



COMING EVENTS

Please note the meeting locations.

● **Friday, January 30, 2009, 7:30 p.m. - General Meeting, Cobourg Public Library, 200 Ontario St., Cobourg**

Speaker: **Ben Walters**. Topic: **Avian Research in the Ganaraska Forest**. Ben will be giving a presentation on the research that he has been involved with in the past year. The presentation will wrap up his final year of research in the Ganaraska Forest. It will also include information on shorebird research which he helped with at Assateague Isalen National Seashore in Maryland and on Akimiski Island, Nunavut in James Bay.

● **Friday, February 27, 2009, 7 p.m. - Annual General Meeting - Ruth Clarke Centre, 81 Mill St. South, Port Hope**

Speaker: **Rory Quigley, Arborist for the Town of Cobourg**.

Silent Auction, social time. More details will be in the February issue of the *Curlew*. Note the early start time.

● **Friday, March 27, 2009, 7:30 p.m. - General Meeting, Cobourg Public Library, 200 Ontario St., Cobourg**

Speaker: **Jeff Beaver**. Topic: **Growing Wild Rice**. Jeff will talk about the history, growth, reaping and preparation of wild rice according to old Indian traditions.



WBFN SILENT AUCTION

Due to the success of last year's first ever WBFN silent auction, the Executive Committee thought it would be a good fundraiser for the coming year. So please mark your calendar. The next auction will be held at the Annual General Meeting on Friday, February 27, 2009.

Like last year, we will be counting on the generosity of members to donate to the cause. This year, Marguerite Short has kindly offered to collect donations for the auction. If you have items or a service that you feel is appropriate, or if you want to help, please contact Marguerite at 905-885-1420 or bring items to Marguerite at the monthly meeting.

There was a good mix of new and slightly used items last year, some expensive and some very inexpensive so that there was an opportunity to bring something home without too much guilt. So please, start thinking about the auction. It takes each one of us to make it work.

PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT NO. 40790538
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BOX 421
PORT HOPE, ON L1A 3Z3

THE WILLOW BEACH FIELD NATURALISTS

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|----------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
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The editor is most grateful to those who have contributed to this issue of the Curlew. Copy for the February 2009 issue should be received by January 31, 2009. 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 February Curlew. Correspondence for WBFN should be addressed to: "The Willow Beach Field Naturalists, P.O. Box 421, Port Hope, ON L1A 3Z3."

Christmas Bird Count Reports

44th Annual Presqu'ile Christmas Bird Count

The Presqu'ile Christmas Bird Count was held on Sunday, December 14th and, unlike last year, there was almost no precipitation and the temperature was well above freezing! 31 participated, including a good number from Willow Beach Field Naturalists.

A total of 22,726 birds was seen and 76 species.

Highlights:

- A Thayer's Gull - new to the count;
- 491 Mute Swans - previous record was 363 and all but 20 were counted at Presqu'ile
- European Starling numbers also increased from 2814 to 4686
- 95 White-winged Crossbills were counted, up from the previous high of 8 and only recorded twice in the last 20 years
- 1 Evening Grosbeak was seen, the first for the count since 1995.

A majority of participants went to Stonehedge for the compilation by David Bree and great food provided by May Wilson, finishing off with a slice of hot rum cake!

- *Maureen Riggs*

Port Hope-Cobourg Christmas Bird Count - 2008

The 2008 Port Hope-Cobourg Christmas Bird Count was held on December 20th. This was the 38th year for this count. However, the club did a "non-Audubon" Christmas Bird Count from 1954 to 1970.

This year's count was a beautiful cold, clear winter day sandwiched between two blizzards. Forty-two field observers and 13 feeder watchers counted 16,462 birds of 82 species. An additional 7 species were seen in count week (3 days either side of count day).

Golden Eagle was the only new species to be added this year. Two parties saw two different birds.

Other highlights were Pied-billed Grebe, Black-crowned Night Heron, Cackling Goose, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Thayer's Gull, Snowy Owl, Northern Mockingbird and Fox Sparrow.

Some species were seen in lower than usual numbers. This was especially true for waterfowl and gulls. The only species to be found in very high numbers was White-winged Crossbill, with 436 counted. This was more than 10 times its previous high of 30 in 1987.

Many of the day's counters gathered at Welcome United Church for a pot luck and to enjoy some wonderful food and company (as well as to thaw out).

Thanks to all those who participated.

Roger Frost

Gleanings from the Northumberland Bird Database

‘MINI’ CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

by Clive E. Goodwin

One of the things most active birders usually get involved in is the annual Christmas Bird Count. In fact, many get involved in more than one – the Willow Beach and Presqu’ile counts, for example. When we arrived in Cobourg we were no exception, and in due course we joined Lori and Bill Wensley and Audrey Wilson covering their route on the Willow Beach CBC. It was Route 9, which covers the area east of Division Street in Cobourg, north to about Baltimore and south to the Lake, east to around Lucas Point.

