



The Orchid

Bulletin of the Peterborough Field Naturalists

"Know ♦ Appreciate ♦ Conserve Nature In All Its Forms"

Published 9 times yearly
Publication Mail Agreement #4005104
Box 1532, Peterborough, ON, K9J 7H7

Volume 51, Number 8, November 2005
Reg. Charity: BN#11909108RR0001
<http://www3.sympatico.ca/jbyoung/pfnhome.htm>

Regular monthly meetings are held the 2nd Wed. of the month in the downstairs auditorium of the Peterborough Public Library at 345 Aylmer Street N.

COMING EVENTS

Sunday,
October 30th
8:00

Fall Sunday Morning Bird Walk – Last Walk of the Season

The last Sunday morning bird walk of the season will be held this Sunday, October 30th. Mike McMurtry will lead the walk. As usual, meet in the parking lot of the Ptbo Zoo on Water St., at 8:00 a.m. and we will carpool from there. Bring some change to contribute for gas and don't forget your binoculars. Please note the time change that will be happening this weekend – everyone should have an extra hour to sleep in.

Wednesday
November 9
7:30 pm

Monthly PFN Meeting: Alvars of Southern Ontario

Wasył Bakowsky, an ecologist with the Natural Heritage Information Centre, will present an illustrated overview of alvars of southern Ontario, focusing specifically on plants, animals and alvar vegetation communities. Come on out and learn about the diversity of alvar vegetation types, ranging from grasslands to savannahs.

Ptbo. Public
Library

Sunday
November 13
8:00 am

Late Fall Birding at Presqu'île

Jerry Ball will lead us on a day long trip to Presqu'île Provincial Park to look for late fall migrants, and hopefully a few Purple Sandpipers. Bring a picnic lunch, rubber boots and, of course, binoculars. Park entrance fees may apply. Meet at the Country Style at Hwy 7 and Television Rd. We will carpool and share costs for gas.

Sunday
December 4
6:00 am

Gulls and Waterfowl in Niagara

Join Tony Bigg for another outing to the Niagara River in search of gulls. If time permits, we may stop in Hamilton in search of ducks. The group will depart from the Tim Horton's parking lot, beside Canadian Tire on Lansdowne Street, W. at 6:00am and will return around 4:00pm. To reserve your spot, call Tony at 652-7541 (tanddbigg@aol.com). Be sure to dress for the weather, bring a lunch and, of course, your binoculars and/or scopes.

COMING EVENTS continued

Wednesday
December 14
7:30 pm

Monthly Meeting: "Annual Members Slide Show"

Be sure to join us for the December regular meeting. Once again we will have an opportunity to share the nature-related slides and stories of fellow club members. Participants in an exciting birding trip to Brazil in August will be sharing some of the sights from their amazing trip. Please bring along some holiday baking to enhance the festivities. If you are interested in making an informal slide presentation and/or talk, please contact Heather Smith at 749-0304. See you there...

Sunday
December 18

Peterborough Christmas Bird Count

Come out and see why many naturalists consider the Christmas Bird Counts to be the highlight of the holiday season. After a day of hiking, skiing and/or driving around a defined area in search of as many birds as possible, we get together for a hearty meal and a compilation of the results. Beginners are welcome and will be paired up with more experienced birders. An extra pair of eyes is always useful – all you need are a pair of binoculars, warm clothing and an enthusiasm for bird-watching! To sign up, or for more information, contact Tony Bigg at 652-7541, or tanddbigg@aol.com

CELEBRATE THE WILD NAHANNI – UPCOMING TALK AT TRENT

The Royal Canadian Geographical Society - Fraser Lectureship in Northern Studies presents "Celebrate the Wild Nahanni" on Friday, November 25 at 7:30 p.m., in Gzowski College Lecture Hall, GCS Room 114. All welcome - no admission cost.

