



COMING EVENTS

● **Sunday, November 25, 2007, 9:00 a.m. - Outing to Cobourg Harbour and Lucas Point**

This late fall/early winter outing will start with a check of the waterfowl activity at Cobourg Harbour, followed by a short walk at Lucas Point. We will meet at the Cobourg Harbour parking lot, west of the Yacht club building near the ecology garden. From the harbour, we will carpool/follow each other to the parking area at Lucas Point and will follow the trail from there to look for wildlife in the parkland and waterfowl on the lake. For more information, contact Ben Walters at benjaminwalters@trentu.ca or 905-885-8586.

● **Friday, November 30, 2007, 7:30 p.m., Terry Fox Public School, 1065 Riddell Ave., Cobourg**
Speaker: **David Bree**, Natural Heritage Education Leader, Presqu'île Provincial Park. Topic: **Bon Echo, Sandbanks and Charleston Provincial Parks**. Join David on a trip to three provincial parks he has worked at in the past. He will determine the essential controlling geologic element of each park and examine how that element determines the unique assemblage of flora and fauna found in each park.

Christmas Bird Counts. This count involves a long day in the field, followed by a pot luck dinner to compile the list of birds and share stories of birds encountered. For both of the following counts, feeder watchers are welcome to participate. If you are unsure, contact the compiler to see whether your feeder is within the count circle. For Port Hope-Cobourg, feeder watchers can phone their sighting to Norma Wallace at 905-885-9615.

● **Saturday, December 15, 2007, Port Hope-Cobourg Christmas Bird Count.** For more information, contact Roger Frost, 905-885-9615 or ekrf@eagle.ca

● **Sunday, December 16, 2007, Presqu'île-Brighton Christmas Bird Count.** For more information, contact Maureen Riggs, 613-475-3604 or mriggs@sympatico.ca

● **Friday, January 25, 2008, 7:30 p.m., Beatrice Strong Public School, 90 Rose Glen Rd., Port Hope**
Speaker: **Ben Walters**. Topic: **Nest studies in the Ganaraska Forest**

The next Curlew will be published in January 2008. Copy deadline is December 31, 2007. Please contact Roger Frost with your sightings at 905-885-9615 or ekrf@eagle.ca or Norma Wallace at 905-885-9615

ADVANCE NOTICE FOR 2008 AGM

A fundraising silent auction will be held at the February 2008 AGM instead of our annual raffle. No selling or buying tickets! Just bid on the item(s) you really want. There will be something for everyone, new or slightly used items, inexpensive or not! Louise Schmidt is collecting the items to be auctioned off. Already, she has a Glen Loates print, books and other items generously donated by Don Davis. Louise suggests that the items for auction could also be a service. Use your imagination. Anyone wishing to donate an item for the auction can reach Louise at 905-797-1059 or wingbeat@xplornet.com.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Dave and Norma Draper, Port Hope
Ute and Guenter Keitsch, Port Hope

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

● We are sorry to report the death in late October of long-time member Doug Watkins. Sympathy is extended to his wife, Marie, and to the family.

PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT NO. 40790538
RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSED TO
BOX 421
PORT HOPE, ON L1A 3Z3

THE WILLOW BEACH FIELD NATURALISTS

Past Pres.	Bryan Baxter	905-372-6273	bbaxter@eagle.ca
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Curlew Ed.	Norma Wallace	905-885-5552	
	Elizabeth Kellogg	905-885-9615	ekrf@eagle.ca

The editor is most grateful to those who have contributed to this issue of the Curlew. Copy for the January 2008 issue should be received by December 31, 2007. Rare or interesting sightings should be reported to Elizabeth Kellogg and Roger Frost at 905-885-9615, ekrf@eagle.ca, or Norma Wallace (885-5552) for the January Curlew. Correspondence for WBFN should be addressed to: "The Willow Beach Field Naturalists, P.O. Box 421, Port Hope, ON L1A 3Z3."

Gleanings from the Northumberland Bird Database

THE ATLAS THEN AND NOW - 3

by Clive E. Goodwin

This is the concluding article on the Northumberland results of the two breeding bird atlases, and this month we'll look at those species that have increased since 1985. Readers who have been following the results so far will recall that many 'increases' seemed to be the result of better coverage on the 2005 atlas. I identified these mainly by the fact that there was often a marked difference in the results between the west and east of the region, with the relatively more remote north-easterly squares having poorer results in 1985.

