



Vol LVIII No. 1

January 2013

## COMING EVENTS

● **Friday, January 25 2013 - 7:30 pm, Cobourg Public Library, 200 Ontario Street**

*Please note the change of venue from that previously announced*

Speaker: **Dr. Laurence Packer**, Professor of Biology and Environmental Studies at York University.

Topic: **Ontario's Wild Bees – Importance, Biodiversity and Conservation.** Why all bees are at risk and what we can do to save them.

There are almost 20,000 species of bees in the world, over 800 in Canada and they are responsible for crop pollination as well as for the pollination of most of the world's wildflowers. Bees are also at greater risk of extinction than almost any other organisms, with ecological/taxonomic groups more at risk than others.

● **Sunday, February 10, 2013 - Bird feeder tour.** Leader: **Elizabeth Kellogg.** This will be a morning outing, visiting several members' bird feeders to see what interesting birds are visiting them. Meet at 9 a.m. at the Phillips Rd. car pool lot in Port Hope, southeast of Hwy. 401 and Cty. Rd. 28, near Arby's. There is limited parking at some houses, so car pooling is encouraged. The outing will end at the home of Elizabeth Kellogg and Roger Frost, where soup will be waiting.

● **Friday, February 22, 2013 - 7:00 p.m., Annual General Meeting, Cobourg Public Library, 200 Ontario St.** Meet at 7:00 p.m. for a meet and greet with coffee and goodies.

Speaker: **Mike McMurtry**, Natural Areas Ecologist, MNR

Topic: **The Natural Heritage Information Centre: What it is, What we do, and How you can contribute**

● **Sunday, March 3, 2013 - Day trip to Algonquin Park** led by Seasonal Park Naturalists and WBFN member, Katsu Sakuma. Detailed itinerary will be in February *Curlew*. Meet at 7 a.m. at Phillips Rd. car pool lot in Port Hope.

*Watch the Curlew and the web site for details of additional outings.*

### Membership Renewals

WBFN memberships are payable annually, on a calendar year basis. Treasurer, Rae Waring, would be happy to take your renewals at the January meeting, or you can mail them to The Willow Beach Field Naturalists, P.O. Box 421, Port Hope, ON L1A 3Z3. A renewal form is included in this issue, for your convenience. We value all our members and hope that you will choose to renew.

### A note about e-mails

John Geale maintains an e-mail distribution list for Willow Beach Field Naturalists. If you get Willow Beach e-mails from him and don't want to, please let him know. If you have an e-mail address but don't get Willow Beach messages and would like to, please let him know at [johngeale@yahoo.com](mailto:johngeale@yahoo.com)

### Membership News

●Condolences of the club are extended to the family of David Baker, who passed away over the holidays. Dave had been in poor health over the last few years and had not attended many meetings but enjoyed receiving the *Curlew*

*Ted McDonald drew our attention to this item from John Jolie's column of historical notes from NorthumberlandToday.com*

**December 14, 1876**—Three English sparrows were spotted outside Grafton, the first ever seen here. They were part of a small flock that had been released in Quebec. The newspaper wrote that they hoped they would stay.

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

### THE WILLOW BEACH FIELD NATURALISTS

<http://www.willowbeachfieldnaturalists.org>

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*The editor is most grateful to those who have contributed to this issue of the Curlew. Copy for the February 2013 issue should be received by January 31, 2013. Rare or interesting sightings should be reported to Elizabeth Kellogg and Roger Frost at 905-885-9615, [ekrf@eagle.ca](mailto: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."*

## President's Message: January 2013

In the summer of 1953 Dr & Mrs. C. B. Kelly suggested to a few local people, regularly visiting Willow Beach, that they should form a club. The first meeting was called in February 1954, when the WBFN was officially started. Dr. C. B. Kelly was first President. Mrs. Kelly started "The Curlew" - the Club bulletin - with its first issue in April 1956.

We have come a long way from watching and documenting our avian friends to more awareness in conservation and the importance of preservation of our natural heritage. Our success as a naturalist club depends on our pragmatism and vision with involvement locally to issues such as development degradation, supporting other naturalist organizations, and assisting our youth with our education scholarships – all this gives us pride in membership. As we think about the next 60 years it is our hope to better connect our communities with nature and WBFN looks forward to playing a role in the design of the municipal Parks Master Plan. We are blessed that we have knowledgeable people to call upon and that our natural heritage is still largely intact, but we must set an example for the future of our communities. It is our collective hope to inspire the next generation of conservation leaders who will bring new ideas and energy to our work. Margaret Atwood, from her collection "Morning in the Burned House" (© Margaret Atwood, 1995) wrote this poem

*"The Moment" . . . . .*

*The moment when, after many years  
of hard work and long voyage  
you stand in the centre of your room,  
house, half-acre, square mile, island, country,  
knowing at last how you got there,  
and say, I own this,*

*is the same moment when the trees unloose  
their soft arms from around you,  
the birds take back their language,  
the cliffs fissure and collapse  
the air moves back from you like a wave  
and you can't breathe.*

*No, they whisper. You own nothing.  
You were a visitor, time after time  
climbing the hill, planting the flag, proclaiming.  
We never belonged to you.  
You never found us.  
It was always the other way round.*

Without us, nature will survive. But without nature, we ourselves cannot exist. The moment we  
*(Continued on page 4)*

*(Continued from page 3)*

realize we're part of the biosphere and not the other way around is also the moment we understand the importance of conservation. (Condensed from "The Ark" – Nature Conservancy Canada, Fall 2012).

