



# CBC Newsletter

ISSN No. 0162-7120

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

Volume 70

Issue 3

June 2024

## Want to Get More Involved with the Club??

by Susan Campbell

The Carolina Bird Club is always looking for members eager to get more involved with our organization. We not only have leadership opportunities on our Board but several committees that are important to our mission.

We currently are very much in need of a new member for our Scholarships and Grants Committee. Craig Watson will be retiring soon. This is an active committee and a fun one! Members work with applications from bird oriented young people-- and make decisions about spending the club's money in support of their efforts. Please let Susan Campbell ([susan@ncaves.com](mailto:susan@ncaves.com)) know if you might be interested in joining this committee.

As per our bylaws, nominations for Board positions are announced in January each year with the election of new officers occurring at the Spring Meeting. With the exception of the Bird Records Committees, chairmanship and membership of our other committees occurs on a rolling basis.

It does not matter your age or how recently you have become a member, we would love to hear from you if you have an interest. Check out the website for more information about what positions and committees exist. Also feel free to reach out to one of our Board members if you have any questions.



**CBC Newsletter** (USPS# 023-534), June 2024, Volume 70, Number 3. Published bimonthly by the Carolina Bird Club, Inc., 1800 Meadow Ave., Banner Elk, NC 28604. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to *CBC Newsletter*, Carolina Bird Club, Inc., 1800 Meadow Ave., Banner Elk, NC 28604

## Fall "Meeting:" A New Concept for Our Seasonal Weekend in September

By Susan Campbell

We are excited to pilot a new type of gathering this fall! Instead of getting together at a single location in North or South Carolina, members will have the option to choose from one of six birding events spread across two consecutive Saturdays. At each location a leader will guide participants to local hotspots and experience fall migration at its finest. The Old North State hosts the first meet-up, on the 21st of September, and given the southerly nature of migration at this time of the year, our friends South of the Border will host an outing the 28th of September. And with options spread across two weekends, why not attend both! In each state we will have three areas where our "day trips" will occur: one each in the mountains, along the coast, and inland.

The North Carolina locations are Sparta (mountains), Raleigh/Durham (Piedmont) and Morehead City (coast). These are all wonderful fall birding locations and hosts of past seasonal meetings or bonus trips. From warbler waves in the mountains to migrant traps in the Triangle to shorebird flocks along the coast, opportunities abound to enjoy fun, fellowship, and maybe even a new species or two for your list.

In South Carolina, the locations will be Table Rock (mountains), Congaree (inner coastal plain) and Huntington Beach (coast). Carolina birders may recall fond memories of past seasonal meetings at each of these locations. Similar to the preceding Saturday, attendees have the option to choose from among three outstanding locations and attendant suites of birds.

It is our hope that offering several meet-up locations for a day of birding will result in new members, both local to these locations as well as those from further afield, as well as offer new and interesting options for existing supporters. Also, we would love to see opportunities for families of members who work and cannot manage our Friday to Sunday weekends join, which we hope are enhanced given the proposed format.

We also hope that we will be able to enlist local leaders who are both old and new to our seasonal meeting lineup. Fortunately, several members have already volunteered to lead a day's worth of birding in one of our chosen locations. It may be that there will be some optional birding on Friday and/or Sunday for those interested as well. You can rest assured that participants will be birding some of the best fall hotspots each area has to offer!

Although the Board is still firming up the details of this meeting format, we wanted to let everyone know the dates and birding destinations now in order so that you can make plans to attend. If you plan to travel from afar, you will need to make your own arrangements for lodging.

There will be more details about specific stops that will be included at each location in the next Newsletter. But if you have specific questions now (especially as it pertains to lodging options), feel free to contact me directly.



# In Appreciation of Carol Bowman

By Susan Campbell

In January, long-time Headquarters Secretary, Carol Bowman, stepped down after 11 years of service to the club. Carol's tireless efforts and enthusiasm for her work in support of "all things CBC" were exemplary. The current Club Board and I feel her retirement from the position cannot go unrecognized. And for those of you who do not know Carol well or are newer members, you may not realize how valuable she was to our organization.



