

The Woodcock

ANTIOCH BIRD CLUB

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Spring Feeder by Cael Giulford

Spring is Here!

Even though winter is far from resigned to its fate, there is no doubt that spring is here to stay. Few things highlight this seasonal change so clearly as our avifauna. Since our last newsletter, many of the spring migrants that we highlighted in this very section have found their way back to the Monadnock Region over the last few weeks. These early harbingers of spring have included Wood Duck, Killdeer, Turkey Vulture, Tree Swallow, and Eastern Phoebe to name a few. All of which have brought smiles to many birders across the region. Unlike fall migration which is long and protracted, spring migration is a relatively compact period of movement as millions of songbirds make their way north to their breeding grounds from more southerly locales. If you wish to witness the spectacle that is avian migration, there is no better time than the next two months.

ABC News

The Eastern Phoebes are Coming Nearly Upon Us!



This past week, Eastern Phoebe sightings have popped up all around Cheshire County - including one just 50 meters east of campus! It won't be long now until one is spotted on campus, and our contest winner is announced on our Facebook page. The winner will receive an email from ABC, congratulating them for their correct guess. If you have yet to submit a guess, there is still time! To track Eastern Phoebe sightings locally, check out [eBird](#). Cornell's All About Birds provides a wealth of information on this early Spring migrant for all of those interested in learning more about this bird.

ABC Monthly Update

ABC Global Big Year Update

In March, a total of 339 species were observed, bringing our current total to **877 species!** See Appendix I for species added in March. One new country, **Costa Rica**, was added to our effort, bringing our country total up to 13. So far, the United States leads the way with 313 species, followed by Costa Rica (242), Kenya (174), and Guayana (153). Within the United States, Big Year participants have submitted sightings from 16 states, and march additions include **Nevada, Alaska, California, Virginia, and Ohio**. Our **checklist total (1036)** increases steadily, thanks in part to recent additions from AUNE alumni. 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!

Connecticut River Waterfowl Trip Summary

On Saturday, March 31st, ABC co-sponsored the 35th Annual "Waterfowl Safari" along with NH Audubon and the Harris Center. The purpose of this trip is to find as many species of migrating waterfowl as possible that utilize the Connecticut River and its Important Bird Areas on their northward migration through the region. In addition to waterfowl, the trip often provides great opportunities for witnessing migrating raptors and early spring migrants. For this year's safari, two groups started at opposite ends of the river working their way towards each other, ending at Herrick's Cove in Vermont in the middle for an end-of-the-day lunch. ABC took part in the northern route of the trip and joined Phil Brown of New Hampshire Audubon moving south from Charlestown.



With nine ABC members making the trip, many were excited for the gorgeous day we had at hand and for the possibilities that laid ahead. Fortunately, there were no disappointed participants and the safari lived up to its reputation, even if this year's waterfowl migration was a bit slower than usual. Highlights from the day included great looks at gorgeous waterfowl such as Wood Duck and Green-winged Teal, migrating Double-crested Cormorants

and Northern Harrier, juvenile Bald Eagles, and a sizeable flock of Tree Swallows over Allen Brother's marsh in Vermont.

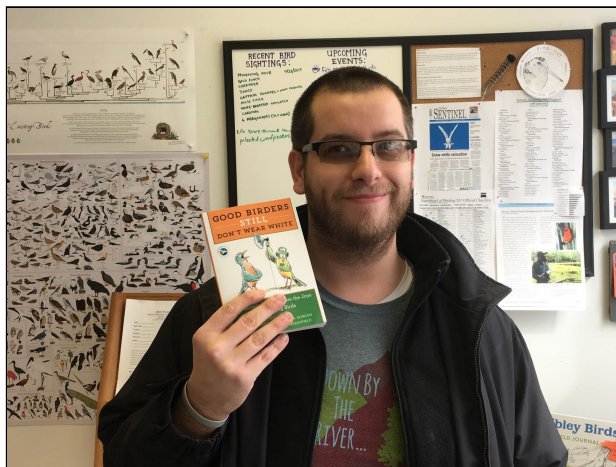


Glover's Ledge Bird Walk

On April 2nd, ABC hosted a guided bird walk at AUNE's Glover's Ledge property in Langdon, NH. Glover's Ledge student-manager, Sam Bator, helped co-direct the event, and we hope this walk becomes an annual outing. Lead by ABC's Steven Lamonde, and assisted by Arianna Ferrario, Kelsey Higney, and Jake Pipp, 7 participants toured the 76-acre forest in search of remaining winter birds and early spring migrants. Much to everyone's delight, we encountered a trio of Ruffed Grouse, a horde of trilling Dark-eyed Juncos, and many of the participants' first Eastern Phoebe of the year. On the return journey to Keene, the group made several stops between Boggy Meadow and Sawyer Farms in Walpole to look for waterfowl and raptors. Although no American Kestrels were located, two Rusty Blackbirds made up the difference!

