner's Bird Walk I

Saturday, November 21, 2009, 8:00 AM

One of the best places in Connecticut for fall birding. A unique location of tidal marsh, grassland, deciduous forest, pine and cedars, beach and estuary habitats creates a significant migratory stopover area for many species. This trip will offer beginners a great location to help sharpen their skills. Meet at the Meigs Point Nature Center inside the park at 8:00 AM. Leaders: Adrian & Beth Nichols

### Hammonasset Beach State Park

Sunday, December 6, 2009, 8:00 AM

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. Bad weather and dangerous road conditions cancel trip. Leader: Louise Tucker



SNAKES·RATS & FROGS. WHEN DO WE GET  
THE GOOD STUFF ?

## NAME CHANGES: 50TH SUPPLEMENT TO THE AOU CHECKLIST

Does anyone care to guess which bird species on the Connecticut state bird list has the longest name? Saltmarsh Sharp-tailed Sparrow, at 27 letters, is no longer correct, because the AOU has shortened this ridiculously long tongue-twister of a name to the far more pronounceable Saltmarsh Sparrow. While they were at it, they also took the initiative to shorten Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow to Nelson's Sparrow. (This leaves Northern Rough-winged Swallow, at 26 letters, the longest name on the CT state list.) Other changes in the 50th supplement to the AOU checklist are to scientific names and scientific groupings (for example, our Scarlet Tanager, of the genus *Piranga*, is now grouped with Cardinals, Grosbeaks, and their allies in the family *Cardinalidae*). Not that Connecticut birders really care, but a 200 nautical mile limit from the coastline was also established as the geographic extent for bird records in North and Middle America.



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## COA SPARROW WORKSHOP

**Where:** Silver Sands State Park, Milford

**When:** Sunday, October 18, 8:00 am

Attend the COA Sparrow Workshop to learn the basics as well as the finer points of sparrow identification. Look for additional details on this workshop on the COA web site and on CTBirds. Silver Sands has excellent sparrow habitat, so there should be ample opportunities to study a good variety of species and a wide array of plumages.



## ARE YOU A CITIZEN SCIENTIST, OR DO YOU KNOW ONE?

Birders and others throughout Connecticut are making a difference through their volunteer work on bird conservation. We would like to occasionally feature such individuals in the COA Bulletin to give them credit for their work, educate others about the initiatives they're involved with, and illustrate the fruits of their labor. So if you or someone you know is doing work that fits this general description, please send a short article to the editor ([andrew.dasinger@utcpower.com](mailto:andrew.dasinger@utcpower.com)), with photos of the citizen scientist(s) and of some aspect of their work. We can all be inspired by dedicated citizen scientists to do more in the name of bird conservation!

## An Easier Way to Renew Your Membership

The COA web site now has a convenient on-line system for joining COA, renewing one's membership, or making a donation to the organization. It uses PayPal, a widely adopted, secure system for accepting credit card payments. Try it out at <http://ctbirding.org/supportCOA.htm>.

## 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, 2009, to:

Andrew Dasinger  
[Andrew.dasinger@utcpower.com](mailto:Andrew.dasinger@utcpower.com)  
 21 Beechwood Lane  
 South Glastonbury, CT 06073, or

Larry Reiter  
[Reiter.mystic@snet.net](mailto: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>	Larry Reiter, 32 West Mystic Ave., Mystic, CT 06355, 860-536-4667
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<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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