Dr. Derek Ford will present a lecture and slideshow emphasizing the beauty and importance of the Nahanni with a focus on the Nahanni karstlands. Grand Chief Herb Norwegian of the Dehcho First Nations, in whose territory the Nahanni National Park Reserve and World Heritage Site, as well as the Nahanni karstlands are located hopes to participate in the tour. This lecture is being offered in partnership with the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS). Their Senior Conservation Advisor Harvey Locke will provide a broader perspective of the Nahanni as part of Canada's boreal forest and one of the last great forest ecosystems on Earth.

Call for raffle prizes for the Annual General Meeting in January 2006

Every year at the PFN Annual General Meeting we raffle off prizes donated by members or businesses in Peterborough and surrounding area. This is our first call for folks to donate raffle prizes. Funds raised during the raffle go towards supporting club activities as well as to covering off some of the costs incurred by hosting the AGM. If you have anything you would like to donate, or would like to canvass a local business for support, please contact Heather at 749-0304.

JUNIOR FIELD NATURALISTS

Sunday
Nov, 20th
2-4 p.m.
Camp
Kawartha

Winter's for the Birds!

Winter's coming and our feathered friends can use some help finding food. Come to the next JFN session where we can check out and learn to make different bird feeders and the kinds of food that work best. Bring a pop bottle if you have one.

OWL BANDING WITH THE JFN

The JFN owl banding evening on Friday Oct. 21 was definitely a big success. With over 25 JFN's and their parents we squeezed into the Oliver Center cottage and learned about the Saw-Whet Owl, the distinct call and the banding program. As the first foray to the nets didn't produce any results, we looked at a mounted Saw-Whet owl, a mounted Great Horned Owl and a replica skull of the Great Horned Owl which Neil brought. The second visit to the nets discovered that a male Saw Whet owl had been caught. We were able to watch the banding and data process and see the owl being released. It was definitely the highlight of the night and worth waiting for. As a final activity we munched on some "firefly larvae" (wintergreen lifesavers) to see them spark in our mouths and then most folks headed home a little tired but glad they came. Thanks again to Carrie and the other research staff at the center for allowing us the opportunity to be there. – *Neil Fortin*



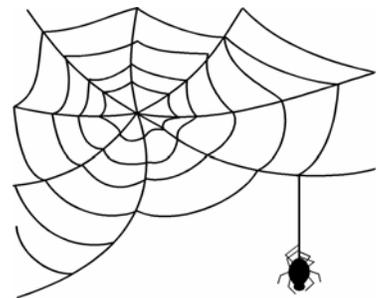
DID YOU KNOW?

—from *Fascinating Folklore of Birds*,
<http://birding.about.com/library/weekly/aa041801a.htm>

Owls have been the subject of folk stories for centuries. The following are a few pieces of owl folklore:

- Owls are sometimes viewed as evil omens, sometimes as wise sages.
- A few North American Indian tribes believed that witches could assume the bodies of owls and fly about at night.
- In Africa, owls were thought to kill for witch doctors.
- Owl eggs were believed to be a cure for alcoholism in many parts of Europe.
- The ancient Greeks thought that the owl was the husband of Athena, the goddess of wisdom.

Happy Halloween!



COMMITTEE BUSINESS - PFN Board of Directors Meeting – 5 Oct 2005

Orchid: The Orchid deadlines need to be respected. All but one submission came in late this month. Currently we do not have an account with the Trent Printshop for printing the Orchid each month – we will look into having a PFN account set up.

Financial: Treasurer's reports read as received. Balance is ahead of last year. Still working on obtaining DNO insurance.

Membership: There were 123 regular member mailings, 12 e-mail member mailings, and 2221 club mailing for October. Anyone paying their membership fee at a monthly meeting will receive a tax receipt at that time, otherwise, for those renewing or joining via mail, tax receipts will be mailed to everyone at the beginning of the New Year. Voted to have a student PFN membership of \$15 (for the period from September through until April).

Program: Sunday morning bird walks have begun. They will run through October. Walk leaders include: Jerry Ball, Drew Monkman, Jim Cashmore, Mike McMurtry. The Presque'ile trip will be held in November again. Beginning to plan for the annual AGM – are looking into obtaining Mike Runtz as the keynote speaker.

