



# Friendly, fun, and Informative Bird Watching

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[www.southernoceanbirdinggroup.org](http://www.southernoceanbirdinggroup.org)

## Cape May Week

Everyone had a great time at the Cape May house, which is always fun and with delicious food. Birding was a bit slow as the winds were not cooperating, but we did manage to see about 150 species. The weather was beautiful and a few of us took a whale watch, which turned up no whales, but lovely on the water.



## Field Trips

- **October 19**—Cape May Hawk Watch and Avalon SeaWatch. Meet at Hawk Watch at 9:30 a.m. Rest of day on your own.
- **November 9**—Cedar Bonnet Island, Forsythe NWR, and Cedar Run Dock Road. Meet at parking lot for Bonnet Island at 8 a.m.
- **December 14**—Tuckerton Christmas Bird Count

## November 7 Meeting



Our next meeting is November 7, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. at the Hunting Shanty of Tuckerton Seaport.

Our November meeting will be ***"Exploring the JC NERR and the Great Bay-Mullica River Estuary"*** presented by Kaitlin Gannon, Education Coordinator for the Jacques Cousteau NERR.

The Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve (JC NERR) is one of the 29 National Estuarine Research Reserves created to promote the responsible use and management of the nation's estuaries through a program combining scientific research, education, and stewardship. In this presentation, we will discuss the variety of terrestrial, wetland and aquatic habitats within the Reserve as well as current research, education, and stewardship initiatives. This is an informative program that all will enjoy. Light refreshments will be available.

## Feathers and Eggs

- **Forsythe NWR Big Year**  
[https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Edwin\\_B\\_Forsythe/visit/visitor\\_activities.html](https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Edwin_B_Forsythe/visit/visitor_activities.html)
- **Birds and Brews—October 29, 5-8 p.m.**  
Details on our FB page
- **Holiday Party scheduled for Dec. 5** Details to follow

## Evenings at Forsythe

The next Evenings at Forsythe is November 21, 6:30-8 p.m. at the Visitor Information Center. Program with our own Alex Majewski on Cedar Bonnet Island.

## Day Trip to Mt. Evans

By Nancy Gallagher

After the heat in Arizona, the lower temperature on Mt. Evans (elevation 14,270 feet) was a welcome relief. When Sue and I arrived, we spent a short time looking for birds around Echo Lake. Finding only a few, we soon started driving up the road to the top of



the mountain. Luckily for me, since Sue had rented the car, she was the one at the wheel. The steep, curvy roads in Yosemite unnerved me last year, but on the road up Mt. Evans, with

NO guardrails and barely wide enough for the two-way traffic, I closed my eyes, sure that at any moment I would feel myself floating as we sailed over the edge. Obviously, Sue's expert driving got safely to the top and back.

At the top it took a few minutes to find a space in the crowded lot. All the stress on the drive up was worth it for the spectacular views, including one of Pike's



Peak. However, we were disappointed we'd seen so few birds or other wildlife, so it was a pleasant surprise when a mountain goat crossed our path near the restrooms. It met another goat and the two began digging in the dirt. Soon several tourists had

gathered to watch them. One bozo edged his way to the goats until jeering shoed the man away.



At the beginning of the drive down, we saw both mountain goats and bighorn sheep. It was doubtful we'd see more of them farther down, so Sue parked, and we

photographed a few from a distance.

We stopped at Summit Lake, hoping to find a reported Brown-capped Rosy-finch. The lake provided good photo opportunities as we walked on



the trail near it, searching for the finch. No luck finding the bird, but moseying

back to the car, something caught my eye. I looked up to see a herd of bighorn sheep quite close.



Our last stops that day were to see a variety of brightly colored wildflowers and the bristlecone pine, which can live 2,000 years in The Dos Chappell Nature Center garden and a least chipmunk.

## Wings Over LBI

We are looking to go in a new direction for Wings Over LBI and need a few volunteers to help plan it. It will be a temporary committee, so let us know if you'd like to help.



Friends in Southern Ocean  
Birding Group (group)