Conservation is about people and empowerment – about engaging Canadians through our natural heritage. As we move forward the Executive/Board will continue the tradition of our Willow Beach Field Naturalists founders in preserving our local natural heritage. Thank you to our generous donors in 2012 who gave from the heart – critical funds helping us continue offering quality programs and awards.

We wish you a happy and prosperous New Year and will keep the door open to questions and suggestions from our members.

*Acting President, Petra Hartwig  
January 2013*

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## Port Hope-Cobourg CBC Summary – 2012

The Port Hope-Cobourg Christmas Bird Count took place on Saturday, December 15. The weather was overcast with a cold east wind for most of the day. A total of 39 observers participated. Most observers were members of the Willow Beach Field Naturalists, the sponsoring organization for this count.

The total of 23,110 birds was our 3rd highest. The 80 species counted was about average for recent years, but well short of our record of 89 species. Seven further species were seen Count Week only.

Highlights included two new species:

- Greater White-fronted Goose – one adult in Cobourg Harbour
- Blue-winged Teal – one female in Cobourg Harbour

Other interesting species observed were:

- Red-necked Grebe – one first-winter in Cobourg Harbour Count Week, found dead there Count Day
- Cackling Goose – a record high of 11 birds in two groups in Port Hope and Cobourg Harbours
- Green-winged Teal – two single birds in Port Hope and Cobourg

- Turkey Vulture – one observed in Cobourg
- Bald Eagle – one sub-adult observed in Port Hope
- American Coot – one in Cobourg Harbour
- Bonaparte's Gull – one in Cobourg Harbour
- Barred Owl – a record high of 9 birds all within Port Hope or Cobourg
- Red-bellied Woodpecker – a record high 15 birds observed through the Count circle
- Carolina Wren – one in Cobourg
- Hermit Thrush – one in Hamilton Township
- Northern Mockingbird – a record total of 3 birds
- Bohemian Waxwing – a record high of 1,324 birds
- Eastern Towhee – a record high of two birds in Cobourg
- Fox Sparrow – a Count Week bird coming to a feeder in Port Hope
- Pine Grosbeak – a total of 44 birds, mostly in Hamilton Township
- Common Redpoll – a total of 618 birds
- Evening Grosbeak – 32 were seen at a feeder in Port Hope.

Species recorded in lower than average

*(Continued on page 5)*

(Continued from page 4)

numbers were:

- Greater Scaup – 43
- Northern Harrier – 1
- Red-tailed Hawk – 29
- Eastern Screech-Owl – missed
- Horned Lark – 1
- Snow Bunting – 8

Other Count Week only species:

- American Wigeon - 3 - Cobourg harbour
- Ring-necked Duck - 3 - Cobourg harbour
- Iceland Gull - 1 adult Cobourg harbour - the only "white-winged" gull for

the Count

- White-crowned Sparrow - 1 at a feeder in Cobourg.

Many participants gathered at New Hope United Church for a pot luck and to tally the count. Thanks to Connie Sakuma for tidying up and washing the dishes.

Thank you to all who participated.

*Roger Frost, Compiler*

## Presqu'ile Christmas Bird Count 2012

The 48<sup>th</sup> Presqu'ile Christmas Bird Count was held on Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. Weather conditions: -2 to 5C, light to fairly heavy rain and a general dampness all day! Winds were light and the water was open... Total number of birds seen was 13,667: 85 species plus 5 in count period.

The two Red-throated Loons seen were new for the count, previously only recorded as a count period bird in 2001. Record high counts included Canada Geese 2499 (2270 in 2008), Gadwall 52 (34 in 2001), Northern Pintail 16 (4 in 1999) Black Scoter 10 (2 in 2002) also only 3<sup>rd</sup> time recorded in last 20 years, Hooded Merganser 262 (142)

Other notables Wood Duck, Northern Shoveler, Hoary Redpoll, White-winged Crossbills all seen for the 4<sup>th</sup> time in last 20

years and Barrow's Goldeneye 3<sup>rd</sup> time in last 20 years.

Species missed – any wren after 4 straight years of having at least 2 species. Markedly down from last year – raptors, gulls, American Crows (95% down from record year of 2011), American Robins, House Finches and European Starlings

There were 29 participants (including several members of WBFN whose participation is very much appreciated). A number of participants attended the compilation by David Bree and enjoyed some great food provided by May Wilson and others.

*Maureen Riggs and David Bree  
Co-Compilers*

### The 2013 Young Ornithologists' Workshop Teen Birders Invited to Apply!

The 2013 Doug Tarry Young Ornithologists' Workshop will be held at Long Point Bird Observatory near Port Rowan, Ontario, from Saturday, August 3 to Sunday, August 11. Participants will receive hands-on field ornithology training, including bird banding, censusing, field identification, birding trips, preparing museum specimens, guest lectures, and more! Six of Canada's most promising ornithologists between the ages of 13-17 will be selected to attend, and will receive the Doug Tarry Bird Study Award to cover all on-site expenses. Applications are due by April 30, 2013. For more information and an application form, contact LPBO at [lpbo@birdscanada.org](mailto:lpbo@birdscanada.org), or visit <http://www.bsc-eoc.org/longpoint>

## Rice Lake Plains Christmas Bird Count

January 1, 2013 was the trial run of the Rice Lake Plains Christmas Bird Count. This is a new count that will be submitted to the National Audubon Society in hopes of becoming an official Audubon Christmas Bird Count next year. The Rice Lake Plains count circle covers much the same area as the Summer Bird Count Circle. The Summer Bird Count circle had to be shifted somewhat to the northeast to avoid overlap with the Port Hope-Cobourg circle.

