



Carolina Bird Club
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CBC Newsletter

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For members of the Carolina Bird Club, Inc.,
Ornithological Society of the Carolinas

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CBC Fall Birding Weekend in the South Carolina Lowcountry

Meeting Planners: Jill Midgett and Craig Watson
September 26 through September 29, 2019
by Craig Watson



The Fall Seasonal meeting of the Carolina Bird Club will be held in the South Carolina lowcountry, headquartered in Summerville. This affords quick and easy access to some of the best birding spots in the lowcountry and is a short drive to historic downtown Charleston. A city rich in history and nationally acclaimed for its beautiful landscapes and well-preserved architecture, we will gather for our meeting the weekend of September 26-29. Registration begins the afternoon of the 26th and field trips will continue Friday through Sunday.

Charleston's proximity to some of South Carolina's finest and most treasured natural coastal resources allows us to offer trips to habitats ranging from wild, scenic beaches to longleaf pine savannas. We expect excellent birding, and our field trips are being designed to offer participants the opportunity to enjoy the best this region has to offer. We will offer birding trips south to the ACE Basin, north to the Santee Delta, and inland to the Orangeburg Sod Farm. Destinations include the Sea Islands (Kiawah and Seabrook), Charleston Harbor (Pitt St., Patriot's Point, Ft. Moultrie), Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge, Dewees Island (NEW), Folly Beach area hotspots (including little known Ft. Lamar), state wildlife management areas north and south, Francis Beidler Forest and Pine Bluff (new Audubon SC tract), Black River Cypress Preserve (NEW), and Caw Caw Interpretive Center.

Shorebird migration should be going strong, and we will seek out these southbound migrants as well as many of the other marsh and seabirds associated with rich coastal environments. Fall along the coast can also be particularly exciting for Neotropical songbird migration, and we will explore some of the area's "migrant traps" in search of these species. Wading birds will be abundant, with Roseate Spoonbills now occurring year-round in South Carolina.



Roseate Spoonbill
Photo by Deborah Roy

We will also offer a butterfly walk, a Young Birder's Workshop, a photography workshop (how to use your point and shoot camera, and SLR), assisting banding efforts at the Kiawah Island Banding Station, and a rarity chase on Sunday. If you want to see Baltimore Orioles and a possible Western Tanager, we have arranged access to a few homes in the area that attract these birds. In addition to our exciting slate of field trips led by knowledgeable local birders, participants have an opportunity to enjoy excellent evening presentations on bird-related topics. So make your plans and register soon!

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CBC Fall Birding Weekend in the South Carolina Lowcountry

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Our meeting headquarters is the Wyndham Garden Inn, north of Charleston in Summerville. It is conveniently located near I-26 and I-526, providing quick access to birding hotspots in all directions, and only 25 minutes away from downtown Charleston. Special room rates are being offered to CBC members for \$119/night (not including taxes). To reserve a room contact the Wyndham Garden Inn directly at 1-843-875-3300, and be sure to identify yourself as a Carolina Bird Club participant. Any requests for special room arrangements may be made at the time of your reservation. The reservation cut-off date for these rates is September 12, 2019 so please don't delay. Check-in time is 3:00 PM, Check-out time is 11:00 AM.

The hotel has a restaurant that serves breakfast but not lunch or dinner. Restaurants including Cracker Barrel, Ruby Tuesday, and Carolina Ale House are within walking distance, and many more are within a quick drive from the hotel. Each room has a microwave, mini-fridge, coffee maker, and Wi-Fi is complimentary. Registrants arriving on Thursday evening, September 26th, may pick up their registration packets that evening. The hotel will be the location for our evening programs and other social events related to our meeting.

Join us on Friday evening to experience the riveting journeys of Aija and Ed Konrad as Aija challenged herself to a United States Big Year in 2018! Titled "Tales of a Big Year ... the Journey to 577",

Aija and Ed will take you through a year of travels and adventure through a photographic essay of the quest for her Big Year! Aija and Ed will share stories through their photos of how they crisscrossed the US, their non-stop schedule of birding from dawn to dusk, favorite birds, hikes, experiences, and even some challenges and a disagreement or two! They will lead a colorful and animated tour through their travels to bird in Texas, Nebraska, Colorado, Utah, Chicago and Ohio, Arizona, California, Washington, Florida, South and North Carolina, Maryland, New Jersey, and Maine.

Our Saturday evening speaker is Arch McCallum. Arch will present a unique program titled "Empids Demystified!" A native of South Carolina and a member of the CBC since 1959, Arch has been fascinated by birds all his life, and has been recording and analyzing their sounds since 1981. He's especially interested in the evolution of vocal repertoires in large genera, particularly chickadees and *Empidonax* flycatchers. He has studied all 15 species of empids on their breeding grounds, from Alaska to Costa Rica and from the Sierra Madre to the Appalachians. After retiring from teaching ornithology, ecology, and other wonderful subjects at the College of Charleston, Arch now leads the occasional birding tour in the Southwest and works on web-presentations of his research on bird sounds.

A more in depth program agenda will be provided to registrants at check-in. We hope you will join us for an exciting weekend of birding and presentations!