Results, however, differ by species, and some seem to have increased in Northumberland generally, even if their numbers elsewhere are reported as no more than stable, or even declining [the latest atlas results for Ontario as a whole are not, of course, available at the time of writing]. Better coverage could well still be the explanation for species like the woodland raptors [the three accipiters and Broad-winged Hawk] showing some increases: they are elusive birds, especially near the nest. Similarly with Virginia Rail and Sora, where the added use of tape confirmations could also have helped in 2005. But I'm at a loss to explain why we had almost no Hooded Mergansers on the first atlas, or the reason for a dramatic increase in the number of Alder Flycatcher reports. However, a review of the maps in the 1981-5 atlas suggest that both of these were probably more a reflection of coverage problems locally last time than any real absence.

I don't think the same can be said for the increases in some coniferous woodland species.

There are a number: Red-breasted Nuthatch, Blue-headed Vireo, Hermit Thrush, Pine, Yellow-rumped, Black-throated Green, and Blackburnian Warblers, and Purple

Finch. All show increases; some, like the vireo, are quite dramatic. It was found in only one square before, while in 2005 it was confirmed in that square and recorded in a further 12. I think it's reasonable to conclude that the maturing of the extensive coniferous reforestation that occurred in the county had created new or improved habitat for a range of species that were previously uncommon or absent. It's possible Winter Wren and Canada Warbler are also part of this group.

Black-throated Blue Warbler is more of an enigma, as it is principally a bird of the understory in mixed and deciduous forest. In 1985 it bred mainly north of a line drawn from the bottom of Georgian Bay eastwards, running just north of the Kawarthas. In 2001 it seemingly expanded dramatically: from no records in the first atlas there were 12, with three confirmed. By 2003 there was something of a retrenchment, and the bird had vanished from a number of the squares where it had initially been found. The atlas cannot show this decline, but it will be interesting to see if the text account picks it up, and indeed what it will have to say.

There is no ambiguity about the increases in Canada Goose, Mute Swan, Wild Turkey and House Finch. All owe their abundance to introductions, either intentional or [in the case of House Finch] accidental. The main goose introductions in Ontario were in the 1960's [one wonders how those responsible view the present situation], the swan has increased from an estimated 1985 atlas total of 120 wild birds, while the turkey had a small population in the east of the county which predated the extensive releases since.

Human agency of a different kind accounts for most of the expansion of the next group of birds – they are all recovering from

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declines. Their recoveries were already occurring in 1985, and have continued since. Double-crested Cormorants, Ospreys and Bald Eagle had all suffered from eggshell thinning in the DDT era, while Sandhill Crane populations had been extirpated in the south of the Province much earlier. Raven likely falls into this group as well, as it suffered from the practice of baiting predators with poisoned carcasses. The dramatic expansion of Merlin, while it might be partly a result of this species becoming acclimatized to breeding in close proximity to man, also may reflect the cessation of earlier persecution and eggshell thinning.

Global warming is already showing its effects as southerners such as Red-bellied Woodpecker, Carolina Wren, Louisiana Waterthrush, Hooded Warbler and Orchard Oriole are all showing signs of expanding their ranges into the county. Some of these expansions are very preliminary indeed – the waterthrush, for example, had one Probable and one Possible Breeding record, while Hooded Warbler had only three Possibles – but there were no records of either within some 100 km. in 1985. The woodpecker and wren both have longer histories here, but as both are mainly resident birds, they are sensitive to severe winter weather. Red-bellied Woodpeckers were found in three squares on the first atlas. In 2005 we had eight records, including two confirmations, but birds were not found in the three 1985 squares, reflecting the rather impermanent nature of the colonization. Similarly, the three Carolina Wren records in the recent atlas included one confirmation at a location where the species had been present for three years, but it was absent there in 2006-7. No birds were found at all in 1981-5. It seems we can expect colonization by these southerners to be a slow process.

Two other birds whose increases just might be a reflection of our warming weather are Turkey Vulture and Great Egret. I'll be

discussing the egret more fully in a coming *Gleanings*, but the vulture was already quite well established here last time. However, we had 10 confirmations in the latest atlas versus only four before, and the original expansion [before global warming became fashionable] was also felt to be in part a consequence of warmer weather.

