



# The Blue Bill

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Submissions should be in MS Word format or in "plain text" format (PC or MacIntosh) or unformatted in the body of an e-mail.

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## President's Page

### *Gaye Beckwith*

*"It's like an exponentially accelerating horse race. On one hand, the development of environmental problems in the whole world is accelerating exponentially. On the other hand, the development of public environmental concern, and of private and governmental countermeasures, is also accelerating exponentially. Which horse will win the race?"*

#### **Jared Diamond in "Collapse: How Societies Choose To Fail or Succeed"**

It is an honour to serve as President of the Kingston Field Naturalists. Over the past six decades, KFN has grown into an organization of over 500 members, collected and published data on numerous species, acquired properties to be protected into perpetuity, and established a network of expertise second to none. Our goal now is to continue this legacy.

The enjoyment and protection of our natural world are defining elements of our organization. While we continue to appreciate aspects of nature through activities conducted by our club, the need for protection takes on an urgency like never before. We and similar organizations around our province, country and planet, are backing the latter of the horses mentioned in Diamond's quote above.

We are a small but vital part in the movement towards greater public concern to protect the environment. We have become the keepers, spokespersons, advocates, and

ambassadors for the natural world. Locally KFN members are involved in projects like monitoring the effects of wind turbines on raptors, collecting data at Bioblitzes, counting bird species at round-ups and Christmas counts, voicing concerns about development encroaching on sensitive natural habitat, and educating the public about environmental issues. This includes challenging government policy-makers in hopes that 'progress' will not degrade important natural habitat. Our opposition to the Ostrander Wind Turbine Project in Prince Edward County is a good example of nature advocates fighting to protect highly significant bird migration pathways.

Our voice becomes part of the greater voice led by Ontario Nature, Bird Studies Canada, Greenpeace, and the Sierra Club, to name a few organizations who pressure governments and big business to deal with issues like deforestation, burning of fossil fuels, unsustainable resource consumption, quality drinking water, pollution, over-fishing, population growth, climate change, and habitat destruction.

Jared Diamond goes on to say about the horse race that *"Many readers of this book are young enough, and will live long enough, to see the outcome"*. What better incentive does our generation need to do our best to save our planet? In the meantime we will remain positive that our movement of concern will grow and influence the outcome of this race.

## Spring Season 01Mar2011 - 31May2011

*Ron D. Weir*

The ice melt along the eastern end of Lake Ontario occurred at the usual time and waterfowl concentrations were normal. The main movement of Canada Geese heading towards the Arctic was on time and numbers were high. Large numbers of Snow Geese were noted for the third spring in succession, although the numbers here are fewer than the tens of thousands that pass through areas 1.5 hrs drive east of Kingston.

Double the normal spring rainfall was recorded in the Kingston area. The consequences included high water levels that reduced available habitat for shorebirds, whose grounded flight was poor. Alternating warm and cold fronts repeatedly promoted, then stalled, the songbird passage. Excellent viewing of the warbler and vireo migration was noted during the latter part of May.

Rarities included Great Cormorant, Great White-fronted Goose, Ross's Goose, Harlequin Duck, Gyrfalcon, Willet, Hudsonian Godwit, White-eyed Vireo, Tufted Titmouse, Townsend's Solitaire, Varied Thrush, Worm-eating Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Hooded Warbler, Leconte's Sparrow and Brewer's Blackbird.

### Species Account

**Great Cormorant:** 22May (1) Wolfe I., H. Nash.

**Great Egret:** 1May onwards (18 in all) Kingston, KFN, numbers rising.

**Turkey Vulture:** peak 5May (40) PEPT, R. T. Sprague.



*Turkey Vulture photo by Martin Edwards*

**Great White-fronted Goose:** 26Mar (1) Sandhurst (15 km west of Kingston on L. Ontario) J. Hall, D. Edwards.

**Snow Goose:** 12Mar on, peaks 13Mar (600), 16Mar (800) Kingston, KFN. One bird remained to 25May, possibly injured, Perth Rd Village R-M. Burke.

**Ross's Goose:** 16Mar (1) Kaiser Side Rd, N. Marysburgh Twp, Pr Ed Cty, KFN.

**Cackling Goose:** 3Apr (1) PEPT, D. Okines.

**Canada Goose:** typical heavy passage, peak 2Apr (11,000) PEPT, D. Okines.

**Brant:** 9May onwards, peak flocks 9May (400), 26May (400), 22May (1513) Kingston, C. Grooms, KFN; 22May (634) PEPT, D. Okines.

**Harlequin Duck:** 8Apr to 8May (up to 7 birds) PEPT, m. ob. (5<sup>th</sup> spring ever).

*Surf Scoter:* 28Apr to 22May, peak 7May (85) all PEPT, KFN.

*White-winged Scoter:* peaks 2Apr (1500), 21Apr (2100) PEPT, D. Okines.

*Ruddy Duck:* 18Apr (1) Amherst I., V. P. Mackenzie, only sighting.

*Sandhill Crane:* 12Apr to 25May (5 in all) Kingston, KFN.

*Bald Eagle:* 13Mar to 22May (16 in all) Kingston area, KFN.

*Red-shouldered Hawk:* 15Apr (26) & 19Apr (23) Kingston, J. H. Ellis, R. D. Weir. Two of the survey routes.

*Broad-winged Hawk:* largest group 27Apr (50) north of Kingston at Opinicon, B. M. Dilabio.

*Rough-legged Hawk:* 21 to 25May (1) Amherst I, KFN, late bird.

*Golden Eagle:* 7Mar to 15Apr (3 birds), Joyceville, Frontenac PP and Opinicon, KFN.

*Merlin:* 1Mar to 31May (14 in all) Kingston, KFN.

*Gyr Falcon:* 9Mar (1) Wolfe I., C. Mueller and 13Mar (1) Amherst I., visiting birders from Quebec, no names.

*Peregrine Falcon:* one nest in downtown Kingston, KFN.

*Willet:* 1May (1) Kaiser Side Road Prince Edward County R. T. Sprague.

*Whimbrel:* 28May (1) Kingston, M. Burrell.

*Hudsonian Godwit:* 28May (1) Kingston, M. Burrell.

*White-rumped Sandpiper:* 26May (1) Amherst I., B. Ripley, E. Batalla, only sighting.

*Little Gull:* 17Apr (2) Kingston, 18Apr (1) Amherst I., 4May (1) PEPT, KFN.

*Glaucous Gull:* 25 to 28Mar (1) Millhaven, E. Batalla.

*Black Tern:* peak 22May (82) Kingston, KFN.

*Snowy Owl:* last bird 13Mar (1) Amherst I., KFN.

*N. Hawk Owl:* last sighting of this wintering bird 4Mar, Kingston KFN.

*Chimney Swift:* 23May (60) Westdale chimney and (40) Queen's chimney, C. Grooms.

*Red-headed Woodpecker:* 7 to 22May (1) PEPT, KFN, 3 to 4May (1) Amherst I., J. Scott.

*White-eyed Vireo:* 11May (1) PEPT, D. Okines.

*Philadelphia Vireo:* influx 22May (45) PEPT, D. Okines.

*Red-eyed Vireo:* influx 22May (120) PEPT, D. Okines.

*Tufted Titmouse:* 5May (1) Opinicon, M. Conboy.

*Red-breasted Nuthatch:* 7May onwards, moderate return flight, KFN.

*Carolina Wren:* 17 to 21Apr (1) downtown Kingston, H. Evans, C. Grooms.

*Townsend's Solitaire:* 19Mar (1) Bedford Mills Leeds, Mark Chojnacki.

*Varied Thrush:* 3Jan to 12Mar (1) Moscow feeder, KFN.