Who covered the area immediately to the east, we wondered? And it transpired no one did. There was a sort of ‘no-man’s-land’ between the eastern boundary of the Willow Beach count and the western edge of the Presqu’ile count. This is perfectly understandable: CBC areas are all large circles of fixed diameter and there just isn’t room for another circle between the two existing counts. But the lack of any coverage seemed a pity.

So we thought it would be interesting to cover a route in the gap. And with that the idea of a ‘mini-CBC’ was born: we’d take a count along the Lake and as far inland as practical, during the two-week CBC period. In fact we ended up with two routes, covering Grafton and Colborne, and [with the exception of a small section of Telephone Road] south of Highway 401. As we weren’t tied to a specific date we could try to pick two days with fair weather, thus eliminating one of the problems inherent in the real CBC, and we tried to cover exactly the same routes each year, thus eliminating another – or, I should say, partly eliminating these difficulties. The real world has a way of intervening: while we didn’t take any counts in a blizzard, some years there was lots of snow and ice and some none; and changes were made to the land-

scape, feeders came and went, and [for example] the power line we used to walk off Brimley Road was closed off a few years back.

We started in 1994 and up to 2008 we have 13 years’ data [we missed one year due to illness, and the current winter’s counts were not taken at the time of writing], so aside from having fun, is there anything interesting in the results? It turns out that there is. For one, there are many interesting comparisons with the adjacent Route 9 CBC. In approximately the same period, Route 9 had 78 species against our 72, and we have averaged a species or two fewer in most years. Of course, with 5 of us there were more eyes on Route 9, but the mini-CBCs had more time in the field, and – at roughly two long mornings annually – more potentially productive time. Anyone who has tried to add to a CBC total in mid-afternoon probably knows how the birds seem to vanish!

There seem to be two, or possibly three, main reasons for the lower species’ numbers. One is that our counts were invariably later, and there is a very rough correlation between the number of species one sees and the date – the further into the CBC period, the fewer the birds. The other two reasons both come down to people: one, there were many more bird feeders on Route 9. We tend to think of the countryside as yielding more birds, but in winter a sheltered in-town area of mature gardens and trees, together with feeders, like the Lakeshore Road area of east Cobourg, can be very productive and often have rarer birds that should have gone south. Then the Lake in this area is very productive as well. The large Mallard and goose flocks ranging east from Cobourg harbour [where people feed them] attract ‘hangers-on’ that are bonuses for the counters.

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But it was when I looked at the totals of the commoner species that the real surprise came, because there were sharp contrasts between almost all of them, this from two areas that, you'll recall, are adjacent to one another. Let's look at the waterfowl first.

As mentioned above, it's not surprising that the numbers of geese and dabbling ducks would be higher on Route 9. The differences are dramatic: it averaged 203 geese and 308 Mallards annually; to the east we managed only 41 and 8 respectively! But most of the diving ducks showed a similar pattern as well: Long-tailed Ducks totals were 111 in the west and only 26 to the east, while Bufflehead figures were 72 versus 8. Gulls also shared a similar pattern; in fact the only waterbirds that were commoner to the east were goldeneyes, with 47 on route 9 and 96 to the east. I can see no obvious explanation. Goldeneye feed heavily on mollusks in winter, but other waterfowl, particularly Long-tailed Ducks and scoters, will do so as well. It certainly appears that the waters between Cobourg harbour and Lucas Point are more productive in winter than those to the east.

So what of the landbirds? In spite of the species' totals there is an almost complete reversal; winter landbirds really are more numerous in the countryside! This included such 'typically' urban birds as pigeons and starlings: we had an average of 42 and 358 respectively on the 'minis', but only 16 and 240 on the Cobourg count. It included such feeder regulars as jays [47 vs. 21], chickadees [98 vs. 72] and goldfinches [42 vs. 32].

There were only five exceptions, some of which surprised me. White-breasted Nuthatches, with only 5 outside of town but 7 in, seemed inconsistent, until I remembered that often the only bird to be found in the exposed expanses of Victoria Park in mid-winter is a White-breasted Nuthatch! Nuthatch distribution probably has more to do with deciduous trees than urban-rural splits. Robins too were

a surprise, at 12 on the 'minis' and 34 on Route 9, but here urban-rural certainly had nothing to do with it, as most of the robins were in the rural parts of the route, and the difference here likely reflects the winter distribution of wild fruits. The other three are all, in one way or another, not native to our climate. Cardinals [6 vs. 10] are southerners and our first records date from 1938; much of their spread seems tied to the availability of feeders in winter, and the other two – House Finch [31 vs. 75] and House Sparrow [30 vs. 31] have always been tied to housing. In fact the difference in the latter would be far more pronounced except for an anomalous count of 101 near Grafton in 2006.

