

The Woodcock

ANTIOCH BIRD CLUB

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Eastern Screech-Owl by Kevin Vande Vusse

Greetings Friends of ABC!

Welcome to the February issue of *The Woodcock*! February brings with it a range of emotions and associations, one being a sense of compassion for those most dear to us. While this month is spent pursuing openness in our hearts, the club hopes that this love can be extended beyond our human companions to the avian species with which we share our homes! With the semester well underway, the Antioch Bird Club is pleased to be offering a variety of activities to help acquaint the community with New Hampshire's winter bird species. The ABC Big Year is shaping up to be a fascinating endeavor, and we can't wait to share more memories with bird lovers of Antioch in the upcoming weeks!

ABC News

Partnering with Glover's Ledge

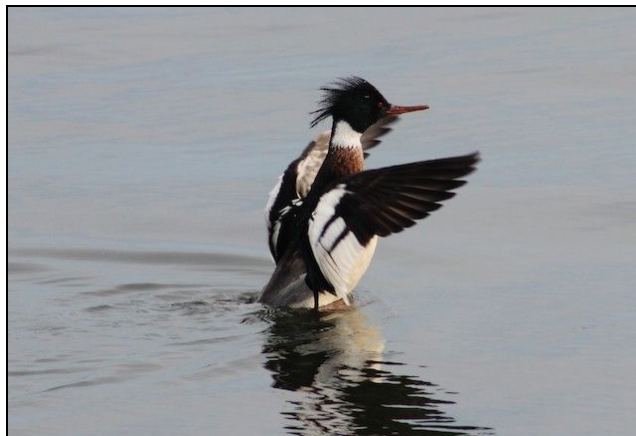
This April, Antioch Bird Club is teaming with [Glover's Ledge](#) to offer a Spring bird walk at Antioch's beautiful off-campus [natural area](#) in Langdon. A carpool will leave Antioch at 9:30 am and return to campus around 12:30 pm. This peaceful space is sure to offer many [bird sightings](#) as species return for the Spring.



ABC Monthly Update

ABC Global Big Year Update

Antioch Bird Club's Global Big Year event started off with a bang. Before the first day of the new year had expired, a total of 119 species were reported from 4 countries and 5 US states! As January came to a close, our species list totals a whopping **394 species** (Appendix I). Ironically, this number nearly matches the total number of **checklists (385)** submitted by **16 observers** to our ABC Big Year eBird account. So far, we've recorded **18,226 individual birds!** That's more than 500 birds per day for the month of January! As February gets under way, we are excited to add more species to our list from South Africa, where Con Bio student Peter Maciaszek is traveling, and from Nicaragua, Mexico, Tanzania, and Guyana where several Environmental Studies Peace Corps students are volunteering. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this endeavor so far! To check in on our progress or view photos, visit our [eBird profile page](#) or follow us on [Facebook](#). If you would like to get involved, check out our [event page](#) on Facebook, or [email](#) us!



Blue-gray Tanager by Dylan Kelly

Red-breasted Merganser by Steven Lamonde

Superbowl of Birding (Superbowl XV)

On January 27th, the Antioch Bird Club Walloping Woodcocks, participated in the 15th annual Superbowl of Birding. The team was comprised of Chad Witko (Captain), Ken Klapper, Phil Brown, and Steven Lamonde (left to right in photo below). Hosted by Mass Audubon's Joppa Flats Education Center, the Superbowl of Birding is a 12-hour birding competition that takes place in Rockingham (NH) and Essex (MA) Counties between 5:00 AM and 5:00 PM. The Superbowl is unique among birding competitions as the impetus is to not only find the greatest number of species but to also earn the greatest number of points based on the rarity of the birds recorded. Because of this, there is a lot of strategy that goes into the event if you want to win, including pre-big day scouting, route planning, and time management. There are numerous prizes to compete for, but the top three are the Zeiss Joppa Cup (highest total number of points), the Director's Award (highest total number of species), and either the Essex County Award or Rockingham County Award (highest total points in a single county).



Tallying an impressive 77 species on the day and a respectable 154 points*, the Walloping Woodcocks would tie for third overall in the Zeiss Joppa Cup behind the Blue-gray Passcatchers and Team Tanager. More notably, the Woodcocks tied for first for the Rockingham County Award with the ever present, "4th and Longspurs", captained by Steve Mirick. This was a major success for the club as part of the objective for this event was to advertise the club to other New Hampshire birders.