Library Scavenger Hunt Winners

March marked the completion of another ABC Library Scavenger Hunt. Chris Collins was the overall winner, finding and identifying all 10 birds! The victory was well deserved, as this contest was by no means an easy one. In second place was Kat Lauer, who located all hidden birds and correctly identified 9 out of 10 species. Arianna Ferrario and Stephanie Tickner tied for third, both correctly identifying 8 species. The club is grateful to all who participated, and is excitedly awaiting the next Library Scavenger Hunt of Fall 2019!



Schedule of Events

Movie Night

April 4 (Wednesday)- 4 PM to 5:30 PM

Directly following the club's monthly meeting will be the first ABC movie night. The club will be showing episodes of the famous BBC documentary *Life of Birds*. All are welcome to take a study break and meet in Room 231 for this viewing. [Facebook](#) RSVPs are appreciated. Bring a friend!

Leader: Chad Witko

Airport Bird Walk

April 15th (Saturday)- 8AM to 12PM (Antioch carpool at 7:30AM)

The Keene municipal airport is a prime birding location for songbirds, wetland birds, and grassland birds alike. ABC will be leading a walk to explore this excellent viewing area as Spring migrants return and pass through Keene. This trip is an opportunity to experience local birds in abundance, and will include other local stops along the route to the airport.

Leader: Rachel Yurchisin. RSVP by April 14th.

Horatio Colony Bird Walk

April 28th (Saturday)- 8AM to 12PM (Antioch carpool at 7:30AM)

Antioch Bird Club teams with Horatio Colony Preserve to educate the community on the Birds of Spring! Combine your love of hiking with your love of birds while Spring is in full bloom! Avian abundance will be significant at this time of year, and the club would love to celebrate while sharing the beauty of this natural area.

Leaders: Steven Lamonde & Chad Witko. RSVP by April 27th.

Birds of AUNE

Bird of the Month



The ABC Bird of the Month for April is the Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*). This medium-sized sparrow can be identified by its rust-colored cap, pure gray belly, and back eye-stripe. It often forages on the ground, preferring forested areas and edges. It feeds mostly on seeds. When not breeding, it forms flocks of several dozen of its species. The Chipping Sparrow is of low conservation concern, currently commonly occurring,

though its numbers are declining. To learn more about this sparrow visit, check out its [species profile](#) on the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's website.

AUNE eBird Hotspot Update

Once again, March saw the addition of no new species added to the AUNE campus [list](#). However, several notable observations during this earliest month of spring migration! A trio of Purple Finches, uncommon in Keene, frequented the library feeders during the third week of March, and John Dunham, who directs the Antioch University Writing Center, observed a record-high 11 Black-capped Chickadees on March 27th! Two Fish Crows were heard and seen by Steven Lamonde and Chad Witko as they flew over the Dunkin Donuts by school on March 30th, which brought Chad's and Steven's campus species lists up to 86 and 94, respectively. Way to go guys!

Comparing AUNE's eBird hotspot to others within New Hampshire, our tiny campus ranks outside of the top 100 for total species all-time. This is expected, especially since we lack a body of water in our campus birding area. However, we rank 7th (out of 750+ hotspots in NH) for number of checklists submitted all-time! And, AUNE ranks first in all of New Hampshire for total checklists submitted this year! As of March 29th, 231 checklists had been submitted on campus, more than twice as many as New Hampshire next-most-birded hotspot, Rye Harbor State Park (96 checklists). Great work, everyone!

Our NEXT MEETING is Wednesday, May 2 at 3:00 PM in Room 231.