Carol managed our day-to-day correspondence, finances and book-keeping. She also organized the contracts and all of the written materials for the three seasonal meetings a year. Furthermore, she attended all of the meetings to handle on-site check-in and registration. Carol also worked closely with the club Treasurer to produce quarterly reports. She worked closely with the club Board on a variety of miscellaneous tasks and initiatives. Although the position is officially part time, there were periods during the year when Carol most definitely worked more than full time hours!

Although I got to know Carol when we were both living in the Sandhills, I actually first met her when she and her husband Mel were still running their business in Charlotte. She introduced herself during an August hummingbird event and mentioned that they were planning on retiring to Pinehurst. At that point, she was very involved locally with Mecklenburg Audubon. Immediately after moving, not wanting retirement to

slow her down, Carol became a member of the local bird club (Moore County Bird Club which was to become the Sandhills Natural History Society). Among other things, she was one of the volunteers at Weymouth Woods that assisted with migratory bird banding. She remains a SNHS member as well as a Friend of Weymouth Woods. Carol continues as a team leader for the local Spring as well as the Christmas Bird Counts. Personally, I have lost track of the hours we have spent on trails at Weymouth, birding together.

When the Headquarters Secretary position opened in 2012, Carol enthusiastically applied. She had been a member of the CBC since 2004 and so knew the club pretty well. Having administrative experience in her work life, she felt very comfortable with the idea of supporting a small, non-profit organization. And clearly it was indeed a good fit!



In the fall of 2023, with not only her husband's cancer diagnosis but realizing that changes in computer technology were getting ahead of her, Carol made the difficult decision to step down from the Secretary position. But knowing that she knew the job better than anyone, we made sure she had a part in choosing her successor. Also, Carol made it clear that she planned to remain an active member of the club. So, I am confident that we will still see a lot of her in the future-- especially since she was awarded a Lifetime Membership (as well as a monetary award) at her retirement.



During the past couple months, I have received recollections from several of Carol's friends and colleagues who were on the Club Board with her over the years:

from Jared Miles (Treasurer): "I will say that Carol was always on top of everything! She knew everything that was going on with the Club at all times. And she was very patient with me as I worked to get the Treasurer's report ready every quarter. I will definitely miss working with her."

-and close friend Marjorie Ludwig writes: "Carol has many friends because **she is** a good friend herself. She's genuinely interested in friends' lives and being outgoing she easily attracts friends. She isn't judgmental about people, is dependable and always curious about learning something new. Those characteristics are just a few that made her a such an asset to CBC."

Furthermore, there are those that not only appreciated Carol's efforts on behalf of the club, but admired her late husband Mel's support and assistance. This from (past NC Vice President) Karyl Gabriel: "Samir and I remember Mel from our interactions at CBC meetings. He was always supportive, happily manning the table at CBC meetings so the rest of us could chase birds. We enjoyed the tasty baked treats he brought to help us through sometimes long CBC Board meetings. These were a surprise the first time; then we started expecting them! We mark his passing with sadness. We are glad to have crossed paths with him."



The torch has now been passed to Amanda Laurent who came to us with admittedly big shoes to fill. However, with her background in business, administration and the birding world, we imagine she is on her way to creating her own legacy with the club. Fortunately, Amanda has had Carol nearby as she has been adapting to her new role. We wish Amanda the best as she takes the wheel and helps steer the CBC valiantly into the future.



### **Opportunities for Young Birders**

**Carolina Bird Club offers scholarships for birders 19 and under living in the Carolinas, who are members of the Carolina Young Birders Club.**

**Scholarships provide assistance in attending bird-related events, such as camps, workshop, training programs or CBC seasonal meetings.**