Turning to the results of the 'mini' counts alone, are there any interrelationships or trends to be seen over the 14 years the counts have been taken? Like many of the species on the counts, waterfowl generally show much fluctuation from one year to the next. In 2003 we recorded record numbers of four species, Long-tailed Duck, White-winged Scoter, goldeneye and Bufflehead – and perhaps predictably, 2003 was an unusually open winter. 1998 was an exceptional landbird year, with record counts of waxwings, robins and cardinals, and very high numbers of starlings, tree sparrows and juncos; and 2005 was also exceptional, with record totals of both nuthatch species, tree sparrows and juncos and good numbers of other landbirds. In fact, a number of species vary in tandem: good waxwing years usually are accompanied by higher robin counts, and the same relationship holds for tree sparrows and juncos.

There are also some clear trends. The increase in Red-breasted Merganser numbers chronicled in an earlier *Gleanings* appears here as well. Up to 2003 we had recorded only the occasional bird. Then starting in '03 we have seen it annually, with its numbers increasing to 95 by last year.

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Unfortunately most trends are declines. We looked at crow losses and West Nile virus in an earlier article, and these counts support this, with crow numbers barely half of average over the past six years. There's also some suggestion of a drop in chickadee numbers, another species that has been linked to the disease, although trends there are cloaked by periodic very high counts. Blue Jays, on the other hand, though also vulnerable to West Nile, do not seem to show any decline. Maybe our winter jays originate from areas where the virus is less pronounced.

Another species with occasional high counts is American Tree Sparrow, this time in 1998 and 2005 as mentioned above. With

these removed from the average the species has declined over the past seven years. Goldfinch numbers have also dropped, and apart from the large House Sparrow count I mentioned above it too has been well below average over the past seven years. Could these all be artifacts of these particular counts? It's possible, of course, and it would be encouraging if this was the case, but unfortunately most of these species have been reported as in trouble elsewhere.

So our 1994 decision to run a count route between the Cobourg and Presqu'ile circles has indeed been interesting, and has yielded some intriguing insights into the numbers of our local winter birds.

Presqu'ile Waterfowl Viewing Weekends March 14-15, 21-22/2009, 10 am to 4 pm

Presqu'ile Provincial Park will again be hosting waterfowl viewing weekend, where nature enthusiasts can come and appreciate one of the great natural spectacles on earth - the return of migrating waterfowl to their staging areas along the lower Great Lakes. Presqu'ile is well situated to experience this phenomenon with close viewing and a good variety of species. Seeing 20 different species of waterfowl in a day is not unusual and 25+ species are usually tallied during the season. During viewing weekend, volunteers with scopes are situated at key areas to help visitors find and ID the different species. The Nature Centre, featuring "ducky" displays and children's activities is open 10 am to 3 pm and the Lighthouse Centre with hot drinks and snacks and the Friends Gift store is open 10 am to 4 pm. A Bushnell representative is usually on hand on weekend to answer your questions and show you the latest in optical equipment.

If you want to come learn about ducks this is a great opportunity. If you are interested in coming out and helping with duck ID or in one of the Visitors Centres, I would be more than happy to hear from you. For more information on the event or on volunteering, please contact David Bree at 613-475-4324 ext 225 or david.bree@ontario.ca

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

- Congratulations to Kurt and Adele Appleman on the birth of their son, Arjen on December 30, 2008.

The following article was forwarded to Clive Goodwin by David Bree of Presqu'ile Provincial Park. Because photographs don't reproduce well by photocopying, the photos have not been included. There are photos of this plant on the web at Wikipedia and several other web sites.

New Sighting Notification: Water Soldier (*Stratiotes aloides*)

Please be advised that the non-indigenous plant Water Soldier (*Stratiotes aloides*) has been found in the Trent Severn Waterway, located just west of the village of Trent River (Seymour Township, Northumberland County). I've attached photos of the plant from the Trent River (please note that the images show both emergent (in the background), and submergent plants (in the foreground)).

The plant was reported in September 2008, and confirmed by the Ministry of Natural Resources' Natural Heritage Information Centre in October. This is the first report of this plant documented in Canadian waters. It is native to Europe and Britain, however it is used as a water garden plant, and is sold in Ontario for this purpose. The population appears to extend approximately 500 m, with sporadic outcroppings of individual plants, and 2 sites with approximately 100-200 plants.

A literature search of the biology, ecology, and impacts of the plant is currently being undertaken by the Ministry of Natural Resources' Biodiversity Section. If you are interested in obtaining more information about this plant or have additional sighting information, please contact the OFAH/MNR Invading Species Hotline at 1-800-563-7711.

We encourage you and your agency/association to increase awareness of this plant as well as other invasive species in your area to prevent their introduction or spread to new waters. To assist you in this effort we can offer technical advice, educational materials and other resources. Please contact the Invading Species Awareness Program for further information. A complete list and order form of our resource materials can be found online at www.invadingspecies.com.