Junior Naturalist: No outing were planned for September, however we have 2 JFN events planned for October – one at Camp Kawartha and the other invoices saw-what banding at the Oliver Centre.

Projects: The LWCC workshop in October was a success. Investigating use of Lady Eton Drumlin Trail as a potential site for invasive plant removal. The floral portion of the Natural History Summary of Peterborough is being updated – information can be forwarded to Mike.

Publicity: Advertisements got to media on time. Discussed new PFN flyer – decided to proceed as drafted with a few minor changes.

New Business: Voted to donate \$150.00 to the Saw-whet Banding Project at the Oliver Property for the purchase of two mist nets. Deferred a donation to the Kawartha Turtle Trauma Center until 2006, since we have already donated funds to the organization this year.

ORCHID SUBMISSIONS WANTED!

I would like to encourage members to send in stories, pictures, poetry, artwork, articles, reviews or PFN outing write-ups. Please remember that if the submission is not your own work, I need to receive original author and publication information in order to give proper credit for the piece. This is your newsletter and we need your help to make it great!

**Deadline for submissions for the December issue:
Friday, November 25th, 2005**

Please send submissions to: Rebecca Zeran, 188 Parkhill Road East, Main Floor, Peterborough, ON, K9H 1R1, phone: 876-9399, rebecca.zeran@mail.mcgill.ca

2006 PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY BIRDING FESTIVAL

2006 Prince Edward County Birding Festival is seeking individuals who may be interested in leading workshops, hikes and/or speaking to birding, wildlife and conservation enthusiasts attending the festival in May of 2006.

We are open to suggestions for topics. The following have been suggested:

- local birding (species identification, habitat, songs, migration...)
- birding (national and international)
- environment and habitat protection
- creating urban wildlife habitat (in your backyard, urban planning...)
- eco tourism (opportunities, report of travels...)
- "bird science" (flight, migration, evolution...)
- "ask the expert" panel discussion

Content is sought that would appeal to both novice and expert birders as well as some child and youth-focused content. Presentations including interactive, visual, hands-on and referenced learning is encouraged.

Please contact:

Kathleen Ketchum, Event Co-ordinator

Taste the County, dectmfr@sprint.ca, Ph: 613-961-7939, Fax: 613-961-7940

THE LOON RANGER

Last month we noted the passing of Robert "Bob" Sarginson who had devoted countless hours to observing loons in the wild. The following lyrics were submitted by Eric Sager after the October Orchid went to print. The lyrics were penned by a songwriter originally from Newfoundland, now living in Pickering: Michael T. Wall. Michael wrote these lyrics after reading about Bob in the Peterborough Examiner a while back. The song has been recorded by Ray R. Jones and is currently receiving airplay on U.S. country radio.

"The Loon Ranger"

I hear the mournful cry of a wailing loon,
 When the sun is sinking low.
 As it calls across a quiet lake,
 Somewhere in Ontario.
 The official bird of Ontario,
 Is the great symbolic loon.
 But with changes in its habitat,
 It could be endangered soon.

"Chorus"

But the man they call the Loon Ranger,
 He knows every move they make.
 For he watches over all the loons,
 Round the shores of Pigeon Lake.
 Oh the man they call the Loon Ranger,
 He is fighting for their lives.
 But he needs the help of everyone,

If the loons are to survive.

Twenty-five long years he's been watching
 them,
 As the seasons come and go.
 His research shows the reason why,
 Their survival rate is low.
 When you hear the cry of a wailing loon,
 Echo in the evening air.
 What a tragedy their loss would be,
 If someday they were not there.