*Northern Mockingbird:* 11 to 26May (5 birds) PEPT & Kingston, KFN.

*American Pipit:* 6May (2) PEPT, V. P. Mackenzie, only sighting.

*Bohemian Waxwing:* last of the overwintering birds 26Apr Elginburg, E. Batalla.

*Blue-winged Warbler:* 7May onwards (9 in all) Kingston area, KFN.

*Golden-winged Warbler:* 7May onwards (19 in all) Kingston area, KFN.

*Chestnut-sided Warbler:* influx 22May (70) PEPT, D. Okines.

*Magnolia Warbler:* influx 22 May (160) PEPT, D. Okines.

*Yellow-rumped Warbler:* influxes 29Apr (500), 12May (1200) PEPT, D. Okines.

*Yellow-throated Warbler:* 7May (1) PEPT, J. H. Elliot, R. D. Weir *et al.*

*Prairie Warbler:* 5May onwards (9 in all), on Kingston breeding areas, C. Robinson, A. Simmons, M. Conboy, and KFN.

*Worm-eating Warbler:* 22May (1) PEPT, R. T. Sprague *et al.*

*Hooded Warbler:* 29 May (1) Kingston, J. Cartwright.

*Leconte's Sparrow:* 7May (1) PEPT, *vide* R. T. Sprague

*Lincoln's Sparrow:* influx 22May (35) PEPT, D. Okines.

*White-crowned Sparrow:* influx 22May (100) PEPT, D. Okines.

*Brewer's Blackbird:* 15May (1) Wolfe I., C. Mueller.

*Orchard Oriole:* 27Apr onwards (10 in all), more unusual is the single 27Apr at Opinicon (north of Kingston), M. Conboy, P. English.

*Red Crossbill:* 14Apr (2) Kingston, K. Hennige.

*White-winged Crossbill:* 13Mar (4) Kingston, B. Ripley.

*Common Redpoll:* last bird 22Apr (1) Bedford Mills Leeds, L. Nuttall, M. Chojnacki

*Hoary Redpoll:* last bird 5Apr (1) Opinicon, M. Conboy.

*Evening Grosbeak:* 17Apr to 11May (4 in all) Kingston area, KFN.

## A report on the KFN Bird Migration Workshop

*Ted Cheskey (Nature Canada)*

*Reproduced with permission from the Nature Canada blog at*

*<http://naturecanadablog.blogspot.com/>*

### **Opposition to Ostrander Point Wind Plant Continues to Build**

On Tuesday, March 8, the Kingston Field Naturalists organized a special workshop on the significance of eastern Lake Ontario for birds in light of several proposals to build wind energy projects in the area, and the high number of bird casualties reported at Wolfe Island wind energy plant. Representing Nature Canada, I gave a presentation on the Important Bird Area Program, placing the Wolfe Island wind plant and the proposed Ostrander Point wind plant in the context of this program.

Kingston Field Naturalists have a rich and long history of documenting birds within the Kingston area, which stretches from the west end of Prince Edward County to the Thousand Islands on the extreme east end of Lake Ontario. The workshop included a number of presentations by local naturalists and field ornithologists, who painted a picture of a part of Ontario with extremely high significance for breeding and migrating birds.

Data presented on behalf of Ron Weir, local ornithologist and bird record-keeper for the club for decades, described how monitoring night migrants by their call notes to each other has demonstrated that millions of birds

pass over the area each fall and spring. David Okines, life-long field ornithologist and manager of the Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory, (PEPBO) described the nature of the migration in detail, from the streams of diurnal raptors that hug the coast and funnel into the Prince Edward Point National Wildlife Area, to variations within the timing of migratory movements of individual species of songbirds. PEPBO is on the tip of the Long Point peninsula on the southern coast of Prince Edward County, about 10 kilometres east of Ostrander Point. Okine's presentation of observatory data collected over dozens of years left little doubt that the area is truly a concentration point for land birds and waterfowl, and that wind plants built in the area would inflict a heavy toll on some species. However, the question of whether nocturnal migrant birds migrate along broad fronts, or form distinct corridors of movement was never clearly resolved, with perhaps the best answer being "yes."

Valerie Wyatt of Stantec Inc., had a much greater challenge in presenting the methods and results of their study of bird deaths at the Wolfe Island wind plant, owned and operated by TransAlta Corp. She explained, to a tough and cynical audience, that Stantec's monitoring methods are considered the

best in the business, while maintaining that the casualty rates at Wolfe Island are within the range of kill rates expected at wind farms, and below threshold levels of acceptable casualty rates set by the government regulators.

Local naturalist Kurt Hennige's presentation of monitoring efforts of the Short-eared Owl – carried out for decades by members of the Kingston Field Naturalists on Wolfe and Amherst Islands – reached a different conclusion about the impact of the Wolfe Island wind plant. Hennige's findings strongly suggest that the distribution of Short-eared Owl on Wolfe Island has changed because of the wind plant – they no longer occupy the area around the turbines that have been their core wintering grounds for decades. The Short-eared Owl, a species that has declined steadily over the past 40 years, is listed by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) as "Special Concern".

Hennige also noted that the long-time resident Red-tailed Hawks were absent from their perches on the west side of Wolfe Island for the first time since observations were gathered dozens of years earlier. Observers who did the regular winter surveys became familiar with individual birds, recognizing their behaviour and consistent use of the same perches. Stantec's monitoring crew had discovered 10 dead Red-tailed Hawk beneath the turbines, likely including the resident pairs.

The spotlight gradually shifted from Wolfe Island to Ostrander Point, where

Gilead Power Corporation is planning to build nine turbines on the Ostrander Point Crown Land block. Local volunteer naturalists from the Prince Edward County Field Naturalists, Myrna Wood and Cheryl Anderson, described in cool, unemotional detail where the turbines are being proposed on this environmentally significant property. They pointed out that the specific locations of the nine turbines are within the provincially recommended 120-metre setback from provincially significant features, including provincially significant forest, wetland or habitat of species at risk, such as the Blanding's Turtle.

No matter where on the property the turbines are situated, the proposed wind plant would be only seven kilometres from the Prince Edward Point National Wildlife Area, designated for its value to migratory landbirds, within a candidate Provincial Area of Natural and Scientific Interest, in the heart of a globally significant IBA, and in an area recognized by the Canadian Wildlife Service as one of the best locations for migrant birds in Southern Ontario. It boggles the mind to consider what provincial regulators were thinking when Ostrander Point was put on the table as a location for a potential wind energy plant.

The meeting was closed by John Bennett, Executive Director of the Sierra Club of Canada. Bennett was invited by conference organizer Chris Hargreaves in response to an Action Alert released a few weeks earlier by the Sierra Club that included this statement: "*There appears to*

*be a backlash against wind energy across Ontario. Is it real? It looks suspiciously like a campaign sponsored by Ontario's opposition Conservative Party and its backers. Using misinformation about costs and safety, it plays on people's fears in order to destroy public support for Ontario's Green Energy Act."*

In an extraordinary and unanticipated reaction, and much to his credit, Bennett accepted the offer, and turned up for the last part of the workshop. He faced a hostile audience. Bennett did not apologize for Sierra Club's position, emphasizing the overwhelming consensus that climate change, driven by the burning of fossil fuels like coal to generate electricity, is the issue that

requires people's attention and support, and that the attack on wind energy will put Ontario back 20 years in its campaign to get off coal. However, after taking in Myrna's and Cheryl's presentation, and describing Sierra Club's position and reasons, he acknowledged that locating wind energy plants in areas of great significance for birds was both bad for biodiversity and bad for the wind energy industry, and that this element of rolling out wind energy will have to receive more consideration by Sierra Club. In the end, Bennett agreed that Sierra Club would consider adding its voice to the growing opposition to the Ostrander Point wind project.