Which brings me finally to the much-studied duo of Golden and Blue-winged Warbler. These birds hybridize freely where their ranges overlap, with the hybrids ['Brewster's' and 'Lawrence's' Warblers] being fertile and the back-crosses creating a confusing melee of intermediate plumages. But the Blue-winged proves to be the eventual winner in this process, and it has been gradually replacing the Golden-winged across much of the latter's former range. I had anticipated this might show up in the atlas results, although the matter is complicated by the fact that these birds typically occur in 'transitional' habitats. A good example is in Peter's Woods, where Golden-winged used to occur in the small pines fringing the north side of the woods proper – in fact, one of the few nesting confirmations in the county came from there, although sadly not during an atlas period. Now, however, the trees have either grown up or died, and the area is no longer suitable. Neither species is particularly easy to atlas; although the songs are very distinctive the birds do not sing for long either during the day or over the period, and they are uncommon birds at best.

Golden-winged were recorded in five squares in 1981-5, but in eight in the latest survey. Only in two squares were the birds found on both atlases, and there were no confirmations on either survey. The apparent increase was mainly from the east of the county, but the results do confirm that birds are still present here.

The real change is with Blue-winged. Only one square recorded the birds on the

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first atlas, but there were 10 this time, although only one was confirmed as breeding. In five squares both species were present, although fully half were only 'Possible' records. So we have a part of the evolving story of these two species, and the atlas itself doubtless will be able to give us a more com-

prehensive picture.

That, of course, is the case with all of these species where Northumberland has experienced changes in status. If the publication schedule of fall 2007 is on time the Atlas may already be available, or due to appear very soon. It promises to provide a fascinating picture of birdlife in our Province.

Northern Saw-whet Owl Band Recovery

Bird banders are always pleased to get a report of a bird that they have banded, but this is certainly an unusual report.

On October 17, 2007, a dead Northern Saw-whet Owl was found by Sandra Shearer, a colleague of Dorothy Geale at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in Peterborough. It was in the grille of a GMC van in a parking lot at the corner of Aylmer and King Streets. The owl was wearing band #0924-15364. John Geale sent this information to the Bird Banding Office of the Canadian Wildlife Service.

The Bird Banding Office responded promptly with the information that the bird had been banded on October 13, 2004 as a Hatch Year female, but they did not include a location.

Elizabeth Kellogg posted the band number on Sawwhetnet, a listserv for owl banders and had an immediate response. David Okines from Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory reported that the bird had been banded there.

This bird, then, was hatched in 2004 so had three potential breeding seasons before meeting the GMC van. It would be interesting to know where the van had traveled from.

- John Geale and Elizabeth Kellogg

Northumberland Land Trust

*“An Evening on the Burning Plains”
Gala Dinner*

&

Annual General Meeting

With a Report from NLT President, Dr. Doug Galt

Thursday, January 31, 2008
The Alderville Community Centre,
Roseneath, 8913A County Road 45, Ontario

6.00p.m. Cocktails and “Silent Auction”
6.30p.m. Annual General Meeting
7.00p.m. “Traditional Welcome”
7.15p.m. Dinner

Special Guest Speaker

Councillor Dave Mowat, Alderville First Nations
The Story of Alderville and the Black Oak Savanna

Entertainment

Sugar Island Singers, Alderville Youth Drum Group

Tickets available from:

Russell Lake 905 372-3638, Frankie Liberty 905 885-2517,
Dr. Doug Galt 905 355-2394, or Joan Chalovich 905 372-5194

\$50 per person (tax receipt for \$25)

Or mail your cheque payable to Northumberland Land Trust,
c/o Elisabeth M. La Fontaine, P.O. Box 28, Grafton, ON, K0K 2G0
905.349.9990 x 1

KIRTLAND'S WARBLER PAIR BREEDING CANADA

This summer, scientists were thrilled to confirm a pair of Kirtland's Warblers breeding in Ontario. The pair nested at Canadian Forces Base Petawawa in eastern Ontario. This is the first time since 1945 that this critically endangered species has been detected breeding in Canada, and the first time ever that an actual nest has been located in Canada. The family group was carefully trapped and colour banded.