Twenty-one observers, who obviously had not had enough Christmas Bird counting, enjoyed a real winter's day. The sky was clear, with a 20 km wind, and a temperature that hovered around  $-10^{\circ}\text{C}$ . All day. All still water was frozen and there was about 10 to 20 cm. of snow cover. There were five feeder counters as well.

Because the lakes, ponds and marshes were all frozen, there were almost no water-birds. One party did see a couple of fly-over Herring Gulls.

Despite the lack of open water, there were many highlights:

- Seven species of hawks, including Northern Harrier, Northern Goshawk, Rough-legged Hawk and Merlin
- Three Ring-necked Pheasants, but only 2 Ruffed Grouse
- One Eastern Screech Owl and two Barred

Owls

- Two Red-bellied Woodpeckers
- 21 Common Ravens
- 18 Eastern Bluebirds
- One Northern Mockingbird
- One Chipping Sparrow and one White-throated Sparrow
- Nine Lapland Longspurs and 824 Snow Buntings
- Seven species of finches, including 47 Pine Grosbeaks, 17 White-winged Crossbills, 710 Common Redpolls, 35 Pine Siskins and 16 Evening Grosbeaks

In total, there were 6,042 birds of 50 species counted.

Many of the observers met back at the Alderville Black Oak Savanna Nature Centre for homemade soup and bread and to tally the results.

Thank you to all of the participants for going to bed early on New Year's Eve. Also thanks to the Alderville First Nation and AB-OS staff for allowing us the use of the Nature Centre (and plowing the driveway and parking lot!) Thank you to the Nature Conservancy of Canada for their support. Thank you to Elizabeth Kellogg for providing the soup, bread and drinks.

*Roger Frost, Compiler*

*David Bree brought to our attention an offer of a free field guide to metallic wood-boring beetles which he thought might interest our members. Order from the web site below.*

<http://www.biodiversityinfocus.com/blog/2012/12/06/field-guide-to-the-jewel-beetles/>



## Alderville Black Oak Savanna Bird Checklist Project



In order to develop a season checklist of birds of the Alderville Black Oak Savanna Preserve, Roger Frost and Elizabeth Kellogg surveyed the site during 2011 and 2012. The ABOS lies along the northern edge of the Oak Ridges Moraine, just east of the community of Alderville, on the Alderville First Nations Reserve. The ABOS has a variety of habitat types including tall grass prairie, oak savanna, old field, a small wooded wetland, deciduous and mixed woodlands and fields in the process of being restored to prairie/savanna habitat.

From September 5, 2011 to September 3, 2012, the ABOS was surveyed on 49 dates. Through most of the year, the surveys were done once a week, but only once every two weeks during the winter. On these visits, every habitat type on the Savanna was surveyed. Three of these surveys were performed after dark to look for nocturnal and crepuscular species.

A total of 136 species were recorded on these surveys, including 11 that had not been recorded before on the site. Breeding evidence was obtained for 77 species, including 38 confirmed. Highlights of the breeding birds were:

- A Cooper's Hawk nest with young
- A Merlin nest with young
- A territorial pair of Northern Rough-winged Swallows
- 5 pairs of nesting Eastern Bluebirds
- Confirmed breeding of Blue-winged Warbler
- Two territorial male Golden-winged Warblers
- High densities of Chestnut-sided Warblers and Field Sparrows
- Confirmed breeding of Grasshopper Sparrow with at least 7 pairs on site
- Confirmed breeding of Eastern Meadowlark and Bobolink
- Territorial pairs of Pine Siskin

Several Species at Risk were observed during the surveys. These included Barn Swallow, Wood Thrush, Golden-winged Warbler, Canada Warbler, Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark and Rusty Blackbird. Of these, only Canada Warbler

and Rusty Blackbird do not breed on the site.

The non-breeding seasons were quite different. The winter was quite mild with little snow. Generally, the birding was quiet and mostly consisted of Black-capped Chickadees, American Tree Sparrows, woodpeckers, nuthatches, jays and crows. However, White-winged Crossbills were seen on 4 visits and small flocks of Pine Siskins were frequently observed in the site's swampy wetland.

The greatest species diversity occurred during spring migration, with a high of 64 species seen on May 21. The spring migration did not provide any major fallout days. Most species observed were likely breeding on or near the site. There were no obvious flocks of migrant warblers, vireos, thrushes or flycatchers.

The fall migration was much more interesting. Through September, migrant warblers and vireos were common in the site's woodlands. On September 3, 15 species of warblers were observed on the site. In late September and early October, the Savanna could be alive with birds. Mixed flocks containing sparrows, kinglets, Yellow-rumped, Palm and Nashville Warblers, bluebirds and goldfinches could be in every woodland edge or hedgerow. The gray dogwood thickets of the site were very attractive to a wide variety of birds. Swainson's, Hermit and Wood Thrush, Veery, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, Cedar Waxwing, Yellow-rumped Warbler, White-throated and Fox Sparrow, Rusty Blackbird and Purple Finch all showed a fondness for their fruit.