"Repeat Chorus"



Words and Music by: F.Herridge/Michael T.Wall
 Published by: *Michael T. Wall Music (SOCAN)
 1999 P C*
 P.O. Box 715, Pickering, ON, L1V 3T3

OCTOBER SUNDAY MORNING BIRD WALK REPORTS

- reported by Jerry Ball

October 2nd: The early morning was cool but it warmed up by 10:00 a.m. Our group of 8 walked part of the Lakefield Trail and observed birds along the river and along a portion of Centre Road. The highlight of the morning was coming across an adult Peregrine Falcon sitting on a dead tree on the opposite side of the Otonabee River. We also found the following species:

- American Crow
 - American Robin
 - Black-capped Chickadee
 - Blue Jay
 - Brown-headed Cowbird
 - Canada Goose
 - Common Loon
 - Dark-eyed Junco
 - Downy Woodpecker
- European Starling
 - Field Sparrow
 - Great Blue Heron
 - Herring Gull
 - Mallard
 - Mourning Dove
 - Palm Warbler
 - Ring-billed Gull
 - Rock Pigeon
- Red-tailed Hawk
 - Red-winged Blackbird
 - Rusty Blackbird
 - Song Sparrow
 - Swamp Sparrow
 - White-crowned Sparrow
 - White-throated Sparrow
 - Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
 - Yellow-rumped Warbler

October 9th: Three individuals braved the cool morning and drove up the River Road and around Buckley's Lake. We found the following species:

- American Crow
 - American Goldfinch
 - American Pipits (several dozen)
 - American Robin
 - Black-capped Chickadee
 - Blue Jay
 - Canada Goose
 - Common Loon
 - Dark-eyed Junco
 - Double-crested Cormorant
- European Starling
 - Herring Gull
 - House Sparrow
 - Mallard
 - Mourning Dove
 - Ring-billed Gull
 - Rock Pigeon
 - White-crowned Sparrow
 - White-throated Sparrow
 - Yellow-rumped Warbler



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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THE 2005 PETROGLYPHS BUTTERFLY COUNT

- report by Jerry Ball



On July 16th, 2005 the Annual Petroglyphs Butterfly Count was held. The weather was hot, humid and sunny in the morning but clouded over in the afternoon with scattered showers occurring. A total of 12 observers found 6,340 butterflies comprising 44 species. We also found 17 Monarch caterpillars. The weather leading up to the count affected the number of species and the number of individuals. A cold wet May delayed some of the earlier species but a record hot June and July killed them off before the count was held, lowering the numbers of species and individuals. The highlights of the count included finding a previously 'un-counted' species, the Silver-Spotted Skipper, as well as recording 173 Monarch butterflies (compared to only 19 Monarchs recorded last year). Monarchs are recovering from a disastrous 2003/04 winter in Mexico with increased numbers being recorded in all the butterfly counts across the province.



Butterfly Count Results:

Species	Number Observed	Species	Number Observed	Species	Number Observed
Canadian Tiger Swallowtail	2	Pearl Crescent	169	Least Skipper	37
Mustard White	28	Northern Crescent	579	European Skipper	323
Cabbage White	12	Eastern Comma	1	Peck's Skipper	48
Clouded Sulphur	131	Mourning Cloak	6	Tawny-edged Skipper	2
Orange Sulphur	4	American Lady	15	Crossline Skipper	53
Pink-edged Sulphur	6	Painted Lady	12	Long Dash	15
Bog Copper	4	Red Admiral	2	Northern Broken Dash	14
Coral Hairstreak	30	White Admiral	7	Delaware Skipper	98
Acadian Hairstreak	28	Viceroy	1	Mulberry Wing	129
Banded Hairstreak	21	Northern Pearly-eye	1	Hobomok	1
Striped Hairstreak	19	Eyed Brown	56	Broad-winger Skipper	314
Summer Azure	22	Common Ringlet	1	Dion Skipper	52
Great Spangled Fritillary	81	Common Wood Nymph	54	Dun Skipper	2,971
Aphrodite Fritillary	255	Columbine Duskywing	272	Silver Spotted Skipper	2
Atlantis Fritillary	46	Monarch	173		



Tiger Swallowtail.
Photo courtesy of Rebecca Zeran.