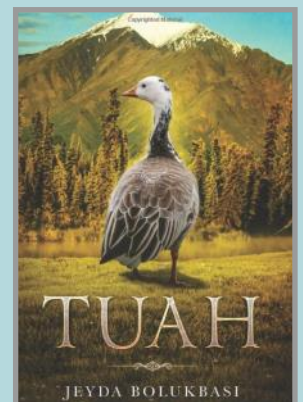
Jeyda Kathryn Bolukbasi

Young Birder Publishes Her First Book!

Jeyda Kathryn Bolukbasi is a fourteen-year-old writer who was born in Charlotte, NC. Her passion for birds sparked the inspiration for her first published book, *Tuah*, which she wrote when she was thirteen. She hopes to attend Cornell University and study to become an ornithologist. Currently, she is the first junior volunteer at the Center for Birds of Prey in Awendaw, SC and a member of the Carolina Bird Club.

"*Tuah*" can be purchased at Amazon by using the following link:

https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/107644122X/ref=ppx_yo_dt_b_asin_image_o01_s00?ie=UTF8&psc=1



CBC Fall Birding Weekend Trip Schedule

Friday, September 27, 2019

Morning Half Day

- Trip 1 – Caw Caw Interpretive Center – 8:15am
- Trip 2 – Francis Beidler Forest (Audubon SC) – 8:15am
- Trip 3 – Seabrook Island North Beach – 6:30am
- Trip 4 – Mingo Point/Kiawah Island – 7:00am
- Trip 5 – Bird Banding/Johns Island County Park – 6:00am
- Trip 6 – Butterfly Walk – 9:00am

Afternoon Half Day

- Trip 8 – Francis Beidler Forest (Audubon SC) – 1:00pm
- Trip 9 – ACE Basin NWR – 1:00pm
- Trip 10 – Old Santee Canal Park – 1:00pm
- Trip 11 – Santee National Wildlife Refuge (Pine Island Unit) – 1:00pm
- Trip 12 – Young/Beginner Birders Workshop (Caw Caw) – 1:15pm
- Trip 13 – Photography Workshop (Old Santee Canal Park) – 1:00pm

All Day

- Trip 15 – Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge – 6:00am
- Trip 16 – Bear Island Wildlife Management Area – 6:30am
- Trip 17 – Dewees Island – 6:45am
- Trip 18 – Black River Cypress Preserve – 6:45am
- Trip 19 – Santee Coastal Reserve and Delta – 6:15am

Saturday, September 28, 2019

Morning Half Day

- Trip 21 – Santee National Wildlife Refuge (Bluff Unit) – 6:45am
- Trip 22 – Pine Bluff (Audubon SC) – 7:30am
- Trip 23 – Lighthouse Heritage Preserve – 7:00am
- Trip 24 – Ft. Moultrie/Breach Inlet – 7:15am
- Trip 25 – Ft. Lamar/Melton Demetre Park – 7:15am
- Trip 26 – I'on Swamp Loop Drive Francis Marion NF – 6:45am

Afternoon Half Day

- Trip 28 – Caw Caw Interpretive Park – 1:00pm
- Trip 29 – Orangeburg Sod Farms – 1:00pm
- Trip 30 – Old Santee Canal Park – 1:00pm
- Trip 31 – Pitt St./Patriot's Point – 1:00pm
- Trip 32 – Edisto Nature Trail – 1:00pm

All Day

- Trip 34 – Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge – 6:00am
- Trip 35 – Dewees Island – 6:45am
- Trip 36 – Santee National Wildlife Refuge – 7:00am
- Trip 37 – Bear Island Wildlife Management Area – 6:30am
- Trip 38 – Santee Coastal Reserve and Delta – 6:15am

Sunday September 29, 2019

- Trip 40 – Search for Rarities Seen – 7:30am

Oriole Feeder Watch – Due to privacy issues, locations of oriole feeders will be distributed at the registration desk only if any orioles or Western Tanagers have been spotted at the feeders prior to the meeting.

Important Notes for Fall Trip

- The times listed are when the cars are lined up in the parking lot and leaving. Please be there at least 10 minutes early and identify yourself to the leader. Field trip leaders cell phone numbers will be provided.
- If you decide not to go on a trip, either scratch through your name beforehand on the supplied lists or show up at the meeting place and tell someone. **Please be sure to check the trip sheets at the registration desks for any changes to the field trip details!**
- There will be a sheet with all directions for your trips emailed to you in advance and copies will be provided at registration with field trip sheets.
- You are encouraged to review and utilize eBird for the species that occur at each of these eBird hotspots, particularly for September and October. All but two of the areas are eBird hotspots (Pine Bluff and Black River Cypress Preserve).
- All trips depart from hotel in the parking lot. Look for the placard with your trip number. There will be a sheet with all directions for your trips e-mailed to you in advance. Please bring it on each trip as caravans sometimes break down, and, if so, you'll still be able to get to the trip site. Get the leader's cell number before you leave, just in case.
- Food for purchase during field trips may be somewhat limited. Accordingly, plan to take snacks and beverages with you, and be sure to pack a lunch for the all-day trips.
- Sunscreen and insect repellent should be brought along on all trips. Please check weather conditions for the need of rain gear.
- We try to take as few vehicles as possible on field trips in order to save fuel, make caravanning easier, and to make better use of the limited parking that exists at some stops. Please plan on carpooling, and if you would like to drive and have room for new or old friends, please let your trip leader know when you arrive for your outing.
- The Saturday evening dinner will be a catered Lowcountry Boil (shrimp, sausage, red potatoes, corn on the cob), along with a variety of vegetables and salad. A batch of potatoes and corn will be cooked separately from the shrimp and sausage. Chicken is also available as a main dish. Plenty of vegetables and salad will be available for a vegetarian diet. There will be an assortment of lowcountry desserts available (banana pudding, Huguenot tortes, Blondies), iced tea and water – low price of \$20!