The data from these surveys is being compiled, along with other historical data from the site to produce a report and a season checklist of the birds of the Savanna.

This study was made possible by the Ontario Species at Risk Stewardship Fund. Thanks for the support of the Alderville First Nation and the staff of the Alderville Black Oak Savanna Preserve.

*Roger Frost*



## Ontario Nature Regional Meeting, November 2012

Ontario Nature's regional meeting for Lake Ontario North in November, 2012 was held in the glass-walled atrium of the Toronto Zoo. Field naturalist representatives shared good news and bad, listened to several presentations and took a late afternoon stroll in the Rouge. Some good news is that two clubs have seen a rise in membership which they attribute to more exposure in the media. Many instances of getting electronically connected were reported including: the new website, ebutterfly (an online butterfly atlas similar to ebird); an upcoming SmartPhone App for the Reptile/Amphibian Atlas; and ON's magazine, Ontario Nature, now online. Books (such as Nature in the Kawarthas, Butterflies of Toronto, and Carol Pasternak's How to Raise Butterflies) have been popular. Members can also look forward to the 3D Imax production Flight of the Butterflies with Gordon Pinsent as narrator.

Summer's Rouge Bioblitz brought together expert biologists and ecologists with amateur naturalists of all ages ... 250 volunteers in all. They listed and identified (with the help of an ID lab equipped with microscopes) anything that was alive within a 24 hour period in Rouge Park. Twice the anticipated species were found (1420 plants and animals so far and still counting) including a rare and fierce looking Black Purseweb spider ... only 200 found in all of Canada. For information on future bioblitzes in natural areas around northern Lake Ontario go to [www.ontariobioblitz.ca](http://www.ontariobioblitz.ca).

Members also commiserated about ongoing dilemmas, the first involving pets. Statistically, housecats are apparently still a worse problem for birds than wind farms, and, in natural areas, off-leash dogs have been wreaking havoc. Permitting dogs off-leash early in the morning and late at night is said to decrease dog bites because of fewer people around, but locating dog poop in the dark (and there can be a lot of it!) is nearly impossible. Dog owners may love to see their pets run free, but native woodland plants can be destroyed by dogs on the loose in a matter of seconds, and one member talked of a park where deer and moose have been driven from the area.

Members also expressed concerns with AT-V's on road allowances, with Enbridge's aged and exposed pipeline carrying the highly corrosive tarsands bitumen from Windsor to Montreal, and with companies that buy quarries whose licenses have lapsed but who take no responsibility for their rehabilitation. Some abandoned quarries do come back naturally however, and Don Davis spoke of one on Lakeridge Road south of Goodwood (west side) as a butterfly hotspot.

A presentation about ON's research and analysis of aggregates in preparation for the 2015 aggregates review reported on the work that 'good guy' companies can do once licences have been surrendered. But for those members who are close to quarry territory, the frequency of trucks, the blasting and the dangers to wells when quarries intrude below the water table are still major issues.

The indoor meeting closed with a report from Ontario Nature's Caroline Schultz. Reilly Reserve near Ottawa is about to be added to ON's other 23 nature reserves. ON continues with its Bobolink and Meadowlark Round Table where it hopes to facilitate a benefits exchange so that money is redirected to farmers. ON is still working to protect the Endangered Species Act and to protect biodiversity when it comes to windpower at Ostrander Point. And its Youth Summit at the end of September was attended by 75 very enthusiastic students from across Ontario.

Kevin Shackleton, welcomed as ON's new Vice President, is doing a 'big year' for bird-watching and regards fundraising for birdathons as going hand in hand with improving membership. He said, 'Not trying is the biggest failure'. And it did seem that day that the lovely light filtered through the atrium went hand in hand with the ongoing work of 140 clubs and ON's 30,000 members.

*Deb Panko*



**In Partnership with Ontario Parks**

**PETER'S WOODS MAINTENANCE REPORT  
2011-2012**

Saturday, April 28 was the official opening of Peter's Woods for the season. The gate was opened at 9:00 a.m. and by the signs of foot prints and walking sticks left by the gate opening by the visitor sign in box, the activity had already begun.

It was an extremely busy year for both Chris and me – a good thing as the board walk sections were in place and with the exception of a step or two to help those folks whose “high stepping” days are limited, most of the maintenance was done last year in the low lying areas.

One of the main maintenance issues that will need attention in the spring is the visitor box sign in post. It has rotted and has a distinctive lean to it, and Chris and I both felt that if the MNR cannot replace it, we would need to find a way to do it ourselves. Since Chris is handy with a chain saw and hammer, perhaps someone from our membership could lend a helping hand with a newly constructed box with a hinged top that could be attached to a new pole that will replace the existing one. A quick e-mail or phone call to either of us is all that is needed – we could then give you dimensions and set a date for this to be done. In advance, we appreciate your assistance.

This spring offered a bountiful harvest of wild flowers – it seemed to be more so than usual. The trout lilies, red and white trilliums, various ferns and mosses burst forth with vigor. For bird lovers there is no shortage in bird songs if you can identify them – finding them sitting still long enough to identify them is another matter! Ferns and scouring rush swathed the forest floor with lush hues of green and will stay green throughout the winter. They make a beautiful contrast to the white snow that is the backdrop.