To protect the breeding birds from potential disturbance, their existence and location remained a closely guarded secret until recently, when the birds migrated to the Bahamas for the winter. The nest and two unviable eggs that were left behind have been donated to the Royal Ontario Museum, with the permission of Environment Canada.

The Kirtland's warbler does not normally breed outside of Michigan, but this year in addition to the Petawawa nest, others were found in Wisconsin. The population has been slowly recovering from its all-time low of about 200 in the 1970s, and with confirmed nesting in these new locations in 2007, we hope to see the population continue to expand in the years to come.

- reprinted from Bird Studies Canada e-newsletter, November 9, 2007

The Wilds of Ward St.

There are up to seven squirrels that benefit from the sloppy eating habits of birds that do their free-loading at the two feeders, back of my lot on Ward St. (Port Hope). They gorge on the ground below the feeders. And they are highly entertaining to watch, scampering naughtily after each other, bouncing from one pine branch to another before suddenly giving up the chase for a decent meal. I say "naughtily" because there are two grey squirrels who must have difficulty explaining themselves to their room-mates. One, the elder of the two, was obviously meant to be grey, but its coat has a distinct reddish-brown tint to it, and its tail is very definitely reddish-brown. The second, I believe is younger, a bit smaller than the first, and is a somewhat paler gray and brownish-red than his/her older chum. But both are definitely red-tailed grey squirrels. Oh, what transpires in the wilds of Ward St.!

- Ian Tate

RECENT SIGHTINGS

compiled by Roger Frost

Brant	Oct. 16	~60	Presqu'ile PP	FH, OntBirds
	Oct. 28	3	Cobourg Harbour - high count	CEG
Cackling Goose	Oct. 28	1	Cobourg Harbour	CEG
Tundra Swan	Nov. 1	1	Presqu'ile PP	FH, OntBirds
Gadwall	Oct. 25	55	Presqu'ile PP	FH, OntBirds
Blue-winged Teal	Oct. 10	3	Presqu'ile PP	FH, OntBirds
	Oct. 15	1	Cobourg Harbour	LW
Northern Pintail	Sept. 30	2	off Cobourg Harbour	
Canvasback	Oct. 26	1	Presqu'ile PP	FH, OntBirds
Surf Scoter	Oct. 7	4	Lucas Point, Cobourg	MB
White-winged Scoter	Oct. 14	24	off Lake St. Marsh, PH	EK, RF
Black Scoter	Oct. 24	2	off PH west beach	EK
	Oct. 25	2	Presqu'ile PP	FH, OntBirds
Long-tailed Duck	Sept. 30	22	off Cobourg Harbour	LW
	Oct. 26	63	Cobourg Harbour - high count	CEG
Red-breasted Merganser	Oct. 24	3000+	off PH west beach	EK
	Oct. 31	2000+	off Cobourg west beach	MB
	Nov. 1	1000	off D'Arcy St., Cobourg	BL
Ruffed Grouse	Oct. 1	2	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2	LS
Red-throated Loon	Oct. 5, 7	2	Lucas Point, Cobourg	MB
	Oct. 22	1	off Cobourg west headland	MB
	Oct. 26	~6	Presqu'ile PP	FH, OntBirds
Common Loon	Oct. 11	156	Lucas Point, Cobourg	MB
	Oct. 14	200	off Lake St. Marsh, PH	EK, RF
	Oct. 22	289	off Cobourg west headland	MB
	Oct. 23	736	off Cobourg Harbour	CEG
Pied-billed Grebe	Oct. 6	1	Cobourg Harbour	LW
	Oct. 24	1	PH yacht basin	EK
Horned Grebe	Oct. 5, 7	20+	Wicklow Beach	MB
	Oct. 15	140	Presqu'ile PP - high count	FH, OntBirds
Red-necked Grebe	Oct. 5, 7	3	Wicklow Beach	MB
	Oct. 6	2	off Cobourg Harbour	LW
	Oct. 15	2	off Cobourg Harbour	CEG
Double-crested Cormorant	Oct. 30	~200	off Cobourg Harbour	BL
American Bittern	Oct. 7	1	Wicklow Beach marsh	MB
	Oct. 27-31	1	Presqu'ile PP	FH, OntBirds
Turkey Vulture	Oct. 12	75+	over Young St., PH	NW, RB
Osprey	Oct. 17	1	Cobourg Harbour	RF
Bald Eagle	Oct. 20	1	Candlewick Woods	EK
Northern Harrier	Oct. 25	1	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2	LS
Northern Goshawk	Oct. 12	1	Lakeport	CEG
Red-shouldered Hawk	Sept. 6	1	Woodvale School Rd., PH Ward 2	LS
Rough-legged Hawk	Oct. 30	1	Burnley	RF
Golden Eagle	Oct. 16	1	Wicklow	CEG
	Oct. 25	2 subadult	flying west over Cobourg	MB
	Oct. 28	1	Roseneath Landing	DS
Merlin	Oct. 8	2	over Cobourg Harbour - high count	CEG
Peregrine Falcon	Oct. 14	1	Lake St., PH	ERM
American Coot	Oct. 22	9	off Cobourg west beach	MB
	Oct. 24	~100	Presqu'ile PP	FH, OntBirds