Despite the fact that the Woodcocks tallied two more species than the Longspurs, the tie-break goes to the team with the most 5-point species and the Longspurs had the Woodcocks beat by 1. Highlights on the day included 4 species of owls (Great Horned, Eastern Screech, Barred, and Snowy), 6 species of gulls (Herring, Great Black-backed, Ring-billed, Iceland, Glaucous, and Lesser Black-backed), Barrow's Goldeneye, Eurasian Wigeon, Merlin, and the final bird on the day, a Peregrine Falcon at 4:50 PM. For a full list of results for the event, please visit the Superbowl of Birding website, [here](#).

*The official total at the end of the day was 78 species and 159 points for the Woodcocks due to all teams being awarded a bonus species and 5 points for Long-eared Owl by the organizers of the event.

Schedule of Events

Library Scavenger Hunt

February 16th (Friday)- 8 AM through March 2nd (Friday)- 12 PM

Like to win prizes?!? Need a break from the start of the semester? Hidden among the books, journals, shelves, and plants of the library will be an array of bird photographs that you need to find and identify! Be the person to correctly identify the most species from these photos and you will win a select prize! Because of the success of past scavenger hunts we're going to raise the stakes this time around! Think you know our scavenger hunt? Think again!

Great Backyard Bird Count

February 16th (Friday) through February 19th (Monday)

The 21st Annual Great Backyard Bird Count is a great way for birders of all levels to count some birds! The Antioch Bird Club will be making eBird checklists in solidarity with birders around the area and around the world to collect data for researchers at Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the National Audubon Society. The more eyes and ears the better! For more information see 'Events' on the Antioch Bird Club Facebook page.

Bagels and Birds

February 17th (Saturday)- 8 AM (Rain Date is February 18th)

Join the Antioch Bird Club for a morning of coffee, bagels, and birds! We look forward to a relaxing morning observing the birds of the Antioch Bird Club feeders from the comfort of the library. Bagels and coffee will be provided from a local Keene establishment. For more information see 'Events' on the Antioch Bird Club Facebook page. Leader: Chad Witko. RSVP by February 15th.

Winter Seabirds and Raptors

February 24 th (Saturday)- All Day

The club journeys to Plum Island and Cape Ann for a day of seabird and raptor viewing at these coastal birding hot spots. This trip will be an opportunity to see a variety of seabirds including loons, grebes, mergansers, scoters, and with any luck the incomparable Harlequin Duck. Likely raptors include Northern Harrier, Bald Eagle, and Red-tailed Hawk, with Rough-legged Hawk, Short-eared Owl, and Snowy Owl a distinct possibility. A carpool will be organized by ABC.

Leader: Chad Witko. RSVP by February 22nd.

Birds of AUNE

Bird of the Month



The ABC 'Bird of the Month' for February 2018 is the Snowy Owl (*Bubo scandiacus*). This winter raptor is the largest North American Owl by weight due to its dense plumage. This owl is easy to identify by its white feathers with varying levels of peppery coloration, its rounded head without ear tufts, and its bright yellow eyes. Look for this majestic bird perched in wide open areas. To learn more about Snowy Owls, please read here:

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/snowy_owl/id

AUNE eBird Hotspot Update

While there have been no new species added to the AUNE campus [list](#) this January, two new species have new record high counts. 37 Mourning Doves were recorded by Steven Lamonde on the afternoon of Thursday January 18th. Less than 24 hours later, in the dawn hours of January 19th, a flock of 59 Dark-eyed Juncos were counted at the Antioch feeders outside of the library.

Our Next Meeting is Wednesday, February 28th at 3:00 PM in Room 231.