Francine MacDonald

Invasive Species/ Aquatics Biologist, Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, Box 2800, Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 8L5; tel: 705-748-6324; fax: 705-748-9577; Invading Species Hotline 1-800-563-7711; www.invadingspecies.com

Thank You from Friends of Presqu'ile

I have been asked by the Friends of Presqu'ile Park to send thanks to WBFN for the second generous donation it has made to the reconstruction of the Boardwalk at Presqu'ile Provincial Park. This is the second donation of \$1,000 given by the WBFN to this project. In the words of Chairman Ernie Payette, "No other birding organization has been as generous as the Willow Beach Field Naturalists."

- Janette Johnston

WILLOW BEACH FIELD NATURALISTS
Peter's Woods
Maintenance & Operational Report
2008

VISITORS

Registered visitors totaled **1682** - down by **103** from last year.

MONTHLY VISITOR DISTRIBUTION

May 165 ('07 – 241) June 172 ('07 – 366) July 202 ('07 – 192)
August 225 ('07 – 305) Sept. 300 ('07 – 241) Oct/Nov. 618 ('07 – 440)

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Local Visitors (within 1 hour drive) | 1322 |
| Ontario Visitors | 248 |
| Other Canadian Visitors | 38 (Montreal, Alberta, New Brunswick, B.C.) |
| US Visitors | 4 (California, Texas) |
| Visitors from other Countries | 70 (England, Ireland, Auckland, France, Romania, Mexico, Netherlands, Switzerland, St. Kitts) |

GROUP VISITORS

| | |
|----------|--|
| May | Northumberland Photography Club (9 members) |
| October | Nature Conservatory of Canada (Toronto) (24 members) |
| October | Heideman/Snoek Group of Grafton (12 members) |
| November | Ontario Stewardship Council Youth led by Todd Norris (MNR Peterborough District Ecologist) |

SCIENTIFIC STUDIES

Forest Bird Monitoring (Bryan Baxter)
June 12, 2008 6:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.
June 26 6:00 a.m. – 7:15 a.m.
List of sightings attached.

VOLUNTEER EFFORTS

- opening was well attended
- grass was cut when needed
- cleaned outhouses and supplied toilet paper
- replaced trail guides
- removed tree branches
- cut sections of 3 fallen trees that were across the trail
- cleaned away debris and garbage
- closing was attended by Chris Drew, Curt Morris. Reviewed the possibility of a board walk in the low lying areas

SIGNIFICANT OBSERVATIONS

| | | |
|-----------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| wild life | - chickadees | - ferns (at their best June) |
| | - Indigo Bunting | - small yellow & black snake |
| | - trilliums | |
| | - poison ivy | |
| | - blue jay | |
| | - Jack-in-the-Pulpit | |

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- American toads
- Ovenbird

- wet, low lying area could be a hazard
- June was very wet (lots of rain) and low lying areas were extremely muddy and hardly passable
- Also in June, a baby raccoon was dropped off at the 'Woods' but presumed to have been taken to Toronto to a rehab centre
- There was indication that the trail was being used by mountain bikes
- September saw an increase in International visitors (39)

SUGGESTIONS

- approach WBFN / Ontario Parks Canada for funding to add a board walk or similar construction in the wet areas of the trail
- sign for Women's outhouse
- new trail guides (over 400 were *crudely* printed this year)
- that copies of "new" trail guide to be left at various tourism offices in Northumberland County – not sure this is necessary
- sign at entrance – "no ATV's" or "Dirt Bikes"
- 1st bridge needs repair

COMMENTS

In looking over the visitor sign in sheets, comments were scribbled in like:
"look forward to our walk once a year" (Richmond Hill)
"awesome, and thanks for taking care of these woods"
"can something be done about the wet areas?"
requested "signs at crossroads as the 'Woods' are hard to find"
of which there was a retort: "that's the way we like it"
"we first met here"

Interestingly, a name that appeared over and over again was "Peter & Sundance" who visited 49 times throughout the summer. Now that is one happy visitor!

The following members have again agreed to volunteer next year:

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Hans & Marlene Maas | Gina McFarlane |
| Fran & Les Jack | Klaus & Margaret Schroeder |
| Marg & Bob Short | Russell & Janet Lake |
| Joan & Dave Norris | Chris & Karen Drew |
| Anita & Andy McLauchlan | Petra Hartwig |
| Kevin Burn & Family | |

We are short 2 or three spots, if anyone is interested in volunteering next year.

Thank you to all the volunteers – without you it wouldn't be possible.

*Chris Drew & Petra Hartwig,
Co-coordinators of Volunteers,
Peter's Woods*

Following is a list of items regarding Peter's Woods management which it is hoped will be addressed in 2009.