A Mystery Owl

by William Burke

You may have noticed in the last issue of the newsletter a photograph of me holding an owl on my arm. If you are a better birder than I, you might have identified the species from the poor photograph. This owl was mounted sometime in the long past. I saw the bird for the first time on the wall of a colleague's office in the late 1970's or early 1980's. I assumed the bird was an antique that he had picked up in Europe where he made annual trips. Over the next 30 years, I visited in this professor's office many times because he was a close friend and an ally in multiple faculty disputes. So, I saw the owl on a regular basis. Despite considering myself a birder, I never even thought to try and identify the species of the owl. The bird was gray with some barring on the chest. At some point, I asked Don where he obtained the owl and what it was. He told me that a visiting professor from Texas had given it to him, but he never discovered how the Texan had come to have what he identified as a barn owl.

In 2006, my friend retired and in cleaning out his office he left the owl in my office because he knew I was a birder, and I would keep it safe because he expected the law school to simply throw the bird away. I hung the owl on the wall of my office and there it stayed until I retired in 2015. Over those nine years, I occasionally would try to identify the species. My friend's identification of a barn owl was clearly wrong, but I could not identify the bird. It clearly was a large owl. I eliminated the large owls that might occur in the U.S such as Barred, Spotted, Great Horned, Great Gray, or Long-Eared Owl. I searched the owls of the world and found nothing. Then it finally dawned on me it was an immature male Snowy Owl. It was very, very dusty. Once I knew I was going to retire and the law school was moving to a new building, I knew the owl would not be safe. The school started anew and threw away old furnishings including the beautiful barrister bookcases I had in my office. So, I knew the owl would be discarded. I also knew or thought I did, that I could not take the owl home. I contacted a prominent naturalist on the University faculty, and he suggested that I give it to the McKissick Museum of the University of South Carolina.

Under the Migratory Bird Treaty and U.S. laws, it is illegal to possess even a feather of a migratory bird except for gamebirds and waterfowl. However, the rule has been different for birds of prey. The Bald Eagle was protected in 1940. The Golden Eagle was similarly protected in 1962. There are some exceptions for Native Americans. Until 1978, it was legal to possess the remains (feathers, etc.) of birds of prey, but since then owls, hawks, falcons, and other birds of prey have been protected. Since I could not determine when the owl came into the possession of the Texas law professor, the McKissick Museum had to seek approval from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Migratory Bird and Eagle Permit Office to take possession of the owl. That permission was granted, and the owl is now on display at the museum.



Photo, courtesy of Christian M. Cicimurri, USC

CBC Outer Banks Trip

Meeting Planners: Steven Shultz

December 14-15, 2019

by Steve Shultz

Widely considered at the top of the list for early winter birding sites in North Carolina, the Outer Banks of Dare County are home to thousands of wintering swans, ducks, geese, shorebirds, waders, gulls, and more. Join members of the Carolina Bird Club as we explore the Bodie Island lighthouse area, Oregon Inlet, Pea Island NWR, the ocean beaches of Hatteras and Bodie Islands, and other “hotspots.”

The trip will focus on waterfowl and shorebird identification as well as building a broad trip list including everything from grebes to sparrows. The trip starts Saturday, December 14, at 7:30 a.m. in the Bodie Island Lighthouse parking lot. Saturday will be devoted to birding along the immediate coast. Sunday will include a stop at Alligator River NWR and potentially Mattamuskeet NWR.

Detailed information including directions, lodging choices, dining opportunities, and more will be provided to registrants. Birds that you can expect to see include loons, numbers of Tundra Swans and Snow Geese, most of the dabbling ducks that winter in eastern North Carolina, chances to see sea ducks including all three American scoters, gulls, wintering passerines, and winter shorebirds including American Avocet and possibly Purple Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, and Piping Plover. Alligator River NWR may provide an opportunity to see Black Bear, raptors, shorebirds (if water levels are right), and numbers of Tundra Swan and waterfowl.

Logistics: The fee for this field trip is \$35 and advance registration is required. Participation is limited to 15. Participants are responsible for lodging and meals. A number of motels, hotels, and other lodging are available in Nags Head north through Kitty Hawk. We will attempt to carpool in order to reduce the number of vehicles caravanning to the birding sites. Spotting scopes are useful if you have one. Dress for the weather and in layers. If we are enjoying a warm early winter, mosquito repellent may be useful. Lunch on Saturday will likely either be at a seafood restaurant or Subway. If you prefer, bring a bag lunch. A variety of restaurants are open for Saturday dinner.

To register for this field trip contact Steve Shultz sshultz@nc.rr.com or (919) 629-7226. Upon confirmation of your slot on the trip, you will be sent a registration form/waiver that can be submitted with your trip fee. Note that there is a modest fee to walk out on Jennette’s Pier.



Welcome New CBC Members!

