



Vol LVII No. 2

February 2012

COMING EVENTS

● **Sunday, February 19, 2012 - Outing - Bird Chase Trip.** Meet at Cty. Rd. 28 commuter parking lot in Port Hope, off Phillips Rd., opposite Arby's at 8 a.m. We will chase the rarest bird (s) reported within a 2 hour drive of Port Hope. Leader: **Roger Frost.**

● **Friday, February 24, 2012 - Annual General Meeting at Cobourg Public Library, 7:00 p.m. Note early start time.**

Speaker: **John Geale** Topic: **Boobies, sea lions and crabs: a tour of the Galapagos.**
In addition to club business, there will be a silent auction and some time to socialize. See the meeting Agenda and list of Silent Auction items on page 3.

● **Friday, March 30, 2012 - General Meeting** at Cobourg Public Library, 7:30 p.m.
Speaker: **Paul Elliott** from Trent University. Topic: **Bats and their conservation.**

● **Saturday, March 31, 2012 - Durham shore waterfowl outing.** Meet at County Rd. 45 & Hwy. 401 commuter parking lot at 8 a.m. or at the Oshawa pier at 9 a.m. Leader: **Richard Pope**
Directions to Oshawa pier: Take 401 to Harmony Road Exit and head south on Farewell Street Keep going south past the turn to Oshawa Second Marsh (Colonel Sam/Wentworth). Turn right (west) on Harbour Road and proceed to the T junction at Simcoe Street. Turn left (south) on Simcoe and proceed south past the park and Robinson house and follow the road as it curves left. Turn right immediately into the parking lot where we will meet at 9:00 a.m.

● **Sunday, April 15, 2012, 2:00 pm. - Outing to the Laurie Lawson Outdoor Education Centre** on Telephone Road. Leader: **Mark Rupke.** The hike will look for the first signs of spring flowers and life in the vernal pools. Please note that the paths are now suitable for a wide range of mobility. Directions: Laurie Lawson Outdoor Education Centre is on the north side of Telephone Rd., approximately 1.5 km west of Burnham St. and east of Theatre Rd. There is a small parking lot, but some cars will have to park along Telephone Rd.

Welcome to New Member

Sara Petrasek, Warkworth

Northumberland Land Trust Lecture Series

The County Building, 600 William St.,
Cobourg, Thursday, March 8, 7:30 p.m.

Elizabeth Kellogg - A naturalist with a
particular interest in birds.

Elizabeth is going to speak to us on the
Birds of Northumberland County in re-
lation to their habitat.

**15th Annual Great Backyard Bird
Count** takes place February 17-20,
2012. For more information, go to
www.birdsource.org/gbbc

2012 Doug Tarry Young Ornithologists' Workshop

2012 Doug Tarry Young Ornithologists' Workshop
will be held at Long Point Bird Observatory near
Port Rowan, Ontario, from Saturday, August 4 to
Sunday, August 12. Participants will receive hands-
on field ornithology training, including bird band-
ing, censusing, field identification, birding trips,
preparing museum specimens, guest lectures, and
more! Six of Canada's most promising ornithol-
ogists between the ages of 13 and 17 will be select-
ed to attend, and will receive the Doug Tarry Bird
Study Award to cover all on-site expenses. For
those traveling long distances, special grants may
also be available through the Hugh T. Lemon Me-
morial Student Award to help offset air travel costs.
Applications are due April, 30, 2012. For more in-
formation and an application form, contact LPBO
at lpbo@birdscanada.org.

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THE WILLOW BEACH FIELD NATURALISTS

<http://www.willowbeachfieldnaturalists.org>

Past Pres.	Michael Biggar	905-372-7407	mbiggar.wbfn@gmail.com
President	Louise Schmidt	905-797-1059	wingbeat@xplornet.com
1st Vice-pres.	Tim Tottenham	905-885-2337	tottenham@vianet.ca
2nd Vice-pres.	Vacant		
Secretary	Karen Drew	905-342-2904	drew@eagle.ca
Treasurer	Rae Waring	905-372-9350	waringrm@sympatica.ca
FON Rep.	Deb Panko	905-372-1974	bluebird@teksavvy.com
Curlew Ed.	Elizabeth Kellogg	905-885-9615	ekrf@eagle.ca
	Norma Wallace	905-885-5552	
webmaster	Bruce Parker	905-372-4911	buice@sympatico.ca

The editor is most grateful to those who have contributed to this issue of the Curlew. Copy for the March 2012 issue should be received by February 29, 2012. 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 March Curlew. Correspondence for WBFN should be addressed to: "The Willow Beach Field Naturalists, P.O. Box 421, Port Hope, ON L1A 3Z3."