A hearty THANK YOU to the Peter's Woods Maintenance Volunteers – without whom we could not keep this delightful conservation area in pristine condition. Most of them have been volunteering for many years, and are always enthusiastic to put in one more year. A welcome and special thanks to Lisa Cullen and Jesse Harneden who stepped in this year to help out as we loose one or two members who have put in so much time in the past. To them we say a special thank you, too.

We keep a spreadsheet of where visitors come from, and every year the list seems to increase to ever widening geographic corners. The groups that visit come away from Peter's Woods with a renewed awe at how delightful it was to walk through our old growth forest.

Chris and I closed the gates on Saturday, November 24<sup>th</sup>, first with a quick walk around the trail to ensure we make our maintenance list for next spring. On behalf of Curt Morris, our representative from the MNR, we would encourage visitors to park their cars at the open area at the curve of the road (where the entrance to the road allowance is) to ensure no accidents occur. The hill north of the Peter's Woods entrance is a hazard as drivers can't see parked cars until it is almost too late. Be safe and enjoy the woods in its winter covering.

On behalf of the Volunteers of Peter's Woods, in partnership with Willow Beach Field Naturalists and Ontario Parks, we welcome you to visit the 'Woods' next spring and bring your friends and family. Picture opportunities abound, the ambiance couldn't be better, and what you bring with you after your walk is peace in your heart.

And of course, please stay on the trails.

*Petra Hartwig and Chris Drew, Co-coordinators of Volunteers for Peter's Woods  
November 2012*

## Note from the Nominating Committee

As chair of the Nominating Committee, I am actively looking for candidates for the election of our officers and directors for the upcoming Annual General Meeting in February 2013. We require candidates to fill the following positions: 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, Secretary, Director. These positions are for a two-year term.

If anyone is interested in helping the organization by joining the executive, or wants information about these positions please call or email me (see bottom inside front page for contact info).

Being on the executive board means working with a fantastic and supportive group of nature-loving individuals, come join us!

Louise Schmidt  
Past-President

*You can contact Louise at 905-797-1059 or [wingbeat@xplornet.com](mailto:wingbeat@xplornet.com) or Michael Biggar at [mbiggar@eagle.ca](mailto:mbiggar@eagle.ca)*

## Troubling News on the Status of Wood Thrush and Eastern Wood-Pewee

The status of two of eastern Canada's most common and widespread forest songbird species was assessed at the fall meeting of the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) held in Ottawa from November 25-30. Owing to significant and persistent population declines that have been taking place over the past 40 years, COSEWIC assessed the Wood Thrush as Threatened in Canada, while Eastern Wood-Pewee was assessed as Special Concern.

Wood Thrush populations in Canada have declined by as much as 83% since 1970. Pewees haven't fared much better, with populations having dropped by about 70%. For both species, assessments were greatly informed by examination of data gathered by many skilled volunteers engaged in a variety of Citizen Science bird monitoring programs.

Check out the **COSEWIC website** to learn more about the Wood Thrush and Eastern Wood-Pewee status assessments, as well as those for the other 40 species of flora and fauna that were assessed at the meeting.