2005-06 WINTER FINCH FORECAST

- by Ron Pittaway, from a posting to the ONTBIRDS listserve, 15 October 2005

GENERAL FORECAST: There should be a moderate to good flight of most (not all) winter finch species out of Ontario's boreal forest this fall and winter. See individual species' forecasts below. Cone crops and birch seed crops range from poor to good across northern Ontario. Very few northern areas have excellent crops. Many crops are patchy or spotty with some trees having good crops while nearby trees have poor crops. On the Canadian (Precambrian) Shield of central Ontario including Algonquin Park, seed crops are very poor on most species. In much of urban and agricultural southern Ontario, seed crops are generally poor so expect finches at feeders this winter. Below I discuss nine winter finch species and three other irruptive passerines whose movements are often linked to winter finches.

NINE WINTER FINCHES:

1. Pine Grosbeak: This species is a mountain-ash (rowan berry) specialist in winter. Mountain-ash crops are generally good to excellent in northwestern Ontario (north and west of Lake Superior to Manitoba) so Pine Grosbeaks will do well there this winter. However, the crop is variable to poor in northeastern Ontario (north and east of Lake Superior to Quebec) so expect some Pine Grosbeaks in Algonquin Park and farther south this winter. Two early Pine Grosbeaks were seen October 4th in Algonquin where they do not breed. If they come into urban and agricultural southern Ontario, watch for them on European mountain-ash and ornamental crabapples. Pine Grosbeaks prefer sunflower seeds at bird feeders.

2. Purple Finch: Most Purple Finches should leave Ontario this fall to winter farther south. They began moving south in early October. Tree seed crops are poor in southern Ontario so any Purple Finches that stay will be at bird feeders where they prefer black oil sunflower seed and nyger (niger) seed. Numbers have declined in Ontario and North America. Breeding Bird Surveys indicated a 50% decline from 1966 to 1996 in the northeastern United States and southern Canada. The cause is unknown; it probably is not linked to the spread of House Finches because Purple Finches declined even where House Finches were absent.

3. Red Crossbill: There are at least two main forms of Red Crossbill in Ontario: a small-billed form (*sitkensis*) that prefers hemlock and a larger-billed form that prefers pines, mainly white pine. Small-billed Red Crossbills will be absent or very rare this winter because most hemlocks in Ontario failed to produce cones this year. Red Crossbills with larger bills will be widespread in very small numbers this winter in central and northern Ontario where cone crops on white pine are locally good, but spotty. A few Red Crossbills were seen in early October in pine forests on the east side of Algonquin Park. Red Crossbills wandering into southern Ontario this winter may turn up at feeders because cone crops on native and ornamental pines, spruces and larches are very poor.

4. White-winged Crossbill: Cone crops on spruce are good in parts of northern Ontario such as around Timmins in northeastern Ontario where White-winged Crossbills should be present in small numbers this winter. However, spruce cone crops are poor around Sault

Ste Marie east of Lake Superior so expect few or no crossbills there. This unevenness of cone crops is widespread across the north. Very few or no White-winged Crossbills are expected in Algonquin Park where spruce and hemlock cone crops are very poor. White-winged Crossbills wandering into southern Ontario this winter may turn up at feeders because cone crops on both native and ornamental pines, spruces and larches are very poor.

5. Common Redpoll: When redpolls winter in the boreal forest they prefer birch (*Betula*) seed. Since White Birch seed crops are average to good in many parts of northern Ontario, I expect many redpolls will stay north this winter. However, some redpolls likely will wander south in mid-winter as seed supplies diminish. Watch for them at feeders where they feed with goldfinches on nyger seed. Redpolls and most winter finches wander more widely than is generally realized. For example, Barry Kinch of the Mountain Chutes Banding Station near Elk Lake in northern Ontario banded a Common Redpoll on March 4, 2001 that was found dead a year later on March 24, 2002 in Kimberly, British Columbia, which is a straight line distance of 2611 kilometres west.

6. Hoary Redpoll: Always check flocks of Common Redpolls for Hoarys. Classic snowball" adult male Hoarys are easy to identify, but some adult females and particularly first year females are difficult to identify.