Sightings - cont'd.

Black-bellied Plover	Oct. 6	9	Cobourg Harbour - high count	MB
	Oct. 4-7	4	Cobourg Harbour - high count	CEG
American Golden Plover	Oct. 4	2	mouth of Cobourg Creek	MB
	Oct. 6	2	Cobourg Harbour	MB
Greater Yellowlegs	Oct. 28	1	Cobourg Harbour	CEG
	Oct. 30	1	Macklin Rd. marsh, Haldimand	RF
Spotted Sandpiper	Oct. 16	1	Presqu'ile PP	FH, OntBirds
Sanderling	Oct. 13	1	Cobourg Harbour	CEG
Semipalmated Sandpiper	Oct. 13	1	Cobourg Harbour	LW
	Oct. 26	1	Cobourg Harbour - last	CEG
	Oct. 17	18	foot of D'Arcy St., Cob.	MB
White-rumped Sandpiper	Oct. 30	8	Gull Island, Presqu'ile PP	MB, RP
Baird's Sandpiper	Nov. 1	1	Presqu'ile PP	FH, OntBirds
Pectoral Sandpiper	Oct. 6, 7	7	Cobourg Harbour - high count	MB
Dunlin	Oct. 7	6	Cobourg Harbour - high count	CEG
Long-billed Dowitcher	Oct. 6	3 juv	Cobourg Harbour	MB
Little Gull	Nov. 4	1	Presqu'ile PP	DS
Sabine's Gull	Oct. 21	1	Presqu'ile PP	FH, MR, DSh
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Oct. 7	1	AKS Marsh, PH	EK, RF
	Oct. 11	1	Presqu'ile PP	FH, OntBirds
Eastern Screech Owl	Sept. 4	2	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2	LS
	Sept. 13	1	Vimy Ridge Rd., Hamilton Twp.	JGE
	Oct. 7	1	Frei St., Cobourg	BE
Great Horned Owl	Oct. 29	1	Ravine Dr., Baltimore	C&RS
Barred Owl	Oct. 15	1 banded	Candlewick Woods	EK, RF
	Oct. 24	1	Candlewick Woods	RF
Long-eared Owl	Oct. 28	1	Candlewick Woods	EK, RF
Short-eared Owl	Oct. 15	1	Cobourg Harbour	RF
Northern Saw-whet Owl	Oct. 12	14 banded	Candlewick Woods	EK, RF
Red-headed Woodpecker	Oct. 22	1	Presqu'ile PP	FH, OntBirds
	Oct. 24-28	1	e. end Cobourg feeder	BL
	Oct. 31	1	s. of Colborne	JF, KB
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Oct. 24	1	Barnes Rd., Cramahe Twp.	CEG
Northern Flicker	Oct. 25	1	n. of Garden Hill, PH Ward 2	MW
Eastern Phoebe	Oct. 4	6	mouth of Cobourg Creek	MB
	Oct. 25	4	Vimy Ridge Rd., Hamilton Twp.	JGE
Northern Shrike	Oct. 15	1	Cobourg Harbour	CEG
	Oct. 16	1	Wicklow	CEG
	Oct. 24	1	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2	LS
Blue-headed Vireo	Oct. 30	1	Northumberland Forest	RF
Red-eyed Vireo	Oct. 8	1	Candlewick Woods	EK, RF
American Crow	Oct. 17	400	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2	LS
Common Raven	Oct. 5-7	2	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2	LS
	Oct. 5-7	1	Vimy Ridge Rd., Hamilton Twp.	JGE
	Oct. 17, 18	1	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2	LS
Black-capped Chickadee	Oct. 8	75	Candlewick Woods	EK, RF
Carolina Wren	Oct. 16	2	Presqu'ile PP	CEG
House Wren	Oct. 11	1	Cobourg Harbour	CEG
Winter Wren	Oct. 4	3+	mouth of Cobourg Creek	MB
Eastern Bluebird	Oct. 11	15	Knoxville Rd. & 6th, PH Ward 2	ERM
	Oct. 23	20	Penryn Village, PH	HS, MA
	Oct. 24	20	Salem	CEG
	Nov. 1	1	6th Line & Campbell Rd., PH Ward 2	BLeS