WILLOW BEACH FIELD NATURALISTS

Peter's Woods

Working in partnership with Curt Morris, MNR (Clarington):

Concerns to be addressed in 2009...

- Women's washroom sign
- reflective tape on the gate at the entrance
- stain/paint cover on the vaults (privies)
- cement tank sides are caving in - suggests the tanks do not have enough waste level to prevent freezing/frost shifting and have therefore cracked in several locations. Look at pumping them out in the spring
- lumber will be ordered for the boardwalk which will be constructed in the spring in the low lying areas
- entrance sign
- Ontario Parks colour brochure which will be standard for all Ontario parks



Reminder - 2009 Membership Fees

Willow Beach Field Naturalists fees for 2009 are now due. There is a renewal form inserted in this issue of the Curlew for your convenience. Payments can be made at the January meeting, or they can be mailed to The Treasurer, Willow Beach Field Naturalists, P.O. Box 421, Port Hope, ON, L1A 3Z3



ONTARIO NATURE'S 4TH ANNUAL YOUTH WRITING CONTEST

Topic: Every day we make choices that could help or harm our environment. What are you doing that has a positive impact on our environment?

What to write: Send us an essay or story that is a maximum of 700 words in length. Your submission should be typed and double-spaced. Please be sure to answer the question.

Include: A title page with your name, address, phone number, email address, your parent's or guardian's name, your grade and the name of your school.

Entry is limited to grade 7 and 8 students.

A panel of judges will choose three winning entries, which will be published in *ON Nature* magazine. Winners will receive cool prizes courtesy of Mountain Equipment Co-op and be honoured for their achievement at Ontario Nature's Annual General Meeting on May 30, 2009 at the Bruce County Museum, Southampton.

To see last year's winning entries, please visit Ontario Nature's website at www.ontarionature.org.

Deadline: February 25, 2009

SEND YOUR ENTRIES TO:
Youth Writing Contest
Ontario Nature
366 Adelaide Street West, Suite 201
Toronto, ON M5V 1R9
Email: clarem@ontarionature.org

Sponsored by Waste Management



Nova Scotia Piping Plover Conservation Project

Last spring, I read an article in “Birdwatch”, the magazine published by Bird Studies Canada. This article described the efforts of the Nova Scotia Piping Plover Conservation Authority to monitor and help with conservation of this bird which is a threatened species. I made a donation and sent an e-mail to Sue Abbott who had written the article, telling her how impressed I was with their program. I mentioned that I would be visiting the Halifax area in the summer as my daughter lives there. I was delighted to get a reply offering to meet me when I was there and visit one of the beaches in southern Nova Scotia where the Authority was trying to help with nest conservation.

I visited the beach with Sue on a warm July day. It is on the south shore, not far from Halifax. We walked to a more isolated part of the beach and watched the nest with binoculars. Sue explained that earlier, they had to move the nest as it was threatened by high tides. Now they had it roped off in a wide area to keep humans from disturbing it. I saw the bird sitting on its nest. Later, when it moved off the nest, I had a clear look at the beautiful large speckled eggs. There were three. Sue explained how the authority is monitoring Piping Plover nests in Nova Scotia and trying to help with the conservation of this threatened species. It was a thrilling experience for me to be so close to this marvel of nature and to observe the attempts of the Nova Scotia Piping Plover Conservation Authority to help it continue to be part of the variety of life on our planet.

• *Janette Johnston*

More information about this project can be found at www.bsc-eoc.org/volunteer/nsplover

Great Backyard Bird Count February 13-26, 2009

The next **Great Backyard Bird Count** takes place February 13-16, 2009. The National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology are calling on everyone to “Count for Fun, Count for the Future!” Participants did just that in record numbers for the 2008 count, submitting more than 85,000 checklists and identifying 635 species.

More information can be found at www.birdsource.org/gbbc

Northumberland Land Trust 2009 Gala Dinner & Annual General Meeting

Thursday, January 29, 2009

The Best Western Cobourg Inn & Convention Centre

Guest Speaker: Mr. Peter Love,
Chief Conservation Officer,
Ontario Power Authority

Tickets: \$50 per person (tax receipt for \$15)

To order tickets, call 905-349-9990 ext. 1 or send a cheque to Northumberland Land Trust, P.O. Box 28, Grafton, ON K0K 2G0