WBFN Annual General Meeting
Cobourg Public Library, Cobourg Ontario
Date: February 24, 2012
Refreshments: 7pm; **Meeting:** 7:30 pm
Agenda

Call to order

Approval of Minutes - AGM February 25, 2011

Announcements:

Silent Auction - (Some of the items up for auction are listed below.)

New Business: Ratification of Membership Fee Increase

Reports

President's Report

Financial Report

Nomination Committee Report – Election of Officers

Sightings and next outing

Speaker Presentation: John Geale

Announcement: Silent Auction winners

Next Meeting: March 30, 2012, 7:30 pm Cobourg Public Library

Adjournment

Support Environmental Education at the Silent Auction

Mark February 24th on your calendar and bring a friend to the Annual Meeting and Silent Auction. All proceeds go to funding the club's support of environmental initiatives at local schools. Some of the items on which you can bid this year include: Presqu'ile Provincial Park annual pass; Squirrel Buster bird feeder; two 40 lb. bags of bird seed; Chris Lyon's famous bluebird nest boxes; a purple martin nest box; a dog lover's gift set from Pet Valu; many new field guides; homemade pie by Marilyn Waring; homemade cake by Marg Robinson; a birding tour led by Marg Bain; a birding tour led by Richard Pope; a botany tour led by Bill Crowley; a dinner for 4 hosted by the Whitney's; a number of interesting art pieces; and more.

President's Report: 2011 in Review

I find it hard to believe that 2 years have gone by since I stepped into the role of president. Twelve short years ago, new to the County, I did not even know WBFN existed. It was while she was banding bluebirds at nest boxes in our yard, that Elizabeth Kellogg encouraged me to join the club. I did that in 2001, joined the executive committee in 2002, and so an interesting journey of discovery began.

It has been a busy year, with the executive board addressing several issues on behalf of all members. My job was made easy with the selfless support and the wealth of knowledge of all board members and other volunteers. Without them the organization would cease to exist. As my term ends, I am confident that the members of the Board will continue the tradition of our WBFN founders in enjoying and helping preserve our local natural heritage, an important mandate in this climate of rapid technological changes, unbridled development and rabid consumption.

Members of the executive board met monthly from September to June (except December) to manage the affairs of the Club. I extend my sincere appreciation to the following board and committee members for their many hours of volunteer service devoted to the club's activities:

- Michael Biggar, Past President, Nominating Committee Chair
- Ben Walters, (retired December 2011) 1st Vice-president, Environmental Monitor
- Tim Tottenham, 2nd Vice-President, Press Coordinator with Jane Tottenham
- Karen Drew, Secretary, Education Coordinator
- Rae Waring, Treasurer
- Audrey Wilson, Director, Archive Committee
- Bill Newell, Director, Peter's Woods Boardwalk Build
- Petra Hartwig, Director, Peter's Woods

Stewardship Coordinator

- ohn Geale, Director, Communications Coordinator
- Gina Brouwer, Director
- Bruce Parker, Director, Webmaster, Archive Committee
- Deborah Panko, Ontario Nature Representative
- Trish Whitney, Meeting Coordinator
- Elizabeth Kellogg, Curlew Editor, Monthly Sightings Facilitator
- Norma Wallace, Curlew Co-editor
- Barry Robinson, Membership List and Curlew Circulation with Margaret Robinson
- Chris Drew, Peter's Woods Stewardship, Boardwalk Build
- Roger Frost, Bird Count Coordinator, Outings Committee Chair, Sightings Compiler
- Bill Crowley, Outings Committee, was until recently WBFN Member at large on NLT Board
- Bob Short, Outings Committee, WBFN Financial Reviewer (auditor)
- Marguerite Short, Monthly Raffle Coordinator
- Harry and Carol Knapper, Name Tag Committee

I wish to acknowledge the following members for their support:

- Margaret Bain, Waterfront Trail Committee
- Marilyn and Bob Harris, Lone Pine Marsh
- Clive Goodwin, Russell Lake, Terry Stopps, Cobourg Land Use Committee
- Clive Goodwin for his continuing work on the bird database
- John Geale, for his participation in the Bailie Birdathon with a percentage of the proceeds coming to WBFN
- Allison Elliott, 2012 WBFN Silent Auction Coordinator

I am also grateful for our generous donors in 2011, who gave from the heart, matching our income from memberships,

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therefore providing critical funds to help us continue offering quality programs and awards; for the members who led outings or made presentations and those who attended the meetings and outings, your participation encourages us to keep going.