7. Pine Siskin: There are very few conifer seeds to hold siskins in the boreal forest and Algonquin Park this winter. Siskins are now moving south through southern Ontario. Most will be elsewhere in North America this winter. Any siskins remaining in southern Ontario this winter will be at feeders where they prefer nyger seed.

8. American Goldfinch: In Algonquin Park goldfinches were moving in August and good numbers were migrating west along the north shoreline of Lake Ontario in September and early October. This movement is an indicator of the poor tree seed crops in central Ontario. Many goldfinches will remain at feeders in southern Ontario.

9. Evening Grosbeak: This has been a mystery species in recent years. Where are the flocks of "Greedies" that crowded feeders 25 years ago? The decline is real. Kelling (1999) analyzed Christmas Bird Counts from 1959 to 1998. Numbers of Evening Grosbeaks were stable or increased until 1980 when numbers began to decline. The rate of decline increased between 1990 and 1998 with the Northeast and Great Lakes regions having the steepest declines in winter. Recently, Bolgiano (2004) provided the most plausible explanation for the decline. He found higher numbers during outbreaks of spruce budworm and lower numbers after outbreaks ended. Evening Grosbeaks feed heavily on budworm larvae and the larvae are fed to young. Evening Grosbeaks began to decline in 1980 after the last major outbreak of spruce budworm during the 1970s. Evening Grosbeaks coming into southern Ontario will find a good crop of samaras (keys) on Manitoba Maples and an abundance sunflower seeds at feeders.

THREE IRRUPTIVE PASSERINES

1. Blue Jay: A big flight started in mid-September and large numbers are still moving southwest along the shorelines of Lakes Ontario and Erie. This year's big flight appears to be linked to the generally poor acorn crop on Red Oak which was spotty. There were lots of acorns in some areas, but they dropped early and most were of low quality. In addition,

hazelnut and beechnut crops were mainly poor (some good) this year in central Ontario. Last winter Blue Jays were common in central Ontario including Algonquin Park, but this winter they will be much less common. Those that remain will be tied to bird feeders.

2. Red-breasted Nuthatch: The Red-breasted Nuthatch is a conifer seed specialist when it winters in the boreal forest. It often irrupts south like the boreal finches. A cone crop failure is indicated when large numbers migrate south in late August and September. Similarly, when none move it normally indicates a bumper cone crop in the boreal forest. However, this year only a small number of Red-breasted Nuthatches moved through southern Ontario in September and currently they are scarce in Algonquin Park and the boreal forest of northeastern Ontario. Where are they?

3. Bohemian Waxwing: Like the Pine Grosbeak, this boreal waxwing is a mountain-ash (rowan berry) specialist in winter. Many are expected to stay in northwestern Ontario (west of Lake Superior) this winter because there is a good to excellent mountain-ash berry crop. However, the crop is variable to poor in northeastern Ontario (east of Lake Superior) so expect some Bohemians to move farther south. They likely will come into traditional areas such as Peterborough and Ottawa to feed on European mountain-ash, buckthorn berries and small crabapples.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

For information on tree seed crops I appreciate the input of the following Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR) staff, foresters, biologists, resource technicians, tree seed nursery staff and birders: Dennis Barry (Haliburton Highlands), Barb Boysen (OMNR), Glenn Coady (Rainy River/Lake of the Woods), Ed Czerwinski (OMNR Peterborough/Bancroft), Shirley Davidson (OMNR Minden), Bruce Di Labio (Eastern Ontario), Carolle Eady (Dryden), Dave Elder (Atikokan) Nick Escott (Thunder Bay), Charity Hendry (Angus Tree Seed Nursery), Peter Hynard (OMNR Minden/Peterborough), Jean Iron (Timmins to Muskoka), Mark Joron (Milsom Forestry Service in Timmins), Barry Kinch (Timiskaming), Bob Knudsen (OMNR Sault Ste Marie), Scott McPherson (OMNR South Porcupine), John Miles (Haldimand-Norfolk), Dave Milsom (Ontbirds), Thomas Noland (OMNR Sault Ste Marie), Fred Pinto (OMNR North Bay), Don Sutherland (OMNR Peterborough), Ron Tozer (Algonquin Park), Mike Turner (OMNR Bancroft District), Stan Vasiliauskas (OMNR Timmins and Restoule), Mike Walsh (OMNR Muskoka/Parry Sound). I am grateful to Ron Tozer for helpful comments and for information from his book-in-progress, the Birds of Algonquin Park.