New Life Member

Andrea Ceonzo
Durham, NC

Missy White
Wilmington, NC

Debra & Paul Baczewski
Summerville, SC

Karen Hover
Swansboro, NC

Bob & Tina Ganis
Southern Pines, NC

Cindy & Bryan Kluchar
Siler City, NC

Martha Gold
Wrightsville Beach, NC

Arthur Williams
Greenville, SC

Tristan Hudnall
Oak Ridge, NC

Robert & Sara Sandel
Clover, SC

Lee Harrington
New Bern, NC

Tom Irons, Sr.
Greenville, NC

Virginia Minichiello
Carthage, NC

Tamara Rike
Backyard Bird Adventures
Myrtle Beach, SC

Marianna Long
James Hill
Roswell, GA

Keith Reich
Murfreesboro, NC

Anne C. Miller
Fuquay-Varina, NC

Melanie & Drew Gaddy
Murrells Inlet, SC

Christopher Baldwin
Theresa Nardi
Charlotte, NC

Paula Ogden-Muse
Mount Pleasant, SC

Deborah Rickman
Charles Singleton
Charleston, SC

CBC Fall Birding Trip Descriptions

½ DAY FIELD TRIPS

Trips 1 & 28 – Caw Caw Interpretive Center

Located near Ravenel, this Charleston County Park is situated on land that was once historic rice plantations. The park consists of 1,000 acres of diverse coastal habitats including cypress/tupelo swamps, a tidal saltmarsh, freshwater and brackish water impoundments, and upland and bottomland forests. The property is accessed by six miles of trails and offers easy and quality birding. Over 250 species of birds have been documented in the park (155 in September), and we hope to find marsh and wading birds, owls, vireos, wrens, migrant warblers, and other passerines.

Approximate travel time: 45 minutes

Facilities: Restrooms available.

Access: \$2/person fee to enter the County Park. This trip will involve easy to moderate walking.

Trips 2 & 8 – Francis Beidler Forest (Audubon, SC)

This Audubon sanctuary contains a portion of what is considered the largest remaining old-growth cypress-tupelo swamp in the world, known as Four Holes Swamp. Participants will experience the majestic wonder of this swampland along a 1.75 mile boardwalk. Birds we hope to find include Yellow-crowned Night-Heron and other wading birds including Wood Stork, a variety of woodpeckers, owls, and migrating songbirds. A Limpkin was recently observed and photographed here.

Approximate Travel Time: 30 minutes

Facilities: Restrooms available

Access: \$12/person fee. This trip involves easy walking on a wooden boardwalk. Participants should be prepared for possible mosquitoes by wearing appropriate clothing and bringing insect repellent.

Trip 3 – Seabrook Island North Beach:

Seabrook Island is just south of Kiawah Island and north of Edisto Island and Deveaux Bank, all very rich in bird species. The birding at North Beach will traverse maritime forest and dunes and then onto the beach up to Captain Sam's Inlet. During September, gulls, terns, and shorebirds are concentrated at high tide roosts, and migrating raptors can be seen in the skies. Twenty shorebird species have been recorded here in September, including Red Knot, five plover species (Piping Plover), Whimbrel, and Marbled Godwit. Be sure to collect any color band combinations and numbers on Red Knots and Piping Plovers if observed. Twelve species of gulls and terns have been recorded and you may spot a Merlin or Peregrine migrating down the beach. Reddish Egret is known from this location in the recent past.

Approximate Travel Time: 1 hour

Facilities: Restrooms and snacks/drinks are available at Freshfield's just outside the entrance to Seabrook Island.

Access: Walking is fairly easy but there is a long hike to Captain Sam's Inlet and back. No fee.

Trip 4 – Mingo Point/Kiawah Island:

Mingo Point and destinations on Kiawah Island offer extensive salt marsh, maritime forest, and dunes and beaches to locate resident and migrating birds in September. Mingo Point alone has recorded over 100 species in September, and has gulls, terns, wading birds, raptors, warblers, and dozens of other passerines that migrant along the coast. A walk out to the high tide roost on East Beach should produce high numbers of species, including shorebirds, terns, gulls, and wading birds, possibly Reddish Egret.

Approximate Travel Time: 1 hour

Facilities: Restrooms are available at Mingo Point and just outside the entrance to the gated communities.

Access: Birding at Mingo Point is an easy walk, and birding on Kiawah Island proper will be by van or driving and stopping. No fee.

Trip 5 – Kiawah Bird Banding Station and Johns Island County Park (maximum of 10 persons):

This special trip will include birding in a maritime forest with a visit to a bird banding station and birding at the new Johns Island County Park. We will most likely see a good variety of migrating passerines (warblers, thrushes, flycatchers, vireos; 108 species have been recorded here in September) being captured and handled for banding on Kiawah Island. At Johns Island County Park, we can expect a great diversity of forest and open habitat birds, particularly during migration.

Approximate travel time: 1 hour

Facilities: Restrooms are available at parking lot at the beginning and end of the trip. Bring snacks and water.

Access: This trip involves a strenuous one mile walk each way to the banding station. Participants should be prepared to get their feet wet and for full sun conditions and possible mosquitoes. Entry Fee to the county park is \$1.

Trip 6 – Butterfly Walk Ft. Moultrie National Monument:

This will be a leisurely trip led by Dr. Dennis Forsythe at Ft. Moultrie National Monument on Sullivan's Island, SC. The grasslands, maritime forest, and dunes will be explored for butterflies, although good birding is available in the same area. This is only a two hour walk from 10am to noon.