The following is a summary of the activities of the Board during the past year:

Administration, Programs, Stewardship:

- Requested an audit of the financial records and implemented recommendations from the audit report.
- Developed fiscally responsible Budget Guidelines.
- Developed and adopted Privacy policies.
- Established guidelines for speaker remuneration.
- Reviewed and amended Membership fees.
- Revised the WBFN Membership form.
- Revised the WBFN information pamphlet.
- Formed an Archive Committee devoted to reviewing WBFN records and developing archive policies.
- Revised the WBFN Scholarship Award application and the Education Awards application and process.
- Maintained and updated the WBFN website whose popularity is increasing thanks to our creative webmaster.
- Maintained communication with WBFN e-reminders and the e- version of the Curlew for members.
- Produced and circulated 7 issues of the Curlew publication.
- Approved the binding of 5 yrs of Curlew Newsletters into three books, one book each going to the Cobourg Public Library, the Port Hope Library and the WBFN archives.
- Held 7 indoor general meetings with informative speakers and fundraising raffles, with a Silent Auction to be held at the February 2012 AGM.
- Held 11 interesting outings including the President's Walk.

- Held two local Bird Counts – Christmas and Summer Bird Counts.
- Increased our visibility in the community with more frequent press releases and free radio announcements.
- Nominated 6 members for Ontario Volunteer Service Awards.
- Completed the building and installation of boardwalks for Peter's Woods Provincial Nature Reserve.
- Carried out Volunteer monitoring and maintenance of Peter's Woods Provincial Nature Reserve during the open season.

Education Awards and donations

- Awarded the \$1000.00 WBFN Scholarship to the successful applicant graduating from a local secondary school.
- Awarded \$250.00 to the Lawrie Lawson Education Centre
- Awarded \$250.00 to the Alderville Black Oak Savanna for the purchase of Bird Guides for the School Education Program
- Supported the Living Green Fair with a donation of \$200.00 and participated with a WBFN display table.
- Donated a WBFN membership for the Northumberland Rotary Sunrise auction.
- Offered member support for the NLT Wallace Birdathon.
- Sponsored a Nature Category at the Port Hope Fall Fair Photography Contest
- Donated \$100.00 toward the Kids Nature Program at the Ontario Nature AGM June 2011.
- Donated \$2,000.00 to the Nature Conservancy of Canada towards the purchase of the Hamilton Township, Robson Road "Hazel Bird" property.
- Matched donations with a final transfer of \$5,495.83 to the Northumberland Land Trust, thereby closing the property ac-

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count.

Outreach and Advocacy

- Co-operated with Town of Cobourg in developing signage re: waterfowl feeding in Cobourg Harbour and gave financial support to produce a sign with the WBFN logo.
- Initiated discussion with the Town of Cobourg to develop appropriate landscaping and native plantings at the Cobourg Harbour west beach to separate the parking lot and the beach in an ongoing effort to discourage waterfowl feeding.
- Co-hosted the Ontario Nature AGM and 80th Anniversary Celebration June 2011 at the GRCA Education Centre with several members actively participating, having displays or leading outings and activities.
- Maintained representation on the Ontario Nature Network, Lake Ontario North Meeting Group, attending two Regional meetings
- Co-hosted the International Biodiversity Day event in the Northumberland Forest
- Continued representation on the Northumberland Forest Advisory Committee
- Nominated the County of Northumberland successfully for an Ontario Nature Award
- Maintained representation on the Northumberland Land Trust Board with a non-voting member at large and collaborated with the NLT education committee in planning their Lecture Series.
- Offered support to Alderville Black Oak Savanna, The Northumberland Land Trust by advertising and promoting their activities through our communications, website and the Curlew.
- Provided a Letter of Support for the Alderville Black Oak Savannah for the purposes of grant applications

- Participated in the OMB hearing on the Carr's Marsh rezoning and building permit approval, making a submission and presentation. Our input had a positive influence with the outcome of reducing the scope of the proposed site development and mandating site restoration and improvements.

Sent letters or comments on behalf of WBFN to:

- The Ontario Provincial and local electoral candidates in the October 6, 2011 election, regarding the Moraine Can't Wait Campaign asking for improved protection and enforcement of legislation to protect the Oak Ridges Moraine.
- The Ontario Ministry of the Environment expressing our concerns regarding the proposed Whispering Woods wind farm project in the Millbrook area.
- The Government of Ontario and Ministry of the Environment expressing our concerns and opposition to the development of a wind farm at Ostrander Point in Prince Edward County.
- The Government of Ontario encouraging the protection of Woodland Caribou Habitat under the Endangered Species Act.
- Signed the Ontario Nature Biodiversity Charter
- Circulated and signed the Snapping Turtle Petition to support the prohibition of snapping turtle hunting.

