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### SPECIAL ISSUE ON AVIAN MIGRATION

Migration enriches our experience of birds. Its predictable functioning in the annual cycles of so many bird species gives us the seasonal variety of our local avifauna. Its aberrations bring us the unexpected species that add to the zest of our birding. Yet these are just the superficial effects of migration. The pageant itself enriches our experience with vivid images: great flocks of waterfowl streaming past against the high clouds or along the horizon of the sea, kettles of hawks soaring up and lifting away over a mountain top, a coastal night fog alive with the calls of warblers striking out to the ocean and leaving behind their last source of sustenance for thousands of miles. Such experiences fill us with wonder and incite our curiosity to questions that even today pose difficult challenges for science. We hope that the articles in this issue will add to your awareness and understanding of this remarkable aspect of bird behavior.

H.C.F.

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### WHERE AND WHEN TO SEND FIELD RECORDS

In order to be processed, all field records for any given month must be submitted PROMPTLY and NOT LATER THAN the eighth of the following month to:

RUTH EMERY, 225 Belmont Street, Wollaston, MA 02170.

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**Autumn Migration and  
Cape Cod Ecology:  
A Natural History Workshop**

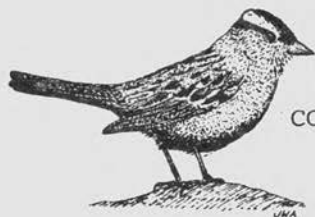
**Leader: Wayne R. Petersen**

Cape Cod, with its unique ecology and its strategic location for the observation of migrating birds, is an ideal area for the study of Massachusetts natural history at its finest. In the fall, birds of many species arrive on the outer Cape from virtually all points of the compass, and under proper conditions, the concentrations and variety can be spectacular. Overlay this phenomenon on the background of a fascinating geological history that has helped shape today's existing plant communities, and the result is what has made Cape Cod a mecca for ornithologists and naturalists for generations.

In this unique natural history workshop, BIRD OBSERVER introduces a new concept in its developing workshop series. An evening session will consider the factors that have made the Cape's natural areas what they are today as well as describe the dynamics of Cape Cod bird migration. Several major outer Cape plant communities will be outlined as well as the main groups of midfall bird migrants. A follow-up all day field trip will explore several important outer Cape habitat types where fall migrants will be sought in the context described in the indoor session. For the "hardcore," the day will end with an optional hike to the Race Point - Hatches Harbor area that should allow for some interesting outer coast sea-bird observation.

**LEADER: Wayne R. Petersen**

**DATES: Evening Session: Wednesday, October 12  
8-9:30 P.M. at First Church in  
Belmont Unitarian Universalist  
404 Concord Avenue, Belmont, MA  
Field Trip: Saturday, October 15;  
(rain date, October 16)**



**COST: \$25. Mail check to Bird Observer,  
462 Trapelo Road, Belmont, MA 02178.  
Mark envelope Cape Cod Workshop.  
Workshop limited to 20.**