Approximate Travel time: 45 minutes

Facilities: Yes, at Ft. Moultrie Visitor Center

Access: Bring sunscreen, insect repellent, and water. There are many places locally on the island to obtain food and water. No fee.

Trip 9 – ACE Basin National Wildlife Refuge:

The ACE Basin NWR lies in the heart of the ACE Basin, “One of the last great places on Earth.” We will bird the Grove Plantation area, the surrounding forests, and managed wetlands. Much of the area is freshwater wetlands in old rice fields, and other major habitat types are mixed hardwood-pine, bottomland hardwood, longleaf pine, and early successional grasslands/field. Approximately 100 species have been observed here in September, with a diversity of waterfowl, wading birds, shorebirds, and passerines. This area is known for Wood Storks, Bald Eagles, other raptors, and the exceptional diversity of migratory land birds in September.

Approximate Travel Time: 1 hour

Facilities- Restrooms at Refuge Office.

Access: Bring sunscreen, insect repellent, snacks, and water as needed. No fee.

Trip 10 & 30 – Old Santee Canal Park:

Old Santee Canal Park commemorates the area's rich history and habitat. Among its attractions are the Stony Landing House, built in 1843, and four miles of boardwalks that meander through the quiet backwaters of Biggin Creek and its surrounding swamp. Beyond its historical offerings, the park has become a popular destination for bird watchers, hikers, paddlers, and other outdoor enthusiasts. The park has many rich habitats from pine trees, mixed hardwoods, open fields, and freshwater swamp, which allow for a wide diversity of species any time of year. The location along the Cooper River, and proximity to Lake Moultrie, make it an ideal spot during spring and fall migration. Currently boasting 170 species on eBird, come discover this hidden gem. Likely birds include migrant warblers, wading birds, owls, raptors, and ducks.

Approximate Travel Time: 30 minutes

Facilities- Restrooms, AC, water fountain.

Access: \$3/person, \$2/seniors, military, AAA, FREE/Children 6 and under.

Trip 11 – Santee National Wildlife Refuge (Pine Island Unit):

The Pine Island Unit of the Santee National Wildlife Refuge encompasses open water, hardwood and pine forests, freshwater marsh, cultivated fields, old fields, impoundments, and cypress swamps. This refuge is known for waterfowl and water birds, but during September, the forests, vine tangles, and fields are especially productive for migrating passerines and many grassland species. This unit of the refuge is more forested and has more early successional habitats, attracting migrant passerines, including warblers, buntings, grosbeaks, and flycatchers. Approximately 300 species have been observed on the refuge with over half being observed in September. Forest, edge, and grassland species are the attraction on this unit.

Approximate travel time: 30 minutes

Facilities: No public restrooms are available at the refuge but there is a nearby service station with facilities, and some food and drinks.

Access conditions: Some birding is by car, but mostly on foot on trails and service roads. Participants should be prepared for mosquitoes by wearing appropriate clothing and insect repellent, and please bring sunscreen. No fee.

Trip 12 – Young/Beginner Birders Workshop (Caw Caw):

This trip is designed for those new to birding, but anyone can come along! Birding techniques will be discussed including how to view a bird, what type of diagnostic marks to look for, the importance of habitat, how to act, and even what to wear. The leader will explain how to use and what to look for in binoculars, scopes, and field guides. This workshop will be held at Caw Caw Interpretive Center and please be sure to bring along a bottle of water.

Approximate travel time: 45 minutes

Facilities: Restrooms available

Access: Classroom and field trip. Bring water, sunscreen, and insect repellent. Entrance fee is \$2.

Trip 13 – Photography Workshop (Old Santee Canal):

Here's an opportunity for birders to improve their photography skills whose primary interest is birding, but who also carry a modest “point and shoot” digital camera to document the birds they see. This will be a three hour course presented in three parts. The first segment will cover strategies for setting up your camera to get the best images in the most common situations (e.g. *full sun, shade, on water, in flight, etc.*). Attendees are encouraged to bring both their camera and their user manual. The second segment will be practicing what you've learned in the first session, and the third session will be back into the classroom to show you how to select and edit the best images to post on your eBird list. Everyone will get a handout with detailed notes from the course.

Approximate Travel Time: 30 minutes

Facilities- Restrooms, AC, water fountain.

Access: \$3/person, \$2/seniors, military, AAA, FREE/Children 6 and under.

Trip 21 – Santee National Wildlife Refuge (Bluff Unit):

The Bluff Unit of the Santee National Wildlife Refuge encompasses open water, hardwood and pine forests, freshwater marsh, cultivated fields, old fields, impoundments, and cypress swamps. This refuge is known for waterfowl and water birds, but during September, the forests, vine tangles, and fields are especially productive for migrating passerines and many grassland species. Some waterfowl will be present but the main attraction at this time of the year are migrants, and due to the diversity of habitats, there will be an abundance of all groups of birds. The managed wetlands have held King and Black Rail, and Purple Gallinule in the past, and host most of the other species of wading birds.

Approximate travel time: 30 minutes

Facilities: No public restrooms are available at the refuge but there is a nearby service station with facilities, and some food and drinks.

Access: Some birding is by car, but mostly on foot on trails and service roads. Participants should be prepared for mosquitoes by wearing appropriate clothing and insect repellent, and please bring sunscreen. No fee.