LITERATURE CITED

1. Bolgiano, N.C. 2004. Cause and Effect: Changes in Boreal Bird Irruptions in Eastern North America Relative to the 1970s Spruce Budworm Infestation. *American Birds* 58:26-33.
2. Kelling, S. 1999. Population Trends in Evening Grosbeak. BirdSource <http://www.birdsource.org/Features/Evegro/index.html>



The **ORCHID DIARY** for October 2005

Compiled by Tony Bigg, 652-7541, TandDBigg@aol.com

- Sep 24 In her yard south-east of Millbrook, Inge Buchardt reported the presence of two **Red-bellied Woodpeckers**.
- Sep 25 Carrie Sadowski reported the first **Dark-eyed Juncos** for the Fall in her yard.
- Sep 26 John Cavanagh birding around Fowler's Corner found a **Green Heron**, a **Nashville Warbler**, a **Baltimore Oriole**, and two **Rough-legged Hawks**.
- Sep 27 On Chemong Lake John Cavanagh reported an **Osprey** and a **Common Loon**.
- Sep 28 John Cavanagh, again in Fowler's Corners, had three **Yellow-rumped Warblers**, three **Cedar Waxwings**, five **Northern Flickers**, and an **Eastern Kingbird**. Numerous **White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows** were also seen on this day and on the previous days of his reports. Jerry Ball found a flock of **Rusty Blackbirds** on Beardsmore Road just south of Hwy 115.
- Sep 29 Don Clark reported a stream of migrants at Whittaker Place on Armour Road which included **White-throated Sparrows, White-crowned Sparrows, Savannah Sparrows, Vesper Sparrows, Dark-eyed Juncos, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Black-capped Chickadees, Blue Jays, Mourning Doves, Red-winged Blackbirds, and American Goldfinches**.
- Oct 1 A **Great Horned Owl** was seen by Tony Bigg in the Mark S. Burnham PP. At Miller's Creek Jerry Ball saw both **Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets, a Hermit Thrush, Eastern Phoebe, Brown Creeper, and Northern Flicker**. Around his Bethany area property Giles Dagenais had a good number of sightings including **American Crow, American Goldfinch, Black-capped Chickadee, Blue Jay, Brown Thrasher, Chipping Sparrow, Common Grackle, Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers, Mourning Dove, Northern Cardinal, Northern Flicker, Purple Finch, Turkey Vulture, Wild Turkey, White-breasted Nuthatch, White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows, and a Wood Thrush**.
- Oct 2 "Kim" photographed a **Western Conifer Seed Bug (*Leptoglossus occidentalis*)** in her home (identified by Colin Jones). **Rusty Blackbirds, White-crowned Sparrows, and a Ruffed Grouse** were reported on the Omemee railtrail west of Ackison Road by Sherry and Dave Hambly.
- Oct 5 Giles Dagenais had further sightings around his property in Bethany seeing **Ruffed Grouse, Field Sparrow, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Wild Turkey, American Goldfinch, American Robin, Song Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, and Cedar Waxwing**.
- Oct 9 Peter Burke and Colin Jones, birding near Windward Shores on Pigeon Lake, counted six **American Wigeon**, two **Blue-winged Teal**, twenty **Lesser Scaup**, four **Common Goldeneye**, two **White-winged Scoters**, one **Common Raven**, and two **Eastern Meadowlarks**.
- Oct 11 Gord Mallory was lucky enough to sight a **Snow Goose** with a flock of about twenty **Canada Geese** on Lily Lake
- Oct 12 Benjamin Walters reports a number of sightings on Beardsmore Rd, south of Hwy 115, including **American Pipits, many Canada Geese and Mallards, Rusty Blackbirds, American Wigeons, Green-winged Teal, and Wood Ducks**. He also saw fifteen **Painted Turtles**.
- Oct 13 Six winter plumage **Bobolinks** were found by John Cavanagh whilst walking Jackson's Park. He also had two **Northern Flickers** and a **Great Blue Heron** near his house in Fowler's Corner.
- Oct 16 A **Trumpeter Swan** with a yellow tag # 817 was seen in Little Lake, Peterborough, by Ken Rumble. Is this the first ever report for Peterborough County? Chris Riskey's feeder on Gilmour Street was busy with **Mourning Dove, Blue Jay, Hermit Thrush, White-breasted Nuthatch, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Black-capped Chickadee, Dark-eyed Junco, White-throated Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, Northern Cardinal, and House Finch**.
- Oct 17 Tony Bigg's feeder in Lakefield was almost as busy with **White-throated Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Song Sparrow, Common Grackle, Northern Cardinal, Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers, White-breasted Nuthatch, Blue Jay, Purple Finch, American Goldfinch, Black-capped Chickadee, and Mourning Dove**. **Golden-crowned Kinglets** were also calling from the Spruce trees.
- Oct 23 Two **American Tree Sparrows**, the first of the Fall came to Tony Bigg's feeder in Lakefield.