<https://www.facebook.com/AUNEBirdClub/>

Appendix I: Species added to Big Year List in January (Taxonomic Order)

Great Tinamou	Red-throated Loon	Cooper's Hawk
Greater White-fronted Goose	Common Loon	Northern Goshawk
Brant	Horned Grebe	Bald Eagle
Canada Goose	Red-necked Grebe	Savanna Hawk
Hawaiian Goose	Great Crested Grebe	Great Black Hawk
Mute Swan	Cape Petrel	Roadside Hawk
Black Swan	Magnificent Frigatebird	Red-shouldered Hawk
Trumpeter Swan	Northern Gannet	Hawaiian Hawk
Paradise Shelduck	Australasian Gannet	Red-tailed Hawk
Wood Duck	Great Cormorant	Rough-legged Hawk
Eurasian Wigeon	Pied Cormorant	Ferruginous Hawk
American Wigeon	Neotropic Cormorant	Weka
Pacific Black Duck	Double-crested Cormorant	Australasian Swamphen
Mallard	Anhinga	Eurasian Coot
American Black Duck	Brown Pelican	American Coot
White-cheeked Pintail	Rufescent Tiger-Heron	Limpkin
Northern Pintail	Great Blue Heron	Gray-winged Trumpeter
Green-winged Teal	Cocoi Heron	Sandhill Crane
Canvasback	Great Egret	South Island Oystercatcher
Redhead	White-faced Heron	Variable Oystercatcher
Ring-necked Duck	Pacific Reef-Heron	Pacific Golden-Plover
New Zealand Scaup	Snowy Egret	Pied Lapwing
Greater Scaup	Little Blue Heron	Collared Plover
Lesser Scaup	Cattle Egret	Snowy Plover
Common Eider	Striated Heron	Killdeer
Surf Scoter	Capped Heron	Wattled Jacana
White-winged Scoter	White Ibis	Whimbrel
Black Scoter	Scarlet Ibis	Ruddy Turnstone
Long-tailed Duck	Green Ibis	Sanderling
Bufflehead	Hadada Ibis	Purple Sandpiper
Common Goldeneye	Black Vulture	Spotted Sandpiper
Barrow's Goldeneye	Turkey Vulture	Solitary Sandpiper
Hooded Merganser	Greater Yellow-headed	Willet
Common Merganser	Vulture	Lesser Yellowlegs
Red-breasted Merganser	King Vulture	Razorbill
Variable Chachalaca	Osprey	Black Guillemot
Spix's Guan	Hook-billed Kite	Black-legged Kittiwake
California Quail	Swallow-tailed Kite	Black-billed Gull
Gambel's Quail	Golden Eagle	Red-billed Gull
Brown Quail	Snail Kite	Ring-billed Gull
Chukar	Double-toothed Kite	Herring Gull
Erckel's Francolin	Plumbeous Kite	Iceland Gull
Kalij Pheasant	Swamp Harrier	Lesser Black-backed Gull
Ruffed Grouse	Northern Harrier	Glaucous Gull
Wild Turkey	Sharp-shinned Hawk	Great Black-backed Gull

Kelp Gull	Amazonian Motmot	Plain-crowned Spinetail
Yellow-billed Tern	Belted Kingfisher	Yellow-crowned Tyrannulet
Large-billed Tern	Amazon Kingfisher	Hammond's Flycatcher
White-fronted Tern	Guianan Puffbird	Eastern Phoebe
Black Skimmer	Black Nunbird	Pied Water-Tyrant
Rock Pigeon	Swallow-winged Puffbird	Bright-rumped Attila
Plumbeous Pigeon	Green-tailed Jacamar	Short-crested Flycatcher
Ruddy Pigeon	Great Jacamar	Great Kiskadee
Eurasian Collared-Dove	Black-necked Aracari	Rusty-margined Flycatcher
Spotted Dove	White-throated Toucan	Social Flycatcher
Laughing Dove	Channel-billed Toucan	Tropical Kingbird
Zebra Dove	Acorn Woodpecker	Fork-tailed Flycatcher
Inca Dove	Red-bellied Woodpecker	Screaming Piha
Common Ground-Dove	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Tui
Plain-breasted Ground-Dove	Red-naped Sapsucker	New Zealand Bellbird
Ruddy Ground-Dove	Ladder-backed Woodpecker	Gray Gerygone
Gray-fronted Dove	Downy Woodpecker	Whitehead
White-winged Dove	Hairy Woodpecker	North Island Saddleback
Mourning Dove	Arizona Woodpecker	Australian Magpie
New Zealand Pigeon	Northern Flicker	Loggerhead Shrike
Smooth-billed Ani	Lineated Woodpecker	Northern Shrike
Greater Roadrunner	Pileated Woodpecker	Hutton's Vireo
Squirrel Cuckoo	Red-necked Woodpecker	Cassin's Vireo
Barn Owl	Black Caracara	Red-eyed Vireo
Eastern Screech-Owl	Red-throated Caracara	New Zealand Fantail
Whiskered Screech-Owl	Crested Caracara	Hawaii Elepaio
Great Horned Owl	Yellow-headed Caracara	Gray Jay
Snowy Owl	American Kestrel	White-throated Magpie-Jay
Barred Owl	Merlin	Blue Jay
Long-eared Owl	New Zealand Falcon	Mexican Jay
Short-eared Owl	Peregrine Falcon	American Crow
Northern Saw-whet Owl	Kea	Chihuahuan Raven
Common Pauraque	Eastern Rosella	Common Raven
Rufous Potoo	Blue-headed Parrot	Tomtit
White-collared Swift	Mealy Parrot	New Zealand Robin
Short-tailed Swift	Orange-winged Parrot	Horned Lark
White-throated Swift	Red-fan Parrot	Eurasian Skylark
Long-tailed Hermit	Painted Parakeet	Black-collared Swallow
Reddish Hermit	Blue-and-yellow Macaw	Gray-breasted Martin
Rivoli's Hummingbird	Red-and-green Macaw	White-winged Swallow
Blue-throated Hummingbird	Crimson-fronted Parakeet	Welcome Swallow
Anna's Hummingbird	Rifleman	Black-capped Chickadee
Blue-tailed Emerald	Mouse-colored Antshrike	Bridled Titmouse
Gray-breasted Sabrewing	Dusky Antbird	Tufted Titmouse
Plain-bellied Emerald	Gray Antbird	Verdin
White-chinned Sapphire	Common Scale-backed	Bushtit
Speckled Mousebird	Antbird	Red-breasted Nuthatch
Green-backed Trogon	Buff-throated Woodcreeper	White-breasted Nuthatch