Trip 22 – Pine Bluff (Audubon SC):

Pine Bluff is a newly acquired property by Audubon South Carolina, and contains small lakes, pine and pine/hardwood forests, open grasslands, and bottomland forests along the Edisto River. This is an excellent place for sparrows, Loggerhead Shrike, Red-headed Woodpeckers, wrens (Marsh, Sedge, Carolina), migrating passerines during migration, and early successional species.

Approximate Travel time: 30 minutes

Facilities: There are no facilities at Pine Bluff. Restrooms, snacks, and drinks are available at a convenience store after exiting the interstate.

Access: Bring sunscreen, insect repellent, and water. No fee.

Trip 23 – Lighthouse Heritage Preserve (Folly Island):

Lighthouse Heritage Preserve is a county park located at the north end of Folly Island. It is the site of an old Coast Guard station and provides a resting and foraging area for passerines migrating and is a migrant “trap” during periods of active migration along the coast. There is extensive maritime forest, beach and dune habitat, open ocean, and extensive exposed mud flats and exposed sand bars at or near high tide. All of these areas provide excellent habitat for resident and migrant species. This is one place rarities often show up. Approximately 150 species have been observed here in September with 24 species of warblers over time. Shorebirds, terns, gulls, and passerines abound here during migration.

Approximate Travel time: 1 hour

Facilities: Restrooms, snacks, drinks, and food are available prior to arriving at the Preserve in the town of Folly Beach.

Access: Bring sunscreen, insect repellent, and water. There are many places locally on the island to obtain food and water. \$1 entry fee.

Trip 24 – Ft. Moultrie/Breach Inlet:

Ft. Moultrie and Breach Inlet are on Sullivan’s Island, with Ft. Moultrie now known as the migrant hotspot around the Charleston Harbor. Ft. Moultrie supports grasslands, maritime forest, beach and dune, the Intracoastal Waterway, and includes a nature trail through the forest bordering the dunes and beach. Migrating passerines and grassland birds can be in high numbers here, along with migrating hawks, falcons, and eagles. Breach Inlet is located between Sullivan’s Island and Isle of Palms and is well known for migrating shorebirds (Red Knot), terns, gulls, with some sea ducks and seabirds later in the season. Recent rarities here were Gray and Tropical Kingbird.

Approximate Travel time: 35 minutes

Facilities: Yes, at Ft. Moultrie Visitor Center

Access: Bring sunscreen, insect repellent, and water. There are many places locally on the island to obtain food and water. No fee.

Trip 25 – Ft. Lamar/Melton Demetre Park:

Ft. Lamar and Melton Demetre Park (Sunrise Park) are two little known yet very productive birding areas in the Charleston Harbor. Ft. Lamar is a Civil War era fort James Island. It is primarily maritime forest surrounded by tidal marsh and can be full of migrant passerines during late September, 22 species of warblers have been observed here. Surrounded by tidal estuary, wading birds, terns, and other marsh associated species are also found here. Sunrise Park is also on James Island and on the southern side of the harbor, with open views of the shoreline and harbor. Migrating passerines, waterfowl, water birds, and passerines can be found in this small area.

Approximate Travel time: 40 minutes

Facilities: Restrooms are available at Sunrise Park, but not Ft. Lamar. There are numerous convenience stores/service stations along the way to provide facilities.

Access: Bring sunscreen, insect repellent, and water. There are many local places to obtain food and water and lunch if necessary. No fee.

Trip 26 – I’on Swamp Road Loop drive, Francis Marion National Forest:

This 8+ mile loop drive begins on Hwy. 17 in Awendaw, SC and includes I’on Swamp Rd., Willow Hall Rd., and the Kinsey Motorway. There are Red-cockaded Woodpeckers here along with other open mature pine species: Bachman’s Sparrow, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Summer Tanager. The drive goes through the swamp where we will find migrant passerines and other forested wetlands species. We will drive near pocosins and other early successional habitats. This trip is mostly for forest birds, both upland pine and forested wetlands, and includes mature and early successional habitats of these forest types. Pitcher plant bogs are near the borders of these pocosins.

Approximate Travel time: 45 minutes

Facilities: There are no restrooms here, but there are convenience stores on the way that provide restrooms, water, and snacks.

Access: Bring sunscreen, insect repellent, and water. There is a store in Awendaw that provides restrooms, food, and drinks. No fee.

Trip 29 – Orangeburg Sod Farms:

The Orangeburg Sod Farms are privately owned, allowing visitation by birders. This area is well known for its sometimes spectacular shorebird migration, with specialties such as American Golden-Plover, Upland Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper. Other local residents include grassland and open field species such as Northern Bobwhite, Common Ground-Dove, Horned Lark, Loggerhead Shrike and others. 135 species have been observed here in September, 22 of these shorebird species.

Approximate travel time: 45 minutes

Facilities: Restrooms and food stops will be available en route.

Access: Birding at the sod farms will involve mostly roadside stops but conditions can be muddy. Do not drive on the sod and birders must respect the grounds and work crews to have continued access to this area. No fee.

Trip 31 – Pitt St. Causeway/Patriot's Point:

These hotspots are in Mount Pleasant, SC. Pitt St. Causeway will be birded at low tide when the mudflats are exposed, attracting shorebirds, wading birds, terns and gulls. Reddish Egret is sometimes found here. 119 species have been observed here in September; 20 species of shorebirds, 14 species of terns/gulls, 18 species of wading birds, and is a great spot for swallows, wrens, warblers, and raptors during migration. Patriot's Point is nearby and is known for migrating passerines, and there is an observation platform overlooking the harbor for views of water birds and waterfowl.

