



SPRING 2023

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**Please
Join the
Stanton
Tradition**

*Become a Member-
Supporter by giving
a financial
donation.*

*For more information
see our website at
www.stantonbirdclub.org*

“On a day like this, I can’t imagine anything better that might happen in a person’s life than for them to start paying attention to birds—to become aware of this magical world that exists all around us, unnoticed by many but totally captivating for those who know its secrets. This kind of spring day, with its bountiful myriads of colorful sprites just arrived from tropical shores, has to be one of the greatest gifts of life on Earth.”

— Kenn Kaufman. “A Season On The Wind: Inside the World of Spring Migration”

FIELD TRIPS



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Photos by:

Dan Marquis
Jeri Maurer
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LEWISTON / AUBURN AREA GUIDED BIRD WALKS SPRING / SUMMER 2023

The Stanton Bird Club is pleased to continue our **Guided Bird Walks** in the Lewiston / Auburn area. All walks are **free** and open to everyone, beginning naturalist to advanced birder. Walks are led by Stan & Joan DeOrsey and Gordon Smith, who identify and comment on birds seen and heard.

Anyone interested in walking, seeing new places, fresh air, and nature is welcomed. Walks are held in a variety of interesting and diverse local habitats, plus some areas less often visited. Please mark your calendar and join us on the Wednesdays listed, or pick and choose those which most interest you.

- May 10 Papermill Trail, Lisbon
Meet at the boat launch parking lot, corner of Frost Hill Ave. and Rt. 196, Lisbon
- May 17 Schott Preserve, Greene — Meet at the Schott home, 303 South River Road, Greene; the last home at end of the road after road becomes gravel, drive up the driveway to park.
- May 24 Brunswick Landing Perimeter Trail, Pine Street Entrance
Meet at the end of Pine St., Brunswick near St. John's Cemetery.
- May 31 Androscoggin River Trail, Lisbon
Meet at the parking lot for the Papermill Trail and boat launch, Rt. 196 at Frost Hill Ave.
- June 7 Whitman Spring Road, Auburn starting at south end (before West Auburn)
Meet at the trail, where Spring Rd. dead ends, turn just beyond Summer St.
- June 14 Riverside Trail, Lewiston
Meet at the corner of Winter and Whipple Sts. in Lewiston at Sunnyside Park
- June 28 Fitzgerald Preserve, Brunswick
Meet on the entrance road, Lindbergh Landing (Lindbergh Crossing) off the Old Bath Rd.
- July 12 Marden-Chittick Refuge, Greene — Meet at Judy Marden's home, 196 North Mountain Rd., Greene; the last house after road turns to gravel. Park on the side of the road.
- July 26 Penny Jesup & David Chittim's home, Lewiston
Meet at their home, 28 No Name Pond Road, Lewiston. We will park on the lawn.

Meeting Locations, as noted above, meet at the walk location. Reservations are not required.

- All walks **start at 8AM** at the walk location. Walks end by 11AM, but you may leave early.
- Walks will be held even if it is drizzling, but if there is a steady rain at 7AM and projected to continue past 9AM, the walk is canceled.
- Walks are approximately 2 miles on a generally even and basically dry surface.
- Bring binoculars and dress for the weather, layers work very well.
- For any questions or to receive a detailed email reminder prior to the walk, call Stan DeOrsey at 406-4741 or e-mail jsmd@att.net.
- *We prefer that everyone attending has been vaccinated for covid-19.*

We're back! Bates bird walks

May 2, 9, 16, 23

An early morning bird walk beginning at the front of Hathorn Hall on the Bates College campus, past Mt. David to Riverside Cemetery. Leader: Christine Murray. Meet at Hathorn Hall, Bates College, Lewiston.

(Visit www.stantonbirdclub.org for more details)



Annual Larry Nadeau Memorial Wildflower Walk

and Plant Sale

May 21st 1-3 pm

at Thorncrag

Anticipated species for sale



Lobelia cardinalis
(Cardinal Flower)



Coreopsis lanceolata
(Coreopsis)



Symphyotrichum novae-angliae
(New England Asters)



Eutrochium purpureum
(Joe Pye Weed)



Asclepias incantata
(Swamp Milkweed)

Also: Columbine (Aquilegia), English Daisy (Bellis perennis),
Coneflowers (Echinacea), Daylilies (Hemerocallis), Foxgloves
(Digitalis), Feverfew (Tanacetum parthenium), Siberian Iris
(Iris sibirica)

Tomatoes/Peppers/ Assorted Herbs including Thyme and
Lavender



Vervain hastata
(Blue Vervain)



Lobelia spicata
(Palespike lobelia)



Monarda punctata
(Spotted Beebalm)



Penstemon digitalis
(Foxglove beardtongue)

The President's Perch

Jeri Maurer, President

If you look at the Board of Directors, you will note some changes since last spring. In the fall we said good-bye and thank you to Irene Maihot and Betty Dube and extended a warm welcome to Christine Murray and Gary Soucy. Christine, research librarian at Bates College is a serious birder who helped lead the Bates bird walks before COVID. Gary is our new treasurer and comes with a number of year of experience having taken care of our financial audit process. Recently semi-retired, he enjoys spending time at Thorncrag.