Sightings - cont'd.

Swainson's Thrush	Oct. 30	1	Young St., PH	NW
	Oct. 7	1	Cobourg Harbour	CEG
	Oct. 8	1	Vimy Ridge Rd., Hamilton Twp.	JGE
	Oct. 8	1	Candlewick Woods	EK, RF
Hermit Thrush	Oct. 7	7	AKS Marsh, PH	EK, RF
	Oct. 8	9	Candlewick Woods	EK, RF
	Oct. 26	1	Vimy Ridge Rd., Hamilton Twp.	JGE
Northern Mockingbird	Sept.B34 18	1	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2	LS
Brown Thrasher	Oct. 30	1	Lucas Point, Cobourg	AEW
American Pipit	Oct. 25	8	Cobourg Harbour	MB
Bohemian Waxwing	Nov. 2	7	Roseneath Landing	DS
Cedar Waxwing	Oct. 7	500	Francis St., PH	RP
Tennessee Warbler	Oct. 12	1	Durham St., PH	RF
Orange-crowned Warbler	Oct. 4	1	Vimy Ridge Rd., Hamilton Twp.	JGE
Black-throated Blue Warbler	Oct. 10	1	Vimy Ridge Rd., Hamilton Twp.	JGE
Yellow-rumped Warbler	Oct. 8	45	Candlewick Woods	EK, RF
	Oct. 30	2	Vimy Ridge Rd., Hamilton Twp.	JGE
Black-throated Green Warbler	Oct. 8	3	Candlewick Woods	EK, RF
Pine Warbler	Oct. 25	1	Presqu'île PP	FH, OntBirds
Ovenbird	Oct. 15	1	Chub Point	SMcL
Connecticut Warbler	Oct. 9	1	Presqu'île PP	FH, OntBirds
Common Yellowthroat	Oct. 4	2	Vimy Ridge Rd., Hamilton Twp.	JGE
Scarlet Tanager	Sept. 6	1	Woodvale School Rd., PH Ward 2	LS
Eastern Towhee	Oct. 5-7	1	Upper Cold Springs, Hamilton Twp.	SW
American Tree Sparrow	Oct. 25	1	Cobourg west headland	MB
Field Sparrow	Oct. 12	1	Vimy Ridge Rd., Hamilton Twp.	JGE
Vesper Sparrow	Oct. 16	1	Vimy Ridge Rd., Hamilton Twp.	JGE
Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow	Oct. 6	1	mouth of Cobourg Creek	MB
Fox Sparrow	Oct. 14	3	Vimy Ridge Rd., Hamilton Twp.	JGE
	Oct. 14	3	Vimy Ridge Rd., Hamilton Twp.	JGE
	Oct. 19	1	Cobourg backyard	MB
	Oct. 22	1	Cobourg west headland	RP
	Oct. 30	2	Northumberland Forest	RF
Lincoln's Sparrow	Oct. 14	8	Vimy Ridge Rd., Hamilton Twp.	JGE
White-throated Sparrow	Oct. 14	30	Kellogg Rd.N., PH Ward 2	ERM
Lapland Longspur	Oct. 25	2	Cobourg Harbour	MB
Snow Bunting	Oct. 29, 30	20+	Cobourg Harbour	CEG
Eastern Meadowlark	Oct. 14	6	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2	LS
	Oct. 24	3	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2	LS
Rusty Blackbird	Oct. 12	17	Lakeport	CEG
	Oct. 15	8	Vimy Ridge Rd., Hamilton Twp.	JGE
Common Grackle	Oct. 28	1	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2	LS
Purple Finch	Oct. 8	6-10	Centennial Dr., PH	ERM
	Oct. 14	14	Centennial Dr., PH	ERM
Common Redpoll	Oct. 29	2	Cobourg Harbour	CEG
	Oct. 30	25	Macklin Rd., Haldimand	RF
	Nov. 4	15	Webbview Marsh	DS
Pine Siskin	Oct. 12	5	Durham St., PH	EK, RF
	Oct. 18-25	25	Vimy Ridge Rd., Hamilton Twp.	JGE
	Oct. 25, 26	10	1010 Ontario St., Cobourg	AEW
	Oct. 29, 30	32	Cobourg feeder	MB
Evening Grosbeak	Oct. 20	4	Bowmanton Rd.	KD
	Oct. 26	25+	Meade St., Brighton feeder	MC
	Nov. 4	4	Baltimore	AB