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## KFN Annual Reports 2010-2011

### Membership

*John Critchley*

KFN has 397 paid Adult memberships including 16 Life and 7 Young Adult members. Membership is almost evenly split between individual and family memberships, increasing membership to 590 voting members. There are 49 Junior and 11 Teen members.

A Member's mailing label indicates the type of membership and the expiry date. Sending out personalized renewal notices is working well. Renewal notices are sent out with the March Newsletter and reminders, if necessary, are sent out with the May and June Newsletters. The majority of members renew their membership before the end of the fiscal/membership year and receive Membership Cards with the May

Newsletter. Renewal notices form part of the hardcopy audit trail for tracking payment of fees and donations, so it is important to return them. A big thank-you to those who renew promptly and don't require further reminders.

John Critchley, Membership Secretary, manages the membership database, sends up to three renewal reminders, prepares charitable receipts and thank-you letters for the treasurer, and sends out e-mail notices for the e-Blue Bill recipients (over half our members) and prepares all mailing labels. Thanks to volunteers Audrey Brown and June Fitchett who fold and mail the newsletter and Norma Graham who mails The Blue Bill and on occasion does double duty for combined mailing of The Blue Bill and Newsletter.

## Conservation *Chris Hargreaves*

The major activity of the KFN Conservation Committee over the last year was organizing a workshop on *Bird Migration over and around Lake Ontario*. Our aim was to gather information on migration routes, so that the impact of proposed windfarms can be better assessed. The workshop was held on March 8th, in the Outdoor Centre at the Little Cataraqui Creek CA. It attracted over 60 people, and a lot of useful information was shared. It led to articles in the *Kingston Whig-Standard*, and *Kingston This Week*. A report on the workshop by Ted Cheskey of *Nature Canada*, one of the speakers, is reprinted in this issue of the *Blue Bill*.

Mayor Gerretsen was unable to attend the workshop, but invited us to meet with him the following week to discuss our concerns. Chris Grooms, Janis Grant, Shirley French and I met with the Mayor on March 16th. We had a wide-ranging discussion that included environmental effects of wind farms and of other sources of energy, and possible economic impact of off-shore windfarms if they interfere with sailing events in the Kingston area. Thanks to Elaine Farragher, Rose-Marie Burke, Shirley French, and the CRCA for their help in organizing and running the workshop.

Erwin Batalla, Kurt Hennige, and I continue to work with the CRCA gathering information and records about nesting, migrating, and wintering birds on Amherst Island. We are also providing information to the environmental consultants hired by

Algonquin Power, to ensure that their report is as comprehensive as possible.

The Conservation Committee has been involved with a variety of other issues, including:

- plans for development of the Ontario Government land next to Lake Ontario Park. The site, officially known as the Kingston Provincial Campus, includes the Beechgrove Complex, Providence Continuing Care Centre, and the old Rockwood Asylum. Norma Graham is following this issue for us.

- the Rideau Corridor Landscape Strategy. Lesley Rudy is representing us at meetings of the Rideau Roundtable, which is co-ordinating a response by local environmental organizations.

- plans for the Baxter Farm Subdivision, in between the Cataraqui River and Highway 15, which involved re-zoning part of an Environmental Protection Area (EPA). The developer took the proposal to the Ontario Municipal Board. An agreement was reached between the developer and the City, under which part of the EPA was re-zoned, with restrictions as to how the re-zoned land could be used. Thanks to Sharon Critchley, who continues to be a resource for our committee.

- the Woodhaven Subdivision, which is part of the Cataraqui West development occurring east of Collins Creek, next to wetlands which have been designated an EPA. A Public Meeting was held as part of the first meeting of the Planning Committee following the 2010 City elections. This is the first Planning Committee meeting I've been to where there was a television news crew present, and part of my

comments appeared on the CKWS news that night.

-the first Public Meeting for the City of Kingston Zoning Bylaw Review.

I contacted Utilities Kingston after hearing concerns that a hydro pole at Belle Island posed a risk to nesting Ospreys. I was pleased and impressed that a Utilities Kingston work crew attended to the problem the next day!

We are supporting *Freshwater Future* in its campaign for increased measures to prevent Asian Carp from entering the Great Lakes.

*If anybody would like information about Conservation Committee activities, and/or to help us on these issues or new ones, please contact Chris Hargreaves, (613-389-8993).*

#### **Nature Reserves**      *Erwin Batalla*

Helen Quilliam Sanctuary: The trail maintenance attracted a large group of volunteers. They cleared debris along the trails and some larger fallen trees were removed. The Wood duck boxes installed last year in the south end of the sanctuary were inspected by the Teens this spring. Some boxes contained hooded merganser's eggs.

Amherst Island: Ducks Unlimited hired a contractor to install a new control structure on the dyke and to reinforce the berm with large rocks. Another contractor installed a new fence at the north end of the property and a second gate between the two grazing fields. This has improved our ability to

maintain our property as a short grass habitat for nesting bird species. Cows continue to graze the property in the summer. Revenues from the drover pay the taxes and maintain the watering system on the reserve. The water trough is functioning well with the help of several members (George Vance, Peter Good, Bud Rowe and Hugh Evans).

Monitoring: We conducted monitoring visits at the Greenwood Property, Lost Bay Reserve (Cameron Smith and Bud Rowe), Roziland Island (Philina English and Mark Conboy) and Evan's Wood (Janis Grant, Rose-Marie Burke and Anne Robertson). These properties continue to follow management plans laid out for them and we confirmed that their habitat has not been altered.

#### **Field Trips**      *Kurt Hennige*

Twenty-six field trips, 8 public walks, 2 round-ups and 6 Christmas Bird Counts were held. An overnight field trip to Algonquin Park took place in April, the first out-of-area trip for several years. The majority were birding trips, but we also offered Geology, Butterfly and Dragonfly trips.

#### **Rambles**      *Anne Robertson*

Twenty-one rambles were held. Fifty-nine people took part in at least one ramble, fewer than in previous years. There was an average of 10 people, also lower. Numbers varied from 2 to 19 participants.

We explored a variety of protected habitats: Blue Mountain (Charleston

Lake), Marble Rock, Prince Edward Point, the Frink Centre, Meisel Woods, the Camden Lake Wildlife Area and Landon Bay on longer rambles, as well as various stretches of Rideau Trail, Catarauqui Trail and the K and P trail. We were welcomed at some private properties and visited the Helen Quilliam Sanctuary and Queen' University Biological Station. In town we walked behind Invista, to the Milton cemetery and in the Catarauqui cemetery, along the new Butternut Creek trail and along the Catarauqui River from McCullough Park and the Little Catarauqui from Malabar Drive as well as at Cartwright Point.

Did you know there were so many good places to go around Kingston? We are lucky to have these venues available to us with all the fascinating nature treasures to discover! We are grateful to the many volunteers who helped guide and lead and educate us and with whom we could share our enthusiasm.

### **Publicity**

*Chris Grooms*

Press releases about May Bird Walks, Bioblitz, and Christams Bird Counts, as well as feature articles in the Whig Standard were prepared. Information about KFN was supplied for the Spring and Fall Leisure Guides. A press release covering the receipt by KFN member Cameron Smith of an Ontario Nature award was published.

