

The page is framed by a decorative border of autumn-themed illustrations. On the left side, there are several leaves in shades of orange, red, and brown, along with a dark brown acorn. On the right side, there are more leaves in red and brown, and a dark brown acorn. At the bottom, there are more leaves in orange, red, and brown, and a dark brown acorn. The background is a light cream color.

SOAR Recaps

September 20th 2025

What a difference a day makes—or in our case two weeks. On Sep 6 at Pine Hill, we met the “Fallon minimum” by logging 33 species. Two weeks later we had more birders than birds, as Sharon and I were joined by Jean, Lisa, Becky, MJ and Ed, Jeff and Sue, the other Jean and Larry, Joan and Mike, Sandy, Tom, and Buttonwood’s own Shawna.

From the parking lot our only sightings were numerous blue jays and two distant mystery birds, a backlit woodpecker and a small sparrow-sized backlit bird, neither of which we could positively ID. As we entered the woods it was strangely quiet.

We did sight a titmouse, saw a crow (later identified as American) fly overhead, and heard a pileated woodpecker. We also had a look at a downy woodpecker. That would be it until we got to the “hot spot” from our previous walk.

The hot spot turned out to be lukewarm at best. We added a flicker and observed a white-breasted nuthatch where we had seen a red-breasted before. There were a few warblers hiding in the treetops making IDs difficult. We finally settled on magnolia and Cape May (both seen on the previous walk) and a Blackburnian. We saw a flock of starlings fly by and watched a turkey vulture soar overhead. That was it for the wooded part of our walk.

I saw a black vulture overhead on our drive out of the park, bringing our “grand” total to 13, our all-time low. We are hoping for a better result on our October 4 walk at Buttonwood Nature Center.

**NEXT SOAR WALK: OCTOBER 4TH
AT BUTTONWOOD NATURE CENTER**

Species List

American Crow
Black Vulture
Blackburnian Warbler
Blue Jay
Cape May Warbler
European Starling
Magnolia Warbler

Northern Cardinal
Northern Flicker
Pileated Woodpecker
Tufted Titmouse
Turkey Vulture
White-breasted
Nuthatch



Blackburnian Warbler



Cape May Warbler



Magnolia Warbler



Northern Flicker



Northern Cardinal



Tufted Titmouse