

## 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Birding Cape Cod Weekend – 2006 May 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>, 2006

The first Annual Birding Cape Cod Weekend Event was held on May 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, 2006. This was an event comprised of one or more bird walks in each of the Cape's 15 towns on both Saturday and Sunday. These walks were based on areas mentioned in the newly revised "Birding Cape Cod" book. There were 33 walks lined up for the weekend and 32 of them went off as scheduled.

The weather for the weekend was almost perfect with temperature ranging from the upper 40's in the early morning to low to mid 60's in the afternoon. Winds were gusty on both afternoons blowing west/southwest. There were showers over night Saturday in some areas of the Cape and threatening storm clouds did produce rain and strong winds in some areas late Sunday. These winds as well as the rain were probably the cause of the low numbers of American Woodcocks, only 2, and no Whip-poor-wills being reported during the scheduled dusk walks. Other misses were both Cuckoos and Hermit Thrush and Warbler numbers were very low.

Some highlights were a report of a basic plumage first year female type LAPLAND LONGSPUR on Saturday at Hardings Beach in Chatham, a WORM-EATING WARBLER seen by two observers at the Punkhorn Conservation Area in Brewster on Saturday, a late DARK-EYED JUNCO reported from the East Sandwich Game Farm on Saturday, an immature BALD EAGLE flushed from a tree at Crowes Pasture in Dennis and most likely the same bird seen from the Punkhorn Conservation Area in Brewster on Saturday. An AMERICAN BITTERN was observed from both the Pilgrim Heights walk and Hawk Watch and 210 Blue Jay and 93 Cedar Waxwing were also reported from the Hawk Watch. A BOBOLINK was seen at MAS Long Pasture Sanctuary in Barnstable on Saturday and 7 PURPLE MARTIN were reported, 2 at the West Harwich Conservation Area and 5 from the Hawk Watch. A VESPER SPARROW was reported from Marconi in Wellfleet on Sunday.

Though we do not have an exact number of participants because many of them attended more than one walk during the event, the total number of participants for all the walks was 367, 200 on Saturday and 167 on Sunday. There were 40 participants at the Hawk Watch on Saturday and 50+ participants on Sunday. Every walk had 2 or more participants.

The total number of species seen was 132 for the weekend, 114 on Saturday and 109 on Sunday.

The following is a complete list of all the birds reported from each walk.

Canada Goose .....	66	American Woodcock .....	2	Northern Mockingbird .....	18
Brant.....	12	Laughing Gull .....	91	European Starling.....	***
Mute Swan .....	8	Bonaparte's Gull.....	11	Cedar Waxwing .....	313
Wood Duck .....	5	Ring-billed Gull .....	28	Northern Parula.....	10
Am. Black Duck.....	23	Herring Gull .....	153+	Yellow Warbler.....	76
Mallard.....	28	Grt Black-backed Gull .....	148+	Magnolia Warbler .....	2
Common Eider .....	1	Common Tern .....	82	Yellow-rumped Warbler .....	1
White-winged Scoter .....	40	Least Tern .....	64	Black-throated Green Warbler .....	2
Red-breasted Merganser .....	11	Mourning Dove.....	62	Blackburnian Warbler .....	1
Northern Bobwhite.....	6	Chimney Swift .....	39	Pine Warbler .....	85
Common Loon .....	51	Ruby-throated Hummingbird...9		Prarie Warbler.....	20
Pied-billed Grebe .....	22	Belted Kingfisher .....	9	Bay-breasted Warbler.....	1
Northern Gannet.....	33	Red-bellied Woodpecker .....	7	Blackpoll Warbler .....	3
Double-crested Cormorant .....	186+	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker .....	2	Black-and-White Warbler .....	10
American Bittern.....	2	Downy Woodpecker .....	39	American Redstart .....	9
Great Blue Heron .....	12	Hairy Woodpecker .....	16	Worm-eating Warbler .....	1
Great Egret .....	10	Northern Flicker.....	18	Ovenbird .....	36
Snowy Egret.....	4	Eastern Wood-Pee wee .....	1	Common Yellowthroat.....	113
Green Heron.....	7	Eastern Phoebe.....	6	Scarlet Tanager .....	10
Black-crowned Night Heron .....	23	Great-crested Flycatcher .....	59	Eastern Towhee.....	119+
Turkey Vulture .....	14	Eastern Kingbird .....	26	Chipping Sparrow .....	80
Osprey .....	79	Blue-headed Vireo .....	1	Field Sparrow .....	8
Northern Harrier.....	7	Red-eyed Vireo .....	16	Vesper Sparrow.....	1
Bald Eagle.....	1	Blue Jay.....	360+	Grasshopper Sparrow.....	4
Sharp-shinned Hawk.....	13	American Crow .....	205+	Savannah Sparrow .....	5
Cooper's Hawk .....	6	Fish Crow .....	10	Saltmarsh Shp-tailed Sparrow..1	
Red-shouldered Hawk.....	1	Horned Lark .....	9	Song Sparrow.....	86+
Broad-winged Hawk .....	40	Purple Martin .....	7	Swamp Sparrow .....	1
Red-tailed Hawk .....	15	Tree Swallow .....	104	White-throated Sparrow.....	13
American Kestrel .....	10	N. Rough-winged Swallow .....	6	Dark-eyed Junco .....	1
Virginia Rail.....	1	Bank Swallow .....	2	Lapland Longspur .....	1
Black-bellied Plover.....	62	Barn Swallow.....	56	Northern Cardinal .....	104+
Semipalmated Plover .....	1	Black-capped Chickadee.....	233	Rose-breasted Grosbeak.....	1
Piping Plover.....	10	Tufted Titmouse.....	89	Bobolink.....	1
American Oystercatcher.....	5	Red-breasted Nuthatch.....	9	Red-winged Blackbird .....	238
Greater Yellowlegs .....	10	White-breasted Nuthatch .....	23	Common Grackle .....	244+
Solitary Sandpiper.....	1	Carolina Wren.....	4	Brown-headed Cowbird .....	47
Willet .....	58	House Wren .....	21	Orchard Oriole .....	4
Spotted Sandpiper .....	6	Marsh Wren .....	6	Baltimore Oriole .....	93
Whimbrel .....	3	Ruby-crowned Kinglet .....	2	Purple Finch .....	2
Ruddy Turnstone.....	9	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.....	4	House Finch .....	28
Sanderling .....	12	Eastern Bluebird.....	1	American Goldfinch.....	203+
Semipalmated Sandpiper .....	18	Wood Thrush .....	1	House Sparrow.....	***
Least Sandpiper.....	4	American Robin.....	130+		
Dunlin .....	1	Gray Catbird.....	184+		