A memorial donation card for distribution to funeral homes was designed with the help of Murray Seymour. Improvements and additions

were made to the KFN website, including a new blog, maintained by Rose-Marie Burke. *Members are encouraged to contribute to the blog.*

### **Rare Birds Committee**

*Ron Weir*

In 2010-11, the KFN RBC focussed on the preparation and printing of the updated *Checklist of Birds for the Kingston Region*. The previous one, on blue stock, was dated 2004. Several amendments were required. While most of these were documented in the *Birds of Kingston 2<sup>nd</sup> edition* and appear there in the Checklist (2008) in Appendix A, the AOU has subsequently made some changes in the official list for North America. These changes require further adjustments to the official list of the KFN, viz., 50<sup>th</sup> Supplement 2009, the Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow became Nelson's Sparrow and in the 51<sup>st</sup> Supplement 2010, the Whip-poor-will became the Eastern Whip-poor-will. Name changes in the reassignment of genera or species in Latin do not impact the printed Checklist. The splitting of the Winter Wren into Winter Wren (east) and Pacific Wren (west) does not require any change in our Checklist.

Complicating the printing process was the closure of the firm that printed previous Checklists and the loss of the electronic template. It was necessary to prepare a new template to contain the entire list. A new template was prepared and a new printer engaged.

Here is the list of species added, and the other changes. All have been approved by the KFN Rare Birds Committee,

including the Yellow-nosed Albatross, that very strange find on Wolfe Island during July 2010.

- Western Grebe
- Yellow-nosed Albatross
- Cackling Goose
- Lesser Scaup\* (confirmed breeding by Bruce Dilabio, subsequently Paul Mackenzie)
- Peregrine Falcon\* (confirmed breeding atop Princess Towers 2009, 2010)
- White-winged Dove
- Barn Owl\* becomes Common Barn Owl\*
- Whip-poor-will\* becomes Eastern Whip-poor-will\*
- Cave Swallow
- Townsend's Solitaire
- Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow becomes Nelson's Sparrow
- Dark-eyed Junco\* (confirmed breeding from 3 nests)
- Black-headed Grosbeak

These additions bring the totals within the 50-km radius circle to 377 species confirmed and 193 species with confirmed breeding.

There are submissions of sightings to be examined by the Committee within the next few weeks, and their status will be reported in the 2011-12 Report.

**Blue Bill**      *Alexandra Simmons*

The 4 issues of the Blue Bill published in the 2010-2011 KFN year contained 127 pages of material submitted by 30 individuals. Bird records consisted of occurrence reports for each season,

spring and fall round-ups, Christmas Counts, the Mid-winter Waterfowl Inventory and the yearly summary. Other local species data were butterfly and odonate sightings and the bioblitz censuses. Descriptions of 8 Teen and 7 general field trips and 6 rambles appeared. Faith Avis was remembered in two articles. General Natural History articles as well as those covering short-eared owl research, Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary, KFL&A Land Conservancy, a Birding Big Day, the *Chrysus Arctic* and ticks were published.

Communication from the Executive was in the form of the President's Page, Committee Annual Reports, an account of the 2011 Calendar Project, and Financial Statements. More than half of the membership continues to take the electronic version for the Blue Bill via the KFN Website, reducing costs and environmental impact.

Thank you to Norma Graham for mailing the Blue Bill, with labels provided by John Critchley who also sends the electronic notification, and to Susie Rance for posting the electronic version on the KFN Website.

*Members are invited to submit Natural History-related articles to the Editor at [alerwin@kos.net](mailto:alerwin@kos.net).*

**Ontario Nature**      *Jackie Bartnik*

As your ON representative I attend the Eastern regional meeting twice a year. This spring it was held at Ducks Dive on Prince Edward Point. It started at 8:30 a.m. with a nature walk through the

Prince Edward Point National Wildlife Area and Bird Observatory. The tour was led by local naturalist Terry Sprague and by the Prince Edward Field Naturalists. At the end of the tour we got see how they band the birds. Our timing was good, as the birds had just begun their migration through this area.

Bethany Armstrong, the Ontario East Chair and Regional Director, welcomed us to the meeting and the groups gave their reports: Prince Edward County FN discussed the issue of wind turbines on highly sensitive Ostrander Point Crown Land (more info on their website - myrna@kos.net); Ottawa FNC magazine is on website [www.ofnc.ca](http://www.ofnc.ca); Upper Ottawa Valley NC is setting up new trails in the Deep River/ Four Season woods and raising funds to build an observation platform along the river; Macnamara FN are helping with the trail at Deep River/ Four Seasons, and have concerns about two dams along the Ottawa River; VanKleek Hill NS is trying to build a trail through Alfred Bog, have the Plowing Match in their area, and are building bee-houses using Blue Orchid Bees which pollinate the orchid in the area; Mississippi Valley FNC has their charitable status, and goes into schools with a demo, offers canoe trips for 4 days to members and the public, and built and erected 200 bird boxes as a fund-raiser; Quinte FN, the smallest group at 42 members, placed their files at the library, and are involved in a marsh monitoring project and owl observation. KFN discussed the fact that we have a new President, reviewed ongoing projects, including the Owl Woods Management Report

and the Loggerhead Shrike Surveys. Reports of Clubs that could not attend can be seen on the ON website.

ON is currently without an Ontario East Regional chair, as Bethany has to give up her position as chair according to ON policy.

The Youth Summit, started last year, has been a great success, and a second summit will be held in Fall 2011.

## **Education**

*Shirley French*

For the bird migration workshop organized by Chris Hargreaves, an annotated bibliography was compiled on the scientific literature relevant to the Lake Ontario and Kingston area. The bibliography will be available on the KFN website.

The 2011 Frontenac Lennox and Addington Science Fair (FLASF) was judged by Diane Lawrence, Alexandra Simmons, Erwin Batalla and Shirley French. We gave a gift certificate for a book in two categories, one at the primary level and one at the junior level. For the 40th anniversary of FLASF, the organizers decided to have a 'student street' where organizations were invited to demonstrate the relevance of science to their group. I put together a display on behalf of the KFN emphasizing the club's contributions to science and data collection. Janis Grant took questions at the KFN display table, and handed out the KFN awards. The display on science and nature was set up at Bayridge High School during Earth Week, with Anne

Robertson and I present to answer questions.

### **Junior Naturalists**     *Anne Robertson*

The effort by Adult members to increase our visibility at a number of events was rewarded by a 20% increase in Juniors registered for 2010-2011. Since our numbers had been decreasing, this is welcome news; thanks to those who manned displays and volunteered for us. Forty-five juniors registered in September and 5 more joined after Christmas. Diane Lawrence continues to help with coordination of the program bringing her ideas, skill and enthusiasm now for 30 years!! Nine regular leaders were divided between 3 groups. Our leaders were Allison Neil (four years), Allison Board (four years), Brynlynn Gray (three years), Erin Jaggard (two years), Lyn Garrah, Maarten Lubbers, Heather Wilcox, Alison Cassidy and Samantha Kraus. Thank you to these enthusiastic young adults without whom we would be challenged to keep the program running!

Sixteen meetings were held: the introductory meeting in September followed by Beetles and True Bugs, Bats, Plant Adaptations, Water and Seasonal Crafts before Christmas. In the New Year our topics included The Forest Year (it is the Year of the Forest), Mountains, Skin, Raptors, Solar-Powered Animals, Canids, The Warming Earth and Urban Habitats. We had our traditional two outdoor meetings in May: a Bird Walk (Introduction to Birding) and our 27<sup>th</sup> Wild Food Picnic with 39 wild foods to

taste cooked in various recipes. Field trips went to Marble Rock CA, Charleston Lake PP, Queen's University Biological Station (thanks to Marc Conboy), Parrott's Bay (led by Diane) and Presqu'île PP (with help from David Bree) and a final (very wet) roadside cleanup and short hike at our Helen Quilliam Sanctuary.

Besides roadside cleanup, juniors gave back to nature through a coin collection at Christmas. This year \$80 was sent to Nature Conservancy Canada to protect two acres of habitat. At Our Warming Earth (advocacy) meeting we produced a book written and illustrated by the juniors. The story depicted Junior Naturalists visiting various habitats, interviewing species found there about how they were affected by global warming, and followed by possible solutions to the problems. This was another brainwave of Diane's. The book will be sent to an MP.