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

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck	Broad-winged Hawk	Groove-billed Ani
Snow Goose	Short-tailed Hawk	Boreal Owl
Cackling Goose	Gray-cowled Wood-Rail	Ladder-tailed Nightjar
Tundra Swan	Black Crake	Great Potoo
Muscovy Duck	Purple Gallinule	Gray-rumped Swift
Blue-winged Teal	Common Gallinule	Nyanza Swift
Northern Shoveler	Red-knobbed Coot	Band-tailed Barbthroat
Mottled Duck	Gray Crowned-Crane	Green Hermit
Cape Teal	Black-winged Stilt	Long-billed Hermit
Ruddy Duck	Black-necked Stilt	Stripe-throated Hermit
Gray-headed Chachalaca	Pied Avocet	Green-fronted Lancebill
Crested Guan	American Avocet	Lesser Violetear
Black Guan	Black-bellied Plover	Green Thorntail
Great Curassow	Common Ringed Plover	Green-crowned Brilliant
Crested Bobwhite	African Jacana	Fiery-throated Hummingbird
Hildebrandt's Francolin	Northern Jacana	White-bellied Mountain-gem
Shelley's Francolin	Long-billed Curlew	Purple-throated
Pied-billed Grebe	Marbled Godwit	Mountain-gem
Eared Grebe	Black Turnstone	Magenta-throated Woodstar
Western Grebe	Ruff	Scintillant Hummingbird
Greater Flamingo	Curlew Sandpiper	Violet-headed Hummingbird
Black Stork	Dunlin	Scaly-breasted Hummingbird
Abdim's Stork	Little Stint	Violet Sabrewing
Maguari Stork	Western Sandpiper	Bronze-tailed Plumeleteer
Jabiru	Wilson's Snipe	Crowned Woodnymph
Wood Stork	Green Sandpiper	Stripe-tailed Hummingbird
Brandt's Cormorant	Wandering Tattler	Coppery-headed Emerald
Pelagic Cormorant	Common Greenshank	Steely-vented Hummingbird
Bare-throated Tiger-Heron	Pigeon Guillemot	Rufous-tailed Hummingbird
Tricolored Heron	Laughing Gull	Cinnamon Hummingbird
Reddish Egret	Heermann's Gull	Blue-throated Goldentail
Squacco Heron	Western Gull	Resplendent Quetzal
Green Heron	California Gull	Slaty-tailed Trogon
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron	Glaucous-winged Gull	Black-headed Trogon
Glossy Ibis	Gull-billed Tern	Baird's Trogon
Buff-necked Ibis	Caspian Tern	Gartered Trogon
Roseate Spoonbill	Royal Tern	Orange-bellied Trogon
Secretarybird	Sandwich Tern	African Gray Hornbill
White-tailed Kite	Speckled Pigeon	Lesson's Motmot
African Harrier-Hawk	Pale-vented Pigeon	Broad-billed Motmot
Martial Eagle	Red-billed Pigeon	Gray-headed Kingfisher
Long-crested Eagle	Band-tailed Pigeon	Ringed Kingfisher
Tawny Eagle	White-tipped Dove	Green Kingfisher
Eurasian Marsh-Harrier	Gray-chested Dove	European Bee-eater
Black Kite	Buff-fronted Quail-Dove	White-whiskered Puffbird
White Hawk	Eared Dove	White-headed Barbet

Prong-billed Barbet
Northern Emerald-Toucanet
Collared Aracari
Fiery-billed Aracari
Yellow-throated Toucan
Keel-billed Toucan
Black-cheeked Woodpecker
Red-crowned Woodpecker
Hoffmann's Woodpecker
Smoky-brown Woodpecker
White-headed Woodpecker
American Three-toed
Woodpecker
Rufous-winged Woodpecker
Crimson-crested
Woodpecker
Laughing Falcon
Orange-breasted Falcon
Caica Parrot
White-crowned Parrot
Red-lored Parrot
White-fronted Parrot
Orange-fronted Parakeet
Brown-throated Parakeet
Nanday Parakeet
Scarlet Macaw
Fasciated Antshrike
Black-hooded Antshrike
Chestnut-backed Antbird
White-plumed Antbird
Spotted Antpitta
Black-faced Antthrush
Olivaceous Woodcreeper
Tawny-winged Woodcreeper
Plain-brown Woodcreeper
Cocoa Woodcreeper
Brown-billed Scythebill
Streak-headed Woodcreeper
Lineated Foliage-gleaner
Streak-breasted Treehunter
Spotted Barbtail
Ruddy Treerunner
Red-faced Spinetail
Yellow Tyrannulet
Yellow-bellied Elaenia
Mountain Elaenia
Olive-striped Flycatcher
Paltry Tyrannulet