*- from Bird Studies Canada Latest News, December 7, 2012*

## RECENT SIGHTINGS

*compiled by Roger Frost*

<b>Greater White-fronted Goose</b>	Nov. 2-5	1	Cobourg Harbour	RP, m.obs.
	Dec. 3-31	1	Cobourg Harbour	SP, m.obs.
Brant	Nov. 3	3	Chub Point, flying west	MB
	Nov. 11	1	Port Hope east beach	BS
Cackling Goose	Nov. 18	2	Garden Hill Pond	WBFN outing
	Dec. 7	2	Port Hope Harbour area	OT
	Dec. 15	4	Cobourg Harbour	CEG
Trumpeter Swan	Nov. 12	2ad, 1juv	Perrytown pond	MB
Tundra Swan	Nov. 13	32	38 Bayshore, Presqu'ile	AEW
<b>Blue-winged Teal</b>	<b>Dec. 1-15</b>	1f	Cobourg Harbour	MBi, m.obs
Redhead	Nov. 10	800	Wicklow Bay	MB
	Dec. 3	600	Lucas Point	MB
Ring-necked Duck	Dec. 16	3	Cobourg Harbour	KN
	Dec. 22	1	off Gosport	CG, Ontbirds
Greater Scaup	Nov. 10	600	Wicklow Bay	MB
	Dec. 1	1200+	off D'Arcy St., Cob.	ERM
	Dec. 1	400+	off Lake St., PH	ERM
	Dec. 3	600	Lucas Point	MB
<b>Harlequin Duck</b>	Oct. 28	1	off Lake St., PH	GL
Black Scoter	Nov. 10	2f	Chub Point	MB
	Dec. 16	10	Presqu'ile Bay	FH, Ontbirds
<b>Barrow's Goldeneye</b>	Nov. 22-Dec. 31	1	Presqu'ile PP	FH, Ontbirds
Hooded Merganser	Nov. 20, 24	5	Calnan Rd. pond	MB
	Dec. 3	1f	Cobourg Harbour	MB
Ruddy Duck	Nov. 1	4	Cobourg Harbour - high count	CEG
	Nov. 7	2	Cobourg Harbour - last date	CEG
Ring-necked Pheasant	Nov. 21	1	Cty. Rd. 45 nr. Centreton Rd.	DGe
Ruffed Grouse	Nov. 6	1	Nauwatin Shores, Grafton	CEG
Wild Turkey	Nov. 3	62	Isaac Rd., Northumberland Forest	CEG
Red-throated Loon	Dec. 22	1	off Gosport	CG, Ontbirds
	Dec. 24	2	Presqu'ile Bay	FH, Ontbirds
Pied-billed Grebe	Nov. 20, 24	1	Calnan Rd. pond	MB
Red-necked Grebe	Dec. 11-13	1imm	Cobourg Harbour (found dead there Dec. 15)	RL, MB
Great Blue Heron	Dec. 28	1	Elgin & Burnham St., Cob.	MB
	Dec. 28	1	Cobourg Harbour	CEG
Turkey Vulture	Oct. 8	100+	along Ganaraska from old File Factory to Corbett's Dam, eating dead salmon	MR
	Nov. 2	1	Cobourg Harbour	CEG
Bald Eagle	Dec. 4 & 5	1	Cavan St., PH	AT
Northern Harrier	Nov. 29	1f	Mast Woods Rd., PH Ward 2	BP, GMCD
	Dec. 9	1	Cty. Rd. 2 e. of Gage's Creek	MBi
Rough-legged Hawk	Dec. 8	1	McLelland Rd., Hamilton Twp.	ERM
Golden Eagle	Nov. 3	1 ad	Lakeshore/Station Rd., Grafton	MB
	Nov. 3	4+	Bull Rd.	CEG
American Kestrel	Nov. 28	1	n. of Smylie Rd. e. of Cty. Rd. 18	JGe
American Coot	Dec. 22	60+	off Gosport	CG, Ontbirds
	Dec. 31	3	Cobourg Harbour	KN
Killdeer	Dec. 3	1	Cobourg Harbour	SP
<b>Hudsonian Godwit</b>	<b>Nov. 5-10</b>	1	Gosport	DB, m.obs.
Sanderling	Dec. 2, 4	1	Presqu'ile PP, Gull Island	RDM, Ontbirds
White-rumped Sandpiper	Nov. 4	2	Cobourg Harbour	RP
	<b>Dec. 2, 4</b>	1	Presqu'ile PP, Gull Island	RDM, Ontbirds

## Sightings - cont'd.

Pectoral Sandpiper	Nov. 11	4	Presqu'ile PP	OFO outing
Purple Sandpiper	Nov. 18	3	Presqu'ile PP, Gull Island	FH, Ontbirds
	Dec. 2, 4	1	Presqu'ile PP, Gull Island	RDM, Ontbirds
	Dec. 11	1	Presqu'ile PP, Gull Island	BDiL, Ontbirds
	Dec. 16/18	2/1	Presqu'ile PP	FH, Ontbirds
	Dec. 25	4	Gull Island, Presqu'ile	KC, Ontbirds
Dunlin	Nov. 4	1	Cobourg Harbour	RP
	Dec. 2	1	Presqu'ile PP, Gull Island	RDM, Ontbirds
	Dec. 8, 9, 13	1	Presqu'ile PP, Gull Island	FH, Ontbirds
Wilson's Snipe	Nov. 11	25+	Presqu'ile PP	OFO outing
	Nov. 18	3	Garden Hill Pond	WBFN outing
Bonaparte's Gull	Nov. 20, 24	12	foot of D'Arcy St., Cobourg	MB
	Dec. 14	1	Cobourg Harbour - last date	CEG
	Dec. 17	6	off east beach, Port Hope	OT
Iceland Gull	Dec. 28	1ad	Cobourg Harbour - Kumlien's	CEG
Glaucous Gull	Dec. 22	1	Cobourg Harbour	OT
Eastern Screech Owl	Oct. 18	1	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2, calling at dusk	LS
	Nov. 17	1	Cty. Rd. 28 & 6th Hamilton, found dead	JGe
Great Horned Owl	Oct. 13	1	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2, calling at dawn	LS
	Dec. 5	1	nr. Mouth of Gage's Creek, PH	DB
	Dec. 25	1	Brown's Rd., PH Ward 2	KA
Snowy Owl	Nov. 11	2	Presqu'ile PP	OFO outing
	Dec. 2	3	Presqu'ile PP, Gull Island	RDM, Ontbirds
	Dec. 11	3	Presqu'ile PP islands	BDiL, Ontbirds
Barred Owl	Nov. 16	1	Cty. Rd. 65 & 4th Line, PH Ward 2	ERM
	Nov. 17	1	Welseyville old village	PB
	Nov. 18	1	entrance to Peace Park, in full daylight	MB
	Nov. 18	1	College St., Cob.	RP
	Nov. 21	1	Jocelyn St. & Ganaraska River, PH	ERM
	Nov. 28	1	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2, hunting in yard all day	LS
	Dec. 9	1	Glen Watford Dr., Cob.	SW
	Dec. 14	1	Welseyville, 2 km. west of Nov. 17 record	PB
	Dec. 25	1	Salvation Army parking lot, Cob.	AEW
	Dec. 29	1	1040 Ontario St., Cob.	AEW
	Dec. 31	1	Ravine Dr., PH	RH
Short-eared Owl	Nov. 13	1	Presqu'ile PP, Gull Island	FH, Ontbirds
Northern Saw-whet Owl	Dec. 1	1	Beamish St., PH	ERM
	Dec. 26	1	Port Hope Conservation Area	EK, RF
<b>Red-headed Woodpecker</b>	<b>Nov. 1-3</b>	1 imm	Welseyville feeder	PB
Hairy Woodpecker	Nov. 20-25	1m2f	Cobourg feeders - high number for location	MB
Eastern Phoebe	Oct. 21	1	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2	LS
	<b>Nov. 14</b>	1	Wesleyville	PB
Northern Shrike	Nov. 8	1	Huff Rd.	CEG
	Nov. 8	1	Presqu'ile PP	CEG
<b>Boreal Chickadee</b>	Nov. 14	1	Presqu'ile PP, Fingers	FH, Ontbirds
	Dec. 12	2	Presqu'ile PP	FH, Ontbirds