In closing I wish to thank Judy Grimshaw, Victoria Retirement Living, Cobourg, for providing accommodation and refreshments for executive board meetings. To show our appreciation, an outdoor bench was donated for the use and enjoyment of the residents.

Respectfully submitted,
Louise Schmidt, President

Willow Beach Field Naturalists' 2012 Nominating Committee Report

WBFN's Constitution provides that a Nominating Committee shall bring forward a slate of candidates for election at the Annual General Meeting. Further nominations from the floor shall be accepted, with the nominee's prior consent, provided that they are proposed and seconded. The members of the nominating committee include President Louise Schmidt, 1st Vice President Tim Tottenham, as well as Past Presidents Simone Merey, Russell Lake and myself, Chair and past President Michael Biggar.

Directors John Geale, Gina Brouwer and Bruce Parker's two year terms end in February 2012. These directors have agreed to let their names stand for election for another term. The committee is pleased to announce that Hans Maas will also stand as a director. In addition directors Audrey Wilson and Bill Newell will continue their terms. WBFN secretary Karen Drew and treasurer Rae Waring have also agreed to continue in their present positions.

The Nominating Committee presents the following slate of candidates for election at the 2012 Annual General Meeting.:

President: Tim Tottenham

1st Vice President: Petra Hartwig

2nd Vice President: Vacant

Directors: Gina Brouwer, John Geale, Bruce Parker and Hans Maas

Louise Schmidt becomes Immediate Past President

The committee is also pleased to announce that Chris and Karen Drew as well as Petra Hartwig have agreed to continue stewardship of Peter's Woods.

Please advise the nominating committee in advance if additional candidates will be nominated during the AGM.

Michael Biggar,
Chair
February 2012



New Website Launched

The Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority is pleased to announce the launch of a new Ganaraska Forest Outdoor Education Centre website. We are welcome to visit and explore the new site at www.ganaraskaforestcentre.ca

Willow Beach Field Naturalists 2011 Financial Report

	Operating	Account	Property Account	
	Budget 2011	Actual		Actual
Opening Assets Jan1/11	\$9,873.00	\$9,873.08		\$5,458.60
Consisting of:				
GIC	\$4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	GIC	\$11,000.00
Bank Balance	\$5,873.08	\$ 5,873.08	Bank Balance	\$68.25
			Accounts Payable	-\$5,609.65
Receipts				
Memberships	3350	3,293.00		
Undesignated Donations	1200	2,013.75		
Scholarship Donations	1054	1,054.00		
Raffle/Book Sale	450	557.07		
Other (Bank Interest/gst rebate)		0.69	Bank Interest	4.68
GIC Interest	80	114.00	GIC Interest	33.00
GIC Redemption	4000	4,000.00	GIC Redemption	11,000.00
GST Rebate		92.03		
Total Receipts	10134	11,124.54		11,037.68
From Property Acct for Land Trust		5,496.28		
Disbursements				
Meeting Rooms	785	553.80		
Honorariums	350	350.00		
Insurance	783	783.00		
Curlew	1400	1,543.89		
Web Site	200	220.60		
Office equipment	50	116.60		
HST	300	296.44		
Postage	400	428.67		
Donations	2000	3,870.00		
Bank Charges	42	47.31		
Projects/misc	200	449.07		
Buy GIC	4000	4,000.00		
Total Disbursements	10510	12,659.38		
To Northumberland Land Trust		5,496.28	To Operating Account(land trust)	5496.28
Net Income	-376.00	-1,534.84	Net Income	5541.4
Assets Dec 31 2011			Assets Dec 31 2011	
GIC Redemption		-\$4,000.00	GIC redemption	-\$11,000.00
GIC Purchase		\$4,000.00	Reduction Accts payable(land trust)	5609.65
Closing Assets*	\$9,497	\$8,338.56	Closing Assets	0
Consisting of:				
GIC		\$4,000.00		
Operating Balance		\$4,338.56		
* include \$1528 in scholarship fund				
Donations: Ont. Nature, Living Green Fair, Alderville Black Oak Savanna, Kawartha Pine Ridge Schools, Scholarship, Nature Conservancy, Northumberland Land Trust				

Willow Beach Field Naturalists Annual General Meeting Minutes **Cobourg Public Library – February 26, 2011, 7:00 p.m.**

Call to Order:

Louise Schmidt called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. She welcomed everyone. 72 people were present.

Approval of Last AGM Minutes:

Motion by Tim Tottenham that the AGM Minutes of Feb. 26, 2010 be adopted. Seconded by Bill Wensley. Carried.

Reports:

•President's Report:

Louise Schmidt reminded everyone that the 2010/11 President's report was printed in the February Curlew. **Motion** by Bill Crowley to confirm actions of the Executive Board since the last AGM (per Report). Seconded by Pat Lawson. Carried.