Helmeted Pygmy-Tyrant
Northern Bentbill
Eye-ringed Flatbill
Yellow-margined Flycatcher
Tufted Flycatcher
Yellowish Flycatcher
Black Phoebe
Long-tailed Tyrant
Rufous Mourner
Dusky-capped Flycatcher
Brown-crested Flycatcher
Boat-billed Flycatcher
Gray-capped Flycatcher
Golden-bellied Flycatcher
Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher
Piratic Flycatcher
Western Kingbird
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Three-wattled Bellbird
Tiny Tyrant-Manakin
Golden-headed Manakin
Masked Tityra
Barred Becard
Cinnamon Becard
Rose-throated Becard
Gray-backed Fiscal
Slaty-capped Shrike-Vireo
White-eyed Vireo
Yellow-throated Vireo
Blue-headed Vireo
Philadelphia Vireo
Yellow-green Vireo
Brown Jay
Bushy-crested Jay
Steller's Jay
Florida Scrub-Jay
California Scrub-Jay
Black-billed Magpie
Yellow-billed Magpie
Fish Crow
Rufous-naped Lark
Blue-and-white Swallow
Southern Rough-winged
Swallow
Tree Swallow
Mangrove Swallow
Violet-green Swallow
Bank Swallow

Carolina Chickadee
Mountain Chickadee
Boreal Chickadee
Oak Titmouse
Ochraceous Wren
Pacific Wren
Sedge Wren
Band-backed Wren
Rufous-and-white Wren
Stripe-breasted Wren
Gray-breasted Wood-Wren
Long-billed Gnatwren
American Dipper
Lesser Swamp Warbler
Gray-capped Warbler
Little Rock-Thrush
Rufous-tailed Rock-Thrush
Whinchat
Mocking Cliff-Chat
Northern Wheatear
Black-faced Solitaire
Black-billed
Nightingale-Thrush
Orange-billed
Nightingale-Thrush
Slaty-backed
Nightingale-Thrush
Ruddy-capped
Nightingale-Thrush
Black-headed
Nightingale-Thrush
Wood Thrush
African Thrush
Sooty Thrush
Mountain Thrush
White-throated Thrush
Rüppell's Starling
Greater Blue-eared Starling
Malachite Sunbird
Black-and-yellow
Silky-flycatcher
Ovenbird
Northern Waterthrush
Golden-winged Warbler
Black-and-white Warbler
Flame-throated Warbler
Tennessee Warbler
Gray-crowned Yellowthroat

Common Yellowthroat
Northern Parula
Tropical Parula
Blackburnian Warbler
Yellow Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler
Yellow-throated Warbler
Black-throated Green
Warbler
Golden-crowned Warbler
Costa Rican Warbler
Buff-rumped Warbler
Wilson's Warbler
Slate-throated Redstart
Collared Redstart
Gray-headed Tanager
White-shouldered Tanager
Crimson-collared Tanager
Passerini's Tanager
Cherrie's Tanager
Golden-hooded Tanager
Spangle-cheeked Tanager
Bay-headed Tanager
Emerald Tanager
Silver-throated Tanager
Scarlet-thighed Dacnis
Red-legged Honeycreeper
Slaty Flowerpiercer
Variable Seedeater
Bananaquit
Yellow-faced Grassquit
Buff-throated Saltator
Sooty-capped Chlorospingus
Common Chlorospingus
Stripe-headed Sparrow
Black-striped Sparrow
Orange-billed Sparrow
Chestnut-capped Brushfinch
Rufous-collared Sparrow
Bell's Sparrow
Large-footed Finch
California Towhee
White-eared Ground-Sparrow
Yellow-thighed Finch
White-naped Brushfinch
Golden-breasted Bunting
Summer Tanager
Flame-colored Tanager

Red-and-black Grosbeak
Eastern Meadowlark
Montezuma Oropendola
Red-rumped Cacique
Black-cowled Oriole
Yellow Oriole
Bronzed Cowbird
Brewer's Blackbird
Boat-tailed Grackle
Yellow-crowned Euphonia
Yellow-throated Euphonia
White-vented Euphonia
Reichenow's Seedeater
White-browed
Sparrow-Weaver
Red-headed Weaver
Spectacled Weaver
Holub's Golden-Weaver
White-winged Widowbird
Long-tailed Widowbird
Grosbeak Weaver