**For more information, visit [www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://www.carolinabirdclub.org)**

### Please Submit Your Photos to the CBC Newsletter!

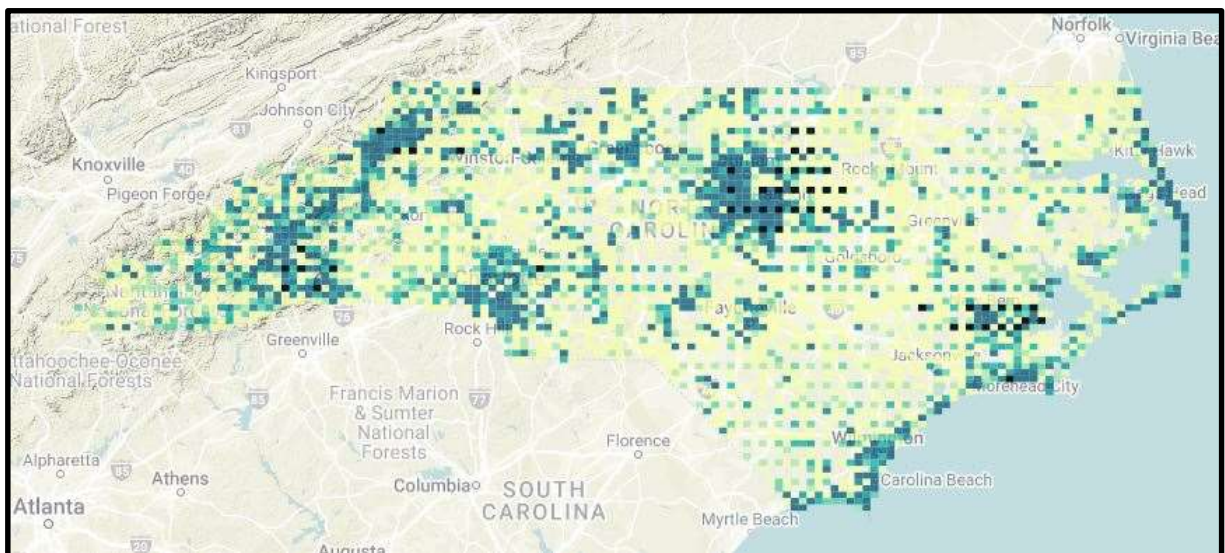
The CBC offers many great outings for its members, and many of you record your experiences with digital images taken in the field. Photos of birds, birders and habitats illustrate our collective experience and embellish our collective memory. Your photos of our events deserve to be seen in our newsletter, so please submit them to me as soon after an outing as you can. I can take care of cropping, resizing, and minor editing for sharpness and light balance, so don't worry if you are not a Photoshop master.

You may also choose to send me an email with an eBird checklist URL and direct me to whichever photos you wish to submit... I can capture them from eBird. I can't promise that I will always publish every photo, but there is almost always enough room. Oh... and don't forget to include captions that include the date, location as specific as possible, and the state and county.

*Steve Dowlan, Editor, CBC Newsletter*



### Progress Snapshot North Carolina Bird Atlas Project



*The black cells represent completed blocks as depicted on the eBird web site - <https://ebird.org/atlasnc/effortmap> on 2 May, 2024.*

# Wings Over Water

## October 22-27 and December 6-8, 2024 at the Outer Banks

By Susan Campbell

Join us for the 22nd annual wildlife festival on the North Carolina Outer Banks. Once again, a variety of trips, workshops and presentations will be offered, many of which will be focused on birds. Photography, art and birding will be amongst dozens of different options during the six-day event. Many of the program leaders are members of the CBC.



This year we are pleased to have Kenn Kaufman with us as our special guest and keynote speaker. A keen naturalist from the age of six, Kenn burst onto the birding scene as a teenager in the 1970s, pursuing birds all over North America—an adventure later chronicled in his cult-classic book *Kingbird Highway*. After several years as a professional bird tour leader, taking groups to all seven continents, he transitioned to a career as a writer, editor, and illustrator. Most of his energy currently goes into writing books and painting bird portraits. The newest of his 14 books, *The Birds That Audubon Missed*, will be published in May 2024. Kenn is a field editor for the National Audubon

Society, a Fellow of the American Ornithological Society, and the only person to have received the American Birding Association's lifetime achievement award twice.

On Saturday evening, Kenn will be speaking about his latest project: a book that is hitting shelves in early May. Two centuries ago, a handful of naturalists trekked around eastern North America, competing to find the last few bird species still unknown to the European tradition of science. What was that experience like for them? Kenn Kaufman delved into that period in history as research for his newest book, *The Birds That Audubon Missed*, and found surprising connections to our own time. Despite all the changes in the world, the adventures of those pioneers have many parallels in the experience of birding today. In this program, Kenn will celebrate discovery and rediscovery, the lure of the unknown, the complexity of nature, and the endless power of birds to delight and amaze us.