## Sightings - cont'd.

Carolina Wren	Nov. 3	1	entrance to Nauwatin Shore, Grafton	MB
	Nov. 30	1	Dorset St.W., PH - singing	SP
	Dec. 27	1	Durham St., Port Hope at feeder	EK
	Dec. 29	1	Brown St., PH	CP
Eastern Bluebird	Nov. 13-14	4	6th Line, PH Ward 2	BLeS
	Dec. 18	8	Grist Mill Rd., PH Ward 2	MB
	Dec. 19	7	Marriott Rd., Alnwick/Haldimand	CW
American Robin	Oct. 22	50+	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2	LS
	Nov. 1	100	Anderson Rd., PH Ward 2	RF
Northern Mockingbird	Nov. 2	1	Welcome	KMcH
	Nov. 6	1	foot of Willow Beach Rd., PH Ward 2	RP
	Nov. 16-Dec.31	1	Danforth Rd., Hamilton Twp.	MBi
Bohemian Waxwing	Nov. 26	9	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2	LS
	Nov. 28	30	Killdeer Cres., Grafton	RP
	Nov. 27	200+	Grandview Dr., Roseneath Landing	RP
	Nov. 29	160+	Grist Mill Rd., PH Ward 2	RP
	Dec. 7	100+	1 Queen St., Cob.	CEG
	Dec. 9	~100	Upper Cold Springs, Hamilton Twp.	SW
	Dec. 17	100	Queen St., Cob., n. of Post Office	CEG
Cedar Waxwing	Oct. 31	50	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2	LS
	Nov. 29	78	Wesleyville	PB
Nashville Warbler	<b>Nov. 6</b>	1	Presqu'ile PP	FH, Ontbirds
Northern Parula	<b>Nov. 11</b>	1	Wesleyville, foraging in apple tree	PB
Black-throated Blue Warbler	<b>Nov. 4</b>	1	Presqu'ile PP, Lighthouse	KL, Ontbirds
Black-throated Green Warbler	<b>Nov. 2</b>	1	Presqu'ile PP	FH, Ontbirds
<b>Yellow-throated Warbler</b>	<b>Dec. 31</b>	1	Brighton	RDM, Ontbirds
Common Yellowthroat	<b>Nov. 11</b>	1	Lake St. Marsh, PH	RF
<b>Scarlet Tanager</b>	<b>Dec. 11-15</b>	1	Union Rd., Brighton	BS
Eastern Towhee	Nov. 12-Jan. 2	1m	Cobourg feeders	MB
Fox Sparrow	Nov. 1	30	Anderson Rd., PH Ward 2	RF
	Dec. 5	2	Durham St., Port Hope at feeder	EK
	Dec. 3-6	1	Cobourg feeders	MB
	Dec. 12	1	Durham St., Port Hope at feeder	EK
	Dec. 23-25	1	Wesleyville feeder	PB
White-throated Sparrow	Dec. 1-Jan. 1	3	Cobourg feeders	MB
White-crowned Sparrow	Nov. 26	1	Queen St., Cob.	CEG
	Nov. 26	1	6th Line, Hamilton Twp.	JGe
	Dec. 1	1	Chub Point	SMcL
	Dec. 1	1	Centennial Dr., PH	ERM
	Dec. 4 & 5	1	1010 Ontario St., Cob.	AEW
Snow Bunting	Dec. 26	100	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2	LS
	Dec. 31	100	Community Centre Rd. & Northumberland Heights Rd.	AEW
Northern Cardinal	Dec. 28	<b>10</b>	Wesleyville feeder	PB
<b>Yellow-headed Blackbird</b>	Dec. 28-Jan. 1	1	Perrytown, PH Ward 2	JH, RJ
Rusty Blackbird	Nov. 1	1	Barnum House Rd., Grafton	CEG
	Nov. 1	35	Anderson Rd., PH Ward 2	RF
	Nov. 26	1	6th Line, Hamilton Twp.	JGe
Common Grackle	Nov. 1	4	Barnum House Rd., Grafton	CEG
Brown-headed Cowbird	Dec. 6	1	Cobourg feeders	MB
	Dec. 22	100+	Wesleyville feeder	PB
	Dec. 26	160	15086 Main St. & Huff Rd., Brighton Twp.	MK, Ontbirds