A summer project on birds was submitted and the Roland Beschel prize given to Nolan Hoover. Three juniors entered the photo competition and were awarded prizes: Muirgen Erb, Ronan Guigere and Michael Jaansalu. Sophie Grogan received the Stirrett Scholarship to go to the Eco-Adventure camp at Elbow Lake. In addition to a number of talks to youth groups and school programs, volunteers attended the Leisure Show, Family Day at the Little Catarqui CA and Earth Week at Bayridge Public School. A full and rewarding year enjoyed as much by the givers as the receivers!

**Teen Naturalists**     *Anne Robertson*

Eleven Teens registered this year; 10 potential Teens from the Junior program were invited on outings. Ten trips were organized with attendance from 0 to 7.

The first meeting in September was a monarch butterfly tagging experience organized by Diane. This was written up by Cerridwyn (*Blue Bill Vol.57 #4*). In October we helped the Land Conservancy by removing an old shed from a nature reserve property and enjoying a hike there. Heather reported on this (*Blue Bill Vol. 57#4*). In November we had an indoor workshop to organize the bird skins, making computer labels for processed birds and preparing frozen birds for freeze drying. Shirley French and Diane helped with this endeavor, always popular with the Teens. The December trip was cancelled due to poor weather and low demand.

Queens University Biological Station was our destination in January where we snowshoed with Mark Conboy. Jake wrote this up (*Blue Bill Vol. 58 #1*). The same volume of Blue Bill had a report by Adam on our trip to monitor Wood Duck boxes at the Helen Quilliam Sanctuary with Erwin in February. In March, Mac Brown joined us for a forest hike to celebrate the Year of the Forest at Helen Quilliam Sanctuary and to learn how to survey two types of woodland (*BlueBillVol.58 #2*). In April we did a Waterfowl survey and learned how to set up and use scopes on Wolfe Island with Erwin. Heather reported on this trip (*Blue Bill Vol. 58 #2*). No teens were

able to participate in the Baillie Birdathon in May so Anne went alone, accompanied by a number of KFN birders for short stretches. The weather was fine on Friday and wet on Saturday. Nevertheless, 77 species were recorded and over \$500.00 collected in pledges for Bird Studies Canada, designated for Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory. A canoe trip is planned for late June.

Two teens participated in the Ontario Nature Summit for Biodiversity in June 2010 and also attended the Guardians of Nature Youth Leadership weekend at Toronto Zoo in November. The result of these two events was the formation of the Ontario Nature Youth Council. Adam Rossiter and Drew Sauve attended both events and Drew organized a shoreline cleanup at Lemoine Point for the Special Spaces day with help from Adam for publicity. Five locations in Ontario had a Special Spaces day organized by Youth Council members. It was good to feel part of the larger youth naturalist movement. Signatures were collected for a biodiversity charter by the Teens. This will be forwarded by Ontario Nature to our new minister. Two teens volunteered to help at family day at the Little Cataraqui CA in February: Thank You Elise and Phoenix. Many thanks too to our drivers and supporters. This small group of keen young people needs nurturing!

## Finding the Little Things

*Terry Sprague*

It was a Kente Public School student from the village of Ameliasburgh, in Prince Edward County who found the tiny snake for us at Little Bluff Conservation Area. We knew it was something special right away when a covey of girls dispersed in several directions, arms flailing madly, their screams echoing off the foundation remnants of an old granary building. The boy gently held the dainty creature in his cupped hand, as curious eyes surrounded the new discovery and admired the delicate features. Its bluish-grey back was more suggestive of one of those rubbery toy snakes that one finds in stores. The tiny snake wriggled in the boy's hands, its orange belly and bright collar which give the snake its ring-necked name, displaying prominently. We certainly have more problems than mere ophidiophobia if we can be fearful of such a dainty creature.



This diminutive snake is both secretive and nocturnal, so it was a real bonus to find something like this on a field trip. We found other things too that often go unnoticed by most of us. At Macaulay

Mountain in Picton, it took only the mention of unseen critters hiding under decaying logs to produce a frenzy of activity of branches and rotting wood being overturned and numerous red-backed salamanders being delivered to me. So secretive and so seldom encountered unless we look for them, salamanders represent one of the most numerous animals that can be found in a forest. We just have to look for them.

A millipede at Beaver Meadow Wildlife Management Area, fossils at Little Bluff's pebble beach, and a tiny spider at Massassauga Point that I couldn't even see after it was pointed out to me. These are all creatures that are present around us, living in harmony, and forming an important link in an intricate chain of wildlife, large and small, working together. Some are busy decomposing wood, breaking it down so it will become a usable product for the plants and trees taking its place and keeping the forest a vibrant and dynamic habitat. Others are food items, large feeding on small, and so it goes in a forest, the majority of us paying little attention as life and death carries on, unnoticed by many of us, as we enjoy our walks along hiking trails. And this was the message to students on our bus trip that day – the importance of biodiversity and how all plants and wildlife play an important role in the make-up of any habitat.

Introduced invasive species can throw a wrench into the works however, and we encounter these all the time on

interpretive walks around the Quinte area. A few nights ago, we found the empty shell of a banded wood snail on a trail, and as we looked more closely, there were probably more than a dozen, some of them crushed under the feet of hikers before us. Native to Europe, and introduced here in the 1850s, apparently intentionally, it has since become a problem in some gardens. Invasive species were all around us on this particular walk. As we admired the brown and yellowish bands on the wood snail, beside us was a thick mat of dog-strangling vine, today's buzzword whenever we bring up the subject of invasive plants. In some areas, it has even choked out the invasive garlic mustard. It's survival of the fittest out there, and dog-strangling vine is proving to be a winner.

Phragmites grass is another recent invader, and not far from where we did a guided walk several nights ago, it has completely sealed a channel that even

the earliest charts dating back to the 1800s showed as a navigable outlet between this bay and Lake Ontario. Now towering, thick-stemmed Phragmites, often known as common reed, has joined the two land masses, altering a shoreline that remained unchanged for over 200 years. Phragmites grass with its four metre stems and soft plumes is obvious to us, but it is the smaller things that get overlooked, whether invasive, or just native species purring along contently as nature has intended.

Sometimes all it takes is a group of enthusiastic kids, eager to learn, and whose eyes travel closer to the ground, to find these things. It is refreshing to experience their enthusiasm and interest, as the future of our great earth rests on their shoulders. To date, as adults, we have proven time and time again that we haven't been doing that great a job. We need to leave the task to someone who truly cares.

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## Junior and Teen Naturalist Spring Field Trips

### **Wolfe Island Waterfowl Teen Trip**

*Alison Zilstra*

On Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup>, the Kingston Teen Naturalists went to Wolfe Island to identify the waterfowl present on Lake Ontario. The teen members on the trip were Adam, Adrian, Michael and Alison, led by Anne Robertson, Erwin Batalla and Alexandra Simmons. The weather was nice at around 10°C, and partly cloudy with a light breeze. We began identifying birds on the ferry and once on the island, we went along the

shore in a counter-clockwise direction, stopping at all the bays. When we stopped, we were taught how to set up and use a scope to identify the species present. We were taught the distinguishing features of the common waterfowl to identify them and tell them apart from similar species.

The following is a list of the 37 birds identified on the trip.