Online registration will open in June. For more information, go to [www.wingsoverwater.org](http://www.wingsoverwater.org). The Carolina Bird Club is an event sponsor.

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### *Carolina Bird Club Spring Meeting at Charleston, SC*



*Great Egret nestlings at Seabrook Island, Charleston County, South Carolina, 26 April 2024*



*Male Painted Bunting at the Observation Tower, Santee National Wildlife Refuge, Bluff Unit, Clarendon County, South Carolina, 27 April 2024*

## Upcoming Birding Festivals in the Eastern United States

### **Cape May Spring Festival, May 16-19, 2024 at Cape May, New Jersey**

Have fun on birding field trips, boat rides, and more—including live music and a food truck with yummy local fare. This festival also features a music-and-multimedia performance by five local composers. [njaudubon.org/cape-may-spring-festival](https://njaudubon.org/cape-may-spring-festival)

### **Indiana Dunes Birding Festival, May 16-19, 2024 at Indiana Dunes National Park Visitor Center, 1215 N. State Road 49, Porter, Indiana**

Peruse the Lake Michigan shoreline, with its rich biodiversity and countless bird species. This birding festival celebrates the area with plenty of birdwatching events and environmental and conservation educational opportunities. [indunesbirdingfestival.com](https://indunesbirdingfestival.com)

### **Rangeley Birding Festival, June 7-9, 2024 at Rangeley, Maine**

Known for its Boreal Chickadees, Boreal Forest is part of the Rangeley region of Maine, and home of this beloved bird festival. It's the perfect place and time to spot migrating and breeding warblers on the event's many birding trips and tours. Other fun activities include a bird-themed trivia night. [rangeleybirdingfestival.com](https://rangeleybirdingfestival.com)

### **Florida Birding and Nature Festival, October 17-20, 2024 at Tampa Bay, Florida**

At this Tampa Bay birding event, you'll experience field and boat trips, seminars and talks led by wildlife experts, and a free nature expo where you can shop unique products. [floridabirdingandnaturefestival.org](https://floridabirdingandnaturefestival.org)

### **North Shore Birding Festival, December 5-9, 2024 at various locations around Lake Apopka North Shore in Central Florida**

Go on birding field trips around Central Florida and spot local favorites like owls and woodcocks. Enjoy nature walks and workshops by day, and catered dinners featuring keynote speakers by night, at this top eBird hotspot where almost 370 bird species have been sighted. [northshorebirdingfestival.com](https://northshorebirdingfestival.com)





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**Banner Elk, NC 28604**

**Periodicals Postage Paid**  
**at Banner Elk, NC 28604**  
**and additional mailing offices**

## Upcoming CBC Meetings

***Fall Meeting at Various Locations in SC and NC – September 21 and September 28, 2024***  
***Winter Meeting at Emerald Isle, NC – January 16-19, 2025 in***

### CBC Board Members

#### **President**

Susan Campbell, Apex, NC  
susan@ncaves.com

#### **Vice Presidents**

Christine Stoughton-Root, Merritt, NC  
Katie Greenberg, Arden, NC  
Julie Davis, Pawleys Island, SC

#### **Secretary**

Karaleah Reichart, Raleigh, NC

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Robert Lewis, Durham, NC  
Paul Laurent, Banner Elk, NC

#### **SC Members-at-Large**

Richard Hayes, Charleston, SC  
Jennifer Roberts, Columbia, SC

**Immediate Past President:** Steve Tracy, Apex, NC

**Editor of The Chat:** Steve Shultz, Apex, NC

**Website Editor:** Kent Fiala, Hillsborough, NC

**Headquarters Secretary:** Amanda Laurent, Banner Elk, NC,  
hq@carolinabirdclub.org

**CBC Newsletter Editor:** Steve Dowlan, Vilas, NC,  
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**Deadlines for submission of Volume 70, Issue 4 is**  
**June 15, 2024**

**[www.carolinabirdclub.org](http://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.

Cost for CBC bird checklists, including postage: 10@\$5.45, 25@\$13.40, 50@\$27.00, and 100@\$54.00.

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