## Sightings - cont'd.

Pine Grosbeak	Nov. 3	1	Bowmanton Rd.	CEG
	Nov. 13	2	Northumberland Forest	DGe
	Nov. 18	5	Rice Lake CA	WBFN outing
	Nov. 21	1	6th Line, Hamilton Twp.	JGe
	Nov. 26	3	Northumberland County Bldg., Cobourg	BW
	Nov. 27	3	Roseneath Landing	RP
	Nov. 29	14	Wesleyville	PB
	Dec. 1	7	Wesleyville	PB
	Dec. 3	2	Northumberland Foress	RL
	Dec. 5	2	Dale Rd. & Cty. Rd. 45	MB
	Dec. 6	4	7th Line w. of Jamieson, PH Ward 2	MB
	Dec. 20	4	Bloomfield Rd. nr. Pipeline Rd., A-H	OT
Purple Finch	Dec. 30	5	Young St., PH	NEW
Red Crossbill	Nov. 13	15	Northumberland Forest	DGe
White-winged Crossbill	Nov. 3	3	Nauwatin Sanctuary, Grafton	MB
Common Redpoll	Dec. 6	200	6th Line, Hamilton Twp.	JGe
	Dec. 14	~70	Cobourg's harbour walk	DP
	Dec. 16	63	mouth of Ganaraska, PH	GL
Hoary Redpoll	Dec. 6	1	Cobourg Harbour	CEG
	Dec. 23	1m	Cobourg feeders, with 16 Common Redpolls	MB
Pine Siskin	Nov. 1-5	60	Cobourg feeders	MB
	Nov. 1	50	Chub Point	CEG
	Dec.1-31	daily	peak of 60 on Dec. 30, 1010 Ontario St., Cob.	AEW
Evening Grosbeak	Oct. 29	8	Bruton St., PH	GL
	Nov. 1	6	1010 Ontario St., Cob.	AEW
	Nov. 3	5	Nauwatin Sanctuary, Grafton	MB
	Nov. 3	50+	Bowmanton Rd.	KD
	Nov. 6	8	1010 Ontario St., Cob.	AEW
	Nov. 6	2	Wicklow Beach	CEG
	Nov. 12	50	Langstaff Rd. (Durham)	MB
	Nov. 20	9	Alderville Black Oak Savanna	EK, RF
	Nov. 21	2	6th Line, Hamilton Twp.	JGe
	Nov. 27	26	Roseneath Landing	RP
	Dec. 8	6	Marriott Rd., Alnwick/Haldimand	CW
	Dec. 11	24	Roseneath Landing	RP
	Dec. 13	35	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2	LS
	Dec. 15	15	1010 Ontario St., Cob.	AEW
Big Brown Bat	<b>Nov. 20</b>	1	Station Rd., Grafton, in broad daylight	MB
	<b>Nov. 22</b>	1	Wicklow Beach Rd., in broad daylight	MB
Coyote	Dec. 30	1	Jamieson Rd. & 7th, PH Ward 2	LS
Virginia Opossum	Nov. 24	1	Cty. Rd. 64 & Constructed Wetland, Brighton, found dead	DB
Mourning Cloak butterfly	Nov. 7	1	Bagot St., Cobourg	MB
<b>Firefly</b>	<b>Dec. 4</b>	1	nr. Metro store, PH	SWo
Dandelion	Dec. 14	in bloom	Burnham Blvd., PH	WC

**Observers:** MB=Margaret Bain; MBi=Michael Biggar; DB=David Bree; PB=Paul Bridges; KC=Kim Clark; WC=William Crowley; GMCD=Geoff Dale; BDiL=Bruce Di Labio; KD=Karen Drew; RF=Roger Frost; CEG=Clive Goodwin; CG=Colin Griffiths; FH=Fred Helleiner; RH=Rae Hodgson; DGe=David Geale; JGe=John Geale; JH=Jenny Houston; RJ=Robert Jean; EK=Elizabeth Kellogg; MK=Mark Kubisz; KL=Keith Linton; GL=Gary Little; RL=Rob Lonsberry; ERM=Ted McDonald; KMcH=Kathryn McHolm; SMcL=Sherwood McLernon; RDM=Doug McRae; M.obs.=many observers; KN=Ken Niles; DP=Deb Panko; CP=Carole Payne; SP=Sarah Petrasek; BP=Bob Popham; RP=Richard Pope; LS=Louise Schmidt; DS=Dave Shirley; BS=Barbara Stevenson; OT=Ossie Tee; NEW=Norma Wallace; BW=Ben Walters; LW=Lori Wensley; SW=Susanne Williams; AEW=Audrey Wilson; CW=Cherlyn Wilson; SWo=Steven Wood.

## **Northumberland Land Trust Lecture Series**

### **Thursday February 21, 2013**

Janine McLeod, Natural Heritage Coordinator for the Alderville Black Oak Savana, will speak on butterflies. 600 William Street, Cobourg; 7:00 pm refreshments, 7:30 for Janine.

## **Events at Presqu'ile Provincial Park**

**February 16, 2013** - NatureWorks Soup Hike, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

See how much life there is in the dead of winter on this 1.5 hour guided walk, followed by a hot bowl of soup and a slide show. \$2 per person/\$5 per family. Registration is required. Telephone 613-475-1688, Ext. 2.

For more information on events at Presqu'ile, visit [www.friendsofpresquile.on.ca](http://www.friendsofpresquile.on.ca) or phone the park at 613-475-4324 ext. 225

The Next **Great Backyard Bird Count** is February 15-18, 2013.  
Mark your calendar.  
More information at <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/>



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