Common Loon  
 Double-crested Cormorant  
 Great Blue Heron

Turkey Vulture  
 Canada Goose  
 Wood Duck  
 Mallard



*Mallard Duck photo by Martin Edwards*

Northern Shoveler  
 Redhead  
 Greater Scaup  
 Long-tailed Duck  
 Bufflehead  
 Common Goldeneye  
 Common Merganser  
 Red-breasted Merganser  
 Northern Harrier  
 Red-tailed Hawk  
 Rough-legged Hawk  
 American Kestrel  
 Killdeer  
 Ring-billed Gull  
 Herring Gull  
 Caspian Tern  
 Rock Pigeon  
 Mourning Dove  
 American Crow  
 Tree Swallow  
 Barn Swallow  
 Black-capped Chickadee  
 American Robin  
 European Starling  
 Song Sparrow  
 Red-winged Blackbird

Eastern Meadowlark  
 Common Grackle  
 Brown-headed Cowbird  
 House Sparrow

***Juniors at HQS Clean-up: Poems by  
 Junior Naturalists inspired by  
 observations during HQS Clean-up  
 on April 16***

***Muirgen (age 7) and Astrid (age 9)***

Hepatica is a little flower  
 That we saw in a rain shower  
 It is sometimes purple, pink or white  
 The stem is hairy – what a sight!  
 The leaves are shaped just like a liver  
 And after we saw it we started to shiver.  
 We love the little Hepatica flower  
 That we saw in the rain shower!

***Louis (age 8) and Ronan (age 9)***

The forest is full of wonderful things  
 Here are some species that Nature  
 brings.  
 Fungi and ferns, flowers and frogs  
 All of which live near the logs.  
 And then there's the trees Maple and  
 Oak  
 Aspen and Pine, pleasing us folk.

Don't forget the birds, Raven and Loon  
 And boxes for bluebirds; Nesting Time  
 soon.  
 We cleaned up the road and found a  
 dead snake  
 And then saw an Osprey down by the  
 lake.  
 All of the species that we do name  
 We found in the forest in pouring rain.

## Update to December 2010 Article on Tagging Monarch Butterflies

**Don Davis**

As reported in the Blue Bill (*December 2010*), on September 18, 2010, Kingston Teen Naturalists tagged monarch butterflies at Carruther's Point in Kingston using the tag series NEH398 to NEH436. In May 2011, Monarch Watch ([www.monarchwatch.org](http://www.monarchwatch.org)) updated the searchable tag. None of these tags was reported as recovered; however the chance remains that one may be recovered in the future. For the second year in a row, Dr. Orley "Chip" Taylor of Monarch Watch has been unable to travel to Mexico to purchase tags from the ejidatarios. In 2010, this was due to the flooding and landslides, and this year due to the U.S. government advisory against travel to Michoacan.

Fortunately a Michigan tagger visiting Michoacan agreed to purchase tags for Monarch Watch. She reports that many tags, purchased for \$5 each, remain to be collected in Mexico. Interestingly enough, tag NEH466, placed on a monarch in Stirling, Ontario, on September 28th, 2010 and was recovered October 15th in Cape May, New Jersey.

While the number of monarchs wintering in Mexico in 2010/2011 doubled from the 2009/2010 season, concerns have been raised about the difficult migration these amazing butterflies are having so far this spring 2011. Texas was extremely hot and dry, and many butterflies continue to migrate northward, where the milkweed had barely emerged from the ground. In Ontario, we are experiencing a particularly cool, wet spring compared to the ideal conditions we experienced in the spring of 2010. In Mexico, La Familia drug cartel has initiated illegal logging activities, and gang members have been arrested, along with their plundered wood, equipment, vehicles and guns, in the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve.

On September 9, 2010, about 10,000 monarchs stopped for the night at Owen Point in Presqu'ile Provincial Park - the largest known clustering to date. See: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PCDVGrt8AE>

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### May Field Trips

#### Prince Edward Point May 7, 2011

*Paul Mackenzie*

It was a 6:00 am departure for the 6:45 Glenora ferry for about 13 people sharing 5 vehicles. Although KFN bird trips are traditionally held on Sundays, May 7 was a trial on a Saturday. Some

people like Saturdays, and others are freer on Sundays.

We set out hopeful given that the weather was finally sunny after a cool rainy week during which May migrants were scarce. We stopped to observe Purple Martins at a nest box and a colony of Cliff Swallows under the

eaves of a shed. On Babylon Road, the Upland Sandpipers were heard only, and no Grasshopper or Clay-colored Sparrows were found. Quite a cool west breeze was blowing and there was little evidence of a “fallout” of migrants as we drove toward the Point. Hope fell temporarily.

We sped to the Point to try for the Harlequin Ducks which had been seen intermittently the past week. Our mood improved greatly when we had excellent views of 2 pairs close to shore near the banding station, along with Long-tailed Ducks, and Red-breasted Mergansers. Observatory manager David Okines reported that many new birds had arrived in Point Traverse Woods. The trails had many other birders, and all were delighted to find a variety of colorful spring birds. We soon had Yellow, Cerulean, Cape May, Black-throated Green, Black-throated Blue, and Black & White Warblers.



*Cape May Warbler* Paul Mackenzie

Above us were Northern Parula, and several Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, and Baltimore Orioles. Great Crested Flycatcher and Red-bellied Woodpecker

flew past. We were told about two coveted species we did not locate: Red-headed Woodpecker and Yellow-throated Warbler. But we did find all three species of Scoter offshore.

Additional species were added all morning. We had an early lunch near the banding station, and walked past the new gate toward the lighthouse and back to the banding station. New birds included Blue-headed Vireo, Palm, Blackburnian, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher and White-crowned Sparrow. Whoever screamed ice cream caused a stop at the Black River Cheese Shop.

A total of over 90 species was recorded and Prince Edward Point lived up to its reputation of a rewarding place to bird.

## **Ramble to Big Sandy Bay, Wolfe Island**

### *Joe Benderavage*

On 17 May 2011, leader Ann Robertson assembled four keen KFNers at the Ontario Street ferry dock for a hike around the Wolfe Island beach of Big Sandy Bay. Once aboard the ferry, we noticed Langmuir spirals lining the water of the crossing. Flights of Cormorants, flying close to the surface, were also evident. Upon disembarking from the ferry at Marysville in two cars, we chose the first turnoff going west.

Stops for closer looks at fauna revealed Purple Martins, Yellow Warblers, a Tree Swallow bustling about a hole in a tree that obviously served as its nest, and two Catbirds eating Sumac berries.

Three male Mallard Ducks were spotted; and further on, Robins and Red-winged Blackbirds. Soon, the scenery was dominated by a multitude of wind turbines.

After turning onto Reed's Bay Road, we stopped to look at a female Baltimore Oriole, Red Breasted Mergansers, and many Black Terns. Further on we saw Ring-billed Gulls, and Grackles.

We approached the Big Sandy Bay Baymouth Bar assembly area, where we parked, and began the hiking part of our outing. On the trail, we noticed a pair of Yellow Warblers, a female Red-winged Blackbird on a marsh reed, a Goldfinch, and an Eastern Kingbird.

uttonbush was evident; ducks feed on the seedhead when it falls into the water. On the side of the path were Jewelweed and Kidney-leaved Buttercup were visible. A budding Nannyberry bush was discovered; identifiable by its wide-winged petioles. We heard a Wood Thrush was noted. Downy Yellow Violet, Common Blue Violet, and Dog Violet were found in close association. We found a Strawberry plant, Garlic Mustard, and Jack-in-the-pulpit, a Red Maple, and a huge Red Oak, bearing Artists' Conk. We also saw Chokecherry, White Baneberry, American Plum, Red Trillium ("Stinking Benjamin"), Horsetail, and Star-flowered Solomon's Seal. The latter may be a pioneer species; it grows in the barren sand of the dunes.

Along the beach, Artemisia was seen, as was Beach Tea and Marram Grass, and Wild Currant. Retracing our steps along the trail, a Rose-breasted Grosbeak caught our attention, as did a Hairy Woodpecker and a White Crowned Sparrow. The calls of a Common Yellow Throat and those of a Virginia Rail were recognized. We saw a Killdeer along the roadside, and Barn Swallows in flight.