Sightings - cont'd.

Mink	Oct. 11, 31	1	Cobourg west headland, under concrete slabs at south end	MB
bat sp.	Oct. 19	1	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH ward 2, catching insects around yard.	LS
Masked Shrew	July 4	1	Larchmere Golf Course, Hwy. 45	ERM
Star-nosed Mole	June 27	1	Centennial Dr., PH	ERM
Milk Snake	Oct. 4	1	5th Line, Hamilton Twp.	SW
	Oct. 4	1	Sylvan Glen Rd., PH Ward 2	SW
Garter Snake	Oct. 3	1	Lucas Point, Cobourg	AEW

Observers: MA=Margaret Anderson; RB=Reinhard Bahr; AB=Ann Brightman; MB=Margaret Bain; KB=Kim Braat; MC=Maureen Campeau; KD=Karen Drew; BE=Bill Edmunds; JF=Jo Foster; RF=Roger Frost; JGe=John Geale; CEG=Clive Goodwin; FH=Fred Helleiner; EK=Elizabeth Kellogg; BLeS=Barbara LeSueur; BL=Bill Logan; ERM=Ted McDonald; SMcL=Sherwood McLernon; OntBirds=Ontario Field Ornithologists listserv; R&JP=Rod & Joan Parrott; RP=Richard Pope; MR=Maureen Riggs; DS=Dave Shirley; DSh=Don Shanahan; LS=Louise Schmidt; HS=Heather Sinclair; C&RS=Cathie and Richard Smith; NW=Norma Wallace; MW=Marie Watkins; LW=Lori Wensley; SW=Susanne Williams; AEW=Audrey Wilson.

CORRECTIONS

Apologies to Margaret Bain. Some of her observations for September were published with scrambled dates. The correct information follows:

White-rumped Sandpipers, 2 adult, Sept. 12

Buff-breasted Sandpipers, 3 juv., Sept. 12

Forster's Tern, 1 juv., Sept. 12

Ruby-crowned Kinglet, first, Sept. 9

A NOTE ABOUT SIGHTINGS

Although it is not possible to publish in the *Curlew* all sightings received, please continue to report sightings. If we published all sightings received, there would be no other information in the *Curlew*. All bird sightings are forwarded to Clive Goodwin for entry into the data base of the Birds of Northumberland County.

The criteria for publication of bird sightings are rare or unusual species for the area, early arriving spring migrants, late lingering fall migrants and high numbers of common birds. For example, a Red-winged Blackbird seen in April would not be included for publication, but the same species seen in January probably would. The hundreds of Blue Jays seen this fall would qualify as high numbers of a common bird. Please include the name of the observer, the number of birds seen and the location of the observation.

Please continue to submit sightings to Roger Frost at 905-885-9615 or ekrf@eagle.ca. If you prefer to submit sightings by e-mail, you could also cc them to Clive Goodwin at clive-goodwin@sympatico.ca

Thanks to all observers who regularly submit sightings. This is important historical information about the natural history of Northumberland County.

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Family - \$25 Single - \$23

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