•Financial Report:

Louise Schmidt reviewed the report in the February Curlew, in Rae Waring's absence. Louise added that Bob Short had conducted an audit and all was well. **Motion** by Bill Newell that the Financial Report be adopted. Seconded by Ben Walters. Carried.

•Nomination Committee / Election of Board Members:

Michael Biggar presented the nomination committee report. The following names for two year terms were put forth (see also February Curlew):

President – Louise Schmidt

First Vice President – Ben Walters

Second Vice President – Tim Tottenham

Secretary – Karen Drew

Treasurer – Rae Waring

Directors – Audrey Wilson, Bill Newell, Petra Hartwig, Gina Brouwer, John Geale, and Bruce Parker

Further nominations were called from the floor and none were forthcoming. **Motion** by John Geale that those nominated be adopted. Seconded by Carole Payne. Carried. **Motion** by Jean Wilson that the nominations be closed. Seconded by Carole. Carried.

Motion by Louise Schmidt that Tim Tottenham assumes the position of 2nd Vice President. Seconded by Bob Short. Carried. **Motion** by Louise Schmidt to close the nomination. Seconded by Pat Lawson. Carried.

Motion by Sheila Goering that Audrey Wilson assumes the position of Director. Seconded by Pat Lawson. Carried. **Motion** by Trish Whitney to close the nomination. Seconded by Deb Panko. Carried.

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Motion by Carole Payne that Bill Newell assumes the position of Director. Seconded by Tim Tottenham. Carried. **Motion** by Pat Lawson to close the nomination. Seconded by Bob Short. Carried.

Motion by Deb Panko that Petra Hartwig assumes the position of Director. Seconded by Bill Crowley. Carried. **Motion** by Jean Wilson to close the nomination. Seconded by Louise Schmidt. Carried.

Motion by Bruce Parker that Karen Drew assumes the position of Secretary. Seconded by Carole Payne. Carried. **Motion** by Lori Wensley to close the nomination. Seconded by Ben Walters. Carried.

Sightings:

Elizabeth Kellogg solicited bird sightings from the members present.

Presentation:

Geoff Carpentier gave a very interesting slide show on Antarctic – First Journey and side trips on the way there.

The raffle winners were announced.

Motion by Ben Walters to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 pm.

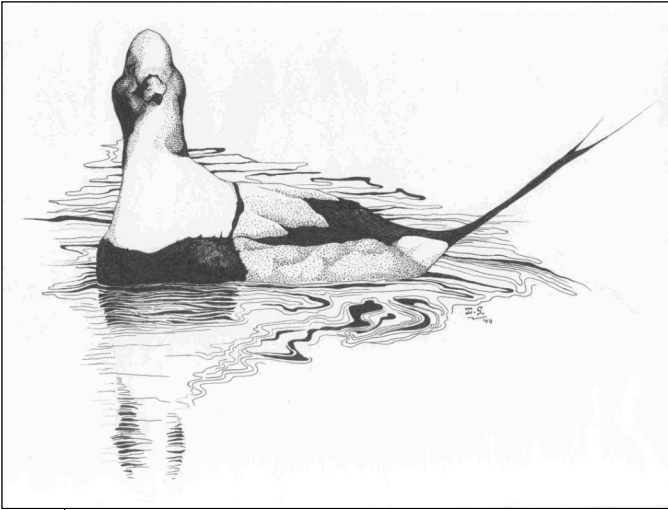
Birds on request!

For many years, Peter Whelan wrote his "BIRDS" column for the Globe and Mail. This item was included in his column date Saturday, May 2, 1998:

"Showing visitors an unusual number of a spectacular species on one's home turf is quadruply special. "Now, what bird do you want to see?" Audrey Wilson asked Helen and Spencer Inch of London, Ont., on April 1 as they approached the lighthouse at Presqu'ile Provincial Park, Ont. "Pileated Woodpecker," Mr. Inch said.

Almost immediately, the rattling call of that giant woodpecker rang out. Then three pileated woodpeckers flew in, fighting. "Two seemed to be squabbling over the other, as if someone was on someone else's territory", Ms. Wilson recalled. The spat went on for 10 minutes. All three woodpeckers were admired in the same telescope view as they perched low on a tree trunk. Three pileateds in a telescope, away from a family nest site, just might be a unique Canadian sighting."