With the retirement of Gary Maurer, we are also welcoming our new chief steward for our properties. Many of you know Ned Claxton, who until recently was a state senator and before that a long-time family practice doctor in our community.

All the work of the Club - taking care of the sanctuaries, leading field trips, participating on the board, teaching children about nature, arranging speakers is done by volunteers.

We are so grateful that for over 100 years community members have stepped forward to help with these and all the other activities of the Bird Club.



If you walk the Green Trail in the Thorncrag Meadow, you will see a new nesting box joining the bluebird houses we already have there.

It was suggested that it might be a perfect location for an American kestrel box.

Let us know if you see one!

Christmas Bird Count 2022

Saturday, December 31, 2022

By Linda Seamans, compiler

The Stanton Bird Club conducted its 43rd Christmas Bird Count of the Lewiston and Auburn area on Saturday, December 31st. In total, 19 people participated (includes 1 feeder watcher) and recorded 50 species; the average since 2000 is 48. There was no snow on the ground and most moving waterways were open (Sabattus pond was frozen). The grand total of 9,166 individual birds was a new count high for individuals, and well above the average of 5,580. The weather was mostly cloudy all day. There was little/no wind and temperatures started at 34 degrees, rising to 54 by the end of the day. Count week added no additional species. There were no new bird species added to the count this year.

New Highs: American Crow

Low Counts: Common Goldeneye, Blue Jay, Black-capped Chickadee, Cedar Waxwing, Dark-eyed Junco

Above Average: Mallard, Wild Turkey, Red-tailed Hawk, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, European Starlings, American Robin, House Sparrow, House Finch, Northern Cardinal

Irruptive: Pine Siskin, Purple Finch, Evening Grosbeak, Pine Grosbeak

Trending: Red-bellied Woodpeckers were seen for the 12th consecutive year and Eastern Bluebirds have become more reliable winter residents this past decade. Peregrine Falcons have continued on the spires of the Gendron Franco Center (old St. Mary's church).

Notables: A Great Blue Heron was flying by the North bridge between Lewiston/Auburn, while an Iceland Gull was seen on ice north of the Androscoggin falls. The Merlin was spotted flying over the Hilton Garden Inn in Auburn. A single Evening Grosbeak was with a flock of robins at St Peters Cemetery in Lewiston. A Northern Flicker and Carolina Wren were heard in the Valley St neighborhood in Lewiston. A Muscovy (likely escaped domestic) was spotted at the Auburn riverwalk.

The full list is:

American Black Duck.....9	Red-bellied Woodpecker.....3	Northern Mockingbird.....4
Mallard.....630	Downy Woodpecker.....28	European Starling.....1,175
Common Goldeneye.....16	Hairy Woodpecker.....19	Cedar Waxwing.....10
Hooded Merganser.....14	Pileated Woodpecker.....4	American Tree Sparrow.....15
Common Merganser.....31	Northern Flicker.....1	White-throated Sparrow.....1
Wild Turkey.....134	Merlin.....1	Dark-eyed Junco.....82
Great Blue Heron.....1	Peregrine Falcon.....2	Northern Cardinal.....52
Bald Eagle.....10	Blue Jay.....89	Evening Grosbeak.....1
Sharp-shinned Hawk.....1	American Crow.....4,109	Pine Grosbeak.....4
Cooper's Hawk.....3	Common Raven.....1	House Finch.....96
Red-tailed Hawk.....12	Black-capped Chickadee...220	Pine Siskin.....12
Ring-billed Gull.....215	Tufted Titmouse.....57	Purple Finch.....35
Herring Gull.....104	Red-breasted Nuthatch.....9	American Goldfinch.....134
Iceland Gull.....1	White-breasted Nuthatch....49	Snow Bunting.....50
Great Black-backed Gull..2	Brown Creeper.....2	House Sparrow.....254
Rock Pigeon895	Carolina Wren.....1	
Mourning Dove.....287	Eastern Bluebird.....8	50 species and 9,232
	American Robin.....339	individual birds



P.O. Box 3172
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Stanton Bird Club

Nature Week at Thorncrag

"A SENSE OF WONDER"– We will nurture your child's sense of wonder and curiosity with activities that help them connect to nature!

July 17-21 9 am to Noon

6-12 year olds

REGISTRATION \$25/week

Scholarships available

For information and registration form call Penny Jessop at 782-5467

Registration Form also available at Stantonbirdclub.org