RECENT SIGHTINGS

compiled by Roger Frost

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|--------------|--|-------------------|
| Snow Goose | Nov. 1 | 1 | Presqu'ile PP | FH, Ontbirds |
| | Nov. 8/12 | 1 | Presqu'ile PP | FH, Ontbirds |
| Brant | Nov. 3-17 | 2 imm | Cobourg Harbour | MB, mobs |
| | Nov. 20-Dec. 6 | 1 imm | Cobourg Harbour | MB, CEG, mobs |
| Cackling Goose | Nov. 16, 17 | 2 | Cobourg Harbour | MB |
| | Nov. 19 | 1 | Cobourg Harbour | MB |
| | Nov. 19 | 1 | foot of Henry St., Cob. | MB |
| | Nov. 29 | 6 | Cobourg Harbour | CK, Ontbirds |
| | all Dec. | 1+ | Cobourg Harbour | MB, RL, Ontbirds |
| Trumpeter Swan | Jan. 2 | 1ad, 3juv | Cobourg Harbour | MB |
| Tundra Swan | Dec. 14 | 23 | Presqu'ile PP | FH, Ontbirds |
| American Black Duck | Nov. 23 | 250 | High Bluff Island, Presqu'ile PP | SP, RDM, Ontbirds |
| Northern Pintail | Dec. 19 | 1m | over Wesleyville, leading a flock of Mallards and American Black Ducks | PB |
| | Dec. 28-30 | 18-30 | Cobourg Harbour | MB |
| Canvasback | Dec. 28/29/30 | 4/30/40 | Presqu'ile PP | FH, Ontbirds |
| Ring-necked Duck | Dec. 30 | 1 | Presqu'ile PP | FH, Ontbirds |
| Green-winged Teal | Nov. 30 | 1 | Cobourg Harbour | CP, SM |
| | Dec. 28 | 1 | Cobourg Harbour | CEG |
| | Dec. 9 | 1f | Cobourg Harbour | MB |
| Surf Scoter | Nov. 11 | 5 | Chub Point | CEG |
| | Nov. 19 | 1 | off Coverdale Park, Cob. | MB |
| Black Scoter | Nov. 17 | 7 | Chub Point | CEG |
| | Nov. 19 | 1 | off Coverdale Park, Cob. | MB |
| | Dec. 6, 7 | 1 ad.m | Cobourg Harbour | KN, RL, Ontbirds |
| Long-tailed Duck | Dec. 11 | 96 | Cobourg Harbour | LW |
| Common Goldeneye | Nov. 23 | 330 | Sandy Bay, Rice Lake | EK, RF |
| Barrow's Goldeneye | Nov. 30 | 1 | Port Hope Harbour | BW |
| Hooded Merganser | Nov. 23 | 20 | Sandy Bay, Rice Lake | EK, RF |
| Common Merganser | Nov. 23 | 82 | Sandy Bay, Rice Lake | EK, RF |
| | Dec. 9 | 29 | Cobourg Harbour | LW |
| Red-breasted Merganser | Nov. 3-19 | 2000 | Cobourg lakefront | MB |
| Ruddy Duck | Dec. 13-18 | 1f | Cobourg Harbour | MB, CEG |
| Ruffed Grouse | Dec. 23 | 2 | Upper Cold Springs, Hamilton Twp. | SW |
| Wild Turkey | Nov. 23 | 121 | Coyle & Webb Rds., Alnwick | EK, RF |
| Red-throated Loon | Nov. 3-17 | 4 | off Cobourg Harbour | RP |
| | Nov. 11 | 7 | Harwood | RF |
| | Nov. 23 | 1 | off Cobourg Harbour | CEG |
| Common Loon | Nov. 12 | 80 | mouth of Cobourg Creek, Cob. | MB |
| | Dec. 14 | 1 | Cobourg Harbour | LW |
| Red-necked Grebe | Nov. 19 | 2 | off Coverdale Park, Cob. | MB |
| Eared Grebe | Nov. 15 | 1 | Presqu'ile PP | FH, Ontbirds |
| Double-crested Cormorant | Nov. 28 | 5 | Cobourg Harbour | CEG |
| | Dec. 4 | 5 | Cobourg Harbour | KN |
| Black-crowned Night Heron | Dec. 20 | 1imm | Cobourg Creek | BB, mobs |
| Bald Eagle | Jan. 1 | 1 juv | McMaster Rd., Grafton | CEG |
| | Jan. 1 | 2imm | Cobourg Harbour flying west | MB |
| Northern Goshawk | Dec. 11 | 1 | 6th Line, Hamilton Twp. | MAC |
| | Dec. 20 | 1 | Cobourg Harbour | CEG |
| | Dec. 30 | 1 | Lakeport | CEG |

Sightings - cont'd.

| | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-------|--|-------------------|
| Rough-legged Hawk | Nov. 23 | 1 | Telephone Rd., Hamilton Twp, e. end | ERM |
| | Nov. 28 | 1 | Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2 | LS |
| | Nov. 30 | 1 | over Cobourg Home Depot | CP, SM |
| | Dec. 18 | 1 | Cobourg Harbour | CEG |
| Golden Eagle | Sept. 11 | 1 | Vernonville Rd. | MAC |
| American Kestrel | Nov. 29 | 1 | Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2 | LS |
| Gyrfalcon | Nov. 12 | 1 | Presqu'ile PP | FH, Ontbirds |
| Peregrine Falcon | Nov. 3 | 1 | Cobourg Harbour | CEG |
| | Nov. 14 | 1imm | Cobourg Harbour flying east | MB |
| | Dec. 11-12 | 1 | Cobourg Harbour | LW |
| | Dec. 20 | 1 | Cobourg Harbour | MB |
| Black-bellied Plover | Nov. 3-14 | 1-2 | Cobourg Harbour/D'Arcy St. | MB |
| Sanderling | Nov. 17 | 7 | Gull Island, Presqu'ile PP | BDiL, Ontbirds |
| Least Sandpiper | Nov. 9 | 1 | Presqu'ile PP | FH, Ontbirds |
| White-rumped Sandpiper | Nov. 3/4 | 2/1 | Cobourg Harbour | MB |
| Purple Sandpiper | Nov. 14-17 | 2 | Cobourg Harbour | MB |
| | Nov. 23 | 3 | High Bluff Island, Presqu'ile PP | SP, RDM, Ontbirds |
| | Dec. 12-13 | 1 | west end of Victoria Beach | EK, MB |
| | Dec. 14 | 2 | Gull Island, Presqu'ile PP | FH, Ontbirds |
| Dunlin | Dec. 4 | 4 | North Beach, Presqu'ile PP | MB |
| Little Gull | Nov. 6 | 1 | Presqu'ile PP | FH, Ontbirds |
| Thayer's Gull | Nov. 3, 4 | 1 | Presqu'ile PP | DSh, Ontbirds |
| | Dec. 15, 26 | 1ad | Cobourg Harbour | RP |
| | Dec. 20 | 1imm | Cobourg Harbour | MB |
| Iceland Gull | Nov. 3 | 2 | Presqu'ile PP | DSh, Ontbirds |
| Glaucous Gull | Dec. 26 | 5 | Cobourg Harbour | RP |
| Black-legged Kittiwake | Nov. 3 | 1 | Cobourg Harbour | KN |
| | Nov. 3 | 1 | Presqu'ile PP | MR, mobs |
| | Nov. 4 | 1 | Presqu'ile PP | RDM, mobs |
| | | | (photos confirmed 3 different birds at Presqu'ile over 3 days) | |
| Parasitic Jaeger | Nov. 19 | 3 juv | off Coverdale Park, Cob. | MB, RP |
| Eastern Screech Owl | Sept. 2 | 1 | 6th Line, Hamilton Twp. | MAC |
| Snowy Owl | Nov. 3 | 1 | Cobourg Harbour | MB |
| | Nov. 6-9 | 1 | Huff Rd. | KL, mobs |
| | Nov. 11 | 1 | Candlewick Woods | RF |
| | Nov. 21 | 1 | Trefusis St., PH | G&HB |
| | Nov. 27 | 1 | behind Wal-mart, Cob. | JW |
| | Dec. 4 | 1 | Theatre Rd. & Hwy. 2 | AO |
| | Dec. 8 | 1 | Cobourg Harbour | CEG |
| | Dec. 9 | 1 | Cobourg Harbour | RP |
| | Dec. 11 | 1 | Beach 3, Presqu'ile PP | MB |
| | Dec. 12 | 1 | Port Hope Harbour | EK |
| | Dec. 25 | 2 | on ice in Presqu'ile Bay | FH, Ontbirds |
| | Dec. 29 | 1 | Hwy. 2 e. of Deer Park, PH Ward 2 | BH |
| | Jan. 3 | 1m | Cobourg Harbour | CEG |
| | Jan. 6 | 2 | Deer Park Rd., PH Ward 2 | RF |
| | Jan. 10 | 1 | Deer Park Rd., PH Ward 2 | LM |
| Barred Owl | Dec. 29 | 1 | Lakeshore Rd., PH | JGo |
| | Jan. 2 | 1 | Beaver Meadow Rd., Hamilton Twp | SW |
| Short-eared Owl | Dec. 9-11 | 1 | Kellogg Rd. s. of Hwy. 2, PH Ward 2 | DK |

Sightings - cont'd.