Submitted by Don Davis



Presqu'ile Waterfowl Viewing Weekend

March 17-18/2012, 10am to 4pm

Presqu'ile will once again be hosting a waterfowl viewing weekend, where nature enthusiasts can come and appreciate one of the great 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 Lighthouse Centre is the focal point for your visit. Ducky displays and children's activities are showcased and the Friends are there with hot drinks and snacks, and a BBQ from 11am onwards. The Friends' Gift Store is also open 10am to 4pm. A Bushnell representative will be on hand 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 the Visitor Centre with the children's activities I would be more than happy to hear from you. For more information on the event or on volunteering please contact David or Lisa at 613 475-4324 ext 225 or david.bree@ontario.ca.

2012 Permits for the Brighton Constructed Wetland

Permits for the Brighton Constructed Wetland are now available. Visit brighton.ca, click on Tourism (upper right-hand side), click on Constructed Wetland (left-hand side). Print off the permit request and mail it along with \$5.00 and a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Public Works Department, 67 Sharp Street, PO Box 250, Brighton ON K0K 1H0.

Outing Report

Fifteen Willow Beach members led by Roger F went visiting the creatures who inhabit Northumberland Forest on Sunday, January 22nd.

The county roads were peaceful and sanded. On the trail opposite Woodland Road, chickadees flitted high up in the snow caked trees. No answer from the crossbills or purple finches but a raven was in the area. Only once in our travels did we hear the chainsaw roar of two ATV's filling the forest.

Stopping at Karen Drew's with her two children at home, we checked on the juncos and a lone American tree sparrow at the feeders. The gray partridge hadn't been seen for the past week but we appreciated Karen's hospitality ... and her facilities!

Driving past the Primrose Sanctuary on Bowmanton Road, we gave a nod to some of our personal donkey acquaintances, then a swoop of starlings over the wine fields of summer at Oak Heights. On our way to Burnley, a flock of at least 40 pine siskin darted about in the white spruce.

Three crocks of hot soup were waiting for us at Barry King's studio on Dunbar Road (one a sweet potato/carrot/ginger specialty of Elizabeth K's – secret ingredient peanut butter) plus Jane T's hearty bread and homemade cookies. Barry's intricately executed pen and ink/ watercolours express the beauty of many of the area's heritage buildings and bridges. His family has owned land here since the late 1800's.

Driving home down County Road 22 with the sun getting a little stronger, it felt good to be home in Northumberland.

- Deb Panko



Following an outing in the Northumberland Forest, WBFN members enjoy soup and art work at Barry King's Gallery.

Sweet Potato Soup

- 2 C. chopped onions
- 1 T. peanut or vegetable oil
- ½ tsp. cayenne or other ground dried chiles
- 1 tsp. grated peeled fresh ginger root
- 1 C. chopped carrots
- 2 C. chopped sweet potatoes (up to 1 C. white potatoes can be substituted)
- 3 C. vegetable stock or water (Chicken stock can also be used, if not serving to vegetarians.)
- 2 C. tomato juice or V-8
- 1 C. smooth peanut butter
- 1 T. sugar (optional)
- 1 C. chopped scallions or chives

Sauté onions in the oil. Stir in the cayenne and fresh ginger. Add carrots and sauté a few minutes. Mix in potatoes and stock, bring to a boil, simmer

for 15 minutes.

Purée veggies in blender with cooking liquid and tomato juice. Return purée to soup pot. stir in peanut butter until smooth. Taste and add sugar if desired. Reheat soup gently.

Add more water, stock or tomato juice for a thinner soup.

Serve topped with scallions or chives.

This soup freezes well, if the quantity is more than your household wants to eat at one time. It's especially good after a cold walk in the forest!

Mid-winter Waterfowl Inventory January 8, 2012

Species	Presqu'ile Section	Wicklow to Wesleyville
Cackling Goose	1	
Canada Goose	1,850	3,026
Mute Swan	442	9
Trumpeter Swan	4	
Tundra Swan	11	
swan spp.	1	
Wood Duck		1 female in Cobourg Harbour, long staying
American Black Duck	3	35
Mallard	12	1,739
Anas spp.	16	
Canvasback	11	
Redhead	950	5
Greater Scaup	1,980	836
Lesser Scaup	3	
White-winged Scoter	12	7
Long-tailed Duck	1,452	262
Bufflehead	85	132
Common Goldeneye	472	836
Barrow's Goldeneye	1	
Common Merganser	43	76
Red-breasted Merganser	28	301
Duck sp.	250	42

The 2012 Mid-winter Waterfowl Inventory was held on January 8, 2012.

The Presqu'ile portion was covered by two parties: Doug McRae and Sarah Petrasek in the eastern section; Nick Gromoff and Maureen Riggs in the western section. The Wicklow to Wesleyville portion was covered by three parties: Elizabeth Kellogg, Margaret Bain and Richard Pope covered from Wicklow to Monk's Cove; John and David Geale walked from Cobourg's west end to the mouth of the Ganaraska River in Port Hope; and Roger Frost, Katsu Sakuma, and Michael Biggar covered from Port Hope harbor to Wesleyville.

