



Friendly, fun, and Informative Bird Watching

November 2021 Issue 51

southernoceanbirdinggroup.org Due to Covid, all in person meetings at the Tuckerton Seaport are cancelled for the foreseeable future, but we are hoping that we can all get back together for meeting in the spring.

Annual Dues for 2022

Dues for 2022 are due from now until December 2021. Singles are \$20, and couples are \$35 for the year. You can send a check, payable to Southern Ocean Birding Group, to: SOBG, c/o Jeanine Apgar, 206 N. Frankfurt Ave, Egg Harbor City, NJ 08215. **Online Paypal is available for renewals, new memberships, and donations on our website.**

SOBG Holiday Party



The SOBG Holiday Party is scheduled for December 2. at Carol & Dave Yorkanis's home, 6-8 p.m. Today is the last day to sign up to attend.

Field Trips

- December 18—Tuckerton Christmas Bird Count
- January 22—Shark River, Northern Ponds (targets: waterfowl, gulls, alcid)

The Executive Committee has revamped how field trip locations will be determined on several trips next year. We are setting dates with target species and will select locations about a week before to help ensure that we look for them in the best locations at that time, using eBird info to make the determinations.

January 6, 2022 Virtual Meeting

We will have a virtual Zoom Meeting on **January 6, 2022** at 7 p.m, with a presentation on “*Greg and Pete’s Excellent Adventure to Columbia*”, with Greg Prelich and Pet Mooney. Details will follow in next month’s newsletter.

A Zoom invite will be sent the end of December. In the meantime, stay safe and get vaccinated. Only vaccinated people will be allowed into indoor events.

Tuckerton Christmas Bird Count

By Morry Kapitan, Vice President

On Saturday, December 18th the Tuckerton Circle will hold its Christmas Bird count for 2021. This is a notice for the event and a call for participants.

Every year the National Audubon Society conducts this event, and the Tuckerton Circle count is organized by the Southern Ocean Birding Group. The CBC is the longest running citizen science project in North America. The purpose is to identify bird species that are present, and the data is subsequently used conservation activities and other research.

This will be a fun event and both new and experienced birders can help out. Participants will be organized into groups and look for birds from dawn to dusk.

I will be organizing the teams and assigning count sectors in advance of the count and emailing out the count materials. More details will follow once I know who will be participating. If you can't attend for the whole day that is fine. Your choices are all day, morning, or afternoon.

We usually meet at the Dynasty Diner in Tuckerton for lunch. If you want to skip lunch that is fine. Also, if you are fully vaccinated, Nancy Lynch has offered to host a post count meetup at her home with pizza and soda to discuss the count at 5pm. Sunset looks to be at about 4:33pm on the count day.

Please let me know if you can attend and for which portions of the day. Contact me at:
mlkapitan@me.com

Looking Forward to 2022

With the new year arriving before you know it, the SOBG Executive Committee has been working hard to plan for 2022. We expect that Zoom meetings will probably continue until Spring at the minimum. We are dependent on when the Tuckerton Seaport will open the Hunting Shanty.

As you may have read before, we are using a suggestion from Nancy Gallagher to set locations for upcoming field trips that aren't set by previous events; e.g., Wings Over LBI and the Tuckerton CBC. This will give us more flexibility to travel to the best locations to find our target species.

As we are still Zooming, we are looking for out of state presenters for programs, at least for the near future.

We are also looking a way to post the videos of some programs on our website so those who couldn't attend can view them.

The SOBG Calendar should be updated in the next few weeks with program dates along with dates for field trips and target species.

We will be renting the same Cape House as this year, either the last week in September or first in October. More details will follow next year.

It has been another difficult year dealing with Covid, and we appreciate everyone's understanding and help during the year to make our programs and trips successful.

We wish everyone a happy and healthy Holiday Season.

Field Trip to Cape May and Avalon-- November 6



MATES Scholarship Fundraiser

April 22, 2022, is the date for our fundraiser at the Long Beach Island Foundation. Save the date.



Friends in Southern Ocean Birding Group (group)