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Red-bellied Woodpecker | Nov. 4-Dec. 31 | 1 | 6th Line, Hamilton Twp. | MAC |
| Northern Shrike | Nov. 29 | 3 | between Grafton & Colborne | CEG |
| American Crow | Jan. 2 | 400 | Upper Cold Springs, Hamilton Twp. | SW |
| Common Raven | Oct. 3 | 6 | McClelland Rd., Hamilton Twp. | MAC |
| Carolina Wren | Dec. 22-23 | 2 | Centennial Dr., PH | J&Vc |
| Eastern Bluebird | Oct. 31 | 24 | Knoxville Rd & 6th, PH Ward 2 | GMCD, BP, JGo |
| | Dec. 27 | 8 | Lakeshore & Brand Rd., PH Ward 2 | JGo |
| American Robin | Dec. 17, 18 | 30 | Calnan Rd. | JT |
| Northern Mockingbird | Dec. 30 | 1 | Wesleyville | PB |
| Cedar Waxwing | Nov. 4 | 84 | Lakeshore Rd./Barnum House Creek | MB |
| Yellow-rumped Warbler | Nov. 18 | 1 | AKS Marsh Trail, PH | EK, RF |
| Pine Warbler | Nov. 19-27 | 1 | Presqu'ile PP | FH, Ontbirds |
| Common Yellowthroat | Nov. 23 | 1 | High Bluff Island, Presqu'ile PP | SP, RDM, Ontbirds |
| Chipping Sparrow | Dec. 4-Jan. 2 | 1 | Albert St., Cob. feeder | MB |
| Savannah Sparrow | Nov. 23 | 1 | Presqu'ile PP | FH, Ontbirds |
| Fox Sparrow | Nov. 11 | 5 | Northumberland Forest | RF |
| | Dec. 6-7 | 1 | Brand Rd. & Lakeshore, PH Ward 2 | BW |
| | Dec. 6-7 | 1 | s. of Baltimore | AB |
| Song Sparrow | Nov. 23 | 30 | High Bluff Island, Presqu'ile PP | SP, RDM, Ontbirds |
| White-throated Sparrow | Dec. 21-23 | 3 | Peacock Blvd, PH | K&AA |
| White-crowned Sparrow | Dec. 14 | 5 | Gull Island, Presqu'ile PP | FH, Ontbirds |
| Snow Bunting | Nov. 26 | 150 | Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2 | LS |
| | Dec. 11 | 350 | Lakeshore Rd./Huff Rd. | MB |
| Lapland Longspur | Dec. 10 | 7 | Dickinson Rd. n. of Lakeshore | MB |
| Pine Grosbeak | Jan. 6 | 3 | Northumberland Forest | RF |
| Purple Finch | Nov. 23 | 1 | Centennial Dr., PH | ERM |
| White-winged Crossbill | Nov. 6-10 | 15-30 | Vimy Ridge Rd., Hamilton Twp. | JGe |
| | Nov. 8-Dec. 12 | 5-35 | Lakeshore Rd. w of Wesleyville | PB |
| | Nov. 11 | 100 | Northumberland Forest | RF |
| | Nov. 23 | 160 | Northumberland Forest | EK, RF |
| | Dec. 12/13 | 35/12 | Upper Cold Springs, Hamilton Twp. | SW |
| | Dec. 28 | 35 | Knoxville Rd., PH Ward 2 | EK, RF |
| | Dec. 31 | 60 | Lakeshore Rd. w of Wesleyville | PB |
| | Jan. 3 | 10 | s. of Baltimore | AB |
| | Jan. 4 | 50 | Kellogg & Loyalist Rd., PH Ward 2 | EK, RF |
| Common Redpoll | Nov. 19 | 3 | Presqu'ile PP | FH, Ontbirds |
| | Nov. 22 | 7 | Kennedy Rd., Camborne | BE-E |
| Hoary Redpoll | Jan. 10 | 4 | Cobourg east end | BL |
| Pine Siskin | Nov. 16, 17 | 95 | Loyalist Rd., PH Ward 2 | EK, RF |
| | | | | |
| Milk Snake | Sept. 12 | 1 | 6th Line, Hamilton Twp. | MAC |

Observers: K&AA= Kurt & Adele Appleman; MB=Margaret Bain; BB=Bryan Baxter; G&HB=Gwen & Harold Best; PB=Paul Bridges; AB=Ann Brightman; J&VC=John & Veronica Colson; MAC=Mary-Anne Cooper; GMCD=Geoff Dale; BDiL=Bruce DiLabio; BE-E=Barbara Edwardes-Evans; RF=Roger Frost; JGe=John Geale; JGoe=Jack Goering; CEG=Clive Goodwin; FH=Fred Helleiner; BH=Bruce Hendry; CK=Chris Kimber; DK=David Kellogg; EK=Elizabeth Kellogg; RL=Rick Lauzon; KL=Keith Lee; BL=Bill Logan; ERM=Ted McDonald; AMcL=Andy McLaughlan; SM=Simone Mery; LM=Linda Moorcraft; AO=Al O'Donnell; CP=Carole Payne; RPo=Bob Popham; RDM=Doug McRae; KN=Ken Niles; Ontbirds=Ontario Field Ornithologists listserv; SP=Sarah Petressek; RP=Richard Pope; MR=Maureen Riggs; LS=Louise Schmidt; DSh=Don Shanahan; JT=Jim Tunney; BW=Ben Walters; LW=Lori Wensley; JW=Jeff Williams; SW=Susanne Williams.

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