Two unusual species were seen:
1 Cackling Goose near Barcovan
1 male Barrow's Goldeneye off Presqu'ile lighthouse.

Generally, waterfowl numbers were low. In the Wicklow/Grafton section, there were duck hunters in two places, so that may have had a local effect on numbers.

Non-waterfowl highlights included:
1 Bald Eagle, an adult at Wesleyville
1 Peregrine Falcon, perched on a waterfront building in Port Hope
1 Snowy Owl at Cobourg Harbour
2 Snowy Owls in the Owen Pt./Gull Island area at Presqu'ile
1 White-crowned Sparrow west of Port Hope

Compiled from information provided by Roger Frost and R. Doug McRae

RECENT SIGHTINGS

compiled by Roger Frost

Greater White-fronted Goose	Feb. 1	1	Cobourg Harbour	BS
Snow Goose	Jan. 2, 3	1	Cobourg Harbour	CEG, RP, m.obs.
Mute Swan	Jan. 5	400	Presqu'ile Bay	FH, Ontbirds
	Jan. 23	10	Cobourg Harbour	CEG
Tundra Swan	Jan. 5	5	Presqu'ile Bay	FH, Ontbirds
Wood Duck	Jan. 1-31	1f	Cobourg Harbour	MB
American Wigeon	Feb. 5	2 (pr.)	Grist Mill Rd. pond, PH Ward 2	BW
Northern Pintail	Jan. 30	30	Cobourg Harbour	KN
Green-winged Teal	Dec. 12	1	Cobourg Harbour	LW
	Jan. 25, 26	1	Presqu'ile Bay	FH, Ontbirds
Ring-necked Duck	Jan. 29	1	Grist Mill Rd. pond, PH Ward 2	BW
Greater Scaup	Jan. 1	200	Pentecostal Rd.	CEG
Barrow's Goldeneye	Dec. 29-Jan. 19	1	Presqu'ile PP	FH, Ontbirds
	Jan. 26	2	Presqu'ile PP	FH, Ontbirds
	Jan. 27-Feb. 2	1	Presqu'ile PP	FH, Ontbirds
GoldeneyeXHooded Merganser	Jan. 23	1	Cobourg Harbour	MRu (photo)
Common Merganser	Jan. 15	40	Port Hope harbour	EK, RF
Wild Turkey	Jan. 24	75	Cty. Rd. 25 e. of Dartford	EK, RF
Horned Grebe	Jan. 7	1	Presqu'ile PP	FH, Ontbirds
Turkey Vulture	Jan. 16	1	Cty. Rd. 2 between Brighton & Colborne	FH, Ontbirds
Bald Eagle	Jan. 1	1	Wesleyville OPG, PH Ward 2	EK, RF
	Jan. 19	1 imm	Cobourg Harbour	GMCD, Jgo
	Jan. 22-26	1imm	Cobourg Harbour - displacing Snowy Owl from goose carcass originally killed by coyote	KN, CEG, m.obs
Northern Harrier	Dec. 30	4	Presqu'ile PP	FH, Ontbirds
Cooper's Hawk	Jan. 10, 15	1	Ontario St., Cob.	AEW
	Jan. 10, 13	1	Young St., PH	NEW, RA
Rough-legged Hawk	Jan. 29	1	Centreton	EK, RF
Merlin	Jan. 30	1	Wesleyville	PB
	Jan. 10	1	Alderville Black Oak Savanna	EK, RF
Peregrine Falcon	Jan. 5	1	Port Hope harbour	EK, RF
American Coot	Jan. 6	4	Cobourg Harbour	CEG
Iceland Gull	Jan. 2	1	Cobourg Harbour	ERM
Glaucous Gull	Jan. 16	1	Cobourg Harbour	ERM
Snowy Owl	Dec. 14	1	Lakeshore & D'Arcy, Cob.	AEW
	Dec. 30	6	Presqu'ile PP	FH, Ontbirds
	Jan. 5-12	5	Presqu'ile PP	FH, Ontbirds
	Jan. 1-24	1	Cobourg Harbour	m.obs.
Long-eared Owl	Jan. 2	1	University Ave., Cob.	PG
Northern Saw-whet Owl	Jan. 30	1	s. of Baltimore	AB
Northern Flicker	Dec. 14	1	Ontario St., Cob.	AEW
Northern Shrike	Jan. 1	1	east end of Cobourg	BL, Ontbirds
	Jan. 22, 31	1	Cobourg Harbour	CEG
Common Raven	Jan. 13	4	Wesleyville	PB, EB
Horned Lark	Jan. 21	4	Lakeport roadside field	MB
	Jan. 29	22	Grafton area	EK, RF
	Jan. 30	30	Dickinson Rd., PH Ward 2	MB
Red-breasted Nuthatch	Jan. 7	6	Laurie Lawson Outdoor Ed. Centre	ERM
Carolina Wren	Feb. 4	1	foot of Victoria St.S., PH	SM, AT, KMCh
Eastern Bluebird	Jan. 4	4	Wesleyville	PB
	Jan. 7	2	Wesleyville	PB
	Jan. 10	10	Alderville Black Oak Savanna	EK, RF
	Feb. 3	4	Massey Rd., PH Ward 2	GdA

