

## **T3C Walks: April & May, 2010**

All walks are free and open to the public. Beginning birders are especially welcome to join the bird walks! Any questions? Please contact the trip leader.

### **The Two Ponds in Beebe Woods—geology and natural history**

**April 4 (Sun), 1 pm and April 5 (Mon), 9:30 am**

The Punch Bowl and Ice House Pond are quite different ponds though they both lie in the rocky, hilly terrain of the moraine. Join T3C board member, naturalist, and geologist Beth Schwarzman (508-540-5432) to visit both ponds and put the landscape of Beebe Woods in context. 3½ miles, with some hills, and some rocky trails. Rain or shine; no dogs, please.

Meet at the parking lot between The Cape Cod Conservatory and Highfield Theatre at the end of Depot Avenue.

### **Woodcocks!**

**April 6 & 7 (Tues & Wed) and April 11 & 12 (Sun & Mon) from 7:00 pm until dark.**

With the arrival of spring comes the annual ritual of observing the courtship display of the American Woodcock. It's an experience not to be missed! At dusk these reclusive woodland birds make their way out of the nearby woods to an open field. The males strut, call and launch themselves into the air in a wide, spiraling flight from which they whirr, twitter and zig-zag back to the ground. With luck, a male will win a female's heart and attention!

Meet at 7:00 pm at the Crane Wildlife Area, at the end of the unpaved road off Route 151 between the ballfield and the Nickelodeon Cinema. Bring a flashlight and binoculars if you have them. Dress very warmly! Drizzle or driving rain will cancel the walk. Leader: Molly Cornell 540-7652

### **Hatchville: Coonamessett Cranberry Bogs & Toner parcel**

**April 14 (Wed), 9-11 am**

Mixed habitat is a draw for a variety of bird species. Woodland edge, open field and stream make this an area of abundant wildlife. Specialties include waterfowl, osprey and gulls (if the herring are running), bluebirds, kinglets, red-winged blackbirds.

Meet in the unpaved lot off Hatchville Road (between Turner Rd and Atamansit) across from the Matt Souza Conservation Area. Leader: Molly Cornell 540-7652

### **Birding the Bike Path**

**April 17 (Sat), 9-11 am**

Conservation lands are easily accessible from the newly extended Shining Sea Bikeway. This section offers fine views of the Great Sippewissett Marsh area. Specialties include osprey, egrets, Greater Yellowlegs, plovers, oystercatchers and early warblers.

Meet in the parking area behind the West Falmouth Post Office. Leader: Molly Cornell 508-540-7652

### **Crane Wildlife Management Area and the Highest Point in Falmouth**

**April 25 (Sun), 1 pm, and April 26 (Mon), 9:30 am**

The rocky, hilly western part of Crane Wildlife Management Area contains a line of hilltops that include the highest point in Falmouth. Explore this less well-known part of Crane, and get a view of Buzzards Bay. Some of the trails are rocky and hilly, the walk is about 2½ miles. Rain or shine; no dogs, please.

Meet at the trailhead on the north side of Route 151 just east of the Route 28 on-ramp. There is a small dirt parking lot at the trailhead, with additional parking on the shoulder just to the east. Take special care when turning, and when crossing Route 151 because the traffic moves very fast. Leader: Beth Schwarzman, 508-540-5432

### **Quashnet/Moonakis River in Spring**

**May 2 (Sun), 1 pm and May 3 (Mon), 9:30 am**

Learn more about the only free-flowing river in Falmouth, and about the geologically and historically interesting valley that it runs in. This 3½ mile walk will be on flat but sometimes sandy trails. History and geology, plants, and animals in the first flush of spring, and exercise too—join us. Rain or shine; no dogs, please.

Meet at the trailhead near the east end of Martin Road, in East Falmouth. Martin Road is a short loop road on the north side of Route 28 in Waquoit, just opposite Red Brook Road (almost to the Mashpee town line). Leader: Beth Schwarzman 508-540-5432

### **Birding the Bike Path – Part II**

**May 4 (Tues), 9-11 am**

The stretch of bike path between Locust Street and Salt Pond is abundant with bird life! Highlights include Song Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Catbird, Myrtle Warbler, Goldfinch, Mockingbird, Osprey.

Meet at the Locust Street parking lot where the bike path crosswalk crosses Woods Hole Road. Leader: Molly Cornell 540-7652

### **Trickett Street Parcel, North Falmouth**

**May 12 (Wed), 9-11 am**

This 20-acre gem was one of the first land bank purchases made by the town. A mixture of woodland and open field provides a variety of habitat for spring migrants. In previous years highlights included Indigo Bunting and Red-bellied Woodpecker. Easy walking on gentle terrain.

Directions: From the intersection of Rte 151 and 28A, go south 1 mile to the rotary. Take Trickett St (second street on the left, south of the rotary), go uphill 0.2 miles to parking on the right. Hand-painted sign marks the trailhead. Leaders: Molly Cornell 540-7652 & Hilary Hunt

## **Flax Pond and Lower & Middle Cranberry Bogs**

**May 15 (Sat), 9-11 am**

This walk features flat trails around pond and bogs. (Approximately 2.5 miles at an easy pace). A mixture of habitats -- open field, shrubby vegetation, wetland and deciduous woods -- makes this location ideal for finding a variety of birds! Expect flycatchers, vireos, raptors, warblers.

From John Parker Road in East Falmouth, pull off at Lower Bog opposite Flax Pond Road. Leader: Molly Cornell 540-7652

## **Peterson Farm**

**May 22 (Sat) 7:30 - 9:30**

Wake up with the birds! The mixture of woods, open field and shrubby edge makes Peterson Farm a favorite birding spot in Falmouth. Expect orioles, kingbirds, catbirds, phoebes, swallows, towhees, sparrows, woodpeckers, hummingbirds and warblers.

Directions: From downtown Falmouth, take Locust Street (Woods Hole Road) towards Woods Hole. After crossing the bike path crosswalk go approx. 0.5 miles up hill. Turn right on McCallum Drive. Take an immediate right up the driveway to Peterson Farm.

Leader: Molly Cornell 540-7652

## **Birding Falmouth “Hot Spots”**

**May 25 (Tues) from 9-11 am**

In conjunction with the Cape Cod Bird Club, participants will carpool to nearby birding hot spots, depending on what’s happening in the area.

Meet at the Mobilmart/Dunkin Donuts on Palmer Avenue, approx 0.5 miles south of the Jones Road traffic lights. We will carpool from there. As always, beginning birders are welcome! Leaders: Molly Cornell (540-7652) & Priscilla Moor