### **May 25<sup>th</sup> Lemoine Point Bird Walk** *Joe Benderavage*

On a pleasantly cloudy Wednesday evening of May 25, 14 birders led by Darren Rayner negotiated the user-friendly paths of Lemoine Point in the last May birdwalk of the year. We saw an Eastern Meadowlark, a male Bobolink, a Kestrel, an Eastern Kingbird, Song Sparrows, Barn Swallows, Tree Swallows, a Starling, a Ruffed Grouse in a tree, Muscovy



Ducks, Yellow Warblers and their nest, Cowbirds, a Robin, a Pileated Woodpecker in flight, a Baltimore Oriole, a Cardinal, a Catbird, a Rose-breasted Grosbeak, a Cormorant, and Kingfisher, skimming over Collins Bay. We heard Wood Thrushes, a Blue Jay, a Starling, and a Common Yellow Throat. Among the flora we saw baneberry, Solomon's Plume, wild geraniums, blue phlox and Scotch thistle.

## Spring Round-up 2011

*Ron D. Weir*

The KFN's 54<sup>th</sup> Spring Round-up took place from 1500h Saturday May 21 to 1500h Sunday May 22. The weather on Saturday was sunny, 20 to 24°C with near calm conditions that developed into a light breeze overnight. By dawn, the temperature had fallen to 16 °C with light winds. Clear conditions prevailed on Sunday with the temperature reaching 22 to 26°C depending on location along Lake Ontario or inland.

The final species tally was 197, near the 38-year (1973-2010) average of 199. Areas visited included the following: Amherst Island; Amherstview Sewage Lagoons; Bath area and Parrott's Bay; Camden East including Camden Lake; Canoe Lake Rd. and area; Opinicon Rd. and area; Collins Bay and its watershed; Howe Island; Kingston City including Little Cataraqui Creek CA, Lemoine's Pt. CA, Salmon Island, Snake Island, Brother's Island, Garden Island; Newburgh; Prince Edward Pt.; Wilton Creek, Morven; North Marysburgh Township peninsula; Hay Bay area, Perch River Wildlife area.

No new species was added to the cumulative total, which remains at 288 species. For a tally of the Spring Round-ups from 1960-2010, see *Blue Bill* 39 28-36 (1992). For 1992 to 2009, see *Blue Bill* 39 44-49 (1992), 40 125-131 (1993), 41 48-53 (1994), 42 63-70 (1995), 43 70-74 (1996), 44 60-66 (1997), 45 49-54 (1998), 46 81-89 (1999), 47 58-63 (2000), 48 52-59 (2001), 49 90-96 (2002), 50 40-44 (2003), 51 47-52 (2004), 52 42-48 (2005), 53 77-82

(2006), 55 37-42 (2008), 55 42-47 (2008), 56 49-54 (2009), 57 48-54 (2010).

Noteworthy finds were Surf Scoter, Peregrine Falcon, Bald Eagle, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Northern Mockingbird, Worm-eating Warbler (5<sup>th</sup> ever), Clay-colored Sparrows, and Orchard Orioles. The shortage of shorebirds is noteworthy in view of the late date.

Participants gathered at the home of Marian and Joel Ellis for a potluck supper and the species tabulation. On behalf of the participants, I would like to thank Marian and Joel for being such great hosts.

**Party #1:** Erwin & Alexandra Batalla, Betsy & Gaye Beckwith, Hugh Evans

**Party #2:** Paul Mackenzie, Lynn Bell, John Cartwright, Bud Rowe

**Party #3:** Shirley Treganza, Gerald Paul

**Party #4:** Joel Ellis, Peter Good, Kathy Innes

**Party #5:** Kurt Hennige

**Party #6:** Sharon David

**Party #7:** Joel Coutu + 3

**Party #8:** David Okines, Terry Sprague

**Party #9:** Mark Conboy + 3

**Party #10:** Linda and Chip Weseloh

**Party #11:** Miscellaneous Matthew MacKay, Ron Weir

Totals in the following table have known duplications removed; so the total individuals for a species may not equal the sum of the contributions from each party.



SPECIES	PARTY NUMBER											Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Osprey	x	6	5	3	2	-	x	1	2	-	4	25
Bald Eagle	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Northern Harrier	x	2	-	2		1	x	-	-	-	-	7
Shrp-shinnd Hawk	-	1	-	-	-	-	x	-	-	-	-	2
Cooper's Hawk	x	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Rd-shldered Hawk	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Brd-winged Hawk	-	-	-	-	1	-	x	3	-	-	-	5
Red-tailed Hawk	x	3	4	4	1	1	x	-	-	-	-	15
Rgh-legged Hawk	x	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
American Kestrel	x	1	-	-	1	-	x	-	-	-	1	7
Merlin	-	1	-	-	-	-	x	-	-	-	-	2
Peregrine Falcon	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Ring-n. Pheasant	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ruffed Grouse	-	1	1	1	2	1	x	-	-	-	-	7
Wild Turkey	x	1	-	4	12	-	x	-	-	-	-	22
Blk-bellied Plover	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Semipalm Plover	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Killdeer	x	16	6	6	10	-	x	-	-	-	-	40
Greater Yellowlegs	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	-	-	-	-	1
Lesser Yellowlegs	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	-	-	-	-	1
Solitary Sandpiper	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	-	-	-	-	1
Spotted Sandpiper	x	8	-	4	7	-	x	5		1	-	27
Upland Sandpiper	-	2	-	2	-	-	x	-	-	-	-	5
Ruddy Turnstone	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Least Sandpiper	-	30	-	6	3	-	x	-	-	-	-	40
Pectrl Sandpiper	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Dunlin	-	4	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	35
Shrt-b. Dowitcher	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Wilson's Snipe	x	8	-	3	2	-	x	2	1	-	-	18
Amer Woodcock	x	1	-	1	4	-	x	-	3	-	-	11
Wilsn's Phalarope	-	6	-	4	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Bonaparte's Gull	-	-	5	-	3	-	x	-	-	3	-	7
Ring-billed Gull	x	30	40	35	30	8	x	-	10	40	-	145
Herring Gull	x	6	4	5	4		x		2	310	-	329
Caspian Tern	x	1	-	-	8		x	-	-	-	-	18
Common Tern	-	-	-	-	-	3	x	-	-	2	-	6
Black Tern	x	-	-	40	40		x	-	-	-	-	82