Approximate Travel time: 45 minutes

Facilities: There are no restrooms at these places, but there are numerous convenience stores nearby with restrooms, food, snacks, and drinks.

Access: Bring sunscreen, insect repellent, and water. No fee.

Trip 32 – Edisto Nature Trail:

The Edisto Nature Trail is in Jacksonboro and is a nature trail maintained by Wesvaco Corporation. There are two loop trails, the longest being about 1.5 miles. Walking can be slippery and on uneven ground with roots. This area supports open mature pines, hardwood forests, bottomland hardwoods, and bald cypress stands. Forest species abound here; vireos, flycatchers, thrushes, warblers, and hawks and owls.

Approximate Travel time: 50 minutes

Facilities: There are no facilities, a truck stop is approximately 1 mile from the trailhead, with adequate restrooms, food, and drinks.

Access: Bring sunscreen, insect repellent, and water. No fee.

Trip 40 – Search for Rarities:

Attempts to relocate rarities that had been seen over the weekend

FULL DAY FIELD TRIPS

Trip 15 & 34 – Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge:

Located 20 miles from Charleston and accessed only by boat, Cape Romain NWR's 66,000-acre ecosystem of barrier islands and saltmarsh habitats extend 22 miles along the coast. This is the gem of the South Carolina coast and a must for birding in the low-country. This special resource is part of the Carolinian-South Atlantic Biosphere Reserve, being of international significance due to its high conservation value and educational importance. It was also recently designated part of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network. Participants on this trip will explore by boat the saltmarsh estuaries at different tides, seeking out concentrations of migrating shorebirds, marsh (sparrows and rails) and wading birds, gulls, and terns. After exploring the estuaries and marshes, we will then debark for land birding on Bulls Island where we hope to pick up migrating raptors and songbirds, including warblers, vireos, tanagers, flycatchers, etc. Our boat leaves at 7:30am and our estimated return is 3:30 PM to Garris Landing. Nearly 300 species have been observed here, with over 150 species observed in September. Please arrive 30 minutes prior to departure (7am). This field trip is a special charter through Coastal Expeditions and there is a \$40.00/person fee, and cash, check, and cards (fee) are accepted on site at Garris Landing.

Approximate travel time: 45 minutes to Garris Landing, located at the end of Bulls Island Road near the small village of Awendaw

Facilities: Public restroom at Garris Landing and near the Dominick House on Bulls Island.

Access: Some of our time will be spent on open water in a boat en route to Bulls Island. At Bulls Island, expect a long hike that is easy to moderate walking conditions and through loose, possibly muddy soils. Depending on weather, participants should prepare for full sun exposure and carry insect repellent. Bring any food, lunch, and water/drinks. \$40 fee.

Trips 16 & 37 – Bear Island Wildlife Management Area:

Managed by the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, Bear Island ranks as one of South Carolina's top birding destinations. It consists of 17,000 acres in the heart of the ACE Basin, a multi-partnered complex of significant wildlife resources and habitats. It is also an Important Bird Area. Bear Island consists of brackish managed wetlands, marshes, hardwood and pine forests, and open fields. It is accessed by miles of dikes that offer opportunities to see a variety of birds such as Mottled Duck, birds of prey including Barn Owl, Roseate Spoonbill, Wood Stork, American White Pelican, Least Bittern, American Avocet and others. Depending on water level conditions, Bear Island can be excellent for migrating shorebirds, and transient songbirds. 191 species have been recorded here in September.

Approximate travel time: 1 hour 15 minutes

Facilities: No public restrooms are available at Bear Island, though a truck stop is on the way in Jacksonboro. A small store at Bennett's Point has limited restroom facilities and available snacks and drinks. However, please prepare for no facilities after Jacksonboro, and bring lunch, drinks, and snacks.

Access: We will mostly be driving and walking dikes in the area. Participants should be prepared for full sun exposure and mosquitoes by wearing appropriate clothing, insect repellent, and sunscreen. No fee.

Trips 17 & 35 – Dewees Island:

Deweese Island is a private island that is zoned for Natural Resource Management. There is a conservation easement over the island and there are many ongoing conservation projects on the island with many local partners. Birding will be done by golf cart and access is by ferry. This island has pristine habitats of beach and dune, where at high tide shorebirds, terns, and gulls congregate. Other pristine habitats are the tidal marsh and maritime forest.

Old House Lagoon holds waterfowl, and wading birds are numerous, and this is one of the best spots for Roseate Spoonbill. During migration shorebirds abound, along with passerines in the forests, and raptors in the skies. 140 species have been observed here in September.

Approximate Travel time: 45 minutes

Facilities: Yes, at the Huyler House and the Nature Center.

Access: Access is by ferry which promptly leaves at 8am from the mainland and 330pm from the island, anyone late will be left behind with no access to ferry until the next hour. Bring sunscreen, insect repellent, and water. Bring lunch, snacks, and water/drinks for the day. Ferry fees have been waived.