MEMBERSHIP

Memberships may be obtained at the monthly meeting from George Maynard or by mailing a copy of the application form below to P.O. Box 1532, Peterborough, ON, K9J 7H7.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Tel. Home _____ Work _____ Email _____

Type of Membership and Fee Schedule (2005/06) – Please make cheques payable to: Peterborough Field Naturalists

- 1. () Student (September through to April) \$15
- 2. () Single (1 adult or 1 child*) \$25
- *Membership in the PFN automatically includes membership in the Junior Naturalists
- 3. () Family (couple or family with children) \$30

Please give the names and ages of the children you wish to be enrolled in PFN Junior Naturalists programs:

Name_____ age_____ Name_____ age_____

Name_____ age_____ Name_____ age_____

Main Interests (Tick only 3):

- (a) Birds_____ (b) Butterflies/Insects_____ (c) Wildflowers/Trees/ Shrubs_____ (d) Astronomy _____ (e) Aquatic Life_____
- (f) Geology_____ (g) Field Trips_____ (h) Hiking _____ (i) Conservation_____
- (j) Other (please specify)_____

I (name_____) am knowledgeable in the following area(s) _____ and would be prepared to: () lead an outdoor session, () give an indoor presentation, () prepare an article for *The Orchid*

I am interested in the following:

- () Joining the PFN executive () Sitting on research or conservation committees
- () Working on field projects () Helping with refreshments at meetings
- () Please have a member of the executive call me

Age groups

This information is optional but helps us to understand the needs of our membership. If yours is a family membership, please check for each adult. Under 20 (), 20-24 (), 25-29 (), 30-34 (), 35-39 (), 40-44 (), 45-49 (), 50-54 (), 55-59 (), 60-64 (), 65-69 (), 70-79 (), 80 & over ().

Comments

We are always looking for ways to improve the club. Please attach a separate sheet listing any ideas that you may have.

DONATIONS: Membership fees cover the general operating costs of the club while other sources of revenue are needed to fund special projects such as ecological restoration. You can assist the club by making a donation to help further our work in such areas. The PFN is a registered charity and issues receipts for income tax purposes. All donations are gratefully received and any member of the executive will be happy to speak to you concerning the use of such funds.

LIABILITY WAIVER: In consideration of the Peterborough Field Naturalists (PFN) accepting this application, I hereby for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns forever release and discharge the PFN, their officers, directors, servants and agents from any liability whatsoever arising from my participation in PFN activities, whether by reason of negligence of the PFN or its representatives, or otherwise. I affirm that I am in good health, capable of performing the exercise required for field trips or other activities in which I participate, and accept as my personal risk the hazards of such participation. As a member of the PFN and/or as a parent/guardian of a member under 18 years of age, I have read and understood the above, and accept its term on behalf of all of my underage children.

Signature _____