

Hampshire Bird Club, Inc.  
Winter-Spring-Summer Field Trip Schedule, 2006

*Please register with the field trip leader(s) and check this schedule's information when a phone number is given. The Field Trip Chair (Michael Locher – 413-585-5864) is always looking for new trip ideas and leaders.*

*The Hampshire Bird Club recommends carpooling whenever possible, and suggests that all riders share equally the per-car cost of \$0.40 per mile, as well as tolls and parking. See also the "Field Trip Guidelines for Participants" (September newsletter or on the Website).*

*Some trips have been marked with an asterisk (\*), which indicates that they are good trips for beginning birders. All trips have been coded as Easy (E) or Moderate (M) to give a rough indication of the pace and/or terrain. However, check all information with the trip leaders.*

**JANUARY**

**Saturday, January 7. North Shore: Cape Ann to Plum Island.** All day. Bob Bieda will head to the coast in search of wintering specialties like Eared Grebes, Barrow's Goldeneyes, Harlequin Ducks, Purple Sandpipers, and much more. Dress for cold weather. For meeting information call Bob at 413-527-2623. (E)

**Saturday, January 14. Winter Finches and Whatnot.** Three quarters of a day. Mike Locher (413-585-5864) will venture to the west to look for winter finches, Northern Shrikes, Bohemian Waxwings, or whatever else seems to be around. Meet at the Hadley Elementary School (on Route 47, half a mile north of Route 9) at 7:30. (E)

**FEBRUARY**

**Saturday, February 11. South Shore: Plymouth and Falmouth.** All day. Al Richards veers south of Boston to find winter's ducks, gulls, and owls. Dress warmly. Call Al (413-665-2761) for meeting information. (E)

**Wednesday, February 15. Midweek half day in the Connecticut River Valley.** Morning. Harvey Allen (413-253-7963) scours the local area in search of birds, and shows off his favorite birding sites along the way. Meet at 8:00 a.m. across from Atkin's Farm (on the corner of Rt. 116 and Bay Road, Amherst). (E)

**MARCH**

**Saturday, March 4. Plum Island.** All day. Geoff LeBaron will seek out late-winter specialties like Rough-legged Hawks, Barrow's Goldeneyes, Glaucous Gulls, and Snowy Owls. Dress warmly. For meeting information, call Geoff (413-268-9281) as the date approaches. (E)

**Wednesday, March 15. Midweek half day in the Connecticut River Valley.** Morning. Harvey Allen (413-253-7963) leads a local trip to find seasonal specialties, probably migrating waterfowl. Meet at 7:30 a.m. across from Atkin's Farm (on the corner of Rt. 116 and Bay Road, Amherst). (E)

**Saturday, March 25. Connecticut River Waterfowl.** Half day. Al Richards will follow (more or less) the course of the mighty Connecticut, seeking out her migrating denizens. Ducks, that is. Lots of 'em. Call Al (413-665-2761) for meeting information as the date approaches. (E)

#### APRIL

**\*Sunday, April 9. Timberdoodles.** Early evening. Mike Locher looks, and mostly listens, for displaying American Woodcocks and other crepuscular creatures. Call Mike (413-585-5864) the week before the trip for meeting information. (E)

**Saturday, April 15. Ashley Reservoir: Early Warblers.** Half day. Bob Bieda searches out the gems of spring, the early migrants. Often, the trip finds Pine and Palm Warblers, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and migrating Broad-winged Hawks and Ospreys. Meet at the Holiday Inn parking lot, Exit 15 ("Holyoke Mall") off Rt. 91 at 7:00 a.m. Call Bob (413-527-2623) to register. (E)

**Wednesday, April 19. Midweek half day in the Connecticut River Valley.** Morning. Harvey Allen (413-253-7963) looks for the early migrants Bob missed. Meet at 7:30 a.m. across from Atkin's Farm (on the corner of Rt. 116 and Bay Road, Amherst). (E)

**\*Saturday, April 22. More Migrants.** Half day. Betsy Higgins (413-586-7585) looks for more migrating warblers and neotropicals, starting around Look Park in Northampton (for her signature waterthrush). Meet at 6:30 a.m. in the parking lot of the JFK Middle School on Bridge Street in Northampton. (E)

**Saturday, April 29. Graves Farm.** Half day. Shirley Hilborn (413-253-6462) and Anne Lombard (413-253-7509) will lead birders around Graves Farm, looking for migrants and other local specialties. Meet at Graves Farm at 7:00 a.m. (E)

#### MAY

**Sunday, May 7. Spring Migration in the Quabbin.** All day. Tom Gagnon guides birders through the Quabbin in search of its varied avifauna. This trip is limited to Hampshire Bird Club members only. Call Tom (413-584-6353) well ahead of time for meeting information and to register. (M)

**Saturday, May 13. Mt. Auburn Cemetery.** All day. David Peake-Jones goes to Boston's most historic cemetery, which is also one of the city's birding hotspots, to see what happens to fly in. The numbers and variety can be astonishing. (PS-If you peed in the Quabbin the week before, don't use the water fountains.) Call David (413-529-9541) for meeting information. (E)

**Wednesday, May 17. Midweek half day in the Connecticut River Valley.** Morning. Harvey Allen (413-253-7963) shows off his favorite birding spots. Meet at 7:00 a.m. across from Atkin's Farm (on the corner of Rt. 116 and Bay Road, Amherst). (E)

**Saturday, May 20. Coastal Rhode Island.** All day. Never fear, Geoff LeBaron just moved his trip to the coast of our petite southern neighbor into the warm season (in response to member requests). Call Geoff (413-268-9281) for meeting information and further details. (E)

**Friday, May 26 – Monday, May 29. Monhegan Island.** Overnight trip. David Peake-Jones and Andrew Magee guide birders through a long weekend on this exquisite Atlantic isle in search of migrants and deer ticks. This trip is limited to Hampshire Bird Club members only. Call David (413-529-9541) to register. (E/M)

**Saturday, May 27. Poor Man's Monhegan.** All day. Bob Bieda guides the rest of us to Massachusetts' less artsy, but no less birdy, isle. Past trips have found Wilson's Phalaropes, Piping Plovers, Seaside Sparrows, Orchard Orioles, and Evening Grosbeaks. Call Bob (413-527-2623) to register and get meeting information. (E)

#### JUNE

**Saturday, June 10 or 17. Westover Air Force Base.** Half day. Pending permission, Bob Bieda will lead his annual trip into New England's premier grassland habitat, looming for Upland Sandpipers, Bobolinks, Grasshopper Sparrows, and Eastern Meadowlarks. This trip is limited to Hampshire Bird Club members only. Call Bob (413-527-2623) to register and check on the date and time for meeting. (E)

**Wednesday, June 21. Midweek half day in the Connecticut River Valley.** Morning. Harvey Allen (413-253-7963) leads birders through the local landscape, seeking out late migrants. Meet at 6:00 a.m. across from Atkin's Farm (on the corner of Rt. 116 and Bay Road, Amherst). (E)

#### JULY

**Saturday, July 29. New South Beach, I.** All day. David Peake-Jones goes looking for early migrating shorebirds, especially Red Knots. Bring a lunch, a jacket, and \$20 for the boat ride. Call David (413-529-9541) to register. (E/M)

#### AUGUST

**Saturday, August 19. New South Beach, II.** All day. Bob Bieda leads birders in their quest for late shorebird migrants, including Curlew Sandpipers and Marbled and Hudsonian Godwits. Bring a lunch, a jacket, and \$20 for the boat ride. Call Bob (413-527-2623) to register. (E/M)