Trip 18 – Black River Cypress Preserve:

Black River Cypress Preserve is in Georgetown County and is a private property being conserved by The Nature Conservancy. It is approximately 500 acres and includes extensive Bald Cypress stands in the Black River watershed. Other habitats include mature pine stands, bottomland hardwoods, and early successional shrub/scrub areas. This area is being developed for passive recreation and very much underbirded. Expected species are mature forest and early successional migrants, as well as the many resident species. 1000 year old cypress trees are here, as are many oxbow lakes. Forested wetland and forest species are numerous here, as are hawks and owls.

Approximate Travel Time: 1 hour 10 minutes

Facilities: There are restrooms at the entrance. Food, drink, and snacks should be obtained ahead of time or along the route.

Access: There are several miles of trails within the Preserve, all with relatively even surfaces. No fee.

Trips 19 & 38 – Santee Coastal Reserve and Delta:

Designated an Important Bird Area, Santee Coastal Reserve encompasses 24,000 acres of varied habitat including pine forests, freshwater, brackish and tidal wetlands, and agricultural fields. Look for species typical of longleaf ecosystems including Bachman's Sparrow and Red-cockaded Woodpecker. Waterfowl, rails, and a variety of marsh wading birds, bitterns, and migrating shorebirds and passerines are expected. The Big Well wetlands behind the office are now specifically managed for shorebirds. Santee Delta is an adjacent 1,700-acre resource containing remnant historic rice fields and bottomland hardwoods. It can be very good for rails and fall migrants. We will visit there if time permits. 162 species have been recorded here in September.

Approximate travel time: 1 hour 15 minutes

Facilities: No public restrooms available on site but efforts will be made to stop in McClellanville while en route where snacks and drinks are also available.

Access: Mostly birding by car on the entrance road to the office complex, but most by walking on dirt roads and dikes for substantial distances once parked. Participants should be prepared for mosquitoes by wearing appropriate clothing and insect repellent, and please bring sunscreen. Attendees are required to wear an orange hat, coat, or vest to comply with hunting regulations during these dates (archery deer season). No fee.

Trip 36 – Santee National Wildlife Refuge (Bluff and Pine Island Units):

The Bluff and Pine Island Units of the Santee National Wildlife Refuge encompass open water, hardwood and pine forests, freshwater marsh, cultivated fields, old fields, impoundments, and cypress swamps. This refuge is known for waterfowl and water birds, but during September, the forests, vine tangles, and fields are especially productive for migrating passerines and many grassland species. Waterbirds are also numerous at this time of the year and approximately 300 species have been observed on the refuge with over half being observed in September. Some waterfowl will be present but the main attraction at this time of the year are migrants, and due to the diversity of habitats, there will be an abundance of all groups of birds.

Approximate travel time: 30 minutes

Facilities: No public restrooms are available at the refuge but there is a nearby service station with facilities, and some food and drinks.

Access: Some birding is by car, but mostly on foot on trails and service roads. Participants should be prepared for mosquitoes by wearing appropriate clothing and insect repellent, and please bring sunscreen. No fee.

Summerville, SC Registration Form

**Registration Begins August 10, 2019 @ 2pm. Register online for
Best Availability of Field Trips at
www.carolinabirdclub.org.**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Field Trip Sign-Up	A.M. 1st/2nd Choice	P.M. 1st/2nd Choice	All Day 1st/2nd Choice
Friday	/	/	/
Saturday	/	/	/

Meeting Registration (Member) _____ x \$30 = \$ _____

Meeting Registration (Non-Member) _____ x \$35 = \$ _____

Buffet Dinner _____ Vegetarian option _____ x \$20 = \$ _____

Total Enclosed = \$ _____

Meeting registration at the door costs \$40.

Make check payable to Carolina Bird Club and send to:

CBC, 9 Quincy Place, Pinehurst, NC 28374

Club policy requires all field trip participants to comply with the field trip leader's assessment and requests concerning the physical ability of each participant to make or complete the trip.

I will release and discharge (and will not make a claim against) the Carolina Bird Club for injury, death, or property damage arising from my participation at this meeting and/or Club field trips. This release of liability is entered into on behalf of all members of my family, including all minors accompanying me. I certify that I am the parent or legal guardian of any such minors and that I am over 18 years of age.

Signature _____ Date _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Processing of mail-in registrations will not begin until online registration opens.

Pre-Registration ends September 21, 2019

Cancellations will be refunded if received by 6pm on September 13, 2019

Cancel by contacting the Headquarters Secretary at hq@carolinabirdclub.org.



Carolina Bird Club
www.carolinabirdclub.org

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Raleigh, NC 27612

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Upcoming CBC Meetings

Fall - Charleston, SC - September 26-29, 2019
Winter - Litchfield, SC - January 16-19, 2020
Spring - Black Mountain, NC - April 30-May 3, 2020

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**Deadlines for submissions are the 15th of
December, February, April, June, August, and October.**

www.carolinabirdclub.org

The *CBC Newsletter* is published bimonthly by Carolina Bird Club, Inc. Founded in 1937, the membership is open to anyone interested in birds, natural history, and conservation. **Current dues are:** Individual & non-profit, \$30; Family and Business, \$35; Student, \$15; Patron, \$50 and up; Life, \$500; Associate Life (in household with Life Member), \$100 (both Life memberships can be paid in four annual installments).

Membership dues include access to publications: the *CBC Newsletter* and *The Chat*, which is only available on line. Tax deductible as allowable by law.

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