SPECIES	PARTY NUMBER											Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Rock Pigeon	x	5	50	4	4		x	-	-	-	-	65
Mourning Dove	x	28	50	23	10	6	x	-	-	5	6	130
Blk-billd Cuckoo	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Yllw-billd Cuckoo	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
East Screech-Owl	-	2	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	5
Grt Horned Owl	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
Barred Owl	-	2	-	-	2	-	1	-	7	-	-	12
Comm Nighthawk	-	2	1	2	2	-	x	-	5	-	-	13
E. Whip-poor-will	1	4	-	1	4	-	x	-	39	-	-	50
Chimney Swift	x	4	-	-	20	-	x	-	-	-	-	26
Rby-t. Hummngbird	x	4	2	4	-	2	x	6	3	-	-	23
Belted Kingfisher	x	2	-	1	1	-	x	-	-	1	-	7
Red-h. Woodpecker	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Red-b. Woodpecker	-	1	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	4
Yellow-b. Sapsucker	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Downy Woodpecker	x	3	-	-	1	5	x	-	-	2	-	13
Hairy Woodpecker	x	2	-	-	2	-	x	-	-	-	-	6
Northern Flicker	x	10	2	2	2	1	x	-	-	4	-	23
Pileated Woodpecker	x	1	1		1	-	x	-	-	-	-	5
Olv-sided Flycatcher	-	1	-	-	-	-	x	1	-	-	-	3
East Wood-Pewee	x	6	-	1	1	-	x	5	-	-	-	15
Alder Flycatcher	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Willow Flycatcher	-	1	-	-	2	-	x	-	-	-	-	4
Least Flycatcher	-	1	-	3	4	-	x	20	-	1	-	30
Eastern Phoebe	x	-	2	2	1	-	x	3	5	1	-	17
Grt-crstd Flycatcher	x	10	1	3	2	2	x	-	10	1	-	31
Eastern Kingbird	x	10	2	10	13	1	x	10	-	4	-	52
Loggerhead Shrike	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	3
Yellow-thr. Vireo	x	3	-	-	2	-	x	2	5	-	-	14
Blue-headed Vireo	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	15	-	-	-	16
Warbling vireo	x	20	5	6	3	2	x	10	5	x	-	54
Philadelphia Vireo	-	6	-	12	-	-	-	45	-	1	-	64
Red-eyed Vireo	x	30	10	8	2	3	x	120	x	1	-	177
Blue Jay	x	20	10	10	2	12	x	150	2	1	-	209
American Crow	x	40	15	10	4	2	x	-	x	3	6	83
Common Raven	x	2	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Purple Martin	x	60	6	40	5	-	x	-	-	-	-	113

SPECIES	PARTY NUMBER											Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Tree Swallow	x	20	12	10	6	3	x	-	x	100	-	254
Rgh-wngd Swallow	-	16	1	10	1	-	x	-	-	-	-	30
Bank Swallow	x	120	-	60	15	-	x	-	-	-	-	197
Cliff Swallow	x	200	5	3	-	-	x	-	-	-	-	210
Barn Swallow	x	20	10	8	10	2	x	-	-	12	-	64
Blk-cap Chickadee	x	8	4	5	2	6	x	-	-	5	-	32
Red-br. Nuthatch	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	10
Wht-br. Nuthatch	x	2	1	-	1	4	x	-	-	-	2	12
Brown Creeper	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
House Wren	x	12	1	4	1	1	x	5	-	x	-	27
Winter Wren	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Marsh Wren	x	4	1	2	1	-	x	-	-	-	-	10
Gldn-cr. Kinglet	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Rby-cr. Kinglet	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	3
Bl-gry Gnatcatcher	-	6	1	-	-	-	x	2	-	-	-	10
Eastern Bluebird	x	1	1	-	-	-	x	-	-	-	-	5
Veery	x	2	-	1	3	-	x	12	-	-	-	20
Gry-cheekd Thrush	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3
Swainson's Thrush	x	3	-	1	-	-	x	30	-	1	-	37
Hermit Thrush	x	-	-	-	2	-	x	-	-	-	-	4
Wood Thrush	x	6	-	8	4	-	x	10	-	-	-	30
American Robin	x	60	100	65	35	8	x	-	x	x	x	272
Gray Catbird	x	20	6	6	2	1	x	45	2	11	-	93
Nor. Mockingbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2
Brown Thrasher	x	10	3	4	4	2	x	-	-	1	-	26
European Starling	x	20	100	50	12	8	x	-	-	50	x	243
Cedar Waxwing	x	3	-	-	-	-	x	45	-	-	-	49
Blue-w. Warbler	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Golden-w. Warbler	4	1	-	-	2	-	x	-	3	-	-	11
Tennessee Warbler	-	8	-	1	8	-	x	20	-	-	-	37
Nashville Warbler	-	6	-	1	-	-	x	6	5	-	-	18
Northern Parula	-	6	-	3	-	-	x	2	-	-	-	12
Yellow Warbler	x	80	25	35	23	3	x	80	2	-	x	250
Chstnt-sid Wrblr	-	20	1	6	-	-	-	70		1	-	98
Magnolia Warbler	x	16	-	4	-	-	x	160	-	-	-	182
Cape May Warbler	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3
Blk-thr Blue W.	x	2	-	3	-	-	x	-	1	-	-	8

SPECIES	PARTY NUMBER											Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Yllw-rmpd Wrblr	-	20	4	15	-	-	x	10	4	100	-	154
Blk-thr Grn Wrblr	x	6	1	6	1	-	x	70	12		-	92
Blkburn Wrblr	-	8	1	4	-	-	-	25	2	1	-	41
Pine Warbler	x	4	-	-	3	-	x	-	-	-	-	9
Prairie Warbler	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	6
Palm Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2
Bay-brstd Warbler	-	8	-	8	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	36
Blackpoll Warbler	2	12	1	15	1	-	x	20		3	-	55
Cerulean Warbler	-	4	-	-	2	-	x	-	8	-	-	14
Black-and-wh. W.	x	6	-	2	1	-	x	-	-	-	-	11
American Redstart	x	4	6	4	3	-	x	30	4	1	-	54
Wrm-eating Wrblr	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Ovenbird	x	8	-	-	4	-	x	-	x	1	-	16
North Waterthrush	2	2	-	-	2	-	x	-	2	-	-	9
Louis Waterthrush	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Mourning Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	2
Comm Yellowthroat	1	20	10	6	4	1	x	5	x	6	1	56
Wilson's Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	3
Canada Warbler	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	8	-	-	-	10
Scarlet Tanager	3	6	5	3	3	-	x	5	9	2	-	37
Eastern Towhee	x	8	-	6	4	2	x	-	3	-	-	25
Chipping Sparrow	x	30	2	6	3	4	x	-	10	-	-	57
Cly-clrd Sparrow	-	1	-	3	1	-	x	1	-	-	-	7
Field Sparrow	x	8	-	4	-	-	x	-	2	-	1	17
Vesper Sparrow	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Savannah Sparrow	x	8	-	5	5	-	x	-	-	-	1	21
Grsshppr Sparrow	2	1	-	1	2	-	x	-	-	-	-	7
Song Sparrow	x	20	10	10	3	1	x	-	x	25	2	74
Lincoln's Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	-	x	35	-	-	-	36
Swamp Sparrow	x	3	2	2	1	-	x	-	4	4	2	20
Wht-thr. Sparrow	x	-	1	2	-	-	x	-	1	-	-	7
Wht-cr. Sparrow	1	6	1	3	-	4	-	2	-	-	-	17
Dark-eyed Junco	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Northern Cardinal	x	1	1	6	1	4	x	-	-	4	2	21
Rs-brstd Grosbeak	x	12	12	10	2	-	x	2	6	-	3	49
Indigo Bunting	x	10	-	1	4	-	x	10	-	-	-	27
Bobolink	x	20	25	8	25	3	x	-	-	-	-	83
Rd-wingd Blackbird	x	60	100	150	70	6	x	-	x	x	-	390
Eastern Meadowlark	x	20	10	8	4	2	x	-	-	-	-	46

SPECIES	PARTY NUMBER											Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Common Grackle	x	10	100	20	12	8	x	-	-	x	8	161
Brwn-head Cowbird	x	120	7	2	4	3	x	-	-	4	-	142
Orchard Oriole	-	1	-	1	-	-	x	2	-	-	-	5
Baltimore Oriole	x	40	10	4	1	6	x	5	5	25	3	100
Purple Finch	-	-	-	-	-	4	x	-	-	-	-	5
House Finch	2	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	2	8
Pine Siskin	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
American Goldfinch	x	70	25	20	7	4	x	-	-	8	6	142
House Sparrow	x	8	5	6	2	-	x	-	-	-	-	23
<b>Party Species Total</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>197</b>
<b>Participants</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>29</b>

**Field Trip to Algonquin Park April 30-May 1 2011**

*Photos by Gaye Beckwith*



*Young Moose*



*Big Tree*