Sightings - cont'd.

American Robin	Jan. 2	50	Wesleyville - singing	PB
	Jan. 5	10	Wilson Dr. (n. of Grafton)	JB
	Jan. 6	50	Wesleyville - cloudy, not singing	PB
Northern Mockingbird	all Jan.	1	Yeovil St., PH	ERM
Cedar Waxwing	Jan. 4	35	Wesleyville	PB
	Jan. 11	100+	Wesleyville	PB
Eastern Towhee	Jan. 7-Feb. 1	1	Cramahe Twp. Feeder	B&LO
Savannah Sparrow	Jan. 16-Feb. 2	1	Presqu'ile feeder	FH, Ontbirds
Song Sparrow	Dec. 10/11	1	Ontario St., Cob.	AEW
	Jan. 5	1	Young St., PH	SL
White-throated Sparrow	Jan. 1-31	2	Cobourg backyard feeders	MB
	Jan. 19	2	Choate Rd., PH Ward 2	SM
	Jan. 25	1	Alderville Black Oak Savanna	EK, RF
Snow Bunting	Jan. 17	6	flying east over Albert St., Cob.	MB
Red-winged Blackbird	Jan. 21	12	Cty. Rd. 2 & Huff Rd.	KL
	Jan. 22	40+	Cty. Rd. 2 & Huff Rd.	MR, FH
Rusty Blackbird	Jan. 22	2	Cty. Rd. 2 & Huff Rd.	MR, FH
Common Grackle	Jan. 7	2	Fraser St., PH	SW
	Jan. 21	1	Cty. Rd. 2 & Huff Rd.	KL
Brown-headed Cowbird	Dec. 27	2	Ontario St., Cob.	AEW
	Jan. 21	15	Cty. Rd. 2 & Huff Rd.	KL
White-winged Crossbill	Jan. 15	7	Bull Rd., Alnwick/Haldimand	EK, RF
	Jan. 22	25	Russ Creek & Dunbar	EK, RF
Common Redpoll	Jan. 25	1	Presqu'ile PP	FH, Ontbirds
Pine Siskin	Jan. 15	100	Bull Rd., Alnwick/Haldimand	EK, RF
Chipmunk	to Dec. 25	1	Ontario St., Cob.	AEW
Raccoon	Jan. 28	1	Ontario St., Cob.	AEW
Coyote	all Jan.	1	daily sighting on Mill Golf Course	AEW
Opossum	Jan. 15	1	Choate Rd., PH Ward 2	SM, TM

Observers: RA=Ruth Andrus; GdA=Gill de Auer; MB=Margaret Bain; JB=Johanna Bonnebaker; EB=Evelyn Bridges; PB=Paul Bridges; AB=Ann Brightman; BC=Brian Cook; GMCD=Geoff Dale; RF=Roger Frost; JGo=Jack Goering; CEG=Clive Goodwin; PG=Pauline Graham; FH=Fred Helleiner; EK=Elizabeth Kellogg; SL=Susan Laing; KL=Keith Linton; BL=Bill Logan; ERM=Ted McDonald; KMCh=Kathryn McHolm; SM=Simone Merey; TM=Tom Merey; m.obs.=Many Observers; KN=Ken Niles; B&LO=Bob & Lesley Owen; Ontbirds=OFO listserv; RP=Richard Pope; MR=Maureen Riggs; MRu=Mike Runtz; BS=Betsy Smith; AT=Anne Tesluk; NEW=Norma Wallace; BW=Ben Walters; LW=Lori Wensley; AEW=Audrey Wilson; SW=Steven Wood.

THINK SPRING TREE PLANTING THIS WINTER

The Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority is accepting tree orders for Spring 2012. Funding is also available for landowners who plant/purchase more than 500 seedlings, or who plant more than 2 acres of land. For more information contact Pam Lancaster, Stewardship Technician at plancaster@grca.on.ca

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P.O. Box 421
Port Hope, ON L1A 3Z3