Brown-headed Nuthatch
Brown Creeper
Rock Wren
Canyon Wren
House Wren
Carolina Wren
Bewick's Wren
Cactus Wren
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Black-tailed Gnatcatcher
Golden-crowned Kinglet
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Japanese Bush Warbler
Japanese White-eye
Silver-eye
Red-billed Leiothrix
Eastern Bluebird
Western Bluebird
Omao
Hermit Thrush
Eurasian Blackbird
Song Thrush
Pale-breasted Thrush
Clay-colored Thrush
American Robin
Gray Catbird
Curve-billed Thrasher
Brown Thrasher
Crissal Thrasher
Tropical Mockingbird
Northern Mockingbird
European Starling
Common Myna
Australasian Pipit
American Pipit
Cedar Waxwing
Phainopepla
Lapland Longspur
Snow Bunting
Palm Warbler
Pine Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler
Black-throated Gray Warbler
Townsend's Warbler
Rufous-capped Warbler
Painted Redstart
Red-capped Cardinal
Silver-beaked Tanager

Blue-gray Tanager
Yellow-winged Tanager
Palm Tanager
Green Honeycreeper
Saffron Finch
Blue-black Grassquit
Chestnut-bellied Seedeater
Grayish Saltator
Rufous-winged Sparrow
American Tree Sparrow
Chipping Sparrow
Black-chinned Sparrow
Brewer's Sparrow
Black-throated Sparrow
Lark Bunting
Fox Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco
Yellow-eyed Junco
White-crowned Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Vesper Sparrow
Savannah Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Lincoln's Sparrow
Canyon Towhee
Rufous-crowned Sparrow
Green-tailed Towhee
Spotted Towhee
Eastern Towhee
Yellowhammer
Hepatic Tanager
Northern Cardinal
Pyrrhuloxia
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Western Meadowlark
Red-breasted Meadowlark
Green Oropendola
Yellow-rumped Cacique
Epaulet Oriole
Baltimore Oriole
Scott's Oriole
Red-winged Blackbird
Shiny Cowbird
Brown-headed Cowbird
Giant Cowbird
Melodious Blackbird
Common Grackle
Great-tailed Grackle

Common Chaffinch
Evening Grosbeak
Apapane
liwi
Akiapolaau
Hawaii Amakihi
Hawaii Creeper
Hawaii Akepa
House Finch
Purple Finch
Cassin's Finch
Yellow-fronted Canary
Common Redpoll
Red Crossbill
European Goldfinch
Pine Siskin
Lesser Goldfinch
American Goldfinch
House Sparrow
Common Waxbill
Java Sparrow